



Curtain for the 3-rd act of opera I Lituani  
performed in Chicago. Design by Vl. Vijeikis

VOL. 67 No. 6

JUNE - JULY  
BIRŽELIS - LIEPA

the KNIGHT **VYTYTIS**

—1981—  
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**THE KNIGHTS  
OF LITHUANIA**





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**VOL. 67 No. 6**

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**PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**

**CONTENTS - TURINYS**

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 3. <i>To Father, with love</i>          | A. Ryan           |
| 4. <i>Lithuania's Golgotha</i>          | Rev. J. Prunskis  |
| 5. <i>Mūsu nuolatinis ryšys</i>         | Vysk. V. Brizgys  |
| 6. <i>Lithuanian Wedding Customs</i>    | J. Dauzvardis     |
| 10. <i>Prieš taip didį Sakramentą</i>   | S. Bučmys         |
| 11. <i>Profile - S. Bučmys</i>          | A. Ryan           |
| 12. <i>Lithuanian in the News</i>       | ed. R. Kazlauskas |
| 17. <i>Cooks' Corner</i>                | M. Lucas          |
| 18. <i>Official News</i>                |                   |
| 19. <i>Convention News</i>              |                   |
| 23. <i>K of L Calendar</i>              |                   |
| 24. <i>2nd Annual Lith Seminar</i>      |                   |
| 24. <i>In Memoriam</i>                  |                   |
| 25. <i>Council News / Vyčiai veikia</i> | ed. J. Zukas      |
| 26. <i>Convention Schedule</i>          |                   |

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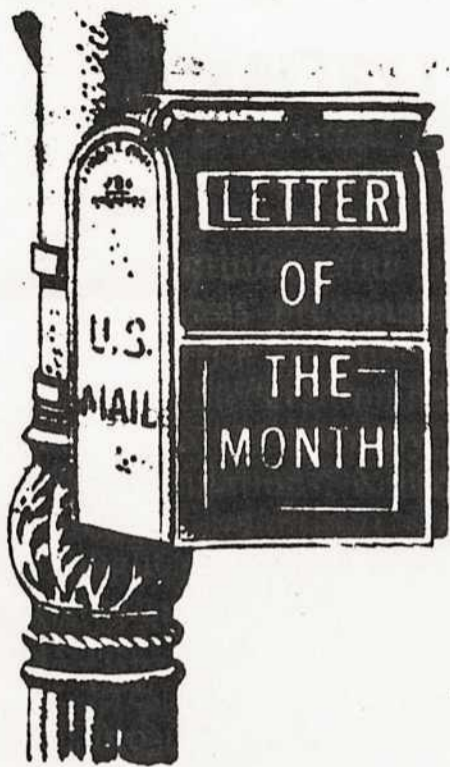
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June is the month when we set aside a day for a very special purpose — to honor our remarkable fathers. It might even be appropriate to call them “magnificent” fathers, for they deserve our praise.

Times change and fathers change along with the times but the basic characteristics remain the same. These are unselfish love, devotion, loyalty and vast amounts of energy expended for the welfare of their dependents.

In thinking about our fathers, perhaps we should include all of them besides the usual “Dads”.

Starting with God, our Father, we know He is all things to us. He is our Provider, our Healer, and our Solace.

Our Holy Father in Rome represents our God here on earth and he rules us with a gentle hand.

We have our friends such as Father Jurgelaitis, Father Pugevičius and Father Dambrauskas who work closely with us in our projects and causes. They guide us in our endeavors for Lithuania and Lithuanians in a superb manner.

Our own parish priests dedicate their entire lives to being the “father” of communities of people who are dependent on them for far more than spiritual needs.

We are all familiar with step-fa-

thers and adoptive fathers who pick up the threads of broken lives and piece them back together again with humble understanding.

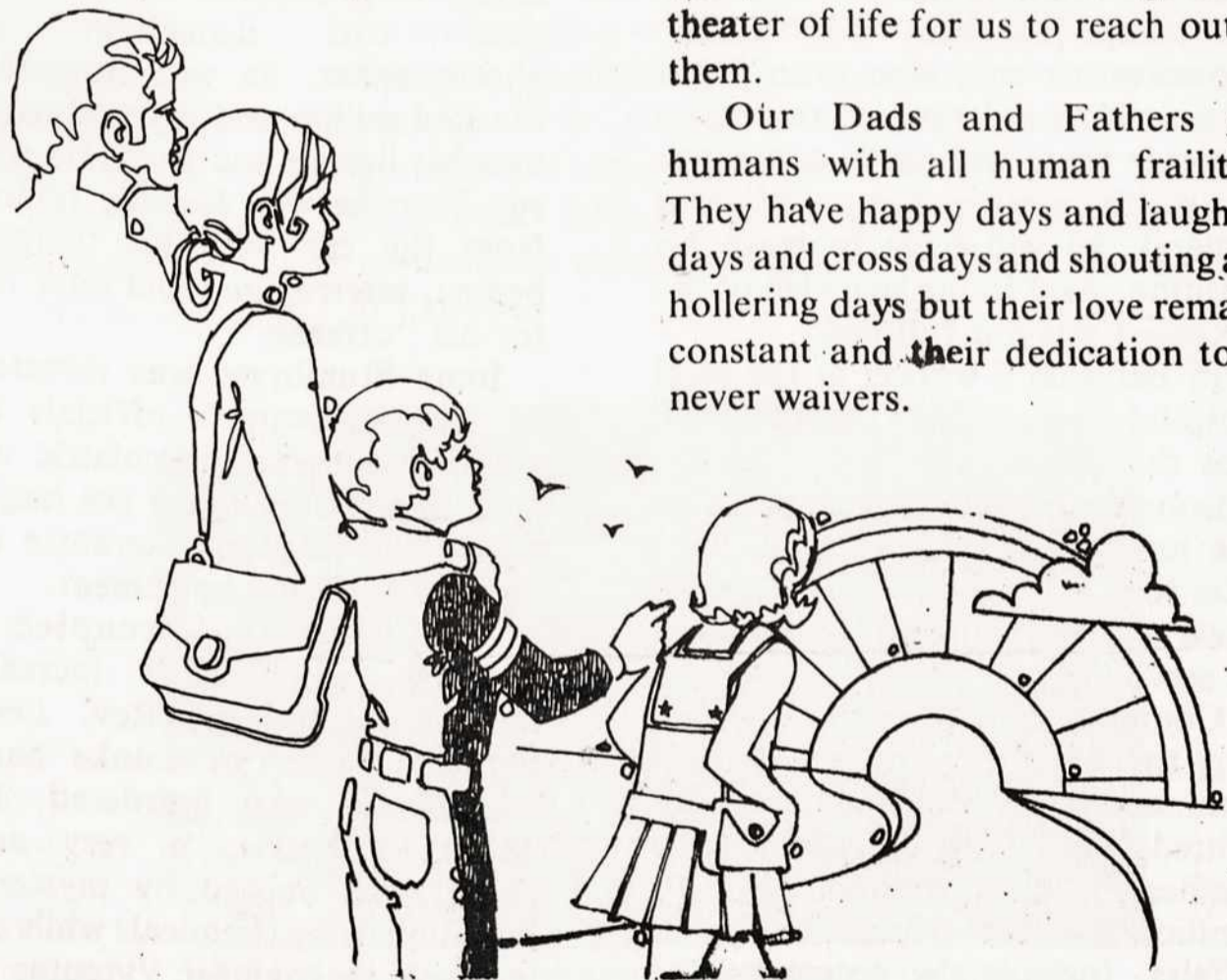
There are grandfathers who deserve the title of “grand” for they live up to that name.

Whether we call him Tevelis, Pop, Pa, Papa, Dad or Father, the man who gave us life is dear to us in a very unique way.

Like our other fathers, our dads gave up so much of their time and energy to nourish us and provide for our mental, spiritual and physical needs.

Often, their lifetime of work for our benefit is overlooked and not appreciated to the extent that is deserving of it.

Let us all renew our love and devotion to all of our fathers again for in them lies our future and the future of our descendents.



To fathers  
with love

By Aldona Ryan

Somehow, it seems that a father is so very vulnerable. His kindness will always surface even when we are unthinking and, sometimes, unkind.

Their pride in our accomplishments and good deeds is overwhelming. Their frustrations in our misdeeds and blunders is often depressing.

The pious, hardworking, immigrant fathers of many of us were an unusual breed. Their calloused hands guided us through our tempestuous youth and their soft smile gave us courage when life seemed hard and bitter.

It was a reflection on their own lives which were truly difficult.

Many of us have lost our Dads now. We look back to those days when we were together with great fondness and loving remembrance.

We try to replace them in our hearts with all of our other fathers who seem to wait in the wings in the theater of life for us to reach out to them.

Our Dads and Fathers are humans with all human frailties. They have happy days and laughing days and cross days and shouting and hollering days but their love remains constant and their dedication to us never waivers.





## LITHUANIA'S GOLGOTHA UNDER SOVIET OCCUPATION

As we enjoy springtime, let us not forget our suffering brothers under the severe yoke of atheistic dictatorship. Recently we received some issues of the underground press published by the Catholics in Lithuania — "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania." We read there the complaints of believers that even now the restoration of some churches destroyed during the war is not permitted, as for example the church in Truskava.

In the Pumpenai parish, a lady 82 years old expressed her desire to have a religious funeral. When she died her relatives had the intention of complying with her wishes. However her son, who is an editor of one communist paper, received a message from the party committee — if his mother has a religious funeral, he will have to leave his position. And so the last wish of the deceased was not fulfilled.

In Betygala a worker at the local hospital, Mrs. Ona Petrauskiene, was threatened with a fine or imprisonment for inviting a priest to the hospital to administer the last rites to a sick member of the parish choir and for bringing two children to serve Mass.

Communist officials are obstructing the functioning of the priests' seminary. Lately 36 candidates submitted petitions to be accepted for studies for the priesthood. Mr. P. Anilionis, a Red official for church affairs, forbade the acceptance of 17 of them and even ordered the

dismissal from the seminary of a student, Aloyzas Volskis, because during vacation he met with some priests who were considered not subservient to the Red government.

Jonas Rackauskas, a student of the Seda High school, was detained by Red Police because he took some pupils to church. He was threatened that he would be prevented from taking his final examination for graduation if he continues to take pupils to church.

Alfonsas Prakaitis in Tytuvėnai was beaten for taking part in a religious procession. While driving along the procession with his seven year old daughter and photographer, he was stopped by the Red militia and ordered to turn over his license and keys. He refused. Then he was forcibly removed from the car with his daughter, beaten, interrogated and later fined for his "offense."

Irene Stumbryte was threatened by the prosecutor's officials with confinement in a psychiatric ward for not recalling where she had obtained the religious literature confiscated from her apartment.

In Lithuania, occupied by Moscow, violence is increasing against the priests. Rev. Leonas Sapoka, pastor of Luoke parish, was beaten and murdered. Rev. Juozas Zdebskis, a very active priest, was burned by mysterious radiation or by chemicals while driving with an engineer Vytautas Vaičiūnas, who was also injured as

believed by NKVD men following them. Rev. Vaclovas Grauslys, the pastor of Siluva, was stabbed during the night. One of his assailants was in a militia uniform.

Rev. Benedict Povilanskis, pastor of Karmelava, and Rev. Antanas Batvinskis, pastor of Kulautuva were very severely beaten. In many instances the tabernacles in the churches are broken into and the Blessed Sacrament thrown away disrespectfully.

Anastazas Janulis and Povilas Buzas were sentenced to labor camps for duplication and dissemination of such samizdat as the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania."

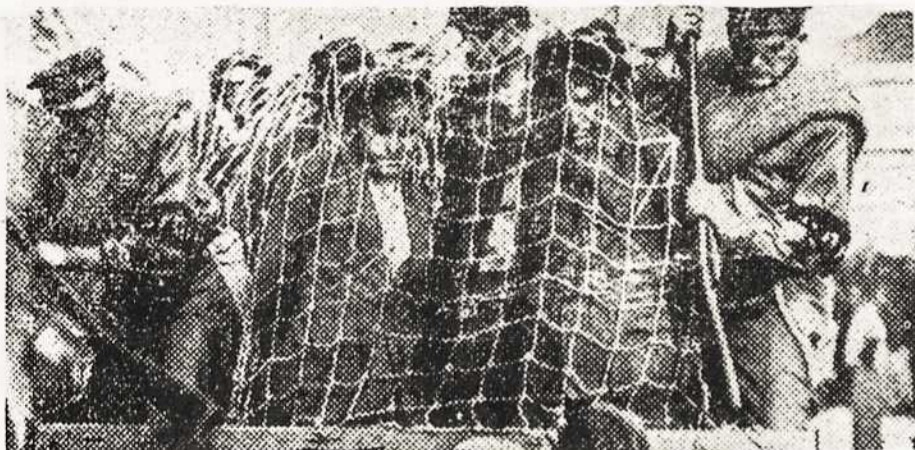
During the trial of the dissident, Povilas Peceliūnas, his fiancée, Danute Kersiute, presented him with the flowers. For this she was charged with amoral behavior and confined in prison for 7 days.

Jadvyga Stanelyte was sentenced to three years in a labor camp. She was charged with organizing a religious procession to the beloved Lithuanian shrine — Siluva, where thousands of Lithuanian believers, disregarding the communists' displeasure, assemble for prayers and vigil each year.

Lithuanians are very firmly attached to their religion and remain faithful disregarding daily pressure of the Marxist regime. But they need prayers and moral support of other believers everywhere in the world.

