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the KNIGHT



VOL. 73; NO. 1

JANUARY • SAUSIS



Vaidila. Stančikaitės pav.

PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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VYTIS

VYTIS is published monthly Oct. thru May, by-monthly July-August and Sept-Oct. by the **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**. Second class postage paid at Chicago, IL. Subscription \$10.00 per year. All correspondence should reach the Editors by the **FIRST of THE MONTH** - two months in advance of issue. The Editors assume no obligation to return any material or photos not solicited.

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Grand Duke Jogaila

The Grand Duchy of Lithuania at the time of Jogaila's ascension to the grand ducal throne was the largest state in Eastern Europe. It doubled in size as a result of Grand Duke Algirdas' successful dynastic diplomacy and wars.

The Lithuanian dukes ruling in Polotsk, Minsk, Chernigov, Kiev, Podolia, Volhynia had accepted the Greek Orthodox faith and had married Ruthenian princesses to cement dynastic ties. The other vassal Ruthenian dukes had married the daughters of Algirdas. When Jogaila assumed the mitre of grand duke, some of his older brothers, Andrew and Dimitri in particular, resented the fact and rebelled against his authority.

The rebellions of his older brothers and cousin Vytautas on the one hand, and growing menace of the Teutonic Knights on the other, prompted Jogaila to seek the hand of Queen Jadwiga of Poland in order to form a stronger political base for his power.

The Lithuanian geographer Prof. Kazys Pakštas estimated that the population of the Lithuanian Grand Duchy in 1377 amounted to 1,400,000 of whom 420,000 were Lithuanians (30%).

LITHUANIA 1387:

LITHUANIA

LAND AND PEOPLE

Algirdas Budreckis

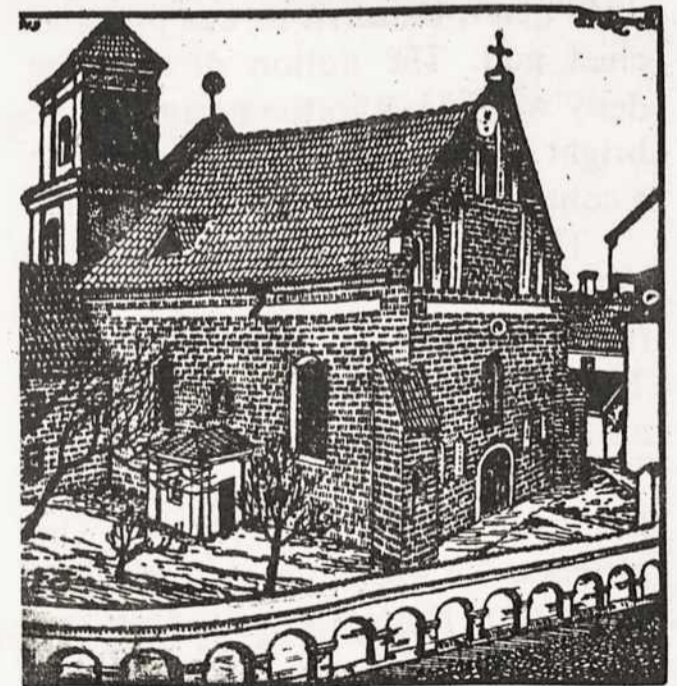


*Grand Duchy of Lithuania,
14th century*

The Ruthenians (Ukrainians), Byelorussians and Great Russians of course were Christians of the Greek Orthodox confession. Actually, Russian Orthodox subjects were part of the Lithuanian state since Mindaugas' father Rimgaudas seized Polotsk and Minsk in the early 1200's. Mindaugas's oldest son Vaišvilkas was an Orthodox monk, later turned warrior king. Though remaining pagans, Gediminas and Algirdas had married Russian Orthodox princesses. Algirdas even erected an Orthodox church for his second wife Juliana (Jogaila's mother) in Vilnius. Orthodox monks served as scribes and chroniclers in the chancelleries of Vilnius and Trakai.

Catholics were no strangers in Lithuania. King Mindaugas and 600 Lithuanian boyars became Roman Catholic in 1251. Grand Duke Gediminas had Franciscan and Dominican monks in his chancellory in Vilnius since 1320. There were several Catholic churches in Vilnius, Gardinas and Naugardukas. Gediminas, Kęstutis, and Algirdas invited Catholic artisans, knights, merchants and clergy to settle in Lithuania. Fra Piero of Candia, who was elected Pope Alexander V in

1409, lived in Vilnius between 1370 and 1375; he knew Algirdas and his son Jogaila personally. Jogaila's henchman Henike, who engineered Kęstutis' overthrow, was a German Livonian merchant. The vast majori-



*St. Nicholas Church
Vilnius*

ty of Catholics in Lithuania were German and Polish settlers.

But what of the ethnic Lithuanians. The Highlanders (Aukštaičiai), Samogitians (Žemaičiai), Sudovians, Dzukians, Yatvygians, Selonians? In fact, there were two Lithuanias: the multinational, predominately Orthodox Grand Duchy, and "Lithuania Propria" (ethnic Lithuania).

Historians use the Latin phrase "Lithuania Propria" (Lithuania Proper) when they refer to the purely Lithuanian ethnographic areas. These lands formed the nucleus of the Lithuanian nation and state and were comprised of what in the 19th century was known as the Russian imperial provinces of Vilnius, Kaunas, Suvalkai, Gardinas, Minsk (western part), and Naugardukas. The Berezina (Beržūnė) River in modern Byelorussia formed its eastern limit, and the Narew River in present Poland its southern limit.

