



the KNIGHT **VYTYTIS**

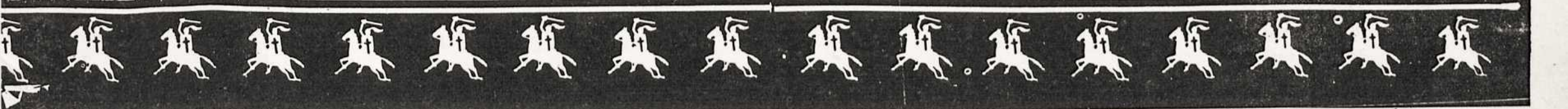
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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
**THE KNIGHTS
OF LITHUANIA**

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September - October / Rugsejis - Spalis



Knights of Lithuania Youth - Members under the age of 25, attending the 63rd National Convention, August, 1976, Dayton, Ohio.



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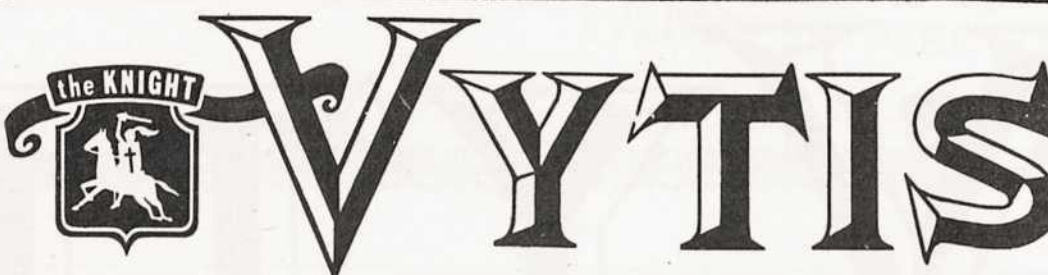
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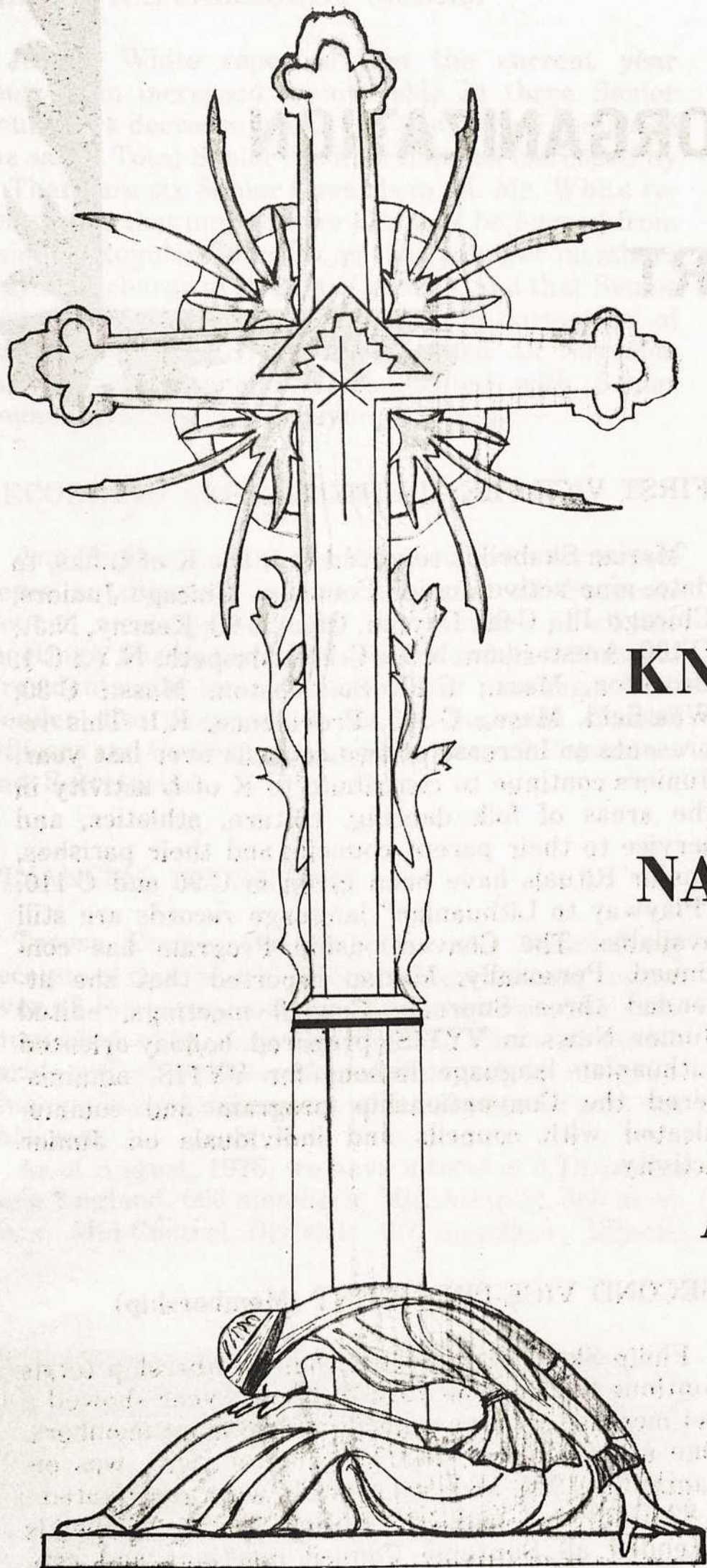
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Presenting the

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

63rd

NATIONAL CONVENTION

HOST COUNCIL - 96

AUGUST 25 thru 29, 1976

HOSTS - COUNCIL 96, DAYTON

STOUFFER'S DAYTON PLAZA HOTEL

Dayton, Ohio



STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION REPORT



This Knights of Lithuania State of the Organization Report, 1975-1976, was compiled from the annual reports of the Supreme Council officers and Committee Chairmen.

SPIRITUAL ADVISER

The Knights of Lithuania is most grateful to its Spiritual Adviser, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., for his constant guidance and outstanding leadership during the year. Rev. Jurgelaitis submitted articles of a religious nature to VYTIS regularly, and also prepared one of an organizational nature, in an attempt to stimulate ideas for discussion at the National Convention. He attended all Supreme Council meetings, maintained contacts with Supreme Council members between meetings, and participated in K of L recruitment activities, seeking more support for the K of L on the part of the priesthood. He also was guest speaker at a NED Convention and a C-29, Newark, Communion Breakfast and prepared the religious panel for the National Convention.

PRESIDENT

President Anthony Miner reports that in addition to scheduling and chairing four Supreme Council Meetings, he represented the K of L at various special events in the Lithuanian Community. He handled whatever correspondence needed attention, and, as part of a special membership committee, toured the coal-mining area of Pennsylvania in an attempt to establish new councils there. Numerous other issues and potential problems were handled and settled wherever possible.

Mr. Miner was very much missed at the National Convention. He was unable to attend due to a severe bout with pneumonia. The Knights of Lithuania wish Tony renewed health and stamina... and much success in leading the organization for another year.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT (Juniors)

Marian Skabeikis reported that the K of L has, to date, nine active Junior Councils - Chicago Juniors, Chicago, Ill.; C-96, Dayton, Ohio; C-90, Kearny, N.J.; C-100, Amsterdam, N.Y.; C-110, Maspeth, N.Y.; C-1, Brockton, Mass.; C-17, So. Boston, Mass.; C-30, Westfield, Mass.; C-103, Providence, R.I. This represents an increase of two councils over last year. Juniors continue to contribute to K of L activity in the areas of folk dancing, culture, athletics, and service to their parent councils and their parishes. Junior Rituals have been given in C-90 and C-110. "Playway to Lithuanian" language records are still available. The Conventionship Program has continued. Personally, Marian reported that she attended three Supreme Council meetings, edited Junior News in VYTIS, prepared holiday-oriented Lithuanian language lessons for VYTIS, administered the Conventionship program and communicated with councils and individuals on Junior activity.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT (Membership)

Philip Skabeikis reported that membership totals continue to rise. The 1975-76 K of L year showed a net increase of three councils and 98 more members. One new council, C-142, Washington, D.C. was organized in 1975, and two councils were reactivated - C-82, Gary, Ind. and C-86, DuBois, Pa. Mr. Skabeikis attended all Supreme Council meetings and submitted 5 membership articles to VYTIS. He also served on the team that visited Lithuanian Parishes in the Scranton, Pa. Diocese regarding K of L reactivation. The Ad Hoc Membership Committee in each District met with limited use, with no reports from the Districts regarding their committees' activities.

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT (Seniors)

Joseph White reported that the current year showed an increased membership in three Senior Councils, a decrease in one and one council remained the same. Total Senior membership has increased by 7. There are six Senior Councils in all. Mr. White recommends that more Senior Councils be formed from existing Regular Councils, so that younger members may take charge of Regular Councils, and that Senior Councils assist Regular Councils in formation of Junior activity. Mr. White attended all Supreme Council meetings and communicated with Senior Council presidents wherever required.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Ann Bender assisted the President with correspondence as directed by him, attended all Supreme Council meetings and sent out minutes of all the meetings. She also notified officers and past National Presidents and local officers of the meetings. Mrs. Bender also prepared a list of Supreme Council Officers and Committees, and also Council Presidents and Secretaries.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Teresa Trainis reported that she handled all receipts of dues and VYTIS subscriptions and turned over all funds promptly to the Treasurer. She communicated often with the Council Financial Secretaries and other officers in an effort to keep membership up. Only 68 delinquent notices had to be sent out this year.

As of August, 1976, we have a total of 5 Districts: New England, 666 members; Mid-Atlantic, 565 members; Mid-Central District, 467 members; Illinois-



Indiana District, 330 members; California, 50 members. There is a total of 45 councils, including 5 that are inactive. Mrs. Trainis attended all Supreme Council meetings.

TREASURER

Rita Pinkus attended three Supreme Council meetings and handled her duties with efficiency. The records were properly maintained, bills were paid, and funds wisely invested. Her records were audited by the Trustees and were made available to all interested delegates at the Convention.

TRUSTEES

Irene Sankus and Anthony Radzevich reported that in addition to their main duty of auditing the Treasurer's records, they also served as overseers of the work of Ad Hoc Committees. They took an inventory of known K of L property and presented a list of such to the Convention. Miss Sankus and Mr. Radzevich each attended three Supreme Council meetings during the year.

LEGAL ADVISER

Anthony Young attended all Supreme Council meetings called during the year. He handled all legal matters that came up during the year. In particular, he investigated details of a trip to Rome allegedly sponsored by the Knights of Lithuania and subsequently informed all those involved in arrangement of the trip that the K of L name must not be used without proper authorization by the Supreme Council or the National Convention. He handled the matter of leftover funds of C-6, Hartford which had become inactive and saw to it that the funds be



placed in the Supreme Council Treasury, as per the K of L Constitution. He also offered legal advice in numerous other cases involving K of L legal matters.

VYTIS

Editor Loretta Stukas and her staff of Anthony Yuknis, Regina Malakas, Josephine Zukas, Mary Kober, Lucille Kilkus and Balys Vyliaudas published 10 issues since the last Convention. Printing and mailing is done by Vi Vi Press in Chicago. \$1100.00 was realized from the VYTIS Christmas Greetings. Mrs. Stukas reiterated the fact that Council news must be limited to 2 pages, typewritten, and that this limit will be strictly enforced by the C-News Editor. Copy that is too long will be either returned to the writer or truncated. Response from members for special articles has been very good; but Lithuanian articles are still needed. The VYTIS publication schedule was changed this year. Instead of a June-July and August-September issues, a separate June issue was published, and the July-August and September-October issues were published. This change was made to coincide more closely with the printer and staff vacation schedules.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS

Rev. Casimir Pugevicius reported that he continued the important work of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee by watching the press for articles concerning Lithuania and reacting to them by appropriate means. He participated in numerous events on behalf of the persecuted behind the Iron Curtain and sent night letters to committee members, asking for action against a proposed budget cut that would have affected the Voice of America adversely. Father Pugevicius recommends increased interest in the

CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA. He further recommended that the K of L "adopt" Nijole Sadunaite, a young Lithuanian woman sentenced to three years in a Soviet labor camp for her work with the Chronicle. He suggested that members send registered letters to Miss Sadunaite often, to prove that she has not been forgotten.

