

the KNIGHT

WYTTIS

**THE KNIGHTS
OF LITHUANIA**

Convention Issue

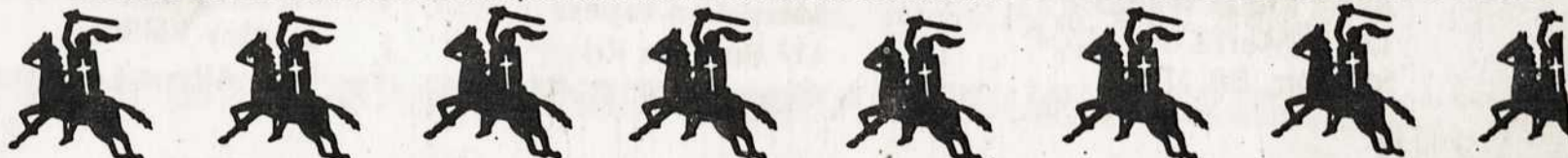


The 1984 "Friend of Lithuania" award recipient, Sister Ann Gillen (right) with Dr. Jack Stukas, Lithuanian Affairs Chairman (left).



WE HONOR
ST. CASIMIR

1984



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Vol. 70- No. 9

NOVEMBER - LAPKRITIS 1984

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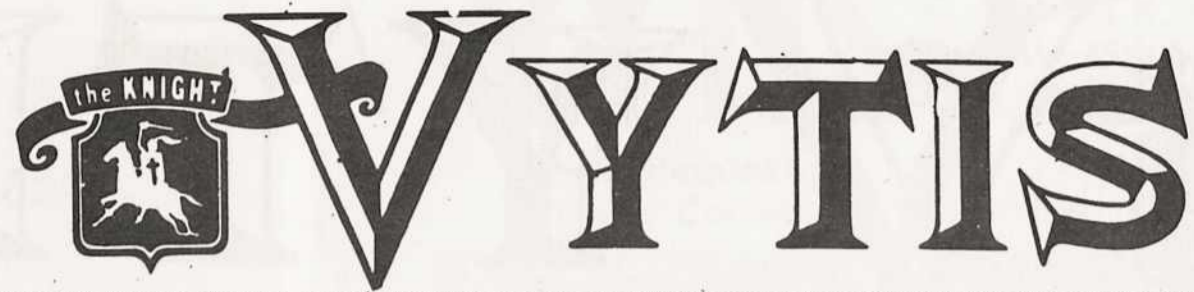
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WE HONOR
ST. CASIMIR

1984

MOTTO:

Šventas Kazimierai, Globok mus ir kenčiančią Lietuvą!
St. Casimir, Protect us and suffering Lithuania! H.S.

**KNIGHTS
OF LITHUANIA**

AUGUST 23-26TH, 1984

71th

National Convention

CONRAD HILTON HOTEL
720 SO. MICHIGAN AVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Your Hosts — COUNCIL 36
CHICAGO — BRIGHTON PARK

CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Seated (L to R) Alice Kent, Regina Simokaitis, Ona Naureckas, Rev. Peter Cibulskis, Chairman John Paukstis, Rev. Fabian Kireilis, Spiritual Director, Ausra Padalino, Ruth Kazlauskas, Mary Kincius. Standing (L to R) Raph Gaking, Loretta Gestautas, Edward Valskis, Vyto Abraitis, Lucy Kilkus, Denise

Vaikutis, Frank Svelnis, Jerome Jankus, Lillian Paukstis, Bruce Neberieza, Walter Kalvaitis, Joseph Martikonis, Dave Gaidas. Committee members not pictured: Faustas Strolia, Frank Zapolis, Šabina Klatt, Evelyn Ozelis, Scottie Zukas, Ann Marie Kassel, Therese Balciunas, Stanley Pieza, Vince Samaska.



KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 71th NATIONAL CONVENTION STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION REPORT

As presented by Loretta I. Stukas,
National President, August 23, 1984

In accordance with Article XI, Section 2 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, I hereby submit to the delegates of the 71st National Convention the Supreme Council's Annual Report, wherein I have combined all reports submitted to me before the Convention. It is important to note that this is but a summary of the work done by your Supreme Council, to give you a sense of what we have achieved this past year and where and how our organization stands today. The officers have provided fuller reports of their activities in writing, and we urge you to take home a set of these reports, read them carefully, and share the contents with your council members.

SPIRITUAL ADVISER

The Knights of Lithuania is grateful to Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, OP for his spiritual guidance and moral support provided the Knights during the past year.

Father composed a special prayer for use by council and districts to celebrate worthily the 500th Anniversary of the death of our patron St. Casimir throughout the year. The prayer was printed on special prayer cards and distributed to all councils. Father also participated in preparation of the Commemorative St. Casimir issue of VYTIS. He coordinated the St. Casimir Commemoration that began this convention, as well as all the Masses to be held during the Convention.

Father has updated the K of L Wake Service, which will be distributed this fall. He was guest speaker at the



MAD St. Casimir Celebration in Pittston and at the Lithuanian pilgrimage to the Shrine of the North American Martyrs at Auriesville, NY.

Father urges all Knights to continue in the effort for the canonization of Archbishop George Matulaitis. Father offered Masses for 50 Knights whom God called to Himself since the 70th National Convention.

PRESIDENT

President Loretta Stukas organized and presided at three meetings of the Supreme Council. She represented the K of L at numerous events, including the Papal Audience and Papal Mass to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the death of St. Casimir. At that event, she presented the Holy Father with a gift from the Knights, represented the K of L in the Offertory Procession and presented a K of L gift of a Crosier to Archbishop Marcinkus.

Mrs. Stukas was guest speaker in Ansonia, CT, and led a "K of L Roots" panel at the MAD Seminar in Easton. She worked with Legal Adviser John Narusis in completing the establishment of a Knights of Lithuania Foundation. By mail or in person, she handled organization of numerous other Supreme Council projects, e.g. St. Casimir Statues, Council Manuals, VYTIS, and special PR releases, and kept in contact with representatives of problem councils.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Membership Vice-President Elsie Kosmisky conducted the Membership Drive and will present awards to the winners later during this convention. One new council, C-151, was organized this year, in Austin, TX, and another, C-13, was reorganized in Chicago. Both new councils are "break-throughs" . . . C-151 is our first in the great state of Texas. C-13 was reorganized as promised last year by Paul Strolia, as a YOUTH council, with all 22 members under age 30! Congratulations to Paul and his

associates for this wonderful breakthrough. Let it be an example for other areas and other young people.

Mrs. Kosmisky has worked diligently to plant many other "seeds" by sending organizational materials to prospective council representatives in various cities, including Sahomokin, PA, Binghamton, NY, and others. We trust that many of these seeds will begin to grow soon. Elsie not only attended the Papal Mass and Audience, but also was part of the planning committee for the entire trip. She represented the K of L in the Honored Guest section during the Mass. In her three years as Membership Vice-President, our organization has grown by 902 members and 8 councils. Congratulations to Elsie and all her assistants for this fine work.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Juniors Vice President Elinor Sluzas reports that we currently have 9 Junior Councils. The most recent one is one in C-3, Philadelphia, which grew out of last year's National Convention in Philadelphia. She is actively trying to establish more. Mrs. Sluzas compiled and has available for distribution, a Junior Activities manual. The packet contains outlines of and instructions for suggested Junior projects, words and music for Lithuanian songs, Lithuanian historic facts, and other items of interest. The packets will be sent on request, to all Junior counselors, and to Council presidents interested in starting junior councils. They are available at this convention also.

Mrs. Sluzas has also been in contact with officials at the Camp Dainava in Michigan and the new "Ausra" camp at Elmhurst, PA with respect to the possibility of having a K of L sponsored Juniors Camp in 1985. She has obtained permission from Sister Angela of the "Ausra" camp, to have a K of L Juniors Camp there in 1985, and will present details of that camp to this convention. The camp is run by the Sisters of Jesus Crucified.

Elinor also participated in the Papal Audience and Mass last March, and served as a Reader during the Prayer of the Faithful during the Papal Mass. We commend Elinor on her energy and ingenuity in planning this most important part of our K of L life — attracting and keeping our Lithuanian YOUTH in the organization.

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT

Seniors Vice-President Frank Petrauskas offered considerable help in the work and deliberations of the Supreme Council. Because only three Senior Councils exist, albeit alive and well, Frank suggests the office of 3rd Vice President be reevaluated. Perhaps "Senior"

activity should include not only Senior Council but also provide services for all "Senior Citizen" members of the organization. Or, perhaps, the duties of the Third Vice-President should be modified. This topic should be considered formally or informally by this Convention.

RECORDING SECRETARY

National Recording Secretary Nancy Pawasauskas Miro has diligently notified members of pending meetings, kept minutes of those meetings, and sent minutes to all officers and Honorary Members. She compiled and distributed lists of national, district and council officers and committee chairmen, and handled miscellaneous correspondence required by the Supreme Council. Nancy helped prepare an updated version of the K of L Manual for council officers, assisted J. Zadeikis of C-36, with another mailing for the D-G Commemorative stamp project, and helped lay groundwork for a possible new council in Palm Beach, Florida.

She prepared an organizational panel and part of a St. Casimir commemoration for this Convention. In preparation for the National Convention, Nancy issued Convention invitations to other national organizations and dignitaries and compiled officers reports for distribution to delegates. Nancy attended the pilgrimage to Rome and received Holy Communion from the Holy Father.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Helen Skudra, Financial Secretary, prepared and distributed monthly membership reports, had printed all forms needed for membership and convention delegate recording, and, most important, kept accurate and up-to-date records of dues payment of all members.

She reports that as of June 30, we have 4130 members, 57 councils and 9 Junior Councils. This represents an increase of 326 members since the last Convention, or an increase of 124 members since Jan. 1, 1984! Our membership topped 4000 just before the end of 1983!

Again, we must give accolades to the hosts of this Convention, C-36, Chicago and their energetic president John Paukstis, who brought their council membership up from 509 last June to 619 as of this June 30! It is no wonder that this convention shows every indication of being one of the most successful yet! It has both quantity and quality to call upon.

Helen is grateful to all council financial secretaries for their diligence in keeping the membership current. The volume of work is immense, and getting

larger. We are grateful to Helen for her hard and outstanding work.

Remember again, that all address changes should be sent to Gerry Mack, not Helen. Gerry's address is listed on the back cover of VYTIS. We again urge our "mobile" members to report address changes to Miss Mack promptly, so that she can continue to keep the list updated.

TREASURER

Treasurer Alphonse Trainis handled K of L monies efficiently and wisely. A full oral report on our financial standing will be given later in the Convention. Because of the many special events of this year, like St. Casimir projects, a Commemorative issue of VYTIS, gifts for the Holy Father and others, and a pre-Convention S. C. meeting in Chicago, our expenses exceeded the budgeted amounts in some cases. But increased income from membership dues and donations to the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, and wise use of funds by officers and committees allowed us to survive without exhausting all the interest earned on investments or tapping our reserves to meet our financial needs.

Your continued support of pet K of L projects, with special emphasis on the newly established K of L Foundation, your promptness in paying dues and bringing in new members will be appreciated, and as a sign of our appreciation, we can again avoid asking for a dues increase!

TRUSTEES

Trustees Paul Binkis and Anthony Radzevich kept track of the financial status of the K of L during the year. In the absence of Mr. Radzevich, Mr. Binkis and Gene Gobis audited the National Treasurer's and the National Financial Secretary's books during this convention.

LEGAL ADVISER

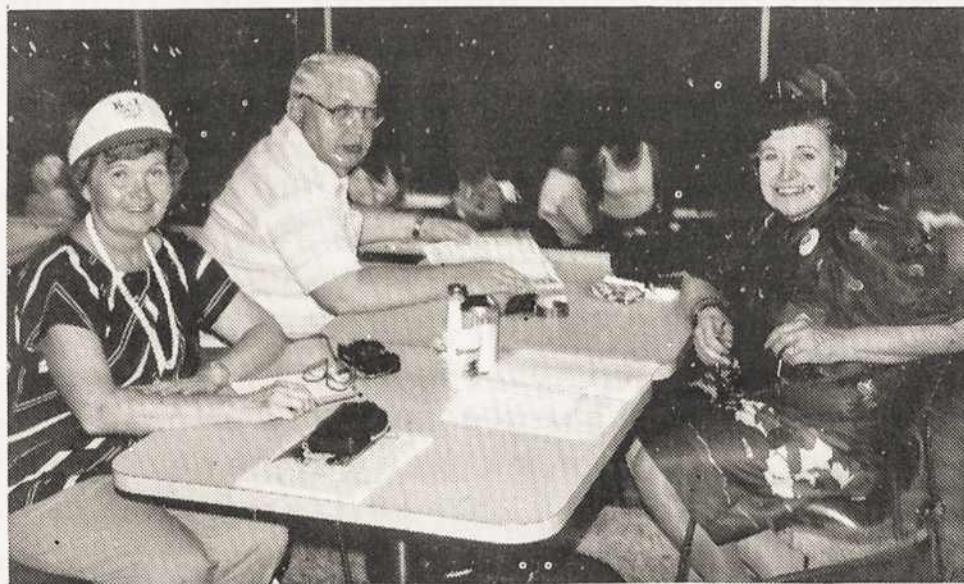
Legal Adviser John Narusis filed the necessary annual K of L tax forms and performed whatever other duties were asked of him by the Supreme Council. Mr. Narusis has gathered the needed documents and taken the necessary actions to incorporate the Foundation. The Knights of Lithuania is indeed a fact today. Some additional work remains to obtain tax-exempt status for the Foundation, but you CAN begin donating to it today.

VYTIS EDITOR

Editor Aldona Ryan and her staff continue to keep VYTIS alive and vibrant, as the publication enters its 70th year. Ten issues were published since the last convention. Especially notable issues were those featuring the Convention, Christmas, the St. Casimir Commemoration, and the Celebration with the Pope

in Rome. The VYTIS staff consists of Helen Chesko, Council News Editor, Ruth Kazlauskas, Lithuanians-in-the-News Editor, and Gerry Mack, Circulation Manager. H. M. Mary Lucas provides a steady stream of Lithuanian recipes, Ann Wargo supplies an abundance of Cultural news, and A. Budreckis provides "Language Lore."

Aldona reports an excellent response to the Christmas Greeting campaign. That and other donations to VYTIS have contributed to keeping VYTIS overall costs down. Aldona, sadly, has announced her desire to resign from the post of Editor, for health reasons, and has asked the Supreme Council to find a replacement for her. A search committee has been formed, consisting of Loretta Stukas, Albert Jaritis, Irene Sankus, and Aldona Ryan. The committee would appreciate the help of the membership in its search for a suitable person to fill this important position.



Ruth Kazlauskas, Ed Kazlauskas and Aldona Ryan at Sportsman's Park.

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

President Tom Bruzga reports that the District sponsored two Conventions, in Detroit (combined with the District Pilgrimage), and in Dayton (in conjunction with the Midwest Bowling Tournament). All councils had special St. Casimir celebrations. MCD councils are active in all phases of activity, and have been generous in their donations to K of L and other Lithuanian projects, including the Scholarship, History, and Chronicle Funds, as well as the Lithuanian Legation and various parish funds. Many MCD councils had memorial masses for Prof. Aleksis and for Lithuanian Independence Day.

The District was especially active in the renewed efforts for a Darius-Girena stamp.

Mr. Bruzga is handling the St. Casimir statue project, and has distributed over 70 statues to date. Mr. Bruzga congratulates C-79, Southfield, Mich., who celebrate their 25th Anniversary this year.

MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

President Algerd Brazis reports that the Mid-America District held 4 meetings during the year. They had a successful "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet in February (attended by most of the Supreme Council), a St. Casimir's Day Commemoration in March, and the traditional July 4 Picnic. The District's K of L Choir, directed by Faustas Strolia, and K of L Dance Group, directed by Frank Zapolis, participated in the recent International Lithuanian Dance Festival in Cleveland and both groups make frequent appearances in and around Chicago spreading the name of Lithuania.

The district consists of 10 regular councils, 1 senior and 1 junior council. One new council, 13, was reorganized this year as a "youth" council. Several of the new councils are still floundering, but assistance is being provided, and there are strong indications that they will become active soon. The district is proud and fully supportive of this National Convention, hosted by its member council 36, and wishes it well.

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Larry Janonis, MAD President, reports on another active year for this District. The District sponsored three Conventions, in New York, Pittston (in conjunction with St. Casimir's Day), and Paterson. In observance of the Year of St. Casimir, all conventions held in 1984 are being held at parishes dedicated to St. Casimir. The March convention in Pittston included a concelebrated mass officiated by Aux. Bishop J. Timlin of Scranton. The district also had special St. Casimir's 500th Anniversary commemorative buttons and distributed them to the membership.

MAD sponsored a well-attended and successful Leadership Workshop, in Easton, PA and plans to continue the Workshops, to reach as many as possible of its members. MAD has collected funds for the restoration of the Statue of Lithuania, and turned over the first installment of \$1400 to the Statue of Liberty Committee.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

President Al Jaritis reports that the District had two Conventions, in Brockton and Lawrence, held a Cultural Picnic last Fall, with C-50, New Haven as hosts, and sponsored a TV Mass, also in New Haven. This Fall, they plan a pilgrimage to the Cathedral of the Pines in New Hampshire, and a Cultural Picnic in Worcester. This year's District Scholarship was given to Virginia Bizankauskas of C-1. Its member councils have been involved in a variety of activities including assisting with K of L Archives activities.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chairman Dr. Jack Stukas reports another active Lithuanian Affairs year. Most of the activity is directed by the Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin, edited by Miss Bernice Aviza under Dr. Stukas' direction. The bulleting is sent to members and friends of the K of L request. The cost of publishing the bulleting has been offset by donations received from members and councils. The bulleting provides action items and instructions on how and when to respond to press, etc., information about Lithuanian causes. It should be forwarded only to those prepared to act or respond to subjects covered.

Several councils, in co-sponsoring Feb. 16 Commemorations in their communities, collected contributions for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee as well as for other organizations, thus further aiding the Committee's work. Dr. Stukas recommends that all councils who co-sponsor Feb. 16 rallies in their communities also include the K of L Lithuania Affairs Committee as a cause for donations by those attending.

The Lithuanian Affairs Committee cooperated with other Lithuanian organizations in obtaining the Baltic Freedom Day proclamation by President Reagan and several governors. It was active in the renewed effort to obtain a Darius-Girenas Commemorative stamp, in the fight to obtain freedom for



Dr. Stukas and Fr. Jurgelaitis.

Revs. Svarinskas, and Tamkevicius, and has participated in many other Lithuanian causes.

Personally, Dr. Stukas was instrumental in organizing a delegation to Gov. Kean of NJ in Trenton, NJ, for the signing of the proclamation of Republic of Lithuania Week. He has maintained relations with major Lithuanian organizations and broadcasts Lithuanian Affairs items regularly on his two radio programs.

Dr. Stukas urges all K of L members to pay more attention and respond to news items about Lithuania

and to send clippings more promptly to him for further action. Dr. Stukas and his committee express thanks to all those members who have submitted clippings and news articles about Lithuania, for action by the committee.

This year's "Friend of Lithuania" Award will be presented to Sister Ann Gillen, Executive Director of the Interreligious Task Force for Soviet Jewry, especially for her work on behalf of Lithuanian dissidents.

LITHUANIAN CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Chairman Anna Klizas Wargo maintained contact with Council and District cultural committee chairmen by mailing information on how to conduct Cultural Activity on the Council and District level. She submitted numerous Cultural articles to VYTIS, and spoke on Lithuanian culture at local non-Lithuanian clubs.

In response to reports of council cultural activity, Anna has selected prize-winners for the best activities. The awards will be made later during this convention.

Ann participated in the Papal Audience and Mass in Rome, and received Holy Communion from the Holy Father at the Mass.



Chairman Ann Wargo

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman Anthony J. Mazeika reports that the Honorary Membership Committee will bestow Honorary Membership on Rev. Albin Janiunas, C-17. The Committee will meet during the Convention to evaluate other candidates. Four Honorary Members died this year, namely Prof. A. Aleksis, Prof. J. Eretas, Joseph Yanulaitis, and Kazimiera Petruilis.

RITUAL COMMITTEE

Chairman Magdalena Samilis and committee members Rita Pinkūš and Ann Marie Kassel report that 29 candidates have been approved for the Fourth Degree at this Convention. During the year, 176 First Degrees, 115 Second Degrees and 108 Third degrees were awarded. The committee is printing the new requirements for Ritual Degrees as passed at the 70th National Convention.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman Maryann Lepera reports that she sent post-Convention news to 11 newspapers and 10 radio programs, and has sent releases during the year to the various Lithuanian and American papers reporting on Supreme Council plans and meetings, the Papal Audience and Mass and other activities commemorating the 500th anniversary of St. Casimir, the campaign for the canonization of Archbishop Matulaitis, the 71st National Convention, and other special events. She kept in touch with PR chairmen of districts and councils, and added newspapers local to reporting councils to her list of recipients of PR releases.

