



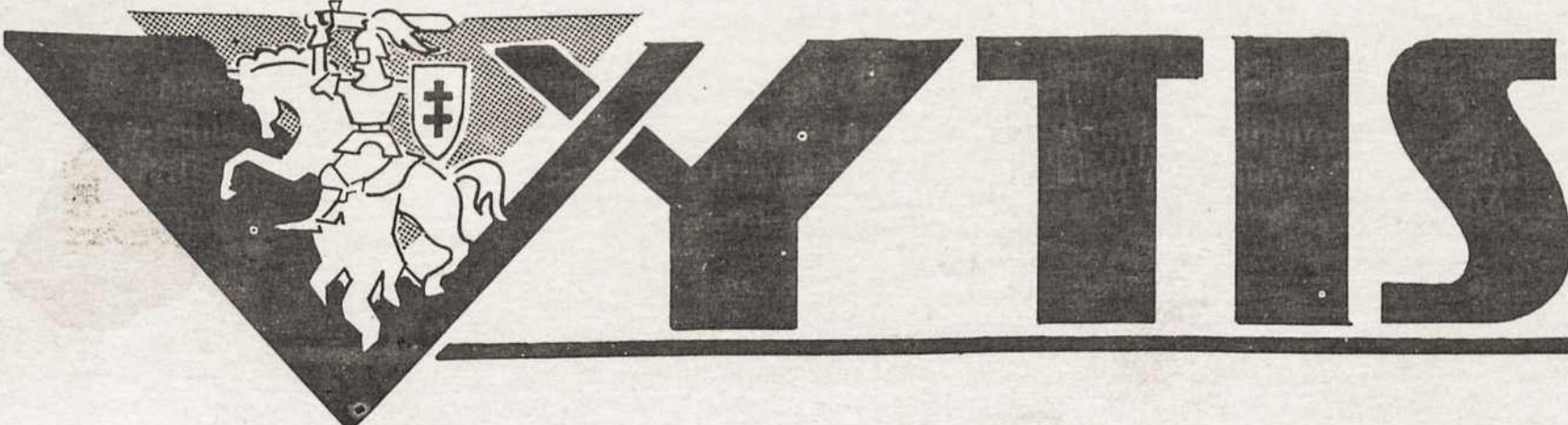
LIETUVOS TARYBA SAVO POSĖDYJE VASARIO 16 D. 1918 M. VIENU BALSU NUTARĖ: KREIPTIS Į RUSIJOS, VOKIETIJOS IR KITŲ VALSTYBIŲ VYRIAUSYBES ŠIUO PAREIŠKIMU: LIETUVOS TARYBA, KAIPD VIEININTELĖ LIETUVIŲ TAUTOS ATSTOVYBĖ, REMDAMOS PRIPAŽINTAJA TAUTŲ APSISPREN- DIMO TEISE IR LIETUVIŲ VILNIAUS KONFERENCIJOS NUTARIMU RUGSĖTO M. 18-23 D. 1917 M. SKELBIA ATSTATANTI NEPRI- KLAUSOMA, DEMOKRATINIAIS PAMATAIS SUTVARKYTA LIE- TUVOS VALSTYBĖ SU SOSTINE VILNIUJE IR TĄ VALSTYBĖ, ATSKIRIANTI NUO VISŲ VALSTYBINIŲ RYŠIŲ, KURIE YRA BU- VĖ SU KITOMIS TAUTOMIS.

DRAUGE LIETUVOS TARYBA PAREIŠKIA, KAD LIETUVOS VALSTYBĖS PAMATUS IR JOS SANTYKIUS SU KITOMIS VALSTYBĖMIS PRIVALO GALUTINAI NUSTATYTI KIEK GALI- MA GREIČIAU SUŠAUKTAS STEIGIAMASIS SEIMAS, DEMO- KRATINIŲ BŪDŲ VISŲ JOS GYVENTŲJŲ IŠRINKTAS.

VILNIUJE 1918.11.16



Page 3,4,5



FEBRUARY - VASARIS

1981

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the KNIGHT
VYTIS

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CONTENTS - TURINYS

3. Lithuanian Independence Day	Rev. A. J. Jurgelaitis, OP
5. We Get Letters...	
6. Our Presidents	A. Ryan
3. Vasario šešioliktosios reikšmė	Tev. L. Andriekus, OFM
16. Msgr. Francis Juras, HM. RIP	J. Boley
11. Upcoming Commemorations	Rev. A. Saulaitis, SJ
13. Cooks corner	M. Luczak
14. Rev. V. Martinkus, RIP	Rev. A.J. Jurgelaitis, OP
15. In Memoriam	
16. Lithuanians in the News	ed. R. Kazlauskas
20. K of L Calendar	
21. Vyčiai veikia / Council Activities	ed. J. Zukas

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LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY DECEMBER 16, 1981!



If you listened to shortwave programs from Vilnius, Lithuania, or from Radio Moscow, as I do from time to time; if you glanced through "Gimtasis Krastas" - Native Land -, the Lithuanian Soviet propaganda weekly, as I do every week, you would hear and read some pretty strange statements:

...that Lithuania attained freedom from foreign domination and began a new democratic way of life on December 16, 1918, but that soon after the evil powers of capitalism, imperialism and counterrevolution suppressed that freedom and kept Lithuania enslaved for 22 years!

...that the friendly (?), brotherly (?) Union of Socialist Soviet Republics restored Lithuania's freedom in 1940, when the Red Russian Armies compassionately came to the assistance of the poor, suffering, impoverished people of Lithuania invaded by German Nazis!

...that the new, freely elected Lithuania government of 1940, voted to ask Russia to annex Lithuania to the Soviet Union!

...that freedom, peace and prosperity are fully enjoyed in the Lithuanian Socialist Soviet Republic!

I am sure that you would begin to ask yourself: What's going on here?

All along you have been celebrating Lithuanian Independence Day on February 16th. You are aware that the Russians had signed a TREATY OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP,

after which, in 1940, they brutally invaded a peaceful Lithuania. You have read that the Communists deposed the legitimate government and proceeded to hand pick delegates to a national assembly. You remember the election frauds: Lithuanian citizens forced to vote, a sharp pointed bayonet tickling their ribs, for the hand picked delegates. The results were announced, before the elections were over. News reports appeared all over the world: "99.8% of Lithuanians vote for annexation."

What are the facts? What is the true story?

Before the first World War, Lithuania had been a part of Tsarist Russia for 123 long, long years. Even the name of Lithuania was not to be found on the maps of Europe. It was called the "Northwest Province." During this period several attempts were made to shake off the Tsarist yoke, but unsuccessfully. Lithuania's deep down yearning for freedom was kept alive. During World War I a glimmer of hope emerged. The Germans pushed the Russians out of Lithuania and this gave the Lithuanians an opportunity to assert themselves.

First the Lithuanian leaders called upon the people to elect delegates from all the districts of Lithuania to lay plans for the regaining of independence. The delegates, 264 of them, met and decided to press for independence. A committee of 20 was

formed and empowered to take all necessary steps to regain freedom. This meeting was held in 1917. The committee worked almost a year to lay the foundations. The Germans did not like the idea and hampered their work in many ways. Finally, the committee met in Vilnius in 1918 on February 16th and typed up a short note declaring that the Lithuanian people sever all ties with other governments and declare themselves free and independent. They proceeded to provide for free, secret democratic elections. On Armistice Day, November 11th, the new independent Lithuanian government took office.

Now, let us go back over the same critical year, 1918, to see what else was going on.

On September 4th, a handful of Lithuanians formed the Lithuanian Communist Party. By handful, I mean about 800 - and a large part of these were not Lithuanians, but Russians. They selected 34 of their members to form a national committee to meet in Vilnius a few months later. The result was a Manifesto or Declaration stating that Lithuania hereby establishes a Lithuanian Socialist Soviet Republic in order to free the oppressed workers and farmers. They sent this document to Lenin, who quickly recognized the "Lithuanian Socialist Soviet Republic" and even ordered the Russian Army to help it in every way.

But, there was no government,

there was only that scrap of paper! The Communists knew very well about The Proclamation of February 16th, yet on December 16th they dared to issue their own declaration. Notice, too, that there was already functioning a Lithuanian government, which had taken office on November 11, 1918.

The democratically elected government of Lithuania under the leadership of Antanas Smetona immediately issued a call for national defense. Thousands of volunteers joined the ranks and in one year or so drove out units of the German, Polish and Rus-

sian Armies.

Peace was finally established in Europe and the Communist Government signed a Peace Treaty with Lithuania in 1920, by which Soviet Russia renounced all claims to Lithuanian territory and people and officially recognized the legitimacy of the Smetona government. And since Lenin inherited the Russian Empire, so to speak, he was forced to take one step further and renounce all Tsarist Russia's claims against Lithuanian territories and people.

Thus it was, that only in 1920 could Lithuania begin its reconstruction.

For 22 years it made great strides in rebuilding its economy and agriculture, its education and culture. These were true years of prosperity and progress.

The Russians never forgave the Lithuanians for escaping their clutches in 1918. After the signing of the Hitler-Stalin pact of 1939, which divided Europe into zones of German and Russian domination, they marched into Lithuania in 1940 and forcibly took not only Lithuania, but Latvia and Estonia as well.

In order to cancel their treaty of 1920, they concocted the fraudulent



Dr. J. Basanavičius reading the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence. A painting by artist P. Kalpokas at the Lithuanian Legation in Washington, D.C. Pictured are the Signers of the Declaration: seated, l. to r.: Jurgis Šaulys, Stasys Narutavičius, Rev. Kazimieras Šaulys, Rev. Vladas Mironas, Petras Klimas, Antanas Smetona, Justinas Staugaitis, Jonas Vileišis. Standing, l. to r.: Kazimieras Bizauskas, Donatas Malinauskas, Jonas Vailokaitis, Rev. Alfonsas Petrusis, Saliamonas Banaitis, Dr. Jonas Basanavičius, Pranas Dovydaitis, Aleksandras Stulginskis, Jokubas Šernas, Jonas Smilgevičius, Mykolas Biržiška, Steponas Kairys.

elections of 1940. They wanted to legalize their violent aggression, to justify it in the eyes of the world. But many countries, including the United States did not recognize the annexation of Lithuania by Russia.

No matter what the Communists try to tell the world, Lithuania proclaimed itself independent on February 16th.

And notice this interesting fact about the document itself: After the Lithuanian Council signed the typewritten sheet of paper, the Secretary of the Council, Dr. Saulys, secretly took it to "Lietuvos Aidas" - Lithuanian Echo - the Lithuanian newspaper. The editors and staff had a quick meeting, decided to use the largest type they could find, set it up in such a way that it filled the whole first page of the paper. It came out the next morning to the consternation of the German authorities, but to the

great joy of the Lithuanian people. A day or two later it was in the German papers and soon the whole world knew of the daring action taken by the committee of twenty, the Lithuanian Council.

And so it is that we Lithuanians in the free world celebrate Independence Day on February 16th. It has become a bitter-sweet celebration, because Lithuanians in the homeland cannot raise the Lithuanian flag, cannot sing their national anthem, cannot meet in public to mark this event.

The struggle for freedom, national freedom and individual freedom - human rights, goes on and must go on until Lithuania assumes its rightful place among the free and independent nations of the world.

God, hasten the day!

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



To the Editor:

Last summer, we had the opportunity to visit and get acquainted with our cousins in Lithuania, whom we've never met. Among the many things we brought them was the song book we obtained in Chicago at the K of L Convention. On examining the book they came across the "Vyčių Hymnas." Every time anyone came over to visit us, we were asked to sing that for them. They all listened with tears in their eyes. They couldn't get over the fact that the American Lithuanians keep them in mind and are working so hard for the freedom of Lithuania.

Sesutes
Sister Alverna
Sister Francesca
St. Francis Convent
Grove & McRoberts Road
Pittsburgh, Pa 15234



LIETUVOS VYČIŲ HIMNAS

Nuženk, Galybe, iš dangaus,
Sustiprink jauną Vyčių dvasią.
Mes už teisybę stosim drąsiai
Tėvynę ginti kuo narsiau.
O plieno kardas priešą draus,
O plieno kardas priešą draus.

Štai plevėsuoja vėliava,
Ką kalba jos žymė?
Ei, Vyčiai, gyvenam Tautai ir Bažnyčiai:
Mums viską davė Lietuva,
Vaduosim galva ją sava.
Ei, Vyčiai, gyvenam Tautai ir Bažnyčiai!

Žodžiai - M. Gustaičio
Muzika - A. Aleksio

*Me
get
letters*

O. U. R P R E S I D E N T S

by

Aldona Ryan

George Washington was a great man in more ways than we usually imagine him to be. Two hundred years ago, people were smaller. (Each generation seems to grow bigger.) Our first president stood six feet two inches tall and, being sturdily built, he towered over his compatriots.

We all know he was born on February 22, 1732, don't we? Well, we are wrong. He was actually born on February 11, 1731. At that time, the colonies were using the old Julian calendar. When the new government switched to the Gregorian calendar in 1752, (20 years later) Washington's birthday changed. Privately, he always celebrated his birthday on February 11th.

At the age of 27, he married Martha Dandridge Custis, a widow with four children. Two of the children died in infancy. George Washington never had any children of his own.

He was the first of nine presidents who never attended college. He had inherited a modest plantation and his new wife was a rich woman. Through shrewd investments and by using his own skills of expansion, by 1792 he owned more than 6,000 acres of land, 216 slaves, and some small industries such as a commercial mill. He also had some "indentured" white servants—men who had contracted to work out the cost of their passage from Europe after they arrived in America. This was a three-year term.

