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SPALIS — OCTOBER

the KNIGHT



VYTTIS

1985

PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA



Youth Panelists: Rita Shevokas, Paul Strolia and Susan Gudeczaukas.

MŪSU JAUNIME — ATEITIS
 THE FUTURE IS IN OUR YOUTH

Convention Issue



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the KNIGHTS
VYTIS

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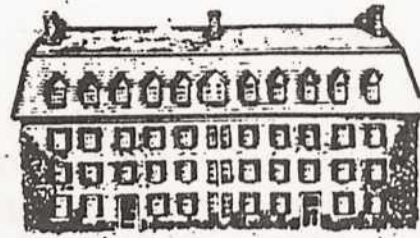
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KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA NATIONAL CONVENTION



**YALE
UNIVERSITY**

AUGUST 8 to 11, 1985

CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Front Row (L. to R.) Alex Gedrim, Rev. Albert Karalis, Frank Peterson. Back Row (L. to R.) Helen Medley, Isabel Peterson, Mrion Meshako, Ann Meskins, Audrey Foole, missing from picture: Mary Geipel.

YOUR HOSTS

COUNCIL 50 - NEW HAVEN, CT.

Knights Of Lithuania 72nd National Convention State of The Organization Report

*As presented by Loretta I. Stukas,
National President, August 8, 1985*

In accordance with Article XI, Section 2 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, I hereby submit to the delegates of the 72nd National Convention the Supreme Council's Annual Report, wherein I have combined all reports submitted to me before the Convention. It is important to note that this is but a summary of the work done by your Supreme Council, to give you a sense of what we have achieved this past year and where and how our organization stands today. The officers have provided fuller reports of their activities in writing, and we urge you to take home a set of these reports, read them carefully, and share the contents with your council members.

Spiritual Adviser

The Knights of Lithuania is grateful to Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, OP for his spiritual guidance and moral support provided the Knights during the past year. He attended all Supreme Council meetings and assisted in planning spiritual and other activities.

He is preparing to provide several one-day retreats for the K of L-ers, and has prepared a bi-lingual prayer to be used at all meetings.

Father updated and distributed the K of L Wake Service. He will provide a series of religious discussions for K of L meetings as part of the K of L participation in the 600th Lithuanian Christianization Jubilee.

Father offered Masses for 60 Knights whom God called to Himself since the 71st National Convention.

President

President Loretta Stukas organized and presided at three meetings of the Supreme Council. She represented the K of L at numerous events, including the ordination of Bishop Baltakis, the American Lithuanian Congress and others.

Mrs. Stukas was guest speaker in Bridgeport, CT, Elizabeth and Newark, NJ., and Kansas City, KS. and visited meetings of the MAD and MAMD Districts. After the illness of Legal Adviser John Narusis, Loretta appointed Alexander Domanskis as pro-tem Legal Adviser and worked with him to complete Tax-Exempt Status for the K of L Foundation, Inc.

She updated the K of L history in the Lithuanian encyclopedia and serves on the working committee to plan

the commemoration of the 600th Jubilee of the Christianization of Lithuania, to be celebrated in 1987.

By mail or in person, she handled organization of numerous other Supreme Council projects, e.g. VYTIS, Constitutions, Statue of Liberty donations, etc. and special PR releases, and keep in contact with representatives of problem councils.

First Vice-President

Membership Vice-President Nancy Pawasauskas Miro conducted the Membership Drive and will present awards to the winners later during this convention. Two new councils, C-71, Binghamton, NY and C-152, Riverhead, NY, were organized this year.

Nancy has planted many other "seeds" by sending organizational materials to prospective council representatives in various cities, including West Frankfort, IL, Jackson, Mich., Dallas, TX, Lewiston, ME and others.

She attended numerous events, representing the Supreme Council, including the Ordination of Bishop Baltakis, several Feb. 16 commemorations, and anniversary celebrations of parishes in Connecticut.

Second Vice-President

Juniors Vice-President Elinor Sluzas reports that we currently have 9 Junior Councils.

Elinor regretfully reports that in spite of Supreme Council plans to have a K of L Juniors Camp at Camp Ausra, Elmhurst, PA this past July, lack of enough registrations made it necessary to cancel the camp. Those who registered were transferred to the other English-speaking youth camp at Camp Ausra. Elinor had worked with Sister Angela in preparing literature for the camp. In spite of this year's failure, the Supreme Council will attempt to plan another week's camp for 1986, and strive harder to encourage Lithuanian-American youngsters, whether or not they are officially K of L Juniors, to attend.

Elinor suggests that other inter-city activities be planned for one day or a weekend for Juniors, to teach them about the K of L. She also recommends that a Junior Brochure be published, to advertise this important sector of our organization.

Third Vice-President

Seniors Vice-President Elsie Kosmisky reports that only two Senior Councils exist, and that one of them, the Cleveland Seniors is considering merging with C-25, the regular Council of Cleveland. She suggests that the duties of the Third Vice-President be reevaluated and changed to make the office more effective and useful.

Elsie has contacted all councils in search of pictures for possible use in the K of L History, and has received responses from 6 councils.

Recording Secretary

National Recording Secretary Adele Dauzickas notified members of pending meetings, kept minutes of those meetings, and sent minutes to all Officers and Honorary Members. She compiled and distributed lists of national, district and council officers and committee chairmen, and handled miscellaneous correspondence required by the Supreme Council, including processing resolutions from the 71st National Convention.

Adele prepared new forms for use by National Officers in submitting bills for reimbursement. She assisted in the organization of C-152, Riverhead, and presented the K of L Charter to C-72, Binghamton.

Financial Secretary

Helen Skudra, Financial Secretary, diligently processed dues payments and sent the checks to the National Treasurer on a weekly basis. She notified Council Financial Secretaries and Presidents as well as District presidents of delinquent members, and later, sent past-due notices to the delinquent members themselves.

She reports that as of July 20, we have 4,150 members. This represents a net increase of only 20 members since last Convention. While almost all councils showed at least small gains, one, unfortunately showed a loss of over 300, which canceled other gains. Efforts are being made to investigate the reason for this unusual loss.

Helen recommends that more care be taken in keeping present members active instead of concentrating on signing up new members. Also, more care should be given to bringing new members into full council activity quickly, to give them a reason to stay. The "revolving door" effect of signing up, then dropping members is not only costly in time and money to the National organization, but is demoralizing to the local councils as well.

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

Treasurer

Treasurer Teresa Trainis handled K of L monies efficiently and wisely. A full oral report on our financial

standing will be given later in the Convention.

Again, we were fortunate, that although income from dues and other sources were slightly less than expected expenses were also less than those budgeted, leaving the Treasury in reasonably good condition. We urge you to continue financial support of your pet projects and to help your councils maintain and increase their membership, so that the K of L can stay on a sound financial basis, and have needed funds to promote the religious cultural and political projects of the organization.

Trustees

Trustees Paul Strolia and Frank Peterson kept track of the Financial status of the K of L during the year, and will audit the National Treasurer's and the National Financial Secretary's books during this convention. They also investigated possible sites for the next National Convention.

Frank Peterson spent much time preparing for this Convention, as the Convention Chairman, and Paul Strolia headed preparations for the Convention's Youth Panel.

Legal Adviser

Legal Adviser John Narusis performed whatever duties were asked of him by the Supreme Council. Mr. Narusis suffered a brain hemorrhage this spring, and has been unable to continue his duties. Please pray for his quick and complete recovery.

Alexander Domanskis, of C-36, Chicago, graciously agreed to take over John's K of L work, and was most helpful in filing the necessary annual tax forms, and in completing the paper work necessary for obtaining tax-exempt status for the Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc. We are most grateful to Mr. Domanskis for his diligence and assistance.

Mr. Narusis' illness will not allow him to continue as Legal Adviser. Therefore, we recommend that Mr. Domanskis be appointed Legal Adviser by the next Supreme Council.

Vytis Editor

Editor Aldona Ryan and her staff continue to keep VYTIS alive and vibrant, as the publication celebrates its 70th year. Ten issues were published since the last convention.

After suffering a severe hand injury in Chicago, Aldona appointed Bernice Aviza Associate Editor and had her assume the duties of layout and paste-up. Also, Sophie Zukas, C-36, was appointed Circulation Manager, with the resignation of Gerry Mack. The rest of the VYTIS staff includes Helen Chesko, Council News Editor, and Ruth Kazlauskas, Lithuanians-in-the-News Editor. Ann Wargo supplies an abundance of Cultural News, and Algirdas Budreckis provides "Language Lore."

Aldona reports the best response yet to the Christmas

Greeting campaign. Also, Father Juozas Prunskis of Chicago donated \$1,000 to be used for the betterment of VYTIS and the Knights of Lithuania. This money has been placed in a special account and is used for special treatment of the 70th Anniversary issue of VYTIS (August/September, 1985), for an essay contest, and for subscriptions to selected colleges.

Aldona has announced her resignation as of the August/September issue. Bernice Aviza will be recommended to the new Supreme Council to replace Aldona. We are most grateful to Aldona for her outstanding service as Editor these past four years, and wish Bernice the best of success.

Mid-America District

President Algerd Brazis reports that the Mid-America District held 4 meetings during the year. They had a successful "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet in February, marking the 25th such banquet. In celebration of the "Year of the Youth", Faustas Strolia and Frank Zapolis were honored for their work in the K of L Choir and Dance Group, resp. The District celebrated St. Casimir's Day at Kenosha, WI in March, and held the traditional July 4th Picnic and Memorial Mass for deceased members.

Because of rising costs of repair and operation, the District found it necessary to sell the Knights of Lithuania building this year. New "rehearsal homes" were found for the Choir and the Dance Group, and District meetings will now be alternated among the parishes of the District councils. The monies gleaned from the sale will be used for special District projects.

The District consists of 9 regular councils, 1 senior and 1 junior council. Two of the newer councils, C-150, Kansas City, and C-40, East St. Louis, have grown and stepped up activity, and in fact won 2nd and 3rd prizes in the District membership drive. The new Youth Council, C-13, is also thriving.

Mid-Atlantic District

Larry Janonis, MAD President, reports on another active year for this District. The District sponsored three Conventions, in Philadelphia, Newark, (in conjunction with St. Casimir's Day), and Scranton. During these conventions, numerous resolutions were passed in support of religious, cultural and political causes, and an interesting series of cultural skits, depicting the K of L in "Year 2000 in Lithuania" were performed under the guidance of Mary Ann Lepera.

MAD has collected funds for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty, and has turned over \$3,400 to the Statue of Liberty Committee. They held another Lithuanian Cultural Fair, and plan a Leadership Seminar soon. They are holding another membership drive and are making plans for their 70th Anniversary this year.

This District has 23 councils, having added two new ones this year. Its councils regularly celebrate Feb. 16,

St. Casimir's Day and other special events, and participate regularly in local and state-wide Cultural Exhibits, Captive Nations demonstrations, etc.

Mid-Central District

President Fran Petkus reports that the District sponsored two Conventions, in Pittsburgh (combined with the District Pilgrimage), and in Cleveland, (in conjunction with the Midwest Bowling Tournament). All councils had special St. Casimir celebrations. MCD councils are active in all phases of activity, and have been generous in their donations to K of L and other Lithuanian projects, including the Scholarship, History, and Chronicle Funds, as well as the Lithuanian Legation, the Lithuanian Seminary in Rome, the Statue of Liberty, and various parish funds.

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

New England District

President Brony Lazauskas reports that the District had two Conventions, in New Haven, CT and Holyoke, Mass. and a weekend retreat in Kennebunkport, ME. This Fall, they plan a return pilgrimage to the Cathedral of the Pines in New-Hampshire, and a Cultural Picnic in Worcester.

Its member councils have been involved in a variety of activities, including Fund Raising for the Statue of Liberty and the Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania, Lithuanian language classes, letters to Prisoners of Conscience, collection of signatures for the Darius-Girenas Stamp, and others.

Mr. Lazauskas, who took over the District Presidency after the resignation of the previous president, has been most active personally. He has visited many of the District's 14 councils, attended various commemorations and Supreme Council meetings, and participated in many other Lithuanian activities.

Lithuanian Affairs Committee

Chairman Dr. Jack Stukas reports another active Lithuanian Affairs year. Most of the activity is directed by the Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin, edited by Miss Bernice Aviza under Dr. Stukas' direction. The bulletin is sent to members and friends of the K of L upon request. The cost of publishing the bulletin has been offset by donations received from members and councils.

Several councils, in co-sponsoring Feb. 16 Commemorations in their communities, collected contributions for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, as well as for other organizations, thus further aiding the Committee's work. More councils should follow this example.

The committee has worked to foster many causes by providing members with information about the activities of the US-OSI and its use of Soviet witnesses and documents to unjustly accuse Lithuanian-American citizens of Nazi activity, promoting Congressional over-

sight hearings on this, advertising the plight of Prisoners of Conscience in the Soviet Union, urging the return of St. Mary Queen of Peace Church in Klaipeda to the faithful, supporting the Baltic Peace and Freedom Cruise, and others.

Dr. Stukas has maintained relations with major Lithuanian organizations and broadcasts Lithuanian Affairs items regularly on his two radio programs. He was a guest speaker in Worcester, MA, and New York, NY, obtained a Feb. 16 Proclamation from Gov. Kean of New Jersey, and is a member of the N.J. Governor's Commission on Eastern Europe and Captive Nations History to survey school curricula and textbooks with respect to their treatment of Eastern Europe and the Captive Nations.

Dr. Stukas and his committee express thanks to all those members who have submitted clippings and news articles about Lithuania, for action by the committee, and urge more members to do this.

This year's "Friend of Lithuania" Award will be presented to Archbishop John Whealon, Archbishop of Hartford, for his work on behalf of Lithuania and Lithuanians parishes in Connecticut

Lithuanian Cultural Committee

Chairman Anna Klizas Wargo maintained contact with council and district cultural chairmen by providing a cultural agenda for the year and other information on how to conduct Cultural Activity on the Council and District level. A packet was sent to all councils providing a Lithuanian lesson on ordering food and other meal time conservation. The packet was prepared by Dr. A. Budreckis.

Anna submitted numerous Cultural articles to VYTIS, and helped with the Lithuanian Heritage Campe at Elmhurst, PA.

Councils report much activity in celebrating "Kucios" with their councils, and commemorating Feb. 16 and St. Casimir's Day. In response to reports of council cultural activity, Anna has selected prize-winners for the best activities. The awards will be made later during this convention.

Ritual Committee

Chairman Rita Pinkus and committee members Ann Marie Kassel and Magdalena Smailis report that 20 candidates have been approved for the Fourth Degree at this Convention. During the year, 14 First Degrees, 6 Second Degrees and 28 Third Degrees were awarded.

Public Relations Committee

Chairman Maryann Lepera sent post-Convention news to 21 Lithuanian and American newspapers and numerous radio programs, and has sent releases during the year to the various Lithuanian papers reporting on K of L activities. She kept in touch with districts and councils, urging them to sponsor Masses in honor of Archbishop Matulaitis, and to support the Lithuanian

College of St. Casimir in Rome with prayers and financially.

Maryann participated in numerous other local and state-wide Lithuanian activities.

Special thanks are expressed to Mrs. Emilija Pakalniskis and her husband Alexander for their work in editing and translating of items for VYCIU VEIKLA column in DRAUGAS, and to Dalia Bulvicius, who handles K of L news in DARBININKAS and Bridges. Mr. & Mrs. Pakalniskis have announced their intent to resign from the Vyciu Veikla editing, after 21 years in that post. We regretfully accepted their resignation, with sincerest thanks and commendation for a job well done.

Polly Ziausys of C-100, Amsterdam, and Alex Pakalniskis, Jr. of C-112, Chicago have agreed to assume these responsibilities as Co-editors and await your articles.

Scholarship Committee

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

Special gifts will be available during this convention as part of a raffle to benefit the Scholarship Fund. College costs continue to increase and the committee urges continued support for this important work.

The committee was composed of William Piacentini, Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer Clemencine Miller, Ray Vanagas, Al Jaritis, Anthony Mazeika, Rita Shevokas, Paul Binkis and Sr. Alverna Wells, OFM.

Honorary Membership Committee

Chairman Anthony J. Mazeika reports that the Honorary Membership Committee will bestow Honorary Membership on His Excellency Bishop Paulius Baltakis, OFM, and Estelle Rogers. The Committee will meet during the Convention to evaluate other candidates. We lost one outstanding Honorary Member, Adele Rubliauskas Gabalas, this year. Total living honorary members include 2 bishops, 2 priests, 16 Knights and 12 Ladies. Copies of procedure and Guidelines of Honorary Membership are available to all delegates at this convention.

Archives Committee

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

With the sale of the K of L building in Chicago, the Archive material that had been stored there have been moved to the home of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Binkis where they will be sorted and listed. All national materials will be turned over to the National K of L Archives in Putnam, CT. Mr. Svelnis has specifically requested that the original K of L Charter be moved to Putnam.

Lithuanian Language Propagation

Coordinator Algirdas Budreckis continued to foster the Lithuanian language among members with his "Lithuanian Lore" feature in VYTIS. He maintained liason with the Supreme Council President, VYTIS Editor and other officers and provided translation and other services where needed.

Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid

Chairman Frances Petkus reports that once again, the drive to sponsor the publication of an issue of the Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania was successful. During the past year, \$4,000 was collected toward the publication. All Districts participated and many of our councils contributed to this worthy cause. Once again, one member held a one-man campaign to collect 10% of the total goal, and succeeded, collecting over \$400. Congratulations to Mr. Bronislaw Lazauskas of C-7, Waterbury, for this great contribution!

