

1986

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the KNIGHT



HAIL MARY,



GUIDE AND PROTECT US
AND
OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
IN LITHUANIA!

PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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Joseph and Anne Sikora

VYTIS-MEMBERSHIP ESSAY CONTEST SECOND PRIZE (TIE) WINNER

ANNE SIKORA

WHAT I WOULD TELL A PROSPECTIVE MEMBER ABOUT THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

I lived with my parents, who migrated here from Lithuania, for over fifty years but I never learned anything about the country which they came from.

When I joined the Knights of Lithuania, a tiny spark was ignited that turned into a raging fire of pride for my heritage that can never be quenched. I learned what amazing people we were, about our glories and of our bitter defeats, that on February 6, 1918 Lithuania became independent but twenty two short years later was annexed by Russia. I learned, with astonishment, that we were one of the last countries which practiced paganism but, once converted to Catholicism, her lover for the Blessed Mother became one of intense devotion. I read about Mary's apparition in the town of Šiluva, about the hill of crosses and of the beautiful wayside shrines which once decorated the countryside. I've learned so much about Lithuania's past!

Most of the knowledge came from the VYTIS magazine. Each household receives this monthly publication as one of the benefits of their annual dues. The articles are well written, informative, timely and caters to our need by teaching us about our Lithuanian history and language.

Our organization has wonderfully hectic times in raising monies by holding affairs featuring Lithuanian foods, crafts and skits. Right now we are raising funds for the restoration of our Statue of Liberty. Though we love our Lithuanian heritage dearly, our allegiance and devotion to America comes first without question.

One of the crafts I've acquired is the ability to etch designs on a colored egg dyed with onion skins. We replaced the holiday party with Kucios. What a wonderful way to celebrate Christ's birth! These are some of the benefits I gained when I joined the Knights of Lithuania but the best is the people you meet. My husband and I made many enduring friendships which we probably would have never found elsewhere and what a loss that would have been to us!

Many members visit our brothers and sisters in Lithuania. They bring news which is welcomed with enthusiasm and interest.

My knowledge of Lithuanian has greatly improved mainly by speaking it to other members and by joining the Lithuanian choir, Zarija, but no one can beat me out in listening!

My pride in being of Lithuanian descent has increased one hundredfold since I joined the Knights and, if you join our organization, you too will realize what a wonderful history and culture we have inherited. Our goal is to keep this inheritance alive, to keep our culture and language from becoming a lost art. With your help and mine and with every member striving to preserve our Lithuanian civilization we cannot fail.

We need to educate our children and grandchildren about our culture and instill a pride in their Lithuanian descent. Won't you join us and see what we can learn from each other?

ANNE SIKORA

(A Profile by Aldona Ryan)

Anne Sikora is a member of Anthracite Council-144 and is a Fourth Degree Knight.

She has chaired many banquets and festivals, taught ethnic dancing to the Junior Knights and assisted the Cultural Chairman in instructing many organizations in the art of making straw and egg decorating. She is a member of the Zarija Choir.

At the age of 47, she returned to school and graduated as a licensed practical nurse.

Ann is married to Joseph Sikora. They have two sons, Joseph and Paul, and a daughter, Sandra. They also have three grandchildren.

"How proud I was when I received my 4th degree," she writes. "I will try to live up to that honor by trying even harder to spread my Lithuanian heritage at every opportunity."

“Ateik Šventoji Dvasia, paliesk mūsų Tauta, gilaus Kristaus pažinimo malone, kad atsinaujine tikėjime, liudytume Kristų savo aplinkoje!”



“Come Holy Spirit, touch our Nation with the grace of profound faith, so that renewed we would witness Jesus with our lives.”

How We Are Preparing For Lithuania's Christianity Jubilee

Developing a Living Faith means seeking and finding Jesus waiting for you .

...In prayer and scripture

...Through community and faith and responding to others' needs.

Lithuanian communities in Canada, Europe and the United States have reported to the Religious Renewal Program Committee about how they are preparing for anniversary of Lithuania's Christianization. We have all been united in prayer during the Lenten period.

1986: The Year of Living Faith A Time of Religious Renewal

The “Good News” religious seminar program in several parishes. St. Casimir's, Brockton, Mass recorded their program on cassette and video tapes. They are available on loan to anyone who would find them useful. During the Easter and

Pentecost season, Lithuanians in Los Angeles, Cleveland, Montreal and Toronto are preparing to conduct this seminar or a similar program.

This is “good news”. Share with us how you are preparing for the anniversary of Lithuania's historic and sacred baptism. Send this information to the Religious Renewal Committee, ICC, Route 21, Putnam, CT 06260. “And their eyes opened and they recognized Jesus” (Luke 24,31),

“REMAIN FIRM IN YOUR FAITH



Pope John Paul II

On March 4th the feastday of St. Casimir, Pope John Paul II sent a telegram message to Archbishop Liudas Povilonis, apostolic administrator of Kaunas and Vilkaviskis. The Holy Father called upon Lithuanian Catholics to remain firm in their faith and to further strengthen it.

The Popes message (as translated in the Elta Bulletin/March 1986).

On the observance of the Feast-day of St. Casimir. I wish to inform you that I am near with all my heart to the Catholic community of the noble Lithuanian nation, which is dear to me, and which venerates him as its Patron.

Today I am united in a special way to you, to the other bishops, priests, persons consecrated to religion, and to all Catholics through prayer. I am grateful to God for the firm testimony of Christian fidelity of this Catholic community which is deeply rooted in the faith by means of the encouraging recollection of the human and Christian virtues of its Patron Saint.

As you prepare to celebrate next

year the 600th anniversary of your people's evangelization, I pray the Lord that he may bestow copious graces for the labors with which you are trying to deepen and mature your faith in this second year of your preparation (of the anniversary). I pray the Lord that he may produce the desired fruits of spiritual renewal.

As a pledge of these wishes, I impart to all with benevolence my apostolic benediction.

Pope John Paul the Second.

To a group of Polish pilgrims in Vatican City, the Holy Father said he prays every day for the Vilnius Archdiocese and for Lithuania, which next year would observe the 6th century of its conversion to Christianity.



Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius

January 24, 1986 marks the 25 anniversary since Lithuanian Catholic Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius was exiled by the Soviets to a remote town outside his archdiocese. What makes Bishop Steponavičius of special interest is the fact that his arch episcopal see of Vilnius, Lithuania, is the capital of the only predominantly Catholic republic in the USSR.

Exiled Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius is widely rumored to be the Cardinal in Pectore, or secret Cardinal promoted by Pope John Paul II in his first round of such appointments in 1979.

Lithuania was occupied by the Soviet Union during World War II. At that time, its population of just under 3 million was 87% western-rite Roman Catholic, and remains so to this day.

Catholics have been under more or less overt persecution ever since. Bishop Steponavičius has not been allowed to administer his archdiocese since 1961 for refusing to collaborate with Soviet authorities.

Two other more joyous anniversaries will be marked by Bishop Steponavičius this year. He will celebrate his 50th jubilee as a priest on June 21 and his 75th birthday on October 18.

Born in Mičinuani (mi-tsyoo-

nigh), county of Vilnius, in 1911, Steponavičius completed theological studies at the University of Vilnius in 1936 and was ordained the same year. After serving as a school chaplain and a parish priest, he was consecrated as bishop on September 11, 1955 and appointed as auxiliary bishop of Panevezys, Lithuania.

Two years later the Vatican appointed him apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Panevezys and the Archdiocese of Vilnius, with the rights of residential bishop. He assumed these duties in 1958, on the death of Bishop Kazimieras Paltarkos.

Since his exile in 1961, when he was placed under house arrest by Soviet authorities in Zagare (in the extreme northern part of the Archdiocese of Kaunas), Bishop Steponavičius by this action has been prevented from exercising his duties as ordinary.

He has been neither tried nor convicted of any crime. At regular intervals throughout his period of exile, he has written to the government asking for the reason of his exile, but has been ignored. Petitions on his behalf from clergy and faithful have also failed to bring a response.

On September 10, 1980, Bishop Steponavičius was permitted to enter the city of Vilnius to celebrate

the 25th anniversary of his consecration as bishop. The archdiocesan cathedral having been desecrated converted to an art gallery, the jubilee was held in St. Michael's Church in Vilnius. Multitudes of young people were in attendance, despite attempts to suppress news of the visit. Pope John Paul II sent the Bishop a congratulatory letter on this occasion, praising him for his faith.

Bishop Steponavičius was not allowed to go to the Vatican with four apostolic administrators from Lithuania for an ad limina visit with the Holy Father in 1983. Steponavičius is listed in the Vatican yearbook as impeded from exercising his authority.

Bishop Steponavičius has in recent years been censured by Soviet authorities for attending religious festivals, jubilees and funerals.

The Diocese of Panevezys is presently administered by Msgr. Kazimieras Dulksnys and the Archdiocese of Vilnius by Rev. Algirdas Gutauskas.

WRITE TO HIM!

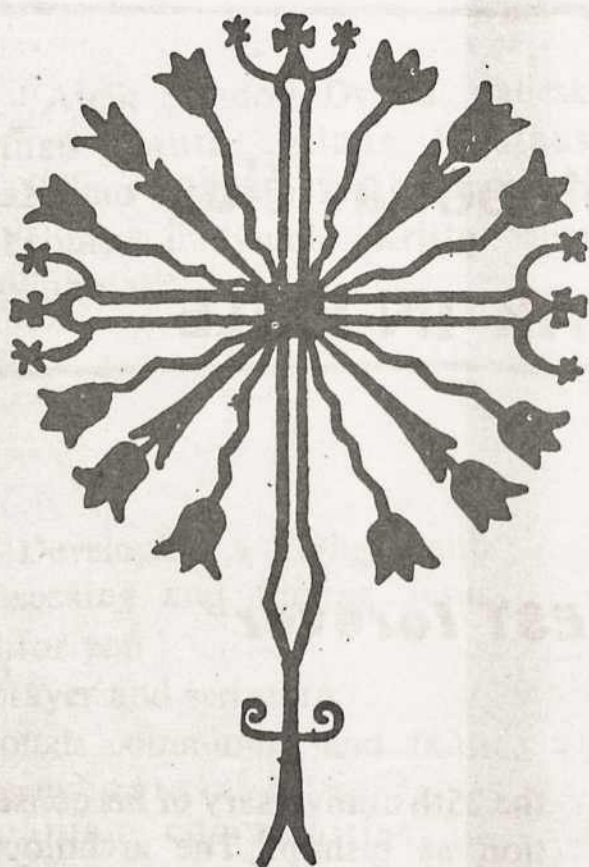
Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius resides at — 235647 Zagare, Joniskio r., Zdanovo 5-2, Lithuania, USSR.

Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius

MARKS 25th YEAR IN EXILE



"Thou art a PRIEST forever"



RŪPINTOLĖJLIS

Christ looks homeward
With a heavy heart
And down his cheek flows
A mournful tear.
Why have you, my people,
Become lost at the crossroads?
Where, land of the rue,
Are you going without me?

The voice remains a voice
Crying in the desert
If true happiness
Is rejected.

The moss-covered crucifix
Brooding under the birches
Day and night recites
The beggar's prayer.

Daily sufferings
Burden our souls,
Recalling the crucifix
We shall conquer them.
In the light of Christ
Let us draw strength,
Since the land of Mary
Hopes this much of us.

LAMENT

Fr. Antanas Akevičius

Pastor, Lukšiai, Vilkaviskis Diocese
Born 6-19-1919; Ordained 3-7-1943
Died 2-15-85; Buried 2-13-86, Lukšiai

Msgr. Dr. Konstantinas Ambrasas
Pastor, Leipalingis, Vilkaviskis Diocese
Born 7-10-1922; Ordained 4-9-1945
Died 4-14-85; Buried 4-17-85,
Leipalingis

**Prelate Dr. Bronislovas (Bronius)
Barauskas**
Pastor, Palanga, Telsiai Diocese
Born 10-19-1908; Ordained 6-12-1932
Died 1-1-85; Buried 1-4-85, Palanga

Canon Jonas Beinoris
Born 2-27-1908; Ordained 6-10-1933
Died 3-7-85 Buried 3-11-85, Sveksna

Fr. Juozapas Butkus
Associate pastor, Papilė, Telsiai
Diocese
Born 10-1-1903; Ordained 5-25-1929
Died 3-29-1985 Buried 4-1-1985,
Papilė

Fr. Jonas Ilskis
Associate pastor, Viešniai, Telsiai
Diocese
Born 4-18-1907; Ordained 5-26-1934
Died 10-6-1985; Buried 10-9-85,
Viekšniai

Fr. Aleksandras Jakutis
Pastor, Truikiniai, Telšiai Diocese
Born 1-13-1922; Ordained 6-29-1947
Died 7-23-1985; Buried 7-26-1985
Norvydžiu Cemetery

Fr. Paulis (Povilas) Jančauskas
Associate pastor, Garliava, Valkaviskis
Diocese
Born 10-22-1904; Ordained 6-6-1929
Died 11-1-1985; Buried 11-4-1985
Garliava

PRIESTS WHO DIED IN



Please remember

Fr. Juozapas Katinas
Pastor, Kulvos, Kaunas Archdiocese
Born 1-1-1900; Ordained 5-25-1929
Died 2-14-1985; Buried 2-16-1985
Kulvos

Fr. Stanislovas (Stasys) Kemžura
Pastor, Paliepė, Kaunas Archdiocese
Born 3-19-1899; Ordained 6-10-1923
Died 5-26-1985; Buried 5-29-1985,
Paliepė

Associate Pastor Anicetas Kerpauskas
Associate Pastor, Rietavas, Telsiai
Diocese
Born 12-9-1921; Ordained 9-5-1949
Died 11-9-1985; Buried 11-12-1985,
Požereje

Fr. Jonas Lapinskas
Pastor, Klovaniniai, Panevezys
Diocese
Born 6-13-1904; Ordained 6-14-1930
Died 6-1-1985; Buried 6-8-1985,
Klovainiai

Fr. Antanas Lileika
Pastor, Raudonvaris, Kaunas
Archdiocese
Born 1919; Ordained 3-25-1944
Died 2-19-1985; Buried 2-21-1985
Raudondvaris

Fr. Petras Lygnugaris, S.J.
Associate Pastor, Zemaičių Kalvarija
Telsiai Diocese
Born 3-6-1909; Ordained 4-2-1935
Died 7-4-1985; Buried 7-6-1985,
Varduva

Fr. Juozapas Masalskis
Pastor, Saldutiškis, Kasiadorys
Diocese
Born 1-29-1923; Ordained 9-12-1954
Died 10-25-1985; Buried 10-28-1985,
Saldutiškis

LITHUANIA DURING 1985

in your prayers...



Fr. Juozapas Mickevičius
No assignment, Krekenava, Panevezys
Diocese

Born 1-1-1900; Ordained 6-14-1924
Died 11-30-1985; Buried 12-3-1985,
Krekenava

Fr. Nikodemas Pakalka
Pastor, Marcinkonys, Vilkaviskis
Archdiocese
Born 6-12-1893; Ordained 6-15-1916
Died 1-26-1985; Buried 1-29-1985,
Marcinkonys

Fr. Konstantinas Petrikas
Pastor, Truikiniai, Telšiai Diocese
Born 2-22-1911; Ordained 6-6-1937
Died 2-6-1985; Buried 2-8-1985
Aleksandriai

Fr. Benediktas Povilanskis
Pastor, Karmelava, Kaunas
Archdiocese
Born 9-18-1903; Ordained 6-12-1927
Died 9-18-1985; Buried 9-21-1985,
Karmelava

Fr. Vladislovas (Vladas) Radveikis
Infirmed, Rietavas, Telsiai Diocese
Born 6-27-1926; Ordained 9-23-1951
Died 7-7-1985; Buried 7-9-1985
Kvedarnava

Fr. Pranciškus (Pranas) Ružė
Pastor, Kartena, Telsiai Diocese
Born 8-7-1921; Ordained 9-24-1950
Died 4-29-1985; Buried 4-29-1985
Kartena

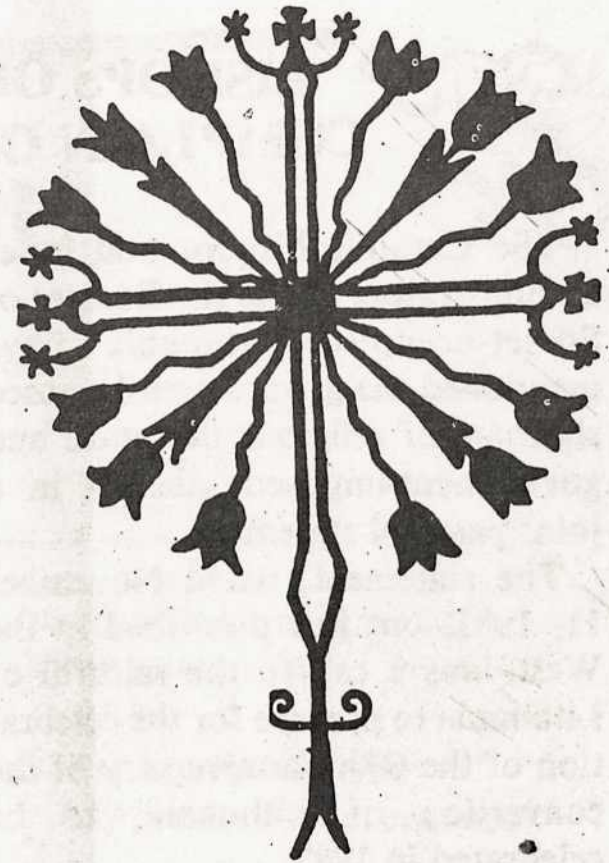
Fr. Kazimeras Sirūnas
Pastor, Kužiu, Kaunas Archdiocese
Born 8-31-1906; Ordained 6-14-1930
Died 9-17-1985; Buried 9-19-1985
Kužių

Fr. Nikodemas Švogžlys
Associate pastor, Vievis, Kasiadorys
Diocese
Born 2-1890; Ordained 6-15-1916
Died 1-20-1985; Buried 1-23-1985
Kernava

Fr. Juozapas Uleckas
Infirmed, no assignment, Kazlų
Rūda, Vilkaviskis Diocese
Born 9-20-1913; Ordained 6-13-1937
Died 10-19-1985; Buried 10-22-1985
Kazlų Rūda

Fr. Juozapas Želvys
Associate Pastor, St. Anthony Church
Kaunas
Born 3-27-1899; Ordained 6-14-1985
Died 2-3-1985; Buried 2-5-1985,
Kaunas

Fr. Serfinas Žvinys
Pastor, Dabuziai, Panevezys Diocese
Born Ordained
Died Buried 11-25-1985,
Dabuziai



RUPINTOJĖLIO

Nusiminęs Kristus
Tėviškėn pažiūri,
Ir per veidą rieda
Ašara gaili.
Ko jūs, mano žmonės,
Kryžkelius paklydot,
Kur tu, rūtų žemė,
Be manęs eini?

Balsas lieka balsu
Šaukiančio tyruose,
Jei tikroji laimė
Būna atmesta.
Samanotas kryžius
Po beržais parimęs
Dieną naktį meldžias
Vargdienio malda.