LITHUANIAN CULTURAL COMMITTEE

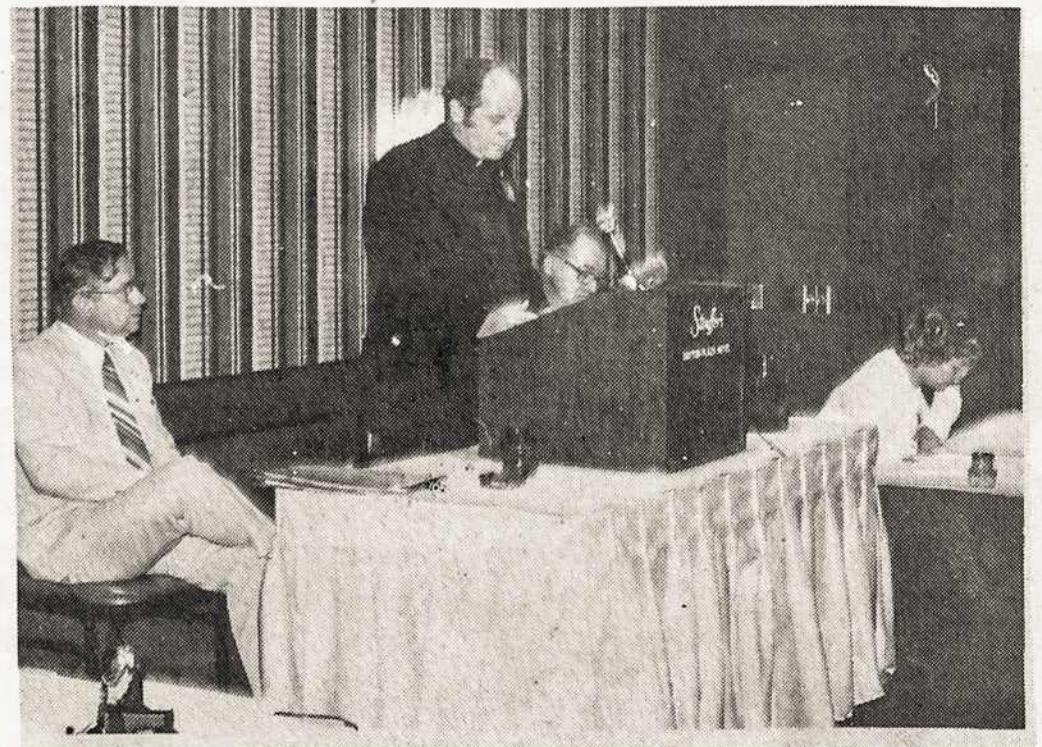
Aldona Ryan attended three Supreme Council meetings and carried on a continuing campaign to increase the K of L Cultural life. She reinstated the 5-minute culture period at all K of L meetings and provided councils with Cultural Information Sheets for use during this period. She wrote many articles and stories for VYTIS and taped several radio programs on Lithuanian culture. All four Districts used their allotted \$100 for placing books about Lithuania in libraries and kept in touch with councils as to their individual cultural activities. A list of such activities was distributed to delegates to the National Convention.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Eleanore Laurin, Secretary, reported that Honorary Membership was conferred upon Loretta Stukas, of C-29, Newark, N.J. and VYTIS Editor and Rita Pinkus, of C-26, Worcester, Mass. and National Treasurer. Lawrence Janonis of C-12, New York, N.Y. was recommended and approved as Honorary Membership recipient for 1977.

RITUAL COMMITTEE

Lillian Sasnauskas, Chairman and Bertha Janus and Frances Petkus, Committee members, reported



that twelve councils presented 187 degrees during the past year... 100 First Degrees, 54 Second, 23 Third and 10 Fourth. Ten Fourth degrees were to be presented at the Sunday Mass of the National Convention.

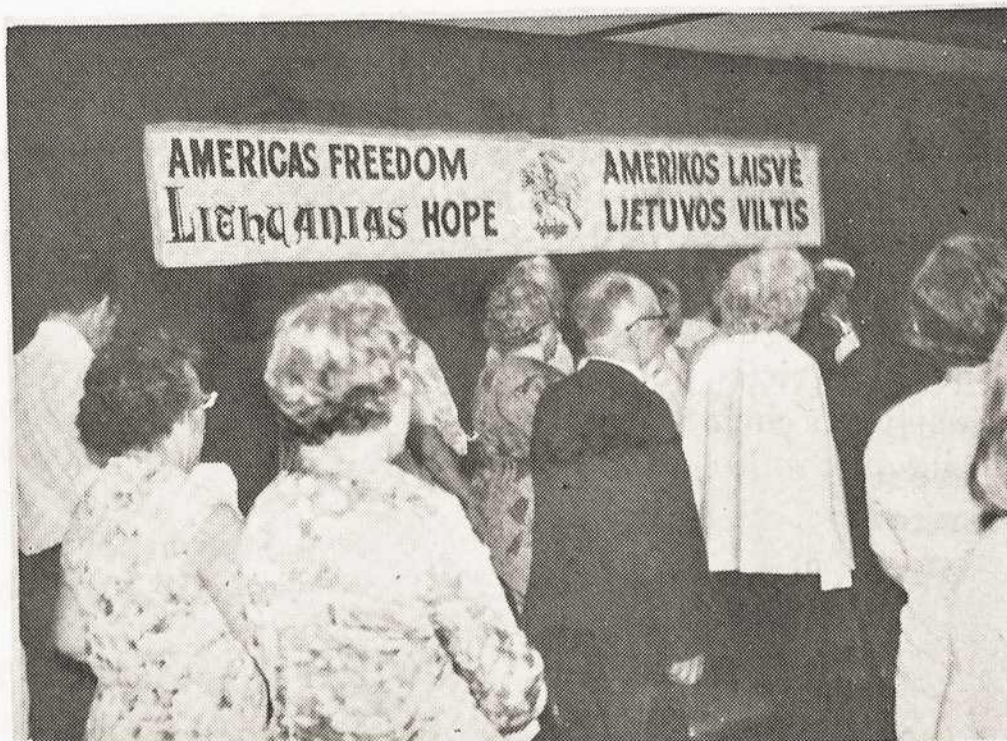
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Walter Svekla, Chairman, and Anthony Mazeika, Treasurer, reported that the 1975 Scholarship recipient received her award in two equal installments. Notices were sent to Council Presidents to remind their members about the availability of scholarships and the need for donations. All donations are promptly acknowledged by Mr. Mazeika, who also presented a list of donors for publication in the VYTIS. The 1976 Scholarship winner was selected and announced during the Convention. A report appears elsewhere in this issue.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Helen Kulber reported that she did PR for the K of L in many ways. She publicized and reported on special events in which the K of L participated and extended greetings on behalf of the K of L at various Lithuanian functions. She arranged Lithuanian exhibits at a "Salute to the UN" and other events and represented the K of L in non-Lithuanian organizations and committees.

Birute and Vytautas Radzivanas also reported on their work as editors of a full page K of L section of DARBININKAS, which appears in the newspaper periodically. An increased awareness has been noted among members, leading to a more interesting



column. Mr. & Mrs. Radzivanas are striving to achieve greater regularity in their goal of one issue per month, but are limited by the paper's production requirements.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District President Albert Jaritis reported that the District is comprised of ten regular councils, two senior councils, and four junior councils. Two conventions were held in the spring and the fall. Other NED District activities included a Cultural Picnic, a Television Mass, a St. Casimir's Day celebration, a Holy Hour and a family picnic. Councils were busy with ski-weekends, dances, picnics, parish activities, and others.

ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

President Algerd Brazis and Secretary Irene Sankus reported that the District has four regular, one senior and one junior council, as well as an active K of L Choir and a K of L Dance Group. Regular quarterly business meetings are held. Many of the former financial problems of the K of L Building are being resolved by special building benefit events and better operating procedures. Regular District activities include a "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet, St. Casimir's Day Commemoration, K of L Day Picnic and a Golf Outing. IID members also participated in the Chicago Captive Nations Parade and Chicago's Bicentennial events. They also hosted the Mid-West Bowling Tournament, attended by members of IID and MCD.

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

President Larry Janonis reported that at present there are 15 councils in the District, and three Junior

councils. Four District Conventions were held during the past year, one of which included a St. Casimir's Day celebration. The District celebrated its 60th Anniversary with a gala Dinner-Dance in April. The District also sponsored bus excursion to the Lithuanian festivities at the Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia in August.

The District publishes a District Bulletin regularly. Its councils have been engaged in a variety of religious, cultural and social activities.

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

Elinor Sluzas, President of MCD, presented her report in person, reporting that two annual events are planned formally, although more frequent gatherings of the District occur informally. This past year, MCD sponsored its annual Pilgrimage this year in Cleveland, and held its Annual Meeting in Chicago, in conjunction with the Midwest Bowling Tournament in May. All councils of the District continue to be active in their own cities.

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

VYTIS CHRISTMAS GREETING CAMPAIGN

The VYTIS Christmas Greeting Campaign is early this year. Deadline is OCTOBER 20, 1976. This is your last chance to wish everybody a Merry Christmas, 1976, and a Happy, Prosperous New Year, 1977. Mail your greeting copy and donation to:

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

Suggested donations:

Full Page - \$50.00
1/2 Page - \$25.00
1/4 Page - \$15.00
1/8 Page - \$10.00

Two Line Patron - \$5.00

One Line Well-Wisher - \$2.00

Remember, the DEADLINE is OCTOBER 20, 1977

ATTENTION ALL FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Please note that dues for all members are due on or before Jan. 1, 1976. Newly-elected Council Financial Secretaries should begin collecting membership dues immediately. Dues should be collected for all year.

Dues are \$7.00 per year. Additional members of the same household, not receiving the VYTIS, pay \$3.50 per year. Married couples pay \$10.50 upon joining, and \$7.00 per year thereafter.

To insure your members receiving their VYTIS promptly, please include members' addresses with their dues. All dues and address changes and corrections should go to:

Mrs. Teresa Trainis
National Financial Secretary
215 Jefferson St.
Fairfield, Conn. 06432

NOTE: Address Changes MUST go to the above... DO NOT send them to the Editor.

ELECTIONS

District and Council officer elections MUST take place either in the months of September or October, as per the constitutional change made at the 1964 National Convention.

Immediately after the election of new officers, PLEASE send the names and addresses of ALL the officers to National Recording Secretary,

Mrs. Ann H. Bender
45 Providence St.
Worcester, Mass. 01604

The Supreme Council and the National Committee Chairmen cannot operate efficiently without YOUR cooperation. As shown in the reports of the officers, there is a great need for better communication.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR'S REPORT

1975 - 1976

The duties of the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor are not numerous. I have tried to fulfill them with care:

Articles of religious nature have been submitted monthly to the VYTIS. One article of a different kind, of an organizational nature was submitted in an attempt to stimulate ideas and thoughts and suggestions for improving the Knights of Lithuania. This included an opportunity for the members at large to submit their responses to definite themes and topics directly to the National Convention. At the time of this writing the results of that membership input have not been tabulated.

I was able to attend and participate actively in all four Supreme Council Meetings held in Boston, Dayton, Newark and Providence.

In between meetings contact with the President was maintained by phone and letter regarding matters requiring immediate attention. One such matter was facilitating the recruitment of a local Council Spiritual Advisor for the Washington, D.C. Council. Another was the planning and execution of the Scranton trip for the purpose of contacting the Lithuanian Pastors to urge the establishment of K of L Councils in that area. I, also accompanied the President and the 2nd Vice-President on that three day visitation.

I was able to attend two District Conventions: the New England District and Midwest District. I was privileged to be invited to deliver a "Founder's Day" address at the New England District Convention.

At the invitation of the Newark, N.J. Council, I was celebrant at their Communion Breakfast Mass and guest speaker at the Breakfast.

I participated in my local Council's American-Lithuanian Bi-Centennial celebration and was English homilist at the Mass held at the Rhode Island State House Terrace.

At the request of the Supreme Council I have prepared the Religion Panel to be presented at the Dayton National Convention. Likewise, at the request of the Supreme Council (and subject to approval by the National Convention) I have accepted an appointment as Chairman of the Resolutions Committee.

