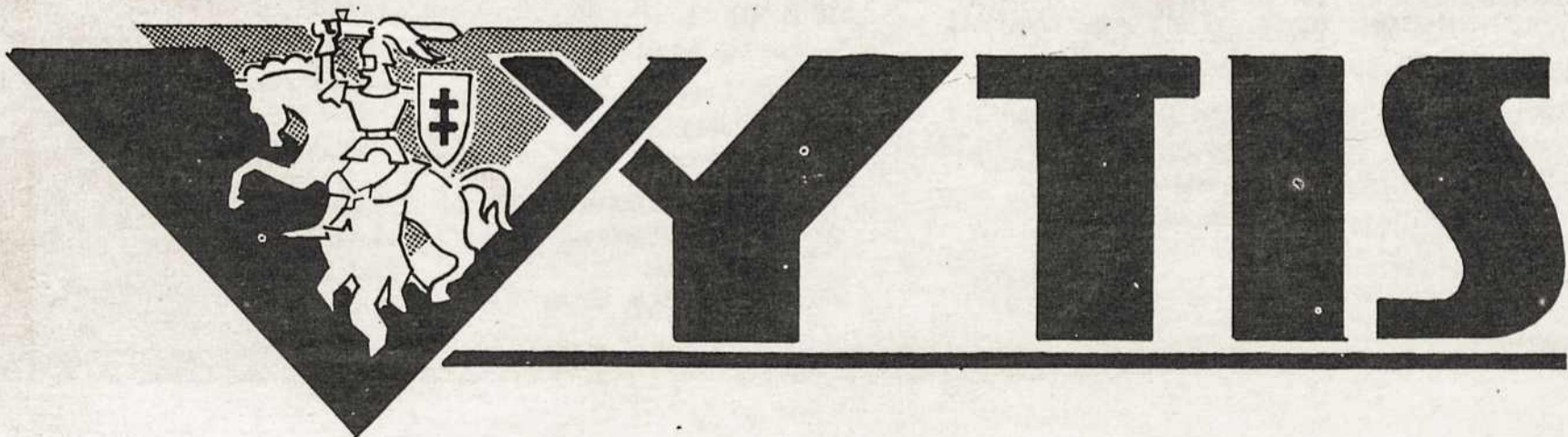




Aušros Vartų Dievo Motinos veidas Vilniuje

**GEGUŽĖ - MAY**  
**Vol. 67 - No. 5**



**1981**  
**The Knights**  
**of Lithuania**

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**Vol. 67 - No. 5**

**GEGUZE - MAY 1981**

**the KNIGHT**  
**VYTIS**

**PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**

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## MARIJOS POEZIJA



Mano Viešpatie ir mano naujagimi, mano Dieve  
ir mano kūdiki,  
aš esu nustebinta ir net baimės apsupta...

Norėčiau likti be žado, bet džiaugsmas iš mano-  
šios širdies liejasi...

Kas aš esu?

Esu tiktai Tavo menkas tvarinys, o Tu panorai  
būti mano sūnum.

Tu man įkvėpei dievišką gyvybę ir leidai man  
Tau duoti žmogiškąją.

Norėjai betarpiu prabilti į žmones be pranašų  
balso ir prašei, kad aš Tau duočiau burną.

Norėjai, kad žmonės pajustų Tavo dievišką širdį  
plakančią jiems meile ir jos reikalavai iš manęs.

Tu troškai vytis apleisto, paniekinto, nusikaltusio  
žmogaus ir prašei iš manęs kojų.

Norėjai savo žvilgsniu uždegti pasaulį ir Tau  
daviau akis.

Tu norėjai savo rankomis žarstyti žmonėms  
dovanas ir rankas paėmei iš manęs.

Tu žinojai, kad iš Tavo kūno tekės kraujo srovės  
nuodėmėms nuplauti. Ir kūną, ir kraują ėmei iš manęs.

Tu norėjai savo žodžiu žemę su dangum sutaisyti,  
o juk pirmus žodžius Tave mokiau aš, Tavoji motina.

Tavo atpirktiesiems Tu ieškojai motinos ir  
norėjai, kad aš ją būčiau.

Mano sūnau ir mano Dieve, Tu dar prašei savo  
motinos būti varguole, kaip Tu ir stovėti po Tavo  
kryžiumi, motinai po sūnaus kryžium...

Ar drįščiau sakyti ne savo sūnui, kuris yra ir  
mano Dievas?

Tebūnie Tavo valia dabar ir per amžius!

Viešpatie, būk pašlovintas už tokią meilę!

O sūnau, šegurbina Tave visi ir už tą garbės  
sostą, kurį davei savo motinai!

Taip vargšai žmonės, Tavo broliai ir mano vaikai,  
turės danguje žvaigždę, kuri jiems rodys kelią.

Leon Bedrone

# MOTHER IN LITHUANIAN POETRY

By DANUTE BINDOKIENE

Throughout the darkest and most trying periods of Lithuanian history Mother's love and devotion was the sole hope in total hopelessness; the only triumph in desperation. Many a tyrant seeking to conquer and enslave Lithuania, had his intentions altered, his plans wrecked completely not by great armies or modern warfare, but by the simple, loving words and prayers of Lithuanian mothers, who knew how to fill the hearts of their children with love of their Creator, their Country, and the Truth.

Lithuania owes its mothers an enormous debt and, perhaps for this reason, no other nation in the world has loved, honored, and respected them more. This is evident in all aspects of Lithuanian life:

its folklore, art, literature, and poetry. It can be truthfully said that there never has been a Lithuanian poet who hasn't written a poem honoring and thanking his mother. Many tender and beautiful words dedicated to mother are to be found in Lithuanian poetry.

*O, mother, spring of my joy,  
caring so deep,  
You are forever young, ever  
beautiful and good.*

*Petras Vaiciunas "To Mother"*



Vargo mokykla

School of Strife

If the mother has passed away to the next, happier world, she is always remembered with all the love and heartbreak of an orphaned child.

*I am weary of this empty house  
And these long, grim days,  
Do not leave me alone. mama,  
Do not leave me alone...*

*Jonas Aistis "The Orphan"*

But a Lithuanian mother's life is often hard, and full of pain and sorrow. Her children are often scattered throughout the wide world, many have suffered in the prisons of various conquerors, many were killed, while others were hunted like animals in the forests. She remembers them all, praying for the dead, standing by the window or gate, always waiting patiently for her living children to return home.

*Gray winds were blowing,  
Whistling by the forest.  
She waited by the gate  
Ever hoping for his return.*

*J. Augustaityte-Vaiciuniene  
"A Mother's Vigil"*

The newest and the most heart-breaking songs and poems, popular in Lithuania and wherever Lithuanians reside, are also songs about the sorrowful mothers of the Freedom Fighters behind the Iron Curtain. Reflected in them is the greatest sacrifice, encouragement, and longing for a peaceful life. These rhymes bespeak the mother's fierce love for her suffering, hunted children; the terrible pain she suffers upon seeing their torn, desecrated bodies in the market place; the wonderful pride in their sons who are strong enough to fight and die for the freedom of their country.

*Enough tears you have shed  
already;  
Remain, mother, now bright as  
the sun;  
For you, for my country, for  
freedom  
I can die as bravely as the  
others did.*

*From the Song of the Freedom  
Fighters*

No less honor and love is given to the Heavenly Mother, who is especially beloved by every Lithuanian. The Mother of God is alive in the hearts of the people. The greatest of Lithuanian poets have written many inspiring lines about Her.

*Our entire country include in  
Thy blessing:  
Our cities, and villages, rivers  
and fields;  
O Mother, let the pleasure of  
Thy glance  
Show our country the way to  
Salvation.*

*Motiejus Gustaitis*

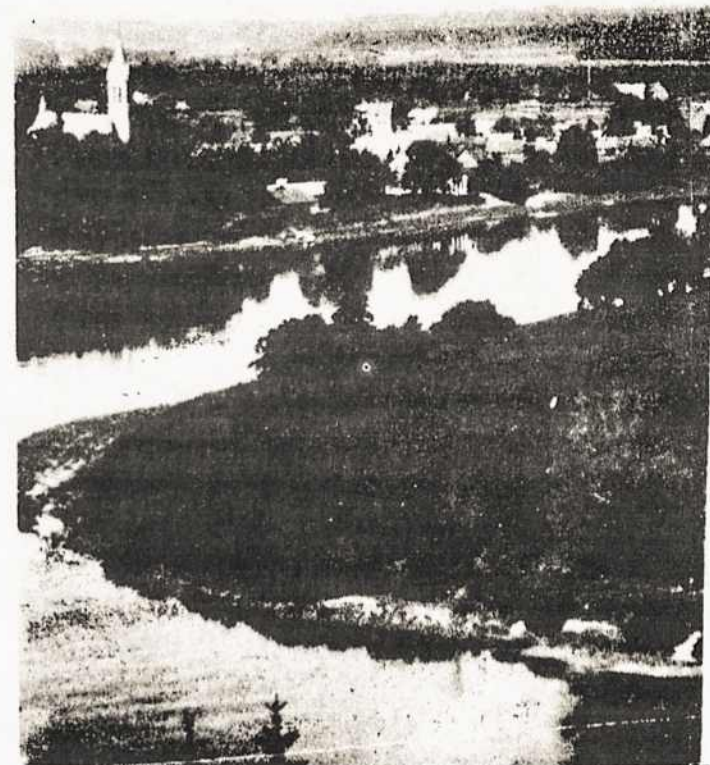


There is still another, to whom Lithuanians have given the name of Mother, of which they speak with equal love and longing:

*My Lithuania, o Mother mine!  
You have raised me in my  
youth and carried me lovingly;  
You have taught me to pray  
and to bear my burdens.*

*Bishop Antanas Baranauskas*

By calling their country Mother, the Lithuanians bestow upon it their greatest love and respect.



## **Mama, Tell Me How The Lilacs Bloom**

*translated by Antonia M. Wackell*

Mama, tell me how the lilacs bloom?  
Tell me, are they fragrant and what are its flowers?  
Tell me, whether in our distant native land  
Are there many lilacs, did you see them?

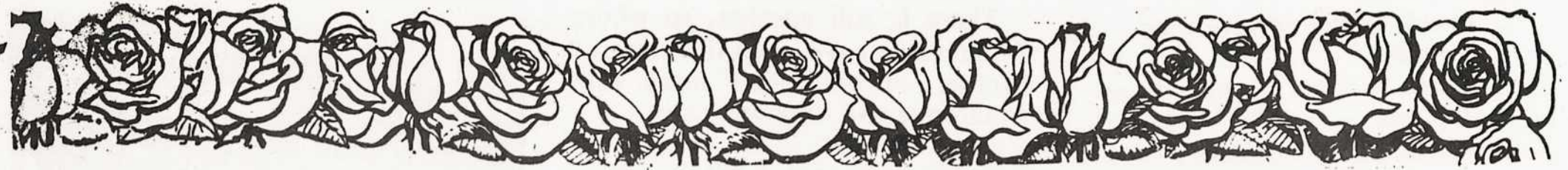
And in our native country, there, where we lived,  
There where I, Mother, you said that I was born:  
There close to our new, close to the demolished home  
Aren't there lilacs growing? In the photograph I saw...

Nighttimes the spreading lilacs bloom for me;  
Nighttimes their flowering blossoms smell to me,  
In dreams I return to my beloved motherland,  
In dreams I always walk along the banks of the Neman...

Do put on your kerchief, you know out of doors it is so cold.  
At this time in our native land, perhaps, it is beautiful,  
They say that the orchards are now white with blossoms...  
And when do the lilacs bloom?...at the same time?

Mama, aren't you listening? What are you thinking about?  
Wrap up your kerchief, let us return to the room  
It is cold, so uncomfortable in this May weather...  
It always blows and blows this restless north wind.

—Ona Lukauskaite  
*(A displaced Person's Poem in Siberia)*



# The Flora of Lithuania

by  
Aldona Ryan

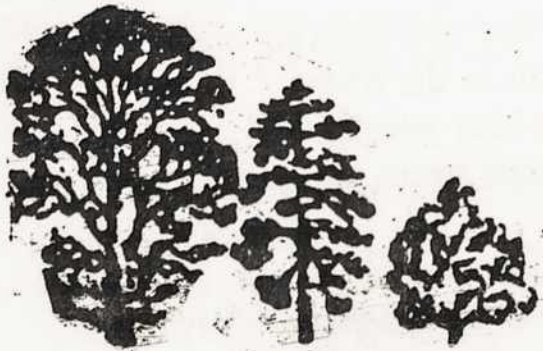


If you are in close contact with a group of Lithuanians for a period of time, you can easily get the impression that Lithuania is covered with nothing more than birch trees and ruta plants. 'Tis not so, of course.

