

the KNIGHT
VYTIS

•1976•

**The Knights
of Lithuania**

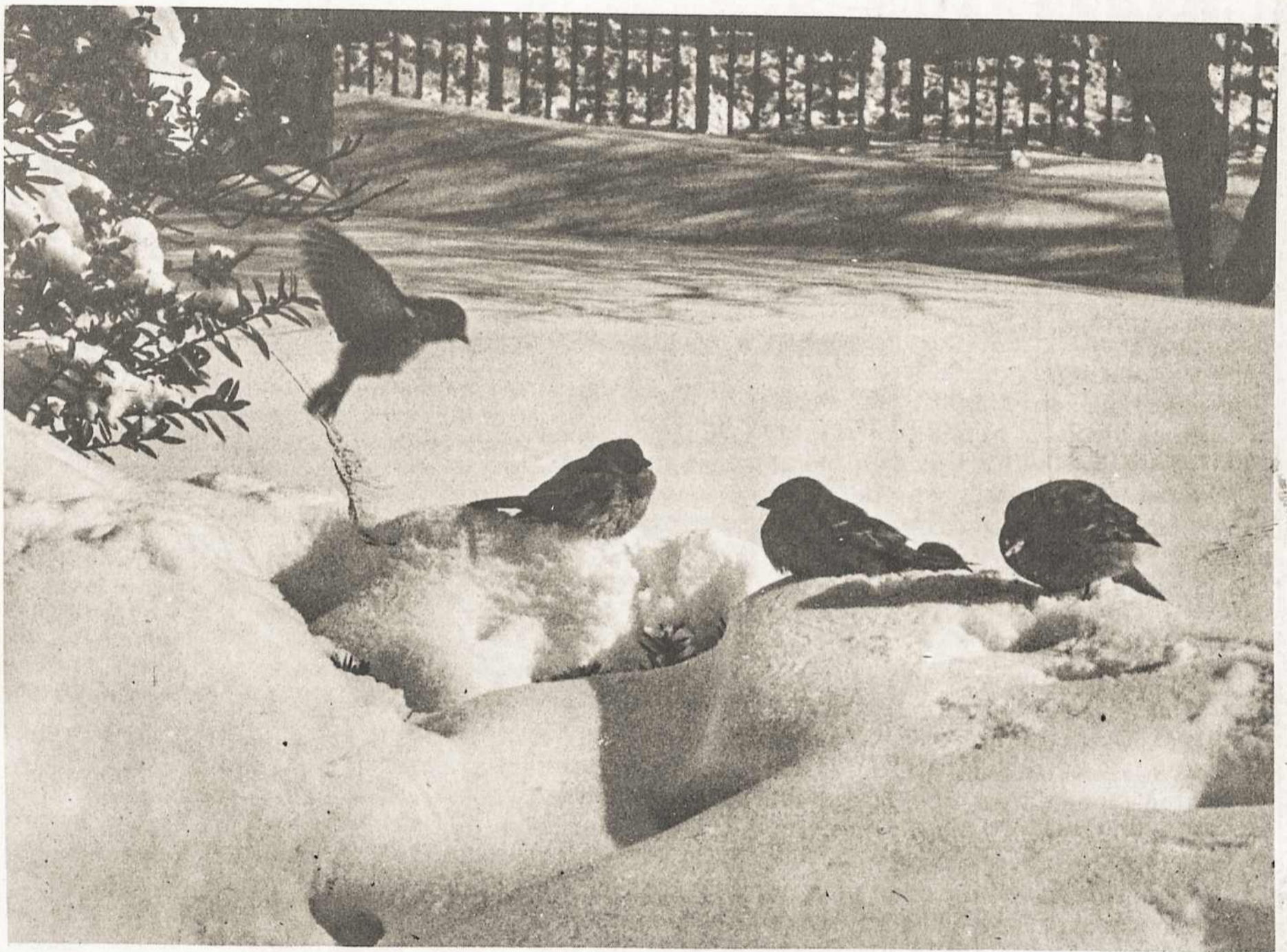


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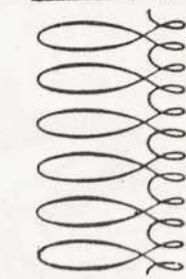
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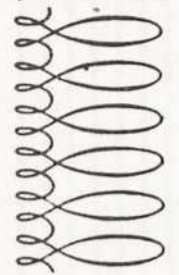
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the KNIGHT VYTIS



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WE ARE RENEWED

(OR ARE WE?)

THE HOLY

HAS ENDED

The Holy Year, the Year of Renewal and Reconciliation of 1975 is over. Judging from the reports of religious affairs activities from the Councils, it is clear that we Knights did participate in the prayers and pilgrimages of the Jubilee Year in one way or another. Consequently, we should be able to say, truthfully, that we have been renewed. Then, why does the title of this article include a parenthesis and a question within the parenthesis? Briefly, the reason for the question is simply this: after recognizing our praiseworthy activities as Knights of Lithuania during the Holy Year, I would like to jot down some words of encouragement that may make it easier for us Knights to continue our good efforts and even deepen and surpass them during this New Year - 1976.

As we recall, the Holy Father's intent was renewal and reconciliation, inner renewal and deeper reconciliation with God and our neighbor. A momentary, inward glance will tell us how we stand, how effective the Holy Year renewal has been in ourselves. Take a glance at our God-life, at our Christ-life, at our Church-life. If the two thousand and thirty pairs of eyes belonging to our members take a serious, inward glance, they would focus upon the reality that is the true, spiritual state of the Knights of Lithuania. This focusing upon ourselves, this inner evaluation of our true selves, will reveal a picture of a renewal which is in the realm of the more or less. In some cases the renewal has been deep, in others, not so deep. But, we trust that in all cases there has been some renewal. We understand, of course, that this renewal must continue. It was not meant to be a one time, every twenty-fifth year endeavor. And just because we are beginning our Bicentennial Year, this does not mean that we are to forget or set aside the renewal momentum of the Holy Year. Continuation of the renewal is in order, even though the Holy Year officially ended on Christmas, 1975.



WHAT NEXT?

Our inner, personal, spiritual renewal will continue to deepen as long as we try to make our own, our very own, the Message of Christ, God's Son. When we make His Good News our very own, we internalize His Teaching and Wisdom. It becomes ours to possess, to use and to enjoy. Our Faith is and should be a joyful thing. This internalizing began with our Baptism and was meant to continue on to our last hour on earth. We were born into this world one by one; we were baptized one by one. With the drawing of our first breath we became part of a human family; with the pouring of the Baptismal waters we were accepted into another family, also: Baptism made us children of God by adoption and members of God's family... and let's not be afraid to say it: we became brothers and sisters of Christ!

In the human growing up process we made our own our family language, traditions, religion and values. In a similar way, our maturing in the family of God was brought about by making our own the teachings, the ideals and attitudes of our Elder Brother, Christ. This is our share in the Wisdom of God, Our Father.

Our highest goal is to become sharers of the Divine Wisdom - living wisely, acting wisely. We obtain this Wisdom from a single source, Christ, whose instructions come to us through the Church, His Church, our Catholic Church.

LISTENING TO THE WORD

Now, how do we get our share of this Wisdom? The answer is so simple that it seems almost ridiculously easy: we listen to the Word of God, but we listen attentively, thoughtfully, in such a way that we more and more deeply internalize it, make it our very own, making is not only the starting point of all our actions, but also, the final goal of our activities. To be truly effective, this Wisdom which comes to us from Christ "by hearing the Word" must fill our minds and hearts, fill them to overflowing; only then will be accomplished the Wisdom of the Divine Plan for us and for the world through us. If the Truths we hear during the Sacred Readings of the Mass on Sundays remain only in memory, and do not become "sparking points" for a more authentic Christian life-style, they will not accomplish very much.

Our goal as Catholics (and as Knights of Lithuania) is to develop a life-style of Truth in action manifesting Christ, His attitudes and His ideals - to be lived among people in this world who are locked into a contrary life-style. We recognize and have often experienced the strain and tension of this opposing life-style. We ourselves have been pulled now in one direction, that of Christ, and now in another, toward what is worldly, or contrary to Christ. Our task is to keep our balance, not to be swayed by the forces that

neglect Christ, that invite us to belittle or be ashamed of our God-family heritage, or weaken our loyalty to Christ and to His visible Church.

So, Sunday after Sunday, and on any day in between, we have an opportunity to fill up with the knowledge and Wisdom of God through the Liturgy of the Word in the Celebration of the Mass. Some Truths that we hear will strike us more vividly than others, and these are the ones to apply to ourselves and our life-style deliberately, generously and vigorously.

WHY WE KEEP THE FAITH

As we put the God-revealed Truths that we hear into action there is one thing we ought to keep in mind: we must be aware of why we do what we do. In other words, we must have a sharp and clear motivation. In our religious practises we often do good, mainly because of God's promises of rewards, or avoid evil acts in order to escape God's just punishments. Sometimes, we live out our religion out of obedience to Commandments, rules and regulations, and other times, we do things out of a kind of conformity, that is, because others are doing so. If we think back upon these four motivations we shall see that some are more perfect than others. To fulfill our duties to God "because someone's doin' it" is certainly not a very mature way of living the Faith.

Our Knights of Lithuania motto - "For God and Country" - urges us to practise our Catholic Faith, to live a Christian life-style, not because of rewards and punishments, not because it's the law, not because others may be living a Christian life, but because of inner convictions, because the Faith we accepted at Baptism and developed over the years is our share in God's Eternal Wisdom through which we become wise in our thinking and living.



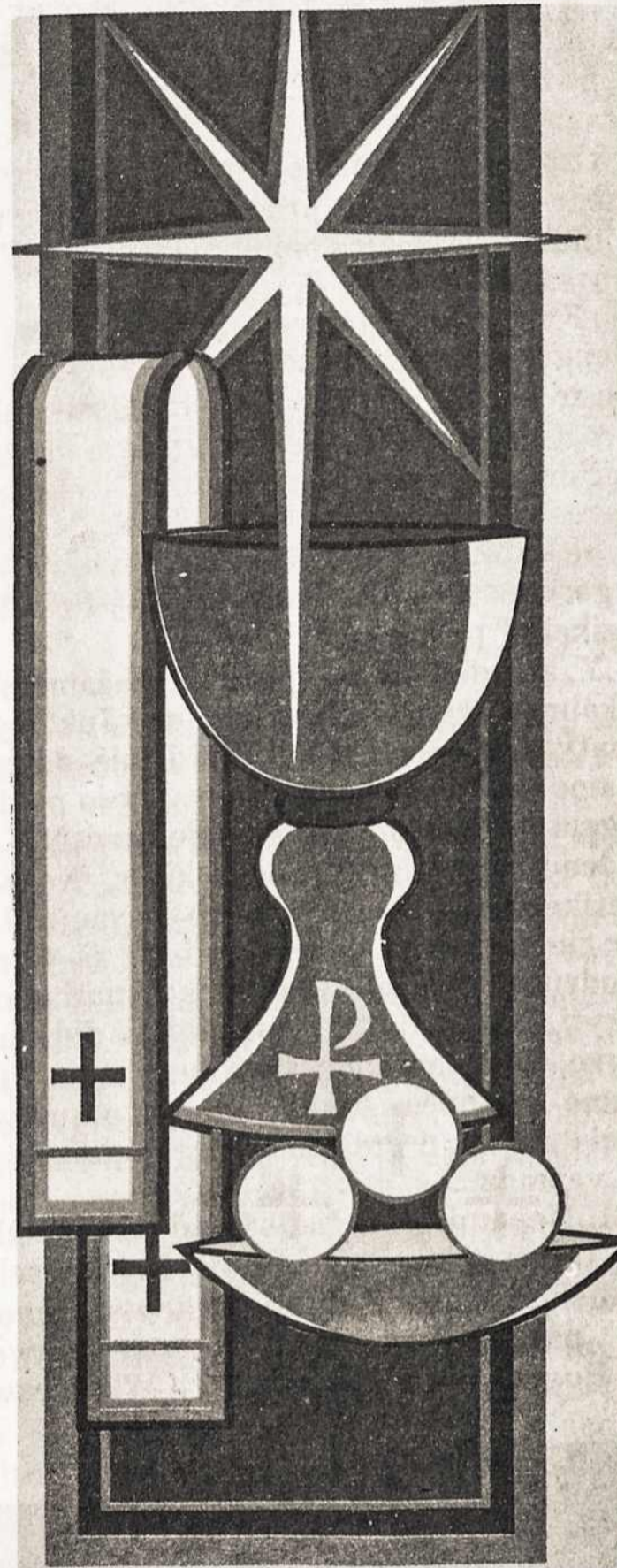
OUR SHARE OF THE WISDOM OF GOD

Our share of God's Wisdom enables us to view all things from a higher perspective, from God's point of view, as it were. Judging correctly the true value of the things that surround us, making prudently the various choices in life that we are called upon to make is not easy, if we depend solely upon human wisdom. As a matter of fact, it is impossible. We need to be wise with the Wisdom of Christ, and this, as I have already pointed out, comes from "hearing the Word".

