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the KNIGHT



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VYTIS

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A ROSY FUTURE

John Strolia, C-13

It seems that lately a lot of talk has been going on about the future of the K. of L. organization. Such as, "Where is today's youth, tomorrow's leaders?" In order for any organization to continue going strongly in the future, it is necessary that the group has members. Let's face it, none of us are getting any younger. It is so important that an organization attract youth. Let's remember, the future depends on them. So where does one start? How do we find youngsters and keep them interested? As president of C-13, Chicago, the youth council, maybe I can offer a few suggestions. As a child my parents first introduced me to the K. of L. and I became a junior. These early interactions set the groundwork for me. All members should involve their children and let them see what the organization is all about at an early age. It really is rather interesting for a child to see how the sessions are run. But what about other youths? How do we interest them? A big problem in finding new young members seems to be the age difference. For example, if an adolescent is asked if he'd like to join the organization he shuns away when he finds out that there's no one else his age in the group. That's why it's good to have a strong, outgoing young adult who's willing to recruit new members. It also helps if that person is in touch with other Lithuanian youths. That's how we started our council here in Chicago. After informing friends that we were starting a Knights of Lithuania council, they joined although at first they may not have realized what it was all about.



Once you've got the incentive, you can find willing youngsters in all sorts of places. Our council branched off a Lithuanian folk dance group. By starting a new youth council in Chicago it's possible that we've had a bit of an advantage because there are so many Lithuanians in the area. It seems that once a person reaches seventeen years old, he's too old to stay involved with the juniors yet feels he's too young to become part of the regulars. So what does he do? He drifts. Some of our members were once juniors who felt this way. That's why our adolescent council is perfect for them—not too young, not too old. Members also seem to have a sense of accomplishment because they're doing everything all by themselves. Here in Chicago we're running the show and having a lot of fun doing it. Seeing how 1985 has been designated as the "Year of the Youth" our council is having a membership drive. We've signed up new members from Lithuanian schools, scouts and other organizations. I think the main reason why the members are staying interested is because of our various activities we've held. We've had two youth dances with great success, and are planning another one soon. This keeps all members involved by working together as a team. Hopefully your councils will have as much success as we've had. Good luck! If you live in Chicago and have any interested teenagers send them on over. We're always looking for new people.

HOW TO CELEBRATE EASTER

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

Even though it may seem that Christmas is the most joyous feast of the Church calendar, in reality, only Easter is acclaimed as the Solemnity of Solemnities. Christmas lays the foundation of our hope of Salvation: our Savior has appeared, is born for us, begins His work. Easter crowns His life and work — the Sacrifice on the Cross that merited our Redemption and Reconciliation with our offended Heavenly Father. The Resurrection proves that the Father has accepted the ransom, paid in blood by His Son. Christ's victory over earth and sin was meant to be shared by us as a result of Baptism and the other Sacraments.

Easter is "the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it." This verse from Psalm 118 is our invitation to **CELEBRATE** the triumph of Easter.



The Resurrection was an event without precedent in all history. It has been remembered every year by those who believed that Jesus Christ arose from the dead. This mystery of faith "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again." is most worthy of proper celebration.

What do we mean by celebration?

How do you celebrate this mystery of our faith?

The dictionary tells us that to **celebrate** is to perform (a sacrament or solemn ceremony) publicly and with appropriate rites, as celebrate mass.

Let us analyze this a bit.

For celebration the first thing that is needed is some good news, some good fortune to be publicly announced: a wedding, a baptism, a graduation, a victory . . . This announcement is such that it brings joy to those who hear it and talk about it, make speeches, shoot off fireworks, take part in a meal.

Celebrations are always social, that is public. Ordinarily a person does not celebrate alone. Celebrating some great achievement in a group intensifies the joy. Sharing in another's joy will make my own deeper. And when the celebration ends, the participants return to their everyday affairs renewed in body and in spirit.

The great event of Easter is worthy of proper celebration. It is an amazing achievement, a victory gained by One we love. And the fruits of His victory were turned over



unselfishly to us who firmly believe in Him — a pledge of future happiness.

Year in, year out, the Church announces Christ's glorious victory, which has become our very own through Baptism and the other Sacraments. And the Church does this most appropriately by gathering the people of God into one place — in Church during the Sacrifice of the Mass to do something together, namely, to **CELEBRATE** Christ's victory and our own

The "Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" in writing about Sunday Mass states: "On this day Christ's faithful should come together into one place so that by hearing the Word of God and taking part in the Eucharist, they may call to mind the passion, the resurrection, and the glorification of the Lord Jesus, and may thank God who 'has begotten them again through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead into living hope'" (# 106).

Notice that in this statement we have all the elements of **CELEBRATION**; a public, social event, a solemn announcement, a participation in the Eucharist — Sacrifice and Sacred Meal — and a joyous out-

Alleluia!



pouring of thanksgiving. In other words a true celebration.

The faithful share the joy of being redeemed by Christ and a desire to congratulate others for their redemption. This is the reason for the **Glory to God, the Alleluias, the Holy, holy, holy . . .** as they marvel and rejoice at the wonderful works of God.

If our celebration of the Easter mystery has been whole hearted, we return to our homes inspired and uplifted, better prepared for our daily living.

The "good news" of the Resurrection changed the lives of the very first followers of Christ — the Apostles, disciples and friends of Jesus: those who doubted became firm believers; those who were frightened gained courage; those who were saddened at the atrocity of the Cross were filled with joy.

Can it be different with us?

The Easter celebration is meant to strengthen our faith: Jesus laid down his life for us; He took it up again for us.

Easter gives us courage today as we recall His words: "You will suffer in the world. But take courage! I have overcome the world." (Jn. 16,33).

There is something more to be said of the Church's Easter Celebration. It is not a one day a year affair. If we reread that statement from the "Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" we will notice that the Church celebrates Easter at every Mass, since it invites the faithful to "call to mind the passion, the resurrection, and the glorification of the Lord Jesus." Thus, in a way, every Sunday is an Easter Celebration. We might say that our Christian life is a prolonged celebration of the victory of Christ, a constant sharing in the fruits of that victory over sin and death, a regular renewal of our faith and hope . . . all of which leads us to the unending vision of glory of the victorious Son of God with the Father and the Holy Spirit. This is the ultimate Celebration already in progress. It will never end.

We are all invited to that Easter Celebration.

APTĖMO SAULĖ DANGUJE
IR ŽEMĖ SUDREBĖJO,
KAI KRISTAUS — ATPIRKĖJO
UŽGESO PASKUTINIS ŽODIS:
JAU VISKAS BAIGTA, ATLIKTA.
JAU IŠGANYTA ŽMONIJA,
ATIDARYTI DANGAUS VARTAI.
TURĖTŲ SUDREBĖT KIEKVIENĄ KARTĄ
MEILEI APTEMUSI ŽMOGAUS ŠIRDIS,
PRISIMENANT GOLGOTOS KRYŽIŲ
KUR ŠALTAI, MERDINČIAI ŽMONIJAI
IŠ NAUJO GIMĖ MEILĖ IR GYVENIMAS.

J. Vaišnys, S.J.



PASIKALBĖJIMAS SU IŠGANYTOJU ŠV. VELYKŲ PROGA

Iš poezijos Lietuvoje

P. VELYKAITIS

Pažįstame Tave, iškeltą ant altoriaus,
Paauksintą, išgražintą Karalių.
Pažįstame paveiksle nutapytą
Su šviesia aureole.

Žinome Tavo gyvenimo istoriją:
Tu vis toks stebuklingas,
Išpuoštas,
Didus
Žengi per knygų puslapius,
Paveikslus ir granitą;
Tu ir giesmėj skambi mums
Toks mistiškas ir švelniai tolimas —
Tu, iš sakyklų šimtmečiais mums aiškintas, sakytas



O mes ne šitokio Tave šią dieną trokštame.
Bent kartą jau nuženk nuo tų paauksintų pastolių,
Padėki skeptrą ir vainiką —
Šiandie jau ne madoj Karaliai,
Mes norime jaust taip Tave,
Kaip savo profsąjungos narį,
Mylėti norime, kaip brolių.
Juk tiktai tam apsivilkai Tu žmogaus kūną,
Skausme buvai moters nešiotas
Ir užgimei skurde ant šieno.
Tegu . . . ten angelai tada giedojo,
Tegu žvaigždė ten švietė —
Žvaigždės šiandieną nevilioja;
Angela! Dvasios ne šito svieto.
Betliejuje brangus mums tiktai Kūdikius,
Virpęs nuo šalčio tamsioje kūtėj.
Tiesa, nusilenkė tam Kūdikiui tada karaliai,
Užtai, kad dar nebuvo prezidentų.
Ir Erodo kariai vaikus išžudė,
Nes išvalyt visuomenę reikėjo
Nuo priešingo vadlovui diego —
Išrauti su šaknim — būt mūsiškai pasakius.

Tu išvengei mirties tada —
 Egiptan asilaite jojai, —
 Šiandien sakytumėm — į užsienį pabėgai.
 Tu mokeisi ir augai.
 Tuo tarpu gi šauklius Tavuosius
 Gimtieji tyrilaukiai saugojo.
 Vėliau mes matome Tave sugrįžusį tėvynėn vėl —
 , berniuką.
 Šluotele kiemą šlavinėji,
 Paduodi kaltą Juozapui seneliui,
 Ar plaktuką.
 Tegul apie vaikystę Tavo
 Legendų stebuklingų daug sudėta —
 Čia, tame užkritusiam provincijos miestely
 Užaugo ir subrendo garsus nazarietis stalius.
 Trisdešimt metų iš po kirvio Tavo medžio tošys krito;
 Matei žmonių kančias ir vargą:
 Badaujančius vaikus,
 Moters paniekinimą,
 Lėbavimuos ištižusius valdovus,
 Parduodamą ir nuperkamą vergą.
 Tie sopuliai visi į širdį Tavo smigo,
 Kaip smūgiai geležies
 Į skaldomą granitą.
 Ieškojai tarp žmonių tiesos,
 Ieškojai raštuose,
 Širdy savo,
 Ir danguje pas Tėvą . . .
 Ieškojime šitam Tau ne sparnai išdygo,
 O meilė tautai ir žmonijai,
 Troškimas žmogaus širdin įdiegti Dievą.
 Jonas iš tyrų pagaliau parėjo.
 (Tada šventuoju nieks jo nevadino.)
 Visi išgirdo įspėjimą jojo rūstų,
 Kai prie Jordano minioms apie naujus laikus kalbėjo.
 Dabar sakytumėm — susirinkimuose ir mitinguos jis
 agitavo už K. ristų.
 Į Jono šauksmą pakilai ir Tujen —
 Palikęs kirvį, kaltą, piūklą, vinis —
 Tu nuskubėjai pas vienmetį savo,
 Didžiausią tuo laiku vyrą tėvynėj.
 Tu jam nusilenkei, kaip karys valdovui,
 Bet negavai tada ten jokio ginklo —
 Tiktai supratęs uždavinį savo iš duoto dvasiai ginklo,
 Jordaną palikai ir minią.
 Į dykumą patraukei
 Mąstyt ir pasninkauti.
 Dabar sakytumėm — Kelius sau nusibrėžt žmonių
 valdovo,
 Gyvenimo patyrimą ir išmintį suformuluot,
 Į aiškią, trumpą programą sutraukti.



Programa šitokia:

Štai karalystė iš garstyčios grūdo,
 Nauja valstybė iš lašelio raugo,
 Žmonių širdyse šaukiama pabudo,
 Žmonių sielose plėtėsi ir augo.
 Mokei mus Dievą, artimą mylėti,
 Priešą pikčiausią broliškai atjausti.
 Žvėrį širdyje savoje sudrausti.
 Išmesti rąstą iš akies savosios,
 Akį netikusią iš kaktos išlupti —
 Keltis iš naujo, jei teko suklupti.
 Atelsit 77-nis ir daugiau dar kartų . . .

Grūdais byrėjo žodžiai į dirvą suartą,
 Erškėčiuos, krūmuos, akmenuos, ant tako.
 Ir minios plaukė, minios Tave sekė.
 Kiek svetmoterių, vagių, paleistuvių
 Minioje buvo,
 O tu meilingai į visus kalbėjai:
 Draudei girtuoklį, gėdinai melagi,
 Įspėjai
 Žmogžudį ir vagį.
 Labiausiai žmonės troško stebuklų patirti,
 Bet leisk man šiandien už juos Tavęs negirti.
 Mums įdomiau, kaip žmonės Tu subūrei,
 Kaip žemėj naują visuomenę kūrei?
 Kokios karalystės maldoj šaukti mokei?
 Kaip naujus nuostatus uždėjai?
 Ar nepaklausti apie tai sėjėjo,
 Ir vynuogyno šeimininko,
 To ūkvedžio, kur skolininkų daug turėjo,
 Ar tą karalių kurvestuves kėlė,
 Išmintingųjų rašto mergelių,
 Kur su žibintais savo sužadėtinį pasitiko
 Klūpodamos a'at kelių?

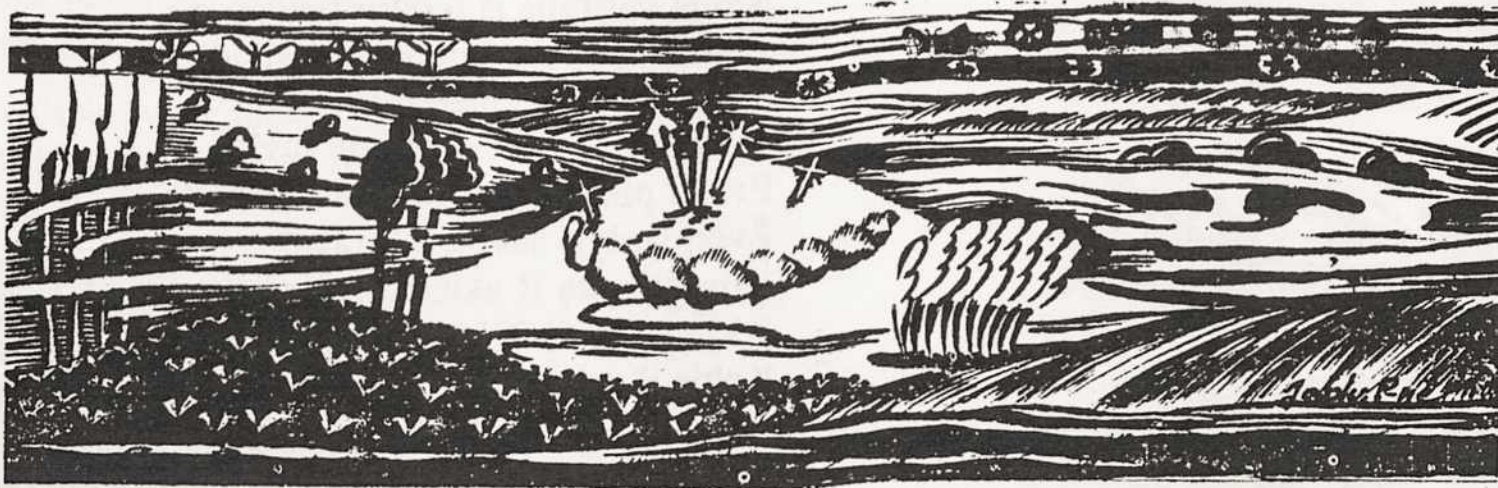
Taip karalystė Tavo sparčiai dygo,
 O mums šiandieną rūpi josios ribos —
 Valdomų tavo žemių geografija.
 Kas ir kada nubraižė jas,
 Aprašė? . . .

Berods užteks tam tiktai vieno žodžio,
 Kuris, kaip žaibas vidurnaktį skrodžia —
 „Širdyse jūsų mano karalystė.”
 Lengvai kiekvienas jos ribas pažįsta.
 Ji nėra puikiai iškepta bandelė,
 Nei pagal madą pasiūta suknelė,
 Nei lauko plotas traktorium suartas . . .
 Ta karalystė — niekad nesibarti.
 Taikoj, ramybės reikalus išspręsti,
 Visad geriausią išeitį surasti.
 Josios piliečiai, kaip vaikai, kaip gėlės . . .
 Įsivaizduot sunku šiandien mums tokią publiką,
 Bet iš tokių susideda tavoji respublika.
 Tai šit, kokią tu paskelbei mums chartą!
 Už ją Tave suareštavo.

Tu apšmeižtas buvai,
 Plaktas, muštas, bartas.
 Paskum tu gatvėmis nešdamas Kryžių lingavai.

Nors teisė Tave už politiką,
 Bet Golgotoje ant Kryžiaus už rankų
 Tarp kriminalistų buvai pakartas.
 Vargu ar kas kalbėtų apie Tave šiandieną,
 Jei sutrūnijęs būtum po velėna.
 Bet prisikėlei Tu nelietęs akmenų, neperskėles granito.
 Kasmet nustebę minime vis mes aną rytą.

Tu mums prisikėlimą irgi pažadėjai.
 Tą pažadą ant savo mokslo, kaip antspaudą, uždėjai.