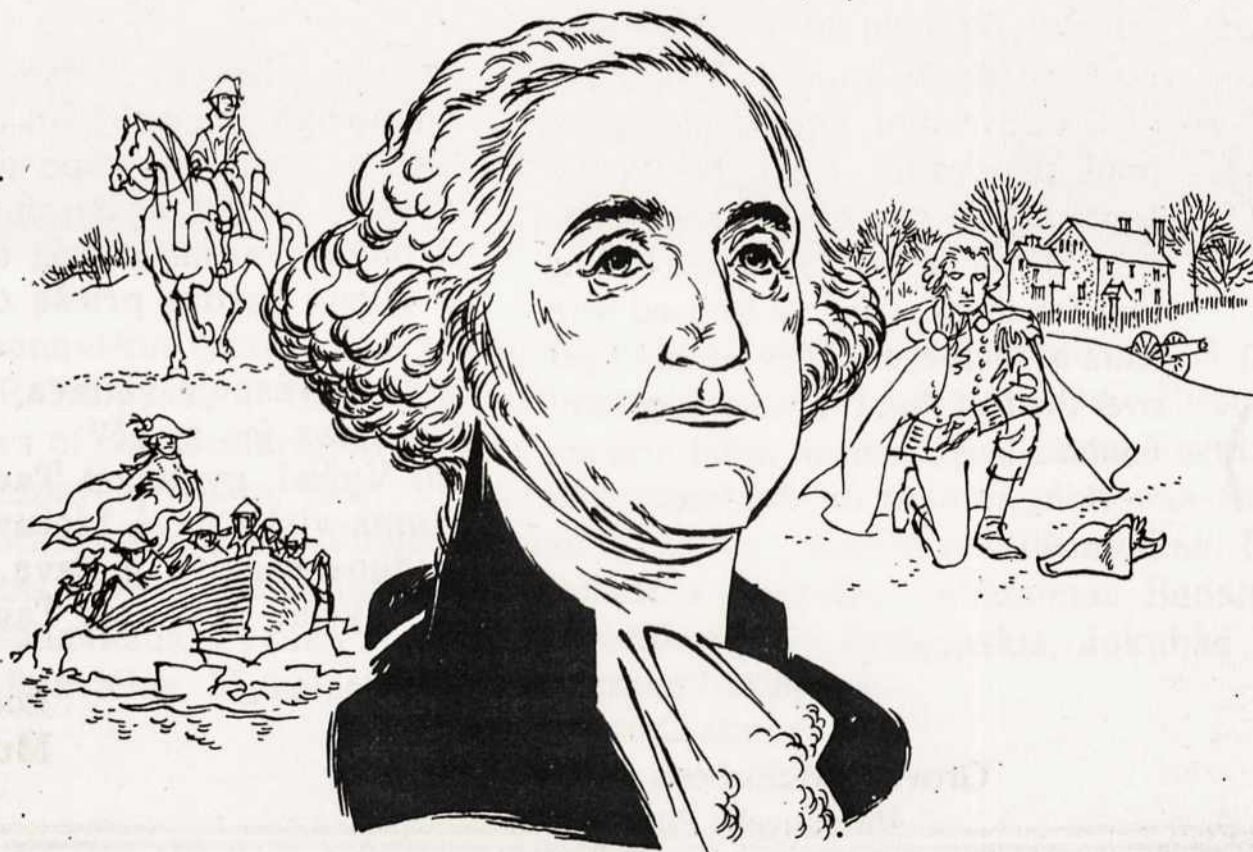
What was a day in his life like when he was "at home?" In a book called "George Washington and the New Nation" written by James Thomas Flexner, we read,

"As he had in wartime, Washington arose early with the dawn in summer, by candlelight during the rest of the year. He was instantly attended by his 'valet de chambre' Will, an aging mulatto slave who had been at his side during both wars. Will had already laid out the costume in which Washington would attend to his farms. On a recorded occasion, this was a plain blue coat, white cashmere waistcoat, black breeches and black boots.

Washington shaved himself. Then Will brushed his master's long hair, pulled it back tightly in what was considered a 'military manner' and tied the queue firmly with a ribbon.

He read or did accounts until seven o'clock when his meal was invariably the same—three small Indian hoecakes, buttered, and three dishes of tea.

Every day except Sunday, Washington stepped out the door to where a groom waited with one of his horses. He leapt into the saddle and cantered down the driveway. Often he made the circuit of all five farms, a ride of about twenty miles, before he returned in time to dress for a three o'clock dinner."





Abraham Lincoln, at six feet four inches, stood taller than George Washington. He was actually born on February 12, 1809 just ten years after Washington died in 1799. He was born in Hardin County, Kentucky at what is now State Route 61. His formal education totalled less than a year.

In 1816, the family moved to Indiana and then they moved to Illinois in 1830. He was 33 when he married Mary Ann Todd in Springfield, Ill. They had four sons but only Robert Todd Lincoln lived to maturity.

The only house he ever owned was at 430 South Eighth

St., Springfield, Ill. which is now a "memorial."

Lincoln grew up very differently than Washington. Stefan Lorant writes in his book called "Lincoln" as follows:

"His great love was books. He read not many of them but what he read he remembered.

He was—so his stepsister recalled—an indefatigable preacher. "The father and mother would go to church," said Matilda, 'Abe would take down the Bible, read a verse, give out a hymn and we would sing. He preached and we would do the crying.'



What did he look like? He was tall and growing rapidly. Before he was seventeen, he measured 6 feet 2 inches and weighed about 160 pounds. His body was slim but wiry, his skin shriveled and yellow, his arms were large and muscular, his legs long.

'He wore buckskin breeches,' says Kate Gentry, a friend, 'linsey-woolsey shirt, and a cap made of the skin of a squirrel or coon. His breeches were baggy and lacked by several inches of meeting the top of his shoes, thereby exposing his shin-bone, sharp, blue and narrow!'

As soon as he was able to work, he was hired out among

the neighbors. One employer, John Romine, recalled that he used to 'get mad at him. He was always reading and thinking. I say Abe was awful lazy. He would laugh, talk and crack jokes and tell stories all the time.'

As the years went by and he grew up, he would go in the evening to the store of William Jones in Gentryville, 'He was so odd, original and humorous and witty that all the people in town would gather around him,' recalled Dennis Hanks. 'He would keep them there till midnight or longer telling stories and cracking jokes.'"



VASARIO ŠEŠIOLIKTOSIOS REIKŠMĖ

Tėv. Leonardas Andriekus, O.F.M.

Savo praeityje vargu rastume kitą įvykį, kuris taip giliai būtų paveikęs lietuvių tautą, kaip Vasario 16-oji. Net užsienio lietuvių gyvenime po tiek daug metų, šis įvykis tebėra tikrai gyvas. Kitos tautinės šventės kartais išeina blankios - Vasario 16-oji visuomet išlieka šviesi. Net ir mažiausios lietuvių bendruomenės, toli nuo gausiuju tautinių centrų, stengiasi iškilmingai paminėti tą dieną. Aukos, kurios sunėšamos tautai gelbėti, jungiasi su Vasario 16-ąja. Okupuotoje tėvynėje taip pat tebėra gyvas jos prisiminimas. Jo neišdildė per daugelį metų skelbiama panieka. Jeigu lietuviai negali tą dieną melstis viešai, jis kreipiasi į Viešpatį privačiai. Malda lieka paskutinė priemonė išsiilgusiam teisybės bei laisvės žmogui.

Deja, teisybės nebuvo nė tais laikais, kai Lietuva buvo paskelbta nepriklausoma valstybe. Veltui ieškotume kaimyninės tautos, kuri nebūtų norėjusi valdyti Lietuvos, išskyrus Latviją. Vokiečiai, rusai, lenkai žiūrėjo į tą žemės kraštelį prie Baltijos, kaip alkani vilkai į grobį. Visiems jis atrodė svarbus strategiškai. Bet ir noras pavergti tris milijonus žmonių buvo aiškus. Tai labai nuostabu civilizuotame pasaulyje. Visi jie žinojo, kokią vaidmenį turėjo Lietuva istorijos būvyje ir visi jie girdėjo apie lietuvių kalbos vertę mokslui, bet niekas iš didžiųjų kaimynų neištarė: reikia pagaliau šiai mažai tautai duoti laisvę. Tai ištarė ryžtingi patys Lietuvos sūnūs, susirinkę Vilniuje 1918 m. Vasario 16-tą dieną. Viešpats tegul suteikia

tiems garbingiems vyrams amžiną atilsį už drąsą, ryžtą ir meilę savo tautai. Jie matė, kokiais pavojingais ir slydžiais keliais ji ėjo per šimtmečius. Senovės pergalės buvo pamirštos, garsios valstybės vardas išdilęs. Beliko tik garbingos praeities aidas, kurį reikėjo paversti gyva tautinio atgimimo giesme. Giesmė jau buvo suskambėjusi iš Maironio ir kitų poetų širdies. Didieji praeities žygiai iškeikti ir net suidealinti - beliko tikrai prijungti galutini posmą - Mes norime laisvės, ir skelbiamės pasauliui laisvi! Vasario 16-osios aktą pasirašiusių vyrų lūpomis bylojo visa Lietuva. triumfavusi, vergavusi, prisikėlus...

Aišku, tas balsas buvo tildomas armotų trenksmo, diplomatų šnekos ir skurdžios dabarties.



Lietuvos kariuomenė įžengia į Vilnių

Tačiau jis neliko tyruose šaukiančiu aidu. Jis pasiekė pasaulį ir su juo reikėjo skaitytis. Mums, lietuviams, Vasario 16-oji tapo tvirčiausia tautine atrama, nes joje slypi gyvybiniai pradai: ateities vizija, vienybės jungtis, meilės ugnis ir tautinis subrendimas.

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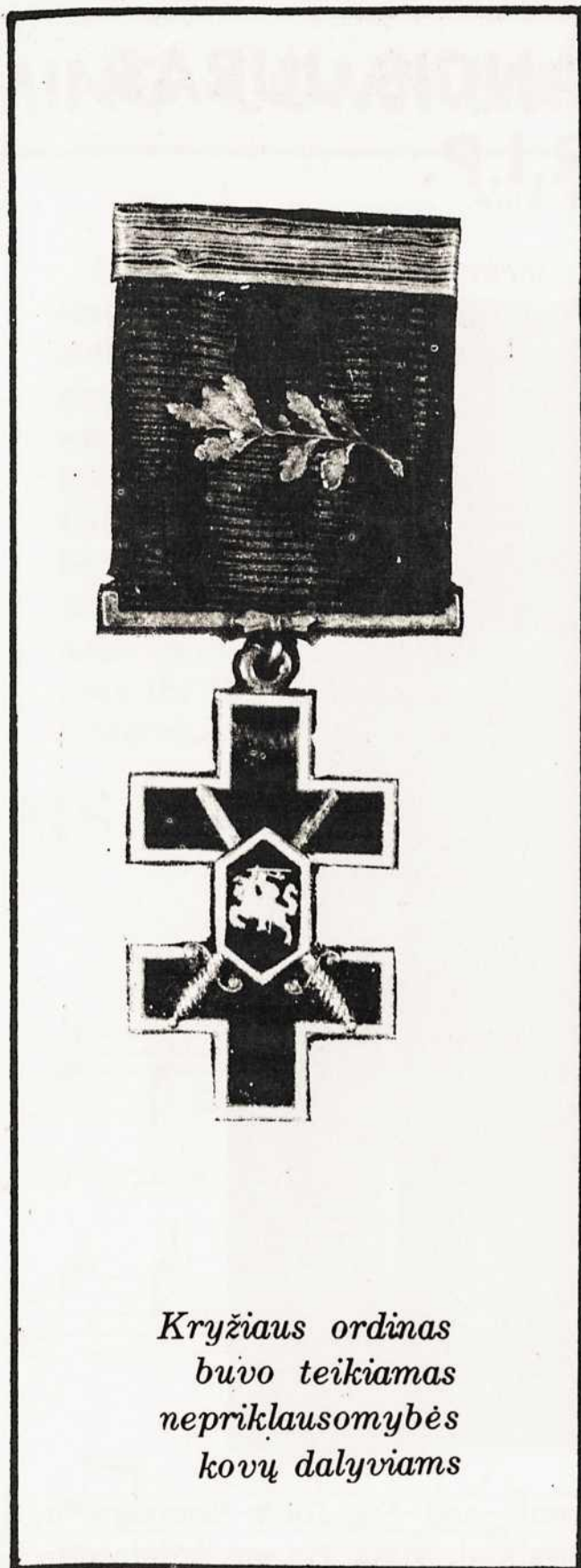
Vasario 16-sios aktą pasirašiusiuju akyse buvo plati ir šviesi. Tie vyrai jautė, kad mūsų tautos galybė glūdi ne tiek gimtosios žemės turtuose, kiek lietuvių sielose. Reikia tik jas išbudinti, ir gims talentai. Vaikai, kurie vargo skelbiant nepriklausomybę, gavę mokslo, išaugo rašytojais, muzikais, dailininkais, mokslininkais... Tai nebūtų atsitikę be savo gimnazijų, meno mokyklų, konservatorių, universiteto. Lietuvos nepriklausomybės našus dvidešimtmetis parodė, kad tauta švieson kyla tik laisvėje, kai jos polėkių netramdo svetimieji.

Šviesią, kūrybingą ir sąmoningą tautą regėjo nepriklausomybės akto skelbėjai 1918 metais. Kitaip jie nebūtų rizikavę gyvybe.

VIENYBĖS JUNGTIS

Vasario 16-oje ypač vaizdi. Šalis iš visų pusių apgulta priešų, karuose išvarginta ir per daugelį šimtmečių užguita, bet ji vieninga. Ar ne nuostabu, kad anuomet iš Rusijos skuba namo, kas tik begali prisikeliančios tautos tarnybon! Universitetų profesoriai, muzikai, dailininkai, operų solistai, aukšto laipsnio kariškiai - visi net per fronto ugnį bėga namo. Sugrįžusieji iš svetur ir gimtajame krašte gyvenantieji vieningai steigia kariuomenę, švietimo centrus ir kelia ekonominę gerovę. Kaimų ir miestų jaunimas laisvu noru eina kariauti už Lietuvos nepriklausomybę.

Amerikos lietuviai remia Lietuvą finansiškai ir maldauja prezidentą, kad jai padėtų politiškai.



*Kryžiaus ordinas
buvo teikiamas
nepriklausomybės
kovų dalyviams*

VASARIO 16-osios AKTAS UŽDEGĖ TAUTĄ

lyg kokia šventa ugnis. Vyresnieji prisimena kilų entuziazmą, kai jau kovos buvo laimėtos. Kaip sparčiai tada augo mokyklos, kaip energingai jaunimas veržėsi į mokslus ir kaip našiai klestėjo Lietuvos kultūrinė veikla! Pradėta sėkminga žemės reforma, suorganizuojama pajėgi opera ir atgaunami iš Rusijos M.M. Čiurlionio kūriniai. Tai tik kelios to staigaus išbudimo užuominos, kurios palietė milijonus širdžių.

Vasario 16-sios įžiebtos ugnies neužgesino net skaudžiausios nelaimės, kaip Vilniaus praradimas ir nuolatinė trintis su Vokietija dėl Klaipėdos krašto. Iki nepriklausomybės praradimo visoje šalyje skambėjo himno žodžiai: Tegul meilė Lietuvos dega mūsų širdyse. Jie ir dabar tebeskamba pasaulyje, kur tik yra lietuvių.

