



LIETUVOS HIMNAS

Lietuva, tėvyne mūsų,
Tu didvyrių žemė,
iš praeities Tavo sūnūs
te stiprybę semia.

Tegul Tavo vaikai eina
vien takais dorybės,
tegul dirba Tavo naudai
ir žmonių gerybei.

Tegul saulė Lietuvos
tamsumus prašalina,
ir šviesa ir tiesa
mūs žingsnius telydi.

Tegul meilė Lietuvos
dega mūsų širdyse,
vardan tos Lietuvos
vienybė težydi.

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MCD
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NED
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VYTIS

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"VYTIS" STAFF

Loretta I. Stukas, Editor
1467 Force Drive
Mountainside, N. J. 07092

Josephine Zukas,
Council News Editor
9 Charles Street
Port Washington, N.Y.

Anthony Yuknis, Asst. Ed.
Mary Kober, Asst. C. News Ed.
Rita Ochs, Layout Ed.
Balys Vyliaudas, Lithuanian Ed.
Marilyn Kareiva, Mailing
Irene K. Sankus, Advisory

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LIETUVIŲ MALDA

Visagalis Dieve, visų tautų Tėve, lai Lietuvos tri-spalvė: geltona, žalia ir raudona vėl laisvai suplevė-suoja Lietuvoje, žemėje, kuri yra pašvęsta švenčiaus-iajai Marijos širdžiai. Geltona reiškia saulę, švie-čiančią virš Lietuvos. Žalia simbolizuoja Lietuvos laukus, ūkius ir miškus. Raudona primena Lietuvos didvyrių bei kankinių kraują, kraują, kuris buvo pra-lietas kovoje už lietuvių, kraują, pralietą kovoje, kad visi lietuviai laisvai galėtų vartoti savo senąją kalbą savo krašte, kalbą, kurią Tu davei mūsų žmo-nėms. Raudona taip pat reiškia kraują, pralietą kovoje už teisę Tave laisvai garbinti.

Viešpatie, lai Tavo saulė vėl skaisčiai užteka virš Lietuvos ir išdildo kiekvieną priespaudos šešėlį toje šalyje, kuri, nors tokia maža ir taip toli nuo mūsų, guli prisiglaudusi prie Baltijos jūros, bet kuri yra mūsų pirminė tėviškė. Lietuvos žemė, Viešpatie, yra brangi mums, nes ji yra persunkta lietuvių didvyrių bei kankinių krauju, ir dabar ji yra mirkoma dabarti-nių lietuvių kankinių ašaromis, nes jie ir dabar yra sukaustyti sunkiais vergijos pančiais.

Šventoji Dvasia, meldžiame Tave stiprinti lietu-vius atnaujinta drąsa, patvarumu bei kilnumu, kuris yra atvaizduotas lietuvių tautiniame herbe, Vytyje, kuriame matome riterį jojantį ant balto, eiklaus žirgo. Lai lietuviški pakelių kryžiai vėl nukaišo mūsų numylėtą žemę. Lai bažnyčių varpai vėl skardena po visą Lietuvą, nešdami visiems lietuviams džiugią žinią, kad jie vėl yra laisvi nuo persekiojančio paver-gėjo, laisvi gyventi, dirbti, ir garbinti Tave, savo Dievą. Amen.

Tėvas Klemensas Kasinskas, C.P.
Šv. Onos Vienuolynas
Scranton, Pa.



LAISVĖS ŽIEDAI

Romualdas Kisielius

Bėga dienos į praeitį tylia,
gęsta viltys širdy ir veiduos.
Kas prikels tave mano tėvyne?
Kas tau laisvės žibintą paduos?

Kas supras tavo skausmo rytojų,
nedėkingam vergijos kelyj?
Kas nuims grandines tau nuo kojų,
jei maža tu, o jie dideli...

Jie žygiuoja į ateitį šviesią,
jau laimėję sau laurus, taures.
Tu suklupus pagalbos šauki čia,
bet jų širdys negirdi tavęs...

Nes maža tu, silpna ir bejėgė,
bet gyva dar krūtinėj jaunoj...
Tavo viltys ir laisvės rytojus,
aidi brolių artojų dainoj...

Griš dar džiaugsmas į Nemuno šalį,
viltimi pasipuoš vėl veidai.
O ant vasaros divono žalio,
skleisis laisvės ugningi žiedai...

ON FEBRUARY 16, LET US PONDER...

LITHUANIA IN THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW

by Janice A. Broun

In this era of detente, we cannot afford to forget the struggles still being faced by the national minorities of the Soviet Union. In Catholic Lithuania, traditionally a land of toleration, times are grim.

Let us begin with a contrast. In Catholic Poland, despite crippling Church taxes and compulsory atheistic teaching, there is today an upsurge in vocations to the priesthood: 370 ordinations in 1970, 480 in 1971, 640 in 1972. So many indeed, that many young Polish priests have left Poland, with the permitted five dollars each, to be trained in the West for mission work in the Third World (much needed, as vocations there have fallen off). In adjacent Lithuania, part of the U.S.S.R. since Stalin's invasion in 1940, a land with a population of three million - largely Catholic - only five or six priests are ordained annually, not enough to fill gaps left by death or retirement, which number about 30. Why is this? There is no shortage of applicants for Kaunas Seminary, but entrance to it is determined by Communist officials. Only 30 places are available, and the many applicants rejected on minor, technical grounds are never allowed, for some odd reason, to reapply. In 1970, 59 priests in the Diocese of Vilkaviskis lamented in a detailed and well-documented letter, typical of Lithuania's outspoken priests, that in the seminary there was hardly a copy of the Bible in the library, that little attention was paid to spiritual training and that many of the young men selected were of low caliber.

The relative religious freedom in neighboring Poland has not made the situation easier to accept in this tiny but proud state. The systematic reduction of the numbers of priests and parishes, government control of Church affairs and the struggle to win the minds and souls of the children are crucial issues. Priests, all drawn from the ordinary worker and peasant classes, have suffered and died in the past with the layfolk. There is thus a deep sympathy between priest and people. This explains the growing fear that second-rate men are deliberately being infiltrated into their ranks.

Lithuania has suffered much at the hand of Russians since the occupation of 1940 and the reoccupation from German hands in 1944. There were

deportations on an enormous scale (one in six). There was forced collectivization. All this led to guerrilla warfare that lasted well into the 1950's. Over 600 priests were deported along with their people, but religious practice has been denied Lithuanians scattered all over the U.S.S.R. As far as we know, they are not allowed to register as a Christian congregation anywhere, and worship is carried on in secret. For instance, Albinas Dumbliauskas, an active and popular Jesuit priest, was refused permission to carry on his work after World War II. In order to continue his work, he got a job as an ambulance driver in Kazakhstan, where there are many exiled Lithuanians. He ministered in secret but has now been arrested, together with a religious sister, Petronilla Mickevikius, for holding illegal religious meetings at night, for writing to the West asking for more religious broadcasts and for running a secret convent. The religious life is closed to Catholics in the U.S.S.R., and while there is a recently registered German Catholic congregation in Frunze, it seems that Lithuanians have not yet been permitted to register in exile.



A wooden Church in Utena.

In Lithuania itself, wholesale banning of services, or large numbers of imprisonments, have been avoided by the government because of the numbers involved. Despite intensive colonization by Russians and Ukrainians, more than 75 percent of the three million people are still active Catholics. The method employed, therefore, is similar to that used on the Orthodox Church in Russia - harassment of the clergy and control over seminarians to stem the flow of good priests. There are now only 800 priests (1,500 in 1939). Half the churches, all the convents and all but one seminary have been closed. Elderly and ailing priests struggle to look after two or three parishes single-handedly. Appointments to vacancies



A folk carving of Our Lady of Sorrows.

are in the government's hands, and influential or younger priests who have signed any of the several petitions to the government since 1968 find themselves transferred to small, remote parishes. Young Father Kunevicius disappeared - and was eventually found by friends in a labor camp, unwashed, emaciated, hardly recognizable. Only one church is allowed within a five-mile radius, so the ordinary lay people, especially in large towns, suffer, and churches are overcrowded. Hardly a single new church has been built. With cruel irony, a fine new church was permitted at Klaipeda in the 1950's built with the aid of sacrificial giving by poor but joyful Catholic workers. Completed in 1960, the church was

immediately desecrated and then closed.

The bishops have suffered, too. Members of the hierarchy would not condemn anti-Soviet activity and were removed. Many sees were kept vacant for a long time; several have recently been filled, but by men who are expected to be pliant in the hands of the authorities. Two bishops, fit and active and regarded by all Lithuanians as their true fathers in God, Bishop Vincas Sladkevicius and Julijonas Steponavicius, have been virtually under house arrest and unable to exercise their functions since 1957 and 1961, respectively.

At every point, local regulations make it difficult for priests to help each other or to carry out such basic pastoral duties in their own parishes as giving the last rites to people in the hospital. Prison sentences were meted out to three priests in 1970 and 1971 for orally examining children on the catechism to see if they were ready to receive first Communion. This sparked one of the largest protests ever in the Soviet Union.

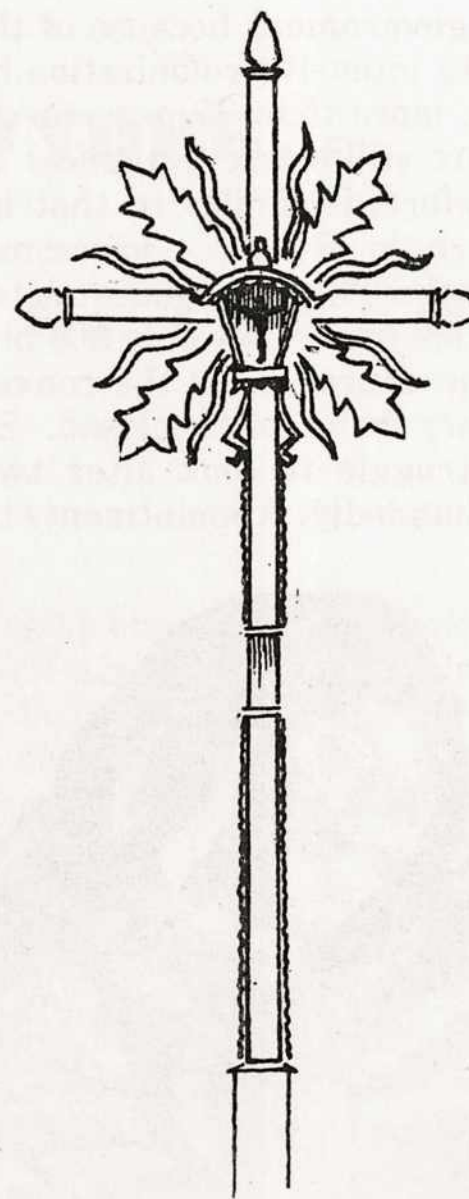
It took the form of a memorandum to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, calling on the UN to intervene on behalf of the petitioners, after the rejection of several previous petitions to the Soviet government and after consequent reprisals. It was circulated at the end of 1971 and early in 1972 and was signed by 17,000 Catholics - this despite constant KGB interference and threats. The memorandum links the government attack on church and nation with a growing collapse of morals, law and order: "Social ills such as crimes by juveniles, alcoholism and suicides have increased ten times during the period of Soviet power... Divorces and the destruction of unborn babies have also reached a dangerous level. The further we move away from the Christian past, the more the terrible consequences of compulsory atheist education come to light and the wider the spread of the inhuman way of life deprived of God and religion". Strong and dangerous words in the U.S.S.R.

