

the KNIGHT
VYTIS

•1976•
**The Knights
of Lithuania**



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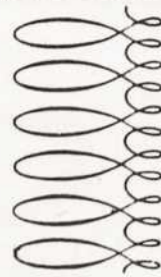
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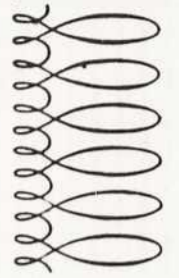
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the KNIGHT VYTIS



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Mother



It may just be the sweetest word in the language. It may just have more meanings, too. Like love and tenderness and caring . . . to name a few. And, sometimes a lot of years have to go by to really know how much one little word can mean.

OUR LADY OF SILUVA AND THE LITHUANIANS

Rev. Albin Janiunas



(from the sermon delivered Dec. 14, 1975, during the annual K. of L. N.E.D. TV Mass).

One of the central figures that we recall in our liturgy is the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Divine Savior.

The "first widely-known apparition of the Mother of God in Europe" took place not in France, not in Portugal but in the small Baltic country of Lithuania. It was in the town of Siluva in central Lithuania in 1608.

During one of my shopping tours west of Boston, I asked the light-complexioned lady clerk who waited on me if she were Lithuanian. Her reply was "What's

that?" Haven't you heard of the Baltic countries of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia seized by Soviet Russia during World War II? She replied "No". I inquired what school she attended. She said the regional High School in her area. The young lady went on to explain that the maps in her history book did not show the existence of these Baltic countries behind the iron curtain.

Not many people have heard of the small country of Lithuania in Eastern Europe, near the Baltic Sea. It is the size of Rhode Island and Maryland put together. It numbers well over three and one-half million inhabitants, and the ancient capitol city of Vilnius alone has 310,000 people.

Lithuania became a Christian country in 1251 when her King Mindaugas was baptized into the Catholic faith. This faith has been carried down into the homes for centuries as attested to the presence of many wayside shrines and crosses that dotted the countryside and the lawns of many townspeople and villagers over the years.

Mary, the Mother of Our Savior with her "beautiful long hair and charming, loose-fitting garments" ("Our Lady of Siluva", page 11) appeared at the town of Siluva (pronounced Shiluva) in central Lithuania in the summer of 1608. She held the Divine Child in her arms. Mary was witnessed by several children and many neighbors who gathered at the scene of a huge rock. She was sorrowful with tears in her eyes. It was the second day of her appearance. In reply to the Catechist's question "Why are you crying?" the Blessed Virgin Mary said: "Formerly in this place my Son was adored and honored, but now all that the people do is seed and cultivate the land". Mary reminded the people of God to adhere to the faith of (their) fathers.

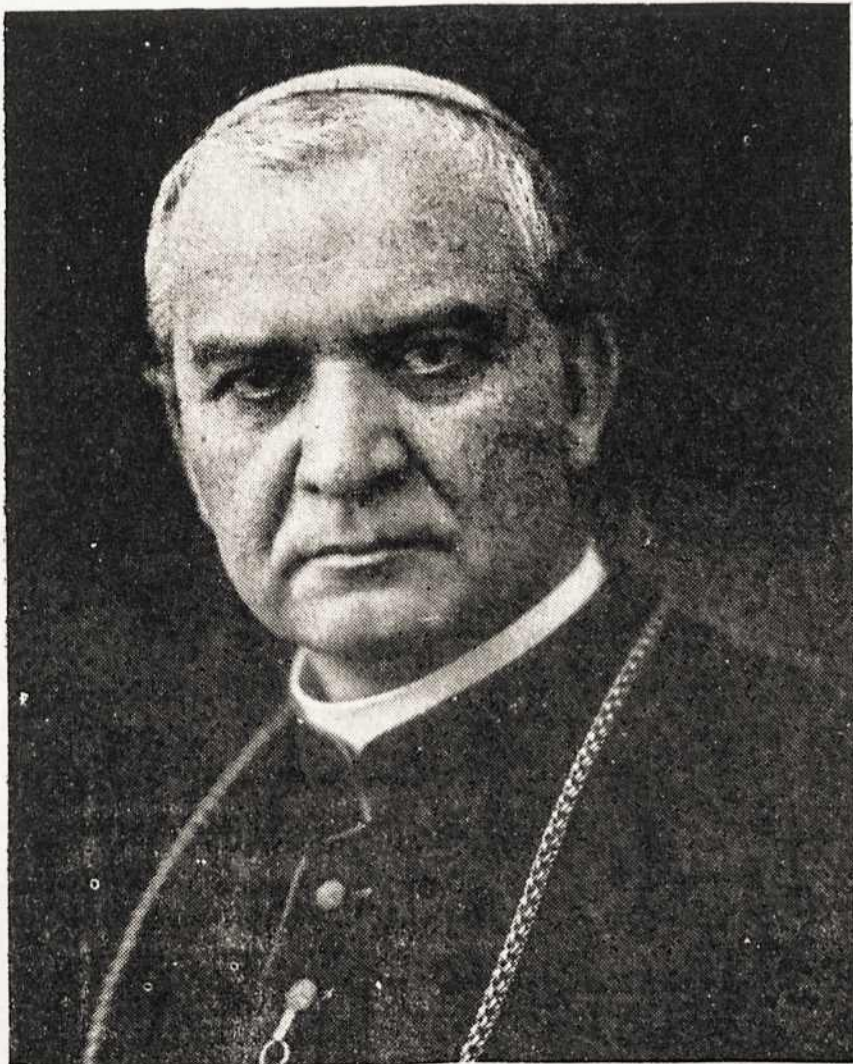
The lesson is clear - being faithful members of the Church, we are true followers of Mary's Divine Son. Father John Jutt in his book "Our Lady of Siluva" (pg. 34) says "Surely she does not wish to reserve to one group of people or to one nation a message that was meant for the faithful of every nation on every continent".

Countless devoted people have flocked to the chapel built in honor of Our Lady of Siluva to this



day, even though the country has been under the iron rule of Communist leaders since the first Soviet invasion in 1940. The altar of the chapel was built over the rock on which the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared. After extensive investigations by the local Bishop, Pope Pius VI in 1775 approved the cult to Our Lady of Siluva with enriched indulgences. Today, 200 years later thousands made the annual pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady in Siluva. Sixty priests received permission to hear the confessions of the many faithful who gathered on her traditional feast Sept. 8 and our holy Father, Pope Paul VI raised Mary's shrine to the status of a Minor Basilica.

Amongst those who developed a strong and tender devotion to Mary was St. Casimir, a capable administrator and ruler, patron saint of Lithuania, who died in the year 1484 at the age of 26. Daily he addressed this hymn, his own composition to Mary "Omni die dic Mariae". "Daily, Daily sing to Mary; sing my soul her praises due". His last request was that this hymn be placed beside him in his coffin.



One of our contemporary bishops, Archbishop George Matulaitis (1871-1927) (Bishop of Vilnius) had an ardent devotion to our Blessed Lady. His priestly motto was to love Jesus and Mary, to live for Jesus and Mary. In 1918 he founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary to assist the poor wherever they may be found. They are located in Putnam, Connecticut here on these American shores. (The beatification process for Archbishop George Matulaitis has begun in Rome).

The faith of the people has been kept over the past 700 years and presently under Communist pressures the people are able to keep open only half of the churches and chapels and these are heavily taxed. There are no monasteries or convents permitted to remain open. There are no existing Catholic organizations. These people behind the iron curtain want to live in human dignity, seeking religious and national freedom, and freedom of conscience. The faith is there. You can't tear out of the minds and hearts of the people the love and service of God. It was St. Augustine who said - our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee, O Lord.

Many Lithuanians have died for their freedom. In the year 1941 alone, thirty-four thousand people were taken from their homes, forced into cattle cars and borne to far distant places in the Soviet Union to suffer and die. One hundred eighty priests and four bishops have been exiled to Siberia. 400,000 Lithuanians were deported, and of these 150,000 found their graves in Siberia. It was from one of these Siberian wasteland labor camps that we heard from four girls who wrote their daily prayers on ordinary paper and secretly compiled a handmade book of Mass prayers of worship and devotion to sustain their soul life and succeeded in secretly sending this same book out of Russia to Lithuania and the free world. The year was 1953. The name they gave their prayer book was "Marija Gelbeki Mus" - Mary Save Us. It has been translated into many languages. Cardinal Richard Cushing prefaced the English translation by saying - "As in every previous era of persecution and slavery the Lithuanians with the heroic and extraordinary religious spirit have one great source of comfort and consolation: Christ and Lord and Mary, His Mother".

Pope Pius XI did call Lithuania "Terra Mariana", the land of Mary. He knew that for centuries the people cultivated a particular devotion to the Mother of God, built churches and compiled prayers and hymns in her honor. They brought these hymns with them to these American shores. They built a chapel in honor of Our Lady of Siluva, not far from the main altar in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

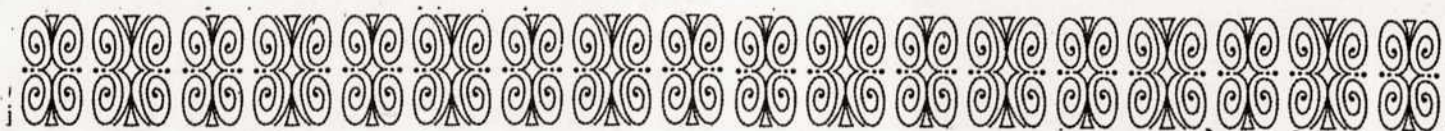
On April 1, 1973 Pope Paul VI asked for support and requested prayers for a "Church of Silence" saying, "There is still a Church forced to live, indeed to survive in the shadow of fear, in asphyxiating and paralyzing murkiness of oppressive laws. This Church of Silence, patience, and agony" that is denied its legitimate right to profess the faith, to educate and practice social welfare. Pope Paul concluded his talk by asking the people who enjoy the freedom of going to Church (at Eastertime) to pray for the Church's "languishing communities and for all those who because of their myopic prejudice (are devoid) of the true appreciation of life and the secret of true human progress that is Christ the Savior.

Since 1972 there have been released 19 official chronicles on the Catholic Church in Lithuania. Reverend Casimir Pugevicius, Executive Director of Lithuanian American Catholic Services says these publications serve as a constant appeal to the free world not to forget the plight of a people struggling against overwhelming odds to defend their religious beliefs and to regain their basic human rights. The latest chronicle to come from behind the iron curtain reveals the sinister communist government plan of spying upon church worshippers, threatening them with loss of work if they do not cease public worship of God.



With Mary's intercession we hope and pray that Lithuania and the other captive nations will once again be numbered among the free family of nations under God.

Following Christ, may we live as His beloved sons and daughters with the help of Mary our Mother.



A CREED TO LIVE BY

Lord, thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old.

Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all... but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind from the recital of endless details... give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips to my many aches and pains... they are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint... some of them are so hard to live with, but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Help me to extract all possible fun out of life. There are so many funny things around us and I don't want to miss any of them.

(Author unknown)

Memorial Day



A TIME OF PEACEFUL REMEMBRANCE

Democracy. Freedom. The American experience and spirit is founded on these words. In times of peril our servicemen have defended this spirit with dedication and courage. Many have given their lives to preserve it. Today, young men from our community are continuing to uphold tradition. Our hearts and thoughts are with them, and with all those men before them.

Memorial Day is a time for quiet reflection. A time to honor our servicemen of past and present. And, as we rekindle the memory of what they have given to their country and to each of us, we also prayerfully work and hope for peace. Across the land there will be parades and speeches of commemoration. It's our way to proudly and reverently give thanks.

In Tribute and for Remembrance

VIENA MAMOS DIENA



6:00 v. ryto. Mamą kaire ranka siekia sustabdyti įkyrų žadintuvą, o su dešine persižegnoja. Basos kojos paliečia šaltas grindis. Drebančiomis lūpomis bučiuoja savo škaplierį, kalbėdama rytinę malda. Skubiai apsirengia. Šaltu vandeniu nuplauna veidą, pertraukia šukas per plaukus.

Ant kojų pirštų galų vaikštinėja iš vieno kambario į kitą; uždaro langus. Sustoja prie Timuko lovos ir lūpomis paliečia jo kaktą. "Palaimink jį, mielas Dieve! Jis kūdikis" - ji sušnabžda.

Užkloja Daratėlės plonytėlius pečius. Įeidama į kitą kambarį, patyliai ragina: - "Loreta, brangioji, ar eisi Šv. Mišių šį rytą? Jau beveik dvidešimt po šešių". Pagriebia Vincuką už pečių ir judina, budina iš miego savo jauną biznierių - laikraščių išnešiotą, - kad pradėtų savo darbą.

Dabar skuba pas šeimos tėvą. Glosto jo plaukus ir sako: "Ant kelių tinginy!.."

6:50 v. ryto. (Stalas padengtas, avižiniai dribsniai paruošti, kava kvepia, kiaušiniams vanduo verda). Mama svarsto: "Jeigu pasiskubinsiu, galėsiu Komuniją priimti septintųjų Mišių metu". Griebdama skrybėlę stipriai sušunka: "Visi pusryčių!"

