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the KNIGHT **VYTTIS**

1980

**The Knights
of Lithuania**

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Providence, R.I. 02918

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New York, N.Y. 10023

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315 E. Street
So. Boston, Mass. 02127

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS

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351 Highland Street
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the KNIGHT
VYTIS

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CONTENTS - TURINYS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 3. The Cult of Mary in Lithuania | Rev. V. Gidziunas, OFM |
| 6. The Letter | M. Skabeikis |
| 8. Motina | L. Andriekus |
| 9. Memorial Day | |
| 10. Official News | P. Skabeikis |
| 12. Convention News | |
| 13. Lietuva yra Marijos žemė | |
| 14. Netekus motinos | K. Petrulienė |
| 14. In Memoriam | |
| 15. Lithuanians in the News | ed. R. Kazlauskas |
| 19. Juniors Corner | S. Bumila |
| 21. šv. Kazimiero šventė | E. Pakalniškienė |
| 22. K of L Calendar | |
| 23. Vyčiai veikia / Council News | ed. J. Zukas |
| 36. Convention Agenda | |

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Loretta I. Stukas, Editor
234 Sunlit Dr.
Watchung, N.J. 07060

"VYTIS" STAFF

Josephine Zukas,
Council News Editor
9 Charles Street
Port Washington, N.Y.

Ruth Kazlauskas
Liths in the News Editor
2453 W. 45th Pl.
Chicago, IL. 60632

Alex Pakalniskis, Jr.
Lithuanian Editor
3948 S. Artesian Ave.
Chicago, IL. 60632

Regina Malakas, Layout Ed.
Lucille Kilkus, Mailing

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Irene K. Sankus
2520 W. 68th St
Chicago, IL. 60629

LCRA COORDINATOR
William Sittis
59-44 17th Rd.
Maspe., N.Y. 11378

LITH. LANGUAGE PROM.
Faustas Strolia
15325 Sequoia
Oak Forest, Ill. 60452

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

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DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

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NED
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MAD
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2124 Ellis Ave.
Bronx, N.Y.

THE CULT OF MARY IN LITHUANIA

UNTIL THE WANING OF PROTESTANTISM

Victor Gidžiūnas, O.F.M.

Translated by Demie Jonaitis

Although Lithuania in 1387 was the last country in Europe to adopt Christianity, it did not lag behind the others in its devotion to the Blessed Virgin. The name of Mary resounded through the land of Lithuania concurrently with the advance of those who were the first to bring to its people the teachings of Christ. Because there was a paucity of Lithuanian-speaking priests, the rulers of Lithuania promoted Christianity themselves; they taught the "Hail Mary" to the people and they built churches, dedicating them to the Mother of God. In like manner, other founders of the church extended this work. It is estimated that in the XV century, of the 63 churches built in the diocese of Vilnius, 19 were named in honor of Mary. During that period, in the diocese of Samogitia, of the 19 churches 6 were dedicated to Mary.

With the introduction of Christianity in Lithuania the Church immediately instituted four obligatory feasts in veneration of Mary: the Assumption, Presentation, Annunciation, and Nativity, and not long after was added the fifth, the Immaculate Conception. Abstinence and fast were required before the great feasts. The bishops of Lithuania provided indulgences and made sure that the feasts served not only as days of veneration but also as springs of spiritual grace.

The Preservation and Dissemination of the Cult of Mary

Not long after the expansion of Christianity, Protestantism spread through Prussia, Poland and Lithuania. It reached Lithuania at a time when the Lithuanians were not yet fully cognizant of the spiritual significance of the Catholic faith. Although Protestantism, attracting some of the powerful nobility, achieved considerable success, it remained powerless to attract kings, bishops, monks and the general populace. Ultimately, having reached the apex of its success, it began to disintegrate from within. Free interpretation of the Scripture, together with the rejection of authority, led to profound discord and fragmented the Protestants into numerous sects.



Our Lady of Vilnius

Protestantism, having gained a stronghold in Lithuania in the middle of the XVI century, affected the cult of Mary. While Lutherans did not venture to reject all forms of the veneration of Mary and retained some feasts and hymns in her honor, the growing numbers of Calvinists in Lithuania actively disparaged the cult of Mary in all its forms.

The Contributions of the Religious Orders

The cult of Mary in Lithuania not only survived the efforts of the Protestants to suppress it, but became revitalized, and spread through the people.



Žemaičių Kalvarijos Madona

In this respect, the Jesuits who established their order in Lithuania in the XVI century, founding colleges and, in 1579 the Academy of Vilnius, played a vital role. The Sodality of Mary, founded in 1573 and associated with the colleges and the Academy, contributed impressively to the dissemination of the cult of Mary. Even before the establishment of the Academy in 1577, the Sodality was strong in membership and had its own chapel where High Mass was celebrated in honor of Mary each Saturday.

After the establishment of the Academy, the number of Sodality members multiplied rapidly and the chapel proved too small to accommodate them. Thereupon, the Sodality, following the Sodality of Rome as its model, conducted conferences and meditations Sundays and Holy days. Through the efforts of Albert Radvila in 1590, the Sodality was dedicated to the guardianship of the Mother of God and in her honor, during the Holy days in Lent, the Sodalists chanted "Salve" and "Laudes", they visited the poor and prepared them dinners. By 1592, the Sodalists of Mary not only visited prisoners and gave their assistance to the poor, but many also chose the spiritual estate and joined religious Orders.

The Sodalists of Mary made public acts of penance as well as self-denial. For instance, in 1593 on Good Friday, as they passed the ornately adorned bier of Christ, they flagellated themselves and incited others to follow their example. In that period, four Sodalists joined the Jesuits and five joined other Orders. Records of the Sodalists' acts of love for neighbor, their visiting prisoners and the poor, washing feet on Good Friday, preparing meals for the deprived, conducting personal acts of penance, and enrolling in monasteries and seminaries are contained in the annual reports of the activities of the Jesuits.

We gain further insight into the achievements of the Sodality of Mary when we cross the threshold of the XVI century. Then we learn that in 1605 the Sodality of

Vilnius Academy functioned via two divisions: *major* and *minor*. The *major* had 114 Sodalists; the *minor* — 120. In that year, six Sodalists joined the Jesuit order and eight joined other orders.

The report of 1617 divulges the most detailed information about the work of Academy students, the importance of the Sodality, and the conversion of Protestants. We learn from that report that 1200 youths were studying in the Academy. Of that number, about 400 belonged to the Sodality of Mary. In that year, 15 Sodalists entered various orders and five joined the Jesuits. Even the heretics and schismatics themselves sent their children to Jesuit schools so that, active in the Sodality of Mary, they might learn to understand their



Pažaislio Madona

own frailties and eradicate them.

Moreover, to promulgate the cult of Mary and implore God for mercy in the years of disaster, the Jesuits began to conduct processions of penance in which the Sodalists of Mary, the students, and the great throngs of pilgrims participated.

The earliest known record of the first pilgrimage to the shrine of Mary in Trakai appears in 1598. At that time, in the wake of rumors of impending plagues and famine, the Jesuits organized a pilgrimage to Mary's shrine, some 20,000 paces from the city of Vilnius. The pilgrimage was noteworthy for, up to that time, there had been no other like it, with such swarms of populace, such order in the procession, and such extraordinary penance and devotion, not only of the

common people but also of the upper classes. This procession inspired further propagation of the Catholic faith, led to considerable spiritual progress, and served to confuse the heretics and schismatics.

The Franciscans had become established in Lithuania prior to the arrival of the Jesuits, but in the XVth century they split into two families: the Conventuals and the Observants. With Saint Francis' love of Mary their legacy, they had chosen as their Protectress the Lady of the Immaculate Conception. But unfortunately, with the influx of Protestantism over Lithuania, they grew ineffectual. In 1573, the Observants had only 9 religious; the Conventuals did not have many more. However, as the Jesuit schools continued to prepare candidates for the religious life, the family of Observants began to recuperate and, by the end of the XVIth Century, they joined the Jesuits in bringing back to the Church many souls led astray by Protestants.

Franciscan churches in XVI century Lithuania solemnly celebrated feasts of the Immaculate Conception, the Queen of Angels, the Visitation of Mary, the Betrothal, the Assumption, and the Seven Joys. During certain feasts, there were public processions.

The Franciscans also venerated Mary with song. The blessed Ladislav of Gielново, who died in 1505, composed a hymn "Who Desires to Serve Mary" which was sung in Franciscan churches in the XVIth century and is still sung today in Lithuanian churches. The Observants prayed to Mary that she, with her powerful intercession, protect all from the errors of Protestantism. Every day they repeated the prayers prescribed in



MARIJOS ŽEMĖ - MARY'S LAND
(Painting by Jurgis Juodis)

1521 by the General Master: "Salve Regina", "Gaude Maria virgo cunctas haereses sola intermisti in universo mundo", adding, in the end, the "Ave Maria."

In Lithuania, as elsewhere in the XVIth century, the Congregations of the Third Order worked in association with the monasteries, the tertiaries, expressing a special love for the Mother of God. Literate individuals were required to read "The Little Hours of Mary" every day, according to the regulations issued by Pope Nicholas IV.

The Brotherhood of St. Anne, founded in the early XVIth century by the Observants — in Vilnius 1500 and in Kaunas 1508 — was active in Lithuania, but with the spread of Protestantism, it became ineffectual. However, in 1580 it was reorganized, on firmer foundations, and it began to function once more. The purpose of the Brotherhood included the glorification of God and the consolation of the faithful through growth of faith, will and love. According to the text of the statute, it seems that the principal purpose was to revitalize the faith debilitated by Protestants and to liven religious practice with the intercession of St. Anne and her daughter Mary. In the Brotherhood, the devotion to Mary played a significant part because every member was required to pray with his family, the "Hail Mary", to become familiar with the lives of St. Anne and the Virgin, and to follow their examples and learn to accept hardships and suffering.

The Brotherhood membership included bishops of Lithuania, canons, priests and the general populace. We find, among the members: Cardinal George Radvila, Bishop of Vilnius, Melchior Giedraitis, Bishop of Samogitia, Duke Nicholas Christopher Radvila, Chancellor of Lithuania, L. Sapiega and other nobles.

The Dominicans, established in XVIth century Lithuania, also disseminated the cult of Mary. Their special contribution was the prayer of the Holy Rosary that spread throughout Lithuania. The earliest source to divulge the history of the rosary in Lithuania is the Ledesmo catechism of M. Daukša who translated it from the Polish in 1595. He describes the rosary as a series of meditations on 15 mysteries, divided into 3 parts, each presenting 5 mysteries: the joyful, the sorrowful and the glorious. The Dominicans were also instrumental in the growth of the Brotherhood of the Rosary. The earliest known reports of the Brotherhood appeared at the end of the XVIth century.

The Carmelites became established in Vilnius in the early XVI century when they founded the Brotherhood of the Scapular which then spread widely over Lithuania. In the churches associated with these Brotherhoods there was an altar or a chapel of Mary of the Scapular, with a feastday and indulgences.

(To be continued in the next issue.)

The Letter

A Short Story
for Mothers' Day

Marian C. Skabeikis

Marija absently stroked the crumpled paper in her lap with a trembling hand. She was overcome with the defeated weariness of old age. In her seventieth year, her shoulders had the permanent stoop of the field worker, but it was not her physical health which troubled her. For the first time in her life, she was faced with the possibility that the things which she had most believed in had no place in today's world.

She looked once again at the letter she held, but there was no need. She had learned it by heart since Algirdas had brought it home yesterday. The Principal of the Middle School was coming to see her — and she had to have a decision before he arrived.

Algirdas was her grandson. He had come to her just six months ago when his parents, her own son and his wife, were killed in an accident. Her son, she knew, would not have approved of what she had done. He had considered her an old fool even before he had started at Vilnius University. But he was dead, and Algirdas was living with her now. There was no one else.

She was wandering again. A sure sign of old age, she thought wryly. This would not help her solve her dilemma. Algirdas. What a fine boy he was. He had added an element of youth to her lonely life. But now Algirdas was in trouble. It was her fault, because she was old and could not change.

Algirdas had been a Pioneer in his old school. She could hear her son warning her that the Party, not the Church, was the way of

Lithuania's future, and that it was foolish of her to continue with her superstitious need to believe in God. She had ignored her son, and continued to believe as she always had. But now there was Algirdas, and for the first time, she believed she might have been wrong.

When Algirdas had moved into her home, he was old enough to enter the Middle School, where he was immediately asked to join the Komsomol, the Communist Youth. He had come home from school and asked her, sensing that she was somehow different from his parents. She had just shaken her head. Algirdas never mentioned again.

Six months. What must have happened during that time. Algirdas never told her, but he must have been humiliated time and again at school. She recalled that people had interrupted their conversations when she passed them in the village. How blind she must be. How old — and how insensitive to his needs. She remembered hearing about a young girl who had had her crucifix

torn from about her neck by her atheist teacher. It had made her sad, but so many things made her sad these days. She continued to pray in Church, fast during Lent, say her rosary openly. She was old, and beyond caring about consequences.

But there was Algirdas. And the letter. The Principal had grown up with her son. Together they had hiked through the countryside, arms linked, singing. He too, thought she was an old fool, and maybe he was right. How could she not have known — Algirdas was going to Church!

She had never asked him. She could not bring herself to see the same scorn in his beautiful eyes that she had seen so often in her son's. But Algirdas was going to church on Sundays, and was now in trouble at school.

The pain she had felt since receiving the letter welled in her chest. The beauty of the Church, the personal joy she felt in prayer . . . but she was an old woman. Could she permit her grandson to endanger his future simply because of her example? She had fought with herself, prayed and wept, all through the night, and had failed to reach a decision. To allow the boy to continue to copy her actions, now that she knew, would end his chance at a better life, and go against the wishes of his dead father. Her own conscience had pricked her daily that she had not secretly instructed the boy as others were doing. Now the boy, openly curious, had put himself in danger.

