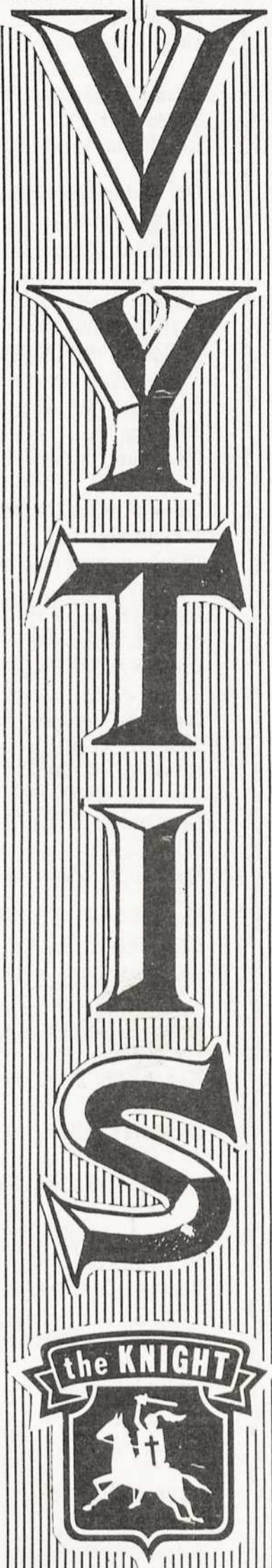


*... Šį savo skridimą skiriame ir
aukuojame Tau, Jaunoji Lietuva ...*



Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Historic DARIUS-GIRENAS
TransAtlantic Flight



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of Lithuania**

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40 YEARS SINCE...

DARIUS AND GIRENAS LITHUANIAN TRANS-ATLANTIC FLYERS AND HEROS

Forty years ago, the names of two American Lithuanian flyers - Captain Stephen Darius and Stanley Girenas, were added to the list of Lithuania's national heroes. Alongside fearless warrior kings and celebrated independence fighters, they took their place in the hearts of Lithuanians the world over... And rightly so, for theirs was a feat requiring the courage and skill their ancestors showed on the battlefields of Europe.

Forty years ago, aviation had barely reached the long-pants stage. The wide expanse of the Atlantic was still a fearsome bogey to airmen. Many had attempted to pilot their mechanical birds across its watery stretches, but few had succeeded. Although their flight ended in tragedy, the names of the Lithuanian flyers, Darius and Girenas, can be placed on the list of those who, in aviation's formative years, succeeded in conquering the treacherous Atlantic.

A badly shattered plane, the crushed bodies of two flyers... this was the scene that greeted a sleepy-eyed berry-picker early on the morning of July 17, 1933 in the forest near Soldin, Germany. Local authorities were notified immediately and soon radio flashes girdled the globe with the fateful news that the daring flyers, whose hair-raising takeoff had made the nerves of veteran airmen stand on edge, met their death in a German forest.

Yes, it was Steve Darius and Stanley Girenas, the Lithuanian flyers, who had left New York two mornings previously on a non-stop flight to Kaunas, the provisional

capital of Lithuania. Only a few hours remained until the journey's end when tragedy struck them down.

It was a sad moment for the whole Lithuanian nation which had been prepared to greet the conquerors of the Atlantic with open arms.

It was a sad moment for Lithuanians the world over for they, too, were proud of these immigrant boys whose feats had brought them renown. A veil of sadness and sorrow cast its dismal shadow over the whole nation. But a ray of brightness pierced the gloom - for it was a moment when heroes were born. Stephen Darius and Stanley Girenas became national heroes, the idols of the young and old alike. Their names were on every lip, their deeds were told and retold. They were the inspiration of a young nation.

Most American Lithuanians can recall those days when Steve and Stanley barn-stormed across the nation visiting Lithuanian colonies in an attempt to raise the necessary money for their flight. They saved and skimped and laid aside dollar after dollar. Jobs were given up that more time might be spent in preparing for takeoff day. There were many good Lithuanians who placed their faith in the two flyers and backed them. They rejoiced when the press announced that a suitable plane had been bought, that it was being rebuilt from wing to wing, that a new motor was being installed. They awaited the day almost as eagerly as the flyers themselves.

Soon the necessary preparations were made. Steve and Stanley laid their plans and announced a date of departure. But the weather held them back again and again. The



Capt. S. DARIUS



Pilot S. GIRĖNAS

elements and the State Department seemed to be conspiring against the flight for there were days when they could have pointed the nose of their winged steed towards their goal, but necessary documents had not come through... official permission was lacking. Countless miles of red tape and the weather seemed to present almost insurmountable obstacles.

Then came the dawn of July 15th, 1933. As the "Lituanica" rolled down Floyd Bennet Field's 4200 foot runway, their friends followed their progress with bated breaths. Their plane was heavily laden with gas - 800 gallons in all. Instruments were few, no radio, only a compass, sextant and a few other navigational aids were taken. One thought was foremost in the minds of all: could the fragile "Lituanica" powered by a 355 horsepower motor, raise the 8300 lb. load from the ground. Only a few feet of runway remained... Suddenly, the "Lituanica" rose a few feet, hung in the air for a moment, and began to slowly drop again. But the hand of a master was at the controls. Slowly and surely the nose of the plane rose higher and higher. An audible sigh of relief also rose from the crowd. Reporters and airmen alike agreed that it was the most daring takeoff seen.

Over the Atlantic they went on and on. Each turn of the motor brought them closer to their destination. At the airdrome in Kaunas, Lithuania, an estimated 25,000 people were gathered to greet the Lithuanian conquerors of the Atlantic. As the crowd strained its eyes toward the west, the wind almost forebodingly sang of the falcon that broke its wing against a tree, while flying across the woods... When sunrise brought no sign of the flyers, the crowd wearily made its way home. A few hours later news of the shattered "Lituanica" and its dead pilots was received. The Lithuanian government sent its representatives to bring back the bodies of the dead heroes. They were flown back to



Kaunas. The whole nation mourned for them as they were carried to their final resting-place.

Lithuanian aviation experts investigated the ruins of the Lituanica, hoping to find an explanation of the accident. Rumors were rife and some evidence was found that the Nazis had shot the flyers down because they were flying over concentration camps and secret military installations. Those who upheld this opinion pointed knowingly to the fact that this was the third crash within a year in that vicinity. Others thought that they were trying to land on the emergency field just a few hundred yards away. The Lithuanian government in its official report blamed a faulty altimeter for the accident. The wrong reading had misled the pilots and caused them to crash into the forest.

Trans-Atlantic plane hops are a dime a dozen today. But at that time of the crash, in 1933, they were rare enough to garner the headlines of the world press. Darius and Girenas's flight was the second longest over attempted up to that time. They covered almost 4,000 miles in 37 hours and 11 minutes. Today's airmen would shudder at the thought of spanning the Atlantic in a fragile, badly overladen, 140 mile an hour plane. This, and the fact that they held their course so well, made the feat of the "Winged Lithuanians" remarkable.

The two Lithuanians left a goal for their countrymen to shoot at. It was a goal they were unable to surpass. But it inspired them to work and strive and progress in all fields in a young, independent and free Lithuania.

DARIUS IR GIRĖNAS

“SAVO SKRIDIMĄ MES SKIRIAME TAU, JAUNOJI LIETUVA”, - žodžiai iš Dariaus ir Girėno Testamento.

Liepos 17-ji yra mūsų tautos didvyrių, Atlanto Nugalėtojų - DARIAUS ir GIRĖNO diena. Toji dinga ir tragiška diena buvo įamžinta Lietuvos ir pasaulio istorijon 1933 metais, liepos 17 dieną...

* * *

Perskristi Atlantą SU PERTRAUKA daug kartų buvo mėginta ir iš 110 tada skridimų pavyko apie 50. MŪSŲ lakūnai pasiryžo BE SUSTOJIMO iš New Yorko į Kauną nusikristi... Anais laikais perskristi Atlantą BE SUSTOJIMO, be valdžios pagalbos, be tobulai įrengto lėktuvo, neturint lėktuve net radio siųstuvo - buvo didžiausia staigmena, pasaulinio garso įvykis navigacijos istorijoje.

Mūsų padangių didvyriai gerai suprato visus tuos nedateklis ir mirties pavojus, bet ryžosi pakilti viršum vandenyno, viršum debesų.

Tai buvo 1933 metais, liepos 15- sios dienos miglotą rytą... Dar nebuvo išaušę, o aerodromo minios laukė lakūnų atvykstant... Staiga pasirodo automobilis... Starto budėtojas abejingu žvilgsniu apmeta nejaukią padangę, dirsteli į laikrodį - 4 val. 30 minučių... Tuoju pasirodo lakūnai: jų veiduose skaidrus rūpestis ir plieninė valia:

- MES SKRENDAM, VISKAS PARUOŠTA!, - užtikrina Darius... Kiek patylėjęs jis prisipažįsta šalia jo stovinčiam Lietuvos konsului:

- Atvirai kalbant, mes nežinome pasekmių, bet... esame viskam pasiryžę... Jei žūsime, tai tegul atsimins lietuvių jaunimas, kokiam žygiui mes aukojamės; savo skridimą mes aukojame savo tėvynei - Lietuvai!, - baigė savo pareiškimą, o Girėnas jau pasiruošęs laukia, laukia žygio...

Propeleris daro vis daugiau apsisukimų, nustelbdamas susirinkusių išgąstį ir jų linkėjimus...

Oranžinės spalvos lėktuvas “LITUANICA” pradeda judėti į startovietę... Bematant visu smarkumu žeme nešasi pirmyn, bet atsiplėšti nuo žemės nepajėgia - lėktuvo krovinyje granito svoriu slegia jį prie žemės... Staiga tarp lėktuvo ir žemės darosi siauros juostos tarpas, lėktuvas kylo kiek aukšty, staiga sminga žemyn, paliesdamas Džemeikkos (Jamaica) įlankos vandens paviršių... - Dar sekundė ir lėktuvas gali čia pat pasilaidoti... Tačiau jis iš mirties pavojaus paskutinę sekundę išneria ir, ilgai nelaukus, dingsta debesyse...