Frances will present a check in this amount to Rev. Pugevicius, Director of the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, Inc., which now handles the publication of the Chronicles. This the third year in a row we have made such a donation toward this most worthy cause, with a total of \$9,500 having been donated in the past 3 years. I strongly recommend that we continue this practice, and begin another drive immediately.

K of L History

Helen Shields, History Fund Chairman, reports good progress on the K of L History, both financially and editorially. Rev. W. Wolkovich continues to compile and analyze material and continues collecting memorabilia, interviewing members, and otherwise gathering data. Financially, Mr. Jonas Valauskas, Honorary Member, has promised to sponsor the printing of the book, while the rest of the organization must collect the approximately \$15,000 needed for research and writing. Approximately \$1,100 needs to be raised yet in pledges or donations, to cover the cost of research and writing.

Those districts, councils or individuals who contribute at least \$75.00 will be acknowledged in the publication and will receive a complimentary copy. Contributions can be spread over the 2 years remaining until its publication. The History will be published in both languages, with English as the primary one and a summary in Lithuania. Helen Shields will be happy to accept your donation or pledge at this Convention. We hope that those councils or individuals not yet included in the list of 'pledges' join in this important project for our 75th Anniversary.

Year Of The Youth

The Knights of Lithuania year 1984-85 was officially designated the "Year of the Youth" last year. We asked

districts, councils and individuals to take positive steps toward increasing the active participation of YOUTH, especially those in the 18-30 age group. The idea bore some fruit, and presented some disappointments.

A new "youth" councils, C-13, Chicago, was "born" in June of 1984, and is thriving, with about 30 young adults under 30, working, socializing, and enjoying K of L activity "their way." Discussions are underway to form another such council in the Kearny/Newark, N.J. area.

Several old and new councils elected young presidents and other officers, and some of these were featured in the pages of VYTIS. Many councils engaged in discussions on how to include more youth in their activity.

But the disappointments were there too. A K of L Juniors Camp, planned at Camp Ausra this summer had to be cancelled because of lack of registrants. Of the 59 councils that received letters asking about their activities to attract youth, only 4 responded, and those responding were mostly negative or at most, apathetic. Of the nearly 285 new members enrolled this year, only 16 were under the age of 30. No more than 3 new members under 30 were enrolled in any one council.

We need to ask ourselves, "WHY?" Are we afraid of entrusting the youth with the jobs? Do we see them as a threat to our control? Has the Supreme Council chosen the wrong approach to this problem? Are the youth just not interested? or do WE just NOT CARE?

If we DO care for our organization, we MUST care about youth. We must strive to involve people YOUNGER than ourselves in the organization. Ask yourselves — where will YOU be in the year 2000 (just 15 years from now). Still vibrant and working for the K of L, watching the world go by from a rocking chair, OR "pushing up daisies"??? Then ask yourself "what have I done to make sure SOMEONE is around in 2000 to keep the K of L alive?"

Our official "Year of the Youth" is ended, but lets continue it in our hearts and our work for many more years. Let's have another Junior camp and make it overflow with K of L youngsters. Let's start more "Youth" councils, and let's make our meetings and activities responsive to the needs of younger members.

On Friday afternoon, four young members will tell us what THEY'D like from the K of L during the Youth Panel. Let's be there to listen and learn.

And on the subject of this Convention, let me remind you of another MOST interesting and entertaining panel. At tomorrow's morning session, JOHN V. CHERVOKAS, currently editor of Madison Ave. Magazine and an outstanding member of the Advertising world, will head a panel entitled "Color Me Lithuanian." John was a very active K of L-er in his student days. Today is an important editor and author. He is witty, bright, and has an important and interesting message to bring us. Let's make sure this hall is filled, to show him we appreciate his presence. You will love it.

College of St. Casimir

Last year, as an outgrowth of the "Year of St. Casimir," the Knights formally adopted the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, and vowed to help publicize, nurture, and enhance its important work. As the only Lithuanian seminary outside of Lithuania, its potential in promoting vocations has not been fully appreciated. Rev. Al Barrkus, pro-rector of the College, will speak on this subject tomorrow. But I would like to thank all the Councils and individuals who followed our lead and contributed financially to the College and prayed for it during the year. Father Al has established a K of L Fund from the donations, and will use that fund to finance special projects and needs of the college.

Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.

Looking for new sources of income so that we can keep our dues low and accessible to all, especially to the young and to families, the Supreme Council established and Endowment Fund, called the Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc. at the 70th National Convention. The Foundation was officially incorporated in 1984, and tax-exempt status has been applied for. The Foundation is made up of donations and bequests from individuals wishing to remember the K of L. Said donations are invested, the capital will be "untouchable", only interest will be used for K of L special cultural, educational, and religious projects.

Members and officers of the Foundation will meet on Friday to discuss future plans, and a full report will be given on Saturday. Several new donations have been received and others are pending. We hope that before the convention is over, other donations will be forthcoming. Forms appear each month in VYTIS, providing information on how to donate to the Foundation or include it in your Testaments.

Statue of Liberty Project

All of us are either immigrants or descendants of immigrants, who came to the U.S. seeking a new life. The symbol of that new life, the Statue of Liberty, is seeking our help, and I am happy to report that we are continuing to provide that help! The MAD has already turned over \$3,400 to the Statue of Liberty Renovation Fund. Numerous other councils and districts have also made donations. During this Convention, our own "Liberty Lady" will raffle a diamond cross, her donation, with the proceeds going to the Statue of Liberty Fund.

The Knights of Lithuania have been registered at "Liberty Leaders" and have pledged \$5,000 in donations. We hope to pass that sum. Councils and individuals wishing to donate to this cause should do so via our National Treasurer or should obtain information from her on how to contribute so that those sums are credited to K of L overall total donation.

Recommendations

As one Supreme Council prepares to turn over the reins to another, we would be remiss if we did not pass along some recommendations for bettering the future of our organization, based on our expertise.

The 1980's have seen our K of L enter a new era. It has grown in numbers, activity, stature, and responsibility. We must modify and modernize our operations to accomodate this new look.

1. National Conventions:

With increasing numbers of delegates and guests attending conventions, it is becoming difficult to find councils willing and able to accept the responsibility of hosting a National Convention. Not many councils have local facilities to accommodate 400-500 attendees, nor do they have enough experienced workers to handle the many jobs involved.

Perhaps now is the time to have the Supreme Council select the sites and host the Conventions. A site could be selected based on availability of accommodations, convenience to the delegates, and strategic location. Many of the tasks involved — program book, PR, cultural and program plans, printing, mailing — can be done away from the site by a Supreme Council appointed committee. Members of councils near the site can be called on to help with physical details.

Business and social events can be coordinated at Supreme Council meetings without the expense of the entire Supreme Council traveling to the host city. Expenses can be budgeted to bring down costs for the delegates and thus encourage more youth and families to attend.

This year, if no council or district bids for the Convention, we have a site in mind and will recommend that the Supreme Council be allowed to host the 1986 Convention. The site is Allentown, PA, in the convenient Lehigh Valley area. Members of neighboring councils 63 and 144 have indicated willingness to help with the physical arrangements and several other members are willing to help with tasks that can be done away from the site. Think about it. More information will be provided later.

2. Supreme Council Duties

We see a need to reassess the duties of some Supreme Council Offices, especially those of the Vice Presidents. With so few Senior Councils, the needs of Seniors can easily be handled by Membership V.P. Then one V.P. can be free to aid the President and to oversee special projects, as the National Convention, liason with other organizations, etc. If a National President is weak in the Lithuanian language, a good bi-lingual V.P. can help.

Such an arrangement would also provide for an unofficial apprenticeship for the presidency, and would make it easire to find suitable presidential candidates. The ideal would be to make the First V.P. serve as presidential aide and special events coordinator, and the

second and third V.P.s be responsible for membership and juniors.

This requires a constitutional change and thus can not be done until next year. In the meantime, we recommend that these duties be assigned to the 3rd V.P. this year.

3. Elections

Advance planning is efficient planning. For years, we've urged the Nominating Committee to select candidates early, before the convention, so that the candidates can be screened and contacted in advance, and councils told who is running, before the convention. A start was made this year. The Nominating committee did advance work to select candidates, though not early enough to publish the names.

We propose that a slate of candidates for officer for 1986-87 be selected by March, 1986, and that the names and biographies can be printed in the May or June issue of VYTIS. This does not preclude nominees from the floor, but does assure a smoother election.

4. Jubilee Year

Our 75th Jubilee is just 3 short years away. We're recommending, by resolution, that this Convention select a standing committee, with representation from all districts, to plan activities on the local, district, and national levels, to celebrate this Jubilee properly.

The Jubilee celebration should begin with the 74th National Convention in 1987, and culminate at the 75th, in 1988. We recommend that sites for both of these conventions be selected at the 73rd National Convention next year, and that one or both be hosted by the Supreme Council.

Several districts have already recommended members to serve on this committee. This convention should formalize those choices and empower the committee to begin its work now.

Summary

After the exciting "Year of St. Casimir" in 1983-84, this past year seemed almost anti-climactic. Activities leveled off, officers at all levels seemed to adopt a lay-back attitude. But after all, even God rested "on the seventh day" so why shouldn't we mortals be allowed to ease off sometimes?

By all standards, however, we did have a good year. Our membership increased, as did our finances. We added new councils and strengthened existing ones. We saw one of our own members, Paulius Baltakis, OFM, ordained a Bishop. We became heavily involved in the committee to plan for the 600th Jubilee of Lithuania's Christianization, contributed large sums toward publication of the Chronicles, the renovation of the Statue of Liberty, and the education of our youth. The K or L is on firm ground, our councils continue to defend Lithuania's name and her right to self-determination and enjoy her culture. We have a slate of quality candidates ready and willing to assume leadership for the K of L. Let us neither rest on our laurels or

sell ourselves short, but rather work together a little harder, a little better, to keep our organization young a vibrant, and an effective tool in the fight for Christian ideals and Lithuania's freedom.

On a personal note, I'd like to pause to tell you how much I enjoyed being your president these past 4 years. I leave the post with mixed emotions. I'll miss the excitement of planning activities and the fulfillment of helping the K of L grow and flourish, but I look forward with relish to the free time I'll have to pursue leisurely pet projects in my personal and professional life, and in the K of L, and to take a much needed rest after 4 years as president and 11 years as VYTIS editor!

A big, nuoširdus aciū to each of you, especially to those who served as officers in the Supreme Council or elsewhere and who were faithful and enthusiastic members, for your wonderful help, ideas, moral support, and especially your friendship and understanding. I made so many new friends from among you, and, doubtless acquired a few enemies as well.

If, in my zeal to improve the K of L or to enhance its stature, I inadvertently stepped on some toes or seemed to minimize or overlook someone's contributions to the organization, I apologize. If I carelessly failed to respond to someone's specific needs of seemingly ignored requests for help, forgive me. My excuse is lack of time, not lack of interest...human frailty, not a desire to offend or ignore.

We've had many good years, and many more await us. The nominating committee has put together an excellent slate for next year. Please give them the support and understanding you have our board. They have many important projects to see to fulfillment and they will need the help of each of you to succeed.

On behalf of the Supreme Council, thank you for your attention. May our patron, St. Casimir continue to watch over us and guide us in our effort "Dievui ir Tėvynei."

Dievas telaimina musu pastangas, pasiryžimus ir nutarimus. Dirbkime nenuilstamai Dievo ir Tėvyne labui. Lai Gyvuoja Lietuvos Vyciai.

Respectfully submitted,

- Loretta I. Stukas, National President



President Stukas and Secretary Dauzickas at Supreme Council meeting Thursday morning

1985 K OF L CONVENTION PRESIDIUM AND COMMITTEES



CO-CHAIRMEN

Larry Janonis, C-12, Manhattan
John Mickunas, C-3, Philadelphia
Dr. Algirdas Budreckis, C-17, So. Boston



SECRETARIES

Mary Juzenas, C-112, Chicago
Mary Kincius, C-112, Chicago



MANDATE COMMITTEE

Helen Skudra, C-36, Chicago
Sabina Klatt, C-36, Chicago
Scottie Zukas, C-36, Chicago

PRESS COMMITTEE

Helen Balchus, C-50, New Haven
Mary Ann Lepera, C-3, Philadelphia
Bernice Aviza, C-100, Amsterdam



Mary Ann Lepera announces greetings to convention.

GREETINGS COMMITTEE

Irene Sankus, C-112, Chicago
Mary Ann Lepera, C-3, Philadelphia

SGTS-AT-ARMS

Vincent Grazulis

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis
William Piacentini
Paul Binkis, Jr.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Larry Janonis, MAD
Bronislaw Lazauskas, NED
Frances Petkus, MCD
Paul Binkus, Jr., MAMD

**MINUTES COMMITTEE**

Helen Chesko, C-144, Anthracite
Anna Klizas Wargo, C-144, Anthracite



1st Vice-President Nancy Miro.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Membership awards were presented during the Saturday morning session by 1st Vice-President Nancy Miro. Awards were based on the membership applications received between 1/1/85 and 6/30/85 and were divided into three different council size categories: The recipients were:

Under 50:
C-152, Riverhead, NY
32 New Members

51-100:
C-63, Lehigh Valley, PA
9 New Members

Over 100:
C-110, Maspeth, NY
35 New Members

Individual Awards were presented to:

Under 50:
Julie Locke, C-152
Riverhead, NY
23 New Members

51-100:
Valerie Snickel, C-63
Lehigh Valley, NY
4 New Members

Over 100:
John Adomenas, C-110
Maspeth, NY
19 New Members

Nancy said our drive for new membership netted a total of 282 new members.



Jonas Adomenas, President C-110, Maspeth accepts awards for his council and for himself.



GREETINGS

- RONALD REAGAN**
President of the United States
- MOST REV. VINCENTAS BRIZGYS, HM**
Bishop of Kaunas, LITH. in Exile
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, IL
- MOST REV. PAULIS BALTAKIS, OFM**
Bishop for Lithuanians outside Lithuania
- DR. STASYS A. BACKIS**
Charge D'Affaires of Lithuania
- HON JOSEPHINE J. DAUŽVARDIS, HM**
Consul General of Lithuania
Chicago, IL
- HON VYTAUTAS ČEKANAUSKAS**
Consul General of Lithuania
Los Angeles, CA
- HON ANICETAS SIMUTIS**
Consul General of Lithuania
New York, NY
- SUPREME COMMITTEE FOR THE
LIBERATION OF LITHUANIA**
Vyriausias Lietuva Islaisvint Komitetas
Dr. Kazys Bobelis, President
- LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL, INC.**
(AMERICOS LIETUVIŲ TARYBA)
Teodoras Blinstrubas, President
- LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY OF THE USA, INC.**
(LIETUVIŲ BENDRUOMENE)
Dr. Antanas Butkus
- LITHUANIAN WORLD COMMUNITY**
(PASAULIO LIETUVIŲ BENDRUOMENE)
Vytautas Kamantas, President
- LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
OF AMERICA**
Saulius V. Kuprys, President
- LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION**
(ATEITINKŲ FEDERACIJA)
Juozas Polikaitis, President
- AMERICAN LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S ALLIANCE**
Julia Mack, President
- LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS'
LEAGUE OF AMERICA**
Rev. Albert Contons, President
- NATIONAL LITHUANIAN SOCIETY OF
AMERICA, INC. (AMERIKOS LIETUVIŲ
TAUTINĖ SAJUNGA)**
Dr. Leonas Kriaučeliūnas, President
- LIETUVIŲ SKAUTŲ SAJUNGA**
Petras, Molis, Pirmininkas
- LITHUANIAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.**
(TAUTOS FUNDAS)
Juozas Giedraitis, President
- FEDERATION OF LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S CLUBS**
Marija Noreikienė, President
- AMERICAN LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC ARCHIVES
(ALKA)**
Dr. Juozas Kriaučiūnas
- CONGREGATION OF THE MARIAN FATHERS**
Rev. V. Rimselis, MIC, Provincial
with \$35.00 donation)
- LITHUANIAN JESUIT FATHERS**
Rev. Antanas Šaulaitis, SJ, Provincial
- LITHUANIAN WORLD YOUTH ASSOCIATION
(PASAULIO LIETUVIŲ JAUNIMO SAJUNGA)**
Gintaras Grušas, President
- LITHUANIAN FRANCISCAN VICARIATE
OF ST. CASIMIR**
Rev. Bernardine Grauslys, Provincial
- SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR**
Sister M. Joanela, SSC. Superior
- LITHUANIAN BENEDECTINE SISTERS**
Mother Raphaela Simonis, OSB, Superior
- SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
Sister M. Paule, Mother Superior
- SISTER OF ST. FRANCIS**
Sister M. Alverna
- SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED**
Sister Mary Ruth, Superior General

DARBININKAS

Rev. Kornelijus Bucmys, Editor

DRAUGAS

Rev. Pranas Garsva, Editor

LITHUANIAN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION KASA

Brooklyn, NY
(with \$25.00 to each VYTIS & Scholarship Fund)

FELISIJA M. GRENDALE, HM

C-17, So. Boston, MA
(\$25.00 each to Scholarship & VYTIS funds)

MARY GUSTUS

C-144, Mt. Carmel, PA
(\$10.00 to LCRA)

FRANCES KAUBA

(\$10.00 — St. Casimir Pont. Seminary)

ANNA KLIZAS WARGO

C-144, St. Clair, PA
(\$10.00 — LCRA)

GENE GOBIS

C-100, Amsterdam
(\$5.00 each to LCRA, Lith. Affairs,
VYTIS, \$10.00 to Scholarship)

JAV LIETUVIU BENDRUOMENE,

CONNECTICUT SKYRIUS

P. Ignas Budrys

**LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID, INC.
(LCRA)**

Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, Director

KUN. AUGUSTINAS STEIGVILA

Buenos Aires, Argentina

REV. FABIJONAS KIREILIS

Spiritual Adviser, C-36

Chicago, IL

(\$15.00 — General Fund)

GEORGE KISIELIUS

C-50, New Haven, CT

(\$10.00 — Archives Fund)

MRS. ELSIE KOSMISKY

C-144, Anthracite, PA

(\$10.00 — LCRA)

HELEN CHESKO

C-144, Anthracite, PA

(\$10.00 — LCRA)

MR. & MRS. ANTHONY MAZEIKA, HM

C-147, St. Petersburg, FL

(\$25.00 — St. Casimir Pont. Seminary,
in memory of Mr. & Mrs. F. Moore)



Most Rev. Bishop
Paulius Baltakis, OFM



Sister M. Alverna



Rev. Albert Contons



Marija Noreikiene



Juozas Polikaitis



Mildred Lipinskas American
Lithuanian Roman
Catholic Women's Alliance.

