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Turėjau ir aš motiną,
Buvau ir aš žmogus.
Laikas mane apnuogino,
Laikas mano vagis.



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JUNIOR COUNCILS

The formation of our youth.

THE AMSTERDAM JUNIORS



Juniors performing at Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration in Albany: Joseph Kot, Judianne Nikstenas, Kristin Olechowski, Joseph Nikstenas and Counselor Regina Kot.

The activities of Junior Knights are designed to help them gain knowledge, to instill in them a desire to fulfill their responsibilities to their community, and to develop their leadership potential — all this, but also to have a lot of fun.

It is important to find a good counselor for your junior group — someone who will encourage them and also “push” them to realize just what they really are able to do.

The Juniors of Amsterdam, NY, under the guidance of Mrs. Regina Kot, have mixed fun and pleasure to learn about and keep their “Lithuanianism” alive.

Last fall, they attended the Festival of Nations in Albany, where they spoke to members of the Lazdynas Lithuanian Folk Dancers about various dances they were trying to learn themselves. The dancers willingly offered them information, encouraging them to continue in their endeavors. The profits from the festival are being used for scholarships to Lithuanian heritage camp.

Christmas time saw them sharing in Lithuania’s response to the international holiday spirit. Their presence at the Schenectady Museum’s Christmas Tree exhibit expressed their enjoyment in sharing their Lithuanian heritage with others.

In February, nervous and courageous Amsterdam Juniors ventured to Albany to sing for their Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration. They even surprised their own leaders with the superb performance that they gave. Accepting this challenge and having done well at it has heightened their self-confidence.

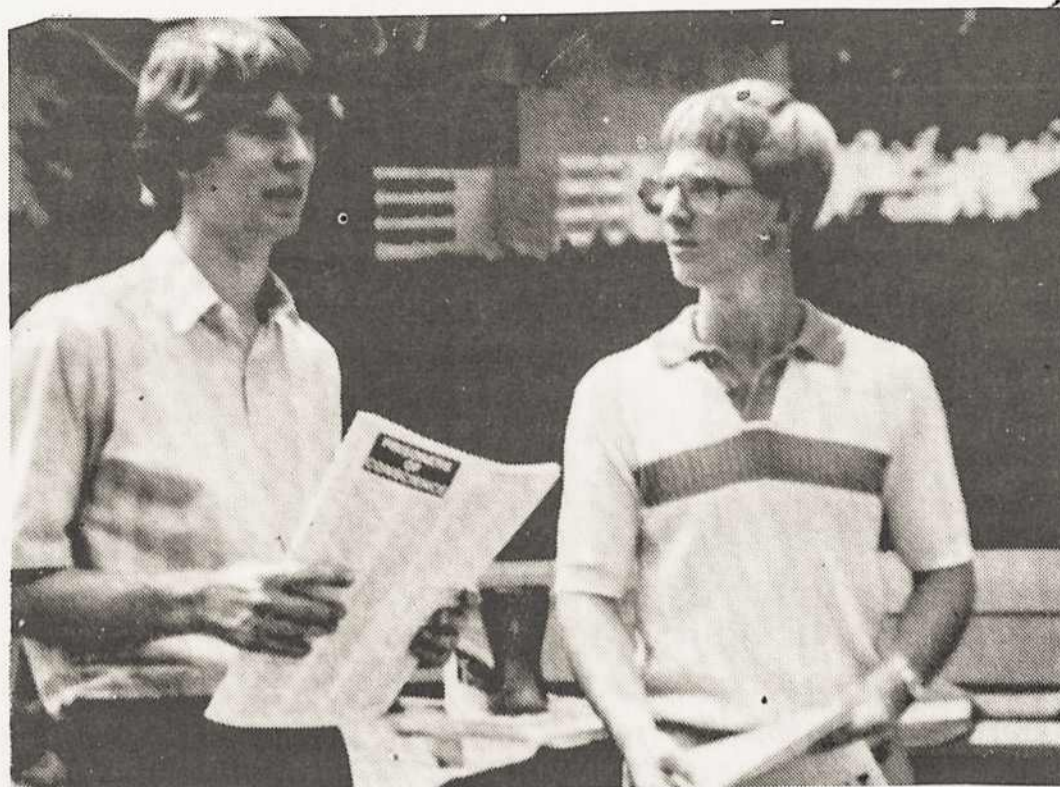


Amsterdam Juniors receiving the First Degree at St. Casimir’s Communion Luncheon: First Row: Richard Jasewicz, Judianne Nikstenas, Joseph Kot; Second Row: Kenneth Jasewicz, Rev. Robert Baltch, Spiritual Advisor; Kristin Olechowski, Joseph Nikstenas.

Just recently they enjoyed decorating Lithuanian easter eggs at their March meeting. Then with the seriousness of accomplished artists, they showed their masterpieces off to their family, friends and members of C-100.

All members of C-100 were very proud of these youngsters when, at their St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast-Luncheon, Spiritual Advisor Rev. Robert Baltch bestowed the first degree upon President Joe Nikstenas, Vice-President Judy Nikstenas, Secretary Kristen Olechowski, Treasurer Kenneth Jasewicz, Joseph Kot and Richard Jasewicz.

It is from the ranks of the Juniors, that Michael Mikolaitis and Gerard Drenzek, two very active C-100 members developed. The juniors appreciate their continued concern and encouragement. They also thank all members of the K of L for their help and united support of their youthful, sometimes awkward attempts to grow as Lithuanian-Americans.



Gerard Drenzek and Michael Mikolaitis assist at Captive Nations Exhibit at Empire State Plaza, Albany.



Mama, Tell Me How The Lilacs Bloom

translated by Antonia M. Wackell

Mama, tell me how the lilacs bloom?
Tell me, are they fragrant and what are its flowers?
Tell me, whether in our distant native land
Are there many lilacs, did you see them?

And in our native country, there, where we lived,
There where I, Mother, you said that I was born:
There close to our new, close to the demolished home
Aren't there lilacs growing? In the photograph I saw...

Nighttimes the spreading lilacs bloom for me;
Nighttimes their flowering blossoms smell to me,
In dreams I return to my beloved motherland,
In dreams I always walk along the banks of the Neman...

Do put on your kerchief, you know out of doors it is so cold.
At this time in our native land, perhaps, it is beautiful,
They say that the orchards are now white with blossoms...
And when do the lilacs bloom?...at the same time?

Mama, aren't you listening? What are you thinking about?
Wrap up your kerchief, let us return to the room
It is cold, so uncomfortable in this May weather...
It always blows and blows this restless north wind.

—Ona Lukauskaite
(A displaced Person's Poem in Siberia)



Vargo mokykla

School of Strife

Domicelė Genaitytė

MOTHERS: TWO KINDS

Reprinted from BRIDGES

The Pirčiupis Mother in Lithuania and the Mother of Mercy in the Vilnius Gate of Dawn chapel are two different kinds of mothers. Both mothers suffered the worst heartbreak a woman can be subjected to — the loss of her children. Study their faces and the very stance of their bodies and it becomes evident how lack of spirituality in the Pirčiupis Mother embitters and petrifies the soul while the spirituality of the Mother of Mercy transforms a woman, through agony, into a luminous being on a different, higher level of existence.

The Pirčiupis Mother looms gaunt and bitter, dignified but profoundly pitiable in her grief. She is the epitome of human tragedy. Suffering has not transformed her. She is disillusioned and ready for vengeance. Historically, she is the end product of communist society.

The Mother of Mercy, widely known as Our Lady of Vilnius, with her downcast eyes and hands crossed, is a picture of a woman who has unquestioningly accepted the Cross of the Son she carried in her womb and over whose dead body she wept. She has learned quiet wisdom. She accepts the will of God, that superior, loving, omniscient Intelligence which transcends time and space and our own limited minds to lead humanity towards perfection.

The Pirčiupis Mother stands as a memorial to Bolshevik self righteousness and vengefulness. In 1944 communist partisans, trained in the Soviet, parachuted into Lithuania and, firing on a German convoy, killed five soldiers, precipitating the massacre of the village of Pirčiupis. The Nazis, bent on retaliation against terrorist activity, sent a

punitive squad which encircled the village. Men, women and children were driven into barns and cabins which were set afire. The execution lasted three hours and the village smoldered until the following morning. One hundred nineteen people were killed, sixty nine of them children. Soviet propagandists exploited this tragedy by glorifying the deeds of partisan communists.

Our Lady of Vilnius, enshrined in the Gate of Dawn chapel, has comforted Lithuanians with strength and hope through centuries of suffering inflicted by Russians. In 1655 when Vilnius, attacked by Moscovites, burned for seventeen days, the portrait of Our Lady remained unharmed. In 1715 fire destroyed the chapel but Carmelites saved Our Lady. In 1927 Pope Pius XI recognized the miraculous quality of the representation of the Virgin, so beloved through centuries; he permitted it to be solemnly crowned and granted the title of Mary, Mother of Mercy. Pilgrims in large numbers would travel from afar to the shrine, especially the third Sunday after Easter and November 16, feast of the Mother of Mercy. Despite the Soviet depredation of religion, people gather daily, kneel and pray on the sidewalks.

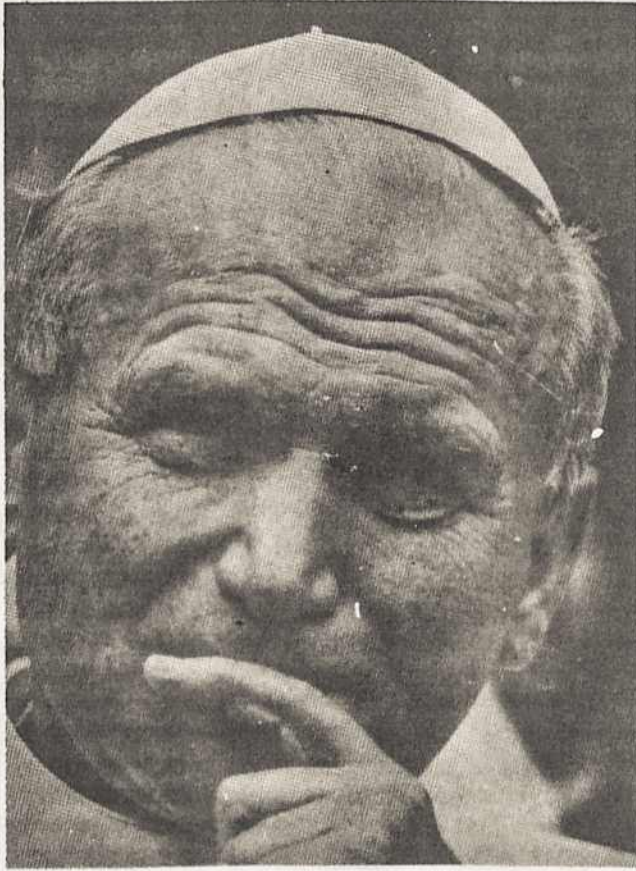
Comparing the representations of two mothers, we see how each influences her children and helps direct their lives. The Pirčiupis Mother does not give her children much hope for the future. She stands gaunt and harsh, an official tribute to the "liberating" forces of communism. The Mother of Mercy glows with historied hope in mankind's future and with confidence in the liberating forces which Christ's way of life generates.



Mother of Mercy

Pirčiupis Mother





POPE ASKS YOUTH: Fight Evil, Not One Another

In an apostolic letter to the world's youth, Pope John Paul II urges them to reject rampant cynicism, materialism and promiscuity, and help ensure that the earth "will not be turned into the graveyard of nuclear death."

The letter, titled "To the Youth of the World," was dated Palm Sunday to coincide with a meeting the Pope had that day in Rome with 150,000 young people from 60 nations. The event was one of many planned to celebrate the United Nations' proclamation of 1985 as International Youth Year.

In the 62-page document the Pope speaks at length of the many factors that make youth "a key stage in the life of every human being." The young were told to fight against "the real evil," which means struggling against "everything that profanes human society and human relationships" and "every crime against life." The Pontiff also warns against modern tendencies to ignore all but material reality.

After calling the conscience "the most important dimension of time and history," the Pope asks youth to live the Ten Commandments, and never to lose sight of the superior, spiritual dimension.

A special edition of the letter, the "blue book" (named for its bright blue cover), is ready for worldwide distribution, says Bishop Paul Cordes, vice-president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity. Its audience is the 16- to 30-year-old age-group.

The book is printed in seven languages and is supplemented by Scripture selections around which the Pontiff wrote his letter. Copies will be sent to bishops' conferences with the suggestion that they be reproduced for use with youth.

Why We Should Pray

To Mary...

by ANNE KAPLA

Sometimes there are differences of opinion among people on the subject of praying to the Mother of God and asking for her intercession with her Son, on our behalf.

Certain people will say, "why pray to Mary? Isn't it better to pray directly to Christ? After all, one needs no advocate as in the case of human affairs. The human law does not apply here."

This sort of talk shows that some people have forgotten that Christ himself gave us a beautiful example of what Mary's intercession can do.

He performed his first miracle at her request.

When at the wedding in Cana, the host found that there was no more wine, Mary asked her Son if he could help. And in spite of saying, "Woman, my hour has yet not come," he nevertheless granted her request and turned water into wine.

Should we forget this great example of Christ's devotion to his Mother? What better proof of Mary's powerful influence do we need?

While dying on the cross at the time of his greatest suffering he did not forget her. He commanded Saint John to take care of her as if she were his own mother.

Does that not show that Mary is someone special and to ignore this fact is very unwise.

Mary's love for us is so deep that she made appearances on earth to instruct us, show her motherly affection, and warn us to mend our ways.

Do the great shrines where she is honored and where for centuries miracles occurred not testify to the fact that prayers to the Queen of Heaven were heard and answered?

And yet some people think that the woman whom Saint Elizabeth greeted with heaven-inspired words, "Hail, Mary, full of grace the Lord is with thee," is unable to help us with our problems.

Surely, this most pure human being whom God The Father deemed worthy of becoming the mother of His only Son, is also worthy of our trust in her ability to help us in our needs.



to
MOM



To honor his mother on the occasion of her 100th birth-day, Joseph J. Malin, member of C-90, Kearny, NJ wrote the following article. Veronica Malin was born in Kaunas, Lithuania in March 1885. Her son has recorded some thoughts she expresses on the secret of longevity, plus a brief history:

MY MOTHER'S SECRET TO LONGEVITY

Early life began with three sisters and one brother which dwindled to just herself and her brother — from whom she was separated by the death of her parents. Reared by relatives prior to migration to the USA in her late teens. Married and gave birth to five sons and widowed for 58 years, during which time 5 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, plus one great-great-grandchild were added to the family tree. She loved life exactly as it evolved though struggle was routine. Feels life justified strength of character regardless of consequence to demonstrate honesty and purity of purpose which leads to eternal happiness.

"Would you please let me do the clothes and dishes by hand, I could do them just as fast." This quote made almost daily by her. She thinks persistence, diligence, stamina with desire must all be coordinated and directed with ambition to achieve goal in the performance of a choice of a task. To be any age can participate in this freedom of enterprise its tapered effect produces talent beyond comprehension. For it is joy in accomplishment. A great display of active happiness blended with augment power of human creativity whose sources are infinitely eternal. Can't you feel the majesty that is you whoever you are. A little girl who never went to school, who never learned to read or to write, who just felt His presence and who accepted it all in her very self. She wants to share her secret with you — "Love of God". It shall triumphantly overshadow all absence of light. This same little girl, though orphaned at age 5, cannot name or remember who taught her "the Ten Commandments", but who at age 100, could still recite them poetically as learned from an unknown teacher. She feels one need never stay in the dark for abundance is there in the desire cultivated by the awareness of a heavenly existence. It is a radiant source that lifts one beyond a weak endurance into divine brilliance.

Joseph J. Malin

This oration was read at a reception for Veronica Malin held at St. Michael's Church, Port Richey, Florida on 3-21-85. Two of her sons are priests, Rev. Peter and Rev. George Malin, pastor of St. Michael's.