Providence

William Cowper
 1731 — 1800



*God moves in a mysterious way
 His wonders to perform;
 He plants His footsteps in the sea,
 And rides upon the storm.*

*Deep in unfathomable mines
 Of never-failing skill
 He treasures up His bright designs,
 And works His sovereign will.*

*Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,
 The clouds ye so much dread
 Are big with mercy, and shall break
 In blessings on your head.*

*Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
 But trust Him for His grace:
 Behind a frowning providence
 He hides a smiling face.*

*His purposes will ripen fast,
 Unfolding every hour;
 The bud may have a bitter taste
 But sweet will be the flower.*

*Blind unbelief is sure to err,
 And scan His work in vain;
 God is His own interpreter
 And He will make it plain.*

ST. GEORGE - SAINT OF SPRING



April 23rd, is the Feast of St. George....It has been written, that St. George was martyred during the reign of Diocletian. In the 12th Century, legends have it, that St. George, as a courageous Knight on a horse, slew a dragon — which represented evil in the world. St. George is still very popular in Eastern Europe. His Feast Day has become entwined with the real beginning of Spring.

In Lithuania, St. George is one of the most popular of saints. As in other countries, he is held as the patron of animals, especially horses. In old Lithuania, on the Feast day of St. George, one could not till the fields with horses, or disturb the earth, as it was necessary to let the horses rest — for it was their holiday. If this was not done, it was

believed you would go against the saint's wishes, your animals would get sick and die, especially horses, who would then be prone to the wolves. It was also believed, that St. George protected animals, while they grazed in the fields, therefore during His Feast Day, the animals were first let out to graze following the end of winter. In the Fall, on returning the animals to their stalls, it was said that their protection was then taken over by St. Michael. In several stalls in old Lithuania, you would find a picture of St. George, who would see to it that the animals would favorably multiply. On His Feast Day, animals would also be better fed and attended, and never would they be punished, or hit. In the Alytus region of Lithuania, before the dawn of St. George, call-

ed "Jurgines," horses would be led to rivers or lakes to bathe, for it was said this would make them more beautiful, and free of parasites throughout the year.

With traditions associated with animals and pasture, came legends and stories associated with plants and grass. St. George was petitioned to unlock the good earth, render essential dew, and help the grass grow green and thick. In Western Lithuania, maidens would plant their gardens of rue or rutas, national flower of their country, so that they would grow beautifully. If the Feast Day of St. George was cold, it was a good omen: the harvest would be good and the hay bountiful. In Liskiava, Lithuania, three prayers would be said to St. George, so that their animals would be protected from wolves, who were also under the saint's jurisdiction.

As a good harvest and bountiful animals were attributed to the graces of St. George it isn't surprising that the farmers gave many offerings to him. On his Feast Day, they would bring eggs and milk products, and place them in front of his statue or picture in the village church. Some gave food in His name to the parish priests, or offered mass to St. George for the health of their animals. In the Gerveciai section of Lithuania, two loaves of bread would be baked, with 5 eggs each added to the batter. The two loaves would then be borne around the field 12 times. One would later be buried in the ground, the other consumed, in order that the wolves would not attack the sheep and the cows would be healthy throughout the year. This, actually, was an offering to Mother Earth.

As the egg is a symbol of fertility and new life, it also played a role in folklore surrounding the Feast of St. George. Eggs were colored during "Jurgines," as well as at Easter. These are just a few of the many traditions and customs surrounding the celebration in old Lithuania, of the popular feast day of St. George....



The Servant of God

**ARCHBISHOP GEORGE
MATULAITIS-MATULEVICIUS**
1871-1927

PRAYER

for restoring health

Lord Jesus Christ, you teach us that if two or three will ask for something in your name, it will be granted them by your heavenly Father. Encouraged by this promise, we turn to you in all confidence that through the intercession of your faithful servant Archbishop George Matulaitis-Matulevicius you would restore to health those whom we recommend to your mercy and especially for . . . (here mention the name of the person you wish to pray for) who places all hope in you.

In you, oh Lord, we have placed our trust, may we not be put to shame now and throughout eternity! Amen.

ARCHBISHOP GEORGE

Archbishop George was born in Lugine, Lithuania, on April 13, 1871. He was ordained December 13, 1898. In 1909 he entered the Congregation of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception and revived the Order which had been suppressed by Tsarist Russia and was down to its last member. He founded two religious congregations for women. He was bishop of Vilna 1918-1925. Appointed archbishop and Apostolic Visitor to Lithuania, he was instrumental in establishing its ecclesiastical province and drafting a model concordat with the Holy See. He died in Kaunas January 27, 1927. Pope Pius XI called him "man of God" and a "truly holy Man." The cause of Archbishop George's beatification was introduced in Rome in 1953.

Through the intercession of Archbishop George many have received divine assistance in their spiritual and temporal needs. All are asked to report such favors, especially miraculous cures, to the Vice Postulator:

Very Rev. Joseph Dambrauskas, MIC

6336 S. Kilbourn Ave.

Chicago, IL 60629

from whom information and other literature is available.

SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED... FULFILLING THEIR FOUNDER'S WORK BY HELPING OUR YOUTH

**SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED
ST. MARY'S VILLA CONVENT
Elmhurst, Pennsylvania 18416
Telephone (717) 842-7466**

Dear Friends:

Lithuanian organizations, like other ethnic groups, are realizing more and more the importance of attracting young members to join in order to keep the organization functioning, to prevent extinction. One need not necessarily be of Lithuanian extraction to show an interest in, and concern for, the Lithuanian people. We have seen this to be true in many instances.

During the commemoration of our Founder's centenary of birth, Father Alphonsus Maria Urbanavicius, C.P. (1884-1984) we, the Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the Sorrowful Mother, reviewed the beginnings of our Community and the purpose for which we were founded. True, the salvation of souls came first, the aged in our nursing homes, the children in our schools, but we also realized how great was our Founder's concern for the Lithuanian people. He left no stone unturned to help preserve Lithuania's beautiful language and culture.

To continue our Founder's work for the Lithuanian people, a few concerned Sisters experimented in starting a Lithuanian Heritage Camp for children on our Villa grounds. As a result, Camp Aušra was born in the month of July. Located at the foot of the Pocono Mountains, surrounded with wide fields and forests, it was an ideal spot for such an endeavor.

The success of the project was evident to all, to the Sisters, to the Counselors; to the campers and their parents. Making use of available buildings, the first floor of a sturdy barn served as a spacious dining room, while the upper floor was made into a girls' dormitory. The hay barn with its upper and lower decks was a dorm for boys while the lower area was used for hand-crafts and cultural creations. A tractor-truck garage came in handy for entertainments and religious services. The wide fields and a swimming pool presented ample opportunities for sports and physical fitness.

Since it was only an experiment, Camp Aušra was started with rented and borrowed commodities. But now that we hope to make it a permanent reality in Northeastern Pennsylvania, — the only one of its kind in



Rev. Alphonsus Maria Urbanavicius Founder, Sisters of Jesus Crucified



A group of campers playing at Camp Aušra, St. Mary's Villa, Elmhurst, PA

this area, we feel we can count on your help to finance the essentials. It is a project which will benefit our mutual aim, — the winning of America's youth for our Lithuanian Organizations.

Our buildings need certain renovations and more showers installed. Cots must be purchased. Our kitchen needs modernization and more equipment to meet the demands for fast and efficient service. Sports equipment is also needed for a variety of games. Our Community is unable to finance all our needs.

In the near future we would like to have a Lithuanian bakužė to give the place Lithuanian atmosphere. Any contributions, help and suggestions will be greatly appreciated and greatly accepted. A visit to the Villa with its camp grounds and buildings will give you an idea of its potentials and needs. Thank you for your consideration in this regard.

Yours truly,
Sister Verna Cickavage

**WILL YOU HELP
Bishop Paul Baltakis OFM
build a stronger Lithuanian
Community?**

For vocation information, write:

Sisters of Jesus Crucified
Our Lady of Sorrows Convent
261 Thatcher St.
Brockton, MA. 02402

**WOMEN: Come alive and be a
Pioneer!**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Child Male Female Age at Camp

Address City/State Zip

Father's Name Business Telephone

Mother's Name Home Telephone

Is someone Lithuanian in the family? (Relationship) _____ Can Camper understand any Lithuanian? _____

INDICATE WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING YOU WILL ATTEND

- Junior Knights of Lithuania Camp
July 7 thru 13
- Regular Camp July 14 thru 27

*(On the back of this form, write down the names
of friends with whom you'd like to bunk)*

Send this Registration Form along with
\$10.00 to hold your reservation to:

**CAMP AUŠRA
ST. MARY'S VILLA
ELMHURST, PA 18416**

**LINKSMŲ VELYKŲ ŠVENCIU
WELCOME TO CAMP AUŠRA
JUNIOR KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
JULY 7 THRU 13**



ETHNIC AWARENESS FOR PEACE AMONG NATIONS



Sisters of Jesus Crucified rejoice over the first edition of "Praise the Lord All You Nations"

As the Holy Father, John Paul II, had told his pre-teen audience during his visit to Canada in September of 1984, that showing friendship "simply and sincerely" is happiness on earth, what better way can we promote this friendship as Lithuanian-Americans than grouping children in Lithuanian Heritage Camps and forming youth and adult study groups?

It is a true fact that no nation on earth is so strongly connected to other nations by ties of language, culture, and history, as the United States. As good American citizens it is our responsibility and privilege as Lithuanian Americans to preserve our ties for the good of the world and for our own advancement.

The heritage of our ancestors, known or unknown to us, is engraved on our hearts in a real and indelible way. To discover your Lithuanian roots, become familiar with Lithuanian traditions, art, songs, dance, history and language. You will be delighted with the findings! You will form a spiritual union with your homeland and her culture, — with her history, ethnic characteristics, and social problems.

Our modern world is shrinking. Distance and time are no longer obstacles to communication for better understanding and cooperation among the people of the world. How much more convenient will it be in our case to learn the Lithuanian language. After learning the language, an exchange of letters with Lithuanian relatives

will enable you to understand each nation's cultures, customs, and current conditions. Learn what **values** our Lithuanian culture promotes, what **destiny** does it offer to life, what **place** does it offer to the poor and disinherited, **how** does it look upon sharing, forgiveness, and love?

The art of peace, — putting the power of good-will to work **where** you are at the moment, — can change the world.

The United States is a cultural mosaic where each ethnic group preserves its distinctive cultural traits and language in an ever evolving culture that enriches everyone. Respecting cultural diversity brings peace and harmony and enrichment to the entire nation and eventually to the world. Let us begin to spread this love, this knowledge, this acceptance of each other now, that peace may engulf the world.

Learn more about the Lithuanian nation so as to be able to share your knowledge with others. Much can be learned of Lithuania's past and present in the well-written book, "Praise the Lord, All You Nations". Order your copy from **Sister Virginia, St. Mary's Villa, Elmhurst, Pennsylvania, 18416**. The price of the book is \$8.00. Add \$1.00 for postage and handling. It will be a good start in the right direction. Working for peace among nations is everyone's concern. Begin today, at this moment, to reap God's blessing, for He says, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God." (Matt 5:9)



MYKOLAS NORKUNAS

APRIL IS FOUNDER'S MONTH

APRIL 27, 1913 This day marked the culmination of the lifelong dream of one Mykolas Norkūnas. This one-time KNYGNEŠYS smuggled books from Tilsit, Germany to Lithuania during the ban on publishing in the Lithuanian tongue. Now he met with other Lithuanian immigrants to the U.S. in a Parish Hall in Lawrence, Mass. to create an organization strictly for Lithuanian-American Youth as an outgrowth of the Lith.-American Catholic Federation. This new organization, first called "The Lithuanian Falcons", later became the "Knights of Lithuania". Others present at that founding meeting were Rev. Jušaitis, Stasys Bugnavicius, A. Simoniute, K. Urbonas, S. Maciulskis, A. Jankauskas, V. Paulikaitis and A. Maciulskaitė. The new organization's theme became "For God and Country".

Remember our Founder **MYKOLAS NORKŪNAS**

SUNKIAI SUNEGALĖJUS (Ištrauka)

Oi skauda, skauda
Mano galvelę;
Oi gelia, gelia
Jausmingą širdelę.

Vaistų gėlelės
Seniai nuvyto,
O jų lapeliai
Širdelės negydo.

Eisiu girelėn
Margon pievelėn,
Gai ten surasiu
Širdelei vaistelių.

Kaip tom gėlelėm
Tėvelis dangaus
Skyrė joims amžių,
Kuris taip brangus,

Ėjau girelėn,
Margon pievelėn,
Tik nesuradau
Širdelei vaistelių.

Taip mano galvelei,
Jausmingai širdelei
Leidžias saulelė,
Baigias dienele.

The above poem, written by our beloved founder, is published in commemoration of the anniversary of his passing, April 1, 1951.



Čia ilsisi Mykolas Norkūnas, Lietuvos Vyčių kūrėjas ir pirmasis Pirmininkas. Per 38 metus jų nenuilstamas vadas, lietuviybės žadintojas, nuoširdus draugas ir mylimas tėvas. Gimė 1869 m. gruodžio 1 d. Mirė 1951 m. balandžio 1 d. Amžina atilsį suteik jam, Viešpatie.

FOUNDER'S DAY, 1985

— WHAT WOULD OUR FOUNDERS THINK OF US TODAY?

By Nancy Pawasauskas Miro

As I reflect on Founder's Day, I can't help but wonder — if the young men and women who were instrumental in founding the Knights of Lithuania were alive today, would they be satisfied with the present state of this organization?

As we all know from our K of L history, it was the intention of our founders to create an organization to preserve our rich culture and heritage, to provide a place where fellow Lithuanian-Catholics could gather and share their mutual problems and successes. The original charter of the Knights of Lithuania called for the creation of a "Youth" organization, dedicated to their Catholic faith and the desire to be responsible American citizens.

If we look at the organization today, it is fairly obvious that in some areas we have done very well — in other areas, not so well.

First, let's look at the good areas.

As far as our dedication to our Catholic faith, there can be no doubt that we have succeeded in fostering our Catholicism. Each council looks for guidance to their Spiritual Advisor, and many council activities revolve around such important church holy days as St. Casimir's Day. Our desire to be responsible American citizens is also strong. We know that, with all its faults, the American democracy — the "American Way" — is still the best way. We work with our local, State and Federal government representatives in an effort to keep the free world aware of the plight of our suffering brothers and sisters in Lithuania.

Now, for the areas where we may not have done quite so well. At the 71st National Convention held in Chicago this past August, we unanimously declared 1985 to be the Year of the Lithuanian Youth. This action, in itself, is to be commended. We left the Convention Hall that day filled with the resolve to go back to our local councils and really get our young people involved — by electing them to local and district offices, by appointing them to standing committees and event committees, by entrusting them with positions of leadership. But how many councils actually followed through with these resolves? How many of us are really willing to give up the reins and allow young, fresh ideas to replace the old? I think our founding fathers would be very disappointed in the lack of trust we give our young people. Given opportunity, encouragement and guidance, our young people can be well prepared to take over the leadership of this organization. As hard as it may be to face the truth, we are not immortal, and will not live forever. We must prepare for the future of the Knights of Lithuania.

Another source of disappointment to our founding fathers would be the lack of growth in this organization. In 1916, the Knights of Lithuania were 4,000 strong. Here we are in 1985, still 4,000 strong. How can we expect the Knights to live on, and carry on the proud traditions and culture, if our ranks are depleted year after year — by death, by illness, by indifference. Too often, the burdens fall on only a few individuals, who are forced to carry the whole load. In

an organization such as ours, this is totally unnecessary. From the last national census, it was reported that over 800,000 Americans claim to be of Lithuanian descent. Surely, there are potential members just waiting to be asked to join the Knights of Lithuania. The most common mistake made in recruiting new members is an omission — the potential member has never been invited to join!

What can we do to ensure that the Knights of Lithuania will be guaranteed a future?

First, we must work hard to encourage new membership. If the new members are young people, our job is that much easier. Get the new members involved immediately. Appoint them to committees, give them jobs, make them feel needed and wanted. Too many good people can be lost because they feel left out. Where to find new members? Have you looked around your parish lately? Any new faces at your Lithuanian Mass? They may just be waiting to be invited to a K of L meeting — so take the initiative — you may be surprised at the good results.

Second, don't forget the young people you already have. Our young people today have unlimited potential. They are better educated, and have more opportunities than we ever dreamed possible at their age. We should take advantage of the one resource we have at our finger tips — and sometimes overlook — our youth.

On the whole, I think our founders would be proud of the way the Knights of Lithuania has weathered the years. Our name is known world wide as an organization that accomplishes many good things, and our name is deeply respected in Lithuania itself. I think our founders would agree there are a few places that need improvement, but we still have a lot of potential for a very bright future.

In Loving Memory

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

A.A. LEONARDAS ŠIMUTIS

HONORARY MEMBER

APRIL 17, 1975



1985 is designated as the "Year of the Lithuanian Youth" -

One of the first members of the Knights of Lithuania, a young student in 1913, he is remembered for his devotion to keeping the culture and traditions of Lithuania alive in the younger generation.

In commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of "VYTIS", 1985 -

The following poem is published in remembrance of Leonardas Šimutis, first Administrator of "VYTIS" in 1915.