Maryann sent several articles to VYTIS, including one on the Statue of Liberty, participated in a special meeting to discuss work of the Americans for Due Process, and led a Lithuanian Affairs panel at the MAD Leadership Workshop. She served as secretary for the joint Lithuanian committee for a St. Casimir Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral and hosted one program of the Philadelphia Lithuanian Hour.

Maryann congratulates all councils who participated in the promotion of the K of L in their local areas, especially to C-63, Lehigh Valley. Commendations will be presented later during this convention. Special thanks are expressed to Mrs. Emilija Pakalniskis for her editing of the VYČIŲ VEIKLA column in DRAUGAS, and to Dale Bulvicius, who handles K of L news in DARBININKAS and Bridges.

Maryann attended the Papal Mass and Audience, and received Holy Communion from the Holy Father.



Chairman Bill Piacentini

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman William Piacentini reports that the Scholarship Committee is in sound shape. Last year's recipients have all received their Scholarship allotments, and applications for this year's awards will be reviewed during the Convention. A balance of \$4100.00 is available for this year's awards.

Clemicine Miller, Sec'yTreas. has donated a beautiful straw picture to the Scholarship Committee. This and other gifts will be available during this convention as part of a raffle to benefit the Scholarship Fund.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Chairman Larry Svelnis is collecting K of L records and archival materials and, with his committee, is organizing and cataloging materials received.

LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE PROPAGATION

Coordinator Algirdas Budreckis continues to foster the Lithuanian language among members with his "Lithuanian Lore" feature in VYTIS. The monthly feature has been found useful by all VYTIS readers, regardless of their level of understanding of Lithuanian. Mr. Budreckis has also translated Convention resolutions and a variety of other K of L-related articles, letters and features, and aided in the evaluation of materials being considered for publication by the K of L. He has prepared some conversation materials dealing with meals, and is preparing to distribute them to councils for use in cultural projects at meetings.

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID

Chairman Frances Petkus reports that once again, the drive to sponsor the publication of an issue of the Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania was successful. During the past year, \$3000 was collected toward the publication. All Districts participated and 28 of our 57 councils contributed to this worthy cause. Especially notable is one member, who held a one-man campaign to raise money for this drive. His goal was to raise 10% of the National Drive, or \$300. He decorated coffee cans and left them at business establishments. His total contribution was \$302.04! Congratulations to Mr. Bronislaw Lazauskas of C-7, Waterbury, for this great contribution!

Frances will present a check in this amount to Rev. A. Contons, president of the Lithuanian American Priests League during the Convention. This the second year in a row we have made such a donation toward this most worthy cause. I strongly recommend that we continue this practice, and begin another drive immediately. Donations to the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid by K of L members have been generous also.

K OF L HISTORY

Helen Shields, History Fund Chairman, reports good progress on the K of L History, both financially and editorially. Rev. W. Wolkovich continues to compile and analyze material and continues collecting memorabilia, interviewing members, and otherwise gathering data. Financially, Mr. Jonas Valauskas, Honorary Member, has promised to sponsor the printing of the book, and has made an

initial donation of \$1000, toward a pledged total of \$12000-\$15000, while the rest of the organization must collect the approximately \$15,000 needed for research and writing. Councils, districts and individuals have been generous in donating or pledging donations to the Fund. To date, only \$2600 remains to be pledged, to meet the goal of \$15,000.

Those districts, councils or individuals who contribute at least \$75.00 will be acknowledged in the publication and will receive a complimentary copy. Contributions can be spread over the remaining 3 years remaining until its publication. The History will be published in both languages, with English as the primary one and a summary in Lithuanian. Helen Shields will be happy to accept your donation or pledge at this Convention. Any amount will be most welcome. All districts have donated or pledged to the Fund. We hope that those councils or individuals not yet included in the list of 'pledges' join in this important project for our 75th Anniversary, so that we can put the financial part of the project behind us and begin concentrating on the publication.

YEAR OF ST. CASIMIR

Last year, we dedicated the coming K of L year to St. Casimir, vowing to commemorate properly the 500th Anniversary of his death. Revs. Jurgelaitis and Bartkus and Nancy Miro today, and VYTIS in several issues, covered the highlights of our St. Casimir activities very well, and I don't want to be repetitious. I think you will all agree that St. Casimir should be proud of our efforts!

But on a personal basis, I thank all of you who participated in any way, at any level in paying special homage to our Patron Saint. I'd like to thank especially those members who sacrificed their time and funds to attend the special events at the Vatican. I think they will agree that the sacrifices were well worth it! Let me share a few statistics. Some 200 members attended, with representation from 4 districts, 25 councils. 5 Honorary Members attended, as did 6 Supreme Council officers. You would have been proud of our S. C. members . . . I certainly was. They were called on in many ways to help, and everywhere, they helped. They attended meetings, planned a reception for Archbishop Marcinkus, served as hostesses at the Closing Banquet, sold medals, pictures, etc., and in general, were graciously there whenever needed. Thank you — all of you!

1984 was truly a year in which personal and public devotion to St. Casimir was increased and enhanced. Let us not stop now. St. Casimir should become a permanent part of our lives . . . someone we pray to,

and someone whose help we implore for all our needs.

An outgrowth of the Vatican festivities is a new awareness of the importance of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome. The College's contribution to the success of the Papal Mass and Audience was large. As the only Lithuanian seminary outside of Lithuania, its potential in promoting vocations has not been fully appreciated. The Supreme Council is proposing that the K of L formally "adopt" the college, thus help publicize, nurture, and enhance its important work. Rev. Al Bartkus, pro-rector of the College, will speak on this subject tomorrow, and a resolution to this effect will be proposed at that time.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, Inc.

Looking for new sources of income so that we can keep our dues low and accessible to all, the 70th

National Convention established an Endowment Fund, called the Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc. The Foundation will be made up of donations and bequests from individuals wishing to remember the K of L. Said donations will be invested, the capital will be "untouchable", only interest will be used for K of L special projects. Legal Adviser, John Narusis, has completed initial work and has established the Foundation. What remains is to establish the Foundation as a Tax-exempt institution. This is in progress and should be completed soon.

I am most happy to announce that several donations have already been made to the Foundation. Mr. Peter Kasilionis began the Fund with a \$50.00 donation, and H.M. Jonas Valauskas contributed an initial \$100 toward the expenses of incorporation, and promises more in the future. This week, I received a check for \$1000 from Marcella Aleksis, to be added to the Foundation in memory of her late husband, our beloved Prof. Alexander Aleksis. We hope that before the convention is over, other (not necessarily as large) donations will be forthcoming. Forms will begin appearing in VYTIS, providing information on how to include this Foundation in your Testaments.

WHAT MORE, WHAT BETTER

Another informational packet was prepared and distributed to councils, by Nancy Miro and Loretta Stukas, and contained an updated version of the council portion of the K of L Manual, a list of available K of L publications and artifacts and where they can be obtained, and ideas for cultural, religious, patriotic and social programs at meetings. The packets were well received, especially by the new councils.

As a result of this last packet, councils have

increased orders for our St. Casimir and Our Lady of Siluva booklets, and our supply of these is almost depleted. Our thanks to Barbara Kartanowicz or C-12 for her work in processing all those orders and keeping the membership aware of their presence through VYTIS ads and personal contact.

STATUE OF LIBERTY PROJECT

All of us are either immigrants or descendants of immigrants, who came to the US seeking a new life. The symbol of that new life, the Statue of Liberty, is seeking our help, and I am happy to report that we have begun providing that help! The MAD has already turned over \$1400 to the Statue of Liberty Renovation Fund, making us the first ethnic group to make such a large donation. The K of L campaign was started by Mary York of C-12, as a "pennies for the Lady" campaign. The donations largely represent the result of members giving up their pocket change or "pennies".

I hope others follow suit, in this, an American campaign, as a tribute to our immigrant ancestors. Mary will be available to provide information about the campaign.

SUMMARY

Once again, I am happy to report that "we had a very good year." Our Supreme Council officers and committee heads attended most of the meetings and were faithful in corresponding between meetings. Our successes came from cooperation and mutual respect, and from sharing ideas and work. Perhaps the success also came from a strong bond of friendship that has developed among members of the board, for most of them have worked together for three years, and most of the current officers will be leaving office this year.

Three years ago, we vowed to bring healthy growth to the organization, to develop effective leadership on all levels, to bring more youth into the organization, and to strengthen our religious and cultural activities. While these are lofty goals, and cannot be fully realized in three years, I think we can say that we did make appreciable strides in all these goals, and can leave a good base on which future Boards can build.

In membership, the K of L has grown from 3218 in June, 1981 to 4120 in June, 1984 — an increase of over 900 members. We went from 49 councils to 57, an increase of 8 councils. (Actually 9 new councils, because two councils, C-17 and C-17Sr. merged.) We have entered or reentered the states of Wisc., Kansas and Texas, with councils and improved the bases in other states.

The MAD began a series of "leadership" seminars, and the idea has spread to the MCD. As a result, new and old members are becoming better acquainted with their organization, and becoming more comfortable with accepting offices. And we have sent all councils instructions, ideas, suggestions on how to conduct meetings, how to plan cultural events, and how to use organization resources to advantage.

While the number of junior councils has remained stable, increased activity has been evident. One junior group even participated in the recent "Šokių Šventė" and others are forming dance and song groups. A Junior Camp will finally become a reality in 1985. This year, a group of Chicagoans formed the first Youth Council, for members between 18 and 30. Others may take C-13's example. We have tried to bring youth into K of L life as much as possible, with some measure of success.

On the religious and cultural side, our participation in St. Casimir activities, in Rome and locally, has to be a crowning star for our organization. And our continued leadership in the Archbishop Matulaitis canonization efforts have not gone unnoticed. For two years, we have made sizable contributions to the publication of the Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania. \$5500 has been contributed thus far.

The Lithuanian Affairs bulletin has attracted increased attention, and has addressed all the major Lithuanian concerns of the past few years, including the causes of Revs. Svarinskas and Tamkevicius and other dissidents and prisoners of conscience, the D-G Commemorative stamp project, Lithuania's omission from maps, etc.

The "Language Lore" column in VYTIS, and Lithuanian classes in various councils have provided a way for members to improve their Lithuanian.

The K of L has maintained and improved relations with other organizations, to our mutual benefit. And our representatives have been invited to attend briefings and signing ceremonies at the White House and at many State Capitols, and had the wonderful experience of greeting and being greeted by the Holy Father himself, receiving his blessing on the organization, and being mentioned specifically in his greeting to Lithuanians.

Financially, we have not had to ask for an increase in dues, and the establishment of the Knights of Lithuania Foundation and the increased donations to the Lithuanian Affairs Committee should keep our organization on firm ground financially.

But can we (or our successors) now rest on our laurels? Will our organization continue to grow and thrive to our 75th anniversary and beyond? Will it last past our generation?

And what is it like now, at the "grass roots" level? Are we just signing up new members, or are we also bringing them into our activity? What percentage of YOUR council members attend meetings, take part in your activities, volunteer for committees? What are you doing to train new leaders? Perhaps you may also benefit from a leadership seminar! MAD members will gladly help get you started.

We're proud that new councils, in new areas, with brand new members are a fact. But without our nurturing, they will wither on the vine. The Supreme Council cannot physically visit every new council regularly. And personal contact is essential.

If you care about our future, extend a helping hand to new councils in your area. The only credentials you need are K of L membership and a willingness to be a friend. Visit them, invite them to visit you, plan your District affairs so that outlying councils can conveniently attend, and urge them to do so. Let's demonstrate that good family spirit.

As an outgrowth of the Year of St. Casimir, we are asking that the Convention declare the coming year the "Year of Youth". And take positive steps toward increasing the active participation of YOUTH —

especially those in the 18-30 group. A resolution will be presented, outlining specific steps to take this year to insure an influx of youth. Please pay heed to the resolution, vote for it, and take the ideas back to your councils to follow up on.

As I said, we are on the heels of our 75th Anniversary of our Knights of Lithuania. It is just 4 short years away. Our past history is being recorded formally. Let's work together to make NEW history these next few years. Let's put the K of L on firm ground, and assure it a beautiful future, by making it young, vibrant, responsive to all members' needs, religious and cultural, and a recognized leader in the fight for Lithuania's freedom.

On behalf of the Supreme Council, thank you for your attention today, and your cooperation and interest this year and for the past 3 years. May our patron, St. Casimir continue to watch over us and guide us in our efforts "Dievui ir Tėvynei."

Dievas telaimina mūsų pastangas, pasiryžimus ir nutarimus darbuotis Dievo ir Tėvynės labui. Lai Gyvuoja Lietuvos Vyčiai.

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta I. Stukas,
National President

1984 K OF L CONVENTION PRESIDIUM AND COMMITTEES



CHAIRMAN

Larry Janonis, C-12, Bronx

CO-CHAIRMEN

Dr. Jack Stukas, C-29, Newark
Algerd Brazis, C-112, Chicago

SECRETARIES

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Bernice Aviza, C-100, Amsterdam

SGTS-AT-ARMS

Andy Rozger, C-17, Pittsburgh
Paul Strolia, C-36, Chicago
John Strolia, C-13, Chicago



MANDATE COMMITTEE

Helen Skudra, C-36, Chicago
Georgianna Kassel, C-36, Chicago
Thomas Strolia, C-36, Chicago
Sabina Klatt, C-36, Chicago
Stella Kalakas, C-36, Chicago



GREETINGS COMMITTEE

Irene Rakaitis, C-112, Chicago
Frances Bumila, C-1, Brockton
Mary Kincius, C-36, Chicago

Eleanor Mantz, C-96, Dayton
Sofia Zukas, C-36, Chicago
Rita Shevokas, C-144, Anthracite



PRESS COMMITTEE

Mary Ann Lepera, C-3, Philadelphia
Aldona Ryan, C-96, Cayton
Ruth Kazlauskas, C-36, Chicago

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Rev. A. J. Jurgelaitis, C-103, Providence
Dr. Denis Mazeika, C-147, St. Petersburg
Paul Binkis, Jr. C-112, Chicago
Sister Francesca, C-17, Pittsburgh
Sister Alverna, C-17, Pittsburgh
Alex Pakalniškis, Jr., C-112, Chicago



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Algerd Brazis, MAMD
 Larry Janonis, MAD
 Thomas Bruzga, MCD
 Albert Jaritis, NED



MINUTES COMMITTEE

Helen Chesko, C-144, Anthracite
 Bernice Aviza, C-100, Amsterdam

GREETINGS

RONALD REAGAN

President of the United States

JOSEPH CARDINAL BERNARDIN

Archbishop of Chicago

JAMES R. THOMPSON

Governor of Illinois

HAROLD WASHINGTON

Mayor of Chicago

Most Rev. CHARLES A. SALATKA, HM
 Archbishop of Oklahoma City

Most Rev. VINCENTAS BRIZGYS, HM
 Bishop of Kaunas, Lithuania, in Exile
 Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

MOST REV. PAULIUS BALTAKIS

Bishop for Lithuanians in the Free World

DR. STASYS A. BACKIS

Charge D'Affaires of Lithuania
 by Hon. Josephine Dauzvardis, HM
 Consul General of Lithuania

SUPREME COMMITTEE FOR THE LIBERATION OF LITHUANIA (VLIKAS)

Dr. Kazys Bobelis, Pres.
 by Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM

WORLD LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY (PLB)

V. Kamantas, Pres.

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL, INC. (AMERIKOS LIETUVIŲ TARYBA)

Dr. Kazys Sidlauskas, Pres.
 by Teodoras Blinstrubas

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF THE USA, INC. (BENDRUOMENĖ)

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LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION OF AMERICA

Saulius Kuprys, Pres.
 by Irene K. Sankus

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION (ATEITININKŲ FEDERACIJA)

Juozas Laučka, Pres.
 by Dr. Kazys Pemkus

AMERICAN LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

Julia A. Mack, President

NATIONAL LITHUANIAN SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC. (AMERIKOS LIETUVIŲ TAUTINĖ SAJUNGA)

Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas, Pres.
 by Vida Jonusiene

FEDERATION OF LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S CLUBS

Marija Noreikiene, Pres.
 by Matilda Marcinkiene

LITHUANIAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. (TAUTOS FONDAS)

Juozas Giedraitis, Pres.
 by Jonas Jurkunas

LITHUANIAN FOUNDATION, INC. (LIETUVIŲ FONDAS)

Stasys Baras, Pres.

GREETINGS

UNITED LITHUANIAN RELIEF FUND OF AMERICA, CIN. (BALF)

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Sigitas Miknaitis, Council Pres.

LITHUANIAN ALLIANCE (SUSIVIENIJIMO LIETUVIŲ AMERIKOJE)

Povilas Dargis, Pres.

PASAULIO LIETUVIŲ JAUNIMO SAJUNGA (WORLD LITHUANIAN YOUTH ASSOCIATION)

Gintaras Grusas, Pres.

LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS' LEAGUE OF AMERICA (KUNIGŲ VIENYBĖ)

Rev. Albert J. Contons, Pres.

DRAUGAS

Rev. Pranas Garšva

DARBININKAS

Rev. Kornelijus Bučmys, Editor

GARSAS

Rev. Kornelijus Bučmys, Editor

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID

Rev. Casimir Pugevičius, Exec. Dir.

LITHUANIAN FRANCISCAN VICARIATE OF ST. CASIMIR

Most Rev. Paulius Baltakis, Provincial

CONGREGATION OF THE MARIAN FATHERS

Rev. Viktoras Rimselis, Provincial

LITHUANIAN JESUIT FATHERS I

Rev. Antanas Saulaitis, SJ

SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sister M. Paule, Provincial

SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR

Sister M. Joanella, SSC, Superior

SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED

Sister M. Ruth, CJC, Superior General

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

Sister Marian Blodis, General Superior
by Sister Alverna

JŪRŲ ŠAULIŲ KUOPA „KLAIPĖDA”

J. Mikulis, Pirm., Cicero, IL

„RAMOVĖ”, LITHUANIAN VETERANS ASSOC.

Kostas Juskaitis, Pirm., Chicago, IL

AMERICAN LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ALLIANCE, CHICAGO DISTRICT

Vicky Leone, President

WOMEN'S GUILD OF BALZEKAS MUSEUM

Chicago, IL

CHICAGO LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S CLUB

Denise Vaikutis, Pres.

LIETUVIŲ MOTERŲ KLUBŲ FEDERACIJA, CHICAGOS KLUBAS

Joland Kerelienė, Pirm.

MARCELLA ALEKSIS, HM

C-3, Waterbury, CT

with \$1000.00 donation to

K of L Foundation, Inc.

in memory of Prof. A. Aleksis, HM

PHYLLIS GRANDAL, HM

C-17, So. Boston, MA

with donations of \$50. to Scholarship Fund,

\$50 to VYTIS Fund

IRENE TAMULEVICH

C-116, Worcester, MA

with \$750.00 donation to

Lithuanian Chronicle Fund,

in memory of Edward Tamulevich

SISTER FELICE JUCIUS, OSF

Director of Public Relations

Sisters of St. Francis

GENEVIEVE GOBIS

C-100, Amsterdam, NY

with donations of \$5.00 reach to:

Lithuanian Affairs Fund, Bulletin Fund,

Scholarship Fund, LCRA Fund, VYTIS Fund

ELSIE KOSMISKY

C-144, Frackville, PA

with \$5.00 donation to LCRA Chronicle Fund

ANTHONY AND SUSAN MAZEIKA

C-147, St. Petersburg, FL

with \$5.00 donation to LCRA Chronicle Fund

**REPORT OF THE NATIONAL
PRESIDENT
To the 71st National Convention
Chicago, Illinois
August 23, 1984**

Following is a summary of my activities in fulfillment of the duties of National President during the past year.

1. Scheduled and chaired three Supreme Council meetings, in New York, NY, Chicago, IL, and Newark, NJ.

2. Led delegation of 200 K of L-ers participating with Lithuanians from around the world in special Papal Audience and Papal Mass, honoring the 500th Anniversary of the Death of St. Casimir. Presented gifts on behalf of the K of L, to the Holy Father during the Audience, and to Archbishop P. Marcinkus during a visit with him. Represented the K of L in the Offertory Procession during the Papal Mass, during which I received the Holy Father's blessings for the entire organization.

3. Wrote letters of gratitude on behalf of the K of L to all principals involved in preparing the Vatican St. Casimir commemoration, and sent them copies of VYTIS' Commemorative St. Casimir issue.

4. Wrote articles for VYTIS about the Vatican festivities, and related experiences on "Memories of Lithuania" and "Music of Lithuania" Radio Hours (NY and NJ, resp.) Helped select and edit articles for Commemorative St. Casimir issue of VYTIS. Wrote various articles for VYTIS.

5. Represented K of L at Wake and Funeral of H.M. Alexander Aleksis.

6. Greeted Bishop Brizgys on his 80th Birthday during his visit to NY, and presented him a gift on behalf of the K of L.

7. Was Guest Speaker at C-135 St. Casimir Day Breakfast in Ansonia, CT. Attended and extended K of L S.C. greetings to MAMD "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet in Chicago, MAD Convention in Paterson, NJ, and at "Lithuanian Independence Day" Banquet in Easton, PA where I also presented K of L charter to C-63.

