



*Knights of Lithuania Dancers of Chicago, under the direction of Frank Zapolis (second from right), help spread Lithuanian culture and the KofL name all over the Illinois — Indiana District*

**RUGPIUTIS — RUGSEJIS**  
**AUGUST — SEPTEMBER**

**the KNIGHT**  
**VYTYTIS**

**— 1981 —**  
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**THE KNIGHTS**  
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VOL. 67

RUGPIUTIS — RUGSEJIS

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

**the KNIGHT**  
**VYTIS**

PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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## LITHUANIANS COME ALIVE... IN KANSAS CITY

Perhaps it is the dearth of coverage in the Lithuanian Press . . . perhaps it is traditional thinking . . . But one rarely associates strong ethnic ties, especially ties to Eastern European beginnings, with the rural Midwest. Right or wrong, it has been assumed that, in the stretch westward past Illinois and before California, little or no vestigages of ethnicity can be found!

But last fall, thanks to the ingenuity, hard work and sacrifice of a few Lithuanian Americans interested in their roots, the so-called Midwest "Corn Belt" began bustling anew with Lithuanian activity, proving that indeed "everything's up to date in Kansas City" . . . especially where a rebirth of ethnic feeling is concerned. Over 500 Lithuanian-Americans, from Kansas City and its surroundings responded to an invitation to renew their Lithuanian ties, gathered for an enjoyable, almost impromptu "Lithuanian Day" picnic, and later ended up forming the "Lithuanians of America", with great hopes of spreading the Lithuanian fever to Denver, Omaha, and other Midwest centers.

Their story is a most interesting one, and one that should prove an inspiration to others. It can best be told in the words of one of the group's organizers — Donald Zemites. Following are excerpts of Mr. Zemites' letter to your editor, in response to inquires about their newly-formed group.

"Dear Mrs. Stukas:

You cannot imagine how pleased I was to receive your letter and recent issue of "Vytis". Thank you very much.

We Lithuanians here in Kansas City are, of course, extremely excited and proud of the gathering of the Liths. To begin with, my wife and mother say I am exaggerating with 600 people at the picnic and the actual number being more like 500. I will bow to their accuracy since they took the registration of the attendees, but I know I observed many who came in without bothering to register either themselves or their children. In any case, 500 plus is still a hell of a lot of Lithuanians for this area. Also, we believe the number will grow in the coming years as we continue to discover Lithuanians who have settled in this area in the past 25 or 30 years since the closing of the Lithuanian parish.

To give you a report on what happened one must give at least a brief history of the Lithuanian church, St. Casimir's. There was a small number of Lithuanian families in the Kansas City, Kansas, area who had settled near one another in the late 1800's. These families were going to various churches in the area, but decided in approximately 1905 to attempt to establish their own

Loretta Stukas/Donald Zemites



religious community. Through considerable struggles and with much resistance, they were finally successful in building a church in Kansas City, Kansas, in about the year 1912. The church grew and prospered, building a rectory and ultimately a small brick school with 8 grades in two rooms with two teaching Franciscan nuns. The parish had planned to build a new church, school and rectory. At about that time, in 1947, the then pastor, Father Francis Zekas died, and the bishop of the diocese, decided that the church should be closed, because the approximately 150 families in the church could not sustain further growth. The church was closed and the members directed to attend the nearby Slovak church of St. Cyril's and Methodias.

As was experienced, the Lithuanian community slowly broke up from its geographic enclave and spread throughout the greater Kansas City area.

Very little further was heard from the ethnic community, except as individual families perpetuated the traditions and culture. There was no ongoing community or center of interest for the people. In those days, being a small community, we were unaware of such organizations as the Knights of Lithuania.

Approximately three years ago one of my favorite aunts died and at the funeral I met a cousin that I had not seen in some years. We had grown up together near the church, along with approximately forty other relatives. He and I did not realize until we met some twenty years later that we were yearning to see more of the family and more of the Lithuanian people. We began contacting our other cousins on the Zemites side and had several fine

get-togethers. Through the course of these parties, we began discussing the possibility of bringing in other cousins from grandmother's side, i.e. the Purdusky, for similar parties. The group continued to grow. We then heard of a local engineer, Tony Granoski, who had been invited by a local community college to speak in a lecture series on the various countries of eastern Europe. We contacted him and found that he was quite interested in the Lithuanian culture and had done a remarkably good job of putting together a lecture on Lithuania, which was well received at the college.

In subsequent meetings we struck upon the idea of attempting to obtain official recognition of the Lithuanian peoples located in Kansas City and to have a "Lithuanian Day picnic" each year. It was simply amazing the number of people who were excited by the prospect and extremely interested in working hard to accomplish what became a huge success.

We searched the old church records for names of families and began sending out mailers for our first planning meeting. Approximately 50 people attended the first meeting. We organized a steering committee and subcommittees, and moved toward getting media coverage to further advertise our activities and picnic.

On September 23rd we were successful in obtaining a beautiful presentation of a formal proclamation by the City of Kansas City, Kansas. This was presented at the City Commissioners chamber with approximately 75 Lithuanians in attendance. We had extremely good press coverage of that official recognition.

Next came the great day of September 28, 1980, when we had the First Annual Lithuanian Day Picnic. We





reserved the Pavilion, a shelter house at the Kansas City, Kansas, City Park, where we had historically had picnics for all the years the church was in existence.

We found that most of the Lithuanians had risen to substantial jobs and careers and that many were quite influential in obtaining local media coverage of every kind. Announcement of the upcoming picnic was obtained on 22 radio stations, at least 12 newspapers, including the Kansas City Star. The three major affiliate television stations covered the picnic thoroughly. One station gave us five minutes of coverage, along with individual interviews and a history similar to the one in this letter. Additionally, we had sent invitations on the new Lithuanian letterhead stationery to all families and then followed up with a very devoted group who telephoned every individual and family we could find.

The city-wide coverage prior to the picnic was exceptionally effective because we found quite a number of families who attended the picnic who had been transferred here from Chicago, New York and a number of other cities, even some fairly recent transplants from

Europe. They were just as eager as everyone else. Many of them did not realize that there was ever a Lithuanian church and community here and were very excited at the prospect of forming a permanent Lithuanian society.

The accompanying pictures show the many happy faces and the fabulous work by the decoration committee. In addition to Lithuanian music and memorabilia, we had a booth providing various Lithuanian dishes. There was also individual dancing, as well as a group of semi-professional ethnic dancers who demonstrated and taught the various dance steps. Games and favors for the children were provided, along with spontaneous activities.

The wife of the Mayor of Kansas City, Kansas, is one-half Lithuanian, so they both came and spent most of the day, which added considerable interest.

This first picnic was a bring your own food and drinks affair, except for beer which was provided at nominal cost.

It was a fantastically beautiful day with nothing but smiling faces, tears and laughter. As you will see from



our letterhead, we chose the name of Lithuanians of America for our group, which I am incorporating in the State of Kansas. By the time our group began to get well organized, we found out about the Knights of Lithuania and certain of us certainly plan to organize a chapter here.

Our future plans include a Mass and breakfast on St. Casimir's Day. We have now elected officers and a board of directors which is also planning next year's picnic.

The organization is still in its infancy, but from the joyous faces we saw and the letters of thanks afterwards, we are certain it is going to be an ongoing and growing group of very proud and happy Lithuanians.

God bless you and thank you for your interest in our activities."

So ends Mr. Zemites' letter. But the activity has just begun. By phone, I have learned that the group has now begun a Lithuanian radio hour on Station KTRO in Leavenworth, Kansas, and has established ties with Lithuanians in Omaha, Nebr. They are learning Lithuanian dances and songs, and getting in touch with other aspects of Lithuanian life.

This year again, on Sept. 27, 1981, the group will again sponsor a Lithuanian Day . . . bigger and better than last year's. The day will begin with Mass at 11:00 A.M., and continue with a happy festival of singing, dancing, Lithuanian foods, games, and fellowship. As a special treat, the Lithuanian Dance Ensemble of Omaha will perform. Arts and crafts will be on display, amber and Lithuanian artifacts will be on sale, and a popular band will provide good old-fashioned music for dancing.

Anyone who just may be in the area that day is invited to attend this happy festival. It will be held at:

Wyandotte County Park —  
George Meyne Community Center  
126th and State Ave.  
Bonner Springs, Kansas

We wish the "Lithuanians of America" of Kansas City much luck in their new undertakings . . . and at the same time extend a cordial invitation to them to become acquainted with the Knights of Lithuania . . . and thus extend their boundaries even further, to become a part of a "coast to coast" Lithuanian community.

ED. Note: The Kansas City Lithuanians are especially grateful to their friends from the Lithuanian Parish of St. Anthony, Omaha NE who have been so generous with their time and talents in helping organize this festival and in introducing them to so many facets of Lithuanian Culture.





# 30th ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN BROADCASTING COMMEMORATED AT THE SENATE BUILDING

The Voice of America has a very impressive Lithuanian Service which directs information to the people of enslaved Lithuania. This year marked the 30th anniversary of that Lithuanian program. The anniversary was very solemnly commemorated at the Senate building on May 14, 1981, under the guidance of Senator Charles H. Percy. The Lithuanian program of the Voice of America was initiated on February 16, 1951, through the efforts of the Lithuanian American Council and other leaders of the Lithuanian community, who found a favorable climate for this program at the government institution.

The commemoration of the 30th anniversary was organized by the Lithuanian American Council, the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania and officials of the Lithuanian Service at the VOA, in cooperation with the Lithuanian Legation. The Honorable Charles H. Percy, host of the luncheon and the main speaker, stressed the right of Lithuania to be independent and described the necessity of Lithuanian information via radio to the subjugated nation.

Among the 120 guests present at the anniversary luncheon were members of Congress, representatives of the White House, Department of State, the International Communications Agency, the Diplomatic Corps and some leaders of the Latvian and Estonian communities. In their speeches, Dr. Kazys Bobelis, President of the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania and Dr. Kazys Sidlauskas, President of the Lithuanian American Council expressed sincere gratitude to the Administration of the United States for fostering this program for 30 years and indicated the importance of their existence, when according to a statement by Congressman Edward J. Derwinski, there is a radio war going on between western democracies and eastern colonial aggression.

The toastmaster at this luncheon, Mr. Valdas Adamkus, stated that this Lithuanian program of the VOA is a beacon of hope for the captive nations, it is an electronic statue of Liberty.

The Lithuanian American Council presented Senator Charles H. Percy with a plaque in appreciation for his support and cooperation. The chairman of the committee in charge of organizing this commemoration was Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas.

A special publication is at present being prepared containing a detailed description of this impressive commemoration.



At the Commemoration: H.M. Dr. Jack Stukas, Mrs. Backis, Mr. Backis (Lithuanian Charge'd Affairs), V. Kriauceliunas (C-112)



## TOO HOT? THINK CHRISTMAS

and wish your K of L friends, a Merry Christmas.

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## "ROOTS"... AND 40 YEARS OF LITHUANIAN RADIO

by Loretta I. Stukas

The weekend of May 16<sup>o</sup> and 17 represented a very special occasion for Lithuanian Americans of the greater New York area. On that weekend, they celebrated the 40th Anniversary, and the 2000th broadcast of the "Memories of Lithuania" Radio Hour, with a gala concert, a special Mass, and a commemorative banquet.

The Radio Hour, one of the oldest Lithuanian programs in existence in the USA, was founded, and is still produced and directed by Knights of Lithuanian Honorary Member and past National President, Dr. Jack J. Stukas. Back in 1941, long before ethnicity and the search for one's "roots" became fashionable, Jack Stukas, then a 16-year-old Lithuanian American, inspired by his immigrant parents' love of their homeland and his teachers' (the Lithuanian Franciscan Sisters) devotion to its culture, and compelled by concern for a Lithuania just occupied by Stalinist Russia, started the Lithuanian Radio Hour in New York. Over the years, it has provided its listeners a link to all that is Lithuanian — culturally, religiously, politically, and socially.

Today, a growing number of Lithuanian Americans of all generations tune in to New York's Station WEVD every Saturday, for an hour's "journey" back to Lithuania, via her melodic songs and her beautiful language. In this short "magazine of the airways", religious leaders give inspirational messages, various personalities provide news of Lithuanian activities here and abroad, and listeners are treated to modern and folk music, poetry, and history.

Youthful listeners found an opportunity to actively participate in their heritage, by joining the choirs and dance groups Jack Stukas organized as an outgrowth of the radio hour. The "Lithuanian Echoes" Choral Ensemble, the "Ruta" Folk Dance and Song Ensemble, the "Ruta" Mixed Chorus were integral parts of the Radio Club. Later, Jack also had a hand in organizing other groups, including the "Mothers and Daughters" Quartet, the "Zibuoklės" Sextet and the "Vilija" Quartet.

The program, with its associated activities has kept alive memories of Lithuania in the hearts and minds of immigrants and inspired a rebirth of the Lithuanian spirit in American-born Liths, many of whom might not have appreciated their heritage otherwise. It has been one



At the Concert: A. Petrutis, Lithuanian Consul A. Simutis, Dr. Stukas, Mrs. Petrutis, Mrs. Simutis



Guest Speaker A. Petrutis addresses Banquet guests. At the Head Table - T. Strolia, R. Petrutis, Rev. V. Balciunas, Dr. J. Stukas, M.C. L. Stukas, Msgr. J. Scharnus, R. Senhier



Concert Audience





"Vaiva" and "Žemaitija" (alias "Oklahoma")



"Nieks neatstos merginos" or "There is Nothing Like a Dame"



"Žemaitis Juozas"  
"Poor Judd is Dead"

more vehicle for publicizing the Lithuanian cause to non-Liths, and for providing a sounding board for the most recent refugees from Communism. Most of all, the Radio Hour with its variety of activities has helped unite several generations of Lithuanian Americans of differing cultures. Not the least of these activities was the 40th Anniversary Celebration, which combined memories of yesterday with an appreciation of today.

The weekend's events included a gala concert and dance at the Lithuanian Cultural Center in Brooklyn on Saturday, evening, and on Sunday, a Mass for deceased supporters of the Radio Hour, was followed by a Banquet, at Holy Trinity Church and Hall, Newark, N.J. Both days' events drew capacity audiences of several generations of the Radio Hour's listeners and supporters.

Appropriately, the cultural program of both days was one that beautifully combined both the Lithuanian and American cultures.

Featured artists, the "Vaiva" Ensemble of Chicago, directed by Faustas Strolia, presented excerpts of American Musicals, translated, and transposed, into Lithuanian themes. Made up of college students and recent graduates, "Vaiva" performed, "abbreviated" versions of "Sound of Music" and "Oklahoma", as well as several numbers from "Fiddler on the Roof" and "South Pacific". . . all translated into Lithuanian, complete with some "local" color. Of special interest and enjoyment was their rendition of "Oklahoma" — translated to "Žemaitija" and complete with historic and cultural overtones, transforming the playlet into an interesting view of "Žemaitija" — Lithuania's beloved and colorful Samogitian region. The young and talented artists were well received and rewarded with enthusiastic applause at both events.

Numerous Lithuanian and political dignitaries greeted the Radio Hour and its director at both events. During the Banquet, the featured speaker was Alphonse Petrutus, former Radio Hour Aide and currently Chief of the Lithuanian Sector of the Voice of America. Also present was a representative of New Jersey's Governor Byrne, a member of the Vatican Mission to the United Nations, and other dignitaries, as well as leaders of the Estonian, Latvian and Polish communities. Mayor B. Yarasavage of Clark, N.J. presented a New Jersey State House Citation of Merit to Dr. Stukas.