ILGĖSYS

(Savo pirmąjį kūrinių pasiskaitęs "Vyties" pirmame numery, 1915 m. rašau šį atsiminimą)

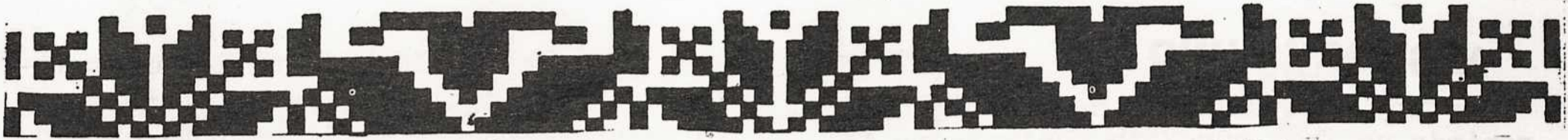
Rusendavo skausmai krutinėj
Ir verdavo ją ilgėsys,
Paskėsdavau gilioj svajonėj,
Dainuodavau lyg vėversys.

O vis tik būta valandėlių
Kada pravirkdavo širdis...
Kada našta sunkių vargelių
Nustelbdavo šviesias viltis.

Kaip trokšdavau aš būti dainius,
Kad pint ilgėsi į dainas
Ir džiaugsmą nešt į miestus, kaimus
Ir lengvinti žmonių dalias!

Ilgėdavaus tėvų, gimtinės,
Regėdavau aš ją sapnuos...
Ir viltys žadino auksinės
Gyvent ir dirbt dėl Lietuvos.

L. Šilelis



OFICIALUS SKYRIUS OFFICIAL NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that the 1985 K of L Scholarship Award(s) will be presented at the 72nd National Convention in New Haven, Connecticut in August, 1985.

The scholarship program of the K of L is intended to help worthy and deserving Knights to obtain a college education. The Scholarship Committee will base its decision primarily on K of L activity, but will also consider scholastic achievement, financial need, and personal recommendations.

Requests for applications and additional information should be sent to the Scholarship Chairman.

.....
Mr. William Piacentini
326 Webster Ave.
Cranston, RI 02920
.....

For the 1985 Scholarship Appeal, the Scholarship Committee requests donations from Districts, Councils and individual members. Donations can be made as outright gifts or in memory of a deceased K of L member, relative or a friend. All donations will be acknowledged and will be published in the VYTIS. Donations (which are tax-deductible) should be sent to the Scholarship Committee Treasurer

.....
Clemencine Miller
80 Cottage St.
Trumbull, CT 06611
.....

The Committee thanks you in advance for your generosity.

VYTIS CORRESPONDENTS

To facilitate the printing of VYTIS we ask that all regular copy for VYTIS be mailed to the editor by the 20th of the month for the issue to be mailed out 2 months later.

All COUNCIL NEWS should be mailed to HELEN CHESKO, 1000 E. Pine St, Mahoney City, PA 17948 by the first of the month. Council News should be confined to two pages-typewritten and double-spaced. No more than two photos-please!

.....
May Issue:.....April 1
June-July Issue.....May 15
August-Sept, Issue...July 15
.....

ST. CASIMIR'S COLLEGE

At the 1984 National Convention the K of L "adopted" the Lithuanian seminary in Rome-St. Casimir's College.

K of L members, councils, and districts are urged to make donations to the college. Checks should be made out to St. Casimir's College and forwarded to our national treasurer:

Mrs. Teresa Trainis
215 Jefferson Street
Fairfield, CT 06432

for transmittal to the college's pro-
rector, Rev. Algimantas Bartkus.

Rev. Bartkus is establishing a special K of L account to assure proper accreditation of donations made by the K of L and its members.

HISTORY FUND

History Fund Chairman Helen Shields reminds us that our 75th anniversary is fast approaching. Rev. W. Wolkovich is busily working on our K of L history.

Photographs are needed for the K of L History Book, which hopefully will be ready for our anniversary. Councils and individual members are asked to submit pictures of K of L activities to Third Vice President:

.....
Elsie Kosmisky
140 S. Wylan St.
Frackville, PA 17011
.....

Each picture should be identified as to time, place, activity, names of persons in each picture. Council members should indicate whether or not they wish to have their pictures returned.

Chairman Helen Shields is still soliciting donations to the History Fund. She reminds the members who have made pledges to the Fund to forward their money to her.

.....
Helen Shields
243 West End Ave.
Apt. #812
New York, NY 10023
.....

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.**

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.
234 Sunlit Drive
Watchung, New Jersey 07060

I hereby donate to the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC. the sum of \$ _____ (Minimum - \$100.00)

I have included the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC. in my Last Will and Testament.

Please send me more information about the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

COUNCIL _____

(Please make all checks payable to KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC)

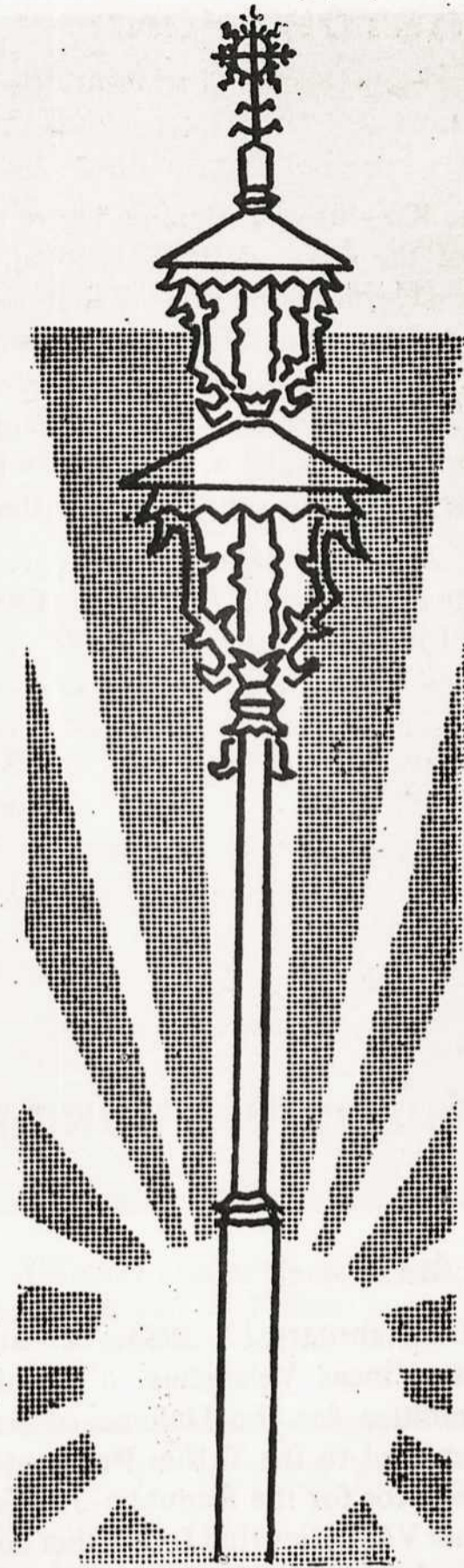
Note: The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation, chartered in the State of Illinois. Tax-exempt status pending.



**IN DEATH
THERE IS
VICTORY!**

K of L Calendar

- May 4: Junior Knights of Lithuania
Convention
Annunciation Hall
Frackville, PA
- May 17-19: Mid-West Bowling Tournament
Host C-25, Cleveland, Ohio
- June 14: BALTIC FREEDOM DAY
- July 7-13: Junior K of L Camp
Camp Ausra, Elmhurst, PA
Ages: 3rd grade to 16 years
- July 24-27: American-Lithuanian Camp
Elmhurst, PA
Ages: 3rd grade to 16 years
- August 4-18: Camp Neringa
W. Brattleboro, VT 05201
Ages: 7 to 16 years of age
- August 7-11: 72nd National Convention
Yale University
New Haven, CT.
Host: C-50
- August 18: 71st Annual Lithuanian Day
Rocky Glen Park, Moosic, PA
- August 25: Pilgrimage for the Suffering
Church in Lithuania
North American Martyrs Shrine
Auriesville, NY



IN MEMORIAM
Please remember in
your prayers...

CHARLES MIKALONIS
Died January 20, 1985
Member C-17
So. Boston, MASS.

FRANK C. BERNATONIS
Died March 1, 1985
Member C-144
Minersville, PA

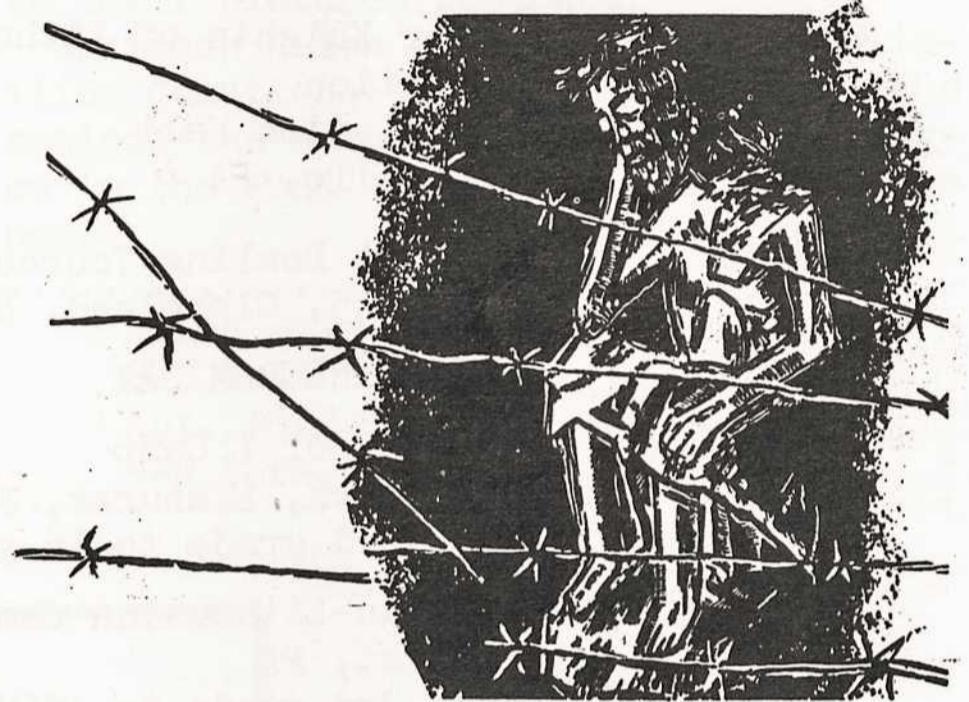
BRUNO MICHELS - MICHALEVIČIUS
Died January 25, 1985
Member C-147
St. Petersburg, FL

L. C. R. A. REPORT

The Knights of Lithuania Drive to sponsor another issue of the CHRONICLE is in full swing. I can not encourage you enough to see that each district, council and member take part in this important Drive. Every little bit each does — adds up to the Goal we are reaching for this year — \$4,000.00. As an organization there is no reason we can't make it. Be a part of this fine project the Knights have been supporting for the past few years!!!

As of 1/20/85 the Balance is\$1,398.73
 Anthony & Petronella Alexander (C#7, #96)
 IMO Lillian Paulauskas — C #7 25.00
 Bronislaw Lazauskas C #7 36.00
 Total 2/17/85\$1,459.73
 We have \$2,540.27 to GO! Let's DO IT!!!

Respectfully submitted
 Frances R. Petkus
 SC LCRA Coordinator



THE CHURCH IN LITHUANIA

TELŠIAI

On February 17, 1984, Telšiai Cathedral emeritus priest Vincas Vėlavičius, a member of the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers' Rights, was summoned to the Telšiai Prosecutor's Office. Assistant Prosecutor for the Republic, Jurgis Bakučionis, warned Father Vėlavičius that for further activity by the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers' Rights, he could be criminally liable. Prosecutor Bakučionis blamed Father Vincas Vėlavičius because the documents released by the committee were printed in the 'Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania', reached abroad, and so, he was convinced, they did great damage to the Soviet Union's prestige.

Father Vėlavičius refused to sign the warning.

Taken from the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania — #62.



Father Vincas Vėlavičius

ANOTHER PRIEST SENTENCED BY SOVIETS IN LITHUANIA

FR. JONAS KASTYTIS MATULIONIS

Reliable sources have reported that Father Jonas-Kastytis Matulionis, arrested last November 9, was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment in late January. Matulionis is the third Lithuanian Catholic priest to be arrested since 1983.

Though the specific charges brought against him are unknown, Soviet authorities issued him warnings in the past for functioning as "a false priest without registration papers".

Soviet authorities refused to recognize him as assistant pastor at the church of Kybartai in Lithuania, a position he assumed after taking his priestly vows following graduation from the underground seminary. He, as other graduates of the underground seminary, are ordained clandestinely and sent to churches lacking priests. Matulionis entered the underground seminary after being repeatedly denied admission to the sole official seminary, under strict government supervision, in Kaunas.

Before he became a priest, Matulionis served a nine-month term on political charges in 1976 for his association with the underground Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania. At one time, he considered a musical career, but was expelled from the conservatory for singing in church.

Matulionis was detained five times in January 1983 for attempting to attend the trial of Fr. A. Svarinskas. When the pastor of Kybartai church, Fr. Sigitas Tamkevičius, was arrested during that trial, his vicar, Fr. Matulionis, protested to the Prosecutor of the Lithuanian SSR, offering to take his place in labor camp.

Both Svarinskas and Tamkevičius are now serving 10 years sentences for their involvement in the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers' Rights. The Catholic Committee disbanded under government pressure and threats.

More recently, Matulionis signed a greeting two months before his arrest, along with 90 other priests from the Archdiocese of Vilnius, to exiled Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius on the occasion of his 29th anniversary as bishop.

— From Lithuanian Information Center



The confessional of Father Sigitas Tamkevičius in Kybartai. Standing at left is Father Jonas-Kastytis Matulionis, a graduate of the underground seminary.

WE ARE ALSO URGED TO ACT ON BEHALF OF
FR. MATULIONIS:

Write to Mr. P. Anilonis
Commissioner for Religious
Affairs of the Lithuanian SSR
Totoriu g. 1
232600 Vilnius
Lithuania
USSR

Ask that Fr. Matulionis be released from
prison and allowed to return to his pas-
toral duties.



“Velyku procesija Lietuvoj”

Telesforas Valius

Lietuvių tautos praeitis kalba apie turtingą mitologiją bei savitą mūsų protėvių tikėjimą. Apie senovės lietuvių gyvenimo būdą, bei jų tikėjimą daugiausia sužinome iš mūsų tautosakos bei užsilikusių papročių. Intensyvus etnologinių žinių rinkimas pradėtas tik 18-tame, o ypač 19-tame amžiuje, kada Lietuva jau buvo galutinai sukrikščioninta ir todėl senojo tikėjimo apeigos interpretuojamos jau krikščionišku atspalviu.

Kaip prof. A. Greimas pastebi, vakarų Europos tautos tik 16-17 amžiuje pradėjo domėtis tautomis, kurios gyveno jų periferijose ir tik tada jų mokslininkai pradėjo užrašinėti mūsų tautos papročius ir senojo tikėjimo dievus, bei mūsų protėvių gyvenimo būdą. Ir kur sužinome, kad gamtos kultas senajame tikėjime buvo giliai įleidęs šaknis.

Medžių kultas yra pats seniausias. Senovės lietuviai medžius siedavo su visata, su vaisingumu ir su gyvybe žemėje. Todėl jie sukūrė mitą apie kosminį arba gyvybės medį.

Ėglė, kadugys (ėglis) ir kiti amžinai žaliuojantieji medžiai žiloje senovėje buvo švenčių būtinybės. Beržas, žilvytis ir visų rūšių gluosniai lietuvių mitologijoje buvo laikomi gyvybingumo ir vegetacinės galios įsikūnijimu. Senovės lietuvius stebino tokie reiškiniai, kaip žilvyčio kačiukai, kurie anksti pavasarį, dar sniegui nenutirpus, išsprogsta ir taip pat nepaprastas jo gyvybingumas. Juk reikia tik šakutę įsmeigti į žemę ir greit sužaliuoja. Todėl tokiems gajiams augalams lietuviai ir skirdavo reikšm-

GYVYBĖ VERBOJE

STEFANIJA STASIENĖ

ingą vietą pavasario šventėse. O jau vėliau žaliuojantis kadugys ir žilvyčio šakelė krikščioniškose apeigose iškyla kaip verbos.

Verbas pradėta šventinti 6-tame šimtmečiuje ir jos šventinamos sekmadienį, prieš Velykas. Šis sekmadienis vadinamas Verbų arba Palmių sekmadienis. Krikščionims šis sekmadienis primena iškilmingą Kristaus įžengimą į Jeruzalę, kada minia klojo jam po kojų palmių ir alyvmedžio šakas. Palmė yra skaitoma, kaip pergalės emblema, t.y. Kristus nugalėjęs mirtį. Šiame krašte Verbų sekmadienį bažnyčia taip pat dalina palmes išreikšdama tuo tą pačią pergalės simboliką. Tačiau kraštuose kur palmės neauga naudojami kiti amžinai žaliuojanti augalai ar medžių šakos. Štai šveicarai naudoja tam tikrą rūšį pušų, kurių šakutes papuošia lapais ir vaisiais.