Mamytė

Mano mamytė yra graži,
Mano mamytė yra meili.
Jos meilė — amžina,
Kuri negęsta niekada.
Jos veidas žiba su džiaugsmu,
Kai viskas gera ir jai ramu.
O kai mums liūdna — ir jai blogai,
Bet nuramins mus ir bus gerai.
Koks skambus žodis yra «mama»,
Gražus ir mielas mums visada.
Vargšas našlaitis, kurs nežinos
Savo mamytės šypsenos.

Laura Lauciūtė, 12 m.

TO THE LITHUANIAN LEADERSHIP IN AMERICA
AND
ALL LITHUANIAN ORGANIZATIONS ABROAD

A PETITION

FROM STASE MENDŽIENE-
STANKUNAITĖ

A VICTIM OF THE SOVIET
GOVERNMENT, RESIDING IN
THE LITHUANIAN SSR,
RAYON OF SALCININKAI,
VILLAGE OF BUTRIMONIA

I ask you to defend me and to help me to leave the USSR. In an effort to seize my house and property, District Chairman Sujevicius has been persecuting me since 1974, and now District Chairman Bogdevičius is prosecuting me; they have tried by various barbaric methods to move me out and move in themselves.

On April 27, 1982, a criminal case was brought against me unjustly on the basis of the Criminal Code of the Lithuanian SSR, Art. 192 I d., Art. 199 I d. and Art. 132 I d. They tried to arrest me, but did not find me at home. Then they, namely Chief Nachay of the Criminal Division and Chairman Jonas Bogdevičius, of the Burtimoniai District Committee, broke into the house with a crow-bar. All my things, worth more than 10,000 rubles, disappeared. My domestic animals -- 64 rabbits and three dogs -- they shot and hauled away. Afterwards they put out an all-points bulletin on me.

On January 10, 1983, those same persons caught me at home, beat me up with the help of Bogdevičius, Nachay's relatives and militiaman Burdevičius, and took me to the militia station, and from there to the insane asylum.

On February 6, 1983, I escaped from the insane asylum and reported everything to the USSR Prosecutor's Office, but from there they sent my petition back to my place of residence. Again they began looking for me, now as a madwoman. They posted my name up on the wall at militia headquarters.

On June 29, 1983, they released me, so to speak, according to the amnesty of December 27, 1982, and informed me and my sister that the search for me had been discontinued. However, it goes on. Specifically, on April 29, May 14 and 16, July 13 of 1983, and at the beginning of August and of December, they tried to catch me. In 1984 also: On April 30, in the Village of Raudone, Auxiliary Militiamen Baltrusaitis and others who had been sent, beat me up. June 29 and July 3, the militia again came after me: They surrounded my parents' house, trying to catch me and send me back to the insane asylum, even though I am well and have never been ill.

They refuse to consider my complaints. District Committee Chairman Bogdevičius, together with his relatives and friends, in an effort to seize my house, organized a conspiracy of twenty people against

me, so that they might trump up criminal charges against me. Assisting him are the militia and the KGB, who are unlawfully conspiring, and there is no one to complain to about them. They are not giving consideration to my complaints anywhere, but are looking for me instead. The windows of my house -- a shack -- have been broken, all my furniture has been ruined, and water is leaking through the windows and roof. There is something like a seal on the door, but children and grownups get in through the windows.

Everything has been stolen from the house, including even the dishes and other contents. I can turn nowhere to the government, since they are after me. I have become tired of wandering about without a home or my things or money. I am not allowed to live anywhere legally, and there is no one to complain to about all these illegal actions -- everywhere they deny my petitions.

I therefore turn to all people of good will, Lithuanians and others living abroad, as well as lawyers and doctors (my colleagues): Help me to emigrate from the Soviet Union, where they have completely ruined my life, as it is, grabbed all

my property, beat me and tried to kill me, accused me of non-existent political activity, and threw me into an insane asylum, so that they might justify themselves and not have to answer for anything.

I receive false letters saying that no one chased me from my home, nor is anyone trying to evict me from my home, no one has persecuted me, accused me, beat me, robbed me, destroyed my animals, and that my house is in order and I can live there in peace.

On January 10, 1983, I went back there. But immediately I was seized, beaten and thrown into the insane asylum on the basis of several political criminal articles.

I urgently appeal to you all to help me; that is, to defend me and to help me emigrate from the USSR, since they have been ridiculing me here since 1957, even though I have committed no wrong. I have become exhausted with the libels and punishments for no crime. I am tired of walking around in rags, hungry, and in hiding from the Soviet Government.

In the Soviet Union I have no one left to turn to, since all my petitions are sent back to my place of residence, namely to those whom I am complaining.

August 3, 1984

(Signed) Mrs. S.K. Mendžienė

APPENDAGE TO PETITION

In 1963 they accused me regarding thirty kopeks, about which I told a delegation of Americans in Klaipeda restaurant, where I was checking sanitary conditions and food quality. A menu was posted at the entrance, apparently intended for a delegation of Americans. It stated that one could eat well for 30 lopeks. Surprised I told them that it required at least 80 kopeks. For this they arrested me and interrogated me for nine months. In-



"I have no hands or feet
but yours!"

investigators Vilimas, Norkevičius and KGB Prosecutor Bakučionis themselves used to sign the interrogation records. After keeping me in the KGB cellar for nine months, they locked me up in a psychiatric hospital in the Rayon of Silutė, Village of Sveksna.

I left there and reported everything to the USSR Prosecutor General's office. The Prosecutor General sent the written protest to the Supreme Court of the USSR, which, failing to find proof of wrong-doing, handed down an acquittal. Since then I have been employed as a housekeeper to a priest. The state confiscated my house and in 1974 entered it in the inventory of the committee. The house is considered committee property and the committee chairman used all kinds of means to drive me out, so that he could move in himself. Since I refused to give in, Committee Chairman Bogdevičius, of the Butrimoniai Village Committee, organized 20 people in a plot against me.

They claimed that I had engaged

in anti-Soviet activity and had ties with America. On April 27, 1982, my house was surrounded by militia and District Committee staff and by the KGB agents in mufti. They wanted to arrest me, but they did not know whether I was at home. I departed by night, leaving everything behind.

The next day, April 28, 1982, a criminal warrant for my arrest was issued. They posted my name everywhere, and searched for me like a politically dangerous activist. They shot my 64 rabbits and 3 dogs, and hauled them away in a police van. They tore open all the doors to my house and carried out a search. It was then that all my things disappeared. On January 10, 1983, I moved back into my own house, which they immediately surrounded. It was then, at 11:30 pm that Chief Nachay, of the Criminal Division, Militiaman Budrevičius, District Committee Chairman Bogdevičius, and his relative, Antonas Parvickis and his wife, Janas Tupkelevičius and his wife, accompanied by Franz Saxon and his wife, broke down my door and broke into my house. I fled through the opposite door, but they caught me, beat me, and took me to the militia, where they confronted me with the charges under Art. 192 I d., and 99 I d., and 132 I d., and hauled me off to the Naujoji Vilnia madhouse.

A month later I left there and the militia again put me on the "wanted" list, this time as an escapee from the madhouse, dangerous to the public. So they are looking for me again. I have no roof over my head, nor any possessions. For two years I have been turning everywhere, but to no avail.

Translated by
LITHUANIAN INFORMATION
CENTER, 351 Highland Blvd.,
Brooklyn, NY 11207

Lithuanian Independence Day, 1985

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Sixty-seven years ago, a small nation achieved freedom in the aftermath of World War I. Proclaiming the Lithuanian Republic, its founders stepped forward on February 16, 1918, to assert their country's independence and commitment to a government based on justice, democracy, and the rights of individuals. Twenty-two years later, Soviet tyranny imposed itself on Lithuania and denied the Lithuanian people their just right of national self-determination as well as basic human freedoms.

Among the freedoms most consistently attacked by Soviet authorities is the freedom of religion. The victims of these attacks have often been Catholic Church figures, such as Father Alfonsas Svarinskas, Father Sigitas Tamkevicius, and, most recently, Father Jonas-Kastytis Matulionis. Their crimes: administering to the spiritual needs of the faithful.

Yet the people of Lithuania refuse to submit quietly. Hundreds of thousands of people have signed petitions demanding the release of priests and other human and civil rights leaders. Underground publications such as the sixty-fourth issue of the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania" and forty-first issue of "The Dawn," which have recently come to the West, continue to inform the world of ongoing persecutions.

Americans are united in an enduring belief in the right of peoples to live in freedom. The United States has refused to recognize the forcible incorporation of Lithuania into the Soviet Union. We must be vigilant in the protection of this ideal because we know that as long as freedom is denied to others, it is not truly secure here.

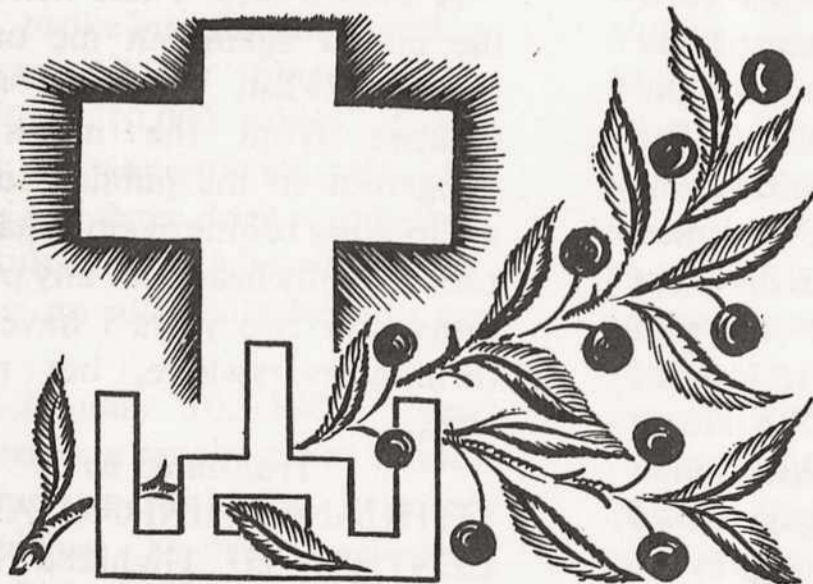
We mark this anniversary of Lithuanian Independence with a renewed hope that the blessings of liberty will be restored to Lithuania.

The Congress of the United States, by House Joint Resolution 655, has designated February 16, 1985, as Lithuanian Independence Day and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this event.

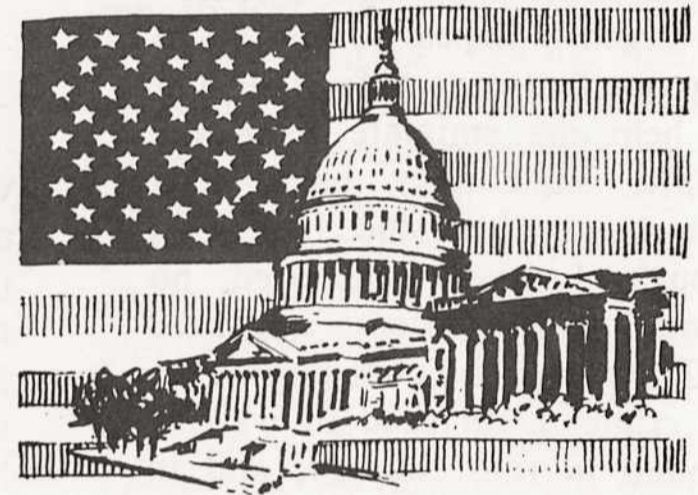
NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim February 16, 1985, as Lithuanian Independence Day. I invite the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and to reaffirm their dedication to the ideals which unite us and inspire others.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and ninth.

Ronald Reagan



President Ronald Reagan



PRAYER FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

*(Offered in Congress by Rev. Albert Contons,
February 19, 1985)*

Heavenly Father, Lord of all peoples,
we pray Your divine guidance
for the members of this august body.
From their midst may the spirit of peace and justice
flow like a might river
pouring out its blessings upon all Americans
and upon all the nations of the earth.
We pray in a special way for the people of Lithuania,
who commemorate the anniversary
of the declaration of their independence in 1918.
With fellow Americans of Lithuanian descent
we pray that the aspirations of this valiant people
for the blessings of life, liberty and the pursuit of
happiness
may once again be fulfilled.
Heavenly father, may Your truth, justice and love
bring forth an abundant harvest of peace
and respect for human rights among all nations.
Amen

WHAT FOREIGN TOURISTS DO NOT SEE IN VILNIUS AND KAUNAS

(From the Chronicle of the
Catholic Church in Lithuania)
(No. 18, 1975)

In May 1975, thirty years had elapsed since the end of the Second World War, which had taken a toll of much suffering and many victims. This anniversary, as the celebration of the Soviet Union's triumph, was pompously celebrated in Lithuania. However, to Lithuanian Catholics, this anniversary also corresponded to another anniversary unfortunately full of suffering and sorrow; thirty years ago the atheistic government in Lithuania began an open, rough and stubborn war against the religious, especially against the Catholic Church in Lithuania...

Below is a list of churches in Vilnius and Kaunas which have been closed, including short accounts (they are incomplete) of how they were used after their closing.

IN VILNIUS:

1. The Cathedral (an art gallery)
2. Augustinian (converted into a warehouse for electrical equipment)
3. St. Bartholomew's (a warehouse; of the Art Institute sculptors. In the summer of 1975 a huge sculpture of Lenin was completed in the church)



Vilnius Cathedral. The statues on the roof were torn down in 1952. It is now an art gallery.

4. Basilian (a warehouse; now the Engineering Construction Institute laboratory for the durability of materials).
5. Bernardine (a warehouse of the Art Institute, sculptors' workshops).
6. St. Ignatius Church was converted into a warehouse for film studio equipment, and the chapel into the "Bociai" restaurant.
7. The Sacred Heart of Jesus (converted into a club for builders).
8. St. James and Phillip's (a warehouse for opera and ballet decorations).
9. St. John's (a warehouse for the printing paper of the TIESA newspaper. They restored and remodeled into a museum of "progressive" thought as well as a hall for meetings and concerts, administered by the University).
10. St. George's (a book warehouse for the Hall of Books).
11. St. Catherine's (a food warehouse; it is now empty, but it is planned to be restored and remodeled into an art museum).
12. St. Casimir's (a warehouse; from 1961 (after restoration) a museum of atheism).
13. Holy Cross or Bonifrats' (a warehouse, now being restored and designed to be used as a concert hall).
14. The Chapel of Charity (converted into a warehouse for book sales).
15. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven or the Franciscans' (converted into facilities of the Central State Archives).
16. St. Michael's (a warehouse; after a fire it was restored as a continuing construction exhibition).
17. The Missionaries' (the medical institutions' warehouse for equipment and various inventory).
18. St. Steven's (a warehouse for cement and other construction material).
19. Holy Trinity (a sports hall; the facade had collapsed, now the workshop of the History and Ethnography Museum; in 1975 a model of the Kaunas IX fort was constructed here).
20. Trinitarians' (a military warehouse)



21. Trinapolian Church (a hospital warehouse; a driver has constructed an apartment over the sacristy).
22. All Saints (a food product warehouse; burned after partial restoration in the summer of 1975; it was opened as a continuing exhibition of the folk art of the Museum of Art).
23. The Sisters of the Visitation (a warehouse, now a facility remodelled for the needs of the juvenile prison).

IN KAUNAS:

1. Gates of Dawn (in upper Sanciiai; converted into a barracks and populated with Russian families. Later, a cultural club, a salt warehouse. Now, a warehouse for food trade packing).
2. Preda Church (Kaunas' Mciiurin soviet: farm-technical school, Sports Hall, now abandoned. In the summer of 1975, a homeless family was living in its vestibule).

3. St. Gertrude's (a drug warehouse)
4. Garrison Church (a museum of sculpture and stained glass windows).

5. St. George's (a military warehouse; now the medical technology officers; warehouse of construction materials for the department of complex flow of medical equipment and inventory for the Kaunas base)

6. Church of the Exhaltation of the Cross (demolished; in its place a small sports hall was built).

7. Mary's Visit to Pažaislis (now being restored as a department of the Museum of Art).

8. Sisters of St. Benedict (the old warehouse for the Kaunas Public Library; neighborhood people assert that the "yellow literature" (pre-Soviet) is stored here).