Kasdieninės kančios
Slegia mūsų sielas,
Prisiminę kryžių -
Nugalėsime jas,
Ir šviesybėj Kristaus
Semkime stiprybės,
Nes Marijos žemė
Laukia to iš mus.

SKUNDAS

BISHOPS OF LITHUANIA COMPLAIN OF REPRESSION

The Catholic bishops and other administrators of the six dioceses of Soviet-occupied Lithuania have mentioned the government-imposed shortage of religious literature and government-imposed atheism in a joint pastoral statement.

The statement, dated November 11, 1985, but just published in the West, was a call to the faithful of Lithuania to prepare for the celebration of the 600th anniversary of the conversion of Lithuania, to be celebrated in 1987.

Lithuania is the only predominantly Roman Catholic republic in the Soviet Union.

Urging the faithful to study the catechism, the bishop wrote, "Today the catechism and the prayer-book are the only sources of religious truths available to you, so they are all the more to be studied."

The Catholics of Lithuania have

complained repeatedly that in the forty years since the Soviet take-over of the Baltic republic while the world was pre-occupied with the Nazi, Lithuanian Catholics have been deprived of all but token editions of a few religious publications.

Writing in the same pastoral letter, the bishops call the war against religion and the renunciation of religion sins against Faith. The percentage of western-rite Catholics in Lithuania, approximately 90% when the Communists took over a part of a deal with Hitler in 1939, is estimated to be closer to 66% today.

In 1984, when the Lithuanians celebrated the 500th jubilee of their patron, St. Casimir, the government interfered with the solemnities. Also, Pope John Paul II complained of having been refused permission by the Soviets to visit Lithuania on that occasion.



When we hear
Our Mother's words,
And try
To follow them
We are the
Witnesses of Jesus.

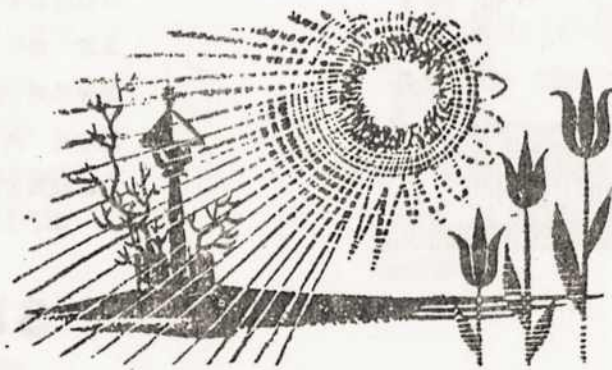
PRACTICAL LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE COURSE FOR BEGINNERS AND INTERMEDIATE BEGINNERS

August 16-24, 1986

Camp Dainava, Michigan

Register Now! Deadline for registrations June 15, 1986.
Send applications with \$5.00 registration fee to

BRONIUS KROKYS
1124 Hedgerow Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19115
(215) 671-0397



Cost for course is \$90.00 per person. The entire family can vacation at Camp Dainava
Inquire from Bronius Krokys for family rates.

The emphasis and goal of this course will be to teach the enrolled students a large, practical vocabulary. Students will then be taught to utilize these words in a 500 to 600 grammatically correct sentences. Join us in this language lab, a practical workshop in the Lithuanian language.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Number of Persons Attending? _____

Family Accommodations Needed _____

Don't forget there is fun also! The afternoons and evenings will be filled with Lithuanian folk dance lessons, songs, and cultural programs . . . all conducted in the Lithuanian language.

AČIU, MAMYTĖ, AČIU.

What I thank you for the most...

Algirdas Budreckis,
1st Vice- President...

...For life, #1... a satisfactory
childhood... A conveyance of
cultural experiences ... A legacy
of heritage

May Juzenas,
National Recording Secretary

...For being there

Helen Skudra,
Financial Secretary

...For being an example, a teacher

Elsie Kosmisky,
3rd Vice- President

...The guidance she gave me
...Her example, the way she lived
...Her love

William Piacentini Jr.,
Scholarship Committee Chairman

...Her love and concern for all
these years.
...Always being there to help out

Albert Jaritis,
New England District President

...For bringing me into the world



Mary Ann Lepera,
2nd Vice- President

...For life.

Paul Strolia,
National Trustee

...For teaching me if you want
something bad enough you will
find a way to obtain it despite
how difficult it may seem.

Bernice Aviza,
VYTIS Editor

...Her patience
...My determination to get things
done despite the obstacles that
may lie in the way
...For sharing with me her faith in
the Lord

Nancy Pawasauskas Miro,
Lithuanian Affairs Committee

...Putting up with me
...My sense of independence

Anthony Mažeika,
Honorary Membership Committee

...For her love
...For being attentive
...For helping out when I needed
her
...For remaining a vital part of
my live, even from Heaven above.

Larry Švelnis,
Archives Committee

...For being who she is, my mother
...For allowing me to care for her
...For her 99 years of concern for me

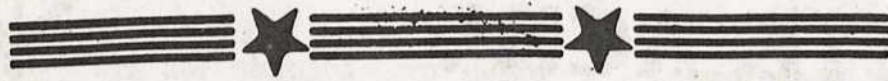
Teresa Trainis,
National Treasurer

...All the gifts I have
...All that she has given to and
done for me

Regina Kot,
National Cultural Committee.

...For my life

LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY 1986



THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Washington
February 6, 1986

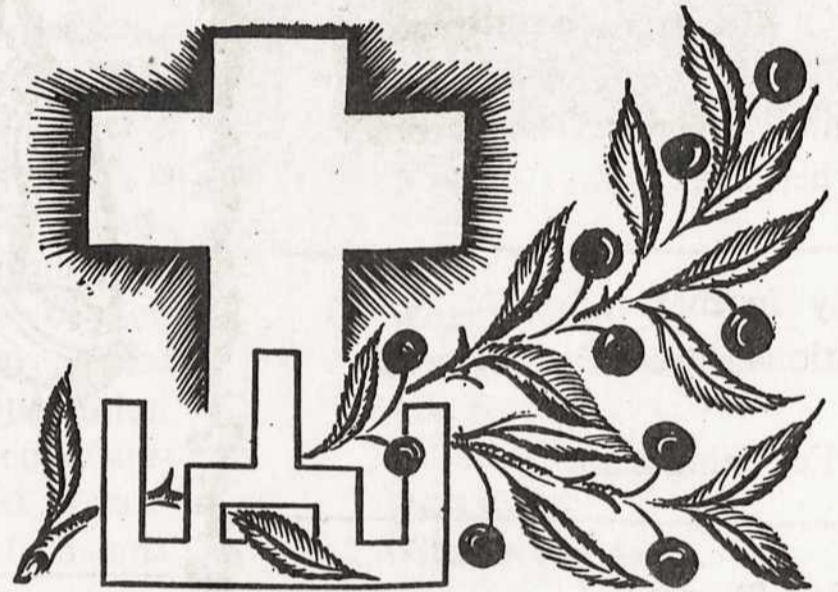
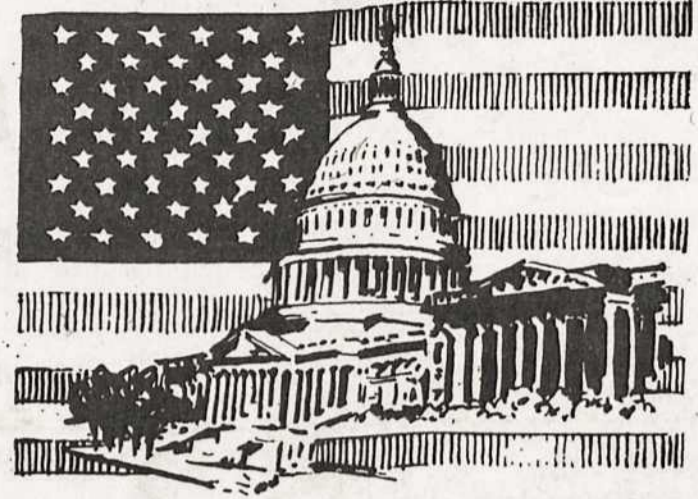
Dr. Stasys A. Backis, Charge d'Affaires of Lithuania,
2622 16th Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Charge d'Affaires:

On behalf of the Government of the United States and the American people, I have the honor to convey to you our greetings and sincere good wishes on the occasion of the Lithuanian National Holiday.

The independence of Lithuania, crushed by force of arms 46 years ago, still survives as an ideal nurtured by the courage, determination and moral strength of the Lithuanian people. The anniversary of that independence continues to be cause for pride and celebration.

Sincerely yours,
George P. Schultz



PRAYER FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

offered by

Rev. Valdemaras Cukaras

Chaplain
Sisters of Immaculate Conception,
Putnam, Ct.

in the U.S. House of Representatives
on March 4, 1986



Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, and Ruler of all nations:

We ask You to bless this august body of distinguished legislators and leaders of our Nation.

On the occasion of the 68th of the Declaration of Independence of Lithuania we offer our humble petitions for the enslaved Lithuanian people suffering under Soviet occupation; Give them Your encouragement and support in their struggle for freedom.

We are grateful, Father, for having given the clear insight and courage to the people of the United States and their Government to stand firm in defending the fundamental God-given rights of free

choice and independence, for consistently refusing to recognize the illegal and forced annexation of Lithuania into the Soviet Union.

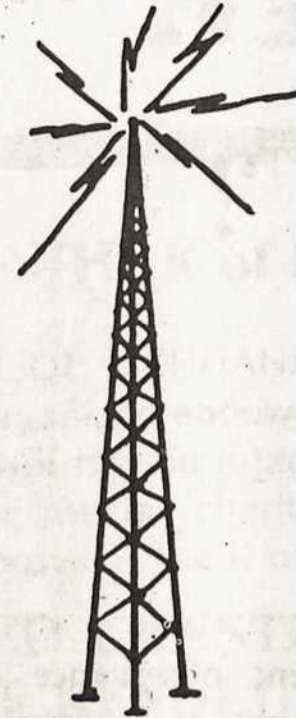
Continue to bless, O Lord, the people of the United States of America, who show such solidarity with captive nations. Strengthen their efforts in maintaining peace in the world and sustain their mission "to establish justice, insure tranquility, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty." Let all these noble efforts become a beacon of hope also for the brave people of Lithuania.

This we ask in the name of Your Son, the crucified and risen Lord,
Amen.

SPRIT OF INDEPENDENCE



Voice of America Editorial
(0-1718/2LZ81)
February 16, 1986



February 16th is a day of pride and remembrance for all Lithuanians. On this day in 1918, the Lithuanian Council issued a declaration of independence. It is doubly memorable for the Lithuanian Service of the Voice of America, which today celebrates its twenty-fifth birthday.

Once a powerful medieval state that rivaled any Europe, Lithuania was united with Poland for almost four hundred years. But from 1795, when the third partition of Poland ceded most of ethnic Lithuania to Russia, Lithuania fell into a century-long decline. After the first Russian revolution of 1905, however, there was a renaissance of Lithuanian culture, and demands for political autonomy. The Lithuanian National Council, created after the Bolshevik Revolution, declared independence in February and formed a government on Armistice Day, 1918. Following several years of bitter fighting, the Bolsheviks were driven out, and Soviet Russia acknowledged autonomy. In 1922, Lithuania became a member of the League of Nations.

During two decades of independence, the Lithuanian economy was reconstructed and on the road to rapid industrialization. A modern system of education was developed and literacy became almost universal. A new generation of Lithuanian artists, writers, and scholars emerged, dedicated to preserve the Lithuanian language, literature and national arts.

But in 1939, the Soviet Union entered into an infamous non-aggression pact with Nazi Germany, which

in a secret protocol, sealed the fate of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and other nations of eastern Europe. In June 1940, Soviet troops entered Lithuania and installed a puppet regime. After Hitler betrayed Stalin and invaded the USSR, Lithuania suffered under Nazi occupation. The Red Army re-entered Lithuania in 1944. One dictatorship replaced another, and, instead of regaining independence, Lithuania fell to Soviet rule. Lithuanian resistance fighters mounted a fierce opposition for years following the War; but eventually superior numbers prevailed, and together with her Baltic neighbors, Lithuania became a Soviet republic. To this day, the United States and many other governments do not recognize the forced annexation of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia by the Soviet Union.

Years of Soviet domination have not quenched Lithuania's thirst for freedom and recognition and of its natural identity. During the last fifteen years, spontaneous political, religious and nationalist movements have risen to protest Soviet suppression. Some want to publish uncensored works of literature, history, and folklore in the Lithuanian language. Others, such as the Lithuanian Helsinki Monitoring Committee, call upon the Soviet Union to honor its human rights commitments. And groups of believers, centered around the unofficially-circulated "Chronicle of the Catholic Church," demand religious freedom for all Lithuanians.

Forty-six years ago, the Soviets crushed Lithuania independence. But the spirit still survives—an idea nurtured by the courage, determination, and moral strength of the Lithuanian people.

QUESTIONS THE GENERAL PUBLIC WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT LITHUANIA?



ARE YOU PREPARED TO ANSWER THEM???

During the recent observance of Lithuanian Independence Day many of us were interviewed by the media, answering questions regarding Lithuania's history and their struggle to regain independence. One often wonders though, just how much the general public knows about Lithuania, or thinks of their struggle against the Soviet regime. How do they react to what's printed in the media?

On February 16, Steve and Adeline Raila, Co-Chairpersons of C-100, Amsterdam's Cultural Committee participated in an hour-long discussion program regarding Lithuania over WWCN radio station.

Naturally they were nervous, prepared diligently to present accurate and factual information; but when they were confronted with the diverse questions of the callers, they were awed. They are sharing the questions that they were asked with us. How do you think you would answer these questions...on the spur of the moment...with just a few seconds to construct your response???

Hungarian-American, Sandor Balogh, is the host of WWCN's "Conservative Forum" weekly talk program. He encourages ethnics to appear on his program to discuss issues about their native countries with his audience. Most recently, Linas Kojelis, Advisor to President Reagan and acting Director of the Office of Public Liaison, was guest on this program. Due to the number of in-coming calls the hour-long show was doubled. Prof. Balogh encourages ethnics in other communities to contact radio stations in their own area-do they have broadcasters who support ethnic activities, viewpoints stressed by Europeans, East-Europeans? If not, suggest a qualified person from your own community?

These were the questions posed to us which needed extemporaneous answers:

1. If we know how bad the Russians are, why is it that certain groups consider it unpatriotic to fight against communism?
2. Why can't we convey this message about suppression of human rights to the Americans?
3. What are some of the rights organizations who speak about lack of freedoms in other countries but never mention Lithuania?
4. Does the Voice of America beam into Lithuania?
5. Does the Soviet Union have a different policy for each country under its domination?
6. Is there intermarriage between Russians and the other ethnic groups?
7. It seems you don't have freedom in Lithuania? Is it like Poland?
8. Are the clergymen censored?
9. How did Lithuania come under Russian rule?
10. How can people find out how to get in touch with you to get this information out to the public?
11. Comment: Americans should be well aware of the plight of people who have no freedoms.
12. What irresponsibility has the U.S. shown regarding the Baltic states?
13. What country has less freedom: South Africa or Lithuania?

Answers to these questions may be obtained from:
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Raila
Midline Road
Amsterdam, NY 12010

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS



OFFICIAL NEWS

DON'T WAIT!

ORDER YOUR LITHUANIAN CHRISTIANITY COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION TODAY!

Special discounted prices for advance, pre-paid orders,
in effect until **JULY 1, 1986**

3" Medallions:

Antique Bronze (\$25.00 each): _____

Silver-Plated (\$30.00 each): _____

Gold-Plated (\$35.00 each): _____

(add \$2.00 per Medallion for mailing)

The Medallions will be available about July 15, 1986

Make Checks payable to:

LITHUANITY CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE, INC.

Send to: LORETTA I. STUKAS, Medallion Chairman

234 Sunlit Drive

Watchung, NJ 07060

Solid Silver Medallions and 12" Galvano Plaques will
also be available. Write to Loretta Stukas for additional
information.

The Knights of Lithuania was assigned the task of
coordinating the commemorative medallion program by
Bishop Paul Baltakis. Let's show the great K of L exam-
ple by ordering today!!!

VYTIS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE CHANGE

At the Supreme Council Meeting held on October
19, 1985 it was suggested that the publication schedule
of VYTIS be changed. The frequency should remain
the same, but the combined issues should be a July-
August pre-convention issue and a September-October
issue. The previous combined issues were June-July
and August-September. The reason for the schedule
change was to avoid the "obsolete news September
issue" that frequently occurs due to the timing of our
National Convention. The newly suggested schedule
will be used in the upcoming months.

Council News deadline therefore will be:

JUNE: May 1

JULY-AUGUST: June 15

SEPTEMBER -OCTOBER: August 15

INVEST IN THE K of L FUTURE!

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.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE RESOLUTION FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION as approved by Supreme Council Meeting of 3/15/86.

WHEREAS, under Article XI, Section 3, of the
Knights of Lithuania Constitution, the duties of the Vice
Presidents are described as follows:

"The Vice-Presidents substitute for the President
when necessary. The 1st Vice President directs the
Membership Drive, strives to inject new strength in the
weaker councils and organize new ones. The Second Vice
President is in charge of the Juniors, tries to expand their
activities and organize new Junior branches. The Third
Vice President directs the organizing and the activities of
the Seniors."

WHEREAS, there remains only two Senior Councils
of the Knights of Lithuania;

WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania have become
more actively involved in large projects of civic, national
and religious natures, on national and international
levels, which has increased the responsibilities of the
National President;


BE IT RESOLVED that the duties of the Vice
Presidents be changed as follows: The 1st Vice President
is Special Assistant to the President, assisting the
President in organizing and implementing special
projects and events. The 2nd Vice President directs the
Membership Drive, strives to inject new strength in the
weaker councils and organize new ones, as well as directs
the organizing and activities of the Senior Councils. The
3rd Vice President is in charge of the Juniors, tries to
expand their activities and organize new Junior branches.



JOSEPH REIDISH
Member C-25, Cleveland
Died August 7, 1985

BENÉDICT DERUS
Member C-25, Cleveland
Died January 16, 19185

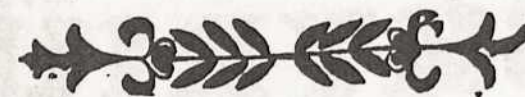
JOSEPH KURPOWIC
Member C-139, Saginaw
Died February 23, 1986



IN MEMORIAM
Please remember in
your prayers...

MARY SZYMANSKI
Member C-144, Anthracite
Died March 31, 1986

MARSTON WAGSTER
Member C-102, Detroit
Died February 8, 1986



JOSEPH SALINAS
Member C-79, Southfield
Died March 1, 1986

ELEANOR VALINSKI
Member C-26, Worcester
Died March 1986

ALBERT "MONK" MONCKAWICH
Member C-12, Manhattan
Died March 23, 1986

ABOUT IN MEMORIAM...

"IN MEMORIAM" is a special section of VYTIS used to announce the death of members; and to request other members to pray for their souls. For this section to really be effective, it is important that the editor be informed as soon as possible of the death of a members.

Currently the VYTIS staff receives information about a deceased member in a variety of ways...

1. Direct communication from the family or council of the deceased.
2. Mention in council news.
3. Personal knowledge.
4. From another member of the Supreme Council.

