

the KNIGHT **VYTTIS**

• 1975 •
**The Knights
of Lithuania**

**MIRACULOUS
SHRINES OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN
MARY...**



At LOURDES, France (above) and FATIMA, Portugal (left), visited during the K of L Pilgrimage last summer (see p. 4).

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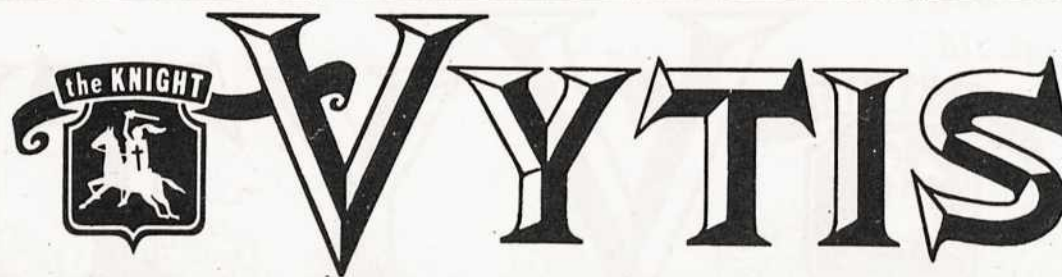
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CONTENTS - TURINYS

- 3. Motina S. Jatautas
- 4. Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrines
- 9. Kas Pašaukė Vyčius Gyveniman I. Sakalas
- 12. Honor the Valiant
- 13. Spiritual Advisor's Message Rev. C. Pugevičius
- 14. Vyčių Cen. Archyvo Reikalu I. Sakalas
- 15. Lithuanian Language at Kent State
- 16. K of L Calendar
- 17. National Convention News
- 18. "... Reikia Kovotojų" B. Brazdžionis
- 19. Council News ed. J. Zukas
- 32. National Convention Schedule

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MOTINA

Pavasaris dvelkia. Švelniausiais žiedais
Pasidengė sodai, žolynai.
Gyvenimas veržias, jaunučiais diegais
Pasipuošė jo atžalynai.

Ar kyla mėnulis, ar gęsta aušrinė,
Prie lopšio palinkus įinai,
Ir meilę, ir džiaugsmą, ir skausmą krūtinėj
Kentėti jai skirta vienai.

Švelniai apkabinusi naują būtybę,
Ją glaudžia prie savo širdies,
Už ją atiduotų sveikatą, gyvybę,
Jei grėstų šešėlis mirties.

Jos veidą išrašė vargai begaliniai,
Pabalo auksiniai plaukai,
Tik motinos širdį, tik meilę krūtinėj
Neįveikė amžiaus kerai.

Tamsioje erdvėje žvaigždės spindėjo
Ir debesis slinko žemai,
Tą naktį žvaigždutė nauja sumirgėjo,
Kita gi užgeso ūmai.

Žvarbus žiemys siaučia. Pirmąja šerkšna
Apsidengė gelstantis lapas.
Gyvenimas eina. Ledine šalna
Pasipuošė motinos kapas.

(Šį eilėraštį parašė tremtinys Sibire, mirus jo motinai)



PICTORIAL MEMORIES... OF A K OF L PILGRIMAGE

The trip is long since ended. . .but the "memories linger on. . ." Last June 27, 33 K of L members and friends embarked on an exciting EUROPEAN HOLIDAY AND PILGRIMAGE. Since the miraculous shrines of Our Lady at Lourdes and Fatima were the highlights of the trip, it seems only fitting that the trip be featured in May, the month specially dedicated to Our Lady.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

A Visit to the Lithuanian February 16th High School

The Vasario 16 Gymnazija, operated by the Lithuanian Community of Germany with support from Lithuanians all over the free world, provides good Catholic, Lithuanian education for young people from Germany and elsewhere. The K of L group was very warmly received by the school officials and students at Weinheim, Germany. After getting acquainted with the school and its beautiful grounds, the group was treated to a program by the school's Lithuanian Folk Dance Group, and some comedy by our own Vitalis Zukauskas. Jack Stukas expressed K of L thanks for the hospitality. . .Rev. Bernatonius (director of the High School) and others expressed warm greetings, and all enjoyed a very lavish Lithuanian buffet, prepared by the local Lithuanians. Amid the festivities, community singing, and celebration of Rev. Bernatonius' 60th birthday, K of L generosity showed itself. With the help of Anele Balbata, Mary Barret and Christine Yakavonis, over \$1,000 was donated by our tourists, as a contribution to the High School.



The Vasario 16 Dancers, and Vitalis Žukauskas present a program.



Left: K of L-er Vince Boris, now living in Germany, with Jack Stukas; right: Rev. Bernatonius "unveils" classroom dedicated to him.

The reception was enjoyed by laity and clergy.



LOURDES. . . . CENTER OF MIRACLES

The winding roads leading to Lourdes, through humble villages and wooded valleys can hardly prepare one for the magnificence of the most-frequented of Christian shrines, Lourdes. It was our good fortune to spend one day and two short nights in the vicinity of the famed Grotto of Massabielle, where the Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette 18 times, 115 years ago. Besides privately visiting the Shrine and the Cathedral built at the sight; bathing in the waters of the miraculous spring, and praying for their own intentions, our pilgrims also observed the beautiful ceremony of the Blessing of the Sick in the square before the Cathedral, and heard Mass in one of the chapels of the Shrine, celebrated especially for our group by our own Rev. Paul Gillis. Later, we all took part in the Candlelight Procession with thousands of other pilgrims, and were moved when special prayers were said at the end of the procession for the Suffering Church in the Captive Nations of the world.



Joe Krutulis and others were thrilled to see a young man who had apparently just been cured of a life-long paralysis that very day of our visit. . .no doubt, Our Lady performed many other miracles which we did not witness. But to all who

were there, the greatest miracle was the sight of so many faithful, so committed to seeking both temporal and spiritual help from God through His servants, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Bernadette.

FATIMA. . . .
A MIRACLE OF OUR CENTURY

In a small, hidden valley of Portugal, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three little shepherds in 1917, and warned them of the evils that will encompass the world if men do not turn to God. Since we have seen many of these predictions come true in our life-time, a visit to the site of these miraculous apparitions was another highlight of this trip, and provided new inspiration and awareness of God's importance in our lives.

Much newer and much more humble in its surroundings than Lourdes, Fatima was none-the-less equally impressive. We visited the small chapel of the Apparitions built on the exact spot where Our Lady appeared the first time to the children (Mass is said there almost continuously), and heard Mass in the magnificent Basilica, again said especially for us by Father Gillis. We marveled at the complete devotion of the many pilgrims making their way up the very long square to the Cathedral on their knees, using this penance either to ask special favors of Our Lady of Fatima, or to thank God through her for favors received. Without exception, our pilgrims left Fatima as they did Lourdes, armed with a renewed vision of their lives and surroundings. . . and the importance of God in every part of their lives.



Chapel of the Apparitions.



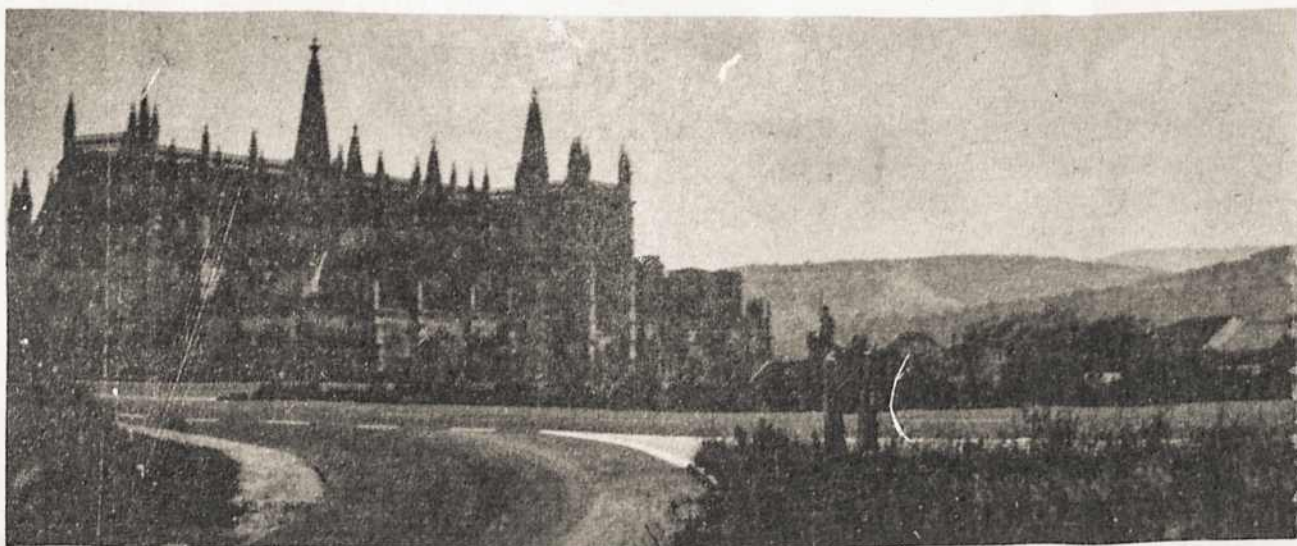
The Basilica



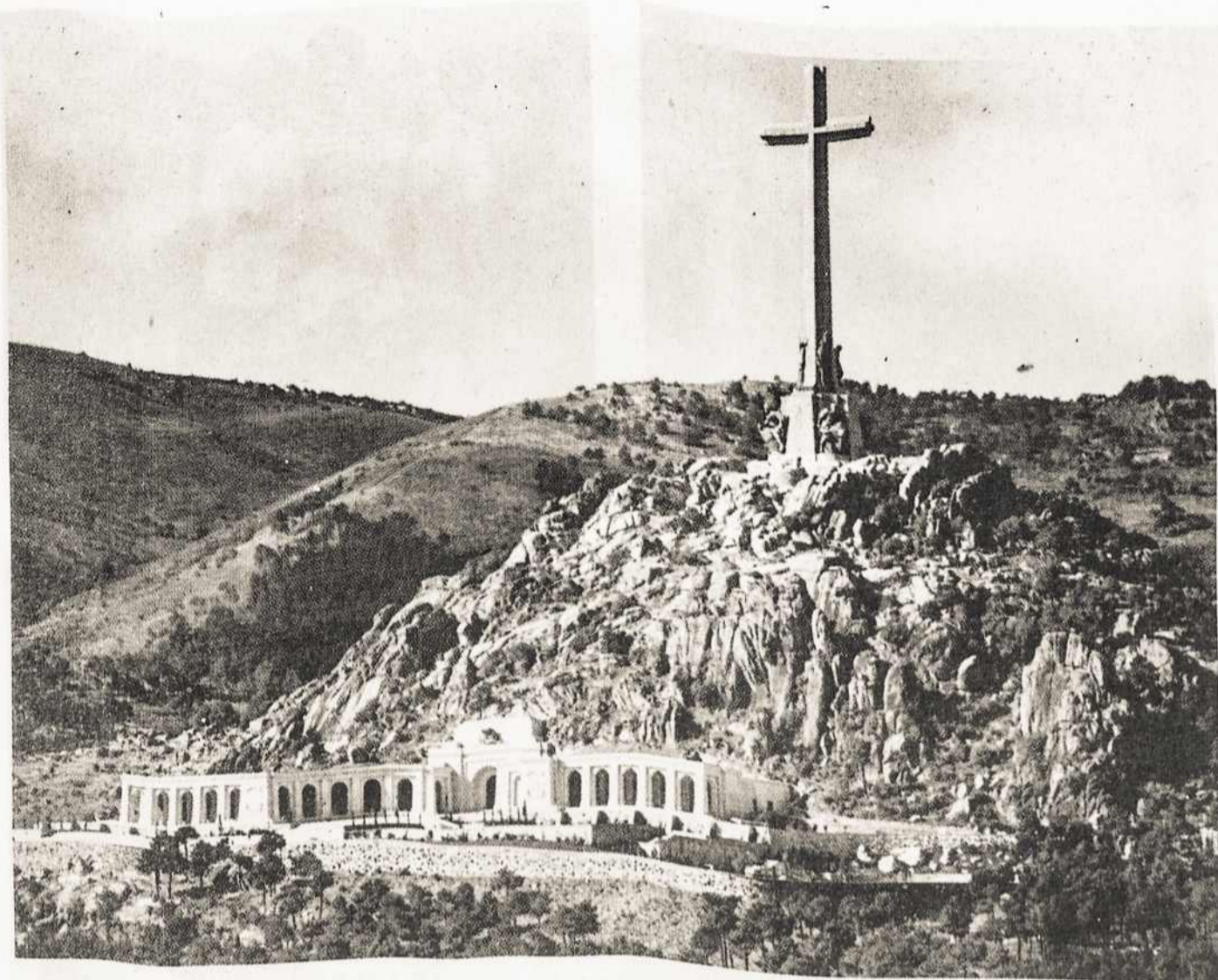
Tombs of JACINTA...



and FRANCISCO.



Monastery Home of SISTER LUCIA, outside of Fatima.