For its size (26,173 square miles), it has a great variety of growing greenery located in diverse situations ranging from bogs to desert lands.

Altogether, more than 3,200 species of floral life have been found in Lithuania.

Five thousand years ago, 75% of Lithuania was covered by forest lands. Now, that number has dwindled to 24%.



Conifers make up 61% of the forest lands. Pine, spruce and juniper trees are the most common.

One fifth of the trees in Lithuania are birch. Other trees commonly found in Lithuania are white alder, black alder, aspen, oak, ash, elm, basswood and hornbeam.

A great deal of Lithuania is covered by meadow lands. Here, broadleaved herbs, tufted grasses and other grasses that favor acidic soil, can be found.

Some of the rivers of Lithuania overflow almost every spring and many types of grasses such as meadow-rue, sage and foxtails grow in these flood plains.

Near the sea and at other saliferous locations, salt marsh, bulrush and sea arrow-grass grows in abundance.

Two types of peat bogs exist in Lithuania. The "high peat bogs" are covered with plants such as peat moss, cotton-grass, sundew, cloud-berry, cranberry and bog rosemary.

The meadow peat bogs ("low peat bogs") feature sedges, buckbeans, marsh marigolds, birches, willows and other plants.

Aquatic flora include duckweed, yellow pond lily, horsetail, great bulrush and common reed grasses.

The coastal sand dunes contain a few desert species such as sea lyme-grass, marram and seabeach sandwort.

Plants are used for different purposes. Trees, such as pine, spruce, aspen, black alder, birches and oaks are cut for lumber.

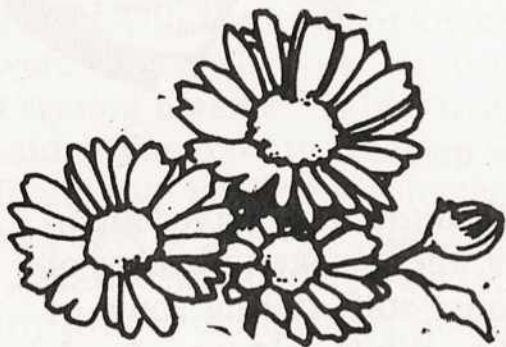
Blueberry, cowberry and cranberry bushes are sources of food. Also, many types of mushrooms and nuts are harvested in Lithuania.

Medicinal plants include bearberry, alderbuckthorn, linden, foxglove, lilly-of-the-valley and buckbean.

Around two hundred botanical gardens are maintained in Lithuania which are remnants of parks of ancient estates.

It has always been a tradition for every family to grow its own flower garden called "rue garden". The most popular flowers found in these gardens are ruta, peony, bleeding heart, mignonette, sweet peas and periwinkles.

We have prepared a list of the more common Flora of Lithuania in both the English and Lithuanian languages. How many do you remember?



### FLORA OF LITHUANIA

acorn — gilė  
 alburnum — brazdas  
 alga — jūros dumbliai  
 almond — migdolas  
 apple — obuolys  
 apple tree — obelis  
 ash tree — uosis  
 asparagus — smydras  
 aster — astra  
 bark — medžio žievė  
 barley — miežiai  
 beetroot — cukrinis burokėlis  
 berry — uoga  
 bluebell — katitelis  
 bogberry — spanguolė  
 bracken — papartis  
 bramble — gervuogė  
 briar — erškėtis  
 buckwheat — grikliai  
 bud — pumparas  
 buttercup — vedrynas  
 cabbage — kopūstas  
 callabash — paprastas ilgmoliugis  
 camomile — raumunėlė  
 caraway — kmynas  
 carrot — morka  
 caster — bebras  
 cauliflower — žiedinai kopūstai  
 cedar — kedras  
 chestnut — kaštonas  
 chrysanthemum — skaista žiedė  
 clematis — raganė



clove — česnako skiltelė  
 clover — dobilai  
 cornflower — rugiagėlė  
 cranberry — spanguolė  
 crocus — krokas  
 cucumber — agurkas  
 cypress — kiparisas  
 daffodil — geltonasis narcizas  
 daisy — saulutė  
 dandelion — kiaulpienė  
 dill — krapas  
 dock — rugštyinės  
 elder — šėivamedis  
 fennel — krapas  
 fern — papartis  
 fir — eglė  
 flax — linai  
 flower — gėlė  
 foxglove — rusmenė  
 geranium — snaputis pelargonija  
 ginger — imbieras  
 gourd — moliugas  
 grape — vynuogė  
 gooseberry — agrastas  
 grass — žolė  
 hazelnut — lazdynas riešutas  
 hemp — kanapės  
 henbane — drignė  
 hollyhock — dedešva  
 hop — apynys  
 huckleberry — mėlynė  
 hydrangea — hortenzia  
 iris — vilkdaigis  
 ivy — gebenė  
 juniper — kadagys  
 lentil — lešiukas  
 lettuce — salotas  
 lily — lėlija  
 lily-of-the-valley — pakalnutė  
 maple — klevas  
 melon — agurotis  
 millet — sora  
 mint — mėta  
 mistletoe — amalas  
 moss — pelkė — durpynė —  
 samanos  
 mountain ash tree — šermukšnis  
 mulberry — šilkmedis  
 mushroom — grybas  
 narcissus — narcizas  
 nettle — dilgė  
 stinging nettle — piktdilgė  
 nutmeg — muškatas  
 oak — ažuola  
 oat — aviža  
 onion — svogūnas  
 pansy — našlaitė  
 parsley — petražolė



parsnips — pastarnokas  
 pea — žirnis  
 peach — persikas  
 pear — kriaušė  
 peony — bijūnas  
 pignut — žemės riešutas  
 pine — pušis  
 pinecone — pušies kankurėžis  
 pith — šerdis  
 plant — augalas  
 plantain — gysiotis  
 plum — slyva  
 pomegranate — granatas  
 poplar tree — tuopa  
 potato — bulvė  
 primrose — primula — raktažolė  
 quince — avarainis  
 radish — ridikas  
 raspberry — avietė  
 redbeet — brokas  
 rhubarb — rabarbaras  
 rose — rožė  
 rosebud — rožės pumpuras  
 rue — rūta  
 rye — rugiai  
 saffron — krokas  
 sage — šalavijas  
 sap — sultys  
 seed — sėkla  
 semolina — manų kruopas  
 sloe — dygioji kryklė  
 sorrel — rugštyinės  
 spore — spora  
 spruce — meisvoji eglė  
 sunflower — saulėgražas  
 sweetwilliam — turkiškasis  
 gvazdikas  
 thorn — dyglys — dagys  
 thistle — usnis  
 tomato — pomidoras  
 tuberose — stiebagumbio  
 tulip — tulpė  
 turf — velėna  
 turnip — ropė — griežtis  
 violet — žibuoklė  
 wallflower — geltonžiedė smalka  
 walnut — graikiškas riešutas  
 watermelon — arbūzas  
 weed — piktžolė  
 wheat — kviečiai  
 willow — gluosnis, karklas  
 wormwood — metelė



Bibliography: Encyclopedia Lituanica Anglų—Lietuvių Kalbų Žodynas —V. Baravykas.

# Lithuanians in The

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS

# NEWS



*A. J. Palutis describes a print of the Madison White House which was presented to members of the White House staff by President and Mrs. Carter during the holiday season.*

Irish lassie, Colleen Quinn, was chosen as Miss American Emerald of 1981 at the Peter J. Smith Association dinner dance in Irvington, New Jersey. What's this have to do with the Lithuanians in the News? First runner-up was CATHERINE ZVIRBLIS of Roselle, N. J., a senior at Girls' Catholic High School. Catherine's father is Lithuanian and her mother is Irish.

Kathy Kelly, Maureen Kelly and Catherine Zvirblis, at right





**JOHN MASLAUSKAS**, a 31-year old transformer repairman from Chicago, had been trying for three years to get his ideas through the doors of the big toy companies without success, until he ran into the Great Bison Toy Corp. It needed ideas for products to get its business going, and Maslauskas needed a sponsor. Since last summer, Maslauskas has sold Great Bison ideas for four board games, several card games, and a space age tricycle design the firm plans to have in store this Christmas season.

Maslauskas is a chess player and science fiction fan who seriously began creating games when he lost his job a few years ago. He and a friend bought some board games with their unemployment checks but found they were "childish", so he decided to make his own. Creating a game "is like writing a book," Maslauskas said. "You have to come up with a subject and plot and figure out what you want the 'characters' to do. Then you have to put it in game form with risk and strategy."

Maslauskas said he tried for three years to get a major toy firm to consider his first board game and was ready to give up. Now he expects to see that game on the shelf this fall and has 20 others in mind.



**Toy inventor John Maslauskas (seated) and Great Bison Toy Corp. president John Prandecki.**



**REGINA VAITKUNAS** and **NINA LIUBINAS**, employees of Holy Cross Hospital, Chicago, are the creators of the beautiful Lithuanian Christmas tree which graced the main lobby of the hospital. All of the ornaments were handcrafted by Nina.

**CASIMIR G. OKSAS**, C-112, Chicago, has been appointed a member of the Illinois Ethnic Heritage Commission by Governor James R. Thompson. Oksas is Jury Commissioner of Cook County and a past president of the Republican Nationalities Council of Illinois. He is also Chairman of the Lithuanian Executives Club and a director of the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce of Illinois.

The Ethnic Heritage Commission is currently planning an Ethnic Heritage Festival at the 1981 State Fair in Springfield on August 6 - 16. This is in accord with the objective of the commission which is to encourage and promote the presentation of cultural activities throughout the state of Illinois.

\*\*\*

**JOHN A SABULIS**, president of C-135, Ansonia, Conn., was named as the third member of the Board of Police Commissioners for the City of Ansonia. John was alderman for six years, with the last four as president of the Aldermanic Board. Before his aldermanic career, he was a Supernumerary Patrolman for twenty years.

\*\*\*

**VALERIE LAZAUSKAS**, who works for Macy's Department Store in New York City, is a coordinator for Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parades.



*A commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day was held at Chicago's Richard J. Daley Civic Center on February 17th. Among the participants were from left: Algird Brazis, C-112, formerly of the New York Metropolitan Opera Company; Mrs. Aldona Brazis, C-112, accompanist; Salomeja Daulys, C-36, K of L Choir member; Faustas Strolia, C-36, director of the K of L Choir; Estelle Rogers, C-112, president of the choir; Rose Farina, coordinator of programs at the Daley Center; Balys Pakstas, Soloist on the "Regelis," a native musical wind instrument, and Stanley Balzekas, Jr., C-36, president of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture.*

\*\*\*

The name of RIMA JANEULVICIUS is on the credits for Chicago's CBS-TV, Channel 2, Weekend News, as Assignment Editor.

\*\*\*

*Also pictured is the K of L Choir performing, under the able direction of FAUSTAS STROLIA.*



"Panorama", a publication of the Palos Community Hospital, Palos Heights, Illinois, recently featured an article about LEON SEIBUTIS, M.D. A year ago, Dr. Seibutis taught urology surgery for six weeks at the University of Vilnius in Lithuania. The University recently celebrated its 400th anniversary and Dr. Seibutis was invited back to participate in the celebration. During his recent four week stay in Lithuania, Dr. Seibutis was involved in an exchange of information and knowledge in urology at the University and at other hospitals throughout that country. He found that although academic knowledge of the physicians was very good, the application of this knowledge was somewhat inferior, due to the lack of proper instruments and modern drugs.

Dr. Seibutis stated that all hospitals, as well as businesses and housing are owned by the government. Everyone works for the government, including physicians, and 80% of the physicians are women. The hospitals are overcrowded but patients do not have to worry about expenses when they are ill as the government pays their full salary during their illness.

Two of the luxuries that the people of Lithuania clamor for are coffee and American-made jeans. One thing Dr. Seibutis learned while traveling in the Soviet Occupied Lithuania was that the Lithuanians were very hospitable people.



Leon Seibutis, M.D.

## Cook's CORNER

By MARY LUCAS



### DAFFODIL CAKE

1 cup cake flour	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup plus 2 T. sugar	6 egg yolks
12 egg whites (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups)	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ t. vanilla
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ t. cream of tartar	$\frac{1}{2}$ t. almond extract
$\frac{1}{4}$ t. salt	Lemon Glaze (See below)

Heat oven to 375°. Blend flour and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup plus 2 T. sugar and set aside.

Measure egg whites, cream of tartar and salt into a large mixer bowl. Beat on medium speed until foamy. Add  $\frac{3}{4}$  C sugar — about 2 T. at a time beating on high speed till the meringue holds stiff glossy peaks.