9. St. Francis Xavier's (a book warehouse; now sports hall).

10. Resurrection (converted into a radio factory).

11. Blessed Sacrament (a film theater).

12. Holy Trinity (book warehouse No. 10 of the Republic Book Base).

13. Chapel of the Seven Sorrows of Mary in Zaliakalnis (destroyed).

14. Church of Mary the Immaculate Mother of God in Saričiai (a warehouse for the specialized medical technological stores).

In Kaunas, the following semipublic chapels, which were part of buildings with other functions, were closed: (1) The Guardian Angels', (2) St. Anthony's, (3) St. Luke's Christian Charity, (4) Mary Help of Christians, (5) Sisters of St. Francis, (6) St. Stephen Kostka's, (7) St. Žita's and (8) The Prison Chapel.

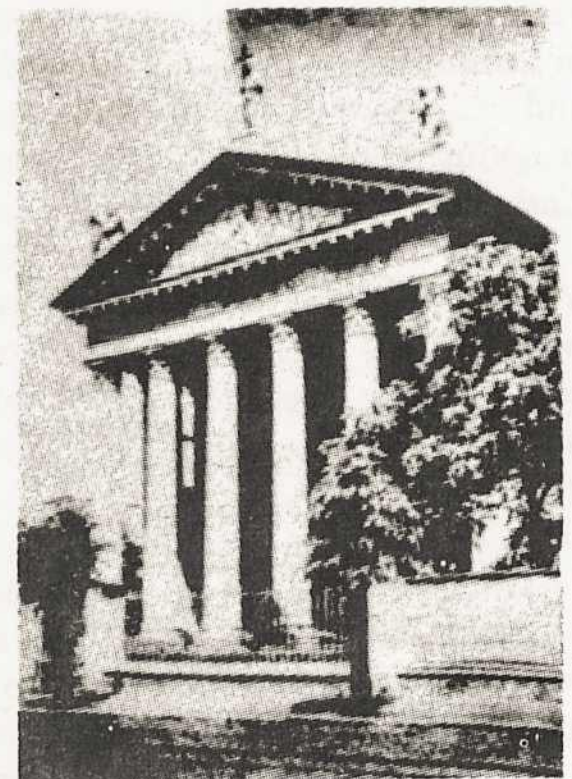
In Vilnius there is only one chapel still in use-The Gates of Dawn of the Mother of God. All

the other, of which there were a great number, have been destroyed.

All the Evangelical churches in both cities have been closed. In Vilnius, one of them, is a film theatre, the other is a sports hall. In Kaunas, the oldest one — a warehouse for food products — burned and is now unused. The other has become a sports hall. In the newest one there is a club of the policemen's school, a sports hall, and a cafeteria.

It is interesting that the authorities in Vilnius and Kaunas did not close a single Orthodox Church (they are especially common in Vilnius), even though only tens of their believers gather in each of them.

Over the fierce 30-year destruction of the Lithuanian Church from without and within, incalculable harm has been done to the Lithuanian national treasury of art. In all of the above-mentioned closed churches in Vilnius and Kaunas and in the unmentioned chapels, very many paintings, sculputres, wall frescoes, memorial plaques, stained glass windows, organs and other Church objects, liturgical vestments and vessels of



Evangelical Reformed Church in Vilnius currently used as a cinema

great artistic value. have been destroyed. The architecturally valuable interiors of many old churches (some even from 15-18th centuries) were very seriously harmed if not destroyed as a consequence of their conversion for utilization. What was carefully preserved by many generations through long ages, was irrevocably lost during the three decades of "peaceful socialism and communist construction in soviet Lithuania."

Even the remains of the deceased in the cellars and crypts of the closed churches did not remain untouched. For example, even now, the remains of the famous official of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania Leonas Sapiega and his family are still scattered. In the caverns of St.

Michael's Church (now the halls or the construction exhibition) the grave (near St. Stephen's Church) of the famous Lithuanian architect L. Stuoka-Bucevičius is buried under construction materials. This list of historically important people could be as long as the list of desecrated churches that protected their remains.

In the summer of 1975, in commemoration of the 35th anniversary of the incorporation of Lithuania into the Soviet Union, the brochure, **THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA** (second edition) by Rimaitis was published.

This book was published in luxurious editions only in English, German and Italian. The people of Lithuania will not be able to ac-

quire any of these three brochures, just as they are not able to acquire any of the first edition. They are given only to foreign guests and distributed abroad. Let the readers of these brochures know that one cannot judge the true conditions of the Catholic Church in Lithuania from these propagandistic publications, nor from the churches of St. Peter and Paul and St. Ann in Vilnius or the Basilica in Kaunas which foreign tourists are required to visit by the state guides. This view is strengthened by the churches and chapels mentioned in this article, each of whose dramas of desecration and destruction were deeply experienced by their former priests, monks and pious visitors—drama that continues even today.

MOČIUTE MOTINĖLE

Lietuvių liaudies daina

Pamažu

Mo-čiu-te mo-ti-nė-le, mo-čiu-te
sen-gal-vė-le, ga-na pa-il-sai,
ga-na nu-var-gai, kol ma-ne už-au-ginai.

2. Kol mane užauginai,
Kol mane išauklėjai,
Tu prarymojai
Baltas rankeles
Ant baltų priegalvėlių.

3. Dienelę ant rankelių,
Naktelę prie lopšelio,
Tu pražiūrėjai
Šviesias akeles,
Į mane žiūrėdama.





PRESENTING
HONORARY
MEMBERSHIP
CANDIDATE
ESTELLE ROGERS
MEMBER OF COUNCIL-112

Estelle is a member of C-112, Chicago. She joined the K of L in 1933, received the 3rd Degree in 1962 and the 4th Degree in 1968. Most of her activity during the years from 1942 and 1951 was concentrated with the K of L choir. When the choir became dormant for a few years, she switched from her musical talent to public relations, membership enrollment, fund raising and a host of other things she does so well.

From the Mid-America District and Council 112, the yearly, and even monthly chronicles include the name of Estelle Rogers — organizing and participating with the K of L as representatives at banquets, concerts and other events sponsored by numerous Lithuanian and non-Lithuanian organizations and groups.

Her fund raising abilities benefited not only her own K of L, but also parish and establishments like the Lithuanian Holy Family Villa and the Lithuanian Voters' League which successfully elected Lithuanian judges and state legislators.

Estelle has enrolled well over a hundred new K of L's herself and has been instrumental in enrolling many more members through Membership Drives she has chaired or joined.

Whether on the District or Council level, she has, year in, year out, been an active organizer or active participant in just about any and every type of committee for banquets, picnics, St. Casimir Day commemorations, etc. The members of Council 112 honored Estelle as "Woman of the Year" in recogni-

tion of all her services in 40 plus years. She is a master in Public Relations and an Ambassador Emeritus for the K of L that few can equal.

However, the Honorary Membership is being bestowed upon Estelle Rogers because, beyond those accomplishments which would earn the 4th Degree many times over, she has made a most outstanding contribution to the K of L and to Lithuanian culture. She has been the prime motivating force in re-organizing the K of L choir. Her efforts have kept it alive and thriving, over the past 25 years.

The Choir made 46 appearances between 1942 and 1951, 126 more between 1961 and 1975 and well over 50 between 1975 and 1984. It continuously brings praiseworthy recognition for the K of L and the Lithuanian community in Chicago, the state of Illinois and the Midwest.

It takes Estelle's special kind of talent and leadership to inspire and maintain the devotion of the men and women choiristers, to keep coming back for monthly, or sometimes weekly rehearsals and the myriad of performances for 25 years. This does not include the efforts involved in the making of the two K of L Choir Records. Estelle was a vital committee member in the preparation of the first record and was chairperson for the second one in 1972.

Immeasurable personal sacrifice, time and energy, have been offered by Estelle to keep this unusual K of L star — the Choir — continuously radiating the warmth and beauty of our Lithuanian melodies, which inspire us to sustain the love of our culture and presenting our special songs and music to countless other ethnic cultures.

Yes, the K of L and the Lithuanian cause have been so beautifully served by this OUTSTANDING woman who loves life, Lithuania, her music and who has so fervently devoted so many years for Lithuanian Culture and spreading the knowledge of it to so many others.

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS
OFFICIAL NEWS

K OF L CALENDAR

OMMISSION: The story entitled "Revitalizing the Lithuanian Opera" on page 9 in the March issue of VYTIS was written by Anna Klizas Wargo, National Cultural Chairman. We aplogize for omitting her byline from the story.

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 future TODAY.

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

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

MAY 17-19: Mid-West Bowling Tournament, Hosts C-25, Cleveland, OH

MAY 26: 3rd Annual Ruta Ball C-63, St. Thomas More Church, Salisbury, PA

JUNE 8: Supreme Council Meeting, Bridgeport, CT

JUNE 9: Mid-Atlantic District Convention, Hosts- C-74, Scranton, PA

AUG. 4-11: Lithuanian Language Seminar, Camp Dainava Manchester, MI

AUG. 4-18: Camp Neringa West Brattleboro, VT

AUGUST 8-11th 72nd NATIONAL CONVENTION YALE UNIVERSITY NEW HAVEN, CT

AUG. 11-18: Lithuanian Heritage Camp, Camp Dainava, Manchester, MI

AUG. 18: 71st Annual Lithuanian Day Rocky Glen Park Moosic, PA

AUG. 25: Pilgrimage for the Suffering Church in Lithuania-Shrine of the North American Martyrs, Auriesville

SEPT. 15: Lithuanian Festival C-152, American Legion Hall, Greenport, New York

LANGUAGE LORE: A PRACTICAL SEMINAR FOR BEGINNERS IN LITHUANIAN

Algirdas Budreckis

Very often we get inquiries about the location and frequency of Lithuanian language courses or workshops for beginners. As you know most such seminars are offered in the summer months at various "camps."

We would like to draw our readers attention to one such course. During the annual session of the Lithuanian Language Instructors Seminar, to be held at Camp Dainava, near Manchester, MI, a practical Lithuanian language seminar for adult beginners will be offered from August 4 through 11.

Practical language lessons will be given each morning. The afternoons and evenings will be devoted to Lithuanian folk dance lessons, songs, and evening cultural programs. All of these activities will be conducted in the Lithuanian language.

The goal of this seminar will be to teach the students a large, but practical vocabulary. The

students will also be taught to use this vocabulary in 500 grammatically correct sentences. The seminar, therefore, will be equivalent to a language lab or practical workshop.

The entire family can vacation at Camp Dainava. The cost of the one week course, including room and board, will be \$80 per person. Children will be charged less. A special family rate will be offered to interested families.

Knights seeking to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to learn to speak Lithuanian are urged to register by June 15th with Mr. Bronius V. Krokys, 1124 Hedgerow Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19115. Inquiries by telephone may be made to: (215) 671-0397. There will be a \$5.00 registration fee. The seminar is affiliated with the Educational Council (Svietimo Taryba) of the Lithuanian American Community of the USA, Inc. (Lietuviu Bendruomene).



1. Geltonoji Ramūnė
2. Rožė
3. Ramūnė
4. Tulpė
5. Geltonasis Narcizas
6. Narcizas
7. Pienė
8. Dobilai
9. Vedrynas
10. Žibuoklė
11. Krokas
12. Pakalnutė
13. Plačialapė
14. Zinija
15. Dirvinis Vijoklis
16. Našlaitė
17. Saulėgraža
18. Aguona
19. Petūnija
20. Geltonoji Lelija

- A. Morning Glory
- B. Dandelion
- C. Tiger Lily
- D. Poppy
- E. Zinnia
- F. Violet
- G. Lady's Slipper
- H. Black-Eyed Susan
- I. Pansy
- J. Daisy
- K. Narcissus
- L. Rose
- M. Petunia
- N. Tulip
- O. Crocus
- P. Daffodil
- Q. Clover
- R. Lily-of-the-Valley
- S. Sunflower
- T. Buttercup

"May Flowers"

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS.....
.....SEE IF YOU CAN IDENTIFY THE FLOWERS.



5.P	10.F	15.A	20.C
4.N	9.T	14.E	19.M
3.J	8.Q	13.G	18.D
2.L	7.B	12.R	17.S
1.H	6.K	11.O	16.I
Answers:			

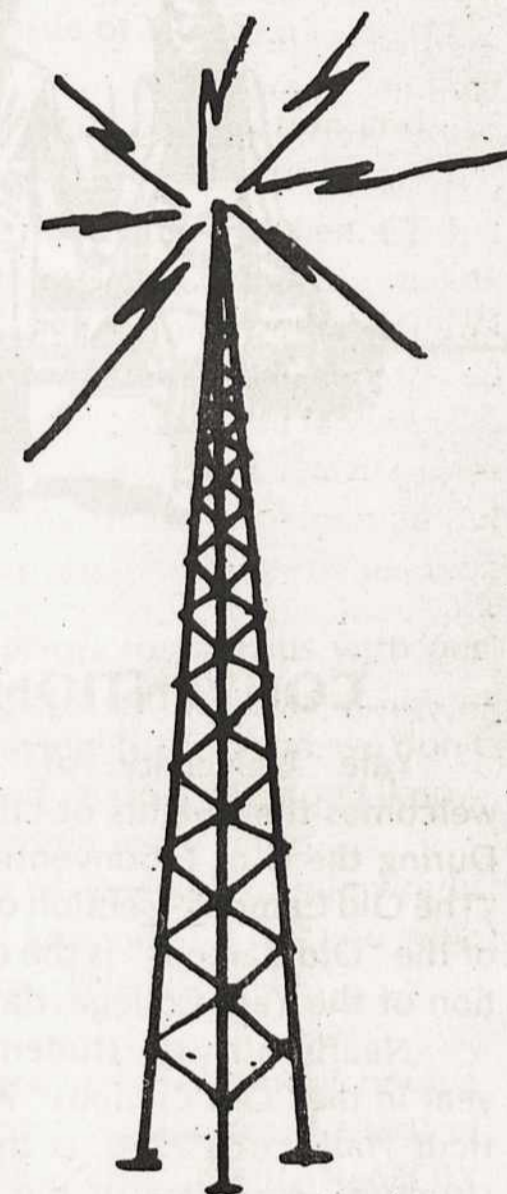
Voice of America

November 1984-April 1985

Baltic Services

THE LITHUANIAN SERVICE OF THE VOICE OF AMERICA

The March issue of Vytis contained a letter to the editor from Leonard Davidonis referring to the Voice of America. The schedule of V.O.A. Baltic Services Broadcasts was not included. It is included in this issue.



TIME CONVERSION WITHIN U.S.A.					
Universal Time (Greenwich Mean Time) (hours)	Summer Eastern Daylight Time	Winter Eastern Standard or Central Daylight	Central Standard or Mountain Daylight	Mountain Standard or Pacific Daylight	Pacific Standard Time
0000	8:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.
0100	9:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
0200	10:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
0300	11:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
0400	Midnight	11:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
0500	1:00 a.m.	Midnight	11:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.
0600	2:00 a.m.	1:00 a.m.	Midnight	11:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.
0700	3:00 a.m.	2:00 a.m.	1:00 a.m.	Midnight	11:00 p.m.
0800	4:00 a.m.	3:00 a.m.	2:00 a.m.	1:00 a.m.	Midnight
0900	5:00 a.m.	4:00 a.m.	3:00 a.m.	2:00 a.m.	1:00 a.m.
1000	6:00 a.m.	5:00 a.m.	4:00 a.m.	3:00 a.m.	2:00 a.m.
1100	7:00 a.m.	6:00 a.m.	5:00 a.m.	4:00 a.m.	3:00 a.m.
1200	8:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.	6:00 a.m.	5:00 a.m.	4:00 a.m.
1300	9:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.	6:00 a.m.	5:00 a.m.
1400	10:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.	6:00 a.m.
1500	11:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.
1600	Noon	11:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
1700	1:00 p.m.	Noon	11:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.
1800	2:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	Noon	11:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
1900	3:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	Noon	11:00 a.m.
2000	4:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	Noon
2100	5:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
2200	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
2300	7:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.

