

the KNIGHT

VYTIS

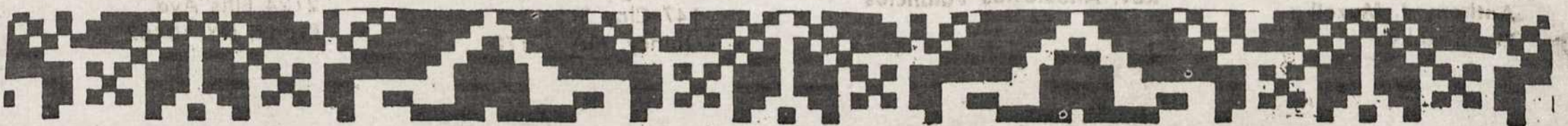
1982
 OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
**THE KNIGHTS
 OF LITHUANIA**

Vol. 68 - No. 1

January - Sausis



THE YEAR OF THE LITHUANIAN PARISH



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Vol. 68 - No. 1

January - Sausis 1982



PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

VYTIS is published monthly Oct. through May, bi-monthly June-July and Aug-Sept. by the **Knights of Lithuania**. Second class postage paid at Chicago, IL. Subscription - \$8.00/yr. All correspondence should reach the editors by the 1th of the month two months preceding the next issue. The editor assumes no obligation to return any material not solicited.

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PHASE II**The Beatification Of****Finale****ARCHBISHOP GEORGE MATULAITIS**

**By Father Anthony
Jurgelaitis, O.P.**

From the Vatican via Lithuanian daily "Draugas" of Chicago, we learned that on October 14, 1981 the K of L petitions on behalf of the Beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis have reached Pope John Paul II.

The newsfoto told the story. Father V. Rimselis, MIC, Provincial of the Marian Fathers, is shown with His Holiness who has in his hands the album containing the almost 8,000 signatures collected by our members. We wonder whose signatures caught the Holy Father's eye.

At this time I want to thank all K of L'ers who participated in this project, both Phase I and Phase II — "lietuviška, vytiška aciū".

Space will not permit me to list all the names of those who sent in the filled in signature sheets. There are 56 names on that list. There is now way of determining who collected the most signatures, but I can say that the Pennsylvania Knights of Lithuania did an outstanding job. There are no prizes or trophies to be awarded. There is, however, the knowledge and satisfaction that we Knights of Lithuania "helped make a Saint". We did our part in hastening the Process.

As we await our Holy Father's decision, we pray daily that God who blessed Archbishop George with heroic virtues will soon crown his work by proclaiming him "Blessed" for all the world to know and love, as we do.



The main altar of the Kaunas Cathedral where George Matulaitis was consecrated bishop, December 1, 1918.

THE YEAR OF THE LITHUANIAN PARISH

1982

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



Last month (or was it two months ago?) we discussed the deepest reason of our K of L concern for our Lithuanian parishes: the traditional devotion of our people to Mary, the Mother of God. We mentioned that Vatican Council II declared Mary "Mother of the Church". In reality, we Lithuanians did not need that reminder, since Mary as "Ausros Vartu Marija" and as "Siluvos Marija" has mothered the Church in Lithuania for centuries.

Mary is Mother of the Church Universal, Mother of the Church in Lithuania, Mother of our own parish church. Since her intercession is most powerful with God, we chose to place ourselves and the Year of the Lithuanian parish in her watchful care.

As we survey the parish scene in the United States, we become rightfully alarmed. Overall church attendance has declined. Lithuanian church participation, perhaps, more so, when we consider that many Lithuanians have opted to attend non-Lithuanian churches. The result? A real crisis. There are many facets to this crisis: fewer Lithuanian priests, fewer people, diminishing resources, and at times, a language barrier. More than a dozen churches have closed their doors or were taken over by local Bishops in recent years and others are about to lose their Lithuanian identity.

No wonder the American Lithuanian Priests' League is gravely concerned. No wonder, the American Lithuanian Community, Inc. is worried.

In a general way, ethnic Lithuanians (this includes those born in the United States and those who came over from Lithuania) are strong and outspoken in their conventions and fidelity to the Lithuanian Heritage. The "Happiness is being Lithuanian" spirit is wider than we think. Yet, in looking at our parishes, we see a rather pessimistic picture. We tend to despair. Our Lithuanian parishes are dying! There's nothing we can do!

But, there is...

The way to fight pessimism is with a dose of optimism. A dying person is a person still alive; so, too, the parish. A parish, unlike a person, cannot die of cardiac arrest. Parishes, like persons, get older and weaken. Our parishes are we. As long as we are living, our parishes will continue to live. The problem is not how to ease the parish in its last hours, but how to strengthen and revive it. This calls for serious thought and a conscientious search for remedies.

Are our Lithuanian parishes worth maintaining and why are they deserving of our greater efforts to renew them?

In answer to the first question the obvious reply is "Yes". Our home parish ties us to the worldwide

Church of Christ, to God. We need its guidance and inspiration to be able to confront the God-neglecting spirit in the world about us. We have to keep ourselves close to Christ. Our parish church provides us with this point of contact.

One could object that a Lithuanian parish is not necessary to fulfill one's Christian obligations. And such a person would be absolutely right. You do not need a Lithuanian church to fulfill the duties of your Faith. There is no special "Lithuanian" worship of God. When we worship, we worship as **human persons**, not as Americans or as Lithuanians.

The important thing to remember is that the parish is a "community of Faith" that should grow in love of God and neighbor. Any parish, English or Lithuanian, provides a framework to make it easier to put this into practice. Charity, they say, begins at home; it seeks and works to provide for the needs of those closest and dearest to us. In this sense, an ethnic parish, our Lithuanian parish becomes very important to us.

Once, Christ was asked: "And, who is my neighbor?" If we ask this question, the answer would have to be "your own people, your Lithuanian brothers and sisters, to say nothing about your own family." So, whether we think of Lithuanians in the United States (Lithuanians in our own parish) or Lithuanians in



Vilniaus Aušros Vartų Madona

their homeland, we, who participate in that heritage, cannot fail to see that we do have some responsibility in Christian charity to respond to their needs. But, please, do not think that I am advocating the exclusion of all others from our charity. Christ taught us to love all, as the Father loves all. What I am stressing is that, if we Lithuanians do not feel a strong Christian responsibility to our brother, sister Lithuanians, who will?

Who will make it possible for the older generation of Lithuanians to continue to worship in their own language? Who will speak out against the religious oppression in atheistically governed Lithuania? Who will help to keep the persecuted Church in Lithuania alive. It will, surely, not be Italian Americans or Hispanic Americans. Lithuanian Americans are the ones called to the forefront when it comes to defending, supporting the struggle for freedom (religious and other) of our own Lithuanian people. When we realize that our Lithuanian parishes provide a base and a structure to accomplish this work of charity, we get an idea how important they are. And only we, American Lithuanians and Lithuanians in America are the ones who can do this best. If we allow our parishes to crumble, we let slip an

opportunity to use certain God-given talents to serve one segment of Christ's Kingdom on earth, a segment of which we are part and for which we are in some way responsible.

We must remember that it is not our Lithuanianism that inspires us to preserve and renew our parish life: it is Catholicism. Christ's command to love our neighbor has to start "at home", with those closest to us, parents, children, brothers and sisters. In the structure of the Church our parish is our home. It deserves our first love and constant care.

Failure to recognize this will lead us to become like the man who neglected his wife and children, and spent every evening of the week attending meetings of organizations and other worthwhile groups performing "works of charity".

Father Jurgelaitis, O.P.



TAI LAISVĖ! . . .

Lietuvos Katalikų Bažnyčios Kronika (Nr. 41) rašo, kad Užuogusto (Prienuj Rajone) miesto mokyklos mokytojos, Mendeikaitė ir Barauskaitė priverstė tikinčiuosius mokinius atmintinai išmukti bedieviškus eilėraščius, išjuokiančius tikėjimą, pamėgdžiojančius Dievą, kunigus ir šventuosius. Drąsesni augštesnių skyrių mokiniai atsisakė dalyvauti tokiam bedieviškam žaidime, tačiau žemesnių skyrių mokiniai buvo priversti dalyvauti programoje. Tėvai ir vaikai pasipiktino tokia jų tikėjimo išjuokimu.

Gargždų (Klaipėdos Rajone) miesto mokyklos mokytoja Pukinskienė, bandė prievarta prirašyti mokinį Rimą Paukštį į „Pionierių“ organizaciją. Tačiau, kaip Rimas atsisakė dėlto, kad jis yra tikintis, mokytoja pagrasino: „Jei

neklausysi mūsų patarimo pašauksime jūsų tėvų darbovietę, kad jie būtų paleisti iš darbo”.

Taip pat tėvai yra persekiojami ir jų vaikams neleidžiama patarnauti Šv. Mišioms, priklausyt bažnytiniam chorui ar dalyvauti procesijose, bei laidotuvėse.

Šiaulių mieste praėjusiais metais rugpiūčio mėn. 24 dieną milicija suėmė Mečislovą Jurevičių apklausinėjimui. Saugumo Agentūros vyresnysis, Vasiliauskas, tardydamas jį norėjo sužinoti, kas tai suorganizavo eiseną su kryžiais nuo Meškuičių į Kryžių kalną. Be to mes esame painformuoti, kad tu organizuoji ir kitą eiseną į Šiluvą. M. Jurevičiaus atsakymas buvo toks:

Aš galiu tiek pranešti, kas tai organizuoja maldininkų eisenas „Tai Kristus!”

Štai kokia laisvė mūsų tėvynėj Lietuvoj.

Surinko
Vincas Gražulis



The presentation of Aloyzas Astravas at the Symposium during the K of L National Convention.

“Knights of Lithuania and the Year of the Lithuanian Parish”

Aloyzas Astravas is the President of the Lithuanian American Community of the USA, Inc. Boston chapter and belongs to the So. Boston C-17 Sr. Council. He introduced idea of the Year of the Lithuanian Parish which soon will be realized in USA. Also, he was a speaker at the Lithuanian RC Priests' League Convention.



The Lithuanian underground press, namely “Perspektyvos”, published in Lithuania in 1979, reported a non-official press conference which took place in Vilnius. Two Americans and one Frenchman, all journalists, met with so called “strange minders” or Lithuanian dissidents. One of these Lithuanians, criticizing the “Chronicle of the Roman Catholic Church”, expressed his mind non-agreeably to my views: “It is absurd to state that one’s religious beliefs, by its own right, are protecting one’s ethnicity. Let’s take for example, the Eastern part of Lithuania which is now incorporated into Soviet White Russia. The true believers of their faith were converted into atheism in a very short time. They lost their faith soon after they lost their Lithuanian identity. But we can still find some Lithuanian islands where some ethnically strong Lithuanian priests have been working, even during the most cruel oppression under the Soviet rule”.

Since we have a union of religion and ethnicity than one is a function of the other. But to the question why those Lithuanian islands survived, the appropriate answer is given, because “some ethnically strong Lithuanian priests have been working”, not teachers, doctors or others, but priests.

Reverend Fathers, sisters, dear Vytes and Vyciai, and guests. I am delighted to share a few of my thoughts with you during this Convention. I have never been so proud before and the reason, — because I am a member of Vyciai and belong to the So. Boston Council, which, as the rest of this distinguished organization, guards tirelessly, Lithuanian values. This is fully expressed in the phrase: “Ei, vyciai, gyvenam Tautai ir Baznyciai!”.

Certainly, it is very pleasant that all Catholic organizations of Lithuanians paid serious attention to the idea of the “Year of the Lithuanian Parish” declaration. I remember very well my closing remarks at the Lithuanian National Holyday — September 8th commemoration. Those few words later became the spark of the intended declaration of the Year of the Lithuanian Parish.

Scanning through the Lithuanian history, we notice that Lithuanians bound religion and ethnicity from the beginning of the establishment of the Lithuanian State. Vytautas the Great was dedicated to the cult of the Virgin Mary and selected to be crowned on the feast of Saint Mary, — on the birthday of the Mother of God.

Centuries later, this feast was declared a National Holyday by the government of Lithuania. With this act, religion and Lithuanian ethnicity were merged into a non-separable union. To us, the religion, the church, the parish are synonymous. Religion to our ethnicity is an integral and a major part and, only through them, will we survive as an ethnic group — as Lithuanians. Those who are abandoning religion, church and parish, — the Lithuanian ethnicity doesn’t mean much to them.

The main assignment of a priest is to cultivate religion. Through the cultivation of one's religion, the strength was given to be ethnically identifiable also.

An authentic situation in Lithuania is existing today. Through the undoubtful faith we can expect a strong church, parish and nation. So it was, so it is and so is going to be everywhere including the United States. Your Lithuanian ethnicity was preserved because of your undoubtful faith in religion. In other words, the Lithuanian parish, in most cases preserved your ethnic identity.

Today, this parish is in difficulty and this existing situation forces us to do something to improve it.

I remember about 15 years ago, I had to stand during the Christmas Mass. The next year we filled about three quarters of the Lithuanian church. At that time I was wondering why our attendance dropped down so drastically. Now, during the major holydays, we fill our church just a little bit more than halfway.

On a regular Sunday, we have slightly more than one eighth filled. It appears to me, we have the last moment to stop the requiem of them. At this point the idea of the year of the Lithuanian parish was born.

The road to such a year was not easy. First we did not succeed, but later we did. I was delighted to have the support of this idea by all Lithuanian organizations of the Catholic faith.

In answering the call of support our Philip Skabeikis wrote: "We are delighted to go on record in calling all Lithuanian Catholics and their respected organizations to rally to the support of their Lithuanian Parishes, admitting where they must be given up because of irreversible social change and where increased attendance at Lithuanian Mass and relevant liturgical renewal can insure existence of the more viable parishes".

This "irreversible social change" we need to stop and reverse to insure the existence of Lithuanian parishes. And so, we are called here to examine all possibilities with which ones we could change this "irreversible social change".

To make it reversible, first we must refuse to go to other churches except Lithuanian ones. If I had a neighbor lady who resembled my mother living 20 miles away, would it be proper to me to visit the neighbor lady instead my mother? Exactly the same analogy exists with the Lithuanian church. Another, just around the corner, never will replace it. It makes no difference if she resembles the same. She isn't the Lithuanian one.