VASARIO 16-oji

SUBRANDINO MUS

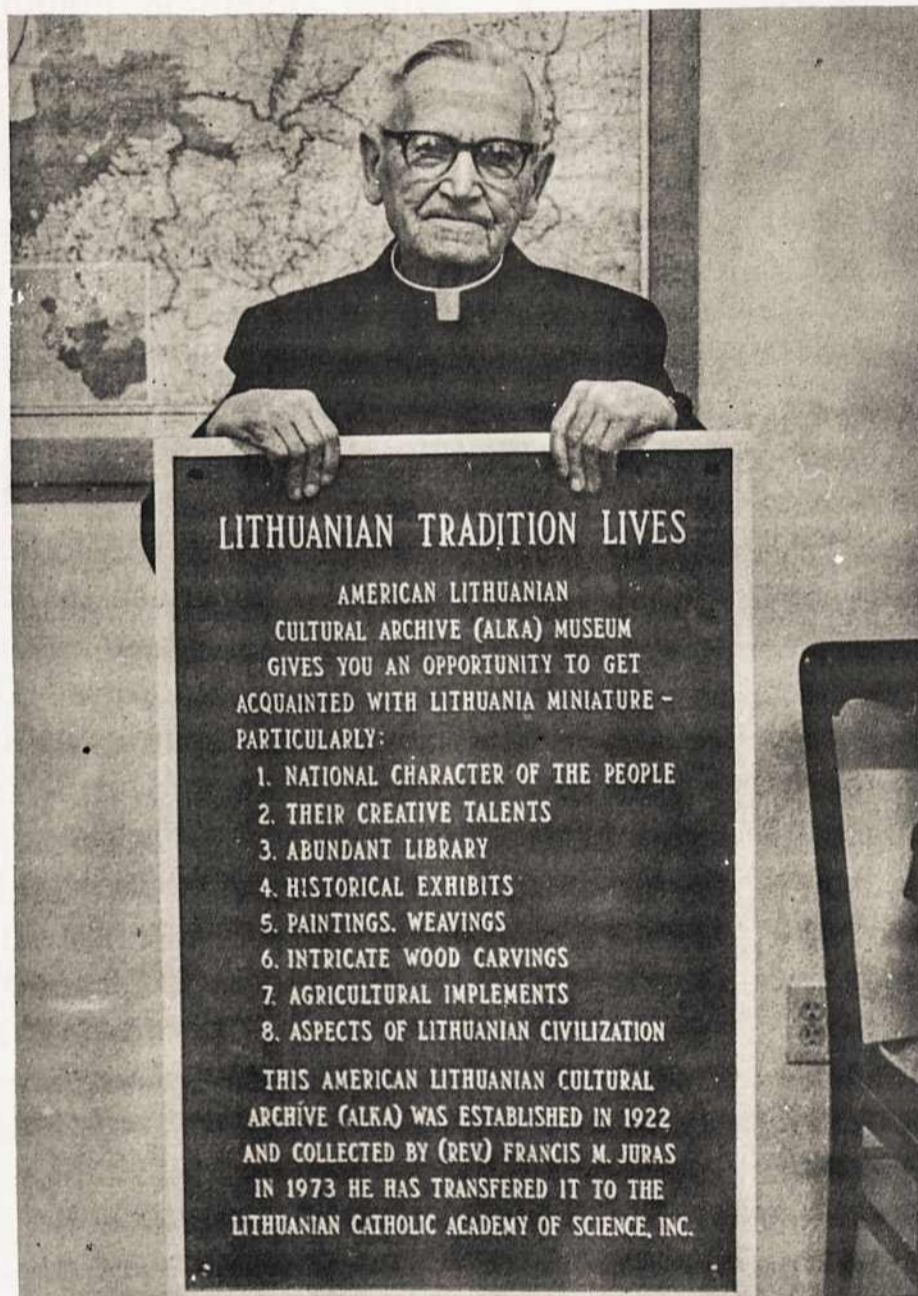
ATEITIES NELAIMĖMS,

Įsivaizduokime, kas šiandien būtų iš Lietuvos, jeigu 1918 metais ji būtų pakliuvusi į Rusijos Lenkijos ar Vokietijos nagus. Ar mūsų tėvų šalis būtų galėjusi taip gražiai suklestėti be laisvės ir nepriklausomybės? Apie tai negali būti nė kalbos. Didžiosios tautos būtų uždėjusios ant Lietuvos svetimą kultūrinį ir politinį antspaudą. Neišvengiama priešpaula Lietuvą būtų lenkusi svetimųjų pusėn. Nuo tokios nelaimės Visagalis apsaugojo mūsų tautą Vasario 16-sios žygiu. Ji bent dvidešimt metų galėjo gyventi laisvėje, išsąmoninti į savo paskirtį, išpuoselėti savo kalbą, išugdyti savo meną ir pasirodyti pasauliui verta būti nepriklausoma nuo kitų.

Visais atžvilgiais Vasario 16-oji yra mūsų tautos iškiliausia šventė. Tai brangi Dievo dovana, be kurios mes dabar būtume aptemę, išsisklaidę, prigesę ir nusilpę. Tegul Vasario 16-oji ir mus, atskirtus nuo tėvų šalies Lietuvos, apšviečia, kad dvasia matytume laimingos ateities laikus; tegul ji mus labiau sujungia vienybėn, kad išliktume tvirti žygyje į laisvę; tegul mus uždega, kad visuomet jaustumėmės ištikimais tautos sūnumis ir dukterimis; pagaliau Vasario 16-oji tegul mus sustiprina, kad nesvyruotume sunkumuose ir abejonėse.

MONSIGNOR FRANCIS JURAS

H.M. - R.I.P.



retirement at the Matulaitis Nursing Home, much of his energy was directed to the building, and later the expansion, of his cultural archives repository ALKA (Amerikos Lietuviu Kataliku Archyvas). For much of his lifetime he had been gathering historical memorabilia, which will bear witness, perhaps for centuries, to the struggles, dedication, and achievements of Lithuanians in America and throughout the world. It was this museum that seem to sustain his vigor in his final years.

The museum contains a sizable collection of K of L material. He was especially pleased when members of our organization would drop in to have a look at the archives, a notable achievement of one of their fellow members. He had rendered assistance to Norkunas in many ways, sometimes providing funds for his journeys to K of L conventions. Msgr. Juras personally paid for publication of over 40 Lithuanian books.

The Knights' representation at the funeral wake service was headed by Rev. Albert Contons, Anthony Young, Rev. Albin Janiunas, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Akule, Joseph White, Longinas Svelnis, and two carloads of his former parishioners from Lawrence.

Rev. Stasys Yla mentioned the Knights in his homily. It was Msgr. Juras' expressed view, he said, that in the hands of the Knights of Lithuania and the Lithuania Scouts lies the future of Lithuania itself. This was one of Msgr. Juras' last statements, Father Yla said.

"Gyvenam Tautai ir Baznyciai" may well have been this Lithuanian patriot's own life motto. His earthly remains were laid to rest in St. Casimir's Cemetery in Chicago on Nov. 26.

Amzina atilsi suteik jam, Viespatie.

L.S., J.B.

Among his numerous credits and accomplishments, Monsignor Francis M. Juras was also an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania. Ever since he joined the organization in 1913, he maintained active interest in its welfare and the pursuit of its Lithuanian-Catholic ideals. As a young student at St. Charles College, Cottonville, Maryland, he was an eager supporter of Mykolas Norkunas and the other founding fathers in that busy and hectic organizational period.

Father Juras came to the United States in 1912 after completing four years of study at Siauliai High School. He continued his studies at DePaul University in Chicago and, later, at Kenrick Seminary in St.

Louis and St. John Seminary in Brighton, Mass. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1922.

For a while he was assigned to the Lithuanian parish in Lawrence. Then he became pastor in Lowell, Mass. In 1929 he returned to Lawrence as pastor of St. Francis Lithuanian parish, where he remained until his retirement in 1967, by this time bearing the title of Monsignor, Apostolic Prothonotary.

His retirement turned out to be but another form of meaningful activity. Along with his pastoral duties in his Lawrence parish he had found time to serve in various capacities in the Lithuanian Priests' League and in various undertakings of other Lithuanian organizations. In his Putnam

UP COMMING COMMEMORATIONS

Since we Lithuanians have not yet worked up to the stage where we can have commemorative U.S. stamps issued for Lithuanian anniversaries (Note: but let's get organized for 500 years since the death of St. Casimir in 1984 and 600 years since the official Baptism of Lithuania - at least Aukštaitija - in 1987), we have to rely on articles in the press, lectures and banquets, perhaps an exhibition or festival, a special Liturgy or other prayer.

Antanas Saulaitis, SJ

In 1981 the following more important anniversaries are to occur. The author of "Lietuviais esame mes gime," the anthem of Lithuania Minor, Jurgis Sauerveinas, was born February 15, 1831. He wasn't even Lithuanian, but he appreciated the heritage and hope for the future which he saw at the time. Seven days later, on the 22nd, it will be 75 years since the first Lithuanian American Congress, a crucial step taken by

Lithuanians here to pave the way for Independence in 1918 and for the support given by American Lithuanians to the effort.

On March 17, 1831 an important revolt began against Czarist occupation in Lithuania, so important that the University of Vilnius was closed down by the Czar (and fugitives who survived even ended up in Australia, the first Lithuanians "down under.")

LIETUVIAIS ESAME MES GIMĖ

J. Sauerveinas

Stasys Šimkus (1887-1943)

Allegro maestoso

Lie - tu - viais e - sa - me mes gi - mė,

lie - tu - viais no - ri - me - ir būt! Ta gar - bę ga - vo - me už -

gi - mė: jai ir ne - tu - rim leist pra - žūt!

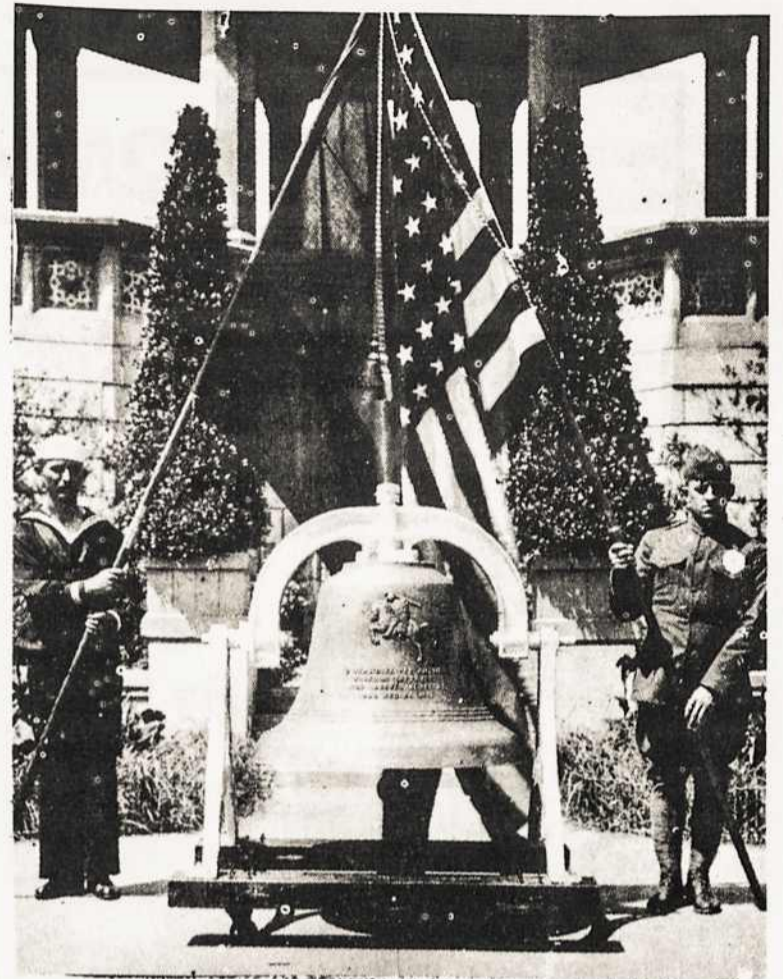
On May 20th it will be 60 years since American Lithuanians handed one million signatures to the President of the U.S., an act which resulted in American recognition of the newly restored republic on July 28, 1922 (a date to be remembered for 1982).

The annual commemoration and remembrance of our resistance in June will be special in 1981, 40 years after the revolt and brief but significant resotation of independence between the Soviet and Nazi occupations of Lithuania. The first massive exile proceedings took place just prior, on the night of 13-14 June.

One hundred years ago (that is, on November 1, 1881) was born the most

renowned Lithuanian sculptor Petras Rimša—for example, his work is exhibited in the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

1982 is a bit far away, but January 12th ties in well with other commemorations. On that day in 1922 American Lithuanians presented to the government of independent Lithuania a liberty bell fashioned according to the one in Philadelphia. The University of Lithuania in Kaunas was founded on February 16, 1922 (and renamed the University of Vytautas the Great in 1930) because Vilnius was not part of Lithuania at the time and its age-old university run by others.



Lithuanian Liberty Bell

On August 15th we turn back even more, to the death of Grand Duke Kestutis at Trakai in 1382. On October 29, 1882 Vincas Kreve Mickevicius was born, one of our major authors who immortalized folklore in his novels and short stories and dramas. On December 9th, 1907, or 75 years back from 1982, died Jonas Biliunas, the Lithuanian equivalent of Edgar Allan Poe and a great admirer of the American author.

1983 will bring some more special days. On January 15th, 1923 the port and region of Klaipeda returned to Lithuania. In March of 1883 Dr. Jonas Basanavicius began publishing the first Lithuanian newspaper "Ausra," after which one of the current underground publications is deliberately named. July brings us back to the U.S., because on the 15th Darius and Girenas lifted off from Brooklyn to Kaunas in the longest transatlantic flight of the time, and on the 17th they perished, very special heroes to Lithuanian Americans.

We could go on with these commemorations to the end of the century, but this is enough for now.

A Petition for Lithuanian Independence

Whereas, Lithuania was for ages an independent State, whose inhabitants, a distinct ethnic group, have never renounced their right to independence;

Whereas, the establishment of an independent Lithuanian State would add materially to the future peace of the world;

We, the undersigned, ask for the people of Lithuania those rights of self-determination that are the declared war aims of the United States, and which have been granted to the oppressed peoples of other countries.

We respectfully request the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES and the SECRETARY OF STATE to extend to the Lithuanian Government formal recognition, based not only on these grounds of justice, but that through this, they may the better be able to withstand the attempts of the present regime of Russia or any other alien government to impose a foreign rule upon them.

