

VOL. 72; NO. 6

BIRŽELIS – JUNE

the KNIGHT  
**VYTYIS**

• 1986 •  
**THE KNIGHTS  
OF LITHUANIA**

TRAGIŠKAS BIRŽELIS



Photo by R. Kisielius

**Bishop Vincentas Brizgys**  
Hon. Spiritual Advisor  
2701 W. 68th St  
Chicago, IL 60629

**Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis OP**  
Spir. Adv.  
Providence College  
Providence, R.I. 02918

**Frank Petrauskas, President**  
201 Bennington Dr.  
Syracuse, NY 13205

**Dr. Algirdas Budreckis, 1st VP**  
147 Clay St.  
Quincy, MA 02170

**Mary Ann Lepera, 2nd VP**  
117 Boulder Rd  
Plymouth Mtg., PA 19462

**Elsie Kosmisky, 3rd VP**  
140 S. Wylan St.  
Frackville, PA 17931

**Mary Juzenas, Rec. Sec'y**  
4613 W. 102nd St.  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

**Helen Skudra, Fin. Sec'y**  
7927 North Drive  
Highland, INdiana 46322

**Mrs. Alphonse Trainis, Treas.**  
215 Jefferson St.  
Fairfield, CT 06432


**Frank J. Peterson, Trustee**  
256 Sea Hill Road  
North Branford, CT 06471

**Paul Strolia, Trustee**  
15325 Seouoia  
Oak Forest, IL 60452

**Saulius V. Kuprys, Legal Adv.**  
Henehan, Donovan, Issacson  
135 So. LaSalle St.  
Rm. 3905  
Chicago, IL 60603

**LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS**  
**Nancy Pawasauskas Miro,**  
555 Burnsford Ave.  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

**LITHUANIAN CULTURAL**  
**Regina Kot**  
RD 5  
Amsterdam, NY 12010



# VYTIS

VYTIS is published monthly Oct. thru May, bi-monthly June-July and August-Sept. by the **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**. Second class postage paid at Chicago, IL. Subscription - \$8 per year. All correspondence should reach the Editors by the **FIRST of THE MONTH** - two months in advance of issue. The Editors assume no obligation to return any material or photos not solicited.

## VYTIS STAFF

**BERNICE AVIZA**  
Editor in Chief  
6 Tremont St.  
Albany, NY 12205

**RUTH KAZLAUSKAS**  
Liths in the News Editor  
2453 W. 45th Pl.  
Chicago, IL 60632

**HELEN CHESKO**  
Council News Editor  
1000 E. Pine St.  
Mahanoy City, PA 17948

**POLLY ZIAUSYS**  
Lithuanian Editor  
4 Bartlett St.  
Amsterdam, NY 12010

**SCOTTIE ZUKAS**  
Circulation Manager  
5112 S. Mayfield  
Chicago, IL 60638

**SCHOLARSHIP**  
**William Piacentini, Chrm.**  
362 Webster Ave.  
Cranston, RI 02920

**Ray Vanagas**  
**Paul Binkis**  
**Albert C. Jaritis**  
**Anthony Mazeika**  
**Rita Shevokas**  
**Clemencine Miller, Treas.**  
80 Cottage St.  
Trumbull, CT.06611

**RITUAL**  
**Magdalena Smailis, Crm.**  
8099 Kenmore  
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127

**Rita Pinkus**  
**Albert Zakara**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**  
**Anna Klizas Wargo**  
125 S. Morris  
St. Clair, PA 17970

**LITH. LANGUAGE PROM.**  
**Edmund Vaiciulis**  
85-20 88 St.  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

**LCRA COORDINATOR**  
**Joni Reinhardt**  
205 N. Brd. Mt. Ave.  
Frackville, PA 17931

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**  
**Antanas J. Mazeika Hon.**  
11440 First St., East Cmn.  
Treasure Island, FL 33706

**Stanley Vaitkus, Exec. Cmn.**  
518 Hialeah Ct.  
Vandalia, OH 45377

**Phyllis Grendal, Sec'y**  
915 E. 4th St.  
So. Boston, MA 02127

**Eleanore Laurin**  
**Helen Shields**  
**Rev. Albert J. Contons**

**ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**  
**Longinas Svelnis, Chairman**  
43 Gage Street  
Needham, MA 02,92

**DISTRICT PRESIDENTS**  
**MAMD**  
**Algerd Brazis**  
8022 W. 85th Pl.  
Justice, IL 60458

**MCD**  
**Frances R. Petkus**  
800 Haldeman Ave.  
Dayton, OH 45404

**NED**  
**Albert G. Jaritis**  
75 Gates Street  
So. Boston, MA 02127

**MAD**  
**Larry Janonis**  
2124 Ellis Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10462

## BIRŽELIO PENKIOLIKTOJI

Sunkvežimiai tratėjo, brazdėjo ir užė,  
Prie mokyklų, namų ir kaimo bakūžių,  
Drumstė ramybę ankstyvo ryto  
Veždami Lietuvai siaubą nematyta.

Ne prekes parduotuvėn, taip anksti gabeno,  
Paraudę bedieviai, gaudė mažą ir seną,  
Iškėlę ginklus, primerkę akis  
Daužė namų sienas, langus ir duris.

Nusigandusią šeimą iš miego prikėlę  
Stumė į sunkvežimį tėvus, metė vaikus kaip lėlę  
Silpną, kaip skiedrele, seną močiutę,  
Pusplikį broliuką, verkiančią sesutę.

„Greičiau, greičiau, negaišinkit laiko,  
Sibirui reikia, seno, jauno, vaiko“  
Šautuvais grūmojo, stumdė, grūdo žmones,  
Girdėjosi klyksmas, verksmas ir dejonė.

Trėmė tėvynę mylintį žmogų  
Iš gimto krašto, iš savos pastogės  
Į šaltį, vargą, badą ir ligas,  
Ten mirusio, nei kapo, niekas, neatras.



A. Ž.

## IN MEMORIAM

*For Our  
Brother and Sister  
Lithuanians*

*Who Died*

*During*



TRAGIŠKAS  
BIRŽELIS



The  
**1940 First Lithuanian Soldier's Medal**  
 Revealed

*by Vincent W. Alones and  
 Henry L. Gaidis  
 (Reprinted from The Knight,  
 Publication of the Lithuanian  
 Numismatic Association)*

The First Lithuanian Soldier's Medal (Kariuomenės Pirmūnai Medalis) was officially adopted by the Lithuanian Government on April 11, 1940, a mere two months before the Soviet invasion of the country. It was designed by Lithuania's noted coin designer and sculptor, Juozas Zikaras (1881-1944), years earlier. Zikaras designed Lithuania's 20th century coins.

The medal was authorized to honor those soldiers who twenty years earlier volunteered to join various Lithuanian military units formed within the Russian czarist army. This award is the very last military decoration issued by the Republic of Lithuania, however, its very existence has not been known to many.

The interpretation of the Lithuanian word "pirmūnai" can be rendered to mean: predecessor, forerunner, pioneer, or foremost. These words intertwine with the meaning of this medal's existence and purpose, and should be kept in

mind.

The details concerning this medal were printed in the Government News (Vyrausybes Žinios), the official Lithuanian government publication. Due to the June 15, 1940 military invasion of the Republic of Lithuania by the Soviet Union, it is not known if any of these medals were actually awarded to these soldiers.

There are three such medals known to be in existence, to our knowledge. One is in the museum of the manufacturers, Hugenin Freres, in Switzerland. The other two are owned by the authors of this article. A plaster master model/cast is in possession of the Zikaras family, which conforms to the description set forth in the Government News. The only difference between the three medals and the one prescribed by the Government News' regulations occurs in the ribbon colors. This is discussed below.

With the establishment of the Kerensky Provisional Government in Russia, which assumed power

after the abdication of Czar Nicholas II, Lithuanians serving in the Russian Army were allowed to form their own units. Lithuanian battalions were located in Vitebsk, Smolensk, Siberia, Rovno (Ukraine), Valke (Estonia) and in Romania. The intent of these Lithuanian soldiers was the formation of a unified Lithuanian Army, with divisions composed of infantry, cavalry and artillery, to eventually return home and become the nucleus of a national army.

After the Bolshevik/Communist Revolution of 1917, these Lithuanian battalions and divisions were ordered disbanded. It is estimated that over 5,000 Lithuanians joined such units prior to their disbanding order. Though these soldiers never returned intact to Lithuania as divisions, the bulk returned individually and joined the fighting of the newly formed Lithuanian Army from 1917/1919. The Resolution of 1917, proclaimed the restoration of the Lithuanian State, with its capital at Vilnius. This was followed on

February 16, 1918, with the Declaration of Restoration of Independence, by the Council of Lithuania.

The following abbreviated passages are translated from the *Government News*, Number 702, dated May 4, 1940:

“Section 1390: The President of the Republic announces the following changes in the law governing Lithuanian state orders, medals, and other decorations. The following changes were approved by the Assembly on April 11, 1940, to the law governing Lithuanian State orders, medals and other decorations.

#### VII. Statute Governing The First Lithuanian Soldier's Medal

The First Lithuanian Soldier's Medal is hereby established in recognition of Lithuanians who participated in nationalistic military movements that started abroad during the 1917-1919 period with the goal of resurrecting the nation of Lithuania through the establishment of a military force. This new medal will rank after the Lithuanian Founding Volunteer's Medal (*Lietuvos Kariumenės Kureju Savanorių Medalio*) in order of honor.

The First Lithuanian Soldier's Medal will be silver, in a round shape, with its obverse depicting a Lithuanian maiden holding a broad sword in her right hand. The top part of the circle to bear in relief the inscription “Už Lietuvos Laisvę” (For Lithuanian's Freedom), and the bottom, “Kariumenės Pirmūnai” (First Soldiers). The medal's flat surface forms a cross with its first soldiers marching with a Vytis flag. In the four corners of the medal are depicted the four most important cities of Lithuania (Klaipėda, Vilnius, Kaunas, Siauliai).

The reverse side of the medal bears the dates “1917-1919”, with crossed rifle and sword, surrounded by oak and laurel branches.



*Obverse side of medal*

The ribbon to have three perpendicular stripes of equal width, green, white and red. Crosswise on the ribbon to be an enameled plaque pin, 5mm. wide, with the inscription “1917-1919”, with the letter “P” for “Pirmūnai” (First), in its center.

The First Soldier's Medal is to awarded to the soldiers who served during the years 1917-1919 in actual military or chaplain service in the Lithuanian battalions at Smolensk, Vitebsk, Rovno, Siberia, the Lithuanian Cavalry Division, the 226th Military Field Hospital in Ungenai, members of the Lithuanian military associations of the Central Committee in St. Petersburg, the western and southwestern Romanian Front Committee, and military counterparts which espoused the ideas of Lithuanian independence, and all others who up to February 16, 1918, actively supported the organization of the nation's army and thereby contributed to the resurrection of Lithuanian independence.

Determination of individuals to be awarded this medal is assigned to a committee of 5 persons to be appointed by the Minister of Defense. This award is to be presented by the Minister of Defense in the name of the President of the Republic with an appropriate certificate. The



*Reverse side of medal*

Minister of Defense is charged with the procurement of the medal, awarding and furnishing of the awarding records to the Chancellery of Orders, Medals, and Decorations.

Individuals who were stripped of their rights according to the Penal Statutes or deserted from the army are not eligible to receive this medal. Once confirmed, the medal can only be revoked by a decree of the court or by the Minister of Defense if determined to have been awarded based on falsified documentation. Recipients over 60 years of age are entitled to 50 yearly pensions payments of 100 litas each, and other rights and privileges prescribed by government statutes.”

The three medals known to exist today do conform to the description set forth in the above government regulations. They were made in an unknown quantity by the Hugenin Brothers in Le Locle, Switzerland, which produced the bulk of the official Lithuanian government medals and decorations.

The known medals are made of bronze, and have a similar wash finish, with its ribbon hung from a straight silvered clasp. The medals are 36mm. in diameter. The obverse features a Lithuanian maiden in native dress with a sword in her right hand, while calling forth her

nation's soldiers. Behind her in a cross design appears a marching column of armed Lithuanian uniformed soldiers, following a Vytis flag bearer. In the four corners of the cross appear Lithuanian landmarks from the four most important cities: NW-Klaipeda light house; NE-Vilnius Hill of Gediminas; SE-Kaunas City Hall; SW-Siauliai church.

Located between the maiden's bare feet is the sculptor's last name, "Zikaras", and the manufacturers name, "Sc Hugenin Fec". Around the perimeter is the legend "UŽ LIETUVOS LAISVĖ (top)", and "KARIUOMENĖS PIRMŪNAI" (bottom), meaning "For Lithuanian Freedom, First Soldiers".

The reverse of the medal bears the inscription dates "1917-1919", over an honor wreath containing oak branches and acorns. The design also contains a crossed Russian dragon sword and a Nagant infantry rifle. At the 6 o'clock position again appears the designers name and the manufacturer's name.

The government regulations prescribed a ribbon of green, white and red, with a "1917-1919" cross bar. However, the three known medals in existence bear a tricolor ribbon of blue, white and red. It should be noted that the green-white-red ribbon was already in military use on the Klaipeda Liberation Medal, awarded by the Lithuanian National Guard.

It is the author's opinion that since the prescribed ribbon was already in use, there was a substitution, and it was not reported due to the Soviet invasion. The substituted colors of blue, white and red are appropriate as these were the colors used in the Imperial Czarist Russian flag under which the soldiers first fought. It is noted that the Hugenin Brother's firm in Switzerland supplied the medals to the Lithuanian government with the ribbon already


attached and the specimen in that firm's collection utilizes the blue-white-red color combination. The existence of these colors are genuine and the colored ribbon supplied to the Lithuanian government was as such.

Unfortunately, due to the very few medals known to exist, it is not possible to determine if those are trial specimen pieces, or actual survivors of an unissued supply of medals destroyed by the Soviet occupational regime.

It is interesting to note that the sculptor, Juozas Zikaras, designed his plaster model for this medal sometime in 1923, but unfortunately it was not adopted by the Lithuanian government until some 17 years later! Lithuanian military veterans have indicated that there was a matter of great controversy surrounding the issuance of this medal, for it was seen as a rival to the Founding Volunteers Medal (Savanoriui), whose members had established a Veteran's organization similar to the American Legion or VFW. This military organization did not support the issuance of this new medal, as it established a special or separate class among membership.

The full history of this medal may never be known, and possibly lost forever, in the wake of the 1940 Soviet invasion. Yet, the first Lithuanian Soldier's Medal does exist today in memory of the first modern day Lithuanian Soldiers to take up arms for their country, and is the very last decoration medal of the Republic of Lithuania.

*For more information about Lithuanian numismatics write to:  
Lithuanian Numismatic Assn.  
P.O. Box 612  
Columbia, MD 21045*



**IN MEMORIAM**  
Please remember in  
your prayers...

Fr. George Vilciauskas  
Spiritual Advisor, C-7  
Waterbury, CT  
Died December 18, 1985

Fr. Alphonse Volungis  
Pastor, Our Lady of Vilna Church  
Worcester, MA  
Died April 27, 1986

Anthony Skabeikis  
Member, C-110, Maspeth, NY

John Trautulis  
Member, C-110, Maspeth, NY

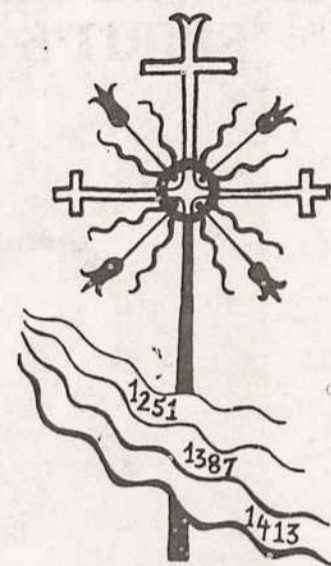
Adele Jones  
Member, C-152, Riverhead, NY  
Died Easter Week, 1986

Ray Lukasavich  
Member C-79, Southfield, MI  
Died March 23, 1986

Joseph Belickas  
Member C-79  
Southfield, MI  
Died May 10, 1986

# God is Our Refuge and Our Strength

Dievas Mūsų Prieglauda ir Stiprybė



**“WHAT MUST WE DO,  
BROTHERS?”**

***“You Must Repent, Be Baptized,  
And You Will Receive  
The Gift Of The Spirit”***

During this year of preparation for the anniversary of Lithuania's Christianity, Lithuanians throughout the world have been asked to focus on “living our faith”. But just what does that mean we should do?

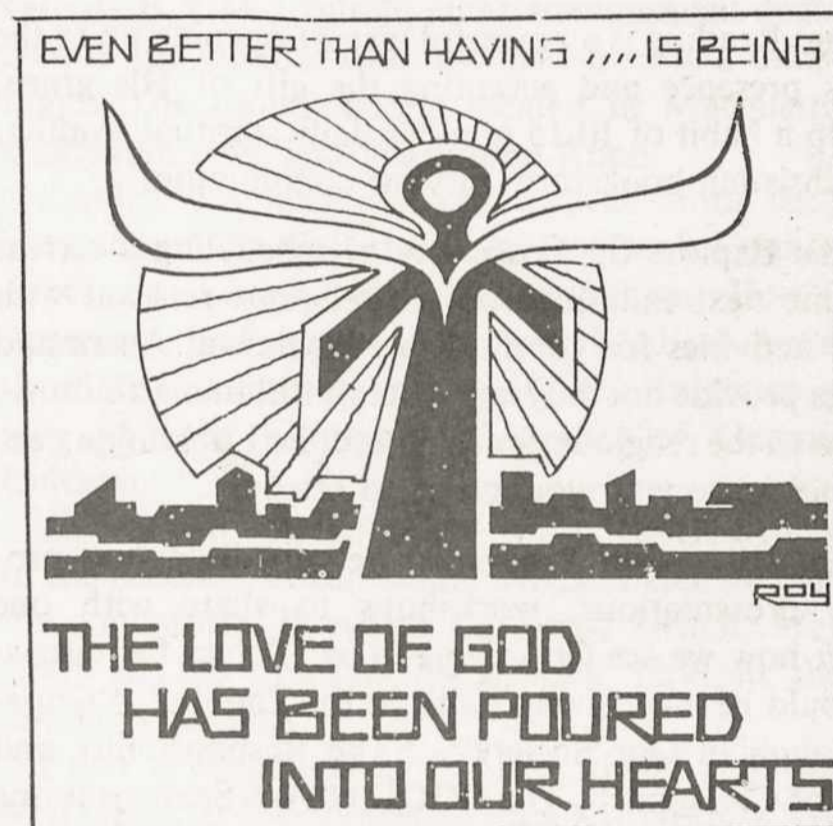
- ... We are baptized Catholics
- ... We go to church every Sunday, sometimes daily
- ... We try to be good

But do such factors exhibit God living within us? What must we add to our lives, how must we change our lives, what is that one extra step needed to transform us into a living experience of a second pentecost? And more... are there things we may be doing that prevent God from being seen within us?