As one writer put it: "Wisdom reaches from end to end mightily and governs all things well. Her I loved and sought after from my youth... For she is instructress in the understanding of God... So I determined to take her to live with me, knowing that she would be my counselor while all was well, and my comfort in care and grief... And knowing that I could not otherwise possess her, except God gave it - I went to the Lord and besought Him... I prayed for understanding and it was given to me: I pleaded for wisdom, and the spirit of wisdom came to me". This author, by the way, was the inspired writer of the Book of Wisdom of the Old Testament.

So, to conclude: If I wanted my share of this Wisdom that is "intelligent, holy, unique... active, loving all that is good, and irresistible", I would make a serious commitment each time I listened to the Word of God to do so more attentively, more thoughtfully, more intelligently, making ever stronger efforts to make it my very own, to *i n t e r n a l i z e* it. That's what I would do. What would you do?

Fr. Anthony A. Jurgelaitis, O.P.
Supreme Council Spiritual Adviser



**"Lai Gyvuoja Lietuvos Vyčiai
Jūs Lietuvos vardą garsinote ir
jos naudai dirbote per 63 metus.
Mudu Naujų Metų proga linkime
visiems lietuviams jungtis į Vyčių
eiles ir sykiu stiprinti ir dirbti dėl
Lietuvos laisvės".**

JUOZAS IR VALERIA STANAITIS

LIETUVOS VYČIAI NEW YORKE

(II-dalis)

Jau buvo apžvelgta svarbieji vyčių žygiai praėjusiame seime ir "Vytyje". Šia proga noriu paminėti kai kurias mielųjų vyčių veiklos smulkmenas New Yorke už posėdžių salės.

MIESTE. Kai kurie vyčiai, ypač jaunieji, pirmą sykį stebėjosi dangoraižiais. Nustebę žvelgė į šviesų jūrą, matė taksių ir kitų susisiekimo mašinų susikimšimą Time Square. Gėrėjosi Šv. Patriko katedra, grožėjosi salas supančiomis upėmis ir vandenimis, ieškojo žiūronais Laisvės Statulos, lankėsi UN pastatuose ir matė daugybę kitokių New Yorko keistenybių. Seimo išvakarėse gerokas būrys pirmą sykį matė Broadway teatrą, muzikalinį pastatymą "Pippin".

Naktis N.Y. atrodė ne į naktį panaši mažame miestelyje ar kaime gyvenančiam vyčiui. Juk vyčiai norėjo pamatyti newyorkiečius ir didžiulę daugybę lankytojų tame didmiestyje. Taip pat bijojo paklysti ar būti "pagautam", kaip buvo girdėję, kad N.Y. tai gali įvykti lengviau kaip kur nors kitur. Koks didžiausias netikėtumas, klausiau, buvo vyčiams N.Y.? Nežinau, ar jie nenorėjo prisipažinti, ar iš tikrųjų buvo taip gudrūs ir atsargūs, kad nieko ypatinga negalėjo pasakyti. Kai kurie tik pasakė, kad didžiausia nesėkmė buvo, kad nesurado savo autobusų, kurie sustojo kitame viešbučio šone, kaip buvo susitarę. Visi pėsčiomis keliavo į didžiausią parengimą ir pavėlavo visą valandą...

MELDĖSI. Nepamiršo vyčiai savo dvasinio šūkio. Kas rytą jie telkėsi čia pat esančioje Šv. Malachijo bažnyčioje Mišių, išklaudyti dvasios vadovų pamokslų, kuriuos pasikeisdami sakė Seime dalyvavę kunigai - K. Pugevičius, A. Jurgelaitis, W. Karavec-

kas. Mišių metu giedojo lietuviškas giesmes, o vieną rytą turėjo Mišias lietuviškai. Dauguma uoliai dalyvavo pamaldose, artinosi prie Dievo Stalo, dvasiškai stiprinosi. Kai kas klausė, kodėl vyčiai šiemet nėjo melstis į lietuviškas bažnyčias, kaip tai darydavo praeityje? Suprantama ir pateisinama, laiko nebūtų buvę; nebuvo galima išimti 4 valandų iš darbų eilės. Tačiau iškilus seimo užbaigimas buvo naujoj ir gražioj V.J. Atsimainymo Lietuvių bažnyčioj, Maspeth. Čia nuoširdžiai globojo ir meldėsi su vyčiais ir jų svečiais N.Y. Vyčių apskrities dvasios vadovas, kun. klebonas Pranas Bulovas. Koncelebracinėmis Mišiomis, vadovaujant šeiminkui, su kunigais Kaz. Pugevičium, Ant. Jurgelaičiu ir St. Raila, baigė savo metinį suvažiavimą. Pilna bažnyčia vyčių, svečių ir parapiečių, iškilmėms išpuoštoj bažnyčioj garbino Dievą, Giedojo. Gėrėjosi vyčių pamaldumu šeiminkas kun. klebonas, kurs visus pasveikino ir linkėjo sėkmingai įvykdyti savo ryžtą. Džiaugėsi ir parapiečiai, kad galėjo matyti tiek daug lietuvių savo bažnyčioj. Dvasios vadovas kun. Kaz. Pugevičius pasakė pritaikytą pamokslą, kviesdamas vyčius visomis jėgomis palaikyti lietuviškas parapijas ir lietuviškas pamaldas. Visi stiprinosi Dangaus Duona. Didingai atrodė naujos valdybos priesaika, priėmimas vyčių į aukštesnius laipsnius. Galingai ir nuoširdžiai skambėjo užbaigimo himnai.

Malonu buvo stebėti vyčius iš viso krašto, vyresnius ir jaunesnius, čiagimius ir iš Europos ar kitų kraštų atkeliavusius. Jie visi vieningi, lygūs Dievo akyse ir savo brangioj organizacijoj. Tur būt, teisingai vyčiai sako - gerai, kad Dievas visas kalbas supranta. Dabar



Photos - J. Sidtis



Photos - J. Sidtis

vyčiuose yra ne tik lietuvių, nekalbančių lietuviškai, bet ir ne lietuvių. Štai pamaldose visus Dievas suprato ir visi priesaiką lietuviškai suprato. Jei giesmių žodžių kas ir nemokėjo, bet širdimi - be žodžių giedojo. Žinoma, sakoma, kad geriau būtų jei visi vyčiai mokėtų lietuviškai melstis ir giedoti. Gal naujasis dvasios vadovas, ne nepailstančiu vyčiu Juozu Boley susitaręs, ir pradės vyčius daugiau lietuviškai prarinti kalbėti, lietuviškai melstis ir giedoti, žinoma, ir dainuoti... Kun. prof. Antanas Jurgelaitis, O.P., naujasis dvasios vadovas tikrai veiks į vyčius lietuviško pamaldumo ir lietuviškų papročių kryptimi.

BENDRAVIMO NAKTELĖ buvo nuotaikingai ir vytiškai praleista tame pačiame posėdžių kolonadų kambary-salėje. Tai buvo pavadinta nostalgijos naktelė. Iš tikrųjų buvo nuoširdaus vytiško pabendravimo pobūvis. Čia visi visus pažino, kalbėjosi, atnaujino ir sustiprino pažintis. Skoningai vaišinosi, žaidė ir šoko. Retai galima matyti taip smagiai, šeimyniškai besilinksminančių bendraminčių šimtinę. Lietuvis muzikantas Thomas padėjo draugiškai pasilinksminėti, pasisukti rateliuose, kurių buvo daug ir ilgų... Būreliai, grupės ilgai ilgai ir svajingai laikėsi ir nė juste nepajuto, kad jau po 2-jų ryto. Ši pobūvį reikia vertinti teigiamai. Ypatingai pagirtina, kad patys newyorkiečiai surengė vaišes, nuoširdžiai visus priėmė, nors ir reikėjo aštuonetą doleriukų primokėti. Gal ir apsimokėjo, nes mieste vakaras būtų daug kam kaštavęs 5 sykius tiek. Dabar liks maloniai atmintina naktelė New Yorke.

"Lietuviškas Linksmavakaris" - Antroji naktinė linksmybė galėjo atrodyti per greit, kai dar nebuvo atsilsėta nuo pirmosios. Bet tai buvo pagal vytišką paprotį - surengti programą suvažiavimo dalyviams ir vietos lietuviams. Šis linksmavakaris buvo vėlokai tik 9 val. vak. Autobusais sugužėjo vyčiai, posėdžių mintimis pripildyti, į atnaujintą ir apšaldomą Atsimainymo parapijos salę. Su vyčiais susirinko ir būrys vyčių rėmėjų ir palaikytojų iš visos apylinkės. Programai vadovavo savo stiliumi plačiai žinomas

aktorius Vitalis Žukauskas. Jis pirma neįprastu būdu pravedė minėjimą Konstantino Čiurlionio ir vyskupo Motiejaus Valančiaus. O po to? Po to Vitalis kalbėjo, juokus kėlė ir juokų laukė. Buvo juokų ir linksmybės, jei nebūtų išžęsta. Kartais atrodė, kad nesibaigs... Bet Vilijos kvartetas, vadovaujant Liudui Stukui, savo skambiomis dainomis, atskleidė lietuviškos dainos lapą. Dalyviai pasidžiaugė dainelėmis, nuoširdumu ir paprastumu. Visi stebėjosi "Vyčio" Redaktore Loreta, kuri taip daug ir sunkiai dirbdama seime, dar rado energijos dalyvauti kvartete. Bet ar visi žinojo, kad mielos dainininkės turėjo ilgai ir sunkiai dirbti, kad pasirengtų programai. Programą pajavairinti atvyko ir 90-os kuopos, Kearny, N.J. jaunų vyčių tautinių šokių grupė. Jie jauni, nestiprūs šokėjai, bet pasiryžę mokytis ir mokytis, šokti ir šokti gražiusius lietuvių tautinius šokius, kol pasieks tobulumo. Nepamiršta surengti ir parodėlę - gintaro, liaudies meno. Rengėjai turėjo tokį tikslą, taip suorganizuoti šį kultūrinį parengimą. Rengėjai mano, kad nebuvo galima ir gal nereikėjo rengti didesnio muzikos-meno vakaro, nes ne tam vyčiai seimą rengia. Seimo esmė - svarstymai ir ryžtas stipriau eiti į ateities gyvenimo veiklą. Be to, vasara ne metas didesniems renginiams. Dauguma vyčių dalyvauja gražiausiuose lietuviškuose parengimuose savo vietovėse.

Antra, toks parengimas daugumai patiko. Pav. rengėjams patiko, kad nebuvo vaišių ir vyčiai galėjo anksčiau grįžti į viešbutį, o kai kurie laukė užkandžiavimo, ir t.t.

DIDŽIOSIOS IŠKILMĖS - BANKETAS. Visi laukė svarbiųjų iškilmių - šeštadienį. Newyorkiečiai paskutiniosiomis dienomis, jei ne valandomis, stengėsi užtikrinti sau vietą Kultūros Židinyje. Juk taip gražiai skamba - banketas-šokiai, "Lietuvos Draugiškumo" medalio įteikimas, Simo Kudirkos dalyvavimas, garbės narių paskelbimas, stipendijų paskyrimas. Prisipildė salė. Nuotaika pakilus. Newyorkiečiai pirmieji susirinko ir turėjo gerokai palaukti svečių, tik todėl, kad autobusai ne vietoj sustojo. O at-



vykę negalėjo skubiai patekti salėn. Tai buvo aiški tvarkdarių nesėkmė, kurie nepajėgė patvarkyti. Valandos pavėlavimas suvėlino ilgą programą. Jei neištėsimas programos, tai šis vakaras būtų buvęs labai didingas. Jaudinantis ir didžiai reikšmingas buvo Simo Kudirkos sutikimas, vyčių garbės narių paskelbimas. Jo nuoširdus žodis sujaukino visus, nes Simas labai jautriai ir pats giliai pergyvendamas kalbėjo apie savo ir daugybės kitų kančias komunistų replėse. Visi dalyviai savo gausiais plojimais išreiškė Simui sveikinimą, užuojautą ir džiaugėsi jo laisve. Vyčiai galėjo didžiuotis, nes jie visą laiką rūpinosi Simo laisve ir rėmė jo žygį į laisvę ir dabartinę kovą už lietuvių, Lietuvos ir visų pavergtųjų laimėjimą. Užliejo salę sustojusių dalyvių aplodismentai. Tai buvo nepaprastas vaizdas, ypatingai paveikęs jaunesnius vyčius. Jie dar sykį gėrėjosi Simu, kurs galėjo su jais pabuvoti, o jie siekė jo parašo.

