

the KNIGHT **WYTTIS**

•1977•

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF  
**THE KNIGHTS  
OF LITHUANIA**

VOL. 63, No. 8

October / Spalis



*His Excellency, Bishop Angell presents Fourth Degree to members during National Convention Closing Mass. Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, National Spiritual Adviser, and Bertha Janus, National Ritual Chairman, assist.*





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**OCTOBER / SPALIS 1977**

**the KNIGHT**  
**VYTIS**

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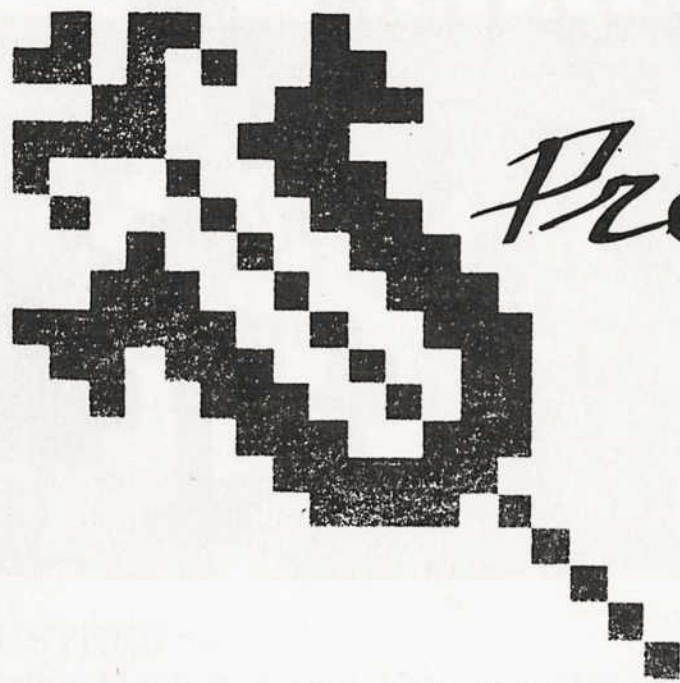
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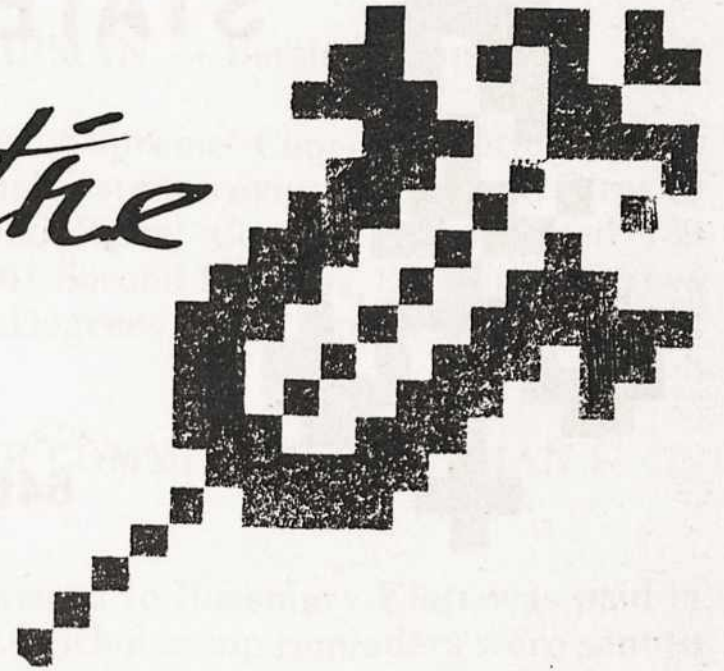
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*Presenting the*



**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**

**64<sup>TH</sup>**

**NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**Host Council 103**

**Providence, Rhode Island**

**Marriott Inn**

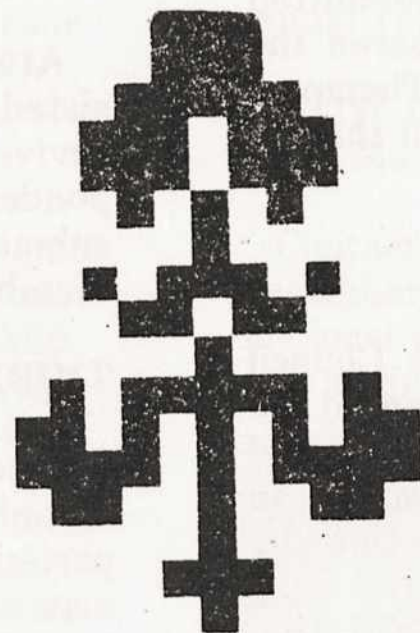
**Saint Casimir's Church**

**CONVENTION MOTTO:**

Our Lithuania awaits  
your sacrifice, your struggles  
"for human rights."

**SEIMO OBALSIS:**

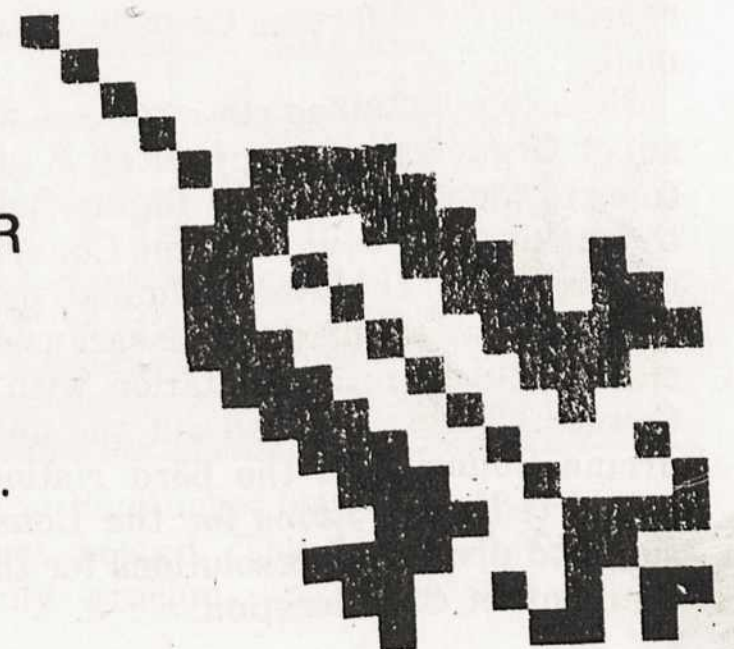
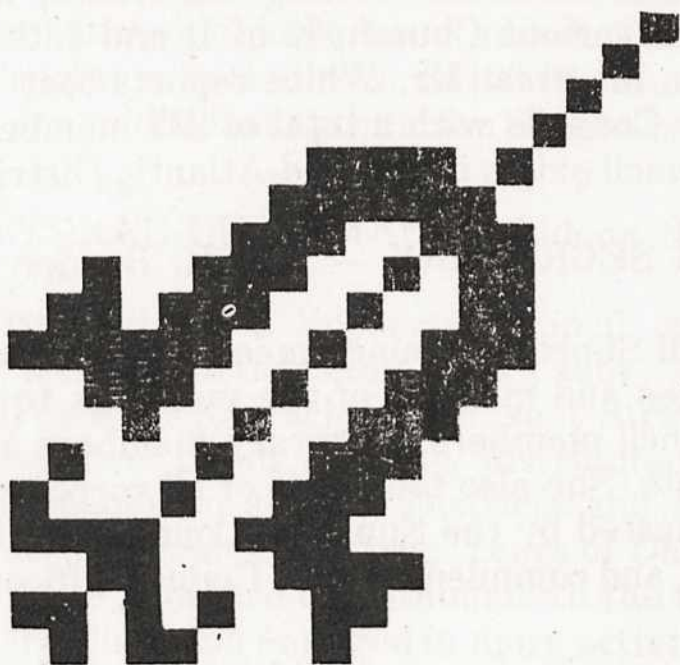
Mūsų Lietuva laukia  
Jūsų aukų, Jūsų kovos  
"dėl žmogaus teisių."



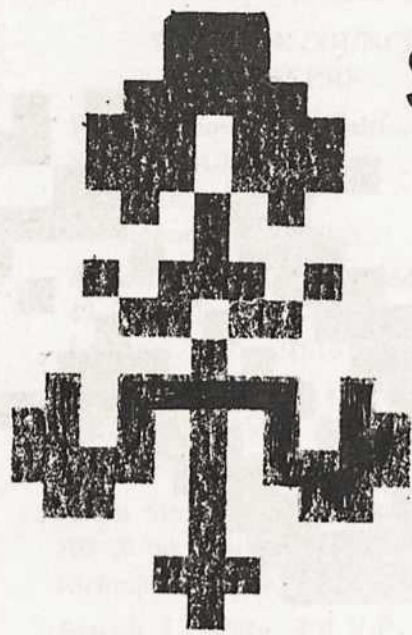
**PRIMINIMAS — REMINDER**

"BE AUKŲ IR BE KOVOS  
LAISVA NEBUVO LIETUVA.  
NEBUVO IR NEBUS."

—Maironis



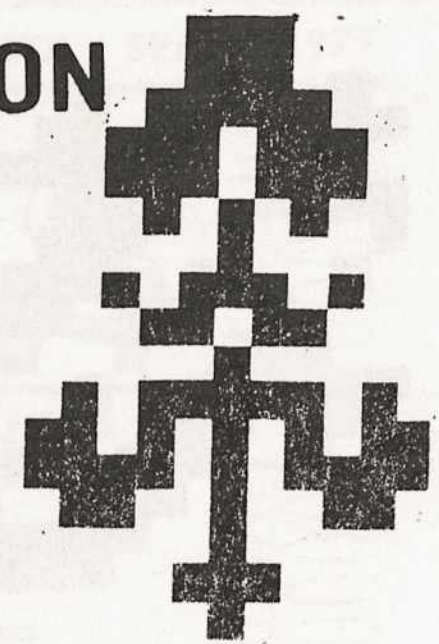




# STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION REPORT

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

64th NATIONAL CONVENTION



The Knights of Lithuania Organization is alive, healthy and growing!!! A great amount of excellent work has been contributed by your Supreme Council.

**SPIRITUAL ADVISOR —**  
Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P.

Our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, wrote a series of religious articles for "Vytis" publication, served as Chairman of the Constitutional Revision Committee, coordinator of the 64th National Convention Committee (C-103), visited and participated in various District and Local Council events, composed a K of L "Wake Ritual", compiled guidelines on National Convention planning, submitted proposals for a Priest Member ritual, prepared the Convention Liturgical Booklet, arranged Themes I and III for the Convention and attended all the Supreme Council meetings.

**PRESIDENT —** Anthony M. Miner

Arranged agendas for all four Supreme Council meetings and chaired three of them. Represented the Supreme Council in person whenever possible and arranged for other Supreme Council members to represent the Supreme Council, or sent greetings by mail.

He also maintained close contact with other Lithuanian Organizations, appointed K of L representatives to the Baltic Human Rights Rally, arranged for the making of a new Supreme Council flag, served as coordinator of the K of L Manual, presented 2 workshops on "Lithuanian in Massachusetts", maintained close contact and consultation with other Supreme Council Officers, carried out the decrees of the Supreme Council and the 63rd National Convention, submitted suggestions for the Constitutional Revision and presented resolutions for the 64th National Convention consideration.

**FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT —** Ann Marie Kassel

Attended all Supreme Council meetings, submitted monthly articles to "Vytis", communicated with members, distributed materials, selected "National Conventionship" recipients, served as K of L representative to ALTAS convention and Baltic Human Rights Rally. Mrs. Kassel also organized Junior Council 36-112 and served as their Counselor. She also worked at establishing Junior Councils in other areas. We now have 10 Junior Councils.

**SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT —** Philip Skabeikis

Attended three Supreme Council meetings, assisted new K of L Councils, continued his attempts to revive, found new councils, carried on much correspondence, related to membership and K of L activity, submitted several articles to "Vytis", and conducted Membership Drive.

**THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT —** Joseph J. White

Attended four Supreme Council meetings, contacted all Senior Councils offering assistance, and participated in various Church, K of L and Lithuanian events in his area. Mr. White reports that we have 6 Senior Councils with a total of 231 members. No Senior Council exists in the Mid-Atlantic District.

**RECORDING SECRETARY —** Ann H. Bender

Attended all Supreme Council meetings. She sent meeting notices and minutes of the meetings to all Supreme Council members, Honorary members and Past Presidents. She also took care of all correspondence as requested by the Supreme Council and for the President, and compiled a list of Council Officers.





#### TRUSTEES —

Charles Machutas and Vytautas Radzivanas

Charles Machutas attended three meetings. Vytautas attended two meetings. Both examined the books in Washington and found them to be in order. They also compiled an inventory list of K of L property. They are searching for a site for the 65th National Convention.

#### LEGAL ADVISOR — Att'y Anthony J. Young

Attended three Supreme Council meetings, obtained a release from the Internal Revenue Service waiving a penalty for the late filing of Form 990, and is currently attempting to gain a Tax Exempt status for the K of L which the Post Office will accept and then grant a Bulk Mailing Permit. Mr. Young also encloses a check in the amount of \$700.00 to sponsor the reprinting of the "Our Lady of Siluva" Booklet.

#### "VYTIS" EDITOR — Loretta Stukas

Attended three Supreme Council meetings, and served as guest speaker and showed slides of Lithuania at Kearney, Washington, Newark and Mid-Atlantic District meetings. Ten issues of "Vytis" have been published and the old schedule of June-July, August-September, and October issues has been resumed. Two new staff members Philip and Marian Skabeikis have been added. The Christmas Ad Campaign netted over \$1100.00. There is a dire need for additional Lithuanian language articles.

#### CULTURAL CHAIRMAN — Aldona Ryan

Attended three Supreme Council meetings and sent frequent articles to "Vytis", sent "Amber Web" to all councils for each month, sent Straw Ornament Instructions to all councils, distributed book allotment money to all four Districts and sold and distributed 40 copies of "Forty Years of Darkness". She also gave a lecture on Lithuania to the Sidney, Ohio Rotary Club, and engaged in more activities than can be mentioned here. Please read her report in detail.

#### RITUAL CHAIRMAN — Bertha Janus

Attended two Supreme Council meetings, sent resumes of Ritual system, revised forms and Rites to all Councils. The Ritual Committee conferred 139 First Degrees, 61 Second Degrees, 20 Third Degrees and 15 Fourth Degrees to be conferred during this Convention.

#### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN — Walter Svekla

Scholarship award to Rosemary Klatt was paid in two installments. Scholarship reminders were sent to all Councils, outlining the requirements. Many applications have been received.

#### HONORARY MEMBERSHIP — Eleanore Laurin

Honorary membership to be bestowed upon Larry Janonis at this Convention. A Resolution naming several candidates will be presented to this Convention. Honorary Membership procedures and guidelines have been submitted for inclusion in the revised Manual and have been printed in the "Vytis".

#### SPECIAL TRUSTEE REPORT — Eleanore Laurin

In order to maintain our Corporate and Not for Profit Corporate status, Eleanore Laurin as a resident of Illinois and a special Trustee filed an annual report with the State of Illinois.

#### YOUTH COORDINATOR — Mary Margaret Panavas

Contacted World Lithuanian Youth Association in December but received no response. She attended one local meeting in Detroit. Wrote to the Association again on August 1st.



On a busy street in Pawtucket leading in to Providence this sign was posted. The Union Wadding Company was truly gracious in expressing this welcome.

(Foto by A.A.J.)



## LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE COMMITTEE — Joseph Boley

A meeting was held in Chicago last Fall, but nothing came of it. There seems to be a lack of volunteers. This lack of interest apparently reflects the attitude of the K of L. In the future, perhaps interest in the Lithuanian language will awaken, and Lithuanian articles will appear more often in the "Vytis".

## ARCHIVES AND MICROFILMING COMMITTEE — Longinas Svelnis

Attended three Supreme Council meetings, participated in the revision of the constitution, represented the K of L at the "Black Days of June" services at St. Peter's church, attended the N.E.D. conventions and stressed the importance of archives material. He has obtained some material for the archives and will display copies of it during this convention. He urges the microfilming of council histories and requests all types of council records. He still needs 1922 and 1923 "Vytis" issues. He concludes with the false statement that the President is not interested in the Archives Committee and does not recognize its Chairman. In reality, however, all Supreme Council members know that his reports were solicited, presented at Supreme Council meetings and duly recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

## ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

Reports quarterly business meetings preceded by Board of Directors' meetings, a membership drive, more efficient operation of the K of L Building, 2 very active Junior councils, a flourishing K of L Choir, active public relations with a District bulletin. The activities included "Memories of Lithuania" Dinner Dance, St. Casimir's and K of L Day observances, Memorial Mass, Golf outing and participation in Captive Nations' Day parade, special Lithuanian language committee meeting, Nativity BVM Parish anniversary, and Mid-West Bowling Tournament. It has a total of 7 councils, 425 members.



## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Reports 18 councils and 4 Junior Councils. The total membership is 777. It held 3 District conventions and 6 Executive Board meetings, publishes a bulletin and is active in Lithuanian Affairs and Public Relations. It has sponsored a Testimonial Dinner Dance honoring Loretta Stukas, a bus trip to Washington, D.C. to visit the Lithuanian Legation, the Franciscan Monastery and the Our Lady of Siluva Chapel for Mass. Two councils sponsored buses to the Lithuanian Day in Lakewood Park, Pa. The President recommends concentrated efforts to organize additional councils in Penn.

## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

Reports 2 conventions, an annual TV Mass, an annual Cultural Festival, St. Casimir's Day observance, a Holy Hour, a Family picnic and a Spiritual Retreat.

In summary, we have had another active and successful year. Please pay particular attention to the recommendations made by the Officers and Committee Chairmen. This report is but a summary. Please read the individual reports carefully for all the details of the work performed.