In the Evangelical encyclical the Pope said: “Today, we have many baptized Catholics, who, though outrightly do not deny their baptism, are indifferent to it; and live ignoring it. Chicago's Cardinal Bernardin has said that 60% of the church goers are baptized Christians but live their lives as pagans.

As we proceed through the daily routine of our life — do we really feel Christ close to us, living within us? Or is He a little bit distant, do we sometimes reject His advice and substitute our own preferences. Because of the evil that surrounds us we often fall under Sin's dominion. We allow the luster, the beauty of God's glory to become tarnished.

Jesus knows of the temptations that surround us. He, Himself, lived as we do. He experienced the same temptations. But He showed us that His Spirit had power over



death, sin and evil. Because God does not want us to be separated from Him, He has provided us with something to help us, to teach us, to protect us — The Holy Spirit. The spirit is within us — we must accept its help to recognize what we have done wrong; and to seek forgiveness. As we accept God's forgiveness we will feel the mystical affect of his love — a soothing comfort to our difficult lives. This experience of “new life” fills us with a grace that reaches beyond and through us. Somehow differences disappear, reasons to argue vanish, and a oneness lives with us and in us.

To overcome the evils of today's world all Lithuanians must join together, support one another's determination to show repentance, in order that we will all be able to receive together, in 1987, the gift of the Spirit.

## HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE SPIRIT'S PRESENCE?



### HOW TO ACCEPT HIS ADVISE, HELP, AND RECOGNITION?

**Reading:** Reading is a powerful way of opening up to the Spirit's presence and accepting the gift of His grace. Develop a habit of 10-15 minutes daily spiritual reading. Visit Christian bookstores in your communities.

**Retreats:** Explore the possibility of scheduling a retreat sometime next fall. Incorporate religious renewal with regular activities for youth. Camps Dainava, Ausra and Neringa provide not only exposure to Lithuanian culture, but also to the religious dimension of the Lithuanian people. Encourage your youngsters to attend.

**Spiritual Discussion Programs:** Set up discussion programs, presentations, workshops to share with one another how we see God living in us. Topics for discussion could be — "Living Faith in the Family", "Christian Values in Our Society", "The Responsibility and Rights of Christians". The GOOD NEWS Seminar is one possibility that has been used successfully and can always be repeated.

The Religious Renewal Committee will gladly assist in any way they can — suggesting speakers, materials, etc. Write them:

Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee  
Religious Renewal Programs  
I.C.C. — RT 21  
Putnam, CT. 06260

## NEWS RELEASE



U.S. Catholic Conference  
Washington D.C.  
May 7, 1986

### WAR AGAINST RELIGION IN LITHUANIA ABHORRED

WASHINGTON — Soviet persecution of religion is frustrating Catholic preparations for celebrating 600 years of Christianity in Lithuania, according to the President of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishop James W. Malone of Youngstown, Ohio, in a statement noted the difficulty of Church authorities in countering the "war against religion" in their country, controlled by the Soviet Union.

Following is his statement:

Next year Lithuanians will celebrate the 600th anniversary of the establishment of Christianity in their country. It is a sad fact that the preparations of the Catholic Church in Lithuania for this important anniversary are being frustrated by the official anti-religion policy of the Soviet Union.

In a statement dated November 11, 1985, but available in the West only in February of this year, the Bishops and administrators of the six Catholic diocese Lithuania speak of a war against religion: an official policy encouraging the renunciation of religion. The faithful in that predominantly Catholic country are denied access to all religious literature except prayer books and the catechism. In 1984 the government interfered with the celebration of the 500th jubilee of St. Casimir, the patron saint of Lithuanians.

Catholics and other Christians in this country, who enjoy the blessings of religious liberty, give thanks for their freedom and pray for their persecuted fellow Christians in Soviet dominated lands.



## STANLEY PIEŽA HONORED BY POPE JOHN PAUL II

by Mrs. Joanne McGlowe

Pope John Paul II has conferred an esteemed award — the PRO ECCLESIA et PONTIFICE MEDAL — on Stanley Pieza, retired Chicago journalist in recognition of his services to the Roman Catholic Church, the papacy and the Lithuanian community of America.

On behalf of the Pope, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, archbishop of Chicago, presented personally the honorary papal medal to Pieza in the cardinal's office.

In a letter notifying Pieza of the papal honor, Cardinal Bernardin stated, "This medal is certainly an acknowledge of the respect in which you are held within the Lithuanian Catholic Community; but also a reminder of the many years you contributed to the field of journalism as a sensitive and caring reporter."

In accepting the award, Pieza thanked the Pope and Cardinal Bernardin and stated, "I wish to share this papal honor in memory of my colleague religion writers the Rev. John Evans of the *Chicago Tribune* and James Supple of the old *Chicago Sun*."

The papal medal, cruciform in shape, bears the likeness of SS. Peter and Paul, the tiara and the papal keys, and the name of Pope John Paul II, all on the same side; it is attached to a ribbon of yellow and white, the papal colors. The medal was originated in 1888 by Pope Leo XIII.

Pieza worked for 36 as a police reporter, writer, Vatican correspondent, and religion editor of the old *Chicago American* and the old *Chicago Today*, and as a special correspondent for the International News Service. He retired in 1970 and lives on a farm in the North Judson community of Indiana. He and his wife celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in 1981. His wife Anne, who was a noted singer and choral director in Chicago, died in 1982. Pieza celebrated his 80th birthday August 18, 1985 and presently enjoys his four children and 16 grandchildren.

The award-winning journalist is a benefactor of the Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome, and he promoted the designation of the Lithuanian Plaza by the Chicago City Council, an area which includes Maria High School, Holy Cross Hospital, St. Casimir Sisters Convent, the



*Joseph Cardinal Bernardin presents the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal to H.M. Stanley Pieza, on behalf of the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II.*

Nativity B.V.M. Church, and the monument dedicated to Darius and Girenas who lost their lives in a transatlantic flight. The monument is located in Marquette Park, California Ave. and Marquette Road.

Stanley has also received awards from the Jewish Veterans of the United States, the Cook County of the American Legion, the Darius-Girenas Post of the American Legion, the American Medical Association, the Holy Family Villa of Lemont, the Knights of Columbus, and the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce of Chicago.

As Vatican correspondent, Pieza covered the sessions of the Second Vatican Council in St. Peter's Basilica, and the consistories in which Cardinals Stritch, Meyer and Cody of the Chicago archdiocese received their cardinalial red hats.

Pieza is acclaimed as the only living U.S. journalist who spoke to four popes — Pius XII, John XXIII, Paul VI, and John Paul II.

Stanley keeps busy as a free-lance writer, a board member of both the Little Company of Mary Health Facility in San Piere, Indiana, and the Starke County on Aging. He is also a director of the Lithuanian Catholic Press Society, which publishes the Lithuanian daily DRAUGAS in Chicago. He is also a member of the Knights of Lithuania, the Knights of Columbus, the Holy Name Society of All Saints Church in San Pierre, where he teaches CCD religion class for high school students. He is also a past president of the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation of America.

He spends his free time collecting rare books for his private library and playing golf on his farm golf course.

## OUR FOUNDER



*Venerable Archbishop George  
Matulaitis (1871-1927)*

The Convent of the Immaculate Conception (nicknamed the Sisters of the Poor), after successfully operating and expanding its activities of helping the needy in Lithuania, in 1936 sent five sisters to the United States. The mission of these sisters was to assist the Marianist Fathers at Marianapolis in Thompson, Connecticut. The Marianist Fathers at that time maintained a Lithuanian high school and were important centers of Lithuanian activities in America. The other objective of the newly arrived sisters was to found a chapter of their convent similar to those existing in Lithuania.

The instituting of the Convent of the Immaculate Conception in America was successful since a number of young women chose the religious vocational life. In 1943, the newly founded convent was able to purchase a farm, though with dilapidated buildings, in Putnam, Connecticut. These buildings were renovated and modified for their new use.

As the number of the sisters increased, especially after the arrival of several new sisters after World War II, the convent was able to expand its activities including the purchase of a printing shop. Over the years a beautiful chapel was built, dormitories for girl students were prepared, and, finally, a new convent home was constructed.

After the closing of the Lithuanian high school at Marianapolis and declining Lithuanian activities there the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception gradually assumed the task of spreading religious consciences among Lithuanians, aiding in their educational needs and maintaining and increasing Lithuanian cultural activities. Essential ingredients of these activities were the printing shop, the dormitories for female students where courses in Lithuanian were conducted, and summer camps for young people (i.e. activities at Dainava and the Neringa summer camp facilities in Vermont.)

*Sisters of the Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Putnam, Connecticut*

1936



1986

Iuozas Kriauciunas

## OUR PATRONESS

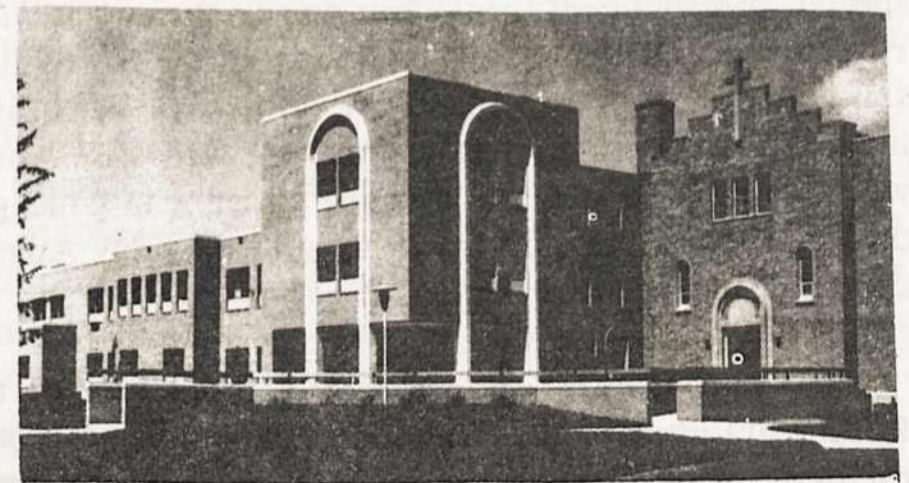


*Our Lady of The Immaculate Conception*

The many activities of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, in addition to those mentioned earlier, all include: 1.) Care of the elderly and incapacitated. The activities are conducted at Matulaitis nursing home and at Villa Maria; 2.) New branches of the Convent. These are in Toronto and Montreal; 3.) Child care. The Sister's child care center in Toronto is known by residents of the city and, indeed, throughout Canada.

While the decline of religious vocations in recent years and fewer women entering convents have forced the Sisters to limit the expansion of their activities, every effort is made to maintain what has already been achieved. The work of attempting to raise religious consciousness among Lithuanians continues.

The many activities mentioned earlier in this article could have been impossible for the Sisters to achieve alone. They were assisted and continue to be aided by many supporters, both Lithuanians and non-Lithuanians who have been impressed by sisters' achievement. Groups of supporters have been formed in the more populous Lithuanian centers such as Chicago, New York, St. Petersburg, Cleveland, Detroit, Boston, Worcester.



*Immaculate Conception Convent and Meditation  
Center, Putnam, CT*

This year the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of their founding in America. The anniversary will be celebrated at the main convent in Putnam, Connecticut with three different events each with appropriate ceremonies.

### April 26, Mass of Thanksgiving

The first event was already celebrated on April 26th in English. The Most Reverend D.P. Reilly, Bishop of Norwich Diocese, co-celebrated a thanksgiving Mass with two dozen of other priests. Before the Mass Sister Onute presented the history of the Sisters in America with slides and commentary and Lithuanian soloistress Dianne Silanskas entertained the audience with religious songs. There were about 250 persons attending the event.



*Four of the first five founding sisters: Sister Konsolata, Sister Apolonia, Sister Aloyza and Sister Tarcizija*



*Soloist Dianne Silanskas, "1984 America Miss" of Italian-Lithuanian descent, praises God and the Sisters in song*

### July 27, Lithuanian Friendship Day

The second event will be on July 27th at the Annual Festival of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, sometimes referred to as Lithuanian Friendship Day. The fiftieth anniversary commemoration will be incorporated into the festival activities. It is expected that this will draw many more visitors. The Most Reverend P. Baltakis, Bishop of Lithuanians in Exile, will co-celebrate the Mass and will lead in the dedication ceremony of Lithuanians and Lithuania to Blessed Mary.

There will be an exposition of the works of artists A. Galdikas and I. Manomaitienė. The traditional lottery will take place with many valuable prizes: a painting by A. Galdikas, works of art made from sea shells, cash prizes, a hand-made bed spread, a man's watch etc.

Food will be available both at the convent and at stalls set up by various supporter groups. Supporters in communities with larger Lithuanian-American population will organize bus tours. These cities include New York, Boston, Waterbury and Worcester.

### October 26, Remembrance Day Our Founder and Deceased

The third event to commemorate the anniversary will be at the gathering of supporters of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception on October 26. At this gathering there will also be ceremonies remembering and honoring the deceased.

At the meeting of the Sisters' supporters on April 19 it was decided to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary by commissioning a statue of Archbishop Jurgis Matulaitis which will stand by the main entrance of the convent in Putnam. It was the Archbishop's advice and support which enabled the Convent of the Immaculate Conception to be established.

The Sisters' work and sacrifices have brought benefits not only to Lithuanians and Americans of Lithuanian ancestry, but to many people of many national heritages. Therefore, all are invited to these fiftieth anniversary celebrations, particularly the Annual Festival, who wish to help the Sisters celebrate this important event in their history.

Much help will be needed to make the anniversary celebration successful. Those who can assist in this effort during the preparation stage or who can donate time during various celebration events are asked to contact the Convent of the Immaculate Conception. The telephone number is: 203-928-5828.

Also financial help is needed to enlarge the cemetery ground by draining it and help to build up the Chapel at Neringa camp.

As a reminder, adjoining the Convent in Putnam are located the Lithuanian Cultural Archives (ALKA) and a replica of the castle of Mindaugas erected by Rev. Stasys Yla. ALKA contains Lithuanian cultural treasures while the castle contains works of art which depicts the historical event which occurred in Lithuania during the time of King Mindaugas.

We look forward to seeing you in Putnam, especially at the anniversary celebration events.

**Please join us!**

JUZĖ  
DAUŽVARDIENĖ —



## MŪSŲ VISŲ MYLIMA LIETUVOS KONSULĖ

**Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Nario žurnalisto Stasio Piežos pasakyta kalba Nepriklausomos Lietuvos konsulų pagerbime Chicagoje. 1986 m. balandžio m. 28 d.**

Ekscelencija vyskupas Brizgys, Juzė Daužvardienė, Lietuvos atstovas prie Šv. Sosto Stasys Lozoraitis, konsulas Vaclovas Kleiza, Lietuvių Bendruomenės atstovas Algimantas Gečys, dvasiškiai, seselės ir visi brangūs lietuviai . . .

Širdingai dėkoju Birutei Jasaitienei už pakvietimą tarti žodį šiame Lietuvos generalinių konsulų pagerbime Chicagoje, ir tuo pačiu sveikinu Chicagos Lietuvių Bendruomenės apygardą šio iškilmingo pokylio surengimu.

Jaučiuosi drąsus čia stovėdamas, nes žinau, kad Juzė Daužvardienė neišdrįs man tarti: „Staseli, nustok, užteks apie mane kalbėti!“

Taigi, pasiekė mus žinia, jog Juzė Daužvardienė, po ilgų metų darbo, savo konsulės pareigas nustos ėjusi. Tačiau mes jos niekuomet neišleisime išėiti iš mūsų minčių ir širdžių!

Vienas anglų rašytojas yra pasakęs: „Gyvenimas nesusideda vien tik iš didžiulių pasiaukojimų bei svarbių pareigų atlikimų, o iš mažesnių įvykių, kuriuose šypsena ir malonė figuruoja, ir kuklesnių įsipareigojimų, kurie paliečia širdį ir užtikrina ramumą ir meilę . . .“

Vienas iš įžymiausių Nepriklausomos Lietuvos diplomatų buvo daktaras Petras Daužvardis, tarnavęs Lietuvos užsienio reikalų ministerijoje. Nuo 1937-tųjų metų jis buvo Lietuvos generaliniu konsulu Chicagos mieste — Amerikos lietuvių sostinėje. Šis iškilus diplomatas nemažai pasitarnavo Lietuvai bei Amerikos lietuviams. Neužmiršime jo — dr. Petro Daužvardžio — mylimą draugą, nuoširdų lietuvi, džentelmeną. Po jo mirties 1971-mais metais, jo žmona Juzė Daužvardienė-Rauktytė perėmė jo pareigas Lietuvos generaliniame konsulate Chicagoje.