Besides being a means of commemorating a most important Anniversary, the weekend's events also served as a most enjoyable reunion for the Radio Hour's many listeners and supporters, and proved to the Radio Staff that the sacrifice of 40 years of Saturdays has not been in vain. Our Lithuanian roots are still strong.

Congratulations and "Ilgiausiu Mėtu" to Dr. Jack Stukas to Memories of Lithuania, and to all its listeners and supporters.

## LIETUVIŲ PERIODINĖ SPAUDA AMERIKOJE

Jungtinėms Amerikos Valstybėms švenčiant 200 m. sukaktį, mums įdomu prisiminti ir lietuvių įnašą į šį kraštą. Tam reikėtų storų knygų, bet mes nors suglaustai prisiminkime lietuvių pasireiškimą periodikoje. Dr. A. Budreckis savo naujoje knygoje „The Lithuanians in America 1651-1975” skelbia, kad jau olandų ekspedicijoje į Ameriką apie 1651 m. yra dalyvavę lietuviai. Grausesnė imigracija prasidėjo po 1831 ir po 1863 m. sukilimų.

Pradžioje daugelis lietuvių važiuo į JAV vargo spaudžiami, taigi daugelis buvo beraščiai. Spaudai atsirasti buvo sunkios sąlygos. Tarp atvykusių 1899-1907 m. dar 56% buvo neraštingi.

Pirmasis lietuvių laikraštis JAV-se buvo „Gazietą Lietuwiszka, Rasztas paszwestas del Lietuwniku Amerikoje”. Pirmas numeris pasirodė 1879 m. rugp. 16 d. Jį leido Mikas Tvarauskas New Yorke. Jam talkino kun. Končius ir pranciškonas broliukas Augustinas Zajc, pirmųjų lietuviškų knygų Amerikoje autorius. Laikraštis teturėjo 132 užsimokėjusių prenumeratorių. Jo išėjo tik 16 numerių, bet jo pasirodymas buvo didelis džiaugsmas lietuviams. Jau pirmame numery buvo cilėraštis: „Linksmas dienas apturėjom, (Kad „Gazietą“ paregėjom,) Kuri kaip saulė teka.) Tikrais žodžiais į mus šneka.”

Kai į JAV atvyko J. Šliūpas, jau redagavęs „Aušrą” leidžiamą Prūsiose, jis suartėjo su M. Tvarausku ir jiedu nutarė leisti naują laikraštį: „Uniją”, kur būtų, atstovaujamas didesnis lietuvių suartėjimas su lenkais, tikintis, kad tada atsiras daugiau prielankumo laikraščiui ir galės ilgiau išsilaikyti. „Unija” pasirodė 1884 m. spalio 25 d. New Yorke, išeidavo šeštadieniais. „Unija” jau buvo susilaukusi 300

prenumeratorių, tačiau Šliūpas pradėjo reikšti prieškatalikiškas mintis, atstūmė katalikus ir laikraštis po pusmečio užsidarė.

J. Šliūpas pradėjo leisti savo pažiūrų „Lietuvišką Balsą”, kuris irgi ilgai neišsilaikė. Katalikiškos krypties žmonės įsteigė naują laikraštį: „Wienibe Lietuwniku”. Ji pradėjo eiti 1886 m. vasario 10 d. ir tebeina ir dabar, šiemet švęsdama 90 m. sukaktį. Tai ilgiausiai išsilaikęs lietuvių laikraštis.

Juo toliau, juo lietuviška spauda JAV-se darėsi stipresnė. Jau tarp 1885 ir 1900 m. Amerikos lietuviai išleido 198 įvairiais pavadinimais knygas. Lietuvių Mokslo Draugystė Amerikoje 1892 m. pradėjo leisti žurnalą „Apšvietą”. Chicagoje 1892 m. įsikūrę tautinis savaitraštis „Lietuva”. Katalikai 1894 m.

Shenandoah, Pa. įsteigė „Garsa Amerikos Lietuviu.” „Garsas” ir dabar tebeina, redaguojamas savanorio M. Zujaus. Buvo stiprus žurnalas „Dirva.” redaguojamas kun. A. Miluko, didelio spaudos mylėtojo, Shenandoah, Pa. Pirmasis laikraštis Chicagoje buvo „Želmuo,” mėnesinis, redaguojamas ir leidžiamas J. Griniaus. Jis pasirodė 1886 m. Sustojo ėjęs tais pačiais metais. Jo teišėjo tik 4 numeriai. Chicagoje ėjo ir „Katalikas”, kuris sustojo, kai čia atkėlė „Draugą” ir pavertė jį dienraščiu.

Didysis karas sukėlė didelį susidomėjimą naujienomis. Laikraščiai tada buvo vienintelis žinių šaltinis. Todėl greit atsirado dienraščiai: „Naujienos” (socialistų), „Draugas” (katalikų), „Lietuva” (tautinis). Visi jie ėjo didžiausioje



lietuvių kolonijoje — Chicagoje. „Lietuviai“ 1920 m. užsidarius, „Draugas“ ir „Naujienos“ tebeina ir dabar.

Po II Pasaulinio karo, atvykus į JAV apie 30,000 naujų ateivių, daugiausia aukštesnio išsilavinimo žmonių, spauda labai sustiprėjo. Čia atsirado tokie turiningi žurnalai,

kaip: „Aidai“, „Lietuvių Dienos“, „Metmenys“. Politinės grupės ėmė leisti savus žurnalus: „Tėvynės Sargas“, (krikšč. dem.), „Į Laisvę“ (Liet. fronto bičiulių), „Sėja“ (liaudin.), „Naujoji Viltis“ (tautininkų). Išaugo stiprūs savaitraščiai: „Dirva“, „Darbininkas“, „Keleivis“. Susivienijimai

leidžia „Tėvynę“ (SLA), „Garsą“ (SLRKA). Anglų kalba eina žurnalas „Litanus“. Duodamos premijos už žurnalistiką, stipriau veikia Lietuvių žurnalistų sąjunga, gausiai leidžiamos knygos. Jaučiamas spaudos gausumas, kultūrinis atgimimas.

Rev. J. Prunskis



## NEW LITHUANIAN EDITOR APPOINTED

Stefonija Rastikis, Third Knight of Council #96 in Dayton, Ohio, has been appointed "Lithuanian Editor" of VYTIS.

Currently, she is the Chairman of Lithuanian Affairs for both C-96 and the Mid Central District.

She was born in Zapiskis, County of Kaunas, where she grew up in Lithuania with her three older brothers on a farm. She was educated in Kaunas.



*Stefanija Rastikis, reciting prayers in Lithuanian at St. Joseph's Church in Downtown Dayton during a multi-ethnic celebration of Captive Nation's Day.*

Photo — J. Ryan

"As a child in Lithuania, I loved to skate and swim and dance," she said. "I won first prize in a waltz contest but that was a long time ago."

Stefonija married musician Julius Rastikis and daughter, Ausra, subsequently was born.

In 1944, the family fled from Lithuania to Germany. Father Vaclovas Katarskis of Holy Cross Church brought the entire Rastikis family to America. General Stasys Rastikis, brother of Julius, now resides in California.

Julius joined the Knights of Lithuania when he came to Dayton. He also became the organist of Holy Cross Church. Stefanija tended to her home and three more children, Julius, Jr., Laima and Tomas were born.

All four children grew up as members of C-96 Juniors. Laima and Tomas were members of the dance group, "Vejeliai."

Stefanija has been very active with C-96. She has been a diligent worker on many committees and has chaired various events. She is a charter member of the Lithuanian Cultural Council of Holy Cross Church.

Her knowledge of the Lithuanian language is extraordinary. For many years, she has been a "consultant" whenever a question of grammar, spelling or translation occurred.

She loves to cook and bake. Her garden is filled with well-tended flowers. When she isn't writing for Lithuanian causes, she indulges in arts and crafts.

We welcome her to our staff.

— Aldona Ryan

## REV. PETER P. CINIKAS, MIC R.I.P.

The Catholic Lithuanian community of the USA bid a sad farewell to a beloved, faithful, and dedicated son when REV PETER P. CINIKAS, MIC entered eternity. Father Peter died Friday, May 22, 1981, after a long illness.

Throughout his lifetime, Father Cinikas firmly believed that as long as one has life, one must engage in meaningful work. And he practiced his belief. Father was administrator of the Lithuanian Catholic Press, which publishes the "DRAUGAS," for more than 25 years. During that time, he initiated many new techniques and improvements to constantly better the readability of DRAUGAS. He also used his administrative abilities in other assignments as a Marian Father.

Father, who was ordained on Jan. 22, 1939, headed the Lithuanian Catholic Press for three different periods: 1940-45, 1948-58, and 1969 until his death. Other assignments included pastorates in Racine and Milwaukee, Wisc., and in Niagara Falls, N.Y. He also served a term as superior of the Marion Hills Seminary in Clarendon Hills, Ill.

A native Chicagoan, he attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago and the Marion Fathers seminaries in Thompson, Conn., and Clarendon Hills, Ill. He studied journalism at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis.

Father Cinikas applied his motto to all his associations. The Knights of Lithuania also were indeed fortunate to share in his generous application of administrative and journalistic talents. On the local level, he served as Spiritual Adviser to the Chicago Seniors, and for many years, was Illinois — Indiana District's Spiritual Adviser. His advice and counsel was sought and



heeded in most of the District's larger undertakings, including the very successful annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet.

On the national K of L Scene, Father Cinikas was a moving force in the change over of VYTIS from letterpress to the offset method of printing, a move which resulted in sizeable savings for the K of L

Treasury. Once the move to offset was made, Father Cinikas assisted in finding and training a new staff and continued over the years as a constant source of editorials, articles, and advice.

Father Cinikas' passing leaves an unfillable void, for the K of L, for the Marian Fathers and DRAUGAS, and for the Lithuania community as a whole. He will be greatly missed.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered at 10:30 a.m., May 29th, at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in Chicago. Principal celebrant of the Mass was Father Stanley Saplis, M.I.C., vice provincial. Father Andrew Naudziunas, M.I.C., who had just recently returned from Rome, preached the homily. Bishop Vincent Brizgys presided, representing His Eminence John Cardinal Cody.

He is survived by a sister, Genevieve Pilipowski; a sister-in-law, Josephine Cinikas; and four nieces.

Requiscat in pace!

### IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in prayers...

#### OTTO SHATAS

Member, C-7, Waterbury, CT  
died Jan., 1981

#### ELENA JURGELA

Member C-142, Washington, DC  
died Mar. 3, 1981

#### WALTER J. PREZELSKI

Member C-46, Forest City, PA  
died May 11, 1981

#### JOSEPH BALTRUS

Member, C-86, DuBois, PA  
died Jun. 22, 1981

#### JOHN CHEPLICK

Member, C-7, Waterbury, CT  
died Jan., 1981

#### THOMAS KAUKAS

Member, C-7, Waterbury, CT  
died Jan., 1981

#### ALBERT JACOBS

Member, C-79, Southfield, MI  
died May 24, 1981

# SISTER ALVERNA - 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

by Sophie Zager

Sister M. Alverna marked her 50th anniversary as a Franciscan nun, with a commemoration, on July 4 at St. Francis Motherhouse, in Pittsburg, Pa.

Born in DuBois, she is the daughter of Petronella and Pranciskus Valutkavecious (Walls). The family (three girls and three boys) moved to Detroit in 1922, where she attended St. George's Lithuanian Parish School. Upon completion, she went to St. Francis Prep School in Pittsburg. And entered the Novitiate, in 1931.

Sister attended Duquesne University; the Hart Music School in Hartford; St. Joseph's College in Rochester, and many other schools. She graduated with a Bachelor and Masters Degree from Duquesne University.

Sr. Alverna's teaching assignments were in schools located in Hartford, Rochester, Elizabeth, N.J., Grand Rapids and Detroit, Mich., as well as many other parish schools.

Currently, Sister is teaching at St. Francis Academy Whitehall, Pittsburg, Pa. She assists her sister, Sister M. Francesca in the Home

Economics Dept., teaching sewing to the High School girls.

From her early youth, Sr. Alverna liked to do creative work. She has knitted lovely afghans, crocheted many items, sewed beautiful fashions — anything that is creative and dignified. However, she excels in her beautiful needlepoint creations. And, she continues to take classes. She has finished the Clarissa School of Design.

Sr. Alverna is a member of Knights of Lithuania of Pittsburg, Pa., and on occasion has served as delegate at conventions, and has participated on various committees.

Her activities in other Lithuanian organizational work have been numerous. She served on various educational committees which included the University of Pittsburg Lithuanian Room Committee.

Because of her deep interest in her heritage, Sr. Alverna teaches Adult Lithuanian language at Brashear, every Saturday.

Although her educational duties are many and varied, she finds time to serve as an accompanist for the "Aidas" Chorus which her sister, Sr. M. Francisca is the director.



Aside from her accomplishments in the educational field, Sr. Alverna, along with her sister, Sr. M. Francesca participated annually in cultural activities at the International Folk Festival, in Pittsburg where they made and exhibited various artifacts and folk art of Lithuania.

Although the two sisters are quite active in the Pittsburg area, they are seen frequently in Detroit for a visit with their family whose brother Bolis Walls was one of the dedicated members of C-79.

On occasion, the "inseparable" sisters have participated at K of L activities in Southfield area, along with other Lithuanian doings.

This year, Sr. Alverna's older sister, Sister M. Francesca celebrates her 55th anniversary as a Franciscan nun. This has been an extraordinary achievement. While we would like to extend "Ilgiausu Metu" to Sr. Francesca, we especially are extending congratulations to SISTER MARY ALVERNA on the occasion of reaching the Fiftieth Anniversary in the service of God.



Sr. Alverna and her sister Sr. Francesca

# Lithuanians in The

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS

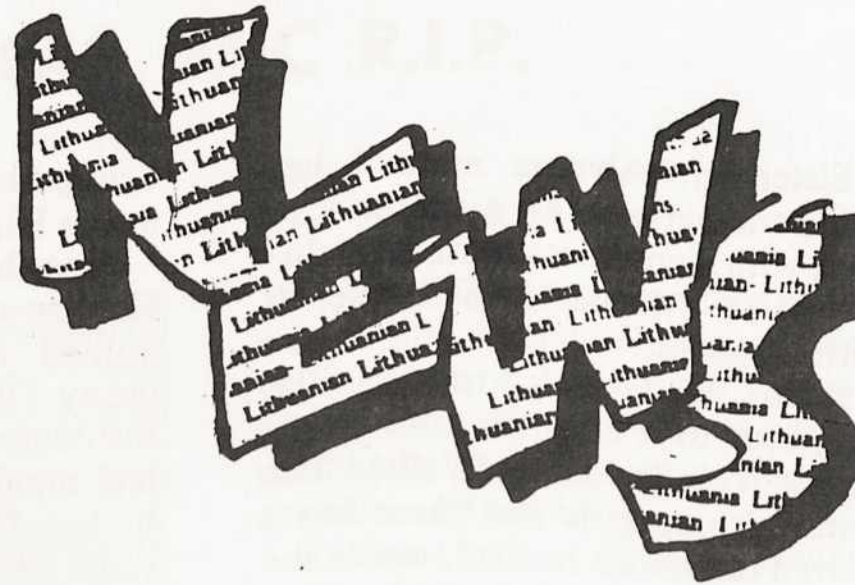


Featured in "People, places, things we think you'd like to know about," Chicago Sunday Tribune, did you know that aside from the Lyric Opera, Chicago also has the Lithuanian Opera Company? It's the only ethnic opera company in the United States, and for the past 25 years it has performed one opera a season. This year the company presented the American premiere of "I Lituani", a work by Amilcare Ponchielli, who is best known for "La Gioconda." One of the favorites of Arturo Toscanini, the opera has been performed by La Scala Opera Company of Milan more than 40 times. Performances were held in June at the Maria High School Auditorium in Chicago. Among the principals in the American premiere of "I Lituani" were: DANA STANKAITIS, our own ALGERD BRAZIS, C-112, Chicago, and MARGARITA MOMKUS, shown here in the 1979 Lithuanian Opera Company production of Verdi's "Nabucco."