Įteikimas Lietuvos Draugiškumo medalio buv. kongr. Robert Hanrahan, jo šiltas žodis lietuviams ir pažadas ir toliau veikti Lietuvos laisvei, visus nuteikė noru dar stipriau ta pačia kryptimi veikti. Juk vyčiai savo laiškais ir pastangomis veda Lietuvos laisvės kovą visą laiką. Dabar jie pajuto dar didesnę jėgą, kai Simas jų tarpe, kai amerikietis pareigūnas su lietuviomis ir vyčiais. Visi jautė kaip vyčiai įvykdė ir vykdo savo šūkį **T ė v y n e i**.

Čia pat vyčiai atžymėjo du uoliu vyčiu - Al Wesley ir Juožą Janulaitį, kuriuodu tapo garbės nariais. Vyčiai įvertina savo pasiaukojančius narius, nes jau ilgą eilę turi garbės narių su vytiškomis lengvatomis. Manau, garbės nariai savo keliu jaučiasi labiau atsakingi aukotis vytiškumui, kad taip pateisintų organizacinę pasitikėjimą jais. Džiugu, kad mūsų gar-

bingieji nariai nenustoja sielojasi ir veikia vytiškumui.

Tą vakarą buvo ir kitų atžymėjimų, kurie jau yra aprašyti. Dar verta paminėti, kad muzikinė iškilnių programa, Liudo Stuko ir Genovaitės Mozur buvo mielai sutikta ir puikiai atlikta. Reikia pastebėti ir tai, kad buvo nusivylimo, nes laikas pasisvečiuoti, žaisti ir pasilinksinti bei pašokti buvo išnaudotas, gerokai prailgintomis kalbomis, supažindinimo žodžiais. Užėmimas laiko nuo 7:30 lig 11:30 programai ir vaišėms, buvo daugiau kaip netikslus programos planavimas. Visi vykdytojai turėtų labiau skaitytis su dalyviais. Rengėjų pasiteisinimas nepagerino dalyvių kartelio, kurį beveik visi jautė.

SUDIEV NEW YORKUI. Pasimeldę gražioj Atsimainymo parapijos bažnyčioj, vyčiai susirinko paskutinį sykį parapijos salėn. Geraširdis dvasios vadovas kun. klebonas Pranas Bulovas su savo parapiečiais skoningai pavaišino. Giliai dėkingi vyčiai už toki nuoširdumą. Čia atlikta užbaigiamieji seimo darbai. Susipažino su nauja valdyba. Naujasis pirmininkas Antanas Miner pasakė savo ir valdybos programinę kalbą. Jis padėkojo visiems vyčiams, buvusiai valdybai, seimo rengėjams, šeiminkui ir visiems maspetiečiams už nuoširdumą. Čia apdovanoti jaunieji už savo veiklą ir paskelbti kiti vytiškos veiklos, ypač naujų narių prirašymo laimėtojai.

Paskutinis vyčių seimo tradicinis užbaigimas didinga fotografija prie bažnyčios.

Dabar jau beliko tik grupavimasis, skuba į viešbutį, vytiškas atsisveikinimas, ir sudiev New Yorkui. Nežinia kada vėl būsim čia. Paskutiniai darbai laukė seimo rengėjų. Sutvarkyti seiman atvežtus reikmenis, padėti svečiams sėkmingai iškelti namo. Laimingos kelionės. Tai paskutiniai žodžiai. Sudiev.

Vytis kun. Stasys Raila



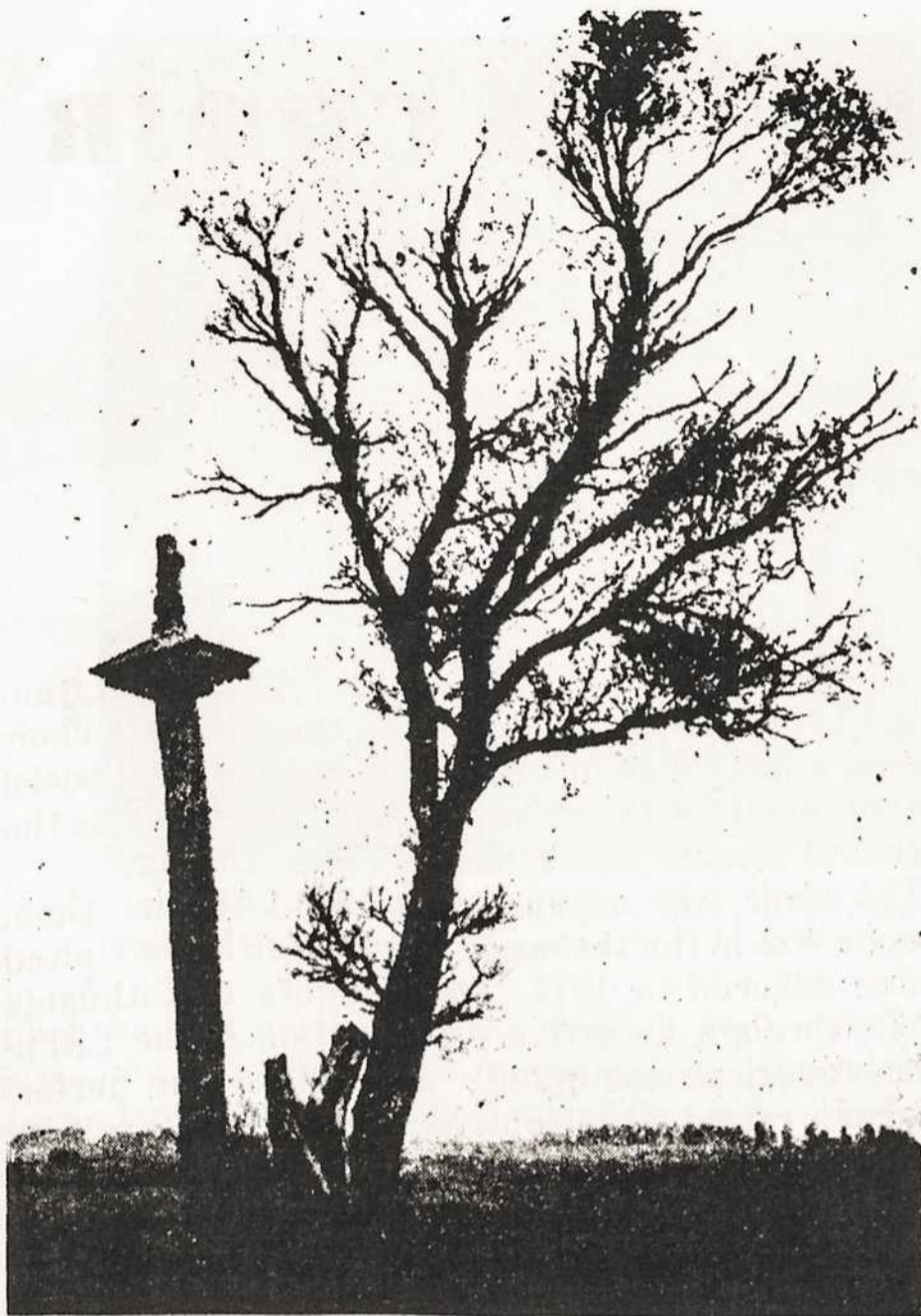
Photos - R. Kisielius

NO VISA TO PANEVEZYS

Aldona Ryan

What price shall I put on my grandmother's body
 My grandmother who never saw me,
 My grandmother whose body I never did see,
 My grandmother whose grave is lonely?
 Somewhere in Lithuania she lies
 Mid the birch trees, the stately firs, the fungii.
 What manner of men make the rules whereby
 A visit to her tomb they deny!
 O, wretched, ignorant soul am I
 To wrest with the powerful, the greedy, the sly

What price shall I put on my grandmother's body;
 A paltry pound of dust buried in the sod already,
 A worthless, almost forgotten remnant of life
 Who gave me my beginning, my strife?
 What is this to me that I
 Should struggle with those on high?
 With rue-like oil in my veins do I
 Stand green and strong against the
 Bitter winds of the clamor of the mighty
 For my grandmother's body!



Convention postscript

Joseph Boley

addressed to the delegates of the recent convention:

Many of you heard the concern expressed about the rather deplorable state of the Lithuanian language in our midst. If you too are concerned and appreciate this most important element of our heritage, I urge you to do something positive in its behalf and to do so now, before it is too late. Share in some detail with fellow members who were unable to attend the convention the information you got at the New York conclave. Dare to take this initial step during the first centenary observance of the death of Bishop Valancius, who organized the first band of secret book carriers at a time when Lithuanian books were banned.

Get somebody to bring the story of Valancius to the council meeting. Your effort in the memory of a great Lithuanian will bring added glory to the Knights of Lithuania. Become a book carrier of the modern era and an inspiration to all of us. And send a special report

of your undertaking to the VYTIS. Let us all know what is happening in your Lithuanian cultural world.

Make 1975 a very special year in the process of revival of the Lithuanian language. Be a leader. Spread the gospel. LIETUVIAIS ESAME MES GIMĘ.



**Nuoširdžiai sveikinu
 Lietuvos Vyčius Naujų Metų proga
 linkėdamas gražių švenčių
 ir sėkmingo darbo Lietuvos
 laisvinimo darbe**

**Jūsų, v.s. PETRAS MOLIS
 LSB Vyr. Skautininkas**

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CHOIR

"Rise up, Lithuanian, again,
Rise to work, because you know —
The nation's welfare requires
That you fight, as did the giants before..."

(words from L. J. Šimutis' song)

Lithuanian folk song melodies are in themselves extremely beautiful. But when they are harmonized, prepared not for two, but four voices, and when a choir masters the singing of these songs, the beauty of these songs becomes truly apparent.

It is said that the Lithuanians are a singing nation. Perhaps this is the reason that Lithuanians find rest and relaxation in singing hymns and songs. The monotony of daily work and worries is causing the volume of Lithuanian songs to diminish. It would be a tragedy, if the Lithuanian folk song should die... then the purpose and aims of Lithuanians in America would suffer a severe blow. God grant that this not happen to the Lithuanian folk song. Let it be sung on and on till eternity.

American-Lithuanians can take heart in the fact that there are groups of Lithuanian youth (the term "youth" encompasses, of course, both the young and the old), who have chosen as their aim the singing of Lithuanian songs, keeping them alive and thus raising the Lithuanian consciousness.

Especially satisfying is the fact that in the Lithu-

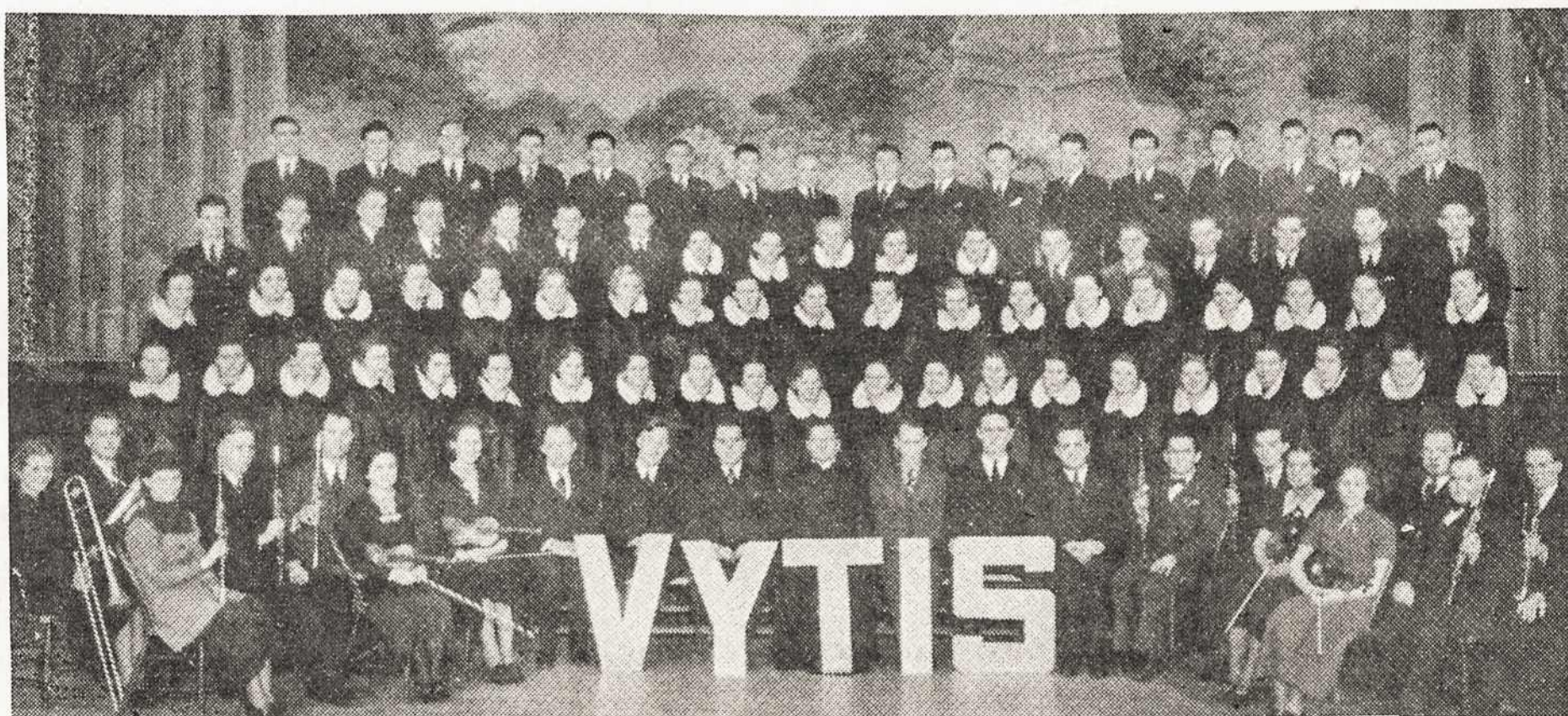
anian community in Chicago, the Knights of Lithuania Choir is still very active. In the past this choir played a large role in Lithuanian cultural and social life. At one time, this choir had been acclaimed as the best and largest Lithuanian choir in Chicago.