As a result, the death of some

members is announced quickly, other announcements take several months. While it is true that "Eternity knows no time", and prayers offered at any time are important, we would like to treat all members equally, and let the "IN MEMORIAM" column be as effective as possible in notifying members of the death of fellow members quickly. Also, it is important that the National Spiritual Advisor and National President, be informed, so that they may offer a Mass for the deceased, and express sympathy to the family, respectively.

Therefore, to assure proper treatment, please do the following: Upon the death of a member, a representative of the Council (Pres-

ident, Secretary or a designated member) should write IMMEDIATELY to the National Spiritual Advisor, the National President and the VYTIS Editor. For faster action, the Editor may also be called, to get the news in the first possible issue after the death.

All addresses involved are printed in the inside cover of the VYTIS. Please follow the guidelines for best results. And remember, the National Officers and VYTIS STAFF are human also...occasionally an error occurs, a name is missed or misspelled, or a Mass or card is not sent. If this should happen, please understand, and notify the appropriate parties again.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRYERS
THE BELOVED MOTHERS, LIVING AND DECEASED
OF THE MEMBERS OF THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**



KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 73RD NATIONAL CONVENTION

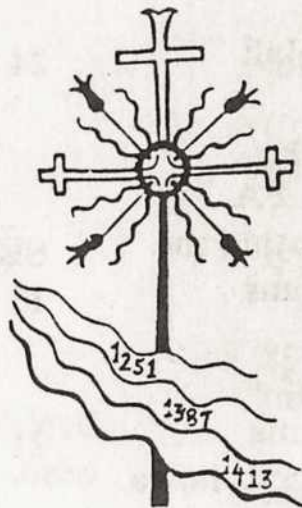
AUGUST 7-10, 1986

ALLENTOWN HILTON HOTEL

ALLENTOWN, PA



**CHRISTIANITY'S
STRENGTH**



**LITHUANIA'S
HOPE**

TENTATIVE CONVENTION SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

- Opening Mass—Concelebrated by members of the Lithuania Roman Catholic Priests League
- First Plenary Session: Greetings, State of the Organization Reports
- Evening Fun and Social — *Vakaruškos*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8:

- Second Plenary Session: Panel — Preparing for Lithuania's 600th Anniversary of Christianity
- Holy Mass: For the Suffering Church in Lithuania.
- Evening: Cultural Program

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9:

- 4th Plenary Session: Convention Business, Resolutions, Nominations
- Holy Mass: for the Deceased Members of the Knights of Lithuania
- 5th Plenary Session: Resolutions, Election of Officers
- Evening: Cocktail Hour, Banquet and Grand Ball

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10:

- Closing Mass: Installation of New Officers, Awarding of 4th Degrees
- Farewell Luncheon
- Convention Photo

SUPPORT THE CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK

Our Supreme Council, the official host of the 73rd National Convention, needs our support. Place an ad in the Knights of Lithuania 73rd National Convention Souvenir Program Book.

Full Page	\$75.00
Half Page	\$45.00
Quarter Page	\$30.00
Sponsor	\$10.00
Patron	\$ 5.00

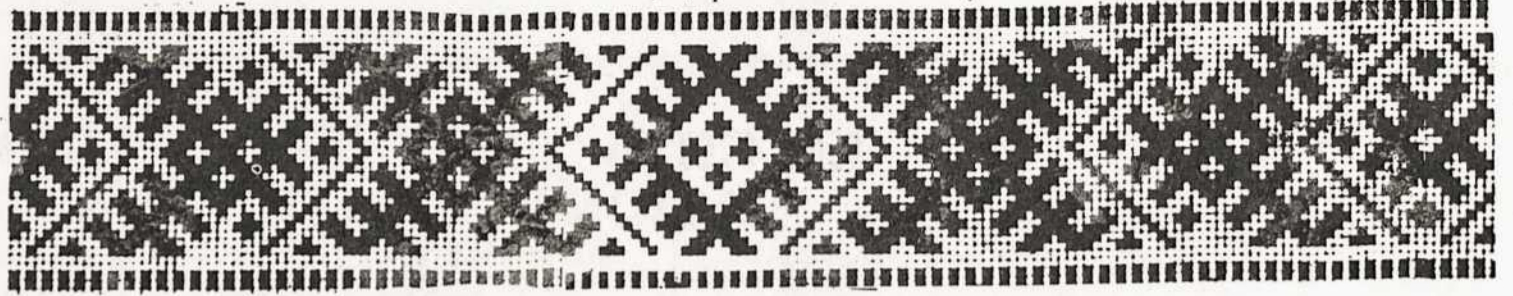
Checks should be made to: "Knights of Lithuania".
Please send to:

LORETTA I. STUKAS
Program Book Chairman
234 Sunlit Drive
Watchung, NJ 07060

MANY THANKS!

The Supreme Council

K of L



C A L E N D A R

MAY

16-17-18 Mid Central District Convention
Mid-West Bowling Tournament
Hosts: C-86, DuBois, Pa

JUNE

1: MAD 70th Anniversary Dinner
and Dance
Transfiguration Church Hall
Maspeth, NY

8 MAD District Convention
Hosts: C-46, Forest City, PA

8 C-110, Mass Commemorating the
Deportations of Lithuanians
Transfiguration Church

14 BALTIC FREEDOM DAY

14 Day of Prayer for Lithuania
Shrine of Our Lady of Czestohowa
Doyleston, PA

22 St. Mary's Villa Annual Picnic
Sisters of Jesus Crucified
Elmhurst, PA

JULY

4 Mid-America District Annual Picnic
Camp Ausra

6-19 New England District Family Picnic
Stanley Park, Westfield, CT

20 Annual Lithuanian "Piknikas"
Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
of BVM, Putnam, CT

7/27-8/3 Youth Camp Dainava

AUGUST

3-16 Camp Neringa

7-10 **73rd NATIONAL CONVENTION**
Allentown Hilton Hotel
Allentown, PA

17 72nd Annual Lithuanian Day
Rocky Glen Park
Moosic, PA

24 Northeastern U.S. Annual Pilgrimage for
the Suffering Church in Lithuania
North American Martyrs' Shrine
Auriesville, NY

SEPTEMBER

15 C-110, Mass for the Persecuted Church in
Lithuania, followed by prayers at the
Church's wayside shrine, Maspeth, NY

21 New England District Pilgrimage to the
Cathedral of the Pines, Ringe, NH

26-28 Mid-Central District Fall Convention and
Pilgrimage; Hosts: C-25, Cleveland, OH
C-110, Maspeth, NY Annual Dinner Dance

OCTOBER

18 71st Annual Dinner and Dance
C-29, Newark, NJ

19 C-27 Annual Fall Dance
St. Mary Parish Hall
East Walpole, MA

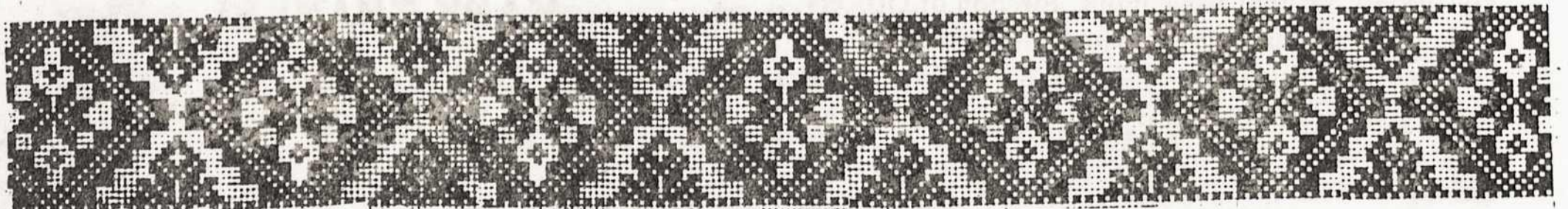
26 New England District Cultural Festival
Maironis Park, MA

NOVEMBER

16 C-110, Mass for deceased members of
C-110, Transfiguration Church, Maspeth,
NY

DECEMBER

14 C-110, "KUCIOS"
Transfiguration Church Hall, Maspeth, NY





HOW TO BE A LEADER

13 TIPS

Once you are conscious of the fact that it is **LEAD OR BE LED** in this atomic age, you will:

- a) **Uncover your own hidden capabilities for leadership.**
- b) **Give practical support to leaders who are devotedly working for the best interest of all.**
- c) **Remind leaders, in a tactful way, of the great good they can render by living up to the important trust placed in them.**
- d) **Pray that young people with the potential for leadership start putting it to good use in the challenging years ahead.**

#2. DEVELOP A LOVE FOR PEOPLE — The deeper your love for all people, the more readily will you acquire Christlike qualities of leadership. Imitate Him who said: **“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. But the hireling, who is not a shepherd, whose own sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees.”** (John 10:11, 12)

If you truly love people, you will make an effort through prayer, word and deed to see that they are provided with efficient government, suitable literature and entertainment, worthy of education, a sound economy and good labor relations. Man needs reasonable conditions on earth to achieve happiness here and hereafter.

Love of your fellowman, based on Love of God, can stimulate you to serve the leaderless millions in our own land and over the world. Your efforts may protect at least some of them for the **“Hirelings”** and **“Judas goats”** who are roaming the earth as never before.

#3. START FROM WHERE YOU ARE — Whatever your work or responsibilities, you have some ability as a leader right now.

You show it running your home, taking part in church or school activities, managing a farm, working

A **“Judas goat”** is used in meatpacking plants to lead sheep to the slaughter — as many as 1,000 trusting sheep a day to their death.

Without a leader of their own, the sheep blindly follow the goat. Only when it is too late they sniff the blood of the slaughter pen and panic.

The **“Judas goat”** grimly symbolizes the continual betrayals by evildoers of our day.

Their abuse of leadership is making possible the spread of corruption, immorality and subversion on an unprecedented scale today.

The only fear of false leaders is that good people will wake up and start managing their own affairs. **What is a fear for them is a HOPE for everybody else!**

Here's what you can do...

#1. RECOGNIZE THE NEED — Do more than throw your hands up in despair over double-dealing, whether it be local, national or international. An important part of your mission in life as a follower of the Lord is to right what is wrong, not merely sit in judgement.

Above all else, recognize how the failure of good people to provide leadership had made possible the vacuum which false leaders gladly and quickly fill.

Note the great need in almost every field for persons who will take responsibility, not duck it. The **“Let George do it”** attitude has too often prepared the way for disaster throughout history.

as a nurse or bricklayer, conducting a business and in countless other ways.

Widen your horizons beyond your "little world". Take an interest in the great spheres of influence that are shaping the trends of the "whole world".

If you can't step into these fields yourself, encourage others with high ideals and ability to replace those leaders who are indifferent, confused, corrupt or downright evil. Christ warned: "If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into the pit". (Matt. 15:14)

#4. GET YOUR IDEAS ACROSS — Most good people over the world don't know how to express themselves — to get into circulation the good ideas that God has entrusted to them. Too often they have unwittingly abandoned the influential fields of speech and writing to persons who communicate effectively, but who may mislead rather than lead.

Here are a few reminders to improve your power to communicate ideas:

a) Remember your importance as a connecting link between God and others. You may be the transmitter of divine truth to many a person who would never hear it except for you.

b) Acquaint yourself with some fundamentals of public speaking, effective writing and parliamentary procedure.

c) Above all else deepen your convictions — your love of God and people. You will never stimulate others to action if your words come only from your lips, not from your heart. The Apostle Paul warns: "If I do not have charity, I have become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal." (I Cor. 13:1)

#5. PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH — A group of secretaries said the "ideal boss" should be "neat, clean, friendly, punctual, loyal, understanding of all office errors and endowed with a good sense of humor; he should write legibly and sign all letters on time."

These are the very traits that any "boss" would like to find in his secretary.

Most of us know all the qualities of leadership to expect in others, but too seldom do we practice what we preach.

Figure out—the qualities of leadership that you would like to see in others — then put them into practice yourself! Christ Himself give the divine standard: "As you wish to do to you do you to them." (Luke 6:31)

#6. BRING OUT THE BEST IN OTHERS — Someone once said, "Blessed is the leader who develops leaders while leading." It should help you to make this examination of conscience:

1. Do you enjoy the success of others?
2. Do you give credit where credit is due?
3. Are you a good listener?
4. Do you encourage others to offer ideas?
5. Do you seek the advice of those who are more expert than you?
6. Do you invite constructive criticism?
7. Do you frankly admit your mistakes and take the blame for them?
8. Do you delegate to others their share of responsibility, or do you let a cause suffer by making it a one-man job?
9. Do you allow individuals the freedom they need and deserve to do their job well?
10. Do you encourage the legitimate self interest that everyone needs in his work?
11. Do you recognize the particular contribution your associates or helpers make?
12. Do you, in short, treat others as you wish to be treated yourself?

#7. SET BIG GOALS FOR YOURSELF — "Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir one's blood. Make big plans, aim high in hope and work," is the advice of one expert.

You will never bring out the bit of greatness within you, if you set your sights low.

Christ told the fishermen He chose as His apostles to overcome their inclination to smallness. He bade them tackle the task of fishing in a daring way: "Put out into the deep, and lower your nets for a catch." (Luke 5:4)

No matter how insignificant your role in life may seem, it is important. You have been delegated by God Almighty to help a world which too few are bothering to save. Evildoers are not content to defile the few. They have daring plans to debase and enslave all of mankind.

#8. WATCH YOUR MOTIVATION — Most individuals who take positions of leadership usually start off with good intentions.

But a subtle, almost imperceptible change frequently takes place as one develops a liking for the honors, advantages and authority connected with any post. Self-interest quietly takes over while the rights of others are sidetracked or forgotten.

Many a worthy cause suffers because leaders succumb to the alluring temptations of personal advantage and forget the rightful interests of those they should represent.

Memorial Day



A TIME OF PEACEFUL REMEMBRANCE

Democracy. Freedom. The American experience and spirit is founded on these words. In times of peril our servicemen have defended this spirit with dedication and courage. Many have given their lives to preserve it. Today, young men from our community are continuing to uphold tradition. Our hearts and thoughts are with them, and with all those men before them.

Memorial Day is a time for quiet reflection. A time to honor our servicemen of past and present. And, as we rekindle the memory of what they have given to their country and to each of us, we also prayerfully work and hope for peace. Across the land there will be parades and speeches of commemoration. It's our way to proudly and reverently give thanks.

During the Second World War, 1941-1945, over 100,000 Lithuanian-Americans served in the United States Armed Forces.

In Tribute and for Remembrance

Lithuanians in The



NEWS



Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



Ryan's still at it.

In commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dayton Opera, a book was published by the Opera Guild of Dayton, Ohio. On the Editorial Committee, as a writer, was our own past editor-in-chief of the VYTIS, ALDONA RYAN.

The publication is a salute to Dayton Opera, its inventive past, its strong present, its exciting future. Aldona's four page contribution, entitled "The Opera Guild of Dayton," took many hours of research, much of it from old scrapbooks. The book has been sent to the many famous opera stars who sang in Dayton for their memoirs.

ARNOLD VOKETAITIS, famous basso, is listed in four operas — Boris Godunov, The Crucible, Romeo et Juliette, and The Barber of Seville. On a personal note, Arnold Voketaitis brought some of his fellow stars to the Ryan home after one opera performance and they drank Irish Mist and sang until dawn.

Aldona was rewarded for her literary contribution with a luncheon given by the Dayton Opera Association for all who took part in producing the book.

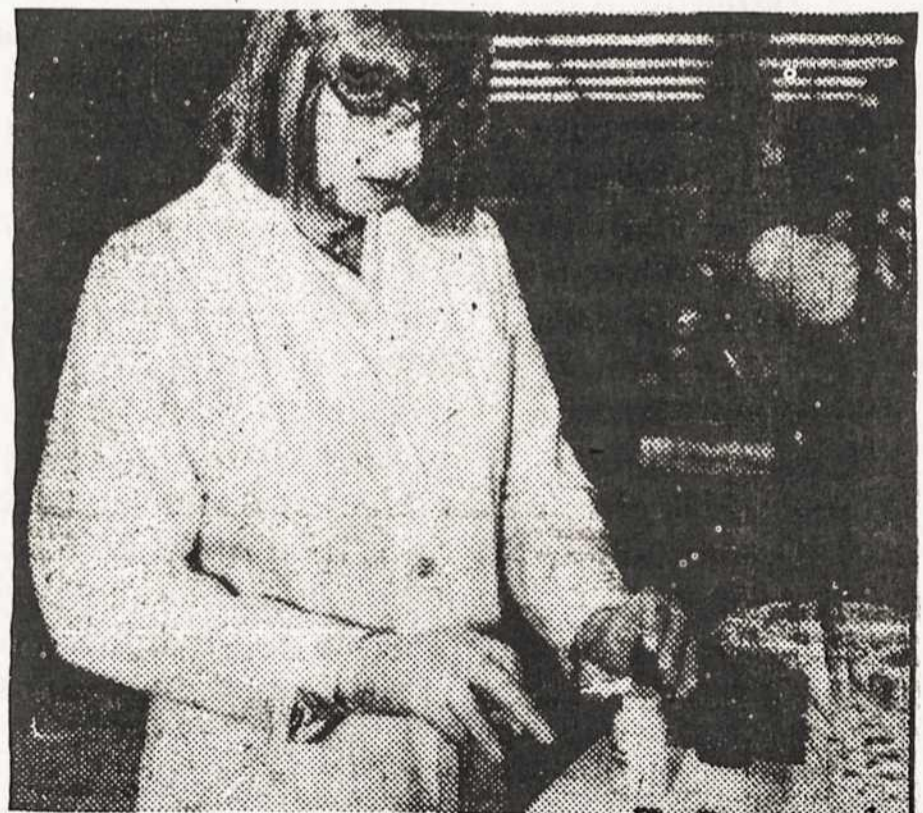
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JOSEPH R. VADUS, Minersville, Pa., received a Distinguished Service Award from the Oceanic Engineering Society, according to the "Pottsville Republican." He received the award in recognition of distinguished service to broad reaches of oceanic engineering at the national and international level.

He attended St. Francis of Assisi Lithuanian Parochial School in Minersville and his parents are still members of the parish. He and his wife currently reside in Potomac, Md.

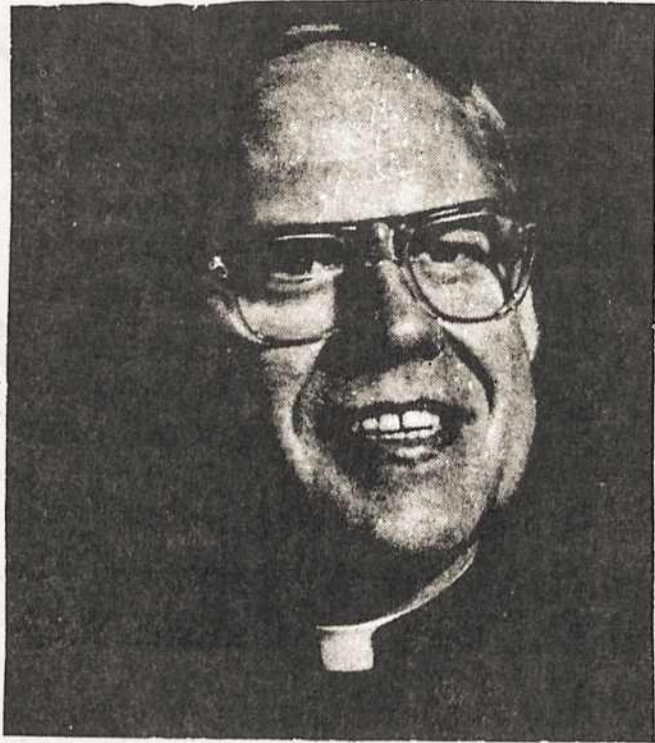
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An Associated Press photo in the "Times Union," Albany, N.Y., pictures AUŠRINĖ VALAITIS testing Tylenol for cyanide at the Illinois Department of Health in Chicago.