The overwhelming majority of inhabitants were pagan Lithuanians. Like their subjected kinsmen the Latvians and Old Prussians, the Lithuanians had preserved conservative elements of the ancient Indo-European religion. Like the Proto-Indo-Europeans the Lithuanians still believed in "Dangaus Tėvas" — Father of Heaven (Indo-European *dyeu-peter*, Sanskrit *Dyaus pitar*) as chief god. The notion of supreme deity was linked to the notion of the bright sky. *Dievas* or *Deivas* might be a contraction of *D(angaus) + (T)ėvas*.

The two poles of the Baltic religion were the Heavens (masculine) and Earth (feminine). These cosmic configurations were animated, healthy, alive, dynamic. This was the ultimate good, for the Baltic religion was a life religion. The ultimate evil was motionless, nonlife, stagnation. Since all that is alive and vibrant is good and in turn godly, the Lithuanian pagan religion could be considered pantheistic.

Two other aspects of the religion were animatism and animism. The doctrine of animatism held that certain cosmic forces were deities. Thus, among the heavenly deities were *Perkūnas* (Thunder), *Saulė* (Sun), *Mėnulis* (the Moon), *Aušrinė* and *Vakarinė* (Morning and/or Evening Star), *Saulė's* and *Mėnulis's* daughters — *Žvaigždutės* (The Stars). The chief earth deities were *Žemynėlė* (Mother Earth), *Bangputys* (Poseidon), *Laima* (Fortune).

The doctrine of animism believed that spiritual forces controlled nature. Its chief deities were *Medeinė* (goddess of the hunt and animals), *Javinė* (Ceres), *Žvorūna* (Animal goddess), *Lauksargis* and *Laukpatis* (field deities), *Miškinis* (Forest god), etc.

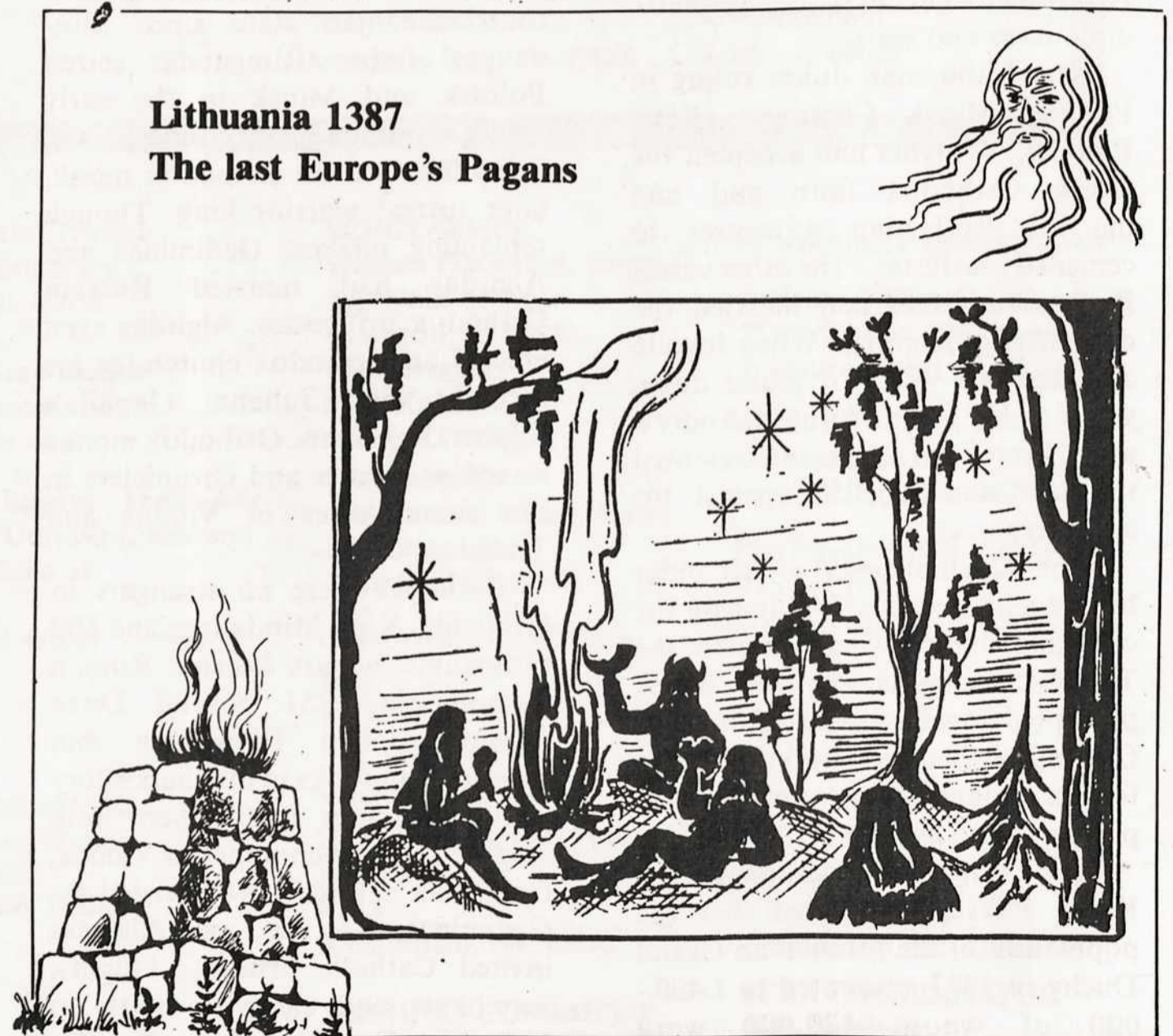
Another aspect of the Lithuanian religion was the belief in the hereafter. Paradise was *Dausos*, a warm, ethereal realm in the skies,

