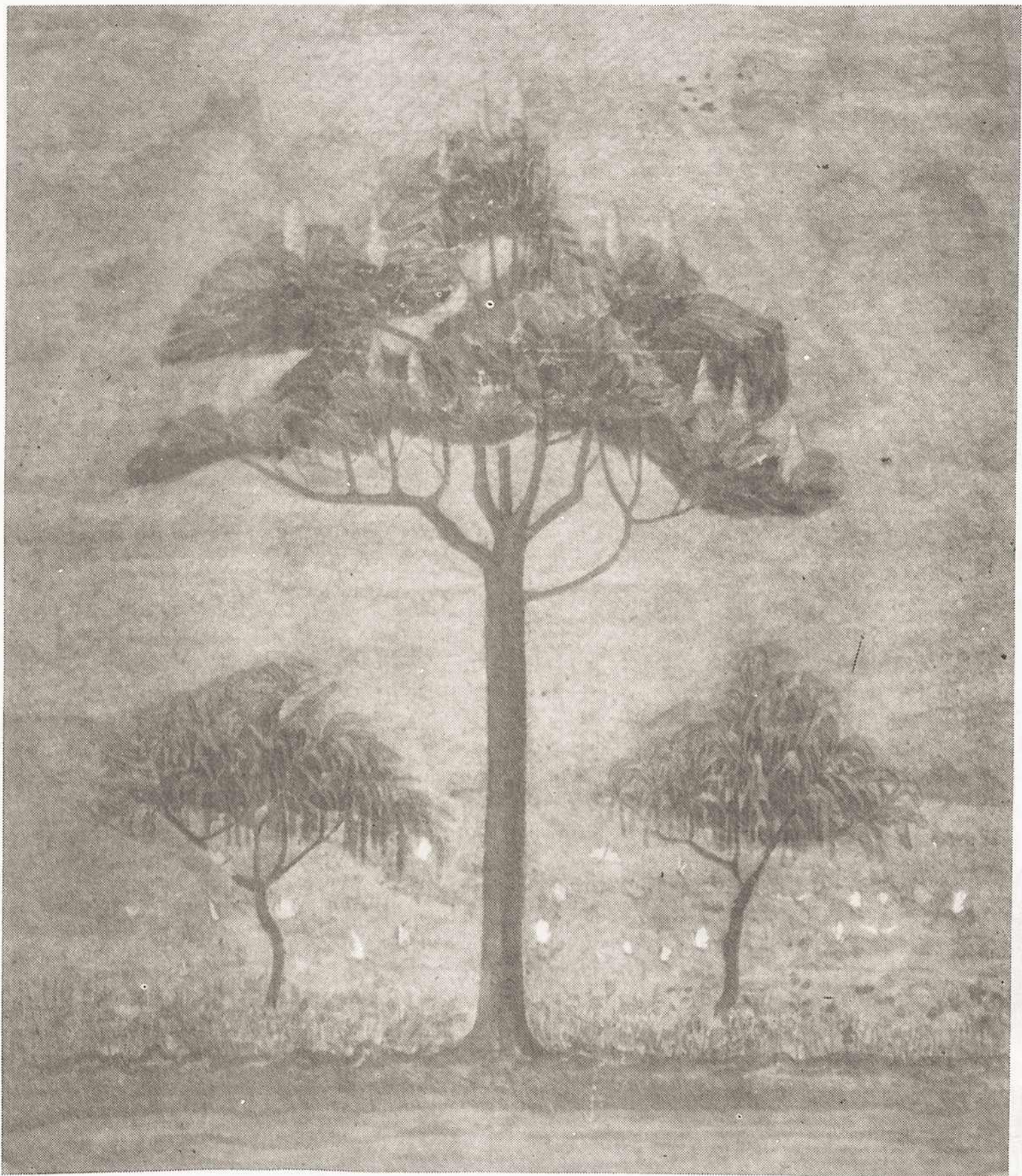


the KNIGHT **VYTTIS**

1986
**The Knights
of Lithuania**



Spring 1, 1907

Mikalojus Čiurlionis

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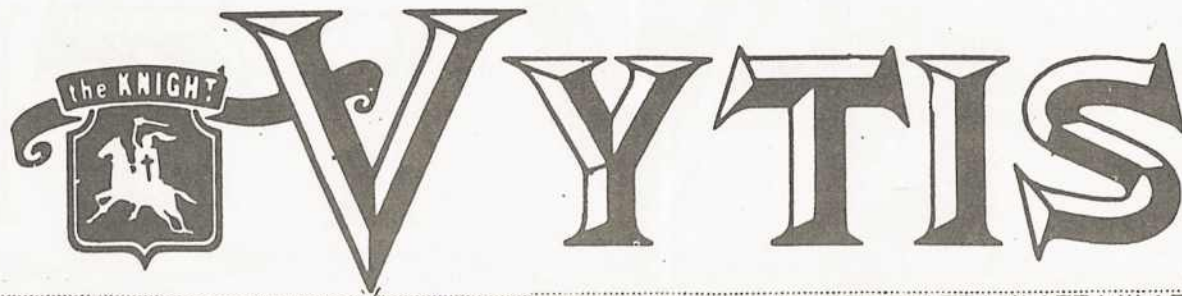
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OUR LORD'S EASTER GIFT

P E A C E



You've noticed, I am sure, in the Gospels read on the Sundays after the Resurrection that the word "peace" was constantly on the lips of Our Risen Lord: "Peace be to you". While it is true that "peace" -Shalom - was a common greeting among the Jewish people, when Christ spoke, he gave that word a very special meaning.

The word "peace" is found almost three hundred times in the Old Testament and over one hundred times in the New Testament.

It is, of course, not used in exactly the same way each time. "Peace be to you." may be a greeting, but "My peace I give you." is not a greeting. The Christmas angelic hymn, "Peace on earth, to men of good will" was God's Christmas gift to men. "My peace I give you." is Our Lord's Easter gift to us. It includes God's grace and love and joy.

We may ask ourselves: just what does the word "peace" mean? Saint Augustine's basic definition was: "tranquillity of order," that is, a satisfaction that comes about when we realize that all things are right, in order, between two persons (or nations).

When Christ used the word "peace" as gift, his primary intention was the contentment and joy that comes when there is a right order and relation between God and man, and between person and person. Once our relationship is right with God, it's easy to make things right between persons and even nations.

The basic ingredient of peace is love of God, charity, which results from recognizing the correct ordering of all things and persons and giving top priority to God, His Will, His Law.

By the way of contrast, peace (Communist style) is none of the above. It is in reality violence and hatred. It is strange, but I think it is true to say that the Communist Party, which ruthlessly controls the atheistic world, has written and spoken the word "peace" more often in the past sixty years than Christian writers, preachers and speakers combined.

For Communists, too, peace has different meanings. They make it mean whatever they choose. Thus, for them "peace" has become a counterfeit word. Sometimes they use it in the sense that we do: a period of "non-war", no fighting between nations, as in "peaceful coexistence". But most often Communist "peace" is a camouflage for the following realities:

- Power
- Expansion
- Atheism and Aggression
- Conquest
- Extermination.

Peace, therefore, Communist style, signifies military power, motivated by imperialism, pushing them to expand all over the world, denying God, seizing lands and peoples with a single thought: to exterminate the freedom of peoples and of nations and of all human rights.

What a contrast to the peace of Christ!

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. Not as the world gives, do I give you." (John 14, 27). We are reminded of these words at every Mass just before the Communion.

Peace, then, is Christ's Easter gift to us, not just for Easter Sunday, but for every Sunday and every day. This gift of Our Lord is meant to be used and enjoyed, like the gift of the

Eucharist. We start by fitting ourselves into God's Plan. There is only one way in which we fit. GOD FIRST, whether we eat or drink or work or play. When we have done this, we immediately sense "the tranquillity of order" in our lives. We soon realize that God's Plan is permeated with love. We fall in love with those whom God loves. The result? We have and enjoy peace.

Peace like charity is something we just cannot keep within ourselves. We have to share it. We must want everyone everywhere to have and enjoy it. This is God's Plan, too.

How do we go about sharing Christ's gift of peace with others?

We pray for peace.

The way things are at present in this world (the two superpowers poised for confrontation) we can expect war at almost anytime. One world news analyst recently declared that war is extremely likely during the 1980's! This is frightening. This is horrible!

Christ said: "These things I have spoken to you, that IN ME you may have peace ... have confidence, I have overcome the world." (John 16, 33)

We have one other strong encouragement to pray for peace: Our Blessed Mother's message spoken at Fatima in 1917 (and I quote): "If my requests are granted," Mary said, "Russia will be converted and there will be peace."

What more need be said?

Pray for peace.

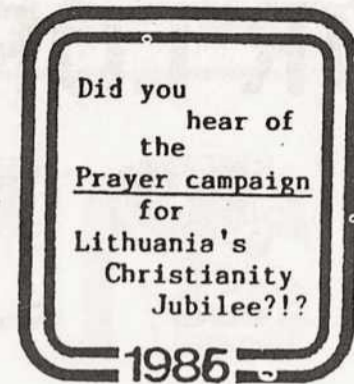
Pray THE ROSARY for peace.

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

LENT 1986

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL PROGRAM

Where are We As We Follow God's Pathways?



Some of you may be familiar with local diocesan programs as "Renew", "Christ Renews His Church", and others. Others of you may have not. The Religious Program Committee of the Lithuanian Jubilee Committee has produced a 6-session parish program, suggested for Lent 1986. It is based on standard Evangelization courses for adults. Future programs will be developed for Advent 1986 and Lent 1987.

The first program covers six topics:

- ... God's Plan
- ... God's Plan for Me
- ... Why Jesus?
- ... Sin and Salvation
- ... Followers of Christ
- ... Christian Life

Beginning such a program at Lenten time is quite significant. The start of Lent is associated with ashes. Ashes tell the story of our sadness, our failures to one another. Any every age has its ashes. Reflecting only upon our Lithuanian history we see the ashes of those Lithuanians who suffered under the Russian csars, those that died during the wars of independence, those that died during the "Black Days of June", and today, those that languish in prison, suffering for their faith. Could we have done more for them.

Nevertheless, in these ashes does come the brightness of Lent. Lent came about because of those people, such as our forefathers in Lithuania, who wished to be baptized. They had nearly completed the long period of preparation; listening to the scriptures, learning to care for the poor, feeling like beloved outsiders in the presence of the baptized. Can you imagine the Lithuanians with all those had had been baptized before them. At Lent, those who were found ready were called — really called.

In the midst of the church, the bishop called out their names and their names were written in the book of the "elect" and the "chosen". They entered the next 40 days with an eagerness to pray, fast, give alms and listen to God's word and learn the Christian way of life.

Although we have already been baptized, we can enter this Lenten period with eagerness for prayer,

fasting, extending charity and listening to God's word. We must ask ourselves where we are, as we follow God's pathways. Lent is our new year. It sounds the day of judgement, when we shall see each other as we truly are. To seek God's forgiveness for our wrongs, to seek fresh nourishment and to start anew.

The Religious Program Committee has lay persons, sisters and priests available to come and assist in planning, orientation or presentation. Suggested guidelines for preparation, method and content as well as worksheets for participants are available. (Religious Renewal Programs, ICC — Rt. 21, Putnam, CT 06260: \$3.50 for a copy and mailing).

"LET US REMEMBER"

"GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH"



PRAYER CAMPAIGN

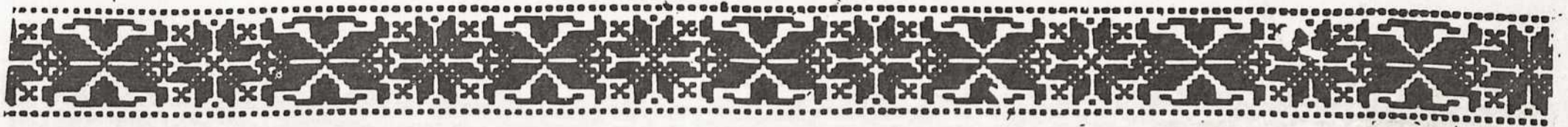
Jesus has promised, "If two of you join your voices on earth to pray for anything whatever, it shall be granted you by my Father in heaven."

Prayer is a way of life which allows us to find a stillness in the midst of the world where we open our hands to God's promises, and to find hope for ourselves, our friends, and the whole Lithuanian community worldwide.

If Lithuanians in the United States, Canada, South America, Australia, Africa, Asia, Western Europe and Lithuania join their hands in prayer, we can only expect that the Lord will fill our open hands with many riches.

How can we pray? Look at the suggestions below. Let the prayer campaign join Lithuanian hands worldwide.

- Pray the Jubilee prayer daily
- Participate in joined prayer on the first Sunday or Monday of every month during 1986.
- Attend on weekday Mass
- Offer one day of fasting
- Participate in a special spiritual program
- Read and pray over the Scriptures 15 minutes each day
- Say the Rosary each day



**LITANY OF REPARATION
(ORIGINAL TEXT RECEIVED FROM LITHUANIA)**

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

Jesus, Our Divine Savior,
**We love you, Lord.

Jesus, offering yourself for us in
the Blessed Sacrament, **

Jesus, desecrated and forgotten in the
tabernacles of our churches, **

Jesus, offered in the Sacred Host for sinners, **

Jesus, scorned and ridiculed by acts of
dreadful sacrilege, **

Jesus, dishonored by your unfaithful servants, **

Jesus, humiliated and persecuted
by unbelievers, **

Jesus, slandered and rejected in the person
of your priests, **

Jesus, banished from many churches, **

Jesus, betrayed by consecrated souls, **

Jesus, denounced by the secular press, **

Jesus, banished from homes and schools, **

Jesus, torn and burned in your wayside
crosses, **

Jesus, wounded and repeatedly crucified
by the sins of the world, **

For the sins of the whole world committed
throughout past ages and centuries,
**We desire to make reparation, Lord.

For everyone's and our own sins, ***

For clergy who have become lukewarm and
comply with secular opinion, ***

For confiscated and closed churches and
the persecution of your priests, ***

For youth's immorality and coldness towards
you, ***

For sacrilege directed against your cross
and your sacred passion, ***

For immodest dress and indecent dances, ***

For unfaithfulness in families and
broken homes, ***

For the killing of the unborn, ***

For the godless education of our children, ***

For drunkenness and immoral reveling, ***

For causes of scandal through the press
and art, ***

For ignoring your holy days, ***

For swearing and blasphemy, ***

For pride, anger, and jealousy, ***

For slander and malicious gossip, ***

For sins committed against the love of God
and our neighbor ***

For sins committed against justice, ***

For attacks against your blessed Mother, ***

For slandering your faithful, ***

For your unappreciated and despised love, ***

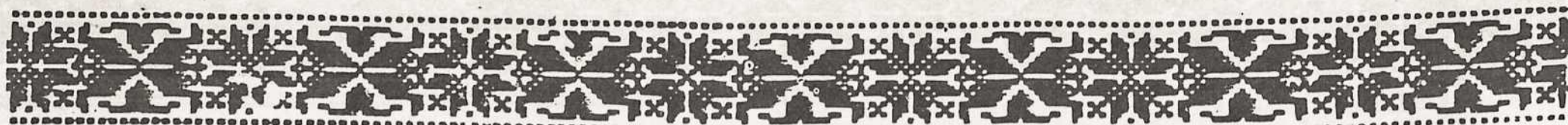
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the
world: spare us, O Lord!

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the
world: Graciously hear us, O Lord!

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the
world: have mercy on us!

Let us pray: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, wounded
by our sins, as we kneel before your Presence,
mourning our own and our neighbor's sins, grant
us and the entire world your mercy and forgive-
ness. We bring you our love of reparation and
thus offer our lives as a continuous act of
reparation for the offenses and attacks against
you. We are willing even to die for you.
Ask of us what you will, if only our sacrifice
would be acceptable. Most Holy and Wonderful
Father, we ask you not to be angry with us and
do not punish us as we deserve. We offer to you
the merits of your beloved Son and the prayers
and tears of His Most Holy Mother as reparation
for our sins and offenses hoping to satisfy your
divine justice and abate your just punishments.
Amen.





ATSITEISIMO LITANIJO

Viešpatie, pasigailėk. Kristau, pasigailėk.

Viešpatie, pasigailėk.

Jėzau, dieviškasis mūsų Išganytojai,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, Švenčiausiame Sakramente už mus pasiaukojęs,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, mūsų šventovių tabernakuluose paniekintas ir užmirštas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, šventojoje Ostijoje už nusidėjėlių širdis atiduotas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, baisiomis šventvagystėmis išniekintas ir išjuoktas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, neištikimų tavo tarnų tinkamai nepagerbtas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, netikinčiųjų išjuoktas ir persekiojamas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, tavo kunigų asmenyje šmeižiamas ir nepripažįstamas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, iš daugelio šventovių išvarytas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, tau pašvęstų sielų išduotas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, nedoro pasaulio spaudos neigiamas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, iš šeimų ir mokslo įstaigų išvarytas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, pakelių ir sodybų kryžiuose sulaužytas ir degintas,

Mes mylime tave.

Jėzau, viso pasaulio nedorybėmis baisiai įžeistas ir nuolat vis įžeidžiamas,

Mes mylime tave.

Už viso pasaulio, visų laikų ir šimtmečių nuodėmes

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už visų ir savo asmenines nuodėmes

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už dvasiškijos atšalimą ir taikstymą su pasaulio

nuomone

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už šventovių uždarymus ir kunigų persekiojimus

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už jaunimo moralinį palaidumą ir visišką tavęs

užmiršimą

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už švento kryžiaus ir tavo kančios išniekinimą

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už nepadorias madas ir šokius

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už šeimų pakrikimą ir neištikimybes

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už negimusiųjų gyvybės žudymą

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už bedievišką vaikučių auklėjimą

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už girtavimus ir nedorus lėbavimus

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už piktinimus spaudoje ir mene

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už šventų dienų laužymą

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už keiksmus ir piktžodžiavimus

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už puikybę, piktumą ir pavydą

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už šmeižtus ir apkalbas

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už visus nusikaltimus Dievo ir artimo meilei

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už visus nusikaltimus Dievo ir artimo teisingumui

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už tavo mylimos Motinos įžeidimus

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už tavo šventųjų ir tikinčiųjų niekinimą

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Už tavo nesuprastą, išniekintą meilę

Trokštame permaldauti tave, Viešpatie.