Tylenol testing.

REV. JOHN KUZINSKAS INSTALLED AS NEW PASTOR OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



Rev. John Kuzinkas

FATHER JOHN KUZINSKAS was installed as Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Chicago, Ill., on February 1st during the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Bishop A. L. Abramowicz conducted the Ceremonies of Installation.

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin appointed Father Kuzinkas as the new Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, to succeed Monsignor D. A. Mozeris, who has retired after serving as Pastor for 32 years.

Father John was born in Waukegan, Ill., where he attended St. Bartholomew school, and after graduation enrolled at Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago. He was ordained by Cardinal Stritch in 1952. He has served as an associate at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, St. George Parish, and Nativity B.V.M., all in Chicago.

In 1973, Cardinal Cody assigned Father Kuzinkas as administrator and later as Pastor to his home Parish, St. Bartholomew. After six years, he was given a new pastorate, Our Lady of Victory in Chicago. For the past twenty five years, he has also served on the Marriage Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Immaculate Conception is the home parish of Council 36 and Father John is a member. We are proud to have Father John on our team and wish him much success.

* * *

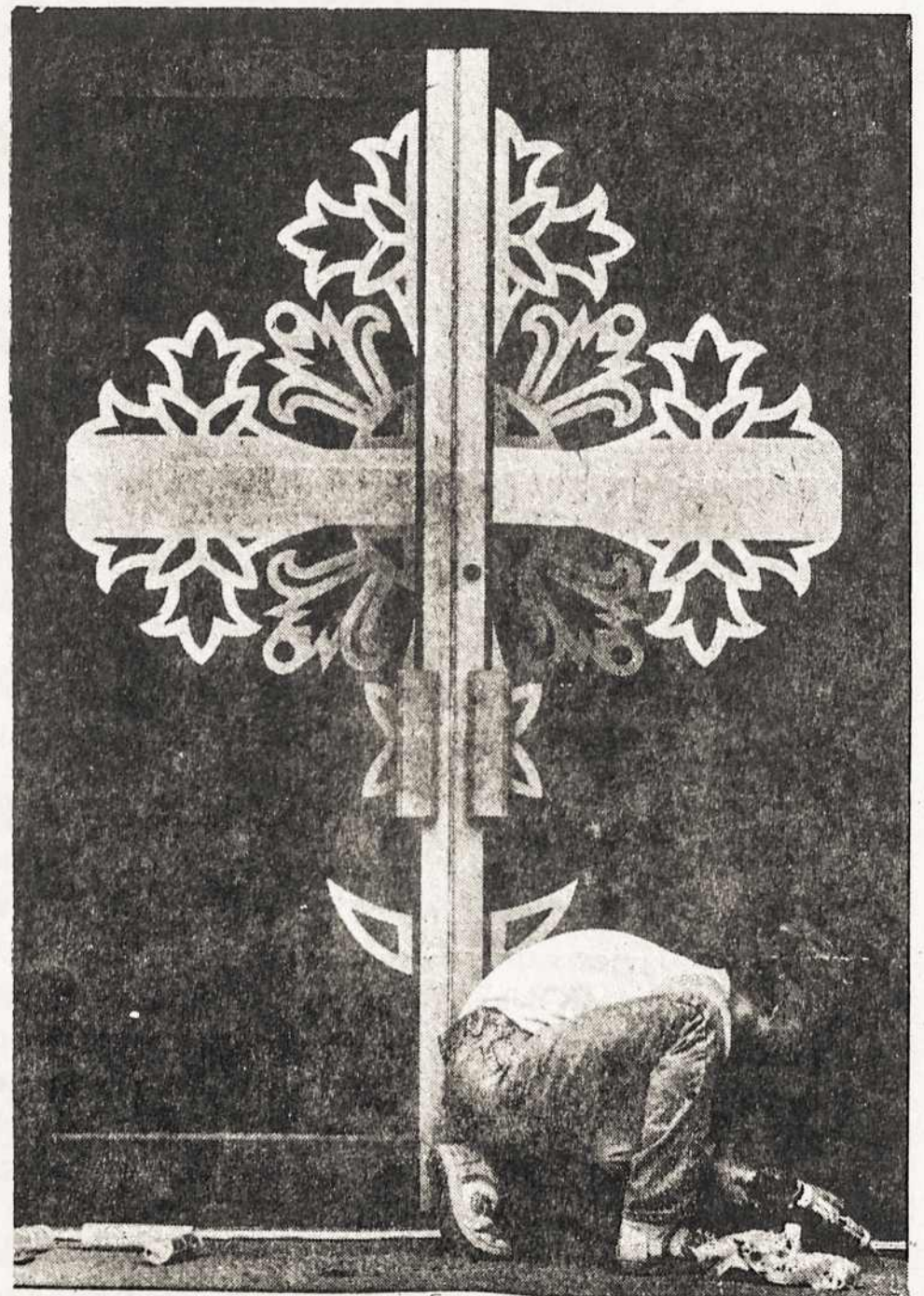
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BINGHAMTON — INSTALLS NEW DOORS TO RESTORE ITS LITHUANIAN ROOTS

New doors were installed at St. Joseph's Church, Binghamton, N.Y. Pastor REV. JOHN MIKALAJUNAS hopes the doors restore a sense of the church's Lithuanian roots, according to an Albany, N.Y. newspaper.

The doors, painted in yellow, green and red, symbolize a Lithuanian cross.

The church was founded as a Lithuanian church in 1914 and now consists of many ethnic groups.

* * *



St. Joseph's Lithuanian doors

THE AMBER SINGERS

The Amber Singers — ANN VALINCIUS KELLY and PAT KELLY-COTE of New Britain, Conn. — performed at a Lithuanian independence celebration at St. Casimir's Church in Amsterdam, N.Y., reports the "Schenectady Gazette."

The commemoration began with mass followed by a dinner and a musical program. On the singers' laps are "kanklės," Lithuania's national musical instrument.

DIANA VYTELL TO SING IN LITHUANIAN OPERA COMPANY PRODUCTION

DIANA VYTELL, who brought the house down with her rendition of "Kur bakužė samanota" during the Cultural Night festivities of the 72nd National Convention at Yale University, New Haven, Conn., will sing the role of "Jimmy," son of William Tell in the Lithuanian Opera Company's production of "William Tell" which will be presented on June 14th and 15th at Morton Auditorium, Cicero, Ill.

Diana was recruited during the convention by "Talent Scout" EVELYN OZELIS, C-36 Chicago, a very active member of the Lithuanian Opera Company.

LITHUANIAN FOLK SONGS BRING CHEERS IN CLEVELAND HERITAGE FESTIVAL

To celebrate Cleveland's ethnic heritage, the Robert Page Singers presented a folk song festival last February at Beck Center in Lakewood, Ohio, notes the Cleveland "Plain Dealer".

The program consisted of 18 numbers sung in nine languages. The near-capacity crowd responded most enthusiastically to songs sung in Latvian and Lithuanian.

The Latvian folk song, "Ej Saulite, Driz Pie Dieva," expressed the philosophy of an oppressed people with poetic imagery and melancholy harmonies.

The Lithuanian song, "Žilvitis," was cheered so ardently that the last stanza was repeated. Also fervently sung in Lithuanian was "O, Nemune," a stirring song expressing patriotic feelings for the fatherland.

The folk song festival was sponsored by the Standard Oil Co.

* * *



The Amber Singers at St. Casimir's Lithuanian independence commemoration

**Thank You
Mother
For
Our
Heritage
and
Our
Faith**





LIETHUA

Did you know the very Earth of Lithuania
Was named for its ancient Goddess!
What other country can say this!

Everywhere my people lived,
They had one belief in common,
The Earth that gave them all sustenance
Was alive.

She was a huge being,
A wise protector and judge.

Before we took oaths on the Bible,
We were a people
Who stooped to the dirt
Beneath our feet

And swore the truth of our claim
By swallowing a lump of Earth
Or placing a clod on top of our head.
Who could lie then!

Sometime, no one knows exactly when
LIETHUA, the Great Mother-Being,
Fled to the sky.

Maybe She needed the sun
And the moon and the stars
For company.

Because the people forgot
More and more of the old ways.
Maybe she went to visit VARPEIA,
Who sat in the high clouds,
Spinning the threads of Earth's fate.

Can you imagine it!
LIETHUA and VARPEIA
Sitting in the billowing clouds
And having long conversations
About which threads to cut.

*Quoted in The Issa Valley by Czelaw Milosz
As recited by a Lithuania peasant to Narbutt,
an historian, in 1805.*

For whichever thread VARPEIA chose
Why a star would topple from the sky
And someone, somewhere would die.
VARPEIA didn't make such choices lightly
And she probably welcomed
LIETHUA's thoughts on the matter.
Choosing life, snipping death,
Such burdens are too heavy
For just one head to think about,
No matter how wise.

LIETHUA had time on Her hands, though,
After a while She was bored
With life in the clouds,
No matter how important,
She longed for the smells of the Earth.
That's when She would poke Her head
Out of the cloud belly
And turn Her ear
Toward Her blue and green body
Spinning below.
She would listen then
For the pleas of Her people.
Listen to one now:

“Little Liethua
Precious Freedom!
Hidden in the sky,
Where are You?
Is Death our only refuge?
Whenever a poor person turns
To the east or to the west
Naught but misery, duress
And slavery.

The great Earth is flooded
With sweat, with the blood
of wounds

Little Liethua, precious freedom,
Step down from heaven
Take pity on us!”

And she would!



Thaddeus Kosciusko, a Lithuanian volunteer in the American Revolution, was honored on the 240th anniversary of his birth February 12 by C-142 Washington.

Photo by A. Cizauskas, Jr.)

A French historian called Thaddeus Kosciusko the "Last Knight of Europe." Americans remember Kosciusko's military services during the Revolution, particularly his fortifications of Saratoga and the building of West Point, actions which led to the eventual success of the American cause. Lithuanians and Poles remember him for his leadership of their people against the combined might of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, the three most powerful empires in Europe at the close of the 18th century.

Few, however, are aware that Kosciusko's social philosophy was far ahead of his time. He advocated freedom for all people regardless of color and went an important step further. He also proclaimed that freedom alone is not sufficient. He practiced what he preached, leaving all the money he had earned during the Revolution, a large sum in those days, to his close friend, Thomas Jefferson, to purchase the freedom of American slaves and to finance their education. This action, two hundred years ago, was even more revolutionary than that of the American revolutionaries themselves.

Upon his election as supreme commander of Polish and Lithuanian forces, he issued proclamations in both languages to the people to resist the tyranny of those who wished to destroy their united countries. But again, he went a step further. He promised freedom to the hundreds of thousands of Polish and Lithuanian serfs and undertook to give them their own land on which they could earn an independent livelihood. Years later, following his military defeat by the three super powers of the day, Kosciusko addressed an appeal to the Russian Emperor, Alexander I, in which Kosciusko identified himself as a Lithuanian and pleaded for the welfare of his brother Lithuanians. He also asked the Emperor to free the serfs, to give them land and to provide them with free education. Needless to say, the Emperor ignored Kosciusko's idealistic pleas.

Kosciusko was born in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, and, on more than one occasion, publicly identified himself as a Lithuanian, although he spoke Polish as was the common practice among the gentry in those days. What is important to remember, however, is that Kosciusko's social philosophy is a universal one, which is that political freedom and social justice go hand in hand, that one without the other

THADDEUS KOSCIUSKO

THE LAST KNIGHT OF EUROPE

by Albert Cizauskas

is meaningless. The truth of this can be seen today in the tragic history of Solidarity in Poland and the persecution of the prisoners of conscience and religious dissidents in occupied Lithuania.

We, as Knights of Lithuania, dedicated to the preservation of Lithuanian culture and the service of God, can do no better than commemorate once a year the memory of this great son of Lithuania and Poland. One way of doing this is for every K of L Council to make some public act of honor on the Sunday that we also celebrate Lithuanian independence since Kosciusko's birthdate of February 12th is conveniently close to the other event. The point to stress is not that we are competing with the Poles, since Kosciusko fought for both Poles and Lithuanians, but that as Lithuanians we should be proud to remember Kosciusko's ideals of freedom and social justice belong to all who are concerned about the condition of mankind today.

Too long have we Lithuanians been silent about our share in Kosciusko's heritage. The annual commemoration of Lithuanian independence each year is a good time to reclaim it.

Albert Cizauskas
Council 142
Washington, D.C.

C-142 — WASHINGTON

Members of Washington's Council 142 commemorated the 240th anniversary of the birth of Thaddeus Kosciusko by placing a wreath at his statue in Lafayette Park across from the White House. Kosciusko was a Lithuanian volunteer in the American Revolution whose services won him an accolade from Thomas Jefferson as one of the "two most eminent foreigners" fighting for the American cause (the other being Lafayette). The wreath-laying ceremony was the second year in succession that the local Knights honored the man who was born February 12 in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.

Dr. Constantine Jurgel was the chairman of the Kosciusko committee. He was assisted by Paul Labanauskas, former head of the Lithuanian Navy, and Albert Cizauskas, retired US Foreign Service Officer. Mr. Cizauskas also delivered remarks on Kosciusko's career, focusing on his social philosophy.

The wreath-laying took place on February 16 following High Mass at St. Matthew's Cathedral in honor of the 68th anniversary of Lithuanian independence. Dr. Stasys Backis, Charge d'Affaires of the Lithuanian Legation, and his wife were among the several hundred members of the Lithuanian Community of the Washington area who attended the church ceremonies.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Ziuraitis OP, spiritual director of the area's Lithuanian Community, was one of the celebrants. The homily dealt with the difficulties being experienced by the church in occupied Lithuania. Several Lithuanian hymns as well as the Lithuanian national anthem were sung by the cathedral choir, making February 16 a truly Lithuanian Day in the nation's capital.

Albert Cizauskas



*Wreath placed at Kosciusko statue by C-142 Washington.
(Photo by A. Cizauskas, Jr.)*



Members of Washington Council 142 gathered at Thaddeus Kosciusko statue in Lafayette Park to commemorate the 240th anniversary of his birth. (Photo by A. Cizauskas, Jr.)



ANNOUNCING²⁷
**A DAY OF PRAYER
FOR
LITHUANIA**



Saturday, June 14, 1986

"BALTIC FREEDOM DAY"

To commemorate the 45th Anniversary of the mass arrests and deportation of the thousands of Lithuanian people from their homeland begun on June 14, 1941.

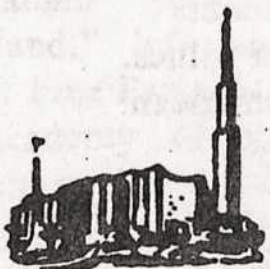
The Program will begin at 1:00 P.M. and will include:

- * Mass offered for Lithuania
- * Solemn Procession
- * Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



- * Display of Lithuanian weavings and artwork
- * Lithuanian food available in spacious cafeteria
- * Colorful participation of Lithuanian organizations, and parishes

PLAN TO ATTEND!



**NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA
FERRY ROAD • DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18901**

Coordinator: Father Timothy Burkauskas, O.S.P.

JUNIORS CORNER

C-41 — BROOKLYN- JUNIORS

We just started our Junior K of L Council. So far we've had three meetings.

Our council just elected our officers, too. Irene Strazdis is our President, Kari Banys is our Vice President, Richard Kumet is our Treasurer, and I, Kristine Strazdis, am the Secretary.

On March 1, we went on our first field trip to the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. We saw original Lithuanian underground newspapers, photographs, prayer-books and many other Lithuanian things. It was very interesting. It sure inspired us to help the people in Lithuania.

On Sunday, March 2, the Feast of St. Casimir, everyone in the council was initiated in the Knights of Lithuania. Now it's official. We're Council 41 Juniors.

Kristine Strazdis

C-100 JUNIOR MARGUČIAI ARTISTS!



Amsterdam Juniors try their talents at decorating "margučiai".

**TRY THE
JUNIOR
K OF L!**

YOU MAY LIKE IT!

- ... Learn about your heritage
- ... Learn how you can help the suffering people in Lithuania
- ... Learn greater Christian values.
- ... Learn to be a better American.

Vyčiai Veikia



Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948



C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

With luck and hard work the Knights of C-79 held a first-time pancake breakfast during Lithuanian Day observance. The observance was held on February 17 at the Cultural Center following Mass at Divine Providence. Proclamations were issued by Governor James Blanchard of Michigan and Coleman Young, Mayor of Detroit.

Featured speaker was Kazys Eringis. Mr. Eringis would like the United States to pressure the Soviets for political action. He said, "If action in the West is large, it is helpful for the Lithuanian people." It is with interest that we read comments by Mr. Eringis in a feature article "Lithuanian Seeking Help for Homeland," by Jeanne May in Detroit Free Press. He worked with the Academy of Sciences as a research worker for environmental ecology. While on a scientific expedition to Australia in 1981, Mr. Eringis

escaped via US embassy to America.

Informative coverage of Lithuanian Day observance was reported on Channel 7 WXYZ-TV. Dr. Algis Baranauskas was interviewed on WDIV-TV which gave an illustrious coverage of the interior and exterior views of Divine Providence and Lithuanian history, culture and Soviet oppression.

Labai ačiū to Joe Yakstys and his wonderful crew of 79'ers who cooked up a culinary storm of pancakes, sausages and all the treats during this Lithuanian Day observance.

Calories were forgotten for St. Casimir's Day on March 2. The day began with Mass at Divine Providence. Joseph Yakstys carried the Vyčių banner. President Smailis, Helen Santorum and Marianne Guerriero were the gift bearers. Mary Keller carried a floral arrangement of spring flowers and placed it at the St. Casimir niche.

Following Mass, everyone assembled at a local restaurant for a buffet brunch. Approximately 40 members and guests participated and enjoyed visiting and table hopping. Marianne and Joe Guerriero of C-102, our sister council, attended. Mary Keller chaired the St. Casimir observance.

Our sympathy to Ruth Wagster of C-102 whose beloved husband Marston passed away on February 8. Also, our condolences to Katherine Kurpowic upon the loss of her husband Joseph who was a member of C-139, our other sister council. Both Joe and Marston were active

bowlers and participated in Mid-Central District Bowling Tournaments. May eternal rest grant unto them peace.

One of our long-time members, Joseph Salinas, passed away on March 1. Our sincere sympathy to his relatives and especially širdingai ačiū to Mrs. Pikunas who gave untiring care to Joe while he was in a nursing center. Amžina atilsi suteik jam amžinoji šviesa.