A parish is strong when its members participate fully in its activities and support it financially. To increase attendance to our Lithuanian churches we need to offer something which the others cannot. Therefore I suggest:

1. To organize religious and Lithuanian national feast vigils supported by our cultural ethnicity and traditions.
2. To examine possibilities to read in the holy Mass liturgy the sufferings of our nation where is strongly indicated the bond to God and Church. Such excerpts could be taken from Lithuanian poetry, the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania" or other sources.
3. To renew the beautiful May and October month religious services which strongly indicate the bond to the Mother of God.
4. To incorporate the Martyrs of Lithuania Sundays. During the Sermon of the Mass such Lithuanian martyrs would be introduced to the congregation. Their sufferings for God, Church and country would be made known. Such martyrs like our bishops: Reinys, Ramanauskas, Steponavicius, Sladkevicius. Priests; Baltrymas, Didziokas, Jaugelis, Sapoka, Sveikauskas, Zdebekis. Sisters; Sadunaite,

Stanelyte. Laypeople: Petkus, Gajauskas, Lapienis, Plimpa, Terleckas and others.

5. To sing hymns or religious songs in Lithuanian even at the English language services. There would not be much difficulty to learn a few such songs which will give a rich flavor to our ethnicity.

Also, we must pay more attention to the dignity of our religious services. The priest should be accompanied to the altar more majestically. Beside altar boys, there should be at least two readers. Let's show that the Holy Mass Sacrifice is not a business of a priest alone. We should participate with all activities in it. Bringing the gifts to the altar should be made more majestic and delivered from our hearts to the altar with dignity, but not a forced delivery by a person who happens to be sitting in the front of the congregation.

Attention to these suggestions should be made and Vyciai should take a leading part in it as an organization, not as individual persons. With such a majestic service and our full participation with Lithuanian flavor, we will attract the other Lithuanians who are attending territorial, not Lithuanian, church services just around the corner.

Through our active participation we will renew the Lithuanian parishes. So let's be full and very active participants but not passive observers of our parish life. We should be proud of our Lithuanian ancestry and not to hide from others.

The goal of this symposium is very clear, that is to find all possible means how to make our parishes strong and more ethnic again. We want them to be national parishes and not to turn them into territorial ones. We will find the ways and means to do it and their diversity will surprise us all.

Thank you for your attention.

The Lithuanian Wayside Shrine

Phil Skabeikis



Scholars differ in their opinions of the origin of the Lithuanian Wayside Shrine. The most widely held belief today is that these pillar-shrines or Koplustulpis date back some 4,000 years, when ancient Lithuanians engaged in complex nature worship. The prototype of the shrine is believed to be the uncut trunk of a tree, with its branches removed. Niches were cut into this trunk in which offerings or sacrifices could be placed to the various spirits that were thought to rule the elements. Later, tiers of branches would be left over which animal skins could be hung as well as bone or flower ornaments. The tiers are thought to have represented heaven, earth and the netherworld of death. They eventually evolved into small roof-like units. These roofs formed tiny chapels and continued to offer niches for offerings and protection for spirits that might choose to reside within.

Modern shrines continue to utilize the S-curve as an integral part of their stylistic design, most frequently to support the little roofs. These may be remnants of serpent worship, believed to embody wisdom. The occasional tiny wooden bells that sometimes line the edge of the roofs may have been intended to frighten away malevolent spirits.

With the acceptance of Christianity in the 13th Century, Lithuanians combined delicate pagan symbols with Christian symbols. The tiny chapels were topped with elaborate crosses. Erecting a cross or wayside shrine, as they were called interchangeably, became the most popular way for the Lithuanian to express his religious fervor, whether marking a death or birth in the family, asking God to watch the farmland, or offering the traveller a place for contemplation by the side of the road. As most were made of wood, folk artisans tried to outdo each other with carvings of Christ or the saints.

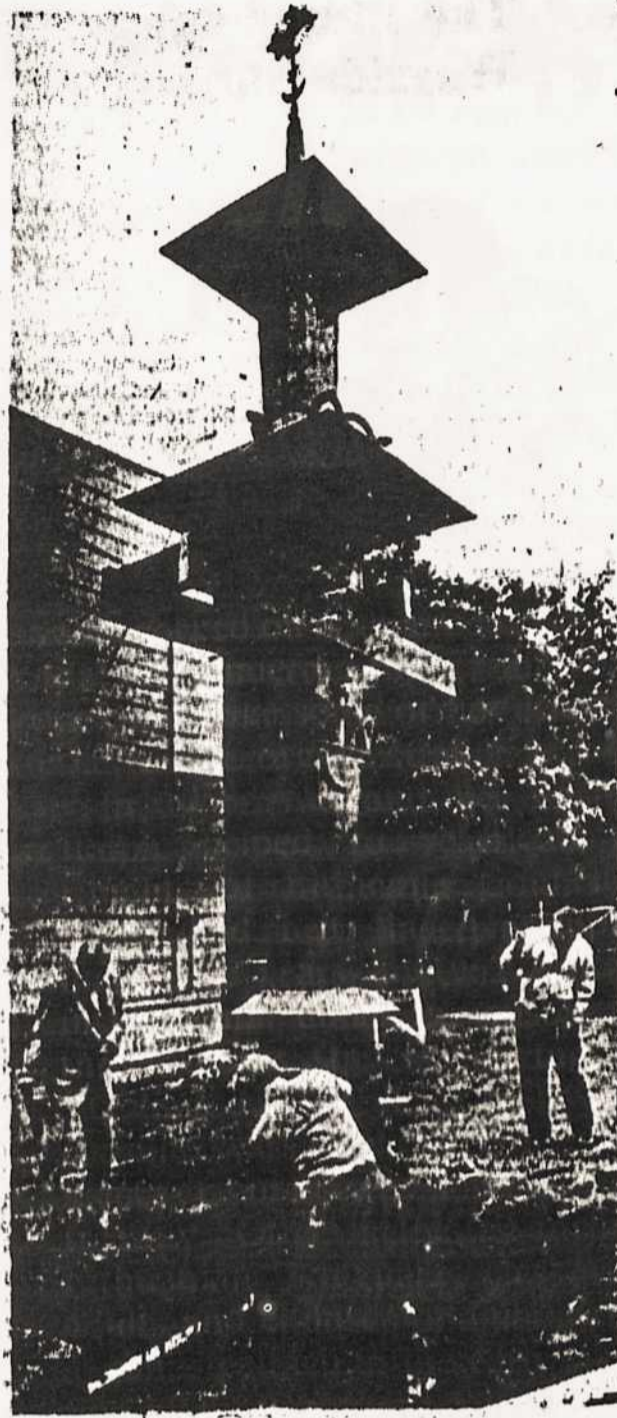


Bishop Frances J. McGavero addressing the assembly during the dedication ceremonies of the new wayside shrine in Maspeth, N.Y. on September 27, 1981

The Wayside Shrine became a common sight throughout the countryside, giving rise to the reference to Lithuania as "The Land of Crosses."

With the enslavement of Lithuania by atheistic Communism, thousands of the shrines were systematically destroyed. Erecting a shrine remains against the law without special permission, rarely granted. They remain symbols of Lithuania's steadfast Catholic faith. Overnight it has been reported that new crosses have appeared on the sites of old. Portions of the shrines are constructed in secret of great risk.

Appreciation of the Wayside Shrine, its past and present significance, is an important part of Lithuanian-American life. As a gesture of solidarity with the suffering brethren abroad, Lithuanian immigrants and their descendants continue to erect shrines at their sites of devotion. Council 110 of the Knights of Lithuania is proud to continue this tradition and, with the dedication of the Shrine, honor the memory of those who have died for the faith and join hands with those who struggle still for freedom for worship.



Installation of Wayside Shrine by K of L members at Church of the Transfiguration, Maspeth, N. Y.

From the **Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania**, the foremost samizdat or underground publication documenting religious persecution in Lithuania today, we offer the following prayer:

God, look upon Lithuania, today travelling a painful way of the cross. May this hard lot bring not condemnation, but a resurrection for the nation. Through the clouds of our sins, Heavenly Father, may the voice of our supplication reach you, for grave transgressions have burdened our nation like bonds of iron. Many of its children no longer see you, Father, nor their eternal purpose. May this chalice of suffering pass from our nation soon. Until you deign to hear us, Lord, help us to bear the burden of oppression which dims the sun and hurts the heart. This we ask through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



The Baltic Three



Three little countries
Far across the sea,
Now ruled by Russia
Each crying to be free,

The first one to be mentioned
In this battle to be free,
Is your dear Lithuania
Who weeps across the sea.

The second one is Latvia
This country in despair,
Her voice has been silenced
By the mighty Russian Bear.

Estonia is the third one
Of the Baltic Three,
Who also cries for freedom
And her Independence, you see.

You all must raise your voices
And shout out loud and clear,
For freedom of your countries
Under the rule of the Russian Bear.

You must keep up your spirits
Don't let the U.N. sleep,
Yours must be the Victory
Or forever you will weep.



LANGUAGE LORE

Del Tvarkos — Point Of Order!

Part III

By Dr. Algirdas Budreckis

Finally we come to the council meeting (**skyriaus susirinkimas**). executive officers (**valdyba**) take their places at the head table. The members (**nariai**) take seats facing them. The recording secretary (**protokolų sekretorius**) checks his (her) "basic tools": pen — **plunksna**, pencils — **pieštukai**, eraser — **trintukas**, Paper — **popierius**, legal pad — **blanknotas**, paper clips — **kabės**, staple gun — **savariklis**, staples — **savaros**, minutes book — **protokolų knyga**, files — **bylos**, tucked into folders (**sukištos aplankuose**).

The chairman hits his gavel, and the **susirinkimas** commences.

1. The meeting will please come to order! — **Dėmesio! Pradedame susirinkimą!**
2. The following order of business is proposed . . . Are there any additions or comments? — **Siūloma sekanti darbotvarkė . . . Ar yra kokių nors papildymų ar pastabų?**
3. The order of business (agenda) is adopted with the understanding that it could be supplemented or added to as we go along. — **Darbotvarkė priimta tuo supratimu, kad bus galima ją papildyti ar pakeisti susirinkimo eigoje.**
4. The recording secretary will please read the minutes of the last meeting. — **Prašome protokolų sekretoriaus perskaityti praeito susirinkimo protokolą.**
5. Thank you. You've heard the minutes. Are there any comments or corrections? Yes, the chair recognizes John. — **Ačiū. Girdėjote protokolo skaitymą. Ar yra kokių nors pastabų dėl protokolo? Taip? Balsą duodame Jonui.**
6. Thank you. You have heard John's correction that the October trip was cancelled until the first Saturday in November. The secretary will make the necessary correction in the minutes. **Ačiū girdėjote Jono pataisą, kad spalio mėnesio kelionė buvo atidėta iki lapkričio mėnesio pirmojo šeštadienio. Protokolų sekretorius padarys atitinkamą pataisą protokole.**

7. Are there any other comments? There are none. All right, do I hear a motion that the minutes be approved as read with John's correction? — **Ar nėra daugiau pastabų? Nėra. Gerai, kas įneša (daro įnešimą) priimti protokolą su Jono pataisa?**

8. 1st member: I make a motion that the minutes be adopted. — **Aš darau įnešimą priimti protokolą.**

9. 2nd member: I second the motion. — **Aš paremiu įnešimą (or: Aš paantrinu įnešimą).**

10. Motion made and seconded. All in favor so signify by raising your hands. The ayes have it! — **Įnešta ir paremta. Visi, kurie už, malonėkite iškelti rankas. Priimta!**

11. The treasurer's report is next on the agenda. Unfortunately, Annie is not present . . . — **Iždininkės raportas seka pagal darbotvarkę. Deja, Onutės nėra . . .**

12. member: Point of order! — **Dėl tvarkos!**

3. Chairman: The chair recognizes Joseph on a point of order. — **Dėl tvarkos, duodame Juozui balsą.**

14. 3rd member: Mr. Chairman, this is the third meeting from which our treasurer has been absent. Hasn't anybody been in contact with her? — **Pone Pirmininke, jau trečias susirinkimas, kuriame nedalyvauja mūsų išdininkė. Ar niekas nebuvo kontakte su ja?**

15. Vice President: Mr. Chairman, permit me to answer that question. I spoke with Annie last Tuesday . . . — **Pone Pirmininke, prašau balso atsakyti į klausimą. Kalbėjau su Onute praeitą antradienį . . .**

16. chairman: Thank you for the report on Annie's health. In view of this information we will postpone the treasurer's report until the next meeting. — **Dėkoju Jums už informacijas apie Onutės sveikatą. Šios informacijos šviesoje, atidėsime išdininkės raporto iki sekančio susirinkimo.**

17. 1st member: Mr. Chairman, may I have the floor. I propose that you and the vice president . . . — **Pone pirmininke, prašau balso. Aš siūlau, kad judu su vicepirmininku . . .**

18. chairman: Is that a formal motion? — **Ar čia formalus pasiūlymas (įnešimas)?**

19. 1st member: Yes sir. I make it a formal motion. — **Taip. Aš formaliai įnešu (pasiūlau) . . .**

20. 2nd member: I second the motion. — **Aš paremiu pasiūlymą.**

21 chairman: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion on the matter? No discussion. All in favor? All opposed? Nays have it, 11 to 7. Matter dropped. — **Pasiūlymas įneštas ir paremtas. Ar kas nors nori pasisakyti tuo reikalu? Niekas nenori pasisakyti! Visi už (pakelkite rankas). Visi prieš. Klausimas atmestas, nes susirinkimas nubalsavo 11 prieš 7.**

After the chairman has exhausted the agenda (darbotvarkė), - including old business (senieji reikalai), he asks:

22. Is there any new business for discussion? — **Ar yra kokių naujų sumanymų svarstymu?**

23 1st member: I move we close the meeting! **Pasiūlau uždaryti susirinkimą!**

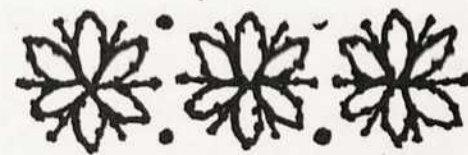
24. 2nd member: I second the motion. — **Paremiu pasiūlymą uždaryti sueigą.**

25. Chairman: No one is opposed to closing the meeting? Meeting is closed! — **Niekas prieš susirinkimo uždarymą? Susirinkimas uždarytas!**

26. Chairman: The next meeting will be held next month, on the first Wednesday, usual time and usual place. All members are now invited for snacks and coffee in the next room. — **Sekantis susirinkimas įvyks kitą mėnesį, pirmajame trečiadienyje, tuo pačiu laiku ir toje pačioje vietoje. Dabar visi nariai kviečiami į gretimą salę užkandžiams ir kavutei.**



RUOŠIANTIS ŠV. KAZIMIERO 500 METŲ MIRTIES SUKAKČIAI



ŠV. KAZIMIERO 500 metų mirties sukakčiai paminėti (1984 m.) Amerikos Lietuvių Romos Katalikų Federacijos valdybos sudarytas komiteto branduolys, kuriam pirmininkauja Vytautas Volertas, spalio 11 d. Amerikos Lietuvių Katalikų Tarnybos būstinėje Brooklyne turėjo pirmąjį posėdį aptarti bendriesiems darbams.