Mes Lietuvoje naudojome verbom kadugius, žilvyčius ir įvairių kitų nuolat žaliujančių augalų: amalus, pataisus, bruknių šakeles ir t.t. Charakteringa šių verbų žymė, kad buvo naudojami augalai, kurie amžinai žaliuoja, arba anksti pavasarį parodo savo gyvybinį gajumą. Sudarant verbų puokštę, kai kur pajvairindavo ir papuošdavo džiovintom ar popierinėm gėlėm, samanom ir t.t. Tačiau verbos centre visuomet žalias ir gyvas augalas.

Verbas paprastai paruošdavo iš vakaro, o Verbų sekmadienio rytą vieni kitus plakdavo. Kas anksčiau atsikeldavo, plakdavo miegančius ir sustodavo plakęs tik

tada, kai plakamasis pažadėdavo margutį. Dažnai būdavo naudojami ir tam tikri posakiai. Pav. Rokiškio apylinkėje sakydavo: „Būk toks pat, kaip buvęs, būk sveikas, kaip žuvis“. Obelių apylinkėje taip sakydavo: „Verba plaka, ne aš plaku, būk laimingas nuo visų ligų apgintas“.

Kiekvienas eidamas į bažnyčią jautė pareigą turėti verbą. Moterys nešdavosi didesnes puokštes, vyrai, jaunimas ir vaikai mažesnes. Pašventintas vėloas parsinešę namo laikydavo, kaip apsaugą nuo gaisro, perkūnijos ir kitų nelaimių.

Kai kur smilkydavo sunkiai sergančius ligonius. Taip pat pirmą kartą išginus gyvuolius į ganyklą smilkydavo ir plakdavo, kad būtų sveiki ir saugūs nuo nelaimių. Šių augalų magiškoji jėga paliko iki vėliausių laikų. Iš bažnyčios parneštos pašventintos verbos ir dabar laikomos pagarboje. Dažnai jos sunaudojamos gaminant iš jų kryžius ar perrištos kaspinių kur nors dedamos prie švento paveikslo ir t.t. Mat pašventintos verbos simbolizuoja mūsų namų aplinkoje esantį Kristų.

Šia proga norėčiau kiek stabtelėti ir prie Vilniaus verbų. Nors šios yra ir puošnios, tačiau neturi jokio gyvybės ženklo. Jas paprastai gamina iš džiovintų lauko

gėlių: katpėdėlių, snaudalių, smilgų; spalvuotų popierėlių, dažytų skiedrelių ir t.t. Kaip Lietuvių Enciklopedija rašo, Vilniaus verbos yra susijusios su senaisiais to miesto amatininkų cechais. Šie jas vartodavo kaip puošmeną procesijose. Vėliau tos procesijos išnyko ir šias puošmenas pradėjo laikyti verbomis.

Kasmetinėse Vilniaus „Kaziuko“ mugėse, tarp įvairių gėrybių ir ūkio reikmenų, puošnios verbos savo spalvingumu ir raštų įvairumu labai patraukdavo mugės lankytojus. Vieni pirkdavo jas ir parsinešę namo laikydavo kaip puošmeną, kiti net nešdavo į bažnyčią kaip verbą. Tačiau už Vilniaus miesto ribų lietuviai naudodavo verbom kadugio ir žilvyčio šakeles. Šias taip pat puošdavo iš spalvuoto popierio padarytom roželėm. Roželių spalvas dažniausia parinkdavo gelsvas, žalsvas ir šviesiai raudonas. O kadugius parinkdavo tokius ant kurių šakelių būdavo puošnios melsvai aptrauktos uogelės.

Šiandien mes labai daug sentimentų ir dėmesio skiriam anam be gyvybės ženklo Vilniaus verbom. Tačiau jos nei su mūsų mitologija, nei su senąja protėvių religija, nei su krikščionyste bei apskritai verbų prasme vargu ar turi ką nors bendro.

VERBŲ SEKMADIENIS PALM SUNDAY

Each person tried to be the first one up Palm Sunday morning. The first one up would take a small juniper branch (**KADUGIO ŠAKUTĖ**) or a small spruce branch (**EGLĖS ŠAKUTĖ**) and hit those sleeping across the legs and say: "I'm not hitting you, the branch is. Easter is a week away and you're still sleeping!" („**Ne aš mušu, verba muša. Už savaitės Velykos, o tu dar miegi!**“).

Each girl tried to make the most beautiful palm. They used juniper branches with red berries, black currant branches, or green branches from any budding tree which they then decorated and tied with ribbons. The churches would be completely decorated with these palms. One blessed juniper palm would be placed under the roof of the house. People believed this protected the house against lightning striking. Of course, each girl made a special palm for her boyfriend.

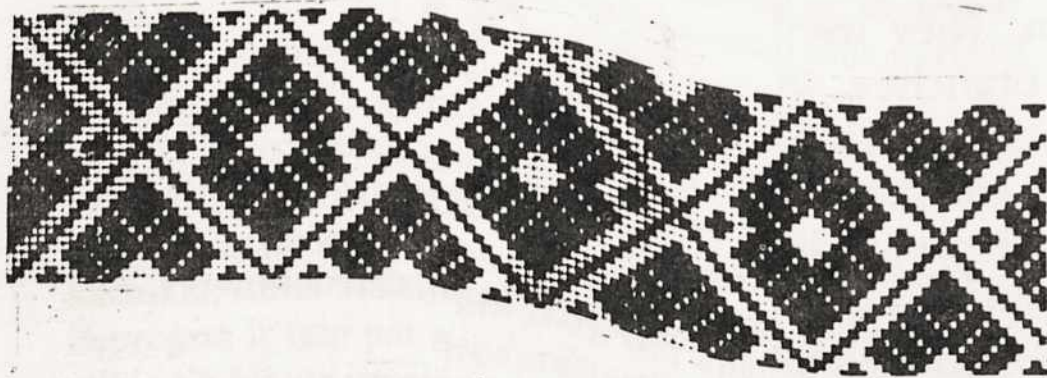


“**VERBOS**”

made from dried flowers.

VELYKŲ MARGUTIS

REPRINT FROM DIENRAŠTIS DRAUGAS



Lietuviams margučiai — tradicinis Velykų stalo papuošalas. Lietuvoje kiekviena šeimininkė stengiasi Velykoms kuo daugiausiai kiaušinių prisimarginti.

Kiaušinių marginimo paprotys minimas jau senovės graikų ir romėnų raštuose. Graikijoje ir Romoje kiaušinis buvo priemonė apsaugoti nuo piktų dvasių, blogų žmonių ir nelaimių. Kiaušinis buvo aukojamas dievams. Jų lukštus įmūrydavo į pastatų pamatus apsaugoti nuo apsinuodijimo ir kitų ligų.

Indijoje kiaušinis buvo laikomas atgimimo simboliu. Germanų tautose kiaušinis buvo laikomas gyvybės simboliu. Jis buvo dažomas raudonai dievaičio Dorono barzdai atminti. Persijoje yra paprotys dovanoti gražius, paauskuotus kiaušinius naujų metų dieną.

Prancūzai mano, kad kiaušiniai, sudėti Didįjį Penktadienį, gali užgesinti perkūno sukeltą ugnį. Malajiečiai gimdančiai moteriai įduoda kiaušinį, kad nekankintų piktosios dvasios. Be to, per malajiečių vestuves kiekvienas svečias gauna raudonų kiaušinių. Vakarinės Javos dalies malajiečiai kiaušinius deda po naujai vedusiųjų vartais.

Turkai kiaušinį laiko gelbėjimosi priemone. Afrikos kabilų žmonos, pirmą kartą įjojusios mulą į savo vyro namus, turi įkišti rankas į ištirpintą sviestą ir sudaužyti žalią kiaušinį tarp mulo ausų. Tuo sunaikinami vylingi kitų žvilgsniai į naujai susituokusius.

Vidurinėje Rusijoje šv. Jurgio dieną šeimininkė virdavo kiaušinius. Jais kas nors turėjo pakalenti galvijų sprandus, o paskui suvalgyti. O kaikuriuose apylinkėse merginos, pasiėmusios kiaušinienes lėkštę, apeidavo aplink lauką, burdamos javų augimą. Ukrainiečiams kiaušiniai turi gydomosios reikšmės.

Labai didelė pagarboj buvo laikomas margutis ir Lietuvoje, kaip Velykų stalo papuošalas. Kiaušinius lietuviai dažo ir margina, vašku išrašinėja ir peiliuku išskutinėja įvairius lietuviškus ornamentus. Be to, buvo paprotys citi kiaušniauti, lalauti, kiaušniais mušti ir ritinėti. Vaikai stengdavosi aplankyti savo krikštąčius, iš kurių gaudavo po du gražius margučius. Margučiai džingino spalvų skaidriais žaidimais; jose — spalvose — sėsucių džiaugsmas išrašytas.

JMks

Example of determination by Lithuanian refugee



Vladas Sakalys David Pietruza, Simas Kudirka

THE RECORDER, AMSTERDAM, NY (JANUARY 1985)

Dear editor: In the current edition (Feb. 1985) of the *Reader's Digest* there appears an article detailing the adventures of a young Russian, Alexander Jourjine, who walked from Murmansk in northern Russia, across Finland to Sweden to escape from the communist system.

It reminded me of the story of a man I met back in 1981 and which I would like to share with your readers.

Vladas Sakalys is a Lithuanian and has served 15 years in Soviet prisons for opposing Soviet rule over his native land. I met him in Brooklyn at the home of another more famous Lithuanian patriot, Simas Kudirka. Vladas' English was very limited at the time, although it was surprisingly good considering he had only been in America for a few months.

In the spring of 1980 Vladas Sakalys was picked up by the KGB for questioning. His crime: signing petitions protesting the Russian occupation of his homeland and the recent invasion of Afghanistan. He was released after hours of questioning but word reached him that he would be picked up again and this time he would not be released.

He made his decision. He would flee northward, to Finland and Sweden and to freedom. He went by train to Idel, which is north of Leningrad and near the arctic circle. There he began a grim 24-day trek. When he started he was perhaps 14 miles from the Finnish bor-

der. Seven miles from that border was a no-man's land, a literal iron curtain with a nine-foot electrified fence. He pole-vaulted it. Then he stumbled into the midst of a Soviet garrison, luckily, everyone was asleep and he was able to actually walk through it. Still later he had to swim across an immense lake, evading a Russian patrol boat, and still later to evade an armed foot patrol augmented by guard dogs.

When he reached Finland he kept on going for fear that this neutral nation would return him to his captors. When he reached Sweden he was in such bad shape that he was first mistaken for some sort of vagrant and was placed in a local jail. Accustomed to rough living standards, Sakalys actually thought he was in a hotel.

Men like Vladas Sakalys risk a lot for freedom. His native land has lost its, and the Russian occupiers are waging a slow stranglehold against its culture, religion and nationality.

We in this nation must never wrap ourselves in smug complacency against the same threat that is aimed against us. Nor must we ever forget our fellow man beings whose oppression is a warning to us, and more so whose bravery in the face of that oppression is an inspiration in a world that so often seems to lack heroes.

David Pietrusza
- Amsterdam

LITHUANIAN *in the* NEWS

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS

The Sisters of St. Casimir hosted a Pro-Life Day at Holy Cross Hospital in Chicago on January 22nd, planned to coincide with events in Washington, D.C., as well as in other parts of the country.

Rev. Anthony J. Brankin, vice president of the Catholic Church Extension Society and publisher of U.S. magazine, was the celebrant of the 11:45 a.m. concelebrated Mass in the north chapel.

Father Brankin is also a Pro-Life artist known for his depiction of motherhood, including the statue of the "Mother of Life" at Our Lady of Charity in Cicero, Ill.

The Mass began with the Pro-Life choral concert followed by a procession of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and Holy Cross Hospital nurses carrying red roses. Presiding at the Pro-Life Mass was Bishop VINCENTAS BRIZGYS.

The activity drew the media attention of WGN-TV, WBBM, WBEZ, United Press International, the City News Bureau of Chicago, and local newspapers, notes the Holy Cross Hospital "Intercom".

* * *



Fr. R. George Sarauskas



Concelebrating Pro-Life Mass at Chicago's Holy Cross Hospital, from left: Rev. Francis Kelly, Rev. Joseph Mangan, S.J., Rev. Anthony Brankin, celebrant, Rev. Frank Kelpas, HCH Chaplain; and Rev. Henry Nitz, OFM

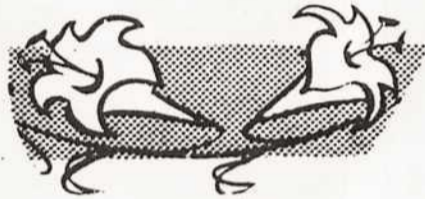
Father R. GEORGE SARAUSKAS, director of the archdiocesan office for Research and Planning/ Goalsetting, and administrator of St. Anthony Parish in Cicero, Illinois, was named the director of the Lithuanian Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Chicago last November.

In making the appointment, Cardinal Bernardin told Father Sarauskas, "I am confident that, under your leadership, the important contribution of the Lithuanian community to the archdiocese will be enhanced." (The Observer, Nov./Dec. 1984).

* * *



At SS Peter and Paul Parish celebration from left, are: Monica Barcas, Christine Ochs, Bishop Paulius Baltakis, OFM, Rev. Peter Zemeikis, pastor, and Ruth Kedzius



Over the years, CASIMIR NORKELIUNAS of Hyde Park, N.Y., assistant professor of Russian and German at Marist College, has used multi-media materials extensively to teach his popular course, "Soviet Union Today: Land, People and Culture." Close to forty percent of the course is presented through film, video cassette, photography, art objects, tourist guides, guest speakers and an authentic Russian dinner or two, according to "Marist Today".

This past year, Dr. Norkeliunas introduced his students to a new avenue for understanding Soviet culture — the medium of interactive video. As demonstrated by Dr. Norkeliunas, the teaching of culture is ideally suited for interactive video. His video "Siberia: Land of Exile" is a prototype. It effectively weaves together lectures, maps, slides, rare prints, photographs and a powerful movie clip about life in a Soviet concentration camp. The video ably communicates the concepts of oppression, suffering and isolation to young Americans with no comparable experiences.

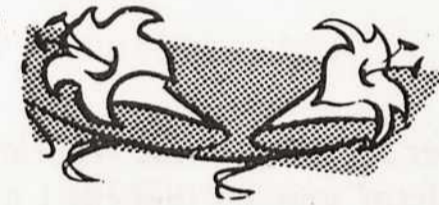
Dr. Norkeliunas recently received a certificate of merit for distinguished scholarly achievement, presented by the International Biographical Centre in Cambridge, England, in recognition for his achievements in Slavic languages and literatures.

* * *

Sts. Peter and Paul R.C. Church, Elizabeth, New Jersey, is observing its 90th anniversary this year. The celebration began with a concelebrated Mass by Bishop PAULIUS BALTAKIS, on January 20th at noon, followed by a dinner in the parish hall. On April 20th, Bishop Baltakis will be honored with a testimonial dinner. The Lithuanian church's 90th anniversary observations will close November 16th with a Solemn Liturgy at 5:30 p.m.

Sts. Peter and Paul is home parish to C-52, Elizabeth. Rev. PETER F. ZEMEIKIS is pastor. Commemoration activities were noted in "The Advocate", the "Citizen", "The Sunday Star-Ledger", and the "Elizabeth Daily Journal".

* * *



The stock market can really be a bear to predict, but thanks to the Wall Street bear-bull coin, the decision to buy or sell is just as easy as calling heads or tails, according to "Ohio Business," Cleveland, Ohio.

Silver-dollar sized, the coin was designed by EUGENE P. KUNSITIS who lives in the Cleveland suburb of Euclid. The idea for the gimmick originated with his wife URSULA PATRICIA KUNSITIS, whose initials contributed to the company name: UPKOIN. Ursula persuaded Eugene to design the bull and the bear for the coin (Bulls you buy, bears you sell).

The coin is advertised in the Wall Street Journal and sells for \$8.50. Kunsitis says he has received about 500 mail orders for the 1,000 coins he has made. "If this goes over," he says, "I can always produce more coins . . . some people say I may even have another pet rock."

Both Eugene and Ursula are members of C-25 Cleveland.

* * *

The December 3rd issue of the "Library of Congress Information Bulletin" reports that the Lithuanian poet, KAZYS BRADUNAS, who currently resides in Chicago, read from his poetry for the Library's Archive of World Literature on Tape during his visit to the Library on November 13th.

Mr. Bradunas, whose work is well known in his native Lithuania as well as in the Lithuanian communities worldwide, is represented by eleven works in the Library of Congress.