Although imprisonment on the scale that has befallen the small and scattered "Reform" Baptist congregations has not occurred, there have been some jailings. Information has come from the samizdat (underground) "Chronicle of the Lithuanian Church", which first appeared in 1972 and is clearly modeled on the Russian "Chronicle of Current Events". Indeed, there are strong links between Russian human rights people and their counterparts in the Baltic states. Despite the barriers of racial dislike and distrust, Lithuanian Catholics have shown a lively awareness of the whole human rights question, while Baltic prisoners in Soviet labor camps have won the admiration of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. We now find that psychiatric hospitals are also being used in the Baltic states to detain dissidents without trial (not Catholics only, but also convinced Communists who object to intense Russification and the suppression of the Baltic languages and cultures).

Catholics who have been tried and imprisoned include Fr. Antanas Seskevicius. This 58-year old priest, just returned to Lithuania after 15 years in Soviet labor camps and ministering to Lithuanians scattered all over Siberia, was again imprisoned in 1970. He had spoken of the lack of freedom of Catholics at home compared with even the limited freedom enjoyed in the countries of East Europe. Fathers Zdebskis and Bubnys, younger men, were sentenced in November, 1971. The "crime" committed by all three had been not turning away children, sent for examination before first Communion at the request of their parents, who gave them full support. Fr. Zdebskis was so brutally beaten up while awaiting trial that his mother had difficulty recognizing him. Although the authorities tried to keep the time and place of this trial secret, 600 parishioners turned up and were violently dispersed by the police. Ten children, aged between 9 and 11, were called as witnesses. The question "What did he teach you?" elicited the answer: "Not to steal or break windows". Most just cried. Children as witnesses, terrorized by the police, are a common scene at trials of "Reform" Baptists in the Soviet Union. In his defense, Father Zdebskis maintained: "If priests are permitted to exist, they must be given the right to work". Asked if he had taught people to break the laws, he replied: "I taught them obedience to the laws. Why all these solemn declarations about freedom of conscience (in the Constitution, etc.)? It is unattractive to say one thing and do another. It compromises the laws in the eyes of the people. The cease to respect the laws".

Father Zdebskis' words were prophetic. As atheist education becomes more thorough, young Lithuanians are increasingly suffering from frustration. Most teachers are Russian, since all teachers have to pass a grueling course in teaching atheism. Teachers and other intellectuals have to practice deception or face losing their jobs. A Catholic teacher, mother of five, Mrs. Briliene, was sacked in 1970 and has not been able to get a job since, even as a street-cleaner. Educational discrimination against clever Catholics is increasing. Many are the complaints of parents about the victimization of their children, not least that some absorb atheist teaching and cease to respect them. Others are mocked by fanatical teachers. Religious instruction at home to counteract school influence is difficult. No catechisms have been published in the 30 years of Soviet rule. "We have no prayerbooks", parents complain, "and are forced to use old, tattered copies. Three years ago a handful were published... We do not even have the Holy Scriptures to read".

This is why many parents have to ask better-qualified people to instruct their children - priests, or voluntary catechists like Miss Paskevikiute, who died from the suffering she endured in a labor camp, or, in 1972, 70-year old Kleona Bikiute, whose one year sentence was, with unusual clemency, com-



puted to one month, plus a fine of R100. The Communist view is that parents have no right to decide questions concerning the instruction of their children. The imprisonment of the three priests for catechizing was a crucial and explosive issue.

Just before Easter in 1972, the Lithuanian civil minister for religious affairs, a Mr. Rugienis, pressed the state-appointed bishops and vicars general to sign a pastoral letter condemning the memorandum as "irresponsible". The pastoral was sent out at the last minute to all priests, with instructions that it must be read in place of the sermon on Sunday, April 30. The state officials attended each church and made notes. Some priests read the whole text, but many did not, or omitted the more offensive sections. Furthermore, a number of them produced a letter denouncing in no uncertain terms "this shameful document that will take our church down the same road as that of the Russian Orthodox Church". In this pastoral letter, familiar quotations from the Gospel had been used in such a way as to leave a very unpleasant taste in the mouth of even a Western observer, used so as "to gloss over matters that are far from holy". The priests' reply continues: "Who is really dividing the Church in Lithuania? Is it the 17,000 believers who signed the memorandum? No! They are not getting involved in matters of dogma or discipline. Is it a crime and a division in the unity of the Church to demand catechisms and prayerbooks, that priests be not jailed for teaching the catechism

to children, that displaced bishops be allowed to work and that seminaries accept all who wish to enter? We deeply believe that those doing the dividing are those who are aiding the enemies of the Church and of God against those Catholics who are fighting for their rights, and those who publish dubious 'pastoral letters' ".

A Jewish emigrant says he never felt such a sense of disillusionment and desperation as in those days after Easter. A weeping priest said: "We hoped that at this time the Holy Father would at least have wished us a Blessed Easter in Lithuanian. But even at this time, as in the past, we heard the radio sending greetings to Russians, our oppressors... What have we done to be abandoned in this way?"

There were other causes of frustration and desperation at work, too. Much real poverty exists in what is regarded as one of the more prosperous and better-farmed areas of the U.S.S.R. Few Lithuanians are enough trusted by the Russians to be allowed to visit other lands, even to see dying relatives. Young Lithuanians regard their land as an enormous prison camp. In the summer and autumn of 1970, several young university staff members, Communists but strongly pro-Lithuanian, died in mysterious circumstances. The frustration at last boiled over. A gallant group of Catholic students drew lots to focus world attention on their people's plight by following in Jan Palach's footsteps. Twenty-year old Romas Kalanta, a worker and evening-class student, died in agony, 12 hours after pouring petrol over himself and then igniting it in a crowded park in Kaunas on May 14. He set the whole city on fire in another way. Rioting, fighting, crowds of youths, patriots and delinquents alike, chanting "Freedom for Lithuania", followed. There were three more self-burnings, two by men in their sixties. The Soviet press, now faced by more frequent outbreaks among the "minority races", tried as usual to suppress the facts and to say that young Kalanta was mentally unbalanced, but the real news leaked out.

Since then it seems that the Russians, genuinely afraid of worse trouble, have advised greater

wariness over offending the feelings of believers. A few minor concessions are being made, but the attempt to reduce the Church to an eventual point of extinction will certainly go on.

What, then, does the future hold for Lithuania's Church? It is not impossible that at some future date it will only be able to maintain its integrity by going underground, as the Eastern Rite Catholics of the Ukraine have had to do, though the latter had no choice since they were disbanded by the pseudo-Synod of Lvov in 1946. The history of Lithuania, champion of freedom and with a good record of toleration toward others - the Jews, for instance - may make it almost impossible for loyal Lithuanians to accept the sort of compromises made by the traditionally more passive Orthodox Church of Russia. Lithuanian Christians have much faith, but many problems, not least that of forgiveness toward their brutal oppressors. They need wisdom to make the right decisions. They need encouragement from us, and not to be forgotten or overlooked because giving offense to Russia is considered bad politics these days. Our continued prayer can do much to help.

Lastly, they can take some encouragement from the very Church they claim to despise for its acquiescence, the Russian Orthodox. For in that Church to-day, there is no doubt whatever that the fire of the Holy Spirit burns brightly and has been experienced by many visitors who feel privileged to share in its worship. God is working in the hearts of many. Many adults are seeking baptism. Even in the "valley of the shadow", God is there. And it is through crucifixion that the resurrection comes.

(JANICE A. BROUN, an Oxford graduate, is married to a priest of the Scottish Episcopal Church and lives in Glasgow. In recent years she has written extensively on the status of Christians in Eastern Europe).

"AMERICA", Dec. 22, 1973





We are quickly approaching the end of the 100% Paid-Up Membership Drive, and the pace of dues payments has been too slow! Where do YOU stand? Have you paid your dues yet? Hasn't anyone reminded you that you are one of us? Well, you are and we want you to continue to be a K of L. Yes, it's time again for all of us to RE-NEW OUR MEMBERSHIP. As far as the K of L is concerned, the important thing is getting those dues in.

A Membership Drive is conducted to increase our number and not to replace those lost to the organization because of delinquent dues. So I hope you can see the importance of paying your dues promptly. Don't make your Financial Secretary hound you for dues - do your part and give them to her now.

Don't be the one responsible for impeding progress - help your Council help the K of L. Pay your own dues - then get after those late

payers. Once your Council achieves that 100% paid-up mark, then you can concentrate wholeheartedly on getting NEW MEMBERS. In that way you and your Council can help the K of L grow. And, you as well as your council, might become eligible for an Award or Prize at the National Convention.

DON'T DELAY - START NOW!!

Albert Ozalis,
Membership National
Vice President

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS OFFICIAL NEWS

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Detroit Council 79 has officially extended a bid to host the 1974 - 61st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, and their bid was accepted by the Supreme Council. Therefore, the 61st NATIONAL CONVENTION will be held in Detroit, Michigan, during the week of August 5-11, 1974; at Mercy College, Detroit, Mich. Room and Board will cost approximately \$8.00 per person. More information will be given later.

LITHUANIAN READER FOR CHILDREN

A Lithuanian Primer, with vocabulary and easy, illustrated children's readings, is available for the cost of postage, through the courtesy of the Sisters of St. Casimir. To obtain your copy, or copies for your Juniors, send your name, address, and \$.10 for postage to

SISTER M. ANASTASIA, SSC
2601 W. Marquette Rd.
Chicago, Illinois 60629

Ask for the book "TĖVŲ DOVANĖLĖ".