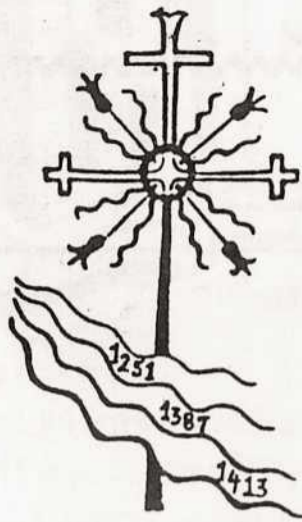
whither flew the souls along the Milky Way (*Paukščių takas*). To speed them on their way heavenward, the bodies of the deceased would be cremated on pyres to release their souls upward. The Lithuanians also believed in reincarnation of those souls who had not merited *Dausos*.

Like many other pagans, the Lithuanians tolerated other religions and beliefs. They conceded that other peoples had distinct gods and beliefs. This tolerant view was succinctly expressed by Gediminas in his 1324 letter to the papal legate:

"I declare that, in truth, I permit the Christians to worship this God according to their customs, the Russians according to their rite, the Poles according to their customs, and we worship God according to our rituals. We will have One God!"

These were the pagan Lithuanians, the last in Europe, who were to be christianized in 1387.





LITHUANIAN CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE RELIGIOUS RENEWAL PROGRAMS

CHRISTIANITY IS MAN'S JOURNEY TO GOD
WITH GOD IN ONE'S HEART
IN EVERY TASK AND CREATIVE MOMENT



We are fast approaching the climax of Lithuania's Christianity Jubilee celebration. Almost every Lithuanian community is planning a form of celebration, either singularly, or in conjunction with other community organizations.

It is very important when planning such activities to keep in mind the most important goal of this celebration - a deeper faith commitment.

We have a moral responsibility to try to increase our commitment to fully "live our faith". During the Christmas season we were blessed with the coming of the Christ child. We must use the gifts the Christ Child brought us to prepare for the renewal of our baptismal vows. Take a few moments to seriously reflect on how well you display your commitment to your faith in your daily activities.

Many dioceses and parishes have instituted adult religious programs as help their parishioners better realize their commitments as Christians, to show them how to "live their faith". Faith weekends have taken place in Winnipeg, Toronto, and Rochester. In Detroit and Chicago, youth retreats were held. A monthly gathering is held in Brockton and Lemont. How is your community preparing?

We urge all communities to form as part of your Jubilee commemoration a group to provide for religious renewal programs. If your community expresses hesitation, this is not surprising. In many communities people felt this way, but once having participated in a sharing of faith with others, they felt a type of joy, and a better understanding of their Christian faith. Become one of the joyful!

SOMEONE HAS TO BE THE FIRST TO LISTEN TO GOD
WHEN OTHERS BECOME BLIND OR DEAF
SOMEONE HAS TO BE FIRST TO SPEAK
WHEN OTHERS ARE AFRAID AND SILENT
SOMEONE HAS TO ARISE FROM THE DECAY
WHEN OTHERS AVOID SO DOING AND LANGUISH
SOMEONE HAS TO BE THE FIRST TO EMBRACE THE
SWIRLING WAVES, WHEN OTHERS LACK COURAGE
PERHAPS THE LORD HIMSELF WILL ASK ONCE AGAIN
WAITING FOR A PUBLIC RESPONSE:

"DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN OTHERS?"

GOD IS OUR REFUGE



AND OUR HELP!

JUBILEE MATERIALS AVAILABLE

RELIGIOUS RENEWAL PROGRAM

ICC - RT. 21
PUTNAM, CT 06260

NEW: A slide presentation of the Christian history of Lithuania (in both languages) has been prepared. The aim of this program is to present the religious history of our country. To use the slide presentation just contact this committee.

Jubilee Prayer Card: FREE

Suggested Religious Renewal Seminar Program (Outline of 6 topics) \$4.00

Spiral Bound Religious/Coloring Book (in Lithuanian) for children 6-9 years old \$3.00

Poster of the Jubilee Motto:
(God Is Our Refuge and Our Help)
DONATION

JUBILEE COMMITTEE

5620 SO. CLAREMONT
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Booklet of the suggested hymns to be used during the Liturgy for the Jubilee ceremonies. \$1.00

"Pasikalbėm, Dieve"
(Prayers for youth) \$2.00

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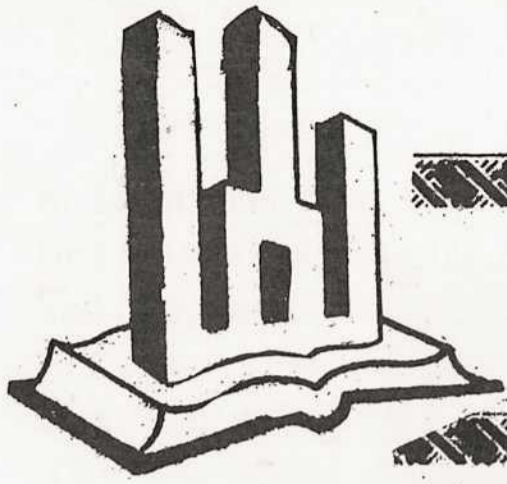
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KAIP ŠVĘSTI VASARIO 16-TĄ HOW TO CELEBRATE FEBRUARY 16

