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FEBRUARY

VASARIS



ADOMAS VARNAS

Ir šviesa ir tiesa mūs žingsnius telydi!

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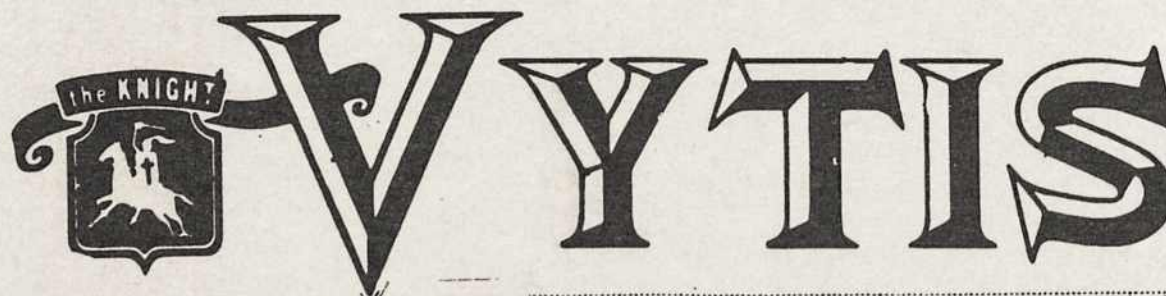
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ACCENT ON YOUTH

by Aldona Ryan

Forty-six members of Council 96 in Dayton, Ohio can be classed as YOUTH. If you add the dozen or so babies that they have parented and the twelve members of Council 96 Juniors — you come up with about 70 young Lithuanian-Americans that, it is hoped, will keep C-96 alive and active for at least another 50 years.

This did not “just happen.” Years of planning, helping and financing made it happen.

Take the case of Joseph Peter Mantz. He was born in Dayton twenty-two years ago. His parents are Eleanor (Petkus) Mantz and Joseph Mantz. Eleanor is a Fourth Degree Knight. Father, Joseph, is of German descent but he is a very active Third Degree K of L'er. Being Lithuanian and Roman Catholic is the way of life in the Mantz home.



HONOREES at C-96 “HONOR OUR YOUTH PARTY” held on January 27th, at Holy Cross Church in Dayton, Ohio.



Youthful C-96 Board Members — at “HONOR OUR YOUTH PARTY” — L to R, Seated — Joyce Berczelly, Telephone Chairman — Joseph P. Mantz, C-96 President — Elaine Pacovsky, Social Chairman — standing Elena Mikalauskas, Ass't Bulletin Chairman — John Berczelly, Sports Chairman.

“Joey” joined C-96 Juniors when he was nine years old. He was an active member for nine years. During that time, he held every office except that of secretary.

In high school, he played baseball and football. He learned to bowl and joined the C-96 Bowling League. He has been a K of L bowler for five years now.

After graduating from Archbishop John Carroll High School, he started working as a machine repairman at the Dayton Walther Corp. He also enrolled at Sinclair College majoring in “Industrial Technology.”

With all of this activity, he found time to keep up his interest in the K of L and Holy Cross Lithuanian Church.

He joined the adult council in 1981 and he was immediately elected to the post of sergeant-at-Arms. His participation in numerous events and his help on countless committees were exemplary.

One year the members of C-96 were astounded when “Joey” Mantz and his father, Joe Mantz, announced they would chair the Easter Bake Sale. This had been an annual event for many years — always chaired and run by women. Many young people pitched in. Needless to say, the event turned out to be highly successful.

In October of 1983, he was elected President of Council 96 at the age of 21!!! He did such a great job, he was re-elected for another term for 1984-1985.

At the Mid Central District Convention held in Pittsburgh this past autumn, he was elected to the office of Second Vice President.



C-96 JUNIORS and a few prospective members (in a few years) with their best "pepperoni pizza smiles."

He is also a member of the Lithuanian Anglers Club and the Lithuanian Social Club. He is also a coach for 9 to 10 year olds in Little League Baseball.

As the youngest of a family of five children, President Mantz remained unspoiled. This is remarkable as his four older siblings were all sisters — namely: Barbara Goecke, Sue Smiley, Cathy Roberts and Chris Mantz.

This profile of President Mantz is just a small example of the work of the younger K of L'ers in C-96. Many of them dance with the "Vėjeliai," sing in the choir, are active with the bowling league and are often found working in the kitchen with our Social Committee. Other activities abound.

On Sunday, January 20th, the Council proclaimed a SUPER SUNDAY to honor our SUPER YOUTH. Colored television sets were brought in so that no one had to miss the Super Bowl Game. There was food, drinks and much joy.



George Mikalauskas receives a copy of the National Convention Resolution thanking him for Archbishop Marcinkus' crozier from National 2nd Vice President Elinor Sluzas.



Eleanor Mantz watches as daughter Christine, chats to her new fiance, Joe Fletcher. Another K of L wedding?

The following honorees received the special invitation: Frankie Amborse, John Berzcelly, Joyce Berzcelly, Gregory Blum, Nathan Bucmys, Anna Louise Conrady, Richard Conrady, Carol Dichito, Brian Fletcher, Joseph Fletcher, Rita Gecas, Vida Gecas, Irena Geeas, James Geiger, Connie Geiger, Aaron Geiger, Eric Geiger, Mollie Geiger, Barbara Goecke, Michael Karns, Christina Kavy, Robert Keivel, Sue Keivel, Joe Keivel, Steve Keivel, Marilyn Lastoskie, Barbara Lastoskie, Christina Mantz, Joe Mantz, George Mikalauskas II, Mary Agnes Mikalauskas, Elena Mikalauskas, Richard Noreikas, Dennis Noreikas, Patty Noreikas, Joseph Noreikas, Sue Ann Noreikas, Elaine Pacovsky, Jamie Pacovsky, Timmy Pacovsky, Henry Pant, Laurette Pant, Mike Pant, Robbie Pant, Tom Petkus, Mary Petkus, Michael Petkus, Norma Petkus, Rosemarie Preidis, Laima Rastikis-Vermillion, Jerry Scott, Terri Scott, Kathy Sinkwitz, Jim Sinkwitz, Annamarie Sluzas, Patrick Smiley, Sue Smiley and Elizabeth Zeller.



Scene at HONOR OUR YOUTH PARTY.



In 1985, Sts. Peter and Paul R.C. Church, Elizabeth, N.J., will celebrate its 90th Anniversary.

William Senkus



In 1895, Elizabeth, New Jersey Lithuanians had their church, at 216 Ripley Place, blessed by Bishop Wigger of the Newark Diocese with Father Joseph Servetka serving as first pastor.

Due to illness Fr. Servetka left the congregation in early Spring of 1896.

In April, 1896, Rev. Bartholomew Zindzius was appointed pastor by Bishop Wigger to succeed Rev. Father Servetka, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Father Zindzius, as pastor, administered the Elizabeth Lithuanian parish for 28 years from 1896 to 1924.

Rev. Zindzius, a pioneer priest, and with a vision, knowledge and with expertise, was assisted by the Newark Diocese in establishing Lithuanian parishes in Newark, Bayonne, Jersey City and in Paterson, N.J.

In 1910, through Father Zindzius' efforts and the Newark Diocese, a new yellow brick Sts. Peter and Paul Lithuanian R.C. Church was built in Elizabeth, N.J., and it was considered one of the most beautiful churches in the metropolitan area of New Jersey.

Thanks to Rev. Father Zindzius, a parish brick school of eight grades, was built in 1913.

Due to illness, Father Zindzius, on March 19, 1924, left for a rest in Lithuania and died there in 1927. In his place, Rev. Joseph Simonaitis was appointed pastor.

Reverend Joseph Simonaitis was a very dynamic person, improving the church grounds, erecting a Lithuanian Wayside Cross on the rectory grounds, and purchasing a new church organ.

Father Simonaitis converted the former wooden church into a parish hall, moved the Sisters (Nuns) into newer quarters as a convent, and bought a house beside the church which he converted into a rectory.

Rev. Father Simonaitis, while visiting his only brother, Dr. Simonaitis, in Chicago, Ill., died February 4, 1953.

Rev. Michael G. Kemezis, was appointed to the Elizabeth pastorate on June 28, 1953, succeeding the late Rev. Joseph Simonaitis.

Father Kemezis' accomplishments as pastor of the Elizabeth, N.J. Lithuanian Church for more than 15 years included

establishment of the Miraculous Medal Novena, renovation and refurbishing of the church, repair of the convent and remodeling of the parish hall.

The "Siluva" Altar was erected at Sts. Peter and Paul Church by Rev. Father Kemezis. The Altar contained a piece of the rock which Our Lady appeared in Siluva, Lithuania, in 1608, which was many years before Fatima, Portugal, acquired international fame.

Rev. Michael G. Kemezis was elevated to Rt. Rev. Msgr. Kemezis in 1959 by the late Pope John XXIII. In 1962, Msgr. Kemezis, delivered the invocation during the observance of Lithuanian independence day, February 16, 1918, to open the session of the United States Senate in Washington, D.C.

The Monsignor, who reorganized Knights of Lithuania Council 52, Elizabeth, N.J., in 1937, was a staunch supporter of the Knights of Lithuania organization.

Msgr. Kemezis died January 3, 1969, and a High Requiem Mass was concelebrated by representatives of all Lithuanian parishes from several dioceses.

Rev. Peter Zemeikis was appointed Administrator of Sts. Peter and Paul Lithuanian Church, in March, 1969, succeeding the late Rt. Rev. Msgr. Kemezis and later, in 1978, Father Zemeikis was installed as Pastor.

Father Zemeikis enlarged the sanctuary, and construction of an Altar, facing the congregation.

The solemn opening of the Parish's 75th Anniversary took place on Sunday, March 25, 1970, with the blessing of this new Altar.

To fulfill the Sunday obligation, the Saturday evening Mass was introduced. A new loudspeaker system and carpeting were installed in the church.