Exhausted, her body slumped in the chair, and she slept. Visions of



her own youth flickered in her memory and died. Herself as a little girl being carried over the snow drifts to the church for Midnight Mass at Christmas . . . Lighted candles flickering in the dark from the cemetery on the Feast of All Souls . . . her own son's First Communion Day . . . the image changed. Her son's face black with anger as he refused her pleas to have Algirdas baptised . . .

She groaned, and stirred. Someone was knocking at the door. She rose, afraid. The answer had not come.

The principal was a big man, his handsome features beginning to coarsen with approaching middle age. He was good at sizing up an opponent, and he quickly sensed that this woman was unsure, unlike some of the fanatics he had dealt with in the past. This would be a brief visit, a minor inconvenience.

His cold blue eyes met Marija's troubled ones. For a moment, he recalled that this woman had bandaged his knee and kissed away his tears after some childhood mishap. But that was over forty years ago and this foolish woman was going to ruin the future of his friend's son unless he put a stop to it. It had gone on too long, and he had been too patient, turning away the wrath of the teachers for his friend's sake.

"Old woman," he said sternly, "you have been a bad influence on your grandson. When his parents were alive, he was a good Soviet citizen, and a credit to the new Lithuania. He was such a promising leader, and you are changing him into a superstitious old woman like yourself!" He paused to wipe his brow, and went on.

"The boy was never brought to a priest by his parents. They knew how to raise him. Now he talks with the reactionary old fool of a priest when he should be at meetings with his fellows.

"You have no right!" He was shouting now. "You are unfit to raise this boy. You will destroy him!"

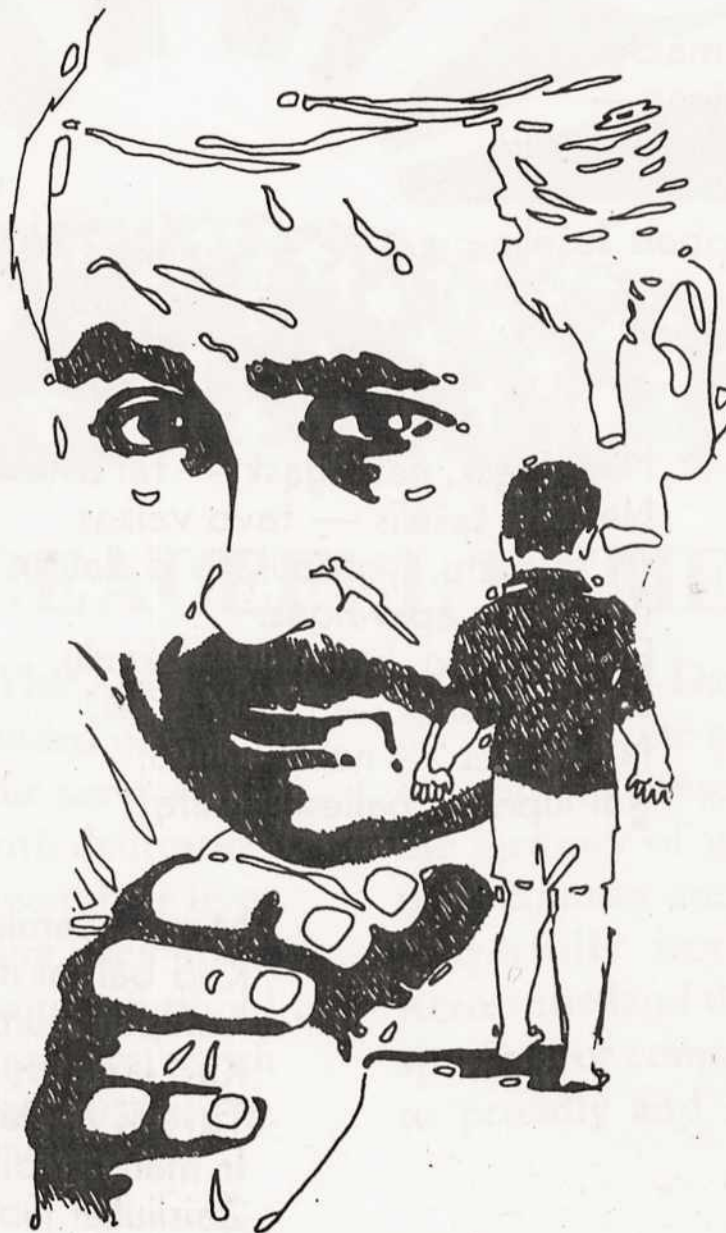
Marija stood dumbly as the Principal continued his attack. She did not know that the boy Algirdas had entered the room.

"Honored sir," she began weakly, "I . . ." She was startled to hear the voice of her grandson interrupt her.

"Dear grandmother," he said quietly, his eyes warm with affection, "since my father died, I am a man and must speak for myself." He directed his level gaze at the Principal.

"Honored sir, my grandmother has never asked me to share her belief. She has never spoken to me of the Church or sent me to the priest.

"I loved my father and mother. They trained me to believe as they did, but there were so many things they could not answer, although they tried.



"When I was a Pioneer, in my old school in the city, there was a boy in my class who would not join. The teacher threatened him many times, and cartoons making fun of him were hung in the halls. One day I asked him why he was so stubborn, even though we were forbidden to talk to him. You see, I had to know.

He told me that all of his family believed in God, who made all things and watched over us. He said that we were all God's children, and that the teacher could not stop God from being just because she said He did not exist. I didn't understand, but I remembered. He asked me to go to Church with him, but I was afraid. It all seemed so strange."

The boy paused, and then continued. "I didn't talk to the boy for a year, until his grandfather died. They had a priest at the funeral, and we were forbidden to go. Weeks later, I asked him in a whisper what the priest had done to his grandfather. He told me that the priest and the family had said prayers for his grandfather's soul. Even death, he said, could not stop a soul from being. They prayed that his grandfather, who was much loved, would be in God's care forever. Life after death seemed unbelievable. I never spoke to the boy again.

"When I came here, I went to church for the first time. I was unhappy and missed my parents. I remembered what the boy in the city had said about souls. The Mass was strange, but beautiful. After several weeks, I learned the prayers and said them over and over in my head. Some of my unhappiness seemed to go away."

Marija was stunned. She had not understood. He had never spoken of his parents, or asked her questions.

The Principal exploded with rage. "You are not baptized, boy, there is no place in that Church for

you. This must stop, or you will find yourself with no future."

Algirdas looked from the Principal to his grandmother. "I asked the priest to baptize me. To teach me. He told me that I must ask my grandmother. I was afraid, afraid that she would think that I was not a good son to set aside my father's wishes. But grandmother . . . dear grandmother, there is so much I need to know."

Marija was weeping as she held out her arms to the boy. How wrong she had been, how afraid of her dead son. God had given her another chance with boy and she had almost lost it.

She stood to face the Principal, her face resolute.

"You must do what you must, but this boy is mine. I will teach



him the Faith. That is my right. He will go to the priest for the sacraments. That is his right.

"For forty years, you and my

foolish son and others like you have tried to deny what is most important — the right of all of us to believe in our God.

"If you punish him, we will bear it, as we have borne so many other things. But I will be afraid of you no longer. Now go!"

As the Principal slammed the door, she knew that this was a beginning, not an ending. She had been afraid, and would be afraid again, but with God's help, she and the boy would survive.

Wordlessly, she pointed to a chair and the boy sat. She reached behind the loose board in the cupboard and took out the ancient catechism which had belonged to her dead son.

The lesson would begin.



MOTINA

LEONARDAS ANDRIEKUS

O motina, aš po visų maldų
Kas vakarą kalbu dar vieną —
Kad tau miegoti būtų miela ir saldu
Gailingoj mėnesienoj;
Kad neramus senosios obels šešėlis,
Judėdamas ant sienos,
Negąsdintų tavęs išbudus.

Neišsigąsk, neišsigąsk — tai aš esu.
Ne koks šešėlis — tavo vaikas.
Aš sugrižtu, lyg paukštis iš dausų,
Pavasariu apsvaigęs.
Esu be kūno, kraujo ir be kaulų,
Bet ne šešėlis — tavo vaikas.
Neišsigąsk — nebus baisu,
Kai lūpomis paliesiu kaktą.



Miegok ramiai. Kas vakarą meldžiuos,
Kad balsiai mano ašara nekristų,
Ir nepajustum širdyje sūnaus kančios —
Kad laimintų gerasis Kristus
Tave iš apdulkėjusio paveikslų,
Ir mano kūdikystės
Žaisliukai juokintų sapnuojant.

Memorial Day



A TIME OF PEACEFUL REMEMBRANCE

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

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

In Tribute and for Remembrance



OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS



OF CONVENTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS . . .

Philip Skabeikis

The Knights of Lithuania is one of the very few, if not the only Lithuanian organization in the United States to convene annual National Conventions. When one considers the amount of manpower, money power and sheer organizational spirit that is generated by this event, this fact takes on even greater significance. Continued financial success and ever increasing attendance, has made the once painstaking task of finding National Convention hosts a little easier.

We can easily point to these facts as a pretty good barometer of innate organizational vitality.

Our Constitution makes the National Convention practically omnipotent, "the highest tribunal." It has power to amend the Constitution, elect Supreme Council Officers and committees and make decisions in ALL matters pertaining to the organization". Each year's Convention should therefore propel the organization forward. The challenge remains to harness the tremendous resources of a National Convention and convert them into new programs and rededicate them to the old.

As Convention business sessions provide the forum to accomplish this, the Convention Resolution becomes the vehicle.

Existing procedures allow members, councils or districts to submit resolutions to the National Convention for consideration. The resolutions are submitted to the Resolutions Committee formed during the first Convention Business Session. This committee then verifies that all resolutions are constitutional, clear, and in keeping with Catholic and Lithuanian principles, and finally presents them to the Convention body for a vote. All resolutions must be signed by their sponsor(s). Naturally, all Resolutions are subject to debate before voting, but one frequently sees decisions rushed along in the interest of time.

In recent years, there has been an attempt to do some pre-Convention collating of Resolutions. For several years now, District Presidents have comprised a Pre-Convention Resolutions Committee. In theory potential sponsors would submit proposed resolutions to their respective District President who in turn would submit them to the Supreme Council. It was hoped that

questions requiring further research of Constitutional change could be identified early, thus making debate go more smoothly.

The evaluation of organizational needs and policies should be an ongoing year round process continually giving rise to potential resolutions.

The Supreme Council feels that important resolutions should be available for the scrutiny of the membership as early as possible before the Convention. Sponsors could use additional time to garner and lobby for support and those who have questions or doubts would have additional time to do further research.

Sponsors of Resolutions calling for condemnation, praise or support of international incidents, Congressional resolutions, recently published books, State Dept. actions, travel to Lithuania policies, etc. should be prepared to provide documentation of some sort for the National Convention Resolutions Committee.

Delegates have the right to know *all* the facts before being asked to make decisions on issues such as those mentioned above.

As the National Convention is the "highest tribunal", it does in theory if not always in practice, take the power to set organizational priorities for each year away from its elected leaders and gives it to the Convention delegates. This is an ENORMOUS responsibility for every single delegate to bear. Does the K of L not have the right therefore to expect its delegates to make educated unemotional choices, and to distinguish between rational arguments and emotional appeals?

Toward facilitating these ideal conditions, this issue of VYTIS is carrying some resolutions that will be on the National Convention Agenda in August. Some of the Resolutions must appear in advance as per Constitutional requirements, while others appear to offer members a chance to consider the questions in advance and communicate their feelings to their councils' Convention delegates.

The Convention floor is of course open to all motions and resolutions that are "in order". All of this advance effort would not preclude introduction of business during the Convention itself, except what is already excluded by the Constitution.

We urge all councils to place discussion of these items on the agendas of their last meeting before the Convention. These procedures, if deemed useful, can be expanded in the future.

The Supreme Council is always looking for ways in which the efficiency and impact of that most important K of L convocation, the National Convention, can be maximized.

* * *

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions have been submitted to the Supreme Council for consideration and voting at the 67th NATIONAL CONVENTION, to be held in August, 1980, in Boston, Mass. We urge all members to read them, discuss them with their respective council members, and instruct their council delegates as to how to vote on these matters during the convention.

WHEREAS many councils within the Knights of Lithuania do not hold meetings during the months of July and August,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 14 of the Knights of Lithuania be changed to read as follows:

All resolutions dealing with changes or amendments to the Constitution must be submitted to the Supreme Council by Registered Mail at least six months before the National Convention and published in the VYTIS not later than the May issue. Such resolutions may be introduced by councils, districts, and/or the Supreme Council.

If a council has complied with the rulings of the Constitution in submitting constitutional changes, but the resolution is not published in the VYTIS in time, then the Supreme Council must rectify said error in time for the delegates to vote at the National Convention.

Submitted by the Mid-Central District

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, Article VI, Section 8, be changed to read: "8. A member may be known as a Lifetime Member upon dues payment of \$150.00. A special certificate shall be presented to recognize this distinction."

(ed. note — this resolution changes Lifetime Membership dues to \$150 from \$100.)

Submitted by Mid-Atlantic District
Supported by Supreme Council

BE IT RESOLVED that Full Membership dues be raised from \$8.00 per year to \$10.00. Dues structure would remain as outlined in the Knights of Lithuania Constitution.

Submitted by the Supreme Council

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Knights of Lithuania National Constitution, Article V. section e), be changed to read as follows:

An Associate Member may be a non-Lithuanian Catholic married to a Knights of Lithuania member in good standing.

1) When an Associate Member becomes a Third Degree Knight, he/she may at that time become a delegate or alternate to a District Convention. He/she may not hold any office on the District level but may be a part of a District Committee.

2) When an Associate Member becomes a Fourth Degree Knight, he/she may be a delegate or alternate to a District or National Convention. He/she may not hold any office or be part of a Committee on the National level.

Submitted by Council 96, Dayton, Ohio

BE IT RESOLVED that Article IX, Section 11 or the Knights of Lithuania Constitution be changed to read: "11. The fiscal year of the Supreme Council ends on June 30."

(ed. note — changed from July 31.)