Vasario 16-toji, Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės atstatymo minėjimo šventė, turėtų būti taip pravesta, kad per visus metus žmonėse ji paliktų malonus ir gražus prisiminimus. Turime ateiti į bažnyčią ir į salę šventiškai nusiteikę ir šventiškai apsirengę. Moterys, kurios turi, su tautiniais rūbais, vyrai su su lietuvišku raštu kaklaraisčiais.

Bažnyčia turėtų būti papuošta žydinčiomis gėlėmis (ne plastikinėmis) į bažnyčią ateiti su vėliavomis. Dauguma organizacijų turi savo gražias vėliavas. Chorai turėtų, bent keletą lietuviškų giesmių pagiedoti. Bažnyčioje pamokslas turėtų būti neilgas, tai dienai pritaikintas, žadinantis visų viltis ir pasiryžima kovoti dėl atstatymo nepriklausomybės ir ištikimybės tautai.

Salėje, šventės programa negali būti ilga. Paskaita ne ilgiau, kaip 30 min., meninė dalis, jei idomi, gali užsitęsti 30-35 min. Pristatant sveikintojus griežtai laikytis trafareto: Kas sveikina ir kokios valstybės ar organizacijos vardu.

Paskaita turi būti ne tik gerai paruošta, bet ir visiems lietuviams suprantama, šviesaus, malonaus atspalvio, kad klausytojai šventiškai nusiteiktų. Kalbėtojas turi taip kalbėti, kad visi girdėtų ir suprastų. Paskaita yra visos šventės pagrindas, jos turinys turi būti labai kruopščiai parinktas ir kalbėti apie tokius dalykus, kurie sužadintų norą aukotis Lietuvos atkūrimo nepriklausomybei. Laike paskaitos ir meninės dalies išpildymo, publika turi laikytis rimtai, nesikalbėti, nevaikščioti, nerūkyti. Tie visi

veiksmai labai trukdo paskaitininką, programos atlikėjus ir erzina klausytojus. Yra sunku kalbėti, šokėjams šokti ar solistams dainuoti; kai dūmai gerklę, akis ir nosį griaužia, tada norisi, kosėti, akis trinti, čiaudyti ir ašaroti. Kai salėje daugumas tą daro, tai gaunamas nepageidaujamas ir tai dienai nereikalingas "koncertas". Jei tėvai atsiveda mažus ir jaunos vaikus. ju pareiga žiūrėti, kad vaikučiai, nebėgiotų, nežaistų, netriukšmautų ir netrukdytų minėjimo.

Lietuvos kokią mes minime Vasario 16-ją nebėra. Dabar Lietuva yra tik lietuvių teritorija su joje gyvenančiais lietuvių tautos žmonėmis, bet nėra jokios Lietuvos valstybės. Tikra Lietuvos valstybė bus tik tada kai bus vėl paskelbta tokia nepriklausomybė, kokia buvo paskelbta Lietuvos Tarybos 1918 m. vasario 16 d. kitaip sakant, kada Lietuva turės savo pinigus, savo lietuviškus pašto ženklus, laisvą vidaus ir užsienio politiką laisvai nuo nieko nepriklausomai, tvarkomą savo ūkį ir prekybą. Kada iš visų gatvių ir nuo visu lietuviškų pastatų išnyks rusiski ženklai ir užrasai ir kada iš mūsų krašto išsinesdins visi atėjunai. Tai pasiekti reikalinga aukų. Aukų rinkimas turi būti gerai organizuotas. Reikėtų padaryti 10-15 min. pertrauką per kurią tautiškais rūbais pasipuošusios moterys ar uniformuotos skautės rinktų aukas Tautos Fondui, Altai. Prieš rinkimą aukų turi būti pranešta, kad Tautos Fondan įena Lietuvos laisvei, izdas ir Apsaugos Fondas, kurio tikslas pavergtoje Lietuvoje kilus sumišimui, padėti apginti atstatomą nepriklausomybę ir tautos laisvę.

LITHUANIAN FREEDOM DEMONSTRATION TOUR



Lithuanian Freedom Demonstration St. Stephen's Square, Vienna

**VIENNA AND LONDON:
NOVEMBER 1986**

By Victor Mathieu

THE LITHUANIAN FREEDOM DEMONSTRATION TOUR ORGANIZED BY DR. JACK STUKAS LEFT FOR EUROPE ON NOVEMBER 1, 1986 WITH THREE MEMBERS OF THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA: DR. JACK STUKAS, C-29, NEWARK; ANDREW ROZDER (ROGER), C-19, PITTSBURG; AND A. BEATRICE MATHIEU, C-103, PROVIDENCE. BEATRICE MATHIEU WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HER HUSBAND, VICTOR MATHIEU. THEY WERE SO IMPRESSED WITH THE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THEY PARTICIPATED AND WITNESSED THAT THEY WISHED TO RELATE TO ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE K OF L WHAT TRANSPIRED.

Vienna, November 4:

Lithuanians have arrived in Vienna for the Lithuanian Freedom Demonstration. They include 86 from the United States, a number 1 of Canadians, and a person from Venezuela.