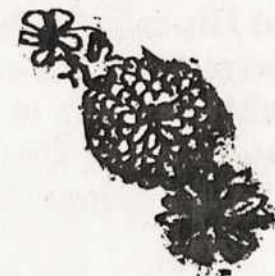
In a small mixer bowl, beat egg yolks until very thick and lemon colored, about five minutes.

Fold flavorings into meringue. Then sprinkle the flour-sugar mixture, folding in carefully until the flour-sugar mixture disappears. Pour half the batter into another bowl, gently folding in egg yolks.

Spoon the yellow and white batters alternately into an ungreased tube pan (10" x 4" Angel Food pan). Gently cut through the batters to make a swirl effect.

Bake on the lowest rack of the oven about 40 minutes or until the top springs back when touched lightly with the finger.

Immediately invert the tube pan on a large funnel and let hang until the cake is completely cooled, at least 2 hours. Spread with Lemon Glaze. Decorate with icing daffodils if you are handy at cake decorating.



# IN SEARCH OF VOCATIONS



"It is my desire to be consumed like a candle upon the altar by the heat of labor and the fire of love for CHRIST and for HIS CHURCH!"

Motto of Archbishop Matulaitis

## Prayer for Vocations

O Lord, it is your will that all men know the truth and be saved, — we pray that you send laborers for your harvest and grant them the necessary grace to preach your Word with complete confidence. May your Word be glorified and may it spread throughout the world so that all may know You, the one, true God and your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, whom You have given us and who now lives and reigns in unity with You and with the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

Can you say YES to Jesus Christ? Will you say YES to His call, to His invitation to become a living, vibrant personification of Him in the world? Preach the Gospel with your life in a world that cries: "Show me!" Jesus needs YOU! By yourself you can do very little, but with God all things are possible.

For more information about the religious community founded by Archbishop Jurgis Matulaitis write to: Sister Margaret, Immaculate Conception Convent Putnam, CT 06260



## IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in prayers...

**ONA KSENAITIS**

Member, C-12  
Manhattan, N.Y.  
died Feb., 1981

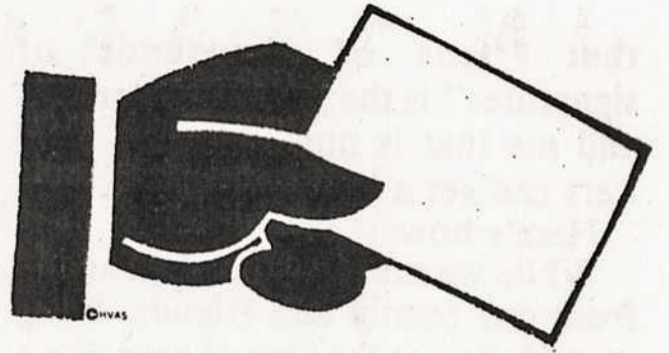
**FRANK KAY**

Member, C-102  
Detroit, MI  
died Feb., 1981

and all other deceased members  
of the K of L of whose deaths  
we have not been informed.

## ED. NOTE:

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



# A letter from Father J

Dear Knight of Lithuania,

I decided to write this letter, a very personal letter, to you, because something came up that is more than I can handle. I need the assistance only you can give. Will you help me, please?

Here's what happened.

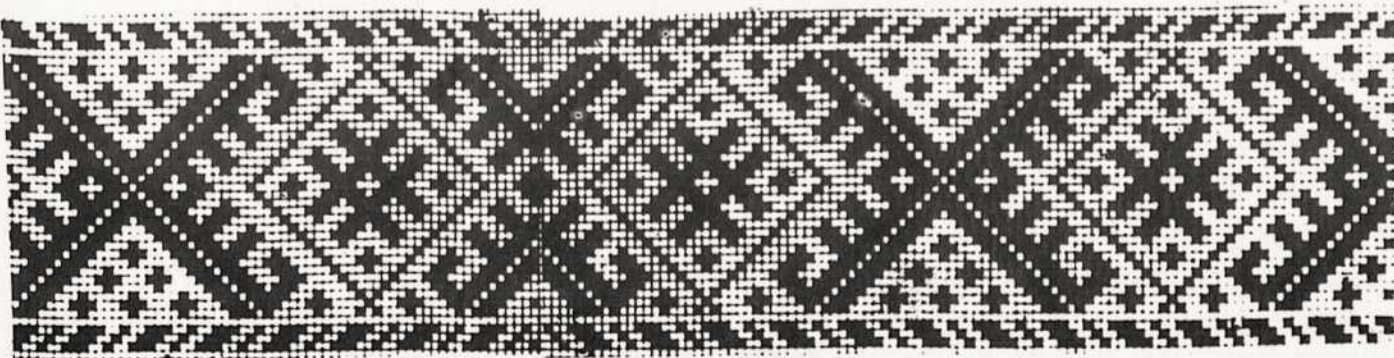
The Boston Convention, you remember, voted to get into that "PHASE II" thing. You have been reading about this in the "VYTIS" and so have I.

Supreme Council got all excited about this and gave this project TOP PRIORITY. It even threw in a bunch of bucks to fund it. They asked me to spend that money. I did. I bought 10,000 sheets of paper, not just plain paper, but imprinted Peti-

tion Sheets, which I sent out to all the Councils. I had to make two trips to the Post Office to mail out close to 6,000 sheets. Do you have your sheets already? If not, ask your Council President.

Once you get those sheets in your hands, PHASE II will be up to you. This is a K of L Family and Friends activity. First, get all members of your family to sign (including cousins and in-laws). Do you think anyone will refuse to request our beloved Pope John Paul II to hasten the Beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis? Then ask your neighbors, friends and co-workers to sign. They will be glad to do so. It is just as easy as that.

The article in VYTIS mentioned



that "tens of thousands of signatures" is the goal. Between you and me that is nonsense. We K of Lers can get a hundred thousand!

Here's how.

While we are gathering signatures from our family and friends, bring up and discuss the idea of xeroxing a couple of hundred more sheets of that petition at your council meeting. Then, in cooperation with your Pastor and/or Spiritual Advisor distribute sheets to all families in your parish. That will double or triple the number of signatures we can get.

In addition to this let me share a secret with you. I understand that Supreme Council is going to send out a batch of Petition Sheets to all the non-K of L parishes in the United States to use up the remaining 4,000 that I bought.

"I've got a dream, I've got a dream," Martin Luther King once proclaimed. Well I have a dream, too.

My dream is this: I am punching keys on a pocket calculator. The ruby red numerals in the window glow brightly as they keep on changing. 3,000 (K of L members) times 10 (signatures) equals 30,000.... 3,000 times 20 equals 60,000. Wow!

Then I start again: The little window shows "0." as I clear the previous numbers. Now, I punch in 10,000 (total sheets purchased) times 20 (signatures on a sheet) equals 200,000. Wowee! That's how many signatures the K of L would collect, if every sheet were all filled up. That's how many signatures could be placed in the hands of the Holy Father requesting the hastening of the Beatification of Archbishop George.

In my dream I accidentally touch the Memory Key and the number 149,148 pops in brilliant gold on a ruby background. (I dream in color, you know.)

The dream fades away. I awake.

All day long that number keeps bothering me. I keep asking myself, where did it come from?

Then, it dawns on me. That number was in the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania"



It refers to the number of signatures Lithuanian Catholics collected to petition their atheistic Soviet leaders, demanding the return of their church in Klaipeda, which they build with their own money, and even with their own hands, only to have it confiscated and turned into a concert hall.

Wouldn't it be great if we K of Lers could collect 149,149 signatures for the Beatification of Archbishop George?

I'm sure you will agree with me that this Phase II is a clear-cut K of L activity "Dievui ir Tevynei". If "helping to make a Saint" is not a K of L activity, what is? (Oh, I know that it is God who makes Saints. Humanly speaking, however, if you and I do our bit to show the Holy Father that we are praying and working to encourage and support our persecuted brothers and sisters in Lithuania by requesting "a modern Saint from among its own people in these pre-

sent perilous times", Pope John Paul II just might grant our petition. Remember, he loves Lithuania and Lithuanians.

For more information about Archbishop George read the recent issues of VYTIS. Learn how to sell the idea.

Make it a point to have a signature on every single line of the Petition. When it is all filled out, return it to your Council President and he or she will mail it to me.

I know you will do your bit. Thank you very, very much.

Vytiskai,

Father J.

*P.S. This letter comes to you through the kindness of our Vytis Editor, Loretta. I want to thank her for saving me (where's my calculator?): 3,000 (members) times 18 cents (postage) equals 540 (dollars).*

Fr. J.



## MOTINA IR MOTINOS

*MOTINA yra gyvybės pradas. Gal dėl to ji taip visų mylima, kultūringos visuomenės gerbiama, knygose aprašyta ir poezijoje apdainuota. Gyvybė — brangiausias kiekvieno žmogaus turtas. Ir, gal būt, vienintelis turtas. Atimk žmogui gyvybę — ir jam nustos bet kokios vertės auksas, sidabras, malonumai ir žemiška garbė. Atimk žmogaus sielai dvasinę gyvybę — ir viskas, ką jis turi, viskas, ką jis galėjo turėti, bus grynas nulis. Be gyvybės nėra gyvenimo, be gyvenimo nėra žmogaus. Be motinos nėra nei gyvybės nei žmogaus. Kiekviena gyvybė kalbėte kalba apie motiną. Gyvybė yra motinos sukurtas himnas pagerbti motinai. Pasaulyje yra įvairių gyvybės pasireiškimų, užtat yra įvairių ir motinų. Savo gimdytoją mes vadiname motina, bet Motina vadiname ir tą, kurios dėka esame atgimę dangiškam gyvenimui. Ji yra žmogiškas dvasinės žmogaus gyvybės pradas. Motina vadiname ir tą šalį, kurioje pražydo, augo ir brendo mūsų gyvybė. Motina vadiname žemę, kuri mus nešioja ir maitina. Motina yra ir Bažnyčia, kuri mums dvasinio peno teikia. Gegužės mėnuo, kada atgijusi gamta gražiausiais žiedais pasipuošia, yra tinkamiausias laikas prisiminti motiną — kiekvienos gyvybės pradą ir ugdyti savo sieloje tikros gyvybės nevystančius žiedus.*

LAIŠKAI LIETUVIAMS



## FROM THE DIARY OF A NINTH GRADE STUDENT

(Taken from the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania, No. 38")

selected by Elsie Kosmisky  
LCRA Coordinator

For a long time homeroom teacher "S" tried to persuade me to join the Communist Youth League. She told me to keep up with my classmates, she praised me for being first-rate, for adapting and finding time for everything, only unfortunately I deny myself the "best", and when she learned that I regularly attend church she became terribly angry and ordered me to bring my parents.

At the end of November, Father came to the school to see the principal and explained to him that none of the children in our family will ever join the Communist Youth League. He disapproves of the organization and we children don't want to join. And as for attending church, Father objected strenuously and explained, on his way out, that he is a Lithuanian and does not want to be anything else.

After my parent's visit, my homeroom teacher again gave me no peace. She urged me to disobey my parents and tempted me to join the Communist Youth League without their knowledge. She also ordered me not to go to church. She

asked that I willingly choose the way offered by them. I thought, but did not dare say, "You are urging me to swim with the crowd, with the current. Thank you, dear homeroom teacher, I've seen many such 'happy ones' who follow the path you offer."

The teacher did not give up hope and continued to ask me. I told her but one thing: "No, I will certainly not join the Communist Youth, and will continue going to church." Then the homeroom teacher cajoled: "You can go to church, only join the Communist Youth." Although she compromised, that compromise is unacceptable to me: I want to be a person, not a hypocrite.

When she saw she was not moving me, the homeroom teacher dragged me to the principal. He tried to lull me with gentle words, but when this did not work, he removed his mask and began to shout terribly. "Either join the Communist Youth League or leave our school!"

He did not frighten me. It is better to be uneducated than an educated traitor.

They stopped summoning me for talks, although the principal had said he would. Most teachers began giving me much lower department grades. Lithuanian is taught by the homeroom teacher herself. She therefore finds it very convenient to get back to me. I compared my compositions with other girls. For similar "mistakes" they were given B's, and a D.

The vice-principal who is also the art teacher was very angry at me. I could never please her. She began to call me a religious bigot, always adding that this is not a church. Well, that is their will, and that will of theirs is very unjust and malevolent.

