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LAPKRITIS - NOVEMBER



# VYTTIS

•1976•

The Knights  
of Lithuania



Rudens glės - Autumn Flowers. (Photo R. Kisielius)

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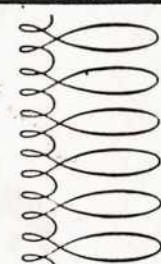
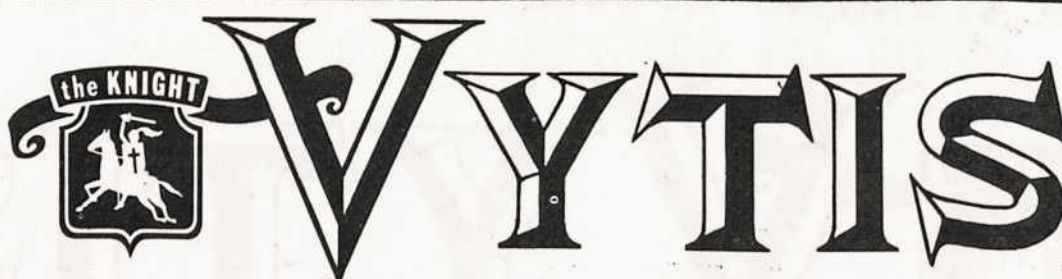
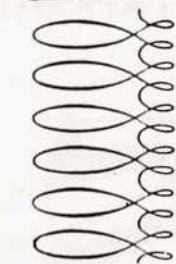
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## GIVING THANKS AND

## BEING THANKFUL

By presidential proclamation and by law we, Americans, celebrate a Day of Thanksgiving each year on a specified Thursday of November, not only to remind ourselves of the Pilgrims' Day of Thanks, held over 350 years ago, but also, because we realize that God has blessed America in very special ways over the centuries since the first Thanksgiving Day. We, Catholics, have just as strict an obligation to thank God as do all other citizens of our country for His blessings of prosperity and peace and for the freedoms that we enjoy today. Giving thanks on Thanksgiving Day is one of our civic duties.

There is a difference, however, between "giving thanks" and "being thankful". Giving thanks is momentary; it is an act, a single, isolated action. Being thankful is an attitude, a continuous state of mind and will, a virtue that guides us to give thanks in every appropriate situation. Gratitude is a daughter of justice. We repay with a word or a deed the good that someone does for us. Justice requires that we balance the scales in our human relations, that we repay what we owe. Many times a warm "Thank you" is all we can do to repay a favor done to us. Being thankful is a way of life that makes us better people, better Catholics.

Now, to live our lives, ever being grateful, we have to realize and appreciate what we have received from others. We must pause from

time to time, deliberately, to count our blessings that come to us from God and Church, from country and parents, from family and friends.

Being thankful and giving thanks to God is one of our noblest endeavors while here on earth, because this virtue and its acts flow from Faith and Love which unite us to God.

When was the last time we actually paused to appreciate God's gift of Revelation, the Wisdom of the Old and the New Testament? Or the gift of Christ's presence among us through the Sacraments? When did we actually thank God for our Baptism, our Confirmation, for the Sacrament of Matrimony? These and all the other Sacraments are precious gifts of God. We receive them and use them. How often do we say: "Thank you, Lord".

At the end of a busy week we have often exclaimed: "TGFF".



Have we ever said: "TGFS"? - "Thank God for Sunday". - and for Sunday Mass, which is the greatest act of Thanksgiving in which we can participate?

It is quite easy to say: "Thank you, Lord, for ALL your blessings". But it would be more effective (not to God, who knows the sum total of ALL His blessings to us, but to ourselves) to call to mind specific blessings and graces for which we ought to be thankful and for which we have not lately thanked Him. In this way our appreciation of God's generosity to us will become more vivid and our thanksgiving more meaningful.

How often do we thank our parents for what they gave us - life itself and for what they did for us in setting us straight on the road to life?

In our Vyčių Hymn we sing: "Mums viską davė Lietuva". While it may not be entirely true that "mums VISKĄ davė Lietuva", we must admit that "mums DAUG KĄ davė Lietuva". Consequently, we do owe Lithuania a debt of thanks for its language, its spirit, its traditional heritage of which we are justly proud. When you think that we speak a language that only three or four million people in the world speak, it is something to be thankful for. And since this wonderful diversity of peoples and languages on earth had to come from God, we can say truthfully and sincerely: "Thanks be to God for what we are: American Lithuanians - and Knights of Lithuania.

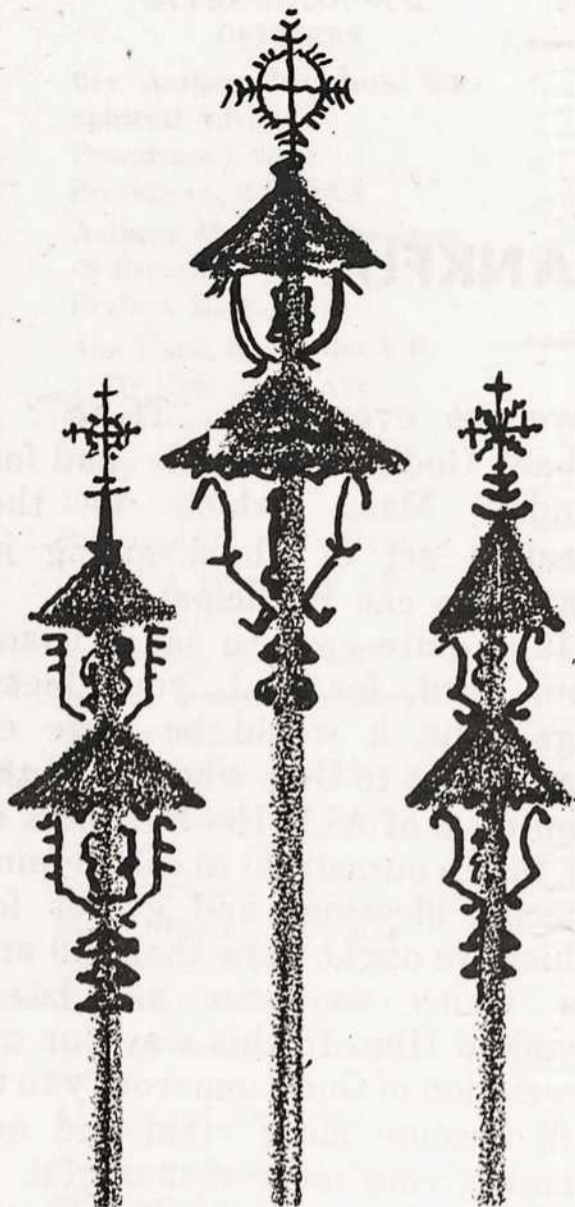
Giving thanks is a way of fulfilling justice; being thankful is a way of life taught us by Christ.

Let's be more thankful; let's be more Christlike.

Fr. Anthony A. Jurgelaitis, O.P

## LIETUVOS BAŽNYTINĖS PROVINCIJOS 50 M. JUBILIEJUS

Tėv. Viktoras Gidžiūnas, O.F.M.



Šie metai mums yra dvigubo jubiliejaus metai, nes šiemet sueina 725 metai nuo pirmojo Lietuvos karaliaus Mindaugo krikšto ir 50 metų nuo Lietuvos bažnytinės provincijos įkūrimo. Mindaugo įkurtoji, tiesiog nuo Romos priklausanti, vyskupija išreiškė Lietuvos Bažnyčios nepriklausomumą. To siekė ir Vytautas, norėdamas vieno Vilniaus Metropolito valdžion sujungti visas ano meto Lietuvos vyskupijas, bet jis nespėjo šio sumanymo įvykdyti.

Lietuvos bažnytinės provincijos reikalas rimtai iškilo 1918 m., Lietuvai atgavus laisvę, kai atsirado didelių sunkumų vyskupijų valdyme. Šie sunkumai susidarė, kai lenkai užgrobė Vilnių ir Seinus, kur buvo vyskupų katedros.

Užgrobę Seinus, jie tuoj ištrėmė vysk. A. Karosą su visa kūrija ir seminarija. Tada vyskupas, apsigyvenęs Marijampolėje, valdė nepriklausomoje Lietuvoje likusią vyskupijos dalį. Ilgiau Vilniuje išsilaikė vysk. J. Matulevičius, bet ir jis negalė valdyti vyskupijos dalies, esančios laisvoje Lietuvoje, dėl to jai valdyti buvo paskirtas kun. J. Kukta. Pagaliau lenkų persekiojamas ir vysk. J. Matulevičius buvo priverstas atsisakyti vyskupijos ir 1925 m. apleisti Vilnių.

Be šių vietinio pobūdžio nepatogumų buvo dar ir teisinio pobūdžio sunkumų. Nuo senų laikų Žemaičių ir Vilniaus vyskupijos priklausė Mohiliovo bažnytinei provincijai, kurios metropolitas liko Sovietų Rusijoje, Seinų vyskupija Varšuvos provincijai, o Klaipėdos kraštas Prūsijos provincijai.

Lietuvos Bažnyčios reikalams sutvarkyti pop. Pijus XI pasirinko vysk. J. Matulevičių, kuris tuo metu Romoje tvarkė Marijonų vienuolijos reikalus.

Matydamas J. Matulevičiaus sumanumą, popiežius 1925 m. pakėlė jį tituliniu arkivyskupu ir su pilnomis Apaštališkojo Vizitatoriaus teisėmis pasiuntė į Lietuvą.

Arkiv. J. Matulevičius turėjo du uždavinius: įkurti Lietuvos bažnytinę provinciją ir su Šv. Sostu sudaryti konkrodatą. Bažnytinės provincijos organizavimo darbas ėjo gana sklandžiai. Vyskupijų ribos bendrais bruožais buvo nustatytos vyskupų konferencijoje. Šioje konferencijoje buvo nutarta didžiulę Žemaičių vyskupiją padalyti į tris vyskupijas: Telšių, Panevėžio ir Kauno; Vilniaus vyskupijos dalyje įkurti naują Kaišiadorių vyskupiją, o Seinų vyskupijos dalyje Vilkaviškio vyskupiją; Kaunas turėjo būti Lietuvos metropolito sostinė.

Padarius šiuos nutarimus, reikėjo išvesti vyskupijų ribas ir parapijas suskirstyti į dekanatus. Tas darbas buvo pavestas Žemaičių vyskupo pagelbininkui - vysk. J. Skvireckui, nes tas daugiausia lietė Žemaičių vyskupiją.

Vysk. J. Skvireckui darbą pabaigus, vėl buvo sušaukta vyskupų konferencija, kurioje 1926 m. vasario 26 d. buvo priimtas toks Lietuvos bažnytinės provincijos projektas: 1. Kauno arkivyskupija su metropolito katedra Kauno bazilikoje; 2. Telšių vyskupija su katedra Telšiuose; 3. Panevėžio vyskupija su katedra Panevėžy; 4. Vilkaviškio vyskupija su katedra Vilkavišky ir 5. Kaišiadorių vyskupija su katedra Kaišiadoryse.



*Marijampolė*

Vyskupų konferencijai priėmus šį projektą, be-trūko tik Romos patvirtinimo. Tada arkiv. J. Matulevičius ir vysk. P. Karevičius 1926 m. kovo mėnesį nuvyko į Romą. Romoje netikėtai vysk. P. Karevičius atsisakė nuo Žemaičių vyskupijos ir, pakeltas Skytopolio arkivyskupu, pareiškė norą stoti į marijonus.

Pagaliau balandžio 4 d., per Velykas, buvo paskelbta konstitucija - "LITHUANORUM GENTE", kuria buvo įkurta Lietuvos bažnytinė provincija. Rytojaus dieną popiežius paskyrė ir vyskopus: vysk. J. Skvirecką - Kauno arkivyskupu metropolitu, vysk. A. Karosą - Vilkaviškio vyskupu, prelatą J. Staugaitį-Telšių vyskupu, kanauninką K. Paltaroką - Panevėžio vyskupu, kanauninką J. Kuktą - Kaišiadorių vyskupu.