7:00 val. Mama grįžta namo. Įėjusi pro duris, girdi skambančius stiklus ir šaukštus. Vaikai šaukia: "Pusryčių, pusryčių!"

"Nė vieno kashio, jūs, alkani pagonys, negausite iki atkalbėsite malda". Daratėle, tavo eilė malda!... Ji kalba "Palaimink mus, Viešpatie, ir tas Tavo dovanas..."

7:30 val. Mama išleidžia tėvą. Pabučiuodama taria: "Užsuk į bažnyčią pasimelsti, nes dar anksti".

Pakepina duonos ir įpila apelsino sulčių Loretos pusryčiams; išleidžia ją darban su - "Dieve, palaimink tave!" Grįžus į virtuvę, pa-

ruošia priešpiečius Timukui, suriša jo batukų raiščius. Supina Daratėlės kasas. Dar kartą patikrina jaunosius moksleivius ir siunčia išklaudyti Mišių. Prižada: "Iškepsiu avižinių sausainių, jeigu sukalbėsite malda už mane". Akys seka išėjusius. "Mielas Jėzau", ji prašo, "apsaugok juos nuo nelaimės".

8:00 val. Mama atsisėda prie stalo su antru puoduku kavos. Greitai peržiūri dienraštį ir susirašo viską, ką reikės nupirkti. "M'm", ji pastebi "vargšė Kotryna Railienė mirė. Amžiną atilsį jos sielai - ši vakarą rožančių atkalbėsime". Plauja lėkštes ir viską sudėlioja. Praeidama pro Šv. Širdies paveikslą, Mama nulenkia galvą - "Švenčiausia Jėzaus Širdis, teatėnie Tavo karalystė".

Užgirdus laiškanešio švilpuką, pripuola prie durų - "Gal laiškas

nuo sūnaus iš seminarijos!" - "Palauksiu valandėlę ir paaukosiu ją vargstančiom sielom".

10:30 val. Dabar maisto pirkimo laikas. Užgirdusi laikrodį skambinant dešimtą valandą, skubiai išėina laukan. "Dabar Vincukas mokosi skaičiavimo. "Panele Šventa, jūsų malone, padėk jam!" Mamos lūpose šypsena. "Jis skaičiuoja nesąmoningai - kaip ir jo Mama".

Sustoja pas jauną Odverienę. Užtrunka penkias minutes besikalbėdama su nauja motina. Skuba į Fenvick gatvę ir čia aplanko ligonę Bartoložienę. Įteikia jai suvyniotą sausainį, supina plaukus.

Sustoja ir pas našlę Marę Jakūbienę. Kalbasi, ramina. Atsisveikindama Mama išpaudžia kortelę į našlės rankas. "Kalbėk šią maldele", Mama liepia, "ji tau suteiks daug paguodos".

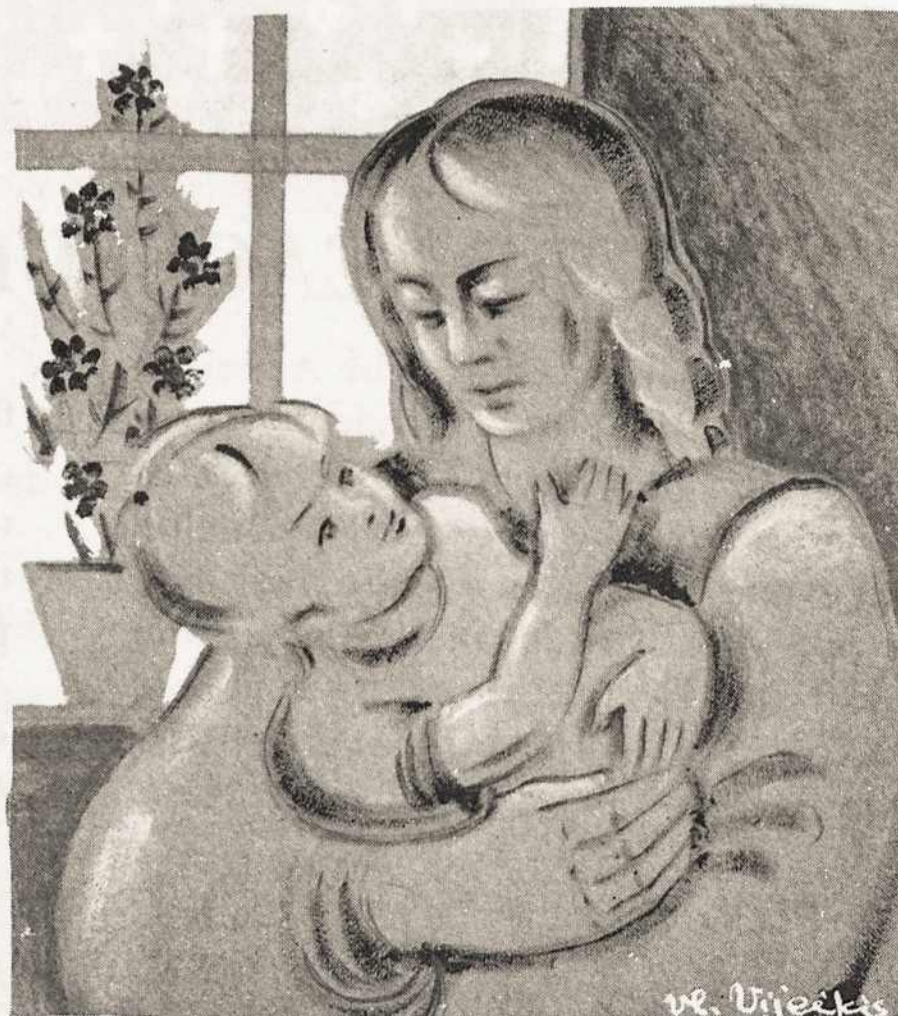




Photo - R. Kisielius

Maistą supirkus Mama grįžta į namus. Nors ir apsikrovusi maišais, pasuka į bažnyčią. "Aš tik vieną minutėlę turiu, mielas Jėzau, bet malonu ją praleisti su Tavimi".

12:00 pusiaudienis. Užkandis tėvui - daugiau lėkščių, puodukų. Mama šeria Timuko šuniuką, pulką žvirblių, Daratėlės paklydusį katinuką; palaisto žaliuojančius augalus, ištuština kanarėlės narvelį. Telefonu pažada draugėms: iškepti kepinų parapijos bazarui, pagelbėti zakristiją išvalyti ir paskolinti siurbli kaimynei.

2:00 val. p.p. Atsimena pažadą - šeimynai iškepti sausainių. "Šv. Antanai, padėk surasti razinkas!" Šv. Antanas atsiliepia, razinkos atsiranda, tik trūksta tų, kurias Timukas ir Daratėlė pirma surado. Įkišusi sausainius į krosnį, užgirsta garsiai verkiantį kaimynų Taduoką (motina eina dirbti). Atsineša jį vidun, sutvarko sužeistą kelį ir pakviečia palaukti iki sausainėliai iškeps.

3:00 v. p.p. Vėl telefonas skamba. Loretos balsas... "Mama, sulaidyk mano raudoną suknelę Šodaliečių susirinkimui šį vakarą! "Please" sukalbėk maldą, kad galėčiau perrašyti savo stenogramą".

Mama atliks viską. Mamos mintys skrajoja - "Brangi Loreta, vi-

suomet miela ir gera... gal kitas pašaukimas? Vyriausias sūnus jau seminarijoje... O Loreta? Aš nesiskundžiu, mielas Dieve, tik svajoju...

4:00 val. p.p. Šeima pradeda grįžti namo. Mama ištraukia rakštį iš Daratėlės piršto, sulopo Timuko kelnes, sušukuoja Loretos plaukus, padeda Vincukui suvynioti savo vakarinius dienraščius - viską atlieka beeidama nuo krosnies prie spintos ir šaldytuvo.

6:00 val. p.p. Pasitinka tėvą su šypsena, dailiai apsirengusi. Visi susirenka pietauti. Ji valdo savo šeimą kaip karalienė per pokylį. Meilė, juokai ir linksmumas apsupa visus. Vargai ir dienos rūpesčiai diskutuoti ir užmiršti.

7:00 val. p.p. Mama kviečia visus kartu atkalbėti rožančių. Po to, kai visi vaikai plauna lėkštes, Mama išeina atkalbėti rožančiaus už mirusios Railienės sielą. Sugrįžus padeda Vincukui paruošti "užduotas pamokas", sutvarko Daratėlės baltą suknelę 40 valandų procesijai ir peržiūri sąskaitas su tėvu.

Apie aštuntą valandą, ragina "mažus" į savo lovas. Maudynės,

maldos, apklojimai užima visą valandą.

9:00 val. vakaro. Mamos "laisvas laikas!" Rašo laišką sūnui seminarijoje. Paskui rašo paguodos žodelį dėdės Jono našlei, skaito Šv. Raštą penkiolika minučių ir mezga Vincukui naują juostelę. Kalba su tėvu apie dienos problemas, prašo patarimų ir sugestijų.

10:00 val. vak. Mamos diena baigiasi. Atsiklaupusi, žvaigždžių šviesoje, tamsiame kambaryje kalbasi su savo Dievu atvirai. Dėkoja Jam už dienos malones ir geroves, prašo apsaugos per visą naktį. Aukoja galvos skaudėjimą, sakydama, "Tu kentėjai dėl manęs, Saldžiausias Jėzau, aš su džiaugsmu priimu savo skausmus dėl Tave".

Sunkiai įlipa lovon. Rožančius slysta pro atsileidusius pirštus, lūpos patylomis kalba: - "Panele Švenčiausia, Tavo malone, pabaik mano rožančių man... aš esu... labai pavargus... ir mieguista..."

Helen E. Hemberger
The Grail Magazine

Vertė Antonia M. Wackell



ANOTHER LITHUANIAN CROSS

by Anthony Dainius

We've all seen pictures of Lithuanian crosses or wayside shrines in the Lithuanian press or on calendars and there is quite a variety, from simple to ornate.

It was this subject that confronted the Knights of Lithuania, Council 79 of Detroit (or more correctly of Southfield, Mich.). I might mention that our council has had some hectic days. Our church, for example, is now in its third location. The first two were in Detroit and the third in the beautiful suburb of Southfield. Our council started in the old St. George's church in 1919, then vanished, then revived in 1959 in our second location and became the largest council in the K of L. Now we start with a bang in our third location. Almost as soon as we moved in, we sponsored a National Convention (in 1974).

Now, not to rest on our laurels, we have undertaken another large project - a large metal cross in front of our new church complex, complex because it also has a cultural center. First Chicago had its 'Youth Center' and Brooklyn its 'Kultūros Židiny's'. Now we have

our Cultural Center, enhanced by a beautiful Lithuanian Cross.

Some nine years ago, one of our former presidents, Edward Martin, met with a tragic death. We were all shocked, not because he was president or a member but because he was what one might call the life of a party. No matter what the occasion, he was always smiling and cheerful. To add to his popularity, he usually brought his small concertina and often led in the singing of Lithuanian or English songs.

After his tragic death, C-79 members talked of a memorial for him and other deceased members. At the time we were in the midst of relocating our church because a freeway was coming through. Since I happened to be chairman of our New Building Committee, I thought about a Lithuanian cross for our proposed church as a lasting memorial for all members of our council. As chairman, I reserved that privilege for the Knights.