Respectfully submitted

Anthony M. Miner  
President

Ed. Note: This report was prepared by Mr. Miner from reports received before the Convention. Late reports were omitted from mention.



# SPIRITUAL ADVISOR'S REPORT

1976 — 1977

Your Spiritual Advisor has been engaged in the following activities during the year 1976-77:

— attendance at all Supreme Council meetings;

— publication of the following articles in VYTIS:

“Once a Catholic... a Lithuanian... a K of L”

“Easter is...”

“Guardian of Truth - the Catholic Church”

...a continuation of “Flash, flash”

Thanksgiving Day message

“Vakar Kūčios, šiandien Kalėdos”

“Religion, the principal ingredient”

“He arose, as He foretold”

“Will prayer really help?”

“Convention Chit-chat Lietuviškai”

— planning and supervision of the Constitutional Revisions process;

— participation as coordinator in preparations of 64th Convention with host Council 103;

— visitation of local councils and participation in District and Local Council sponsored events:

September - C-140 Syracuse, N.Y. NED Meeting, Ansonia, Conn.

December - C-74, Scranton, Pa., C-96, Dayton

February - NED Officers Meeting, Prov. R.I., C-100, Amsterdam, N.Y., C-141 Bridgeport, Conn.

March - C-17, So. Boston, Mass., C-30, Westfield, Mass.

June - C-142 Washington, D.C.

— preparation of new material concerning Spiritual Advisors for Officers Manual;

— composition of K of L Christian Wake Ritual for presentation to Convention;

— initial drafting of motions and Resolutions for 64th Convention Resolutions Comm.;

— submission of proposals for updating the Spiritual Advisor and Priest Member ritual;

— preparation of the 64th Convention Liturgical Worship booklet;

— planning and organization of 64th Convention Theme I (Religion) and Theme III (Organizational);

— compilation of guidelines on National Convention planning and preparation.

As requested by the Supreme Council President, I submit the following proposals to further and make more effective the office of the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor:

A. Revitalize the Spiritual Committees on Supreme Council, District and Council levels for better service to the members.

B. Establish closer working relations with all Spiritual Advisors.

C. Cooperate with the II Vice President in a Membership Drive to attract more priests as members, possibly including more religious Sisters.

D. Develop in detail a concept of “DIEVUI” - DIENA or “FOR GOD” - DAY, to be arranged on local Council levels on which members from 2 or 3 nearby Councils would gather for a day of talks, conferences and other spiritual activities under the direction of the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor. The purpose of these “For God” Days would be to foster the American - Lithuanian Catholic Spirit.

E. Implement the proposal made to the Supreme Council that the entire membership of the Knights of Lithuania take note of the death of a fellow member. According to the proposal, Council Presidents would be required to inform the Supreme Council President of the death of a member immediately, so that a message of condolences could be sent to the family. The Supreme Council would then arrange for a Month's Mind Mass to be said and a Mass Card would be sent to the family by the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor announcing the celebration of the Mass.

Respectfully submitted

Fr. A. A. Jurgelaitis, O.P.



Fr. Jurgelaitis greets happy delegates.



# NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES

1976 — 1977

During the past year I have adhered to the principle of recognizing every communication and issue which came to my attention. Every matter received proper attention and appropriate action was taken.

In the fulfillment of the President's duties, I engaged in the following activities —

a. arranged the agendas for four Supreme Council meetings, in Boston, Scranton, Providence and Washington.

b. chaired three of the meetings.

c. represented the Supreme Council at the 60th Anniversary Dinner-Dance of Council 26; The February 16 observance in Worcester; the Council 142 presentation of Dr. Jurgela's book at the Army and Navy Club in Washington; the testimonial for Loretta Stukas, and the May Mid-Atlantic District convention.

d. represented the Supreme Council and served as Master of Ceremonies at the New England District St. Casimir's Day observance.

e. conducted two workshops on "Lithuanians in Massachusetts" for the Massachusetts Ethnic Heritage Conferences at Holy Cross College in Worcester.

f. arranged with Vice-President Kassel for K of L representation at the ALTAS and the Federation conventions in Chicago.

g. sent written greetings on those occasions when personal K of L representation was impossible.

h. maintained close contact with other Lithuanian organizations.

i. appointed Vice-President Ann Marie Kassel as K of L representative to the Baltic Human Rights Rally meetings in Chicago.

j. appointed Grazina Vaskelis as K of L representative to the Baltic Human Rights Rally, when the meetings were shifted to Detroit.

k. submitted a large number of suggestions for the revisions of the Constitution.

l. held frequent consultations with various Supreme Council members.

m. sent an annual memo to all councils.

n. presented radio speeches for Lithuanian Independence Day.

o. served as Vice-President of Worcester County Organization for Ethnic Affairs.

p. arranged for the making of a new Supreme Council flag.

q. served as coordinator of the K of L Manual which is now ready for editing and printing.

r. ordered new K of L pins.

s. carried out all of the actions decreed by the Supreme Council and the Convention.

Perhaps the best news of the year is that we have been enriched by the addition of three new Councils. Welcome Councils 46, 143 and 144. Welcome also to the two new Junior Councils - Council 36-112 and Council 142.

This year the Supreme Council emphasized the completion of on-going projects, the revisions of the Constitution, the completion of the K of L Manual and the completion of the Cultural Hand-book. Satisfactory progress was made in each case.

One of the prime perennial problems is that of Communication. Telephone calls, letters and announcements in the "Vytis" are often ignored. Reports are sent in late or not at all. Officers' Rosters are not forwarded to the Recording Secretary and requests for information are completely disregarded. It is essential for the efficiency of the organization that

good communications be maintained.

It seems advisable to establish a policy whereby the President would be authorized to visit each K of L District at least once each year. This would permit a better opportunity for the exchange of ideas and would foster a clearer understanding of the situation in each area.

In conclusion, I wish to express my most sincere thanks to all the dedicated Supreme Council members who worked so diligently and harmoniously for the good of the organization. Thanks also to all of the K of L members for their unstinting support. It has been a distinct pleasure to work with you and for you.

I also express my heartfelt appreciation to the Districts, Councils and individual members who expressed their consideration and friendship in the form of Masses, prayers and greetings during my rather lengthy illness.

Ačiū Širdingai!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony M. Miner, President



A. Miner offers readings during Convention Mass.



# PRESENTATION OF THE FATHER JUTT "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA" AWARD

## TO ALFRED FRIENDLY, JR.

*Each year, or less frequently, during the National Convention, the Knights of Lithuania honors a prominent non-Lithuanian who has distinguished himself with his work in Lithuania's behalf or interest. This year, the recipient of this "REV. JOHN C. JUTT FRIEND OF LITHUANIA" Award was ALFRED FRIENDLY, JR., journalist and presently Deputy Staff Director for the Congressional "Helsinki Commission". Mr. Friendly was presented the Gold Medal Award by Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Rev. Casimir Pugevicius. Following are the remarks of Rev. Pugevicius in presenting the medal, during the Convention Banquet.*

\*\*\*

From 1962 to 1965, Alfred Friendly, Jr., served as correspondent for Newsweek Magazine in Chicago and Rome. Between 1966 and 1971, he served as correspondent for the New York Times in Indonesia, West Africa, the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

From 1972 to 1974, Mr. Friendly was counsel for the Senate Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations. From June, 1974 until July, 1976, he was Moscow Bureau Chief for Newsweek Magazine.

Since September, 1976, Mr. Friendly has been serving as Deputy Staff Director for the United States Congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, popularly known as the Helsinki Commission, since its primary task is to monitor compliance with the Helsinki Final

Accord.

The Lithuanian community of the United States has never reconciled itself to Basket One provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, since we see in its provisions a DE FACTO recognition of the Soviet occupation of the Baltic states: a 1970's version of the Munich pact, buying a chimeral peace at the price of the liberty of small nations powerless to defend themselves.

However, Mr. Friendly had nothing to do with the writing or signing of the Helsinki Final Act. It was only after the signing of the Helsinki Final Act that he was engaged as Deputy Staff Director for the U.S. Congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe. It is the task of this commission to see whether the provisions of the Helsinki Accord are being adhered to.

One redeeming aspect of the Helsinki Final Act was its Basket Three provisions: those dealing with human rights. In this respect, the Congressional Committee on

European Security and Peace has done considerable work. As deputy chief of staff for the Commission, Alfred Friendly, Jr. has been called the heart and soul of the Commission. He is one of those people who takes his job seriously.

Under Mr. Friendly's leadership and with his prodding, the Commission has held hearings during the past several months to gather data on the violation of human rights by signers of the Helsinki Final Act.

In this way, Mr. Friendly has made it possible for the present plight of the people of Lithuania to be entered into the record. The Congressional Committee which Mr. Friendly serves as Deputy Chief of Staff has invited and received testimony from Dr. Kazys Bobelis, President of the Lithuanian American Council, of which the Knights of Lithuania is a member organization. The Committee has also heard directly from the Knights of Lithuania through member Joseph Simanis on the



*Rev. Pugevicius presents medal to A. Friendly, as Bishop Gelineau and Rev. Martinkus look on.*



issue of human rights in Lithuania. It has also received and entered into the record written testimony from the Lithuanian Community, U.S.A., and from the Lithuanian Human Rights Commission a report on the violation of human rights in the area of religious freedom, which was researched and drafted by the Lithuanian Affairs Committee of the Knights of Lithuania.

In all this, Mr. Friendly has never shown any favoritism to the Lithuanian cause. If anything, it still remains for us to convince the

Commission which he serves, that the simple cause of national self-determination for Lithuania IS a human right, and deserves attention at Belgrade.

Be that as it may, Mr. Friendly, by doing his job conscientiously and with a heart, has done much to further the cause of human rights for the people of Lithuania, and he has therefore been named by your Lithuanian Affairs Committee to receive the 1977 Friend of Lithuania medal. I ask this assemblage to ratify that action by standing ovation!

REMARKS OF  
ALFRED FRIENDLY, JR.  
TO THE  
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND  
AUGUST 20, 1977

It is a very great honor for me to accept your award, but it is also a very great responsibility. I am not sure that I am equal to either.

I do have several friends in Lithuania, and even a few Lithuanian friends in America. Nothing could be easier than making such friends. In one weekend in Vilnius about a year and a half ago, my wife and I met men and women whose hospitality and good humor were so ready and so unstrained that the memory of their friendship will always be with us.

But to be a Friend of Lithuania - with a capital F - imposes obligations that go beyond sentimental

recollections. It obliges me to remember people I do not know and to honor a cause I can only share at a great remove. In a way those few days I did actually spend in Vilnius make the job easier. For I will always remember the grey Volga sedan with the five men in it who watched my wife and me everywhere we went. And I will always remember the nervous amusement of our friends in Vilnius who thought it was a great honor to have so many KGB agents obliged to give up their Saturday and Sunday to trail us to a farmer's market and a sculptor's studio. I will also remember that those



*Alfred Friendly, Jr.*

same friends were called in by the KGB - after my wife and I had gone back to Moscow - to be interrogated about their conversations with the dangerous American journalist.

But my experience with what is called "Soviet reality" in Lithuania was brief and was cushioned by my privileged position as a foreigner there. To be truly a Friend of Lithuania, one must share on a daily and vulnerable basis the reality of Lithuanians themselves. I do not think that is possible for an American to do, not even for Americans - like yourselves - who have close ties to Lithuania.

None of us can really know what it is like to be, for instance, a contributor to the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania. We can read that courageous publication or, like Rev. Pugevicius and Professor Landsbergis, translate and disseminate the copies of it which make their way to America. But secure in our freedom to read what we like and publish what we want others to read, we can only remotely feel the dedication of Sergei Kovalev or of Nijole Sadunaite to the freedom of thought



*L. to r. Bishop L. Gelineau, Rev. Pugevicius, Alfred Friendly, Rev. Martinkus, Mrs. Friendly.*



and expression we take for granted.

Nor, I think, can any of us know what it means to pay the consequences of having suspect friends. Vytautas Bogushes and six of his classmates were made to pay the price of such a friendship. About this time last year they were informed that they had been expelled from their senior class in Vienuolis High School because - although they were never told this openly - they had been friends with Viktoras Petkus. Petkus is a Catholic activist, a man who has already served 14 years in prison for his commitment to Lithuania, a member of the Lithuanian group to defend the Helsinki accord. Being his friend is pretext enough to earn a boy expulsion from school.

In truth, in the Soviet Union today, the wrong kind of friendships can ruin you. And how can we - in a society built on trust, prospering on a foundation of political and social confidence - understand what it is to fear the offer of friendship? How can we know the anxiety, the strain of not knowing whom to trust?

We can only experience that agony indirectly. We can know, in the abstract, what fear does to a whole people: it reduces them to silence. But can you really imagine what a country sounds like when its people dare not speak? I remember walking in Moscow, on a main street, with an artist friend who made me stop and listen. "Listen to what?" I said. "There is no noise". "Exactly", he replied. "Listen to how quiet and empty it is with no one on the street talking to anyone else. Listen to the silence".

Out of that silence, fortunately, we now hear voices. Sometimes they are eloquent; often they are so angry that their message is hard for us - consumers of the soft sell - to accept. But over and over again, those voices are saying one thing: we want to be free.

The fascinating thing to anyone who hears those voices and who knows some of the people who are expressing themselves in what is

called dissent in the Soviet Union is that by speaking out, those people have made themselves free. They may be in prison, or in camp, or in psychiatric hospitals because their refusal to conform makes them dangerous, but they are, in fact, free. They have liberated themselves from fear.

They have set a contagious example in their own society. Few of them, however, think of themselves as liberators. I have one good friend - a middle-aged lady who has given help to countless political prisoners at great risk to herself and her family - who never thought for a moment that what she was doing could change the society in which she lived. She testified to the Helsinki Commission last June, and when a Commissioner asked her how she found the courage to go on, she replied, "If you want to keep your self-respect, these are the things you do". Later, to a journalist in Washington, she explained that she and her friends in the Soviet Union express their freedom - at the risk of freedom - for what she called "the comfort of our souls".

I do not think we can truly comprehend that kind of commitment. We certainly cannot grasp it if we put it into narrow categories. It is not Lithuanian nationalism alone. It is not devout religious belief - only. It is a broad and generous

friendship for all those who want to be free, who want to express their freedom and who will pay the price - in a situation where conformity is the law and freedom a crime - of being true to conscience.

All those people - not just in Lithuania, not just in the Soviet Union, not just in the Communist world - are the true friends you and I would like to have and to be. At dinners in Moscow and in Vilnius, it is a custom to drink to such friends, and especially to the ones who cannot be at the table. The custom is of long-standing, so familiar that the toast that is offered is known very simply as the second toast of the evening.

It is meant to honor the free men and women who have lost their freedom - sometimes their lives - because their consciences made them criminals in the eyes of an intolerant state. I can think of many such people tonight, names you know and names you have never heard of, names of the living and of the dead.

All of them are committed to the freedom that some of them, who are from Lithuania, expressed in terms of their own country. All of them are truly friends of Lithuania. I would like to propose that to them we drink, in friendship, Toast Number Two.



*Mr. Friendly accepts a key to the City of Providence from the city's Mayor, Vincent Ciani, Jr.*



# OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

## OFFICIAL NEWS

### ELECTIONS

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

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

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

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

### ATTENTION ALL FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

By a resolution passed during the 64th National Convention, membership dues have been raised to \$8.00 per year, beginning with 1978.

Dues will be \$8.00 for regular, subscribing members. Additional members of the same household, not receiving VYTIS, pay \$4.00 per year. Married couples pay \$12.00 upon joining and \$8.00 per year thereafter. A more detailed breakdown will appear in a future issue.

Please note that dues for all members are due on or before Jan. 1, 1978. Newly elected Council Financial Secretaries should begin collecting membership dues immediately. Dues should be collected for all year.

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

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

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

### VYTIS CHRISTMAS GREETING CAMPAIGN

The VYTIS Christmas Greeting Campaign is early this year. Deadline is **OCTOBER 21, 1977**. This is your last chance to wish everybody a Merry Christmas, 1977, and a Happy, Prosperous New Year, 1978. Mail your greeting copy and donation to:

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

Suggested donations:

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

Two Line Patron — \$5.00

One Line Well-Wisher — \$2.00

Remember, the **DEADLINE** is **OCTOBER 21, 1977**

### FOR YOUR READING...

#### SIMAS KUDIRKA TESTIMONY

**IN DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS: TESTIMONY OF SIMAS KUDIRKA AT THE BICENTENNIAL CONVOCATION ON GLOBAL JUSTICE CONVENED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS' COMMITTEE FOR THE BICENTENNIAL, MARYKNOLL, NEW YORK, JULY 14, 1976.**

Sixteen pages of testimony by Simas Kudirka, citing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and documenting Soviet transgressions as reported in the **CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA**. With appendices giving a demand by political prisoners in the U.S.S.R. for self-determination of nations, and other valuable information. 24 pages in all. Available free of charge in any quantity from Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11207.





# SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



*Walter Svekla*

Following are the remarks made by Walter Svekla, National Scholarship Committee Chairman, in presenting the 1977 CANON KEMEŽIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.

Your Excellency,  
Reverend Clergy,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Honored Knights and  
Friends:

The Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Fund was established years ago to assist deserving members with financial help in getting their undergraduate or graduate degree. By deserving, we mean those members who have worked very actively within the K of L organization and their own parishes, and who typify the K of L concept of what a Lithuanian-American young man or woman should be. He or she should be a credit to our motto

"For God and Country!"

I would like to separate this year's Scholarship Award presentation into three parts, dealing with the past, the present, and the future.

For the past, I would like to read a letter sent to the Scholarship Committee by last year's K of L Scholarship recipient, Rosemarie Klatt of Council 36, Chicago:

"I am most grateful to the Knights of Lithuania for the scholarship award which I was awarded at the 63rd National Knights of Lithuania Convention Banquet (Dayton, Ohio) in August. Although I am most grateful for the most generous award, at the same time I feel quite honored to have been chosen as the recipient of such an award. Ačiū Labai!