“Lituanica” pakilo 1933 metais, liepos 15 dienos rytą, 24 minutės po šešių... Padangių didvyriai NUGALĖJO Atlantą, išbuvę ore beveik 38 valandas... ir padarę... 6411 kilometrų, t.y., 3984 mylias.

NUGALĖJO jie Atlantą, nuskridę tokį nuotolį greičiau ir tiksliau, negu kitų tautų Atlanto lakūnai...

MŪSŲ didvyriai nugalėjo Atlantą, bet Kauno aerodrome nenusileido, tragiškai žuvo Soldino miške, vos 120 kilometrų nuo Berlyno, Vokietijoje... Tenai 1933 metais, liepos 17 dienos anksti rytą, dar saulei nepatekėjus, amžinai suglaudė savo metalinius sparnus...

Mūsų padangių didvyriai buvo pasiryžę ATLANTĄ nugalėti, bet ne mirti... JIE LAIMĖJO...

Laimėsime ir MES, jei tauraus lietuvių sparnais kilsime viršum kasdienybės, viršum jos debesų! Laimėsime, jei vardan Lietuvos būsime pasiryžę gyventi ir mirti... DIDVYRIŲ MIRTIS - NAUJO GYVENIMO AUŠRINĖ!

* * *

Darius ir Girėnas paliko lietuvių tautai gyvą testamentą, kurio žodžius kiekvienas lietuvis turi giliai įsidėti savo širdin. Testamentas kalba taip:

“Mes skrisime į Lietuvą. Lietuvių tauta laukia savo sūnų ir drąsesnių žygių. Būtinai reikia ir jos sūnams prisidėti prie bendrojo darbo - tirti dar mažai žinomas, siaurės Atlanto vandenyno oro sroves, o taip pat naujai išrastos navigacijos būdus ir priemones pritaikinti kasdieniniams reikalams. Mes, gyvendami tokiais laikais, kada oras stengiamasi panaudoti žmonijos reikalams, laikome savo pareigą tautos vardu tą darbą garbingai atlikti.

Jaunoji Lietuva! Tavo dvasios įkvėpti, mes stengiamės tą pasirinktą uždavinį įvykdyti. Mūsų pasisekimas tegu stiprina tavo dvasią ir pasitikėjimą savo jėgomis ir gabumais. Bet, jei Neptūnas ir galingasis audrų Perkūnas ir mums bus rūstus, - pastos mums kelią į Jaunąją Lietuvą ir pašauks Lituaniką pas Save - tada tu, Jaunoji Lietuva, turėsi iš naujo ryžtis, aukotis ir pasirengti naujam žygiui, kad audringų vandenynų dievai būtų patenkinti tavo pastangomis, pasiryžimu ir nekviestu tavęs į Didįjį Teismą. Lituanikos laimėjimas tegu stiprina Jaunųjų Lietuvos sūnų dvasią ir įkvėpia juos naujiems žygiams.

Lituanikos pralaimėjimas ir nugrimzdimas į Atlanto vandenyno gelmes, tegu auklėja jauną lietuvių atkaklumą ir ryžtą, kad sparnuotas lietuvis būtinai įveiktų klastingąjį Atlantą tėvynės Lietuvos garbei.

Tad ši savo skridimą ir aukojame tau, Jaunoji Lietuva. Tą didįjį bandymą pradėsime, tikėdamiesi Dangaus palaimos”.

LITHUANIA

- AT THE UNIVERSITY

OF DAYTON



FEB 18 TO FEB 25 1973

By Elinor Sluzas
Judy Petrokas

At the Knights of Lithuania National Convention that was held in Chicago, the Keynote Speaker for the closing banquet was Congressman Puchinski. He spoke of ethnic pride and the reason so many young folk were having trouble "finding themselves"... they could not relate to a heritage... it was something hazy or completely lost with the passage of time. He further emphasized that it was a misnomer to refer to the United States as a "Melting Pot"... we are a "Mosaic" of nationalities, adding our own special colors to the beauty of this land.

This year in Dayton, Ohio, Lithuanians were able to add their own "splash of color" to this grand Mosaic. The University of Dayton - Office of International Education, in conjunction with the nationalities of the world, presented a series of weekly ethnic events. The University was very generous, in that they provided the facilities on campus for the programs at no expense to the groups. Lithuanian Week was February 18 through February 25th. The following article will try to give you a "thumb nail" sketch of how the window to our little corner of the world was opened for the citizens of Dayton.

Early in December of 1972, Father Gabriel Rus of U of D called Father Katarskis and asked if the Lithuanians would be interested in participating. The answer was an enthusiastic "YES". This started the ball rolling. It was announced from the pulpit that everyone was invited to become a part of this committee and at the meeting that followed, the parishioners that spearheaded this undertaking were also Knights of Lithuania members. Many grand ideas were offered, but where would the money come from? With good old Lithuanian ingenuity and stubborn determination, a Bake Sale, an Amber Ring lottery, canvassing the parish for monetary donations were successful, and Sarysis responded with an assurance that they would provide financial support. After two months of intensive, hard work, the fruits of our labors blossomed.

On Sunday, Feb. 18 from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Radio Station WVUD-FM "Music of Lithuania" was presented. The people of Dayton called in and asked questions about Lithuania. The program was very well planned, covering a little of the history, past and present; holidays and customs; education; industry; religion; costumes and music. The response to this program, which was the "kick-off", was most encouraging.

Wednesday evening, Feb. 21 at the University of Dayton Kennedy Union, we had a "Buckley" type panel discussion. Each of three speakers gave a 20



Mrs. Fedic of Cincinnati demonstrating Lithuanian weaving on Saturday night.

minute presentation, and following his presentation, the audience asked him questions pertaining to his theme. After all were finished, the audience directed their questions to any or all of the panelists regarding anything they wanted to know. The panelists were: Dr. V. Bieliauskas, Chairman, Department of Psychology, Xavier University; Member of Governor Gilligan's Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and twice recipient of "Outstanding Educator of America" Award in 1971 and 1972, who discussed "The Church within the Soviet System", Mr. Horace Zibas, Proctor and Gamble, Cincinnati; President of the Lithuanian Council of Greater Cincinnati who discussed "Lithuanian History and Culture", and Dr. Frank Rimvydas Silbajoris, Acting Chairman and Professor of Slavic Languages and Literature at Ohio State University; noted Historian and Lecturer, who discussed "Lithuanian Literature - Poets and Music".



LEFT TO RIGHT:
Sally Miller, Rev. John Harrington, S.M.,
and Rev. Vaclavas Katariskis.

Endless variations of Lithuanian mementos emerged and faded before the viewer's gaze Saturday Evening, Feb. 24. The crowds milled through the John F. Kennedy Ballroom on the University of Dayton campus, stopping to observe the many displays and demonstrations. The tall hand-carved shrine at the far end of the Ballroom was impressive. The linens, woven items, and all the hand-carved objects were beautiful. But most beautiful was the huge collection of amber jewelry. The visitors were truly amazed. On exhibit were models of wayside shrines that have been made by one of our local parishioners.

The demonstrations included Easter Egg designing, Christmas tree ornaments and Lithuanian-style weaving. Many visitors were fascinated by the intricate art of Easter Egg designing. Beeswax was used on some of the eggs while others were done with melted crayons mixed in beeswax. Displayed were eggs decorated by the

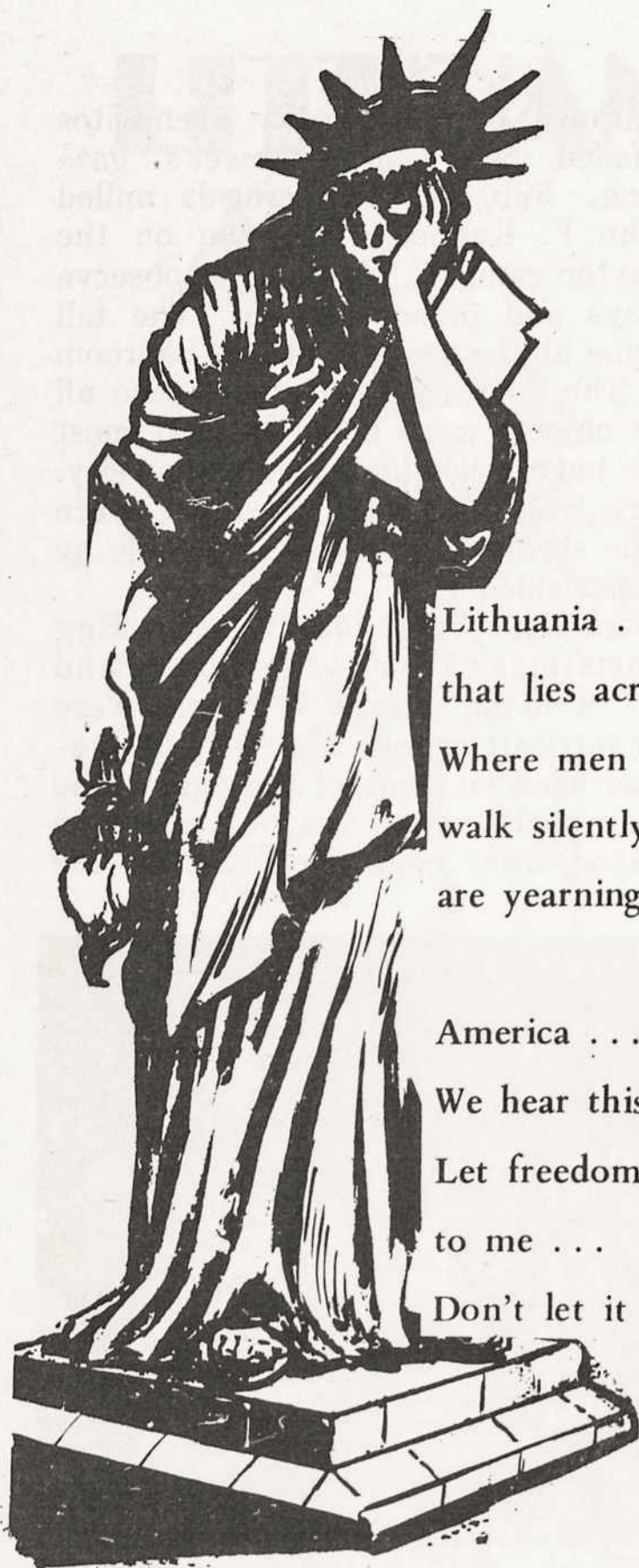


The Neris Dancers from Pittsburgh, Penn.

ancient method of onion peels, a rag, and boiling water. The women making the Christmas ornaments gave one corner of the Ballroom a holiday air. A fully decorated Christmas tree - Lithuanian style - stood in the corner while these women went about the tedious task of making these ornaments. Deep appreciation goes to Mrs. Fedic of Cincinnati for coming to Dayton Saturday night to demonstrate style weaving. Her collection was exquisite.