Dievo Avinėli, kurs naikini pasaulio nuodėmes,

Atleisk mums, Viešpatie.

Dievo Avinėli, kurs naikini pasaulio nuodėmes,

Išklausyk mus, Viešpatie.

Dievo Avinėli, kurs naikini pasaulio nuodėmes,

Pasigailėk mūsų.

Melskimės.

Dieviškoji Jėzaus Širdie, mūsų nedorybių įskaudintoji, štai mes esame čia, prie tavo kojų, kad

apverktume savo ir nelaimingų brolių nuodėmes.

Mes prašome tave atleidimo ir gailestingumo sau ir

visam pasauliui. Atnešam tau atlyginančią meilę ir

trokštame paguosti tave. Pažvelk į mus, kurie visą

savo gyvenimą padarome atsiteisimo aktu ir

trokštame ne tik gyventi, bet ir mirti tam tikslui, kad

būtų atsiteista tau už visus įžeidimus. Reikalauk iš

mūsų, ko tik nori, kad tik mūsų aukos būtų geros,

tik nerūstauk ir nebausk, dieviškasis ir stebuklingasis

Tėve. Mes aukojame tau mylimojo tavo Sūnaus

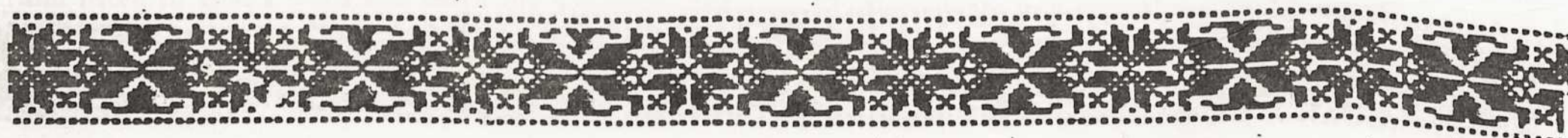
nuopelnus, jo brangiausios Motinėls maldas ir

ašaras, kad apmokėtume baises savo bausmes ir

skolas ir permaldautume užrūstintą tavo dieviškąjį

teisingumą. To prašome per Kristų, mūsų Viešpatį.

Amen.





Preparing to Commemorate The 600 Anniversary of Lithuania's Baptism (1387-1987)

Children at play used to chant over and over again, "The first the worst, the second the same, the last the best of all the game." There must be some truth in that. Even our Lord had announced that "The first shall be last, and the last shall be first."

Lithuania, the last nation of Europe to be baptized, is now a land of martyrs, suffering for her faith in the one true God. Although it was not until 1387 that her people were baptized and accepted into the Catholic Church, but in a short time they became firm and staunch believers. Now, under a godless regime, they are joining the ranks of the early martyrs, suffering and dying for their faith.

Next year in 1987, Lithuanians everywhere, along with the entire Christian world, will commemorate the 600 Anniversary when as a nation Lithuania received and accepted the greatest gift of God, Jesus, the Savior of the human race.

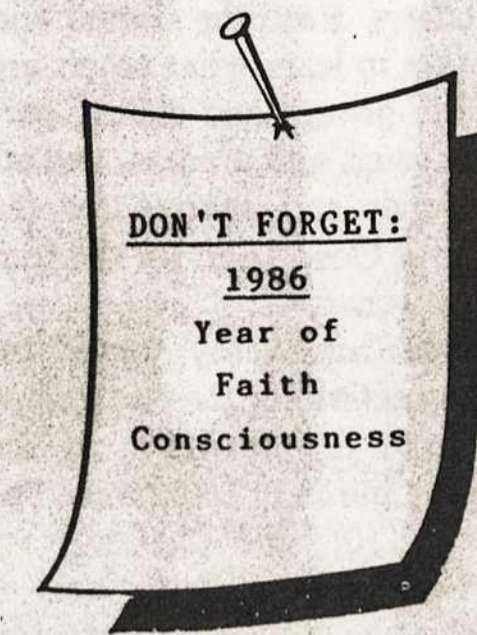
You may ask why be concerned now with an event which will be celebrated in 1987? The answer is simple: to celebrate an event of such great significance it is important to plan for it at least a year or two in advance. The commemoration of Lithuania's baptism and acceptance into the Catholic Church is not exclusive for Lithuania alone. It is to be heralded as a special event for the entire Christian world.

There are many serious reasons why the inhabitants of Lithuania had not accepted the Gospel for one thousand, three hundred and eighty-seven years after the birth of Christ, but we will not go into that now. It is important that we prepare for the celebration by searching into Lithuania's past, her antiquity as a people, Christianity's influence on her culture and customs, and the nation's present enslavement by an atheistic government. Let us consider how this could be done.

Leaders and volunteers of Lithuanian Organizations usually form Central Committees to encourage group participation of intellectuals, historians, and church leaders for lectures on the above mentioned topics. Much information may be found in the 350 page book in English, *Praise the Lord, All You Nations* by Sister Virginia Marie Vytell.

However, to learn of the present religious condition in Lithuania, the persecution of the faithful, the deprivation of human rights and freedoms by an atheistic government, much can be found in *The Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*. Smuggled into the free world and translated into English, the *Chronicles* may be obtained from the Franciscan Fathers in Brooklyn, New York.

Also for the English-speaking world, the relatively new publica-



tions, *Bridges* and *The Observer* are excellent sources for present day activities of Lithuanians everywhere, and their concern for conditions in Lithuania.

For those who understand and read in Lithuanian, The Lithuanian Library Press, Inc. in Chicago Illinois (1981) published *Lietuviai Sibire*. It is a large book, ten by eleven inches, over 200 pages with illustrations and photos. It depicts the sufferings of 350,000 Lithuanians exiled into the frozen Northland after World War II.

The book in Lithuanian, is a response to the message found on a tombstone in Siberia, "We are from the land of amber, descendants of a noble Lithuanian race. Who will read, unless written, what her great heroes have suffered?" It contains excerpts from hundreds of letters sent from Siberia. Survivors have testified to the bloody hardships endured in Siberian forests, mines, and slave-labor camps. All this done because they wanted to retain their faith in God and their Lithuanian heritage!

During this time of reminiscing it is vital to contribute articles to the press, to radio and television stations. Let the public know what is happening in your area, contribute pictures with the articles. Make banners and posters, and publish pamphlets for wide circulation. Use every possible means to secure the atten-

tion of others. Read the *Garsas* and *Darbininkas* to learn what others are doing. Join groups and rallies, participate in songs and dramas, and attend Novenas and Masses for the spread of the Gospel and for the conversion of sinners.

This great anniversary should inspire **group action** for the freedom of believers and the liberation of the persecuted Church in Lithuania. The Committee for the Defense of Believers offers these suggestions:

Write to the Soviet Government for the return of Churches to the faithful, especially Vilnius Cathedral, St. Casimir's Church, Kaunas Garrison Church, and Klaipeda's Queen of Peace Church.

Request that the exiled bishops be returned to their diocese: Bishop Julian Stepanavicius to Vilnius Cathedral, and Bishop Vincent Sladkevicius to Kaisiadorius Cathedral.

Insist that all prisoners of conscience be released, especially Father Alfonsas Svarinskas and Father Sigitas Tamkevicius.

Write letters to prisoners of conscience to assure them of your prayers and concern for their well being and freedom.

In conclusion, draw other ethnic groups to join in celebration. Lithuanian-Americans with spouses of a different ethnic background can secure help in this direction. Keep in mind that the victory is for God and His people: As the words of the hymn proclaim: Christ Jesus Victor, Christ Jesus Ruler, Christ Jesus Lord and Redeemer.

141
Lower Key
at No. 53

TO JESUS CHRIST, OUR SOVEREIGN KING

ICH GLAUB' AN GOT
87.87 with Refrai:
Mainz Gesangbuch, 187
Harm by Robert F. Twynhan

Msgr. Martin B. Hellriegel, 1941, alt.

Verses

1 Gar- bė Tau Christau, Ka-ra-liau žmo- ni-jos At. pir-
2 Lai ta-vo valdžia už-i- ma kiek vie- ną že- mės
3 Mes Tau ir Ta - vo žodžiuose pri - sie-kėm širdies

1 kė - jau. Nuo-širdžiai pa- ve gar-bi- nam, De -
2 tau- tą. Nes vien Ta-vo Val- sty-be - je, Žmo-
3 au - ką, Kol am- ži- ny - bėj prie Ta- ve, Gie-

1 ko-ja- me ir šlovinam.
2 ni-ja ras, tei-sy- bės. Kristau Nugalėtojai, Kristau Val-
3 do-sim gar-bės hym-ną.

do - ve, Kristau Iš ganymo Kur - ē - jau.

Renewal

The Easter season comes upon us
As flowers begin to bloom.
They fill the earth with gladness
As they drive away winter's gloom.
On trees which have lain dormant,
Leaves burst forth once more —

Dressing each tree in a garment
As soft as green velour.
And I get a feeling deep inside,
God's opening up a door
To show me why His Son had died —
And to renew my faith once more.



Bishop Baltakis presents Dr. Stukas his certificate of investiture into the Papal Order of St. Sylvester.

When my family and I arrived in the United States in 1949, the first Lithuanian voice that I heard on the radio was that of Jack Stukas. Later on, as I got more and more involved with the Knights of Lithuania, I had the pleasure of meeting Jack and his wife Loretta in person, and frequently join them in various projects for God and Country. Therefore it was a pleasant surprise when I received Louis Stukas invitation to attend a ceremony honoring this famous Lithuanian couple, to which our Holy Father showed great favor and appreciation just a few months ago.

The festivities began on December 15 with a Concelebrated Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Newark, N.J. His Excellence Bishop Paulius Baltakis, OCM concelebrated together with a group of Lithuanian priests among which were: the Monsignori, John Scharnus, Algimantas Bartkus and Vytautas Valciunas.

In his sermon, Bishop Baltakis explained the origin and meaning of the Order of St. Sylvester and the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" medal which were about to be bestowed on Jack and Loretta respectively. It was established by Pope Gregory in 1841 to honor men and women for their

YET ANOTHER MILE MORE...

BE IT FOR GOD...

FOR CHURCH...OR COUNTRY...

A Day to Remember with Jack & Loretta Stukas

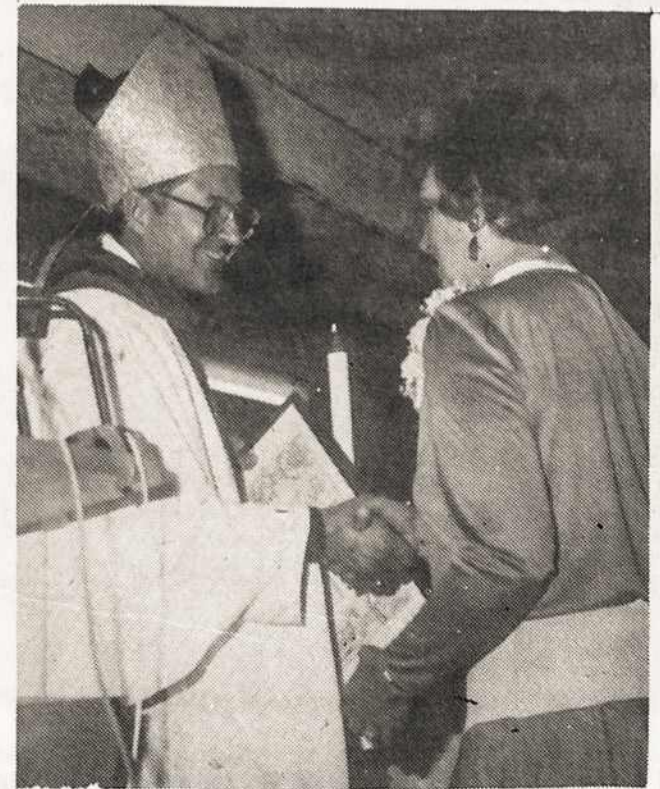
meritorious service for God, the Church and country.

The ceremony and the Mass were greatly enhanced by the church choir under the direction of maestro Louis Stukas. A violin solo was rendered by Julius Veblaitis.

After Mass, more than 250 guests gathered in the church hall. In his invocation, Msgn. J. Scharnus, the pastor of the parish, recalled with pleasure the two adopted children of his parish — Loretta and Jack. For Jack he wished that in the near future, he would announce on the radio that Lithuania was once again free. As for Loretta, she is a wonderful asset to the parish, always having enough time to help out especially during its 75th Anniversary fete.

The master of ceremonies, Dr. Algirdas Budreckis, was in fine form. In his remarks, interwoven with humor, he related various events in the lives of Loretta and Jack. He told us that Jack studied at N.Y. University, Columbia U. and Oxford U, in England. He crowned his studies with a doctorate for his work, "Awakening Lithuania". Already 5 generations of Lithuanians are being greeted each week by Jack on his popular radio show

"Memories of Lithuania" But Jack is master at many trades. Not only is he a much admired radio host, producer of a few television programs, a shrewd business man, a much-loved professor at Seaton Hall University (word of mouth information to yours truly by Jack's students) and last but not least a hard working honorary member of the Knights of Lithuania.



Loretta Stukas receives the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" Medal from Bishop Baltakis.

Many greetings were read congratulating Jack and Loretta on this happy occasion. Among them the Consul General of Lithuanian Anicetas Simutis, Honorary Consul Josephine Dauzvardis and many others.

In his remarks, Bishop Baltakis thanked Jack for his great help to the Lithuanian Franciscans when they were getting established in the United States. Jack's favorite remark was: "For you Father, no charge!"

K of L president Frank Petrauskas spoke both in English and Lithuanian in his own jovial style. Afterwards the Supreme Council presented the Stukas couple with a gift.

The main speaker was Msgn. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of the Lithuanian College in Rome. He thanked the K of L, who under the tenure of Loretta Stukas, was the first Lithuanian organization to remember the college and come to its aid. Not only did the Knights "adopt" the college, but are supporting it with thousands of dollars. "We, your adopted children in Rome, thank you, Knights of Lithuania our God parents" Monsignor Bartkus concluded his speech.

One of Jack's traits is that he is never satisfied. He still has to walk

that other mile and yet another. At the tender age of 16 he started "Memories of Lithuania"; he had a successful television venture. But that was not enough. It is already 20 years that we hear Jack's familiar voice and beautiful Lithuanian melodies on the Seton Hall radio station.

"Why do you work so hard, Jack, Al Budreckis wanted to know. "Because I have a patient wife" was Jack's reply.

The patient wife is the former Loretta Kassel of Chicago. In 1964 Jack invited Loretta to move from Chicago to New Jersey and she accepted. Loretta, like Jack, is not satisfied by just walking one mile. There has to be another and another. Loretta is a mathematician, computer specialist, graduate of De Paul University in Chicago. She helped establish the Knights of Lithuania choir, sang with the Žibu Oklės singers, was long time editor of Vytis and served three terms as K of L president. To mention all of her activities we would need half of the pages in Vytis. With all this, Loretta has not lost her wonderful subtle sense of humor: "Sure," she admits, "a man is the head of a family, but the wife is the neck. She turns the head in whatever direction she



Loretta displays gift from Supreme Council — a straw art picture by Aldona Seimininkas of CT.

desires."

Loretta and Jack ended the banquet, thanking everyone who made them what they are: their parents, relatives and the Knights of Lithuania, their second family.

Among the guests was a huge crowd from Chicago. There was also a much admired Aunt Barbara Gabčienė, a young 91. She got a rousing welcome from the assemblage. Present also were many of Jack's and Loretta's co-workers, deans and professors from Seton Hall. It was heartwarming to see Seton Hall students helping out with the



A toast is offered to Dr. Jack and Loretta Stukas L. to R. Msgr. Scharnus, Bishop Baltakis, Dr. Jack and Loretta Stukas, Msgr. A. Bartkus, (Rector of St. Casimir Pontifical College in Rome), Msgr. V. Balciunas, Putnam, CT, Rev. W. Waskievich, Fordham University.



K of L National President Frank Petrauskas and other members of the Supreme Council present a gift to Jack and Loretta, on behalf of the Supreme Council.

festivities. They brought down the housing cheering for professor Jack.

It was truly an event to remember. Last but not least was the food — a lot of it starting with lobster and ending with roast pig.

As I was leaving the hall, I happened to glance at a sign stretching from wall to wall: "Gyvuok ilgai mūsu lietuviškoji parapija". Surely, Holy Trinity parish and all Lithuanian parishes will continue to exist, as long as we have more Lithuanians like Jack and Loretta Stukas.

The staff of Vytis, the Knights of Lithuania and I congratulate you both and wish you "Ilgiausių Metų!"

— Dalia Bulvičius



PAPAL MEDALS

Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice: This decoration ("For the Church and the Pontiff") had its origin in 1888 as a token of the golden sacerdotal jubilee of Leo XIII; he bestowed it on those who had assisted in the observance of his jubilee and on persons responsible for the success of the Vatican Exposition. The medal, cruciform in shape, bears the likenesses of Sts. Peter and Paul, the tiara and the papal keys, the words *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*, and the name of the present pontiff, all on the same side; it is attached to a ribbon of yellow and white, the papal colors. Originally, the medal was issued in gold, silver or bronze. It is awarded in recognition of service to the Church and the papacy.

PONTIFICAL ORDERS

The Pontifical Orders of Knighthood are secular orders of merit whose members ip depends directly on the pope. Details regarding the various orders are handled by a special agency in the Secretariat of Briefs, an office in the Papal Secretariat of State.

Order of St. Sylvester: Instituted Oct. 31, 1841, by Gregory XVI to absorb the Order of the Golden Spur, this order was divided into two by St. Pius X in 1905, one retaining the name of St. Sylvester and the other assuming the title of Golden Militia. Membership consists of three degrees: Knights of the Grand Cross, Knight Commanders with and without emblem, and Knights.