"Words can only begin to express my sincere expressions of thanks and gratitude. In my heart, thoughts and deeds, I promise to continue to show my worthiness of this award.

"Hopefully, this award given to me will encourage and motivate other members to become more active in the Knights of Lithuania and in the promotion of everything that is Lithuanian.

"This enumeration of activities will, hopefully, encourage you as it is to let you know that I have not curtailed or lost interest in Lithuanian activities or involvements since my scholarship award.

"I still remain an active member of the Knights of Lithuania organization. I have recently received my second degree, and I am the Financial Secretary of my council (36) for the second consecutive

year. I still belong to the Lithuanian dance group which is quite active. I have joined the Lithuanian Club at school, of which I was the news correspondent and I have also participated in a Lithuanian operetta for the second time this year since the time of my award..."

In another letter she had written: "Just as there is always room for Jello, there is ALWAYS room for the K of L! As always, I remain dedicated to the cause".

Rosemarie's letter shows what the K of L Scholarship Program is all about and it could not have been put in better words. Her activities represent the "profit" that was realized by last year's investment (K of L Scholarship Award of \$1,000) and the Scholarship Committee is certain that this investment will continue to pay "interest" far into the future. Once again, we congratulate Rosemarie for her K of L activity and wish her continued success throughout her life.

For the present, I would like to state that the Scholarship Committee was besieged this year by a large number of qualified applicants. We wish we could have given them all an award but this is impossible. This year's K of L Scholarship recipients will each receive an award of \$500 given in two installments.





## THE RECIPIENTS ARE: [ALPHABETICALLY]



*Doris Mary Balaconis*

### MISS

#### DORIS MARY BALACONIS

1. A member of Council 17 Juniors - the present President - who has held several other Junior offices and has been very active within the K of L and her own parish. Her hobbies are sailing and writing. She wants to go on to law school and serve in the diplomatic corps. She states that "being in the K of L has played a great part in this decision because she feels that no people, especially the Lithuanians, should be oppressed or deprived of their God-given rights".

### MISS ELLEN GRIGALIUNAS

2. A member of Council 67 Bayonne, she is the present Recording and Corresponding Secretary of C-67 who has also been very active in many Middle Atlantic District and parish activities. She has been accepted as a violinist in the prestigious Jersey City State College - Community Orchestra. She writes:

"Since my interest does lie in music education, I feel that I could touch so many more children and bring more love and happiness and a lasting appreciation in the fine arts, than thru music performance. To give of oneself fully is the most important part of life and through



*Ellen Grigaliunas*



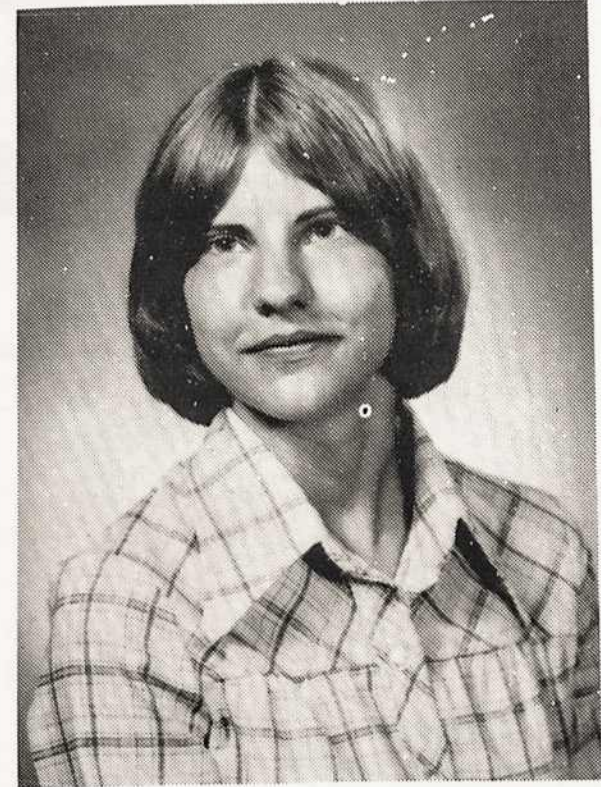
*Maria Michelle Zakarka*

my music I know that I will give of myself for the benefit of others".

### MISS KATHRYN MARIE NORINKAVICH

3. Another member of Council 17 Juniors who has held the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and presently is Treasurer. She also has been very active in other areas of K of L work and in parish activities. She plans to attend the University of Lowell for nursing and writes:

"At present I think that I would like to specialize in Pediatrics because I get along well with little



*Kathryn Marie Norinkavich*

children and I feel that because children tend to be afraid of doctors and hospitals, I could be their friend as well as help them while they are ill.

"Although I will be away at school, I have every intention of remaining active in the K of L. I have been a member ever since the Junior Council in South Boston was organized. I'm looking forward to joining the regular council and helping our council to remain active and together".

### MISS

#### MARIA MICHELLE ZAKARKA

4. The last - but not least - recipient is a member of Council 112, Chicago. She has been a member of the Knights of Lithuania Dance Group for six years. She has been very active in her council and parish and helped organize the C-36-112 Junior Council which is quite active now. Her plan for the future is a career in elementary education. She writes: "I chose this field as my career because I feel it is important to properly teach appreciation of education, especially to the lower grades. I find it a challenge to work with children and seeing their progress is most gratifying".



To all our scholarship winners, our heartiest congratulations and best wishes for a successful college career.

For the future - now comes the commercial. We were discussing our budget problems this afternoon (Saturday afternoon Convention session) and now all of us have witnessed a total of \$2,000 awarded to the four K of L Scholarship recipients. I would like to speak on behalf of the Scholarship Committee and urge all Districts, Councils, and individual members to donate to the Scholarship Fund so that in the future we could award more substantial financial amounts to more K of L youngsters. This year's recipients deserved their awards and the Committee felt we made a good decision, but our generosity this year has put a strain on our monetary reserve to the point that we will need a substantial amount of scholarship donations within the next year so that we can make a comparable award next year. To be honest, if these donations are not forthcoming we will have to

curtail our awards and all our past good work and public relations generated by our Scholarship Program will be lost.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

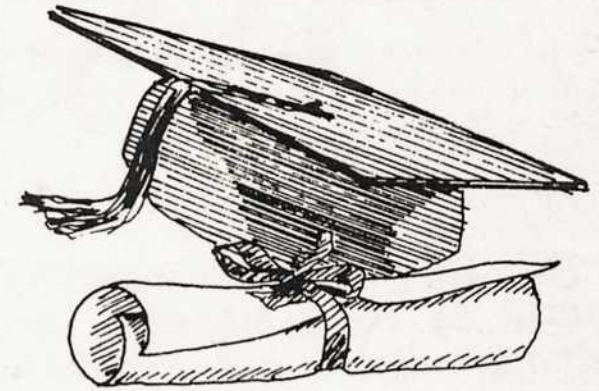
Donations to the Scholarship Fund can be sent directly to the Scholarship Committee Treasurer:

Mr. Anthony J. Mazeika  
149-31 120 St.  
So. Ozone Park, N.Y. 11420

If you wish, you may make a donation in memory of a deceased relative, member, or friend. The Scholarship Committee will acknowledge all donations and will also enclose a suitable card that can be sent to the deceased's family to show that a donation was made in his or her memory.

All requests for scholarship forms and additional information can be obtained from the Scholarship Committee Chairman:

Mr. Walter D. Svekla  
44 Clemson Rd.  
Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034



WE GET LETTERS...

August 28, 1977

Dear Mr. Svekla,  
Scholarship Committee,  
Knights of Lithuania:

There are many times when I wish the English language had developed so as to have a more elaborate way than just two words to express one's appreciation. When one feels the way I do about the Knights of Lithuania and the help they have given me those two words seem hopelessly inadequate. I want you to imagine for a few minutes that you are sitting on a river bank. On the opposite side stands a beautiful mansion amidst acres and acres of land. All this can be yours if you can reach the other side. So you dive in and start to swim. The river is wide and the current swift. Soon it is difficult just to keep afloat. Suddenly a boat appears; in it is a kindly old man who not only offers you a ride across but offers his friendship and assistance if need be when you get there. How do you feel? What can you say to this man who has not only assisted you in attaining your goal but has also offered one of the most cherished things in the world, friendship? How do I feel? What can I say? I regret I must resort to those two small words, but please keep in mind the swimmer. Thank you and I always remain

Gratefully yours,

Doris M. Balaconis



*Sunday A.M. A Human Rights March from the Marriott to St. Casimir's Church.*



## ORGANIZATIONAL PANEL

### THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA, TOMORROW AND BEYOND

The 64th National Convention Sessions were highlighted by three "themes", or panel discussions: cultural, religious and organizational. The Saturday afternoon "theme" was concerned with the future of the K of L, as the title of this section indicates. Three panelists participated in the presentation under the leadership of Father Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P.

Dr. Algirdas Budreckis foresaw future K of L activity as a force revitalizing our Lithuanian parishes, reviving and maintaining the Lithuanian Catholic spirit. If our parishes fail, the K of L would be among those who would suffer most. His proposals included the expansion of celebration of traditional Lithuanian Holydays, erection of Lithuanian wayside crosses where none exist, the formation of K of L choirs to sing at Lithuanian religious services, closer cooperation with local pastors in promoting annual (or more frequent) Lithuanian parish homecoming Sundays on which all Lithuanians in the area would return to their ethnic parish for celebration of a Lithuanian language liturgy, a dinner or some other appropriate event.

In his second statement he foresaw the Knights of Lithuania fostering their Lithuanian heritage by blending traditional Lithuanian customs with new elements of present day culture. Implementation of this vision would be brought about by a new zeal for the study of the Lithuanian language, by research, collection of materials and publication of articles and even books on the history and achievements of Lithuanians in our parishes and K of L councils.

He proposed a revival of Lithuanian arts and crafts by talented K of L'ers and others, who would be encouraged to present Lithuanian themes and motifs in painting, music, weaving, wood-carving and so forth through modern media. In a final point, this panelist saw the Knights of Lithuania transforming routine monthly meetings into recreational, cultural experiences with ongoing developmental programs, limiting the time for the necessary council business to a minimum.

The second speaker was Marian Skabeikis who directed her gaze upon the future of VYTIS. She foresaw a greater utilization of VYTIS as a Public Relations "arm" of our organization, a broadening of the scope of our "house organ" to encompass the attractions of a general cultural magazine. With more non-member subscribers the VYTIS would reach out to a wider readership and extend our influence "For God and Country" amongst readers eager to learn more about Lithuania. Marian Skabeikis further

envisioned the coming years as a period in which the Supreme Council would lay the groundwork for a workable Public Relations operation, would draft policies and guidelines, establishing a network of input sources and outlets for news releases and current interest articles, and finally, the "training" of council correspondents to become "reporters" of the accomplishments of newsworthy K of L'ers and of K of L events.

Father Casimir Pugevicius, the third panel member, peered into the future and noted a concerted and stronger effort in recruiting a younger age group for membership in our organization. He pointed out that originally the K of L was established as a youth organization. When it ceases to be a youth organization, it cannot claim to be the organization which the founder envisioned. Recruitment of younger members could concentrate on children of present members or seek younger members among those with a growing interest in their ethnic heritage. Father Pugevicius' final point noted that what is happening in Lithuania today is awakening among our membership a deeper sense of responsibility for assuming a greater role in the struggle for human rights and religious freedom and national self-determination. Right thinking K of L'ers see more clearly than ever before that the Knights of Lithuania is not a "beer and pretzels outfit", but a determined, active, responsible organization supporting those Lithuanians in Lithuania "from 8 to 80 years old" who are standing up to be counted "For God and Country". As more and more Knights of Lithuania ask themselves "What did you do?" for Nijolė Sadūnaitė, for Petras Plumpa-Pliura, for Sergei Kovalev, they will realize how much more needs to be done and will become zealous to do more and more, "to want a piece of the action".

As each speaker terminated one point of his or her presentation, the Convention delegates and guests were asked to check off one of the following "reactions": Strongly approve, Approve, Disapprove on a specially prepared tally sheet. Space was provided for brief comments for those who wished to explain their "reaction". A very brief discussion from the floor followed. The "reaction" sheets numbering 117 in all are being tabulated and analyzed. The results will be announced in a future issue of VYTIS.

According to Father Jurgelaitis, who made a quick review of the "reaction" sheets: "We have an interesting cross-section of K of L thinking on several important matters. These will provide a basis for future K of L planning by the Supreme Council".



**OFFICIAL***Highlights*

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
1977 — 1978

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| SPIRITUAL ADVISER     | Rev. Anthony A. Jurgelaitis, O.P. C-103, Providence                       |
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Anthony Yuknis, C-112, Chicago  
Regina Malakas, C-29, Newark  
Josephine Zukas, C-109, Great Neck  
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Lucille Kilkus, C-36, Chicago

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 Loretta Stukas C-29              Magdalena Smailis C-79  
 Marian Skabeikis C-110



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 Sr. Francesca C-19  
 Sr. Alverna C-19  
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## MANDATE REPORT

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2nd V.P. - Philip Skabeikis, C-110

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Financial Secretary - Teresa Trainis, C-141

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VYTIS Editor - Loretta Stukas HM, C-29

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Lithuanian Cultural - Aldona Ryan, C-96

Ritual Committee - Bertha Janus, C-79

Scholarship Committee - Walter D. Svekla, C-3

Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Co-ordinator  
Helen Shields HM, C-3

Archives & Microfilming - Longinas Svelnis, HM

Public Relations - Daniel Averka, C-17S

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C-1 - Rev. Peter Shakalis

C-10 - Rev. Justin Steponaitis

C-17 - Rev. Albert Contons

C-17S - Rev. Anthony Baltrusunas

C-19 - Sr. M. Alverna, Sr. M. Francesca

C-26 - Rev. Anthony Miciunas, M.I.C.

C-78 - Rev. Albins Janiunas

C-79 - Rev. Victor Krisciunevicius

C-96 - Rev. Walter Katarskis

C-100 - Rev. Robertas Baltch

C-103 - Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus

Guests - Rev. J. A. Dambrauskas, Rev. Joseph J. Grablys

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C-17S - Felicija Grendal, Anthony Young, Longinas Svelnis

Clev. Srs. - Juozas Sadauskas

C-26 - Ann Bender, Rita Pinkus

C-29 - Frank Vaskas, Loretta Stukas

C-41S - Joseph Boley, Anthony Mazeika

C-52 - Anna Marie Mitchell Matalavich

C-96 - Stanley Vaitkus

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Mid-Atlantic - President Larry Janonis, C-12, Anne Wargo, C-144, Nellie Skabeikis C-110

Mid-Central - President Elinor Sluzas C-96, Frank Zager C-79

New England - President Joan Laframboise C-30, Charles Genaitis C-10

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C-1 Brockton Delegates - Maryte Bizinkauskas, Sue Bumila, Ann Statkus

Guests - Frances Bumila, Sylvia Shukis

C-3 Philadelphia Delegates - Leonora Balten, Dianne Drumstas, Joseph Drumstas

C-7 Waterbury Delegates - John Alankas, Anthony Alexander

C-10 Athol Delegates - Blanche Genaitis

C-12 Manhattan Delegates - Millie Pietz, Mary York

Guest - Jeanne Janonis

C-17 So. Boston Delegates - Aldona Keaney, Frank Yonika, Albert Jaritis

C-17S So. Boston Delegates - Patricia Akule, Alexander Akule, Frank Markuns, Virginia Markuns, John Norinkavich, Anthony Gaputis, Algirdas Budreckis, Anna J. Voveris

Guests - Veronica Aluza, Giedre Budreckis, Ann Norinkavich, Ann White, Florence Zaleskas

C-19 Pittsburgh Delegates - Margaret Papeaka, Mary DiMarce, Julia Aleshunas

Guest - Antoinette Naujelis

C-25 Cleveland Delegates - Ruth Guzauskas

Guests - Evelyn Andrulis, John Andrulis, Victor August, Elizabeth August, Frank Lucas, Eleanor Lucas, Nelda Machutas

C-26 Worcester Delegates - Helen Gillus, Anne Bucinskas

C-29 Newark Delegates - Eva Sharon, Helen Radisch, Kazys Sipaila, Mary Stonis, Albinas Zukauskas, Rozalija Zukauskas, Ann R. O'Neill

C-30 Westfield Delegates - Kunigunda Coach, Benedict Coach, Margaret Picard, Nellie Ruggles, Albert Laframboise

C-36 Chicago Delegates - Jerome Jankus, Faustas Strolia, Theresa Strolia, Lucille Kilkus

C-41 Brooklyn Delegates - Helen V. Kulber, Beatrice Hoff, Aldona Zaunius

C-52 Elizabeth Guests - Anne Baronas, Vincent Mackelis, Mary Mackelis, Ruth Brazinski

C-67 Bayonne Delegates - Michael Grigalunas, Martin Rusgi

Guest - Ellen Grigalunas

C-74 Scranton Delegates - Eva Kazokas, Gertrude Romeika, Jean Kveragas

Guest - Mary Kazokas

C-79 Southfield Delegates - Magdalena Smailis, Sophie Zager, Helen Tucker, Victoria Chepelonis



C-86 Du Bois Delegates - Benedict Radzavich, Joseph Anderlonis, John Amilkavich, Jane Anderlonis

Guest - Mildred Radzavich

C-96 Dayton Delegates - Rita Ambrose, Eloise Berczelly, Frances Petkus, Judy Petrokas, Catherine Prasmantas, Albert Wallis, Albina Wallis

Guests - Helen Vaitkus, Patricia Alexander, Joseph Ryan

C-100 Amsterdam Delegates - Genevieve Gobis, Sophie Olbie, Regina Kot, Isabell McKinley, Josephine Redding, Helen Radzevich, Ann Radzevich, Anthony Radzevich, Peter Hayes, Annetta Guzieliek