It may be a well worn cliché (It most certainly IS) to say "dirbau, kiek išgalės daleido" - I think that I can honestly make that statement.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Anthony A. Jurgelaitis, O.P.
Supreme Council
Spiritual Advisor

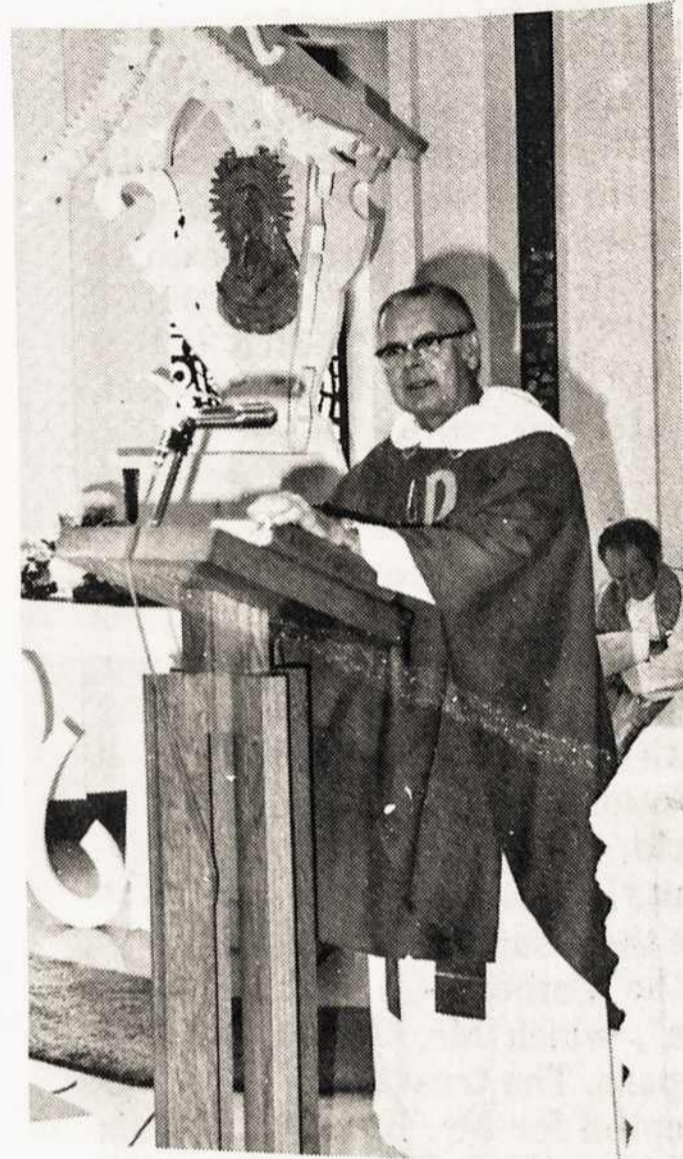


Photo - R. Kisielius



The Procession to Sunday Mass.

TRULY A "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA"

Almost every year, during the National Convention, the Knights of Lithuania honors a prominent non-Lithuanian who has especially distinguished himself with his work and interest in Lithuania's behalf, or has assisted in some special way in promoting the cause of Lithuania's freedom from Communism and the Soviet Union.

This year, the award, known as the REV. JOHN C. JUTT FRIEND OF LITHUANIA GOLD MEDAL AWARD, was presented, in absentia, to a very special "Friend of Lithuania", SERGEI KOVALEV. Mr. Kovalev was unable to receive the award in person because he presently is confined to a Soviet Labor Camp, specifically for trying to bring the truth about the Soviet Union violations of human rights to the world. One of the chief instruments in this truth campaign of his was the issuance of the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania", which Mr. Kovalev helped prepare. The treasured award was accepted for Mr. Kovalev by MR. SIMAS KUDIRKA, Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania and himself a recent Soviet Labor Camp prisoner. The place of honor, normally occupied by the "Friend of Lithuania" during the banquet was left empty, and the table at that spot was graced by a drawing of Mr. Kovalev, done by Dayton artist Paul Behrens, (shown right).

Following is the text of the talk given by National Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Rev. Casimir Pugevicius in awarding the Gold Medal to Sergei Kovalev, through Simas Kudirka, during the Banquet of the 63rd National Convention on Saturday, August 28, 1976 at the Grand Ballroom of Stouffers Dayton Plaza Hotel, Dayton, Ohio.

If Sergei Adamovich Kovalev receives letters from abroad at Camp VS 389/36 in the Soviet Union, he will be surprised to learn that he has been awarded the coveted FRIEND OF LITHUA-

NIA award. This award is presented to a non-Lithuanian who has performed outstanding service for the cause of Lithuania and her

PRESENTATION OF THE FATHER JUTT "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA" AWARD TO MR. SERGEI KOVALEV

people. It is awarded at the Knights of Lithuania National Convention.



The 44 year old Biologist, Sergei Adamovich Kovalev, former senior researcher at Moscow State University is a criminal because he believes in the dignity of man and the defense of Human Rights in the USSR. In an underground fashion he tried to bring the truth, by means of the written word thru underground publications. One was the "Chronicle of Current Events", a bi-monthly record of trials and imprisonments. He tried to intercede for such dissidents as Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Vladimir Bukovsky by signing petitions in their behalf. He also became a charter member of the Moscow chapter of Amnesty International,

a human rights group headquartered in London. He issued a statement concerning conditions in labor camps in the USSR.

The final act of courage that proved Kovalev's undoing was to help prepare another journal, the "Chronicle of the Lithuanian Catholic Church". The eleven issues of that publication to reach the West constitute a tragic record of the repression of church and national life in Lithuania under Soviet rule. Charges that these reports purveyed "anti-Soviet propaganda carried on for the purpose of subverting or weakening the Soviet regime". This was the charge against Sergei Kovalev.

According to an informed State Department source, who was not allowed to attend the supposedly "open" trial, the Soviets are supersensitive to challenges from religious and national movements, particularly in territories annexed during World War II. They staged Kovalev's trial in the remote courtroom at Vilnius, off limits to correspondents and friends. They decided to give an object lesson to Lithuanians by having the court deliver the maximum sentence of seven years at a "strict regime" camp followed by three years internal exile.

The four-day trial was unusual in several respects. Kovalev pleaded not guilty to a catalog of charges based on documents seized at his apartment. The court denied Kovalev's motions to call witnesses except for one, who was unavailable. It further denied his

request for defense attorneys who had handled similar cases. Rather than accept a court-appointed counsel, Kovalev chose to defend himself. The trial was blatantly unlawful. It was not open to the public; there was no debate between the parties; the trial was conducted without defense counsel, and it was completed in the absence of Kovalev and without his final plea.

The sentence of Sergei Kovalev gives a hollow ring to the Soviet pledges at Helsinki to "recognize and respect the freedom of the individual to profess and practice, alone or in community with others, religion or belief in accordance with the dictates of his own conscience".

Finally, let us remember the pledge of the United States, in the words of Henry Kissinger "Human rights must be cherished regard-

less of race, sex, or religion. There can be no double standard".

On August 28, 1976 at the Grand Banquet and Ball of the Knights of Lithuania National Convention, Simas Kudirka, who was pulled from the depths of hell in a Soviet labor camp, will accept the FRIEND OF LITHUANIA AWARD for Sergei Adamovich Kovalev.

Some day we hope to present our award in person and pronounce our sentence.

"SERGEI ADAMOVICH KOVALEV we find you guilty... of promoting Freedom of the Press
SERGEI ADAMOVICH KOVALEV we find you guilty... of promoting Freedom of Religion
SERGEI ADAMOVICH KOVALEV we find you guilty... of Loving your Fellow Man".



Simas Kudirka, Rev. C. Pugevicius, E. Sluzas, Bishop Bernadin, Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, R. Pinkus.



Simas Kudirka accepts award for Sergei Kovalev, from Rev. Pugevicius.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 63RD NATIONAL CONVENTION



When I was elected President, I promised that no communication would be ignored, and that no issue would be avoided. I have adhered to this principle throughout the year. Every letter of suggestion, question, criticism, or complaint was studied and analyzed. Confidentiality was observed whenever it was advisable. Several legal matters were turned over to the Legal Advisor. Although personal acknowledgements were not sent out in each case, each matter was handled in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Council.

I scheduled and chaired four Supreme Council meetings, in Boston, Newark, Dayton and Providence. Whenever possible I personally represented the Supreme Council at various special events. Otherwise, greetings were sent by mail or telegram. Several articles were published in VYTIS. I attended the ALTAS convention in Chicago, and the Central

Organization Presidents' meeting at the ALTAS Headquarters. I have maintained close relationships with other Lithuanian organizations. I am the K of L representative on the Worcester Bi-Centennial Committee and Vice-President of the Worcester County Organization for Ethnic Affairs.

In May, together with the 2nd Vice-President, I went to Scranton, Pa., to help C-74 with some organizational problems, and also visited Lithuanian parishes in Kingston and Wilkes-Barre.

In June, I obtained Supreme Council approval and financing of a special delegation, consisting of Father Jurgelaitis, Spiritual Advisor and Philip Skabeikis, 2nd Vice-President and myself to attempt the establishment and/or reactivation of K of L Councils in the Scranton Diocese. We were pleased with the receptions we received. We went through eleven cities or towns and received outright statements from only three Pastors who stated that it would be impossible to start Councils in their parishes. The strongest

encouragement and assistance was bound in Hazelton, Pittston, Kingston and Forest City. Other Pastors showed varying degrees of interest and support. We were assisted by Eva Kazokas, President of C-74, Scranton, who is serving as our contact person in the area. I believe that we have good potential here, but much, hard, follow-up work will be required.

During the past year, many issues, problems, procedures and policies which had been avoided, were discussed, resolved and classified. Therefore, operational procedures should now be much smoother, and time and effort can now be concentrated on major projects.

I most sincerely thank all of the efficient and cooperative Supreme Council members who dedicated their efforts to help us have a successful, K of L year.

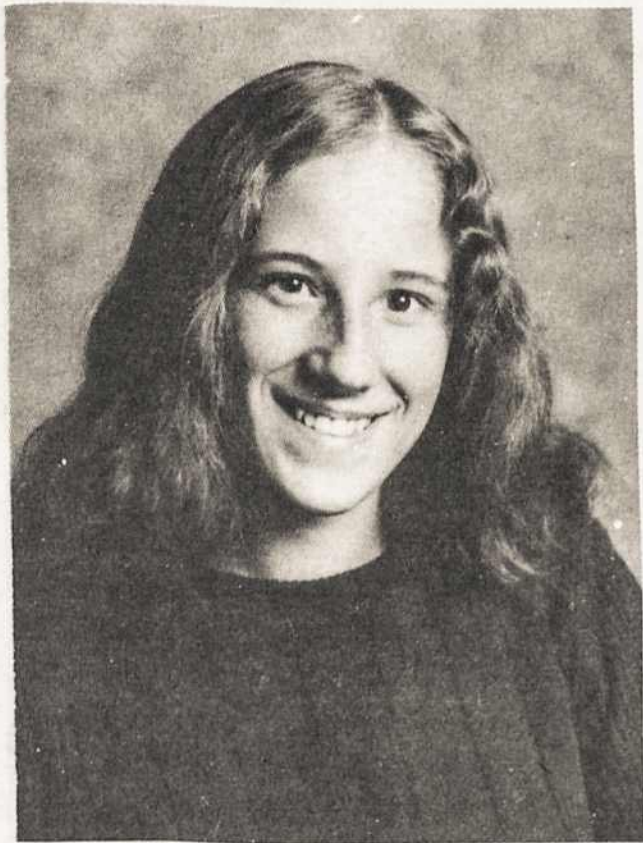
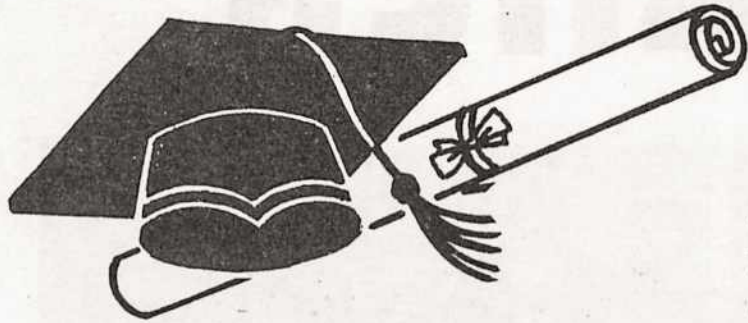
Respectfully submitted,

Anthony M. Miner,
President



A pre-Convention Supreme Council Meeting.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



Following are the remarks made by Dr. Jack J. Stukas, past National K of L President and organizer of the Scholarship Fund of the K of L, in presenting the 1976 Knights of Lithuania, Canon Fabijonas Kemezis Scholarship Award, during the Convention Banquet, August 28, 1976, in the Grand Ballroom of the Stouffer's Dayton Plaza Hotel, Dayton, Ohio.

The Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Committee, created many years ago to assist younger members of our organization in achieving a higher education, has unanimously agreed on one winning recipient this year.

This year's full award of \$1000 will go to a young lady who has truly earned this scholarship assistance. She has helped in her school as student librarian, was a member of the Red Cross and the Human Relations Club, and was selected to be listed in "Who's Who

among High School Students". She is financial secretary of her Council, of which her mother is President. She has been active in Lithuanian Folk Dancing since age 6, and is still a member of the K of L Vytis Dancers. She was presented as a Lithuanian debutante at the colorful Amber Ball in Chicago this year. Her other Lithuanian activities include writing articles for VYTIS, participating in various Lithuanian activities in Chicago - Captive Nations Parades, Lithuanian Expositions, and religious and cultural affairs.