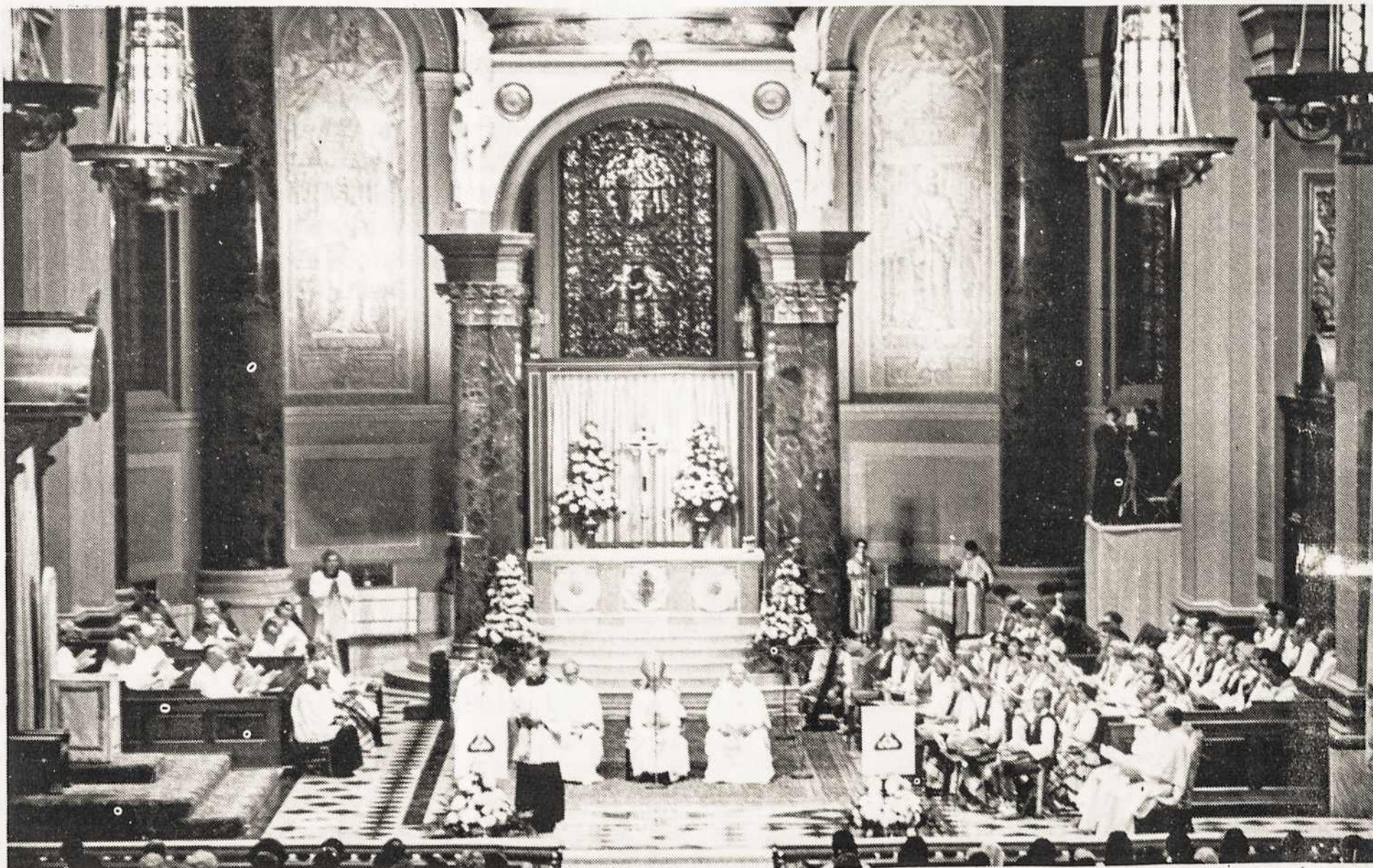
Oficialus popiežiaus raštu paskelbimas ir Kauno metropolito ingresas į katedrą įvyko 1926 m. gegužės 13 d., per Šeštines. Tai buvo didelė lietuvių katalikų triumfo diena, viena iš svarbiausių visoje Lietuvos Bažnyčios istorijoje.

Nuo tos dienos jau praėjo 50 metų. Laisvės metais Lietuvos bažnytinė provincija buvo gerai susitvarkiusi ir pasiekusi didelių laimėjimų. Veikė trys kunigų seminarijos, išauklėjusios daug kunigų, ku-

riais ir dabar remiasi Sovietų vergijoje esanti Bažnyčia. Gerai suorganizuota Katalikiškoji Akcija davė Lietuvai ir išeivijai tvirtus vadus rezistencijai. Katalikiškoji spauda vaidino pirmaujantį vaidmenį.

Lietuvos bažnytinė provincija šiandien neturi normalios hierarchijos. Ten dabar nėra nei metropolito, nei pilnateisių vyskupų, - ordinarų. Vyskupijas valdo tik administratoriai, nors du iš jų vyskupai, bet ordinarų teisių neturi. Du vyskupai jau keliolika metų laikomi namų arešte. Viena kunigų seminarija su ribotu klierikų skaičiumi nepajėgia paruošti kunigų kiek jų reikia aptarnauti tikintiesiems. Daugelis bažnyčių jau seniai uždaryta, išmirštant kunigams ir likusios sunkiai aptarnaujamos. Visai nėra katalikiškos spaudos. Uždraustas bet koks katalikiškasis veikimas. Kunigams draudžiama vaikučius mokyti katekizmo, lankyti ligonius ir suteikti paskutinius sakramentus. Varoma stipri bedieviška propaganda. Tuo siekiama Lietuvą paversti bedieviška.

Lietuvos bažnytinė provincija juridiniai tebėra gyva. Tikintieji prieš šią baisią priespaudą tvirtai laikosi. Jie nebijo nei kalėjimo, nei ištrėmimo, nei mirties. Šį jubiliejų minėdami, jie tyliai meldžiasi. Junkimės ir mes prie jų maldos, kad išmelstume Lietuvai laisvę.



*Maldos už Lietuvą... laisvajam pasaulyje, Philadelphijoje per lietuvių Mišias, Eucharistiniame Kongrese, rugp. mėn., 1976 m.*

# A KNIGHT AT THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS...

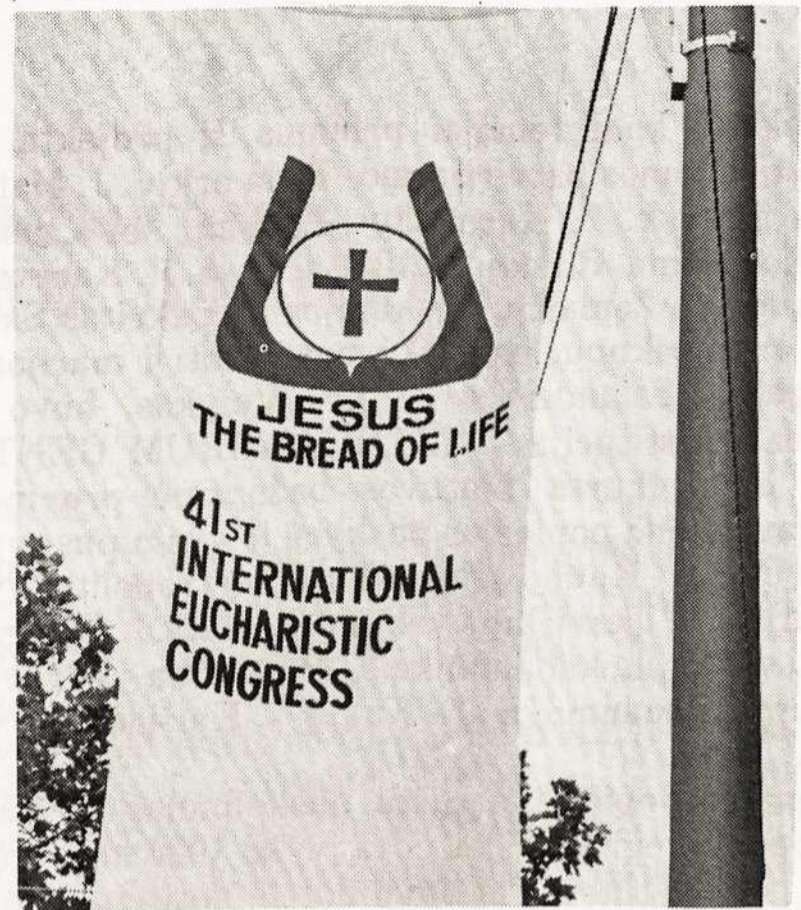
## A RECOLLECTION

By Philip Skabeikis

Featuring Photos by  
John J. Sidtis, C-110  
Maspeth, N.Y.



*Lithuanian Mass - 41st Eucharistic Congress at  
Sts. Peter & Paul Cathedral.*



A white haired MOTERIS singing PULKIM ANT KELIŲ to the accompaniment of ancient KANKLĖS... generations of old amber catching and playing with the thin rays of sunlight that sliced thru stained glass windows... a young seminarian perched precariously atop a wooden scaffold guiding with skilled fingers the lens of a closed circuit TV camera... a young blond girl straightening her JUOSTAS and the blue flowered apron of her national costume... These are just some of the images that come to mind when I recall that morning. Lithuanians sitting in the nave of the church were humbled by the pagentry beneath the gold-studded ceiling and vaulting arches of Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

The occasion was the Lithuanian Concelebration of the Mass, on the seventh day of the 41st Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, Pa. Aug. 1 - Aug. 8. This Congress was the first of its kind held in North America since Chicago fifty years ago. The theme of the Congress, a convocation of world Catholics, was "The Eucharist and the Hungers of the Human Family". The theme for this day in particular was "the Hunger for Peace". Its aim was "to foster spiritual renewal in the Catholic Church throughout the world. To aspire to a great union between the most diverse peoples is a fundamentally Christian idea" said the Vatican's Sergio Cardinal Pignedoli. The day saw a total of twenty-seven ethnic liturgies and rites, pilgrims worshipping in their native tongues, including Lithuanian. Everywhere we went, banners, buttons and signs proclaimed "Jesus, the Bread of Life".

The K of L's commitment to the Congress began at the 1975 National Convention in New York where delegates approved a \$1000 donation to the Lithuanian Committee at the Congress. As an organization for "God and Country" there was a natural affinity



*Mass Celebrants and Čiurlionis Ensemble at Mass.*

between the aims of the Congress and the K of L. There was even a Convention Session devoted to the Congress. Here was a perfect opportunity for Lithuanian-Catholics to demonstrate to the World Catholic Community, the hunger for religious freedom which rends the spiritual life of captive Lithuania.

This year, the Mid-Atlantic District of the K of L had chosen to follow the example of other Districts and sponsor a Pilgrimage. What an appropriate event the Congress was with which to start what I hope will become a District tradition. Some forty K of Lers travelled by Charter Bus from New York and New Jersey to the "City of Brotherly Love" for the Lithuanian Mass at 10 AM on that Saturday morning August 7th.

The prelude to the Mass was a brief organ recital by New York organist Albinas Prizgintas. A grand Procession of Lithuanian clerics from around the globe, including several from Soviet Lithuania, filed solemnly into the Cathedral. A new Lithuanian Mass received its world premiere on that occasion, a "Kanklių Mišios" scored for Kanklės orchestra and Birbynės. The first, of course, is the ancient stringed Lithuanian folk instrument while the second is a type of folk woodwind instrument, forerunner of the Baroque recorder and later the oboe and clarinet.



*Lithuanian Exhibit at Convention Center.*

The Mass was sung by Cleveland's Čiurlionis Ensemble conducted by the composer himself, Alfonsas Mikulskis. The music itself seemed uninspired and left me unmoved, but somehow it didn't matter. Perhaps its most poignant moment was the DIEVO AVINĖLI (Lamb of God) where the birbynės imitated the strains of a shepherd's pipe and the vocal lines were characteristic of a folk lullabye. Closed circuit TV cameras brought each detail of the ceremony into every corner of the church, so that the entire congregation could participate visually as well as aurally. How reverently we found ourselves repeating the liturgy as the immensity of this communal outpouring became apparent. After Mass we milled about outside, meeting other K of Lers from near and far.

The Pilgrimage Committee provided a nourishing lunch immediately following Mass. The afternoon agenda found us K of Lers at the Philadelphia Convention Center. Our K of L travellers were easily identified by their tri-colored lapel pins. This single stroke of genius, proved to be our best public relations tool, as literally hundreds of inquiries about their meaning and significance had to be courteously answered. At the Center, I was at once dismayed by the super-commercial approach and moved by the



*MAD Pilgrimage Participants.*

insight provided into the enormous scope of the Church's many religious communities and movements, each represented by their own exhibit booth. The ethnic exhibits were the undisputed highlight and the Lithuanian display was one to be proud of. It housed one of the most beautiful displays of wood carvings, amber and weavings in my memory.

At one point our wanderings took us to the Convention Center auditorium where a French Rite Mass, presided over by the Archbishop of Canada, was concluding. We stood as observers witnessing a spontaneous outpouring of fervor as the congregation of several hundred and two soloists sang a recessional hymn. With arms outstretched in a gesture of all-encompassing devotion, they filled the hall with magic. We did not understand the words, but their intensity was more than we could bear. Our own tears, helped us realize that we were experiencing a oneness with these people thru song and prayer. Surely, this sense of brotherhood in God is what the Congress was about.

Having thoroughly scanned all of the myriad exhibits and information booths, we proceeded to our bus bearing shopping bags stuffed with tons of literature and souvenirs. Our final stop was at St. Casimir's Church Hall for a buffet supper provided by members of Council 3. Our numbers were swelled by Upstate Lithuanian Pennsylvanians from Schuylkill County.



*L. to r.: Helen Shields - Pilgrimage Chairman, Phil Skabeikis, Anthony Miner - Nat'l. Pres., Larry Janonis - MAD Pres.*

The Pilgrimage was further honored by the presence of National President Anthony Miner.

The day in short, is one that will not be forgotten easily. Much credit is due Chairman for the day HM Helen Shields. A special thank you to the photo artist whose creations bring these recollections to graphic life, and to the Editor who has allowed me to share these memories with you.



Dear Loretta Stukas,

When Father A. Jurgelaitis and two "Knights of Lithuania" were canvassing Pennsylvania to form new Councils, they stopped at our Villa. I told them about my new book which will be published in English by the Lithuanian Encyclopedia Press, October 18, 1976. They were very interested and quite enthused.

Since the book, "PRAISE THE LORD, ALL YOU NATIONS", concerns the Lithuanian nation, our people in the United States, our Founder, Father Alphonsus Maria Urbanavicius, - a Passionist missionary, - and our Lithuanian Community, - the Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the Sorrowful Mother, - I was asked to send my picture and an article about the book.

Most of our Lithuanian Americans do not know enough about Lithuania's past, about the people

of other nations who valued and esteemed our Lithuanian language and beautiful religious customs, and about some of the challenging problems our fathers and forefathers had to face. Here is an opportunity for all of us to increase our knowledge and love for our dear Lithuania, and to acquire a deeper pride in our Lithuanian heritage.

Since the book will be beautifully bound, consist of over 300 pages with illustrations, and covered with a Lithuanian motif jacket, the price is \$8.00 per copy. It is a book for all times, a precious heirloom for anyone of Lithuanian descent. It can be used in a gift package for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Valentine's Day, and Christmas.