Guests - Mildred Whelley, Frances DiBart, Helen Dylong

C-102 Detroit Delegates - Grazina Vaskelis, Vitalia Vaskelis

C-103 Providence Delegates - John A. Stoskus, Philip Carter, Stanley Vaicaitis

Guests - Mildred Seraichekas, Helen Seraichekas,

C-110 Maspeth Delegates - Mary Kulis, Antonine Adomenas, Marian Skabeikis

Guest - Jonas Adomenas

C-112 Chicago Delegates - Sophie Nieminski, Edward Krivickas, Monica Kasper, Gediminas Janula

C-116 Worcester Delegates - Stanley Grigas, Edward Tamulevich, Irene Tamulevich

C-135 Ansonia Delegates - Helen Chepulis

C-140 Syracuse Delegates - Albert Gudas, Ruth Hare, Helen Mikelonis, Francis Petrauskas

Guests - John Stanley, Eleanor Gudas, Irene Petrauskas

C-141 Bridgeport Delegates - John Butkus, Joseph Janiunas, Aldona Marcavage, Sylvester Marcavage, Alphonse Trainis

Guest - Helen Janiunas

C-142 Washington Delegates - Eva M. Migonis, Charles Laukaitis, Vertha Stann, Francis Stann

Guests - Joseph Simanis, Jean Lutwin, Ladislaus Esunas

C-144 Anthracite Delegates - Bernice Mikatavage, Helen Chesko, Anna Lesky, Mary Brenna, Alma Linder, Florence Kolbuskie, Anna Panckari, Ann Marie Lithkousky, Alphonse Mikatavage

Guest - Elenor Vaicaitis

#### JUNIOR MEMBERS ATTENDING:

C-1, Brockton - Debra Bumilla

C-30, Westfield - Laura Laframboise, Brian Laframboise

C-17, So. Boston - Doris Balaconis, Paula Keaney, Claire Yuskauskas, Kathy Norinkavich, Adele Martus

C-36-112, Chicago - Paul Strolia, John Paul Kilkus, John Strolia, Rita Zakarka, Georgianna Kassel, Matthew Strolia, Thomas Strolia

C-67, Bayonne - Joseph Grigaliunas, Mike Grigaliunas

C-96, Dayton - Greg Blum, Annamarie Sluzas, Tom Petkus

C-100, Amsterdam - Alan Drenzek, Gerry Drenzek, Michael Mikolaitis

C-103, Providence - Francis Kapiskas, Kathy Krecioch, Rimas Saulenas, Linas Gervelis, Janet Coughlin, Donna Mencunas, Gaja Valiuskis, Sharon Coughlin, Laurie Ann Bader, Marcy Krecioch

C-110, Maspeth - William Sidtis, Marija Stungurys, Leo Stungurys.



*Committees at work*





## GREETINGS

The President of the United States James Carter,  
Washington, D.C.  
Most Rev. Vincentas Brizgys, Hon. Member, Bishop  
of Kaunas, Lithuania in Exile, Auxiliary Bishop of  
Chicago, Ill.  
Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Sister Marga-  
rita, Mother Superior, Putnam, Conn.

Hon. Joe Moakley, Member of Congress  
Mrs. Josephine Dauzvardis, Consul General of  
Lithuania at Chicago  
Dr. Kazys Bobelis, President, American Lithuanian  
Federation (ALTAS)  
Mr. John Cadzow, Director, Ethnic Heritage Pro-  
gram, Kent State University

## GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

### GENERAL FUND

Rev. A. Baltrushunas, So. Boston, Mass. \$20.00

### VYTIS FUND

Mr. Matas Zujus, H.M., Editor of GARSAS,  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. \$35.00  
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Alexis, H.M.'s,  
Waterbury, Conn. 10.00  
Mr. John Sparinaitis, H.M., Paterson, N.J. 10.00  
Mr. Frank Vaskas, H.M., Newark, N.J. 25.00  
Miss Phyllis Grendal, H.M., So. Boston,  
Mass. 15.00  
Rev. Vaclovas Katarskis, Dayton, Ohio 10.00  
Sister M. Virginia, Pittsburgh, Pa. 25.00

### LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Aleksis, H.M.,  
Waterbury, Conn. \$10.00  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Skabeikis, C-110,  
Maspeth, N.Y. 10.00  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Strolis, C-29,  
Newark, N.J. 25.00

### CULTURAL COMMITTEE FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Skabeikis, C-110,  
Maspeth, N.Y. 10.00  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Skabeikis, C-110,  
Maspeth, N.Y. 10.00

### LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Aleksis, H.M.,  
Waterbury, Conn. \$10.00  
Ms. Marge Senk, C-10, Athol, Mass. 20.00

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Knights of Lithuania C-19, Pittsburgh, Pa. \$25.00  
Knights of Lithuania, C-25, Cleveland, Ohio 50.00  
Knights of Lithuania, C-144 Anthracide  
Council (Pa.) 25.00  
Mr. & Mrs. A. Aleksis, H.M., Waterbury,  
Conn. 10.00  
Miss Phyllis Grendal, H.M., So. Boston,  
Mass. 10.00  
Mr. Stanley Vaitkus, H.M., Dayton, Ohio 10.00  
Mr. Frank Vaskas, H.M., Newark, N.J. 25.00  
Mrs. Mary York, C-12, Manhattan, N.Y. 200.00  
Miss Sally Miller, C-96, Dayton, Ohio 25.00  
Ms. Antoinette Naujelis, C-19, Pittsburgh, Pa. 5.00  
Mrs. Veronica Kolicius, C-19, Pittsburgh,  
Pa. 10.00  
Mrs. Michaelina Kurpalis, in memory of the  
late Joseph Kurpalis of Deland, Fla. 10.00  
Mrs. Joseph Uzdavinis, Sunrise, Fla. 10.00  
Mr. Ralph Radisch, C-29, Newark, N.J. 20.00  
Philip and Marian Skabeikis, C-110,  
Maspeth, N.Y. 10.00



*Gov. J. Joseph Garrahy of Rhode Island addresses delegates.*



## OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP COUNT

DUES PAID-UP  
AS OF JULY 31, 1977

| COUNCIL NUMBER AND LOCATION       | 1976 | 1977 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| C-1 Brockton, Mass.               | 41   | 34   |
| C-3 Philadelphia, Pa.             | 33   | 33   |
| C-5 Chicago, Ill.                 | 5    | 5    |
| C-7 Waterbury, Conn.              | 116  | 121  |
| C-10 Athol-Gardner, Mass.         | 28   | 26   |
| C-12 New York, N.Y.               | 59   | 66   |
| C-17 South Boston, Mass.          | 40   | 45   |
| C-17S South Boston, Mass.         | 82   | 79   |
| C-18 Cambridge, Mass.             | -    | 3    |
| C-19 Pittsburgh, Pa.              | 43   | 45   |
| C-25 Cleveland, Ohio              | 44   | 42   |
| Cleve.Srs. Cleveland, Ohio        | 33   | 36   |
| C-26 Worcester, Mass.             | 127  | 132  |
| C-29 Newark, N.J.                 | 112  | 110  |
| C-30 Westfield, Mass.             | 55   | 49   |
| C-36 Chicago, Ill.                | 94   | 86   |
| Chi.Srs. Chicago, Ill.            | 38   | 35   |
| C-41 Brooklyn-Queens, N.Y.        | 43   | 41   |
| C-46 Forest City, Pa.             | 10   | 16   |
| C-52 Elizabeth, N.J.              | 23   | 23   |
| C-61 Patterson, N.J.              | 3    | 2    |
| C-67 Bayonne, N.J.                | 19   | 19   |
| C-74 Scranton, Pa.                | 32   | 35   |
| C-78 Lawrence, Mass.              | 12   | 11   |
| C-79 Detroit-Southfield, Mich.    | 174  | 169  |
| C-82 Gary, Ind.                   | 27   | 27   |
| C-86 DuBois, Pa.                  | 18   | 36   |
| C-90 Kearny-Harrison, N.J.        | 51   | 50   |
| C-96 Dayton, Ohio                 | 138  | 134  |
| C-100 Amsterdam, N.Y.             | 91   | 97   |
| C-102 Detroit, Mich.              | 34   | 33   |
| C-103 Srs. Providence, R.I.       | 25   | 28   |
| C-109 Great Neck, N.Y.            | 21   | 13   |
| C-110 Maspeth, N.Y.               | 31   | 36   |
| C-111 Srs. Youngstown, Ohio       | 12   | 10   |
| C-112 Chicago, Ill.               | 191  | 183  |
| C-113 Linden, N.J.                | -    | -    |
| C-116 Worcester, Mass.            | 50   | 43   |
| C-133 Los Angeles, Calif.         | 1    | 1    |
| C-133 Srs. Los Angeles, Calif.    | 50   | 47   |
| C-134 Cincinnati, Ohio            | 20   | 15   |
| C-135 Ansonia, Conn.              | 64   | 65   |
| C-139 Detroit, Mich.              | 18   | 19   |
| C-140 Syracuse, N.Y.              | 35   | 42   |
| C-141 Bridgeport, Conn.           | 52   | 49   |
| C-142 Washington, D.C.            | 28   | 44   |
| C-143 Pittston, Pa.               | -    | 58   |
| C-144 St. Clair, Pa. (Anthracite) | -    | 89   |

**TOTALS**                    **2,224**   **2,382**

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE AWARDS

Members are, of course, the organization's life's blood... and new members each year represent much needed, life-continuing "transfusions" to the Knights of Lithuania. This year's increase owed much to the appearance or reappearance of councils in central Pennsylvania, heralding the return of the K of L to this vital area.

Those councils and individuals most responsible for the rise of our membership... or the maintenance of their own members... were again rewarded during the Sunday Brunch by National 2nd Vice-President in Charge of Membership, Philip Skabeikis. The categories of membership were as follows:

First        -     1 to 49 members  
Second     -     50 to 99 members  
Third       -     100 - up members

The winners were as follows:

**100% PAID UP MEMBERSHIP**  
(Deadline, Mar. 31, 1977)

First Category     -     C-25, Cleveland, Ohio  
Second Category   -     C-135, Ansonia, Conn.  
Third Category     -     No winner

**MEMBERSHIP INCREASE (BY PERCENTAGE) -**  
(After 100% Paid up, deadline Jun. 30)

First Category     -     C-86, DuBois, Pa.  
Second Category   -     C-100, Amsterdam, N.Y.  
Third Category     -     C-7, Waterbury, Conn.

## INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

First Place        -     Joseph Yanulaitis, H.M., C-3,  
   Philadelphia  
Second Place     -     Anne Challan, C-143, Pittston, Pa.  
Third Place       -     Joseph Shupeinis, C-86,  
   DuBoise, Pa.



*Membership award recipients*



## DEGREES CONFERRED

The Sunday Program began with a beautiful ceremony before Mass, during which The Most Rev. Kenneth A. Angell, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Providence, assisted by Rev. A. Jurgelaitis and Ritual Committee Members Frances Petkus and Bertha Janus, presented the Fourth Degree, Order of St. Casimir to:

Evelyn Andrulis, C-25, Cleveland  
 Biruta Cunningham, C-103, Providence  
 Lucille Kilkus, C-36, Chicago  
 Rev. Victor Krisciunevicius, C-79, Southfield  
 Margaret Nashlon, C-79, Southfield  
 Helen Radisch, C-29, Newark  
 Aldona Ryan, C-96, Dayton  
 Philip Skabeikis, C-110, Maspeth  
 Alberta Wiegand, C-103, Providence

The Fourth Degree has also been approved for the following, who were unable to attend the National Convention, but who will receive their medals during appropriate ceremonies in their home councils.

Edmund Grigaitis, C-26, Worcester  
 Stephanie Jonutis, Chgo. Srs.  
 Rev. Walter Katarskis, C-19, Pittsburgh  
 Lillian Kodis, C-36, Chicago  
 Eva Sharon, C-29, Newark  
 Lillian Stepan, C-79, Southfield

\*\*\*



*P. Grendal presents Honorary Membership to Larry Janonis as Mayor Vincent Ciani, Jr. looks on.*



*Fourth Degree, administered by Bishop Angell, Rev. Jurgelaitis and Rev. Krisciunevicius.*

\*\*\*

## 1978 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Knights of Lithuania voted unanimously to accept the kind invitation of Council 142, extended by their Council President Frank Petrauskas, to hold their 65TH NATIONAL CONVENTION in SYRACUSE, NEW YORK. The Syracuse Council is a very recent addition to the K of L family, but its members are certainly NOT lacking in vigor and efficiency. Already, reservations have been made for August 16 - 20, 1978 at the Syracuse Hotel... plans for a beautiful Cultural Evening are already in the works... interesting sports activities are also planned for pre-convention fun. Watch for continuing information... Syracuse Lithuanians plan the best for you... Their motto... "UPSTATE, IN '78".

\*\*\*

## HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AWARDED

Another very worthy member was elevated to Honorary Membership, the highest honor the organization can pay a member, during the Convention Banquet. The award was presented by Honorary Membership Committee Secretary Phyllis Grendal to LARRY JANONIS, Mid-Atlantic District President and frequent Convention Presidium Chairman, of C-12, Manhattan, N.Y. The members of the Knights of Lithuania extend warmest congratulations to Larry, and thanks for his many contributions to the Knights.



## CONVENTION PUBLICITY

The 1977 Convention Coordinating Committee began planning Publicity for the 64th Convention early in the year. Previous Conventions had discussed having a "Press Box", which was to function during the Convention, writing up stories and issuing releases. In past years the host council provided a monthly column in the VYTIS to inform the members of Convention plans. Usually, someone was found to write articles for the Lithuanian newspapers. All this did not seem to be enough for the C-103 convention planners.

After much discussion they hammered out a new plan, which called for a wider and more frequent coverage of the Convention preparations and events.

John Stoskus assumed the duties of keeping K of L members informed through his monthly "Convention Rap" column. Father A. Jurgelaitis, O.P. was requested to implement other items of the publicity master plan.

First of all, letters were sent out to all councils requesting the name of their local daily newspaper. As soon as the lists of council delegates and alternates reached convention headquarters, news releases were prepared and sent out to the local council area newspapers with information about the Knights of Lithuania and the local council participation in the Convention.

About two weeks before the Convention, general news releases were sent out to Providence and Rhode Island papers.

The 64th National Convention was most fortunate in enlisting the generous, tireless and experienced services of Tom Holleran, correspondent of the PAWTUCKET TIMES and zealous supporter of Lithuanian activities in Providence, who not only wrote up and distributed the news releases, but also, through his professional contacts arranged for TV and photographic news coverage of the major Convention events.

From his report we get an accurate picture of the results. First releases went to 23 Rhode Island newspapers; special briefer notices were sent out to 17 radio stations and the 4 local TV News Directors; arrangements were made for the "WELCOME, K of L" outdoor sign on one of the busiest streets in Pawtucket; arrangement of the participation of the K of L in the Channel 12, WPRI-TV program "Front and Center" in which a seven minute segment was obtained for a showing on Saturday, August 20th at around noontime. Convention General Chairman Birute Stoskus, Cultural Evening Hostess Helen Seraichekas and Father A. Jurgelaitis, Convention Coordinator, were guests on this program which featured news about the Knights of Lithuania, and cultural items about Lithuanian national costumes (both ladies wore Lithuanian national dress), about Lithuanian amber and about Lithuanian crosses. Fr.

Jurgelaitis spoke about Lithuania's struggle for human rights and the value of the "Chronicles" as documentation of the persecution of the Lithuanian people for their religious beliefs.

Tom Holleran, also, contacted the other Providence TV Station, WJAR-TV, Channel 10, for coverage of the March for Human Rights from the hotel to the church on Sunday morning.

As soon as elections were over, a follow-up news release was prepared and sent out to 35 out of state newspapers, announcing the names of the new officers of the Supreme Council.

In terms of newspaper space our 64th Convention received we have the following: PAWTUCKET TIMES 102 inches; Providence JOURNAL BULLETIN 38½ inches; the diocesan PROVIDENCE VISITOR 24 inches. In all, local Convention news coverage amounted to almost an entire page of a newspaper.

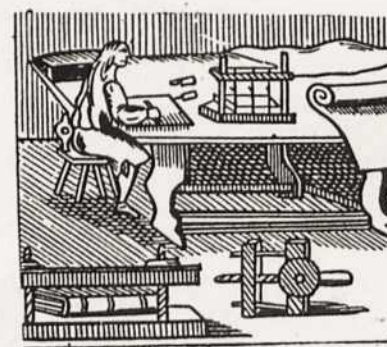
The UPI — United Press International — which is a wire news service, picked up the notice of the Convention and sent it out to all its hundred and more affiliates.

In addition to the above English coverage, a news release in Lithuanian was sent out to DRAUGAS, DARBININKAS and GARSAS, and, also, to Lithuanian Radio Programs all over the United States.

To insure complete photographic coverage of the Convention amateur photographer Ray Fields was enlisted to provide photos for the VYTIS.

The 1977 Convention was memorable in many ways, and it must be said that the far reaching and successful publicity effort helped to make it so.

The warmest K of L thanks goes out to Tom Holleran and Ray Fields and to all the news media for their assistance in spreading the word about the Convention and all K of L activities.



VYTIS AČIŪ

Editor Loretta Stukas and her staff extend their sincerest appreciation to the many members who so graciously supplied articles, information, and photos of the Convention, thus assisting in bringing the Convention Review to you in this issue. Very special thanks go to Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, Phil and Marian Skabeikis, Aldona and Joe Ryan, Irene Sankus, Ann Marie Kassel, Bill Sidtis, Ann Bender, and C-103 Photographer Ray Fields. Thanks to all the Convention Committees for arranging a convention that was so pleasant to cover.