Diskusijų metu iškilo idėja, kaip į viešumą iškelti šią nepaprastą šventę lietuvių ir kitataučių tarpe.

Šia jubiliejine proga savaime norima kuo arčiau prieiti prie liaudies. Siūlyta tai daryti įvairiais būdais: per maldą, per informaciją, per manifestacinę konferenciją ar misteriją bei per grupinę akciją.

Posėdžio dalyviai pritarė minčiai, kad dvasinis atsinaujinimas šv. Kazimiero 500 metų sukakties proga būtų prieinamas visiems — lietuviams ir kitataučiams. Tai būtų galima pasiekti spausdinant šv. Kazimiero maldos korteles įvairiomis kalbomis.

Per informacijos skleidimą būtų ugdomas kitataučių bei pačių lietuvių sąmoningumas šv. Kazimiero ir jo reikšmės lietuviams atžvilgiu, kaip pvz., skelbiant jaunimui konkursą studijuoti šv. Kazimierą. Rašant šia tema kitataučių spaudai, būtų galima surišti dabartines lietuvių katalikų problemas su jo asmenybe. Numatoma išleisti monografiją apie šv. Kazimiero gyvenimą lietuvių ir anglų kalbomis.

Manifestacinė konferencija ar misterija sujungtų lietuvių dvasines bei kūrybines jėgas per maldą, muziką ir meną pagerbiant šį didįjį lietuvių šventąjį. Jubiliejus suteikia galimybę žmonėms susikaupti bendrai maldai bei iškilmingai paminėti šv. Kazimiero istorinę svarbą lietuvių gyvenime dabartinių Lietuvos įvykių šviesoje.

Ši didelė sukaktis skatina visuomenę sustiprinti grupinę akciją kovojant už kenčiančios — kovojančios

Bažnyčios teises. Artėjantis jubiliejui, lietuviai yra tiesiog įpareigoti užvesti vajui atgauti katedrą Vilniuje. Tikinčiųjų Teisėms Ginti Katalikų Komitetas Lietuvoje nurodo, kaip ruoštis tinkamai paminėti šv. Kazimiero 500 metų mirties sukaktį: „Prašome Ordinarus, kunigus, inteligentus ir brolius Tėvynėje bei iševijoje kovoti už tautos blaivybę . . . kreipkimės į tarybinę vyriausybę, kad sugrąžintų atimtas bažnyčias: Vilniaus Katedrą, Šv. Kazimiero bažnyčią, Kauno Įgulos bažnyčią ir Taikos Karalienės bažnyčią Klaipėdoje. Reikalaukime leidimo grįžti į savo Katedras Vilniaus vyskupui Julijonui Steponavičiui ir Kaišiadorių vyskupui Vincentui Sladkevičiui, kurie be teismo jau 20 metų vargsta tremtyje. Palaikykime kiekvieną gerą iniciatyvą, kuri bent truputėlį galėtų prisidėti prie mūsų krašto dvasinio atgimimo . . .”

Kita ko, ruošiantis šiai sukakčiai buvo kreipiamas dėmesys ryšiams su lenkais, nes lenkai laiko šv. Kazimierą ir savo šventuoju. Rūpinamasi, kad lietuvių ir lenkų interesai šia proga nesusikryžiuotų.

1984 m. šv. Kazimiero 500 metų mirties sukaktis turėtų būti paminėta pasauliniu mastu. Tad komitetas jau pradėjo kreiptis į paskirų kraštų katalikų veikėjus, prašydamas juos ateiti į talką su pasiūlymais bei konkrečiais darbais.

Komiteto nariai vienbalsiai patvirtino, kad dera jų branduolinį vienetą sustiprinti įtraukiant daugiau darbo jėgų.

Siūlymus bei darbo pažadus komiteto veiklai siųsti:

Šv. Kazimiero Komitetui, c/o Lithuanian-American Catholic Services, 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, New York 11207, USA.

UNDER THE RULE OF THE HEARTLESS ATHEISTS

By Fr. Joseph Prunskis

Enjoying full religious freedom in the USA, we have no idea how difficult the situation of believers is under atheistic captivity. Especially oppressed are the Catholics of Lithuania, the only Catholic country incorporated (against the will of the inhabitants and against international law) into the Soviet Union.

The Bishop of Vilnius, Most Reverend Julijonas Steponavičius, is exiled from the episcopal seat to the small village of Žagarė. He is an exile for 20 years. On April 5, 1981 about 700 Lithuanian Catholics sent a petition to the central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania, asking to release the Most Reverend Bishop Statkevičius from exile. The petitioners did not receive an answer.

A group of Lithuanian lay people and numerous Lithuanian priests desired to take part in the Eucharistic Congress at Lourdes this year. However, they did not obtain permission from the civil authorities of occupied Lithuania.

On August 16, 1981 several officials in Klaipėda approached persons who were selling various articles of devotion by the local church and confiscated all rosaries, prayerbooks, scapulars and candles on display.

In Lithuania there is a very beloved shrine in Šiluva. On the feast day of the Blessed Virgin at the beginning of September, believers from all over the country usually make pilgrimages to that shrine. However this year these pilgrimages were forbidden by the atheistic administration. Priests, who were suspected that they might organize pilgrimages, were followed from August 20 constantly. Wherever they went, they were followed by red officials in cars. Barricades were erected and guards stationed on the roads to the shrine of Šiluva. Rumors were spread that the area contained a contagious disease of swine and that the people are not allowed to travel there. Many pilgrims were detained.

Disregarding obstructions, some people reached the shrine. The church was open all night. People were praying. At the end of devotions one priest said a very fervent sermon, asking to pray for freedom of religion. At this encouragement, people began to go around the church on their knees, saying the rosary and other prayers. Several people suspected of being organizers of the procession of pilgrims to Šiluva were condemned to concentration camps and jails.

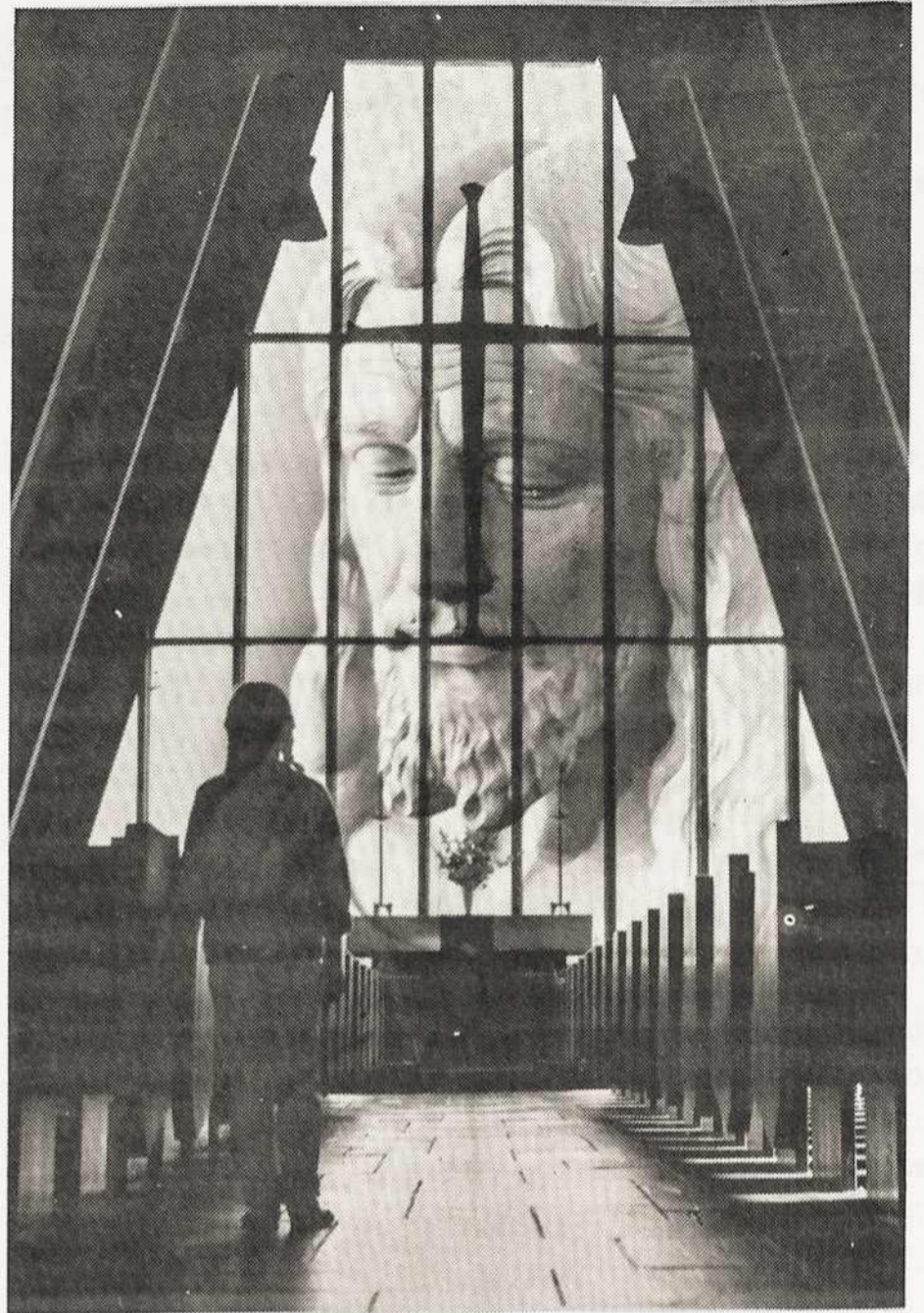


Photo by R. Kisielius

A group of young people, more than 20, on August 19, 1981 traveled to Mindunai village for relaxation and for religious information. They were praying, taking part in a Mass offering. Suddenly they were overrun by four red officials who dragged them into the police wagon beating, pulling their hair, spitting into their faces, insulting them by obscene remarks. The girls were threatened with rape.

Numerous working people are suffering for their beliefs. M. Jurevičius was released from his position because he did not come to work on religious holidays.

Vytautas Vaičiūnas, who for 30 years successfully worked without any reproach, was condemned for 2.5 years to a labor camp for organizing religious processions.

The Lithuanian people are prevented by the communist atheists from erecting new crosses and shrines. Barbora Leliūnaitė, residing in Kretinga, erected a little shrine in her courtyard. She received a letter from the communist executive committee, that the shrine should be demolished. Because she did not obey, in May 1981 a group of men came, destroyed the shrine, and its pieces with 5 little religious statues were put into a truck and taken away.

In various places of Lithuania, desecration of the Blessed Sacrament is being organized. For example in Pažeriai on June 17, 1981 the tabernacle was broken into and the Sacred Species spread on the ground.

At Pagramantis on the night of July 8, 1981 red criminals, being unable to open the tabernacle, took it from the altar and transported it with the Blessed Sacrament to an unknown location. On July 24, 1981 in the church of Viduklė the Blessed Sacrament was found in the morning scattered on the altar.

Lithuanian people are very affected by these sacrilegious acts. In many parishes prayers of reparation are being organized with an attendance of several thousands of believers. People are walking on their knees, covering the places of desecration with flowers and, in profound prayers, expressing their worship of the Blessed Sacrament.

In the struggle against religion the governing atheists in Lithuania are beginning to practice the murder of priests. Fr. Leonas Šapoka was very cruelly murdered on August 8, 1981. Fr. Leonas Mažeika, pastor of Pamušys parish, was knifed to death and his housekeeper, a nun, Teklė Marinaitytė was also murdered.

The oppressed Lithuanian Catholics are asking for prayers. The more these facts will be known, the greater the pressure of public opinion will be, and this might bring some alleviation to the enslaved people tortured by the heartless atheists.



If I Were To Choose.....

Edwin Way Teale writes:

“If I were to choose the sights, the sounds, the fragrances I most would want to see and hear and smell — among all the delights of the open world — on a final day on earth, I think I would choose these: the clear, ethereal song of a white-throated sparrow singing at dawn; the smell of pine trees in the heat of noon; the lonely calling of the Canada geese; the sight of a dragonfly glinting in the sunshine; the voice of a hermit thrush far in a darkening woods at evening; and — most spiritual and moving of sights — the white cathedral of cumulous cloud floating serenely in the blue of the sky.”

From Vincas Grazulis C-25



We get Letters . . .



Vatican City, November 19th, 1981



Dear Mrs. Stukas:

Thank you very much for your congratulations and good wishes on my new appointment. The task will not be an easy one, but I will try to do my best and I hope I may prove worthy of the confidence the Holy Father has placed in me.

I take this occasion to wish you and the Knights of Lithuania all good things, and I am,

Sincerely yours,

Almarcius



CULTURAL CORNER

DAINOS



Lithuanian Folk Songs

By Anna Klizas Wargo
National Cultural Chairman

The Lithuanian nation abounded in folklore from very ancient times. Folk-songs are the most numerous and original creations of Lithuanian folklore. Folksongs are a particular lucid mirror of the Lithuanian Nation; its dreams, its past glories and its innermost spirit.

The abundant work songs are among the oldest in Lithuanian Culture. The Lithuanians had a special song for every kind of work. Work songs were divided according to specific kinds of work; harvesting, ploughing, flax-gathering, sheep herding, etc. They sang affectionately of everything in Nature.

There were numerous songs of family rituals. Wedding songs constitute the richest segment of Lithuanian folk poetry. These are divided into three main cycles, match-making, wedding and homecoming. They display a special tenderness and purity in their treatment of the romance between youth

and maiden. Mournful and sad tunes are interwoven. For instance, the bride cries because she is sad to leave her parent's home and she is happy because she will be going to the home of her beloved.

Historical songs, mentioning heroes, places of battle and other important events were rather few. Evidence exists of epic songs composed by professional bards at the courts of the Dukes and Gentry. These were uncollected. For the past three hundred years the Lithuanian National character had been preserved by the peasantry. For these common folk, the life of the nobleman was usually of little interest.