8. Paid courtesy visits to MAMD at their July 4 Picnic in Chicago, and C-144 sponsored Lithuanian Day at Barnesville, PA.

9. Led "K of L Roots" Workshop panel at MAD Leadership Conference Easton, PA.

10. Represented K of L at the Signing of the Lithuanian Independence Day Proclamation by Governor Kean of NJ at the State House in Trenton, NJ. Presented Gov. Kean with a gift on behalf of the K of L at that time.



11. Served on Honorary Committee for the 7th Lithuanian Dance Festival (Šokių Šventė) in Cleveland, OH, and attended the event and its related activities.

12. Served on Honorary Committee for Banquet by Balzekas Museum honoring Faustas Strolia. Also attended the event and extended greetings on behalf of the K of L.

13. Served on Honorary Committee and sent greetings to Banquet honoring Rev. C. Pugevicius, sponsored by Lithuanian Community, Inc.

14. Worked with Legal Adviser John Narusis to complete the establishment of the Knights of Lithuania Foundation.

15. Worked with N. Miro in preparation of the K of L part of the K of L Manual and distributing it to all Council presidents.

16. Worked with T. Bruzga in selection of St. Casimir statues for sale by K of L.

17. On behalf of the S.C., purchased pro-life posters from the Catholic League and distributed them to all Lithuanian parishes and missions in the US.

18. Responded with written greetings, to invitations to conventions of VLIKas, ALTAS, Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation, Lithuanian National Organization, and others.

19. Kept in close contact with C-36 with respect to their plans for the 71st National Convention.

20. Kept in touch with S.C. members and leaders of various districts and councils to help and advise where needed and to solve problems as they occurred. Responded to a variety of correspondence received from K of L-ers, interested Lithuanians and other Lithuanian organizations.

I would like to sincerely thank all the members of the Supreme Council and the National Committee heads for their outstanding cooperation this past year, and for the past three years. Their help and support as well as their diligence and interest in carrying out their duties was gratifying and made my job truly enjoyable and rewarding. Ačiū širdingai.

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta I. Stukas
National President

MEMBERSHIP

Elsie Kosmisky

According to the latest membership figures as of July, 1984 our membership has increased by 157 members over the past year. In the past (3) three years, there has been a steady increase, a total of 902 members as follows:

1981 — 3261
1982 — 3663
1983 — 4006
1984 — 4163

During the past year we gained (2) two new Councils,
C #151 — Austin, Texas
C #13 Youth Council, Chicago.

I congratulate Paul Strolia for taking the initiative to start this council for the youth, under age 30 by signing 22 new members.

The following Councils have had the greatest increase in membership according to their categories:

Athol-Gardner C #10 — 9 new members
New Haven C #50 — 27 new members
Lehigh Valley C #63 — 31 new members
Great Neck C #109 — 21 new members
Chicago C #36 — 108 new members
Maspeth C #110 — 44 new members

MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS (as of June 30, 1984)

NO.	COUNCIL City	TOTALS					
		Dec. 31 1983	Jun. 30 1984				
MID-ATLANTIC DIST.							
3	Philadelphia	79	83				
12	New York	79	75				
29	Newark	166	161				
41	Brooklyn	43	40				
46	Forest City	38	42				
52	Elizabeth	27	30				
61	Paterson	45	55				
63	LeHigh Valley	61	92				
67	Bayonne	20	20				
74	Scranton	82	75				
90	Kearny	31	36				
100	Amsterdam	104	104				
109	Great Neck	17	38				
110	Maspeth	287	331				
118	Hazelton	24	27				
140	Syracuse	54	48				
142	Washington	34	43				
143	Pittston	56	53				
144	Schuykill Cty	241	184				
146	Harrisburg	52	42				
147	St. Petersburg	82	75				
MID-AMERICA DIST.							
5	Chicago	5	1				
13	Chicago		22				
14	Cicero	25	23				
36	Chicago	511	619				
Srs	Chicago	29	31				
38	Kenosha	18	13				
40	E. St. Louis	18	4				
82	Gary	12	12				
112	Chicago	220	218				
117	Darien	5	2				
150	Kansas City	5	4				
MID-CENTRAL DIST.							
19	Pittsburgh	59	57				
25	Cleveland	61	66				
Srs.	Cleveland	26	23				
79	Southfield	131	133				
86	DuBois	66	64				
96	Dayton	128	134				
102	Detroit	38	34				
139	Detroit	27	26				
149	Saginaw	19	20				
NEW ENGLAND DIST.							
1	Brockton	31	35				
7	Waterbury	116	105				
10	Athol-Gardner	36	49				
17	So. Boston	164	161				
26	Worcester	141	132				
27	Norwood	26	22				
30	Westfield	24	24				
50	New Haven	112	139				
78	Lawrence	21	24				
103	Providence	62	57				
116	Worcester	61	60				
135	Ansonia	60	60				
141	Bridgeport	48	48				
145	Holyoke	32	31				
OTHER							
133	Los Angeles	47	18				
151	Austin		5				
TOTALS							
Mid-Atlantic		1622	1654				
Mid-America		848	949				
Mid-Central		555	557				
New England		934	940				
Other		47	23				
GRAND TOTALS		4006	4123				

SUPREME COUNCIL RITUAL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

We approved and conferred the following number of degrees:

First Degrees to 176 members
Second Degrees to 115 members
Third Degrees to 197 members
Fourth Degrees to 29 members

The recipients of the Fourth Degree are:

#19 Sister M. Francesca
#25 Joanna Shigo
#29 Regina Schmidt
#96 Stefanija Rastikis
#100 Regina Kot, Polly Ziausys
#103 Bette Ciuryla, Anthony Gudeczaukas, Irene Walaska

#112 Paul Binkis, Jr., Alice Cekanor, Peter V. Gagle
#143 Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, Dorothy Bano, Anne Challan, Leo Butsavage

#147 Rev. Jonas Gasiunas, Victoria Jacobson, Kazys Kleiva, Victoria Kleiva, Aleksas Kraujalis, Violet Kraujalis, Terese Luitkus, Adolfas Paleckis, Jonas Valauskas, Alena Vilnis, Kazys Vilnis

Chicago Srs. Joseph Stanaitis, Valeria Stanaitis
#144 Rev. Algimantas Bartkus

Last year's recipients of the Fourth Degree Award who will be receiving their medals this year are: C#36 Ruth Kazlauskas and Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas.



Bestowing of Fourth Degrees. Closing Mass — Sunday, August 26.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Donations to Scholarship Committee September 1983 through July 1984

Council 7 — Waterbury, CT — \$25.00
 Council 17 — South Boston, MA — 50.00
 Council 26 — Worcester, MA — 50.00
 Council 30 — Westfield, MA — 25.00
 Council 36 — Chicago, IL — 25.00
 Council 41 — Brooklyn, NY (IMO Prof. Aleksandras Aleksis) — 10.00
 Council 41 — Brooklyn, NY (IMO Anna Zarjankauskas Rinko) — 10.00
 Council 41 — Brooklyn, NY (IMO Rev. George Gurminskas) — 10.00
 Council 46 — Forrest City, PA (IMO Isabel DeWitt) — 25.00
 Council 59 — New Haven, CT — 25.00
 Council 52 — Linden, NJ — 10.00
 Council 79 — Southfield, MI — 50.00
 Council 96 — Dayton, OH — 25.00
 Council 100 — Amsterdam, NY — 50.00
 Council 100 Juniors — Amsterdam, NY — 25.00
 Council 118 — Hazelton, PA — 25.00
 Council 139 — Detroit, MI — 25.00
 Council 140 — Syracuse, NY — 50.00
 Council 141 — Bridgeport, CT — 25.00
 Council 143 — Pittston, PA — 25.00
 Council 144 — Anthracite, Frackville, PA — 100.00
 Council 145 — Holyoke, MA (IMO deceased members) — 25.00
 Council 146 — Harrisburg, PA — 25.00
 Council 147 — St. Petersburg, FL (IMO Prof. Aleksandras Aleksis) — 50.00
 Mid-Atlantic District — 50.00
 Mid-Central District — 50.00

New England District — 50.00
 St. George Church, Bridgeport, CT, Msgr. Francis J. Prankus, Pastor — 25.00

William Sedlis, Maspeth, NY — 20.00
 Ann Mitchell Matalavich, Elizabeth, NJ (IMO Father John Matulevicius) — 25.00
 Margaret Petronis (IMO J. Yanilaitis) — 25.00
 Marvin Berman Agency — Bayonne, NJ (IMO Agnes Bittman) — 35.00
 Martin W. Rusgi — Sparta, NJ (IMO Sister Agnes Bittman) — 25.00
 Elizabeth Izurak (IMO Agnes Bittman) — 5.00
 Mr. & Mrs. Anthony J. Radzevich, Amsterdam, NY — 25.00
 Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse Trainis, Fairfield, CT — 25.00
 Rev. Peter J. Alesaukas (IMO Alesauskas Family) — 10.00
 Ann Challan (IMO deceased family members) — 10.00
 Casimir and Rosalie Kezis (IMO deceased family members) — 10.00
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph J. Zukas, Great Neck, NY — 20.00
 Leonard L. Balkus — Council 79, Farmington Hills, MI — 10.00
 Peter Kasilonis, Clark, NJ — 10.00
 Aldona & Frank Brinikis, Council 102, Detroit, MI — 10.00
 Florence Zaleskas, South Boston (IMO parent Felix Zaleskas) — 25.00
 Mr. & Mrs. Algird Brazis (In honor of Adele Gabalis) — 25.00
 Irene Sankus (In honor of Adele Gabalis) — 20.00
 Mr. & Mrs. Yavowsky, Simpson, PA — 10.00
 Total donations — \$1,310.00

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

INCOME **Treasurer's Report**
 1983 National Convention Receipts.....\$1,426.00
 (Raffle \$478.00, Donations \$946.00)
 Loan by C. Miller to Scholarship Committee ... 74.00
 Transferred from old account.....2,400.00
 Transferred from old account..... 408.16
 Interest for 1984 120.62
 Interest for 1983 58.09
 Donations to date.....1,310.00
 Total income\$5,796.87

EXPENDITURES
 William Painmentini-(misc.) \$56.95
 Clem Miller (repaid loan) 74.00
 Bank charge..... 6.05
 Stamps 20.00
 1984 Nat—onal Convention AD 30.00
 Total expenditures \$187.00

SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS
 Thomas Strolia \$500.00
 Michael Mikolaitis 375.00
 Veronica Bizenkauskas 125.00
 Rita M. Zukarka 250.00
 Rima Harlevaga 250.00
 Total Scholarship Payments.....\$1,500.00

RECAP
 Income\$5,796.87
 Expenditures \$187.00
 Scholarship Payments\$1,500.00
 Total Expenses 1,687.00
 Balance as of 7/30/84\$4,109.87

Respectfully submitted:
 Clemincine Miller,
 Treasurer-Scholarship

RESOLUTIONS

NUTARIMAI

The following resolutions were all approved by the convention delegates.

WHEREAS in this year of St. Casimir, Patron of Lithuanian Youth, the Knights of Lithuania, assembled in Chicago at their 71st National Convention, in anticipation of our organization's 75th Anniversary, unanimously agree to declare the coming year "Knights of Lithuania Youth Year", and

WHEREAS on all levels of the organization, National, District, and Council, we vow to concentrate our energies on exploring ways to attract, organize, and urge our Catholic American Lithuanian youth to join the ranks of the Knights of Lithuania.

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania recommend the following:

— discuss ways to attract Lithuanian Catholic youth into our organization.

— provide the opportunity for our youth to partake fully in organizational work, by, wherever possible, entrusting them with positions of leadership on officers' boards, standing committees, and event committees.

— arrange social, cultural, and religious activities especially aimed at youth participation.

— seek out specific members to volunteer to work especially for and with the youth.

— arrange regional and district conferences to discuss specific plans for youth activity.

— urge Lithuanian youth between ages 18 and 30 to form their own councils, and offer whatever support those councils require.

— intensify our efforts in expanding our Junior program, so that we will have a steady supply of youthful members to draw upon.

— sponsor a Juniors camp in the summer of 1985.

— offer special rewards in the Membership Drive, for bringing in members between ages 18 and 30, as an incentive to increase the ranks of the youth.

By our concentration on and fulfillment of these goals, we hope to take one major step not only toward improving our organization today, but also towards insuring it a healthy future.

* * *

Kadangi šiais, lietuviškojo jaunimo globėjo — šv. Kazimiero — metais, Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas susirinko Čikagoje, ir, organizacijos įkūrimo 75-tųjų metų jubiliejaus belaukiant, vienbalsiai nutarė paskelbti sekančiuosius metus „Lietuvos Vyčių Jaunimo Metais“; ir

Kadangi visose mūsų organizacijos pakopose — Centro Valdyboje, Apygardose, ir kuopose — pasižadame sukaupti jėgas iširti būdus pritraukti, suorganizuoti, ir paraginti Amerikos lietuvių katalikų jaunimą stoti į Lietuvos Vyčių gretas.

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas ragina

— diskutuoti būdus pritraukti lietuvišką katalikišką jaunimą mūsų organizacijon.

— parūpinti progų jaunimui įsijungti mūsų organizaciniame darbe, ir, kur galima, patikėti jiems vadovaujančias vietas valdybose bei komitetuose.

— ieškoti narius savanoriškam darbui su jaunimu,

— organizuoti vietines bei apygardų konferencijas diskutuoti jaunimui pritaikytą veiklą,

— raginti lietuvišką jaunimą tarp 18-kos ir 30-ties metų amžiaus organizuoti savo kuopas, ir suteiktibet kokią jų kuopom reikalingą pagalbą.

— suintensyvinti pastangas praplėsti jaunųjų Vyčių veiklos programą, idant turėtume nuolatinį organizacijos prieauglį.

— įsteigti jaunųjų Vyčių stovyklą 1985-ųjų metų vasarą.

— įsteigti ypatingas premijas narių verbavimo vajui, kaipo akstiną padidinti jaunųjų (18-30 metų) narių skaičių.

Vykdydami ir išpildydami šiuos tikslus, tikimės ne tik išlaikyti ir puoselėti sveiką mūsų organizacijos augimą, bet taip pat užtikrinti gyvastingą jos ateitį.

* * *

WHEREAS there has been a marked decrease in religious vocations, especially to the priesthood, among Lithuanian youth in the free world, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania, in the year of St. Casimir, has vowed to intensify its efforts toward the promotion of vocations, especially among Lithuanian Catholics, and

WHEREAS the Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome, Italy, as the only Lithuanian seminary outside of Lithuania, is dedicated to the practical promotion of vocations, and

WHEREAS our faithful member, Rev. Algimantas Bartkus, is now pro-rector of the College, and thus responsible for promotion of its needs, and

WHEREAS to date, no Lithuanian organization or institution has formally supported the College or fostered its needs,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, gathered in Chicago, Illinois for their 71st National Convention, officially adopt the Pontifical College of St. Casimir by pledging to share with the institution some of her concerns and needs and to foster the College with their moral support, prayers for vocations, and financial support.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pledged support will include:

— Advertising the College and its activities in VYTIS and in other Lithuanian publications.

— Seeking out, recommending, and providing financial support where possible to potential seminarians.

— Praying to St. Casimir, our common patron, for vocations and for the health of the College at all meetings, and especially at annual St. Casimir's Day celebrations.

— Making annual donations to the College on the National, District, and Council levels.

— Encouraging members who travel to Rome to visit the College and its associated hotel.

— Keeping in touch with the officials of the College, so as to respond to their special needs and to offer support where possible.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania authorize the Supreme Council to take the initial contribution of \$1,000.00 to the St. Casimir Seminary in Rome from the National Treasury as our gift of love and support from all of us.

* * *

Kadangi lietuvių jaunimo pašaukimų skaičius laisvajame pasaulyje yra labai sumažėjęs, ypatingai į kunigystę, ir

Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai, šiais šv. Kazimiero metais yra pasižadėję suintensyvinti pastangas pašaukimų svarbą išryškinti, ypatingai lietuvių katalikų tarpe, ir

Kadangi šv. Kazimiero Pontifikalinė kolegija Romoje, Italijoje yra vienintelė lietuvių seminarija už Lietuvos ribų kuri praktiškai rūpinasi pašaukimų įgyvendinimu, ir

Kadangi mūsų nuoširdus narys, kun. Algimantas Bartkus dabar eina šios kolegijos prorektorius pareigas, ir todėl yra atsakingas rūpintis jos reikalais, ir

Kadangi ligi šiol nė viena lietuvių organizacija bei institucija nėra formaliai parėmusi šią kolegiją ar padėjusi rūpintis jos reikalais,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mame Visuotiname Seime Lietuvos Vyčiai išūnija šv. Kazimiero Pontifikalinę Kolegiją pažadėdami dalintis su šia institucija jos rūpesčiais bei reikalais ir remti kolegiją morališkai, maldomis pašaukimų skaičiui didėti, bei finansiniai.

Nutarta kad prama bus įvairi:

— kolegija bei jos veikla reklamuojama VYTYJE ir kitoje lietuviškoje spaudoje,

— bus išekoma, rekomenduojama bei suteikiama finansinė parama seminaristam,

— melsimės į šv. Kazimierą, mūsų globėją, pašaukimam pagausinti ir kolegijos gerbūviui išlaikyti, susirinkimuose ir ypatingai šv. Kazimiero šventės proga,

— kasmet Centro Valdyba, apygardos, bei kuopos aukos kolegijai,

— nariai bus raginami vykti į Romą ir aplankyti kolegiją bei jos bendrabutį,

— palaikysime ryšius su kolegijos atstovais idant galėtume atsiliepti jų prašymams bei suteikti reikalingą paramą.

* * *

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas įpareigoja Centro Valdybą \$1000.00 dolerių pradinį įnašą Šv. Kazimiero Seminarijai Romoje išgauti iš Centro Valdybos Išdo kaipo mūsų meilės bei paramos išraišką.

* * *

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania at their 71st National Convention recall the Holy Father's kindness and graciousness to the Knights of Lithuania in Rome on March 3 and 4, 1984, on the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the death of St. Casimir, and

WHEREAS the Holy Father celebrated the sacred Liturgy in honor of St. Casimir,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania express sincerest gratitude to the Holy Father and renew its pledge of fidelity and obedience to His Holiness John Paul II and to Christ, Whom he represents.

* * *

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania is a Catholic organization, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania propagates the Catholic religion and Lithuanian heritage, culture, and language, and

WHEREAS continued prayers are needed in order to obtain the Beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis,

BE IT RESOLVED that all Knights of Lithuania councils have a Mass in his honor celebrated during the coming year.

* * *

WHEREAS Father Paulius Baltakis, former provincial of the Lithuanian Franciscan Fathers, was elevated to the episcopacy by the Holy Father, and will be ordained on September 14, 1984,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, rejoicing in his high honor which will benefit all Lithuanians outside of their native land, extend warmest congratulations, best wishes, and prayers that God Bless his new Pastoral Mission, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania authorize the Supreme Council to provide a suitable gift on this occasion.

* * *

WHEREAS there are many Lithuanian Prisoners of Conscience in the Soviet Union whose addresses are available to us

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention urge each Council to adopt a Prisoner of Conscience and make them aware that their plight is known to us by writing letters to them.

* * *

Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai 71-mame Visuotiname Seime prisimena Šventojo Tėvo mielą bei širdingą Vyčių priėmimą Romoje šių metų kovo mėnesio 3-čią ir 4-tą dienomis šv. Kazimiero 500-jų metų mirties jubiliejaus proga, ir

Kadangi Šventasis Tėvas atlaikė Šv. Kazimiero garbei šv. Mišias,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčiai išreiškia nuoširdžią padėką Šv. Tėvui ir atnaujina ištikimybės priesaiką Jo Šventenybei Popiežiui Jonui Pauliui II-jam.

* * *

Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai yra katalikiška organizacija ir

Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai skelbia Katalikų tikėjimą, lietuvišką kultūrą ir kalbą, ir

Kadangi malda yra ir toliau reikalinga arkivyskupo Jurgio Matulaičio beatifikacijai išgauti,

Nutarta, kad visos Lietuvos Vyčių kuopos sekančių metų eigoje dalyvaus šv. Mišių aukoje, skirtos beatifikacijos reikalą paspartinti.

* * *

Kadangi kun. Paulius Baltakis, buvęs Lietuvių Pranciškonų provinciolas, buvo Šventojo Tėvo pakeltas į vyskopus ir bus įšventintas 1984-tųjų metų rugsėjo 14-tą dieną,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas, džiaugdamsis jam suteikta garbe, kuri atsispindės ir visuose lietuviuose už Lietuvos ribų, linki jam laimės bei siunčia maldas kad Dievas laimintų jį jo ganytojiškoje misijoje,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas įpareigoja Centro Valdybą šia proga jam parūpinti atitinkamą dovaną.

* * *

Kadangi Sovietų Sąjungoje yra daug lietuvių sąžinės kalinių kurių adresai yra mums prieinami,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas ragins kiekvieną kuopą išūnyti po vieną sąžinės kalinį ir duoti jiems žinoti, jog susipažinta su jų būkle rašant jiems laiškus.