## PLENARY SESSIONS

This year's convention again included three special plenary sessions, to discuss religious, cultural and organizational matters.

The religious theme was covered in a conference entitled "The World Has No Conscience, Have You?", presented by Deacon John Prusaitis of K of L C-1, Brockton. The conference is summarized briefly under "On the Religious Side" elsewhere in this issue. More detailed coverage will appear in a later issue.

Culturally, Aldona Ryan, C-96, Dayton, National Cultural Chairman, Faustas Strolia, C-36, Chicago, K of L Choir Director, and Philip Skabeikis, C-110, Maspeth, National 2nd Vice President, presented an excellent discussion of the origins, meaning, and beauty of Lithuanian culture, entitled "The Treasures of your Lithuanian Cultural Heritage". By popular demand, these discussions will be printed in their entirety in a future issue also.

To look into the organization's future, the organizational theme was carried out by a panel entitled "The Knights of Lithuania Faces the Future, Tomorrow and Beyond", with panelists Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, C-29, Newark, National Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Marian Skabeikis, C-110, Maspeth, past National First Vice-President, and Dr. Algirdas Budreckis, C-17, So. Boston, Mass., who "peered into the future" and suggested innovative proposals.

A summary of these proposals appears elsewhere in this issue, and more will be forthcoming later.

## JUOZAS SADAUSKAS HONORED

One of the most moving moments of this convention happened when the entire group of assembled delegates and guests stood and sang a rousing "Ilgiausiu Metu" to JUOZAS SADAUSKAS. This spontaneous act of love, admiration and respect followed acceptance by acclamation of a resolution congratulating Mr. Sadauskas on his 80th Birthday and thanking him for his work for the organization.

Mr. Sadauskas, an Honorary Member from the Cleveland Senior Council, has worked hard and well for the Knights throughout his adult life. He is best known for his many articles, appearing in the VYTIS, DRAUGAS, DARBININKAS and elsewhere under the pen name of "Senelis". Ad multos annos, Mr. Sadauskas!

*Rev. Jurgelaitis (center) makes a point to Bishop L. Gelineau of Providence as Juozas Sadauskas, Hon. Member, and especially honored Senior Member, looks on.*



*Cultural Panel Members, l. to r., Faustas Strolia, Aldona Ryan, Phil Skabeikis.*



*Rev. Grablys discusses Religious Panel with Deacon J. Prusaitis and Rev. Jurgelaitis.*







*Photo: Uosis Juodvalkis*

**OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH  
 64TH NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA  
 CONVENTION**

**ED. NOTE: Copies of this photo - IN COLOR - are  
 available from:**

**64th Convention Committee  
 350 Smith St.  
 Providence, R.I.**



# REZOLIUCIJOS

WHEREAS the policy of the United States Government and the governments of the leading countries of the free world continues to be one of non-recognition of the illegal annexation of the Baltic countries of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania urge the United States government to draw attention to the denial of self-determination of these countries as it addresses the problem of human rights in the United Nations and other international meetings, particularly at the Belgrade conference review of compliance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania urge the United States Government to accord proper respect toward Lithuania as a diplomatically recognized country, in its procedures. This would involve rejection of Russian orthography in spelling of Lithuanian place names. It would also involve establishing intelligence efforts in the State Department and elsewhere aimed at following events in Lithuania as separate from the Soviet Union.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS the Committee on Security and Cooperation in Europe (The Helsinki Commission) has made a long-term commitment to work for the cause of human rights in Eastern Europe.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at their 64th National Convention in Providence, R.I., August 17 - 20, 1977 commend the Committee on Security and Cooperation for their positive position on human rights.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania commend the attention given to human rights, not only in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, the Ukraine, Byelorussia, Georgia and others whose people have relatives abroad to speak in their behalf, but also to other suppressed peoples such as the Crimean Tartars who are too often forgotten.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania urge the Committee not to separate the issue of National self-determination from the question of human rights.

\*\*\*

# RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS President of the United States Jimmy Carter has consistently demonstrated a positive stand on human rights, in word by his public addresses and in deed by signing the National Proclamation for Captive Nations Week, and

WHEREAS the people of occupied Lithuania have expressed their great appreciation of this stand, and

WHEREAS one of the basic concerns of the Knights of Lithuania is the implementation of Human Rights which include national self-determination, in Lithuania

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, August 20, 1977 at Providence, R.I., representing 2500 members from all parts of the United States, gratefully commend and strongly support President Carter's expressed support on Human Rights.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania urge Mr. Carter to continue to use his position as a preeminent world leader to promote the cause of justice and freedom for all peoples in the world community.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS the Catholic Bishops of the United States, meeting in Chicago, May 4, 1977, issued a statement decrying the suppression of religion in Lithuania and Eastern Europe generally,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, an American Catholic organization with 2500 members, communicate to the Bishops through Archbishop Joseph Bernardin, and through local ordinaries, their appreciation of the Knights of Lithuania for the Bishops' statement, and urge that appropriate steps be taken to follow up on the statement.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS the Council on Foreign Relations, a non-governmental but prestigious advisory body, has chosen as its President Winston Lord, and

WHEREAS Winston Lord is quoted in the press as having called Aleksander Solzhenitsyn "just about a Fascist",



BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania seriously object to the choice on the basis of his poor judgement as demonstrated in this instance.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS the Lithuanian Marian Fathers have successfully initiated proceedings in Rome that may one day result in the canonization of Archbishop George Matulaitis, and

WHEREAS the prayers and intercession of this Servant of God are most needful for the preservation of the Faith in Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED at the 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania in Providence, R.I., that as an organization and as individual members, the Knights of Lithuania support and promote the process of Beatification and Canonization through prayer and other assistance.

\*\*\*

REZOLIUCIJA. Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narių Komisija prašo, kad 64-tas Seimas pakeltų Garbės Narių šį 63-čio Seimo užgirtą kandidatą Larry Janonį.

\*\*\*

REZOLIUCIJA. Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narių Komisija prašo, kad 64-tas Seimas užgirtų kandidatę į Garbės Nares ilgametę nepavargstančią daug pasidarbavusią Lietuvos Tautos labui ir Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijai narę —

Generalinę Konsulę Juzafiną Daužvardienę. (Illinois-Indiana Apskričio Narė).

\*\*\*

REZOLIUCIJA. Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narių Komisija prašo, kad 64-tas Seimas užgirtų kandidatą į Garbės Narius ilgametį nepavargstantį daug ir garbingai pasidarbavusį Lietuvos Vyčių narį —

Kunigą Albertą Contons (Naujos Anglijos Apskričio Narys).

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that a Committee of three members be selected to prepare a new Lithuanian version of the Constitution incorporating the revisions adopted by the 64th National Convention, and

That Father Thomas Ziuraitis, O.P. and Joseph Boley, Honorary Member, be invited to serve on this committee.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS organizational costs continue to increase and the 1977-78 year brings a probable increase in the cost of both VYTIS publication and postage,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that National Membership dues be increased to \$8.00 annually for a single individual or couple after the first year, \$12.00 for a couple in the first year and \$4.00 for the family's non-subscribing member. This dues structure would, of course be subject to the usual quarterly pro-rated reduction.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Council Ritual Committee notify candidates for the Fourth Degree, or Council Ritual Chairmen, of the acceptance or denial of the Fourth Degree qualifications prior to Convention time.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that for 1977-1978 not more than three regularly scheduled Supreme Council meetings be held between Conventions.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania Cultural Fund, established by resolution of the 60th National Convention, be allocated the sum of \$1,000.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Council Cultural Committee allocate \$100 per District for the express purpose of placing books and records in public or university libraries, and that requests for such funds be made to the Supreme Council Cultural Chairman through the local District Cultural Chairman.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS it has been traditional to invite representatives of major organizations to our Convention, and

WHEREAS, in recent years this has not been consistently done,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Council Secretary be required to issue such invitations three months before the opening of our National Convention, other invitations to be allowed.

\*\*\*



WHEREAS the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania are best served when adequate time at every council meeting is provided for religion, Lithuanian culture and language, and Lithuanian Affairs projects,

BE IT RESOLVED that local council officers give highest priority to the preparation and presentation of such informational programs.

RECOMMENDATION. These programs should take at least thirty minutes.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS it is fitting that the entire Knights of Lithuania organization join in prayer for a deceased member and in expressing condolences to the family of the deceased member through the Supreme Council Officers

BE IT RESOLVED that each council secretary immediately inform the President of the Knights of Lithuania of the death of a council member;

That the President send a message of sympathy and condolences to the family of the member, announcing that a Month's Mind Mass would be offered for the soul of the member;

That the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor be requested to offer the Mass and send a Mass Card to the bereaved family.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that a Committee of three members be selected whose responsibility it shall be to prepare for publication the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA LEADERSHIP MANUAL.

RECOMMENDATION. The following guidelines are recommended to the Committee.

1. Adopt a unified style for the various sections.
2. Adopt the standard 8½ by 11 format.
3. Submit the MANUAL for printing.
4. Provide at cost 200 three ring binders with Knights of Lithuania insignia.
5. Distribute the MANUALS as follows:

Two copies to each Council President  
 One copy to each Spiritual Advisor  
 One copy to each Supreme Council Officer and Committee Chairman  
 Two copies to each District President

6. Have 300 copies printed.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS there are irregularities in the manner in which Ritual Degrees are conferred on Spiritual Advisors and Priest members,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Council Ritual Committee amend its rules to incorporate the following:

- A. Spiritual Advisors who have been members for twelve months qualify for reception of the Second Degree.
- B. Spiritual Advisors who have been Second Degree members for three years qualify for the reception of the Third Degree.
- C. Spiritual Advisors who have been Third Degree members for four years qualify for the reception of the Fourth Degree.

Priest members who are not Spiritual Advisors qualify for the higher degrees as follows:

- A. Second Degree to be granted after twelve months as members.
- B. Third Degree to be granted after four years as Second Degree member.
- C. Fourth Degree to be granted after six years as Third Degree member.

Since our organization has been remiss in conferring of degrees, it is further submitted that the Supreme Council allow the conferral of the highest degree merited, skipping over the intermediate degrees, where this procedure is warranted.

This means, for instance, that a Spiritual Advisor who has been serving for eight years would be granted the Fourth Degree immediately. Any priest member who has been in good standing for eleven years would immediately be granted the Fourth Degree.

\*\*\*

KADANGI Jo Ekcelencija Vyskupas Vincentas Brizgys šiais metais mini kunigystės 50 metų sukaktį, ir

KADANGI Vyskupas Brizgys yra Vyčių Garbės Narys,

TENUTARIA Lietuvos Vyčių 64-tasis Seimas. Providence, Rhode Island, pasveikinti mūsų įžymų Vytį, palinkėti ilgiausių metų ir gausiausių Dievo palaimų Dievo ir Tėvynės darbuose, ir

TENUTARIA suteikti Jo Ekcelencijai \$50 dovaną.

\*\*\*



BE IT RESOLVED that the AD HOC Budget Committee, created by resolution at the 1976 National Convention be given another year to draw up and submit to the Supreme Council for approval, a National Operating Budget for a projected two year period.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS it is a Christian duty to pray for the dead, and

WHEREAS it is fitting that the Knights of Lithuania adopt a uniform Christian Wake Service for our organization's deceased members,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania Christian Wake Service prepared by the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor and approved by Bishop Louis E. Gelineau, Bishop of Providence, be adopted as the official Knights of Lithuania Christian Wake Service, and

That the Supreme Council order the printing and distribution of the Wake Service to all local Councils.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates and guests to the 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered August 17 - 21, 1977 at Providence, R.I., acknowledge with gratitude and appreciation the untiring efforts of the members of the Presidium, the Sergeants-at-Arms, and the members of the Convention Committee.

\*\*\*

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 64-tasis visuotinas Seimas, susirinkęs 1977 m. rugp. 17 - 20 d.d. Providence, patėmijęs DARBININKO savaitraščio vedamąjį straipsnį 1977 m. rugp. 20 d. Lietuvos Vyčių tema išreiškia nuoširdžią padėką laikraščiui bei jo redaktoriams už ilgametį prielankumą parodytą Vyčių organizacijai, jos idealams ir užsimojimams.

\*\*\*

Lietuvos Vyčių 64-tasis Seimas, susirinkęs Providence, išreiškia nuoširdžią Vytišką padėką dienraščiui DRAUGUI ir redakcijos nariams ir rašytojams už nuolatinę ir nepertraukiamą paramą parodytą per ilgus metus Vyčių organizacijai ir jos siekimams "Dievui ir Tėvynei".

\*\*\*

WHEREAS, from its organization in 1913, the Knights of Lithuania has continuously worked for maintaining the Lithuanian heritage away from the homeland, and for the Lithuanian independence and welfare, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania has cooperated with VLIKAS, ALTAS, Bendruomene and other Lithuanian Political and cultural organizations who devote their energies to deliver Lithuania from the Soviet oppression, and to preserve the appreciation of the Lithuanian culture in the free world,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania unanimously express appreciation and gratitude to all these organizations but especially to VLIKAS, ALTAS and Bendruomene and their Knights of Lithuania representatives for their dedicated and relentless actions to restore liberty to Lithuania and preserve Lithuanian culture.

\*\*\*

WHEREAS the United States Postal Service intends to raise the postal rates from thirteen cents to sixteen cents on all non-personal multiple mail which will effect small groups and organizations which rely on address stickers to send out notices,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania urge its members to write to their Congressional Representatives asking them to vote against this proposed U.S. Postal Service increase.

\*\*\*

KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narys JUOZAS SADAUSKAS, šiais metais švenčia savo 80 metų sukaktį, ir

KADANGI Jis per visą eilę metų uoliai dirbo mūsų organizacijos idealams,

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 64-tasis Seimas sveikina Juozą Sadauską jo 80 metų gimtadienio proga, dėkoja Jam už Jo nepaprastai didelius nuopelnus mūsų organizacijai, ir linki dar daug sveikų ir derlingų metų.

\*\*\*



Lietuvos Vyčių 64-tasis Seimas reiškia nuoširdžią padėką Lietuvos Vyčių skyriaus redaktorei Emilijai Pakalniškienei, dienraštyje DRAUGE, ir Lietuvos Vyčių redaktoriams DARBININKE, Vytautui ir Birutei Radzivanams.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates and guests to the 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania extend their warmest appreciation to Reverend Vaclovas Marcinkus, Council 103 Spiritual Advisor and Pastor of St. Casimir's Church, for his gracious hospitality in extending the use of the church and the parish facilities for the Opening Mass and luncheon, the Cultural Nights Program, and the Closing Mass and Farewell Bruncheon.

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates and guests attending the 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania extend their heartfelt appreciation to the outgoing officers of the Supreme Council Board for their untiring efforts in performing their duties faithfully and well during the past year.

\*\*\*

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates and guests to the 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, who have experienced the warmth and generosity of their hosts, Council 103, Providence, extend heartfelt appreciation and thanks to them, for all the hospitality extended, and for the hard work involved in the preparation of the Annual Convention.

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### RESPONSES...

The following letters were received in response to Resolutions passed during the Convention.

COMMISSION ON  
SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

August 31, 1977

Rev. Casimir Pugevicius  
Chairman, Resolutions Committee  
Knights of Lithuania  
351 Highland Blvd.  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11207

Dear Rev. Pugevicius:

Thank you very much for sending me the recent resolution of the Knights of Lithuania on the linkage between human rights and the right of national self-determination.

The Commission recognized the connection between the two subject headings — separate in the Final Act — in the hearings it held April 27 and 28, 1977. In preparing its report on implementation, however, the Commission elected to concentrate its discussion of human rights compliance around Principle VII, leaving Principle VIII temporarily aside.

The Belgrade Conference, however, will include a review of all the Principles, one by one, and will afford an opportunity to discuss the issues of self-determination, especially for the Baltic states, in the context of Principles VII and VIII. You can be assured that the Commission will recommend a thorough discussion of the matter as a human rights question.

Sincerely,

DBF/af

DANTE B. FASCELL  
Chairman

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC  
BISHOPS  
1312 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 7, 1977

Dear Cas:

I was delighted to receive your letter of August 25th. You can be sure that the bishops remain concerned about conditions in Lithuania and Eastern Europe and that we will continue to remain vocal in our support for the Church there. In the meantime I express profound appreciation for the resolution passed by the Knights of Lithuania at their recent convention.

With every good wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph L. Bernardin  
Archbishop of Cincinnati  
President, NCCB

Reverend Casimir Pugevicius  
Chairman, Resolutions Committee  
Knights of Lithuania  
351 Highland Boulevard  
Brooklyn, New York 11207



## ON THE RELIGIOUS SIDE

The 64th National Convention opened officially with Holy Mass at noon at Saint Casimir's Church. The altar of Sacrifice was simply yet tastefully decorated, and banners proclaimed the intention of the Mass: "Come, Holy Spirit".

Father Vaclovas Martinkus, C-103 Spiritual Advisor, was main celebrant. Concelebrants were Fr. C. Pugevicius, Fr. V. Kriščiunevičius and Fr. A. Jurgelaitis, O.P., who also gave the homily.

Before the Mass there was a brief hymn rehearsal conducted by Faustas Strolia. A specially prepared Lithuanian "missalette" made it easier for all to participate in the liturgy. Three new Lithuanian hymns were rehearsed and sung during the daily Masses. Using well known English hymn melodies, the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor composed new words to make up hymns particularly appropriate for the Knights of Lithuania.

In his homily Fr. Jurgelaitis set the spiritual tone for the Convention by explaining what "Come, Holy Spirit" should mean to the Knights of Lithuania, namely, that we Knights believe in God's Power, that we are to be open to the Wisdom of God, that all our efforts ought to be based on love.

"Nemanykime, kad Šventoji Dvasia veikia tik tai bažnyčiose arba tik tai šventuose dalykuose. Šventoji Dvasia veikia visur. Šventoji Dvasia veikia ir mūsų Seime!"