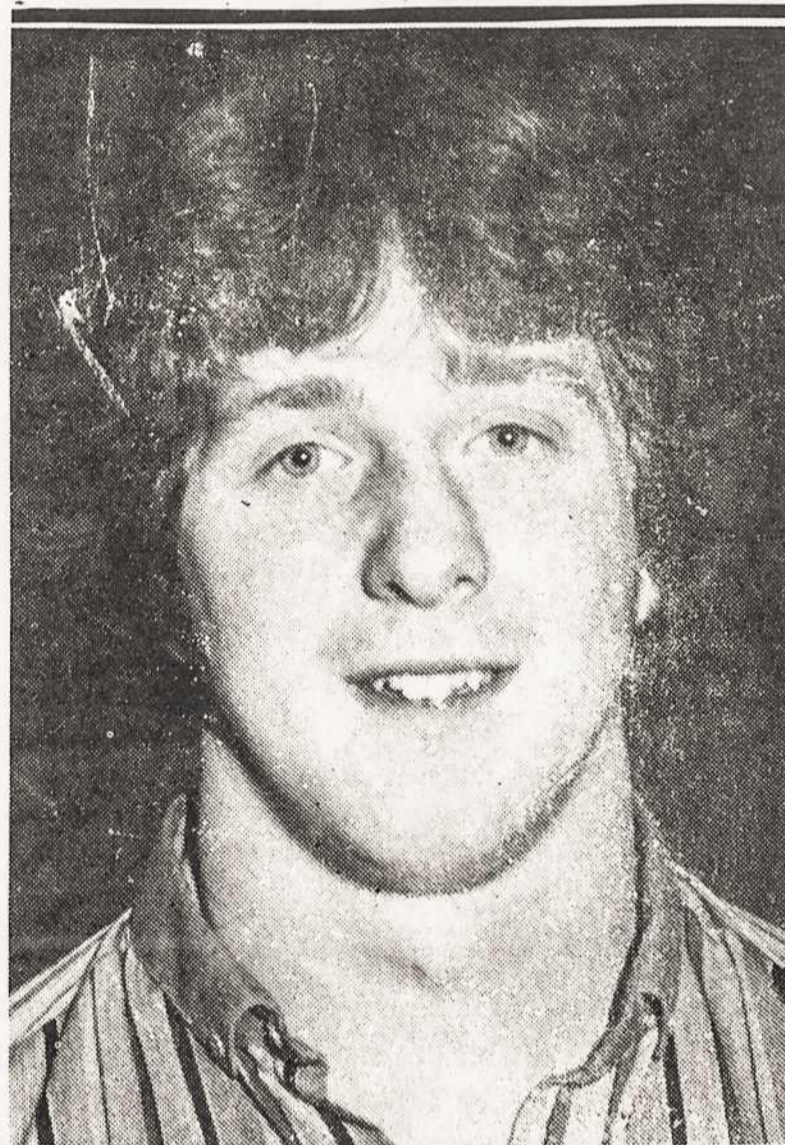
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Pictured in "The Chicago Catholic", February 15th, were C-112 Chicago members ALGERD BRAZIS (Mid-America District president), IRENE SANKUS, ELEANORE KASPUTIS, ESTELLE ROGERS, and past president of C-36 Chicago, JOHN PAUKSTIS, at the Mid-America District's 25th annual commemoration of Lithuania's independence, the "Memories of Lithuania" banquet at the Martinique Grand Ballroom in Evergreen Park, Ill., held on February 3rd.

Since 1985 has been designated as the "Year of Lithuanian Youth", the District's Annual Awards of Distinction were presented to FRANK ZAPOLIS and FAUSTAS STROLIA, both members of C-36, for their devotion and efforts on behalf of Lithuanian youth, especially in the field of music.

JIM VALIKONIS, bruising senior fullback and defensive end on the Big 10 co-champion Amsterdam High Rams, has been selected as "The Recorder's" (Amsterdam, N.Y.) scholastic football "Most Outstanding Athlete."

Jim is the son of John and Charlotte Valikonis of Amsterdam.



JIM VALIKONIS
Recorder Pliyer of Year



Memories of Lithuania

CONVENTION NEWS

72ND NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 8-11th
Yale University - New Haven, CT

We Need Your Help!

Please Support Our Souvenir Program Book

The NEW HAVEN CONVENTION COMMITTEE is asking all loyal and active knights, ladies and their friends to help make our "SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOK" a success. The money raised would help us to cover the many hidden costs of running the convention as well as keep the cost of the registration down.

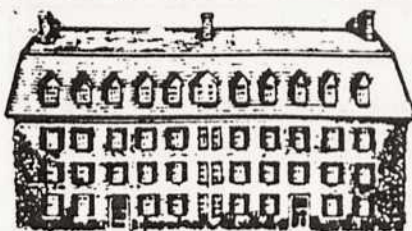
The help of all district councils and every K of L'er will be deeply appreciated.

The advertising rates for the SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOK are as follows:

FULL PAGE.....	\$75.00
HALF-PAGE.....	\$45.00
QUARTER PAGE.....	\$25.00
PATRON.....	\$10.00
BOOSTER.....	\$ 2.50

Send your donations to:

Alex Gedrim, Chairman
Souvenir Program Book
69 Pope Street
New Haven, CT 06512



YALE UNIVERSITY

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY-AUGUST 7th:

1:00 P.M. Registrations
Activities for
Pre-Conventioneers

THURSDAY-AUGUST 8th:

9:00 A.M. Registrations all day
FREE TIME-Sightseeing, shopping
Supreme Council Meeting

12 NOON: Opening Mass
Yale Chapel

2:00 P.M. Opening Session

6:30 P.M. Get-together Evening
at St. Casimir's Hall

FRIDAY-AUGUST 9th:

9:00 A.M. Registrations all day
9:00 A.M. General Session

12 NOON: Holy Mass at Yale Chapel

2:00 P.M. General Session
8:00 P.M. Cultural Night

SATURDAY-AUGUST 10th:

9:00 A.M. Registrations
9:00 A.M. General Session

12 NOON: Holy Mass at Yale Chapel

2:00 P.M. General Session

6:30 P.M. Cocktail Party
7:00 P.M. Convention Banquet
Commons Room
Yale University

SUNDAY-AUGUST 11th:

10:30 A.M. Concelebrated
St. Casimir's Church
New Haven, CT

12 NOON: Convention Photo

1:00 P.M. Farewell Luncheon

Yale University



Courtyard of Branford College Yale University, New Haven, CT

TOUR NEW HAVEN

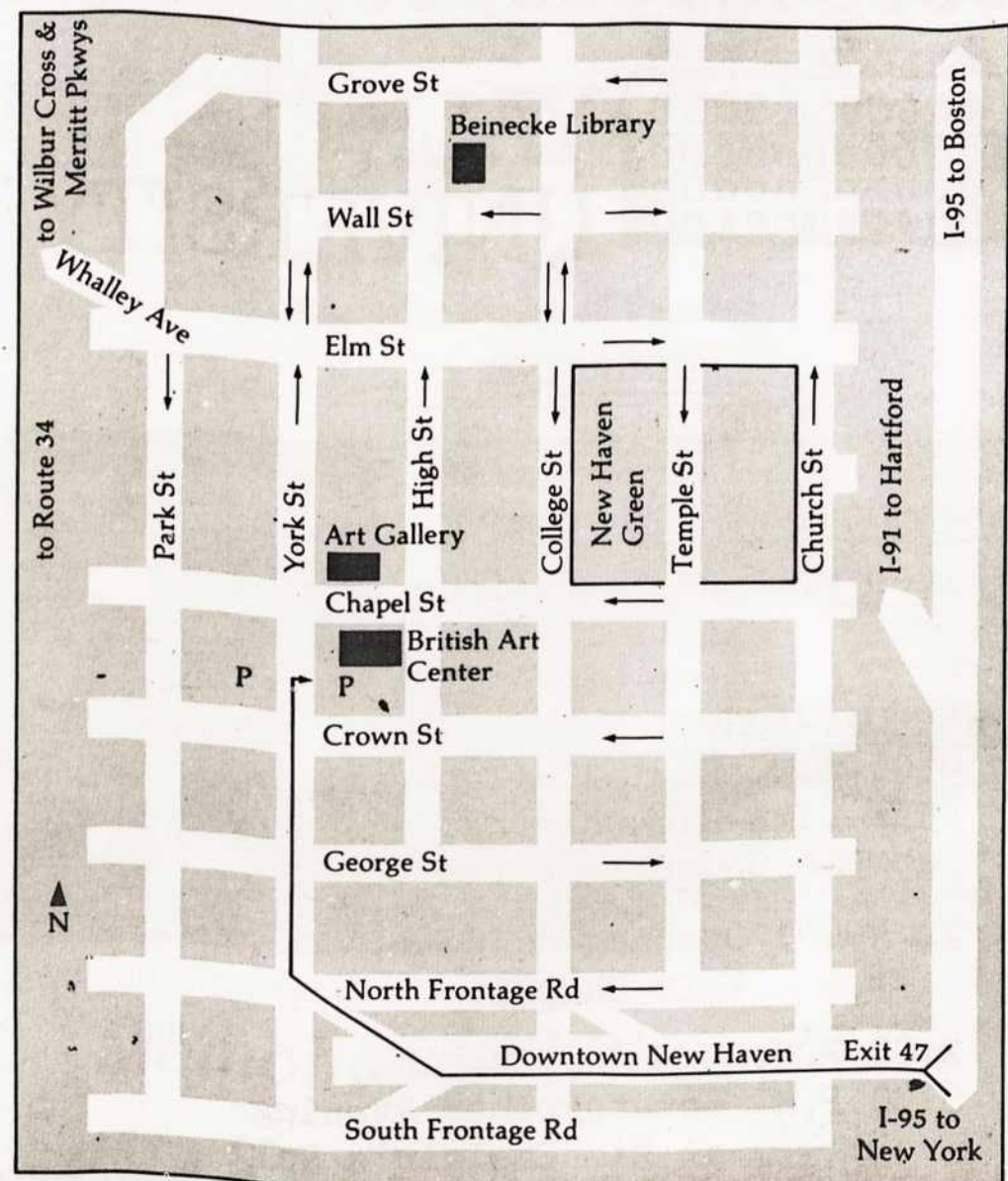
BLACK ROCK FORT, FORT NATHAN HALE.

Located off Woodward Avenue on the East Shore. The original Black Rock Fort was erected in 1776 to protect the New Haven Harbor. Renamed after Connecticut Revolutionary War Hero, Nathan Hale in 1808, the fort was used again in the War of 1812 and fortified against a possible invasion during the Civil War.

TELETRACK, Long Wharf Drive or Sargent Drive to Long Wharf Drive. World's First Theater of Racing. The architecturally designed structure features live telecasts of thoroughbred and harness racing from New York state tracks, Daytime racing from either Aqueduct, Belmont, or Saratogo (flats) and at night, it's either Yonkers or Rossevelt (trotters). For further information call: 789-1943 or 789-1637. Restaurant Reservations: 624-3749.

PARDEE MORRIS HOUSE, 325 Lighthouse Road, Morris Cove. Built first in 1685, burned by the British in 1779 and rebuilt shortly afterward. Restored and refurnished, herb garden. Hours: Wednesday through Friday, 11 AM - 4 PM; Saturday and Sunday, 1 - 4 PM. Open summer through Labor Day, group tours can be arranged through September. Contact New Haven Colony Historical Society: 562-4183.

GROVE STREET CEMETERY, located at 227 Grove Street. It is open year round; weekends, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Admission is Free. The cemetery Gate by Henry Austin 1845 is the finest of several Egyptian Revival Gates built in New England in the mid 19th century.



ST. CASIMIR'S CHURCH ST. CLAIR, PA.

Anna Klizas Wargo



Bishop Thomas Welsh (Allentown, PA Diocese) blesses St. Casimir Shrine at St. Casimir's Lithuanian Church, St. Clair, PA

The year of St. Casimir was ended at St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair, Pa. with the blessing of the beautiful new St. Casimir Shrine by His Excellency, Bishop Thomas Welsh of the Allentown, Pa. Diocese.

Located on the side of a rolling Pennsylvania hill, at the grounds of the pretty white church, the Shrine is a truly inspiring homage to our beloved patron Saint.

Early in this century, many Lithuanian immigrants settled in St. Clair. Once a month, a Lithuanian priest from nearby Shenandoah came to minister to these early Lithuanian-Americans. Mass was celebrated in the Slovak Church.

In 1912 a Lithuanian Parish was formed and the people met in a local dance hall. They struggled until they had enough money to purchase a plot of ground on the side of a lovely hill. Ground was broken and the cornerstone was

laid on Oct. 22, 1917. The Parish was officially named St. Casimir's Church.

The First Pastor, Rev. J. Rasfutis served the parish until 1923 when he was transferred to Amsterdam, N.Y. He was replaced by Rev. Paul Mezvinskis who remained until 1925. From 1925 until 1926, Rev. Casimir Klevence served as Pastor. He was followed by Rev. V. Matulaitis until 1937 when Father Peter Laumakis became Pastor. Father Laumakis served the parish until his death.

Other Pastors who followed were Rev. John Luksys, Rev. Al Bartkus, Rev. Joseph Shatus, Rev. William Linkchorst and the present pastor, Rev. Daniel Yenushosky.

During the Pastorship of Father Bartkus, the Anthracite Council of the Knights of Lithuania was formed at St. Casimir's Hall in 1977.

Father Shatus and Father Link-

chorst were instrumental in the renovation of the interior and exterior of the church. Father Bartkus renovated the church hall and Father Luksys had a new entrance and road built, also the parish garage.

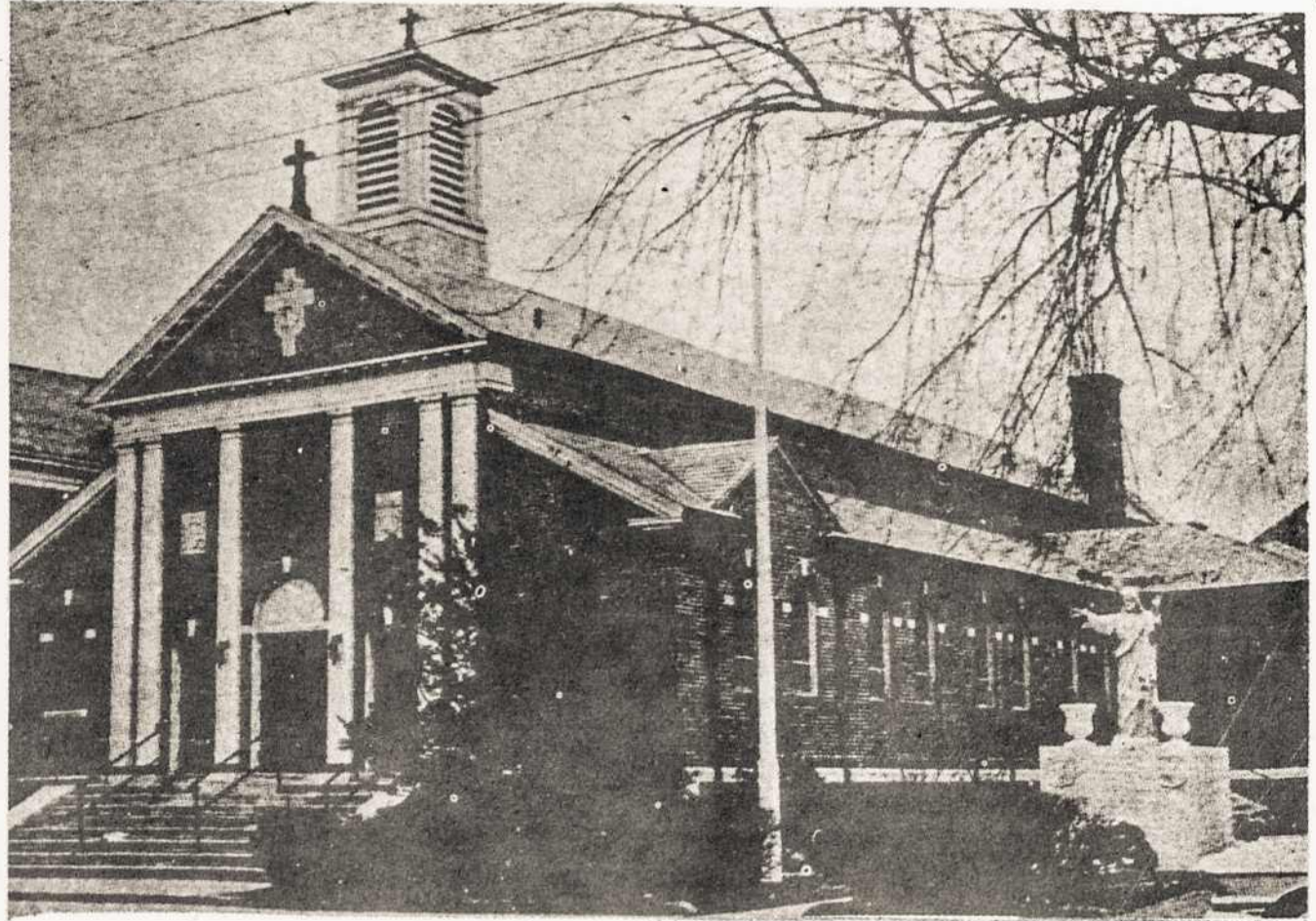
With the completion of renovations to the church itself, Father Yenushosky undertook the erection of the St. Casimir Shrine for the 500th Anniversary of the death of St. Casimir. The Parishioners have always had great devotion to Our Patron Saint, and on a glorious September Day joined their Bishop, their Pastor, former Pastors and neighboring Lithuanian Priests in a Mass dedicated to the 500th Anniversary of St. Casimir and the dedication and blessing of the Shrine. The Children of the Parish, dressed in Lithuanian Costume, presented the gifts at Mass and the Program at the Dinner. It was a glorious ending for the Year of St. Casimir.