NAME	ADDRESS
Anton Obzewski	3251 S. Halsted St.
M. M. Packus, M.D.	1411 So. 50 th Ave, Cicero, Ill.
Mrs. Katherine Packus	1411 So. 50 th Ave Cicero, Ill.
Rev. Alex. Skrypta	4557 So. Wood St.
Ignatas K. Sakalas	2334 S. Oakley Ave
Leonardas Simaitis	222 So. 9 th St., Brooklyn, N.Y.
Rev. J. Alvarius	717 W. 18 th St. Chicago, Ill.
Dr. A. Bariska	2745 W. 44 th St. Chicago, Ill.
Dr. F. K. ...	Street, Mich.
Antanas ...	94 Hunt Ave, Maspeth, N.Y.
Jugars J. Vertmanas	3631 Wallace St
Dr. A. Zimontas	6806 Carnell Ave.
Francis ...	3112 S. Halsted Chicago, Ill.
Dr. A. ...	3310 So. Halsted St. Chicago, Ill.
Joseph Elias	10540 Longwood Drive

Some of the million petitions to USA Prsident Wilson from American Lithuanians

COOK'S CORNER*by Mary Lucas***POTAGE OF SPANISH BEANS**

I had this delicious soup in Havana at the Nacionale Hotel during the good old days - before Castro.

- 2 T. butter
- 1 cup thinly sliced smoked sausage
- 2 15-oz. cans chick peas (ceci beans) with liquid
- 4 cups water
- 1 large carrot - shredded
- 1 large potato - cubed fine
- 1 T. Smoke House Ham Style Soup Powder
- 2 T. ketchup
- salt and pepper to taste



Lightly fry the sausage and onion in butter in 3-quart pan. Add the water, chick peas, carrot, potato, and ham seasoning.

Boil till vegetables are tender.

With potato masher, mash some of the vegetables, leaving some of the beans whole.

Add the ketchup and salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil.

Serve hot.



FROM THE VATICAN, November 14, 1980



SECRETARIAT OF STATE

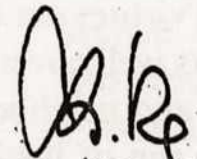
Dear Mrs. Stukas,

His Holiness Pope John Paul II has received your kind message and the enclosed magazine, and he has directed me to express his gratitude and to assure you of his prayers.

His Holiness invokes upon you the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Loretta I. Stukas
Editor, VYTIS
Knights of Lithuania
1467 Force Drive
Mountainside, NJ 07092


Msgr. G. B. Re
Assessor

IN MEMORIAM

REVEREND FATHER VACLOVAS MARTINKUS FOURTH DEGREE KNIGHT

(Our Spiritual Advisor, Father Anthony Jurgelaitis, of the Order of Preachers, was Homilist at the funeral of the Reverend Father Vaclovas Martinkus, Spiritual Advisor, Council 103, Providence, R.I. We are pleased to share this K of L tribute to Father Martinkus with our members.)

Little did we think, as we listened to God's Prophet Malachi in last Sunday's Mass, that his words would become a reality here in this parish on Tuesday a few minutes before seven in the morning.

The "day" of which Malachi spoke, the "day of the coming of the Lord" dawned suddenly last Tuesday morning for our beloved Pastor, Father Vaclovas Martinkus.

Although Malachi was directly prophesying the Last Day of the World... the glorious coming of Christ, our Savior and merciful Judge, his prophesy applies quite rigorously to the particular coming of Christ at the moment of our death.

In Malachi's words: "Thus says the Lord of Hosts—for you who fear my name there will arise the sun of justice with its healing rays."

But, Malachi also spoke of that same sun of justice as a "blazing oven," as a day "that will set on fire," leaving neither root nor branch.

Here he was presenting the wondrous infinite mercy and justice of God.

The same sun of justice can be a destructive, blazing fire for evil doers, and a gentle, warm ray of healing for those who fear God.

Last Sunday, I asked myself, What is destroyed? What is healed in this prophesy of Malachi?

And do you want to know what my answer was?

The evergreen tree of our lives...

Imaging for a moment that each one of us at birth was given a tiny evergreen tree to water and care for and tend until we die.

The proud, the evildoers will be careless, breaking the branches, damaging the roots by all kinds of evil actions.

But, those who fear the Lord will be so careful by their good deeds and virtues not to break the smallest twig, and to keep the roots well covered and watered by prayer and charity to God and neighbor.

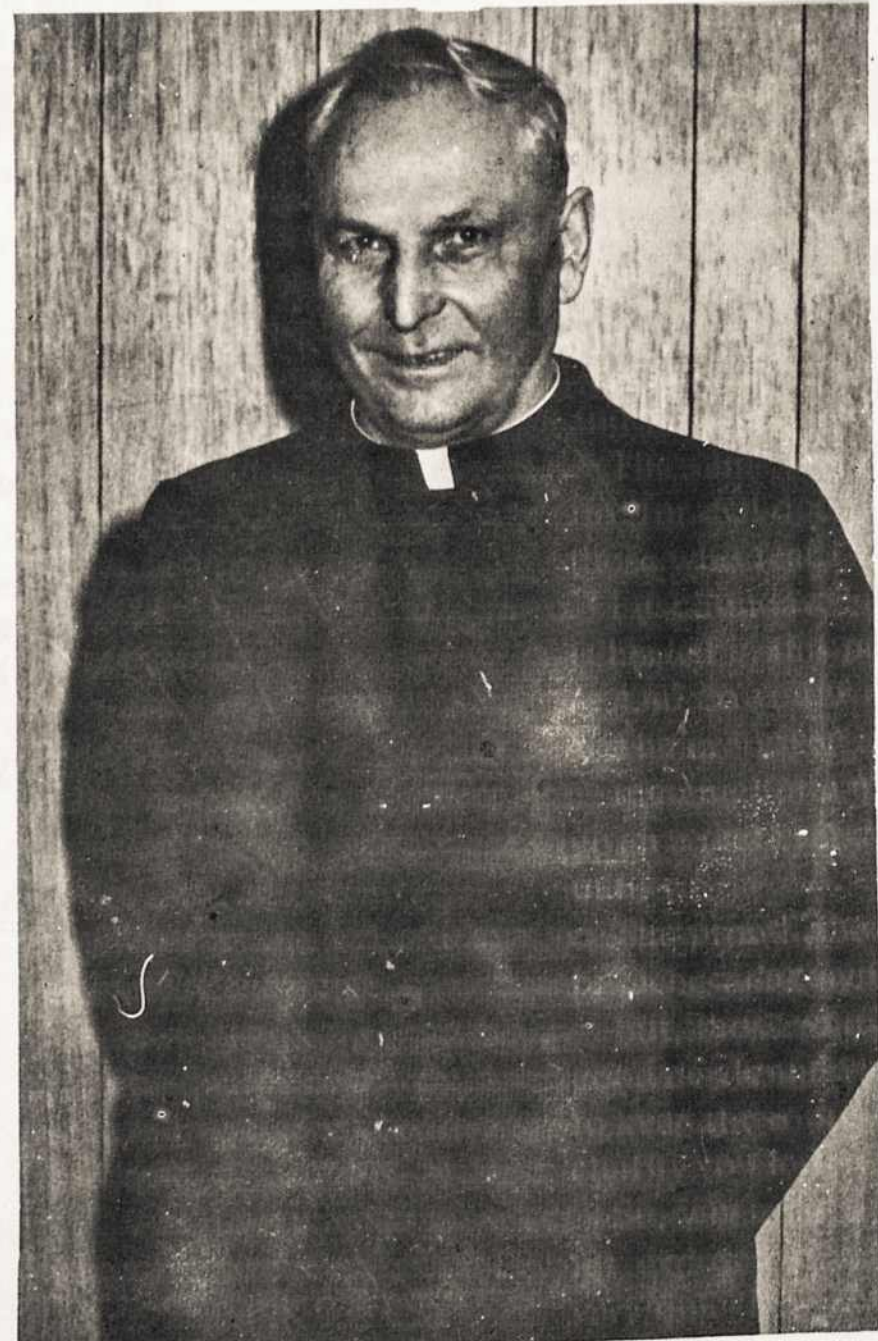
So, when the sun of justice arises, of course, the dried up, exposed roots and the broken branches will be ignited very quickly and destroyed.

Not so in the case of the healthy evergreen. The sun of justice will give it stronger life, make it greener, lovelier.

Well, my dear friends in Christ, last Tuesday, Father Vaclovas was invited by God to come and bring the evergreen tree of his life to Him...

Father Martinkus was a priest for 45 years. His evergreen tree was the priestly species.

From the very first day of his sacred priesthood he dedicated himself to the service of Christ, the High Priest, with energy and zeal.



One day, several of us younger priests were discussing how busy we were with our various priestly duties.

"Brolelaia..." Father Martinkus exclaimed. "My Brothers, you do not know what 'busy' means."

And he went on to tell us of his priestly life in Lithuania. As a young priest Father Martinkus taught five or six hours a day in schools, teaching religion; there were frequent sickcalls, to visit the dying 6, 8, 10 miles away, traveling by horse and carriage over rough roads. There were hours and hours of confessions...plus other pastoral cares.

Father was right. We had to admit...that we did not know what "being busy" meant.

It was not long before he was appointed pastor of his own hometown parish. He assumed full responsibility for the care of thousands of souls and for the Church itself. He improved parish life, he built and renovated...all with his characteristic energy.

Perhaps his favorite pastoral pastime was working with the youth of the parish and the region...even then his interests and concerns went beyond his own parish limits.

There was something magnetic about him...young people loved him.

When the Lithuanian government began restricting the activities of Catholic youth organizations...forbidding formal meetings to be held, this did not stop Father Vaclovas. Not at all.

Organizational meetings were forbidden by law, but the law did not say anything about picnics and excursions. So Father Martinkus organized excursions of young people during which he would find the time to teach and inspire them in the Catholic Faith.

These youngsters would be about 60 years old now. I am convinced that many of them kept up their Faith and are now in the forefront of those who are courageously resisting the godless Communist system imposed upon them in 1940. And this can be traced to Father Martinkus' efforts forth and forty-five years ago.

Father's pastoral concern extended even to those not of the Faith.

When he learned that the Germans who had invaded Lithuania in 1941 were preparing to annihilate an entire community of Jews in his village, he immediately jumped on his motorcycle and dashed from lieutenant, to captain to colonel interceding for their lives. A reprieve was

granted. Unfortunately, it was only temporary. When the Communists returned to Lithuania, it soon became apparent that Father's life was in danger from the Communists.

One night, the village postman excitedly informed him that the Red militia was on its way to arrest him. Father Martinkus went into hiding and with his Bishop's permission sought refuge in Germany. You see, the Bishop thought that the turmoils of war would be temporary.

With undiminished zeal, Father Vaclovas became a Refugee Camp chaplain, helping his Lithuanian people in their every need.

And after all those turbulent years of priestly sacrifice, he came to Providence at the kind invitation of Bishop McVinney.

The new world gave him new energy and zeal.

While he was faithfully fulfilling his priestly duties here at Saint Casimir's, he found the time to assist many Lithuanian Displaced Persons to establish themselves in the free world. He involved himself in the work of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund, the Priest's League, the Knights of Lithuania and other organizations.

Again we see his generous charity extending far beyond the limits of this parish.

And speaking of generosity...for the suffering people of Lithuania...his family, sickly and destitute priests and religious sisters. The Post Office across the street can produce documentary evidence...an exact accounting of the aid he personally provided.

Parcels of food, clothing and medicines went out from this Post Office to Lithuania, Russia, Poland and Siberia...wherever a fellow Lithuanian was in need. There must have been well over 100 such parcels sent abroad each one of them worth over 100 dollars.

This is how we remember our beloved pastor.

Just a few minutes after God summoned his zealous shepherd to Himself, I walked upstairs in the rectory to say another prayer for his soul.

There was a smile on his face...a peaceful, contented smile...

As if he had just heard the words of his Master: "Well done, good and faithful servant, plant the evergreen tree of your life here—beside those of my other zealous shepherds of souls..."

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers...

MARIANNA RODINO

Wife of Member of Congress and
K of L "Friend of Lithuania"

Peter W. Rodino, Jr.
died Dec. 3, 1980

JOHN MC CORMACK

Retired Speaker of the
House of Representatives
K of L "Friend of Lithuania"
died Nov. 22, 1980

ANDREW YUKNIS | Chicago, IL
Member C-112 | died Dec., 1980

KAZYS MERKIS

Member C-17Srs
So. Boston, MA
died Aug. 21, 1980

ALICE POTTS
Member, C-19
Pittsburgh, PA
died June 16, 1980

Lithuanians in The

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



DANGUOLE JURGUTIS, of Farmington Hills, Michigan, was chosen "artist of the month" for October by the Farmington Artists Club. A native of Lithuania, she came to the Detroit area as a refugee with the hope of becoming a doctor, but for as long as she could remember she had involved herself with something creative. She was a dancer, wrote poetry, did flower arranging, and painted. But her paintings were always different, they were creations of her own inner landscapes. The award-winning artist's most recent award was the first prize given the Ford Centennial show for her impressionistic piece called "Renaissance."

Mrs. Jurgutis recently exhibited her paintings in Chicago at the Lithuanian Youth Center.

The motion picture "Used Cars" which played nationwide last summer was written by **ROBERT ZEMECKIS** & Bob Gale. The picture was also directed by Robert Zemeckis. Steven Spielberg & **JOHN MILIUS** were the executive producers. 35-year old John Milius is credited with writing "Apocalypse Now" and directing "Dillinger", "The Wind and the Lion" and "Big Wednesday".

The Atlanta Journal, last June, featured an item about 7 Cuban refugees reportedly used as slave labor in Florida. The article mentioned **CHRISTA MATULEVICIUS** as being coordinator of Central Florida Refugee Assistance Inc.



Danguole Jurgutis and her exhibit of paintings.



The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago recently held a rare book exhibit. Mrs. Julia Lungys, staff member of the Museum, spent over 500 working hours compiling the books for the exhibit. This exhibit, the only one of its kind presented in the Chicago area, was one of the most important scholarly events ever presented at the Museum.