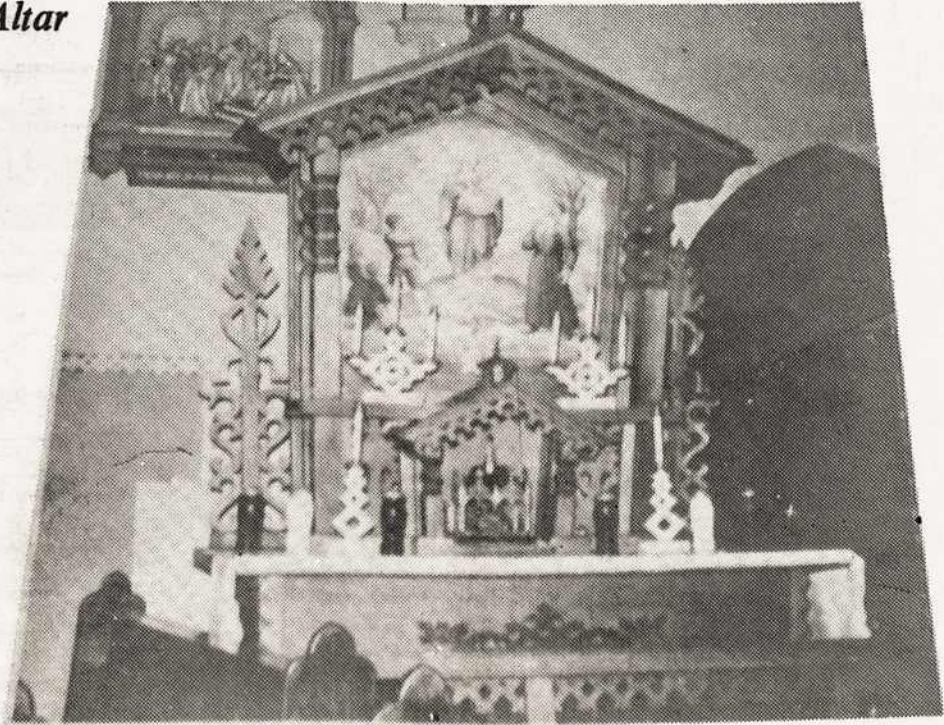
During Rev. Zemeikis pastorate in Elizabeth, the church's final mortgage was made, a new Wayside Cross was built and blessed and improvements were made to the Church, School, Rectory, Convent and the Parish Hall.

Sts. Peter and Paul Community in 1985 has the Grammar School, with Franciscan Sisters and lay people teaching, Mothers Guild (PTA), Home-School Association, Lunch and Breakfast Programs and School Youth activities. There are also active societies and organizations to complement and assist the church community.

From June 7 to June 19, 1983, Father Zemeikis led a delegation from the parish to the National Shrine of "Aušros Vartai" — in Lithuania. The shrine, called the Gates of Dawn — is one of the greatest religious national sanctuaries of Lithuania. The delegates also visited the tomb of Saint Casimir in Lithuania.

A Lithuanian pilgrimage, led by Father Zemeikis, was completed in March, 1984, with Pope John Paul II, in Rome, as celebrant for the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the death of Lithuanian Saint Casimir, 1484-1984.

"Šiluva" Altar



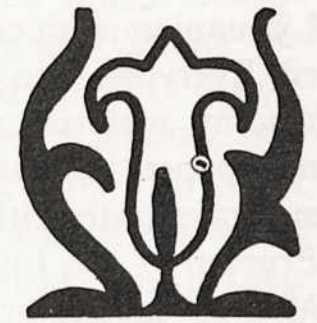
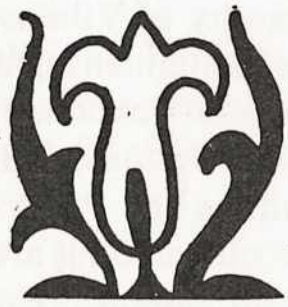
Rev. Peter Zemeikis



Wayside Cross



Deacons Anthony Samailonis and Henry Keturwitis



LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

Prof. Jack J. Stukas, Ph.D.

On February 16th, 1985, Lithuanians in the Free World will commemorate the 67th anniversary of the restoration of independence to the Republic of Lithuania, in 1918, and the 734th anniversary of the establishment of the Lithuanian state, in 1251.

It was the Lithuanian Grand Duke Mindaugas, who overthrew other rulers, unified the country, and was crowned King in 1253. Lithuanian rulers were able to create a large and powerful state which flourished



Mindaugas

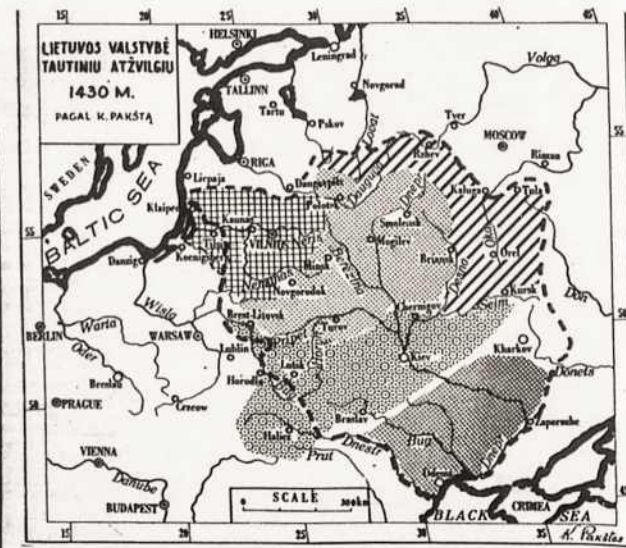
in the 15th Century, and existed to the very end of the 18th century. Seldom has history known three successive generations in which the high attributes of rulership and military prowess were so consistently reproduced. It was Gediminas, who established the permanent capital at Vilnius; The Lithuanian Grand Duke Algirdas, who checked the western advance of the Tartars; Kęstutis; and Vytautas the Great, who in 1410, led the crushing defeat on the Teutonic Order at Tannenberg. By the begin-



Baltic Tribes — 13th century.

ning of the 15th century, Lithuania had grown to be a formidable power, with territories stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

In 1386, when the territories under Lithuania were three times as large as those of Poland, the Lithuanian Grand Duke Jogaila, cousin of Vytautas, married the Polish Queen Hedwig, and the Lithuanian dynasty of Jogaila for about 200 years occupied the Polish throne. Then in 1569, Poland and Lithuania formed a federated state by the Treaty of Lublin. This dual state weakened as



Lithuanian State 1430

time went on by the extinction of the Jagellonian dynasty, constant strife among the greedy nobles, the growing power of Muscovy, wars with Sweden, and internal feuds. In addition, the lack of a strong military force afforded Russia, Prussia and Austria an opportunity to completely partition the dual state by 1795. The greater part of Lithuania came under Russian rule and the smaller part was appropriated by Prussia.

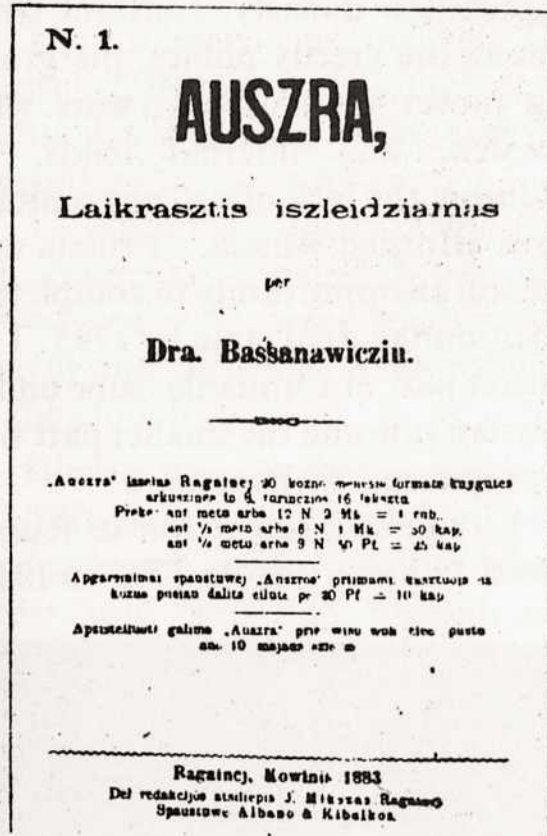
Lithuania's subjection to Russia lasted 120 years; from 1795 to 1915,



Vytautas

when the German armies occupied the country. This long interval is the darkest period in earlier Lithuanian history. Yet Lithuania never lost hope of regaining her freedom and independence. In 1831 and 1863, open rebellions took place and were ruthlessly suppressed. After the second rebellion, in 1863, the Russian Government issued decrees prohibiting all printing in Lithuanian and the use of the Latin alphabet. No schools, newspapers, books, not even prayerbooks were permitted. But the

Lithuanian spirit could not be crushed. Everyone who could get hold of reading material read. Books and newspapers were printed abroad, and smuggled into Lithuania from East Prussia — or Lithuanian Minor. Mothers taught their children to read Lithuanian in secret. The right of association was denied them, but the



1864-1904: The Dark Ages of Lithuania.

Lithuanians had numerous secret societies, and an underground newspaper, "Aušra," which fostered and kept alive the national spirit and memories of a glorious history. Thousands of "book smugglers" and dissidents were imprisoned, exiled or even executed.

The Russo-Japanese War gave the Lithuanians the opportunity to demand and recover their press in 1904. In 1905, they called together a great conference of 2,000 delegates in Vilnius, and boldly demanded autonomy. The reply from Russia came in the form of further imprisonment and exile of thousands.

The First World War furnished the Lithuanians with an opportunity; although hostilities had bled the country white, a Council of Lithuanian leaders proclaimed the independence of Lithuania on February 16, 1918, in Vilnius, the historic capital. After contending with the Poles who had unsuccessfully petitioned Germany to incorporate Lithuania into a new Poland, and with the armies of General von der Goltz, who wanted to restore the rule of the Baltic Barons, the Lithuanians signed a treaty with Russia, in July, 1920, in which Russia recognized the self-rule and independence of Lithuania, and renounced voluntarily and forever all sovereign rights which she has had in regard to the Lithuanian state.

The obstacles to be overcome by the young Lithuanian Republic in her early days were enormous. The country had no money, no army, no adequate personnel to fill essential

government positions. Poland, in 1920, seized the city of Vilnius and one-third of the Lithuanian territory. This act of aggression was denounced by the League of Nations, but this was to no avail, as the Poles kept Vilnius and the surrounding areas.

However, with careful organization of her forces and with much valuable assistance from Lithuanian-Americans, Lithuania began rebuilding her devastated home. A land reform bill in 1922, distributed the heretofore large estates among small landholders; in the same year a monetary system was introduced. A Cooperative System, sponsored and developed by the government, helped Lithuania make considerable economic progress. Very much the same progressive spirit and enthusiasm were manifested in the sphere of culture. The spread of education was rapid, and elementary education became compulsory. There were 2,560 elementary schools, 60 high schools, and a University in Kaunas, the provisional capital. In addition to the University, Lithuania was proud of the following institutions: School of Commerce, Pedagogy, Academy of Agriculture, Conservatory of Music, Academy of Fine Arts, and Institute of Physical Culture. The State Opera developed into one of the finest musical in-



Dr. J. Basanavičius reading Lithuanian Declaration of Independence.