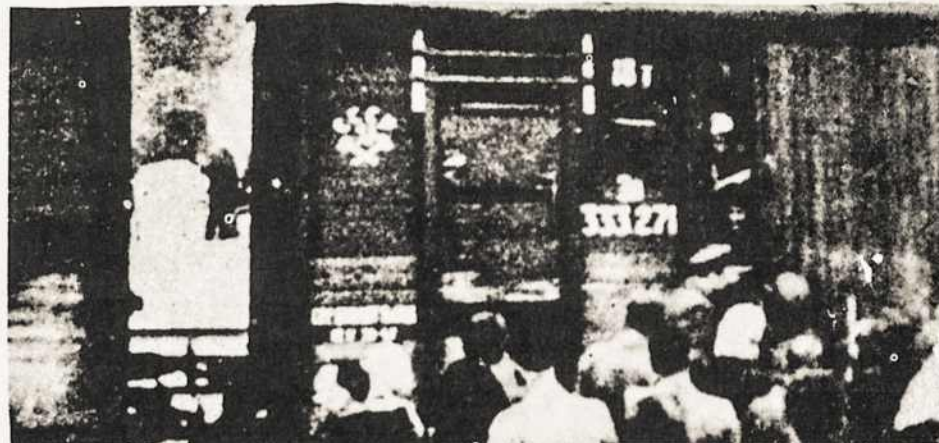


# MŪSU NUOLATINIS RYŠYS SU KENČIANČIA TAUTA



It starts in a NKVD truck

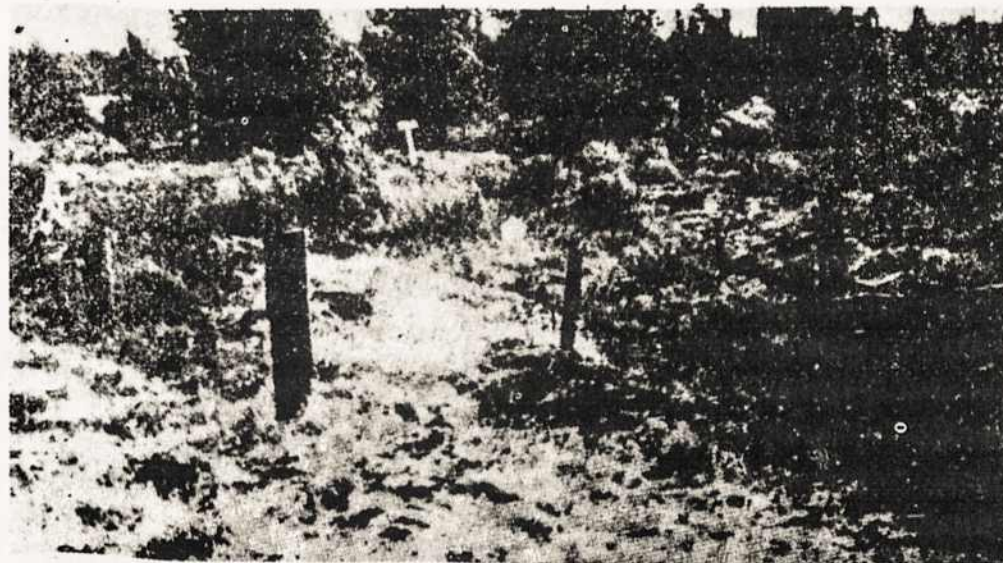
Lietuviai laisvame pasaulyje kasmet minime 1941 metų birželio 15 ir sekančias jas pergyvenusiems neužmirštamam masinių deportacijų dienas. Mūsų tautos teisingesniai supratimui prisimintina, kad tautos genocidas prasidėjo nuo pat 1940 metų birželio 15 dienos, kai Rusijos armija okupavo Lietuvą. Nuo tos dienos ir pavieniai ir didesniais skaičiais, kaip pav. 1940 metų liepos 11-12 dienomis, dingdavo be žinios ar buvo viešai suimami kuo nors žymesni lietuviai. Tai nesibaigė su 1941 metų birželio 15-23 dienų masinėmis deportacijomis ir **žudynėmis Lietuvoje**, o po 1944 metų, kai Lietuvą vėl okupavo Rusija, mūsų tauta išgyveno dar baisesnių dienų. Tautos žudymas įvairiais būdais nesibaigia iki šiai dienai. **Šiandien dar neįmanoma atspėti**, ar kada nors sužinosimė **tikrų skaičių** tautiečių išžudytų Lietuvoje, Rusijos ir Sibiro kalėjimuose, vergų darbo stovyklose. Tikra yra tai, kad **ne talentingiausi** rašytojai nesugebės atpasakoti kančių, **kokias teko** išgyventi mūsų žmonėms. Mums nevalia tai užmiršti ne iš keršto tiems, kurie už tai kalti, o dėl aukštesnių, gilesnių motyvų. Tie kankiniai yra mūsų šeimų nariai, giminės, mūsų tautos nariai. Jie



A long way to Siberia in a cattle car

reikalingi ne formalus retkarčiais o nuolatinio prisiminimo maldoje. Tai priminti turime nuolat ne tik lietuviai lietuviams, o tą mūsų brolių likimą turime skelbti visur kitataučių tarpe, kad jie žinotų ir suprastų kuo grėsia kiekvienam kraštui, kiekvienai tautai nužmogintas žmogus, kiek galima pasitikėti Maksva ir iš ten diriguojamu komunizmu. Gerai daro visi, kurie mūsų tautos likimo klausimą vis primena valstybių ar religinėse aukštesnėse instancijose, tačiau veikti reikia visiems, kiekvienam aplink save gyvu ir spausdintu žodžiu informuojant ir nuteikiant individus ir visuomenę. Tai yra ne vienos dienos, o nuolatinis kiekvieno mūsų uždavinys. Prisiminti tik retkarčiais mūsų tautos tragediją ir mūsų brolių kančias bei gyvybių aukas būtų permaža. Mūsų veikla, kova ir malda už savo tautą turi būti tiek nuoširdi, kad ji būtų visuotinė ir nesiliaujanti, pasiekianti ir dangų ir visus žmones, kurių tarpe gyvename ir visus žemės gyventojus. Ir tauta vergijoje ir pavergėjai težino, kad lietuviai laisvame pasaulyje nesiliausime veikę ir meldęsi, kol nesibaigs tautos nelaisvė ir kančios.

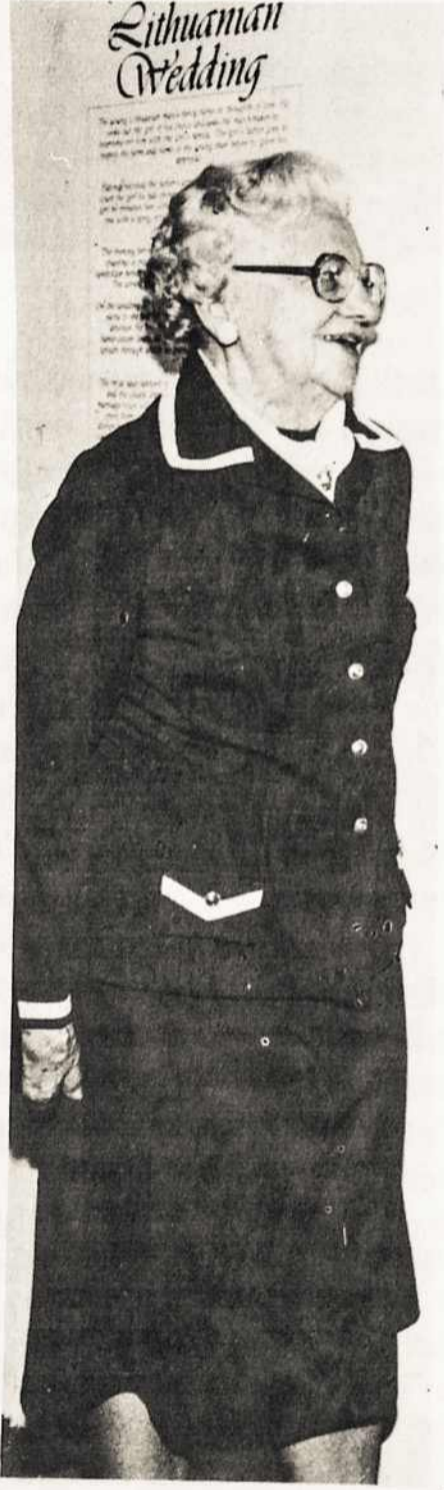
Vysk. V. Brizgys



The final resting place of prisoners in Siberia



# LITHUANIAN WEDDING CUSTOMS



Josephine  
Daužvardis



*Daug Laimės Jūs  
Vedybiniam  
Gyvenimui!*

Photos by Phil Malaitis



## LITHUANIAN WEDDING CUSTOMS

By Josephine J. Dauzvardis  
The Lithuanian Lore Lady



Our Lithuanian nation has a wealth of customs and traditions which have fallen into disuse and near oblivion. Ancient Lithuanian wedding customs served to underline an important milestone in life and to provide entertainment in times when there was very little free entertainment available. The wedding customs were, in effect, a many-faceted framework for a folk drama of romance, pathos and comedy, embellished with song, dance and recitations. This article gives but a sketchy outline.

As in all romantic dramas, boy meets girl, romance blossoms and leads to serious considerations. Let's follow the scenario:

Having "popped the question" to his beloved, the young man must make a rigidly prescribed visit to the parents of his chosen one. He must be accompanied by a *pirslys* (matchmaker), an older friend or relative of wit, glib tongue and flowery vocabulary, with the insignia of the *pirslys*: a hand-woven linen *abrusas* (the versatile Lithuanian towel) draped over one shoulder, and a bottle of mead or stronger potable in his pocket. In a lengthy, flowery *oracija* (oration) the *pirslys* extols the virtues and the wealth of the suitor and leads to a discussion of wedding plans. After some dicker-ing over dowry and wedding arrangements, the girl's parents give their approval. The suitor is given a twig of *ruta* (rue) wrapped in a kerchief his fiancée had woven; in some regions, he is given a pair of miniature gloves she had knitted on sewing needles. The suitor delivers these gifts to his own mother.

Love

Serious preparations for the wedding are then begun by both families: ale is made, aged casks of mead are dug out of the ground, cheeses, sausages, hams and other viands are prepared in quantity.

Each family selects a *kvieslys* (inviter) to invite friends and relatives to the wedding. He, like the *pirslys*, must be glib of tongue, prepared to deliver flowery invitational *oracijas* (orations). For his important mission the *kvieslys* is provided with a staff decked in ribbons, rue and bells. Those invited present him with additional ribbons for his staff, hand-made ties and sashes, etc.

Cherish

Prior to the wedding, two parties honor the bride and groom separately: the groom is the center of attention at a *did-vakaris* (big evening) attended by his friends and relatives.

The *merg-vakaris* (girls' evening) for the bride is a time of poignancy and leave-taking. Her friends and bridesmaids gather around her, singing plaintive songs of farewell - to her, to her care-free days of girlhood, to her garden of rue, to her home. The bride, seated on an inverted *duon-kubilis* (bread-making tub), has her hair braided and adorned with flowers and rue. The girls dance the graceful bridesmaids' dance *Sadute*, and other dances, such as *Blezdingele*, *Skepetinė*, *Vainikinė*.





The arrival of the bridegroom and his party, during the *merg-vakaris*, or the day preceding the wedding, is heralded by much singing, shouting, jingling of bells and random rifle shots into the air - presumably to ward off evil spirits which might bode ill to the couple. Alerted by the noise, the bride's friends hide her behind a curtain, and they themselves occupy all the chairs and benches in the house. The groom's entourage "ransoms" the bride and "buys" its way into the house and onto the benches.



The bridal couple is then seated in the place of honor - at the corner of the table, in the back of which can be seen the bride's tree - birch or evergreen branches hung with intricate straw ornaments. The tree is later auctioned off to wedding guests and the money given to the bride. The couple drink wine or mead from a specially cared wedding cup, and start the feasting.



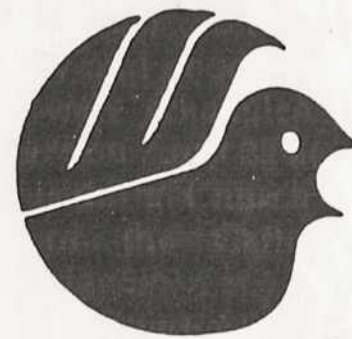
Songs and dances suitable to the occasion are performed during the evening. The bride must shed copious tears, and if, occasionally she forgets to do so, she is reminded by a tear-jerking song sung by the guests.



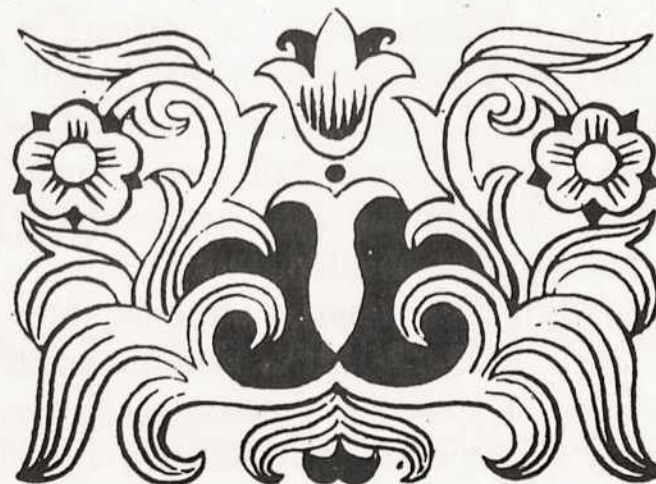
The *merg-vakaris* is the opportune time for presenting gifts to the bride. Three of her bridesmaids perform the *aciavimo* (thanking) ceremony - bowing to each guest present and thanking profusely for each gift received. The *kvieslys*, who accompanies them, obligingly bears all the gifts: gifts of money on a tray, and gifts of linen or handiwork "artistically" draped or hung on his body.



Departure for church is a tearful affair. The bride, kneeling before her parents, thanks them for all they have done, begs forgiveness for any hurt she has inflicted, and asks their blessing. In some regions, the bride bids farewell not only to each member of her family, but to all the livestock as well. Singing sad songs,



the bridesmaids place the wreath of rue (symbol of maidenhood) on her head, and her mother or grandmother pins a tiny wreath of rue to her hair. The latter, blessed during the wedding service, is to be sewn into a down pillow for the bride.