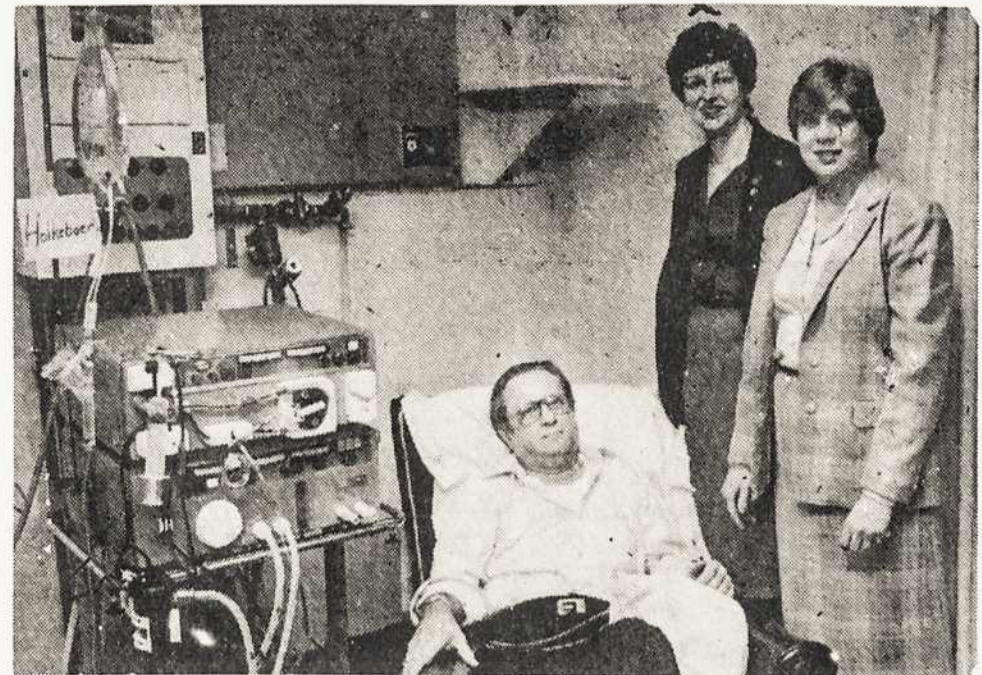
Lithuanian Plaza Court in Chicago was decked out with large lighted hand-crafted Lithuanian Christmas ornaments between California and Western Avenues this past holiday season. This was the first time that a neighborhood shopping area in Chicago had created its own Christmas street decorations. This historic project was the brainchild of Leo Pocius and his brother Raymond, owners of the Knight's Inn Lounge. Leo decided last September that he would try to do something that would maintain the ethnic character of his business street, a street which the city had renamed Lithuanian Plaza Court in recognition of the many contributions this ethnic group had made to Chicago. Through the efforts of Ald. Frank Brady of the 15th Ward, Sister Kathleen Smith, head of the art department at Maria High School, Paul Zumakis, a noted local Lithuanian leader who headed the Ethnic Community Services, State Sen Frank Savickas, Democratic committeeman of the 15th ward, and Bruno Trapikas, who works for the Chicago Department of Human Services, eighteen large ornaments and dozens of smaller ones were erected bringing a new ethnic touch to Lithuanian Plaza Court.



Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, pastor of Nativity BVM Church; Sister Kathleen Smith; Leo Pocius and Bruno Trapikas.



The Lithuanian Christmas tree displayed at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry was used for the cover of the "Contour" magazine, the magazine of the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau, Inc., for their November/December 1980 issue.



ANNE BOEKE, of Grand Rapids, Mich., President of St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary, and Judy Greer, are shown receiving explanation of kidney equipment operation by unit patient Michael Ciminski. Anne is a member of C-96, Dayton, Ohio.

The Detroit News recently featured an article about Dr. Patty Rice, a language arts consultant for the Macomb Intermediate School District, who has written a book "Amber, the Golden Gem of the Ages". The book is the result of Dr. Rice's 12 years of collecting amber jewelry, sculpture, mosaics and specimens and grew out of her attempt to evaluate her collection for insurance purposes. She discovered that some of her pieces were not authentic and tried to learn how to evaluate true amber. Her research took her to a San Diego bookstore which specializes in out-of-print volumes on gems. Most of the books were in German or Lithuanian, which had to be translated. Her son-in-law helped with the German translations and the Detroit Lithuanian community was most helpful, especially Stefanie Kaulnelis, who translated the Lithuanian volumes. She spent many hours interviewing Lithuanians in Detroit and Chicago regarding their knowledge of amber, which is mined along the Baltic Sea.

Her book has been called "the very best book on amber in this century" by Economic Botany magazine, and Lapidary Journal Review called it "the amber reference book of the contemporary period." According to the publisher, it is "the first definitive study of amber in 50 years."

With the increase of prices of colored gem-stones in the last year and the growth of collections for investment purposes, Dr. Rice hopes her book, which discusses methods of evaluating a true amber piece, will have a popular appeal.



Laretta Pant



Dr. Patty Rice with some of the unusual pieces in her collection.

Mrs. Laretta Pant of Fairborn, Ohio, was one of four recipients of awards of recognition at the 12th Annual scouts Recognition Dinner, sponsored by the Catholic Committee on Scouting of Tecumseh Council, Boy Scouts of America, this past year. Mrs. Pant, who has belonged to the Junior Knights and the Knights of Lithuania for the past 18 years, received the Fleur de Lis Emblem which is presented to women who have three years or more of Scouting and have shown outstanding service to Scouts, church and the spiritual development of Catholic youth and other outstanding contributions.

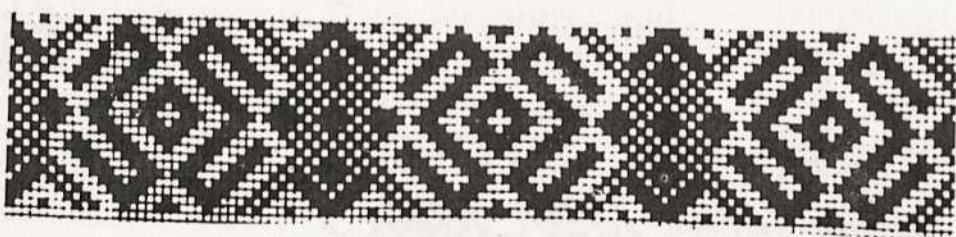
In San Elizario, Texas, is a 298 year old Mission parish, on the Rio Grande River 25 miles southeast of El Paso. There is only one priest here now, REV. ANTHONY BERTUSIUS, a refugee from Soviet Baltic conquests. Father Bertusius was ordained in 1937 in his native Lithuania, fled the Red Army in 1944, served for a time in Chicago, and then came to San Elizario. This is a Hispanic community, quiet but not uneventful. The church has been robbed many times, even the mission windows get broken, but the citizens are so faithful to the church that they observe religious holidays eagerly. Father Bertusius speaks Lithuanian, german, and even English, well, but his Spanish is a "Johnny-come-lately" and he has sometimes to pause and search for a word. "Not too much call for Lithuanian around here," he says with a twinkle.

ALGIS DZEKCIORIUS, member of C-100, Amsterdam, was the guest speaker at the Greater Ravena Area Lions Club meeting. Al gave an interesting slide presentation of his place of business, the Dzekorius Allwash of Albany. Al and his wife Anele are both K of L members, have two young daughters, and everyone in the family speaks Lithuanian as well as English.

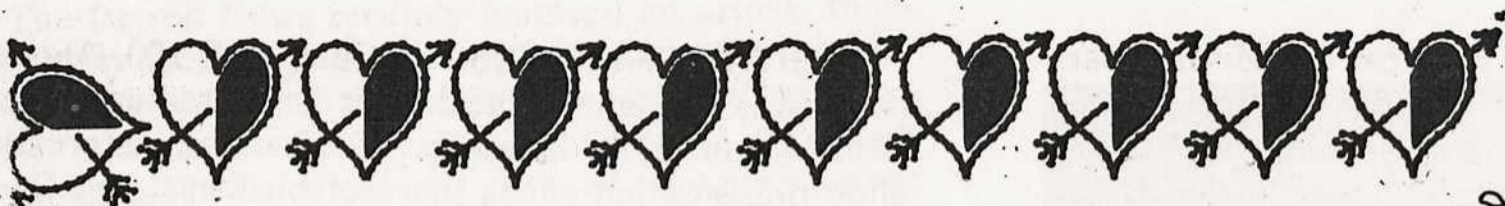


Richard Bleezarde of Greater Ravena Area Lions Club, left, and Al Dzekorius, C-100, Amsterdam.

Rev. Anthony Bertusius in front of San Elizario Roman Catholic Mission.



 * "The Book Of Life" *
 * Life is a series of events which when put together from a *
 * story. Every day we live is a page in the book, every year *
 * begins a new chapter. *
 * The fortunate or perhaps the unfortunate part of the *
 * whole thing is that no pages or chapters we have lived can *
 * ever be taken out of the book. What is behind us is an in- *
 * delible record. The mistakes we have made are recorded as *
 * well as the good deeds we have done. *
 * But one thing is delightfully true! The Book Of Life *
 * never ends until we leave this earth. Each new chapter can *
 * be better than the last. Every page can be a vivid account *
 * of a well lived and helpful life. *
 * If the years behind have not been all that you have wish- *
 * ed, if some of life's pages in your book are not filled with *
 * a series of happy events to others and yourself, if you have *
 * not made the best of every opportunity, don't be discour- *
 * aged. This is a New Year! New leaves are to be added to *
 * your life story. Make them so worthwhile that they will *
 * radiate with joy and happiness! *



K of L Calendar

F E B R U A R Y

- 8 IID ANNUAL "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" DINNER-DANCE, Martinique Grand Ballroom, Chicago, IL
Honoring Ed "Moose" Krause
- 14 C-36, Chicago, ANNUAL HEART'S DANCE, K of L Hall, Chicago, IL
- 16 Raise of the Lithuanian Flag at the Luzerne County Court House in commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day.

M A R C H

- 1 C-50, New Haven COMMUNION BREAKFAST, St. Casimir's Church and Hall, 10:30 Mass.
- 1 C-143, Pittston, COMMUNION BREAKFAST, St. Casimir Church Hall, Pittston, PA
- 8 MAD ST. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMUNION BREAKFAST and DISTRICT CONVENTION. 11:00 A.M. Mass, Braekfast and Meeting immediately afterward, Our Lady of Vilnius Church and Hall, Manhaftan, N.Y.

A P R I L

- 25 C-143, Pittston, Easter Dinner Dance. St. Casimir Church Hall, Pittston, PA
- 26 NEP SPRING CONVENTION, Westfield, MA, C-30, Hosts

M A Y

- 16-17 "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" LITHUANIAN HOUR 40th ANNIVERSARY and 2000-th BROADCAST CELEBRATION. Sat. - Concert, featuring VAIVA Ensemble of Chicago, Lithuanian Cultural Center, Brooklyn, N.Y. Sun. - Banquet, after 12:00 Mass, Holy Trinity Church and Hall.
Dr. Jack J. Stukas, H.M., Director, cordially invites all K of L-ers to attend.

- 16-17 MCD CONVENTION and MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT, DuBois, PA
C-86, Hosts

A U G U S T

- 15 67th ANNUAL LITHUANIAN DAY CELEBRATION, Barnesville, PA
Hosts - Antracite Council 144
- 19-23 68th NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CONVENTION, University of Scranton, Scranton, PA. Hosted by Councils 46, Forest City, 74, Scranton and) 143, Pittston

O C T O B E R

- 14-15 MCD FALL CONVENTION and PILGRIMAGE, Cleveland, OH
C-25, Hosts





VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES



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



MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-19 - Pittsburgh, Pa.

Summarizing activities for the past year are as follows:

Our council celebrated Lithuanian Independence Day on Feb. 24 by attending Mass at St. Casimir's Church. Father Walter Karaveckas was the celebrant. Following this, a gala affair was held at St. Francis Academy's Gym. Gourmet dinner catered by a Lithuanian caterer was served. Several excellent speakers took part, and entertainment followed by group singing conducted by Srs. Francesca and Alverna.

Our first quarterly Communion was held at St. Casimir's Church on Mar. 9, with Father Karaveckas again the celebrant. He also administered 2nd Degrees to Dave Wenslovas and Mary & Vince Tamy. Brunch was held at Norman's and meeting followed.

We sponsored a very successful Card Party on Apr. 27. In May many members were quite active at the Folk Festival at the Civic Arena representing Lithuanians in Pittsburgh. Also, some of our members attended the Bowling Tournament held in Cleveland.

On June 8, our second quarterly Communion was held at St. Anthony's Church in Bridgeville. Brunch and meeting was held at Tonidale in Oakdale.

Please remember in your prayers our member Alice Potts who died on June 16, 1980.

Sisters Francesca and Alverna made a trip to Lithuania in July visiting relatives. We enjoyed their reporting. Several members attended the Spectacular Dance Festival in Chicago over the weekend of July 4-5. Mary Tamy, Mary Vaglia, Albina Ewalt and Andy Rozger attended the National Convention in Boston in Aug. Our September meeting was held at Dave Wenslovas' home. Judy and her children served a very surprising supper. At our Oct. 8 meeting Mary DiMarco and Mary Vaglia were presented with their Second Degrees.

Our council hosted the Mid Central Dist.'s Fall Meeting and Religious Pilgrimage in Pittsburgh on Oct. 11-12. Although the weather hastened into late fall or early winter, the spirits remained warm with good fellowship. Delegates and guests stayed at the Howard Johnson Motel on Route 51, near Pleasant Hills, Pa. We were somewhat small in number,

but members from Dayton, DuBois, Cleveland, and Michigan were represented. On Saturday, luncheon was held at Howard Johnson and meeting followed. Dave Wenslovas, welcomed the members and guests and outlined the activities to follow.

District elections took place and the following members either remained in office or were elected: Spiritual Advisor Father G. Kijauskas, Pres. Pete Luiza 1st Vice Pres. (Jrs.) Christine Mantz, 2nd Vice Pres. (Members) Sophie Zager, 3rd Vice Pres. (Srs.) Mary Trainy, Recording Secy. Benedict Radzavich, Treas. Frank Zager, Trustees Magdalena Smailis & Aldona Ryan, Sgt-at-arms Andy Rozger. The Religious Pilgrimage will be hosted by Cleveland, Ohio C-25 this year. Lithuanian Affairs members are Stephanija Rastikis & Mildred Chinik; Rithual Chm. Nellie Arunski; and Public Relations & Vytis Correp. Bertha Janus.

Members of the Pitt Univ. Lithuanian Room Committee held an Annual Lithuanian Gourmet Dinner in the fall to raise funds for maintaining the Lithuanian Room at the University. The Dinner was scheduled for Oct. 11, which coincided with our Pilgrimage. We were honored to obtain reservations for our Knights and guests. The dinner was a huge success. The recent choral group called "Aida," which was formed and conducted by Srs. Francesca and Alverna, presented the entertainment for the evening. A selection of nine beautiful songs were presented and very well accepted.

On Oct. 12, Mass was celebrated by Father Walter Karaveckas at 10 a.m. at St. Casimir's. Following Mass, Pete Luiza read names of the deceased members of the district, and as each council was called, members rose in honor of their deceased. The service ended with the Vyciu Himnas. We then followed a caravan to Royal Too Restaurant, where a well-planned brunch was served. Following this, we were on our way to St. Casimir's cemetery, but due to inclement weather, it was suggested that we drive slowly through in prayer. We entered the Chapel at the Convent, recited the rosary and celebrated Benediction. Several Sisters took groups on a tour of the Convent. We then loitered leisurely with dear friends as we partook of cookies and coffee, prior to their departure. We bade our visitors a safe journey home with a "Su Dievu."

Magduke

C-25 - Cleveland, Ohio

The "coffee and..." sponsored by the council for the benefit of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, chaired by Alice Karklis, was a great success. Many thanks to Alice and all council members who participated in the event.