Because I could not stand this atmosphere, I told my homeroom teacher I wanted to transfer to another school and asked for a letter of recommendation. The letter of recommendation listed all my vices with considerable elaboration. It even included the detail that while in the fifth grade, I wiped my shoes with my scarf. And as a crowning touch to all my vices, that I am very religious.



## JOHN A. STOSKUS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP CANDIDATE

—Aldona Ryan



For his thirty-three years of outstanding service to the Knights of Lithuania, John A. Stoskus will be awarded the organization's highest honor, Honorary Membership, at the National Convention this coming August.

His letter of presentation from Council 103, Providence, R.I. states, "John Stoskus is a first rate example of a K of L member who has exemplified our motto 'For God and Country.' His whole adult life is proof of his beliefs and good works."

He was born in Chicago on November 8, 1917 in an area "back of the stockyards." His parents were Stanley and Julianna (Petrauskas) Stoskus who came to America from Zemaitija, Lithuania. He is the youngest of six children.

John attended the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Grammar School and Marianapolis High School. He received an Associate Degree from Marianapolis Junior College and he holds a B.A. degree from Marianapolis College.

He also studied theology at St. Thomas Seminary, Denver and at St. Procopius Seminary at Lisle, Illinois.

In 1948, he became an active member of Council 112 in Chicago. He stayed there until 1957. During his nine years with the K of L in Chicago, he served one term as President of the council, two terms as IID District President and two terms as National Vice President.

John represented C-112 at IID Conventions, as a delegate, for six years. He served on numerous committees and as chairman of many functions in the area. He helped reorganize K of L councils in Gary, Indiana and Indiana Harbor and Council 24 in Chicago, and traveled around the area giving speeches.

John met his wife, Bertha (nee Savitckas) at a K of L picnic in Chicago, while she visited from Providence. They were married and returned to Providence, in August 1957. He got a job as a Social Worker in the R.I. Dept. of Social Welfare as a Quality Control Reviewer. He retired in 1979.

His wife, Bertha, is an active K of L member.

His activities as a member of Council 103 are countless. He served five terms as President of the council and one term as NED District Vice President. He was a delegate to many NED Conventions where he was an active participant on mandate committees and resolutions committees.

John Stoskus was Co-Chairman of two National Conventions, he has served as a Presiding Officer and also as a member of the Mandate Committee, Resolutions Committee and he assisted in the 4th degree ritual presentations.

Over the years, John has been an active correspondent both in Chicago and in Providence. His work has appeared in Vytis, Draugas, Darbininkas, Southwest Herald, South-Town Economist, Tribune, Providence Journal-Bulletin, and various papers. He has written more than 500 letters in behalf of Lithuanian Affairs in the past 27 years.

In community involvement, he served eight years as Personal Bailiff to the late Judge John T. Zuris of Chicago. He took an active part in Lithuanian politics and he helped Lithuanians get citizenship papers. In 1976, he worked on the Lithuanian Bicentennial Committee. He represented St. Casimer's Parish for three years as a member of the Diocesan School Committee.

In the field of religion, he served as acting chaplain for the Don Varnas Post, American Legion in Chicago at 43 services. He was a sponsor of Our Lady of Siluva Chapel in Washington, D.C. and the Lithuanian Chapel at the Vatican in Rome. John was L.C.R.A. chairman and he has also served at numerous religious events.

His friends and associates call John A. Stoskus "Mr. K of L. He is always knowledgeable of every aspect of the organization and he deserves the honor," they say. We agree. We extend our heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS!

# CONVENTION NEWS

## ST. ANTHONY'S AND THE FOREST CITY REGION

Council 46, Forest City, host of the 68th National Convention to be held at the University of Scranton along with Council 74, Scranton and Council 143, Pittston welcomes all to one of the oldest areas of Lithuanian settlement in the United States.



St. Anthony Church

Council 46 is sponsored by St. Anthony's Parish in Forest City which is twenty-five miles north of Scranton. The parish was formed in 1894 when Bishop O'Hara of the Scranton Diocese instructed Rev. Peza of the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church of Scranton to organize a parish for the many Lithuanians working the anthracite coal mines in the area. St. Anthony's was the first "ethnic" parish in the area and initially served Catholics of a number of different ethnic backgrounds.

The dedication of the Lithuanian Catholics to the religion and culture was tested in 1899 when the first church was destroyed by fire. A second church was dedicated in 1905. This edifice too was destroyed by fire in 1917 and the building of the present structure was immediately begun. The small community of Lithuanian Catholics under the guidance of Rev. Ben Toloczko continues to this day to maintain their Lithuanian heritage.

St. Anthony's Church, as is often the custom in Lithuania, was built on the highest hill and overlooks the town of Forest City. Forest City is the northern-most town in the anthracite fields. The town is named for the beautiful forests surrounding the community. Forest City is between two areas of Northeastern Pennsylvania well known for their outdoor recreational opportunities. The Pocono Mountain resort areas are to the southeast and the Endless Mountains are to the north and west.

The area immediately surrounding Forest City contains dozens of lakes and streams well known for their fishing and water sports. Hun-

ting is popular and the forests teem with deer, bear, and turkey. Skiing is a popular winter sport and nearby Elk Mountain draws visitors from New York, Philadelphia and other eastern cities.

Today the anthracite industry which was the basis of the early economy has disappeared as the coal was worked out. However, it is a lasting credit to the people of Forest City that they have maintained their community through trying times and are again looking to the future. Proof of its continuing spiritual vitality is found in that this small community of two thousand maintains eight different church congregations — a startling fact indeed.

## THE COMMITTEE MAKES PLANS AND PRIZES



Seated left to right: Ann Huffstutler, Jelen Roginski, John Morris, Co-chairman, Elizabeth Tamosaitis, Co-chairman, Marcella Kukaitis. Standing left to right: Leo Butsavage, Co-chairman, Margaret Romanauskas, Edward Romanauskas, Ann Ulinoski, Anthony Yavorosky.



Front row left to right: Helen Butsavage-Wall Rosary; Anna Bagdon-Homemade Quilt; Sister Virginia Marie-Lithuanian Ethnic Doll. Back row left to right: Richard Laske-Ticket Chairman; Charles Cyzauskas-Ceramic Coal Miner.

## WHILE THE CHOIR REHEARSES



*St. Casimir's Choir, home of C-143 Knights of Lithuania, Pittston, Pa. shown rehearsing for the Liturgy of the Mass, for the 68th National Convention to be held Aug. 19-20-21-22 and 23 at the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa. C-143, Pittston, Pa. is co-hosting with C-46 Forest City and C-74 Scranton, Pa. Pictured are the following members: Mary Ann Dupa, Organist; Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, Pastor; Peter*

*Rèkpaitis, George Gustainis, Dave Schultz, Frances Evans, Peter Dotter, John Wisnosky, Helen Grigalonis, Martha Warnagaris, Ann Mercavitch, Helen Wisnosky, Mary Luke, Blanche Vitcosky, Anna Rose, Marge Pukalis, Helen Nagy, and Anna Walatkas. Absent when photo was taken Peter Orpando, Mildren Shuketis and Ermete Bernardoni.*

**SEND AN AD****HELP THE CONVENTION**

The Knights of Lithuania program Book Committee invites you to extend greetings to all your Knights of Lithuania friends and associates, by printing your good wishes in the 68th NATIONAL CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK.

To place your greeting, please send your greeting and check to:

Knights of Lithuania Convention  
Program Book Committee  
116 Theodore Street  
Scranton, Pa. 18508

Suggested donations are:

Full Page - \$100.00

Half Page - \$50.00

Quarter Page - \$25.00

**Deadline June 15, 1981**

Please make your checks payable to K. of L. Convention Committee.

Thank you most sincerely for your cooperation and for your past support of the Knights of Lithuania.

May God reward you for your generosity!

Eighth Page - \$15.00

Patron - \$10.00

Well Wisher - \$5.00

**K of L Calendar****M A Y**

9 C-100 Maspeth, BARN DANCE, Transfiguration Hall, Maspeth N.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

**JUNE**

6 SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING, Scranton, PA

**JULY**

4 IID ANNUAL "LITHUANIAN DAY" PICNIC, K of L Building, Chicago, IL

**AUGUST**

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

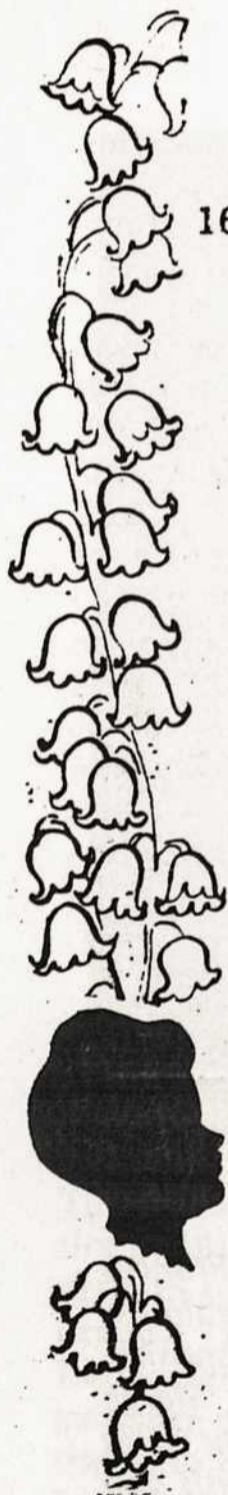
**SEPTEMBER**

26-27 MCD FALL CONVENTION and PILGRIMAGE, Cleveland, OH C-25 Hosts

26 C-110 Maspeth, FALL DINNER-DANCE, Transfiguration Hall, Maspeth, NY

**OCTOBER**

10 C-29, Newark, ANNUAL DINNER DANCE, Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, NJ



# Vyčiai Veikia



## Council Activities

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



### NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-26 WORCESTER, MASS.

Is there anyone who hasn't experienced a heart-tug in reliving a pleasant experience? We refer to the annual celebration of St. Casimir's Feast held this year on March 1. It began with the 10 a.m. Mass celebrated by our spiritual director, Father Benjamin Uzdavinis, MIC. Entering St. Casimir's Church to the rhythm of a march, proudly wearing Degree medals and colors of yellow, green and red, our council members were led by Pres. Rita Pinkus. Following the beautiful Lithuanian High Mass, all eyes turned to the right of the altar and focused on the beautiful bas-relief of St. Casimir as we sang his hymn, "Sventas Kazimierai." We concluded with the K of L hymn, "Nužen Galybė." In this group were Ted Pinkus, Helen Gillus, Ann Bender, Mary Duggan, John & Ann Ridick, Betty & Tony Tamalevich (Tony is the brother of our late spiritual director, Father Michael Tamulevicius, whom we lovingly remember as Father Mike), Adele Ceraska, Teresa Adomavicius (her husband, a Casimir, was ill and unable to be present), Nell Thompson, Emily Gudzevich, Virginia & Dwight Cummings, Nancy Gorden,

Adele & Charles Tagman, Ann Bucinskas, and many other K of L'ers and parishioners. (Forgive any omissions.) The angle of our vision was just not right to enable us to put a name to each figure in the group.

Following Mass, many of us travelled to Maironis Park, the locale of our parish banquet. The dinner was a most cheerful event. Eduard Meilus, Jr. was the emcee. Entertainment was provided by St. Casimir's Men's Choir (who also sang at Mass). K of L'ers in the choir include Choir Pres. Francis (Algis) Glodas, Francis Degutis, Alexander Pridotkas, Stephen Walinsky, Sr. and Walter Grimala. Amid much excitement and anticipation, the pupils of St. Casimir School put their "best foot forward" with their music, poetry and song. They were prepared by Sister M. Aurelia, SSC (principal & 8th grade teacher), Sister M. Ignata, SSC (2nd grade) and Dorothy Seilius (kindergarten). The folk dancing and recitations of the Lithuanian Saturday School offered still more delightful entertainment. Ann Walinsky, with an assist from Adele Degutis, provided us with a beautifully decorated dining hall. Al Seilius handled his role of raffle chairman like a Lucky Strike auctioneer, a pro! Guests included Father Vincent Parulis, MIC, superior, and Father John Petrauskas, MIC, headmaster, both of Marianapolis Preparatory School in Thompson, Conn. Also present were Father Alphonse Volungis, pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church, and Father Albin Yankauskas, recently transferred to St. John's Church. With dinner and entertainment over, the parishioners, K of L'ers, and friends, mingled, chatted, and danc-

ed, and just had themselves a fine time. This parish observation of our patron's feast was a most agreeable project. It was coordinated by our pastor, Father Anthony J. Miciunas, MIC, with an assist from his parish council. (We'd like to add here that Ann (wife of Alex) Pridotkas was one of the waitresses.) How good to see Ruth Gadilauskas (present with her husband, Vite) walking without her crutches! It was at this gathering that we enrolled our newest member, Eduard Meilus, Jr. Eddie is active in all things Lithuanian; he is host of the twice-weekly, live broadcast of the Lithuanian Hour (Radio Station WICN-FM). We welcome Eddie into our ranks!