To add to the evening the women of the parish spent many hours in kitchens preparing for Saturday night. A grand spread of Lithuanian pastries and punch were available for visitors to sample.

The grand event of the evening was the appearance of the Neris Dancers from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the Ausra Singers from Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Both of these groups have performed in folk festivals around the U.S. and Canada. The Lithuanian Cultural Evening on Saturday was a huge success as was evident by the appearance of approximately 900 people.



*No man is free
as long as one is not*

Lithuania . . . a tiny land
that lies across the sea . . .
Where men with God . . .
walk silently . . .
are yearning to be free.

America . . . remember me . . .
We hear this plaintive cry.
Let freedom's torch reach out
to me . . .
Don't let it fail or die.

The above beautifully describes why we commemorate the Anniversary of the Proclamation of Lithuania's Independence.

Sunday, Feb. 25, began with Mass in the native tongue at Holy Cross Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church. Following the Mass was a program at the Lithuanian Social Club with guest speaker James O'Neil, a graduate student in the Department of History at the University of Dayton. The Ausra Girls Quartet gave another awe-inspiring performance singing among other selections "Ar Tu Meni?", "Kur gimta padangė", "Lietuvai", "Nemunėli", "Tėvynė Lietuva", "Žemaičių polka". A dramatic declamation of "Prayer" was done by Laima Taukevicius, a 14-year old girl who accompanied the Ausra Singers on their trip to Dayton.

To conclude this festive week of activities a Lithuanian-American Cuisine was served at the Holy Cross Church Hall on Sunday evening. The food ranged from ham, chicken and cabbage rolls - Lithuanian style - to kugelis, košeliėna, ausukės,

and other items. There were approximately 200 dinners served with many non-Lithuanians having the opportunity to taste some of the Lithuanian specialties. The Ausra Singers were again kind enough to entertain the diners to a few more songs and then it was off to Canada for them. Reverends Gabriel Rus, S.M., and John Harrington, S.M., were gracious and gave the innovation and benediction. Both of these priests are from the University of Dayton. Father Rus in his benediction thanked the Dayton Lithuanian Community for opening up their culture for those in the Greater Miami Valley to enjoy. He expressed appreciation for the fantastic program that had been planned for the entire week.

Father Harrington was no less grateful in his remarks. In a letter to the committee he said that even though the Lithuanian Community was small in number compared to some of the other ethnic groups, we were big in spirit. The entire week's activities could not be surpassed by any other group and he looks forward to another time when the Lithuanian Community displays its culture.

What more can be added to the beautiful comments of these people representing the University of Dayton. Many more compliments were expressed by all those attending the events. Especially rewarding were the favorable remarks from non-Lithuanians, and those from outside the Dayton area who attended. By the number of people who worked hard on this huge project and by the large numbers that attended all the events, the entire week was a tremendous success.

In closing we would like to quote from a letter sent to the committee by Father Harrington of the University of Dayton. "The project tells a lot when a small Lithuanian Community such as Dayton's can surpass many other larger ethnic communities who have done very little to cultivate and keep alive the beautiful traditions of their countries".



The Ausra Singers and Laima Tautkevicius

EUROPE'S FIRST MARIAN APPARITION

Francis J. Jancius, MIC

Among the least known of Mary's appearances on earth are Her apparitions at Siluva, Lithuania. Yet the happenings at Siluva ante-date the events of LaSalette and Lourdes by more than two centuries and those of Fatima by three. The facts are as follows.

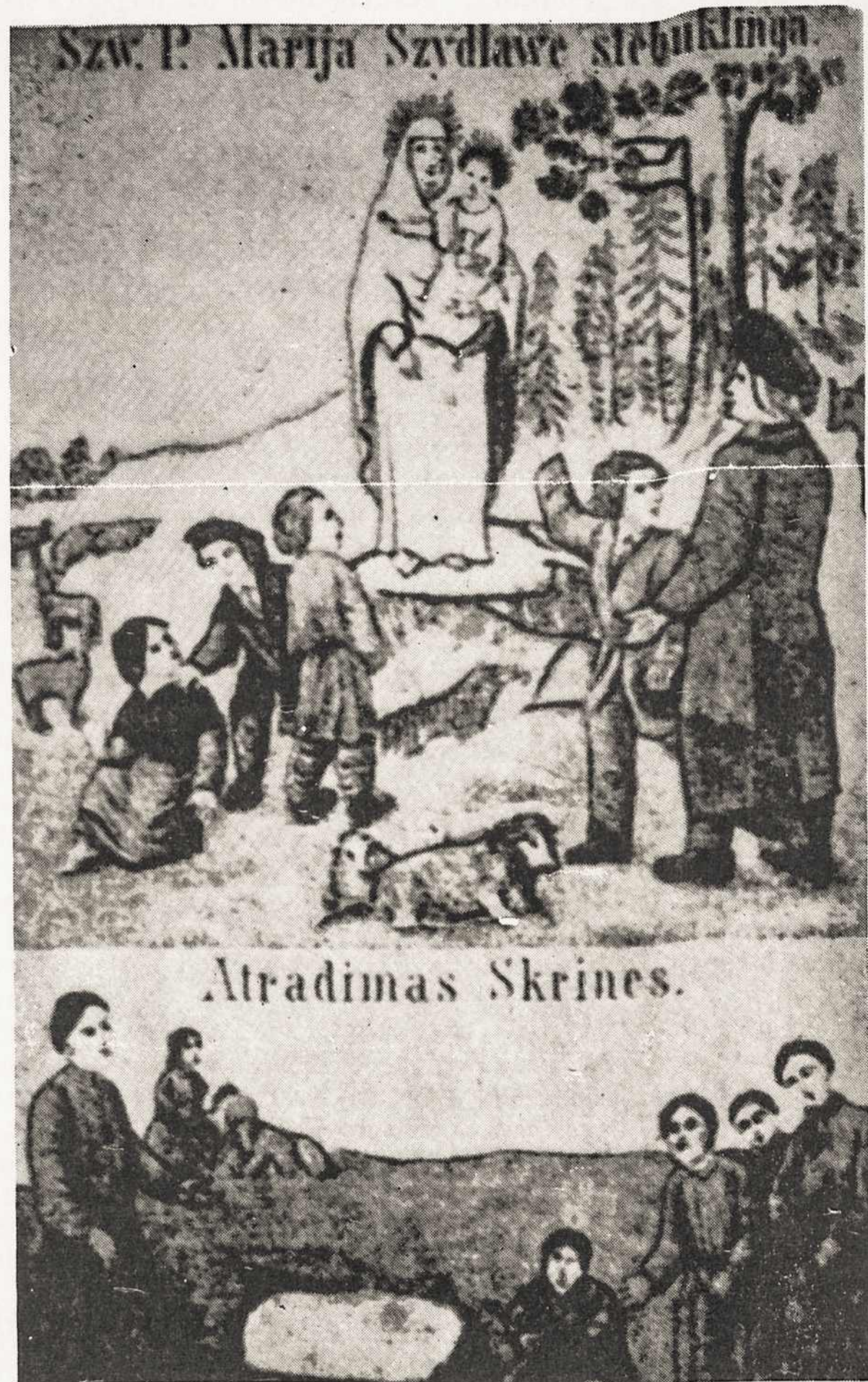
One day in 1608, several children were tending their flocks in the pastures on the outskirts of Siluva. They were ordinary, normal children of peasant stock. Their lives were dull and monotonous. Each morning at sunrise they rose from their pallets of straw, hurriedly donned patched and worn clothing, consumed a piece or two of tough, black bread, and carrying their meagre noonday lunches in their hands went out to perform the tasks that kept them busy until sunset.

Nor did the future hold much in store for them. Their education was limited to a few brief religious instructions.

And their parents had little to offer; day after day their fathers and mothers labored on the huge estates of the wealthy nobles for the privilege of cultivating a tiny plot of land from which they hoped to eke out a humble living and maintain their thatchedroof one-room homes.

On this particular day the children were suddenly disturbed by the sounds of weeping. As they looked around for the source of the sobbing, they beheld a young woman on the large rock near which they often played. She was clothed in flowing, lily-white robes. Her long shining hair fell over her shoulders. In her arms she cradled a sleeping Babe. Tears streamed down her cheeks.

The children were frightened. None dared approach the weeping woman. They sent one of their group back to the village to tell the



Calvinist minister what they had seen. The minister laughed at the child and bade him to return to the fields. In the evening when the children returned to the village, they told their parents and neighbors about the strange sight they had seen.

Aroused by the children's story, on the following day many of the inhabitants of Siluva gathered at the scene of the apparition. The Calvinist minister and his assistant also hastened to the spot and rebuked the people for their simplicity and their proneness to

believe childish fantasies. Even if anything had appeared, they explained, it was only the work of the devil, who wished to lure them away from their Calvinist faith.

As they scolded the people, all present suddenly saw the beautiful woman described by the children, standing on the dark rock, pressing an infant to her bosom and weeping.

The minister asked: "Why are you crying?" She answered: "Formerly, my dearly beloved Son was worshipped on this spot; now this soil is given over to the plowman and the sower".