LAIDOS LIETUVIŲ KALBA										
GMT	SEKMADIENIS	PIRMADIENIS	ANTRADIENIS	TREČIADIENIS	KETVIRTADIENIS	PENKTADIENIS	ŠEŠTADIENIS	Lietuvos laiku	Banga	kWz
2:15 2:30	KASDIENINĖ RYTINĖ LAIDA: Žinios, pastabos, korespondentų pranešimai							6:15 6:30		
1500 1530	KASDIENINĖS VAKARO LAIDOS: Žinios ir vedamieji. Pasirinktina: korespondentų pranešimai, pastabos, spaudos apžvalga, interviu, reportažai.							18:00 18:30	31.5 41.8 42.1 49.3	9530 7170 7120 6000
	Be to, kiekvienai savaitės dienai—pastovios temos:								19.7 25.1 25.3 30.8 41.4	15270 11960 11665 9735 7245
1700 1730	Lietuvių veiklos apžvalga	Sportas	Meno pasaulyje	Valandėlė jaunimui	Mokslas Ekonomika	Iš knygų lentynos	Istorinė vinjetė Religija	20:00 20:30	13.9 19.6 25.3	21630 15280 11865

CONVENTION

AUGUST 7th -11th 1985



CONVENTION HOUSING

Yale University of New Haven cordially welcomes the Knights of Lithuania to their campus. During the K of L Convention we will be housed in "The Old Campus" section of the University. The site of the "Old Campus" is the original New Haven location of the Yale College, dating back to 1718.

Nearly all Yale students spend their freshman year in the "Old Campus" Residence Halls. Connecticut Hall, circa 1750, is the oldest remaining Yale structure. A replica of the "Yale Fence" a favorite gathering place for earlier Yale students, runs in front of Welch and Lawrence Halls on either side of Phelps Gateway.

Single, double and triple occupancy rooms are available. Each room is furnished with convenient and comfortable sleeping facilities.

Recreational facilities include tennis courts, the golf course and the University gymnasium.

Yale has offered this fine package of lodging with meals during the National Convention for \$95.00. This price includes three (3) nights lodging (Thursday, Friday, Saturday); three breakfasts (Friday, Saturday, Sunday); and three (3) lunches (Thursday, Friday, Saturday noon).

If arriving on Wednesday, an additional charge for lodging (no meals included) of \$17.00 should be added to the \$95.00.

72nd KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA NATIONAL CONVENTION

REGISTRATION FORM

YALE UNIVERSITY, NEW HAVEN, CT

August 8 thru 11, 1985

Name _____ Council # _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Phone _____

Date of Arrival _____ Time of Day _____ AM _____ PM

By Plane _____ Auto _____ Train _____ Bus _____

EARLY ADULT REGISTRATION

(before July 15, 1985) \$60.00 _____ / _____

LATE ADULT REGISTRATION \$70.00 _____ / _____

EARLY YOUTH REGISTRATION \$45.00 _____ / _____

LATE YOUTH REGISTRATION \$50.00 _____ / _____

LODGING/MEAL ACCOMODATIONS

YALE UNIVERSITY \$95.00 _____ / _____

ADDITIONAL NIGHTS LODGING

YALE UNIVERSITY \$17.00 _____ / _____

— RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY JULY 15, 1985 —

Kindly make checks Payable to:

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA-CONVENTION-COUNCIL #50

Mail to: **Mrs. Audrey M. Toole**
14 Glen Road
West Haven, CT 06516

Telephone: (203) 934-4554

For those who prefer to stay at a hotel, arrangements have been made for rooms with The Park Plaza, which is near Yale University. Rooms are \$50.00 per night. THESE ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE ON YOUR OWN.

The Park Plaza, 155 Temple Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Telephone (203) 772-1200

SEND AN AD. HELP THE CONVENTION

The advertising rates for the Souvenir Program Book are as follows:

Full-Page	\$75.00
Half-Page	\$50.00
Quarter-Page	\$25.00
.	\$10.00

Send your donations to:

Alex Gerdri-
69 Pope Street
New Haven, CT 06512

CORRECTION:

There will be no "booster" or "well-wisher" listings as previously noted in the April issue of VYTIS

Thank you most sincerely for your cooperation and support. May God reward you for your generosity!

Council #50 — New Haven, CT

CONVENTION CHIT-CHAT LIETUVIŠKAI



I can see it now!

On August 7th or 8th and all through August 11th Knights of Lithuania-Lietuvos Vyčiai ir Vytės — will come swarming into New Haven, Connecticut's Yale University....

Labas! (Hello)

Labadiena! (Good Day!)

Kaip tau? (How are you?)

Gerai. (Fine.)

Kas naujo. (What's new?)

Daug kas naujo. (A lot is new.)

Ilgai nematytas. (Long time no see...)

Ilgai nematytas. (Long time no see...)

Have you noticed? Mes Vyčiai — we Knights kalbame lietuviškai — we're speaking Lithuanian.

And why not? (Kodel ne?) Give me nine good reasons, well, give me only two good reasons, why

we should not make an effort to keep us with our beautiful language during our conventions.

I knew it; Some one is saying: first reason, we don't know the language, second reason, we don't know the language, and so on seven more times.

"AHA, AHA!", as Ungar of TV Odd Couple would say. "And WHY don't you know it? I'll tell you why: because you don't practice, THAT'S WHY."

So...

The Editors of "Vytis" are including in this issue a boastful promise (pardon us, Berlitz Language Schools): YOU WILL BE SPEAKING LITHUANIAN BY AUGUST 8!

Yes, we say YOU will be talking Lithuanian by the time our National Convention starts, if you read on and if you stash away in memory the list of the words and expressions to be given below.

Kalbesime lietuviškai — WE SHALL speak Lithuanian, or at least, bandysime — We'll try.

Now, please, do not misunderstand us. This will not be an all Lithuanian Convention. That would be impossible. Then how about a ten percent Lithuanian Convention? Just for the he-, I mean fun of it?

I can hear it now — on the Convention Floor:

May I have the floor? Prašau balso.

I move the following. As pasiulau stai ka: as the delegate goes on in English: "that the Convention delegates be served breakfast in bed each morning during the Convention".

The above looks to me about 10% Lithuanian.

Get the picture?

I second the motion. *Aš patvirtinu tą pasiūlymą.*

I wish to amend the motion. *Siūlau pataisymą* "that the Convention delegates "and alternates and guests" be served breakfast in each morning during the Convention.

Enough discussion, let's vote. *Gana diskusijų, balsuokime.*

I agree. *Sutinku.*

I disagree. *Nesutinku.*

Louder, please, *Prašau balsiau.*

I have a question. *Aš turiu klausymą:* "Who is going to serve the breakfast in bed each morning?"

We need more information. *Mums reikia daugiau žinių.*

I move we elect a committee. *Siūlau išrinkti komitetą.*

I move we accept the proposal. *Siūlau priimti pasiūlymą.*

I move to reject the notion. *Siūlau atmesti pasiūlymą.*

I move to table the resolution. *Siūlau atidėti rezoliuciją.*

I nominate Peter Pepper for President. *Išstatau Petrą Pipiraitį pirmininko pareigoms.*

For vice-president I nominate: *Vice-pirmininko pareigoms išstatau...*

For secretary — *Protokolų raštininko pareigoms*

For treasurer — *Iždininko pareigoms*

I ask unanimous consent. *Prašau vienbalsiai priimti...* "that delegates, alternates, guests be served breakfast in bed with champagne over fresh strawberries for dessert."



It's a good idea. *Tai gera mintis.*

It's not a very good idea. *Tai ne labai gera mintis.*

I don't agree, no way. *Nesutinku, jokių būdu.*

Do we have a quorum? *Ar turime kvorumą?*

I beg your pardon. *Atsiprašau.*

Please repeat. *Prašau pakartoti.*

Please let me finish. *Prašau, leiskite man užbaigti.*

Please let me say a word. *Prašau, leiskite man žodį tarti:* "Ar Jūs iš proto išėjote? Kas braškes ar žemuoges valgo pušryčiams? Dar Sampnė pluduriuojančias. Tai nessamonė!" (Wow, this delegate must know her stuff!) Translation: "Are you nuts? Who eats strawberries floating in champagne for breakfast? What a wild idea!"



This should be enough to start the Lithuanian language ball a-rollin'. We hope that you notice some of the words were italicized. The italicized syllables are those that are stressed in conversation, that is, they are pronounced a bit more strongly than the rest.

We shall try to persuade the Host Convention Committee to provide each delegate a complete list of the above expressions, so that they could take a quick glance at the list and come up with the appropriate expression as needed.

Kalbėsime lietuviškai, nors tikrai 10%. Ar ne?

Till we meet at the Convention.
Iki pasimatymo per Seimą.

Updated from VYTIS, May 1977



Lithuanians in The News

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



Melissa Burke, C-144 Junior (center) is crowned 1985 Snowflake Princess.

* * *

The "New York Daily News" on February 22nd, reported that Archbishop PAUL MARCINKUS was visiting in California and stopped off at the estate of Bob Hope in Palm Springs. It further stated that the Archbishop offered a Mass at the Hope mansion, but there was no indication that Bob Hope attended the Mass.

* * *

Sixty-five years of Boy Scout activities hasn't dulled the enthusiasm of BILL BAILED A, C-143 Pittston, Pa., reports the "Times-Leader".

He and other Wyoming Valley Scouts celebrated the 75th anniversary of the national organization. Bill has been a Scout longer than anyone else in Wyoming Valley. He's been involved so long because he thinks scouting is a worthwhile program that needs his help. Although he can't go hiking because of his arthritic knees, he still goes to his troop's weekly meetings.

MELISSA BURKE, Junior Knight of C-144 Anthracite, was recently crowned 1985 Snowflake Princess at the Greater Pottsville Winter Carnival, reports the "Pottsville (Pa.) Republican".

Melissa, daughter of Gerard and Ellen Burke of New Philadelphia, is a senior at Nativity BVM High School, Pottsville.

Other Lithuanians participating in the Carnival were RACHEL SNUKIS of St. Clair, who placed as fourth runner-up in the SNOWFLAKE pageant, and KELLY DABULIS, 1984 Snowdrop Princess, who relinquished her crown to the 1985 princess in the Snowdrop Pageant.

* * *



Bill Baileda

"Once a Scout, always a scout!"

CHICAGO LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY "KEEPING FAITH..."

THE "Chicago Tribune Sunday Magazine", March 17, 1985, featured a five page article by Steve Sanders, a Chicago freelance writer, entitled "Keeping faith — How one Chicago ethnic community struggles to save its heritage". The article states:

"Though smaller than most of Chicago's ethnic groups, Lithuanians remain a distinct and colorful chip in the city's mosaic. They are a friendly, outgoing people, fond of singing, dancing, and good cognac. The community has produced many artists, writers, and craftsmen. Lithuanians have their own athletic teams, their own churches, and their own cemetery . . .

"As with many other ethnic groups, however, the elders worry about the future of the community, while their children, raised in a different culture, can't understand the reasons for keeping some traditions alive. Nonetheless, there remains among some of the young a stubborn sense of identity and purpose . . .

"At the Lithuanian Youth Center, 56th Street and Claremont Avenue, children in a Lithuanian Saturday school learn to speak and write Lithuanian and at the same time absorb the culture of their ancestors . . .

"Officially, Consul General JOSEPHINE DAUŽVARDIS (H.M. C-112 Chicago) represents Lithuania's exiled government, the consulate being one of four Lithuanian diplomatic missions in this country . . .

"The consulate and the youth center symbolize the struggle for ethnic identity among Chicago's 200,000 Lithuanians, the largest such community outside Europe.

"At one end, aging immigrants and older first-generation Americans work to preserve their transplanted European culture. Strongly nationalistic, they cling to the network of social, religious, and artistic organizations they founded first in Bridgeport and Brighton Park and later in the Marquette Park area . . .

"At the other end are their offspring, raised in America. While some still speak Lithuanian at home and dutifully attend the Saturday schools, most see no reason to master the language, history, and arts of a faraway land they are unlikely ever to even visit . . . Old Lithuanian neighborhoods are breaking up as the young disperse to the suburbs. Several Lithuanian parishes have closed; others now serve predominantly Hispanic groups . . ."



*Chicago Tribune pictures young Lithuanian-Americans.
"A stubborn sense of ethnic identity".*

The lengthy article gives a brief history of Lithuania, an excellent description of the Marquette Park area and comments by several outstanding Lithuanians.

The Honorable Josephine Dauzvardis is proud of the Lithuanians' contributions to the city. "No other ethnic group has its own opera company . . . We have the Lithuanian Opera Company, which, according to critics, ranks second only to the Lyric."

The Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, pastor of Nativity B.V.M. Church, the city's largest Lithuanian parish, stated: "Some of the older people are very much aware that their own sons and daughters don't have the same interest they had. Being in contact with Americans throughout the day, they become more interested in life as it's lived here. The background of their language and culture doesn't loom with the same importance as it does for their parents." (Father Zakarauskas, C-112, is Spiritual Advisor to the Mid-America District.)

Even though many younger Lithuanians don't care, there is a small core of young adults who speak

the language and maintain the customs. One of them is 22 year old Robert Vitas. "I guess I have a sense of urgency," he says. "You're working for a country. You're working for relatives over there who don't have the freedoms we do. We know the survival of Lithuania itself depends to a certain extent on the Lithuanians outside, because we're the ones who raise questions in the United Nations and the State Department about the injustices going on. I feel like I've got to write books, I've got to write articles. This is what I want to devote my life to."

Institute of Education rector John Rackauskas, who appreciates perhaps better than anyone else the need for the young to take the lead in preserving the heritage, is one who is not giving up. "I don't doubt that sooner or later we'll get our country back," he says. "But I don't think anyone seriously believes that the reason for cultural preservation is so that people will return to Lithuania. That is no longer valid. Now we want to find out more about ourselves and our parents. We owe it to ourselves to know what we're doing and where we came from."

* * *

Chicago's K of L Choir is among the exhibitors at the Chicago Historical Society's 150th Anniversary celebration — "Making music Chicago Style" — a major exhibition and festival running through October 27, 1985.

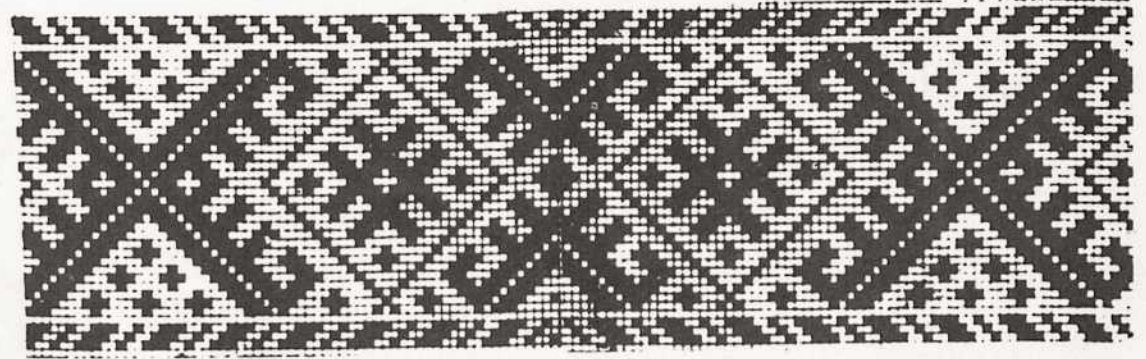
Since opening day of the exhibition was on February 16th, members of the K of L Choir, C-112 and C-36 Chicago commemorated the 67th anniversary of Lithuania's independence with a tour of the Society's exhibits at Clark St. and North Ave.

The Lithuanian exhibit features old photos of the K of L Choir, costuming and other memorabilia relating to the choir.

* * *

CHRIS DEGUTIS of Amsterdam-Fonda swim team ended his high school career with two personal records and a triple victory in three events; notes "The Recorder", Amsterdam, N.Y. He swam the 50 free in 23.54 seconds and posted a time of 52.96 as the lead-off swimmer in 400 free relay. Both were career bests. His third win came in the 500 free with a time of 5:35.71.

Chris is the nephew of HELEN and LEO DRUZIAK, C-100 Amsterdam.



K of L Choir exhibit at Chicago Historical Society

Noted in "The Herald", Kensington, Conn., a New Britain man, JOHN MATULIS, won the statewide Senior Center Week poster contest, chosen for his brightly colored balloon design captioned "Senior Centers Give You a Lift".