Submitted by the Supreme Council

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania Constitution Article V, Section 3, Part C be changed from "Seniors may be members who have reached the age of 30. They may form Senior Councils which function according to the K of L Constitution." to "Seniors may be members who have reached the age of 30. They *must* form Senior Councils which function according to the K of L Constitution."

Submitted by C-1, Brockton, Mass.

CONVENTION NEWS

Dear Knights and Ladies:

The Boston Convention Committee is appealing to you to start thinking about our 67th National Convention which is to be held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel on August 6-10.

Since we had a relatively short time to start convention preparations and to start raising funds to help us host the convention, we are asking all loyal and active knights, ladies and their firends to help make our *Souvenir Program Book* a success. The money raised would help us to cover the many hidden costs of running the convention as well as keep the cost of the registration fee down.

The help of all district councils and every K of Ler will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for any consideration you give us.

Sincerely yours,
Alexander J. Chaplik, Chairman
Souvenir Program Book Committee

Not Your Usual Meeting Place

... Boston has more unusual and spectacular sites to choose from than anyplace else in the country.

Whether they are partial to broiled lobster, eager to boo an umpire, or lusting after Rachmaninoff's *Prelude in C# Minor*, visitors find that Boston can satisfy every taste.



The advertising rates for the *Souvenir Program Book* are as follows:

Full-Page — \$50.00

Half-Page — \$30.00

Quarter-Page — \$15.00

Please add \$3.50 for photographs.

The supporter listing rates for the *Souvenir Program Book* are as follows:

Patrons — \$10.00 or more

Sponsors — \$5.00 or more

Booster — \$2.00 or more

Send your donations to:

Alexander J. Chaplik, Chairman
Souvenir Program Book
788 East Broadway
South Boston, MA 02127



People are attracted from all over the world to the city's museums, art galleries, concert halls, universities and historical sites. Symphony Hall is the home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and there are many other concert halls throughout the city which present hundreds of performances throughout the year, including jazz concerts, choral programs, ballet performances.



Madona Zemaičių Kalvarijos bažnyčioje

Žemės plote ir žmonių skaičiuje niekur kitur Dievo Motina nėra tiek kartų apsireiškusi ir stebuklų padariusi, kiek Lietuvoje, todėl neveltui mūsų auksaburniai kalbėtojai ne kartą mums yra priminę, kad **LIETUVA YRA MARIJOS ŽEMĖ . . .**

Lietuvos derlinga žemelė ašaromis aplaistyta netiktai nekaltai Lietuvos žiaurių priešų kankinamų lietuvių, bet ir Dievo Motinos Marijos.

Dievo Motina Marija su Sūnum rankose pasirodė galiai verkdama Šiluvoje ant akmens.

Pažaisly su ašaromis žadėjo užtarti visus pas savo visagalintį ir maloningą Sūnų.

Girkalnyje, kad ir didelės šviesos spindėjime, bet ašarotais skruostais prižadėjo savo globą ir palaimą.

Žemaičių Kalvarijoje sopulingomis akimis žiūrėdama į kenčiančius ir verkiančius prakalbėjo — melskitės prie mano gailestingo Sūnaus, o aš jus visuomet užtarsiu.

Mėtelių Kryžiuose (ant Dusės kranto, prie šaltinėlio) verkdama Dievo Motina su kudikėliu prašė piemenėlių melstis ir visus raginti garbinti Jos Sūnų. Toje vietoje 19-to šimtmečio pabaigoje buvo pastatyta medinė koplyčia, kur kiekvienais metais per Sekmines, Petrinės ir Šv. Aktovą susirinkdavo iš visos Dzūkijos, Gudijos ir Mozūrijos tūkstančiai maldininkų, daugybė

LIETUVA

YRA

MARIJOS

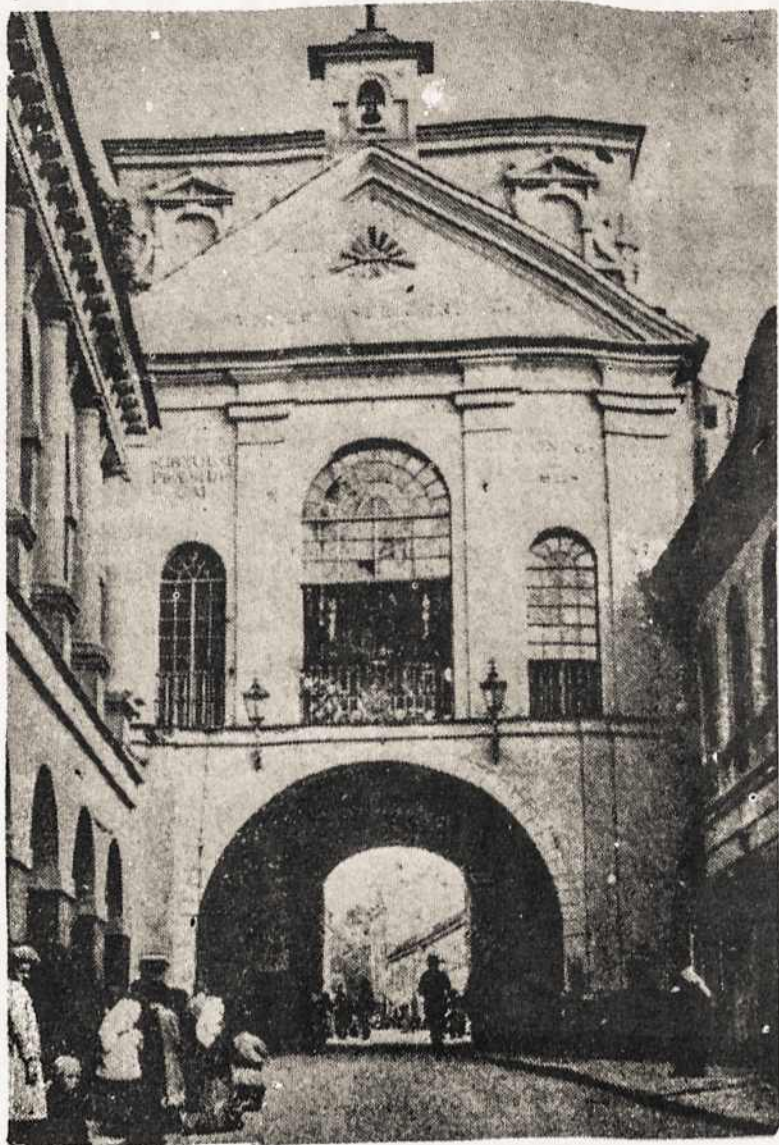
ŽEMĖ

kunigų, o neretai ir Seinų bei Mariampolės vyskupai. Rusams okupavus Lietuvą, ši Šventovė visiškai sunaikinta. Koplyčia nugriauta, šaltinėlis užpiltas šiukšlėmis ir okupantų griežtai uždrausta ten betkam viešai melstis.

Vilniaus Aušros Vartų Dievo Motinos paveikslas daug kartų išgelbėjo Lietuvos Sostinę nuo priešų puolimų. Ir daugybei ligonių, sergančių neišgydomoms ligoms, gražino sveikatą. Bet Aušros Vartų Marijos paveikslas turi skirtingą pradžią nuo kitų Dievo Motinos stebuklingų šventovių.

XVI šimtmetyje Vilniaus miesto sienoje prie vartų, ant 8-ių ąžuolinių lentų, nežinomas menininkas nupiešė Marijos paveikslą su vainikų karūną ant galvos. XVII šimtmetyje buvo apvilta Vilniaus auksakalvių nukaltu sidabriniu rūbu. O XVIII šimtmetyje paveikslas apstatytas akmenine koplyčia.

Dabar į Aušros Vartų koplyčią įeinama per siauros gatvelės vartus — arką, po dešine aukštais laiptais (nes apačioje Šv. Teresės bažnyčia). Koplyčioje tarp altoriaus ir sienų gal sutilptų 50—100 stačių žmonių. Viršuje altoriaus paveikslas ant



Aušros Vartai

ąžuolinių lentų apvilktas sidabrinis rūbu, su dviem vainikais ant galvos, kaklas papuoštas keliomis eilėmis gražių gintarų ir raudonų karolių. Aplink altorių siena pripildyta tikinčiųjų, kurie apturėjo Marijos malonės Votų Širdimis, dėkonių užrašais, šoninės sienos lig lango užpildyta tikinčiųjų ir malones gauvių padėkų užrašais.

Aušros Vartų paveikslas yra vienintelis visame pasaulyje su dviem vainikais-karūnom, taip pat retas Marijos paveikslas be Kūdikielio. Viršutinių vainikų paveikslas buvo papuoštas 19-to šimtmečio pabaigoje. Daug kur lenkai giriasi ir nemažai lietuvių linkę tikėti kad lenkai apvainikavo 1927 metais. Bet tai netiesa, nes mano žinioje yra paveikslas iš 20-to šimtmečio pradžios, ir turiu 1914 metais Seirijų bažnyčioje gautą nuo Kapucino T. Kazimiero alumininį medalikėlį, kur abu paveiksmai turi du vainikus-karūnas. Būtų įdomu, jei kas žino, kad parašytų kada Aušros Vartų paveikslas buvo antrą kartą apvainikuotas.



Stebuklingas Dievo Motinos paveikslas Aušros Vartų Koplyčioje



Netekus motinėls

Jau supiltas naujas kapas
dėl mamytės dėl brangios,
Kur dukrelp našlaitėlė
Ji aplanko nuolatos.

Lanko kapą, ramina širdį
Bet iš jo balso negirdi.
Nesigirdi nei dusliai
Nes nutilo amžinai.

Neliūdėk, miela dukrele
Neliek ašarėlių
Prisimink maldose jos
sielą rytą vakarėlių.

Ši trumpą eilėrašį skiriu Vytei
kuri yra netekusi motynėls.

Kazimiera Petrulienė

IN MEMORIAM

Sincere sympathy to
Rev. A.J. Jurgelaitis, OP
Natl. Spir. Adviser

on the death
of his mother

ANNA YURGEL
March 28, 1980
Brockton, Mass

Lithuanians in The

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS

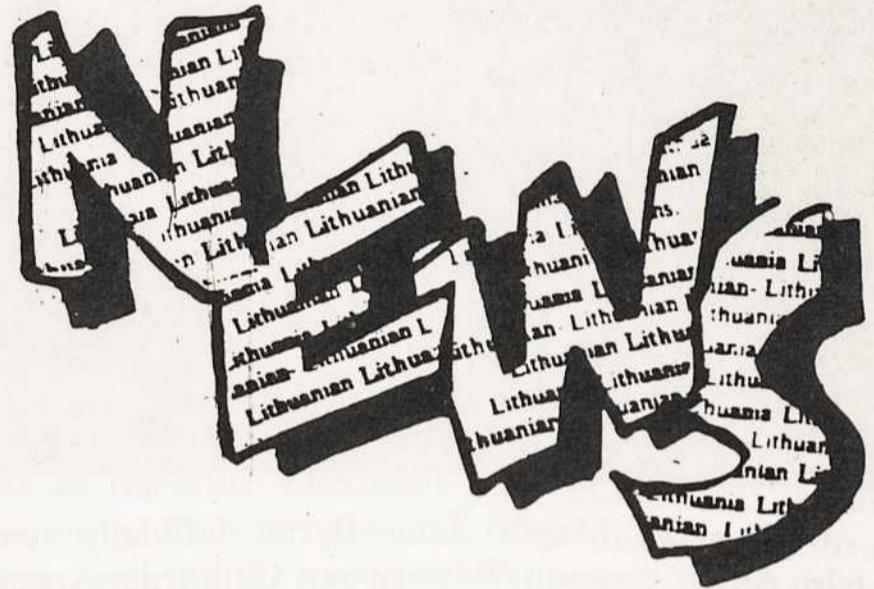


J. Samoska (center) with Victor Vaitkus and Mayor E. Bergin

"Nobody pays taxes during my administration" said JOSEPH SAMOSKA as he took over the reins as Waterbury's Lithuanian Mayor for the day on February 16th. He was quick to note that the tax collector's office is closed on Saturday and his administration ended at midnight. Most of the day was spent entertaining guests or making ceremonial visits. Samoska said he felt the honor of serving as mayor for a day really belonged to the Lithuanian community and not to him, and that the whole purpose of the day is to remind everyone of the human rights violations in Lithuania.

Samoska, owner of Joe's Tire Shop in Waterbury, Connecticut, was also one of the recipients of the third annual Hiram W. Hayden Awards of the Sales and Marketing Executives of Western Connecticut at the organization's annual meeting on March 24th. Samoska has long been active in humanitarian endeavors and has been an active member and leader of a long list of civic and charitable organizations. He's also been a prominent supporter and promoter of sports and sportsmanship in the city.

Joseph Samoska and Victor A. Vaitkus, president of the Waterbury Lithuanian Community, are both K of L members.



Philadelphia attorney, ANTHONY W. NOVASITIS, JR., has been appointed chairman of the Pennsylvania Heritage Affairs Advisory Commission which was established by executive order of Governor Dick Thornburgh. The commission, under the auspices of the Dept. of Community Affairs, will consist of more than 27 members who will reflect many of the diverse heritage groups in Pennsylvania. The purpose of the non-salaried, bipartisan board will be to express the needs and concerns of ethnic communities throughout the state. In addition, the commission's charge will be to advise the governor on the commemoration of historical events, the accomplishments and contributions involving the ethnic community and the sponsorship and promotion of events and projects of historical, cultural and educational interest. Novasitis is a member of the Philadelphia, Pa. and American Bar Associations. He has served as general counsel to the National Republican Heritage Groups Council in Washington, D.C., the Lithuanian Music Hall and the National Lithuanian-American Community of U.S.A., Inc.

* * *

Blozis Hall, The senior citizens' housing development in the Jersey City, N.J. Medical Center complex, was originally named Jones Hall and had been slated for demolition, but Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith decided to convert it into senior housing instead. Its former uses included residences for doctors and nurses at the Medical Center, and headquarters for the Jersey City Job Corps. It was renamed in honor of AL BLOZIS, a Jersey City sports hero who briefly played professional football prior to his death in World War II.