PAMIRŠTAS VYTIES REDAKTORIUS

Jau 20 metų kaip priklausau Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijai, bet niekad negirdėjau, kad būtų prisimintas vienas buvęs "Vyties" redaktorius adv. Antanas Lapinskas. Nemini jo nei kita spauda. Mes negalime pamiršti, nes jis savo jaunystėje dirbo mūsų organizacijai; net buvo spaudos tvarkytojas.

Visai jaunas jis atvyko į JAV ir čia griebėsi mokslo. Prieš išvykdamas iš Lietuvos, jis veikė skautų ir kitose jaunimo organizacijose, o čia tris metus pirmininkavo L. Vyčių organizacijai ir redagavo "Vyti". Turėdamas nepaprasto iškalbingumo dovaną, daug kur važinėjo su prakalbomis, ragindamas Amerikos jaunimą neišsižadėti savo tėvų kalbos ir dirbti lietuviškos labui.

Adv. A. Lapinskas 1934 m. birželio 13 d., savo vardadienį baigė De Paul universitete teisių skyrių. Visą laiką verčiasi advokatūros praktika, labai daug žmonėms sąžiningai patarnauja, ypač namų pirkimo ir pardavimo srityje. Daugiausia dirba prie Mutual Federal ir Savings banko, kuriam pirmiau



ANTANAS LAPINSKAS

vadovavo Liet. Vyčių rėmėjas Jonas Kazanauskas, o dabar Petras Kazanauskas. Nepamiršta

vyčių ir Oksų šeima. Adv. Ant. Lapinskas, turėjęs širdies priepuolius iš lietuviškos veiklos dabar kiek pasitraukė, bet retkarčiais pasirodo Tautinėje Sąjungoje ir spaudoje.

Chicagoje mes, lietuviai, pažįstame jį kaip Margučio radijo žinių pranešėją ir programų vedėją. Jo gražus balsas ir neužgaunančios žinios traukė visus. Jis buvo toks mielas ir malonus, visiems tinkamą žodelį tardavo. Tais laikais Margutis buvo girdimas net visoje Amerikoje.

Minint 60 metų Lietuvos Vyčių sukaktį, tektų tą daug dirbusį vyti atitinkamai pagerbti ir prisiminti, o gal ir garbės nariu pakelti. Jis kuklus, darbštus, savo jaunatvės energiją naudojo Lietuvos Vyčiams, todėl mes turime jį atjausti ir pagerbti.

Tektų ir plačiau pažiūrėti į vyčių sąrašus. Kas ilgai dirbo ar dirba reikėtų pakelti į aukštesnius laipsnius.

Bal. Brazdžionis

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

LITHUANIAN - CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID

"Mums Viską davė Lietuva". These four powerful words come from our "Vyčių Himnas". They are not strange words to any of our members. We use them every time we sing our fraternal hymn. However, how many of us have stopped, and reflected on these four meaningful words?

Indeed, Lithuania has given us everything. It is the birth-place of our founder Mykolas Norkunas. The composer of our K of L hymn Professor Alexis was born in Lithuania. All of our Charter Members were Her children. Lithuania gave us our Catholic and Nationalistic Heritage. We call ourselves "Knights of

Lithuania". Lithuania is the land of our ancestor

To-day, Lithuania is under Communist suppression. Her nationalistic and religious spirits are held captive by Her oppressor. Lithuania is in need of Your spiritual and material help. Pray, that religious freedom be returned to the suffering peoples of Lithuania. Become an active member of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid by donating Five Dollars annually to LCRA.

JOHN A. STOSKI
K of L - LCRA Coordinator
165 Holden Street
Providence, R.I. (02908)

PROFILE...

KARATE GIRL

LAIMA SIMANAVIČIUS

It's July and it's hot in Washington, D.C. Upwards of 200 spectators bulge the walls of the karate studio, watching as a slender, lovely teenage girl maneuvers through Korea's "dance of death" with incredible fluidity. The only sound is that of her costume - popping and crackling as it follows her limbs and body with rustling persistence. Her movements are mature but she is only two months past her 15th birthday; the strain is starting to show.

Her roots are LITHUANIAN. But now, new roots are being extended, to the Far East, through The Kwon Do karate, the Korean version of the ancient oriental sport of discipline and self-defense.

Jhoon Rhee, the studio's director, watches very carefully. Never has he been able to award a black belt to a woman. Never before has he permitted anyone, boy or girl, to take the test before turning 16. On this hot July night in the nation's capital, a smile crosses his face.

LAIMA SIMANAVICHUS comes across as anything but one of the East Coast's best young female karateka. She's more likely to stick her tongue out at someone than to "chop" them. And her room is the last word in disorganized teenage mayhem. Mobiles and fishnets dangle from the ceiling: fish, doves, eyes, peace symbols, Chinese lanterns. Hanging over her head is an ominous plastic tarantula.

"I can't stand spiders!" She pokes at the acrylic horror with consuming interest as she talks. Her mother, whose flashing dark eyes are a clue to where her daughter gets her energy, only shakes her head as she pans across the room with her hand.



"When I say, 'Clean your room' she just goes, 'Oooh.'" Mother makes a face.

"I never thought it would come to this", continues Mrs. Simanavičius, who has fallen into a three-year stint as Laima's road and equipment manager along the tournament trail, sewing on patches and keeping things generally in order. "I wanted her to be more self-confident and be physically developed. But now", she smiles, "I have a monster in the house".

The "monster" has a strong bent towards Black Sabbath, Joe Cocker, Agatha Christie novels, and horror films.

But her life right now is karate, as it has been from the moment she began. When not at the studio, she can be found in her backyard, flipping her controlled no-contact kicks at trees or whatever else may be convenient.

Her mother has watched her progress with growing pride, resigned to the fact that Laima just isn't about to return to her past activities with the piano and clarinet. But her father, in the construction business, started out with a jaundiced view of the whole affair.

"He didn't like it at first because he didn't want me to be like a boy. He likes it now though. I'm bringing home trophies that he can show the neighbors".

The trophies, about 30 in number, have been gathered in a swiftly mounting surge that began in Philadelphia in May 1970. At first Laima's successes were racked up in the grace and beauty of formal exercise, a ballet-like demonstration of technique against multiple imaginary opponents. With growing skills came confidence in her ability to control her strikes (properly focused they can shatter three inches of wood) to as not to injure her opponents, and she has since begun to gather fighting trophies as well.

Her honors, now beginning to balance out between forms and fighting, include victories garnered at tournaments in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Reading, Pa., Baltimore and New York. They offer silent testimony to the self-defense aspects of karate, and Laima herself is living evidence of karate's benefits to health and figure.

"You wouldn't believe this", she says, "but when I started I was tall and scrungy". She's right; we didn't believe it.

Laima's growing number of victories were being observed very closely by Rhee. As she continued to collect tournament trophies, both in forms and fighting, Rhee's hand was gradually forced. By the time Laima had reached brown-belt status - just below black - her victories in form competition were being scored over both male and female brown belts. When she upped and won both the brown-belt trophy in forms and fighting honors over all of the female competition in the

Rhee-sponsored National Karate Championships in Washington in 1971, there really wasn't anything to do but let her take her test for first-degree black belt, despite her sex and despite her age.

"I don't believe in giving a black belt to a lady just because she's been around and taken part", said Rhee in his office, as we waited for Laima's test to begin. "For a young lady she has pretty good power. She's very sharp in her forms and has a good tournament record. She would be my first lady black belt in my 10 years here".

Meanwhile, out in the hall, Laima was winding up the main-spring she hoped would lead her to a precedent.

If she were to be Rhee's first female and youngest black belt, it was not to be without a supreme effort. The studio's first female black belt would have to pass a test that would leave no doubt as to her qualifications. As the only candidate, Laima's rest time would be limited. There would be nine forms to perform, intricate combinations of punches, chops, blocks, and kicks requiring total concentration and an enormous expenditure of energy. A difficult form, done properly, might last for only a minute or so, but can feel like a half hour.

As Laima goes through the forms with crisp precision, fatigue begins to pursue her. Her long rust-colored hair becomes dark with perspiration. In her brief moments of rest, she sits in silence, eyes turned inward. At last the forms are completed. Now come the fighting tests. It would be a battle against four fresh opponents in succession, two blue-belted women, one rank junior to her, and two male brown belts. Women do not usually fare well against men of equal rank.

Laima beats the girls and holds her own against the stronger, heavier males. One more task. Board breaking - not the be-all, end-all of karate, but a demonstration of focused power. She is to break three at once with a



side kick, two with a graceful founhouse kick, two more with a slashing knife-handed chop. The first set of boards is shattered. Then the second. On the third the boards hold. She sets, misses again. She pauses, concentrates, readies, shouts, and strikes. This time they break.

When the results are tabulated Rhee asks for silence. It's a needless request. All eyes are on the judge. He examines the results.

"I say, pass".

She rises in stages, smile broadening, her bow deepening as she comes forward. All around her

students and visitors are standing and applauding. Rhee comes out from behind the table, a black belt in his hand.

"We have a new one, Laima. But since you are my first lady, I give you my own personal belt". Which said it all.

By Barry Fishler

(C-M - American Youth)

PEOPLE CAN BE divided into three groups: those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who wonder what happened.

JOHN W. NEWBERN

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS



**PATRIOTIC PAINTINGS... AND WRITINGS
ON DISPLAY**

Photo credit - L. Tamošaitis

The "Friends of the Lithuanian Front", N.Y. chapter (Lietuvių Fronto Bičiulių New Yorko Sambūris) sponsored an exhibit of paintings by Jurgis Juodis dedicated to Kudirka, Kalanta and other Lithuanian heroes at the Lithuanian Cultural Center, Brooklyn, N.Y. At the same time, the book "Day of Shame" was presented. At the opening on Dec. 8, 1973, Hon. Anicetas Simutis, Consul General of Lithuania in New York, made the opening remarks. Česlovas Janušas, also a well-known artist, spoke about Mr. Juodis and his career in painting, and Algis Rukšėnas told about his experiences in getting material for his book on the thwarted attempt by Simas Kudirka to gain asylum in the U.S. Jūratė Balsytė-Jasinskas was the commentator... In photo are (L. to R.) the artist, Jurgis Juodis; Dr. Jack Stukas and Helen Kulber, K of L National Chairmen, respectively, of Lithuanian Affairs and Public Relations; Loretta Stukas, VYTIS editor; the author, Algis Rukšėnas; Anthony Mažeika, President K of L C-41.