* * *

WHEREAS Valdo and Leila Randpere successfully defected to the West, seeking freedom from Soviet occupied Estonia on Aug. 5, 1984, and

WHEREAS they were forced to abandon their 13 month old daughter, Kaisa, in Soviet occupied Estonia in the process,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania support efforts to prevail upon the Soviet authorities to return their daughter to her parents' rightful possession, in compliance with the Helsinki Accords, as signed by the Soviet Union.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, the Honorable Anatole Dobrynin, Ambassador of the USSR, Lembit Savi, President of the Estonian World Council, Linas Kojelis, Aide to the White House, Office of Public Liaison, Elliott Abrams, Assistant Secretary for Human Rights, the Honorable Charles Percy, U.S. Senator, and Maido Kari, the Joint Baltic-American Committee.

* * *

WHEREAS Rimas Burba is the only known Lithuanian defector from the Soviet Army fighting in Afghanistan and is now interred in Switzerland, and

WHEREAS he is allowed to communicate only with Soviet authorities, which violates the Geneva Convention, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention, gathered in Chicago, IL August 23-26, 1984, protest this treatment and urge the Swiss government to investigate and provide assistance which would insure that his rights under the Geneva Convention would not be violated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Ambassador of Switzerland to the United States, and to Elliott Abrams, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights.

* * *

WHEREAS Stephen Darius and Stanley Girenas, two American pilots of Lithuanian descent undertook a transatlantic flight in 1933 aboard *Lituanica* from New York, and

WHEREAS they flew with the spirit to conquer the skies for the betterment of mankind,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Knights of Lithuania, gathered in Chicago, Illinois for their 71st National Convention, that they will actively and vigorously support all efforts for the issuance of a Darius and Girenas commemorative stamp by the United States Postal Service.

Kadangi Valdo ir Leila Randpere, ieškodami laisvės, sėkmingai pabėgo iš sovietų okupuotos Estijos 1984-ųjų metų rugpjūčio mėnesio 5-tą dieną ir

Kadangi bebėgdami jie buvo priversti palikti savo 13-kos mėnesių dukrelę Kaisa Sovietų Sąjungoje,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčiai 71-mame Visuotiname Seime remia jų pastangas atgauti savo dukrelę iš Sovietų Sąjungos pagal tarptautinį Helsinkio Sutarimo pastraipas, kurias ir sovietai pasirašė, ir

Nutarta, kad šios rezoliucijos nuorašai bus pasiunčiami JAV-ės prezidentui Ronald Reagan, Sovietų Sąjungos ambasadoriui JAValstybėse Anatolij Dobrynin, Estų Pasaulio Tarybos pirmininkui Lembit Savi, JAV-ės patarėjui etniniams reikalams Linui Kojeliui, JAV-ės Sekretoriui Žmogaus Teisėms Elliott Abrams, senatoriui Charles Percy, in Juungtinių Baltų-Amerikos komiteto atstovui Maido Kari.

* * *

Kadangi lietuvis Rimas Burba yra buvęs Afganistane kairuajančios Soevitų kariuomenės karys o dabar yra internuotas Šveicarijoje ir

Kadangi jam teleidžiama palaikyti ryšius su sovietų valdžios atstovais,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčiai 71-mame Visuotiname Seime protestuoja šitokį asmens traktavimą ir ragina Šveicarijos vyriausybę ištirti šią padėtį bei suteikti paslaugą idant užtikrinus kad jo teisės, pagal Ženevos Tarptautinę Konvenciją, nebūtų pažeistos.

Nutarta kad šios rezoliucijos nuorašai bus pasiunčiami Šveicarijos ambasadai JAValstybėse ir JAV-ių sekretoriui žmogaus teisių reikalams Elliott Abrams.

* * *

Kadangi Steponas Darius ir Stasys Girėnas, du lietuvių kilmės amerikiečiai lakūnai 1933-čiais metais apsiėmė *Lituanika* lėktuvu per Atlantą skristi iš New Yorko į Lietuvą ir

Kadangi jų skridimo tikslas buvo žmonių gerovei,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Suvažiavimas aktyviai ir veiksmingai remis visas pastangas išleisti Jungtinių Amerikos Valstybių pašto ženklą skirtą Dariui ir Girėnui pagerbti.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention extend greetings to the 10th Lithuanian American Congress convening in Chicago October 27-28, 1984, and in addition donate \$100.00 for a full page ad in their souvenir book.

* * *

WHEREAS the Baltic American Freedom League has brought the sufferings of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia to the attention of the world, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania also is dedicated to the purpose of achieving freedom for Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at their 71st National Convention donate to the Baltic American Freedom League \$100.00 to aid them in their activities for freedom of the Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

* * *

WHEREAS DRAUGAS, the Lithuanian Catholic daily newspaper published in Chicago, this year is celebrating its 75th Jubilee, and

WHEREAS this newspaper has throughout the years informed, assisted and encouraged the Knights of Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania greet the DRAUGAS Administration and Editorial Staff, and the Marian Fathers on this occasion, and wish it success in its future work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania present a gift of \$75.00 to further their important work.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention express its sincerest thanks to DRAUGAS for its continuing support of the Knights of Lithuania through its publication of articles on a regular basis, and in particular for its special convention coverage.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention express its sincerest thanks and appreciation to DARBININKAS and the Franciscan Fathers for its outstanding convention editorial, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania express its gratitude for the publication of articles and information in the monthly Knights of Lithuania column.

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas sveikina X-tąjį Amerikos Lietuvių Kongresą, įvykstantį Čikagoje 1984-tųjų metų spalio mėnesio 27-28-ta dienomis ir tuo pačiu užperka vieno puslapio skelbimą jų jubiliejiniame leidinyje.

* * *

Kadangi Baltic American Freedom League (BAFL) yra iškėlusi Lietuvos, Latvijos bei Estijos padėti pasauliui ir

Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčiai yra užsiangažavę atsiekti Lietuvos laisvę,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas paaukvoja BAFL \$100.00 jiems padėti išvystyti Baltijos respublikų — Lietuvos, Latvijos ir Estijos — laisvinimo veiklą.

* * *

Kadangi *Draugas*, lietuvių katalikų dienraštis, spausdinamas Čikagoje, švenčia savo 75-rių metų jubiliejų ir

Kadangi šis laikraštis metų bėgyje yra informavęs, padėjęs, ir paraginęs Lietuvos Vyčius,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Suvažiavimas pasveikina *Draugo* redakciją bei administraciją ir Tėvus Marijonus šia proga, ir palinki geriausios kloties ateities darbuose,

Nutarta paaukoti *Draugui* \$75.00 paremti jų išskirtiną darbą.

* * *

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas išreiškia nuoširdžią padėką *Draugui* už nuolatinę paramą leidžiant Lietuvos Vyčiam turėti savo savaitinį skyrių, o ypatingai už išskirtiną šio suvažiavimo aprašymą.

* * *

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas išreiškia nuoširdžiausią padėką *Darbininkui* ir Pranciškonų vienuolynui už ypatingą šio suvažiavimo apibudinimą ir

Nutarta kad būtų išreikiama padėka už straipsnių bei informacijos spausdinimą jų suteiktame Vyčiams skyriuje.

* * *

WHEREAS LAISVOJI LIETUVA (Free Lithuania), a Chicago-based bi-weekly newspaper, published on August 23, 1984 a special six page coverage of the Knights of Lithuania, past and present, with multiple photos,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at their 71st National Convention express deepest appreciation and gratitude to the administration and editorial board of LAISVOJI LIETUVA by a standing ovation for this support of our goals and activities.

* * *

WHEREAS the Society of the Chronicle of Lithuania, Inc., publishes the Chronicles of the Lithuanian Catholic Church in Lithuania, English, Spanish and French and disseminates them throughout the freeworld, and

WHEREAS the Chronicles show the brutal persecution in occupied Lithuania and forms world opinion of the Lithuanian nation in a positive way,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania support the Society of the Chronicle of Lithuania, Inc. on an individual and council level, in the hope that the Chronicles be further published and disseminated.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its deepest appreciation to all Lithuanian newspapers and radio programs, which have supported the activities of the K of L, with a unanimous, standing ovation.

* * *

WHEREAS it is of utmost importance that children and youth be attracted to participate in our organizational activities, and

WHEREAS sessions in schools and colleges are starting earlier in many cities, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the dates of the Knights of Lithuania National Convention be set no later than the first week in August.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania elevate to Honorary Membership the REV. ALBIN F. JANIUNAS, C-78, Lawrence, MA, whose candidacy to this honor was approved by the 70th National Convention in Philadelphia, PA in August, 1983.

* * *

Kadangi *Laisvoji Lietuva*, dvisavaitinis Čikagoje leidžiamas laikraštis 1984-tųjų metų rugpjūčio 23-čią dieną išleido ypatingą Lietuvos Vyčiam skirtą numerį išryškinantį mūsų organizacijos praeities atsiekimus, dabarties veiklą bei ateities gaires,

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas išreiškia gilią padėką *Laisvosios Lietuvos* administracijai bei redakcijai gausingais aploclimentais už paramą mūsų siekiam bei veiklai.

* * *

Kadangi Lietuvos Kronikos Sąjunga leidžia Lietuvos Katalikų Bažnyčios Kronikos knygas lietuvių, anglų, ispanų ir prancūzų kalbomis ir ją plačiai skeldižia visame laisvajame pasaulyje, ir

Kadangi Kronikos parodo žiauriausį persekiojimą kenčiančioje pavergtoje Lietuvoje bei sudaro laisvajame pasaulyje palankią lietuvių tautai opinią,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas ragina Lietuvos Kronikos Sąjungos veiklą remti pavienius narius ir kuopas, kad Kronikos ir toliau būtų platinamos bei skaitomos.

* * *

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas išreikš nuoširdžiausią padėką visai lietuviškai spaudai ir radio valandėlėms, kurie remia Lietuvos Vyčių veiklą, atsistojimu ir paplojimu.

* * *

Kadangi yra ypatingai svarbu mūsų organizacijos veiklon įtraukti jaunimą, ir

Kadangi mokyklose bei kolegijose mokslas dažnai pradedamas gan anksti,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių Visuotini Seimai būtų rengiami ne vėliau kaip pirmąją rugpjūčio savaitę.

* * *

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas pakelia kun. Albiną F. Janiūną, 78-tos kuopos, Lawrence, Mass., narį, į garbės narius. Vyčio kun. Albino F. Janiūno kandidatūrą į šį paaukštinimą buvo priimta 70-tojo Visuotino Seimo Philadelphijoje, Pensylvanijoje.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania approve the candidacy for Honorary Membership of the Most Rev. Bishop Paulius Baltakis, former provincial of the Franciscan Fathers and member of C-110, Maspeth, NY.

This approval will allow the Honorary Membership Committee to print Bishop Paulius Baltakis' biography in VYTIS, describing his service to the Knights of Lithuania and its ideals, worthy of this honor.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania approve the candidacy for Honorary Membership of ESTELLE ROGERS, member of C-112, Chicago, IL. This approval will allow the Honorary Membership Committee to print Ms. Rogers' biography in VYTIS, describing her service to the K of L as a dedicated member, worthy of this honor. Ms. Rogers had been active in the Knights of Lithuania for many years and has been president of the K of L Choir for most of the past 23 years.

* * *

WHEREAS the office of President of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania, according to the Constitution, may be held for no more than three consecutive one-year terms by an individual, and

WHEREAS the Nominating Committee is unable to find any candidate for the position other than the incumbent, Loretta Stukas,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Constitution, section defining this rule be temporarily suspended and that the term of Loretta Stukas, be extended for a period of one year, from August 1984 to August 1985.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention express its highest commendation and sincerest gratitude to the members of the outgoing Supreme Council. Through their efforts, they stimulated the Knights of Lithuania to maintain an active and vital voice in the Lithuanian American community.

* * *

WHEREAS Bishop Vindentas Brizgys has been a faithful friend and Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania for the past several decades

BE IT RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania extend him its heartfelt birthday greetings on his 80th birthday.

ILGIAUSIŲ METŲ!

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas patvirtina kaipo kandidatą į Garbės Narius Vyskupą Paulių Baltakį, buvusį Tėvų Pranciškonų provinciolą. Šis patvirtinimas įgalins Garbės Narių Komitetą atspausdinti vysk. Baltakio biografiją, išryškinančią jo pasitarnavimą Lietuvos Vyčiams ir parodantį jį tos garbės užsitarnavusį.

* * *

Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Suvažiavimas patvirtina kaipo kandidatę į Garbės Narius Estelle Rogers, 112-tos kuopos Chicago, Illinois narę, ypač pasišventusią Lietuvos Vyčių Choro veikėją, Choro valdybos pirmininkės pareigas einančią virš 23 metus. Šis patvirtinimas įgalins Garbės Narių Komitetą atspausdinti Vytės Rogers Biografiją, išryškinančią jos patarnavimą Lietuvos Vyčiams kaipo uolią ir tos garbės vertą narę.

* * *

KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčių Centro Valdybos pirmininkės pareigos, pagal nuostatus, negali būti užimama to paties asmens ilgiau kaip tris metus iš eilės, ir

KADANGI moninacijų komisijai nepavyko surasti kitą kandidatą tai vietai, išskyrus dabartinę pirmininkę, Loreta Stukienę,

NUTARTA, kad priderami nuostatų paragrafai būtų laikinai sustabdyti, o dabartinės pirmininkės kadencija būtų pratęsta vieneriems metams, atseit, nuo 1984 rugpiūčio mėn. iki 1985 rugpiūčio mėn. imtinai.

* * *

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas išreikš savo užgirimą ir nuoširdžiausią padėką buvusios Centro Valdybos nariams. Per jų pastangas Lietuvos Vyčiai buvo pažadinti išlikti veikliu ir svarbiu veiksmu Amerikos lietuvių visuomenėje.

* * *

Kadangi vyskupas Vincentas Brizgys yra buvęs Lietuvos Vyčių ištikimas draugas bei Garbės Narys praeituose dešimtmečiuose,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas pasveikina jį 80-tojo gimtadienio proga.

Ilgiausių Metų!

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, gathered in Chicago, Illinois for their 71st National Convention, do hereby unanimously recognize, applaud, and express sincerest gratitude for the generous contribution of time and talent made by GEORGE MIKALAUSKAS, a fellow Knight, of Council 96, Dayton, Ohio, in the design and carving of the "Rupintojelis" Crosier, that was presented by the Knights of Lithuania to His Excellency, Archbishop Paul C. Marcinkus, at the Vatican, March 3, 1984.

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, gathered in Chicago, Illinois for their 71st National Convention, do hereby unanimously recognize, applaud, and express sincerest gratitude for the generous contribution of time and talent made by ALDONA SAIMININKAS of East Hartford, Connecticut, in the design, creation, and donation of the Lithuanian straw painting, that was presented by the Knights of Lithuania to His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, during the Papal Audience, commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the death of St. Casimir, at the Vatican, March 3, 1984.

* * *

WHEREAS Alphonse Trainis, Supreme Council Treasurer, is ill, and

WHEREAS he has diligently worked for our organization over many years,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention send him greetings and wish him well.

* * *

WHEREAS Anthony Radzevich, a faithful Trustee is sick, and

WHEREAS Anthony has devoted much time to the Knights of Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that we remember him with "Get Well Wishes."

* * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention express its sincerest gratitude to the Convention Presidium and Committees for their untiring efforts in the conduct of the business of this Convention.

* * *

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas, susirinkęs Čikagoje, IL, vienbalsiai atkreipia dėmesį, pagiria, ir išreiškia nuoširdžiausią padėką už dosnią laiko ir talento auką Jurgiui Mikalauskui, Daytono, OH, Vyčių 96-tos kuopos nariui, sukūrusiam ir išskaptavusiam „Rūpintojėlio“ kryžių, kurį Lietuvos Vyčiai įteikė Jo Ekscelencijai, arkivyskupui Pauliui C. Marcinkui Vatikane 1984-tųjų metų kovo mėnesio trečią dieną.

* * *

Nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas, susirinkęs Čikagoje, IL, vienbalsiai atkreipia dėmesį, pagiria, ir išreiškia nuoširdžiausią padėką už dosnią laiko ir talento auką Aldonai Šaimininkienei, iš East Hartford, CT, suprojektavusiai, sukūrusiai, ir padovanojusiai lietuviškais motyvais šiaudinukų paveikslą, kurį Lietuvos Vyčiai įteikė Jo Šventenybei popiežiui Pauliui Jonui II-jam audiencijos metu Vatikane 1984-tųjų metų kovo mėnesio 3-čią dieną šv. Kazimiero mirties 500-ųjų metų paminėjimo proga.

* * *

Kadangi Alfonsas Trainis, Centro Valdybos išdinin- kas serga, ir

Kadangi jis savo pareigas eilę metų yra uoliai vykdęs,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas nusiunčia jam linkėjimus.

* * *

Kadangi Antanas Radzevich, ištikimas izdo globė- jas, serga ir

Kadangi Antanas yra pašventęs daug laiko Lietuvos Vyčiams,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas jį pasveikina.

* * *

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinis Seimas išreišk savo nuoširdžiausius linkėjimus ir padėką Seimo prezidiumui ir komisijoms už jų nenuilstamas pastangas pravesti seimo darbotvarkę.

* * *

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Congention, held in Chicago, IL from August 23-26, 1984, was hosted by Council 36, Chicago, and

WHEREAS the delegates and guests were joyously received and treated with traditional Lithuanian hospitality, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 71st National Convention express its deep thanks to Council 36 for its unforgettable and untiring hospitality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 71st National Convention express its gratitude to Rev. Damasus Mozeris, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church and Rev. Richard Bulwith, Pastor of St. George's Church, to Rev. Fabian Kireilis, C-36 Spiritual Advisor, and the Sisters of St. Casimir, for their kind hospitality during the Convention.

Kadangi Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas, įvykęs Čikagoje, Illinois 1984-ųjų m. rugpjūčio 23-25-tą d.d., buvo Čikagos 36-tos kuopos globojamas, ir

Kadangi delegatai ir svečiai buvo maloniai priimti tradiciškai lietuvišku vaišingumu,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas išreikš savo gilią padėką 36-tai kuopai už neužmirštamą ir nepailstamą vaišingumą,

Nutarta kad Lietuvos Vyčių 71-mas Visuotinas Seimas išreikš savo padėką Monsignorui Damazui Mozeriui, Nekalto Prasidėjimo parapijos klebonui kun. J. Bulwith, Šv. Jurgio parapijos klebonui kun. F. Kireiliui, 36-tos kuopos dvasios vadui, ir Seselėm Kazimierietėms, už jų vaišingumą Seimo metu.

* * *



MANDATE REPORT

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OFICIALUS SKYRIUS



OFFICIAL NEWS

MEMBERSHIP DUES

The National Financial Secretary,

Mrs. Helen Skudra
7927 North Drive
Highland, IN 46322

reminds us that it is dues time again. Membership dues are \$8.00 per year for individuals or couples, or \$4.00 per year for additional family members who do not get a separate issue of VYTIS.

Council Financial Secretaries should begin collecting dues immediately. Dues should be collected for all year (1985).

To insure your members receiving their VYTIS promptly, please include members' addresses, so that records can be verified.

If your secretary does not collect dues promptly, remind him/her by sending him/her your dues without urging!

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION

At long last, the K of L endowment fund, known as the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, is a fact. Money donated or bequeathed to this Foundation will be invested and only the interest used for special or charitable projects of the Knights.

Anyone donating at least \$100.00 will be considered a Foundation Member. It is important that this Foundation be built up and made as healthy as possible, for it will put the Knights on firm financial ground.

To join in this important work, or to get information on how to include the Foundation in your Testament, please contact;

Mr. John Narusis, Esq.
Knights of Lithuania Legal Adviser
113 Maple St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

ELECTIONS

District and Council officer elections MUST take place either in September or October. Immediately after your council elections, PLEASE send the names and addresses of all the officers to the National Recording Secretary,

Ms. Adeline Dauzikas
164 Burns Ave.
Forest Hill Gardens, NY 11375

The Supreme Council and National Committee Chairmen cannot operate efficiently without YOUR cooperation. Let's cooperate and get those addresses to Adeline.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS BULLETIN

The Lithuanian Affairs Committee sends its monthly bulletin to all members who wish it AND use it. It is intended as a tool for ACTION, not just reading material. If you do not receive it but wish to get involved in Lithuanian Affairs letter-writing work, please send your name to:

Dr. Jack J. Stukas
Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chairman
234 Sunlit Drive
Watchung, NJ 07060

A small donation to help defray mailing costs would be appreciated, but is not mandatory.

If you have been receiving the bulletin but cannot or do not wish to get involved in the Committee's work, please let Dr. Stukas know also, to have your name taken off the mailing list.

DID YOU MISS CHRISTMAS?

No, Christmas has not passed, but it's too late to get your greeting into the December VYTIS. But it is not too late to wish your friends a HAPPY NEW YEAR... Write today, to Editor Aldona Ryan (address on inside cover) and include your greeting and check.