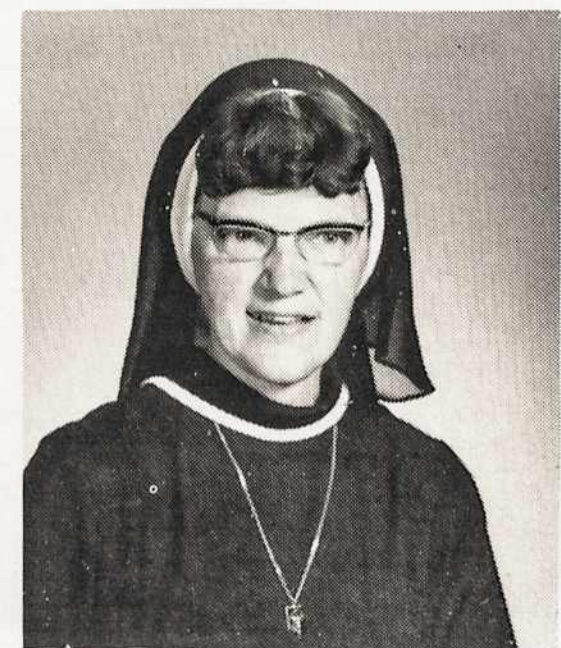
I am accepting orders now. Priority will be given to first requests when the book comes off the press. Send payment with the request to: Sister Virginia, CJC,

St. Mary's Villa, Elmhurst, Pa. 18416.

I will write again and tell you more about the book in the near future. Let us keep alive the love for our God-given heritage and share the flame with others.

Sincerely in Jesus Crucified and Our Lady of Sorrows,

Sister Virginia, C.J.C.





# LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS



## RARE BOOK DONATED TO KENT

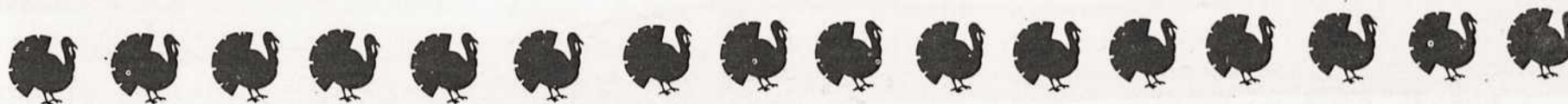
An extremely rare book, the "Life of Jesus Christ" (third edition) by St. Bonaventure, has been donated to Kent State University by Marcel Zitkus (right) of Cleveland Heights. The book, written in Lithuanian, was printed nearly two centuries ago (1782) in Vilnius, Lithuania. President Glenn A. Olds accepted the book, one of only about 20 copies known to exist. Zitkus, who received the book from his brother, Julius, in 1939, said he recognized the importance of the volume and felt it could best be preserved by donating it to Kent. The book will be part of the University's extensive Lithuanian Collection of about 7,000 volumes. The collection is one of the largest outside Lithuania and is believed the largest in any public institution in the United States.

## BETTY FORD ATTENDS LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

On Sept. 5, 1976, over 2000 Lithuanian Folk Dancers from 5 nations performed for over 15,000 spectators, at the International Amphitheater in Chicago. The event, the 5TH LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL in the free world, was the Lithuanian-Americans' major Bi-Centennial celebration. Among the enthusiastic guest-spectators was Mrs. Betty Ford, wife of the President of the United States, as well as U.S. Senator Charles Percy of Illinois, Gov. and Mrs. Walker of Illinois, and Col. Reilly of Chicago's Mayor Daley's staff, and others. Mrs. Ford was presented with Amber jewelry by the planning committee, and a beautiful Lithuanian National Costume, woven in Red, White, and Blue, by the Dancers.

As a special tribute to the Bi-Centennial, the dancers closed the first half of their Lithuanian Folk Dance program with a most impressive "Virginia Reel" and a "God Bless America" montage in which they formed a massive "200" on the arena floor while the Festival Chorus, directed by A. Jurgutis, accompanied them in song. Mrs. Ford and the other special guests remained to see the entry march of all the dancers, the opening ceremonies, and the entire first half of the program. We are sure that the Bi-Centennial Special served as a most suitable climax for them.

Photo - P. Maleta



## BAYONNE LITHUANIANS PLAN NEW

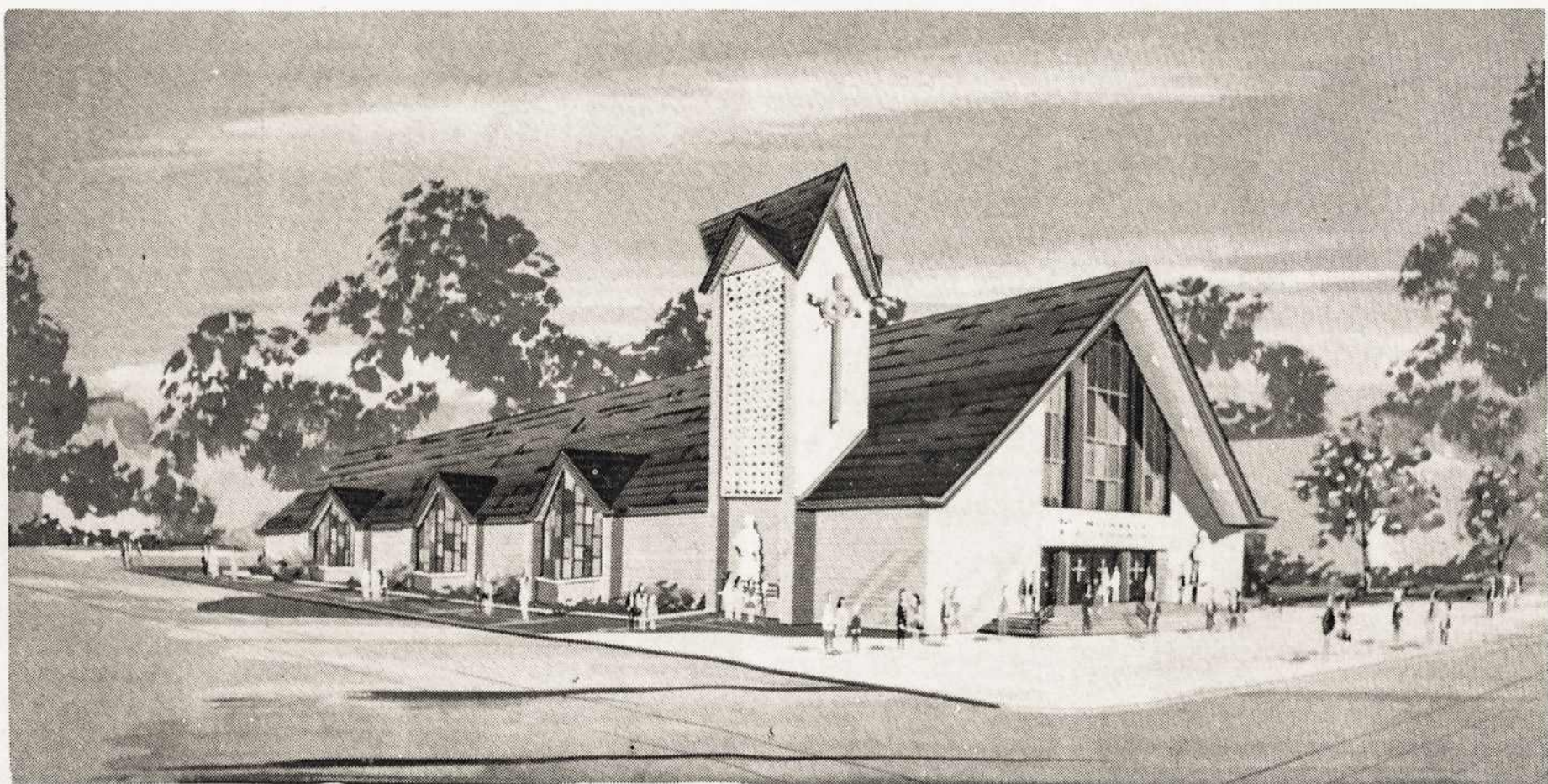
### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

The Rev. Albert J. Matulis, administrator of St. Michael's Church, Bayonne, N.J., announced official approval of parish plans for the construction of a new church. In a letter read at all Masses after the Christmas holidays, the Most Reverend Archbishop Peter L. Gerety gave his blessing to parishioners and expressed confidence that the new church will become a reality. "May God grant you and your parishioners His richest blessings as you begin what promises to be an historic year in the life of Saint Michael's Parish", the Archbishop said. Previous church plans had been reviewed and approved by the Archdiocesan Liturgical and Building & Sites Commissions.

Also announced was the official start of a Building Fund Drive in which Rev. Matulis asked for the support of both parishioners and friends of St. Michael's. Parishioners are being asked by Committee members to choose one of the many pledges available to them, according to their means. A sampling of pledges over a two year period are: Benefactor, \$250; Patron, \$500; Sponsor, \$1000; Builder, \$2,500; and Founder, \$5,000. Father Matulis stated that he was "both heartened and encouraged"

by the advance gifts and pledges received to date. Heading the Building Fund Committee are Dr. Stephen A. Mickewich, honorary chairman, and Al Jakupcionis, general chairman.

Estimated cost of the new church is expected to be in excess of \$250,000 and construction is scheduled to begin this summer. The new air-conditioned church will be of "white" brick, about 30 feet longer and 10 feet wider than the present edifice. In drawing up plans for the new church, John Nakrosis, architect of Kearny, N.J. has maintained the "chapel" effect of both the interior and exterior of the church. The organ and console will be set in the sanctuary of the church, and six Shrines will be distributed equally throughout the church. Many features and designs of the present church will be incorporated into the new structure, and will provide a feeling of "closeness and warmth" that inspires devotion. The present church was purchased from an Episcopal parish in 1907, and the new church is expected to be completed in time for the parishioners 70th anniversary. Father Matulis expressed confidence that parishioners and friends of St. Michael's will respond favorably to the new Church Drive.



## BICENTENNIAL THOUGHTS...



Bicentennial Address of Senator  
Fannin (R-Arizona) July 4, 1976.

Recorded for radio and television  
for broadcast in Arizona only.

## FROM A FRIEND...

Today, July 4, 1976, we celebrate the birth of our Nation. It is a day when we can praise our country unreservedly without fear of ridicule. I speak of fear of ridicule because it has become fashionable in some circles to view patriotism with cynicism.

Yet, I have not observed that the cynics who daily criticize and deride our institutions and way of life are booking passage to move to other countries. On the contrary, they remain, while our embassies abroad are inundated with requests to emigrate, and many who fail to obtain permits to move here or who live under governments that prohibit them from leaving have risked their lives to enter this country.

Who can forget the Lithuanian sailor, Simas Kudirka, who in 1970,



*Simas Kudirka, receiving Knights of Lithuania Honorary Membership.*

tried to jump from the deck of a Soviet fishing boat to the deck of a U.S. Coast Guard ship. The Soviets accused him of treason, threw him into prison and subjected him to torture and solitary confinement for six months before his trial. The Soviets suggested that he would receive a lighter sentence if he denounced the United States. Yet, he refused to cooperate. When asked why he had refused, he answered, "Because I love freedom and because the United States represents greatly this freedom".

Let Americans look, then, to this brave Lithuanian as an example. Let us feel no embarrassment in giving our great country its due or in defending it against its critics.

Above all, let us be alert to signs of erosion of this precious liberty we have. And there is erosion. The present disturbing trend towards socialistic big government threatens to destroy our freedom. We cannot give up more and more responsibilities to the Federal government without subjecting ourselves more and more to its authority and dictates. Americans will have to make a new and firm commitment to the unique system of economic and social self-reliance that our ingenious forefathers devised for us, if this noble experiment is to endure another two hundred years.

On this 200th anniversary of Independence Day, let us remember what Benjamin Franklin answered, when he was asked what form of government the Constitutional Convention had devised for us: "A Republic... if you can keep it". We must keep it.



*Senator Paul Fannin (R. - Arizona).*

EDITOR'S NOTE: As we near the close of the USA BICENTENNIAL YEAR, it seems fitting to consider these words of Senator Fannin. His example of true American patriotism, Simas Kudirka, is certainly worthy of this praise. Mr. Kudirka, a Knights of Lithuania Honorary Member, celebrates two anniversaries this month... 6 years since his ill-fated attempt to defect from the Soviet Union, and 2 years since his happy arrival in the United States as a free man and an American citizen.

We sincerely thank Mr. Fannin for his truly moving words, and congratulate Mr. Kudirka on his HAPPY anniversary - that of his arrival on USA shores.

## EDITORIAL

## THE CASE OF PADDINGTON MULDOON

by  
Aldona Ryan



*Photo R. Kisielius*

The first time that Loretta Stukas walked into our home and sat down to meet our family pets, our overgrown, white, shaggy Irish Shepherd completely capitulated. His homage and affection became so profound that we had no difficulty in recognizing his attraction to her. He had responded to her INSTINCTIVELY.

Paddy's unabashed show of love stirred my thoughts into a channel of Lithuanism that is not often discussed but is no secret among us. Lithuanians are like lovable teddy bears. Lithuanians show affection openly and guilelessly.

When the members of the Supreme Council arrived in Dayton for a meeting recently, everybody kissed and hugged everybody - priests, men, women, children, cats, dogs - whatever and whenever. Goodbyes were made the same way. The interesting fact remains that this was not unique behavior for this weekend but what Lithuanians do regularly and naturally all of the time.

When non-Lithuanians get mixed up in a group of Lithuanians, they

are soon involved in this phenomenon of candid friendliness. As a result, most of them become life-long friends and eternal allies. It's hard to get angry or stay irritated with someone who just hugged and kissed you and will hug and kiss you again as you leave.

In my recent experiences of writing to Lithuanians from diverse backgrounds and localities, I am constantly amazed at the ease with which compliments and endearing words are expressed. Is this also a natural, habitual trait of Lithuanians?

If this is true, then all Lithuanians should immediately pick up their pens and begin writing. The world needs this type of personality so desperately.

It has been said, "If you give a man a fish, he will eat for a day. If you teach a man how to fish, he will eat for the rest of his life". So it is with love.

More and more Lithuanians are writing regularly and finding out that the results are surprising and unbelievable. The episode of Simas

Kudirka is a prime example. The power of the written word is a mighty force. If Lithuanians have an inborn ability to express concern and show love without being self-conscious about it, they need to spread this God-given talent to others.

How many of us get the IMPULSE to state our views regularly but we let the opportunities slip by. Consequently, all sorts of strange policies and incorrect concepts are accepted because concerned, loving, caring people did not follow their impulses to put the real truth in writing.

