

1986

VOL. 72; NO. 7

JULY AUGUST ♦ LIEPA RUGPIUTIS

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the KNIGHT



OFFICIAL ORGAN
OF
the Knights
of Lithuania



Photo: National Park Service; Statue of Liberty National Monument

The K of L Salutes Lady Liberty

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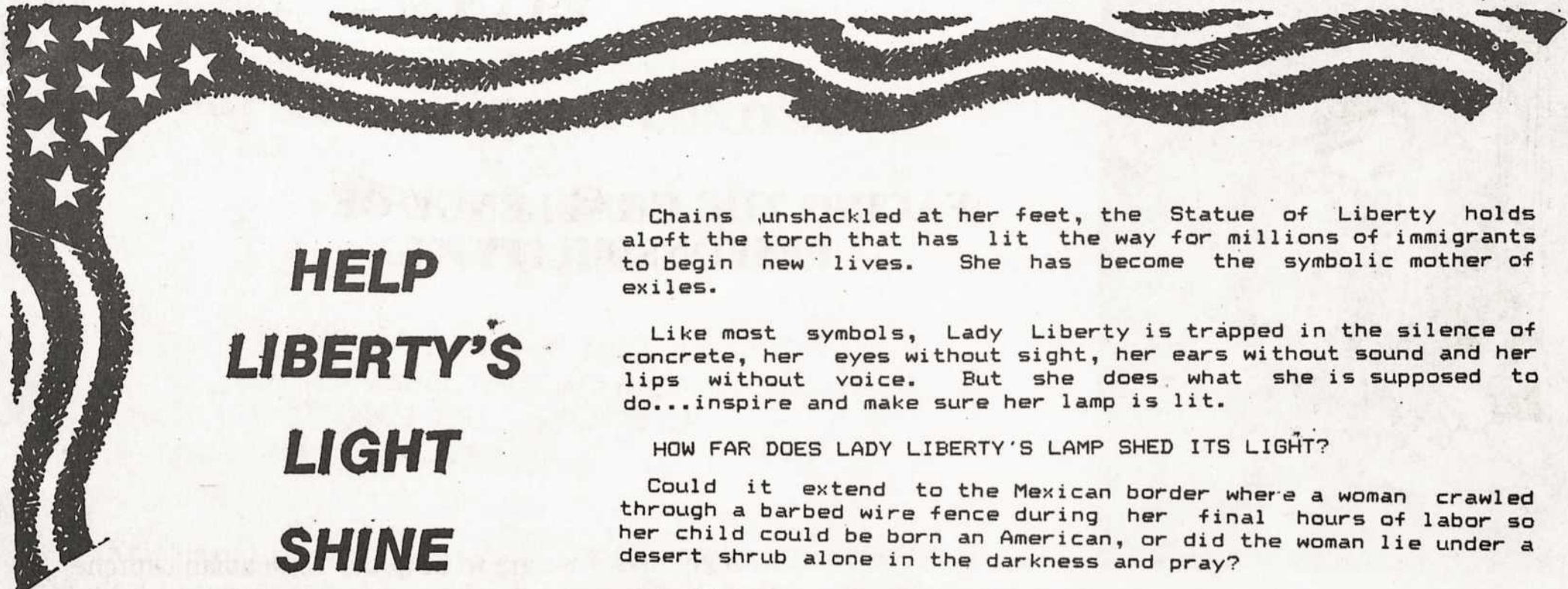
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**HELP
LIBERTY'S
LIGHT
SHINE
BRIGHT!**

Chains unshackled at her feet, the Statue of Liberty holds aloft the torch that has lit the way for millions of immigrants to begin new lives. She has become the symbolic mother of exiles.

Like most symbols, Lady Liberty is trapped in the silence of concrete, her eyes without sight, her ears without sound and her lips without voice. But she does what she is supposed to do...inspire and make sure her lamp is lit.

HOW FAR DOES LADY LIBERTY'S LAMP SHED ITS LIGHT?

Could it extend to the Mexican border where a woman crawled through a barbed wire fence during her final hours of labor so her child could be born an American, or did the woman lie under a desert shrub alone in the darkness and pray?

Could a porch light have been substituted the night a girl was being beaten and raped in a suburb and blinds were pulled and ears were deaf to her screams because people feared getting involved? And she died in the blackness of the night.

Could the torch have illuminated a child's life by the giving of extra time to help him when he fell behind in his studies? Or did he just flounder and drown in a sea of darkness through the cracks of the system, never to surface again?

How many people yearning to be free are imprisoned in darkened cells, victims of "policy", "procedure", and "politics"? When will a torch lead them to our shores?

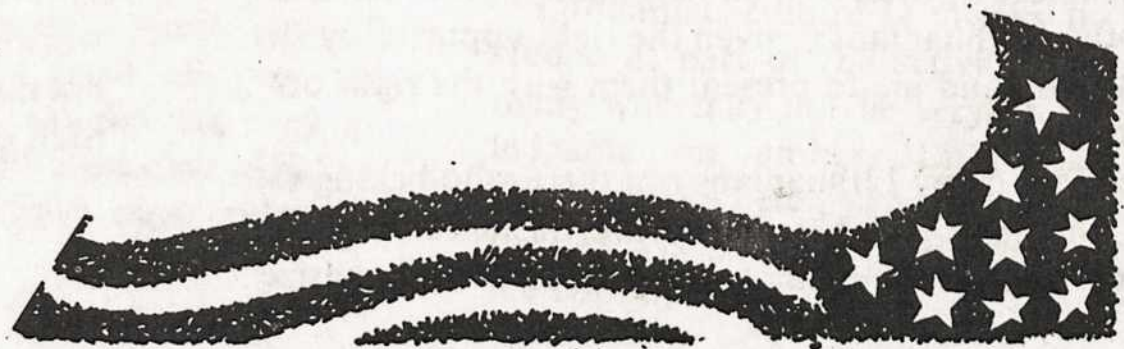
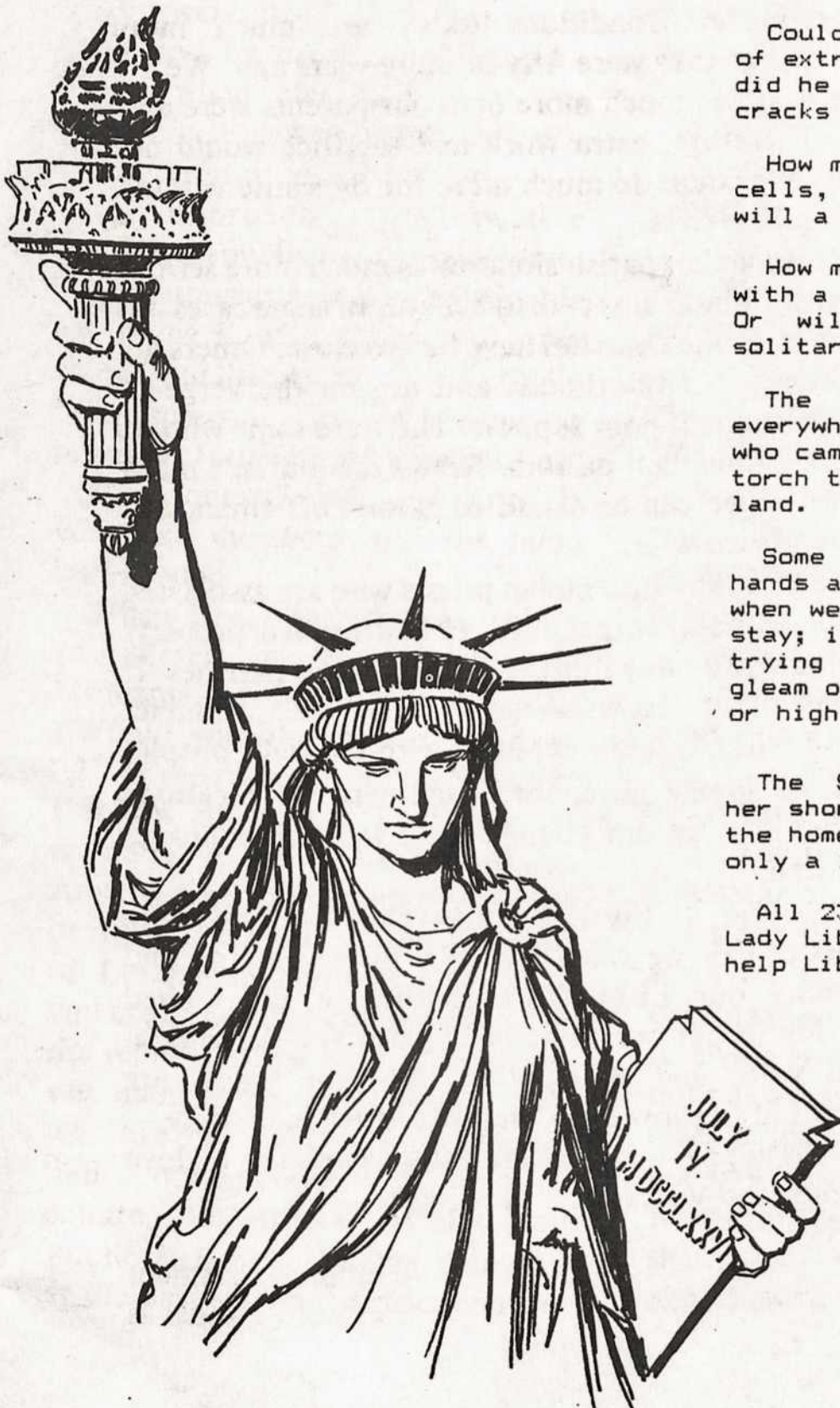
How many lives of the elderly will be thrown a way of light with a visit, a letter or a phone call from family and friends? Or will they live out their lives in the shadows of their solitary existence.

The Statue of Liberty was never meant to physically be everywhere in this nation with her lamp. With each individual who came here, it was their duty to create their own personal torch that would burn within and shed light to every part of this land. These lights are there.

Some of our national treasures can be seen in the comforting hands and words of a nurse who helps lessen our fear and pain when we are alone, in the middle of the night, during a hospital stay; it can be heard in the comforting words of a police officer trying to calm a lost and frightened child. They are seen in the gleam of a parent's eyes when their child graduates from college or high school.

The Statue of Liberty holds a promise to welcome the world to her shores, comfort the tired, befriended the poor and offer hope to the homeless. But she herself cannot do these things. She is only a 151-foot statue carved out of copper.

All 235 million of us Americans are the only ones who can give Lady Liberty life...and meaning. We must remember this. Let us help Liberty's light shine bright!





FACING THE CHALLENGE OF RESPONSIBILITY

You and I are very fortunate people. We have nice churches in which we can worship. Halls to use for our social events. These were all made possible by our parents and grandparents who came from Lithuania, on the most part poor, uneducated immigrants. They saved their pennies, nickles, dimes and quarters and they built our beautiful churches, rectories, schools, convents, halls and clubs. They were proud of their Lithuania nationality and they wanted to continue on their heritage and pass it onto their children and grandchildren. They worked hard and made many sacrifices to maintain these buildings by placing their pennies, nickles, dimes and quarters in the collection basket each Sunday. Church and participation in the Lithuanian community was very important to them.

You and I are the recipients of these beautiful churches, rectories, schools, convents, halls and clubs. We are the inheritors. As with any inheritance comes responsibility. We are now responsible for the maintenance and the upkeep of the buildings. We must assist in every possible way. We cannot leave it up to our parents and grandparents because they have gone onto their eternal reward. *We own this to our parents!*

If the parish is small and the works falls on a few people then we must go out and search for more Lithuanians to assist us in our duties. We all are disciples. We must spread and share our Lithuanianism with other Lithuanians. Sometimes it only takes a few kind words, while other times it may take a few visits. Most Lithuanian people are proud of their nationality. Most will mix with other Lithuanians if given the right opportunity. It is up to you and me to present them with the right opportunity.

There are many Lithuanians out there who belong to non-Lithuanian parishes. These are the ones we must talk to and use our best salesmanship. Emphasize

strongly that if we are to keep our Lithuanian churches open, we need people and we need participation.

The sacrifice you must make may be more than you care to make, but it will be far less than what our parents made. Conditions today, are much more lucrative than they were fifty or more years ago. We are unable to do so much more than our parents were able to do. Therefore, extra work and sacrifice would not hurt us. We could do much more for the cause without suffering ill effects.

The Lithuanian parish situation is much more serious than most Lithuanians care to believe. In some cases it is very grave. Some churches have had to close. Others are in depressed neighborhoods and are on the verge of closing because of poor support. There are some who do not have Lithuanian pastors. Really there aren't many churches which can be classified as well off financially and attendance wise.

There are many Lithuanian priests who are associated with non-Lithuanian parishes. If approached properly some would probably transfer to Lithuanian parishes. If you know of a priest who would transfer please contact me and I will put him in contact with the right people.

And, we should never forget the need for vocations. Pray that more of our young people will respond to the Lord's Call.

In this year of the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee how better can we celebrate than by developing and strengthening our Lithuanian parishes in the United States. Let us put our Lithuanian pride and determination to work and show others that the Vyciai are workers. Let us show them that we are one big family — not always happy — but we are a family because we love each other and we care for each other.

National President
Frank Petrauskas

VYTIS

MEMBERSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

Third Prize Winner

GENE GOBIS

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

The Knights of Lithuania means a great deal to me. In my case, pride in my Lithuanian origin, deep faith in the Catholic religion, devotion to Mary, were instilled in me from babyhood by my beloved parents. Thus, when the K of L was reorganized in Amsterdam in 1950, I was the most anxious to join.

To approach a prospective member, you have to be positive, eager enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the K of L. Stress the three prime qualifications ... Catholic ... American ... and of Lithuanian ancestry. If one is seeking identification of oneself, join the K of L where all members have the same background.

When I see that someone shows an interest in the Knights of Lithuania, my approach always is, "Would you like to join the K of L?" If the response is "YES", then I follow up with, "To become a member you must be a Catholic, American of Lithuanian extraction, or if married, your spouse has to be of Lithuanian heritage, that is, if you are of another ethnic origin." If the reply is affirmative, I then note the many alluring aspects... that we are a national organization... our activities in the fields of culture, Lithuanian Affairs and Public Relations... being delegates at the national and district conven-

tions. I mention the activities at our monthly meetings which include most informative cultural sessions and our spiritual advisor's inspiring comments on religion, news about Lithuania, showing of slides, etc. Of course, the meetings are concluded with refreshments and socializing.

I then advise the prospective member that upon joining the K of L, the Vytis, an excellent monthly magazine, would be mailed to him or her. The magazine is a means of acquainting one with the doings of other councils with feature articles on religion, the Lithuanian language, customs, recipes, Lithuanians in the news, and special articles by our national spiritual advisor and other officers.

Next, I refer to the scholarship awards. Any active member, preparing to enter college, may apply for this award. Our Scholarship Committee examines all applications and the winners are named at the national convention.

I stress the importance of getting involved in the activities of the organization and the point system in receiving grades. Attend the conventions as a delegate or guest. You will meet members from all over the country. The sessions are very informative and the evening social activities are always most enjoyable and relaxing.



GENE GOBIS

Profile by Aldona Ryan

Genevieve Gobis, only child of Frank and Stefania (Satas) Gobis joined C-100, Amsterdam, in 1950. She has been writing the council's news for VYTIS for 36 years. She is a recipient of a plaque for writing 100 or more letters a year for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee.

At present, she is the Vice President, VYTIS Correspondent, Public Relations Chairman, and assistant to the Junior Counselor of C-100. She has been a member of St. Casimir's Church Choir since grade school.

She was the first woman to hold the office of City Clerk in the City of Amsterdam. She is now the Senior Account Clerk in the purchasing Dept., City of Amsterdam.

Because she never misses a National Convention, she is known to K of L'ers all over the United States.

Lithuanian culture is always included as part of the activities and many who may not be very knowledgeable on amber, Lithuanian dances, songs, etc., can learn from the displays, programs and panels at the convention.

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE SPRING UPDATE

We are well into the National Membership Drive for the 1986 season.

A number of leads were followed up with applications and contact addressed. The Advertiserment of the Knights of Lithuania in *Bridges* helped a great deal. Some individuals showed an interest in wanting to set up or revive a council. This is a swell idea.

Defunct councils could be revived in such areas as Niagara, NY, Lowell, MA, Grand Rapids, MI. Do you have a relative or friend in any of these areas? A phone call may generate some interest and be a positive step in reorganizing a council.

The same logic applies to organizing new councils. Our Lithuanian Americans are forever moving into new states and following industrial and economic developments. All they need is a leader to organize them into a council.

The current NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ends on June 30, 1986. The results will be announced at the National Convention in Allentown, PA.

Records of the Supreme Council Financial Secretary will be used in determining if the new restored members have paid one year's dues.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA MEMBERSHIP

1984: 4334

1985: 4037

1986 (as of June 8, 1986): 4252

Hope to see you at the National Convention —
Seimas!

Vytiškai
Algirdas Budreckis
National Vice President.

ORDER YOUR LITHUANIAN CHRISTIANITY COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION TODAY!

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

3" Medallions:

Antique Bronze (\$25.00 each): _____

Silver-Plated (\$30.00 each): _____

Gold-Plated (\$35.00 each): _____

(add \$2.00 per Medallion for mailing)

The Medallions will be available about July 15, 1986

Make Checks payable to:

LITHUANIAN CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE, INC.