OPENING SESSION
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23
REDEDICATION TO OUR PATRON, ST. CASIMIR



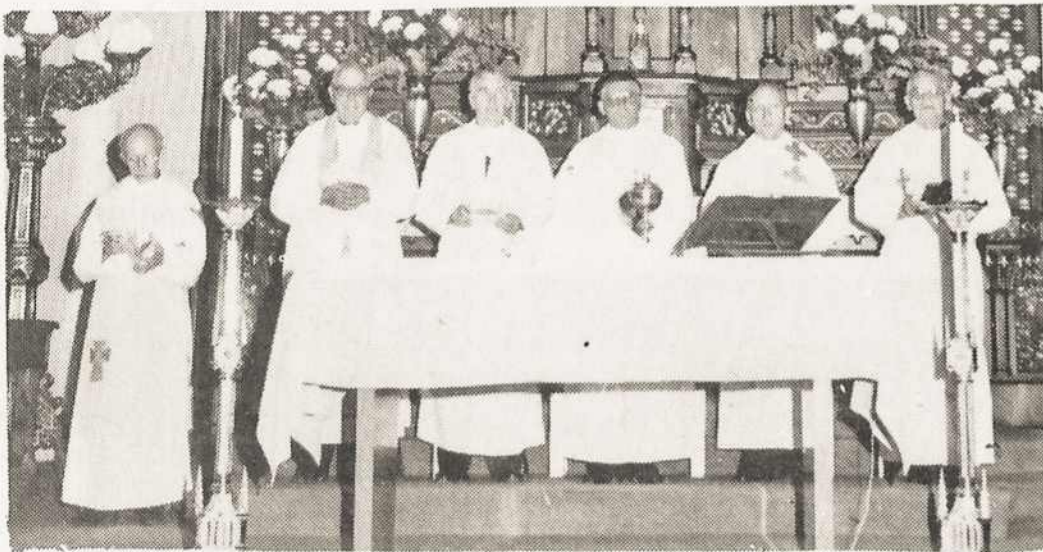
WE HONOR
ST. CASIMIR

1984

The 71st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania in Chicago, Illinois, began with a manifestation of the very heart of our organization. The title of the four page leaflet handed to the participants on the opening day of the Convention read: IN JOYOUS PRAISE OF OUR PATRON — Saint Casimir's 500th Jubilee.

At the opening session all thoughts were centered on our Saint, even before the official opening Mass. After the customary preliminaries, a special program was presented: **REDEDICATION** to our Patron, Saint Casimir, which was prepared by the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor, Father A. Jurgelaitis, O.P. It was a blend of prayer, poetry and music in praise of our Patron.

With evident enthusiasm and fervor the assembled delegates and alternates in the name of all 4160 members in 57 councils rededicated the Knights of Lithuania to its lofty ideals. The special prayer, composed for the Jubilee year of Saint Casimir and sent out to all members was recited. This prayer was read in Lithuanian by the Spiritual Advisor petition by petition and recited in English in the same way. No one missed the solemnity of the occasion, because they did not understand the meaning of that beautiful prayer.



Similarly, Lithuanian and English were used in the second part of the program entitled: "Poets in Praise of our Patron." Selections from six Lithuanian poets were read "in the oldest living Indoeuropean language" by Jonas Strolia and Vida Urbaitė. Even native born Lithuanians were amazed at their command of the language. Vida and Jonas were perhaps the youngest K of L'ers (excluding Juniors) at the Convention.

After each reading in Lithuanian the program moderator gave a brief commentary in English about the

poet and the poem which had presented some insight or highlight in the life of Saint Casimir. At times the commentary became a vivid translation of the poet's own words. Between each poem Faustas Strolia at the piano provided an appropriate musical interlude. During the slight intermission, picking up his famous accordion, he made his way to center stage to rehearse and sing a new hymn to Saint Casimir written by Ona Mikailaitė with music composed by Viltėnis especially for the 500th Anniversary of the Death of Prince Casimir. This hymn entitled "Your lustrous face entrances us, O noble Casimir" had a captivating melody and was sung with joy.

The program concluded with the traditional Hymn to Saint Casimir composed by our Late Honorary Member Alex. Aleksis to the poem written by Father F. B. Serafinas.

The second part of this program was a presentation of the multiple and varied activities of the Knights of Lithuania in the observance of the Year of Saint Casimir by Nancy P. Miro, Supreme Council Recording Secretary. Her carefully researched report showed how deeply involved were the Knights of Lithuania in the preparatory committees, in celebrations on local, district and Supreme Council levels, including participation in diocese wide events in honor of our Saint. She mentioned the distribution of a special prayer and picture holy card of our Patron sent out to all members, the Saint Casimir statue, medals, the special issue of the VYTIS and described the great climatic event — the Pilgrimage to the Vatican and the Solemn Mass concelebrated by Our Holy Father on the Feast of Saint Casimir at which 200 members were present and even were assigned special liturgical tasks and received the Holy Eucharist from the hands of Pope John Paul himself.

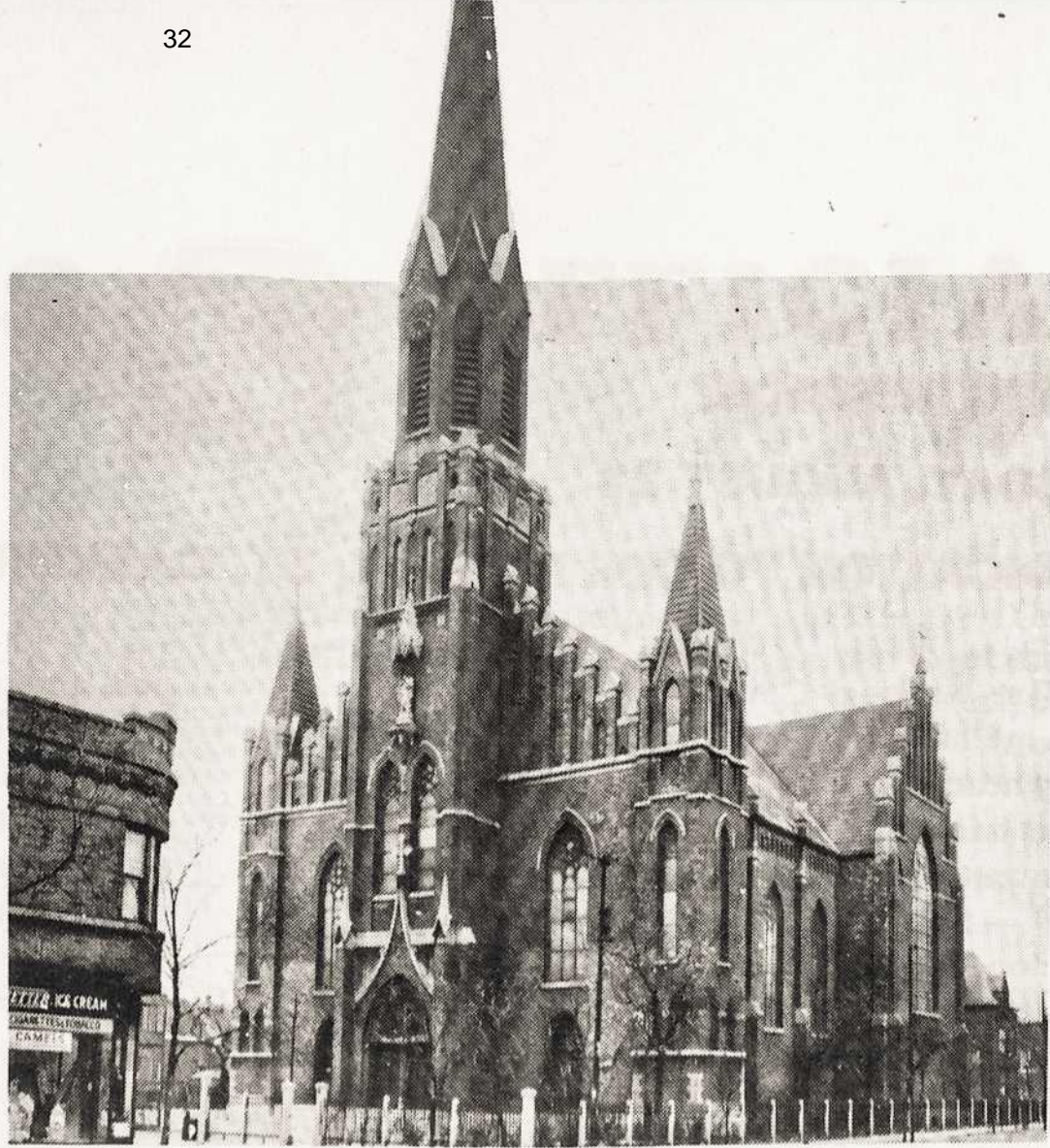
The third speaker was Father Algimantas Bartkus, Pro-rector of the Lithuanian Seminary of Saint Casimir in Rome, formerly Spiritual Advisor of the Frackville Council. He presented interesting details of the Roman side of that celebration. For the small number of Lithuanians living in Rome it was no small matter to prepare for that event and provide for the needs of the pilgrims (over one thousand) who came from all parts of the world. Not without reason did Father Bartkus call the situation "hectic". "Thanks to the help and cooperation of the Knights of Lithuania we in Rome were able to overcome many, many problems and difficulties," he concluded.

EVENING AT ST. GEORGE'S

Thursday, August 23, 1984

On Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m., the Convention Opening Session completed, delegates and guests boarded buses for the trip to St. George Church, the oldest Lithuanian church in the Midwest.

We arrived early at 33rd St. and Lituania Ave. on this wonderfully cool evening in the old section of the city called Bridgeport. Milling about in the church yard before Mass, the answer was obvious as to why there were no pictures available of this grand and stately old church. Although you might get a view of the steeples stretching way up, there was no way possible to take a full picture because of the narrowness of the streets and height of the surrounding buildings.



Once inside the church, we marvelled at the beauty of the altars made of intricately carved mahogany. St. George looked down upon us from the top of the main altar while the setting sun illuminated the beautiful old stained glass windows, casting a brilliant warm glow.

The Opening Mass of the Convention began with Rev. Algimantas Bartkus, Administrator of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, as principal celebrant. With him at the altar were Rev. Peter Cibulskis, MIC, Rev. Vincent

Daugintis, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., Rev. Albinas Janiunas, and Rev. Fabian Kireilis, Spiritual Advisor to C-36. After the Readings by Paul Strolia, C-36, Fr. Jurgelaitis read the Gospel and gave the Homily about St. Casimir.

All through the Mass the voices of the K of L Choir, under the direction of Faustas Strolia, gloriously resounded in the splendor of this beautiful old church. A particularly moving hymn, "O Didis Dieve Visagalj," brought tears to the eyes of many of us.





Filled with emotion after the Mass ended, we all walked a short distance to St. George School Hall and took our places at the beautifully decorated tables.

Hearty welcomes were given by Mary Kincius, Convention Co-chairlady, and Loretta Gestautas, "Evening at St. George" chairlady. Fr. Peter Cibulskis, MIC, gave the invocation.

Everyone was invited to partake of the sumptuous buffet tables groaning with sausage, beef, divine kugelis, sauerkraut, a variety of salads, relish trays, and beautifully arranged fruit trays. The plentiful buffet was prepared by the St. George Women's Club who are famous for their "best Kugelis in town". We dined and were entertained by the accordion music of Azuolas Stelmokas.



The highlight of the evening was the appearance on stage of the "St. George Kitchen Kuties" who gave a rousing performance. The "Kitchen Kuties" are a group of energetic "young" women between the ages of 65 and 82 who sing Lithuanian songs to the accompaniment of drums made of a washtub and pots and pans, a washboard, funnels and wooden spoons. Their hilarious antics on stage were immensely enjoyed by all.

The evening ended with dancing and a sing-a-long, and much socializing. All too soon, the buses were enroute back to the hotel where old friends and new friends met in each others' rooms for a nightcap and a recap of the day's busy events.

Ruth Kazlauskas



SECOND SESSION: FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 24
"Being Current in Today's Lithuanian Affairs"



Fr. Prunskis, Dr. Stukas, Anthony Mazeika — panelists.

On Friday morning, a panel entitled "Being Current in Today's Lithuanian Affairs" was led by Dr. Jack Stukas, National Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chairman. Panelists included Rev. Joseph Prunskis, head of the Lithuanian Information Center in Chicago, Anthony Mazeika, Jr., Vice-President of the Baltic American Freedom League and Bernice Aviza, MAD Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chairman.

Dr. Stukas started the discussion noting the need for perseverance and determination in Lithuanian Affairs activities. He encouraged a broader range of K of L members to become active in this field. Bringing the plight of Lithuania to the attention of our government leaders and news media requires a joint effort by all.

"Adopt a Lithuanian Dissident" was the focal point of Fr. Prunskis' talk. He encouraged each K of L council to adopt a particular dissident and work strongly on his or her behalf. The Joint Baltic American National Committee had initiated such a program during Captive Nations Week. This effort was directed toward the general public. Knights of Lithuania should lead the way in a follow up effort.

Anthony Mazeika, Jr. began his talk with a brief account of the history of the Baltic American Freedom League and the benefits of working jointly with our Baltic brothers and sisters. He noted the League's efforts in establishing a Baltic Freedom Day, human rights conferences and most recently in actions relating to the Soviet boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics. He noted that the Olympic Committee banned Baltic-Americans from participating in a parade at the beginning of the Olympic opening ceremonies. The League he said is seeking litigation against the International Olympic Committee for denying Baltic Americans basic American civil rights.

A summary of K of L involvement in Lithuanian affairs during the past year was given by Bernice Aviza. She noted our efforts in raising the membership of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Baltic States and Ukraine, arousing American and Catholic consciousness on behalf of suffering Lithuanian Catholics — notably Frs. Alphonse Svarinskas and Sigitas Tamkevicius, appeals to the United Nations for Baltic self-determination, Nazi war criminals, Soviet interference with international mail, and efforts to obtain a Darius-Girenas commemorative stamp. Lithuanian Affairs Committee workers are the central source of information about Lithuania, stated Bernice. We also must evaluate public opinion about ourselves, how we can use this public opinion to help Lithuania. She urged a "grass roots" approach to Lithuanian affairs work — using tools available to your local community — media, libraries, local colleges, etc. We need to build a coalition or organizations supporting our objective.

She also gave suggestions regarding how your congressman or senator can help — cosponsoring bills and initiating hearings. Make your congressional leaders commit themselves, use follow-up letters to strengthen your appeal.

A special guest on the panel was Allan Sibul, of Ansib Associates, Human And Ethnic Resources Exchange. He spoke on the recent defection of Estonian Valdo Randpere. He asked the Knights of Lithuania to help Randpere in getting Estonian officials to release Randpere's 13-month old daughter who remains in Lithuania.

The Lithuanian Affairs panel proved to be vibrant and encouraged K of L members to rededicate themselves to their responsibility of helping their brothers and sisters in Lithuania and raising American opinion in their support.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA PRAISED FOR REMEMBERING EASTLAND VICTIMS

By Stanley Pieza

CHICAGO — The flow of the Chicago River seemed to slow down, and two excursion boats silently passed by on their way to Lake Michigan, as delegates of the Knights of Lithuania convention on Friday, August 24, honored the memory of the tragic death of 812 victims of the Eastland disaster which occurred in the Chicago River July 24, 1915.

Among the victims of the Eastland sinking was Petronele Laurinaite of Cicero, Illinois, an active member of the Knights of Lithuania. She died on the excursion steamer Eastland with Western Electric Company excursionists when it tipped over in the river, claiming 812 victims in our nation's worst marine disaster.

Virgil Shad, general manager of AT&T network systems, representing Western Electric Company, spoke at the memorial saying:

"We wish to thank the Knights of Lithuania for remembering those who died in this tragic marine disaster, and we thank the Lithuanians for bringing this sad event which happened 69 years ago to the prayerful attention of Chicago and America, and we also particularly commended the Chicago Knights of Lithuania Council 36 for arranging this memorable service."

Presiding at the memorial, which took place on the south shore of the Chicago River near the Clark St. Bridge, was John Paukstis, president of Council 36 and the general chairman of the arrangements committee for the National Knights of Lithuania Convention which took place at Chicago's Conrad Hilton Hotel August 23-26.



A memorial wreath, with a golden band of roses, was posted at the edge of the river at the designated spot of the Eastland disaster by Mrs. Stephanie Uginchus, president, and Mrs. Jean Vance, vice president, of the Knights of Lithuania Council 14 of Cicero, assisted by John Paukstis.

Petronele Laurinaite, then 17, was secretary of Council 14. The Knights of Lithuania was organized in 1913 — and Petronele was the first K of L member to die. She is buried in St. Casimir Cemetery, Chicago, over whose grave is a marble monument erected by the Chicago Council of the Knights of Lithuania.

Father Anthony Marks, associate pastor of Cicero's St. Anthony Church, began the memorial service with an invocation, in which he asked "God blessings on the soul of Petronele Laurinaite and the other victims of the Eastland through the intercession of St. Casimir, patron of Lithuania and the Knights of Lithuania."

Following the posting of colors by the honor guard of the Darius-Girenas American Legion post, under command of Sgt. John Klimczak, the Knights of Lithuania choir members, attired in colorful Lithuanian costumes, sang under the direction of Sabina Klatt of Council 36, in the absence of Faustas Strolia, the choir's director.

Representing Cicero at the

memorial was Illinois Representative Judy Barr Topinka, who paid tribute to the disaster victims in her address, saying "In behalf of the Lithuanians of Cicero, I wish to thank the Knights of Lithuania for their concern for the memory of their distinguished member Petronele Laurinaite and for all the victims of the Eastland."

Father Peter Cibulskis, M.I.C., administrator of the Lithuanian Daily DRAUGAS, in his benediction at the conclusion of the inspiring memorial service, said "Let's pray for those who died here in the sinking of the Eastland and for the safety of those who travel on the seas." He ended his benediction by leading in the recitation of the "Our Father."

Among those who participated in the memorial was Mrs. Betty Lorenat, Laurinaite's relative.

Among the dignitaries present were J. Gerald Resnick, Trustee of Cicero; Robert Jerich, public relations for AT&T; El Byrom, consulting editor of Hawthorne's Western Electric employees magazine; Casey Oksas, commissioner of Cook County; Bruce Neberieza, vice president of Council 36 and past commander of the Darius-Girenas Post of the American Legion, and Eleanor Kasputis, vice president of the Knights of Lithuania midwest district. Ed Rooney of the City News Bureau covered the memorial for the news media.

PETRONELĖ LAURINAITĖ

I vakarinį dalį Šv. Kazimiero kapinių, pirmame kapinių kelyje, randasi išpūdingas marmurinis paminklas ant kapo Petronelės Laurinaitės.

Laikas greit bėga. Jau praėjo 69 metai nuo Laurinaitės mirties. Ji žuvo tragiškoj nelaimėj liepos mėn. 24 d., 1915 m., Chicagoje, kuomet ekskursinis laivas Eastland apvirto Chicagos upėje didmiestyje (downtown), kai sulipo daugiau kaip 1,000 darbininkų iš Western Electric kompanijos. Laivas staigiai apvirto, bet kai kurie išsigelbėjo. Nuskendo 812 asmenų. Eastland laivo nelaimė yra skaitoma iš nelaimingiausių atsitikimų Amerikoje.

Tas žiūrovas kuris stovėjo ant tilto netoli nelaimės vietos, taip tragišką įvykį atvaizdavo:

Laivas pamažu sujudėjo, kad plaukti, bet staiga pradėjo siubuoti, svirti į vieną pusę, ir atsigulė ant žono, nušlokšdamas į kanalo vandenį virš tūkstantį žmonių. Pakilo kliksmas stengiančiųsių išsigelbėti, ir kliksmas kitų stovinčių ant kranto. Daug žmonių bežiūrėdami baisios scenos alpo. Kurie buvo laivo viršaus šiaip bei taip dar galėjo gelbėtis, bet buvusieji viduryje neturėjo progos išsigelbėti."

"Petronelė Laurinaitė, 17 metų amžiaus, buvo viduryje kaip laivas apvirto . . . ir ji žuvo.

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Petronelė Laurinaitė, 17 metų amžiaus, buvo viduryje kaip laivas apvirto . . . ir ji žuvo.

Chicagos apylinkės lietuviai apgailestavo Petronelės mirtį, ypač Lietuvos Vyčių apskritis, kurioje tuomet prigulėjo 13 kuopų iš 13



lietuvių parapijų. Chicagos apskričio Vyčiai surinko piniginę auką ir pastatė paminklą ant Petronelės kapo. Jos paminkle yra iškalta:

A. A. Petronelei Laurinaitei, uoliai Vytei skatintojai jaunimo prie idealo ir pasišventimo pavyzdžių. LIETUVOS VYČIAI. Gimė kovo 10, 1898. irė liepos 24, 1915." P. Mulevičius, tuometinis Chicagos Vyčių apskričio sekretorius, pareiškė, kad Petronelė buvo pirmutinė mirusi iš Vyčių organizacijos, kuri buvo tik dviejų metų prieš jos mirimą. Mulevičius toliau rašė:

Su Eastland žuvo viena iš veikliausių ir visų gerbiama Vytė, Petronelė Laurinaitė, 17 metų amžiaus, gyvenusi Cicero, Illinois. Buvo tai pažymėtina veikli Lietuvos Vyčių 14-tos Ciceroje kuopos narė, vaidintoja teatreliuose, giesmininkė prie Š.Štanc parapijos choro, ir kuopos raštininkė.