Prieš nemažai metų, marijonas a.a. kunigas Petras Činikas, mano žmona a.a. Ona, dukrelė Joana ir aš aplankėme Juzę Daužvardienę Lietuvos konsulate Artesian gatvėje. Tai tipiškai atrodantis bungaliukas Marquette parke . . . su vienu skirtumu — verandoje plėvesavo Nepriklausomos Lietuvos trispalvė.

Tie Lietuvos konsulato rūmai buvo mums visuomet malonūs ir patrauklūs. Ir tada, mums apsilankius, duris atidarė Juzė Daužvardienė. Su šypsena veide



*Hon. Juzė Daužvardienė*

maloniai priėmė, ir atsiprašė kad turinti užbaigti ar tai vakarienę virti, ar drabužius plauti . . . bet už valandėlės, nuotaikingai pasipuošusi, jau sėdėjo prie savo stalo konsulato raštinėje . . . ir išrodė kaip konsulė.

Savo karjere Juzė ir Petras Daužvardžiai pajėgė Lietuvos generalinio konsulato Chicagoje reikalus vesti tvarkingai ir sėkmingai. Net ir po savo mylimo Petro mirties Juzė pajėgė tą konsulato darbą nepertraukiamai vykdyti.

Juzė Daužvardienė savo ištverme ir talentais pasižymėjo ne tik kaip visuomenės veikėja, sėkminga Lietuvos konsulė, bet ir kaip namų šeimininkė, motina, įtikinama geros valios ambasadorė („The Ambassador of Good Will“). Ji užsitarnavo „The First Lady of America's Lithuanians“ titulą.

Nors ir užsiėmusi visokiais darbais, Juzė Daužvardienė visuomet spėjo surasti laiko ir energijos paaukoti tūkstančius valandų Raudonojo Kryžiaus reikalams Antrojo pasaulinio karo metu . . . buvo kalbėtojų skyriaus (Speaker's Bureau) pirmininkė . . . padėjo pravesti lietuvių

dalyvavimą šio karo nukentėjusiems fonde... kaip kalbėtoja apibūdino Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės reikalus amerikiečių bei lietuvių organizacijų subuvimuose... kalbėjo radijo laidose Amerikoje, Kanadoje.

Juzė Daužvardienė skleidė lietuvių kultūrą kitataičių tarpe. Ji padėjo surengti lietuviško tautinio meno parodas universitetuose, bibliotekose, klubuose, protestantų, žydų ir svetimtaučių katalikų susiburimuose. Atsimenu kaip tautiniais rūbais apsirengusios šiose programose dalyvaudavo Juzė Daužvardienė kaip kalbėtoja, Ona Piežienė kaip liaudies dainų pristatytoja, o Zita Šimutienė (dr. Leonardo Šimučio žmona) kaip pianistė. Jų pasirodymai Lietuvos reikalų išgarsinimo vajuje pasidarė tiek žinomi, kad jos buvo pramintos „The Lithuanian Lore Trio“. Ir amerikiečių spauda su aprašymais bei nuotraukomis jų veiklą plačiai aptardavo.

Juzė Daužvardienė taipgi rūpinosi gabių lietuvių iškėlimu platesnėje visuomenėje. Polyna Stoška, Ona Kaskas, Algirdas Brazis tapo Metropolitan Operos artistai dalinai jos pagalba. Ji prisidėjo ir prie Amerikos lietuvių chorų veiklos pagyvinimo.

Juzė Daužvardienė pirmąja lietuvių išlaikyme Amerikoje.

Ji pati pasirūpindavo sutelkti drabužių sandėlius lietuviams Vokietijos lageriuose. Ji padėjo pravesti lietuvių kalėdinę programą Chicagos Mokslo ir Pramonės muziejaus „Christmas Around the World“ parodose, kur būdavo išstatyta lietuviška eglaitė su šiaudiniaus papuošalais. Taipgi ji prisidėjo prie lietuvių debiutančių Gintaro baltiaus suorganizavimo. Suredagavo populiarią lietuviškų valgių receptų knygą „Popular Lithuanian Recipes“. Šių, bei daugelių kitų

nesuskaičiuojamų darbų dėka, 1952-rais metais Women's Advertising Club paskelbė Juzė Daužvardienę kaip vieną iš dešimties žymiausių moterų Chicagoje!

Juzė Daužvardienė gimė Worcester, Massachusetts. Jos tėvai buvo patriotai lietuviai. Jaunoji Juzė, vos septynių metų amžiaus, pirmą kartą viešai pasirodė deklamuodama poeto Vaičiūčio eilėraščius. Būdama gimnaziste, dirbo „Amerikos lietuvių“ redakcijoje, o baigus mokslus, dirbo lietuvių imigrantų gerovei.

Ne visi turbūt žino kad Juzė Daužvardienė yra advokatė, užsipelnusi teisės laipsnį 1932-rais metais iš Northeastern University

School of Law. Mažai turbūt težino kad ji turėjo ir savo kelionių biurą... ir kad yra gabi pianistė...

Lietuvos konsulato pareigas užbaigdama, Juzė Daužvardienė linki savo įpėdiniui konsului Vaclovui Kleizai pasisekimo, ir pažada jam visokią paramą.

Susirinkome šiandien mes čia... ir visi kiti lietuviai Amerikoje... tau, Juzė Daužvardienė, išreikšti nuoširdžią padėką... nes Tu, kaip generalinė konsulė Chicagoje, drąsiai kėlei ir sėkmingai vykdei Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės atstatymo reikalus!

Dėkui!...

## MEMORIES

God gave me the best he had,  
A loving man that I call Dad.

His strength was there when I needed it,  
He taught me how to never quit.

He was with me from my baby years.  
He kissed my cheeks, and dried my tears.

Many times I'd hear him say  
Heavenly Father "Bless this Day".

My dad taught me to believe in "Him".  
Life Hope and Joy will never dim.

I talk to "Him" each day in prayer,  
I entrust Lithuania in his care.

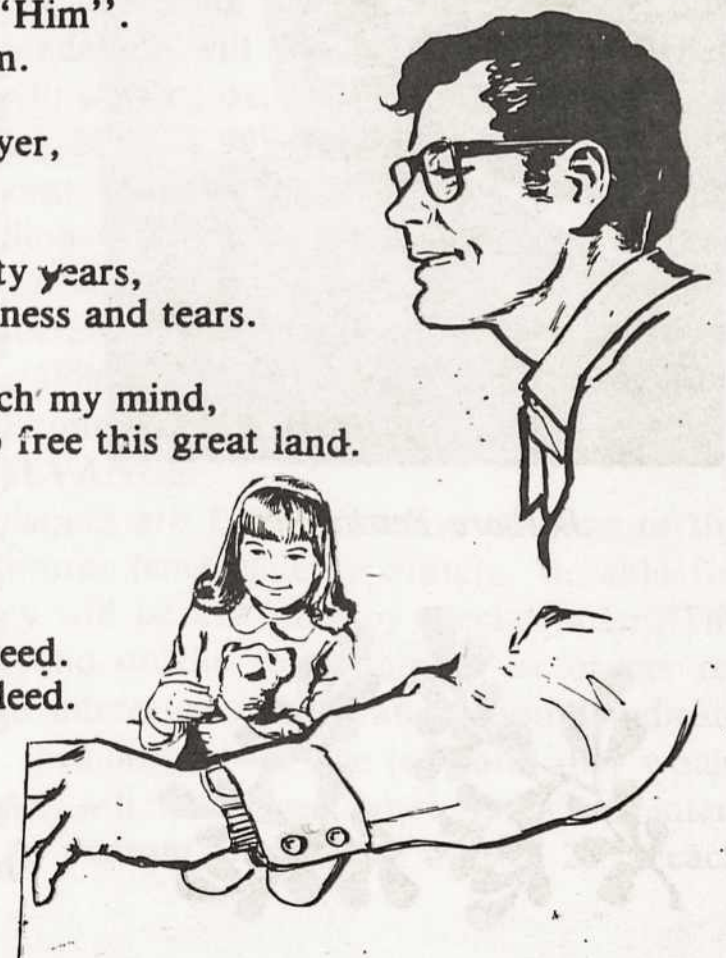
Heavenly Father for the past forty years,  
Lithuania has suffered with sadness and tears.

May freedom unite us, I outstretch my mind,  
Heavenly Father, I ask you ... to free this great land.

Dabar as Pažadų Visados,  
Išlakyt Mano Meile ... Lietuvos.

Our Father will meet our every need.  
Pray to Him, with thought and deed.

Mary Ann Lepera



*To fulfill  
with love*

## Our American Heritage and My Responsibility to Preserve it

### About The Author

This essay was written by Barbara Petrauskas, daughter of our National President. It was the winning speech in the Syracuse area competition of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

She kept it a secret from her Dad until the Awards luncheon when she read it after receiving her award.

Our congratulations to Barbara for this accomplishment and as she graduates from Corcoran High School this month.



*Barbara Petrauskas*



Our American heritage is one of richness and diversity. The combination of elements necessary to provide the heritage we claim today as our own has enhanced our culture in a broader sense than any words can describe. We are faced with an inheritance of manifold origins that has been condensed to include simple, yet upright and firm ideals.

As a third generation American, I have talked to many of my relatives and done enough research to realize the blessings I have been bestowed here in America. Citizens of my grandparents' homelands, Lithuania and the Ukraine, are currently under Soviet domination and do not experience half of the freedoms we take for granted here in America. They are denied the basic freedoms of speech and religion, and any freedom of the press that is in existence is certainly censored to a great degree. I constantly hear real-life stories about people in these countries experiencing discrimination and maltreatment because they wish to worship the God of their choice and not that of the government. My ancestors fought in their own revolutionary wars very much similar to ours; strife, blood, and death were all essential parts of these wars. However, the consequences were very dissimilar; we have been blessed with glorious freedom, while my ancestors fell victim to violent oppression.

This is why I believe so strongly in the preservation of our American heritage. The struggle that our

founding fathers had to go through to make us the land of the free and the home of the brave contained the factors similar to other revolutionary attempts. Many of the crusaders for American independence originated from different backgrounds. They realized the odds against them. However, one common bond united them: their ideal for a free America.

My responsibility to preserve this rich heritage has become increasingly evident to me as I realize the faith and hope my grandparents carried with them when they arrived in America. They unobtrusively adopted the heritage as their own in exchange for all the benefits it involves. I feel only great appreciation and high esteem for such a welcoming country. America has historically become a country built around many commendable ideals. I must carry forth these ideals into another generation and make my descendants aware that it is a heritage that has evolved through much hard work and struggle, and this tradition shall carry on forever. I believe the greatest gift that I personally ever received was my birth in America. By knowing what type of life I could be living under Soviet occupation, I have grasped the American heritage and its liberties with a greater comprehension and appreciation. Our heritage should have a deep and emotional meaning for each and every citizen, and therein lies our responsibility to preserve it.



# OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

## OFFICIAL NEWS



### *To All Committee Chairpersons:*

As the 1985-1986 K of L Year approaches its end, National Committee Chairpersons would appreciate District and Council Committee Chairpersons to send them a report of their activities for the 1985-1986 term.

No matter how small your council is, it is important that we know what you are doing. A number of you undoubtedly send reports throughout the year. They are

sincerely appreciated.

Annual reports are requested before July 1st.

Remember, nothing is insignificant. Everything done for the K of L is important. As committee chairpersons to your District and/or Council, you are all very important to the K of L. See the inside cover of the VYTIS for National Committee Chairpersons' names and addresses.

## LITHUANIAN CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION PROJECT UPDATE

The Medallion portrays the three phases of Lithuania's Christianization. The obverse side features the heads of King Mindaugas, and Grand Dukes Jogaila and Vytautas, who were mostly responsible for bringing Christianity to Lithuania. The reverse side features a central dominant cross symbolizing Christianity on a background of the Vilnius Cathedral and Bell Tower. It also provides the titles accorded the leaders by the Holy See because of their efforts for the Church.

Designed and sculpted in high relief by the renowned sculptor Vytautas Kasuba of New York, the Medallion is struck in art form by the Medallion Art Company of Danbury, Connecticut. It will be available in 3 inch diameter size in antique bronze, silver-plated, and gold-plated, and 1-½ inch diameter size in sterling and bronze oxide. By special request, 12 inch bronze Galvanos of each side will also be produced, suitable for hanging. Details follow.

### **3 INCH MEDALLION:**

The basic medallion is 3 inches in diameter, done in antique bronze. It will cost \$30.00, and will be on the market about July 15, 1986. The 3 inch size is also available in gold or silver plating over the bronze, for an additional cost of \$5.00 for the silver-plating \$10.00 for the gold plating.

As a SPECIAL OFFERING, anyone ordering and paying for the medallion before July 1, 1986, can obtain it for \$25.00 (or \$30.00 for the silver-plated, medal \$35.00 for the gold-plated medal). This medallion

will weigh between 8 and 12 ounces. Sterling versions of the 3" size are available by special order only. The cost will depend on the current cost of silver and the final weight of the medallion. An estimated cost is \$200.00.

### **1-½ INCH MEDALLION:**

By popular request, the Jubilee Committee decided to also produce, in quantity, two types of 1-½ inch Medallions, one in sterling silver and another in bronze oxide. This Medallion will also be done in high relief, art form. It will weigh 1 oz.

The Sterling Silver (.999 Fine Silver Oxide) Medallions will cost \$50.00 each. The 1-½ inch bronze Oxide Medallions will cost \$15.00 each. A pre-market, special price of \$45.00 for the Sterling Silver Medallion is available for anyone ordering and paying for it before Sept. 1, 1986. The 1-½ inch bronze Medallions will not be discounted for early orders.

### **12 INCH GALVANOS:**

Galvano plaques are 12 inch bronze castings of the original sculptures (each side separately, suitable for hanging). They will be available by special order. The price will depend on the total number of orders received. Those interested in Galvanos should indicate their interest, including which side (or both) they would like. An order will be placed when sufficient interest is shown to warrant an order of at least 25 of each side.

### **ORDERS:**

Do no delay...order today, for your own collection and as gifts for your friends and associates.

**LIETUVOS KRIKŠČIONYBĖS JUBILIEJUS**  
**LITHUANIAN CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE, INC.**

*Commemorative Medallion Order Form*

Please accept my order for the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ 3" Medallions, in the following finishes:

\_\_\_\_\_ Antique Bronze (@ \$25.00 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Silver-Plated (@ \$30.00 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Gold-Plated (@ \$35.00 each)

Orders placed after July 1, 1986, will cost \$5.00 add.

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Add \$2.00 per Medallion for mailing.)

Make checks payable to "LITHUANIAN CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE, INC."

(Note: these special discounted prices for the 3" Medallions apply only to advance, pre-paid orders, made before July 1, 1986.)

The Medallions will be available about July 15, 1986.

Please send me information about:

\_\_\_\_\_ Solid Silver Medallions      \_\_\_\_\_ 12" Galvano Plaques

\_\_\_\_\_ (Other) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Paid in Full

\_\_\_\_\_ Check

\_\_\_\_\_ Cash

Please send to: LORETTA I. STUKAS, Medallion Chairman  
 234 Sunlit Drive  
 Watchung, NJ 07060



## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION

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

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



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

- I hereby donate to the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC. the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Minimum - \$100.00)
- I have included the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC. in my Last Will and Testament.
- Please send me more information about the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## Letters

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

#### Promotions and Financial Reports

The most important fact to remember about any event promoted in the name of the Center or a Council of the K of L is-all the profits without any exception belong to the K of L, and not to the Chairman or Committee in charge of the affair-and if there is a loss or the Center of Council has to pay for it. No member can give any profits as a gift or donation without the consent of a majority of the Council members. That has always been our customary procedure.

A preliminary report of the event is due at the next Council meeting after the conclusion of the promotion-usually in about 30 days, stating the expected profits, costs, or loss. The report is subject to scrutiny by the members. Such immediate report prevents suspicion of any fraud. When its a larger event, contracts made for work or services, such as music, decorations,

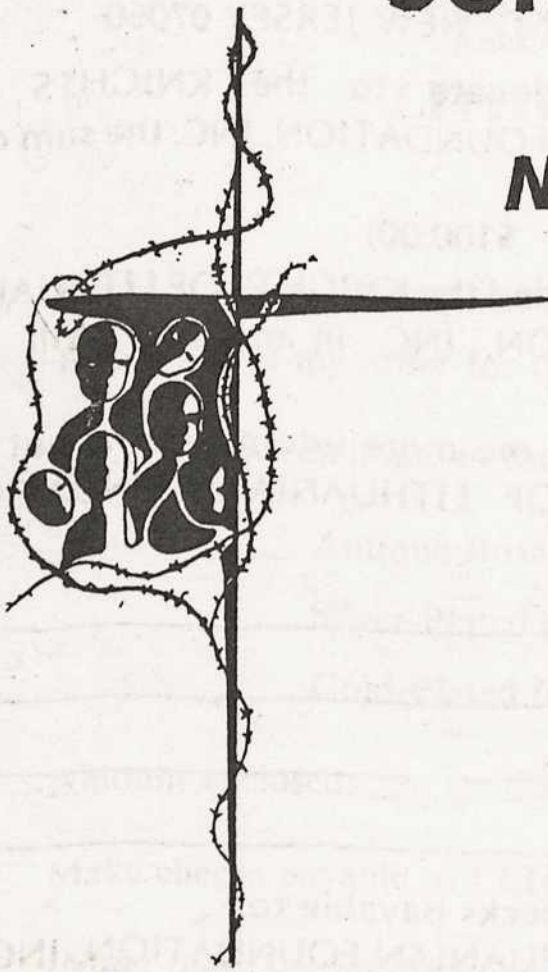
printing, etc. for the affair, are concluded after submission of 2 or 3 bids for the job-the most qualified bid being accepted. There should be no conflict of interest, such as committee members engaged in that type of work taking over a contract to do it without other bids submitted.