It took seven years to realize a new church from the day we were informed a freeway was coming

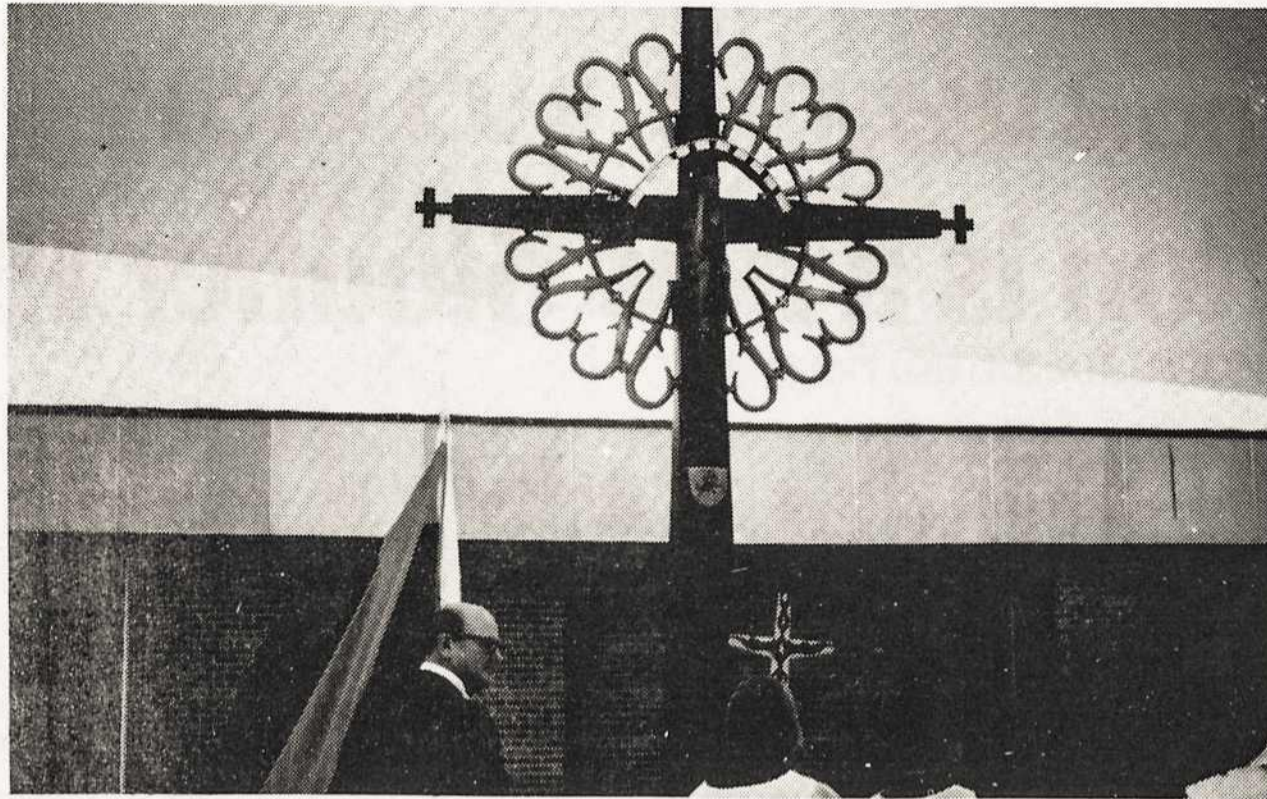
through. With the completion of the new church, it was time to think about the cross. Who should we contact? Where should we look? What type of cross do we want? It was like being in a forest without a compass.

We contacted Vytautas K. Jonynas who had designed the art work for the Vatican Pavilion at the New York World's Fair, because he was also designing the stained glass windows, the altar and the statuary for our new church of Divine Providence in Southfield. He submitted several sketches and models, one of which was finally approved by our members. It took about a year from approval to completion. Many trips from one end of town to the other were involved, submitting blueprints to steel contractors and requesting their bid for completion and erection.

We decided against the traditional wooden cross. They are not very permanent since rain, snow and heat cause them to deteriorate. So we requested Mr. Jonynas to design something in metal. He did. The cross itself is of cor-ten steel,



Bishop Joseph Imesch, assisted by Rev. Krisciunevicius, blesses the Lithuanian Cross.



The K of L Cross at Detroit. Rev. Krisciunevicius and Chester Nashlon with flag.

the type that is used on over-passes for our freeways. It acquires a rust color and never needs painting. The cross itself is fifteen feet tall, set into a reinforced concrete base four feet square and four feet deep. On the cross itself we do not see the usual Christ crucified, but instead, a three foot figure, cast in aluminum, of the Pensive Christ ('Rūpinto-jėlis'). It is traditional and distinctive. Many crosses of this type by Vincas Svirskis were seen in the area of Kėdainiai a century ago.

Above the Christ figure is a round aluminum canopy, above that is a sunburst of cast aluminum

('spinduliai'). Below Christ's feet is an aluminum shield of a knight (Vytis) in memory of the donors, the Knights of Lithuania.

January 11, 1976 was the culmination of our dreams. We invited the clergy, parishioners, Detroit's other two councils and our members to the Mass, the blessing and a parish dinner. The turnout was great in spite of the snowfall. Bishop Joseph Imesch of our Southfield Vicariate blessed the cross after our pastor Father Victor Krisciunevicius explained to him why it was 'so different'.

We are not stopping here. To complete the setting we will yet

add an ornate wrought iron fence together with offsetting shrubbery plus of course, a flood light, so that the heavy Nine Mile Road traffic can consider the exquisite cross a landmark for that wooded area.

Perhaps one could consider it our contribution to the bi-centennial. Why not? It started with the Lithuanian General Thaddeus Kosciuska in George Washington's army and today it blossomed into a permanent memorial. In the words of the Latin bard,

"Exegi monumentum
Aere perennius
Stridorque ventium"

CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK

The Convention's success depends on your help. YOU can help, by supporting the CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK with greeting. Prices are:

Full page.....	\$35.00
One-half page.....	20.00
One-quarter page.....	12.00
Patron.....	5.00
Booster.....	2.00

Make checks payable to Knights of Lithuania - C-96. Mail your donation and ad to: Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Podoyak, Program Book Chairmen, 5696 Troy Villa Blvd., Dayton, Ohio 45424. The deadline is June 15, 1976.

CONVENTION CORNER

Dayton is a new Stouffer Place.

Discover Stouffer's Dayton Plaza Hotel! Discover the new Dayton! We have been busy putting on a new face in the downtown area. And, we are ready to greet you.

Stouffer's Dayton Plaza Hotel is the newest addition to the rising Dayton skyline... located in the heart of downtown. The handsome 14-story hotel will be your home during the National Convention. The finest accommodations with over 300 beautiful guest rooms, spacious heated swimming pool and much more are waiting for you.

The hotel staff has everything we need to help make our meetings run smoothly. At the moment we are the second convention group they have scheduled and the management is very anxious to have everything go well for us.

For your convenience the Opening Convention Mass will be Noon Thursday, August 26, at the hotel. Friday and Saturday Noon Masses will also be offered at the hotel. Sunday Mass will be at Holy Cross Church at 10 A.M.

In the spectacular Van Cleve Ballroom, in the hotel, at our Grand Banquet and Ball, you will dance to the music of "The Music Jester" of Cleveland, Ohio.

Hotel reservation cards will be mailed to you by our council's publicity committee. Keep in mind—there are adjoining rooms available for you on a first-come-first-

serve basis. If you do not use the hotel reservation card, please, be sure to let them know you are with the Knights of Lithuania. The hotel phone number is (513) 224-0800. The address is: Stouffer's Dayton Plaza Hotel, Fifth and Jefferson Sts., Dayton, Ohio 45402.

Stouffer's Dayton Plaza Hotel is easily accessible from Interstate 75. Along with other information, we will send you a map to help you through Dayton.

Council 96 and the Lithuanian community of Dayton are ready to welcome all of you with open arms and hearts.





OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS



TRIP CANCELLED

At the recommendation of Pleasant Travel Service and Dr. J. Stukas, trip coordinator, and with the concurrence of the Supreme Council, the planned Knights of Lithuania Excursion to the Holy Land, Egypt and Greece, scheduled for this summer, has been cancelled. Growing unrest in the Middle East and a worsening political situation there was deemed potentially dangerous, so the trip was postponed to such a time as conditions improve there.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, Chairman of the Knights of Lithuania Lithuanian Affairs Committee, has recently been named Executive Director of the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, replacing Rev. Stasys Raila who retired. As a result, Rev. Pugevicius and the offices of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee have moved to New York. Please address all future mail, clippings, etc. to Father at the following address:

REV. C. PUGEVICIUS
64-09 56th Rd.
Maspeth, N.Y. 11378

SIMAS KUDIRKA DOCUMENTATION

The Knights of Lithuania, as one of the organizations that actively worked to obtain the freedom of SIMAS KUDIRKA from his Soviet Prison, and his eventual admission to the United States, has been asked to document all the efforts they extended, for possible inclusion in the book currently being written about Mr. Kudirka's ordeal in seeking liberty. All councils and districts are urged to list, write-up, document their activities on Mr. Kudirka's behalf... be they Masses for his safety, rallies, letter-writing campaigns, commemorations. Also please document whatever your council did to greet Mr. Kudirka since his arrival in the USA. Documentation may include pictures, clippings, copies of meeting minutes, copies of letters sent or answers received, etc. All such information should be sent as soon as possible to

MRS. LORETTA I. STUKAS
1467 Force Drive
Mountainside, N.J. 07092

CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were approved by the Supreme Council to be presented to the National Convention. Please discuss them in your council and send your delegates to the convention prepared to vote on them according to your council's will.

1. WHEREAS the needs and activities of Junior Councils in different Districts vary greatly in their scope,
BE IT RESOLVED that the age limit to which a Junior member of the Knights of Lithuania may remain a member of a Junior Council be extended to eighteen years of age. The option to join or transfer membership to a regular council at the age of sixteen will continue to be reserved to the judgement of the individual Junior. This resolution would effectively change the constitution in Article V, section 3.a. to read "...not yet reached 18 years of age".

2. BE IT RESOLVED that the spouse of a subscribing member remain exempt from dues, except in the following instances:

1. The spouse of an Honorary Member will be considered as a non-subscribing member and pay half dues.

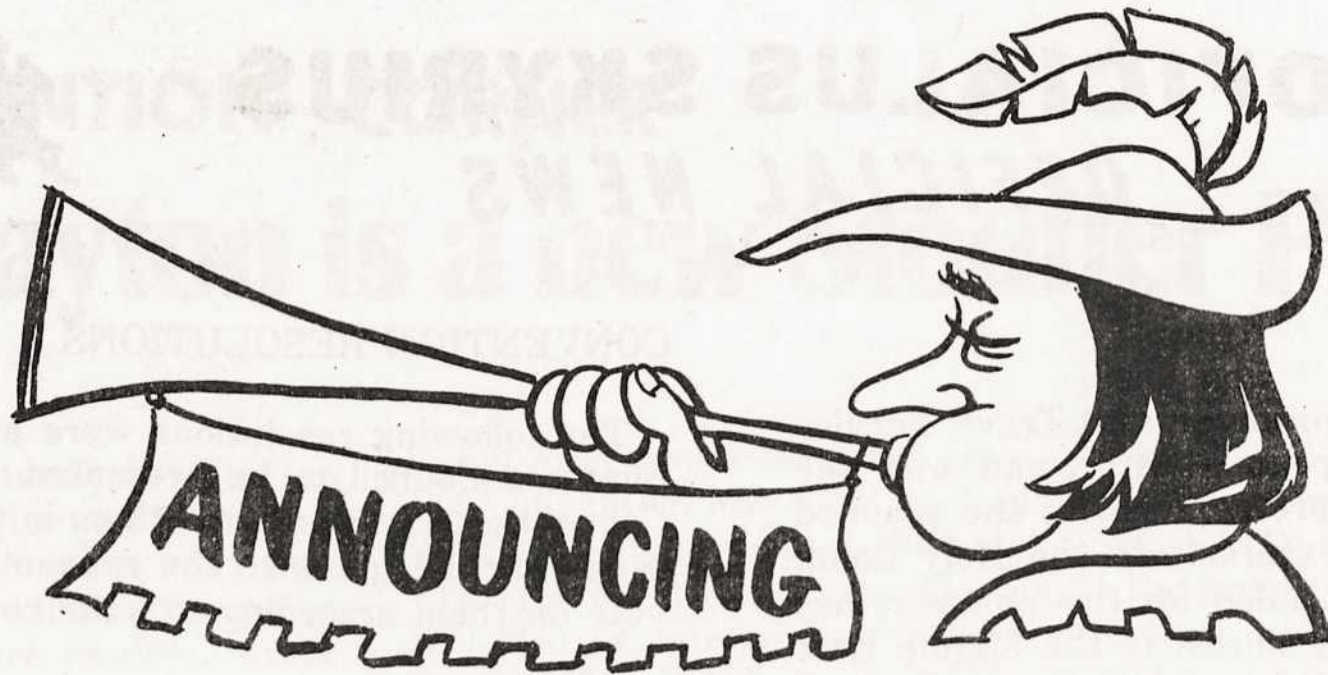
2. The spouse of a Lifetime Member will also be considered a non-subscribing member and pay half dues.

Other family members living in the household will continue to be considered non-subscribing members and pay half dues.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, Article VI be amended to reflect this clarification, and that references to "husband" and "wife" in VI 3. and VI 4. be changed to "subscribing member - spouse" and "spouse", resp.

OTHER RESOLUTIONS

Members, councils and districts are encouraged to submit resolutions for consideration at the National Convention to their District Presidents as soon as possible, who will in turn present these resolutions to the Supreme Council at their June meeting, if possible, or to the Convention Resolutions Committee directly. Early work on resolutions will assure a smoother running and fruitful convention.