He proclaimed this year's Convention motto: "Mūsų Lietuva laukia Jūsų kovos, Jūsų aukų dėl žmogaus teisių". — "Our Lithuania awaits your sacrifice, your struggles for human rights", which all delegates were to see imprinted on two huge yellow banners in the Convention Hall when the official

business sessions began later that afternoon.

On Friday, Holy Mass was concelebrated at the hotel, rather appropriately in a room called "Angel-Street". Father Casimir Pugevicius, Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, preached the homily. This Mass was a special Mass found in the new Sacramentary: "For Persecuted Peoples". The Rev. Deacon John Prusaitis assisted the concelebrants.

The Religious Theme, as part of the Convention Program, was presented by Deacon John Prusaitis, a recent graduate CUM LAUDE of the "Angelicum" university in Rome. Deacon John is a member of the Knights of Lithuania C-1 Brockton. He gave a well-prepared conference on "The World has no conscience, have you?"

The speaker carefully pointed out that everyone does have a conscience, but that there is a huge amount of confusion and ignorance concerning the part conscience must play in the daily life of all people. He explained that even when people do not know God, or even deny Him, they still have to obey conscience which is really a silent voice of God. Confusion of conscience comes about when people try to become a law unto themselves, whether from culpable ignorance or from pride, a refusal to obey some particular law of God. He made a special point that emotions and feelings must be set aside when forming one's conscience, because emotions obscure right thinking and right willing.

A question and answer period followed. Fr. A. Jurgelaitis was discussion facilitator.

After the Mass all Spiritual Advisors and priests present held a Luncheon Meeting at which K of L problems and projects were discussed. Present were



*Rev. V. Kriščiunevičius*



*Saint Casimir's Church*





*Bishop Angell*



*Rev. V. Martinkus assists the choir.*

Fr. C. Pugevicius, the Very Rev. Joseph Dambrauskas, MIC, Provincial of the Marian Fathers, Fr. V. Kriščiunevičius, Fr. J. Steponaitis, Fr. P. Šakalys, Fr. Al Janiunas, Fr. A. Baltrashunas, Fr. A. Contons, Fr. A. Jurgelaitis, Fr. A. Miciunas and also Sisters Francesca and Alverna, of Pittsburgh.

During the Friday afternoon session, the Very Rev. Joseph Dambrauskas, MIC, Provincial of the Lithuanian Marian Fathers, addressed the Convention. He spoke about the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis, MIC, who was the reorganizer of the Marian Fathers and whose reputation for heroic sanctity is growing year by year. His excellent talk was an inspiration for the Knights of Lithuania and a stimulus to share in the efforts to have Archbishop Matulaitis raised to the honors of Sainthood in the Church.

On Saturday, Holy Mass was again concelebrated at the Marriott Hotel. Father C. Pugevicius was chief concelebrant and homilist.

After the Mass there took place a unique ceremony. The newly adopted K of L Christian Wake Service composed by the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor and approved by the Most Reverend Louis E. Gelineau, Bishop of Providence, was used as a commemoration of all deceased K of L members. The Supreme Council President and the District Presidents, representing all the members placed white flowers at the foot of the cross which was set up beside the Pascal Candle to the left of the altar. It was truly a devotional moment as all the delegates and guests repeated the Response: "Priimk juos į savo Karalystę ir apdovanok juos savo gailėstinga meile". — "Receive them into your Kingdom and grant them your merciful love".

Guest of Honor at the traditional Convention Ban-

quet was the Most Reverend Louis E. Gelineau, Bishop of Providence. His warm and pleasant remarks indicated how impressed he was with the work and activities of the Knights of Lithuania, and also, his own personal concern as a member of the Hierarchy for our persecuted bretheren in Lithuania.

Presiding at the concelebrated closing Mass of the Convention on Sunday at Saint Casimir's Church was the Most Reverend Kenneth A. Angell, Auxiliary Bishop of Providence. Chief Concelebrant was the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Jurgelaitis, O.P. Other concelebrants were Father C. Pugevičius and Father V. Kriščiunevičius.

In his homily, Bishop Angell described how communication was a divine action and is eternal in the Most Holy Trinity. He went on to show how creation and revelation are external communications and that the Holy Spirit was the ultimate Communicator of God's Will to men. He pointed out that since we are made to the image of God, we, too, share in the ability to communicate. We communicate vertically with God Himself through prayer and horizontally with each other through love of neighbor. He urged the Knights of Lithuania to emphasize both means of communication.

Father Jurgelaitis' remarks at the close of the Mass picked up the Bishop's theme and specifically applied it to our organization. He suggested that all officers and members of the Knights of Lithuania make "prompt communications" a special project for the coming year, so that K of L activities for God and Country would be more effective and far-reaching.

A collection for Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid was taken up at the Mass and almost \$400 was contributed by the delegates and guests and the parishioners of St. Casimir's Church.





**COUNCIL 103**

**MANY THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE**

They may not have known what they were "getting in for" last year, but they certainly demonstrated that they know what to do, to make delegates and guests happy and comfortable and to make a National Convention smooth-running and fruitful. The Committee from C-103 deserve laurels and congratulations for a job VERY WELL DONE... Special thanks go to the 64TH CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS, namely,

Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus..... Spiritual Advisor  
 John and Birute Stoskus..... General Chairmen  
 Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P..... Co-ordinator  
 Helen Gudeczauskas..... Secretary  
 Grace Vaitkunas..... Registration  
 Phil Carter..... Program Book  
 Jean Coughlin and  
 Regina Krecioch..... Junior's Program  
 Biruta Cunningham..... Art Director  
 Anthony Gudeczauskas..... Mailings  
 Ruth Krecioch and  
 Irene Landanski.. Hostesses Wednesday Welcome  
 Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P..... Publicity  
 Helen and Millie  
 Seraichekas..... Hostesses Cultural Evening  
 John and Irene Walaska..... Hosts Fiesta Cruise  
 Vic and Bea Mathieu..... Hosts Banquet and Dance  
 Vito and Doty  
 Kapiskas..... Hosts Farewell Bruncheon

**PADRIKOS MINTYS**

Neseniai pasibaigė 64-tasis vyčių seimas. Pirmą sykį dalyvavusiam tokiame sambūryje teko išgyventi vieną kitą nepamirštamą išpūdį. Pradedant šv. Mišiomis, giesmėmis ir malda, buvo galima pajusti rimtį, su kuria teko svarstyti opius klausimus ir nustatyti gaires ateičiai. Čia nenoriu kalbėti apie seimo tvarkingą bei sklandžią eigą ir įdomius posėdžius, tik noriu pasidalinti kai kuriais maloniais seimo išpūdžiais.

Šimtai įvairaus amžiaus atstovų suplaukė į metinį vyčių seimą. Susidarė išpūdis, kad čia susirinko ne eilinė gatvės minia, bet tvarkinga išmintingų, pajėgių, susipratusių lietuvių rinktinė. Suvažiavusių tarpe buvo matyti pagyvenusių, gal ir senstelėjančių vyčių. Kai kurie juo labiau silpnos sveikatos, pakėlė nemažą ilgą kelionės vargą. Jų amžius ir ilgametė veikla vyčių gretose byloja, kad jau laikas tokiems pasilsėti ir pasigėrėti atliktais žygiais Dievui ir Tėvynei. Tačiau jie petys į petį su jaunesniais dalyvauja seimo darbuose. Nestinga jų išmintingų patarimų pagrįstų gyvenimo patirtimi, jų raginimų drąsiai kipti į darbą Dievui ir Tėvynei. Nenuvargdami visakeriškai jie puoselėja ir ugdo vytišką lietuviybę ir dvasią. Sunku pilnai įvertinti šių garbingų vyčių nenuilstamą veiklą kilniuose užmojuose. Visi reiškia tylią pagarbą šiems vadams ir nuoširdžią padėką už jų pastangas. Kai buvo pranešta, kad vienas "Senelis" (Juozas Sadauskas iš Clevelando) švenčia 80-ties metų sukaktį, visa salė, kaip vienas, sustojo ir gausių plojimų lydimi, sugiedojo "Ilgiausių metų". Linkėtina, kad Dievas juos visus dar ilgai išlaikytų sveikus, kad jaunesnieji vyčiai galėtų pasisemti jėgų iš jų pavyzdžio ir išmokyti vertai sekti jų pėdomis.

Stasys Vaičaitis C-103



# Lithuanians in The

# NEWS

Since this is the Annual Convention issue of VYTIS, we've chosen a slightly different format. The "Lithuanians in the News" this month are your new Supreme Council Officers, Committee Chairmen, and National Coordinators. Next month we are returning to the original format.

We urge all VYTIS readers to send clippings, write-ups and photos about outstanding Lithuanians and their achievements to this column. These do not have to be solely about K of L members. Don't be modest, either. This is one place where you should really "blow your own horn". We will also most gratefully receive comments or suggestions.

Marian and Phil Skabeikis

"MEET YOUR NEW SUPREME COUNCIL"



*Supreme Council and Committees: seated l. to r. Teresa Trainis, Phil Skabeikis, Anne Marie Kassel, Anthony Miner, Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, O.P., Ann Bender.*

*Standing, l. to r. Marian Skabeikis, Loretta Stukas, Sophie Zager, Rev. Pugevicius, Kunegunda Coach, Daniel Averka, Joan La Framboise, Joseph White, Fran Petkus, Larry Janonis, Rita Pinkus, Walter Svekla, Aldona Ryan, Charles Machutas.*



## OUR NEW SUPREME COUNCIL

### NATIONAL FIRST VICE PRESIDENT - JUNIORS ANNE MARIE KASSEL, COUNCIL 36

A native Chicagoan now living in Westchester, Illinois, Anne Marie has been a member of both Council 5 and Council 36, for a total of some 25 years. She is a member of the Metropolitan Life Management Team in Chicago. A music student with a voice major, Anne Marie enjoys singing and playing the piano, when not busy raising her teenage daughter, Georgianne. Anne Marie disagrees with the women's lib movement. "Just because a woman is a housewife, doesn't mean she has to be unfulfilled. There are many things a woman can do, such as volunteer work".

Anne Marie enjoys working on committees, as part of a team, rather than chairman. In her second term of office, Anne Marie will strive to maintain all existing Junior Councils as well as trying for new ones.

### NATIONAL SECOND VICE PRESIDENT - MEMBERSHIP PHILIP SKABEIKIS, COUNCIL 110

A K of L for only 10 years, Phil has been a member of Council 41, and is presently a member of re-activated C-110, Maspeth. Born in the "Lithuanian colony" of Williamsburg, Brooklyn, Phil grew up and currently resides in Richmond Hill, N.Y.

Phil was a Psychology Major in College, and is currently employed as a Claims Representative for the Social Security Administration, where he recently completed teaching a training course for new Federal Employees.

National Cultural Chairman for three years, and currently in his third term as Second Vice President, Phil spends his spare hours enjoying the company of his son, Matthew. An accomplished pianist, he also enjoys listening to music, particularly opera and baroque choral music.

Justifiably proud of his numerous feature contributions to VYTIS, Phil sees as another major contribution the success he has achieved in helping the K of L grow by quick response to membership inquiries.

For the future, Phil hopes to increase his skill with the Lithuanian language and develop more administrative skills for future use.

Phil, who met his wife in the K of L, also shares his home with a Persian cat, Gražina, and a beagle "forever puppy" Fred. He includes in his future dreams the hope of writing a best-selling novel and a chance to conduct at the Metropolitan Opera.

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A teacher of History and English at North High School, Tony has served on a number of faculty committees.

In addition to his demanding job as National Vice President of the K of L, Tony is also Vice President of the Lithuanian Radio Hour of Westchester County, and spends a great deal of time in-ternationally for the K of L.

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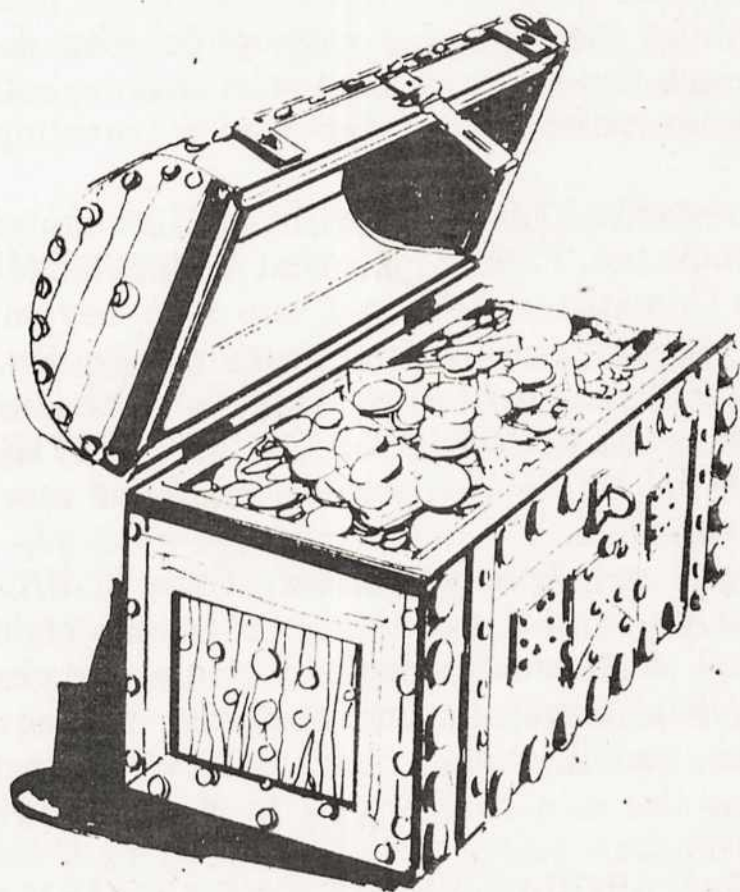


## NATIONAL THIRD VICE PRESIDENT - SENIORS JOSEPH WHITE, COUNCIL 17 SENIORS

Joe was born in Dorchester, Mass., grew up in Canton, Mass., and now lives with his wife, Ann, in South Boston, where they are both active in the Senior Council there. Also in his third term as Seniors' Vice President, Joe is a retired business man, now very involved with his parish and the local Lithuanian community affairs. He devotes much of his time to carpentry, fixing machinery, and charitable work, and is always willing to help out wherever needed.

He feels that his best work has been building up Council 17 Seniors and relating successfully with all Lithuanian organizations in the Boston area.

He hopes the new year will bring continued growth and improved intra-organizational communication.



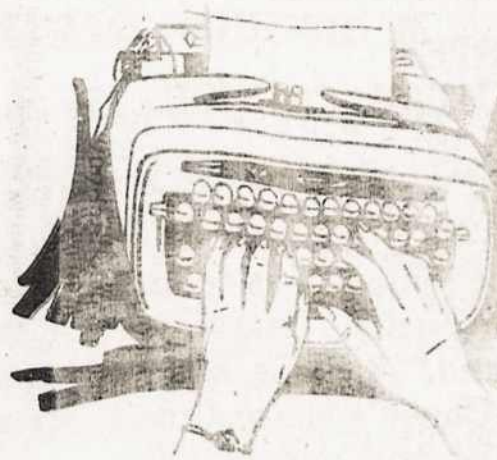
## NATIONAL TREASURER RITA PINKUS, COUNCIL 26

Honorary Member Rita Pinkus has been a member of Council 26 for twenty-six years. This life-long resident of Worcester describes her profession as "household engineer" and enjoys her roles as wife, mother of two, and grandmother of four.

During her leisure hours, Rita regards, "having a good time", as a high priority, and admits to enjoying knitting, crocheting and bowling.

Rita, who has spent more than a dozen years as a National Officer, considers that her most important personal contribution has been her time. In addition, Rita feels that she has contributed some measure of leadership to the organization.

For the future, Rita hopes to show a balance rather than a deficit at the close of the fiscal year.



## NATIONAL RECORDING SECRETARY ANN BENDER, COUNCIL 26

A lifelong Worcesterite, Ann Bender has been a member of Council 26 for forty years. An Honorary Member who is currently a housewife, Ann enjoys club work as a major outlet for her leisure time. Lighter moments might be spent listening to music, assembling a jig-saw puzzle, or baking.

In years past, Ann has been a member of a K of L chorus, and a dramatic circle, and recalls as her most important personal contribution a membership drive which she headed in her first year as Council President. During that time, Council 26 grew from 6 or 7 members to 60 members.

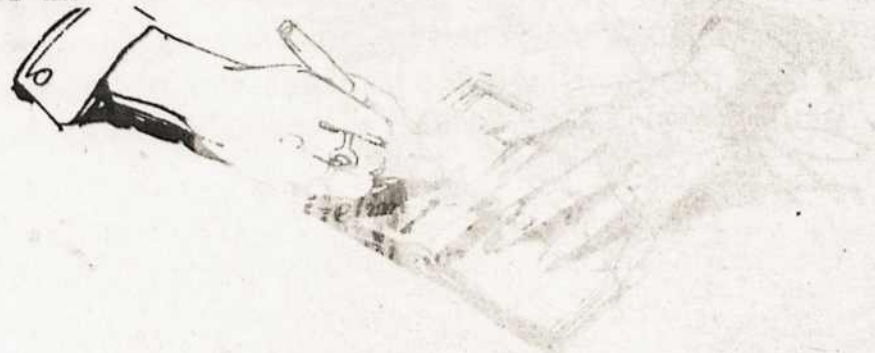
Ann feels that an important goal for the future is to increase the membership of the K of L and to form new Councils.

Our National Recording Secretary sees herself as one who sincerely loves club work and being active.