VALLEY OF THE FALLEN

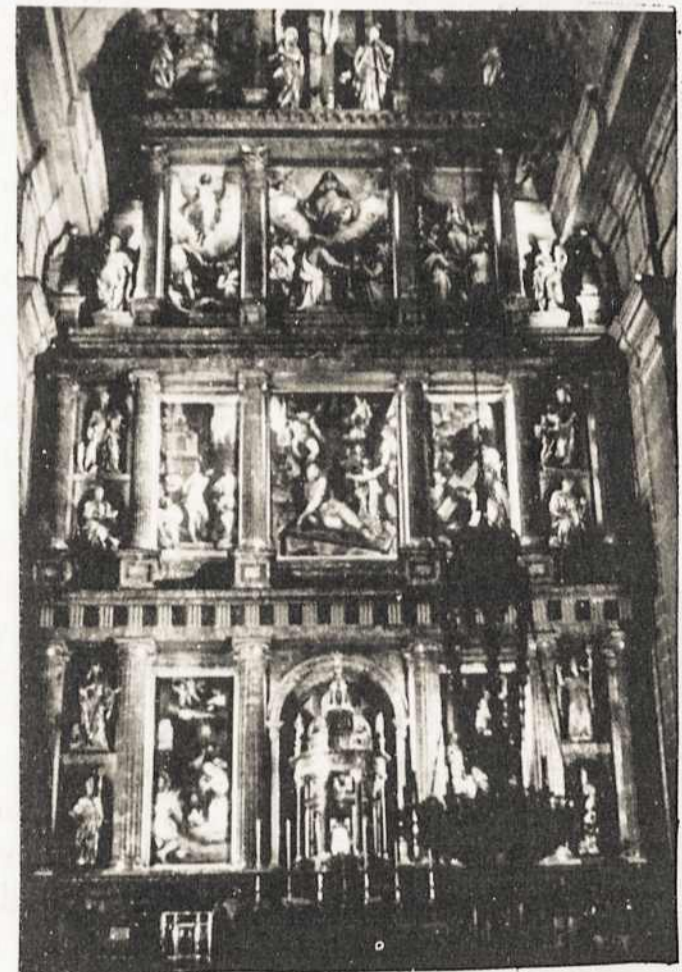
A short drive out of Madrid, Spain, brought us to a magnificent valley, surrounded by hills on which could be seen 14 shrines, each representing one of the fourteen Stations of the Cross. In the center of all this was a huge cross, jutting up into the sky from the largest of the mountains. As one drove closer, it became obvious that the cross was actually part of a large structure. . . a magnificent cathedral, carved out of the mountain. The cross actually stood atop the dome of the cathedral. The structure, known as the Cathedral of the Fallen, was started in the 1930's, as a tribute to the many fallen soldiers, from both sides, who fought in the Spanish Civil War. Families can ask for and receive permission to have their war dead, permanently buried in the cathedral. Hundreds have already been buried there, in specified areas surrounding particular altars, etc. The structure is truly a beautiful example of man's use of modern technology to pay homage to his God, and tribute to his fellow countrymen who gave their lives for their country.



Entrance to the Cathedral



Trip director J. Stukas at the walled city of Avila, Spain.

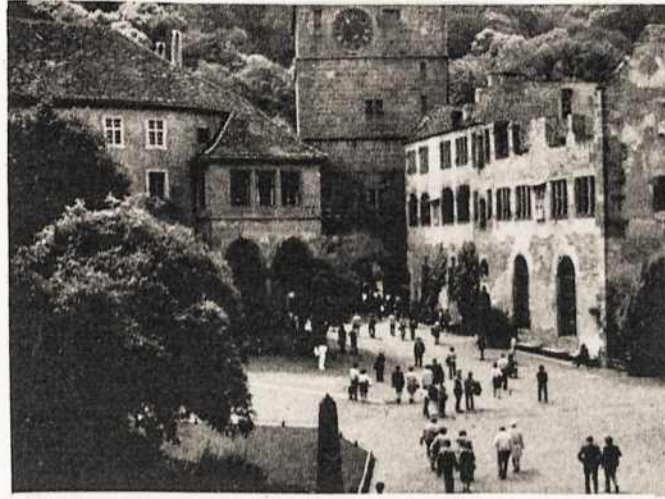


An exquisite example of Spanish art in El Escorial, Spain.

Other Moments to Remember. . .

The most interesting Shrine of the Virgin of Pilar in the Cathedral of Zaragoza, Spain. . .

The exquisite tapestries and other art work in the monastery of El Escorial, Spain, where kings lived periodically to escape the stresses of their positions.

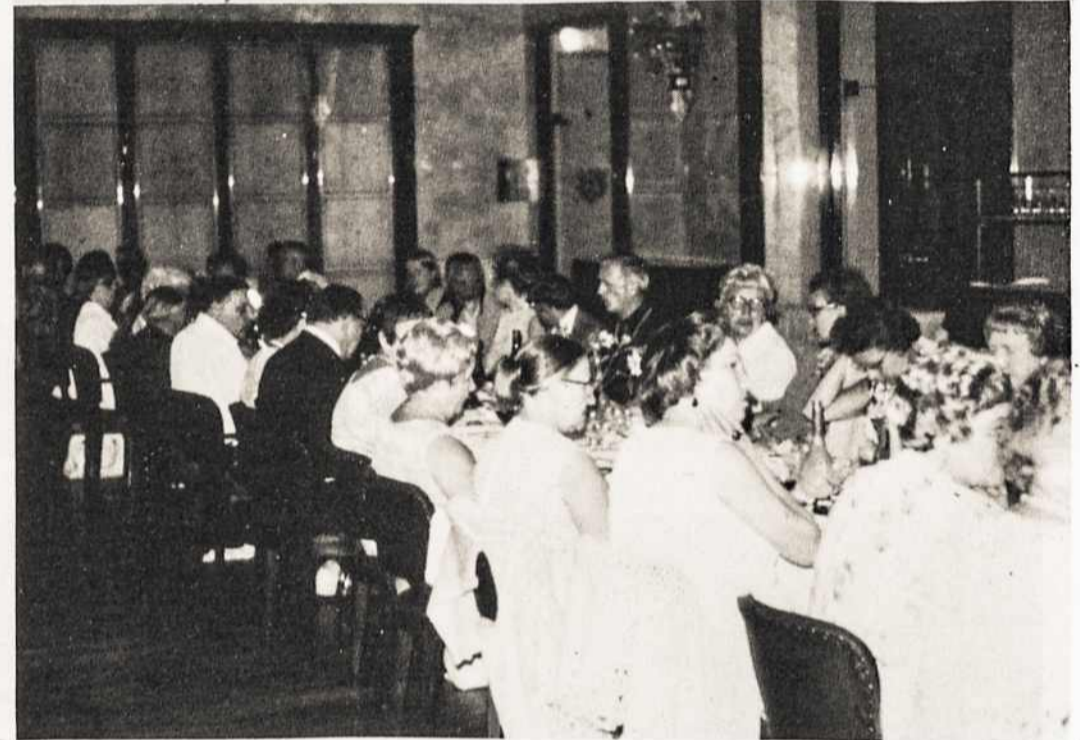


Heidelberg Castle, with its "Student Prince" memories. . .



A ride up the Rhine, with a view of the many ancient castles and present day vineyards along the shoreline. . .

An American Independence celebration on July 4. in Poitiers, France. . .



A shattered bus windshield. . .and a very calm and safe busdriver who handled the emergency so well. . .



Wine-tasting in Bordeaux. . .

Nightlife in Paris. . .with elegant shows and quaint folk-song fests. . .

The Opera in Cologne, Germany. . .



Fine lace, good wine, and old, beautiful architecture in Brussels. . .



KAS PAŠAUKĖ VYČIUS GYVENIMAN

GARBĖS NARIO IGNO SAKALO PASKAITA,
SKAITYTA 1974 M. GRUODŽIO 9 D.,
JAUNIMO CENTRE, CHICAGO, ILL.
LITUANISTINĖS MOKYKLOS AUKŠTESNEI
KLASEI SUSIPAŽINTI SU VYČIŲ ISTORIJA,
GYVENIMU IR DARBAIS

(Kadangi paskaitai laikas buvo ribotas - 40 minučių, - todėl kai kurias vietas reikėjo praleisti).

Užaugau Lietuvoj,
Pas savo tėvelius,
Išėjau vandrovot,
Sau laimės paieškot.
Iš namų eidamas,
Griaudingai verkdamas,
Parpuolęs ant kelių,
Bučiavau kryželį.

(Daina ankstyvųjų lietuvių išeivių):

Gausesnė lietuvių emigracija į Ameriką, remiantis gal būt ne tiksliais duomenimis, prasidėjo po lietuvių lenkų antrojo sukilimo 1863 metais, po caristinės Rusijos žiaurios priespaudos ir persekiojimo (Muravjovo gadynėj), o ypatingai kai 1874 metais Rusija įvedė priverstiną karinę tarnybą. Buvo ir kitokių priežasčių, pavyzdžiui vėliau einant per Lietuvą garsui apie Ameriką, tą pasakišką kraštą, apie visokeriopą laisvę, aukso šalį, gerus uždarbius - dauguma jaunų vyrų, vėliau ir merginų, vyko "vandrovot, sau laimės paieškot". Vykstančiųjų daugelis buvo beraščiai, žemės ūkio darbininkai. Atvykusiems nemokant net paprasto, trumpo laiško Lietuvon parašyti, buvo atspausdinti bendri laišakai - papuošti gėlėmis ir kitokiais pagražinimais - daugumos net eilėmis aprašytas ateivių gyvenimas Amerikoje.

Atvykę į šį kraštą, nemokėdami kitos kalbos, lietuviai pasijuto vieniši, tad noroms nenoroms pradėjo



bičiuliautis su lenkais, nes su jais dauguma galėjo susikalbėti. Lenkai lietuvius priėmė, nes padėjo jiems ne tik draugijas, bet ir parapijas steigti, tačiau dėl "mužikiškos" kalbos iš aukšto žiūrėjo ir lygių teisių nei draugijose, nei parapijose nedavė. Lietuviai tokį pažeminimą kentė, bet kartu savyje gaivino viltį geresnių laikų susilaukti.

Lietuviškoji dvasia pradėjo reikštis 1875 metais, kai New Yorke įsteigta pirmoji lietuvių Šv. Kazimiero vardo draugija. Vėliau lietuvių draugijos steigėsi ir kitose gausesnėse lietuvių kolonijose, daugiausia angliakasių rajonuose. Visos draugijos buvo, kaip sakoma, pašalpinės. Vėliau greta šių draugijų, pradėjo steigtis ir grynai jaunų vyrų vadinamos kareivių draugijos. Kiekviena kareivių draugija turėjo skirtingą uniformą, su generoliškais antpečiais, ypatingomis kepurėmis ir kardais. Savo vardo šventėse jos ruošdavo paradus. Cleveland, Ohio, kareivių draugija savo globėjo ar kokios tautinės šventės proga paradiui kiekvienam nariui išnuomudavo po baltą arkli. Per Velykas Didžiojo Šeštadienio naktį pakaitomis budėdavo bažnyčioje per naktį, o Prisikėlimo rytą procesijoje dalyvaudavo "in corpore" su nuogais iškeltais kardais. Visur kareivių draugijos priimdavo tik tai jaunus ir maždaug vienokio ūgio vyrus, nes visa ateivija tuomet buvo jauni žmonės. Kareivių draugijos neturėjo aiškios ideologijos, buvo necentralizuotos. Kiekviena veikė atskirai, o gyvenimas kasdien daigino ir statė naujus ir griežtus reikalavimus.

Gausėjančioje ateivijoje lietuvių protaujantis jaunimas pagalios sustojo kryžkelyje ir pradėjo galvoti,



kuria linkme eiti? Buvo du keliai. Kelias dešinėn matėsi siauras, nelygus, usnėmis ir kitokiomis piktžolėmis apaugęs. Šis kelias buvo Kristaus mokslu ir tėvynės meile pagrįstas. Gi kelias kairėn buvo platus, lygus, visokiais žibučiais išpuoštas, malonumais viliojantis. Šis kelias buvo nevaržomos laisvės ir jo vadovai daugumoje lanke aukštąsias Rusijos mokyklas ir užsikrėtę ateizmu. Tad, kurie vykdami "vandravot", įsidėjo į savo širdis motinos žodžius: "Vaikeli, nežiūrėti kur gyvensi, neišsižadėk Dievo, tėvų, savo tautos; būk doras, blaivus", - pasuko dešiniuoju keliu. Gi žibučiais pavilioti visi nuėjo kairiuoju ir to kelio vadovams nurodinėjant, pradėjo steigti ateistines draugijas tikslu kovoti su tikėjimu, su Bažnyčia, net su pačiu Dievu. Visur sėta neapykanta kunigams, juos šlykščiausiai visuomenei pristatant. Tai darė gyvu žodžiu ir spauda. Savo vadų diriguojami, visur lietuvių parapijose drumstė žmonių vienybę, tikėjimą, ruošė parapijose streikus ir prieš klebonus. Kai kuriose vietose, pav. Lawrence, Mass., Pittsburgh, Pa., Westville, Ill., Kewanee, Ill., Chicagoj ir kitur, sekdami lenkus, steigė vadinamas "nezaliežninkų" ("tautiškas") parapijas, kurioms vadovauti kvietė lenkų nezaliežninkų kunigus iki pačių lietuvių nezaliežninkų tarpe atsirado ne tik "kunigų", bet net "vyskupų" ir "arkivyskupų". Į tas "parapijas" spietėsi visi tos srovės bendrakeleiviai: socialistai, tautininkai ir visi vadinamieji "bepartyviai". Dėl neapykantos Katalikų Bažnyčiai ir jos vadams, toje srovėje išdygo ir naujų sektų, net anarchistų, kaip Petras Krakas alias Kiaulėnas ir Bernardas Montvydas, kurie 1915 metais nužudė New Britain, Conn., kleboną, žymų katalikų veikėją kun. J. Žebri, o tais pačiais metais Mykolas Petrikonis kesinosi ant Kingston, Pa., klebono kun. J. V. Kudirkos gyvybės. Darydama

kratą policija jų butuose rado daug nuogosios "literatūros" ir marksistinių instrukcijų. Tardomieji prisipažino, kad tai darė vykdydami jų vadų įsakymus.

Matydami į kokią bedugnę lietuvius veda laisvamanybė ir socializmas, katalikai matė reikalą steigti jaunimo organizaciją, kuri apimtų visą lietuvių jaunimą; kuri paplistų po visas lietuvių kolonijas; kuri pastotų kelią bedievybei, nutautėjimui; kuri iš saliūnų, kur anais laikais prasidėdavo jauno žmogaus nupuolimas, jį trauktų ir vestų į blaivias sales, skatintų prie kultūrinio veikimo, įduotų į rankas katalikišką laikraštį, knygą, skatintų šviestis, kad savo gyvenimą tvarkytų Kristaus mokslu, o meile tautai, savo gimtajam kraštui būtų šviesus pavyzdys.