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JOHN A SABULIS, President of C-135, Ansonia, Conn., was unanimously elected Commander of Comcowich-Carver Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars in Ansonia. He is a veteran of World War II, having served in the Mediterranean Theater in Africa and Italy in the Air Force. John is a City Police Commissioner and a former President of the Board of Aldermen.

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The June 7th issue of the Chicago Tribune Magazine featured a column about Ethnic Chicago — A salute to our rich cultural heritage — and a guide to shopping and dining. The article stated that Chicago now has the largest Lithuanian community outside of Eastern Europe.

In the 1870s, there were only two Lithuanian families in Chicago. Soon after, many more began to come, and they settled in the southwest areas of Town of Lake and Bridgeport and found work in the stock yards and steel mills. Maintaining their culture has always been important to them, and they quickly established Saturday schools to keep their language alive for the children. Today the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture maintains a library and archives as well as a showcase for art treasures.

The first Lithuanians who came here were peasants, but after World War II, came those who fled after the Communist takeover of their country. Today, the Lithuanians have moved beyond the home of Chicago's Lithuanian community, Lithuanian Plaza in Marquette Park, to the suburbs of Lemont Orland Park, and Palos. There are three daily papers serving the community and scores of cultural and political organizations.

Listed in the Shopping and Dining Guide was Gifts International, 2501 W. 71st St. Lithuanian motifs abound in this shop displaying a large stock of amber, records and books, including cookbooks in English.

Restaurants listed were: Healthy Foods, 3236 S. Halsted St.; Ruta, 6812 S. Western Ave.; Ramune's 2547 W. 69th St., a combination of Delicatessen, bakery and restaurant; and Brighton Bakery and Delicatessen, 2457 W. 46th Place, featuring Lithuanian rye bread, tortes, napoleans and angel wings.

The article stated further that Lithuanian food is hearty and homey — rich soups, dumplings, and pancakes, with a dollop of sour cream on top of almost everything.



The American Lithuanian Bicentennial Committee donated a water fountain and money to the Amsterdam Free Library, which totaled over \$500. Purchase of the water fountain will save the library over \$100 in annual rental costs.

Executive Board members of the committee are Rev. Robert K. Baltch, pastor of St. Casimir's Church, Amsterdam, N.Y., honorary chairman; Sophie Olbie, treasurer; Anthony and Ann Radzwick, Genevieve Gobis, Leonard Hartvigas, Stanley Ralys, Mary Sabutis and Polly Ziausys. Purchase and presentation of the gifts were arranged by Mrs. Virginia Valikonis on behalf of her late husband, Joseph, who was general chairman of the committee. The majority of the committee were members of the K of L Council 100, Amsterdam, N.Y. "The Recorder" photo pictures, left to right, Mrs. Joseph Valikonis, Sophie Olbie, and Mrs. John R. Mazzone, librarian.

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The Marquis Who's Who Publications Board certifies that GERTRUDE (POCIUS) HEYMAN is a subject of biographical record in Who's Who of American Women, Twelfth Edition, 1981/1982, inclusion in which is limited to those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their own fields of endeavor and who have, thereby, contributed significantly to the betterment of contemporary society. Gertrude, of Lithuanian heritage, lives in Watchung, N.J. She and her husband are owners of "Fabricland", a large fabric, yarn, and linen shop.

Sincere congratulations to the following Golden Jubilarians:

CANON VACLOVAS ZAKARAUSKAS, Spiritual Advisor to C-112, Chicago, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Sunday, May 31, 1981, with Holy Mass celebrated at Nativity B.V.M. Church, and a Jubilee Banquet and program in the church hall.

REV. ANTHONY GRIGAITIS, associate pastor of St. Casimir's Church, Amsterdam, N.Y., celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on June 14, 1981, with Holy Mass and a golden jubilee banquet at St. Casimir's Social Center.

Ilgiausiu metu!

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Bishop Scully High School's 6'9" basketball center, BILL SAIKAL, has signed a letter of intent to attend Biscayne College in Miami, Florida. Bill is a Junior K of L'er, C-100, Amsterdam. His sister Lisa was one of last year's recipients of the K of L scholarship. Bill helped lead Scully's Mohawks to their finest season in basketball history this year by leading the team in scoring with 470 points and also leading the squad in rebounding with 294 board steals. Bill is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Saikal, Amsterdam, N.Y.



*Bill Saikal (second from left) is flanked by his mother, Gertrude (far left), Coach Francis "Dutch" Howland and Scully principal, Sister Anne Tranelli.*

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Congratulations to DONALD POEHAILOS, C-135, Ansonia, Conn. Don, a former City Treasurer who chose not to run again, was named Vice-Chairman of the Charter Revision Commission to change the date of Ansonia's Fiscal Year to comply with the State's Fiscal Year.

The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, Chicago, Ill. celebrated its 15th Anniversary on June 21, 1981, at its Annual Award Banquet, held in the Gold Coast Room of the Drake Hotel in Chicago, honoring STANLEY P. BALZEKAS as Man of the Year.

Mr. Balzekas was born in Lithuania in 1893. A blacksmith in Lithuania, he came to America in 1912 to gain more experience, planning to return to Lithuania to open a machine shop. But he liked America so well he decided to make it his new home. After working as a blacksmith in Chicago, he opened a butcher shop and eventually expanded to a chain of three shops on the southwest side of Chicago. In 1919, he enrolled in Valparaiso University in Indiana. There, he operated motion picture theatres and started selling automobiles. After he returned to Chicago he established a battery making business and then went into the automobile business. He has been a Chrysler-Plymouth dealer since 1933, being one of the oldest dealerships in the City of Chicago.

Mr. Balzekas has been very active in civic and cultural activities, being a founder member and financial contributor of the Balzekas Museum. He is past President of the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce; Chairman of the Board of Balzekas Motor Sales; a member of the Brighton Park Chamber of Commerce, and the AABC Organization. He and his wife, Emily, are very active in many Lithuanian affairs.

The Balzekas' have one son, Stanley Balzekas, Jr., President of Balzekas Motor Sales; Founder and President of the Balzekas Museum; President of the Ethnic Cultural Preservation Council; Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Chicago Public Library; and a Commissioner of Human Relations for the City of Chicago.



Mr. and Mrs. Balzekas have three grandchildren: Stanley III, an attorney at law and Sales Manager of Balzekas Motor Sales; Robert, who has a seat on the Options Market and is Used Car Manager of Balzekas Motor Sales; and Carol Rene, a junior at Emory University majoring in business administration.



*Pictured at a gathering in preparation for the 15 Year Anniversary celebration of Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture are, from left, Peter Petrutis from Margutis; Eleanor Zapolis, C-36, Chicago; the Hon.*

*Josephine J. Dauzvardis, Consul General of Lithuania, C-112, Chicago; Stanley Balzekas, Jr., C-36, Chicago; Ms. Fu; Frank Zapolis, C-36, Chicago and Robert Balzekas.*





St. Michael's Lithuanian Roman Catholic Parish, Bayonne, N.J., has had a most successful building program over the past 5 years, under the able leadership of pastor REV. ALBERT J. MATULIS, and with the help and generosity of its parishioners and supporters. In 1974, a new and modern rectory was built. In 1977, a beautiful and artistic church replaced the old church.

This year, in December, the parish will bless and dedicate its new Parish Hall and Education Center. Of special note is the fact that the central heating for the new edifice will be provided in part by solar energy. This is a first in Newark's Archdiocese's history.

Groundbreaking for the new building took place June 24, 1981. Among those pictured at the groundbreaking are (in front) Rev. Lucilo B. Quiambao, Stanley Tumas, Anthony Miskewitz (holding shovel), Dr. Anthony Tortora, Rev. Albert Matulis, Edward Miskewitz, the building's architect John D. Nakrosis of Kearny, N.J. and others.

Father Matulis has served on the Newark Archdiocesan Building and Sites Commission since his appointment in 1976 by Newark's Archbishop, Peter L. Gerety.



Pictured in the New York Times on February 17th, are Representative James M. Shannon with Amelia Stundza and her brother, John, at a celebration for Lithuanian Independence Day in Lawrence, MA

**KATHLEEN NAURECKAS**, graphics coordinator for The Chicago Tribune, and her husband ED, were in St. Peter's Square in Rome on vacation when the shooting of Pope John Paul II occurred. Mrs. Naureckas was visiting her sister in Rome. The highlight of the visit was to have been the audience with the Pope. She described the crowd in St. Peter's as "a family crowd." It was a warm pleasant day. Prior to the shooting, the square had almost a picnic atmosphere. What she remembers most is that shortly before the shooting, as the Pope was circling the crowd, he had picked up a child. She heard two very loud noises and her first thought was that they were gunshots, but then thought that they must have been firecrackers. That's when the wailing started. The Pope had been shot. From a crowd that had been happy and cheering there was a terrible groan. She then caught glimpse of the Pope's vehicle speeding off. After the flurry of excitement in the crowd there was just stillness until the official announcement came that the Holy Father had been wounded and that we would now pray for his recovery. A priest brought out a portrait of Our Lady and placed it on the Pope's empty chair. A nun placed flowers on the platform at the foot of the chair. All during this time, helicopters were circling over the square. The sun had slipped behind St. Peter's. It was suddenly very chilly.

\* \* \*



Members of the Lithuanian Spindulys folk dance group perform at the opening on Friday, May 22, 1981, of the four-day outdoor Ethnifest at the Copernicus Center in Chicago. All proceeds benefited the Copernicus Foundation, which serves the Polish-American community. Various ethnic groups throughout the city were invited to perform.

\* \* \*



The Long Island Traveler-Watchman printed a picture of **MARTHA** and **JOHN STRAVINSKAS, SR.**, who celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on Easter Sunday, April 19th, with friends and relatives at their home in South Jamesport, N.Y.

\* \* \*



**JOSEPH RUDIS**, member of C-112, Chicago, was awarded a 1981 Senior Citizen of the Year Award for his service and dedication to the Senior Citizens of Chicago. The award was presented at the 14th Annual Senior Citizens Luncheon held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel with over 1600 people in attendance. 71 of Mr. Rudis' personal friends attended the luncheon. In addition to the City of Chicago Award, Mr. Rudis also received an award from the Chicago Park District. Of the 10 District awardees, he was chosen by NBC-TV, Channel 5, to be personally interviewed. Len Aronson and Warren Saunders interviewed and filmed Mr. Rudis at his home. They covered his early life and his present dedication to the senior citizens.

Mr. Rudis is the president of the Marquette Park Senior Citizens Club. He is the brother of Anthony Rudis and John Rudis.



*Jack Burgess*

AUDREY VEBLAITIS, pianist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Veblaitis of Union, N.J., was awarded the Paul E. Kuhl Memorial Scholarship. Audrey was one of six recipients of the Musical Club Scholarships at the annual luncheon on May 14 at the Canoe Brook Country Club. She is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students," is president of the National Honor Society of Union High School, and is secretary of the Junior Musical Club. Miss Veblaitis will be a music major at the University of Indiana.

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*Audrey Veblaitis*

Sister Virginia Vytell displays the 12 inch doll she dressed in Lithuanian costume and which will be raffled off at the Knights of Lithuania Convention in Scranton.



A Mahanoy City, Pa., native has been appointed special assistant to the president by President Ronald Reagan. A second generation Lithuanian-American, JACK BURGESS of Washington, D.C., will serve as deputy director of the Office of Public Liaison under Elizabeth Dole, with management responsibilities for the business, labor and agriculture sectors. In addition, he will serve as liaison to the Catholic and ethnic communities. Burgess was the ethnic media liaison of the Reagan-Bush Committee's Nationalities Division and has been active for years in the ethnic movement of the Republican party. A graduate of Georgetown University, he has completed most requirements for his doctorate in history and Russian studies. Jack is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Burgess of Mahanoy City, Pa. Lithuanians in Schuylkill County, Pa., are very proud of him, and he is equally as proud to be Lithuanian.

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The life of orangutans and their comparisons to humans was the topic of lectures given by DR. BIRUTÉ GALDIKAS-BRINDAMOUR in Toronto, Canada, recently. She has studied the orangutans for eight years. She went to Toronto at the request of the Ontario Museum, Toronto University and Zoological Society. Lectures were illustrated with slides followed by a question and answer period.

Biruté was born in Wiesbaden, Germany, after her parents left occupied Lithuania. When she was three years old her parents came to Toronto. After she finished school they moved to Winnipeg, Vancouver, then later to Los Angeles where her parents now reside. In 1966 she graduated Los Angeles University with a Psychology Degree and three years later received her Master's Degree in Anthropology. In 1978 she acquired a Doctor's Degree in Philosophy. She has participated in archaeological expeditions in California, Arizona, Yugoslavia and Macedonia while working with the Los Angeles University. She is married to Canadian photorrapher Rod Brindamour and they have a three year old son.

Biruté became interested in the orangutans when she attended a lecture by the well-known anthropologist, Dr. Louis Leakey, and expressed a desire to learn more about the life of orangutans. After further discussions with Dr. Leakey, in 1971 she went to Borneo, to a jungle area called the "rain forest", about 20 miles away from any civilization. Her first house was a very primitive shack on the game reservation. The whole time there she observed the life of the orangutans. She would rise at 3 or 4 in the morning, make her way through the jungle, often encountering crocodiles, snakes and other wild animals, until she would find the orangutans. She then would observe and record everything they did. At sundown she would return to her jungle home to sleep under protective cover.

She worked at this for eight years. Later she made friends with the orangutans and they would come to visit, curious and looking for food.

One day she was returning from the river with her laundry, and in the tall grass along the path, encountered a full grown orangutan. He suddenly stood up, looked at her hard, turned around and fled. She had never seen an orangutan walking upright before. They were only in the trees. Orangutans quickly learn from human beings by watching their actions. They also played and learned from her husband and son. One of the orangutans, after observing Biruté, could break eggs into a bowl and add flour and liquid to make pancakes.

In the past, many of the older orangutans were killed and their young were sold to zoos or private homes. It is now against the law to either export them or keep them in private homes. The government confiscated the young orangutans which were illegally held and assigned them to Biruté's care where she set up a jungle home for them near the river. She was with them most of the time, so much so that they considered her like a mother. Later they learned to live by themselves in the jungle. Now there remain only several thousand orangutans in the jungle. The Indonesian government has designated a large area of the jungle as a reserve for the orangutans.

After living with and observing the orangutans for eight years, Biruté speculates that human beings could have existed 20 million years ago from her comparisons of orangutans and man today. Her articles have appeared in many university publications, the National Geographic magazine, and various other periodicals. She is often requested to lecture and is in the process of publishing a book. After her tour back in the civilized world, she and her family will return to her peaceful jungle life to continue studies on the Orangutan Project.

## Cook's Corner

By Mary Lucas

### Mary's Chicken Salad

3 cups cooked chicken (Diced)  
 3 hard boiled eggs (Chopped)  
 1 cup finely sliced celery  
 1 cup Hellman's mayonnaise  
 1 T. lemon juice  
 3/4 cup whipping cream  
 salt and pepper to taste

Combine chicken, eggs and celery  
 Whip the cream and combine with mayonnaise and lemon juice  
 Add to chicken mixture  
 Season with salt and pepper  
 Arrange lettuce leaves on salad plates  
 Mound chicken salad on top  
 Garnish with pineapple slices (halved)  
 Sprinkle with sliced, toasted almonds  
 Serve with hot blueberry muffins.

(Lovely for a ladies' summer luncheon.)

## PENKIOLIKA METŲ LIETUVIŲ KULTŪROS TARNYBOJE

Balzeko Lietuvių Kultūros Muziejus šiemet švenčia 15 metų sukaktį. Jis buvo ovidaliai atidarytas 1966 m. birželio 22 d. Atidarymo dieną ir visose tose iškilmėse dalyvavo per tūkstantį žmonių, o per penkiolika metų muziejų perėjo daug dešimčių tūkstančių, ne vien lietuvių ir amerikiečių, bet ir atvykusių iš Europos, Australijos bei kitų kontinentų.

Šį muziejų didžioji amerikiečių spauda bei specialūs leidiniai garsina drauge su kitomis Chicago atrakcijomis. Taigi jis labai pasitarnauja lietuvių ir Lietuvos vardą išgarsinti, šiuo atžvilgiu gal net užimdamas pirmą vietą tarp lietuvių institucijų Čikagoje ir kituose miestuose.

Šiame muziejuje veikia net 22 skyriai. Visų pirma tai yra meno galerija, kurioje būna įvairiausių meno parodų — lietuvių dailininkų, skulptorių, fotografų, rankdarbių kūrėjų ir kitų. Muziejaus globoje dabar Čikagoje veikia kilnojama lietuvių dailininkų paroda, surengiama vis centriniuose vietose, kur ją iš viso pamatys gal net šimtai tūkstančių žmonių.

Muziejuje yra retesnių lietuviškųjų leidinių biblioteka su keliolika tūkstančių knygų su daugeliu periodinių leidinių komplektų. Jie visi rūpestingai tvarkomi. Muziejus turi rinkinį lietuvių dailininkų kūrinių ir taip pat meno archyvą, kur surinkta arti 10,000 įvairių dailininkų ir liaudies meno kūrinių reprodukcijų, iškarų.

Balzeko Lietuvių Kultūros Muziejus turi teatro ir dramos archyvus, kuriems pagrindą sudarė kruopštus Stasio Pilkos darbas. Šis

muziejus taip pat sudarinėja vadinamą genealoginį archyvą, kurio pagrinde yra iškarpos mirties pranešimų. Iš jų gal ima spręsti apie pasitraukusių iš gyvenimo lietuvių mirimo datas, jų artimuosius. Čia jau turima apie 10,000 kortelių.

Balzeko Lietuvių Kultūros Muziejus turi foto nuotraukų, žurnalų archyvą. Sudarytas atskiras padalinys apie lietuvius dvasininkus. Išstis kambarys paskirtas yra lietuvių moterų laimėjimams, vėl kambarys Lietuvos nepriklausomybės atkūrimui, įžymiesiems vadovaujantiems atkūrimo patriotams atžymėti.

Muziejuje yra gausu dailių gintaro išdirbinių, filatelijos rinkinių, numizmatikos kolekcijų, religinio meno pavyzdžių. Stiprus žemėlapių rinkinys, iš kurių net paroda sudaroma. Muziejus turi politinę pusę vaizduojančių eksponatų, taip pat eksponatų iš medicinos srities.

Turimi net ir senobiniai šarvai, net ir kitų ginklų. Ypač puoselėjamas liaudies menas, ruošiant net šiaudinukų ornamentų kūrimo, margučių dažymo kursus, įtraukiant į tai jaunimą, kad jie geriau su lietuvių tautiniu menu susipažintų ir jį tęstų.

Organizuojami taip pat suaugusiems seminarai, paskaitos su skaidrėmis, filmais. Plečiant ir populiarinant šį darbą, yra leidžiamas, specialus muziejaus biuletenis, kurio pasklinda netoli 9,000 egzempliorių. Jame neseniai įvestas specialus skyrius — naujųjų lietuviškų ir apie Lietuvą leidinių apžvalga.

Taip, kad muziejus pasidarė ne vien įstaiga eksponatams konservuoti, bet savotiškas sąjūdis, kur lietuviškoji kultūra ugdoma ir su ją supažindinamos plačiosios amerikiečių masės. Tam reikia nemažai lėšų, gal net apie 25,000 dolerių metams. Lėšas telkiant bei





įvairius parengimus ruošiant daug padeda speciali Moterų gilda, į kurią yra įsijungusių daug energingų lietuvaičių.

Viso šio muziejaus širdis yra jo įkūrėjas Stanley Balzekas, Jr., kuris per savaitę tam skiria gal apie 60 darbo valandų, gausiai dalyvaudamas įvairiuose kituose etniniuose posėdžiuose bei parengimuose ir kur galima lietuvių vardą iškeldamas. Jo sekretorė gal net arti 90% savo laiko turi paskirti muziejaus reikalams.

Lietuviai kviečiami šį muziejų lankyti, o taip pat siųsti nuotraukas, knygas, kitus leidinius, liaudies meno pavyzdžius ir viską, kas tiktų muziejuje saugoti.

Rev. J. Prunskis



## LIETUVIŠKOS KNYGOS

Aleksandras Pakalniškis, 112-tos vyčių kuopos Čikagoje narys, yra parašęs ir išleidęs šešias knygas.

Pirmoji vadinasi "Mes grįžtame". Yra ji 1931--1935 laikotarpio jaunystės dienoraštis. Prasideda metais, kada buvo kareivis Lietuvos kariuomenėje, ir baigiasi, kai pradėjo mokytis universitete Kaune. Skaitydamas tą knygą pamatai nepriklausomos Lietuvos gyvenimą ir ribotas galimybes jaunuoliui į jį įsijungti.

Antroji knyga vadinasi "Metai praeityj". Joje, jau pasakojimo formoje, aprašytas yra to paties jaunuolio gyvenimas žemaitijos kaime ir Kaune, Sovietų okupacijos metais, ir Vokietijoje, nuo komunistų pabėgus.

Trečiosios knygos vardas yra "Žemaičiai". Joje aprašyti yra žemaičių gyvenimo papročiai nepriklausomos Lietuvos metais.

Ketvirtoji knyga yra "Studento dienoraštis". Matosi joje studento gyvenimas Lietuvos universitete Kaune nepriklausomybės metais.

Penktoji knyga vadinasi "Gyvenimo pakelėse". Aprašytas yra joje ne tik gražus gyvenimas

nepriklausomoje Lietuvoje, bet ir Antrojo Pasaulinio karo metai, bėgimas nuo artėjančio komunistinio siaubo, gyvenimas pabėgėlių stovykloje Vokietijoje, emigracija į Ameriką ir sunkūs pirmieji žingsniai svetimame krašte.

Šeštoji knyga yra "Plungė". Įdomi skaityti yra ji tiems, kurie patys ar jų tėvai yra kilę nuo Plungės. Įdomi yra ir kiekvienam žemaičiui.

Knygos "Žemaičiai" kaina yra keturi doleriai, kitų penkių - po penkis dolerius. Jos gaunamos "Drauge" arba pas "Vyčių veiklos" skyriaus redaktorę Emiliją Pakalniškiene, kurios adresas yra 3948 S. Artesian Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60632. Reikia tik parašyti "Draugui" arba Pakalniškienei, ir knyga bus atsiųsta. Čikagoje gyvenantieji tas knygas nusipirkti gali dar Vaznelio krautuvėje arba "Marginiuose".

Vyčiai turėtų stengtis neužmiršti lietuvių kalbos. O kad jos neužmirštum, reikia ne tik kartais pašnekėti kartais lietuviškai, bet ir paskaityti lietuviškos knygas. Geriausia tokias, kuriose rašoma apie Lietuvą.

E.P.

# K of L MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT

## May 16 - 17, 1981

### DU BOIS, PA.

The DuBois K of L's are The Most Accommodating, Considerate, Hospitable. From the first moment of the Welcoming Party 'til the last piece of homemade cake at the Awards Luncheon, the committee spent all their time making sure we were having a good time.

During the Saturday nite dance, the M.C. welcomed everyone by group from each city — Cleveland, Dayton, Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Chicago. Unfortunately, the Chicago Group was asked to dance, but Matthew Strolia lead us like a pro. There was also a show consisting of comedians with some very funny stories.....

Eighteen teams participated. DuBois brought a buffet luncheon into the bowling alley for anyone who slept thru breakfast. During the dance the committee came around with special Pennsylvania Pizzas which were enjoyed by all.

Dick Radzevich had taken a special trip to the "krumies" for "grybies" and we were delighted to taste the mushrooms he found, that we were treated to at the luncheon. Tom Bruzga did a splendid job as Awards Luncheon M.C.

C-79, captained by Mart Wagster won first place, with a score of 3167. Frank Petkus' Dayton team came in second with a 3139 and third place was taken by Detroit with a 3102 and Alex Kurpowic captain.

The scores are as follows:

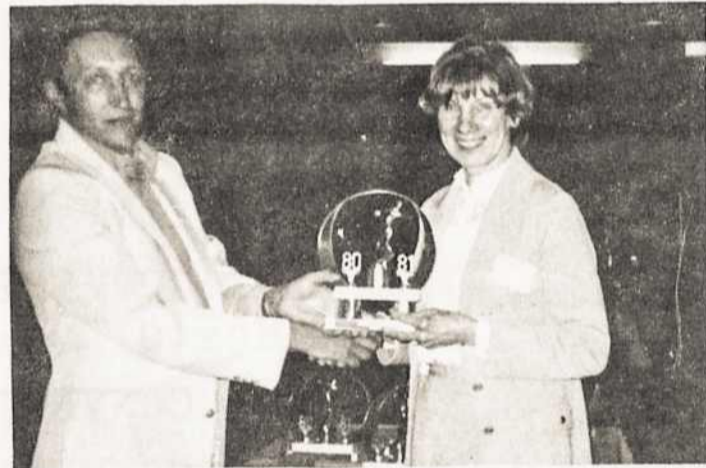
Cleveland	Charles Machutis, captain	3074
Detroit	Mike Vale	2940
Chicago	Ann Marie Kassel	2915
Detroit	Joe Guerriero	2914
DuBois	Stan Mitskavich	2913
Cleveland	Gene Kunsitis	2908
Detroit	Catherin Kurpowic	2906
Detroit	Bruce Lukosavich	2871
DuBois	Dick Radzavich	2842
Dayton	John Berczelly	2839
DuBois	Tom Bruzga	2835
Chicgo-		
Pittsburgh	Paul Binkis	2828
Cleveland	Al Shigo	2780
Cleveland	Pete Luiza	2701

### Individual Trophies;

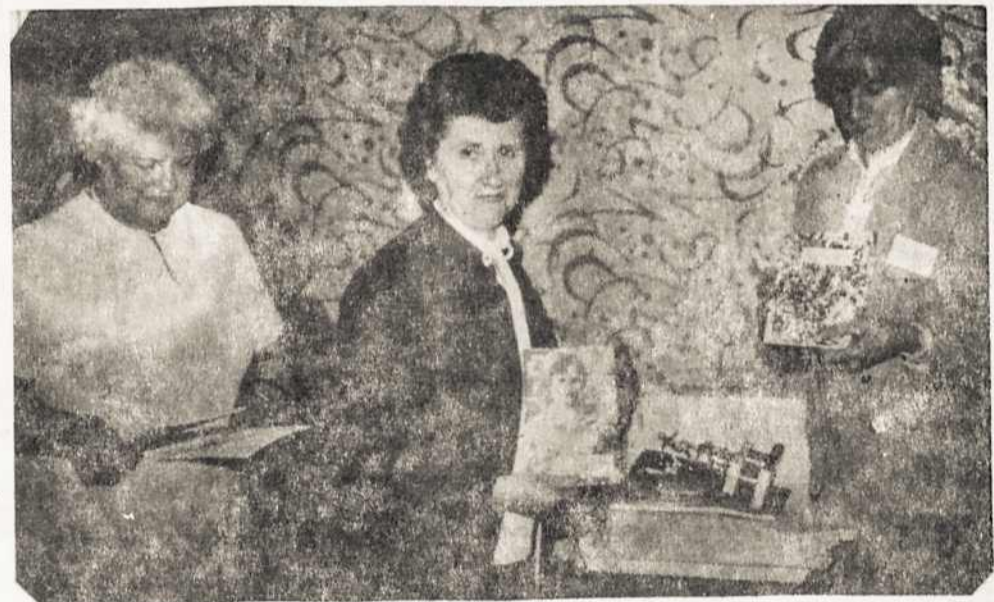
Men's High Series Actual	..... Al Kurpowic, 559
Women's High Series Actual	..... Nelda Machutis, 540
Men's High Game Actual	..... Tom Bruzga, 244
Women's High Game Actual	..... Ursula Kunsites, 241
Men's High Series Handicap	..... Al Shigo, 618
Women's High Series Handicap	.. Helen Radzavich, 641
Women's High Game Handicap	.... Ruth Wagster, 249



M-W Bowling Trn. Banquet - T. Bruzga, MC., P. Luiza, N. Arunski - DuBois, PA



M-W Bowling Trn. - High Single Game Actual - U. Kunsitis - C-25



C. Kurpowic - Detroit, F. Mikalauskas - Dayton, U. Kunsitis - Cleveland (C-25's Goal to distribute "Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania" to all at the M-W Bowling Trn.

## K OF L CALENDAR

### AUGUST

- 16 67th ANNUAL LITHUANIAN DAY CELEBRATION,  
Barnesville, PA, Anthracite Council 144 Hosts
- 16 C-7, Waterbury, CT, ANNUAL FAMILY OUTING,  
Thomaston Rod & Gun Club, Waterbury, CT
- 19-23 68th NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CONVENTION,  
University of Scranton, Scranton, PA.  
Hosts - C-46, Forest City, C-74, Scranton,  
and C-143, Pittston
- 30 LITHUANIAN DAY OF PRAYER, Auriesville, N.Y.

### SEPTEMBER

- 12-13 C-141, Bridgeport, WASHINGTON, D.C. GROUP TRIP
- 26-27 MCD FALL CONVENTION AND PILGRIMAGE, Cleveland, OH  
C-25, Hosts
- 27 NED FALL CONVENTION, Worcester, MA, C-26, Hosts
- 27 MAD FALL CONVENTION, Transfiguration Hall,  
Maspeth, NY. Hosts - C-110, Maspeth
- 27 C-110, Maspeth, DEDICATION of the Church of the  
Transfiguration's Lithuanian Wayside Shrine  
(Before the District Convention)
- 27 C-74, Scranton, FALL FROLIC, 7:30 P.M.

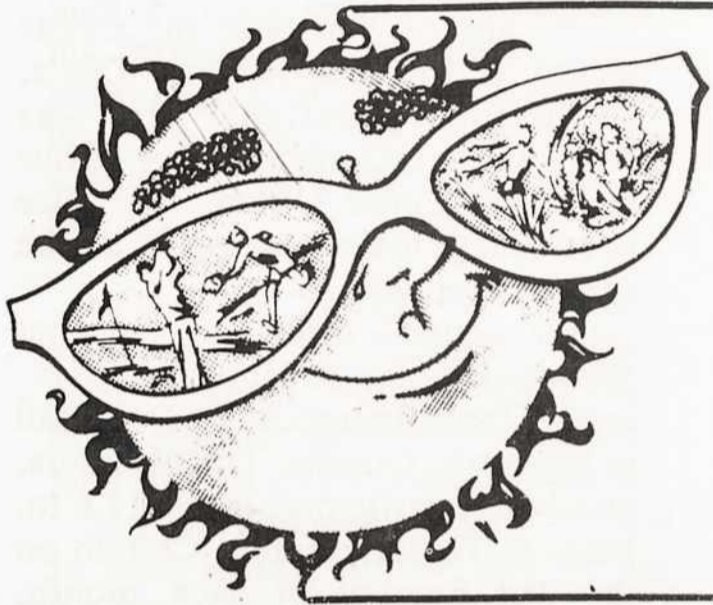
### OCTOBER

- 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.



# Vyčiai Veikia Council Activities

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



## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

### C-100 — AMSTERDAM, N. Y.

Some 75 council members attended the 10:30 a.m. Mass on March 1 at St. Casimir's Church where all received the Holy Eucharist. A luncheon followed at the Holiday Inn.

Leader of worship was Joseph Shatas. Offertory gifts were presented to Rev. Robert K. Baltch, celebrant of the Mass, by John Tamasauskas of NYC and Atty. Vytautas Banelis, a member of the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania, who is now residing in Connecticut.

Hosting the luncheon was Pres. Anthony J. Radzevich and Spir. Advisor Rev. Baltch gave the invocation. The out-of-town guests, Mr. Tamasauskas and Atty. Banelis, former classmate of Rev. Baltch, addressed the members and sent greetings from past Natl. Pres. Dr. Jack J. Stukas and his wife Loretta.

The keynote speaker was Rev. Michael Clemente, newly-appointed pastor of Holy Cross Lith. Church in Schenectady, N.Y., and Diocesan Director of the Apostolate to the Deaf since 1975. Because 1981 is the International Year of the Handicapped, Father described his work with the deaf who now number about 250 families in the Albany Diocese. He mentioned that a weekly Mass for the deaf is offered at Holy Cross Church. The Deaf Center is located in Niskayuna and many of the deaf seek his help.

Ritual Chm. Mary Stanionis announced members qualifying for various degrees. Father Baltch conferred First Degrees on Aldona Abeling, and William & Beatrice Jasewicz. Recipients of Second Degrees were Jennie Burimauskas, Genevieve Chase, Sophie Malkowicz and Frances Wolan.

During the business meeting, Treas. Sophie Olbie reported on the dinner and program commemorating the 63rd Anniv. of Lith. Independence, and V.P. Gene Gobis read correspondence from Cong. Samuel S. Stratton stating he had participated in this observance in the House of Representatives on Feb. 18.

Our April 13 meeting was opened with prayer by Father Grigaitis. After the usual reports, Ritual Chm. Mary Stanionis reported that Father Baltch and Sophie Olbie were qualified for 4th Degrees which would be presented to them at this coming Natl. Convention in Scranton, Pa., Aug. 20-23. Cultural co-chairlady Regina Kot read an article on the sudden rise to fame in the modeling world of 15-year-old Lithuanian Chicagoan. Audra Avizienis.

Lith. Affairs Chm. Edward Baranauskas of Schenectady gave an account of the Lith. Day commemoration held there Feb. 15. Bishop Howard Hubbard of the Albany Diocese was the celebrant of the Mass. In place of the homily, Ed spoke on the conditions in Lithuania. Bishop Hubbard was very much moved. He said that he wished to preserve ethnic heritage. "Don't be ashamed to call yourselves Lithuanians," stated Bishop Hubbard.

Sophie Olbie, treasurer of the Lith. Committee of Amsterdam's Bi-Centennial Celebration, stated that a water fountain will be donated to the Amsterdam Free Library. Our members voted to donate \$50. to the Natl. K of L Scholarship Fund.

It was noted that Pope John Paul II offered a Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in the Lith. Chapel on March 4, St. Casimir's feast day, in Latin. Eighteen Lith. priests assisted him and the liturgy was in Lithuanian.

We congratulate Father Anthony Grigaitis who celebrated his 50th anniversary in the priesthood on June 14. Many of our K of L'ers were involved in the planning committee. Bishop Hubbard congratulated Father on this occasion and said he served as an altar boy for Father Grigaitis when he was in Troy.

Our members attended the special K of L Lithuanian Mass at 7 p.m. at St. Casimir's on May 18, the designated Day of Prayer for Lithuania for Amsterdam by the Religious Aid organization. Father Baltch was the celebrant. Lith. songs honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary were sung, and the services concluded with the Litany to the Blessed Virgin.

During the business meeting, Father Pugevicius' letter on Lithuanian Day in Auriesville on Aug. 30 was read. Other Captive Nations will also participate. He asked for Amsterdam's support.

Thank-you letters were received from Phil Carter of Providence, R.I., and Sadie Karbocius.

Ed Baranauskas reported on the Festival of Nations in Schenectady on May 16. The Schenectady Museum was the recipient of any profits made. He thanked K of L'ers Polly Ziausys, Regina Kot and Bernice Aviza for donating their services.

Our annual summer outing was postponed from a very busy June to Sept. 13 which, through the kindness of Dr. Adam Kindar, will be our day at his Galway summer place. We are most appreciative of Dr. Kindar's generosity.

Father Baltch suggested we adopt the parish of Truskava since many of our parish members came from that area and had helped it in the past. Sadie & Charles Karbocius volunteered to be the Godparents.

Gene Gobis asked Polly Ziausys if she would do our council the great honor of writing a poem to His Holiness, Pope John Paul, II, on behalf of our members. She graciously accepted.

Pres. Radzevich reminded all to continue in their petition campaign for the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis. Father Baltch spoke on the beautiful Confirmation services on May 17.

Congratulations to Dr. Jack J. Stukas on his 40th anniversary as director of the "Memories of Lithuania" radio program from his friends from C-100.

Willard & Jennie Kensell spent three weeks in California in May visiting their son.

Get-well wishes to John Whelly who recently underwent surgery. Our members wish him a speedy recovery.

Smile & Sparkle

## C-110 — Maspeth, N.Y.

Father Stasys Raila, our Spiritual Advisor and one of our staunchest supporters, celebrated 48 years as a priest on April 1. Ilgiasiu metu, Teveli!

It's a boy, Lawrence Albert, born Jan. 28 at 11 lbs., 9 oz's., to the Lukosevicius family, — a future K of L'er, for sure.

The date for our Fall Dinner-Dance has been changed from Sept. 26 to a date in October, not determined as yet. The dates was changed to enable us to channel all our energies into the arrangements for the dedication of the Lithuanian Wayside Shrine which will take place on Sept. 27. On that day, council will also host the Mid-Atlantic Dist. Meeting. We look forward to a 100% turnout by the membership. Well done, Mr. Nelson!

The winner of the 50/50 at the May meeting was Vincent Strepeikis.

Our membership of 200 is further increased by the following newly-enrolled members: Marcel J. & Antonette T. Pointis, Alex & Albina Sipplak, Alexander & Helen Novack, Walter M. & Julia A. Burke, Tony & Brendy Razickas, and Drs. John & Nancy Craddock (both doctors of dental surgery). A most cordial welcome is extended to each and every one. We look forward to your active planning and participation in the council's activities.

The barn dance held May 9 was another successful event enjoyed by our council. It was just as much fun watching as it was participating. Pres. John Adomenas, the dance chairman, extends a grateful and gracious "thank you" to the committee: Al & Stasia Kraujalis, Lottie Ulrich, Francis Migliore, Frank & Nellie Yuskevich, George & Terry Dagis, and Adele Dausickas. There are 1,001 things to be done in running an affair. This committee was so efficient they needed very little direction.

The council's Executive Board wants to publicly commend Paul Yakaitis for the effort he has expended to prepare an appeal to the Lithuanian youth to become a part of the organization. Special thanks, also, to the Nelson girls for their enthusiasm in furthering this cause by offering their home for get-togethers.

Did any of you taste the cheese served at the Mid-Atlantic Dist's. Lithuanian Festival? It was delicious! It was made by one of our members, Lottie Ulrich. Our Vice President (a male) also baked a cake for the Festival.

Our council meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Transfiguration Church Hall in Maspeth, Queens. The members, as a body, participate in the 11 a.m. Mass at Transfiguration Church on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We're looking forward to meeting, working and praying with you.

Peter Yuskevich



## C-144 — SCHUYLKILL CO., PA.

Members of the 67th Annual Lithuanian Day Committee are busy preparing for the big event which will be held August 16. Evelyn Prep and Anne Wargo are co-chairpersons. The old adage "If you want something done, ask a busy person" holds true with Evelyn. She has been doing a tremendous job as Hostess Chairperson for the meetings. She also was editor and is in charge of the cook books which have been a tremendous success. She works full time at Locust Mt. Hospital and helps her husband in his tavern. She is currently baby-sitting her three-year-old granddaughter while her 5-month-old grandson is seriously ill, and she never refuses when asked to do something for the K of L.

This year's guest speaker will be Vldas Sakalys, who certainly has a message for us all. Entertainment will be provided by the Ausrine Dancers from Philadelphia; a beautiful quartet from New York, Jir Trys Ginterai; our Junior Knights, the Zarija Chorus. Anne and Evelyn will also chair the banquet the night before. We are looking forward to seeing many of our fellow Vyciai at the Sat. night banquet in Frackville and at the Lakewood Park in Barnesville on Sunday.

Welcome back to Msgr. Neverauskas, Joe Yezulinas, Elaine & Ed Kweder, Anne Milbut Nardini, and all their fellow travelers who just returned from Lithuania.

Sincere condolences are offered to Nell Klizas on the loss of her beloved sister in California.

Simta aciu to Tessie Balulis and her Junior Knights for the wonderful job they are doing on the Lithuanian Radio Program. These young people, who are taught their Lithuanian by Tessie, are to be commended. They certainly add to Father Al's program.

Dekojami the By-Laws Committee: Helen Chesko, John Buzis, Elsie Kosmisky, Bernice Mikatavage, Evelyn Prep and Anne Wargo, who worked many nights to prepare our council by-laws in accordance with the National Constitution. Extra special thanks to Helen Chesko for they typing and copying of these papers.

June 14 was commemorated by all the Lithuanian parishes in Schuylkill County and Mt. Carmel. A special Mass was offered by our Spiritual Advisor, Father Al Bartkus, over the Lithuanian Radio Hour and also prior to our meeting June 18 in Annunciation Church in Frackville. We owe much to Father Al, who is not only our guiding light, but is the spirit behind much of the revival of Lithuanism in our county.

We are all looking forward to the National Convention in Scranton, which is very close to home. Pres. Elsie Kosmisky will lead our delegation, and we know the Pittston, Forest City and Scranton councils will do a terrific.

Happy vacation-time to all our broliai ir seseris Vyciai. We look forward to seeing many of you at Lakewood and at Scranton. Turekit gera vasara.

Ona

### C-147 — ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Our council's annual picnic at Seminole Park on May 21 came and went with a great deal of success. Almost all our members attended with many friends and, hopefully, future K of L'ers.

It was a superb sunny day, and the food and entertainment was perfect. On the subject of food, we thank our remarkable committee: Chm. Terese Liutkus, H. Baceviciene, M. Zigaitiene, Aug. Zigaitis, Adele Navickiene, Eliz. Augustas, Victor Augustas, Ant. Grabauskas, J. Valauskas, H. Praninskas, Gr. Jasinskiene, Edv. Praninskas, Asolfas Paleckis, Victoria Jacobson, J. Baranauskiene, Ona Galyvydiene, I. Valauskiene and all others that brought dessert and cakes. The above members brought food piping hot from their homes, which consisted of delicious chickens, kutletai, kugelis, and all the accompaniments.

Our President, A. Mazeika, thanked all the members and friends for their participation, and invited Kazys Kleiva to conduct the entertainment part of the program. Fr. Gasiunas, our Spiritual Advisor, informed us that he was leaving for Rome on June 1 to attend the 50th



C-147 St. Petersburg, FL members (from left to right) Front row: C. Vilnis, A. Paleckis, Fr. J. Gasiunas, A. Mazeika, V. Kleiva. Back row: K. Kleiva, H. Vilnis, V. Kraujalis, J. Valauskas, T. Luitkus, Fr. K. Butkus, A. Kraujalis, Missing is Third Degree member Victoria Jacobson.

anniversary of priesthood of Bishop A. Deksnis. Since St. Helen's Day was the next day, Grazina Jaskinskas led all of us in singing, "Il-giausiu metu" to the four "Elenos" — Baceviciene, Krasauskiene, Praninskiene and Vilmiskiene. Mr. E. Praninskas delighted the audience with his rendition of a poem "Grovienes ir poeto meile" by Santvaras. The program continued with the entire group taking part in singing some of our nostalgic Lithuanian songs. Victoria Jacobson was in charge of the raffle, which consisted of a variety of gifts donated by both members and friends, and provided a great deal of fun. She was assisted by Ona Galvydiene and J. Babrys. Last but not least, we welcomed back Victoria Kleiva, Ona Petrikas, and I. Valauskiene from their trip to Rome, Greece, and other far away places.

Our group was much larger this year, due to our progressive growth, and the knowledge that the K of L is now in full swing in St. Petersburg.

A tribute to our eleven Third Degree members was held at the Franciscan Monastery with Fr. Kestutis Butkus as host. A. Mazeika presented each one their certificates, after which most went to dinner at the Brown Derby.

Aftger saying a fond farewell to our Fr. J. Gasiunas, and wishing him well on his trip to Rome, we all parted until the fall.

Our best wishes for a most successful K of L National Convention!

H. Vilnis



## MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

### C-25 — CLEVELAND, OHIO

Our council designated April 30 as our Day of Prayer for the people of Lithuania, that they may someday once again enjoy the freedoms of religion, speech and the pursuit of happiness, now unknown privileges in Lithuania. May God please hear our prayers. The evening Services were well attended, and our monthly meeting followed immediately thereafter.

Vince Gray is very active in efforts to gain beatification for Archbishop George Matulaitis, and has been distributing petitions for signatures to be sent to the Holy Father to help achieve this recognition for this Lithuanian Servant of God. We commend his enthusiasm and encourage others to work towards this very serious endeavor.

Our council was well represented at the annual Bowling Tournament in DuBois, Pa., having 4 teams and a cheering section composed of Vito Balas, Agnes Bartkus and Ben Derus. Congratulations to Detroit for winning the Traveling Trophy. Our team efforts, however, weren't dimmed as our individual efforts were brightened as Ursula Kunsitis received the trophy and monies for Hi-Single Actual bowling at 241. Nelda Machutas gained recognition and trophy for bowling Hi-Series Actual 557. Al Shigo, after the Hi-Handicap Single Award Trophy was given to Charlie Machutas, pointed out the oversight of his 171 Actual to the scorekeepers and was then awarded the Hi-Single Handicap Trophy. (Sorry, Charlie, but I had to stay sober to do it, — 237 with handicap. Love that trophy!)

Members Joanna Shigo and Connie Burns, along with Dayton C-96's Joyce Berczelly (love those grasshoppers) received their 3rd Degree awards presented by Ritual officers Nellie Arunski, of our

council, and Fran Petkus, C-96. Joanna is our council's first Associate Member to receive this degree. Congratulations! Both she and Connie Burns will now be working very hard to achieve the Fourth Degree.

We missed our "Ringer Bowlers" John & Helen Garnus at both the social affairs and bowling. (We were looking for their help in getting the Traveling Trophy). Perhaps they will be able to attend next year to help us in Chicago.

Bill & Helen Jakubs also are sorry they missed the wonderful hospitality of our DuBois council and friends, as they were vacationing in Rome at that time. Glad to see them back.

The Chicago delegates and representatives invited the Mid-Central Dist. Convention & Bowling Tournament to Chicago for 1982. So, we hope to see you all in Chicago.

Our council will host the Mid-Central Dist.'s Annual pilgrimage and Meeting the weekend of Sept. 26-27, and we hope to see all our K of L friends once again. Our committee consisting of Nellie Arunski, Vito Balas, Ben & Alice Karklius, and Pete Luiza, are planning a very meaningful program, both spiritual as well as social. This writer hopefully wishes that his wonderful niece, Evelyn Lepensky, a new member of New Haven, Conn. C-50, can participate in this pilgrimage, as she accredits Joanna Shigo (her aunt) with inspiring her to join our wonderful organization.

Albinas



## C-96 — DAYTON, OHIO

Joe E. Mantz is congratulated for the very successful annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale. Our sincere thanks go to his committee and workers, Joe, Eleanor & Chris Mantz, Barbara Goecke, Sue Smiley and to all the members who contributed in any way. Special congratulations to winners Judy Petrokas & Greg Blum.

Following the April meeting Fr. Vaclovas Katarskis treated the members in celebration of his 33rd anniversary in the U.S.A. Labai aciu! Cultural Chm. Eleanor Mantz passed around beautiful needlepoint baskets holding Lithuanian decorated eggs. Greg Blum had the pleasure of demonstrating how we actually decorate our eggs at the Emporium in Dayton's Arcade. People wanted to purchase the eggs, but Greg was doing this as a special project. Treats after the May meeting were from Mary Lucas. Umm, good!

On May 14 a special Mass for the council was held commemorating K of L Prayer Day.

Two vans headed for the annual MCD Spring Convention & Mid-West Bowling tournament on May 15-17 in DuBois, Pa. We can say they did it again. The DuBois council has a way of making a weekend in their town leave you with a great feeling of having spent a weekend with your family. Their warmth and hospitality surrounded us the whole time. The District Meeting went very well under the leadership of Dist. Pres. Peter Luiza. Dayton had two teams entered in the tournament. Much to our dismay we came home empty-handed. One team did make 2nd place, missing first by 28 pins.

Congratulations to Joyce Berczelly who was formally presented with the Third Degree prior to the Sunday Mass. Joyce, an Associate Member, has proven herself very worthy of the degree with all she has done for the council. We thank



C-96 Dayton, Ohio member Joyce Berczelly being awarded her Third Degree. Mid-Central Dist. Ritual Chm. Nellie Arunski is assisting.



C-96 Dayton, Ohio bowlers and district delegates in DuBois, Pa.: Joe & Eleanor Mantz, Frances Mikalauskas, Joyce & John Berczelly, and Sue & Pat Smiley. Missing is photographer George Mikalauskas

John & Joyce Berczelly for taking full responsibility in making arrangements for the council for the bowling tournament weekend, with the added help of Fran Petkus. We thank John, his "crew," and George Mikalauskas for their great job in handling the driving.

We commend our Parish's Lithuanian Cultural Committee for another very successful participation in Dayton's annual International World A'Fair Festival on May 29-31. Elinor Sluzas, Judy Petrokas & Rita Ambrose did a great job in putting this tremendous project together. Mary Ann Blum kept the kitchen crew hopping. Sally Miller took charge of the K of L Christmas ornament booth while Ada Sinkwitz handled the egg decorating booth. It was great to see all our members pitching in wherever they were needed.

The success of Lithuanian participation was shown by crowds that were always around our area. We were swamped by the public looking forward to again eating kugele and good Lithuanian foods. In spite of the fact that more food was prepared than last year, we still had to make more. Forgotten was all the hard work when people smiled and told us how happy it was to spend "time in Lithuania."

A living display was the highlight of the section. The background scene took you to a garden with live music by Aukse Banakaityte, Jonas Muliolis, Elenute Muliolyte and Rytas Urbaitis. These young people, members of Ciurlionis Ensemble, came down from Cleveland to be a part of this great weekend. Crowds were always around listening to the beautiful Lithuanian music and songs presented by these young people. The new Vejeliai Dancers, under the direction of Greg Blum, gave a performance that was very much a crowd pleaser. Music for the dancers was furnished by Cecelia Lisankis and Judy Petrokas on their accordions. It was a weekend where all the people of the world smiled as one. How great it was!

Good to see Eloise Berczelly doing well after a recent hospital stay. Prayers go to Florida member Pete Petkis who has been hospitalized again. It is good to see Joe & Aldona Ryan back on their feet. They were so disappointed they couldn't go to DuBois. Happy 45th Anniversary to Ernie & Veronica Omlor.

Recent out-of-town members in Dayton visiting were Californian Ed Sluzas; from Conn., Pat Zelinskas Alexander; the Marines, M. F. Petkus; from Tampa, Fla., Charles, Dan & Benjamin Petkus; and the Boekes from Michigan. Good to see one and all!

Word is out our meetings are good. "Long-time-no-see" Stan Kavy attended the April meeting. Congratulations to Rita Gecas who completed qualifications for the First Degree. A big hand for Chris Mantz on being nominated "Secretary of the Day" at a local promotional by her boss.

Our very deepest sympathies go to the family of Ed Krivickas of C-112. Ed was a special Chicago friend to many of us Daytonians who attend national conventions. We shall miss Ed at his usual post of Sgt.-at-arms at these gatherings. We pray he is at rest with the Lord.

Fran Petkus

#### C-79 — SOUTHFIELD, MICH.

Remember the days of white gloves and flowered hats, when your mother wouldn't wear white shoes till Memorial Day, and when she wouldn't wear black patent-leather shoes in the summer? Most of us don't believe specific dates have much to do with what you choose to wear these days. However, Apr. 28 was a specific date when 26 members of "black-patents" gathered for an enjoyable evening at the Birmingham Theatre to see the musical "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?"

The show appealingly reflects through grade school and high school, and revolves around religious personalities and teen-age behavior.

Some of us are a product of Catholic upbringing. For your correspondent, I can say that it never hurt one bit! But how quickly "I forgot" the boy-girl health classes and other aspects of "learning". How quickly "I forgot" about those unannounced inspections on those polished saddle shoes, and God forbid if "I forgot" my beanie. And let's not forget those wonderful Schaefer cartridge ink pens that always managed to leak or go dry at the wrong time.

It was refreshing to reminisce all over again, as we watched that wonderful play. Thanks to Social Chm. Eleanore Grasha who planned the event.

A moving and inspiring scene was observed amid traditions of ancient liturgy as the Most Rev. Edmund C. Szoka was installed as Archbishop of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Catholics, May 17, at Cobo Arena. The joy, however, was somewhat muted for the concern of the wounded Holy Father in an assassination attempt. We, likewise, add our prayers and hopes for the complete recovery of Pope John Paul II.

Anthony Dainus has been a dedicated organizer of the Archdiocesan ADF for many years for the Devine Providence parish. Simta aciu to Tony and all his workers who collected before and after Masses, during May.

Frank Zager represented the Divine Providence Parish Council at the Archdiocesan pastoral Assembly (APA) at Sacred Heart Seminary where he participated in workshops and lectures. The focus was on Family Ministries and Evangelization. Sophie Zager also attended the event on Apr. 4-5.

The Zagers and Maggie Smailis attended the Mid-Central Dist. meeting as delegates of our council,

and also participated in the Mid-West Bowling functions in DuBois, Pa., on May 15-17. Pres. Pete Luiza presided at a well-organized meeting which consisted of reports, discussions and lots of ideas.

Although the weather was not too "friendly," the host C-86 excelled in their usual friendliness and hospitality. The early-bird get-together, the Sat. Night Dance Social, and the Sunday Buffet Dinner were super. Just about every ethnic food was featured on the buffet table, which included those bushels of delicious mushrooms that Dick Radzavich picked. However, in back of our minds we kept wondering as we observed: How the C-86 women simply "sat and visited" while all the work and needs were manifested so smoothly by all the men! Whatever...we thank the committee and DuBois members for a great job done.

Our bowlers who attended the tournament were Ray Lukas, John Kolinske, Mike Vale, Michael Salas, Chip Newberry and Ed Salas. Ed was a winning member of the First Place team. Congratulations to all.

Mike Vale has temporarily traded his fishing boots for some travelling shoes. He made a trip to Lithuania for the fifth time in July to visit relatives and friends. To make sure "all goes well" this time, he took up a Russian language course that he might put to good use in Europe.

Bertha Janus enjoyed a group tour to the Kentucky Derby and other points of interest in the Blue Grass State. The Virgin Islands seemed to be the "in place" where George and Marie Kase took a Caribbean cruise.

Although Marie Kase has retired after more than 20 years at Hudson's, she states she misses the "people and public" which she enjoyed every day. We wish her "dauk sekmes" in her retirement.

Sentimental comments were expressed by one Detroit News writer on Ralph Valatka who acts in the Gonzo show. Critics just love the

dinner show at Stouffer's Northland Inn, and say "This is the funniest, best show ever....and Ralph Valatka is the best actor alive."

Get-well wishes to Frank Petroski who has been hospitalized more times than we are able to comment. God bless you, Frank.

Sincere condolences are extended to the family of Albert Jacobs, a member of our council, who passed away May 24. Coming in for the funeral were Sister M. Francesca and Sister M. Alverna of St. Francis Academy in Pittsburg, Pa.

Sr. Alverna marks her 50th anniversary (Aug. 1931) as a Franciscan. Ilgiausiu ir laimingiausiu metu, Sister. Soffi

### C-102 — Detroit, Mich.

Once again our bowling league has come to the end of its season with the Keg & Bottle Team, sponsored by Donna & Bill Pluto, winn-

ing First Place, two years in a row now. The team members were Gus Baibak, George Kayganich, Karen Lindquist, Rose Sawnick and Joe & Maryanne Guerriero. After a fun-filled bowling banquet, hosted by Nelli Milius of C-79, most of the members of the league traveled to DuBois, Pa., where our council brought home the First Place Trophy. The good bowling of members Evelyn Galinas and Mart & Ruth Wagster, with help from Ed Salas of C-79 and Ed Prokefka of C-86, brought the trophy home to our Detroit C-102. This being the first such endeavor for DuBois C-86, all agree it was very successful and "thank you" for the good time. We would also like to welcome Saginaw, Mich. C-149 into our fold.

Our California members, Margie & Jeff Krieg, were in town for the wedding of Margie's brother, Al Bunikis to his bride Carolyn Butts. Margie and All are children of Frank & Donna Bunikis, who came



Virginia Daugvydas-Dean, Gov. Milliken of Michigan, Julia Kriauchunas-Bryce, and Detroit Mich. C-102 member Vytalia Vyskalis, at the signing of the Proclamation commemorating February 16, Lithuanian Independence Day.

back in time from Florida for the wedding. It was a beautiful affair held in the Chapel of Oakland University.

Donna & John Stanievich have finally settled down after extensive traveling this winter, first on a Caribbean cruise, then a visit to California to Donna's parents, and finally to New York to visit their son, Dr. John and family in their new home. After five months in the Bahamas, we welcome back Ann Uznis. When she visits with her brother and family, it's like pulling teeth to get her home again.

After the bowling tournament in DuBois, Joe & Maryanne Guerriero tried their luck once again at Atlantic City and Lady Luck was with them this time. On the way home they stopped in Pittston, Pa. and visited with Maryann's aunts and uncle, Mary & Ben Agurkis and Agnes Kay. We hear everyone there is looking forward to the National Convention in August. See you all in Scranton.

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...and more C-102 Detroit, Mich. members, Gus & Gene Baibak, Mart & Ruth Wagster, and Adele Brandt in DuBois, Pa.



C-102 Detroit, Mich. members Ed Salas, Evelyn Galinas, Joe Guerriero, Rose Sawnick and Ann Salas at DuBois, Pa. Bowling Tournament





## ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

The councils in the IID were represented by AnnMarie Kassel, Paul Binkis, Jr., Irene Sankus, Susan Balanos, Georgi Kassel and Matthew Strolia at the Mid-West Bowling Tournament hosted by C86 in DuBois, Pa. They reported a great time was had by all, and that the people from DuBois were most cordial hosts. One of our teams finished in 6th Place in the tourney. The IID will host the 1982 tournament in Chicago.

Congratulations to Vincent Samaska and Valeria Stanaitis who were elected to serve as Vice-Pres. and Treas., resp., of the Chicago Chapter of ALTAS. Many other K of L members continue to remain active with the group.

Membership Vice-Pres. Ellie Kasputis reports that the IID Membership Drive culminated June 30th and awards were presented during the IID July 4th K of L picnic.

A Farewell Party to IID officers Emily & Harry Petraitis (who have moved to Florida) was held at the New Gold Coast Inn. Joining K of L members at the party were members

of the Pirmyn Chorus, the LAA Mens Lodge 228, John Ward & Sam Barbaro of the City of Chicago (Harry's former co-workers) and many personal friends of the Petraitis'. A truly fun-filled evening was had by all. The IID presented them with a Lithuanian carved wooden flower arrangement. We will miss Harry and Emily very much and hope they will enjoy the Florida K of L council.

Our quarterly business meeting was held June 1 in the K of L Building. Convention and picnic details were discussed along with appropriate donations to the Convention Committee, National Scholarship Fund, Chgo. Lith. Womens Club Amber Ball, Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, and the Captive Nations Committee.

Our condolences to Phil Carter of Rhode Island on the death of his wife, Aldona. Phil is a long-time friend of many Chicagoans.

To the members of the Marian Fathers Order, our condolences on the death of the Rev. Peter Cinikis, MIC. Father Peter was a former IID Spiritual Advisor and the current spiritual leader of our Chicago Senior Council. In his capacity as "Draugas" administrator, he was always of great assistance to the members of the IID. We shall miss him very much!

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### C-112 — CHICAGO, ILL.

After-meeting speakers continue to entertain and inform the members attending the meetings. Our speaker for the April meeting was Michael Yuknis, who not only spoke of his experiences in the Peace Corp while stationed in Liberia, but he also presented a most interesting display of artifacts from the area. Former National Scholarship recipient, Aloysius Pakalniskis, was our speaker for the May meeting. Aloysius spoke on his experience as a 4th year medical student at the University of Illinois, Circle Campus.

Congratulations to council bowlers Paul Binkis, Jr., Susan Bolanos and Irene Sankus, who represented us in the Mid-West Bowling Tournament held in DuBois, Pa. They reported that the members of C86 were most hospitable, and they extend their appreciation to all of the DuBois members, and especially Benedict Radzevich and Tom Bruzga.

Our council's assigned Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church in Lithuania was May 26 and the Rev. John Savukynas arranged and officiated at a special Mass at Our Lady of Vilna Church. In his sermon, he reviewed the information available on the Church in Lithuania. The K of L Choir, under the direction of Faustas Strolia, sang the beautiful Lithuanian Mass and we were most pleased to have Lith. Consul General and K of L Honorary Member Josephine Dausvardis and the Rev. Anthony Markus join us for this memorable and stirring event. Father Savukynas also arranged for a social following the Mass in the parish hall. Our appreciation to Father John and to Council Pres. Al Zakarkas in planning this special commemoration.

Council Spiritual Advisor Canon Vaclovas Zakarauskas commemorated his 50th Anniversary of priesthood on May 31 with a special concelebrated Mass at Nativity BVM Church, followed by a dinner and special program in the church hall. The hall was filled to capacity with friends celebrating the event with the Canon. Al Zakarka represented our council on the special all-organizations committee and many, many K of L members were in attendance.

A surprise party was held in honor of Tony Yuknis' retirement and was attended by members of his family and friends. Happy retirement to Tony!

**Council condolences to the wife and family of our beloved Dr. Zenonas Danelivicius, a dedicated worker for the Lithuanian cause; to Ceil Kincie on the death of her father, John Kincinas; and to the Chicago Senior Council and the members of the family of the Rev. Peter Cinikis, MIC.**

Many happy days of retirement to former Council Pres. Harry Petraitis and his wife, Emily. They will be enjoying their beautiful new home in the retirement state of Florida. We hope that they will remember Chicago and their K of L friends.

Congratulations are in order for Joseph Rudis, a very active senior citizen in the Marquette Park area. Recently Joe received an award as Senior Citizen of the Year for service, commitment and dedication to their program in the Chicago Park District. He received his award during the 14th Annual City of Chicago Luncheon for Senior Citizens held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. Among the 1600 in attendance, 71 of Joe's personal friends were there to honor him. From among the 21 Park District award winners. Joe was selected by Television Channel 5 to be personally interviewed at his home. The segment was a most interesting part of the news program.

A big welcome to the following who became members of our council within the past year: Susan Balonas, Mary Banky, Edward Deksnis, Stanley & Carol. Evans, Laime Koch, Dr. Ferdinand Kaunas, Dr. Walter & Alice Kirstuk, Saulius & Roma Kuprys, Larry & Bernice Laurian, Alexander & Mary Mathes, Antoinette paskauskas, Vince Petrosius, Jr., Vincent & Mary Petrosius, Steve Rudokas, Anne Sliteris, Anthony & Ruth Vaisnoras, and Anthony Vartunas.

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## **CICERO, ILLINOIS ŠV. KAZIMIERO TRADICINĖ METINĖ ŠVENTĖ, CICERO, IL**

Naujai atgaivinta Vyčių 14-ta kuopa, Cicero, pirmą kartą suruošė Illinois-Indianos Lietuvos Vyčių Šv. Kazimiero metinę Šventę, Kovo 1 d.

Su valstybine, tautine ir Vyčių vėliavomis žygiavo nariai į Šv. Antano bažnyčią. Kuopos dvąsios vadai ir Vyčių garbės narys, kun. A. Valančius atnašavo Šv. Mišias. Kun. Savukynas pamokslą pasakė. Giedojo Vyčių choras su solistu A. Braziu. Muzikas p. Strolia grojo vargonais.

Po Mišių salėje prie skaniai paruoštų pusryčių dalyvavo per 100 asmenų. Stalai papuošti puikiomis gyvomis gėlėmis. Vėliavos ant scenos sustatytos. Scenoje Šv. Kazimiero paveikslą papuošė tautinė vėliava ir puokštės gyvų gėlių. Šį originalų menininko dailininko Adomo Varno paveikslą mielai paskolino p. Kazė Baunilienė. Prie garbės stalo ponias Vance pakvietė 12 asmenų: gen. konsulę J. Daužvardienę, A. Brazį, kun. Valančių, ponias Vance, A. Kassel, A. Gabalienę ir kitus. Buvo atėjęs ir klebonas kun. Stankevičius.

Programai vadovavo kuopos pirmininkė ponias St. Utinčius. Svečius pristatė ponias Vance. Į ketvirtą laipsnį pakelti p. Petraitis ir p. Aukščiūras. Buvo keletą narių pakeltų ir į trečią laipsnį.

Be to visus sveikino gen. konsulė J. Dažuvaridenė, kun. Valančius, V. Samaška.

Dainavo A. Brazis, akompanuojant jį žmonai. Smuiku pagrojo jauna 11 metų p-lė Marija Dudaitė. Nuostabiai gražiai išpildė klasinius veikalėlius p-lė Griniūtė. Jai akompanavo ir solo pianinu skambino.

Pabaigai pristatė Vyčių veikėją Adelę Gabalienę ir ponias S. Klatt, kurios padėjo atgaivinti Vyčių 14-tą kuopą. Joms buvo įteiktos dovanos, gintaro apyrankės. Ponia A. Brusokas ir S. Klatt buvo iniciatorės.

Reikia sveikinti naujai atgaivintą ir skaitlingą nariais kuopą, kurios vadovybė ir narės suruošė tokią gražią šventę. Linkiu kuopos valdybai sėkmės, nariais augti ir stiprėti.

Adelė Gabalis



**NEW ENGLAND  
DISTRICT**

### **C-1 — BROCKTON, MASS.**

Our council is alive and well! To bring you up-to-date on our activities, we have included a calendar of events, past and future.

St. Casimir's parish held their 3rd annual Harvest Bazaar. The K of L sponsored a table with artifacts from Lithuania and a raffle. Proceeds went to the parish. Fran Bumila, Council Pres. and Ann Statkus, Secy., co-chaired the table and did a great job. Our other members were seen from working in the kitchens to the candy wheel, all of which contributed to the makings of a successful bazaar.

Council members took part in the festivities of Maironis Park. We conducted a membership drive in the parish, luring new members with delicious food and pastries. We sadly remembered Father Martinkus in our prayers, and the fall drifted into winter.

A winterwonderland party was held at the home of George & Fran Bumila with a delicious array of food prepared by their daughter, Susan. The party served a two-fold purpose, the fun of getting together, as well as a kick-off for the Snowflake Ball. Our co-chairpeople were John & Marilyn Yuskaitis who also held a cocktail party-meeting at their home in February a few weeks before the ball. Marilyn outdid herself with quite an assortment of goodies. Our committee heads were: Refreshments, Pat Achorn and Marion Dillis; Decorations, Mary Carleton and Susan Bumila; Patron Booklet, Peter & Ronnie Bizinkauskas; Raffle, Ann Statkus and Fran Bumila; Reservations and Tickets, Doris Fralick and Joyce Piscitelli. Dancing music was provided by the Swinging Brass Orchestra. Needless to say, the dance was a success and enjoyed by all.

St. Casimir's held their annual Parish Banquet in March under the direction of K of L's Mary & Fred Carleton. The chef that prepared the wonderful meal was Michael Boroskas (now of New Hampshire) whose mother is past Nat'l. Pres. Susan Boroskas.

A toast to the Irish was our theme at our March meeting, the officers trying to make each meeting a little different, as well as productive and enjoyable.

Keeping the Easter tradition of egg decorating alive, a Sunday afternoon was sponsored by member Veronika Bizinkauskas and her able assistants in opening the parish hall to all who would like to learn the art of egg decoration. Everyone had a good time and took their prized egg home.

A Mass and prayers for Lithuania was held in April and our members gathered at St. Casimir's. Following Mass, a pot luck supper was held at the motherhouse of the Sisters of Jesus Crucified and a brief meeting followed.

In May, prayers were offered for Lithuania by the Blue Army of St. Casimir's Parish under the direction of Bill Moncevicz.

June 14 was an observance for Lithuania by St. Casimir's and all Knights were in attendance.

In July we had K of L Family Day at Camp Lyndon. After a fun-filled day last year, everyone eagerly looked forward to getting together again, and they weren't disappointed.

Have a happy and safe summer. See you in the fall.

Patricia Achorn

#### C-7 — WATERBURY, CONN.

It's hard to believe that six months of '81 have gone by so rapidly. These past months have brought glad and sad events. January was the sad month when we lost three long-time members. Otto Shatas left us, followed by John Cheplick and Tom Kaukas. All three are greatly missed and are remembered in our prayers at monthly meetings.

February was the month in which we celebrated Lithuanian Independence Day. Although annexed by Russia, we still hope and pray for the reestablishment of her independence. The commemoration consisted of a Mass at St. Joseph's Church, followed by ceremonies at the auditorium where we sang, listened to speeches, supported proclamations and signed resolutions. There were also ceremonies at City Hall consisting of raising the Lithuanian flag and the inauguration of Dr. Peter Vilesius as the Lithuanian Mayor for the day. To show his appreciation he invited all attending to a champagne breakfast in the Mayor's chambers. It was a

great day for the Lithuanians.

February is also the month to celebrate St. Valentine's Day, — so a party was planned! Jerri Kumpikevich and Toni White prepared a meal that any well-known gourmet cook couldn't beat.

March brought us St. Casimir's Feast Day. We celebrated by attending Mass and inviting all participants to some light refreshments at our clubrooms.

In April we decided to do some fund raising. We usually try to do our part in helping the parish with expenses. It was decided a dinner-dance would be ideal. On the 25th, in our beautifully decorated auditorium, we danced and dined. A luscious buffet was prepared by Jerri and Toni. Others who helped to make this affair a success were Danny Kimpikevich, Pat Richards, Ginny Maciokas, Justine Kump, Karen Rofsky and Barbara Rickevicius. We were able to present Father George with a substantial check.

April 15th was our Prayer Day and we fulfilled our obligations by attending Mass and offering prayers for the persecuted people of Lithuania.

May called for celebrating Fr. George Vilciauskas' 40th anniversary in the priesthood. Our huge auditorium was filled to capacity with well-wishers. This was a glorious day for Fr. George and one that he will remember for a long time.

Also in May, it was revealed that our coffers were getting low and it was time to replenish them. We decided on a May Festival and once again Jerri and Toni prepared a meal that brought out a deluge of compliments.

We are continuing to build up our membership and have added the following to our list: Theresa Pocus, Karen Rofsky, Frances Balchunas, Frances Januska and Marcella Laureckas. We also were happy to reinstate Gabe Wiggins, Al & Alvira Ambrose and Helen Shatas.

Doris & Walter Blinstrubas have been working hard in gathering information on members who are entitled to ritual degrees. We hope to award the Second Degree in October to a great number of members.

One of our biggest events will take place in August, our Yearly Family Outing on the 16th, to be held at the Thomaston Rod and Gun Club. Co-chairmen Danny and Jerri Kumpikevich are asking that all members help to make this outing the greatest yet.

Congratulations to Toni & Ed White who have a new grandson, and Doris & Walter Blinstrubas on their first grandchild, a baby girl.

And so, if all goes well, we hope to renew acquaintances at the National Convention in Scranton. Till then, "Likite sveiki iki pasimatyma."

Flash & Estelle



#### C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

Council members attended a Mass offered for the persecuted church in Lithuania. Father Steponaitis gave an appropriate sermon and we all recited the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

At our May meeting our council spiritually adopted the parish of Vabalninkas in Berzas County. Our choice was made because of the large number of persons in the Athol-Gardner area who can trace their ancestry to the Vabalninkas area. Godparents chosen were Frank Anoris who traces his ancestry from the parish, and Tina Andreliunas Shatas whose father was the first Lithuanian immigrant in Athol, also from the parish. Following the meeting, lunch was served by our gracious Juliana.

Charles Genaitis was elected delegate to the Scranton, Pa. Nat'l. Convention to represent the N.E. District.

Condolences to Pauline Rodski & family on the death of her brother, Anthony Wesokes. Condolences, too, to Dan Novak and family on the loss of their father, Anthony Novak. Dan is our local Lithuanian Club President and has done favors for our K of L. Dan eulogized his dad at the funeral which brought many tears to the friends present.

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Hassett of Fitchburg celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on May 24 at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, attended by family and close friends. Herb and the former Katherine Goode of Athol were married at St. Bernard's in Fitchburg and lived their married life there. Herb is a retired captain of the Fitchburg Police Force. They are the parents of three daughters, Joyce Howard and twins Mary Smith and Kathleen Mullins. We wish them many more years of happy wedded life and may the good Lord shower his choicest blessings on them.

Gladys Narkevicius and Charles Richardson were married on May 15 in our Lady Immaculate Church, Athol. The following week they moved into their new home on Elm Street, Gardner. Best wishes are extended from all of us.

On May 31, twenty-five of our members and friends travelled by private car to Hartford, Conn. to attend the First Eastern Seaboard Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival held at Trinity College. About 2200 Lithuanians gathered to witness a beautiful spectacle of our youth perform some of our ancient and modern folk dances. The costumes were beautiful as were the dancers. It sure made all of us proud of our heritage. Some of us had supper at the newly-redecorated Lithuanian Club where we met K of L'ers from other cities and renewed old acquaintances.

Vincukas

#### C-26 — WORCESTER, MASS.

Our council expects excellent representation at the coming National Convention to be held in Scranton, Pa. in August. Steve Walinsky, Sr. proposed the idea some months ago of traveling to the Convention by chartered bus. With these days of energy saving, it was an idea immediately adopted. A bus was chartered, reservations accepted, enthusiasm grew with anticipation of seeing old friends, making new ones, receiving Degrees, working on committees, becoming familiar with Scranton...all this, while at the same time planning for an even bigger and better Knights of Lithuania!

Lithuanian Festival Week, held at the Galleria of Worcester Center, June 8-13, was the inspiration of our newest member, Eduardas Meilus, Jr., and coordinated by Ed and the Worcester Area Council of Lithuanian Organizations. Advance publicity with press notices, bumper stickers, radio announcements and Worcester Center marquee postings made the event well-known. Rasa Grigaitis continued to amaze non-Lithuanians with her proficiency in egg decorating. The folk dancing group, the Zaibas Ensemble, was

another main attraction. This group is instructed by Nijole Pranckevicius and Irene Markevicius. Linda March, granddaughter of Bart & Marion March; Audra, daughter of Ed & Wanda Lescord; and Mark and Lynn Walinsky, children of Steve & Elly Walinsky; contributed their graceful steps in this Lithuanian Folk Dance Group. So many added their talents to make the exhibits and sales of food, needlework, woodwork, dancing and singing one great tribute to our beautiful Lithuanian heritage. Two live broadcasts from the Worcester Center were presented by Lithuanian Radio Hour Director Ed Meilus, Jr. It was a wonderful week in Worcester!