Send to: LORETTA I. STUKAS, Medallion Chairman

234 Sunlit Drive

Watchung, NJ 07060

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

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

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.

L.C.R.A. REPORT

The Knights of Lithuania Drive to sponsor another issue of the Chronicles has been in progress since the national convention — August, 1985.

Balance — June, 1986: \$2596.49

Respectfully submitted
Joni Reinhart
LCRA Coordinator

THE CHURCH IN LITHUANIA

In 1984, a Christmas celebration was being arranged in the yard of Alytus. Even though it was not the first, the affair displeased the city government. Vice Chairman Laukiene of the Alytus City Executive Committee, shouted at Father Pranas Raciunas. "The Soviet government is mighty. We have the means, we'll take care of you!" In the end, the government officials agreed to allow the Christmas celebration to be arranged in church.

On the day appointed for the holidays, all kinds of obstacles were thrown up to the pupils of the City of Alytus. Various affairs were arranged in school, the pupils were kept in school until evening. They were warned not to attend the celebration being organized in church. In spite of the interference, several thousand children and youth gathered. No small number of them went to confession and received Holy Communion.

During the affair itself, a few teachers were sent from each school to spy on their own pupils, Security personnel and militia in civilian dress stood guard in the churchyard from the beginning of the affair to its end.

On February 14, 1985, the Administrative Committee of the Executive Committee of the Alytus City Council of workers' Deputies: Chairpersons Mrs. B. Butviliene, Secretary Mrs. J. Leliene, Members Mrs. J. Smilcica and Mrs. A. Petraitiene and A. Ivanauskas, after considering Administrative Case No. 124 in open session, determined that Father Antanas Grazulis, son of Antanas, on December 15 or 18, 1984 (illegible, although in reality it happened on December 26), arranged in the churchyard of Alytus a Christmas celebration for preschoolers, the result of which was to arouse consternation and disturb the public order. In this way, they disobeyed the order of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, of May 12, 1966. In accordance with the Regulations for Assessing and Collecting Administrative Fines confirmed by order of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, January 19, 1962, it is the decision of the Commission to assess Father Antanas Grazulis, son of Antanas, an administrative fine of 50 rubles.

SUPREME COUNCIL REPORT

June 8, 1986

The Mid-Atlantic District has been quite busy since our last Supreme Council meeting in Allentown on March 15th.

On April 19 and 20 we held a very successful Lithuanian Fair at Transfiguration Church Hall in Maspeth, NY. In addition to the displays and sale of Lithuanian articles and specialty foods, we featured a Lithuanian weaving demonstration.

This year our special entertainment were the Amber Singers of New Britain, CT., the delightful mother and daughter duo who performed at the New Haven convention during the Cultural Night program. We also had a raffle which was supported by all the councils in the district.

On Saturday, May 17, "Newsday" the largest circulating newspaper in Long Island held its Salute to the Statue of Liberty on her 100th anniversary. The theme was "Newsday's salute to Liberty, A Festival of Nations". There were ethnic performances demonstrations various dances and songs as well as exhibits of crafts, folklore and cultural diversity on Long Island. Our district participated with a Lithuanian exhibit and the Tryptinis Dance Ensemble performed in the Nassau Coliseum. Our participation produced six new members for our Council 109 in Great Neck, LI

On Sunday, June 1st, the Mid-Atlantic District commemorated its 70th anniversary with a banquet and dance held in Transfiguration Church Hall in Maspeth, NY. The dinner was preceded by a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:00 A.M. and a short program commemorating the deportment of the Lithuanians in June 1941 to Siberia at the outdoor Lithuanian Wayside Shrine.

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Msgr. Frank Bulovas, District Spiritual Advisor, gave the invocation and blessing. Frank Petrauskas, our National President, extended greetings to the attendees and Dr. Jack J. Stukas was our principal speaker. Music for dancing was provided by Joe Thomas and his orchestra.

Our next district convention will be held in Amsterdam, NY., on October 5, 1986, host council #100.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Janonis
District President

SUPREME COUNCIL REPORT

New England District

June 8, 1986

By New England District President

Albert G. Jaritis

Since the last Supreme Council Executive Board Meeting, (March 15, 1986) the New England District held its Spring Convention on April 27, 1986. It was hosted by C-103, Providence, RI. The convention was opened with the celebration of Holy Mass by Rev. Isadorius Gedvilla, pastor of St. Casimir's, Providence and also Spiritual Advisor for the New England District. The business session followed. 125 delegates and guests attended. There were eight clergy attending. This was a good sign of the cooperation of the clergy with the district. A holy half-hour was held to close the convention.

At the Benediction Service a Fourth Degree was presented to **Rev. William Wolkavitch, C-27**. Two third degrees were also presented.

One of the resolutions passed at the Convention was to allow the New England District to make a presentation at the 73rd National Convention to host the 75th National Convention (1988) with the host city being Boston, MA.

Guest speaker at our Spring Convention was Mrs. Marion Skabeikis of the Lithuanian Catholic Relief Fund. She spoke on the subject of prisoners of conscience. The Knights of Lithuania and other Lithuanians, she said, should take a more active part in writing to prisoners of conscience and to our legislative persons urging them to pressure the USSR to free these prisoners of conscience.


At the Spring Convention the District also observed Founder's Day — April 24.

Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P. spoke on our Founder, Mikolas Norkunas. He encouraged us to remember the precepts of the Knights of Lithuanian and continue to carry on the tradition of the Knights of Lithuania.

Our district has been working on the committee for the 600th anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania celebration. The date for the Massachusetts and Rhode Island celebration will be October 4, 1987. It will be held at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston, MA. Cardinal Bernard Law is to con-celebrate the Mass with a banquet to follow the Mass. The location for the banquet is yet to be selected. Many of the Connecticut councils are also busy with plans for the 600th anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania. Their celebration is set for May 17, 1987 at St. Joseph's Cathedral in

Hartford, CT. The district wants its members to give support to both dates and make the celebration successful ventures by their attendance and to let the world know there is a place known as Lithuania and that it exists even though it is under the bondage of the USSR. Many other events will be held throughout the year. The schedule will be issued in the near future.

We have contacted C-18, Cambridge, MA on reorganization. Rev. Simeon Saulenas is the clergyman in that area. No progress has been made as yet.



IN MEMORIAM
Please remember in
your prayers...

LIONEL P. GRAY
Member C-135, Ansonia, CT
Died May 25, 1986

ALFRED KNASAS
Member C-17, So. Boston, MA
Died April 22, 1986

SALOMEJA (SALLY) RUSILAS
Member C-100, Amsterdam, NY
Died June 14, 1986

NELL RINCAVAGE
Member C-74, Scranton, PA
Died May 2, 1986

MARGARET LAPINSKI
Member C-118, Hazleton, PA
Died May 20, 1986

PETER LEPPA
Member C-5, Chicago, IL

SALLY CHERNIUS
Member C-36, Chicago, IL

JOSEPH RAMANAUSKAS
Member Chicago Seniors

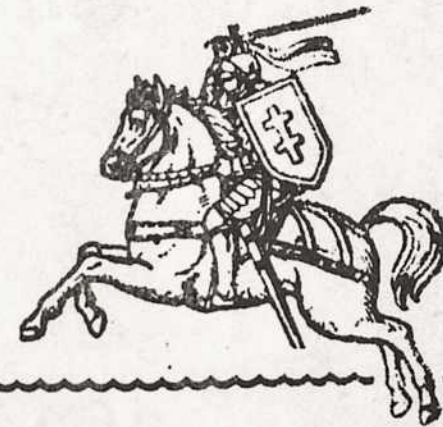
JOSEPH NARUSIS
Member C-112, Chicago, IL

ANNA E. KUDZIUS
Member C-79, Southfield, MI
Died May 14, 1986

JEANNE M. YAKSTYS
Member C-79, Southfield, MI
Died May 18, 1986

Knights of Lithuania

73rd NATIONAL CONVENTION



AUGUST 7-10, 1986

**ALLENTOWN HILTON HOTEL
ALLENTOWN, PA**

SEE YOU THERE!

SOME PHRASES TO USE AT THE CONVENTION

Sveikas — Welcome!

Džiaugious su tamsta susipažinęs — pleased to make your acquaintance

Prašau bilieta į Allentown — I want a ticket to Allentown

Kuras kelias į Allentown? — Which is the way to Allentown?

Atvykome pagaliau — We arrived at last

Kaip vadinasi ta bažnyčia? — What is the name of the church?

Ar galėčiau gauti kambarį? — May I have a room?

Kaip ilgai ketinat čia pasilikit? — How long do you intend to stay here?

Iki rugsėjo mėnesio — Until September

Pažadinkit mane ryt rytą 6 valandą — Call me tomorrow morning at 6 o'clock

Kada prasideda? — What time does it begin?

Tamsta pavėlavai — You are late

Ar verta pamatyti? — Is it worth seeing?

Taip, nevertėtų praleisti — Yes, you should not miss it

Aš ten būsiu — I will be there

Kaip ilgai tas truks — How long will it take?

Malonėkit man atvirutę — Please give me a postcard

Kiek kainuoja vienas? — What is the cost of one?

Man labai gaila — I am very sorry

Laikas eiti — It is time to go

Su Diev — Good Bye

BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION

from the

VYTIS STAFF and SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBERS

70th Anniversary

Knights of Lithuania

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

1916



1986

Gyvuokim, Dirbkim, Nepasiduokim!

This year of 1986 is special to all of us in the Mid-Atlantic District. It was three score and ten years ago, in the year 1916, that the Knights of Lithuania councils which were organized in the New York - New Jersey area, decided it would be beneficial for them and good for the organization to band together into a district. and so, three years after the founding of the Knights of Lithuania organization, the New York - New Jersey district came into being.

Officers were elected, by-laws were written and the councils in that area met quarterly to discuss ways and means to strengthen their activities, individually as councils and collectively as a district.

In 1941, Council 3 in Philadelphia was reactivated and was invited to join the New York - New Jersey district. It became one of the districts' more active members. More than two decades passed before some Council 3 members began expressing a desire to change the name of the district, since then, it could truly be a part of the district. The motion was submitted to many district conventions, but repeatedly defeated. But persistence paid off and in 1972 we got a new name MAD — Mid-Atlantic District. There were 11 councils making up the district at that time.

Today we are 24 councils strong. Let's rejoice but not rest on our laurels. Daug padarėme, bet

su Dievo pagelba ir šv. Kazimiero vadovavimu daugiau padarysime.

How can I recall a history of 70 years in a few pages? There is bound to be something or somebody of importance omitted. for that — mea culpa! Let's just present a few highlights which have enriched MAD's history.

From its inception in 1916 to World War II, the district flourished. A district choir was organized, drama groups were formed. Council 41 in Brooklyn put on a play in 1930 with a most interesting title "Balon krites sausas nekelsi". Various money making events were planned. Dances were popular. In 1916 we read in the *Vytis* "Pagyrimo nusipelnė mūsų vyčiai, kad šoka vientik dorus šokius ir žaidžia gražius lietuviškus žaidimus".

The district, in various ways aided Lithuania to gain and establish her independence. Did you know that Philadelphia's Council 3 had various money-raising affairs, the profits of which were sent to, the then, President of Lithuania A. Stulginskis to support the army.?

The district also had a flourishing sports program in baseball, basketball and bowling. George Blecka from Great Neck, send us some clippings from the 1930's basketball seasons, with headlines such as: "Transfiguration at peak of form". "Transfiguration Lithuanian Champs of New York-New Jersey, Conn 1936-1937 record Won 46, Lost 6!"





When World War II started many boys departed overseas, membership depleted and it was the women who kept the homefires burning. The councils struggled, some "nudžiuvo kaip šakelės". Many survived and are with us still today. And new ones, like mushrooms, appear each year.

A good district needs good leaders and MAD has many. Among them were or are: Jack and Loretta Stukas, Antanas Mažeika, Frank Vaškas, Ann Klem, Al Wesley, Helen Shields, Dorothy Dutkus, Anne Mitchell, Larry Janonis and many others.

To prepare active members, the District initiated "K. of L. Seminars" with the motto "Get to know your organization. So far, we had them at: Philadelphia, Pittston, Manhattan, Maspeth and Easton.

MAD can boast of producing some of our National Presidents, among them: Joe Boley, Helen Shields, Phil Skabeikis, Jack and Loretta Stukas, Anthony Mažeika, Joe Sakevich, Al Wesley and our present one Frank Petrauskas.

"It is better to give than to receive"...and MAD most surely gives — to Lady Liberty, the Chroni-

cles, Scholarship fund and whatever. To give we need money making events. Thus the Festivals were born. They require hours of backbreaking work, but a nice profit is always the result.

MAD has not forgotten our brothers and sisters in Lithuania. Therefore "Adopt a Lithuanian Parish" project was started. We support them morally, physically and financially in any way possible.

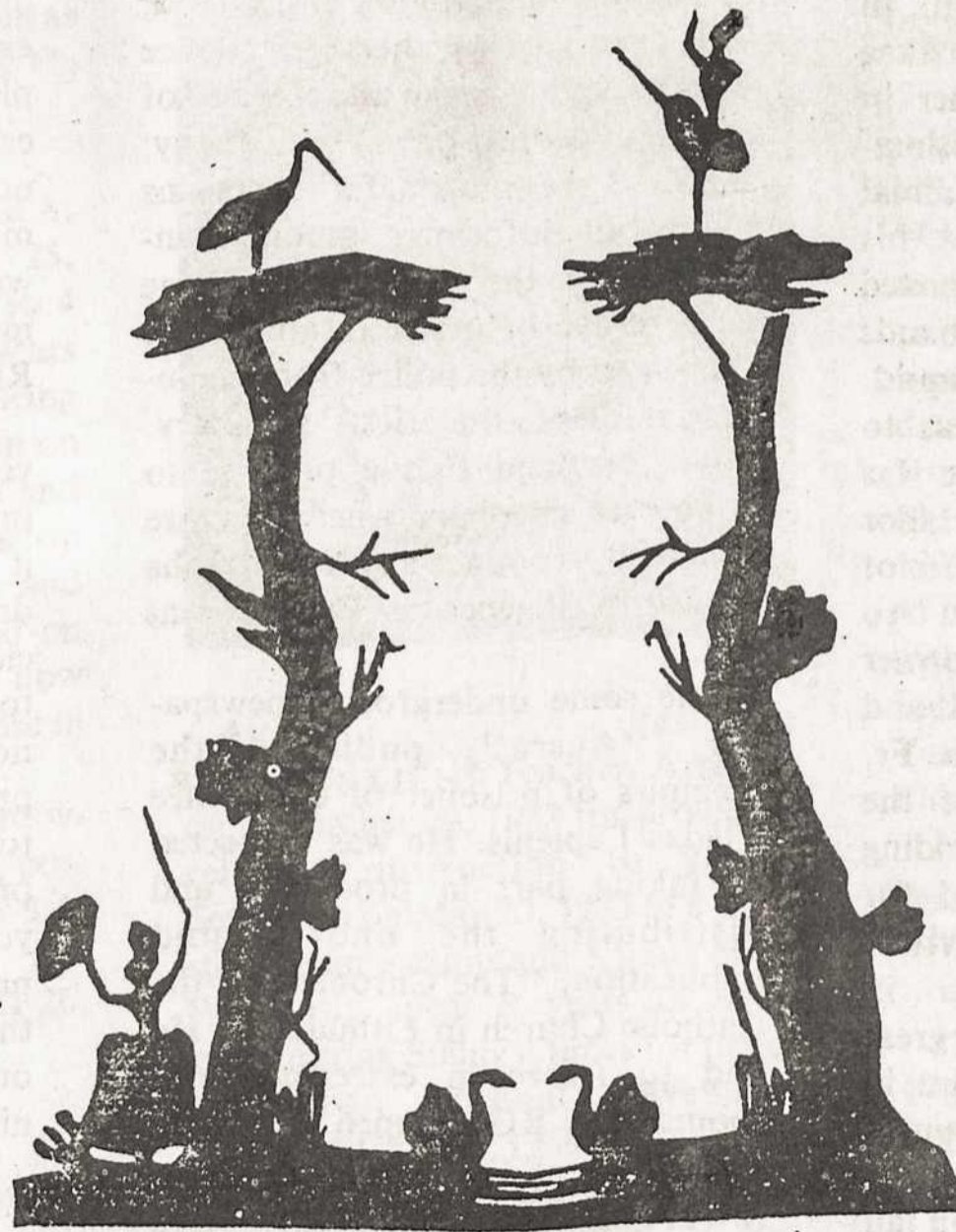
St. Casimir's year — 1984 will live in our memory for a long time. Who can forget the bright yellow buttons created by the district board, that dotted every K. of L. event that year and traveled all the way overseas to Rome.

Gyvuokim, dirbkim nepasiduokim!

AČIŪ LABAI!

My thanks to Helen Shields, Ed Vaičiulis and George Blecka who helped me in this project. A very special thank you to our historian Rev. William Wolkovich for the many XEROX pages of history highlights.