**Report Of The National President
To The 72nd National Convention
Yale University, New Haven, CT
August 8, 1985**

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

1. Scheduled and chaired three Supreme Council meetings, in New York, NY, New Haven, CT, and Bridgeport, CT.

2. Worked with and helped train Bernice Aviza in VYTIS layout and planning work after Editor Aldona Ryan's hand injury during the Chicago Convention kept her from doing this work for a few months. Handled major parts of the October and November issues, and assisted with writing and layout for several other issues.

3. Represented Supreme Council at the New York St. Casimir's Jubilee Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral by Cardinal O'Connor. Met Cardinal O'Connor later and presented him with the St. Casimir's Jubilee issue of VYTIS.

4. Represented the Knights of Lithuania at the Ordination of Bishop Paulius Baltakis in Portland, ME. At the subsequent Banquet in Kennebunkport, ME, greeted the new Bishop and presented him with a gift in the name of the K of L.

5. Helped reorganize C-72, Binghamton, NY, and attended their first meeting.

6. Represented the Knights of Lithuania at the Lithuanian American Congress in Chicago and extended greetings on behalf of the K of L.

7. Attended and greeted the Annual Meeting of the American Lithuanian Council, and appointed Dr. L. Kriauceliunas, Dr. L. Simutis Jr., and Mrs. E. Ozalis as K of L representatives to ALTAS.

8. Was guest of the Lithuanian of America and K of L C-150 in Kansas City, KS during a Folk Festival there in November, addressed them on behalf of the K of L, and urged them to become more active in the K of L.

9. Was Guest speaker at St. Casimir Day Breakfasts sponsored by C-52, Elizabeth, NJ, C-141, Bridgeport, CT and Mid-Atlantic District in Newark, NJ. Attended and greeted meetings of the Mid America and Mid Atlantic Districts.

10. Represented the Knights of Lithuania at two meetings (Jan. & June, Chicago) of the Central Organizations' Committee to plan for the 600th Jubilee of Lithuania's Christianization. Was appointed to the Executive Working Committee for the event. Agreed to co-chairman (with Dr. Jack Stukas) the committee to produce, organize and distribute the Jubilee Commemorative Medalion. The rest of this Medalion committee will be made up of members of the K of L.

11. After the unfortunate and serious illness of Legal Adviser John Narusis, appointed Alexander Domanskis

of C-36, Chicago, as Legal Adviser, Pro-Tem. Worked with him in completing the work involved in applying for Tax Exempt Status for the Knights of Lithuania Foundations, Inc.

12. Attended the C-141 Testimonial for National Treasurer Teresa Trainis, in Bridgeport, CT, and extended greetings on behalf of the Supreme Council.

13. Agreed to serve on the committee to preserve the works of the late Ciurlionis Ensemble director Alfonsas Mikulskis.

14. Continued work on the Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc., by helping write its bylaws, seeking new contributors, investing the current donations, and appointing additional directors to represent all Districts. A separate report on the Foundation is available.

15. Arranged for reorganization and re-issue of K of L Constitutions and K of L Wake Service.

16. Negotiated with editors of GARSAS, BRIDGES, and THE OBSERVER to obtain better cooperation and sharing of PR material.

17. Accepted, for the K of L, the invitation to make the K of L "Liberty Leaders" by joining in the campaign to finance the restoration of the Statue of Liberty.

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

19. Kept in close contact with C-50 with respect to their plans for the 72nd National Convention.

20. Arranged for the Convention Panel, "Color Me Lithuanian", with guest speaker John V. Chervokas. Prepared a packet of Convention PR for "GARSAS", "DRAUGAS", and "DARBININKAS".

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta I. Stukas
National President

August 8, 1985



1985 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

William Piacentini

Chairman Scholarship Committee

New Haven, Connecticut, site of the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, witnessed the awarding of five (5) scholarships to young adult members of the organization for the pursuit of their post-secondary education. The awards were presented at the convention's closing banquet held on August 10, 1985. Through the combined efforts of hundreds of Knights and Ladies awards totalling \$3,300.00 were presented to the recipients. This year's presentation marked the 27th anniversary of the Knights of Lithuania scholarship program.

For the general information of the membership and future applicants, the Scholarship Committee wishes to explain its philosophy regarding the awarding of scholarships. Since it is a Knights of Lithuania scholarship, the committee's first concern is the applicant's involvement in the Knights of Lithuania — how long and how much. Next, the committee examines the candidate's academic ability, that is, is there evidence that the candidate will sincerely and successfully pursue his/her college studies. Financial need is then reviewed by the committee. The evaluation process is completed by a review of the character references submitted and evidence of the applicant's community service. This comprehensive process is designed to protect the integrity of the scholarship program which depends upon the generous support of the membership of the Knights of Lithuania.

For 1985, the five winners were selected from a field of eight candidates. The first place winner (\$1,000) was Anthony Paul Jankauskas of Council 13. Anthony will enroll in the University of Illinois at Chicago to study Architecture. His application showed strong evidence of his involvement in Lithuanian-American sport activities, the Knights of Lithuania, and academic success in high school. In his own words, "I plan to remain active with the Knights of Lithuania. My heritage and culture are very important to me."

The second place winner (\$800) was Charles Michael Grabusky of Council 144. Charles plans to attend Elizabethtown College where he will major in Accounting and minor in Political Science. Charles was an honor student in high school and very involved in Lithuanian affairs, even flying the Lithuanian flag in his classroom on Lithuanian Independence Day. To quote

him, "I have always been proud to be of Lithuanian descent and I will always be proud to tell anyone that I am Lithuanian."

There were three awards made in the third place category (\$500 each) this year. One award was presented to Nancy Ann Dallalis who is a member of Council 27. Nancy is a sophomore at Lasell Junior College where she is studying to be a Registered Nurse. She has been involved in K. of L. activities since 1982. Nancy was described as being someone who "...shows respect and concern for others and is a sensitive and caring person." In her own words, "I love God and am proud of my heritage."

Another third place award was presented to Lynne Marie Walinsky who is a member of Council 26. Lynne will study Computer Science and Mathematics at Assumption College in the fall. A member of the K. of L. for two years, Lynne has been active in all phases of the organization and comes from a family with a strong Knights of Lithuania tradition. To quote from her application, "Having grown up in a K. of L. family, I have been participating in activities for many years... Since Assumption College is only one-half hour away from home, I will still be able to continue my involvement in the Knights of Lithuania.

The final third place award was presented to Anthony Peter Cappelli, a member of convention host Council 50. Anthony will be a sophomore at the University of Connecticut at Storrs where his major is Environmental Horticulture and minor is Business. Anthony is active in his home parish of St. Casimir and is viewed by his council president as being someone who could be instrumental in forming a junior council for Council 50.

The Scholarship Committee congratulates this year's award recipients and charges them to fulfill their responsibilities as serious college students and loyal members of the Knights of Lithuania.

The Scholarship Committee gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance provided during the past year by the membership of the Knights of Lithuania. Convention donations will be acknowledged as soon as possible in a future issue of the *Vytis*. To continue the work of the scholarship program, all K. of L.'ers are urged to continue their efforts on behalf of this worthy endeavor in whatever way possible.

WE THANK YOU ...

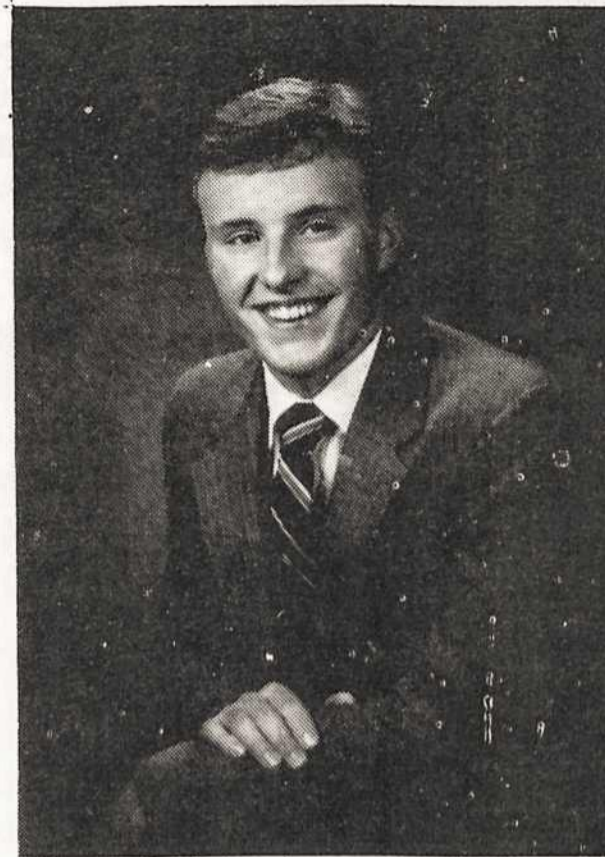
August 27, 1985.

Dear Mr. Piacentini, Scholarship Committee, and
All Fellow Knights of Lithuania,

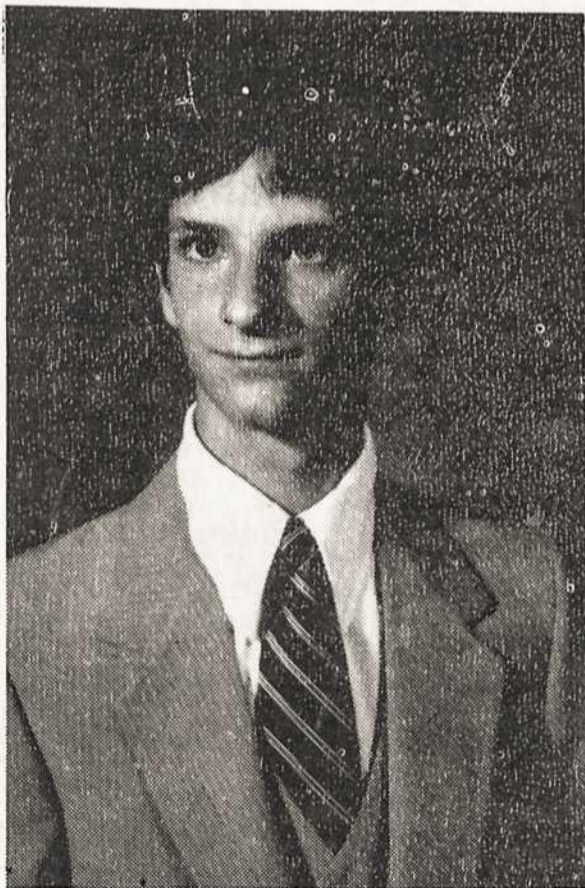
It is indeed an honor to have been awarded a Knights of Lithuania scholarship for the amount of \$1000.00 at our most recent 72nd. National Convention in Connecticut. I am most grateful as are my parents. The monetary award will be used to help pay my tuition expenses this fall at the University of Illinois where I will be studying architecture. I will continue to prove that I am deserving of this award by studying very diligently. I also intend to keep "the K of L Spirit" alive in my capacity as Vice-President of Council nr.13. I am so very proud to be part of our great organization!

Thank you for your generous scholarship which enables me to come to a closer realization of my educational goals.

Vytiškai,
Anthony Jankauskas
Council nr. 13
Chicago, Illinois



Anthony (Antanas) Jankauskas
Council 13, Chicago



Charles Grabusky
Council 144, Anthracite

Dear Mr. Piacentini,

At this time, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Scholarship Committee for selecting me as a recipient of a Knights of Lithuania Scholarship. It is greatly appreciated.

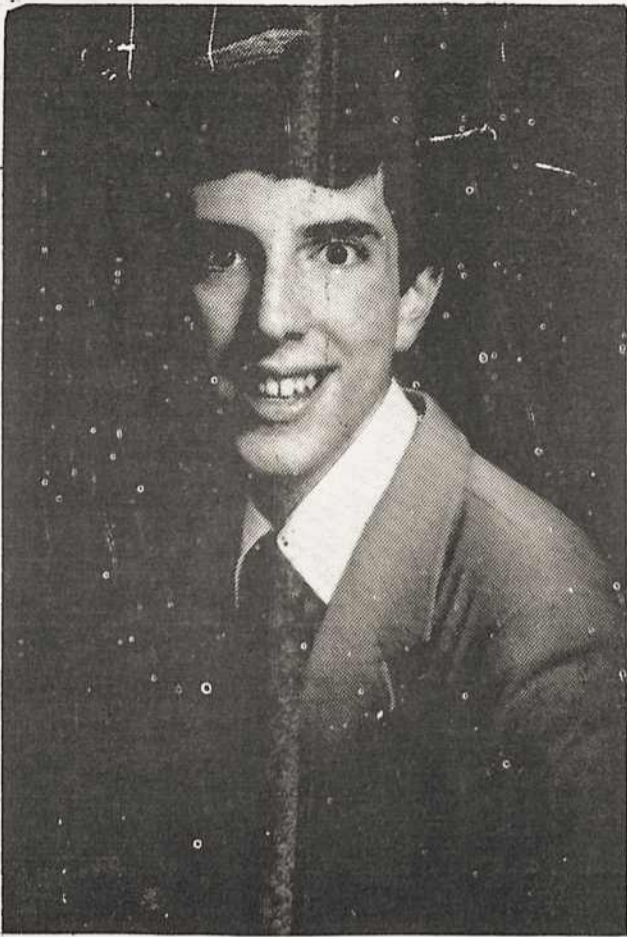
I have always been very proud to be of Lithuanian descent. Being a member of the Junior Knights when I was younger helped me to understand that Lithuania is a land in need of help. Even under such adverse situations as Soviet

domination, the Lithuania people have kept alive a culture which is rich in tradition. I am proud to have been a part in keeping that culture alive.

Once again, I would like to express my appreciation. In December, you will receive my first semester transcript as requested. Aciu.

Sincerely,
Charles M. Grabusky





Anthony P. Cappelli
Council 50, New Haven

Dearest Members of the Knights of Lithuania,

I would like to extend to all the membership my warmest thank you for awarding me a National Knights of Lithuania Scholarship. I would especially like to thank those members who have played a part in bringing this scholarship about. It makes me extremely proud of my Lithuanian ancestry to receive this award given out during the 72nd National Convention held at my home council in New Haven, Connecticut.

Upon awarding this scholarship the Knights of Lithuania have once again shown that the traditions of generosity and sharing found in the old country are very much alive in the Lithuanian people who now call the United States of America their home. Thanks again for your help in my time of financial need. God bless you all.

Sincerely
Antony P. Cappelli

Dear Scholarship Committee of the Knights of Lithuania,

The K of L has always been a special organization to me. I have been exposed to it since a very early age through my parents.

My Lithuanian heritage has always been an important part of my life and I am especially proud today that I received a scholarship from this special Lithuanian organization. Thank you for the honor. I plan to continue to be active in Council 26 and work my way up to a 4th Degree Knight.

Aciu
Lynne Walinsky



Lynne Walinsky
Council 26, Worcester



Nancy Ann Dallalis
Council 27, Norwood



Dear Mr. Piacentini:

My deepest thanks to you, to your Committee and to all of the Knights of Lithuania for the award.

Needless to say, this will be a great help in defraying the high cost of my college education.

Please be assured that the confidence which you have displayed in me by this award will provide me with added incentive to meet my objectives and also those of the Knights of Lithuania.

Vytiškai;
Nancy Ann Dallalis
Council 27-Norwood, Ma.



REZOLIUCIJOS

The following resolutions were all approved by the convention delegates

RESOLUTIONS



WHEREAS, the 600th Anniversary of the introduction of Christianity into Lithuania is to be celebrated in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Lithuania has enjoyed the benefits of the Christian faith in houses of worship of their own construction; and

WHEREAS, the Church of Saint Mary Queen of Peace in Klaipeda was built by the financial contribution and physical labor of the citizens of Klaipeda and subsequently was expropriated by Soviet Authority for non-religious use; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 72nd National Convention urgently request and strongly urge that the church be returned to the Catholics of Klaipeda and the entire Lithuanian nation so that it may be used for religious purposes.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the United States Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe has nominated Anatoly Shcharansky, Viktoras Petkus, Yuri Orlov, Mykola Rudenko, and Merab Lostava for the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize for their peaceful public advocacy of the human rights principles of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 72nd National Convention second the nomination of Viktoras Petkus in fraternal support of his extraordinary efforts to promote human rights in Lithuania according to the Helsinki Final Act.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, Stephen Darius and Stanley Girenas, two American Pilots of Lithuanian descent, undertook a trans-Atlantic flight in 1933 for the advancement of aeronautical science aboard the Lithuanica; and

WHEREAS, this accomplishment is a matter of pride to the Lithuanian American Community and all Americans;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, representing over 4,000 in 59 councils throughout the United States, strongly urge the issuance of a commemorative stamp in 1986 to honor this extraordinary flight in the history of American aviation.