The K of L has been promoting the sale of "Day of Shame" since its publication in May 1973. The Stukas' extensive collection of works by Lithuanian artists includes two paintings by Jurgis Juodis. A folio of reproductions of Mr. Juodis paintings, presented together with other books by the K of L to the Pacem in Terris Library have been turned over to the New York University Library... Many K of L members attended this event as well as the concert on Dec. 16, also at the Center, sponsored by Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, Inc. (Lietuvių Katalikų Religinė Šalpa) and the Lithuanian Catholic Women's Cultural Society (Lietuvių Katalikų Moterų Kultūros Draugija).



MISS GENEVIEVE GOBIS

K OF L-ER NAMED CITY CLERK OF AMSTERDAM

GENEVIEVE GOBIS, active member of K of L C-100, Amsterdam, N.Y., and a native of that city, was recently appointed City Clerk of Amsterdam by the Common Council of Amsterdam. Miss Gobis is the first woman to serve as city clerk and succeeds Joseph Cuozzo. She will serve a two year term.

LITHUANIAN OF WATERBURY PRESENTED OLYMPIAN AWARD

Athlete JOE BOLEY, member of C-7, Waterbury, Conn. (not to be confused with New York's Joe Boley), considered to be one of Waterbury's best basketball players, has been named a recipient of an Olympian Award.

Boley joins Eddie Cavanaugh, former Wilby High and Duke football star who is now a coach for the Buffalo Bills, and Tommy Ciarlo, who launched a brilliant boxing career at the age of 14, as recipients of the coveted award.

The trio were honored at the Third Annual Olympian Club Sports Awards Dinner Monday, Jan. 7, at Waverly Inn, Cheshire.

Boley began playing basketball at St. Joseph's grammar school in 1927, and went on to be an outstanding performer for the Knights of Lithuania, American Brass, Brooklyn A.C., Waterbury Paper

(continued on page 9)

A NEW RECTORY FOR CHRISTMAS AT BAYONNE'S ST. MICHAEL'S, BAYONNE



St. Michael's - the Church (left), Hall, and New Rectory (right).

A special "Christmas Present" for St. Michael's of Bayonne, N.J. materialized this winter, through the efforts of administrator REV. ALBERT MATULIS and the generosity of the parishioners. Ground-breaking took place last April, and the rectory became a reality this winter.

The new rectory is a three story white brick structure, similar in style to homes being built in the vicinity by the same construction firm, and blends in harmoniously with the nearby homes. The structure includes a three car garage, rectory offices, a reception area, dining and kitchen facilities, living and library rooms, and sleeping-sitting quarters for resident priests and guests. The old rectory, which was found too small for the many services the parish offers, will eventually become part of the church sacristy and a "crying room" for mothers with small children. A parish fund drive succeeded in raising most of the needed finances through pledges and outright donations.

St. Michael's parish dates back to 1907 when Bayonne's Lithuanian population first gathered in Assumption church, on 23rd Street. The parish moved into a minor church owned by Trinity Episcopal Church a year later. After necessary renovations were made, the church at east 23rd Street became officially a Lithuanian parish. The church hall was built by the men of the parish in 1923. "They were an extremely enthusiastic people and really pitched in and worked", said Father Matulis.

In 1942 the church purchased a plot of land behind the hall and rectory, and made it into an attractive landscaped picnic area. The annual St. Michael's picnic is held on the grounds each year, and the grounds are rented out to local companies and organizations who enjoy its tree shaded peacefulness.

St. Michael's today serves all of Bayonne's Lithuanian people and some from Jersey City. There are 350 families listed on the parish books. But it is a church that is enjoyed by everyone in Bayonne, its midtown location makes it a mecca for those who simply want to stop in and say a prayer. Father Matulis said that the church has a 12:15 p.m. daily Mass which is well attended by midtown shoppers, and a very well attended Wednesday Perpetual Novena in honor of the Miraculous Medal.

Father Matulis was ordained May 31, 1958. He first came to St. Michael's as a curate in 1963. He was transferred in 1968, but returned to his favorite parish in 1970 and has been an administrator there ever since. He is aided in his church work by the other resident priest, Father Nestor Carino, a student at Fordham University.



Ground breaking, Spring, 1973 Rev. Matules (far right) with some parishioners and parish children.

ALBERT A. KASSEL, R.I.P.

"KODEL NE"... "WHY NOT" ... was Al Kassel's motto, and perhaps a succinct description of his attitude toward everything he faced in life. Undoubtedly, when God beckoned him to come to his eternal reward, Al also answered with a humble "Kodel Ne".

ALBERT A. KASSEL's untimely death on Nov. 13, 1973 at the age of 43 shocked and grieved his family and his many friends and left an unfillable void in the lives of all who knew him. He fought a brave battle with kidney disease for seven years, and was hospitalized for three weeks last Fall, in preparation for a program of regular dialysis. He unexpectedly lapsed into a comma after some corrective surgery and died peacefully four days later, never having lost hope that he would "climb this mountain".

In Chicago, hundreds of friends, including local and out-of-town K of L-ers and fellow K of C members, gathered to pay their last respects to "Big Al" and to escort him to his final resting place at St. Casimir Cemetery. At Immaculate Conception Lithuanian Church, his long-time friend Msgr. D. A. Mozzeris, pastor, offered a Mass of the Resurrection and delivered a beautifully fitting eulogy, while Faustas Strolia and several K of L Choir members sang the liturgy. Expressions of sympathy poured in from K of L and many other friends from all over the USA, and from relatives in Lithuania.

Al was born and raised in the Brighton Park section of Chicago, the oldest of three children of Paul and Vlade Kaselis. Their Lithuanian immigrant parents instilled in Albert, his sister Loretta (now Mrs. Jack Stukas) and his brother Paul, a sincere love of God and His Church and respect of His Will, a deep loyalty to the USA, and a pride in and appreciation of their

Lithuanian heritage. The Lithuanian language came easily to all of them, and Lithuanian traditions were a natural way of life in their family.

Albert chose mechanical engineering as his life's work after preparing for it at De LaSalle High School, Wilson College and Illinois Inst. of Technology. His associates from Link Belt Co., Argonne National Lab, and most recently, General Kinematics Corp. described him as one who enjoyed his work, and brought humor into his co-workers' daily lives without ever sacrificing the quality of his work.

Sports were tops on Al's list of favorite leisure time activities. In his teens and early 20's, Al thrived on playing baseball and basketball in various school and city-sponsored leagues, acquiring an impressive collection of trophies in the process. Noticed by Major League scouts, he received offers to join the Brooklyn Dodgers and the Chicago White Sox as a pitcher, but declined, preferring sports as a side-line rather than a career. In 1954, Al's active participation in these sports came to an abrupt halt when he was stricken with tuberculosis. After several months in a T.B. Sanitarium, Al recovered and found new, less physically-taxing activities on which to apply his talents. He took up managing and coaching youth groups in baseball and basketball, switched his active sports participation to golf and bowling, and became more involved in his parish activities and the K of L.

Al Kassel joined K of L C-36, Chicago, in 1953, and for 20 years, served his council, the Illinois-Indiana District, and the Supreme Council wherever his talents were needed, well earning his 4th Degree. As Council President, District Treasurer, Supreme Council officer, committee head, or just decorator, bartender or unofficial host to



visitors, he worked with enthusiasm, good humor and skill.

As a Trustee of the K of L building, Al was part of a small group that initiated the ambitious "K of L Garden Project", and then applied volunteer "muscle power" over countless weekends to clean, dig-up, plant, cement, landscape and transform the K of L Building's backyard, making it a valuable asset to the building.

He felt that sports provide a natural means of attracting young people to the K of L and thus to more serious Lithuanian activities, so he planned many bowling and golf outings for the District. As National Sports Chairman from 1959 to 1961, he also promoted several very successful intra-city sports outings, between various cities of the Illinois-Indiana and the Mid-Central Districts.

Al attended his first National Convention in 1956, and from then on, his towering 6'6" frame became a regular convention figure. Not only his height made him a "stand-out" . . . his infectious "yu-hu-hu" laugh and his cooperative spirit made him a welcome part of any session or social. While he was National Treasurer from 1961 to

1964, Al completely reorganized the K of L finances, investing most of them in long-term, high-interest bonds. To this day, the extra income produced from these investments covers most of the Supreme Council's annual operating expenses.

To Al, one of the best parts of attending Conventions or other National K of L events was meeting new people. He made friends easily, chose them carefully, and nurtured their friendship religiously. When out-of-town K of L'ers visited Chicago, they needed only to call Al to be assured of a Red Carpet treatment. Whatever his personal plans, they were willingly set aside while he chauffeured and guided the guests, and contacted local members to plan impromptu socials. If the guests expressed delight in seeing Chicago, especially the many Lithuanian sights which were a must on Al's list, and if they enjoyed the Lithuanian hospitality, Al was happy, and felt rewarded.

Al was a devoted husband and a loving father. Fittingly, he met his wife, the former Ann Marie Pupinik of C-5, Chicago, at a National Convention in Worcester in 1960. They were married in 1962 and continued their K of L activity together all through their marriage. Their daughter Georgiann, age 9,

follows in her parents footsteps with her love of things Lithuanian. She attends Lithuanian Saturday School, and especially enjoys learning Lithuanian History and dancing Lithuanian Folk Dances. Neither did Al's parents ever feel the lack of love or attention. Regardless of his health problems or other activities, he always found time to be a loving and helpful son to them.

In 1966, a ruptured appendix dealt Al a near-fatal blow, and left his kidneys seriously impaired. Miraculously, he survived, and resumed most of his less-strenuous activities, determined to fight this set-back in his good-sport fashion.

Despite his leadership abilities, Al always shunned the limelight and personal publicity. Preferring to let others take the bows, he instead enjoyed seeing the fruits of his efforts and the knowledge that he did the best job he could do. In his short life-time, he touched the lives of many with his cheerful "Kodel Ne" approach to life and his love of people.

After Al's death, a co-worker from General Kinematics found the following prayer on Al's drawing table and sent it to Ann Marie, with the explanation "I felt this prayer was typical of your husband's feelings toward his God. He was a magnificent person. We all miss him so much." We agree!

DEAR GOD: Help me be a good sport in this game of life. I don't ask for an easy place in the lineup. Put me anywhere you need me. I only ask that I can give you 100 per cent of all I have. If all the hard drives seem to come my way, I thank you for the compliment. Help me remember that you never send a player more trouble than he can handle.

Help me, Oh Lord, to accept the bad break as part of the game. And may I always play on the square, no matter what the others do. Help me study the Book so I'll know the rules.