The choir was organized in 1916. At that time, Europe was in the throes of World War I, the United States entered in 1917. The Knights of Lithuania Choir, through its active participation in the Lithuanian-American community life and its fine performances, raised the consciousness of Lithuanian-Americans and urged Lithuanian youth to actively participate in the restoration of Lithuania's independence.

The Knights of Lithuania official journal "Vytis" (No. 3, 1916), stated: "The Chicago Knights of Lithuania, now numbering 11 councils and over one thousand members, has decided to organize a Knights of Lithuania Choir for this area. This decision is now being acted on". A commission to organize such a choir was formed, headed by council president L. Šimutis, P. Baltutis, and J. Jonča. This commission



K of L IID CHOIR, under the direction of A. POCIUS



*K of L Chicago District Choir, 1939, and director J. Rakauskas
(after death of J. Sauris).*

called the first meeting of the choir on February 24, 1916 in St. George's Parish Hall. Composer Alexander Aleksandravičius-Aleksis was elected choir director, and Jonas Kazanauskas was elected as the choir's chairman. Many well-known soloists of that time helped the choir in its formative years.

The choir rehearsed through the spring of 1916, until its choir director A. Aleksis moved to Brooklyn, N.Y. After a short while, Antanas Pocius took over the choir and started rehearsals. The first concert of the choir was organized December 10 of that same year. According to the press of the time, the first performance of the choir was enthusiastically welcomed by the Chicago Lithuanian community, and lauded by the music experts. The choir included in its repertoire many (until that time) unheard melodies and songs. It was apparent from the choir's first appearance that it had a promising future. The choir has survived 60 years and has accomplished much in the cultural life of the Lithuanian-American community.

Besides Aleksis and Pocius (who directed the choir the longest), the directors of the Knights of Lithuania Choir have been: Juozas Sauris, Stasys Rakauskas, Leonardas Šimutis, Jr., and the present one - Faustas Strolia. Not only did the choir include in its repertoires the usual assortment of folk songs and songs written by Lithuanian composers, but also cantatas of the order of Sasnauskas' "Broliai". It also presented to the public a whole series of popular operettas, including the very original one - "To the Homeland" (Į Tėvynę, words by L. Šilelis, music by A. Aleksis). The choir has also appeared in numerous religious concerts in many parish churches. At this time, the Knights of Lithuania Choir not only organizes its own concerts, as it has been doing from its birth, but also participates whenever the need

arises to further the cause of the Lithuanian nation. It also assists the Chicago Lithuanian Opera Choir and participates in Lithuanian Song Festivals.

The Knights of Lithuania Choir has had its ups and downs. Sometimes it would have a fine season, while at other times it would appear but rarely, and sometimes not at all. But the fact that it has always reappeared on the Lithuanian-American cultural scene, shows that it is a necessary and integral part of this community.

During the Second World War the choir was forced to disband, because many of its members - including the choir director - were called to military duty. After the War the choir reappeared. Leonard Šimutis Jr., who had just returned from his tour of military duty, again agreed to direct the choir. It was not an easy task to reconstruct the choir. The most difficult part was finding the necessary male voices; tenor and bass. However, the choir overcame these difficulties and after several months it performed publicly, and quite well, in a concert.

The choir, directed by Leonard Šimutis Jr., appeared in almost all of the Lithuanian colonies. It also appeared in the New York World's Fair, Lithuanian Day Program.

In 1951, the choir again was left without a director, and once more in its long history, became silent. In 1960 a Chicagoan, Knights of Lithuania member Estelle Rogers, began putting forth efforts that the choir revive. She invited the young and talented musician Faustas Strolia to be its director. Faustas Strolia managed to organize twenty five appearances of the choir in a three year period. It is interesting to note that the membership of the choir was now composed not only of Lithuanians who had just arrived from Lithuania after the war, but also of those who were brought up in this country. This is one of the



Post-War K of L Choir - L. Simutis, Jr. director

stronger points of the choir - it has managed to bridge the gap between the two generations of immigrants.

The Knights of Lithuania choir is a hard working and responsible group. When the Lithuanian Opera group decided to perform the monumental "Requiem" by Verdi, it needed a bigger cast of voices. The Knights of Lithuania Choir gladly participated in this memorial to all those who died in order that Lithuania be free, and the combined choir appeared in the gigantic McCormick Place Hall. The concert was a moving success.

Director F. Strolia, who has worked with many choirs, notes that working with the Knights of Lithu-

ania is a most pleasant task, because the members are agreeable to work with, and very straightforward when the time comes for rehearsals or performances. The choir, in presenting Lithuanian folk songs and works by Lithuanian composers, is performing the function of educating people to the beauty of Lithuanian music. When invited to perform, the choir does so willingly - and depending upon the occasion, appropriately picks its repertoire.

Thus, in the post-Second World War era, under the directorships of both L. Šimutis Jr., and F. Strolia, the choir has managed to appear in over 150 performances.

Alexander Pakalniškis Jr.



K of L Choir in concert, with present director F. Strolia (foreground - soloist P. Bičkienė)

OFFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

CONVENTION CORNER

Convention plans are on the move! Dayton has pretty much wrapped up its sub-committees with just a few loose ends. Elinor Sluzas and Walter Lastoskie are the co-chairmen for the convention. Our Honorary Members, Mary Lucas and Stanley Vaitkus, are honorary chairmen.

We are hoping you will save some of your vacation time and spend it with us. We have a terrific program on draft. Information will be published on the activities as time progresses. We hope to make it a fun filled event along with the organization's business at hand.

Mike and Fran Petkus have taken on the Junior portion of the convention. So, those councils with Juniors should keep them alert. We hope to see 100% representation from the Junior Councils. Our Junior Knights are anxious to host the visiting Juniors!

REMEMBER
SAVE TIME FOR THE
CONVENTION

COME TO DAYTON
THE AVIATION CENTER
OF THE WORLD

OFFICIAL DATES:
AUG. 25 - 29, 1976

"SPIRIT OF 1976"

THE BI-CENTENNIAL BUMPER STICKER — to be used on your car, windows, books, almost any place you can think. Printed on a self-peeling, self-adhesive, vinyl-like stock. Size 5-3/4" deep by 7-3/16" wide. Display your proud heritage and also let it be known you are a proud Lithuanian-American.

Individual cost of the decal is \$1.00. However, Councils can use this decal as a fund-raising program, especially during the coming Bi-Centennial year, 1976. For orders of 50 to 100 decals, the cost is \$.75 each and for decals of 100 or more, the cost is \$50 each.

Place your order now. Write to: Mrs. M. R. Kober, 2 Bayview Ave., Port Washington, N.Y. 11050

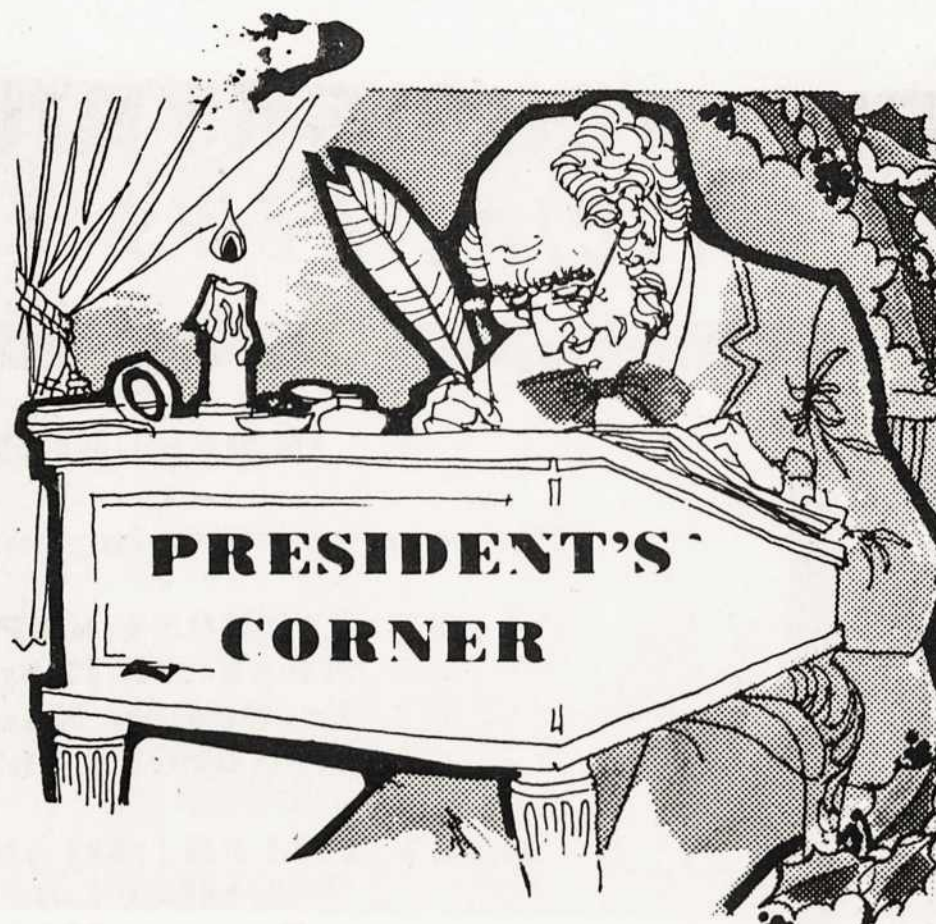
IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers...

DR. ANTHONY KAPOCHY
Member C-17 Srs.
So. Boston, Mass.
died Oct. 12, 1975

MARY MILLER (MILASKAVITZ)
Member C-96
Dayton, Ohio
died Nov. 27, 1975





Greetings! On behalf of the entire Supreme Council, as well as myself, may I extend most sincere best wishes to all members for a healthy, prosperous, fruitful and happy New Year.

During recent Supreme Council meetings, a number of issues and ideas have been discussed, and the support of all members is needed to make these plans effective.

We have a variety of committees and chairmen on the council, district, and national levels. Very often, there seems to be little or no communication between them. In order to make these committees more effective, and to utilize the abilities of people on all three levels, I sincerely urge council and district chairmen to contact their counterparts on the Supreme Council. The addresses of the Supreme Council officers and the National Committee chairmen are listed in the VYTIS inside cover. It is only by contacting them that some very valuable assistance can be gained and success can be achieved.

Once again, it is necessary to remind council and district officers to send in the latest Officers' Roster to the Recording Secretary. We still do not have a listing of all of the new officers.

A resolution passed at the National Convention requires the creation of an Ad Hoc Membership Committee in each District to aid troubled councils, reactivate inactive councils, and, hopefully establish

new councils. Each district president received a copy of this resolution as a reminder, and I sincerely hope that these committees have been formed and activated. Please be in close contact with the Membership Vice-President, Phil Skabeikis.

Occasionally someone requests some kind of Supreme Council action on a particular issue, or approval of some action, or a donation. Please make your requests far in advance, so that the request could be properly analyzed, studied, and handled in the manner which is most beneficial to the K of L. Hasty action can be unsatisfactory.

Finally, it has come to our attention that certain individual members had assumed authority which they did not have, and granted the use of the K of L name for a project which was NOT SPONSORED by the K of L. Please bear in mind that NO ONE PERSON has the right to permit someone to use the name of the Knights of Lithuania for any project, no matter how worthy the project may be, or how distinguished the person making the request may be. ALL such requests MUST be made through the Supreme Council. This ruling was made in the best interests of the Knights of Lithuania.

Have a good, successful K of L year.