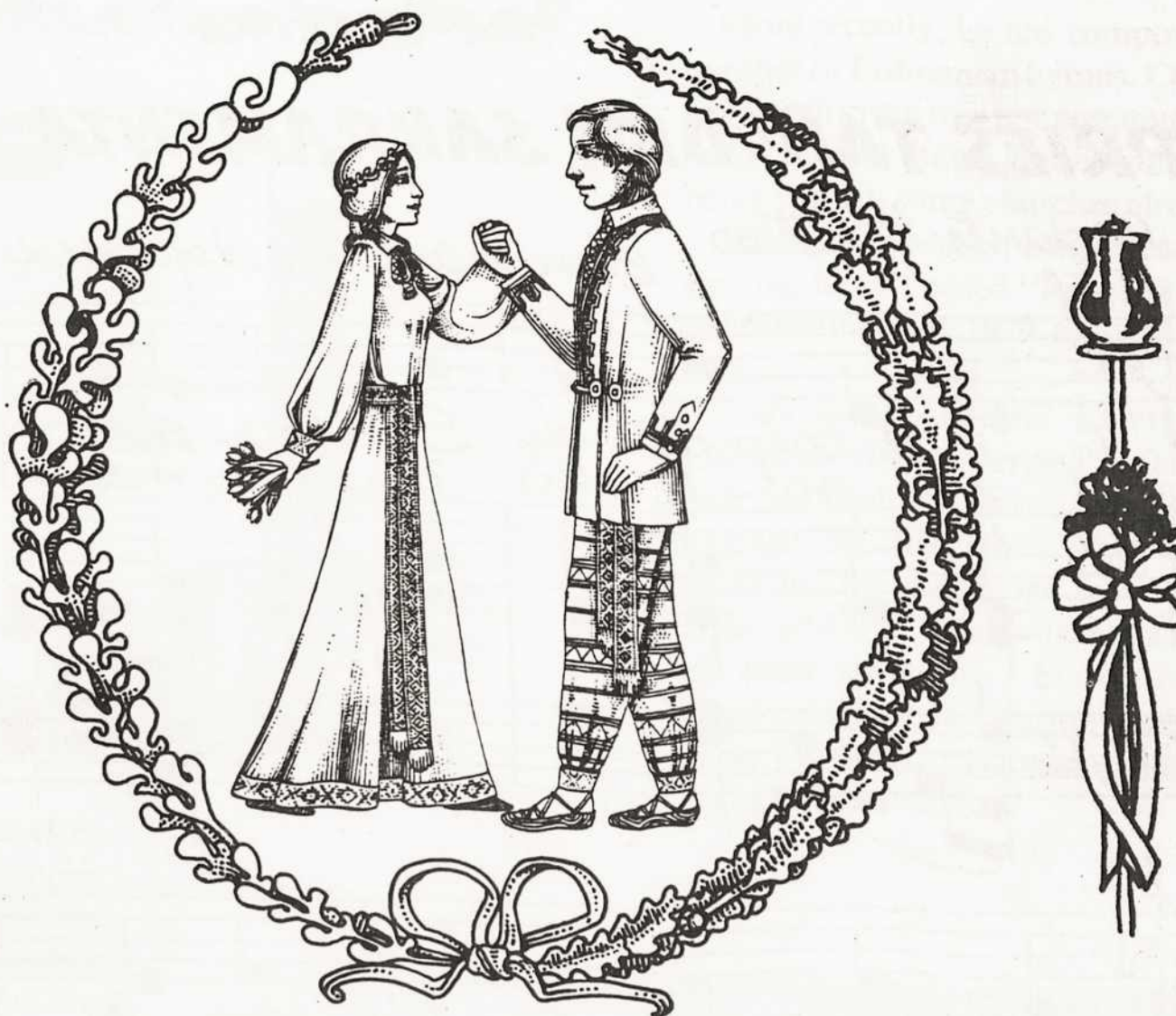




Returning from church, the newly-wedded couple is met on the threshold by both parents offering them mead or wine in rue-entwined glasses and a bit of black bread and salt - signifying the sharing of the joys, tears, hardships, plenty and want of married life.

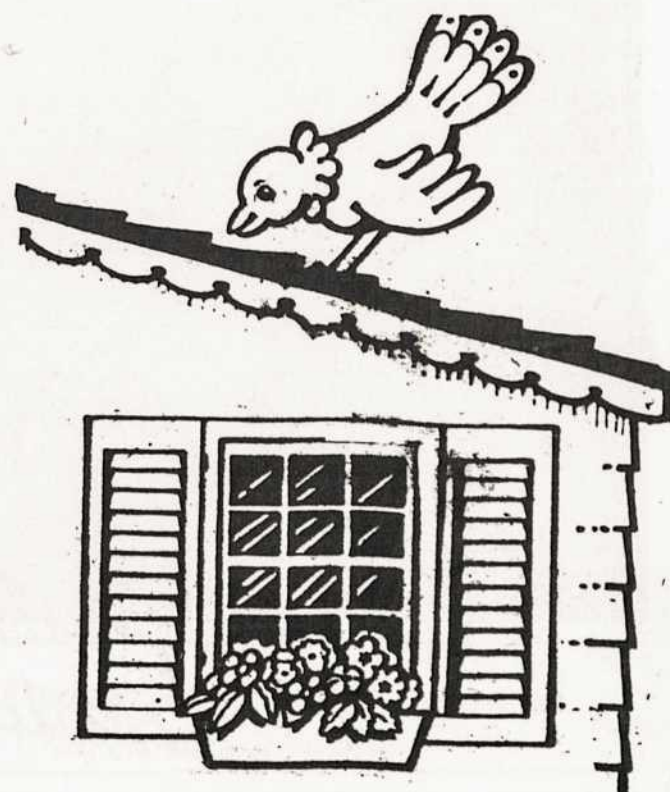


Then the wedding feasting and merry-making begins in earnest and lasts from a couple of days to a week, or, as long as the food and drink hold out.



Preparations for departure of the bride for her new home include her *nuometavimas* (wimpling), and surrendering of her dower chest to the groom with a great show of reluctance and weeping. In the *nuometavimas* ceremony, the bride's *rūtu vainikelis* (wreath of rue) is removed by the matron of honor or new mother-in-law, and her head is covered with a *nuometas* (wimple) or cap. In olden times, the bride's hair was cut.

The climax of the wedding feast was the "hanging" of the *pirslys* (match-maker), whose many glowing promises of the grooms affluence and wealth had proven false. The wedding guests hold a mock trial, pronounce him guilty, and he is hung in effigy to the sound of derisive shouts, songs and jokes. This signals the end of the wedding festivities.





# PRIEŠ TAIP DIDI SAKRAMENTA

Muz. Step. A. Bučmųs

*Andante Maestoso*

Bendram giedojimui

*mf*

1. Prieš taip di-di Sa-kra-men-ta, Ji-zaus Kū-no,  
2. Jūs pa-li-kō tes-ta-men-tā, Tā, Šven-čiau-sia

1. Krau-jo Šven-to, Pyl-kim ir karš-tai ti-kā-kim,  
2. Sa-kra-men-tā. Cia Jūs pe-ni mus ir lau-kiā,

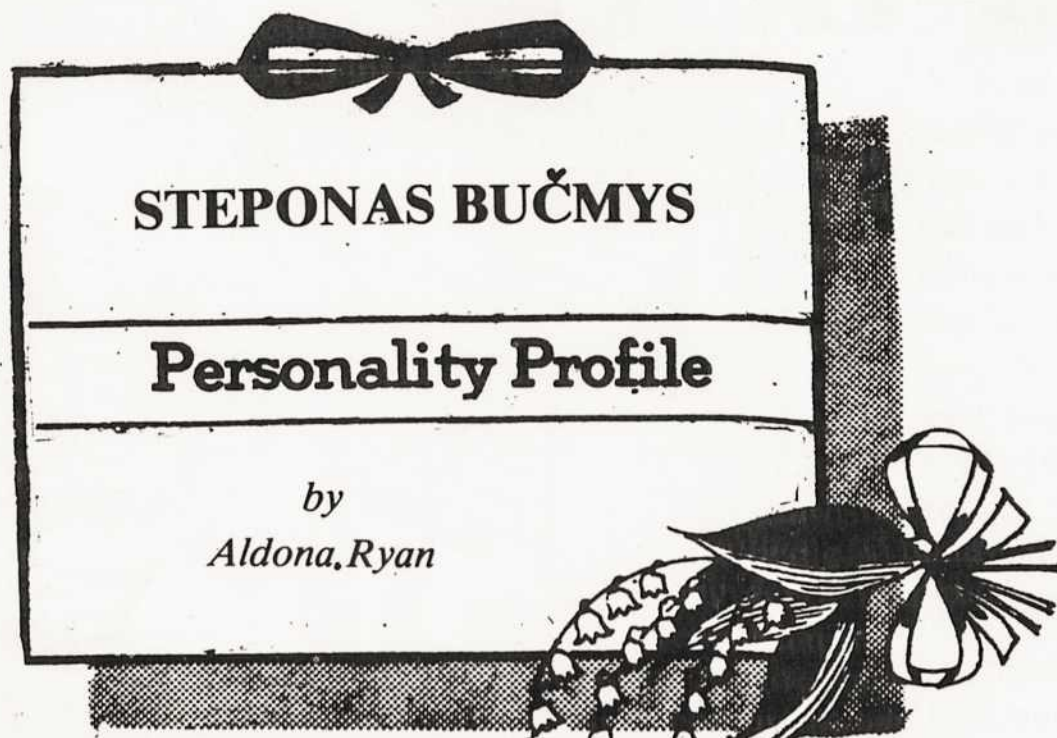
*rit.*

1. Gar-bin-kim Ji ir vy-lē-kim.  
2. sa-ve mūi-lin-gai trau-kiā.  
*rit.*

Step. A. Bučmųs  
Dalyton, 12-30-1979

3. Garbė Dievui Sūtuėjui ir Jo Sūnui Atsiėėjui,  
Šventai Duasai ir Tikramui Dievui Trejybės vienamui.





When the Lithuanian Mass at Holy Cross Church in Dayton, Ohio begins at 10:30 o'clock on Sundays, the trained, baritone voice of Steponas Bucmys can be heard above the voices of the congregation singing "Pulkimant Kelių." Steponas is an organist, soloist and a composer of Lithuanian music.

He was born in Kretinga, Lithuania where he studied music as a child. Later, he attended the Kaunas Conservatory of Music where he majored in organ and choir directing. He had a "Mokyklos Chora," and a "Misru Chora," of 60 voices.

In Lithuania he composed a patriotic song called "Mes iseinam uz Tieviska—"

When he escaped to Germany, he wrote an "Ave Maria" for mixed chorus. He had written an "Ave Maria" in Lithuania in 1942 but he left the music behind and could not remember how it went. The new version was written in 1945.

He came to Dayton in 1949 and took up his studies with Professor Theodore Heimann of the University of Dayton. "I got so much from him! He became like a friend to me," Steponas said.

More recently, he has composed a number of Lithuanian hymns. Copies have been given to a few communities in the United States and his music is being sung in some churches already.

With the advent of congregational singing, he composed "Pries taip didi Sakramenta," in 1979 for this purpose.

Steponas joined the Knights of Lithuania when he arrived in Dayton and has been an active member of Council 96 ever since then. As a bachelor, he lives alone in his own home which is filled with music and his other great love - books. In his usual quiet manner, during the interview, he stated, "Nerasyk daug. As noriu buti paprastas."



*Steponas Bučmys, as a student, playing the organ at Šilėlės Roman Catholic Church in Lithuania*



# Lithuanians in The

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



In novels and films great escapes usually are planned down to the last detail, including forged papers, times of sentry rounds, etc. For VLADAS ŠAKALYS, the decision to escape from the Soviet Union took 15 minutes, according to a UPI article by Emil Sveilis.

The KGB was hot on the trail of the 38-year old Lithuanian optician who already had spent 15 years in Soviet prisons and labor camps. By trying to escape he risked being shot on the spot; by staying put, he could look forward to a minimum of 10 more years on a starvation diet.

Šakalys decided to take the risk and embarked on a 1,200-mile, 24-day journey through the Soviet Union and Finland to Sweden. Because of a Soviet agreement with Finland to return all escapees, he had to make his trek across Finland in secret.

Šakalys was one of 45 signers last year of a petition circulated in the Soviet Union and the West calling for the withdrawal of Soviet troops and self-determination for the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. On May 30, the KGB grilled him for 4 1/2 hours at its regional headquarters in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius. "They told me unless I changed my mind and attested that the document was a forgery I would be arrested," said Šakalys.

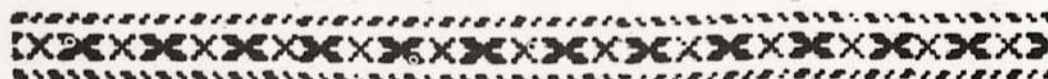
He said goodbye to his wife, a 6-year old daughter and a year-old son and went into hiding with the Lithuanian



underground. For a month he was shuttled from house to house to keep a step ahead of the KGB. "It took me 15 minutes to decide I would try to escape from the Soviet Union. Anything was better than living like a hunted animal," he said. With a rough map of Russia in hand, he boarded a train June 26 for a 775-mile trip north to Idel. He purchased a rucksack, a couple of sausages, bread — and mothballs to cover his scent. In Idel he got off the train and started heading west. At one point he nearly was discovered by three border guards and at another he spotted a trip-wire, glittering in the grass, that could have set off an alarm or a mine.

While swimming a lake, he was spotted by a patrol boat. About an hour later he heard dogs barking and he knew the border guards had taken up his trail. It was too late to stop. The only thing he could do was keep going. He picked his way through a forest. Ahead lay a 50-yard stretch of bare land cut through the woods. He pulled his green sweatshirt down as far as he could over his bright blue pants and crossed the clearing on his knees. After several more hours of walking he found an ice cream wrapper with the words "Helsinki" on it, which made him sure he was in Finland, but still frightened. At 2 a.m. on July 19 he swam across the river dividing Sweden and Finland, suffering from fatigue and a high fever. An hour later he was met by Swedish police, who took him away and gave him a hot shower and clean clothes.

After recuperating in Sweden for 1 1/2 months, Šakalys entered the United States as a permanent immigrant. He hopes his family eventually will be allowed to join him.



**ED. NOTE:** Vladas Šakalys will be a featured panelist at the KofL National Convention, Aug. 20-23, 1981, Scranton, PA





A featured article by Anne Keegan in the Chicago Tribune told the story of MARTHA ROSE who runs and owns Martha's Lithuanian Home Cooking Cafe at 4100 South Archer Avenue in Chicago.

In January 1945, her Lithuanian parents and their 11 children were fleeing the Russians in their horse-drawn wagon across the ice of a frozen lake in Germany. Everyone had to get out and walk because the ice began to crack under the weight of the wagon. Martha, who was 14, held on to the back of the wagon as she stumbled through the snowstorm, exhausted and freezing. Her grip on the wagon got looser until finally, unseen by the others, she let go and silently collapsed. She lay there alone on the ice, unconscious, where she was found the next day by other fleeing refugees. She was frost bitten, scared and lost. She was picked up and left in the care of a farm family to recover. But then, they too had to flee, and she was left behind, terrified. Without even a coat she ran into the woods to hide, wandering, lost, surviving by sucking on clover, picking green berries, drinking water

from ditches, and digging up potatoes from abandoned fields. She was finally found by some American and British soldiers who gave her her first real food in weeks — bread.

It was several years later that Martha finally found her family again. One by one they came to America. Martha married and raised five children, 4 of them boys. Her strength to survive made her promise to herself that her children would never suffer as she did. She taught them all she knew about how to survive from the time they were very young — how to make a fishing pole, a sling shot, a bow and arrow — how to bake and cook, how to pull up roots to eat, find berries, dig into the earth to find a spring. She taught them to know the signs, the position of the moon, the stars and the sun, how to take care of themselves in the wilderness.

Most of Martha's children are grown now. One son, Lee, age 21, is in the Army and stationed in Alaska. She recently received a letter from his commanding general which stated that Pvt. Arnold "Lee" Rose had been named soldier of the year by the 172nd Infantry — that duty in Alaska presents a unique challenge in a primarily unfavorable climatic environment with extremes in temperature and weather conditions and terrain, and Pvt. Rose has met this challenge admirably. Martha is proud but not surprised because he couldn't have had better training.

\* \* \*

Rockwell Engineering Company, Inc., of Chicago, was the subject of an article by Edwin Darby which appeared in the Chicago Sun-Times and the Newark Star-Ledger.