The contagious sensitiveness of open, unabashed cordiality is a path to the unleashing of tremendous waves that could alter many sad situations of our times. If all Lithuanians would immediately begin writing - in their own natural style - a hug and a kiss at the beginning and a hug and a kiss at the end - the WORLD COULD BE CHANGED.

## PADĖKOS DIENA

### [THANKSGIVING DAY]

Paskutinį lapkričio mėnesio ketvirtadienį visa Amerika švenčia Padėkos dieną, arba kaip Lietuvoje buvo įprasta, derliaus šventę.

Šiai šventei pradžią davė pirmieji ateiviai - piligrimai Plymouth, Massachusetts, 1621 metais gruodžio mėnesį. Žmonių grupė, pabėgusi nuo persekiojimų, sunkiausiose sąlygose pasiekusi Amerikos krantus, pergyvenusi čia didžiausius vargus, badą ir šaltį vis dėlto pajėgė išikurti ir šį tą užsiauginti. Jie jautė pareigą padėkoti Dievui už tai. Be užsiaugintų daržovių ir vaisių, susimedžioję laukinių kalakutų, jie tuo būdu šventė pirmąją Padėkos dieną. Po to Naujoji Anglija jau kasmet tą dieną skyrė padėkai.

Prezidentas Jurgis Washingtonas 1789 metais paskelbė pirmai Padėkos dienai minėti proklamaciją. Pirmasis Jungtinių Valstybių prezidentas savo pareiškime suminėjo ir valstybinės konstitucijos

priėmimo faktą ir skatino piliečius specialiu būdu minėti Padėkos dieną ir dėkoti Dievui už svarbų dokumentą, garantuojantį viso krašto žmonėms laisvą ir nepriklausomą gyvenimą. Devynioliktoje šimtmečio jai daugumas valstybių vieną dieną metuose skyrė šiam tikslui.

Prezidentas Abraomas Linkolnas 1863 m. spalio 3 dieną paskelbė specialų raštą, kuriuo ragino visame krašte švęsti tą dieną ir šiam tikslui paskyrė paskutinį lapkričio mėnesio ketvirtadienį. Jis tą žygį padarė paveiktas energingos visuomenininkės Sarah J. Hale, Godey's Lady's knygos redaktorės. Jos akcija visame krašte suformavo opinią, kuri vertė prezidentą tokią dieną oficialiai paskelbti.

Nuo Linkolno laikų visi Jungtinių Valstybių prezidentai skelbdavo proklamacijomis paskutinį lapkričio mėnesio ketvirtadienį

Padėkos dieną. Tik prezidentas Franklin D. Rooseveltas Padėkos dieną paskelbė trečią lapkričio mėnesio ketvirtadienį. Tačiau JAV kongresas 1941 m. gruodžio mėnesį priėmė nutarimą šią tautinę šventę švęsti ketvirtą lapkričio ketvirtadienį.

Tik gaila, kad daugumas ilgainiui nukrypo į medžiaginius dalykus. Pamišę pradinę šventės mintį - padėką Aukščiausiam už visą kas pasiekta, kas sukurta. Padėką už visas dvasines ir medžiagines geroves, už turimas laisves, kurios yra brangiausias šio krašto žmonių turtas.

Ta proga, ir mes, JAV lietuviai, turime būti dėkingi, kaip ir pirmieji Plymoutho ateiviai, kad laisvoji Amerika priglaudė mus, davė sąlygas išikurti, organizuotis, palaikyti savo religines bei tautines tradicijas, ir kovoti dėl Lietuvos laisvės ir gerovės.



# Cheese

## THE MAKING OF SURIS

by  
Aldona Ryan

Around the time of World War I, a great influx of Lithuanians appeared in the United States. These immigrants were the stoic, hardy, brave, hardworking descendents of the Balts. They brought their unique tastes and individuality with them. Many of the men were fleeing the prospect of conscription into the Russian army while others were looking for wealth and the better life that America had to offer.

As in all migrations, homesickness and yearnings for the past motivated the men to send for their sweethearts and relatives and to settle in clusters forming new "little Lithuanias". One of the first things on the list to appease-ments to warm the heart of a homesick lover was the making of suris.

The "pressed curds of slightly soured milk" called SURIS was a staple in the Lithuanian diet for many centuries. In an agricultural culture where nothing was thrown away that could be used for food for men or his domestic animals, suris became a prized-product of the milk industry.

In the early part of the twentieth century, every Lithuanian-American either kept his own cow or knew another Lithuanian who owned a dairy farm. Milk was plentiful and cheap and came in five gallon jugs. The unpasteurized, fresh farm milk was perfect for the making of suris and every Lithuanian housewife dutifully pressed a week's supply regularly.

Then came Louis Pasteur and the federal laws regarding milk and

suddenly Lithuanian suris almost disappeared in the Lithuanian-American home. The process of pasteurizing milk not only killed the unwanted germs that could cause disease, it also killed the good bacteria that made old-fashioned Lithuanian suris.

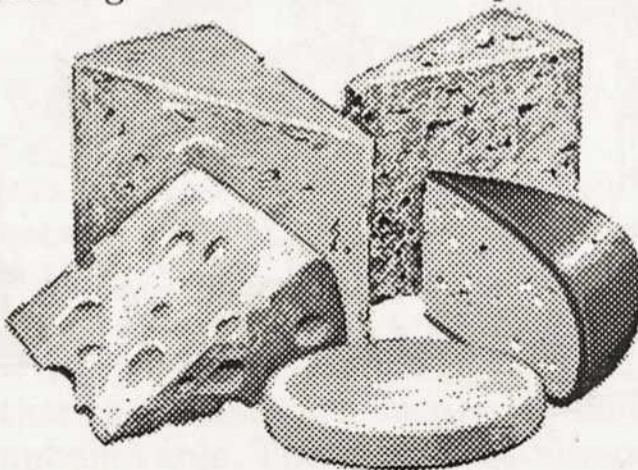
For all of the second and third generation Lithuanian-Americans who are hungry for the taste of suris like "močiutė" used to make, this article is written. We, who are used to packaged meals and quick dishes, can also have suris now.

The easiest method is by combining dry cottage cheese and a little cream into a "bag" and squeezing out the water content. A "bag" can be made by folding a cotton tea towel in half (into a square) and sewing up one side to form a triangle-shaped tube. The cottage cheese and cream mixture (add a little salt if you desire) is placed in the "point" of the bag. The top of the bag is then gathered together and twisted until the water begins to ooze out and then tied securely. The suris in the bag is then placed between two boards (breadboards will do) with a heavy object placed on top to "press" out the remaining water and to form the familiar almost heart-shaped looking suris. The suris is pressed

for 12 to 24 hours (depending on how much water it contained) and then gently removed from the bag onto a platter. While it can be eaten immediately, it is usually "aged" for a few days at room temperature to give it a firmer texture. (Up to this point in the process, refrigeration is NOT used.) The longer it is aged, the harder it will become - turning into a chewy snack cheese that is very good at parties.

Another (cheaper) method now widely used is to combine 1 gallon of 2% Low fat milk with one quart of creamed cottage cheese (this contains the bacteria that is needed) in a large kettle and allow to stand for about 36 hours in a warm room until curds and water begin to separate. The mixture is then placed in the oven at about 300° and heated until separation is completed. This takes about 15 to 30 minutes. DO NOT BOIL! The curds and water mixture is then poured into the "bag", squeezed, tied, pressed (12 to 24 hours), removed from the bag and "aged". Altogether, if you start a suris on Monday morning, you can expect to start eating it on Thursday evening.

If you experiment a little and add more or less salt to taste, you will soon find that this low-caloried, healthful dish will become a habit in your household. Pressing boards and fancy bags may replace the heavy rock on the breadboards and the tea towel triangle but the suris will ever be the same, white, delicious delight that our forefathers dreamed up many, many years ago.



## MEMBERS' CONVENTION INPUT RESULTS

# FLASH

# FLASH

## FOLLOW - UP

You remember, I'm sure, the article in the June 1976 issue of the "Vytis" entitled "Flash Flash". It was a pre-Convention project intended to obtain your thoughts and suggestions for the betterment of our organization. If you are interested in the results, please read on.

The President received 17 replies. Ten members answered all questions, seven answered more than half. Two members mailed in personal letters.

As to the number of replies received, all will agree that it was NOT an outstanding response. But, judging from the quality of the contributions, it was very good.

All comments and suggestions received become (as they say) the property of the Supreme Council. Each officer and chairman will receive the comments directed to his or her area of responsibility for consideration and planning purposes. So, you see, your time and effort will not have been wasted. Your ideas will be discussed by the Supreme Council and, if appropriate, will eventually reach the floor of the National Convention for further consideration and possible approval.

One suggestion sent in by several members already reached the Convention floor in Dayton. Your Council Delegates will report to you on the discussion to change the VYČIU hymn. Because of the seriousness of this proposal, no action was taken. Further discussion was needed.

You may be interested in how some of your fellow members replied to the last question: What do you consider TOP PRIORITY for the K of L?

- encourage younger people to join
- encourage older Knights to let younger members assume greater responsibilities.
- update the Constitution (two members)
- better and more frequent communication between local Councils and Supreme Council (six members)

- to blow our horn louder and louder and louder
- overcome our inferiority with regard to other Lithuanian organizations

- update and reissue the Officers Manual
- select a special Blue Ribbon Committee of 10 or 12 members to prepare a plan to rejuvenate the K of L and come up with a definite and detailed plan within one year

— National Convention should present a real new and attractive plan of action, not merely hash and rehash old business.

One K of L'er added a P.S. "Sorry I'm late with this INPUT. I, too, am guilty of putting things off 'till later". Aren't most of us guilty of this?

Our Dayton Convention is over, but there will be another one in 1977 in Providence, R.I. This project, however, is not finished. It is meant to be ongoing.

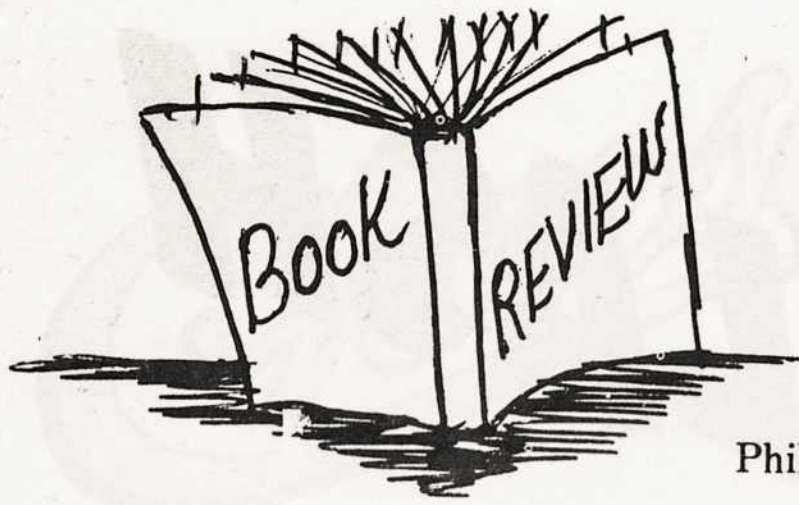
Now... if you have not yet made your personal INPUT already, this week is the week to do it. Pick up your June 1976 issue of VYTIS with the special "FLASH FLASH" insert, tear it out, think about the topics suggested, set down your ideas and mail it to:

CONVENTION PROJECT 1977  
c/o Mr. Anthony Miner  
49 Bruce Street  
Grafton, Mass. 01519

Your reward will be the satisfaction in knowing that you helped to make the K of L greater.

Fr. A.A.J., OP





Phil Skabeikis

## FROM THE K OF L BOOK SHELF

At the close of his introduction to the book, Clarence Walton says: "Nearly a century ago, a Lithuanian priest, Rev. Varnagiris, looked at his own people in America and concluded, 'We are like sheep-scattered and forgotten. It's a disgrace'. It is my hope that Dr. Kucas' book will remind all of us that the Lithuanian flock is neither scattered nor forgotten. In the process he will help America to remember herself".

The book covers 1659 the year of I Alexander Curtius' arrival to teach Latin in New York (then New Amsterdam) through the present Bicentennial period. The period before the mass immigrations of the late 19th Century includes such prominent Lithuanians as Thaddeus Kosciusko of the Revolutionary War, Prince Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin (1770-1840) a missionary dubbed "Apostle of the Alleghenies", Alexander Bielaski a friend of Abraham Lincoln and Civil War casualty and Stanley Pangauskas, a California "Gold Rusher".

The narrative provides insight into the reasons Lithuanians left their homeland for the New World. It describes the hardships they encountered on their journey in a way that the reader cannot but admire their heroics. Sections I found personally most interesting described the Lithuanian Coal Miner, his initial comradery with the Polish immigrants and the identity struggles that evolved from their tenuous alliance.

Essential for posterity, is Dr. Kučas' coverage of the development of the Lithuanian Press in America from Gazieta Lietuwiszka in 1879 to the present day existing papers as well as the establishment of the first Lithuanian Schools and Clubs.

Further textural divisions are a description of the birth and development of major Lithuanian American organizations and institutions including the Knights of Lithuania, the vital role played by Lithuanian Americans in the fight for Lithuanian Independence, the cultural, artistic and economic achievements of the early immigrants and their descendants.

The sum total of these chapters is a glowing narrative of a determined people surviving against sometimes unbelievable odds. The text is generously sprinkled with illustrations and photos. An Appendix of Lithuanian Catholic Parishes in the US and a fine Bibliography of source material serve as added bonuses.

I do not mince words when I say LITHUANIANS IN AMERICA is a must on your reading list. Get it into your public library too! Share in the heritage which is ours in this Bicentennial year and always.

In this Bicentennial year of 1976, ethnic groups are delving into dusty archives and newspaper micro-films to trace the arrival of their ancestors to these shores. They are further attempting to identify the contributing factors to their group's development of growth, their aspirations, their experiences and their joys, triumphs and failures.

The glaring need for a scholarly approach in English to Lithuanian American history is filled in part by LITHUANIANS IN AMERICA by Dr. Antanas Kučas. The appearance in the Fall of 1975 of this 349 page opus, published by the Lithuanian Encyclopedia Press of Boston and translated from the Lithuanian by K of L HM Juozas Boley-Bulevicius, is in itself a major literary event. The only thing that readers may debate is the magnitude of its importance.