Dalia Bulvičius



A PETITION FROM SOVIET JAILS

Fr. Joseph Prunskis



Tourists to Lithuania, occupied by the Soviet Union, and the underground papers published there inform that there is no alleviation for Catholics under the new Gorbachev rule. We received in Chicago two issues of the underground newspaper "Ausra" (The Dawn). In No. 48, a former prisoner Liudvikas Simutis reveals how his father in 1941 together with 72 other Lithuanians was murdered in the Rainiai woods. His face was smashed, his eye gouged, his tongue extracted and bound with string, his hands and legs burned by boiling liquid. This forced his son Liudvikas to become a freedom fighter. He was caught, suffered a lot in slave labor camps. When he finished his term of punishment and returned to Lithuania his life as a former prisoner was extremely difficult and he received some help from Fr. Alfonsas Svarinskas, who at the present is being jailed for defending the rights of the people and for religious activities. Liudvikas Simutis published his letter in defense of Fr. Svarinskas, a great humanitarian, who helped him in his most difficult hours. Simutis published a letter of defense realizing that for this he might land in jail again. In his letter he states that in

Lithuania from July, 1944 until December, 1945, 839 freedom fighters perished.

In the same issue of that underground newspaper Fr. Rokas Pusonas published another letter describing how he, when he decided to begin studies for the priesthood, was terrorized by the secret police who wanted to make an informer of him. This is just one case of many; the KGB uses most nefarious means to recruit informers among candidates for the priesthood. Those who refuse in many instances are prevented by the police from beginning studies in the priests' seminary. Some of them sign a promise to cooperate and later when they are ordained, renounce any ties with the Soviet intelligence as Fr. Pusonas did.

The same underground newspaper, "Ausra", published the memoirs of prisoner of conscience Vladas Lapienis. He was suspected of taking part in producing and distributing the underground publication, "The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania". He had to freeze in extremely cold rooms. The KGB ripped a crucifix from his neck, he underwent severe interrogations, repeatedly was placed in solitary confinement, was

threatened with placement in a psychiatric ward, his food rations were very meager.

In another issue (No. 49) of the same underground newspaper, "Ausra", an excerpt is given of the last will of a very famous Lithuanian writer, Antanas Vienuolis. He expressed the desire that on his simple monument, a stone, a cross be carved. The Soviet authorities did not permit this cross on his monument, disregarding the fact that the writer died as a good Catholic, made his confession and Fr. P. Rauda administered the last rites.

"The Chicago Catholic" did a very important service for the oppressed Catholics under soviet rule: it published the names and addresses of some prisoners of conscience asking that letters be written to them and to their families. This is not only a consolation for them but pressure also on Soviet authorities to alleviate their situation. Our oppressed brothers under the atheistic yoke of communism need our prayers. We also have to publicize their plight and in this way to organize the pressure of public opinion against religious persecution.

**Have you written
to a prisoner of
conscience this month!**



LITHUANIAN PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE IN THE USSR

1. Mrs. Edita ABRUTIENĖ. Arrested on December 8, 1982 under Art. 199-1 for applying to emigrate two weeks after her husband completed his two-and-half year sentence. Abrutienė, 34 years old, was sentenced in July 1983 to 4 years strict regime camp and 2 years exile for meeting with foreign correspondents. Husband and son (born 1974). Release in December 1988.

Husband's address: Vytautas Abrutis, Talat-Kelpšos g. 8-11, Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

2. Mr. Algimantas ANDREIKA. Born 1953. Arrested on May 25, 1981. Sentenced in early 1982 to 4 years strict regime camp and 5 years exile under Art. 68 for renouncing his Soviet citizenship. Tried again on March 24, 1983, in labor camp and sentenced to additional half-year on charges of hooliganism. Wife and son. He was physically disabled on his way to labor camp and is now paralyzed below the waist. Release in November 1990.

Camp address: 431200, Mordovskaya ASSR, Tengushevsky r-n, pos. Barashevo, uchr. ZhKh-385-3-5, USSR.

Wife's address: Broliu g. 21-26, Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

3. Mr. Jonas BAGDONAS. Arrested 1945 for participation in the Lithuanian national movement.

After detention in various camps sent to Kazan Central Hospital and in 1962 to Sychovka Special Psychiatric Hospital. Last reported there in 1976. Release unknown.

Address: 215280, Smolenskaya obl., g. Sychovka, YaO-100-5, USSR



4. Mrs. Jadvyga BIELIAUSKIENĖ Teacher. Arrested on November 29, 1982 for providing religious instruction to youth. Sentenced on May 20, 1983 to 4 years strict regime camp and 3 years exile. Previously spent 8 years in labor camp during Stalinist times for ties to Lithuanian national movement. Release in October 1989.

Camp address: 432100, Mordovskaya ASSR, Tengushevsky r-n, pos.

Barashevo, uchr. ZhKh-385-3-4, USSR.

Family address: Petro Cvirkos, 41-2, Garliava, Lithuania, USSR.

5. Mr. BRIKULIS. 15 years strict regime camp for participation in Lithuanian national movement. Release unknown.

Camp address: 618263, Permskaya obl., Chusovokoy, uchr. VS-389-36, USSR.

6. Mr. Arvydas CEKANAVIČIUS. Born April 5, 1949. Arrested on November 6, 1979 for the third time under Art. 208-2. He was tried previously on political charges, but was sentenced on January 4, 1980 to detention in a Special Psychiatric Hospital for alleged criminal offenses (theft and forgery of documents). In 1979, Cekanavicius signed the Baltic 45 memorandum which called for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the Baltic states. His mother, Prane Vasiliauskienė, resides in Kaunas, Lithuania. Release unknown.

Hospital address: 238100, Kaliningradskaya obl., g. Chernyakhovsk, uchr. OM-216-st-2, USSR.

7. Mr. Vyacheslav CHEREPANOV. Born 1944. Arrested July 21, 1980 under Art. 62 for attempting to escape to Finland. Sentenced on May 11-15, 1981 to 12 years

strict regime camp and 3 years exile. Mother, sister Klaudija and daughter Nina reside in Vilnius, Lithuania. Tel. 6751 15. Release in July 1995.

Camp address: 618801, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n, st. Polovinka, uchr. VS-389-37.

Sister's address: Anna Belozerova, Vilnius 218-4, Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.



8. Prof. Liudas DAMBRAUSKAS. Born April 25, 1921. Chemist. Former Director of Thermo-Insulation Institute. Arrested on March 20, 1984 after his memoirs about prison life under Stalin were confiscated during a search of his home. Sentenced on October 1-3, 1984 to 3-1-2 years regime camp and 2 years exile under Art. 68. Suffering from heart condition and tuberculosis. Release in September 1987.

Camp address: 431200, Mordovskaya ASSR, Tengushevsky r-n, pos. Barashevo, uchr. ZhKh-385-3-5, USSR.

Wife's address: Aldona Dambrauskienė, Donelaičio 1-1, 233000 Kaunas Lithuania.

9. Mr. Balys GAJAUSKAS. Born February 26, 1926. Electrician. Arrested a second time on April 20, 1977 under Art. 68-2. Sentenced on April 12-14, 1978 to 10 years special regime camp and 5 years exile for translating "Gulag Archipelago" and disbursing aid to prisoners of conscience and

their families. Daughter Grazina born on March 1980. release in April 1992.



BALYS GAJAUSKAS

Camp address: 618263, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n., pos. Kuchino, uchr. VS-389-36-1, USSR.

Wife's address: Irena Gajauskienė, Spynų 3-8, Kaunas, Lithuania, USSR.

Wife's sister Laima Sulskienė: 233000, Palangos, 18-12, Kaunas, Lithuania, USSR.

10. Mr. Kazys GRUZDYS. Born 1918. Received 15 year sentence in strict regime camp under Art. 62 for involvement in the Lithuanian national movement. date of release unknown.

Camp address: 431200, Mordovskaya, ASSR, Tengushevsky r-n, pos. Barashevo, uchr. ZhKh-385-3-5, USSR.



11. Gintautas IESMANTAS. Born January 1, 1928. Journalist and poet.

Expelled from the Communist Party for writing poems advocating the secession of Lithuania from the Soviet Union. Arrested on March 4, 1980. Sentenced on December 15-22, 1980 to 6 years strict regime camp and 5 years exile under Art. 68 with P. Pečeliūnas and V. Skuodis. Wife, son Rimantas. Release March 1991.

Camp address: 618810, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n, st. Vsesvet-skaya, Uchr. VS-389-35, USSR.

Wife's address: Marytė Iešmantienė, Švyturio g., 8-36, Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

12. Mr. Henrikas JAŠKUNAS. Born February 4, 1927. Arrested third time on December 22, 1976. Sentenced to 10 years special regime camp and 5 years exile on November 24-28, 1977 under Art. 68-2 with J. Daujotas for disseminating anti-Soviet literature and advocating unofficial peace movement. Wife and two daughters — Ina (born 1959) and Laima (born 1962). Release in December 1991.

Camp address: 618263, Permskaya, obl., Chusovskoi r-n., pos. Kuchino, uchr. VS-389-36-1, USSR.

Wife's address: Monika Jaškūnienė, 30-mečio, g. 25-18, Jonava, Lithuania, USSR.

13. Mr. KAKTIS. Born 1917. Sentenced to 25 years strict regime camp under Art. 58 for involvement in the Lithuanian national movement. Date of release unknown.

Camp address: 618810 Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n. st. Vsesvetskay, uchr. VS-389-35,

14. Mr. Voldemaras KARALIUNAS. Born 1950. Arrested third time in 1975 under Art. 68 for organizing a factory strike and attempting to leave the country after renouncing Soviet citizenship. Sentenced to 12 years camp and exile. Sent to psychiatric hospital. Release in 1987.



VOLDEMARAS KARALIUNAS

Hospital address: Kusmos, g. 75
Kaunas, Lithuania, USSR.

Family address: 25 mečio 71-25,
Kaunas, Lithuania, USSR.

15. Mr. Henrikas KLIMASAUSKAS. Born July 1929. Arrested second time on February 11, 1976. Tried on September 13, 1976 and sent to Special Psychiatric Hospital. One issue of the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania was confiscated from his home. On September 1, 1979, he was transferred to Ziegdriai Republican Psychiatric Hospital, 4th section. December 14, 1978 he was transferred to the 3rd section. Address and date of release unknown.

16. Mr. Jonas KURŽINSKAS. Imprisoned for association with Lithuanian national movement. Date of release unknown.

Camp address: 618810, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n, st. Vsesvyatskaya, uchr. VS-389-35, USSR.

17. Mr. B. KVARCIEJUS. Imprisoned for association with Lithuanian national movement. Date of release unknown.

Camp address: 618810, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n, st. Vsesvyatskaya, uchr. VS-389-35, USSR.

18. Mr. Vladas LAPIENIS. About 80 years old. Arrested on January 4, 1985 in Kaunas for writing his memoirs about life in Soviet labor camp. Criminal charges were brought

against him almost a year earlier under Art. 199-1. He was jailed for two weeks in February 1984, but released temporarily due to deteriorating health. First arrested in 1976. Served 5 years for duplicating and disseminating the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania. Place of detention unknown.



Vladas Lapienis

Wife's address: Elena Lapienienė,
Gelvonų g. Nr. 27-7 Vilnius,
Lithuania, USSR.

19. Mr. Vytautas LAŽINSKAS. Interned in a psychiatric hospital on October 10, 1972 for erecting a cross near Klaipeda, Lithuania. Date of release unknown.

Hospital address: Vasaros, g. 5,
Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

20. Mr. Juozas LEIKUS. Born 1914. Arrested 1971 under Art. 62 and sentenced to 15 years strict regime camp for association with the Lithuanian national movement. Release in 1986.

Camp address: 431200, Mordovskaya ASSR. Tengushevsky r-n, pos. Barashevo, uchr. ZhKh-385-3-5, USSR.

21. Mr. Boleslovas LIZŪNAS. Born April 1920. Agronomist. Arrested May 1979 under Art. 62. Sentenced in November 1979 to 10 years in prison and 5 years exile for association with the Lithuanian na-

tional movement. Release in May 1994.

Prison address: 422950, Tatarskaya ASSR. g. Chistopol, uchr. UE-148-st-4, USSR.

22. Mr. Petras LUKOŠEVIČIUS. Born May 15, 1917. Arrested a third time on January 22, 1981 for writing his memoirs about the Soviet gulag. Samizdat literature was also confiscated during a search of his home. Interned in a psychiatric hospital. Date of release unknown.

Hospital address: Vasaros 5,
Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

Home address: Tupių g. 21-62,
Panevėžys, Lithuania, USSR.

23. Father Jonas Kąstytiš MATULIONIS. About fifty years old. Graduate of the underground theological seminary. Assistant pastor of Kybartai church. Arrested on November 9, 1984 after administering last rites to a dying man and accused of being an imposter priest. Sentenced to 3 years general regime labor camp under Art. 199-3 on January 17-18, 1985 in Vilnius for organizing a religious procession. Tried with Romas Žemaitis. Served an earlier sentence for association with the Chronicle for the Catholic Church in Lithuania. Release in November 1987. place of detention unknown.



Jonas-Kastytis Matulionis

24. Mr. Albertas MEŠKINAS. Arrested in 1975 under Art. 62 for association with the Lithuanian national movement. Sentenced to 15 years strict regime camp. Suffers from heart ailment, stomach ulcers and anemia. Release in 1990.

Camp address: 618810, Permaskaya, obl., Chusovsky r-n, st. Vsesvataskaya, uchr. VS-389-35, USSR.

25. Mr. Motiejus NAMCEVIČIUS. Sentenced to 15 years under Art. 62 for association with the Lithuanian national movement. Address and date of release unknown.

26. Mr. Jonas PAKUCKAS. Born in 1940. Arrested summer of 1981 while attempting to cross the Soviet-Finnish frontier. Tried in May-June 1982 to 12 years strict regime camp under Art. 62 with brother Vytautas Pakuckas and his wife Nadezhda. Release in 1993. Address unknown.



POVILAS PEČELIUNAS

27. Mr. Povilas PEČELIUNAS Born May 17, 1928. Lithuanian language teacher. Arrested January 9, 1980 under Art. 68. Sentenced on December 15-22, 1980 to 3 years strict regime camp and 5 years exile in 1980 for alleged editing the samizdat "Alma Mater". Release in January 1988.

Exile address: 62806 Tyumenskaya obl., Xanti-Mancyckiy nac. okrug., Berezovskii ray., poc., Igrim, ul. Entuziastov 16, kv. 13.

Wife's address: Danutė Pečeliū-

niene, F. Zemaičio 1-100, 232042 Vilnius. Lithuania, USSR.



VIKTORAS PETKUS

28. Viktoras PETKUS. Born December 30, 1929. An expert on Lithuanian literature. One of the founders of the Lithuanian Helsinki Group. Served two previous terms on political charges. Arrested on August 23, 1977. Sentenced on July 10-13, 1978 to 3 years prison, 7 years special regime camp 5 years exile under Arts. 68-2, 70. Reportedly suffering from cancer. Wife Natalija in Vilnius. Release in August 1992.

Camp address: 618263, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n, pos. Kuchino, Uchr. VS-389-36-1, USSR.

29. Mr. Juozas RUGYS. Arrested in 1973 for association with the Lithuanian national movement. Date of release unknown.

Camp address: 618801, Permskaya, obl., Chusovskoy r-n, st. Polovinka, uchr. VS-389-37, USSR.



JULIUS SASNAUSKAS

30. Mr. Julius SASNAUSKAS. Born March 18, 1959. Arrested on December 11, 1979 under Art. 68.

Sentenced on September 15-19, 1980, to 1-1-2 years strict regime camp and 5 years exile for underground publishing activity. Suffering from back problems. Mother Dalia Sasnauskienė, two sisters and brother. release in June 1986.

Exile address: 636600, Tomskaya obl., pos. Parabel ul. Sovetskaya, 147a, USSR.

Sister's address: Eleonora Sasnauskaitė, Paberžes g. 16-8, Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

31. Mr. David SEVELEV. Born 1926-27. Arrested 1978. Interned in psychiatric hospital, Date of release unknown.

Hospital address: Vasaros g. 5. Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

32. Mr. Vytautas SIMOKAITIS. Born 1935. Arrested November 16, 1970 for attempting to hijack an airplane to the West. Sentenced on January 4-14, 1971 to 15 years special regime camp, later transferred to strict regime camp. Release on November 16, 1985.

Camp address: 618263, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n., pos. Kuchino, uchr., VS-389-36, USSR.



VYTAUTAS SKUODIS

33. Prof. Vytautas SKUODIS. American citizen. Born March 21, 1929 in Chicago, Illinois. Geologist, environmentalist, lecturer at Vilnius University. Suspended from teaching position for "amoral behavior" and arrested on January 9, 1980. Sentenced on December 15-22, 1980. to 7 years strict regime camp and 5

years exile under Art. 68. Member of Lithuanian Helsinki Group and Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believer's Rights, author of "Spiritual Genocide in Lithuania". Wife and two daughters — Giedrė and Daiva Skuodytė. Suffering from heart disease. Release on January 9, 1992.

Camp address: 431200, Mordovskaya ASSR, Tengushevsky r-n., pos. Barashevo, uchr. ZhKh 385-3-5, USSR.

Wife's address: Irena Skuodienė, Vandentiekio g. 44-4 Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

Mother's address: Elzbieta Skuodienė, Gogolio g. 65-2, Panevezys, Lithuania, USSR.