* * * * *

KADANGI 1987-tais metais bus švenčiama Lietuvos krikščionybės priėmimo 600 metų sukaktis; ir

KADANGI lietuviai džiaugiasi turėdami galimybę garbinti krikščioniškąjį Dievą savo pačių rankomis pastatytose bažnyčiose; ir

KADANGI Marijos, taikos karalienės bažnyčia Klaipėdoje buvo pastatyta Klaipėdos piliečių aukomis bei darbu, o ją pastačius buvo sovietų valdžios pasisavinta netikybiniams reikalams;

TODĖL NUSPĖSTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-sis Visuotinas suvažiavimas ragina bei reikalauja, jog ši bažnyčia būtų sugrąžinta Klaipėdos katalikams ir visai lietuvių tautai savo pirmųjų tikiučių užduočiai.

* * * * *

KADANGI Jungtinių Amerikos Valstybių saugumo bei bendradarbiavimo komisija Europoje yra nominavusi Anatoly Shcharansky, Viktorą Petkų, Yuri Orlov, Mykolą Rudenko, ir Merab Lostavą 1985-ųjų metų Nobelio taikos premijai dėl jų taikingo viešo 1975-tais metais įvykusio Helsinkio baigiamojo akto žmogaus teisių principų rėmimo;

NUSPĖSTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas Suvažiavimas patvirtina Viktoro Petkaus nominaciją, tuo būdu išreiškdamis brolišką paramą jo nežmoniškam pastangom įgyvendinti žmogaus teisių principus Lietuvoje pagal Helsinkio užbaigiamąjį aktą.

* * * * *

KADANGI Steponas Darius ir Stasys Girėnas, du lietuvių kilmės amerikiečiai pilotai 1933-čiais metais apsiėmė įvykdyti transatlantinį skrydį aeronautikos mokslo sumetimais lėktuvu "Lithuanica"; ir

KADANGI šis įvykis Amerikos lietuvių visuomenei bei visiems amerikiečiams sukelia pasididžiavimą;

NUSPĖSTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas, atstovaudamas virš 4000 žmonių 59-se kuopose visose JAV-ėse, ragina 1986-tais metais išleisti pašto ženklų laidą, kuri pažymėtų nepaprastą skrydį Amerikos aviacijos istorijoje.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, on Federal, State and Local levels, funds are used to subsidize a few languages, producing official documents, voting ballots, civil service examinations, driving tests, etc., in those languages rather than in English, while over 100 other ethnic communities are completely ignored; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 169 and S.R. 167, the English Language Amendments, foster establishing English as the one and only official language of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, these amendments do not hinder, prohibit, or interfere with the study and use of other languages, nor are they so meant;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania 72nd National Convention support these English Language Resolutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Knights of Lithuania be urged to notify their respective Senators and Members of Congress of this support.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the non-delivery of mail which is properly addressed is an interference by the Soviet Union with internationally recognized human rights agreements and the international postal service.

WHEREAS, the systematic exclusion of certain persons from international mail service also violates the general regulations of the Universal Postal Union and the Constitution of the USSR

WHEREAS, members of Knights of Lithuania have experienced the interference sanctioned by the international agreement

THEREFORE WE, the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, appeal to the International Postal Union to use its authority to correct these violations of Human Rights and International law

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the Director General of Universal Postal Union, Berne 15, Switzerland, and to the Postmaster General U.S. and the Soviet Ambassador of the U.S.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania recognizes and supports the Endowed Chair of Lithuanian studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago, which began its work in September, 1984, and

WHEREAS, It stands as a living and working memorial to one of the world's oldest and most beautiful cultures and the Lithuanian language,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania strongly urge that all councils and members of the Knights of Lithuania generously support the Endowed Chair through financial contributions.

* * * * *

KADANGI valdiškos įstaigos finansuoja oficialių dokumentų, balsavimo lapelių, valdiškų įstaigų egzaminų, šoferio leidimo egzaminų, ir t. t. spausdinimą kai kuriomis ne anglų kalbomis, tuo tarpu ignoruojamos virš 100 kitų etninių bendruomenių; ir

KADANGI Atstovų rūmų 169-toji ir Senato 167-toji rezoliucijos, vadinamos Anglų kalbos rezoliucijos, patvirtina anglų kalbą kaip vienintelę bei oficialią JAV-bių kalbą; ir

KADANGI šios rezoliucijos netrukdo ir neuždraudžia kitų kalbų mokymąsi bei vartojimą;

NUSPĖSTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas remia šias anglų kalbos rezoliucijas; ir

NUSPĖSTA, kad Vyčiai informuos savo senatorius bei atstovus kongrese apie šį nutarimą.

* * * * *

KADANGI teisingai adresuoto pašto neperleidimas Sovietų sąjungoje yra tarptautiniai pripažintų žmogaus teisiu bei pašto aptarnavimo pažeidimas; ir

KADANGI sistematiškas tam tikrų asmenų išskyrimas iš šio pašto aptarnavimo pažeidžia Tarp-tautinės pašto sąjungos reguliamą bei Sovietų sąjungos konstituciją; ir

KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčių nariai yra patyrę tokius tarptautinių susitarimų pažeidimus;

NUTARTA kad 72-ras Lietuvos Vyčių Visuotinas suvažiavimas kreipiasi į Tarptautinę pašto sąjungą savo autoritetu atitaisyti šiuos žmogaus teisių bei tarptautinės teisės pažeidimus;

NUTARTA kad šios rezoliucijos nuorašas būtų pasiųstas Tarptautinės pašto sąjungos generaliniam direktoriui Berne, Šveicarijoje ir JAV-bių pašto viršininkui bei Sovietų sąjungos ambasadoriui JAV-bėse.

* * * * *

KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas stebi ir remia Lietuvių katedros įsteigimą bei išlaikymą Illinois universitete Chicagoje, kuri savo darbą pradėjo 1984-tų metų rugsėjo mėnesį; ir

KADANGI ši katedra yra gyvas ir veiksmingas paminklas pasaulio seniausiai ir pačiai gražiausiai kultūrai ir lietuvių kalbai;

TODĖL Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas ragina visas savo kuopas bei narius dosniai remti šią katedrą pinigėmis aukomis.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the Office of Special Investigation, an agency of the Department of Justice of the United States, has been charged with the investigation of accused Nazi collaborators living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the methods used by the Office of Special Investigation have appeared to be in violation of constitutional rights and protections enjoyed by American citizens; and

WHEREAS, particular incidents have been reported in which tainted evidence supplied through unorthodox collaboration with the KGB has been rejected by United States Courts;

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania support the establishment of Congressional Oversight Hearings concerning the activities of the Office of Special Investigation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Senator Paul Simon from the State of Illinois and Senator Strom Thurman, Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania at its 72nd National Convention unanimously passed a resolution calling for immediate Congressional oversight hearings on the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) Division's unaccountable abusive and discriminatory activities, unorthodox unacceptable relationship with the Soviet KGB, and the abuses of Constitutional rights associated with the Holtzman Amendment, and

WHEREAS, the Coalition for Constitutional Justice and Security representing ethnic, veteran, community, conservative and concerned Americans nationally, has initiated a three point legislative program calling for Congressional oversight hearings on subject of OSI and its activities, appropriate legislative reform to safeguard constitutional rights under due process, and the barring of all deportations of denaturalized U.S. citizens to the USSR.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania at its 72nd National Convention in New Haven, CT:

a) endorses the national educational and legislative program of the Coalition for Constitutional Justice and Security,

b) authorizes the listing of the Knights of Lithuania name among the other endorsing organizations,

c) urges its members to cooperate with local and national activities of the Coalition with respect to this specific national campaign.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 72nd National Convention express its highest commendation and sincerest gratitude to the members of the outgoing Supreme Council.

Their united efforts resulted in the organization's growth and continued vitality in the American Lithuanian community and in America at large.

KADANGI Specialių tyrimų įstaiga, (OSI), JAV-bių Teisingumo departamento padalinys, yra įpareigota tirti JAV-ėse gyvenančius nacių kolaborantais apkaltintus asmenis; ir

KADANGI šios Specialių tyrimų įstaigos metodai atrodė pažeidžia Amerikos piliečiams konstitucijoje garantuojamas teises bei privilegijas; ir

KADANGI ypatinguose atvejuose JAV-bių teismas yra atmetęs liudijimus, neortodoksiniais būdais gautus kolaboruojant su Sovietų sąjungos KGB;

NUSPĖSTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas remia Kongreso investigacijas šios Specialių tyrimų įstaigos veiklai išnagrinėti; ir

NUSPĖSTA, kad šios rezoliucijos nuorašas bus pasiųstas Illinois valstijos senatoriui Paul Simon ir Teisingumo komiteto pirmininkui senatoriui Strom Thurman.

* * * * *

KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas vienbalsiai priėmė rezoliuciją, reikalaujančią Kongreso investigaciją liečiant Teisingumo departamento Specialių tyrimų įstaigos (OSI) nepriimtinos įžeidžiančios bei diskriminuojančios veiklos, nepriimtino neortodoksinio su Sovietų sąjungos KGB, ir konstitucinių teisių pažeidimo pagal Holtzmano priedą; ir

KADANGI Koalicija konstitucinei teisei bei saugumui, atstovaujanti etninius, veteranus, pavienius, konservatyvius bei, susirūpinusius amerikiečius visoje Amerikoje yra užvedusi trijų punktų įstatyminę programą reikalaujančią Kongreso investigacijos OSI atžvilgiu, atitinkamą įstatymais paremtą reformą ginančią konstitucines teises, ir uždraudimą deportuoti JAV-bių pilietybę praradusius asmenis Sovietų sąjungon;

TODĖL nutarta, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas, susirinkęs New Havene, CT:

a) remia šios Koalicijos įstatyminę programą,

b) leidžia paminėti Lietuvos Vyčius kaip indorsuojančią organizaciją,

c) ragina savo narius bendradarbiauti Koalicijos vietinėje bei tautinėje veikloje šios specifinės įstatyminės programos atžvilgiu.

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NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas išreiškia aukščiausią pagyrimą ir nuoširdžiausią padėką išeinantiems Centro valdybos nariams. Jų bendrų pastangų rezultate organizacija augo ir toliau gyvastingai reikėsi Amerikos lietuvių bei amerikietiškoje veikloje.

WHEREAS, Knights of Lithuania youth has been invited to join the World Youth Organization Convention in Australia in 1987, and

WHEREAS, our future is in our youth, and the Lithuanian language will not be the main language used at the Convention,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania establish a committee to collect donations to send at least one (1) young member to the convention in Australia.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the Rev. Juozas Prunskis of Chicago, IL, has graciously donated the sum of \$1,000.00 for the betterment of the official Knights of Lithuania publication "VYTIS", and,

WHEREAS, this generous gift would improve the dissemination of information in support of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express a cordial thank you for his generous gift to enhance the cultural aspects of the "VYTIS."

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania is an organization formed to foster a love of all things Lithuanian in our youth, and,

WHEREAS, the motto of the 1985 National Convention is "Our Future is in Our Youth".

BE IT RESOLVED that a Knights of Lithuania Youth Task Force be established to pursue the study problems relating to younger Knights of Lithuania, as initiated by the "Youth Talks Back" panel at this year's National Convention, and that the aforesaid "Youth Task Force" be composed of a majority of members under 30 years of age.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, ALDONA RYAN has edited the Knights of Lithuania national publication VYTIS for the past four years with outstanding distinction and originality, and

WHEREAS, Aldona Ryan has tendered her resignation as VYTIS Editor,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its thanks and deep appreciation for her years of service and wish her God's blessings as she enters a well-deserved rest from her many Knights of Lithuania activities.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania will observe its 75th Jubilee in 1988 and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that a committee be established to formulate plans for a celebration of this Jubilee.

BE IT RESOLVED that two members from each District be selected to serve on the 75th Jubilee Committee.

* * * * *

KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčių jaunimas yra pakviestas 1987-tais metais Australijoje dalyvauti Pasaulio jaunimo organizacijos suvažiavime; ir

KADANGI mūsų ateitis yra mūsų jaunime, o tame suvažiavime pagrindinė kalba nebus lietuvių;

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas įsteigia komitetą, kuris rūpintųsi sutelkti lėšas nusiųsti bent vieną (1) jauną narį į šį suvažiavimą Australijoje.

* * * * *

KADANGI kun. Juozas Prunskis iš Chicagos, IL dosniai paaukojo 1000 dol. Lietuvos Vyčių leidinio "Vytis" pagerinimui, ir

KADANGI ši dosni auka bus panaudota Lietuvos Vyčių idealų platinimui,

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas išreiškia nuoširdų ačiū jo kultūrą puoselėjančiai dovanai.

* * * * *

KADANGI Lietuvos vyčių organizacija buvo sukurta puoselėti lieyuvybei meilę mūsų jaunime, ir

KADANGI 1985-jų metų Visuotino suvažiavimo šūkis — "Mūsų ateitis — mūsų jaunime",

NUTARTA, kad būtų įsteigtas Lietuvos Vyčių jaunimo komitetas, kuris nagrinėtų uždavinius liečiančius Lietuvos Vyčių jaunimą. Šiame suvažiavime "Jaunimas atsikalbinėja" diskusiniame būrelyje tokio komiteto nauda buvo pažymėta, ir siūloma, kad jo sąstata daugumas narių būtų nedaugiau 30-ties metų amžiaus.

* * * * *

KADANGI Aldona Ryan per paskutinius keturis metus išskirtinai redagavo Lietuvos Vyčių oficialų žurnalą "Vytį"; ir

KADANGI Aldona Ryan yra įteikusi savo atsisakymo iš "Vyties" vyriausios redaktorės pareigų pareiškimą;

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas išreiškia jai gilią padėką už jos ilgametį darbą ir linki jai Dievo palaimos jai išėjus į užsitarnautą poilsį nuo įvairių Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos veiklos nareigu.

* * * * *

KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčiai 1988-tais metais švęs savo gyvavimo 75-ųjų metų jubiliejų; ir

KADANGI reikalinga įsteigti komitetą, kuris formuluotų planus atitinkamai šį jubiliejų atšvęsti;

NUTARTA, kad du nariai iš kiekvienos apygardos būtų parinkti dalyvauti šio 75-ųjų metų jubiliejaus komitete.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, Emelia Pakalniskis has faithfully and diligently served as Editor of Vyciu Viekla which appears in the newspaper DRAUGAS and

WHEREAS, she has been ably assisted by her spouse Alexander and

WHEREAS, their combined efforts has served the welfare of the entire K of L organization, and entire Lithuanian community and

WHEREAS, their retirement has been announced and sadly accepted by the organization

BE IT RESOLVED that the K of L expresses its warmest possible gratitude to Mrs. Emelia Pakalniskis and her spouse Mr. Alexander Pakalniskis and express the convention's best wishes for a carefree, happy, retirement.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, "DARBININKAS", a weekly Lithuanian newspaper published by the Franciscan Fathers is celebrating its 70th Anniversary and,

WHEREAS, "DARBININKAS" has supported the Knights of Lithuania, cooperated in its projects and generously provided coverage for Knights of Lithuania activities,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania congratulate "DARBININKAS" on this historic occasion and donate the sum of \$70.00 as a token of our high esteem and sincere best wishes.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered August 8-11, 1985 in New Haven, CT, elevate to Honorary Membership His Excellency Bishop PAULIUS A. BALTAKIS, OFM, former Provincial of the Franciscan Fathers and member of Knights of Lithuania Council 110, Maspeth, NY, whose candidacy to this honor was approved by the 71st National Convention.

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BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered August 8-11, 1985 in New Haven, CT, elevate to Honorary Membership ESTELLE ROGERS, member of Knights of Lithuania C-112, Chicago, IL, whose candidacy was approved by the 71st National Convention.

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WHEREAS, His Excellency the Most Rev. John F. Whealon, Archbishop of Hartford, CT has very graciously received the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania within his Archdiocese and extended his warmest hospitality, and,

WHEREAS, Archbishop Whealon, from his earliest years in the priesthood has manifested a love and concern not only for the Lithuanian American community but also for the plight of the persecuted Catholics in Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its deepest gratitude for his hospitality, friendship, and spiritual guidance.

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atidžiai atliko "Draugo" laikraštyje "Vyčių Veiklos" redaktorės pareigas; ir

KADANGI jai sumaniai talkininkavo jos vyras Aleksandras; ir

KADANGI jų bendras darbas pasitarnavo Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos gerovei ir visai lietuviškai bendruomenei; ir

KADANGI jų atsistatydinimas iš šių pareigų buvo anksčiau praneštas ir organizacijos liūdnai priimtas;

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčiai išreiškia galimai šilčiausią padėką Emilijai Pakalniškienei ir jos vyrui Aleksandrui Pakalniškiui ir suvažiavimas linki geriausios kloties jų laimingam poilsiui.

* * * * *

KADANGI savaitinis Amerikos lietuvių laikraštis "Darbininkas", leidžiamas Tėvų Pranciškonų švenčia savo 70-ties metų jubiliejų, ir

KADANGI "Darbininkas" remia Lietuvos Vyčius, bendradarbiauja josios veikloje ir dosniai suteikia vietas reklamuoti Lietuvos Vyčių veiklą,

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas sveikina "Darbininką" jo istorinės sukakties proga ir paaukoja 70 dol. kaip mūsų pagarbos bei geriausių linkėjimų simbolį.