Today, the weather is sunny, but quite windy and cold.

We departed from the Hotel Hungaria early Tuesday morning.

The bus dropped our group of freedom demonstrators off next to the Vienna Opera House, near a large Mall. The Mall extended over a mile long and ended to St. Stephen's Cathedral Square. Along both sides of the Mall were shops and offices.

It is 10 a. m. The Lithuanians are the first of three Baltic nations to assemble. We are assembled at the beginning of the line of march, the Vienna Opera House. Most of the delegation are "golden agers". There are perhaps a dozen under 30 years of age. Most women are dressed in national costumes. We are armed with hundreds of small Lithuanian flags, approximately 25 to 30 official

size Lithuanian and Canadian flags, signs, balloons and banners. A hardware store owner in Vienna had been convinced to loan us poles to attach our flags to. The tri-color boldly accented this Vienna mall.

Shortly the Latvians arrive. They have walked from the end of march, St. Stephen's Cathedral. The majority of the Latvians are youth, eloquently dressed in native costumes. They too are well armed with flags, signs, and banners. The sight is unbelievable. People everywhere.

And yet arrives another contingent — the Estonians. They number less than the Latvians and more than Lithuanians. Many of them are also young. Dressed in national costume and armed with their national flags they join this evergrowing spectacle.

Suddenly a roar goes out from the crowd. The final division — the Lithuanian youth, students from Vasario 16, have arrived. They came to Vienna in full regalia. Roars of welcome, cheers and tears are mixed with kisses and hugs. Boys and girls

in Lithuanian dress unfurl banners that have messages to the Austrians and to the world, to see and to read, in English, Lithuanian and German. One youth unfurls an American flag. Two were carried in the march. The Lithuanians are now the largest and most vociferous group. Our "charge" is led by Dr. Paul V. Dargis, M. D., from Westchester, Illinois. Dr. Stukas, carrying one of the American flags, is sent to the head of the march to join the other national colors. Other members of the Supreme Committee for the Freedom on Lithuania, traveling from the United States, join him. Spectators are stunned. We are making our presence known.

The march is about to start. Then, Dr. Stukas brings out a large banner bearing a white knight on a horse, on a red background. It is the Vytis — Lithuania's national symbol. Everyone expressed their admiration for this grand symbol. Its magnificence is enhanced in that it is the only one in the whole line of march. It is decided by the Supreme Committee that the Vytis banner will lead the Lithuanian delegation. Assigned to carry it are Knight of Lithuania Andrew Rozder (Roger), C-19 Pittsburgh, and Mrs. Angela K. Nelsas, from California, President of the Western Region of the Lithuanian American Community. Flanking them on the right is Lady Knight of Lithuania, Beatrice Mathieu, of C-103, Providence. She is also distributing Lithuanian flags to the throng along the line of march. I am on the right, carrying my now famous banner of C-103, Providence, RI. This yellow banner, with its knight on a red background, encircled by green rūta and bold message-knights



Beatrice Mathieu, C-103, Andrew Rozder, C-19, Angela Nelsas, Lithuanian-American Community, Western Region, President; Victor Mathieu, C-103 lead Freedom Demonstration with VYTIS

of Lithuania, Providence, C-103 gains even more fame by taking part in this historical march.

Directly behind us are the officials responsible for the Lithuanian delegation. They are from the United States, England and various other parts of Europe. In their midst is the hard working and most affable Fr. Juozas Prunskis.

Cameramen with their TV equipment are flocking around us. CBS, noticing Providence, interviews us. Dr. Stukas and others are called to give official interviews. The delegation comes to full attention. Liūtas Grinius is trying to cover all with his camera. Father Justinas Vaišvilas, representing Bishop Deksnys, is bursting with pride. He is in charge of the Ecumenical Service that is to follow the march. It will be held in St. Stephen's Cathedral.

The march starts. People are everywhere. The storefronts are filled with humanity. From the tall buildings we see people waving, cheering. Lithuanian flags are being waved by everyone. We wave our flags proudly, thanking the Lord for

our voices that need no amplification. We shout the whole length of march, "Ein, Zwei, Drei. . . Litauen Wir Frei"; "One, Two, Three. . . Lithuania Will Be Free".

We are bursting with pride, every few hundred yards are TV cameramen and dozens of photographers halting our march so as to take pictures. They are perched on step ladders, hanging off utility poles. . . Never have they witnessed such an event.

There are over 1000 participants in the line of march. We are froze. A biting wind bellows down the Mall. The youth, dressed only in costume, are very cold. The walk is long. But we pass the word amongst us that this walk is short, it is warm in comparison to those who have taken the long walk to Siberia, and those who froze to death along that long walk. There are no more complaints.

We reach the square before the Cathedral. We stop and form a very large circle. Speeches are proclaimed. Vasario 16 students perform traditional Lithuanian dances; the Latvians follow.



Victor and Beatrice Mathieu, C-103, Dr. Jack Stukas and Andrew Rodzer proclaim Lithuania's right to be free

Then we proceed into the Cathedral. The service will be in German, Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and English. The organ music, the singing are spectacular. Then our prayers conclude. After leaving the Cathedral, the Lithuanian National Anthem is sung in the square. It is led by Fr. Vaišvilas. Tearfully we bid adieu to our youth — the students from Vasario 16.