ALGIRDAS STATKEVIČIUS

34. Dr. Algirdas STATKEVIČIUS. Born April 1, 1923. Arrested third time on February 14, 1980. Tried in absentia on August 8-11, 1980 under Art. 68. Sentenced to compulsory psychiatric treatment for membership in Lithuania Helsinki Group and for writing on social issues and problems, such as alcoholism. By profession a psychiatrist. Wife and two children. Date of release unknown.

Hospital address: 700058, Uzb-SSR, g. Tashkent, uchr. UYa-64-IZ-1, USSR.

Wife's address: Čarno, g. 18-21, Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.

35. Father Alfonsas SVARINSKAS. Born January 21, 1925. Ordained a priest in labor camp in 1954. Pastor of Vidulė parish. Arrested a



ALFONSAS SVARINSKAS

third time on January 26, 1983 for alleged "anti-constitutional and anti-state activities." Sentenced on May 6, 1983 to 7 years strict regime camp and 3 years exile under Art. 68 for his involvement in the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers Rights. Release in January 1993.

Camp address: 618263, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n., pos. Kuchino, Uchr. VS-389-36, USSR.

36. Father Sigitas TAMEVIČIUS. Born on November 7, 1938. Ordained a priest in 1962. Arrested on May 6, 1983 at the trial of Father Alfonsas Svarinskas for engaging in "illegal and unlawful activity, the main purpose of which was to discredit the Soviet state..." Among the charges — organizing Christmas party for parish youth. Founding member of the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believer's Rights. Sentenced on December 2, 1983 to 6 years strict regime camp and 4 years exile. Release May 1993.

Camp address: 618263, Permskaya obl., Chusovsky r-n., st. Polovinka, uchr. VS-389-37, USSR.



PYOTR RUMACHIK

37. Mr. Antanas TERLECKAS. Born on February 9, 1928. Economist-historian. Arrested a fourth time on October 30, 1979. Sentenced on September 15-19 1980 to 3 years strict regime camp and 5 years exile for underground activity and organizing press conferences for foreign correspondents. Wife and three children — daughter Vilija (b. 1957), sons Gintas (b. 1960) and Ramūnas (b. 1969). release in October 1987.

Exile address: 686410, Magadanskaya obl., Omsukchansky r-n., pos. Industrialny, ul. Sportivnaya 5, kv. 17, USSR.

Wife's address: Elena Terleckienė, Nemėčinės plentas 68, 232016, Vilnius, Lithuania, USSR.



Antanas Terleckas

38. Mr. Jonas VILUTIS. Born 1914. Arrested 1970. Sentenced to 15 years strict regime camp under Art. 62 for association with the Lithuanian national movement. Release in 1985.

Camp address: 431200, Mordovskaya, ASSR, Tengushevsky r-n., pos. Barashevo, uchr. ZhKh-385-3-5, USSR.

39. Mr. VOVERIS. Arrested spring 1982. in Kaunas and charged with illegal printing of catechisms in Polish and Lithuanian. Place of detentions and date of release unknown.

40. Mr. Pranas ZAKŠAUSKAS. Sentenced to 15 years strict regime camp for involvement in the Lithuanian national movement. Date of release unknown.

Camp address: 618810, Permskaya obl, Chusovskoy r-n, st. Vsesvet-skaya, uchr. VS-389-35, USSR.

41. Mr. ZEIMAVIČIUS. Born 1910. Sentenced to 25 years strict

regime camp under Art. 58 for involvement in the Lithuanian national movement. Date of release unknown.

Camp address: 618810, Permskaya obl., Chusovskoy r-n, st. Vsesvet-skaya, uchr. VS-389-35, USSR

42. Mr. Romas ŽEMAITIS. About 19 years old. Summoned to a military post on November 12, 1984 under the pretense of being con-

scripted for military service, but arrested instead. Tried on January 17-18, 1985 in Vilnius along with Fr. Matulionis for participating in a religious procession. Sentenced to 2 years general regime camp under Art. 201-1. Blocked from higher education for religious and national beliefs. Release in November 1986. Place of detention unknown.

GUIDELINES FOR CORRESPONDING WITH LITHUANIAN PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE AND THEIR FAMILIES

1. Write regularly.

2. Letters can be written in any language: Lithuanian, English, etc. In your first letter, ask which language is preferred.

3. Letters should convey personal greetings and messages of good-will. Discuss day-to-day activities and topics of mutual interest, such as occupation, hobbies, friends. Send photographs of your family printing each person's name and date of birth on the back. Write about places you have visited and your impressions. Number your letters, Letter #1, #2, etc. Date your letters also.

4. Inquire about birthdays, anniversaries, etc. and send cards to celebrate these events. Cards should also be sent for the religious holidays such as Christmas, Easter.

5. In general, letters should not be political. Mention no group affiliation.

6. Soviet postal regulations prohibit the enclosure of the following items destined for the USSR: postage, stamps, Soviet currency, recording tapes, medicines, vitamins, chewing gum, thread, motion picture film.

7. For addressing the envelope, use the following procedure:

USSR

Name of Republic/ Lithuania, etc.

Name of City, /& zip code, if known

Street Address/Name, number and apartment number

Name of Person/Last name first

SENDING THE LETTERS

Letters to prisoners and their families should be sent via registered air mail with an air mail advice of delivery card/return receipt/requested. At the time of posting, you will receive a receipt which should be kept. Air mail postage is \$.44 per each ½ ounce. The registry fee of

\$3.60 carries with it an indemnity of \$27.97. As the postal regulation points out you are entitled to the indemnity if the letter is lost regardless of the value, or lack of value of the contents. The return receipt costs \$.70 air mail and is returned to the sender signed by the addressee, upon receipt of the letter by the addressee. Therefore, a ½ ounce of regular air mail letter will cost \$4.74.

FOLLOW UP

1. If, within 30 days, neither the return receipt nor the letter/with a stamp indicating the reason for non-delivery/is returned, form #542 "Inquiry About a Registered Article" should be filed at the local post office. If, in response to the inquiry, the postal service indicates that the letter has not been accounted for, you are entitled to the full indemnity and should file form #2855 "Application for Indemnity" to receive it. If no answer is received to the inquiry within six months of filing, file form #2855 for indemnity anyway.

2. Be sure to answer all letters received from Lithuanian prisoners and their families promptly. If no response is forthcoming, continue to write, since your first letter might not be delivered.

3. If, in the course of correspondence, requests are received for material or financial assistance, before answering please check with Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11207, Tel. 212/647-2434, for help in evaluating the situation at that time.

4. To help Lithuanian Information Center document the flow of mail to Lithuanian prisoners and their families, send returned letters or receipts and the replies to inquiries by postal authorities to LIC. Copies of letters of more than routine interest should be forwarded to the LIC office.

Postal regulations above apply to United States mail.



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
DARIUS-GIRENAS
COMMEMORATIVE STAMP**



Dear Knights,

We have not yet achieved our goal — the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp honoring Stephen Darius and Stanley Girenas for their historic transatlantic flight. We are again attempting to achieve this goal — a commemorative stamp to be issued in 1987.

Our work to date has not been wasted. It is of the utmost importance that we begin bombarding the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee immediately with letters and petition signatures.

This is an urgent request for each and every K of L member to again participate in this campaign. We also need our non-Lithuanian friends, other stamp collectors and individuals of various professions and organizations to support this cause. We must write to our senators, congressmen, state commanders of the American Legion, and others for assistance in our efforts for the issuance of a stamp honoring these two heroes in 1987.

As Council President you are requested to write your own letters to the U.S. Senators and Congressmen of your state, asking them to support our cause and enclosing a Darius-Girenas resume.

We can and should live up to our reputation for getting the job done. We're counting on all of our members for their support in this campaign. We need thousands and thousands of letters and petitions.

This will be the final attempt to obtain the commemorative postage stamp. Your cooperation is needed now, more than ever. After all of the hard work already put in, it would be extremely disappointing not to achieve our goal because of apathy.

With sincere appreciation for your assistance.

Vytiškai,
Juožas Zadeikis, C-36
5952 South Washtenaw Avenue
Chicago, IL 60629

Please write to the Postmaster General and to the Chairman of the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee asking for reconsideration of our petition for the issuance of a Darius-Girenas Commemorative stamp in 1987. A sample letter follows.

The Honorable Albert V. Casey
Postmaster General
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Room 5536
Washington, DC 20260

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Sir:

In 1933 two American pilots of Lithuanian descent, Stephen Darius and Stanley Girenas undertook a dangerous transatlantic flight which began in New York and tragically ended a few hundred miles short of their destination, Lithuania.

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of their historic flight, I kindly request that in 1985 the United States Postal Service issue a commemorative postage stamp in their honor.

Respectfully yours
YOUR NAME

Please obtain signatures and addresses on these petitions from your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and at gatherings of any kind. Forward the completed petitions to Juožas Zadeikis (address below). We want to hand thousands of signatures in one shipment to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee. A sample petition also follows

Lithuanians in The

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



Joseph Veyvoda, Former NYC Police Chief

C-79 MEMBER RECEIVES REGENT SCHOLAR AWARD

THERESA MARZOLF, daughter of CAROLYN and LAWRENCE MARZOLF, members of C-79, Southfield, Mich., has been selected to receive the Regents Scholar Award at Eastern Michigan University.

The Regents Scholar Award is the most prestigious scholarship that the University offers and is made in recognition of academic and co-curricular excellence as well as for potential for success.

Theresa has actively participated on various C-79 committees, including the Annual Fall Festival. A June graduate from New Haven High School, she hopes to become a certified public accountant.

VEYVODA RETIRES AS POLICE CHIEF

JOSEPH F. VEYVODA, member of C-110 Maspeth, N.Y., is a retired Chief of the N.Y. Police Department. He served for 37 years in graduating ranks from Police Officer to, eventually, Chief of the Organized Crime Control Bureau. Joe has the distinction of being the only police person in the history of the N.Y.C. Police Dept. to have served in 3 of 5 super-chief categories.

Representing the Police Dept., he was guest lecturer at Senior Police College in Sydney, Australia. His testimony before the Royal Commission on Organized Crime in Brisbane was instrumental in effecting method changes in Australian crime control. At the Police Academy, he has been an instructor in Police Science, and currently is an Adjunct Professor at Manhattan Community College, City University of New York.

He continues to serve the community as an A.A.R.P. Tax Consultant for the elderly, assists in the Knights of Columbus Surplus Food Distribution program, and participates in other organizations. He is a member of the American Legion, International Association of Police Chiefs, Captains' Endowment Assoc., and the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association. His accomplishments are significant and exemplary.

He and his wife, Alice, have a daughter, a son, and four grandchildren.

PLEASE NOTE — CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Effective August 15, 1986, RUTH KAZLAUSKAS will have a new address — 554 ROXBURY, NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60565. All articles and photos should be forwarded to Ruth at her new address effective that date.

"ANNIE"

A YOUNG LITHUANIAN ACTRESS

Eleven-year-old ANDREA LUKASAVICH; daughter of former DuBois, PA resident WILLIAM LUKASEVICH and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. LUKASAVICH of DuBois, portrayed the title role of "Annie" in far away Kenya, Africa in April. The popular American musical was presented by the Nairobi City Players.

Her father is a cultural attache for the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi. Andrea is a student at the International School of Kenya. She first became involved with the theatre at age 5. She previously appeared in "Cats" at the International Community School in Istanbul and other productions in Nairobi, according to the DuBois Courier-Express.

Staff reviewers from two newspapers, The Standard and the Daily Nation, had this to say about Andrea's performance:

"She sings with the clarity of a nightingale. She dances her way into your hearts . . . Young Andrea is amazingly positive and mature . . . This marvelous young actress dominated the evening and we identified lovingly with her."

Andrea is the great-granddaughter of ANTOINETTE LUKASAVICH, who was a member of C-86 DuBois until her death several years ago.

* * *



PUTTING THE LITHUANIAN TOUCH TO DISNEY DESIGNS



Noted in "The Observer", Chicago — ALYJA PASKEVICIUTE-KALNICH is one of the two principal costume designers for shows sponsored by Disney. Her major responsibilities involve designing the costumes for theater and parade productions at Walt Disney World, EPCOT center and Disneyland.

Born in Kaunas, Lithuania, Alyja studied in New York where she majored in illustration and the fine arts. She worked for Oleg Cassini and later became an independent fashion designer. She was costume designer for the Columbia Pictures film "The Ambusher."

C-150 PARTICIPATES IN "FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL"

Council 150, Kansas City, Kansas, participated in the Kansas City, Kansas Centennial '86 presentation of Festival International, a two-day ethnic festival focusing on the diverse cross-cultural heritage of the city. The festival took place at the Agricultural Hall of Fame grounds on June 21st and 22nd, and was sponsored by Kaw Valley Arts Council and the Ethnic Council of Kansas City. It was also a regional event for Kansas' 125th Birthday celebration.

The Lithuanians featured the Kansas City Aidas Dancers and the Amber Entertainers. Congratulations to C-150 for their participation.

MISS LEHIGH VALLEY 1986



JOETTE GRIGALONIS has been chosen to be MISS LEHIGH VALLEY 1986. Joette is the daughter of JOSEPH and BETTE GRIGALONIS of Minersville, PA. She will compete in the Miss Pennsylvania Pageant, and, if successful, will be a contestant in the Miss America competition.

She is presently working as an Orthodontic Assistant in Bethlehem, PA. Her goals are to continue her education in the dental field and become an Orthodontist.

The Grigalonis family are members of St. Francis of Assisi Lithuanian Parish in Minersville, and Joette is the parish representative on the Pro Life Committee of the Allentown Diocese.

LITHUANIAN DEVELOPS NEW SCIENTIFIC TECHNIQUE

According to the "General Electric News" Schenectady, N.Y. area, a General Electric scientist has developed an improved technique for producing highly magnified photographs of proteins, the complex compounds that aid digestion, help ward off disease, allow blood to carry oxygen and perform numerous other vital body functions. With this technique, the scientist has employed an electron microscope to make detailed photographs of several important proteins, including IgG, an antibody involved in the body's defense against infection.

The improved technique was developed by Dr. EGIDIJUS E. UŽGIRIS, a physicist at the Research and Development Center, who is working to better understand biomolecular interactions.

Dr. Užgiris expects that his research will aid in understanding DNA, the master chemical of heredity, and how it is regulated by protein binding.



MASSACHUSETTS COMMEMORATES LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY



Massachusetts Governor Michael S. Dukakis signs proclamation observing 68th anniversary of Lithuanian Independence Day. Representing the American Lithuanian Council of Greater Boston (to R): Daniel Averka,

Milda Norkunas, Gintaras Cepas, Alexander J. Chaplik (President), Gov. Dukakis, Brutenis Veitas, Reda Veitas, Dr. Algirdas Budreckis and Falisa (Phyllis) Grendal, Secretary

CONSULATE GENERAL DAUZVARDIS HONORED

On April 27th, Honorary Member JOSEPHINE DAUŽVARDIS was honored on the occasion of her retirement as Consul General of Lithuania in Chicago. The program took place at the Jesuit's Youth Center in Chicago with Honorary Member STANLEY PIEŽA beginning the event with a short history highlighting her life and her work as the Consul General.

Participating in the cultural portion of the program were ALGERD BRAZIS, soloist, and ROBERT MOCKUS, pianist, both of C-112 Chicago, and the K of L Choir directed by FAUSTAS STROLIA, C-36 Chicago. EVELYN OZELIS, C-36, served as entertainment chairlady.

Following the program an exquisite buffet of hors d'oeuvres and wine was served. The K of L was very well



represented by members of C-36 and C-112.

The event also honored Mr. VACLOVAS KLEIZA as the new Consul General in Chicago.

Fulfilling The K of L Motto "FOR GOD AND COUNTRY"

CATHOLIC ACTION

*Jonas Adomenas
President, C-110, Maspeth, NY*

We should take every opportunity given to the Knights of Lithuania to emphasize the fact that we are not only Lithuanians — but also CATHOLIC AMERICANS. We should participate whenever possible in local area and diocesan religious activities. We should show our support for Catholic and Christian causes by joining in rallies, demonstrations, prayer services organized to display Catholic principles of social morality to public policy issues; and to work to eliminate anti-Catholicism in America.

C-110, Maspeth, NY has publicly demonstrated the Knights of Lithuania support for Catholic principles. In November 1985 they were invited by the NY Chapter of the Catholic League to participate in a demonstration protesting the showing of the film, "Hail Mary", at Lincoln Center in New York City. During this protest three national television networks focused on the C-110 group. The next morning, news reporters announced that 4000 persons demonstrated; the K of L was listed among the participants.

In January, C-110 travelled to Washington to participate in the Right to Life demonstration. They proudly carried a banner identifying themselves and received favorable publicity.

We gain much from these endeavors. Not only do we fulfill our responsibilities as Catholic Americans by protesting immoral social policies, we at the same time draw public awareness to Lithuania. Through us Lithuania's Christian beliefs are shown. The public remains aware of Lithuania's existence and her continued struggle to regain her independence.

The K of L, through affirmative Catholic action, gains support for Lithuania from the many other groups that join them in affirming Christian morality issues. And even among Lithuanian-Americans, it will become the organization to join because of its strong convictions "for God and country" here, in the U.S.A. and in Lithuania.

*Jonas Adomenas, President
C-110, Maspeth, NY*



C-110, Maspeth, NY members Petras Zujus and John Adomenas pray the rosary outside Lincoln Center in protest of the showing of the film „Hail Mary”.