CALLING ALL AMERICAN YOUTH OF LITHUANIAN DESCENT

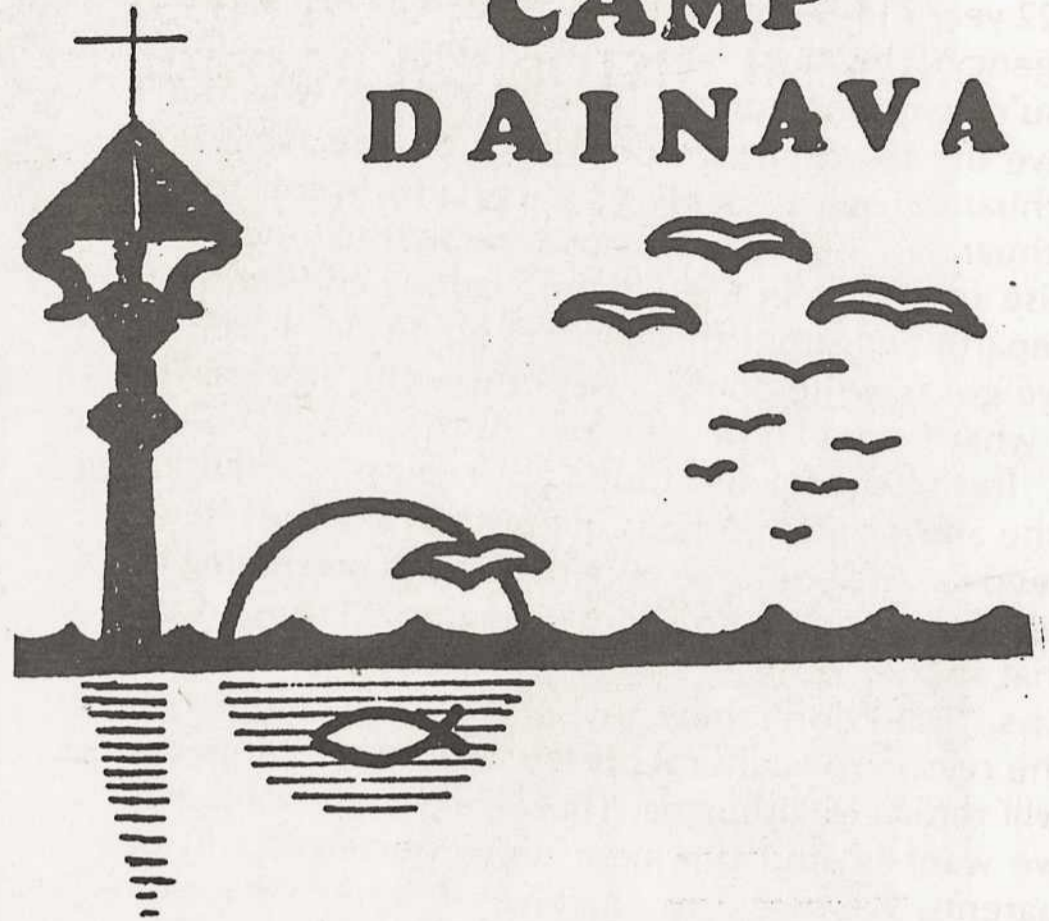
Between the ages of 8 and 17 to take advantage of an exceptional summer opportunity to get acquainted with their ethnic heritage. A week - long LITHUANIAN HERITAGE CAMP has been organized for the week of August 11-18, 1985. Under the supervision of professional teachers and camp counselors drawn from the American-Lithuanian community, participating children will be provided a rich program of familiarization with their Lithuanian heritage. Appreciation for the beauty of the Lithuanian language, Lithuanian history and culture will be introduced through active exposure to national folklore, dances, songs, art and crafts. Camper heritage studies will be balanced with leisure time activities including swimming, campfires, talent shows, dances, field sports and games.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

1. A registration fee of \$25.00 is required prior to May 30, 1985 for each child.
2. The general fee for the one week program is \$125.00 per child.
3. Families registering more than one child will pay \$110.00 for each additional child.
4. Checks should be made payable to the LITHUANIAN HERITAGE CAMP and mailed by May 30, 1985 to:

MRS. J. DAMUSIS, Director
Lithuanian Heritage Camp
13255 Oak Ridge Lane
Lockport, IL 60441
(312) 460-8001

CAMP DAINAVA



REGISTRATION FORM:

1. -NAME _____
Last First Middle
2. BIRTHDAY _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____
3. ADDRESS _____
Street
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
4. TELEPHONE _____
Area Code
5. FATHER'S NAME _____
6. MOTHER'S NAME _____ MAIDEN _____

With pride and reverence, we pause to remember all the brave men who gave their lives for this country throughout its history. For freedom. For human dignity. For everyone's hopes and dreams and rights. Above all, for peace in the world. We pray that the world will achieve that peace soon.

*Memorial
Day*

THE VYTIS STAFF



THE PUBLICATION OF A MOST UNUSUAL HISTORICAL BOOK AND ACCOMPANYING MAPS OF LITHUANIA

1. The publication of a most unusual historical book TIKROJI LIETUVA (THE REAL LITHUANIA) and accompanying map of Lithuania. This book was many years in the making and reflects the scientific approach the author took in preparation and writing this work. This publication is 11 x 8.5 inch or 28 x 22 cm., hard cover, printed on fine textured paper, included 79 copies of old maps of Lithuania and Baltic region and 172 illustrations. Price: \$20.- plus \$2.-handling charges.

2. Maps of Lithuania (Lietuvos Žemėlapis). Scale 1:1.000.000. Explanations of this map are to be found in the book TIKROJI LIETUVA (The Real Lithuania), by Algirdas Gustaitis. \$12.-

3. Map of Lithuania in 1595. With explanations. \$6.-

4. Map of Lithuania in 1749. With explanations. \$7.-

5. 14 Coats of Arms of Lithuanian cities. Each one printed on a separate sheet. \$3.0

All these historical publications are published in Lithuanian in black and white by leading Lithuanian organizations in exile.

Please mail orders with the U.S. dollars to: Mr. S. Bernatavičius, 1513 South 48th Court, Cicero, Illinois, 60650, U.S.A.

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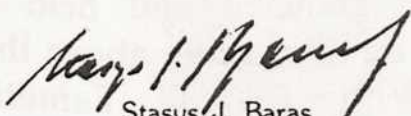
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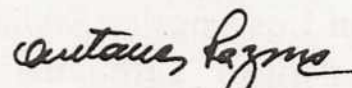
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Dr. Antanas Razma
Vicepirmininkas

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Vyčiai Veikia

Council Activities



Edited by **HELEN CHESKO**

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

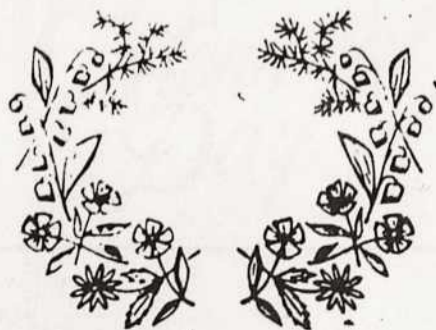


IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in
your prayers...



*Helen Varkalis Bartkus
President, C-133
Died January 9, 1985*



C-133 — LOS ANGELES

It wasn't long after our yearly meeting when the sad news reached us that Helen Varkalis Bartkus, who was reelected to the presidency of C-133 Los Angeles, died on January 9, 1985.

Rosary was recited on January 10. Holy Mass was concelebrated by Pastor Rev. Dr. A. Olsauskas assisted by Msgr. J. Kučingis and Msgr. V. Bartuška on January 12. Rimas Dabsys was soloist. Approximately 15 Mourners, friends, relatives and K of L members, gathered from far and near to participate in this solemn occasion. Helen was buried in Forest Lawn in Glendale.

Representatives of organizations gave farewell speeches: Julius Kiskis, vice president Council 133; Jonas Venckus, Lithuanian Catholic Alliance where Helen served as financial secretary in the early years of its existence in Los Angeles; Stella Zukauskas, American Lithuanian Citizens Club. Philip Guthrie, husband of Mary Gilbert, Helen's niece, spoke very touchingly on behalf of relatives. Edward Bartkus, husband,

thanked all for coming to the burial.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Edward and daughter Rita; brother-in-law Jacob Marbach and nephews Capt. Martin, Lt. Donald and Tom and his family; brother-in-law Frank Gilbert, nephew Philip and family, niece Mary Gilbert Guthrie and family and Margie Gilbert Johnson and family.

Helen Varkalyte Bartkus was born in Chicago where she finished Maria High School. Her mother Martina Varkalis moved to Los Angeles in 1944 with her daughters. The Lithuanian St. Casimir's parish was still in its infancy. Mass was held in a converted living room and dining area of a residential home. Mother Martina and daughters helped wherever and whenever needed. Mrs. Varkalis and her daughters were organizers and charter members of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance Chapter in Los Angeles.

In 1946 several of the younger Lithuanians gathered and held a meeting in an attic room above the Chapel. With Fr. J. Tamulis presiding, officers were elected and Council 133 was born. Helen was one of the officers elected. Since then, Helen remained in one office or

another.

In April 1951, Helen married Edward Bartkus. It was a big event for the Lithuanian community. Edward then, too, joined the K of L and the Lithuanian St. Casimir's parish where both he and Helen helped with yearly parish concerts and bazaars.

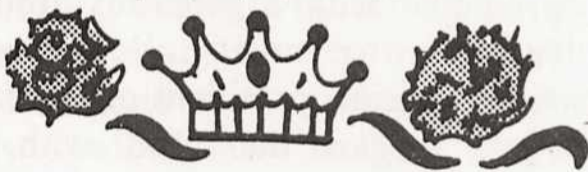
The 44th National Convention was held in Los Angeles in 1957. The small LA Council obligated practically every member with some responsibility. However, those on the convention executive committee had a full-time job. Mr. & Mrs. E. Bartkus served on the executive committee. Again for the 52nd National Convention in 1965, Helen and Edward served on the executive committee. Both conventions were considered very successful. At that time, Leonard Valiukas was president of Council 133 and chairman of both conventions.

On June 26, 1983, Helen was elected president of Council 133. Plans were made to hold meetings at least three times a year and to include cultural programs.

Helen loved Lithuania, the country of her parents, a country she had hoped to visit some day. She was a patriot.

Helen's goodwill, kindness and love held us in bond. We'll miss Helen.

B. Sk.



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-7 — WATERBURY

Lithuanian Independence Day was commemorated by Waterbury Council on February 16. Dr. William Shukaitis was installed as mayor for the day. The Lithuanian flag was raised and flew over city hall. Mayor Edward Bergin, US Rep. John Rowland and other dignitaries participated. President Walter Kalick headed the delegation of Waterbury Knights.

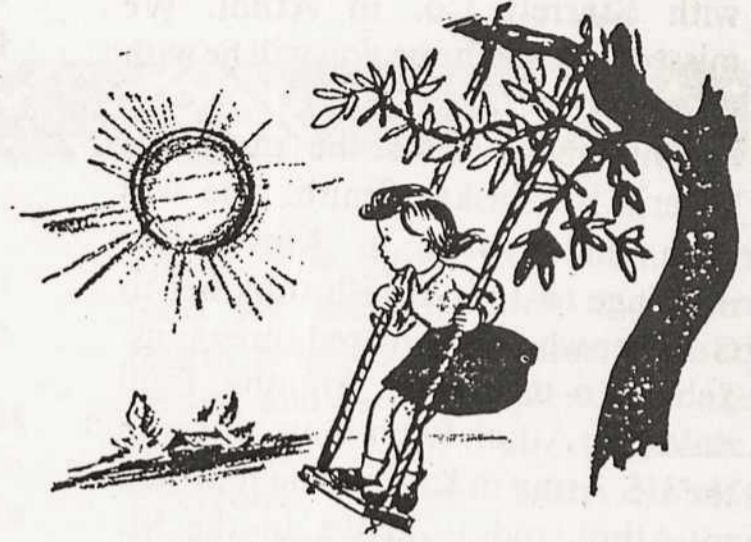
Victor Vaitkus, our dedicated member, organized and hosted the commemoration. Mr. Vaitkus is president of the Lithuanian Community and vice president of St. Joseph's Parish Council. Thank you, Victor!

Congratulations to Paul Matasavage on his election to the presidency of the Lithuanian Club. Council 7 is proud to have Edmund Shukaitis, Dr. William Shukaitis and Henry J. Kachergis also serving on the executive board.

The four councils of Connecticut in conjunction with the Lithuanian Community are working for a mandated Lithuanian Day. Wish us luck!

The Rev. George Vilciauskas, our spiritual advisor, officiated at the Mass honoring St. Casimir on March 4 in St. Joseph Church. After Mass, members assembled in the K of L club rooms. Diane Lazauskas and her mother Marjorie Garthuart hosted the social hour.

B & D



C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

The Gardner News artist, Jim Murphy, drew a large picture of a scroll depicting the Mayor of Gardner's Proclamation of February 16 as Lithuanian Day in Gardner. It included our tri-colors, a Vytis and a banner asking for the restoration of human rights to the Baltic states and a short history of Lithuania. This was done through the efforts of President Bill Wisniauskas. It was excellent publicity, and Jim Murphy deserves a big thank you.

On March 2, our council observed the Feast of St. Casimir by attending Mass in St. Francis Church, Athol. Fr. Steponaitis was celebrant and homilist. Scott Pralinsky was organist. Nell Melaika and Ann Ambrose were the gift bearers.

On March 3, sixteen of us traveled to Maironis Park and attended the St. Casimir Feast Day Banquet. We all enjoyed the meal and program.

Barbara Eacmen who was recently hospitalized and underwent surgery is now well on the mend.

Stan and Alice Perekslis recently returned from an extended trip to Hong Kong and China. What amazed them was that in China they were referred to as Numbers 30 and 31, not as the Perekslises. They never got to see the China Wall.

Mary Gauronsky recently retired

after many years of faithful service with **Starrett Co.** in Athol. We missed you and hope you will be with us again.

Our member of the month is Valeria Brazinskas Smith. She was born and reared in Athol. Her marriage to John Smith took her to Gardner where she reared three sons. John is a teacher in Gramby; Paul resides in Athol; Peter is an officer in the US Army in Korea. She returned to Athol and is active in the St. Francis Women's Guild and K of L. Her hobbies are cooking, sewing and travelling. Lil, we wish you many active years in our council.

Vincukas

C-17 — BOSTON

On March 3, the K of L in Boston observed the traditional Communion Breakfast in honor of St. Casimir. Mass at St. Peter's in South Boston was offered by the Knights in memory of such stalwart Knights as Msgr. Pranciskus Virmauskas, Kazimieras Urbonavicius, Rev. Kazimieras Jankus as well as all deceased members.

Prior to the Mass, the Knights trooped in with organization flag and color guard. Pastor Rev. Albert Contons offered the Mass and gave an inspirational sermon.

Council President Alexander Akule presided over the commemoration. Anthony Shalna, master of ceremonies, introduced the guests at the head table and invited Pastor Emeritus Rev. Anthony Baltrashunas to give the keynote address.

Speaking extemporaneously with brief notes, Father Anthony spoke about people with ideas and a purpose who try to realize their purpose. As an example, he pointed out Bishop Motiejus Valančius who sought to educate Lithuania in Lithuanian despite the tsarist attempts to russify. He took a keynote from the Samogitian Bishop

himself. "Ask not who I am, but what I am." The K of L follows the same precept.

"Apuokas"

C-26 — WORCESTER



It's May, the beautiful month, when we honor the Blessed Mother in a special way. Grateful sons and daughters remember their mothers, living or dead, lovingly and prayerfully.

The Valentine's Day supper, Ann Walinsky and committee, and the Lenten supper in March, with Ivaska and committee, were attended in great number by very satisfied diners. These traditional supper meetings continue to be most popular.

Our beloved Nell Thompson, mother of Rita Pinkus, died on January 19. This lovely lady will be remembered for her goodness and pleasant manner. Nell's lovely soprano voice sang with the best of them! Solos at weddings, funerals, religious concerts, especially Seven Last Words of Christ cantata, bring to mind fond memories. To her family, heartfelt condolences on the loss of their wonderful mother.