K OF L CALENDAR

March

- 2 St. Casimir's Day Mass and Brunch
Transfiguration Church
Maspeth, NY
- 9 Mid-Atlantic District St. Casimir's
Communion Breakfast and Meeting
Host C-144 Anthracite Council
Frackville, PA
- 15 Supreme Council Meeting
Allentown Hilton Hotel
Allentown, PA

April

- 12 C-27 Annual Spring Dance
St. Mary's Parish Hall
East Walpole, MA
- 19-20 MAD Annual Lithuanian Fair
Transfiguration Church Hall
Maspeth, NY

June

- 1 MAD 70th Anniversary dinner and dance
Transfiguration Church Hall
Maspeth, NY
- 8 MAD Spring District Convention
Forest City, PA
Host: C-46, Forest City, PA
- 14 Baltic Freedom Day

AUGUST

- 7-10 73rd. National Convention
Allentown Hilton Hotel
Allentown, PA
- 17 72nd Annual Lithuanian Day
Rock Glen Park
Moosic, PA
- 24 Northeastern U.S. Annual Pilgrimage
For the Suffering Church in Lithuania
North American Martyrs' Shrine
Auriesville, NY

October

- 18 71st Annual Dinner and Dance
C-29, Newark, NJ
- 19 C-27 Annual Fall Dance
St. Mary's Parish Hall
East Walpole, MA



OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS



AČIŪ...AČIŪ...AČIŪ!

January 14, 1986

Mr. Frank Petrauskas

President

Supreme Council of the
Knights of Lithuania

Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$500.00 for the Supreme Council.

Undoubtedly by now you have received a completed and final report of the National Convention of 1984, from our treasurer, Ed Valskis. The above mentioned check should have been donated to the Supreme Council at that time, but unforeseen circumstances delayed the process.

Vytiškai

Evelyn Ozelis

Recording Secretary, C-36.

CORRECTION***CORRECTON

The Honorary Members pictured on Page 21, November issue of the VYTIS were incorrectly identified. My thanks to Al Wesey, C-109 for bringing this to our attention: Seated Joseph Boley, Anne Mitchell, Estelle Rogers, Marcelle Aleksis, Anthony Mazeika and *Phyllis Grendal. Standing: Larry Janonis, Helen Shield, Stanley Vaitkus, Lorreta Stukas, Fr. Albin Janiunas, Rita Pinkus and *Al Wesey.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Scholarship applications may be secured from the chairman of the scholarship committee: William J. Piacentini, 362 Webster Avenue, Cranston, R.I. 02920.

Donations to the scholarship committee may be forwarded to: Clemencine Miller, Treasurer, 80 Cottage Street, Trumbull, CT 06611.

Donations are accepted at any time during the year. Donations, also, may be made in honor of a deceased loved one. All donations are acknowledged via mail and published in the Vytis.

A raffle for the scholarship fund is conducted at each National Convention. Anyone interested in donating prizes to the raffle is asked to contact the chairman at the above address.

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

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

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

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.
234 SUNLIT DRIVE
WATCHUNG, NEW JERSEY 07060

I hereby donate to the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC. the sum of \$_____

(Minimum - \$100.00)

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

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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

COUNCIL _____

Please make all checks payable to:
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIAN FOUNDATION, INC.

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

Mandate Report

72nd National Convention

August 8-11, 1985

Supreme Council Officers — Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, Loretta Stukas, Nancy Pawasauskas Miro, Eleanor Sluzas, Elsie Kosmensky, Adeline Dauzickas, Helen Skudra, Teresa Traninis, Paul Strolia

Clergy — Sr. Francesca, Sr. Alverna, Rev. Albert Contons, Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, Rev. Albert Karalis, Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, OP, Rev. Al Bartkus, Kun. J. Petrosius, Kun. J. Stankus, Rev. Stasys Raila, Rev. Msgr. Francis Pranckus, Rev. Albin Janiunas

Honorary Members — Anthony Mazeika, Sr., Ann Bender, Larry Janonis, Kazys Sipaila, Longinas Svelnis, Phyllis Grendal, Marcella Aleksis, Joseph Boley, Rita Pinkus, Helen Shields, Anne Mitchel, Stanley Vaitkus

Mid-Central District: Vincent Gray, Thomas Bruzga

Mid-Atlantic District: John Tomasauskas, Casimir Yanish

New England District: Bertha Stoskus, Charles Genaitis

Mid-American District: Mary Juzenas, Paul Binkis

COUNCIL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Veronica Bisinkauskas, Peter Bizinkauskas, Frances Bumilla George Bumilla</p> <p>3 Victor Stepolovitch, Agnes Mickunas, Bill Miller, Jewel Ushka, Walter Svekla, Marie Lepera, Lenora Balten, John Michunas
Alternates: Thomas Lepera, Irene Svekla, Victor Balten, Irene Miller</p> <p>5 Konstant Savickus</p> <p>7 Patricia Richards, Alma Torre, Delores Jonaitis, John Jonaitis, Frances Balchunas, Helen Karpovich, Frances Januska, Diane Lazauskas, Victor Vaitkus, Bronislaw Lazauskas, Petronella Alexander, Anthony Alexander</p> <p>10 Blanche Genaitis</p> <p>12 John Antanavicius, Dalia Bulvicius, Edmund Cook, Millie Pietz, Anthony Yakavonis, Catherine Yakavonis, Peter Zupko, Alice Zupko, Lilia Borrisis, Almario
Alternate: Connie Siatsis, Edward Vaiciulis</p> <p>17 Veronica Aluza, Mary Martus, Adele Martus, Marion Matachinskis, Albert Jaritis, Algirdas Budreckis, Helen Contons, Stephen Contons, Dale Bielvicus, Eva Ball, Josephine Mason, Alice Opanasets, Aldona Keaney, Phyllis Gendreau, Anne Narkevich, Anna Voveris, Frank Yonikas</p> <p>19 William Kolicus, Sister Alverna, Sister Francesca, Betty Palma, Andy Rozger, Mary Vaglia
Alternates: Bertha Kuzma, Helen Bernardi, Albina Ewalt</p> <p>25 Marion Gray</p> <p>26 Rita Pinkus, Mildred Lapinskas, Anne Bucinskas, Helen Gillus, Frances Kulsbusky, Charles Kulakusky, Ann Walinsky, Stephen Walinsky, Sr. Olga Kersis, Tillie Zelesky, Ann Bender, Marion Shapiro</p> | <p>27 Betty Skricki, John Skricki</p> <p>29 Margaret Brazaitis, Walter Brazaitis, Eleanore Cavallo, Anne Chapulis, Joseph Chapulis, Jennie Miklasavige, Elizabeth Luciw, Nellie Nechiporuk, Helen Radicsh, Viola Skripata, Rita Sussko, Adele Urbanas, Bernard Skripata, Kazys Sipaila</p> <p>30 Nellie Lord, Kunigunda Coach, Benedict Coach</p> <p>36 Scottie Zukas, Mary Kincius, Evelyn Ozelis, Margaret Narvaisis, Sabina Klatt, Helen DiNeva</p> <p>38 Birute Stanley, Charles Krusa</p> <p>41 Helen V. Kulber, Beatrice Hoff</p> <p>50 Rev. A. Karalis, Frank J. Peterson, Helen Balchus, George Kisielius, Anne Kordorsky</p> <p>52 Annie Mitchell Matelavich</p> <p>61 Helen M. Balutis, Joseph J. Balutis</p> <p>63 Len Barcoucky, Jane Lutick, Joseph Ogint, Mary Sockel, Anthony Sockel, Walter Balchunas</p> <p>74 Ann Dudwicz, Ruth Yanish</p> <p>78 Anna Svenchonis, Lilyan Driscoll, Helena J. Zuber, Ignatius Hobitz, Marion Hobitz</p> <p>79 Frank J. Zager, Sophie M. Zager, John Newberry, Magdalena Smailis, Mary Keller, Richard Danielak, Ann Erdman</p> <p>86 Irene Yanek, Ben Bruzga, Fran Bruzga, Jeanne Bruzga, Joe Yanek</p> <p>96 Frances Petkus, Rita Ambrose, Judy Petrokas, Stanley Vaitkus, Eleanor Sluzas, Petronella Alexander</p> <p>100 Regina Kot, Bernice Aviza, Genevieve Gobis, Ann Radzevich, Anthony Radzevich, Polly Ziausys, Gerard Drenzek, Eleanor Olechowski, Steven Raila, Adeline Raila
Alternates: Kristin Olechowski</p> <p>103 Joseph Waitonis, Susan Gudczauskas, Helen Gudczauskas, Ray Savickas, John Jacknevich, Beatrice Mathieu
Alternates: Anna LaButti, Sophie Sakalys</p> |
|---|---|

- 109 Alexander Wesej
- 110 Antonine Adamenas, Jonas Adomenas, Mary Baltrus, George Dagis, Theresa Dagis, Adeline Dauszickas, Helen Jambor, Helen Janis, Alphonse Kraujalis, Stasia Kraujalis, Helen Matulonis, Brenda Razickas, Tony Razickas, Lottie Ulrich, Helen Venis
- 112 Irene Sankus, Albert Zakarka, Julie Zakarka, Estelle Rogers, Eleanor Kasputis, Rita Zakarka, Delores Wainauskas, Helen Mingela
Alternate: Susan Binkis
- 116 Irene Tamulevich
- 118 Doris Shanahan
- 140 Ann Guntert, Cathrine Brandt, Veronica Sutkus, Jack Brandt, Frank Petrauskas, John Sutkus
Alternate: Norman Klimas, Katherine Cravetts
- 141 Joseph Janiunas, Clemincine Miller, Ann Petrus, Alphonse Trainis
Alternate: Barbara Schmidt, Steve Wilciauskas
- 142 Joseph Chaplick, Julia Burlen, Mary Semel, Eleanor Depenbrock
- 143 Dorothy Banos, Nellie Bayoras, Frances Shoppel, Anna Davala, Helen Butsavage, Ann Chalan
Alternate: Leo Butsavage
- 144 Helen Ambrose, Susan Banditelli, Mary Brennan, Victoria Caldwell, Anne Carlitus, Edmund Carlitus, Helen Chesko, Alma Linder, Ann Marie Lutkowsky, Anna Bender, Helen Matunis, Julia Norcross, Florence Orzechowski, Joseph Petrosky, Mary Pieri, Frances Rauba, Joni Reinhardt, Ann Sikora, Helen Smulkstis, Anna Supernavage, Helen Swatsky, Anna Klizas Wargo, Eleanor Yancofski, Olympia Zelinski
Alternate: Anna Butts, Stanley Burkevage, Ver-na Danisavich, Helen Labadis, Mary Labadis, Anna Radzavage, Petronella Roberts, Elsie Kosmesky, Ann Wales, Beatrice Wesley
- 145 Nellie Ruggles, Margaret Picard
- 146 Joanna Gilbert, Julia Burlen, Veronica Danisavich, Nellie Bayoras
- 147 Anthony Mazeika, Susana Mazeika, Rev. Adolphas Stasys
- 149 Stella McLeod, Della Telmos
Alternate: Della Novak, Tillie Przybilski
- 150 Eugene Ashley, Donna Ashley
- 152 Alice Graff, Peter Dykovitz, Mrs. Peter Dykovitz, Beatrice Lauksas, Fred Lauksas

Our apologies for the tardiness in getting this information to you.



PRAYER TO SAINT CASIMIR

O God, who amidst the delights of royalty and the blandishments of the world didst strengthen holy Casimir with the virtue of constancy, grant we beseech Thee, that by his intercession Thy faithful may despise earthly things, and ever aspire to those of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Cum permissu Superiorum)



Melskimės.

Visagalis amžinasis Dieve, kuris savo tarną šv. Kazimierą karališkose šio pasaulio gėrybėse nepalytėtą išlaikei ir prie savo meilės patraukei, teikis ir mums tokio pat dievobaimingumo ikvépti, kad Tavo šventosios meilės sustiprinti stengtumėmės šio pasaulio gėrybes niekinti, o dangiškųjų pageidauti. Per Jėzu Kristū, mūsų Viešpatį. Amen.



JUNIORS CORNER



ŠVENTAM KAZIMIERUI

Kun. Stasys Yla

Šviesios tavo akys,
Žydrios lyg mėlynė, —
Aš žinau, jos regi
Lietuvą Tėvynę.

Pasakyk, Globėjau,
Pasakyk man tyliai,
Ar tu savo žemę,
Ar labai ją myli?

Pasakyk, Globėjau
Kokį šviesų rytą
Tu sugrįši žemėn
Vilniaus aplankyti?

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ST. CASIMIR?

1. What are the names of St. Casimir's parents?
2. When was he born? Where?
3. What royal throne did he denounce?
4. At what Lithuanian River did St. Casimir appear to Lithuanian soldiers in 1518 to save them from the Russian army?
5. What was St. Casimir's favorite hymn?
6. When did St. Casimir die? Where?
7. Where are his remains presently buried?

FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK...

The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania is a noteworthy factor in the life of the Lithuanian nation. It tells the story of a suffering and struggling people.

To realize the full significance of the Chronicles, it must be disseminated throughout the free world, in various languages, telling of the heroism of the Lithuanian people. It should be used in Congress to verify specific acts of persecution, to reveal the true face of communism.

Two of our organizations publicize these Chronicles in the free world; Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, in New York, under the direction of Fr. K. Pugėvicius and The Society of the Chronicle of Lithuania, in Chicago, under the direction of Fr. K. Kuzminskis. Both organizations have their specific purpose and independent work; each one complements the other. Religious Aid received each addition of the Chronicle, immediately translates it into the English language, edits, sends it for printing and then mails it to bishops, senators, international organizations and others.

The Society of the Chronicle of Lithuania sends books to 138 countries in Lithuanian, English, Spanish, and French. This is of invaluable worth because it is used in university libraries, information agencies of ecclesiastical, political and international organizations.

This year, our special help is asked by the Society of the Chronicle of Lithuania, in order to bring to conclusion its preparation of the 6th edition of the

Chronicle of the Lithuanian Church in English, Spanish and French and the 9 edition in Lithuanian. It will give support to the Society's devotedness and a helping hand to the Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania as it strives to reach its full purpose.

Please send contributions to: The Society of the Chronicle of Lithuania, Inc.

6825 S. Talman Ave
Chicago, IL 60629

Bishop Paulius A. Baltakis
January 10, 1986



Resolution approved by the delegate of the 71st Knights of Lithuania National Convention, Chicago, IL (August 23-26, 1984)

WHEREAS the Society of the Chronicle of Lithuania, inc., published the Chronicles of the Lithuanian Catholic Church in Lithuanian, English, Spanish and French and disseminates them throughout the free-world, and

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

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



**Towards Universal Tolerance in
Matters Relating to Religion or Belief
Submission by United Baltic Appeal,
Inc., to the 42nd session of the UN
Commission on Human Rights**

Geneva
February 1986



BATUN

INTRODUCTION

The achievement of religious tolerance and understanding is, in the view of United Baltic Appeal, a prerequisite for the establishment of universal peace and the elimination of all forms of discrimination — whether this discrimination be based on race, ethnic origin, religion, sex, nationality, language or any other characteristic.

Religion has become yet another basis and pretext for discrimination and for violation of human rights. Certainly the development of religious tolerance would eliminate one of the most potent sources of conflict in the world today.

**I. THE ROOT CAUSES OF
MANIFESTATIONS OF
RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE**

Manifestations of religious intolerance can be viewed as the product of religious prejudice. One of the most important causes of prejudice is simple ignorance of other beliefs. There exists a natural human tendency to regard any person who is different — for whatever reason — with suspicion and initial mistrust. In the view of United Baltic Appeal, this tendency must be countered by fostering in every individual an awareness of the fundamental, organic unity of all members of the human race and an appreciation for diversity and variety in beliefs and cultural and social backgrounds as a source of enrichment to the whole of human society.

Another cause of religious prejudice, however, is the tendency of human beings to proclaim the inherent superiority of their own con-

victions and to refuse to accept the equal dignity and worth of people of other faiths.

A number of self-centered motives activate this prejudice and give rise to specific violations of religious freedom. In the Soviet Union, these motives lead to the existing oppressive social and political order. For example, religion is perceived to “threaten” the existing moral, social and political order of Soviet society. Likewise, religious believers are used as scapegoats for the country’s internal and external problems. For proclaiming and practicing their beliefs, believers are accused of fermenting internal conflict and charged under the criminal code with “anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.” Thus the Soviet constitutional guarantees allowing one to profess any religion is circumvented. (Appendix A)

2. THE VARIOUS MANIFESTATIONS OF INTOLERANCE OF RELIGION OR BELIEF IN CONTEMPORARY SOVIET SOCIETY

Violations of the basic right to maintain or to change the religion or belief of one’s choice.

The Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief (here-in-after called the Declaration) is most flagrantly violated if individuals and religious communities are denied the basic right to which they are entitled under Article I — that is, the right to have a religion or belief of their choice. The right to hold or to change a particular belief — whether or not it is

outwardly manifested — may be denied outright through various acts of oppression and coercion. Mere adherence to a particular religion may be designated a criminal offense, with correspondingly severe penalties in the form of imprisonment. The followers of a religion are physically assaulted, tortured, and even murdered — or may simply “disappear” (APPENDIX B). Individuals are deprived of their homes, personal possessions or means of livelihood. All or any of these acts of intimidation in the USSR are directed towards the goal of coercing an individual to renounce his or her religious beliefs.

Violation of the right to practice and to manifest one’s religion or belief

Individuals are, through legislation, judicial decrees, or acts of intimidation perpetrated by Soviet officials, denied the right to observe the social laws of their religion; to teach their faith to others; to make voluntary contributions to their religious organizations; to make pilgrimages to the holy places of their religion; or to educate their children in accordance with their own beliefs.

Similarly, the right of an individual to manifest his or her belief in community with others is severely curtailed. Religious gatherings are forbidden; religious communities are prohibited from choosing their religious leaders and organizing their religious affairs; and all contact with their co-religionist in other parts of their own country or in other countries is proscribed (APPENDIX C).