We wish to extend our concern and heartfelt wishes for return to good health for our pastor Fr. Viktoras Krisciunevicius who had surgery. Our prayers are with you, Father Kris, for a full recovery.

Get well wishes to Charlie Gogelis who was hospitalized and to Soffi, Vytis correspondent, who is recuperating from surgery and hopes to catch up on council news. Many thanks to Mary Keller for providing news to Soffi during her convalescence.

Eight members braved snow and wintry weather to attend March 5 meeting. They were M. Smailis, the Povilaitises, M. Newberry, V. Panavas, H. Santorum, L. Balkus and G. Kase.

Bertha Janus and Verne Broske spent two sunny weeks in Florida with Amelia Kulikauskas in Ft. Lauderdale. Helen Tucker Santorum visited daughter Colleen and granddaughter in Florida. President Smailis also flew to the sunny state to visit with daughter Marge and husband Chester Nashlon.

Kudos to all the members who

contributed cakes and other pastries for the Palm Sunday Bake Sale. Volunteers are needed to host our socials after monthly meetings.

SOFFI

C-96 — DAYTON

Festivities for the Lithuanian Independence Day were held in the church hall on February 23 following Mass. An interesting program was in store for those attending. Walter Lastoskie, president of Saryšis, opened the program and introduced several guests attending from Cincinnati, Columbus, Findlay and Lima. After the singing of the American and Lithuanian National Anthems, accompanied by Cecelia Yankus, Father Vaclovas Katarskis gave the invocation. Guest speaker was Prof. Vytautas J. Bieliauskas of Xavier University, Cincinnati.

A delicious luncheon was served after which there was a presentation by the Junior Knights. This group now consists of Robbie Pant, Eric, Aaron and Molly Geiger, Tim Pacovsky, Amy Petkus, Kristine Ambrose, Missy Knapp and Krista Zinkiewicz. Connie Geiger is coordinator and Elinor Sluzas director. These youngsters are third and fourth generation Lithuanians and did a fine job of singing songs in Lithuanian. Many a proud parent was in the audience — a few tears too.

Some interesting slides were shown about Lithuania today. To end the program we were delighted to view the movie of the Fifth Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival held in Chicago in 1976. That is 10 years ago when many of our own Vėjeliai Dancers who were young teenagers at that time saw themselves dancing in the program. We were grateful to Algimantas Kezys SJ of Chicago who made the slides and movie available to us.

On St. Casimir's Day, March 2, after 10:30 Mass, 53 of our members and families attended a brunch at

Ramada Inn in downtown Dayton. Council President Frances Petkus welcomed the group and introduced new members from Columbus, John and Alice Sipek and Pete and Ann Zeller, attending their first activity with us. Also a hearty welcome to Pat and Bill Anthony who recently joined our council. They moved to Dayton from Torrington, Connecticut.

Our Bake Sale on March 22 and 23 was a huge success. Mary Lucas and daughters Elaine and Marilyn did a tremendous job in making this an outstanding event. Mary's Easter Egg Tree attracted attention but the beautifully decorated Lithuanian eggs by Mary and Ada Sinkwitz were also admired.

Lucky winners of the raffle were Amy Berzcely who won the main prize, a huge basket filled with goodies; Ernie Omlor, a Boston fern, Sharon Prasmantas, a gallon of wine; Anadel Miller, Easter basket; Marilyn Grant, a fifth of spirits; Ada Sinkwitz, a pot of mums; Rita Ambrose, half gallon of Jimmy's homemade wine; Kristine Ambrose, decorated Easter egg cake; Molly Geiger, wine and cheese; Adolphine Konicki, wine and cheese and Kitty Prasmantas, wine.

Many of us are looking forward to attending the Mid-Central District Bowling Tournament and Convention in DuBois in May. We are hoping for a busload of conventioners. Tom Bruzga, here we come!

Cecelia Yankus

C-102 — DETROIT

Our Council 102 should have held its February and March meetings in Florida at Epcot. Visiting at this time were Pres and Fin Sec Frank & Donna Bunikis, V Pres John & Donna Stanievich, Cor Sec Edna & Vince Klucens, members Ray & Terry Medonis, Evelyn & Bob Barry. Holding down the home front and attending the St. Casimir Day Mass and Brunch, hosted by Council 79, were Joe & Maryanne Guerriero and

Joe & Eve Stark. We welcome Joe & Eve Stark into our council as new members.

Our affiliated NBC-TV station gave nice coverage of the Lithuanian Freedom Rally held at the Lithuanian Cultural Center in Southfield in February.

Our member, Marie Zyren, was a contestant on the Wheel of Fortune TV Show in February. She didn't win anything, but the following week her daughter-in-law won a car.

Donna & John Stanievich's trip to Florida was to rest up from sitting their grandchildren in Buffalo while Dr. John and wife vacationed. Donna was a head counselor in the early days of K of L week at Camp Dainava. She and John are proud that their grandchildren attended the camp for the past three years. The camp is in the rolling hills of Manchester, Michigan.

Get well wishes are extended to Gena Baibak who is recuperating from surgery.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Ruth Wagster and her family on the loss of her husband Mart. Mart and Ruth helped with our rummage sales and were active in our Bowling League. Mart was a past president. Ruth is president now.

Deepest sympathies are extended to Katherine Kurpowic and family on the death of her husband Joe from Council 139. May Mart and Joe's souls rest in peace. Remember them in your prayers.

Our bowling league is coming to the close of another season, and first place is still up for grabs. We are all looking forward to the Mid-Central District meeting and bowling tournament in DuBois.

See you there . . .

Meriute



ŠV. KAZIMIERO ŠVENTĖ



ŠV. KAZIMIERAS

Kovo 2 dieną Lietuvos Vyčių 25-ta kuopa, kartu su vyčiais senjorais Clevelande, atšventė Lietuvos ir Vyčių organizacijos globėjo Šv. Kazimiero šventę 10 val. ryto su šv. Mišiom Dievo Motinos Nepaliamojamos Pagalbos parapijos šventovėje ir, bendrais pietumis Holiday Inn 28500 Euclid Ave. Wickliffe Ohio.

9:45 val. ryto, vyčiai su svečiais pradėjo rinktis prie Dievo Motinos Nepaliamojamos Pagalbos parapijos šventovės ir organizuotai R. Vanagui nešant Lietuvos vyčių vėliavą, kartu su dvasios vadu Kun. G. Kijausku, S.J., kuris atnašavo Šv. Mišias, žygiavo į šventovę specialiai vyčiams skirtas vietas. Pamokslo metu gražų žodį vyčiams tarė dvasios vadas kun. G. Kijauskas, S.J., pabrėždamas, kad jam daug kartų teko dalyvauti Lietuvos vyčių susirinkimuose, kurių darbotvarkėse svarstoma kultūriniai, bažnyčių ir tėvynės Lietuvos reikalai, kas pilnai atatinka Lietuvos vyčių obalsiui, dirbti Dievui ir tėvynei Lietuvai. Čia dar norisi paminėti, kad Lietuvos vyčiai labai gražiai pasirodė švenčiant Šv. Kazimiero Lietuvos globėjo 500 metų gimimo sukaktį Romoje, kur Šv. Tėvo buvo pastebėti ir už pasiaukojimą ir darbą Lietuvai tėvynei ir bažnyčiai, vyčiai p. Jokūbas ir Loreta Stukai buvo apdovanoti aukštais Vatikano žymenimis. Be to, š.m. vasario mėn. 14 dieną, New Jersey gubernatorius H. Kean, pasirašydamas Lietuvos nepriklausomybės šventės proklamaciją pranešė, kad Loreta Stukienė, buvusi Lietuvos vyčių centro valdybos pirmininkė, jo paskirta į valstybinę etninę tarybą atstovauti pabaltiečiams kaip komisionierė.

Mišių metu labai gražiai ir įspūdingai vyčiai pasirodė aukojimo procesijoje. Šv. Kazimiero paveikslą — Aukojame Tau, Viešpatie, mūsų tautos globėjo šv. Kazimiero atvaizdą, o drauge ir savo tautą, jos ašaras ir viltis sudedame į Tavo gerą rankas. Šv. Kazimiero paveikslą nešė kuopos vicepirmininkė Alvinai Luiža. Kryžių ir lelijų aukojam Tau, Viešpatie, nes jie mums rodo, koks turi būti Kristaus sekėjo gyvenimas žemėje. Lietuvišką juostą aukojame Tau, Viešpatie, kuri vaizduoja glaudų ryšį vienybę. Kryžių, lelijų ir juostą nešė vyčiai Gene ir Uršula Kunsitis. Vandenį ir vyną Dick ir Jean Marks, duoną — ostijas kuopos pirm. Vincas Gražulis ir ponija Marija Gražulienė. Mišių pabaigai buvo sugiedota vyčių himnas ir tuo baigėsi Šv. Kazimiero šventės paminėjimas.

Po Mišių, vyčiai su svečiais, dalyvaujant dvasios vadui Kun. G. Kijauskui, S.J., Kun. Jonui Sukackui, S.J. Holiday Inn restorane turėjo bendrus pietus, kurie praėjo gražioje ir linksmoje nuotaikoje.

Antras didelis darbas ir rūpestis Clevelande vyčiams, kaip gražiau ir įspūdingiau suruošti vidurinių valstijų apygardos suvažiavimą ir šventų vietų lankymą, kuris šiais metais įvyks rugsėjo mėn. 26, 27, ir 28 dienomis Clevelande.

Clevelando vyčiai ir lietuvių visuomenė, prašoma minėtą datą pasižymėti ir šventėje dalyvauti, nes yra gražus ir kultūringas vyčių renginys. Daugiau apie šventę bus paskelbta spaudoje vėliau.

E. Pranckus

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

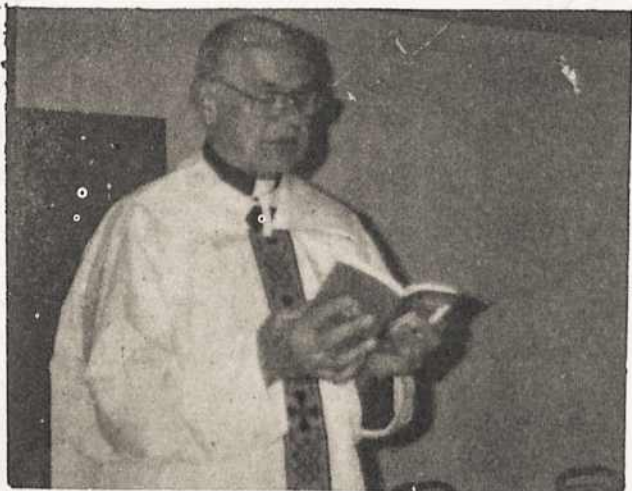


We MAD'ers deserve a pat on the back. This year as never before we observed Vasario 16 and Šv. Kazimiero in grand style. The following phrase kept reverberating in the Lithuanian press: "Ypatingai gerai pasirodė Lietuvos Vyčiai." Whether in Maspeth where President Adomėnas took his gang to see Mayor Koch, while Newark 29'ers went to see their Governor Keane, Paterson, Elizabeth, Manhattan, Worcester and others did themselves proud.

In March MAD'ers were at Frackville, Pennsylvania, for their annual communion meeting. Over 250 of us showed up. Bravo Anthracite for having so much at the program in Lithuanian. Other councils take note! A big hand to Rita Shevokas and the New Philadelphia Junior Knights. Their play, "Vaikai, Kelkitės!" deserves a Tony as best play off, off, off Broadway for 1986.

Among those receiving Third Degrees were three MAD Executive Board Members: Helen Matulionis C-110, Bernice Aviza C-100 and Mary Ann Lepera C-3. Congratulations to them and to the other recipients.

In March our Supreme Council went to check out Allentown, Pennsylvania, the site of our next National Convention. Yours truly tagged along. About 35 of us descended on the hospitable Hilton Hotel. It's a great place gang! Lot's of shopping, swimming pool and comfortable beds, which I checked out compliments of Fran Petkus who stayed over night. Lehigh Valley Council



National Spiritual Advisor Father Jurgelaitis read Mass at Allentown Hilton following Supreme Council meeting in March.

welcomed us with a beautiful red, yellow and green bouquet of flowers and a talk by President Al Klizas.

National Spiritual Advisor Father Anthony Jurgelaitis read Mass for those who had to leave early.

Last but not least, let's not forget our 70 year celebration. We will commemorate it with a banquet and program at Maspeth in June. Get your tickets early since space is limited.

Iki pasimatymo . . .

Dalia



National President Frank Petrauskas presided at Supreme Council Meeting in Allentown in March.

C-12 — MANHATTAN



It is with a sad heart that I write this report. The Knights of Lithuania Mid-Atlantic District and I have lost an outstanding member, a conscientious district worker and a very dear friend — Albert "Monk" Monckawich, a fourth degree and almost 50 year member. There are very few MAD'ers who did not know Monk. Always fun-loving, generous

and helpful, he was our favorite entertainer. Who will forget his costumes during our fun times.

Our Lord took Monk home on Palm Sunday, March 23. More than 100 of us gathered to give him a Vytiškas Su Dievu! There was not a dry eye in the place when President Ed Cook placed a white carnation on the casket and we all sang "Marija, Marija." Amžina atilsī mielas mūsū drauge.

All our meetings take place in the "underground" church now. Our Lady of Vilnius is getting a face lift and the hall is serving for two functions — Mass and meetings.

Highlights of Vasario 16 was John Tamasauskas and Anthony Yakavonis entertaining and



Joni Reinhart presenting offertory gift to Rev. Jarasunas, celebrant, MAD St. Casimir's Day Mass at Annunciation BVM, Frackville. Sister Regina Sitkus SSC was lector.



Helen Matulionis C-110 receiving Third Degree from Rita Sussko.

IN MEMORIAM ALBERT "MONK" MONKAWITCH

Monk's Lifetime of Blessings

We can measure Monk's lifetime by his blessings
We can measure the blessed gladness that filled his life
Which he graciously shared with us.
We can tally the smiles he brought to many faces
Because of his love and concern for all.

An now Our Heavenly Father
Has rewarded him with an eternal rainbow
Of blessed peace
In His Heavenly skies.



John Tamasauskas speaking at Council 12 Vasario 16 commemoration.



Millie Pietz in the offertory procession at C-12 Vasario 16 commemoration.



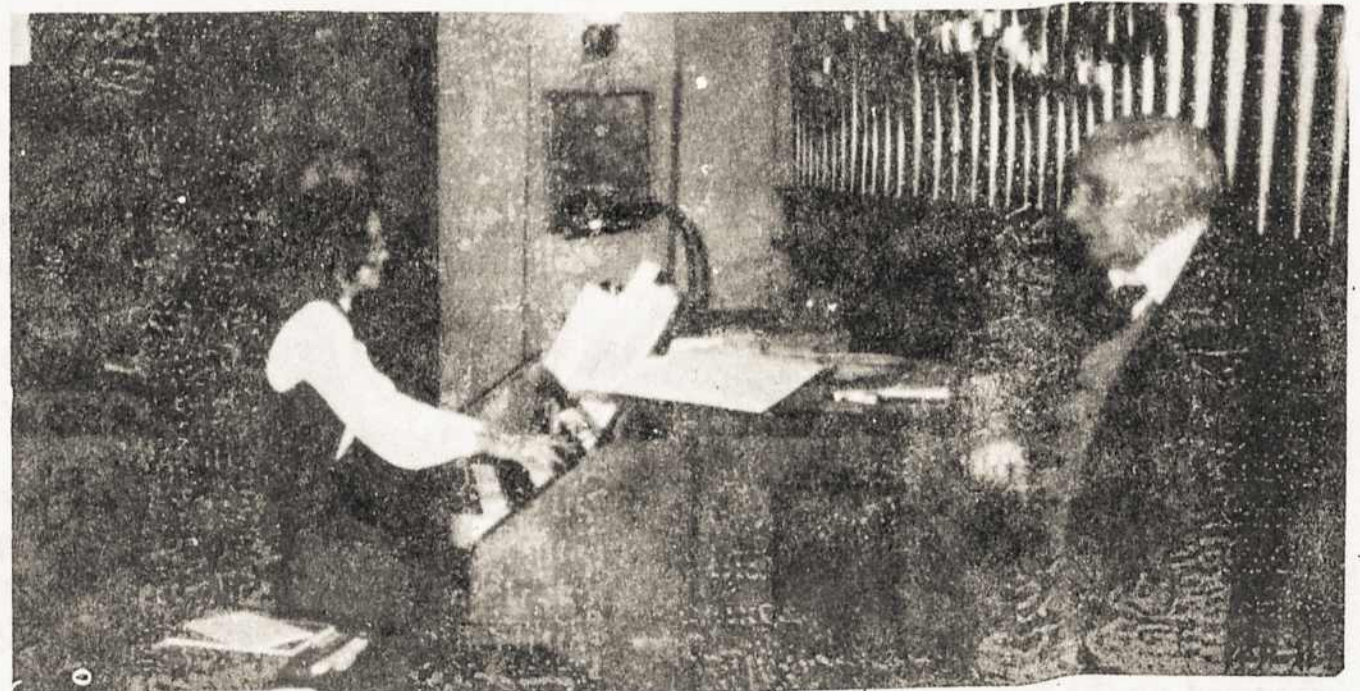
Anthony Yacavonis and John Tamasauskas serenading Council 12 during February 16 commemoration.

enlightening program. Our member pianist Aldona Kepalaitė gave us a few selections of Chopin. A few days later many of us attended her recital at Carnegie Recital Hall. There was a full house. We, Vyčiai, cheered her on led by our pastor Vytautas Palubinskas. Aldona, we are proud of you.

DALIA



One of the last pictures of Albert "Monk" Monkawitch serenading three birthday girls of C-12 Manhattan Barbara Kartanowitz, Mary "Liberty Lady" York and Jeanne Janonis.



Albert "Monk" Monkawitch who passed away on Palm Sunday, March 23, Fourth Degree member C-12 Manhattan, was a great singer. Here he is in Aušros Vartų Church. The organist is Aldona Kepalaitė.

C-46 — FOREST CITY

Council 46 of Forest City commemorated the 68th anniversary of the restoration of Lithuanian Independence with flag raising ceremonies at St. Anthony's Church grounds after Mass on February 16. Not only members but also parishioners and friends attended.

As we raised the flags, we shared the hopes and strivings for peace and justice of the people of Lithuania. The Rev. Joseph Sitko led members in prayer and the group sang the national anthems.

On March 2 a Mass in honor of St. Casimir was celebrated by Fr. Sitko in St. Anthony's. Members dressed in ethnic costumes and participated in the offertory. After Mass, we had a pleasant breakfast in a local restaurant and enjoyed each others company.

We are looking forward to meeting many of you at the Mid-Atlantic Convention which we are hosting in Forest City on June 8.

Blanche Motsko

C-100 — AMSTERDAM

The feast of St. Casimir was celebrated on March 2 with members receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Mass in St. Casimir's Church. Rev. Robert K. Baltch, spiritual advisor, celebrated Mass and was homilist.

A luncheon followed at The Dutchman Restaurant. The invocation was given by Rev. Baltch. President Anthony J. Radzevich hosted the gathering and also conducted a short business meeting. Minutes were read by secretary Eleanor Olechowski. Sophie Olbie reported on the February 15 Lithuanian Day Dinner Program.