The author himself, a recent immigrant, is Professor Emeritus of the University of Scranton. He was educated primarily abroad, having received his Doctorate from the University of Kaunas and pursued further studies at the Grenoble and Nancy Universities of France. Dr. Kučas spent several years in a German slave labor camp and in 1946 emigrated to the United States. From 1947-70 he taught history and modern Language at Scranton University. Dr. Kučas' major current undertaking revolves around the editing of the Encyclopedia Lituanica.

In a book of this nature, a Lithuanian-American reader would perhaps seek a more fully-documented or detailed examination of the early immigrants and less concentration on the more recent events such as the Flight of Darius and Girėnas, Simas Kudirka and modern Lithuanian activists, research material which is more readily available. It is noteworthy however that all these events can now be found in a single volume. There is a heavy emphasis on the organizational Lithuanian and the intrigues he was prone to.

These criticisms are personal and seem petty when one realizes that this is the first detailed book to appear on the subject in English. It does leave the reader slightly parched, thirsting for more and will hopefully provide some impetus for the reader to further explore the historical aspect of this ethnic heritage as a Lithuanian-American.



## THE STORY OF THE THIRD DEGREE AND THE AMSTERDAM COUNCIL

On March 14, five Amsterdams, with President Anthony Radzevich at the wheel, drove to Brooklyn for the district convention. Serving as delegates were Anthony and Ann Radzevich, Regina Kot, Sadie Karbus and Gene Gobis. Four were eligible for the Third degree.

Anthony Mazeika and Marian Skabeikis, two district Ritual Committee members put Gene Gobis, Sadie Karbus and Tony and Ann Radzevich through the required tests. All passed. At long last - the Amsterdam council acquired its first Third degree members! It was, indeed, a proud moment for the four when they were pinned by Anthony Mazeika.

A letter was also presented to the District Ritual Committee by Gene Gobis requesting the dispensation of the regular procedures in granting the Third degree to two members of Amsterdam's council who were unable to make the trip due to illness. A resolution was brought before the delegates and it was unanimously passed. Pauline Urban and Matthew Kazlauskas were granted their Third degrees.

Presentation was made to Matthew Kazlauskas at his home by Council 100's Ritual Chairlady

Mary Stanionis in the presence of President Anthony J. Radzevich and wife, Ann, Vice President Gene Gobis, Matt's wife Nancy, and Matt's sister-in-law, Eleanore Kindar. It was a most memorable and joyful day for Matt. While in good health Matt occupied the presidency for one year and the vice-president's post for five years. When help was needed, Matt was there willing and ready to serve on committees, especially the summer outings! Congratulations to you, Matt!

Pauline Urban, who joined our council when it reorganized in 1950, served as secretary for a period of seven years from 1953 through 1959. For many years she actively participated on various committees, as well as singing in the church choir of which she was the past treasurer. Rev. Robert K. Baltch presented Pauline with her Third degree medal on April 6 when he visited her in the hospital. Her eyes sparkled with pride when she received the medal and when Gene Gobis dropped in to see her that evening, she was wearing it. She commented that the nurses were dropping in to see it and they were congratulating her.

On Friday afternoon April 9



*Pauline Urban and friend, pharmacist Peter Schell - 1971.*

when Regina Kot and Gene Gobis entered Pauline's hospital room, they knew that God was calling her. They, together with two other friends, Peter Schell and Arthur Coessens, were with her when she made her peace with the Lord. All knelt and recited the rosary. Pauline will always be remembered by her jolly laugh, her pleasant ways with the customers at Lou's Market where she was a cashier, and her many, many good deeds in assisting her ailing parents and friends.

Your reporter has suffered a great loss as Pauline Urban was her childhood friend, a friendship which was never broken... until now...

Lou's Market closed for the funeral. Lou and Helen Petrosino and all their employees were present at the Requiem Mass, as were many K of L's and choir members who joined organist Danny Kabasin in singing during the Mass.

Amžina atilsi duok mirusiai Viešpatie, ir amžinoji šviesa tegul jai šviečia. Tegul ilsisi ramybėje. Amen.

And that concludes the story of the first Third degrees presented to Amsterdam Council 100.

Smile & Sparkle  
(Gene Gobis)



*L. to r.: Matthew Kazlauskas, son Dr. Matt, Jr., wife Nancy, daughter Lucy - 1967.*

## MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING MAY 29 - 30, 1976

By Sophie Zager



Sheraton Midway House was the center of activity where the Mid-Central District Convention was held in conjunction with the Mid-West Bowling tournament during the Memorial weekend. The meeting was opened with prayer by Father Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., District Spiritual Advisor. Under the leadership of District President Elinor Sluzas, the meeting transpired smoothly and held everyone's interest to the end.

After opening comments by President Sluzas, the delegates received a warm welcome from Irene Sankus, co-chairperson of the Illinois-Indiana District, hosts of the Mid-West Bowling tournament.

Report of activities of the various councils were given. Among those, a Big One was submitted by the Dayton Juniors and C-96. Others were C-19 of Pittsburgh, C-25 and Cleveland Seniors, C-79 of Southfield, C-102 and 139 of Detroit, and C-111 of Youngstown. Although Stella Pavis does not reside in Youngstown anymore, she continues to be a member of C-111, thus belongs to two councils, while active with C-36 of Chicago.

President Sluzas thanked all the councils for their reports, and urged other councils "on the downhill" to either seek co-operation of their pastor or attempt other means in staying active. Likewise, she announced and welcomed a new council in Dubois, Penn., to the District.

A lengthy discussion emerged on Honorary Membership. Three candidates were presented.

Many other discussions followed, mainly to encourage Junior councils, since at present there is only one in the district, in Dayton, which is very active. Also, the

Ritual System has been clarified, and Stanley Vaitkus encouraged members to strive to attain a few more points than the necessary 90 points for their Fourth Degrees. Frank Zager inquired about points for the clergy, which was also clarified.

Results of the election of officers for 1976-77 are as follows: President - Elinor Sluzas; 1st V.P. - Ruth Grasha; 2nd V.P. - Ada Sinkwitz; Recording Sec. - Veronica Omlor; Treas. - Mildred Chinik; Trustees - Magdalena Smailis, Antoinette Naujelis, Victor August; and Vytis correspondent - Sophie Zager. Chairmen of Committees as follows: Ritual - Stanley Vaitkus; Catholic Action - Mary Trainy; Cultural - Stella Pavis; Lith. Affairs - Ruth Grasha; Public Relations - Sophie Zager, and Sgt-at-Arms - Andy Rozger. The new Spiritual Director will be known later. Congratulations were in order to the new officers, and Father A. Jurgelaitis performed the installation.

At the closing of the meeting, Father Jurgelaitis asked Divine guidance in our activities, to pray for the sick members and those who went to their eternal rest. With this thought, Pres. Sluzas urged members to send a "get well" card to H.M. Joseph Sadauskas, that he have a full and speedy recovery.

As always, no meetings are entirely successful without the social functions that accompany them, and this combined Bowling Tournament and Dist. meeting was no exception. The largest contingent of members came from Dayton by a bus-load, and from the enthusiasm of the crowd, it almost resembled a Nat'l Convention! The Friday Night "early bird" get-together was buzzing with groups of friends catching up on all the

news and "social gossip". The Brunch on Saturday morning started everyone out for the day on the right track - except for some drizzle outside. But that did not put a damper on all the activities.

Saturday evening the K of L Building was transformed into the relaxed atmosphere of varied music styles. Under his guidance, John Andrulis of C-25 led both the professionals and amateurs to share their talents in some fancy polka forms. This mood was also tremendously enjoyed by those who chose to watch "on the sidelines".

Results of the bowling tournament were published in the July-August issue of the Vytis. Presentations were made during the Bowling Banquet following Mass at the beautiful Immaculate Conception Church. A Bicentennial theme prevailed in the decorations at the K of L Hall where the banquet was held. Special doll trophies were made by Irene Norushis of C-36. Among those gracing the head table were Alderman Kenneth Jaksy of the 15th Ward. A very bountiful buffet table treated everyone to lots of good food. During the event, Vic August of Cleveland announced that they are accepting the 1977 Mid-West Bowling Tournament.

Now that all returned home, safe and sound, with lot of fond memories, we'll all start looking forward to next year's combined Bowling Tournament and Mid-Central District Meeting in Cleveland.

# JUNIORS CORNER

## JUNIOR NEWS

### REMINDERS

Juniors dues are due in January. Paying your dues of \$5.00 per council each year will allow your members to be eligible for the Conventionship award. Dues should be sent to the Supreme Council Financial Secretary, Teresa Trainis. Sending your dues promptly will also insure that your Council copies of VYTIS will continue, uninterrupted.

After your annual elections, send the names of your newly-elected officers to Ann Marie Kassel, Supreme Council 1st Vice President along with enrollment cards of all new members. All Supreme Council officers names and addresses are listed on the inside cover of VYTIS.

## HOW IS YOUR LITHUANIAN?

Here are some words to help you get a head start on Winter (žiema). We can begin with the turkey (kalakutas) on Thanksgiving Day (Padėkos diena), and go on to the snow (sniegas).

Pūga	snowstorm
vėjas	wind
snaigės	snowflakes
varveklis	icicle
sniego gniūžtė	snowball
sniego senis	snowman
sniego plūgas	snowplow
rogės	sleigh
rogutės	sled
slidės	skis
kalnelis	hill
čiuožykla	ice-skating rink
pačiūžos	ice-skates
ledo ritulio lazdelė	hockey stick
rituliukas	puck
žuvavimas po ledu	ice-fishing

## SAY GRACE IN LITHUANIAN

### PRIEŠ VALGĮ - BEFORE MEALS

Palaimink, Viešpatie, mus ir šias dovanas, kurias valgysime iš tavo malonės. Per Kristų, mūsų Viešpatį.

Amen.

### PO VALGIO - AFTER MEALS

Ačiū tau, visagalis Dieve, už tas dovanas, kurias valgėme, ir už visas mums suteiktas gėrybes, kuris gyveni ir viešpatauji per amžius.

Amen.



## NEWS

News of Junior activity, photos, jokes, poems, announcements are always accepted. Help the other Junior Councils by sending news of special events, activities and elections.

See that your council is represented in the next issue. This Junior page is being printed for your pleasure and the only way that you will find it interesting is if someone contributes from your council. Junior News items should be sent to the Council News editor Josephine Zukas, or to the Editor in Chief, Loretta Stukas.

## JRS. C-100 - AMSTERDAM, N.Y.

Under the guiding hand of Regina Kot, the Amsterdam Jr. Council came to be. Linda Orante and Jerry Drenzek who were members of the regular council, transferred to the Jrs. They were joined by Jerry's brother, Alan; Lisa, Bill & Timothy Saikal; and Michael Mikolaitis. This makes up

the nucleus of the Jrs. We expect more to sign up in the near future.

Jr. Advisor Regina Kot was promised assistance from Father Baltch and Gene Gobis.

Each Junior was asked to prepare a Lithuanian sentence or phrase for the first regular meeting. They scored 100%!

Interesting facts on amber were discussed by Regina.

Jerry Drenzek and Linda Orante volunteered to be on the committee for the annual outing at Dr. Kindar's summer home at Lake Galway, N.Y.

The first meeting was concluded with cake and punch served by Regina.

Congratulations to Lisa Saikal who recently received the Marian Award. She is a member of St. Stanislaus' Girl Scout Troop 241.

The Saikal boys, Gerry Drenzek, and Michael Mikolaitis serve as altar boys at St. Casimir's. Linda Orante, Lisa Saikal, and Alan Drenzek are members of the church choir. If Jerry isn't serving

Mass, he, too, can be found in the choir.

Sudiev for now. You'll be hearing from us...

The Amsterdam Jrs.



C-100 Jrs. - First row (kneeling): Alan Drenzek & Timothy Saikal; Second row (standing): Lisa Saikal. Jerry Drenzek, Linda Orante, Bill Saikal & Jr. Advisor Regina Kot.

**K of L****Calendar**

## NOVEMBER

- 6 C-112, Chicago, ANNUAL DANCE, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 13 "RUGIAPIŪTĖ", featuring "Malūnas" Dance Ensemble of Baltimore. Sponsor - "Memories of Lithuania" Radio Hour, J. J. Stukas, Dir. Lithuanian Cultural Center, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 13 C-12, New York, BICENTENNIAL REUNION, Our Lady of Vilnius Hall, New York, 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, South 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, Athol, Mass.

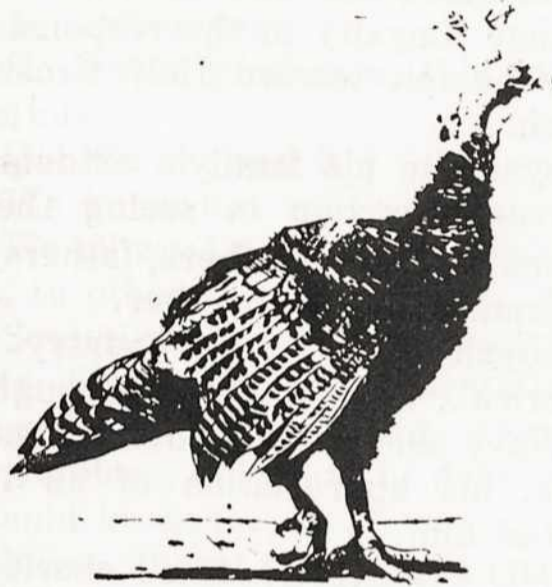
## AUGUST

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



# Vyčiai Veikia Council Activities

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



MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

## C-96 - DAYTON, OHIO

To our Juniors and their advisors, Jerry & Marianne Podoyak, special thanks for another beautiful May crowning honoring our Blessed Mother. Kathy Sinkwitz had the honor of placing the crown of roses, made by Marianne, on the statue of our Blessed Mother. Mothers of the Jrs were treated to breakfast "out" following the Mass. Many other Knights joined them. Thanks, also, to Elinor Sluzas, Sally Miller and Frances Mikalauskas for their part in putting this beautiful day together.