Religious associations are forbidden from maintaining charitable or humanitarian institutions, and from conducting religious classes for the purpose of educating members in the principles of their own faith. The observance of holy days, fasts and other religious practices as a community is proscribed. Finally, religious associations are forbidden to publish and disseminate religious publications and literature.

Last year, secret Soviet documents detailing surveillance procedures used to monitor religious associates in Lithuania reached the West. The English translation of this 25 page document is available from United Baltic Appeal, Inc. All of these restrictions mentioned above and in the secret Soviet decrees constitute violations of the rights enumerated in Article 6 of the Declaration.

Violations of civil, political, economic, social or cultural rights on the basis of religion or belief.

This manifestation of intolerance involves violations of non-religious rights on the basis of religion or belief. Whether or not they are denied, the basic right to freedom of belief, and whether or not restrictions are imposed upon their religious activities, individuals and communities in the Soviet Union are subjected to discrimination in the enjoyment of their civil, political, economic, social or cultural rights solely on the basis of their religion. It involves, as already described denial of the right to life, to freedom of person to personal property on the basis of religion. Similarly, personal status is impaired under the law. Discrimination also takes the form of denial or infringement of the right to education or — in the field of employment, withholding of promotion or arbitrary dismissal. Such acts constitute violations of the non-discrimination rights set out in Articles 2 and 3 of the Declaration (APPENDIX D).

3. THE NECESSARY MEANS FOR ERADICATING RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Prejudices can only be changed through legislation and proper education — education which seeks to change biased values and attitudes. This education must promote the spirit of free inquiry. While knowledge of other beliefs is a first step towards eliminating prejudice, it is not sufficient in itself to eradicate prejudice.

Action in the field of legislation

To combat direct, outward violations of religious freedom it is essential that appropriate constitutional, legislative, judicial and administrative measures be adopted at all governmental levels to ensure that all the rights set forth in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief are adequate and fully protected by law.

Laws which purportedly protect the fundamental right to have a belief or to change one's belief exist in the Soviet Union, however, they are not implemented on the local, regional or national level. Such is the case with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that the Soviet Union has ratified and which ensures the full enjoyment of all civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights without the discrimination on the basis of religion or belief. Secret Soviet decrees in contravention with international agreements and Soviet law proscribe fundamental Human Rights including the right of freedom of thought, conscience, and religion have been made public in the leading and reputable *Chronicle of the Catholic Church of Lithuania*. The Chronicle has been documenting Human Right violations in the Soviet Union since 1972. The secret decrees reveal the administrative means by which the Soviet Union encourages

religious intolerance, inhibits religion and violates man's right, either alone or in community with others to manifest his or her belief, and teaching, practice, worship or observance.

The Soviet Union should be asked to renounce and abolish all secret decrees which proscribe the rights set forth in the international instruments adopted by the Soviet Union, and to ensure that the rights set forth in the Declaration are realized in practice and are guaranteed through the existence and application of effective grievance and recourse measures.

The appropriate United Nations human rights bodies might consider further measures to study the current dimensions of the problem of religious intolerance and discrimination and to monitor the situation in the Soviet Union relating to religious intolerance. They might consider establishing a formal or informal body which could study the state of religious tolerance in the Soviet Union and could report to one of the United Nations human rights organs.

Specific actions in the field of education

a. The United Nations might encourage the development of appropriate teacher-training programs aimed at promoting religious tolerance in the USSR.

b. Non-governmental organizations — including religious organizations and a variety of education institutions — might develop multi-religious cultural programs, through the use of touring exhibitions, religious libraries and museums.

c. The broadcast media could be encouraged to disseminate materials conducive to fostering understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to religion or belief.

LET OUR VOICE BE HEARD AT THE UN!

IN MEMORIAM
Rev. Juozas Zdebskis
May 1929 - February 6, 1986



Father Juozas Zdebskis was killed in an auto accident in Lithuania on February 6.

Father Zdebskis' funeral took place on February 10 at noon in Rudamina, Lithuania. He was the pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Rudamina, Lithuania, in the Diocese of Vilkaviskis. Fr. Zdebskis would have been 57 years old in May. He was ordained in 1952.

Fr. Zdebskis was one of the five founding members of the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers' Rights. The Catholic Committee, organized in 1978, was forced underground in 1983 following the arrests of two of its charter members, Fr. Svarinskas and Fr. Tamkevicius, and a series of threats by Soviet authorities against the remaining members.

KGB agents raided Fr. Zdebskis' home on July 5, 1984 allegedly in search of "stolen goods". Authorities confiscated Catholic Committee documents, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, tape recordings of Vatican Radio broadcasts, typewriters, and two locked safes.

In October 1980 while riding in his automobile with a parishioner, under surveillance by the KGB, Father Zdebskis sustained severe chemical burns under suspicious circumstances. This occurred during a rash of violent assaults against, and even murders of, activist priests in Lithuania. In Zdebskis' case, as in most of the others, there was no criminal investigation, leading

many to suspect that the attacks were state-sanctioned.

Father Zdebskis first drew the wrath of the KGB in 1964, when he was sentenced to one year of imprisonment for having given religious instruction to children. That sentence was nullified. However, on August 26, 1971, he was re-arrested. He tenaciously refused to sign his own indictment, despite threats and beatings. On December 9, 1971, the Supreme Court of the Lithuanian SSR sentenced him to one year imprisonment for conducting a catechetical lesson for 300 youngsters.

His imprisonment, and that of two other priests on similar charges, touched off a wave of protest. By 1972, more than 17,000 Catholics in Lithuania had signed a letter of protest to Leonid Brezhnev against religious persecution in Lithuania, which they sent to the United Nations.

Following his release from prison, the Government Council of Religious Affairs, refused to assign Fr. Zdebskis a parish. He was forced to take a job as a parking attendant. After various Lithuanian congregations appealed to the authorities to allow Father Zdebskis to take over their parish, Father Zdebskis was finally given permission to serve as a priest again. Nonetheless he continued to be subjected to threats and beatings and to countless interrogations and detentions for his suspected involvement with the underground Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania.



SPEAKERS *Handle With Care*



Joanne H. Neviera

(Reprint from Vytis)



Have you ever gone to a meeting and discovered one of your friends listed as master of ceremonies? Have you ever twisted uneasily as he or she handled arrangements and made introductions? Have you ever thought, "I wish he'd sit down and not try to make the speech himself?"

It is almost inevitable, in fact, for we Americans are inveterate speech listeners. Hopefully we trudge off to our noonday luncheon clubs, to church and civic organizations, we go, we sit and we wait in trepidation for whatever the program committee is sending our way.

Often, of course, we have known the best (or worst) beforehand because we were part of the same program committee. Still uncertain as to exactly how it happened, we found ourselves engaging the speaker, arranging for his entertainment, paying his fee, presenting him to the audience, and — if necessary — speeding him out of town by a side exit.

When this happens either to you or to the president of your organization, it's convenient to know something about the job. Points to note:

IS ANY LOCAL CELEBRITY, ALSO A MEMBER OF YOUR CLUB, ABLE TO MAKE THE SPEECH? If so, he should have first consideration. Why go out town, if you have such a person? But take care... be sure he's qualified. After

all, you have an obligation to protect the audience, too.

SHOULD A CLUB MEMBER BE PAID FOR HIS SPEECH?

No, unless the situation is strictly a commercial one. Some sign of appreciation is expected, however.

SHOULD YOU GET A PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER?

Two questions must be considered:

(1) is the occasion important enough to justify asking a professional speaker?

(2) how much can you afford to pay him?

The program you arrange will depend upon your answers.

WHAT ABOUT PAYMENT?

The person you select expects to be paid for his speech. Tell him in your invitation just how much your group can afford to pay. Do not send the invitation and omit all mention of a fee — thereby hoping that you will get by for nothing.

Don't try the dramatic method either — avoid playing on his sympathy or public spirit. Do it the correct way. Send a polite invitation and with it, your offer — whatever the committee has decided it can afford. The speaker is then free to accept or reject, without involving all of you in the embarrassment of bargaining.

WHAT ABOUT PREPARATIONS?

A program secretary or chairman will want to clarify all items beforehand. Have a set understanding and other entertainment expense.

Meet him when and where he arrives. Pay him before he gets up to speak. Have his payment in a properly labeled envelop. When the meeting is over, have someone take your speaker back to his hotel, the train, or wherever he would like to go.

HOW TO INTRODUCE THE SPEAKER

Often this is also the moment when luckless men — and women — fling caution aside. Now they have a chance to really stun the public and they do.

Well, what ought you say when a speaker is introduced? Not much, that's for sure. Many an audience has been made restless, many a speech has been ruined, and many a program chairman has been embarrassed because he has used the introduction as a platform for his own options.

The best introduction is simple. You cite the qualifications of the speaker. Perhaps you tell a bit about his background, the life he leads, the interesting things he does. If it is in order, you may tell a human interest story about him; something generous he had recently done. Then you say, "It is my pleasure to present... who will speak on the topic..." You sit down, and he is off to good start.

When the whole occasion is over, he and everyone else will remember it with pleasure. You see, you know just how to handle the speaker — with care.

LITHUANIA LANGUAGE COURSE:

Last summer, a Lithuanian language course for beginners (adults) premiered at the Lithuanian Teacher's Camp in Dainava, Michigan. The course registered 13 students of varied backgrounds: young, middle-aged, students, professionals. The "lucky 13" mastered the course. They left promising that they would return next year.

What made this course so successful? Why did the students manage to learn and enjoy? There were several ingredients.

1. All the students were eager to learn. Several of them had visited Lithuania and had noticed how important and beneficial it was to know Lithuanian.
2. A good teaching/learning method. The students learned a few words each day, but learned them well. They used them in their conversations each day while at Dainava.
3. An experienced teacher-Bronius Krokys. He has 26 years of Lithuanian teaching experience. Instructor and students became friends.
4. Participation in the general camp program. Each morning there was Lithuanian Mass in the Chapel, Lithuanian singing and folkdancing, Lithuanian cooking, "kankles", and group handicraft lessons. There was even a prayer group for occupied Lithuania. In the evenings talent night and camp fire programs.
5. All programs and events were in the Lithuanian language-total immersion!
6. The beautiful and relaxing atmosphere of Dainava.

LEARN, SPEAK AND ENJOY AT DAINAVA



The "Lucky 13" graduates of the 1985 Lithuanian Language Course, Dainava, Michigan.

On the first day of camp, the new students were big eyed and silent when addressed. On the last day they were eager to answer anyone-in Lithuanian. The students returned home imbued with a "Lithuanian spirit. They joined Lithuanian parishes, searched out Lithuanian radio programs, and joined the Knights of Lithuania.

Plans are in the offing for this summer, perhaps to add an advanced level course. The date and specific details will be published in a future issue. Information may also be obtained from Bronius Krokys, 1124 Hedgerow La., Philadelphia, PA 19115.

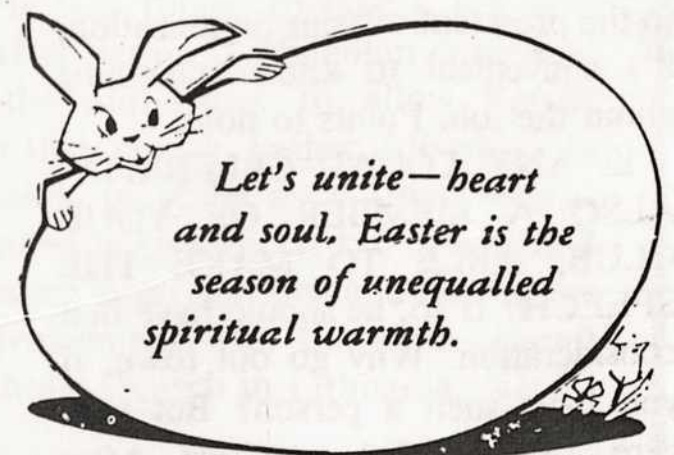


The Legend of the Easter Egg



One day a poor peddler went to the marketplace to sell a basket of eggs. He came upon a crowd mocking a man who staggered with a heavy cross on which he was about to be crucified. The peddler ran to his aid, leaving the basket by the roadside. When he returned, he found the eggs transformed into exquisite designs of bright colors. The man was Christ; the peddler, Simon. And the eggs were to become the symbol of rebirth for all mankind.

Ukrainian Folk Tale



Let's unite—heart and soul. Easter is the season of unequalled spiritual warmth.

THE START OF A YOUTH COUNCIL IN SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA



Front row, Barbara Covalesky and Nancy Laske as "stand-ins" for absent members, back row: Rev. Michael Zipay, spiritual advisor,

Anne Covalesky, treasurer; Ruth Covalesky, president; Wesley Covalesky, secretary.

Through the united efforts of Ann Dudowicz, Marie Laske, Irene Shimkus, and Ann Kurzweil of Council 74 in Scranton, Pennsylvania, the beginnings of a Youth Group of the Knights of Lithuania was started as Council 45.

A foundation was made when 5 members of the Covalesky family from Dalton agreed to make a start. Then, 2 members of the Drazdauskas family of Moscow, — no, not in Europe, but in Pennsylvania just outside of Elmhurst,—and a Kurzweil daughter of Scranton, joined the Covaleskys. And presto!—a youth group was formed.

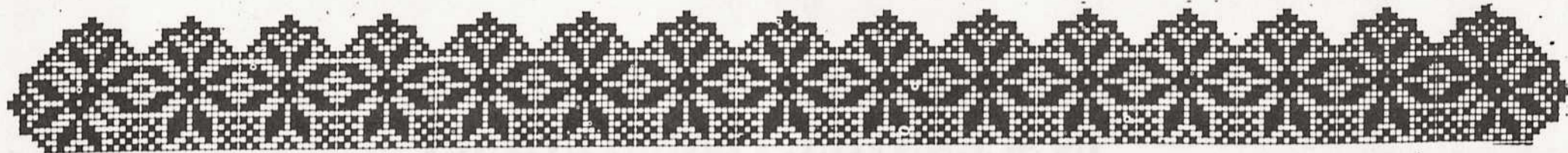
Every member of the group has a special assignment: Ruth Covalesky was chosen president; Alena Drazdauskas, vice-president; Wesley Covalesky, recording secretary; Elizabeth Covalesky, financial secretary; Ann Covalesky, treasurer; Dena Kurzweil, ritual chairperson; David Drazdauskas, cultural chair-

man; and Victor Covalesky, Lithuanian Affairs chairman. Rev. Michael Zipay of St. Michael's Parish in Scranton agreed to be spiritual advisor of the group.

Now all we need is more dedicated parents in Scranton and surrounding towns to influence their teenage children and young adults to join Council 75. Many possibilities are open to such youth groups. After all, when the organization was first started in 1913, the Knights of Lithuania was definitely a youth organization for Lithuanians. But then, after marrying and having families, most of them would not "let go". So now we can have 3 groups: Juniors, Youths, and Seniors.

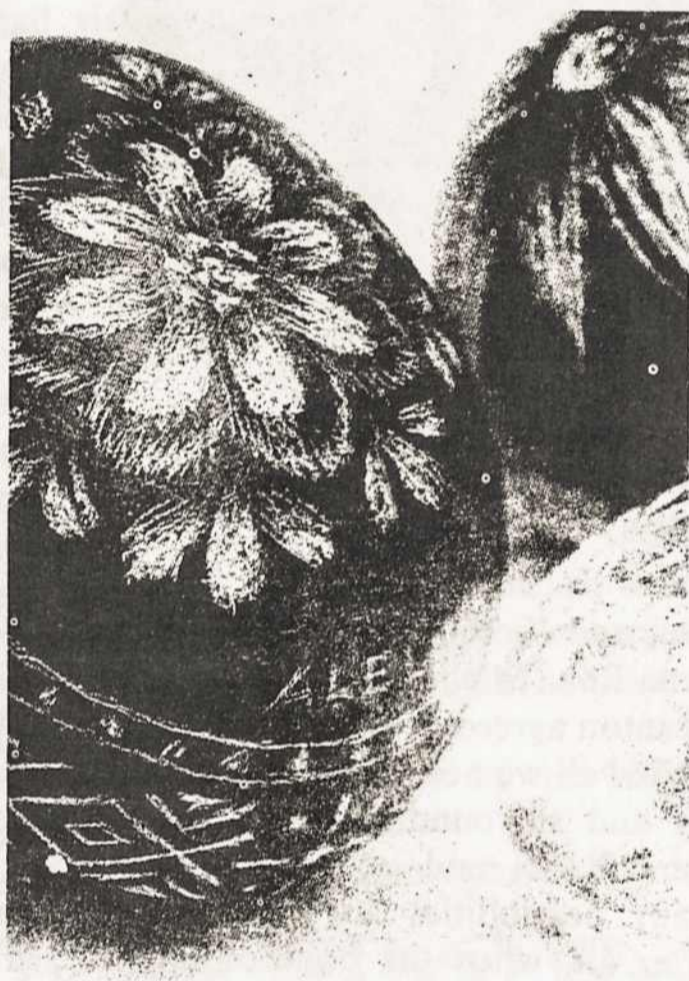
Those interested in joining Council 45 may call Ruth Covalesky, 1-587-1461, or write to RD #2, Box 87, Dalton, Pa. 18414. Or you may contact the coordinator, Irene Shimkus, 347-9030,, or write to 1544 Gardner Ave. Scranton, Pa. 18509.

**OUR PRAYERS
FOR THE SUCCESS OF YOUR
COUNCIL!**



LITHUANIAN *in the* NEWS

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



"Margučiai"

These intricately designed Lithuanian Easter Eggs were pictured in the Chicago Tribune last year along with an article about Lithuanian Easter traditions courtesy of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture.

* * *

Linksmų Velykų

The Cicero Berwyn (Illinois) Fine Arts Council presented its fourth annual ethnic presentation last December 8th at the Chodl Auditorium in Cicero.