She plans to attend St. Xavier College in Chicago beginning next month, and will major in nursing with a specialization in Surgical Technology.

Her former chemistry/physics teacher, a nun at Nazareth Academy in La Grange Park, Ill., has this to say about her:

"...Rosemarie is one of the most personable students I have had the privilege of teaching over the years. She has a good sense of humor, a capacity for walking in the shoes of her fellow students and a nice blend between respect for authority and becoming her own person. I am delighted that Rosemarie has chosen a nursing career for which her personality, character and integrity eminently fit her".

In her own words, here is how the young lady wrote of her future plans and what she thinks of our organization:

"I would be most grateful to the Knights of Lithuania for any help they give me towards the fulfillment of my future plans of becoming a surgical nurse. I enjoy helping others and I will be able to dedicate myself to this ideal more fully as a nurse. ... Our organization, the Knights of Lithuania,

holds much meaning for me. We are truly Knights, preserving our Lithuanian heritage and culture, helping to keep the Lithuanian language on everyone's lips and keeping Lithuania in our hearts. Lithuania must never die, and we must fight to keep her a well-noted and outstanding nation. We must also pray that she becomes free again, and not kept enslaved. Our love will never cease for Lithuania, whose people have seen many hardships through the years. We must ensure a brighter future for her... With help from the Knights of Lithuania Scholarship program, I know that in my heart, thoughts and deeds, I will try to be worthy of it".

Yes, the members of our Scholarship Committee are indeed pleased to award the 1976-1977 Bicentennial Scholarship award of \$1000.00 to MISS ROSEMARIE ANNETTE KLATT, of Council 36, Chicago, Ill., and may I call on our Scholarship Fund Treasurer, Mr. Anthony Mazeika of New York, to present the young lady, who is attending this convention, with the first of two checks of \$500.00 each.



JUNIORS CORNER

FROM A JUNIOR'S POINT OF VIEW...

Dayton, Ohio had been my third Convention after attending Brockton and New York City. I arrived in Dayton anxious to come to the Sixty-Third Convention with the help of the Supreme Council's Conventionship. Unfortunately, I missed the trip to McDonald's and Carillon Park. When the other Juniors gathered back at the hotel, I renewed old acquaintances from conventions gone by. Pioneer Night was entertaining, thanks to Abe Lincoln. Friday morning's visit to the Air Force Museum was the highlight of the activities. I am sure I could have spent the entire day there. Next, the Juniors took on the Huffman Dam Park. After the picnic, we went back to the hotel for a good rest until Cultural Night. After reaching "Barstukių Iškilmes", I wandered past the many tables, set up with various Lithuanian articles. The "Vejeliai" dancers were terrific, bringing back memories to many.

Saturday (August 28) was the day for the Junior's formal session. Agnes Mikalauskas was elected Presiding Officer, Bill Sidtis Secretary and Allen Drenzek Sgt-of-Arms. Mrs. Druktainis was the Guest Speaker. The plight of the Lithuanians and their unyielding faith was the subject of her talk. Jerry Podoyak gave an impressive talk on Leadership. Bill Sidtis spoke on "Juniors on the National Level". Vytautas Radzivanas presented a slide show on the Lithuanian Youth Congress held in Brazil last year. I am sure all of the Juniors found it as rewarding as I did. At noon, the Juniors participated at Mass as the servers and offerers.

The evening Banquet and Ball was great. The Convention Mass



was inspiring and the brunch was a feast.

I would personally like to thank Mrs. Fran Petkus for all she has done. On behalf of all the Juniors I would like to also thank Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Podoyak, Fr. Casimir Pugevicius for opening and closing the Junior's session, and Elinor Sluzas for the fine M.C. job.

See you in Providence.

Bill Sidtis,
C-110 Juniors

OFFICIAL*Highlights*

**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
EXECUTIVE BOARD
1976 - 1977**

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PRESIDENT	Anthony M. Miner C-116, So. Worcester
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LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS
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RITUAL
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Frances Petkus, C-96, Dayton
Susan Boroskas, C-1, Brockton

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Eleanore Laurin, Secy., C-112, Chicago
Anthony Mazeika, C-41, Brooklyn-Queens
Ignas Sakalas, Chicago Seniors
Helen Shields, C-3, Philadelphia
Stanley Vaitkus, C-96, Dayton
Phyllis Grendal, C-17 Seniors, So. Boston

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Anthony Mazeika, Secy-Treas., C-41, Brooklyn-Queens
Anthony Miner, C-116, So. Worcester
Rev. Walter Karaveckas, C-19, Pittsburgh
Dr. Jack Stukas, C-29, Newark
Philip Skabeikis, C-110, Maspeth
John Norusis, C-112, Chicago

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Daniel Avierka, C-17 Srs., So. Boston

VYTIS
Loretta I. Stukas, Editor, C-29, Newark
Anthony Yuknis, C-112, Chicago
Regina Malakas, C-29, Newark
Josephine Zukas, C-109, Great Neck
Mary Kober, C-109, Great Neck
Lucille Kilkus, C-36, Chicago

LITHUANIAN RELIGIOUS AID COORDINATOR
Helen Shields, C-3, Philadelphia

LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE PROPAGATION
Joseph Boley, C-41, Brooklyn-Queens

CONVENTION PRESIDUM



CHAIRMAN Joseph White, C-17 Sr.
CO-CHAIRMEN Rita Pinkus, C-26
 Victor August, C-25
SECRETARIES Ann Marie Kassel, C-36
 Mary Martus, C-17



MANDATE COMMITTEE
 Monica Kasper, C-12; Sophie Nieminski, C-112;
 Teresa Trainis, C-141.

MINUTES COMMITTEE
 Longinas Svelnis, C-17 Srs., Anne Mitchell Matulevich, C-52.

PRESS COMMITTEE
 Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, C-29; Helen Kulber, C-41;
 Elinor Sluzas, C-96.



RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
 Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., C-103; Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, C-29; Marcolla Aleksis, C-7; Anthony Mazeika, C-41; Vytautas Radzivanas, C-41; Mary Stonis, C-29; Loretta Stukas, C-29.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE
 Larry Janonis, MAD; Elinor Sluzas, MCD; Albert Jaritis, NED; Eleanore Laurin, IID.



GREETINGS COMMITTEE

Mary Kulis, C-110; Nellie Skabeikis, C-110; Ruth Grasha, C-79; Millie Pietz, C-12; Sabina Klatt, C-36.

CONVENTION PUBLICITY

That the Knights of Lithuania were in town there was no doubt. All during the convention, Dayton newspapers, radio and TV stations carried snatches of what was going on at the Stouffer Dayton Plaza and at the Lithuanian establishments in Dayton. Thanks mostly to Aldona Ryan, assisted by Marianne Blum, Lithuanians received excellent coverage, and reporters and editors were introduced to what we are and what we stand for.

On Friday, Aug. 27, several Vejeliai Dancers did the "Ozelis" at Dayton's Court House Square, and were covered by WDTN-TV and WHIO-TV. M.C. Aldona Ryan made sure she put in a plug for the K of L and Lithuanians as well. Saturday's Banquet was covered and attended by: George Barmann, Editor, Catholic Telegraph Register and earlier recipient of the K of L "Friend of Lithuania" Award; Steve Konicki, Dayton Daily News; Jean Kappell, Dayton Newspapers; Mary Fitzgibbons; WDTN-TV; WHIO-TV representatives; Key Magazine representatives, Jim Briggs, Radio Station WING News Editor; Bill Nance, "Other Voices", Radio Station WING.

Saturday Night's TV News carried an interview with Jack Stukas... a later radio program, "Other Voices" carried a conversation between Dr. Kazys Bobelis, Simas Kudirka, Loretta Stukas and Aldona Ryan, and Sunday and subsequent editions of Dayton newspapers were replete with stories of the K of L Convention, the award to Mr. Kovalev, Simas Kudirka, Archbishop Bernadin, etc.

We congratulate Aldona Ryan and her assistants in C-96 for a very outstanding job of Public Relations for the Convention.



SGTS-AT-ARMS

Andrew Rozger, C-19
Jerome Jankus, C-36

JUNIOR CONVENTIONSHIP AWARDS

Once again, Junior members from all Districts were rewarded for their K of L activity and their interest in attending National Convention, with the annual Conventionship awards. Awards of \$50.00 each are presented each year to not more than four deserving Juniors of each District. The awardees are chosen by the respective District Executive Boards, with the help of the National First Vice-President. This year's awards went to the following members:

MCD: Rita Gecas, C-96, Dayton; Walter Lastowski, C-96, Dayton; Mary Agnes Mikalauskas, C-96, Dayton; Kathy Sinkwitz, C-96, Dayton.

IID: Maria Klatt, C-36, Chicago; Bernadette Klatt, C-36, Chicago.

MAD: Gerald Drenzek, C-100, Amsterdam; Allen Drenzek, C-100, Amsterdam; William Sidtis, C-110, Maspeth.

NED: Regina Krecioch, C-103, Providence; Ann Krecioch, C-103, Providence; Katherine Krecioch, C-103, Providence; Marcy Krecioch, C-103, Providence; Doris Baleconis, C-17, So. Boston; Clare Yusauskas, C-17, So. Boston; Adele Martus, C-17, So. Boston; Kathy Norinkevich, C-17, So. Boston.

Note - The New England Junior members (from C-103 and C-17) elected to divide the awards, so that eight members would receive \$25.00 each, rather than four members receiving \$50.00 each. Congratulations to all.





OFFICIAL PHOTO
 63RD NATIONAL CONVENTION
 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
 DAYTON, OHIO - AUGUST, 1976

REZOLIUCIJOS

WHEREAS, during the Conference on European Security and Cooperation concluded last year in Helsinki, Finland, an agreement was signed by the heads of state of the thirty-five participating nations, among them the United States and the Soviet Union, and

WHEREAS the agreement called for easing of tensions between nations and respect for the human rights of all people, and

WHEREAS very little progress has been made in the points agreed upon, particularly in the areas of the reunification of families, freer cultural exchange and the easing of travel restrictions, and in fact, instead of progressing toward enactment of agreed-upon points, the Soviet Union has seen fit this past year to increase its tariff on gift parcels, effectively tripling the cost of maintaining contacts between families separated by the Iron Curtain,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at their 63rd National Convention, Dayton, Ohio, voice their dismay and urge the U.S. State Department and the Presidential candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties to direct their efforts toward a sincere implementation of the provisions of the Helsinki Conference by the Soviet Union.

WHEREAS the President of the United States, Gerald R. Ford, has on February 26, 1976, issued a declaration to Americans of Lithuanian Ancestry, in which he reaffirmed that: "...The United States has never recognized the Soviet incorporation of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and is not doing so now. Our official policy of non-recognition is not affected by the results of the European Security Conference. ..."

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, convening for their 63rd National Convention in Dayton, Ohio, August 26-29, 1976, express their gratitude and appreciation for Mr. Ford's firm stand on behalf of the oppressed people of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and urge the government of the United States of America to continue this long-standing and just policy.

RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, all men are created equal by their Creator, with certain inalienable rights which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and

WHEREAS, persons throughout the nation are outraged at the Supreme Court decision authorizing the taking of life by abortion, and

WHEREAS, only an amendment to the U.S. Constitution can restore the respect and protection necessary for all human life,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 63rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, meeting in Dayton, Ohio, August 25-29, 1976, actively support and strongly recommend and urge for the quick passage of the Human Life Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

WHEREAS the II Vatican Council approved the principle of public worship in one's own language, and

WHEREAS it has been learned that Lithuanians residing in Seinai are no longer allowed to worship in their native tongue in the revered basilica of Seinai, erected many years ago by their forefathers,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, convening at their 63rd National Convention in Dayton, Ohio, August 25-29, 1976, respectfully request that His Excellency, M. Sasinowski, the Bishop responsible for the faithful in the Seinai District, grant the Lithuanians living in Seinai the privilege of having weekly services in the Lithuanian language in the basilica of Seinai.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania 63rd National Convention, meeting August 25-29, 1976 in Dayton, Ohio, express its support of the HELSINKI AGREEMENT FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE of the United States Congress; in its efforts to secure faithful observance of the provisions relating to the dignity of man and human rights.

WHEREAS recent public statements by Dr. Henry Kissinger, present Secretary of State, have contradicted official statements of the U.S. Government as expressed by President Ford, and the will of the American people as expressed in Congressional Resolutions 864, 406, and 319, with regard to U.S. foreign policy towards the Baltic States, and

WHEREAS Dr. Kissinger's leadership of our foreign policy has produced negative impressions of United States prestige as the leading great power of the world,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, in session during their 63rd National Convention, in Dayton, Ohio, August 25-29, 1976, demand that a new Secretary of State be appointed, whose policies would be more in conformity with the principles of the Constitution of the United States and the will of the American people.