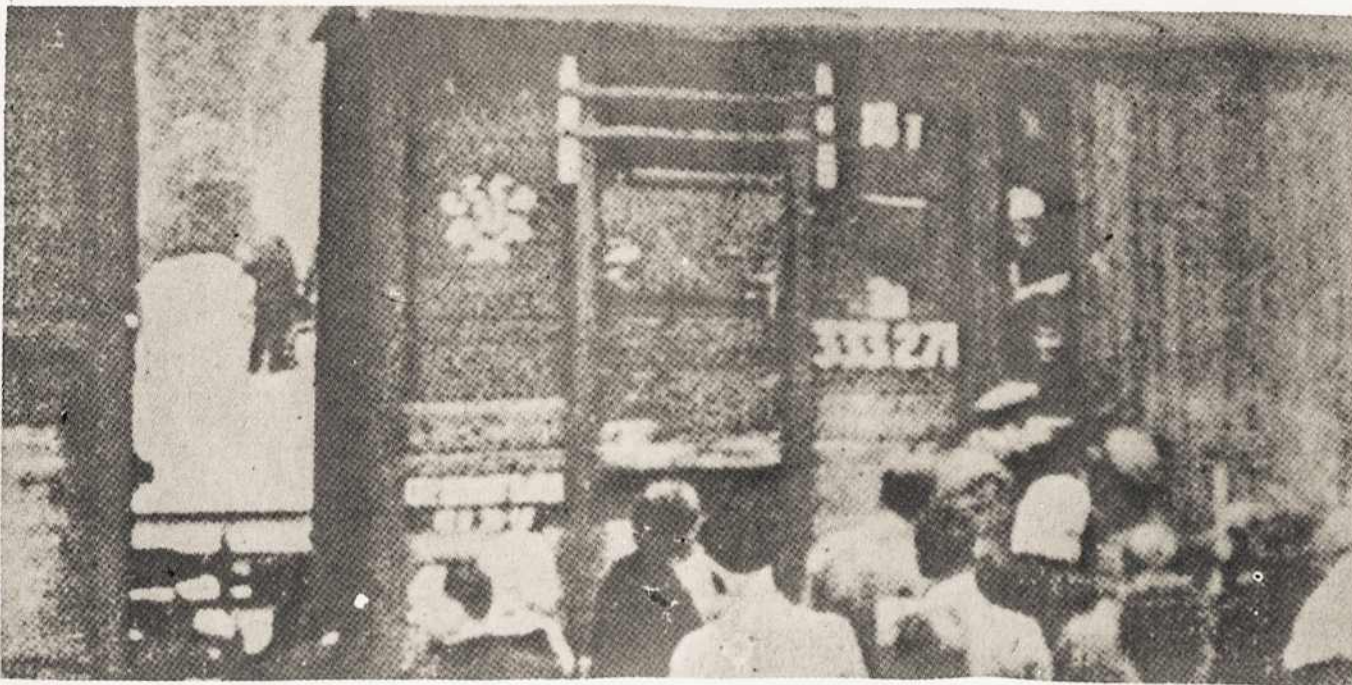
stitutions in Europe. In brief, Lithuania, with a population of less than three million, made outstanding progress economically and culturally during its 22 years as an independent republic.

In spite of treaties and recognitions to the contrary, in June, 1940, the armed forces of the Soviet Union occupied Lithuania, and her sister Baltic Republics of Latvia and Estonia. The countries were later annexed to the U.S.S.R. in mock plebiscites. After the Soviets had raped the Baltic States, destroying, imprisoning and deporting the peoples to Siberian wastes, the Nazis came in. Under the Germans, the Lithuanians fared no better, and when the Soviets occupied the Baltic States for the second time, they

continued and to this day are continuing — their policy of ruthless suppression and genocide.

The seizure of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia was thoroughly investigated by a select Committee of the House of Representatives, 83rd Congress, in 1953, and in 1954 declared, "that the Soviet Union, without provocation, did in June, 1940, invade Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, thus committing an act of unprovoked aggression." Subsequently, on June 21st., 1965, the House unanimously passed H.R. 416, urging the President of the United States . . . "to bring the force of world opinion to bear in behalf of the restoration of the rights of self-determination to the Baltic States."

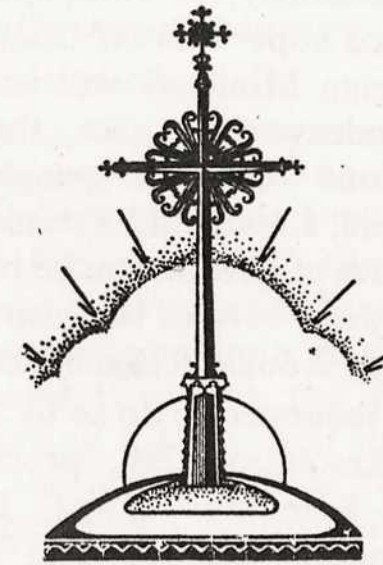
It is already the fourth decade that Lithuanians under Soviet occupation have had to suffer deportations, liquidation of leading personalities, persecution of the Catholic Church. For the love of their country, for faithfulness to their religion, they are being jailed, kept in concentration camps and psychiatric wards. In that Catholic country, all religious communities are suppressed, all Catholic societies disbanded, all Catholic press forbidden. However, with great risk of their freedom and their lives, dedicated Lithuanians are publishing the underground paper, "The Chronicle of



Boxcars carrying deported Lithuanians to Siberia.



Lithuanian "Freedom Fighters"



CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
IN LITHUANIA.

the Catholic Church in Lithuania," and several other underground publications.

Lithuanians throughout the Free World can be proud of those Freedom Fighters who resisted the Soviet invader since the occupation, and until 1952. Over 100,000 of these heroes; perished in the resistance. Today, new names have come to the fore . . . not with arms, but with the pen . . . daring to challenge the might of the Soviet Union . . . priests, scholars, educators and just plain folk. The many Lithuanians in exile, who have availed themselves of the hospitality of other nations, have good reason to keep their heads high, for their country — tortured and desecrated — is still alive and resistant.

The spirit of the Lithuanian people will survive to the bitter end and will resist its tyrannical and godless oppressor until freedom is achieved. The oppressed Lithuanians look with hope and courage to us for assistance in their eventual liberation.

On January 13th, 1983, the European Parliament, at its plenary session in Strasbourg, France, adopted a resolution requesting that the Council of Foreign Ministers submit the question of the Baltic States to the Decolonization Subcommittee of the United Nations. The European Parliament overwhelmingly, (98 votes against 6) expressed hope "that the Conference of Foreign Ministers will use their best endeavors to see that the aspirations of the peoples of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia as to their form of government be realized"

On June 14th of last year, 1984, President Ronald Reagan, authorized and requested to do so by Senate Joint Resolution 296, proclaimed "Baltic Freedom Day." In his proclamation the President stated, "The United States has never recognized the forceable incorporation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia into the Soviet Union, and it will not do so in the future." President Reagan has also said, "Oppression and persecution continue to this day, but despite this long dark night of injustice, the brave men and women of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have never abandoned the battle for their national independence and God-given rights. Although the full measure of their struggle and sacrifice is screened by the oppression and censorship under which they live, the friends and families of the Baltic peoples all over the world are aware of their heroic endeavors and aspirations."



Americans demonstrating for suffering Lithuania.



Pres. Reagan signs Baltic Freedom Day Proclamation.

We Lithuanian Americans, who are blessed with a great and rich heritage, should more than ever resolve to do our utmost to halt the oppression of Lithuania, and her sister Baltic Republics. The suffering and agony of our brethren under Soviet rule should bind us more closely together, and strengthen us in our determination to fight for their liberation.

Lithuania will not perish as long as ideals of freedom and justice and

righteousness prevail. Lithuania cannot be destroyed by perfidy and brutality and tyranny. There will always be a Lithuania; a Lithuania in the hearts of men, a Lithuania in the culture of peoples, a Lithuania in the history of the world's struggle for freedom and in due time, a Lithuania at the conference of the world's great family of nations . . .

Prof. Jack J. Stukas, Ph.D.
December, 1984.

FLASHBACKS

ON THE DRAMA OF LITHUANIA'S NATIONAL AWAKENING



"I Grieved"

Vincas Kudirka

I heard Lithuania calling, simultaneously accusing and forgiving: 'You prodigal, where have you been until now?' My sadness was so deep that I laid my head on the table and cried. I grieved for the hours erased from my wasted life as a Lithuanian, and I felt ashamed that I had been unfaithful for so long . . . Then, a still warmth welled up in my breast, as if I had suddenly become a man. I was a Lithuanian. I would work as a Lithuanian . . .

(Author of our National Anthem)

"Many Lithuanias"

K. J. Ceginskas

In the mid 19th century, Lithuania was a torn and partitioned country: politically, culturally, and religiously, with sharp internal social inequality and separation between the classes. It was not one, but many Lithuanias. Lithuania Minor, governed by the Prussians, was Protestant. Lithuania Major, occupied by Russia, was Catholic. The Lithuania of the nobility and intelligentsia was loyal either to Poland or to Prussia, and to an increasing degree, Lithuanian in name only. The Lithuania of the people, the oppressed peasantry, was genuinely Lithuanian in its way of life, but without national consciousness and, having been exploited, without opportunity to assert itself at higher cultural levels.

("On Our National Rebirth")

A Great European Power

Dr. Marija Gimbutas

In the thirteenth century, the central power in Eastern Europe was the growing Lithuanian state. Lithuania began its very rapid expansion to the east and south through the Russian and Ukrainian lands to Tartary and the Black Sea. Vytautas the Great annexed the Donets and Oka basins, surrounding Moscow from the west and south, making this area part of the Lithuanian empire. This expansion was directed towards lands which for the most part had been possessed by Lithuanians and other East Baltic tribes in the prehistoric period. The huge state played an important role in protecting western Europe from being invaded by the Tartars.

From the early sixteenth century, Lithuania began to lose her eastern provinces. The growing threat from Moscow forced Lithuania to conclude a political treaty with Poland in 1569 and cede her Ukrainian lands to Poland. Lithuania and what was to become Latvia failed to regain either their power or their lost territories. When they emerged as independent states in 1918, after being under the rule of Tsarist Russia and Germany for 123 years (1795 - 1918), Lithuania and Latvia covered the smallest ethnographic territory to which the Baltic-speaking people had ever been reduced.

("The Balts")

Youth Demands Identity

A.M. Benedictsen

Among the cultured and intelligent young Lithuanians, a band of devotees to their national heritage came forward, and the army of peasants found its leaders . . . Some of these young men had seen the contempt in which the Poles held everything Lithuanian; they understood the historic crime that Poland had committed against Lithuania.

("Lithuania" trans. from Danish)

"The Rest Will Follow"

Dr. Jonas Basanavičius

You young Lithuanians who become enlightened, you shall and you must cling to your language and your Fatherland. That is the only way to free our beloved countrymen from darkness and suppression . . . Let us rouse ourselves and work for the spiritual liberation of our ill-treated people and our language, and then the rest must and will follow.