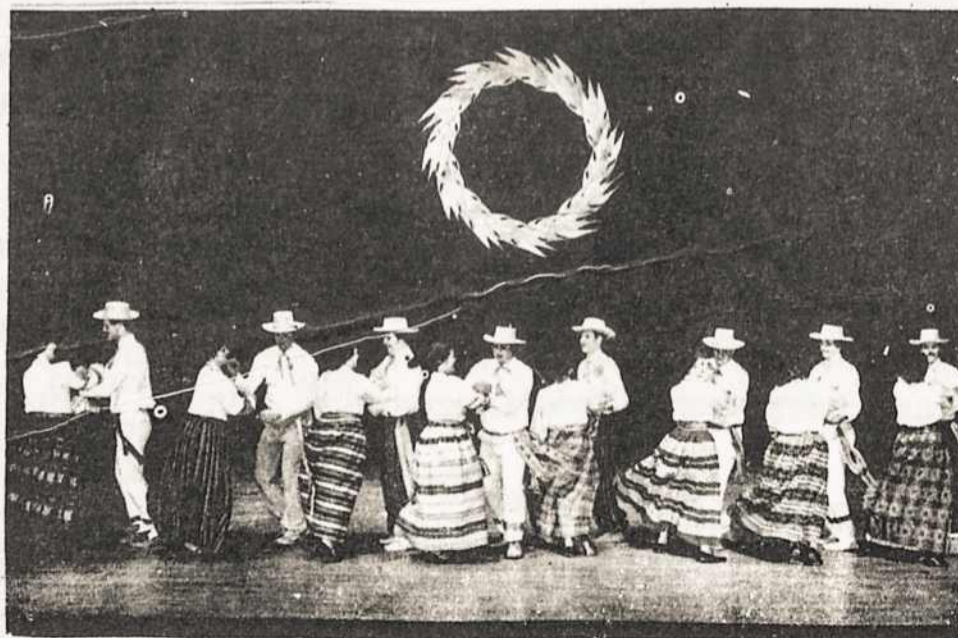
Presented in song and dance by the Lithuanian Choral Ensemble DAINAVA and the SPINDULYS Folk Dancers was a program entitled "LITHUANIAN WEDDING TRADITIONS".

The cast of 75 featured traditional dances and songs sung in Lithuanian, with an English language narration, depicting Lithuanian folk customs surrounding love, courtship and marriage, woven into a folk operetta.

The operetta featured ancient costumes, recreated especially for the show, authentic old folk instruments, and stage setting reminiscent of Lithuania at the turn of the century.

An exhibit of Lithuanian folk art was on display at the performance. A reception followed the performance at which the audience met the performers and sampled Lithuanian pastires.

The event was widely publicized in the Chicago area media, and was very well attended.





Kathy Cook spins wool for interested onlooker

Last November, the annual Festival of Nations in Syracuse, N.Y. was held at the Onondaga County War Memorial.

C-140, Syracuse, participated serving various Lithuanian delicacies like potato pancakes and mushroom cookies.

Pictured in "The Post-Standard", Syracuse, is C-140 member KATHY COOK working at her spinning wheel.

* * *

The "CRLC News" reports that the Connecticut Right to Life group misses JACK WILTRAKIS very much since his move to St. Louis, Missouri. He was President for 3 years, Director of the Congressional Region, Connecticut's Director to the National right to Life Committee, and Connecticut's Director to the March for Life Committee in Washington, D.C.

He appeared on T.V., radio and in the newspapers on a regular basis, and consistently defended the right to life of the unborn, the elderly, and the handicapped.

KENNETH JASEWICZ, Amsterdam, N.Y., is one of three juniors at Perth High School who decided they were going to try to do something about the problem of adequate shelter in the world, according to the "Leader-Herald", Gloversville-Johnstown, N.Y.

The result was a metallic geodesic dome built by the students themselves under the direction of the instructor of the school's industrial arts and technological department.

The model dome was recently displayed at the State University of Oswego's technology department's fall conference. It was stated that this type of structure could be the answer to the problem of shelter that is facing millions around the world. It could serve as cheap, mass-produced housing.

Kenneth is a member of the K of L Juniors in Amsterdam, acting in the capacity of Treasurer. Both of his parents are members of C-100, Amsterdam.

* * *

CASIMIR (CASEY) OKSAS, Chicago, IL, is a candidate for the Republican nomination in the 3rd Congressional District of Illinois. He is currently Jury Commissioner of Cook County. He has been a member of the Illinois Ethnic Heritage Commission. He is past president of the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce, past president of the Lithuanian American Council of Chicago, member of the Captive Nations Council of Illinois and a member of the Knights of Lithuania, C-112. Casey is also a member of the Darius-Girėnas American Legion Post.

* * *

„Septyni Kristaus Žodžiai" — "The Seven Last Words of Christ" performed by the combined Chicago choirs of the Knights of Lithuania, St. John Fisher Parish and St. Barnabas PARISH, IS AVAILABLE ON CASSETTE.

This truly majestic production is performed under the direction of K of L Choir Director FAUSTAS STROLIA with soloists PRAURIMĖ RAGAS, RIMAS STRIMAITIS, and Mid-America District President ALGERD BRAZIS.

The cassette is all Lithuanian, the non-Lithuanian choir members from St. John Fisher and St. Barnabas Parishes learned the Lithuanian words fluently.

The cassette can be obtained from ANN MARIE KASSEL, 7336 Winthrop Way, Unit 2, Downers Grove, IL 60516 by mailing a check for \$11.00, which includes postage, made payable to KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SPECIAL EVENTS.

Vyčiai Veikia Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT



C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Our council's Kūčios was held on Saturday, December 7, following the 5 p.m. Mass in St. Francis Church, Athol. Father Steponaitis blessed the plotkelės or holy wafers and shared them with each other wishing each other the best of health and the choicest of blessings.

The menu brought in by our girls consisted of 12 meatless specialties symbolizing the twelve apostles. The hall and church were decorated in the holiday motif. The Christmas trees were decorated with straw ornaments called šiaudiniukai made of drinking straws fashioned into many designs. The colored straws create an unusual effect with the tree lights shining through. Following supper carols were sung.

Our council along with Fr. Steponaitis treated St. Francis 35 altar boys with an afternoon of bowling at the Lucky Lanes. Gifts were presented by Santa in the form of our own David Lucas.

Several of our members attended the four council Kūčios held on December 1 in Raynham following the district board meeting. It was well planned and attended. All involved in the preparation deserve a big ačiū for a job well done.

Charles and Blanche Genaitis spent a month visiting their daughter in Seattle, Washington.

At the request of the Gardner Heritage Association, Bill Wisniauskas wrote a history of the Gardner Lithuanians from 1896 to the present day, along with photos of the days gone by. It is worthy to note that back in 1908 the Vytautas the Great Society had a brass band consisting of more than 20 members that played and participated in the local parades.

Again this year through the efforts of Charlie Genaitis, newly-elected Mayor Agnelli issued a proclamation proclaiming February 16 Lithuanian Day in Gardner.

Once again St. Francis Church in Athol was decorated beautifully at Christmas time. The Lithuanian style trees complimented the setting. Fr. Steponaitis and his crew are to be commended on their exquisite taste.

Bill Wisniauskas is duly proud of his nephew Steve Budwick for his perfect 300 ten pin game. He now joins John Dapkevich and Danny Novak, a Lithuanian threesome that has achieved this remarkable bowling achievement, one every ardent bowler longs for.

Condolences are extended to the Naudziunas Family on the death of their son and brother, Rev. Andrew

Naudziunas MIC of Chicago.

Many K of L'ers were seen at the annual St. Francis parish worker appreciation dinner on Sunday, January 12, given by the parish.

Our own Dick Genaitis attended the Super Bowl Game in New Orleans. He was happy but disappointed with the outcome.

VINCUKAS

C-26 — WORCESTER

The oath of office was administered by Father Miciunas, our spiritual advisor to C-26's executive board: Rita Pinkus, president; Geraldine Tagman, vice president; Mildred Lapinskas, recording secretary; Marion Racicot, financial secretary; Theodore Pinkus, treasurer; William Leseman, auditor; William Karas, sergeant at arms; Virginia Cummings, public relations; Ann Bender, Lithuanian affairs and cultural and Olga Kersis, Vytis correspondent.

The scrumptious beef stew supper which preceded the November meeting was prepared by Joseph and Antoinette Ivaska, assisted by Adele Degutis and Ann Walinsky.

A warm welcome to our newest members: Nell Mitchell, Alfred and Vivian Rodgers.

A testimonial honoring our pastor, Father Anthony J. Miciunas, MIC, was held at Maironis Park on November 17 on the occasion of Father's 70th birthday, 45th anniversary in the holy priesthood and 14 years as pastor of Worcester's St. Casimir's Church. The large atten-

dance of priests, parishioners and friends undoubtedly provided Father with a nostalgic look at the last 45 years. May the beautiful memories linger on. Prayerful best wishes to Father for good health, perseverance, peace and joy as he goes onward in his religious calling.

Rita Brazauskas underwent surgery the week before Christmas. Tillie Zeleski has been ill, as have Agnes Law, Anna Bacys, Ann Ridick and Helen Gillus. We pray that good health be restored to these good ladies of ours!

Hearty congratulations to Eduardas and Teresė (Gaidelytė) Meilus, Jr., on the birth of their son, Antanas Eduardas, on December 24. What a Merry Christmas was celebrated in this family! Ed is director and host for the twice-weekly Lithuanian Radio Hour in Worcester.

Sister Joyce Ridick SSC, Ph.D., in from Rome for the holidays is visiting her parents, Ann and John Ridick. We remember when Sister was our council secretary.

Happy congratulations to Ann and John Bender who are grandparents to the third daughter of their daughter Patricia and her husband, Richard Dustin. Best wishes to Aunt Helen Bender, too!

Frances Glaskas' holiday season was saddened by the death of her lovely mother, Mary Glaskas, following a long illness. Prayerful condolences to Fran from her K of L family at Council 26.

Our council Christmas parties held each year in our parish hall continue to attract great numbers and no wonder! Committee members for the December 11 event were Rita and Ted Pinkus, Ann and Steve Walinsky, Mildred and Charles Lapinskas, Bill Karas, Mark Walinsky and his sister Lynne, Charles Kulakusky, Virginia and Dwight Cummings, Geraldine Tagman, Marion Racicot, Helen Gillus and Ann Bender. And once

Father Miciunas had opened the festivities with a prayer, the merriment was constant. From dining, to gift exchanging, to singing both Lithuanian and English carols, the Christmas spirit was strongly evident throughout the wonderful evening. Teresa Adomavicius and Peter Ivaska share a birthday on December 11 and were greeted and congratulated with a song.

How very nice it was to see some old friends present: Tony Brazauski, Adele Ceraska, Virginia Fikoski, Emily Gudzevich, Aldona Sweeney and her mom Mrs. Rackauskas, Vera Scarbeau and Eleanor and Ronald Valinski and many, many more.

A happy, healthy 1986 to all
"Dzukele"

C-27 — NORWOOD

Our new year started out enthusiastically with our members gathering for participation in a "Mystery Ride," following the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 5. What made this an enjoyable afternoon was that nobody knew the destination which was a surprise.

It was a rather short ride. We all followed our pilot who leads the way and none better than our own Fr. William Wolkovich. Our destination brought us to Norwood Common to Carla's fine and exclusive Italian restaurant, the best in town.

Good things always seem to be happening especially for our council president and trustee, Helen and Stanley Dallalis. They once again

Velykų džiugsmas

ir palaima

telydi

Jūs visus žingsnius



became grandparents of a baby boy on January 16 in Berlin, NH. Congratulations to son Paul and his wife, also Uncle Steven and Aunt Nancy. A bundle of joy for the new year!

Vacations were enjoyed in January by Sandra Melish who spent time in Las Vegas and George Barton who enjoyed a successful week of ice fishing on Cape Cod.

Our February meeting highlighted plans for the observance of Lithuanian Independence Day. Mass was offered on February 23 for the persecuted and suffering in Lithuania under the yoke of communist totalitarianism. An interesting program followed in Founders Hall. Gita Kupcinskiene, folklore expert who studied at the University of Vilnius in Lithuania, was our guest speaker.

Our council held its traditional St. Casimir's Day Communion Breakfast observance in Founders Hall on March 2 following the 8 a.m. Mass honoring our patron saint.

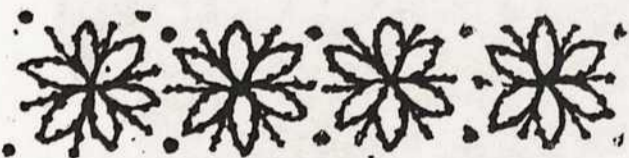
Plans are in the making and tickets are ready for our council's annual spring dance to be held at St.

Mary's Parish Hall in East Walpole on April 12. By popular demand, we will feature the music of Ray Henry's Orchestra. We expect a sell-out as in the past.

John and Betty Skricki will co-chair this event. Ardent followers of Ray Henry over the many years, we could not find a more wonderful couple to have in our council for this occasion.

Council 27 extends a blessed and happy forthcoming Easter to all K of L'ers!

"DZIUDZIUK"



C-50 — NEW HAVEN

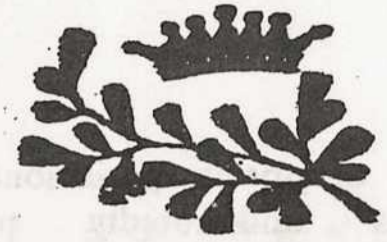
Our 1986 newly elected officers are Father Karalis, spiritual advisor; Frank Peterson, president; Albert Gutauskas, 1st vice president; Mary Geipel, 2nd vice president; Ann Meskins, treasurer; Alex Gedrim, financial secretary; Audrey Toole, recording secretary; Helen Balchus, corresponding secretary; Bernice Barile, ritual chairperson; Anthony Kordorsky and Isabel Peterson, sergeants at arms; Charles Dekas, Helen Medley and Bruno Strimaitis, trustees; Eleanor Gutauskas, ways and means (sunshine).

On December 7, we sponsored our Annual Turkey Shoot and our First Potato Pancake Festival. Blynai! Stacks of them as Frank Antin, Maryann Cappelli, Theresa Strimaitis and Madalyn Cronin kept rolling them off the griddle. Bruno Strimaitis, Frank Peterson and Al Gedrim were up to their necks peeling and grating potatoes to keep up with the long lines waiting for the hot crispy pancakes. That's what it was all about and hope you were there for that something special!

Frank Antin did a tremendous job to make our Turkey Shoot another profitable event. Ann Meskins and Isabel Peterson were busy weighing up the dešra for another big profit.

President Frank Peterson lavished us to a real Christmas treat and party. It was good to see so many members and their guests who came to enjoy the merriment. Yummy, yummy, best describes what we saw laden on the buffet table. We lost no time in piling up our plates and sitting down and feasting. We also danced to the festive sounds of our accordion player.

Sam Meshako and Don Cappelli assisted Frank Peterson with the refreshments. Ann Meskins, Isabel Peterson, Elizabeth Gybowski and Maryann Cappelli served behind the buffet table.



C-103 — PROVIDENCE

Vice President Anthony Gudcauskas conducted our monthly meeting, in the absence of President William Piacentini, Jr., with dispatch, clarity and fairness, in a truly democratic manner. Pressured into his duties with knowledge of requests and suggestions that business be expedited due to the fact that many members had one ear and eye on the New England Patriots — Miami Dolphin football game. His task, under these conditions, was admirably accomplished.

They talked about the itinerary of events that the council will entertain during 1986 as yet to be promulgated. Under unfinished and new business coming activities were considered. The membership was made aware and asked to support and participate in the observance on February 16 of Lithuanian Independence Day. On March 2, St. Casimir's Day, Mass and communion breakfast will be held. The last Sunday of April, Providence will host the semi-annual NED Convention. All members are to work with NED officers to assure its success. Plans were also outlined for the 10th Annual Mass in Bristol where all Lithuanians join in reminding their fellow Americans of the "Terrible Days of June" during 1940 and 1941.

At next month's meeting these activities will be finalized. The balance of the year's monthly projects will be considered. Every effort is going to be made at the coming monthly meetings to read, review and discuss proposed changes in NED By-laws that are to be acted upon at the Spring Convention.

Un Ami des Lithuaniens

C-135 — ANSONIA

Here we are again! It is nice to know that you've been missed. The many calls and requests for news about our council is heart warming.

So much has happened since we last met here in this column. To recapture it all without slighting someone would be very difficult.

1985 was tough year for many and we're no different. But there were happy times, too!

"On the Road Again" as the song goes, went many of our council members. In spring, a delegation went to the NED Convention in Holyoke. Grand time was had by all.

Later in August, we joined our renowned Canadian tour guide, Sophie Thomas, on the annual religious pilgrimage. Every time we go, there are new experiences and additional memories. New places to explore, see and visit. St. Anne's Shrine and the other local points of interest are always impressive.

Time out for the National K of L Convention in New Haven. Despite the hot weather, Anne Sabulis and Ruth Tyson, our secretary and treasurer, were awarded the Fourth Degree by Archbishop John

Whealon of Hartford. Congratulations! We hope it's cooler at the next convention in Allentown.

Later it was off to Moosic for the gala Lithuanian Day celebration. For this trip Fran Barsevich, Violet Brazitis, Lil Chaplik, Ruth Tyson, Anne and Johnny Sabulis joined with C-141 of Bridgeport by bus. A good time was had by all and we want to go again next year. Barbara Schmidt and Nancy Miro were great co-hosts.

Did you see our gang at Cathedral of the Pines in Ringe, NH? Violet Brazitis, Anne and Johnny Sabulis joined other NED members at the K of L Lithuanian Mass which was followed by refreshments served by C-10 of Athol-Gardner at the Lithuanian Club at Lakeside Park. A food miracle took place — more people than expected — a good time was had by all!

A large Ansonia delegation was present at Maironis Park for the annual cultural picnic. We didn't win much this year, but wait till next time.

During the past year we lost two fine members who will be missed by all. Janet Brainard, wife of Wilbur,

and Agnes Dillis, mother of Lillian Twerian. Also remember in your prayers Father George Vilciauskas, one of our past spiritual advisors and former pastor of St. Joseph's, Waterbury. Our sympathy is extended to their families and loved ones.

Good to see our beloved Father Ray Yuskas doing so well on the road to recovery from his bout with illness since summer. Keep up the good work, Padre!