If the committee or the Chairman refuses to submit a complete report in say 90 days to the council members about the finances-the Fraud Department of the State can be requested to make an investigation. Thus far we have never had to resort to this extreme procedure, but it must be remembered that Union officers have been indicted for misuse of funds belonging to thier Union.

Konnie Savickus  
C-5

# SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1986

## Northeastern United States and Canada Pilgrimage for the Suffering Church in Lithuania



*National Shrine of  
the North American Martyrs*

AURIESVILLE, NEW YORK



*Lithuanian Pilgrims at Auriesville*

Auriesville is a Catholic place of pilgrimage immortalizing the martyrdom of the first three canonized saints in the United States: St. Issac Jogues, the Jesuit priest and first missionary to the Mohawks; St. Rene Goupil, the Jesuit brother and companion of Fr. Jagues, and St. John Lalander the lay missioner and aide to the Blackrobes. The Martyr's Shrine also memorializes the birthplace of the saintly Indian virgin, Blessed Kateri Tekawitha, "The Lily of the Mohawks".

It is fitting that this should be the site of the annual Northeastern United States and Canada Pilgrimage for the Suffering Church in Lithuania. The grounds of Auriesville express a sincere understanding and compassion for living martyrs of the Church in Lithuania today... Bishop Julijonas

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

...Updated news of the suffering church in Lithuania (Presented by Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid)

...Way of the Cross

The stations of the Cross at Auriesville lead to a splendid Calvary atop a hill where Fr. Jogues and Bro. Goupil prayed during their days as captives. There we will lead Benediction and prayer for suffering Lithuania.

...Celebration of the Eucharist

*Sponsored by  
LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC  
RELIGIOUS AID*

*351 Highland Lvd.*

*Brooklyn, NY 11207*

*Telephone 212 647-2434*

Steponavicius, Fr. Alfonsas Svarin-  
skas, Fr. Sigitas Tamkevicius, Fr.  
Jonas Kastytis Matulionis, Nijole Sa-  
duanite, her family, Balys Ga-  
jauskas, Viktoras Petkus, Vytautas  
Skuodis... and the list goes on.

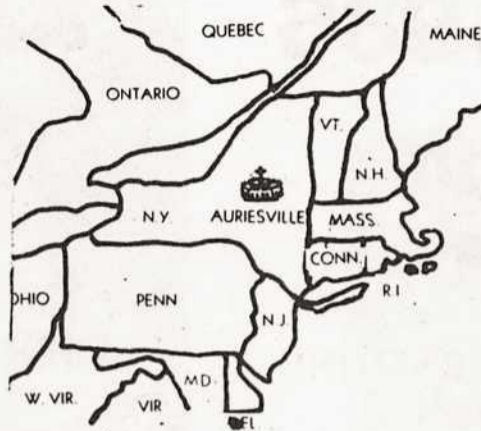
Principal celebrant for Holy Mass  
will be Bishop Paulis Baltakis, Titular  
Bishop of Egara for the Spiritual  
Assistance of Lithuanian Catholic  
Living Outside of Lithuania At the  
altar stone of American sacrifice we  
will offer our sacrifice in Holy Mass  
for our Brothers and sisters in  
Lithuania.

Please join us as we seek the in-  
tercession of St. Issac Jogues, St.  
Rene Goupil, St. John Lande and  
Blessed Kateri for their brother and  
sister martyrs in Lithuania.

The North American Martyrs —  
Jogues, Goupil, Lalande



Lithuania's Martyrs — Svarinskas,  
Tamkevicius, Matulionis



Shrine of Our Lady  
of the Wayside Gate  
of Auriesville's  
Way of Martyrdom.



The Gate of Dawn  
"Ausra Vartai".

# AURIESVILLE

**The Land of Martyred Americans and Crosses**

**Joins Its Hands in Prayer with**

# LITHUANIA

**The Land of Martyrs - The Land of Crosses**

*Hill of Prayer*



Hill of Crosses



"Lily of the Mohawks"  
Blessed Kateri Tekewitha

"Lily of Lithuania"  
Nijole Sadunaite

# 73rd National Convention AUGUST 7-10, 1986

## Allentown Hilton Allentown, PA

**SUPPORT YOUR 1986 NATIONAL CONVENTION!  
Place an ad today!**

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

Ads should be sent to Mrs. Loretta Stukas  
234 Sanlit Drive  
Watchung NJ 07060

**Come Join Us For A Great Time  
in Allentown**

**TENTATIVE**

### JUNIOR CONVENTION SCHEDULE

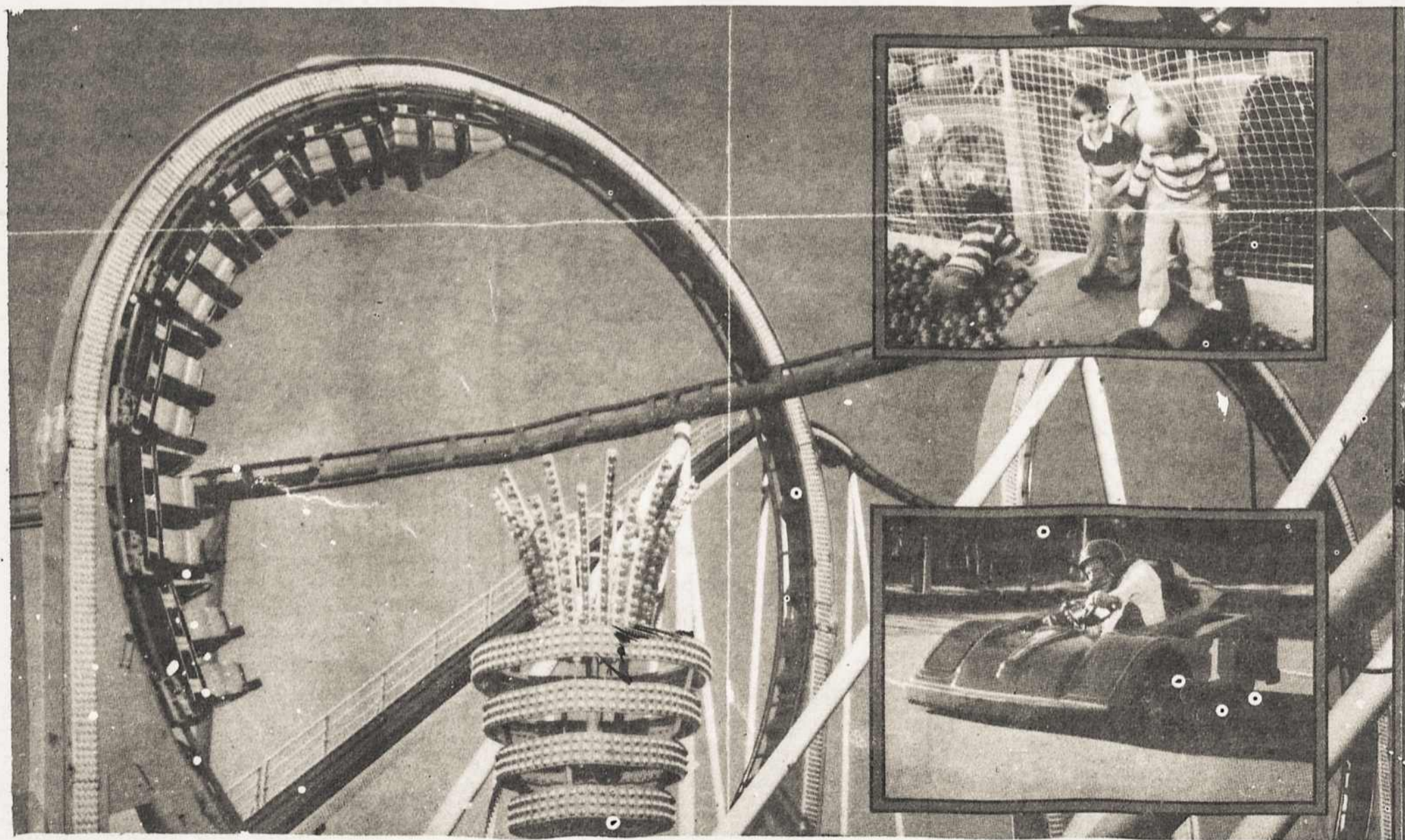
**Thursday (2:00 P.M.)** — Pool Party complete with pizza and coke

**Friday (11:00 A.M.)** — We will go to Dorney Park — Just a few miles away. So get set to ride the roller coaster and have an afternoon of fun!

*Exact admission charges not available at this time*

**Saturday (Morning)** — Junior Convention Meeting

Barbara Mickunas  
Junior Convention Assistant



*Dorney Park*



*C-100 Juniors enjoying some fun at a recent get together.*



## **We Are The Juniors ...The Future of The K of L...**

### **Mano Šeima**



Draw pictures of your family.

Under each drawing write who they are in Lithuanian.

Mano (my) -tėvas (father).

Mano -mama (mother)

Mano -brolis (brother)

Mano -sesuo (sister)

Mano -močiutė/senėle (grandmother)

Mano -tėvukas/senelis (grandfather)

**VYTIS Membership Essay Contest  
Second Prize Winner (Tie)**

**Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, CJC**



***What I Would Tell A Prospective Member  
About the Knights of Lithuania  
Sister Virginia CJC***

Now more than ever, people are joining ethnic organizations. They have a deep desire to find themselves, to know who they are, to discover their ethnic roots. An aspiring author, Gerre Palokas of Port Carbon, put it this way:

*I'm cautious to remember me;  
The way of which I came,  
And of who I am  
And want to become,  
The purpose of my visit.  
I am nothing  
But the journey of my soul!  
And I am a Lithuanian.*

Many realize that as individuals they have something distinctive to offer to the world. They sometimes cannot do it themselves so they look for support and encouragement from others. Young Lithuanians and those who are more mature are finding an answer to their aspirations by joining the Knights of Lithuania. As practicing Catholics, with little or perhaps no knowledge of Lithuania, and sometimes of a different ethnic background but married to a Lithuanian, they find self-fulfillment in the opportunities offered by the K of L.

Do you have journalist or editorial talents? Then the K of L magazine, VYTIS, is your "dish". If leadership

qualities are yours, you can make yourself available for any of the K of L projects. Persons possessing a variety of talents and capabilities sometimes unknown even to themselves — discover what they can do when offered the many challenges of the Knights of Lithuania.

We can do so much more together than individually. It is not uncommon to group people according to interests and learnings but when put together they provide surprising results. God has endowed us all with talents and resources we seldom use, therefore it is up to us to join with others in finding an outlet for them. Sometimes by just being in a group, affirming their aims and purposes, is a talent in itself; it is something you alone can offer.

Lithuanians are also known as a people of song and dance. Youth groups of the Knights form folkdances ensembles. They perform among themselves, also appear in public and partake in dance and song festivals across the nation. Nothing is impossible to a group that is energetic and willing to be involved in all things Lithuanian.

Our ancestors have handed down to us many beautiful and interesting customs which the Knights of Lithuania can practice and share with others. By doing this they enhance their own individual and community lives. By joining the Knights of Lithuania you can learn what these customs are, or, better yet, you may be able to share the

ones you already practice.

Since its foundation the Knights of Lithuania have formed a number of committees to centralize on important issues. Some of these activities have spread all over the United States, Canada, in parts of South America and Australia. Deeply concerned about everything that is Lithuanian, the Knights have succeeded in making Lithuania and her people better known throughout the world.

There is no need for any Lithuanian to feel unfulfilled or having no useful aim in life. Inquire where you can join a Council in your area and do it now. A Council is as good as its members. See what you can offer to make it interesting and popular.



## SISTER VIRGINIA MARIE VYTELL, CJC

Prolific writer and well known author of "Praise the Lord, All You Nations", Sister Virginia is a member of C-74 in Scranton, PA.

She has taught Lithuanian language and culture at the Albright Memorial Library, at St. Joseph's Church Hall and for Continuing Education at the University at Scranton.

Under her supervision, the Lithuanian Sunbeam Juniors perform annually in a Christmas program.

She is active in numerous other activities in the area.

"When you get to know more about Lithuania, you will love her," she writes. "Lithuania is our Mother. We cannot turn our backs on her. She belongs to the Christian Family of Nations. Our love will keep her alive."

*Profile by Aldona Ryan*



**K of L  
ADZENTON**

### June:

- 1: MAD 70th Anniversary Dinner & Dance  
Transfiguration Church Hall  
Maspeth, NY
- 8: MAD District Convention  
Hosts: C-46, Forest City, PA
- 14: BALTIC FREEDOM DAY
- 14: Day of Prayer for Lithuania  
Shrine of Our Lady of Czechochowa  
Doylestown, PA
- 22: St. Mary's Villa Annual Picnic  
Sisters of Jesus Crucified  
Elmhurst, PA

### JULY

- 6-19: Camp Ausra
- 27: Annual Lithuanian "Piknikas"  
Sisters of the Immaculate Conception  
Putnam, CT

### 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 America Martyrs' Shrine  
Auriesville, NY

### SEPTEMBER

- 26-28: Mid-Central District  
Fall Convention and Pilgrimage  
Hosts: C-25, Cleveland, OH

### OCTOBER

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



# CULTURAL

## CORNER

### SEKMINĖS — Whitsunday

by Regina Gerutis Kot



Sekminės is a great holiday in Lithuania. Churches and houses are decorated with young birches and garlands were made from flowers. People brought home birch branches, which were blessed in church and used for all kinds of magic practices, such as for fumigation before a thunderstorm or to drive away bad spirits. Herdsmen decorated cows with garlands in the evening before Whitsunday and the housewives gave food for their feast. This was done so that the cows would give more milk. In Eastern Lithuania the herdsmen were free on Whitsunday and celebrated their festival while the adult girls tended cattle. Young boys came to help them and they had their own feast; girls took food and boys brought drinks. There was singing and dancing and they performed the "wedding game" with a selected "bride" and "bridegroom."

In Western and Southern Lithuania each herdsman tried to drive cattle on Whitsunday mornings as early as possible and to play a small horn (Sekminių ragelis). He who overslept was the laughing stock for the whole year and was called spirgutis — "a little piece of fried bacon." It was believed that the cattle of the first one to drive out and play the horn would give more milk. They also decorated themselves with paper caps, wooden sabres, etc. A special

"Whitsunday" meadow was reserved in advance as pasture for this day.

Interesting and humorous speeches the herdsmen made while collecting the food for their feast: "The ox asks for bread and salt, the cow for butter, the sheep for flour, the ram for eggs, the sow for bacon, and the herdsman for a dime."

The hired laborers also wanted to have their feast on the second day of Whitsunday. They collected food and made beer from barley and grain which was called, "sambaru alus". They invited their landlords.

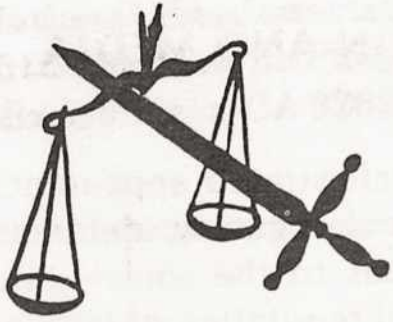
The adults on Whitsunday went to the fields "to visit the rye" (rugelių lankyti) and special songs were sung on this occasion to increase the harvest. Other entertainments were: fight for the picture of a saint, hanging of swings, arrangements for bull fighting to determine which bull is the strongest.

Once again the water and the firs were blessed in church on Whitsunday Eve. Crosses were erected at this time. The third day of Whitsunday was also observed as a precaution against hail. And after Whitsunday, one may go swimming, because the water is blessed and no longer dangerous.



Vytautas Ignas Linecut





## JOINT STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY: ON THE ISSUE OF OSI AND DOMESTIC TERRORISM



Baltic and other ethnic American communities continue to hold the U.S. Justice Department responsible for acquiescing to but never condemning an escalating campaign of hatred and defamation escalating to terrorism and murder.

On September 6, 1985, the home of Elmars Sprogis, Brentwood, N.Y., was bombed and an innocent bystander seriously injured. On August 14, 1985, Tscherim Soobzokov, Paterson, N.J. was critically wounded when a pipe bomb exploded at his home. Mr. Soobzokov died of his wounds on September 6, 1985.

To date no acceptable action has been forthcoming from the U.S. Justice Department. The criminals are still at large. No great concern or urgency has been demonstrated.

Recent extremist bombings against ethnics, the unethical relationship between the OSI and the press and media, and the rash of ill conceived hysteria-mongering and ethnic slander produced by the television media including the March 12, 1986 NBC Network portrayal of Jan Baltic on *Highway to Heaven* and the NBC Nightly News Special Report May 6, 1986 on the Nazi SS in America — are a direct result of the Justice Department's lack of control of the Office of Special Investigations (OSI), its method of operation, including its formal relationship with the Soviet KGB and its public relations campaign which fuels the fire of defamation and hatred aimed at selected nationality groups.

### I. SPECIAL PROSECUTOR

CCJS, Lithuanian American Community, U.S.A. Inc., Knights of Lithuania demand that a special prosecutor be named by the U.S. Justice Department to conduct an immediate, public, and thorough investigation into the terrorist murder of Tscherim Soobzokov, patterns of domestic threats, harrassments, and violence against ethnic Americans beginning in the 1970's and including the most recent terrorist attacks ending in injury and death.

### II. ABUSES OF POWER

Perceptions of the OSI and its administration of the Holtzman Amendment are negative and un-American. Application of selective justice is seen as arbitrary, unconstitutional, adversial and defamatory. Without congressional intervention, a new precedent will have been set relegating the value of naturalized U.S. citizenship to second-class status, subject to overzealous judges, political excesses, discrimination, and threat to potential deportation. Furthermore, whole communities are losing faith in our justice system.

CCJS, Lithuanian American Community, USA, INC., Knights of Lithuania fully supports the goal of uncovering Nazi and their Axis co-belligerents, partners (e.g. Soviet Union 1939-41) and other war criminals residing

in the United States and bringing them to justice for crimes against the peoples of Europe, Africa, Asia, including those against Americans.