That basketball group of ours (we inadvertently omitted the name of John Karpicus last month and we apologize!) spends the winter ice fishing each weekend for Northern Pike up in Vermont. This group of young men (Peter Ivaska, Tony Zalieckas, Mike Grudzinskas, Jim Bender and his dad) enjoyed a feature story write-up in a recent Worcester Sunday Telegram edition.

Our council travellers might just inspire one of us to become a travel agent. The business would be great! Fran & Charles Kulakusky were off to England in June to visit their daughter and her family. Tillie Zelesky was home from Florida just long enough to pick up her mail, water the plants, and off she went to Hawaii. The Kulakusky's, Edwina & Francis Ginkus, and Withold & Virginia Ivaska vacationed in upstate Granite, N.Y. We haven't yet heard how Joe & Antoinette Ivaska made out on their trip to Atlantic City, N.J., where they tried their luck. Lynne Walinsky

(daughter of Steve & Ellie), took her first trans-ocean trip with her French class to visit France. John & Eleanor Gadilauskas planed to Georgia to see their daughter and son-in-law. Father Miciunas was on a work-trip in Rome, Italy, where he was a delegate at the General Chapter of Marians. Father Uz-davinis visited his brother in Puerto Rico last fall.

Father Clement Kasinskas, CP, of St. Ann's Monastery in Scranton conducted the parish Lenten retreat. We all looked forward to this experience. Father has been with us several times before. We'll report later on the two Lenten supper meetings held.

Pink and white carnations tell us Mother's Day is nigh, the time to honor mothers, living or dead. We can thank Our Lord for our good mothers by honoring His Mother Mary all thru her month of May! "Dzukele"

#### C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

The biggest event of the year was our St. Francis Parish observance of

the Restoration of Lithuania's Independence held Feb. 8. Again, this year, our council with Father Steponaitis sponsored the event.

The festivities began with a special Mass offered for suffering Lithuania, her fallen heroes, and the hope of the end of Russian occupation. The Mass was celebrated, and a beautiful sermon delivered, by Pastor Rev. Justin Steponaitis. The Perkunas Choir, arriving from New York, was late for Mass, but offered several hymns toward the end of Mass. This was a sneak preview of what was in store for the afternoon program.

Bill Wisniauskas was the lector, and the Genaitis' brought the gifts to the altar. The main altar was beautifully decorated in our national colors. There were huge Lithuanian flags, and Father's bright robes were in a Lithuanian motif.

After Mass, our girls served the choir a nice lunch of fish chowder and sandwiches.

The program began at 2 p.m. with invocation by Father Steponaitis and the singing of the hymns. Pres. Bill Wisniauskas gave the opening address.

Charles Genaitis read the proclamation of Gardner Mayor Gerald E. St. Hilaire designating Feb. 16 as Republic of Lithuania Day in Gardner. Each year, through the efforts of Charles, we receive this honor from the Mayor. Our thanks, Charlie.

The Perkunas Choir, under the direction of Viktoras Ralys, gave an excellent concert, presented in two parts. The group consisted of 30 well-trained voices that were received beautifully. They have given many concerts throughout the U.S. and Canada. The audience had the opportunity to purchase one of their albums during the program.

Miss Rosa Bobelis, dressed in national costume, gave an excellent talk on "Lithuania 1918-40."

Follosing the program, all the



*The New York Perkunas Choir performed at the Feb. 16 Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration in Athol, Mass.*

guests were treated to coffee and cake. The choir and our council members were served a traditional Lithuanian buffet by our girls, headed by Miss Nell Melaika. The Genaitis' were the hosts.

It would be well to mention here that the concert came to us as a gift of Fr. Steponaitis to the parish. There is no way our council could afford the event. Tėveli, tarėme didelį ačiū už viską. Lai gerasis Dievas duoda jum daug gražių metų.

Both the Gardner and Athol daily newspapers carried full write-ups on the event.

The committee included Nell Melaika, Tina Shatas, Pauline Rogers, Mary Gauronsky, the Rodski's, Wisniauskas', Genaitis', Gladys Richardson, Clara Zetkauskas, Lennie Davidonis and Frank Anoris. A great big ačiū to all the girls for the food and pastries. A big lietuviškas ačiū, also, to all those who attended our national celebration, and a "shame on you" to those who for some reason not acceptable did not attend. Many non-Lithuanians attended and they should be commended for it.

Stan & Alice Perekslis were not seen at the Feb. 16 program; they had the good fortune to be traveling in Brazil.

Lennie Davidonis donated a Perkunas Choir record to the Athol Public Library. Brone Wisniauskas was a good saleslady for the choir during the Feb. 16 program; she sold 22 records for the group.

Bea Jodaitis Richards' picture appeared in the Gardner News when the Secretaries Assoc. of Gardner observed their 20th Anniversary. Bea is one of the four charter members of the group.

Charles Richardson, husband of Gladys, received severe head injuries in a freak accident at work. The wound required 50 stitches, and Charles closely cheated death. He is on his way to health, and we wish him



*C-10 Athol-Gardner, Mass. members Stan & Alice Perekslis who recently observed their 40th Wedding Anniversary.*

a very speedy recovery.

During the month of May, let's all try to attend the beautiful May devotions in our parish churches as part of our renewal to Lithuanian traditions and culture.

Vincukas

#### C-145 — HOLYOKE, MASS.

Members and friends our our council enjoyed a good dinner and very pleasant evening at Plumbley's in Amherst in celebration of St. Valentine's Day, Feb. 14.

On March 8 the council celebrated St. Casimir's Day with Mass at St. James Church in South Deerfield. Father Julius Jutt, of Lithuanian ancestry, is pastor of St. James Church and also spiritual advisor of our council. Following Mass, a brunch and social at 1704 in South Deerfield climaxed the event.

Nellie Perohonic

#### C-135 — ANSONIA, CONN.

Our council held its Annual Communion Breakfast on March 1. Leading the procession to the pews were Al and Leon Barauskas, carrying our new K of L banner and Lithuanian flag. Father Ray greeted them before the altar and blessed the banner and flag before Mass. After the ceremonies, the banner was hung on the lectern during the Mass, brought downstairs for the breakfast, and returned to the lectern for the second Mass.

Father Ray commended the Knights for their fine display of spirituality (the religious aspect of the organization), as the members filled up nine pews.

After Mass, a breakfast consisting of orange juice, two eggs, ham & home fried potatoes, rolls, butter and coffee, followed by assorted donuts and more coffee, was served to over 100 people. Credits go to the committee: Chairpersons Francis Barsevich and Geraldine Skuches, Chefs Walter Stachowicz and John Gursky, assisted by Al Barauskas, Violet Brazaitis, John Barsevich, Al Shurkis, Anne & John Sabulis, Mildred Stachowicz, Chris Slushinski, John P. Sabulis, Ruth & Jack Tyson and Pat Gursky.

After breakfast, the toastmaster, Pres. John Sabulis, introduced those at the head table: Fin. secy. Millie Stachowicz, Vice Pres. Al Shurkis, Treas. Millie Driznus, Ritual Chm. Al Barauskas, and Secy. Anne Sabulis. He then introduced Father Ray for a few comments. Father Ray again praised the Knights and said our new banner could very easily be used by the Ansonia High School's athletic teams, as they are known as the Ansonia Chargers. John then introduced Sister Mary Arline Bujanauskas as the main speaker. Sister spoke proudly of her Lithuanian heritage. She said our fathers and forefathers, immigrating to America, left behind a country tūhey loved, but brought something with them to give to future generations of which we are, and that is God. We should never forget our heritage and keep God as part of our lives at all times.

The program concluded, Pres. John Sabulis announced that Ritual Chm. Al Barauskas would conduct Second Degree honors to qualified candidates. Members to be congratulated on attaining this degree are Joseph Akelaitis, Barbara Barauskas, Wilbur Brainard, Susan Chepulis, Agnes Dillis, John Ellis, Nellie Gumbulevich, Patricia,

Gursky, John Gursky, Howard Gyba, Lorraine Kapinos, Anthony Poehailos, John P. Sabulis, Mary Slavin, Christine Slushinski, William Slushinsky, Walter Stachowicz, and John Tyson. Congratulations, also, to new members Geraldine Skuches who received her First Degree in January, and Sister Mary Arline Bujanauskas in February.

Those making brief stays at Griffin Hospital since the last writing are Lee Gray, Walt Trella, and Floyd Trapkauskas. We are wishing them all the best of health.

St. Anthony's Parish Fair will be held June 6 & 7. Make a note of the dates on your calendar; we hope you will be there. Your support, and urging your friends to come, too, will make it a success. Don't let the parish down.

INO

#### SR. C-103 — PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Our February meeting was held at the home of Anthony Helen Gudeczauskas. A pot-luck supper was shared by all members.

Spiritual Advisor Father Cukuras said the opening prayer, and Father Jurgelaitis, OP, closed the meeting with a prayer. A sing-along of Lithuanian songs was held, with Tony at the organ. Many thanks to our charming hosts.

On March 1, our members celebrated the feast of St. Casimir, patron of our parish and the K of L. Our pastor and new spiritual advisor gave an interesting homily on the life of the saint.

While our Mass was going on in Providence, in the near town of Warren at St. Casimir's Polish church an award was made to our former pastors, Rev. John Vaitekunas and Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus, for their work in fostering closer relations between the Lithuanians and Poles. Anthony Bader accepted the award in the name of the parish, since our pastor could not be present. Victor Mathieu

gave a more detailed report of the ceremony and pointed out the fine work that Father Mathew Strumski, pastor of St. Casimir's Polish Parish in Warren, had been doing in this area.

We welcome a new member, Ronald Balkus, who joined our organization after Mass.

The breakfast was held buffet style at the Duncan Fyffe. Guest speaker was Mr. Julius Michaelson, former R.I. Attorney General and Public member of the U.S. delegation

to the Madrid Conference. He spoke of the confusion at the beginning of the conference. It was encouraging that so many other nations of Europe are supporting the Lithuanian position on national self-determination. The American delegation was strong in support of the Lithuanians. He did not see any hopes of immediate freedom, but as the years go on, the situation might change. His talk was well received. Incidentally, his parents were born in the Vilna area. A book was presented to him. The K of L were guests of Father Strumski in celebrating the Feast of St. Casimir. A wonderful time was had by all.

John Stoskus has been approved for honorary membership at the next Natl. Convention, and Bertha Stoskus, NED President. Father Jurgelaitis, our Natl. Spiritual Advisor, attended the Supreme Council meeting in New York on Feb. 28.

Melskimės už Lietuvą.

Helen Denisewich



**Send Her Your Love...**

#### C-50 — NEW HAVEN, CONN.

We have covered much ground since our last writing of March, 1980.

The most recent undertaking was our Communion Breakfast held in the parish hall on Mar. 2. It was a splendid turnout. Members and many guests attended the 10:30 a.m. Mass, after which we flocked to the hall where the tables were set up in readiness for our breakfast.

One of our guests was Attorney Richard Parrett, one of our local boys, 100 Lithuanian. As we had not obtained an outside guest speaker, we were fortunate to have him in our midst, and, consequently, he turned out to be our speaker for the day. He was kind enough to get up and address our council members. Aside from a few witty comments, he clearly defined the implications involved arising from our ignorance to seek an attorney's services. We are grateful and honored to have Atty. Parrett with us. May we also praise all the members and guests for attending and contributing to this blessed Communion Breakfast. Mary Yesukavich, we congratulate you on a job well done!

On Aug. 13 of last year, a picnic was held on the grounds of our former St. Casimir's Men's Club (now the New Haven Gaelic Club), — another surprisingly gala event which we did not anticipate. We had music to the strains of Pres. George Kisielius' collection of polka hits, et c. played on his stereophonic equipment which he so kindly hooked up. The singing group really touched our hearts (who are steeped in national tradition) when they rendered some old and new Lietuviškas dainas. We had food galore, and the day ended with a big raffle of lovely prizes.

We were well represented in two N.E.D. Conventions held in Waterbury, Conn., and Shrewsbury Park, Mass., — the latter being a busload of 45 people. Happy Springtime!

H.





## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

### C-146 — HARRISBURG, PA.

Gov. Dick Thornburgh proclaimed February 16 Lithuanian Independence Day in Pennsylvania during ceremonies held in Harrisburg to commemorate the 63rd anniversary of the Lithuanian declaration of freedom.