Anthony M. Miner
National President

A JOLLY NEW YEAR

SUPREME COUNCIL
OFFICERS

and the

"VYTIS" STAFF



The red blood cells of any organizational body are its active members. Without the maintenance of a sufficient number of these cells, a body of an organization becomes anemic and weakens. It becomes susceptible to illness. Its limbs become weak and grow sluggish. The growth and functioning of vital organs is retarded. The analogy holds true if applied to the K of L.

This month, the beginning of a new calendar year and nearly the midpoint of the K of L year, we should keep this in mind. Those of us involved in "membership", and that should be just about everyone to one degree or another, have two basic aspects of our work to keep in mind.

DUES - An early and timely payment of membership dues to the National Financial Secretary should be the first priority of every council. This not only avoids having to struggle with dues collection later in the year, but insures a steady income for the National organization. This dues income is essential to the ability of the National organization to function efficiently by meeting its expenses and embarking upon new and progressive projects.

MEMBERSHIP - Aside from collecting dues from current members, the enrollment of NEW members is vital to the K of L for injection of new ideas and new enthusiasm to replace that of other members' that may have waned.

Some years ago, a membership contest was begun, designed to provide motivation to meet the above mentioned imperatives. Awards were created for the first councils in various size categories that reached 100% paid up membership status. Additional awards were instituted to reward councils that enrolled new members. The percentage of increase over a previous year was the determining factor in selection of winners. To appeal to the individual, awards were added for individuals who enrolled the most members in a given year. Points were awarded based on

whether the enrolled member was a rejoined K of L or a brand new member.

The same rules apply for the 1975-76 Membership Drive, but let's keep in mind the fundamental reasons for the contest: the need of the National Treasury to have the dues for operating expenses as early in the year as possible, and the ever-growing need for continued increase in our numbers, to enhance the K of L's role in the life of the Lithuanian American Community.

AWARD CATEGORIES

- First Category - Councils with 1 - 49 members
- Second Category - Councils with 50 - 99 members
- Third Category - Councils with over 100 members

An Award will be presented to the first council in each category to achieve 100% paid up membership.

The council in each of the three categories having the greatest percentage of increase over its 1975 total membership by June 30th will also receive an award.

Individual members will be eligible for special awards based on earning points for enrolling new members. The three highest totals achieved will be the winners. 10 points are earned for each new K of L enrolled and 5 points for each rejoined member. Deadline for these awards is also June 30th.

You can see that there's not much time. So let's get started! Make this year's campaign part of your K of L participation, for you, your council, and the national organization.

Philip Skabeikis
National Membership,
Vice-President



SPECIAL

ON THE CULTURAL SCENE...

At the Oct. 20, 1973 Supreme Council Meeting held in Chicago, a resolution was passed that made \$100 available to each Knights of Lithuania District from the Cultural Fund, for the express purpose of purchasing books and records on Lithuania or Lithuanian Culture, and donating them to public or University libraries, so that they would be available to the general American public.

Although publicized on all levels, response was slow. As interest grew and more K of Lers became aware of the Resolution, it became necessary to renew this project, which the 62nd National Convention has now done for the third consecutive year.

At this time though, notice should be made of a Council and an individual who took advantage of this fund.

Mrs. Mildred Chinik on behalf of her Council 19 of Pittsburgh, Pa. requested a small portion of the \$100 that was available to the Mid-Central District through that District's Cultural Chairwoman Mary Lucas C-96. Council 19 purchased three books and three recordings and through formal presentations, spread Lithuanianism to five of Pittsburgh's local libraries. More specifically, the presentations were as follows:

The Language Textbook "Introduction to Modern Lithuanian" to Carrick Branch Library, Lawrenceville Library and the Allegheny Regional Branch.

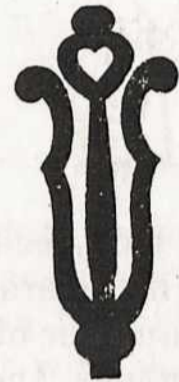
The Recording "Sing Along in Lithuanian" by the Rūta Ensemble to the Knoxville and South Side Branches.

Helen V. Kulber of C-41 and National PR Chairwoman, also availed herself of a portion of this grant to the Mid-Atlantic District through its District Cultural Chairman Juozas Boley. Mrs. Kulber presented a variety of Book titles covering the fields of Lithuanian Art, History, and Literature. Presentations were made in this case to the Bay Ridge Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library and the Donnel Branch and Main Branch (42nd St.) of the Manhattan Public Library.

Both Mrs. Kulber and Council 19 are to be congratulated on taking advantage of the opportunity presented them by the Supreme Council to undertake a Nationally coordinated Cultural effort.

To reiterate, \$100 per District is again available during the 1975-76 K of L Year. Applications for these funds should be made through the National Cultural Chairwoman Mrs. Aldona Ryan at 6591 McEwen Road, Centerville, Ohio 45459.

Phil Skabeikis





THE K OF L COMES TO WASHINGTON

Marian Skabeikis

Since its inception in 1912, the Knights of Lithuania has served its Lithuanian-American membership as a means to learn of and grow in the beautiful and rich cultural heritage which is the birthright of all those who are of Lithuanian ancestry. With the foundation of each of its councils, the organization has been enriched by the unique talents and abilities of individual members. Each council's story represents a page in the long and vital history of the K of L.

Even today, as the Knights of Lithuania enters its 63rd year of existence, there are those sons and daughters of Lithuania, who, having grown to maturity as Americans, still seek out the opportunity to become more familiar with their Lithuanian heritage. The Knights of Lithuania is pleased to welcome to its membership its newest council, C-142, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The birth of Council 142 does not follow the traditional pathway of local Lithuanian parish involvement. It all began with a membership brochure, sent by Marge Migonis, of Council 140, Syracuse, N.Y., to her sister Eva Migonis in Washington. Marge, a member of a new council herself, felt that the Knights of Lithuania best suited the needs of the Lithuanian American Washingtonians, so Eva Migonis mailed a letter to the VYTIS mailing address, asking for further information.

In a rapid succession of events, Loretta Stukas contacted Membership Vice President Phil Skabeikis, who, in turn, telephoned Miss Migonis in Washington. Several phone calls and letters later, an organizational meeting was set up for the election of officers and the presentation of the Charter.

On November 22, Phil and Marian Skabeikis (Juniors VP) set out to Washington to receive the new council into the K of L. They were greeted in Miss Migonis' apartment by a nucleus of ten committed and concerned people, armed with a sincere desire to learn as much as possible about their new organization. Several



Eva Migonis, newly elected President of C-142 and Phil Skabeikis.

members had studied the Constitution beforehand, and a spirited discussion ensued, involving questions on National, District and Council activities. Satisfied that the K of L was indeed "their" organization, elections were held and Eva Migonis (President), Joseph Simanis (Vice president), Frances Gedra (Secretary) and Loretta Gaigalas (Financial Secretary/Treasurer) were elected as the Charter officers of C-142.

Following elections, the new members paid their National dues, enrolling three additional members to make the new council a group of thirteen. The Charter was presented to President Migonis by Phil Skabeikis.

Since the new council falls into the geographical jurisdiction of the Mid-Atlantic District, an explanation of the Ritual and Point system was provided by Marian Skabeikis, a member of the MAD Ritual Committee. As all of the new members had become acquainted with the Constitution, those present then received their First Degrees in the Knights of Lithuania. At this point formality dissolved as

the new Knights embraced each other and shook hands, congratulating themselves on this first achievement as members of the K of L. This was indeed a memorable moment for all present.

A buffet reception followed, giving everyone a chance to become better acquainted. Many of the new K of Lers had been attending Lithuanian functions for years as individuals in an attempt to retain contact with their heritage. Several members had taken Lithuanian language lessons, and all were interested in enlarging their personal libraries with Lithuanian books and records.

That evening following the meeting, the visiting New Yorkers attended a performance at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts with President Migonis. The delightful evening provided for additional exchange of ideas and plans for the future.

The following morning, many of C-142's members attended Mass at St. Matthew's Cathedral. The Skabeikises were given the grand tour of the Cathedral by Joe Chaplick, who serves the Cathedral as a tour

guide. The funeral Mass for John F. Kennedy was held in St. Matthew's, and a large stone tablet commemorates the site. The pastor of St. Matthew's has graciously extended the facilities of the Cathedral to the new council.

The "Birthday" weekend for C-142 concluded with coffee served in the recreation room of the Cathedral, where Phil and Marian regrettably took leave of their fellow K of Lers.

Indeed, this newest council shows a promise for future growth and activity. There are already a group of potential members in the District of Columbia and neighboring states. The new council members and their Executive Board are to be especially congratulated on their commitment. A special thanks to Eva Migonis for her interest and diligence in organizing this council so far from any other neighboring K of L council.

We look forward to seeing C-142, Washington, D.C., grow and develop, and continue to enrich itself and our organization for many long and fruitful years.



KODEL NEGALIMA FAKTŲ SKELBTI

Paskutinis Lietuvos Vyčių seimas priėmė rezoliucijas, kurios nevisiems patiko. Net 112 kuopos susirinkime kilo didelis triukšmas savųjų tarpe, o vėliau E. Pakalniškienė parašė "Drauge" savo nuomonę. Rezoliucijas, priimtas seime, galima įvairiai vertinti, bet netinka jas vienaip ar antraip nuvertinti. Sakysim, kas liečia Popiežių Paulių VI. Jis neužtaria kankinamos Lietuvos Bažnyčios ir nieko nedaro, kai komunistinis režimas ją smaigia, tikinčiuosius ir leidžiančius "LB Kronikas", kiša mirčiai į koncentracijos lagerius, kalėjimus. Kodėl gi nekritikuoti tokio tylaus suokalbčio? Juk nė vienas nesam akli, matome, kas atsitiko Su Vengrijos kankinių kardinolu Mendzenty ar ukrainiečių kankiniu kard. Slyppi. Jis, išvargęs keliolika metų koncentracijos stovyklose, Vatikane negavo vietos.

Nebloga pakedenti ir savos veiklos kelius. Nereikia pykti ir iš šalės bėgti, jei Lietuvos karys, aviacijos

lakūnas, trokšta tik gero vyčių vardui ir ateičiai. Kodėl gi nepakalbėti ir apie Altą, Balfą, LB, jei matome kas ten negera ar gera. Juk LV remia lygiai visus, LV nėra partinė ar politinė organizacija, o tautinė ir religinė, Lietuvos Vytis mato laisvą Ameriką ir siekia laisvos Lietuvos atkūrimo. Kitaip ir būti negali, LV daug dirba abiem kraštams per visus savo veiklos dešimtmečius. Todėl ir toliau tegu LV organizacija būva neutrali. Jų atstovai tegu kalba kitose organizacijose kaip lygūs, o LV seimas yra vyriausias visų nutarimų organas.

Maža pastaba ir dėl mūsų žurnalo "Vyčio". Labai gražiai padarė E. Laurin ir L. Stukas lapkr. Nr. 9 su pirmu puslapiu, kur "60 Years of Vytis" straipsni pradėjo lietuvių kalba. Taip ir toliau reikėtų daryti. Sveikinu "Vyčio" redakciją ir darbuotojus.

Bal. Brazdžionis

K OF L

C A L E N D A R

JANUARY

- 24 IID K of L Choir **BENEFIT DANCE**,
Pakstas Hall, Chicago, Ill.