Our members extend their deepest sympathy to Mrs. Louis Prasmantas and family on their great loss. Our prayers are with you and Louie.

Mr. & Mrs. Al Wallis, who were hospitalized after a very bad car accident, are both home and on their way to recovery. Peter Luiza, Mid-Central Dist. Pres., is convalescing after a heart attack, but needs a lot of rest and good care. There's no doubt Alvina will take care of that.

Helen & Bill Jakubs have returned from a short vacation to Mexico City and Guadalajara. Bill escaped "Montezuma's revenge." We're happy to see them both looking so well.

Joanna & Al Shigo visited former Gary, Ind. council members, Mike & Emily Mihaluk. We are certain our older members remember this fine couple. Mike had, and is still suffering from, a major stroke and is improving some, but very slowly.

Our council's Christmas Party was held at Keifer's Tavern. It was well attended, and all had a merry time.

When all our own prayers are said, and there's a little bit of extra time to think of others, mention to the Lord your wish for a full and speedy recovery for those special people mentioned above, Mr. & Mrs. Al Wallis, Mike Mihaluk, and Pete Luiza. Thanks...

Al

C-79 — Southfield, Mi.

Prayers and pageantry transformed Joe Louis Arena, on Oct. 26, in a farewell Mass to John Cardinal Dearden. Our Catholic Actions Chm. Helen Tucker joined a congregation of 12,000 who paid tribute to the Cardinal. She reported on some solemn scenes and religious events of his pastoral work in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

On Nov. 9, our imaginations ran wild as members prepared their respective booths for the Fall Festival at Divine Prov. Cultural Center.

A variety of handmade items which included decorative pillows, wall hangings, floral arrangements, and Christmas decorations, were available for the Straw Game, under the chairmanship of Marge Nashlon. Serving with her were Chester Nashlong, Maggie Smailis, J. & J. Yaksty and Chip Newberry.

The upshot of this festival was the creation of a wide variety of crafts, edibles, and plants where one member with expertise in any area shared her know-how with interested fellow members. Bertha Janus, who utilized her free summer months by sewing and making various items, chaired the White Elephant booth. She surrounded herself with many "castaway" creations which were found practical, along with other well-chosen objects d'art. Bertha's helpers were Stella Hotra & Ann Uzdivinas.

The kitchen crew under the chairmanship of Frank Zager, and Sophie, did a thriving business. Julia Janson, Mary Keller, Nellie Milius, Virginia Kirsh, Estelle Gogelis and Cynthia Jackson were marvelous workers and



C-79 Detroit Fall Festival. Chr. Frank Zager (second from right) and the Kitchen Crew.

waitresses. Betty Petroski took a natural friendly proprietary interest in serving the kugele. Bernie Vitichus was high on the list of a smiling all-around chef. All the kugele had to be brought in as we had no kitchen in operation, due to another event only "a few hours" before the festival. Many thanks to all the early risers who got up before dawn and prepared it at home. Among them were Al & Sophie Kacy (although non-members) who made two pans of delicious kugele. Others were Betty Petroski, J. Janson, G. Chaps, H. Patocki, E. Gogelis, Adeline Vitichus, M. Kase and H. Tucker. Also, labai aciu to Mrs. V. Shurkus (non-member). Kudos, too, to the committee of ladies who made the stuffed cabbage, J. Yakstys, S. Zager, Ann Kratage, B. Janus and Mrs. Kirsh.

The key "ingredients" to the success of the Bake Sale during the festival was the unsparing work of Helen Tucker. She was assisted by Helen Patocki, Antoinette Baron, Eleanore Mickey, Vera Tulauskas, and Jean Caron. Everyone's "pyraga" donation was most appreciated.

Another corner of the cultural center was festooned with stuffed dolls and animal displays under the supervision of Ann Kratage. She was assisted by Vicki Chepelonis and Julia Medinis.

Tony Dainus and Julie Belickas had two lively games going for the kiddies.

Violet Panavas brought in a compound profit from the ticket sales. She was assisted by Alice Repshas. The mini-affle was well-managed by Ann Valatka & Sophie Zager. The 50-50 Drawing was manned by Joe Yakstys, and the big winner was Chip Newberry.

The bar and refreshments were capably handled by Geo. Kase, Edw. Sackle, Leo Smilgis and Tony Repshas.

While the Hotra's were vacationing in northern Michigan, Stella took



79 Detroit Fall Festival. (left) Betty Petroski & Bernie Vitichus, K-P Detail. (right) Bertha Jankus (center) & helpers, White Elephant Sale.

the K of K membership list and worked on mailing notices for the fall festival. Such good K of L dedication is a tribute to the development of our organization. Labai aciu, Stella. And, Mike Vale, too, for his efforts in calling "regrets" due to car trouble that morning of this busy activity.

We sincerely thank everyone who came and participated.

Our condolences are extended to Leon Galinskas and his sister, Irene Ambrose and her family, upon the death of their mother, Elizabeth Galinskas. She will be remembered as a friendly, good person with solid Lithuanian roots which she instilled in her family. Each of the eight grandchildren rendered solemn, farewell eulogies following the funeral Mass. Each one spoke of some memorable events, reflecting nostalgia of family gatherings, holiday dinners and other vivid memories. They concluded their sad feelings of "we will miss you, grandma," and we will too. May she rest in peace.

Although Ruth Grasha was recuperating from major surgery, she was able to help our some, along with daughter Eleanore, during the festival. It was good to see her up and about.

It is over a year since Iranian militants violated all International Law and invaded the Embassy of the U.S. in Teheran to illegally seize

American citizens as hostages. Now more than ever, we pray for their release, and hope that God will give them freedom soon.

Soffi

C-96 — Dayton, Ohio

Our Annual Election Night Dinner on Nov. 1 was a success, thanks to the planning of Eleanor Mantz and Sarah Petkus and their committee of Pat Smiley, Joe, Chris & Joey Mantz. Officers for the 1980-81 term are as follows: Spiritual Advisor Rev. Vaclovas Katarskis, Pres. Aldona Ryan, 1st V.P. (Jrs.) Anne Louise Conrady, 2nd V.P. (Members) John Lougeman, Rec. Secy. Marie Preidis, Treas. Sally Miller, Fin. Secy. Frances Mikalauskas, Trustees George Mikalauskas & Richard Noreikas, Sgt-at-arms Joe Mantz, Sr. & Joe Mantz, Jr.

Committee chairmen for the new term are: Religious-Elinor Sluzas, Lith. Affairs-Stefonija Rastikis, Lith. Cultural-Eleanor Mantz.

Ritual Chm. & Vytis Corresp. is Fran Petkus, Bulletin Ed.-Catherine Prasmantas, Historian/Photographer-Michael Karns, Condolence-Bernadette Noreikas, Ways & Means-Mary Lucas, Social-Judith Petrokas, Sarysis Delegates-Joe Gecas & Ada

Sinkwitz, Telephone Squad-Joyce Berczely, Sports-Michael F. Petkus, By-Laws-Joseph Ryan, Ray Steinbrunner. Assisting Fran Petkus on Ritual will be Fr. Vaclovas Katarskis and Eloise Berczely. On the Vytis will be Stefoniya Rastikis. The balance of Joyce Berczely's Telephone Squad is made up with Anne Gitzinger, Joan Kavalas, Chris Mantz, Eleanor Mantz, Patty Noreikas, Veronica Omlor & Josephine Zilinkas. The members on Judy Petorkas' Social Committee will be Rita Ambrose, Harley Karns, Chris Mantz, John & Joyce Berczely.

To our Dinner Committee we say "Thank you, much" for all your work. To our outgoing officers & committee staff, we can't thank them enough for a very successful year. To the new "team," we wish them well and are looking forward to a very active year.

Ray Steinbrunner presented the annual report of the council's Special Project at the November meeting. This project enables us to make an annual contribution to the M.C. District with very little effort in addition to other charities. The members who benefited from this project this past term were Rick Noreikas, Al Wallis, Joe Mantz Jr. (2), Walt Lastoskie, Kitty Prasmantas, Mildred Steinbrunner, Bill Gitzinger, Aldona Ryan, Elinor Sluzas, Ann Gitzinger & Sally Miller. Congratulations to all. Following the meeting newly-elected Pres. Aldona Ryan treated members to snacks.

At the December meeting one of our main items was disbursement of our yearly Charity Fund. Recipients for 1980 were as follows: BALFAS, Northeast Food Pantry, LCRA, & the Immaculate Conception Sisters of Putnam, Conn. Following the meeting, Joe & Eleanor Mantz and Fran Petkus had some treats toasting Charles (in absentia) & Sarah Petkus who will be joining the list of out-of-town members in their move to Florida. We wish them well and shall

miss them, as they, too, have been active members. They just completed a very active, profitable, successful year as Junior Advisors.

Congratulations to Pete & Paulette Petkus (in Florida) on the occasion of their 35th Wedding Anniversary. Joining them at this time were Pete's sister & brother, Eleanor Mantz and Charles Petkus. Congratulations to Rosemarie Preidis on the fine article written about her in the "Wrightstarter." Rosemarie is completing her work toward an M.S. Degree in Social and Applied Economics from Wright State University.

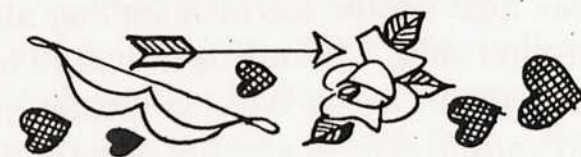
"Celebrities" from the council came in the form of having the pleasure of seeing Ed Sluzas perform in a recent edition of "Three's Company" with more in store. Ada Sinkwitz had great coverage on Channel 26 giving a demonstration on Lithuanian Christmas ornaments. Elaine Pacovsky was a winner on WHIO!

Dayton members up in the Cleveland area recently had the pleasure of stopping in to visit former members Al & Albina Wallis. George & Frances Mikalauskas and Fran Petkus came back with reports the Wallis' are doing great in spite of all that has happened. They were very grateful for all the cards and the concern their new Cleveland C-25 has given them, and all the mail from Dayton.

We extend belated condolences to the family and friends of Frank Vaskas. Many of us have known Frank for as long as we have been members. In the times when the Knights housed members for conventions, Dayton members hosted Frank. We were also very sad to hear of the death of Fr. Vaclovas Martinkus. Members who attended the Providence Convention had the pleasure of getting to know him. Father's generosity to his Providence C-103 is well known. We shall miss his booming voice leading us in song. May God keep these two members in his care. We pray, may their souls rest in peace.

A happy Valentine's Day to all those we love!

FRP



**MID-ATLANTIC
DISTRICT**

C-3 — Philadelphia, Pa.

The past year was a successful and eventful one. We thank our outgoing board and wish our new board continued success throughout this year.

We hosted the quarterly M.A. Dist. Meeting on June 1. The sessions were held at St. Casimir's Auditorium and attended by over 80 delegates. The council served a catered buffet. It was a new experience for our many new members and enjoyed by all.

Congratulations to several members who have exciting new posts. Dianne Drumstas, our former president, was elected at the Nat'l Convention to the Supreme Council as Cultural Chairperson. Walter Svelka continues at his post as Chairman of the successful Scholarship Fund. Our long time Honorary Member, Joe Yanulaitis, is now the Walter Cronkite of the Lithuanian Hour radio program. Every other week he has a fifteen minute segment in English covering all current events in the community. This is an effort to reach our brothers and sisters who

have lost touch with the mother tongue.

Our Fall Polka-Nite was the highlight of our social season. It was held at the Lithuanian Music Hall and attended by almost 200 people. In between sets by the lively band of Ray Dumbrąski, a hot buffet of kielbasa and roast beef cooked by our president, Joe Drumstas, was served by the members and enjoyed by all. Alberta Weigand, Lithuanian Affairs Chm. and other members, set up tables and sold Lithuanian books and other articles. By the response of the crowd, all had a wonderful fun-filled evening.

A jolly time was had at our annual Christmas Party held in the Cultural Center of the Lithuanian Music Hall. This gave the council an opportunity not only to celebrate, but to thank our members who worked so hard throughout the year. Thanks, again.

Violet Mameniskis

C-12 — New York, N.Y.

Towards the end of August each member of our council received a familiar letter, — a friendly reminder from Corresp. Secy. Connie Siatsis that vacation was over and "jau laikas grizti i darba."

For us it was not too difficult to return to work. During the summer we were well represented in various Lithuanian activities. All of us were happy to see the sun-tanned faces of our fellow Knights. We were enthusiastic in welcoming our new parish administrator, the Rev. John Bida, and promised to aid him in any way towards the betterment of Ausros Vartu parish.

Next, the Mini-Convention of the M.A. Dist. in Elizabeth, N.J. awaited our attention. We congratulate C-52 for a wonderful reception. We did not do too badly in the election of district officers; eight were elected from our council. Our own Larry



National Scholarship Chairman Walter Svekla of C-36 and his family at the Polka-Nite Party with the winning basket of chee. (photo Ausra Bagdonavicius)

Janonis remains as president. Sveikiname. Back in Fun City, we had our own elections. Joe Sleder is still at the helm of our council.

The 75th Anniversary of Ausros Vartu parish was a huge success and the credit for this goes to our Helen Shields. As always, she came through like a pro. Our thanks to Philadelphia, Pa. C-3 for "loaning" Helen to us.

Hardly had the dust from the anniversary settled, when we were busy planning our Crazy Hat Dance and Christmas Party. Both are annual events and have never yet disappointed anyone. Even though we are "linksmi Vyciai," we still remember the sad plight of Lithuania and do all we can to assist in spreading her cause. Our latest venture is to present a set of Encyclopedia Lithuania to the Migration Studies Center on Staten Island. This, we hope, shall be done in March, in memory of a faithful member, Milly Pascacimas, on the first anniversary of her death. The membership is very generous with its donations.

Growth, or "atzalynas," is vital in the life of any organization. We are not the fastest growing or the largest council in the M.A. District, but we look for quality, not quantity. Therefore, we were most happy when

Ritual Chm. Helen Yurkus, in a beautiful ceremony, presented First Degrees to Alice Zupka and Raymond Remeika. Both are most welcome additions. Raymond is the son of active members Bea & Joe Remeika. Alice, together with husband Peter, proved themselves invaluable members. Our church altar and various activities are always most beautifully decorated with flowers from their store.

With a tear in our eye, we bid farewell to members Ann & Peter Garbincius, who are moving to Pennsylvania, and to Emily & Al Jankauskas, departing for So. Carolina. They promise to remain faithful to C-12.

Your correspondent gives a warm welcome to a fellow correspondent who will also be writing for the council - Helen Mathews. With her assistance, we will present a more regular column. Therefore, both Helen and I, and all members of our New York council, wish all, "laimingu ir sveiku Nauju Metu, bet labiausiai veikliu."