Our Lithuanian Cowboy, Pete Gumbulevich is on the slow mend to recovery from a recent illness.

Congratulations to our Judge Joseph Chernauskas on his recent retirement from the bench. Good Luck, Judge, from all of us.

It was nice to see Sister Mary Arline at our recent meeting. Still peppy and happy as ever. We would like to see more of you at our regular monthly meetings. We miss you all! Those of you who are ill are not forgotten. We pray for your recovery.

NAKTIES PELĒDA



Nell Ruggles C-145 at the Lithuanian Cultural Display at Wistariahurst Museum.



The Birzelis Dancers of Hartford performed at C-145 Holyoke Boutique at Wistariahurst Museum.

C-145 — HOLYOKE

What has passed is history and twelve years have gone by since our first Lithuanian Concert and Boutique was held at Wistariahurst Museum in Holyoke. Hopefully, we left a mark somewhere in that irrevocable past.

Numbered in that past was the event that took place on Sunday, December 2, in the Music Room of the museum. The Birželis Dancers of Hartford, directed by Dahlia Dzikas, stood as a choral group, accompanied by Alphonse Dzikas on the piano, sang "Norėčiau Keliuti." Translated, "They Would Like to Return and See Lithuania." When the last note was sung, the dancers holding hands swung out forming two lines and began a variety of folk dances.

The first dance was the "Karklai," adapted from the song of the same name. Other dances were Landytinis Mikute, the fellows dance; Pakelt Kojis; Rugučiai, the reaping of rye; Pergiria girele and the Vakaruškos folk dances.

During intermission, recognition

was given to Pauline Chivas, the oldest living Lithuanian in Holyoke, on her 90th birthday. She was presented a bouquet of flowers and "Ilgiausių Metų" was sung by the assemblage. Mrs. Chivas is the mother of Steve and George Chivas, C-145 members.

To circle the boutique portion in the Main Hall were Viola Markoski, assisted by Ray Picard, at the handicrafts table with show stoppers such as delicate hand crocheted Christmas tree snowflakes, knitted baby ensembles, scarfs, hats, mittens, Christmas stockings and draft stoppers. Highlighted from our Atlanta, Georgia members, Joan and Laura Laframboise, were cross stitch and needle point tree decorations, wallets, change purses and stuffed animals.

An assortment of scrumptious cakes, breads and kugelis that were guaranteed to delight the palate of any discriminating purchaser were offered by Margaret Picard at the bake table.

The Museum's elegant grand staircase emphasized the Lithuanian Christmas tree where Ann Marie Picard sold natural straw

decorations made by Nell Ruggles. At the white elephant table Nellie Karcz and Freida Nolan promoted pre-owned and rare treasures. In the foyer, Ann Dapsius and George Chivas sold raffle tickets.

Branching off into the solarium were Mr. & Mrs. Victor Vaitkus of "Spauda" in Waterbury who retailed many selective and desirous Lithuanian articles.

Hostesses at the refreshment table were Ann Doktor and Eva Grynkaivitch who served coffee and a generous slice of cake from the 90th birthday cake.

Present in the audience were the Rev. Julius Jutt, C-145 spiritual advisor, guests from Athol, Enfield, Hartford and Waterbury, as well as area Lithuanians and friends.

It was a day we focused on the inheritance each of us were bequeathed when we stepped into shoes worn by past generations, the commitment to nurture Lithuanianism and to help Lithuania flourish. So, for a few hours we experienced a blending — a touch of life as it was, with life today.

Margaret Picard

MID - CENTRAL DISTRICT



C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

The weather service predicted rain for our festival on November 3, but there was a happy glow of people at the Cultural Center. Attendees quickly settled down near the food center with delicious aromas of

kugelis, virtinėliai, kopūstai and sausage from the kitchen. In command were Mary Keller and son Richard Danielak who were assisted by Carol Marzolf, Mary Ann Newberry, Virginia Kirsh, Joe Chaps and Kathey Enriquez, a guest helper.

As usual, Helen Santorum presided over a successful bake sale. She was assisted by Emma Povilaitis, Ann Valatka, Ann Uzdavinas and Mary Taylor. President Smailis attracted attention to the Straw Game. Her committee of Marge & Chet Nashlon, Jeanne & Joseph Yakstys and Theresa Marzolf arranged a table of many prizes.

Every year Mary Mitchell crochets a beautiful afghan for the Christmas Boutique. A well-deserving hand to Mary. Other items

that graced the table were a basket of cheer, a lovely doll made by Ann Kratage's niece and other homemade crafts. Sophie Zager and her right-hand man Frank Zager added to the festival's success.

Bertha Janus marked some pretty good sales at the white elephant table. She was assisted by Antoinette Baron. The big raffle of 50/50 was won by Leonard Salas.

A substantial Christmas check was given to the Capuchin Fathers for their COTS program for the homeless and needy persons. Also a nice donation was made by C-79 to the Parish Fund for those needy at Divine Providence.

Our December meeting was highlighted by a super social with delectable food prepared by Jadvyga

Rukstele and daughter Virginia Kirsh, hostesses. It was nice to see some of our stay-away members, among them Joe Usoris who was conferred the Second Degree. Helen Santorum read an interesting report.

A group of K of L'ers shared Kūčios hosted by ALRC Moterų Sajungos at Divine Providence Cultural Center. Rev. Fr. V. Krisciunevicius, pastor, led us in prayer. President Cecilia Balsys of Chapter 54 extended holiday greetings. Dana Jankus presented a Christmas reading.

Four good Samaritans, President Smailis, Leonard Balkus, Frank & Sophie Zager went out on a snowy Sunday to deliver gifts and good cheer to a number of members and parishioners who are confined in nursing care centers.

Condolences to Monica Salas who lost her sister, Marcella Vaitkunas, on December 21. We also extend sincere sympathy to Mary Keller and her brother Joe Chaps upon the loss of their dear brother, Alfred Chaps, on November 17.

Fifteen members braved crystal-cold night on January 9 to attend the first meeting of '86. A membership drive in conjunction with Founder's Day was suggested by VP Richard Danielak with special emphasis on our Lithuanian young people. A welcome was extended to Cynthia and Chester Ostrowski who have not been around in a while. A fine social hour was hosted by Jeanne & Joe Yakstys.

Five tables of C-79'ers greeted the New Year at Divine Providence Cultural Center. The Kasputis band orchestrated the music. The evening's finale was sparked by a mouth-watering pizza.

Nicholas "Nick" Zager, son of our members Gerry & Carol Zager, was top winner in a spinoff of the Regional Writing Project among first graders. The project begins with ideas and stories created in writing.

The topic ends with publication of stories, bound in board covers, read aloud and judged. Said Nick, "It's neat to picture stuff in my head and write about it."

When our President Maggie Smailis cannot be found at home, she is taking classes in arts and crafts and instruction in management and senior law.

Holiday Festival Craft Table.



C-86 — DU BOIS

It was our privilege to host the Mid-Central District Meeting and Pilgrimage the weekend of September 28. We had a very successful weekend with 60 people registered. Our thanks to all those members who attended. And a special thanks to all the C-86 members who helped to make the event a success. Hopefully, we will have the same amount of success when we host the MCD meeting and Mid-West Bowling Tournament in May.

We held our Christmas party on December 27. Although the attendance was smaller than we had hoped, we had a very enjoyable time. The carol singing was enhanced greatly by the talents of Fr. Robert Pudlo, our spiritual advisor. Not only did he join in all the singing, but he showed that he was a man of many talents when he played the piano too.

Since this is the last report for 1985, I want to make note of the fact that we lost three of our members who claimed their eternal rewards. We ask all of you to say a prayer for Mary Radzavich Clark, Joe Shupienis and John Abromovich. Each of them was valuable to our council or to our church. They will be very hard to replace. Our condolences to their families.

Tomas

C-102 — DETROIT

My how time flies, didn't realize it's a year since you've heard from us.

Congratulations to Frank Petrauskas on his election to Supreme Council President. We enjoyed many social activities with him and his wife Irene when we visited Frank & Isabel Peterson and David & Holly in Syracuse.

Congratulations also to the other newly-elected officers and to Loretta Stukas on the great job she did in the past years.

After eight years, our council elected a new president, Frank Bunikis. Madam President Gražina Vaškėlis, after holding the office for eight years, resigned because her new position as buyer for Jackson Prison necessitated a change of residency. The council honored her at a going away dinner at a famous restaurant. Good luck, Gražina, in your new career!



Donna Bunikis toasting Madam President Gražina at retirement dinner of C-102 Detroit.



C-102 Detroit Knights at Bunikis Condo in Florida.

Congratulations to Frank & Isabel Peterson and Council 50 for hosting the National Convention. Everyone who attended brought home many compliments. Speedy recovery to Frank on his heart valve replacement.

In May John & Donna Stanievich and Frank & Donna Bunikis, Edna Klucens and Joe & Maryanne Guerriero attended the Mass and dinner in honor of Bishop Baltakis.

May also took George Kayganich, Joe & Maryanne Guerriero and their daughter Charmaine to the Mid-West Bowling Tournament in Cleveland. We were disappointed that we weren't able to bring home one of the beautiful Hummel trophies, but we did manage to win something playing reverse bingo. Chuck Mykolaitis of Council 79 did manage to bring home one of the trophies.

In July Donna & Frank Bunikis hosted a pool party at their condo in Royal Oak. Later Frank had heart by-pass surgery and recuperated very well with the help of his wife, Donna and daughters, Margie from California, Mary from Pennsylvania and son, Al, from Arizona.

Get well wishes are extended to Helen Smolak, John Stanivich and Mart Wagster. Rith Wagster sure has been a great nurse in helping Mart with his illness.

In August we lost another of our members, Tony Zyren. Tony was a member back many years in our



Maryanne Guerriero presenting Madam President Gražina with a gift at her retirement party of Council 102 Detroit as Frank & Donna Bunikis look on.

single days. After marriage to Marie, they sort of drifted. Two years ago they rejoined and we enjoyed their membership. Deepest sympathies to Marie and family.

With so many world travelers among our members, our meetings are sparsely attended. St. Casimir's Day was observed individually. Frank & Donna Bunikis entertained Terry & Ray Medonis. Joe & Maryanne Guerriero and Charlie from Newark for a week at their Florida Condo. Edna & Bill Klucens also enjoyed a short visit with them.

Fr. Stan vacationed in Africa; Donna & John Stanievich toured Europe; Joe & Maryanne Guerriero cruised Panama Canal. Bob & Ray Klucens were weekend guests of Governor & Mrs. Blanchard at their summer retreat at Mackinac Island. Gus & Gena Baibak motored out west before their son Dan's wedding. Terry & Ray Medonis visited their son in New York where they met his future in-laws. They also tried their luck in Atlantic City.

Bob Boris once again hosted the Christmas Kūčios in his new gorgeous home in Bloomfield Hills. The evening started with Rev. Fr. Walter Sanievich celebrating Mass with Fr. George. After Mass we broke bread with plotkelės and enjoyed the Lithuanian buffet.

Greatly missed this year was the

Lithuanian torte made by Angela Buksnis. She and husband Pete weren't able to attend. It was nice seeing, as we do yearly, Marie & Emil Podzius, Helen Smolak and the Klucen boys. It was nice of Gražina and escort to drive in for this occasion. Thanks, Bob!

On this happy note I will close and hope to write more often of our members in the future.

Mariutė



MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

District Ritual Chairlady Ann Marie Kassel along with the Rev. F. Kireilis, National Ritual Committee member Albert Zakarka, Theresa Strolia and Irene Sankus presented 1st and 2nd Degrees following the Winter District Meeting. Second Degree recipients were Vytautas Dijokas (C-36), Steve Rudokas and Frances Shillis (C-112); First Degrees to Theresa Vaitkus (C-112), Ronaldas Maldunas and Jonas Zadeikis (C-36). Congratulations to all of the recipients.

Our K of L Choir hosted their Annual Benefit Dinner at the Šaulių Namai. The event was most successful due to the efforts of Director Faustas Strolia, Choir President Stasys Stasiūnas, Chairlady Terry Vaitkus and the officers and committee members. Everyone who attended had a great time.



MID-AMERICA DISTRICT RITUALS. 1st Degree Recipients Ronaldas Maldunas C-36, Jonas Žadeikis C-36 & Theresa Vaitkus C-112 with Rev. F. Kireilis and Chr. AnnMarie Kassel.

MID-AMERICA DISTRICT RITUAL PRESENTATION (1st Row) 2nd Degree Recipients: Steve Rudokas C-112, Frances Shillis C-112 & Vytautas Dijokas C-36. (2nd Row) Ritual Team: Terry Strolia, Al Zakarka, Irene Sankus, Al Dagis & Chr. AnnMarie Kassel.

"The Seven Last Words of Christ" cassette, co-sponsored by our District and the K of L Choir is a beautiful listening experience and sales are going well. Don't miss the opportunity of purchasing a cassette for yourself or friends and hear our K of L Choir with soloists Algerd Brazis, Praurimė Ragas, Rimas Strimaitis

Send for your copy of "The Seven Last Words of Christ" sung by our K of L Choir

Cost is \$10 plus \$1 for postage. Send your orders to Ann Marie Kassel, 7336 Winthrop Way, Downers Grove, IL 60516.

Our District Arhives Committee is completing the very difficult task of sorting the material from the K of L Building. The bulk of the work is being handled by Susan & Paul Binkis with assistance by Irene and Mary Juzėnas.

The District Spring Business meeting will be held in conjunction with our St. Casimir's Day Commemoration and hosted by the Young Adult Council 13. We hope to travel to C-40 home base of East St. Louis for our Summer District meeting.

The late winter-time has seen a movement of district officers to sunny Florida; namely, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, who was the principal speaker at the February 16 commemoration, Algerd & Aldona Brazis, Ellie Kasputis and Estelle Rogers. They were entertained by Florida members HM Antanas Mažeika, Harry & Emily Petraitis and the Rev. Adolph Stašys.

iks

C-36 — CHICAGO

Under the dynamic and energetic leadership of our new president Mary Kincius, our new officers meet regularly prior to our monthly council meetings to plan agendas and to share views and experiences on topics under discussion. The only major problem is that Mary is a hostess in the truest sense of Lithuanian tradition; hence all types of delectable goodies are made available to the board for their indulgence.

We welcome Irene Norushis to our list of officers. She will act as corresponding secretary. Due to pressing responsibilities Lucille Kilkus was not able to continue in this post.

John Paukstis, former council president for several terms, resigned from Council 36. John will be working on the reorganization of a former Chicago council. Good luck in your new endeavors!

With deep sadness we report the passing of three beloved members:

Alice Hochsprung, Kazys Ozelis and Edward Pratt. Please remember them in your prayers and join with us in extending to their families and friends our heartfelt sympathy.

Keep also in your prayerful intentions Bruce Neberieza after recent heart surgery and Leo Leone who is hospitalized. A speedy and full recovery!

Many thanks to our Supreme Council President Frank Petrauskas for attending our 75th anniversary gala. May Frank and his fellow officers have successful and fulfilling terms in office.

Among the friendly K of L faces who greeted parishioners at the coffee hour after Mass on Sundays were Mary Kincius, Evelyn Ozelis, Scottie Zukas, Lucille Kilkus, Ruth Kazlauskas, Helen Meizis, John Petraitis, Victor Utara, Vince Samaska and Ed Valskis.

Since a Kūčios menu is limited, our Christmas festivities widened into a smorgasbord spectacular at our new home in the Immaculate Conception School Hall. Considering everyone was left to their own imagination, a vast variety of dishes filled the table with very few duplications. Those duplications were generally needed. One cannot be too rich, too thin or without enough bacon buns. Thanks to the efforts of Joe Martikonis and Walter Kalvaitis we had enough Lithuanian rye bread to feed the city of Kaunas with a few loaves left over for Vilnius! Ačiū to Mary Kincius for door prizes and Dave Gaidas for cash prizes. Ačiū also to the little elves who left all those spirited libations.

In November our council hosted the Mid-America District meeting. Sincere thanks to those who gave their time, talents, energies and donations for this gathering.

Congratulations to our members who received their First Degree at the district meeting: Vytautas Djokas, Juozas Zadeikis and Ronald

Maldunas.

Scottie Zukas chaired the K of L booth at our home parish Mardi Gras. Our council met with our neighboring councils on March 9 for the annual St. Casimir commemoration Mass. Our hosts were Council 14 at Holy Cross Parish.

Our January meeting focused on the revitalization of various letter writing campaigns to aid in supporting the citizens and church of occupied Lithuania and the enhancement of Lithuanian heritage and tradition.

Our speaker for the meeting was

member J. Bace (Bacevicius) of Bell-Bace Real Estate in Chicago. Mr. Bace gave a most informative talk on the present tax laws to aid the members in completing their tax returns for this year. Thank you.

January also brought Feast Day Greetings to our Spiritual Moderator Father Fabian Kireilis. The artistic hands of Vince Samaska provided a splendidly decorated cake iced, of course, in shades of yellow, green and red. Valio, Father Fabian!

EDUARDAS



Senator Frank Savickas meets with Estelle Rogers, Al Brazis, Irene

Sankus and Ellie Kasputis of C-112 Chicago.

C-112 — CHICAGO

Our council's Christmas party on December 8 at the Martiniéue Restaurant was very successful. Efforts of Chairladies Estelle Rogers and Ruth Dagis were rewarded with 49 members and friends attending. Through the courtesy of Al Brazis, each family or single person attending was presented with a lovely Christmas mug. Good food, pleasant atmosphere and, of course, our own great members and friends in

attendance made for an enjoyable evening.

Also, in the holiday vein, our council's Christmas table on December 17 following our regular monthly meeting seems to get bigger and better each year. Our ladies and gentlemen, too, bring more and more delicious food. The huge array of eatables was a sight to behold. We almost couldn't wait for the meeting to end! We were also pleasantly surprised with a visit from the Juniors singing Christmas carols. All in all, a lovely way to instill the

Christmas spirit in those attending.

It was good to see our former council member, Emily Petraitis, in attendance at both parties. Emily and her husband, Harry, left our council some years ago to settle in Florida and enjoy that warmer climate. They have since become active in Council 147, St. Petersburg.