"A. A. Petronelė nors buvo Amerikoje gimusi ir augus, buvo tikra lietuvaitė, jautri tautietė ir vedė pavyzdingą gyvenimą, už ką užsipelnė nuo vietos lietuvių giliausio apgailestavimo."

Neseniai aplankė Laurinaitės kpaą Loretta Stukas, L. Vyčių organizacijos pirmininkė; Jonas L. Paukštis, pirmininkas Lietuvos Vyčių 36-tos kuopos Brighton Parke ir Vyčių seimo rengimo komisijos direktorius, ir žurnalistas Stasys Pieža, Vyčių seimo specialiųjų įvykių vedėjas.

Pasimelsdama prie paminklo, Vyčių pirmininkė pareiškė:

"Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos nariai iš Petronelės Laurinaitės gyvenimo gali semti įkvėpimo . . . ji, kaip daugelis lietuvių jaunimo Amerikoje, patapo veikli Vyčių narė, ir, nors gimusi Amerikoje, ji buvo pavyzdinga lietuvaitė."

— Stasys Pieža



**THIRD SESSION
FRIDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 24**

**“EXPLORING OLD METHODS
AND NEW HORIZONS”**

This panel was moderated by Nancy Pawasauskas Miro, and its objective was to look at ways of improving the organization. Nancy started the panel with a comparison of the organization today with the organization 70 years ago. She pointed out some very interesting facts about the early years of the Knights of Lithuania and what the founding members were looking for when they organized their councils. The reasons our founders needed the K of L are quite different from the reasons why we need the K of L today. The following excerpts from the panel introduction clearly show the theme.

“Our founders were struggling in a strange land to learn a new language and a new way of life. They came together in Lithuanian communities where they could keep their native language and customs. They built their own churches and schools, which served as a focal point in their lives. And they placed all their hopes and dreams for the future in the hands of their children. From these roots, the Knights of Lithuania grew. Organized as a Lithuanian Youth Organization, it found its origins in the Lithuanian parishes that were so vital to the lives of the youth . . . It was a youth organization providing social, religious, recreational and cultural activities, an organization tailored to fit the lifestyle of 1913 America. The growth of the K of L in those early years was rapid. By 1916, 3 short years after the founding of the K of L, there were 60 councils and over 4,000 members.

“When we look back over the past 70 years, we cannot help but notice how times have changed. Our lives no longer revolve around the old Lithuanian communities and parishes. We are no longer representative of our parents and grandparents. As second and third generation Lithuanian-Americans, we have made our own place in this society, and we no longer need the security of a Lithuanian community and parish that was so important to our ancestors. And yet, we hold on to a thread of our Lithuanian culture and heritage. Our



Moderator Nancy Miro

presence here today at this convention reinforces that desire not to let go. Our membership in the K of L is an important part of preserving that heritage. We make the effort to go back to the old neighborhood to attend Mass in our Lithuanian churches — we participate in local cultural programs — we sponsor Lithuanian Fold Dance Groups and Choirs and Art exhibits. And above all, we never forget our suffering brothers and sisters in Lithuania, and we work constantly on their behalf. But what happens when we are no longer here? We must take the lead from our ancestors — we must place our hopes and dreams for the future in our children. They hold the key to our future, and the future of the K of L. In 1916, we had 60 councils and 4,000 members. In 1984, we have 57 councils and 4,000 members. What has happened over the last 70 years?



“I think we will begin to see a resurgence of growth. An example of this is found in Chicago, where a youth council has been reorganized under the banner of Council 13, with John Strolia as its first President. Every member of this council is under the age of 30.

This is an important first step, and hopefully will provide a lead for others to follow. We have to give these young people a vehicle of their own. They are no longer juniors, bowling parties no longer interest them. And, although they love and respect their elders, they really don't want to sit around a seniors meeting listening to everyone complain about their aches and pains. So, these young people of C-13 found a solution just right for them — a council of their own where they can pursue their own interest in their own way. And it's up to every person in this room to encourage all our young people to keep this interest alive and real."

The panel then proceeded to a Question and Answer format, with the moderator asking the delegates a few questions of her own. Such questions as "Why did you join the K of L?" "What does the organization give you — and what do you wish it would give you?" "What are some ideas for keeping the organization alive and

growing?" "What can you officers — Supreme Council, District and Local — do to provide you with more of what you are looking for?"

A lively discussion followed, with many delegates coming forward with ideas and comments. Much was said about keeping the Lithuanian language alive, especially by including some Lithuanian at every council meeting. But the main focus of the discussion was on youth in today's organization. It was gratifying to have some of the young delegates come forward to tell their personal reasons for joining and what satisfaction they get from being members.

Because of time limitations, the discussion had to be cut off, however, it was generally agreed that the panel served its purpose. It gave food for thought to all who attended, and instilled the idea that our youth are our future and cannot be ignored. Many left the session thinking of new ways to encourage younger people to join the K of L.



Newly elected officers being sworn in at closing mass.

CULTURAL NIGHT

Hear ye! Hear Ye! Council 36, the hosts of the 71st Knights of Lithuania Convention, held their Cultural evening on August 24th at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in the Boulevard Room. It proved to be dynamic, entertaining and beautiful. Magic filled the air as Helen Janis, Stella Kaulakis, Alice Kent, Sabina Klatt, Evelyn Ozelis, Scottie Zukas greeted everyone with a great big "Labas — Welcome" and presenting each with Rūtos, programs and Sing-a-long souvenir booklets.

We must remember the words of our Pope when he gave his sermon in Rome for St. Casimir's Lithuanian Mass — He urged Lithuanians to preserve with care the religious and cultural traditions which we have inherited. Be faithful and be rightfully proud. Our heritage is so precious, may this evening be remembered and be one of your treasured memories forever. Remember Lithuania and be proud and pray that one day she will be free again. By our culture and traditions, we will not lose our identity.

Ruth Kazlauskas introduced Loretta Stukas, the National President to present the St. Casimir Essay Contest awards to recipients, Gražina Daunoravičius and Marius Tijūnėlis.

Next Ann Klizas Wargo, National Cultural Chairlady awarded 1st prize to Susan Bolanos — C-112, Chicago, 2nd prize to Ann Alleliunas, C-10 — Pittsburgh, 3rd Prize to Sally Bakutis, C-30 — Westfield, Ma., all who highly promoted Culture in their councils.



Moving on with the program Mr. Ed. Kreitman, Director and the Suzuki String Players, Vaiva Vygantaitė, Karina and Daina Valodkaitės, Asta and Elena Tijūnelytės, Marius

Tijūnėlis, Jennifer, Kristen and David Crowell, Jennifer and Christine Castelli and Patrick Romolt and Accompanist, Emily Jergens.



Our Metropolitan Opera Singer — Soloist Algerd Brazis accompanied by Robert Mockus sang Ilgesys — lyrics by B. Brazdžionis — J. Strolia, Pilu stiklej — Lithuanian Folk Song — St. Šimkus, Pasaulj platų apkeliavęs — Aria from "The Chimes of Normandy" — J. R. Planquette.



Under the direction of Frank Zapolis, our Knights of Lithuania dancers danced Ketvirtainis, Jonkelis, Malūnas. (Bridget Skopas, Vytas Paliomis, Robert Mingėla, Andrius Gerulis, Ingrida Naudžiūtė, Judy and Joyce Vaikutis, George Kassel, Joe Vaikutis, Paul, Tom, John and Matt Strolia, Judie and Kris Norkaitis, Diane Rami, Beth and Joe Katauskas, Sylvia Kane, Laura Srupsa, Asta Kizys, Vida Urba, Lydie Bilus, Mr. Vaišnys, Paul Urba, Tony Mikužis, Ian Stankus). Accordionists were Audrius Polikaitis and Thomas Strolia.

With a short intermission of getting a chance to talk with friends, all one heard was how delightful the program was and how they were enjoying it.



The Knights of Lithuania Choir (Ann Marie Kassel, Theresa Strolia, Aldona Gylys, Margaret Norvaisis, Irene Rakaitis, Nina Liubinas, Salomija Dauliene, Estelle Rogers, Mary Banky, Virginia Buzenas, Lucille Kilkus, Sabina Klatt, Julie Zakarka, Pete Gagle, Antanas Marmas, Steve Rudokas, Al Matulis, Stasys Stasiunas, Antanas Badauskas, Juozas Juška, A. Bagdonas, Al Zakarka, Gediminas Janula) sang Tekėjo Saulelė, folk song — St. Šimkus, Oi, kada? — J. Stankūnas, Narsuolių daina — F. Strolia, Gimtinė, lyrics by V. Šimaitis — F. Strolia, Nuausiu juosta, lyrics by L. Rugienienė — F. Strolia directed by Faustas Strolia and accompanied by Robert Mockus.

Algerd Brazis again captured the audiences attention even more when he sang, Parveski, Viešpatie, lyrics by P. Jurkus — J. Strolia and Udrio Daina, aria from "Pilėnai" — V.

Klova with the Knights of Lithuania Choir singing together. Voices were lifted up and the spirits were high with love glowing all around.

And coming to an end such a wonderful evening — the dancers came out and accompanied by the choir, everyone seen and heard Žilvitis, Aštuonytis, Penkių ratelių pynė. What would be more appropriate than ending our evening with a sing-a-long. It was very impressive and meaningful. Faustas Strolia thanked everyone for being with us. A wonderful job well done to the Chairmen, Faustas Strolia and Frank Zapolis and Co-Chairman, Sabina Klatt (President of Choir).

Remember — Something old, something new was added to this evening and the trick is that we kept all the good things of the old and added more good things with the new.

SABINA KLATT



SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1984: BANQUET AND BALL

Bernice Aviza



Master of Ceremonies Hon. Member Stanley Pieza

Saturday evening was a time for us to relax and enjoy ourselves as the business sessions of our convention drew to a close.

A cocktail party was hosted by Council 36 for the speakers and honored guests. Among them were Honorable Josephine Dauzvardis and Father Algimantas Bartkus.

The banquet and ball were held in the International Ball Room of the Conrad Hilton Hotel. The room's grandeur was fitting for the grandness of the evening. Convention chairman John Paukstis extended a warm welcome and expressed his hope that the 71st national convention has brought us all closer together in the true spirit of friendship. The National Anthems of the United States and Lithuania were sung by nationally acclaimed soloist Mary Banky who was accompanied by Aldona Brazis.

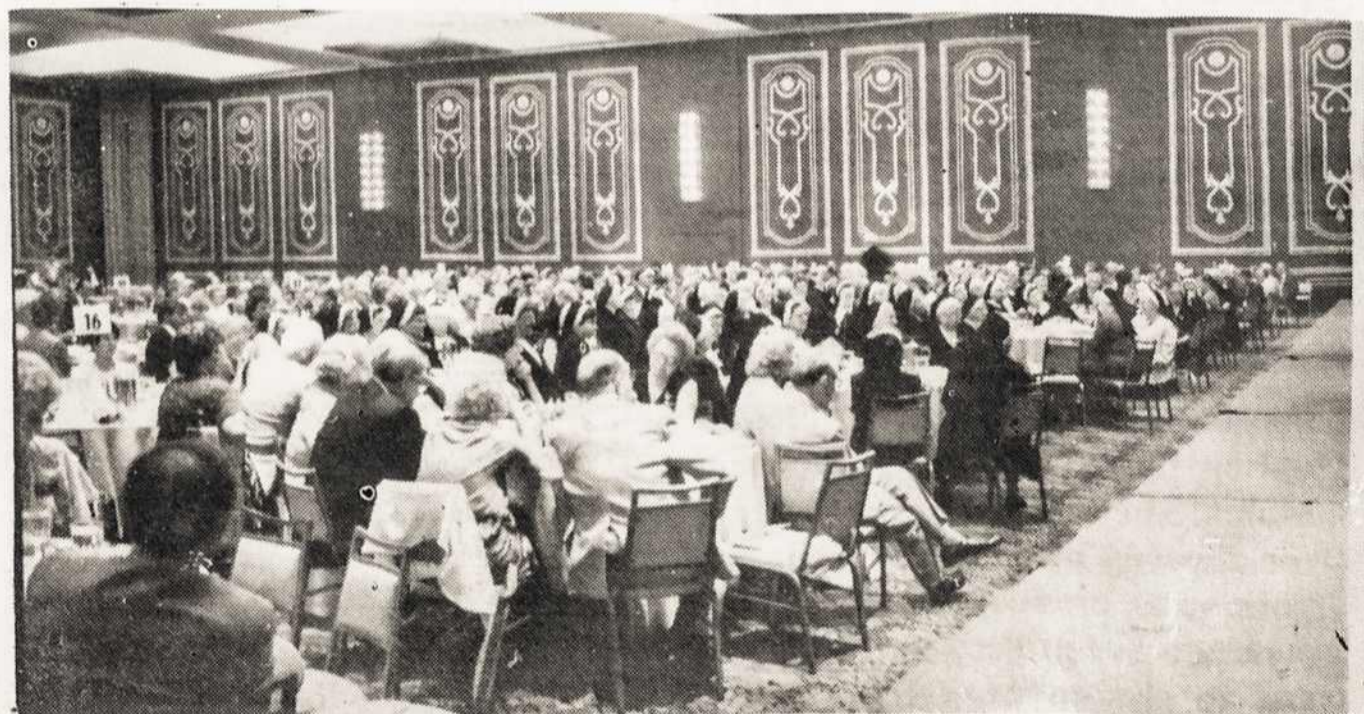
Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, our national spiritual advisor, led us in a very humble and moving invocation.

Honorary member Stanley Pieza then assumed his role as our evening's master of ceremonies. Realizing we all need nourishment he commenced our dinner with the braking of bread. As we concluded our meal Stanley introduced the dias of distinguished officers and guests: Paul Strolia, Trustee, Lillian Paukstis, C-36 Convention Com-

cial Secretary; Elinor Sluzas, 2nd Vice-President, (Aldona Ryan — Vytis editor was unable to attend the dinner due to an injury earlier in the day), Bruce Neberieza, Convention Co-Chairman, Tom Bruzga, MCD President; Rev. Fabian Kireilis, C-36 Spiritual Advisor, John Paukstis, Convention Co-Chairman; Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, National Spiritual Advisor, Loretta Stukas, National President; Monsignor Damasus Mozeris, Pastor, Immaculate Conception Church; Hon. Josephine Dauzvardis, Lithuanian Consul General; Dr. Jack Stukas, Chairman, Lithuanian Affairs Committee; Sister M. Joanela, General Superior, Sisters of St. Casimir; Rev.

Albin Janiunas, Honorary Membership recipient; Rev. Algimantas Bartkus, Pro-Rector of the Lithuanian Seminary; Anthony Mazeika, Chairman, Honorary Membership Committee; William Piacentini, Chairman, Scholarship Committee; Algerd Brazis, MAMD President; Fr. Peter Cibulskis, Draugas; Larry Janonis, MAD President; Nancy Miro, 1st Vice-President; Elsie Kosmisky, 3rd Vice-President; Adelle Dauzickas, Recording Secretary; Frank Peterson, Trustee.

Looking about the room Stanley solemnly noted that some faces of respected Knights were now missing, paying respect to our deceased brethren.





The Hon. Josephine Dauzvardis, Lithuanian Consul General, introduced as the "Lithuanian Lore Lady" was the evening's first speaker. She thanked the K of L for their support and congratulated them for the work they have done for Lithuania. But we must return home, renewed in spirit to carry forth Lithuania's message, in order that Lithuania's liberty will be restored.

Sister M. Joanela represented the congregation of the Sisters of St. Casimir. It is fitting that the Knights of Lithuania have St. Casimir as their patron, she noted. Our motto, For God and Country, symbolized St. Casimir's genuine love of God and concern for others. Our actions are characteristic of St. Casimir's life of sacrifice for the defense of the rights of the poor and powerless. The Knights of Lithuania, must continuously strive to preserve further the principles of justice, valor and faith known to St. Casimir. We must accept this challenge as St. Casimir also accepted it.

Following Sr. Joanela's greetings, National President Loretta Stukas bestowed upon the convention Pope John Paul's choicest blessings, that she had received during the trip to the Vatican in March. She thanked the convention for allowing her to continue in the position as president to successfully conclude past projects and programs and to also to work for our new theme — Lithuanian youth, our future. With support and coopera-

tion and prayer, under the shield of St. Casimir, we can achieve the ideals of our organization — for God and country. Loretta reminisced about her school days under the tutelage of the Sisters of St. Casimir.

A token of appreciation for a job well done by Loretta was presented to her by Tom Bruzga.

This year's honorary membership recipient was Fr. Albin Janiunas, Council 78, Lawrence, Mass. spiritual advisor. Anthony Mazeika and Eleonore Laurin, Honorary Membership Committee members together spoke of Rev. Janiunas' contributions to the K of L during the past thirty years. Fr. Janiunas ex-

pressed his feelings of deepest honor as recipient of the award, and reminisced about how the K of L had always opened up their homes, their hearts and their love for him. Fr. Janiunas' K of L history has seen him actively assisting C-27, Norwood, C-78, Lawrence and C-17, South Boston. He very proudly stated that he has spoken Lithuanian every day he has been a priest. We are all very proud of Fr. Janiunas also. Fr. Janiunas stated we must work for the release of Fr. Svarinskas and Fr. Tamkevicius. Quoting St. Paul, he said, when one cell suffers, the entire body suffers; when one member suffers, the entire mystical body of Christ suffers.



Anthony Mazeika bestows Honorary Membership on Fr. Janiūnas.



Scholarship Awards were presented by Scholarship Chairman William Piacentini. But before their presentation Bill talked about two individuals who characterized what the Knights of Lithuania scholarship program is all about — Phil Carter, C-1 member, who died during the past year, who tirelessly worked for the youth of the K of L and Rima Hartvigas — C-100; Rima received the second place scholarship award (\$750) in 1983. She returned the money because she had received a full tuition scholarship from another source. Rima passed her scholarship money on to another K of L member.

The recipients of the 1984 Awards were: Madonna Balulis, C-144, John Strolia — C-36, and Susan Balcavage, C-144. John was present to receive his award and thanked the K of L for helping him in his studies; Rita Shevokas accepted Madonna and Susan's awards — describing the dedication of these girls to their Lithuanian heritage. All recipients received the same amount — \$900.



John Strolia

A delightful break in the evening's program was a musical selection presented by Linda Ruzgaite Burba. Playing her "Lithuanian guitar" she sang beautiful melodies of youth, romance, and adventure. She truly moved our spirits with her songs.



Sr. Ann Gillen

The bestowing of the "Friend of Lithuania" Award was performed by National Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chairperson, Dr. Jack Stukas. Sister Ann Gillen, Executive Director of the National Interreligious Task Force for Soviet Jewry was the recipient. Sister Ann "adopted" the Church of Klaipeda during her work with the Task Force; she also serves on the National Coalition to Free Viktoras Petkus and Balys Gajauskas. Dr. Stukas stated we must cherish and uphold people like Sister Ann, while presenting her with the award — a straw picture symbolizing what Lithuania is — a land of crosses. For each passion there is a resurrection, stated Dr. Stukas, this resurrection will come. With people like Sister Ann the Easter Dawn will dawn much quicker and brighter.

In accepting the award Sister Ann shared with us her experiences of working together for the oppressed persons in the USSR. Our aims are simple she said, to educate the unaware; to help liberate the oppressed and to facilitate the reconciliation of groups alienated perhaps by problems of the past. We must work together in the future, regardless of our differences. Religion is not the opium of the people, she added, but rather the conciliation in times of sorrow, the strength in times of need, the inspiration in times of joy and a life well lived. The Church of Klaipeda represented to her a symbol of

of the religious freedom desired by believers. She challenged us to turn to the Knights of Columbus to work on the Klaipeda Church project to match the number of signatures collected by the courageous people of Lithuania.

The closing remarks of the evening program were made by Bruce Neberieza, Convention Committee Co-Chairman. He expressed hope that our journey home would be safe but to take time and enjoy the dancing that followed to the two bands — Aidas and Neo-Lithuania.



Neo-Lithuania Band

Monsignor Mozeris in benediction expressed the need for us to share our ideas and our hearts for the continued success of the K of L.

After thanking the committee for a job well done, we enjoyed a long evening of joyful dancing and partying.



PRESENTATION OF THE FATHER JUTT "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA" AWARD

TO SISTER ANN GILLEN

As Presented by Dr. Jack Stukas,
National Chairman of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee

August 25, 1984
Chicago, Ill.

It is with great pride and honor that we have with us today Sister Ann Gillen, who is Executive Director of the Interreligious Task Force for Soviet Jewry. She is a graduate of Rosemont College in Pennsylvania, Villanova University, also in Pennsylvania, and did post graduate work in Theology at Regina Mundi, a Pontifical Institute in Rome.