("Aušra" — "Dawn")

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Lithuanians in The News

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS

The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture was honored by a visit from WINTHROP P. ROCKEFELLER during his tour of Chicago and the Lithuanian community, reports the "Lithuanian Museum Review". Mr. Rockefeller generously donated \$500 to the Museum for future permanent exhibit purchases.

Pictured from left: Joseph A. Katauskas, Jr., Museum Vice President; Winthrop P. Rockefeller; Stanley Balzekas, Jr., Stan Davis, Director, National Conference on Christians and Jews; two members of Mr. Rockefeller's staff; Pat Bakunas, Children's Museum Director and Carole Balzekas, Editor, The Lithuanian Museum Review.



The Lithuanian World Catholic Congress, called together during Labor Day weekend last year in Toronto, Canada, drew some 5,000 participants and was the high point of the St. Casimir commemoration in North America, notes "The Observer".

The Congress saw the world premiere of a 3½ hour

production of "Dux Magnus", a Lithuanian opera on the life of St. Casimir.

A special Mass during the Congress was celebrated by 50 priests and 2 bishops at St. Michael's Cathedral. The congregation was addressed by Cardinal Carter, archbishop of Toronto.



Dancers from the Gintaras group of Toronto were officially named by the Canadian Folk Art Council to represent Canada last year at the Inter-tie Festival held each summer in Middlesbrough, England, according to "The Observer", Chicago, Ill.

Competing against French, Polish, Danish, Portuguese, Spanish, and Turkish dance groups, the Gintarians won first prize in the mixed dancers category. Group member RIMAS PAULIONIS also won second prize in the solo folk singing competition.

Runner TOM PASKUS, of Terryville High, Hamden, Conn., was a winner in the CIAC cross country sectional qualifying meets last October, and JOE SAMOSKA, Wolcott, Conn., was one of the winners of the Farmingbury Hills Member-Member Golf Championship, notes the "Waterbury Republican".



The November 1984 issue of "Lithuanian Days," Los Angeles, Calif., reports that the Los Angeles Olympics had the support of local California Lithuanians despite the lack of participation by Lithuanian athletes. These Lithuanian-Americans demonstrated their Olympic spirit by volunteering time and effort in various paid and unpaid positions.

RAMONA ALSEIKA had the responsibility of greeting the public, taking their tickets for the swimming and diving events, and then pointing them to their seats.

VINCAS BERNOTA was supervisor of media transportation personnel at the ABC International Broadcast Center.

JONAS BUTKUS was Telecommunications manager - UCLA Tennis and Gymnastics.

RIMAS KAUNAS Motorcycle Courier, delivered film of the various Olympic events to the Main Press Center.

Others who volunteered their services were: LAIMA STEKUNAS, VIDA RADVENIS, VYTAUTAS PLUKAS, DAINA PETRONIS, JONAS SEPIKAS, and PRANAS LUBINAS.



DAIVA VIZGIRDA, holds a snowflake as Grandfather Christmas (the Lithuanian Santa Claus) describes the straw construction of the decorations on an authentic Lithuanian Christmas tree at the 43rd annual Christmas Around the World Festival theatre program which was held December 15th at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Illinois.

Also participating in the program were the Knights of Lithuania Choir, under the direction of Faustas Strolia, C-36 Chicago, and the Knights of Lithuania Dancers, under the direction of Frank Zapolis, C-36 Chicago.



GINA GRIGALIUNAS, a senior at Hinsdale Central High School, Hinsdale, Ill., being congratulated by classmates last October when she was announced Homecoming Queen of the school, reports the "Clarendon Hills Progress".

Brother MIKE, a Business major at Indiana's Valparaiso University, received the Citizen Athlete & Robert C. Bouchard Award for his achievement in baseball and basketball.

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS OFFICIAL NEWS

WE GET LETTERS

September 8, 1984

Dear Knights of Lithuania,

I am most honored and thankful to be the recipient of your scholarship. This will be to the advantage of my family and myself in that it will defray the costs of college.

Your generosity is enabling me to set high goals and achieve them. Again I would like to say a very sincere Thank You!

Sincerely Yours,
Madonna Balulis
Minersville, PA

CORRECTION: About the SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS — It was Vida Gecas of Council 96 who returned the \$800 scholarship to the Scholarship Committee as announced at the National Convention in Chicago. Vida joined ROTC and received a full scholarship from the University of Dayton. The Knights of Lithuania thank Vida for this thoughtfulness.

CLEVELAND SENIORS

The Cleveland Seniors are still in existence although we have come on hard times.

Due to the age of our members, many are incapable of participating at meetings and other functions. We have a few meetings a year mostly in the warm weather.

This year we lost one of our oldest members, not only in age but also in time of membership. Paula Glugods, in her late eighties, passed away in October. She was incapacitated for quite some time but remained a loyal "Vytė" to the very end.

M T

LCRA REPORT

The Knights of Lithuania Drive to sponsor another issue of the CHRONICLE has been in progress since the national convention — August 1984. We are off to a very good start. Dare we dream to set \$4000.00 as our Goal this term?!! Why not!!!

Balance 10/17/84	\$753.75
John Alankas — in memory of	
Lillian D. Paulauskas — C #7	100.00
Peter Kasilionis — C #52	20.00
Bronislaw Lazauskas — C #7	106.87
C #36 Chicago — from their	
convention profit	200.00
C #96 Dayton	100.00
C #144 — Anthracite — from a	
special fund drive	70.00
Total as of 12/15/84	\$1,350.62

Respectfully submitted,
Frances R. Petkus
LCRA Coordinator



The tomb of St. Casimir in the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul.

Kaunas

On March 4, 1984, a small group of young people gathered from various places in Lithuania at the tomb of Saint Casimir in the Church of SS. Peter and Paul in Vilnius to pray, read verse and sing hymns.

At the beginning of June, 1984, the interrogations began in KGB offices, at work and in school, for participation in the commemoration of the Jubilee of Saint Casimir, and in the program which took place on that occasion.

From Kaunas Middle School 7, KGB Agent Jonas Matulevičius took primary grades teacher Miss Laimutė Truskauskaitė to KGB headquarters for interrogation. The chekist was displeased because Miss Truskauskaitė had participated in the Saint Casimir celebration in Vilnius, and he scolded her for writing letters to prisoners, some of which lay undelivered on a desk in the office. Matulevičius tried to pressure Miss Truskauskaitė into writing a statement promising to mend her ways. The subject of the interrogation, explaining that according to her beliefs it was the duty of every Catholic to do so, refused to write any assurances. Angered, the chekist

warned Miss Truskauskaitė that he could throw her into the cellars and keep her there with the rats for three days. After two hours of interrogation, promising that there would be another meeting between them soon, in which "the tone of the conversation would be quite different," Chekist Matulevičius let Miss Truskauskaitė go.

... The KGB ... were especially displeased by the poems recited at Saint Casimir's tomb ...

The nation promises you, Saint Casimir
On the graves of the heroes and by the blood of the
martyrs!

On all the fortress-hills we will kindle a new fire —
Lithuania will never submit to any oppressors!

The Nemunas was silent, constrained by the centuries
The Nemunas longed for freedom and for storms ...
Let lightning rend the sky black with troubles,
Let it burst into tears of torrential rain and wash away
accumulated faults!

The nation promises you, Saint Casimir,
To stand beneath the cross and await the dawn.

Taken from the CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC
CHURCH IN LITHUANIA — #63, July 1, 1984.

Membership Drive Update

AS ANNOUNCED IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF VYTIS, WE HAVE COMMENCED A NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE, ENDING ON JUNE 30, 1985.

IN ORDER TO MAKE THIS DRIVE A SUCCESS, THE PARTICIPATION OF EVERY MEMBER IS ESSENTIAL.

HERE ARE A FEW HINTS ON HOW TO FIND THOSE NEW MEMBERS.

1. Every member should contact one friend or relative of Lithuanian heritage who is a practicing Catholic, but not a member of the Knights of Lithuania. Ask your Council Vice President for a membership brochure, and deliver it to that person. Invite the prospective member to be a guest at your next council meeting or social event. Make the person feel welcome. The key is PERSONAL CONTACT AND ATTENTION.
2. Utilize your local news media. Your local newspapers and radio stations are valuable sources of free advertising. Send an announcement of the date, time and place of your next council meeting or social event and invite interested Lithuanian Catholics to attend. Local newspapers publish weekly calendars of events and are happy to print your notices. Many local radio stations will announce meetings and socials as a public service. There is no such thing as too much publicity, and these two forms of media are free and readily available to all.

WITH A MINIMUM OF EFFORT, WE COULD REALIZE THE MAXIMUM GOAL - WE COULD DOUBLE OUR MEMBERSHIP IF EACH OF OUR 4,000 MEMBERS SPONSORED ONLY ONE NEW MEMBER.

NEXT MONTH: A STATUS REPORT ON HOW WE ARE DOING, PLUS HINTS ON ORGANIZING A NEW COUNCIL OR REORGANIZING A DEFUNCT COUNCIL.

SEND ME YOUR PROGRESS, AND SEE IT REPORTED HERE NEXT MONTH.

MAKE THE EFFORT - YOU'LL SEE THE RESULTS.

NANCY PAWASAUSKAS MIRO

K OF L CALENDAR

MARCH 3: Mid-America District St. Casimir's Day Commemoration; Host C-38; Kenosha, Wisconsin.

MARCH 10: Mid-Atlantic District St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast, Host C-29, Newark, N.J.

APRIL 13-14: Mid-Atlantic District 5th Annual Lithuanian Fair, Transfiguration Church Hall, Maspeth, NY

MAY 17-19: Mid-West Bowling Tournament, Host C-25, Cleveland, Ohio.

AUGUST 7-11: 72nd National Convention New Haven, Connecticut

IN MEMORIAM
Please remember in
your prayers...

LADISLAUS J. ESUNAS
Member, C-142
Washington, D.C.

Died
Dec. 11, 1984

OUR APOLOGIES

Please accept our deepest apologies for the late arrival of your December and January issues of VYTIS.

Our scheduling problem has just about been resolved and you can expect to see your VYTIS arrive at its proper time very shortly.

DON'T QUIT

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're treading seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit —
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a fellow turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow —
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faint and faltering man;
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the night came down
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out —
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt.
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

ST. VALENTINE

Aldona Ryan



We all know that February 14th is St. Valentine's Day. But what about St. Valentine? And which St. Valentine? At one time it was rumored that there were eight of them!

Three St. Valentines are listed in church records. All have their feast days on February 14th.