At the time of Our Lady's apparitions at Siluva, the dark night of Protestantism hovered over Lithuania. This land, often called the "youngest daughter of the Church in Europe", had officially embraced Catholicism in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. But during the Reformation its landed gentry like many of their counterparts in other European countries accepted the teachings of Calvin and other Protestant scholars. The nobles in turn influenced the villagers and others who depended upon their good will for a livelihood. And so Lithuania became Protestant. Only seven priests remained in all of Lithuania when these strange events occurred in Siluva.

A blind old man, more than one hundred years of age, lived in one of the villages near Siluva. He stated that the apparitions had taken place on the site of the old Catholic church that had burned down in 1536. Some of the salvaged church treasures had been buried in an oaken chest in the same vicinity. The old man urged the people not to listen to the minister's misleading explanations of the apparitions.

The weeping woman's appearances and the old man's tale were on the tip of every tongue. Shortly afterwards, Rev. John

Kazakevicius, officially representing the diocese of Samogitia, invited the blind peasant to accompany him to the scene of the apparitions. Immediately upon their arrival an extraordinary event occurred: the old man's sight was restored, he no longer had to be led. The old man fell to his knees and joyously thanked the Lord for this great favor, the miraculous restoration of his sight. Then he pointed out the spot where the chest had been buried. It was beside the rock on which the Virgin had appeared. The chest was unearthed and found to contain a picture of the Blessed Virgin Mary, chalices, a chasuble and documentary evidence that in 1457 a certain Peter Giedgaudas had donated the land and erected a church for the people of Siluva.

Thus two extraordinary events took place at the scene of the apparitions: the old man regained his sight and the church documents and treasures were found. The documents enabled Rev. Kazakevicius to regain the Church lands from the Calvinists. A tiny wooden chapel was built at Siluva. It soon proved to be too small for the crowds of the faithful who came to Siluva asking Our Lady's intercession.

Fortified by frequent miracles, devotion to Our Lady of Siluva grew rapidly and received the full approbation of the Church. During the last quarter of the eighteenth century Pope Pius VI designated September 8th as the special feast of Our Lady of Siluva, attached a plenary indulgence to this devotion and also blessed a golden crown for the portrait.

Before the outbreak of World War II, the permanent population of the village of Siluva was a mere 1, 100 inhabitants. Each year however, more than 100, 000 pilgrims from all parts of Lithuania and many neighboring countries journeyed to Siluva to visit the church

and shrine that stood there in fulfillment of Mary's expressed wish; to see the ancient oak chest and the chalices and chasuble it contained and to pray before the miraculous picture of the Blessed Virgin, and most of all to pray for a miracle that would heal whatever wounds they and their dear ones suffered in soul as well as in body.

Our Lady's apparitions at Siluva mark Her first appearance on European soil and Her second on earth. Only Mexico's famed Marian shrine at Guadalupe, where God's Mother appeared in 1531, is older.

At Siluva too, Mary wept for the first time during Her earthly appearances.

The events at Siluva sparked the religious revival of the Lithuanian nation. Lithuania probably would have been lost to the Church, if not for Mary's apparitions at Siluva.

Siluva, may well be called Lithuania's Lourdes. Countless votive offerings of all sizes and shapes bear eloquent witness to the many favors granted through the intercession of Our Lady.

Today, Lithuania is behind the Iron Curtain. Many of its people languish in Red prisons or waste away in labor camps in the cold reaches of Siberia. Others, more fortunate, have fled to the Free World.

In September 1958, Catholic Lithuanians in the United States revived the devotion to their Heavenly Mother at Siluva. With the approval of the American Hierarchy and the Holy See, processions and prayers were instituted for suffering Lithuania.

Perhaps, one day in the not too distant future, they will be able to return to a free land and kneel with grateful hearts at the spot where Our Lady appeared to the young shepherds of Siluva.

"THE MARIAN"

*Temper is what gets most of us into trouble.
Pride is what keeps us there.*

*The best way to forget your own problem is
to help someone solve his.*

RUGSĖJO AŠTUNTOJI, TAUTOS ŠVENTĖ

Povilas Dirkis

Rugsėjo 8 diena, Šv. Marijos gimimo diena, sutampa su Vytauto Didžiojo karūnacijos diena. Tai religinė ir tautinė šventė. Kaip religinė šventė ji yra švenčiama Lietuvoje nuo senų laikų, o kaip Tautos Šventė ji pradėta švęsti tik nuo 1930 Vytauto Didžiojo metų. Tais metais buvo minima 500 metų sukaktis nuo Vytauto Didžiojo mirties. Jo paveikslas su didžiausiomis iškilmėmis apkeliavo visą Lietuvą. Lietuvos vyriausybė tų metų gegužės 31 dieną ir paskelbė rugsėjo 8 dieną Tautos Švente Vytauto karūnacijos dienai ir senosios Lietuvos valstybinei galybei atminti ir pagerbti.

Drąsūs ir garsūs buvo Lietuvos kunigaikščiai, kaip Gediminas, Algirdas, Kęstutis ir jo žmona Birutė, tačiau visus pralenkė Kęstučio ir Birutės sūnus Vytautas. Jis savo gabumais, energija ir didvyriškais žygiais pasiekė aukščiausią Lietuvos galybės laipsnį. To meto Europoje Vytautas buvo vienas populiariausių ir gerbiamų asmenų.

Vytautas Didysis buvo genialus karo vadas ir sumanus politikas. Jis gerai suprato politinę padėtį ir Lietuvai grėšiančius pavojus. Kariniais veiksmais ir pasirašytomis sutartimis Vytautas užtikrino Lietuvai saugumą ir sulaukė totorių ordas, grėšiančias visai vakarų Europai. Vytauto dėka vakarų Europa ir jos kultūra buvo išgelbėta nuo azijatų visa naikinančio antplūdžio.



Vytauto Didžiojo laikų Lietuva.

1429 m. Lucko suvažiavimas pripažino Vytautą vertą karaliaus karūnos ir pasiūlė jį karūnuoti Lietuvos karaliumi. Net ir pats Jogaila su tuo buvo sutikęs, nors ir žinojo, kad su Vytauto karūnacija nutruks Lietuvos valstybiniai ryšiai su Lenkija.

Vytauto karūnacija turėjo įvykti 1430 m. rugsėjo 8 dieną. Tačiau imperatoriaus Zigmanto pasiuntiniai, vežę karūną, buvo sulaukyti Lenkijos pasienyje, apiplėšti ir karūna atimta. Karūnaciją teko

atidėti kitai datai, kurios Vytautas jau nebesulaukė. Jis spalio 16 d. jodamas su Jogaila netoli nuo Trakų, nukrito nuo arklio, susižeidė ir spalio 27 dieną mirė. Tokiu būdu antroji karūnacijos data - lapkričio 8 d. - savaime atkrito. Vytauto karūnacija, jeigu ji būtų įvykdyta, būtų turėjusi svarbią reikšmę mūsų tautos istorijoje. Pirmiausia Lietuva būtų nutraukusi visus valstybinius ryšius su Lenkija ir pasukusi visą Lietuvos istoriją kita linkme.

Vyčių Himnas

M. GUSTAITIS

A. ALEKSIS

Alla Marcia

Nu - žengk, Ga - ly - be, iš Dan - gaus, Su - sti - prin - k jau - ną

Vy - čių dva - sia Mes už tei - sy - bę sto - sim dra - siai

Tė - vy - nę gin - ti kuo - nar - siaus. O plie - no kar - das

prie - šą draus, O plie - no kar - das prie - šą draus.

p *rall.* *f* *a tempo*

Štai ple-vė - suo-ja vė - lia - va, Ką kal - ba jos žy - mė? Ei,

p *f*

Vy - čiai, gy - ve - nam Tau - tai ir Baž - ny - čiai: Mums vis - ką

p *f*

da - vė Lie - tu - va, Va - duo - sim gal - va ją sa - va. Ei

p *rit.*

Vy čiai, gy - ve - nam Tau - tai ir Baž - ny - čiai.

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

BALTIC SPOKESMEN THWARTED IN HELSINKI

The World Baltic Conference, a New York-based organization representing the Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian political institutions in the western world, sent a nine-man delegation to the European Security Conference, meeting this July in Helsinki, Finland.

The purpose of the Baltic mission was to present the Baltic case to the diplomats and journalists, attending the Conference. The Baltic group sojourned at Hotel Continental in Helsinki, which housed most of the diplomats to the Conference. The nine-man Baltic mission lobbied the participants of the diplomatic sessions and conferred with newsmen. They peacefully distributed memoranda and leaflets expounding the legitimate claims of the Baltic peoples for the restoration of national sovereignty in the light of a general European settlement and cooperation.

Their efforts were thwarted as a result of a press reception held at the East German Embassy. On the evening of July 4th, Mr. Uldis Grava, Chairman of the Latvian contingent, attended the reception. He used the occasion to ask Sir Alec Douglas-Home, British foreign secretary, why the question of the Baltic States was not on the agenda. Sir Alec directed Mr. Grava to M. Andrei Gromyko, Soviet Foreign minister. It is purported that Mr. Gromyko emphatically denied that the Soviet Union had forcibly occupied the Baltic States and submitted Mr. Grava to verbal abuse. Upon the complaint of the Soviet Delegation, Mr. Grava was arrested by Finnish security officers and his press credentials revoked.

The following morning, Finnish police arrested Dr. Joseph K. Valiūnas, Lithuanian chairman, and Mr. Ilmar Ploor, Estonian chairman. The other Balts succeeded in contacting their respective organizations in the United States. They continued their lobbying activities until the late afternoon of July 5th, when Finnish police rounded them up. The nine arrested Balts were removed to Hotel Marsky, where they were kept under detention and denied outside communications. In addition to the three chairmen, the arrested included Dr. Jonas Genys, Dr. Petras Vileišis, Miss Eglė Žilionis, M. Frimanis and George Kahar. The latter is a Canadian citizen.

According to sources in Helsinki, the official charge against the Balts was "disturbing the peace of the international conference". The specific charge is that they were distributing anti-Soviet leaflets to delegates. Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian circles in the West feel that the Soviet Delegation disdained being reminded of the grim reality of the illegal Soviet occupation of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. As a result, Finnish authorities were forced to heed the discomfiture of the Soviets. In a statement issued by the Supreme Committee for Liberation of Lithuania, it was observed that "the detention of eight Americans and one Canadian of Baltic descent conflicts with the Western goal of a continent open to the free flow of people and ideas".