She is also a teacher of youth. She was an executive board member of the National Coalition of American Nuns, member of the Executive Committee of the National Christian Leadership Conference for Israel, member of the Public Advisory Committee for the National Institute for the Holocaust, and a member of the Commission which heard the testimony given at the Second International Sakharov Hearing in Rome in 1977 and the Third International Sakharov Hearing in Washington in 1979. She is also a board member of the working Group for the Raoul Wallenberg Committee, with which we are familiar.

Sister Ann has traveled widely in behalf of human right causes, both in the USA and abroad, visiting with Soviet Jewish activists in the USSR in 1974 and 1977 and meeting with other activists in Israel and in various European countries.

This National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry was founded right here in Chicago in



1972, and includes among its leaders major personalities of the Roman Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, Evangelical and Jewish communities.

The Task Force, a major expression of human rights concerns shared by Christians and Jews, works in many ways to achieve freedom for the Soviet Jews and other oppressed peoples. It carries on an intensive program of education, interpretation, and action.

The Task Force provides guidance and assistance for various interreligious groups throughout America and in other parts of the world. The Task Force gives workshops on human rights, religious liberty and the Helsinki Agreement. Sister Ann Gillen, SHCJ, is the Task Force's Executive Director.

Now, what has Sister Ann Gillen done for us Lithuanians here in America and throughout the world, especially in Soviet-occupied Lithuania? She initiated the interreligious petition campaign throughout the rest of the world for the restoration of the Catholic Church

of Klaipeda to the use of the Catholic people in that city. If you recall, the people of Klaipeda, Lithuania's major port city, collected monies to build this beautiful church, and then they had it built. It was ready to be consecrated, when the Russians said 'NO, that church is going to be closed!' The Church was closed and was converted to a museum. So Sister was foremost in the drive to reopen that church as a place of worship, because the oppressed Lithuanians gathered funds at great sacrifice and built that church for the greater glory of God.

Through her weekly newsletter, The Task, and through special appeals to religious and political leaders, she has launched letter writing campaigns in support of Nijole Sadunaite, especially during her years of exile. And we all remember the beautiful words of Nijole Sadunaite, in which she encouraged all of us to work and to pray for the freedom of Lithuania. Nijole is now in hiding, somewhere in Lithuania. She was freed by the Soviets, but now again is hunted for her religious activities. Her brother is also experiencing trials and tribulations under the Soviets.

Sister has not only helped Sadunaite. Listen to who else she has helped:

Revs. B. Laurinavicius, Juozas Zdebskis, Antanas Bitvinskas, Benediktas Povilauskis, Leonas Sapoka, Mazeika, Algerdas Svarinskas, Sigitas Tamkevicius, Dr. Algirdas Statkevicius, Viktoras

Petkus, Balys Gajauskas, Julius Sasnauskas, Vytautas Skuodis, Antanas Terleckas, Gemma Stanelyte, Ana Vitkauskaite, Petras Plumpa, Jonas Sadunas, Jadvyga Bieliauskiene, Jonas Saunorius, Mecislovas Jurevicius, Vytautas Vaiciunas.

All of these are freedom fighters, the men and women who languish in Soviet labor camps. All these are our heroes. They languish in labor camps, prisons or insane asylums, because they want freedom of religion and freedom for Lithuania.

Since July 12, 1979, Sister Ann has been a member of the Coalition to Free Petkus and Gajauskas. With delegations to the Belgrade and Madrid Conferences to review the Helsinki Agreement, Sister Ann has expressed strong support for the prisoners of conscience and for religious freedom in the USSR and Eastern Europe.

This award is especially significant this year, because the Knights of Lithuania has resolved to have all councils "adopt a dissident". Thanks to the suggestion of Father Prunskis, the convention was able to pass this resolution.

I have always said that it is our sisters, priests and brothers... Sister Ann Gillen, Mother Teresa, the Rev. Fathers present... that are agents of God. We pray to God to help us. He will not descend from heaven personally to help us. He helps us by sending agents, to help us in our fight for Lithuania's freedom, in preserving morality in



The original "Hill of Crosses", in Šiauliai, Lithuania.

this country. These are the people that we must cherish. And we do, as Knights of Lithuania, have the utmost respect for the religious, and are privileged to have them on our side, working for our causes.

I can't think of a nicer award to give to our "Friend of Lithuania", the lovely Sister Ann Gillen, than a representation, made of straw, of the Lithuanian Hill of Crosses. This tells what Lithuania is today, Land of Crosses. These crosses are a symbol to all Lithuanians of their fight for religious freedom. In free Lithuania, the beautiful hand-carved crosses dotted the countryside. Today, there is a "Hill of Crosses" which the Soviets have tried fruitlessly to destroy. As fast as they tear down the crosses, new crosses pop up, symbolizing the unending fight for religious freedom by oppressed Lithuanians.

So therefore, we are giving to Sister Ann Gillen this representation of "Kryžių Kalnas" which speaks for all the Lithuanians today. We're under the cross, we are bearing the cross. After all, after each passion there is a resurrection. And we know that our resurrection will come. And with the help of wonderful and dedicated people like Sister Ann Gillen, that Easter Day will come even sooner.

Sister Ann Gillen, I am proud to present this "Rev. John C. Jutt Friend of Lithuania Award," which has been presented since 1952 to Cardinals, Senators, Congressmen. For the first time, we are so proud to present it to a true agent of God, a Sister.

SISTER ANN GILLEN,
1984 "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA".

TALK GIVEN BY SR. ANN GILLEN, SHCJ

I wish to thank you for conferring this great honor tonight. I accept it as given for the work of the Task Force, a group that includes Catholics, Protestants and Jews working together for oppressed persons in the USSR and Eastern Europe. It is the Task Force which has made this work possible for me.

**ON SATURDAY,
AUGUST 25, 1984 AT
THE KNIGHTS OF
LITHUANIA 71st
NATIONAL
CONVENTION,
CONRAD HILTON
HOTEL, CHICAGO, IL**

Let me tell you a little bit about the Task Force. Begun in Chicago in 1972, it was co-founded by the American Jewish Committee and the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice. Its first purpose was bringing the plight of Soviet Jews to the attention of the Christian world. In a post-Holocaust age, we wanted to translate

concern into action to help the 2,115,000 Jews in the USSR. As that exodus began to move out of the Soviet Union and when the Helsinki Final Act was signed, we broadened our focus to include religious freedom and related human rights as well as emigration, and Eastern Europe as well as the USSR.

Our aims were simple, to educate the unaware, to help liberate the oppressed, and to facilitate the reconciliation of groups alienated by the problems of the past.

Our Newsletter is a bridge-builder, telling Jews about Christians and Christians about Jews, urging cooperation for persons of various religious and ethnic backgrounds who need our help. Our local groups bring people together to learn from one another as well as with each other.

At our Second Consulation held in Chicago in 1976, Father Casimir Pugevicius made a strong appeal that help be given to Lithuanian Catholics. The Task Force launched an Adoption campaign for Nijole Sadunaite. Two days from now, August 27, marks the end of ten years since Nijole's arrest for helping type the 11th issue of the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania.

As you know, Nijole served three years in a labor camp followed by three years in exile. Recently I reread the account of her trial and was moved again by her great courage and love. I wonder what impact her words must have had on the court, words of powerful religious witness, climaxed with her question following the verdict: "Why is the sentence so light?"

Nijole served that sentence with dignity and love, helped, we hope, by the thousands of letters she received from people in Lithuania and abroad. Now she is in hiding, for the oppression of Catholics continues in the USSR. Her one desire is to serve her people.

When will the Soviet authorities learn that true religion brings God's blessing on the land and its people? Religion is not the opium of the people but rather their consolation in time of sorrow, their strength in time of need, their joy in life well lived.

Lithuanian Catholics are still being sorely tested. Priests have been viciously attacked and murdered. Priest leaders of the Catholic Committee to Defend the Rights of Believers have been sentenced to long terms, joining other lay Lithuanian Human Rights Monitors who are also serving long sentences. Lithuania has many heroes and heroines today including young persons and even children. This courage must inspire us to do more for them with the freedom we have in the West.

The Task Force has chosen the Church of Klaipeda as symbol of religious oppression by the USSR. Limited solely to the right to worship yet denied adequate places for worship, the people rightly petition to have their church restored to them — one built with permission, with funds, labor and materials donated by the people — yet turned into a concert hall when it should have been consecrated as the Mary Queen of Peace Church.

That title is a providential challenge, we believe, reminding the religious world which pursues peace so passionately today that peace must be founded and built on justice — otherwise, it will not endure. The TASK FORCE is a small group with big goals. It has made significant progress working in partnership with Jewish, Protestant and Catholic groups.

Now we must all ask ourselves: have we done enough? Can we not maximize our efforts by further networking? Suppose the Knight of Lithuania — collectively and individually — asked other Knights of Columbus, Knights of St. Gregory, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, and



so on to join in the effort to regain the church of Klaipeda for the Roman Catholics of that Lithuanian city? I believe great good would come from such efforts.

I congratulate you on the brave Ambassadors of Lithuania that serve in lonely outposts of Siberian exile -- on the dedicated leaders who work for them in this country whom I have met in this work: Bishop Brizgys, Father Pugevicius and Father Prunskis, and Ginte Damusis. I am grateful to you all for the information and inspiration you as Ambassadors of Lithuania in exile share with us. I hope our cooperation will continue and will succeed with the help of God in bringing lasting relief and freedom to the people of Lithuania and to the world.



Dear Loretta and Jack,

Last night's event was very moving, very beautiful. Thank You so much for the beautiful Hill of Crosses which will always remind me of the cause of Lithuanian religious freedom and the friendship of so many good and brave people.

Gratefully,
Sr. Ann Gillen, SHC

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 71st CONVENTION Farewell Luncheon



Fr. Jurgelaitis, Bishop Brizgys, Sr. Joanela, Fr. Bartkus, Loretta and Dr. Jack Stukas.

After a truly magnificent mass at Immaculate Conception Church, delegates and guests were taken to Maria High School for the farewell luncheon of the 71st Annual Convention.

The tables at the School Cafeteria were beautifully set, with Lithuanian centerpieces which were taken home by lucky people seated at each table. The Lithuanian food was excellent and everyone was well satisfied.

Co-Chairperson of the Banquet, Evelyn Ozelis, was a very gracious Mistress of Ceremonies. She introduced Convention Chairman John Paukstis who thanked the Sisters of St. Casimir for their hospitality and presented on behalf of Council 36, a beautiful Tabernacle for the new prayer room at the

Mother House. Superior General, Sister Joanela accepted with deep joy and profound gratitude. She stated the tabernacle symbolizes the presence of the Eucharist and that Mother Maria Kaupas, founder of the Sisters of St. Casimir, had great devotion to the Holy Eucharist. She was deeply touched.

Chairman of the Luncheon, David Gainas introduced the guests at the main table, Sister Joanela, Father Jurgelaitis, Father Bartkus, Loretta Stukas, Jack Stukas, John Paukstis, Lillian Paukstis, Sister Agnesine and Sister Julie, Principal of Maria High School.

Father Jurgelaitis and Loretta Stukas then presented Bishop Brizgys, for his many years of devotion to the K of L a plaque. By

acclamation, all delegates proclaimed him Honorary Spiritual Advisor of the Knights of Lithuania.

Sister Julie, Principal of Maria High School, greeted everyone on behalf of the Sisters, faculty and students of Maria High School. She invited those who wished to stay after the luncheon to tour the facilities. Students were available to act as guides. She also announced that Sister Kathleen Smith made the beautiful St. Casimir Banner in Immaculate Conception Church.

M.A.M.D. President, Vincent Samaska, presented a commemorative medal to St. Casimir's Church in Vilnius on a recent visit there. He was given a medal by Pastor of St. Peter and Paul's Church in Vilnius and presented this to Sister Joanela to be placed in the Museum at the Mother House.

After the closing of the luncheon, some toured the School and others left to go to their homes with pleasant memories of a good convention and with thanks to Chairman, John Paukstis and his committee for a memorable convention.



Sr. Joanela receives Gift from John Paukstis.



Bishop Brizgys proclaimed K of L Honorary Spiritual Advisor

UNDER THAT RED VELVET BANNER

THE CONVENTION OPENING MASS

Thursday evening the traditional Convention Opening Mass was celebrated in Saint George's Church, which is the oldest Lithuanian church in Chicago (1886). It is a large and lofty church recently redecorated but still showing the signs of decades of devotion by the earliest Lithuanians in Chicago.

Just inside the altar rail there was standing A RED VELVET BANNER WITH A PAINTING OF SAINT CASIMIR. (Now you know why this article is entitled as it is.) The banner was painted by Sister Agnesine of the Sisters of Saint Casimir as their tribute to their Holy Patron and ours, too! To the right of the banner was the famous Knights of Lithuania choir under the direction of Faustas Strolia.

Father A. Kishkunas, Pastor Emeritus, welcomed the Convention in the name of the Pastor, Fr. R. Bulwith, who was unable to attend this event.

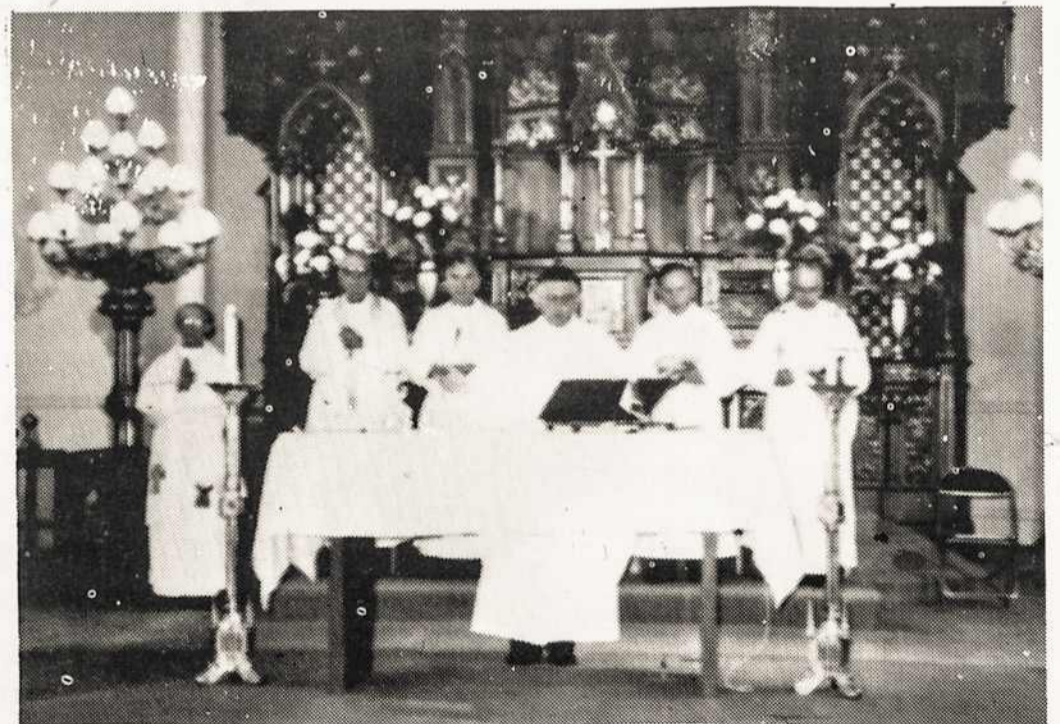
To the singing of "Pulkim and Kelių" the concelebrants entered: Fathers Algimantas Bartkus, A. Janiunas, F. Kireilis, V. Daugintis, P. Cibulskis, MIC and A. Jurgelaitis, O.P.

Following the custom of many years the Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor, Father Jurgelaitis was the Homilist. He introduced his sermon by referring to "that red velvet banner with the image of Saint Casimir" which was carried in procession by the nobility of Poland and Lithuania at the canonization ceremonies in Vilnius in the years 1603 and 1604. After 380 years the banner of Saint Casimir still waves, inspires and shows the way. The strange thing is that other banners cast shadows, but not that of Saint Casimir!

His banner throws a brilliant light upon those who follow it, because his banner had basked in the light of Christ whom he loved and imitated. That red, velvet banner still inspires Knights of Lithuania to do good, to strive to do it better, to aim for the best.

„ood, better, best,
Never let it rest,
Till the good is better
And the better best."

little poem sums up Saint Casimir's life-style.



Holy Mass at St. George's.

UNDER THAT RED VELVET BANNER

MASS FOR PERSECUTED CATHOLICS OF LITHUANIA

On Friday, the Mass was concelebrated at the hotel. Thanks to the Convention Host Council (C-36) a special room was provided, thus eliminating the distractions of the Convention Hall. District Spiritual Advisor, Fr. A. Zakarauskas was principle celebrant joined by Fathers A. Janiunas, P. Cibulskis and A. Jurgelaitis, who preached the Homily.

He asked the delegates to consider again the question: "How can we help the suffering Church in Lithuania now in its 44th year of persecuion?"

? answer to that question was given to us five years ago by the editors of the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church of Lithuania", who urgently begged for our moral support, as they thanked us, Knights of Lithuania, for petitioning the Bishops of the United States for a Day of Prayer for Lithuania to be said in all the parishes across the land. The Bishops granted that request. The need for prayerful moral support has not grown less over the past five years.

er Jurgelaitis mentioned the fact that at the Day of Prayer sponsored by Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid at the Shrine of the Jesuit Martyrs in Auriesville in August in which Knights of Lithuania took part and which was tape recorded for broadcast to Lithuania that the K of L was with them: *Mes esame su Jumis!* We were with suffering Lithuania in 1979. During the last five years we were with Catholic Lithuania through our participation in the Days of Prayer we conducted in our local councils. I assured them that we will continue to be with them during the 60 days of prayer that the K of L arranges during the year according to the Calendar of Prayer we are following.



Delegates at Mass.



Among the symbolic Offertory gifts was one that attracted the attention of the delegates, because it was different. Vic and Bea Matheiu of C-103, Providence, R. I. brought up a small exhibit in which photographic cut-outs were placed against a red background behind a real barbed wire fence. In the foreground on a grass covered area was a broken wayside shrine. This exhibit was used at the "Terrible Days of June" commemoration last June when Council 103 gathered at the English church of Saint Mary in Bristol, R.I. joining with that parish in prayers during the Sunday Mass.

Saturday's Mass at the Conrad Hilton was the annual Mass for our deceased members. Joining with Father P. Cibulskis, MIC, as concelebrants were Fr. A. Zakarauskas, Fr. Janiunas, Fr. Bartkus and Fr. Jurgelaitis, O.P.

Father Cibulskis preached the Homily. Brief and effective were his words of encouragement to pray for our faithful Knights who have died, for those who can pray for us, but not for themselves.

names of the 70 Faithful Knights who had died since the last Convention were read at the Prayer of the Faithful. A bouquet of white carnations was placed upon the altar. A special memento was made of Petronele Laurinaitė, who is believed to be the first Knight of Lithuania to die in the earliest years of our organization. Petronele lost her life, when a river excursion boat capsized on the Chicago River. 815 persons died in that tragedy.



Noon Mass concelebrants.



Concelebration of Holy Mass at Immaculate Conception



Pastor, Monsignor D. A. Mozeris.



Delegates at Closing Mass

UNDER THAT RED VELVET BANNER

THE CONVENTION CLOSING MASS

Knights of Lithuania joined the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church to celebrate the closing of the Convention. It was indeed a beautiful Lithuanian church, modern in style with the most brilliant stained glass windows along the walls.

There was a very warm feeling of welcome as we marched into the church in procession with flags and banners flanked by honor guards from the Lithuanian National Guard unit in Chicago. The highlight of this procession was the huge Lithuanian tricolor, wider than the main aisle, carried by at least 10 people holding it by the edges.

Chief Concelebrant was the Pastor, Monsignor D. A. Mozeris, Homilist was His Excellency, Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, Honorary Member. Other concelebrants were Fathers A. Saulaitis, S.J., Provincial of the Lithuanian Jests, A. Janiunas, Honorary Member, Alg. Bartkus, F. Kireilis, A. Jurgelaitis, O.P., P. Cibulskis, M.I.C.

Bishop Brizgys presented and developed an interesting point to be considered as the Year of Saint Casimir draws to its close.

Prince Casimir was not known during his life as one who performed extraordinary deeds. But he lived an extraordinary life. We do not try to imitate him as Prince, but as Saint. Our Patron through thinking and prayer developed a strong conviction that good deeds make the difference between ordinary and extraordinary. Mere words are useless. The best way to honor our Patron is to live in such a way that our actions, our deeds lead people to see life and living Saint Casimir's way, which of course, is the way of Christ.

Among the symbolic gifts brought up at the Offertory were a reminder of the heroism of the Lithuanian Catholics — a copy of the **Chronicles**, a pledge of K of L activity "for God and Country" — copies of the Resolutions adopted at this 71st Convention.

The K of L Choir under the direction of Faustas Strolia provided the liturgical music which was inspiring and uplifting. Especially thrilling were the Processional and the Recessional in which Faustas Strolia made use of trumpets and drums in addition to the organ.



Offertory Procession

THE FAREWELL BRUNCH

After the Mass, pictures of the Convention Delegates were taken on the steps of Maria High School, conducted by the Sisters of Saint Casimir who graciously hosted the farewell lunch in the huge student cafeteria.