C-110 members boost K of L image during recent trip to Florida

HARVEST CUSTOMS

PRAPIOVOS

*(Taken from Encyclopedia Lituanica)
(Edited by Regina Gerutis Kot)*



The harvest began with appropriate customs called prapiovos. For the rye harvest, the entire family, including the very oldest, would go out, taking bread, salt and water. After praying and making the sign of the cross, the master of the house would gather the first handful of ripe rye and cut it with his sickle. In later times rye was harvested by scythe.

Hay-making began with the head of the house cutting the first swath, after he had prayed and wished the movers health, good weather and a heavy dew. The first bunch of flax was gathered by the oldest woman, the farmer's wife, or a recognized village songstress.

The termination of work, like its commencement, was surrounded with ceremonial actions and with festive celebration. Especially colorful were the Pabaigtuvės, marking the completion of the rye harvest. Prior to World War I, in some regions a small section of high-grade rye would be left standing. In southeastern Lithuania (Dzukija) the women would carefully weed this section, and bury some bread and salt in the center as an offering to the earth, while they devoutly recited, Earth, you gave to me, and so I give to you, (Žemele, tu man davei, tai ir aš tau duodu). In other areas of Lithuania bread was cast into the standing rye and the harvest continued, until it was recovered. The workers

would then partake of it, braiding around the remainder a wisp of the uncut rye. It was an honor to cut the last sheaf. Only later, in southern Lithuania, the woman who bound the last sheaf was named "the old woman". Care was taken to make the last sheaf bigger and to bind it so as to suggest a woman, called "the old woman of the rye (rugių boba). From this, a wreath was woven for the lady of the house, and a sash for the master. Upon completion of the rye harvest all would let out a cheer, proclaiming that this field was done. The girls would then sit to weave a wreath of rye and bluebottle. After World War I other flowers began to be incorporated. The wreath was carried by the woman who cut the final sheaf, or sometimes by the best songstress. The sash was carried by one of the men. Singing light-hearted songs, mostly about rye and work, and bearing the last shock, the harvesters would make their way home, where the mistress would meet them at the door with bread, salt and a beverage, treating the shock like a honored guest. The lady of the house was then crowned with the wreath, and the master was girded with the sash.

The final shock was given a place of honor at table like the first. The celebration would then begin in earnest, complete with vigorous singing, in the hopes of a rich harvest the following year.

BALZEKAS MUSEIIM OF LITHUANIAN CULTURE

1966-1986

Twentieth Anniversary

NEW MUSEUM BUILDING OPENS

6500 South Pulaski Road
Chicago, Illinois 60629

PROGRESS REPORT

by *Stanley Balzekas, Jr.*

It is with great pleasure that I bring you a status report of the Balzekas Museum's remodeling program and anticipated needs.

The proposed budget for the renovation and remodeling of the new museum building and exhibit hall is estimated at \$1,000,000. The first year, \$500,000 will be needed, and \$250,000 in each of the two successive years.

The renovation will be accomplished in three stages. The first phase gives priority to the main exhibit hall, Art Gallery, Library, Children's Museum, Women's Guild Room, Gift Shop and meeting rooms. The official opening was planned for June 22, 1986.

The second stage will include the development of banquet facilities, and educational spaces, such as workshop areas and lecture facilities.

The third stage will provide performing arts facilities and gourmet Lithuanian dining.

In the main exhibit hall, a great deal of time and effort has gone into the planning of the exhibit space to enhance the beautiful artifacts the Museum has collected in the past 20 years, and to illustrate the significant contribution Lithuanians have made to civilization. The 1400 square feet of the main exhibit hall will be enclosed by a ½ inch thick Herculite glass wall which will provide outstanding visual access while at the same time provide privacy and security from the rest of the building.

The Museum Library is considered to be one of the leading Lithuanian research and resource centers in the world. The new 860 square foot library has been painted cordovan rose and will hold 45,000 volumes in addition to hundreds of thousands of printed articles, photos, documents, records, geneological history, etc.

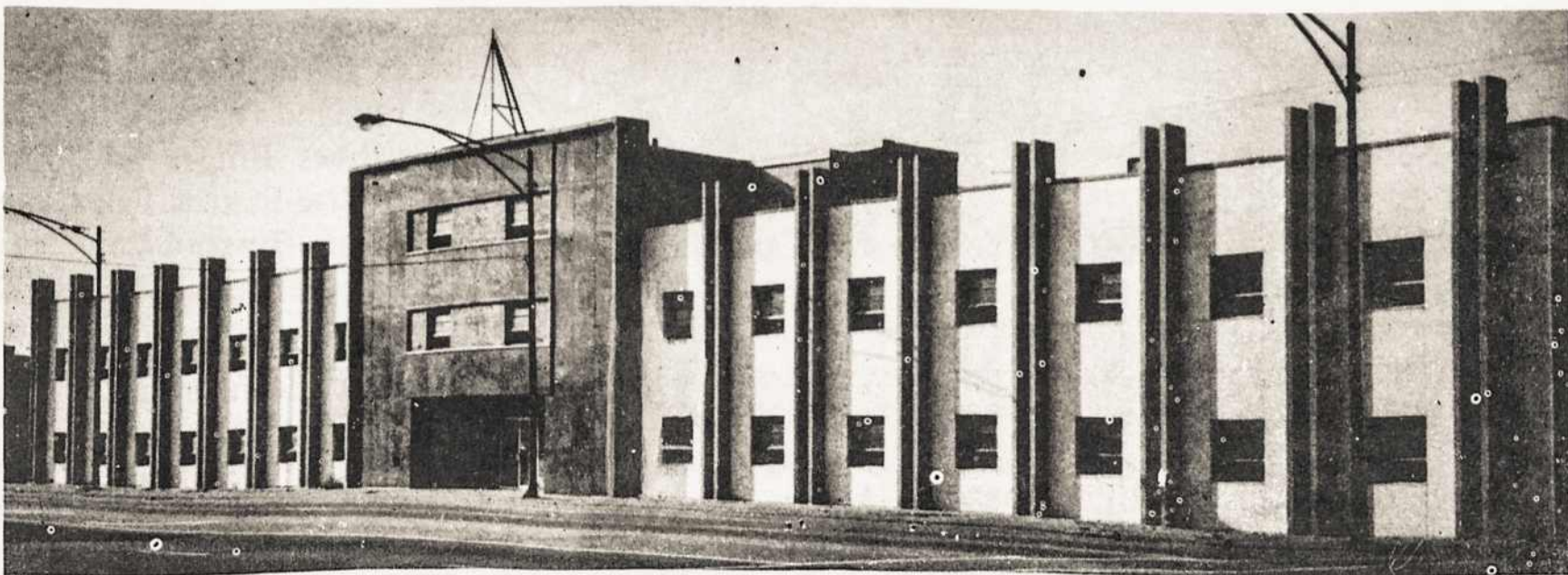
The 2,800 square foot Art Gallery will be painted white and mushroom beige. Its spacious, penthouse will

greatly enhance the visual arts community and will become one of the finest galleries in Chicago. In addition it will also house the stained glass window, "Daughters of the Sun", by Adolph Valeska in an interior setting so as to prevent further deterioration from the environment.

The Periodical Rooms will house magazines printed in both Lithuanian and English. The Museum's collection dates back to the 19th Century. These have been completed and we are in the process of relocating and organizing the material within these rooms.

The Gift Shop display cases have been remodeled and painted. The new 200 square foot shop opened in April. It is a major distributor of Lithuanian books and memorabilia.

The new Children's Museum and workshop will have 1500 square feet of space. The Children's Museum will emphasize educational activities in order for the young people and



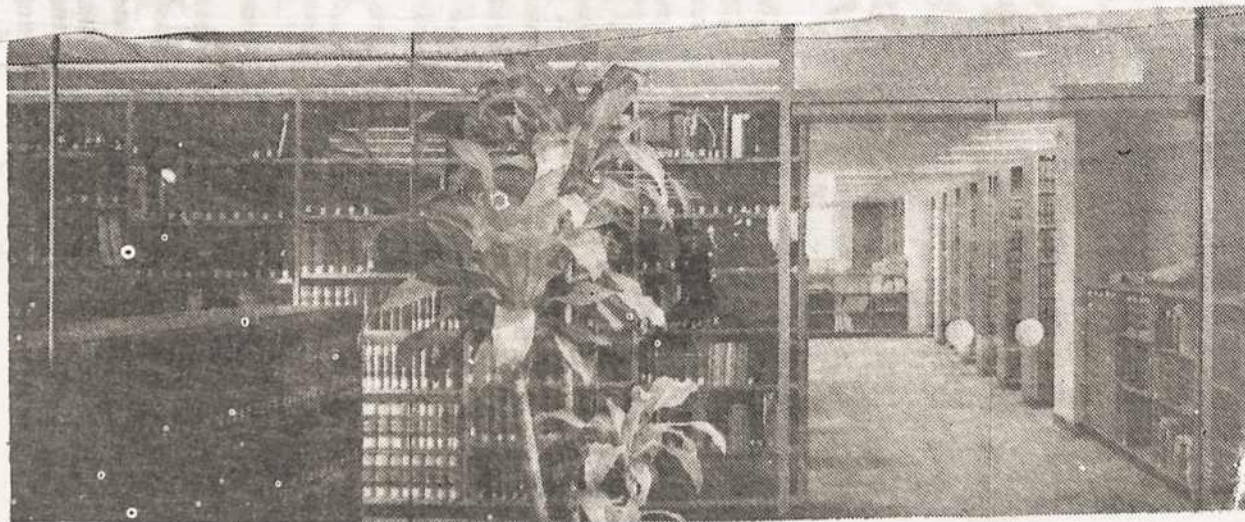
New Balzekas Museum Building

much parents to learn more about history, the arts and the... Information of this type of programming is being gathered from leading institutes throughout the United States.

The Women's Guild and its committee are working to develop exhibits and programs to illustrate the contribution Lithuanian women have made in the past to make the world a better place to live in and their participation in the fight to gain Lithuanian independence.

The audio-visual room is being prepared by one of the leading experts in the field and will bring new dimensions to the field of communications.

One of the most major unexpected costs we have facing us is the installation of a new elevator. According to recent reports from various elevator experts, the existing elevator is inadequate and should be replaced. After careful discussion and research, the Museum Board of Directors have voted to install a new elevator at a cost of \$50,000. The elevator will allow easy access to the three floors of the new building. It was felt that



Interior of new Balzekas Museum

due to the large number of people who visit the Museum and art gallery, an elevator would be essential, especially to the elderly and the handicapped. We hope, that with your help and generous support we will be able to cover this tremendous, but necessary, expenditure.

The ultimate goal of the Museum is to provide a resource center for the Lithuanian community and the Southwest side of Chicago. In order to carry out our Culture, and increase cross-cultural understanding, it is necessary that we all work together to provide programs in the humanities, visual and performing

arts. The new museum will be able to provide the general public with educational programming through workshops, lecture and exhibits.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Museum staff, I want to thank each and every one of you who have been supportive in our need. I sincerely hope your support continues and grows for what is one of our most important endeavors for the future generations in the next century.

Donations may be sent to: THE BALZEKAS MUSEUM, 6500 Pulaski Rd., Chicago, IL 60629.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 3-16 **Camp Neringa**
- 7-10 **73rd NATIONAL CONVENTION**
Allentown Hilton Hotel
Allentown, PA
- 17 **72nd Annual Lithuanian Day**
Rocky Glen Park
Moosic, Pa
- 24 **Northeastern U.S. Annual Pilgrimage**
for the Suffering Church in Lithuania
North American Marytrs' Shrine
Auriesville, NY

SEPTEMBER

- 15 C-110, Mass for the Persecuted Church in Lithuania, followed by prayers at the Church's Wayside Shrine, Maspeth, NY
- 21 New England District Pilgrimage Cathedral of the Pines, Ringe, NH
- 26-28 Mid-Central District Fall Convention and Pilgrimage; Hosts: C-25, Cleveland, OH
- 27 C-110, Maspeth, NY Annual Dinner Dance

OCTOBER

- 18 71st Annual Dinner and Dance
C-29, Newark, NJ
- 19 C-27 Annual Fall Dance
St. Mary's Parish Hall
East Walpole, MA
- 26 New England District Cultural Festival
Maironis Park, Ma



BALTIC FREEDOM DAY 1986

THE WHITE HOUSE

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON

Monday, June 16, 1986

On Thursday, June 12, 1986, President Reagan invited Baltic American leaders to join him in the Oval Office as he signed a proclamation declaring June 14, 1986, as "Baltic Freedom Day."

After invading Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, the Soviets, on June 14, 1941, began mass deportations of Balts to Siberia. Baltic Americans observe this date with rallies and demonstrations in support of freedom for these countries.

The U.S. does not recognize the Soviet annexation of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia and has expressed concern over human rights violations in the region.

The Baltic leaders presented President Reagan with the Baltic Freedom Award.

Pictured behind the President; left to right, are: Dr. Jonas Valaitis, President, Joint Baltic American Committee; Mr. Avo Piirisild, President, Baltic American Freedom League; Mr. T. Blinstrubas, President, Lithuanian American Council; Dr. Olgerts Pavlovskis, President, World Federation of Free Latvians; Mr. Stanley Gecys, President, Lithuanian-American Community, Inc.; Mr. Juhan Simonson, President, Estonian American National Council; Mr. Aristids Lamberg, President, American Latvian Association; Sen. Donald W. Riegle, Jr. (D-MI); and Rep. William Carney (R-NY).

South Boston's Lithuanian Kitchen

FINALLY, A LITHUANIAN RESTAURANT IN BOSTON

Algirdas Budreckis

Back in March the Lithuanian American Community of the Greater Boston area was shocked and dismayed when the South Boston Lithuanian Citizens Club license was revoked indefinitely. In actuality, the ABC Commission merely prohibited the issuance of *alcoholic* beverages to the public at large. The Lith Club is still serving the Lithuanian Community culturally, socially and civily. Traditional observances, concerts and commemorations are still held in the spacious second and third floor halls. The Lithuanian Folk Dance Ensemble "Sambūris" still meets Monday nights to rehearse. No, the "Club" is not closed!

Since the beginning of the year we should add another dimension to the "Club's" activities; it also functions gastronomically. Yes, finally a Lithuanian cuisine restaurant in Boston! It is called LITHUANIAN KITCHEN, it serves simple, basic Lithuanian food: kugelis, baršciai, kopūstų sriuba, koldūnai, potatoe pancakes, kielbasi with Lithuanian sweet sauerkraut, and other favorites that mom or grandma used to prepared on a black wrought-iron stove. The prices are reasonable, the service is prompt. And of course, there are noble spirits and brews to be mulled amidst Lithuanian chatter. Originally known as the Lith. Pizzeria, the Lith. Cellar the Lithuanian Kitchen serves Lithuanian-style home cooking on Saturdays and Sundays, between 11 a.m. and 10 p.m. Take out orders will also be prepared upon request. How did this come about?

Eleven years ago, seaman JONAS STANKUS was a communications expert on a Soviet Lithuanian fishing ship docked in Belon, France. He jumped ship, took a midnight train to Paris and made his way to the American Embassy. After an arduous ordeal he was granted political asylum and through the help of the Lithuanian organizations came to the USA.

Jonas became involved in food preparation. He worked in New York City's Serendipity restaurant. Moving to Boston he got a job in Anthony's Pier 4 and later worked at the famous Montillio's bakery in Quincy. He also worked at Kilus' Lithuanian bakery in Brockton.

Last fall, Jónas Stankus opened the LITHUANIAN KITCHEN in the South Boston Lithuanian Citizen's Club, 268 W. Broadway, South Boston. Come Saturday or Sunday and the Club's elevator operator will *transport* you to the basement and you'll be in the homey confines of the Lithuanian Kitchen. It even has a Lithuanian jukebox featuring such classics as the "Lithuanian Ruddy Valli" *Antanas Šabaniauskas*. In addition to traditional fare, Jonas Stankus stated that he was: "also experimenting. I enjoy making fancy desserts based on old ideas." As a specialty Stankus bakes baumkuchenās (a fir-tree shaped cake with real egg glaze) for weddings and anniversaries. As John would say: "SKANAUS APETITO!"



Jonas Stankus with Russ Turner, who helped design the "ragolis" spit

PADAINUOKIME!