FEBRUARY

- 7 C-29, Newark **SQUARE DANCE**, Holy Trinity
Hall, Newark, N.J.
8 IID "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" Banquet
K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

MARCH

- 7 IID **ST. CASIMIR'S DAY**, Immaculate
Conception Church and K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
C-36, Hosts
7 C-29 **ST. CASIMIR'S DAY**, Holy Trinity Church
and Hall, Newark, N.J.
14 **MAD ST. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMUNION
BREAKFAST AND CONVENTION MEETING**
Annunciation Church and Hall, Brooklyn, N.Y.,
C-41 Hosts

APRIL

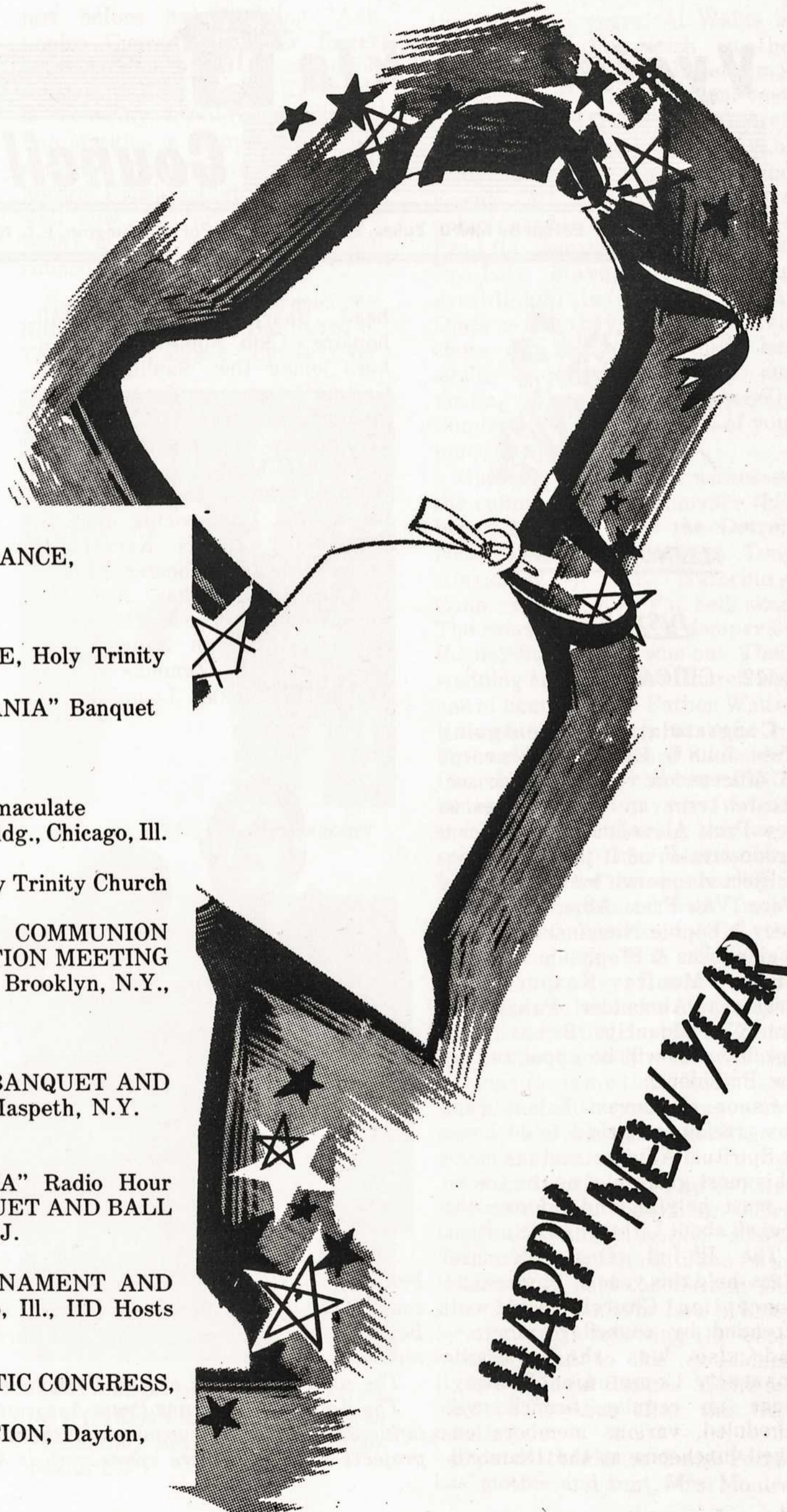
- 24 **MAD 60TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET AND
BALL**, Transfiguration Hall, Maspeth, N.Y.

MAY

- 1 "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" Radio Hour
35TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET AND BALL
Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, N.J.
Dr. Jack J. Stukas, Dir.
29- **MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT AND**
30 **MCD CONVENTION**, Chicago, Ill., IID Hosts

AUGUST

- 7 **MAD Attends the EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS**,
Philadelphia, Pa.
25- **63RD NATIONAL CONVENTION**, Dayton,
29 Ohio, C-96, Dayton, Hosts



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Vyčiai Veikia



Council Activities

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



ILLINOIS-INDIANA

DISTRICT

C-112 - CHICAGO, ILL.

Congratulations to outgoing Pres. John G. Evans and his corps of officers on completing a successful term, and best wishes to new Pres. Alexander Mockus for a productive K of L year.

Elected to serve with Al Mockus were: Vice-Pres. Albert Zakarka; Secy.'s Sophie Nieminski, Dolores Wainauskas & Stephanie Mlodzik; Treas. Monica Kasper; and Trustees Alexander Pakalniskis Jr. & Prudencija Bickus. The Sgt-at-Arms will be appointed by the President.

Canon Vaclovas Zakarauskas has graciously agreed to continue as Spiritual Advisor, and the council is most grateful, - as the Canon is most helpful, and informs the council about Lithuanian activities.

The Ill.-Ind. Dist. Memorial Mass, held this year at Immaculate Conception Church, was well attended by council members, - and also was the council's quarterly Communion Sunday. Since no regular brunch was scheduled, various members enjoyed luncheons at the Diamond-

head, Sharko's, and the Millionaire's Club. Some of the members joined the "Šauliai" at St. Casimir's Cemetery for traditional memorial services.

A hearty welcome to our new members: Christine Austin, Albert Barstis, Stanley & Nijole Cepas, Dr. & Mrs. Danilevicius, John G. Evans Jr., Juozas Karvelaitis, Frances Keiken, Chester Klovas, Teofilus Labanauskas, Ann Nowick, Frances Pranskaitis, Kazys Rozanskas, Joseph Shagg, Leonard Shemaitis, Zenonas Zukys, Azuolas Stelmokas, Leonardas &

Jadvyga Surkevicius, Kurt Velius, Stanley Yurkus, Vladas & Jadvyga Palubeckas, Katra & Raselina Bertuzis, John Yerkes Jr., and Richard & Valeria Jurgaitis. Some of the members have already been members of the board and we eagerly await the ideas and company of all of the new members. Membership leader Estelle Rogers and her co-workers are continuing to regale Lithuanians about the merits of the Knights of Lithuania and C-112.

iks



Stanley Balzekas, Jr., C-36, Chicago, was recently elected and installed as President of the American Veterans Press Association of Chicago. Pictured congratulating Mr. Balzekas (on the left) are from left, Estelle Rogers, Bernadine Bailey, Irene Sankus and Harry Petraitis, all Knights of Lithuania members.

The affair was held at the Chicago Press Club.

The American Veterans Press Association membership consists of the most influential and important people in the news and journalism media. One of its projects which they are sponsoring is helping the paralyzed veterans.

MID-CENTRAL**DISTRICT****C-96 - DAYTON, OHIO**

Congratulations and much thanks to Mike J. Petkus and Joe Mantz, co-chairmen of a very successful Party on Oct. 12 which took place in our church hall. John A. Berczely and Harley Karns did a great job setting up the hall and taking care of the extra games. Frank Ambrose, Al Wallis, Joe Gecas and Joey Mantz kept things moving as did George Mikalauskas. Charles Petkus and Sam Bakanauskas were our announcers. Rickey Noreikas handled his job at the refreshment bar in fine style. Members came through with door prizes that filled our 'goodie' table. It spite of the Reds playing in the World Series, we felt we had a great day and the women in the council just relaxed."

Elinor Sluzas, MCD Pres., came home from the Supreme Council meeting in Boston, Sept. 27, with nothing but praise. Elinor felt the sessions were well organized. She felt much was accomplished and the hospitality bestowed was most warm.

The Nat'l. Convention plans for 1976 are in full swing following our first committee meeting on Oct. 26. Elinor Sluzas and Walter Lastoskie are Co-chairmen. Honorary Members Mary Lucas and Stanley Vaitkus are Honorary Co-chairmen. Most of the main events entailed in running the Convention are now filled with sub-chairmen. We are ready to GO!

Foot injuries have hit the council recently. Judy Petrokas is slowly recovering from a torn ligament; Jerry Podeyak had foot surgery; Pat Zelinskas Alexander had a hairline fracture on her right foot

just before her wedding. Ann Louise Conrady had her finger sewn back on after an on-the-job accident. Father Walter Katarskis is recovering from recent illness. Leo Matkins is recuperating from surgery. Our prayers are sent to Margie Grushas that she is doing well now. Prayers for improved health is extended to all from the council members.

Ernest Omlor is representing Holy Cross Parish on the Board of Trustees at Calvary Cemetery for



Newlyweds, Pat & Tony Alexander



*C-96, Matron of Honor, Ann Ryn-
ders (Bridge's sister), Tony & Pat
Alexander, Best Man John Alan-
skis of C-7.*

the next two years. Al Wallis is representing the parish on the Northeast Churches' Emergency Center Board. This program sees that the needy in our parish's area are taken care of in the way of food, etc. John & Jane Petkus and Frank & Karolyn Ambrose volunteered to become our parish's Pro-Life Coordinators. The Total Pro-Life Movement is being established in the Cincinnati Diocese and they have taken this chore on. Mary Ann Blum has again volunteered to help our visiting Nuns with the weekly Sunday CCD classes. To all of you, much luck and thanks!

On Oct. 18 many of us witnessed the culmination of a romance that began a year ago at the Detroit Nat'l. Convention between Tony Alexander of C-7, Waterbury, Conn., and our own Pat Zelinskas. The rains tried to put a damper on the day but the sun won out. Their wedding at Holy Cross Church was one of beauty. With Father Walter Katarskis officiating, assisted by Father Victor F. Ries of St. Peter's Church where Pat had been a CCD instructor for many years, we had the pleasure of sharing this very special day. At the reception that followed we had the opportunity of becoming acquainted with Tony's family. John Alanskas of C-7, the Best Man, joined in the atmosphere of the day. It was a joy to see Pat's mother being able to take part in the entire day. Mrs. Zelinskas has been pretty much confined to home for some time. To Pat and Tony, we wish you many years ahead filled with good health and much happiness!

Congratulations to Lou & Kitty Prasmantas on becoming Third Degree Members. Al & Albina Wallis and Sarah & Jane Ann Petkus now hold the Second Degree. Much thanks to Lou & Kitty for the treats following the Sept. meeting, and to Joe & Aldona Ryan and Joe & Eleanor Mantz for all their goodies after the Oct. meeting.

Belated thanks to Judy Petrokas' mother and aunt, Mrs. Monica

Petrokas and Mrs. A. Seskevics. A thank-you to Mrs. Marcus, also. These women helped us with our baking for various projects we participated in during the summer.

Congratulations to Joe & Ann Boecke on the birth of their fourth child, a son. Congratulations, too, to the grandmother, Ada Sinkwitz.

Joan & Diane Kavalauskas have the bowling league in full swing now. Much luck with the season. Sally & Bea Noreikas chaired the Christmas Bazaar. They had the members busy with various craft projects. Mary Miller was Sally's background busy bee!

Belated news item: The billboard that was recently on display at the entrance of I-75 and Stanley Ave. reminding Daytonians and travelers of Lithuania's plight was the concept of Elinor Sluzas. Much luck to Jerry Scott, Ed Sluzas, Mary Agnes Mikalauskas and Bill Moan. Their band "Watch Dog Group" has jelled and they are lined up with performances.

FRP

C-79 - DETROIT, MICH.

October played a perfect host, bringing balmy and nice weather for our K of L meeting. Our main agenda was election of officers: Sp. Advisor Rev. Viktoras Krisciunevicius; Pres. Magdalena Smailis; 1st V.P. Ona Walls; 2nd V.P. Marianne Newberry; Fin. Sec. Jos. Chaps; Rec. Sec. Ruth Grasha; Treas. Frank Zager; Trustees Violet Panavas, Anthony Dainus, Helen Tucker; Board - Bertha Janus, Chester Nashlon, Jos. Yakstys, Helen Mykolaitis, Barbara Sackle, Cynthia deVine; and Sgt-at-Arms John Belickas. Congratulations to all. It is hoped that they will work together well for the cause of our organization, and to resort to a paraphrase, "the council that prays together stays together".

Thank-you to Joe Yakstys for the successful drawing held at our Oct. 1st meeting. The BIG winner was Sidney Millard, daughter of

Jack & Bea Millard. Congratulations! Joe, personally, thanked everyone. It was a job well done which will benefit our goal toward the Memorial Cross.

John Belickas made a surprise announcement that he and his wife, Julie, are making a contribution of \$500. toward the Memorial Wayside Cross. The entire council extends to them our heartfelt thanks.

Snack items and refreshments were served by hostesses V. Chepelonis and J. Medinis, following the installation of officers by Sp. Advisor Rev. V. Kristy.

Beautiful weather played a prominent role at our 2nd Annual Parish Dinner on Sept. 27 to commemorate the building of the new Divine Providence complex. Sophiã Dryza, sister of Monica Salas, again put her best foot forward and made a sumptuous dinner, compliments of her time and work to benefit the parish. Labai ačiū, Ponia Dryziene. Many thanks, also, to Chairlady Stella Hotra, and her helpers, E. Mickey, Chuck and Helen Mykolaitis, Walter Hotra and M. Valė. Stella personally thanks Marie & Geo. Kase for remaining till 2:30 a.m., tidying up following the banquet.

It was nice to see our former pastor, Rev. Michael Kundrat, who came in from Memphis, Mich. It was also good to see Frank Petroski after a number of sojourns to St. Mary's Hosp. He's still identifiable even after losing quite a few pounds, and looking real good.



Congratulations to Stella & Walter Hotra on attaining a marriage milestone, their 30th, on Oct. 13. Then Stella treated her father, Anthony Mameniskis, to dinner, celebrating his birthday on Oct. 22. Ilgiausių Metų!