JUNIOR CONVENTIONSHIPS

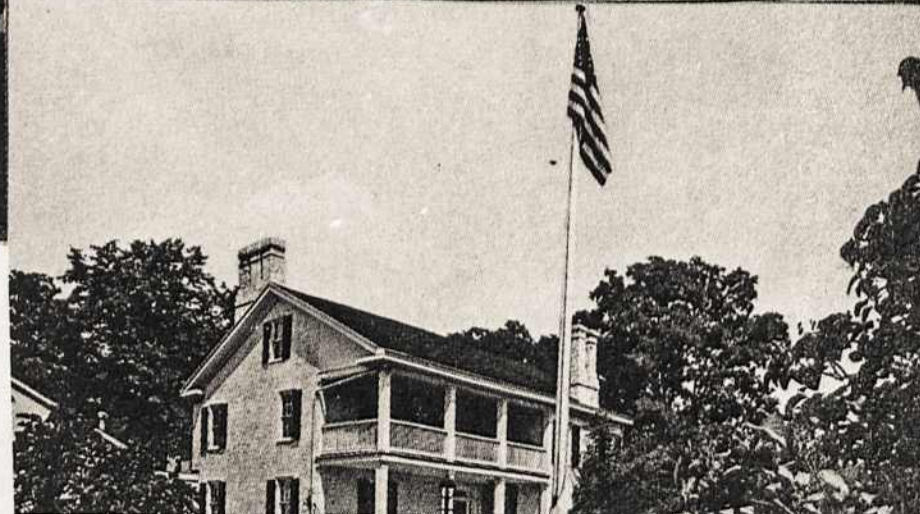
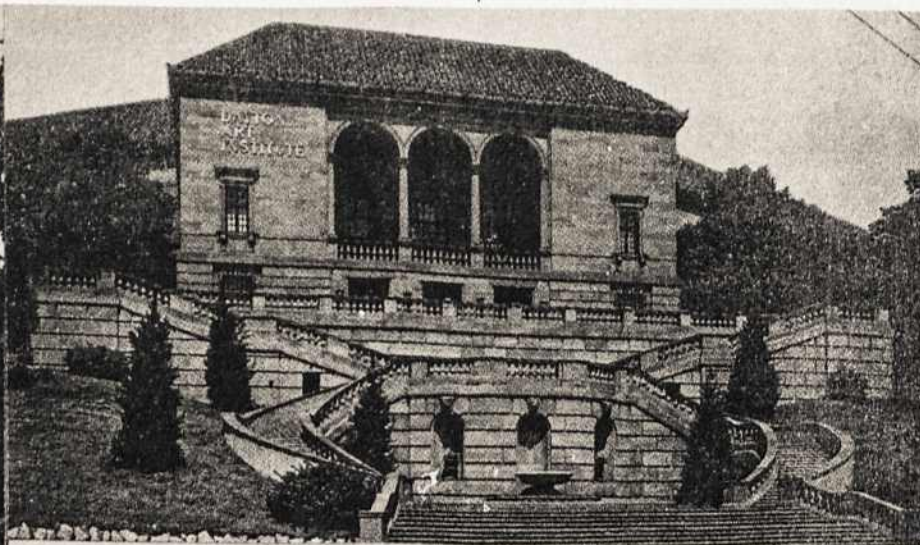
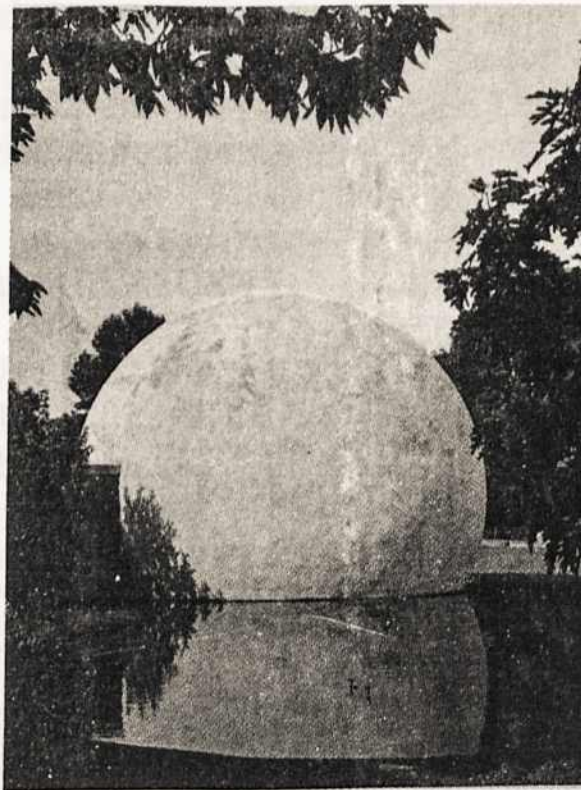
The Knights of Lithuania is once again making available its Annual Conventionship Awards for Junior members. The purpose of these awards again remains making more available attendance at National Conventions for members under sixteen years of age. As in former years, each District will be entitled to grant up to four awards of \$50.00 each to Juniors who have shown outstanding records of activity and interest in K of L activity in their councils. To be eligible for awards, applicants must be current members of Junior Councils which have paid

1976 membership dues. Awards will be presented at the 63rd National Convention to be held in Dayton, Ohio. Recipients must be present at the Convention to receive the awards. Applications may be obtained by writing to the First Vice President, Marian Skabeikis, 102 - 26 93 Avenue, Richmond Hill, New York 11418. Completed applications should be returned before August 1, 1976 to the District Vice President in charge of Juniors. Counselors or individuals who would like further information are requested to contact Mrs. Skabeikis as soon as possible in order to insure that all candidates receive equal consideration.



CONVENTION CITY SIGHTS AWAIT YOU...

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Top left - Museum of Natural History; top rt. - Art Institute, rt. - Rubicon Homestead, from Indian times.

KOKIA JŪSU NUOMONĖ?

Rašo Garbės narys Ignas Sakalas

Šių dienų vyčiai gerai moka veikti. Gražius ir turiningus seimus suruošia, vertus ir nevertus asmenis pagerbia ir t.t., bet nedrįsta pažvelgti į vyčių konstituciją ir pasiūlyti kas yra taisytina.

Pirmiausia, konstitucija turi būti taisyklinga lietuvių ir anglų kalba parašyta. Kai kurie paragrafai tiek nusenę, kad reikia visai išmesti, o kitus perredaguoti. Aš čia peržvelgsiu tikrai jų keletą:

PARAGRAFAS 5-TAS SAKO: "Lietuvos Vyčiai steigia ir palaiko kuopose ir apskrityse ŠVARAUS sporto ratelius".

REIKIA IŠMESTI ŽODĮ "ŠVARAUS", NES NETINKA SPORTUI. TIKRAS SPORTAS YRA MENAS.

Ketvirtame skyriuje (IV) paragrafas 2: "Palaiko glaudžius santykius su "Pavasario" sąjunga". Šį paragrafą reikia visai išmesti, nes Pavasario sąjunga Lietuvoj neveikia, jos nebėra.

Paragrafas 3: "Gali siūsti pasižymėjusius savo narius organizacijos lėšomis į Lietuvą susipažinti su savo tėvyne ir užmegzti artimesnius ryšius su Lietuvos jaunuomene".

Siūlau to paragrafo tokią redakciją: LIETUVAI ATGAVUS LAISVĘ IR NEPRIKLAUSOMYBĘ, ORGANIZACIJA RAGINA NARIUS REMTI JOS PASTANGAS, SIEKIANT GEROVĖS IR VYKTI Į LIETUVĄ SUSIPAŽINTI SU TĖVŲ KRAŠTU, SU KATALIKIŠKŲ JAUNIMU, UŽMEGZTI DRAUGIŠKUMO BEI BENDRADARBIAVIMO RYŠIUS.

Skyriuje penktame (V) paragrafas 2: "Šios organizacijos nariais negali būti priklausą tokioms organizacijoms, kurių įstatai ar veikimas yra priešingi Katalikų Bažnyčiai ar Lietuvių Tautai".

Šiam paragrafui siūlau tokią redakciją: LIETUVOS VYČIAI NEGALI PRIKLAUSYTI LIETUVIŲ (IR KITATAUČIŲ) DRAUGIJOMS IR ORGANIZACIJOMS, KURIŲ VEIKLA YRA PRIEŠINGA: 1. ROMOS KATALIKŲ BAŽNYČIAI IR JOS NUOSTATAMS, 2. LIETUVIŲ TAUTAI IR TAUTINEI VEIKLAI IR 3. JAV KONSTITUCIJAI.

Paragrafas 6: "Kandidatus į garbės narius PATIEKIA garbės narių komisija".

Siūlau žodį "patiekia" pakeisti į REKOMENDUOJA.

Skyriuje aštuntame (VIII) paragrafas 6: "Kiekvienas įstojantis narys bei narė privalo įsigyti organizacijos medalį, kuris vartojamas bendroje komunikacijoje, minėjimuose, seimuose, nario laidotuvėse ir kituose bendroje suvažiavimuose. Jis taip pat gauna nemokamai vieną egzempliorių Lietuvos Vyčių Įstatų".

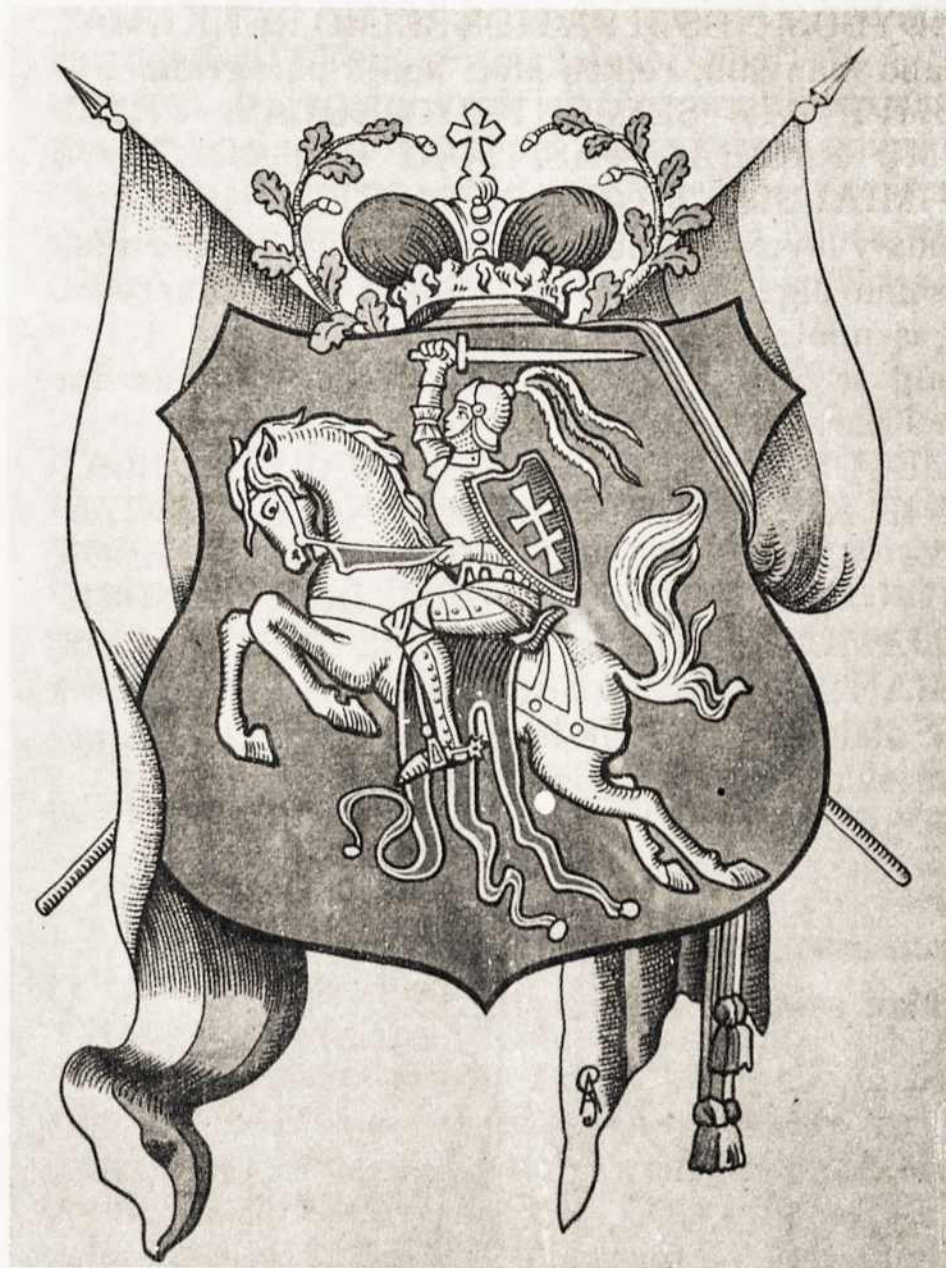


Photo - R. Kisielius

Siūlau šiam paragrafui tokią redakciją: KIEKVIE-NAM ĮSTOJANČIAM NARIUI AR NAREI PRIVALU ĮSIGYTI ORGANIZACIJOS ŽENKLELĮ IR JĮ NUOLATOS NEŠIOTI. BENDRUOSE PASIRODYMUOSE, SEIMUOSE, NARIO LAIDOTUVĖSE AR KITUOSE DIDESNIUOSE SUVAŽIAVIMUOSE BEI IŠKILMĖSE NARIAI PRIVALO PRISIEGTI LAIPSNIŲ ŽENKLUS - MEDALIUS. GAUDAMAS ŽENKLELĮ, NARYS NEMOKAMAI GAUNA IR VIENĄ LIETUVOS VYČIŲ KONSTITUCIJOS EGZEMPLIORIŲ.

Skyriuje devintame (IX) paragrafas 2: "Seimas paskiria vietą būsimam seimui".