ST. CASIMIR'S CHURCH - PROVIDENCE

THE ONLY LITHUANIAN CHURCH IN RHODE ISLAND

OUR APOLOGIES...

We wish to inform all readers of Vytis that St. Casimir's Church, 350 Smith St., Providence, RI, has not disappeared as page 9 of the October issue seems to indicate. St. Casimir's is the only Lithuanian Church in Rhode Island. C-103 meets in St. Casimir's.



ST. CASIMIR'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, R.I.

St. Casimir's parish is the only Lithuanian parish in the state of Rhode Island. A joint parish was established with the Poles in 1912, but the denial of equal rights to Lithuanians led to the founding of a separate Lithuanian parish in 1919.

Rev. Jonas Vaitekunas, pastor from 1932-1963, built the present church (1934), rectory, school and other parish buildings.

Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus succeeded Rev. Vaitekunas as pastor of St. Casimir's. He did much to bolster C-103 which had been formed in 1931. The 1977 National Convention was hosted by C-103.

On November 18, 1980, Rev. Martinkus died. Thence began the struggle for the survival of the only Lithuanian church in the state of Rhode Island. Efforts were made to close the parish. Parishioners resisted. Numerous parish meetings were held. Encouragement was given by non-Lithuanians and non-Catholics.

A new pastor was found in neighboring Connecticut. With the permission of Bishop Reilly of Norwich, CT Rev. Valdermas Cukuras became administrator of St. Casimir's. Attendance rose nearly 60% as Fr. Cukuras encouraged parishioners to return to St. Casimir's. He also helped us make necessary repairs and modernizations to our rectory and parish operations.

Fr. Cukuras remained in Providence for two years. He returned to the Norwich Diocese after the death of Fr. Yla, the chaplain of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in Putnam, CT.

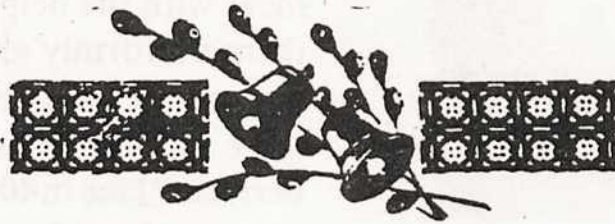
Rev. Cukuras, however, made arrangements for Rev. Izidorius Gevila, a priest from Montana, to administer to the parishioners of St. Casimir's.

The Lithuanians of Rhode Island deeply appreciate Fr. Cukuras' and Fr. Gevila's concern and commitment to St. Casimir's.

COOK'S CORNER

H. M. MARY LUCAS

LITHUANIAN EASTER DINNER MENU



Wine — Vynas

Parslied Beef Bouillon — Skaidrus Mūsų Šultinys
Hot Bacon Buns — Lašiniečiai (these buns are eaten with
the broth)

Roast Fresh Ham — Keptas Šviežias Kumpis

Red Beet Horseradish — Raudoni Krienai

Baked Potato Sausages — Bulvių Vėdaras

Lithuanian Rye Bread — Ruginė Duona

Lithuanian Cheese — Lietuviškas Sūris

Beer — Alus

Salad of Cucumber and Radishes — Agurkų ir Ridikų
Salotas

Lithuanian Easter Bread — Lietuviška „Boba”

Butter Molds — Sviesto Formos

Easter Lamb Cake — Velykų Avinėlis

Napoleon Torte — Napoleono Tortas

Coffee — Kava

Lemon Liquer — Krupnikas

These recipes have appeared in Cook's Corner in the
previous issues:

Margučiai — April 1983 page 14.

Easter Bread (Boba) — April 1983 page 14.

Sūris — April 1983 page 14.

Napoleon — April 1983 page 15.

Krupnikas — Dec. 1980 page 31.

Skaidrus Mėšos Sultinys (Parslied Beef Bouillon)

To simplify this stage of the menu, just open 2 cans of Campbell's Beef Bouillon Soup. Add 2-1/2 cans water, bring to a boil. Before serving, garnish bowls with chopped parsley.

Use shortcuts whenever possible, when preparing a meal this large.

Lašiniečiai Bacon Buns

- 1 Pkg. active dry yeast
- 1 cup lukewarm milk
- 2 Tablespoons sugar
- 1 Teaspoon salt
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 3 egg yolks
- 10 Tablespoons unsalted butter (softened)
- 1 lb. lean bacon, finely cut up
- 1 cup finely chopped onion
- 1 egg yolk mixed with Tablespoon cream

Prepare Filling: Fry bacon and onion in large frying pan. When bacon is crisp and onions are lightly golden, drain on absorbent paper towel. Discard fat. Set bacon and onions aside.

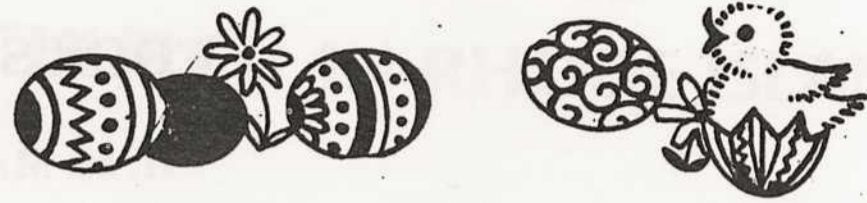
Sprinkle yeast into 1/2 cup of lukewarm milk. Add sugar and salt. Stir till thoroughly dissolved. Place mixture in draft-free place until mixture bubbles and doubles in volume. Pour flour into mixing bowl; making well in the center.

Drop yeast mixture, egg yolks, remaining 1/2 cup milk and 8 Tblsp's. of the butter. Slowly stir flour into liquid ingredients. Beat well until firm dough can be formed into a ball and leaves the sides of the bowl. Cover bowl with towel. Place in draft-free spot for an hour. Dough will double in bulk. Punch dough down; cover again and let rise another 45 min. Coat 2 cookie sheets with 1 T. of butter each. Cut dough in half.

On a lightly floured surface, roll each half into a circle about 1/8" thick. Cut out about 18 rounds of dough with a round cookie cutter. Place a teaspoonful of bacon mixture in center of each; fold in sides of circles, making neat egg-shaped packages.

Set buns, seam-side down, on cookie sheet 1 inch apart. Roll and fill remaining dough the same way. Place cookie sheets in draft-free spot for 20-30 minutes; buns will double in size.

Bake in a preheated 375° oven for 10 min. Coat each bun with egg yolk and cream mixture. Bake for another 10 min. or until golden brown. Buns are best served hot, but still tasty after they have cooled then heated. Makes 38 buns.



Keptas Šviežias Kumpis (Roast Fresh Ham)

Wash and skin a 10-12 lb. fresh Ham. Trim off excess fat and other unnecessary veins and blemishes. Just keep on enough fat to score a design on top and keep the flesh moist. Rub with salt, white pepper and paprika. Slice one garlic clove into several pieces and stick pieces into the meat with the help of a small short pointed knife. Arrange them uniformly all over for even flavoring. Peel and slice one onion over the whole ham before placing it into a large enough roaster. Throw in about 5 whole allspice berries. Place in 400° oven until top begins to brown. Then pour in about 2 cup of boiling water. Cover roaster with lid and turn heat down to 325° until ham is tender. Serve garnished with whole baked apples and parsley sprigs.

Raudoni Krienai (Red Horseradish)

Buy a jar of horseradish (not the cream style). Pour off 1/3 of the vinegar and refill with red beet juice.
Or buy it already mixed at the Deli.

Bulvių Vėdaras (Potato Sausage)

Fry together 1/2 lb. chopped bacon, 1 large onion and 1/2 lb. of 1/4" cubed smoked ham. In a large bowl, grate 8 large white all purpose potatoes. Drain through a strainer to get rid of excess liquid but save the starch after it has settled to the bottom of the bowl. Add 1 cup of finely crushed crackers and 1 cup of scalded milk, 2 beaten eggs, 1/2 teasp. pepper, 1/2 teasp. salt and 1/8 teasp. ground allspice. Mix all together thoroughly. Tie one end of clean hog casing tightly with cord leaving a long end hanging free. Push 1 yard of casing onto the end of a large plastic funnel; using a measuring cup, pour mixture into hog casing. Do not overstuff as mixture will swell during baking. Tie up open end of casing with the free string left hanging and tie both strings together. Lay the whole piece in a large roasting pan. With a fine needle, prick the casing at 3" intervals to let steam escape as it bakes for about 45 minutes at 375° or till deep golden brown and crispy. Cut into serving portions right from the pan. Any left-overs may be stored in refrigerator or tightly wrapped and frozen.

LITHUANIAN EASTER CUSTOMS

by Anna K. Wargo



Lithuanian Homestead featured with Lithuanian margučiai

In Lithuania, on Palm Sunday, the parents would awaken their children by gently hitting them with a twig of juniper (Verba). They would say, "Ne aš mušu, verba muša, linkiu tau sveikam but." It is not I hitting you, it is the twig of juniper. I wish you health." They would then announce that in a week it will be Easter.

Everyone in the family went to church, taking with them a bouquet of juniper twigs, where they were blessed. On the way home, young people would strike each other with the twigs wishing each other good health.

During Holy Week only work connected with the Easter Holiday was allowed. The house had to be cleaned on maundy Tuesday.

On Good Friday it was forbidden to dust, lest the dust fall in Christ's Eyes. No one could thrash grain, grind flour or wash clothes. They were not allowed to plant on that day.

On Holy Saturday, the most important ritual was the blessing of

the fire and water. These were brought home from church and later were used for all kinds of protection.



On Easter morning, people hurried to church before sunrise for the Resurrection Mass. The service began in the morning with a procession three times around the church. The people sang "Linksma Diena, mums nušvito." (A happy day has dawned for us). The High Mass followed the procession and after Mass, the blessing of the food baskets took place.

Upon arriving home, the blessed food was placed upon the table. After the strict fasting of Lent, the Easter Breakfast was a solemn event. There was the paschal lamb, ham, pyragus, and baked goods. A basket of margučiai was in the center of the table. The children would take the eggs and strike them. The one who cracked the other's egg kept it. Easter Day was always devoted to the family.

The young people spent the second day of Easter in merrymaking. The most popular game was the rolling of eggs. They would make a small incline and roll two eggs — the one who was able to crack the other's egg was the winner.



In some sections of Lithuania, young men called "lalauninkai" would visit their neighbor's homes asking for Easter Eggs and singing Kristukas (a resurrection hymn). The lalauninkai walked from house to house with musicians, greeting the landlords and wishing them well. For unmarried women they would sing a romantic song called lalinka in order that they would get married fast.

The other people would visit friends and relatives on this second day of Easter. The Easter festivities continued until Low Sunday.

References: Encyclopedia Lituanica, Lietuvos Kalandrenes Šventes.

LINKSMA DIENA

(Tradicinė)

J. Ž.

1. Links-ma die - na mums nu - žvi - to, Vi - si troš - kom džiaugs - mo ši - to:

Kė - lės Kri - tus, mir - tis kri - to. A - le - liu - ja, a - le - liu - ja, a - le - liu - ja!

*A joyous day shone upon us,
We all longed for this joy:
Christ rose, death fell.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2. Geluonį mirties išrovė,
Nuodėmes mūsų nuplovė,
Pragaro vartus išgriovė,
Aleliuja. . .

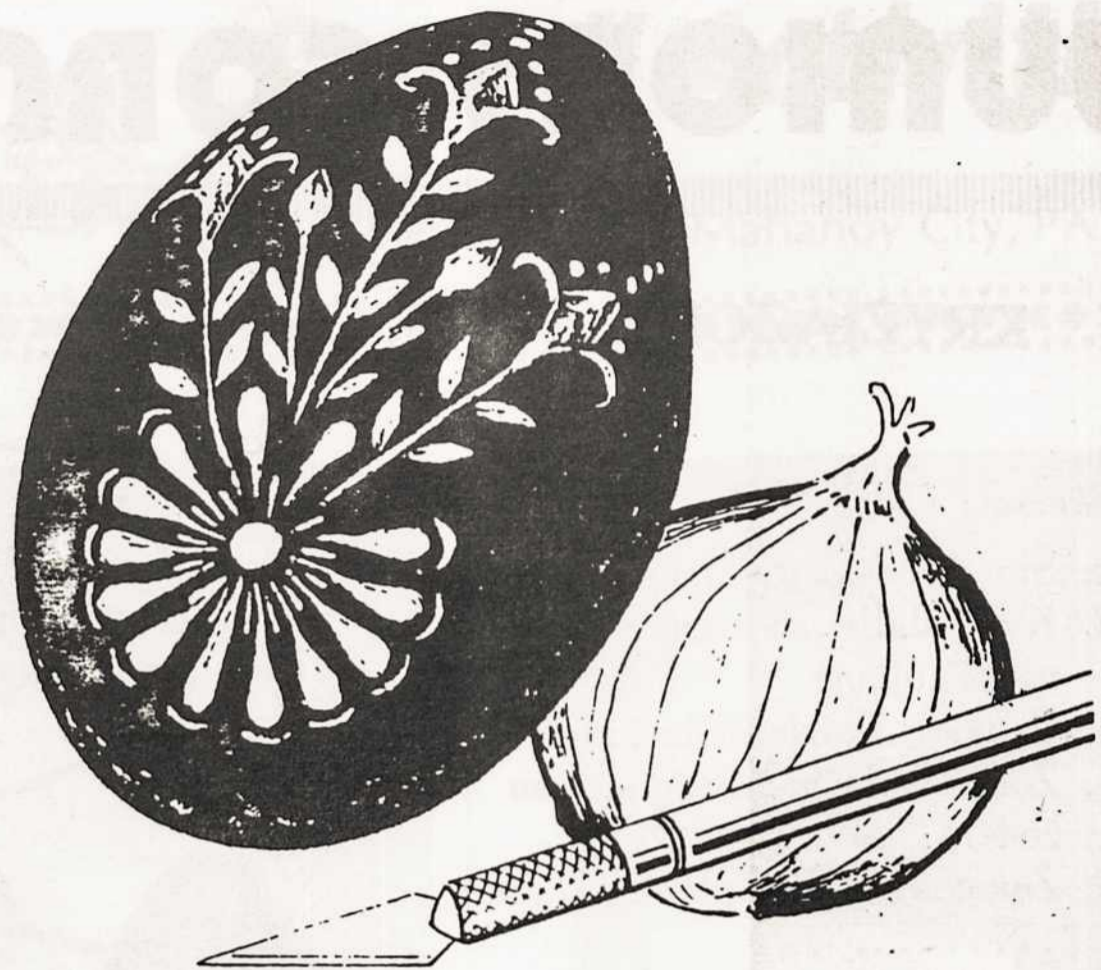
3. Angelus siuncia šventuosius
Pas Mariją ir savuosius
Mokytinius mylimuosius,
-- Aleliuja. . .

4. „Pas Motiną Sopulingą
Neškit naujieną džiaugsmingą
Atsikėlimo garbingo. . .”
Aleliuja. . .

5. Veikiai Patsai pas ją ėjo,
Didžia šviesybe žibėjo,
Sveikindamas ją, kalbėjo:
Aleliuja. . .

A Traditional Easter Hymn

Old World Eggs



Try something a little different this year. Decorate your Easter eggs the Lithuanian way. The effects are unusual, beautiful and charming.

Materials. Eggs, several handfuls of onion skins, salt, Easter egg dyes or food coloring, a craft knife or paring knife, clear nail polish (optional).

Dyeing the Eggs

Soak several handfuls of onion skins in cold water overnight. Remove onion skins from water. Add some salt and the desired number of eggs to the water. Bring water to a boil, and simmer the eggs for 10 to 15 minutes.

The longer the heating period or the greater the amount of onion skins, the darker the color will be. If you remove eggs at different intervals of time, the color varies from a tan to a rich chestnut brown. Small size eggs are stronger; larger eggs, while more fragile, lend themselves better to a more elaborate design.

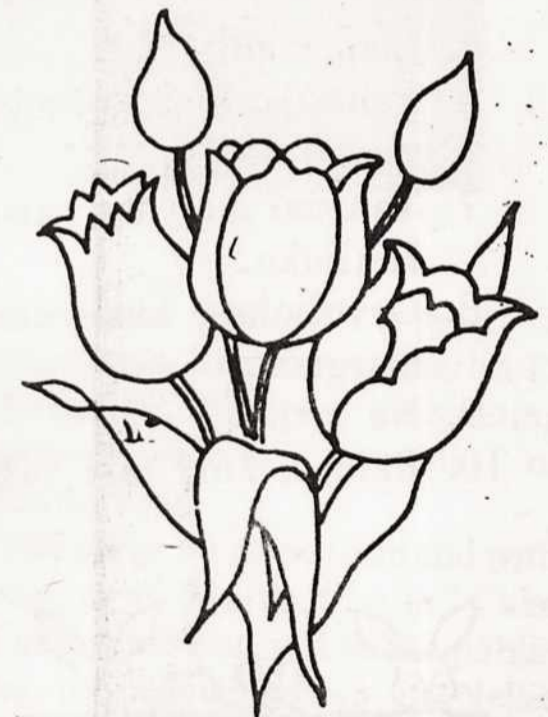
To obtain various dark colors, place the onion-dyed eggs in packaged Easter egg dyes or food coloring. Green and purple dyes give very interesting effects.