Chicago's Mayor Jane Byrne officially renamed 69th Street between Western and California Avenues as "Lithuanian Plaza Court" on Sunday, March 9th. The ceremony marked the culmination of \$450,000 worth of work over the past year to enhance the 69th Street community and give it an "ethnic village" theme. The Mayor said she was proud to honor the background and heritage of the Southwest Side's Lithuanian community; also, that she felt extremely proud as she watched those gathered in the street sing the American and Lithuanian national anthems, led by Algird Brazis of the Lithuanian opera. Mayor Byrne arrived at the ceremony accompanied by Kara Kennedy, daughter of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy. Also on hand were State Sen. Frank D. Savickas; 15th Ward Alderman Frank Brady, who sponsored the ordinance to rename the street; the Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, pastor of Nativity BVM Church, also Spiritual Advisor to C-112; Streets and Sanitation Department Commissioner John Donovan; Circuit Court Judge Daniel White; former State Rep. Walter McAvoy; and former Ald. Kenneth Jaksy, now an administrative aid to Sen. Savickas.



Baseball's Hall of Famer, AL KALINE, formerly with the Detroit Tigers, was born ALBERT WILLIAM KALINAUSKAS in Baltimore in 1934. When it was noted that he had the makings of a fine professional ball player his parents, both Lithuanian, encouraged him. His distinguished 22-year career made Al Kaline a member of baseball's elite and catapulted him into baseball's Hall of Fame. His baseball career began and ended with the Detroit Tigers when he retired in 1974. Vyt. Širvydas of the Lithuanian newspaper "Vienybė" discovered this little known fact of Al Kaline's Lithuanian heritage.

* * *

The recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award at the 9th Annual B'nai B'rith Citizenship Awards presentation on March 16th, was the HON. BERNARD G. YARUSAVAGE, Mayor of Clark, New Jersey, who is an American-Lithuanian.

* * *



Featured in the Chicago Sunday Tribune Magazine, "Ethnic Kitchen/Lithuanian" column in March, was ONA NORVILAS of Marquette Park. In the European tradition, and because of cooking classes she took as a young woman in Lithuania some 30 years ago, she has spent much of her life in a kitchen. Every day, she prepares full course meals from soup to dessert. She has worked at one of the Lithuanian delicatessens on 69th Street, and often she is called upon to cook traditional fish dishes, soups, salads, cookies, and tortes for social, religious, and civic affairs in the Lithuanian community. Though her family of seven children have homes of their own, it is at the Norvilas residence that everyone meets to celebrate Christmas Eve, Easter, and family occasions and where foods and other traditions of their heritage and culture survive. Mrs. Norvilas prepares a full feast of Lithuanian foods without checking a recipe. Her early training in Lithuania taught her to prepare food in quantities and garnish it attractively. Now several of the women in her family are cooking alongside her and writing down the specifics so they will be able to prepare some of these food treasures in their own kitchens.



Members of the Lithuanian folk dance group "Azuolynas" from Uruguay gather round Mayor Jane M. Byrne in her office as she presents their director, Dr. Alfredo Stanevičius (right of Mayor) with a certificate of merit from the City of Chicago. The group, whose U.S. and Canada tour was sponsored by

the Lithuanian World Community, Inc. of Chicago, had three performances while in Chicago — two at the Lithuanian Youth Center and one at the Daley Center. Also shown with the group are Dr. Leon K. Leonas (left of Mayor) and Mrs. Regina Kucas.

One of the first appointments made by the newly elected mayor of the City of Amsterdam, New York, Mayor Mario Villa, was the appointment of ALBERT LUZINAS as Chief of Police on January 1, 1980. Formerly, he was Captain of Detectives and was in charge of the Youth Bureau. He and his wife, the former Edna (Schell) Sidlauskas, are members of C-100 and parishioners of St. Casimir's Church. They are the parents of two children, Peter and Alessa.

Al was the first Boy Scout Master of the St. Casimir's Boy Scout Troop. He is also a member of the Holy Name Society, the American Lithuanian Veterans Organization, and the American Lithuanian Club. He is active in many civic organizations, including being a member of the Board of Directors for the Montgomery County Big Brothers.



Albert Luzinas

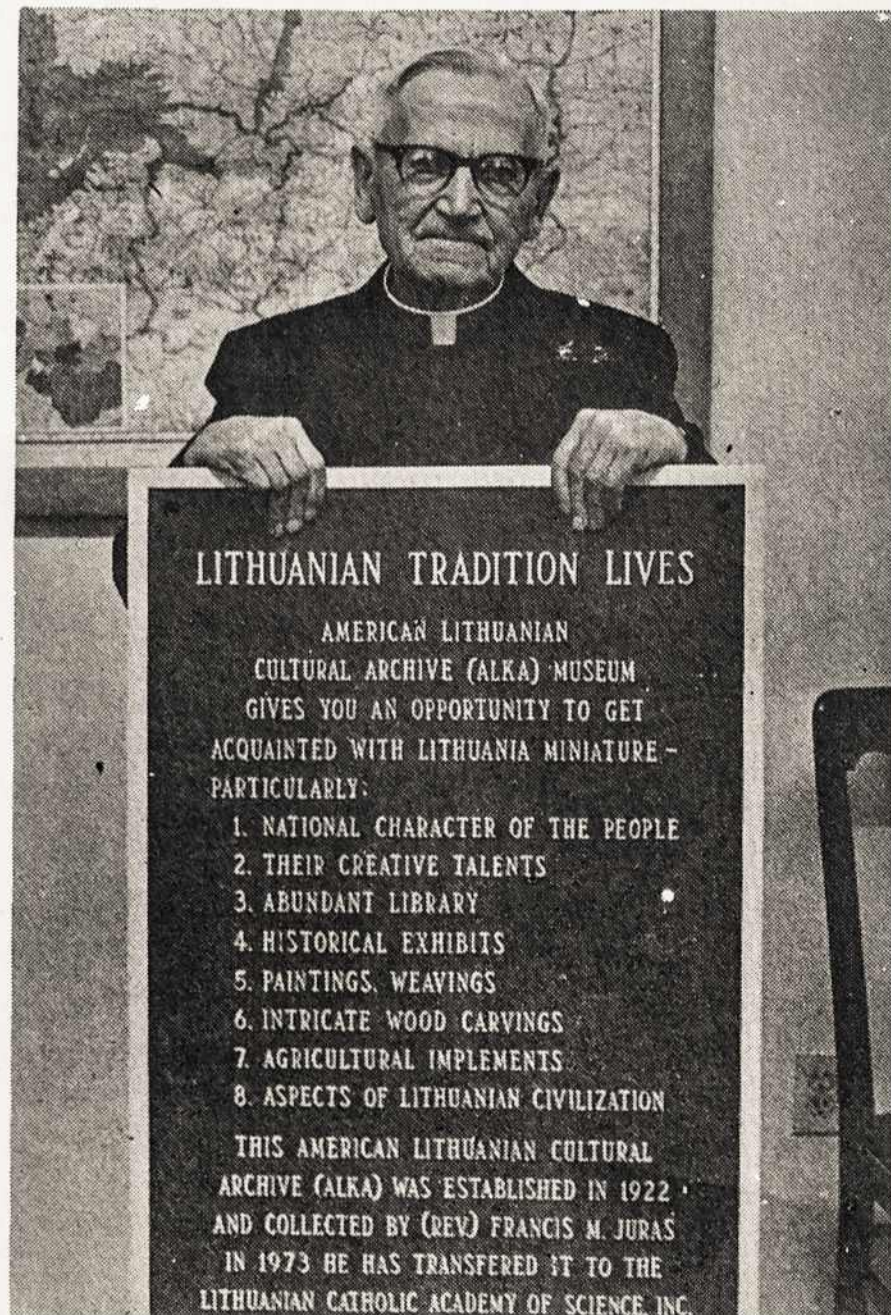


On January 23, 1980, FATHER VINCENT PUIDOKAS died at the Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam, Connecticut. He was 76 years old and had observed his 50th anniversary as a priest last October 3rd at a Mass of Thanksgiving in St. Casimir's Church, Westfield, Mass.

Father Puidokas was born in Garciuna, Lithuania, on May 22, 1903, graduated from Vytautas University, Kaunas, and Kaunas Seminary and was ordained by Bishop Skireckvas of the Diocese of Kaunas on May 22, 1929. He was an assistant in St. George's Parish in Bittiglia until 1932 when he left for the United States. He served as an assistant in Our Lady of Vilna Parish in Worcester, Mass. until his appointment to St. Casimir's Parish in Westfield in 1934. He served as Pastor at St. Casimir's until his retirement due to illness on July 30, 1977.

Father was Spiritual Advisor of Council 30 for over 40 years and the New England District Spiritual Advisor for many years.

In 1939 Father Puidokas became Western Massachusetts' first flying priest when he soloed at Barnes Airport, Westfield, in a two-place monoplane.



Msgr. Francis M. Juras of Putnam, Connecticut, displays bronze plaque which will be mounted on the wall of the newly-expanded American Lithuanian Cultural Archive (ALKA) on Route 44. Msgr. Juras is an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania. He is 88 years old and has been collecting the contents of the museum for 57 years.

JUNIORS CORNER

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS.....
SEE IF YOU CAN IDENTIFY THE FLOWERS.

1. Geltonoji Ramūnė
2. Rožė
3. Ramūnė
4. Tulpė
5. Geltonasis Narcizas
6. Narcizas
7. Pienė
8. Dobilai
9. Vedrynas
10. Žibuoklė
11. Krokas
12. Pakalnutė
13. Plačialapė
14. Zinija
15. Dirvinis Vijoklis
16. Našlaitė
17. Saulėgraža
18. Aguona
19. Petūnija
20. Geltonoji Lelija



- A. Morning Glory
- B. Dandelion
- C. Tiger Lily
- D. Poppy
- E. Zinnia
- F. Violet
- G. Lady's Slipper
- H. Black-Eyed Susan
- I. Pansy
- J. Daisy
- K. Narcissus
- L. Rose
- M. Petunia
- N. Tulip
- O. Crocus
- P. Daffodil
- Q. Clover
- R. Lily-of-the-Valley
- S. Sunflower
- T. Buttercup

Answers on next page

Jrs. C-36-112-Chicago IL

A short meeting was held at the Nativity BVM Hall before presentation of our Second Degrees. During our meeting, the election of officers took place. The following were elected: Pres. Paul Strolia, Vice Pres. Lima Vadeisa, Rec. Secy. Georgie Kassel, Corresp. Secy. John Strolia, Treas. Tom Strolia, Sgt-at-Arms Matthew Strolia & John Kilkus, Vytis Correspondent Maria Klatt, and Lithuanian Affairs

Chmn. Rita Zakarka.

The Chicago Seniors hosted the St. Casimir's Day commemoration on March 2. They asked our Juniors to help them before Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, and to serve at the tables for the brunch planned afterward.

Our bowling party took place March 16, and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Maria Klatt

**JUNIORS -
 WHERE
 IS YOUR
 COUNCIL'S
 NEWS?**



JUNIOR KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SCHEDULE FOR 67th NATIONAL CONVENTION



- I. Wednesday, August 6, 1980 (Pre-Convention)
- A. Roller skating party (Spin-offs)
 - B. Joint activity with regular members
- II. Thursday, August 7, 1980 (Convention officially in session)
- A. Mass (12:00-1:00)
 - B. Opening Luncheon (1:00-2:00)
 - C. Get acquainted session for Jrs. (2:00-3:00)
 - D. Walking tour of Boston (3:00-6:30)
Route: (Starting from hotel)
 1. Boston Garden — Swan Boat ride
 2. To Boston Garden and Boston Common view historical sights and visit State House
 3. Washington Street to Fanuel Hall Market Place (lunch and free time to visit quaint shopping areas)
 4. Visit the Mayflower and the site of the Boston Tea Party and Boston Tea Party Museum
 - E. Lithuanian Cultural Activity

- III. Friday, August 8, 1980
- A. Beach Day — Cape Cod Picnic (9:00-5:00)
Alternate Rain Schedule
 1. John F. Kennedy Library or Gardner Museum or Science Museum
 - B. Convention Dance (8:00-12:00)

- IV. Saturday, August 9, 1980
- A. Junior Convention Session (9:00-12:00)
 - B. Mass (12:00-1:00)
 - C. Lunch (1:00-2:00)
 - D. Convention Session (2:00-5:00)
 - E. Free time (5:00-7:00)
 - F. Convention Banquet (7:00-12:00)

- V. Sunday, August 10, 1980
- A. Mass (10:00-11:00)
 - B. Sunday Brunch (12:00-3:00)
 - C. Farewell!



Junior dues were due in January. Be sure that they are paid to insure the uninterrupted mailing of the Vytis to your council. Dues are five dollars for each Council per year, and are payable to the Supreme Council Financial Secretary, Ann Marie Kassel.

As your Council has had their Annual Elections, be sure to forward the names and addresses of your officers to first vice president Susan F. Bumila. While you are preparing your list of officers, why not take a few minutes to let us know what your Council is doing. One of the benefits to the junior program is the chance to learn what other Junior Councils are doing.

ALSO.....

Conventionship award applications are now available for 1980 through the first vice president Susan F. Bumila. All questions will be answered as soon as possible



"May Flowers"

Answers:

1. H	6. K	11. O	16. I
2. L	7. B	12. R	17. S
3. J	8. Q	13. G	18. D
4. N	9. T	14. E	19. M
5. P	10. F	15. A	20. C

ŠV. KAZIMIERO ŠVENTĖ CHICAGOJE

E. Pakalniškienė

Kovo antros rytą rinkomės į Nėkalto Prasidejimo parapijos salę. Atėjo Dariaus-Girėno ir Don Varnas postų veteranai. Psipuošę trispalvėmis ir organizacijos medaliais, stojome į eilę. Amerikos, Lietuvos ir vyčių vėliavos buvo priekyje. Uniformuoti karo veteranai sudarė vėliavų garbės sargybą. Ir taip iškilmingai įvygiavome į bažnyčią.