Siūlau šią redakciją: KITA BŪSIMĄ SEIMĄ KVIĘČIA KUOPA ARBA APSKRITIS. JEI SEIMAS NĖRA KVIĘČIAMAS, CENTRO VALDYBA TURI TEISĘ SURASTI SEIMUI VIETĄ IR PASKELBTI ORGANE. VIETA TURI BŪTI TEN, KUR GYVUOJA KUOPA ARBA VEIKIA APSKRITIS.

Paragrafas 10: "Delegatas negali atstovauti daugiau kaip vieną kuopą, apskritį ar Centro Valdybą".

Šį paragrafą gal reiktų taisyti: "NARYS AR NARĖ, IŠRINKTI Į SEIMĄ, GALI ATSTOVAUTI TIK VIENĄ KUOPĄ AR APSKRITĮ. SEIME JOKS ATSTOVAS NEGALI ATSTOVAUTI CENTRO VALDYBOS, NES JI PATIES SEIMO RENKAMA".

Mano manymu, reiktų įdėti naują paragrafą: SU-TRUMPINTAS SEIMO PROTOKOLAS, PREZIDIUMO PASIRAŠYTAS, TURI BŪT ĮDĖTAS Į ARTIMIAUSIĄ "VYČIO" NUMERĮ".

Nedalyvavusiems seime svarbiau yra organe skai-tyti seimo eigą, kaip žiūrėti į kai kurias visai nereikš-tingas nuotraukas.

Šiam skyriui, mano nuomone, labai svarbus dar vienas paragrafas, būtent:

"LIETUVOS VYČIŲ SEIMAI TURI BŪTI BLAI-VŪS IR KULTŪRINGI, NEŽEMINĄ ORGANIZA-CIJOS VARDŲ SEIMO VIETOJ. NUSIŽENGĘ BLAIVUMUI ATSTOVAI TURI BŪTI SUSPEN-DOJAMI VIENAM AR KELIEMS POSĖDŽIAMS, ATIMANT TEISĘ KALBĖTI IR BALSUOTI".

Tik blaivios galvos ir išmiegotos akys gali sąmo-ningai svarstyti svarbius organizacijos reikalus.

NAUJI SUMANYMAI

Siūlau seimui pasvarstyti.



PIRMA, taisyti dabartinį himną arba naują para-šyti. Mano argumentas už naują himną yra toks:

Chicagos vyčiams rengiant kokią bažnytinę, tau-tinę ar organizacinę iškilnę, nepavyksta galingai už-traukti "Nuženk, Galybe, iš dangaus". Pradžia visuo-met išeina neblogai, bet baigiasi taip, kad gėda ir sakyti. Ilgai svarsčiau, dėl ko taip yra. Pagaliau išiti-kinau; kad mūsų himnas yra pasenęs, neatitinka šių dienų, šių laikų vyčių. Pavyzdžiui, himne sakome: "O plieno kardas priešą draus", arba "mums viską davė Lietuva, vadausim ją galva sava". Koks "kar-das" gali dabartinį šėtonišką Lietuvos priešą - Rusi-jos komunistų okupantą - "sudrausti", kuomet net toks galingas mūsų kraštas komunistų atžvilgiu nuo-laidžiauja. Arba, ką dabartiniam jaunimui reiškia himno žodžiai: "Mums viską davė Lietuva". Kągi davė, klausiu? Ne Lietuva mums duoda, bet mes, vyčiai, turime šventą pareigą duoti Lietuvai medžia-ginę ir moralinę paramą jos dabartinėje kovoje at-



gauti laisvę ir nepriklausomybę. Dar niekas negali pasakyti, koks kardas nukirs tam slibinui galvą. Jei seimas pasisakytų, kad dabartiniai himno žodžiai yra O.K., tuomet gal reiktų jį taisyti, išimant nereikš-tingus dabartiniams laikams žodžius. Šiuo atveju jis galėtų būti toks:

Nuženk, Galybe, iš dangaus,
Stiprink jauną vyčių dvasią;
Mes už teisybę drąsiai stosim,
Gyvuosim, veiksime ir kovosim.

Štai plevėsuoja mūs vėliava;
Ką kalba jos žymė? Ei, vyčiai,
Gyvenam Tautai ir Bažnyčiai.
O tėvų krašto - Lietuvos
Ir nepamiršim niekados!
Ei, vyčiai! Gyvenam Tautai
Ir Bažnyčiai.

Himno muzikos autorius, komp. ir organizacijos garbės narys A. Aleksis, dar gyvas ir manau mielai sutiktų naujam himnui pritaikyti senąją melodiją arba parašyti naują. Himno melodija turėtų būti lengva ir giedama vienu balsu, kaip ir "Oh, say can you see" ir t.t. Naujas vyčių himnas, tikiu, pritrauktų ir naujų narių.



ANTRA, konstitucijos trečiame skyriuje, para-grafe 3-me sakoma: "Rengia paskaitas, vaidinimus, koncertus" ir t.t. Reikia būtinai atgaivinti pamirštą ir dulkėmis apneštą scenos meną. Scenos menas duotų progos nariams parodyti savo gabumus, talentus.

Seniau vyčiuose scenos menas žydėte žydėjo. Kodėl neišversti kokios populiarios lietuvių komedijos į anglų kalbą ir leisti dabartiniam jaunimui scenoje pasirodyti? Arba, kodėl nepaskelbti konkurso scenos veikalui anglų kalba parašyti? Bijoma kritikos? Nereikia paisyti. Konstitucija nurodo, kiek vyčiai turi rūpintis lietuvių kalba.

Lietuvių kalbos klausimas yra labai aktualus, bet kartu ir painus. Daugumas mūsų jaunimo čia gimęs ir augęs, lietuvių spaudos neskaitęs ir Lietuvos nepažįstas.

Baigę lituanistikos mokyklas vieni išsibarsto po aukštesnes mokyklas, kiti, pradėję savistovų gyvenimą, paskęsta angliškoje aplinkoje; greit pamiršta visa, ką mokykla jiems davė. Gyvenimas tai rodo: šimtai jaunuolių yra baigę lituanistines mokyklas, o kiek jų matome viešame lietuvių gyvenime.



TREČIA, organizacijai būtų naudinga, be "LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS" komisijos, kurios veikia Lietuvos laisvės kovose yra pažymėtina, įsteigti ir LIETUVIŲ KALBOS KOMISIJA. Jos pareigos būtų tokios: a) užmegzti glaudžius santykius su lituanistikos mokyklų vadovybėmis, kad, joms patariant, abiturientai rašytųsi į Lietuvos vyčius, b) kuopose ir apskrityse steigti lietuvių kalbos kursus, kuriuose abiturientai galėtų pamokyti nemokančius arba mažai mokančius lietuvių kalbos. Be kalbos, į kursus galima būtų įtraukti ir socialinius bei kultūrinius čia gyvenančių lietuvių reikalus. Tuo būdu organizacija gautų "naujo kraujo", kurio taip reikia gyvybei palaikyti. Pagaliau ir "Vytis" gerokai atlietuvėtų, nes gautų naujų bendradarbių lietuvių kalba.

RITUALAS, arba tikiybinių apeigų taisyklės. Vyčių organizacijoje ritualas įvestas dvidešimt penktame seime 1937 metais, Dayton, Ohio. Taigi šiu

metų seimas turėtų paminėti ritualo 40 metų sukaktį. Pagal seimo priimtas ritualo apeigų taisykles nariai klasifikuojami laipsniais: 1-mo, 2-ro, 3-čio ir 4-to. Pirmają ritualo komisiją sudarė du garbės nariai - kun. M. Urbonavičius, MIC, ir Jack L. Juozaitis (Jatis) bei Charles Stulgaitis, - pateikęs ritualo programos taisykles. 1961 metais seimas įvedė į ritualą vadinamus "points". Kiek jų reikia nariui surinkti, kad galėtų kandidatuoti į 3-čią ar 4-tą laipsnį, nes 1-mą ir 2-trą laipsnius narys gauna tik iširašęs organizacijon. Tačiau ir šiems reikia kuopos akivaizdoje atlikti tam tikrą ritualo programos dalį. 3-čią laipsnį teikia apskritis, o kur jo nėra - pati kuopa. 4-tą laipsnį teikia centro ritualo komisija per seimines pamaldas bažnyčioje.

Ritualas nenurodo, kokia turi būti vieno ar kito laipsnio apeigų programa. Seimas turėtų ją pataisyti ir suvienodinti. Čia paliesiu tik tai, kas negalima laikyti slaptomis. Būtent, lietuvių kalba. O ji tokia žargoniška, kad gėdą daro visi organizacijai. Pavyzdžiui, 2-jo laipsnio kandidatams suėjus į kvotimų kambarį, jų "paruošėjas" (vienas komisijos narių) sako:

"Gerbiamas Pirmininke, prašom įeiti į Antrą laipsnį Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos". Ar suprasite, kas čia norima pasakyti?

Pirmininkas atsako:

"Ar esate prisirengę eiti į kelionę, per sunkius kelius koleik pasieksite šį laipsnį?"

Kandidatai atsako: "Esame prisirengę".

Po tų žodžių ir prasideda jų "kelionė" užrištomis akimis, nusiavus batus, tiksliai su kojineėmis. Tos "kelionės" metu pianas "groja" Vyčių himną, Lietuvos himną, anglišką "My country This of Thee" ir ant galo "Funeral march". "Grojant" himnus, užuot visiems ramiai stovint, kaip visur tokiu momentu daroma, čia kandidatai, eidami ratu, "ukčioja", o žiūrovai - juokiasi.

Toks "initiation" (įvedimas į laipsnį) ne tik nariui nedaro išpūdžio, bet priešingai, jį išeidžia, ypatingai vyresnio amžiaus, šviesų, mokytą, inteligentą, profesionalą. Jei seimas nesuredaguos naujų religinių, tautinių ir patriotinių ritualo apeigų, atsiras kuopų, kurios nepatars rimtiems nariams kandidatuoti į laipsnius. Ritualo taisyklių redakcijos kolektyvą turėtų sudaryti tiksliai rinktiniai, nusimaną žmonės.

An old six-act drama, KANTRI ALENA, printed by Draugas in 1919, is the work of Pr. M. Jučas. Part of the action takes place in the Turkish emperor's palace. On the title page the author inscribed the following dedication:

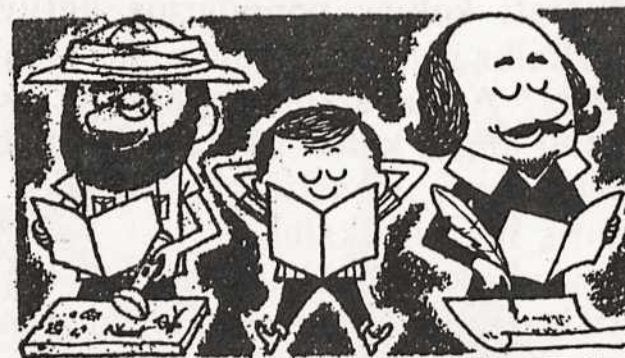
"Ženklan dėkingumo už širdingą užuojautą ir prielankumą Lietuvos Vyčių penktos kuopos nariams aukoju šį veikalą.

--Autorius".

RE: FATHER JUTT. If anyone has any interesting photos or letters from or about Father John Jutt, please lend them for a short while to Joseph Boley, 507 East 81st St., New York, N.Y. Photo-copies of any written or printed material would also be acceptable and greatly appreciated.

BOOKS / KNYGOS

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Just published - the fascinating story about the historic struggle of our people a century ago.

THE FORTY YEARS OF DARKNESS

By Juozas Vaišnora

English translation by Joseph Boley

Ask for it wherever Lithuanian books are sold, or order it from Darbininkas, 341 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn; Draugas, 4545 West 63rd St., Chicago; or Lietuvių Dienos, 4364 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood. \$2.00 per copy.

LIETUVIŲ TAUTINIŲ ŠOKIŲ INSTITUTAS praneša, kad "MŪSŲ ŠOKIAI" (antroji laida) gautinama: DRAUGAS, 4545 West 63rd Street, Chicago, Ill. 60629; GIFTS INTERNATIONAL Inc., 2501 West 71st Street, Chicago, Ill. 60629; MARGINIAI, 2511 West 69th Street, Chicago, Ill. 60629; DARBININKAS, 341 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11207; V. STANKUS, 7056 So. Campbell, Chicago, Ill. 60629. Kaina \$4.00 neįskaitant persiuntimo išlaidų.

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K OF L CALENDAR

MAY

- 1 "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" Radio Hour 35th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET AND BALL, Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, N.J., Dr. Jack J. Stukas, Director.
- 4 C-29, Newark, DAY OF PRAYER FOR LITHUANIA, 7:00 P.M. Holy Trinity Church, Newark, N.J.
- 23 NED HOLY HOUR, 3:00 P.M., St. Matthias Church, 469 Hemenway St., Marlboro, Mass.
- 28-30 MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT and MCD CONVENTION, Marzano's Bowl and Sheraton Midway House, Chicago, Ill. IID Hosts

JUNE

- 4-5-6 3rd Annual "WORLD A'FAIR", Dayton Convention Center, Dayton, Ohio
- 6 MAD SPRING CONVENTION, Holy Trinity Church, Newark, N.J., C-29 Hosts
- 17 Supreme Council DAY OF PRAYER FOR LITHUANIA (to be celebrated in your own church, wherever you are)
- 26-27-28 NED RETREAT, Franciscan Monastery, Kennebunkport, Me.