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NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas, 1875-tais metais rugpiučio mėnesį 8 - 11-ta dienomis susirinkęs New Havene, CT, pakelia į garbės narius Jo Ekscelenciją vyskupą Paulių A. Baltakį, OFM, buvusį Tėvų pranciškonų provincijolą ir Lietuvos Vyčių Maspeth, NY 110-tos kuopos narį, kurio kandidatūra šiai garbei buvo 71-jo Visuotino suvažiavimo patvirtinta.

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NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas, 1985-tais metais rugpiučio mėnesį 8 - 11-ta dienomis susirinkęs New Havene, CT, pakelia į garbės narius Estelle Rogers, Lietuvos Vyčių Chicagos, IL 112-tos kuopos narę, kurios kandidatūra buvo 71-jo Visuotino suvažiavimo patvirtinta.

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KADANGI Jo Ekscelencija John F. Whealon, Hartfordo, CT arkivyskupas taip vaišingai priėmė Lietuvos Vyčių 72-rą Visuotiną suvažiavimą savo arkivyskupijoje ir jį pasveikino; ir

KADANGI arkivyskupas Whealon nuo pat kunigystės pradžios yra parodęs meilę ir rūpestį ne tik Amerikos lietuvių visuomenei bet ir persekiojamai katalikų bažnyčiai Lietuvoje,

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas išreiškia jam gilią padėką jo vaišingumui, draugystei ir dvasinei vadovybei.

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BE IT RESOLVED that the following budget be adopted for the fiscal year July 1, 1985 to June 30, 1986.
(By tradition, specific financial information is not provided in print. Therefore, the budget figures are not printed here.)

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BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered August 8-11, 1985 in New Haven, CT, approve the candidacy for Honorary Membership of Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, OP, National Spiritual Adviser of the Knights of Lithuania Council 103, Providence RI.

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

* * * * *

WHEREAS, in the past years, Knights of Lithuania National Conventions have transmitted a resolution expressing filial obedience and love to the Holy Father,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania continue this practice by sending a resolution expressing these thoughts and sentiments.

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 72nd National Convention express its sincerest gratitude to the Convention Presidium and Committees for their untiring efforts in the conduct of the business of this Convention.

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WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania 72nd National Convention, held in New Haven, Conn. from Aug. 8-11, 1985, was hosted by Council 50, New Haven, and

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 72nd National Convention express its deep thanks to Council 50 for its unforgettable and untiring hospitality,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 72nd National Convention express its deepest gratitude to Fr. Albert Karalis, Pastor of St. Casimir's Church and Spiritual Advisor of C-50, for his untiring zeal in guiding the preparation of the convention and for arranging the Masses and other spiritual activities of the convention.

NUTARTA, kad pateiktas biudžetas, 1985 m. liepos 1 d. ligi 1986 m. birželio 30 d. fiskaliniams metams, yra priimtas.

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NURATRA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas, susirinkęs 1985-tais metais rugpjūčio 8-11-ta dienomis New Havene, CT, patvirtina Garbės narystei kun. Antano Jurgelaičio, OP, Centro valdybos dvasios vado ir Providence, RI 103-čios kuopos nario kandidatūrą. Šis patvirtinimas įgalioja atspausdinti "Vytyje" kun. A. Jurgelaičio biografiją, pažymint jo nuveiktus darbus Lietuvos Vyčiuose, kurie iškelia jo tinkamumą šiai garbei.

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KADANGI praeituose Lietuvos Vyčių Visuotiniuose suvažiavimuose buvo nutarta išreikšti Šventajam Tėvui mūsų brolišką paklusnumą ir meilę,

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas tęsia šią tradiciją išreiškdamas šias mintis ir sentimentus.

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NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas Suvažiavimas išreiškia nuoširdžią padėką suvažiavimo prezidiumui ir komitetas jų nenuilstamom pastangom atlikti suvažiavimo darbus.

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KADANGI Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas, įvykusiame 1985-ais metais rugpjūčio 8-11-ta dienomis New Havene, CT, šeiminingai buvo New Haveno 50-toji kuopa, ir

KADANGI delegatai ir svečiai buvo širdingai priimti ir tradiciškai lietuviškai vaišinami,

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas išreiškia gilią padėką 50-tajai kuopai už neužmirštamą ir nenuilstamą vaišingumą.

NUTARTA, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 72-ras Visuotinas suvažiavimas išreiškia giliausią padėką kun. Albertui Karaliui, Šv. Kazimiero parapijos klebonui ir 50-tos kuopos dvasios vadui už jo nenuilstamą pasiryžimą vadovauti suvažiavimo paruošimo darbuose bei tvarkant šv. Mišių eigą ir suvažiavimo dvasinius užsiėmimus.

Vertė Aleksandras Pakalniškis, Jr.



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1985-1986 Knights of Lithuania Executive Board

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Anthony J. Mazeika, Hon. Chrmn.
C-147, St. Petersburg
Stanley Vaitkus, Exec. Chrmn.
C-96, Dayton
Phyllis Grendal, Sec'y.
C-17, So. Boston
Eleanore Laurin
C-112, Chicago
Helen Shields
C-3, Philadelphia
Rev. Albert Contons
C-17, So. Boston

SCHOLARSHIP
William Piacentini, Chrmn.
C-103, Providence
Clemincine Miller, Sec'y
C-141, Bridgeport
Paul Binkis, Jr.
C-112, Chicago
Albert Jaritis
C-17, So. Boston
Anthony J. Mazeika
C-147, St. Petersburg
Raymond Vanagas
C-25, Cleveland
Rita Shevokas
C-144, Anthracite

DIEVUI IR TĖVYNEI

SPIRITUAL MOMENTS OF THE 72nd CONVENTION

OPENING MASS:

Dwight Chapel, Yale University
Thursday, August 8, 1985

Opening Mass was held in Dwight Chapel of Yale University. It was concelebrated by members of the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Priests' League. Bishop Paulius Baltakis was principal celebrant.

The priests entered the chapel in procession. Anthony Radzevich, C-100, served as acolyte carrying the cross at the head of the procession.

Readings were done by Monsignor Balciunas. Fr. Albert Contons read the prayer of the faithful. Homilist was our National Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis.

Fr. Jurgelaitis' homily was a liturgical memorial to St. Dominic, founder of the Dominicans. The Opening Mass of our convention fell on the Feast Day of Saint Dominic. St. Dominic's ideal was to speak only of God or with God. We must, said Fr. Jurgelaitis, preserve the sanctity of God's name in all aspects of our everyday life. Fr. Jureglaitis expressed his joy of finding himself joined at the altar table with members of the the Franciscans. The Franciscans ask that the Lord make us instruments of His Peace. The joint spirituality of the Dominicans and Franciscans should serve as overwhelming guidance to us during our convention.



Bishop Baltakis leads the celebration of the opening Mass.



National Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Jurgelaitis, instructs us to preserve the sanctity of God's name.

NOON MASS:

Friday, August 9, 1985

Dwight Chapel, Yale University
Dedicated to the Suffering
Church in Lithuania

Noon Mass on Friday was dedicated to the suffering church in Lithuania. It was concelebrated by Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, Fr. Stasys Raila and Fr. Albert Karalis.

In his homily, Fr. Jurgelaitis continued to focus on St. Dominic — his life and his ideals. St. Dominic was noteworthy because through him, from the Blessed Mother of God, came the most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

St. Dominic had been charged with a mission to the Albigenses of Southern France to bring them back to Catholicism. His work was very despairing. One day he fell on his knees and asked Mary what he should do to convert them. Mary said, "Preach the Rosary." Mary had to explain to St. Dominic what the Rosary was. With Mary's instructions, St. Dominic continued his preaching. He taught the Gospel and in between he added the Our Father, the Hail Mary and he was successful.

Fr. Jurgelaitis related this to the Blessed Mother's appearance at Fatima in 1917. Mary said, "Pray for the conversion of Russia, archeretics and atheists." "We must pray for persecuted Christians all over the world, said Fr. Jurgelaitis, but especially for those in Lithuania. Although we sometimes despair about Lithuania, and say, 'It is hopeless to yearn for peace and religious freedom in Lithuania,' WE MUST HAVE HOPE! Christ came to Lithuania in 1251, in 1387, and today in 1985. He will come again in 1986 and 1987.

If Christ is there we cannot be



Concelebrating Holy Mass for the suffering church in Lithuania: Fr. Albert Karalis, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, Fr. Stasys Raila.



Knights join in prayer for their suffering brothers and sisters in Lithuania.

Red and white carnations, symbolizing the suffering and the martyred, are offered to the Lord for peace and religious freedom in Lithuania. ↓

hopeless. Prayers are always answered by God, but in God's own way. Prayer always changes us. Through prayer we become better and closer to God. By becoming friendlier with God through prayer, in particular, the Rosary, the more wonders we, Knights of Lithuania, will accomplish for God's glory and for the good of our persecuted brothers and sisters in Lithuania.

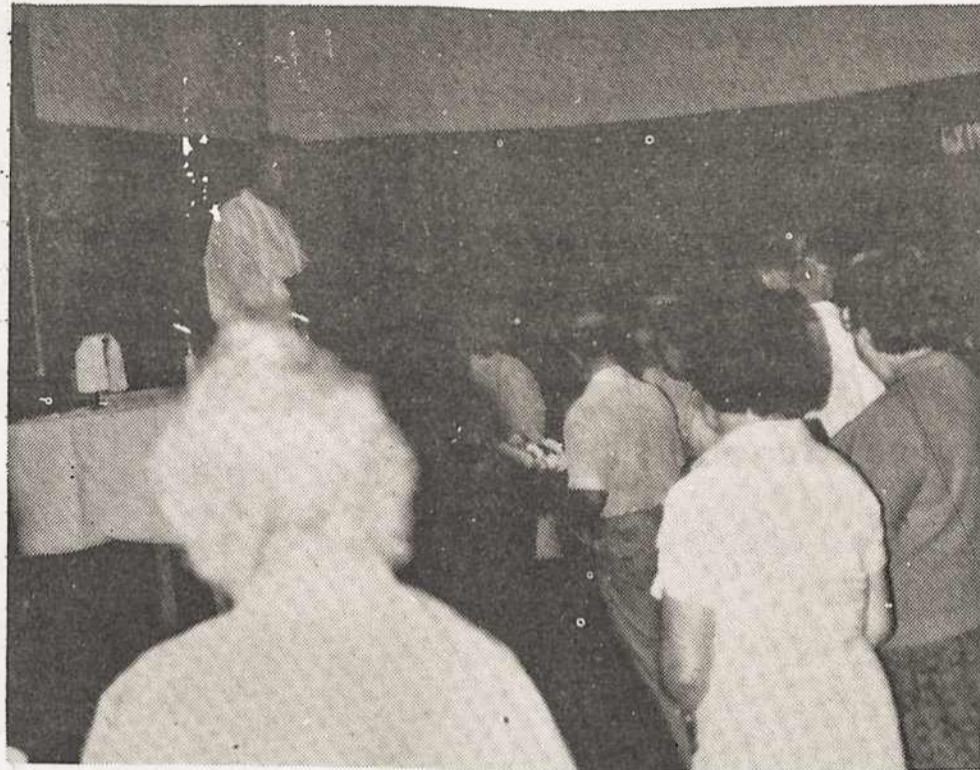
During the offertory procession two separate bouquets of carnations were brought forth. The white carnations represented those who are suffering, those who have been harassed and persecuted for their religious beliefs. The bouquet of red carnations symbolized those who have been martyred, those whose blood has flown for their faith. The two bouquets were combined into a larger single vase. We



prayed the Lord will hasten the day when they will turn in to golden blossoms in the kingdom of Heaven. The Mass ended with a pleading hymn to the Blessed Virgin — Marija, Marija.

NOON MASS

**Saturday, August 10, 1985
Dwight Chapel, Yale University
Dedicated to the deceased
members of the Knights of
Lithuania**



We pray for our deceased members of the Knights of Lithuania.

Saturday's mass was celebrated by Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, Fr. Albert Karalis, Fr. Algimantas Bartkus and Fr. Albert Janiunas.

Fr. Janiunas was homilist. Although the mass was dedicated to our deceased members, Fr. Janiunas began by speaking about baptism. He said, "In Baptism, we die to sin, as Christ died. But just as Christ rose, by His power we rise to a new life also."

Today, said Fr. Janiunas, should be a time of togetherness, mutual love, and a unification of people into a strong faith group. Strength is grown through unity within ourselves and within our organization.

To symbolize that unity, during the offertory procession, a

representative from each district brought forward a single white carnation. They joined these flowers together into a united floral bouquet to display the unity of the K of L and our fidelity to Christ.

K of L voices joined in song enhanced our expression of faith.



Newly elected officers are installed at the Convention's closing Mass.



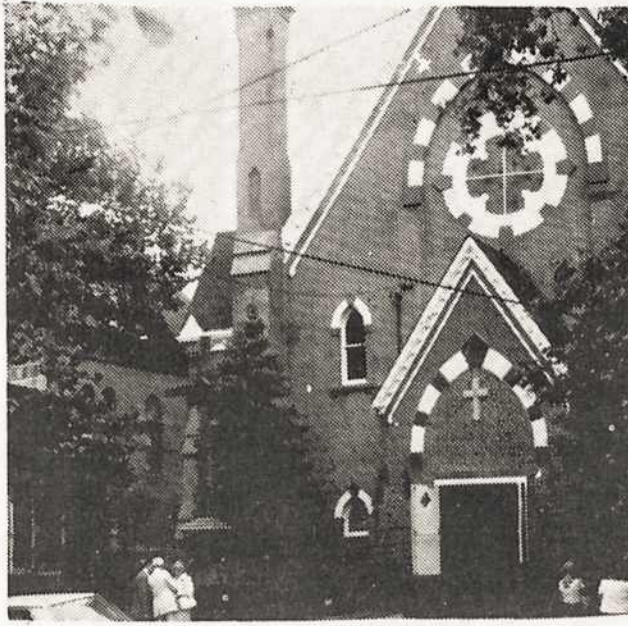
CLOSING MASS
Sunday, August 11, 1985
St. Casimir's Church
New Haven, CT

Sunday's mass was celebrated at St. Casimir's Church in New Haven by eight priests with Bishop Paulius Baltakis as principal celebrant. Archbishop John Whealon, of the Hartford Diocese, presided over the Mass.

Our newly elected Supreme Council officers began their terms as they were sworn in by Fr. Jurgelaitis.

Archbishop Whealon Assisted in the blessing and bestowing of the Fourth Degree Medals to twenty knights.

Bishop Paulius Baltakis was homilist. He spoke of the contribution ethnics make to the Catholic church—in their parish, their diocese and throughout the community. We should be proud of our religious heritage and live the life of faith that our suffering brothers and sisters in Lithuania do. We must strive to help them to



St. Casimir's Church, New Haven.



Archbishop John Whealon, Hartford assists in bestowing of 4th Degrees.

regain their religious freedom.

At the end of Mass, Archbishop Whealon commented on his recent trip to Poland. He stated he had asked the travel agents about the possibility of a day trip to Lithuania. They said it was impossible and the Soviet authorities would even frown on the suggestion. Now, noted Archbishop Whealon, he has something in common with the Pope—they have both been denied traveling to Lithuania. Archbishop Whealon commented that he had served in a Lithuanian parish during his early priesthood. Wherever he has traveled or run into other Lithuanians, he always finds a strong fidelity to the Church which he admires.

The solemnity and joyfulness of the Mass was enriched by the singing of traditional Lithuanian hymns.



K of L members united in prayer.



4th Degree recipient Eleanor Olechowski, C-100.



Bishop Baltakis adjour.



C-29 members admire yellow, red and green flowers and placemats.



C-50 President Frank Peterson and his crew welcome all with Lithuanian "spirits".

Get Acquainted Social and Buffet St. Casimir's Parish Hall

Thursday evening, at 6:15 PM, K of L conventioners boarded buses to St. Casimir's Church Hall. There they found an evening full of old-fashioned hospitality.

Fr. Albert Karalis, pastor of St. Casimir's, extended a hearty welcome to all and after his blessing encouraged all to indulge in the delicacies prepared for the evening.

Ann Meskins served as chairperson for the evening event. She and her committee prepared numerous savory Lithuanian dishes — kugelis, desros, kapustis and much more. "Welcome" placemats were at each seat, beautifully decorated with Lithuanian drawings.

The ruta and flowers were the finishing touch.

Socializing, singing and drinking made for a joyous evening. Old friends reunited and new friendships were created.

Some members were filled with enough vigor to walk the brisk 1-2 miles back to the University. They were guided by a few local ombudsmen who explained the sights and sounds of New Haven night life. The rest of us took the less tiresome bus ride home. But all had a delightful time.

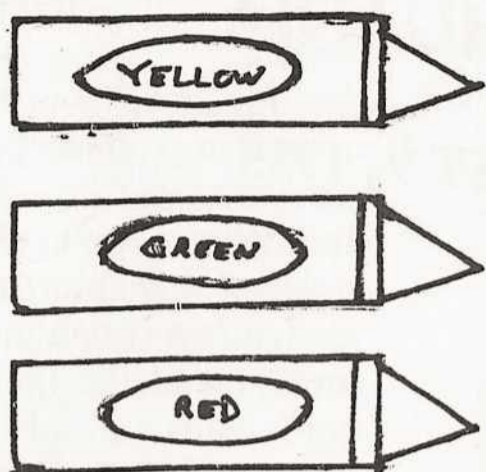
Regina Kot



C-29 members relax after an enjoyable meal.