Konkrečių žygių tokiai jaunimo organizacijai ėmėsi Mykolas Norkūnas. Susitaręs su Lawrence, Mass., lietuvių parapijos klebonu kun. A. Jusaičiu, 1913 metais balandžio 27-28 dienomis sušaukė steigiamąjį jaunimo organizacijos susirinkimą-seimą. Dalyvavo tik 10 asmenų. Jie svarstė Norkūno ir S. Bugnavičiaus paruoštus įstatus, kuriuos priėmė ir pagimdytą kūdikį - organizaciją pavadino Lietuvos Sakalai. Į pirmąją valdybą išrinko: dvasios vadas kun. A. Jusaitis, pirm. M. Norkūnas, vicepirm. A. Jankauskas, sekr. S. Bugnavičius, išd. K. Urbonas, išdo globėjai S. Mačiulskytė ir A. Simonaitytė.

Lietuvių Katalikų Federacija, kuri tuo metu jungė visas Amerikos lietuvių katalikų draugijas, turėjo patvirtinti naują organizaciją. Tų pačių metų savo seime Pittsburgh, Pa., federacija organizaciją patvirtino, tikslu vardą pakeitė. Kun. A. Kaupui paaiškino, kad lietuviai daugiau gerbia žirgus, o ne paukščius, pasiūlė jaunimo organizaciją pavadinti LIETUVOS VYČIAI. Šiuo klausimu priimta tokia rezoliucija:

"Mes lietuviai ir lietuvaitės, gyvenantieji įvairiose pasaulio dalyse, matydami svarbumą įvairių organizacijų, nusprendėme padaryti vieną jaunimo organi-



C. V. 29¹⁰³ Kuobės Benus, Newark, N. J. Susitvėrė 3d. Balandžio 1916



zacija, kurią pavadino Lietuvių Rymo Katalikų Jaunuomenės Federacija - vardu Lietuvos Vyčiai - po Šv. Kazimiero globa. Organizacijai duotas toks šūkis: "Dievas ir Tėvynė" arba "Viskas Lietuvai, o Lietuva Kristui".

Pirmoji Lietuvos Vyčių kuopa, dar Sakalų vardu, įsteigta Montello-Brockton, Mass. Ji 1914 metais seimui pranešta, kad įvairiose lietuvių kolonijose jau suorganizuota 30 kuopų. Tame seime, kuris įvyko liepos 7-9 dienomis, Brockton, Mass., salė buvo išdekoruota šiais šūkais: "Greičiau akmuo supus, vanduo sudegs, saulė atšals, negu Kristaus mokslas žus". "Vyčiai, kovokime su alkoholiu, nes jis pražudė Lietuvos galią ir savivaldą". "Broliai ir seserys, lai mūs kongresų protokoluose ir laikraščiuose šviečia santaika, santaika, santaika". "Tautos meilė mumyse težydi, tautiški darbai tešviečia". Be atstovų, seime dalyvavo ir svečiai tuo metu viešėję Amerikoje: Lietuvių Informacijos Biuro Šveicarijoje vedėjas Juozas Gabrys ir "Žiburio" Draugijos Lietuvoje pirmininkas kun. Mykolas Gustaitis. Pastarasis, sužavėtas naujos organizacijos entuziazmu ir veikimu, parašė vyčiams himną, kuris skamba sekančiai:

Nuženg, Galybė, iš dangaus,
Sustiprink jauną Vyčių dvasią.
Mes už teisybę stosim drąsiai,
Tėvynę ginti kuo narsiau.
O plieno kardas priešą draus.

Štai plėvesuoja vėliava,
Ką kalba jos žymė?
Ei, Vyčiai, gyvenam tautai ir Bažnyčiai.
Mums viską davė Lietuva,
Vaduosim ją galva sava.

Himnui muziką tuojau parašė komp. A. Aleksandravičius-Aleksis.

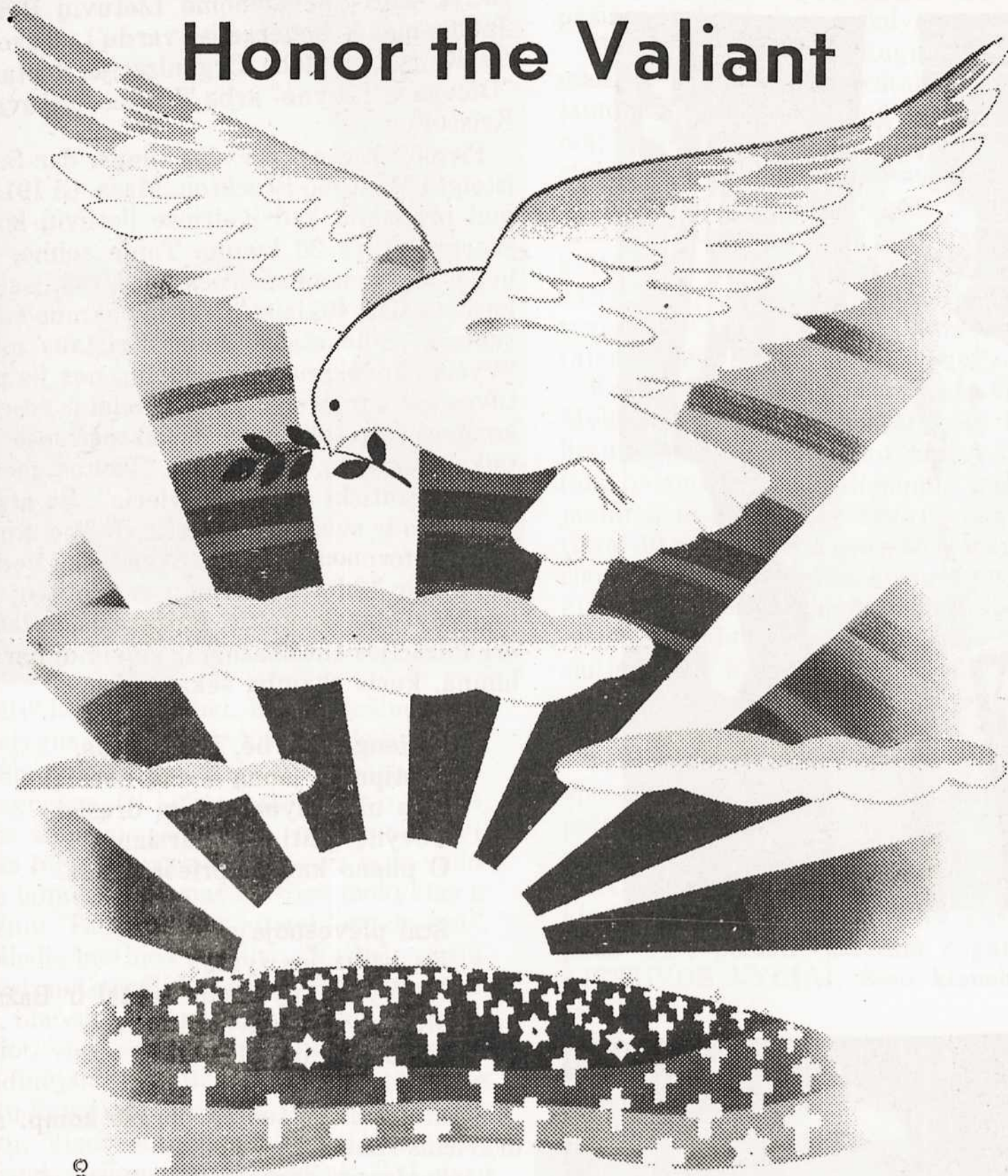
Į organizacinį darbą greit įsijungė visa eilė kunigų, moksleivių ir pasauliečių veikėjų. Steigėsi naujos kuopos, narių skaičius augo šimtais. Ypatingo dėmesio kreipta į spaudą ir meną. Katalikų laikraščiai pasidarė turiningesni žiniomis, o 1915 metais organizacijoje įsteigta ir centrinė Katalikų Spaudos draugija, kuri sekančiais metais išleido kun. P. Lapelio suredaguotą daugiau 400 puslapių leidinį "Amerikos Lietuvių Katalikų Metraštis 1916 m.". Leidinyje visi raštai yra išėję iš po vyčių plunksnos.

1915 metais seime, kuriame ir man teko dalyvauti (buvau 25 kp., Cleveland, O., atstovas ir seimo prezidiumo sekretorius), nutarta leisti organizacijos laikraštį - organą. Redaktoriais išrinkti studentai Al. M. Račkus, vėliau medicinos daktaras, ir K. Pakštas, išėjęs į žymius Lietuvos mokslo vyrus. Administratorium - L. Šimutis, vėliau Lietuvos Respublikos seimo atstovas, žinomas Amerikos lietuvių veikėjas ir "Draugo" redaktorius.



(Bus tęsiamas)

Honor the Valiant



With pride and reverence, we pause to remember all the brave men who gave their lives for this country throughout its history. For freedom. For human dignity. For everyone's hopes and dreams and rights. Above all, for peace in the world. We pray that the world will achieve that peace soon.

Memorial Day

THE VYTIS STAFF

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

The second week of February, we received a phone call from Alfredas Landsbergis, who, among other things, writes for Radio Liberty and for ELTA, the Free Lithuanian News Service in New York.

He informed us that a delegation of clergymen from the USSR was coming to the U.S.A. at the invitation of the National Council of Churches. Among them was to be a priest from Lithuania.

Through sources at the National Council of Churches, annotated list of the expected visitors and their itinerary was obtained. Bishop Brizgys, Auxiliary Bishop of Kaunas, now living in Chicago, issued a statement addressed to all concerned, warning them to be very critical of statements made by Msgr. Krivaitis, who obviously is not a free man, to say the least.

A few passages from the **CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA** were excerpted, adding Chronicle #8, which describes the Communist crack-down on believers over there in an attempt to stamp out the **CHRONICLE**, and the material sent to persons scheduled to meet the delegation. 15 questions to be asked of the visitors were included. The material was intended to better prepare the recipients to receive his visitors, and not be at a disadvantage in discussions.

With Al Gečys, of Philadelphia, who is an officer of Lietuvių Bendruomenė, we worked out plans to have delegations of clergy and laity visit anyone interested in further information on the oppression of religious believers in Lithuania, should the persons contacted wish such a visit.

We were actually received by Bishop Matthews, the Methodist Bishop whose office is in Washing-

ton, D.C., and received a phone call from Bishop Thomas Lyons, the Auxiliary of Washington, D.C., who is an old seminary friend. There were also letters from the chancery offices of Boston, and Columbus, Ohio, thanking us for the material, and promising to study it.

At the visitors' news conference in Washington, D.C., we were able to raise some of the hard questions we had suggested to the others:

"If there is freedom of conscience in the U.S.S.R., and in Lithuania, as you say, why are (we named five young Lithuanians) in prison?"

The question was referred to Msgr. Krivaitis, who, knowing me, chose to answer in Lithuanian, "For dissemination of anti-Soviet literature".

"Namely?" I persisted.

"**THE CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA**", he replied.

When an Orthodox priest claimed that the Council on Religious Affairs in the U.S.S.R. saw that neither believers nor atheists transgressed Soviet laws regarding religious activities, I inquired why we had so much documentary evidence of believers imprisoned for breaking the law, but none of atheists arrested for interfering with believers.

One of the Orthodox priests replied,

"We wouldn't want you to think that our system is perfect. The government in the U.S.S.R. is in the hands of atheists, and the laws are administered by atheists. It is no surprise that occasionally there are administrative errors".

Of course, anyone familiar with the very special kind of double-talk such visitors from the U.S.S.R. seem to use constantly, saw through what was being said.

I wanted to share the above with you, to provide some small insight into what my work is, partially, in Lithuanian American Catholic Services is like.

We've also finished editing a World Lithuanian Catholic Directory, ready now for the printers. We got a three-part article on the Church in Lithuania on the National Catholic News Service to 400 Catholic papers. Recently, we met with the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Coordinator for the Eucharistic Congress, and a group of Phillie Liths to plan for 1976.

The point of all this is, that **LITHUANIAN AMERICAN CATHOLIC SERVICES**, as an arms of the Lithuanian American Catholic Priests' League and Lithuanian American Catholic Federation, has its work cut out: not to duplicate the work of others, or to interfere with it, but to bring together various resources on any given problem.

Can we count on each other?



Fr. Casimir Pugevičius



VYČIŲ CENTRINIO ARCHYVO REIKALU

Ignas Sakalas

TAINE ARCHYVAS

Viename Vyčių namo (Chicagoj) kambarėlyje yra dvi Centro archyvo spintos, o priešingam šone didelė medinė spinta, netvarkingai prikrauta įvairių knygų. Pirmą kartą pažvelgęs į salę ir įėjęs į kambarėlį džiaugsmu nustembi: "Koks didelis Vyčių archyvas!" (man pačiam tai teko girdėti). Bet greit nusivili, kai sužinai, kad čia ne archyvas, bet sendraugių kuopos knygynėlis. Jo istorija yra tokia:

1955 metais šiuos žodžius rašančio iniciatyva sendraugiai Vyčių salėje suruošė didelę spaudos parodą 50 metų lietuvių spaudos atgavimo sukakčiai paminėti. Parodai daug įvairios spaudos pateikiau aš pats, buvęs "Vyčio" redaktorius, dr. A. M. Račkus ir Lietuvių Katalikų Federacijos Chicagos apskrities spaudos rinkėjas J. Encheris. Paroda truko tris dienas, pajvairinta paskaitomis, kurias skaitė dr. Račkus, gen. S. Dirmantas ir aš pats.

Po parodos dr. Račkus ir J. Encheris savo rinkinius išsigabeno, o aš savo knygas ir daugelio laikraščių komplektus sukroviau į dėžes ir padėjau ant lentynų, kur laikomi gėrimai ir kai kurie reikmenys. Tuo metu Chicagoje gausėjo naujų lietuvių skaičius. Manys, jiems išrašius organizacijon, bus reikalingas knygynas - skaitykla. Po parodos pirmam sendraugių susirinkime šis klausimas iškeltas ir nutarta jį realizuoti. Paraginti nariai trumpu laiku sunėšė daug knygų, dar ir prieškarinių laidų. Aš irgi nutariau atidaryti dėžes. Atrinkęs savo darbui reikalingas, kitas maniau paaukoti knygynui. Labai nustebau, kai, atidaręs dėžes, pamačiau netikėtą vaizdą: visos knygos, visi laikraščių komplektai, be mano žinios, suantspauduoti: "Knights of Lithuania Archives". Pasirodė, kad tai atliko neoficialus namo šeimininkas Jack Jatis (Juozaitis) ir jo talkininkas jaunasis Cibulskis. Po ilgu

ginčų pavyko man atgauti tikrai dalį retesnių leidinių, o visą kitą gausų rinkinį, ypačiai scenos veikalų, paaukojau knygynui.