The family owned steel fabricating and forging firm has been prospering since it was founded four decades ago by ANTHONY J. RUDIS, SR., son of Lithuanian immigrants. Having worked himself up to salesman for another firm in 1941, he came to the conclusion that the only way to go was to own his own business. He spent the greater part of 16-hour days on the road drumming up orders while MARY P. RUDIS, his wife, ran the shop. By 1947 he was able to buy five acres and build his own plant.

ANTHONY RUDIS, JR., the oldest of four children, joined the company in 1962. He is now President of the firm. "Dad is the chairman of the board and chief executive officer," the younger Rudis says, "but mother is still the moving dynamo of the company."

The Rudis family still makes time to be very active in Lithuanian affairs all over the country, even in Europe. Anthony, Sr., Mary P., and Anthony, Jr., are all active members of C-112, Chicago.

\* \* \*





A Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration took place on February 15, 1981, with Bishop Howard Hubbard of the Archdiocese of Albany celebrating Mass at Holy Cross Church, Schenectady, New York. Edward Baranauskas, Amsterdam Council 100's Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, gave the homily on Lithuania and the Catholic Church in Lithuania. Pictured are Dorothy Richmire, Bernice Aviza, C-100, MAD Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Bishop Howard Hubbard, Barbara Baranauskas, Helen Saunders, and Rev. Michael Clemente, newly named pastor of Holy Cross Church.



In observance of Lithuanian Independence Day, two books were contributed to the Gage Park library branch in Chicago by the Standard Federal Savings and Loan Association. RICHARD UKRINAS, assistant vice-president and manager of Standard's 47th Street branch, presents the books "Lithuanian Writers to The West" and "Lithuanian National Costume" to Donna Erickson, branch librarian. The books will acquaint local residents with the creative talents and folk art of Lithuanian artists.

"Lithuanians Have Their Day to Cheer" was the heading of an article which appeared in the New Haven Daily Register about the celebration of Lithuanian Independence Day in Ansonia, Conn.

"Patriotism was the order of the day as the city's Lithuanian community gathered at City Hall to celebrate their native country's Independence Day and raise the national red, green and gold banner on the city's flagpole. Unfortunately, the ceremony suffered a slight delay because, like millions of Americans, Old Glory was taking a holiday. As a crowd of about 30 Lithuanian-Americans milled around the flagpole, Kęstutis Švelnys and Alfonse Barauskas held a hurried conference with Mayor James J. Finnucan about the absent stars and stripes. Custom demands, you see, that the American flag be raised at the same time and above the Lithuanian standard. The problem was that the city's contract with its union employees was equally demanding. Finnucan would have to pay a custodian triple pay to come in from his holiday to unlock Old Glory from its nocturnal resting place. Phone calls were made and someone, mindful of his patriotic duty on President's Day, volunteered to liberate the flag free of charge. In the interest of expediency, however, the ceremony was started forthwith and for a few brief moments, Main Street, Ansonia, was transformed into Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital city, as the Lithuanian banner flew proudly and alone over the assembled crowd. Finnucan proclaimed Monday Lithuanian Independence Day and anticipated along with the crowd the region's speedy deliverance from Soviet oppression."



Picture: Kęstutis "Casey" Švelnys, left, and Alfonse Barauskas flank Mayor James J. Finnucan as the Lithuanian-community in Ansonia, Conn. gathered at City Hall to raise the flag of their Soviet-controlled region and celebrate its national independence day.

\* \* \*





The obverse of the 10-lits banknote of 1938. To the left is President Antanas Smetona, to the right is the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence.

The prestigious International Bank Note Society Journal, Vol. 19, No. 4, Winter 80/81, featured an article by FRANK PASSIC, Albion, Mich., regarding the 1938 10 Lity banknote of Lithuania. In the article Frank states: "It is the most historic and yet the most mysterious banknote of the Bank of Lithuania. While originally planned to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the independence of Lithuania, the approaching Second World War prevented the circulation of this note from ever taking place . . . The 1938 10-litas commemorative banknote is a graphic reminder to the world of Lithuania's plea for freedom, and its desire for political integrity. It is

a permanent record of the events which took place in 1918, and which speak to us today: that the Lithuanian people made their decision for total independence, and that decision should be respected by all nations."

Frank is one of the founders of the Lithuanian Numismatic Association and editor of its publication, "The Knight." He also serves as numismatic curator for the Balzekas Museum in Chicago.

Readers who may be interested in the article or in Lithuanian numismatics can write directly to Frank Passic, 900 South Eaton Street, Albion, Michigan 49224.



The reverse of the 10-lits banknote of 1938, featuring a photograph of the men who declared the independence of Lithuania. Above the photo are the coats of arms of three Lithuanian cities.



**FATHER PETER N. KATAUSKAS**, Pastor Emeritus at St. Casimir Parish, Chicago Heights, Ill., celebrated his golden jubilee in the priesthood with a Mass on April 26th at St. Ann Church in Beverly Shores, Ind. Father Katauskas served at St. Casimir Parish for 35 years until his retirement in 1973. His previous assignments as associate were Nativity B.V.M. and St. George Parishes, both in Chicago. A native Chicagoan, Father Katauskas was ordained in 1931. He attended Holy Cross School and the archdiocesan seminaries.

\* \* \*



The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago recently featured an exhibit of early Chicago (pre World War I) Lithuanian lodge/society tokens, issued by the first group of Lithuanian immigrants to the city. The collection of more than 30 different aluminum, brass and bronze tokens was originally assembled by the late Dr. Alexander M. Rackus, noted numismatist, philatelist, medical doctor, and very active K of L member.

Over 40 Lithuanian lodges and societies were organized in Chicago and many of these issued small tokens which were good for a purchase at the establishment. Nearly all bear Lithuanian language inscriptions and serve as a reminder of the early history of the Lithuanian immigrant to Chicago. Frank Passic of Albion, Michigan, coordinated the exhibit and is Chairman of the Museum's Numismatic Department.

\* \* \*



"The English Vieniybė" featured an article recently about AUDRA AVIZIENIS, a 15 year old brunette of Lithuanian descent. Audra's potential as a model appeared when her path crossed that of Brooke Shields, the leading teen-age model in America, who was in Chicago filming the upcoming movie "Endless Love." The director, Franco Zeffirelli, was filming at Audra's school and she took part as an extra. At one point Zeffirelli went over to her and started taking pictures, telling her that she should be a model. Audra's father agreed. She went to the Suzanne Johnson Talent Agency in Chicago and they liked what they saw. She now is established as one of the leading models in Chicago.

The list of Audra's credits already reads impressively. For her first assignment she worked with Victor Skrebneski for an I. Magnin layout that will appear in "The New Yorker" magazine. Following closely were a Calvin Klein shooting for Vogue and Alberto VO5 commercial. The highlight of her career thus far was a trip to Rome in late January to appear in the Italian Bazaar. Pending is a journey to Paris. Even though her services are in constant demand, Audra feels she can keep her modeling success in perspective, making sure it doesn't disrupt her schooling. She will travel east this summer to test the New York market.

\* \* \*





Chicago's Mayor Jane M. Byrne has signed a proclamation declaring June 13, 14 and 20 of 1981 as Lithuanian Opera Company Days in Chicago in honor of the company's 25th anniversary and its presentation of Ponchielli's opera, "I Lituani."

The proclamation salutes the company for choosing to present the opera to illustrate and emphasize that the idea of freedom is still alive in Soviet-occupied Lithuania and in the hearts of Lithuanians around the world.

The opera is the story of Lithuania's struggle for freedom against the Teutonic Knights during the Middle Ages. Among the featured soloists will be ALGIRD BRAZIS, C-112, Chicago. Three performances will be staged at Maria High School in Chicago.

\* \* \*



STEPHANIE SILVA, 10-year old daughter of Dr. Jacinto Silva and soloist Irene Stankunas Silva of Mountainside, New Jersey, recently won First Place, 5th Grade, for the State of New Jersey, in the N.J. State Society N.S.DAR American History Month Essay Contest, for her essay "Marquis de Lafayette, A Military Leader of the Battle of Yorktown." Stephanie received her prize, an engraved plaque, at a special Awards Ceremony at Douglass College, N.J., on March 19, 1981.

\* \* \*



## Cook's CORNER

By MARY LUCAS

### SALTI BARSCIAI Cold Beet Soup

Boil 2 quarts of water  
Add 2 cans finely shredded beets (Save the liquid and set aside)  
Bring beets and water to a boil and add:  
3 T. cider vinegar  
2 T. sugar  
1 t. salt

Add the beet liquid and remove from heat. Pour into large bowl or pot and refrigerate until cold.

Pare 1 large cucumber and slice into fine strips.

Finely slice thin the green tops from 1 bunch of green onions.

Mix the two vegetables together in a bowl and add 1 t. salt.

Mash all together with a large spoon.

Add 1/2 c. chopped fresh dill or 2 t. of dried dill.

Refrigerate.

Hardboil 3 eggs and chop fine.

When beet-water mixture is cold, combine all of the above mixtures and add 1 quart of buttermilk and 1 pint of well beaten sour cream.

Mix well.

Adjust seasonings to your taste and serve in ice cold bowls.

Hot, boiled, buttered potatoes are usually served with this soup.



# OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

# OFFICIAL NEWS

The following resolutions were submitted to and accepted by the Supreme Council, during their meeting on June 6, for consideration and voting at the 68th National Convention, to be held in August, 1981, in Scranton, PA. We urge all members to read them, discuss them with their council members, and instruct their delegates as to how to vote on these matters during the convention.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Fund was set up to assist young members in pursuing educations, and

WHEREAS the cost of education has risen sharply in the past few years, in many cases to \$7000 to \$10,000 per year,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention strongly recommend to the Scholarship Committee that the following be observed in awarding Scholarships:

1. that not more than 3 scholarships be awarded each year.
2. that no individual scholarship award be less than \$1000.

\*\*\*\*\*

WHEREAS the Lithuanian Priests' League and the Lithuanian Community of the USA has proposed that 1982 be designated as the Year of the Lithuanian Parish, and

WHEREAS the purpose is to strengthen our Lithuanian parishes, which have always been the heart of Lithuanian life, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania has always been supportive of Lithuanian parishes,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania support the aims of the Year of the Lithuanian Parish at every level, and be involved in its implementation, and that the President, in consultation with the Spiritual Adviser, appoint an AdHoc committee for the Year of the Lithuanian Parish.

\*\*\*\*\*

WHEREAS Vytautas Skuodis, also known as Benedict Scott, a native of Chicago who claims American citizenship, was sentenced by a Soviet court on Dec. 22, 1980, to 7 years of labor camp and 5 years of exile for his writings on human rights, and

WHEREAS this action by the Soviet court is in transgression of the Helsinki Final Accord, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and of the Soviet Constitution and

WHEREAS the Honorable Cordiss Collins, Member of Congress, has taken the initiative to come to the assistance of Mr. Skuodis,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, a Lithuanian American fraternal organization, support the efforts of Congresswoman Collins, and other efforts to help Mr. Scott-Skuodis.

\*\*\*\*\*

WHEREAS the Year 1984 will mark the 500th Jubilee of the death of St. Casimir, and

WHEREAS St. Casimir is the patron saint of Lithuania and of Lithuanian Youth, and of the Knights of Lithuania, and

WHEREAS the bishops of Lithuania have called for a spiritual preparation for the Jubilee,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania prepare for the Jubilee Year of St. Casimir within its own ranks and publication, and as a part of the larger Lithuanian family, and to that end, the President appoint a St. Casimir Jubilee Year Committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CONVENTION PANELS

In addition to the normal business sessions of the National Convention, three special sessions are planned. Two will be plenary session, and one will split into separate workshops for special interests.

On Friday morning, Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, OP will conduct a panel discussing the "Knights of Lithuania and the Year of the Parish". Saturday morning will feature a panel on "Lithuanian Affairs", with Rev. Casimir Pugevicius as moderator, and recently arrived Lithuanian dissident Vladas Sakalys as special guest.

On Friday afternoon, the session will break into individual workshops. Members will be invited to select the workshop of their choice, selecting from "Cultural", moderated by A. Wargo, "Juniors", moderated by M. Skabeikis, "Lithuanian Affairs", moderated by Rev. C. Pugevicius, and "Ritual", moderated by F. Petkus.

## "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA"

### Award to be Presented

The Supreme Council has selected the Hon. Charles F. Dougherty, Member of Congress from the 4th Congressional District, Philadelphia, PA to be the recipient of the 1981 REV. JOHN C. JUTT FRIEND OF LITHUANIA AWARD. The Award will be presented during the Convention Banquet, Saturday, Aug. 22, 1981.

Mr. Dougherty is known for his many contributions to the Lithuanian cause. He is well known, especially to Lithuanians of Pennsylvania, for his concern and interest in the problems facing Lithuania today.



# CONVENTION NEWS

**"DIEVE, PALAIMINK TĖVYNĖ"  
"GOD, BLESS OUR FATHERLAND"**

## JUST A REMINDER!

After a shaky start we are on firm ground. The pieces to the puzzle are in place. The souvenir program book committee and the committee headed by Elizabeth Tamosaitis, John Morris, Leo Butsavage, Gertrude Romeika, Annamarie Sewatsky, Frances Yavorosky, Violet Pocius, Helen Romeika a host and dedicated workers mailed information forms to all members.

Joseph Sabaitis is in charge of the pre-convention golf tournament; Ann Zelinkas is chairman for the city tour and shopping guide.

Pittston Council will host "Cultural Night". Rev. Peter J. Alisaukas, Nellie T. Bayoras, Mary Timek, Phil and Marcella Bartoli are the planning committee with Alice Pusavage, publicity.

"Fun Night" will be hosted by Forest City Council. The chairmen are Isabel DeWitt, Beatrice Stanis and Anthony Yavorosky, with Michael Yavorosky, publicity.

Marie Laske is Decoration chairman for the Convention Banquet. She and her committee are preparing individual coal souvenirs.



*Seated left to right; Marie Laske, decorations chairman, Helen Cravath. Standing left to right; Patsy Simms, Ann Patelunas, Anna Galenas and Margaret Laibinas.*

The closing Mass will be celebrated in St. Joseph's Church, North Scranton on Sunday August 23 at 10:30 A.M. Lithuanian born Bishop, Most Rev. Vincent Brizgys, Chicago, Illinois will be the main celebrant. The Holy Mass will be sung in Lithuanian by the combined choirs of Scranton, Pittston and Forest City under the direction of Prof. Alphonse Bulavich.

Gifts donated by Helen Butsavage, Wall Rosary; Anna Bagdon, homemade quilt; Sister Virginia Marie, Lithuanian Ethnic doll and Charles Cyzauskas, ceramic coal miner will be awarded at the Sunday brunch. Richard Laske is in charge of tickets.

A recreation program for Thursday afternoon and all day Friday is being planned for the Juniors.