## NATIONAL FINANCIAL SECRETARY TERESA TRAINIS, COUNCIL 14

Another relative newcomer to the organization, Teresa is serving as National Financial Secretary. Born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, Teresa and her husband, Alphonse now live in Fairfield. Teresa prides herself on the "prime mover" role she played in the formation of the Bridgeport Council. Additionally, her "active involvement", Teresa is President of the Council of Women's Organizations, Recording Secretary of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, a member of the Catholic Charities Board and a member of the Task Force, yet still found time to be active in this year.

She is looking forward to initiating the process of dues collection this year for the K of L.





**NATIONAL TRUSTEE  
CHARLES MACHUTAS, COUNCIL 25**

Now in his second term as Trustee, Native Cleveland Charles is a 25 year man in the K of L.

His proudest achievement was chairmanship of the 1972 National Convention Committee, hosted by Council 25, Cleveland. A Sales Representative for U.S. Steel Supply, Chuck's spare time is spent with individual sports like golf and bowling.

Charles sees election to his position as a great honor. He would like to see the job of searching out future Convention sites become a permanent part of the Trustee's duties. His major personal goal is to see his five children, who range from 12 through 18, through school, so that he might devote more time to K of L work.

Chuck and his lovely wife Nelda, live in the suburb of North Olmstead, Ohio.

**NATIONAL TRUSTEE  
DANIEL AVERKA, COUNCIL 17 SENIORS**

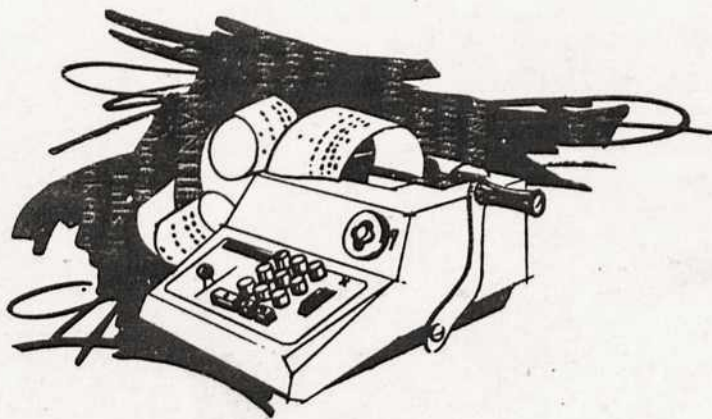
Since he joined the Knights of Lithuania in May of 1929, Daniel Averka has belonged to Council 17, Council 41, and is currently a member of C-17 Seniors.

Born in Waltham, Mass., Dan was raised in Marinkonis, which was then part of Polish occupied Lithuania. Returning to the United States in 1928, Dan lived in Waltham, Mass., Pawtucket, R.I., Boston, Mass., New York City, and is currently a resident of Dorchester, Mass.

Currently retired from his editorial position with AMERIKA, Dan is still involved with publishing as a part-time linotype operator for the ENCYCLOPEDIA LITUANICA.

Dan's leisure time is filled with his work for Lithuanian societies. He is currently Vice President of the South Boston Citizen's Club, which is an organization of 1200 members.

Referring to the K of L as his "dearest organization", Dan finds a deep personal satisfaction in his K of L membership, and hopes to see the organization become stronger with the addition of new members.



**NATIONAL LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS CHAIRMAN  
REV. CASIMIR PUGEVICIUS, COUNCIL 29**

Although he has only been a member of the Knights of Lithuania for four years, Father Casimir affirmed his commitment to the organization early, by joining Council 29 as a Lifetime Member.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, Father currently resides in Brooklyn, New York, where he is serving as Executive Director of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, Inc.

Describing himself as a bibliophile who doesn't have enough time to read the books that he collects, Father Pugevicius is also interested in traveling and sailing.

With regard to his work with the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, Father feels that he has helped update the Committee, taking it one step beyond the letters to the editor and congressmen stage. He cites greater familiarity with material from Lithuania today, such as the CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA, as reason for more effective work.

Hoping to see, "every member of the K of L personally involved in the struggle for human rights in Lithuania", Father also looks forward to greater organizational emphasis on substance, rather than mechanics, on all levels.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN  
EVA MIGONIS, COUNCIL 142**

A two year veteran of K of L membership, Eva was the "prime mover" in starting the Washington, D.C. Council. Under her Presidency, it has continued to thrive. A native of up-state New York, Eva now lives, and is a self-employed Business Woman in Our Nation's Capitol. Her business, "Academe Executive Services" provides temporary help for translators, conferences, promotionals, and bilingual Public Relations work for other businesses and individuals. She would like to expand into international business operations, and has some good prospects in Iran.

Eva feels strongly that the key to keeping our young people is to give them responsibilities and to be willing to stand aside and let them learn through experience. Her K of L goals for the year are to run District Workshops for Public Relations, and try to insure the existence of Public Relations Chairmen on Council and District levels.



**NATIONAL CULTURAL CHAIRMAN  
ALDONA RYAN, COUNCIL 96**

Aldona has been a Knight for 19 years, all of them in Dayton's Council 96. Although born and raised in Dayton, Aldona and her husband Joseph live in the suburb of Centerville, Ohio. Now in her third term as Cultural Chairman, Aldona is best known for her authorship of "Amber Web" and numerous feature articles and short stories in VYTIS. A free-lance writer by profession, she considers her most important contribution to the K of L, to be her ability "to get people to do cultural things". Her goals for the year are to see that every council has a cultural chairman and a cultural period during their meetings.

"Copper O'Ryan", her pen name, or "Lit", her CB handle, shares her home with her two dogs, Paddington Muldoon and Snitzel, her Smokey Persian cats Abentutan Mūsų and Mūsų Dvyna, a parrott and her snake Samantha. Her spare time persuits include CB and making music on piano, organ and cello.

**NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN  
WALTER SVEKLA, COUNCIL 3**

Walter has been a K of Ler for some 18 years, all of them devoted to Council 3, Philadelphia, where he was born and grew up. Now a New Jersey resident, Walter still feels that his most successful work in the K of L has been in maintaining his local council. In 1977-78, Walt will aim to improve the financial situation of our Scholarship Fund, and to make all councils aware of the requirements and procedures involved in applying for the Scholarship. A Chemical Engineer by profession and a husband to wife Irene (whom he met through the K of L) and father to two sons by vocation, Walt is both an avid reader and gardener. He hopes to see both his sons active in the K of L some day.



*National Officers take oath of office.*

**NATIONAL RITUAL CHAIRMAN  
FRAN PETKUS, COUNCIL 96**

Originally from New York City, and former member of Council 12, Fran, who is currently a member of C-96, Dayton, has been a K of Ler for 30 years.

A homemaker who enjoys reading, knitting, talking and crafts, Fran sees her major personal contribution to the organization as her work to bring prestige back to the Ritual.

Fran hopes that the organization will be able to attract a greater number of members in the 20-30 year age group, whether these be new members or former Juniors.

In her concern for the K of L, Fran hopes that she will be successful in interacting with all members of the K of L in her role as Ritual Chairman, and can accomplish a constructive settlement of all disagreements.

**VYTIS EDITOR  
LORETTA STUKAS, COUNCIL 29**

Loretta, a native of Chicago, began her K of L activities as a member of Council 36. Since her marriage to Dr. Jack Stukas in 1964, Loretta has centered her activities in the Mid-Atlantic District and Council 29, Newark. Currently a resident of Mountainside, New Jersey, Loretta is a member of the Technical Staff at Bell Laboratories, working in Computer Programming and Systems Engineering.

Music has played a major role in Loretta's life, in between VYTIS deadlines. A former member of the Knights of Lithuania Choir, Rūta Ensemble, the Žibuoklės Sextet and the Alice Stephens Chorus, she is currently a member of the Vilija Quartet. A gracious hostess, Loretta especially enjoys cooking, baking and entertaining.

Loretta sees her helping to convert VYTIS to the offset process in 1960 as a major personal contribution. This has allowed VYTIS to become more innovative and attractive.

For the future, Loretta hopes to make VYTIS more everyone's publication by finding more writers from the ranks of the membership and spreading more news about outstanding Lithuanian-Americans. As a member of the Budget Committee, Loretta also hopes to help put the K of L on firmer financial ground by making reasonable recommendations for staying solvent.

Enjoyment of family, her ever-peppy dog Pupa and friends is an important part of Loretta's life. A personal goal is to write a book about the "unsung heroes" in her family, especially about her parents and their bravery in facing the "New World".



**LEGAL ADVISOR  
ANTHONY YOUNG, COUNCIL 17**

Born in South Boston, Tony currently lives with his wife Mildred in the Dorchester section of Boston. A member of Council 17 since 1918, Tony has had a long and active law practice since he received his Bachelor of Laws Degree in 1937.

A collector of old clocks and watches, Tony's major interests center around his membership in Lithuanian and Catholic organizations. He has held numerous offices in the South Boston Lithuanian Citizen's Association, the Dorchester Lithuanian Citizen's Club, the Knights of Columbus and many other organizations. He has been an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania since 1950.

From his numerous contributions to the Knights of Lithuania, Tony feels that his work on the Supreme Ritual Committee represents his most valuable contribution to the organization.

Tony considers that major goals for the K of L year should be the revival of councils through District efforts.

Crediting his mother for his interest in things Lithuanian, Tony recalls her words that "If you cannot give something of yourself to the Church of God and the Lithuanian people of which you are one, than you are not worthy of being a Lithuanian Catholic".

As his long years of active service reflect, Tony's love for the K of L has grown in seeing so many Lithuanians working together giving their best for God and Country.

**NATIONAL LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC  
RELIGIOUS AID COORDINATOR  
MARIAN SKABEIKIS, COUNCIL 110**

Marian has been a K of L for nine years which she says have been the most significant in her life. Born in New York City, raised in Maspeth, and currently living in Richmond Hill with husband Phil and son Matt, she has been a member of Councils 41 and 110.

Currently "retired" Marian was formerly Chairman of the Science Department of Our Lady of Perpetual Help High School in Brooklyn, where she was also involved in college counselling and programming. Her field of college and graduate study was Biochemistry.

Marian feels proudest of her institution of Junior Conventionships and emphasis on Junior Ritual as well as guiding C-110 Juniors into regular membership. She has been their Counselor since 1973.

A busy person guiding her son's growth and development, Marian still finds time to play the piano, especially Chopin, paint, read, sew and administer animal First Aid.

In the new K of L year, Marian will try to commu-

nicate the urgent need for K of L support and participation in Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, as a concrete means to help our brothers and sisters in Lithuania, as well as continuing editorship of the Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin.

**NATIONAL LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE  
PRESERVATION CHAIRMAN  
FAUSTAS STROLIA, COUNCIL 36**

A sixteen year member of Council 36, Chicago, Faustas was born in Tauragė, Lithuania. He lived in Šiauliai until his tenth birthday, when he emigrated to West Germany. Faustas, his wife Theresa and their sons currently live in Oak Forest, Illinois.

A music teacher and organist with a Master's Degree in Music Education, Faustas enjoys teaching Lithuanian folk dances, playing violin with the Southwest Symphony (Chicago) and working with the Lithuanian College Vocalists' group "Vaiva" and the Chicago Youth Choir "Audra".

Faustas considers his work with the Knights of Lithuania Choir in Chicago for the past sixteen years as one of his most important contributions to the organization. A more recent contribution is his work with Junior Council 36/112 since its organization last year.

Making the cause of preservation of Lithuanian language as attractive as possible is his major goal for the coming K of L year.

Faustas has always admired the peaceful atmosphere in which Knights of Lithuania Conventions take place. He credits the Presidium and the use of Roberts Rules, and cites the beautiful way in which Convention differences are resolved.

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN  
LONGINAS SVELNIS, COUNCIL 17 SENIORS**

Born in Brockton, this 37 year K of L member has been a member of C-17, and is currently a member of



*Some National Officers and Honorary Members, clockwise, Teresa and Alphonse Trainis, Rev. Albert Contons, Frank Vaskas, Larry Svelnis, Helen Shields, Loretta Stukas, Anthony Mazeika, Tony and Mildred Young.*



the South Boston Seniors. Larry, another Honorary Member, currently lives in Needham, Mass.

Retired from ship-yard planning, Larry manages to keep busy on his five acre farm, with bee-keeping as an important part of his agricultural plan.

Larry was in large measure responsible for keeping his council together during the war years, seeing to it that regular elections were held.

Working for Lithuania's freedom and drawing members closer together are Larry's major hopes for the future.

As a senior member, Larry is quite pleased to see the ongoing success of the Junior movement.

#### YOUTH COORDINATOR BIRUTE RADZIVANAS, COUNCIL 41

Birute is a native of West Australia, who first came to the United States when she married her husband, Vytautas in 1970. A member of Council 41 for seven years, this active housewife and mother of two still finds time to be very active in the Annunciation Parish Choir, the Youth Association in preparation for the Lithuanian World Youth Congress, and the Richmond Hill, Woodhaven Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Her leisure moments are devoted to paintings and dancing.

Birute feels that she has helped to raise the cultural consciousness of the Knights of Lithuania, and is working toward establishing a sense of identity for youth in the organization.

Attracting young people in their twenties to the K of L is important to Birute, as she sees the organization as an important area for total family involvement. She is particularly concerned with attracting non-Lithuanian speaking young people. Birute would also like to raise the consciousness of our members in the direction of the coming World Youth Congress to be held in England and Germany.

Birute hopes to see the K of L remain strong in the future, and would like to see her sons become active in the coming years.

#### K OF L CONSTITUTION REVISION PROJECT

The long-overdue project of updating and revising the Knights of Lithuania Constitution was brought one step closer to completion during the 64th National Convention. The proposed changes, as listed in the May, 1977 issue of VYTIS were passed on, one by one. All but one were approved. The item not accepted was the addition of a new section, section 6., to Article VII. This item is listed on page 17 of the May VYTIS. Specifically, it reads:

"6. Members who willfully violate Catholic standards of moral behavior or who consistently



*Blessing of new Supreme Council Flag by Rev. Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P.  
New flag was made by Helen Tucker, C-79.*



*National Pres. - Anthony Miner receives special Acknowledgement Gift from Mid-Central District. Left - Mid-Central Rep. - Frank Zager; far right - Pres. Elinor Sluzas of Mid-Central Dist.*

fail to observe the regulations of the organization shall be requested to resign from the organization upon recommendation of the Council Spiritual Advisor and the unanimous vote of the local Council officers".

The item was omitted because the delegates felt that the subject of this addition is already covered in other parts of the constitution and need not be reiterated.

The last step in this project is the translation of the new constitution into Lithuanian and the printing of the English and Lithuanian versions for distribution to all members.

The Knights of Lithuania are indeed grateful to Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, O.P. and to all his assistants for smooth execution of this important and time-consuming task. Until the new constitutions are printed, we suggest that all members keep and refer to the Proposed Revisions, as printed in the May issue of VYTIS, pages 15-18.



# K of L Calendar



## OCTOBER

- 1-2 MCD FALL CONVENTION and ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE, C-96, Dayton, Hosts
- 8 C-116, Worcester, HARVEST DINNER DANCE, Lithuanian Naturalization Club, Worcester, MA.
- 8 C-29, Newark, DINNER-DANCE, Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, N.J.
- 8 Lithuanian American Council (ALTAS) Annual Convention, Chicago, Ill.
- 16 MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT CONVENTION, Our Lady of Sorrows Church and Hall, Kearny, N.J. (Mass - 12:00 Noon, Meeting - 2:00 P.M.) C-90, Kearny Hosts.
- 16 NED CULTURAL FESTIVAL, Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.
- 22 SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING, 1:00 P.M. Lithuanian Franciscan Center, Brooklyn, N.Y.

## NOVEMBER

- 12 C-12, New York, TESTIMONIAL DINNER for Albert Monckawitch
- 13 C-79, Southfield, FALL FESTIVAL, Divine Providence Center, Southfield, Mich.
- 19 C-17, So. Boston "NOVEMBERFEST"

## FEBRUARY

- 4 C-29, Newark, ANNUAL SQUARE DANCE, Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Newark, N.J.
- 5 IID ANNUAL "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" DINNER DANCE, Martinique Grand Ballroom, Chicago, Ill.

## AUGUST

- 16-21 65TH NATIONAL K OF L CONVENTION, Syracuse, N.Y., C-140, Syracuse, Hosts.





# JUNIORS CORNER

(ed. by A. M. Kassel)

## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA NATIONAL CONVENTION — 1977

Over forty Juniors from Amsterdam, Brockton, Boston, Chicago, Maspeth and Providence gathered in Providence, Rhode Island for the Knights of Lithuania 64th National Convention.

The earlybirds attended a pool party at the Marriott Hotel. Some of the Juniors from Providence wore old-fashioned bathing suits. The group from Maspeth showed up with "Hug a Junior Today" tee shirts.

The convention officially opened on Thursday with Mass at St. Casimir's Church with all the delegates and guests in attendance. A luncheon followed in the church hall. Later, the Juniors led by Paul Stoskas, took a walking tour of Providence. The highlight of this tour was Benefit Street. This street between 1756 and 1758 was widened for "the common benefit" of all. Many of the original houses stand today. Other sights along our path were Roger William's Spring, the Cathedral of St. John, the Old Court and State House, and Brown University. All of these buildings have historical, architectural, political, and religious significance. The tour included a slide show of Providence and its founder, Roger Williams. In the evening, the Juniors watched "Kaimo Vestuves".

On Friday there was a trip to Newport. The first stop was "The Breakers", summer cottage of the multi-millionaire Cornelius Vanderbilt. Everyone took a tour of



*Foto: Uosis Juodvalkis*

this Italian Renaissance style mansion. These activities were sponsored by the Rhode Island Lithuanian Bicentennial Committee. After a ten mile drive along the coast, lunch was served at the home of Mrs. Coughlin, President of this Committee. After lunch, swimming at Newport Beach was on the agenda. In the evening, the Juniors took a cruise with the rest of the convention on Narragansett Bay.