Originalų Vyčių namą sudarė trys krautuvės, tad pirmiausia reikėjo išgriauti vieną sieną, kad patalpa tiktų salei, kuriai namas buvo pirktas. Veikliems sendraugiams paskendus įvairiuose salės darbuose, visai buvo pamirštas knygynas, knygų surūšiavimas ir sukatalogavimas. Taip ir nusitęsė.

Ilgainiui, salės šeimininkams keičiantis, knygos pradėjo retėti. Spintos nebuvo rakinamos, ir knygos prieinamos visiems, kas tik jomis domėjosi. O prieš porą metų kaž koku būdu, be sendraugių žinios, kai kurios knygos atsidūrė net privačiam Stanley Balzėkas muziejuje. Apie tai buvo net muziejaus biuleteny rašyta.

Šiuo metu veik niekas knygynu nesinaudoja. Todėl gyviesiems sendraugiams reiktų pagalvoti apie knygyno likvidavimą: knygas pervesti Pasaulio Lietuvių Archyvui (centras Chicagoj), o spinta labai tiktų Vyčių Centriniam Archyvui. Nereiktų naujos pirkti.

GERIAU VĒLIAU, NEGU NIEKAD

Vyčių Centrinis Archyvas turėjo būti įsteigtas organizacijai pradėjus šakotis ir veikti, tai yra prieš penkiasdešimt metų. Kodėl neįsteigtas? O todėl, kad organizacijai šakojantis po lietuvių kolonijas, atsirado daug kultūrinio darbo, kuriuose vyčiai energingai dalyvavo. Vėliau pasauliniai karai labai išretino narių gretas. Komunistams žiauriausia vergija pasmaugus Lietuvos laisvę ir nepriklausomybę, vyčiai irgi nepasitraukė iš kelio. Jie ryžosi - "tėvyne ginti kuo narsiau". Nors svarbiausią savo vaidmenį vyčiai patikėjo bendriems veiksniams - ALT-ai ir VLIK-ui, bet ir toliau nesustojo jiems talkinę. Tai liudija kad ir

Lietuvos Reikalų komisija, kurios veikimui negali prilygti jokia paskira organizacija.

Kultūrinė srity vyčių veikla, palyginta su praeitimi, reikia pripažinti, šiuo metu yra gerokai nusekusi. Neskaitant Vasario 16-tos, savo globėjo Šv. Kazimiero švenčių, suvažiavimų, visa kita, (pav. šokiai, įvairūs "socials" ir k.) praeina kaip meteorai: sužiba ir dingsta be jokio didesnio garso ir pėdsako. Todėl labai girtinas šiuo metu vyčių susidomėjimas - surinkti, kiek tai galima, į vieną vietą organizacijos praeities liudininkus. Tikrai nedelsti, nes laikas ir žmonės senienas naikina: kas praeity buvo svarbu, dabar laikoma balastu (worthless stuff). Kaip ir kokiomis priemonėmis eiti į šį darbą, gali būti daug nuomonių ir patarimų. Čia aš pateiksiu tikrai savo nuomones:

1. Šių metų seimas nutaria, kad Centrinio Archyvo vieta - Vyčių namas, Chicagoj. Paskiria lėšų reikalingsoms knygoms. Rekomenduoja kandidatą į globėjus.

2. Išrenka Centrinę Archyvo komisiją ir įpareigoja ją kiekvienoj apskrity (district) surasti asmenį (arba sudaryti komisiją) kur jis aplankytų visas apskrities vietas (parapijas), kuriose veikė vyčių kuopos (tų kuopų sąrašus turi Centro finansų sekretorius) ir surinktų jų rekordus. Daugelyje vietų dar galima rasti buvusių tų kuopų narių, kurie, be abejo, padės įgalotiniui arba komisijai. Tikėkime, kad padės ir tų vietų parapijų kunigai-klebonai.

3. Laiškais ir per spaudą Centrinė komisija kreipiasi į visus vyčių garbės narius ir senuosius veikėjus

prašydama paaukoti archyvui turinčios reikšmės medžiagą. Tikiuos, kad į archyvą pateks vienas kitas pirmųjų ženklelių, sidabro medalių, lazdelių, kurių A. Norkūnas yra daug pridaręs iš vienos medžio šakos ar šaknies, laiškų, nuotraukų, ir t.t.

4. Centrinė Archyvo komisija įpareigoja visas vyčių kuopas ir apskritis perduoti archyvui savo dokumentus: išbaigtas protokolų knygas, finansų knygas, svarbesnius laiškus ir t.t.

5. Pati Centro valdyba archyvan sugabena visų seimų protokolų knygas, išbaigtas finansų knygas, aplikacijas, fotografijas, programas, ženklelius, "Vyčio" komplektus, Lietuvos Reikalų komisijos biuletenius.

Tikiuosi, kad atsidėję dirbdami per metus kitus Vyčių Centriniam Archyve sukaupsime visą istorinę organizacijos medžiagą, kuri šandie yra išsimėčiusi ir laiko naikinama.

P.S. Baigęs šį straipsnelį, gavau iš Centro protokolų sekr. Gražinos Vaškelis 1974 m. spalio 26 d. Centro Valdybos posėdžio protokolo nuorašą, kuriame rašoma apie 3-jo vicepirmininko Longino Švelnio pranešimą apie Centro Archyvą ir užsiminta apie lėšas tam archyvui mikrofilmuoti. Gaila, kad L. Švelnis neišvardino archyvinių dalykų, kuriuos reiktų jau mikrofilmuoti. Mano manymu, vyčiams pirmiausia reikia, skruzdėlių pavyzdžiu, sunėsti vienon vieton visus praeities ir dabarties organizacijos veiklos liudininkus - dokumentus, o tik tada kalbėti apie jų mikrofilmavimą.



INTENSIVE LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE COURSE AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

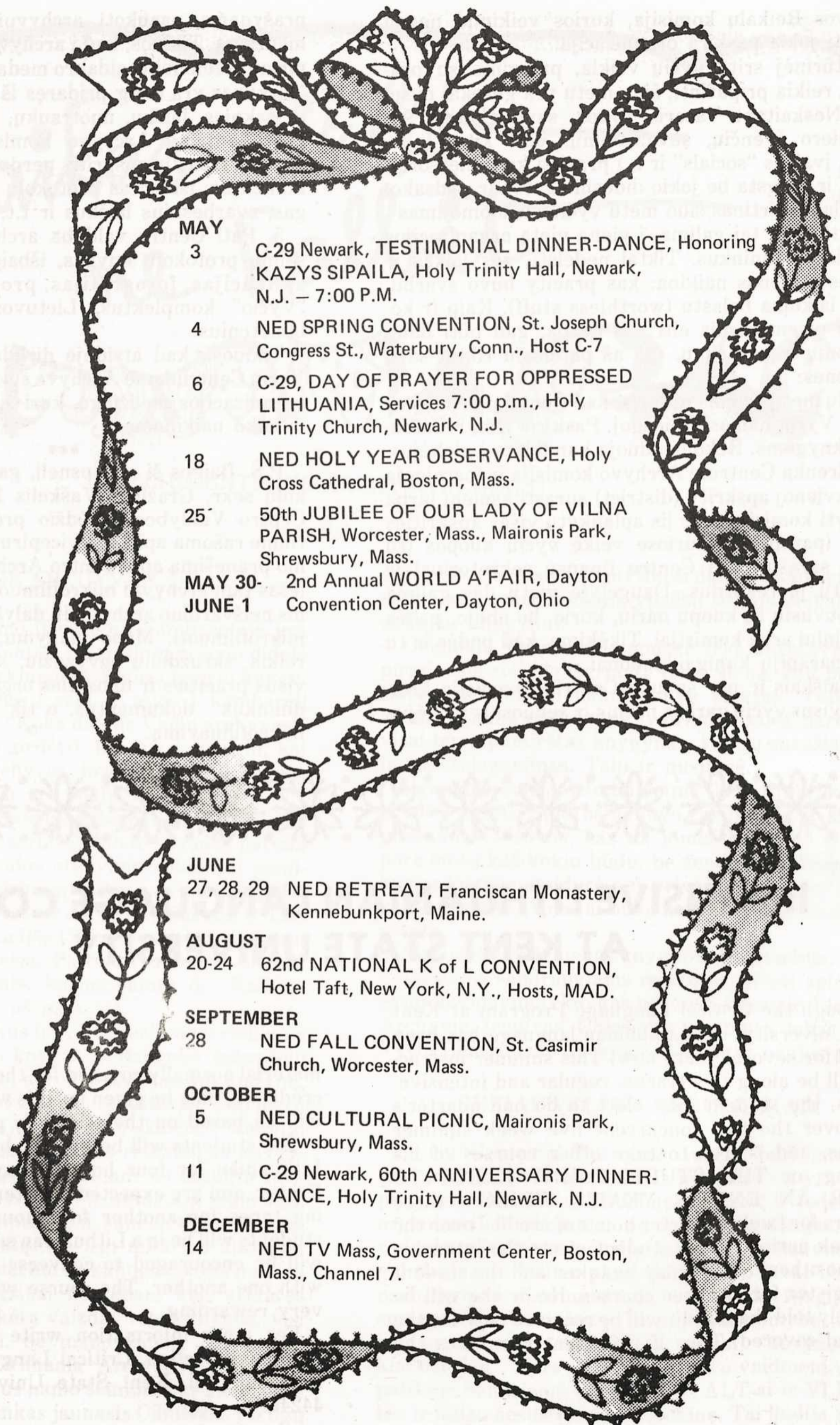
Through the Critical Language Program at Kent State University, the Lithuanian language has been offered for several years now. This summer instruction will be along two tracks; regular and intensive. That is, the student may elect to do one quarter's work over the two concurrent five week summer sessions, and is free to take other courses of his choosing; or THE STUDENT MAY ELECT TO COVER AN ENTIRE YEAR'S WORK - three quarters for twelve quarter hours of credit - over the ten week period. If the student elects the intensive tract, no other courses may be taken and the student will register for all three courses. He or she will be explicitly told that credit will be received only for the material covered. Thus if a student completes the

material normally covered for the first two quarters, credit will only be given for this work, and the grades will be based on the student's proficiency.

The students will be tutored by a native speaking Lithuanian for four hours a day, Monday through Friday, and are expected to listen to the accompanying tapes for another four hours. The Lithuanian students will be in a Lithuanian section of a dorm and will be encouraged to converse only in Lithuanian with one another. The course will be intensive but very rewarding.

For more information write to the Lithuanian Language Section, Critical Language Program, 119 Bowman Hall, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44242.

K of L Calendar



MAY

- 3 C-29 Newark, TESTIMONIAL DINNER-DANCE, Honoring KAZYS SIPAILA, Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, N.J. - 7:00 P.M.
- 4 NED SPRING CONVENTION, St. Joseph Church, Congress St., Waterbury, Conn., Host C-7
- 6 C-29, DAY OF PRAYER FOR OPPRESSED LITHUANIA, Services 7:00 p.m., Holy Trinity Church, Newark, N.J.
- 18 NED HOLY YEAR OBSERVANCE, Holy Cross Cathedral, Boston, Mass.
- 25 50th JUBILEE OF OUR LADY OF VILNA PARISH, Worcester, Mass., Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.
- MAY 30- 2nd Annual WORLD A'FAIR, Dayton
JUNE 1 Convention Center, Dayton, Ohio

JUNE

- 27, 28, 29 NED RETREAT, Franciscan Monastery, Kennebunkport, Maine.

AUGUST

- 20-24 62nd NATIONAL K of L CONVENTION, Hotel Taft, New York, N.Y., Hosts, MAD.

SEPTEMBER

- 28 NED FALL CONVENTION, St. Casimir Church, Worcester, Mass.

OCTOBER

- 5 NED CULTURAL PICNIC, Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.
- 11 C-29 Newark, 60th ANNIVERSARY DINNER-DANCE, Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, N.J.

DECEMBER

- 14 NED TV Mass, Government Center, Boston, Mass., Channel 7.

CONVENTION NEWS...

TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH, A STUDY IN LITHUANIAN ART

Transfiguration Church, site of the 62nd National Convention's Closing Mass, is a beautiful example of modern Lithuanian art and the creativity of Lithuanian American artists. The current edifice, completed in 1962, was designed by architect J. Mulokas of Chicago and built by J. Stukas. Mr. Mulokas received several citations from architect's societies for this work. The beautiful altar and the exquisite stained glass windows, as well as the rest of the church's interior, were done by artist Vytautas Jonynas. Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Jonynas is noted for his design of the Vatican Pavilion at the 1964-65 New York World's Fair.

Located in the quiet residential Maspeth section of Queens, New York, Transfiguration parish was "born" in 1908, when the existing Lithuanian parish, Queen of Angels in Brooklyn, found it difficult to service the ever-increasing influx of Lithuanian immigrants into the Brooklyn and Queens sections of New York. Rev. N. Petkus was the first pastor.

Over the years, the parish survived the usual "growing pains" and prospered, thanks to the zeal and generosity of its early parishioners, whose hearts were often larger than their pocketbooks! Transfiguration suffered two devastating fires - in 1919 and 1925. The second of these razed the church to the ground and forced the parish to select a new location for its church. The building of a former nearby church was purchased and served as a temporary structure until 1933, when a new church was built on the present site. In 1962, the present church was completed and the old church became the parish hall, the site of the Convention's Friday night Cultural Evening (Linksmavakaris).

Much of the parish's history revolves around the energetic Msgr. Jonas Balkunas, who served as pastor from 1933 to his retirement in 1972. Under his leadership, the parish reached new heights of activity. New societies and various charities were formed and aided, and the parish became well-known in outside circles. Rev. Frank Bulovas, who was appointed parish administrator in 1972 and became pastor in 1973, continues to lead the parish with energy and foresight. In between his many other duties, Father Bulovas also finds time to serve as Spiritual Advisor to the Knights of Lithuania, Mid-Atlantic District. Transfiguration also serves as home base for K of L Councils 110 and 110 Juniors.