SUDĖTI VAINIKAI

Lietuvos Vyčių iniciatyva, geg. 14 d. įvyko neįprastas religinis minėjimas šv. Juozapo bažnyčioje, 7 val. vakare. Buvo atžymėta jaunuolio-herojaus mirties sukaktis bei pagarbiai prisiminti "ugnies broliai" Stonis, Andriuškevičius bei visi gyvieji ir mirusieji už Lietuvos laisvę kovotojai. Ne vienas iš dalyvių dvasioje persikėlęs į Aušros Vartų, Šiluvos ar kitą Lietuvos šventovę, karštai meldėsi už pavergtą, kenčiančią Lietuvos šalį. Prasmingą pamokslą sakė kun. J. Ruokis. Šv. Juozapo parapijos choras, vadovaujamas komp. A. Aleksio, išpildė išpūdingą iškilmeis pritaikintą giesmių programą su giliu įsijautimu. Ypač galingai skambėjo Dambrausko "Malda", Aleksio "Vyčių himnas", "God Bless America".

Minėjimui surengti rūpinosi Vyčių vadovybė - kun. klebonas J. Vilčiauskas, garbės nariai komp. A. Aleksis ir M. Andrikytė, J. Valaitis, L. Paulauskaitė, J. Alanskas, lietuvių radijo val. vedėjas J. Adomaitis ir kiti. Lietuvių reikalų vadovė M. Andrikytė apibūdino minėjimą liet. programoje iš radijo stoties WQQW, per "Sounding Board of Religion" iš WATR radijo stoties ir juos aprašė Waterbury Republican, Waterbury American ir Waterbury Sunday Republican laikraščiuose. Sudėjus meilės ir maldos vainikus and Dievo ir Tėvynės aukuro, lieka dabar dar uoliau dirbti "Tautai ir Bažnyčiai".

Vytė

A STATE-SPONSORED

JUNE 17, 1973

BALTIC FESTIVAL IN NEW JERSEY

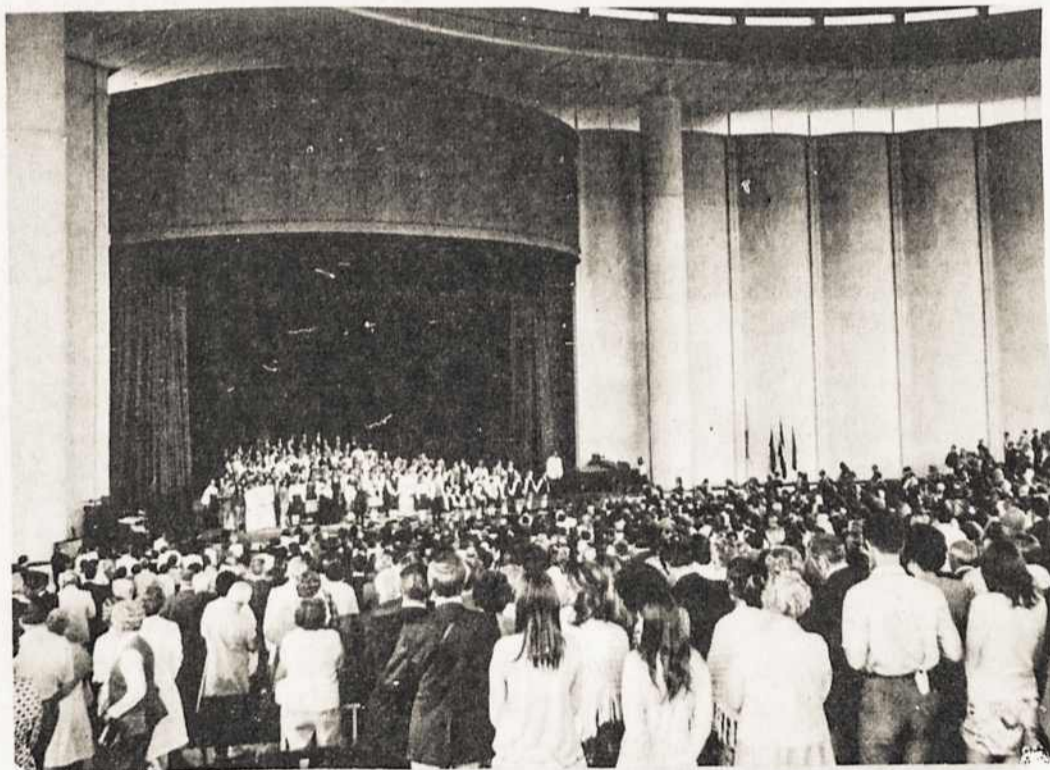
N.J. GARDEN STATE ARTS CENTER



"Grandinėlė" of Cleveland, directed by L. Sagys (above) and the "Žibuoklės" of N.J., directed by L. Stukas (up rt.) represented Lithuanians, and various Latvian and Estonian groups also performed...

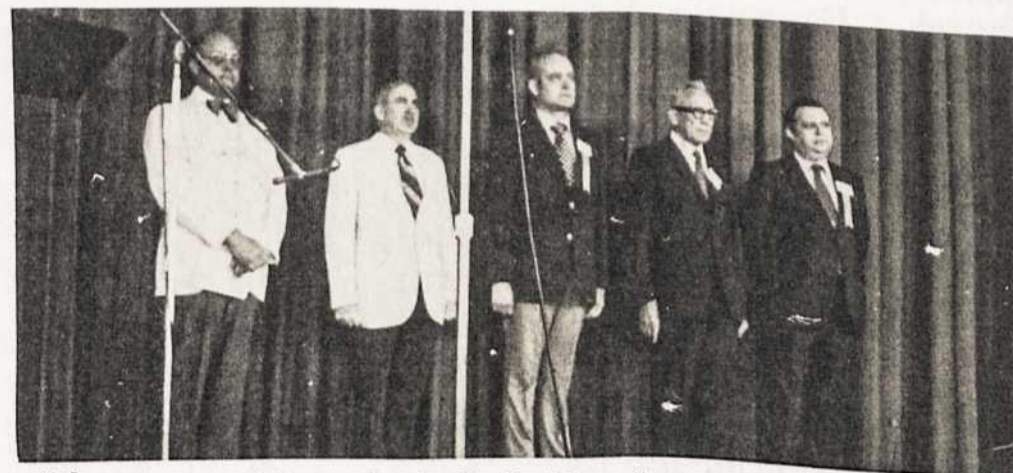


... and 3000 people watched.



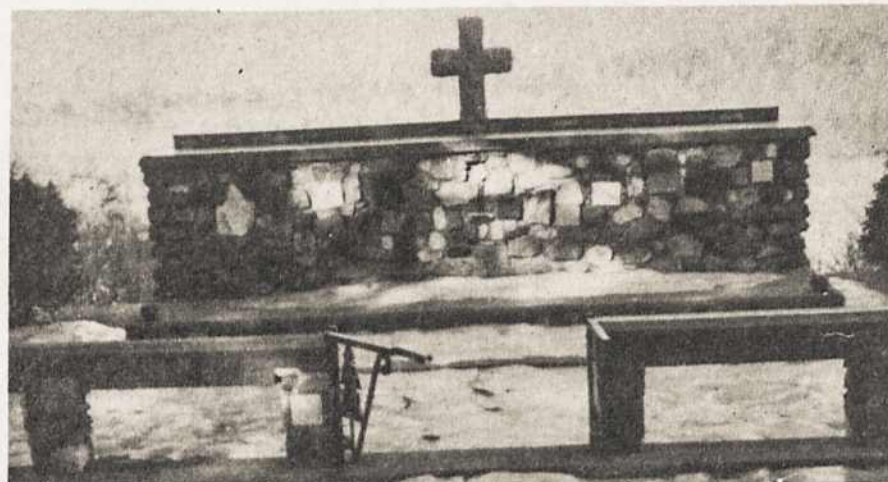
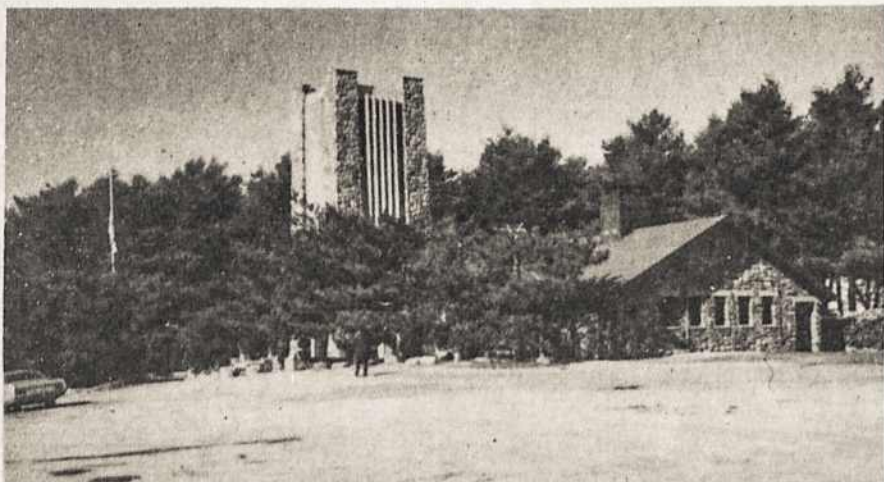
Performers of all three nationalities gathered to sing "God Bless America" as a finale.

Photo R. Kisielius



The committee included K of L'ers Jack Stukas, M.C., (left) Valentinas Melinis, Genl. Chairman (right).