Congratulations to First and Second Degree recipients who were awarded their degrees following the district meeting on November 30. First Degree was presented to Theresa Vaitkus and Second Degree to Steve Rudokas and Frances Shillis.

Those of us who attended the Lithuanian Opera Chorus Concert on Sunday, January 19, spent a very enjoyable afternoon listening to the talented voices of the chorus and the many soloists, including our own Al Brazis who participated. Also, congratulations to Robert Mockus on his outstanding job as accompanist for the entire performance. A very beautiful program and performance by all to say the least.

Following our January regular monthly meeting, we had a letter writing session conducted by Lithuanian Affairs Chairlady, Rita Zakarka. Rita did much research and provided us with a lot of material and subjects pertaining to Lithuanian Affairs and all members present did their share of letter writing.

Cultural Chairlady, Susan Binkis, announced that she has a number of after meeting speakers lined up for the upcoming months. We will be looking forward to hearing them.

Juniors continue to meet on a regular basis. At present they are planning their next outing which will be a trip to Chinatown for the Chinese New Year celebration. Good luck to these young K of L'ers in all their endeavors.

Our lucky 50/50 drawing winner for the evening was Al Zakarka. We recently started this raffle with half of the money collected in an evening awarded to the drawing winner and the other half to be donated for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty.

We plan to have this drawing on a monthly basis for the next six months at which time we hope to have accumulated a sizeable amount of money as a donation from our council.

Speaking of luck, Ellie Kasputis announced she won no less than four raffle prizes at the recent choir dinner dance. Not to be outdone, Pete Gagle announced he too was lucky that night as he won a \$50 bond. Congratulations to you all!

Sincere condolences to Charles Macke on the death of his mother, Frances.

ARDEE

SEE YOU
IN
ALLENTOWN!

AUG. 7-10, 1986

KNIGHTS
OF
LITHUANIA

73rd
National Convention

ALLENTOWN HILTON



President Paul Binkis Jr. C-112 receives memento from Mr. Povilaitis on behalf of the Chicago

Seniors. The cross was one used by a chaplain in the post war camps.

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Under the leadership of our president Larry Janonis the Knights of MAD had a fruitful year. The district Executive Board met 10 times to discuss various plans for the future. Although all is not business, there are always cake and coffee generously provided by Jean Janonis and John Adomenas while we banter ideas about how to improve and enhance the activities of our district.

During 1985 MAD increased in size, new councils were added, and others were rejuvenated. Former Supreme Council President Phil Skabeikis and his wife Marian are organizing a junior council at Council 41 in Brooklyn. Good luck C-41! One of our largest and most active councils is 110 from Maspeth. It seems they are always on the go. Among their various activities is their famous Kūčios. If you thought that tickets for the Super Bowl were hard to get, you should try to get a ticket for Maspeth's Kūčios. We hear that Paterson's Council 63 had a most impressive festival and Newark's Council 29 was deeply involved to celebrate the birthday of their home base Holy Trinity Church.

MAD's April Festival realized a nice profit. Council 12 and 110 did most of the work even though we had some members from other nearby councils. We had a great raffle for which all the tickets were sold out. One of the prizes was an original painting of a Lithuanian scene donated by Artist Paulius Jurkus. We all wanted to win it.

One of the highlights of 1985 was the celebration in honor of our famous couple Jack and Loretta Stukas who were honored by the Holy Father with the St. Sylvester and the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice

**COME TO
OUR ANNUAL
LITHUANIAN
FESTIVAL
APRIL 19-20
TRANSFIGURATION
CHURCH HALL
MASPETH
NY**



Jean and Larry Janonis displaying oil painting by Paulius Jurkus awarded at 1985 MAD Festival.



MAD Executive Board with President Larry Janonis and Spiritual Advisor Rev. Msgr. Frank Bulovas.

awards respectively. MAD is proud of these two of our Honorary Members. It was a never-to-be-forgotten scene as Bishop Paulius Baltakis in a beautiful ceremony bestowed the awards. *Ilgiausių Metų mieli Stukai!*

If you thought 1985 was busy for us, you have not heard that this year we are 70 years young. There is much to be done. We are planning to recall this birthday at each of our district conventions. In March we will be at Frackville for the Communion Breakfast and in Forest City for the June meeting. The main celebration is being

planned in June at Maspeth, NY.

This year MAD is having another festival in April. It will be a two-day affair, the 19 and 20 at Maspeth. We will have a raffle with nice prizes and another original painting by a Lithuanian artist. For entertainment we have invited the Mother Daughter Amber Singers. Remember how much we enjoyed them at the Yale Convention in August.

So let's all chip in and help out in this money-raiser for MAD. We have many worthy causes to support.

Vytiškai —
Dalia Bulvicius

C-12 — MANHATTAN

Since you last heard from us, we have been an extremely busy council. What else could one be in the Big Apple.

Our main concern last year and this year is our parish's face lift. Since Lady Liberty down the river is getting one, Our Lady of Vilnius decided to spruce up. Many council members are on the Parish Council; therefore, we work closely with our pastor Rev. Vytautas Palubinskas in this difficult endeavor. Just wait till you all come here for a district meeting or whatever, you won't recognize the place.

In 1985 all district executive meetings were called to order in our parish hall. In October we hosted the MAD Convention and in December we had the pleasure of welcoming our newly-elected Supreme Council with Frank Petrauskas and his entourage.

We had 10 council meetings during the year. Commemorated Vasario 16, St. Casimir's Feast and the Terrible June Days. We were well represented at the Yale National Convention. The campus



C-12 Manhattan Officers and Committee Chairpersons

atmosphere was intellectually and physically stimulating, that even the more mature Knights, did not mind climbing five flights of stairs in 90 degree weather.

Our annual money raiser was an Oktoberfest. We all felt as if we were in Munich drinking beer and munching pretzels.

Our Christmas party was not only fun but also educational. We had wall to wall kids to whom the Kūčių table traditions were explained by President Ed Cook and Lilia Almario. There also was the Kūčių vakaro burtai, fortune telling with candle wax, straws and some coal from the anthracite

region. Of course, we also sang carols both in Lithuanian and English under the direction of Aldona Kepalaitė, our parish organist.

In 1986 we are not resting on our laurels. We are celebrating two important birthdays this year, MAD's and our hard-working council member and officer Millie Pietz — both are 70 years young. We don't know who appeared on the scene first, but it does not matter. Both are great assets to the organization.

Till next time — Vytiškai —

Dalia B.



Loretta and Jack Stukas join in singing Ilgiausių Metų to Milly Pietz, C-12, birthday celebrant.



C-12 Manhattan's Famous Quintet at Oktoberfest Pete Zupko, Larry Janonis, Joe Kscenaitis, Al Monkowich and Vinnie Cuprewich.



C-12 Manhattan singing Christmas carols with Pastor Rev. Vytautas Palubinskas.



President Ed Cook and Lilian Almario explaining Lithuanian Kūčios to the youngsters of C-12 members.

C-29 — NEWARK

On October 12, we celebrated our 70th anniversary as a council with a super dinner and dance in our Holy Trinity Parish Hall. The affair was chaired by Past President Kazys Sipaila, President Mary Stonis and Danguolė Didžbalis. Anne O'Neil chaired the cocktail hour and as always it was terrific. The Harmonia Lithuanian Ensemble, a young and talented singing group from New York, entertained us with songs both in Lithuanian



C-29 Newark Officers 1985-86 Front Row L to R Msgr. John Scharnus, Rita Sussko, Adele Urbanas, Past President Mary Stonis, Elizabeth Luciw. Rear: Bernard Skripata, Joseph Ruzga, Margaret Brazaitis.

and English. They were super. A delicious catered dinner followed. We danced and socialized until the wee hours. Thank you to the chair people and their committees for a beautiful evening.

At our October business meeting, results on the election of 1985-86 were as follows: Msgr. John Scharnus, spiritual advisor; Joseph Ruzga (Russell), president; Bernard Skripata, vice president; Adele Urbanas, treasurer; Margaret Brazaitis, recording secretary; Rita Sussko, financial secretary; Elizabeth Luciw, corresponding secretary; Walter Sharon, Valentinus Tumelis, Eva Coll, trustees.

Committee chairpersons are cultural, Emilia Sadonis; Lithuanian affairs, Elizabeth Didzbalis; sunshine, Viola Skripata; ritual, Anne O'Neill, chairman, Rita Sussko, Viola Skripata; religious, Mary Honeyman; Vytis correspondent, Eva Coll; sergeant at arms, Adele Matthews and Walter Brazaitis.

Our council held its annual Chinese auction in December and as in the past few years it was a financial success. Chairlady Eva Sharon and her committee worked diligently for months gathering the many prize items needed to make this kind of affair worthwhile. Thank you all!

On December 15 two of our members, Loretta and Jack Stukas, were honored with a Papal Award. A beautiful Holy Mass was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church, and we were invited to the investiture of Jack in the Papal Order of St. Sylvester and the Papal Award "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" on Loretta. It was a very proud and happy day for both of them. It too was a proud and happy day for Council 29 in having two such worthy members. Congratulations Loretta and Jack!

Our annual Christmas party was held at Holy Trinity Parish Hall and what a party it was! We started with a cocktail hour chaired by Anne O'Neill and then followed by a buffet dinner chaired by Elizabeth Luciw and Adele Matthews, also the "always willing to help" Margie Brazaitis. The cocktails and nibbles were delicious, the dinner was perfect, the decorations were beautiful and the music was great. A terrific time was had by all and a big "Ačiū" to all the members who helped make this party one of our best ever.

Condolences to the family of our departed member Peter Goubas; also to Anne Chapulis and Adele Urbanas who lost brothers after suffering long illnesses. May they rest in Peace.

Eva Coll

C-41 — BROOKLYN

The 1985-86 season for Council 41, Brooklyn, began with an October meeting in its club rooms at Annunciation Parish School. The incumbent Executive Board was elected to another term headed by President Helen V. Kulber.

We wish farewell to long-standing member Juozas Laucka, a resident of Maryland, who is transferring to the Washington DC Council.

Philip and Marian Skabeikis, transferrees from Council 110 Maspeth, were welcomed back to the council in which they started their K of L careers. They announced plans to start a K of L Junior Council with Maria Strazdis, daughter of HM and former Council 41 President, Anthony Mazeika. Charter members of the Junior council are Irene and Kristine Strazdis, Matthew, Catherine and Andrew Skabeikis. The Juniors met for the first time on December 16. Their first plans included a membership drive, setting up a club room and a possible spring weekend at Camp Neringa in Vermont.

Council members who have on the road include our Secretary Beatrice Hoff who visited her son and his family in Vermont and Marian Skabeikis whose work on behalf of Catholics in Lithuania took her to New Orleans and Chicago. The latter trip was to present a paper on bringing Lithuanian work into the computer age and was presented to the Lithuanian Academy of Arts and Sciences. Congratulations, Marian!

Simas Kudirka, C-41 HM, was interviewed on many radio and television stations regarding his thoughts on the recent attempted defection of a Ukrainian seaman.

In October, Helen Kulber and Beatrice Hoff celebrated the 40th

year of the United Nations with lunch in the Delegates Dining Room at the invitation of the United Nations Associates which Helen has been a member since 1972. During the luncheon, they presented US Deputy Ambassador Herbert Okun with a copy of the 65th issue of the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania. He remarked that he had

been in both Vilnius and Kaunas, Lithuania.

Please remember in your prayers Antanina Binkins who remains seriously ill.

Finally, our congratulations and wishes for success to our new National President, Frank Petrauskas.

PATS



Msgr. Michael Ozalas blesses the Holy Wafers. Gertrude Romeika, Joseph Saibitis, Anne Galenas,

Msgr. Ozalas, Peg & Edward Romanauskas, Marie Laske.



Honored guests: First Row: Msgr. Ozalas, C-74 Pres. Marie Laske, Richard Laske, Trustee, Sr. Joan of Arc; Second Row: Gertrude

Romeika, Sr. Aloysius Sr. Amadeus, Sr. Virginia, Mary & Jerry Costello, Chairpersons.

C-74, SCRANTON KUCIOS CHAIRED

C-46 — FOREST CITY

Now that all of the busy, fun-filled holidays are over, it is time for our members to start planning our activities for 1986.

To commemorate Lithuanian Independence Day, we attended Mass at St. Anthony's in our Lithuanian costumes. After Mass, we experienced our first Lithuanian flag-raising ceremony. President John Morris presided at the flag-raising in

St. Anthony's Churchyard on February 16.

Following the ceremony, we enjoyed breakfast and a visiting hour at a local restaurant.

Blanche Motsko



Special Awards Committee — Jerry & Mary Costello, Ann Lisowski,

Richard Laske, Irene and Pranas Shimkus.



Admiring Christmas Tree ornaments: Back Row: Margaret Laibinas, Rose Stanches, Ann

Patehnas, Marie Laske; Front Row: Rebecca Georgia, Nancy Laske, Emma Foley, Melissa Radle.

BY MARY & JOE COSTELLO



C-61 — PATERSON

Our Lithuanian Festival was held on November 17 with beautiful decorations of balloons, garlands and fall leaves in St. Casimir's Parish Hall.

The chairpersons for the affair were Janina Meizys and Paul Trucilauskas. Our vice president Dr. E. Vadioka did a great job contacting the newspapers in surrounding towns to advertise the festival. The result was that a large group of Lithuanian families came for the first time.

Mrs. Meizys secured the Liepsna Dancers for entertainment and took care of the cultural part of the affair. Ann Balcetis and her daughter Denise served as hostesses at the cake and coffee table. Connie Sheibelhut and her mother sold Lithuanian literature. Paul Trucilauskas and Jack Scheibelhut served at soda bar.

Irene Eitmenas had the amber table. Anne Lapinsky displayed Lithuanian tablecloths brought from Lithuania by her sister Helen Trucilauskas. There also was a beautiful Lithuanian Village built to scale by Mr. Adomaitis. Mrs. Adomaitis was a big help in the kitchen. Angela Stankaitis handled the tickets at the entrance. Helen Trucilauskas had some carvings and

hand-carved jewelry boxes on display.

Joseph and Helen Balutis picked up the homemade dešros, Lithuanian bread and babkas and were in charge of the food department. We heard many nice comments on the food. We served 156 dinners.

After dinner, the Liepsna Dancers entertained with a variety of Lithuanian dances.

Janina and Dennis Meizys showed slides of Lithuania with appropriate taped music.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Masionis invited those present to come to St. Casimir's, join our council and keep our heritage alive.

It was a beautiful evening well spent with many Lithuanian friends, old and new. Pastor Rev. Fr. A. Bertasius was very pleased seeing so many people at Mass and then at the Festival.

Our thanks, sincere and heartfelt, go to our workers, cooks, donors, newscasters and to all those who participated. Through the combined efforts of our members, Festival 1985 was a huge success.

Helen M. Balutis

C-100 AMSTERDAM

On Sunday, December 15, the beautifully decorated St. Casimir's Social Center was the scene of the Knights of Lithuania Council 100 Christmas banquet. During the social hour the hors d'oeuvre table was set with many Lithuanian dishes that are served at Kūčios on Christmas Eve.

Invocation was given by Rev. Baltch after which everyone participated in the traditional wafer (plotkelės) ceremony wishing each other a joyous Christmas. Vincent Rossi was master of ceremonies. President Radzevich presented the council's Christmas gifts to Rev. Baltch and Rev. Grigaitis. A home-cooked dinner prepared by Irene Tice and her staff was then served.

Prof. George Gravrogkas of Hudson Valley Community College announced that 22 students were graduated from the first Lithuanian course. He commended Genutė Baranauskas, teacher, Mr. & Mrs. Alger Bagdon and Miss Aviza, C-100 members who attended.

Santa Claus (Ed Bablin) made his appearance and presented everyone with a gift. Lithuanian and English carols were sung with Father Baltch at the piano and Regina Kot leading the singing.

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Raila were in charge of the games and many received gifts. Special gifts included a ceramic Christmas tree made by Mr. & Mrs. Harold Tice which was won by Mrs. Charles Karbocius; an angel made by Olga Wilkevitch was won by Helen Saunders of Schenectady.

Toastmaster Rossi congratulated chairman Irene Tice, her husband and staff of Edward & Mirga Bablin, Gerard Drenzek, William & Jennie Burimaskas, Walter & Sophie Malkowicz, Helen Hugo, Regina Kot, Steve & Adeline Raila and Polly Ziausys for an extraordinary Christmas affair.

Benediction prayers were given by Rev. Grigaitis.

Lithuanian Christmas Hour over Station WCSS was aired on Christmas Eve from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., co-hosted by Regina Kot and Gene Gobis with a special message from Rev. Baltch.

At the January meeting Cultural Chairmen Mr. & Mrs. Steve Raila spoke on the Baltic Freedom Cruise, the documentary on Lithuania which was presented on television Channel 13 on Christmas day by Garrick Utley, Christmas customs by the Railas in the Recorder and Mirga Bablin's article in the Mohawk Valley USA magazine.

Polly Ziausys chaired the 68th commemoration of Lithuania's independence held on February 15 with Mass at St. Casimir's and

dinner and program in the Social Center. National President Frank Petrauskas was the principal speaker.

Entertainment was provided by the Amber Singers, Anne Valincius Kelly and her daughter Pat Kelly-Cote of New Britain. They presented a program of Lithuanian and American folk music. One of the instruments which they use is the kanklės, a Lithuanian string instrument of ancient origin. They performed at Yale University at the National Convention.

Sophie Olbie handled the reservations and the event was open to the public.

Michael Mikolaitis, a K of L scholarship recipient, spent one semester of his college education in Germany this past fall. He told the members of his living with a German family and his travels in Europe. He mentioned a two-day visit to Rome where he stayed at the Lithuanian College and renewed acquaintances with Msgr. Bartkus and Bishop Baltakis.

Refreshments were served by Anthony Radzevich and Edward Ziausys assisted by their wives, Frances DiBart, and Helen Dylong.

Get well wishes go out to our member Genevieve Leonardi of Albany who underwent serious surgery in November. We extend our deepest sympathies to Matthew Orante in the recent loss of his sister, Mary Planch.