With several beautiful and active Lithuanian churches in the New York area, the selection of a site



for the National Convention Closing Mass was not an easy one for the Convention Committee. It is hoped that the delegates find the choice of Transfiguration Church culturally and spiritually rewarding, and that, while in the area, they also visit the other local Lithuanian churches in the area... Annunciation, Queen of Angels and St. George's in Brooklyn, and Our Lady of Vilnius in Manhattan.

SOUVENIR JOURNAL LAST CHANCE - TO ADD

your greetings to the K of L 62nd National Convention Program Book. The prices are as follows:

Full Page	- \$35.00
Half Page	- 20.00
Quarter Page	- 15.00
Patrons	- 5.00
Well-Wishers	- 2.00

Copy and your check should be sent to:

Mrs. Loretta I. Stukas,
Program Book Chairman
1467 Force Drive
Mountainside, N.J. 07092

Your patronage will be greatly appreciated...

DEADLINE - JUNE 1, 1975

NE LEPŠIŲ MUMS REIKIA, O KOVOTOJŲ

ISPŪDŽIAI IŠ VYČIŲ "LIETUVOS PRISIMINIMŲ" BANKETO, CHICAGOJE

Kai šaltis spaudė net iki nulio, Lietuvos Vyčiai ir jų rėmėjai, bičiuliai rinkosi į Martinique viešbutį. Salė gražiai išpuošta gėlėmis, kurias suaukojo gėlininkai. Prie durų garbingus svečius pasitiko mūsų vytės - organizatorės: prisėgė gyvų gėlių puokštes ir trispalves vėliavukes; nurodė stalų numerius. Greit prisipildė graži salė. Buvo apie 300 įvairių asmenų: valdžios atstovai, kunigai, daktarai, organizacijų atstovai, vyčiai ir jų rėmėjai. Džiugu, kad jau 15 metų, kaip Illinois-Ind. apskrities vyčiai tokius patriotinius banketus rengia su dideliu pasisekimu. Įžengus garbingiems stalo svečiams, Al. Brazis sugiedojo Amerikos ir Lietuvos himnus. Jam pritarė visa salė. LV pirm. L. Paukšta pasveikino publiką ir pakvietė Gimimo par. kleb. kun. A. Zakarauską, LV dvasios vadą, sukalbėti maldą. Jis prašė Aukščiausią pagalbos, kad ko greičiau nušviestų mūsų proselių kraštą - Lietuvą laisvės spinduliai ir sustiprintų kovojančius. Po maldos - vakarienė. Ji puošni ir soti. Jai pasibaigus, Paukšta pristatė programos vedėją teisėją p. Wells, o jis pristatė garbingus svečius. Sol. Pr. Bičkienė išpildė kelias tautines dainas ir ariją. Akomp. G. Nawranski. Prieš apdovanojant šių metų žymiausią asmenį, dr. plk. G. Wiltrakį, perskaitytas gen. kons. J. Daužvardienės sveikinimas, nes ji pati negalėjo atvykti. J. Evars suteikė žinių apie dr. Wiltrakį, iš kurių paaiškėjo, kad jis yra žymus karo veteranas ir daktaras, Loyolos u-to dėstytojas, kelių ligoninių valdytojas ir priklauso daugeliui organizacijų. Jis savo žodyje priminė, kad niekad nesibijojęs pasisakyti esąs lietuvis ir Lietuvos vardą visur gynęs. Kiti manė jį esant graiką. Jis dėkojo LV už pagarbimą ir atžymėjimą. Po to vysk. V. Brizgys Vasario 16 d. proga tarė

žodį. Jis pažymėjo, kad reikia pasaulyje sudaryti viešą opinią dėl kurios Sovietų Sąjunga dreba. Buvusios kolonijos gavo laisvę. Pasaulio opinią išgelbėjo Selžėnyciną ir mūsų laisvės simbolį S. Kudirką. Jei būtų tylėta, niekad to nebūtų pasiekta. Mes žinome, kad komunistai pina mums pinkles. Toks žiaurus Lietuvos išdavikas Rugienius, kurio rankose buvo Lietuvos Bažnyčios valdymas ir jos niekinimas, lietuvių katalikų žudymas, tyliai šiom dienom lankėsi Chicagoje, o vasario mėn. vidury atvyks grupė iš Sovietijos, kurie aiškina kokia didelė tikėjimo laisvė yra jų sistemoje. Tų misijonierių tarpe yra ir vienas lietuvis. Mūsų Kronika įrodė pasauliui ką kitą. Lietuvos žmonės nelaukia okupanto pasigailėjimo, jie reikalauja teisių. Štai gautas laiškas, kruvinom rankom rašytas: "Iš laisvo pasaulio atvyksta ir išvyksta mus aplankę. Jie mums pasirodo lepšiai: nedrįsta laisvai kalbėti, reikšti savo mintis taip, kaip namie. NE LEPŠIŲ MUMS REIKIA, O KOVOTOJŲ, kurie nesibijotų padraskyti akių okupantui už vergovę ir tero-

ra. Kovokite, šaukite visur. Bendromis jėgomis kaip nors nulaušime ragus! Publika su entuziazmu pritarė. Nereikia bijoti nei čia, nei ten kalbėti, nes tiesa nugalės melą ir klastą... Toliau kalbėjo Al Brazis ir Evans. Dar buvo pristatytas Ben Jaksas, 15 wardo kandidatas į aldermanus ir perskaityti sen. F. Savicko, dr. Bobelio (kurio motinėlė gavo širdies priepuolį ir negalėjo dalyvauti), Petkevičių banko ir kt. sveikinimai. Rengimo komisijos vardu p. Evans padėjo spaudai ir radijo valandėlių vedėjams, kurie taip gausiai atsilankė.

Paskutiniai maldos žodžiai, kurie sklido iš kan. Zakarausko lūpų, vėl visus nukėlė į Lietuvos kraštą, priminė mirusius ir kenčiančius. Prašyta Dievulio, kad mus ir ten visus laimintų nelygioje kovoje su baisiu priešu, kuris naikina kas pasaulyje yra dora, šventa ir garbinga. Po to Tenclingerio orkestrui grojant, gražiai pasilinksmina. Daugiausia dirbo vyčiai: Irene Sankus, J. Evans, E. Laurin, Kasparaitė ir kt. Žodžiu, buvo tvarkinga, puošu ir gražu.

Bal. Brazdžionis



112-tos Kuopos nariai - K. Jaksas, 15-to Ward - Chicago Aldermanas, B. Brazdžionis, C.V. Pirm. L. Pauksta.

Vyčiai Veikia



Council Activities

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

MID-CENTRAL

DISTRICT



CLEVELAND, OHIO

VYČIAI IŠKILIAI PAGERBĖ SAVO GLOBĖJĄ ŠV. KAZIMIERĄ

Clevelando vyčiai senjorai ir L. Vyčių 25-ta kp., paminėjo šv. Kazimiero šventę. Kovo 9 d. 10 val. ryto švč. Mergelės N. Pagalbos parap. salėje susirinko gausus būrys vyčių. Jie pasipuošė L. Vyčių garbės ženklais ir su trimis vėliavomis - Amerikos, Lietuvos ir Vyčių - žygiavo į pamaldas. Vėliavas nešė: A. Mačiokas, V. Augustas ir A. Bujokas, o juos lydėjo - Stasė Sankalaitė ir Uršulė Gaižutienė, tautiniais kostiumais pasipuošusios. Paskui juos sekė visi šios šventės dalyviai. Šv. Mišias atnašavo vyčių senjorų dvasios vadas ir šios parap. klebonas kun. Gediminas Kijauskas. Jis pasakė ir gražų pamokslą, pabrėždamas, kad Vyčiai dalyvauja šiose pamaldose ir pagerbia savo globėją šv. Kazimierą jojo šventės proga. Kleb. G. Kijauskas prieš pamokslą įteikė visiems uoliam senjoram vyčiam L. Vyčių trečiojo laipsnio garbės ženklus. Garbės nariai buvo: Edvardas Pranckus ir Kazimiera Petkūnienė, kurių vienas yra vyčių senjorų išdininkas, o antroji veikiančiosios komisijos pirm. Vyčiai ne tik gausiai dalyvavo šv. Mišiose,

bet visi priėmė šv. Komuniją. Tai bažnyčioje darė gražų ir maldingą vaizdą.

Po pamaldų Lietuvių namų valgykloje visi vyčiai turėjo bendrus ir skoningus pietus, kuriuos parūpino ir programėlę paruošė senjorų vyčių pirm. Marija Trainauskaitė. Ji trumpu žodžiu pasidžiaugė, kad taip gražiai Vyčiai paminėjo savo globėjo šv. Kazimiero šventę ir pristatė naujuosius trečiojo laipsnio narius - Edvardą Pranckų ir Kaz. Petkūnienę. Jie padėkoję džiaugėsi tokiu iškilium pagerbimu. Toliau programėlės vedėja pristatė L. Vyčių garbės narį Juozą Sadauską tarti žodį. Paskutinis kalbėjo L. Vyčių 25-tos kp. pirm. Viktoras Augustas.

Senelis

C-79 - DETROIT, MICH.

Installation of our new pastor, Father Victor Krisciunevicius, was conducted in the presence of Bishop Walter J. Schoenherr, of the Archdiocese of Detroit, Jan. 19. In attendance were the local Vicar, Rev. Fr. O'Hagan, and the three Lithuanian priests: Fr. Alphonse Babonas, former administrator of Divine Providence; Fr. Michael Kundrat, former pastor now at All Saints Church in Memphis, Mich., and Fr. J. Walter Stanievich, former pastor of St. Anthony's now at St. Marks, in Warren, Mich.; also Fr. Jos. Hrabovsky, a friend of Fr. Kris at his former post, St. Peter's Parish in Detroit. It was a packed church with a reception following in the Cultural Center. Father Kris expressed his utmost desire for cooperation, "I will do to the best of my ability to serve you, the people

of this parish". Sveikiname naują kleboną ir linkime geriausios sėkmės bei sveikatos Dievo Apvaizdos parapijos darbuose. Father Kris was a former Nat'l. K of L Spiritual Advisor, and his interest in the Knights' activities continues to flourish. Valio, Father!

In spite of snow (what else?) on Feb. 5, twenty members braved the wintry weather to gather for a council meeting. The after-business-meeting socials delight satisfied the taste buds with the goodies prepared by Helen Mykolaitis and Helen Tucker. Ačiū Labai.

Those winter months bring the winter chills and the flu ills. Pete and "Bingo" Stanulis were down with the flu bug. Vicki Chepelonis underwent surgery, and is now at home "taking it easy". Bertha Janus recuperated following surgery, at her daughter Nancy's and son-in-law, Cliff Anglewicz' beautiful new home at Sanford Lake. Stella Hotra had an unfortunate accident. She slipped on the ice leaving the church, fracturing her knee bone and requiring a cast. But Stella wasn't confined to a wheel chair; she hobbled on crutches to make sure the Sunday Coffee "Klatch" was running smoothly. From the Sunday Coffee Fund, many improvements have been made in the kitchen and the cafeteria. Labai Ačiū to Stella and her girls.

On Jan. 9, the Frank Zagers were saddened by the loss of their dear little, 8-month old granddaughter, Karee Ann, following a lingering illness. Her parents are Mark and Sandra Zager. Helen Tucker's daughter, Colleen was hospitalized for an undisclosed

illness. We wish her a speedy recovery. On a happier note, Frank and Betty Petroski are looking forward to being grandparents for the first time. Son, Robert, and his wife are expecting their "bundle of joy" in May. There is also a stork hovering over the roof top of Carol and Gerry Zager's home, expected in mid-July. Mike Vale enjoyed a nice trip to California for a visit with his daughter, Antoinette "Toni" Pebbles. Florida bound were M/M Ralph Valatka and Dr. Bruno and Ann Zilwitis. Bill Walls vacationed in Arizona, but upon returning home, had to be hospitalized. Marie Kase had serious surgery. A speedy recovery to all, soon.

St. Casimir's Feast Day, which has become, alternately, an annual event among the three Detroit councils, was held on Mar. 2, hosted by C-79. Staged at our Cultural Center, the event attracted an estimated 240 members and friends. A tasty Brunch followed the church services, with a brief but "to-the-point" program at which Father J. Walter Stanievich gave an interesting prakalba, dwelling on "How we can better our lives as Christians"; and Kazys Gogelis gave a wonderful summary on the Vyčių organization and its various accomplishments. Our pastor, Fr. Kris delivered an inspiring sermon on St. Casimir. Labai ačiū to all keynote speakers. Serving on the committee were Chairlady Sophie Zager, Marge & Chester Nashlon, Helen Tucker, Ruth Grasha and Frank Zager. Other helpers were: A. Dainus, M. Newberry, John and Julie Belickas. A big Ačiū to the two Lithuanian Radio Stations for their publicity: Lithuanian Melodies - Ralph Valatka program director; and K. Gogelis of Lithuanian Voice. Betty Petroski was our biggest ticket seller. Unfortunately, they were unable to attend, as Frank was stricken with an acute illness and rushed to the hospital. We hope he will get well soon (and take your eyes off those pretty nurses).

We want to mention that our new Social Chairman, Joe Yakstys and his lovely wife, Jean, are doing a terrific job lining up various activities for our council.

Brian Morrison, son of Helen Tucker's niece, was honored Poster Boy of Tri-County Muscular Dystrophy, and made news on T.V.

Congratulations to the following who received their 3rd Degrees at the St. Casimir's function: Pat Medonis, Gerry Zager, Helen Tucker and Ed Sackle. Highlighting the event were Vida Gogelis and Eleanore Grasha in their Lithuanian dresses, as they assisted Ritual Chairlady Bertha Janus during presentation of the degrees. There are other members working hard to reach various Degree levels. We wish them lots of luck.