The General chairman for the convention is Eve Kazokas assisted by Anne Challan Pittston; Casimir Yanish, Scranton and Charles Cyzauskas, Forest City. Louis Pocius is liaison and transportation chairman. Betty Hanas is publicity chairman. The Honorary co-chairmen are Rev. Michael C. Ozalas, pastor, St. Joseph's Church; Rev. Peter J. Alisaukas, pastor, St. Casimir's Church and Rev. Bernard A. Toloczko, pastor, St. Anthony's Church. Rev. Ben Paukstis is pastor emeritus of St. Anthony's Church.



*Rev. Michael C. Ozalas, pastor, St. Joseph's Church with Betty Hanas, publicity and Louis Pocius, liaison.*



**OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF  
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA,  
COUNCIL 143 ST. CASIMIR'S  
CHURCH, PITTSTON, PA.**

The 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania to be held at the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa. August 19th to 23rd is co-hosted by Council 143 of St. Casimir's with Councils 46 St. Anthony's Forest City, and Council 74 St. Joseph's Scranton, Pa. Officers for the Council are: President Leo Butsavage, 1st Vice President, Marie Lauck; 2nd Vice President, Paul Patrick; Secretary, Dorothy Banos; Financial Secretary, Nellie T. Bayoras; Lithuanian Affairs and Ritual Chairman, Nellie T. Bayoras; Treasurer, John Wisnosky; Vytis Correspondence, Paul Patrick; Public Relations, Alice Pusavage; Cultural, Anne Challan; Historian, Grace Kasacavage.

The Convention will open on Wednesday, August 19th, at noon with a Mass at the University of Scranton; Thursday Night, Cultural Night at St. Casimir's; Friday Night, Fun Night at the University of Scranton with Council 46, Forest City in charge, Saturday Night Banquet at the Grand Ballroom in

the University of Scranton. The Convention will close on Sunday, August 23rd, with a Con-celebrated Mass with Bishop Vincent Brizgys, Chicago, and respective Pastors at St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church, North Scranton.

Pittston Council will host Cultural Night Thursday, August 20th, at St. Casimir's beginning with Benediction at 7:30 P.M. followed by a program and display and folk singing in the Church Hall. The following committee will be in charge: Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, Nellie T. Bayoras, Mary Timek, Phil and Marcella Bartoli, assisted by Mary Makalusky, Eva Richards, Agnes Kishel, Mary Stonis, Anna Davala, Julie Farrell, Adele Brooks, Grace Kasacavage, RoseMary Montville, Mary Burdett, Paul Patrick, John Wisnosky. Hall — John Pusavage, Leo Butsavage, Paul Lauck, Joseph Tuncavage, Alphonse Chepalis, Adam Montville, Peter Partaskas. Tables and Decorations — Alberta Walsh, Margaret Zukauskas, Catherine Cremard, Mildred Walsh, and Helen Butsavage.

Council 46, Forest City will host Fun Night, Friday, August 21st, at the University of Scranton and the following from Council 143 will participate at the Banquet on Saturday Night at the University of Scranton — Reception, Mr. and Mrs. Casimir Kizis Sr., Mr. and Mrs. William Daileda, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Piragus, Dorothy Banos, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dajnowski, Mr. and Mrs. John Wasser, Atty. Ronald J. Kamage, Mr. and Mrs. Onofrio Orlando, Mr. and Mrs. Casimir Kizis Jr.

Annamarie Sewatsky is Registration Secretary and Anne Challan is Council Chairperson for the Convention. Frances Evans, Anna Walatkas, Helen and John Wisnosky are members of the choir who will sing at the Benediction and Liturgy of the Mass.

The Convention will close on Sunday, August 23rd, with a Con-celebrated Mass with Bishop Vincent Brizgys, Chicago, assisted by Council Pastors, Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, St. Casimir's, Rev. Michael Ozales, St. Joseph's; Rev. Bernard A. Toloczko. Rev. Benjamin Paukstis is Pastor Emeritus of St. Anthony's Forest City.



Pictured are the following in charge: Anne Challan, Council Convention Chairperson; Alice Pusavage, Publicity; Nellie Bayoras, Lithuanian Cultural and Ritual Affairs; Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, Spiritual Advisor; Mary Timek, Phil and Marcella Bartoli, Refreshments.

Standing: Marion Chepalis, Marie Lauck, Raffle; Leo Butsavage, Program Book; AnnaMarie Sewatsky, Registration Secretary.



**HISTORY OF KNIGHTS OF  
LITHUANIA — COUNCIL 143 —  
ST. CASIMIR'S — PITTSTON,  
PA.**

In the summer of 1976 Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis O.P. and Philip Skabeikis from the Supreme Council of Knights of Lithuania, visited St. Casimir's for the purpose of organizing the Knights of Lithuania.

The fall of the same year, on October 25th, Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, Pastor, held a meeting and at this time introduced Eva Kazokas and Gertrude Romeikas of K of L Scranton, Council 74, St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church, North Scranton who explained the purpose and history of Knights of Lithuania. It was unanimously decided by the 15 persons in attendance to start a Council in this area.

On Nov. 8, 1976, Father Alisauskas held the first meeting of the newly formed Council and the following officers were elected: President — Peter Menchinsky, Vice-President — Charles Dajanowski, Secretary — Dorothy Banos, Financial Secretary — Nellie T. Bayoras, Treasurer — Grace Kazacavage, Spiritual Advisor — Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas. It was at this time that the Charter for Council 143 was received.

The Council meets bi-monthly and in the few years has grown to 55 in membership and is actively engaged in Religious, Cultural and Social Activities. Every year Lithuania

Independence Day is observed at the flag raising ceremonies at the Courthouse in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Ethnic folk festivals at the Kingston Armory, Kingston, Pa. and the Courthouse, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., with Nellie T. Bayoras, cultural chairperson, in charge. Also the Annual Communion Breakfast and Easter Frolic.

Our young Council is proud and happy to co-host the 68th National Convention with Councils #74 Scranton and #46, Forest City and our zeal will prove that our concern for human and religious rights in America and Lithuania is as strong as ever — and forever — Dieve Palaimink Tėvynę.

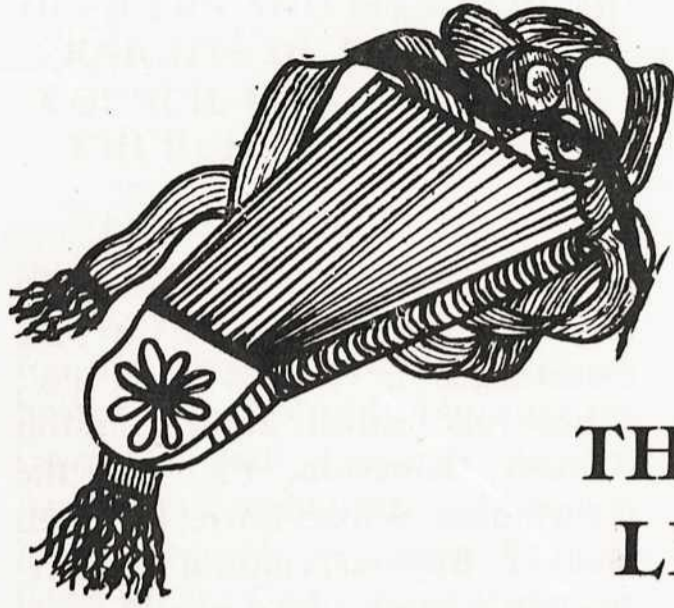


PHOTOGRAPHY BY "BREEZE"

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



# Anthracite Council 144



invites you to attend

## THE 67TH ANNUAL LITHUANIAN DAY

Lakewood Park  
Barnesville, Pa.

Sunday  
August 16

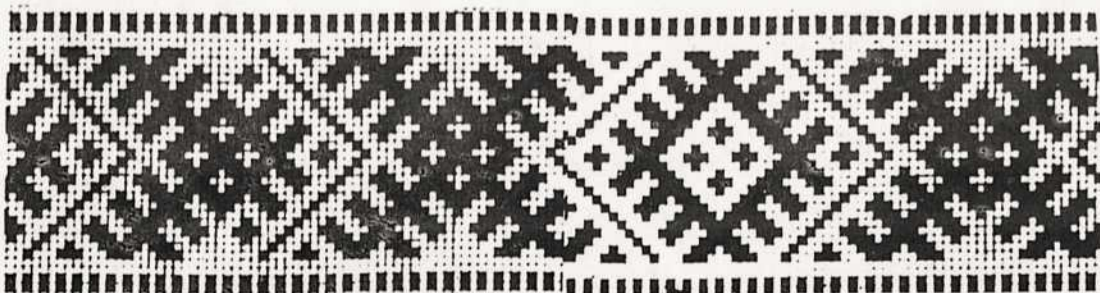


### LITHUANIAN DAY BANQUET

August 15, 1981

Annunciation Hall

Frackville







## K of L Calendar



### JULY

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

### AUGUST

16 67th ANNUAL LITHUANIAN DAY CELEBRATION, Barnesville, PA, Anthracite Council 144 Hosts.

19-23 68th NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CONVENTION, University of Scranton, Scranton, PA. Hosted by C-46, Forest City, C-74, Scranton and C-143, Pittston.

### SEPTEMBER

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

26 C-110, Maspeth, FALL DINNER DANCE. Transfiguration Hall, Maspeth, N.Y.

27 NED FALL CONVENTION, Worcester, MA, C-26, Hosts.

### OCTOBER

4 NED ANNUAL CULTURAL-SCHOLARSHIP FESTIVAL, Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, MA.

10 C-29, Newark, ANNUAL DINNER DANCE, Holy Trinity Hall, Newark, N.J.

24 C-26, Worcester, ANNUAL DINNER DANCE, Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, MA.





## SECOND ANNUAL LITHUANIAN SEMINAR FOR ENGLISH SPEAKING PARTICIPANTS

Topics in Lithuanian history, literature and language will be offered August 2nd through the 9th, AT THE SECOND ANNUAL Lithuanian Seminar for English speaking participants.

Once again to be held at the Loyola of The Lakes Retreat House in Clinton, Ohio, the seminar is designed for English speaking Lithuanians and non-Lithuanians.

For one week, students and faculty members alike, will immerse themselves in the Lithuanian culture. Courses will be offered in literature, history and linguistics. In addition, students will have the opportunity to pursue topics of individual interest under faculty supervision.

Evenings are usually spent in discussion, singing, listening to music, or in getting to know fellow "students of Lithuania" from across the country.

A library of Lithuanian and English will be on the premises, as well as a "book store" for purchase of books and related materials.

The tuition fee of \$125.00 includes accommodations, linens, and three meals daily. Transportation can be arranged from the Akron/Canton Airport or rail/bus terminals with advance notice.

Enrollment is on a nation-wide, first-come first serve basis, and is limited to thirty students. Everyone is urged to participate in this informative, stimulating, and "fun" week's activities.

In the words of Susan Gudczauskas, a K of L member, and one of last year's participants:

"I recommend the experience to anyone with a serious interest in Lithuania. It is a rare opportunity to meet other people who share a common interest and I personally feel that such interest should be kindled and spread to others . . . At the seminar, I was able to meet several scholars who were highly knowledgeable, and eager to share that knowledge, during and after classes. If you are still not convinced to join us, consider it a chance to make some good and lasting friends. I hope to see you there."

Please note all applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Interested applicants are asked to contact:

MINDAUGAS PLESKYS  
c/o Lithuanian World Youth Association  
5620 South Claremont  
Chicago, Illinois 60636

### IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers...

**Rev. PETER P. CINIKAS, MIC**  
Administrator of Draugas  
Member and Spiritual Adviser  
of Chicago Seniors  
Died May 22, 1981

**WILLIAM ROMEIKA**  
Member, C-74  
Scranton, PA  
died Apr. 30, 1981

**CONSTANTINE JUTT**  
Father of the late  
Rev. John C. Jutt  
died Mar. 19, 1981

**ALDONA CARTER**  
Member, C-17, So. Boston  
Wife of Phil Carter, special  
donor to Scholarship Fund  
Died May 1, 1981

**CHARLES WALLS**  
C-19, Pittsburgh  
died Jan. 23, 1981

**JOHN KATELLA**  
Member, C-19  
Pittsburgh, PA  
died Jan. 23, 1981



# Vyčiai Veikia Council Activities

EDITED BY MRS. JOSEPHINE ZUKAS, 6 CHARLES STREET, PORT WASHINGTON, L.I., N.Y. 11050



## ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

IID Membership Vice Pres. Eleanor Kasputis announced that our Dist. Membership Drive would conclude on June 30 and the results announced and prizes awarded during our July 4 K of L Day Picnic.

Chairman of the Board Al Brazis and his wife, Aldona, hosted a spectacular affair on the occasion of the wedding of their youngest daughter, Susan, to Gerald Fine. The many K of L members in attendance had a grand time at the Continental Plaza.

Another delightful party attended by many K of L members was the 30th wedding anniversary celebration of our ALTAS representative Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas and his wife, Irene. Our continued best wishes to this dedicated couple. Currently, Irene is the president of the Jesuit Center.

Our quarterly business meeting was held in March with Pres. Vincent Samaska presiding. Final reports were received from the "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet committee Chm. Harry Petraitis and Treas. Irene Sankus. Plans were also formulated for the balance of this K of L year.

Our Building Trustees headed by Pres. Al Mockus; Treas. Al Zakarka; Manager Clemente Vidzius, along with Julie Zakarka, Al & Ruth Dagis, and a host of other dedicated K of L members, were again active and donated their time

for the Building's Annual Rummage Sale. Due to the cooperation of many, the sale was again successful. Owing to the very pleasant weather during the day of the sale, the building trustees and friends spent time sprucing up the K of L Gardens for the first of many picnics scheduled during this picnic season. Mrs. Kazimiera Petrulis, a dedicated member of the K of L for over 50 years, always spearheads the efforts to continually improve the building.

LT 99

## C-112 — CHICAGO, ILL.

Our regular business meetings continue to have special after-meeting attractions. Following the Feb. meeting, which was held at the K of L Bldg., the council hosted the IID Degree Presentations for 1st and 2nd degree candidates with a special social for all of the IID members present. Since we celebrate Saint Casimir, Patrick and Joseph days in March, our social chairladies Julianne and Maria Zakarka prepared a delicious St. Joseph's table with the assistance of many of our council members. All members and guests in attendance truly enjoyed the delicious goodies and the return engagement of our "original K of L chipmunks" — Ruth Dagis, Irene Rakaitis and Al Shulicke.

Hosts for the March Board meeting were Paul Binkis Jr. and his parents, and hostess for the April meeting was newly-retired Sophie Nieminski. Paul and his parents always prepare an unusual and tasty repast. Now that Sophie is a retiree, we can count on her assistance on many more K of L projects, that is — when you can find her at home!