Mišias laikė kun. Fabijonas Kereilis ir kun. Petras Činikas. Pamokslą pasakė vyčių senjorų dvasios vadas kun. P. Činikas. Jis gražiai nupasakojo Švento Kazimiero biografiją ir ragino vyčius sekti Jo pavyzdžiu. Prie altoriaus auką atnešė senjorų kuopos pirmininkė Bronislava Pupnikienė, 112-tos kuopos pirmininkas Albertas Zakarka ir 36-tos kuopos pirmininkas Vincas Samoška.

Po mišių važiuojame į Vyčių salę pietų. Kol šeimininkės viską priuošė, apžiūrėjome naujas salės dekoracijas. Ant langų gėlės žydėjo dideliais raudonais žiedais. Sienos blizgėjo naujomis medinėmis lentomis išmuštos. O grindys baltos, naujos, ažuolinės, dar kvepėjo mišku. Juk tik praeitą savaitę buvo jos įdėtos. Visi džiaugėsi, tarytum savo šeimos nameliais.

Pasikalbėjimus pertraukė prie mikrofono priėjęs Illinois-Indiana apygardos vicepirmininkas Vincas Samoška. Prašė sėstis prie stalų, nes pietūs jau išvirti. Kartu jis apgailestavo, kad 14-tos kuopos pirmininkė Jean Vance negalės sėdėti prie garbės stalo, nes turi skubėti į savo profesijos pareigas. Ponia Vance išvažiuodama dar pasveikino susirinkusius ciceriškių vardu ir pakvietė ateityje dalyvauti 14-tos kuopos parengimuose.

Šią šventę buvo suruošusi senjorų kuopa, todėl jos pirmininkė Bronislava Pupnikienė atidarė ją, padėjo visiems už dalyvavimą ir pakvietė senjorų kuopos dvasios vadą sukalbėti invokaciją ir būti tolimesnės programos vedėju. Kun. P. Činikas paskaitė gražią invokaciją ir kvietė vaišintis paruoštomis gėrybėmis. Jas buvo pagaminusi garsioji šeimininkė ponia Stropienė.

Kai visi pavalgė kun. P. Činikas supažindino su sėdinčiais prie garbės stalo. Sėdėjo prie jo: 36-tos kuopos pirmininkas Vincas Samoška, Lietuvos vyčių organizacijos centro valdybos vicepirmininkė Ona Marija Kaselienė, jaunųjų vyčių kuopos vicepirmininkas Tomas Strolia, senjorų kuopos pirmininkė Bronislava Pupnikienė, kun. Petras Činikas, Ritualų Komiteto pirmininkė Rūta Dagienė, 112-tos kuopos pirmininkas Albertas Zakarka ir Lietuvos vyčių organizacijos garbės narė Adelė Gabalienė.

Į trečią vyčių laipsnį buvo pakeltos Alicija Cekanor, Rūta Kazlauskienė ir Prudencija Bičkienė. Ritualų Komiteto pirmininkė Rūta Dagienė prisegė joms trečio laipsnio medalius. Kun. P. Činikas pasveikino pakeltąsias ir palinkėjo sėkmingai siekti ketvirtojo laipsnio.

Juozas ir Valerija Stanaičiai rūpinasi apygardos biuletenio spausdinimu. Už tą didelį darbą buvo juodu šioje šventėje pagerbti. Senjorų pirmininkė B. Pupnikienė įteikė juodum gražų vytį. Nuoširdų ačiū tarė Juozas ir Valerija Stanaičiai, ragino vyčius būti dar veiklesniais, ir pasidžiaugė, kad atgaivinta 14-ta kuopa.

Giedrininkų ir Katalikių Moterų Sąjungos vardu sveikino vyčius

Emilija Vilimaitė. Prašė pinigėmis aukomis paremti Lietuvių Katalikių Moterų Sąjungą.

Choro pirmininkė Estelle Rogers parvežusi iš Floridos 147-tos St. Petersburgo vyčių kuopos sveikinius čikagiškiams. St. Petersburge šiandieną esančios didelės iškilmės, kuopa įsigijusi naują vėliavą ir ją šventinanti. Tos kuopos pirmininkas Antanas Mažeika prašęs, kad čikagiškiai vyčiai pasimelstų, kad jiems viskas praeitų gerai.

36-tos kuopos pirmininkas Vincas Samoška turėjo liūdnų pranešimų. Jo kuopos narei Norkaitienei esanti nupiauta koja, o jos vyras gulys ligoninėje. Tos pačios kuopos narės Irenos Norušytės abu tėveliai sergą. Mamytė laukianti operacijos ligoninėje, o tėvelis negalys vaikščioti be kitų pagalbos. Liūdesys esąs apgaubęs tuos namus. Vincas tai šeimai daug padedąs. Tačiau nors aplinkui nelaimės sukiniėjasi, 36-ta kuopa esanti pilnai įsijungusi į veiklą. Gegužės 3-čią Vyčių salėje būsią jos šokiai.

Salės Globėjų Tarybos pirmininkas A. Mockus papasakojo kiek daug padaryta salei pagražinti. Prašė aukoti daiktus kovo 22-ros išpardavimui. Pinigai esą labai reikalingi salei išlaikyti.

Prieš uždarant minėjimą kun. P. Činikas paprašė pasimelsti, kad sveikata ir laimė grįžtų į tuos nelaimingus namus, apie kuriuos pasakojo V. Samoška. Sukalbėjome „Sveika Marija.“

O kokia graži diena buvo! Saulė blizgėjo kaip auksas. Ir paukšteliai giedojo medžiuose. Ir tirpstantis sniegas upeliais tekėjo kaž kur. Visur gyvybė, visur pavasaris kvepėjo.



K of L Calendar

M A Y

- 3 C-36, Chicago, ANNUAL DANCE, K of L Building, Chicago, IL.
 16-18 MIDWEST BOWLING TURNAMENT, Palisades, II, Cleveland, OH Headquarters,
 Holiday Inn. Hosts: C-25, Cleveland,
 17 M.C.D. SPRING CONFERENCE, Cleveland, OH C-25, Cleveland, Hosts

J U N E

- 1 M.A.D. CONVENTION, Philadelphia, Pa. Hosts: C-3, Philadelphia.
 14 "TERRIBLE JUNE DAYS" COMMEMORATIVE MASS, St. Mary's Church, Briston,
 R.I., 5:00 P.M.

J U L Y

- 4 I.I.D. K of L DAY PICNIC, K of L Gardens, Chicago, IL.
 6 LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL - SOKIU SVENTE, Internationál
 Amphitheater, Chicago, IL.

A U G U S T

- 6-10 67th NATIONAL CONVENTION, Boston Plaza Hotel, Park Square, Boston, Mass.
 C-17 and C-17Srs, So. Boston, Hosts
 17 66th ANNUAL LITHUANIAN DAY, Lakewood Park, Barnesville, Pa., C-144 Hosts

O C T O B E R

- 11 C-29, Newark, ANNUAL DINNER DANCE, Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Newark, N.J.
 18 C-3 Philadelphia "POLKA NITE", Lithuanian Music Hall, Philadelphia PA
 26 N.E.D SCHOLARSHIP FESTIVAL, Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass.

N O V E M B E R

- 1 C-12, Manhattan, "CRAZY HAT" DANCE, Our Lady of Vilnius Rev. George
 Gurinkas Hall, New York, N.Y.

Vyčiai Veikia Council Activities

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



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Maspeth, N.Y. C-110 hosted the M.A. Dist. Meeting on March 9 at Transfiguration Hall. Attendance numbered 235 persons. Represented were councils from Manhattan, Brooklyn, Paterson, N.J., Amsterdam, N.Y., and the Pennsylvania towns of Forest City, Scranton, Pittston and St. Clair.

The delegates attended the 11 a.m. Mass in the church. The celebrant was the pastor, Rev. Frank Bulovas, who was Spiritual Advisor for the district for many years. Franciscan Fr. Leonard Andriekus gave the homily.

All the attendees participated in a brunch immediately after Mass.

The guest speaker at the brunch was Latvian born Ints Rupners, Vice President of Batun. He explained how Batun came into existence and became the umbrella organization of the captive nations. During the proceedings, Jovita Sleder presented nineteen members their Third Degree medals. Jean Janonis was designated "Woman of the Year." Father Bulovas noted that Larry Janonis, her husband, found this out 34 years ago, but it

took the K of L all those years to reinforce his judgement.

The MAD business meeting was chaired by Pres. Larry Janonis. During the meeting there was a special seminar on Lithuanian music, presented by Vytautas Strolija from his vast collection. He gave the background of the various works presented.

A kielbasi and chicken dinner concluded the day's activities.

Our Natl. Pres. Philip Skabeikis, MAD Pres. Larry Janonis, and our council Pres. John Adomenas expressed their congratulations to the committee for a well handled affair. Sincere thanks goes to the committee chaired by Kazimieras Vainus for a job well done. Special plaudits for the yeoman job go to Muriel Lekstutis, John Kuchinas, Stella Strepeikis, Louise and Adele Dauszickas, Frances and Tony Migliore, Stasia and Al Kraujalis, and to the council's ever reliable cook, Mary Johnson.

PJY

C-144 — Anthracite, PA

Our council had a most successful commemoration of the Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration on Feb. 17, with many thanks to Marge Yezulinas and her committee. The cooks did an excellent job preparing the food, and we give a special "aciu" to the oldest member there, Millie Kweder, who worked from early in the morning until the affair was all finished. Her spirit and stamina should be a lesson to us all. Anne Zaldaris and Julie Norcross deserve special mention for their

work in selling chances for the Lithuanian costume. Because of their efforts, we were able to send a donation to the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. To every who worked, "Sirdingai aciu." The Mass was beautiful, with the young people from Annunciation BVM School presenting the offerings. The program with the Minersville Junior Knights (who stole the show in their new Lithuanian costumes) and the Zarija Chorus was well received. Commissioner Matunis had the Lithuanian flag flown over the Schuylkill County Court House for that day. Senator Gurzenda and Governor Thornber had a proclamation in the State Capitol.

Bernice Mikatavage and her Lithuanian Affairs committee have been busy writing letters with very good results. Some of the members are working very hard toward getting 100 letters written before the next Natl. Convention.

Congratulations to Anne Marie Shevokis and Dr. Johnathan Keyes who announced their engagement. We wish them much good luck in the future.

The Lithuanian Radio Program is very successful. Father Al is not only our good Spiritual Director, but also a terrific program director.

During the month of March, Annie Morgalis had a Lithuanian display at the Schuylkill County Arts & Ethnic Center in Pottsville. Annie is really our good will ambassador.

Council Pres. Elsie Kosmisky chartered a bus for members to attend the M.A. Dist. Meeting in Maspeth, N.Y. Many received their Third Degrees.

Our big cultural event was held in April. Anna Wargo was chairman of this affair. The Gintaras Ensemble was presented at the Pottsville Area High School at 2 p.m. in a concert of Lithuanian folk songs and dances. This is a group of 70 young Lithuanians from Montreal, Canada. It was a great pleasure to see them perform.

Joe Yezulinas and his committee have begun planning for the 66th Annual Lithuanian Day to be held in August at Lakewood Park, Barnesville, Pa. Some of the groundwork has already been started, and Joe, as chairman of this affair, has a big job ahead. We are confident the day will be a great success.

We wish all our Vytis broliai ir seseriai, "geriausios sekmes."

Ona

C-109 —

GREAT NECK, N.Y.

A meeting was held at the home of Starsy and Al Wesey where elections for the year took place. All officers were re-elected: Pres. Al Wesey, Vice Pres. Bill Bernatovich, Secy. Jo Zukas, Fin. Secy. Joe Zukas, and Treas. Millie Rogers. Rev. Frank Bulovas, pastor of Transfiguration Church, Maspeth, N.Y., is our Spiritual Advisor.

Our handful of members have been having difficulty getting together and keeping the council active. A renewed effort was made at the meeting to "pull together" and to not only continue the council, but to organize ways and means to attract others of Lithuanian descent.

To commemorate the feast day of our patron, St. Casimir, members congregated at St. Aloysius Church, Great Neck, for Mass, receiving the Eucharist, and later came together for lunch at Mamma Lola's Restaurant. Postcards giving



C-109, Great Neck, N.Y. Charter Members. (Standing) Mary Kober and Pres. & Hon. Member Al Wesey. (Seated) Rejoined Fran Ziegler and Mary Hermann.

notice of this special day were mailed to present and former members and their friends. We were not able to obtain a K of L speaker, because of their previous commitments elsewhere. Pres. Al Wesey, Honorary Member, very adequately spoke of the aims of the organization and the need for those of us of Lithuanian ancestry to unite together for a common cause. We were delighted to welcome new members Anne Reardon and Aldona Dallago. Rejoining after a period of absence were Betty Romans, and Charter members Fran (Zorski) Ziegler and Mary (Lazaunik) Hermann. We thank them for joining our council, and hope they will enjoy being with us.

Congratulations to Janie Zukas, a freshman at Marymount College, Tarrytown, N.Y., who made the Dean's List, and is a member of their Horseback Riding Team. In her first intercollegiate showing, Janie came away with a First Place Blue Ribbon and silver tray. When you're competing against the likes

of Fordham, West Point, etc., it isn't easy!

Mother's Day brings a remembrance of love and joyous memories. May God's blessings be hers in abundance.

C-100 —

AMSTERDAM, N.Y.

A Lithuanian Mass was held Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. with Father Baltch as celebrant. Our meeting followed, with Father Grigaitis leading with prayers and a special prayer for the canonization of Archbishop George Matulaitis. The Vytis hymn followed.

After the various correspondence was read, Gene Gobis read the minutes in the absence of secretary Nellie Liberis who recently underwent surgery.

Cultural co-chairlady Regina Kot read a poem by Ona Lukauskaitė which was translated into English by Algirdas Landsbergis. She also read excerpts from a Lithuanian prisoner's letter. He was serving time in Siberia. Complaints were made by him of the harsh treatment and torture he underwent when the Russians attempted to have him betray his friends. Human rights are definitely not being practiced by the Russians. She declared that Afghanistan is not the only spot in the world where we should work for release from Soviet occupation. There is also Lithuania which has been under the thumb of Russia since June 15, 1950.