SMILE & SPARKLE

C-109 — GREAT NECK

The Great Neck Council celebrated a traditional Lithuanian Christmas at our December meeting. Vice President Darrell Tamosiunas initiated the festivities with a discussion of Christmas as it was celebrated in Lithuania. Msgr. Frank Bulovas led us in prayer.

Decorations, provided by council members Martha Krug, Bertha



Vice President of Great Neck K of L Darrell Tamosuinas is presenting the cultural committee report on "The Vytis." Members (l to r) Jane Schwarz, Mattie McKenzie, Anne

Fuchs and Isabelle Boza, included authentic Christmas cards from Lithuania as well as the traditional straw covered table with a white linen cloth.

Each member solemnly shared the plotkelės. We enjoyed sampling the Lithuanian dishes of silkės, bulvės, sweet wine, virtiniai and farmer's cheese as prepared by Mary Kober, Isabelle Boza and Mary Santagata. Additionally, we munched on American Christmas favorites such as ham, chicken, baked beans, cakes and pies.

We were pleased to welcome two new members Č Eufemija Cibas and Amelia Mileski.

Our meeting concluded with a Christmas grab bag and joyful Christmas carols, led by Tony Kober. All Lithuanians and guests enjoyed the bountiful celebration.

Congratulations to the following Great Neck members who earned their First Degree, effective January 1, 1986: Bertha Fuchs, Howard Fuchs, Martha Krug, Anna Readon, Mary Santagata, Joseph Savicky, Jane Scharz and Darrell Tamosiunas.

Readon, Linda Tamosuinas, Joe Savicky, Al Wesey (President) and Mary Kober (Secretary) listen intently.

In January, we are anticipating a successful fund-raising bus trip to Atlantic City.

Linksmų Balsių

C-110 — MASPETH

Helen Matulonis, co-chairperson with Amy Girdauskas, was the mistress of ceremonies for the 1985 Kucios. Helen reports: "Kučios was celebrated on December 15 after the Lithuanian Mass. As is traditional, a candlelight service opened the program with all singing "Silent Night." Msgr. Bulovas recited the opening prayer. After the plotkelės were blessed, they were shared by all 240 guests, friends and members.

"Sister Jean Therese narrated and read the story of the 'Meaning of the Hay' and 'The Christmas Wafer.' There followed Christmas caroling, exchanges of greetings. The event ended with Fr. Raila reciting the closing prayer.

"Amy and I extend our thanks to these exceptional people for their help: Helen Abbene, Ann Ackalaitis, Theresa Dagis, Adele Dausickas, Louise Dausickas, Ann Dugan, John

Girdauskas, Fran & Ed Jackatt, Mary Johnson, Stasia Kraujalis, Mr. & Mrs. Laukaitis, Lillian Polis, Mr. & Mrs. Rutkunas, and Peter Zuyus.

"It was gratifying to hear from a displaced person that Lithuanianism will only continue to live through the efforts of the untiring work and interest of the Knights of Lithuania. Didelis ačiū už tokią pagarbą!"

Our January meeting was well attended in spite of the frigid weather.

The gallant men of Lithuanian lineage who serve country and community are an integral part of the membership of an organization and C-110 is no exception. We are proud of the "Finest" in our midst, all of whom are presently retired. They include: John Adomėnas, Det. First Grade, Ret., NYPD; John Commins, Det. Ret. NYPD; Peter Kazlauskas, PO, Ret., NYPD; Anthony Migliore, PO, Ret., NYPD; Alexander Poniatowski, Chief, Ret., Pearl Harbor Naval Police; Vincent Stripeikis, Det., Ret., NYPD; Al Ruginis, PO, Ret., NYPD; Joseph F. Veyvoda, Chief, Ret., NYPD; Peter Yuskevich, Deputy Inspector, Ret., NYPD. God bless them!

Su Meile, Brenda Bell-Razickas

C-143 — PITTSTON

During the Novena to S. Anne at the monastery in Scranton, members participated in the Stations of the Cross in Lithuanian, followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Delegates to the National Convention at Yale University were Dorothy Banos, Nellie Bayoras, Frances Shoppel, Anna Davala, Alberta Walsh, Helen Butsavege. Leo Butsavege and Anne Challan served as alternates.

The 71st Annual Lithuanian Day, co-hosted with Council 144, was held on Sunday, August 18, at Rocky Glen Park, Moosic. It was an eventful day; the weather was

favorable; Lithuanians filled the hall to capacity. It was difficult to see all the exhibits and the "bulviniai blynai" line was never ending. Lucky were those who had their picnic baskets with them.

Father Bartkus was celebrant at the noon mass. Entertainment followed the liturgy. Proceeds from this event were sent to the Lithuanian College in Rome.

C-143 cooperated in securing ads for the program book. Mary Timek, Helen Butsvage, Dorothy Banos and Frances Shoppel solicited advertising in the area. Thanks to Nellie Bayoras, Mary Ann Cipolla, John Wisnosky and others who worked hard to set up and dismantle the outstanding cultural exhibit.

Eight marching Knights were on the move again at the Pittston Tomato Festival in August. They were Anne Challan, Marie Lauch, Rosalie Kizis, Anna Davala, Anna Walatkas, Frances Shoppel, Adele Brooks and Anna Marie Sewatsky.

A very successful mini-bazaar and kielbasa dinner were held September 14. We are grateful to Frances Shoppel and Anna Davala who handled this event. They proved to us that hard work and dedication can accomplish great things.

Our council was represented at the Family Rosary and Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, September 8.

Cultural Chairlady Nellie Bayoras was kept busy setting up exhibits. We were represented at the tenth annual Luzerne County Folk Festival in October where our exhibit was viewed and enjoyed by many. We had a tree decorated with Lithuanian ornaments displayed in the Festival of Trees at the Courthouse in Wilkes Barre. Our members in native costumes were in attendance at both events.

The year ended with Kūčios on December 15. Helen Butsvage and her committee were responsible for handling this affair. It was catered by

two of our members, Phil and Marcella Bartoli. It is beginning to look more like a banquet than a Christmas Eve supper. Thanks for all the tasty Lithuanian food.

Sadness marred the year for us in the loss of two members, Alberta Walsh and Helen Wisnosky. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Helen's husband John and to Alberta's daughter, Geraldine, and grandchildren.

Anastasia Stanley

C-144 — ANTHRACITE COUNCIL

Among the 26 Christmas trees displayed in the William Penn Museum Rotunda in Harrisburg was a tree trimmed with authentic straw ornaments in true Lithuanian tradition. Annie Morgalis Lithuanian-American Commissioner, fashioned the ornaments and decorated the tree for Christmas, An Ethnic Experience, sponsored by the Governor's Heritage Affairs Commission.

Members gathered in Our Lady of Siluva Church Hall in Maizeville to partake of the traditional Lithuanian Christmas Eve Kūčios on



Aileen Simpson, granddaughter of Annie Morgalis, Lithuanian-American Commissioner, at Lithuanian tree sponsored by K of L C-144 at William Penn Museum in Harrisburg.

December 15. Margaret Yezulinas and Helen Matunis co-chaired the event with an energetic committee of Shenandoah Knights.

After the welcome by Margaret Yezulinas, the Rev. Matthew Jarasunas gave the opening prayer. Rev. Joseph Shelonis read the Christmas Gospel in Lithuanian. Blessing of plotkelės followed. A



Members of Anthracite Council with Gov. and Mrs. Thronburg at Govern-

nor's Reception for Ethnic Leaders of Pennsylvania.

meatless meal of 12 dishes was served.

President Wargo gave a short talk on Kūčios. Guests presneted other than program participants included the following clergy: The Revs. Gerald Gobitas, Daniel J. Yenushosky, Ronald J. Yarrosch, David Liebner and Robert J. Potts. Michalene Buchonis was our very special guest. At 92 she recalled many Christmas Eve Kūčios but was delighted to join us in our celebration. She is the mother of our newest members Mr. & Mrs. Al Kokus of Shenandoah.

The audience joined the Žarija Choir in a Lithuanian Carol Sing-along with Director Vaicaitis as leader. The Rev. Robert J. Potts closed Kūčios with prayer.

On January 21, Governor Dick Thornburgh signed the proclamation commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day on February 16. Lithuanian Commissioner Annie Morgalis and President Anne Wargo witnessed the signing in the State Capitol in Harrisburg.

C-146 — HARRISBURG

Spiritual Advisor Fr. John Smith entertained C-146 members with a delicious dinner at his retreat on the Susquehanna River in November. We are doubly blessed by having a spiritual advisor who is also a great chef. Thanks for the pork chops and mushrooms!

Fr. Smith installed the officers for the current year. They are Eugene Rusatsky, president; Eleanor Rusatsky, vice president; Clara Gudalonis, secretary; Nell Berulis, financial secretary and treasurer. Joanna Gilbert will serve as ritual chairman; Frances Boyle, cultural and John Povilaitis, Lithuanian affairs.

Kūčios on December 8 was enjoyable with each member bringing a traditional Lithuanian dish. We missed Stephany and John

Povilaitis. John is recuperating from recent surgery. Our prayers are with him for a speedy and complete recovery.

On December 11 at St. Theresa School in New Cumberland, Kristy Marazas and her mother Lillian told her first grade class about Christmas in Lithuania. They read a story and Kristy wore her Lithuanian dress. Kristy also showed the class several straw ornaments which were made by Annie Morgalis of Anthracite Council. Earlier in the month Kristy and her brother A. J. visited the William Penn Memorial Museum in Harrisburg to see the trees decorated for Christmas, An Ethnic Experience. We are proud to have you as a member, Anthony Marazas.

On January 21, Governor Thornburgh signed the proclamation commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day on February 16. Nell Berulis, Frances Boyle and Clara & Joe Gudalonis witnessed the signing at the State Capitol in Harrisburg.

Helen Grabauskas



Kristy, daughter of Lillian and Anthony Marazas of C-146 Harrisburg, and her teacher showing authentic Lithuanian straw Christmas tree ornament to her first-grade class.

C-147 — St. Petersburg, FL.

Council #147 held its January meeting at the American-Lithuanian Club in St. Petersburg, Florida. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Father Gasiunas, and special prayers for the 7 deceased astronauts of the "Challenger".

The commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day will be Saturday, Feb. 8, at the American-Lithuanian Club. The SPIFFs (St. Petersburg International Folk Fair) will be held the weekend of Feb. 14-16 at Bayfront Center, St. Petersburg.

Victoria T. Jacobson announced that the special annual Mass this year for Lithuanian Independence Day will be at St. John's Church in St. Petersburg Beach at 10:00 a.m. on Feb. 16. The ladies will wear their Lithuanian costumes, and the Club choir will sing during the Mass.

Preliminary plans were made for St. Casimir's celebration with a Mass on March 2 at Holy Name Church, Gulfport, at 1:00 p.m. Final plans were left to the executive board.

New members were welcomed: Anthony and Augusta Stulpinas, and Alex and Brone Urbonas.

All members expressed good wishes to the "Vytis" in their efforts to get future issues out on time.

V. Kraujalis

C-152 — RIVERHEAD

Our December program included the installation of our officers for the coming year, an impressive ceremony. The oath was administered to us by Mid-Atlantic President Larry Janonis, and we sincerely thank him and his lovely wife Jean for coming out on a busy Sunday afternoon to help us out.

Officers elected for the coming year are Alice Graff, president; Benita Matthes, vice president; John Valek, 2nd vice president; Bertha

Laukaitis, recording secretary; Julie Lott, financial secretary; Flo Ostroski, treasurer; Peter Dykovitz and Fred Lucka, sergeants at arms. Cultural and ritual committees were also started.

A Christmas party followed the meeting and was enjoyed by all. Santa came to call bearing gifts for all, adding a light touch to the festivities. You did a great job Bernie! A beautiful job of decorating was done by Julie Lott, Stanley Malinauskas and Bernie Schiebl with an assist from Bob & Alice Graff. Our ladies outdid themselves with their covered dishes making this a feast fit for a king. Glad to have John Adomenas, Helen Matulonis and Lottie Ulrich from Council 110 Maspeth. Guests are always welcome at our meetings and socials.

Good News! Father Charles is feeling lots better and is back at work again. We hope his progress continues and that he will be able to be with us at our Communion and Breakfast on March 2.

Recently Simas Kudirka, an Honorary Member of C-41 Brooklyn, was interviewed on radio and TV regarding his thoughts on the attempted defection of a Ukrainian seaman. His own story was somewhat similar so his comments were most interesting.

Congratulations and best wishes to Julia and John Greicius who just celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary on their way to the big one next year. Ilgiausiu Metu!

January, a quiet month, the lull after the storm so to speak, nevertheless attracted a nice attendance at our monthly meeting. A trip to Lithuania was discussed and met with an enthusiastic membership. This trip is planned for the latter part of September, a 14-day excursion with 10 days spent in Lithuania itself. Anyone wishing to join us is welcome although registration is limited to a first come, first

serve basis.

A Lithuanian language class was formed, Peter Dykovitz teaching, and will be held an hour before our regular meetings.

We hope many of you saw the beautiful segment on Lithuania which aired on Christmas night on NBC TV, commentary by correspondent Garrick Utley who was actually there. We thanked Mr. Utley with letters of appreciation for making millions of Americans aware

of the plight of that beautiful little country on the Baltic Sea.

We extended get well wishes to Ann Colombo and Alex Zipkas for a return to good health very soon. Good to see Charlene Zorskis back with us after recent surgery. Lucky Ann & Joe Gradowski! They escaped the cold weather by spending two glorious weeks in the Hawaiian Islands.

B L

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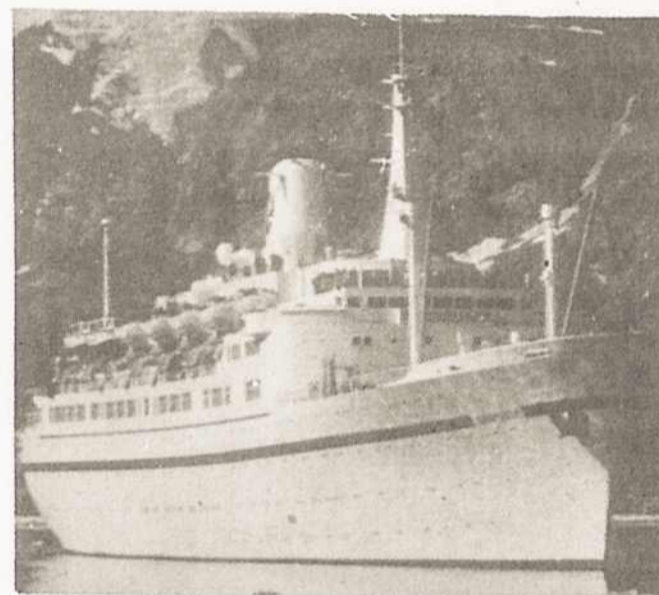
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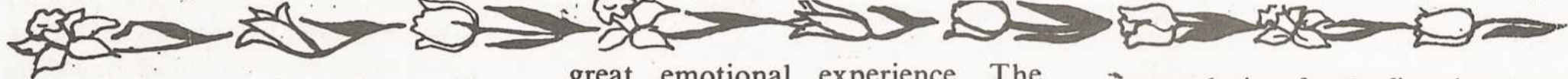
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C-133 — LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles Council has been trying to recruit new members and made meetings not only a pleasant social gathering but informative and meaningful.

The April meeting was held at the Barkauskas Home. Besides regular minutes and discussion of council correspondence to appropriate officials regarding OSI's illegal procedures and Darius-Girėnas postal campaign extension, a guest speaker was invited.

Jonas Sepikas spoke of his experiences as a dancer at the 23rd Olympics in Los Angeles. From 10,000 auditioned only about 3,000 were selected. Jonas was selected to lead the dancers for the Pioneer Spirit Scene in the opening ceremonies. He said that it was a

great emotional experience. The rehearsals lasted eight hours a day - four or five days a week. In the moments before entrance on the field, there was a tense and lonely feeling. Then as the torch was brought into the coliseum, a sudden roar of the crowd, music and the dancers responded with backflips and pirouettes.

For Jonas, dancing is a pleasant hobby. He has a master's degree in mathematics and a bachelor's in physics. His sister Marytė, a legal secretary and corresponding secretary for the Los Angeles Federation of Lithuanian Women's Club, is our new member. Sister Onutė is a prospective member.

Vytautas Barkus of Omaha, father of Afūnas Barkus, our present recording secretary, attended as a guest. When he moves to California, we welcome him to join. Mrs. Oberfield's friend Mrs. Sula was also a guest.

Our next meeting was held on October 13 at the home of Edward Bartkus. In addition to the regular business, a thank you note from Mrs. Eckburg for remembering her during her illness was read. We also had two speakers.

Edward Bartkus told of his impressions of his visit to Lithuania last summer. The Song Festival was beautiful. There were, however, three songs that were sung in Russian. At times, during the folk dancing, the number of dancers exceeded the audience. Children and young people believe in their system even though their professions or trades are chosen for them. In general, it was great to

meet relatives for the first time. It was also nice to see the country of his forefathers.

Vincas Skirius spoke about his trip on the Peace and Freedom Cruise on July 23-30. The general idea was to show that the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are not forgotten. The younger generation's demonstration for freedom to vote not from just one slate, freedom of speech, press and religion. Even though the captain of the ship was harassed and the ship was followed by "fishing boats" with antennas, the cruise proceeded into the Baltic Sea.

In Helsinki, people met them with flowers and wept. That was the first demonstration against Soviets in their country since the Czechoslovakian uprising. The young cruisers felt — mission accomplished.

At this meeting, Mrs. Sula and her husband Stasys joined our council. Mr. Sula served as recording secretary in the absence of Arūnas Barkus. Browne Sheppard and son signed up after attending a meeting for the second time. Ed Antanaitis, a retiree from the Army, graciously accepted our invitation to come to our meeting.

It was a pleasure and honor that Frank Lubin and his wife Mary Agnes also attended. Frank coached the Lithuanian basketball players and won for Lithuania the European championship.

B. S.