Finally, God, if the natural turn of events goes against me and I'm benched for sickness or old age, please help me to accept that as part of the game too. Keep me from whimpering or squealing that I was framed or that I got a raw deal. And when I finish the final inning, I ask for no laurels. All I want is to believe in my heart that I played as well as I could and that I didn't let you down.

The K of L expresses sincerest sympathy to Al's family and friends and prays that God rewards him well for his stewardship.

L.I.S.

THOUGHTS FROM OUR "FEBRUARY HEROS"

"Tis folly in one nation to look for disinterested favors from another... There can be no greater error than to expect or calculate upon real favors from nation to nation." These, he said, were the "counsels of an old and affectionate friend" who dared not hope they would make "the strong and last impression I could wish".

GEORGE WASHINGTON



"The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. We must think anew and act anew." Abraham Lincoln

"This nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." Abraham Lincoln

NEPAMIRŠKIME SAVO VEIKĖJU

Reikia apgailestauti, kad mes, vyčiai, pamirštame savo uoliusius veikėjus. Vieni jų tebėra mūsų tarpe, kiti jau iškeliavę į amžinybę, oet jų niekas nemini lietuviškuose laikraščiuose ar mūsų organe Vytyje. Jų ir jų darbų priminimas paskatintų ir pagyvintų vyčių veiklą.

Štai nesenai savo knygynėlyje užtikau K. Žilvičio-Jonaičio eilėraščių rinkinį - Sielos Balsai, kurio visą pelną jis pavedė Vyčių organizacijai. Štai jo paties žodžiai: vientėlei Am. lietuvių katalikų jaunimo - L. Vyčių - organizacijai, kuriai jaunose dienose dirbau steigdamas kuopas, pirmininkaudamas centro valdybai, veikdamas literatūros komisijoje, bendradarbiaudamas "Vytyje" ir ją redaguodamas - paaukojau žymią dalį savo gyvenimo - dabar, Vyčių aukstinio jubiliejaus proga, surinkęs eilėraščius - savo "sielos balsus" į vieną leidinį ir jį išleidęs atskira knyga, pelną skiriu vyčių stipendijai fondui.

Gaila, mes šiuo metu nieko nežinome apie to leidinio padėtį. Būtent, ar jau jis yra visas išparduotas ar dar tebeguli lentynose. Taip pat niekas nebeporismena ir to paties poeto. Atmintinas yra a.a. Dr. A. Račkus ir prof. K. Pakštas, kurie savo kalbomis gyvino ir stiprino vyčių veiklą po visą kraštą. Tada Vyčių organizacijai priklausė per 4,000 narių...

Iš gyvųjų vyčių veikėjų yra minėtinas Leonardas Šimutis-Šilelis, komp. Aleks. Aleksis, Matas Zujus. Jie daug ką galėtų mums parašyti "Vytyje" iš praeties. Būtų visiems įdomu pasiskaityti. Taip pat būtų naudinga visiems, jei "Vytis" įdėtų, nors retkarčiais, Kazio Jonaičio eilėraščių, jo atminimui pagerbti.

Vyčių organizacijos klestėjimas priklauso nuo jos uoliųjų veikėjų. Gerbkime ir atminkime juos. Kaip gi atrodytų vyčiai šiandien be Juo-

zo Bulevičiaus, Jokūbo Stuko, Fausto Strolis ir kitų tokių pašventusių veikėjų?

Senelis



L.V. Pirmininkė S. Boroskienė, su L.V. "veteranais" - Prof. A. Aleksis, F. Faleshas, M. Andrikytė, J. Sadauskas, A. Buknis.

LIETUVOS VYČIAMS

Kazys Jonaitis-Žilvitis

Skaistasis jaunime, gyvenimo groži,
Vargingos tėvynės šviesi ateitis,
Pražydai lyg miela pavasario rožė,
Tavyje sudėta senuolių viltis.

Tik pažvelk į rytus, jau debesys dyla
Ik šiol apsiniaukęs prasiblaivo dangus,
Krūtinėj spiege disonansai nutyla,
Per rūką aušrinė jau skina takus.

Tiek amžių slėgusi žiaurioji vergija,
Ir prakaitą, kraują išsiurbė priešai,
Bet pančiai sutrūko, štai viltis atgyja,
Jaunimas į darbą sustojo viešai.

Štai balsas trimito po Lietuvą skamba,
Tiek amžių rūdiję po žeme giliai,
Jo skardūs akordai daug atbalsio randa
Ei, Vyčiai, į eilę! Šalin kraugeriai!

Šalin nuliūdimas ir pilkas šešėlis,
Tu stok išvaduoti sodybas - namus!
Ik šiol abejones krūtinėje kėles,
Gana aimanavus, sužadink jausmus.

Pasibaigė sapnas, pasibaigė burtai,
Mums reikia tik darbo, kuris jį supras,
Žengs drąsūs - vienodi kur tėviškės
turtai,
Audringais verpetais pro rūsčias uolas.

JUNIOR NEWS

CONVENTIONSHIP TIME IS HERE

DID YOU KNOW... That the Knights of Lithuania is offering YOU a chance to get started on your way to the next K of L Convention?

The Knights of Lithuania has established a program of Conventionship awards to be presented to the four Juniors in each District who have been the most active in their Council activities. The Knights of Lithuania wants you, our future leaders to join in the excitement of the National Convention, NOW... to share ideas, learn more about our Lithuanian heritage, made new friends, and take an active interest in the most powerful decision-making body of the Knights of Lithuania.

The awards consist of \$50.00 each to help in attending the Convention. Anyone who belongs to a Junior K of L Council is eligible to apply.

Your Junior Counselor has received application forms from your District Vice-President in charge of

Juniors. The application is simple to complete. Just be sure to fill out the application detailing your activities in the K of L for the past year, have your parents fill out their consent to your attending the Convention should you win one of the awards, and give the reference forms to the adult K of L members described on the application. The applications should be returned to your District Vice President by March 30, 1974.

EVERYONE HAS A CHANCE TO WIN AN AWARD, BUT YOU CAN ONLY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU APPLY.

Why not take this opportunity to find out how YOUR organization really works? You will have a chance to see K of L government in action, as well as the opportunity to share with other young people from other parts of the United States your interests, experiences, and hopes for the K of L today and in the future. Make yourself a part of the NOW K of L, and plan to meet your fellow Knights at the Knights of Lithuania National Convention.

C-1 Juniors, BROCKTON, MASS

On Friday, Nov. 23, 1973 the New England District sponsored the first annual youth rally at Our Lady of Sorrows Convent in Brockton, in which well over 70 junior knights from Brockton and South Boston participated. The days program included cultural, social, recreational, and religious endeavors, and was met with great approval from all. To begin the day a breakfast of hot chocolate and donuts was served, followed by a cordial welcome from Mother Superior, Sister Amadeus, who also was responsible for the use of the grounds and the hall for the rally.

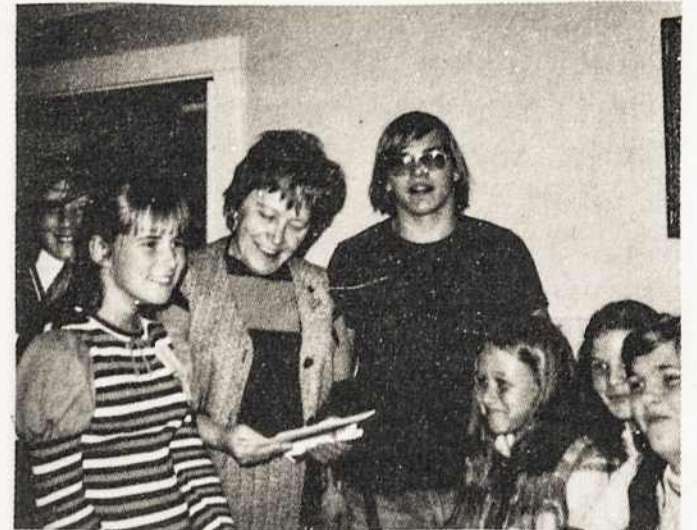
The general session consisted of group discussions on how to improve the jr. councils, and other topics dealing with Lithuanian

culture and language and what it means to be a Lithuanian. The guest speakers were national president Susan Boroskas, Adult Advisor Dr. Peter A. Bizinkauskas, Council 1 President Sylvia Shukis, and 2nd V.P. of N.E.D. and chairman Andrew Bizinkauskas. Following the general session was a Lithuanian song fest followed by a young people's Mass said by Fr. William Wolkovich. After lunch there was a bowling competition and afterwards a Pizza Party and dance at the Sandara Club.

On behalf of the officers and members of the New England district Knights of Lithuania I wish to thank all of those friends who helped make this youth rally a success, particularly Sister Amadeus and the Sisters of Jesus Crucified, Father William Wolkovich, Officers and members of the Sandara Club, the Officers and

members of Council 1 in Brockton, and National President Susan Boroskas.

Andrew Bizinkauskas
2nd V.P., New England Dist.



L. to R., Valarie Dillis, Nijole Ivanauskas, National President Susan Boroskas, N.E.D. 2nd V.P. Andrew Bizinkauskas, Ann-Marie Stetkus, Theresa Dillis, and Anna Williams discuss future plans with the Activities Directors.



Pictured are some of the participants of the Youth Rally. On the

far left is President of the Sandara Club Paul Gagel, N.E.D. 2nd V.P.

Andrew Bizinkauskas, and on the right is manager of the club John Pasakarnis.



← L. to R. Valarie Dillis, Ann-Marie Statkus, Theresa Dillis, Anna Williams, Registration Committee and Activities Directors.

L. to R., Dr. Peter A. Bizinkauskas and Anna Williams as she reads her activities report. →



OVER THE MONTHS, WITH C-110 JUNIORS, MASPETH, N.Y.

C-110 Juniors have really seen what it means to be Lithuanian during this K of L year. Some notes to their Fellow Knights from Council VYTIS Correspondent Raymond Balconis, and Cultural Chairman, Leon Stungurys.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT'S DESK

The Knights of Lithuania group 110 are learning to make ornaments from dried up pieces of straw, by connecting them with a needle and thread.

We have just taken in a new member, her name is Victoria Balconis.

At our last meeting, we were picking out members for certain jobs, and this is my first time writing. We are also learning to

read and speak Lithuanian, and all of us are doing very well.

We are now looking for a Christmas tree to decorate. We are planning Lithuanian Christmas Customs, and all of us are volunteering to bring in food and things needed for this party. The ornaments that we are making out of straw are coming along fine. We have already sent out invitations to our parents and grandparents to the Lithuanian Christmas Customs Presentation.