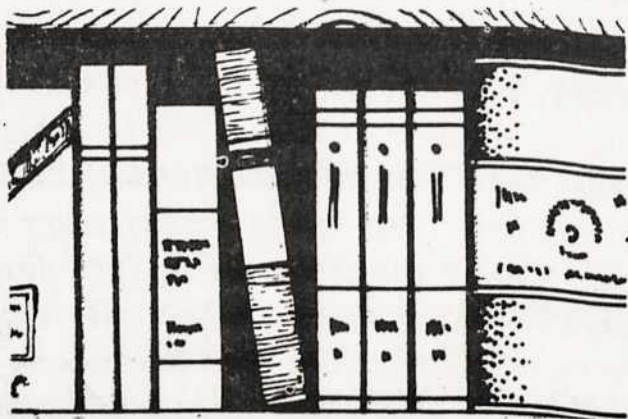
The epithets to be found in the "Daina" are of a permanent nature. White means good or beautiful; braids are always yellow, the rue, vine and silk are always green. A wreath of rue means innocence. The



oldest symbol of Maidenhood among the Lithuanians is the Lily, while flax and rye blossoms symbolize sin. Man's symbols are his cap, spurs or his steed. He is frequently referred to as "white clover". Much botanical references were used for love symbols, but hardly any animals, birds or insects.

It is not surprising that, of all forms of Lithuanian poetry, we have learned to love the Lithuanian folksong, the Daina. The preservation of folksong as a living force is stimulated by periodic mass song festivals. Even today, songs seem to be the most natural expression of the Lithuanian people.

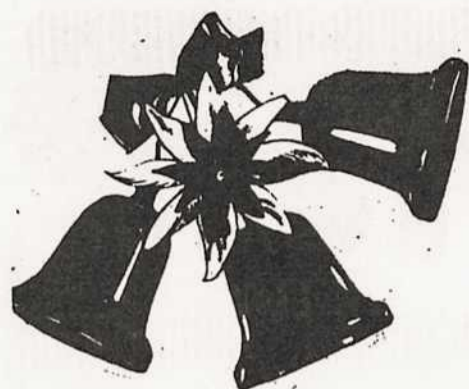
Reference: Encyclopedia Lituanica



Treasures

Lorado Taft expresses treasures about us in these words: "We are living in a world of beauty but how few of us open our eyes to see it! What a different place this would be if our senses were trained to see and hear! We are the heirs of wonderful treasures from the past: treasures of literature and of the arts. They are ours for the asking — all our own to have and to enjoy if only we desire them enough.

From Vincas Grazulis, C-25



Gourmet's Delight

By Mary Lucas

FOR YOUR

HOLIDAYS



Cranberry Bourbon Punch (Spanguoliu Gerimas)

- 1 Qt. Cranberry Juice
- 1 Can (1 Pint 2 Ozs.)
Pineapple Juice
- 1/2 Cup Lemon Juice
- 1 Cup Bourbon Whiskey
- 2 Bottles (28 Ozs.) Gingerale

In punch bowl, combine the fruit juices. Fill an ice cube tray with fruit mixture. Freeze. Just before serving, add the Bourbon, chilled gingerale and the fruit ice cubes to the mixture in the punch bowl.

Makes 20-25 punch cup servings.

Beer Cheese Dip

- 1 8 Oz. Pkg. Philadelphia
Cream Cheese
- 2 Rolls Kraft Nippy Cheese
- 3 Ozs. Roqueford Cheese
- 1/2 C. Sour Cream
- 2 Cloves Fresh Garlic
(minced)
- 1 Med. Onion (chopped fine)
- 1 t. Worcestershire Sauce
- 4 T Soft Butter
- 1/2 C. Warmed Beer (cooled)

Mix all ingredients (except beer) in electric mixer bowl. Add cooled beer a little at a time beating till of dipping consistency. Take a 2 Lb. loaf of round rye bread, cut a slice off the top and cut into 1 inch cubes. Cut around bread leaving 1/2" shell. Cut up the inside bread into 1" cubes. Transfer cheese mixture into the bread bowl. Place on large crystal plate and surround with rye cubes for dipping.



Pin Wheels Hors-D-Oeuvres

- 1 3 Oz. Pkg. Cream Cheese
softened
 - 1 t. Horseradish
 - 1 T. Grated Onion
 - 1 t. Worcestershire Sauce
 - 1 Pkg. Smoked Dried Beef or Ham
- Blend cream cheese, onion, horseradish, and Worcestershire Sauce until of spreading consistency. Carefully separate slices of beef or ham and spread with cheese mixture. Roll as for jelly roll and place on plater till all pieces are rolled. Refrigerate. Slice into 1/2" slices just before serving.

Sauerkraut Balls

- 1 1/2 C. Cooked Ham
- 3 C. Drained Sauerkraut
- 1 Lge. Onion (chopped)
- 4 T. Margarine
- 1 T. Chopped Fresh Parsley
- Salt & Pepper to taste
- 4 T. Flour
- Bread Crumbs, Flour, 2 Eggs, 1 C. Milk. Oil for frying.

Grind ham and kraut thru coarse blade of meat grinder, or use food processor.

Fry onion in margarine in large skillet. Add parsley and ham mixture and brown the mixture. Add seasonings, add the 4T. flour and cook till thick. Chill till cold. Form into 1" balls and chill again. Roll balls first in flour, then dip in egg-milk mixture then roll in bread crumbs.

Fry in 350° oil for 5 minutes or till browned. Drain on paper towels and serve hot on picks.

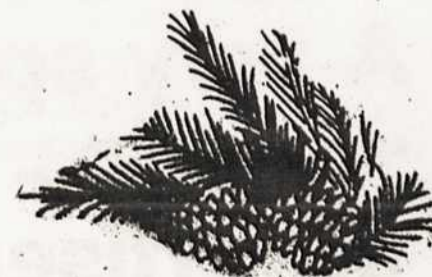
These may be made ahead, cooled & packed in Tupperware boxes and frozen. Before serving heat in 350° oven till hot and crispy.



Cheese Pinecones

- 2 8 Oz. Pkgs. Cream Cheese
- 1 Jar Kraft Old English Cheese
- 1 Wedge Blue Cheese
- 1 8 Oz. Pkg. Shredded Colby
Cheese
- 1 Sm. Grated Onion
- 1 t. Dry Mustard
- Mayonnaise to blend all together
(1/2-3/4 Cup)

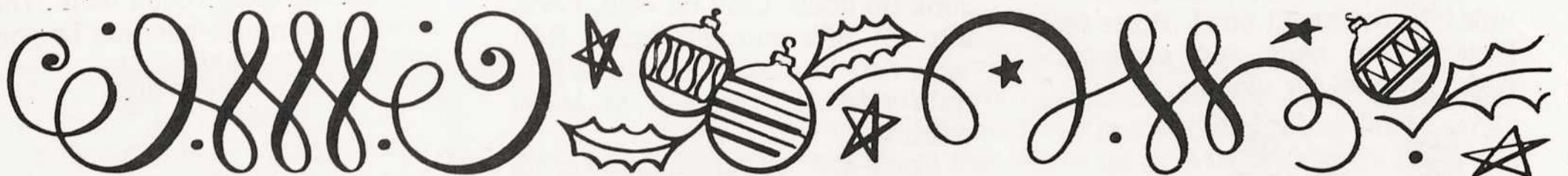
In lge. bowl of electric mixer, blend all ingredients thoroughly. Divide into 2 balls and wrap in saran or foil. Refrigerate till firm. Day of party, shape the rolls into 2 Pinecone shapes. Place on serving tray with tops touching and bottoms of cones slightly pulled apart. Starting at bottoms of cones insert pecan halves across both and work up overlapping pecans slightly until both are covered and no cheese shows thru. At tops of Pinecones, insert small sprigs of evergreen and tiny colored glass round balls. This makes a beautiful addition to your holiday buffet table.



JUNIORS CORNER



This is a photograph of the JUNIOR CONVENTION taken in 1976. How have you changed in the past six years? Where are you? What are you doing now? Are you still active in the Kof L? WRITE TO US. We will publish!



**A very special Lithuanian
"AČIŪ" - to all our
advertisers and greeters**

The VYTIS Staff

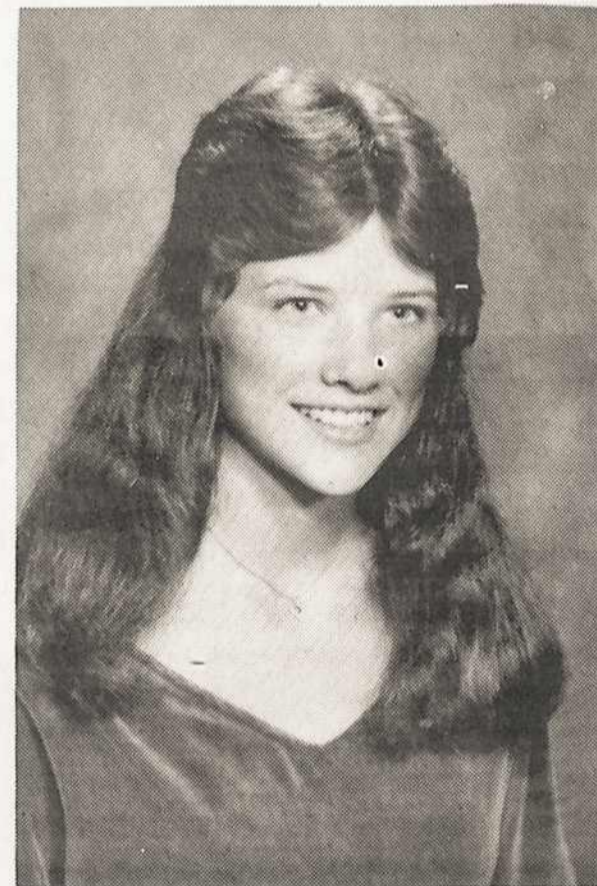
LITHUANIAN *in the* NEWS

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS

The Daily Journal, Elizabeth, N.J., announced that the Journal's Outstanding Citizen of the Future award at Hillside High School went to LORI STUKES, niece of Dr. Jack Stukas, Honorary Member and National Chairman, Lithuanian Affairs.

Lori, a member of the National Honor Society, ranked fifth in her graduating class of which she was the vice president. She was a member of the Interact Club and captain of basketball, soccer and softball teams, and was named the outstanding girl scholar-athlete in the county by the interscholastic athletic association.

Lori presently is attending the University of Massachusetts where she is majoring in Chemical Engineering.



Lori Stukes



Tony Malakas, Contest Winner

Speaking of Frisbees, TONY MALAKAS, son of Anthony and Regina Malakas, C-29, Newark, N.J., was declared the over-all winner in the 1981 World Junior Frisbee Disc Contest at Ocean County Park last summer. For his efforts he received a certificate and copper-plated medallion, and as a community level winner, he will compete against other champions in the state finals with a chance to compete in the regional finals for the title of world champion. Tony's mother, Regina, is past Layout Editor of the "Vytis."



Elizabeth Repshis of Dorchester, Mass., with some of her paintings

VIRGINIA VALIKONIS, member of C-100, Amsterdam N.Y., was honored as Woman of the Year recently by the Amsterdam Business and Professional Women's Club. Virginia is a member of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, appointed to the board after the death of her husband, Joseph, and elected to the board last November. She is a member of the Women's Democratic Club, Knights of Lithuania, the American Cancer Society and the American Lithuanian Club.



Virginia Valikonis, C-100, Amsterdam, N.Y. Woman of the Year



Ann Jillian preparing a Lithuanian dish

ELIZABETH REPSHIS of Dorchester, Mass., at 85 is well on her way to yet another career — this one as an artist. A native of Lithuania, she grew up on a farm and as a young girl thought often of perhaps being a doctor or dentist, but never an artist. During her lifetime she has been a maid, mill worker, nurse, dental technician, doctor's assistant, jewelry designer and now an artist. She left Lithuania for the United States in 1913 as a teen-ager. In 1954 she married Dr. John Repshis of Dorchester, and for 25 years was his nurse and office assistant until his death two years ago.

Her artistic career began at 68 when she decided to try her hand at painting. Over the past 17 years she has done more than a hundred paintings. Several of her paintings have been hung in the Strand Theater, Dorchester, others displayed at local banks, at Boston City galleries and at summer shows on Boston Common. Elizabeth's paintings are described as a blend of simplicity and charm, portraying family history, personalities, Lithuanian culture and historic views of Boston.

ANN JILLIAN (Jurate Nausedaite) pictured in a current magazine, assists Gary Collins, host of TV's "Hour Magazine", after he burned his hand on a hot skillet while she was preparing an authentic Lithuanian dish. Ann is presently starring as "Cassie" on the "Making a Living" TV series.

On November 20, 1981, The University of Illinois Foundation and the Lithuanian World Community Foundation signed the founding document to establish the nation's first endowed chair in the Lithuanian Studies. The document was signed by Robert Reid, Director of Chicago Programs for the University of Illinois Foundation, VYTAUTAS KAMANTAS, Lithuanian World Community President and ANTANAS RAZMA, Secretary of the University of Illinois Foundation. Nicholas Moravcevic, Head of the Slavic Department, opened the ceremonies by emphasizing that the university was honored to have the Lithuanians establish the chair at the University of Illinois. After the signing, Chancellor Riddle, the Hon. JOSEPHINE DAUZVARDIS, Consul General of Lithuania (Honorary Member, C-112, Chicago), and Vytautas Kamantas gave short speeches.

When at least one-third of the \$750,000 needed for the chair is contributed, the University will seek a renowned professor of Lithuanian Studies beginning with the 1984-1985 academic year. The chair complements the program of Lithuanian Studies in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. The program, currently in its ninth year, is supported in part by the Lithuanian Foundation and provides 16 undergraduate and advanced courses.

From a photoeditorial in *The Chicago Catholic*, November 13, 1981—

A quarter of a century ago Hungarian freedom fighters resisted Soviet oppression. To recall that resistance the president of the International Union of Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, David Fitzmaurice, ordered the lights in the union's Washington headquarters to form a "freedom cross." The building faces the Soviet embassy.

Refugees continue to flee the Soviet Union and its subsidiaries, including Cuba and Vietnam. Oppression continues in South Africa, El Salvador, LITHUANIA, Afthanistan, Northern Ireland. Yet the cross is illuminated in the hearts of millions, offering hope of freedom.

A Chicago Sun-Times article last November described VIKTORAS PETRAVICIUS as a living legend. Now 76, the Lithuanian-born artist arrived in Chicago in 1949, bearing a formidable European reputation that began when he won the grand prize for graphics at the 1937 Paris World's Fair. In Chicago, he won a prize for woodcut in the Art Institute's Exhibition by Artists of Chicago and vicinity. Several years ago, Petraviccius moved to Union Pier, Mich., where his modest house has become a veritable museum of his prints, paintings and sculpture.

A cultural hero to the worldwide Lithuanian community and a strong influence on its artists, Petraviccius continues to work with youthful energy. An exhibition of his work was held at the Galerija in Chicago, Ill., last November.



Freedom Cross in Washington, D. C.