Members of our council joined with the Governor and Louis Skeparnias, Executive Director of the Governor's Heritage Affairs Commission, for the proclamation signing.

"Throughout their long history, Lithuanians have consistently demonstrated their pride in their heritage and their fierce desire to be free," the Governor said.

"It is vital that we remember all these individuals who came from around the world to share our freedom and, through a commitment to a common goal, helped to build the land and life we cherish," he added.

As a highlight of the ceremony, the Governor was presented with gifts of authentic Lithuanian jewelry by our member Sharon Rekus, who was dressed in native garb.

In concluding the ceremony, Gov. Thornburgh urged all Pennsylvanians to "reflect on their own liberty and to recognize that there are others throughout the world who do not share this precious gift."

### C 3 — PHILADELPHIA, PA.

In order for the Mass at St. Casimir's Parish in So. Philadelphia to be more meaningful, our Lith. Affairs Committee arranged to have a colorful and organized Commemorative Mass to remember Lithuanian Independence Day on Feb. 15. Msgr. Francis Stadkus, Chancellor of the Diocese of Philadelphia, was the celebrant of this Mass. His homily was directed to the suffering church in Lithuania. Thirty school children from St. Casimir's School formed an Honor Guard to lead into church our members and the celebrant. All the children wore their school uniforms and Lithuanian flag badges. Agnes Mickunas, dressed in Lithuanian costume, and Pres. Joseph Drumstas were in the Offertory procession. The lector read a specially-written prayer for Lithuania. The choir, made up of parishioners, sang Lithuanian hymns and "Lietuva Tėvynė mūsų." Our council would like to thank Sister Christella, SCC, for her wonderful cooperation in encouraging and organizing the school children, and also to our pastor, Father Eugene Wassel.

Following the activities in So. Philadelphia, our members regrouped with those members who attended the official Lithuanian Day celebration of St. Agnes Church (No. Phila.) and attended a most memorable commemoration hosted by the Bendruomenė at the Lithuanian Music Hall.

Upon considering the size of the city of Philadelphia, our Lith. Affairs Committee hopes to encourage Lithuanians from another section of the city to remember and reflect on the plight of Lithuania. Chairman of this event was Dianne Drumstas.

Our council commemorated the March Feast Day of St. Casimir by attending Mass at St. Casimir's Church. The celebrant, again, was the Rev. Msgr. Stadkus, who

delivered a sermon dealing with our Lithuanian heritage and the loss of social and religious freedom in Lithuania. Lector Charles Petronis read the petitions submitted by our members. The Offertory gifts were brought forward by Alberta Weigand and Irene Svekla, both dressed in traditional Lithuanian costumes. The congregation sang traditional Lithuanian hymns along with the members of the choir.

After Mass a luncheon was served in the school auditorium that was filled to capacity. Chm. Dianne Drumstas arranged for a catered luncheon, and our members baked delicious cakes for dessert.

Vice Pres. Walt Mameniskis was the emcee. After a brief welcome, both in Lithuanian and English, he introduced the main speaker, U.S. Congressman Charles Dougherty. Congressman Dougherty is fast gaining a reputation for his stand on the rights of Lithuanians both here and in Lithuania. Despite his busy congressional schedule, he has found the time to introduce legislation to fund the continuance of the Lithuanian Legation in Washington, D.C. During the protest demonstration, where 18 Lithuanian youths chained



C-3 Philadelphia, Pa. Pres. Joe Drumstas, U.S. Congressman Charles Dougherty, and Dianne Drumstas, Chm. of St. Casimir's Day Celebration.

themselves to the gates of the Russian Embassy, he held a Special Order Session in the House on their behalf. Recently, along with Congressman Brian Connely of Mass., he instituted a Congressional Caucus for Baltic States and the Ukraine. His talk dealt with the above-mentioned legislation, and that many congressmen are concerned about the plight of the Baltic States. The main thrust of his talk dealt with the loss of freedom in Lithuania. The speech was very well received; this was attested to by the many favorable comments made after the luncheon. Also present at the speaker's table was Attorney Tony Novasitis, a member of our council. He was appointed by Gov. Thronburgh as the Chairman of the Ethnic Heritage Commission.

Ritual Chm. Agnes Mickunas made First Degree presentations to the following members: Frank Conaboy, Jessica Conaboy, Maryanne Lopera, Sally Andrews, Victor Stepalovitch, Frank Kelmer, Elaine Kelmer, Daiva Bennington, James Gapsis, Dona Sulmar and Charles Sulmar. A Second Degree award went to Violet Mameniskis. The council gave a crystal vase gift to Alberta Weigand as a token of our appreciation for the many years of hard work and dedication she has given to our organization.

We want to thank our committee, Chm. Dianne Drumstas, Jewel & Alex Ushka for setting the banquet tables, John Mickunas for running the coffee kitchen and clean-up, and Agnes Mickunas and Joe Yanulaitis for decorating the tables with colorful carnations and fresh greenery.

Violet Mameniskis

#### C-147 — ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Another February 16th of commemorating Lithuania's re-establishment of Lithuanian Independence Day, saw our flag being raised at city halls with their mayors

and speakers and viewers presiding in St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg Beach, Pasadena, Gulfport, Pinellas Park, and in front of Spiffs (an International House), and yet no real independence has been declared in our native country of Lietuva!

However, it certainly is not for the lack of enthusiasm and effort on the part of most Lithuanians. Determination and work, trying to accomplish the great task of making some progress in freeing Lietuva goes on daily. Maybe one day, all these flags, speeches and all our voices will be raised in thanksgiving, both here in the United States and Lithuania, too, for FREE LITHUANIA!

Our council celebrated St. Casimir's, our patron saint's day, with Mass offered at Holy Name Church, Gulfport, for all our members, with Fr. J. Gasiunas, our spiritual advisor, Msgr. J. Balkunas, and Fr. K. Butkus officiating. The K of L flag was carried in by our Vice Pres. Dr. J. Petrikas. Presidents of Romo Kalantos Šaulių Kuopa and Šaulių Palangos Kuopa, Mr. Goudonis and Mr. Kalpokas, graciously accepted our invitation to have their flags displayed also. Immediately following, were the eleven members about to become Third Degree recipients, carrying lighted wax candles donated by Victoria Kleiva.

#### VYTIS COUNCIL

##### NEWS DEADLINES

JUNE-JULY ..... April 5, 1981

AUG.-SEPT. .... June 5, 1981

OCTOBER ..... No COUNCIL NEWS in this issue. It will contain only Convention News.

NOVEMBER ..... Sept. 5, 1981

DECEMBER ..... Oct. 5, 1981

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**NOTE: Each VYTIS Coorespondent is entitled to have two 8½ x 11, typewritten, double-spaced pages (or the equivalent handwritten CLEARLY) each month. Photos submitted (black & white or colored) must be clear and sharp.**

At the altar the new Third Degree members, namely: Fr. J. Gasiunas, Victoria Jacobson, Victoria Kleiva, Kazys Kleiva, Alex Kraujelis, Violet Kraujelis, Terese Lutkiene, A. Paleckis, J. Valauskas, H. Vilnis and K. Vilnis, were sworn in by Pres. A. Mazeika, after which he presented each one with their earned medals.

After the Mass our dinner took place at St. Petersburg's Lithuanian Club, in a private room, with about 70 members attending. The emcee was Kazys Kleiva, who, in his usual efficient manner, conducted the proceedings. The prayer was said by Fr. J. Gasiunas, and all enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the club's „gaspadines.”

All 28 new Second Degree and 12 First Degree members took the K of L oath at this dinner. We are quite proud of the large number that were given degrees at this time, FIFTY-ONE! The festivities ended with the K of L Hymn and Msgr. J. Balkunas saying the final prayer.

Correction: In a previous issue it was mentioned that our lifetime member, J. Valauskas, donated \$2000 to ALKA, with more to follow. The donation now has grown to \$5000, and it should have been said this money is going towards the establishment of our K of L Archives at the ALKA Museum in Putnam, Conn., where we will be able to store the official and historical documents of the K of L. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Valauskas for his generosity.

H. Vilnis

#### C-12 — NEW YORK, N.Y.

February and March proved to be a bitter-sweet time for this council.

Prior to our February meeting we had a brief but powerful commemoration of the 63rd Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence. For all Lithuanians this happy occasion, at the present time, is a sad one. Our beloved Motherland is still struggling to survive under the huge paw of

**Communist Russia.** As always, our MC and commentator, Helen Shields, did a terrific job. Joe Boley-Bulevičius tugged at our heartstrings when he recited "Paskutinė Naktis" (Ušlienė). Connie Siatsis, Helen Matthews and Dalia Bulvičius read parts from "Tėvynė Šaukia Savo Vaikus" (Vaičiulaitis). Helen reminded us that Our Holy Father had made Our Blessed Lady a special patroness of Lithuania, by describing the various shrines dedicated to her there. The program ended with a group singing of Lithuanian songs, among which was "Lietuva Brangi", the unofficial national anthem of present-day captive Lithuania.

Our kuopa's sadness was slightly different in March. A faithful member (and mother of a few more), Ona Kscenaitis, went to her Creator. Immediately after our meeting, many cars turned northward towards the Bronx, to wish our dear friend a final "Su Dievu". The Reverend's John Bida and Anthony Kardas led the beautiful services in both English and Lithuanian. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Milly Pietz and Joseph Kscenaitis and their whole family.

Hardly had a week passed, when another one of our members, Michalina Baltaduonis, almost went to join her good friend Ona in heaven. But the Lord did not wish it. Due to the efficient and speedy ministrations of the New York Finest, — the Port Authority Police, Michalina is recovering nicely. We will continue to pray for her.

After all this excitement at Mass, the meeting which followed was a calm one. Plans were finalized to welcome guests for the St. Casimir's Day Dist. Communion Breakfast. All able-bodied members were put to work; we fed many mouths. Dist. Pres. Larry Janonis, a member of our council, also urged everyone to do his part in supporting the Dist.'s 2nd Annual Lithuanian Festival held in Maspeth, N.Y.

In retrospect, we must accept



A group of C-110, Maspeth, members at the 76th Anniversary of Our Lady of Vilnius Church

these sorrows which all of us experience as part of life — for how would we know that we are happy without having sadness touch our souls. For better or worse, life goes on, — so, Vyčiai . . . į darbą!

Hill and Dale

#### C-144 — ANTHRACITE, PA.

"Šimta ačiū" to Helen Chesko and her wonderful committee for the Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration. The Mass at Annunciation Church, with members of the K of L presenting the gifts in costume, and the singing of the Žarija Choir, was inspiring.

As usual, the cooks outdid themselves with bandukes, kugele, bulvinių dešros and delicious desserts.

The program was excellent. The Junior Knights from Minersville's skit, "They Came to America", traced the immigration of Lithuanians from colonial times to the greatest influx at the beginning of this century. It was very well done. The New Philadelphia Juniors were most entertaining with their guitar and song renditions, and the children from Annunciation School in Frackville were just great. The boys singing "Mudu Du Broliukai" brought back many fond memories. Many thanks to the wonderful

people who teach these young people. As long as someone can teach our youth, Lithuanian will not be forgotten.

Our guest speaker, Mrs. Aušra Zerr of Philadelphia, brought a timely message to all present, and she was very well received.

We are also grateful to the Žarija Choir for their renditions of the old and lovely Lithuanian folk songs. Their director, Mr. Stanley Vaičaitis, also doubled as the emcee.

Most important, because of the success of this day, our council was able to send \$500 to Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. We are very proud that we can be of some aid to so worthy a cause. We were also able to distribute literature, sent to us by Father Pugevičius, to many people who were not aware of LCRA and what they do.

Sincere condolences to Joseph Petrosky on the loss of his brother, and to Mamie Pieri on the loss of her sister.

Our annual St. Casimir's Day Breakfast at Annunciation B.V.M. Hall was held March 1. Anna Butts was chairman of this affair. On the eighth, many of our members attended the M.A. Dist.'s St. Casimir's Day Breakfast in New York City.

Plans are progressing for the Cultural Center and we hope that it will be completed before Lithuanian

Day this summer. In March, officers were elected for the Center, and we plan for a beautiful Lithuanian Cultural Center for Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Now we start planning for Lithuanian Day which will be held at Lakewood Park, Barnesville, on August 16. Co-chairladies for this year's affair will be Evelyn Prep and Anne Wargo.

One

#### C-140 — SYRACUSE, N.Y.

We had a nice turnout for our January meeting in which we formulated plans for the coming months. After the meeting Veronica Sutkus treated us to some delicious goodies.