The principal speaker, Mrs. Irene Tice, spoke on the life of St. Casimir. She touched on the highlights of his



Participating in the flag raising ceremonies of Council 46 Forest City at St. Anthony's Church are from left Anthony Yavorosky, John Morris, Magdelyn Robinson, Charles Cyzeski, Ann Zielinskas, Mary Markunas, Dorothy Andzulis, Edward Yeskatelis, Amelia Morris, Alice Puntar, The Rev. Joseph Sitko, Mary Prezelski, Alele Armstrong, Margaret Cyzeski, Frances Yavorosky and Stashia Wallace.

life. He was the youngest child of eleven children of the Grand Duke of Lithuania, Casimir IV and Elizabeth of Austria. She mentioned his scholastic ability, his deep religious faith and love of the Blessed Mother. His favorite hymn was "Daily, Daily Sing to Mary." His illness and untimely death at the age of 25 was unfortunate.

In a solemn ceremony, Rev. Baltch conferred First Degree on Vincent Rossi and Harold Tice. Arrangements and preparations were handled by the Ritual Committee, Betty Kuzmich and Mary Stanionis.

Helen Dylong won the centerpiece. An amber crucifix donated by Mr. & Mrs. Ziausys was won by Regina Hartvigas.

Betty Kuzmich was general chairman of the program; planning chairman, Mary Stanionis; reservations and ticket co-chairmen, Judy Kastravickas and Helen Wojcik.

The Mid-Atlantic District Convention was held on March 9 in Frackville, Pennsylvania. Bernice Aviza and Polly Ziausys represented the council as delegates.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Albert & Edna Luzinas in the recent tragic death of Edna's sister-in-law, Helen Schell, owner of the Blossom Shop.

On our disabled list we have our beloved Rev. Anthony Grigaitis. Father slipped and fell in February on the way to church. The result was a fractured right wrist. We wish him a speedy recovery. Also, get well wishes to Charles Karbocius who recently underwent surgery.

A presentation on Lithuania's history and culture was held on March 8 at the Schenectady Public Library to a full house. Helen Saunders was the coordinator. C-100's Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Ed Baranauskas gave the history of Lithuania. Vytis Editor Bernice Aviza showed slides on Lithuania. National Cultural Chairman Regina Kot and Genutė Baranauskas sang a number of folk songs. Genutė showed pieces of amber, wood carvings and linens with excellent explanations. Present in the audience was Gene Gobis, vice president C-100.

SMILE & SPARKLE



Al Wese, Mary Wese, Starcy Wese and Kęstutis Miklas.



John Adomenas, Al Wese, Mary Kober and George Blecka.

C-109 — GREAT NECK

In spite of the fact you haven't been reading about our council, it does not preclude that we are inactive. On the contrary! Our list of activities has been immense.

Our Annual Communion Breakfast held on March 2 was a huge success. The Mass held at St. Aloysius Church was very inspirational, and Pastor Rev. Dunn certainly made everyone in church feel that this was truly a Lithuanian celebration. We appreciate all that Father Dunn has done for the Great Neck Knights of Lithuania. Without him, things would be somewhat difficult.

The brunch in the school cafeteria was attended by a nice crowd of our supporters. The program centered around our patron St. Casimir. First degree presentations were made by our Ritual Chairman, Mary Blecka, to George Blecka, Bertha Fuchs, Howard Fuchs, Martha Krug, Mary Santagata, Jane Schwarz and Darrell Tamosiunas. Congratulations to all!

We have had many bus trips to Atlantic City. Not only do they prove to be a financial success but also a great social success. Needless to say, we don't return big winners, but everyone looks forward to future trips scheduled for April and possibly June.

At our Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration on February 16, guest speaker Kęstutis Miklas gave an eloquent talk on Lithuanian history and problems confronting her today. Our gathering was attended by a goodly number of people including John Adomenas, MAD Vice President and President C-110.

A few members attended the Lithuanian Independence Day ceremonies hosted by C-110 Maspeth. Mary & George Blecka, Jules & Mary Santagata, Jules Santagata Jr., Amelia Mileski, Mary & Anthony Kober thank Maspeth Council for their great hospitality and interesting program appropriate for the occasion.

We welcome our most recent new members: John & Linda Sheshene, Amelia Mileski, Eufemija Cibas, Alena & Peter Povilaitis, Charlene & Felix Zorskis. We now have approximately 60 members and with greater numbers, more can be accomplished.

The sick list has claimed a few of our members. Charlene Zorskis and Joseph Savicky both had recent surgery. We wish them a speedy recovery so they can join us at our future activities.

Congratulations to our newest prospective member, Amanda Tamosiunas, born to Linda & Darrell Tamosiunas on January 14. The christening was performed by



Kęstutis Miklas, guest speaker, at C-109 Great Neck Lithuanian Independence Day celebration with President Al Wese.

none other than our Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Bulovas of Transfiguration Church in Maspeth. She already attended our communion brunch, and we hope to see more of her at future activities.

President Wese spent a few weeks visiting his relatives in California. He did not return with that expected golf tan due to the rainy weather.

Since summer is around the corner, we look forward to our successful picnics in Kings Point Park in Great Neck. We are sorry that some of our inactive members have not found the time to socialize with us at our activities and meetings. We miss you!

We do hope that all our members and friends had a very happy and blessed Easter.

C-110 — MASPETH

The occasion of the Annual St. Casimir's Communion Brunch was a memorable event which followed the beautiful Mass. One of the extraordinary offertory gifts was the presentation of the Crown of Thorns on a pillow which was made of fabric woven in Lithuania. The pillow fabric was contributed by Louise Dausickas, and the pillow was crafted by Stasia Kraujalis. Fr. George Wallace, a Marist, was the principal speaker. Honored guests included State Senator Martin K. Knorr and Assemblyman Frederick Schmidt.

Theresa & John Thomann were co-chairpersons for the brunch. Theresa reported that the following members were important to the success of this occasion: Ann Ackalaitis, Ann & John Adomenas, Adele & Louise Dausickas, Amy & John Girdauskas, Helen Jambor, Stasia & Al Kraujalis, Helen Matulonis, Jean Rutkunas, Ed Sirgidas, Lottie Ulrich, Violet Zvirblis and Sister Damian who created the floral table decorations. On behalf of C-110, President Adomenas noted that special commendation was in order for their outstanding contribution.

Our March meeting was extremely well attended. We did miss our recording secretary, Marie Visnauskas-Loehmann, who had the flu! Father Kennedy of the Vincenzian Fathers prayerfully opened this meeting. Travel plans were reviewed for the anticipated attendance at the MAD Frackville meeting and the May trip to sunny Florida. We are looking forward to MAD's April Lithuanian Fair/Festival as well as the 70th Anniversary Dinner of MAD.

Contributions: C-110 donated to the necessary causes of Knights of Lithuanian Scholarship Fund, the Franciscans' Žydis Cultural Center, subscription to the fund for

the publication of the Lithuanian Chronicles and to the fund for the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis.

1986 Chairpersons for the Standing & Special (Ad Hoc) Committees are Cultural Chairman, Muriel Lekstutis; Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Helen Matulonis; Program Chairman, Peter Yuskevich; Public Relations & Vytis Correspondent, Brenda Razickas; Public Relations Correspondent, Violet Zvirblis; Ritual Chairpersons, Stasia & Alphonse Kraujalis; Spiritual Program, Father Stasys Raila; Archives, Mary Baltrus; By-Laws, Adele Dausickas, John Adomenas, Paul Yakaitis; Cheer & Sorrow, Ann Adomenas; Choir, Muriel Lekstutis; Dance Group, Muriel Lekstutis; 50/50 Club, Al Kraujalis; Hospitality, Louise Dausickas; Language/History Classes, Father Stasys Raila; Literary, Adele Dausickas; Council Seal, Adele Dausickas; Adopted Lithuanian Parishes, Father Stasys Raila and Third Sunday-of-Month Hospitality, Maria Stungurys.

Su Meile ir Ramybe —

Brenda Bell-Razickas

C-143 — PITTSTON

Our council closed out a busy 1985 and we are well into this year's activities.

On January 5, officers and appointive committees for 1986 were installed before Mass by Father Peter Alisaukas, our spiritual advisor. They are President, Leo Butsavage; vice president, Dorothy Banos; financial secretary, Anne Challan; recording secretary, Ursula Danoski; treasurer, William Daileda; trustees, John Wisnosky, Julie Farrell, Nellie T. Bayoras; Lithuanian affairs: Alice Puscavage, chairman, Agnes Kishel, Mary Stanonis; cultural: Marie Lauck, chairman, Anna Davala, Eva Richards; publicity, Marion Cepalis; Vytis correspondent, An-

namarie Sewatsky; sergeant at arms, Filbert Bartoli, John Puscavage; get well, Marcella Bartoli; historian, Genevieve Dajnowski. Following Mass, men of the council served refreshments.

During the month of February, our members, in traditional dress, represented our council at various functions to commemorate Lithuanian Independence Day. We were present at the singing of the proclamations in Harrisburg by Governor Dick Thornburgh, in Wilkes-Barre by Mayor Thomas McLaughlin and in Pittston by Mayor Thomas Walsh.

Our council sponsored a flag raising ceremony in Pittston at City Hall and co-sponsored another in Wilkes-Barre at the Luzerne County Court House. Both ceremonies were well attended by local dignitaries, our Lithuanian people and local citizens. Prayers were said, proclamations read and all joined in singing our national anthems. Refreshments were served after both ceremonies. The local press gave us excellent coverage of our activities with many photos.

Father Alisaukas celebrated Mass on February 16, stressing in his homily the need for our prayers for the persecuted people in Lithuania. Council members entered the church in procession prior to the Mass led by our American, Lithuanian and Vytis flags carried by William Daileda, Charles Dajnowski and Casimir Kizis Jr. Also participating were Anne Challan, Annamarie Sewatsky, Nellie T. Bayoras, Anna Davala, Dorothy Banos and Leo Butsavage.

The Mass in honor of St. Casimir, patron saint of our Knights and our parish, and our 10th annual communion breakfast were held on March 2. We were especially honored to have as our guest speaker, Frank Petrauskas, our national president. He was accompanied by his wife, Irene.

Frank is no stranger to our council or to Pittston as he was here

on several previous occasions. Before Mass, Frank conferred the second degree on Frances Shoppel and Mary Chorba.

Members were led in procession into the church by Charles Dajnowski, Frances Shoppel, Mary Chorba, Adele Brooks, Marie & Paul Lauck and Rosalie & Casimir Kizis Sr. Parishioners and friends joined our council for breakfast catered by Mr. & Mrs. Filbert Bartoli. William Daileda was chairman.

Father Pete provided copies of prayers for the Year of Faith Consciousness 1986 and a Jubilee Prayer for Lithuania's 600th year of Christianity in 1987. These prayers were offered in church and at the breakfast. Our council members and parishioners will unite with all Lithuanians throughout the world in the prayer campaign in 1986.

We participated in traditional dress in the celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph by the Oblates of St. Joseph, Pittston.

Delegates who attended the Mid-Atlantic St. Casimir celebration and meeting in Frackville on March 9 were A. Challan, L. Butsave, N. Bayoras, D. Banos, J. Puscavage, G. Dajnowski, F. Shoppel, A. Sewatsky, M. Lauck, A. Davala, M. Chorba, R. Kizis, A. Walatkas, H. Butsave, A. Puscavage, C. Dajnowski.

Annamarie Sewatsky

C-144 — ANTHRACITE

Three hundred Knights attended the Mid-Atlantic District spring convention and St. Casimir's Day breakfast hosted by Anthracite Council at Annunciation BVM Church in Frackville on March 9.

At noon a Lithuanian Mass was concelebrated by the Rev. Matthew Jarasunas, spiritual advisor C-144, Rev. Gerald Gobitas and Rev. Daniel Yenushosky. Sister Regina Sitkus SSC was lector. Offertory gifts were carried to the altar by Suzanne Zoba,

Gloria Dauchess, Joni Reinhart, Rita Shevokas and Ann Marie Lithkowsky. The Žarija Choir under the direction of Eleanor Vaičaitis provided liturgical music.

At the breakfast following Mass, welcome was extended by Anthracite Council President Anna Klizas Wargo. Toastmaster was Dr. William Gudelunas, American history professor at Penn State Schuylkill Campus. Father Jarasunas presided at the invocation.

After the meal, the New Philadelphia Junior Knights under the direction of Rita Shevokas, presented a skit, "Vaikai Kelkitės" ("Children Wake Up"). Their Lithuanian diction won the plaudits of the audience.

National President Frank Petrauskas brought greetings from the Supreme Council. Helen Shields HM spoke on the 70th anniversary of the Mid-Atlantic District being observed this year.

Rev. Timothy Burkauskas of Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine, Doylestown, invited Knights to attend the day of prayer to be held on Saturday, June 14, in observance of Baltic Freedom Day as proclaimed by President Reagan and the US Senate. This is the 45th anniversary of the terrible June days when 250,000 people were deported from the Baltic nations and sent to Siberia. Anthracite Council chartered a bus scheduled to leave Annunciation Church parking lot at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 14.

The benediction was given by the Rev. William Linkchorst.

MAD President Larry Janonis presided at the short business meeting. A resolution recommending bestowal of the Honorary Degree upon Msgr. Al Bartkus, former spiritual advisor of Anthracite Council, was adopted. Congratulations to Father Jarasunas who was installed in the Third Degree by the MAD Ritual Committee, Jovita Sleder, Chairman. Council 144 was proud to receive second place honors for 27

new members in the membership drive for 1985.

MAD will sponsor a camper to Camp Aušra sponsored by the Congregation of Sisters of Jesus Crucified, directed by Sister M. Angela, on St. Mary's Villa Grounds, Elmhurst, Pa., July 6 through 19 for students 8 years of age through 16. Application may be made to President Janonis.

Bernice Mikatavage and Ann Marie Lithkowsky co-chaired the successful event. Evelyn Prep chaired the decorating committee. Members contributed prizes for the raffle.

Prior to departure, delegates and guests were treated to a sumptuous hot and cold buffet with covered dishes and desserts prepared and donated by members. Our members Georgann and William Navitsky and their staff catered the noon meal.

C-144 extends sincere sympathy to the husband and family of Mary Szmanski of Mt. Carmel. President Wargo and Spiritual Advisor Father Jarasunas conducted the Knights Christian Wake Ritual on Tuesday, April 1, at the Lucas Funeral Home.

On Saturday, March 15, Elsie Kosmisky, 3rd VP; Joni Reinhart, LCRA Coordinator; Anna Klizas Wargo, Public Relations; Rita Shevokas, member Scholarship Committee and Helen Chesko, Council News Editor, attended the Supreme Council meeting at the Hilton in Allentown.



LIETUVAI LAISVĖS ŽIBURYS DAR TEBELIEPSNOJA

Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės atstatymo 68-tas minėjimas buvo pradėtas sekmadienį pamaldomis Annunciation BVM bažnyčioje, Frackville, PA.

Minėjimą rengė Lietuvos Vyčių Anthracite 144-ta kuopa. Rita Shevokas iš New Philadelphia buvo pamaldų koordinatorė. Adv. Paul Domalakes iš Frackville skaitė pirmą skaitinį. Kun. Francis Baransky iš Coaldale skaitė Evangeliją ir Edmund Carlitus iš Ringtown skaitė „Maldą iš sovietų kalėjimo“.

Žarijos chorui švelniai giedant „Lietuva Brangi“, tautiniais rūbais apsirengę vaikučiai ėjo procesijoje ir nešė gėles ir kryžius, sovietų nelaisvėj mirusių atminimui. Vaizdavo, kad ten jų kapų nepuošia kryžiai nei gėlės. Procesijoje dalyvavo Billy, Jimmy ir Susan Paukštis, Stacey Harvilicz, Amy Canfield, Jamie Eckert ir Becky Poplosky. Keturios jaunos mergaitės (Janel Shemonsky, Karen Zawasky, Lora ir Stacy

Dunchick), pasipuošusios tautiniais rūbais, eidamos procesijoje, kalbėjo iš Sibiro gautą maldą „Marija gelbėk mus“. Jos vaizdavo keturias jaunas Sibiro kankines.

Marge Valinsky iš New Philadelphia skaitė ketvirtą skaitinį, kuriame buvo pareikštas susirūpinimas Nijolės Sadūnaitės areštu, trims metams sunkiems darbams ir trims metams tremties nuteisimu.

Klebonas kun. Gerald Gobitas pasakė jaudinantį pamokslą. Uždegant žvakes, Joseph Yezulinas giedojo Schuberto „Ave Marija“ lietuviškai.

Kun. Matthew Jarasunas iš Maizeville vadovavo lietuviškom pamaldom, asistavo kunigai Baransky, Gobitas ir Donald Yenushosky iš Saint Clair. Žarijos choras, vadovaujamas Eleanor Vaičaitis ir akomponuojant Wilhelminai Verbitsky, giedojo „Marija, Marija“, „Šiluvos Marija“ ir palaiminimo giesmes lietuviškai. Choras ir bažnyčioje esantys sugiedojo „Battle Hymn of the Republic“ ir užbaigimo giesmę „How Great Thou Art“ lietuviškai.

Kita minėjimo dalis buvo parapijos salėje. Kun. Jarašūnas sukalbėjo

palaiminime maldą ir Yezulinas pagiedojo „Tėve Mūsų“ lietuviškai. Visi sugiedojo Amerikos himną.

Po vakarienės, programos vedėjas Joe Yezulinas įteikė kun. Gobitui Jungtinių Amerikos Valstybių Senato proklamaciją. Resp. E. J. Lucyk įteikė panašią proklamaciją, primindamas apie dedamas pastangas užtart Lietuvos ir kitų pavergtų tautų reikalą. Jis įteikė Amerikos Kongresui rezoliuciją, prašydamas Kongreso reikalauti laisvės Pabaltijo Valstybėms. Dalyviai nepagailėjo gausių plojimų.

Ann Vargo kalbėjo apie Lietuvos žmonių sunkią padėtį ir Žarijos choras padainavo keletą lietuviškų dainų. Solistė Arlene Sadusky padainavo „Kur bėga Šešupė“ ir „Follow Me“. Jai nepagailėta šiltos ovacijos. Po to visi dainavo kartu. Joe Yezulinas ir Mary Najda padainavo „Kaip gražiai žiba žvaigždutės“. Minėjimą užbaigiant giedojo publika, E. Vaičaitis dirigavo, o Žarijos choristai plojo.

Minėjimas pasibaigė sugiedojus Amerikos himną. Kunigas Yenushosky sukalbėjo pabaigos maldą.

Ann Vargo

Vertė Apolonija Žiaušienė

C-152 — RIVERHEAD

Our council celebrated Lithuanian Independence Day and St. Casimir's Day on March 2 with Mass in St. John the Evangelist in Riverhead. That little church was filled to capacity.

Father Chalres Mackevicius was the celebrant and another first was added this year. Three hymns were sung in Lithuanian. This small group of members, so hastily called upon and without any rehearsal, an organist who was unfamiliar with the music, did a marvelous job. To Marge Lawrence, organist, Fred Lucka, Angela Minsavitch, Anne Tarmey, Joe & Irene Allen, Agnes Marma and Charlie Dubmlis, a

“Širdingai Ačiū” for a beautiful performance that seemed to touch the hearts of many in attendance according to their comments.