Another successful IID "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet has been completed, and, as usual, our council members were in the forefront. Harry Petraitis served as Chairman, assisted by Irene Sankus, Algerd/Aldona Brazis, Emily Petraitis, Eleanor Kasputis, Gerry Mack, Al/Julie Zakarka, Emilija Pakalniskis, Tony Yuknis, Estelle Rogers, Monica Kasper and Sophie Nieminski. Serving as escorts for the honored guests were council members: Maria Zakarka, Edward Deksnis, Estelle Rogers, Aldona Gylys, Ellie Kasputis, Julie Zakarka & Al Zakarka. The award recipient, Edward "Moose" Krause, was presented with Lifetime membership in the K of L and hopefully he will choose our council. Program participants and also council members were Honorary Members His Excellency Bishop Vincentas Brizgys and the Hon. Josephine Dauzvardis, Consul General of Lithuania, along with Canon V. Zakarauskas, our council's spiritual advisor, Algerd Brazis who performed a duet with the banquet soloist, and Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas who represented the Lithuanian American Council.

Council members were awarded degrees as follows: 4th Degree — Harry Petraitis and Jonas Auksciunas; 3rd Degree — Paul Binkis Jr; 2nd Degree — Rev. John Savukynas and Aldona Gylys, Laime Koch; 1st Degree — Rev. Anthony Markus, Peter Jasaitis, Anthony Vartunas, Anna Sliteris, Ruta





Vaisnoras, Alex & Mary Mathis, Mickey Petrosius, Mary Banky, Maria Zakarka, Edward Deksnis. Congratulations to all!

Our council lost one of our active workers, and a personal friend to many of us, with the sudden death of Eddie Krivickas. He represented our council at many a national convention and the Mid-West Bowling Tournament and was well known by many out-of-town K of L members. His death shocked and saddened us all. Condolences to his brothers and sisters and their families.

Belated condolences to our beloved Prudencija Bickus on the death of her mother, and to Aldona Gylys on the death of her father.



## MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

### C-96 — DAYTON, OHIO

It is hard to believe that winter is gone, but with the blue sky and warm rays of the sun shining down, there is no doubt. Mother Nature is smiling on us in all her glory after a very mild winter for our area.

Our annual celebration of our patron St. Casimir took place March 8 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Council Pres. Aldona Ryan gave a talk on the lineage of St. Casimir. Readings for the Mass were done by Stefanija Rastikis. Offertory bearers were Jr. Knights Vida Gecas, Elena Mikalauskas & Barbara Lastoskie. Immediately follow-

ing Mass, Ritual Committee member Eloise Berczelly formally presented Ann Louise Conrady with her Second Degree and Rosmarie Preidis with her First Degree. This was done at our St. Casimir's altar. Following the ceremony a light breakfast was held in the church hall. Hostess was our own Mary Lucas.

Ways and Means Chm. Mary Lucas has undertaken a new way of making money for our council. We signed in to participate in "Community Club Awards." What we shall be doing is saving sales slips from a local grocery chain plus various requirements involving local merchants. Points are accumulated and turned in on designated dates. Cash awards are made every other week with the Grand Total Cash Award coming at the 13th final week of the program. It will be interesting to see the end results. Assisting Mary with this project is Ada Sinkwitz, Kitty Prasmantas and Elaine Pacovsky.

This year's theme of the Archbishop's Annual Fund Drive was "Together, we do the work of the Lord". Many Knights did their share in Holy Cross Parish's part of the program. Special recognition goes to Ray Steinbrunner who was Vice-Chairman, Secy. Mildred Steinbrunner, and Auditor August Blum.

Joe & Aldona Ryan and Mary Lucas headed for Detroit on March 15 to join in with their members for a testimonial dinner for C-79's recent Honorary Membership recipient, Anthony Dainus. The acknowledgement of all the good works by Mr. Dainus for the K of L, his parish and civic functions was most inspiring. Joe, Aldona and Mary shared their trip with us and the warmth they received from the Detroit members.

Cultural Chm. Eleanor Mantz started craft classes early this year. With the many functions ahead in which we need supplies, she felt an early start was necessary. Stan Vaitkus, Nat'l. Third Vice-Pres. in charge of Senior Membership,

shared information with us from his recent attendance at a Supreme Council meeting in New York. Charlie Vangas was a winner in two ways at the March meeting, first, by his presence after many months of absence, and secondly, he got to pick the 'winner' for the March meeting — himself! It was good to see you, Charlie, but make your next attendance sooner.

Passing our city as they headed for home from Nashville, Tenn., Cleveland C-25 members Al and Joanna Shigo, Ruth Guzauskas and Adele Svet 'pulled off' to say 'hi' to some of their fellow Knights in the Dayton area. What a great surprise!

It is good to know that Alice Petkus is coming along fine, with a few minor adjustments, after recent surgery. In town during spring school break and again for Easter were our Grand Rapids, Mich. members, Joe & Ann Boeke and their family.

Congratulations to Annemarie Sluzas for receiving an excellent rating at the Ohio Music Education Assoc. Solo and Ensemble contest. Annemarie represented her high school as a mezzo soprano vocalist entrant.

To another special fellow Knight from Cleveland C-25 and MCD Ritual Chm., congratulations and much luck in her new field, retiree Nellie Arunski.

FRP



*Rosmarie Preidis receiving her First Degree, and Ann Louise Conrady her Second Degree from Dayton, Ohio C-96 Ritual Comm. member Eloise Berczelly during their St. Casimir's Day Mass.*

*Photo by Joseph Ryan*



## C-79 — SOUTHFIELD, MICH.

With hibernation over, our organizational energies are springing, too.

Nostalgia showed up all over the place at Divine Providence Cultural Center for a testimonial dinner on Mar. 15, when council members honored Anthony Dainus who had received the distinctive Honorary Degree at the Boston Nat'l. Convention. Precisely, upon entering the Center, a neat display nostalgically graced Tony's longtime collection of photos, plaques and other memorabilia of the early St. George's Days.

Among those honoring Tony were a group of clergy which included Rev. V. Krisciunevicius, pastor of Divine Providence; Rev. George Gaynor, a longtime friend and classmate in seminary school; Rev. Michael Kundrat, former pastor of Divine Prov.; and Rev. Alphonse Babonas, past administrator of Divine Prov. Also in attendance were Tony's sister, Sr. Mary Agnes of Pittsburg; a nephew and family, John Daunis of Florida; and sisters, Betty Johnson, Julia Belickas, Isabelle Pavalich and families. Immediate past Pres. of Mid-Central Dist. Aldona Ryan with her husband Joseph, and H.M. Mary Lucas

of Dayton, O. C-96 honored Tony with their presence, as well.

Featured speaker, Hon. Mem. Robert Boris commented on Tony's tremendous accomplishments and contributions to the church, Lith. community and the K of L organization, — among those being the reactivation of C-79 in 1958, with Bob's assistance. "Tony is not one who will abdicate his responsibility. He is genuine, without pretense; what you see is what he obviously is — forthright, honest and true. Tony did not pretend to be a Don Juan or some other great person, but he can be termed 'great' because he placed few limits on his personal potential. He finished tasks and immediately sought others." Mr. Boris drew a laugh when he told the audience, "I am surprised that Tony is sitting there still, and not moving about with a broom in his hand or running around with a mop." Bob's speech, which was filled with genuine emotion, will live forever in the minds of those who attended the commemorative dinner.

Aldona Ryan, representing the Mid-Central Dist., delivered an especially informative talk. She gave us a look at an intimate step-by-step understanding of an Honorary Degree, and all those who make this possible.

A presentation of an engraved watch from our council was made by Pres. Frank Zager. Other presentations and greetings were from the Parish Council, via Pres. Vytas Petrulis, of a handsome Lithuanian carving; A.L.R.K. Moteru Sajunga, through Pres. Helen Tucker; the Lith. American Community of USA-Nat'l Executive-Jonas Urbonas; the Lith. Voice Program via Kazys Gogelis; Lith. Melodies program through Albert Misciunas and BALF by Rose Rozauskas. Nuosirdus aciū jums visiems.

Short comments were made by Fr. Kundrat and Fr. Gaynor who reflected that Tony had great ability to build self-confidence, by searching for knowledge, by insisting on finding answers about things he didn't know, and by chasing what looked like windmills to others.

Lovely arrangements of spring flowers, good food and plenty of "toasting" refreshments concluded a well-attended tribute honoring Tony. Chm. of the event Sophie Zager, thanks a super committee of Frank, Chet & Marge, Joe & Jean, Maggie, Bertha, Helen, Ruth & Eleanore, Mike Vale and J. Medinis. Labai aciū, also, to Charlie Step & Sons for the printing of mementoes. The weatherman,



*Anthony Dainus' testimonial dinner hosted by C-79. (1 to r:) Honorary Member Robert Boris, Rev. George Gaynor, Mr. Dainus, Sr. Mary Agnes, and Rev. Victor Krisciunevicius, pastor of Divine Providence Church*



*Anthony Dainus' acceptance of gift presented by Southfield, MI C-79 members during his testimonial dinner, with (on left) friend and classmate, Sr. Mary Agnes of Pittsburgh, PA*



too, contributed toward a perfect day.

Fabulous fashions were exhibited on Mar. 28, when the "Ziburio Mokyklos" Parent's Committee sponsored the event. Once inside the Divine Prov. Cultural Center, the hall was transformed with budding trees, crocuses and forsythia breaking through, along with other lovely creations that signalled the approach of spring. Home-sewn originals and Lithuanian dresses were shown of many designs. Fashion models, which included Jolanda Zaparackas, were tall and thin and elegant. A "ringside" K of L table and other 79'ers saw a collection of silk outfits, suede jackets, lovely midskirts, sassy sundresses, ultra-look gowns and other well-made pieces in handsome fabrics, — garments which can be used in a great many combinations to suit particular needs. The clothes were provided by Brones-Pinto Fashion Shoppe in Windsor, Ont.

There was more touch of spring along with an Easter theme for our meeting on Apr. 1. Many thanks to Bertha Janus and Julia Medinis for the lovely colored eggs and goodies, while S. Hotra provided "Old World Eggs" charts.

Palm Sunday was the annual Parish Bake Sale and Chm. Marge Nashlon and crew took rein of serving coffee and pyraga. Maggie Smailis graced the table with a basket of fruit for a drawing.

Get-well wishes go to our former pastor Fr. Michael Kundrat, who was hospitalized before Easter.

And this winds up news for the season. Hope you all stay well, and have a safe summer!

Soffi

#### C-102 — DETROIT, MICH.

Just as we were getting bored with winter, the first robin appeared and brought us beautiful weather. It's nice living where the seasons change. When you tire of one, the next one comes and revitalizes you.

The beautiful testimonial dinner in honor of Tony Dainus of C-79 was attended by our members, Spiritual Advisor Fr. Stan, Fr. Babonis, Donna & Frank Bunikis, and Donna & John Stanevich. We were honored to have our Honorary Member Bob Boris speak at the dinner. His speech, comparing Tony with a Robert Louis Stevenson poem, was superb.

In our last article we wrote of Lithuanian-American Bishop Paul Marcinkus being considered as replacement for our retiring Archbishop John Deardon. We have since learned that The Most Rev. Edmund C. Szoka, a Polish-American, was chosen for this position. We wish Archbishop Szoka the best in his role of serving our archdiocese.

Sympathy phone calls and cards were received from Holly & David Patterson of the Syracuse, N.Y., C-140, when the Univ. of Syracuse beat the Univ. of Michigan in the Nat'l. Invitational Tournament of Basketball. The sympathies, however, were reversed in the next game when the Univ. of Syracuse was beaten by Tulsa Univ. Sorry!

Congratulations to Linda & Peter Podolski on their new home. May they enjoy many happy years in their new abode.

Our members send their deepest sympathies to Kitty Prasmantas on the death of her husband, Louis. Many happy memories are shared with our council members.

We enjoy daydreaming about the beautiful vacations our members recently took. Terry & Ray Medonis returned with beautiful tans from Montego Bay in Jamaica. Edna & Bill Klucens spent two weeks in Florida, and Bob Boris left for Florida after Tony Dainus' testimonial dinner. Donna & John Stanevich cruised the Caribbean right after our St. Casimir's Day Mass & Brunch. We still haven't seen nor heard from Ann Uznis after a month in the Bahamas. We hear she is still there.

Until the next issue, enjoy the summer!

Meriute

#### C-25 — CLEVELAND, OHIO

It's Spring, and our flock is heading north. Welcome home!

Nelda & Charlie Machutas returned from vacation, motoring to and from Florida, well-tanned and happy.

Helen & Joe Garnis, who followed the Atlantic coast line as directed by Al Shigo so they wouldn't lose their route (how about that C-96?) enjoyed a memorable trip with some unforgettable sights.

Al Shigo, with Joanna, sure wishes he could leave her home "one time," with Adele Svet and Ruth Guzauskas traveled to Kentucky and Tennessee visiting Mammoth Cave and the Grand Ole Opry, returning via Dayton, Ohio. We would like to take this means to thank Mr. & Mrs. Gus Blum, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Ambrose, Rita and mom, and Eleanor Sluzas, for their wonderful hospitality. The visit with Ada Sinkwitz was short and sweet, and we hope her doctor visit was good news. "It's great to be a K of L'er, you are never far from friends."

Alice & Ben Karklius coordinated a trip with Betty & Vic August, now of St. Petersburg, Fla., to visit with John Andrulis at his Sun City, Arizona, residence. Of course, John will be in Cleveland when the warmer weather arrives.

A combined birthday and retirement party was held for Nellie Arunski by her children, Tom, Mary Ellen, and Marcia. It was a great surprise; many of her old-time unforgettable friends were here, and many memories were rehashed. Good health on your retirement, Nellie, we all hope you enjoy it to the fullest.

An exhibit on the plight of the Lithuanian Catholics in occupied Lithuania was held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church hall, co-sponsored by our council. Nat'l. Lith. Affairs Chm. Rev. Casimir Pugevicius spoke on the many hardships and restrictions our fellow Lithuanians are undergoing under



the Soviet leaders. Many photo's and much literature were in evidence. A movie was also shown of the dedication of the Shrine of Our Lady of Siluva at the National Shrine in Wash., D.C. Many thanks to all who helped to make the exhibit a success, and to all our women members for their baked goods and coffee. Our thanks, too, to Adele Svet, Ruth Guzauskas, Mr. & Mrs. Ben Karklius, Mr. & Mrs. Ben Derus, Connie Burns, Pete Luiza, and Joanna & Al Shigo for their help at the Saturday night presentation. Ursula & Gene Kunitis, with the help of Nellie Arunski and Helen Jakubs among others, helped conclude the presentation on Sunday. Many, many thanks.

Helen & Bill Jakubs planned a trip to Rome, but before leaving, extended an invitation to our council to use their home for our monthly meeting and bowling social (which turned out to be a "Bon Voyage" party). Thanks for your great hospitality. Hope you had a wonderful trip.

We were all represented at the Midwest Bowling Tournament in DuBois, Pa., on May 17. It was nice to see all our K of L friends there.

Please say a prayer for Mike Mihaluk, formerly of Gary, Ind. C-82, who died March 18. May his soul rest in the peace of the Lord.