Soffi



C-96 - DAYTON, OHIO

On Feb. 13, through the efforts of Mary Ann Blum and Frank Ambrose, our religious co-chairmen, an "Evening of Recollection" was held at Holy Cross Church. The evening began with 7:30 P.M. Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Thomas Fortkamp, CPPS, Chaplain of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Dayton who delivered a most inspiring homily. We later adjoined to the church hall for a coffee break with members donating a variety of goodies. The remainder of the

evening was spent with informal discussions with Fr. Fortkamp and Fr. Walter Katariskis. It was a very enlightening and relaxing evening. Much thanks to the committee.

Feb. 16 was the day set aside to celebrate the 57th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Lithuania's Independence. The program began with 2 P.M. Mass at Holy Cross Church. Formal ceremonies took place at the Lithuanian Hall. Frank Ambrose handled the introduction with Fr. Walter Katariskis giving the invocation. Šarūnas Lazdinis was the MC. Guest speaker was Alfred Strozdas, City Manager of Springfield, O. Elinor Sluzas gave the presentations for the second part of the program. Our Jr Knights began their segment with poetry readings in Lithuanian. We were certainly proud of them. Thanks to the Jr Advisors, Sue Mantz and Maria Lazdinis, who prepared them. Our Vėjeliai Dancers went all out and proved to us how hard they have been working. They received a standing ovation for their efforts and were requested to repeat the GYVATARAS. They looked great! For the first time, the boys did the MIKITA in public. Because they were worn out, etc., a few 'goofs' were made, but Elinor Sluzas, who is so gifted with words, commented, "Where else can one goof and still be applauded, but amongst the people who love you".

It was good to see Fran Vangas back dueting on the accordion with Judy Petrokas. When they play together they add so much volume to the music and really inspire the dancers. Fran has recovered from her third ear surgery. We thank them and the director, Karolyn Ambrose, for the time and dedication they give in keeping the dancers on the move. Oh, thanks to Rita Ambrose for her background chore... push, push!

Mary Lucas rounded up parishioners on Feb. 11 to prepare a light snack for the program, Lithuanian style cabbage rolls and kugelis. It

was good to see our co-Knights from Cincinnati up for the day.

On Mar. 1 the Jrs had an ice/roller skating party in Miamisburg, O. They were entertained later at the home of Walter and Mary Lou Lastoski. Ed Sluzas helped with the driving.

Mar. 2 was the day set aside to honor our patron, St. Casimir. The Jrs and Knights attended the 8 A.M. Mass in a body. For the first time, Jr Knights Jimmy Richey, Walter and Michael Lastoski were altar boys and did a fine job. Readings and Mass Offerings were delivered by our Jrs. Under the guidance of their advisor, Sue Mantz, they set up a 'Continental Breakfast' in the church hall. This was followed with their St. Casimir drawings which were put on display. Annamarie Sluzas and Veda Gečas did readings on the life of St. Casimir. It was a very commemo- rable program. We certainly thank the Jrs and their Advisor.

Rounding out the breakfast, the Ritual Chrm. Fran Petkus, set the stage for formal presentation of the First and Second Degrees to those eligible. Michael F. Petkus took his oath for the First Degree. Julius Rastikis, Sr., Julius Rastikis, Jr., Laima Rastikis and Raymond Gečas took their Second Degree. Presentation of the degree cards were distributed by our two Honorary Members, Mary Lucas and Stan Vaitkus (who is also MCD Ritual Chrm.). All told, 26 members received their official cards. Congratulations, one and all!

Our Parish's Lithuanian Anglers held a Bingo in the church hall on Feb. 23. The Seminary Scholarship Fund Committee held a Bingo on Mar. 2 at the Lithuanian Club. It was good to see so many of the Knights taking part, supporting these groups. Many of our Knights belong to these organizations.

We are most thankful Fr. Walter Katarskis was not seriously hurt after being involved in an automobile accident. We send prayers to Frank Petroski, our dear friend in Detroit, Mich. for a very speedy recovery!

Congratulations to 13-year-old Greg Blum for rolling a triplicate in the council bowling league - 112!



C-96 - Joseph C. Noreikas, deceased, at 1970 National Convention.

Our very deepest sympathy is extended to the Joseph C. Noreikas family. Joe had been a council member since the early 30's with a break in the forties when his children were babies. Joe always participated in all possible activities of the council. He was council president from 1968-1972, and worked with every committee during his tenure. He was Sgt-at-Arms during the 1970 Nat'l. Conv. in Chicago, Ill. If the University of Dayton had a game on the air during any of our activities, you were certain to see Joe with his radio. Joe and his wife Bernadette (Bea) were married for 35 years, and were both ardent council members. Bea, we know, will continue to carry on, as will their son Dennis, who is also an active member. At various times, Joe's other children, Joe, Jr., Carol Dichito and Richard participated in Junior or council membership. Joe will be missed. He, like so many Knights who have passed on, was a most dedicated Knight. From one of the Mass songs sung by Elinor Sluzas, "God's Gift is Love", we know Joe is in God's tender loving care.

fbp

C-102 - DETROIT, MICH.

The St. Casimir's Day Commemoration hosted by C-79 was an especially nice affair with Sophie Zager emceeing. Among the honored guests were keynote speakers Fr. Stañ and Kazys Gogelis. Also gracing the main table were our own two "lovely ladies", Pres. Margy Bunikis and Honorary Member, Ann Uznis.

It is very evident by the radiance of Vincent Ruseckas face, he can hardly wait 'til he retires next year to join his wife Charlotte permanently in Sun City, Ariz., where she preceded Vince last summer. Arizona must agree with you, Charlotte, - you look great in the picture we saw of you. Though both have been a real asset to our council and will be missed, we wish them "Ilgiausių, Laimingų Metų" in their new surroundings.

Congratulations to our Priest-Friend, Fr. Kristy, on his new appointment as Pastor of Divine Providence Church. Our prayers and good wishes are with you in your new responsibilities.

Our prayers are also with an all-around "Good Joe", Frank Petroski, who suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized at St. Mary's, Livonia. We wish Frank a speedy and complete recovery.

We checked every nook and cranny for those old and not-too-old but good useables for our council's Rummage Sale which was held in the church hall of St. Anthony's the week-end of Apr. 19-20. Members started their spring cleaning early!

Congratulations to Angela, the mother of Grace & Vitalia Vaske- lis, and Peter Buksnis who were recently married and vacationed in Florida, - along with newlyweds Prof. and Mrs. Alexis. Many healthy, happy years of togetherness.

Speaking of honeymooners, Ray and Terry Medonis are busy packing their bags for their "Second Honeymoon" and will be winging their way for a week's stay on

Paradise Island, Nassau. They're celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary early, but feel it's such an important occasion, they're going to celebrate all year long. Have fun, you two!

Bob Boris - where are you? Somewhere in Florida, we hear...

What are you up to now that you've retired, Jo Jonulate? Hope to see you at our next meeting.

B-Z-B



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-26 - WORCESTER, MASS.

Haunting, unanswered questions were on the minds of many of our active members recently as they sought to explain absences of members at various functions. We so often hear "nothing is going on" or "nobody wants to do anything". If only our sleeping - oops, I mean silent-majority would awaken just a bit and see that we are, in fact, quite an active council. Here's what's been going on:

Once again, Bill Karas donned his big, white, starched, chef's hat and prepared the delicious potato pancakes for our pre-Lenten supper last February. The pancakes were served by Alex Kardokas, Adele and Francis Degutis, Helen Gillus and eaten by Joe Sakaitis, Claire Grigaitis, Peter Ivaska, Olga Kersis and her mother, Anne and Steve Walinsky, Ann and Bill Buckley, Helen Gillus, Arthur and Marion Racicot, Nancy Gorden, Steve and Ellie Walinsky and children, Bill and Carol Grigas and children, Pauline Flaherty, our spiritual director, Father Anthony Miciunas, and others. Cakes were

baked by members of the committee and Ann Morkunas, as well.

Bowling continues to be competitive with Helen Gillus' team in first place, and Judy Ginkus' team in second place. By the time this article is printed, the bowling season will have ended, bowling banquet will have taken place, and awards given. Results in the next issue.

A bus trip to New York City was being considered for the month of April, with Claire Grigaitis making preliminary arrangements.

Prayerful sympathy to Frances Grigas and her family. Fran's dad passed away in February. Mr. Grigas raised wonderful vegetables and fruits and shared them with so many. A fine, generous man was he, heading also a fine family. God rest his soul.

Bill Karas' wife, Margaret, spent a few weeks at St. Vincent Hospital. His son-in-law, Charlie Lapinskas (Millie's husband) also had a stay at the same hospital. Ann Bender, too, had professional medical care at St. Vincent's. Mrs. Neil Thompson changed the trend and went over to Worcester City Hospital. It seems that all our patients are much, much better now. Good health to all is our fervent wish! Jack and Peg Kazlauskas' little son spent a short time in the hospital, as did Marilyn Buckley, daughter of Bill and Ann Buckley. They, too, are fine now, thank God.

A happy reunion was enjoyed recently by Adele Degutis (and her nephew, Peter Ivaska) and Adele's brothers when their brother, Frank, arrived from California for a two-week vacation. Old friends were delighted to see him looking so well and, frankly, we were extra-happy to notice a happy Ivaska family! Hope Frank will return to Worcester for another visit before too long!

Father Miciunas has been our pastor for over three years and had his first vacation (a visit with his sister in California) in February! Building a rectory, repairing our parish school and convent, etc.,

has kept Father very busy. We were happy to have him finally given an opportunity for a breather!

Feb. 16 found us commemorating Lithuania's Independence Day. In one way or another, the following participated earnestly and diligently for what resulted in a highly memorable day: Father Miciunas, Ann and Steve Walinsky, Olga Kersis, Edwina Ginkus, Walter Grimala, Adele and Fran Degutis, Ray Jakubauskas and his wife, Terry, Algis (Frannie) Glodas, Alex Pridotkas and his wife, Ann, and Terry and Kazys Adomavicius. From Mass in the morning at St. Casimir's, to the civic commemoration in the afternoon at the Lithuanian Naturalization Club, to the dinner in the evening at Maironis Park, it was one fine day.

OH, WOW!! This can best describe the First Annual N.E.D. Commemoration of St. Casimir' Day. So many people were involved. It was a treat to have Auxiliary Bishop of Worcester, Timothy J. Harrington, as main celebrant at the concelebrated Mass on Mar. 2 at St. Casimir's Church. Concelebrating were our assistant pastor, Father Joseph Budzeika, M.I.C., Father Alphonse Volungis, pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church (and spiritual advisor of C-116), Father Jurgelaitis of Providence College (who was main speaker at the dinner), Father Janiunas of Lawrence (who delivered the homily at Mass), Father John Bakanas of Worcester). As if this wasn't enough, Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan of the Worcester Diocese joined us for the dinner at Maironis Park following Mass. It was a super - perfect day!

Mother's Day takes place during the month of Our Lady. Let's remember our mothers, both living and deceased, in a special manner. Iki sekančio numerio, linkime visiems viso geriausio!

"Dzūkelė"

C-103 - PROVIDENCE, R.I.

C-103 has recommended the following candidates for the 4th Degree: Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, O.P., Bertha Stoskus, Beatrice Mathieu and Ruta Krecioch. The four represent 117 years of dedicated service to the K of L.

Alex Vaitkunas has been transferred back to the Veterans Hospital in Providence.

Governor Philip Noel proclaimed Feb. 16 "Republic of Lithuania Day" in the State of Rhode Island. Providence Mayor Vincent Cianci delivered his proclamation in person, and also spoke at the Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration. Both proclamations were obtained by our council.

Paul Stoskus became a civilian on Jan. 24, in Oakland, Calif. He spent a week sight-seeing in San Francisco. The Canadian National transported him from Vancouver to Montreal.

Twelve of our members, - Fr. Jurgelaitis, John & Irene Walaska, Helen Seraichekas, Victor & Beatrice Mathieu, Bette Ciuryla, Grace Vaitkunas, Ruth & Lillian Savage, and John & Bertha Stoskus attended the first N.E.D. - sponsored St. Casimir's Day commemoration in Worcester. Fr. Jurgelaitis was the homilist at the concelebrated Mass.



C-103, Mayor Vincent Cianci of Providence arriving at February 16th Program.

Father Martinkus' sister, Mrs. Odinas, underwent successful surgery in Chicago. Regina Krecioch will celebrate her 18th birthday in May, and graduates from Cranston East H.S. in June. Dr. John and Bertha Cunningham enjoyed a vacation visiting the Orient during one of the school holidays. Irene Walaska is our new council Secy. Irene Landanski is extremely busy caring for her ailing father and mother after recent eye surgery. Father Ed Budrecki, MIC, is a religion instructor at Marianapolis prep school in Thompson, Conn.

Jonas

C-116 - SO. WORCESTER, MASS.

Last month when we reported on the Feb. 16 Commemoration activities we failed to mention that Mrs. Antonia Wackell acted as a most gracious Mistress of Ceremonies. She presided at the function held at the LNC hall. We reported the affair before it occurred. We deeply regret the omission and extend our apologies. Antonia is a very many faceted and talented person. She is no stranger to the readers of VYTIS, where many of her delightful and original poetry, articles and translations have appeared. Her activities and interests are numerous and varied, and we are proud she is a member of our council.

Many activities are planned for the near future. They are all worthwhile and fully deserve to be supported by our members. We highly recommend the NED Retreat Week-end to be held in June at the Franciscan Monastery, Kennebunkport, Me. This has always been enjoyable. Two of our executive officers, Dot Sinkavitch and Tony Miner are co-chairpersons. Also very highly recommended, is the dinner to be held on May 25 at Maironis Park, to celebrate the 50th Jubilee of Our Lady of Vilna Parish. None of our members should miss this affair.

We extend a very warm welcome to our newest member, Mr. Peter Molis. He is a member of several other Lithuanian organizations and is widely known and admired for his zealous efforts, expended in many capacities, on behalf of the Lithuanian Community. Peter is head Scoutmaster of the Lithuanian Boy Scouts of the World. We are indeed proud and fortunate to have him as a member.

Turime didelę garbę ir malonumą priimti į mūsų organizaciją Poną Petrą Moli, kuris yra gerai žinomas ir atsižymėjęs savo darbu Lietuvių Draugijoje ir yra pasaulio Lietuvių Skautų Vyriausias Vadas.