Kazyta Sipaila, C-29 with Fr. Francis Karvelis.



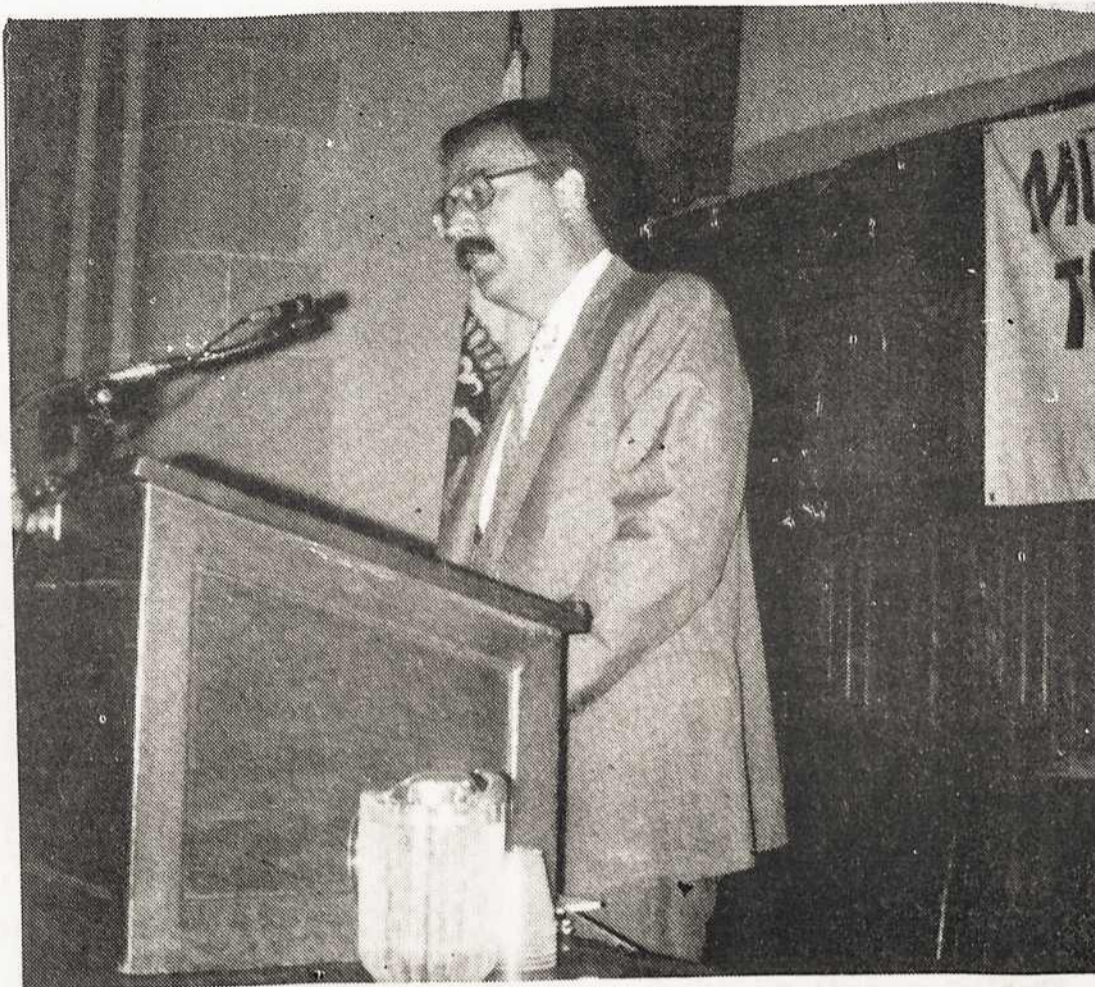
COLOR ME LITHUANIAN

On Friday morning, a former K of L'er returned to open our eyes and make us realize how the wonder of being Lithuanian relates to the rest of the world. He stirred excitement within us, as he explained how to color ourselves Lithuanian and to "color us alive."

John V. Chervokas is originally from Norwood, Massachusetts. As a K of L'er he was active in Lithuanian Affairs under the tutelage of the infamous Fr. John Jutt. He was a contributor to the *Vytis* often under the watchful and discerning eye of then editor, Loretta Stukas. He is a graduate of Fordham University, and presently lives in Briarcliff Manor, N.Y.

He is the creator of various advertisements, including the "Please Don't Squeeze the Charmin" television commercials. His book, *Pinstripe Prayers*, deals with prayers on contemporary subjects and can ease some of the difficult times in our daily lives. And soon to appear on the bookshelves is *How to Keep God Alive from 9-5*.

When the Pope visited NYC in _____, Mr. Chervokas created a song for the young people to sing at a reception held in Madison Square Garden — "We are



Guest speaker, John V. Chervokas Editor-in-Chief of "Madison Ave."

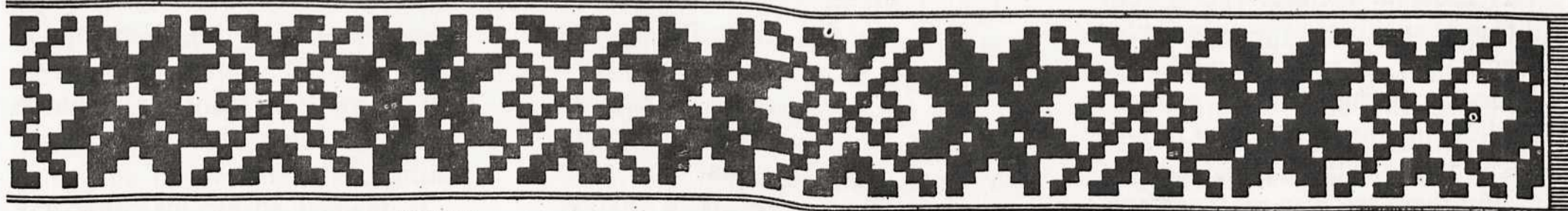
Today." His talents have also been used by the NYC Archdiocese Vocation Campaign. In August 1984 his "Passion for Words" was hailed in the *Catholic New Yorker*.

He most recently became the editor-in-chief of the professional advertising magazine, "Madison Ave."

After being introduced by his former critic, President Loretta Stukas, John Chervokas presented the following suggestions for sharing our ethnicity with others, to stir excitement and entice new and younger members to the K of L.

* * * * *

A discussion period followed Mr. Chervokas' presentation in which the Convention body expressed its joy to have their former member return and give such an inspiring talk. He gladly autographed copies of *Pinstripe Prayers* and donated a "Pasisvilpk" button to the Scholarship Committee Raffle.



TO THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

NATIONAL CONVENTION

YALE UNIVERSITY AUGUST 9, 1985

It's wonderful to be asked to speak to a group where you know ... you can just sense ... that when you are introduced your name will be pronounced correctly. That's a wonderful feeling.

In the past few years I have been introduced in such exotic locales ... (and by some exotic people) ... as Memphis, Tennessee, Greenville, South Carolina, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Wichita, Kansas ... in Barcelona and Brussels ... in Dublin and Paris. Can you imagine ... can you begin to imagine what those people did with *Chervokas*?

Now, I am not an overly sensitive person. After all, what's in a name? What's in a name? *What's in a name?*

How about heritage, for one thing? And ego? And family? And the very essence of one's being? That's what's in a name ... for starters.

I keep this chart in my office. It sits there on a ledge ... and it grows ... steadily ... week after week ... month after month. The heading of this chart reads ... "*How do we misspell Chervokas? Let me count the ways.*"

On this chart are clipped ... from actual letters I have received ... the various different ways Chervokas has been misspelled through the years. Everytime a new misspelling comes across my desk it goes up onto the chart. As of this very moment there are forty four different spellings of my nine letter surname. I can understand that someone, because of the pronunciation, might think that Chervokas begins with an S instead of a C. But there are even spellings here of my name that begin with a T ...

and an F ... and a G ... and even two that begin with a V!



I've given some thought as to why the misspelling of my name bugs me so much. And it's pretty obvious. Pride. With a P. Pride. But not, I would like to think the sort of personal pride that runs amok ... runs straight to egotism. Not a big fat boastful personal pride ... but rather a certain *ethnic* pride.

Yes, I certainly would like to be identified as being a singular human being (we are all singularly unique human beings) but I would also like to be recognized as belonging to a rather singular ethnic group. Many Italians have the wonderful linguistic advantage of being identified as being Italian by having their name end in I--N--I. Many of our Polish friends are able to flash their Polish-ness with their S--K--I name ending.

As for Chervokas ending in A--S, well, that A--S ending is not a dead giveaway that the man wearing the name is a living, breathing Lithuanian. Not at all.

In fact a couple of years ago I received this colorful book in the mail. It's a communications directory... and the first page of this book reads... and I quote, "*This directory has been published in the hope that such a reference work will help to promote fraternal ties among Americans of Hellenic descent who are active in the field of communications.*"

Hellenic descent? *Hellenic descent?* It isn't enough of a mistake that the directory was sent to a Lithuanian not a Greek... but there on page 11 of the directory you can find this name... *John V. Chevokas*... and not even spelled right... the R is missing... *Chervokas*... right there with *Jim Karvellas*... *Ike Pappas*... and *Ernie Anasto*. John Chervokas, who the publishers of this book, the Greek Orthodox Church, incidentally, simply assumed was a Greek.

I called the publishers of this directory... and told them in tones hushed and low... that although I was crazy about Melina Mercouri ... and I can't get enough of stuffed grape leaves... I'm Lithuanian, not Greek. I'm Baltic... not Hellenic. Don't color me the blue and white of Greece. Color me the yellow, green and red of Lithuania.

Which brings me to the core of what I would like to speak to you about this morning... and that's that development and the nurturing... and the constant refueling of one's ethnic pride. How ethnic pride can be shaped and shown off. How a healthy ethnic pride can make one's life even more exciting.

It dawned on me the other day that there is something rather static

about a nation's flag. Any nation's flag. Think about it. The idea for the flag is conceived by patriots when the country is being formed ... or, in revolutionary instances, when the country is being reformed. Then the flag is created by that nation's resident Betsy Ross... and as long as the nation endures... the flag endures. Sure, when we have a flag with stars representing states and we add a state we add a star. But the essence of the American flag and *all* flags remains the same through decades... throughout centuries. The country changes... it grows... its values change but the flag stays the same. The rising sun of Japan... the maple leaf of Canada... our stars and stripes.

Of course a country can't keep altering its flag everytime the nation reshapes its values a wee bit. No. But I would like to suggest that a nation can have the flag's symbols take on different or added meanings as the country and its people reassess themselves and their national goals. This flag... this Lithuanian flag... this manifestation of a nation's very heart and soul... can deliver different messages and emotional stimuli to those who are affected by it at different times in history.

Sixty five years ago... not very long ago in a historical sense, really... what we consider to be the Lithuanian flag was adopted. The horizontal yellow bar at the top... the green bar in the middle... and the red bar at the bottom. Now, let's remember that those colors weren't put there arbitrarily. Depending on whose version you accept these colors represent specific factors of our geographic and genetic spawning ground.

I'd like to spend a little time reviewing what those colors meant when the flag was created... and what those colors can mean *now*

to we who are removed physically... and chronologically... and for many of us... psychologically, too... from the nation of Lithuania.

Let's begin at the top bar... the yellow bar. Some say it was meant to represent the sun... more people, however, properly maintain that the yellow symbolizes the fields of grain... the ripening rye and the ripening wheat... "javai"... that ripple throughout the Lithuanian countryside. This, in turn, represents freedom from want. And that made eminent sense to Lithuania in 1920 when the flag was created. Still does... to some extent... but is there something in the color yellow... something that can be more meaningful to us here and now... to us somewhat distant daughters and sons of those people who created the flag and created the country itself?

I suggest we latterday Liths look at the yellow in the Lithuanian flag and think of it as... *HAPPINESS*. Think of the yellow as representing an uplifting of the spirit... a bubbiness... a general good feeling. *HAPPINESS*. Am I saying, then, that we Lithuanians aren't happy outgoing folk? Well, we of Northern European stock are stereotypically considered to be colder, more aloof, not as fun-loving as, say, people of Mediterranean heritage. Then again, we are descendants of a people who have been... and are now... under subjugation by another nation. That's hardly reason to be joyous.

But I would like to offer the opinion that if being Lithuanian is to become a with-it, talked-about positive life-situation (and I'll get into that a bit later) we American-Lithuanians will present a much more upbeat picture of ourselves and our heritage by always being bright and optimistic personalities.

And incidentally, if this organization hopes to make a major impact in attracting younger people I believe it must do so in a lighthearted empathetic fashion. A 16 year old whose great grandparents were the last people in the family to have ever been in Lithuania is probably not going to become involved with an organization to write letters to politicians petitioning them to be aware of Lithuania's plight. That activity is okay — but the prime attraction must be instilling a sense of animated difference and excitement in being Lithuanian.

Look at the yellow of the flag — and remember this fact. We shouldn't take ourselves too seriously. We should make our heritage fun. Let's not be afraid to be silly every once in a while. Yes, silly. Our young people are not afraid to dress like Madonna, to imitate Hulk Hogan, to coin words and new expressions that some of us might think are absurd. We Lithuanian graybeards shouldn't be worried about being lightheartedly outrageous as well. And I think we have it in us. In fact, I know we have it in us.

For years when our children were little, I would read them books by Richard Scarry. He's the wonderful artist who draws animal characters in absurd plots. A few years back someone sent me this Scarry Lithuanian adaptation... *Mano Žodynas*. I was delighted... the book, a project of the Lithuanian Education Council... is a wonderful silly way to make Lithuanian a vital spoken... albeit haltingly... language in a home where perhaps Lithuanian is rarely heard. To thumb through this book and happen on a pig shaking a rattle and learn that rattle is *barškutis* may not be enough to win you the respect and admiration of, say, your college admissions officer... but it *will* make you a



MANO ŽODYNAS...silly and wonderful.

warm, fascinating, kicky sort of person.

So let's look at the yellow in the flag... and think *HAPPINESS*... a joyous outlook... an upbeat attitude on the Lithuanian quotient in our personal make-up.

Moving down now to the green bar... the fathers who determined the character of this flag chose green, it is said, to represent the forests of Lithuania... and, on a somewhat loftier plane... that green would then symbolize hope. Can green mean something more relevant to all of us here today... more relevant, perhaps, than the forests of Lithuania?

How about *GROWTH*? Growth. A personal variety of growth that, properly directed and channelled, can work for your own council, the K of L at large — and you personally. Green implies growth, doesn't it... whether it's the forests of our forefathers' interpretation or the wonderful rich green color of... *money*. As one grows and experiences more of life one tends to become more sophisticated... (yes, you can be silly and sophisticated... they are not mutually exclusive). Part of this green-growth mentality means

that as American-Lithuanians you can sense you are special... but you can also sense how that specialness can relate and be strengthened by relationships outside of that ethnic insularity.

In your recruitment brochure... of the stimuli for recruitment that you use... one of ten stimuli incidentally, which may be too many... but nevertheless one you use is "Join the K of L Land," and "Widen Your Horizons." I take that to mean that you can widen your horizons both within your Lithuanian-ness — and widen your horizons to see how the wonder of being Lithuanian relates to the bigger world out there. Now that's where growth plays such an important role.

A couple of thoughts here. Lithuanianism, as I see it, encompasses more than what binds us here today. It embraces more than the Catholic, the patriotic, the linguistic components that make up the K of L. These are all part of your charter — and that's fine. Yet many of the most prominent Lithuanians who have made their mark in the arts are Lithuanian Jews, not Lithuanian Catholics. Then again... many people who have just a trace of Lithuanian

great-great grandparentage in their past... they too, are capable of having a certain amount of Lithuanianism stoked into their soul if they only could learn about it.

As each of us in his and her own way matures, grows personally... we must be wary that whatever link to Lithuanianism we nurture that should never be a parochial link. We must reach out in understanding... not in boasting... we must be proud of our ethnic gift... and share it... not hoard it.

Our grandparents had to hoard that gift. When they came to America they were as alone as Neil Armstrong on the moon. To be sure there were thousands of other people around... but they spoke differently, thought differently, acted differently. Ethnic bonding was a must. Our grandparents felt they must build enclaves unto themselves in order to protect themselves and their heritage. This was a most natural instinct. I remember my grandfather... who died a few years ago at nearly 101... and who bore such a magnificent Lithuanian name... Vincas Kudirka... used to tell me when I was a teenager, "*Jonukai... ne eik su chutabucke... ne eik su chutabucke.*" *Chutabucke*, as it was explained to me meant... an Irish girl. I was being warned not to date an Irish girl. Forgetting the well-meaning, but ghetto-like advice of grandpa to stay aware from Irish girls... which, of course I didn't... where in the world did the expression *chutabucke* come from? It has a wonderful etymology. *Chutabucke* comes from chew tobacco. It seems the Irish men who were working in the mills where grandpa worked chewed tobacco and so an Irishman was a *chutabuckis*.

This was not a putdown as much as an identification. Today, with the trendiness of ethnicity there

nas sprung up a sleazy kind of humor based on the ethnic put-down. Rickles... and Rivers... and Prior revel in that sort of thing. And ethnic humor has captured, unfortunately, the imagination of our young people, too.

And not merely young people. We are all susceptible to it. Especially when we have an ethnic background of our own that we'd like to crow about. Too often as we boast of our background we knock someone else's. It is important that we consider the green... the growth of our ethnicity... that we be ever-aware of our need to respect and even applaud the differences in others.