Mary Lucas and Sarah Petkus, Ways and Means Comm., whipped up a delicious chicken & noodle dinner on May 16. We missed seeing more of our members in attendance.

Joan Kavalauskas, Bowling League Chairman, held Awards Night on May 21. Judy Petrokas took care of the food arrangements. Congratulations to all the winners, and "better luck next year" to the losers. To Joan &

Diane Kavalauskas, our thanks for another successful season.

37 members were bussed to Chicago for the annual Mid-West Bowling Tournament & Mid-Cent. Dist. Meeting over the Memorial Day Weekend. With six teams entered, we hang our heads; our highest was at 6th place. Our women did well with Teri Scott, Judy Petrokas, and Jr. Knight Kathy Sinkwitz, showing up in the winner's circle.

Congratulations to Elinor Sluzas who remains Dist. Pres. for the third term. Veronica Omlor has taken on the Dist. Secy's chore, Ada Sinkwitz is Dist. V.P. (in charge of Jrs), and Stan Vaitkus maintains his position as Dist. Ritual Chm. To Chicago, Labai Ačiū for a very fine weekend.

To Elinor Sluzas and Judy Petrokas a round of applause! They were co-chairmen in arranging the display the Lithuanian community of Dayton had for the

3rd Annual World A'Fair at the Dayton Convention Center June 4-6. As in the past, the Lithuanians had one of the best displays. The Vejeliai Dancers again received a standing ovation for their very fine performance.

Ada Sinkwitz hosted the Jrs after their June 12 meeting with a rock painting contest and lunch. Eloise Berczelly and Fran & Michael Petkus hosted the Jrs to a swim party July 16 at Cowen Lake. In spite of the showers, we did get to cook out and get some swimming in.

Our thanks to Joe & Eugenia Gecas for co-chairing our first Family Picnic of the season June 13. It was a bring-your-own-basket, with the council furnishing liquid refreshments. John A. Berczelly was in charge of sports. There were a couple of good volleyball games held. A relaxing day!

In spite of the extremely hot weather on July 11, our annual



Parish Picnic was a success. Ray Steinbrunner was chairman. Good to see the Knights doing their part.

Many Knights participated in the annual Captive Nation's Day Program at the Shrine of the Three Crosses July 18. Ten countries joined together for this memorable day. Aldona Ryan was Genl. Chm. for the occasion for the parish Lith. Cultural Comm. Alice Petkus and Mary Lucas took charge of the Koffee Klatch.

Judy Petrokas was chairman for a new council project. Members worked at the 2nd Annual Air Fair at the Dayton International Airport July 24-25. We 'clocked in' and received minimum wages for the hours worked under the K of L name. It was quite an experience serving people, watching a fantastic air show, etc. The money received was put into the "council's pot".

Under the chairmanship of Dennis Noreikas, members participated in Dayton's first attempt at an international Olympiad. We won a gold, silver and bronze medal in archery, and bronze in volleyball and bowling. We also had a great time. This event took place the weekend of Aug. 13-15.

Happy years ahead for our newlyweds, Dennis Noreikas and Patty Dutcher. This special day took place Apr. 24 at Holy Cross Church. Denny has been active in the council for some time, especially in sports. Patty has volunteered many times to work with us and now she is on "the official books".



C-96 - Dennis & Patty Noreikas



C-96 - TERRY VAITKUS

Congratulations to Teresa E. Vaitkus upon her graduation from Vandalia-Butler H.S. Teri will continue her studies at Ohio Univ. majoring in Art.

Joe Mantz has very willingly accepted to complete Mike P. Petkus' position of Sgt-at-Arms. Eloise Berczelly volunteered to fill the vacated post on the Religious Comm., a very special and important post.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to Maxine Bakanauskas on the loss of her mother, Ellen Johnson. May her soul rest in peace.

FBP

#### MICHAEL PETKUS, RIP OF HAPPY MEMORY

Love... Loyalty... Charity...  
Friendship.

Just words? Not worth a nickle?  
Perhaps.

But they can buy Paradise... for  
one who lives them.

Such a one was Mike Petkus.

MIKE... AND LOVE. His love for God was reflected in all he did! Love he shared with his wife, Fran. Love that was deep, private, enduring. An Affair of the Heart, requiring only that they both knew it... experienced it.

Love for his sons... Michael and Tom. Love that could be stern

when giving advice and guidance... but stern from caring... from pride. Love that was "little-boy-like" when sharing games or teasing. A Quiet, unspoken love of togetherness when working or just walking, side by side in the garden.

Mike was a man who developed strong roots, nurtured by character and fed by pride... that bloomed into loyalty.

LOYALTY to his Lithuanian heritage. Loyalty in the responsibility he felt toward Holy Cross Parish.

Loyalty in his family... evident at every function in seeing the Petkus Family... mothers, fathers, children... always together.

Loyalty to his country... America... demonstrated through his Navy service, his Government work, his appreciation of all it offered him.

AND CHARITY. Mike's charity was as it should be... never boastful... never pretentious. Acknowledgement of any of his gifts or favors brought only an embarrassed shrug of the shoulders... almost a "don't thank me, isn't that what anyone would have done?" Mike was impatient with laziness... firm in his convictions and blessed with keen, instinctive feelings for what was right! When he felt it necessary, there was the then-unwanted... but often needed chastisement.



Michael Petkus

FRIENDSHIP to Mike was exercising Love, Loyalty and Charity together. And how do YOU describe the kind of friendship offered by Mike Petkus? It touched a great many lives.

Years of hard work, brought Mike the highest award a Knight of Lithuania can earn: THE FOURTH DEGREE, but... the key here is "earn". Mike earned it... thru involvement ...year ...after year ...after year.

He was a good man, this Mike Petkus.

His life showed it.

We know it.

We all want a satisfying life... to us, to others... to our God.

Sometimes it's difficult to walk this life... avoiding alientation, despair, irritation and cynical surrender... but it can be done... It should be done.

Mike knew the secret of a fulfilled life: Love... Loyalty... Charity... Friendship... to walk humbly with God!

Through this he was given paradise.

Elinor Sluzas

#### C-19 - PITTSBURGH, PA.

"Ilgiausių Metų" to Sister M. Francesca, C-19 member, who celebrated her Golden Jubilee this year.

Fifty years ago, when the Order of St. Francis had just been established in Pittsburgh, a young Lithuanian girl, "Leona", daughter of the late Frank and Petronella Valutkavicius of Detroit sought entrance there. She received the name of Sr. M. Francesca. In her early years, she attended Duquesne University School of Music and also continued at Duquesne University Graduate School earning a B.S. in Music and M.A. in Secondary Education. Later, she was encouraged to go into the Home Economics Field and spend some time at Seton Hill College, Greensburg preparing for her new work.

She taught in Philadelphia (St. George), Cleveland (St. George),



Sister M. Francesca,  
Golden Jubilarian

Esplen (St. Vincent) Elizabeth, N.J. (S.S. Peter and Paul) Holy Trinity, Hartford and Geibel High School, Connellsville. Besides teaching she was also Parish organist in S.S. Peter and Paul, Homestead; St. Joseph, DuBois; St. Joseph, Mahonoy City and S.S. Peter and Paul, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

For the past 25 years, Sister's assignment was at St. Francis Academy, a private school for girls, in Whitehall. There she heads the Home Economics Department and teaches Music and Dancing.

Her choral group has been active for over 35 years in the Annual Christmas Song Festival "United We Sing" at Carnegie Music Hall where they do outstanding renditions of Lithuanian Christmas Carols. For the past 18 years her dance group has been a part of the "Pittsburgh International Folk Festival" at the Civic Arena. All Lithuanian costumes have been made by Sister Francesca.

She was Community Music Supervisor and served as a Board Member for the "Food Research Center".

Sister rarely turns down an invitation to speak about her Heritage and has unselfishly demonstrated the making of "Party Foods and Hors d'oeuvres"

at various women's clubs in the Pittsburgh area.

She takes time out to show the audience how to make Lithuanian Christmas Tree Ornaments and exhibits the art of etching Lithuanian Easter Eggs. Her students enjoy her Home Ec classes which include "Chinese and Gourmet Cooking". Believe it or not - she has a diploma in Chinese Cooking. Lithuanian dishes are not left out.

On July 10th - at St. Francis Convent Motherhouse in Pittsburgh, Sister celebrated her Golden Jubilee in God's service. And on August 8, she was with her family in Detroit. A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated at Divine Providence Church, Southfield, Michigan. After Mass, a reception for friends and relatives took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Dillon - 13221 Beacon Hill Drive, Plymouth, Michigan.

Her sister, Sister M. Alverna, her brothers Bolis, Charles and Frank Walls and their families and their friends join in wishing their dear Sister many, many more happy and healthy years in God's service.

"Sesute"

#### C-79 - SOUTHFIELD, MICH.

As the leaves turn into their golds, reds and other beautiful fall colors, so come the council's color of activities. We are getting into bigger things with plans in the works for a Christmas Bazaar.

However, we were not hibernating during vacation months. Twelve o'clock noon on June 16, marked our first activity of the summer season with "Luncheon is Served". Cards and Bunco were enjoyed later. It was a "first" weekday adventure for us. The turnout was wonderful, and there were inquiries as to future such luncheons. Many thanks to chair-lady Bertha Janus who promoted the event, and her fine committee for its success.

Our Annual Family Day picnic was held Aug. 14. The day provided weather that could have been better if ordered to "our"

specification. Those who came to the Lola Valley Park enjoyed an "early-bird" breakfast, followed all day with continuous servings of good food. With pop and candy for the kids, and games and prizes for all ages, it was a busy, pleasant day for all. Many, many thanks to our Social Chairman, Joe Yakstys, and his great committee. It takes a special kind of dedication to make many trips getting and hauling stuff to the picnic grounds. Special thanks to Betty Petroski for her famous "kapusta"; Violet Panavas' baked beans, and Jean Yakstys for making "sloppy Joes", corn on the cob, wieners and other trimmings.

A horseshoe tournament was also held during the family picnic. John Eizonas emerged winner of the trophy. The ladies enjoyed a dart throwing contest. Champion for first place was Irene Petroski and second place, Bárbara Sackle. Congratulations, and "labai ačiū" to everyone for a job well done. To those who were dissuaded by the threatening morning weather, sorry for you; you gotta have faith.

Congratulations to the Bolis Walls family upon the Golden Jubilee of Sister Francesca, a member of Sisters of St. Francis of the Prov. of God. A Mass of Thanksgiving was offered Aug. 8 at Div. Providence Church, followed by a family gathering. Sr. Francesca taught in Lith. parish schools in Mich., Penn., Ohio, N.J. and Conn.

Another memorable occasion marked the retirement of Ona Walls on July 30, after a service of 47 yrs. at the Parke, Davis & Co. What a superb record! Our hope is for Ona to enjoy her retirement years.

The traveling bug struck some of our members. Sp. Advisor Fr. V. Kriscianevicius traveled to Philadelphia and participated at the International Eucharistic Congress. Winging down South for an early vacation were Marie & Geo. Kase for a family visit in Alabama. The John Belickas and brother, Tony Dainus, took off to their ole "stomping" grounds in Tawas,

Mich., for some sun, sand and fishing. Helen & Joe Usoris were visited by his mother from Phoenix, Ariz. It was her first visit since leaving Detroit, and visiting all her friends seemed to be the principal activity. Ann Calvin was also in from Arizona visiting our town for the summer. It was nice seeing all our former members.

A full house of guests were enjoyed by Alice (Savickas) Burt. The guests included Father Jos. Margis, a Marianist from Argentina; daughter-in-law Mary Savickas from San Paulo, Brazil; and Mr. & Mrs. Ed Crenshaw of N. Hollywood. Another memorable occasion for Alice was the birth of a new great, great, grandson Christopher. Congratulations.

Also, congratulations are due to great-grandpapa Anthony Mameniskas, and "Valio" to Stella & Walter Hotra on becoming grandparents for the first time. Baby Anthony's parents are Valentina & Ray Bulota in Maine, where they all flew down for a visit with the new grandson. The Frank Zagers welcomed their third grandchild, Danielle Lynn, daughter of Mark & Sandy.

Labor Day found Bertha Janus entertaining visitors from Cleveland, Ohio. Eliz. Paurazas & Ona Walls attended the Bicentennial Parade and described the Lith. float (despite a breakdown) as beautiful and well-viewed.

While others were traveling, there were some sick members. Get well wishes to Gerri Chaps after hospitalization for X-rays and tests; Barbara Sackle and Ann Zilvitis who underwent serious surgery, and Stella Hotra stricken with a heart ailment. A speedy recovery to Helen Mykolaitis. We hope Mary Vinciunas is improving from hip surgery following a fall. She now resides in Atlanta, Ga.

A lot could be said about Petronella Medonis, but due to limited space, it makes it impossible. It was Mother's Day, the weather just beautiful, and the entire Medonis family gathered to celebrate the occasion. In the midst of

dinner, she succumbed to her death. Just a short while before, Pat attended the Corporate Mass of Moterų Sąjunga, exchanging greetings and fond handshakes among her many friends. In her early years Pat and her late husband Peter were very active in church and organizational affairs. Regardless of her personal feelings, she was never heard to complain. Her eternal smile made our problems seem so small. May she now be rewarded with Eternal Peace.

Dayton, we loved... loved... loved You.

SOFFI



*The Late JOSEPH KAZLAUSKAS  
Former President of C-79  
Southfield, Mich.*

#### ANOTHER FORMER PRESIDENT IS GONE

Joseph Kazlauskas' first look at Brookline's "Irish Hills" several years ago with his wife Mary promoted a "love at first sight" attraction. It was like a "rebirth" when they spent weekends there, free from their jobs where both worked in Toledo, Ohio. They claimed it was a magnificent place, as it was near Dainava where Joe loved to spend much of his time. He would say, "I look out the window and there is the sun rising and shining on those beautiful hills".