There can be no justice rendered if U.S. citizens are not accorded trial by jury, right to counsel, and equal access to evidence. Formal involvement of the Soviet Union and its KGB apparatus further aggravates the problem: the U.S.S.R. was a former Nazi ally and is the current oppressor of millions.

It is the duty and obligation of American citizens to speak up when an injustice exists. It is our constitutional right to petition for redress of grievances.

### III. LEGISLATIVE REFORM

CCJS, Lithuanian American Community, USA, Inc., Knights of Lithuania recommend initiation of a comprehensive congressional review of the issue of Nazi and other war criminals living in the United States, which would include a review of current U.S. Government efforts in this matter to date. The goal of the hearing should be to draft legislation to safeguard constitutional rights of due process for all naturalized American citizens. Such legislation must include the following:

**Rendering Justice:** That those accused of war crimes be tried for war crimes. That those accused

be tried in a court of law that respects Anglo-American and democratic principles of impartiality and judicial fairness, and which respects the right of the accused. That extradition law not be abused;

**Due Process:** That those accused of war crimes be guaranteed the right of trial by jury, court-appointed legal counsel, and right to cross-examination according to American legal standards;

**Department of Justice Cooperation with Foreign Governments and Use of Soviet Evidence:** All foreign evidence and witnesses must be equally accessible to the government and defendants in a framework that assures genuineness and reliability. The investigative role of the U.S. Justice Department should not be delegated to the Soviet government, or any totalitarian state. OSI must not be permitted to use evidence from sources that have been foreclosed to the defendant;

**Deportations:** That no denaturalized citizens judged deportable be deported to the U.S.S.R., as such actions violate the current U.S. foreign policy of non-recognition of the illegal and forcible annexation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania by the U.S.S.R. and longstanding U.S. foreign policy commitments condemning Soviet violations of national, religious and human rights.

#### IV. SOVIET COMPLICITY WITH NAZI GERMANY

Soviet complicity with Nazi Germany under the secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and the Soviet occupation of the independent Baltic republics are officially accepted as matters of public record. War crimes were committed by the Soviet occupation troops and administration in 1940-1941 in concert with the terms of the Nazi-Soviet Pact.

CCJS, Lithuanian American Community, USA, Inc., Knights of Lithuania strongly request immediate cessation of U.S./Soviet arrangements and communications which violate in practice and spirit the long-standing U.S. Baltic policy. As the Holtzman Amendment mandates deportation, no Baltic nationals can be deported to Soviet-occupied Estonia, Latvia, or Lithuania or anywhere else in the Soviet Union, as this would constitute a grievous violation of the U.S. Baltic policy. The U.S. Government should consult with the Baltic Diplomatic Missions in the United States regarding the selection and petitioning of nations other than the U.S.S.R. to serve as destinations in the deportation process.

#### V. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND MEDIA DISINFORMATION

Because of carefully orchestrated appearance of media and press features derogatory, defamatory, discriminatory and injurious to the social-cultural-religious-historical-political reputation of Lithuanian Americans or the currently occupied Republic of Lithuania, CCJS, Lithuanian American Community, USA, Inc., and Knights of Lithuania agree to actively support and support coordinated activities to effectively defend the honor, integrity, and civil and constitutional rights of Lithuanian Americans and the Lithuanian American community.

#### VI. ENDORSEMENT OF CCJS LEGISLATIVE AND EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN

The Lithuanian American Community, USA, Inc., and Knights of Lithuania continue to support and promote the educational, media, and legislative activities of CCJS as outlined in its Statement of Principles and public agenda.

Coalition for Constitutional Justice and Security

*Anthony B. Mazeika*

March 16, 1986

Lithuanian American Community, U.S.A., Inc.

*Stanley A. Gecys*

March 16, 1986

Knights of Lithuania

*Frank Petrauskas*

March 16, 1986

### Victory!

Michael Landon agrees to remove 'Jan Baltic' name from Highway to Heaven reruns.

In the face of a widespread protest that included U.S. Senators and Congressmen, Canadian Members of Parliament, and a multi-ethnic coalition of Balts, Jews, Ukrainians, Chinese, Hungarian and Japanese organizations, Highway to Heaven producer Michael Landon has promised to remove the name 'Jan Baltic' from future reruns of the program.

On March 19 Landon conceded that the use of the name 'Jan Baltic' had been a mistake. In an interview with CITY-TV (Toronto) reporter Jeff Ansell, Landon stated, "It's a mistake and we're sorry that people were injured by it."

From Chicago Latvian News

## COALITION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL JUSTICE AND SECURITY

**National Headquarters**  
25108 Marguerite Pkwy., Suite B-245  
Mission Viejo, CA 92692



**Washington Bureau**  
P.O. Box 11134  
Arlington, VA 22210

(714) 859-0340 • (703) 243-1261

### The Ramifications of OSI's Activities

Using the unconstitutional ex post facto Holtzman Amendment as the "peoples mandate" — a bill of attainder hastily passed by Congress establishing new sweeping conditions for denaturalization and deportation of former refugees admitted to the US after World War II — individuals accused of "collaboration" with the Axis are systematically denied due process.

Long before their day in court, individuals caught in the vise of OSI orchestrated press sensationalism are assumed and treated as guilty. What then follows are systematic abuses of constitutional rights under due process including denial of trial by jury, lack of cross-examination of witnesses from the Soviet Union and other Communist countries. Communist authorities prohibit legal discovery according to US judicial procedures and block free access to Soviet archives.

As Soviet witnesses are prohibited from appearing in U.S. Federal courts to confront the accused, closed depositions are taken in the Soviet Union and the Occupied Baltic Republics. These procedures are held according to Soviet jurisprudence, not U.S., and under the control of the Soviet procurator who reports directly to the Communist party and KGB.

At a time when there is growing concern over government intrusion



HARM AND HARM TOGETHER  
OSI AND KGB

into the privacy of citizens, OSI boasts of computer lists of names exceeding 42,000 potential suspects. Many names originate from Soviet and Communist propaganda sources including publications disseminated in the U.S.

OSI activities will have serious long-term ramifications on this nation's security and foreign policy. They are viewed by ethnics as the latest sellout — even a new Operation Keelhaul. A dangerous precedent now exists for the active participation of the Soviet "justice system" including the KGB (Soviet Security) in US courts. This includes fabrication of witnesses and evidence. The OSI routinely sends

off cable requests to the Soviets through US diplomatic channels in Moscow seeking information on US citizens (former refugees from Soviet rule). Often this is initiated in an effort to build cases against innocent Americans where the US government hasn't the slightest shred of evidence to prosecute individuals for persecution or Nazi collaboration. The Soviets are thus further incited to create additional lists of innocent refugees and anti-Soviet nationalists.

What is most alarming to former refugees are statements of congratulations cabled by the State Department to Moscow "thanking Soviet authorities for their continuing cooperation" in pursuing "Nazi criminals" from the Baltic nations — countries illegally annexed by the USSR since World War II.

Because of active collaboration with Hitler's former ally, the Soviet Union, this Trojan horse will eventually undermine this nation's traditional foreign policy with the USSR. Leftist apologists for the OSI are advocating Soviet interpretations of World War II history to key members of Congress. Outright distortions of history including references to Russia as the "liberator" of Eastern Europe are contained in the official June 1985 Government Accounting Office (GAO) Report commissioned by

House Judiciary Chairman Peter Rodino. Attempts are made to discredit the legitimate role of nationalism in the effort to restore freedom and independence to the Baltic Republics, Ukraine, and Eastern Europe.

The illegal extradition to Israel of retired autoworker John Demjanjuk again exposes the gross abuses of due process perpetrated by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) in its pursuit of "war collaborators." Those who have scratched below the fake veneer of seeming respectability projected by OSI Director Neal Sher and his "A-Team" will find a dangerous unchecked version of modern McCarthyism.

New revelations publicly disclosed by survivors of Treblinka cast grave doubts about charges made against Demjanjuk. Joachim Ribes and Avraham Goldfarb, among other former inmates, corroborate evidence that Demjanjuk is innocent, that the notorious "Ivan the Terrible" was murdered in a camp uprising on August 2, 1943. Israel Radio quoted Goldfarb, before his death last year: "We cut through the fence. Another group ran to the gas chambers and killed Ivan the Terrible and his comrade, and threw them into the fire. We burned the gas chambers." Further accounts of his murder are also detailed in the book, *Treblinka*, by Jean-Francois Steiner, published by Simon and Schuster.

Through orchestrated titillation of the press and media with false claims of "thousands of dangerous old Nazis living in the US," the government inquisitors have been successful in inciting a campaign of hatred and vengeance leading to vigilantism, even murder of innocently accused. Newspaper advertisements placed in select targeted newspapers — some read by Holocaust survivors — feature ap-

peals for any names or leads that can help track down "suspects in hiding" since World War II. Public appearances by OSI representatives and their former employees before audiences are designed to stir up animosities between Jewish and ethnic American communities.

On September 6, 1985 the home of Elmars Sprogis, Brentwood, N.Y. was bombed and an innocent bystander seriously injured. On August 14, 1985, Tscherim Soobzokov, Paterson, N.J. was critically wounded when a pipe bomb exploded at his home. Sobzokov died of his wounds the same day Sprogis was targeted. Both men were originally charged by the OSI but their innocence was repeatedly upheld by the Federal courts.

To date no acceptable action has been forthcoming from the Justice Department — notwithstanding a meeting between representatives of the Coalition for Constitutional Justice and Security, high ranking Justice Department OSI officials September 17, 1985. The criminals are still at large. No great concern or urgency has been demonstrated.

Ethnic American leadership continues to hold the Justice Department responsible for acquiescing to, but never publicly condemning, an increasing campaign of hatred and defamation escalating to terrorism and murder on U.S. soil. Many ethnics are beginning to suspect a more than casual relationship between the OSI and the media and press in its zealous campaign to rid this country of "old Nazis." The recent rash of ill conceived sensationalism and outright ethnic slander produced for television including NBC Network's March 12 portrayal of "Jan Baltic" on *Highway to Heaven* and NBC Nightly News' Special Report last May 6 on the Nazi SS in America are at least an indirect result of OSI's public relation campaign

which fuels the fire of defamation and hatred.

Deliberately hidden from public scrutiny are the historical facts surrounding the Secret Protocols of August, 1939, consummated between Adolf Hitler and Josef Stalin. The infamous Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact provided for the coordinated attack on Poland, the Baltic Republics, and Finland — signaling the commencement of World War II. History in effect would be rewritten absolving and deleting crimes committed by the Soviets in concert with the Nazis. The Soviets were responsible for mass executions and deportations in Poland and the Baltic States in 1939, 1940, and 1941.

The Soviets welcome collaboration with the OSI with great joy. Through the Communist controlled press and radio, the Russians routinely praise its formal agreement with the US Justice Department while viciously attacking ethnic American organizations and leaders. This will further harm the struggle for national, religious, and human rights in the Baltic States and Ukraine.

America's traditional image among prisoners of conscience and freedom fighters is being eroded by the revelation that the Soviets and Americans are collaborating in this campaign. Ironically, former victims of Nazi-Soviet tyranny become the new pawns in this government's unholy alliance with the USSR and its KGB apparatus. The search for scapegoats will continue until appropriate congressional legislative reform is initiated. It is time for the public to demand an end to taxpayer sponsored witch hunting. Your rights and mine are at stake.

Tony Mazeika  
President of CCJS  
April 7, 1986  
Mission Viejo, CA

# Memorandum on Violations of the Right to Freedom of Expression

in

## Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

*Submission by United Baltic  
Appeal, Inc. to the  
42nd session of the UN Commission  
on Human Rights  
GENEVA  
February 1986*

### INTRODUCTION

The authorities of the Soviet Union systematically violate the right to freedom of expression in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Any written expression which is not liked by the Soviet authorities may be labeled as incompatible with the interests of State security and their authors are most often sentenced under those articles of the criminal codes of the respective Union Republics which deal with a) "circulating deliberately false concoctions, slandering the Soviet state and social order;" and b) "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda."

A striking illustration of how stringently the authorities interpret these articles is the fact that two Lithuanians were charged and convicted under them for simply having in their possession manuscripts of memoirs they had written of life in Soviet labor camps where they had served previous sentences. (Vladas Lapienis, 79, and Liudas Dambrauskas, 64.)

A more common occurrence in dealing with Estonia, Latvian and Lithuanian dissidents is to charge them under the above two articles of

the criminal codes for having signed open letters, petitions and appeals. (Mart Niklus, 51 and Lagle Parek, 44).

Another category of violations of the right to free expression is the prosecution and conviction of persons for either writing, producing, disseminating or simply possessing so-called "samizdat" materials. Since all media are strictly censored by the authorities this practice makes it a crime to publish any opinions which are not officially approved or have in one's possession such materials. (Aleksandr Riga, 46, Balys Gajauskas, 59.)

Our final example deals with the issue of one's writings or poems published abroad. Even this action has been made into a crime and a number of persons have been convicted for this offense. (Harri Motsnik, 57, Gunars Freimanis, 58, and Alfreds Zarins, 58.

United Baltic Appeal — Baltic Appeal to the United Nations presents the following nine brief sketches of three Estonians, three Latvians and three Lithuanians presently incarcerated political prisoners whose

freedom of expression has been violated by authorities of the Soviet Union. These nine cases are representative of many more individuals in these three countries who are now or have been in the past imprisoned, having been charged and convicted under the articles of the criminal codes of their respective Union Republics which deal with a) "circulating deliberately false concoctions, slandering the Soviet state and social order;" and b) "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda." Although based upon the information we have, these persons have been exercising their right of expression by writing memoranda, memoirs, or sending their poetry or writing abroad.

By being able to label any expression of opinion as a criminal act, the Soviet authorities cleverly bypass the solemn pledges to uphold the freedom of expression found in the Soviet constitution and in many other international instruments like the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which the Soviets have signed.

### THE CASE OF VLADAS LAPIENIS



Seventy-nine year old economist Vladas Lapienis was sentenced on March 29, 1985, in Vilnius, Lithuania to 4 years labor camp and 2 years exile, report sources in the Soviet Union. The former prisoner of conscience was arrested on January 4 for writing his memoirs on life in Soviet labor camps. He was first arrested in 1976 and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment for duplicating and disseminating the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, a leading "samizdat" publication.

Though the exact charges brought against him at this trial are unknown, he was presumably sentenced under Art. 199-1 of the Lithuanian SSR Criminal Code. Criminal charges under this article "for circulating deliberately false concoctions, slandering the Soviet state and social order" were instituted against Lapienis when he was jailed on February 13, 1984, and held in the Vilnius KGB Isolation Prison. At that time, authorities confiscated his handwritten "Memoirs of a Soviet Prisoner." However, 15 days later, on February 28, 1984, Lapienis was released because of his badly deteriorating health. Lithuanian sources speculate that the KGB

feared he would die in their custody, thus making him a martyr. The KGB kept his internal passport, forbade him to leave the capital city of Vilnius and told him he would certainly be brought to trial.

The Lithuanian Information Center learned that photographs of Mr. Lapienis with the caption, "Wanted Criminal" had been posted in Vilnius and other railroad stations shortly before his arrest. According to issue no. 65 of the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, Lapienis had left Vilnius in search of medical treatment for his suppurating leg wound. He was arrested in Kaunas, Lithuania, about 100 kilometers west of the capital city.

In 1984, Lapienis wrote several protests to the Prosecutor of the Lithuanian SSR and the Chairman of the KGB, asking for the return of his manuscripts, protesting their confiscation as the KGB could not prove he was disseminating them, and it was not a crime to possess them. "So only now, when I returned from KGB Isolation Prison, did people learn that I had written my memoirs." wrote Lapienis. "Until then, no one had seen them, and no one knew about them." He also signed a petition protesting the closed trial of Lithuanian Catholic priest, Father Alfonsas Svarinskas, in May, 1983.

### THE CASE OF BALYS GAJAUSKAS



Balys Gajauskas was born in rural Lithuania in 1926. The family moved to Kaunas in 1932 where Balys, at the age of 14, began working as an apprentice electrician. He was first imprisoned as a teenager for resistance activities during the Nazi occupation of Lithuania. He escaped as the Russians again invaded Lithuania only to be arrested in 1948, this time for anti-Soviet activities for which he was sentenced to 25 years. Released in May, 1973, after completing his entire sentence, Gajauskas returned to

Kaunas, even though he was legally barred from living in his home country. Defying that ruling he continued to aid and visit his elderly mother.

Continually harrassed by local officials, Balys Gajauskas was arrested again on April 20, 1977, his intended wedding day. He was charged with keeping and circulating anti-Soviet literature including a translation of "The Gulag Archipelago," as well as collecting documents and compiling information on political prisoners and on the Lithuanian partisan movement of the 1940s and early 1950s. He was also accused of disbursing aid to prisoners of conscience and their families. Gajauskas was tried in Vilnius on April 12-14, 1978, and sentenced to 10 years special regime labor camp and 5 years internal exile under Art. 68 of the Lithuanian SSR Criminal Code for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda".

Gajauskas joined the Lithuanian Helsinki Group in 1977 in prison.

On July, 1978, Balys Gajauskas and Irena Dumbryts were permitted to marry in the Mordovian labor camp where he was imprisoned. Their request that a Roman Catholic priest perform the ceremony was refused; they were granted only a two hour

visit in the presence of guards; and they were ordered to speak Russian rather than their native Lithuanian.

Balys' health has deteriorated in camp, according to his wife, who appealed to President Francois Mitterrand of France in 1981, asking for his intervention on her husband's behalf. He is losing his eyesight and also suffers from high blood pressure and stomach ulcers.

A daughter by the name of Grazina was born to Balys and Irena

in 1980. His mother died in September, 1984, at the age of 82. Balys was not allowed to attend the funeral.