DEDICATION OF "AMBER STONE" AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE PINES



The New England District, Knights of Lithuania, sponsored the dedication and blessing of an "amber stone" in memory of the Lithuanian Freedom Fighters and Martyrs at the Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge, New Hampshire, Sunday May 20, 1973 at 5:00 P.M. The Con-celebrants of the Mass were Rev. Albin Janiunas, Saint Peter's Church, South Boston, Rev. John Zuromskis, pastor Saint Joseph's Church, Lowell, Mass., Rev. Joseph Bucevicius, Saint Casimir's Church, Nashua, New Hampshire, Rev. Albert Contons, Saint Margaret's Church, Beverly, Mass., Rev. Adolph Gradeck, pastor, Saint Andrew's Church, New Britain, Conn., and Rev. John Rikteraitis, Saint Andrew's Church, New Britain, Conn. The Color Guard of Stephen Darius Post #317, South Boston, the choir of Saint Andrew's Church, directed by John Beinoris, and many ladies in

Lithuanian costumes participated in the procession. The amber was donated by National 1st Vice President Dr. Peter Bizinkauskas and his family. This dedication and blessing was offered as a petition to Almighty God and a constant reminder that injustices per-

petrated and shielded persecution by Soviet Communism should be exposed.

The Cathedral of the Pines is dedicated to Almighty God as a place where all people may worship.

The site is a former farm called Interlaken which is circled by three ponds. In the background is the majestic Mt. Monadnock. The Congress of USA voted in 1957 to dedicate the altar as the "Nation's Altar" and allow services to be held for all American war dead. All the states participated in furnishing the funds for the building of the tower in memory of all men and women who have served. There are 45 State Flags and 37 flags from other Nations.

Following the dedication, the Knights of Lithuania as host invited the participants to a collation arranged at the Gardner American Legion Post by Howie Beaudette, President of C-10 Athol-Gardner.



*Co-Chairmen V. Bizankauskas
and L. Svelnis.*

Cooperation is doing with a smile what you have to do anyway.

Men do not stumble over mountains, but over molehills.

CONFUCIUS



MID CENTRAL DISTRICT PILGRIMAGE

We would like to take a few minutes of your time to share part of the Mid-Central District's Pilgrimage and Memorial Services for deceased members. The occasion took place June 9th and 10th. Spiritually it was a success. Physically, we wish more would have participated. It was most rewarding.

First we would like to thank all who came in from out-of-town. From Pittsburgh - Antoinette Naujelis, Joanne Fetter, Linda Moschette, Alice Potts, Andrew Rozger, Mildred Chinik, Stella Zoog and Julia Aleashunas; from Detroit - Joseph and Catherine Kurpowic, Alex and Albina Kurpowic, Frank and Betty Petroski; from Cleveland - Charles and Nelda Machutas and family, Nellie Arunski, Al and Joanne Shigo and Peter Luiza.

Our Saturday evening - "Remember When?" - proved to be just that, with George Mikalauskas showing films of past district activities. Mass was held on Sunday at 10 AM in Lithuanian, honoring all the living and deceased members of the district. Honorary members Stan Vaitkus, and Mary Lucas; district VYTIS correspondant Mildred Chinik and Junior Knight Joseph Mantz were

Offering Bearers. At the visit to Calvery Cemetery a wreath was placed at the grave of our deceased District Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Titas Narbutas, paying homage to all the deceased of the district. District President, Peter Luiza and District Trustee, Sally Miller, had the honor of placing the wreath. Dinner followed. After dinner, services were held at the Shrine of the Three Crosses and Benediction closed out the pilgrimage. Rev. Walter Katarskis and Rev. Vincent Bartuskas were in charge of the religious aspects of the pilgrimage.

Those we paid tribute to in the district were as follows: (Candles were lit at Our Lady of Šiluva and St. Casimir's Alters as each name was read). Pittsburgh C-19 - Rev. Magnus Kazinas, Rev. Alphonse Sušinskas, Walter Chinik, Casimer Bazis, John Senulis, Ann Keldusis and Barbara Walksudkas. Cleveland Seniors - Katherine Wilkaitis, Anna Mihelic, George Kuzas, Helen Kuzas, Victoria Maciokas, Margaret Tarutes, George Salasavich and Mr. Cheraukas. Cleveland C-25 - Mary Susin, John Arunski, Albert and Ann Paskevica. Youngstown - Vincent Ed Pavis. Cincinnati - Patronele Truska, Elizabeth Maezor and Pranas Viltrakis. Dayton C-96 - Rev. Leon Paspalius, Rev. Titas Narbutas, Joseph Kelacius, Martha Birbulas, Joseph Goldick, Michael and John Razauskas, Frank Ambrose, Stanley Lucas, Joseph Rimkus, Joseph Sinkwitz, John Akelaitis, Elizabeth Sinkwitz, Eva Leasure, Joseph Somentus and Frank Gudelis. Detroit C-79 - Frances Alksnes, Kasimer Arman, Alex

Banonis, Michael B. Baron, Stanley P. Bernardis, Peter W. Brundza, William Chepelonis, Andrew Gillis, Helen Keller, Ann Fagg, Constantine Kundrotas, John Laurinaitis, Edward Martin, William Marozas, Stella Mameniskis, Nellie Mahlo, Joseph Medinis, Frank W. Mickey, Joseph Miknis, Peter Medonis, Walter Pelukas, Adam Salas, Marijona Salinis, Magdalene Stanton and Mary Tollus. Detroit C-102 - Rev. Ignatius Boreišis and Vito Žaliagiris. Detroit C-139 - Ann Širvydas and Mary Waitkus. How many do you remember?

One of the most heart rendering moments came with the closing words of our Council President, Elinor Sluzas:

"There is a time for tears... a time when men have no one to turn to. There is a time when life seems God-forsaken and when we feel more acutely the dust of the earth than the breath of God. There is a time when the heavens are dark and the disciples are gone... a time when a few nails and almost unbearable pain are the only remains of a kingdom. There is a time when we are frightened and bewildered and all we can say is 'Father into your hands... Father into your hands'... and no one will have an answer. All we can say is that even God knew a time for tears and that in it He did not despair.

Today we have prayed for our beloved Knights who are living and those who have gone before us... some recently and some who would be all but forgotten had we not gathered here today.

I would like to close with just a few words to us the living. In a sense... every man dies too young.

Will we die with more in us than we gave... more in us than others saw... more in us than our friends heard... or our companions noticed? Will we die with so much of our love unexpressed... so many lonely hours unrelieved... so many of our happy moments unshared? Too often, no one is there when we are ready to say 'I care' ... 'I want to thank you' ... 'I love you'. Will we die with all this in us, all the times we tried to say we knew we made mistakes and then... because the moment passed... could not

bring ourselves to say in the next moment that which we almost said a moment ago? Marriage is something for which one can be too young or too old; friendship is ageless. Friendship is the only reality which dissolves loneliness.

We, as Lithuanians, are fortunate because God blessed us 'by and large' as an outgoing, generous and energetic people.

We, as Knights of Lithuania, are doubly blessed because, in this land of many nations, our organization ties us together with a

strong bond of religious principles... ethnic pride... friendship and love.

'I shall pass through this world but once.

If therefore, there be any kindness I can show,
Or any good thing I can do,
Let me do it now;
Let me not defer it or neglect it,
For I shall not pass this way again.'

I love you! Aš tave myliu!

K of L

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AUGUST

15 – IID/Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce
GOLF OUTING. Palos Hills Country
Club, Palos, Illinois

16-19 – K of L 60th NATIONAL CONVEN-
TION, Stonehill College, North Easton,
Mass.-C-1, Brockton, Mass. Hosts

SEPTEMBER

16 – NED 6th ANNUAL CULTURAL PICNIC,
Marionis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.

22 – C-112, Chicago, DINNER-DANCE. K of
L Bldg., Chicago, Illinois

29 – C-17 & 17 Srs. PRE-CONVENTION
DANCE, So. Boston Lithuanian Club,
So. Boston, Mass.

OCTOBER

7 – C-90, Kearny, N.J. – AMBER BALL,
Kearny, N.J.

7 – NED FALL CONVENTION, St. Casimir's
Church, Smith St., Providence, R.I. –
1:30 p.m.

13 – C-29, ANNUAL DINNER DANCE, Holy
Trinity Parish Hall, Newark, N.J.

14 – NED TESTIMONIAL DINNER, honoring
Rev. Albert Contons and Rev. Albinas
Janiunas, Marionis Park, Shrewsbury,
Mass.

NOVEMBER

11 – TELEVISION MASS, Channel 7-WNAC,
Government Center, Boston, Mass.
Sponsored by New England District

17 – C-17 and 17 Srs. – NOVEMBER FEST –
So. Boston Lithuanian Citizens Club,
So. Boston, Mass.

ANNUAL MIDWEST

BOWLING

TOURNAMENT

OFFICIAL RESULTS

MAY 19 - 20, 1973



CLEVELAND, OHIO - COUNCIL 25 HOSTS

TEAM STANDINGS WITH HANDICAP

	ACTUAL	HANDICAP	TOTAL
1. C-96 Dayton, Ohio - J. Berzelley, Capt.	2208	876	3084
2. C-96 Detroit, Mich. - R. Lucas, Capt.	2492	519	3001
3. C-96 Dayton, Ohio - H. Karn, Capt.	1974	1020	2994
4. C-112 Chicago, Ill. - A. Raubiskis, Capt.	2221	729	2950
5. C-79 Detroit, Mich. - T. Sackle, Capt.	2358	582	2940
6. C-25 Cleveland, Ohio - G. Kunsitis, Capt.	1895	1014	2909
7. C-96 Dayton, Ohio - D. Noreikas, Capt.	1749	1128	2877
8. C-96 Dayton, Ohio - J. Mantz, Capt.	1657	1218	2875
9. C-139 Detroit, Mich. - A. Kurpowic, Capt.	2241	630	2871
10. C-28 Cleveland, Ohio - E. Andrulis, Capt.	2239	621	2860
11. C-79 Detroit, Mich. - Mary Adams, Capt.	2243	552	2795
12. C-96 Dayton, Ohio - D. Petroski, Capt.	1941	849	2790
13. C-25 Cleveland, Ohio - J. Andrulis, Capt.	1898	891	2789
14. C-19 Pittsburgh, Pa. - A. Rogers, Capt.	1888	897	2785
15. C-102 Detroit, Mich. - M. Wagster, Capt.	2244	501	2745
16. C-102 Detroit, Mich. - J. Guerriero, Capt.	2171	549	2720
17. C-25 Cleveland, Ohio - Al Shigo, Capt.	1733	960	2693
18. C-79 Detroit, Mich. - E. Sackle, Capt.	2051	621	2672
19. C-79 Detroit, Mich. - B. Stanulis, Capt.	1930	690	2620
20. C-79 Detroit, Mich. - F. Petroski, Capt.	1961	591	2552



1st Place Team - l. to r.: Judy Petrokas, John Berczelly, Frank Ambrose, Karolyn Ambrose, Charles Petkus.