Lewis Lloyd's team is #1 on the bowling league with but a couple weeks to go. A lot of competition here!

You missed an opportunity to hear the latest efforts in the fight for Lithuania's freedom if you were absent from Worcester's com-

memoration of Lithuania's independence. Dr. Jack Stukas, accompanied by his wife, our esteemed National President Loretta, was guest speaker. His talk was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Kudos to

Anne Leseman who gave a detailed report of Dr. Stukas' address and events of the day at the council meeting.

Through the efforts of our pastor, Rev. Anthony Miciunas MIC, the traditional St. Casimir family day was just one more pleasant event. Mass, celebrated by Father Miciunas, sung by the Men's Choir, was most beautiful. The dinner at Maironis Park in the afternoon gave parishioners an opportunity to renew acquaintances. Our ever-faithful friends from St. Francis of Assisi Church in Athol filled two tables. They were accompanied by Rev. Justin Steponaitis, their pastor. Distance means little to the active Athol-Gardner group.

Our own Casimirian Chorale — Joseph Sakaitis, Francis & Adele Degutis, Claire Grigaitis, Stephen Walinsky Sr. and Francis, Edwina, Judy & Janet Ginkus — provided the entertainment.

The coffee hour following Sunday Masses was staffed by Ann Bender, Al Seilius, Rita Pinkus, Ann Bucinskas, Sharon Gouin, Geraldine Tagman and Helen Gillus for the month of April.

The Statue of Liberty will be presented with a generous amount from our council. Kazys Adomavicius, president of Maironis Park, began the fund with his personal generous contribution.

Eleanor Walinsky chaired the Spring Military Whist. She was assisted by her husband Steve and children Lynne and Mark. Marion Shapiro, Frances & Charles Kulakusky, Geraldine Tagman, Sharon Gouin and Millie Lapinskas also served on the committee.

Anthony Morkunas will be a resident indefinitely at the Brockton

Veterans Home and a card or letter will certainly help cheer him. Please also remember Angas Law at Providence House in Worcester. Prayerful sympathy to Mary Ulevich whose mother was laid to rest a week before Easter.

A pot luck supper with Easter bonnets and Easter egg contests highlighted the April meeting.

"Dzūkelė"

C-50 — NEW HAVEN

Many K of L members attended the traditional Kūčios hosted by the Lithuanian Women's Alliance of St. Casimir's Church in the church hall. Father Karalis opened with a prayer of thanksgiving. Mae Jacobs, looking more gorgeous than ever, extended a warm welcome to this solemn and happy occasion.

Bruno & Theresa Strimaitis, Estella & Anthony Leikus. John & Emily Saulys, abounding with hospitality, eagerly surrounded us with dishes of hot and cold Lithuanian food typical of the season. The Kūčios supper was blessed with real Lithuanian spirit. We sang Lithuanian carols.

Our raffle, an adorable little tree with exquisite Lithuanian ornaments, was won by Miss Zidonis. Her paintings have won much acclaim and were on display at the Ely Slade House in New Haven during the month of January.

On New Year's Eve we had our usual party to usher in the new year. It was well attended and everyone had a splendid time.

To close the St. Casimir Jubilee, we had a semi-formal banquet and ball on March 3. We had a great turnout. Patricia Tamulis was chairman. She was assisted by Leo Tamulis, Marion & Samuel Meshako, Helen Balchus, Isabel & Frank Peterson, Theresa & Bruno

Strimaitis and Ann Meskins. Leo Tamulis was toastmaster. You were great, Leo!

Father Cukuras, Chaplain at Immaculate Conception Convent in Putnam, was the main speaker. He gave us a wider scope of the early history of Lithuania which influenced the early years and short life of St. Casimir. He was eloquent, humorous, and interesting. He also entertained us with some folk songs and sang the "Ave Maria."

Theresa Strimaitis and Ann Meskins prepared the luscious



Rev. Albert Karalis, C-50 spiritual advisor, commenting on St. Casimir's Jubilee Banquet cake made by Marion Meshako.

dinner. The buffet was laden with food for second, third and even fourth helpings. Of course, we had dessert and there was plenty of cake to soothe your sweet palate. Everyone enjoyed Walt Solek's Band. Some preferred to listen rather than dance. Charles Geipel took charge of the raffle which added to the evening's excitement.

Thanks to those who helped to serve at the buffet, those who worked at the bar, those who baked all those cakes, and lastly those who gave their last ounce of energy to clean up.

Pat Tamulis and Marion Meshako, you made our evening enjoyable.

We were privileged to host the Supreme Council meeting on March 10. Father Karalis, our pastor, extended a hearty welcome. Ann Meskins and Theresa Strimaitis prepared and served the meal. Frank Peterson, our National Convention Chairman, gave a progress report.

Congratulations to Ann Francis who is now Mrs. Walter Harold!

H. B.



Rev. Val Cukuras, Chaplain at Immaculate Conception Convent, Putnam addresses Knights and guests at C-50 St. Casimir Jubilee Banquet and ball. With Father Val are Al & Eleanor Gutauskas and Leo Tamulis, toastmaster.



Barbara Sakalys, C-103, Providence, receiving Lithuanian Independence Day Proclamation from Governor Edward DePrete of Rhode Island in the Executive Chambers on February 15.



GOD'S MASTERPIECE IS MOTHER

God took the fragrance
of a flower

The majesty of a tree.....

The gentleness of morning
dew

The calm of a quiet sea

The beauty of the twilight
hour.....

The soul of a starry night

The laughter of the
rippling brook.....

The grace of a bird in
flight

Then God fashioned from these
things a creation like
no other

And when his masterpiece was
through, He called it
simply – MOTHER.



MID-AMERICA DISTRICT



Our District St. Casimir's Day Commemoration was held in Kenosha Wisconsin, St. Peter's Church with Pastor Rev. Zapolis MIC and Council 38 as hosts. The luncheon and program followed in the church hall and we were graciously welcomed by Council Pres. Theresa Balciunas, the Pastor, and all of the council members. A large group of Chicago area members attended, with the charter bus arrangements handled by Frank Svelnis and Mary Juzenas.

The M-C was Jonas Milisauskas of C-38 and Dist. Board Pres. Vince Samaska extended greetings.

Congratulations to Paul Binkis Jr., C-112 who was selected as the "Member of the Year" for his work in all levels of our organization; and to Antanas Sereika C-36 on receiving his 3rd Degree from Dist. Ritual Chrmn. AnnMarie Kassel.

At our March Business meeting, with Pres. Algerd Brazis presiding, many plans were made. After much discussion, a final decision on the K of L Bldg. Due to the ever-increasing operating costs, we found that it is no longer feasible to operate the building as a clubhouse and if we were to continue, we would need to operate it as a full-time business venture. Therefore, with much sadness, the building will be sold.

A special Archives Committee (Paul Binkis Jr., Irene Sankus, Mary Juzenas and Susan Bolanos) was formed so that all of the materials can be cataloged and processed.

The Spring Rummage Sales (Our Final for the benefit of the Bldg.) was held and was most successful due to the efforts of our Bldg. rustees — Al Zakarka, Al Mockus, Paul Binkis Jr., Frank Svelnis, Clemente Vidzius and their small but most capable crew (Julie Zakarka, Virginia Buzenas, Stephanie Mlodzik, Al/Ruth Dagus, Ed/Anele Pocius, AnnMarie Kassel, Ellie Kasputis, Estelle Rogers, Susan Bolanos, Sabina Klatt, Adolph/Stella Kaulauskas, Emilija Pakalniškienė, Gerry Mack, Irene Sankus). All of

the donations and everyone's efforts were most appreciated.

Our K of L Dancers, under the leadership of Frank Zapolis, continue to perform at various Lithuanian and civic events.

Under the direction of Faustas Strolia and presidency of Sabina Klatt, our K of L Choir after a successful concert in Rockford, participated in two performances of the inspirational "Seven Last Words of Christ" — which were held at St. Mary's Perpetual Help Church in Bridgeport and St. John Fisher Church in Mount Greenwood. Robert Mockus was the organist for both events.

LT

Mid-America District Member of the Year Award presented to C-112 President, Paul Binkis, Jr. by District Treasurer Irene Sankus (Photo: S. Bolanos)



Participants at Mid-America St. Casimir Day Commemoration, Kenosha, Wisconsin.



Council 36 — Brighton Park, Chicago — Officers and Chairmen for the 1984-85 year — L to R: John Paukstis, parliamentarian; Sabina Klatt, ways and means; Ray Wertelka, first vice president; Rev. Fabian Kireilis, spiritual advisor; Bruce Neberieza, president; Rev. Peter Cibulskis, annual prayer chairman; Aušra Padalino, recording secretary; Clare O'Dea, corresponding

secretary; Frank Svelnis, treasurer.

Standing — L-R — Vyto Abraitis, Jonas Kernagis, Antanas Sereika, sergeants at arms; Scottie Zukas, financial secretary; Jerome Jankus, third vice president; Lucy Kilkus, historian; Edward Valskis, Robert Gawryla, trustees; Gary Hochsprung, legislation; Juozas Zadeikis, Lithuanian affairs; Jonas Levickas, ways and means.

C-112 — Chicago, IL

A large group of our members joined members of the District for their Annual St. Casimir's Day Commemoration which was held in Kenosha Wisc. St. Peter's Church with C-38 as hosts. The bus trip was fun and we all express our appreciation to C-38 Pres. Theresa Balciunas and all of the council members for their hospitality.

Council Pres. Paul Binkis Jr., journeyed with us on the bus (crutches and all) and was well rewarded as he was selected as the District's „Member of the Year” for his K of L activities with the District, our council, the K of L Bldg. Trustees and the national board. As a memento he received a beautiful wood carving of our traditional „Vytis”. A honor well deserved!

At our March business meeting, we officially adopted the American-born Vytautas Skuodis as our prisoner of conscience.

Our member, Alexander Mathes, displayed his unusual and intricate wood carvings before and after the meeting.

Following the meeting, everyone enjoyed our St. Joseph's table,



Outgoing C-36 President John Paukstis passes the gavel to incoming President Bruce Neberieza. Witnessing the happy occasion are Rev. Fabian Kireilis and Rev. Peter Cibulskis.



C-112 Officers and Chairmen: Standing: Albert Dagis, Albert Cekanor, Alice Rekanor, Louis Rogers, Dolores Wainauskis, Albert Zakarka, Edward Deksnis. Seated: Canon V. Zakarauskas, Paul Binkis Jr., Mary Juzenas, Nativity BVM Pastor Rev. A. Zakarauskas.



Fourth Degree recipients Rev. A. Zakarauskas, Ritual Co-Chairman Albert Dagis, Alice Cekanor, Paul Binkis Jr., Ritual C-Chairman Ruth Dagis, and Peter Gagle (Photo J. Janula)

especially Josephine Juozenas and Joe Rudis. Social Chrm. Julia Zakarka and Louis Rogers thank everyone for the donated refreshments. Everyone outdid themselves and the table was spectacular.

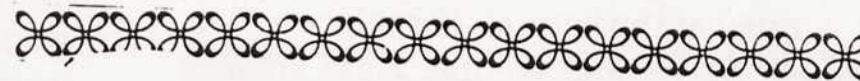
As usual, our members were in the forefront of the workers for the last Bldg. Rummage Sale which was held in March. The event was the most successful and in addition to working the sale, we also transferred the Archives to the residence of our president. The District officially appointed Paul Binkis, Susan Bolanos, Mary Juzenas and Irene

Sankus as the Archives Committee. This group and their willing helpers will process the proper materials to the Natl. Archives, catalog all of the material, and reconstruct the District Archives for future use.

Our K of L Juniors, under Dist. V-P Maria Deknis, and counsellors enjoyed an Outing to the Chicago Historical Society to view the museum's exhibits and the "Making Music — Chicago Style" exhibit which includes the K of L Choir. After the outing, everyone returned to the Zakarkas and enjoyed a pizza party, courtesy of Ellie Kasputis.

iks

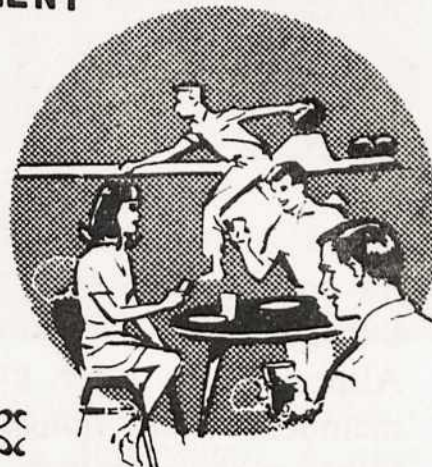
BOWLING
FUN FOR ALL



at the

ANNUAL MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT

MAY 17-18-19
HOSTS C-25
CLEVELAND



MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-25 — CLEVELAND

Are you getting ready for the Big Tournament May 17, 18 and 19 in Cleveland? We are!

Getting averages established is more fun than compulsory. Bowling social was hosted by Marge and Andy Andrus in February. A good time was had by all at the home of Dolly and Tony Oberaitis in March. Nelda and Charles Machutas entertained in April. Thank you, members!

Mass and Communion at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in observance of St. Casimir's Day, March 3, was followed by brunch at the Holiday Inn. Fr. Goldikovskis attended.

A prospective junior member, Samatha, the world's smallest leprechaun, was born to Laura and Jim Farrell.

In absence: Ben Karklius vacationed with John Andrulis in Sun City, Arizona. Vince and Marion Gray drove to Florida for a couple of weeks. Helen and Bill Jakubs cruised the Caribbean. Nellie Arunski took time out to move into a new apartment. Al Wallis is recovering after hip surgery.

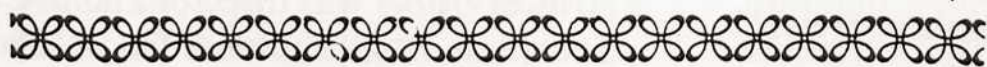
Register early and stay late for all activities May 17, 18 and 19 at the Mid-West Bowling Tournament.

Dolly-O

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

The February meeting set the scene for the presentation of the First and Second Degree to Leonard Balkus and Second Degree to Isabel Pavlichek.

Public Relations Chairman Tony Dainus presented the facts on the controversial oak tree in Manchester, near Camp Dainava. The big oak tree was publicized in our newspapers. It



stands too close to the highway and is a hazard to motorists. The oak will be saved. Instead, the highway will be relocated. As Tony stated, the oak tree is actually in Dainava, the Lithuanian Youth Camp.

Tony also encouraged the preservation of old photos, records and other memorabilia by beginning C-79 archives. Some items are 100 years or older.

Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės Šventės Minėjimas was held on February 17. A special Mass was held at Divine Providence Church with all organizations participating. A commemorative program was held in the Cultural Center. Approximately 400 people attended. Proclamation by Michigan's Governor James Blanchard was read by Milda Skorupskienė. Irene Cernius of London, Ontario, entertained with Lithuanian folk songs. A young



Folk Dancers at Southfield Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration.

dance group, Audinys (Weave) performed traditional dances in costume.

The Detroit Free Press was commended for an excellent article and photo on "Lithuanians Wait for Second Liberation," by Jim Finkelshtein. He wrote of Lithuania's liberation in 1918 and that Lithuania can be freed of Soviet dominance for another independence.

The observance of St. Casimir's Day on March 3 started with Mass at Divine Providence. Our pastor Fr. Victor Krisciunevicius officiated at the High Mass. Joseph Yakstys carried the Vyčių flag, followed by a processional gathering. Offertory gifts were presented by President Magdalena Smailis and Mary Keller. A vase of spring flowers carried by Virginia Kirsh was placed at St. Casimir's niche.

After Mass, members gathered for brunch at the historical Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills. Approximately 50 of our members participated. Our appreciation to Chairlady Mary Keller and her committee who planned the fine luncheon.

A spark of pride was ignited when Ann Uzdavinas, formerly from Pittsburgh, learned Pittsburgh was rated as the nation's best place to live.

Marie and George Kase spent a restful and happy two weeks cruising the Pacific. Bethra Janus, Olga, Ceil and Vern spent February in Florida. Helen Santorum visited with her daughter Colleen and two-year-old granddaughter in Florida.