In *Pinstripe Prayers*... in my conversations during a business day with God... I have a prayer dealing with that sort of situation. It's a "Prayer for a Bigoted Client..." and in that prayer I say to God...

He's told Jew jokes and black jokes and gay jokes...

What's next?

What's next and why?

Why the litany of ridicule,

The series of slurs

Couched in gags more

frightening than funny?

Frightening because they're coming from

Someone who insistently professes belief

In Your being and Your mercy,

And frightening because I'm listening to him,

Laughing with him —

And doing nothing to steer him back

To sensitivity, if not love;

Respect, if not reverence;

Decency, if not out-and-out brotherhood.

Father, still the hurtful stories

That come from his lips,

And/or instill in me the

courage

To speak up, and say "Stop!"

Amen.

It's sort of ironic, isn't it that to grow, we have to stop; to grow we must stop old habits, old ways of doing things and considering things and move on to a new level of maturity and sophistication and awareness. That's what looking at the green bar means if you really wanted it.

Finally, what about the RED... well, some say it originally meant to convey blood, but many claim it stands for the color of the flowers, the flowers of Lithuania, which, in turn, symbolize love for the country. Now that's a fine poetic thought which we can't quarrel with. But for us, for you and I, removed from that country, we're removed from the land itself, the flowers, the feelings that meant so much to our relatives who were born there. Is there anything inspirational we, the distant, can attribute to the Red in the Lithuanian flag? There certainly is!

Passion... Passion! Let's update the Lithuanian flag in our mind's eye, at least to have the red stand for passion. In the 25 years since I've been among K of L'ers, as a group, I've traveled a great deal throughout the world and I've been privileged to meet many prominent successful people; however, in one's name, may one measure the success of people. Some have invented products that have revolutionized lives, others have written books you quote from, some have written songs that you hum or films you admire. All these people have had one common attribute of success... they are all *passionate* people... passionate about their careers, their vocations, their lives. They just don't make a commitment... they go at that commitment with a fire and a zeal that simply won't be squelched.

You don't have to have a grandiose vision of life — or your place in the world — to be a pas-

sionate person. One's life can be full of little passions, a life so full of mini-flames that your life sparkles. This nice thing, this marvelous adventure of Lithuanism can be one of your chosen passions — and as such, can make your life a more joyous one. Yes, there's nothing wrong with being a little selfish about your passions. This Lithuanism can make you feel good about yourself... as you try to do something for others.

This passion... this day-in, day-out enthusiasm can reveal itself in a number of ways. It can be reflected by your own personality in your own way. But, by flaunting this passion for your heritage you are giving public notice that there is such a country, such an idea, such an ethos as Lithuania.

For example, it may come as a shock to many of you but... Lithuanians every so often... get angry. Yes, we mildmannered soft-spoken, level-headed people sometimes get angry. Once in a while something... *bugs the living bejeebers out of us.*

Some time ago I chose to express my anger in a way that vented my spleen, made me feel better, but one that I knew wouldn't result in someone taking a poke at me. When somebody would annoy me I would just say... in the same level of voice... "*Pasisvilpk.*" My Lithuanian expression let me tell the person... in a word that sounds much worse than it really is... "*pasisvilpk*" that I was annoyed. How could the person feel offended when he didn't have the foggiest idea what "*pasisvilpk*" meant?

But the word does sound rather obscene, doesn't it? Someone might have grown terribly angry at the way I spouted the word... so rather than saying it... whenever I felt it should be said... I would... put on my "*pasisvilpk*"

button. I had dozens of them made up... so I had them everywhere... always ready to be pinned on... always near by... in desk drawers... pockets... my at-tache case.

If I was passionate enough to be bothered by certain things... and I was passionate enough about my Lithuanian background... why not combine those passions in one marvelous word... "*pasisvilpk.*"

All those kinds of kitschy things... bumper stickers... stocking caps with "*labas*" knitted into them... whatever Lithuanian promotion devices you feel comfortable sporting... they are all outward, and sometimes flamboyant signs... of your pride.

But passion need not be tinsel and glitz alone. Passion can be shown in achievement... career achievement... family and church achievement... wherever your Lithuanianism plays a part.

In the upcoming August 19th issue of *Time Magazine*... hun-

dreds of thousands of Americans will be seeing this ad. It's an ad for the Statue of Liberty Ellis Island Foundation prepared by a small West Coast advertising agency. This ad was selected in competition with much larger agencies. The name of the Belmont, California agency is Livingston/Sirutis... and the Sirutis is Zina Sirutis. Here's what the press release says about her... "*The ad was particularly fulfilling for Sirutis, a Lithuanian displaced person who grew up in Australia and became an American citizen while receiving her formal education at the University of Illinois and Pratt Institute.*"

The passion obviously extended in the creation of the ad and the passion that people like me — and hopefully you — experience in reading of its creator can work wonders for the cause of Lithuanianism. When we can get excited by the fact that the summer's hottest film director is Robert Zemeckis, the Lithuanian who

brought us *Back Into the Future*... when we read of the grittiness of Lithuanian Ann Jillian and her medical problems... why, even when we see that the notorious phrase, *Please Don't Squeeze the Charmin*... was created by a Lithuanian... then we are passionately involved in our ethnic being.

That passion gives us a broader dimension, a new relevance to our persona. And by the way, a new importance to this flag.

So, friends, if we can manage to blend the HAPPINESS suggested by the yellow of the flag... the GROWTH suggested by the green of the flag... and the PASSION inspired by the red of the flag... then I honestly believe not only can I stand here and say COLOR ME LITHUANIAN... but even more importantly... we all will be able to say... COLOR US WARM, COLOR US ENTHUSIASTIC, COLOR US ALIVE... COLOR US WINNERS!



**COLOR ME LITHUANIAN...COLOR US WARM,
COLOR US ENTHUSIASTIC, COLOR US ALIVE...
COLOR US WINNERS!**

YOUTH TALKS BACK

Friday, August 9, 1985
Third Plenary Session



Paul Strolia, Moderator of "Youth Talks Back" panel.

"This is YOUR organization. Until there's enough people my age it's really not MY organization yet, even though I believe in all its ideals."

These were Paul Strolia's introductory words as he began Friday afternoon's panel discussion about getting more youth into the K of L. These bold words startled the ears of many people at the convention. Paul continued on to explain where some of the problems lay in attracting youth and how to overcome this. He was assisted by Rita Shevokas, (C-144) and Susan Gudeczaukas (C-103). (Joseph Mantz, Jr. had been scheduled as a panelist, but he was unable to attend).

Rita Shevokas, who serves as a dance group instructor, and is also on the National Scholarship Committee, explained the importance of getting youngsters involved at an early age. Most children enjoy learning dances or singing songs. Because it is fun for them, they want to join. Their participation instills in them the beginning of their Lithuanian spirit. They also enjoy choir groups, K of L Juniors, and summer camps.

However, one of the large problems is for the K of L counselor to keep their Lithuanianism growing. This is difficult when songs sung entirely in Lithuanian are too long or too difficult to learn. They become discouraged and no longer want to participate. Having songs, hymns or stories translated into English

would help a great deal. The songs can be sung to Lithuanian lyrics in order that the ethnicity be retained. Translation, of course, needs usually skilled or advanced training in the Lithuanian language. The use of translations is sometimes criticized; however their use is not meant to diminish the importance for keeping the Lithuanian language alive. It helps children to understand where visual knowledge is lacking.

Rita explained there is no way to develop a prefabricated plan of what youth must do to be Lithuanian. Youth will maintain the ethnic viability if they learn to love what they are doing at an early age. You just have to give them a chance to respond with their heart and create their own living song of being Lithuanian. Lithuanian philosopher, Stasys Salkauskis, (1886-1941) challenged the youth of Lithuania and asked that they make the Lithuanian nation a living song and a thing of enjoyment for ages to come.

How to encourage Lithuanian-American young adults (ages 20 and over) to join the K of L or stay with the organization was discussed by Susan Gudeczaukas. Individual councils should look at the format of their general meetings, she said. Is it too formal, too business oriented? Meetings should be a happy experience with something new happening each time.

Many young K of L'ers would consider a learning experience, a happy experience. If someone shared their

family traditions or told of their personal experiences in Lithuania they would enjoy it. This is because it is very difficult to find Lithuanian cultural and certain historical information. When it is found, it is most frequently in Lithuanian. The majority of young Lithuanian-Americans need books in English. It would also be helpful if material in the Lithuanian archives was more accessible or reproducible for their use so it would not be totally forgotten.

Susan noted that it is never too late to bring culture into your everyday life. Even if you have grown children, who don't know about, have forgotten, or don't practice Lithuanian traditions or eat or are able to prepare Lithuanian food—we should get them involved again. She urges everyone to expose their family, or Lithuanian friends to Lithuanian language and culture. This may inspire more people to join the K of L, even later in life, or to stick with the organization.

After the presentations by these two young Lithuanian ladies, Paul Strolia passed out a cartoon sheet explaining "If You Want Youth, You Have to Know About Youth." Then he asked K of L'ers to seriously look at themselves. If you have not gotten many younger members this past year, what is the matter? What did you do wrong?

You have to really want youth in your organization if you intend to get them. If you are praying for it, then it is a good sign you really want them. One must make time, however, to approach them — to show them that they will enjoy being a member of the K of L.

Do you know why you want youth in your organization? Youth will give the K of L diversity and a future. Occasionally some people are "age" prejudice against youth. One must realize that American-Lithuanian youth have a different culture. Their roots are American. You were brought up with frequent practice of Lithuanian traditions within the family. Are your children, grandchildren continuing those practices? If no, start celebrating them again and sharing your Lithuanianism with newer generations.



Rita Shevokas, C-144, quotes Lithuanian philosopher, Stasys Salkauskis.



Susan, Gudeczauskas, C-103, share your Lithuanianism with newer generations.

In conclusion the panel gave these recommendations:

1. Don't give young persons a lot of work to do. Make the work enjoyable. Take into consideration their school, work, family and friends.
2. Appoint someone to be your "youth contact" — a person who relates to youth and whom the youth can relate to. They should be available for the youth to call with questions or for information. These contact people will be the youth's link to the K of L.
3. Encourage family oriented activities. This adds more unity to the group and encourages youth who are friends to participate together. Parents also relate to one another and share ideas about encouraging Lithuanianism.
4. Invite youth dance or song groups to perform periodically. Providing nourishment for them will encourage them to stick around and mix with your youth.
5. Be practical, not ideological.

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON YOU(TH)!

Comments from the floor followed the panel discussion. The need to keep in touch with youth, physically if they go away to college, and ideologically was stressed. The need for reference materials in English was also emphasized. President Stukas suggested that the K of L become more involved with youth of other Lithuanian organizations. She noted that the Lithuanian World Youth Association had invited the youth of the K of L to participate in the 6th Lithuanian World Youth Congress to be held in Australia in 1987.

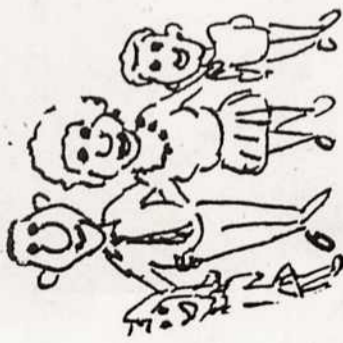
This program addressed many important questions. Having our youth talk back to us, reminding us where we have failed or made progress was very beneficial and we hope that by sharing ourselves with them we may be able to develop stronger Lithuanian Americans and a stronger K of L.

IF YOU WANT YOUTH, YOU HAVE TO KNOW ABOUT YOUTH

THEY HAVE LITTLE TIME

SO IF YOU WANT THEM, YOU'LL HAVE TO OFFER SOMETHING THAT THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO GIVE THEIR TIME TO!

GROWTH HAS TO START WITH YOUR OWN FAMILIES.



YOU ARE PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, YOUR OWN CHILDREN + GRANDCHILDREN INVOLVED

THEY HAVE TO BE "WANTED"

EVERYONE LIKES TO BE NEEDED! SHOW THEM YOU WANT THEM BECAUSE YOU THINK THEY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE - AND THEY WILL COME.

TELL THEM HOW + WHY THEIR LIFE WILL BE RICHER IF THEY DECIDE TO GET INVOLVED. THE K. OF L. SHOULD BE A GIFT THAT ENRICHES THEIR LIVES!

TRY TO GET THEM ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

YOUR FUNCTIONS HAVE TO BE LIGHT-HEARTED + NOT TOO MUCH WORK AT THE BEGINNING.

LATER, WHEN THEY ARE IN THE ORGANIZATION FOR A WHILE, THEY WON'T MIND WORKING.

ASK YOURSELF IF YOU TRULY WANT THEM IN THE K. OF L. THEN GET THE PASSION TO GET THEM!

YES? NO! HM?

IF YOU TRULY DON'T TRY TO GET THEM, YOU MIGHT BE A PERSON WHO IS A K. OF L. JUST FOR THE SOCIAL ASPECT. IF YOU ARE, THEN DON'T CALL YOURSELF A KNIGHT OF LITHUANIA, BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT WORKING FOR LITHUANIA'S FUTURE!

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON YOU(TH)!

DO IT FOR GOD + COUNTRY!

FIND OR APPOINT A TALENTED PERSON IN EACH COUNCIL TO GET YOUTH INTERESTED. BE CREATIVE!

Shelia 85's
L. CONVENTION HAVE!
NEW

CULTURAL NIGHT

Sprague Hall - Yale University

ANNA KLIZAS WARGO

The 72nd. Annual Convention Cultural Night began with the presentation of prizes to the councils that did the most culturally in the past year. First prize was presented to Council 100, Amsterdam, N. Y., Co-Chairpersons, Regina Kot and Polly Ziausys for the excellent job they did for Lithuanian Culture in the 1984-85 term of office. Second prize was presented to Council 63, Lehigh Valley, Pa., Ann Pettit, Cultural Chairperson and third prize to Council 142, Bridgeport, Ct., Clemencine Miller, Cultural Chairperson.

The program for the evening, with Marian Meshako as Director and M. C. clearly showed that this was "The Year of the Youth". The young people who performed were extraordinarily talented, and provided an evening of pure enjoyment.

St. Casimir's Church Group of New Haven started the program with a selection of Lithuanian Giesmes and Dainos. Attired in Native costume, they were accompanied by John Bernardo. It was the start of a memorable evening.

They were followed by Valorie Abate, a beautiful soprano, who presented two Lithuanian selections and one from the Pirates of Penzance. Her voice thrilled the audience.

Lisa Kondorsky then presented a modern dance. This young lady was pleasantly entertaining.

Matthew Gutauskas showed his talent at the piano by playing two very diverse and difficult selections, Invention nr. 4 by Bach and the popular selection, "Deep Purple". We look forward to Matthew being the Liberator of the 90's.



Marian Meshako, C-50, Cultural Night Director and M. C.



Matthew Gutauskas shows talent at the piano.



Valorie Abate, 14-year old budding soprano dedicates Lithuanian song to her grandfather



Young Lisa Kondorsky entertains with a modern dance presentation.



Polly Ziausys accepts 1st prize cultural award for C-100, Amsterdam.



Receives second prize award for C-63, Lehigh Valley.



Clem Miller accepts third prize award for her council, C-141, Bridgeport, Ct.



The Vetra Dancers of Bridgeport.



Solist Dorothy Yutenkas Mutkoski



The Amber Singers — Mother and daughter, Anne and Pat Kelly

Although the evening was hot and humid, the Vetra Dancers of Bridgeport under the direction of Ruta Juknevičiutė-Mickūnienė, with grace, precision and professionalism. It was a joy watching them, and they all looked cool as a cucumber despite the heat of the night. Everyone enjoyed them immensely.

Another lovely soloist, Dorothy Youtenkas Mutkoski enchanted the audience with musical selections. Her selections from Victor Herbert and Gaetano Ronizetti were worthy of the Metropolitan Opera.

Mother and Daughter team, Anne and Pat Kelly, the Amber Singers enthralled the audience with their Lithuanian and English renditions of Lithuanian Folk Songs, accompanied by both on the Kankles. Many of the beautiful Lithuanian songs were translated into English

for those who could not understand Lithuanian and they were delightful. There could not have been a more touching way to commemorate the "Year of the Youth" than with this mother and daughter act.

The final soloist, Dorothy Vytell, was beautiful and talented. She sang an aria by Verdi and a medley of love songs. Her rendition of "Kur bakužė samanota" brought the house down and the ovation was so great, she repeated this famous Lithuanian melody.

The Cultural Evening of the 72nd. Convention is one that will long be remembered by those who attended. Each talent was excellent; each was exceptional and those of us who were privileged to attend this affair left with a warm feeling and with a happy memory.



St. Casimir's Church Group



A bubbly drink to end a bubbly evening.

JUNIORS SESSION

By Christina Falton, C-3



Barbara Mickunas, C-3, presides over Juniors 42 Session.

On Saturday morning the Juniors held their meeting. Barbara Michunas of C-3 was selected to preside over our meeting of the juniors.

One representative junior from each council spoke about their K of L activities. The Juniors of Amsterdam learned about the present day situation in Lithuania; they also sang Lithuanian songs at the Albany commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day; and had a council picnic in the summer. Paula Skudra of Indiana said she wasn't able to do many junior activities but helped her mother in the Indiana Council. Elinor Sluzas called Paula her mother's right-hand person and a great help. John Strolia of Chicago helped form Council 13 for youth ages 18-30 years old. Some members are from their dance group. Most of their members are also active in Scouts and Ateineke and other organizations. Two members from Kenosha, Wisconsin decorated the governor's Christmas tree in Wisconsin. They get many offers to participate in cultural events. They have to turn some of them down.