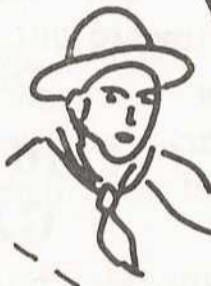
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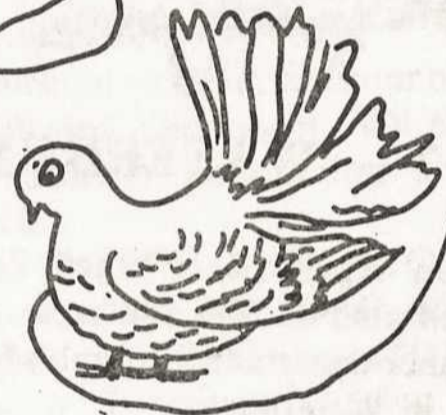
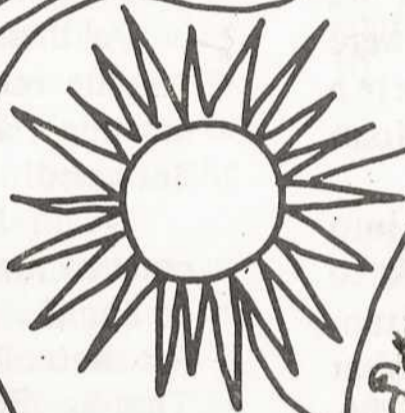
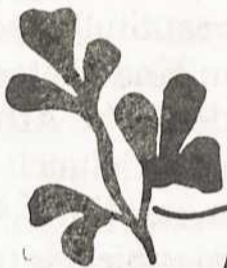
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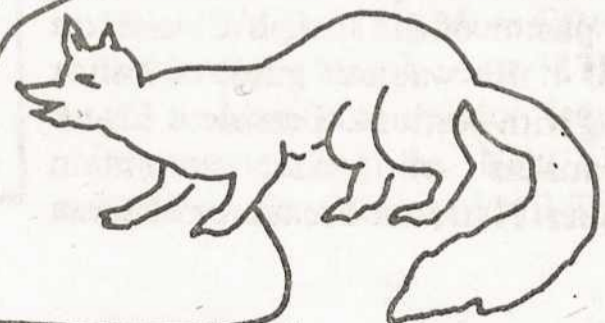
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Palankėj, palankėj,
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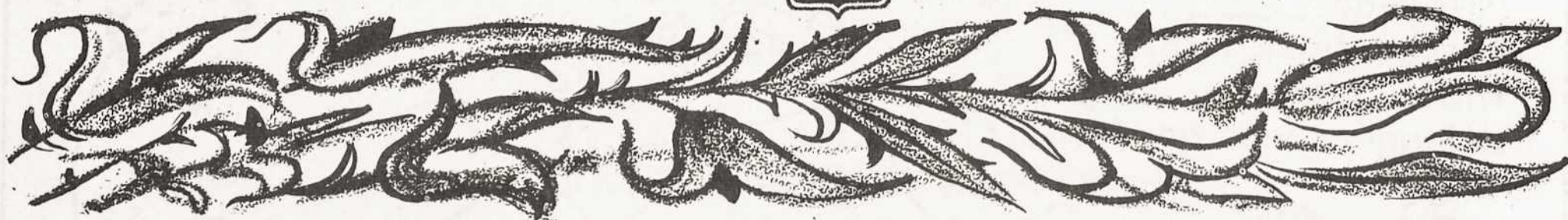
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Council Activities



Vyčiai Veikia



Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT



C-7 — WATERBURY

On April 12, Council 7 commemorated its 70th anniversary with a dinner-dance at St. Joseph's School Hall in Waterbury.

Council 7 was one of the early groups organized after the original was born in Brockton, MA, in 1913. Council 7 was formed on March 31, 1916, by Father Joseph Valantiejus, then pastor of St. Joseph Church. The first members were Joseph Saliunas, Benedict Gauronskas, Joseph Ovileskis and S. Tamosaitis.

This was the first major activity for Fr. Frank Karvelis, a Waterbury native, who was just welcomed as the new pastor of St. Joseph Church on April 4. He was our guest of honor along with National President Frank Petrauskas who was our main speaker. National Treasurer Theresa

Trainis and her husband Al, Fr. Paul Sabulis and Sen. Tom Upson, our 15th District representative, were also honored.

Walter Kalick, our council president, was master of ceremonies. One hundred and fifty members and guests attended our celebration. Thanks to Pat Richards, ticket chairman, Dolores Jonaitis, Doris Blinstrubas and Victoria Sulliman.

Ann Cheplick was chairman for our souvenir book which was a big success. Also on her committee were Marcella Laureckas, Helen Kaipovic, Diane Lazauskas and Joan Shukaitis.

A great deal of work went into decorating the school hall. Thanks to Victor Vaitkis, John Jonaitis, Francis Junuska, Edith & Walter Blinstrubas and Edmund White.

Thanks for a job well done.

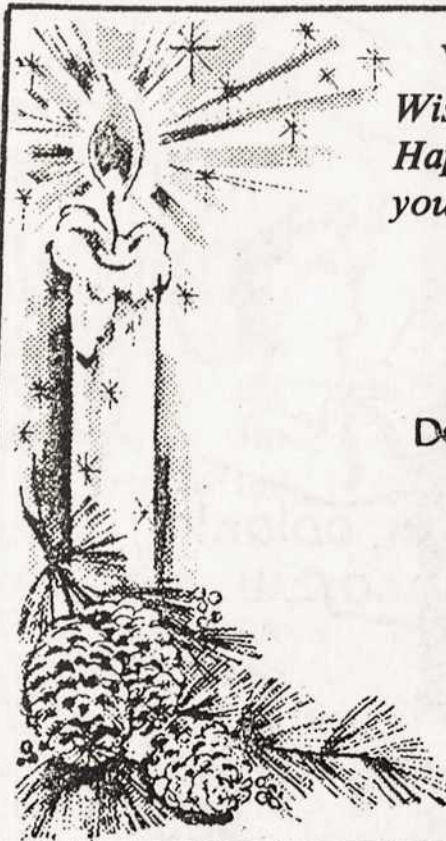
Our council is now looking toward our 75th anniversary.

Diane & Bruno Lazauskas

C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Our May meeting was preceded by May devotions held in church. The altars were beautifully decorated with flowers from Tina Shatas' nicely kept flower garden. The Athol girls outdid themselves with lunch following the business meeting. At each meeting a cultural subject is read and discussed.

Again this year St. Francis parish reached the Bishop's Fund goal. Six of our K of L girls prepared dinner for the collectors and clerical staff. Thanks, girls!



VYTIS CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

Wish all of your K of L friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in the December issue of VYTIS. Mail your greetings or donations to:

Bernice Aviza, Editor
6 Tremont Street
Albany, N. Y. 12205

Donations:	Full page	\$100
	1/2 page	50
	1/4 page	35
	1/8 page	25
	Patron	10
	Well-wisher	2

Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

Our hearts and prayers go out to Lithuania and her people on the occasion of the Chernobyl nuclear plant disaster that will have a longlasting effect on her nation and people. God only knows she has had more than her share of suffering and misfortune.

Fr. Steponaitis, Charles & Blance Genaitis and Bill Wisniauskas are on the steering committee making plans for the 1987 celebration of the Christianization of the Lithuanian nation to be held in Boston on October 4.

Stanley Perekalis, owner of Stanley's Super Market, was hospitalized as was Barbara Eacmen from Gardner. We wish them both quick recoveries.

Tina Shatas and daughters recently enjoyed a cruise to the Caribbean that took them to Venezuela. They came home ten pounds heavier.

Thank you Paula for escorting Kathryn and Bob Paliulis to our May meeting. It was nice meeting you both and we all look forward to seeing and working with you in the future on our projects.

Condolences are extended to the Zetkauskys and Svelnis families on the loss of their sister and mother.

In July, let us reflect on the meaning of Independence Day in our lives. By our Constitution we enjoy the basic freedoms denied many in enslaved nations. Many have died to preserve these freedoms. Seven Gardner young Liths and ten in Athol made the supreme sacrifice so the rest of us could enjoy complete freedom. May they all rest in the Lord.

I introduce to you this month Nettie Shatas Piragis who was born and educated in Orange. She is a widow and the mother of three boys and a daughter and a grandmother to four. She is an active member of Woman's Club of St. Mary's in Orange, Legion Auxiliary, Athol Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, and Golden Age. In addition to travel, she paints in oils and is quite a



A group of K of L's at one of Council 10 functions

dancer. We wish Nettie a happy future and look forward to your continued good work with Council 10.

Vincukas

C-50 — NEW HAVEN

On May 11 we had our usual Mother's Day celebration when all the organizations of the parish take part. Father Karalis celebrated a beautiful Mass for the mothers and families. Our choir sang the hymns appropriate for this special day.

We then gathered in our church hall for a little refreshment. Father Karalis spoke about the importance of never failing on our part to ever forget our loyalty and appreciation of our mothers and to show our love for them especially on this day set aside for them

Mae Jackub was our foremost speaker for the day. Her ambition to be a perfect parishioner never wanes. She is more articulate, more endearing, full of inspiration as the years fly by. We love you as you love us.

We observed Lithuanian Freedom Prayer Day on May 19. As the Women's Alliance started the day with their Mass, members of the K of L continued their vigil of prayer throughout the day. They volunteered to spend one hour before the Blessed Sacrament. We closed with Solemn Benediction at five o'clock.

On May 17 the Spring St. Casimir Dinner-dance was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Hamden. It was an evening filled with plenty of dancing and good food. The orchestra was the best. Generous prizes and lots of them was another rewarding feature of this posh event.

Our June meeting was held with a good attendance on the first.

H B

C-103 — PROVIDENCE

Remember a song entitled, "Why Don't We Do This More Often, Just What We're Doing Today?" This was the consensus of opinion from K of L's attending the New England District Convention April 27 in St.

Casimir's Church.

Many were amazed that our church had retained and was proudly perpetuating ancient customs. We have not removed our statues. You may still have vigil lights burning for your intentions. At High Mass, we still start with the Asperges; in this season of Easter remembrance it was "Vidi Aquum." The choir is loud and strong in its Lithuanian versions, notably mentioned was the closing hymn in Lithuanian of "How Great Thou Art" i.e. "O Kaip Didingas Tu Esi."

As noted one can readily see what an auspicious beginning for a NED Convention that only comes to our council every seven years.

The business session of the convention was interspersed at various times with "aplomb" and a sense of "savoir faire." First there was Mrs. Marion Skabeikis with an elocution on the Lithuanian Chronicle. Several items later Father Jurgelaitis' dissertation as Founder's Day Speaker was well received.

The conclusion of the convention was a holy "half" hour held in the church where degrees were presented. A very, very busy eight-hour schedule was terminated by a going away collation that was thoroughly appreciated.

On Sunday, May 4, council members sponsored a May breakfast that proved very enjoyable and successful financially. The regular meeting was postponed so we could all attend the 350th Rhode Island May 4 Independence Day celebration that was being held at the Rhode Island State House two blocks from the church.

We were pleasantly surprised with the attendance at our June meeting of Father Anthony Jurgelaitis. He was confined for several weeks to his room at Providence College following surgery. He is on his way to total recovery. It was noticed that he's put on weight from leisurely inactivity. He's getting back to top form and

thanked all for their cards, messages, prayers and phone calls.

The usual business meeting was conducted with dispatch by President William Piacentini. Cultural Affairs Chairlady Sophie Sakalys spoke on Lithuanian seaside resort, Juodkrantė near Klaipėda. Articles from the Chronicle were read by Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Francis Kapiskas. Donation was given to Chairman of National Scholarship Committee from the membership. Plans were made for the council to have its annual cookout in July at the home of Mr. & Mrs. John Kervelis. Delegates were chosen for the National Convention in August.

Progress report was given on 10th Annual Commemoration of Terrible June Days in Bristol with Mass at 5 p.m. in St. Mary's Church.

The New England District officers and Executive Board will meet for a business session on the same day at noon, June 14. They will participate at the church in late afternoon.

UN AMI DE LITHUANIE

C-135 — ANSONIA

Our annual observance of Lithuanian Independence Day had a larger than usual attendance this year. Members and some parishioners assembled at City Hall where they were greeted by Mayor William Menna. The Mayor read a proclamation declaring February 16 as Lithuanian Independence Day in Ansonia. A few minutes later, Council Vice President Al Shurkis and Al Barauskas raised the Lithuanian flag on the City Hall flagpole with the group singing the Lithuanian and American National Anthems. Everyone returned to the mayor's office for coffee and cake.

Our council held its traditional St. Casimir's Day Communion Breakfast honoring our Patron Saint to another large gathering. This special occasion was also chosen to honor our own charter member, Judge Joseph Chernauskas upon his retirement from the Superior Court Bench. Judge Joe introduced his



Judge Joseph Chernauskas and Rev. Raymond Yuskauskas at the Communion Breakfast of C-135, Ansonia, on March 2, honoring the retirement of the Judge from Superior Court Bench

mother and family members in attendance. A grand time was had bringing back memories of gone-by days with stories and pictures.

Our members journeyed to Providence for the spring NED Convention. C-103 were fine hosts and a good time was had by all.

A large group of our council travelled with our Tour Director Sophie Thomas to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. One of the highlights of the trip was the celebration of Al Barauskas' birthday. It all started with our Council President leading the bus group into singing "Happy Birthday" to Al and ending with a high gala party at the motel that evening. Good luck Al! Sveikas!

The council extends its condolences to Olga Gray on the loss of her husband Lee. May God's blessings be bestowed upon her and give her strength. Lee was a K of L member for a good many years, and his passing will leave a noticeable void in our ranks.

Our annual church picnic has the Knights working hard to get all arrangements in order for their two booths.

Nakties Pelėda

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

**Let's
Salute
Lady
Liberty**



C-3 — PHILADELPHIA

Members of C-3 gathered for Mass on March 2 for the annual commemoration of St. Casimir's Day. Our lovely ladies in Lithuanian costume — Marytė Lopera and her daughter Ann Mary, Jewel Ushka and Ruth Wallash — led the procession into church. Once again, our

The 71st Annual LITHUANIAN DAY

**CORRECTION
— NOTE DATE —**

(WRONG DATE STATED IN JUNE VYTIS)

**Sunday,
August 17, 1986**



**ROCKY
GLEN
PARK**
MOOSIC, PA.



FOR INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL

LITHUANIAN DAY COMMITTEE

MRS. ANN CARLITUS, SEC'Y.

BOX-192

RINGTOWN, PA 17967

PHONE- 717-889-3839

**Lithuanian Mass
11 A.M.**

**Program
1 P.M.**

Juniors, Barbara Mickunas, Carol Ann Drumstas, Walter and Andrew Svekla participated in the Mass with the readings and in the offertory procession. Our thanks to Agnes Mickunas for making the arrangements for the splendid brunch at the Gloucester Inn following Mass.

Traditionally our council awards degrees on St. Casimir's Day. Congratulations this year go to Joe and Ann Marro who received the First Degree and to Alice Bacon and Francis Downey who received the Second Degree. Junior council members receiving the First Degree were Barbara Mickunas, Carol Ann Drumstas, Walter and Andrew Svekla and Krsitina Balten. Congratulations to Maryte Lopera who received the Third Degree on March 9 at the district convention in Frackville.

A busload of council members, family and friends set off on an excursion in quest of fun, fortune, food and frivolity on April 6. This was a trip to Harrah's Casino. There was plenty of food and fun, but we didn't hear about fortunes. Our thanks to Marge Petronis for putting the trip together and to John and Agnes Mickunas for refreshments on the bus. Proceeds from this day are being donated to the fund to send a junior to the Lithuanian World Youth Organization Convention in Australia.

On April 20, twenty-five C-3 members met at St. Andrew's Church for a special Mass to pray for the beatification of Archbishop George Marulaitis. This was followed by a bagel brunch catered by Irene Svekla, Bill Miller and Maryte Lopera with some delicious cake courtesy of Marge Petronis and Jewel Ushka. Our meeting followed with its regular order of business.

Our members are anxiously awaiting the Allentown Convention and hope to see you all there.

Irene Svekla



Joseph Sleder, Larry Janonis, Jovita Sleder of C-12 Manhattan; Adele Dauszickas C-110 Maspeth and Melissa Grill, granddaughter of the Sleders, participated in the Festival of Nations as a Salute to Lady Liberty sponsored by Long Island News Day



Group of happy Lehigh Valley Council members

C-46 — FOREST CITY

Council 46 was proud to host the Spring Convention of the Mid-Atlantic District on June 8.

Council members greeted delegates as they arrived at St. Anthony's Church in Forest City. The Rev. J. Sitko celebrated Mass with a capacity attendance. Margaret Cyzauskas was lector. The choir sang Lithuanian hymns. The offertory

gifts were presented by council members in Lithuanian costumes.

After Mass, the Knights walked to Sacred Heart Hall where cake and coffee were served before the meeting.

President Larry Janonis presided at the business meeting.

Two hundred and twenty delegates and guests were served a buffet dinner following the business meeting.

Since our president was vacationing in England and Scotland with Fran DiBart and her sister Helen Dylong, Vice President Gene Gobis conducted the June meeting. Father Anthony Grigaitis opened the meeting with prayer and Father Baltch led us in the singing of the Vyčių Himnas.

Junior Counselor Regina Kot reported that Kristin Olechowski, Judianne and Joe Nikstenas and Kelly Olson helped at the Lithuanian Booth at the Schenectady Museum on May 17. Regina and Bernice Aviza contributed their services. Chairman Ed Baranauskas thanked them, his wife Genutė and everyone who visited the Lithuanian booth. He stated that \$116 will be sent to the Lithuanian College in Rome.

Cultural Co-chairman Steve Raila read an article on Lithuanian official seals. Father Baltch also spoke of the seals of Lithuania and Poland which he saw on display in Krakow. Acolite Raila read an article from Woman's Day about a young girl by the name of Betsy Balchunas, Mendham, NJ who gave bone marrow for transplantation to her sister which saved her sister.

The refreshment committee of Ann Radzevich, Mary Sweet, Helen Druziak and Eleanor Olechowski surprised Gene with a birthday cake. On a table decorated with garden flowers, sandwiches, cake, coffee and tea were served. Širdingai ačiū jums už tokį gražų priėmimą!

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to Ed & Frances Wolan in the loss of Ed's brother Frank. May he rest in peace!