One St. Valentine was a martyr. Another was a priest of Rome. The third one was a Bishop of Interamna.

Now some confusion exists here because it is stated that Claudius II in 269 A.D. had both the second and third St. Valentine beaten and beheaded and both were said to be buried in the Flaminian Way. Yet, the church of St. Praxedes in Rome contains the remains of one St. Valentine.

One story reveals that, while St. Valentine was imprisoned, he cured the jailer's daughter of blindness. Another legend states that St. Valentine fell in love with the jailer's daughter and sent her letters signed, "From Your Valentine."

Eventually, all St. Valentines became one. People of the middle ages thought that birds mated on February 14th. Therefore, girls and boys should choose their mates on this day, also.

In 1415, Charles Duc d'Orelans was imprisoned in the Tower of London. He sent rhymed love letters to his wife. These were known as "valentines." In 1667, Samuel Pepys promoted the idea and we have been sending valentines ever since.



THE PATTERN OF LOVE

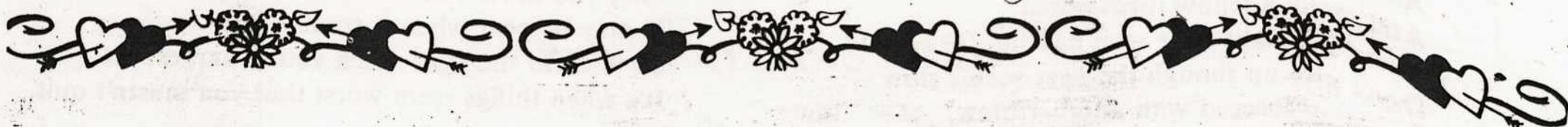


There are numerous patterns God gave you and me
Existing in outerspace, land, and sea;

There are patterns of rainbows
that color the sky and photographic patterns
in the human eye; here are patterns in snowflakes, in
birds and in rain, and great science patterns that baffle
the brain.

But most beloved pattern that God
conceived of
was Christ's living example, the pattern of
love.

There will be peace among men and heaven we'll win
if we follow Christ's pattern. Friend, let us begin!
Sr. M. G. B. (Catholic Quarterly)



THE CHAMPION CHIP

by Tony Yuknis

George Chip (Chipulonis) once reigned as the middleweight champion of the world before most of us were born. Chip won the crown in a no-decision bout with the reigning champion of that division many years ago. In such a bout the title could only change hands by a knockout and he accomplished that.

Chip was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on August 25, 1888, of Lithuanian immigrant parents. When the family moved to Madison, in 1909, he worked in the coal mines and became a boxer. George and his brother Joe, became skilled pugilists. Ex-boxer Jimmy Dime was greatly impressed with George's skills in preliminary bouts and promised to manage him to a championship match. Chip was impressive in a no-decision bout with Billy Papke who went on to win the middleweight title. He gained prestige and later gained a match with another champion.

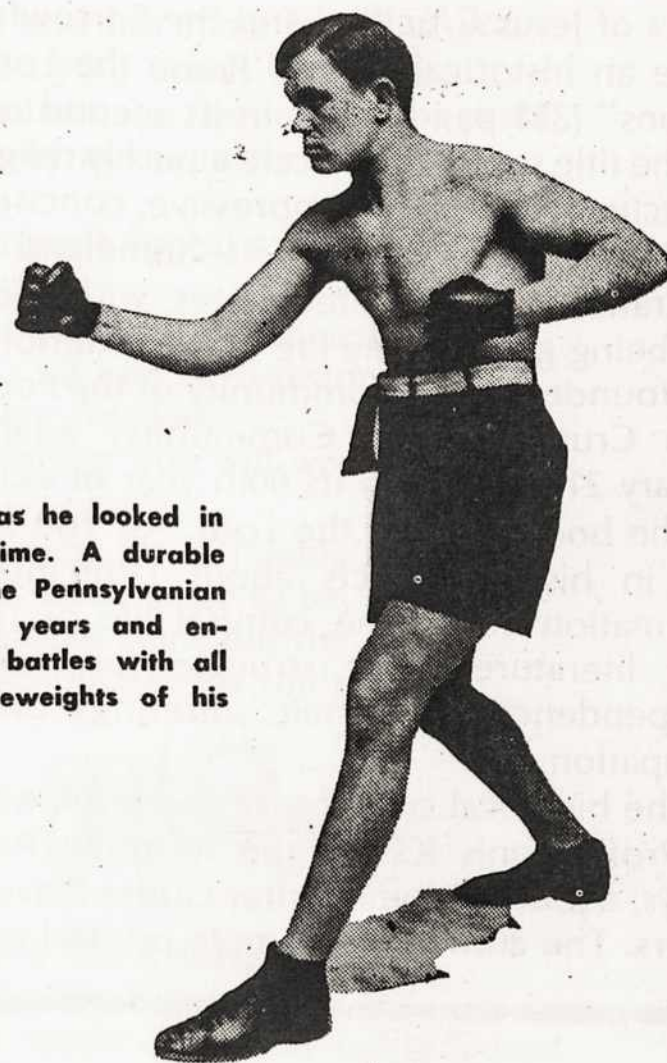
Chip got a bout with Champion Frank Klaus on October 11, 1913. Klaus was rated as one of the greatest boxers of that era. This fight was to be merely a tune-up for more important matches. Chip shocked the boxing world when he scored a knockout in the sixth round. The boxing hierarchy cried that Chop won on a "lucky punch". Therefore, a return bout was scheduled almost three months later. Chip went to work on Klaus and knocked him out in the fifth round. He proved to be a real champion when the chips were down. This time nobody howled "lucky punch".

Chip boxed for four years in Dayton, Youngstown, Philadelphia, Syracuse, Providence and Buffalo. He realized his lifetime ambition by gaining bouts in New York City in 1914. That's where they drew the big crowds.



One of the last photographs taken of George Chip shows him (left) with Elmer Lakatos, a Youngstown welterweight; brother Joe Chip and Ring correspondent, Al Wolgast.

Mr. Chip...



George Chip, as he looked in his fighting prime. A durable campaigner, the Pennsylvanian fought for 14 years and engaged in 165 battles with all the top middleweights of his era.

Joe, the brother of George, was also an outstanding fighter. When Joe hurted and had to call off a fight with southpaw Al McCoy at the Broadway Sporting Club in Brooklyn, George agreed to take his place. Joe had previously beaten McCoy and George figured to beat him. George attacked McCoy like a champion, had him backing up all around the ring. The clumsy, desperate McCoy suddenly threw a wild left to Chip's jaw and his lights went out. The Champ was counted out and lost his title. Chip fought McCoy twice after that decisively defeating him. However, he could not knock him out.

Chip fought for 14 years, until 1922, engaging in 165 bouts with the best middleweight fighters of his time. He met Harry Greb, Tom and Mike Gibbons, Jack Dillon, Leo Houck, Jeff Smith, Jimmy Clabby and Ed McGoorty more than once. Then he hung up his gloves and became a family man. Chip retired to New Castle with his wife and four children. He held down a job in the security department of the local power company. His serene life came to an end at the age of 72 when he was hit by a car while taking a walk. Highways can be more deadly than fighting in the ring.

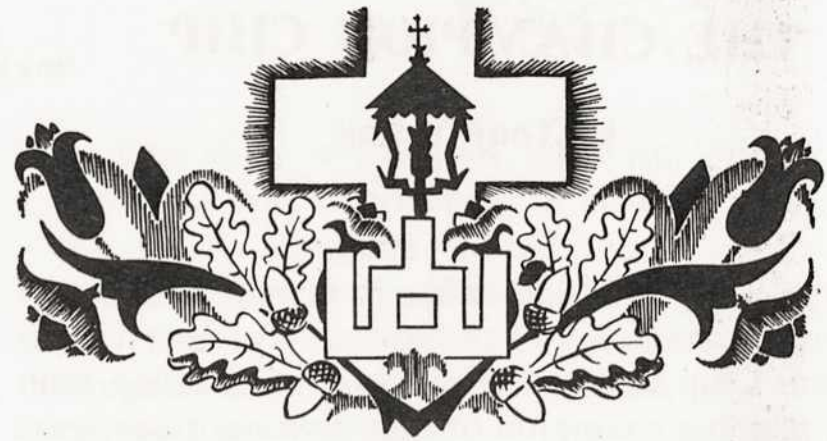
A VALUABLE HISTORICAL STUDY

With great skill and diligence Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, a member of the Community of the Poor Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the Sorrowful Mother, wrote an historical study, "Praise the Lord, All You Nations" (351 pages). It is in its second edition.

The title seems to indicate a purely religious work, but actually it is a very impressive, concise history of the Lithuanian nation in its homeland and in its emigration to the United States, with special attention being given to the life of Rev. Alphonsus Maria, C.P. founder of the Community of the Poor Sisters of Jesus Crucified. The Community, established on January 21, 1924, is in its 60th year of existence.

The book, "Praise the Lord, All You Nations," is rich in historical facts about Lithuania, contains information about the cultural life of the people, their literature, their struggle for freedom and independence, and their sufferings under Soviet occupation.

The historical contents of the book were verified by Prof. Bronis Kaslas, the historian Rev. Casimir Gecys, a journalist and writer Liudas Dovydenas, and others. The author used ample printed material and



Lithuanian encyclopedias and archives as the sources of information. It is written with great love for the Lithuanian nation, and with a background of parallel events in neighboring countries and throughout the cultural world.

With this publication the author, Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, an American Lithuanian, gives very valuable service to our nation and to the country of our fathers. To obtain a copy of the book, write to the author, Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, CJC, St. Mary's Villa Convent, Elmhurst, Pa. 18416. The price of the book is \$8.00 plus \$1.00 postage.

Rev. Juozas Prunskis

UNITED NATIONS DAY AWARD TO SISTER VIRGINIA

At the United Nations Day luncheon, October 24th, at St. Mary's Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania, Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, CJC of St. Mary's Villa Convent in Elmhurst, received an award in the name of the Knights of Lithuania, — of which she is an active member, — for the organization's outstanding efforts to promote human rights and freedom for the Baltic State of Lithuania.

Through the news media and through letters to our elected officials in Washington, and by collecting signatures from the masses, the Knights of Lithuania have cooperated in a worthy cause, — to break the silence of persecution, and to lift the burden of the oppressed. They are determined to make their fellow Americans aware of the continuing persecution of religion in Eastern Europe as well as the state-instituted genocide in Lithuania. For the Knights of Lithuania, as for other humanitarian minded persons, **world peace and human rights are inseparable.**



Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, CJC, displays the citation received from the United Nations Assn. in Greater Scranton in the name of the Knights of Lithuania. Standing with her are Sister Mildred Brice, CJC, and Marie Laske, C-74 President.