A report from behind the Iron Curtain —

When electrical engineer ANTANAS BALIKIS first spotted the incredibly small UFO leisurely skimming along at ground level he was absolutely flabbergasted. The disk-shaped object was about the same size as a Frisbee, looking like two soup plates turned toward each other. Balikis and PETRAS MIKENAS encountered the midge UFO as they drove along a darkened road near the Lithuanian sea resort of Palagana. "It was actually crossing the highway" Balikis explained, "about 70 feet in front of me. Then it stopped about four inches above the centerline." And astonishingly,

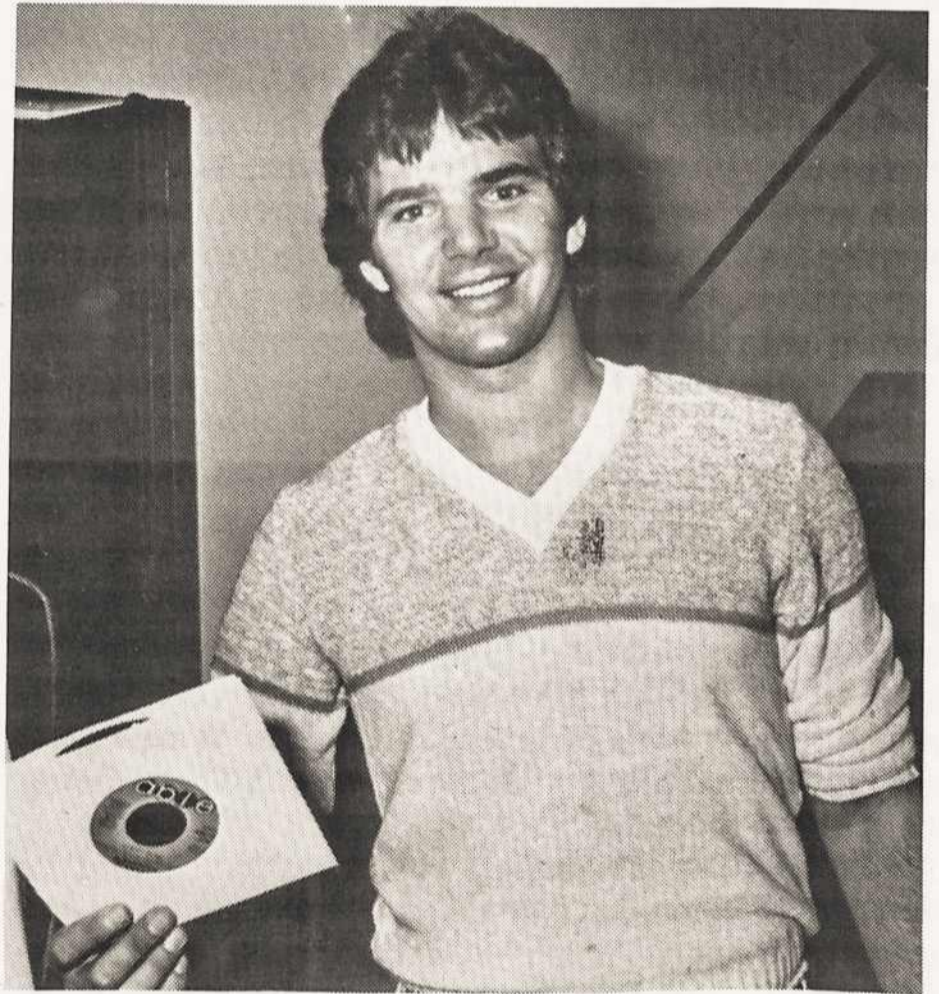
before Balikis could react, it passed under his car. A shaken Mikenas said the UFO emanated a light blue glow and rotated slowly.

The miniature UFO also stunned scores of eyewitnesses in Palanga as it frolicked and danced over rooftops. The Soviet Union's top UFO investigator Prof. Felix Zigel, is convinced that the midget UFO was feeding data back to a giant mother ship, which directed its actions via remote control from beyond the Earth's stratosphere. The probe at Palanga must have been successful because it never returned to the city.

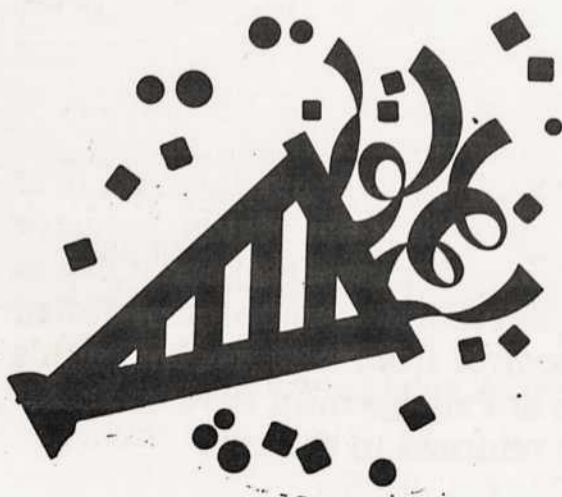
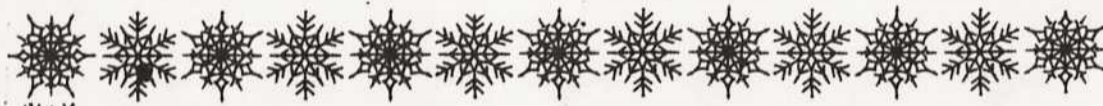


Alice Kirla, C-50, New Haven, Conn., mushroom enthusiast

ALEXANDER STANKEVICIUS, musician, composer, and director of Ausros Vartu parish choir, Montreal, Canada, has released a 45 rpm record of his own compositions — "C'Est Bon", which is sung by himself, and an instrumental composition entitled "Love L.A." The record was released through Able Record Co. Ltd. and can be obtained by writing directly to Alexander at 672 Victoria Ave., Westmount, Que., Canada H3Y-2R9, and enclosing 2 U.S. dollars.



Alexander Stankevičius, composer, releases new record



HAPPY NEW YEAR



**SUPREME COUNCIL
OFFICERS**

and the

"VYTIS" STAFF

CONVENTION NEWS

69th NATIONAL CONVENTION AUGUST 5 - 8,

Harley Hotel (Headquarters)

WILLOUGHBY OHIO

CHARLES MACHUTAS, Chairman
NELLIE ARUNSKI, Co-Chairman
URSULA KUNSITIS, Co-Chairman
AL SHIGO, Co-Chairman
JIM THOMPSON, Treasurer

COUNCIL 25 , CLEVELAND , OHIO
HOSTS
EUGENE KUNSITIS, President



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

Site of the K of L 69th National
Convention Mass which will be
celebrated on Sunday, August 8
1982

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
is a Lithuanian, non-territorial
Parish.



In 1973, a Memorial Shrine was
constructed to commemorate the
centennial of Lithuanians in
Cleveland. The shrine was designed
by Architect, Eduardas Kersnauskas.
It was demolished by a wayward
driver on March 27, 1981 and is in the
process of being rebuilt and should
be completed in 1982.



A CARTOONIST'S MEMOIRS

by Tony Yuknis

Earlier I had already met Nick Nichols, creator of "Peter Pen" the out of the ink bottle imp comic strip and film fame. I had won his "Cartoon School of the Air" cartoon contest on radio station WIBO.

Next I journeyed to Tribune Tower where I was warmly welcomed by editorial cartoonist Carey Orr. On my way out I sneaked into the private studio of Gaar Williams who drew "Wotta Life" and "A Strain on the Family Tie" daily panel cartoons. Oh yes, I also came out with original "Harold Teen" and "Orphan Annie" comic strips.

In the Hearst building I was pleased to get one of Dorman H. Smith's brilliantly executed editorial cartoons. From artist Art Huhta I collected "The Nebbs" strip. At the Daily News I promoted editorial cartoons from Vaughan Shoemaker and Cecil Jensen. Via the mail

When I was a teenager, cartoons fascinated me. Wasn't the comic strip artist the author, producer and director of human dramas occurring every day? Gag cartoons laughed at human traits and situations, while editorial cartoons mirrored the more serious local and world problems.

I was inspired to visit and request autographed cartoons from nationally syndicated cartoonists. In the Chicago Daily Times building I looked up Goerge Lichty and received a few "Grin and Bear It" panel cartoons. In the Times art department I got an original drawing from George Sixta who later made the syndicate with his "Rivets" dog strip.



Cover Design by Tony Yuknis 1936

Chester Gould sent me an original Dick Tracy drawing. How convenient.

All of these memorable cartoons were collected without charges. Recently I went to an editorial cartoon exhibit and they had a price tag of \$150 dollars each. By gosh! How times have changed.

At the age of 11 I had my first cartoons published in the Chicago American's kid page for which I received one dollar. While attending Lindblom High School, where I majored in commercial art and was the cartoonist of the school's paper, I submitted gag cartoons to the

GREETINGS

By TONY YUKNIS



Chicago Times joke column for which I also received one dollar. I was very careful not to spend it all in one place.

In 1936 I found myself drawing a regular comic strip feature for Funny Pages magazine. Also I did one shot comic strips for Detective Picture Stories, Little Giant Comics and Little Giant Detective Funnies. It was about this time that Superman made his debut in the comics magazines which resulted in sellouts. Then it became syndicated nationally in the newspapers. As Superman soared to fame and fortune I was grounded. I received my draft notice and my dreams of becoming a millionaire were shattered.

Before putting on the G.I. uniform I published "The Lithuanians" which was a historical story illustrated with Robert Ripley style panel cartoons. The exiled President of Lithuania, Antanas Smetona, was temporarily living in Chicago and was requested to write the forward to the book. That he did.

While in the Army I was assigned to do sign and truck lettering, decorated coconuts and souvenir greeting cards for the boys to send home. I drew an occasional cartoon for Army publications. My cartoon clicked in a cartoon and essay contest

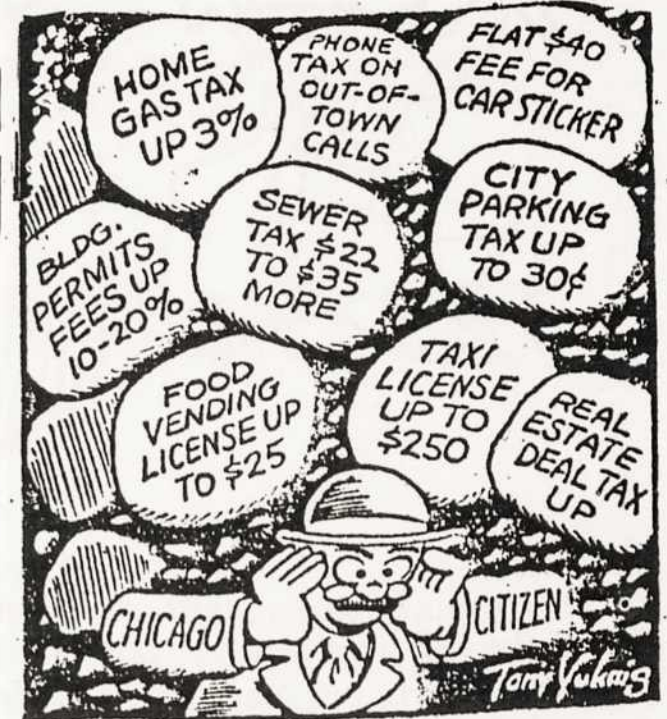
sponsored by the Armed Forces League of Philadelphia. All the winners of the \$100 dollar awards were published in the book "Fighting Words" by Lippincott.

Upon returning to civilian life I became established in the commercial art field (graphic arts). I drew gag cartoons and comic strips for trade journals, did a monthly sports cartoon for the Marian magazine. While I was resting I did cover designs for the Music Pad and the Knight (Vytis) magazines.

While moonlighting I drew editorial cartoons for the world-wide circulated Lithuanian Daily Friend (Draugas), the Lithuanian Daily News, the Roman Catholic Union's Garsas, the National League's Sandara and the Lithuanian Days magazine. While I enjoyed the experience it was obvious that a cartoonist could never get rich working for Lithuanian publications.

Three hundred published cartoons later I cracked the Chicago Tribune with a timely editorial cartoon. Soon after that I met a person whom I've known for forty years. He casually asked, "Tony, what do you do for a living?" After a few seconds pause I replied, "Why nothing at all. I have retired".

TRIBUNE
DEC. 1, 1979



Big snow

The "Voice of the People" column of the Chicago Tribune recently published a cartoon by a very renowned cartoonist, Tony Yuknis. During his cartooning career he has had over 300 cartoons published in national magazines, newspapers, trade journals, including "Vytis" cover designs.

THE LETTER "E"

Many pessimists believe that the letter "E" is the most unfortunate letter in the alphabet. They say it is always out of "cash", forever in "debt", never out of "danger", and in "torment" all the time.

But these same people forget that it is never in "war", always in "peace" and always in something to "eat"! It is the center of "honesty" and always in "love."

It is the beginning of "encouragement" and "endeavor" and in the end of "failure."

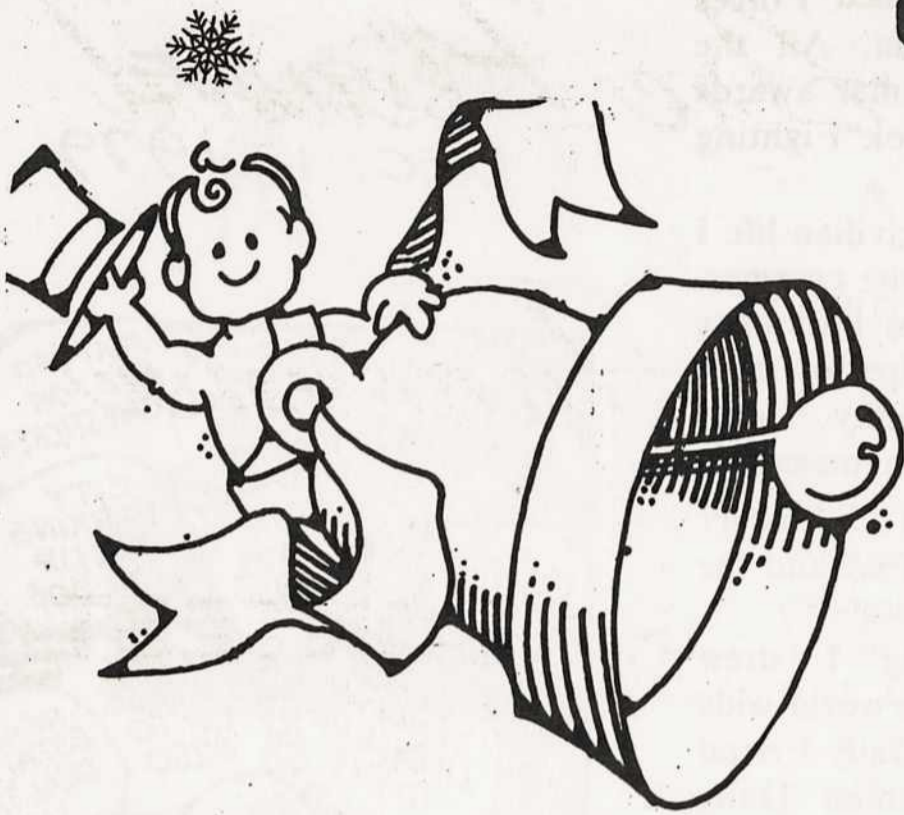
It is in the midst of "friends" and "neighbors," and without it — "home" would not be complete.