Saturday was a day of business. The Juniors' session was called to order at 9:15 AM with a prayer by Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis. Nomina-

tions were accepted for a chairman and Secretary. Elected were Marcy Krecioch, C-103 and Bill Sidtis C-110, respectively.

The first order of business was a talk by Fr. Jurgelaitis. Father spoke about our Lithuanianism and how we should always be proud of it. He likened the K of L Juniors, Regulars and Seniors to the Olympic runners who must pass that torch of light and energy from one runner to another. Next on the agenda was a talk from Walter Svekla of the Scholarship Fund. He explained its purpose with explanations of eligibility and the



criteria the committee members look for. Mr. Svekla also stressed the need for donations. Ann Marie Kassel spoke about membership and what we should put into it. Her talk ranged from problems in the council and how to make meetings more interesting, to how to be a good Junior, to an explanation of Founder's Day. National President Anthony Miner spoke about the benefit of K of L Juniors and how we should be proud of our Lithuanian-American heritage.

The Juniors later attended the panel sessions hosted by Philip Skabeikis, on the Purpose of the Cultural Program and the rewards of investigating Lithuanian Culture; and Mr. Faustas Strolia, on identifying ourselves with the roots of our heritage.

The Juniors later attended the afternoon session and election of officers and later, the dinner and dance in the evening. On Sunday, all attended the closing Mass and brunch.

On behalf of all the Juniors, I would like to thank the members of Council 103 Juniors, Providence; Ann Marie Kassel; and Mrs. Coughlin and the Bicentennial Committee, for all their work in preparation for this convention. Rhode Island was "Oceans of Fun".

See you in Syracuse!

Bill Sidtis  
C-110 Juniors Maspeth

This year, again, Junior participation surpassed all past conventions. 42 Juniors participated. It is obvious that Conventions are "catching on" as far as the Juniors are concerned, and of course, the Conventionships help greatly to offset the expenses of the Junior members who choose to attend.

Following are the comments of National 1st Vice President, Ann Marie Kassel, in presenting the Conventionships to the worthy candidates during the Closing Brunch of the Convention.

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I would like to thank Council 103 for the wonderful Juniors' program they prepared. In particular, thanks go to Paul Stoskus who did an outstanding job as our guide in the walking tour on Thursday, and to Ruth and Ann Krecioch who gave me so much help on Thursday and Friday, and to Mrs. J. Coughlin who hosted the Juniors luncheon on Friday. I enjoyed every minute of the week-end AND I'm sure the Juniors did also.

## CONVENTIONSHIP AWARDS

The conventionship award is a \$50.00 grant given to four eligible Juniors in each District. They are rewarded for their activity in the Knights of Lithuania and their in-

terest in attending the National Convention. The awards are as follows:

### NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT:

The NED has elected to divide the amount allotted among all eligible applicants:

C-1, Brockton - Debra Bumilla  
C-17, So. Boston - Doris Balaconis, Paula Keaney, Claire Yuskas, Kathy Norinkavich, Adele Martus

C-30, Westfield - Laura Laframboise

C-103, Providence - Francis Kapiskas, Rimas Saulenas, Marcie Krecioch, Donna Mencunas

### ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT:

C-36-112, Chicago - John Kilkus, Georgianna Kassel, Paul Strolia, Rita Zakarka

### MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT:

C-100, Amsterdam - Gerald Drenzek, Michael Mikolaitis

C-110, Maspeth - William Sidtis, Leon Stungurys

### MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT:

C-96, Dayton - Tom Petkus, Annamarie Sluzas



*Father Jurgelaitis addressing the Juniors.*



*Mr. Walter Svekla discussing the Scholarship Fund.*





*Conventionship Award Winners*

All the junior participants were asked to comment on some part of the convention that especially impressed them... some of the comments presented follow:

"I especially enjoyed the adults' session on Saturday afternoon, watching how they argue about some rules and then vote on them".

John Paul Kilkus,  
C-36-112, Chicago

"I liked meeting members from other Junior Councils and talking about how their councils work and exchanging ideas with them".

Paul Strolia,  
C-36-112, Chicago

"The best part was touring the Breakers Mansion on Friday and seeing all the sailboats in Newport".

Gerald Drenzek,  
C-100, Amsterdam

"I came to the convention to better enhance my understanding of the K of L National Committees".

Leon Stungurys,  
C-110, Maspeth

"Every bit of the week-end was interesting but especially the resolutions and elections on Saturday afternoon".

Georgianna Kassel,  
C-36-112, Chicago

"It was great to see old friends from last year's convention and to make new friends".

Tom Petkus,  
C-96, Dayton

"We saw a very interesting movie about Roger Williams who started the city of Providence".

Matthew Strolia,  
C-36-112, Chicago



*Maspeth Juniors and Counselors sport their special T shirts.*



# Social Sidelights

## PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Delegates and guests began arriving in Providence from all points on the Monday preceding the convention in order to tour and visit the beautiful New England area. Mid-Western members from Chicago, Dayton, Detroit, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh spend the time touring, dining in quaint restaurants, and deep-sea fishing (all the fish stories were true as attested to by the Fathers at St. Casimirs and Providence College).

The official social side-lights began with a bus and walking tour of the famous Newport, R.I. (home of the American Cup sail races). However, the walking tour was limited to the beautiful mansions as Wednesday was the day of the monsoon rains. The bus trip was exciting, the tours of the mansions - breaktaking (especially the power loss in one of the homes), the wine-and-cheese picnic on the bus - different, and dinner at the historic White Horse Inn - delicious.

The evening social was a splash party at the Mariott's delightful indoor-outdoor pool and those who joined with the Juniors really had a super time. One wonders - could they really swim in those pre-historic suits?) Following the pool party, our C-103 hosts and hostesses welcomed all in the Convention Hospitality Suite for an evening of socializing.

Thursday morning, for those still in the mood for more history, a walking tour of Providence was arranged. The knowledgeable guide made the trip most interesting.



*"Today's" Tee Shirts*



*...and "Yesterday's" swim suits.*



## CULTURAL EVENING

What might loosely be called "Lithuanian theater" was last seen at a National Convention in 1973 at Brockton. Indeed, the traditional Cultural Evening of the 64th National Convention brought back some fond memories.

Convention delegates and guests were packed into St. Casimir's Rev. John A. Vaitekunas Hall on Thursday evening. The program was entitled "Kaimo Vestuvės", A Village Wedding. The usual cultural fare of folk song and dance were there, but they were packaged in a completely unique way.

The Boston Lithuanian Ethnographic Ensemble was founded in 1974 by a group of Lithuanian young people who simply enjoyed singing and learning about the origin of song. They officially became the "Ensemble" in 1976. Since then, their aim has been to painstakingly research Lithuanian folk customs and musical folk lore and to present them in authentic reenactments of scenes from Lithuanian life. With fewer than ten performances to their credit, this group is still in its infancy, yet to their credit, the 22 young people participating brought a style and maturity to their presentation that was refreshing.

As the title leads one to believe, a village wedding was depicted between one Onutė Mikšytė and Jonas Kunča. By means of clever dialogue woven between folk songs sung "village style" or a capella without accompaniment or direction, all the folk customs attendant to a Lithuanian wedding were enacted.

There was the Piršlys, or matchmaker, making all arrangements as smoothly as today's politicians might. The inviter, Kvieslys, cordially exhorted the audience to attend the nuptials. We saw the poignant hair combing and braiding ceremony on the eve of the wedding, the antics of the guest at the "reception", the mock lynching of the piršlys when the

## "LIETUVIŠKOS VESTUVĖS"



bargain is feigned faulty, and the final exchange of the rue - wreath for the married woman's head-dress, and the tearful farewell of the young couple.

Most remarkable, was that although some of the dialogue might not have been understood by all, nor the folk songs, some as old as the "sutartinė" may not have been recalled, everything seemed so natural, so familiar, as if striking some common chord in all the

spectators. Perhaps all those "amber filaments" that tie us together were vibrating in sympathy.

O yes, I still haven't figured out who the moustached narrator with the funny accent was, but he looked awfully familiar.

Congratulations and thanks to Hostesses for the evening Helen and Millie Seraichekas.

Philip Skabeikis



*Piršlys*



*Kvieslys*



## FIESTA CRUISE

Friday evenings social was a cruise on Narragansett Bay. After almost losing some of the voyagers (the entrance wharf just wasn't meant for all 300 + conventioners at one time), and once everyone was safely aboard, the evening was a delight - with a cool sea breeze (great for huddling and cuddling), interesting dance music, sing-alongs, refreshments, and simply great K of L company.



## PARTY TIME

Along with the unofficial social parties hosted by the regulars of Dayton, Pittsburgh, and Amsterdam, two very special champagne parties were held - one was hosted by the C-12 ladies of New York to honor their newly-elevated Honorary Member Larry Janonis, and the other, hosted by Frank Petrauskas and the other C-140 delegates (suite courtesy of Peter Hayes of C-100) to celebrate the hosting of the 1978 Convention in Syracuse.



*Music and dancing*



*Fresh air*



*and Friendship*



## CONVENTION BANQUET

A National Convention Banquet is traditionally a cause for celebration. While it is a time to pause after a job well done, it is also a time when the Knights of Lithuania confers its highest awards.

Featured at the 64th National Convention Banquet were the recipients of the 1977 Scholarship Awards, the conferring of Honorary Membership and the presentation of the Father John C. Jutt "Friend of Lithuania" Award.

At the beginning of the program, Council 103 presented a special award to Felix Zaleskas of South Boston, for serving as their inspiration, and as a special friend to their council.

Walter Svekla, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, presented scholarships to the four winners for 1977. Doris Balaconis, C-17 Jrs., So. Boston, Ellen Grigaliunas, C-67, Bayonne, Kathleen Norinkevich, C-17, So. Boston, and Maria Zakarka, C-112, Chicago, received awards of \$500 each for their first year of college study.

Honorary Membership, the highest form of recognition given by the Knights of Lithuania to one of its members for long-time extraordinary service, was conferred upon Larry Janonis, C-12, New York, and Mid-Atlantic District President. Spokesman for the Honorary Membership Committee Phyllis Grendal cited Larry's record of long and distinguished service. Larry was joined at the dais by his wife, Jeanne.

The Father John C. Jutt "Friend of Lithuania" Award is presented to a non-Lithuanian for outstanding service to the cause of Lithuanians and Lithuania. This year's recipient, Mr. Alfred Friendly, Jr., is Deputy Director of the Committee on Security and Cooperation in Europe (The Helsinki Commission). Mr. Friendly, who was accompanied by his lovely wife, Marie Louise, was also presented with a key to the city of Providence by Mayor Vincent A. Cianci. The texts of the remarks by Lithu-



*Bishop Louis Gelineau addresses Banquet guests.*



*B. Stoskus presents special award to Felix Zaleskas.*



*L. to r., A. Friendly, Bishop Gelineau, Rev. Martinkus, Mayor Cianci join in a hearty song.*



anian Affairs Committee Chairman, Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, and Mr. Friendly's address, are included in this issue.

Bishop Louis E. Gelineau, Bishop of Providence, was special guest at the Banquet, and gave a moving and positive address.

The entertainment highlight was a sensitive and artistic

rendering of three Lithuanian folk songs by young soprano Maryte Bizinkauskas, from Council 1, Brockton, Mass. Maryte, who is studying voice, shows great promise for the future. She was accompanied on the piano by her father, Dr. Peter Bizinkauskas.

Other guests included Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus, Pastor of St.

Casimir's Church, Bertha and John Stoskus, Juozas Sadauskas, H.M., and National President Anthony Miner.

Special thanks must go to Victor Mathieu, Chairman of the Banquet, and Master of Ceremonies, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., who conducted the program with his special flair and talent.

M. S.



*Bishop Gelineau exchanges thoughts with performers Peter and Maryte Bizinkauskas.*



*For your dancing pleasure, the "Happy Bachelors" provided a variety of polkas, rock, tangos, etc.*



*Some of the Banquet Guests.*



## SUNDAY BRUNCH

Saying "Su Diev" after a tiring but exciting, rewarding and enjoyable few days is never easy, but C-103 provided a farewell feast truly worthy of "easing the pain".

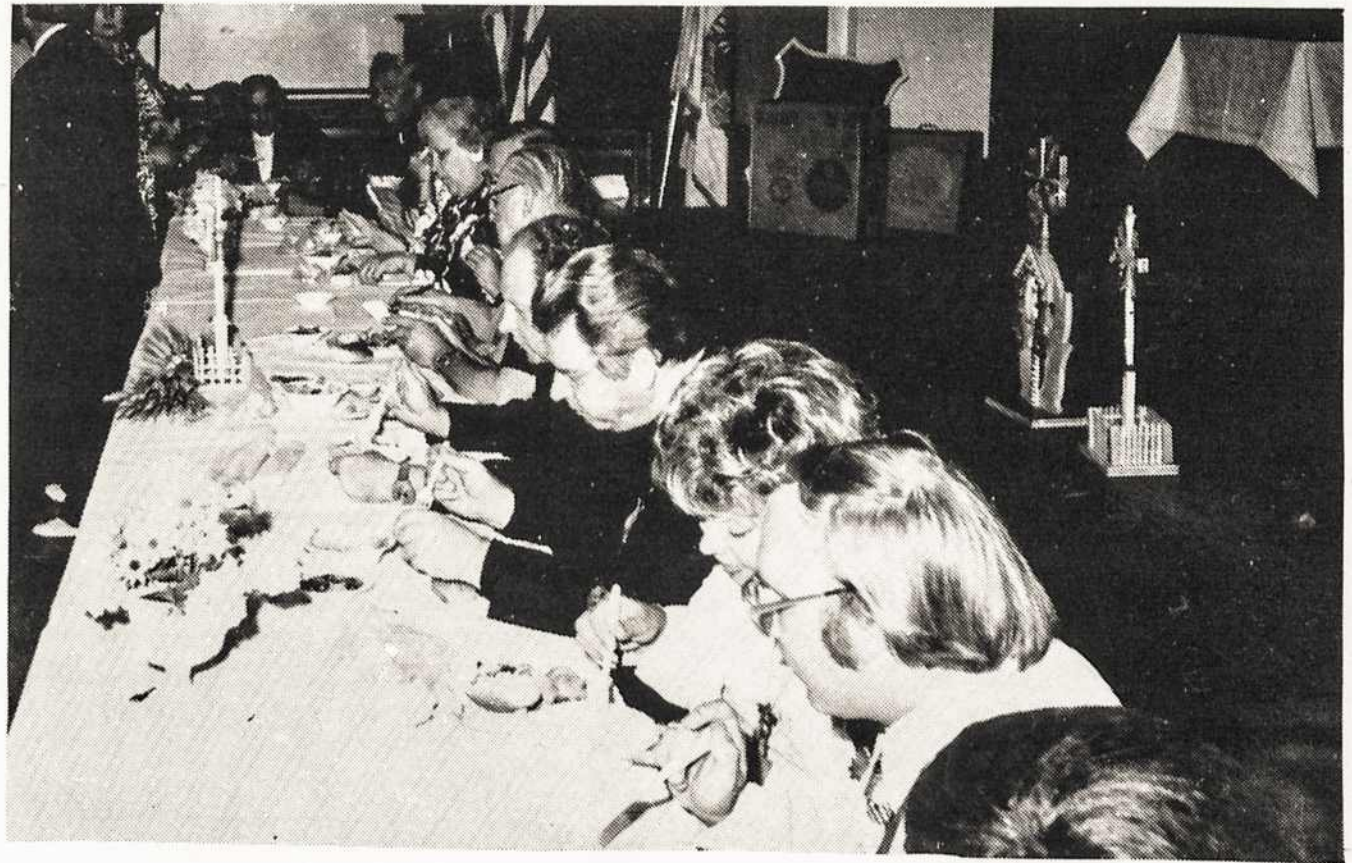
After a most impressive closing Mass, Sunday's program continued in St. Casimir's Parish Hall, with a sumptuous buffet, followed by an interesting program of awards - and then, fond farewells!

The newly elected Supreme Council members were the featured head table guests, joining Auxiliary Bishop of Providence Kenneth Angell, St. Casimir Pastor Rev. V. Martinkus and Convention Coordinators Bertha & John Stoskus and Rev. A. Jurge-laitis, O.P.

The short program featured those most concerned with assuring of future for the K of L - Membership Award Winners and Juniors. First Vice President Ann Marie Kassel presented Junior Conventionship award checks to smiling Junior winners from each District. Membership awards were presented by Second Vice President Philip Skabeikis, to councils and members who distinguished themselves in the campaign to maintain and increase our membership.

A special "collection" netted several benefits - a set of beautiful bronze bookends for Eva Migonis of C-143, Washington, and a sum of \$102 which was donated by the committee to the Scholarship Fund. As Scholarship Chairman Walter Svekla accepted the donation (and added a little commercial), added donations "arrived". Pastor Rev. Martinkus donated \$100.00 - and Bishop Angell, \$50. Thanks to all from the Scholarship Committee.

Another surprise was a delicious birthday cake - with not too many candles - presented to hostess Bertha Stoskus, with a few rousing choruses of "Ilgiausiu Metu" and "Happy Birthday".





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The afternoon ended with fond farewells, plus "drive carefully" from the hosts, - "Thanks for everything" from the guests, and "See you "UPSTATE IN '78" from everyone.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Please remember in your prayers...

**NAPOLEONAS S APKUS**  
Member, C-36, Chicago

died June, 1977

\*\*\*

**FRANK GELENITIS**  
Member, C-90, Kearny  
Past National Legal Adviser

died Sept. 6, 1977

\*\*\*

**JOHN RIGALIS**  
Member, C-30, Westfield

died Sept. 5, 1977

\*\*\*

**ED. NOTE:**

**MEMBERS** - Please notify Editor Loretta Stukas **IMMEDIATELY** when a council member or K of L friend from another council dies, so that VYTIS readers may be notified and the Supreme Council can offer condolences to the family.

(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

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