Pres. Anthony Radzevich advised members that the Lithuanian Day observance was postponed from Feb. 16 to Feb. 23. This was due to the unavailability of the Lazdynas dancers for the original date. We thank the following members who offered lodgings in their homes for the dancers: Regina Kot, Polly Ziausys, Sadie Allen, Josephine Redding, and Tony and Ann Radzevich. The program covers for the Day were designed by

Regina Kot and Jr. member Gerard Drenzek printed them.

The Sleepy Dutchman Restaurant was chosen for the Mar. 2 Corporate Communion brunch. The committee was made up of Mary Stanionis, Betty Kuzmich, Judy Kastravickas and Helen Wojcik.

Pres. Radzevich mentioned that Simas Kudirka was in South America this past summer and that he was in Paris, France in January. He also had a copy of the magazine, „Pasaulio Lietuvis”. This covered the Youth Congress held in London with the final conference in Frankfurt, Germany. It was noted that Regina Kot's uncle, Albertas Gerutis, was pictured in one of the photos and that he participated in the conference.

The refreshment committee for the April 7 meeting was selected to be Birute Ralys, Regina Hartvigas, Edna Stožna, Jean Maldutis, and Gene Gobis.

A table, centered with beautiful red carnations, was surrounded by Lithuanian delicacies — homemade cheese, bundeles, dešros, pyragas, cakes, etc. Liquid refreshments were furnished by Father Baltch. The committee preparing this special food were Polly Ziausys, Helen Hugo, Frances Di Bart, Mildred and John Whelly, Josephine Redding, Ann Radzevich, Helen Radzevich and Charlotte Sargalis.

A birthday cake, put together by Ann Radzevich, was brought out with candles burning. A chorus of voices burst out singing, “Happy Birthday Father Baltch” and “Ilgiausią Metų”. A special treat was the reading of a Lithuanian poem in Father Baltch's honor by the poetess Polly Ziausys.

Refreshments over, we saw slides of Cartagena, Colombia where Father Baltch and Father Jonaitis vacationed in January.

SMILE and SPARKLE

C-147 — ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

What a remarkable day of awareness of the Lithuanian cause on Feb. 16, at St. Petersburg and its surrounding cities, that the Lithuanians were celebrating the 62nd re-establishment of their Independence Day. Even though the Russians have the country in their grip, so far, the United States has not recognized their possession of Lithuania and hopefully one day she will be free!

Through the efforts of one of our very active K of L council members, Victoria Jacobson, the Lithuanian flag was raised outside all the City Halls. Speakers, provided by our council, gave a review of the meaning of this day, after which each Mayor said a few words, extending their sympathies, realizing what the Lithuanians are up against. It now has become very obvious that the same thing is happening in Afghanistan.

Proclamations were issued from all, including one from Governor Graham of the State of Florida, declaring February 16th “Lithuanian Independence Day”. At the conclusion of each of the observances, “Lietuva Tėvynė Mūsų”, (the Lithuanian Anthem) and The Star Spangled Banner were sung by all the participants.

Glorious as it was, sadness prevailed, as in all reality we know that freedom does not exist at present. However, we all hope and pray for that day to come for “Lietuva”.

Our Tampa T.V. station carried programs on Feb. 14 and 16, with Dr. K. Bobelis, Victoria Jacobson, and our local women's choir, telling listeners the story of the plight of the Lithuanians.

As part of our council's commemoration of this day, on Feb. 10, in one of our largest American churches, St. John's in St. Petersburg Beach, a Mass was said for the Lithuanians, which was sponsored by Victoria Jacobson. The church



C-147 St. Petersburg, members during their Feb. 16 Commemoration

was filled to capacity with parishioners and visitors from all corners of the United States. Monsignor John Balkunas, Fr. Jonas Gasiunas, Fr. Vaclovas Martinkus and Tėv. Augustinas Simonavičius officiated at the Mass. Msgr. J. Balkūnas gave a most inspiring sermon in English, so that our American friends would understand about Lithuania and its long fight for religious freedom. Parishioners and visitors alike stopped most of our women dressed in native attire, to inquire more as to our ethnic background, and to tell us how beautiful the Lithuanian hymns were, like "Pulkim ant Kelių" and "Marija, Marija", sung by all Lithuanians participating, under the direction of Mr. P. Armonas.

Our thanks to Victoria for the acquisition of all the proclamations, the T.V. program, flag raisings, and Mass, which she arranged and made a memorable week for all involved.

Our new K of L flag was blessed on March 2 at our mission church, Holy Name in Gulfport. The procession started with members from "Šauliai" displaying the American and their own flags, followed by our council Pres. Anthony Mažeika carrying the K of L flag, with other officers following. At the altar, surrounded by the officers, Msgr. J. Balkunas, Fr. Kęstutis Butkus, our pastor, and Fr. J. Gasiūnas, our spiritual advisor, officiated at the ceremonies. Anthony Mažeika read the degrees awarded to the deserving members, and we were honored in having a Fourth Degree member decorated at the same time, Msgr. J. Balkūnas.

Some of our women were dressed in Lithuanian native attire which added to the festivities.

After the ceremonies, we had our annual St. Casimir's day affair at "The Fish House", with almost all members attending and a great number of guests. Short greetings were extended by Anthony Mažeika, Mr. Gaudonis, and Mr. Kalpo-

kas, two of "Šiaulių" Kuopos presidents. Fr. Kęstutis Butkus gave the last address.

H. Vilnis

C-110 — MASPETH, N.Y.

One of our members, Mary Danowitz, recently conferred a Second Degree Knight, died on February 8. A K of L Christian Wake Service was held with prayers offered by Rev. Stasys Raila, Pres. John Adomenas and members of our council. Sincere condolences are extended to her children and their families, and especially to her mother. We will remember Mary in our prayers. Šventas Kazimierai, melskis už jos sielą.

On Feb. 16 Lithuanians commemorated their independence from communistic Russia which they obtained after the First World War in 1918. Our council members participated in this commemoration by participating in services held Feb. 16 at the Lithuanian Cultural Center and on Feb. 17 at Transfiguration Church.

At the Center, Rev. Leonard Andriekus celebrated the commemorative Mass and gave the homily. At Transfiguration Church, the pastor, Rev. Frank Bulovas, was celebrant of the Mass offered for all Lithuanians who have sacrificed their lives for Lithuania's freedom and who are presently suffering under Russia's control. Both priests reminded the Lithuanians of their heritage and their responsibility to pray and work for the restoration of Lithuanian independence.

Fin. Secy. Edward Sirgirdas reported that 128 members had paid their '80 dues. He also announced the enrollment of one new member, Edward W. Yuskevich, a law student in his senior year at Brooklyn Law School.

At the same susirinkimas, Marie Stungaris delivered a dissertation

on the life of St. Casimir, and she was šiltai applauded by the members.

The membership voted funds for the erection of the Wayside Cross, after Arthur Nelson presented his plans. Completion date is Sept. '80.

The winners of the 50-50 were Donatas Uzas and Helen Jambor.

Members meet for a council meeting every first Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. at Transfiguration Hall in Maspeth, N.Y. They also attend the 11 a.m. Mass every third Sunday of the month in Transfiguration Church. Mes visi turim mokytis kalbėti potierius lietuviškai.

How many of us know that Vincas Kudirka (1858-1899), a graduate of Warsaw University, wrote the Lithuanian National Anthem? Do you know the meaning of the words we sing? To enable us to get the full impact, we're offering the English translation herewith:

Lithuania, our native land,
The home of men with valor,
From the greatness of your past
May we our courage gather.

All descendants of your land
Must walk the paths of daring,
And their virtue, knowledge, culture,
With all nations sharing.

May the penetrating rays
Of your sun all darkness chase,
While the light, and God's might,
Lead our steps unerringly.

May devotion to your cause,
Burning deep within our hearts,
Help us strive, to arrive,
At unity and harmony.

Turėkite gerą vasarą!

Petras Juškevičius





MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-102 — DETROIT, MICH.

February brought our first real snow storm of the year, and coming home a week too early from a vacation in the Bahamas, Freeport, were Donna and Frank Bunikis. They should have stayed another week!

February, also, was the month to celebrate Lithuanian Independence Day. The commemoration was held at the Southfield Cultural Center, with Lt. Gov. James H. Brickley as guest speaker. He recalled that for 40 years the Lithuanian people have been caged in a Soviet prison, and that for less than 40 days, the Afghanistan people have suffered a similar fate. Vytautas Cekanauskas, Lithuania's Consul General in Los Angeles, also reminded everyone not to forget their heritage and language. He also spoke of the 1940 Soviet Law, — that all persons who left Lithuania are still considered to be Soviet citizens, including their offspring. Our council members are proud to say we wrote our Congressman regarding this law.

Congratulations to Ann Uznis on her retirement as secretary from Ford Motor Co. Ann enjoyed some if it in Florida with her brother, who is recovering from illness, and her sister-in-law.

Promotions have severely hit our council, and membership attendance at meetings is taking its toll. Madam Pres. Grazina Vaskelis was promoted to Asst. Buyer with the Hudson Co. She has been traveling on the road quite a bit, and had to give up radio announcing with the local Lithuanian program. Congratulations and condolences! Another promotion was given to her sister, Vitalia, and a transfer to Lansing, Mich. with the Blue Cross Co.

John and Donna Stanevich enjoyed a holiday visit with their son, Dr. John and family. Dr. John completed the Boston Marathon last year. Congratulations!

Bowling has become family fun with our council. Joining our league are the son and daughter of Gene and Gus Baibak as substitutes, and a regular bowler is Candee Guerrero, daughter of Maryanne and Joe. Regular bowlers, also, for the past two years are the daughters of Rose Sawnick. Mart and Ruth Wagster's daughters and son-in-law spectate when not subing. Joining the spectators is Bea and George Cramblet's son.

Merjūt

C-96 — DAYTON, OHIO

It was "French Night" for our members on Feb. 9. Our Super Social Committee prepared a complete French dinner beginning with French onion soup and serving Cordon Bleu as the entre. There was more than enough to eat. Turnout for the evening was great. Much thanks to Chm. John A. Berczelly, his wife Joyce, Rita Ambrose, Harley Karns, Chris Matz, Judy Petrokas and the members who helped. Any questions, Rita?

The Dayton Lithuanian community celebrated the 62nd Anniversary of the proclamation of

Lithuania's Independence on Feb. 24 at the Lith. Social Club. Emcee for the day was Aldona Ryan, Chm of the Holy Cross Lith. Cultural Council, Pres. of the MCD, and Vice-Pres. in charge of membership for our council. Kalbėtojas was Prof. John Cadzow of Kent State Univ. Prof. Cadzow was most informative, especially in sharing his experiences during personal trips to Lithuania. He encouraged everyone to be active in the Lithuanian cause, financially or morally. We had the pleasure of hearing the Čiurlionis Ensemble and Soloist Irena Grigaliūnaitė. Director for the group was Mrs. Ona Mikulskienė. Dayton's Vejeliai Dancers, under the direction of Edward Sluzas and Rita Gečas, also performed. Accompanying them were Judy Petrokas and Cecelia Lisankis on their accordians. Other guests were State Senator Charles Curran, and Rick Karn representing State Congressman Tony Hall. Mr. Karn informed us the Lithuanian Flag was flown at the State Capitol on Feb. 13 in recognition of the anniversary. U.S. Senator John Glenn sent a telegram. Laima Rastikis read the Resolution the committee is sending to Congress, encouraging them to continue recognition of Lithuania and the Baltic States. In for the day were Vic and Betty August and Pete Luiza of Cleveland C-25. It was good to see them.

In the tradition of the Knights, our council held their St. Casimir's Day celebration on Mar. 2. Membership turnout was great. Jr. Annamarie Sluzas and three of her friends from high school comprised the choir. Their voices blended beautifully. A full course breakfast was served by Judy Petrokas and her committee following the Mass. Religious Chm. Elinor Sluzas invited Dayton Attorney Gene Jablinskis as guest speaker for the program. His coverage of St. Casimir's life was very interesting. We never

cease to learn more each time about our Patron Saint. The First Degree was awarded to Joseph P. Mantz and Ann Desko. The Second Degree Award was given to Barbara Goecke, Cecelia Lisankas and John Lougeman. Presentations were made by Ritual Chm. Fran Petkus and Eloise Berczelly. Jr. Advisor Sarah Petkus and her Juniors did a terrific job on the clean-up detail.

We congratulate the Juniors. Under the guidance of their advisor, they had a very successful paper drive. It is good to know the council helped contribute to the drive.

Greg Blum, Freshman at Univ. of Dayton, gave an egg decorating demonstration for his speech class. Jr. Annamarie Sluzas, C-J HS, turned in a special report on Lithuanian culture. We are pleased to see our younger people carrying on the tradition of keeping the world aware of Lithuania.

Treats after the January meeting were served by Gus Blum and Joe Ryan. We toasted their recent retirements. Mary Lucas served wines and cheeses from all over the world following the February meeting. Ačiū labai.

For a while, one wondered if there was a K of L convention in Florida. Heading that way were Mike, Alice and Mary Petkus, Al and Albina Wallis, Stan and Ida Kay, John and Ann Scott, Ann Desko, and Sally and Annadel Miller who, in turn, took a 14 day cruise with Jerry and Marianne Podoyak. All arrived back in Dayton in time for the coldest spell of the season.

We had the pleasure of meeting Kęstutis P. Vaiginis of Cleveland. Casey, as he is called, is working in the Dayton area. We are pleased to note he has joined the council and has taken his First Degree. Welcome aboard and congratulations.

Get well wishes go to Anele Petkus, Joe August, George Mikalauskas, Annadel Miller, Dick Conrady, and Ernest Omlor. Pray-

erfully, all are back on the road to recovery.