Our sympathy to Helen and Joseph Usoris upon the death of her father and Mrs. Narklin on the death of her beloved husband Carl. Our regrets that Mother Nature played havoc with the weather on March 4 during Mr. Narklin's funeral. Although we were grounded, the members shall remember Helen's father in their prayers.

SOFFI

C-96 — DAYTON

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The photos which correspond to C-96's report appeared in the April issue of VYTIS.

"Our apologies"



It was a Super Special Sunday — January 27! The committee chaired by Aldona Ryan and Elaine Pacovsky prepared a special program to honor the youth of Council 96 and to commemorate the Year of Lithuanian Youth. Fifty-three attended.

Other members of the committee were Judy Petrokas, Rita Ambrose and Joe Ryan. Aldona Ryan MC'd the program. Fran Petkus, Mid-Central District President, and Elinor Sluzas, National Vice President in charge of Juniors, gave talks. The pizza was enjoyed by everyone. TV sets were brought in so the group could watch the Super Bowl.

Congratulations to Michael and Norma Petkus on the birth of their son. Fran Petkus, the new grandma, is especially proud of the blessed event.

On the 67th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Lithuania's Independence, the lovely Udrys Family from Jackson, Michigan, presented a program such as we have never seen. Four children ranging in age from three to twelve sang many Lithuanian songs, some of which were in a comical vein. Three of the children also played several violin selections. Mother Rūta Udrys accompanied them on the piano, and Father Arūnas Udrys was director and MC. Everyone in the audience fell in love with this family.

Our Junior Choir is coming along

nicely and have sung for several Sunday Masses. They will sing on Mother's Day. What a joy to see these young people enthusiastic and eager to come to rehearsals on Saturday mornings. Many thanks to their parents for encouraging this activity.

The K of L Bake Sale on Palm Sunday weekend was a huge success. Two of the main door prizes, wine and cheese basket and huge fern plant, went to Col. Leo Matkins. Many thanks to the people who donated the goodies and baked goods.

Cecelia Yankus

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT



This year of Lithuanian youth the Mid-Atlantic District Communion Breakfast and Convention took place in Newark.

It seems that all MAD members love to come to Newark. No wonder almost 300 of us filled the small, but very cozy Holy Trinity Church. The Mass was celebrated by the pastor, Msgr. Scharnus. In his sermon he reminded us of the great role that the Knights play in the survival of Lithuanian parishes. Rev. Klemensas Zalalis OFM, a Lithuanian Franciscan, assisted at the altar. During Mass four Fourth Degrees were bestowed on our hard-working Knights. Among them was Msgr. Scharnus.



Mid-Atlantic District members awarded the 4th Degree at last years national convention receive their long-awaited medals at District meeting in Newark, NJ.



Ann Challan and Leo Butsavage of C-143, Pittston were inducted into the 4th Degree. National President Loretta Stukas and Rita Sussko, MAD Ritual Committee, assisted in the presentation.



National President Loretta Stukas congratulates Polly Ziausys, C-100, Amsterdam, recipient of the 4th degree. Also in photo Regina Schmidt and Ann Challan.



C-12 Manhattan members in Newark at Mid-Atlantic District meeting.

After Mass and a most delicious meal (no wonder almost 300 of us showed up — it's the magic of Council 20 šeiminkės), our meeting was called to order by MAD President Larry Janonis. Mary Stonis, president of the host council, asked Msgr. Scharnus to open the meeting with prayer. Seven Third Degrees were bestowed.

The main speaker was our ever-popular president, Loretta Stukas. She congratulated all the Kazimieras and the Kazimieras. Loretta recalled for us the festivities in Rome which echoed throughout the free world and even Lithuania. This echo must not fade with the end of the year but must reverberate until 1987 when we will celebrate Lithuania's baptism.

President Janonis reported that we are still growing. This year another two councils, one in Binghamton and one in Riverhead both in New York State, were formed. The MAD Fair is on April 13 and 14 at Transfiguration in Maspeth.

John Adomenas, first vice president, spoke about our increase in membership. John Antanavicius, second vice president, spoke on the year of the youth. Secretary Adele

Dauzickas reported that at present we have 23 councils and 1422 members.

Bernice Aviza, editor of *Vytis* and chairman Lithuanian Affairs, reported on the activities of Amsterdam Council where whole families are involved in helping Lithuania's cause. Bernice is seldom absent from a convention no matter how far it is from her native Albany.

Public relations Chairman Dalia Bulvicius reported on the letter-writing campaign to Lithuanian dissidents in prison. Ninety per cent of all letters were returned. This proves the Soviet Union's tampering with the international mails. All letters will be presented to Congressman Benjamin Gilman's commission which is investigating this matter.

Resolutions passed included to aid the Lithuanians being persecuted by the OSI, to donate \$100 to our adopted St. Casimir's College in Rome and to sponsor a junior member to Camp Aušra.

When our meeting was almost half over, tremendous applause greeted our Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Frank Bulovas. He urged us, especially this year of the youth, to pray for an increase in vocations.

Marytė Lepera, our cultural chairman, produced a special program — a Lithuanian radio show featuring a choir from the US and the reading of a poem written by Baranauskas whose anniversary we are celebrating this year, by Jonas Tamasauskas.

The minute the meeting was over, our gracious Council 29 hosts urged us to a buffet table filled with all kinds of goodies. All enjoyed the huge lottery. Nobody wanted to go home and begin a diet until our next meeting in June.

Dalia Bulvicius

C-3 — PHILADELPHIA

Hooray for our Juniors! Under the direction of Bill Miller, our Juniors participated in a "Mugé" at the Lithuanian Music Hall. Our kids made their signs and manned their booth. President Barbara Mickunas, Andrew and Walter Svekla served as the committee.

On December 22 at St. George's Lithuanian Church, our council successfully sponsored a *Kūčios*. This was our first attempt and guests numbered 136. Our committee consisted of Victor Stepalovitch, chairman, assisted by Dolores Herbert, Francis Downey and Marytė Lepera. This small group prepared all the food at home. A very special thank you to Anastasia Binkis who directed the preparations.

This group was joined at the hall by Agnes and John Mickunas, Richard Herbert, Joe Budelis and Diane Drumstas. Table setting was done by Kathy Herbert and Pam Lepera. Labai ačiū, Father Anderlonis.

We celebrated St. Casimir's Day on March 3 in St. Casimir's Church, Father Wassel, pastor, Offertory gifts included crown, lily and sword. Our readings were done by our Juniors, Barbara Mickunas, Andrew and Walter Svekla and Carol Ann



Jewel Ushka, C-3, presented a lily in the offertory procession at St. Casimir's Church at the observance of St. Casimir's Day.

Drumstas. Luncheon followed at the Lithuanian Music Hall.

Thanks to our faithful organizer, Bill Miller, we are looking forward to a casino trip to Atlantic City.

We will continue to pray for the recovery of Annetta Zulick, Al Marcelis and Francis Downey. We will also remember to pray for Al Ushka who passed away recently.

Tom Lepera

C-12 — MANHATTAN

On February 10, Council 12 commemorated Lithuania's declaration of independence at their parish church of Our Lady of Vilnius.

Mass was offered by the pastor, Rev. Vytautas Palubinskas. In his sermon, Father reminded us that we must not falter in our battle for freedom. Our weapons are our love for our country, our Lithuanian traditions and our language. But most important our prayers must never be forgotten.

During the offertory these gifts were presented: a vytis symbolizing our organization, a green lighted candle symbolizing hope and Nijolė Sadūnaitė's prison garb symbolizing our poor suffering country.

After Mass in the church hall, Millie Pietz chaired the program. The main speaker was Ed Cook. He spoke about five important dates in the history of Lithuania.

There was a pleasant surprise when Charles Matunas arrived with two films about Lithuania, one taken during her independence and the other at Lithuanian Day at the New York World's Fair of 1939. It was a wonderful introduction to life in Lithuania for those who never saw the land of their forefathers. The World's Fair picture showed the parade of thousands of native costume adorned Lithuanians bearing posters with the names of their home towns. When the eye of the camera caught a big black cloud obscuring the bright sun, all of us realized what tragic fate followed our poor Lithuania after this happy day of 1939. It is our opinion that other councils should make use of these films.

While still filled with the enthusiasm of our independence celebration, our council welcomed the feast of our patron saint. Mass was offered by Rev. Palubinskas and the readings were done by Prof. J. Daubenias. Offerings were brought by the younger members of the council; namely, Melina Grill, Karen Cook and Barbara Yurkus.



Sr. Urban speaking at C-12 Communion Breakfast. Seated to her left is HM Joe Boley.

The program was MC'd by Larry Janonis. We had two speakers. Sister Urbana spoke about what makes a

saint. Rev. Peter Stravinskas, a director of the Catholic League, spoke about this year being the 20th anniversary since Vatican II.

Rev. Palubinskas thanked everyone who participated. He informed us that our parish is getting some new blood. Every month we see more youth and more new faces. Council 12 agrees with our spiritual director. Keep up the good work, Father!

Dalia

C-46 — FOREST CITY

The gala event of our 1984 year was our Christmas party. Our hall is decorated with the most beautiful American and Lithuanian decorations. All members come dressed festive. You would never guess that all the deluxe food served was prepared by these same ladies. It is a lot of fun to taste each specialty and try to decide which is better.

We meet once a month. All of our meetings are interesting. After the meeting, we have a social hour with coffee and homemade goodies served. Thus, we eat and socialize.

On February 16 many of our council members attended the flag-raising ceremony sponsored by C-74 in Scranton.

We hired a bus on March 3 and joined Council 74 Scranton to honor St. Casimir. We attended a beautiful Mass which was followed by brunch.

On March 10 we attended Mass in our own St. Anthony's Church to observe St. Casimir's Day. We dressed in national costume. Brunch was enjoyed after Mass.

Blanche Motsko

C-63 — LEHIGH VALLEY

There was a treat for the ears and even more pleasure for the eyes when Lehigh Valley Councilmet on March 17 in St. Michael's Church, Easton.

While Peter Malinchock provided piano accompaniment, the Knights opened their meeting with the singing of Lietuvos Himnas. Group singing will be a regular part of the monthly meetings, according to Len Barcoucky, president. At the next session on April 21, members will expand their repertory with the Vyčių Himnas, "Marija, Marija" and "Lietuva Brangi."

To treat the eyes was an exhibition of artworks and photos related to Our Lady of Vilnius. Vice President Joseph Ogint and Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Al Klizas transported and set up the exhibition. Most of the items were assembled by Father Timothy Barkauskas, a priest at Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine, Doylestown.

Plans were also made for the Third Annual Rūta Ball. The dinner-dance is scheduled for May 26 in the Family Center in St. Thomas More Church, Salisbury Township. Anthony and Mary Sockel are co-chairing the event. It will benefit Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. The program will begin with a noon Mass at St. Thomas More to be followed by a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing in the Social Center.

Joseph Ogint, Albert & Jeanette Klizas, Mary Sabol and Jane Lutick represented Lehigh-Valley Council at the Mid-Atlantic District St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast, hosted by C-29 Newark, on March 10.

Len Barcoucky

COUNCIL 72, BINGHAMTON, NY

SVEIKAS! St. Joseph's Lithuanian R.C. Church and the Knights are engaged in a variety of activities, keeping everyone in a happy and pleasant mood.

In February, the Mayor of the City of Binghamton, N.Y. issued a

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in
your prayers...

FRANK BERNATONIS
Member of
Anthracite C-144

LOUISE McALARNEY
Member of
Anthracite C-144

HELEN VARKALIS BARTKUS
Died January 9, 1985
Member of
C-133, Los Angeles, CA

JOSEPHINE REDDING
Died March 31, 1985
Member of
C-100, Amsterdam, NY

PAULINE MALLIN
Died December 4, 1984
Member of
C-61, Paterson, NJ

MATTHEW BALCETIS
Died January 13, 1985
Member of
C-61, Paterson, NJ

EUGENE MORRIS
Member of
C-61, Paterson, NJ

BENEDICT B. DERUS
Died January 6, 1985
Member of
C-25, Cleveland, OH



Fr. John Mikalajunas, Spiritual Advisor, C-72 and Binghamton Mayor Juanita Crabb at Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration at St. Joseph's Church, Binghamton.

proclamation commemorating the restoration of Lithuanian independence. The Mayor congratulated the Lithuanians "for its rich contributions to the quality of life in Binghamton."

After church services a Lithuanian breakfast followed in the church hall. Everyone enjoyed pancakes and sausages (blynais ir desros).

Early in March, Father Mikala-

junas had St. Casimir's celebration, the veneration of St. Casimir's Relic.

A class in the art of decorating Lithuanian Easter eggs (marguca) was held.

The parish is now preparing to honor a visit from Bishop Paulius Baltakis, the functioning Bishop for Lithuanian Catholics outside of Lithuania. Presently Bishop Baltakis is touring Australia and

will make Binghamton one of his first visits upon his return.

The April 27 date to honor Bishop Baltakis will include a Lithuanian dinner, Lithuanian folk dancers from Rochester, N.Y. as well as a Lithuanian band. There will be Holy Mass with all the priests in the Binghamton area invited to participate.

Plans for a trip to Lithuania during 1985 are being formulated. More information regarding the trip will follow.

IKI PASIMATYMO
Joseph M. Missavage

C-100 — AMSTERDAM

Some 60 members of Council 100 attended Mass on March 3 at St. Casimir's Church where all received the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Celebrant of the Mass and homilist was Spiritual Advisor Rev. Robert K. Baltch. The homily dealt with the patron saint of our organization, St. Casimir. A luncheon followed at the Sleepy Dutchman.

President Radzevich presided at the short meeting prior to the meal. A thank you letter from Jadvyga Regina, director of Lazdynas Dance Group of Rochester, was read. Sophie Olbie, chairman of the Lithuanian Day event on February 9, thanked committee members for their work, especially for the extra help received from William Burimaskas.

President Radzevich commended the Juniors on their participation at the Lithuanian Day program in Albany on February 10. Under the direction of Regina Kot, they sang a number of Lithuanian folk songs.

The keynote speaker at the luncheon was Bernice Aviza, associate editor of Vytis. She chose to speak on St. Casimir. She said, "Artists traditionally depict St. Casimir with a cross, a crown and a lily. The cross is a sign of his oneness



C-74 Scranton Flag-raising ceremony in commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day (L to R) Nancy Laske, Pres. Marie Laske, Chrm. Richard Laske, Vice-Pres. Casimir Yanish, Rev. Michael Zipay and National Vice-President Lithuanian Catholic Alliance Frank Katilos



Bernice Aviza, VYTIS Associate Editor, addressed members of C-100, Amsterdam at St. Casimir's Day Communion Luncheon. (L to R) Eleanor Olechowski, secretary, Gene Gobis, Vice-President, Rev. Robert Baltch, Spiritual Advisor, Anthony Radzevich, President and Rev. Anthony Grigaitis.

with Jesus in His suffering and death. The crown symbolizes his sharing in the victory of the Risen Christ. The lily is a symbol of his purity and total commitment to Christ. The lily, cross and crown make up the purest of garments that adorned his soul and admitted him to the heavenly banquet."

She continued, "Lithuania, the land of St. Casimir loved so much, is called a Land of Crosses, a Nation of Martyrs. Behind the Iron Curtain erected by Soviet occupation forces, the faithful of Lithuania are going the silent Way of the Cross, sharing in the suffering and death of Christ."

"The moral courage of St. Casimir is an invitation to be one with the young people of Lithuania who last year defied threats and danger to observe the Jubilee of St. Casimir on March 4 at his tomb in Vilnius. There they sang, 'Our nation promises you, St. Casimir, on the tombs of our heroes and the blood of our martyrs, to stand firmly under the cross and await the dawn.'"

Mary Stanionis, ritual chairman, announced that seven members, six of whom are Juniors, qualified for the First Degree and two members qualified for the Second Degree. Rev. Robert K. Baltch conferred the First Degree on Irene Tice and the following Juniors: Kristin Olechowski, Julianne Nikstėnas, Joseph Nikstėnas, Joseph Kot, Richard Jasewicz and Kenneth Jasewicz. Recipients of the Second Degree were Mary Ann Nikstėnas and Ann Bleckas. President Radzevich praised the Ritual Committee of Mary Stanionis, Elizabeth Kuzmich and Judy Kastraveckas for an excellent job.