JULY

- 4 IID ANNUAL PICNIC, K of L Building and Garden, Chicago, Ill.

AUGUST

- 1 NED FAMILY "PICKNICK", Hind's Pond, Lithuanian Grove, Gardner, Mass.
- 7 MAD Attends the EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 25-29 63rd NATIONAL K OF L CONVENTION, Stouffers Dayton Plaza Hotel, Dayton, Ohio, C-96, Dayton, Hosts.

SEPTEMBER

- 26 NED FALL CONVENTION, St. Anthony Church, Ansonia, Conn., C-135, Ansonia, Hosts

OCTOBER

- 3 NED "FESTIVAL" (formerly called the Cultural Picnic) Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.

NOVEMBER

- 20 C-17, So. Boston, "NOVEMBERFEST", So. Boston Lithuanian Citizens' Club, South Boston, Mass.

DECEMBER

- 12 NED TELEVISION MASS, Channel 7, WNAC, RKO Gen. Bldg., Boston, Mass.

Vyčiai Veikia Council Activities

EDITED BY MRS. JOSEPHINE ZUKAS, 9 CHARLES STREET, PORT WASHINGTON, L.I., N.Y. 11050



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-103 - PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Francis Kapiskas was the winner of the R.I. Lithuanian Ethnic Scholarship Award. He will spend a week in Washington, D.C., witnessing our Natl. Govt. in action. Francis is a faithful Mass server, and a Jr. member of our council. Ann Krecioch will be graduating from Cranston East H.S. in June.

Father V. Martinkus played host to his sister, Mrs. Odinas from Chicago. Father has recuperated from two recent operations. Father Ed Budrecki, MIC, has his leg placed in a cast.

The Juniors held an ice-skating party at Providence College ice arena.

Our February meeting, followed by a pot-luck supper, was a huge success. Ruth & Lillian Savage drove down from West Roxbury, Mass. Irene Landanski took a respite from her nursing chores to attend the meeting. Car difficulties have limited Bea & Vic Mathieu's council activities of late.

The NED St. Casimir's Day celebration was held at the Immaculate Conception Convent in

Putnam, Conn. Msgr. F. Juras opened ALKA (American - Lithuanian Cultural Archives) for the enlightenment of the K of L members. Our members attending the event were Grace Vaitkunas, Stanley Vaicaitis, Bert & John Stoskus, Irene Landanski, John & Irene Walaska, and Dot & Vyto Kapiskas.

The R.I. Lithuanian Heritage Bicentennial Committee plans consist of: participation in the Bicentennial Parade in May with a float; a week of Lith. Cultural Exhibits to be held at the Old State House, or at one of the shopping malls; in June, a Lithuanian con-celebrated Mass at the State House south plaza, followed by a Lith. Folk Song & Dance Program; and culminated with a Bicentennial Ball in the fall. Council members on the committee are Helen Seraichekas, Biruta Cunningham, Ruth Krecioch, Grace Vaitkunas, John & Irene Walaska, Father Martinkus, and Father Jurgelaitis.

The Stoskus' grandniece, Mary Taffs of Kenosha, Wisc., presented them with their second great-grandnephew, Patrick Michael. Bette Ciuryla's four huge dogs make excellent guardians for her granddaughter, Heather Marie.

Jonas

C-116 - SO. WORCESTER, MASS.

What so proudly we hailed! - as the American and Lithuanian flags were marched into Our Lady of Vilna Church by the Natl. Guards of Lithuania on Feb. 15 to start the festivities of the 58th Annual Commemoration of Restoration of Lithuania's Independence. The procession into church for the 11 A.M. Mass included various organizations from both parishes

(St. Casimir's & Our Lady of Vilna) with their banners. The K of L was well represented with members from both organizations (C-26 & C-116). St. Casimir's Men's Choir, with many C-26 members, stirred us with their beautiful blending of voices, and our spirits really soared by the solo renditions of Valius Rozevičius. The choir was under the able direction & accompaniment of Olga Kersis of C-26.

A 3 P.M. program was held at the Lithuanian Club. Mr. Peter Molis, Pres. of Taryba, was M.C. Rev. A. Volungis gave the invocation. Mr. James Early, Mayor of the City of Worcester, who is married to a Lithuanian, issued a Proclamation and stated the Lithuanian flag would fly over City Hall all week. Mr. Anthony Miller, a noted Lith. lawyer, spoke briefly. He has the rare distinction of having attended all the 58 commemorations. Mr. Joseph Early, Congressman from the 3rd District, greeted the assembled. A telegram from Sen. Harry "Scoop" Jackson was read. There were several other civic leaders, and all Lith. organizations were represented. The main guest speaker was Dr. Algirdas Budreckas from Boston. Seated next to the head table were three Lith. partisans, Kazys Semulonas, Mr. Merkevičius, and Feliksas Kersis. The Žaibas Folk Dance Group, of which Mary Jo Koblinsky of our council is a member, entertained with a few dances. This group is under the direction of Mrs. Markevičienė and are very much in demand for numerous activities. Always they make a fine showing. St. Casimir's Student Choral Group rendered a few melodies. They were under the direction of Sister Bernice. Tony Miner in a dual role represented the S.C. and C-116. Mrs. Ann

Greeny, representing the Lith. Radio Hour, proved to be a very effective and inspiring speaker. Ann is hostess & director of the twice weekly Lith. Radio Program on WICN-FM. After the program, a buffet supper was served.

In conjunction with the above, there was an exhibit displayed at the Public Library for the month of February, all arranged by Irene & Ed Tamulevich. Featured were beautiful amber jewelry, hand-crafts, an ancient spinning wheel Irene received from Lith., kankles borrowed from the Sisters of Putnam, Conn., maps and books. The books included one by Dr. Antanas Kucas on Lithuanians in America. Dr. Kucas donated two copies of the book to the Library.

Irene Tamulevich also wrote to Cardinal Umberto Madeiras of Boston, requesting prayers be said, at the T.V. Mass on Channel 7, for suffering Lithuania. This was done. She had Trudy Zibinskas, who works at the Chancery, intercede on our behalf, to have prayers said at all the churches in the Diocese of Worcester. She received beautiful letters in reply from the Cardinal, and Bishop Bernard Flanagan, which she treasures very much.

Ed & Irene hosted our Feb. meeting at their lovely home. The buffet after the meeting was a treat to behold, all arranged in hearts & flowers theme, and we devoured the works in record time. We are forever astonished at the astounding energy and efforts expended on behalf of everything Lithuanian by this truly remarkable couple. Valio!

During Feb. school vacation, Irene Adamaitis, who teaches school, took her younger sister, Caroline, to Washington & Philadelphia along the heritage trail to get an early start on the Bicentennial Year. Caroline was also lucky enough to get to Boston for the Ice Capades. Dot Sinkavitch & Rita Skamarock traveled to Cape Cod to visit our former Pres. Bernice Marks. A Happy Birthday was celebrated in February by Mary Jo

Keblinski. On May 15 our members attended the Dinner-Dance held at Maironis Park for the benefit of the Lithuanian Radio Hour. This affair always deserves the support of all of us. On May 22nd our council's Annual Whist Party will be held. This is a MUST for all our members as it is the only fundraising affair we have. Please make a supreme effort to attend.

Taradaika

C-10 - ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

Our council sponsored the Annual Lithuanian Independence Day Program as their contribution to the U.S. Bicentennial Celebration.

The day's events began with a Lithuanian High Mass in St. Francis Church at 10:30 AM. Pastor Rev. Justinas Steponaitis sang the Mass and gave an excellent sermon on patriotism, the love we as Lithuanians must have for the land of our forebears, and for all things Lithuanian.

The men's choral group from Worcester, under the direction of Zigmās Snarskis, sang the Mass, with Olga Kersis at the organ. William Wisnauskas was the lector. The procession into church was impressive as the 30 or more youngsters from Worcester's Dance Group marched in their native costumes, along with the altar boys.

After Mass, the K of L treated the choir and dancers to a nice brunch. Howie Beaudette was responsible for the delicious clam chowder and hot chocolate, as were our members for all the nice goodies.

The program began at 2 P.M. in the church hall and was opened by Pres. Leonard Davidonis, who welcomed all to the celebration. Fr. Steponaitis then led all in prayer, followed by the singing of the National Anthems of the U.S. and Lithuania.

Through the efforts of Charles & Blanche Genaitis, Mayor Stephen J. Erickson of Gardner issued a Proclamation designating Feb. 16

as Lithuanian Day in the City of Gardner. This is a first! Many thanks to the Genaitis' for their efforts. Charles was taken sick and could not attend the program, and in his absence, the Proclamation was read by Howie Beaudette.

The Žaibas Lithuanian folk dancers of Worcester, under the direction of Mrs. Genia Naras and Mrs. Pranskevičius, danced the Malūnas, Kepurinė, and the Agnėnėlė, which were received with great applause. Dr. Antanas Valiūškis of R.I. was the main speaker, and his children recited and played the piano.

Again, the Worcester Men's Choral Group sang several songs. The program ended with the singing of Marija, Marija, to invoke her guidance of the church for the U.S.A. and those in political authority, and for the restoration of the Independence of Lithuania and the Baltic States.

Again, the Knights treated the several hundred in attendance to coffee and cake.

Our council thanks the Worcester groups for their participation, because without them, we could not have had a program.

Father Miciunas, pastor of St. Casimir's, Worcester, was in attendance and spoke briefly, as did Representative Thomas Calo, husband of a former K of L'er. Mayor Erickson could not attend because of a previous engagement.

Both the Athol Daily News, Worcester Telegram, and the Gardner News carried nice articles on the affair.

Included with the invited guests was Joseph Mickunas of Athol, who holds the Vyčio Medal for extraordinary service in the Lithuanian Army.

Bernice Wisnauskas did the art work for the stage, Nellie Melaika was in charge of the kitchen, and Lennie Davidonis was general chairman of the event. Well done, Vyčiai!

Vincukas

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

The Knights from So. Boston have been busy with varied activities. C-17 Srs. sponsored Kūčios at St. Peter's Church hall on Dec. 20. The 100 or more participants gave high marks to the cooks, Ona Ulevičius, Veronica Ivanauskas, Monica Plevock, and other kitchen helpers who made the first Kūčios most successful.

Our combined councils held their annual Christmas party for the youngsters. John Norinkavich, C-17 Srs. Vice-Pres., held the young ones in awe with his portrayal of St. Nick. A good time was had by all - the young & young at heart.

Alexander Chaplik, C-17 Srs. member and Pres. of ALTAS, Boston Council, emceed an impressive observance of Lithuanian Independence Day at So. Boston Lith. Club Hall on Feb. 15. Four members of our council, Daniel Averka, Stanley Griganavičius, Felicia Grendal, and Dr. Algirdas Budreckas, accompanied Mr. Chaplik to Gov. Michael Dukakis' office to witness the signing of the "Republic of Lithuania Day" Proclamation.

The Feast Day of St. Casimir was commemorated here on Feb. 29 at St. Peter's Church, So. Boston, with a Communion Breakfast following the 10 A.M. Mass. The commemoration was sponsored by our combined C-17 councils. The Knight's guest list included all organizations of the Lithuanian community. The hall was beautifully decorated in a bicentennial theme along with the national and organizational flags by our decorating crew, Ann Antanelis, Ann Carroll, and Florence Casper. The hard-working kitchen crew did their usual efficient job led by Ann Norinkavich, Mary Mickevich, Alice Opanaset, Betty Balaconis, Ann Ulevičius, Veronica Ivanauskas, Anne White, Adele Martus, Mary Martus, and Jr.'s Cathy Norinkavich and Adele Martus. John Olevitz, Albert Jaritis, Larry

Svelnis, John Norinkavich, Joe Lubin, and Joe White rounded out the people comprising the Communion Breakfast group. After singing of the national anthems and the K of L Hymn, invocation by Rev. Anthony Baltrushunas, Pastor of St. Peter's Church, breakfast, introduction of the head table, invited guests and Honorary members Longinas Svelnis & Anthony Young, presentation of consideration to our Spiritual Directors and Pastor by John Norinkavich & John Olevitz, the head speaker, Lt. Fredrick Hirst USMC, was introduced by M.C. Joseph White. Lt. Hirst is a member of C-17, NED Lith. Affairs Chairman, and a frequent contributor of Vytis articles. His theme was - although St. Casimir was a military man, he still had a love for his fellow man and God, as his life story testifies. He spoke in Lithuanian and American, and was accorded a standing ovation. The affair closed with prayer by Rev. Albin Janiunas, associate pastor of St. Peter's.