Raymond Balconis

This group of Juniors really had the opportunity to share their heritage. The ornaments that were made were used to decorate a tree donated to host parish, Transfiguration, in Maspeth. The tree was displayed in the Church as a part of the Christmas Creche. The ornaments were also displayed prior to their placement in the Church at two other occasions, notably at a bazaar sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of Latvian War Veterans, held in Elmhurst, New York on Dec. 9, 1973. The Juniors also put on a narrated demonstration of Lithuanian Christmas customs, including traditional carols, costumes, linen and ornaments. The guests were thrilled with the performance, and treated the Council members to samples of traditional Latvian Christmas dishes. A question and answer period followed the performance, with a comparison of Baltic Christmas customs as the highlight. The Latvians also presented the Juniors with books on Latvia, and special Christmas cookies.

The performance, as well as samples of traditional Lithuanian cooking prepared by Council members themselves, was shared with members' parents and families on Dec. 19, at the Transfiguration parish hall. At this time the tree was presented to the parish, as well as a financial donation to the Church. It was a delightful opportunity for the Juniors to share the Lithuanian holiday heritage with their families. C-110 is looking forward to an equally active winter and spring season.



C-110 Juniors Lithuanian Christmas Presentation, at Women's Auxiliary, Latvian War Vets Christmas Bazaar. - Juniors, Counsellors and Latvian hostesses.

C-110's CULTURAL KITCHEN

PANCAKES (BLYNAI-SKLINDŽIAI)

1 cup flour
1 tbsp sour cream
4 eggs
1 cup milk
¼ tsp salt

Separate egg yolk from white. Beat yolks lightly, stirring into sifted flour, with cream, milk and salt. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Fry on butter. Use one large tablespoon of batter per pancake. Serve with honey or preserves. For apple pancakes, add peeled, thinly sliced or grated tart apple in batter.

Leon Stungurys



C-110 Jrs. Demonstrate Lithuanian Christmas customs to Latvians.

K of L Calendar

FEBRUARY

10 – IID "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA"
BANQUET, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

MARCH

3 – IID ST. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMEMORATION,
Immaculate Conception Church & K of L Bldg.,
Chicago, Ill – Chicago Srs. Hosts

3 – C-29, Newark, ST. CASIMIR'S DAY BREAKFAST, Holy Trinity Church
and Hall, Newark, N.J.

3 – C-17 & C-17 Srs., So. Boston, ST. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMUNION
BREAKFAST, St. Peter's Church, So. Boston, Mass.

3 – ST. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMEMORATION - Various Councils

APRIL

28 – NED SPRING CONVENTION, C-17 Srs. Hosts, So. Boston, Mass.

MAY

18-20 – MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT, Dayton, Ohio, C-96, Hosts

11 – SCHOLARSHIP DINNER-DANCE, C-17 and C-17 Srs., Lithuanian Citizens Club,
So. Boston, Mass.

26 – NED ECUMENICAL MEMORIAL SERVICE for Lithuanian Freedom Fighters,
Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge, N.H.

MAY 30-JUNE 1-2

INTERNATIONAL A'FAIR – Dayton Convention Center, Dayton, Ohio

JUNE

21-23 NED RETREAT, Franciscan Monaster, Kennebunkport, Maine

JUNE 28-JULY 12

K of L PILGRIMAGE/EXCURSION to Europe

JULY

28 – NED FAMILY PICNIC, Lake Congomond, Mass.

AUGUST

61st NATIONAL CONVENTION, Detroit, Michigan, C-79 Hosts

SEPTEMBER

15 – NED CULTURAL PICNIC

29 – NED FALL CONVENTION, C-116, Worcester, Mass.

NOVEMBER

23 – C-17 & C-17 Srs., NOVEMBER-FEST, Lithuanian
Citizens' Club,
So. Boston,
Mass.

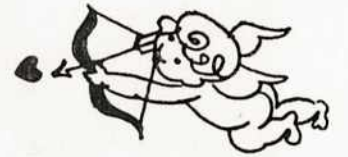




VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES



Edited by: Mrs. J. Zukas, 9 Charles Street, Port Washington, L. I., N. Y. - 11050



NEW

ENGLAND

DISTRICT

C-135 - ANSONIA, CONN.

Your prayers are asked for Vytautas Svelnys, brother of Casey Svelnys, who passed away las November 1973 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Last month it was stated that five members of St. Anthony's Parish are city officials. The number is six. This reporter should have mentioned the name of Independent: Peter Goumas, President of our Parish Council, was elected Chairman of the Board of Education.

John A. Sabulis D-3 was elected President of the Board of Aldermen at its organizational meeting last month. Good luck, John.

Congratulations to Anthony W. Poehailos on his recent retirement from Farrel Co. Division of U.S.M. Corp. Anthony holds one of the longest service records at Farrel's, employed for 48 years.

Ann Gyba and Lillian Chaplik are co-chairmen of our next coming event, the "MARDI GRAS", on a date to be decided at our next meeting. If you don't attend meetings, keep in touch with one of your officers. Violet Brazitis, our president, wants all members of C-135 to attend with their guests, - to make this splashdown before Lent one to be long remembered.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

INO

C-10 - ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

Our council held their annual Christmas party on Dec. 16 in the St. Francis Parish rectory. Members donated presents to the 28 altar boys, as in past years. Lennie Davidonis acted as Santa, and a covered dish supper was served. It was a nice affair enjoyed by both the altar boys and the K of L. It was good to see Frances & Albert Mueller, now living in Nashua, N.H.

The council is again sponsoring the Feb. 16 Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration to be held in the parish hall - at a date to be announced. The St. Andrew's choir of New Britain will entertain, as will a dance group. Natl. Pres. Sue Boroskas will be the principal speaker.

Our annual St. Casimir's - Day celebration will take place on Mar. 2. We will attend the 5:30 PM Mass. Newly-elected officers will be installed at that time, and the group will have supper in a local restaurant.

Newly - elected Rec. Secy. Charles Genaitis' name was inadvertently omitted in the last issue of the Vytis. Sorry, Charles.

NED will sponsor a Mass at the Cathedral of the Pines on May 26 at 5 PM. This past spring we were hampered by the heavy rains; we are now keeping our fingers crossed as far as the oil shortage goes this year. Many persons who attended the Amber Stone Dedication will be saddened to hear that the American Legion Home in Gardner was almost destroyed by fire. The hall where we served lunch was the only part of the building not touched by the devastating flames.

We in Athol and Gardner are saddened to hear about the fire

that destroyed Maironis Park in Worcester. We all have so many memories of many parties, picnics, weddings, K of L cultural picnics, etc.

The Genaitis' spent their Christmas holidays in the state of Washington visiting with their daughter and family.

Father Steponaitis must be commended on the fine decorations in St. Francis Church, Athol, during Advent and the Christmas season.

Vincukas

C-26 - WORCESTER, MASS.

Sister Joyce Ridick (our former secretary and daughter of Ann and John Ridick) was home for Christmas. By now, Sister has returned to Rome, Italy, and is back to her teaching post.

The outgoing executive board (headed by the incomparable team of Lapinskas & Lapinskas) presented us with a wonderful family Christmas party on Dec. 30. Santa was very good to the good little boys and girls belonging to the Buckleys, Gircys', Grigas', Flahertys, Karas', Zalieckas', Walinskys' Racicots and others... and how in the world could Santa ever get along without the assistance of Joe Zalieckas? Beautiful party, delicious fare, fun games, sing-a-long, congenial guests and children... and we were happy that our spiritual director, Father Anthony Micunas, was back from Rome (where he attended to official affairs of the Marian Fathers) in plenty of time to enjoy it with us. Christmas party committee consisted of Charles and Mildred Lapinskas, Helen Gillus, Steve and Ellie Walinsky, Carol and Bill Grigas, Marion Racicot, Anne Walinsky, Alex Kardokas, Joe

Zalieckas and Peter Ivaska.

Congratulations to Steve Walinsky, Jr. on his appointment to the Board of Directors of the Worcester County Music Association.

In recognition of 35 years of good and faithful service, Ted Pinkus was honored at a dinner recently, along with a few other choice workers. It's good to know that Ted's Company knows a good man when it sees one, and we add our congratulations as well. Ted will be even happier when his wife, Rita, is off the sick list for good (and she's nearly well now!), and when Rita's mom, Nell Thompson, is completely recovered. Congratulations to Peg and John Kazlauskas on the birth of their daughter on Dec. 29 - a real Christmas gift to young son, Christopher. Also, Ronnie and Loran Walinsky are proud parents of Tara Jean, born on Aug. 15. Grandparents are Anne and Steve Walinsky, Sr. and uncle and aunt are Ellie and Steve Walinsky, Jr.

Anne Bucinkas and Ann Buckley look pretty well after hospital confinements, we're happy to report. Charles Lapinkas had a January date with the eye surgeon, and we pray it will be only a short time before he's back with us, working hard for the prosperity of C-26!

Our prayerful thoughts are directed to Rita Karpicus and her sons on their recent bereavement. Michael Karpicus, husband and father, died suddenly while participating in a council sports function. It seemed just another routine night of bowling when suddenly it was all over and the indescribable shock of loss enveloped us all. They'll miss Mike, and though it's small consolation, we will, too. We pray Heaven is his right now. Mike was Edwina Ginkus' brother.

Maironis Park burned to the ground, a total and complete loss, on Christmas Eve. The establishment was closed that evening out of reverence to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth. Just before mid-

night, the tragic fire turned this wonderful place into an inferno, destroying everything beyond salvaging. Kazys Adomavicius (who is a member of our council), the president of the Lithuanian Charitable Society (owners of Maironis Park), along with his board of officers and directors and entire membership, have endured much mental anguish, but we are certain that they will do what Lithuanians do best in adversity: unite and go forward!

Alex Kardokas reminds us to be faithful in cooperating with local commemorations of Lithuania's Independence and urges us to continue writing those letters on matters concerning Lithuanian Affairs.

Su Diev iki sekančio numerio!

DZŪKELĖ

C-103 - PROVIDENCE, R.I.

The Holy Cross College Club of R.I. honored Dr. William "Bill" Osmanski with a testimonial on Dec. 3 at the Wannamoisett Country Club. C-103 was represented by Fr. Martinkus, Ruth Krecioch, Bertha Stoskus, Grace Vaitkunas, and "Bill's" sister, Betty Ciuryla. The following day Dr. Osmanski was installed into the National Football Hall of Fame.