WHEREAS the United States of America as well as the United Kingdom and Canada have a long-standing policy of non-recognition of the forcible occupation and illegal annexation of the Baltic States of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia by the Soviet Union, and

WHEREAS the government of Australia has, on December 24, 1975, implemented its decision to withdraw its de jure recognition of the incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union, and

WHEREAS the government of New Zealand has chosen to recognize the annexation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia into the Soviet Union,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 63rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, meeting in Dayton, Ohio, USA, August 25-29, 1976, respectfully request that the government of New Zealand reevaluate and reverse its policy toward the Baltic States.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Lithuanian Cultural Fund, established by resolution of the 60th National Convention, be allocated the sum of \$1000.

BE IT RESOLVED that the National Cultural Committee again allocate \$100.00 per District for the express purpose of placing books and records in public or university libraries and that requests for such funds be made to the National Cultural Chairman through the local District Cultural Chairman.

In order to insure young members of the Knights of Lithuania an equal chance to participate in, and gain benefits from future Lithuanian World Youth Congresses, and in order that the Knights of Lithuania enjoy benefits from youth programs resulting from the third Lithuanian World Youth Congress:

BE IT RESOLVED, that

1) a Youth Congress Coordinator be elected at the National Convention following each Youth Congress, where responsibilities would consist of

a) maintaining contact with the Lithuanian American Youth Association and other institutions involved in preparations for the next Youth Congress.

b) keeping young Knights informed of all events and developments relating to the Youth Congress.

c) coordinating Knights of Lithuania efforts to prepare its young members for the meaningful participation in and preparation for the Youth Congress, by establishing a program of preparation in cooperation with the First Vice-President, Cultural Committee, Lithuanian Affairs Committee, Lithuanian Language Preservation Committee, or other Supreme Council officers or committees as necessary

d) acting as a liaison between the above named committees and officers and administrators of Youth programs resulting from the Youth Congress.

e) initiating action by Knight of Lithuania members where necessary to influence Youth Congress policies and preparations so as to be favorable to the Knights of Lithuania and its members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that

The coordinator shall be of an age to be eligible for official participation at the Youth Congress at ages 18 to 30 inclusive.

2) The Knights of Lithuania magazine VYTIS shall include on a regular basis, articles in English about other Lithuanian Youth activities here and abroad, as supplied by the Lithuanian American Youth Association with the understanding that the Youth Association shall promote wider circulation of VYTIS among Lithuanian youth.

BE IT RESOLVED that, when a council is established or a former council is revived, a knowledgeable person from the Supreme Council or the local District, visit with that Council at least three times the first year to assist in solving the problems of the Council's organization.

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".

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.

Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narių Komisija prašo, kad 63-čias seimas užgirtų kandidata į Garbės Narius ilgametį nepavargstantį daug ir garbingai pasidarbavusį L. Vyčių organizacijos narį LARRY JANONĮ.

Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narių Komisija prašo, kad 63-čias Seimas pakeltų Garbės Narėmis šias 62-ro Seimo užgirtas kandidatas:

1. Loretta Stukas ir
2. Rita Pinkus



BE IT RESOLVED that an Ad Hoc Budget Committee be formed to set up a two year budget based on passed records, to be approved by the Supreme Council for adoption by the National Convention.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates and guests to the 63rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered August 25-29, 1976, at Dayton, Ohio, acknowledge with gratitude and appreciation the untiring efforts of the members of the Presidium, the Sgts.-at-Arms, and the members of the Convention Committees.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates and guests to the 63rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, who were overwhelmed by the warmth and generosity of the hosts, the members of C-96, Dayton, extend heartfelt appreciation and thanks to them, and to Rev. W. Katarskis, pastor of Holy Cross Church, for all the attention and hospitality extended and for the hard work involved in the preparation of the Annual Convention.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates attending the 63rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, extend heartfelt appreciation to the outgoing officers of the Supreme Council Board for their untiring efforts in performing their duties faithfully and well during the past year.

Lietuvos Vyčių 63-čias seimas, susirinkęs Daytono, Ohio, išreiškia nuoširdžią Vytišką padėką dienraščiams "Draugui" ir "Darbininkui" ir redakcijų nariams ir rašytojams už nuolatinę ir nepertraukiamą paramą parodytą per ilgus metus Vyčių organizacijai ir jos siekimams "Dievui ir Tėvynei".

Lietuvos Vyčių 63-čias seimas reiškia nuoširdžią padėką Lietuvos Vyčių skyriaus redaktorei Emilijai Pakalniškienei, dienraštyje "Drauge" ir Lietuvos Vyčių redaktoriams "Darbininke", Vytautui ir Birutei Radzivanams.

MANDATE REPORT

SUPREME COUNCIL

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Anthony A. Jurgelaitis, O.P.,
C-103

3rd V.P.: Joseph White, C-17 Srs.

Recording Secretary: Ann H. Bender, H.M., C-26

Treasurer: Rita Pinkus, H.M., C-26

Financial Secretary: Teresa Trainis, C-141

Trustees: Anthony Radzevich, C-100, Irene Sankus,
C-112

Legal Adviser: Anthony Young, H.M., C-17 Srs.

VYTIS Editor: Loretta Stukas, H.M., C-29

Lithuanian Affairs: Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, C-29

Lithuanian Cultural: Aldona Ryan, C-96

Honorary Membership: Prof. Alexander Aleksis, C-7

Public-Relations: Helen Kulber, C-41

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS:

Mid-Atlantic: Larry Janonis, C-12

Mid-Central: Eleanor Sluzas, C-96

New England: Albert Jaritis, C-17

CLERGY:

Rev. V. Katarskis, C-96;

Rev. W. C. Karaveckas, C-19

HONORARY MEMBERS:

C-3 - Helen Shields

C-7 - Marcella Aleksis

C-17 Srs. - Larry Svelnis

C-29 - Jack Stukas; Frank Vaskas

C-41 - Juozas Boley; Antanas Mazeika and Simas
Kudirka

C-52 - Anne Mitchell-Matalavich

C-90 - Ann Klem

C-112 - Eleanore Laurin

C-96 - Stan Vaitkus

DISTRICT:

Illinois-Indiana - Ann Marie Kassel, C-36

Mid-Atlantic - Mary Kulis, C-110;

Vytautas Radzivanas, C-41

Mid-Central - Ruth Grasha - C-79

New England - Susan Boroskas, C-1

COUNCILS:

C-1 Brockton: Sylvia Shukis

C-7 Waterbury, Conn.: Anthony A. Alexander

C-12 New York City: Millie Pietz

C-17 South Boston: Mary Martus, Frank Yonika

C-17 Srs. So. Boston: Anne Narkavich, Bertha
Seymour, Anne Voveris, Anne White

C-19 Pittsburgh: Julia Aleshunas, Margaret Papeaka,

Stella Zoog; Alternates: Andy Rozger, Zeno
Yokstas, Antoinette Naujalis and Mary DiMarco
Guest: Tom Unites

C-25 Cleveland, Ohio: Victor Augustas, Ruth Gu-
zauskas, Charles Machutas; Alternates: Elizabeth
Augustas; Guests: Joanna Shigo, Nelda Machatas,
Adele Svet, Ben Karklius, John Andrulis, Evelyn
Andrulis, Nellie Arunski, A. Buknis and Alice
Karklius

Cleveland Srs.: Stella Sankal

C-29 Newark: Rose Zukauskas, Albinas Zukauskas,
Mary Stonis

C-36 Chicago: Sabina M. Klatt, Henry G. Klatt, Jr.,
Rosemarie Klatt, Jerome Jankus

C-41 Brooklyn-Queens, N.Y.: Sue Mazeika

C-67 Bayonne, N.J.: Martin W. Rusgi

C-74 Scranton, Pa.: Eva Kazokas; Guests: Gertrude
Romeika, Jean Kveragos

C-79 Detroit-Southfield, Mich.: Magdalena Smailis,
Chester Nashlan, Margaret Anna Nashlan, Bertha
Janus, Frank Zager, Violet Panavas, Sophie Zager,
Joseph Panavas, Ona Walls, Mary Margaret
Panavas, Victoria Chepelonis, Elizabeth Paurazas
and Helen Tucker

C-86 DuBois, Pa.: Benedict Radzavich, Joseph
Anderlonis; Guests: Mildred Radzavich, Helen
Vaitkus

C-96 Dayton, Ohio: Sally Miller, AnnDel Miller,
Albina Wallis, Walter Lastoskie, Ada Sinkwitz,
Albert Wallis, Eugenia Gecas, Alexandra Petkus,
Joseph Ryan and George Malenawskas;
Alternates: Stephanie Rastikis, Frances Petkus,
Eloise L. Berczelly, Mary Lucas, Marianne
Podoyak; Guests: Stephen Bucmys, Joseph Gecas,
Rita Ambrose, Judy Petrokas, Ed Sluzas,
Catherine Prasmantas, Pat Alexander, Veronica
Omlor, Longinas Prasantes and Chris Mantz

C-110 Amsterdam, N.Y.: Genevieve Gobis, Sophie
Olbie, Peter Hayes, Regina Kot, Helen Radzevich,
Isabelle McKinley, Ann Radzevich, Annette
Guzielek; Guests: John Kot, Alan Drenzek

C-102 Detroit, Mich.: Grazina Vaskelis, Vitalia
Vaskelis; Guest: Anetta Byrne

C-103 Providence, R.I.: Bertha Stoskus and Ruth
Krecioch

C-110 Maspeth, N.Y.: Nellie Skabeikis

C-111 Srs. Youngstown, Ohio: JoAnn Strines;

Alternate: Stella Pavis, Alice Strines

C-112 Chicago, Ill.: Sophie Nieminski, Monica
Kasper, Irene Rakaitis, Edward Krivickas, Albert
Zakarka, Julie Zakarka, Maria Zakarka; Alternate:
Barbara Klevinsky; Guests: Irene Ditchman, Dr.
K. Bobelis, Dalia Bobelis

C-139 Detroit, Mich.: Catherine Kurpowec; Guest:
Joseph Kurpowec

C-140 Syracuse, N.Y.: Helen Mikelonis, Cassie
Stanley, Ruth Hare; Alternate: Frank Petrauskas

C-141 Bridgeport, Conn.: Alphonse Trainis

GREETINGS

Most Rev. Vincentas Brizgys, Hon. Member, Bishop of Kaunas, Lithuania in Exile, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, Ill.

Most Rev. Charles A. Salatka, Hon. Member, Bishop of Marquette, Mich.

Generalinis Konsulas Anicetas Simutis, New York, N.Y.

The Honorable James A. Rhodes, Governor of Ohio

The Honorable James H. McGee, Mayor of Dayton, Ohio

The Honorable Robert Taft, Jr., U.S. Senate

The Honorable Charles W. Whalen, Jr., Member of Congress

Mr. Jimmy Carter, Candidate for President, Democratic Party, Plains, Ga.

Miss Eugenia Karpus, C-41, Brooklyn, N.Y.

GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

VYTIS FUND

Mr. Matas Zujus, Hon. Member and Editor, GARSAS \$30.00

Rev. Anthony Baltrushunas, So. Boston, Mass. 10.00

Miss Anne M. Matalavich, Hon. Member, Elizabeth, N.J. 10.00

Mr. Longinas Svelnis, Hon. Member, So. Boston, Mass. 10.00

Mr. & Mrs. A. Aleksis, Hon. Members, Waterbury, Conn. 10.00

Miss Ann Uznis, Hon. Member, Dearborn, Mich. 10.00

Mr. Frank Vaskas, Hon. Member, Newark, N.J. 5.00

CULTURAL FUND

Mrs. Ada Sinkwitz, C-96, Dayton, Ohio

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID

Mrs. Millie Pietz, C-12, Bronx, N.Y. 10.00

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS FUND

Adele Gabalas, Hon. Member, Chicago, Ill. 25.00

Rev. Anthony Baltrushunas, So. Boston, Mass. 10.00

Mr. & Mrs. A. Aleksis, Hon. Members, Waterbury, Conn. 10.00

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Knights of Lithuania, C-25, Cleveland, Ohio 50.00

Mrs. Ada Sinkwitz, C-96, Dayton, Ohio 10.00

Mr. & Mrs. A. Aleksis, Hon. Members, Waterbury, Conn. 10.00

Miss Ann Uznis, Hon. Member, Dearborn, Mich. 10.00

Mr. Stanley Vaitkus, Hon. Member, Dayton, Ohio 10.00

Mr. Frank Vaskas, Hon. Member, Newark, N.J. 5.00



KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA -
SUPREME COUNCIL

DUES PAID-UP AS OF
AUGUST 2, 1976

COUNCIL NUMBER AND LOCATION		1975	As of 8/2/76
C-1	Brockton, Mass.	36	39
C-3	Philadelphia, Pa.	32	33
C-5	Chicago, Ill.	5	5
C-7	Waterbury, Conn.	124	114
C-10	Athol-Gardner, Mass.	27	28
C-12	New York, New York	56	58
C-13	Chicago, Ill.	-	1
C-17	South Boston, Mass.	38	31
C-17S	South Boston, Mass.	77	82
C-18	Cambridge, Mass.	-	1
C-19	Pittsburgh, Pa.	39	43
C-25	Cleveland, Ohio	37	44
Dev. Srs.	Cleveland, Ohio	36	32
C-26	Worcester, Mass.	111	122
C-29	Newark, New Jersey	113	110
C-30	Westfield, Mass.	41	52
C-36	Chicago, Ill.	73	85
Chgo. Srs.	Chicago, Ill.	36	36
C-41	Brooklyn-Queens, N.Y.	34	42
C-52	Elizabeth, N.J.	24	23
C-61	Patterson, N.J.	3	3
C-67	Bayonne, New Jersey	7	19
C-74	Scranton, Pa.	12	15
C-78	Lawrence, Mass.	12	12
C-79	Detroit-Southfield, Mich.	181	170
C-82	Gary, Ind.	-	21
C-86	DuBois, Pa.	-	18
C-90	Kearny-Harrison, N.J.	50	51
C-96	Dayton, Ohio	137	138
C-100	Amsterdam, New York	83	88
C-102	Detroit, Mich.	41	34
C-103 Srs.	Providence, R.I.	19	23
C-109	Great Neck, New York	25	21
C-110	Maspeth, New York	30	31
C-111 Srs.	Youngstown, Ohio	12	12
C-112	Chicago, Ill.	189	183
C-113	Linden, New Jersey	1	-
C-116	Worcester, Mass.	49	50
C-133	Los Angeles, Calif.	2	1
C-133 Srs.	Los Angeles, Calif.	47	50
C-134	Cincinnati, Ohio	21	20
C-135	Ansonia, Conn.	61	62
C-139	Detroit, Mich.	24	18
C-140	Syracuse, N.Y.	31	33
C-141	Bridgeport, Conn.	53	51
C-142	Washington, D.C.	-	23
TOTALS		2,030	2,128

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE AWARDS

New members... and new councils... keep the organization alive and well. The people and councils responsible for bettering our organization by bringing more members into the "fold" or by keeping those already in from letting their membership lapse were again rewarded during this convention. In the absence of the National Second Vice-President in charge of membership, the awards were presented by Rev. Jurgelaitis, National Spiritual Adviser, and Ann Bender, National Recording Secretary. Awards were given in categories according to the council size. Special awards were given to those individuals who organized or reorganized councils during the past year. The categories were as follows:

First - 1 to 49 members
Second - 50 to 99 members
Third - 100 or more

The winners were as follows:

100% PAID UP MEMBERSHIP

First Category - C-25, Cleveland, Ohio
Second Category - C-100, Amsterdam, N.Y.
Third Category - no winner

MEMBERSHIP INCREASE

First Category - C-67, Bayonne, N.J.
Second Category - C-100, Amsterdam, N.Y.
Third Category - no winner

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

First Place - Sabina Klatt, C-36 - 170 points
Second Place - John and Evelyn Andrulis, C-25, 130 points
Third Place - Helen Grigaliunas, C-67 - 60 points

SPECIAL AWARDS

(for organizing/reorganizing councils)

Mildred Jagiella, C-82, Gary, Ind.
Eva Migonis, C-142, Washington, D.C.
Benedict Radzevich, C-86, Du Bois, Pa.

PLENARY SESSIONS

Three special plenary sessions were held during this year's convention, to discuss matters close to the hearts of the Knights of Lithuania. Much excellent information and many new ideas were put forth. The speakers were outstanding. For lack of space in this issue, summaries of the talks given and discussions held will be presented in future issues of VYTIS in greater detail. The panels and their leaders were as follows:

1. THE CHURCH TODAY - Rev. Anthony Jurge-laitis, O.P. and Mrs. Marian Bloom.
2. PUBLIC RELATIONS - Mr. John D. Yeck.
3. LITHUANIAN POLITICAL ACTION - Hon. Charles Whalen, Jr., Member of Congress and Dr. Kazys C. Bobelis, President, Lithuanian American Council.

REV. JOHN C. JUTT MEMORIAL

June, 1976, marked the fifth anniversary of a very tragic event in the lives of the Knights of Lithuania - the untimely death of REV. JOHN C. JUTT - JUTKEVICIUS, organizer and long-time chairman and "heart" of the LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE" of the Knights of Lithuania. To commemorate this sad event, special prayers were offered for Father Jutt during the Mass for Deceased Members held on Friday of Convention Week. In addition, a Memorial Service was held after Friday's Morning Convention Session. Organized by Honorary Member Joseph Boley, the service included commemorative remarks about Father Jutt by Mr. Boley, and featured recorded talks by Father Jutt, taken from various Lithuanian activities where Father Jutt appeared on behalf of the Knights of Lithuania. A large photo of Father Jutt graced the front table of the session and two local Junior members presented flowers to grace the table.



Dr. K. Bobelis addresses the Convention.

CONVENTION MASSES

As always, Knights of Lithuania find adequate time during their National Convention not only for work and play... but also for prayer. Mass was held daily during the Convention, and was very well attended, to the gratification of all attending. Thursday's Mass opened the Convention, and was dedicated to the success of all the Convention's endeavors. Friday Mass was offered for the repose of the souls of all departed Knights of Lithuania, with specific prayers said for Rev. Jutt, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of his death. Saturday's Mass was offered for all present and past members, and Sunday's was one of thanksgiving, for all benefits granted during the Convention. All weekday Masses were held in the Hotel, for the convenience of the delegates... Sunday's Closing Mass was held in the beautiful Holy Cross Church, under the auspices of Rev. Walter Katarskis, Holy Cross pastor.





DEGREES CONFERRED

The Sunday Program began with a beautiful ceremony before Mass, during which Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, National Spiritual Adviser, and Bertha Janus, Ritual Committee Chairman presented the Fourth Degree, Order of St. Casimir, to:

Helen Kulber, C-41, Brooklyn
 Vytautas Radzivanas, C-41, Brooklyn
 Victoria Chepelonis, C-79, Detroit
 Chester Nashlon, C-79, Detroit
 Dorothy Conrady, C-96, Dayton
 Mary Kulis, C-110, Maspeth
 John Andrulis, C-25, Cleveland
 Alice Karklius, C-25, Cleveland
 Ben Karklius, C-25, Cleveland
 Albert Shigo, C-25, Cleveland



HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS AWARDED

During the Convention Banquet, two members were elevated to Honorary Membership, the highest honor the organization can pay a member. The awards were presented by Honorary Membership Committee Chairman Alexander Aleksis to RITA

PINKUS, National Treasurer, from C-26, Worcester, Mass., and to LORETTA I. STUKAS, VYTIS Editor, from C-29, Newark, N.J. The members of the Knights of Lithuania extend warmest congratulations to these two ladies, and sincere thanks for their hard work and leadership in the K of L.

1977 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Knights of Lithuania voted unanimously to accept the kind invitation of Council 103, extended by Council President Bertha Stoskus, and to hold their 64TH NATIONAL CONVENTION in PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND. Although Rhode Island is the smallest state in the Union... the spirit and enthusiasm of the Rhode Island Knights is NOT the smallest in the organization. Recently organized, C-103 promises to truly put out the red carpet for all delegates and guests, and make the 64th the best yet!

VYTIS AČIŪ

Editor Loretta Stukas and her staff extend their sincere appreciation to the members who so graciously supplied articles, information, and photos of the Convention, assisting the success of this issue... namely, Aldona and Joe Ryan, Irene Sankus, Elinor Sluzas, Bill Sidtis, Fran Petkus, Grazina Vaskelis, Bertha Janus, Sophie Zager, Teresa Trainis, Helen Kulber, Gediminas Janula, ...and others. A genuine Lithuanian "AČIŪ" to you all.



MANY THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE

Planning, arranging, discussing, worrying... all these came to a happy conclusion when delegates began arriving from everywhere to spend a delightful and fruitful long weekend in Dayton, conducting K of L business, meeting old and new friends, and enjoying their membership in the K of L and the Lithuanian community. If all ran smoothly, it was no accident. The committee from C-96 did indeed spend many hours, planning, arranging... etc., to produce a very well run and enjoyable convention. Sincerest thanks and heartiest congratulations for a job well done go to the Convention Hosts, Council 96, Dayton, Ohio, and especially to the Committee:

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR - Rev. Vaclovas Katarskis
GENERAL CHAIRMAN - Elinor Sluzas
CO-CHAIRMAN - Walter Lastoskie
JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN - Frances Petkus
PROGRAM BOOK - Jerry & Marianne Podoyak, Chairmen - Elinor Sluzas
REGISTRATION - Mary Ann & August Blum, Chairmen, Rita Ambrose, Eloise Berczelly, Sally Milaskavitz, Judy Petrokas, Marianne Podoyak, Kitty Prasmantas
DINNER/THEATRE PARTY - Jerry & Marianne Podoyak, Chairmen
PIONEER NIGHT - Charles & Sarah Petkus, Chairmen, Frances Petkus, Eloise Berczelly, Joe & Eleanor Mantz, Jane Petkus, Linda Petkus, Mary Petkus, Ida Kavy, Helen Vaitkus, Harley Karns,

John & Joyce Berczelly, Pat & Tony Alexander, Bea Noreikas, Kitty Prasmantas, Barbara Goecke

"BARSTUKIU ISKILMES" - Aldona Ryan, Chairman & Joe Ryan, Assistant Chairman, Joe & Eugenia Gecas, Stephanie & Julius Rastikis, Laima Rastikis, Ildefonsas & Janina Bucmys, Elena Zukaitis, Jack & Connie Zilinkas, Ada Sinkwitz, Mary Lucas, Sally Milaskavitz, Annadel Milaskavitz, Mary Lou & Walter Lastoskie, Bea Noreikas, Joe & Millie August, Mrs. I. Latos, Polly Pietrzak, Aldona Druktenis, Mike & Alice Petkus, Kitty Prasmantas, Al & Albina Wallis, Eleanor & Leo Matkins, Ray & Millie Steinbrunner, Harley Karns, Josephine & Helen Zilinkas

HOSPITALITY NIGHT - Rita Ambrose & Judy Petrokas, Chairmen, Frank Ambrose, Harley Karns, Jerry & Marianne Podoyak

GRAND BANQUET & BALL - Frank & Karolyn Ambrose, Chairmen, Rita Ambrose, Judy Petrokas, Harley Karns, Joyce & John Berczelly, Patty & Dennis Noreikas, Terri & Jerry Scott

FAREWELL FEAST - Mary Lucas, Chairman, Ada Sinkwitz, Ernie & Veronica Omlor, Elaine Lucas Pacovsky & The Women of Council 96