On May 13, Joe's attachment with the "Hills" came to an end when he suffered a heart attack which claimed his life. After suffering his second coronary attack two years ago, he retired from Teledyne Research Center and



lived at his country "rendezvous" permanently.

He was a man who absolutely loved the outdoors, a fisherman, an expert swimmer and scuba diver, who taught swimming at Camp Dainava and also at the Y.M.C.A.

Even when he was not traipsing around in the woods, Joe was a gourmet cook, both indoors and as a campout expert. He would talk at length on methods of cooking, recipes and first-aid hints.

Among his other activities were the organization of a Junior C-79, in the early '60s when he arranged many group activities, including hiking, tobogganing, swimming, picnics and other events. For approximately five summers Joe was director of the K of L Youth Camp at Dainava in Manchester, Mich., bringing youngsters from Dayton, Pittsburgh and other Mid-Cent. Dist. campers.

As president of C-79, he fought for many rights. It was under his leadership that the council started proceedings for the relocation of Divine Providence Parish to a new site (now Southfield), due to construction of the freeway which necessitated demolition of Divine Providence on Schaefer Rd.

Joe loved his Lithuanian heritage. He loved the Lithuanian people, and captured many C-79 members and friends with his wit and humor. He appreciated good music, and often could easily respond with a "goodtime" note on his little organ, that led to much enjoyment at gatherings.

He was a good family man. Joe and Mary raised three children, Joseph Jr., Jean Fuhr, and Gerald of New Jersey. Also surviving are six grandchildren. He will be greatly missed. Visa kuopa liūdim Juožai Amžina Atilsi.

Sophie Zager



### NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

#### C-10 - ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

The parishioners of St. Francis Church and Our Lady Immaculate Church, Athol, celebrated the Bicentennial of our nation on June 27 at the Athol H.S. Athletic Field.

A concelebrated Mass with many area clergy began at 1 pm. The prelude to the Mass was presented by a brass quartet. The Communion Hymn was sung by Benedict Paulavičius of Boston. The sermon delivered by Rev. William Gallagher was excellent, the theme being "What the Immigrants Brought to Athol". He spoke of the Irish, French, Lithuanian and Italian people who settled in Athol, and also the plight of Lithuanians today in occupied Lithuania.

Following Mass, a musical program was presented by the Orange Community Band. An Irish dance group from Worcester performed, as did a French soloist, and again, Mr. Paulavičius rendered four songs. Due to some error in dates, Mrs. Ivaškiene's dance group could not perform as expected.

Father Justin Steponaitis did an excellent job in planning the entire program. It was his idea, and through his efforts, the Athol Catholics could celebrate the Bicentennial. Many K of L's were in attendance.

Fr. Steponaitis attended the Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia.

Vincukas

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

Ann & John Norinkevich and family spent the summer at Corbett's Pond, N.H. John & Ann are our 2nd & 3rd Vice Presidents. We hope they had a pleasant vacation. The traveling bug struck a few of our members. Virginia & Frank Markuns and Pat & Al Akule vacationed in Bermuda. Sonia Skricki traveled to Lithuania. Ann Voveris and daughter Mary Ann Doherty journeyed to Poland and Lithuania.

Elected delegates to the Dayton, Ohio, Natl. Convention were Anna & Joseph White, Ann Voveris, Ann Narkevich, Roberta Seymour, Alexander Chaplik, Larry Svelnis, and Anthony Young.

Congratulations to Aldona & Albert Kropas who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Sept. 29. Aldona is our Fin. Treas., doing a fine job by attaining 100% paid-up membership before the Natl. Conv. Happy anniversary!

Ann Ulevich deserves a great deal of credit for organizing buses to the Franciscan Monastery Picnic in Kennebunkport, Me., and also to the Immaculate Conception Convent Picnic in Putnam, Conn. We thank you.

A member of our Sr. council, Charles Karr, Administrator of the Maristhill Nursing Home in Waltham, Mass., was ordained a deacon at the Holy Cross Cathedral in Boston by Cardinal Mederios in May. Charles and his family reside in Waltham. May God give him strength and good health to care for our spiritual needs.

Heartly welcome to our new members, Alice & Robert Ruseckas and Povilas Zickus.

The members were glad to see Dr. Al Kiburis at our meeting after his recent illness. On our sick list are Edmond Galius who had a serious automobile accident. Al Akule's mother is ill. Albert Kropas' mother had an accident, falling down the stairs. Our prayers are for a speedy recovery to all.



Congratulations to Monica & Charles Plevock who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in October. We all wish them many more years of happiness and good health.

Onyte

### C-30 - WESTFIELD, MASS.

Lithuanians from Western Mass. congregated in Westfield on June 13 at the invitation of the K of L. The church bells tolled slowly and briefly at St. Casimir's Lithuanian Church on the hour for the entire day, to commemorate and remind the world of the mass deportations perpetrated by Soviets during their occupation of Lithuania after World War II.

Reflect for a moment upon the probabilities of our ancestral techniques in creating the unusual "margutis". The ingenuity of blending a variation of colors was incredible, when one considers their sources were limited. At our Easter Egg Contest, the rivalry was quite competitive, and crowning laurels were endowed to Joan Laframboise, our council president, for her beautiful creation.



C-30 - Westfield - Pres. Joan Laframboise with the 1st prize of decorated eggs.

The prize was one dozen gorgeous "margučiai", a gift by Mary Minkus. Second prize, a Lithuanian book, was won by our secretary, Nell Ruggles. We compliment all the other Lithuanian artisans for their unique entries, for each one was a work of art. The winning eggs were on display at Wisteriahurst Museum for the month, and from there they were placed in our Lithuanian mobile display.

From the beginning of time, exceptional service has and will continue to have its reward. At the NED Convention held at St. Casimir's Church, Worcester, on Apr. 25; Marcia & James Rogers, Benedict Coach, Bernard Minkus, Louise Renaud, and Francis Bernadicious were awarded 3rd Degrees for meritorious performance. Because of this, the K of L and the community has benefited from their actions. A "Salute" to these members.

Before setting down in the meadow, the helicopter hovered a minute or two, as if to announce the arrival of a V.I.P. With the vertical landing concluded, the blades ceased whirling and the door opened. Stepping down was the chief executive of the State of Conn., Gov. Ella Grasso and her associates, coming to participate in the Lithuanian Family Day Picnic

sponsored by the Lithuanian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception at Putnam, Conn. on July 25.

Shielded from the hot sun by the overhead canopy sat the distinguished guests? Gov. Grasso, Bishop Daniel P. Riley (a new diocesan bishop), Msgr. Juras (founder of the Alka Museum), the Mayor of Putnam, and various clergy, including Rev. Vincent Puidokas, pastor of St. Casimir's, Westfield, and our council's Spiritual Advisor. Arriving a little late was U.S. Senator Dodd of Conn., who hurriedly joined his colleagues and the other dignitaries.

"Viens, Du, Trys, Keturi" sounded off the dancers in unison as they spiritedly marched into the designated area to begin the dancing on the green. The girls, all in traditional dress were campers from Camp Neringa in West Brattleboro, Vt., who had come for the day to perform the Lithuanian dances. With precision they faultlessly maneuvered the intricate musical patterns to the accompaniment of an accordian.

After the program, strollers walked leisurely about the grounds pausing at various tables or booths, admiring some articles or making purchases. This was also the day to renew old friendships.



C-30 - Westfield - 3rd Degree recipients: James & Maria Rogers,

Louise Renaud, Bernard Minkus; Benedict Coach.

Thank heaven, Msgr. Juras had the foresight and courage to institute the Alka Museum, a treasure of Lithuanian culture. The archives, bulging with old and new books, wood carvings, paintings, periodicals and other memorabilia, is a show of benevolence and generosity of many people. Plans are presently being formulated to enlarge this repository.

At the entrance of the Galdikas Art Museum, working diligently, were the Holyoke, Mass. Lithuanians - Nell & Anthony Ruggles, Joan & Albert Laframboise, and Margaret & Clement Picard. Like dedicated patriots they made available their services and donated the proceeds from their wares to benefit the cause of preserving and reinforcing the continuity of our Lithuanian heritage.

A large variety of tempting Lithuanian foods were served, - soured milk and potato, scrumptious homemade bread and savory sausages, just to mention a few. For the thirsty, there was "midus", the nectar of the gods; and if mythology be true that one who sips this ambrosia becomes immortal, then many of us can look forward to a long, long life!

Margaret Picard

#### C-135 - ANSONIA, CONN.

Our deepest thanks to Frances Barsevich, who as a member of our Parish Council, volunteered to set up a Lithuanian booth at the Annual Parish Picnic & Fair held June 5-6. She was assisted by daughter Janice, and items of interest to our Lithuanian people were displayed. Frances ordered a Lithuanian wedding cake (raguolis), exhibited it for a day and a half, and then cut and served it to all who wished to taste it. A doll dressed in Lithuanian costume was given out to a lucky winner. On sale were Lithuanian scarves, juostos, cook books, "Mano Žodynas", flag decals for cars, and sew-on decals for jackets. There were several wayside crosses exhibited and tablecloths, some over 40 years old.



*C-135 - Frances Barsevich and daughter Janice at Lith. Cultural Exhibit during St. Anthony's Parish Fair, Ansonia, Conn. (Wedding cake at right).*



*C-135 - Lith. cultural items displayed during St. Anthony's Parish Fair.*



*C-135 - Frances Barsevich & Donna Svelnys at Lith. Cultural Exhibit during Ansonia's Bicentennial Heritage Day.*

The council was in charge of two booths, - a grocery booth, and another featuring "used but not abused" items.

Frances Barsevich, assisted by member Donna Svelnys, participated in Ansonia's Bicentennial Heritage Day at Nolan Field on June 12. Both were dressed in native costumes for the day. All items mentioned above were exhibited and sold. In addition, there was a larger Cultural Exhibit which featured amber in all forms (including 40 year old amber rosary beads) and carved wooden pieces.

On this Heritage Day, the parish had a food booth where kugelis, kielbasi, and other scrumptious delicacies were sold.

Our council celebrated its 26th Anniversary in May by holding an old-fashioned dance. Everyone had a good time.

On Sept. 5, several members of our council attended the 5th International Dance Festival in Chicago and on Sept. 26, C-135 hosted the N.E. Dist. Convention.

#### C-103 - PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Back to school for Paul Stoskus at Yale, and Regina Krecioch at Rhode Island Jr. College. Ann Krecioch graduated from Cranston East H.S. and is enrolled at R.I. Jr. College.

John & Irene Walaska celebrated their silver wedding anniversary this summer. John is our council's Vice Pres., and Irene, Recording Secy.

The NED-sponsored spiritual retreat at Kennebunkport was attended by Eugene & Ruth Krecioch, Edward & Rita Wilkens, John & Irene Walaska, and John & Bertha Stoskus. Father Leonard Andriekus, OFM, was the retreat master.

National Convention participants were Father Jurgelaitis, Bertha Stoskus, and Ruta, Regina, Ann, Marcy & Kathy Krecioch. Dayton's hospitality will long be remembered.

Father Martinkus attended the Eucharistic Congress, visited his

niece in Seattle, visited his ailing sister in Chicago, and attended the Lithuanian Dance Festival in Chicago.

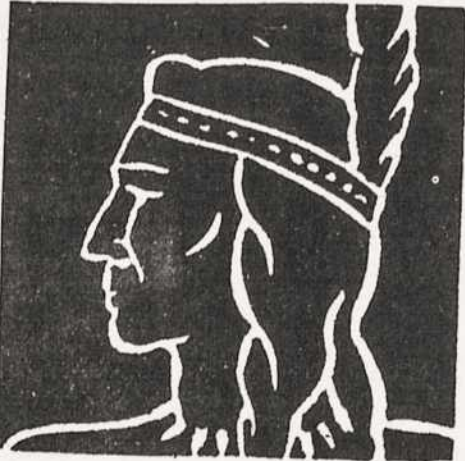
Dallas, Tex. was visited by Dr. & Mrs. John Cunningham. Helen Seraichekas spent some leisure time in Bar Harbor, Me. John & Irene Walaska spent a week in California. Ruth & Lillian Savage vacationed on Cape Cod. Nantucket was the scene of Bette Ciuryla's vacation. Stanley Vaicaitis and his wife visited Lithuania for the second time. Grace Vaitkunas visited her son & daughter-in-law in Columbia, S.C.

Father Ed Budrecki spent part of the summer hospitalized, and the other part recuperating at his brother's home in New Jersey.

Mildred Seraichekas' trip to Scotland was cancelled, but she spent some time in Detroit, Mich. instead. Irene Landanski visited southern Illinois this summer.

Supreme Council members enjoyed a visit at the Bristol home of Victor & Beatrice Mathieu after their June meeting in Providence. And so the summer of "76" was spent by members of C-103.

JAS



### MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

#### C-140 - SYRACUSE, N.Y.

Despite a very wet spring and summer in which Syracuse had a record rainfall for each month from April thru August, C-140 is not all wet. We're just a little drippy.

Our May meeting was held at the home of Vic & Helen Johnson in Cazenovia. It was the last meeting of the spring season. Attendance was good and final plans were made for the two summer

picnics and the large July 3 parade. After the meeting Vic and Helen proved themselves to be excellent hosts.

The July 3 Bicentennial Parade was the largest ever held in Syracuse. The K of L was represented indirectly through Frank Petrauskas who was the chairman of the Captive Nations float. His daughters, Joan and Kathy, carried the flags of Latvia and Lithuania. The float was well received by the many thousands of

onlookers. Many of the ethnics were so happy to see their flag in the parade that they cheered loudly and some even wept.

Our July picnic, chaired by John Johnson, had fair attendance. Rain threatened all day and by seven in the evening it came down. Most had their fill by then.

I leave you with this thought: Happiness consists in being perfectly satisfied with what we have got and what we haven't got.

Pusbrolis



C-140 - Captive Nations Float during parade in downtown Syracuse.



C-140 - Captive Nations Float before Bicentennial Parade. Front center stands Frank Petrauskas.

## C-67 - BAYONNE, N.J.

Surprise! We're newly organized, and C-67 is back!