SMILE & SPARKLE

C-109 — GREAT NECK

Our June and final meeting for the summer was a very educational session. A noted chiropractor gave an eloquent talk on life's energy. After listening to him, we all felt we are candidates for this type of health care.

We congratulate Fr. Joseph Dunn, pastor of St. Aloysius Church in Great Neck, on his 40th anniversary in the priesthood. We wish him continued success in his priestly duties.

Our annual picnic held on June 29 at Kings Point Park in Great Neck was a huge success. The food was super excellent and the camaraderie displayed certainly made one feel that he is part of an excellent organization.

Our most recent bus trip to Atlantic City was a social success in more ways than one. It was one of the best trips ever had. The Italian Bus driver kept us in stitches which made the three-hour trip somewhat shorter. We met Marty Rusgi from Bayonne Council who was in Atlantic City with the K of L. However, we almost had a mishap when our tour guide, Tony Kober, was almost left behind in Atlantic City looking for members sitting on the bus.

The sick list claimed our member, Lillian Werben. We are informed she is home from the hospital and recuperating very nicely.

We congratulate our new members Ann & Phil Rutha, Ona & Richard Jankus and Dolores & Edward Shemet. We do hope they like us.

We do expect to see many of our friends and acquaintances at the National Convention and certainly do wish the Convention to be a huge success. In the meantime, have a pleasant and safe summer.

C-110 — MASPETH

Musically speaking, the highlight was the Joe Thomas Orchestra which made for a very successful affair. Also present were our Supreme Council President, Frank Petrauskas and his wife and longtime friends Loretta & Jack Stukas, Marty Rusgi, Lillian & Vinnie Cuprewich, Anna Zindzius, Joe Kacenaitsis, Helen Shields and Al Wesey.

Since there will be a hiatus until

September, C-110 had a meeting and social on June 4. Theresa Dagis was Chairperson for this Social with Amy Girdauskas as Co-chairperson and they along with Terry Pointis, the proprietress of the Floral Park Deli, arranged a super "country club" buffet. Theresa Dagis and Amy Girdauskas hosted the buffet table assisted by Ann Adomenas, Karen Dagis, Ann Dugan, Linda Kalinowski. It was a fun evening!

John Adomenas reports on a large representation from C-110 attended the June 8 MAD meeting in Forest City, PA, and that it was most enjoyable. On June 14, C-110 will attend the Lithuanian Day Mass at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. Thank you, Mary Shalins, for the generous contribution for the Lithuanian Day Mass at the Shrine. Incidentally, Mary Shalins is a native of the Keystone State and New Yorker by adoption. Lottie Ulrich, as usual, arranged the bus reservations for Doylestown.



C-110 Maspeth trip to Clearwater, FL, in May. President John Adomenas in center of group.

President John Morris, assisted by council member, awarded the many prizes donated for the raffle.

Council 46 was pleased to have representatives of 13 councils journey to Forest City for the MAD Spring Convention.

B M

C-74 — SCRANTON

Council 74 of Scranton participated at a Mass at St. Joseph's Church to commemorate Lithuanian Independence with Msgr. Michael C. Ozalas officiating. The congregation sang Lithuanian hymns with council members led by Alphonse Bulavich, organist.

After the Mass, K of L members visited guests at St. Mary's Villa and entertained them by singing popular Lithuanian songs. The guests enjoyed it very much. Dinner was served and enjoyed by all.

The council also had a Mass in observance of St. Casimir's Day on March 2. We sang beautiful Lithuanian hymns. Msgr. Ozalas had a beautiful Mass. We went to breakfast at Jay's Restaurant. Helen Romeika was chairman. She did a very nice job in arranging the readings, presentation of offertory gifts and the super breakfast. Msgr. Ozalas said grace and Fr. Gerald Mullahey, chancellor of the diocese, gave the benediction. A good time was had by all. Gerturde Romeika, our president, thanked all for the beautiful turnout.

Nancy Laske, one of our Juniors and the daughter of Marie and Dick Laske, received four awards from North Scranton Junior High School. She was awarded certificate of achievement in chorus and SRO participation, perfect attendance for the past six years, certificate of achievement in spring play and outstanding academic achievement in meeting standards of the presidential academic fitness awards program.

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Laske were

presented an award in recognition of 20 years of devoted service to the children of Lackawanna County. Congratulations!

Martha Brack

C-100 — AMSTERDAM

On May 12 many council members attended the Lithuanian Mass celebrated by our Spiritual Advisor Rev. Robert E. Baltch at St. Casimir's Church. He also led us in the singing of Lithuanian hymns in honor of the Blessed Mother. The readings were done by Polly Ziausys and the offertory gifts were presented by her husband Ed and her.

Our business meeting followed in the Social Center with President Anthony Radzevich presiding. Father Anthony Grigaitis gave the opening prayers and the Vyčių Himnas followed.

President Radzevich received an invitation from MAD President Larry Janonis to host the fall district convention. October 5 was selected as the convention date with Helen Hugo serving as chairman. Cooperation of members was requested.

Cultural Co-chairmen Steve and Adeline Raila spoke on two subjects. Steve read an article on Neringa's Juodkrantė where rich amber deposits were found. The area has 15 hotels and a power station is located there. Adeline reviews the April 26 TV program. Gintė Damušis, associate editor of the Observer, appeared on "Heart of the Nation," on the Christian broadcasting channel. She spoke about the oppression of Catholics in Lithuania and today's treatment which is one of discrimination and persecution. There is increased vandalism in churches. The writer of "Spiritual Genocide of Lithuania" was caught and sentenced to 12 years in prison. Children under 18 are not allowed to practice religious "cults." She concluded her talk by showing a rosary which came from a prisoner in Siberia. It was made entirely of grain.



Newlyweds, Joseph P. Shatas, Jr. and the former Mary Montgomery

Vytis Editor Bernice Aviža announced that the Albany council was reactivated with approximately 18 members.

Fahter Grigaitis will celebrate his 85th birthday and 55th anniversary in the priesthood in September.

Fahter Baltch reported that the beatification procedure for Archbishop Matulaitis was completed, and it is hoped that he will be beatified next year.

Our member Joe Shatas left his bachelorhood days behind him when he took the marriage vows with lovely Mary Montgomery on April 12. Congratulations Joe and Mary! We wish you much happiness in your wedded life.

Sophie Olbie announced that our clambake will be held on Sunday, September 7, at Mary Ann's Tavern, Route 29, just outside of Broadalbin. Aldona and Paul Abeling will assist her.

Jena Maldutis, Agnes Rokit, Helen Radzevich and Edna Stokna served refreshments. Viskas buvo labai skanu; ačiū jums.

Ir vėl Maspethas?

Helen Matulonis, Chairperson of the Spring Dinner Dance, shared the applause for a job well done with her Co-chairperson, Lottie Ulrich (our little ol' cheesemaker). Helen thanks the following members for their very special assistance: Ann & John Adomenas, Karen, Theresa & George Dagis, Ann Dugan, Amy & John Girdauskas, Helen Jambor, Mary Johnson, Lillian & Anthony Polis, Maria Stungurys, Helen & Tony Yakaitis and Petery Zuyus.

In support of the Lithuanian Bishops Year of Faith Consciousness commemorating the baptism of Lithuania, Father Raila, our scholarly Spiritual Advisor, distributed printed suggestions for a prayer campaign in cooperation with Religious Renewal Programs of Putnam, CT.

John Adomenas reported the May trip to Florida was a C-110 social success. It included a visit to Epcot in Orlando and dinner at the St. Petersburg Lithuanian Club. We thank all who made the trip enjoyable, Msgr. John Balkunas, Fr. Gasiunas, Alex Kraujalis, Anthony Mazeika and Adam Sneckcius of C-147.

Welcome sweet springtime! On June 1, C-110 actively participated in Mad's 70th Anniversary Dinner Dance held in our Maspeth church hall. Assemblyman Frederich Schmidt attended the Mass. Lending their support by their presence at this event were the following C-110 members: John Adomenas, Mary Baltrus, Helen & John Cummins, Adele & Louise Dausickas, Amy & John Girdauskas, Mary & Roscoe Gilbert, Karen, Theresa & George Dagis, Helen Jambor, Stasia & Al Kraujalis, Muriel & John Lekstutis, Tony & Frances Migliore, Hlene Matulonis, Jean Mactutis, Kitty O'Donnell, Tony & Brenda Razickas, Ann & Al Ruginis, Helen Robinson, Ed Sirgedas, Mary Shalins, Theresa

& John Thomann, Helen Venis, Yurkevich, Joan & Pete Yuskevich, Helen & Tony Yakaitis, Vi Zvirblis, Heien Zedar, Mrs. Zabela.

On June 22, C-110 will attend a commemorative Mass for Lithuanians deported to Siberia in 1941. After Mass, C-110 by bus will attend the Sisters of Jesus Crucified picnic in Elmhurst, PA.

We send prayerful good wishes to Alice Veyvoda.

Laimingos Kelionės! 'Til we meet again, we wish Adele & Louise Dausickas and Mureil & John Lekstutis much happiness! Happy trails!

Convention Nostalgia: I finger my swizzle stick from the Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia, among others from the New Yorker in New York, the Book-Cadillac in Detroit, and on and on it goes up to the Allentown Hilton. Cheerts to old and new friends! Su Meile,

Brenda Bell-Razickas

C-118 — HAZLETON

This month I should like to dedicate my column to Mrs. Margaret Lapinsky who passed away May 20.



Margaret Lapinsky knit the Lithuanian Flag for C-118, Hazleton

friend. Margaret was always there when something had to be done. Time, patience, health, nothing stood in her way. When we reorganized four years ago, it was the afghan she crocheted that we chanced off for our first money-making project. If it was a cake to be made or a special Lithuanian drink, she had it ready. "Have some," she'd say, "it'll cure what hurts."

She was crowned our second Lithuanian Queen at our annual picnic and was so proud of the honor. She knit a Lithuanian flag for our hall. In June Margaret would have been 83 years old.

Margaret will be missed, but in our hearts, she will never be forgotten.

Alma Launikonis

**PLEASE
REMEMBER
MARGARET LAPINSKY
IN YOUR
PRAYERS!**

C-147, ST. PETERSBURG

members of Maspeth C-110 visit on May 4 for a dinner in the American-Lithuanian Club. Old friendships were renewed. A program was presented of readings by J. Praniskas and V. Kleiva, and reminiscences by Msgr. Jonas Balkunas and John Adomenas. After the dinner, the dessert was served by Mrs. V. Kleiva, Mrs. T. Liutkus, and Mrs. M. Zigaitis.

A dinner for Msgr. Jonas Balkunas was given in honor of his 60th anniversary of priesthood. He received a certificate of recognition from Pope John Paul II. The masters of ceremony were Charles Vilnis and Dr. Casimir Bobelis.

Victoria T. Jacobson is a very active member promoting the plight of captive nations. The President of the United States 27 years ago proclaimed the 3rd week of July as Captive Nations week. Victoria has arranged a commemorative event to be held at 11:00 on July 19 in the Treasure Island Community Center. A speaker for Atlanta, GA will talk about the victims of communism a military band will play and John Wilson of TV Channel 10 will be master of ceremonies.

Prior to the indoor ceremonies, a protest march by different nationalities in their native costumes, some walking in chains, will be held in the park of the Community Center in Treasure Island.

A building is being built in Washington, D.C. to house mementoes of Captive Nations; the building is to be complete in 1990.

A Board of Directors meeting was held at which the following members were selected to attend the National Convention in Allentown: Anthony and Susan Mazeika, Charles and Helen Vilnis.

V. Kraujalis



Anthony Mazeika, Fr. Gasiunas and Msgr. John Balkunas, guests of C-110 of Maspeth, at dinner at Lithuanian Club in St. Petersburg

C-152 — RIVERHEAD

We all enjoyed the Chinese auction and social after our May meeting. Agnes Marnia, chairlady did a great job and says thanks to all who contributed the "loot." Let's do it again soon!

Recently, Alice Graff, Angela Minsavitch and the Luckas spent a few pleasant hours attending the first all women's juried art exhibit on the East End. The show was sponsored by the North Fork Branch of the American Association of University Women of which our own Aldona Strumskis Lorkus is a member. This very talented lady is the daughter of the late Xavier and Mary Strumskis who were prominent in Lithuanian theatrical and musical circles. Mrs. Strumskis was an actress and singer; Mr. Strumskis was a choral director and music publisher. Aldona, a graduate of Julliard, was very busy this evening playing piano with the Bay Chamber Players, a group which she founded. A self-portrait by Lithuanian artist Nijolė Kudirka was among the chosen for this exhibition. We wish these ladies continued success in their future endeavors.

Cam & Peter Dykovitz spent a happy time in Florida with the tour arranged by Council 110 of Maspeth. Epcot Center at Disneyworld, K of L festivities in St. Petersburg and visiting with friends were part of the itinerary. Glad you're home folks, that you didn't decide to stay there!

We're happy to hear that Marg Hagglund is feeling a lot better and John Greicius' recent surgery was a success.

Vacation time is here again; do have a safe, happy summer. See you on September 20.

B L

SEPTEMBER 20 C-152 ANNUAL LITHUANIAN FESTIVAL



CORRECTION AND APOLOGIES

In the June VYTIS it stated that Fr. Alphonse Volungis, Pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church, Worcester, MA had died.

WE THANK THE LORD FOR HIS RESURRECTION!

And extend our sympathy to Fr. Volungis on the death of his sister, Julia Berneika, who died Easter Sunday, April 27

banquet, bowling trophies and other beautiful geranium plant.

We were very honored to have our National President Frank Petrauskas and his lovely wife join us during this convention. He gave a very impressive talk and said we must concentrate on recruiting new members. "The way I did it," he said, "I enrolled my sons and daughters in the K of L before they could say no while they were very young."

The 50/50 raffle of \$507 was won by a friend of C-79 Southfield, Michigan. All councils in the MCD helped by selling tickets.

The next convention and pilgrimage will be hosted by Cleveland C-25, September 26-28.

Vince Grazulis

C-25 — CLEVELAND

Big plans for the future were discussed at the May monthly meeting at the Lithuanian Club. Old business finalized, regular business accepted and new business put into effect.

Committees for September 26-28 MCD Pilgrimage and Convention were selected. Dolly-O was appointed general chairperson at a special meeting held May 7. All members will be asked for their cooperation. Incidentally, this is one of the many strong points of our council — cooperation.

Marge & Andy Andrus returned from Australia safely but tired. They state there is no place like the USA.

DuBois is a beautiful city in Pennsylvania where Council 86 hosted the 1986 Bowling Tournament. C-25 participants will remember at least for a year the profitable and enjoyable time had by all. Six delegates attended the Saturday morning meeting. A total of twenty took part in additional activities; namely, indulging in culinary expertise, bowling, dancing, Mass and awards.

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT



The Mid-Central District Convention and Bowling Tournament this year was hosted by Council 86 DuBois on May 16-18 at the Holiday Inn. The good turnout at the early bird get-together on Friday night indicated that the attendance was going to be great.

The convention opened Saturday morning with a greeting by Host Council President William Mikelonis. Frances Petkus (C-96) MCD President opened the meeting; minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mary Pakutinskas (C-19). Many important issues were discussed, among them membership. Membership is encouraged to Lithuanians whose spouses are of other nationalities. We were requested to continue soliciting signatures on petitions for a Darius & Girėnas commemorative postal stamp.

June 14 is designated as a national day of prayer for Lithuania. On that day special services will be held at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, Pennsylvania. For those who cannot attend Doylestown services, the April issue of Vytis lists councils and dates where special prayers and Masses will be offered for Lithuania almost daily during the months of August, September and October.

Saturday afternoon twenty teams from various MCD councils bowled for the beautiful traveling trophy. This trophy stands 42 inches high and brings a hopeful gleam into every bowler's eyes. Cleveland (C-25) was fortunate to take it home that day. The winning team consisted of Joanna Shigo, Tony & Dolly Oberaitis and Vince & Marion Gray. Congratulations! Many other trophies and cash prizes were awarded for individual efforts.

On Sunday morning the Knights and guests met at St. Joseph's Church. In procession all proceeded into church for Holy Mass. Pastor Fr. Robert Pudlo greeted all before Mass and apologized because ill health would not permit him to officiate. At noon everyone gathered at the Lithuanian Club for a delicious Lithuanian style dinner. After the

'Twas the year for the "Forest City" Buckeyes. C-25 entered three teams. The winning team to assume the individual team trophy, Marian received one for Handicap Hi-series 655 and Dolly for actual Hi Game 200. Lo-series for men was awarded to Al Shigo. Team jackpot money was won by the team also.

Thanks again to our host council, C-86 DuBois!

Dolly-O

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

A spring motif highlighted by a Blessed Mother centerpiece graced the snack table for our May social following the regular meeting. Thanks to Stella Hotra and her daughter Valentina Bulota, our hostesses who provided the goodies.

The meeting featured a special guest speaker, Gaile Dedinas who spoke on Kasa, a Lithuanian Credit Union established at Divine Providence Parish. Information was given on by-laws, membership requirements and various services offered. A question and answer period followed.

Cultural Chairperson Stella Hotra read an educational article on Lithuanian seals used by kings, princes and other nobles for important state documents. Stella also read excerpts from an article in the Wall Street Journal submitted by Frank Povilaitis. It singled out the poor construction of Soviet nuclear power plants built in Vilnius and near Klaipėda which carried radiation leaks and are believed to have dropped radioactive gasses near the area.