Dalia Bulvicius





**NEWARKO N.J. LIETUVOS®
VYČIU KUOPA ATSVENTE
65 metų VEIKLOS
SUKAKTI**

Vyčiai - po vasaros atostogų ir įvairiausių išvažiavimų, visi pailsėję, kupini energijos - rinkosi į Vyčių Kultūros centrą, Newarko šv. Trejybės lietuvių parapijos salę.

Spalio mėn. 11 dieną buvo suruošta Newarko Vyčių 29 kuopos 65 metų iškilmingas minėjimas. Programoje - prof. dr. J. Stuko kalba ir L.B. Tautinių Šokių grupės "Liepsna" pasirodymas.

Jau 6 val. vakaro. Iš toli ir arti vyčiai ir svečiai rinkosi į apatinę salę kokteiliui. Susirinko apie 270 žmonių. Buvo ir daug jaunimo.

Kaip ir visuomet užkandžiai buvo gaminti pagal lietuvišką skonį veiklios ponios O. O'neil, talkininkaujant vyčiams. Po kokteilio, visis svečiai buvo paprašyti į viršutinę salę išklaudyti programos ir vakarienei.

Prieš pradėdant vakarienę ir programą, vakaro vedėja M. Stonis trumpu žodžiu pasveikino visus svečius už tokį gausų atsilankymą į šią iškilmingą veiklos sukakčiai paminėti banketą ir prašė visus svečius Amerikos, Lietuvos ir Vyčių himnus. Tolymesnę vakaro programą pravedė Prof. Dr. J. Stukas. Savo kalboje jis apibūdino Newarko Vyčių 29 kuopos nuveiktus darbus nuo įsikūrimo 1915 metų balandžio

mėn. iki šiai dienai prisimindamas pirmutinius kuopos organizatorius bei veikėjus. Kaip antai, J. Kanapka, J. Brazauskas, B. Vaskas, A. Masanda, D. Rupenis, S. Misiūnas, P. Daužvardis ir kitus. Kultūrinei programai buvo pakviesta L.B. Tautinių šokių grupės vadovė Mickūnienė pranešti ir supažindinti su šokiais. Svečiai nekantraudami laukė jaunų talentų pasirodant. Visi šokėjai yra studentai, kalba lietuviškai, su tautiniais kostiumais atrodė žavingai. O jų išpildyta programa publiką dar daugiau sužavėjo tokiu aukštu meniniu lygiu. Po programos Dr. J. Stukas vyčių vardu padėkojo šokių grupei ir jos vadovei Mickūnienei už tokią gražią ir turtingą programą. Vakarinę maldą sukalbėti buvo pakviestas vyčių dvasios vadas J. Šernas.

Prasidėjo linksmoji dalis - vakarienė ir šokiai. Visi svečiai buvo labai patenkinti tokiu šauniu banketu.

Šia proga prel. J. Šernas padovanojo paties meniškai pagamintą Lietuvos Vytį su užrašu Newarko Vyčių 29 kuopai švenčiant 65 metų jubiliejų. Vyčiai labai dėkingi už tokią brangią dovaną.

Rašant apie Newarko Vyčių 29-tą kuopą, nuveiktus organizacinius darbus, būtų sunku visą veiklą bei darbščius narius aprašyti. Tik viena reikia konstatuoti, kad Newarko kuopa turėjo ir turi gabių, atsidavusių vyčių organizacijos veiklai. Newarko vyčių kuopa turi tris garbės narius - Prof. Dr. J. Stuką, Loretą Stukienę, "Vyčio" redaktore ir ilgametį kuopos pirmininką K. Šipailą. Dėka pirmininkui ir jo valdybai Newarko vyčiai visi gražiai sugyvena, turi lietuvišką, katalikišką artymo meilę ir yra lyg viena šeima.

Šios šventės proga buvo susilaukta daug sveikinimų ir linkėjimų

Svečiai vaišinosi P. Navienės pagamintu lietuviško skonio maistu. Už tat jai ir jos padavėjoms lietuviškas vytiškas ačiu.

A.Z.

C-110 — Maspeth, N.Y.

Congratulations to Adele Aquilino, Helen Atkocius, Melvina Chereck, Mary & Roscoe Gilbert, Josephine & Anthony Kajris, Anna & Alfonsas Stripeikis, and Helen Venis upon being awarded Second Degree membership during our November meeting in a short ceremony led by our spiritual director, Father S. Raila.

The guest speaker at that meeting was Mr. Titus Ferenc from the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property. His topic is defined in the name of the organization. Mr. Ferenc's presentation was straight-forward, interesting and focused on the forces that have a negative impact on the aforementioned topic. Cultural Chm. Marie Stungurys gave an interesting dissertation on the origin and history of the Vytis symbol. The coffee and cake served at our council meeting is free, thanks to a member's suggestion. The winner of the 50/50 was Nellie Strepeikis.

Members from our council attended New York C-12's Crazy Hat Dance held Nov. 8 in Fr. Gurinkas Hall at Our Lady of Vilna Church. Our president, John Adomenas, won the basket of cheer. Our vice president took the 6th price of a six-pack and pretzels.

Vasario 16ta diena yra Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės Svente. Since it falls on a Monday, we will have our commemoration ceremony on Sunday, Feb. 15, starting with 11 am Mass in Transfiguration Church followed by

a program and brunch in the hall.

On Nov. 16, our council participated in a Mass for the deceased members of our council. Father Raila was the homilist & celebrant.

Be reminded that our council members attend the 11 am Mass at Transfiguration, as a group, every third Sunday of the month. Come and join us.

We welcome two new members to our council, Edward & Anne Whalen.

During the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Transfiguration Church on Nov. 23, on the feast of Christ the King, our council selected and participated in an hour of adoration.

Mes susirinkime kiekviena menesi ant pirmo trediadieno, astunta valanda vakare, Transfiguration Baznycios saleje, Maspethe. Norem susipazinti.

Peter Yuskevich

C-140 — Syracuse, N.Y.

To catch up on the many happenings of our council, we summarize activities of the past year.

We had a good turnout for our Mass for the Suffering in Lithuania on Apr. 26 at St. Stephen's Church.

Frank & Irene Petrauskas celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary on May 25 with 60 relatives and K of L'ers joining them. The day started with Mass at St. Stephen's at which Father Garstka was celebrant. A luncheon followed at the Tyrol Club, and later, more refreshments and socializing. Father presented them with the Papal Blessing.

Our picnic July 13 was well attended on a most beautiful day. We tried a covered dish affair with much good eating, drinking, singing, sports, and good fellowship. Irene Petrauskas, the chairman, deserves a big "aciu."

The National Convention in Boston was well attended by council

members Dave & Holly Peterson, Frank & Isabel Peterson, and Frank & Irene Petrauskas. They reported a good time, as per usual. The Boston gang did a good job.

Our second picnic was combined with the first fall meeting on Sept. 21 in Katherine Cravetts' back yard. Katherine, with her daughter and son-in-law, Catherine & Jack Brandt, proved to be ideal hosts. The weather on this day was beautiful, also.

The Captive Nations Rally was held Oct. 5 at LeMoyne College, with Lithuania being the host nation. The main speaker was our own Father Casimir Pugevicius who spoke on "Conditions in Lithuania and Eastern Europe." He was well received and got good coverage in the local press. Also on the program were members Vita Talandis who sang a medley of Lithuanian folk songs, and Frank Petrauskas who was Master of Ceremonies.

In November the Festival of Nations was held, where we served our famous Lithuanian potato pancakes. Again, we went through ten bushels of potatoes. The lines were so long, we could hardly keep up. We also sold out all of our cookies (mushroom-shaped and others) and nearly all of our famous cider. This department was very ably chaired by Catherine Brandt.

Our cultural exhibit, with a harvest theme, was a beautiful display. A variety of Lithuanian items, nicely arranged, made this display very interesting. Marge Migonis and Marija Vizgaitis are to be commended for their good taste.

Our own Vita Talandis sang in the Saturday evening "Concert of Nations." She was well received by the audience. We were so proud of her.

Our council would like to thank all who participated in this successful weekend and especially our newest members, Norman Klimas and Michael Balchus, who got their Festival baptism. Both are hard workers and a very welcome addi-

tion. A warm welcome is also extended to Mike's lovely wife, Frances, who is now one of us.

Vic & Helen Johnson spent a few weeks in Ireland and England and had a great time. Our Florida member, Helen Mikelonis, spent the summer with us. It was good to see her again.

Sick bay saw Father Garstka and George Vaikness, both spending some time in the hospital. We pray they recover fully.

Our parting thought: In this commonplace world, everyone is said to be romantic who either admires a finer thing or does one.

Pusbrolis



C-144 — Anthracite, Pa.

Simta aciu to Sara Beckett and her committee for another successful "Kucia." For those who no longer keep our beautiful Christmas tradition, it brought back many tender memories. Dekojami visus gaspades who outdid themselves with the luscious and traditional food. From the breaking of the plotkeles to the final prayer, it was an evening to remember. Our sincere thanks to the Zarija Choir, under the direction of Stanley Vaicaitis, for their program of Lithuanian Christmas Carols. We are grateful for their making our Christmas Eve celebration so memorable.

As the new year begins, we take the time to especially thank Father Al Bartkus for his Lithuanian radio program and Lithuanian Mass which is broadcast each Sunday. To our shut-ins, it is a godsend. We are also grateful to Father Matthew Jarasunas who has a Lithuanian Mass the last Sunday of each month. Special mention goes to the Annunciation B.V.M. Choir and the Zarija Choir for singing at these masses. To both these priests and choirs, we owe a big debt of gratitude for keeping the Lithuanian Mass alive.

Father Bartkus, Father Jarasunas and Msgr. Joseph Neverauskas are the guiding forces behind our council and for this we are grateful. We thank all members who contributed in any way to a successful 1980. We cannot mention everyone, but each member who did anything, no matter how small, is most appreciated. Our council has good team work, and in this, we are truly blessed.

Special "get well" greetings go to Adele Rolenaitis. Adele, who is one of our extra special cooks; and one of the original members, has been missed due to her illness, and we look forward to her return.

The new year of 1981 should bring many good things to our Lithuanian community. We hope to have our Cultural Center open sometime in the spring or summer. We look forward to Lithuanian Day in August. This year's celebration, the 67th, is on the original date, Aug. 15, and we are hoping it will be better than ever. We will have our regular Feb. 16 Lithuanian Independence Day celebration, and hope to have a cultural program in the spring.

We wish all our fellow Vyciai, "Laimingu ir Sekmingu Nauju Metu," and look forward to spending some time with our fellow Knights during the year.

Ona



Brone Wisniauskas (C-10) and her Cultural Display at the Scholarship Festival, Maironis Park, MA.



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

We are deeply saddened to report the deaths of two beloved clergy here in New England and throughout the national Lithuanian community.

Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus, pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Providence, R.I., Spiritual Advisor and friend of C-103, died Nov. 18. Many who attended the National Convention in Providence two years ago will remember his warmth, friendliness and always "with a song in his heart." The funeral Mass was celebrated by Bishop Gelineau of the Providence Diocese, assisted by Aux. Bishop Angel and 30 concelebrants representing all areas of New England.

Rev. Msgr. Francis M. Juras, Prothonotary Apostolic, former pastor

of St. Francis Church in Lawrence died Nov. 21. Msgr. came to Lawrence in 1922 as a curate, was elevated to pastor in 1929 and retired in 1967 to the Matulaitis Nursing Home, Putnam, Conn. During his lifetime he promoted the Knights of Lithuania, Lithuanianism and collected memorabilia about Lithuanian culture. His collection is housed on the grounds of the Immaculate Conception Convent in Putnam known as American Lithuanian Cultural Archives.

Before the funeral Mass, the K of L Wake Service was held by Nat'l Spiritual Advisor Rev. A. Contons and N.E. Dist. Spiritual Advisor Rev. Albin Janiunas. They were assisted by Longinas Svelnis, Att. Anthony Young, Joseph White (all of C-17 So. Boston) and John Stoskus of Providence, Sr. C-103.

The rite of Christian Burial was offered at the Matulaitis Home Chapel Nov. 24 by Msgr. Vytautas Balciunas, chaplain of Villa Maria Rest Home. Among the concelebrants of the funeral Mass were Rev. Albin Janiunas of Lawrence; Rev. Albert Contons, So. Boston; Rev. S. Saulenas, Cambridge; Rev. Victor Paulauskas, Thompson; Rev. Paul Baltakis and Rev. Victor Gidziunas, Brookly, N.Y.; and Rev. Stasys Yla, Putnam.

A Week's Mind Mass was offered at Msgr. Juras' home parish of St. Francis of Assisi in Lawrence on Nov. 29 by Bishop Thomas Daily, Aux. Bishop of Boston Archdiocese, and assisted by pastor Rev. Albin Janiunas. Attending were local clergy, political dignitaries, and all his friends who were unable to travel to Putnam, Conn.

We will greatly miss these two fine priests!

All you New Englanders - a reminder - the New England District Convention will be held in Westfield, Mass. on April 26 hosted by C-30. See you all there!

Marion Hobitz

C-10—Athol-Gardner, Ma

On Nov. 30 Father Steponaitis, with our council, feted the 30 altar boys of St. Francis parish at a Christmas party. The party was held at the Lucky Lanes where the boys enjoyed three strings of bowling, a lunch, and presentation of gifts by Santa in the person of Charles Genaitis. After the party we held our monthly meeting, followed by a traditional "kucios" served by our girls. Father led the breaking of the plotkeles and the singing of "Sveikas, Jezus Gimusis" and "Gul Siandien."

The Perekslis', owner of Stan's Super Market, moved into their new and enlarged store at the Mars Plaza. We all wish Stan, Alice, and their son, the best of success in their new venture.

Our council members wish Julia Strack, the St. Francis' devoted housekeeper, a happy and healthy retirement. Julie retired on Thanksgiving Day at age 77. Julie, the K of L thanks you for your many kindnesses!

Condolences are extended to Providence, R.I. C-103 on the untimely death of Rev. Vaclovas Marinkus, the singing pastor of St. Casimir's, and spiritual advisor to the council.

Condolences are also extended to the family of Prel. Pranciskus Juras, pastor emeritus of St. Francis Church, Lawrence, and founder of the ALKA Museum in Putnam, Conn. The deaths of both priests are a great loss to the Lithuanian community.

Dick Genaitis has accepted a new position with T.D.I. Corporation. Good luck, Dick! Nell Melaiika was hostess for the annual successful St. Francis Turkey Whist Party in November. Our own Pauline Rogers was co-chm. of the St. Francis Women's Guild Christmas Party. Tina Satas entertained both daughters over the long Thanksgiving holiday. All told, Tina had nine extra people

to care for. Frank Anoris is enjoying his retirement and really looks rested.