There was a surprise in store for Bishop Brizgys as the meal was drawing to an end.

On the occasion of Bishop Brizgys' 80th birthday the Supreme Council sent him a greeting and presented him with the first of the statues of Saint Casimir that was made in honor of the Jubilee Year. But they felt that that was not enough. Someone suggested buying His Excellency a Cadillac, so that he could visit us at our local Council meetings. But who would drive the Caddy? It was decided to wait for the Convention for a decision. Finally, this question was proposed at the Farewell Bruch. 500 hands shot up, willing to drive His Excellency to our K of L affairs.

Unfortunately, the Supreme Council had used up its budget so there could be no Cadillac.

However, with the approval of all the Convention Delegates Bishop Brizgys was honored by being elevated to the very, very highets honor Knights of Lithuania can bestow: they chose him to be their Honorary Spiritual Advisor with all its rights and privileges . . . the **right** to continue his wise and fatherly counsel and advice in all matters and the **privilege** to be remembered in the prayers of all the Knights of Lithuania that God bless him for many, many more years to come.

These were the spiritual activity highlights of the 71st Convention . . . "under the Red Velvet Banner with a painting of Saint Casimir."

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



"Under the Red Velvet Banner"

SEIMAS 1984

Šventas Kazimierai, Globok mus ir kenčiančią Lietuvą!

Rugpjūčio 23 d. prasidėjo 71-mas „Lietuvos Vyčių“ seimas.

Delegatai ir svečiai rinkosi į Conrad Hilton viešbutį Čikagoje. Registracija prasidėjo 9 val. ryto, ir dalyviai galėjo susitikti su naujais ir senais draugais.

Praeitais metais, laike 70-to seimo, 36 Čikagos kuopa klausė, „KODĖL NE?“ atvykite į Čikagą 1984 m.

Lenkiame galvas 36 kuopai, o ypatingai, pirmininkui Jonui Paukščiui ir vice-pirmininkei Marijai Kinčius.

Vaišių kambaryje buvo mūsų nuoširdžios globėjos Ann Marie Kassel ir Teresa Strolia. Malonūs pasikalbėjimai ir gaivinantys gėrimai laukė tų, kurie atsilankė į didingą seimą.

Ši kuopa iš 600 su viršum narių veikė glaudžiai, užtikrindama gerai organizuotą seimą. Paminėsiu keletą asmenų, kurie rūpinosi atskirais reikalais: Brūce Neberieza, Evelyn Oželis, Scottie Zukas, Edward Valskis, Lucille Kilkus, Ruth Kazlauskas, Salomėja Daulienė, Stanley Pieza, Aušra Padalino, Ralph Goking, Denise Vaikutis, Lillian Paustis, Vincent Samaška,

Anna Naureckiene, Loretta Geštautas, Faustas Strolia, Frank Zapolis, Sabina Klatt, David Gardas, Frank Švelnis, Theresa Balčiūnas, Jerome Jankus, Paul ir Thomas Strolia, Georgeanna Kassel.

Pirmą valandą visi rinkosi į posėdžių salę. Sesija prasidėjo įnešimu vėliavų. (JAV, Lietuvos, centro, apskričių ir kuopų).

Maldą sukalbėjo Tėvas A. J. Jurgelaitis, O.P., dvasios vadas. Iškviesti valdybos nariai ir komisijų pirmininkai.

36-tos kuopos pirmininkas Jonas Paukštis pasveikino svečius ir atstovus, atvykusius į 71-mą seimą, linkėdamas darbingo seimo ir kad priimtose rezoliucijos neštų gerų vaisių. Jis dėkojo kaimyninėms kuopoms Čikagoje, Kenoshia, Helen Shields 3 kuopos ir Irene Sankus iš 112 kuopos.

Naujai suorganizuotos 13 kuopos (nuo 18 iki 30 amžiaus), Čikagoje pirmininkas Paul Strolia, sveikino žodžiais „Mano Tipo Miestas“.

Lietuviškų organizacijų atstovai taip pat sveikino seimą.

Šv. Kazimiero seserų vyresnioji motina Joanelle priminė, kad ir



Marytė Rudienė sveikina
BALFOO vardu.



Saulius Kuprys sveikina
LRKFA vardu.

vyčiai turi tą patį patroną Šv. Kazimierą.

Šv. Pranciškaus seselių vardu Seselė Alverna, žadėjo melstis ir linkėjo kad seimas būtų sėkmingas.

Dar sveikino pasiuntinys Stasys Bačkis, Dr. Kazio Bobelio sveikinimą perskaitė Dr. J. Stukas, ALTO vardu sveikino Teodoras Blinstrubas, JAV Bendruomenės Dr. Antanas Butkus, Lietuvių Katalikų Federacijos Saulius Kuprys kad ši organizacija padėjo suorganizuoti Lietuvos Vyčius, Ateitininkų vardu Dr. Kazys Pemkus Ateitininkų Federacijos vadas, BALFO Marija Rudienė kad didėtų ir garbingai



Registracijos komisija: T. Strolienė, A. Padalino, G. Kaselytė, A. Kaselienė, R. Simokaitienė, A. Kent.

žygiuotų pirmyn, Lietuvių Susivienijimo Paulin Austin, Lietuvių Moterų Federacijos Klubo P. Marcinkiene.

Gauti raštu sveikinimai Prezidento Ronald Reagan, vyskupų V. Brizgio, Salatkas, Baltakio, kun. Pugevičiaus, Pasaulio Lietuvių Bendruomenės, Nukryžiuotojo Jėzaus Seserų, Nekaltai Pradėtosios Marijos Seserų Putnam Ct., Julijos Mack Amerikos Katalikių moterų, „Darbininko“ redaktoriaus, kun. K. Bučnio, Dr. A. Razmos, Lietuvių Skautų, Jaunimo Sąjungos Gintaras Grušas ir Tėvų Marijonų.

Kai visi sveikinimai buvo perskaityti, Tėvas A. Jurgelaitis O.P. pravedė pasiaukojimo Šv. Kazimierui ceremonijas.

Maldų ir giesmių knygelės buvo išdalintos. Buvo paskaitytas Šv. Kazimiero gyvenimas ir pagiedota giesmių, akompanuojant Faustui Stroliai.

Sekretorė Nancy Miro komentavo apie kuopų veikimą praėjusiais metais.

Specialiai paminėtas Vidurio Centro Apskrities Pirmininkas Tomas Bruzga, kuris koordinavo ir platino Šv. Kazimiero statulėlės, prisiminimui Šv. Kazimiero 500 m. sukakties. Statulėlės buvo pagamintos ranka ir dailiai nudažytos.

Vakarop įvykiai keitės.

Seimo atidarymo mišios buvo laikomos Šv. Jurgio lietuvių bažnyčioje. Šv. Mišias laikė Kun. R. Bulworth, koncelebruojant kun. Janiūnui, Bartkui, Cibulskiui ir Jurgelaičiui.

Susipažinimo vakaras vyko bažnyčios salėje, kur kiekvienas stalas buvo papuoštas tautinėm spalvom.

Programą atliko „VIRTUVĖS GRAŽUOLĖS“. Ši grupė susidarė iš vyresnio amžiaus Šv. Jurgio parapijos moterų. Grupė atliko dainų, ir šokių pynę palydint virtuvės instrumentams. Ilgos spalvuotos suknelės ir plačiais bryliais skrybėlės buvo elegantiškos. AČIŪ JOMS!



Dr. A. Butkus sveikina LB vardu.



J. Jurkūnas sveikina Tautos Fondo vardu.

Penktadienis, Rugp. 24 d.

prasidėjo su Pirmininkės L. Stukienės pranešimu. Kasininko Alfonso Trainio pranešimas buvo paskaitytas garbės narės Helen Shields.

Pirmiausia buvo svarstoma dabartiniai įvykiai Lietuvos Reikaluose. Dr. J. Stukas, Lietuvos Reikalų Pirmininkas buvo moderatorius. Referentais buvo Kun. Prunskis ir Antanas Mažeika.



Šv. Jurgio parapijos „Virtuvės Gražuolės“.

Kun. J. Prunskis Lietuvių Informacijos Centro Vedėjas Čikagoje, pradėjo kalbą pagirdamas Vyčius. Jis pabrėžė, kad yra svarbu tęsti darbą dėl Lietuvos laisvės ir tą reikalą laikyti gyvą ypatingai Vašingtone. Taip pat mes neturime užmiršti religinių ir politinių kalinių Lietuvoje.

Laiškų rašymas turi tęstis ir toliau primenant kančias ir neturėjimą žmogaus teisių mūsų valdžios žmonėms, sovietų pareigūnams ir patiems kaliniams. Yra žinoma kad daugelis kalinių negauna laiškų, bet nereikia nusiminti dėl to nes Sovietų Valdžia kreipia dėmesį į tai, kad mes neužmirštame savo brolius ir seseris tremtvie.

Dr. Kazys Bobelis, Vyriausio Lietuvos Išlaisvinimo Komiteto Pirmininkas negalėjo atvykti į šį seimą.

Tai kalbėjo Antanas Mažeika, Vice-Pirmininkas Amerikos Baltų Lygos.

Ši organizacija susideda iš lietuvių, latvių ir estų kilmės, gyvenančių Amerikoje. Ji organizavo protestus prieš Vytauto Skruodžio įkalinimą, sutriuškinimą „solidarumo“ Lenkijoje, naudojimą vergų darbui, gaminant ir tiesiant vamzdžių liniją ir naudojimą baltiečių Afganistano kare. Ji kovoja ir už davimą politinio pabėgėlio teises.

Baltų lyga organizuoja, kad Sovietai būtų išmesti iš tarptautinio olimpinio komiteto už praėties nusikaltimus ir pažeidimus žmogaus teisių.

Sekantis kalbėtojas buvo kun. Al Bartkus, buvęs lietuvių bažnyčios Klebonas Frackville, Pa. ir vyčių narys 144 Antracito kuopos.

Jis dabar yra prorektorius lietuvių kolegijos ir seminarijos Romoje. Ši seminarija yra vienintelė laisvame pasaulyje. Kita seminarija yra Kaune, Lietuvoje, bet yra Sovietų valdžios kontroliuojama su apribotu klierikų skaičiumi, ir nėra galimybės žinoti ar kandidatas į kunigus yra tikras, ar užverbuotas KGB agentas. Yra dar pagrindžio seminarija, apie tai mažai tėra žinoma, bet ją baigę kunigai negauna valdžios leidimą eiti kunigų pareigas.

Daug kunigų yra kalėjimuose ar ištremtų ir nėra kam juos pakeisti.

Romos seminarija vadinama Šv. Kazimiero Pontrifikalinė lietuvių kolegijos seminarija įsteigta 1944 m. Jos išlaikymo padėtis yra kritiška.

Kun. A. Bartkus prašo, kad kiekviena kuopa adoptuotų šią seminariją. Bus prašomos ir kitos organizacijos susirūpinti tuo reikalu. Tai būtų didžiausia dovana Šv. Kazimiero minėjimo metu.

Ankstyvą popietę buvo pagerbta pirmą mirusi (36 kuopos vyte 17-kos metų mergaitė) Petronelė Laurinaitė 1914 m. tragiškai žuvus. Jos garbei buvo padėtas vainikas.

Šios dienos mišios buvo atlaikytos viešbutyje kunigų Janiūno, Bartkaus, Prunskio, Zakarausko, Cibulskio, Jurgelaičio ir prelado Mozerio.

3-čią valandą po pietų Centro Valdybos Sekretorė Nancy Miro pravedė pokalbį tema „Seni ir Nauji Horizontai“.

Vyčiai įsikūrė 1913 m., kai susiorganizavo grupės pirmųjų emigrantų, darė projektus ir vadovavo lietuvių bažnyčių statybai.

1916 m. jau buvo 60 kuopų su virš 4000 narių, o 1984 m. 57 kuopos su viršum 4000 narių.

Po to prasidėjo diskusijos.

Rugpiučio 24 d. vakare prasidėjo Kultūrinis vakaras. Altiko Lietuvos vyčių choras vadovaujamas F.



Seimo Kultūros paroda ir kjoskas.



Mišios Šv. Jurgio parapijoje.



Koncerte, LV Šokėjai.

Strolis, Lietuvos vyčių šokių grupė, vadovaujama F. Zapolio. Taip pat pasirodė ir jaunųjų grupė Suzuki Violinists.

Šeštadienio darbotvarkė sudaryta iš priėmimo rezoliucijų kurias mes atliksime kitais metais.

Iš rezoliucijų minėtinos:

1. Kiekviena kuopa adotuos disidentą Lietuvoje.

2. Lietuvos vyčiai iš dabartinės kasos paaukos \$1000.00 seminarijai Romoje.

3. Tapti krikšto tėvais Romos lietuvių seminarijos.

4. Tęsti darbą ir maldas pakėlimu Arkivyskupo Jurgio Matulaičio į šventuosius.

Į Centro Valdybą išrinkta:

A. J. Jurgelaitis — D. V.

Loretta Stukas — Pirmininkė

Nancy Miro — Pirma Vice-pirmininkė CT

Elinor Sluzas — Antra Vice-pirmininkė OH.

Elsie Kosmisky — Trečia Vice-pirmininkė PA.

Adele Dauzickis — Protokolų sekretorė N.J.

Helen Skudra — Finansų sekretorė IND.

Theresa Trainis — Išdininkas CT.

Frank Peterson — Patikėtiniai CT.

Paul Strolia — Patikėtiniai ILL.

Komisijų Pirmininkai

Jack Stukas — Lietuvos reikalų N.J.

Ann Klizas Wargo — Kultūros Reikalų PA.

Rita Pinkus - Ritualo MA

Wm. Piacentini - Stipendijų, RI

Longinas Svelnis — Archyvo MA.

Marytė Lepera — Visuomeninių reikalų PA.

Algis Budreckas — Lietuvių kalbai MA.

Frances Petkus — Atstovė prie katalikų federacijos OH.



Vysk. Brizgys kalba Vyčių Mišiose.

Šeštadienio vakaras atėjo greitai o su juo ir banketas.

Svarbiausias įvykis laike banketo buvo „LIETUVOS DRAUGO“ premijos įteikimas. Premiją įteiktį Švento Vaiko Ordino Seselei Ann Gillen. Ji buvo atstovė Helsinkio susitarimų priežiūros atstovė Belgrade ir Madride. Ji taip pat darbuojasi lietuvių disidentų žmogaus teisių reikaluose ir

gražinimo katalikų bažnyčios Klaipėdoje.

Garbės narystė buvo suteikta kun. Janiūnui. Šis laipsnis suteikiamas ilgai ir sėkmingai dirbusiems su vyčiais.

Stipendijos buvo įteiktos šiems jaunesiems vyčiams:

1. Mādonna Marie Balulis, 144 Antracito kuopos.

2. Susan Valkavage, 144 Antracito kuopos.

3. Jonas Strolia, 36 kuopos, Čikaga.

Sekmadienis Rugsjūčio 26 d.

Diena prasidėjo pamaldomis Nekalto prasidėjimo lietuvių bažnyčioje. Vysk. V. Brizgys buvo pagrindinis celebrantas su anksčiau minėtais kunigais. Vysk. V. Brizgys prie altoriaus įteikė 4-to laipsnio žymenius.

Daug organizacijų dalyva o kartu su vyčiais procesijoje.

Atsisveikinimai ir geriausi linkėjimai vyko paskutinių pusryčių Šv. Marijos gimnazijoje metu, kuri yra vedama Šv. Kazimiero seselių.

Uždarydami duris 1984 seimui, stengsimės kad, sekančiais metais vėl gausiai dalyvaudume New Haven, Ct.

Šv. Kazimierai melskis už mus ir kenčiančią Lietuvą!

Marytė Lepera
Lietuvos Vyčių Centro Valdyba
Visuomeninių reikalų atstovė



L. Vyčių Garbės Nariai seime.



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JUNIORS' CONVENTION

"A Great Success!"

BARBARA MICKUNAS

Junior Convention Secretary

On Thursday night we attended the opening Mass at St. George's Church and the social and buffet following the Mass.

Friday morning the Juniors gathered for a day of sailing on Lake Michigan. A special thanks to Lucille Kilkus for arranging our trip and for all that food!!

The Junior Convention Session was held on Saturday morning. The following Juniors attended:

ALDONA BALCIUNAS-C-38
 BIRUTE BALCIUNAS-C-38
 VITO BALCIUNAS -C-38
 WENDY BRUZGA -C-96
 BILL GUDAITAS -C-13
 VIC IZOKAITES -C-13
 JOSEPH KOT -C-100
 BARBARA MICKUNAS-C-3
 DAINA PASKUS -C-112
 PAULA SKUDRA -C-36
 JOHN STROLIA -C-13
 MATT STROLIA -C-13
 KATHLEEN SVELNIS-C-112
 DENISE ZAKARKA -C-112

We elected John Strolia to be the chairman of the meeting. Barbara Mickunas was the secretary and Joseph Kot was our Sargeant-at-Arms. We discussed such topics as our meetings, how to attract more members, the 500th anniversary of our patron St. Casimir and many of our own ideas. We are especially excited over the resolution to make this year the "Year of the Lithuanian Youth". All of us hope that this will help us to improve our Junior Councils. We also hope that with the Supreme Council, we will be able to have brochures and buttons to pass out in order to attract new members.



Juniors enroute to sailboating excursion. Front: Birute Balciunas, Joey Kot. Second Row: John Strolia, Vic Izokaitis, Matt Strolia, Ann Marie Sluzas, Barbara Mickunas, Lucille Kilkus. Third Row: Ken Gaidas, Joell Gaidas, Algis Sudra, Paula Skudra, Sharon Martinaitis.



Delegates attending Junior Convention session.



Rev. Algimantas Bartkus speaking to Juniors at their convention session. Also present, Elinor Sluzas and Loretta Stukas.

The Juniors attended the meeting on Saturday afternoon. Conventionships were awarded to:

WENDY BRUZGA
 JOSEPH KOT
 BARBARA MICKUNAS
 DAINA PASKUS
 PAULA SKUDRA
 KATHLEEN SVELNIS
 DENISE ZAKARKA

Elinor Sluzas bought five Lithuanian shrines and gave them out at random. Eleanor Kasputis is donating nine more shrines for the remaining Juniors who were at the Convention. Frances Bumila also donated the St. Casimir key chains which we received. A special thank you to these generous people.

Saturday night the Juniors attended the banquet and dance at the hotel.

Sunday, we attended Mass and the luncheon following the Mass. We said our good byes and are looking forward to next year.



John Strolia, Scholarship recipient.



Junior Conventionship recipients: Barbara Mickunas, Joseph Kot, Paula Skudra, Wndy Bruzga, Denise Zakarka, Daina Paskus, Kathleen Svelnis.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**Jonas Strolia, C-13,
Chicago**

**Madonna Balulis, C-144,
Anthracite, PA**

**Susan Valkavage, C-144,
Anthracite, PA**



SOCIAL SIDELIGHTS OF THE CONVENTION



C-96 members — Eleanor Mantz, Aldona Ryan and Jim Razauskas welcomed C-96 Past President Vincent Chepalonis at the Convention. Pictured second from left — "Billy Chappell" moved to California 40 years ago.



Cecelia Yankus (C-96) plays for guests at Friday night party hosted by C-36.



Shopping for amber at the Cultural Display.



Genevieve Gobis, C-100, enjoying herself at Convention banquet.



Fr. Vincent Daugintis, C-36, Sr. M. Bernarda, Faustas Strolia, C-36.



Anne Marie Sluzas and Paul Strolia dancing at St. George's.



Tony Young, Lennie Svelnis and Frank Yonika at Sportsman's Park.



Rita Sussko, Rev. Algimantas Bartkus and Nancy Miro outside Conrad Hilton.

Cancelled
12/29

JR

36

JANINA RACKAUSKAS
5725 S. ARTESIAN
CHICAGO, IL 60629

VYTIS G. A. MACK.
2461 W. 45th St.
Chicago, IL 60632

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ĀČIU, ĀČIU

After suffering a broken hand during the 71st National Convention, VYTIS Editor Aldona Ryan had to leave Chicago early, and suffered considerable pain, discomfort, and inconvenience while her hand was healing. As a result, she had to limit her involvement in producing the last few issues of VYTIS. Aldona is most grateful to all who helped her with VYTIS, especially with producing this Convention issue.

Special thanks go to Bernice Aviza and Loretta Stukas who handled most of the work. Thanks also to Ruth Kazlauskas and photographers Peter Maleta, Jonas Tamulaitis and Joseph Ryan for providing and documenting a beautiful set of photographs, to Nancy Miro, Helen Skudra, Jack Stukas, Fran Petkus, Clemincine Miller, Mary Ann Lepera, Anna Wargo, Elinor Sluzas, Barbara Mickunas, and others who provided the articles and other materials for this issue. Āčiu visiems!

**WE WILL SEE YOU NEXT
YEAR IN NEW HAVEN!**



Barbara Mickunas, C-3, Matt Strolia, C-13, and Paula Skudra, C-36.



Victoria Jacobson, C-147 and Emily Petraitis, C-147.