The Adamaitis Family accepted the invitation that was extended



C-103, Members viewing Gov. P. Noel and Mayor Cianci's Proclamations re February 16, 1975.

by the Lithuanian Community of Cambridge to the Lithuanian Festival - A Bicentennial Prelude - held on Feb. 23 at the Cambridge Main Library. Leo Shakalis, of the Cambridge Council, was on the committee and escorted the Adamaitis' thru the receiving line. Irene Adamaitis, Sr. reports the program featured Rev. W. Wolko-vich, Guest Speaker; Izidorius and Vytenis Vasyliunas, violinist and pianist; Birute Aleksaite, Soprano and George Lisauskas, tenor; also Lithuanian Books, Music, Arts and Crafts were displayed.

Joan Adamaitis, a recipient of the K of L Scholarship Award, has achieved First Honors and has made the Dean's List. She is attending Assumption College. We extend our congratulations. To John Adamaitis, who has been ailing for far too many months, we wish the best of health and full recovery real soon.

We also wish a speedy and complete recovery to Claire Gri-gaitis of C-26 from her injuries received in a skiing mishap. She has a cast, but should be as good as new in no time.

Irene & Ed Tamulavich, our most serious and enthusiastic Cultural Committee, once again, for the third time, visited relatives in Lithuania. They were among a group of travellers, which included Mary Duggan of C-26, also on her third trip, who left on Good Friday and were in Lithuania for the Easter holiday.

Our first N.E.D. St. Casimir's Day Celebration and commemoration began with Mass at 5 P.M. at St. Casimir's Church. We were privileged to have Auxiliary Bishop Timothy Harrington as celebrant, who also briefly greeted the congregation. Con-celebrants were Rev. J. Bakanas, Rev. Jurgelaitis, Rev. A. Volungis, Pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Parish and our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Budzeika, Curate of St. Casimir's and Rev. A. Janiunas, Dist. Spiritual Advisor. Father Janiunas also delivered the homily. The choir was under the direction and accompaniment, at

the organ, of Olga Kersis, C-26 member. It was the beautiful voice of Valius Rodzevičius, in his solo presentations, that moved us so deeply. Olga was also responsible for the sheets with the words of Šventas Kazimieras and Vyčiu Himnas. Many, many thanks to Olga. After the Mass, a buffet dinner was served at Maironis Park. Once again, we were privileged to have a distinguished guest, Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan, who greeted the many assembled K of L'ers and their guests. The guest speaker was Rev. Jurgelaitis, professor at Providence College, R.I. He gave some very interesting and not widely known facts about the life of our Patron Saint.

Seated at the head table were Rev. A. Volungis, Dist. Pres. Al Jaritis, Joseph Sakaitis, Pres. C-26, and Larry Svelnis, member of the Ritual Committee who presented 3rd Degrees. In a day filled with many memorable events that moved us deeply, the most astonishing thing was that it was all arranged by one person, our council's president, Anthony Miner. We are indeed grateful and are deeply indebted to Tony for this wonderful day.

Taradaika

C-7 - WATERBURY, CONN.



C-7, Waterbury, Conn. - Newly elected officers: Seated l to r: Fin. Sec. Pat Richards, President James Valaitis, Spir. Advisor Rev. G. Vilciauskas, Secretary Lillian Paulauskas; Standing l to r: Sgt. at Arms, Joseph Gudonis; Board Members William Gervickas, Ed White, Walter Blinstrubas, Tom Kaukas; Treasurer John Alanskas

C-141 - BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

Our council which had their first meeting Aug. 28, 1974 has been using this period to organize towards preserving the Lithuanian culture, heritage and language. Our first step has been to make friends and renew friendships both Lithuanian and those interested in Lithuanians in the Greater Bridgeport area, which covers the towns of Bridgeport, Fairfield, Trumbull and Stratford. We also have members from other neighboring towns. Monthly meetings are held on the third Sunday of every month at 4 p.m. After the meeting a covered dish supper is shared. A committee is in charge of the supper, and each member brings one dish enough for four/five portions. Our members are most generous and our buffet table rivals any restaurant in town.

Mr. Sylvester (Bob) Marcavage, our First Vice Pres., has arranged our monthly meeting programs and his wife, Aldona, has been most diligent in recording the minutes of our meetings.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Wilma Palaske, Fin. Secy., our membership has been increasing. The council has over 50 paid-up members and averaging about 25 members present at each meeting. Miss Anne Gecevich, Treas., has

been working very closely with Wilma, as well as keeping an accurate check on all financial matters.

Mrs. Antanas Ivaska (Gintara), Second Vice Pres. and Chairperson of Lithuanian and Community Affairs Activities Committee, keeps us informed as to international, New York and local Lithuanian activities.

Through the efforts of the Ivaskas', Mr. Vaclovas Sevrukas (see February Vytis) came from New York to Bridgeport to participate in the Human Rights - Soviet Jewry Day program, which was held at the Jewish Community Center in Bridgeport on the last day of his four-week hunger strike. The Evaskas' hosted Mr. Sevrukas who visited for several days and related his experiences at quite a few receptions held in his honor.

Our Council is a member of the International Institute of Greater Bridgeport, which is a community organization composed of many ethnic groups, and participated in the Annual meeting held at Sacred Heart University. Many of our members attended dressed in the Lithuanian costume. Those attending donated Lithuanian food for the buffet table.

Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration was held Feb. 23 and our Council together with the Bendruomene celebrated with a morning Mass and afternoon program.

We have not neglected our religious obligations and our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Francis J. Pranckus, has been our pillar of strength and encouragement.

Mrs. Peter Putrimas has been most active in giving us monthly publicity notices in the local Bridgeport/Post/Telegram as well as radio announcements on the local community calendar program.

Our library has its beginnings under the direction of Walter Devanas who is collecting any and all books.

Many of our Council members are attending the Lithuanian Class held at the Ansonia H.S. Adult

education evening school. Gintara Ivaska is one of the instructors. This class covers not only reading, writing and speaking Lithuanian, but also history, song, arts and crafts.

Our First Communion Breakfast was chaired by Miss Anne Gecevich and was well attended, both Mass and breakfast. Our Second Communion Breakfast is being chaired by Bob Marcavage.

The Dinan Memorial Center which is a Convalescent Home and Home for the Aged has touched the hearts of our Council. Mrs. Edward Simons has arranged for donations which is used to buy gifts to be distributed to the patients who have no one to remember them. Several of our members have made visitations to Lithuanian patients who have no family.

Our "Subatele" was the highlight of our social activities. There was great enjoyment dancing, singing the Lithuanian songs and sharing the Lithuanian food. Since Agnes Simons did such an outstanding job in chairing the "Subatele", she was asked to plan our "First Amber Ball". Bob Marcavage and Charles Ziobo assisted her, and the event was held on Apr. 19 at St. George Hall in Bridgeport.

Teresa Trainis
Pres., C-141



C-10 - ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

Our council again this year sponsored the annual Lithuanian Independence Day celebration held in St. Francis Church hall on Feb. 16.

Father Justin Steponaitis, Pastor, offered the 10:30 A.M. Mass for the intention of Suffering Lithuania. At 2:30 P.M. in the parish hall, the So. Boston Mens' Sextet, under the direction of director and composer Julius Gaidelis, sang many selections that were received with many ovations. Council Pres. Leonard Davidonis acted as M.C. Father Stepie offered Benediction and spoke briefly. Charles Genaitis read Fred Hirst's article that appeared in the Feb. VYTIS. After the program, coffee was served under the direction of Paul & Leotina Kuzmeskus and Mrs. Collidge.

Council members and the Sextet enjoyed a scrumptious supper after the program in the rectory, and the group sang for several more hours. Both the Athol and Gardner dailies carried articles and pictures of the program.

C-10 commemorated the patron feast of Lithuania and the Knights by receiving Communion at the 5:30 P.M. Mass in St. Francis Church on Mar. 1, followed by supper at the Tully Brook Inn. Fr. Steponaitis celebrated the Mass and preached the sermon. Bill Wisnauskas was chairman. Again, both dailies carried articles on the affair.

Both the Radski's and the Wisnauskas' have bought homes in Gardner. The Alex Kuzmeskus' are building a new home in Athol.

Condolences are extended to the Perekslis family on the death of their father, Stanley Perekslis. Council members attended the wake and recited the rosary.

Get well wishes are sent to Paul Shatos who has been laid up after an accident at work, with the railroad. The council sent him a "sunshine basket", and wish him a speedy recovery. Howie Beau-dette's picture recently appeared

in the DARBININKAS in relation to the Lithuanian Scouts, in which he is active as a chef.

A reminder that our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the parish rectory, and everyone, including new members, are invited to attend.

Vincukas



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

C-140 - SYRACUSE, N.Y.

Greetings from C-140, the newest council from beautiful Syracuse, N.Y.

We were officially organized at the Detroit Convention, but our first real council meeting was on Dec. 14, 1974 at the home of John and Cassie Stanley with 17 members present. Elected were the following slate of officers: Pres. - Frank Petrauskas, Vice. Pres. - John Johnson, Fin. Secy. - Albert Gudas, Corr. Secy. - Andrew Aruskevicius, Sgt-at-Arms - John Stanley, and Vytis Correspondent - Frank Petrauskas.

Future projects were discussed and ways to improve the council. Cassie brought on the famous Stanley Lithuanian sausage and the home-made cheese, (just like we used to make back on the farm) and along with a lot of other goodies, everyone feasted like kings. T'was wonderful and many thanks to the Stanleys from all of us.

By the end of the year our membership reached 31. We are proud of this total, as there is not a Lithuanian Church in Syracuse and we have a small Lithuanian population. However, we are an active group.

Our next council meeting was held Jan. 31 at the Petrauskas' residence. The most important discussion was the final plans for our Feb. 16 Lithuanian Independence Party. Marge Migonis, the chairperson, gave a report on her progress. After the meeting Irene served us with some fine refreshments. Jack Zutant and Al Gudas each played the organ and the fun began, - until one in the morning.

The afternoon of Feb. 15 saw three cars head down the Thruway to Amsterdam, N.Y. to accept their council's invitation to attend their Lithuanian Independence Party. All decked out in their party duds were John and Veronica Sutkus, Ruth Hare, Helen Mikelonis, John and Cassie Stanley, Al and Eleanor Gudas, and Frank and Irene Petrauskas. When they arrived at St. Casimir's Church Gene Gobis had them up in the choir loft singing with the Choir at the special Independence Mass. Much fun and great enjoyment - many thanks, Gene. Double thanks to Father Balch, the celebrant, who makes you feel proud to be a Catholic and a Lithuanian.

The newly decorated Church hall was a lovely place to have a party. President Tony Radzevich and his committee arranged a beautiful affair. Everyone enjoyed listening to the main speaker, Vytautas Gadliauskas, talk of his experiences in Lithuania and Russia, and how his crew jumped ship in Greece and were granted asylum.

It was a fine evening. The party mood prevailed so that Vytautas decided to stay an extra day and come to Syracuse the next day for our Party.

Pete Hayes led the jolly delegation from Amsterdam via the Thruway. Along with Vytautas were Ed and Eleanor Baranauskas, Tony and Ann Radzevich, Sophie Olbie, Gene Gobis, and Don Halloran.

Our gal, lovely Marge Migonis went all out with our Independence Party. She had the Tyrol

Club decorated in the Lithuanian motif to begin the mood. Next the cocktail party. Afterwards the buffet dinner was an adventure in good eating, with seconds and thirds if your stomach had the capacity. This was topped off with fine cakes which five of our gals baked and decorated.

M.C. Frank Petrauskas read the Proclamation which was signed by our Mayor Lee Alexander. He also read letters from our two Congressmen, Jim Hanley and Bill Walsh. Vytautas Gadliauskas gave a short talk on some of his past experiences, and Ed Baranauskas gave a resume in English. And we finally got our Charter, which was officially presented to us by Tony Radzevich.

Many thanks to Marge Migonis for a very enjoyable evening. She not only chaired the party but also accepted the Secretary's job, as Andy Aruskevicius is busy working two jobs. Amsterdam has their "Smile and Sparkle" and we do, too, - two most wonderful people.

We all hope Tony Yestrumsky and Jonas Gylys overcome their back problems, and that Ann Guntert and Agnes Salis return to good health. The Captive Nations Dinner Dance and Program will be held on May 3; let's have a large turnout from the Lithuanian group.

Pusbrolis

C-109 - GREAT NECK, N.Y.

Our St. Casimir's Day Commemoration was held Mar. 2 commencing with Mass at St. Aloysius Church. Pres. Al & Starsy Wesley were vacationing in California prior to that date, and we were notified that the hall where our luncheon was to be held would not be available to us. Hurriedly at the last minute, Vice-Pres. Ricky Marks, with the assistance of Mary Kober, completed new arrangements, and lunch was held at 1 P.M. in the beautiful Elks Club in Great Neck. Our male chauvinists volunteered as chefs and the food served was elegant. Our thanks to



C-109 - Father Bulovas, President Al Wese and Mrs. Wese at the Annual Communion Breakfast.



C-109 Great Neck - LouAnn Rutha, Stan Simonavich, Ray & Joe Bernotovich at the Annual Communion Breakfast.

Peter Bernatovich, Jr. & Sr., Tony Kober, Phil Rutha, and Joe Zukas. There were 27 persons present, and for our small council, attendance was good. Father Frank Bulovas' talk was befitting the occasion, - and we always enjoy his sharp wit, always managing to leave us laughing! Guests included Paul Rusas, dad of Mary Kober & Jo Zukas; and Susan Bernatovich's pretty girlfriend. Our thanks to Stanley Simanovich for the liquid refreshment, and to the ladies for the many baked cakes. Janie Zukas took photo's of the various groups, coached on the sidelines by youngster Michael Bernatovich. The Marks children, Michelle and John Jr., were the life of the party. It's heartwarming to see entire families coming to council activities, something we had previously neglected very badly.

While visiting with Ann Martens in California, Al Wese tells us that she has acclimated to the surroundings and has become active in the community. We never knew Ann was a landscape artist; we hear her art work is excellent.

Little Billy Bernatovich spent some time in the hospital. We hear he is on the road to recovery, and perhaps before too long, we will have the pleasure of the entire Bill Bernatovich family at our functions.