Following the March meeting we had the pleasure of celebrating with Rev. Vaclovas Katarskis the occasion of his 32nd anniversary in the United States. *Ilgiausių Metų!*
FRP

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD, MICH.

If it's true the best things in life are free, a judicious bit of planning and caring can make this adage work well in our council. A committee of seven volunteers led by Ann Valatka staged a February birthday celebration for seven Senior citizens at the St. Clare Senior Housing Home on Feb. 13. The volunteers were Stella Hotra, George Kase, Violet Panavas, Mike Vale, and Sophie and Frank Zager. Each of the members presented the Seniors a personal gift and treated them to cake and ice-cream. They also gave packages of Valentine candy to all the Seniors. Highlighting the celebration was a chorus of "Ilgiausių Metų", sung in Lithuanian.

The commemoration of Lithuania's Independence Day was ob-

served at the Divine Providence Cultural Center on Feb. 10. Among the featured speakers were Michigan's Lt. Gov. James H. Brickley, and Dr. Algis Barauskas, president of the Detroit Lith. Organization Center.

In his address, Lt. Gov. Brickley made the comparison of Lithuania and Afghanistan as two victims of Soviet aggression. He recalled that for "40 years the Lithuanian people have been caged in a Soviet prison and that for 40 days the Afghanisthan people have suffered a similar fate". Dr. Barauskas said, "In comparison between the Soviet's take-over of Lithuania and the invasion of Afghanistan, including wrongful imprisonments and denials of freedom of speech, press and religion, though the latest news bulletins are coming out of Kabul, it sounds like the decades-old sufferings of Lithuania."

Another featured speaker, Vytautas Cekanauskas, Lithuania's Consul General of Los Angeles, Cal., reminded Detroit's Lithuanian community about a Soviet Law which became effective last July and declares that since 1940, all persons who have left Lithuania are still considered to be Soviet citizens. This means that even their offspring, who were born outside the Soviet Union, also are regarded as Soviet citizens.



C-79 Southfield, Mich. members at St. Clare's Marian Senior Home at a February birthday celebration with coordina-

tor Ann Valatka (standing 2nd from right) and the housing administrator (front row right).

A delightful musical program followed the addresses. Our members served coffee, bagels and other goodies to approximately 300 people. Labai ačiū to George Kase and Mike Vale who made the best coffee we ever tasted, and many thanks to Marie Kasė, Estelle Gogelis, Cynthia Jackson, and Frank and Sophie Zager who took care of the serving.

A super social prepared by Ann Valatka followed the Feb. 6 meeting. The temperatures outside weren't exactly the Miami Beach of Michigan, but they weren't bad. As a result, a nice turnout of members came out for our meeting that night. Good fellowship bloomed all over. Chairmen of various functions were "on the ball" with interesting reports. Cultural Chm. Stella Hotra read an interesting legend on the "Palanga of Birutė". Catholic Action Chairlady Helen Tucker gave a summary on the Sacred Shroud of Turin, and briefed the members on the progress of St. Casimir's events. Further, Pub. Relations Chm. Tony Dainus thanked everyone for contributing efforts toward his upcoming Honorary Membership award from the Supreme Council.

On-the-go people, like Stella Hotra and Ann Valatka, attended a seminar on Feb. 6 at Sacred Heart Seminary on the subject of "Evangelization".

Flowering branches of pussy willows and forsythias contributed to pick-me-up spirits of spring for our St. Casimir's Day observance on Mar. 2. Over 100 members and friends gathered for the occasion. Following Mass at Divine Providence Church, a memorial wreath was placed at the foot of the K of L's Lithuanian Wayside Cross. Then guests gathered for some busy socializing and dinner at the Cultural Center. There were a lot of reunions. Participating was our former pastor, Father M. Kundrat, who the previous day had just had a

leg cast removed, and during his short homily explained "how it all happened". Other clergy who participated were Fr. V. Kriščiunevičius, pastor of Divine Providence; Fr. A. Babonas, pastor of St. Anthony's; Fr. J. W. Stanievich, pastor of St. Mark's; Fr. C. Simaitis, former pastor of St. Anthony's; and Fr. D. Lengvinas of Windsor, Canada. It was nice to see members of our two sister Councils 102 and 139. Labai ačiū to them all.

Mrs. Milmantiene and Leopoldas Heiņingas rendered a pleasurable, but meaningful, skit on "Tėve Mūsų". Parish Council Pres. Jonas Urbonas extended his kind greeting and comments to the membership. Sophie Zager, Chm. of the S.C. Ritual Comm., made Third Degree presentations to Geo. Kase of C-79 and Gus Baibak of C-102, followed by Fourth Degree certificates to Bertha Janus and Stella Hotra who were awarded their medals at the

Natl. Convention in Chicago. Pres. Frank Zager was M.C. of the St. Casimir's program, and thanked Chm. Helen Tucker and her fine committee for a great job done.

SOFFI

C-25 —

CLEVELAND, OHIO

The 62nd Anniversary of the Restoration of Lithuania's Independence was observed by a commemorative Mass on Feb. 16 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Various Lithuanian organizations were represented. Pres. Gene Kunsitis, with many of our K of L members, represented the council in the program, which was well planned and well attended.

Our council sponsored an exhibit of Lithuanian literature and photo's representing the current fight in Lithuania for religious and national freedom. The Natl. Lith.



Betty August - C-25, Fr. Casimir Pugevicius, Brooklyn, NY, celebrant at Mass, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church



St. Casimir's Day Celebration - Cleveland, Ohio, C-25
 Gift Bearer's: Betty August, L-R Kazimiera Titus,
 Mary Trainy, Cleveland Seniors; William Jakubs,
 Gene Kunsitis, C-25

Affairs Chm. Rev. Casimir Pugevičius spoke at the opening of the exhibit which was most interesting and inspiring.

St. Casimir's Day was observed March 2, both by our council and also the Seniors, by attending Mass and receiving Communion in a body at OLPH Church. The Seniors were originally slated to celebrate Mass at St. Goerge's, but due to the exhibit, they agreed to change their plans. (Thank you!)

We all offered our prayers for a speedy recovery for Nellie Arunski who is, at the time of this writing, quite ill at St. Alexis Hospital. Agnes Bartkus is suffering with a broken wrist from a recent fall. Good luck, and full recovery wishes to both.

We are happy to see John and Helen Garnis looking healthy and relaxed after their Mexican vacation.

Getting ready for the Bowling Tournament? At our last bowling

session, Charles Machutas bowled a 636, Bruno Bartkus 586, Ursula Kunsitis 585, and both Nelda Machutas and Nellie Samas with 577. (Al Shigo's total was 300 (98-100-102).)

Our council members are looking forward to seeing you all at the Mid-Central Dist. Meeting and Bowling Tournament on May 17 and 18, — and the early birds on May 16. Your council officers will have more information on this exciting weekend in Cleveland!

Al Shigo

REMINDER TO COUNCIL NEWS CORRESPONDENTS

During the summer months, VYTIS is published only bi-monthly. Therefore, please observe the following deadlines:

- May 5 - for the June-July issue;
- July 5 - for the August - September issue;
- October 5 - for the November issue.

The October issue is devoted entirely to convention coverage and, therefore, contains NO Council news.



**NEW ENGLAND
DISTRICT**

C-30 — WESTFIELD, MASS.

New Officers for our council are as follows: Spiritual Advisor Rev. Daniel R. Foley, Pastor of St. Casimir's Church; Pres. Joseph Sabonis; Vice Pres. Arthur Lord; Secy. Cookie Coach; Treas. Helen Alexik; Lithuanian Affairs, Marcia Rogers; Ritual, Cookie Coach and Nellie Lord; Cultural, Jean Duda; Scribe, Louise Renaud.

The Rev. Vincent Puidokas died on Jan. 23 at the Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam, Ct. He was 76 years old, and the retired pastor of St. Casimir's Church in 1977. Rev. Puidokas lived in Westfield, Ma.

for 43 years and joined St. Casimir's in 1934. He was active in youth organizations at the church and was an accomplished linguist. Rev. Puidokas became the first flying priest in Western Mass. when he soloed at Barnes Airport in Westfield in a Piper Cub in 1939. He was born in Lithuania and graduated from Vytautas University and Kaunas Seminary. He was ordained in St. Michael's Cathedral in Kaunas on May 25, 1929. He came to the United States in 1931 and was a curate of Our Lady of Vilna Church in Worcester, Mass.

The celebration of his 50th Anniversary as a priest was held at St. Casimir's Church on Oct. 7, 1979. Bishop Joseph F. Maguire officiated and Rev. Puidokas and Pastor Rev. Foley assisted. Following the Mass, a warm reception was held in the church parlors with refreshments and congratulations.

The wake was held at St. Casimir's Church with Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, K of L Natl. Spiritual Advisor, as principal concelebrant. After the Mass, Rev. Jurgelaitis and all the K of L members said prayers with President Joseph Sabonis, who laid a white carnation in the casket. Our dear and faithful departed friend has endowed us with his love and goodness and will remain in our prayers and our hearts.

Bishop Maguire held a Liturgy of Christian Burial for Father Vincent. Also at the altar were Msgr. Vytautas Balciunas, chaplain of Villa Maria Rest Home in Thompson, Ct.; Fr. Daniel R. Foley who succeeded Fr. Puidokas in the pastorate of St. Casimir's; and two native brothers, Fr. Anthony Jutt, pastor of Corpus Christi Parish of Housatonic and Fr. Julius Jutt, pastor of St. James Parish of South Deerfield, Ma.

Fr. Francis P. Lavelle, associate rector of St. Michael's Cathedral in Springfield, Ma., was in charge of

the service and master of ceremonies. Fr. Donald Yargeau was director of the diocesan priest choir and led the congregation and the choir in the music for the Mass. Bishop Maguire gave the homily and led the committal prayers in Saint Mary's Cemetery, Westfield.

Louise Renaud

C-103 — Providence, RI

The 40th Anniversary of the "Terrible June Days" will be commemorated at St. Mary's Church in Bristol, R.I., on June 14. A concelebrated Mass will be offered at 5 p.m. by Father O'Connell, Pastor of St. Mary's; Father Anthony Jurgelaitis, Natl. K of L Spiritual Director; Father Martinkus, Pastor of St. Casimir's parish in Providence; Father Hughes, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Cumberland, R.I.; Father Ricard, Asst. Pastor of St. Mary's parish in Bristol; and Father Manu from Ghana, Africa. Father Jurgelaitis will deliver the homily. Seminarian Anthony Kervilaitis from Worcester, Mass., will serve as lector. Sponsors of this special event for the fourth year are Victor and Beatrice (Savickaite) Mathieu.

Sara Wye of TV Channel 10 in Providence interviewed dissident Jonas Jurasas on Feb. 17. Mr. Jurasas referred to Lithuania as his country, and its oppressors as Russians, or Communists. He also stated that an artist in Lithuania must have a double standard, "one for your personal life, and one for the ruling government."

NED Pres. Bertha Stoskus, C-103 Regulars Pres. Marcy Krecioch, and Mark Holmes attended the Snow-Ball Dance sponsored by C-1 in Brockton, Mass.

Our Lithuanian Heritage Subcommittee, for the first time, sponsored the 62nd Lithuanian Independence Commemoration held in the parish hall. Most of the heritage

committee members belong to our council. Jean Coughlin is their president, and Helen Denesevitch is their vice-president. Helen served as refreshment chairperson for the occasion. Father Jurgelaitis delivered a very inspiring address. K of L members, Seniors, Regulars and Juniors, were well in attendance.

Junior member Gaja Valiuskis treated the Seniors with slides of her trip to Lithuania. Her on-going commentary enriched the audience with historical tid-bits of Lithuania. Gaja's parents were also in the audience. Unfortunately, minor surgery kept your correspondent from attending her presentation.

Regina Krecioch, a Regular member of the council, has returned from her most enjoyable month's stay in Toronto, Canada. She is most appreciative to the Valiunas family for their Lithuanian hospitality.

JAS

C-26 — Worcester, Mass.

A good idea is hard to find. Eureka! You've suddenly thought of a way to make membership in the Knights of Lithuania even more meaningful. Come, share your thoughts with us! Our 1980 Board of Officers is comprised of Pres. Rita Pinkus; Vice Pres. Stephen Walinsky, Sr.; Secy. Mary Duggan; Fin. Secy. Marion Racicot; Auditors Virginia Leleikis and Francis Degutis; Lithuanian Affairs Carol Kardokas; Ritual Marion Racicot and Adele Degutis; Cultural Marion Shapiro. Father Benjamin Uzdavinis, M.I.C. is our spiritual director.

The 1979 Executive Board hosted the Christmas party with Rita Pinkus as head chef. It was a "merry" affair, indeed! The pre-Lenten party featured spaghetti and meatballs, with Anne Walinsky and her daughter-in-law, Ellie, heading the committee. Withold & Ginney

Ivaska featured Withold's scrumptious fish recipe for the Lenten meeting. April's Easter party was a pot luck arrangement featuring traditional Easter Lithuanian foods, egg rolling, an Easter bonnet contest and lots of fun.

The bowling season is nearing its end. As a preview of what's to come, we can tell you that Jimmy Bender's team is in first place, with Phil Flaherty's team very close behind!

Our 1980 sick list has already included Mrs. Nell Thompson, Mrs. Anna Duggan (Mary's mom), both Rita & Bill Karrytais, Frances Grigas and Eleanor Valinski. We advise our friends to take it easy, play it cool, **but GET WELL FAST!**

Antoinette Karrytais (Bill's mother) died at Christmas time. Margaret Karas (mother of Mildred Lapinskas and wife of Bill Karas) died in February. Our heartfelt sympathies to these grieving families.

Mother's Day is here. For some it is sad, for others, glad. Whether the flower we wear be pink or white, our mother is a special gift. We offer special prayers on her special day while we also honor our heavenly Mother Mary.

Congratulations to Ted Pinkus, Jr. (son of Rita & Ted, Sr.) was in January was selected Rhode Island's Outstanding Hospital Pharmacist for 1979!



C-26 Worcester, Mass. member, organist Olga Kersis.