MAILING - Eloise Berczelly

HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS - Stanley Vaitkus

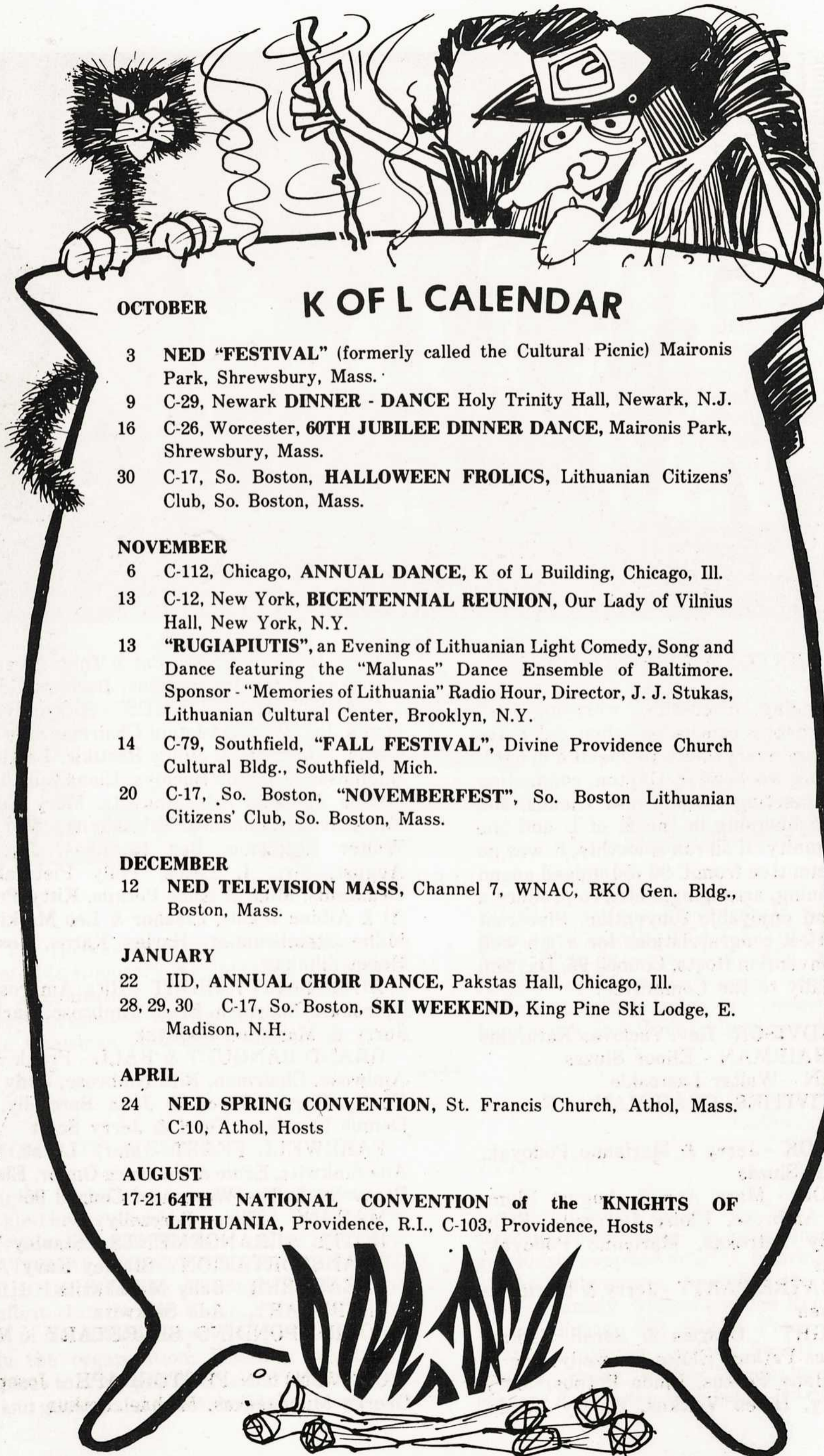
TRANSPORTATION - Stanley Kavy

TREASURER - Sally Milaskavitz

SECRETARY - Ada Sinkwitz

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Mary Ann Blum

CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPH - Joseph Mantz, George Mikalauskas, Michael Petkus

**OCTOBER****K OF L CALENDAR**

- 3 **NED "FESTIVAL"** (formerly called the Cultural Picnic) Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.
- 9 C-29, Newark **DINNER - DANCE** Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, N.J.
- 16 C-26, Worcester, **60TH JUBILEE DINNER DANCE**, Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.
- 30 C-17, So. Boston, **HALLOWEEN FROLICS**, Lithuanian Citizens' Club, So. Boston, Mass.

NOVEMBER

- 6 C-112, Chicago, **ANNUAL DANCE**, K of L Building, Chicago, Ill.
- 13 C-12, New York, **BICENTENNIAL REUNION**, Our Lady of Vilnius Hall, New York, N.Y.
- 13 **"RUGIAPIUTIS"**, an Evening of Lithuanian Light Comedy, Song and Dance featuring the "Malunas" Dance Ensemble of Baltimore. Sponsor - "Memories of Lithuania" Radio Hour, Director, J. J. Stukas, Lithuanian Cultural Center, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 14 C-79, Southfield, **FALL FESTIVAL**, Divine Providence Church Cultural Bldg., Southfield, Mich.
- 20 C-17, So. Boston, **NOVEMBERFEST**, So. Boston Lithuanian Citizens' Club, So. Boston, Mass.

DECEMBER

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

JANUARY

- 22 IID, **ANNUAL CHOIR DANCE**, Pakstas Hall, Chicago, Ill.
- 28, 29, 30 C-17, So. Boston, **SKI WEEKEND**, King Pine Ski Lodge, E. Madison, N.H.

APRIL

- 24 **NED SPRING CONVENTION**, St. Francis Church, Athol, Mass.
C-10, Athol, Hosts

AUGUST

- 17-21 **64TH NATIONAL CONVENTION of the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**, Providence, R.I., C-103, Providence, Hosts

Social

Sidelights

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The 63rd National Convention started with a walk in the park when ninety guests, dressed in holiday attire, leisurely strolled from Stouffer's Inn to Memorial Hall for their Wednesday Dinner-Theater event. Cocktails and dinner were served by a group of talented young actors and actresses who miraculously managed to clean the clutter and then appear in costume for a pre-feature "50's REVUE" performed by the "Backstage Players".

Chairmen Marianne and Jerry Podoyak then led the entourage up the carpeted stairway to their seats for a view of "Washington Slept Here", written by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, and done well by a Broadway Cast headed by James Coco and Dody Goodman. The Kenley Players have gained national recognition for their fine performances and this zany comedy was no exception.

The balmy winds of a summer evening in Southern Ohio gently rustled the long gowns of the returning guests as they "window-shopped" their way back to the Inn. The renewing of friendships led to many small parties, sprinkled through the Inn, gathering for nightcaps and chatter. As usual, it was hard to say good-night after a beautiful evening but Morpheus and the Sandman won out in the wee hours.

PIONEER NIGHT

Thursday's Pioneer Night was not to be forgotten! It was impressive to see the VFW march in for the dedication of and raising of



both the American and Lithuanian flags. Singing the American and Lithuanian National Anthems, under God's sky, was stirring. The recitation of the Gettysburg Address by Mr. John Campbell, who hauntingly resembled Abraham Lincoln, reminded us this is the bicentennial year. Once the Knights had their tummies filled they forgot poor Charlie and Sarah

Petkus goofed in preparing the corn in time for dinner. Ida Kavy was beginning to wonder if she and Helen Vaitkus were working in a 'kissing booth' instead of collecting tickets 'at the door'. The large American flag on display at Pioneer Night was the memorial flag presented to the family of Mike P. Petkus from the Veteran's Administration.



BARSTUKIŲ IŠKILMĖS...

"Barstukiu Iškilmes"... ("The Little Men Who Sprinkle the Seeds Festival".) On Friday, August 27th, the seeds of Lithuanian Culture were generously scattered throughout the Lithuanian Club in Dayton, Ohio. Aldona Ryan and her committee worked very hard... and it showed. The beautiful Lithuanian artifacts on display, the delicious food, the Lithuanian items that could be purchased as gifts to take home, all seemed to be enjoyed by our guests.

To the delight of the committee the Knights took advantage of the various items on sale. After a long session and little time for dinner, delegates and guests devoured the food prepared for the evening. Josephine Zilinkas showed slides from her trip to Lithuania last year. Her sister, Helen, also went. Chicago's unions Georgi Kassel and Tommy



Strolia were Ada Sinkwitz's and Mary Lucas' best customers for Lithuanian Easter eggs... a dozen between them!

Music via our roving accordionist, Cecelia Lisankas, entertained the Knights. Highlight was watching the 'Vejeliai Dancers'. Dressed in their new attire, they performed for the pleasure of everyone. Youngest performers, both age 5, Barbara Lastoskie, with her angelic face and Frank Ambrose, Jr., with problems keeping his trousers up, put smiles on many faces. What made it so meaningful was that many of you have seen these young people

grow up, and we were very proud and happy that they could perform for you.

Rita Ambrose and Judy Petrokas and their committee had Dayton's hospitality room ready after the cultural program. Impromptu live music by Cecelia Lisankas had the guests hopping. Hope Barbara Klevinsky, Chicago, didn't throw her back out. Charlie and Sarah Petkus headed for the wrong hospitality room or did they? Amsterdam's Peter Hayes made them feel very welcome. Elinor Sluzas couldn't imagine why she was so warm heading to the hotel in an air-conditioned car. It was the forgotten slacks she was still wearing under her gown!



SATURDAY BANQUET AND BALL

A distinct essence of elegance sparkled the atmosphere of the Banquet and Ball on Saturday evening. The combined mixture of perfumes, gowns, flowers, candles, music, reporters and television cameras promised an euphemistic timeliness. The exuberant delegates sang the "Anthem" and the "Hymnus" to the marked rhythm of Professor Aleksis' accompaniment and then settled down to a gourmet meal of Guinea Hen and strawberry cheesecake. The usual volubility was hushed in expectancy in the presence of such notables as Simas Kudirka, Dr. Kazys Bobelis, Archbishop Joseph Bernardin, and the distinguished Clergy and Officers of the Supreme Council facing the guests from the dais. The Statues of Liberty of America and Lithuania guarded the head table with grave astuteness while dozens of cameras clicked and blinked and retreated.

During the ceremonies following the banquet, Loretta Stukas and Rita Pinkus received Honorary Membership bestowed upon them by Professor Alexander Aleksis. Scholarship winner, Rosemarie Klatt, tearfully accepted her check from Antanas Mazeika after an introduction by Dr. Jack Stukas. Dr. Stukas just had time to return to the table after a television



Archbishop Bernadin accepts gift of a Lithuanian wood-carving, from Judy Petrokas, C-96 President.





interview with Mary Fitzgibbons of WDTN-TV. Just a few minutes before the banquet, Simas Kudirka, Dr. Kazys Bobelis, Loretta Stukas, and Aldona Ryan had taped a segment of "Other Voices" for Radio Station WING moderated by Bill Nance and using a hotel sitting room as a makeshift studio.

A framed sketch of Sergei Adamovitch Kovalev, skillfully copied from a faded newspaper clipping by Dayton artist, Paul Behrens, marked the empty seat of the "Friend of Lithuania" Award winner. Rev. Casimir Pugevicius related the idealist's "crimes" of being a friend of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, of authoring the "Chronicles of Current Events" and of distributing the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania". Father Pugevicius pronounced Mr. Kovalev "guilty of loving his fellow man". Simas Kudirka accepted the award in the name of Sergei Kovalev in absentia and expressed the hope that someday his friend in the dank prison of Perm would be able to receive the honor in the world of freedom.

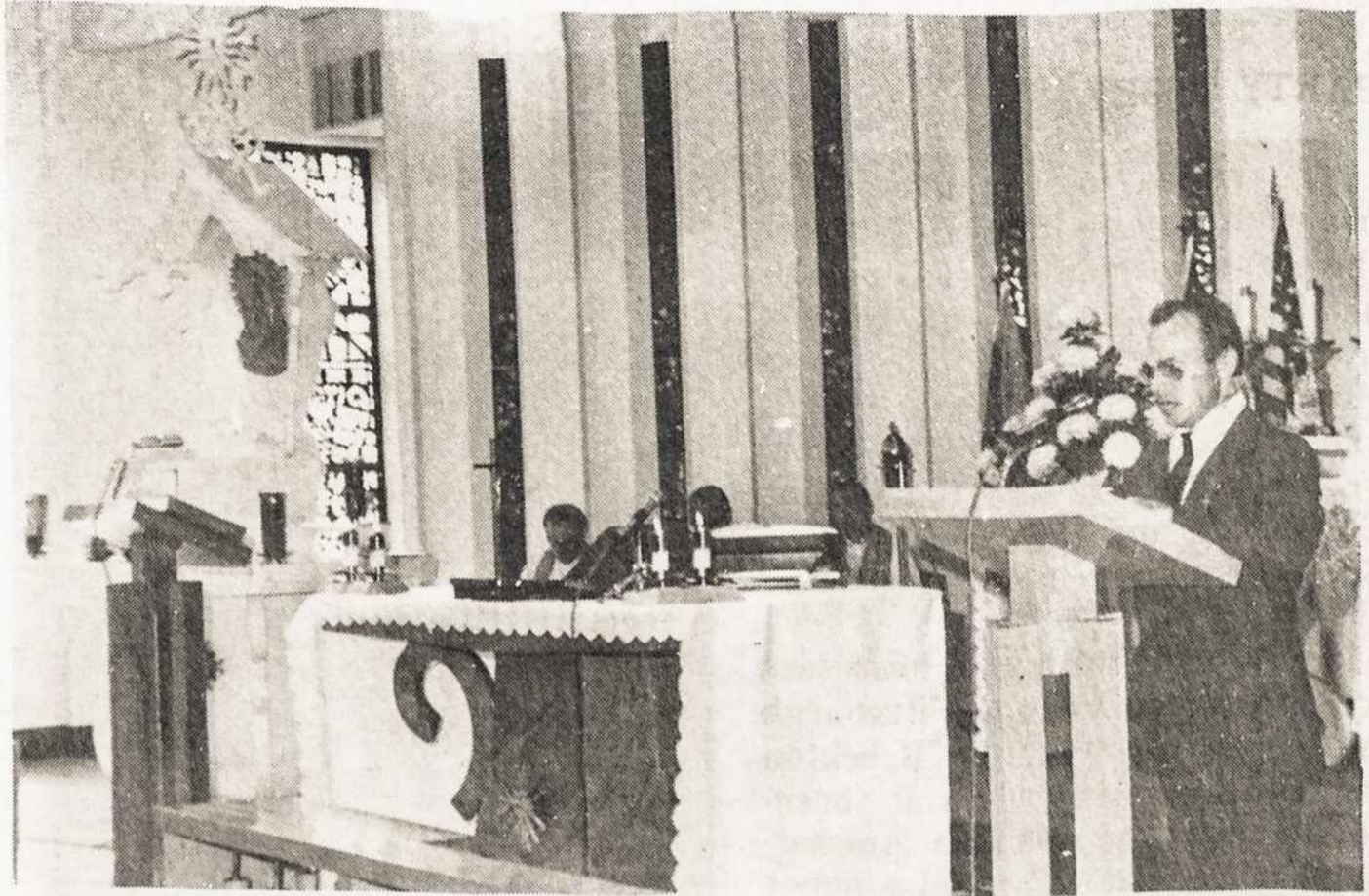
Dr. Kazys Bobelis, President of the American-Lithuanian Council (ALTA) spoke gravely of the necessity for all Lithuanians to continue to labor unwaveringly for Lithuania's freedom and he commended the Knights of Lithuania organization for its many years of diligent support and effort.