Al Shigo

#### C-19 — PITTSBURGH, PA.

Our members extend their deepest sympathy to Mrs. Mildred Chinik and her brother, Al Katella, on the loss of their brother, John Katella, who died on Jan. 23. John had been one of our long time members. He usually attended most of our activities and will be missed by all. John developed serious illness several months before he was called to eternal rest.

We also extend sympathy to Sisters Francesca and Alverna who lost their brother, Chales Walls, on Jan. 23.

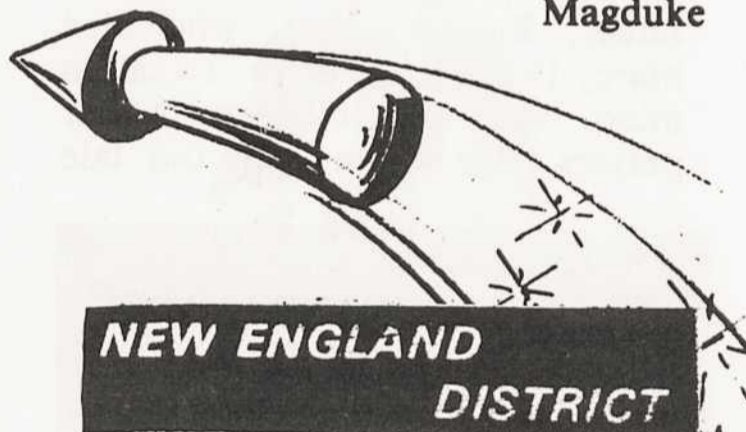
No meetings were held during the

inclement weather of January and February. The celebration of Lithuanian Independence Day was held Feb. 15 with Mass at St. Casimir's Church at 1 P.M. Following Mass, once again St. Francis Academy was the place for the successful affair held by all Lithuanians in the area. Several excellent speakers were present and a gourmet dinner was prepared by a Lithuanian caterer. Entertainment was presented by the "Aida" choral group directed by Sisters Francesca and Alverna.

On March 8, we celebrated St. Casimir's Day with 10 A.M. Mass at St. Casimir's Church and also our quarterly communion reception at the same time. A brief meeting was held during brunch at Howard Johnson's to discuss activities for the coming year. Andy Rozger informed us that his sister, Albina Ewalt, was ill and hospitalized. She is now on the road to recovery and we wish her continued complete recovery and good health.

We were scheduled for "Prayer Service" on April 22 at 7:30 P.M. at St. Casimir's Church for the survival of the Catholic faith in Lithuania.

A sparkling Fourth of July to all!  
Magduke



All councils are working diligently on the Dist.'s Membership Drive. We are all hoping to catch up with the Hartford, Conn. council which, to date has done tremendously.

The district officers and members extend its deepest sympathy to the following: Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse Trainis on the death of Teresa's mother, Nellie Petraitis of Bridgeport, Conn. Teresa is treasurer of the Supreme Council; Yuknis family of Illinois on the

death of Andrew Yuknis, past pres. of I-I Dist.; Anna Svenchonis, Lawrence, Mass. C-78's Fin. Secy., on the death of her mother, Rose Svenchonis; Rev.'s Jutt on the death of their father, Constantine Jutt, at the age of 96. He was also the father of well-known Rev. John Jutt, now deceased.

Providence, R.I. C's-103 are delighted with the appointment of Rev. Valdemar Cukuras to St. Casimir's Parish.

Congratulations to Teresa Trainis of Bridgeport, Conn. C-141 on being elected to the Advisory Board of the Ethnic Studies Committee at Sacred Heart University.

The N.E. Dist. Convention, hosted by Westfield, Mass. C-30 was held April 26. On May 17, St. Peter's Church, So. Boston's Reunion was held at Lantana, Randolph, Mass.

Dates to remember: Aug. 19-23, Nat'l. Convention; Sept. 27, NED Fall Convention hosted by Worcester, Mass. C-26 at St. Casimir's Church; Oct. 4, NED Festival at Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, Mass; and Nov 21, "German Nite" sponsored by Srs. C-17, So. Boston, Mass. Let's all support our K of L activities.

We'll leave you with this thought: "No man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself."

Marion Hobitz

#### C-103 — PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Our K of L Lithuanian class at Providence College has taken some class time to help our Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor, Father Jurgelaitis, prepare and distribute materials for the phase II signature collection in order to hasten the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis.

St. Casimir's Parish recently elected a parish committee with includes seven members of the K of L: John Walaska, Bertha Stoskus (NED Pres.), Joseph Waitonis, Agnes Waitonis, Vito Kapiskas, Francis Kapiskas, and Sophie



**Sakalys (Sakaliene).** Congratulations and God's blessings to the newly-elected. The parish awaits your active support.

In the last Vytis issue, it was omitted that our Cultural Chairlady, Ann LaButti, gave a talk about amber and its care.

On March 29, some of our members went to the Biltmore Hotel for brunch. It is hoped that in the future all of the K of L members may go to brunch together.

Pray for our Lithuanian people who are being persecuted in Lithuania.

On June 13 there will be a Mass to commemorate the "Terrible Days of June" at St. Mary's Church in Bristol, R.I. Our meeting will follow the Mass at Bea & Vic Mathieu's home.

With the warm months ahead and preparations for the 68th Nat'l. K of L Convention in Scranton, Pa. underway, we would like to wish all a healthy and happy summer.

See you at the Convention in Scranton!

HELEN DENISEWICH

### C-10 — ATHOL—GARDNER, MASS.

St. Casimir must have been proud as K of L'ers all over celebrated his feast day. Our local council attended the 10:30 a.m. Mass in St. Francis Church in Athol on March 8. The group marched into church in a procession led by our Spiritual Advisor Rev. Justin Steponaitis and a contingent of altar boys. Father gave an appropriate sermon, and a beautiful altar to St. Casimir was made and decorated by Father. Following Mass, we had dinner at the Red Rooster in Orange, followed by a meeting. Guests in attendance were Ann Novack of Orange and Naval Cadet Philip Erickson, the Genaitis' grandson. Mary Gauronsky and Blanche Genaitis were in charge of arrangements.

As part of St. Francis Parish Lenten Retreat, Fr. Stepie had Father Bacevicius, a Franciscan,



*Rev. Justin Steponaitis, pastor of St. Francis Church and Spiritual Advisor of Athol-Gardner, MA C-10*

hold a healing service and talk on the healing ministry. It was largely attended and deeply appreciated. Many of K of L'ers attended.

Brone Wisniauskas and family received word of the death of their father Antanas Savulis, on Feb. 16 in Kupowo, Poland. He and his family made their home in Poland since the Russian occupation of Lithuania. Several Memorial Masses were offered for his soul, attended by family and friends. Condolences to you, Brone.

Condolences, too, are extended to the Jutt family on the loss of their father, Kostanty Jutt, who died Marcy 19 at the age of 96. To call to mind, let's all remember in our prayers, Rev. John Jutt, our late



*Members of Athol-Gardner, MA C-10 at their St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast*

friend, pastor, leader and advisor, who died 10 years ago. Time flies and heals all wounds (as the old saying goes), but we are still waiting for a second Father Jutt to replace the great loss in the Lithuanian Catholic community of the United States. *Lai Dievas suteikia jam amzina atilsi.*

Best wishes to Petronele Beatrice Richard on the occasion of her namesday. Birthday wishes are extended to Charles Genaitis, Father Stepie, and Alice Zaremba. Alice & Stan Perekslis are the proud grandparents of another grandchild, Chris John, born recently in So. Hadley. The Marshes celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary and visited the Islands on a "second honeymoon". Our members wish them both many more years of happiness together. A happy "First" to Alice & Bill Zaremba and to Gladys & Charles Richardson. May you live to see many more. *Ilgiausiu metu!*

A group from Gardner attended the NED Spring Convention in Westfield on April 26. Many long-time friends were met and old times remembered. Thank you, Westfield, for a fine time and excellent food.

Our hearts and prayers go out to President Reagan and his family on the recent attempt on his life. God speed his recovery.

Thought for the monty: A word to this year's graduates...Be true to your heritage! There are numerous ways in which you can contribute to the "cause." You may find a job out-of-town, away from your parish, but seek out a Lithuanian parish if you can. Join the local Lithuanian club if possible, attend their functions, keep up our traditions. We need young Lithuanian leaders as the old-timers step down to a well rewarded rest. But, by all means, be proud of your heritage. You are our hope!

Member of the month: We are truly fortunate to have as our pastor and spiritual advisor, Rev. Justin Steponaitis. Father Stepie, as he is called by his many friends, was born in the village of Skaisgirai, Sin Tautai parish in 1912. He attended the Sakai High School and the



Seminary of Vilkaviskis, and was ordained by Bishop Karosas on June 13, 1937. During the war years he was forced to flee to Germany where he devoted his life to the pastoral needs of his fellow countrymen. In 1953, Father arrived in the Sates and did pastoral work in Texas for a year. He then served at Our Lady of Vilna parish in Worcester where he was devoted to the faithful of the parish. Father arrived in Athol in 1971 where he has been a devoted man of God to his parishioners and many non-Lithuanians who attend St. Francis Church. Father, we all wish you God's choicest blessings in the years to come. *Lai Dievas taves laimino.*

*Tėvų Dienos proga sveikiname visus tėvus jų dienoje.* To all fathers, a great big wish of happiness for their day. During the month of June, let's also remember Lithuania and her people in our prayers and good works.

Vincukas

#### C-26 — WORCESTER, MASS.

Everyone's a potential K of L'er. Extend an invitation to a friend and see what happens. Marion Racicot did just that. The result? Lillian Struckus has rejoined our council. A warm welcome, Lillian. And while we're on the subject of membership, Marion Racicot announces that Second Degrees were conferred upon the following on March 13: Dwight & Virginia Cummings, Withold & Virginia Ivaska, Frances Kulakusky, Agnes Law, William & Anne Leseman, and Albin & Dorothy Seilius. Marion was assisted by her Ritual co-chairperson Adele Degutis and Honorary Member Ann Bender.

Their work and accomplishments have earned special recognition for some of our young people. Debbie Godek, daughter of Joseph & Barbara Godek, was awarded the Campfire Girls' "I Live My Faith" award. Mark Walinsky, son of

Stephen & Eleanor Walinsky, received the Ad Altare Dei award (Mark has been an altar server at St. Casimir's since the first grade). These youngsters received their awards from the hands of His Excellency, Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan of St. Paul's Cathedral, here in Worcester, on April 26.

We join Ann & Bill Buckley in proudly announcing that their daughter, Marilyn, participated in the Special Winter Olympics in Great Barrington, Mass. last March. Marilyn brought home a few awards in winter sports and we congratulate this young lady.

Mrs. Nell Thompson, Carol Grigas, Bill Leseman, Tony Morkunas and Jack Kazlauskas all were inpatients late winter and early spring. We're cheering for these five so that they may enjoy perfect health soon.



Dinner meetings are a big hit with our council. Withold Ivaska's "special" Lenten fish menu received assistance from his wife, Virginia, Adele & Francis Degutis and Ann Walinsky. We spotted the following seated at just one of the tables: Steve Walinsky, Sr., Ginny Lelakis, Helen Gillus, Father Ben Uzdavinis, MIC (our spiritual director), Edwina & Francis Ginkus, John & Ann Ridick, Lenny & Ruth Ramsdell and their son, Claire Grigaitis, Ann Bucinkas (Anne's planning a spring jaunt to England, Scotland and Ireland), Kazys & Teresa Adomavicius, Frances Grigas, Vite & Ruth Gadilauskas, Marion Shapiro, Rita Pinkus with her mom, Nell Thompson, Gregory & Rita Sokol, Walter Grimaila, Bea & Tony Anton, Marion & Bart March, and Ron & Claire Stolulonis.

Who DIDN'T go to Florida this past winter? The list is longer, — James & Pauline Mahoney made the trip in March.

Reports will be forthcoming for the following activities; our council's Prayer Day for Lithuania at St. Casimir's on April 29; the bus trip to New York City on May 23; a military whist party on May 9 with proceeds set to benefit three causes — Religious Aid, Lithuanian Affairs and Scholarship; the bowling banquet on May 1 wherein the sports stars of the season will be announced; the August Nat'l. Convention in Scranton Pa. our parish picnic to be held the first Sunday after Labor Day; and our annual dinner dance on Oct. 24 at Maironis Park. And in between this list of events are those famous summer out-door meetings!

All of us join in congratulating fathers, grandfathers, Godfathers and guardians for this is the month of June wherein falls FATHER'S DAY. Good health, a long life and much joy to all!

Dzukele





## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

### ANTHRACITE, PA. C-144

Thanks to a very successful Lithuanian Independence Day celebration, chaired by Helen Chesko, we were able to send another \$200 donation to Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. It is really rewarding when we are able to aid our brothers and sisters in Lithuania, and this is one way of doing it.

Our council has adopted the town of Pavandiene as our sister town in Lithuania. Joseph Yezulinas and Anne Panchari were chosen as Godparents.

Through the efforts of one of our a very active Lithuanian Affairs committee members, the pastor of St. Ann's Church has a beautiful new vestment and Lithuanian bible and missal. This member has been instrumental in getting many items to this church, and we are all very proud of this member.

Anna Butts was chairperson for our Annual St. Casimir's Day Breakfast and it was an inspiring affair. Guest speaker Rimas Chesonis, American representative to the Madrid Conference, gave an excellent talk.

Anne Marie Lithkowsky, Annie Morgalis, Tessie Balulis, Helen Am-

brose, Elsie and Clem Kosmisky, Anna Zaldaris, Julia Norcross, Anna Butts, Anne Panchari, Nell Klizas, Flo Kobluskie, Frances Brillius, and Anne Wargo journeyed to New York to the M.A. Dist. St. Casimir's Day Breakfast & Spring Convention. Many thanks to C-12 for a lovely day. Tessie, Helen, Clem, Julia, Anna Butts, and Frances all got their Third Degree awards. Congratulations!

Our Awards Night, prior to our April meeting, was very impressive, thanks to Ritual Chm. Helen Chesko and Spiritual Advisor Father Al Bartkus. Helen and Father presented First and Second Degree awards to members at Annunciation BVM Church, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The men were hosts for the social after the meeting, and everybody had fun.

Anne Marie Lithkowsky, Helen Ambrose, and Helen Labadis journeyed to Pittston to attend their annual affair and had a grand time. They met many friends from Scranton and Forest City and are looking forward to seeing them at the Nat'l. Convention.

Margie & Joe Yezulinas celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on April 26. They had a beautiful Lithuanian Mass celebrated by Father Bartkus, Father Jarasunas and Msgr. Neverauskas. Margie and Joe once again exchanged their vows, and after Mass had a lovely reception in Our Lady of Siluva Church. "Ilgiausiu, ir laimingu metu" to Margie and Joe, who are two dedicated K of L'er's May you have many more happy years together.