When each egg has dried thoroughly, place a dab of shortening on a soft cloth or paper towel, and rub each egg to add luster and to protect the color.

Decorating the Eggs

When the egg has cooled, it is best to begin by partitioning the egg vertically, horizontally and diagonally with a pencil or knife. The design may then be drawn in these areas and scratched away with a knife. By scratching away the dye, a graceful and delicate design appears on the exposed eggshell.

To add extra luster and protection, the egg may be coated with clear nail polish.



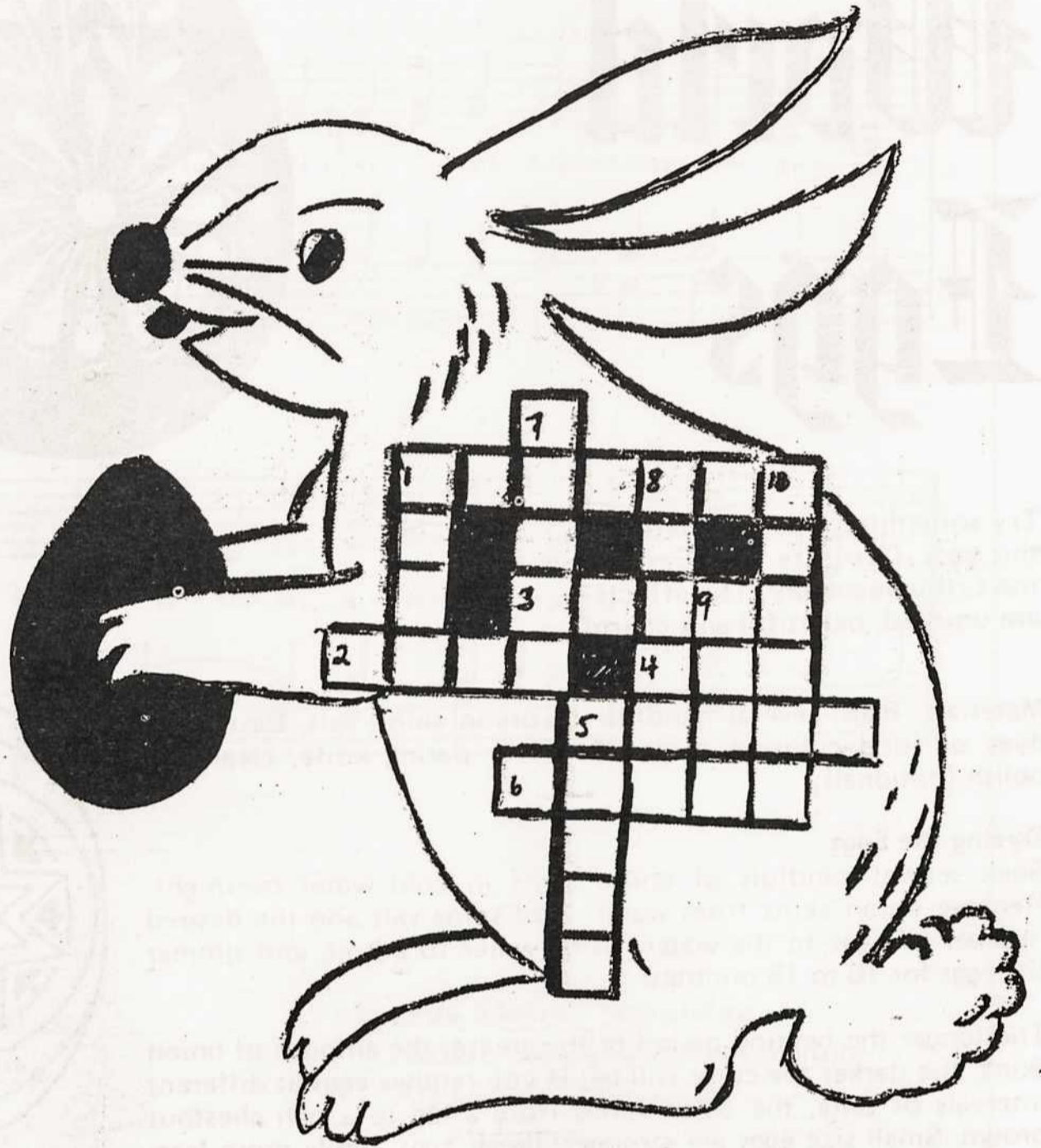
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14 Main St., Park Ridge, Ill. 60068

JUNIORS CORNER

KRYZIAZODIS

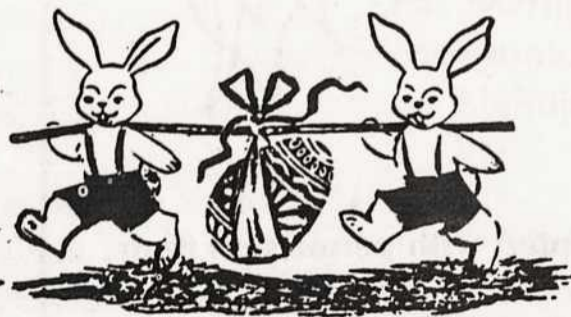
Skersai:

1. Šio mėnesio didžiausia šventė.
2. Kūno dalis, su kuria vaikščiojame.
3. Paukštis, kuris deda kiaušinius.
4. Žodelis, dažnai dedamas su žodžiu "tol".
5. Žmogus baltais plaukais yra
6. Naminis paukštis.



Žemyn:

1. Liepia eiti.
5. Paukštis, kurio plunksnas galima vartoti rašymui.
7. Tamsiai mėlynas vaisius su kauliuku.
8. Gyvuliukas, kuris atneša margučius.
9. Ne arti.
10. Baldas, kurį rasi valgomajame.



Kryžiažodis. Skersai: 1. Velykos, 2. koja, 3. višta, 4. kol, 5. žilas, 6. žąsis, 7. žąsis, 8. kiškis, 9. toli, 10 stalas. Žemyn: 1. varo, 5. žąsis, 7. slyva, 8. kiaušinis, 9. toli, 10 stalas.

Vyčiai Veikia



Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT



C-10 — ATHOL- GARNER

Our council with the untiring efforts of Fr. Steponaitis sponsored the annual February 16 commemoration of the 67th Anniversary of the Restoration of Lithuania's Independence. The festivities began with Mass for Suffering Lithuania in St. Francis Church, Athol.

Fr. Justin was celebrant and gave an appropriate sermon for the day. The gifts were presented by Irene Adamaitis and Bill Wisniauskas. Valius Rozevicius was soloist with Olga Kersis at the organ. The church was attractively decorated in our national colors. Father wore a set of Lithuanian vestments in our tricolors. Both national hymns were sung after Mass. It was most impressive. Following Mass our girls served brunch.

The observance continued in the parish hall at 1:30 p.m. President Wisniauskas gave the address of welcome and called upon Rev. Anthony Miciunas MIC of St. Casimir's of Worcester to give the invocation. A capacity audience including many young people attended.



Irene Adamaitis Main Speaker



Bill Wisniauskas C-10 President



Boston Lithuanian Dance Group performing

The main speaker was Irene Adamaitis, a principal in the Worcester School System. Her theme "Lithuanianism Through the Eyes of a Third Generation Lithuanian" was well received.

The Boston Lithuanian Dance Group under the direction of Ona and Gediminas Ivaska performed six folk dances and received a standing ovation.

Mr. Rozevicius sang five folk songs accompanied by Olga Kersis, both from Worcester.

Charles Genaitis read a proclamation by Mayor Charles E. McKean of Gardner designating February 16 as Republic of Lithuania Day.

The program came to an end with the singing of "Marija, Marija." Cake and coffee were served to the public under the chairmanship of Nellie Melaika.

Lennie Davidonis gathered together many old pictures of parish and K of L life which were displayed and attracted much attention.

Blanche & Charles Genaitis were the host and hostess. They pinned our tri-colors on all as they entered.

The Boston Dance Group enjoyed a delicious supper following the program. Bravo, K of L'ers and Fr. Steponaitis, for a job well done.

In memory of Pauline Rogers, Lennie Davidonis started a fund-raising campaign for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty. It was a project Pauline had in mind before she was suddenly called to her eternal rest. Donations may be sent to Lennie at 125 South St., Athol, MA.
Vincukas

C-17 — BOSTON

Council 17 has a tradition of holding its Christmas party after the new year. This year's party took place on January 12. The holiday festivities were observed until midnight. Over a hundred members, relatives and friends gathered to observe the Yuletide Season for an evening of Christmas hymns and carols (kalėdinės giesmės), followed by folk songs and exchange of gifts.

It should be noted that other Lithuanian organizations are complaining about a fall-off in membership. Our Knights are holding out pretty strong. This in part is due to the sincere efforts of Alexander Akule, council president for a number of years. A president without help is like a bird without wings (pirmininkas be pagalbininkų yra kaip paukštis be sparnų). Council 17 is fortunate in having many concerned and active members.

In addition to official business, cultural, religious and Lithuanian affairs at regular meetings, matters are brought up and discussed. The local committees for these special issues are active.

Council 17 is also proud of the fact that Spiritual Advisor Fr. Albert Contons gave the invocation during the observance of Lithuanian Independence Day on the floor of the

US House of Representatives. Originally, if you follow the Lithuanian press, you will note that newly-elected Bishop Paulius Baltakis was to give the invocation on February 20. However, he was scheduled to depart for Australia that same day.

When this was ascertained by the Lithuanian American Council (ALTAS), our own Fr. Contons was called upon. Father Albert is the current president of the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Priests League of America. Our diocese honored Father Albert by designating him Diocesan Vicar of the South Boston Region.

APUOKAS

C-103 — PROVIDENCE

On June 7, 1984, the Rhode Island House of Representatives passed a resolution requesting the Governor to issue a proclamation in commemoration of February 16, Lithuanian Independence Day. The proclamation was read on February 15 in the Executive Chamber of Governor Edward DePrete.

Many Lithuanians, including K of L'ers, were present. The women wore Lithuanian national costumes.

The Lithuanian flag flew over the State House on February 16 as it did at the home of Vic and Bea Mathieu in Bristol. Council President Joe Waitonis arranged and coordinated this meaningful event.

After leaving the Executive Chambers, the Lithuanian delegation was invited to the Rhode Island House of Representatives where Rep. Gaetano (Kelly) Parella conducted the official commemoration. Rep. J. Casinelli of Providence read an article by Antanas Valiuskis of Barrington which was published in the local newspaper.

At the February council meeting First Degrees were conferred upon Peter Kuprevich, Father Iz. Gedvila, Vito Molis, Anthony Sidla, Veronica

Kiela, Vytautas Sakalys, Edward Gatula, Elizabeth Tribuisis, Milda Traskauskas, Evelyn Molis, John & Natalie Gervelis.

Second Degree recipients were Victor Mathieu, Alice Grybas, Anne Labutti, Raymond & Rita Savickas.

Our St. Casimir celebration consisted of Holy Mass at our parish church. After the business meeting, we had brunch at Valle's Steak House in Warwick. A special St. Casimir's program was prepared by the members of C-103 Lithuanian Class.

Professor Fr. Jurgelaitis spoke on "Poets in Praise of Our Patron." Before and after his talk, the class — and we all joined them — sang two hymns to St. Casimir, "Lietuva Brangi" and other Lithuanian folk songs.

Helen Denisewich

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

LINKSMŪ
VELYKŪ
ŠVENČIŪ



C-100 — AMSTERDAM

A special Mass was held on February 9 at St. Casimir's Church in commemoration of the 67th anniversary of Lithuania's independence. Celebrant and homilist was Rev. Robert K. Baltch. Polly Ziausys and Assemblyman Paul D. Tonko gave the readings. The offertory gifts were presented by Jadvyga Regina, Regina Kot, Eleanor Olechowski, Polly Ziausys, Gerard Drenzek, Vincent Rossi and members of Lazdynas Dancers of Rochester. Amsterdam Mayor Mario Villa was present. St. Casimir's Choir with organist John Nye sang English and Lithuanian hymns.

The dinner program followed in the Social Center. Some 130 people from Albany, Schenectady, Menands, Syracuse, Rochester, Gloversville and Amsterdam attended. The commemoration began with the presentation of the colors by Gerard Drenzek and Vincent Rossi accompanied by a group in Lithuanian dress. The Star Spangled Banner, Lietuva Tėvynė and Vyčių Himnas followed.

The invocation was by Rev. Anthony Grigaitis. Vice President Gobis welcomed the guests. Vincent Rossi was master of ceremonies.

Greetings were extended by Assemblyman Paul D. Tonko. A resolution which he co-sponsored was read in the Assembly for the proclamation of February 16 as Lithuanian Day. Proclamations by Mayor Mario Villa and Governor Mario M. Cuomo honored Lithuania in the city and New York State. Greetings from Congressman Samuel S. Stratton were received.

Mr. Rossi recognized David Pietrusza for his article in the Recorder on Vladas Sakalys.

Rev. Baltch commented, "Freedom of Lithuania persists. Creative nations do not die." He also talked about the paintings by Lithuanian artists on display in the Social Center.

Dr. John Juozevicius of Chicago, who is continuing his studies on rheumatology in Albany Medical Center, was the principal speaker. He spoke briefly on the early history of Lithuania. His main topic dealt with the time of his grandfather, Aleksandras Stulginskis, one of the signers of the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence in 1918 and his term of office as president.

His grandfather, the youngest of 12 children, was fortunate to receive his higher education through the monetary help of older brothers from USA. After completing his studies in agriculture in Germany, he returned

to Lithuania in 1915 where he worked in Vilnius for the Lithuanian Relief Service. From this organization grew the foundation of the Lithuanian Council which eventually wrote and signed the declaration.

After serving as president from 1920-1926, he retired to the countryside. When the Russians occupied the country, he refused to flee against the advice of his friends. In June of 1941, he and his wife were among the first to be exiled to Siberia. Their daughter, Dr. Juozevicius' mother, was studying in Kaunas. In the chaos of the deportation, she was overlooked. His grandparents were separated. Stulginskis was placed in a concentration camp; however, he survived. When Stalin died, Stulginskis returned to Lithuania to spend his final years in peace. He died of natural causes in 1969.

He concluded saying, "All we can hope for is that the words of the Lithuanian Himnas are true — that it is a nation of heroes. I believe that we have ample and undeniable evidence that it is."

The program continued with the Lazdynas Folk Dancers of Rochester under the direction of Jadvega

Regina, coordinator of the Cleveland Folk Dance Festival. "Oželis" by the male performers and "Kepurinė" danced by the girls were outstanding. The audience expressed their appreciation by a vigorous round of applause.

Vice President Gobis thanked Sophie Olbie and her committee. A special thank you was extended to members for donating hors d'oeuvres. The centerpiece was won by James Jasewicz, son of William & Beatrice. Twelve members of their family attended.

Benediction by the Rev. Matthew Cyvas, pastor of St. George's Church, Albany, concluded the program.

Vice President Gobis presided at the February meeting due to death in the family of President Radzevich. Our sincere sympathies are extended to the family on the loss of Helen Togaila, sister-in-law of Ann Radzevich.

The refreshments committee chaired by Frances DiBart surprised Father Baltch with a huge birthday cake. Everyone wished him happy birthday in song.

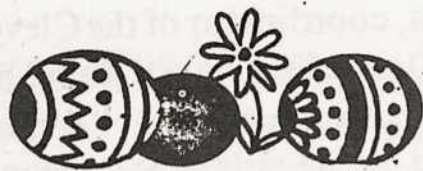
Smile & Sparkle



C-100 Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Baltch receives birthday greetings



Lazdynas Lithuanian Dancers perform for Independence Day commemoration



C-140 — SYRACUSE

Syracuse's Festival of Nations 1984 was a great success. Each year, for the last 16 years, the interest and enthusiasm continues to grow. The various nations who participate return with new pep and vigor. The public continues to attend in record numbers. They just don't grow tired of the festival.

Our Lithuanian booth again was a successful venture. The exhibit area was very attractive with a wide variety of artifacts. Thanks to Marge Migonis and her associates. The food area was sold out again. Our famous potato pancakes "blynai" sell like hotcakes. Each year many people return for their potato pancakes. We have no competition as the other nations are afraid of the hard work. Our mushroom cookies and other cookies were sold out along with many gallons of cider.

The food area was chaired by Catherine & Jack Brandt, the cookies by Katherine Cravetts and Veronica Sutkus. Irene Petrauskas was greeting hostess. Booth chairman was Frank Petrauskas. All were assisted by a number of fine and able helpers. Hard work continues to make us successful.

On December 9, members attended Mass at St. Stephen's and then went to the Top-O-the-Hill Restaurant for a council sponsored brunch. Much delicious food was enjoyed by all. This was our last get-together before Christmas so season's greetings and much good cheer were exchanged.