Lately, his wife has been unable to visit him, because he has been denied visitation rights for protesting in the labor camp against interference with religious observances, for fostering solidarity among prisoners of different nationalities and for writing political tracts, which have been smuggled out of the labor camp to the West.

In 1981, Gajauskas received the Rothko Foundation Award in recognition of his commitment to truth and freedom. Petitions for his release and permission to emigrate with his family to the United States, where his aunt resides, have gone unanswered by the Soviets.

Gajauskas continues to serve his sentence in a camp for "specially dangerous recidivists" near Perm. Gajauskas completes his sentence at the age of 66 in 1992.

### THE CASE OF LIUDAS DAMBRAUSKAS



Liudas Dambrauskas was born on April 25, 1921, in Lithuania. He is a chemist by profession and served formerly as department chairman at the Thermo-insulation Institute in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Dambrauskas was incarcerated in labor camps and prisons from 1945 to 1955 after his death sentence meted out during the Stalin period was commuted. After his release Dambrauskas embarked on a successful career as a chemist.

Dambrauskas' homes in Vilnius and Kaunas were searched on March 20, 1984. The manuscript of his memoirs, a part which deals with his experiences in Soviet labor camps and prisons, was confiscated. Dambrauskas was placed under house arrest after these searches and inter-

rogated daily. His trial took place October 1-3, 1984, in Vilnius. Dambrauskas collapsed during the trial. He was sentenced to 3½ years in a strict regime forced labor camp and 2 years of internal exile under Article 68 (anti-Soviet agitation and propoganda") of the Lithuanian SSR Criminal Code, with his unpublished memoirs as the main evidence against him.

Under the pressure of continuous interrogations and threats, Dambrauskas suffered a heart attack in April, 1984. The interrogations, nonetheless, continued. While in the hospital, doctors discovered that he was also suffering from tuberculosis. During one of his interrogations, Dambrauskas requested that his personal property namely the memoirs, be returned to him under the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act. A KGB colonel named Liniauskas, who had supervised the search responded: "You do not live in Helsinki, but in the Soviet Union, and the only laws of the USSR, and not of Helsinki, apply here."

Liudas Dambrauskas has a wife and four children.

### RAISE THE VOLUME OF OUR VOICES

PLEASE!!!

### THE CASE OF MART NIKLUS



Mart Niklus was born in Tartu, Estonia on September 22, 1934. He graduated from the Tartu State University in 1957 as a biologist with a special interest in ornithology. He was arrested for the first time in 1958 for sending abroad photos of shoddy construction and of a radio-jamming station. A year later Niklus was sentenced to ten years in a labor camp for "agitation and the spreading of anti-Soviet propoganda". He was freed in 1966, after serving 8 years of his sentence. He was again taken into custody for a couple months in 1976 when he

went to the prosecutor's office to demand the return of tape recordings and texts seized during a search of his apartment.

Subsequently Niklus signed several open letters and appeals by Balts, one of them a statement dated August 23, 1979, and signed by 45 persons, which protested the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact on its 40th anniversary and demanded the publication by the Soviet Union of its full text, including the secret pro-

ocols on the division of Eastern Europe.

Mart Niklus was arrested on April 29, 1980, in Tartu, Estonia and indicted under Article 68-2 ("anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda") of the Estonian SSR Criminal Code. According to the indictment, the principal charges against Niklus were related to appeals, protests and letters signed by him, including the above-mentioned statement of August 23, 1979. On January 8,

1981, after a three-day trial the Supreme Court of the Estonian SSR sentenced Mart Niklus to 10 years in a special labor camp and 5 years of internal exile. Currently serving this term, Niklus (although in poor health) has been further punished by solitary incarceration in prison. He is, indeed a political prisoner, although formally sentenced for what is classified in the USSR as a "criminal offense".

### THE CASE OF HARRI MÖTSNIK



Harri Mötsnik was born in Estonia in 1928. Trained as a lawyer, Mötsnik became a Lutheran minister relatively late. He was ordained in 1972, although he evidently did not receive any formal instruction from the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Theological Institute. For a while he ministered to an Ingrian congregation at the Pushkin Lutheran Church near Leningrad, and later he became the pastor of the Lutheran congregation in Urvaste in southern Estonia.

Mötsnik repeated criticism of Soviet human rights violations and policies toward Estonia resulted in 1983 KGB interrogation and a warning to depoliticize his sermons. In the summer of 1984, twelve of his sermons from the fall of 1983 together with an account of his interrogation were published in Sweden, under the Estonian title, "Mis on rahuks vaja?" (What is Necessary for Peace?) A

copy of this pamphlet is available from United Baltic Appeal, Inc. In December, 1984, Mötsnik was relieved of his duties at his church in Urvaste, whereupon he was reported to have "returned to the land to try to eke out an existence."

Rev. Mötsnik was arrested on April 3, 1985, and on October 5, 1985, he was sentenced to three years of forced labor under Article 68-2

("anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda") of the Estonian SSR Criminal Code.

Under pressure from the KGB Mötsnik (who is in poor physical health) has apparently recanted his views in selected statements published in the November 13, 1985, issue of "Kodumaa," a Soviet weekly sent to Estonian emigres in the West.

### THE CASE OF LAGLE PAREK



Lagle Parek was born on April 17, 1941, in Parnu, Estonia. Her father, an officer in the Estonian Army, had been shot by the Soviet authorities after Estonia had been forcibly annexed by the Soviet Union in the summer of 1940. She was an infant

at the time of her father's execution. In 1949, as a young child, she was deported to Siberia together with her mother, 71-year old grandmother and 18-year old sister. Lagle Parek was allowed to return to Estonia in 1955.

Lagle Parek became an architect and a leading member of an informal Estonia group which monitored Soviet violations of the 1975 Helsinki agreement on human rights. She was arrested on March 5, 1983, in Tartu, Estonia, for having previously signed several appeals protesting alleged Soviet violations of human rights in Estonia. (Copies of the appeals signed by Lagle Parek, are available from United Baltic Appeals, Inc.)

The signing of the public appeals drew her a sentence in December, 1983, of six years in a general regime prison camp and three years of internal exile again under Article 68-2 ("anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda") of the Estonian SSR criminal Code.



### THE CASE OF ALEKSANDR RIGA

Aleksandr Riga was born in 1939 in Latvia and had studied art and philosophy. At the age of 30 he converted to Roman Catholicism and set up a number of unofficial prayer groups in the Moscow region. In 1976, he started to publish an unofficial ecumenical journal called PRIZVY (Summons). Following six house searches, Riga was arrested on February 8, 1984, and charged with "anti-social religious activity" and "circulating anti-Soviet slander" (Art. 227 and 190/1 of the RSFSR Criminal Code, resp.). During investigation of his case, however, Riga was sent for psychiatric examination and ruled unfit to stand trial. The court ordered that Riga be forcibly confined for an infinite period at a "Special Psychiatric Hospital" (SPH). Such confinements are specified by law for individuals who are both mentally ill and an evident danger to themselves or others. There is no evidence that Riga was ill, or physically violent at the time of his arrest or previously, nor is this implied by the charges against him. He was placed in the SPH because of his nonviolent exercise of his human rights.

Riga was sent to a SPH at Blagoveshchensk in the Soviet East some 9000 kilometers from his 70-year old mother who resides in Latvia and is in bad health. According to reports in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine* (June 4, 1985), Riga was suffering from a critical illness (not mental) at the Blagoveshchensk SPH. The Soviet Ministry of Interior notified his mother that she should visit him urgently. However, because of her bad health she was unable to undertake the trip. His fiancée who offered to go instead of his mother was told that, since she was not a close relative, she could not. Two letters written by Riga to his mother in 1985 were heavily censored. The pre-

sent fate of Aleksandr Riga is not known. His case has been adopted by Amnesty International.

### THE CASE OF GUNARS FREIMANIS



Gunars Freimanis (born in 1927 in Latvia) is another victim of Soviet intolerance. On December 1, 1983, he was sentenced to four years in a strict regime labor camp plus five years under Art. 65 (anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda). Gunars Freimanis is a poet. He is made to suffer because he wanted to exercise his right of expression. His poems are not fiery call to arms; he chooses his themes from nature, love for one's family and fellow man, etc. Yet he would never write about required ideological topics, therefore, the official press and publishing houses refused to print his work. He wrote his poems while working as an electrotechnician. Eventually in 1964, two of his poems, dedicated to his infant daughter, were published in a literary journal, *Kargos*, but soon afterwards he was sentenced to five years for anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda. While in the Soviet labor camp, he worked as an electrician and, when there was a free moment, he continued to write. He was

released in 1969. He returned to Latvia where he became a specialist in electrical power installations, but he continued to write, and a small portion of his poetry found its way to the United States where it was published.

In the summer of 1976, Freimanis with another former prisoner of conscience, poet Valdis Zarins, started to read their works at the home of a friend. The KGB learned of this gathering and issued an order that in the future, no such literary gatherings be held. Subsequently, the homes of several attendees of the poetry reading were searched, and publications and manuscripts were confiscated. Because of this literary activity, Gunars Freimanis again attracted the attention of the KGB. He was called in periodically for interrogations, his home and summer cottage were searched from time to time; his writings were examined in great detail by KGB investigators. Thus it is evident that the Soviet authorities tried to construct, piece by piece, a criminal case against Gunars Freimanis on the basis of his literary endeavors.

The Freimanis case has been taken up by poets from other nations visiting the Soviet Union, or meeting with Soviet officials at international forums (for example in Budapest, summer 1985, in Vilnius, autumn 1985) but so far, to no avail.

### THE CASE OF ALFREDS ZARINŠ

Alfreds Zarinš, 58, from Alūksne, Latvia, is another Latvian poet who is not officially recognized and whose works rarely appear in print in his native country. Zarinš, therefore, searched for alternate ways to have his work published. He sent his poems to several Latvian periodicals abroad. The regime fabricated a case against him in September, 1981, and sentenced him — a retired teacher who had recently suffered two heart attacks — to three years in a hard labor camp. He was charged with

“anti-Soviet activities”. Miraculously, *Zarins* survived this ordeal and returned home (1984) even more determined to fight for his rights to publish his works abroad. The poems he sends to his publisher are not political but describe his own moods or depict views from the countryside. He is aware of his mission — to “open the window” so that generations who’d follow him would “have an easier time of it” (as he explains in one of his poems). In another poem he says: “There might come a time when my people might find it useful/the harvest/for which I’m sowing the seeds now.”

*Zarins* demands that his poems be printed in the Latvian publications abroad with his full name, therefore — if the present trends persist — it is only a matter of time until his next arrest. The Swedish P.E.N. Club has tried to help *Zarins* but their exchange of letters is often interrupted by the Soviet censors.



## THE STRUGGLE FOR BALTIC FREEDOM STILL LIVES!!!



...BULLETIN...BULLETIN...

## RADIO FREE EUROPE/ RADIO LIBERTY IN SEVERE FISCAL CRISIS ISSUE AN URGENT S.O.S.

On May 2, 1986 a White House briefing was held regarding U.S. overseas broadcasting — The Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

During the briefing, newly appointed staff director of the Board of International Broadcasting (BIB) Bruce Potter announced that Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) is currently facing an extreme fiscal crisis.

The Gramm-Rudman legislation forced a RFE/RL budget cut of 4.3% despite the fact that the 1985 FYR was much lower than anticipated. The recent precipitous decline in the value of the dollar abroad has made the situation worse.

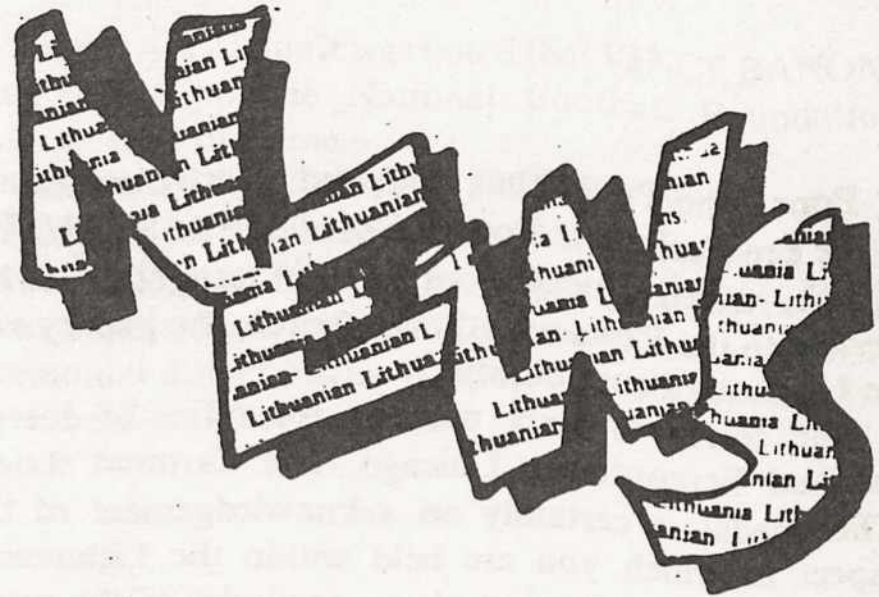
Due to the fact that RFE/RL operates within the framework of German labor laws and regulations it does not have the flexibility in altering the amount or timing of payments of salaries and related benefits to its

employees.

If adequate funds for continued operations of RFE/RL are not made available, bankruptcy of the corporation will ensue by July 4, 1986. Congressional action on the \$14.5 million supplemental appropriations (\$22 million at April 22, 1986 exchange rates) must be taken or RFE/RL will be forced to initiate actions leading to eventual curtailment of broadcasting operations.

RFE/RL recently brought essential information regarding the Chernobyl nuclear disaster into the USSR, providing life saving information to Soviet citizens. For Lithuanians, it is a crack in the wall of the closed Soviet society. It is essential to the world and national security that measures be taken to restore financial solvency to RFE/RL and provide funds to make necessary equipment modernization procedures.

# Lithuanians in The



Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



*Rev. Robert K. Baltch, Spiritual Advisor, C-100, appointed Dean of the Catholic Church in Montgomery County, NY*

VERY REV. ROBERT K. BALTCH, pastor of St. Casimir's Roman Catholic Church in Amsterdam, N.Y., has been appointed dean of the Catholic Church in Montgomery County, notes "The Recorder", Amsterdam.

As dean, Father Baltch acts as coordinator of clergy in the deanery and is the communicator between the bishop and the parishes on the deanery level.

Father Baltch is the Spiritual Advisor to Council 100, and a 4th degree member.

\* \* \*

## Adamkus honored by Pres. Reagan

At a White House ceremony last December, President Reagan presented VALDAS ADAMKUS, Regional Administrator of the EPA for the Midwest, with a gold medal for distinguished service in the U.S. Government.

\* \* \*

DR. NANCY RAZICKAS-CRADDOCK, D.D.S., a graduate of the College of Dentistry of New York University, and a member of C-110, Maspeth, N.Y., has earned the honored rank of Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry.

Nancy and her husband John, who is also a Fellow in the Academy, practice dentistry in Newton, N.J., and have a four-year old daughter, Allison.

Nancy is the daughter of ANTHONY and BRENDA RAZICKAS of C-110, Maspeth.



*Dr. Nancy Razickas-Craddock, D.D.S., C-100, becomes honored "Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry".*

Pope John Paul II has conferred an esteemed award — the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal — on STANLEY PIEZA, retired Chicago journalist, in recognition of his services to the Roman Catholic Church, the papacy and the Lithuanian community.

The ceremony took place in the office of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin in Chicago. The Cardinal stated: "This medal is certainly an acknowledgement of the respect in which you are held within the Lithuanian Catholic community; but also a reminder of the many years you contributed to the field of journalism as a sensitive and caring reporter."

Stanley worked for 36 years as a police reporter, writer, Vatican correspondent, and religion editor of the old Chicago American and Chicago Today, and as a special correspondent for the International News Service.

An Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania, Stanley, though retired on his farm in North Judson, Indiana, contributes a great deal of his literary talents to the Knights of Lithuania. Whenever he is in Chicago, if there is a K of L function of any kind going on, you can be sure Stanley will be there.

Congratulations, good friend!



*Joseph Cardinal Bernardin presents Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal to H.M. Stanley Pieza*



*Msgr. D.A. Mozeris honored by C-36 on his retirement*

REV. MONSIGNOR DAMASUS A. MOZERIS was honored by Council 36 at a Dinner Dance held at Immaculate Conception Parish in Chicago on April 5th.

The occasion was the retirement of Monsignor Mozeris as pastor of Immaculate Conception. Monsignor was appointed to the parish as pastor in 1953 by His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch.

As pastor, he enlarged and renovated the parish school, then remodeled and redecored the old church, convent and rectory. In 1962 a new church was built. He organized many organizations and supported K of L Council 36. Under his guidance the parish has been thriving. Although the parish has a large mixture of various ethnic groups, it is still mainly Lithuanian.

FATHER JOHN KUZINSKAS was appointed as new Pastor of Immaculate Conception, to succeed Monsignor.

\* \* \*

## BANONIS INDUCTION TO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAMES ANNOUNCED

In the April issue it was noted that VINCE BANONIS was named to the National Football Foundation's College Hall of Fame.

His brother PETER J. BANONIS, a member of C-79, Southfield, Mich., informs us he will be inducted with a number of other football stars, including Mike Ditka, John Brodie, Jack Pardee, Mel Renfro, and others, at a ceremonial dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York on December 9, 1986.

\* \* \*

ANN JILLIAN (JŪRATĖ NAUSĖDAITĖ) was honored by President Reagan with the American Cancer Society Award of Courage for going public about her breast surgery as an aid to others.



*Margučiai by Paul Astras*

PAUL ASTRAS carries on the family tradition at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture as he practices the art of decorating Easter eggs, or "margučiai" as they are called in Lithuanian, reports the "Chicago Sun-Times".