The procession at the offering of the gifts was also a beautiful ceremony. Eight special gifts were presented, each with a special significance to this celebration.

Brunch followed Mass and was served at the Tolendol Inn in Mattituck. This, too, was well attended, 152 nice people gathered to enjoy the delicious food, renew old acquaintances and to listen to our distinguished guest speakers, Father Mackevicius and Dr. Jack J. Stukas. Both men urged us to never give up our efforts on behalf of occupied Lithuania; to remain true to our

religious beliefs and to “holler” when needed to be heard.

This beautiful day was arranged by our President Alice Graff and to her a grateful “thank you.”

It was nice to see some of our members with us who haven't been able to attend our meetings lately for one reason or another, among them the Griffins, the Bilunases, the Bodneviches. We hope to see them more often.

These winter months are vacation time around here. Flo and Roy Ostroski spent two weeks in Florida as did Sophia & John Valek.

Nice to see Irene Allen looking and feeling so well after her recent surgery. We've missed Bob Graff at our meetings and hope he'll be feeling

much better so that he can join us again real soon.

Wedding bells rang out once again in April when Irene and Joe Allen celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. A surprise party was arranged by their daughter and son in honor of the occasion and a good time was had by all. To a grand couple, „Ilgiausij Metų” and God bless you.

Everybody circle September 20 on your calendar and keep that date open.

B L

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT



C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Our council celebrated the feast of St. Casimir, our patron, on March 2 by attending Mass in St. Francis Church, Athol. Fr. Steponaitis was the celebrant and delivered an appropriate sermon on our patron and Lithuania. The Mass was offered for the living and deceased members of our council. The gifts were presented by Leonard Davidonis and Charles Genaitis. The group received communion in a body.

Following Mass all in attendance venerated a first-class relic of St. Casimir. Scott Pralinsky was the organist. A group of 26 of us enjoyed dinner at Ben's Chowder House in Orange. We adjourned to the parish hall to hold our monthly meeting at

which time we discussed a cultural topic.

We welcome back to Council 10 Sophie Fiorentino after years of absence. She is the former Sophie Pierzalowski and recently moved back to the family homestead on Jay St., Athol. Sophie is the proud mother of eight children and plans to take an active part in St. Francis parish and K of L.

I introduce you this month to Julia Kalanta Meehan who was born and reared in Gardner. Her marriage took her to the Athol-Orange area where she lived the past 50 years. Julie is the mother of two children and grandmother of three. Her hobbies include cooking, crocheting and knitting. She does a lot of traveling with Golden Age groups. Best wishes for the future and many years with the K of L, Julie.

During the month of May, let's all take a few minutes and remember our beautiful mothers, living or deceased, with prayer, loving care and kind deeds.

Vincukas

C-26 — WORCESTER

Worcester's Lithuanian Independence Commemorations alternate each year between St. Casimir and Our Lady of Vilna Churches. This year, Father Alphonse Volungis, pastor of Our Lady of Vilna, was host. Concelebrating with Bishop Timothy Harrington who also gave the homily were Father Volungis and Father Anthony J. Miciunas MIC, pastor of St. Casimir's Church. St. Casimir's Men's Choir was guest choir.

Following the beautiful liturgy, C-116 President Irene Tamulevich and her committee served "coffee and" in the parish hall. The civic commemoration took place in the afternoon at Maironis Park. Father Casimir Pugevicius was guest speaker and successfully stirred his listeners into accepting the grim

reality of today's suffering Lithuania. It was a most moving address. Father Pugevicius is Director of Lithuanian Religious Aid.

Father Miciunas, our pastor and spiritual director, was celebrant and homilist at the Mass held in honor of our patron, St. Casimir, on March 2. Our president, Rita Pinkus, and her executive board led a very large membership to their pews. Following Mass, a full breakfast was served in the parish hall, catered by Rasa & Edmund Grigaitis and their aides. Eduardas Meilus, Jr., Director of Worcester's Lithuanian Hour on radio station WICN, was guest speaker. A wonderful morning!

The March 9 trip to the dog track convinced many that the only way to strike it rich is to hold a job! Yes? But a wonderful time was had. Our tour director, Stephen Walinsky, Sr., managed the busloads of people very well.

Stephen Walinsky, Sr., his wife, Ann, and Bill & Anne Leseman were the core committee for the March 15 jilitary whist. All 24 tables were filled and nearly everyone left with a prize.

Charles Tagman, Sr., one of our former council presidents, has been ill of late. His wife, Adele, had surgery. Prayerful get well wishes to this fine couple. Mary Kamendulis is at home convalescing after spending a couple weeks in the hospital. Quicker-than-quick get well wishes, Mary!

Condolences to Ronald Valinski and his family on the death of his wife, Eleanor, during Holy Week. Eleanor was always a very active young woman and we will miss her. Ron and Eleanor hosted several summer council meetings at their lovely summer home on Lake Lashaway in East Brookfield. Father William Wolkovich of Norwood, a cousin, was main celebrant at the concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial. She was only 51. God rest her precious soul.

Prayerful remembrances of our beloved mothers, living and dead, as we enter this beautiful month of May.

Iki sekančio numerio, su Diev!
„DZUKELE”

C-50 — NEW HAVEN

On February 9, Albina Lipcius took care of the program for Lithuanian Independence Day at St. Casimir's Church Hall following the 10:30 Mass. A delicious buffet dinner was served by Theresa Strimaitis and her buddies followed by speeches delivered by several local civic leaders. A more extensive and elaborate program took place at the Roberts Center in West Hartford on February 16. Governor William O'Neill proclaimed February 16 to be Lithuanian Independence Day in the State of Connecticut.

St. Casimir's Feast Day was celebrated on March 2. Anthony Kordorsky and Al Gedrim set up the banners on the altar, the Knights marched in, the choir sang their usual glorious hymns especially in honor of St. Casimir and Father Karalis was at his best celebrating the Mass. It is becoming a spiritual event in the calendar of St. Casimir's Church.

The committee of Theresa Strimaitis, Bruno Strimaitis, Ann Meskins, Isabel and Frank Peterson and Helen Balchus prepared the good food. Ham, kugelis, breaded chicken, sausage and kraut, salads, gelatin molds were on the menu. Thanks to those who brought those wonderful cakes.

Father Karvelis who will be pastor of St. Joseph in Waterbury in April and spiritual advisor gave a most inspiring talk reminding us never to shrink from boasting about our Lithuanian heritage. We are sorry to lose Father Karvelis as a member of our council, but we are happy that he will pick up the reigns of Father Vilchauskas who so

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

Petras Vaiciunas "To Mother"



zealously held on to them. We closed the program with the singing of the Vytis Hymn.

Even though we didn't hear her speak in her usual benevolent manner, just the presence of Maryte Jokubaite, our faithful Knight, brought back those unforgettable moments when she stirred the whole hall.

John Prishwaljo joined his wife and daughter in becoming a member of C-50. Welcome!

At our March meeting, Albina Lipcius presented us with a 1987 schedule of events taking place in Hartford for the 600th Anniversary commemorating Lithuanian Christianity.



MARY A. SVELNIS (Mother of Longinas Svelnis), Archives Committee Chairman.

Ilgiausių Metų!

99 years young May 2, 1986.

Born May 2, 1887

Kupiškio Rajonas, Lithuania

Betty Gybowski has taken the role of publicity chairman for the council. Congratulations on your new post.

Ann Kordorsky, setting up the telephone squad, taking care of the sunshine responsibilities, cleaning up after meetings, serving as historian, is a great gal of whom we are proud.

Alice Dekas, we thank you for your cooperation in every way despite your inability to attend our functions. May God speed your progress to enable you to walk. We hope and pray that Eleanor Gutauskas will be back with us soon. Joseph Macknis has been through some very difficult times. We pray for his recovery.

H. B.



Governor Edward D. DiPrete, State of Rhode Island, presents proclamation commemorating 68th anniversary of Lithuanian Independence to Elizabeth Tribuisis of C-

103 Providence. Joseph Waitonis and Sophia Sakalys (left) and Rev. Izidorius Gedvila, Raymond Savickas (right) witness presentation.

**Annual Commoration Mass
Tragic June Days**

**St. Mary's Church
Bristol, RI**

**PLEASE JOIN US!
JUNE 14, 5 A.M.**

C-103 — PROVIDENCE

Led by President William Piacentini our members joined representatives of the Lithuanian Community in our state in observing the 68th Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence on February 16. Our pastor and spiritual advisor Father Gedvila celebrated Mass for Lithuania's intentions. Exercises were held in the parish hall in the afternoon.

Participants were headed by the chairman of the Providence Chapter

Lithuanian-American Community Liudas Kukanauza. Mistress of ceremonies was Gaja Valiuskyte. Father Jurgelaitis, our national spiritual advisor, was the main speaker. Seated at the head table were also representatives of the American-Lithuanian Club, Walter Kachanis, the club's Women's Auxiliary president Mrs. Anne Sparks, and Bertha Stoskus of St. Ann's Society.

The Governor's proclamation was read, followed by the reading of a resolution from the Rhode Island House of Representatives. It was hailed as a most interesting observance due mainly to the participation of the youth in the proceedings prior to the close. The combined choir and members of the Lithuanian conversational class performed for the gathering.

St. Casimir's Feast Day celebration was held on March 2 with Mass in our St. Casimir's parish church by our pastor Father Gedvila. Brunch followed at the Maple Root Inn. The social committee headed by Elizabeth Tribuisis received much deserved praise for the conducting of this affair. Father Jurgelaitis, after a fast trip from his priestly chores in Brockton, was the main speaker after the meal and short business session. Father related to St. Casimir and the arrangements being conducted all over the world for the 600th Anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania. Highlighting the business session was the distribution of the C-103 calendar of events for the year.

Tentative plans were outlined for the coming NED Convention that C-103 will host on April 27.

Un Ami De Lithuanie



LIETUVOS VYČIŲ VIDURIO AMERIKOS APYGARDOS „LIETUVOS PRISIMINIMŲ“ BANKETAS



Mid-America District's 26th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet. Pictured are: Rev. John Savukynas, MIC (former Dist. Sp. Adv.); Chairman John Paukstis; Ill. State Senator Frank Savickas; Dist. Sp. Adv. Anthony Zakarauskas; Mistress-of-Ceremonies Mrs. Mary Rudis; His Excellency Bishop V. Brizgys; the Hon.

Josephine Daužvardis; newly-appointed Lith. Consul Vaclovas Kleiza and Mrs. Kleiza; Canon V. Zakarauskas (C-112 Sp. Adv.); Nat'l Pres. ALTAS Teodoras Blinstrubas.

Photo: Jonas Tamulaitis

Lietuvos nepriklausomybės minėjimą Amerikos Vidurio vyčių apygarda suruošė vasario 23-čią Martinique salėje Chicagoje. Dalyvavo 426 asmenys.

Iėjus į salę vytės svečius maloniai sveikino ir segė Lietuvos trispalvę prie krūtinės. Laukė patarnautojos, siūlė skanių gėrimų.

Valanda prabėgo greitai. Pasigirdo maršo garsai, per salę vedė vyčiai garbinguosius svečius už prezidiumo stalo. Atvesti prie jo buvo Alto pirmininkas Teodoras Blinstrubas, kan. Vaclovas Zakarauskas, p. Kleizienė, naujasis Lietuvos generalinis konsulas Vaclovas Kleiza, buvusi mūsų konsulė Juzė Daužvardienė, vyskupas Vincentas Birzgys, Marija Rudienė, kun. Antanas Zakarauskas, Algirdas Brazis, kun. Jonas Savukynas, Jonas Paukstis ir Illinois valistijos senatorius Pranas Savickas.

Banketo rengimo pirmininkas J. Paukstis atidarė šventę, pakvietė Mariją Juzėnaitę sugiedoti

Amerikos ir Lietuvos himnus. Jai akompanavo Aldona Brazienė. Invokaciją sukalbėjo 112-tos vyčių kuopos dvasios vadas kan. V. Zakarauskas. Maldoje kreipėsi jis į Viešpatį prašydamas, kad baigtųsi mūsų brolių žudynės Lietuvoje, kad grįžtų Lietuvai laisvė.

Apygardos pirmininkas A. Brazis pasveikino susirinkusius ir pakvietė M. Rudienę vadovauti tolimesnei programai.

Sekė vakarienė. Jų metu buvo linksma nuotaika. Kalbėjosi svečiai apie daugelį dalykų, paliesdami ir savo asmenišką gyvenimą.

Pavalgius, sveikinimo kalbas pasakė Alto pirmininkas T. Blinstrubas, Lietuvos generalinis konsulas V. Kleiza, buvusi konsulė J. Daužvardienė ir senatorius P. Savickas uždegančiai ragino vyčius įsijungti į Lietuvos laisvinimo darbą. Senatorius yra kilęs iš Marquette parko. Dabar vyksią aldermanų rinkimai, visi lietuviai balsuokite už dabartinį vyčių aldermaną Brady. Mes

turime savo kolonijas išlaikyti lietuviškomis. Salė jam kėlė ovacijas.

Programos vedėja M. Rudienė pristatė salėje sėdinčius svečius: Kazimierą Oksą, aldermaną Brady, vyskupą Trakį su ponia, seselių kazimieriečių vyresniąją seselę Joanelą, Šv. Kryžiaus ligoninės vedėją seselę Teresę. Daug iškilmingumo banketui suteikė trys stalai užimti seselių kazimieriečių. Taip pat buvo pakviestas pasirodyti jaunas teisininkas Robertas Zapolis. Vedėja Rudienė pasakė, kad asmuo, kuris daugiausiai prie šio banketo suruošimo darbavosi, niekada nepasirodo už prezidiumo stalo: „Prašau Irena Sankutė mums pasirodyti“. Amerikos Vidurio apygardos vyčiai kartu su svečiais ilgai jai plojo, tuomi išreikšdami padėką už puikiai suruoštą šventę.

Toliau sekė meninė programa. Ją atliko tenoras Darrell Rowader ir baritonas A. Brazis. Juodu dainavo daug dainų, arijų. Dainavo ir dueta. D. Rowader nėra lietuvis, bet kai

KAN. V. ZAKARAUSKO INVOKACIJA „LIETUVOS PRISIMINIMŲ” BANKETE

Viešpatie, Jėzau Kristau, pavergėjas mūsų Lietuvą prislėgė geležine uždanga. Ją atskyrė nuo laisvojo pasaulio spygliuotų vielų tvora ir minų laukais. Jis ten uždarinėja Tavo šventoves, o jų vieton stato naujus kalėjimus. Jis ištrėmė kančioms ir lėtai mirčiai į Sibiro vergų stovyklas ir gulagų salynus tūkstančius mūsų brolių ir sesių. Jis sunaikino Lietuvos valstybę ir jos politinę nepriklausomybę ir visose srityse panaikino laisvę, uždėjo pančius visoms tautos apraiškoms. Ten vyksta priespauda, išnaudojimas, diskriminacija ir persekiojimas. Ten šiandien nuo pavergėjo direktyvų, reikalavimų bei kontrolės nėra laisvas grynai vidinis žmogaus gyvenimas, jo įsitikinimai, mintys ir sąžinės pasaulis. It, stingdantis totalistinės vergovės šaltis persunkia visą tautos buitį iki sąžinės ir širdies gelmių.

Visagali Dieve, gailestingai pažvelk į Lietuvą, į tą mūsų kryžių žemę, jau tiek metų einančią skaudžiu kryžiaus keliu, tiek metų mūsų broliai ir sesės šaukia: „Viešpatie, kaip dar ilgai?” Neleisk, kad ši jų sunki raudonoj tironijoje dalia jiems atneštų pražūtį, o greičiau tepraeina ta kančios taurė pro mūsų tautą. Viešpatie, tik padėk mūsų broliams ir sesėms kantriai ir ištvermingai pakelti priespaudos našta, kuri temdo jiems saulę ir skaudina jų širdį... Tegu tas sunkus likimas tautai atneša Prisikėlimą.

Viešpatie, juk Tu mūsų pavergtųjų brolių ir sesių nekvietai į rezignaciją, į pasyvumą, nuolaidumą, pasidavimą likimui. Tavoji Evangelija yra laisvės naujiena ir išsilaisvinimo jėga. Jos ryžtas

kovoti, ginti, nepasiduoti, neprarasti vilties ir nesusmukti bejėgiais vergais po pavergėjo kojomis. Tu Viešpatie, teiki drąsos kovoti už savo teises ir pagrindines laisves, kurias pats Dievas yra žmogui suteikęs. Tad padėk drąsiai kovoti pavergtos Lietuvos kunigams, broliams ir sesėms dėl Bažnyčios ir Tautos teisių.

Viešpatie, mes neužmiršime tų mūsų brolių ir sesių, kurie mūsų krašte atidavė savo gyvybę, kaip auka gelbėdami žmogaus orumą, gindami savo laisvę, kurios dėka žmogus yra žmogumi. Jie mūsų tikėjimo ir tautos meilės kankiniai ir herojai. Jų gyvybės auka mus skatina ginti nelygstamas vertybes, kurios gina ir saugo mūsų dvasinę nepriklausomybę. Stiprina laisvės troškimą, veržimasi į laisvę, kurią savo širdyje nešioja kiekvienas žmogus ir kiekviena tauta.

Tad, Tu Viešpatie, padėk mūsų broliams ir sesėms išsilaisvinti iš melo galios ir vėl turėti žmogišką vertę tarp laisvųjų žmonių. Padėk jiems atgauti pagrindines laisves, kurias iš jų yra atėmęs totalistinis ir bedieviškas režimas prievartos keliu.

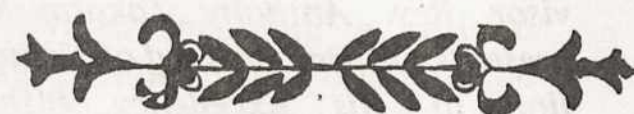
Viešpatie, Tu esi visų pavergtųjų Prieglauda ir Stiprybė. Todėl šiandien mūsų pavergtieji broliai ir sesės, jų vergijos naktįje guodžiasi: „Neturime nepriklausomybės, bet turime Tėvynę Lietuvą. Tėvynė didelėje negalioje, bet ji gyva! Ji kovoja, ji bus laisva, nes yra daug drąsių Tėvynės sūnų ir dukrų. Ji prisikels, kaip Tu Viešpatie buvai ant kryžiaus numarintas ir prisikėlei.

Tebūnie jų laisvės nušvitimo viltis ir mums gaivinantis šūkis dabartinės Lietuvos okupacijos naktįje. Pavergtoji mūsų Tauta prisiekia visuose piliakalniuose įžiebtį ugnį naują, kad jokiems engėjams Lietuva nepasiduos. Jis stovės po kryžiumi ir lauks aušros...

Per Kristų mūsų Viešpatį. Amen.