Theresa Marzolf, daughter of our members Carolyn & Lawrence Marzolf, granddaughter of our Mary Keller, was selected to receive the Regents Scholar Award at Eastern Michigan University. The Regents

Scholar Award is the most prestigious scholarship that the University offers and is made in honor of the student as well as potential for success. Theresa has also been offered an Honor Scholarship at Grand Valley State College. Theresa was graduated from New Haven High School and plans to study accounting.

Mary Keller, R. Danielak and President Smailis served as delegates to the Mid-Central District Convention and Bowling Tournament in DuBois. The bowlers from C-79 were Helen & Chuck Mykolaitis, John Kolinske, Rich Danielak & friend, Mary Keller and Mike Salas and friend.

Although C-79 came home without the biggy prize, members had nothing but praise for host Council 86. Many important issues were discussed and all council presidents and MCD officers gave glowing reports on their activities. The 50/50 Raffle, a sum of \$507, was won by our member Leonard Balkus.

Founders Day on April 27 attracted a nice attendance of members for Mass at Divine Providence. Mary Keller forgot to change her clock to daylight saving time and surfaced an hour later at the church, but she joined everyone for a delightful brunch at Grannys.

Amid all the joy there is also sad news. We lost through death three long-time members. Our prayers go out to the family of Joseph Belickas who was buried on May 14. Sincere sympathy to his beloved wife Pauline, sister Caroline, relatives and friends.

Also our prayers for Anna Kudzius who passed away on May 14. Condolences to her relatives and friends.

Our members were shocked and in disbelief upon the sudden death of Jeanne Yakstys on May 18. She was a good treasurer of Council 79 and served on many K of L committees. The members valued her talents and

arts and crafts for the Fall Festivals as well as doing bookkeeping for the parish. Nuoširdžiai užjaučiame jos gimimo ir mirties metines ir atsimenuojame jos žydėjimą. **timuosius.**

Whoever was dropping cold rain on us all week of May 18 did relent for the Memorial weekend and beamed sunshine and warmth for the American-Lithuanian Veteran's Memorial Services at Divine Providence. Following Mass, a wreath was placed at the Lithuanian Wayside Cross with our pastor Fr. V. Krisciunevicius and Fr. G. Simaitis participating. On a happy note, it was great to see Fr. J. Walter Stanievich attend the services following many weeks of hospitalization and recuperation. His determination and prayers won the battle.

Sophia & George Leskosky of Winter Haven, Florida, who were visiting their son George, Marge and family, attended the Memorial Day Brunch.

SOFFI

C-96 — DAYTON

Mother's Day Mass was highlighted by the May Crowning by the Juniors. After Mass a delicious pancake breakfast was served to the parents and other parishioners. Christine & Joe Fletcher were in charge of the meal.

Founder's Day get-together was chaired by Eleanor & Joe E. Mantz on April 12 in the church hall after the evening Mass. Refreshments were served and slides of our many activities in past years were shown.

A number of our K of L members attended the annual International Ball held on April 26 at the Convention Center. Our own Elinor Sluzas was Mistress of Ceremonies and did a fine job of introducing the many VIP's in attendance. Thirty-five nationalities took part in preparation for the Annual World A'Faire International Festival held on May 30 through June 1.



Bowlers from Dayton, Council 96, at District Convention and Bowling Tournament in DuBois, PA, May 16-18, 1986

Joe Fletcher, Christine Fletcher, Frances Petkus, Joseph Peter Mantz, Eleanor Mantz and Joseph Mantz

Photo by Joseph Peter Mantz

We did it! Our Lithuanian cultural booth and display took first award this year. Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to attain this honor. In fact, we received three awards: "Outstanding" for our cultural display, "Excellent" for our overall set-up and the "President's Award" for most outstanding country's display. A tribute to the Statue of Liberty was this year's theme for the festival.

Many parishioners gathered in the church hall for the week prior to make kugelis, ausukės, sauer kraut and virtiniai (meat filled dumplings).

Our "Vėjeliai" dancers did an excellent job of presenting several Lithuanian dances in their new costumes to the enjoyment of the 2000 or more spectators.

To celebrate 25 years of opera in Dayton, the Dayton Opera Association published a book written by local professional writers and musical directors. Retired Editor of Vytis and C-96 member, Aldona Ryan was one of the chosen writers. She was honored at a special

luncheon in January by the Association.

Congratulations to Veronica and Ernie Omlor on their 50th wedding anniversary. On May 24 a special Mass was held for them in which their children and grandchildren took part. Daughter Ronnie Heitkamp paid a touching tribute to her parents. After Mass a large gathering of relatives and friends helped celebrate the occasion in the church hall. A delicious meal was served, prepared by Veronica's sister, Mary Lucas and daughters Elaine Pacovsky and Marily Grant. Veronica was born in Lithuania and was a youngster when her parents came to America and settled in Dayton. She was a parishioner and K of L member for more than 50 years and has enjoyed all of the activities through the years. Ernie was born in Lima, Ohio, and later moved to Dayton.

A newly organized poka band furnished the music, all K of L members — Mary Agnes Jensen, string bass; James Pacovsky, what a drummer; Frank Ambrose, electric

piano and Cecilia Yankus on accordion. Best wishes are extended to Veronica and Ernie for many more years of happiness.

Our team came back from the Mid-Central District's Bowling Tournament and Convention in DuBois with a fourth place team award. Joe Fletcher had high series with handicap and high game with handicap. Delegates were Joseph Peter Mantz, Eleanor & Joe E. Mantz, Christine & Joe Fletcher and Elena Mikalauskas. District President Fran Petkus reported that all enjoyed the weekend and the hospitality of host Council 86.

Cecelia Yankus

MID-AMERICA DISTRICT



Our K of L Dancers and K of L Choir continue to be our super public relations representatives with their many performances for varied audiences. The Dancers, under the leadership of Frank Zapolis, meet weekly at the Lithuanian Jesuit Center for rehearsals. The Choir is now on a summer holiday but gave their usual excellent performance with Maestro Faustas Strolia directing during the Mass and ceremonies at the St. Casimir Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Continuing in our tradition of "being involved" with other Lithuanian organizations, we were also ably represented at the Lithuanian National Cemetery by soloist Algerd Brazis and M-C Aldona Daukus

during their Memorial Day commemoration which included the celebration of their 75th Anniversary.

Our District PR lady HM Estelle Rogers made certain that the K of L was in attendance during the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce Banquet, the Lithuanian Opera Company's presentation of "William Tell," and the Chicago ALTAS "June Tragedies" commemorative Mass and program at Nativity BVM Parish.

Condolences to the family of former District Vice President and National Legal Advisor John Narusis who passed away after a long illness. John will be fondly remembered by us all.

Belated congratulations to HM Stanley Pieza of the Chicago Seniors on receiving the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" from Pope John Paul II. Cardinal Joseph Bernardin made the presentation. Mr. Pieza has covered more Vatican events than any other living American journalist.

Wedding anniversary congratulations to several outstanding District Officer Couples: District President Algerd and Aldona Brazis celebrated their 45th; "Trumpet" Publishers Joseph and Valeria Stanaitis, on their 40th; Paul and Susan Binkis, Trustee and Cultural Chairman, respectively, on reaching the infamous 1st!

The Chicago Juniors, with District Vice President Maria Deksnis as their leader, recently held a brief summer meeting and then they all enjoyed playing miniature golf. President of our Juniors is Michelle Rogers.

Council 14 of Cicero was the gracious host for the District Summer Business Meeting on Saturday, June 14, St. Anthony Parish Hall in Cicero. Everyone is enjoying visiting the different parishes and locales for the meetings, and we all look forward to the next meeting.

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Enjoying a recent banquet of the Mid-America District are C-112 members, James, Matthew and Philamena Vilutis, Estelle Rogers, Algerd Brazis, Eleanor Kasputis and G. Lazauskas



"Memories of Lithuania" 1986 Mid-America Dis. Pres. Algerd Brazis, Mrs. V. Kleiza, Lith. Consul Vaclovas Kleiza, Banq. Coord. Irene Sankus and Banq. Chr. John L. Paukstis

C-112 — CHICAGO

Our May business meeting was further enhanced by the presence of Arvydas Žygas who presented a very interesting and informative program of slides and music on Lithuanian Folk Culture. This program was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We thank Arvydas for taking the time to

present this program. Also, we were pleased to hear that Arvydas became a member of our council that evening and we welcome him.

Our Juniors continue to be active. Their latest outing was a walking tour of the Morton Arboretum on May 3 with ten Juniors and six adults in attendance. The group returned to the Zakarka's house where a business meeting, with pizza following, was held.

Captain Ellie Kasputis proudly announced that the Nativity Women's Bowling League, sponsored by Marquette Funeral Home, won the championship for the season. Congratulations to you and your team, Captain Ellie.

Sincere get well wishes to Al Mockus and Don Petkus who are recuperating from surgery. It was nice to see two faces we have not seen in a while. Rev. Tony Markus and Al Shulicke joined us for the program and delicious goodies provided by Alice Cekanor and Mary Mathes.

Our 50/50 Raffle for the evening was won by Steve Rudokas with the 50 percent of the proceeds put into a fund for our delegate to the World Youth Conference in Australia in 1987.

We were very saddened to hear of the death of former member John Narusis who was our National Legal Representative for many years.

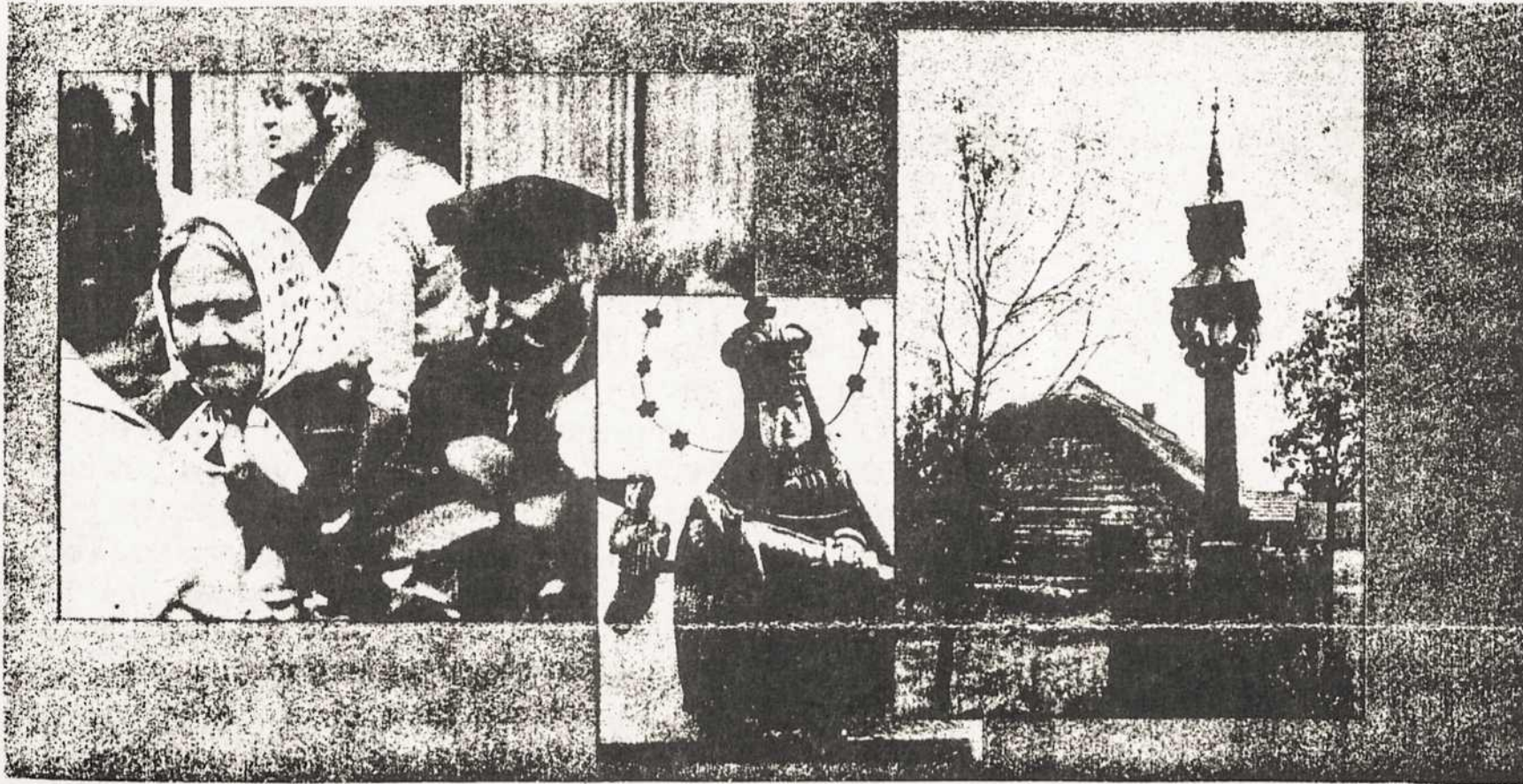
This month of May boasted a number of special anniversaries: Congratulations to Canon Vaclovas Zakarauskas on being ordained 55

years ago; our Pastor of Nativity Church, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, 45 years ago; Rev. Vito Mikolaitis, 43 years ago. Members Val and Joe Stanaitis celebrated 40 years of wedded bliss on May 4; our President Paul Binkis and his Susan celebrated one whole year of marriage this month.

Welcome to the following new members: Rev. Arnold Dennerelin, Pastor of St. Anthony's Church in Frankfort, IL; Virginia and Petr Palis and Aldona Janulis.

ARDEE

NEW BOOK ABOUT LITHUANIA



LITHUANIA—THROUGH THE WALL

Photographs and notes by Algimantas Kezys.
Published by Loyola University Press, Chicago.
Paper 120 pp. \$15.95.

Priest-photographer Algimantas Kezys recently made a ten day visit to his native Lithuania, which he had not seen since he left in 1944. *Lithuania—Through the Wall* is a poignant, revealing, and nostalgic photo-diary with extensive personal reflections on the "quality of life" in present day Lithuania.

The book can be ordered by mail. Send check or money order to:

Algimantas Kezys, 226 W. Superior St., Chicago, IL 60610

Please send me _____ copies of *Lithuania—Through the Wall* at \$15.95 ea, plus shipping (\$1.50 per book); Illinois residents add 8% sales tax.

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5112 S. Mayfield
Chicago, IL 60638

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C-133 — LOS ANGELES



In the absence of our President Julius Kiskis who was vacationing in Australia, Robert Novak, Vice President, presided at the April meeting. This time we were guests of Arūnas Barkus in his spacious home.

Our efforts for the issuance of Darius-Girėnas postal stamp again were negative. The new Post Master General Albert V. Cassey had the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee make the decision which was the same dismal answer as before — NO. Only Congressman Carlos Moorehead acknowledged our letter on OSI activities. He made no commitments.

Officers elected were Arūnas Barkus, president; Robert Novak, 1st vice president for cultural affairs; Bernice Skirius, 2nd vice president for membership; Maryte Sepkas, secretary; Leo Oksas, treasurer;

Anthony Skirius, financial secretary; Edward Bartkus, Ann Laurinaitis and Ann Barkauskas, trustees.

Guest speaker was the Los Angeles born Frank Lubin, the coach of Lithuanian basketball team which won the European basketball championship in 1939. He started in sports while in high school. He then played basketball with Pasadena Majors, Olympic Club, Universal Pictures, 20th Century Fox and Wickland O'Neil. In 1936 Frank was captain of the US basketball team that won the Gold Medal at the Berlin Olympics. In 1938, Lubin and his US Lithuanian basketball team were victorious in the Lithuanian National Olympiad. During the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984, Lubin as a member of the Spirit Team spoke to various organizations and schools to promote the ideals of the Olympics.

Frank Lubin is married to Mary Agnes, an American of Irish descent. She learned to speak Lithuanian during their visits in Lithuania. Since about three-fourths of our council members are American born, a lecture about Lithuanian symbols and emblems seemed appropriate.

Robert Novak showed and explained the following: The Lithuanian flag of yellow symbolizing fruits of life; green, life and red, the blood shed in protection of the fatherland, was adopted in 1918. Those colors were also used in woven fabrics. In the 15th century the Knight and Gediminas Columns on a red background was the flag.



The state flower was rūta, a sturdy plant with little yellow flowers. Songs were written and rūta was used in Lithuanian ceremonial weddings.

The Gediminas Columns, depicting gates to a city, were used on coins, shields and seals in the 13th century.

Mention was made of the double cross used on shields and military medals.

To me, the sculpture of "Vargo Mokykla" was always touching. Here is a mother teaching her child to read while working at her spinning wheel. The dog at her feet was their guard to warn them of the approaching Russian gendarmes. Instantly, the books were hidden. If found, they were punished by exile as a criminal in possession of Lithuanian print. Under these difficult circumstances, Lithuanians managed to be 58 percent literate while their imposed rulers were 34 percent literate.

The Madonna of the Gates of Dawn in Vilnius, the sign of live religion, Catholicism, is visited even today by pilgrims.

Candidates for K of L membership were introduced: Edward Antanaitis, his son Paul and John Skirius, Ph.D., professor at UCLA. They were welcomed by enthusiastic applause.

Before and after the meeting, members and guests were treated with a hearty meal, refreshments and comradeship.

B. Skirius