It is never in "injury," "pain" or "fatality" but it is forever present in "health," "wealth," "happiness," "spouse," "children," "relatives" and "SAFETY."



OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS



If, by some chance, your council did not mail in a copy of the roster of Officers and Committee Chairmen for 1981-1982 to our National Secretary, we urge you to do so immediately.

Please mail them to:

Nancy Miro
914 Lindley Street
Bridgeport, CT 06606

VERY SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL K of L MEMBERS, COUNCILS, DIRECTORS, LITHUANIAN PARISHES

Our Lithuanian Legation building in Washington, D.C. is in need of new paint, wallpaper, and general repairs. A fund has been started for redecorating this large structure in a manner suitable to its high purpose.

That building and the bit of ground on which it stands is the only piece of FREE LITHUANIA left on this earth. It should represent all that we feel about our heritage.

Let us all give whatever amount of money we can possibly spare to this worthy cause.

Make your checks out directly to LITHUANIAN LEGATION. Let them know you are a member of the Knights of Lithuania when you mail your check to:

Lithuanian Legation
2622 — 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

NOTICE OF DEADLINE CHANGES

To facilitate the printing of VYTIS, we ask that all regular copy for VYTIS be mailed to the editor by the 20th of the month for the issue to be mailed out two months later. ALL COUNCIL NEWS should be mailed to Helen Chesko, 1000 E. Pine St., Mahanoy City, PA. by the FIRST of the month. Council News should be confined to two pages — typewritten and doublespaced. No more than two photos — please.

Report

Third Vice President—Seniors

Stanley J. Vaitkus

As National Vice President in charge of Seniors for the year 1980-81 I devoted much of my time to this most worthy office and attempted to perform my work to the best of my ability. I attended two Supreme Council Meetings at Our Lady of Vilnius Church, New York, N.Y.

At the present time we have five active Senior Councils.

Council #17S South Boston	80	Members
Council #103S Providence	44	Members
Council—Cleveland Seniors	30	Members
Council—Chicago Seniors	40	Members
Council #133S Los Angeles	20	Members
Total	214	Members

In attempting to establish contact with all Senior Councils I mailed out a questionnaire. Here are the requests:

1. Have a Seniors Meeting at the National Convention.
2. Have a Seniors Column in the Vytis.
3. How to attract members to meetings.
4. More Senior activities on a national scale.
5. Mail more literature on Senior Citizen programs.

During the course of the year I had contact with the following organizations pertaining to Senior's needs.

- Mr. Tony Hall, U.S. Congressman 3rd District, Ohio
- Mrs. Joan Shelton, National Clearinghouse on Aging, Washington, D.C.
- Father H. Kenning, Director of the office for Aging and Retired, Cincinnati Archdiocese.

Also it was my pleasure to attend the following events:

- Headed up the K of L delegation at the Lithuanian Catholic Federation of America Congress, Southfield, Michigan.
- 63rd Anniversary Proclamation of Lithuanian Independence Day Program, Dayton, Ohio, Father Anthony Jurgelaitis, Speaker.
- St. Casimir's Day, Council #96, Dayton, Ohio
- 8th Ethnic World A'Fair, Dayton, Ohio

In closing I would like to say it was a great privilege to serve as National Vice President in charge of Seniors. I wish to thank my fellow Supreme Council officers, Mid-Central District officers and Council 96 Dayton, Ohio.

Submitted by: Stanley J. Vaitkus,
Third V.P. Seniors



We Are Pleased To Announce

A SHORT STORY CONTEST

RULES

1. Not more than 1000 words
2. Story may be true or fictional
3. Story **MUST** be about Lithuania, Lithuanians, or something that is Lithuanian
4. Deadline — March 30, 1982

A SHORT STORY IS

- the telling of an incident that happens in a short period of time — usually not more than 24 hours. (but — a character may “think back” or “plan forward”.)
- about one or two people who are named by name (others can be “his mother” “his friend” etc.)
- commonly the solving of a problem. (A character has a problem. When the problem is solved, the story ends.)

A SHORT STORY IS NOT

- the synopsis of a long story or many incidents
- the history of a long encounter
- the biography of a person's life
- an article about inanimate subjects (Example: “All about Mushrooms”)

HELPFUL HINTS

- use shorter sentences so that the story “moves”:
Use simple words.
- put some conversation into the story
- describe some action — limit long descriptions
- give the main character some personality

PRIZES — \$25 and publication in VYTIS for 2 first place winners in two categories: Youth — to age 16 and adult — 17 and over. Writers of all other stories worthy of publication will receive \$5.

JUDGES — Aldona Ryan, Father A.A. Jurgelaitis, Loretta Stukas

MAIL MANUSCRIPTS TO:

Aldona Ryan
6591 McEwen Road
Centerville, Ohio 45459

Donations received at the 68th National Convention in Scranton, PA to the K of L Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid committee:

Anna K Wargo (C #144)	\$10.00
Helen Chesko (C #144)	125.00
Maria Stungurys (C #110)	20.00
Congregation of Marian Fathers	35.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Tomulevich (C #116)	100.00
Larry Svelnis (C #17Srs)	10.00
Anna Uzdavinis (C #79)	50.00
Millie Pietz (C #12)	10.00
Anthony & Nellie Skabeikis (C #110)	20.00
Prof. & Mrs. Alex. Alexis (C #7)	10.00
Helen Kulber (C #41)	10.00
Total	\$400.00

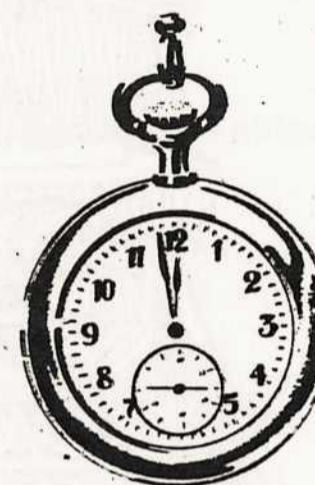
All donations are to be mailed to
Frances R. Petkus
800 Haldeman Ave.
Dayton, Ohio 45404

Make checks payable to LCRA K nights of Lithuania.
LCRA Chairman,
Frances R. Petkus

Primingą Naujųjų Metų

Happy New Year

1982



**K
OF
L**

**C
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R**

JANUARY

23 ANNUAL K of L CHOIR BENEFIT DANCE
at K of L Building in Chicago

FEBRUARY

7 ANNUAL IID "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA"
BANQUET at Martinique Ballroom in Chicago

13 VALENTINE DANCE - C-36 Hosts at
Immaculate Conception Church in Chicago

7 ST. CASIMER'S DAY MASS AND BREAKFAST
at St. Casimer's Church in Pittston, PA.

14 MAD ST. CASIMER'S DAY BREAKFAST
AND CONVENTION in Frackville, PA.
C-144 Hosts

20 SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING in Cleveland,
Ohio C-25 Hosts

MAY

15-16 MCD MEETING AND MIDWEST BOWLING
TOURNAMENT in Chicago

AUGUST

5-8 NATIONAL CONVENTION AT HARLEY
HOUSE IN WILLOUGHBY, OHIO



EVA M. MIGONIS

Eva M. Migonis, 57, of Washington, D.C., died October 18, 1981 in Georgetown University Hospital after a long illness.

Miss Migonis was born in Hamilton, New York, graduated from Hamilton High School and Excelsior Business School, Utica, N.Y. She worked as a secretary at the Rome Air Base, for an automobile dealer and then in a newspaper office in Hamilton prior to moving to Washington, D.C. In Washington, she worked for the Civil Aeronautics Board, at which time she attended Aviation Ground School and obtained a private pilot's license. She later became an instructor-supervisor for the Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Washington.

In 1965 Eva founded Academe Executive Services and continued to operate it until this past Spring. In 1975 she founded and was President of Council 142 of the Knights of Lithuania, Washington, D.C. She was a member of the National Business and Professional Women's Club, National Confederation of American Ethnic Groups, the Columbia Historical Society and the Gwenwood Tenants Association.

Surviving are a brother, John Migonis, of Hamilton, N.Y., two sisters, Mrs. Anne Johnson of Okeechobee, Florida and Marge Migonis of Syracuse, N.Y., nine nieces and nephews.

Eva Migonis was a communicant of St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Church of Washington, D.C. Mass of Christian Burial was offered at St. Matthew's Cathedral. Burial was at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Hamilton, N.Y.

Msg. QUINN, Pastor of St. Matthew's Cathedral, delivered a very moving eulogy about Eva, mentioning that we often hear people talking about one whose death was untimely . . . How long is a lifetime?

No one can predict. What is important is that we know how to use the time that is ours.

Following the Rosary recited by Father Ziuraitis at the funeral home, Paul Labanauskas, a friend of long-standing and C-142 Member, told of Eva's endless drive and energy, how she organized Lithuanian Language Courses, special masses, pilgrimages and functions at the Shrine.

When Paul introduced Eva to writer Dr. Constantine R. Jurgela, she promptly organized a reception in his honor at the Army-Navy Club to publicize his book entitled LITHUANIA: THE OUTPOST OF FREEDOM.

When the WASHINGTON POST published a badly written newspaper article about the "Dying Embassy of Lithuania", Eva sought out and contacted the sources to rectify this.

Eva's office was the center for the organization of the Baltic Nations Rally at the Lincoln Memorial, a tremendous undertaking.

She took up the reins of the fading American Lithuanian Society, which functioned for some 40 years, but due to aging, family problems, etc., became inactive. Eva assumed their duties in fostering history, traditions and customs of Lithuania.

The WASHINGTONIAN Magazine listed 77 PEOPLE TO WATCH IN '77. A gallery of fresh faces likely to emerge in 1977. They were picked from all walks of Washington life, for contributions made to their respective fields, with promise of more to come.

"Eva M. Migonis runs her own business, Academe Executive Services, and holds shows to promote artists and musicians. She plans to expand her executive services with multilingual personnel and modern communications to assist travelers and international businessmen."



The National Business and Professional Women's Club selected Eva as Business Woman of the Year for her many accomplishments.

She served on the Supreme Council as Chairman of the Public Relations Committee. During the 1978 K. of L. National Convention in Syracuse, New York, she set up and conducted a Public Relations Panel about Communications that was so outstanding she received a standing ovation!

The Lithuanian Language classes of C-142 started out with a handful of students in her home, then expanded to a nearby library meeting room and eventually Eva found enough interested people to request that the courses, beginners and advanced classes, be held at Georgetown University.

Eva was instrumental in the presentation of the six volumes of the Lithuanian Encyclopedia being donated to the Library of Georgetown University.

Her zeal and zest for life never diminished. K. of L. Council 142 is saddened at the loss of such an outstanding member. Please remember EVA MIGONIS in your prayers.



Vyčiai Veikia Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO, 1000 E. Pine St., Mahanoy City, PA 17948



MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-25 — CLEVELAND

Nelda and Charles Machuta hosted the November meeting of Council 25. Convention plans highlighted the meeting. The consensus is that it will be a terrific convention.

The current 1981 officers accepted to serve for 1982 except Ursula Kuncitis who will be replaced by Nelda Machutas. As Ursula puts it, she will be swamped with secretarial work for the coming convention.

Prayers and good wishes are extended to Alice Karklius who underwent major surgery, but God was with her. Though she is still in the hospital at this writing, she will be leaving to convalesce at home.

We certainly miss her, especially at our Coffee Clutch at Our Lady of Perpetual Church where she is Head Honcho. Our last coffee clutch was

quite successful, but it wasn't the same without Alice. Our club boasts some industrious workers who tend to make our enterprises great and financially worthwhile.

Here this all you other Councils. Start making plans for your convention vacation the first week of August in 1982. We will keep you posted on our convention plans so you know what to expect when you get here.

LLO

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

The gala holiday season is over. The trouble with January is that it's full of gray days, holiday bills, year-end statements, W-2 forms, snow and ice, flu bugs and the realization that another year has passed.

We started the New Year with a great slate of officers who are Rev. V. Krisciunevicius, Spiritual Advisor; Frank Zager, President; Maggie Smailis, Vice President; Marge Nashlon, Recording Secretary; Joseph Chaps, Financial Secretary; Jeanne Yakstys, Treasurer; Violet Panavas, Chester Nashlon, Joseph Yakstys, Trustees; Sophie Zager, Corresponding Secretary and George Case, Sergeant at Arms. Congrats to them and let us support the officers fully.

A Tribute Luncheon was held on October 14 for Ann Valatka who was honored with an Honorary Membership in the ALRC Women's Alliance (Moteru Sajunga). More members than expected streamed into Sveden House for a delightful smorgasbord. The committees that

she worked on or chaired in Sajunga are too numerous to list, but we will acknowledge some of her efforts in the K of L organization.

In 1958 Ann and her husband Ralph helped to reactivate the Knights of Lithuania Council 79 which had been inactive approximately 35 years. In 1962 Ann was instrumental under the auspices of the Knights in organizing the "Golden Ageds." They met weekly for nine years until the Divine Providence Church was leveled for a freeway. Other activities included Lithuanian Language classes for adults and children and sponsoring a junior council in the early sixties. For many years, she and her husband produced and directed Lithuanian Melodies, a radio program in Detroit. Ann was Christian Services Chairperson of the Parish Council. Due to poor health, Ann had to curtail her activities considerably. The honorary award couldn't happen to a more deserving Sajungiete!

A deserving nod goes to Mary Vinciunas and Walter Hotra who received their Second Degree at the October meeting. Also, Jadvyga Rukstele received her First Degree.

It was with deep sadness that we heard of the death of Adeline Vit-chus on October 12. Born in Wilkes-Barre, Adeline (Leskosky) and her husband Bernie moved to Detroit area in 1940. They were a musical family and reared two sons, Bernie Jr. and Lenny, and a daughter Barbara. She was a dedicated C-79 member and worked on many committees. Our condolences to Bernie and his family.

On October 24, we lost another member, Frank Keller. Because of poor health, Frank was not active, but he participated in though and spirit. Our sincere sympathy to his beloved wife Mary.