On March 7 a bus load of C-17 Srs. traveled to Putnam, Conn. to observe the second Dist. Commemoration of St. Casimir's Feast Day. This was held at the Immaculate Conception Convent. It was a busy day, with a visit to ALKA Museum, the fruit of Msgr. Juras' labor, attendance at Mass, dinner served by the good Sisters of Putnam, and the long ride home.

Two members of our council are on the Lith. Committee of the Mass. Bicentennial Commission, Longinas Svelnis and Joseph White. The Lith. Comm. has been assigned five days, April 25-29, at the State House to show-case the Lithuanians' contribution to the state and country.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Markuns recently celebrated, along with their many friends, their son John's recent admission to the Mass. Bar. Congratulations to all of them. Virginia is our hard-working Council Secy. and also NED Corres. Secy.

Ann Voveris, our Vytis Corres-

pondent, is on a long odyssey through the Pacific. Cards have been received from Las Vegas, California - where she visited her son, Japan, Australia, with more to come.

We all wish our council member, Dr. Albert Kiburis, a speedy recovery from his recent operation.

Raštininkas, J.W.

C-30 - WESTFIELD, MASS.

From all media, society survived the blast of the nifty fifties and the soaring sixties, but for C-30, how does "Identity in Seventies" grab you? Corny! Or perhaps a sequel would be more appropos for now, or both.

Rather than drive to Westfield this month, the Westfield group reciprocated by coming to Holyoke for our February meeting. Once more we luxuriated in the plush facilities of Wistariahurst Museum, where the warm and elegant atmosphere makes one feel like floating on a cloud.

Again, Joan Laframboise came thru with that compelling power called publicity, and the Pioneer Valley is becoming more aware that there are such people as Lithuanians. It is alarming how many of us have become lost in the shuffle of Americanization, and the key word now should be "identify".

Our guest speaker for the evening was Rudolph Stone, curator of Natural History and Science, and noted area Ornithologist, who presented a program concerning "Our Native Birds In Winter". Movies were shown in conjunction with his speech. While this was not Lithuanian, it broadened our scope in other fields.

From the Lithuanian ovens in Westfield we had delicious pastry, created and served by Mrs. Louise Renaud and Mrs. Helen Alexik to mark the conclusion of the meeting. However, we just could not help but linger a while, and enjoy the evening a little longer.

Margaret Picard

ILLINOIS-INDIANA**DISTRICT****ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT**

The Annual Memories of Lithuania Banquet was held Feb. 8 at the Martinique Restaurant. The room was filled to capacity. A few of the committee people were seated at the head table along with Canon V. Zakarauskas, Dalia Bobelis, Dr. Kazys Bobelis, Consul General J. Daužvardienė, Bishop V. Brizgys, Dr. V. Dargis, Dr. Z. Danilevicius and Rev. A. Trakis. The M.C., Judge A. Wells, presented prior recipients of the "Man of the Year" award who were in the audience - Stanley Balzekas, Jr., Aldona Daukus, Lithuanian American Council - Gene Bartkus, Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas and Philomena Pakel.

Alexander Pakalniskis, Jr. presented the plaque to the most deserving Dr. K. Bobelis, Pres. of the American Lithuanian Council. We were happy to see his lovely family and many of his friends attend on this occasion. He was very grateful for the award, and

his wish is that we join hands and hearts together till all goals are achieved for Lithuania's Freedom.

Main speakers were Bishop Brizgys and Consul Daužvardienė who had many inspiring thoughts on Lithuania's plight.

Dr. Z. Danilevicius represented the American Medical Association. Dr. V. Dargis and some of his friends of the Assoc. were with us.

The affair was a beautiful event due to the efforts of Co-Chairpeople John Evans and Irene Sankus along with their committee of Adeline Jasaitis, Algerd Brazis, Mr. & Mrs. A. Pakalniskis, Estelle Rogers, Vince Samaska, Sabina Klatt, Alexander Pakalniskis, Jr., Gerry Mack, Ann Marie Kassel and Lucille Kilkus. To add to the festivities, our energetic Juniors very graciously performed a few folk dances, which the audience enjoyed immensely. The program ended with the singing of "God Bless America" by Algerd Brazis in commemoration of the Bicentennial. Our very own Wally Tenclinger and his orchestra provided the lovely dancing and listening music.

We were pleased to receive greetings from the Mayor of Chicago, the Honorable Richard J. Daley. With us were Colonel K. Ališauskas and Lt. K. Petrauskas, members of the 1918 Volunteers

for the Fight of Freedom.

We are happy to announce the reorganization of C-82 Gary, Ind. of which Mildred Jagiella is President, and Rev. Ignas Urbonas, Spiritual Advisor. We welcome them and wish them much success.

We hope you haven't forgotten to make your reservations for the Mid-West Bowling Tournament which will be held in Chicago May 29-30.

Our sincerest condolences to the family of Dr. K. Bobelis on the recent death of his mother.

At the last District meeting, the election of the trustee-at-large was held. We are happy to report that Clemente Vidzius, Chgo. Srs., was elected. Our congratulations to him.

Have a happy and safe summer!
Hoosier

C-36 - CHICAGO, ILL.

Because we haven't been in the news for quite some time, we have a lot to catch up on. The highlights of last years' events include the following:

Carrying the flags and acting as honor guards at the funeral of Leonard Simutis, were our two members, Jerome Jankus and Napolionas Sapkus.

Representing Lithuania in the Captive Nations Parade, last July,



22 members from Councils 36 and 112 receive 1st Degree.
Canton V. Zakarauskas, spiritual advisor C-112, seated in center.

held in downtown Chicago, were Council 36 members Vincent Samoska, who helped with the preparations, Faustas Strolia, who provided music on the float, Kazimiera Petrulis, Sabina Klatt, who presented Mrs. Dauzvardis with a bouquet of flowers, Jerome Jankus, who along with Napolionas Sapkus carried the flags, Frank Zapolis, Rosemarie Klatt, Mary Ellen Pocius, and Steve Raymond.

The Cherry Blossom Dance held at the K of L Hall, April 19th, with Sabina Klatt as Chairperson, with the help of all the members, and with our Wally Tenclinger and his band providing the music for the evening, was a great success. Thanks to all who helped make it a success! Congratulations to Richard Shlaustas, who received his Lifetime Membership that same evening. It was presented to him by Christine Stachyra.

Before the new year began, we had a Christmas Party. There was singing and dancing. Thanks to our Tony Wallunas, who provided us with music. Refreshments and food were served. A grab bag provided added interest.

1976 NEWS

Congratulations to C-36 members who received degrees, in January, at the First Degree Ritual, conducted by Rev. V. Zakarauskas. The 16 members inducted include: Alma Baer, Antanas Brokelicius, Louise Daugird, Anthony Giedratis, Sylvia Grazis, Alice Kent, Henry G. Klatt, Jr., Sabina Klatt, Rosemarie Klatt, Irene Norushis, Maryann Shebelski, Mike Shebelski, Steve Shebelski, Faustas Strolia, Sylvia Zaniauskas, and Robert Zapolis. For those members who did not receive their first degrees because they were unable to attend this particular ceremony, another ceremony will be held at a later date. We will inform you of it later.

Congratulations to our newly installed officers. They are: Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Paul Juknevicius, President - Sabina Klatt,

Vice President - Christine Stachyra, Secretary - Irene Norushis, Treasurer - Vince Samaska, Financial Secretary - Rosemarie Klatt, Junior Counselor - Rudy Stachyra, Seniors Organizer - Mrs. Petrulis, Trustees - Tony Walunas, Peggy Zakaras, Cultural Comm. Ch. - Alice Kent, Louise Daugird.

C-112 - CHICAGO, ILL.

Council board members continue to meet monthly to discuss and plan council activities. The February and March Board meetings were hosted by Dolores Wainauskas and Stephanie Mlodzik, resp.

Pres. Al Mockus recently appointed Antanas Balcytis and Antanas Sereika as Sgts-at-Arms. Congratulations to both men.

Choir Pres. Estelle Rogers and Benefit Dance Chairman John Auksciunas are to be commended on a most successful Choir Dance. Among the hard-working council members were our own Emilija Pakalniskis, Monica Kasper, and Alex Pakalniskis, Jr.

C-36 recently hosted a Bowling Social at Bruno & Lucille Shotas' Wood-Mac Lanes. Among the bowling enthusiasts were council members Alice & Rita Tomczak, Ed Krivickas, Rich Janek (all members of the upcoming Mid-West Bowling Tournament committee).

First and Second Degrees were presented at the IID Ritual Pre-

sentation preceding the meetings of C-36 and 112. Degree recipients from our council were: Lima, Rase & Kay Bertuzis, Kazys Rozanskas and Leonardas Surkevicius. Ritual team members were Canon V. Zakarauskas, Al Zakarka, Vince Samaska, Al Mockus, Irene Sankus, and Ed Krivickas. Gediminas Janula was the photographer. Ritual Chairlady Ruth Dagis was unable to participate due to a family wake.

Condolences to the Shotas and Dagis families on the death of their sister.

Remember! The Mid-West Bowling Tournament will be held in Chicago the week-end of May 28-30.



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

C-3 - PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Even though news of C-3 has been absent from these columns the last few months, this doesn't mean that the council has been dormant. Quite the contrary, C-3 has caught the "Bicentennial Bug" as far as activity is concerned. By the way, we hope that all K of L's who visit Philadelphia this year get a chance to visit with our council members. We hope the following information brings our Council News up-to-date.



K of L Bldg. Manager, Juozas Laurinaitis (3rd from left) receives 2nd Degree. Also pictured, IID Ritual Team: Vince Samaska, Irene Sankus, Canon V. Zakarauskas, Al Zakarka and Al Mockus.

The present officers are: Spiritual Director Rev. Sakalauskas, Pres. Leonora Balten, Vice-Pres. Walter Svekla, Treas. Victor Balten, Rec. Secy. Joe Yanulaitis, Fin. Secy. Agnes Mickunas, Trustees Irene Ozalis and Margie Petronis. Our Council Newsletter is being published very capably by Alberta Wiegand and Lillian Sasnauskas.

Our Bicentennial Year activities included our St. Casimir's Day Breakfast on Mar. 7, participation in the Philadelphia International Institute's Folk Fair in April, and the Eucharistic Congress scheduled for Philadelphia in August. This year's St. Casimir's Day Breakfast was larger than those of the past few years which involved only our own council members. John Mickunas was chairman of this affair, and he is to be complimented on its success. The Folk Fair is a three-day affair, Apr. 23-25, held at Philadelphia's spacious Convention Hall. Council members participated now, as they did two years ago, and really enjoyed themselves. News concerning the Eucharistic Congress will be given at a later time as the final plans fall into place.

Congratulations are in order to several of our members. Dianne Drumstas, who has been awarded the Fourth Degree, was presented with a beautiful Lithuanian wayside shrine from the council as a memento of this honor. Best wishes are showered upon Lillian Sasnauskas & Julian Greymas on their New Year's Eve engagement. They are planning a September wedding. Irene & Walt Svekla presented their son Walt Jr. with a brother, Andrew Peter, on Jan. 17. Both mother and new son are doing well.

Council meetings are still being held on the second Sunday of the month, usually at the home of a council member. As you can see, C-3 is not "dead" but regaining a lot of its past momentum. More news will follow next month. HAPPY SPRING!

Vladas

C-140 - SYRACUSE, N.Y.

Our winter meetings have been well attended. The most regular attendees have been Betty Carnevale, Katherine Cravetts, Jack & Catherine Brandt, Ona Dailide, Al & Eleanor Gudas, Ruth Hare, John & June Johnson, Vic & Helen Johnson, Marge Migonis, Frank & Irene Petrauskas, Walt & Agnes Salis, John & Cassie Stanley, John & Veronica Sutkus, George & Mildred Vaikness, and Jack & Mary Zutant. Occasionally we see Helen Mikelonis, when she isn't traveling.

The November meeting at Stanley's house and the January meeting at Sutkus' house were both beautiful meetings. Much business was accomplished with two good involved sessions. Afterward the social sessions were very much enjoyed. Both homes are true Lithuanian.

Our council's Independence Program was held Feb. 15. The day began with a Lithuanian Mass, without a Lithuanian priest, at St. Stephen's Slovak Church. We were unable to secure a Lithuanian priest, so Father Bernard Garstka, the pastor, offered to celebrate our "Lithuanian Mass". It was a beautiful Mass in a small older beautiful church. At the end we all sang the Lithuanian National Anthem.

After Mass all gathered in the Tyrol Hall for dinner and a program. Chairman Al Gudas arranged a real nice affair. The food, as usual, was delicious and plentiful. The program was relatively short but very interesting with talks by our guest, Father Garstka, council Pres. Frank Petrauskas and Chmn. Al Gudas. Afterwards everyone danced to the music of two accordians. Feb. 15 was a most enjoyable day for our council and the Syracuse area Lithuanians.

For St. Casimir's Day something new was tried this year. A Mass was offered in his honor at Transfiguration Church, in conjunction with our Polish neighbors, on Mar.

7. The congregation marched into Church as their choir sang a beautiful Polish hymn. It was a good feeling celebrating together. After Mass coffee and donuts were served in the Church basement. It was agreed, by all present, that this practice be continued. Next year we hope to have some Lithuanian hymns for increased participation on our side.