The first Lithuanian Day meeting was held in April with Evelyn Prep and Anne Wargo as co-chairmen, — and things are rolling. This year's affair which will be the 67th celebration will be held Aug. 16 at Lakewood Park, Barnesville, Pa. Special guest will be Vladas Sakalys who recently escaped from Lithuania, and the Aušrine Dancers from Philadelphia will perform. The rest of the program will be announc-

ed at a later date. We hope every K of L'er, from near and far, will support us, and bring their many friends.

Thanks to the Minersville Jr. Knights and their mentors for the wonderful work they have been doing on the Lithuanian Radio Program. We are very proud of these young people.

Cultural Chm. Annie Morgalis and her teaching the Jr. Knights the art of "Marguciai," was featured in a Sunday's Harrisburg Patriot News.

On May 3, Msgr. Joseph Neverauskas was honored by the K of L with their "For God and Country" award. Congratulations, Msgr., from all your fellow Vyciai. Joe Yezulinas left with Msgr. Neverauskas for a trip to Lithuania in May. We hope they had a fine trip.

"Simta aciū" to all my Vyciai broliai ir seseris for their cards, gifts, flowers, and prayers during my recent illness. This is a time when you realize how great it is to be a member of the Vytis family.

Happy Springtime to all our K of L friends.

Ona Wargo

### C-100 — AMSTERDAM, N.Y.

The 63rd Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence was observed Feb. 14 with a 5 p.m. Mass in St. Casimir's Church celebrated by Rev. Robert K. Baltch. A Lithuanian flag donated to the church by Polly & Edward Ziausys was blessed by Father before the Mass. Readings were given by Polly Ziausys and Jrs. Pres. Michael Mikolaitis. Organist John Nye provided the music.

A dinner and program, sponsored by the council, followed in the Social Center with about 125 persons attending. Many were out-of-town guests. Invocation was given by Rev. Peter Jonaitis, Gloversville, and Pres. Anthony J. Radzevich welcomed the guests. Mrs. Virginia Valikonis, Third Ward supervisor, was mistress of ceremonies.



Congressman Samuel S. Stratton, the '78 recipient of the Fr. John Jutt award, told the gathering that he would be voicing his comments together with many of his colleagues on the floor of the House on the anniversary of Lithuania's independence. This was done on Feb. 18. Cong. Stratton, who was visited many foreign nations as a member of the Procurement Subcommittee, said he hoped there would be an opportunity for the committee to visit Lithuania and the other Baltic States. He said he would like to include Father Baltch in the tour group as the spiritual advisor and interpreter. Cong. Stratton concluded his talk with the following, "Kas bus, kas nebus, O Lietuva neprazus!"

Mayor Mario Villa greeted the audience and expressed his concern for the lack of freedom in Lithuania. He felt that people do not realize how important freedom is until they lose it. He also agreed with Cong. Stratton that someday the Lithuanian people will once again enjoy independence.

Two most sensitive messages about Lithuania and her quest for freedom were delivered by Mrs. Ona Adomaitis in English and by Mr. Vytautas Zmuidzinas in Lithuanian, both from Rochester, N.Y. Much of Mr. Zmuidzinas' text dwelled on the Chronicle of the Lithuanian Church. He emotionally declared, "Lieutuva dar yra gyva!"

Proclamations by Gov. Hugh Carey and Amsterdam's Mayor Villa were read. Gene Gobis thanked the Mayor for having the Lithuanian flag fly alongside the American flag over City Hall on Feb. 16. She announced that the Lithuanian flag would also be flying over Albany's City Hall.

Loudly applauded was an editorial, "Freedom-loving Lithuanians Detest Union" by Stanley E. Silvernail, Recorder editorial page editor, in the Feb. 14 edition. Regina Kot and Polly Ziausys were praised for their program about Lith. on TV-8 at the Recorder on Feb. 13.



*Amsterdam, NY C-100 Pres. Anthony Radzevich presenting a Lithuanian flag to Mayor Mario Villa which later flew over City Hall on Feb. 16. Mrs. Villa (2nd from left) and Gene Gobis look on.*

*(Photo taken by Cindy Livingston of the RECORDER newspaper staff.)*

The evening's entertainment was in the form of poems recited by Mrs. Isabele Zmuidzinas, a most skilled performer, and songs by Sutartine, a 6-member highly talented group from Rochester. The director & accordionist for this group was Mr. Jonas Adomaitis. The audience responded with great enthusiasm.

The centerpiece in the colors of the Lithuanian flag was presented to Sophie Olbie. Rev. Anthony Grigaitis said the Benediction.

"Treasures of Lithuania," an exhibit prepared by the Juniors, was on display in the Social Center. In charge were Gerard Drenzek and Rima Hartvigas, assisted by Michael Mikolaitis, Stanley & Joseph Rimkunas, and Joan Jasewicz.

Mrs. Virginia Valikonis commended the committee for its work. Gen'l. Chm. was Polly Ziausys, Ticket Chm. Sophie Olbie, Program Cover Chm. Regina Kot, and Refreshment Chm. Jack Sweet. We thank them and their committees for a job very well done.

On April 4-5, our parish held its annual eucharistic devotion (40 Hours). Saturday services were held in Lithuanian, and K of L Member

Rev. Peter Jonaitis, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Gloversville, was homilist. On Sunday, all four of our K of L clergy were in attendance: Rev. Bernard Gustas, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Schenectady, Rev. Peter Jonaitis, Rev. Anthony Grigaitis and Rev. Robert K. Baltch. Rev. Michael Clemente was the homilist.

Get-well wishes go to former Secy. Nellie Liberis, Ann Radzevich, and a speedy recovery for Edward Ziausys who underwent surgery. A cheering and round of applause greeted Sadie Allen when she arrived at the April meeting. Sadie had been taken ill the day before our St. Casimir's Day brunch. She thanked everyone for their cards, gifts and visits, and was especially grateful to Polly Ziausys whose quick thinking probably saved her life. Glad to have you back Sadie!

Bernice Aviza, M.A. Dist. Lith. Affairs Chm., attended the district meeting on March 8 at Our Lady of Vilnius Hall in N.Y.C. and reported back to our group of their activities. The Captive Nations Week display at the Empire State Plaza in Albany,



N.Y. will be held July 12, and Bernice is planning the Lith. display.

Ed Baranauskas chaired the Lithuanian Booth on May 16 at the Festival of Nations at Schenectady Museum. Lithuanian food, desras and kuopustai was served.

Members of our council express their deepest sympathy to Phil Carter of Cranston, R.I. on the loss of his beloved wife, Aldona. May she find peace in the Lord's love.

Smile & Sparkle

### C-12 — NEW YORK, N.Y.

Hardly had the excitement of our March council meeting died down, when another "bomb" was deposited in our laps, — the council of Fun City was given the honor of hosting the annual district St. Casimir's Day Communion breakfast and meeting. Of course we were happy to oblige, but the responsibility was huge, having to provide for approximately 200 guests which were soon going to descend on us. Helen Yurkus, a great organizer and first-rate cook, was chairperson of the event. She, with her group of able assistants, did a marvelous job; well almost, — we did have a few cliff hangers, but survived. According to Honorary Member Elena Saulyte, no one dared to get tired, until the last guest had left Father Gurinskas hall.

The festivities started with Mass. Not since the days of our late organist Mykolas Cibas, did we hear such beautiful singing. Much thanks to maestro Liudas Stukas and the Knights of Councils 12, 29 and 110. A pat on the back for our soloists Liudas Stukas and Mecys Rasgaitis. After Mass, when all gathered in the hall, our proud council presented a set of Encyclopedia Lituanica to the Center for Migration Studies in Staten Island. Miss Maggie Sullivan accepted out most generous gift (in her words) which will be a constant reminder at the Center of Lithuania and her Knights. The set

was presented by our council in memory of Milly Paskacimis, who passed away last year. Larry Janonis, M.A. Dist. Pres., did the honors. A nice group from Milly's family attended. As is usual at district conventions, the Third Degree award was presented. The Ritual Chairperson on the district level, Jovita Sleder, made the presentation to 23 worthy recipients. Congratulations, well-done!

A highlight of this convention was our guest-speaker, the Rev. Bernard Hrico, Observer for the Catholic Press at the United Nations. His most interesting talk dealt with a variety of pertinent contemporary questions of special concern to the Knights and of what help they can be to occupied Lithuania. Father's talk enchanted the spell-bound audience and how much of it was absorbed could be seen later on in the question-and-answer period.

The Knight of the Year award was presented to Honorary Member Elena Saulyte. She was given a most beautiful copy of the newly published book "The Lithuanian National Costume" by A. and A. Tamosaiciai. A better choice for bestowing this honor would be difficult to make. Elena, musu kuopa ir visa apygardo tavimi didziuojas! But Elena never rests on her laurels. At present she is busy designating parishes in Lithuania for the various councils to adopt.

On a sunny day in April, the Knights could be seen lugging heavy shopping bags loaded with all sorts of goodies toward Transfiguration parish hall (the homes of C-110) in Maspeth. This was the day of our annual fair. The hall looked like a Lietuviskas Turgus. Dozens of tables were loaded with a variety of items for sale. All one needed was money. The White Elephant table was especially popular; the "elephants" vanished in no time. Another popular spot was the Uzeiga where all of us forgot our diets. Our talented Ann Klem showed us how to color Lithuanian



*Maggie Sullivan accepting the set of Lithuanian Encyclopedia's, donated by New York C-12, from M.A. Dist. Pres. Larry Janonis. Looking on is the Rev. B. Hrico and Nat'l Pres. Philip Skabeikis.*

Easter marguciai. Jovita Sleder demonstrated the making of Christmas ornaments from straw. Our district is loaded with talent. As the last guests left the hall, the tired but happy Knights were enjoying their kugele and balandeliai and wondering "kiek pinigų padarema?" We do have many projects coming up!

Upon reaching home, the registration blanks for the Nat'l. Convention in Scranton were waiting for us to be filled out. On the council level, there is our "Return of the Hobo" Dance coming up in November. Anyone wanting tickets should contact Jean Janonis. She will be happy to oblige.

Su Dievu, see you at the Convention!

Hill and Dale

### C-110 — MASPETH, N.Y.

Rev. Frank Bulovas, Pastor of Transfiguration Church and Spiritual Advisor of the M.A. District, and State Senator Martin Knorr, were guests at our February meeting.

Sister Urban addressed the council, expressing her sadness in the closing of the Lithuanian parish of Mary, Queen of Angels Church in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, N.Y. She then spoke of her visit to Lithuania



in 1940 where she witnessed the imprisonment of the people of Lithuania. She compared it with the freedom we enjoy in the USA, which we take for granted. Sister Urban stated she had a Lithuanian nose. Kas tas yra?

Julia Matulevich was the 50/50 winner at the February meeting. We welcome Millie & Ziggy Gregotowicz to our council. We look forward to working with you.

Simas Kudirka was unable to attend our February meeting, but he, his wife and Vladas Sakalys, (the latest escapee from Lithuania) were our guest speakers at the March meeting. He asked us to be ever mindful of our roots and of the Lithuanians who are now suffering inhuman terror at the hands of the communists. Mr. Kudirka encouraged us to write to the President of the United States and to our congressmen at every opportunity whenever they propose any legislation which will preserve our freedoms. He requested that we contact the media whenever opposing commentaries are made.

Mr. Sakalys stressed Lithuania's 40 years of oppression by the communists and cautioned us about the spread of communism to countries near us, i.e., Cuba, Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Ed Sirgedas was the March 50/50 winner.

Forty-one members of our council participated in the M.A. Dist.'s St. Casimir's Mass & Communion Breakfast at Our Lady of Vilnius Church on March 8, hosted by New York C-12. Salesian Father Stasys Sileika, a visitor from St. Casimir's (how appropriate) Parish in San Paulo, Brazil, was the celebrant and also gave the homily.

The guest speaker at the breakfast was former Air Force Chaplain Father Bernard Hrico. He is currently the United Nations Chairman of the Committee on Aging.

The district business meeting followed. Twenty-three members were recipients of Third Degree awards: 3 were from Newark, N.J.

C-29, 7 from Anthracite, Pa. C-144, 3 from Pittston, Pa. C-143, and 11 from St. Petersburg, Fla. C-147.

Honorary Member Helen Shields of Philadelphia, Pa. C-3 received the yearly award given to a member who gave unselfishly of time and effort to the organization. Last Year's recipient was Jeanne Janonis.

Total attendance at the Dist. Meeting was 1 clergy, 5 Dist. officers, and 103 delegates. Our council had 39 delegates present.

Did you know that Abraham Lincoln and Thaddeus Kosciusko were born on the same day — 63 years apart? Did you know that in 1898, Bishop Antanas Baranauskas composed "Graudus Verksmai," a poetic collection of hymns and meditations on the suffering Christ and the sorrowful Mother?

Make plans to attend our Annual Dinner-Dance at Transfiguration Hall on Sept. 26. Nellie & Frank Yuskevich are chairing the affair.

Our council members attend the 11 a.m. Mass at Transfiguration Church on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Come and celebrate with us. Council meetings are held at 8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. No meetings will be held in July or August. Have a good summer!

Peter J. Yuskevich

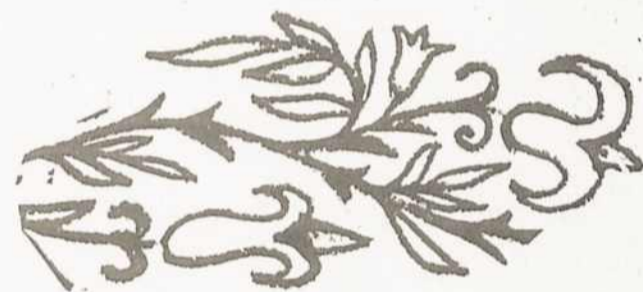
## NEWARKO VYČIŲ 29 KUOPA N.Y.

Š.m. kovo mėn. 8 dieną Newarko Vyčių 29 kuopos veiklios narės per įvykusį Lietuvos Vyčių Vidurio Atlanto apskrities suvažiavimą suruošė komunijos pusryčius, Lietuvių parapijos Aušros Vartų bažnyčios salėje New York, N.Y.

Į Vyčių 3-jį laipsnį buvo pakeltos šios narės: Iš kairės p. Onutė Bagdonavičienė, Onutė Čepulienė, Vijola Skriptienė. Šios darbščios narės Vyčių organizacijoje yra gimę ir augę gražioje J.A. Valtybės. Kalba gražiai ir teisingai lietuviškai, be to geros šeimininkės ir žino visus lietuviškus papročius, o kuopoje užima įvairias pareigas, bei dalyvauja parengimų komitetuose.

29-tos kuopos valdyba ir nariai sveikina ir kartu džiaugiasi turėdami darbščias ir veiklias nares, linkėdami ir toliau tęsti tą gražų darbą savo Tėvynės Lietuvos Vyčiam.

A. Žukauskas



Ona Chapulienė, Ona Bagdonavičienė, Viola Skriptienė,  
Newarko C-29 vytės



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112

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