After a beautiful flight from Vienna and an afternoon of sightseeing in the "City of London", we arrive at „Lietuvių Namuose" for an evening's reception. The hospitality at the Lithuanian House was excellent. Ideas were exchanged and plans were made for the business sessions to be held at the Hotel Russell the next day.

London, November 8:

VLIKO SEIMAS 1986 — this was the banner displayed behind the presidium when we entered the conference room Saturday morning. To identify ourselves to the participants, I placed the K of L banner from C-103 on the table behind the lectern so that all could see.

VLIKO is a pseudonym for „Vyriausias Lietuvos Išlaisvinimo Komitetas" In English, it indicates Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania. The program listed 15 participating organizations. In actuality there were more likely 20. Catholic and non-Catholics; believers and non-believers. Everyone wished to express their positions. The agenda was loaded. The Convention started shortly after official registration, about 9:40. The meeting was conducted in Lithuanian, to accommodate the Lithuanian participants who have travelled from multiple nations.

During the beginning session the President of VLIKO, Dr. Kazys Bobelis, presented his report. The rapport which he demonstrated while doing this, gave me the opinion that he is the uniting force of this many faceted, and somewhat splintered, group of people. All wish the best for Lithuania, but all go in various directions. Dr. Bobelis is the motivating factor; he seems to keep them all together, which is no small task.

At 11 AM the meeting stopped for a coffee break. During that time I was able to renew my acquaintance with Bishop Deksnys.



Victor Mathieu greets K of L Friend of Lithuania, Rev. Michael Bourdeaux

During the entire convention period, there was but one English-language speaker. He was introduced at 12 Noon — Rev. Michael Bourdeaux. In 1980, at the K of L National Convention in Boston, he was presented the Rev. John J. Jutt "Friend of Lithuania" Award.

Rev. Bourdeaux reported to the VLIKO Seimas his findings regarding the religious scene in Eastern Europe. He maintains a pessimistic view of the future of religious freedom for any faith behind the Iron Curtain. With his wife, Lorna, he has recently published a new book. It will be available in January, 1987. It is entitled "Ten Growing Soviet Churches". After his report, I took the opportunity to renew my acquaintance with him and now have an autographed copy of his new book. Lithuania is discussed throughout the book, however, there is one special chapter, #8, which is entitled "Lithuanian Catholics: Stronghold Under Siege". Keston College, which Rev. Bourdeaux heads, is very unique in the English-speaking world in its position as a centre for the study of religion under communism.

At 1 PM the convention broke for lunch. Prior to the opening of the afternoon session, Dr. Jack Stukas

presented to Bishop Deksnys, on behalf of the Knights of Lithuania, the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee Medallion.

The afternoon session was lengthy. It never halted until after 8 PM. It would resume again after Holy Mass on Sunday morning and the luncheon banquet following.

Sunday, November 9:

We were transported by bus to the only and first Lithuanian church in London. It is located in a very old section of the city. Appropriately the church is called St. Casimir's. This year it is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Rev. J. Sakevičius, MIC is its pastor. The church is very small, somewhat the size of what one might term a chapel.

At the street level entrance we were greeted by a kindly gentleman dressed in a cassock and surplice. He serves as both sexton and acolyte. His massive hands squeezed the hands of each person entering. It was very touching. One could see that man viewed today as an extra special day. He worried that the church would be able to seat everyone. There were only two aisles. Parishioners had been asked to sit on the wall sides of the church. The pastor told them this would be their only opportunity to see a Bishop and Lithuanians that had made their way from the United States. For myself, this was the most memorable event of the whole trip.

The church building was supported by 4 columns; two on each side. The left front pillar depicted the Lord crucified, and at his feet, St. Francis looking up to him, surrounded by doves on his shoulders. The same scene was depicted on the right side, but with St. Anthony looking up to the Lord. Everything in this small church was made of wood. No plaster, no marble, no stone statues. Christ crucified on a massive cross hung on the left side of the rounded,



Victor and Beatrice Mathieu, Bishop Deksnys, Andrew Rodzer, Dr. Jack Stukas and Antanas Godonis of Florida

newly painted ceiling. There was no altar of sacrifice, only the traditional main altar, designed that the celebrant does not face you. Directly behind the main altar was a wooden mural, with carved and painted figures of God the Father and His Son. Below them was the Blessed Mother, surrounded by Angels and Saints. It was most impressive. My words cannot describe its magnificence, it must be seen to be appreciated. At the front right of the church, again in wood, was a 7-foot statute of St. Casimir. Opposite, on the left side, above a door leading to a small reception area, was a painting of Rūpintojėlis. Many visitors photographed it in order that they would surely never forget it.

Mass was celebrated by Bishop Deksnys, assisted by Fr. Prunskis and another young American Lithuanian priest, who teaches in London. The choir loft was crowded. The choir members had practiced long and hard for this Mass. The hymns and prayers made you think of home.

After Mass, we were served a "treat" to preserve us for our two-hour trip to the Lithuanian Estate „Sodyba”. Pastor Sakevičius had prepared some tea with a dash of rum and a slice of lemon.

Lietuvių Sodyboje:

The reknowned Lithuanian Estate „Sodyba” is on a parcel of land 56 acres in size. It is located in the English countryside, where the Lithuanian members come to fish,

hunt and relax in many ways. The main structure of „Sodyba” is very imposing. It is at least 4 stories high. To the left of the building is a very impressive Lithuanian Wayside Cross.