One of our most active members is Cassie Stanley. She has a very interesting history. She was born Mar. 4 - St. Casimir's Day and was married Feb. 16 - Lithuanian Independence Day. She and husband John are two pillars in our Syracuse Lithuanian Community.

Welcome to our newest members: Ruth Hare, Betty Carnevale, Ona Dailide and Jack & Catherine Brandt. Already they are active - a fine addition.

In closing we leave you with this thought: "Look up to the Lord with gladness and smile; your face will never be ashamed".

Pusbrolis

MID-CENTRAL

DISTRICT



C-79 - DETROIT, MICH.

A fabulous February day with balmy temperatures in the 60's greeted our 58th anniversary of Lithuania's Independence. It was commemorated on Feb. 15, with Mass celebrated by Rev. V. Krisciunevicius at Divine Providence church. Immediately following Mass a program took place at the Cultural Center. The opening was by Atty Rimas Sakis, Pres. of Detroit Lith. organization, to a capacity crowd. Master of ceremonies was Dr. Algis Barauskas.

Proclamations were issued by

Mayor Coleman Young and Gov. William Millekin declaring Lithuanian Independence Day both in the City of Detroit and in the State of Michigan. Also one was received from the City of Southfield by Mayor Fracassi.

Guest Speakers were U.S. Congressman James Blanchard and Dr. Vytautas Dargis of Chicago, Ill. A Women's Vocal Ensemble, directed by Stasys Slizys, the Zither Players, and the Lithuanian Guard Players by Stasys Butkus, delighted the audience with songs from Lithuania.

Rev. Casimir Simaitis of St. Anthony's rendered the Invocation.

Snacks and refreshments assisted by C-79 members rounded out the occasion.

Now that Feb. 16 has passed, let's not forget our dedication to Lithuania's cause by "ducking" away for another year. Let's get involved in Lith. Affairs. Let's live and love our heritage, especially during this Bicentennial year. We'll be better Americans for the effort.

At the Feb. meeting all sorts of suggestions were proposed as to our next project, with a Bazaar in the offing. Social Chmn. Joe Yakstys and the 79'ers were delighted with the remarkable profit benefiting the parish as a result of the Dedication Dinner of the Wayside Cross. We are very grateful to so many who helped in so many ways. Nuoširdus Ačiū Jiems.

Following the business meeting a social was enjoyed. Stella Hotra made all sorts of baked goodies. Visi turėjo progą gražiai pasivašinti ir pasilinksminti. Ačiū, Stase!

The Feast of St. Casimir was celebrated on Mar. 7, when we attended Mass at St. Peter's church. Brunch was served immediately after Mass in the parish hall, with our congenial C-139 hosts. This was, indeed, a happy occasion for "getting together", as well as all the "Casimirs" who participated. Congratulations to Gerry Zager who celebrated his birthday on that day.

Third Degrees were bestowed on this day, also. The candidates were John Belickas, Marie Kase, Eleanor Mickey and Ann Salas. Since Elizabeth Paurazas was not present at the Nat'l. Conv., she received her 4th Degree on St. Casimir's Day. Congratulations to all!

We were happy to learn (via the Dayton column) that a romance was inspired at our Det. Nat'l. Conv. between Tony Alexander of C-7, Waterbury, Conn., and Dayton's Pat Zelinskas, which led to wedding bells. Ilgiausiu Metu! Congratulations to Joe & Gerri Chaps who celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary on Mar. 6, and the Frank Zagers on Feb. 20. Other congratulations go to Ralph & Ann Valatka upon attaining their second grandchild, Brandon Michael, son of Donna & Ralph, Jr.

A nod of recognition and appreciation to Helen & Clem Patocki, and their daughter, Elaine Redmond. Time and time again they come through with many contributions, and spend hours of their time making posters for our various functions and donating material. A big hand for that fine "gang".

Possibly not the most chic accessories in the world of fashion, but "plaster of paris" seems to be blossoming among our members like spring flowers. Maggie Smailis sported a cast on her wrist, not once, but twice, in the interlude of two slipping adventures. Helen Tucker also hobbled on crutches after a fall, hurting her ankle. Our organist, Helen Mykolaitis, "casted" a broken finger. Everyone is fine, and no more "plasters", we hope.

Julie Belickas is recovering from two operations. Our prayers are that she will have a full recovery. Alice (Savickas) Burt was also hospitalized; get well soon.

Vicki Chepelonis' dear mother, Helen, passed away on Feb. 27 after a lingering illness. She was 89. Tegul Dievulis suteikia Amžiną Ramybę. Condolences to Vicki. We also extend our sympathy to Julius & Vince Bridzevaitis upon the

death of their dear mother, Veronica, who was 84. Lai Aukščiausias suteikia jai ramybę.

Emil & Phyllis Byville escaped the steel cold weather of Michigan and took off to Florida. They visited Emil's sister & brother-in-law in Tarpon Springs, where the weather was just beautiful. Then on for a visit with Ralph & Ann Valatka in Anna Maria, Fla. Beautiful weather is beginning to show here, too. And with it go best wishes for a lovely Spring. Hope your Easter was happy!

SOFFI

C-96 - DAYTON, OHIO

A touch of Americana took place at Holy Cross Church Hall on Feb. 7. With our chairladies, Karolyn Ambrose and Mary Lou Lastoskie, setting the scene, it was "Briar Night". Ham, bean soup, corn bread, apple & raisin salad, home made cobblers, and other goodies were cooked up for us. There was a real live caller for the square dances. One thing lacking... room. Once we got our 'motors' running, everyone wanted to dance. Eugenia Gečas won "best dancer" for the women. Walter Lastoskie won "best" for the men. (Sure that wasn't a put-up job?) John & Joyce Berczelly won for "best dressed". Albert Owens won the main drawing prize. It has been some time since Al and Marianne Owens have been down; good to see you. To Karolyn and Mary Lou a big hand of applause for a really fun, fun evening.

Sue Mantz and Ed Sluzas co-hosted the Jrs after their Feb. meeting by driving the group to Great Skate Roller - Ice Skating Rink in Miamisburg. Mary Lou & Walt Lastoskie had a pizza lunch for the Jrs at their home.

Aldona Ryan's second Cultural reading of the year "The Amber Web" was taken from "The Balts" by Marija Gimbutas, Ancient People and Places Series. Dennis Noreikas has taken on the chore of chairing our council and parish's participation in Dayton's Bicentennial Sports Olympiad to be held Aug. 12-15.

We extend an Ačiū to the Parish's Cultural Committee for the fine program they planned commemorating the annual celebration of the Independence of Lithuania. Many Knights are very active on this parish committee, and we are quite proud of the work they and the other parishioners are doing to make this a most active function of our parish.

The day began on Feb. 22 with Mass in Lithuanian at Holy Cross Church at 2 P.M. The program was held at the Lithuanian Social Club on Valley St. Guest speaker was Archbishop Nicholas T. Elko from our diocese. Archbishop Elko made us feel very proud of our heritage with the generous words he spoke on Lithuanians and the plight of Lithuania today. The Archbishop grew up in Donora, Pa. and was

well acquainted with Lithuanian people. The parish Vejeliai Dancers performed. Our council's Jr. Knights displayed posters with Lithuanian themes.

The second half of the program comprised of Mr. Rimas Strimaitis, Tenor; Mr. Vaclovas Verikaitis, Bass-Baritone; and Mr. Jonas Govedas, Accompanist. How good it was to hear their beautiful voices. All three guest artists are from Toronto, Canada.

Our local diocesan newspaper, The Catholic - Telegraph, gave great advance coverage of this program and an added follow-up on Archbishop Elko's talk. In the same edition an article was published on Father Casimir Pugevicius, our S.C. Lithuanian Affairs Chairman. This diocesan paper has given the Lithuanian

community much coverage for many years. A local TV station, Channel 2, ran coverage of the Independence Day Program three times. Write letters of thanks!

Congratulations to Walt & Mary Lou Lastoskie on receiving their First Degree at the Feb. Meeting. Our prayers are enclosed for Margie Grushas. Congratulations to Joe & Eleanor Mantz on the birth of their third grandchild, a girl. Congratulations and many more years ahead for Sam & Maxine Bakanauskas on the occasion of their 25th wedding anniversary.

To keep up-to-date on the Natl. Convention news, continue reading our CONVENTION CORNER. All our members are a part of this committee and ready to greet ALL of you!

FBP

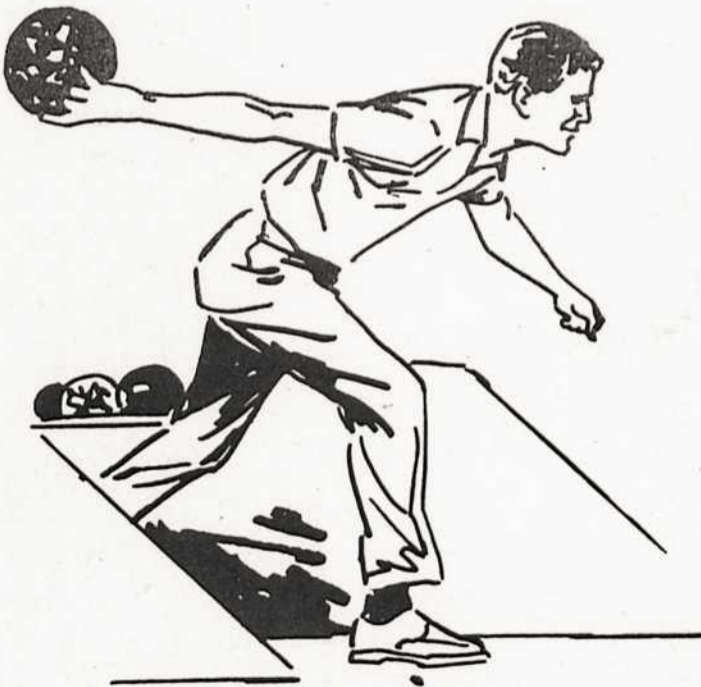
MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT

The Illinois-Indiana District cordially invites all of the councils of the Mid-Central District to participate in the Annual Tournament:

May 28 - 29 - 30, 1976
Chicago, Illinois

Schedule:

Friday, May 28th - Early Bird Social
Saturday, May 29th - Registration - AM
Brunch - 12:00 Noon
Bowling - 2:30 P.M.
Bowling Dance - 9:00 P.M.



Sunday, May 30th - Mass - 10:00 A.M.
Bowling Banquet - 12:30 P.M.

At the present time, a Mid-Central District meeting is scheduled for the 29th. Details will be sent to all MCD Councils by the MCD President, Elinor Sluzas.

General Information:

Bowling - Marzano's Miami Bowl Lanes
Headquarters - Sheraton Midway House
Mass - Immaculate Conception Church
Dance/Banquet - K of L Building

Cost: Bowlers \$20.00 - Non-Bowlers \$16.00

Hope to see you all in Chicago in May!

Illinois-Indiana District
Bowling Committee

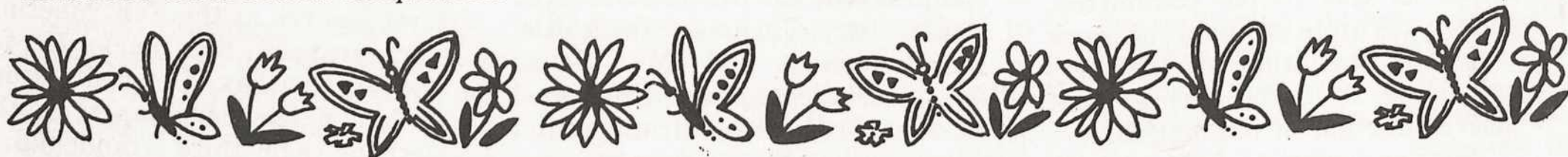
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2520 W. 68th St., Chicago, IL 60629
#312 - 476-6399

Vince Samaska, Co-Chairman
2415 S. Sawyer Ave., Chicago, IL 60623
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KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
63rd NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 25-29, 1976

Souffers Dayton Plaza

Council 96, Hosts
Dayton, Ohio

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY - August 25

P.M. THEATER PARTY, featuring the Kenly Players
P.M. After-Theater Dinner

THURSDAY - August 26

A.M. Supreme Council Meeting
2:00 P.M. Opening Session
P.M. "PIONEER NIGHT"

FRIDAY - August 27

9:30 A.M. Second Session and Panel
12:00 Noon Holy Mass
2:00 P.M. Third Session and Panel
P.M. CULTURAL EVENING, featuring "Vėjeliai" Dancers
and other special Cultural treats.
Dayton Lithuanian Club

SATURDAY - August 28

9:30 A.M. Fourth Session and Panel
12:00 Noon Holy Mass
2:00 P.M. Closing Session, Election of Officers,
Completion of Resolutions
P.M. CLOSING BANQUET AND BALL
Stouffers Dayton Plaza Grand Ballroom

SUNDAY - August 29

10:00 A.M. Closing Mass
Holy Cross Church
P.M. "FAREWELL FEAST"

REGISTRATION - \$40.00