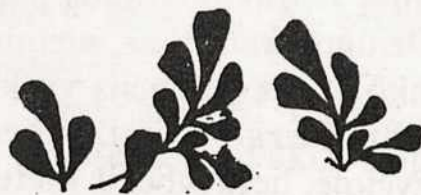
Lithuanian Consul Vaclovas Kleiza



LITHUANIA'S CONSUL GENERAL VACLOVAS KLEIZA

February 16th is Lithuania's Fourth of July, since the Declaration of Independence was signed on both of these dates. However, the similarity ends there, because the Fourth of July represents the birth of a nation, while February 16th symbolizes the resurgence of a state, a state which began more than 700 years ago with the coronation of King Mindaugas.

Throughout history the Lithuanian people, despite long oppression and persecution, never surrendered their spirit of freedom. February 16th is a day of rededication and hope. The hope of freedom is as strong as ever in Lithuania today. It speaks to us from the pages of the "Chronicles of the Lithuanian Catholic Church in Lithuania", we hear it in the voices of Skuodis, Petkus, Gajauskas, Sadūnaitė, and thousands of others. That hope is fostered by Lithuanians in the free world, that spirit is evident in the activities and the commitment of your organization — the Knights





Mid-America District Spiritual Advisor Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas presents District's Award of Distinction to His Excellency Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, assisted by Dist. Pres. Algerd Brazis.

SHARES SOME THOUGHTS AT THE "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA"

of Lithuania. You were one of the first who started an extensive letter writing campaign which helped to sustain that hope of freedom among us.

Today we commend you for honoring one of the outstanding Lithuanians in exile — His Excellency Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, whose life has been dedicated to the service to God and to his country.

Your Excellency, please accept our warmest and most sincere congratulations on this honorable occasion. Your example was always an inspiration to us.

Jūsų Ekscelencija — man yra tikrai miela ir malonu šiandien Jus sveikinti šia ypatinga proga. Mes visi prašome Jums Aukščiausiojo palaimos ir ištvermės toliau besidarbuojant Dievo ir mūsų Tėvynės labui. Jūs mums visuomet išliksite šviesiu žmogaus, kunigo ir vyskupo pavyzdžiu.



Vos atvykęs į Jungtines Amerikos Valstybes, iš vienos vietinės lietuvaits išgirdau: meilė yra nedalinama, jei aš myliu Ameriką, — negaliu kartu mylėti ir Lietuvos . . .

Nors su tuo nesutikau, tačiau šie žodžiai mane persekiojo.

Ir štai ką mes iš tikrųjų matome. Imkime, pavyzdžiui, Lietuvos Vyčius. Myli jie savo gimtinę Ameriką, bet ne mažiau myli ir savo senelių ar prosenelių tėvynę Lietuvą. Kaip jie moka tas „meiles“ suderinti! O tokių vyčių yra apie 5000 . . . Daug kas šioje šalyje rūpinasi Amerika, bet vyčiai dar su didesniu entuziazmu rūpinasi ir Lietuvos reikalais. Jų veikla, jų spauda rodo, kaip jiems rūpi lietuvių kultūrinis palikimas ir Lietuvos laisvės reikalai. Jie dalyvauja Alto veiloje, jų nariai prisidėjo ir prie Alto steigimo.

O ir šie kasmetiniai „Lietuvos prisiminimai“ su Nepriklausomybės paskelbimo minėjimais rodo jų gilią meilę Lietuvai ir mokėjimą ją suderinti su meile Amerikai.

Ačiū Jums, mieli vyčiai!

Vyčiai seka lietuvių visuomeninį gyvenimą, jame pasireiškiančius asmenis, ir tinkamai juos pagerbia.

Džiūgu, kad šiais metais-tokiu parinko Jo Ekscelenciją vyskupą dr. Vincentą Brizgį. Tikrai, jo nuopelnai Bažnyčioje, lietuvybei ir Lietuvai yra

AMERIKOS LIETUVIŲ TARYBOS PIRMININKO TEODORO BLINSTRUBO PASTABOS „LIETUVOS PRISIMINIMŲ“ BANKETE

dideli. Ir laisvoje Lietuvoje, ir stovykliniame gyvenime, ir čia, Amerikoje, jo įnašas yra reikšmingas ir gilus.

Neįmanoma čia visko suminėti ir nesu tam įgaliotas, tačiau norėčiau paminėti jo nuolatinę paramą ir talką Amerikos Lietuvių Tarybai.

Niekad jis neatsisakydavo, kai būdavo Alto kviečiamas.

Kelis kartus vyko į Atstovų Rūmus ir Senatą, kai ten būdavo minima Vasario 16 diena. Ten jo invokacijos pasižymėdavo giliu Lietuvos reikalų iškelimu.

Dažnai dalyvaudavo Alto kongresuose ir suvažiavimuose. Ir čia ryškindavo dabarties uždavinius bei sėkmingesnes kovos pastangas.

O kiek kartų Ekscelencija celebravo Šv. Mišias Chicagoje Vasario 16-tos dienos minėjimų progomis! Vien tik nuo 1975 metų iki šių metų jų būta 10 kartų, pamoksluose stiprino daug kieno silpnėjančias jėgas kovai už laisvę ir tautinį išsilaikymą.

Mielas Ekscelencija, Amerikos Lietuvių Tarybos vardu Jus nuoširdžiai sveikinu, linkiu stiprybės bei sveikatos ir didžiai dėkoju už Alto rėmimą.

Norėčiau, kad būtų įgyvendintas linkėjimas, kurį Jums 1940 metais per konsekavimo iškilmių puotą išreiškė Vatikano nuncijus arkivyskupas Luigi Centoso:

„Tikiuosi, kad Jūs būsite pirmasis dabarties laikų lietuvis kardinolas.“

Mes visi to laukiame . . .

kurias dainas nebuvo jam sunku ir lietuviškai sudainuoti. Buvo aukšto lygio koncertas.

Po meninės programos sekė iškilmingiausioji dalis. Kun. A. Zakarauskas, Amerikos Vidurio apygardos dvasios vadas, pristatė vyskupo V. Brizgio biografiją, kaip vyskupas po visą pasaulį keliauja. Ne kaip turistas, bet norėdamas tikintiesiems padėti. Šešis kartus buvo nuvažiavęs į Pietų Ameriką, buvo Australijoje, Naujojoje Zelandijoje, Indijoje, Europoje, suteikti Sutvirtinimo sakramentą. Jo dėka Romoje Šv. Petro Bazilikoje yra pastatyta lietuvių koplyčia. Ir Washingtone, DC Šiluvos koplyčia. O kiek jo parašytų religinių straipsnių skaitome spaudoje! Kiek šv. Mišių atnašauja ruošiamose šventėse, minėjimuose, seimuose! 1951-mais metais vyčiai jam suteikė garbės narystės laipsnį. Už tuos nesuskaičiuojamus darbus Amerikos Vidurio apygardos vyčiai šį vakarą jai įteikia atžymėjimą. Apygardos pirmininkas A. Brazis įteikė gražų Lietuvos Vytį, prie to dar mažą dovanėlę — auksinį laikrodėlį. Tą dovanėlę įteikdamas juokavo, sakydamas: „Ta dovanėlė yra tam, kad vyskupas nepamirštų, kad šį vakarą praleido su mumis.“

Jo Ekscelencija vysk. V. Brizgys kukliai nenorėjo prisiimti visų iškeltų jam nuopelnų, kurie šį vakarą ir banketo rengimo metu spaudoje buvo garsinami. Tiktai jam esą malonu matyti šioje salėje Lietuvą. Kiek čia įvairių generacijų lietuvių susirinko! Vyčius matęs jau 1927-tais metais Lietuvoje, kai jie atvežė iš Amerikos auksinį kardą ir įteikė generolui Žukauskui. Matęs tą sceną būdamas dar jaunas kunigėlis. Atvykęs į Ameriką, susitikęs ir su ta, kuri tą kardą atvežė — Adelė Grubliauskaite-Gabaliene, dabar jau mirusia. Susipažinęs ir su vyčių organizacijos steigėju Norkūnu. „Ačiū, vyčiai, kad aš jus suradau. Jūs esate Amerikos patriotai, ištikimi esate ir savo tautai, savo kraštui

Lietuvai.“ Kalbą vyskupas užbaigė vyčių obalsiu „gyvenkit Dievui ir tėvynei“.

Banketo reng. kom. pirm. J. Paukštis dėkojo programos vedėjai M. Rudienei, taip sklandžiai vadovavusiai programai. Dėkojo visiems atsilankiusiems į šią šventę, dėkojo ir rengimo komiteto nariams.



Congratulations to all who actively participated in our very successful 26th “Memories of Lithuania” Banquet. This year, our “Award of Distinction” was presented to His Excellency Bishop Vincentas Brizgys for his continuous and untiring efforts on behalf of Lithuania and the spiritual needs of the Lithuanians in the Free World. This beloved and most revered gentleman is an Honorary Member of the K of L and a very special friend to the members in the Chicagoland area. The event was sold out three weeks before the date as many individuals and organizations wanted to show their respect and regard to the Bishop.

A special musica tribute was presented by our own Algerd Brazis and Darrell Rowader, accompanied by Robert Mockus. Mary Juzenas sang the anthems, accompanied by Aldona Brazis. After the program, we all enjoyed dancing to the music of the “Aidas” Orchestra.

Our congratulations to the very hard-working and energetic committee: Dis Pres Algerd Brazis; Banquet Chairman John Paukstis; Irene Sankus, Coordinator; Publicity, Alex Pakalniškis, Ruth Kazlauskas, Emilija Pakalniškis; General Committee Estelle Rogers, Al & Julie Zakarka, Paul & Susan Binkis, Eleanor Kasputis, Aldona Brazis, Mary Juzenas, Gerry Mack, Valeria & Joseph Stanaitis, Sabina Klatt, Mary Kincius, Al Mockus, Vince Samaska.

They were assisted during the banquet by Stella Kaulakis, Sophie

Pakvietė kun. J. Savukyną uždaryti banketą malda.

Prasidėjo linksmoji dalis. Orkestras „Aidas“, susidedąs iš jaunų studentų vyčių, grojo ir dainavo šokiams. Ant blizgančio parketo sukosi poros. O lauke lakstė snaigės, papuošdamos kelius į namus baltai. Iki pasimatymo kitais metais.

Nieminski, Evelyn Ozalis, Jerome Jankus, Maria & Ed Deksnis.

The Chicago Juniors, under the leadership of Juniors VP Maria Deksnis, have enjoyed a full schedule of activities including a trip to Chicago's Chinatown to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Counsellors for the day, along with Maria, were Bernadine & Louis Rogers and Paul Binkis. The special Chinese luncheon was arranged through the efforts of Susan Binkis.

The Chicago Chapter of ALTAS honored our retiring Lithuanian Consul Josephine Dauzvardis, also an Honorary Member of the K of L, with a testimonial dinner. The K of L was well represented. The arrangements were well handled by our super PR lady, Estelle Rogers. Dis Pres Algerd Brazis was one of the soloists.

As we all can attest, Al Brazis continues to sing on a super high plane and is just a delight to hear. If you haven't purchased your copy of the K of L Choir's “Seven Last Words of Christ” cassette, do so now by contacting AnnMarie Kassel. Al is one of the featured soloists and truly is a superior singing talent.

Seven Last Words of Christ
\$10.00 per cassette
plus \$1.00 postage

Make check payable to
K of L

Send to:
Anne Marie Kassel
7336 Winthrop Way
Downers Grove, IL 60516

MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

Our District's Annual St. Casimir's Day Commemoration was hosted by our Young Adult Council 13 of Chicago. The Mass at Immaculate Conception Church was concelebrated by Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, C-36 Spiritual Advisor Rev. F. Kireilis and C-13 Spiritual Advisor Rev. A. Puchinski. Our K of L Choir under the direction of Maestro Faustas Strolia sang the Mass with Hercules Strolia performing on the violin. We were graciously welcomed by the new pastor, Rev. John Kuzinskas, a good friend of the K of L. Brunch and a commemorative program followed at the Darius-Girėnas Memorial Hall. Chairman of the event was John Strolia, Judy Vaikutis was M-C and Tomas Strolia is the council president.

During the program Dis Ritual Chairman AnnMarie Kassel and Natl Ritual Al Zakarka, assisted by Fr. Tony Puchinski presented the Fourth Degree to Louis Rogers C-112 and Third Degrees to Tomas Strolia C-13, John Paukstis C-36, Raymond Wertelka C-36 and Maria Deksnis, Algis Skudra and Rita Zakarka, all of C-112.

The K of L Member of the Year, selected for his outstanding work with the K of L youth and his representation of the District on the Supreme Council and during the National Conventions for several years, was Paul Strolia of C-13.

Following the St. Casimir's Day event, the District held its Spring meeting, chaired by Pres Algerd Brazis. All councils presented reports. Plans were made for the balance of the year. Council 24, Chicago, Our Lady of Vilna Parish, was officially welcomed to our ever-growing Mid-America District. Congratulations to organizers John Paukstis, Aušra Padalino, Bruce Neberieza, Claire O'Dea and Robert Gawryla.



Fr. John Kuzinskas, new pastor of Immaculate Conception and newest C-36 member, is greeted at February meeting.

C-36 — CHICAGO

Acclamations are in order for Scottie Zukas for her superb performance as chairperson for the K of L booth at Immaculate Conception Mardi Gras. There was no doubt as to the Lithuanian nature of this booth to passersby with its streamers and stars in the national colors and a silver and red velvet Vytis emblem mounted artistically on a heraldic shield provided by our ViVi printer. Scottie would like to thank all who helped her on this project: Al Zukas, Vyto Abraitis, John Petraitis, Evelyn Ozelis, Irene Norushis, Ruth Kazlauskas, Joe Martikonis, Ray Wertelka, Victor Utara, Vince Samaska, Walter Kavalaitis, Alina Vadeisa and Ed Valskis.

Other K of L members exercised their talents in other Mardi Gras events. Mary Kincius and Helen Meizis took to the stage to entertain the crowds. Mary also coordinated the direction of 30 youngsters in their stage efforts. Josephine Kilkus was rewarded for her work by winning a massive slab of bacon at one booth. Without her usual chauffeur there, Val Vilunas, Josephine had to enlist the aid of several able-bodied young men. How about a nice pan of kugelis for us?

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Mary Kincius, President C-36, conducts special Lithuanian Independence meeting.



Salomėja Daulys informs members of C-36 on the history of Lithuanian Independence.



"We Love Lithuania" motif set by C-36 social chairperson Irene Norushis.



Mary Kincius and Helen Meizis of C-36 do a little soft shoe at the Immaculate Conception Mardi Gras.

To thank the many workers the parish provided a dinner prepared by the able chefs at A-Jay's Catering. John and Anita Bosas are also K of L members. Scottie Zukas received a lovely Holy Family Statue for serving as chairperson.

Vince Samaska has recently been disbursing Lithuanian culture to the Brighton Park area. A display of a selection of his extensive amber collection was housed at Standard Federal Savings. Bank customers were able to revel in visual delight at amber mosaic plaques, brightly costumed dolls, wood carvings and the gemoetrically beautiful wayside shrines. Even preserved iced flower cake decorations were part of the exhibit.

Our February meeting focused on the bitter-sweet commemoration of Lithuanian Independence. Our articulate member Salomėja Daulys arrayed in Lithuanian costume gave a reflective presentation on the history and surrounding events of February 16. We are grateful to her for her illumination of this historic event.

Also at our February meeting we welcomed our new pastor Father John Kuzinskas. We are also delighted to report that Father has joined the ranks of a Knight of Council 36. Our prayers and wishes are with Father John as he assumes his pastoral duties.

Irene Norushis deserves a double badge of merit for taking on an additional assignment as social chairperson. Irene really pushes creativity to its limits. Individual cake slices were topped by tiny Lithuanian flags and hearts. It was a fitting visual display of "We love Lithuania." We know Irene will have many pleasant surprises for us before the business year is over. Bravo, Irene, for your ideas and delicious treats.

Due to a change in plans, the St. Casimir Day Mass hosted by C-13 was held at our parish. Council 13 and its members were outstanding hosts. Their exuberant folk dancing was a joy to watch and brought back many warm memories for members who once kicked up their heels in a similar manner. Ačiū Council 13.

We are grateful to Ruth Kazlauskas for assuming the role of The Chronicles funding coordinator for C-36. If you have not yet responded to our plea, please do it now. The Chronicles permit the plight of Lithuania to be made known to the free world. This should be of paramount importance to all C-36 Knights. Please send your donations to Ruth at 2453 W. 45th Place, Chicago, IL 60632.

Viso gero . . .

"Spirgučiai"



Prayer to Our Lady, Patroness of The United States of America

Mary, Immaculate Mother of God and Patroness of the United States, once again we dedicate to you our beloved country. Help us to be true to the ideals of those who founded America on faith in God. Inspire our leaders with a love of truth and honor. Be with us as we work to bring about the kingdom of your Son.

Teach us to be grateful for our blessings and generous with our wealth. Obtain for us compassionate hearts that will make us mindful of our suffering brothers and sisters.

Protect us always, O Merciful Mother of God, and answer our prayer through the merits of Jesus Christ, your Son, Our Lord.

Amen.



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Address Correction Requested



C-112 — CHICAGO

The highlight of our March 18 business meeting was the St. Joseph's table which we enjoyed following the meeting. Sincere thanks to the many ladies and gentlemen, too, who contributed so many delicious edibles and refreshments to this table which was coordinated by our ever hardworking Julie Zakarka, the chairlady for this evening.

Congratulations to degree recipients at the St. Casimir's Day celebration on March 9. Fourth Degree was received by Louis Rogers, and Third Degrees were received by Maria Deksnis, Rita Zakarka and Algis Skudra.

It was nice to see Al Brazis up and around and present at our meeting after his recent surgery.

Will wonders never cease? After some 17 years of threatening, pleading and cajoling by his wife Lorraine, Frank Svelnis has finally transferred to our council. This has

been a rather unique situation in which Lorraine, a long time member of Council 112, married Frank, a long time member of Council 36. During the past years, each was active in their own council. Now, at last, Frank made the change and we say welcome and assure you that you made the right move, Frank.



Hon. Josephine Dauzvardis

**Our
Best Wishes
for a
Happy and Joyful
Retirement**



Many of our council members attended Consul Josephine Dauzvar-

dis retirement party on March 1 at the Tautiniai Namai. We wish you many, many years of good health and enjoyment of your leisure time, Mrs. Dauzvardis.

Congratulations to Saulius Kuprys on the birth of a son and to Virginia Buzenas who became the proud mother of a daughter.

Get well wishes to Frances Shillis. We hope you are back to good health. Sincere condolences to Jean Janula on the death of her mother Jennie Korsak and to Frances Lapacinkas and Joe Nausedas on the death of their mother Petronella Nausedas.

Welcome to the following new members: Zena Gallagher, Peter Burns, Grozvida Giedraitis, Jonas & Ada Juska, Joseph Kalvaitis, Algis Krestielaitis, Kristina Martinkus, Joseph & Nijolė Nausėdas and Lorraine Williams.

ARDEE

C-150 — KANSAS CITY

At our last meeting on Palm Sunday, March 23, council members voted to bid for the 74th National Convention to be held during August of 1987.

Already plans and ideas are well underway, and excitement is starting to build throughout the local Lithuanian community.

The Supreme Council should have our bid for the 1987 convention to be held in Kansas City by the first week of May.

Donna Ashley