It is the wish of Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, CJC, recipient of the award for the Knights of Lithuania, that increased public knowledge of global issues, and the promotion of human rights and freedoms for all nations, will eventually lead people of the world to harmony and peace.

TWA

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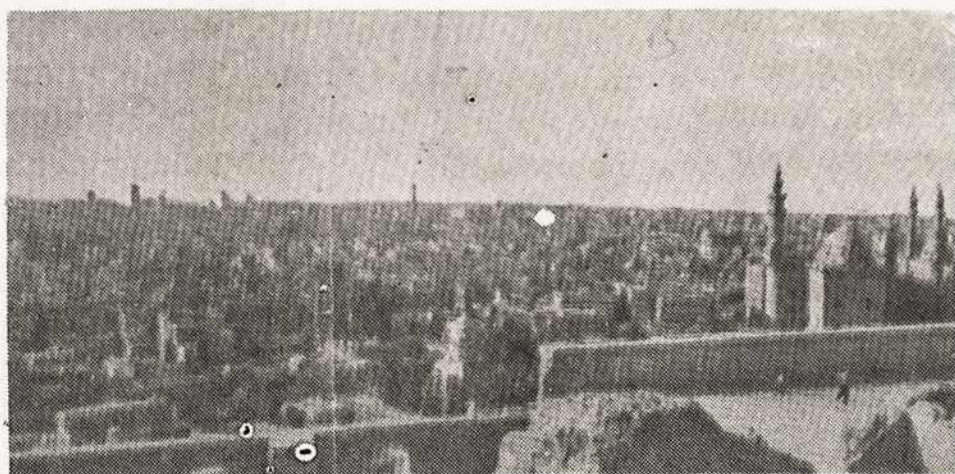
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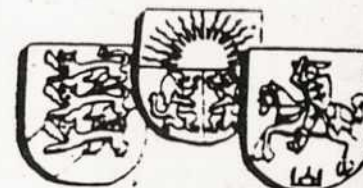


The Baltic States Freedom Crusade

The time has come for all of you
To let your voices be heard,
You have the freedom of the press
So why not print the word.

You must appeal to the Nation for
help
Don't let the Government sleep,
Let's all join in to restore
your freedom
Or forever you will weep.

The fight for Lithuania's freedom
Must never cease to be,
You shall come out the Victors
When once again you're free.



Latvia too is suffering
Under the Russian rule,
The people oppressed and saddened
Their punishment hard and cruel.

Estonia also is weeping
In silence and despair,
And cries again for freedom
From the rule of the Russian Bear.

Let's all Unite together
And join the Freedom Crusade,
Showing to other Nations
You're marching unafraid.

**BALTIC FREEDOM WEEK
JULY 24 - 31, 1985**



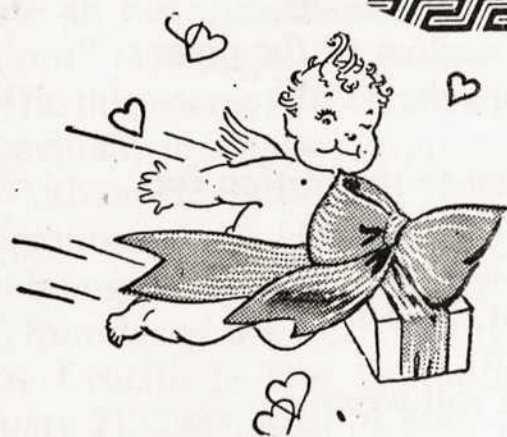
Vyčiai Veikia



Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948



MID - CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-96 — DAYTON

With the holidays over we can delve into the new year with renewed vigor. We trust that everyone enjoyed the Christmas season and is ready to participate in the many activities ahead.

Our Christmas Eve Mass was joyful and meaningful, enhanced by the singing of our Junior Choir. Parents of the children deserve a great deal of credit for instilling in them the interest to participate. Labai ačiū!

Our Ladies' Christmas dinner on December 11 was enjoyed by 18 members and guests. The group met at the Stockyard Inn. The event ended with an exchange of gifts.

We couldn't have asked for a nicer day, sunny and springlike, on Sunday, December 16, when 20 K of L'ers set out to sing carols and deliver fruit baskets to our elderly parishioners and shut-ins. It was a happy group of carolers doing their bit to spread cheer which was appreciated by the recipients. Refreshments for the group were served in the church hall afterward, prepared by Mary Lucas and Elaine Pacovsky.

We are proud of one of our Juniors, Frank Ambrose, 13, son of Frank and Karolyn Ambrose, who was recently honored for having saved the life of an elderly lady. Frank, a news carrier, noticed that the customer's paper was not picked up. He notified the apartment manager of the senior citizens complex where she lived. Upon investigation, it was found that the lady suffered a stroke. Immediate medical attention saved her life.

We welcome our newest members who took the K of L oath at the December council meeting. They are John & Alice Sipek, Elizabeth & Peter Zeller of Columbus and Frances Razauskas of Dayton.

And now, may the coming year be a joyful, happy and healthful one for all.

Pasimatysim . . .
Cecilia Yankus

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

The Currier and Ives weather scene was not exactly visible for the December meeting in a lovely Christmas setting hosted by Jadvyga Rukstelis and her daughter Virginia Kirsh.

Important issues were discussed. Preference was given to the issuance of Darius-Girenas commemorative stamp. In order to speed up the process, President Magdalena Smailis distributed letters for signatures, accompanied by stamped envelopes to be addressed by members. She immediately sent them to the Postal Director.

Some donations were made in a Christmas spirit. Fifty dollars each

was contributed to Capuchin Kitchen and Dun Scotus Needy Fund. A donation was given to Coalition for Temporary Shelter, one of Detroit's newest emergency shelters for the immediate needs of the homeless people.

Following a most productive meeting, a social followed with a buffet table laden with a pleasing choice of gourmet dishes to the wonderful array of baked goods for dessert. A large display of poinsettias highlighted the table. Among new faces were Isabel Pavlichek.

A truly festive mood prevailed on December 14 for the old-fashioned Lithuanian Kūčios. Although the event was hosted by ALRC Women's Alliance, many members belong to the Knights.

Father V. Krisciunevicius, pastor of Divine Providence, delivered the invocation. Mrs. Cecelia Balsys, president of Chapter 54, extended greetings and welcomed members and guests. It was a great turnout in the Cultural Center. Mr. Gricius, our guest speaker, spoke on the Lithuanian Christmas Eve (Kūčios) which continues to be observed as a day of family reunion with a traditional evening meatless meal of 12 courses representing the 12 apostles. Members provided a variety of fish, herring, cranberry pudding and other Kūčios food. The meal began with a prayer and breaking of the wafers (kalėdaičiai or plotkelės) with everyone sharing joyous Christmas wishes. It was nice to see Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Kratage and members of Divine Providence Altar Society. Everyone enjoyed the friendliness and the Lithuanian Kūčios.

Ann Kratage was not able to make our Fall Festival, but her monetary donation and lovely doll with handmade clothes were appreciated.

Get well wishes to Anthony Mameniskis who is recuperating after hip and elbow surgery. Mary Vinciunas broke her wrist in a fall. She is now living in Gainesville, Georgia. We wish her daug sekmės.

SOFFI



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

C-3 — PHILADELPHIA

Our December meeting consisting of a short business meeting and our Christmas party was held at the home of President Mary Ann Lepera.

Every woman brought something for the table resulting in a variety of dishes including Lithuanian. Members exchanged gifts.

After feasting on all the homemade goodies, Agnes Mickunas got hold of an old accordion, and we had a lively song fest. We all enjoyed singing Lithuanian folk songs, old-time favorites and Christmas carols.

Father Wassel, our spiritual advisor, brought his mother who thoroughly enjoyed the singing. Thanks to Agnes!

A hearty thank you to President Mary Ann and her husband Tom for a wonderful Christmas party.

Frank J. Andrews

C-146 — HARRISBURG

On December 2 our council celebrated Kūčios with 35 members and guests in attendance.

Our Irish Spiritual Advisor Father Joseph Smith of Columbia began the meal with prayer, blessing and sharing the "plotkelės" with all. The members contributed the traditional twelve meatless dishes. As usual, the food was delicious and plentiful. What a variety of fish specialties! Name it; we had it!

William Boyle read a summary of Lithuanian Christmas customs. Eugene Rusatsky shared a very interesting film on a recent trip to Russia.

We had a short business session which included election of officers for 1985. They are Vytis Grabauskas, president; Joseph Gudolonis, vice president; Helen Grabauskas, secretary; Hell Berulis, financial secretary and treasurer; Helen Wysocki, Joseph Zalonis, trustees; Joana Gilbert, cultural; Frances Boyle, ritual and Rev. Joseph Smith, spiritual advisor. Father Smith installed the officers.

We concluded the program with singing of carols led by our past president Joana Gilbert. All in all, the evening was delightful, spirited and productive. Thanks to each and all.

Nell Berulis

C-144 — ANTHRACITE COUNCIL

Through the courtesy of Florence Orzechowski, Joni Reinhart and Helen Swatsky, our energetic sales committee, the gift shop in the Lithuanian Museum and Cultural Center in Frackville was open every Sunday during the month of December for sales as well as viewing exhibits.

Eleanor Vaicaitis was recently elected chairman of the Cultural Center. Progressive plans for im-

proving the display of artifacts, library organization and physical facilities were instituted by Chairman Vaicaitis. Other elected officers are Annie Morgalis, vice chairman; Bernice Mikatavage, secretary and Anna K. Wargo, treasurer.

Our council again sponsored the Lithuanian Christmas Tree for Christmas, An Ethnic Experience. Our talented Annie Morgalis,



Annie Morgalis and Anne Sikora of C-144 with other dignitaries at the Lithuanian Christmas tree in the William Penn Museum in Harrisburg.

member of the Governor's Heritage Affairs Advisory Commission, created the traditional Lithuanian ornaments. Wreaths, geometric designs, figures, woven baskets, lanterns, Lithuanian tulips, wayside crosses, mobiles and garlands fashioned from papercraft straws artistically graced the star-topped tree in the Rotunda of the William Penn Museum in Harrisburg. Anna Wargo, Bernice Mikatavage, Tessie Ballulis and Anne Sikora assisted her in decorating our Lithuanian-American tree, one of 24 ethnic trees.

What a surprise when Father Al Bartkus approached the altar to read the Lithuanian Mass in Our Lady of Siluva on Sunday, December 30. Furthermore, it was a Memorial

Mass for Stanley Vaicaitis, organizer of Žarija Choir. Under the direction of Eleanor, the choir beautifully sang the traditional Lithuanian Christmas hymns. Dennis Yezulinas, our youngest member, on leave from the Air Force served at the Mass. Father Al brought greetings and reminded all Knights that we have a friend in Rome. "Geros sveikatos" to Father Al's mother!