Bill Wisniauskas received a letter from Lithuania stating it was going to be a bad winter, as potatoes were hard to find in the Kaunas stores or open farm market.

Thought for the month: As K of L'ers, lets all do our part for "God and Country" this month by attending our parish's Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration.

Vincukas

Sr. C-17—So. Boston, Ma.

As this is the first 1981 report, our officers and members extend to the K of L family, greetings for a healthy and happy New Year. Sveikiname, linkime ramybes, dziaugsmo ir laimes per ateinancius metus.

Council elections were held at the October meeting with the following roster of officers: Pres. Alexander Akule, Vice Pres's. Frank Markuns & Joseph Balaconis, Recording Secy. Virginia Markuns, Treas. Mary Mickevich, Fin. Secy. Eva Ball, Ritual Comm. of John Norinkavich, Anne White, Longinas Svelnis, Lithuanian Affairs Chm. Joseph White, Cultural Chm. Daniel Averka, Sgt.-at-arms Patricia Akule, and Committee for the Sick consisting of



C-10 Annual Outing, Frank Anoris Camp.

Ann Norinkavich, Ann Voveris, Ann Narkovich, and Mary Mickevich.

We thank all the officers for their leadership during the past extraordinary year of hosting the National Convention, and to the membership for their strong support. Sirdingas Padeka. It is with a deep sense of satisfaction and fulfillment that the council also expresses its thanks to the clergy, delegates, members and friends for their support and aid in making the 67th National Convention so successful. We do not have space to give credit to everyone, and we dare not list, lest we forget someone.

We lost two of our council family during the past year, Kazys Merkis, an esteemed member and well known chess expert on Aug. 21, and Adolph Ivanauskas, husband of Veronica and grandfather of Maryte Bizinkauskaite, well known signer and featured Convention soloist in October. Please remember them in your prayers.

No sooner had Convention business been terminated than other demands arose that needed council attention. On Sept. 1 the usual contingent of loyal K of L'ers traveled to the Sisters of Jesus Crucified Motherhouse in Brockton to assist at their annual Labor Day picnic. For over thirty-five years this event has drawn many area Lithuanians to their beautiful grounds. They partake of a day of enjoyment and renewal of acquaintances and support the Sisters in their dedicated works of aiding the infirmed elderly and educating the young.

The yearly Dist. Fall Festival at Maironis Park, Schrewsbury, Mass. found our council members involved in various chores. This year it was our turn to man the kitchen along with Worcester C-116. This festival is a favorite spot for New England members to meet friends and contribute to the support of the district and the scholarship fund. We congratulate the three fine women who received

these scholarship awards: Adele Martus, Ann Karol Krecioch and Maryte Bizinkauskaite.

We extend congratulations to H.M. Anthony Young on his appointment as legal advisor to the Supreme Council. Without doubt, this gentleman is one of our most dedicated and loyal members. Thank you, Tony, for your many years of faithful service.

Our council has passed a milestone of one hundred members this past year due to the diligent effort of our recently retired Fin. Secy. Aldona Dropas and members. We will continue to try to increase our membership by good works and constant effort.

Rev. Robert Wolongevicz, associate pastor of St. Peter's parish, is our new spiritual advisor. He came to our parish just in time to help us during the Nat'l Convention. No doubt many of you who attended the Convention had the pleasure of gaining his acquaintance.

Everyone's traveling! Mary Mikevich, Ann Voveris and Ann Narkovich journeyed to Oberammergau, Germany, and saw the Passion play. Rev. Robert Wolongevicz and Gene Razwad visited Lithuania. Alice Opaneset and husband planed to Germany and cruised on the Rhine. Albert & Aldona Kropas and Joseph & Anne White toured the Pacific Northwest and Canadian Rockies. Alex Chaplik traveled to Italy.

During the Christmas season we enjoyed the parish party for senior citizens and the combined councils Christmas party. It was most happy and rewarding time for us all.

J. White



C-26 — Worcester, Mass.

The results of our council's November elections created many a chuckle when Leonard Ramsdell facetiously commented, "Look at all the new faces we've got in *now!*" Except for one change, the board of officers was re-elected: Pres. Rita Pinkus, Vice Pres. Stephen Walinsky, Sr., Recording Secy. Mary Duggan, Fin. Secy. Marion Racicot, Treas. Stephen Walinsky, Jr., Auditor Viginia Lelakis, Sgt.-at-arms Francis Degutis, Lithuanian Affairs Chm. Ann Bender, Cultural Chm. Marion Shapiro, and Vytis Correspondent Olga Kersis. No sooner elected and installed, the officers began to plan their 1981 schedules and strategies, beginning with Steve Walinsky, Sr.'s proposed membership drive for the first six months of the New Year. Members joining between January and June will be announced in this column at the close of the drive, thus giving us an opportunity, hopefully, to brag a bit! We did close the old year with five new members whom we warmly welcome: Rita Sokol, Raymond & Linda Boswell, Albin & Frances Nockunas. (Albin is our third police officer; Bill Buckley, now retired, is another, and Bill Karrytais, active, is the other.)

Ann & Vincent Grazulis' second grandchild is a girl. Carol & Gene Borek presented their two little daughters with a baby brother. Congratulations, all!

Recent recipients of the First Degree are Dwight & Virginia Cummings, Albin & Frances Nockunas, Rita Sokol, Dorothy Seilius, Ronald & Clair Stolulonis, and Bill & Ann Leseman. It's good to note that each of them is diligent in their pursuit of the Second Degree.

While the results of the first half of the bowling season are still being tabulated, headliners thus far feature Krusas, Zinkus, Flaherty, Gillus, Pinkus and Walinsky.

The council's renewed interest in square dancing has Ann Leseman looking into the possibility of entering into this recreational activity. More on this later.

Florida seems the place to be lately. Rita Brazauskas recently returned from Disney World while Bart & Marion March left for Largo after Thanksgiving. Sounds delightful?

Pigs-in-the-blanket (balandeles) served at our November dinner-meeting were scrumptious. We have nothing but praise for the committee of Ginny Lelakis, Ann Bender, Frances Kulakusky, Anne Walinsky, Adele Degutis, and Dorothy Seilius. These women, to quote a song, "can do anything better than you!" Enjoying this delicious fare included John & Ann Ridick, Tony & Bea Anton, Adele Ceraska, Virginia Fikoski, Ruth & Vite Gadilauskas, Ruth & Leonard Ramsdell, Anne & Bill Buckley, Claire Grigaitis, Bill Karas, Charles Lapinkas, Carol & Bill Grigas, and Ann Bucinkas with her guest, Anne Kokernak. It was a lovely evening.

Recent hospitalizations prompt get well-sooner-than-soon wishes for Nell Thompson and Tony Morkunas.

A passing reporter-photographer spotted Peg Kazlauskas (wife of Jack, owner & director of Dirsakazlauskas Funeral Home) with her little son seated on the front stairs of their home and snapped a picture. We enjoyed it the next day in our local newspaper.

Bernardas Morkunas, father of Tony & Vyto Morkunas, died in November, as did the grandmother of Dr. Jeffrey Burl. Hedwig Daniels, mother of our late Honorary Member, Edward Daniels, also died in November. The grieving families have our prayerful sincere sympathies.

Charles T. Tagman has been appointed by the governor of our State to the state Emergency Finance Board. In so many words, the governor cited Charles' long community

involvement in influencing his decision. Congratulations, Charlie!

Our condolences to the Providence Council on the death of their pastor, Father Vaclovas Martinkus. Just a week before his untimely death, our parish choir (St. Casimir's Men's Choir) sang during Mass and at the program which followed for Father Martinkus' parish family day.

February is Catholic Press Month, so we are reminded to include some spiritual material along with the secular on our bookshelves. Suggestions are our own diocesan weekly, the Catholic Free Press, plus "Draugas" and "Laivas" published by the Marian Fathers, as well as "Darbininkas" and "Varpelis" published by the Franciscan Fathers. They make welcome gifts, too!

Our parish world seemed to end with the sudden death in 1971 of our pastor, Father John C. Jutt. Who could, or would want to, forget that heavy, dark period that began with June 27, 1971. God rest Father's soul. Our prayers for a new pastor were answered with the arrival from Chicago of the Marian Fathers. February 1981 marks the ninth anniversary of the pastorate of Father Anthony J. Miciunas, MIC. With grateful appreciation do we acknowledge the dedicated labor, sacrifice and spiritual assistance, while adding this greeting: Ilgiausiu, sveikiausiu, kantriusiu, dziaugsmingu metu linkime gerbiamiams Teveliams Marijonams! Our spiritual director, Father Benjamin Uzdavinis, MIC, has been with us for the last five years.

Until the next issue, all our best to all of you!

Dzukele

Sr. C-103—Providence, RI

Our council had a brunch and installation of officers at the Hearstone Inn on Nov. 16. Guest speaker was Msgr. John Balkunas from Flori-

da. There were also other guests. Our '81 slate of officers are: Pres. William Piacentini Jr., 1st Vice Pres. Irene Landanski, 2nd Vice Pres. Bette Ciuryla, Treas. Anthony Gudczauskas, Secy. Helen Gudczauskas, Corresp. Secy. Helen Denisewich, Ritual Chm. John Walaska, Cultural & Lithuanian Affairs Chm. Ann Labutti, Trustees Joseph Waitonis & Peter Denisewich, Sunshine Comm. member Irene Walaska, and Social Committee of Agnes Waitonis, John Walaska and Ed Wilkins.

We welcome new members William & Josephine Piacentini of Cranston and Annette Hudson of Providence. They visited Lithuania and met relatives from both of their parents. Our council is growing. The number has reached over 42 members, and we are not stopping. Eugene Krecioch, husband of Ruta, and father of Reggie, Anne, Marcella & Cathy, was hospitalized at Miriam Hospital. We wish him well.

Our council will deeply miss our late Spiritual advisor, Father Vaclovas Martinkus (4th Degree Knight) who died on Nov. 18. Over the years he was our constant inspiration. His good humor and joy helped to make all our activities easier and more pleasant. Without him, our little council could not have accepted and hosted the great National Providence Convention. His activities went far beyond St. Casimir's parish in working for Catholics in Lithuania and all over the world. We pray the Lord whom he served so well will welcome him into the joy of eternal life.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Peter Denisewich who are the proud grandparents of a grandson, David Michael Ingram of New Hampshire.

The Seniors held their Christmas party at Club 44. English and Lithuanian carols were sung. Tom Halloran presented jewelry items to the ladies.

Remember Lithuania's needs with a special prayer on Feb. 16.

Helen Denisewich

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ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

Congratulations and best wishes for another successful year to the following council presidents: Council 14 (Cicero) Stephanie Uginchus; Council 36 (Brighton Park) Ruth Kazlauskas; Council 82 (Gary) Loreta Raudonis; Council 112 (Marquette Park) Albert Zakarka; Chicago Seniors Vecislovas Brazas. Our best wishes to our Choir President Estelle Rogers, Choir Director Faustas Strolia, K of L Dancers Director Frank Zapolis, C36-112 Juniors Coordinator AnnMarie Kassel.

President Vince Samaska announced the following committee appointments; Lith. Affairs & English Publicity Ruth Kazlauskas (C36); Lith. Cultural Monica Kasper (C112); Public Relations Estelle Rogers (C112) Ritual Ruth/Al Dagis (C112); Scholarship Eleonore Laurin (C112); Civic Affairs Sabina Klatt (C36); "Trumpet" Valeria Stanaitis (Chgo Srs); and Lith. Publicity Emilija Pakalniškis (C112)

Our official K of L representatives at two important Lithu-

anian events were: Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas, Dr. Leonard Simutis, Aleksandras Pakalniskis Sr., and Vincent Samaska at the Lithuanian-American Council Congress (ALTAS) held in Chicago; and AnnMarie Kassel & Irene Sankus at the Lith. Roman Catholic Federation Congress held in Detroit.

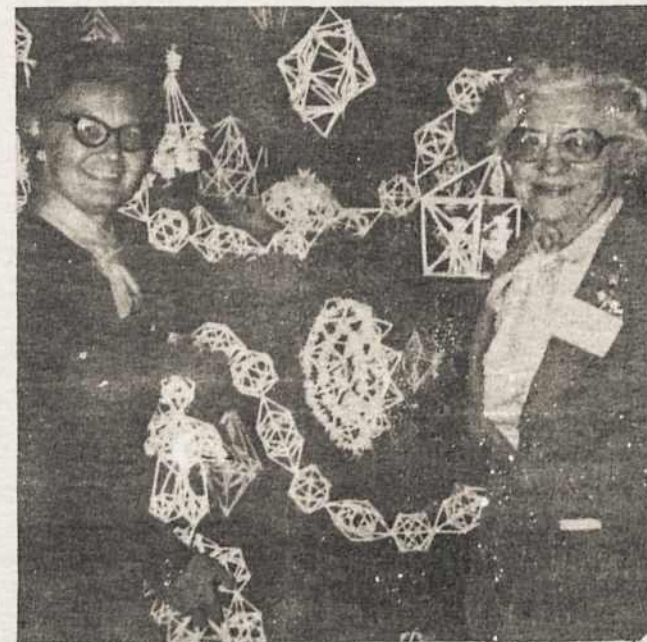
The Annual IID Memorial Mass for deceased members and families was held in November, Nativity B.V.M. Church with Lith. Consul General Josephine Dausvardis and newly-elected C36 Pres. Ruth Kazlauskas presenting the Communion gifts. Brunch and a brief program followed at Sharko's West with our two Ruths in Charge (Dagis and Kazlauskas). Vince Samaska conducted the program and it was pleasure to have Mrs. Dausvardis and the Revs. Anthony Zakarauskas and John Savukynas (the present and former IID Spiritual Advisors) join us.

Lithuanian Day program at the Museum of Science and Industry's "Christmas Around the World" pagament was again presented by our K of L Dancers, assisted by the K of L Choir and Faustas Strolia's string ensemble. The Lithuanian Christmas Play which was presented by the combined groups was written by our own Josephine Dausvardis. Many favorable comments were received on the contents and presentation.

Our K of L Choir celebrated the completion of their 20th year by hosting a reception at the K of L Building. Everyone in attendance truly enjoyed this festive event. May the K of L Choir continue to exist for many more years and continue to enhance the reputation of the Knights of Lithuania.

A traditional Lithuanian Kucios was hosted by our Chicago Senior Council. The K of L hall was filled to capacity. Our congratulations to the chairlady Bernice Pupinik.

Everyone was grief-stricken on learning of the death of Andrew Yuknis, former IID president. Andy was a gentleman in the true sense of the word and a friend to all. His wit and personality will be missed. Our condolences to his wife, Dolores, and the entire family.



Consul General Josephine Dausvardis & Mary Krauchunas, Lithuanian Day, Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry