

CONVENTION ISSUE

1981

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
**THE KNIGHTS
OF LITHUANIA**

VYTTIS

the KNIGHT



VOL. 67 - No. 8

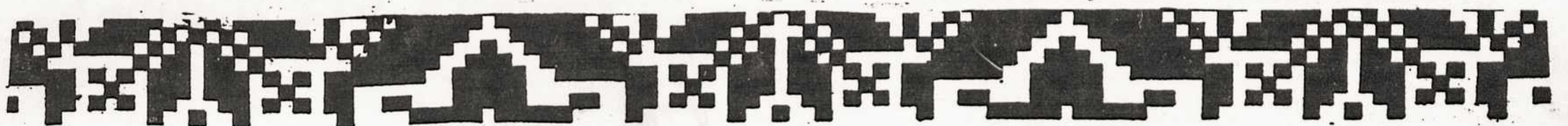
SPALIS - OCTOBER



Loretta Stukas

GOODBY TO A GREAT EDITOR

HAIL TO OUR NEW PRESIDENT



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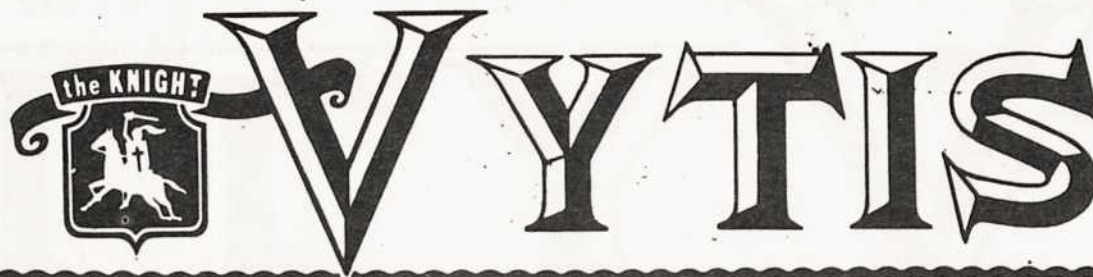
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KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

68th National Convention

August 19-23, 1981

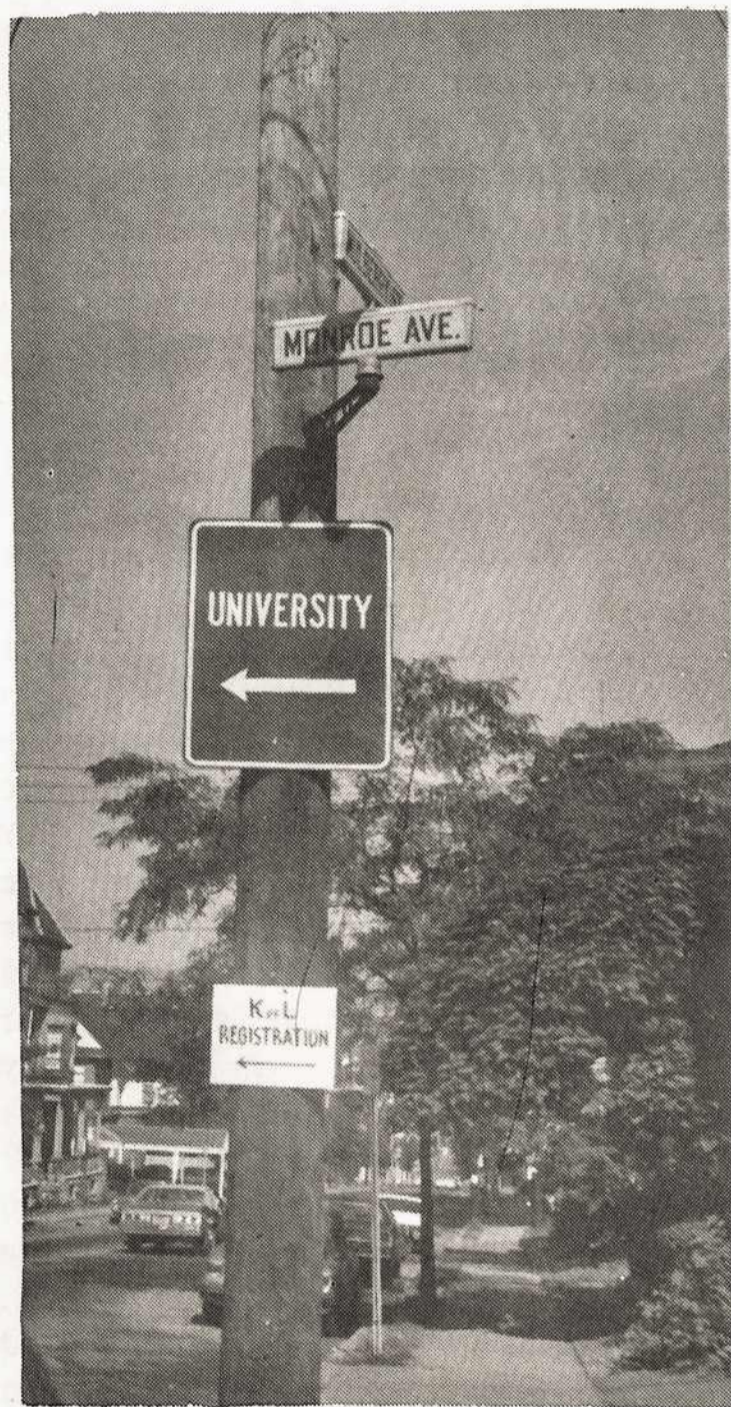


Photo by J. Boley

DIEVE, PALAIMINK MŪS TĖVYNĖ

GOD BLESS OUR FATHERLAND



Council 74 Scranton

Council 143 Pittston

Council 46 Forest City



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Loretta I. Stukas
National President

The Convention is over. Newly-elected National Officers and Committee Chairmen are gathering their thoughts and planning their programs for the year. In the home councils, delegates are busy reporting on the activities and decisions of the convention and recalling the friendships made or renewed. Memories of busy days and fun evenings abound.

The Convention ending and return of the delegates signal a new beginning, a new year for the K of L, and with that new year, election of officers, planning of new programs. Let's enter this "new year" with some thought, some planning, some idea of where we are going.

The council is the core, the heart of the organization. Its leaders can set the tone for the entire K of L. Be sure as you elect officers, that you overlook personal prejudices. Select able, energetic leaders, and give them your support. And don't be afraid to volunteer for a job yourself. You might discover a new you if you do.

With new officers come new plans for the year. As your council plans its program for the year, be sure to remember that it is a council of the

Knights of LITHUANIA. Plan your meetings, activities, commemorations with Lithuanianism and Catholicism in mind. Many organizations exist that have the money and personnel to plan events far bigger and more spectacular than we ever can. But we have the unique advantage of our Lithuanian heritage, something other organizations do not have. Let's use that advantage, and display our beautiful Lithuanian culture wherever we can. Our banquets should feature Lithuanian solosits, singing or dance - groups. Our meetings should include some opportunity to learn something of our heritage. And every civic heritage festival or public library display should include some bit of Lithuanian culture, prepared, if possible, by local K of L-ers. Give your members, prospective members, and friends a reason to select K of L activities over others. Give them something they won't find elsewhere.

The Supreme Council is ready to help you wherever you need help. The Cultural Chairman can help you plan a exhibit or provide you with material to discuss at meetings, or may pay for Lithuanian topic books to donate to your local library. The Lithuanian affairs Chairman will recommend guest speakers where the occasion demands. Other officers will be glad to help in projects within their sphere. Their names appear in the front cover of VYTIS. WRITE when you need help.

If the council is the core of the organization, the young people . . . juniors, students, young adults, young marrieds, are the life's blood of the organization. Unless we bring young people into the organization as ACTIVE MEMBERS, we cannot hope to keep the K of L alive for any period of time.

If you have young people in your council, put them to work. Encourage them to take elective office or to head committees, and help them with the job once they assume the responsibility. If you do not have young potential leaders in your council, ask yourself why. What have you done to organize a junior council? And have you eased "graduating" juniors into the regular council so that they feel they "belong"? Have you planned any activity with young people in mind? Seek them out and bring them into your circle. Today's young people are "root" conscious, and the K of L should be the place for them to find and strengthen those roots. And you might be surprised at how much they, given the opportunity and encouragement, can enhance your council with their fresh ideas and contributions.

Let's all vow this year to work toward a strong, vibrant, family organization of good Americans, good Lithuanians, and good Catholics.

AMERIKOS LIETUVIŲ TARYBA

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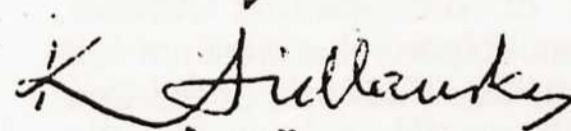
Poniai Loretai Stukienei
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234 Sunlit Drive
Watchung, N.J. 07060

Didžiai Gerb. Ponia Pirmininke,

Su dideliu džiaugsmu sutikome žinią, kad Jūs esate išrinkta naująja garbingosios Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos pirmininke. Jūsų parodytas platus sumanumas per eilę metų gambiai redaguojant šios organizacijos žurnalą "Vytį" liudija Jūsų didelį išeivijos lietuvių jaunimo reikalų pažinimą ir duoda gerų vilčių, kad Jūsų vadovaujama ši ypatingos vertės organizacija sėkmingai tarnaus savo pasirinktiems idealams - Dievui ir Lietuvai. Jūsų maloniai draugiškas būdas užtikrina, kad Jūsų vadovybėje vyčių darbai vyks sklandžiam sutarime.

Lietuvos vyčiai per daugelį dešimtmečių įrodė, kad tai labai svarbi ir sėkminga organizacija, įstengianti veiksmingai palaikyti lietuvišką dvasią išeivijos jaunime. Vyčių toks ryžtingas įsijungimas į Amerikos Lietuvių Tarybos vadovaujamus Lietuvos laisvinimo darbus yra brangus mūsų tautai. Jus nuoširdžiai sveikiname naujose pareigose, būdami įsitikinę, kad Jūs vyčius vesite tais pačiais keliais, kuriuos nutiesė didelis Lietuvos vyčių ir Amerikos Lietuvių Tarybos šulas - amžinos atminties Leonardas Šimutis.

Priimkite mūsų sveikinimus ir geriausius linkėjimus.



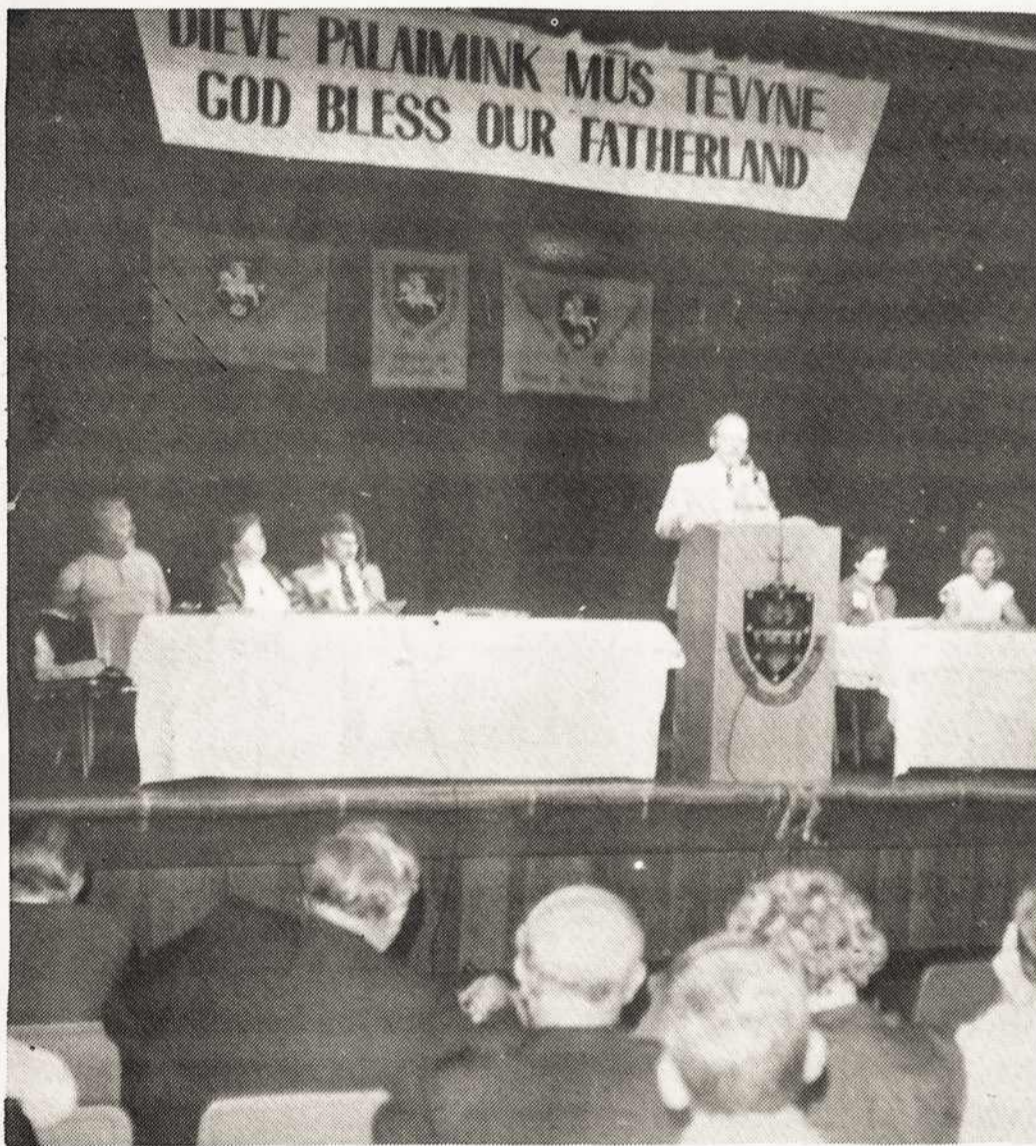
Dr. Kazys Šidlauskas
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Pirmininkas





STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION REPORT

STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION REPORT TO 68th NATIONAL CONVENTION PHILIP SKABEIKAS



*Opening Session - Philip Skabeikas at Podium
Photo by Joseph Ryan*

As per our National Constitution, this State of the Organization Report will include a summary of the reports of all Supreme Council Officers and Committee Chairmen except those of the Spiritual Advisor, Treasurer and two Trustees. Reports that were not submitted as requested and sufficient advance of the Convention are not included.

I urge all delegates to read the printed reports in the entirety.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

First Vice President for Juniors this past year was Susan Bumila of Council 1, Brockton, MA. She reports having maintained a close relationship with both the Supreme Council and the Junior Councils in our organization. Ms. Bumila has worked closely with the Host Convention Junior Activities Coordinator throughout the year. There are currently 9 Junior Councils enjoying varying degrees of success.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Second Vice President for Membership for his third term was Jonas Adomenas of Council 110 Maspeth, NY. His report highlights the large number of members that do not rejoin each year. He strongly believes that our identity as Lithuanians will be in danger should the Knights of Lithuania lose interest in building its membership. He reminds all members that one of their responsibilities is to recruit new members to bring new ideas, new ideals and greater strength to the organization.

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Third Vice President for Seniors was HM Stanley Vaitkus of Council 96, Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Vaitkus did not submit a final report.

RECORDING SECRETARY

One person that any President must be able to depend upon for speed and efficiency to maintain communication between Supreme Council Officers is the Recording Secretary. I have been fortunate to have had Anna K. Wargo of Council 144 Anthracite Council of Pennsylvania on my board. In addition to taking, reproducing and mailing Supreme Council meetings notices and minutes, she solicited the Council Officers' Roster, handled selected correspondence and issued all Convention invitations to other Lithuanian and non-Lithuanian organizations and individuals.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Financial Secretary this past year was Ann Marie Kassel of Council 36 Chicago, IL. Ann Marie again efficiently handled a hugh volume of correspondence relating to dues processing and maintenance of our membership records. She also prepared regular status reports on dues payments and new member enrollments as well as mailing out all Convention Mandates. Her final report shows 235 new members. Two councils have been disbanded and dropped from the official council roster, Council 134 Cincinnati and Council 148 Jackson, MI. We have 50 active councils in four districts with a total membership of 3,095.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS

Our Committee with ultimately the most difficult task and most far-reaching impact is Lithuanian Affairs. We were fortunate to have at its helm, Rev. Casimir Pugevicius Council 110 Maspeth and his co-chairmen, Marian Skabeikis, also of Council 110 and Joseph Simanis Council 141, Bridgeport, Ct. Since the success of our Lithuanian Affairs work lies in the dedicated individuals on Council and District levels, the National Committee issued another 10 issues of its primary worksheet for the field, **Lifeline**, edited by Marian Skabeikis. This publication reaches not only our own workers, but all major Lithuanian organizations, the Lithuanian Press, human rights and amnesty groups. It reaches many foreign countries. Upon nomination of Council 3, Philadelphia and with the endorsement of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, the Supreme Council approved presentation of the 1981 Rev. John C. Jutt Friend of Lithuania Award to the Hon. Charles Dougherty of Pennsylvania.

In recognition of outstanding letter writing efforts during the year, the Committee is presenting its 100 Letter Awards to Ruth Kazlauskas and Sabina Klatt, both of Council 36 Chicago. For this National Convention, the Committee has prepared a Panel and a workshop on Lithuanian Affairs items. Its major efforts during the last few months have been on behalf of American citizen and Lithuanian dissident Vytuatas Skuodis.

At the June Supreme Council meeting, Father Pugevicius announced his intention of stepping down from the position of Lithuanian Affairs Chairman. the K of L has been extremely fortunate to have this man as the guiding light of this, the most important of our national programs. Through the committee's regular publication **Lifeline**, its Instant Action workforce and National efforts, our Lithuanian Affairs work has been permitted to evolve and along the way, gain new friends and esteem for the K of L in Lithuanian and non-Lithuanian circles alike. No greater challenge faces the membership today than to dedicate itself to the work on behalf of Lithuania and her people.

TRUSTEES

Helen Shields attended all the Supreme Council meetings of the past year and took an active part in discussions held on various subjects. Together with Irene Adamaitis, Trustee, the Treasurer's books were audited at the Treasurer's home. All the Treasurer's records were found to be in order and all transactions duly recorded. The budget for 1981-1982 was prepared and presented to the Convention.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Public Relations Chairman this past year was Irene Sankus Council 112, Chicago. Ms. Sankus has served as direct liason between the Supreme Council and the Chicago based Lithuanian paper **Draugas**. She was successful in placing several items on Supreme Council Activities in this paper during the year. She has also maintained contact with the Host Convention Committee PR network. Irene reports some renewed interest in public relations on some local Council levels. One blow to our PR program was the loss of our K of L page in the Brooklyn-based **Darbininkas**. The publishers instituted a fee policy for such organizational pages, which the Supreme Council felt was financially out of reach.

CULTURAL

Cultural Committee Chairman was Dianne Drumstas of Council 3, Philadelphia. No report was submitted.

SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship Chairman, Walter Svekla Council 3 is completing his sixth term in this position and is resigning as of this Convention. The National Scholarship Committee is composed of its Chairman and secretary-treasurer Anthony Miner and seven other college graduate k of L members.

Mr. Svekla solicited donations to the Scholarship Fund through VYTIS and via a direct mailing to councils and districts. He coordinated communication between all committee members in the difficult evaluation process for this year's Scholarship applicants. He urges continued support by the entire organization for the Scholarship program.



*Father Jurgelaitis
with Fourth
Degree Recipients*

Photo by Joseph Ryan

RITUAL

Our Ritual Committee this past year has consisted of Chairman Frances R. Petkus of Council 96 Dayton, HM Rita Pinkus Council 26 Worcester, MA and Helen Chesko Council 144, the Anthracite Council, PA. Mrs. Petkus reports well over 100 degrees awarded this past year on the First, Second and Third degree levels. Sixteen fourth degrees will be bestowed at this Convention. Mrs. Petkus has ably seen to replenishing the supplies of medals and certificates as well as maintaining and processing the applications received.

ARCHIVES

Some of the best news of the year can be drawn from the report of the Archives Committee and its able chairman HM Longinas Svelnis. A combination of good luck and the Chariman's determined negotiations brought to an end "the persistent search for a satisfactory repository for the Knights of Lithuania Archives." The appearance of our generous benefactor, Jonas Valauskas, of Council 147 St. Petersburg, Fl, has removed the financial barrier to establishment of our much needed organizational archives at the ALKA Museum in Putnam, Ct. Mr. Svelnis has become a member of the Board of Directors of ALKA and has proposed a plan for both physical layout and archiving procedures. Please read his report for the details.

VYTIS

Our National magazine VYTIS again appeared ten times during the year under the editorship of HM Loretta Stukas Council 29 Newark, NJ. She reports that the annual Christmas ad campaign was the most successful to date. In following her announced timetable for retirement from VYTIS, Mrs. Stukas has taken care to gradually bring new blood onto the VYTIS staff as well as to train a possible successor. Her Editor trainee this past year was Aldona Ryan of C 96 Dayton. Mrs. Stukas recommends that the Supreme Council appoint Mrs. Ryan to the position of Editor following this Convention. She is "confident that she would continue in the best tradition of VYTIS and the Knights of Lithuania." The organization is indebted to Mrs. Stukas for having carried on this difficult task for the last 11 years.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Anthony J. Mazeika, Executive Chairman of the Honorary Membership Committee, reports that the Committee will bestow the title of Honorary Member upon John Stoskus Council 103 Providence RI during the Convention Banquet. The Committee has also taken under advisement, the Supreme Council's suggestion to honor Lithuanian dissident Vldas Sakalys, in much the same vein as Simas Kidirka in 1975. The Committee plans to meet during this Convention to discuss pending candidates and future recommendations.

LEGAL ADVISOR

The Supreme Council was again fortunate to have the services of HM Anthony Young as Legal Advisor. He has continued to advise the Supreme Council on the legal ramifications of our decisions, in addition to filing our Annual Tax Return. As per Resolution at last year's Convention, he also filed an application with the Internal Revenue Service for a change in our Fiscal Year.

LCRA

Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Coordinator for the K of L was Elsie Kosmisky of Council 144. Mrs. Kosmisky encouraged K of L councils, districts and individuals to support the work of LCRA Inc. She encourages all councils to have an annual fund raising project for the benefit of LCRA.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

Our District Presidents this past year were NED Bertha Stoskus C 103, MAD Larry Janonis C 12 NY, MCD Peter Luiza C 25 and IID Vincas Samaska. No District reports were submitted.

This ends the summary of reports. But what do they tell us about the State of K of L today?

Every decade has brought new challenges to our organization and, for the most part, we have weathered them successfully. The 1980's however, will I feel, prove crucial for the Knights of Lithuania. As the mean age of

our membership rises well into the sixties, our abilities to adapt to the pressures that a rapidly changing society will produce, shall weaken.

The 1970's brought with them what seemed to be a new lease on life for the K of L. While other organizations faltered, we appeared to grow stronger. Since 1971 our total membership has nearly doubled. During the same period of time, no less than 10 new councils were chartered and 7 councils reactivated, a truly phenomenal record. During the last three years we have enjoyed a series of public relations coups and landmarks that have brought us new respect within the Lithuanian community here and abroad. To mention just a few: K of L representation at the White House for Briefings on SALT II, the reception for Pope John Paul II, the Helsinki Accord Anniversary and a Conference of US Ethnic leaders during which I was able to present President Carter with a VYTIS pin. We succeeded in having the US Catholic Conference call for a Day of Prayer for suffering Catholics in Lithuania during February 1979.

We became the only Lithuanian American organization mentioned by name in the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania #37, wherein our brothers and sisters in Lithuania thank us for our efforts. The Knights of Lithuania has made input to and achieved recognition from the highest government and church circles in the US. But — we have not grown comparable within. The organizational expansion I referred to above, brought with it inevitable strain on our organization's structure. Weaknesses in the structure were highlighted. The 1980's will in fact be the decade in which the K of L and all Lithuanian organizations will have to reassess themselves and make some crucial decisions.



OPENING LUNCHEON MAIN TABLE

Seated left to right: Anthony Yavorosky, Forest City; Rev. Peter Alisauskas, pastor of St. Casimir's Church; Rev. Michael Ozalas, pastor of St. Joseph's Church;

Scranton treasurer Eugene Cosgrove, representing the Mayor; Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor; Philip Skabeikis, President; Anne Challan, Pittston and Casimir Yanish, Scranton



Delegates at Session

Like people and plants, organizations have life cycles. We can all point to organizations that seem to still be going through the diseases of childhood and others that are so far gone in the rigidities of age as to appear well on the road to inevitable decline. Organizations differ from plants and people however, in that they are less predictable. Decline and stagnation are not inevitable.

What can make the difference is the organization's ability to continually renew itself. How can we insure that we develop the capacity for renewal? Noted organizational theorist John W. Gardner has formulated some basic rules for organizational renewal that are easily applicable to the K of L.

1. The K of L must devise an effective program for the recruitment of members and development of leaders. People are the ultimate source of renewal. As ethnicity continues to catch fire in the most unpredictable of places, and more individuals seek organizational contexts within which to nurture this identity, the K of L must maintain sufficient attraction so that it gets and keeps its share of highly motivated individuals. On all levels, we find ourselves faced with a "crisis of leadership". Without a program to attract leaders, we will not see the changeover in leadership so important for renewal. More frequently than not, we see the same people re-shuffled or remaining in position for years and eventually experiencing "burn out" and the accompanying lack of objectivity and inability to adapt to change.

2. The organization must be a hospitable environment for the individual. Our councils must gear themselves to identifying the needs of its members, taking inventory of their talents and creating opportunity for self expression within the context of our organizational goals. Too often it appears that patterns established 25 years ago, are so firmly entrenched, that the individual either conforms or decides its not worth it and goes elsewhere. Individuals who have been made to feel like cogs in a machine, will behave as such. They become incapable of producing ideas for change and will resist such ideas when produced by others.

3. The organization must have built in provisions for self-criticism. It must maintain an atmosphere in which uncomfortable questions can be asked. Those who are in positions to dictate policy and procedure, cannot trust themselves to be adequately self-critical. We must dispel the attitude that to question or provide critical feedback will be treated as a personal affront or that since all jobs in our organization are voluntary in nature they are above critical analysis. The result is that officers work in vacuums and mediocrity becomes the acceptable standard.

4. Our organization must have fluidity of structure. Any ongoing reassessment must never consider organizational structure as set in concrete. Viable solutions to existing problems must never be abandoned because they threaten jurisdictional boundaries. Much of our structure and procedure was established some time ago to meet needs existing then. We must remain objective enough to determine whether the needs are the same today and whether the structure is still valid.

5. Our organization must have an adequate system of internal communication. The ideas we want fostered must have channels through which to flow. Our official organ VYTIS should be that primary channel. As needed, Committee publications, Newsletters, District and Council Bulletins can all provide the needed medium for exchange of ideas and official announcements. Communication is one of those things that will develop us as a national organization with a national consciousness, rather than a loose confederation of local clubs. Communication is not just in the printed word. Officers making policy must have sufficient time to meet frequently and talk about ideas, whether at a board meeting or on a "one to one".

6. The organization must have some means of combatting the process by which men become prisoners of their procedures. My favorite theorist describes this as "the rule growing fatter as the ideas grow fewer."

7. Finally, the organization capable of continuous self renewal must be interested in where it is going, what it is going to become and not what it has been. I do not advocate disregard for the past. It is a proper analysis of the past that can give us the best clue to a road ahead. Our leaders must be forward looking and able to continually reassess our organization's role in the greater community, able to anticipate future problems, able to ask themselves, "where do we want the K of L to be in 5 years? In 10?". Forward looking leaders avoid "functional blindness" or the failure to solve problems because we can't see them or admit that they are there.

Our organization runs on motivation, on conviction, on morale. Members have to believe that it really makes a difference whether they do it well or badly. They simply have to care.

All that I've just mentioned will never be realized unless every member personally rededicates himself to the goals and purposes of our organization; personally and sincerely renews his commitment, the pledge first made when taking the oath of membership. No National, District or Council officer can facilitate this rededication for anyone but himself. It is in your own hearts, ladies and gentlemen, that the renewal must begin.

This is a decision I ask all members to make in the coming year. We must move together into this decade, with the strength that comes from rededication and renewal, with the courage to make the difficult decisions and the confidence that together we will succeed.

On a closing personal note, I must confess that the three years spent as your National President were at once the hardest and the most rewarding of my fourteen years as a Knight of Lithuania. It provided the best vantage point from which I could adequately express the depth of my commitment to this organization and its ideals. My thanks to the many friends I've made through these past three years.

The K of L has given me some very valuable gifts: the opportunity to meet my wife, the chance to work with some very fine people and an opportunity to develop further as a Lithuanian, an American and as a Catholic. During my three years as President, I have always tried, and hope I succeeded, in making contributions of some comparable value in return. It has been an honor and a privilege.

Aciu širdingai,
Philip Skabeikis

T E L E G R A M



MR. PHILIP A. SKABEIKIS
NATIONAL PRESIDENT
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
68th ANNUAL CONVENTION
UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON
4 RIDGE ROW STREET
SCRANTON, PA 18510

I am delighted to send greetings to the Knights of Lithuania on the occasion of your 68th Annual Convention.

Throughout this nation, Americans of Lithuanian ancestry have made important contributions to American life and society.

I applaud your members for their deep devotion to moral and religious values and for preserving the cultural traditions of their forebearers.

Americans of all backgrounds can take pride in knowing that groups such as your work to strengthen this nation by fostering a respect for our ethnic cultural heritage.

You have my best wishes for a productive convention and a bright future.

Sincerely,
Ronald Reagan



REPORT OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION
SCRANTON PA — AUGUST 19-23, 1981

To meet the Supreme Council's ongoing responsibility to coordinate, maintain and initiate organizational activities, I:

1. Called, presided at and prepared agendas for three Supreme Council meetings. They were held October 11 and February 28 in New York and June 6 in Scranton. At the October meeting, priorities for the year were set within each program area. As an economy measure, we eliminated a December meeting and spaced the others at four month intervals. To alleviate the communications gap that could have resulted, an **Interim Report** was prepared and distributed between the first and second meetings.
2. Drafted a proposal for the creation of a new K of L Central Committee, one for Catholic Action. This Committee would coordinate efforts of importance to us as Catholics, as far ranging as preservation of our parishes to anti-abortion, prayer in school issues, beatification drives, etc. The proposal was turned over to the Spiritual Advisor for further study.
3. Appointed a Juniors' Task Force of former Juniors' Vice Presidents to take a detailed look at the status of the Junior K of L and drafted a proposal for its goals. This committee was unable to complete its mission, however, and I hope that its efforts are continued in the coming year.
4. Prepared material for Vytis on Mother Maria Kaupaite, the foundress of the Sisters of St. Casimir, whose beatification the Sisters and their supporters are now seeking, and spoke at a related seminar in New York City.
5. Maintained the gratifying contacts with leaders of all major Lithuanian organizations to insure input of K of L viewpoint where appropriate and K of L representation where possible.
6. On behalf of the K of L, I endorsed the **Year of the Parish** and all efforts directed at preserving our Lithuanian parishes where feasible and realistic, as announced jointly by the Lithuanian R.C. Priests' League and the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc.
7. Wrote numerous letters in the name of the K of L on behalf of Lithuanian dissident Vytautas Skuodis, including a co-signed letter with our Lithuanian Affairs Chairman to all former Friend of Lithuania Award recipients asking their efforts in this regard. Mr. Skuodis is an American citizen, born in Chicago.
8. Extended K of L prayers and best wishes for recovery to His Holiness Pope John Paul II, following the attempt on his life.
9. Following the November elections, I wrote to President-elect Reagan urging him to continue to maintain a Special Assistant for Ethnic Affairs, and the policy of building bridges between the administration and organized ethnics in the U.S., as had evolved under President Carter. Through our Lithuanian Affairs Committee publication, **Lifeline**, I urged all members to do the same. Early in the Spring, Jack Burgess, a Lithuanian-American from Mahanoy City, PA, was appointed to the position of **Special Assistant to the President, Office of Public Liaison, The White House, Washington D.C.** I forwarded K of L input to him.
10. Arranged an inspection tour of the 1981 National Convention facilities in November, and issued a status memo to all Supreme Council officers. I tried to maintain contact with the Convention Committee throughout the year in an advisory capacity on many varied issues.
11. I initiated extensive correspondence with Lithuanian-Americans in Kansas City, KS, and urged them to join the K of L family.
12. I invited Jonas Valauskas to attend this National Convention to enable us to publicly thank him for his generous donation to ALKA for the creation of a K of L Archives Room.
13. Wrote an Official News item for the Vytis emphasizing the need for advance work in preparation for the National Convention, especially in the area of resolutions and seeking candidates for national office.
14. On May 14, I represented the K of L at the Captiol Building in Washington, D.C. at a luncheon to mark 30 years of broadcasting for the Lithuanian Section of Voice of America. This affair was cosponsored by ALTas and VLIKas. It offered the opportunity to acquaint the Congressional leaders and State Department officials with the K of L. It is always gratifying to receive sincere praise for the K of L from other Lithuanian leaders.

It has been both a distinct honor and great pleasure to serve as your National President for the past three years.

Aciu sirdingai.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Skabeikis
National President

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OFFICIAL KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA MEMBERSHIP COUNT AUGUST, 1981

		Total 1980	Total 1981
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT			
1	Brockton	35	30
7	Waterbury	126	125
10	Athol-Gardner	33	33
17	South Boston	46	
17S	South Boston Srs.	98	101
26	Worcester	146	156
30	Westfield	29	28
50	New Haven	33	44
78	Lawrence	16	23
103R	Providence	8	12
103S	Providence	42	44
116	Worcester	60	58
135	Ansonia	59	66
141	Bridgeport	45	37
145	Holyoke	34	34

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT			
3	Philadelphia	78	73
12	New York	77	63
29	Newark	128	132
41	Brooklyn	31	29
46	Forest City	29	32
52	Elizabeth	20	20
61	Patterson	29	30
67	Bayonne	20	25
74	Scranton	83	85
90	Kearney	34	35
100	Amsterdam	105	108
109	Great Neck	18	16
110	Maspeth	179	210
140	Syracuse	49	47
142	Washington	45	41
143	Pittston	57	56
144	St. Clair	197	189
146	Harrisburg	75	73
147	St. Petersburg	63	73

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT			
19	Pittsburgh	46	46
25	Cleveland	45	45
Srs.	Cleveland	30	29
79	Detroit	145	135
86	DuBois	53	59
96	Dayton	131	124
102	Detroit	44	38
139	Detroit	18	19
149	Saginaw	19	28

ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT			
5	Chicago	5	5
14	Cicero	17	19
36	Chicago	92	89
Srs.	Chicago	41	42
82	Gary	31	32
112	Chicago	182	210
OTHER			
133S	Los Angeles	54	47
TOTALS			
	New England	810	791
	Mid-Atlantic	1317	1337
	Mid-Central	531	523
	Illinois Indiana	368	397
	Other	54	47



Executive Board

HERE IS A THOUGHT

Someone has said that membership in every organization is made up of four kinds of bones...

1. There are the "WISH BONES" who spend time wishing someone else would do the work.
 2. There are the "JAW BONES" who do all the talking but little else.
 3. There are the "KNUCKLE BONES" who knock everything that anyone else tries to do.
 4. And finally there are the "BACK BONES" who get under the load and do the work.
- To which group do you belong?

GREETINGS

MOST REVEREND J. CARROLL McCORMICK,
D.D., Bishop of Scranton
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LITHUANIA (VLIK), Dr. Kazys Bobelis, Pres., by
 Dr. Jack J. Stukas, Vice-Pres.
LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL, Inc. (AT-
LAS), Dr. Kazys Sidlauskas, Pres. (given by
 Dr. Jack Stukas)
PASAULIO LIETUVIU BENDRUOMENE, Vytautas
 Kamantas, Pirm.
LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF THE
USA, INC. (Bendruomene) Vytautas Kutkus,
 Krasto Valdybos Pirm.
LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
OF AMERICA, Saulius V. Kuprys, President
AMERICAN LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S ALLIANCE, Julia Mack, National
 President
ATEITININKU FEDERACIJOS VALDYBA, Juozas
 B. Laucka, Pres.
LIETUVIU KATALIKIU MOTERU ORGANIZAC-
CIJU PASAULINE SAJUNGA, Dr. Aldona
 Slepetyte-Janaciene, Valdybos Pirm.

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(BATUN), Helen Kulber, Board Member
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CASIMIR, J. Paulius Baltakis, OFM, Prov-
 incijolas
CONGREGATION OF THE MARIAN FATHERS,
 Kun. Viktoras Rimselis, Provinciolas
SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS, Sister Marian, OSF,
 General Superior
SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR, Sister Joanela, SSC,
 General Superior, Sister M. Angela
SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, Sesuo M.
 Aloysa, Provincijole
DR. STASYS A. BACKIS, Lithuanian Charge
 D'Affaires, Washington, D.C.
JUZE DAUZVARDIENE, Lietuvos Generaline Kon-
 sule, ir L. Vyciu Garbes, Nare, Chicago, Ill.
LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID, Rev.
 Casimir Pugevicius, Exec. Director
LITHUANIAN AMERICAN SERVICES, Rev. Casi-
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GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Sisters of St. Francis, Pittsburgh, Pa.	\$20.00
Holy Cross Church, Rev. V. Katarskis, Pastor	10.00
Lietuviu Dienos, A. Skirius, Publisher	25.00
Congregation of the Marian Fathers, Chicago, Ill.	35.00
John Sprainaitis, Hon. Member, Paterson, N.J.	25.00
Mary Trainy, Cleveland Seniors	10.00

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID

C-144 Special Project, sponsored by Helen Chesko	\$125.00
Mr. & Mrs. E. Tamulevich, C-116	100.00
Marija Stungurys, C-110, in memory of Mary Kuchinskas	20.00
Millie J. Pietz, C-12	10.00
Longinas Svelnis, C-17 Srs.	10.00
Sister M. Valeria, OSF	5.00
Ann Zaldaris, C-144	5.00
Prof. & Mrs. Alexander Aleksis, Hon. Membs, C-17	10.00

VYTIS FUND

Gene Gobis, C-100	\$10.00
Prof. & Mrs. Alexander Aleksis, H.M., C-17	10.00
Ona Pocius, C-29	15.00
George Kisielius, C-50 in memory of Uncle Anthony Meizis	10.00
John Antanavicius, C-12	10.00

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS FUND

Gene Gobis, C-100	\$ 5.00
John Antanavicius, C-12	10.00
Prof. & Mrs. Alexander Aleksis, C-7	5.00

ARCHBISHOP MATULAITIS FUND

Prof. & Mrs. Alexander Aleksis, C-7	\$ 5.00
Millie J. Pietz, C-12	10.00

K OF L HISTORY FUND

Helen Shields, H.M., C-3	\$75.00
Irene Sankus, C-112	75.00

REZOLIUCIJOS

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were all approved by the convention delegates.

1. Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tas Visuotinis Seimas, susirinkęs Skrantono universitete, Skrantone, Pensilvanijoje, siunčia savo geriausias linkėjimus ir sveikinimus profesoriui Juozui Ehretui, Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Nariui, jo aštuoniasdešimt penkių metų gimtadienio proga.

* * *

2. Kadangi Šv. Kazimiero Seserų Kongregacija pasiaukoję Dievo tarnyboje per savo 75 metų apaštalavimą Amerikos lietuviuose,

Kadangi Motina Marija Kaupaitė, Šv. Kazimiero Seserų vienuolijos įsteigėja, pradėjo savo švietimo apaštalavimą 1908 m. Mt. Carmel, Pensilvanijoje tikslu išlaikyti ir gaivinti lietuvių ateivių tikėjimą,

Kadangi 1913 m. Motina Marija buvo kazimieriečių išrinkta generaline vyresniąja,

Ir kadangi 27 metų laikotarpyje Motina Marija vadovavo Šv. Kazimiero Seserų apaštalavimo dvasinei, labdaringai ir švietimo veiklai JAV-bėse ir net Lietuvoje, pati duodama dievobaimingo asmens pamaldumo, pasiaukojimo ir drąsos pavyzdį,

Mes, Lietuvos Vyčių 68-to Visuotinio Seimo Astovai, susirinkę Skrantone, Pensilvanijoje, nutariame remti Šv. Kazimiero Seserų Kongregacijos pastangas pradėti Motinos Marijos Kaupaitės beatifikacijos procesą.

* * *

3. Kadangi pavergtos Lietuvos tautos žmonių nelaimė prašyte prašo laisvę mylinčių tautų dėmesio ir užjautimo, ir

Kadangi Newsweek žurnalo 1981 m. rugpiūčio 3 d. laidoje buvo straipsnis apie sovietų priespaudą ir antikatalikišką politiką Lietuvoje,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tas Visuotinis Seimas padėkotų Newsweek žurnalo redaktoriams ir autoriui Andrew Nagorskiui ir paragintų juos toliau informuoti Amerikos publiką apie dabartines sąlygas Sovietų okupuotoje Lietuvoje.

On the occasion of his eighty-fifth birthday, the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention, meeting at the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania, sends its felicitations and best wishes to Professor Joseph Ehret, Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania.

WHEREAS the Sisters of St. Casimir have devoted themselves to the service of God through their special apostolate to the Lithuanian-American people for seventy-five years,

WHEREAS Mother Maria Kaupas, founder of the Sisters of St. Casimir, began her apostolate of education at Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania in 1908 in order to preserve and nurture the faith of Lithuanian immigrants,

WHEREAS in 1913 Mother Maria was elected first Superior General of the Sisters of St. Casimir,

AND WHEREAS for twenty-seven years Mother Maria extended the spiritual, charitable and educational activities of the apostolate of the sisters of St. Casimir in the United States and even Lithuania, setting a pious personal example of prayer, devotion, and courage,

WE the delegates of the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania in Scranton, Pennsylvania do HEREBY RESOLVE:

to support the efforts of the Sisters of St. Casimir in promoting the cause of the beatification of Mother Maria Kaupas.

WHEREAS the plight of the people of the captive nation of Lithuania is deserving of the attention and concern of freedom-loving nations throughout the world, and

WHEREAS the August 3, 1981 issue of NEWSWEEK magazine featured an article describing the Soviet repression of Lithuania and its anti-Catholic policy,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania commend the editors of NEWSWEEK magazine and urge them to continue to inform the American public of contemporary conditions in Soviet-occupied Lithuania.

4. Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčių Stipendijų Fondas buvo įsteigtas padėti jaunesniems nariams, siekiantiesiems aukštuosius mokslus, ir

Kadangi mokslas žymiai pabrango pastaruoju metu, kaikuriais atvejais pakilęs ligi \$7-10 000 metams,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Seimas stropiai rekomenduotų Stipendijų Komsiją laikytis sekančiomis taisyklėmis skirstant stipendijas:

1. Kad nebūtų teikiama daugiau kaip 3 stipendijos kasmet;

2. Kad jokia stipendijos dovana nebūtų mažiau kaip \$1000.

* * *

5. Kadangi Lietuvių Kunigų Vienybė ir JAV Lietuvių Bendruomenė pasiūlė paskelbti 1982 metus „Lietuviškos Parapijos Metais“, ir

Kadangi tų metų tikslas yra sustiprinti mūsų lietuviškas parapijas, kurios visuomet buvo lietuviško gyvenimo širdis, ir

Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai visuomet buvo lietuvių parapijų ramstis,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčiai parems Lietuviškų Parapijų Metų siekimus visose plotėmėse ir dalyvaus jų įgyvendinime, ir kad Lietuvos Vyčių pirmininkas, pasitardamas su dvasios vadu, paskirs ad hoc komitetą Lietuviškos Parapijos Metams.

* * *

6. Kadangi Vytautas Skuodis, taipgi žinomas ir Benedict Scott vardu, Čikagoje gimęs ir turįs Amerikos pilietybę, 1980 m. gruodžio 22 d. buvo sovietų teismo nubaustas 7 metų kalėjimo sunkiųjų darbų stovykloje ir 5 metų tremties, už savo raštus žmogaus teisių klausimu, ir

Kadangi šis sovietų teismo sprendimas yra nusizengimas prieš Helsinkio susitarimus, Visuotinę Žmogaus Teisių Deklaraciją ir Sovietų Konstituciją, ir

Kadangi JAV Kongreso atstovė Cordiss Collins imasi iniciatyvos ateiti V. Skuodžiui į pagalbą,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčiai, Amerikos lietuvių broliška organizacija, parems kongresininkės Collins ir kitų pastangas Vytautui Scott-Skuodžiui pagelbėti.

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

WHEREAS the cost of education has risen sharply in the past few years, in many cases to \$7,000 to \$10,000 per year,

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

1. that not more than 3 scholarships be awarded each year.

2. that no individual scholarship award be less than \$1,000.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. Kadangi 1984 metai paženklinės Švento Kazimiero mirties 500 metų jubiliejų, ir

Kadangi Šv. Kazimieras yra Lietuvos, Lietuvos jaunimo ir Lietuvos Vyčių patronas, ir

Kadangi Lietuvos vyskupai paskelbė dvasiškai pasiruošti jubiliejui,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčiai ruošęsi Švento Kazimiero Jubiliejiniams metams savo gretose ir leidinyje ir taip pat dalyvautų minėjimuose, kaip didžiosios lietuvių šeimos dalis, ir kad tam tikslu centro valdybos pirmininkas paskirtų Šv. Kazimiero Jubiliejinių Metų komitetą.

* * *

8. Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-to Visuotinio Seimo atstovai įgaliotų Centro Valdybą užangažuoti kvalifikuotą istoriką parašyti Lietuvos Vyčių istoriją, kuri būtų išspausdinta 1988 metais, kada organizacija švęs savo 75 metų sukaktį.

Idant surinkti reikiamas lėšas šiam užsimojimui, tebūnie nutarta, kad lėšų vėjus prasidėtų šiame seime surinkti lėšų ištirti, parašyti, išspausdinti ir išplatinti oficialią Lietuvos Vyčių istoriją.

Ir tebūnie nutarta, kad penkių asmenų komisija, sudaryta iš atstovų ir kiekvienos apskrities ir pirmininko, būtų įsteigta surinkti lėšas šiai istorijai.

* * *

9. Lietuvos Vyčių 68-to Seimo atstovai, susirinkę Skrantone, Pa., 1981 m. rugpiūčio 19-23 dienomis, giliai įvertindami Jono Stoškaus veiklą Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos ir lietuviškos, katalikiškos visuomenės gerovei, nutaria pakelti 103 skyriaus, Providence, R.I., narį Joną Stoškų į Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narius.

Atsižvelgiant į Jono Stoškaus nesveikumą ir daktarų griežtą uždraudimą nekeliuti, Seimas įgalioja Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Narių Komitetą, pasitarus su Naujosios Anglijos Apskrities Valdyba, įteikti Garbės Nario medalį Jonui Stoškui artimiausia iškilnių proga.

* * *

10. Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Visuotinis Seimas pareikštų savo nuoširdžią padėką vyčiui Jonui Valauskui, St. Petersburgo, Fla. 147-to skyriaus nariui, už dosnią penkių tūkstančių dolerių auką įrengti Lietuvos Vyčių pastovų archyvą ALKOje — Amerikos Lietuvių Kultūriniame Archyve, Putname, Connecticut.

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

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

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention empower the Supreme Council to engage a qualified historian to write the Knights of Lithuania History to be published in 1988 when the organization will celebrate its 75th Anniversary.

In order to raise the finances needed for this project BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a financial drive be initiated at this convention to raise the funds needed to research, write, publish and distribute the official Knights of Lithuania History.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a committee, comprised of five members — one representative from each district and chairman, be formed to raise funds for this history.

The Knights of Lithuania, assembled at their 68th National Convention in Scranton, PA, August 19-23, 1981, in expression of recognition of his extra-ordinary dedication in behalf of the Knights of Lithuania organization and the Lithuanian American Catholic Community hereby elevate to Honorary Membership of the Knights of Lithuania Organization.

In view of John Stoskus poor health and inability to attend this National Convention due to his doctor's strong urging and request not to travel to the Convention, the Convention empowers the Honorary Membership Committee to confer with the New England district officers and bestow to John Stoskus the Honorary Membership Medal in the near future at an appropriate occasion.

BE IT RESOLVED that the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its heartfelt appreciation to Knight JONAS VALAUSKAS of Council 147, St. Petersburg, Florida, for his generous donation of five thousand dollars for the establishment of the permanent archive of the Knights of Lithuania at ALKA — the Lithuanian American Cultural Archives in Putnam, Connecticut.

11. Kadangi pasaruoju metu Lietuvos Vyčiai yra pastebėję skyrių plėtrą ligšiol neveikliose geografinėse apylinkėse ir yra pergyvenę narių persikėlimą iš tradicinių Amerikos lietuvių centrų,

Ir kadangi ši plėtra ir narių persikrausytmas yra privedęs prie dažnai neproporcingo narių ir skyrių išdėstymo organizacijos dabartinėse fizinėse ribose,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tas Seimas pavestų centro valdybai ištirti organizacijos dabartinę sudėtį ir struktūrą skyrių bei apskričių plotėmeį ir teikti konkrečias rekomendacijas, kurios užtikrintų glaudesnę ir sklandesnę organizacijos susisiekimo ir veikimo sistemą.

* *

12. Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai yra auganti organizacija ir jos metiniai seimai suveda vis didėjančių skaičių atstovų ir draugų, ir

Kadangi visuotinis seimas yra Lietuvos Vyčių idealų svarbiausias reiškinys, bet nesugebąs padaryti reikiamo poveikio į visuomenę,

Nutarta, kad centro valdyba patikrintų seimų turinį ir planavimą ir pateiktų pasiūlymus kaip patobulinti ateities visuotinių seimų veiksmingumą.

* *

13. Nutarta, kad visi Lietuvos Vyčių valdomų JAV Išdo lakštų nuošimčiai būtų priskirti prie Lietuvos Vyčių einamosios sąmatos per ateinančius metus, kad rezervų fondas išliktų trisdešimt trijų tūkstančių dolerių sumoje.

* * *

14. Kadangi Skrantono universitetas buvo Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tojo visuotinio seimo suvažiavimo vietovė ir parodė seimo dalyviams nemažą rūpestingumo ir vaišingumo,

Kadangi kun. J. Byron, SJ, Skrantono universiteto rektorius, paskelbė savo atsistatydinimą po septynerių metų tarnybos, per kurį laikotarpį Universitetas žymiai suklestėjo ir pasikeitė,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tas visuotinis seimas pareikštų nuoširdžią padėką Universiteto vadovybei ir palinkėtų kunigui Byronui sėkmės jo tolimesniems užsimojimams švietimo ir kunigystės srityse.

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania in recent years have witnessed a proliferation of councils in hitherto geographic regions and have seen the shift of membership to areas away from the traditional Lithuanian-American centers,

AND WHEREAS this growth and membership shift have resulted in often disproportionate distribution of members and councils within the present day physical confines of the organization,

BE IT RESOLVED by the 68th National Council of the Knights of Lithuania that the Supreme Council analyze the current composition and structure of the organization on local and district levels and make concrete recommendations which would enhance a closer and more streamlined system of communications and activities of our organization.

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania has been a growing organization and its annual conventions have attracted greater numbers of delegates and friends, and

WHEREAS the National Convention is the most important manifestation of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania, which do not reach the general public with sufficient impact,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Council re-examine the programming and content of the conventions and provide suggestions to assure the greater effectiveness of the national conventions in the future.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention that all interest from the Knights of Lithuania Treasury notes be added to the Knights of Lithuania operating budget for the following year in order to keep the Reserve Fund at thirty three thousand dollars.

WHEREAS the University of Scranton was the site of the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention and has extended to the convention a great measure of hospitality,

WHEREAS the Reverend J. Byron, SJ, President of the University of Scranton, has announced his resignation after seven successful years during which the University has undergone significant growth and change,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania extend its sincere appreciation to the University administration and wish Father Byron well in his future endeavors in education and the priesthood.

15. Kadangi VYČIO žurnalas yra Lietuvos Vyčių organas ir, kaip toks, įgalintas informuoti narius apie organizacinius reikalus ir Amerikos lietuvių žinias, bei puoselėti lietuvių kultūrą ir tradicijas, ir

Kadangi šių metų VYTIS pasižymėjo šių tikslų įgyvendinimu, tuo pat metu, ieškodamas naujo redaktoriaus,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tas Seimas užgirtų savo kadenciją baigiančius VYČIO štabo narius ir nuoširdžiai jiems padėkoti už jų įdėtą triūsą.

Taipgi nutarta, kad Seimas palinkėtų naujam VYČIO štabui savo nuoširdžią paramą sėkmingai vykdyti savo pareigas.

* * *

16. nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Seimas pareikštų nuoširdžią padėką buvusiai centro valdybai už jos nenuilstomas pastangas praėjojoje kadencijoje išlaikyti vyčių organizaciją gaju veiksmu Amerikos lietuvių visuomenėje.

* *

17. Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai yra katalikų organizacija, kuri buvo ištikima Bažnyčiai, jos vyskupams ir ganytojams per 68 veiklos metus,

Ir kadangi 68-tasis Lietuvos Vyčių Seimas įvyko Skrantono vyskupijoje,

Tebūnie nutarta, kad Lietuvos vyčių 68-tasis Seimas, susirinkęs 1981 m. rugpiūčio 20-23 d.d. išreikštų pagarbą ir paklusnumą Jo Ekscelencijai J. Carroll McCormick, Skrantono diecezijos ordinariniam vyskupui, ir jam padėkotų už globą ir išstartus paskatinančius sekti Lietuvos Vyčių idealus žodžius.

* *

18. Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis visuotinis seimas pareikštų savo geriausias linkėjimus ir sveikinimus Skrantono, Pa. Šv. Juozapo parapijos klebonui kun. Mykolui Ozolui jo septyniasdešimto gimtadienio proga.

* * *

19. Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Visuotinis Seimas, suvažiavęs 1981 m. rugpiūčio 20-23 d.d., išreiškia savo širdingą padėką DRAUGO laikraščiu ir jo vedamųjų rašytojui kun. Pranui Garšvai, už puikų aprašymą apie Lietuvos Vyčius, kuris pasirodė DRAUGO 1981 m. rugpiūčio 15 d. numeryje.

WHEREAS the VYTIS magazine is the official publication of the Knights of Lithuania and, as such, is charged with informing the members of organizational affairs, Lithuanian-American news items, and promoting Lithuanian culture and heritage, and

WHEREAS this year's publication of the VYTIS was characterized by a successful fulfillment of its charge, while simultaneously, conducting a search for a new editor,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania commend the outgoing members of the VYTIS staff and sincerely thank them for their efforts throughout the years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Convention extend to the incoming staff our wholehearted support for a successful tenure.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention express its sincerest thanks to the outgoing Supreme Council for its untiring efforts during the past year to keep the organization an active vital force in the Lithuanian-American community.

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania is a Catholic organization and has maintained its fidelity to the Church and its Bishops and Pastors during the 68 years of its existence,

AND WHEREAS the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania was held in the Diocese of Scranton,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled in Scranton, Pennsylvania, August 20-23, 1981, express its respect and esteem and obedience to His Excellency, Bishop J. Carroll McCormick, Ordinary of the Scranton Diocese and to thank him for his hospitality, strong supporting words of encouragement for the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention express its best wishes and congratulations to Reverend Michael Ozolas, Pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Scranton, Pennsylvania on the occasion of his seventieth birthday.

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, August 20-23, 1981 in Scranton, Pennsylvania, express their cordial appreciation to DRAUGAS newspaper and its editorial writer Rev. Pranas Garsva for the excellent editorial on the Knights of Lithuania published in its August 15, 1981 issue.

20. Tebūnie nutarta, kad sekančio turinio **raštas būtų** nusiųstas Jo Šventenybei, Popiežiui Jonui **Povilui II-ajam**, atseit:

Jūsų Šventenybe!

Mes, Lietuvos Vyčiai, baigdami savo 68-tąjį visuotinį seimą Skrantone, Pensilvanijoje, Ro Ekscelencijos Vyskupo J. Carroll McCormick dvasiniame prieglobstyje, esame pareiškę savo nusistatymą bendradarbiauti savųjų lietuviškų parapijų atgimime ir ryžtamės tesėti savo maldas už arkivyskupo Jurgio Matulaičio beatifikaciją.

Mes taipgi pakartotinai pabrėžiame savo ištikimumo ir pamaldumo pažadus Jūsų Šventenybei, Jėzaus Kristaus vietininkui žemėje, ir kukliai maldaujame Jūsų Šventenybės palaimos Lietuvos Vyčiams ir jų triūsui Dievui ir tėvynei.

* * *

21. Kadangi Šv. Kazimiero parapijos klebonas, Sioux City, Iowoje, kun. Simonas Morkūnas netiktai arkivyskupo Jurgio Matulaičio beatifikacijos proceso antrajai pakopai remti yra suteikęs teisėtų parašų, bet taipgi yra paaukojęs \$100 donaciją remti arkivyskupo Matulaičio beatifikacijos procesui per Lietuvos Vyčius, Lietuvos Vyčių Seimas išreiškia savo nuoširdžią padėką kunigui Morkūnui už jo dosnumą.

* * *

22. Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Visuotinis Seimas padėkotų Seimo prezidiumui ir Seimo darbo komisijoms už nenuilstomą darbuotę seimo eigose rekaluose.

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23. Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Seimas, įvykęs 1981 m. rugpiūčio 10-23 d.d., Skrantone, Pensilvanijoje, buvo globojamas Lietuvos Vyčių 46-to (Forest City, Pa.), 74-to (Skrantono) ir 143-tojo (Pitstono) skyriaus, ir

Kadangi, Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Seimas patenkintas suminėtų 46, 74 ir 143 skyrių vaišingumu ir paslaugumu — pagal vyčiuose seniai įgyvendintas tradicijas,

Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis visuotinis seimas išreiškia savo visuotiną padėką ir pagarbą šio seimo rengėjams-skyriams, ypač už jų vytiškas paslaugas visus patenkitni.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following letter be sent to the Holy Father:

Your Holiness,

As we, the Knights of Lithuania, complete our 68th National Convention in Scranton, Pennsylvania under the spiritual leadership of His Excellency, Bishop J. Carroll McCormick, during which we have pledged ourselves to cooperate in the revitalization of our Lithuanian parishes, and have determined to continue our prayers for the Beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis.

We renew our oft-repeated pledge of loyalty and obedience to Your Holiness, Christ's Vicar on Earth, and humbly beg Your blessing upon the Knights of Lithuania and their labors for God and Country.

WHEREAS the Reverend Simon Morkunas, Pastor of St. Casimir's Church, Sioux City, Iowa has not only transmitted signatures for Phase II Project for the Beatification of Archbishop Matulaitis, but has also submitted a donation of one hundred dollars to further this Knights of Lithuania project,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 68th Convention express its sincere gratitude to Father Morkunas for his generosity.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention extend sincere thanks to the Convention Presidium and Committees for their untiring work in the conduct of the business of the Convention.

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania 68th National Convention, held in Scranton, Pennsylvania from August 20-23, 1981, was hosted by Councils 46 and Forest City, #74, Scranton, and #143 Pittston,

WHEREAS the 68th National Convention enjoyed a great measure of hospitality and shared in good fellowship in the best tradition of outstanding national conventions due to the efforts of Councils 46, 74, and 143,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 68th National Convention express its profound gratitude and sincere commendations to the host councils for their efforts.

24. Kadangi Lietuvos Katalikų Bažnyčios Kronika, kuriai tarpininkavo Amerikos Lietuvių Kunigų Vienybė, mums suteikė pagrindines informacijas apie Katalikų Bžnyčios padėtį ir apie mūsų brolius ir seses Lietuvoje,

Tebūnie nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Seimas, susirinkęs Skrantone, Pa., 1981 m. rugpiūčio 20-23 d.d., siūlo Lietuvos Vyčių centro valdybai, kad būtų įsteigta komisija ištirti galimybes Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijai paremti finansiškai „Lietuvos Katalikų Bažnyčios Kronikos“ laidos išspausdinimą.

* * *

25. Nutarta, kad sekantis prašymas būtų nusiųstas Jo Šventenybei, Popiežiui Jonui Povilui II:

Jūsų Šventenybe!

Mes, Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tojo visuotinio seimo atstovai, susirinkę Skrantone, Pensilvanijoje, 1981 m. rugpiūčio 20-23 d.d. kukliai kreipiamės į Jūsų Šventenybę su prašymu, jog:

Teiktumėtės paskatinti šventojo atsiminimo arkivyskupo Jurgio Mātulaičio-Matulevičiaus beatifikacijos procesą.

Mums atrodo, kad šis tėviškasis žestas būtų dvasinis įkvėpimas prislėgtiesiems katalikams Lietuvoje.

* * *

26. Tebūnie nutarta, kad seimui pristatyta sąmata būtų priimta sekanteism fiskaliniams metams — 1981 m. liepos 1 d. ligi 1982 m. birželio 30 d. (Redakcijos pastaba: pagal tradiciją Lietuvos Vyčiai neskelbia seimo priimtos sąmatos.)

* * *

27. Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tas Seimas patvirtina kaipo kandidatą į Garbės Narius Kazimierą Petrulienę, Chicagos Senjorų kuopos, Chicago, Ill. Šis patvirtinimas įgalins Garbės Narių Komitetą atspausdinti Vytės Petrulienės biografiją, išryškinančią jos patanravimą Lietuvos Vyčiams kaip uolią tos garbės vertą narę. Vytė Petrulienė darbuojasi Lietuvos Vyčių Organizacijoje virš 50 metų.

* * *

28. Lietuvos Vyčių 68-tasis Seimas patvirtina kaipo kandidatę į Garbės Narius Mary Rusas Kober, 109KČTOS KUOPOS, Great Neck, N.Y. narę. Šis patvirtinimas įgalina Garbės Narių Komitetą atspausdinti Vytės Mary Rusas Kober biografiją, išryškinančią jos patanravimą Lietuvos Vyčiams kaipo uolią tos garbės vertą narę. Vytė Mary Ruas Kober savo veiklą pradėjo Lietuvos Vyčių Organizacijoje prieš 48 metus.

WHEREAS the Chronicle of Catholic church in Lithuania, as published by the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Priests' League, has enabled us to keep informed of the situation of the Catholic Church and our brothers and sisters in Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, held in Scranton, PA August 20-23, 1981, recommend to the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania that they establish a committee to study the feasibility of the Knights of Lithuania sponsorship of an issue of the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following request be sent to His Holy Father, Pope John Paul II:

MOST HOLY FATHER,

We the delegates at the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, held in Scranton, Pennsylvania, August 20-23, 1981, humbly beseech Your Holiness to hasten the Beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis of holy memory.

We feel this paternal gesture would be an inspiration to the oppressed Catholics in Lithuania.

(This letter was signed by all delegates and guests in attendance.)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following budget be adopted for the fiscal year July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1982.

(Ed. Note—By tradition, actual figures from financial statements and budgets are not printed. Therefore, budget figures are omitted here.)

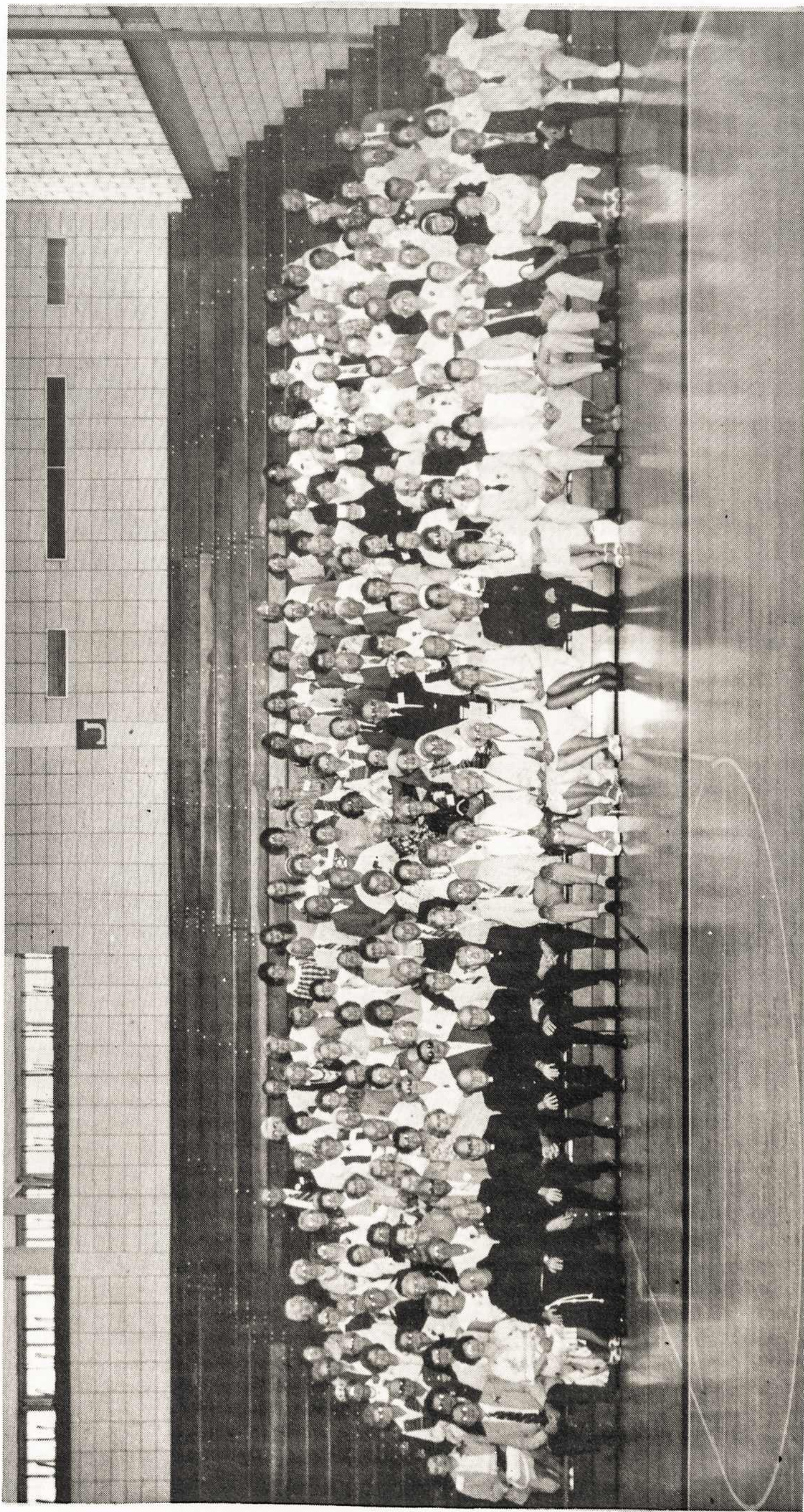
BE IT RESOLVED, that the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania approve the candidacy for Honorary Membership of member KAZIMIERA PETRULIS, of the Chicago Seniors Council, Chicago, Ill.

This approval will allow the Honorary Membership Committee to print Mrs. petrulis' biography in VYTIS, describing her service to the Knights of Lithuania as a dedicated member, worthy of this honor. Mrs. Petrulis has worked for the Knights of Lithuania for over 50 years.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 68th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania approve the candidacy for Honorary Membership of member MARY RUSAS KOBER, of C-109, Great Neck, N.Y.

This approval will allow the Honorary Membership Committee to print Mrs. Kober's biography in VYTIS, describing her service to the Knights of Lithuania as a dedicated member, worthy of this honor. Mrs. Kober has worked for the Knights of Lithuania for over 48 years.



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119 South Main St.

Old Forge, Pennsylvania 18518

Official Convention Photograph

Scranton PA

August 1981

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

A FOND FAREWELL

Finishing touches were applied to the August-September issue of VYTIS with loving care, and, admittedly, with a pang of nostalgia. That was the last issue of my 11 year term as VYTIS Editor, the end of a very busy, but very rewarding period of my life! But without the dedication, ability, imagination and hard work of my staff and our many contributors, that period might have been less rewarding.

Sincereset thanks to to all who contributed features, council news, ideas, and in any way assisted with VYTIS over the years. Of course, very special thanks go to my staff: Associate Editor Aldona Ryan, Layout Editor Regina Malakas, Council News Editor Josephine Zukas, Lithuanians in the News Editor Ruth Kazlauskas, Lithuanian Editor Stephanie Rastikis, Food Editor Mary Lucas, and Mailing Requirements coordinator Lucille Kilkus, as well as to past staff members Anthony Yuknis, Rita Ochs, Phil and Marian Skabeikis, Alexander Pakalniškis, Jr., and Balys Vyliaudas for their outstanding help. A special thank you also to Irene Sankus, past editor, who has lent immeasurable help as an advisor and as our Chicago representative.

My very best wishes go out to my successor, the new Editor in Chief, Adona Ryan, and her staff, for a successful term in editing and preparing for publication our Official Organ VYTIS. Aldona has worked with VYTIS in all phases since she became Associate Editor in October, and before, and I am confident she is able, qualified and willing to continue in the best tradition of VYTIS and the Knights of Lithuania.

Loreta Stukas

COUNCIL NEWS EDITOR

Josephine Zukas, Council News Editor for the past eleven years, has resigned due to family commitments. We offer her our sincere thanks for her dedicated work.

All Council News should be sent to our new Editor by the 5th of the month previous to the month of publication.

HELEN A CHESKO, Council News Editor
1000 E. Pine Street
Mahanoy City, PA 17948

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Please forward all letters, articles, etc. regarding Lithuanian Affairs to the **Chairman, Dr. Jack Stukas, 234 Sunlit Drive, Watchung, N.J. 07060**. Please include the name of the source, and address of the publication or paper so that we can react to the news/article. The Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin will be regularly printed each month, beginning in October, and is sent to a select group of individuals, and organizations, also the Lithuanian Press. If your Council representative does not receive the bulletin, please let us know and we will place his or her name on the list. Miss Bernice Aviza of C-100 will edit the bulletin, nad have it published in Albany, New York and expedited from there. Your suggestions and comments on the bulletin will be appreciated. If the Lithuanian Affairs Committee can assist you in any way — preparing a resolution, furnishing a speaker, giving suggestions on celebrating various Lithuanian holidays, etc. please let us know. Our telephone is: (201) 753-5636.

NATIONAL CONVENTION 1982

HOSTED BY
COUNCIL 25

CLEVELAND, OHIO



Christmas Wishes

for everlasting peace and joy.

VYTIS CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

Wish all of your K of L friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in the December issue of VYTIS. Mail your greeting copy and donation to:

Aldona Ryan, Editor
6591 McEwen Road
Centerville, Ohio 45459

Donations	Full Page\$75
	1/2 Page40
	1/4 Page25
	1/8 Page15
	Patron (2 lines)10
	Well-wisher5

ELECTIONS

District and Council elections **MUST** take place during the months of September or October as per the Constitution.

Immediately after the election of new officers, **PLEASE** send the names and address of **ALL** the officers and committee chairmen to the National Recording Secretary.

Mrs. Nancy Miro
914 Lindley Street
Bridgeport, CT 06606

The Supreme Council and National Committee Chairmen cannot operate officiently without your cooperation.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues will be due before January 1, 1982. All newly elected Financial secretaries should begin collecting dues immediately for all year.

To insure that your members receive VYTIS promptly, please include members **ADDRESSES** as you send in their dues so that the secretary can verify that her records and those of the mailing company are correct. All dues as well as address changes for VYTIS and corrections should go to:

Mrs. Ann Marie Kassel
7336-2 Winthrop Way
Downers Grove, IL 60515

EDITOR'S NOTE

It is with some trepidation that I take on the helm of publishing VYTIS.

Having worked with Loretta Stukas for the past seven years as a writer and then all of last year as Associate Editor, I appreciate the dedication she gave to her talented work.

Under her guidance, VYTIS continued to be a publication that all members of our organization could be proud to receive, read, display and pass on to others.

We congratulate her in accepting the highest position in our organization. We are sure her vitality, enthusiasm, and dedication to the Knights of Lithuania will make her a memorable President.

To a very elegant lady we say **THANK YOU** for fourteen years of hard work as the Editor of VYTIS and **WELCOME ABOARD** as our newly-elected President.

As for myself, I pray may God, all the saints, all the angels and all the members help me in this task I have accepted.

Aldona Ryan
(Your new Editor-in-Chief)



**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
1981 CONVENTION
LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS PANEL
Fr. Casimir Pugevicius**



Delegates at Lithuanian Affairs Panel

I would like to begin by emphasizing how important it is that we read every issue of the **Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania**. This is the underground publication which has been reporting first-hand on religious persecution in Lithuania since 1972. The more we know about the facts over there, the better we'll be able to do something about them. The first nine issues of the **Chronicle** have been published in English in one book which is available in hard-cover or soft-cover from your local Lithuanian book outlets or directly from the Society for the Publication of the **Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania**, 6825 S. Talman Ave., Chicago, IL 60629. The paper-back costs \$5 and the hard-cover edition costs \$10. Each individual issue of the **Chronicle** after that is available from the Lithuanian R.C. Priests' League, 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11205 for \$1 each, with discounts for quantity orders.

The "name of the game" in Soviet-occupied Lithuania today is to make it look as though religion is dying of old age. But, since religion is not dying of old age in Lithuania, the atheists try to kick it to death secretly while acting to the rest of the world as though nothing is happening.

The strategy of the Soviets is to destroy Catholic religion and Lithuanian culture by pressure and terrorism. Everyone knows that if you want to get ahead in Soviet-occupied Lithuania, you can't be caught going to church. The latest wrinkle is to encourage burglary and vandalizing of churches and physical attacks on priests. Just in the past year, two priests have died as the result of sadistic torture and brutal beatings. The beatings were administered apparently by thugs in the course of robbery attempts. The murders may not have been

perpetrated directly by KGB agents but the constant propagande telling people that the Church has no rights, and that priests are parasites living off the people, could have a bearing on these crimes.

Father Juozas Zdebskis, who once served a jail sentence for teaching catechism to children, was seriously burned while driving in his car and the suspicion is that the burns resulted from an attack by government officials.

Another front in the Communist War against God and the Lithuanian people is where you and I are. The Communists will try, if they can, to use us for their purposes. For instance, I have seen interviews with Lithuanian-Americans after they visited Lithuania, in which it was obvious they knew nothing of what goes on behind the scenes.

They were so impressed with their visit that they had nothing but praise for Lithuania, and saw no problems over there. If anyone goes to Lithuania, they ought to do their home-work before and after.

We are part of the fight against a common enemy, atheism, which takes one shape over there and another shape over here. Our TV, films and publications are full of attacks on religion, and especially on the Catholic Church. We ought to join efforts such as the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Religious and Civil Rights. I hope you invite Fr. Michael J. Stravinskis, of Trenton, New Jersey, to address the K of L convention next year on this subject. He's an expert.

If we want to help Lithuania either as individuals or as an organization, we have several avenues open to us:

First of all, there are the letters to editors and Congresspersons and Senators for which the Knights are famous. Any time we see or hear something good about Lithuania, let's compliment the source. Any time we see misstatements, let's hurry to straighten out the one who made them.

Secondly, there is a lot of good literature available from Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid and elsewhere to help combat Soviet propaganda about Lithuania. We should be constantly on the alert for opportunities to give literature to somebody.

Thirdly, there is prayer for Lithuania. Every day we should find a few minutes to thank God for our own freedom and opportunities and to ask His help for Lithuania.

Finally, we ask you to support, with your contributions, the work of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid which, for twenty years, has been providing material assistance for the Church in Lithuania.

There is something for everyone to do in the war against the enemies of Lithuania and of God. No one is excused. Material and advice is available from Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn NY 11207.



*Sister Aloysius, Betty Hanas
and Sister Virginia Marie*

Sister Aloysius, Betty Hanas and Sister Virginia Marie

Sister Aloysius is a second cousin to Vytautas Skuodis. Skuodis, a prisoner of conscience, was born in Chicago, March 21, 1929. His family emigrated to Lithuania in 1930. A

graduate of the University of Vilnius he worked in his field as a geologist. In 1969 Skuodis joined the faculty of the University of Vilnius as a lecturer of hydrogeology and geological engineering. He was dismissed from the faculty December 19, 1979 and arrested January, 1980. December 22, 1980 Skuodis is sentenced to 7 years strict regimen camp and 5 years internal exile for listening to foreign radio broadcasts, of writing a manuscript "Spiritual Genocide in Lithuania" and other "anti-Soviet propaganda".

Father Casimir Pugevicius appeared before a special hearing of the Helsinki Commission in Washington on August 5, 1981 to testify about problems faced by religious believers in Lithuania. The hearing was called in response to activities on behalf of Vytautas Skuodis. During the convention Father Pugevicius appeared on the live TV program MIDDAY 16 on Channel 16, WNEP. He was also interviewed by a SCRANTON TIMES news writer on August 21.



Father Pugevicius with reporter

CULTURAL PANEL — 68th ANNUAL CONVENTION, SCRANTON, PA

The Cultural Panel was well attended by Cultural Chairpersons and people who were generally interested in the Lithuanian Culture.

As moderator, I presented my views on how the Lithuanian Culture can be promoted in the individual councils. The response from members present was spontaneous and interesting.

New ideas were exchanged and old ideas were discussed. The time allotted for this panel seemed to pass too soon. All present were of the opinion that the beautiful language and customs of our Lithuanian heritage should be preserved.

My special feeling was that with people like those who attended, our heritage will be preserved. Our old customs will be transmitted to future generations by members of the Knights of Lithuania in whatever possible way they can.

Anna Klizas Wargo

RITUAL PANEL

The Ritual Panel was held on Friday afternoon, August 21st, from 3-4 p.m. The Panel was conducted by the 1980-81 Ritual Chairman, Fran Petkus. Assisting her were Rita Pinkus, Chairman for 1981-1982, and committee member, Helen Chesko. Attendance by the delegates and guests was very good. Questions that came from participating delegates were excellent.

The Board spoke on the necessity of keeping records of members and their activities up-to-date. Members were brought up-to-date on how to fill out the various degree forms and the procedure in submitting the forms. Discussion covered use of the Ritual Point Rules as a guide in issuing points for activities plus council projects not listed under the Ritual Point Rules can be submitted, with explanation, to the Supreme Council Ritual Committee for final judgement by the committee. Ritual committee persons were instructed that Points were earned not automatically given.



Ann Vargo leading Cultural Panel



Fran Petkus leading Ritual Panel

Issue was raised on how to handle Associate Members upon the loss of their spouse. Since this could be an infringement on the K of L Constitution, next term's committee will have to work that out. Councils needing up-to-date material were instructed to contact the Ritual Chairman, Rita Pinkus, and she will be very happy to help them.

It would have been great to have had more time to answer further questions from the delegates. These panel sessions are definitely necessary, especially for new people in the organization.

Fran Petkus

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

C-17 Seniors, So. Boston	\$ 50.00
Marija Stungurys, C-110	10.00
Aldona Keaney, C-17	10.00
Helen Chesko, C-144	10.00
Frances Petkus, C-96	10.00
C-100 Juniors, Amsterdam	10.00
Regina Kot, C-100	5.00
John Antanavicius, C-12	10.00
Bernice T. Pupinek, Chicago Seniors	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Pinkus, C-26	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Krecioch, C-103	20.00
Helen Venis, C-100	10.00
Illinois-Indiana District	100.00
Irene Sankus, C-112	25.00
Anna Usdavinis, C-79	25.00
Antoinette Naujelis, C-19	10.00
Anthony Yavorsky, C-46	5.00
Helena Zedar, C-110	10.00
Mary G. Martus, C-17	25.00
Mildred K. Chinik, C-19 in memory of husband Walter	25.00
Mildred K. Chinik, C-19 in memory of brother John Katella	25.00
Connie Siastis, C-12	25.00
Al Monkawitch, C-12	25.00
Rev. Albin Janiunas, C-17	10.00
Cleveland Seniors	35.00
Longinas Svelnis, C-17 Seniors	41.50
Lawrence & Mary Recchia	25.00
Bernice Aviza, C-100	25.00
Tillie Zalesky, C-17	10.00
Rev. John Savukynas, C-112	25.00
Helen and Paul Trucilauskas, C-61	10.00
Jack and Connie Scheebelhut, C-61	10.00
Ann and Steve Walinsky, C-26	10.00
Sabina Klatt, C-36	10.00
Kazys Sipaila, C-29	25.00
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Stukas, C-29 in memory of Aldona Carter	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kassel C-149 Saginaw, Mich.	25.00
George and Fran Bumila and Family C-1, Brockton Mass.	100.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Ona Pocius, C-29	10.00
John Sprainaitis, H.M., C-61	10.00
C-116, So. Worcester, Mass.	25.00
John Adomenas, C-110	15.00
William Sidtis, C-110 in memory of Mary Kuchunas, grandmother	5.00
	50.00



Bronze Bookends, made by Phil Carter, C-17 Srs., won by Fran Petkus, C-96, netted \$350. to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Phil's wife, Aldona

A meeting of the newly elected members of the Scholarship Committee was held on Sunday, August 23, 1981 at the Convention site. Present at this meeting were:

Albert G. Jaritis	Clemincine Miller
William Piacentini	Rev. John Savukynas, M.I.C.
Vitalija Vaskelis	

As the attendees constituted a quorum, with only Antanas J. Mazeika and Eva Mazockas absent, the decision was made to hold elections. Elected were:

Chairman	Sec'y-Treas.
William (Bill) Piacentini	Vitalija Vaskelis
362 Webster Ave	6124 Cronin Road
Cranston, R I. 02920	Dearborn Hts., MI 48127
401/943-3495	313/278-6758

After a brief discussion regarding the need for good communications, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

An additional meeting was held with Walter D. Svekla the outgoing Chariman and the new officers. Application materials, stationery and \$350.00 were turned over to Bill and Vitalija. The suggestion was made that scholarship applications/requests be directed to Bill while donated funds be sent to Vitalija. Additionally, fund raising ideas/suggestions should be solicited by all.

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND TREASURER'S REPORT
AUGUST 1, 1980-AUGUST 17, 1981**

Balance as of August 1, 1980	\$3,761.04
Income—Donations received and published 8/6-12/31/80	1,871.50
Donations received from 1/1/81-8/17/81:	
Council 29, Newark, N.J.	100.00
Mid-Atlantic District	100.00
Council 25, Cleveland, OH	50.00
Mid-Central District	50.00
Council 133, Anthracite Council, PA	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony J. Young, So. Boston, MA ..	50.00
Council 3, Philadelphia, PA (IMO all deceased C-3 members)	50.00
Council 110, Maspeth, N.Y. (IMO Ann Oliva) ...	50.00
Council 100, Amsterdam, N.Y.	50.00
Konstant Savickas, Chicago, IL	50.00
Dr. & Mrs. Leonas Kriauceliunas, Chicago, IL ...	30.00
Anthony M. Miner, Westboro, MA (IMO Rev. John C. Jutt)	25.00
Agota Slickus, Chicago, IL	25.00
Council 142, Washington, D.C.	25.00
Council 19, Pittsburgh, PA	25.00
Council 50, New Haven, CT (IMO Alice Milano Redfield)	25.00
Council 103, Providence, R.I.	25.00
Council 140, Syracuse, N.Y.	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Petrauskas, Syracuse, N.Y. ...	25.00
Council 79, Southfield, MI	25.00
Council 135, Ansonia, CT	25.00
Council 30, Westfield, MA	25.00
Council 102, Detroit, MI	25.00
Council 147, St. Petersburg, FL (IMO Antanas Bacevicius)	25.00
Council 26, Worcester, MA	25.00
Council 141, Bridgeport, CT	25.00
Council 36, Chicago, IL	25.00
Council 7, Waterbury, CT	25.00
Council 46, Forest City, PA	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Svekla, Cherry Hill, N.J.	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Radzevich, Amsterdam, N.Y.	20.00
Council 86, DuBois, PA	20.00
Grigaliunas Family, Bayonne, N.J.	15.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Mazeika, St. Petersburg, FL (IMO Msgr. Pranciskus Juras)	15.00
Stephen Walinsky, Jr., Millbury, MA	10.00
Annie Mitchell Matalavich, Elizabeth, N.J. (IMO Rev. Joseph Simanaitis)	10.00
Bob & Maolyn Petraitis, Pittsburgh, PA	10.00
Council 52, Elizabeth, N.J.	10.00
Helen Kulber, Brooklyn, N.Y. (IMO Edward J. Genevich)	10.00
Veronica Kolicius & Veronica Martello, Pittsburgh, PA	10.00
J. & J. Zukas, Port Washington, N.Y. Total of donations 1/1/81-8/17/81 ...	\$1,240.00
Bank interest through 8/17/81	199.30
Total income through 8/17/81	\$7,071.84

Expenses

Scholarship Awards	\$3,400.00
(A. Martus \$700.00, L. Saikal \$700.00, L. Stungurys \$700.00, M. Bizinkauskas \$500.00 P. Keany \$400.00, A. Krecioch \$400.00)	
Gov. King check returned to Supreme Council ...	25.00
Chairman's expenses	50.00
Mass for the soul of Mrs. Phil Carter	5.00
Treasurer's expenses	54.38
Total expenses	\$3,534.38
Total income	\$7,071.84
Total expenses	3,534.38
Net balance	\$3,537.46



Delegates at Session



C-100 Amsterdam celebrates

REPORT ON THE JUNIOR "MINI - CONVENTION"

The Juniors Convention began in conjunction with the regulars at the Early-Bird Party on Wednesday nite. We met with old friends — Paul Strolia, Chicago; Chip Newberry, Detroit; Paula Keaney, Boston; Marija Stungurys, Maspeth. We have been meeting at Conventions for five or six years and it's been great fun seeing each other again.

On Thursday all the Juniors attended the opening Mass and luncheon. Then we swam in a pool nearby. Later that day we went to the Benediction and Cultural Night at St. Casimir's Church in Pittston.

Friday we met and learned about Sister Aloysius' cousin Vytautas Skuodis and the vigil she went to. Sister Virginia explained how her order started. Then Sister Virginia demonstrated how to make Lithuanian ornaments. There was a contest to see who would be the King, Queen, Prince and Princess of Vilnius. The afternoon was Sports Afternoon — some played tennis and some went to the zoo. The contest winners were announced Friday nite at the Fun Night — King Paul Strolia, Queen Lorraine Grabauskas, Prince Paul Balukonis, Princess Georgianna Kassel.

On Saturday morning, our Juniors Convention was held. Father Jurgelaitis explained to us about Archbishop George Matulaitis. Saturday afternoon we went to the regular session to watch the elections. That evening we went to the Banquet-Dance. Two of the Juniors got Scholarships—Marija Stungurys and Lorraine Grabauskas.

On Sunday we attended Mass and the luncheon. Some got Conventionships from our First Vice-President, Susan Bumila. Then we said good-bye until next year's convention.

Jurgina

President, Supreme Council

Dear Mrs. Stukas

I would like to thank you and the Supreme Council for my Conventionship award. This award helped make it possible for me to attend the Convention this year.

I would also like to thank the three councils for the wonderful Juniors' program they prepared. In particular thanks to Sister Virginia who spend so much time with us.

Vytiškai,
Paul Strolia, President
Council 36, Chicago



*CONTEST WINNERS: King of Vilnius, Paul Strolia
Queen of Vilnius, Lorraine Lorraine Grabauskas
Prince of Vilnius, Paul Balukonis
Princess of Vilnius, Georgianna Kassel
Judges - Nellie Bayoras and Ann Dudewicz*



FROM THE BEGINNING



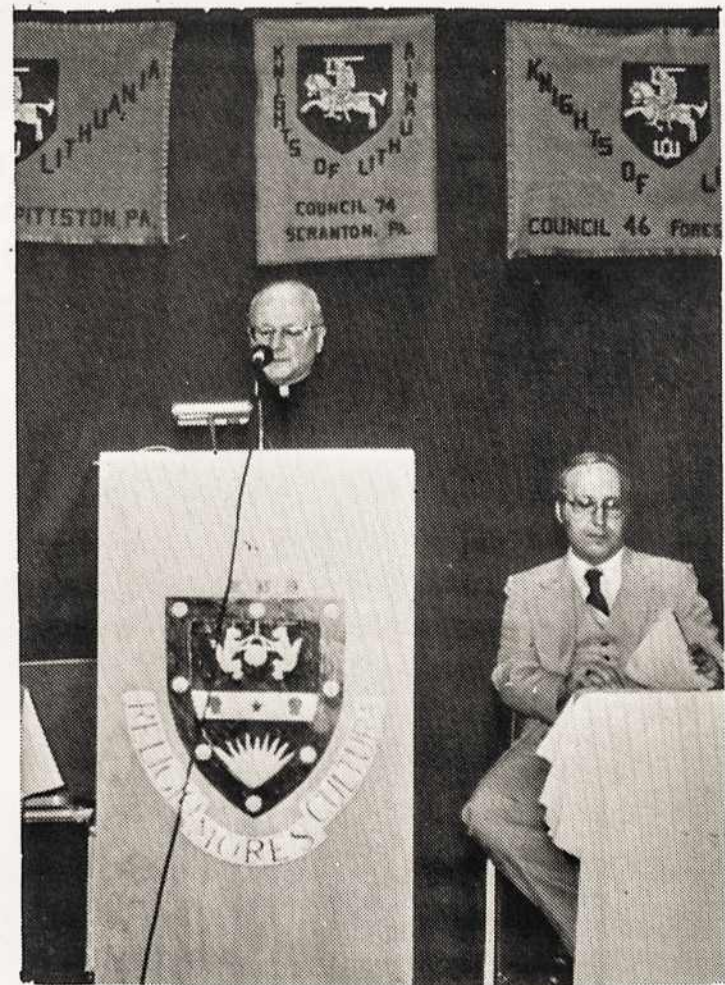
We register



Seated at the Registration table are left to right: Gertrude Romeika, Genevieve Horvath, Frances Yavorosky, Violet Pocius and Annamarie Sewatsky



Greeting the Bishop of Scranton, Most Rev. J. Carroll McCormick, are Anna Galenas, Ann Patelunas, Patsy Simms, Margaret Laibinas and Sister Angelas, Sisters of St. Casimir. At the right is Rev. Bernard E. Jarrish, Ass't Chancellor and Secretary to Bishop McCormick



Most Rev. J. Carroll McCormick, Bishop of Scranton, giving his welcoming address at the first session. Philip Skabeikis is at the right

LABAI AČIU



Pranas Shimkus



Eve Kazokas



Leo Butsavage

Convention Executive Committee

- Spiritual Advisors Rev. Michael Ozalas
Rev. Peter Alisauskas
Rev. Bernard A. Toloczko
- Chairperson Eve T. Kazokas
- Co-Chairmen Charles Cyzauskas
Casimir Yanish
Anne Challan
- Secretaries Ruth Yanish
Ann Marie Sewatsky
- Treasurer Edward J. Tamosaitis
- Junior Program Sister Virginia Vytell
- Registration Gertrude Romeika
- Program Book Elizabeth Tamosaitis
Leo Butsavage
John Morris
- Publicity Elizabeth Hanas
Michael Yavorosky
Alice Pusavage
- Pre-Convention Touring Ann Zalinskas
Frances Stungis
- Hosts:
- Wednesday Welcome John & Josephine Schuster
Leo & Helen Butsavage
John & Amy Morris
- Thursday Luncheon Helen Romeika
Frances Yavorosky
- Cultural Evening Rev. Peter Alisauskas
Nellie Bayoras
- Friday Fun Night Isabelle DeWitt
Beatrice Stanis
- Saturday Banquet & Dance Marie Laske
- Sunday Luncheon Jean Kveragas
- Transportation Lewis Pocius

VISIEMS

Convention Committee Members

Souvenir Journal	Helen Roginski Ann Ulinoski Ann Huffstutler Marcella Kukaitis Edward & Margaret Romanauskas Anthony Yavorosky William Grady Julia Grady
Registration ... & Reception	Violet Pocius Ann Kvietkus Julie Krutlies Patsy Simms Nellie Gataveskas Mr. & Mrs. Kizis Mary R. Kazokas Ann Riccardo Agatha Sueta Della Fabian Mr. & Mrs. Casimir Kizis Sr. Mr. & Mrs. William Daileda Mr. & Mrs. Jack Piragus Dorothy Banos Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dajnowski Mr. & Mrs. John Wasser Atty. Ronald J. Kamage Mr. & Mrs. Onofrio Orlando
Juniors Program	Ann Dudewicz
Cultural	Jule Farrell
Evening	Phil & Marcella Bartoli Grace Kasacavage RoseMary Montville Mary Burdett Paul Patrick John Wisnosky Paul Lauck Alphonse Chepalis Peter Partaska Margaret Zukauskas Mildred Walsh Mary Kaminskas Marie Gulbin Blanch Motsko Mart Yeskatalas Dorothy Andzulis Helen Cravath Anna Galenas Anna Bagdon Jean Kavelenas Frank Romeika Robert Kaboskie Frank Shimkus Marie Lauck
Fun Night	Beverly Bennett James Gulbin Mary Prevelski Edward Yeskatalas Doris Slick
Banquet	Margaret Laibinis Anna Patelunas Anna Matulevich
General	Richard Laske Frank Hanas Joseph Sabaitis Marion Chepalis



Charles Cyzauskas



Anne Challan



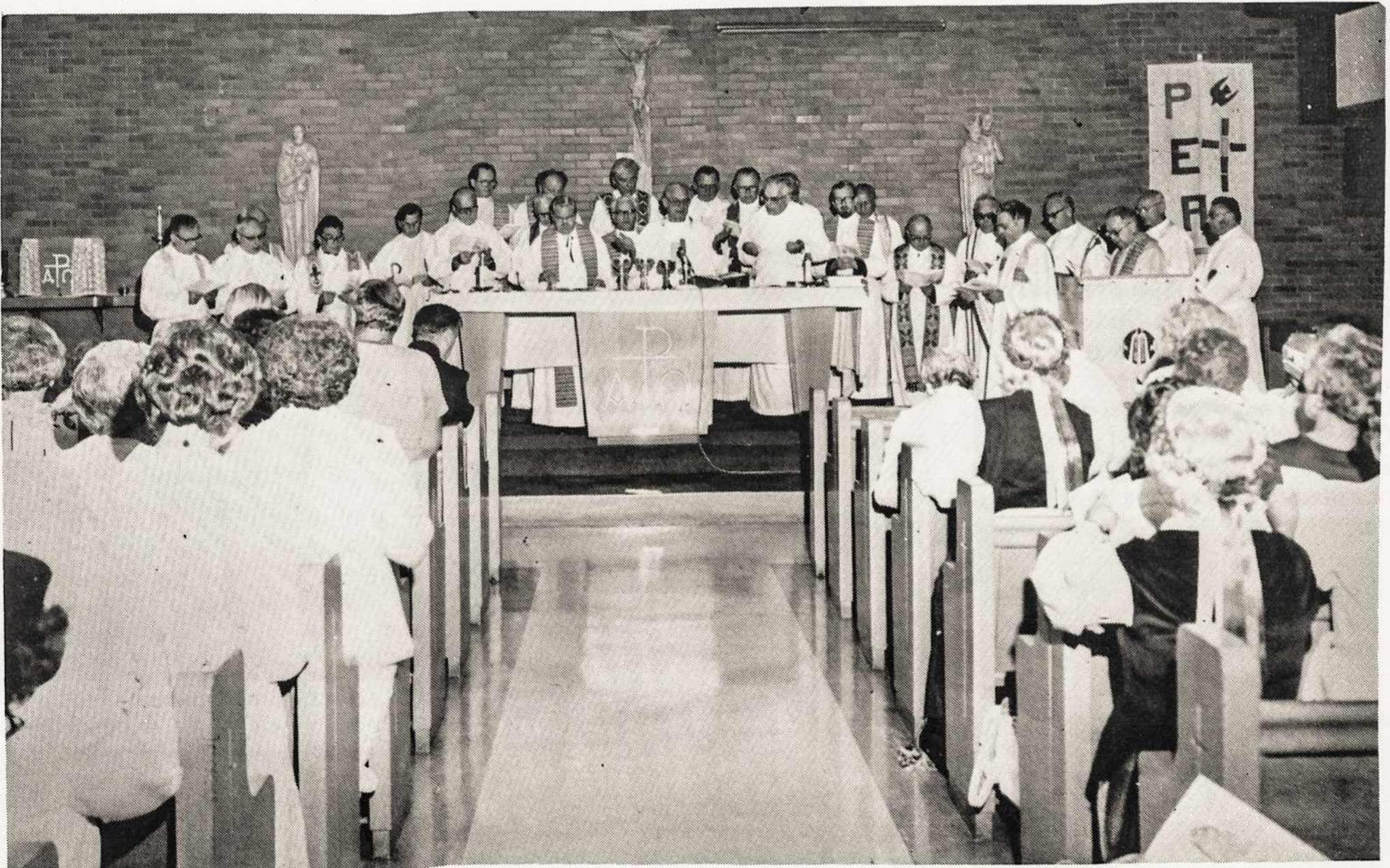
*John Morris, Edward Tamosaitis,
Casimir Yanish*



WHAT THE ANGELS SAW AT THE 68th CONVENTION

AT THE 68th CONVENTION

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



Opening Mass

As a matter of fact, they did not really "see" a thing. The above title is somewhat misleading. We all know that angels are spiritual beings; they do not have eyes to see or ears to hear, as we humans do. In reality, angels do not "see": they "know" things through ideas which were infused in them by God, when they were created.

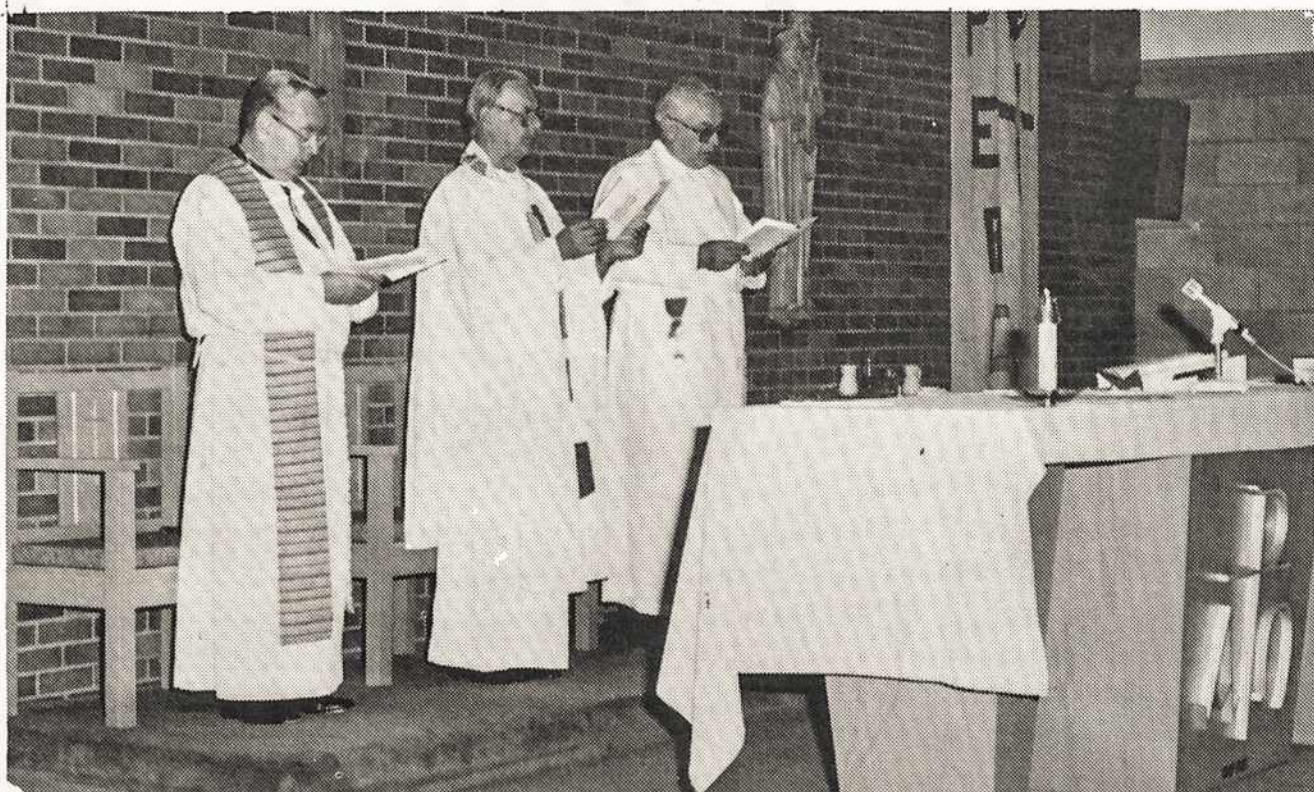
Dedicated as they are to praise and glory of God, they know directly through those ideas what pertains to God's glory in human events and they are pleased to bring such praise to the Throne of the Almighty.

Here are some of the spiritual highlights of our Scranton Convention, which the angels "saw".

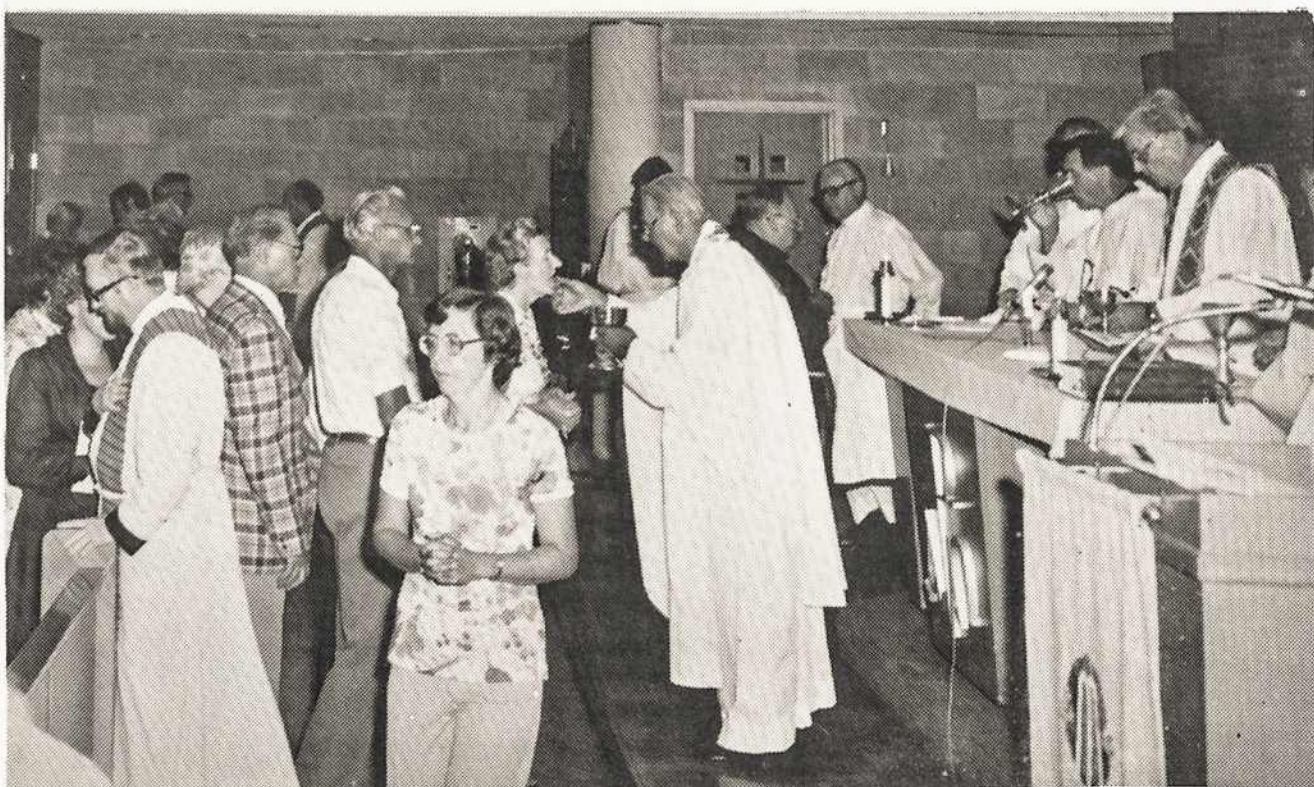
THE FIRST DAY

At the stroke of 12 on Thursday St. Ignatius Chapel at Scranton University was filled to capacity with K of L delegates and guests, as more than 35 priests (most of them K of L Spiritual Advisors) surrounded the altar for the Opening Mass of the Holy Spirit. Principal

Concelebrant was the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor, Fr. A. Jurgelaitis, O.P. He was assisted by Monsignor Anthony J. Norkunas of Wilkes Barre and Father Michael Ozalas of Scranton. The reason for such a large number of priests at our Opening Mass was the fact that on that morning the A. L. Catholic Priests' League was closing its national convention. We were blessed by their participation. The congregation itself made up the choir which sang Lithuanian hymns during the Mass. Bro. George, OFM was Sacristan Major for this Mass and for all the Masses.



The homily was brief. Our Spiritual Advisor spoke about the Holy Spirit and Sacrifice: The Holy Spirit who inspires all good thoughts and actions, taught God's Chosen People in Old Testament times the meaning and manner of Sacrifice pleasing to God. Our Lord Jesus Christ revealed to all mankind the Perfect Sacrifice, from which all others flow...such as sacrifice "For God and Country", which we Knights of Lithuania have held as our ideal from the very beginning of our organization.



After World War I and during and after World War II, Knights of Lithuania made one sacrifice after another to help the land of our ancestors.

By Baptism Catholics are committed to sacrifice, not only through Sacrament, but also through day to day living. Knights of Lithuania do not shrink from sacrifice, because they realize that it makes them better Catholics, more capable of greater deeds.

Sacrifice, therefore, sacrifice, Sacrifice SACRIFICE! has been and will always be the K of L way of preserving and strengthening our Lithuanian spiritual heritage.



As we entered the Session Hall, the first thing that we noticed was the Convention motto banner: "DIEVE, PALAIMINK MUS TEVYNE" — God, Bless Our Fatherland. I could not help thinking that angels were holding that banner aloft. It was a prayer. Angels have lots to do with prayer.

After the invocation by the S. C. Spiritual Advisor, His Excellency, J. Carroll McCormick, D. D., was introduced by National President Phil Skabeikis.

Bishop McCormick warmly welcomed the delegates and guests to the Scranton Diocese. He informed them that the Scranton area was the cradle of Lithuanian Catholicism in the United States. Quoting from an article by Fr. Casimir Pugevicius, he urged the Knights of Lithuania "Never forget the heritage received from your forefathers. God bless your Fatherland". And a thousand angels carried his prayer to Heaven!

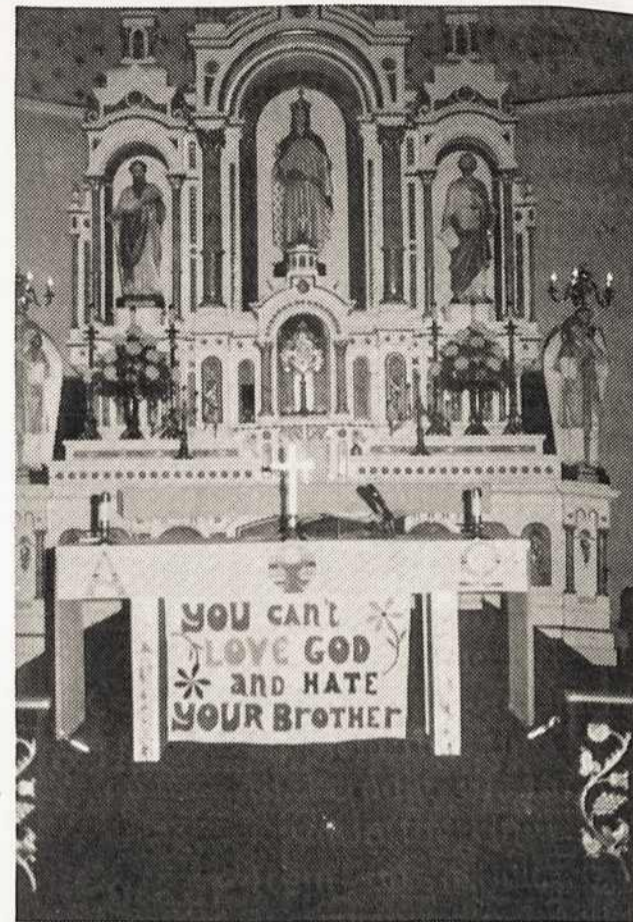
Among the greetings and expressions of spiritual support we heard were those from Fr. A. Contons, former K of L Spiritual Advisor and Honorary Member, speaking on behalf of the A. L. Catholic Priests' League, Sister Angela, representing the Sisters of Saint Casimir and Sister Joanela, from Sister Eugenia with a message from Mother Annunciata, Superior of the Sisters of Jesus Crucified.

Our wonderful supporters, the Sisters of St. Francis of Pittsburgh, PA, had a delegation at this convention: namely, Sister Francesca. We missed Sister Alverna.

One very busy Sister of Jesus Crucified was Sister M. Virginia, whom we saw as Lector at one Mass, as organist at another Mass and as the guiding spirit of the Juniors.

Fathers M. Ozalas, C-74, P. Alisaukas, C-143 and B. Toloczko, C-46 not only expressed their warm welcome to all Knights of Lithuania, but also provided guidance and support before and during the entire Convention.

The "pilgrimage to Pittston", to Saint Casimir's Church (what better name could be given to this Thursday night event?) was a beautiful as it was uplifting. The prayer service for suffering Lithuania and for the Beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis followed by Benediction was a fitting prelude for the Cultural Evening. Led by a well trained choir the Convention delegates joined in the singing of Lithuanian hymns. At the altar was Father Alisaukas, pastor, of Saint Casimir's. He was assisted by Fathers Ozalas, Savukynas, MIC, Pugevicius, Contons, Palubinskas, Karaveckas, Raila, Jurgelaitis, O.P., Brother George OFM and a visiting priest.



St. Casimir's Church in Pittston, PA



Delegates chatting in front of St. Casimir's Church

THE SECOND DAY

The Concelebrated Mass of the Second Day was for all our deceased members. Concelebrating with our Spiritual Advisor were priests from the Scranton area and those who stayed on after their Convention. Father Pakalniskis of Brooklyn was organist for this Mass.

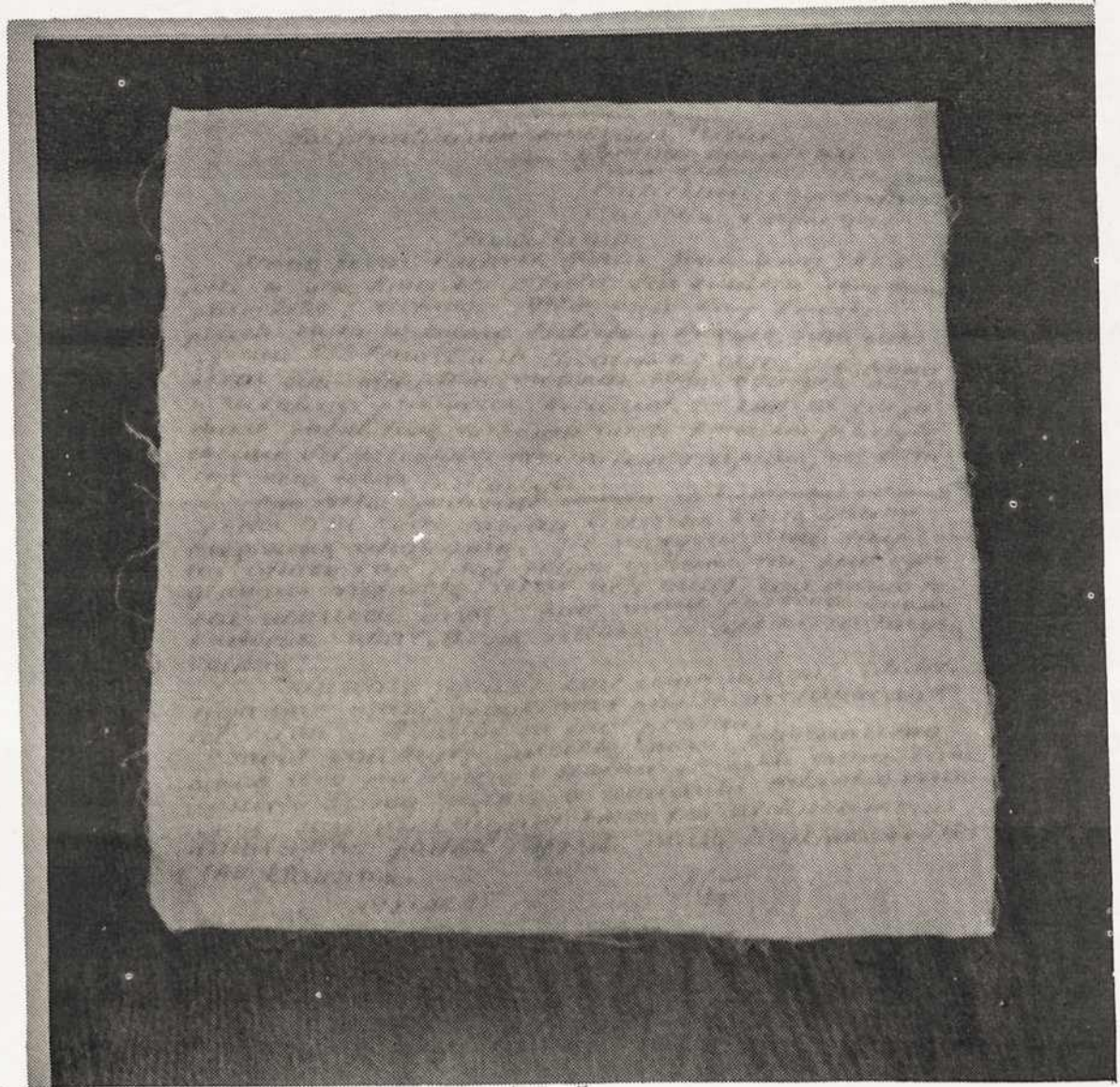
In the homily, preached by Father Jurgelaitis, we were reminded that a common trait of the Faithful Knights who preceded us in the Knights of Lithuania was a spriti of Sacrifice.

During the Prayer of the Faithful delegates from the various councils mentioned by name their council members whom God had called to Himself during the past year.

Both of the Convention Seminars had spiritual overtones. In "The K of L and the Year of the Lithuanian Parish" moderated by Fr. A. Jurgelaitis and shared by Father A. Contons and Aloyzas Astravas, the background of this project and the K of L participation were discussed. The visible disappointment that was felt, when time ran out, showed a deep interest among the delegates.

THE THIRD DAY

On Saturday, the intention of the Mass was for the persecuted Church in Lithuania. Father C. Pugevicius was the principal Concelebrant. In the homily he focused attention upon the prisoners of conscience in Lithuania in jails, in psychiatric hospitals and in labor camps.



A CALL FOR HELP written on a piece of cloth and smuggled out from behind the Iron Curtain

The Second Seminar, moderated by Fr. Casimir Pugevicius, Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, addressed itself to the ever present problem of seeking ways of keeping our oppressed and persecuted people in Lithuania in our deeds as well as in our prayers. It was a disappointment to all of us that Vladas Sakalys, guest speaker for this Seminar, could not be present.

At the prayer of the Faithful a long list of names of known prisoners was read, after which the prayer "Lord, hear our prayer" was recited by the delegates.

The Junior Convention on Saturday morning had a spiritual overtone in that they invited the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor to their session. Given a choice of a subject for discussion, the Juniors decided upon "Archbishop George". Father Jurgelaitis quickly gathered his thoughts together and

proposed a few points from Archbishop Matulaitis' book: "Leading Thought and Spirit" which would be helpful to the Knights of Lithuania and especially, the Juniors. We must **concentrate** our know-how, our efforts in order to get a hearing, in order to **penetrate** those around us with our ideals. We should try to **become an expert** in some phase of K of L activity, so that we could share with others the knowledge and experience that we have gained. (At least one of the Juniors remembered the article in VYTIS (April, 1981) where these ideas and others were written up.)

At the closing Banquet Saturday evening two bishops were present: His Excellency, James C. Timlin, Auxiliary Bishop of Scranton and Bishop Vincent Brizgys of Chicago, Ill. Bishop Timlin's warmth, humor and encouragement of the work of our organization captivated the almost 400 guests.



THE LAST DAY

The closing Mass of Thanksgiving was held at St. Joseph's Church in Scranton. Again, we can call this a pilgrimage to a church in which Mather Maria, of holy memory prayed and served its priests as housekeeper.

Principal Celebrant and Homilist was His Excellency Bishop V. Brizgys' whose homily was based on a prayer that he composed for the U.S. Bicentennial, which was included in the "Congressional Record". He stressed the necessity for all Knights of Lithuania to widen their horizons and to be alert to the opportunities for Catholic and Lithuanian action. He mentioned the Year of the Lithuanian Parish as just such an opportunity to discover new ways to continue the K of L tradition of closest cooperation with parish priest and Church.

The newly elected officers were sworn in at this Mass and the Fourth Degree members received their medals of Saint Casimir from the hands of Bishop Brizgys.

The Offertory Procession was impressive. As Mass Lector Eva Kazokas read an explanation, members of the Host Councils brought forward the water and wine and hosts. The K of L Constitution was presented, signifying an offering of the Knights of Lithuania, themselves, in service "Dievui ir Tėvynei" — For God and Country. There followed a presentation of a copy of "The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania", symbolizing an offering of the sufferings of the Catholics in Lithuania, together with an offering of our prayers. Finally, a basket, decorated with yellow, green and

red ribbons was brought up, containing their 7,200 petitions and prayers for the Beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis, gathered by the Knights of Lithuania in recent months.

The "celebration of this Mass was enhanced by the parish choir, which sang a simple and beautiful Lithuanian Mass composed by Julius Gaidelis of Brockton, Mass., as well as other hymns.

I, for one, am well satisfied that the Guardian Angels of the Knights of Lithuania were more than a little joyous in their "knowledge" of the spiritual events of our 68th National Convention.

AN EVENING IN PITTSTON

By Dr. Algirdas Budreckis

Three school buses, packed with merry delegates, rolled out of the University parking lot and headed south on Route 81 toward Pittston. Lewis Pocius, indefatigable Convention transportation coordinator, calmed the late-comers, informing them that the buses will return to pick up the remaining delegates. And sure enough: two buses swiftly arrived at the parking lot...

Eventually the several hundred delegates and guests gathered in St. Casimir's Church, Pittston, for benediction that Thursday evening. Eight clergymen assisted Rev. Peter Alisauskas during the evening prayers.

Knights and ladies and guests gathered at the long tables and side tables in the parish hall of St. Casimir's. The walls and side tables were draped with Lithuanian ornate runners, tablecloths and embroidery. Wooden folk art artificats and amber jewelry were on display. Most eyes were turned to the stage where a portrait of Our Lady of Vilnius as well as Lithuanian folk art motifs were displayed against the back curtains.

At exactly eight p.m. Anne Challan, cultural chairman of Council 143, greeted the assembled guests and without further ado introduced Nellie Bayoras, the cultural program director. Resplendent in her Lithuanian national costume, Nellie Bayoras began the cultural presentation by playing "Lietuviais esame gime" on the tape recorder, a rendition by 5 choirs of the Wyoming Valley conducted by professor Vaclavos Ramonas.



St. Casimir's Church in Pittston

"That hymn explains our gathering here..." — declared Nellie Bayoras, — "The Lithuanians have not forgotten Lithuania's great historical past...In the Lithuanian language is preserved the spirit of our forefathers."

Nellie Bayoras went on to point out graphically that "we were never a backward nation." She displayed amber artifacts explaining that amber is known as "Lithuanian gold."

She pointed out that we are often too busy to note that Lithuanians have created a beautiful poetry in the native tongue. She cited that, during her recent trip to Lithuania, a request was made for the poetry of Bernardas Brazdžionis. An inspired quote from the works of poet Brazdžionis followed on tape.

Nellie Bayoras witnessed the profound devotion to our Madonna of Vilnius (Aušros Vartu Panele), giving examples of special devotion by the plain folk of Lithuania. Nellie pointed out that the original chapel was erected in 1503.

She also displayed and described hand-carved wooden wayside crosses.

After playing a recording of Lithuanian folk music, she described the artistic works of Konstaninas Ciurlionis who was both an artist and a musician-composer. A recording of Ciurlionis' "Nokturna" by kankles was presented. She also asked Rev. Alisauskas to demonstrate the chords of the kankle she had brought back from Lithuania.

Rev. Alisauskas also used the occasion to give an account of his recent trip to Lithuania. On the tourist bus between Vilnius and kaunas he saw thousands of youths working in the fields along the highway. It was explained to him that high school youths must devote one month of labor during the summer vacation. Father Peter related that religious articles he was bringing to two sisters of St. Casimir in Pažais liai were confiscated. When he asked the Intourist guide in Moscow why churches in Lithuania were in disrepair, while Moscow's church cupolas were covered with gilt, the guide turned red and merely avoided the question by stating, "Well, they attend church in Latvia."

Returning to the stage Nellie Bayoras displayed and explained her collection of Lithuanian ceramics, which are called "sculptures" in Lithuania.

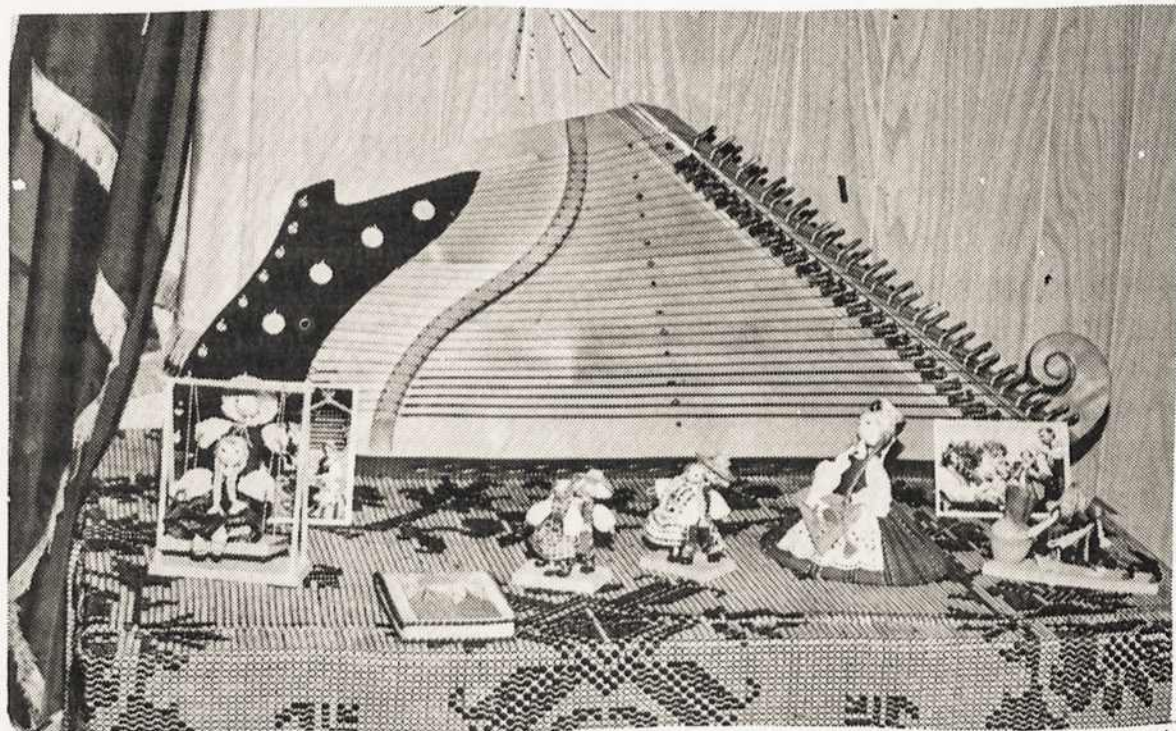
She also explained about the virtues of "socialized medicine" in Lithuania. During her recent trip to Lithuania Nellie broke her foot on the crumbled pavement in front of Hotel Gintaras in Vilnius. She was offered "emergency service" a la Soviet medicine. With her throbbing foot Nellie had to walk to the ambulance. Arriving at the hospital, which had no wheelchairs, she had to walk to the emergency (as a tourist she was not required to stand in line as did the other emergency patients). The doctor told her to walk to the X-ray room and, then she had to go to another section to have the cast placed on her foot.



Nellie Bayoris

Nellie next displayed Lithuanian "palms" used during Palm Sunday in Lithuania. They were intricately woven strands of juniper and willow branches with native flower insets.

To conclude her presentation Nellie Bayoras played excerpts from Lithuanian night club music on the tape recorders; they were Rock 'n Roll tunes sung in English and Lithuanian. She concluded with timely remarks: "Can we sit back and say Lithuania is backward? No, we can be proud. Lithuanian culture could hold its star up high." And as a finale Nellie set off her 1931 Lithuanian alarm clock which chimed "Lietuva tevyne musu"!



Kanklės

Father Alisauskas proposed that the guests lift their cups of potent "virytas" and toast "vardan tos Lietuvos". After the prayer by Father Pugevicius the delegates and guests settled down to a family-style second supper supplemented by *užbonos* of birch beer and local brew. The cultural evening mellowed into a family get-together, where old acquaintances were renewed, new friendship formed. In a word, it was a *vytiškas vakaras*.

Algirdas Budreckis



Ladies of the kitchen

Social Sidelights

FRIDAY FUN NIGHT AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

"Fun Night" proved to be just that. It was a standing room only crowd in a very large room on the University of Scranton campus. It was a perfect evening for inter-council friendships to catch up on not only council activities but also family activities since the last convention. So many of us have built strong friendships from getting to know each other throughout the many years of attending national conventions.

Festivities of the evening included Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis conducting his 'Lithuanian Class Choral Group' in song....a 'true' Lithuanian Wedding with the Bridal Party consisting of men as the bride and bridesmaids and the Groom and Ushers were women. C #12, New York, members added to the festivities of the evening. Millie Pietz came as a surgeon while Al Monckawitch portrayed his 'sister'. From all we heard Al had his 'dance card' filled for the evening plus 'dates'.

Music for the evening was supplied by Mr. Music Maker and his one man band. Bernie Cooper was great and certainly sounded like a full band. He had the dance floor filled not only by his music but his enthusiasm had you moving. Those of us from the Cincinnati/Dayton area thought Mr. Cooper made a perfect look-alike to Reds catcher Johnny Bench.

We must thank the co-chairmen for the 'Fun-Night' Isabelle DeWitt and Beatrice Stanis. Your efforts putting this event together certainly were successful

Fran Petkus



The Wedding



Bernie Cooper



Father Jurgelaitis and the Lithuanian Class Choral Group

AN APPOINTMENT TO THE HONORARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Honorary Membership Committee consists of 7 permanently elected Honorary Members, representing all active Districts. At the present time there are six members, namely:

Prof. Alexander Aleksis, New England District
Phyllis Grendal, New England District
Anthony Mazeika, Executive Chairman,
Mid-Atlantic District
Helen T. Shields, Mid-Atlantic District
Eleanore Laurin, Ill.-Ind. District
Stanley Vaitkus, Mid-Central District

To meet the requirement of the Constitution, the Honorary Membership Committee requests the Convention to approve the appointment of REV. ANASTAS VALANCIUS, of Cicero, Ill., to be added to the Committee. Father Valancius is an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania since 1935, and recently reorganized Council 14 of Cicero, Ill.

Note: The above appointment was approved, and Father Anastas Valancius is officially a member of the Honorary Membership Committee.



Mrs. Giedra Budreckis and Dainute



SATURDAY BANQUET AND BALL



Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, St. Casimir's, Pittston (toastmaster) most Rev. James C. Timlin, Aug. Bishop of Scranton, Most Rev. Vincent Brizgys, Chicago (Invocation), Loretta Stukas, Hon. Charles F. Dougherty (recipient Friend of Lithuania award)

SATURDAY NIGHT GALA

The devout people of the area must have prayed very hard for the success of their convention for the lovely, comfortable weather held up during the entire time.

Having a cocktail party outdoors on the pavilion of the Student's Activities Center was a marvelous experience.

With the hard work of the convention finished, the celebrants relaxed and conversed in the cool, twilight atmosphere. The ladies in their beautiful gowns and distinguished gentlemen everywhere, made a picturesque scene.

After the cocktail party was over, the guests found rosé wine on the dinner tables which enhanced the delicious meal which featured roast prime rib of beef au jus. Cheesecake with strawberries and pots of good coffee were the finishing touches.

Dancing to the music of Nick Hubb and his international orchestra continued until all were exhausted.

Even then, the revelry continued in various rooms for a few more hours. The excitement of the convention was such that no one wanted the evening to end.



PRESENTATION OF THE FATHER JUTT "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA" AWARD TO THE HON. CHARLES DAUGHERTY

Father Kazimeras Pugevicius

The Fr. John C. Jutt Friend of Lithuania Award has been traditionally presented to those few individuals, not of Lithuanian descent, who have performed extraordinary service on behalf of Lithuania and her people. The recipient of tonight award is just such a person.

Since his election to the United States House of Representatives in 1978, he has shown an unswerving devotion to the Lithuanian cause. As a Congressman from the 4th Congressional District, which includes the Northeast section of the city of Philadelphia, he has supported all resolutions introduced on behalf of the Baltic States and human rights.

Our newest Friend of Lithuania introduced a bill, HR 5407, which was intended to resolve the financial plight of the Lithuanian Legation in Washington, and to provide for continuity of Lithuanian diplomatic representation. Through his efforts, 57 members of Congress agreed to co-sponsor the bill. While the bill was ever convincing the State Department to find the necessary financial resources to fund Lithuania's Diplomatic Service. His efforts also brought about a decision from the Carter administration.

"...to coordinate closely with the three present Baltic Charge d'Affairs on designation of their successors in order to provide continued representation when the present corps of diplomats is no longer able to function."

This representative is currently forming a Congressional Caucus for the Baltic States and the Ukraine, and will serve as a co-chairman of this caucus, which is designed to respond quickly and effectively to Baltic and Ukrainian issues.

On October 2, 1980, this congressman arranged a "special order session" in the House of Representatives to honor Lithuanian-American demonstrators arrested in July at the Soviet Embassy in Washington. Fourteen members of the congress participated in this session and met with the demonstrators.

In the latest crisis facing a Lithuanian, our candidate has taken a leadership role to help solve the problem. Vytautas Skuodis, the American-born Lithuanian prisoner of conscience is currently the focus of a major effort on the part of the United States government.



The Hon. Charles Dougherty, 4th Congressional District, Philadelphia, receives the FRIEND OF LITHUANIA AWARD from father Pugevicius, National Chairman of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee

Tonight's honoree is one of the sponsors of House Resolution 200, which has been introduced on Mr. Skuodis' behalf.

In the three years he has been in Congress, tonight's Friend of Lithuania has evolved an imposing record of support for Lithuania and her people. We trust that this is only the beginning of a long and successful career marked by a strong personal support of the rights of man and of nations.

I give you the 1981 Fr. John C. Jutt Friend of Lithuania — The Hon. Charles F. Dougherty.

Remarks by **Hon. Charles F. Dougherty**, 4th Congressional District, Pa., in accepting Knights of Lithuania "Friend of Lithuania" Award, Aug. 22, 1981

It is a pleasure for me to be here with you this evening, at the University of Scranton. I want to thank you tonight for your thoughtfulness and your kindness, in giving me this award. I would like you to know, that the ad hoc Committee on the Baltic States and Ukraine, is indeed in existence. As of today, over 60 members of the Congress of the United States are identified with that Committee. I am privileged to be the co-chairman, along with Congressman Donnelly of Massachusetts, of this congressional ad hoc Committee of the Baltic States and the Ukraine. The issue will not go away, and you should know that.

I want you also to know, that I am very proud to accept this award this evening, not for anything that I have done in the past, but rather as a bond for the cause of Free Lithuania, that we share in common. I accept it as a commitment to continue our struggle against Soviet repression, and I accept it as a symbol of our faith and our belief that one day, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia and the Ukraine, will be free!

Too often, we in political life, and I am sure you, in civilian life, frequently use a lot of words, without perhaps, giving thought about what they truly mean; words, like "thank you," "how are you?" and all that bit. We also find ourselves using words like freedom, and heritage, and tradition. I find that many of us fail to feel, really feel, the meaning of the words — freedom, heritage and tradition. We fail to let those words touch us in our everyday life. We fail to sense the true impact of what the word freedom really means.

Let us always, ladies and gentlemen, when we speak of Lithuania, not just speak about a geographical location, let us also speak, and feel, and be touched and be impacted by the fact that Lithuania is a people...Lithuania is a heritage...Lithuania is a tradition. Lithuania is a people, a heritage, and a tradition that tonight is imprisoned, denied and persecuted.

Lithuania is a people, a heritage and a tradition that has hope and pride and faith. Through their efforts and our efforts, and with God's blessings, one day they will be free!

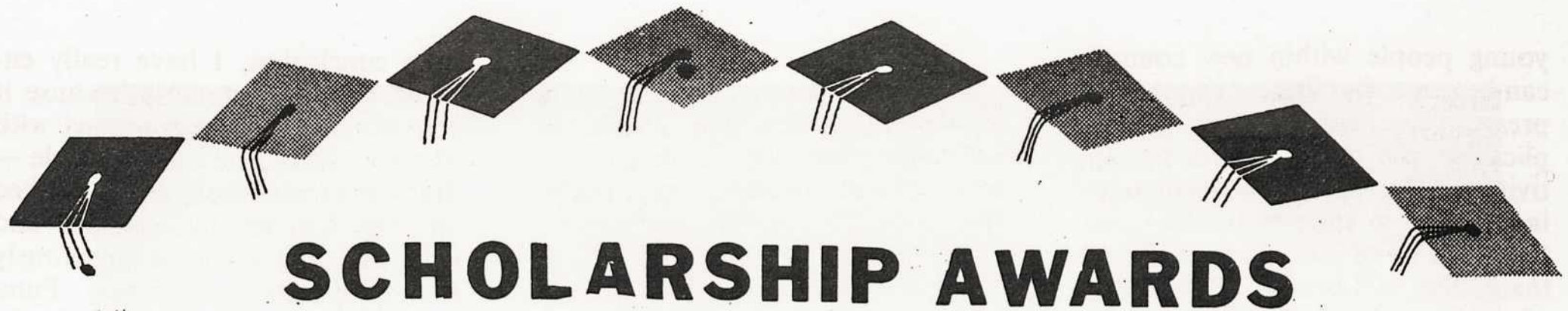
The ad hoc Committee on the Baltic States and the Ukraine came about because Lithuanian-American citizens in Philadelphia cared about their homeland, because they became involved in the American political process, because they

reached out and touched the grandson of an Irish immigrant, and they shared with me their love of freedom, their cause, and their hope for a Free Lithuania.

The ad hoc Congressional Committee, ladies and gentlemen, will succeed. The cause of Lithuania will be brought before the Congress of the United States again, and again, and again. The Soviets will never be allowed to ignore that torch of freedom that burns within the hearts and minds and souls of the people of Lithuania, the people of the Lithuanian American community, and the people of America. It will happen because, ladies and gentlemen, you care. It will happen because you have been involved in this effort, and it will happen because you and I, thank God, are a free people. Let us pledge to each other tonight our commitment to this cause, which will never end, until Lithuania will be free!!!



Lithuanian Affairs Panel



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Walter Svekla



*Walter Svekla and
Marija Stungurys, C-1010, Maspeth*

Your Excellence Bishop Brizgys, Bishop Timlin, Honorable Congressman Dougherty, Reverend Clergy and Sisters, Distinguished Guests, Honored Knights and Friends:

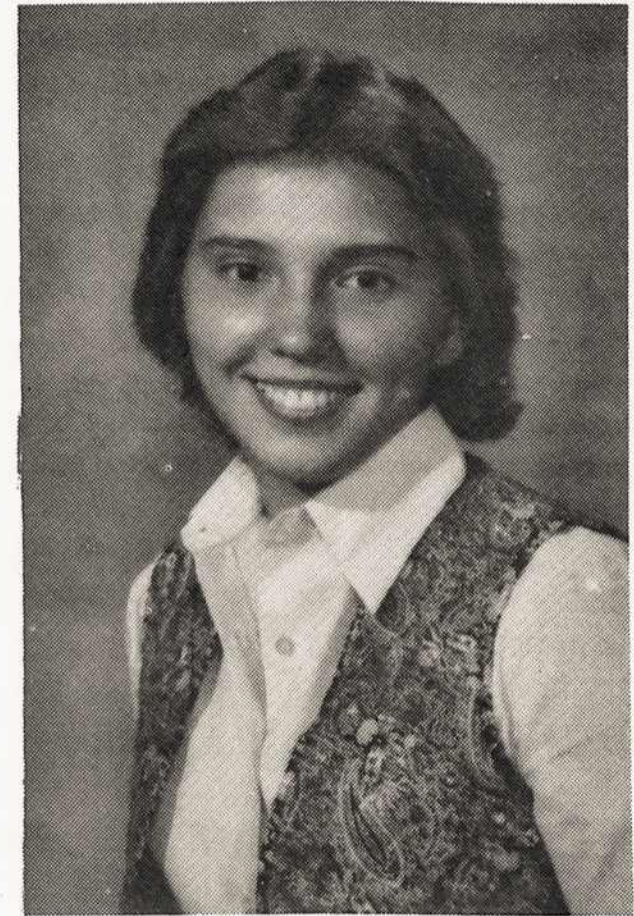
This is the sixth and final time that I will be addressing you as Scholarship Chairman and personally making these awards. I have a few brief comments relative to my chairmanship that I will give at the conclusion of my presentation.

For the 1981 K of L Scholarship awards the committee has unanimously agreed upon the first and the second award winners and the extreme closeness of the overall evaluation of two other applicants resulted in a tie for the third award.

Our first award of \$1,000 is presented to a member of Council 110 Maspeth Regulars who had been a member of the Maspeth Juniors for seven years and had held the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Ritual Chairman. The committee was extremely impressed with the long list of K of L activities that she has participated in and the offices that she has held which are much too numerous to elaborate upon here.

Our first award winner is Marija Stungurys who will receive \$1,000.

Our second award of \$800 goes to a member of Council 96 Dayton. She had been a member of the Dayton Juniors for seven years and held the offices of Vice-President, Secretary, and Vytis correspondent. She has been a member of the Vėjeliai Lithuanian Dance Group for seven years. Again, our committee was impressed with her other credentials. Our second award goes to Rita Gecas who will receive \$800.



*Rita Joanna Gecas, C-96
Dayton, Ohio*

Our third award of \$500 each goes to two other girls. The first has been a member of the K of L for five years and has held the office of Junior Vice-President and has been extremely active in the Junior activities of council 103 Providence. The first recipient of the third award is Elena Valiuskis who will receive \$500.

The other co-recipient of the third award is a local girl in that she is a member of the relatively new Harrisburg Council 146. The committee realizes that the K of L activities for

young people within new councils can be somewhat limited but she impressed our committee with her application, her potential, and her activities within the K of L since joining in 1978 in spite of the fact that there was no official Junior Council there. She is Lorraine Grabauskas who will receive \$500.

At this time, I must say that I am proud of the accomplishments of our Scholarship Committee these past six years during which I have had the good fortune to be its Chairman.

Tonight, we have awarded \$2,800 to four very deserving members and over the six years of my Chairmanship we have awarded the grand total of \$13,300. We hope that those who have received the K of L Scholarships will accept the challenge, become future K of L leaders, and direct the organization to greater accomplishments in the years to come.

I do feel some sadness as I terminate my association with the Scholarship Committee. I wish the new committee success in every endeavor and urge you to support them. I would like to extend my thanks to Tony Mazeika and Tony Miner who have assisted me as Secretary-Treasurer over the years and the other members of the committee who have supported me. My heart-felt thanks go to special people who have helped the Scholarship Fund like George Mikalauskas for his exquisite Shrine of Our Sorrowful Mother, sister Francesca for her beautiful Lithuanian dolls, and of course, Phil Carter for his handsome and artistic Vytis bookends and placques. All of these wonderful people have donated part of themselves to help the K of L Scholarship Program.



*Elena Gaja Valiuskis, C-103
Providence*



*Walter Svekla and
Lorraine Graubauskas,
C-146, Harrisburg*

In conclusion, I have really enjoyed my Chairmanship because it brought me into close contact with so many wonderful K of L people — the young members who applied and the individuals, Councils and Districts who have so generously supported the Scholarship Fund over the years. I will cherish the memories of my scholarship activities for a long time to come. Thank you.

LITHUANIAN EMBROIDERY KITS ANNOUNCED

Lithuania's two great national symbols, VYTIS and GEDIMINO STULPAI, stand proudly against red backgrounds on two unique stitchery kits being offered for the first time by Walnut Studios. When completed, the brilliant red and white embroideries can be framed for heirloom gift giving and house warming.

Walnut Studios specializes in only top quality kits which it designs, manufactures, and sells directly to those who want the best for their families and friends. The Lithuanian kits are fourth in a series of ethnic kits offered by Walnut Studios. Both embroideries will fit a standard 11" x 14" frame (frame not included). Everything you need to complete the stitcheries is included... cloth, floss, instructions. The kits — truly a keepsake for every Lithuanian-American family — are priced at just \$10 each, or both kits for \$19.

Orders and inquiries should be sent to Walnut Studios, Dept. 14A, 204 S. Walnut Street, Englewood, Ohio 45233.

THANK YOU

The staff of VYTIS expresses its heartfelt thanks to Loretta Stukas, Dr. Algirdas Budreckis, Father Anthony Jurgelaitis, Ann Wargo, Fran Petkus, Betty Hanas, Joseph Ryan, Ann Marie Kassell, Irene Sankus, Walter Svekla, Susan Bumilla, Father Pugevicius, and the myriad others who helped put this issue together.



FOURTH DEGREE RECIPIENTS First row left to right: Ann Walinsky, Helen Mathews, Sophie Olbie, Betty August; Second row left to right: Joseph Kscenaitis,

Albert Monckawitch, Joseph Sleder, Albinas Zukauskas, Andrew Leonard, Victor August

**SUPREME COUNCIL RITUAL
COMMITTEE REPORT**

The following councils processed degrees for their members:

COUNCIL #	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH
12				3
19			4	
25	1	8	2	2
25 Srs			2	1
26	10	10		1
29			3	1
30			3	
50	30			
61		8		
74				1
78	4			1
79	7	4	2	
82	1	1		
96	4	3	2	2
100	3	4	1	2
103 Srs.	6			
110	16	11		
112	11	1		
135	2	18	1	

COUNCIL	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH
140		4		
141				1
143				2
144	31	29		7
147	12	27	11	2
Chgo. Srs.	4	2		
Grand Totals	142	130	41	16

The sixteen members receiving their Fourth Degree at the national convention are as follows:

- C #12—Joseph Kscenaitis, Helen Mathews, Albert E. Monckawitch
- C #25—Alvina Luiza, Adele Svet
- C #25Srs—Ignas Visockas
- C #26—Ann Walinsky
- C #29—Albinas Zukauskas
- C #74—Andrew B. Leonard
- C #96—Mary Ann Blum, Christine L. Mantz
- C #100—Rev. Robert K. Baltch, Sophie Olbie
- C #147—Elizabeth August, Victor August

Last year's recipients of the-Fourth Degree Award who received their medals this year were: C #29—Ann Abromaitis; C #12—Joseph Sleder.

Fran Petkus

**AMID MUCH BUSINESS
A LITTLE PLEASURE...**



Father Raila relaxes



Mealtime in the cafeteria of Scranton University - a busy affair



Loretta Stukas pays a bet to Charles Genaitis



Saturday evening cocktail party outdoors on the patio

SUNDAY



Stella McLeod receives Membership Award



After the beautiful Mass as described by Father Jurgelaitis on another page of this issue, the convention photo was taken.

We all trekked up the hill to the luncheon hall. As in all of the meals at the University of Scranton, brunch was a matter of going back for seconds and thirds until we could eat no more.

One of the outstanding features of this convention was the great crowds of Lithuanians that were present at all of the events.

It was hard to say goodbye to all of the new friends and to all of the friends we see only once every year during convention time.

In their usual way, the delegates tearfully hugged and kissed each other before starting their journeys homeward bound.



PRIZES COMMITTEE: Richard Laske, Chairman; Anna Bagoon, éuilt; Helen Butsavage, Wall Rosary; Sister Virginia, Lithuanian Doll; Charles Cyzauskas, Ceramic Coal Miner

VYTIS2524 W. 45 St.
Chicago, IL. 60632Return Requested
Address Correction RequestedDRAUGAS
4545 W 63RD ST
CHICAGO, IL 60629**IN MEMORIAM**

Please remember them in your prayers

LILLIAN SLICK
Member, C-46
Forest City, PA**CECILIA RITENBURG**
Member, C-46
Forest City, PA
Died June 18, 1981**ALEX KURPOWIC**
Member, C-139
Detroit, MI
Died June 2, 1981**JOHN P. KOTELLA**
Member, C-19
Pittsburgh, PA
Died January 23, 1981**JOHN SPRAINAITIS**
Honorary Member
Member, C-61
Patterson, New Jersey
Died October 4, 1981**ROBERT NARDINI**
Member, C-199
Anthracite Council**K OF L CALENDAR**

M A R C H, 1982

14 MAD St. Casimir's Breakfast and Convention at
Frackville, PA C-144 hosts20 Supreme Council meeting in Cleveland, Ohio
C-25 hosts

A U G U S T, 1982

National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio
C-25 hosts