We are pleased to hear that Peter Bernatovich, Jr., at 21 yrs. of age, is now a Federal Licensed



C-109 Great Neck: Three of the "Fabulous 5" Chefs at the Annual Communion Breakfast: Jo Zukas, Phil Rutha & Tony Kober.

Funeral Director working at Stock's in Hicksville. Good luck in your profession.

Sue Zebart was missed. Due to a fall on the ice, Sue now has her leg in a cast and was unable to make her planned European trip. We hope she is mending and will soon be up and around. Beruta Gonzalez was unable to be with us due to her nursing chores which, unfortunately, have coincided with our various get-togethers.

Bertha & Al Zack vacationed for three weeks in San Francisco, Hawaii, Los Angeles and Las Vegas, - a perfect trip for a perfect couple.

We are envious of the beautiful Lithuanian coin worn as a pendant by Millie Rogers. It was very much admired. Husbands, please note: most of the gals would love to have a duplicate of same!

Sincere condolences to the Rutha family on the tragic death of Phil's brother-in-law, William DeLaurentis. Remember him in

your prayers.

May blessings to all mothers, - who were made in the sunshine of His love. Happy Mother's Day!

C-29 - NEWARK, N.J.

After a brief absence, your columnist is once more back in the swing of things, relating the latest doings of C-29:

Our Christmas Party held in the parish hall on Dec. 15 came off in fine fashion with good attendance. We are "with it" as regards to Women's Lib, - our Santa Claus this time was Frances Mockus, who performed her role very well. A check for \$500. was presented to our Spiritual Advisor and Pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Msgr. John J. Scharnus. This donation was given towards the fund which was being raised for repairs on the roof of the parish hall. Our thanks to those arranging the party, - Lucy Zamairis & husband, Antanina Skroudys and Pres. Kazys Sipaila.

For the first time in several years, our council held a dance on Feb. 2. Instead of the "same old thing", we decided on a "square dance" and hope to make this event an annual one. Our date has already been chosen for 1976! There was a nice turnout for the event, and those in charge deserve a big round of applause, - Ed Rimelis, Eva Sharon, Kazys Sipaila and committee. While attendance was excellent, we could have had

more members on hand. When members are always clamoring "for something different", and then are conspicuous by their absence when something different is offered, one begins to wonder.

Our members are very aware of the tremendous financial burden maintaining the upkeep and welfare of the Holy Trinity Parish, a group has been selected in planning events towards the raising of much needed revenue for the parish.

This being our 60th Anniversary Year, all events on the calendar are being tied in with the Anniversary. The year will be brought to a climax with the annual Dinner-Dance to be held Oct. 11 in our parish hall. This event promises to be extraordinary, and we look forward to other K of L members from other parts of the country joining us in our celebration.

Since we have shifted our meetings to the third Sunday of every month, attendance has perked up considerably, however, we would like to see even more of our members present.

Our council observed the feast of St. Casimir on Mar. 2. The membership assembled in the parish hall, and behind a color guard of the Lith.-Amer. Veterans Post marched to church where a High

Mass was celebrated in Lithuanian by Msgr. Scharnus and assisted by Rev. Vladas Karalevicius. Also present was Rev. Joseph Barkus, OSB. The St. Cecilia Choir, under the direction of Klem Bagdonavicius, sang during the Mass. The gifts at the Offertory were carried to the altar by mother & daughter, Ann & Ann Abromaitis. At Communion time, the members gave an excellent and edifying display in their going to the altar rail to receive. The Veterans Post, under the leadership of Commander Walter Zalys, is sincerely thanked for taking part and thus making our celebration more impressive.

After Mass, a dinner was served in the hall, prepared by our No. 1 cooks, Marge & Walter Brazaitis. Rose Zukauskas took over the role of emcee, and did a commendable job. The talk given by guest speaker Anthony Masionis was very timely and appropriate for the times, especially the mention of conditions as regards the status today of Lithuanian parishes in this country. His talk was delivered both in English and Lithuanian, for the benefit of the non-Lithuanians on hand for the event. During the course of the dinner, the following were called on for a bow: Vytis Editor Loretta Stukas; Honorary Member Frank

Vaskas; wife of the guest speaker, Mrs. Masionis; and Pres. of the Auxiliary of the Veterans Post, Regiņa Schmidt.

Father Karalevicius, since coming to our parish and who is now in residence at Holy Trinity, has attended our council meetings and given excellent discourses at these gatherings. We are indeed happy to have Father in our parish; so many remember him when he was very active as Dist. Spiritual Director.

Mary Stonis was certainly a surprised individual when she was the recipient of the King Mindaugas Medal and a bouquet of flowers. The presentation was made by council trustee, Albinas Zukauskas, - who was also honored at the same time with a birthday cake. If ever a person deserved recognition, it is Mary Stonis, who is not only very active in our organization, but also active in other organizations, as well as in parish endeavors. It was a well deserved citation. Congratulations, Mary!

Our Day of Prayer for Suffering Lithuania will take place May 6 in Holy Trinity Church at 7 P.M. There will be the recitation of the Rosary and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. All are very cordially invited to attend.

The Wanderer



C-29-ers join Paterson, N.J. Liths in greeting Simas Kudirka. Left: Vytis Editor L. Stukas greets Mr. Kudirka, S. Stalmok, A. Balbatas look on. Right: B. Shripata, A. Stepahovas, S. Stalmok, J. Chapulis, B. Venckus, A. Rugys (Chairman), L. Stukas and V. Shripata.

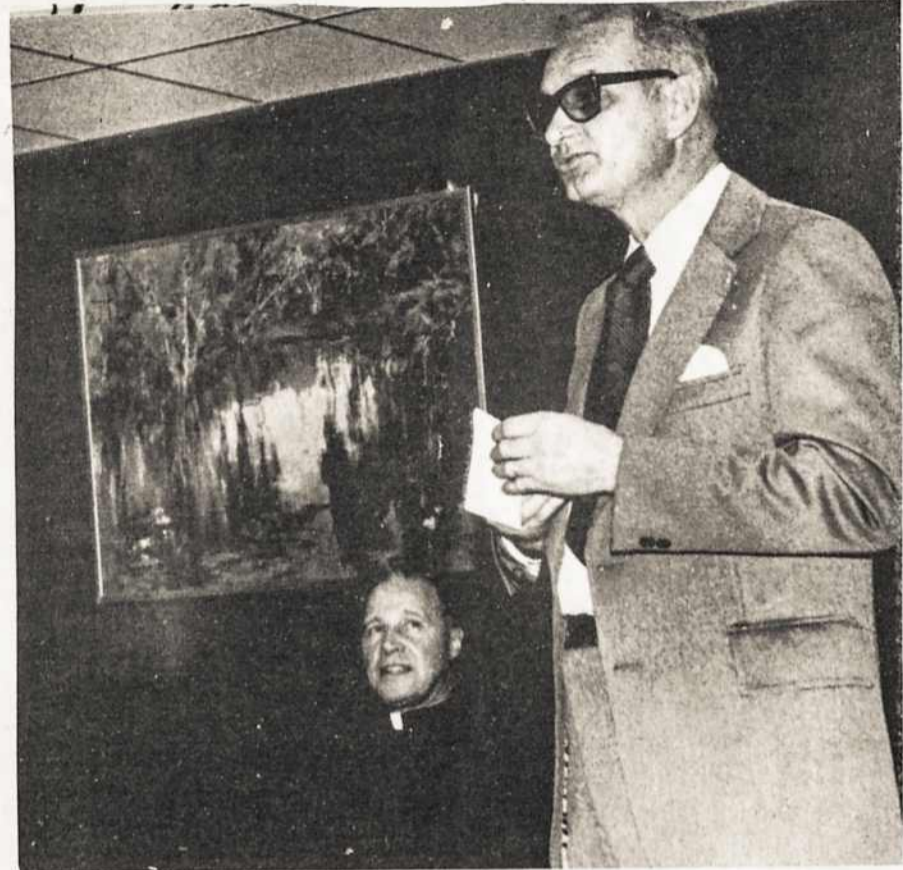
SCENES FROM THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT MEETING

photos by - Antanina Binkins



Rev. Frank Bulovas, Spiritual Adviser, Mid-Atlantic District, congratulates Diane Drumstas, Phila. C-3, following presentation of the K of L Fourth Degree Medal as President Larry Janonis and Honorary Member Anthony Mazeika, President, President - Brooklyn-Queens C-41 and Ritual Committee Member, wait their turn.

JANUARY 19, 1975 AT THE LITHUANIAN
CULTURAL CENTER, BROOKLYN, N.Y.



Frank Petrauskas, Syracuse C-140, who had a radio program in this area several years, tells about the many Lithuanian activities upstate and the progress of the newly formed K of L C-140 there... The M-AD presented the walnut lectern (on table) to its Spiritual Adviser, Rev. Frank Bulovas, who opened the meeting with prayer and an inspirational talk...



Kristina, daughter of Leonora (Trustee, M-AD) and Victor Balten, Phila C-3, picks the lucky number, assisted by Jonas Stungurys and Antanas Ambrosini.



... and presents the prize to Edward Baranauskas, Amsterdam C-100. The carved wood Lithuanian chapel was donated by K of L National Public Relations Co-Chairperson, Helen Kulber. Happily beaming at right is President Larry Janonis. The Maspeth C-110 Juniors who worked hard selling tickets are (l. to r.) William A. Sidtis, Antanas Ambrosini, Frank Vasalka, Leon Stungurys, Arunas Stungurys and Jonas Stungurys.



M-A District Delegates pose after Winter Convention.



ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

The Seniors sponsored a Bunco Party on Feb. 23 at the K of L Bldg. Chairlady Kazimera Petrulis and her committee worked very hard to make it the success it was.

Joe Laurinaitis has taken on the very time-consuming job as manager of the K of L Bldg. We are very grateful that he consented and know that he will do a very conscientious job.

Our energetic Jr. Dancers recently performed at the Immaculate Conception School Hall.

Congratulations to Chicago Sr. member Juozas Ramanauskas, newly elected Commander of the Darius-Girenas Post.

The I-I Dist.'s Annual Memories of Lithuania Banquet was held Feb. 9 at the Martinique Restaurant.

The K of L Award was presented to Dr. George A. Wiltrakis who was most deserving. Among the guests were former award recipients Mary & Anthony Rudis, Aldona Daukus, Dr. Leonas Kriaučeliūnas and Stanley Balzekas, Jr.

Bishop Vincentas Brizgys mentioned in his speech how pleased he is that the Knights persevere in their efforts for Lithuania's freedom.

We were very sorry that General Consul Juzė Daužvardienė was unable to attend because of illness, but were happy to receive her greetings.

Guests of honor were Fr. Peter Činikas, Fr. Paul Juknevičius, Canon V. Zakarauskas, Fr. A. Zakarauskas, Leonard Šimutis, Mrs. Wiltrakis, members of the press and media.

Judge Alfonse Wells was a delightful emcee and made the program run smoothly. Soloist Prudencija Bičkienė was most gracious and sang a few songs. The enjoyable dance music was provided by Wally Tenclinger and his orchestra.

Heartiest congratulations to the committee for a marvelous job well done, making the day a very lovely occasion: Algerd Brazis, Irene Sankus, John Evans, Leon Pauksa, Estelle Rogers, Dolores & Andy Yuknis, Adeline Jasaitis, Vince Samoska, Frank Zapolis, Emilija Pakalniskis, Al Zakarka, Tony Yuknis and Harry Petraitis.

Our deepest sympathy to Aldona & Algerd Brazis on the death of her mother, Charlotte Sakas. Dieve duok jai ramybę!

Hoosier

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember

in your prayers...

**KAZIMIERA ZUJUS,
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
[Wife of Honorary Member
and former VYTIS Editor
Matas Zujus]
died March 3, 1975**

**HELEN D. ANDREWS
Member C-111 Srs.
Youngstown, Ohio
died March 1, 1975**

"MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" CHICAGO, FEBRUARY 9, 1975



The Illinois-Indiana District held their 15th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" Dinner Dance on Feb. 9th at the Martinique. Pictured: Top row, left: Leading the Grand March Adeline Jasaitis and John Evans. Right: John Evans, presenter of the IID Award, Irene Sankus, Natl. Treas., Dr. George A. Wiltrakis, award recipient, Mrs. Wiltrakis and Rev. Gorenas. Middle row, left: Algerd Brazis, IID Pres., Leon

Pauksta, Natl. Pres., Honorary Member Leonard Simutis, Sr., Dr. Wiltrakis and John Evans. Right: Judge Alfonse A. Wells, M-C, welcoming the guests to the affair. Bottom row, left: Dr. Wiltrakis and guests. Right: John Evans presenting IID Award with Judge Wells, His Excellency Vincentas Brizgys, Mrs. Wiltrakis, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, IID Spiritual Advisor and Canon V. Zakarauskas.

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EVERYONE IS RUSHING TO THE... 62ND NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CONVENTION

August 21-24, 1975
HOSTS: Mid-Atlantic District

HOTEL TAFT
777 Seventh Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10019

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY - AUGUST 20

A.M. - Early Bird Registration (All Day)
P.M. - Broadway Theater Party



Informal fun &
memories

THURSDAY - AUGUST 21

A.M. - Registration (All Day)
- Supreme Council Meeting
12:00 Noon - Opening Mass
2:00 P.M. - Opening Session
8:30 P.M. - "Nostalgia Night"
Buffet, Refreshments, Music
Hotel Taft, N.Y.



Music by
Joe Thomas

FRIDAY - AUGUST 22

9:30 A.M. - Second Session
12:00 Noon - Lunch Break
2:00 P.M. - Third Session
8:30 P.M. - Lietuviškas "Linksmavakaris"

SATURDAY - AUGUST 23

9:00 A.M. - Fourth Session
12:00 Noon - Lunch Break
1:30 P.M. - Fifth Session
7:30 P.M. - Inaugural Banquet and Ball
Lithuanian Cultural Center,
Brooklyn



Lithuanian
Song & Dance

SUNDAY - AUGUST 24

11:00 A.M. - Convention Closing Mass and Brunch
Transfiguration Church,
Maspeth

- Convention Photo
P.M. - Bicentennial Ceremonies
- Farewell