Labai aciu to Mary Keller and Marie Kase as well as Marge Nashlon and Magdalena Smailis for chairing the hostess committees for October and November, respectively.

After 38 years, Albina and Jim Missel of Orchard Lake have retired from theater management. Jim has been fondly known as Lithuanian King of Popcorn. Happy retirement!

SOFFI

C-96 — DAYTON

Belated Christmas greetings to all our fellow Knights with a very healthy, prosperous year ahead.

Once again, our council held a very successful Christmas Bazaar in downtown Dayton on December 4. This project is in conjunction with Dayton's Annual Holiday Hello Festivities which began on November 27 and continued until December 24. As in the past, our baked goodies as well as our Lithuanian Christmas straw ornaments were sold in a hurry. People continue to hunt for our booth as soon

as they hear we are at the Winter's Tower. It is great to have a following! Thanks for the success of this endeavor go to Sally Miller, Craft Chairman; HM Mary Lucas and Stefanija Rastikis, Baked Goods Co-chairmen and all the members who participated in this annual project.

Thanks to HM Mary Lucas, Eleanor Mantz, Elaine Pacovsky, Stefanija Rastikis, Aldona Ryan and Ada Sinkwitz our treasury received an easy increase. They participated in a local "Taste Testing Program." A group in the Dayton area will periodically approach non-profit organizations to participate in a new product opinion poll. Each person or organization participating receives so much per individual taking part in the program. Thanks to Eleanor Mantz our council's name is now on that list.

A warm welcome to our newest member Vida Gecas. Vida has moved from our junior ranks to be a regular council member. Many active years ahead, Vida.

Congratulations to Dayton K of L runner Joe Noreikas. Joe came in the top one-fourth to complete a 13.1 mile marathon. Special thanks to Kitty Prasmantas' mother, Mrs. Zubrick, for all the Christmas ornaments she made and donated to our council's annual Christmas Bazaar.

Recently visiting our Floridian members were Joe, Eleanor and Chris Mantz and Ken, Barbara Goeke and family. Their stopovers were Tampa to see Charles and Sarah Petkus, Hialeah to visit with Paulette Petkus and Homestead Air Force Base to see Jerry and Cathy Roberts and family. All returned home safely except Ken ending up with a cracked rib.

Joining Joyce Berezelly, Telephone Squad Chairman, for the 1981-82 term are Barbara Goeke, Ann Gitzinger, Joan Kavalauskas, Eleanor and Chris Mantz, Veronica Omlor and Josephine Zilinkas. Our Telephone Squad plays a vital part in our many activities and emergencies that have arisen in the past.

Good to know that Rev. Vaclovas Katarskis is recovering from his recent surgery. Also, Alice Petkus and Aldona Drukteinis are doing well after their recent hospital stays. Stay well — there is much to be done.

Congratulations to Mike and Alice Petkus on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary. They celebrated the event even though Alice was hospitalized. Thanks to HM Mary Lucas and Ada Sinkwitz.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to Albina Kurpowic and her family on the loss of her husband Alex. Many of us have known Alex for years. When the Kurpowics at-



C-96 New Officers and Committee Chairmen take their oath of office.

tended functions in the district, we knew C-139 was there. Alex will certainly be missed.

Our sympathies are sent to the family of Eva Migonis. Eva may not have been a member as long as many of us, but she was certainly an active one in the time she was with us. Eva, too, will certainly be missed.

We must also extend our deepest sympathies to Bertha Stoskus and family on the loss of her husband John. John had been a good friend to many of us in the Dayton Council. John, especially to yours truly, was a great help during my time as Ritual Chairman at the national conventions. John truly was a dedicated Knight.

Our "Council in Heaven" is ever increasing and it is good to know all are in good care with Our Heavenly Father. We pray Alex, Eva and John rest in peace.

FRP

C-102 — DETROIT

After a beautiful Thanksgiving weekend and dinner, we are anxiously awaiting the coming of the Lord — Christmas.

Our October meeting was held at St. Anthony's Rectory after mass with a nice membership attending. Officers were elected, the same as per usual. We are happy to have them serve in the same offices.

After the meeting the council met at the Lithuanian Hall to join in the St. Anthony's Fall Festival. Delicious food and intriguing games were enjoyed by all. Angela and Pete Busknis co-chaired the successful festival.

October was also a memorable month for our spiritual director — Father Walter J. Stanievich. The parishioners of St. Marks of Warren honored him with a beautiful mass and reception on his 35 years in the priesthood. Great pride was shown on the face of his mother and family — Donna and John Stanievich and their children. The procession into church was preceded by the honor guard of the Knights of Columbus.



Dessert ladies, left to right: Ms. Bosos and Jo Jonulate of C-102 at St. Anthony's Fall Festival

Many of our members attended the reception. Congratulations to Father Stan. Thou art a priest forever!

Our November meeting was held at the lovely home of Bill and Edna Klucens where we made plans for our Christmas Kucios. After the meeting, Edna served her delicious "kugelis."

Our bowling league is in full swing, and everyone is enjoying himself. In first place are C-102 members, Ruth and Mart Wagster and Evelyn Galinas, with C-79 members, Ed Salas and Chuck Mykolaitis. Come on down and join us on Friday nights.

It is nice to have Frank Bunikis back in our membership after a brief stay in the hospital. Get well wishes are extended to Helen and Tony Smolak.

A beautiful autumn day took Maryanne and Joe Guerriero to Grand Rapids to view the Gerald Ford-Museum. Much to Joe's surprise, he found himself in one of Ford's navy pictures. Joe and ex-president Ford served on the air carrier USS Monterey during World War II and played basketball against each other on the carrier.

Until the next issue, hope everyone had a happy holiday.

Meriute



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-17S — SOUTH BOSTON

The year 1981 was a good year for Council C-17 Seniors.

February 16, Lithuanian Independence Day, was celebrated with a memorial mass at St. Peter's Lithuanian Church followed by afternoon ceremonies at the South Boston Lithuanian Citizens Club. Alexander Akule and Joseph Balaconis were flag bearers at these ceremonies. Council 17S donated \$50 to defray expenses in conjunction with ALTA.

Our Annual St. Casimir's Day Communion Breakfast was held on Sunday, March 1, at St. Peter's Church Hall with a full house and a head table of prominent local Lithuanians with our associate pastor Rev. Robert Wolongevicz as guest speaker. As usual, our superb kitchen crew led by Ann Norinkavich did themselves proud and our interior decorating artists, Florence Casper, Ann Antanalia and Ann Carroll transformed the hall into a thing of beauty with the national colors of Lithuania as the theme. Thanks to all of you.

Longinas Svelnis, Patricia Akule, Eva Ball, Alexander Akule, Albert Kropas, Aldona Kropas, Anne White and Joseph White were delegates to the spring NED Con-

vention at Westfield, Sunday, April 26, at St. Casimir's Church. Not only is official business conducted at these conventions but friendships are renewed. Although Boston to Westfield was a long trip, spirits were refreshed by the warm hospitality of the host council.



Ann Viveris, C-17 Srs. receiving her Third Degree from NED Ritual Chairman, Bill Wisnauskas, at the NED Convention at St. Casimir's Church in Worcester on Sept. 27, 1981

On Sunday, June 7, Council 17 and 17S presented awards to four members of the graduating class of St. Peter's Parochial School based on the writing of an essay dealing with Lithuania. The award winners were Stacy Venis, Anne Marie Gailunas, Roland Lescinskas, and Catherine Galvin. Congratulations to the award winners and sincere thanks to the scholarship committee, especially Mary Mickevich who did much of the paper work.

The Black Days of June did not pass unnoticed. Council 17S attended a special mass at St. Peter's Church on Saturday, June 13. Many council members attended an effective demonstration at Boston City Hall Plaza on Sunday, June 14, dramatizing this terrible event. It received local media coverage.

On invitation from Victor Mathieu of Bristol, RI, a group attended the Fifth Annual Celebrated Mass commemorating the deportation of Lithuanians and the memory of Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus and Joseph S. Matachinskas. Joseph was an esteemed member of Council 17S. After church services, the group along with other K of L'ers from Rhode Island went to the home of Victor and Bea, "Saukstas ir Katiliukas," where an enjoyable evening of good fellowship prevailed. Thank you Victor and Bea.

Congratulations to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of Putnam, Connecticut, on the dedication of their new convent, June 20. Many Bostonians and council members were in evidence.

Congratulations to Larry Svelnis for the fine job he is doing in getting the new K of L archives room at the ALKA Museum ready for operation. This is a welcome and necessary addition to our organization.

The big event of the year was the National Convention. A large group from Boston attended and many were involved as delegates and panelists. We are especially proud of Alyzas Astravas who originated the idea of the Year of the Lithuanian Parish. Our official delegates were Alexander Akule, Patricia Akule, Longinas Svelnis, Anne Voveris, Alice Opanasets, Veronica Aluza, Sister Eugenia, Regina Alexander, Ann Markovich, Eleanor Mikalonis, Charles Mikalonis and Dr. Algis Budreckis. Our congratulations to the host councils for a job well done.

A full bus made the pilgrimage to Auriesville, NY, on August 30. It was an impressive event. Al Akule and Frank Markuns handled the travel arrangements.

The fall convention NED on September 27 at St. Casimir's, Worcester, drew a strong delegation from Council 17S. Congratulations to the new district president, Peter Bizinkauskas. Alexander Akule, our council president, was elected trustee.

We are proud to announce that this year our paid-up membership is 102. Thanks to our hard-working financial secretary, Eva Ball.

Prior to our business sessions. Sister Eugenia is refreshing our singing of the Vyciu Himnas, Lietuvos Himnas and selected folk songs. Perhaps we will end up as a choral group.

Elections were held on October 14. Officers for the coming year are Alexander Akule, president; Longinas Svelnis, First Vice President; Joseph Balaconis, Second Vice President; Sister Eugenia, Recording Secretary; Eva Ball, Financial Secretary; Daniel Averka, Cultural; Joseph White, Lithuanian Affairs; John Norinkavich, Anne Voveris, Patricia Akule, Ritual; Mary Mickevich, Treasurer; John Norinkavich, Daniel Averka, Trustees; Patricia Akule, Sergeant at Arms.

Travel News: Nine members made it to Lithuania; namely, Al and Aldona Kropas, Alex Chaplik, Joe and Anne White, Rev. Robert Wolongevicz, Sister Eugenia, Reggie Alexander and Veronika Ivanauskas.

J. White

C-26 — WORCESTER

It's a new year and our job as K of L'ers continues. Much has been accomplished in the past, and much will be accomplished in the future. Look at our leaders, past and present: National President Philip Skabeikis/Loretta Stukas, Vytis Editor Loretta Stukas/Aldona Ryan, Vytis Council News Editor Josephine Zukas/Helen Chesko, Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Father C. Pugevicius/Dr. Jack Stukas, and our Spiritual Advisor Father A. Jurgelaitis, OP. Our council says, "Sirdingai aci!"

Whether people like to hear it or not, certain members are more important than others. Some are extremely important to our council for the very things we seem to take for granted.

President Rita Pinkus with her executive committee plans meetings, dinners, picnics — everything to encourage activity. Spiritual Director Father Anthony Miciunas, MIC, cheerfully provides us meeting space in the parish compound and remembers to publicize our events — even when we forget to ask him. Ed Meilus, Jr., one of our newest members, takes every opportunity to publicize the Knights on his twice-weekly Lithuanian Radio Hour. All those members who never say “no” to a work request and to those who wouldn’t miss an affair sponsored by the K of L. Our minute books are filled with names filling the above categories. As a result, degrees are conferred regularly through the diligence of the Ritual Committee.

Ellie Walinsky received the St. Anne’s Award from His Excellency, Bishop Bernard Flanagan (Worcester Diocese) for Catholic leadership (Campfire Girls in Milbury).

Ann Walinsky was awarded the Fourth Degree at the National Convention in Scranton last August.

Maironis Park awarded 25 scholarships of \$250 each, totalling \$6250. Four of them went to children of our members — the Ramsdells, Grazulises, Pridotkases and Valinskis.

Although the parish Eucharistic Day of Adoration took place in October, it is still good to mention that



council members who sang in the choir for this solemn occasion were Francis (Algis) Glodas, choir president; Ed Meilus, Jr.; Francis Degutis, Steve Walinsky, Sr. and Walter Grimala. We were privileged to have presented to us five Marian novices. The Marian Fathers have their novitiate in Thompson, Connecticut.

Through the initiative of Steve Walinsky, Sr., and the support of NED “Lietuvos Vaizdai” was donated to the Worcester Public Library. The librarian accepted this book with gratitude and appreciation.

K of L’ers who worked at the parish picnic (apologies for omissions that are sure to occur) included Ann Bender, Rita and Ted Pinkus, Mildred Lapinskas and her dad, Bill Karas, Ann and Steve Walinsky, Elly and Steve Walinsky, Bill and Carol Grigas, Helen Gillus, Mary Duggan, Bea Anton, Ann Bucinskas, Ginny and Dwight Cummings, Adele and Francis Degutis, Walter Grimals, Albin and Dorothy Seilius, Joseph Ivaska, Bill and Ann Leseman, Gerry Tagman, Marion and Arthur Racicot, Marion Shapiro, Gadamis Troupes, Agnes Law and Rita Sokol.

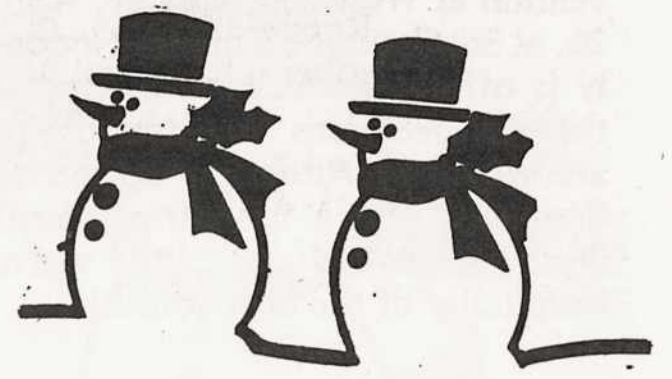
Ginny Lelakis, Marion Racicot and Elly Walinsky tell us that it was just wonderful to welcome Al Jaritis and his friends from Boston to our dinner dance at Maironis Park on October 24.

The NED Cultural Festival — well, it’s nice to impress our own, but it is a genuine treat to see strangers interested in Lithuanian Culture. This event took place in October.

Jo Zukas in her ten-year term as Council News Editor has become our special friend. We wish her well in her next task and thank her for that fine association through the “Vytis.”