The annual whist party took place April 12 with Anne and Ellie Walinsky in charge, and a special assist from Ann Bender.

Charles & Frances Kulakusky are enjoying a late spring vacation visiting their daughter, Margaret, and her family in England. Bon voyage! Other interesting jaunts include Ellie & Steve Walinsky, Jr.'s flight/cruise to the Caribbean, Ginny & Withold Ivaska's stay in Florida, and Adele & Francis Degutis' trip to the Catskills.

Our council willingly and dutifully joined the commemoration of St. Casimir's Feast Day with Mass and Holy Communion on March 2 (and later attended the annual parish dinner in honor of our parish patron). Lithuania's Independence Day is celebrated alternately between St. Casimir's and Our Lady of Vilna. This year we celebrated at Our Lady of Vilna and the usual grand number was present. Once again, our Bishop, His Excellency Bernard J. Flanagan, was special guest. Following Mass, C-116's Pres. Irene Tamulevich headed the hostesses for "coffee and" in the parish hall. Thanks to that council and their pastor, Father Alphonse Volungis, for their hospitality.

A new baby has delighted the Carmody family! Congratulations to John and Eleanor and their children on this blessed event.

Now we can tell you something that we've held secret up to now, two very special attractions! May 26 of this year will mark the **FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY** in the priesthood of our honorable pastor, Rev. Anthony J. Miciunas, M.I.C. St. Casimir's Parish Council is planning to honor Father Miciunas on May 25. Our K of L council is planning in June to honor Father John J. Bakanas (now retired, once curate and then administrator of St. Casimir's Church) on the occasion of his **FIFTY YEARS** as a priest. To

both these Fathers, our sincere congratulations.

**SU DIEV DEL DABARTIES...
IKI SEKANCIO NUMERIO!**

Dzukele

C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

Our council did it again. On Feb. 17, together with Father Justin Steponaitis, we sponsored the 62nd Anniversary of Lithuanian Independence Commemoration. The festivities began with a solemn High Mass at 10:30 a.m. in St. Francis Church offered for suffering Lithuania, which was sung by Rev. Steponaitis, who also delivered the sermon appropriate for the day.

St. Casimir's Men's Choir of Worcester, under the direction of composer-director Zigmars Snarskis, sang during the Mass, with Olga Kersis at the organ. Bill Wisnauskas was the lector, and Blanche and Charles Genaitis brought up the gifts. The church was attractively decorated in our national colors, and Father wore, for the first time, a set of Lithuanian linen vestments. Both national hymns were sung



C-10 Athol-Gardner, Mass. members Brone Wisniauskas and Brone Genaitis at the Christmas display at Gardner Museum.

after Mass that was most impressive. Following Mass, our girls served burnch to the choir.

The activities continued at 2 p.m. in the parish hall and was attended by approximately 125 people. The program opened with the singing of the anthems. Father Steponaitis gave the invocation. The men's choir again performed and were enthusiastically received with several encores.

Edvardas Meilus of Worcester, director and founder of the Lithuanian Radio Program, gave the main address. His topic was "Lithuanian Independence Day program today and in the future."

Charles Genaitis read a proclamation issued by Gerald St. Hilaire, Mayor of Gardner, designating Feb. 16 as Republic of Lithuania Day. This has been done every year since we began commemorating Feb. 16 as a K of L function.

The program came to an end with the singing of "Marija, Marija." Coffee and cake was served to the public.

The committee included Chm. Rev. Justing Steponaitis, Food Chm. Nellie Melaika, Photographer Lennie Davidonis, and Hosts Charles and Blanche Genaitis. Decorations were by Gladys Narkevičius and Bronė Wisnauskas. Other members on the committee were the Perekslis', Pauline Rogers, Tina Shatas, Frank Anoris, Pauline and Al Rodski, Clare Zetkauskis, Mary Gauronskis, and Helen Simkunas. Many thanks to all our food donors, especially Alice Harasimovich and Beatrice Richard, who could not attend. A big thank-you to Father Steponaitis for the encouragement he gave us, and for his efforts in all parish projects. Both newspapers carried good write-ups of the event. The Athol coverage was exceptionally good, carrying two front-page articles and a photo of the choir.

This being the month of May, let's all remember our mothers,



St. Casimir's Men's Choir of Worcester, Mass. at Athol's Feb. 16 program.



Rev. Justin Steponaitis celebrating Feb. 16 commemorative Mass at St. Francis Church, Athol, Mass.



C-10 Athol-Gardner, Mass. member Bill Wisniauskas, lector and M.C.



Blanche & Charles Genaitis at the Ethnic Christmas Tree display at the Gardner, Mass. Museum.



Bill & Bronė Wisniauskas with (center) Charles Genaitis setting up a Lithuanian display.

living or deceased, in a special way. Only a few of us have our mothers with us now.

The Rev. Vincent Puidokas, retired pastor of St. Casimir's, Westfield, died at the Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam, Conn. Father was pastor of St. Casimir's for 43 years and was well remembered as a true K of L'er with a deep devotion to his flock. May he rest in peace.

Rev. Albin Yankauskas has been transferred to Uxbridge, Mass. The very best of luck, Father, in your new assignment.

Rev. John Bakans, former curate at Sacred Heart Parish, Gardner, and St. Francis, Athol, will celebrate his 50th anniversary of ordination in June.

Vincukas



ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

President Algerd Brazis announced the following committee appointments: Lith. Affairs and English Publicity Ruth Kazlauskas C36; Lith. Cultural Monica Kasper C112; K or L Choir and Public Relations Estelle Rogers C112; K of L Dancers Frank Zapolis C36; Juniors Counsellors AnnMarie Kassel and Theresa Strolia C36; Ritual Ruth and Albert Dagus C112; Scholarship Eleanore Laurin C112; Civic Affairs Sabina Klatt and Vincent Samaska C36; "Trumpet" Editor Geraldine Mockus C112 and Printers Valeria Joseph Stanaitis Chicago Seniors; Lith. Publicity Emilija Pakalniškis C112. Congratulations to all of the appointees!

Attending the Supreme Council meetings in Maspeth, New York

City and Boston were our IID reps AnnMarie Kassel, Irene Sankus and Terry Strolia. The ladies were entertained by John Adomenas, Loretta and Jack Stukas and Al Jaritis in the respective cities and bring back reports that the 1980 convention plans are progressing.

Our annual IID Memorial Mass for deceased members was held at Immaculate Conception Church with C36-112 Juniors Rita Zakarka and Georgi Kassel and Jrs. Advisor Maria Zakarka C112 presenting the communion gifts. Following the Mass, all enjoyed a most delicious luncheon at the Diamondhead Restaurant with Richard Shlaustas as our delightful host. Chairman of the event, the most capable Vince Samaska.

The IID's 20th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" dinner-dance, commemorating the Lith. Independence date, was held in the Martinique Grand Ballroom in February. President Al Brazis, Chairlady Irene Sankus and

Honorary Chairman Joseph Gribauskas extend their appreciation to their very hard-working committee and to all of the guests in attendance at this most successful affair. This year, our K of L Award of Distinction was presented to the Lithuanian Opera Company of Chicago and we were delighted to have conductor Alvydas Vasaitis and Opera president Vytautas Radzius among the guests. We were most pleased to have His Excellency Bishop Vincentas Brizgys join us again, but greatly missed Lith. Consul General Mrs. Josephine Dauzvardis. (A happy report — Mrs. "D" has recovered from her month-long illness and is as busy as ever with her Lithuanian and civic social events). The musical program, as presented by Dana Stankaitis and Algerdas Brazis, was most entertaining, and as usual, we all enjoyed dancing to the music of Wally Tenclinger and The Casuals. Dr. Joseph Jerome was our most capable Master-of-Ceremonies.



Illinois State Senator Frank Savickas, Irene Sankus and Estelle Rogers, all of C-112, Chicago, and Chicago's 14th Ward Alerman Ed Burke, pictured at the Memories of Lithuania Banquet held at the Martinique on February 17th.

1st and 2nd Degrees were presented following the February C112 meeting with IID Ritual chairpersons Ruth and Al Daigs, assisted by Canon V. Zakaruskas, Ann Marie Kassel and Albert Zakarka, presiding.

This year, our annual St. Casimir's Day was hosted by the Chicago Senior Council, Bernice Pupinek, Pres., at I. D. Church with brunch and program following at the K of L Building. Third degrees were presented to three hard-working ladies: Ruth Kazlauskas of C36 and Alice

Cekanor and Prudencija Bickus of C112.

The special K of L Award was given to Valeria and Joseph Stanaitis of the Chicago Seniors for their dedication and many endeavors in our organization. Val and Joe have been main-stays of our district bulletin — The Trumpet — for many years, serving as printers, editors, mailers, etc. Congratulations to both of them!

Finally — through the efforts of Sabina Klatt and many others of the membership committee, Council 14 of Cicero has been reorganized.

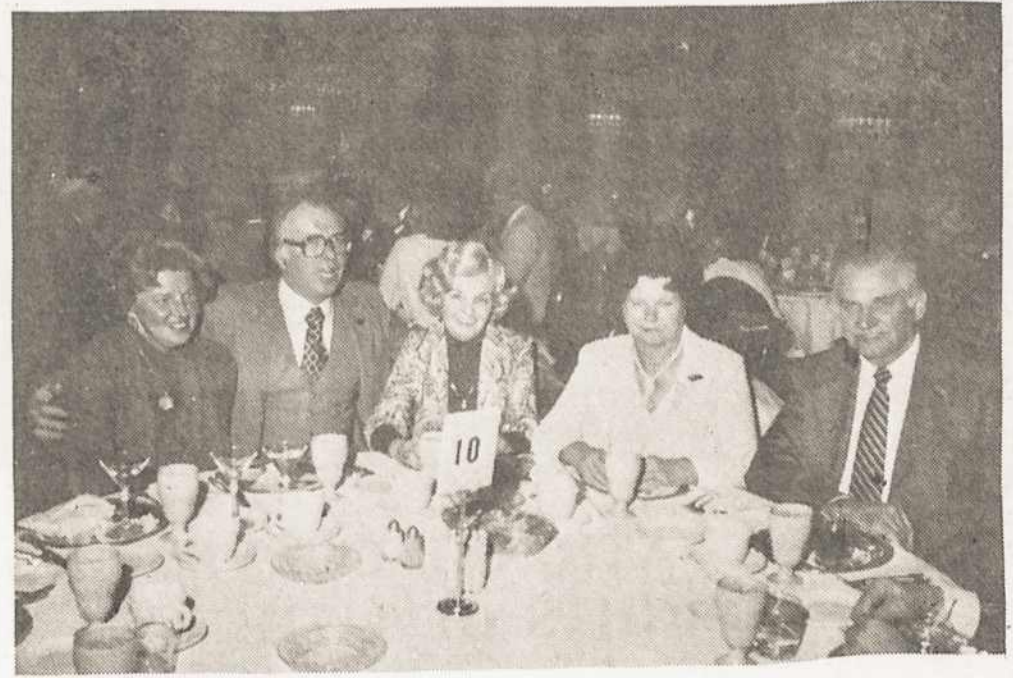
Their 1st meeting was held in February at the St. Anthony Church Hall. President of the council is Jean Vance and the spiritual advisor is K of L Honorary Member Rev. A. Valancius.

Our K of L Dancers and the C36-112 Juniors are in rehearsal for the 6th "Šokių Šventė", which will be held in Chicago on July 6th. All out-of-towners attending the event are cordially invited to join the members of the Illinois-Indiana District for their annual K of L Day Picnic — Friday, July 4th, K of L Building and Garden. LT 99

OPERA STARS AND GUESTS AT THE IID "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" BANQUET



Rev. Savukynas, P. Bickus, A. Matulis and others



Mr. & Mrs. Vaznelis, Mr. & Mrs. E. Zogas



Mr. & Mrs. Vasaitis, V. Radžius, M. Momkus



The Šimutis Family

VYTIS2524 W. 45 St.
Chicago, IL. 60632Return Requested
Address Correction RequestedDRAUGAS
4545 W. 63RD ST.
CHICAGO, ILL. 60629**67th NATIONAL CONVENTION
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA****AUGUST 6-10, 1980****BOSTON PARK PLAZA HOTEL,
BOSTON, MASS.****FOR INFORMATION:**Albert G. Jaritis
75 Gates Street
So. Boston, MA 02127
617 269-1503Joseph White
423 E 7th Street
So. Boston, MA 02127
617/ 268-5968**WEDNESDAY — AUGUST 6, 1980**2:00 P.M. Registrations
Activities for the Pre-Conventioneers
(TBA)**THURSDAY — AUGUST 7, 1980**9:00 A.M. Registrations all day
10:00 A.M. Supreme Council Meeting
12:00 Noon Opening Mass Boston Park Plaza
1:00 P.M. Luncheon Boston Park Plaza
2:00 P.M. Opening Session Boston Park Plaza
7:00 P.M. Get-together-Cultural Evening So.
Boston Lithuanian Club**FRIDAY — AUGUST 8, 1980**8:00 A.M. Early-Bird Sessions Boston Park Plaza
9:00 A.M. Registrations all day
9:00 A.M. General Sessions
12:00 Noon Holy Mass Boston Park Plaza
12:30 P.M. Lunch Break
2:00 P.M. General Session
8:00 P.M. Grande Ball Grand Ball Room**SATURDAY — AUGUST 9, 1980**8:00 A.M. Early Bird Sessions Boston Park Plaza
9:00 A.M. Registrations
9:00 A.M. General Sessions
12:00 Noon Holy Mass Boston Park Plaza
12:30 P.M. Lunch Break
2:00 P.M. General Sessions
6:30 P.M. Happy Hour
8:00 P.M. Convention Banquet Georgian Room
5:00 P.M. Supreme Council Meeting**SUNDAY — AUGUST 10, 1980**10:15 A.M. Concelebrated Convention Mass St.
Peter's Church, So. Boston
12:00 Noon Convention Photo
12:30 P.M. Farewell luncheon St. Peter's Church
Hall**COUNCIL 17 & COUNCIL 17 SENIORS HOST**