On Oct. 20 Joe Usoris and wife, Helen, celebrated Joe's birthday, assisted by family and friends. When Joe told us it was his "37th", our natural reaction was "you don't look it". Helen and Joe spent 6 weeks visiting out West. They semi-toured in Arizona, Mexico, Las Vegas, San Diego and visited with Joe's mother in Phoenix. They also played hosts to several relatives who were visiting here from Lithuania.

Bill Walls went winding his way to Florida where he spent some time with brother Frank and wife Esther. They had a "wee family" reunion with cousin Aniele Bucionis who came in from Sao Paulo, Brazil. Upon his return from Florida, Bill and his wife, Ona, flew to Arlington, Va., to visit son Philip and family, during which time they visited the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, and went to the Lithuanian Chapel in the Immaculate Mary Shrine in Washington, D.C.

Our condolences to Ona & Bill Walls upon the death of their 17 yr. old granddaughter, Patricia Sprowl.

Last October, Antoinette Zilvitis lost a good friend, Adele Vale. She now lost her best and dearest friend, her husband, Dr. Bruno Zilvitis, following a number of surgeries and long hospitalization. May he rest in peace.

Ralph Valatka's retirement from his city-county job was announced in the early part of October, via his Lith. Radio program. His wife Ona retired earlier, and they plan to move to Florida. We regret that they are leaving us, but hope they won't forget to stop by and say "hello" whenever in town.

Another who is retired and we don't see or hear from much is Jos. Kazlauskas and his Mary. Where have they been hiding?

Estelle & Kazys Gogelis and daughter Vida motored to Florida, enjoyed Disney World and other sights. On the way, home they stopped to visit the Vincunas' in Georgia.

The Frank Zagers took in an autumn trip, enjoying parts of New York and a visit with their son Tom in Creektowaga, then on to Toronto for several days of sightseeing.

SOFFI



NEW

* ENGLAND

DISTRICT

C-17 SRS. - SO. BOSTON, MASS.

The committee for the 62nd Nat'l. K of L Convention held at the Hotel Taft in NYC, hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Dist., are to be commended for the excellent job well done. As a newer member of the organization elected for the first time as a delegate, I found it most interesting and productive. Congratulations to Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., elected Spiritual

Advisor; to Joseph White, our council's Pres. elected to 3rd Vice-Pres.; and to Longinas Svelnis, Chairman of the Archives.

We extend a warm welcome to our council's newest members: Veronica Aluza, Mary Ann Doherty, Adele Judeikis, Monica Plevok, and Ann Narkewich.

Our new Officer's Roster is as follows: Spiritual Advisor Rev. Anthony Baltrashunas, Pres. Joseph White, 1st V.P. John Norinkavich, 2nd V.P. Anne Norinkavich, Secy. Virginia Markuns, Fin. Secy Aldona Kropas, Treas. Mary Mickevich, Sgt-at-Arms Patricia Akule, and Trustee Daniel Averka.



C-17 Srs., So. Boston, Mass. - Joe White, Ann White & Longinas Svelnis

Committee Chairmen are: Cultural, Daniel Averka; Lith. Affairs, Felix Zaleskas; Ritual, Longinas Svelnis. Vytis correspondent is Ann Voveris.

Please remember in your prayers the members of C-17's family who have passed away: Mrs. Veronica Baltrashunas, mother of Rev. Anthony Baltrashunas, our Spiritual Director and pastor of St. Peter's Lithuanian Church, So. Boston, died after a long illness on Oct. 10. Mr. William Bolis Norinkavich, father of John, died after a long illness on Aug. 25. Mrs. Amelia Medzius, mother of Aldona Kropas, died Sept. 25 after a short illness. Dr. Anthony Kapochy, a long time member of our council and prominent leader in Lithuanian community affairs in the Boston area for many years, died suddenly on Oct. 12. His presence will be sorely missed by the community.

A.V.

C-116 - SO. WORCESTER, MASS.

We extend our warmest congratulations to Tony Miner on his election as Nat'l. Pres. We know Tony will distinguish himself in that position as he has in all his numerous endeavors on behalf of the Lithuanian community. He has been president of our council for nine years. We are familiar with his loyalty and fierce pride in his



C-17 Srs. Committee Meeting - Virginia Markuns, John Norinkavich, Ann Antonelis, Frank Mar-

kins, Alexander Akule, Mary Mickevich.



C-17 Srs. - Ann Norenkavich, Mary Mickevich and Josephine Sakevich

Lithuanian heritage, and his love for our organization. It was no surprise to us, and it is a credit to the delegation on their selection of this very capable, sincere gentleman. Good luck, Tony!

Sincere congratulations to our newly-elected council officers for the 75-76 season. Once again as Pres. is Tony Miner, Vice-Pres. Mrs. Irene Adamaitis, Secy. Dorothy Sinkavitch, Fin. Secy. Helen Daltwas, and Treas. Mrs. Dorothy March.

Our bowling season is in full swing at 8:30 P.M. Friday evenings at the T-Bird Alleys. Why not come down, even if you don't bowl; the socials are fun. We know you will have an enjoyable evening. We have lost some, and gain some. This year we lost the Harts; we miss them. We have a newcomer, Rita Skamarock, to fill the gap.

Heartfelt condolences are extended to the Paluses and Hart families on the death of their mother. May she rest in peace.

Our members are getting to be world travelers; suitcases are always ready for a jaunt to farr-off places. In October, Mary (Balukonis) & Vic Mrozinski and Grace & Joseph Balukonis and their son Gregory flew to the exotic city of Istanbul. Following on their heels, Anna Miller also took off for Istanbul. Tony Miner then took off for Rome and the Holy Land to commemorate the Holy Year. In November it was Florida for Dorothy Sinkavitch for the umpteenth time.

Our wish for Trudy Zibinskas is that she will be fully recuperated from her illness that required surgery. Best of health in the future, Trudy; you certainly deserve it.

Taradaika



C-103 - PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Marcella Savickis, mother of Beatrice Mathieu, Ruta Krecioch, and Bertha Stoskus, underwent eye surgery at Mass. Gen'l. Hosp. in Boston. Her stay at the hospital, and period of recuperation at Hallworth House in Providence, kept her daughters very busy.

Worcester C-26's Dinner-Dance was a tremendous success. Eighteen persons from Providence had a most enjoyable evening. Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Krecioch celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary at the gala event.

Vandals desecrated St. Casimir's church. The tabernacle was toppled from the altar, the Holy Eucharist strewn about the floor, and candle sticks stolen. The Providence Police Dept. apprehended the culprits in less than twelve hours.

Father Martinkus attended a special testimonial given the Most Rev. Daniel Reilly, D.D., Bishop of Norwich, Conn., in Providence.

Marianapolis Preparatory school in Thompson, Conn., begins its Golden Anniversary in January, 1976. Marianapolis is operated by the Marian Fathers of St. Casimir's Province, and her alumni over the past 50 years have taken active participation in the K of L organization. The newly elected Vice-General of the Marian Congregation, the Very Rev. Donald Petraitis, MIC, was an active Jr. Knight, and was a contributor to the Vytis as a teenager. Father Edmund Budrecki, MIC, is an active member of our council. Father John Petrauskas, MIC, Headmaster of Marianapolis, is a loyal supporter of the K of L. The Very Rev. Joseph Dambrauskas, MIC, is serving his second term as Provincial of the Marian Fathers of St. Casimir's Province.

Stanley & Helen Vaitkus of C-96 Dayton, Ohio, were recent visitors to Providence. They visited Helen's mother, Mrs. Avizinis, at the Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam, Conn.

Jonas

C-26 - WORCESTER, MASS.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL! The newly crowned king of C-26 is Joe Sakaitis who has been re-elected President. Others on the 1976 Executive Board are: Ann Morkunas, Vice Pres.; Ann Bender, Rec. Secy.; Rita Pinkus, Fin. Secy.; Stephen Walinsky, Jr., Treas.; Peter Ivaska, Auditor; Francis Degutis, Sgt-at-Arms; Alex Kardokas, Lithuanian Affairs. Father Anthony J. Miciunas, MIC, Spiritual Director, installed the new officers on Nov. 11, prior to the monthly meeting. These eight individuals have told us that hard work still pays off and so right after their installation, they held an executive meeting to discuss: Where are we? Where are we going? How do we get there?

NOSTALGIA DEPARTMENT: Members of our council joined other parishioners on Oct. 26 at a tea to bid Father Jos. Budzeika, MIC, a fond farewell. Father was transferred to Wisconsin to serve in another Marian parish. We wish Father ilgiausiu, sveikiausiu, ir dziaugsmingu metu!

A PARISH SON RETURNS: A warm and sincere welcome to Father Benjamin Uzdavinis, MIC, who is Father Miciunas' new assistant pastor. Father Ben attended our parish school, celebrated his first Solemn High Mass at our St. Casimir's Church, and now his new assignment brings him "home". We look forward to a long, busy and pleasant association with Father.

GOOD NEWS FROM HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL: Eleanor Gaidauskas is improving daily following recent surgery, and we know that soon she'll be A#1.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEN (AND WOMEN) to pay their dues for the New Year.



Rita Pinkus is reaching for an early 100% paid-up membership.

THERE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS! Welcome, warm and true, to six new members: Withold & Ginny Ivaska (Peter's parents), Joe & James Zalieckas (brothers) and Johnny & Richard Godek (also brothers).

THE NAME OF THE GAME IS BOWLING and with the first half of the season nearly over, look out for the usual upsets. You'll be surprised.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIETUVIŲ MENO MĖGĖJŲ RATELIS of Worcester (a few of its members belong to our council) who celebrated their 25th anniversary on Nov. 22. This fine group of singers have presented concerts, produced an L.P. record of Lithuanian songs, and all who know them love and respect their goal in spreading our beautiful Lithuanian culture. Valio! Ir ilgiausiu metu!

JINGLE BELLS Santa delivered gifts personally when he came to our annual Christmas party which was hosted by the outgoing executive board.

WE WANTED TO BE AMONG THEM, those who honored Simas Kudirka (sponsored by the Lietuvių Bendruomenė) at the banquet held at Maironis Park on Nov. 9. Tickets were sold out!

PERSONAL NOTES AND LITTLE KNOWN FACTS: Did you know that some of our most interested and active members are equally busy with other things? For example, Frannie (Algis) Glodas who holds a most responsible position at Maironis Park, finds time to be one of the most active new members in the parish choir. He's brought many new members with him! We've had to change rehearsal night, though, because Frannie and his friends (some bartenders, some waitresses) are busy working parties at Maironis Park weekends. Marion Racicot is president of our school's Mother's Guild. Carol Grigas teaches gym at our school. Withold Ivaska, Francis & Adele Degutis, Joe Sakaitis, Charles Tagman, Sr., Steve

Walinsky, Sr., to mention just a few, are weekly workers at the parish bingo. The St. Casimir's Sisters Auxiliary claims several of our members for its executive board: Ann Bender, Pres.; Ann Ridick, Fin. Secy.; and Beatrice Anton, Auditor. Ellie Walinsky is a "Bluebird" (Campfire Girls) leader. Rita Brazauskas is a hospital volunteer. Ann Walinsky and Olga Kersis are organists for English and Lithuanian services, respectively. Pretty interesting discoveries, when you scan the membership list!

CONGRATULATIONS, GRANDPARENTS: To Betty & Tony Tamalevich for the first time and to Ann & John Ridick for a few times more! How very nice!

HEADS UP!



Birth defects are forever. Unless you help.

March of Dimes

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY THE PUBLISHER

AND WE WISH HAPPIER AND HEALTHIER DAYS for Joe Zalesky who is a patient at St. Camillus Hospital in Whitinsville. **SUDIEV DABAR... IKI SEKANČIO NUMERIO!**

Dzūkelė

C-10 - ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

On Sept. 28 a religious concert of music was held in St. Francis Church, Athol, in memory of Robert T. Linehan, former organist of the parish. It was under his direction, along with Father Steponaitis, that the religious concerts were held each year, that attracted many non-Catholic and non-Lithuanian persons. Mr. Linehan had, in fact, arranged this concert prior to his death. It was an excellent concert of organ, trumpet, harpsichord, flute and soprano's. Those in attendance made it known to Fr. Stepie that the concerts should be continued, though Mr. Linehan has left us. Bravo.

In November two of our most active, most liked members celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. Blanche Jonaitis and Charles Genaitis were married Nov. 11, 1940 in the Sacred Heart Church, Gardner, and have lived here all their married lives. They are the parents of two children, Richard and Lillian Erickson, and grandparents of four. The couple are active in C-10. Charles is a 35-year member of his parish choir and is a member of the Lithuanian Outing Assoc. Both are teachers in the Gardner School system. We all wish the Genaitis many more years of married bliss and good health.