INDIVIDUAL TROPHY WINNERS

MEN

Hi Game Actual - Joe Yakstis, C-79, 230
 Hi Game Hdcp. - Joe Guerriero, C-102, 251
 Hi Series Actl. - Ray Lucas, C-79, 560
 Hi Series Hdcp. - Tony Sackel, C-79, 644
 John Andrulis, C-25, 644

WOMEN

Hi Game Actl. - Karolyn Ambrose, C-96, 217
 Hi Game Hdcp. - Nellie Arunski, C-25, 234
 Hi Series Actl. - Catherine Kurpowic, C-139, 525
 Hi Series Hdcp. - Joan Lutzky, C-79, 668

Tough Luck Series w/Hdcp. (Men) Frank Petroski, C-79
 (Women) Alvina Luiza, C-25

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

REPORT OF SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1973

The Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council met on Saturday, June 16, 1973, at 1:30 P.M. in the hall of Our Lady of Vilnius Church, 570 Broome Street, New York, New York. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Mid-Atlantic District President Larry Janonis. Helen Matthews, Treasurer of C-12, welcomed the Supreme Council and guests.

Supreme Council President Susan K. Boroskas conducted the meeting and directed that the minutes of the March 24, 1973 meeting be read. Longinas Svelnis made a motion to accept the minutes as read and Mary York seconded the motion.

Although our Spiritual Advisor was not present, the Supreme Council congratulated Fr. Contons on his appointment to a pastorate in Beverly, Mass.

In her report, President Boroskas thanked First Vice-President Dr. Bizinkauskas for conducting the two Supreme Council meetings she was obliged to miss because of her illness. During this time she tried to communicate with all officers and to respond to any correspondence she received. She has also corresponded with other Lithuanian organizations and was elected First Vice-President of Bendruomene in Brockton. President Boroskas feels that it is best to get involved with other organizations when there is a definite need. She also reminded officers that as leaders, they should make every effort to revitalize their own councils and to work with the Juniors.

President Boroskas attended many functions within the New England District. She feels that direct communication is invaluable and that it is part of the President's duties to attend functions. In this respect she attended the Silver Anniversaries of Fr. Contons and Fr. Janiunas and also the Amber Dedication in Rindge, New Hampshire. She reiterated her wish to be notified of deceased members. The President also wrote to Adele Gabalauskas for a progress report on work at the archives and any news on establishing councils abroad. There has been no reply to these inquiries. However, her most extensive work has been in helping to plan the 60th National Convention.

First Vice President Dr. Bizinkauskas was not present and did not submit a report.

Second Vice-President Albert Ozalis reported that the 100 percent paid-up Membership Drive is over and only 18 councils are 100 percent paid up. The New Members Drive is approaching the deadline and

to date 101 new members and 59 reinstated members bring this total to 160. Mr. Ozalis recommended that items of a Lithuanian nature in addition to certificates be awarded to individuals who recruited the most new members. For the three prize categories \$25., \$15., and \$10., was suggested. A motion in favor of this suggestion was made by Larry Janonis and seconded. The motion passed and Al Ozalis will purchase the gifts.

Third Vice-President Longinas Svelnis reported on the very successful Amber Dedication in Rindge, New Hampshire and the reactivation of C-103 Providence, Rhode Island. He is also encouraged by activity in New Britain, Connecticut. He also announced that the New England District will sponsor a dinner for Silver Jubilarians Fr. Contons and Fr. Janiunas in October. Mr. Svelnis wrote one article for the "Vytis".

Because of several delays, the \$25. gift and greetings on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee will be presented to Fr. Contons at the National Convention.

Financial Secretary Irene Ozalis reported sending dues to Treasurer Irene Sankus. She quoted 5 Districts, 38 councils and 1,701 paid up members. Also, 199 delinquent notices have been sent out. Mrs. Ozalis felt the need to have 200 copies of duties of the council Financial Secretary printed for distribution in the Fall. Mandates will be sent out by the end of June.

The Treasurer's written report was read and accepted.

Since the Lithuanian Affairs Chairman was not present, President Boroskas relayed a report in which the Chairman said that no bulletins had been issued since March. Mr. Miner did however send telegrams to twenty-one councils urging them to write to their congressmen to vote against H.R. 7706, the USIA budget cutback. He also served notice that under no circumstances will he be able to accept the chairmanship of this committee again next year.

Cultural Chairman Philip Skabeikis said that a June cultural bulletin was distributed. He also has two articles in preparation for "Vytis". The K of L Christmas Card Project needs more research and preparation. Also, choir record sales are slow. Mr. Skabeikis expressed disappointment with the lack of response from Districts and Councils. He has received very few names of Cultural Chairman. He feels this need for communication between local Chairmen and the National Committee Chairman of any committee is important to the success of the

committee and the organization. This need should be discussed at the Convention.

In light of the incomplete report received from the Scholarship Fund Treasurer at the Detroit meeting, the President will send a registered letter to Gerald Zager requesting a full report on the Fund. In the future, the duties of the Treasurer should be clearly outlined.

Anthony Mazeika, Sr. gave the report of the Honorary Membership Committee in which he reconfirmed the granting of membership to Anne Uznis at the 60th National Convention. The Committee will present the name of Alexander Wesey Vasiliauskas for Honorary Membership at the following National Convention.

Public Relations Chairwoman Helen V. Kulber reported on a dance exhibit at the Bay Ridge Public Library which incurred expenses of \$50. and the need for books and children's books about Lithuania for the Library. On June 18 there will be a demonstration against Brezhnev at the New York Public Library at 6:00 P.M. Another rally will take place on June 23 at 12:00 noon at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza. The President complimented Mrs. Kulber on her outstanding work in the field of public relations for the Knights of Lithuania.

Public Relations Chairwoman for the Mid-Atlantic District Mary York mentioned that the anniversary of the Emigration Museum is in October. At that

time, action will be taken to further Lithuanian representation in the Museum.

A written report from New England District President Albert G. Jaritis was read in which he requested that minutes of meetings be disseminated more quickly so that action may be taken on matters discussed. He also declined to distribute information to the New England District membership on a New England Rally for God, Family and Country. This affair is sponsored by the ultra-right John Birch Society and he feels we should not get involved as an organization. Mr. Jaritis also questioned the policy of the Scholarship Committee in limiting applicants to two per council. President Boroskas replied that this was not to be the case and that the situation would be corrected.

Mid-Central District President Peter Luiza reported that the Fall District Convention will be in Detroit hosted by C-139 and that Stanley Vaitkus will serve as District Ritual Chairman. Mid-West Bowling Tournament, hosted by C-25 of Cleveland was well attended. Also, the District's annual pilgrimage was held the weekend of June 9-10 in Dayton.

Mid-Atlantic District President Larry Janonis observed that this was the first Supreme Council meeting held at Our Lady of Vilnius Church. The District is composed of 8 active councils and 274 members. The District Convention was held on June



Supreme Council officers and guests at the June meeting.

Photo R. Kisielius

3 in Maspeth and elections will be held on September 30. The Hallmark Exhibit was an important project in the District this year. Concerning the suggestion that District Presidents present candidates at the Supreme Council meeting, Mr. Janonis felt that it would be better for the Presidents to meet as usual during the course of the National Convention as a nominating committee.

"Vytis" Editor Loretta I. Stukas reported that 3 issues have been published since the last Supreme Council meeting. The deadline for the August - September issue is July 5. There still has been no response from the Lithuanian Language Committee in reference to Lithuanian language lessons in "Vytis". Perhaps a resolution at the National Convention will promote more response in this area of concern. Feature stories about special projects and cultural events are most welcome and deserve more attention than merely inclusion in Council News. C-96 Dayton is to be commended for their excellent cooperation in providing such articles. The campaign for Christmas ads will begin immediately after the National Convention.

In the production sphere, as Harper & Co. can no longer provide mailing service for "Vytis", ViVi Printing will handle this task for the time being. The staff consisting of Tony Yuknis, Rita Ochs, Josie Zukas, Mary Kober, Marilyn Kareiva, Irene Sankus, B. Vyliaudas and photographer R. Kisielius continue their fine work and co-operation. At the conclusion of this report, President Boroskas congratulated and commended "Vytis" Editor Loretta Stukas on her work resulting in this fine publication.

President Boroskas related the following correspondence she has received: a thank you note from Lithuanian Consul General in Chicago, Mrs. Josephine Dauzvardis, for greetings; a thank you note from New England District President Albert Jaritis for President Boroskas' participation in the Amber Stone Dedication; a letter from the Taryba urging thanks to Senator Henry M. Jackson for his support in Lithuanian affairs.

Concerning the matter of updating the Constitution with the addition of amendments, Loretta Stukas reported after searching through past "Vytis" issues, she and Irene Sankus located the necessary information. Financial Secretary Irene Ozalis will have more Constitutions printed with the amendments included.

First Vice-President of the Mid-Atlantic District Marian Skabeikis related the lack of interest in writing an essay on the National Convention among her Junior groups. She believes many of her Juniors have neither the expertise nor the experience to write such an essay. Thus, she believes it would be much better, in the future, to provide "conventionships" to Juniors to attend the National Convention. She will present a resolution to this effect to the National Convention in August. Further, a motion

was made that if there is no response for the essay contest in a District, the money allotted for that District's prizes will be given to defray the expenses of Juniors attending from that District. The vote on this motion was recorded as ten in favor and one abstention.

Concerning Convention sessions, the following decisions were made:

Thursday afternoon, August 16, 1:30 P.M. - Opening Session, election of Presidium and reports of Supreme Council officers.

Friday morning, August 17, - Juniors' Panel including report of mini-convention for Juniors held on Thursday.