When the bus arrived on the property, cries of „Grybai, Grybai. . . Mushrooms, Mushrooms” could be heard. That feelings of warmth, hospitality, and being truly welcome were as evident here as they had been when we stopped at the Lithuanian House on Friday evening. A sumptuous feast was served.

After the banquet the final resolutions of the VLIKO Seimas were acted upon.

Then fond farewells were exchanged. First, from the Londoners, and finally, from Dr. Kazys Bobelis. Each delegation from individual U. S. cities were introduced, and asked to take a bow. Rousing and tumultuous cheering followed the introduction of the gentleman from Venezuela. The groups from Canada and Germany were recognized. And last, but not least, the representative from Australia.

As we left to board our buses for the return trip to our hotel in London, we found the Lithuanian-Londoners in the foyer. The group stood headed by Bishop Deksnys. He asked us to come to Rome next June. Our group spilled outside where it was raining. midst the raindrops we exchanged „sudiev s” and „iki pasimatymo s”.

VATICAN DELEGATE TO VIENNA CONFERENCE PROTESTS RELIGIOUS OPPRESSION

At the Vienna conference, Fr. Juozas Prunskis was an observer. He had been given a letter of recommendation by the "Chicago Catholic", his credentials were recognized, and he enjoyed the same rights as almost one thousand other media correspondents.

Fr. Prunskis reported:

The Vatican is among the Helsinki Agreement signatories. The leader of the Vatican delegation was Archbishop Achille Silvestrini. He serves as Secretary of the Council for the Public Affairs of the Church of the Holy See. On the opening day of the conference, he delivered a speech and reminded the Conference members about the anxiety felt by contemporary man — haunted by the spectre of war and nuclear holocaust. The Conference, he stressed, could be an appropriate remedy to confront the problems of security, disarmament, scientific and economic cooperation, information, the rights of men, freedom of conscience and beliefs, and other humanitarian questions. Archbishop Silvestrini expressed the confidence which the Holy See continues to place in the process inaugurated at Helsinki in 1975. Through the work of the Conference it is hoped that the problems that plague mankind today — militarism, terrorism, political tension, violation of human rights — might be diminished.

Archbishop Silvestrini encouraged the delegates of the 35 nations, who signed the Helsinki Agreement, to devote themselves with sincerity and tenacity to dialogue and negotiation. In conclusion, the Archbishop stated: "We cannot remain silent to the painful situation which has lasted for forty years without cease. I am referring to

religious communities deprived of any legal existence. . . The pacific and constructive energies which would be generated by the cessation of all restrictions on the exercise of religious freedom would be a powerful factor of mutual confidence among the peoples and of pacification and cooperation to the benefit of all countries, Europe and the entire world".

DELEGATES TO HELSINKI ACCORDS REVIEW CONFERENCE TOLD OF SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN LITHUANIA

A memorandum addressed to the signatories of Helsinki Final Act was distributed to the delegates attending the CSCE review conference in Vienna from November 4-23.

The memorandum was drafted by the Lithuanian World Community on behalf of the people of Lithuania who lack the freedom to represent themselves at international forums, without Soviet interference. It listed the basic concerns of Soviet-occupied Lithuanians:

1. Soviet occupation
 2. Colonization and cultural genocide
 3. Human rights violations
 - a. Religious persecution
 - b. Suppression of the right to freedom of expression
 4. Restriction of human contacts
- The memorandum further detailed incidents of Soviet abuse in these areas.

In light of these issues, the Lithuanian world Community recommended that the various delegations:

1. Condemn the illegal occupation of Lithuania by the Soviet Union, and urge the restitution of sovereign national rights for Lithuania.
2. Demand the cessation of colonial practices for Lithuania, especially cultural oppression and linguistic Russification.
3. Urge the elimination of restrictions and social pressures against believers in Lithuania.

Archbishop Silvestrini remarked that His Holiness Pope John Paul II had entrusted him to transmit to the Assembly his prayerful wishes for the success of their work. His Holiness views the conference as a source of encouragement for us to continue our task in the service of the peoples of Europe and of the world.

4. Ask the Soviets to stop repressive measures against those who do nothing other than "receive and impart information".
5. Appeal for greater movement on the free exchange of ideas, meetings and publications across East-West frontiers, and the revocation of Soviet decrees restricting their citizens contacts with foreigners.
6. Give special attention to the Lithuanian Helsinki Group and other unofficial monitoring groups, who tie their activities directly to the Helsinki Final Act and other international agreements, and demand the immediate release of those who are imprisoned or exiled.
7. Stress that Soviet performance in the field of human rights is inextricably linked to all aspects of improved bilateral and multilateral relations.

U. S. DELEGATION IN VIENNA NOTES ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN HELSINKI GROUP

In Vienna, on November 9, Congressman Steny Hoyer, (Md) drew attention to the fate of the Lithuanian Helsinki Group and also to the important role it plays in defending the interests of the Lithuanian people and the Catholic Church.

On November 10, other members of the U. S. delegation along with Congressman Hoyer, attended a press conference given jointly by Lithuanian and Ukrainian delegations in Vienna.



ANNOUNCING

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



Our organization, THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA, will resume the National Membership Drive again on the same basis as last year's drive. The information concerning the start of the drive is a little late, however, it is never too late to seek new members into our organization. We should not have to wait until a drive is put on. Nevertheless, the drive will run from January 1, 1987 through June 30, 1987.