Archbishop Joseph Bernardin of Cincinnati, President of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, assured the assembly that the Catholic Church was aware of the problems behind the Iron Curtain and would aid the Lithuanians in seeking autonomy.

Later, while swaying to the strains of the Music Jesters from Cleveland, the gathering was once again reminded of the ancient tradition of combining music and dance with the warmth of friendship and laughter amid the renewed hope for freedom and the re-kindled spirit to work for survival of the Lithuanian people.

SUNDAY MASS

Sunday's Mass, presentation of the Fourth Degrees, swearing in of our new officers, the resounding voices filling the church with music, and the stirring closing of the Mass singing the 'Vyčiu Himnas' was heart warming. In spite of a few frustrating moments, Joe Mantz and George Mikalauskas pulled everyone together for the group picture on the steps of church. With such a turnout a second picture for those under 25 was also taken. The steps were still full!



Simas Kudirka reads prayers during Mass.

SUNDAY BRUNCH

Following the Mass at the lovely Holy Cross Church and a visit to the Shrine of the Three Crosses, everyone adjourned back to the Lithuanian Hall for a Farewell Feast, prepared by the Perle Mesta of Dayton - Honorary Member Mary Lucas and her catering crew. The buffet table was beautifully prepared topped with a special high-rise Lithuanian cake. It was obvious that the Dayton ladies spent many evenings preparing the menu which included "kugelis" and "ausukes". Everyone went back for seconds and thirds and all were well satisfied.

Master-of-Ceremonies for the day was Honorary Member Stanley Vaitkus, who introduced the newly-elected Supreme Council officers, the Reverends Jurgelaitis, Pugevicius, Kareveckas, and Katarskis, along with Chairlady Elinor Sluzas and special guest Simas Kudirka.

Newly-elected Juniors Vice President AnnMarie Kassel presented the Junior Conventionship awards to deserving members who happily received checks for their active participation in their own Junior group and at the Convention.



New Supreme Council.

Membership awards were presented by Father Jurgelaitis, in the absence of Membership Veep Phil Skabeikis, to deserving councils, districts, and individuals.

One of the highlights of the day for the delegates was the opportunity to have a personal talk with Simas Kudirka whose ardent words renewed our hopes for Lithuania's freedom. Following the brunch and the final farewells, the delegates took a final bus ride back to the hotel for packing and more

farewells. An impromptu party was held in the Detroit room of Grazina and Vitalia Vaskelis and Ace Byrne who saw everyone off and on their way home - deposited Larry Janonis at the airport for his journey to the "Big Apple".

Everyone was talking about and looking forward to visiting the littliest state in the Union - Rhode Island - for the 64th National Convention which will be held in the city of Providence and hosted by Council.

PARTY TIME

The suites and rooms of the beautiful Dayton Plaza Hotel were the scenes of many K of L parties held to greet old and new friends, to celebrate with the new Honorary Members Rita Pinkus and Loretta Stukas, and to congratulate the Dayton Convention Committee and the newly-elected Supreme Council officers and chairpersons.

Some of the hosts and hostesses were the charming Pittsburgh ladies, the entertaining Brockton girls, the gracious "Detroit threesome", and the sociable Amsterdam delegation who held a super party in their suite. We all expected to hear that the next convention would be in the home town of Council 100, but perhaps next year!

Our Dayton hosts entertained nightly in their Hospitality Suite and held a special party for delegates and guests following the Cultural Evening at the Lithuanian Club. With such delightful entertainers as Judy Petrokas and Elinor Sluzas, everyone enjoyed the "Bunny Hop", the "Sing-A-Longs", and of course, the food and beverages dispensed by Frank Ambrose, Walter Lastoskie, and the other Daytonians.

JUNIORS - JUNIORS - JUNIORS

With 16 Juniors, 6 young guests from out-of-town and 18 of Dayton's Junior Knights participating, the Junior Activities committee was kept busy. The 'Crystal Rain' entertained the Juniors Wednesday night with live music. Joe Mantz's car broke down heading for the cookout... Friday's lunch was delicious thanks to Jerry Podoyak... there were a couple of good volley ball games going on... Claire Yuskauskas and Doris Balaconis, C-17 So. Boston, overslept and missed Friday's outing... 34 Juniors sat through a 2½ hour session of their own with only a ten



minute pop break... Mary Agnes Mikalauskas, Dayton Jrs, was presiding officer... Bill Sidtis, Maspeth's Jrs, was secretary... Alan Drenzek, Amsterdam Jrs, was Sgt-at-Arms! Press Core' was Marcy Krecioch, Providence Jrs, Bernie Klatt, Chicago Jrs, and Julie Prasmantas, Dayton Jrs. Presenting Workshop Programs were Jerry Podoyak on Leadership... Bill Sidtis on Involvement in the regular Knights... Fran Petkus presented the First Degree to three members - Annamarie Sluzas and Kathy Sinkwitz, Dayton Jrs, Marcy Krecioch, Providence Jrs. Mr. V. Radzivanas showed slides of his trip to the 3rd Lithuanian World Youth Congress in So. America. Special guest speaker was Mrs. Aldona Drukteinis. Her topic was Lithuanian history with question/answer/discussion with the Juniors. Mrs. Drukteinis, a high school teacher, really held their interest

ODDS AND ENDS

Congratulations to Helen Kulber, C-41, Brooklyn, for being the first to register! Mary Ann Blum was not only in charge of the Registration but was Ms. Information herself. Problems she solved... stores where the summer close-outs were... closest laundromat... replacing lost program books with tickets attached... keeping tabs on lost room keys. BUT it took Joanne Shigo, C-25, Cleveland, to discover Lithuanian colored combs in a Dayton department store!

Joe Boley's luggage arriving late... it was good to see Frank Vaskas, C-29, Newark and Frank Petroski, C-79, Detroit, both have been having health problems and we were pleased to see they were able to join in with all of us... A first for Joe White, conducting the sessions and we hear how well he did... Mary Ann Blum played the Devil's Advocate to Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis at the Convention's

Religious Workshop... Wonder if Tony Alexander, C-7, has that banister built for Pat yet?.. John A. Berczelly is fine now after having Box 21 come to take him to the hospital Saturday night... Mary Margaret Panavas, C-79 Detroit, said she'd have something to tell us but so far we haven't heard!.. We missed our President, Anthony Miner, we pray all is well with you now... Harley Karns, Dayton, has a new pen pal, one of his charges at the Junior Activities, Chip Newberry, C-79... Third Degree Medals were awarded to John A. Berczelly, Joe Gecas, Helen Vaitkus and Catherine Prasmantas by MCD Ritual Chrm, Stanley Vaitkus and SRC Chrm, Bertha Janus, C-79, before the Saturday Noon Mass... Congratulations! To all the Fourth Degree recipients, especially Dayton's Dorothy Conrady... Congratulations. To Rosemary Klatt, Chicago, Supreme Scholarship Award Winner, congratulations. To all the Junior Knights, receiving awards from the Supreme Council we also extend our congratulations.

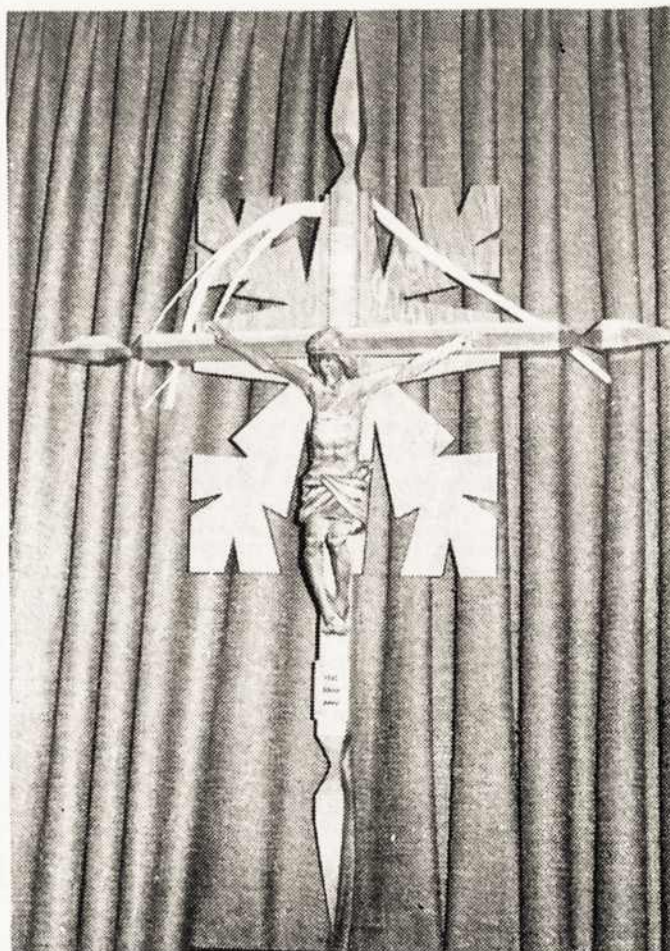
Special congratulations to our 1st and 2nd National V.P.'s, Marian and Phil Skabeikis, who missed the Convention for a VERY IMPORTANT reason, the birth of their first son, Matthew, on Aug. 22, 1976. Mom, Dad and baby are doing fine.

Sunday's Farewell Feast was just that... a feast. 'Oh no' by the losers was heard when the winning name was pulled for the beautiful decoupage purse, made from prints of the 'Vytis', by Marianne Podoyak, for Junior C-96's raffle. Mary A. Petkus was the lucky winner. Harley Karns sold the winning 50/50 convention ticket.

There is much more that we can reminisce about but on to other things... Like to Providence C-103, we wish you the very best and many of us are planning to attend your Convention in '77. We hope our trip out will be less adventure-some than Bertha Stoskus' and Ruth Krecioch's... or as much fun!



Every year, the two redheads, Irene Sankus and Aldona Ryan have their ANNUAL PICTURE taken together. This year they found "two cute fellas" to pose with them and the result is herein enclosed.



This beautiful cross, gracing the Lithuanian Club during Friday's festivities, was designed and carved by K of L-er George Mikalauskas of C-96.



Convention Chairman Elinor Sluzas takes time to relax - and be photographed with fellow MCD-er, Grazina Vaskelis of Detroit.

VYTIS
2524 W. 45th St.
Chicago, Ill. 60632

Return Requested
Address Correction Requested

C-112
DR. LEONARD J. SIMUTIS
3551 W. 98TH ST
EVERGREEN PARK ILL 60642

The saddest part of any Convention is the 'good-bys'. We truly want to thank all of you who came to Dayton to share this special time in the life of Council 96!! Now that everything is back to normal... and we have some quiet moments... we realize how much all of you mean to us and that we miss you!

P.S. The person who mailed a post card of the Shrine of the Three Crosses and signed it Love, Nanny... the card will not arrive as there was no forwarding address posted.

Letter to the Editor:

I would like to thank everyone for all their prayers and kind thoughts to the family of Mike P. Petkus. This was a time when being a Knight made me proud. The friends Mike and I have made through our long active years in the Knights were there when we needed to hear from them. It did my heart good and makes me feel stronger to the people of the Knights.

From the whole family please accept my deepest thanks.

Fran Petkus

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers...

IRENE BALZEKAS
Member, C-36, Chicago
Wife of the Director of the
BALZEKAS MUSEUM
OF LITHUANIAN CULTURE
died Aug. 8, 1976

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