I leave you with this closing thought: Morality does not make a Christian; yet no person can be a Christian without morality.

Pusbrolis

C-152 — RIVERHEAD

Greetings to all from beautiful Long Island!

Our very newly-formed council has been very active since it was founded in October 1984. In spite of inclement weather and traveling long distances, our meetings were well attended. Most gratifying about these meetings is that several new members joined each time. Last county, we had 45 members.

After our February meeting, we had an Easter egg decorating demonstration by our secretary, Julie Lott. We all enjoyed it and hope that our eggs come out as beautiful as hers.

A first that we are very proud of, thanks to the efforts of our president, Alice Graff, was that the towns of Riverhead, Southold and Southampton issued proclamations on the occasion of the 67th anniversary of Lithuanian independence. As far as we know, this was the first time this was done in this area and are happy for this recognition. Thanks for a job well done, Alice!

We had our first Christmas party and our first communion and brunch, both of which were a huge success both spiritually and socially.

Looking ahead, we are planning a Lithuanian Festival on September 15 in Greenport. Plans are progressing nicely. We hope that all Knights and friends from near and far will keep this date in mind and plan to be with us. We'll try to have something of interest for everyone. The more, the merrier!

Welcome back to Flo Ostroski and her family who spent a lovely vacation in Hawaii. Glad you enjoyed, Flo.

That's about it for this time around. Happy Easter to all!

Beatrice Lucka



C-18 — HAZLETON

C-18 Knights held a short program at the West Hazleton Borough Annex in observance of an important date in the history of Lithuania — the independence of Lithuania on February 16, 1918.

Due to a frozen line on the flagpole, the program was held indoors. Prayers were offered by the Rev. Frank Skitzki, pastor Ss. Peter & Paul's Lithuanian Church. Proclamations from Gov. Dick Thornburgh, West Hazleton Mayor Bernard Rockovich and Hazleton Mayor James Paisley were read.

In charge of the program were Doris Shanagan, chairman; John Lapinsky, coordinator and Albert Launikonis, president. "The small country enjoyed its independence until 1940 when it was annexed by Russia," the program chairman said.

The February meeting featured Philip Gaughn, Director of Development at Bishop Hafey High School, as guest speaker. He spoke on building resources for the future and supporting Catholic education.

John Lapinsky chaired St. Casimir's Day. Mass was read by Father Skitski, our spiritual advisor. A program followed.

Alma Lanikonis

C-63 — LEHIGH VALLEY

Lehigh Valley Knights and their guests were reminded of the power of prayer at a luncheon February 17 commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day. The crowd of 127 gathered at the Sheraton Inn, Easton, was the largest in the three years that Lehigh Valley held commemorations.

The group heard brief speeches from Marian Skabeikis, chief translation editor of the Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania; Bishop Thomas Welsh of the Allentown Diocese and US Representative Don Ritter, Lehigh and Northampton counties.

"The Soviet government fears the influence the Catholic Church still holds in Lithuania," Mrs. Skabeikis said. "For that reason, the number of seminarians is limited, popular priests are ordered transferred to isolated parishes and bishops are exiled. Children who attend church

services face harassment and educational discrimination."

"People concerned about religious persecution can write letters to the Soviet government and directly to prisoners of conscience. The prisoners won't get the letters, but their jailers will and will know that people outside are watching," Mrs. Skabeikis said. She emphasized the importance of prayer, organized and personal.

Bishop Welsh pointed out the prevalence of the devotion of different ethnic groups to Mary, the mother of Jesus. "She has been the

object of prayers and devotion from Portugal to Ireland to Poland to Lithuania," the Bishop said. He, too, encouraged Lithuanian-Americans to pray and to write letters protesting Soviet policy toward the Catholic Church and its members.

Ritter said that discussion of human rights violations by the Soviets should be part of any upcoming arms-reduction negotiations with the USSR. "Many of you have first-hand experience with the Soviet system, and you must be my advisers," Ritter said.



Knights from C-63, Lehigh Valley, C-143 Pittston, C-144 Anthracite and C-146 Harrisburg witnessed the signing of the Lithuanian Independence Day Proclamation by Gov.

Dick Thornburgh at the State Capitol in Harrisburg. Annie Morgalis, seated at extreme right, is Lithuanian Commissioner



C-1— Hazleton remembered their history with flag-raising ceremonies in commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day



Flag-raising at Allentown City Hall



Congressman Ritter speaking at Easton Sheraton luncheon

State Representative Robert Freeman of Easton, Bethlehem Mayor Paul Marcincin and Allentown Councilman Benjamin Howells presented resolutions marking the occasion.

Len Barcoucky, president, reported on progress the group is making in involving entire families in council activities and in drawing non-Lithuanians to its public events.

Al Klizas served as master of ceremonies. The invocation was given by the Rev. Thomas J. Benestad, administrator of St. Michael's Church in Easton, the traditional Lithuanian Catholic parish.

The luncheon concluded a weekend of activities marking Lithuanian Independence Day. Father Benestad celebrated a special Mass at St. Michael's as part of the commemoration. The service featured Lithuanian choir music and the presentation of traditional gifts. The gifts were brought by Mary Sabol, Jeanette Klizas, Victor & Blanche Pittnick, Janet Pettit and Mark Simmons. John Lushis was lector. The choir was directed by Ben Aponavicius.

Commemoration ceremonies began February 15 when Mayors

Marcincin of Bethlehem, Joseph Daddona of Allentown and Salvatore Panto of Easton raised yellow, green and red flags in their cities.

In Bethlehem Mayor Marcincin recalled his own Slovak heritage. His proclamation called for the people of Bethlehem to support Lithuanian aspirations for independence. About 10 people attended this event.

"We are fortunate in Allentown and in America to be one of the few countries where groups of citizens can gather next to the flag of their own nation and raise the flag of another country, recognizing that country's struggle for freedom", Daddona told the two dozen people gathered in Allentown.

Joseph Ogint, vice president, spoke briefly on Lithuania as a free nation. He said, "The Russians have swallowed up but cannot digest Lithuania."

A choir sang the Lithuanian Himnas at the flag-raising ceremonies in Easton which were attended by about 30 people. The Rev. James M. Torpey, assistant pastor of St. Jane Frances deChantel, Wilson, gave the invocation. Mayor Panto read the Independence Day Proclamation.

Len Barcoucky

C-144 — ANTHRACITE

Commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day opened with Mass for the Persecuted Church of Lithuania, celebrated by the Rev. Daniel Yenushosky, pastor, in St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair. Offertory gifts were presented by Joni Reinhart, Rita Shevokas, Gloria Dauchess, Olympia Zelinski and Helen Chesko. The Žarija Choir under the direction of Eleanor Vaicaitis sang Lithuanian hymns.

In his homily, Father Dan urged Lithuanian-Americans to continue to pray for a free Lithuania.

Lithuanian food prepared by President Wargo, Ginner Kazlauskas, Frances Brillus and Charles & Leona Taronis was served to a capacity crowd of members and friends of Anthracite Council. Council members assisted in serving, and cakes were donated by a large group of members. Anne Zaldaris was in charge of tickets and raffle.

Sister Angela CJC, her Frackville Junior Knights and Knights presented a Lithuanian Mardi Gras — Užgavėnės.

Highlighting the program was the presentation of "The Story of Kukis

and Gugis", Vinco Krėvė's Lithuanian folk tale, by the Frackville Junior Knights. Kukis and Gugis delighted the audience with their amusing performance.

Paul Domalakes as matchmaker did not succeed in finding a mate for Anne Sikora. John Joseph as the priest was on hand to tie the knot. However, Paul's talented band of Leona Joseph, Agnes Tamashasky, Elsie Kosmisky, Anne Sikora, Anna Peleauskas, Annie Wargo and Joni Reinhart added merriment to the occasion.

Joe Yezulinas as Ole Man Winter failed to quell the merrymakers.

Elsie Kosmisky and Anne Wargo extolled the virtues of good eating while Joni Reinhart and Eleanor Vaicaitis presented the virtues of lenten fasting.

The Frackville Junior Knights also entertained with folk songs and dances.

On the serious side, Sister Virginia Mary CJC of Elmhurst,

author of "Praise the Lord All Ye Nations," a history of Lithuania, addressed the assemblage on "Free Lithuania." Summarizing the accomplishments from 1918 to 1940, she closed with a plea for prayers and continued efforts so that Lithuania will be released from the bonds of the Soviets.

The Rev. Matthew Jarasunas of Our Lady of Siluva opened the program with prayer, and Father Dan gave the closing blessing.

Jhn Domalakes served as master of ceremonies. Vice President Eleanor Vaicaitis coordinated the commemoration.

Schuylkill County Commissioners Sheers, Shollenberger and Higgins signed a proclamation for the commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day in recognition of the contributions and courage of the Lithuanians here and abroad.

Governor Dick Thornburgh also proclaimed February 16 as a day honoring Lithuania in the Com-

monwealth of Pennsylvania. Annie Morgalis, Lithuanian Commissioner on the Governor's Committee, was accompanied by Anne Sikora, Rita Shevokas, and Eleanor Vaicaitis to witness the signing of the proclamation at the State Capitol in Harrisburg.

Our February meeting followed Lithuanian Mass for deceased member of our council celebrated by the Rev. Matthew Jarasunas at Our Lady of Siluva.

Sister Angela CJC announced the dates of summer camp as follows: Day Camp, St. George Grove, Brandonville, June 24-28, ages from third grade and up; Junior K of L Camp, July 7-13, Elmhurst, third grade to 16 years; American-Lithuanian Camp, July 14-27, Elmhurst, third grade to 16 years. For further information, please contact Sister Angela, 25 S. Broad Mountain Ave., Frackville, PA 17931.

Velykų rytas



Ak rytmečiai,
Ak rytmečiai tie tolimieji,
Kada plačiai
Kaip vandenys giesmė laukus užlieja
Ir bokšte prikėlia ošimą ilgą ilgą;
Kai pirmutinė smilga
Nedrasiai stiebias pažiūrėti,
Kaip mūs laukų grumsteliai žiburėti —
Ne, ne! kaip paauksuotos tavo rankos žvilga.

Ir Tu eini,
Tu, Užmirštasis, tris kartus eini.
O gluosnių pumpurai raini,
Plaukuoti tarsi kirmėlaitės
Ant tavo tako susiraite
Ir nusižeminę vis renkasi prie kojų,
Lyg prieš savaite
Mes palmių Tau su mirtomis nebūtum klojė.

O šiandien vėl Tu mus kvieti.
Pagruodžiu dunda žingsniai mūs kieti.
Jau tuoj, jau tuoj prinokusiom su diršėm
Ir mes nusvirsim —
Visi mes paskutinio vėjo pakąsti
Nusvirsim prieš Tave, auksinis Tu Kviety!

Ak rytmečiai,
Ak rytmečiai tie tolimieji,
Kada plačiai
Lyg vandenys giesmė laukus užlieja
Ir bokšte prikėlia ošimą ilgą ilgą,
Tada ir mes lyg pirmutinė smilga
Nedrasiai stiebiams pasižiūrėti,
Kaip mūs laukų grumsteliai žiburėti —
Ne, ne! kaip paauksuotos tavo rankos žvilga.

ANTANAS JASMANTAS

C-96 "HONOR OUR YOUTH DAY"



Council 96 Juniors celebrating Honor Our Youth Day in Dayton



H. M. Mary Lucas with friends at Honor Our Youth Day in Dayton

DAYTON LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMEMORATION



Vytis Udrys watches as brothers, Almis and Darius dance the "Oželis" at Independence Day commemoration in Dayton



Udrys family of Jackson, MI entertain parishioners of Holy Cross Church in Dayton at Independence Day commemoration. Seated at piano Ruta Udrys (mother) and at far right is Arunas Udrys (father). On stage, Darius, Baltija, Vytis and Almis pipe "Saulutė tekėjo".

MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

For the 25th time, we hosted our "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day. The event was held in the Martinique Grand Ballroom with over 500 in attendance on February 3 with Algerd Brazis and Irene Sankus as co-chairmen. Committee members were Vince Samaska, Estelle Rogers, Joe & Val

Stanaitis, Al Mockus, Clemente Vidzius, Frank Svelnis, Al & Julie Zakarka, Emilija Pakalniškis, Ruth Kazlauskas, Sabina Klatt, Gerry Mack, AnnMarie Kassel, and Robert Zapolis.

Among our many distinguished guests were Hon. Members Bishop V. Brizgys and Consul General Josephine Dauzvardis, ALTAS President Theodoras Blinistrubas and our spiritual advisors, the Revs. A. Zakarauskas, V. Zakarauskas, A. Markus, F. Kereilis, I. Urbonas and P. Cibulskis

In this K of L Year of the Youth, we presented our Award of Distinction to Faustas Strolia and Frank Zapolis for their dedication to our Lithuanian youth. The evening's entertainment was provided by the Brothers Polikaitis and Strolia. Their program was dedicated to our two recipients.

The Memories Committee and other district workers were treated to a theater evening at the Drury Lane, compliments of the Martinique. All had an enjoyable evening.



"Memories of Lithuania" Banouet Co-Chairmen Algerd Brazis and Irene Sankus with Award of Distinction recipients Frank Zapolis and Faustas Strolia

Our K of L Choir held its Annual Benefit Dinner-Dance, K of L Building, on the coldest day of the winter. The event which was well attended and enjoyed by all, was planned by Choir President Sabina Klatt and Vice President Steve Rudokas. Faustas Strolia, choir director of 25 years, and former President Estelle Rogers were honored for their many contributions.

The K of L Choir performed during the City of Chicago's official commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day at Daley Civic Center on February 15.

A special district meeting was held in February to discuss the financial plight of the K of L Building due to the ever-increasing operating, maintenance and replacement costs.

Ritual Degrees were presented following C-112's regular meeting in February. District Ritual Chairman

AnnMarie Kassel conducted the ceremonies and First and Second Degrees were presented to members of C-36 and C-112.

The district was the recipient of two \$1000 gifts recently. One was an annual donation from former National Legal Advisor Konstant J. Savickus of C-5 and the other from the C-36 National Convention Committee. Everyone expressed their appreciation on their generosity.

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C-112 — CHICAGO

The January board meeting, hosted by Estelle Rogers, was very special. After concluding the council business, we celebrated the birthdays of District President Al Brazis and our hostess, Estelle. It was also the first social outing for President Paul Binkis Jr. after suffering a broken ankle in January.

Following the business meeting, our Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Rita Zakarka held a letter-writing session with excellent results. Following the February meeting, Ritual Degrees were presented as follows: First Degree, Bea Laurian, Aldona Brazis, Virginia Buzenas, Josephine & Peter Juzenas; Second



Musical program presented at Chicago's "Memories" Banouet by Darius Polikaitis (at piano), Paul, Thomas and John Strolia, Andrius Polikaitis and Matthew Strolia



Enjoying the District's "Memories" Banouet are C-112 members Al and Julie Zakara, Mr. and Mrs. A. Samaska, Gerry and John Chaplin (standing), Dolores Wainauskas, Frank and Lorraine Svelnis

DRAUGAS
4545 W. 63RD ST.
CHICAGO, IL 60629

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

Return Requested
Address Correction Requested



Degree to our efficient secretary Mary Juzenas. Serving on the Ritual Team were Canon V. Zakarauskas, Al Zakarka, Al Mockus and Ruth & Al Dagis.

As our February meeting was held on Shrove Tuesday, our social committee, Julie Zakarka and Louis Rogers, served delicious party goodies.

C-112 members were again in the forefront in making the District's 25th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet a grand success. Congrats to Al Brazis and Irene Sankus, Co-chairmen; M-C Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas; presenter, Charlotte Brazdzionis; committee members, Paul Binkis Jr., Emilija Pakalniškis, Mary Juzenas, Aldona Brazis, Joe & Val Stanaitis; helpers, Sophie Nieminskis and Irene Rakaitis and Alice Cekanor for her ticket-selling efforts.

To help defray mailing costs, another "Shopper's Day" was held at Dominick's, arranged by Susan Bolanos.

Condolences to the family of the late Dr. Joseph Jerome. In addition to being active in the K of L, he was also a former National President of



More C-112 members at the Districts "Memories" dinner: Bernardine and Louis Rogers, Al Mockus and Guest, Maria and Ed Deksnis, Albert Matulis (standing) Mary Juzenas, Ed and Anele Pocius.

Photos by Jonas Tamulaitis

the LRCF and many other organizations.

On February 16, Lithuanian Independence Day, our Cultural Chairman Susan Bolanos arranged for a bus trip and tour to the Chicago Historical Society to view "Making Music — Chicago Style" which traces the history of music in Chicago. As our K of L Choir is one of the oldest ethnic choirs in the city,

it is represented in the exhibit with various photo materials and an authentic costume on loan from Loretta Grigaliunas. The exhibit information was supplied by former Choir President Estelle Rogers. Members from the K of L Choir and C-36 joined us for this most unusual and appropriate commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day.

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May Easter Day and the days to come hold much happiness and many blessings for you.



Supreme Council Officers and the "VYTIS" Staff