Friday afternoon, August 17, - Communication Among Ourselves and With Others - to encourage correspondence between local officers and Supreme Council Officers and Chairmen and our relations with other organizations.

Saturday morning, August 18, - Election of Supreme Council Officers.

Saturday afternoon, August 18, - 60th Anniversary - Review and Preview - Past Presidents Panel

It was voted to present this year's Rev. John Jutt Jutkevicius Friend of Lithuania Award to former Speaker of the House of Representatives John W. McCormack at the National Convention.

The President requested that all Supreme Council Officers and Committee Chairmen prepare 200 copies of their yearly reports for distribution at the Convention.

One of the Convention luncheons will honor older members of our organization. Names of these people, to receive special recognition, must be relayed to President Boroskas by July 8, 1973.

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 P.M. for Mass celebrated by Rev. George Gurinskas, Pastor of Our Lady of Vilnius Church. After Mass, in the absence of President Boroskas, the meeting was continued with Third Vice-President Longinas Svelnis presiding.

Financial Secretary Irene Ozalis reported that she could not arrange to have triplicate membership enrollment forms printed. The current forms will continue to be used.

On a motion by Cultural Chairman Philip Skabeikis and seconded by Larry Janonis, the Supreme Council will purchase 25 copies of Algis Ruksenas's book DAY OF SHAME for resale to members and at the Convention at \$6.00 per copy. Mr. Skabeikis will place the order.

Loretta Stukas received approval to proceed with plans for a Knights of Lithuania tour in Europe from

June 27 - July 14, 1974, through Robert McErlean who made the arrangements for the South American Festividad in 1972 and the Rome Pilgrimage in 1970. The tour package should be ready for presentation at the National Convention.

The next Supreme Council meeting will be held in Brockton, Massachusetts at the National Convention. The date, time, and place will be announced.

After expressing the thanks of the Supreme Council to Council 12 and Chairwoman Mary York for hosting the meeting, their exhibit of Lithuania, the delicious supper, and their very warm hospitality, the meeting was closed at approximately 6:30 P.M.

The following Supreme Council officers, committee members and guests were present at this meeting:

Mrs. Susan K. Boroskas	President
Albert Ozalis	Second Vice- President
Longinas Svelnis	Third Vice- President
Irene M. Adamaitis	Recording Secretary
Irene Ozalis	Financial Secretary
Grazina Vaskelis	Trustee
Helen Kulber	Chairman, Public Relations
Philip Skabeikis	Chairman, Lithuanian Cultural

Loretta I. Stukas	Editor "Vytis"
Marcella Andrikis	Honorary Member
Annie Mitchell Matalavich	Honorary Member
Helen T. Shields	Honorary Member
Frank Vaskas	Honorary Member
Joseph Boley	Honorary Member
Antanas J. Mazeika	Honorary Member
Larry Janonis	President, MAD
Marian Skabeikis	First Vice- Pres. MAD
Mary York	Public Relations MAD
Rev. George Gurinskas	Pastor, Our Lady of Vilnius
Ellen Muske	Guest, C- 12
John P. Yorkus	Past President, C- 12
Ann Yorkus	Cultural Chairman, C- 12
Agnes Krauss	Guest, C- 12
Helen Matthews	Treasurer, C- 12
James Sabal	Guest, C- 12
Jonas J. Antanavicius	Guest, C- 12
Mikalina Baltadonis	Guest, C- 12
Anna Lukscha	Guest, C- 12
Anna Ziudzius	Guest, C- 12
Helen Cuprewich	Guest, C- 12

Irene M. Adamaitis
Recording Secretary

COMMENTS... BY HELEN V. KULBER, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN - PUBLIC RELATIONS

Portions of my last report, mailed too late for inclusion in VYTIS, appeared in the K of L Pages in the Darbininkas newspaper... On June 1st, I personally distributed 7 and mailed 42 memos to various Supreme Council officers, National Chairmen, and Council Presidents in reference to a book about the tragic Kudirka incident "A Day of Shame" by Algis Ruksenas that was released in May. David McKay, Inc., publishers, wrote me as "Publicity Director - Knights of Lithuania", enlisting aid in bringing news of the book to readers. It is a dramatic, well-written account of the unsuccessful defection of the Lithuanian seaman, Simonas Kudirka, and has interesting backgrounds of persons involved. It also has numerous photos. Roberts Brieze, recipient of the 1971 K of L "Friend of Lithuania" award is prominently featured. Mr. Ruksenas, of Cleveland, has provided excellent concrete material which may be presented on occasions dealing with efforts to have Kudirka released from imprisonment by the Soviets. If your District or Council has not ordered the book, you may do so through me or Philip Skabeikis (addresses inside front cover) at a special price of \$6.00. It retails for \$8.95.

Among other items in my memo was a reminder to write key people urging them not to forsake the Baltic States at the European Security and Cooperation Conference in Helsinki... Letters from Margie Senk of New Britain, Conn., commending coopera-

tion in publicizing the Lithuanian Christmas exhibit at the Hallmark Gallery and for bringing attention to the plight of Lithuanians and other nations under the Soviet regime, appeared in MARCH issues of two Brooklyn, N.Y. papers. How's that for longterm and long-distance effect?... Frank Petrauskas of Syracuse, N.Y., sent a large packet of news clips which included many of his letters published in papers. Too bad many of them did not note name of paper nor date... Ann Klem, President of C-90, Kearny, arranged a display and demonstrated Easter egg decorating at the Bay Ridge Festival of the Arts on Crafts Day. She was invited to do so because of the fine reports on a similar project earlier for the Bay Ridge Nursery Auxiliary. The Arts Committee was particularly impressed with her patience and expertise in teaching youngsters... Jim Sysko, of the Kearney Council, is now Brother Andre, Franciscan Monastery, 1400 Quincy St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20517.

Demonstrations concerning Brezhnev's visit to the U.S., - Commemoration of Mass Deportations (Baisiojo Birželio Minėjimas) at the Lithuanian Wayside Shrine, - Baltic-American Festival in the Garden State Arts Center, N.J., (at which Dr. Stukas served admirably as commentator), The Captive Nations Week Committee (in which I represent the K of L), the Lithuanian exhibit and program at the Bay Ridge Public Library (Vytis -

Mr. Vacl. Noreika Gr.
2418 W. Marquette Road
Chicago, Ill. 60629

VYTIS
1625 W. Marquette Road
Chicago, Ill. 60636
Return Requested

May); the United Nations Association; United Baltic Appeal-BATUN (I was elected V.P.), press releases, letters, etc. are among the things that have

taken up much time... Please send your news to me for inclusion in the P.R. report for our 60th Annual Convention... Hope to see you then.

A PROGRAM FOR SENIORS

Longinas Svelnis 3rd V.P.

A program for Seniors, should be a program for youth. The future of the Knights of Lithuania depends on our action today and tomorrow. We have worked for varied causes through many years of activity in our councils and community and now we must get behind the youth program. What we have accomplished is in the record books; the future growth depends on our ability to instill the spirit and enthusiasm For God and Country to the next genera-

tion of Lithuanian youth. Seniors may guide local youth by planning contests, small skits and other projects for them, and presenting awards for their effort. With Senior know-how and Junior energy, interesting programs can be presented at the District level. For broader coverage, Seniors should set aside some funds from their successful activities for awards to our local area Lithuanian youth.

VYČIAI, SUSIRŪPINKIME SAVO REIKALAIS

Mano nuomone paskutinių dviejų Vyties žurnalo numerių viršeliai yra patys tinkamiausi, nes jie atitinka vytišką dvasią. Deja, to negalima pasakyti apie žurnalo turinį. Čia jauti tos vytiškos dvasios trūkumą. Reikėtų paieškoti rašančių, kurie savo straipsniais skatintų ir gyvintų visą vyčių veiklą.

Graudu skaityti fin. sekretorės Irenos Ožalienės pranešimus, iš kurių matyti, kiek kurios kuopos nėra sumokėjusios savo metinio nario mokesčių. Vyčiai, atsikiminkime, kad organizacijai veikti ir Vyties žurnalui leisti pinigai yra labai reikalingi. Jei būtume tikrai pareigingi nariai, nebūtų jokių sunkumų tuos mokesčius su-

mokėti.

L. Vyčių organizacijai priklauso daug išsimokslinusių ir dviem kalbom kalbančių asmenų, kurie savo rašniais galėtų papildyti Vytį ir daug gera padaryti organizacijai. Reikia tik gero vytiško noro.

Vyčių veiklos pavyzdžiu galima laikyti Chicagos choro-šokėjų grupės ir Daytono (Ohio) 96-tos kuopos veiklą. Jų darbai skamba ne tik mūsų, bet ir kitataučių spaudoje bei radijo ir televizijos programose.

Mes turime didžiulis ir džiaugtis tokiais veikėjais, kaip muz. Faustas Strolia, Audronė Simonaitytė, Algirdas Brazis, Estela Rogers. Daytoniečiai - Juditha Petrokaitė, F. ir A.

Petkai, Pranas Ambrozai, Marijona Lukienė - bei Jokūbas ir Loretta Stukai, Dr. P. Bizinkauskas, L. Švelnius, Irena Sankutė ir kiti. Tai mūsų organizacijos pažibos.

Būtinai reikia susirasti asmenų, kurie nuolatos rašintų spaudai apie vietos vyčių darbus. Dabar mes iš daugelio kuopų nieko negirdime ir nežinome, kiek ir ką jos daro.

Senelis

SOMETHING MISSING?

By now, the observant reader has no doubt noticed that the popular "COUNCIL NEWS" section is missing from this issue. Somehow, this time, the mail DID NOT go through - and the council news material disappeared in the mails somewhere between the

editor's and the printer's mail boxes! Our sincerest apologies for the problem. However, we hope you will enjoy reading the various feature stories about special District activities of this Jubilee Year, substituted for the Council News.

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers...

MATTHEW BUYUS

Long-time member of C-29, Newark
Of late, resident of Florida
Died, JULY 1, 1973

JUOZAS OLISAUSKAS

Noted musical personality
and member of C-100,
Amsterdam, N.Y.

Died, AUGUST, 1973