His grandmother, Lithuanian folk artist URSULA ASTRAS from Grand Rapids, Mich., has been sharing her knowledge of Easter egg decoration with Chicagoans for 23 years.



## MIDNIGHT

*translated by*  
Antonia M. Wackell

There is one only special hour  
Within the night,  
When to the heaven's clustered stars  
You softly pray.  
And the scintillating heaven  
Is so brilliant,  
That, it seems, you have all the stars.  
Within your heart.

All reality—only one  
The sky's blue dome—  
And you yourself in its blue depth  
Have been engulfed.  
No more are there sacred prayers  
Nor sinfulness:  
Soon as the heart will voice its song,  
Then heaven gains.

—V. Mykolaitis - Putinas

# Vyčiai Veikia

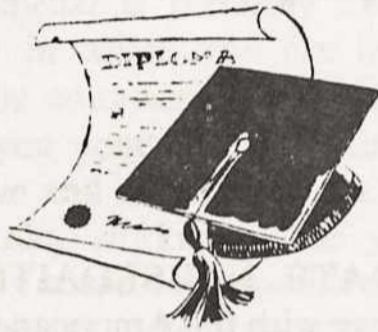


# Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT



### C-29 — NEWARK

Our Council celebrated Lithuanian Independence Day with a beautiful and meaningful Mass in our Holy Trinity Church. During the offertory, special gifts were carried to the altar by members of our council. Bernard Skripata, wearing a "juosta," carried the American flag because we are Americans and the motto of the K of L is "For God and Country." Kazys Sipaila, also wearing a "juosta," carried the Lithuanian flag with stripes of yellow symbolizing freedom from want, green for the evergreen forests symbolizing hope and red originally symbolizing love of country but now the blood shed for Lithuania.

Danguolė Didžbalis carried a loaf of "pyragas" for the starving people of Lithuania. Emelia Sadonis presented a miniature wayside cross representing the determination of the Lithuanian people to keep their faith. Finally, Adele Urbanas offered the Lithuanian doll representing the rich culture of Lithuania with a prayer that this culture will prevail forever. All three ladies were dressed in Lithuanian costume. Bronė Venckus

explained the gifts in Lithuanian; Rita Sussko did the same in English.

After the Mass we assembled in our parish hall for refreshments and a special program presented by Bendruomenė of Newark. One of the speakers was our council president Joseph Russell. He took a "trip down memory lane" and gave an interesting talk on what being a Lithuanian meant to him. It was a very meaningful and well spent day enjoyed by all.

Our annual St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast was held on March 2. The celebration began with a beautiful solemn Mass held in our Holy Trinity Church. Msgr. John Scharnus was the principal celebrant and the Rev. Clem, Franciscan Fathers, Brooklyn, was the concelebrant. A gift-bearing procession was led by HM Kazys Sipaila carrying a picture of St. Casimir; Mary Stonis, the lily; Joseph Ruzga, the cross; Danguolė Didžbalis, the crown of gold and Rita Gražulis, the crown of thorns. HM Helen Shields and Bernard Skripata presented the wine and water. An explanation of the gifts was given by Viola Skripata. It was a beautiful, well attended Mass.

Following the Mass we assembled in the parish hall to enjoy a delicious meal prepared and served by members of our council. HM Helen Shields was our guest speaker and gave a most interesting talk on the history of the Knights. She spoke to us in both English and Lithuanian and delighted us with her presentation. We thank chairlady Rita Sussko and her terrific committee for

a job well done.

Our annual cake sale was held on Palm Sunday. Many thanks to chairlady Mary Honeymar, Holy Trinity Parishioners and our K of L members for their participation in this affair. The ladies outdid themselves by baking beautiful cakes and delicious "pyragas." Some brought handmade items for our crafts table. Betty Luciw and Mary Stonis donated hand-crocheted afghans for the raffle. Last but not least, special thanks to Walter Brazaitis for coloring and decorating dozens of eggs and Sally Delunas for making palm crosses. The profit from the affair was eleven hundred dollars and was turned over to Msgr. Scharnus to aid in the support of our parish. Thank you Mary and your energetic committee for making this affair one of our best money makers.

Eva Coll

### C-100 — AMSTERDAM

Many Council 100 members came early for our April meeting in order to attend the Lithuanian Mass celebrated by our Spiritual Advisor Rev. Robert E. Baltch. The readings were given by Polly Žiaušys and the gift offerings were brought by Vytis Editor Bernice Aviža and local Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Ed Baranauskas.

Following the Mass, President Anthony J. Radzevich pounded the gavel and called the meeting to order in the Social Center. Rev. Anthony Grigaitis, with wrist out of the cast, said the opening prayers. Our Vyčių Himnas followed. Letters from

Scholarship Chairman V. Piacentini and Congressman Samuel S. Stratton enclosing his message to Congress on Lithuania's 68th anniversary were read by Vice President Gene Gobis. Secretary Eleanor Olechowski's report was followed by Treasurer Sophie Olbie's "good news" as to our bank account.

Ritual Chairman Betty Kuzmich reported on the success of our Communion Brunch where Harold Tice and Vincent Rossi received their first degrees.

Cultural Chairman Adeline and Steve Raila read an article from the March 10 issue of Newsweek on Mr. John Chevrogkas. They also informed us of their appearance on Sandor Balogh's Conservative Forum, Radio Station WWCN 1460 AM on February 16 where they talked on Lithuania. Steve mentioned the variety of questions called in by the listeners. Adeline was able to give them answers in one form or another.

Linas Kojelis was also interviewed by phone by Sandor Balogh on another program.

Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Ed Baranauskas announced that there will be a Lithuanian booth at the Schenectady Museum for the Festival of Nations. He asked members including juniors to help man the booth.

Father Baltch spoke of the upcoming ordination of Deacon Robert DiMartinis and that his first Mass at St. Casimir's will be on May 24.

Father Baltch attended the concert in New York City on April 19 where two opera singers from Lithuania Nijolė Ambrozaitytė and Virgilijus Noreika performed. He also had a book on Lithuanian last names and used Grigaitis as an example. He found that there were 273 families with that name located in 75 regions of Lithuania.

Donations were made to the Scholarship Fund, the Chronicles

and the Mid-Atlantic 70th anniversary program.

Polly Žiaušys presented Gene Gobis with a certificate for second place in individual recruitment of members awarded at the Mid-Atlantic meeting in March.

Irene & Harold Tice donated to our council stainless steel place settings for 100. Širdingai ačiū from all our members!

Refreshments for the evening were handled by Irene & Harold Tice, Olga & Walter Wilkevitch, Helen Zytowski and Vincent Rossi. It was a feast — from ham and sausage to a most tasty cabbage salad

and strawberry shortcake as well as other cake, fruit punch and coffee. Polly Žiaušys brought in a couple of goodies, too.

Get well wishes are extended to Judy Kastraveckas, Matt LaTorre and Charles Karbocius.

Our sympathies go out to Sadie Dzekorius and family in the loss of her beloved brother Jonas Ilgas in Buenos Aires; to Sally Rusilas in the recent loss of her brother Charles Wassel; to Susan Dansevitch in the passing of her mother-in-law Mrs. Eleanore Dansevitch.

SMILE & SPARKLE



*C-100 members working and enjoying Schenectady, NY Festival of Nations. Jr. Kelly Olsen, National Cultural Chairperson Regina Kot, Jr. Joe Nikstenas, C-100 VP and President, Gene Gobis and Tony Radzevich*



*Ask C-100 Juniors where their "Roots" come from. K of L friend, Kristen Olechowski, Joe Nikstenas and Judy Nikstenas will tell you: "Lietuva"*



*Ann Zebuda member of newly reactivated C-136 and friend prepare the apples for their Lithuanian blynai*



*National Cultural Chairperson Regina Kot assists her proteges at Festival of Nations*



*C-136 member Frank Zebuda offers Lithuanian skilandis and "cucumbers and honey" to Festival participants*

## C-110 — MASPETH

The April meeting was well attended — spring is here! Guests included Larry Janonis, MAD President, and Jeanne Janonis, MAD Recording Secretary. Larry appealed for C-110 volunteers to aid in the co-hosting of MAD's annual Lithuanian Fair on April 19-20 at Transfiguration Hall. C-110's Recording Secretary, Marie Visnauskas-Loehmann, and her husband, Fred, have relocated to the Mid-Central District. We will miss her! Fr. Raila, Spiritual Advisor, commented favorably on the New York Daily News articles on religions in New York. One of the articles reviewed the traditions, customs and tenets of Catholicism.

May not only bring flowers but C-110 Knight to Clearwater, Florida, and a fun trip to Epcot Center.

June will be a very busy month for our Maspeth Council. On June 1, we will celebrate MAD's 70th Anniversary with a Mass followed by dinner in Transfiguration Parish Hall. On June 4, in lieu of the regular

meeting, there will be our "Summer Bash" before the summer hiatus as our next meeting will be September 3. On June 8, C-110 delegates will be at the MAD meeting at C-46 in Forest City, PA. On June 22, C-110 membership will attend a Mass which will commemorate the 1941 mass deportation of Lithuanians to Siberia. Later in the month, we will be visiting the Sisters of Jesus Crucified Picnic in Elmhurst, PA. We also hope to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. In August, we look forward to the 73rd National Convention.

Sadly, we bid goodbye to two long-time K of L'ers: John Trautulis, a gentle, soft-spoken person who was a retiree of the Linden, NJ, Police Department and to C-12's forty-nine year member, Al "Monk" Monckawitch. Sacred Heart of Jesus receive them mercifully.

Sisters Damian and Urban are leaving Transfiguration Church to return to their mother house in Pennsylvania. It was our pleasure and good fortune for more than three

decades to be witness to their unselfish service to Transfiguration Church, its societies and organizations. C-110 membership will express their grateful appreciation in a gift to them. When Tony Razickas and I were married in 1950, the current Transfiguration Parish Hall was then the official church, and Sr. Damian, in her own inimitable way, decorated the church with magnificent American Beauty Roses. Thank you, Sisters, for the beautiful floral arrangements for the hundreds of weddings and special occasions in the parish. 'Till we meet again, God keep you in his care.

The present Transfiguration Church was erected under the direction of Monsignor John Balkūnas, and it is with admiration that we congratulate him and wish him God's choicest blessings as he celebrates, on May 29, his 60th year in the Holy Priesthood. Ramybė!

Su meile,

Brenda Bell-Razickas





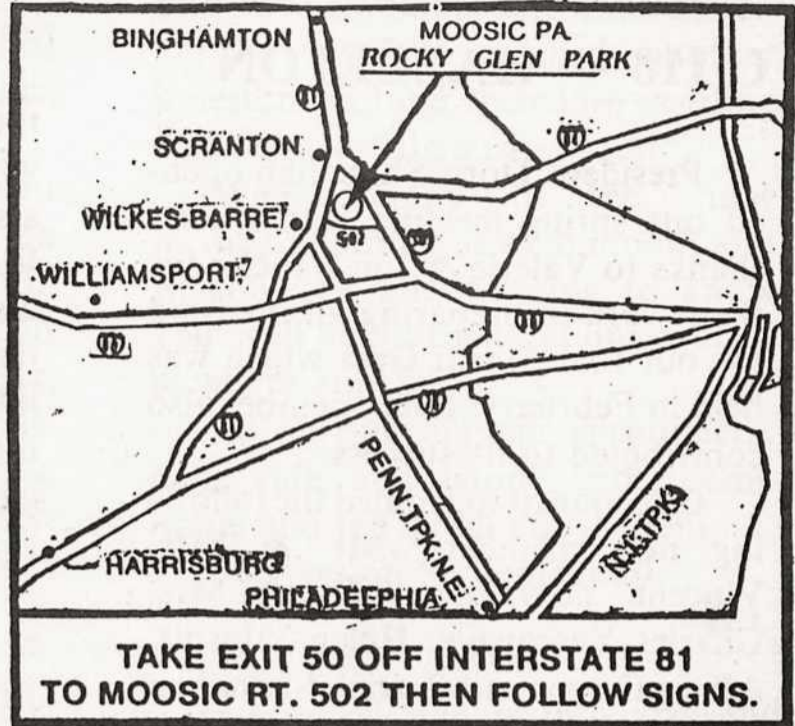
**Lithuanian Mass**  
**11 A.M.**

FOLK SONGS



LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCES

**Program**  
**1 P.M.**



TAKE EXIT 50 OFF INTERSTATE 81  
TO MOOSIC RT. 502 THEN FOLLOW SIGNS.

# The 72nd Annual LITHUANIAN DAY

**RAIN or SHINE!**

Proceeds  
to  
Lithuanian  
College  
in Rome



**NEW**  
**ROCKY**  
**GLEN**  
**PARK**  
MOOSIC, PA.

**A happy experience!**

**Sunday,**  
**August 27, 1986**



WAYSIDE SHRINES  
WOODCARVINGS

## Lithuanian Cultural Exhibit



DOLLS  
WEAVINGS



AMBER ARTIFACTS  
STRAW ORNAMENTS

ETCHED  
MUSHROOMS



DECORATED  
EGGS



FOR INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL

LITHUANIAN DAY COMMITTEE

MRS. ANN CARLITUS, SEC'Y.

BOX 192

RINGTOWN, PA 17967

PHONE- 717-889-3839

## C-118 — HAZLETON

President Doris Shanahan opened our spring meeting with special thanks to Valerie & Joe Dancho for their work in preparing all the food for our first Mardi Gras which was held in February. Each member also contributed to its success.

Our council welcomed the following new members: Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Youravich, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Yuscavage, Helen Vilusnis, Albert Gelgot and Patrick Shanahan Jr.

We held our annual St. Casimir's breakfast in Gus Genetti's in Hazleton. Alma Launikonis chaired the breakfast.

John Lapinsky is in charge of arrangements for a bus trip to Washington to visit Our Lady of Šiluva Chapel, attend Mass and tour the area. A good turnout is expected.

We are looking forward to having our Chinese Auction in May and the 100th anniversary celebration of our church in June.

Alma Launikonis

## C-142 — WASHINGTON

The council's meeting on March 2 was notable for two exceptional reasons. One was the locale of the meeting in the beautiful estate home of members Ted and Vernoica Mariani. Mr. Mariani, a well-known architect in the Washington area, recently renovated a historic mansion in Howard County, Maryland.

The Georgian colonial mansion is located on property which the British crown had donated as a land grant in 1766 to the Warfields, a prominent Maryland family. A small residence was first constructed on the land by the Warfields in 1838 and expanded to its present manor-like dimensions sixty years later. One of the Warfields was proprietor of the mansion while

governor of Maryland in 1903.

The Marianis graciously offered the use of the Warfield mansion, in which they are presently residing, for a slide presentation by member John Waylonis which featured scenes of his trip to Lithuania last year. The many interesting slides and John's informative commentary provided a most instructive and entertaining insight into many facets of life in Lithuania today.

A reception followed the excellent slide presentation. Refreshments, made and served by C-142 members Jean Adamonis, Kay Yankoski, John Waylonis, Clare Sponis and Julie Burlen consisted of sandwiches, stuffed tomatoes and peppers, Lithuanian sausage, variety of cakes.

In a colorful prelude to Easter, the council met again on March 23, this time to provide an opportunity for the members to deepen their understanding of, and proficiency in, the ancient art of Lithuanian egg decorating. A number of European countries practice this art, each with its distinctive designs. The Lithuanian egg art is noted for the richness of its coloring and the intricate beauty of its designs. Two of the members, Diana Bieliauskas and Kay Yankoski, did an outstanding job of instructing those present in this popular but artistically demanding art. Interestingly, several Ukrainian ladies also attended the council's Lithuanian egg coloring fest.

Albert Cizauskas

## C-144 — ANTHRACITE

In observance of Founder's Day, Anthracite Council held its annual ritual night. Ritual Chairman Helen Chesko inducted First and Second Degree candidates.

First Degree recipients were Vernoica Danisavich, Petronella Roberts, Martha Zoba and Leonard Zoba. Second Degrees were conferred on Anna Allushuski, Violet

Capper, Josephine Manikas, Mary Najda, Lea Norcross, Isabell Pelsinsky and Edward Pelsinsky.

A charter bus of C-144 Knights will travel to Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine in Doylestown on June 14 for the Lithuanian Day of Prayer. Knights will also travel by bus to the annual picnic of Sisters of Jesus Crucified at Elmhurst for the benefit of St. Mary's Villa.

John Joseph, Lithuanian Day Chairman, reports progress in plans for a bigger and better 72nd Lithuanian Day on August 17, Rocky Glen, Moosic.

Knights of Lithuania will actively participate in Family Day on September 28 at Allentown, Pa.

Knights will perform and a display booth is planned. Family Day will be celebrated in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of Diocese of Allentown. Anna Wargo and Helen Chesko represent the Lithuanian community on the diocesan committee.

## C-152 — RIVERHEAD

We hope you all circled Saturday, September 20, on your calendar and are keeping that date open. That is the day of our second annual Lithuanian Festival to be held at the Riverhead Armory, Route 58, Riverhead, NY.

Besides delicious Lithuanian food to tickle the taste buds, continuous dance music to tickle the toes of the young and young of heart, featuring the "Long Island Dominos" and "Brass Release," we also will have such special attractions for your visual and listening pleasure, performances by the renowned young group of singers "Harmonija" from Brooklyn and the "Vetra Dance Group" from Bridgeport, who entertained us all so beautifully at the National Convention in New Haven last year.

These features and much, much more will make you glad you came. Most importantly, you'll meet all your old friends, make new ones, and once again visit this area of beautiful Long Island. Want to know your future? Want to purchase home baked products, crafts, produce? We'll have it all for you!

Our member, Adele Jones, passed away during Easter week. Deepest sympathy is extended to her family. May she rest in peace.

Our condolences also to the families of our recently deceased friends, Anthony Skabeikis, Council 110, and Al "Monk" Monkevičius, Council 12. We will miss them.