Frances Wolan won the centerpiece.

We missed Leo Druziak at our luncheon. He was admitted to the hospital later that day with pneumonia. Get well wishes from all our members, Leo!

SMILE & SPARKLE

MOTHER IN LITHUANIAN POETRY

*Gray winds were blowing,
Whistling by the forest.
She waited by the gate
Ever hoping for his return.*

*J. Augustaityte-Vaiciuniene
"A Mother's Vigil"*

*O, mother, spring of my joy,
caring so deep,
You are forever young, ever
beautiful and good.*

Petras Vaiciunas "To Mother"



C-110 — MASPETH



NYC Mayor Koch presents Lithuanian Independence Day proclamation to American Lithuanian Council. At City Hall for the occasion are John Adomenas, C-110 President, Adele Dausickas, National Recording Secretary and Walter Steponis, Pres. — American Lithuanian Council.

Lithuanian Independence Day was significantly remembered. On February 15, a representative group, led by John Adomenas and Adele Dausickas, met with New York City's Mayor, Edward I. Koch, and with Councilman Walter Ward, at which time C-110 was presented with an official proclamation commemorating the occasion. Al Marcel, C-110 member and aide to Councilman Ward, arranged the meeting with the Mayor.

On February 17, C-110 hosted a breakfast after Mass.

Our Annual St. Casimir's Mass and breakfast was held on March 3 in Transfiguration Church Hall.

Honored guests included Brother Daniel Staniskas, State Senator Martin Knorr and Assemblyman Frederic Schmidt. Very special thanks and gratitude to Dorothy Sakel and Eleanor Carroll, who chaired this committee which included John Adomenas, Helen Abbene, Mary Baltrus, Kathleen Henry, Helen Janis, Dorothy Kinsky, Al Kraujalis, Susan & Mary Kurylas, Helen Matulonis, Al Marcel, Lottie Ulrich and Igny Wallis.

The standing committees for the current year include Fr. S. Reila, spiritual; Stasia Kraujalis, ritual; Helen Matulonis, Lithuanian affairs;

Fran Migliore, program; Evelyn Walles, cultural; Brenda Razickas, Vytis correspondent.

New members include Helen Abbene, Mildred Bartkus, Katherine Zaveckas, Caroline Mills and Mary Olszewski. Welcome!

Our April 47 dinner-dance chairpersons are Lottie Ulrich and Helen Abbene. Lottie is our famous cheesemaker!

Recent charitable contributions included Covenant House, Jack J. Stukas and Židinys radio programs, Catholic War Veterans Post #869 of Transfiguration and Transfiguration Church.

Happy anniversary wishes to Kitty & John O'Donnell who are celebrating their 53-rd! Get well wishes to Cecelia Koncius! Stella & Vincent Stripeikis and Muriel & John Lekstutis enjoyed their Barbados vacation.

Easter egg decorating directions were distributed by Evelyn Walles who also presented an interesting review of Easter customs.

Many thanks to Newark C-29 for their gracious hosting of the MAD St. Casimir's breakfast meeting on March 10. C-110 thanks you for your warm welcome. Helen Janis was awarded her Third Degree at the meeting.

Msgr. John J. Balkunas PE of Transfiguration Church warmly received your correspondent and husband Tony when we visited him in Florida. Msgr. Balkunas is well and, as always, very busy with the Lithuanian community's affairs. He sends most cordial greetings to all his friends.

Profile — Ignas Walles, C-110's vocally talented vice president, is a member of the Perkūnas Choir which performs throughout the United States and Canada. Congratulations to Igny and Evelyn on the expected grandchild.

Su ramybe ir meile —

Brenda Bell-Razickas

C-142 — WASHINGTON

On Sunday, February 17, members of Washington Council 142 honored the memory of Thaddeus Kosciusko, the renowned Lithuanian volunteer in the American Revolution who built West Point and fortified Saratoga, actions which led to the success of the American cause. They placed a wreath at his statue in Lafayette Park across from the White House to mark the 239th anniversary of Kosciusko's birth which took place on February 12.

Among council members present were Joseph Chaplick, president; Julia Burlen, financial secretary; Dr. Constantine Jurgela, the eminent Lithuanian historian; Paul Labanauskas, who had commanded the Lithuanian Navy prior to World War II; Albert and Genovaite Cizauskas; Eleanor Dependbrock; Mary Semel; Helen Spakowski and John Waylonis.

Other members of the Lithuanian Community present included Drs. Joseph and Danute Harmon, Charles Swedish and Mr. & Mrs. Plateris.

Mr. Labanauskas made the arrangements for the ceremony and

addressed a few remarks on Koosciusko's career.

The wreath-laying followed a High Mass in Latin at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington to commemorate the 67th anniversary of Lithuanian independence. Dr. Stasys Backis, Charge d'Affaires, and his wife were among the several hundred



Kosciusko Statue in Lafayette Park, Washington, CD.



Members of C-142, Washington assembled to honor Thaddeus Kosciusko to mark 239th anniversary of his birth.

who attended the ceremonies. The sermon dealt with the heroic struggles of the Catholic Church in present-day Lithuania. At the conclusion, the cathedral choir led those present in a beautiful rendition of the Lithuanian Himnas.

Albert Cizauskas, a retired US diplomat, was the featured speaker at the council's special meeting in honor of St. Casimir on March 3. Mr. Cizauskas presented a detailed sketch of Kosciusko's adventurous career, focusing upon the latter's philosophy that social justice and political freedom cannot exist without each other. He pointed out the interesting historical coincidence that Kosciusko and Lincoln, with the same birth date, shared similar social ideals.

One of the most noted acts was his will in which he left all the money he had earned in the Revolution to Thomas Jefferson to purchase the freedom of American slaves and to finance their education.

Another was his promise, as military commander of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in its struggle against Russia during the Insurrection of 1794, to liberate all the serfs in the Commonwealth and to invest them with proprietary rights to the lands they had worked.

Albert Cizauskas

C-143 — PITTSTON

Council activities for the 1984 year concluded with Kūčios. Alberta Walsh and Maria Lauch were co-chairpersons. Bartoli Caterers pleased a large turnout with some very good, satisfying ethnic food. A short program followed.

The new year began with installation of officers and appointive committees at St. Casimir's Church. Before Liturgy, Father Alisauskas installed the following: Anne

Challan, president; Paul Patrick, vice president; Leo Butsavage, treasurer; Annamarie Sewatsky, recording secretary; Nellie T. Bayoras, financial secretary; John Puscavage, sergeant at arms; Dorothy Banos, Charles Dainowski, Agnes Kishel, trustees. Committee appointments are Nellie Bayoras, Paul Patrick, Dorothy Banos, cultural; Helen Butsavage, Anna Davala, Adele Brooks, Lithuanian affairs; Alberta Walsh, Rev. Peter Alisauskas, Alice Puscavage, ritual; Grace Kuzacavage, historian; Anastasia Stanley, publicity and Vytis correspondent. The men served refreshments afterwards.

In February, council members showed up in multicolored costumes in various places commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day. Some witnessed the signing of the proclamation by Governor Dick Thornburgh in Harrisburg. Others were in Wilkes Barre where Mayor Thomas McLaughlin also issued a proclamation. A group attended in Pittston for Mayor Thomas Walsh signing. Council also received a proclamation from President Reagan and a citation from the House of Representatives.

Members again appeared at flag-raising ceremonies at the Luzerne County Courthouse in Wilkes Barre. In addition to dignitaries, clergy and friends, three choirs from local churches joined this impressive ceremony. Nellie Bayoras chaired this event. Committee served refreshments.

Lithuanian Independence activities ended with the celebration of the Eucharist. Father Alisauskas was celebrant.

The annual communion breakfast and Liturgy were held on March 3. The guest speaker was Florence Echart, secretary of the National Executive Committee of the Blue Army of Fatima. Marian Chepalis and Anna Walatkas were co-chairpersons.

On the Feast of St. Joseph members attended the celebration at the Oblates of St. Joseph, Pittston.

A delegation also attended the Mid-Atlantic District meeting in Newark.

Nellie Bayoras was presented a certificate of recognition for her exhibit depicting "Rivers of the World" at the Folk Festival.

A. Stanley



C-143 Flag-raising Ceremony at Pittston City Hall commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day. Participating in the ceremony were Rev. Peter Alisauskas, Nellie Bayoras, and Mayor Walsh.



Mayor Thomas Walsh of Pittston presents the Mayors Award for Outstanding Achievement to Ann Challan, President C-143 and Spiritual Advisor Rev. Peter Alisauskas in recognition of C-143's contribution to the pride and future of the Pittston community.

C-144 — ANTHRACITE COUNCIL

Anthracite Council observed the Feast of St. Casimir by attending Mass at Annunciation BVM Church in Frackville. The Rev. Gerald Gobitas, pastor, celebrated the Mass. Žarija Choir sang Lithuanian hymns. Frackville Junior Knights with Sister Angela as counselor presented the offertory gifts. Attorney John Domalakes was lector.

A breakfast was prepared and served by the ladies of Annunciation Altar and Rosary Society in the church hall. President Wargo extended the welcome. Sister Angela asked the blessing. Bernice Mikatavage was program chairman. Our own Annie Morgalis, Lithuanian representative on the Governor's Ethnic Heritage Commission, was our speaker. Joni Reinhart and her committee arranged the event for 65 members who attended.

Anne Carlitus, Lithuanian affairs chairman, urged members to con-

tinue writing to prisoners of conscience. US Senator Heinze of Pennsylvania nominated Viktoras Petkus, a prisoner in a forced labor camp in the Soviet Union, for the Nobel Peace Prize for his activities on the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights. Containers for "Pennies for Miss Liberty" are passed at meetings and monthly Lithuanian Mass at Our Lady of Šiluva.

Eleanor Vaicaitis, chairman, announced that the Lithuanian Cultural Center, South Broad Mountain Avenue, adjacent to BVM Church, Frackville, will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday throughout the summer months. With the assistance of Anne Sikora, Annie Morgalis, Tessie Ballulis, Joseph Yezulinas, John Joseph, Al Yockachonis, Helen Swatsky, Florence Orzechowski, John Balesky, Eleanor Yancofski and John Hudock, the center was refurbished for visitors.

Forty-four members traveled by charter bus to the Mid-Atlantic St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast, hosted by C-29 Newark on March 10.

Elsie Kosmisky, Anne Wargo and Chorus Director Eleanor Vaicaitis joined other MAD delegates in the presentation of a Lithuanian Radio Program from Free Vilnius, written and directed by Marytė Lopera, MAD cultural chairman. Thanks to Msgr. Scharnus and Council 29 for your unexcelled hospitality. Orchids to Rita Sussko and Ann O'Neil, co-chairmen, and your committee!

Anne Wargo, national cultural chairman, and Elsie Kosmisky, second national vice president, were accompanied by Rita Shevokas, member of scholarship committee, and Helen Chesko, Vytis council news editor, to the Supreme Council meeting in New Haven. Frank Peterson, chairman, presented plans for the 72nd National Convention. Council 50 provided comfortable quarters for the meeting and served a delicious meal. Many thanks to Father Karalis of St. Casimir's Church for his hospitality. Attending Lithuanian Mass on Sunday was a highlight of the visit.

We have good news! Father Shelonis, our spiritual advisor, recently resumed limited pastoral duties in St. Francis of Assisi. Our prayers for continued improvement!

The 71st Lithuanian Day will be held at Rocky Glen Park in Moosic on Sunday, August 18, due to the closing of Lakewood Park in Barnesville. This year's celebration will feature a Lithuanian Mass as well as the traditional program. We are looking forward to the support of all the Knights and friends from far away as we undertake this new venture.

C-147 — ST. PETERSBURG

Guests from New Jersey, Illinois and Connecticut attended our council activities. At our February meeting were Charles Oskutis of C-52, Elizabeth; Eleanor Kasputis and

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PLA

LITHUANIAN INFORMATION
CENTER
5620 S CLAREMONT
CHICAGO, IL 60636

VYTIS

Scottie Zukas
5112 S. Mayfield
Chicago, IL 60638

Return requested

Address Correction Requested



Estelle Rogers from C-112, Chicago.

Members attended Mass in observance to St. Casimir's Day in Holy Name Church, Gulfport, on March 3. Šauliai Flag Corps participated in the procession of flags. C-147's Vyčių flag was included.

A dinner followed at the American-Lithuanian Club. HM Anthony Mazeika, ritual chairman, presented Fourth Degree medals and certificates to our members who were not able to attend the 71st Convention in Chicago. Five members received Fourth Degrees at the convention.

Declamations were read and a skit presented by Edwardas Praniskas and Angela Shukis. Victoria T. Jacobson related a humorous anecdote about a "grinorka" and the naturalization officer.

Frank and Sophie Radzuinas from C-50, New Haven, were guests at the dinner and extended an invitation to the forthcoming convention.

Council 147 extends condolences to the family of Bruno Michelevicius who passed away in February.

May 1 is the date set for our annual picnic to be held in Veteran's Park.

Violet Kraujalis

VYČIAI ATŠVENTĖ SAVO GLOBĖJO ŠV. KAZIMIERO ŠVENTĖ

Lietuvos Vyčių 147 kuopa St. Petersburg kovo 3 d. atšventė savo globėjo šv. Kazimiero šventę. Iškilmingos pamaldos įvyko Švento Vardo bažnyčioje. Pamaldas, su

kitais keturiais kunigais, laikė ir šventei pritaikintą pamokslą pasakė Šv. Kazimiero misijos vadovas kun. V. Zakaras. Mišių skaitymus atliko Kaz. Kleiva. Pamaldose vyčiai ir abi šaulių kuopos dalyvavo su vėliavomis.

Prieš pamaldas Vyčių dvasios vadas kun. J. Gasiūnas įteikė 4-to laipsnio medalius vyčiams, kurie Centro Valdybos praėjusiais metais buvo jais apdovanoti, bet nedalyvavo Chicagoje vykusiame seime ir neturėjo galimybės ten juos priimti. Šios šventės progą medaliai įteikti kun. J. Gasiūnui, T. Liutkienei, A. Paleckui, J. Valauskui, K. Vilniui, E. Vilnienei. Praėjusiais metais Vyčių seime Chicagoje 4-to laipsnio medaliai buvo įteikti Victorijai Jacobson, K. Kleivai, V. Kleivienei, V. Kraujalienei, A. Kraujaliui.

Po pamaldų St. Petersburgo Lietuvių klubo mažojoje salėje įvyko narių pietūs su menine programa, kurią paruošė ir atliko E. Praniskas ir A. Šukienė. Šventės progą kalbėjo kuopos pirm. A. Kraujalis, A. Mažeika, Victorija Jacobson.

J. Gs.

C-152 — RIVERHEAD

We are pleased to report that Father Charles Mackevicius consented to be our spiritual advisor as long as it does not interfere with his duties as Chaplain of the Northport Veterans Administration Hospital. Welcome aboard, Father, hope you will be with us for a long, long time.

Father Mackevicius and Father Flaherty, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, were our speakers at our

First Annual Communion and Brunch commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day and St. Casimir's Day. We thank Father Flaherty for permitting us to receive Communion as a group at his church, for allowing Father Mackevicius to celebrate the Mass and for joining us for brunch.

It was gratifying to see the Lithuanian Community of this area lending their support and making this day outstanding both spiritually and socially. Many joined us and we are looking forward to a long and happy association.

Our membership rolls have now reached 60.

Our get-well wishes to Natalie Bilunas after a very serious operation. We hope her recovery will be a quick one.

Nice to hear that Walter Niska is home from the hospital and doing nicely.

Winter is a popular vacation time for our members. Mary and Joe Boelis enjoyed a visit with their son in Hawaii as did Sophia and John Velek with their son in Florida. Glad to see you back home!

All signals are "Go" for our First Lithuanian Festival to be held on September 15 at the American Legion Hall in Greenport. We invite you to keep this date open and come out to see us.

Since our next meeting will be after Easter, we hope you all enjoyed a Joyous Easter. May the gifts of Easter, faith, hope and love, be your blessings all year long.

"B"