Anthracite Council is concerned about the well-being of our spiritual advisor, Rev. Joseph Shelonis, who was hospitalized recently. Hopefully, our prayers to the Venerable Archbishop George Matulaitis will be heard. Many sunny, cheerful days, Father Shelonis!

C-110 — MASPETH

Christmas Party — A super evening was had by all. Al Kraujalis, our official photographer, and Vinnie Stripeikis served the drinks. The excellent food arrangements were handled so beautifully by Theresa Dagis, Mary Gilbert, Muriel Lekstutis, Fran Migliore, Stella Stripeikis and Helen Yakaitis. Christmas carols, sung in English and Lithuanian, were enjoyed by all.

Kūčių Parengimas — Kūčios was ushered in for 1984 under the co-chairmanship of Al Kraujalis, Igni Walles and Tony Yakaitis. The occasion began with Mass and Liturgy in Lithuanian, celebrated by Rev. Msgr. Francis Bulovas, with the Homily by Rev. Fr. Stasys Raila. In a moving ceremony, C-110 adopted the Lithuanian Parishes of Panėvėžys and Žagarė with John & Ann Adomenas and Muriel Lekstutis and Peter Yuskevich as God parents. Mass was followed by the traditional meal which began with the solemn candlelighting ceremony in anticipation of yet another Christmas celebrating Jesus' birthday. Each Christmas Eve we are filled with awe, searching the sky for that Star of

Bethlehem. The food was definitely Lithuanian gourmet. Our meal was all the more pleasant by the graciousness of Adele Dauzickas, Louise Dauzickas, Muriel Lekstutis, Helen Matulonis, Stella Stripeikis, Evelyn Walles and Helen Yakaitis in serving such a large group. It was good to see Helen Yocis!

Darius & Girenas — We are very supportive of the Federal issuance of a commemorative stamp. Drs. Nancy & John Craddock, our members from Newton, New Jersey, showed stamps issued by Free Lithuania with the Darius-Girenas stamp included in their collection.

Profile — Helen Matulonis is a very special person in C-110. She was born in Maspeth, baptized in Transfiguration Church. She was hostess at the 1939 World's Fair Lithuanian Pavilion, secretary to Joe Boley who served as director of the Lithuanian Book-of-the-Month Club, mistress of ceremonies at the 1964 World's Fair Lithuanian Day and instructress in CCD. She is a choir member and faithful Sodalist. You are, indeed, a credit to the community, the Church and the various groups you serve!

In Memoriam — Our condolences to Mae Slapikas on the loss of her husband, Peter, who was the

first president of C-110. We also express our deep sympathy to the family and wife of Vincent Yatkas, a former member of C-12. Gentle Jesus receive them mercifully.

Cruise — John Adomenas & Adele Dauzickas have arranged a splendid "Knights to the Sun" cruise during the first week in May and remind all to check with them in assuring reservations.

Brenda Bell-Razickas

C-142 — WASHINGTON

At our October meeting, the following members were elected as council officers for the coming year: Joseph G. Chaplick, president; Jean Lutwin, vice president; Bernadette Jankauskas, recording secretary; Julia T. Burlen, financial secretary and Bernadette Jankauskas, Vytis correspondent.

With our deepest sympathy, we announce the loss of Ladislaus J. Esunas who died on December 11.

Julia

C-100 — AMSTERDAM



Regina Kot C-100, convention secretary and recipient of fourth degree, reviews convention proceedings with Frank Petrauskas C-140 while her husband John converses with Sisters of St. Casimir at closing convention brunch in Maria High School Cafeteria.

C-118 — HAZLETON

At our November meeting Elsie KOSMISKY AND Sister Angela CJC of Anthracite Council conducted a class in making straw ornaments. All the ornaments we made were used on our Kūčios Christmas tree.

Our rummage sale co-chaired by Doris. Shanahan and Nellie Prokopas had a terrific turnout.

Valerie and Joe Dancho along with Alma Launikonis co-chaired our third Kūčios on December 9. All our council members worked to make it a wonderful afternoon. Father Skitzki, our spiritual advisor, gave the blessing and led the members in breaking the holy wafer with President Albert Launikonis. The meatless meal followed with the traditional food.

Father Gaiardo from the Sacred Heart Church of Weston and Dorothy Banos, C-143 Pittston, accompanied Nellie Bayoras, also from C-143, who was our guest speaker. She spoke on Christmas traditions in Lithuania, her visits and the meaning of Kūčios.

Our council gave Father Skitzki a donation of \$500 toward church repairs.

We will continue our K of L Mass on every third Sunday of the month.
Alma

C-147 — ST. PETERSBURG

Lapkričio 7 d. St. Petersburgo lietuvių klubo patalpose įvyko metinis Lietuvos Vyčių susirinkimas. Be einamųjų reikalų susirinkime buvo perrinkta ir papildyta nauja Vyčių valdyba: dvasios vadas — kun. J. Gašiūnas, pirm. — Alex Kraujalis, vice-pirm. — A. Mažeika, vice-pirm. — T. Liutkienė, sekr. — V. Kleivienė, išd. — M. Zigaitienė, finansų sekr. — E. Petraitienė, išdo globėjai — prel. J. Balkūnas, C. Vilnis, visuomeninių

ryšių pirm. — K. Kleiva, kultūros komisija: Ed. Praninskas, A. Šukiena ir Em. Grušienė, ryšių su amerikiečiais pirm. Victoria Jacobson, korespondentai: anglų kalba V. Kraujalienė ir lietuvių — J. Gliosas.

Į Vyčių kuopą įstojo du nauji nariai — Vladė ir Jonas Gliosai. Susirinkime pranešimus apie Vyčių seimą padarė A. Mažeika, A. Kraujalis, K. Kleiva. Susirinkimas nutarė skirti 50 dol. auką Balfui, jo 40 metų sukakties proga ir įdėti kalėdinį sveikinimą į organizacijos žurnalą „Vytį“. Veikli vietos visuomenininkė Maria Jacobson yra ligoninėje. Jai pasiūsta sveikinimai, linkint greito pasveikimo.

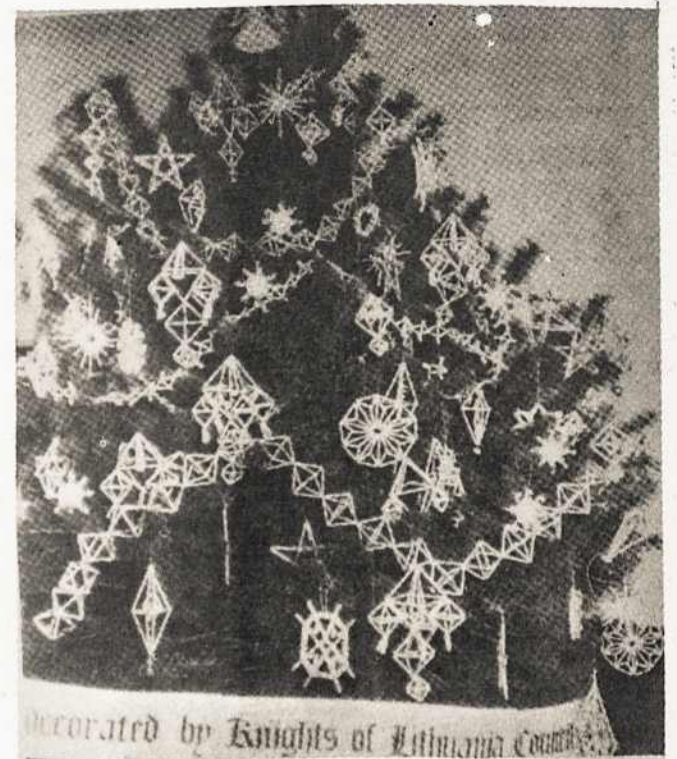
Sumanymuose buvo padiskutuota įvairūs katalikiškos veiklos atvejai. Spalio 12 d. Šv. Vardo bažnyčioje, kur kiekvieną sekmadienį vyksta lietuviškos pamaldos, vyčių vardu buvo pravesta specialios maldos už kenčiančią Lietuvą. Jas pravedė vyčių dvasios vadas kun. J. Gašiūnas.

j.-g.

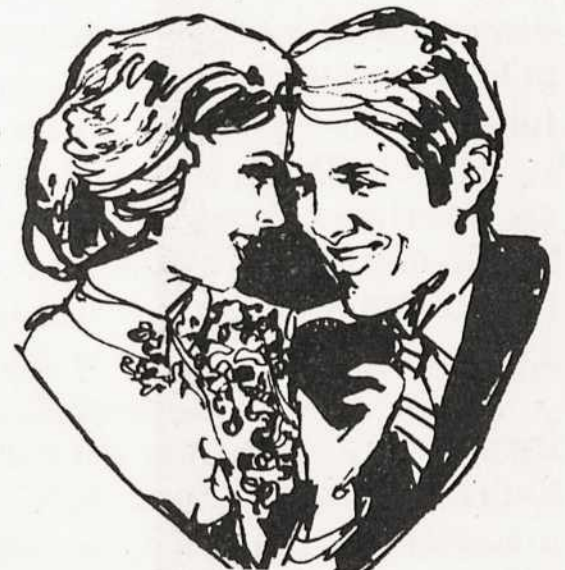
C-74 — SCRANTON



Emma Foley, granddaughter of Marie & Dick Laske, C-74 was pictured on the cover of the Everhart Museum Monthly Bulletin in the December issue.



Council 74 of Scranton was proud to have their Lithuanian Christmas tree featured on the cover of December Happenings.



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-26 — WORCESTER

Seven new members were awarded First Degrees recently: Mary E. Anusauskas, Joseph Howard, Anna M. Kersis, Petrone Rackauskas, Adona Sweeney, Lynne Walinsky and Mark Walinsky. A warm welcome and sincere congratulations to all!

Quicker-than-quick get-well wishes to Donna Ivaska, Bart March Sr., Anthony Anton and Gregory Sokol.

Our executive board provided us with a wonderful Christmas party which featured a delicious meal, carol singing, exchanging of gifts and lots of holiday camaraderie!

Following a recent meeting, Steve Walinsky Jr. ran a film on the 1984 Masters Golf Tournament which we thoroughly enjoyed. It was over much too quickly. Which reminds us that the first half of the bowling season is over. Anthony Brozauski and Helin Gillus hold high single; Helen Gillus and Lewis Lloyd hold high average and high triple. How do they do it, week after week? Lewis Lloyd's team is in first place as they enter the second half.

After a long and difficult illness, Bill Karrytais died on November 17. Bill was a police detective by profession and held many other interests with the K of L as one of his greatest. Our affection for Bill was demonstrated by large participation at his wake and funeral. Our prayerful sympathies to his wife, Rita.