Sophie Hajdys, sister of John Stoskus, passed away on Dec. 3 at St. James Hospital in Chicago Heights, Ill. John was at her bedside. Remember her soul in your prayers.

Alex Vaitkunas spent the holidays at the VA Hospital in Providence. His wife, Grace, flew to Columbia, S.C., to attend the wedding of their son, James.

The Council presented Christmas gifts to Fathers Martinkus, Budrecki and Jurgelaitis.

We are most happy to welcome Betty Ciuryla back into the ranks of C-103.

Spec. 4th Class Paul Stoskus had an unforgettable experience in Saigon. The Viet Cong ambushed some of his teammates, their Cap-

tain was fatally wounded trying to surrender to the Viet Cong, and seven other G.I's were wounded. Paul's parents, Bertha and John, spent some anxious hours until he phoned from Thailand, informing them he was safe and back at his JcRc base.

Father Jurgelaitis, O.P., rendered his spiritual services to St. Casimir's parish in Brockton, Mass., for Christmas.

Santa gave Victor Mathieu a sign for his special apartment in Bristol.

Regina Krecioch is on the Editorial Staff of the "Thunderbolt" at Cranston East High School.

Twenty-two stalwarts braved rain, sleet and snow to entertain the residents of Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam with Lithuanian and English Christmas carols. The smiling, joyful and gleaming faces of the white-haired residents was sufficient evidence that the trip was a most worth-while venture. Token gifts were given to all of the residents, a basket of fruit was given to the nuns, and special gifts were given to Msgr. F. Juras, P.A., and to Father Zakaras, the Home's Chaplain. We thank our parish organist, Ed. Cybort, and his choir members for joining us in this grand venture.

Ruth and Lillian Savage made a monetary Christmas gift to the Matulaitis Nursing Home. We sincerely appreciate their kindness.

C-103 members joined the parish choir in singing Christmas carols at the midnight Mass celebrated by Father Martinkus on Christmas Eve.

JONAS

C-7 - WATERBURY, CONN.

A happy, healthy and prosperous 1974 to everyone from the officers and members of our council.

We also welcome our new Vice Pres. and Fin. Secy., Ron Shortell and wife Pamela, to our slate of officers for the new year. Ron & Pam have already proved their enthusiastic interest in the council.

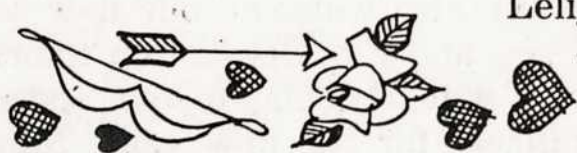
Their efforts in running "A Night at the Races" in November, for the club's benefit, proved financially beneficial and entertaining as well, - thanks to all who helped to make this affair a success!

It is good to see Tom Kaukas back in circulation again. Tom was taken ill while on a motor trip in Massachusetts and was hospitalized for a while. Thanks to the wonderful ministrations of the Mass. Hospital staff, he is back and looking well again.

Another of our active members, John Alankas, had to spend the Christmas holiday in the hospital, but he is at home convalescing now. We wish both of these hard-working members the best of health in the future.

We extend condolences to Wally Blinstrubas and his family on the recent death of their dear mother. Wally is one of our Housemen and Director, and his brothers are members also. May the passing of time help to soften the blow.

Professor Aleksis and Marcella Andriakis have been representing St. Joseph's Parish and the K of L on a large committee which is preparing to celebrate Waterbury's 300th Anniversary which commenced Jan. 1. Various programs are planned, and Professor and Marcella reported there will be many organizations and nationalities represented in various ways during the entire year. Lithuanian amber, handmade and cultural items are to be donated or loaned for display purposes to show how Lithuanians have contributed to the culture of our City. It should be a very interesting project, and if any member has items of interest or any ideas to present, please contact Prof. Aleksis or Marcella, - or plan to attend one of the meetings. Let's put Lithuanians and the K of L on the "Map of Connecticut"!



Lelija



ILLINOIS-INDIANA

DISTRICT

Scenes from the
K of L CHOIR CONCERT
Nov. 17, 1973

featuring the choir and

director Faustas Strolia, soprano Prudencija Bickiene, and oboist Petras Armonas.



The choir...



Some Honored Guests...



And K of L members in attendance.

C-36 - CHICAGO, ILL.

JOHN C. KILKUS, R.I.P.

"Perhaps God too needed a precinct captain - in heaven". With these words, Msgr. D. A. Mozeris, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, began the eulogy for deceased C-36 member JOHN C. KILKUS, whose life was taken in the prime of his life, at the age of 46. The eulogy, sparked with this bit of humor to ease the sorrow of the occasion was much like John's life itself. He faced whatever life had to offer with a smile and a joke. He was, as Msgr. Mozeris pointed out, one who loved his God, his family, his Lithuanian heritage, and his nation.

John Kilkus died suddenly on Nov. 12, 1973, after suffering a massive coronary. He had been at home, recovering from a heart attack suffered in October and was returning from a daily walk when he collapsed a few feet from his home. He died in the ambulance, enroute to the hospital.

John's tragic death, followed a day later by the death of his dear friend and fellow C-36 K of L-er Albert Kassel, left their respective families, C-36 and the Ill.-Ind. District with a feeling of great loss and utter shock. Ironically, for 7 years, John and Al seemed to share their illnesses... whenever one was hospitalized, the other was also. Different illnesses and hospitals were involved, but the timing was the same in each instance, including the last. Companions in life, it was God's will that they should enter eternity together also.

John Kilkus was buried Nov. 16 at St. Casimir Cemetery, Chicago, after a Mass of the Resurrection in Immaculate Conception Church and an American Legion ceremony and final prayers at the gravesite. Hundreds of his dear friends from the K of L and other organizations joined the bereaved family for the wake and funeral services.

Born in Chicago's Brighton Park area on June 21, 1927, John attended Immaculate Conception Grammar School and Kelly High School there, and lived in the same neighborhood all his life. From his early school days, John was keenly interested in his Lithuanian heritage - and his own nation's well-being.

He joined the Knights of Lithuania, C-36, as a teenager to further his interest in his Lithuanian heritage, and continued as an active member until his death. John was always willing to offer his services - be it in muscle or brains - wherever needed. He served in many capacities in his council and district, be it as an officer, bartender, decorator, etc. Participating in his favorite sport, bowling, he helped his council win numerous championships in Midwest K of L Bowling Tournaments. Informally, John was a leader in Lithuanian song-fests at any activity, be it a convention, council party, wedding or whatever.

Perhaps it was his interest in and knowledge of Lithuanian history and her plight in her fight against Communism that led John to be so interested in American politics and good government. After serving in the U.S. Army, John chose public service as a career. He worked for many years as a member of the Sheriff's Police Force in Cook County, and eventually became a Private Investigator in the County Vice-Squad. At the same time, he worked as a local precinct captain, in an effort to

assure the election of good public officials. When weakened health forced him to abandon the strenuous work of the vice-squad, John continued his public service as a trouble-shooter in the Division of Registration and Education of the State of Illinois.

Besides the K of L, John was also an active member in the Darius-Girenas American Legion Post, was a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, Cardinal Mundelein Council, and was active in numerous societies of his parish.

In the Lithuanian tradition, John's immigrant parents instilled strong family ties in their three sons, Alex, Frank and John. In September, 1963, he married Lucille Stasiunas whom he met through their mutual activities in K of L C-36, and quickly adopted her parents and family as his own also. John was a devoted and loving husband, father, son, and brother. Whatever his other activities or duties, they were always willingly put aside in the interest of his family's needs and desires. John's and Lucille's son, 9 year old John Paul, inherited his parents' zest for life and love of his heritage. John Paul enjoys Lithuanian School and speaks Lithuanian fluently, and also, like his father, is a great sports fan.

Council 36 and all the K of L extend heartfelt sympathy to the entire Kilkus family, and join them in a prayer that God shower John with his choicest blessings in heaven.



John Kilkus (left) and Al Kassel, in happier days.



MID-ATLANTIC

DISTRICT

C-29 - NEWARK, N.J.

To sum up our council's news:

Our Annual Dinner-Dance came off in fine fashion, and a very good attendance was on hand for the musical program featuring soloists Louis Stukas and Genevive Mazur accompanied by Algirdas Kacauskas. Tribute was paid to Frank Vaskas for his many years of endeavor on behalf of our council. Guest speaker was Joseph Boley; toastmaster was Al Kacauskas.

The yearly elections saw Kazys Sipaila elected president, Vice-Pres. Rose Zukauskas, Secy's. Ann Abromaitis, Helen Radicsh and Mary Stonis, and Treas. Eva Sharon. Msgr. John J. Scharnus is our Spiritual Director. Frank Vaskas acted as chairman during the elections.

Our parish and C-29 members were shocked and saddened at the sudden passing of our Spiritual Director and assistant pastor of Holy Trinity Church. Rev. Peter Totoraitis departed this life on Oct. 30. Just two days earlier, on Oct. 28, he was present at our council's monthly meeting in the parish hall, where he gave an excellent talk on the coming month of November and to remember our faithful departed. Two days later he had left our midst.

The deceased served in our parish for 23 years, and he will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace.

Our sincere condolences and sympathy to members of the Totoraitis family.

Condolences are offered to our member and Vytis Editor, Loretta Stukas, in the passing of her

brother, Albert Kassel. Our sympathy is extended, also, to members of the Kassel family.

Our sincere thanks to Eva and Ben Ellis for their generosity in underwriting the cost of the renovation of our Wayside Cross.

Our Christmas party on Dec. 15 turned out to be a very successful event. There was a fine turnout of members and guests. Chairman for the event was Antanina Skroudys; assisting were Lucy Zamaris, Helen Radicsh, Kazys Sipaila, Adele Urbonas, Eva Sharon, Mary Stonis and Ann O'Neill.

The annual Communion reception and breakfast of C-29 will take place Mar. 3. Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 A.M. in Holy Trinity Church. Guest speaker at the breakfast will be Rev. Casimir Pugavacius of Baltimore, Md. Rev. Pugavacius is in charge of religious programs on radio and TV in the Baltimore diocese.

The Wanderer



MID-CENTRAL

DISTRICT

C-79 - DETROIT, MICH.

BIG NEWS! C-79 is hosting the '74 K of L National Convention in Detroit in August. At our December meeting the wheels were turning, programming interesting cultural, religious and social events. Details are not complete, but the Convention is scheduled for Aug. 14-18. Let's keep our fingers crossed (prayers will help, too) that the gasoline rationing will not create a setback on all our plans. Following the meeting, Violet Panavas and her little helper, Eleanore Grasha, had a nice buffet waiting for all members.