Linksmu, sveiku, dziaugsmingu Nauju Metu linkime visiems mielams Vyciams! Iki sekancio numerio, su Diev!

DZUKELE



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

C-100 — AMSTERDAM

Rev. Robert K. Baltch celebrated the Lithuanian mass attended by the Amsterdam Council members prior to the October meeting. Gerard Drenzek and Robert Vennett assisted. President Anthony J. Radzevich presided with the opening prayer by Father Anthony Grigaitis.

Regina Kot, Co-chairman of the Cultural Committee, explained the Lithuanian poster of primeval Lithuania which was on display. An interesting article from the “Enquirer” on a midget UFO encountered near Palanga was also read by Regina. It seemed to have a light blue glow, rotating slowly, and quivering with a red under belly. The sight stunned a large crowd of witnesses in Palanga.

Bernice Aviza, delegate to the MAD convention in Maspeth on September 27 reported on the sessions. The dedication of the Wayside Shrine, designed by Arthur Nelson, occurred immediately after the mass. The district meeting followed with President Larry Janonis presiding. Eleven council were represented. Election of officers took place. All officers were re-elected. Bernice will continue chairing the district’s Lithuanian Affairs Committee and Regina Kot, the Cultural Committee.

Sophie Olbie reported on the September meeting. The Kensells donated the ice and Edna Stokna donated the raffle prize.

The Festival of Nations held at the Nelson Rockefeller Plaza, Albany, on October 4 had a Lithuanian section. Bernice Aviza who chaired the project gave a financial report. She thanked Polly Ziausys and Regina Kot for assisting her.

Gene Chase will chair the Christmas party with her sister Aldona Abeling.

Rev. Anthony Grigaitis thanked council members for their active participation in celebrating his 50th anniversary in the priesthood.

Refreshments were served by Mary Sweet, Annacetta Guzielak, Jennie Kensel and Agnes Rokit.

SMILE & SPARKLE

C-74 — SCRANTON

Our Annual Dinner Dance in September was enjoyed by everyone. The food was super and was catered by Dan Benson (Marie Laske's nephew). The tables were a work of art. Real fern garlands outlined the main table with centerpieces of swans made from apples, pears and pineapples. He also made "koselena," jellied pigs feet, to add a Lithuanian touch.

Marie and Richard Laske co-chaired the event. The hard-working committee included Helen Romeika and Ann Kvietkus, tickets; Helen Corvath and Betty Tomasaitis, entertainment; Casimir Yanish and William Grady, drawings; Helen Roginsky, Ann Lasowsky, Ann Ulinoski and Marcella Kukaitis, greeting; Joseph Sabaitis and Frank Romeika, refreshments.

Everyone was greeted at the door and presented a small Lithuanian flag pin. All were Lithuanian for the evening.

Leo Batsavage, president of Pittston C-143, was presented a beautiful birthday cake and the band played Happy Birthday with everyone singing.

Our honored guests included Rev. Michael Ozalis, Rev. Bernard Toloczko, Members of Pittston Council 143, and Forest City Council 144.



Members of C-74 Scranton at their September Party. Bottom Row left to right - Marcella Kukaitis, Helen Corvath, Betty Tomasaitis, Marie Laske (Dinner Chairman), Helen Roginsky, Ann Kvietkus. Second row left to right - Ann Lasowsky, Brother George Petcavage, Ed Tamosaitis (Pres. of C-74), Richard Laske, Casimer Yanish (V. P. of C-74), William Grady and Helen Romeika.



Joanna Gilbert selling Lithuanian bread at International Festival in Harrisburg

Marie Laske arranged our bus trip to Lakewood Park on Lithuanian Day, August 16. Frances Yavosky started the trip by saying the rosary. We met many friends from other cities and states. We plan to have an annual trip for members and friends.

Jule Grady

C-146 — HARRISBURG

John Povilaitis was elected president of C-146 at the October meeting. Serving with President Povilaitis will be Joseph Macalonis, vice president; Lorraine Grabauskas, secretary; Nell Berulis, treasurer; Joanna Gilbert, financial secretary; William Boyle and John Povilaitis Sr., trustees.

The following chairpersons were announced: Frances Boyle, Lithuanian affairs; Stephany Povilaitis, Lithuanian culture and Vity Grabauskas, ritual. Helen Grabauskas is VYTIS council news reporter.

Helen Chesko, C-144 ritual chairperson and member of Supreme Council ritual committee, installed the officers on November 11 at the Log Cabin.

Elsie Kosmisky, second vice president Supreme Council, spoke to the members on membership.

Plans were formulated to observe the fourth annual Kucios on Sunday, December 13.

Best wishes for a healthy New Year!

Helen Grabauskas



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-103 PROVIDENCE

C-103 elected the following slate of officers: William Picentini, Jr., President; Irene Landanski, First Vice President; Bette Ciuryla, Second Vice President; Anthony Gudczauskas, Treasurer; Helen Gudczauskas, Recording Secretary; Helen Denisewich, Corresponding Secretary; Peter Denisewich and Joseph Waitonis, Trustees. Committee chairmen are John Walaska, Ritual; Ann LaButti, Cultural; Vito Kapiskas, Lithuanian Affairs; Irene Walaska, Sunshine; Ed Wilkins, Agnes Waitonis, John Walaska, Social.



Members of C-146, Harrisburg, participated in International Festival held in Harrisburg on Sept. 26, 1981. Left to right: Attorney John Povilaitis, President - Joanna Gilbert, Secretary - Nell Berulis, Treasurer - Fran Boyls, Lithuanian Affairs Chairman.

K of L Lithuanian conversation classes began October 21 at Providence College. Father Jurgelaitis of the Language Department is the teacher.

A committee was appointed to find a "Friend of Lithuania" in our council area through a donation and proclamation by Vic Mathieu.

At the NED Convention in Worcester, two members were elected from our council. John Walaska will serve as Treasurer and Bette Ciuryla as Ritual Chairperson.

C-103 raised \$125 for the scholarship fund by raffling a food basket at Maironis Park. The 1982 scholarship fund raiser and picnic will be hosted by our council at Maironis Park.

Helen Denisewich

C-145 — HOLYOKE

Council 145 elected officers for the coming year at the November meeting. Nellie Ruggles will serve as president. Other officers are Lena

Stephens, vice president; Steve Chives, recording secretary; Helen Doerpholz, corresponding secretary; Pricilla Bernotas, treasurer; Viola markoski, financial secretary; James Adamitis and Helen Kazimeraitis, trustees; Mary Barkowski, scribe; Minerva Pelinka, historian.

The following will serve as chairpersons of their respective committees: Della Mikelas, ritual; Lena Swinski, Lithuanian affairs; Joan LaFramboise, publicity; Margaret Picard, cultural; Rita Adamitis and Nellie Ruggles, condolences.

Plans were finalized for the Christmas boutique sale at the Wisteriahurst Museum in Holyoke. Entertainment will be provided by the popular Lithuanian Folk Dancers.

Committee was appointed to plan for Christmas banquet.

The hostess committee served the usual high calorie refreshments.

Mary Barkowski



ILLINOIS INDIANA DISTRICT

President Vincent Samaska announced the following appointments: Ruth Kazlauskas C-36, Lithuanian Affairs; Monica Kasper C-112, Lithuanian Cultural; Ruth and Albert Dagis C-112, Ritual; Emilija Pakaliniskis C-112, Publicity; Ruth Kazlauskas C-36, English Publicity; Irene Sankus C-112, "Vytis"; Valeria Stanaitis, Chicago Seniors, Bulletin; Sabina Klatt C-36, Civic Affairs; Frank Zapolis C-36, K of L Dancers. Emilija Pakalniskis will continue to edit the "Vyciu Viekla" column in "Draugas."

Belated congratulations to Illinois State Senator Frank Savickas and his committee on the most successful Second Annual "Lithuanian Day Festival" held on Lithuanian Plaza Court (formerly West 69th Street in Marquette Park). It was a great place to meet old friends and to make new ones. A job well done by Senator Frank and 15th Ward Alderman Frank Brady (both members of C-112).

Councils in the IID have announced their new slate of officers. We extend wishes for a successful K of L year to John Paukstis, President C-36 (Brighton Park); Paul Binkis Jr., President C-112 (Marquette Park). Other council presidents will be announced in the next issue.

Our newly reorganized Council 38 of Kenosha, Wisconsin, is headed by Theresa Balciunas (former Theresa Federovic of C-36). The group headed the Lithuanian segment at the Milwaukee Folk Fest.

Our K of L Dancers were among the talented performers.

Estelle Rogers, one of the K of L Choir organizers and long-time president, resigned from the choir leadership due to health and work problems. Estelle is to be commended for her outstanding work with the choir. Her organizing talents will be missed. The new officers of the choir are Faustas Strolia C-36, Director; Sabina Klatt D-36, President; Stasys Stasiunas, Vice President; Ann Marie Kassel C-36, Secretary; Juozas Juska C-112, Treasurer; Albert Zakarka and Steve Rudokas C-112, Trustees; Margaret Narvaisis, Archives; Betty Zibas C-112 and Salomeja Daulys C-36, Librarians; Peter Gagle C-112 and Rimantas Buzenas, Sergeants at Arms; Apolinaras Bagdonas, Lithuanian Publicity. Our best wishes to all the new officers for a productive and successful K of L year.

His Excellency Bishop Antanas Dekenis celebrated his 50th year of priesthood and 75th birthday recently. The Chicago reception held at the Lithuanian Home was headed by Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas C-112. Many members were in attendance, along with K of L spiritual advisors — Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, Rev. Igans Urbonas, Rev. Vaclovas Zakarauskas, Rev. Fabian Kereilis, and Rev. Anthony Markus.

During the fall annual conference of ALTAS, National President Loretta Stukas attended and extended K of L greetings to the delegates. her words were warmly received. K of L representatives are Dr. Leonard Simutis C-112, Ann Marie Kassel C-36 and Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas C-112.

National President Loretta Stukas announced the appointment of John Narusis C-112 as the National Legal Advisor.



Pictured (center) outgoing president Ruth Kazlauskas, passing gavel to incoming president John Paukstis as Father Fabian Kireilis, spiritual advisor supervises the "transfer of authority".

Observing the ritual, are the newly elected officers of Council 36 - (L to R.) Sabina Klatt, Bernice Pupnik, Jerome Jankus, Sophie Zukas, Frank Svelnis, Vince Samoska, Georgie-Ann Kassel, Ann Marie Kassel, Salomeja Daulys, Ona Naureckas.

VYTIS2524 W. 45 St.
Chicago, IL. 60632Return Requested
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CHICAGO, IL 60629

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Congratulations and best wishes to Robert Zapolis (son of Frank and Eleanor C-36) and Ann Marie Jagiela (daughter of the Frank-Jagielas. Frank is the dedicated director of the K of L Dancers. They were married at Nativity BVM Church with Father Tony Markus officiating. The reception was at Niko's Manor. The K of L Dancers performed with the bride and groom joining them for the Lithuanian wedding dance.

The annual IID Memorial Mass for deceased members and their families was held at St. Mary's in Darien, the new home parish of Rev. John Savukynas MIC. Father John held the mass and the K of L Choir, under the direction of Faustas Strolia, sang the beautiful Lithuanian mass. Maria and Edward Dakenis presented the communion gifts and Paul Binkis Jr. was in the procession. Following the mass, everyone enjoyed dinner hosted by Father John. This traditional event is always well attended.

February 7 is the date for the annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet. The event will again be held at the Martinique Grand Ballroom. "Award of Distinction" will be presented to the "Margutis" Radio Program on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. Congratulations to Valdas Adamkus, president of the Board of Directors and to Petras Petrutis, director of the program.

The IID Councils and members are looking forward to the weekend of May 15-16 when we will be the hosts for the Annual Mid-West Bowling Tournament. We look forward to having many members of the Mid-Central District join us for this event.

LT 99

C-36 — CHICAGO

Rev. F. Kirelis, our spiritual advisor, gave an interesting and informative talk on his trip to Lithuania at our November meeting. He also summarized the status of Lithuania in 1940 from the Lithuanian Chronicles.

John Paukstis, our president, also gave an inspiring talk on membership. He wrote 43 new members. Our council is surely growing. Members were urged by John to encourage friends and acquaintances to become members. It is important to carry an application at all times. He knows we will do a great job together in everything we undertake.

Mass for living and deceased members was celebrated by Father John Savukynas at St. Mary's in Darien on November 8. The K of L Choir sang the beautiful Lithuanian mass. About forty members went to the Chicken Basket for supper. It surely was a successful event.

Many of our council members danced at "A Knight of the Old West Dance," sponsored by C-112. It was a smashing hit with the sheriff walking around and cowboys, cowgirls and pioneer women mingling with the crowd.

The cultural night chaired by Ona Naureckas on November 7 was a great success. She showed a number of people how to make artistic straw pictures for which she is famous.

A beautiful house walk was held in Beechers on November 21. Joe Martikonis' daughter, Maryann Nunn, had about 1000 people visit her home to see and hear about numerous Lithuanian articles displayed and to view the Lithuanian Kucios table. Vincent

Samoska, Ann Marie Kassel, Theresa Strolia and Sabina Klatt contributed items for the display. Ann Marie and Sabina helped Maryann explain Lithuanian Christmas traditions and customs. On Sunday, Ray Wertelka and Vincent Samoska witnessed the crowd of people who tremendously loved every moment they spent in the Lithuanian atmosphere. Joe Martikonis was justly proud of the accomplishments of Maryann, her friends and K of L members.

Preparations are being made by Ona Naureckiene, chairman for the Valentine Dance on February 13. All are asked to circle that date to be with us. A good time is promised for all.

Vincas Norkaitis has been ill for quite a long time and misses everyone. He thanks all members for the cards and good wishes for his health. We miss him, too!

We welcome the following into membership in C-122 for 1982: Peter & Helen Vilkelis, Don & Mary Smith, Mykios & Regina Simokaitis, Elizabeth and John Vilkas, Peter and Akvilia Maleta, Carmen & Geraldine Bucci, Bruce and Sally Neberieza, Rasa and Don Forsberg, Donna & Edward Schumann, Stanley & Donna Gaphis, Edward & Mary Tyszka, John & Denise Vaikutis, Frank & Joan Schipplick, John & Beverly Paukstis, Adolph & Marialice Dockus, John Derbas, Terry Owings, Rosalie Braxton, Vytaut Abraitis, Bruno Gramont, Marijona Treinavich, Cleopatra Shimkus, Nancy Radke, Walter Kaivaitis, Bruno Gatlis, Alice Kent, Dave Gaidas, Ken Gaidis, and Joanne Zelvis. Lots of good luck to all the new members. We are happy to have you join us.

SABINA