Ann Ridick, Ann Walinsky and Helen Gillus joined Ann Bender, president of the Sisters of St. Casimir Auxiliary here in St. Casimir's Parish, on a trip in April to the Villa Joseph Marie, Newtown, Pa. to attend the Sisters' Annual Convention.

We offer prayerful sympathies to Rita Sokor and Walter Grimala whose sister, Dorothy, died in May.

April 29th was our council's assigned Prayer Day for Lithuania. Our spiritual director, Father Benjamin Uzdavinis, MIC, selected special hymns, prayers and meditations which, with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, formed a beautiful Holy Hour wherein we asked our Lord's help for Lithuania.

Pres. Rita & Ted Pinkus celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary this past spring. We congratulate them on this happy occasion, wishing them many, many more happy years together.

Alphonse Kausevicius, manager of Maironis Park, is recuperating nicely following several weeks confinement at St. Vincent Hospital. Linkime Ponui Kauseviciui kad pasveiktu ko greiciausia!

Now in the planning stage is our dinner-dance of Oct. 24. Reserve the date!

James Zalieckas has taken himself a June bride. From all of us come heartiest congratulations to the newlyweds!

Father Anthony J. Miciunas, MIC, our pastor at St. Casimir's returned home safely after attending the General Chapter of Marians in Rome this past spring. Father quickly resumed his pastoral concerns and duties.

Two of our members are teachers in our parish school. Dorothy Seilius teaches the kindergarten, while Sister M. Ignata, S.S.C., teaches the first and second grades. They would be delighted to have members send their offspring to this parish facility. It hardly seems possible, yet each year, parishioners and guests comment that Sister Ignata's First Holy Communion class preparations are more beautiful than the year before. We are appreciative and most grateful to the Sisters who prepare these children for a pure and holy Catholic life. Father Ben was celebrant this year for the beautiful Liturgy of the First Holy Communion Mass.

Summer meetings will be held outdoors at the kind invitations of certain of our members. Su Diev, iki sekancio numerio!

Dzukele

#### C-30 — WESTFIELD, MASS.

The NED Meeting was held in March at Casimir's Church parlors on a Sunday afternoon. Council members from neighboring cities attended. Dist. Pres. Bertha Stoskus presided over the meeting. Our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Daniel R. Foley, celebrated Mass and welcomed the K of L members. Benny Coach led the group from the church parlors into the church. Council Vice pres. Arthur Lord and Secy. Cooky Coach brought the gifts to the altar. Cooky read in Lithuanian and English.

Following Mass, lunch was served in a "do-it-yourself" fashion — cold cut grinders, pastry and beverage.

Congratulations to Eugene Duda and Arthur Lord who received their Third Degree ritual awards during the meeting. We are proud of their accomplishments.

When the meeting was over, supper followed with homemade kielbasa and sauerkraut and other very tasty Lithuanian foods.

Council Pres. Joseph Sabonis and his wife Anne have been traveling from the West Coast to the East Coast visiting their children and grandchildren.

Sally Bakutis, one of our new members, fell and fractured her hip, was hospitalized, and is now coming along fine. Our best wishes for her continued good health and speedy recovery.

Aldona K. is moving to Arizona where she will be near her daughters and grandchildren. We wish our loyal member the best of luck and much happiness. We will miss her.

Louise Renaud

#### C-50 — NEW HAVEN, CONN.

It was nice to see our council get a share of notoriety in the May issue of the Vytis. We thank the editors for this. However, we regret one omission. We have a Spiritual Advisor, Father Karolis, who is ardently guiding each and every member to the best of his ability, and in due time, will solve all the problems of this growing council. We appreciate and love our pastor, Father Karolis. We congratulate him for reentering our parish, St. Casimir's, to the chronicles of the Knights of Lithuania.

Things are bustling as usual in this area, and what can't be done this year will be followed through next year.

At our April 5 meeting, we were honored to have NED Pres. Bertha Stoskus, her husband John, and Nat'l. 2nd Vice Pres. Jonas Adomenas administer our first

degrees. The ceremony was most inspiring and left us with the impression that we will be looking forward to achieve those goals necessary for our next degree.

To round up this wonderful day, we helped the Women's Alliance of Conn. celebrate their 65th anniversary. As usual, for a small remuneration, we had a banquet. We ate to our heart's content. What a feast! Mrs. Bruno Stremaitis can certainly claim her laurels for preparing a scrumptious dinner party.

On May 10, our Mother's Day started with all the combined societies of the parish marching into the church for the 10:30 Mass. We celebrated a solemn High Mass assisted by our famous choir. We also participated in the singing of the Litany of the Blessed Virgin in Lithuanian. All came back to the parish hall where the choir hosted us with their unceasing generosity of goodies and good will. Council Pres. George Kisielus was instrumental in dedicating this special Mother's Day gathering to someone who spent her lifetime working, praying, and reaching out to everyone. Mother's Day at St. Casimir's, New Haven, was her deepest concern. She established a tradition that will survive forever. We are proud of our president for honoring Mary Roman this day. As a monumental remembrance of her good works, he has presented a woven banner of the Lithuanian National Anthem which will hang in our map room in her honor. Mary Roman was the first Lithuanian to be born in the New Haven area. She is also a relative of the author, Dr. Vincas Kudirka.

The NED Meeting in Westfield, Mass., was attended by 6 delegates, 2 alternates and a member as guest. The convention was tremendous as usual. Can we ask for anything more, — laughing, stuffing ourselves, screaming to get a word in. What a day, — and yet there was much accomplished.

We congratulate Anne & Al Gedrim who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary June 15. We wish them all the best and may God bless them with many more happy years. Al has assumed the position of Asst. Treas. to our existing Treas. Helen Medley. It is evident he has been busy and will continue to be the expertise in our financial trauma.

We have several prominent parishioners who are undergoing serious operations, Eleanor Gutauskas and Ann Kardorsky. We pray their operations will alleviate the excruciating pains they have endured for a long time. We wish with God's help that both have a speedy recovery. Edith Kazlauskas, another prominent parishioner, has been recuperating from surgery performed several months ago. We hope your vision has sufficiently improved.

Mary Jesukavich returned from a tour of Egypt, Jerusalem and the Jordan. She was kind enough to bring back many photos of scenes where our Savior walked, performed miracles, and then carried the Cross to Calvary.

In closing our second year of activities in our K. of L organization, there are some names who have not appeared in these writings, so we mention them now....

Helen Case chaired our tremendous successful Christmas Boutique last December, and numerous other ventures. Congratulations, Helen. Our Recording Secy. Joan Augustine, our most precise member, will always willingly stay past closing time to rectify or add any notes to the minutes of the day. We know the difficulties you encounter and we are proud of you, Joan, for your patience and integrity. Rose Kisielus, our only Lithuanian Third Order of St. Francis, member, is the mother of Council Pres. George Kisielus. We are proud of your son and the timeless effort he is devoting to the council. Treas. Helen Medley, is always her

vivacious self, and nothing seems to trouble her. More power to you, Helen. Sgt-at-Arms Ann Meskins performs her duties so graciously. She is there at every event. Standing behind the counter weighing, wrapping, and selling desra at our holiday food fairs, hosting a snack bar of coffee and goodies, displaying old and new jewelry, etc. Her good deeds are innumerable. Helen Markewicz showers us with attention. At our meetings she is either serving us refreshments to the hilt, or passing out literature that we never dreamed of. Thank you, Helen for everything. To Albina Lipcius, we say we hope we will see the day come when we can stand next to her and say, "You were so right." Her life has been geared in the truly Lithuanian fashion. No one can change that style, Albina, because it is the deepest possession you will ever own.

Helen Balchus



C-103 — PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Graduations — Providence K of L'ers are proud of their young members who received college degrees this year: Francis Kapiskas, son of Vito & the late Dorothy Kapiskas, who graduated from the University of Rhode Island; Michael Walaska, son of John & Irene Walaska, from Wentworth College, Boston, Mass.; and Diane Marie Denisewich, daughter of Peter & Helen Denisewich from Providence College, Prov., R.I. Congratulations and best wishes to them in their chosen fields.

**April Meeting** — on Palm Sunday evening at our church hall, our members gathered for a pot-luck supper which can be described only as "de luxe". Toward the end of the meal, to the strains of "Ilgiausiu Metu Linkime...", an elegant birthday cake was brought in to the surprise and sparkling good pleasure of our Spiritual Advisor, Father V. Cukuras, whose birthday was April 11.

Three new members were welcomed into our council, Marta Saulenas, and Jonas & Natalie Gervelis. Sixteen First Degrees were administered.

Ann LaButti gave a cultural talk on Lithuanian Costumes.

**Travellers** — Anthony & Helen Gudczauskas set out for Texas for a visit with their son and grandchildren. Happy motoring.

**NED Convention** — Our council was well represented at the Convention held in Westfield, Mass. Delegates were Anthony & Helen Gudczauskas, Bertha Stoskus who is President of the NED, John & Irene Walaska, Peter & Helen Denisewich, Betty Ciuryla and Nellie Grande. Alternates were John Stoskus, who will receive Honorary Membership at the Scranton Convention, Ruth Krecioch, and Peter Denisewich, who, by the way won a Lithuanian cookbook in the raffle. Now that Peter has the cookbook, we will ask him to concoct some delicacy from its pages for a future pot-luck supper.

**May Breakfast** — on the first Sunday in May, Chefs/cooks Peter Denisewich, Joseph Waitonis and Sophia Sakalys planned and prepared the varied and tasty repast. Council Pres. Bill Piacentini manned the coffee urn. To them and their helpers, aciū, labai aciū.

**Council Prayer Day** — May 20 was the date assigned to our council to pray for Lithuania and its persecuted people. Our Pastor, Fr. Cukuras, sang the Mass, Nat'l. Spiritual Advisor Fr. Jurgelaitis preached the homily for the occasion, the Litany of the Blessed

Mother was sung in Lithuanian, and special prayers added. This was a moving experience because the liturgy was balanced: parts were in Lithuanian and parts in English, so that all could join in.

**Terrible June Days** — As in the past, our council is always looking forward to bring the message of suffering Lithuania to the non-Lithuanian world. Thanks to the dedicated activities of Vic & Bea Mathieu, we were invited to the Church of St. Mary in Bristol, R.I. to have a Memorial Mass commemorating the cruel deportations of Lithuanians in 1940. This Mass was also offered for our late Pastor Fr. V. Martinkus and council member Joseph Matachinkas, who died in December. Melskimes us kenciancia Lietuva!

Helen Denisewich

### C-135 — ANSONIA, CONN.

Millie & Walt Stachowicz are grandparents again. Congratulations! Grandma Millie flew to California to see her new granddaughter, Kellie Palmer. The baby is beautiful and Mom and Pop are proud and beaming. And then Millie and Walt were grandparents again to another beautiful granddaughter, Lynn Kapinos. Grandchildren, girls or boys, are always beautiful. God bless them all.

Our council held its 30th Anniversary Dinner on May 2 at Fortin's Restaurant in Naugatuck. Our full Executive Board and more than half of our members were present. Pres. John A. Sabulis said grace to start off the festivities, that ended with everyone attending happy they were part of it. As it turned out, and nicely so, it was Casey Svelnys' birthday. Our songbird, Lillian Chaplik, started to sing "Happy Birthday" and everyone joined in. Later in the evening three waitresses came out with a lighted sparkler in a cake and started to sing "Happy Birthday" and everyone joined in again. It

couldn't have been anything but happy for Casey that night. The chairmen who arranged this happy affair for all were Ruth Tyson and Al Shurkis. It was terrific!

Congratulations to Father George Vilcauskas, our former Spiritual Advisor. Father George was the concelebrant of a Mass offered May 17 at 3:30 P.M. in St. Joseph's Church on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of his Ordination. Practically every Lithuanian priest in the Archdiocese of Hartford was there. After the Mass, a reception was held at St. Joseph's School Hall where tables were set up and quickly filled to overflowing.

Congratulations to Waterbury, C-7 who were in charge of the reception. If what they did is part of Lithuanian heritage, let's not lose it. There was an open bar, and a wide variety of food such as kielbasa and sauerkraut, stuffed cabbage, chicken, farmers cheese, kugele, gelatin molds, salads, pizza, little sandwiches, deviled eggs, coffee, tea and three tables loaded with pastries. This council can be proud. The Romans had their banquets, but nothing can compare with the Lithuanian banquet they put out.

Father Clem Kasinskas was there, also, and was observed, while talking to people, looking at his watch. Later when asked why, his reply was that he had to catch a bus. Father Clem is the Lithuanian Secretary of Mass Transportation. he doesn't own a car, so when the distance is great, he takes a taxi, bus or train. This means of transportation does not wait for you; you wait for it. Therefore, be it resolved: You look at your watch to be sure you are there on time. That's what Father Clem does, racing against time almost all of the time. He will never grow old; time won't allow it.

Let us all pray for the complete recovery of Pope John Paul II.

INO

C-112  
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Return Requested  
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## JUNIORS CORNER

### JR. C-96 — DAYTON, OHIO

The Juniors were certainly busy during the past two months.

They started off by hosting the Annual Founder's Day celebration on April 25. Parents Elinor Sluzas and Frances Mikalauskas took charge of cooking a delicious supper with lasagna as the main dish. Tending the refreshment bar were regular members Rick Noreikas, Ed Sluzas and Joe E. Mantz. Jr Pres. Vida Gecas, using material written for the Vytis by Jr Knights dating back to 1939-57, composed poetry relating to these past Juniors. Each present Jr had a part in the readings. It was fun hearing and reminiscing of those days past. A few of the youngsters doing the readings are second generation Jr. Knights! Hopefully the material Vida compiled will be kept in the Jr archives. Special winner that night was Tim Pacovsky.

The Jrs held their annual Mother's Day crowning of our

Blessed Mother on May 10, celebrating the 8:30 A.M. Mass. Placing the wreath on the statue of our Lady's head was Marilyn Lastoskie. As in the past, the Services and Junior participation were beautiful. We thank Rita Ambrose and Jr Parent Mary Lou Lastoskie for the fine breakfast they prepared. The Jrs did the serving and clean-up. Following breakfast, each Jr. read a poem which they had written to their mothers. What a great job they did! Some were quite humorous and others very touching. Jr Advisor Ann Louise Conrady was general overseer for these projects. Thank you for some beautiful days.

FRP

### JR. C-17 — SOUTH BOSTON, MASS.

Elections were held in October and the members voted Tom Wolongevicz as Secretary; Pam Zaremba, Treasurer; Joe Zaremba,

Vice President; and Laura Kniupis, President. Congratulations to all!

In order to change the pace the Juniors held their February meeting at the President's house instead of the hall. They then went bowling, an activity in which Tom Wolongevicz, John and Joe Samalis, and Michael Versackas were not shy in showing their form.

March brought along with it Saint Casimir's Day and C-17's annual Communion breakfast in honor of our Saint. On hand to assist in making the function run smoothly were Juniors-turned-Regulars Paula Keaney, Diana Moriaty, and Adele Martus.

All Juniors also attended the supper at the Towne Line Restaurant in celebration of C-17's highly successful National Convention Boston last August. To ensure they make it to this year's Convention in Scranton, the Juniors held a bake sale at St. Peter's Parish Hall on both June 20 and 21st. We will be there, Pennsylvania!

Laura Kniupis



How wonderful  
 it is to see a messenger  
 coming across the mountains  
 bringing good news,  
 the news of peace.

Isaiah 52:7