Their mother is the president of Council 38 in Kenosha and they try to help her as much as possible. Although there are only two of them they do a good job.

We spoke about recruiting new members and the adults told us that it was very important to put as much as possible into the K of L, because we get out of it as much as we put into it. When we go to conventions we find the real purpose of the K of L and associate with nice people. We think the convention should be better organized for youth — a suite for the youth and more activities planned. We think the K of L has high ideals. The K of L is for youth, and we want to get and be involved in it. If a book could be written on how to run

conventions so everyone would get more out of conventions, it would help — especially the youth because that is the future.

\$25 conventionship awards were given to each of the 10 Juniors attending the convention: Andrew Svekla, C-3; Walter Svekla, C-3; Barbara Mickunas, C-3; Kriste Olechowski, C-100; Irene Strazdas, C-147; Paula Skudra, C-36; John Strolia, C-13; Birute Balciunas, C-38; Aldona Balciunas, C-38; and Christina Balton, C-3.

They love you, they think very highly of this organization, their organization and you can bet you boots that 20 years from now they will be here along with some of their friends.

Elinor Sluzas, 2nd Vice-President



Junior delegates listen to Dr. Peter Bizinkauskas



Juniors receive Conventionship Awards from Elinor Sluzas

REPORT ON CAMP AUŠRA 1985

By Irene Straždus, C-147

Last summer I had the opportunity to attend Camp Aušra, and I'm going to tell you what a great time I had. Besides having a lot of fun, there were many opportunities to learn a lot of the Lithuanian culture. Many activities were planned such as decorating Easter eggs and making straw ornaments for Christmas and playing a lot of sports and games. We also had bonfires around which the children would perform skits which brought out a lot of Lithuanian activity. There were also a lot of learning activities that were going on. There were mini discussions about the history of Lithuania and also about the situation in present Lithuania.

We learned many folk songs and Lithuanian dances which we performed at the nursing home right next door. We also had the opportunity to learn some of the Lithuanian language which was really great! I was able to meet many Lithuanians — younger kids, and also children my age, which was really good, because I don't have the opportunity to do that too often. The way everything is planned at Camp Ausra makes people feel they belong to one big family of Lithuanians and it is really nice. I would strongly recommend this camp to any Lithuanian youth, even if they are not 100% Lithuanian. It's a great chance to



Junior Knight Irene Strazdus reports on Camp Ausra.

learn about Lithuanian history and to have a lot of fun and to get more interested in your Lithuanian background. I'm going back as a counselor next year, because I enjoyed it so much.

OFFICIAL NEWS

How hard it is to give up something that you love so dearly! For five years I lived in a dream world and now it is time to wake up and begin living in a normal manner again.

When Loretta Stukas announced that she would like to give up her long-standing job as Editor-in-Chief of VYTIS, group of Dayton friends urged me to turn in an application.

I did so with great temerity and fearfulness. As a newspaper writer, I had had many experiences with editors. They were a very hardy, forthright, strong-willed lot and I was of more quiet nature.

When the call came I had been chosen, it was truly a dream come true. Under Loretta's skillful tutelage, I gained confidence and my first year as Associated Editor was successfully completed.

The past four years as Editor-in-Chief of VYTIS have been very rewarding and exciting. My deep-felt thanks go to the highly efficient, dedicated staff that supported me. Their hard work and the work of the Supreme Council members and the many writers who kept a steady flow of material coming to my desk was the key to success.

But the clock of ages did not stop for me. It is time to hand over the blue pencils and the props to someone younger and healthier.

My congratulations go to Bernice Aviza. I wish her the very best of everything. The cooperation of all of the membership will make her term a memorable one.

LABAI, LABAI.

Aldona Ryan





Newly elected officers and guests at closing banquet.



New Haven Mayor DiLieto.
greet the K of L

CLOSING BANQUET Saturday Evening, August 10th Commons Room, Yale University

All of the business of the 72nd National Convention has been completed. It is a time for quiet celebration, a time to reflect on what has taken place.

The Knights of Lithuania closing banquet was held in the "Common's Room" of Yale University, and was filled to capacity.

The evening was unusually hot, but everyone was more than satisfied.

Our new officers sat at the head table along with our honored guests. (Estelle Rogers, Anthony Mazeika, Dr. Jack and Mrs. Loretta Stukas, Larry Janonis, Mary Ann Lepera, Nancy Miro, Fr. Albert Karalis, Mayor Biagio DiLieto, Frank Peterson, Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, Frank Petrauskas, Elsie Kosmisky, Helen Skudra, Teresa Trainis, Algirdas Budreckis, William Piacentini, Mary Juzenas, and Fr. Algimantas Bartkus.)

Mayor DiLieto greeted the K of L and encouraged us to visit New Haven again. The Mayor said, "I have respect for hard working people with a strong sense of patriotism."

Fr. Albert Karalis, pastor of St. Casimir's Church, New Haven, also spoke saying as he looked into the

wave of people, "We have all the Lithuanians here!"

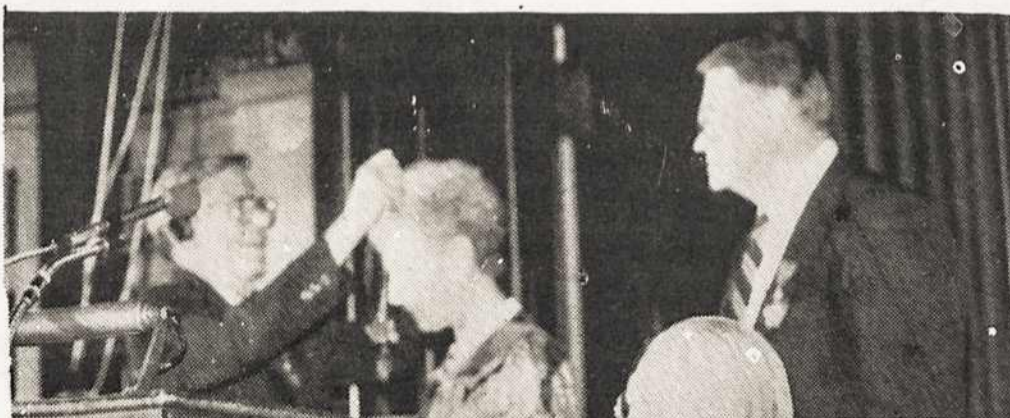
Emcee Frank Peterson introduced Anthony Mazeika, Chairman of the Honorary Membership Committee. He bestowed the honor of "Honorary Member" upon Estelle Rogers, C-112. At a hotel party, later on in the evening, Estelle also received the "White Hat Award". Congratulations Estelle!

Mary York, our "Liberty Lady", reported that \$575.00 was collected during the convention for the Statue of Liberty Fund.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Bill Piacentini reported that out of 8 candidates, scholarships would be awarded to 5 individuals. First place winner was *Anthony Paul Jankauskas, C-13 - \$1,000*; second place winner was *Charles Michael Grabusky, C-144 - \$800.*; there were three third place winners, each receiving an award of \$500. They were *Nancy Ann Dallalis, C-27*; *Lynne Marie Walinsky, C-26*, and *Anthony Peter Cappelli, C-50*

Our meal and the presentations were followed by dancing by the Walter Solek Band... An end to a perfect evening.

Maryte Lepera



Estelle Rogers, receives Honorary Membership Award



Scholarship Chairman Bill Piacentini announces scholarship winners.

**Presentation Of The
Rev. John C. Jutt
"Friend Of Lithuania"
Award
Knights Of Lithuania
70 National Convention**

August 11, 1985

*(as presented by Dr. Jack J. Stukas, National
Lithuanian Affairs Chairman)*

How can we define a "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA"?

Just a month ago, I headed a group of Lithuanian pilgrims that visited Rome. At the request of Rev. Al Bartkus of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, who knew we were coming, the Vatican provided our group with a special section very close to His Holiness, in the general audience in St. Peter's Square. The Audience included about 50,000 people. Our Lithuanians were the second group from the front, just behind the American Congressional delegation! As the Holy Father passed our group, he stopped, said "Lietuviai is Amerikos", greeted, chatted, and blessed us warmly. Surely that was because we were Lithuanian. Possibly because of his Lithuanian blood through his maternal grandmother and possibly because he understands Communist oppression, he feels a special affinity to Lithuanians, and has said "Half my heart is in Lithuania." He has also said that he prays for Lithuania daily.

Last year, on the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the death of St. Casimir, patron saint of Lithuania, the Holy Father held a special, historic Mass in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on March 4. Later, in August 1984, when his request to visit Lithuania during that important year of St. Casimir was denied by the Soviet Union, the Holy Father said an entire Mass in Lithuanian, complete with sermon,

which was broadcast directly to Lithuania over Vatican Radio. Pope John Paul II is truly a "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA".

Also on March 4 of that historic year of 1984, Archbishop John Whealon, Archbishop of Hartford, CT., although recovering from serious surgery, was the principal celebrant of the most beautiful con-celebrated Mass, held in the



*Archbishop John Whealon
Archbishop of Hartford, Ct.*

Cathedral of Hartford, marking the 500th Anniversary of the death of Lithuania's patron saint. Archbishop Whealon not only celebrated the Mass, which was the main such celebration of the Connecticut

Lithuanians, but he enthusiastically helped organize the celebration and insisted it be held on St. Casimir's feast.

We are told that his first assignment as a newly-ordained priest was to St. Peter's, a Lithuanian-American parish in Akron, Ohio, 40 years ago, where he became well-acquainted with the Lithuanian people. Throughout the years, he has shown compassion and understanding of the plight of Lithuanian Catholics suffering Communist oppression, has urged the members of his flock to join in praying for them and has supported the Lithuanian parishes in his diocese.

Archbishop Whealon also tried to visit Lithuania, during his recent visit to Poland, but he also was denied permission. Yet everytime he raises his voice on behalf of Lithuania or celebrates Holy Mass on her behalf he proves himself to be a "Friend of Lithuania."

To us Lithuanians, it means a great deal to have a friend like Archbishop Whealon. To us, our Church is our Fortress. Without our churches, we would be nothing. And Lithuanians would disappear into the nameless masses if they did not have their Lithuanian churches to remind them of their less-fortunate kin in Lithuania who cannot enjoy their parishes.

How important it is that we honor and have friends like Archbishop Whealon, who help us keep our parishes, and aid in the fight for Lithuanian independence and

freedom from religious oppression.

Those of us who have visited Lithuania know how difficult it is for them, what sacrifices they must make to practice their religion... to attend Mass without losing their jobs, their standing in class, etc. yet what fortitude they show...they fill the churches, go secretly to have their marriages blessed by a priest, to have their children baptized. Tourists visiting Lithuania have their prayerbooks and rosaries confiscated by USSR customs agents.

That is why we need "Friends of Lithuania" among our American clergy. That is why we are awarding this distinguished Knights of Lithuania "Rev. John C. Jutt Friend of Lithuania Award" to Archbishop John Whealon. He will help us in our fight to restore justice

and freedom, and especially freedom of religion to the suffering and persecuted Catholics of Lithuania, by his prayers and good works.

In the past, we have honored other members of the clergy. Cardinal Cushing of Boston, Sister Ann Gillen of Chicago, among others. We have also honored numerous Senators, Members of Congress, members of the media, as "Friends of Lithuania". They too have helped us in our cause for human justice and religious freedom.

I can read a two page summary of what the Archbishop has accomplished — noted scholar, professor, author — but it would take another half hour to do this list justice. How happy we are that we

can add a man of his Excellency's stature to our list of "Friends."

We respectfully request Your Excellency to continue your valued friendship with us, and continue your prayers and efforts on behalf of the suffering and persecuted Catholics in Lithuania. We need your help, Archbishop Whealon, also, in keeping the good name of Lithuanians alive in your diocese. In turn, we pledge our love and faith to you.

May I ask Miss Bernice Aviza, past Editor of our Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin, to present the Archbishop with a symbolic "Friend of Lithuania" Award, a replica of a Lithuanian wayside cross, symbolizing the faith of our Lithuanian people.



Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chr. Jack Stukas presents "Friend of Lithuania" Award to Archbishop Whealon with the assistance of Bernice Aviza, C-100.



Archbishop Whealon thanks the K of L for this honor.



C-25, Cleveland members enjoy socializing at closing banquet.



C-3, Philadelphia reflects of the 72nd National

FAREWELL LUNCHEON
Sunday, August 11, 1985
"The Commons," Yale University

Following Holy Mass at St. Casimir's all returned to Yale University for our farewell luncheon.

The special guests at the head table included our new National President Frank Petrauskas, outgoing President Loretta Stukas, Anthony Mazeika, Fr. Albert Karalis, Archbishop John Whealon, National Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Jack Stukas, Bishop Paulius Baltakis, Fr. Algimantas Bartkus and Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis.

The opening invocation was given by Fr. Jurgelaitis.

Frank Peterson introduced Loretta Stukas who served as emcee for the program. She thanked everyone for their cooperation and assistance during her term of office.

Honorary Membership Award was presented to Bishop Paulius Baltakis by our Honorary Membership Chairman Anthony Mazeika. He was assisted by H.M. Helen Shields. Bishop Baltakis thanked us for the great honor bestowed upon him and praised the Knights of Lithuania for the contributions it has made to the Lithuanian community.

Another K of L donation was presented to the representative of our "adopted" St. Casimir's College. Fr. Al Bartkus received a \$200 check from President Frank Petrauskas. Fr. Bartkus promised to look after our investment. President Petrauskas urged all members, councils and districts to make donations to St. Casimir's College.

National Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chairman Jack Stukas introduced the 1985 "Friend of Lithuania" Award recipient — Archbishop John Whealon. He then gave a listing of the Archbishop's credentials which verified his fitness for this award. Assisting Chairman Stukas with the presentation was Bernice Aviza, Lithuanian Affairs Committee Bulletin Editor. Archbishop Whealon was given an exquisite wayside



Bishop Baltakis receives Honorary Membership from Anthony Mazeika.

shrine as an award. The shrine bore a small plaque telling of the award's significance.

Archbishop Whealon thanked everyone for this honor and explained that the first parish he served in was St. Peter's, a Lithuanian-American parish in Akron, Ohio. Their fidelity to their Christian brethren in Lithuania and in the U.S. was a fine example for all. There is a need for that unity of purpose in the world church today.

Fr. Jurgelaitis closed the luncheon with a prayer. Then a convention photo was taken outside the regal Yale buildings. We all cried, laughed and bid fond farewells until next year.



C-112 members at the Farewell Luncheon.

ROBERT STARK
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 Return requested
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**JOURNAL-COURIER HARTFORD, CT
 THURSDAY AUGUST 15, 1985**

**LITHUANIANS, LIKE BLACKS, STRUGGLE
 TO ASSERT IDENTITY IN U.S. SOCIETY**

By Vaughn M. Collins

After meeting and talking with several American citizens of Lithuanian descent, I have begun to understand my own black ancestors' long struggle in searching for their identities.

For years I heard the cries of my people, yet could not begin to fathom why those I came across were so periodically bitter. Many of my fellow blacks seemed hopelessly attached to the belief that their existence was irreparably second-class. This opinion surfaced mainly because of subservient stereotypes passed from generation to generation through old films, minstrel shows and occupational goings-on.

On the other hand, there were the few who refused to accept this second-class status. These few assumed the responsibility to tell the rest of the world about their sudden revelations of pride, self-esteem and identity. I have observed that Lithuanian-American people have also assumed this responsibility.

Citizens of Lithuania have been fleeing the eastern European nation since it was overthrown by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1940. For 45 years, these people

have been migrating to the United States of America with hopes of finding a new identity while preserving their own heritage.

With churches, schools and a national organization to maintain lines of communication for Lithuanian-Americans, the group strives to keep its heritage alive. Older members stress recruiting younger descendants to carry the group into the future.

Not until I attended a gathering of modern Lithuanian-Americans did I fully realize how much frustration lies behind a search for identity. While I listened to the endless clamoring of my people, I had only a limited conception of the frustration in the hearts of blacks. After all, I was born at a time when opportunities were beginning to abound for blacks. I could develop my own identity with time.

These Lithuanian-Americans express a great need to reach out to the world and be accepted. They no longer want to be known as the people who fled a nation of unrest and confusion. Nor do they want to represent the submissive punching bags their country's stereotype suggests. These people want from

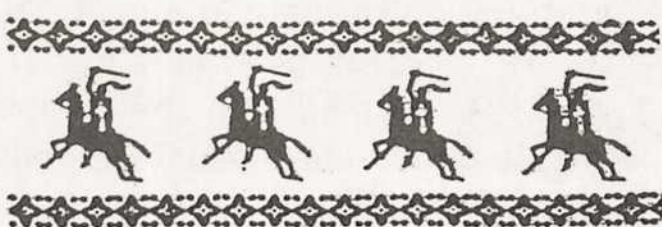
other groups the respect they give themselves.

One successful Lithuanian-American told of being offended by people who often think his surname is Greek. Another expressed dissent towards being mistaken for a Mexican. We know O'Sullivan is Irish and Chang is Chinese, so how come we're not sure if Chervokas is Lithuanian?

After developing what I feel is a reasonable interpretation of an identity crisis, I feel Lithuanian-Americans have taken a positive step in reaching a solution. These folks are "trying" to make it.

Not many people are capable of ignoring the past and looking towards the future. Those who possess the strong will and desire to prevail in this nation are bound to be near the front of the pack. But those who reach out and make a supreme effort to succeed will lead the pack.

(Vaughn Collins is a staff reporter under the summer intern program of The Jackson Newspapers).



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