Bertha & Ed Laukaitis spent some time in Georgia and Florida visiting with their children as did Marian & Joe Bealis visit with their son. Joe, being an avid golfer, couldn't wait to get back to his game. Anne & Tom Tarmey spent a glorious week in London, one of their favorite cities having visited there

three times so far. Good to have all our travelers home safe and sound.

The Luckas reached another milestone in June, their 35th wedding anniversary. "Ilgiausiy Metų!"

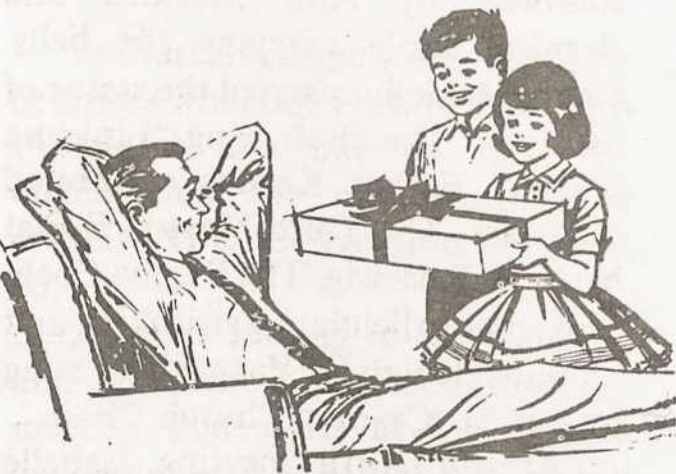
We're happy to see new members joining us each month and welcome to all. "Getting to know you" will be the theme at our council picnic in July.

To all our summer vacationers, have safe and happy trips, come home and tell us all about them.

See you on September 20.

B L

## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT



### C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Our April meeting was held in St. Francis Parish Hall and took on an atmosphere of an Easter celebration. Members brought in their Easter Margučiai and all participated in the Easter egg contest, seeing who had the strongest egg. If my memory serves me, Alice Perekslis had the strongest egg. Alice, was it a wooden egg? The Gardner girls treated all to an Easter Brunch following the meeting.

Paula Shatas brought in an attractive egg done in an unfamiliar style. She gathered small leaves that were pasted on the egg, covered by a paper towel, tied and boiled in onion skins. The end result was very unusual.

A lengthy article on an "Old-fashioned Lithuanian Easter" by Bronė Wisniauskas along with a picture of her Easter breakfast table made the front page of the Athol Daily News. It gave the Liths good publicity.

Condolences are extended to Valeria Smith on the death of her aunt, Veronica Ambrose, who resided with her. May she rest in peace.

Alice Perekslis treated her grandchildren to a week at Disney World. Dave Lucas spent ten days in Bermuda. Tina Shatas visited Detroit at Easter time. Cecelia Maher spent a month in Florida with her sister.

The anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic on April 14, 1912, was observed at the Athol Public Library. On display were pictures, books, articles, a scale model and news accounts of people or visitors in the region who were lost, including the Rev. Joseph Montvila, a Lithuanian priest enroute to his assignment as first pastor of St. Francis Church, Athol.

Our own Dick Genaitis, owner of Rite Media with headquarters in Revere, now has five branch offices.

Introducing our member — Amelia Bendinskas Vaitkunas was born, reared and educated in Athol. Amelia is a member of St. Francis Guild, Golden Age and AARP. She enjoys cooking, is a world traveller,

paints in oil and is into arts and crafts. Her daughter resides in Germany, and her son is a teacher in Concord High School. We wish Amelia success in all her endeavors and many years of service to her parish and the K of L.

June is the month of weddings and graduations. Let us reflect on our duties to our Lithuanian heritage. If your marriage or new position takes you away from your parish and into another city, seek out the Lithuanian parish and club. Join it; become involved. It's important to do something constructive to preserve your Lithuanian traditions.

Vincukas

### C-26 — WORCESTER

Congratulations to Stephen Walinsky Sr. and Frances Kulakusky! Steve received his Fourth Degree and Fran her Third at the New England District Convention held in Providence on April 27.

At last report, bowling was nearing the finish line with Richard Godek and Dorothy March holding high single scores and Lewis Lloyd and Louis Gouin teams vying for first place. More on this subject when final tallies are made and awards presented.

The warmest of welcomes to Victoria Augustine, our newest member!

A variety of foods made our March potluck supper its usual attraction. The superb cuisine was prepared by Bea Anton, Mary Anusauskas, Carol Kardokas, Anna Kersis, Anne Leseman, Marion March, Nell Mitchell, Rita Pinkus, Rita Sokol, Adele Ulevich and Anne Walinsky.

The 600th Anniversary Jubilee Prayer was read at the March meeting by John & Eleanor Gadilauskas, Vincent Grazulis and Rita Margosian. At the April meeting it was read by Bart & Marion March, Rita Sokol and Virginia Cummings.

Various activities throughout the year will feature our council's 70th anniversary, but the gala celebration will be held on November 16 at Maironis Park.

His Excellency Bishop Paul Baltakis is visiting our parish in May to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation to worthy candidates.

Kazys Adomavičius, president of Maironis Park and our member, was the guest speaker on the Lithuanian Radio Hour, „Aušra”, hosted by yet another member Eduardas Meilus Jr. in February on the occasion of the commemoration of Lithuania's Independence Day.

Adele Dagutis and her sister-in-law Virginia Ivaška were both hospitalized recently. Quicker-than-quick get well wishes to both!

Julia Berneika of Connecticut, sister of Virginia Ivaška and Father Alphonse Volungis, pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church in Worcester, died on Easter Sunday. Our prayerful condolences to the bereaved family.

Helen Gillus, Mildred & Charles Lapinskas and others made a return trip to Las Vegas. They felt „lucky”!

Sleeping beauty Spring is awakening into beautiful Summer! Hope it will be a happy and healthy summer for all! Iki sekančio numerio, su Diev!

„Dzūkelė”

## C-50 — NEW HAVEN

Frank & Isabel Peterson, Ann Meskins and Bernice Barile represented our council at the New England District Meeting in Providence. They were very pleased with the reception and very interesting agenda provided by Providence Council. 102 members from the New England District attended.

Bendruomenė held a state convention in New Haven. Reports were given by representatives from many Connecticut Lithuanian communities including New Haven.

The Women's Alliance, New Haven Branch, sponsored “Kūčios”, which was attended by Knights of C-50.

As usual there was much to do and the Knights were there to help make our annual Palm Sunday Food Fair another joyous occasion during the Easter season.

Theresa & Bruno Strimaitis and Ann Meskins got off to an early start peeling potatoes on Friday. Frank Peterson and Anthony Kordorsky helped the following day. Ann Meskins, Theresa Strimaitis and Isabella Peterson did the frying of the pancakes. Betty Gybowski helped serve the dinners while Ann Kordorsky helped with the kitchen chores.

The menu consisted of chicken, “dešra,” sauerkraut, fruit and vegetable gelatins prepared by Theresa Strimaitis.

Upstairs we had a sausage table in charge of Albina Lipčius, Mrs. Leikas, Ann Kordorsky, Ann Gedrim and Audrey Toole. Lithuanian cheese and horseradish were also available.

At the snack table Helen Medley displayed her Lithuanian straw crosses which sold out in a very short time. She also took care of the coffee and other goodies. Edith Kazlauskas made crullers which went well.

Bernice Barile was wrapped up in her baked goods. Nothing disappeared so fast as the buttery plump raisin and wheat breads baked by Edith Kazlauskas and Theresa Strimaitis.

Rose Kacilas was again pulling her punches at the raffle table. Helen Case and Joan Augustine had another good day selling their wares at the white elephant table.

It was another perfect Palm Sunday Lithuanian Food Fair for our parish.

On Easter Sunday the Knights participated in the solemn procession at Mass with Frank Peterson leading, followed by Ann Meskins and Bernice Barile carrying the bells. George Kisielius carried the statue of St. Jude. The choir sang “Linksma Diena.” Father Karalis celebrated the Mass. The Third Mass in E Flat by A. H. Rosewig, The Regina Coeli, Linksmai Alleluia Užgiedokim and Skambėkit Velykų Varpai were sung by our St. Casimir Church Choir.

At our April meeting Isabelle Golden, Alice Fleming and Bill Brullis were welcomed into membership in C-50. This brings our total to 204, the largest membership in the New England District.

Frank Peterson reported that he was very pleased with the site of the 73rd Convention in Allentown. The hotel is nice with reasonable rates of \$46 for single or double and an attractive shopping area. Frank attended a Supreme Council meeting on March 15.

On April 16, John and Helen Latvis, charter members, celebrated their 55th anniversary. Al & Ann Gedrim, also charter members, will celebrate their 50th on June 15. Congratulations!

On April 13 we were honored to have National President Frank Petrauskas drop in during our meeting. He gave us a few tips on how to strengthen our council. He was pleased with the lively participation of members throughout the meeting.

We in return gave him our wishes for great success in his presidency.

Knights of C-50 held their first Irish Night. It was the typical corned beef, cabbage, potato and carrots dinner. There was plenty of food and everyone enjoyed both the dinner and accordion player. Isabelle & Frank Peterson, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Antin, Al & Ann Gedrim, Ann & Anthony Kordorsky and Leo & Pat Tamulis were in charge. It was another happy and successful event for the Knights and their guests.

H. B.

## C-103 — PROVIDENCE

Enthusiasm is the word that aptly describes what our President William Piacentini has injected into the membership for our hosting the coming NED Convention on April 26.

As he is leading in the planning and preparations at this our monthly meeting that starts at 5 p.m. and concludes with a pot luck supper, Bill has assigned Vic Matheiu to act as liaison with the NED Board meeting that is convening at 2 p.m. in St. Casimir's Parish Hall in Worcester. The Spiritual Director of C-103, Father Gedvila is also in attendance in his capacity as NED Spiritual Director. The plans and advice of the NED Board are then conveyed to C-103 Providence by 5:50 p.m. before the council meeting adjourns. Our goal, our hope and our prayer is for a successful district convention.

Tid Bits from Here and There, čia ir ten, ici et la: Two of our members, two sisters Lillian and Ruth Savage have informed us that they have recently retired and are enjoying life so much that they claim that they should have done this years ago.

Congratulations to Peter and Helen Denisevich! Their daughter Diane Marie Holden was selected from among the 51 state winners chosen from each state and the

District of Columbia as one of "The Ten Outstanding Young Women of America." Residing in Georgia, she was recognized for her volunteer work in that area. Her husband is a prosecuting attorney in the US Army. Shortly they will be leaving for a tour of duty in Germany.

The envy of many because of their long winter vacation in Florida are Theresa and John Jacknevich. Their absence is marked by the lack of contribution that is sorely missed at our monthly meetings and our weekly classes at the Lithuanian Conversational Classes at Providence College.

Un Ami de Lithuanie

## MID-AMERICA DISTRICT



The Knights of Lithuania Choir, under the direction of Maestro Faustas Strolia, performed the "Seven Last Words of Christ" on Palm Sunday at St. John Fischer's Church. The presentation was inspirational. If you have not purchased your personal copy of their cassette with Algerd Brazis as one of the soloists, you may do so by contacting AnnMarie Kassel, 7336-2 Winthrop Way, Downers Grove, IL 60516. Cost is \$10 plus \$1 mailing fee.

The District Juniors, under the leadership of Maria Deksnis, continue to have a varied program. Among their recent activities was a walking trip of the beautiful and great learning place — The Morton Arboretum. If you have any youngsters 16 or under, have them join our Juniors and take advantage

of this great K of L group.

In order to plan the summer activities for the district, board members met at the home of Secretary Mary Juzėnas for a marathon session at which many problems were discussed with some solutions. In the absence of President Vince Samaska, Al Brazis presided.

Our representatives at the spring Supreme Council meeting, National Secretary Mary Juzėnas and District Representative Irene Sankus, reported on not only a very fruitful meeting, but on the excellent facilities at the convention site, the Allentown Hilton, and urged everyone to plan to attend this convention.

A Consular Reception was held on April 27 at the Lithuanian Jesuit Center to give everyone the opportunity to express their appreciation to the Hon. Josephine Daužvardis for her many years of devoted service as the Consul General of Lithuania and to welcome newly-appointed Consul Vaclovas Kleiza. 110 Lithuanian organizations participated in some way. Our most capable representative on the planning committee was Evelyn Ozalis who handled all of the details of the entertainment.

Many other K of L members were also prominently seen: HM Stanley Pieza spoke on the background of Mrs. Daužvardis; District President Algerd Brazis was the featured soloist; our K of L Choir with Faustas Strolia directing performed and Robert Mockus was the accompanist. One of the most touching moments was Al Brazis singing a special version of "My Hero" with Lithuanian words written for Mrs. Daužvardis. The tremendous hug he received from our dearly beloved Mrs. Daužvardis said it all and brought tears to our eyes.

Following the delicious refreshments served in a unique setting at the Jesuit Center, several K of L members adjourned to the home

of Ellie Kasputis where we not only celebrated K of L Founders Day, but also the birthday of District Cultural Chairlady Susan Binkis. It was truly a lovely way to end a special day.



## THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

*Sung by the  
KNIGHTS of LITHUANIA  
Mid America District Choir*

*\$10.00 per cassette  
plus \$1.00 mailing fee*

TO ORDER: send check or money order made payable to:  
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA  
c/o Mrs. Anna Marie Kassel  
7336-2 Winthrop Way  
Downer's Grove, Il. 60516



*Supreme Council Secretary Mary Juzenas presented Council 24 Charter to John Paukstis, newly-elected President reorganized Council of Mid-America District and Our Lady of Vilna Church.*

*Witnessing the happy occasion are Council 24 officers and charter members: Robert Gawryla, 3rd Vice*

*President; Clare O'Dea, Secretary; Bruce Neberieza, Treasurer; Ausra Krisciunaite Padalino, 1st Vice President.*

*Mid-America Spiritual Director Rev. A. Zakarauskas, Pastor Nativity BVM, and Mid-America District President Algerd Brazis were present for the ceremony.*

## C-112 — CHICAGO

Vice President Al Zakarka did an excellent job of conducting our April business meeting while President Paul Binkis and his wife Susan were vacationing in Virginia. Would you believe the lady who conducted the Statue of Liberty Fund Raffle for the evening was herself the winner of the 50/50 award? It was none other than lucky Estelle Rogers!

Plans are being formulated for a repeat of our last year's very successful Champagne Brunch, and it was announced that Susan Binkis is chairlady of this year's event. We look forward to her chairing as successful a Champagne Brunch as the efforts of Julie Zakarka produced last fall.

Our annual Fourth of July Picnic will be held at Pocius Grove in Indiana this year with Al Brazis as chairman. We are looking forward to a great day out there, but it sure will seem different to be celebrating the Fourth of July some place other than our own K of L garden.

Congratulations to Sophie Nieminski on receiving her 2,000 hour pin for volunteer work at Palos Community Hospital. Sophie has spent many a Sunday morning at this worthwhile task and is very deserving of this honor.

We welcome two new "prospective" K of L'ers into this world: Mr. & Mrs. Rimas (Virginia) Buzenas became the proud parents of a daughter recently and Mr. & Mrs. Saulius Kuprys had a son. Also, welcome to new members: Jean Maranda, Lorraine Williams and Viola Mann, and a welcome back to Jean Janula who recently rejoined our council.

Get well wishes to Ted Tomeski. Sincere condolences to Frances Shillis on the untimely death of her son Joe.

ARDEE



*John Kass (Kazakauskas) of Chicago Seniors will celebrate his 102nd birthday on June 24. John reminisces Simutis C-112 at last year's Fourth of July Picnic at the K of L Building and garden in Chicago*



*The Juzenas Family of C-112: Mary, National Secretary, Josephine and Peter*



*Irene Sankus, Al Zakarka and Gerrie Mack at C-112 get-together*

LITHUANIAN INFORMATION  
CENTER  
5620 S CLAREMONT  
CHICAGO, IL 60636

**VYTIS** Scottie Zukas  
5112 S. Mayfield  
Chicago, IL 60638

Return requested  
Address Correction Requested



## C-25 — CLEVELAND

Our bowling sessions are in full swing. Establishing averages are foremost and competition is keen. The enticing Alvina Luiza entertained our February session. Dolly and Tony Oberaitis officiated over the March session. Hospitable Dick Marks and his lovely wife Jean did the honors for April. Next stop — DuBois, here we come! Don't forget your membership card which will be your ID for tournament registration.

St. Casimir's Day celebration, March 3, officially began with Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Our spiritual advisor Fr. G. Kijauskas officiated with Fr. J. Sukackas in assistance. Flagbearer Ray Vanagas displayed the colors. Brunch was served at the Holiday Inn. There were 41 members in attendance. Good show!

A festive occasion was held at the Lithuanian Club on March 9 by Alvina Luiza to honor her precious mother, Julia, on her 90 years young birthday. Julia is a member of C-25 Seniors. Guests from as far away as California were present. She was among friends and they were all hers! Congratulations!

Council 25 hosted the weekly Koffee Klatch at Our Lady of Perpetual Help on March 23. Participation was so good by the men as well as the ladies, we could have had a well represented meeting. Thank you all for the baked goods, Gene's



*C-25 Koffee Klatch at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church*



*Marian Gray, recording secretary, Mr. and Mrs. Bilicis, Vince Gray, President at C-25 Cleveland St. Casimir's Day Brunch.*

beautiful orchid plant centerpiece, donations of coffee, sugar and milk, especially for the time given for the occasion. Without you, we are naught.

Nice to have you back from Florida: Nellie Arunski, Marian & Vince Gray, Nellie & Chuck

Machutas. From Arizona: Ben Karklius and wife. Off and flying to Australia are Marge & Andy Andrus to visit her relatives for a month.

How about the big „O” surprise birthday party given for Jim Thompson by his wife Joan?

Dolly-O