Our first meeting was held May 27 at the Rusgi residence. To date we have 12 new members, bringing the total to 17. The meeting was opened with a prayer, and Pres. Rita Ochs conducted the business session. Since this was our first meeting after a long recess, minutes were not read. Other officers are Vice-Pres. Michael Grigaliunas, Treas. Martin Rusgi, Secy. Helen Grigaliunas, and Spiritual Advisor Rev. Albert Matulis. Plans were being discussed for our council's 50th year celebration. The meeting was closed with a prayer, followed by a short social.

Planned by chairwoman Helen Grigaliunas, a bus trip to Watchung Inn and Great Adventure was held. Proceeds went toward our council's pledge to St. Michael's Building Fund.

After our second meeting held June 1 at the Misk residence, our council found themselves on July 31 in Scotch Plains at the Ochs residence. It was a day of fun, relaxation, socializing, swimming, and good food for all. Friendships were renewed, and it was a day well spent. Many thanks to the Ochs family.

We would like to thank members of the Philadelphia council for be-

ing such fine hosts at the Eucharistic Congress held Aug. 7. It was a beautiful day, and everyone had a good time.

Until the next issue, stay well!  
E.G.



## ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

### ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

The Midwest Bowling Tournament was held the weekend of May 28-30 in Chicago. Co-Chairmen were Vince Samaska and Irene Sankus. Registrations were handled by Gerry Mack, Ann Marie Kassel, Monica Kasper and Helen Skudra; Sat. Brunch, Dolores Wainauskis; Dance, Christine Stachyra; Bowling, Frank & Lorraine Svelnis, Dolores Wainauskis and Al Skudra; Sun. Brunch, Adeline Jasaitis.

Friday nite's welcoming party was a huge success due to the culinary efforts of Vince Samaska and bartenders supreme, John Evans and Frank Svelnis. The hospitality rooms at the Sheraton-Midway Motel and corridors were

jammed with K of L's greeting one another.

The food at the Sat. brunch was excellent and plentiful. Afterwards, all made their way to the Marzano Bowling Lanes. There were 22 teams who gave it their all in hopes of winning a trophy.

Some of the bowlers went to Gift International, Parama and other Lithuanian stores to pick up gifts and goodies.

Many of the hungry bowlers went to Rich Shlaustas' Diamond Head and Jerry Sharko's West, both K of L members, where they enjoyed delicious dinners.

The K of L Bldg. was the site of the Kegler's Ball where they danced to the melodic music of Wally Tenclingers' band. Lucky donation winners were Francis Samaska C-36, Carol Tenclinger C-36, and Stella Zoog C-82. Our thanks to all who made donations of prizes, which was so successful.

Mass was held at Immaculate Conception Church celebrated by Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, S.C. Spiritual Director from Providence, R.I. Elinor Sluzas and Vince Samaska presented the Communion gifts.

After Mass all traveled back to the K of L Bldg. for the banquet. At the head table were Rev. P. Juknevicus, Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, Co-Chairmen Irene Sankus and Vince Samaska, M.C. Wally Tenclinger, M.C. Dist. Pres. Elinor



*IID Banquet M.C. Wally Tenclinger, Co-chairman Vince Samaska, and Mid-Cent. Dist. Pres. Elinor Sluzas.*



*IID July 4th Picnic Dance Contest Judges - Rick Janek, Adele Zunas and former Nat'l Pres. Leon Pauksta*

Sluzas, and Ken Jakys, Alderman 15th Ward and C-112 member.

For bowling winners please see Aug.-Sept. Vytis. We were so happy to see so many attend the tournament and look forward to attending the 1977 tournament in Cleveland.

A Testimonial Banquet was given Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas on his 35th Anniversary in God's service. The District was well represented.

The 16th Annual Amber Ball was held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. Our congratulations to debs Rosemarie Klatt and Carol Zapolis both of C-36.

Balzekas Museum celebrated their 10th Anniversary with a Cocktail Reception at which Frank Zapolis C-36 served as Chairman. Several K of L's attended.

The Annual 4th of July Picnic was held at the 'K of L Bldg. Co-Chairmen were Al Brazis and Harry Petraitis; Treas. Irene Sankus; Prize Booth, Gerry Mack; Bake Sale, Emily Petraitis and Emilija Pakalniskis; Kitchen, Kazimiera Petrulis; Candy Game, Eleanor Laurin; Chief cashier, Aldona Brazis; Prizes, Estelle Rogers. The committee is thankful to the many, many people who assisted them. The day was beautiful and the people came and came. Larry Svelnis, So. Boston C-17 Srs., heard how great the picnic is, and had to come see for himself. Azuolas Stelmokas' band provided the delightful dance music.

Membership Drive Contest 1st place winner was Sabina Klatt, C-36 Pres.; 2nd Pl., Rev. Ignas Urbonas, C-82 Gary; 3rd, Anthony Vallunas, C-36. Congratulations.

Širdingai ačiū to all our friends who came to help make this a most successful day.

Members from IID with K of L flags attended Lith. Day in Kenosha, Wis. at the special invitation of the Events Chairman. Sabina Klatt was busy talking to individuals hoping to organize a council in Wisconsin.

Congratulations to IID delegates

who worked on the presidium at the Natl. Conv. Our best wishes to Ann Marie Kassel, C-36, the new S.C. 1st Vice-Pres. Rosemarie Klatt, C-36, was the recipient of the \$1,000. Scholarship. Valio!

K of L winners at the Lith. Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing were Al Brazis and Dolores Rupp.

Our sincerest condolences to the families of Irene Balzekas, C-36; K of L Friend Charles Stephens; and Angela Simutis, wife of Honorary Member Leonardas and mother of Len.

Hoosier

#### C-112 - CHICAGO, ILL.

Priesthood anniversary congratulations to Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, Spiritual Advisor of the Ill.-Ind. Dist., on his 35th Anniversary; to Canon Vaclovas Zakarauskas, our Council's Spiritual Advisor, on his 40th Anniversary; and to Rev. Anthony Puchinski, member of our council, on his 5th Anniversary.

The Lithuanian Alliance of America held their 59th Convention celebrating their 90th Anniversary at the Pick-Congress Hotel in Chicago. Hosts were the Mens Lodge #228 and many 112'ers were active on the committees, namely: Stanley & Stella Molis, John G. Evans, Al & Aldona Brazis, Pete & Adeline Jasaitis and Christine Austin. K of L's attending the Banquet especially enjoyed meeting out-of-town members such as Algirdas Budreckis of New Jersey and Boston.

A special note of congratulations to council member Charlotte (Kazytė) Brazdzionis on her new endeavor - a radio program entitled "Lietuvos Aidas".

The Mid-West Bowling Tournament, hosted by the IID, was most successful and very well attended by members of the Mid-Central Dist. Among the hard-working committee were council members Irene Sankus (Co-Chairman), Ed Krivickas, Gerry Mack, Monica Kasper, Lorraine & Frank Svelnis, Dolores Wainauskis, Adeline &

Pete Jasaitis, John Evans, Alex Pakalniskis.

All 112'ers who worked on the most successful IID July 4th Picnic are to be complimented on a job well-done. Co-Chairmen were Al Brazis and Harry Petraitis.

Our council golfers did well during the summer season with Wally (Red) Cibulskis and Rich Janik scoring in the prizes at Rich Shlaustas' Diamondhead Tournament, and Al Brazis and Dolores Rupp winning the K of L trophies at the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce's Tournament.

Convention Notes: Representing C-112 at the 63rd Natl. Conv. held in Dayton, Ohio, were Al, Julie & Maria Zakarka, Monica Kasper, Ed Krivickas, Irene Sankus, Gediminas Janula, Sophie Nieminski, Irene Rakaitis, with H.M. Eleanore Laurin representing the IID. Barbara Klevinsky, her son, and Irene Ditchman attended as guests. Everyone truly enjoyed a great Convention, and the entire membership of Dayton C-96 are to be complimented on a great job. A special note of congratulations to Rosemary Klatt of C-36 who received the 1976 Scholarship Award. She is truly a great representative of the K of L in Chicago and we are all very proud of her!

Belated best wishes to former National, District, and Council President Leon Pauksta on his recent marriage to Anne Bauer. We wish them many years of happiness.

As usual, Council officers and chairmen met during the summer months at regular Board Meetings to make plans for the current K of L year. The gracious hosts were Al & Julie Zakarka for the June meeting; Al & Ruth Dagens, July meeting; Angie & Bob Svehla, August meeting.

A big welcome to Marquette Park goes to the Midland Savings & Loan Assoc. which recently opened a branch office on 69th and Washtenaw (just across from Nativity B.V.M. Church). Assoc. Pres. Frank Zogas and his Board of Directors are to be congratulated

on their far-sightedness. Council member Johnny Evans is a member of that Board.

Date to Remember: November 6th - Annual Autumn Ball, K of L Bldg., Chicago.

iks

### C-36 - CHICAGO, ILL.

After the Illinois-Indiana District meeting with the announcement of our participation in the Captive Nations Parade again this year, plans for action took place on the tracks for success almost spontaneously. Telephone calls were made, each setting up new action. Some plans were derailed, while still other plans for action were side-tracked. Finally, a decorating party was planned for the Thursday before the "big day". With the help of the dancers, Tony Giedraitis, Sylvia Grazis, Rosemarie Klatt, Madonna Maikitas, Mary Ellen Pocius, Johnny Radivich, Mary Ann and Steve Shebelski, (guest from Germany), Regina and Barb and the assistance of Mr. John Yerkes (C-112), the float was prepared for the Parade. Just as scheduled, Saturday morning, July 17 at 12 noon, The Captive Nations Parade commenced, with the Lithuanian Ethnic Group receiving the honor of first position in the parade. Of those participating, some marched while others rode on the float or convertible. The flags were carried by Jerome Jankus, Napoleon Sapkus, Louis Rogers (C-112) and Simas Jukubaitis. Leading the parade were nine girls, each carrying a letter to spell Lithuania. Following the girls was the convertible driven by John Radivich. Seated on the convertible were C-36 members K. Petru-liene, S. Klatt and T. Stroga. The float pulled by the convertible carried Council 36 members S. Grazis, R. Klatt, M. Pocius, G. Rayman, M. and S. Shebelski. As a special feature in this year's parade, Wally Tenclinger provided music as he rode on the float. An estimated crowd of 13,000, accord-

ing to Chicago Sun Times, watched as we paraded down State Street in protest to political oppression in Communist controlled countries. A special thanks to Al Brazis (President - IID) for the use of his convertible, and to Mr. Yerkes for all the help we received from him in preparing his float.

On July 18th, the Chicago Seniors and Council 36 held a Bicentennial Mass at Immaculate Conception Church at 44th and

California. It was a beautiful event. The American, Lithuanian, Vyčiu and Bicentennial Flags were carried into the Church by Jerome Jankus, Napoleon Sapkus, Antanas Brokelevicius and Vincent Samoska. Following were the "Minute Men", Joe Schifferdecker, Danny Lasen, Rosemarie Klatt, Maria Klatt, Glenn and David Schnell, "Betsy Ross" was Bernadette Klatt. Mrs. K. Petru-liene, Tekla Stroga, Sabina Klatt wear-



*C-36, Chicago, in the Captive Nations Parade.*



*C-36, Chicago, Bicentennial Celebration.*

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

DRAUGAS  
4545 W. 63RD ST  
CHICAGO ILL 60629

Return Requested  
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ing their Lithuanian costumes carried the Colonial Flag. Father Kerelis said the Mass and gave the sermon. Father P. Juknevicus (our Spiritual Advisor) helped with the distributing of Holy Communion. The offerings - The chalice, water and wine were presented by Kazimiera Petru-liene, Vincent Samoska and Sabina Klatt. After Mass, everyone was invited to a picnic at the K of L Building. Many of our members helped to make this a success. From the money that was collected... each council donated \$100.00 to the building fund and \$25.00 to Scholarship fund. Mrs. Gabalis played the piano and everyone enjoyed the music, joined in with the singing. Later Anthony Samoska provided Concertina music. Thanks to all...

August 22nd, a coffee garden party was given in honor of Mr. Oksas (C-112) Vice-President of Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association of Chicago - who is running for Cook County Re-

order, by Hank and Sabina Klatt. Mr. Regis started the affair with the presentation of Mr. Oksas's background. Sabina introduced Mr. Oksas. His speech was informative, educational and impressive. The questions that were brought up prior to his arrival were answered. Everyone talked with Mr. Oksas and had coffee and cake and etc... A pleasant time was had and it was very successful.

Best Wishes and success to the graduates in our council. On June 19th, the proud fathers - Frank Zapolis and Henry G. Klatt, Jr. presented their daughters, Carol Zapolis and Rosemarie Klatt at the Amber Ball.

The membership drive awards were given out July 4th at the Illinois-Indiana Picnic by our IID President Al Brazis. Receiving the awards were Sabina Klatt (C-36) 1st prize of \$50.00 donated by Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association - 2212 W. Cermak, Chicago. The 2nd prize - \$25.00 donated by Mr. David Gaidas -

Gaidas-Daimid Funeral Directors, 4330 S. California, Chicago was sent to Rev. Urbonas, Gary, Indiana. Third prize was 2 Dinner Tickets to Diamondhead Restaurant donated by Richard Shlaustas and the lucky winner was Tony Wallunas (C-36). Members are needed... no experience necessary. Keep signing up the members... everyone pitch in... your help is needed always.

Congratulations to all the new members of Council 36... Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Bardis, who owns Won Kow Restaurant, 420 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, Illinois, Mr. & Mrs. P. Bieliunas, Undertaker - 4348 S. California, Chicago, Ill., Mr. Stanley Gimbut, Mr. & Mrs. R. Harding, Jerilyn and Mike, Mr. & Mrs. F. Kilkus, Alexandra Kivenas, Juozas Laurinaitis, Sr., Alfred J. Leyk, Madonna Mikaitis, Vincas Norkaitis, Lorraine A. Puleikis, Susan Rodgers, Stasys Rupeika, Mary Strupsa, Tekla Stroga...

**A VERY  
HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING**  
...  
**SUPREME COUNCIL  
&  
VYTIS STAFF**