Our slate of officers for '74 is as follows: Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Al Babonas; Pres. - Ruth Grasha; V.P.I - Ona Walls; V.P.II - Sophie Zager; Fin. Sec. - Jos. Chaps; Rec. Sec. - Maggie Smailis; Treas. - Frank Zager and Trustees - Anthony Dainus, Julie Belickas and Marie Kase. The board consists of S. Hotra, V. Panavas, H. Tucker and B. Walls. Congratulations, and much success in '74 in your leadership of C-79.

A BIG-GO was our Rummage Sale, Dec. 8-9. To say "thank you" to chairlady Bertha Janus who held the event at our new Lith. Cultural Center would be an understatement! It was a most successful venture due to the hard work of the committee and the many donations of articles received. The ladies who deserve thanks are S. Hotra, R. Grasha, H. Patocki, V. Panavas, H. Tucker, V. Chepelonis, E. Mickey, J. Medinis, M. Smailis, M. Kase and S. Zager. Mrs. E. Grasha helped, and Ruth's daughter, Eleanore, also gave a helping hand. We extend a hearty "Big Ačiū" to several of the menfolk: A. Dainus, J. Belickas, Clem Patocki and Frank Zager. Others who helped were Mrs. Kiuber, V. Marozas and A. Kulikauskas. Thanks a great deal!

Our Jan. 2 meeting was postponed due to the closeness of the holidays. We have started the New Year with several new members; a great welcome to Christine Janus, Mary Vinciunas and Carol Zager.

Our council has a long list of people who are ill. Please remember them with cards and notes to cheer them. Adele Vale continues treatment following surgery. Jos. Kazlauskas was hospitalized four weeks for a serious coronary attack. He is now recuperating at their Toledo home. Mrs. Rose Miknis has been on the sick list due to a heart condition. John "Corby" Laurinaitis spent a few weeks in the hospital and is now recuperating at home. All are wished a speedy and complete recovery... Elizabeth Paurazas attended the United Lith. Relief Fund Convention (BALF) in Cleveland, Ohio,

Nov. 10, where she was re-elected a Director. Home a week, she then went on to Chicago to attend the yearly meeting of the Am. Lith. Council (Amerikos Lietuvių Taryba), Nov. 17, where she was re-elected Nat'l Board Member. Congratulations, Elizabeth!.. Ralph and Ann Valatka took a winter "break" and vacationed in sunny Florida... After a two-week honeymoon in Hawaii, Carol and Gerry Zager are off "cloud nine" and back on their jobs... M/M Geo. Kase had a nice visit from son Richard and daughter-in-law, Faith, with their family from Conn., during the Christmas holiday... Congratulations to Mike Vale upon being elected to serve on the Parish Council... Our condolences to sister-members Donna and John Stanievich upon the sudden death of their young 24-year old son, Robert... We are also sorry to hear about the death of Helen Tucker's son-in-law who passed away after a long illness... Also, sympathy to Phil Dalton whose father Felix Deltuva passed away, and our member, Kasmer Daunis. Kindly remember your departed members in your prayers... There was a nice representation of 79'ers for the Bendruomenės New Year's Eve Party at the new Lith. Cultural Center. Emil Byville is quite a "Swinger" - kept all the ladies hopping. We enjoyed it, Mr. B!.. The Jos. Chaps' and the Frank Zagers have a deal in common. Married 30 years, each couple has 3 sons, with the eldest named Gerald, and daughter-in-laws named Sandy. Both are grandparents. Recently there was a wedding in each family - just one week apart. The Chaps' youngest son, Philip was married Nov. 2; the Zagers' oldest, Gerry, tied the knot Nov. 9. Frank and Sophie observed their 31st Anniversary in Feb., and the Chaps' will celebrate their 31 years on Mar. 6. With the Good Lord's blessing we wish to see a "few more" years... Betty and Frank Petroski attended the wedding of a relative in Pennsylvania on Jan. 5. Prior to this date,

they experienced a tragic event. Frank's nephew, Albert Brizinskas, was injured in a hit-and-run collision, and after spending 2 weeks in a hospital, when he was thought to be recovering satisfactorily, developed complications and died. He was buried the day before Christmas. May his soul rest in peace. His wife, Bonnie, was also injured, but making an excellent recovery... Jan. 11 found Adele and Mike Vale celebrating their 32nd year of wedded bliss. Ilgiausių Metų!

Remember your dues! As the largest council, it behooves all of us to help C-79 maintain its goal with a high rank. Please pay your dues NOW.

We sincerely appreciate the nice comment written by C-102 in the Nov. Vytis issue about our new church, the dedication, and the Dinner-Dance held on Sept. 8. Širdingai Ačiū!

SOFFI

C-139 - DETROIT, MICH.



STANLEY IR BRONĖ
WESLEY - VASILIAUSKAI

1912 m. Stanley su savo tėvais apsigyveno Westville, Ill. ir įsirašė į Šv. Petro ir Povilo parapiją. Čia jis patarnavo Mišioms, dainavo chore ir dirbo parapijos komitete. 1916 m. įsteigė L. Vyčių kuopą,

aktyviai veikė jaunimo tarpe.

1920 m. drauge su šeima nusi-kėlė į Saginaw, Mich., prisijungė prie Šv. Jurgio parapijos ir čia drauge su kun. Lipkum sėkmingai reiškėsi lietuviškoje veikloje. Jiedu suorganizavo LRKSA kuopą ir nuo to laiko priklauso Katalikų Susivienijimui.

Pagaliau 1927 m. apsigyveno Detroite, kur ir šiandien tebeveikia. Čia jis priklauso parapijai, L.V. Kuopai, chorui ir parapijos komitetui. 1928 m. susipažino su choriste Brone Lotužiute ir sukūrė lietuvišką šeimą. Jų santuoką palaimino kun. V. Masevičius, tik ką perėmęs Šv. Petro parapijos klebono pareigas.

Pavyzdinčiai ir veikliai šeimai linkime visokeriopos sėkmės.

Ta pačia proga pažymėtina, kad, čia atvykus kun. Viktorui Kriščiunevičiui, parapijos ir L. Vyčių kuopos veikla žymiai pagyvėjo. Dėkingi parapijiečiai ruošiasi gražiai paminėti kun. V. Kriščiunevičiaus sidabrinį kunigystės jubiliejų 1974 m. birželio 30 d.

Vytis

C-96 - DAYTON, OHIO

Through the efforts of Joe and Aldona Ryan, Joan Kavalauskas and accordionist Fran Vangas, our Lithuanian dance group performed at the Lithuanian Hall on Dec. 15 for the Philippine Christmas International Party. Dancing were Ray Gecas, and Jr. members Ed Sluzas, Michael Petkus, Kathy Sinkwitz, Mary Agnes Mikalauskas, Julie Prasmantas and Rita Gecas. With the continuous exposure our dance group is having, they are really blending.

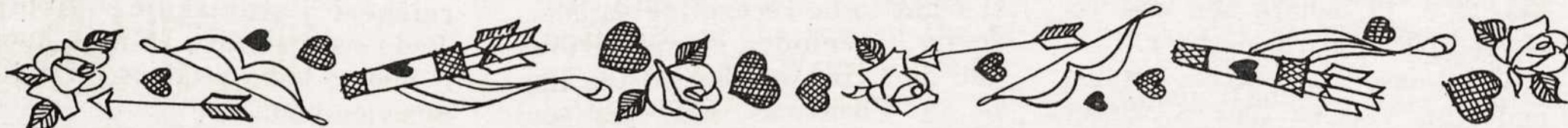
The council held its annual Advent reception of Holy Communion in a body at the 10 A.M. Mass on Dec. 16. We then joined the other parishioners at the weekly Koffee Klatch in the church hall following the Mass.

President Elinor Sluzas hosted Juniors at her home following their annual "dress for dinner out". Before socializing, the Juniors held

Lithuanian Information Center
5620 S. Claremont Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60636

VYTIS
1625 W. Marquette Rd.,
Chicago, Ill. 60636

Return Requested



election of officers for 1974. The Juniors thanked their 1973 advisor, Tina Kavy, for her dedication, and met their new advisors for 1974, Eloise Berczelly and Sarah Petkus. As always, Elinor proved the perfect hostess.

Many thanks to Marianne Podoyak and Sally Miller for the time they took to make arrangements for the annual Holiday dinner for the women of the council. This year it was held on Dec. 11 at the Colony Club. We were even serenaded by Bill Corbin and his Dixieland band.

At our December meeting, distribution of the Charity Fund was dispersed. This fund is built up throughout the year by automatically allotting 10% of the profit made at various projects held during the year, from private donations, etc. For instance, John and Ann Scott, instead of mailing Christmas cards, made a donation to the Charity Fund. This is much appreciated.

Highlight of our charity project was visiting the shut-ins and older parishioners of the parish. Our

thanks to Pat Zelinskas and Eloise Berczelly for the time and effort they put into making this a going project. Aside from visiting those hospitalized, we went caroling to 20 homes on Dec. 22-23. Sometimes one wonders who benefits more from this... the shut-ins or those of us visiting. This is really one of the most satisfying projects we have.

Did everyone see the Prasmantas' on the Bob Braun Show? This is a live program on every day at noon until 1:30 P.M. from Cincinnati, WLW-2. Kitty, Jon, Sharon and Julie were on the program in December, when Julie presented Bob with a Lithuanian decoration for his Christmas tree. Bob had it very much on display each day during the Christmas season. Good to see Joe and Ann Boeke and family from Grand Rapids, Mich. visiting during the holidays. Nice to see Jerry and Cathy Roberts in for the holidays, too. Jerry is stationed with the Air Force in Key West, Fla.

Through arrangements made by Aldona Drukteinis, German teacher at Centerville HS and a council

member, Sally Miller gave a demonstration on making Lithuanian Christmas decorations at the school on Dec. 19. This was done in conjunction with an Eastern European Christmas Decoration Display at the school. Sally's demonstration was very warmly received by students and teachers at the school.

Linkime Jums Visiems Laimingu ir Viltingu Naujuju Metu!

FBP

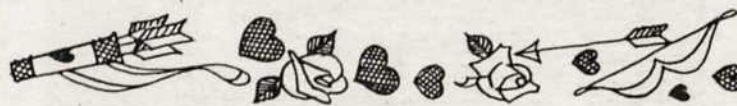
IN MEMORIAM

Remember in your prayers...

ANNA YUNKER

Charter Member, C-100
Amsterdam, N.Y.

Died December 22, 1973



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