Lennie Davidonis and Clara Zetkauskas were attractively dressed at the Lith. Outing Assoc.'s Halloween Party held at the Club on Nov. 1. Lennie was an Indian, and Clara a Chinese doll.

Vincukas



C-29 - NEWARK, N.J.

29-TOS KUOPOS 60 METŲ SUKAKTIS

Š.m. spalio mėn. 11 dieną Newarko Lietuvos Vyčių 29 kuopa iškilmingai atšventė 60 metų sukaktį Šv. Trejybės lietuvių parapijos salėje, Newark, N.J.

Vakaro vedėjas inž. Valentinas Mėlynis, atidaręs pobūvį, pakvietė vyčių dvasios vadą prel. J. Šerną sukalbėti maldai.

Po maldos visi sugiedojo Amerikos, Lietuvos ir Vyčių Himnus.

Šio parengimo pirmininkė M. Stonis trumpa kalba svečiams padėkojo už gausų atsilankymą. Ją svečiai sutiko su didžiausiu entuziazmu.

Toliau buvo pristatyti garbės svečiai ir vyčių valdyba. Vakaro vedėjas V. Mėlynis perskaitė Centro Valdybos pirmininko A. M. Miner sveikinimą. Miner dėsiuosi Newarko Vyčių 29 kuopa, kuri nuo įsteigimo dienos niekuomet nebuvo sustojusi veikus ir dirbus kultūrinį darbą. Visą laiką buvo gyva, veikli, pavyzdgingiausia vyčių kuopa visoje Amerikoje.

Solistė Angelė Kiausaitė išpildydama programą nepaprastai gražiai padainavo lietuviškas liaudies dainas. Akompanavo jos mokytojas Richard Hundley.

Programai pasibaigus prasidėjo vaišės ir šokiai. Svečiai šoko iki vėlyvos nakties.

Į šį iškilmingą 60 metų sukakties minėjimą susirinko iš arti ir toli 260 žmonių.

Šią kuopą 1915 metais įsteigė patriotai lietuviai, norėdami padėti Lietuvai atgauti laisvę.

Kuopos steigėjai buvo: G. Knapka, G. Brazauskas, B. Vaskevičiūtė, A. Masandas, P. Rupenis, S. Misiūnas, P. Daužvardis.

Pirmosios valdybos pirmininku buvo išrinktas G. Brazauskas, sekretorė - B. Vaškevičiūtė.

Kuopos svarbiausias tikslas buvo kiek galint greičiau susiorganizuoti ir veikti Lietuvos labui.

1917 metais JAV-bėms paskelbus karą Vokietijai, Newarko miesto valdyba surengė didžiulį ištikimybės parodą. Eisenoje gausiai dalyvavo vyčiai ir vyčių orkestras grojo parodo metu. Šia proga vyčiai buvo pakviesti išpildyti programą didžiulėje salėje.

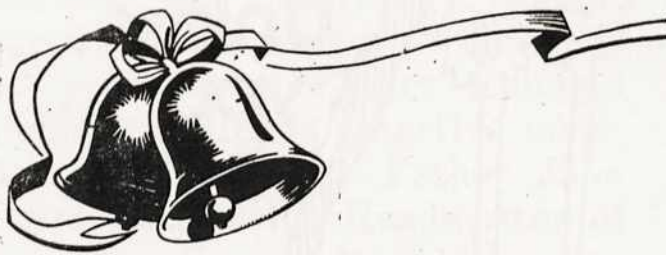
1918 metais Newarko miesto valdybos suruoštame Tarptautinių šokių festivalyje vyčiai laimėjo pirmą premiją - sidabrinę taurę.

Vyčiai ypatingai reikėsi sporto varžybose. Tada sportininkams vadovavo veiklus ir energingas vyčių garbės narys P. Vaškas. Be to, jis rašė raštus ir rašinius lietuvių ir anglų kalbomis į laikraščius, nuolatos keldamas Lietuvos vardą.

1941 metais, t.y. karo metais Newarko vyčiai neteko daug gerų, darbščių narių. Vyčiai buvo paimti į kariuomenę, tačiau kuopa išliko stipri ir gerai organizuota, veikli. Kuopos veiklą palaikė moterys.

Kuopa leido savo nariams laikraštį "Key", kuris buvo populiarus.

Per daugelį metų ypatingai daug dirbo šie vyčių veikėjai: G. Remeikis, P. Padolskis, G. Bech, N. Bech, A. Manler, V. Berker, V. Thomson, E. Thomson, R. Lelešius, F. Vaš-



New Year Greetings

**ANTHONY J. & SUSAN
MAZEIKA**

C-41

Brooklyn - Queens

kas, E. Dominauskas, E. Daukšas, Prof. Dr. J. Stukas, G. Grybauskas, G. Montvilas, W. Kranauskas, I. Sakewich.

1955 metais kuopa suruošė pirmąjį visuotinį Vyčių Seimą Newarko, kuris dar daugiau pakėlė kuopos vardą ir nuotaikas.

1963 metais kuopa pastatė didelį, gražų, lietuviško stiliaus kryžių prie Šv. Trejybės lietuvių parapijos bažnyčios Newarko, kuris ir šiandien traukia praeivių dėmesį.

Nuo 1938 metų kuopos pirmininkais buvo: G. Remeika, K. Vaškevičius, G. Montvilas, P. Padgalskis, E. Thomson, G. Sakewich, C. Strolis, I. Balčiūnas.

Nuo 1963 metų Newarko vyčių kuopai vadovauja energingas pirmininkas Kazys Šipaila. Valdybą sudaro: R. Žukauskienė, A. Radish, Iva Sheron, M. Stonis, A. Abromaitis ir dvasios vadą Prel. J. Šernas. Kuopoje yra 125 nariai. Jie skaito lietuvišką katalikišką spaudą.

Lietuviška ir parapija. Klebonas-energingas lietuvis prel. J. Šernas. Visi nariai uoliai lanko ir remia bažnyčią. Turime lietuvišką "Lietuvos Atsiminimų" radio valandą, per kurią kas šeštadienį kalba didelis vyčių veikėjas, radio valandos direktorius Prof. Dr. J. Stukas. Vyčiai lietuvišką radio programą gausiai remia. Taip pat energingai dirba veikli ir daug padedanti Newarko vyčiams - "Vyčio" redaktorė Loretta Stukas.

Newarko Vyčių 29 kuopos valdyba ir nariai dėkoja visiems svečiams už gausų atsilankymą į 60 metų sukakties minėjimą.

Albinas Žukauskas

C-100 - AMSTERDAM, N.Y.

Attending the 62nd Nat'l. Conv. in New York were Anthony & Ann Radzevich, Sophie Olbie, Ed Baranaukas & children Barbara and Tommy, Gene Gobis, Isabelle & Milton McKinley, Peter Hayes, Christine Ralys, Christine Zakarka, and Very Rev. Robert K. Baltch. Matt Orante's painting "Welcome Knights of Lithuania"

was hung in the Taft Hotel lobby. Isabelle McKinley and Gene Gobis served on the Greetings Comm., and Ed Baranauskas on the Resolutions Comm. Sophie Olbie and Ann Radzevich sold the K of L pins and booklets for Father Pugevicius.

Re-elected as Trustee was Anthony Radzevich, as was Ed Baranauskas - Co-chairman of Public Relations. Our council received the First Place award in the category for 100% paid-up membership. Peter Hayes had "open house" in his suite, where former Amsterdamian Al Zakarka and his family (Chicago) and others paid Pete a visit.

Hosting the Sept. 7 meeting were Peter & Charlotte Sargalis at their summer home at Lake Galway, N.Y. We also visited Stan & Evelyn Rimkunas' camp which was next door.

Guests attending the meeting included Ref. Luis Barboza, San Paulo, Brazil; Sister Mary Immaculata of the order of the Sisters of St. Francis, Pittsburgh, Pa. (formerly a teacher at St. Casimir's School here in Amsterdam and now a missionary nun stationed in San Paulo, Brazil); Rev. Walter Czechowicz, Loudonville, N.Y. Two Nat'l. S.C. officers from Queens, L.I., were also present. First Vice-Pres. in charge of Juniors, Marian Skabeikis, spoke on the need of good leadership in keeping an active Junior council. Second Vice-Pres. Philip Skabeikis spoke on ways and means to increase membership in the organization. He praised our council's membership increase and congratulated us on winning First Place in paid-up membership. Member Joseph Valikonis, Democratic Supervisor of the 3rd Ward, was also heard. Rev. Anthony Grigaitis spoke on keeping the Lithuanian language alive.

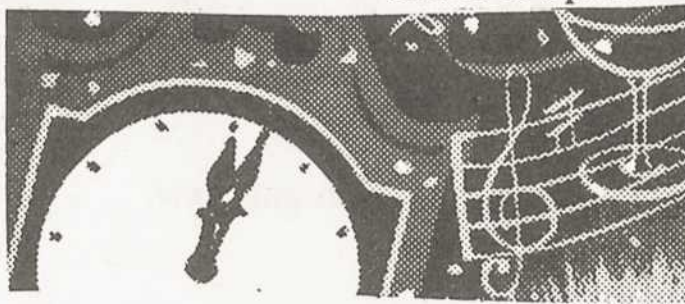
Marian Skabeikis brought her brother William, a Jr. K of L'er. He was introduced to our Jr.'s, Linda Orante, Gerard & Alan Drenzek. Marian spoke to Regina Kot about supervising the Jr.'s... Nellie & Ed

Liberis were unable to make the meeting as they were in Florida attending a relative's wedding... Peter Hayes brought a barrel of freshly-picked corn for the snacks. Many members brought extra goodies to add to the host's menu. The weather was perfect, the company enjoyable... Frances Bobines, who helps out at our Amsterdam Free Library, told the group of the Library's need for Lithuanian books. It was decided to purchase the book "Lithuanians in America" by Dr. Anthony Kuchis, which will be presented to the library.

Father Grigaitis led the members in prayer at the start of our October meeting. Father Baltch was away on a week's retreat at the Thousand Acres Ranch outside of Lake George.

Tony Radzevich thanked the co-chairmen of the Simas Kudirka Reception and Dinner, Edward Baranauskas and Sadie Karbus, for an excellent job. The event took place on Sept. 14, starting with a Lithuanian Mass at noon at St. Casimir's Church, followed by dinner at the Tepee Restaurant. Many K of L'ers worked on the various committees. The religious services were in charge of Very Rev. R. K. Baltch with Rev. A. Grigaitis assisting. The Liberis family played host on Saturday evening to the committee, with Simas and Genovaite Kudirka, the guests of honor.

Smile & Sparkle



C-12 - MANHATTAN, N.Y.

With 1975 behind us, Council 12 can look back with satisfaction on a busy and productive year highlighted by the National Convention in New York, in which our members took an active part. We hope that 1976 will be one of accomplishment and the successful realization of all our plans.

The newly elected officers for 1976 are: Spiritual Advisor - Rev. George Gurinkas, President - Helen Matthews, Vice President - Helen Cuprewich, Secretary - Helen Yurkus, Treas. & Fin. Sec. - Millie Pietz, Cultural & Lith. Affairs - Jim Sabal, Ritual - Helen Cuprewich, Trustees - John Avanavicius and Jovita Sleder, Sgt-at-Arms - Walter Yurkus, Vytis Correspondent - Jeanne Janonis. Congratulations and all good wishes for the coming year.

This past year, Rev. Gurinkas celebrated his 75th birthday and after 34 years retired as Pastor of Our Lady of Vilnius Church in New York City. We know he has been looking forward to his retirement and we all wish him a long, happy, healthy and satisfying one. Ilgiausiu Metu. In 1976 he will be celebrating his Golden Jubilee as a Priest and tentative plans are being formulated to observe this anniversary.

The new administrator is Rev. Peter Kmita, formerly of St. Casimir's Church in Paterson, N.J. We extend to him our sincerest congratulations and best wishes and look forward to a long and happy association.

Mary York, a long standing member of Council 12, and our Vytis Correspondent, has had to curtail her activities in order to devote her time to taking care of her mother, Mrs. Mary Rodell, who is seriously ill. We miss her and pray that Mrs. Rodell will have a complete recovery.

We wish to extend our sincere condolences to Connie Siatsis and her family on the recent death of her husband, Jim and to Mrs. Ann Sartauskas on the death of her husband, Joe, who was also Connie's brother. Joe Sartauskas was a former member and President of Council 12.

Also our sincere condolences go to Fran Petkus, a former member of C-12 now in Dayton, Ohio, on the recent death of her father.

Best wishes to all for a very Happy, Healthy New Year.

J.J.

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VYTIS
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Return Requested
Address Correction Requested



Bright and shining days are what we wish
for you as the New Year blazes in, fresh and new.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Newark, New Jersey

REV. MSGR. JOHN SCHARNUS
REV. VLADAS KARALEVICIUS
REV. JOSEPH BARKUS, O.S.B.