Five of our members attended the Amsterdam Independence Program on Feb. 14 and reported a real fine time.

Our own Independence Program took place at St. Stephen's on Feb. 15 beginning with Mass celebrated by Father Garstka. The program consisted of the singing of both anthems, the original proclamation reading by Marija Vizgaitis, the local reading by Frank Petrauskas, and then comments and closing prayer by Father Garstka. Refreshments were prepared and served by June Johnson, Veronica Sutkus and Marge Migonis. It was a nice day for our members and guests.

St. Casimir's Day celebration was held March 8 with Mass at St. Stephen's, and lunch at Walter White's Restaurant for 30 members and guests. It was an enjoyable experience with plenty of food at very reasonable cost. From the comments heard, it looks like this will be an annual affair. Much credit goes to Veronica Sutkus who arranged the affair and handled all of the details.

We are most happy to have in our council Sister Anne Abromavich who is a Franciscan of 50 years.

Sister Anne was born and raised in Westfield, Mass. As a young lady she came to Syracuse to the Franciscan Motherhouse to study and become a nun. For 31 years she worked with the leper people on the Island of Molokai, Hawaii, at the leper colony made famous by Father Damien and Mother Marianne. Sister Anne is in semi-retirement at the Motherhouse in Syracuse. She is a real inspiration to our members. She is very happy to be with Lithuanians again and we are most happy to have her in our midst.

Our loss is New Haven's gain. Our members, Frank & Isabel Peterson, who live in the New Haven area, decided to switch their membership to the New Haven council which was revived last year. They have much to offer, what with their many years of K of L activities starting with C-102 in Detroit, then

"Upstate in '78 — Syracuse", and now New Haven. Good luck Frank and Is; we'll see you in Scranton.

It was good to see and visit with our Florida member, Helen Mikelonis. Helen came to Syracuse for the wedding of Peg & Joe Stanley on March 7. Joe is the son of Cassie John Stanley, well known K of L'ers. It was a beautiful wedding, a day to be long remembered. Helen enjoyed herself, and she also enjoyed herself at our St. Casimir's affair the next day.

Our Carrier Dome, the only domed stadium on a college campus, has gotten a lot of use and publicity since opening last September. It is a valuable asset to Syracuse and Syracuse University.

Closing thought: Look up to Heaven with gladness and smile; your face will never be ashamed.

Pushbrolis

#### C-100 — AMSTERDAM, N.Y.

Our meeting of Feb. 2 (the wedding anniversary of members Aldona & Paul Abeling) was held at St. Casimir's Social Center. A Mass celebrated in Lithuanian by Rev. R. K. Baltch, preceded the business session.

Pres. Anthony J. Radzevich asked Rev. Anthony Grigaitis to open the meeting with prayer. Minutes were read and reports given.

The M.A. Dist.'s Cultural Chm. Regina Kot attended the Dist. Officer's Meeting in N.Y.C. on Jan. 23, and gave an account on the session. She also advised members that she and Polly Ziausys would appear on TV Channel 8 on Feb. 13 from 4 to 5 p.m. with a special program on Lithuania.

Plans were finalized for the Feb. 14 program and dinner to mark the 63rd anniversary of Lithuania's independence. Entertainment was to be furnished by the "Sutartine" from Rochester, N.Y.

Father Baltch had a number of paintings by Lithuanian artists on display. They included works by Surgailis, Stasulevičius, Mrs. Uogintas and Budrys (a painting of Fr. Baltch).

Birthday greetings were extended to Father Baltch and Polly Ziausys. A birthday card with a poem by Polly was presented to Father:

**Mielam Klebonui,**

**Linkim laiminų dienu,**

**Tiek, kiek danguj žvaigždžių.**

**Kiek Baltijoj gintaro auksinio,**

**Linkim sveikatos, kiek Nemune vandens,**

**Kiek ežeruose ledo sidabrinio,**

**Linkim džiaugsmo tiek, kiek**

**spindulių saulės**

**Ir kiek debesyse lietaus lašų,**

**Linkim ateities, pasauly, geriausios**

**Ir metų gražių ir ilgų.**



Frances DiBart and Mildred Whelly baked birthday cakes and they brought them out to the celebrants with candles lit. Somehow, they were unable to extinguish the flames — special candles!

A variety of refreshments was served by the committee. Besides Fran and Mildred, the refreshment committee included Annacetta Guzielek, Helen Hugo, Ann Radzevich, Charlotte Sargalis, Mary Sweet, Polly Ziausys and Father Baltch.

A very special Mother's Day greeting to all!

Smile & Sparkle

C-143 Pittston, PA

Sunday, March 15, 1981 C-143 lost a member, Sophie Patrick. Sophie and her husband Paul were active members in the Council. Just last year they served as chairpersons for the annual Easter Dance, and did an excellent job. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Paul, her daughter Marcella, her sons Paul, Thomas, Allen, Matthew, her five grandchildren, sisters and brothers. Paul is the Council's 2nd Vice-president and the correspondent for the Vytis. Sophie will be missed by all of us. Rest in peace.

N.T.B.



## MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

### C-79 — SOUTHFIELD, MICH.

Hearts and flowers combined a choice array of art and hors d'oeuvres for a Valentine's theme at our February meeting. Our new Social Chm. Eleanore Grasha was responsible for staging the nice after-the-meeting social. She was assisted by Sherri Derry. Thanks very much, gals.

Another council has been formed in Michigan, — a big welcome to C-149 in Saginaw. Stella McLeod, who pursued an enthusiastic "drive", was fundamental in soliciting and enlisting 6 persons to form the council. At present the membership is working for a goal of 20. A word from Stella indicates the members have not been sitting idle. They all plan to learn their prayers in Lithua-

nian and get involved in some well-intentioned projects. Their enthusiasm was highlighted during Kūčio, when approximately 20 guests gathered for dinner with their gourmet delicacies at the home of Stella McLeod. We hope their enthusiasm continues and their membership grows.

Anthony Dainus continues to keep the editors of our various newspapers "on their toes". Among articles which appeared in the Michigan Catholic were: "We have just observed the 63rd anniversary of Lithuania's former independence, so it was refreshing to read your excellent article about Lithuania entitled 'Soviet Report Claims Increasing Loyalty from Catholic Priests.' Except for your explanation before the article 'according to a lengthy report prepared by the Soviet press agency Novosti' and after the article 'The picture of Catholic life in the Novosti report differs from the 1980 Amnesty International study' some could be misled. Indeed it differs according to the underground 'samizdat' Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania. As President Reagan stated, 'they lie and cheat to attain their ends.'" It was signed "ANTHONY DAINUS, Knights of Lithuania, C-79."

Ralph Valatka, son of member Ann Valatka, stays busy with the Gonzo Theatre. He appeared as guest on the WXYZ Talk Show on Feb. 18. The show is a musical satire about various lives of Detroit. Ralph, who is the producer and performer in the show, talked about his creative ambitions and various aspects of

C-79 Southfield, Mich. members visited with some Detroit area nuns at St. Francis Convent during the Mid-Central Dist. Pilgrimage. L. to R.: Sr. M. Francesca, Sr. M. Augusta, Sr. M. Agnes, Sr. M. Agnes, Sr. M. Marietta, and an unidentified nun.



putting a show together as well as keeping it amusing and successful. We have seen it and liked it!

Fellowship and friendly conversations followed the St. Casimir's Day Brunch at a local restaurant where 42 members gathered after Mass at Divine Providence on Mar. 1. Helen Tucker, who chaired the event, was the recipient of a Fourth Degree medal during Mass by our Spiritual Advisor Fr. V. Kriščiunevičius, and Ritual Chm. Bertha Janus. Later, Helen was presented with the Fourth Degree certificate and card, following brunch. Congratulations, Helen.

The St. Casimir's event also honored several birthdays, Monica Salas and Jeanne Yakstys, and the 38th anniversary of Gerri & Joe Chaps. Ilgiausių metų to all. Everyone was able to shed their heavy coats and the winter blahs as spring weather gave us a nice turnout of members for St. Casimir's.

Condolences are extended to Providence, R.I., C-103 on the untimely death of Rev. V. Martinkus, pastor of St. Casimir's Church. Delegates from our council who attended the Providence Nat'l. Convention will remember him as the "singing pastor" as well as for his warmth and caring personality. May he have eternal peace.

Our deep sympathy to Anna Kremblese upon the untimely death of her dear daughter, Lorraine Bliss. May God grant her eternal rest.

We were deeply saddened to learn of the loss to Marie Kase of her dear sister, Alexandra Adrejauskas in Chicago. Amžiną atilsį suteik Aleksandrai, Viešpatie, ir amžinoji šviesa jai tešviečia.

With the rave of spring-blooming flowers and other beauties, there is one "beauty" that is endeared in the month of May. It is a mother. There is general agreement that mothers are extraordinary people. They can kiss a hurt and make it well, cause a pot to stop boiling over just by looking at it,

and be able to fix a typewriter with a paper clip. Others have written great books, become high judges and mastered machinery. The idealized Mom of old spent her time darning socks and baking apple pies and radiating good cheer. She has been replaced by another kind of woman. A mother of today is apt to be found on a tennis court, or attending a class in school, or running a business. She may have a long way to go in obtaining equality in pay and responsibilities, though she is working on it. Nevertheless, her magic is the same. She can tell by a crying in the night whether the problem is lack of a drink of water or an "ogre" in a dream. She can sing a song that puts fretful babies to sleep and tell a ghost story that livens a rainy evening. Mothers now understand differential calculus and read the periodic tables, but the old skills never change. A Happy Mother's Day!

Soffi

#### C-96 — DAYTON, OHIO

We again thank the Holy Cross Parish Lithuanian Cultural Council, of which all members of the parish are a part, for a truly memorable celebration of the 63rd Anniversary

of the Independence of Lithuania. This special event took place the weekend of Feb. 14-16. Elinor Sluzas & Judy Petrokas were co-chairmen and we congratulate them for their fine job in putting this all together. The Saturday evening program began with a welcoming address by the Council's Chm. Aldona Ryan. The emcee was Laima Raštikis. The main speaker was our Nat'l. Spiritual Advisor Rev. Antanas Jurgelaitis, OP. Father delivered his talk in both Lithuanian and English. It was very interesting. For the concert part of the program, we had the pleasure of listening to the Cleveland Men's Octet under the direction of Rytas Babickas. Soloist with the Octet was Irena Grigaliūnaitė. They never cease to delight us with their many songs.

Following the program a delicious Lithuanian buffet dinner was served that was scrumptious. This was then followed with dancing to the music of "The Rise Band" under the leadership of Rimas Kasputis of Detroit.

On Sunday the Octet sang during the 10:30 AM Mass. Their voices filled all the corners of the church. How beautiful they sounded! Rev. Antanas Jurgelaitis gave the homily which was inspiring. A buffet lunch



Rev. Antanas Jurgelaitis, Nat'l. Spiritual Advisor from Providence, R.I., visiting with C-96 Dayton, Ohio members during parish's Independ-

ence Day Celebration. L to R: Stanley & Helen Vaitkus, Fran Petkus, Aldona Ryan, Father Jurgelaitis, and Mary Lucas.

was served in the church hall after Mass. Our thanks to Stefanija Raštikis and her committee of Elena Poderys & Janina Bučmys, for, again, we had more than enough to fill our tummys.

Prior to leaving, the Octet delighted us with song as a way of saying goodbye. We will remember the sound of their voices, — until their next trip to Dayton. They are, indeed, a warm, friendly group to be around. The weekend, with its special meaning, was a well spent one!

Many of us in the council received mail from Tony P. Hall of Dayton, a member of the House of Representatives. Included with his letter was a copy of his Resolution commemorating Lithuania's Independence Day.

If you didn't make our first council social of '81, you were a loser! Chm. Judy Petrokas and her committee of Rita Ambrose, John & Joyce Berczelly, Harley Karns, Chris Mantz, Pat & Sue Smiley and her workers, Eleanor & Joe Mantz, did another tremendous job on Feb. 28. It was "JR Night" at the church hall. It is still a mystery if JR is for Judy & Rita, Joe Ryan or Julius Raštikis. A terrific menu was served around mounds of delicious barbecued ribs. Joyce led the group in "sing-a-long with Mitch". John & Pat raised their hands in praise of special "C". It was a good turnout filled with plenty of gabbing. We are ready for the next one. To the Committee, labai ačiū.

Congratulations to Karl & Helen Keivel for completing qualifications for the Second Degree at the February meeting.

Congratulations to Honorary Member Mary Lucas, Food Staff, and Stefanija Raštikis, Lithuanian Editor, who will be joining Aldona Rvan on the VYTIS staff.