The month of April will be our council's turn to serve "coffee and" in St. Casimir's Church Hall following the Sunday Masses, with Geraldine Tagman and Helen Gillus in charge.

A special greeting to our K of L friends everywhere from our pastor, Father Anthony Miciunas MIC, our president Rita Pinkus, her board of officers and the membership: May the blessings of peace and joy abide with you all throughout this New Year and many years to follow.

Su Diev iki sekančio numerio!
"Dzūkelė"

C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Council 10 was deeply saddened to learn of the death of member Pauline Rogers on December 8. Her death came two weeks after that of her brother Anthony Tamason. Pauline joined the K of L at an early age, married, brought up a daughter and rejoined C-10 eight years ago.

She was never seen in the limelight. It was her kind and gentle manner that endeared her to all of us. She was also an active member of the Women's Guild of the parish and one of Fr. Steponaitis' rectory helpers.

The K of L headed by Fr. Steponaitis and President Bill Wisniauskas conducted the K of L ritual at the funeral home. Honorary bearers were Lennie Davidonis, Tina & Paul Shatas, Nellie Piragis, Lil Smith, Marge Senk and Ann Ambrose.

Council 10 provided gifts for the 34 altar boys of St. Francis at their Christmas party. The boys spent an afternoon bowling at the Lucky Lanes followed by a lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers, brownies and hot chocolate. With the help of Clara Zetkowsky, Santa portrayed by Len Davidonis distributed gifts to all.



Frank "Liberace" Anoris of C-10 at the baby grand.

Our Kūčios was held on December 19 in the parish hall. Our meal began after the evening star appeared, then the plotkelės were shared among all members present. The meal consisted of twelve meatless specialties symbolizing the 12 apostles. The hall was decorated in the holiday motif, highlighted with Lithuanian Christmas trees with straw ornaments. Rev. Steponaitis led in the singing of traditional Christmas carols. Our special guest was Pranas Savulis, brother of Brone

Wisniauskas, who had just arrived from Poland.

David Lucas spent the holidays in Hawaii. The Perekslises vacationed in Hong Kong and Hawaii.

Vincukas

C-50 — NEW HAVEN

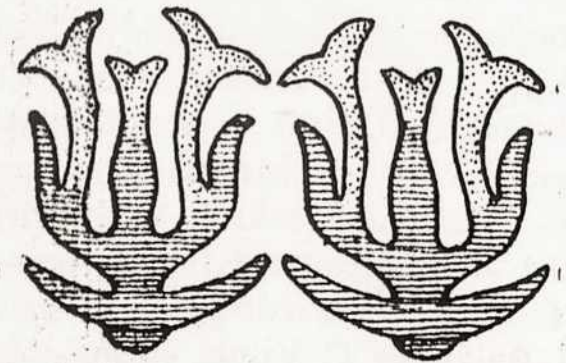
In St. Casimir's Church on November 11, Lithuanian Priests League celebrated a Memorial Mass for all deceased members of Lithuanian parishes in Connecticut. Father Karalis was the main celebrant and homilist. There were 12 priests present. Our beautiful choir sang the Lithuanian and Latin hymns. Many K of L'ers attended.

Our church looked more beautiful than ever this year. To the creche were added many more beautiful Lithuanian ornaments. On the opposite side there was another tree with Lithuanian ornaments and tiny lighted stars which reflected the whiteness of the ornaments and made the tree glisten. We are grateful to Jadwiga Kronkaitis for helping us get started on this beautiful Lithuanian craft of making straw ornaments. We are a proud and happy Lithuanian parish.

Congratulations to Ann and Frank Antin and Marie and Alfred Lipkvich who were installed at the December meeting.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Rose Kacillas and her family in the sudden loss of her sister, Mary Lettick who died in Worcester. She was the proud grandmother of Father Edward Lettick who is stationed at Westboro.

H B





MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

Our quarterly business meeting was held at the K of L Building with President Algerd Brazis presiding. Many district plans were made followed by a lengthy discussion on the status of the K of L Building. President Brazis announced the following appointments: Lithuanian Affairs, Ruth Kazlauskas C-36; Ritual, Ann Marie Kassel C-36; Civic Affairs and Choir President, Sabina Klatt C-36; K of L Dancers, Frank Zapolis C-36; Public Relations, Estelle Rogers C-112; Lithuanian Publicity and "Vyčių Veikla" Editor, Emilija Pakalniškis C-112; "Vytis," Irene Sankus C-112; English Publicity, Ruth Kazlauskas C-36; District "Trumpet," Valeria & Joseph Stanaitis C-112.

The American-Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation conducted a series of workshops during the Thanksgiving weekend which included meetings with Chicago's Joseph Cardinal Bernardin and our newest Lithuanian Bishop Paul A. Baltakis. Bishop Baltakis also participated in special Masses at the Jesuit Chapel, Nativity BVM Church, Immaculate Conception Church and Cicero's St. Anthony Church. Receptions were held at all locales. Many Lithuanians had the opportunity to meet our new Bishop.

Eleanor Kasputis and Irene Sankus, both of C-112 and district officers, had a lengthy discussion with him regarding the K of L. Our congratulations to Federation President Saulius Kuprys of C-112 and the other K of L members serving on the National Board for a most successful event.

Many K of L members were in the audience when our K of L Dancers, directed by Frank Zapolis, and our K of L Choir, directed by Faustas Strolia, presented the traditional Lithuanian program at the Museum of Science and Industry's "Christmas Around the World" Pageant.

LT

C-112 — CHICAGO

Many council functions were planned and ideas presented in between the holiday festivities at the December board meeting and Christmas social hosted by Ellie Kasputis. We were very pleased to have John Paukstis of C-36 join us for some holiday cheer before his trip to the East Coast to visit with his children in Philadelphia and New Haven.

Continuing in the holiday spirit, our traditional council dinner was billed as a "Martinique Christmas." Everyone enjoyed the dining, dancing and holiday socializing at the beautiful Martinique Restaurant.

Following our December business meeting, our ever-planning social committee, Julie Zakarka and Louis Rogers, arranged for a special Christmas buffet with the delicious and varied treats from everyone in attendance. The evening was enhanced by the delightful organ playing of Ruth Dagus, the Christmas carol singing led by Pete Gagle and Mary Juzenas and the solo renditions by Algerd Brazis; such a multi-talented group!

During the evening's event, our Turkey Raffle was held with many delighted winners. Everyone made plans to pick up their bird at Tony

Plienis' A & J Market, a true Lithuanian deli.

Everyone is looking forward to seeing many out-of-town K of L members during the coming spring time.

iks

C-36 — CHICAGO

During the joyous celebration of the 500th Anniversary of St. Casimir, Council 36 of Brighton Park at the 71st National Convention in Chicago found it most fitting and proper to honor the Sisters of St. Casimir.

The sisters have tried zealously over the past 75 years to keep the name of the Patron Saint of Lithuania alive. Convention Chairman John Paukstis presented to the good sisters a symbolic gift, a beautiful Tabernacle for their new Prayer Room. This Prayer Room will be set aside for the sisters to use in addition to their chapel.

Chairman Paukstis said, "The gift is symbolic for it ties in so closely with their lives and that of St. Casimir who had such fervent devotion to the Blessed Sacrament."

In addition to the Tabernacle, Council 36 presented the Sisters of St. Casimir a check for \$1,000 to help furnish the new Prayer Room.

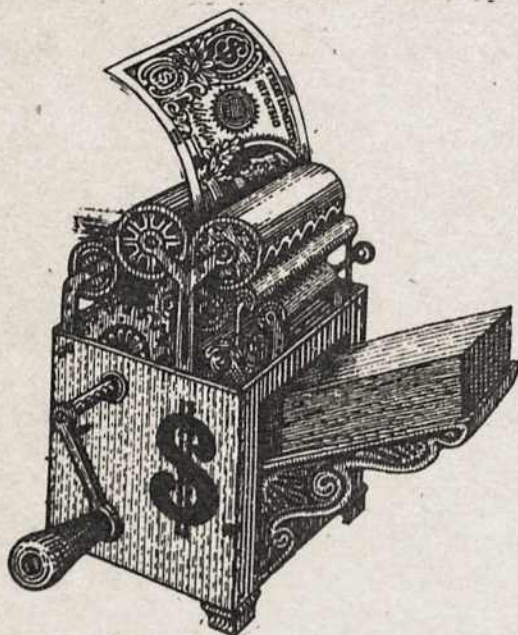
Lillian Paukstis



John Paukstis, Sister Joanela, SSC, both of C-36.

REV. PRANAS GARSVA MIC
4549 W. 63TH ST.
CHICAGO, IL 60629

VYTIS G. A. MACK,
2461 W. 45th St.
Chicago, IL 60632
Return Requested
Address Correction Requested



TO BE PREPARED

by Aldona Ryan

For many of us, the Knights of Lithuania organization is more than just a club. It is a way of life.

The many years we attended meetings, worked at projects, prayed together at Masses, wept together at funerals, and laughed, sang and danced together at our social gatherings seem almost like a dream.

We fondly remember our childhood friends at our own Lithuanian church and the many new friends we have made through the years at District and National Conventions.

We talk enthusiastically about our next function and proceed to live our lives as though the end will never come.

Yes, people are living much longer now. Statistics show that 30% of the population of the U.S.A. is over 65 years of age. Many of us have the chance to live to be 85 or 90 or more. So, we still have some time left, don't we?

Last year, I received a letter from Phil Carter of Providence, R.I. Before I had a chance to answer it, I found out he died the same day I received the letter. I was stunned. It was all so sudden and unexpected! How many of us remember similar happenings?

Maybe we should spend a thoughtful moment on **BEING PREPARED!**

Will the generations who come after us have the same opportunity to freely understand and to LIVE their culture as we did? Will the K of L exist and prosper? Will there be a place with an amber sun to arm our descendants through friendships such as we have known?

Think about the Knights of Lithuania Foundation. Isn't it time to seriously consider if you could help in a monetary way to further the Lithuanian cause and to aid the Knights of Lithuania organization by remembering it in your will?

We sincerely thank Marcella Aleksis for her contribution of \$1000 to the Knights of Lithuania Foundation in memory of our beloved Professor Alexander Aleksis. He will never be forgotten.

What a great start this was for our Foundation! Can we count on you?

The **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.** is a newly-organized endowment fund of the K of L. Its capital will remain intact while its interest will be used for special charitable, cultural and educational purposes of the K of L.

Help it grow . . . with your contribution of \$100.00 or more, which will entitle you to membership in the Foundation. Send your investment in the K of L's future **TODAY**, to:

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, Inc.
113 Maple Street
Crystal Lake, IL-60014

Write to this address also, to learn how to include the Foundation in your will!