It is good to know that Annadel



*C-96 Dayton, Ohio members residing in Florida, Jerry & Cathy Roberts, during council's Christmas caroling visit with Ernest Omlor.*

Miller is coming along fine after recently breaking her ankle in three places. Does this require an explanation, Annadel?

Many of you know of the creative writing and speech/storytelling talent of our member, Elinor Sluzas. Elinor is now leaving her mark in the Dayton community with this special gift of hers. She recently participated on the Leadership Dayton Panel relating her story of life in the North Dayton area of the city. This program was sponsored by the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce. Elinor received a letter from the program assistant noting that many persons requested that they "keep Elinor Sluzas on this type of panel; she is a very moving storyteller." There were more ideas shared, and we are looking forward to seeing and reading of Elinor leaving a "mark" in Dayton.

Frances Mikalauskas shared a letter she received from our San Antonio, Texas member Venice Grantham. It was good getting caught-up on Venice & her family.

Cultural Chm. Eleanor Mantz received good coverage of her "Letter to the Editor" in both Dayton papers, covering the meaning of Lithuanians'

strong feelings in celebrating Lithuania's Independence Anniversary.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to Anele Petkus on the very sudden loss of her son, Joseph. Sympathies go to Joe's brother, Michael J., and other members of the family. May his soul rest in peace.

FRP.

#### IR. C-96 — DAYTON, OHIO

In December Juniors bid farewell to our advisors, Charlie & Sarah Petkus and family, and wish them luck in their new home in Florida. We thank them for a fun and profitable year.

Christmas was celebrated with dinner out at Jedd's Steak & Ribs with a gift exchange at the Sluzas' home.

The cold of January found us scurrying around Dayton in search of newspapers for our paper drive. Thanks to Mr. Conrady for his assistance and use of his truck.

In February we participated in the observance of Lithuania's Independence. We served as ushers and were in costume for this cultural event.

James Pacovsky

### C-102 Detroit, Mich.

Our local Lithuanian Catholics were proud to hear that Bishop Paul Marcinkus, a native of Cicero, Ill., is being considered for the position of Archbishop of Detroit. Cardinal John F. Dearden retired last July and the position has been open since then. Bishop Marcinkus is of Lithuanian descent, and recently traveled with the Pope in the Philippines.

Death has once again taken its toll on our council. Our newest member, Frank Kay, passed away in February. Frank just retired from Chrysler Corp. after 40 years of employment. Although Frank traveled extensively, his one desire was to visit Lithuania this summer to visit his mother and father's birthplace, but the Good Lord had planned another trip for him. May his soul rest in peace.

Our monthly meeting was hosted by Gena & Gus Baibak. The Baibak's, always the congenial hosts, served a bountiful buffet after the meeting that was enjoyed by the members. Our council, being short of help this year, dispensed of the "three council celebration" of St. Casimir's Day. Instead, our members celebrated here at St. Anthony's Church.

Accidents have taken their toll on the councils bowling league. Gena Baibak had to quit the league after an automobile accident in which she injured her back, and Evelyn Galinas was off the team for a while because of a fall she took on the ice during the very bad winter weather. The season is coming to an end, and so far, the Keg & Bottle team is in first place. We are all looking forward to the Bowling Tournament in DuBois, Pa. in May.

### Meriut



### C-149 Saginaw MI

Several months ago, a new chapter was formed here in Saginaw, C-149, due to the effort of our secretary, Stella McLeod. Our group while small, is growing. Recently a study hour was held at Stella's home where we discussed our language and its various terms, also agreeing to speak it, at our meetings when possible. Our meetings are held at St. George's parish once largely Lithuanian. Msgr. Eugene Forbes has graciously permitted us to use the facilities.

Our Lithuanian flag is proudly flown at our meetings. Mr. John McLeod, Stella's son presented our Chapter with the beautiful flag. As a newcomer to this area it has been my pleasure to meet other Lithuanians and share our heritage.

President is Mr. Jack Greketis; Stella McLeod, Secretary; Josephine Weirauch, Treasurer; Anna Lake, Membership Chairman and yours truly, Correspondent to the Vytis, will be reporting on our doings at a later date. Best wishes to all council members.

C. Lafferty



*C-102 Detroit, Mich.'s Spiritual Advisor Father Stan being assisted by Father George at the council's Christmas Kucios held at Bob Boris' home.*





**ILLINOIS-INDIANA  
DISTRICT**

Our Choir's Annual Benefit Dinner-Dance was held in January at the K of L Bldg. The capacity crowd enjoyed the choir's performance, the excellent dinner and the comradeship of good friends. It was especially nice to see Honorary Member Eleanore Laurin who now resides in Elgin, Ill. Choir Pres. Estelle Rogers, Director Faustas Strolia, and the members, extend their appreciation to everyone for their continued support.

The C-36-112 Juniors hosted a Bowling Social which was enjoyed by all. There was good exercise, good food, and prize money for the winners: Vince Samaska, Thomas Strolia, Algis Skudra, Georianne Kassel and Irene Sankus, with a special prize to Paula and Helen Skudra.

Our 21st Annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet is now a memory of a most delightful event with a guest list of over 400. Lifetime member Konnie Savickus was our M.C. and we enjoyed his personal memories of his stay in Lithuania. The IID Award of Distinction was presented to Edward "Moose" Krause of Notre Dame University. Mr. Krause and Chairman Petraitis also told of the time they spent in Lithuania. His Excellency Bishop Vincentas Brizgys gave the Invocation and Canon V. Zakarauskas, the Benediction. Lithuanian Consul General Josephine Dauzvardis was the principal speaker with greetings extended by Dr. Leonas Kriauciūnas for

*At the IID, "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet*



*Ed and Ruth Kazlauskas and Mrs. D. and Cannon Zakarauskas;*



*Wally Tenclinger;*



*Frank Zapolis with daughter Carol and wife Eleanor*



*Council 112 members and friends.*

ALTAS and Mrs. Mary Rudis for BALF. The musical program was presented by Nerija Linkevičiūtė and Algerd Brazis, accompanied by Alvydas Vasaitis, and the dance music by Wally Tenclinger & The Casuals. The committee consisted of: Chm. Harry Petraitis, Vince Samaska, Irene Sankus, Algerd & Aldona Brazis, Emily Petraitis, Konnie Savickus, Gerry Mack, John Paukstis, Eleanor Kasputis, Clemente Vidzius, Albert Zakarka, Sabina Klatt, Estelle Rogers, Frank Zapolis, Emilija Pakalniškis & Tony Yuknis. Congratulations to the committee and workers for a most successful event.

Knights of Lithuania was on everyone's lips with all of the K of L participation in Lith. Independence Day commemorations. In addition to our own "Memories" Banquet, we participated in the ALTAS Commemoration at Maria Auditorium and at the City of Chicago's event, Daley Civic Center. The K of L Choir, with Algerd Brazis as soloist, presented the musical program at both events. Vince Samaska and Irene Sankus, as V.P. and Treas., resp., were active with the ALTAS event. Lith. Consul General Josephine Dauzvardis and Prof. Jack Stukas of New Jersey were the featured speakers for ALTAS.

The IID presentation of 1st & 2nd Degrees was held in February at the K of L Bldg. Ritual Co-chm. Ruth & Al Dagis and their committee presented degrees to the following: 1st — C-14 members Stephanie Uginchus, Jean Vance, Aldona Brusokas & Rita Duda; C-36 — Michael Marcinkus & Salome Daulys; C-82 — Loreta Raudonis; C-112 — Edward Deksnis, Maria Zakarka, Rev. Anthony Markus, Peter Jasaitis, Anthony Vartunas, Laime Koch, Mickey Petrosius, Mary Banky, Anna Sliteris, Ruta Vaisnoras, Alexander Mathis and Mary Mathis; Chgo Srs. — Zuzana Jalousinskas, Victoras Utara, Jadvyga



Mrs. Dauzvardis, at Chicago Feb. 16 Commemoration



Al Brazis, at Chicago's Feb. 16 Commemoration



IID DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Tamasevicius. 2nd Degrees to: C-82 — Rev. Ignatius Urbonas; C-112 — Rev. John Savukynas, Aldona Gylys; Chgo. Srs. — Julija Rodowk and Kazys Povilaitis. Our congratulations to all!

The official IID commemoration of St. Casimir's Day was held at the home parish — St. Anthony, of reorganized C-14 of Cicero. H. M. Rev. A. Valančius & Rev. John Savukynas concelebrated the beautiful Lithuanian Mass with the K of L Choir, under the direction of Fastas Strolia and with Algerd Brazis as soloist. Before Mass, Father Val presented the 4th Degree to two deserving members — Harry Petraitis and Jonas Auksčiūnas, both of C-112. We were honored to have Lith. Consul General Josephine Daužvardis join us for the event.

Following the Mass, the members of C-14 headed by Pres. Stephanie Uginchus, Jean Vance and Aldona Brusokas made the arrangements for a delicious Lith. meal, along with homemade tortes and goodies. A musical program was presented by Al Brazis, accompanied by his wife Aldona. Miss Duda gave a violin performance and Christine Nay, a piano solo.

Third Degrees were presented to Paul Binkis Jr. of C-112 and Irene Norushis of C-36. C-14 selected Adele Gabalis and Sabina Klatt as "K of L Members of the Year" for their efforts in helping to reorganize the council.

One familiar face was missing from the event — Edward Krivickas, who was hospitalized with a heart attack. It is my sad duty to inform everyone that our ever-smiling Eddie passed away on March 2. A convention and Mid-West Bowling tourney participant, Eddie's smiling face and droll personality will be missed by all. He will always be remembered in our prayers.

LT 99

### C-36 — CHICAGO, ILL.

The New Year seems to have brought a new spirit and a surge of energy to our council.

At our January meeting 1st Vice Pres. & Cultural Chm. Ona Naureckas graciously consented to bring in her own creations — straw pictures and pictures made with amber and various other materials. She gave a demonstration to the members present in the preparation of the straw, the cutting and gluing to a black velvet background, and other tips for making various designs. It



was a most interesting demonstration. Workshops are being planned for the future for all interested K of L'ers. During the March meeting Ona gave a demonstration in the art of Easter egg design.

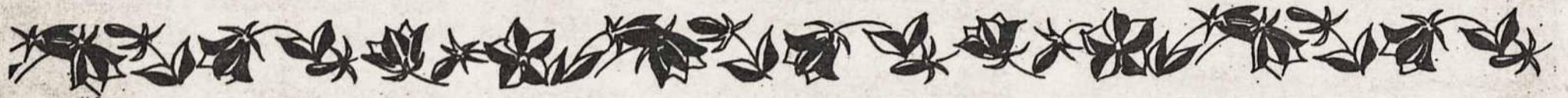
February 8 was the day of the very successful dinner/dance "Memories of Lithuania" held at the Martinique in Evergreen Park, Ill. Ed "Moose" Krause, our distinguished guest of honor, was a real charmer and a delightful speaker. It was gratifying to see so many of our council members in attendance.

The annual "Heart of My Heart Dance" held Feb. 14 on Valentine's Day was quite a success. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to pull it together and to our fellow K of L'ers who supported us.

Congratulations to Salomėja Daulys and Michael Marcinkus who received their First Degrees on February 17. Also to be congratulated is Irene Norushis, for earning her Third Degree, which was presented at the annual St. Casimir's Day Commemoration held this year at St. Anthony Church, Cicero, Ill. This commemoration was sponsored by C-14, followed by a most impressive luncheon, and they are to be commended for a job well done. Ruta



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**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 68th NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**August 19 - 23, 1981**  
**Scranton, Pennsylvania**

**TENTATIVE CONVENTION PROGRAM**

August 19, Wednesday	Registration, University of Scranton Tour of City — Shopping Golf Tournament
August 20, Thursday	Registration, University Noon, Holy Mass. St. Ignatius Chapel Luncheon, University 2:00 p.m. Opening Business Session 7:30 p.m. Benediction Cultural Evening, St. Casimir's Church, Pittston
August 21, Friday	Early Bird Session - University Registration - University 10:00 a.m. Business Session 12:00 Noon, Holy Mass, St. Ignatius Chapel 2:00 p.m. Business Session 7:00 p.m. Fun Night - University
August 22, Saturday	Early Bird Session, University Registration - University 10:00 a.m. Business Session 12:00 Noon, Holy Mass, St. Ignatius Chapel 2:00 p.m. Business Session 7:30 p.m. Convention Banquet, University
August 23, Sunday	10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Scranton Convention Photos 1:00 p.m. Farewell Feast at University

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$37.00**

**HOSTS: COUNCIL 46, COUNCIL 74 and COUNCIL 143**