The rules and the awards are as follows:

AWARDS

COUNCILS:

- Under 50 members
- 51 to 100 members
- Over 100 members

INDIVIDUALS:

- From Council with under 50 members
- From Council with 51 to 100 members
- From Council with over 100 members

Awards will be calculated from a point system as follows:

- Organizing a new council-----100 points
- Organizing a Junior Council-----100 points
- Reorganizing a Dormant Council-----100 points
- Recruiting a Regular or Associate Individual Members----- 10 points

BONUS POINTS

- If a new member is a youth, between 18-30 years of age-----20 points
- If a new Junior Member-----20 points

ADDITIONAL RULES

1. Only new members brought into the Council between January 1, 1987 and June 30, 1987 will count towards the drive.
2. Payment of one year's dues is required on new members.
3. New members will be classified as follows:
 - People joining the K. of L. for the first time.
 - Former members rejoining the K. of L.
 - Junior members advancing to Regular Members.
 (Note: Transfers from other Councils do not count)
4. Records of the Supreme Council Financial Secretary will be used in determining the winners.
5. Special circumstances may arise during the drive. They will be judged on an individual basis.

LET'S ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES, FIND AND SIGN UP THOSE MEMBERS WHO ARE WAITING TO BE ASKED TO JOIN OUR FINE ORGANIZATION. GOOD LUCK!!!!

FRANK J. PETERSON
2nd Vice President - Membership



**VYTIS - MEMBERSHIP
ESSAY CONTEST
Honorable Mention**

SABINA KLATT

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

Sabina Klatt

How important to you is the Knights of Lithuania organization? Important enough to want it to grow and grow? Important enough to help it continue and strive towards its goal in keeping alive and to keep our identity? Well don't just think of getting someone to join — love your Knights of Lithuania and show your love — open up to people asking them to join. Don't wait until the beginning of the year, say something right then and there. Take out your membership card and sign them up immediately.

"Love is what it's all about", are the words I would start out when I

talk with a prospective member. Love for Lithuania, culture, heritage, being with Lithuanians, practicing the faith of our forefathers, praying to our patron Saint — Saint Casimir for our persecuted Lithuanians. Our Knights of Lithuania club is like paving stones leading to the road to salvation as it is a club for practicing Catholic Lithuanians. We take pride in the history of our organization. We feel blessed from God when we share the good news and blessings of our club with our friends and loved ones.

Interest is shown when the prospective member is informed of the activities, whether it be religious or social. It is beautiful to get together once a month for a meeting to talk about the council doings and to help in planning and becoming a true member of the club.

There is St. Casimir's commemoration, when some go to different councils each year for Mass. It is fitting to pray to our Patron Saint and remember our deceased and living members. It is always nice to know that we will be remembered when we will be called by God.

We begin to get involved as we arouse our interest for "God and our Country" which is our motto. We must be enthused ourselves in order to get someone else interested in our club. Our whole history of the Knights of Lithuania is so unique. Also, we have had so many dedicated people with us.

We have the Vytis magazine that is sent out ten months of the year. There are so many informative articles, learning about our Lithuanian language, religious articles, Lithuanian in the News, stories of Lithuania and of course what is going on with the other councils, even Lithuanian cooking for the holidays. Not too many clubs have such a great magazine to their credit. We musn't forget that Vyciu Veikla which runs each week in the Draugas Lithuanian paper. People know we are alive when we are active and they read about our doings.

Lithuanians will never die if we stand tall and strong, work for the glory of God. We do this — being God's instruments. Let's be proud and love being a Knights of Lithuanian member.

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.

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

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

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

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

(Minimum — \$100.00)

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

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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

COUNCIL _____



KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE TOURS

JOIN US!

JUNE 25 - JULY 3, 1987.....7 NIGHTS IN ROME

TOTAL TOUR PRICE: \$1125. PER PERSON (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)
 \$ 185. PER SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
 \$ 23. PER PERSON (TAXES & SECURITY)

Departures from: Chicago: + \$80; Los Angeles: + \$193; Washington, DC: + \$69

TOUR INCLUDES:

- ...Round-trip air via PAN AM or TWA between NYC-Rome
- ...7-Nts Accomodations Cicerone Hotel
- ...Half-day City Tour of Rome
- ...Special Mass-St. John Lateran
- ...Concert/Cultural Exhibit
- ...Transfers to St. Peter's Basilica Papal Mass/Beatification Ceremony
- ...Transfers from Rome Airport/Hotel
- ...All room with private bath/shower
- ...Continental breakfast daily
- ...Open House-St. Casimir College
- ...Special audience with Pope
- ...Banquet-Castel S'Angelo
- ...Optional Tour Program-Visits to Naples,Capri,Sorrento,Mt Vesuvius

JUNE 25 - JULY 7, 1987....11 NIGHTS/12 DAYS...ROME,VIENNA,SALZBURG,MUNICH

TOTAL TOUR PRICE: \$1195. PER PERSON (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)
 \$ 300. PER SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
 \$ 23. PER PERSON (TAXES & SECURITY)

TOUR INCLUDES:

- ...Round trip air via PAN AM or TWA Between NYC-Rome; Munich-NYC
- ...4-Nts accomodations,Cicerone Hotel
- ...Transfers to St. Peter's Basilica Papal Mass, Beatification ceremony
- ...Special Mass-St. John Lateran
- ...Banquet/Reception-Castel D'Angelo ...Open House/St. Casimir's College...
- ...Air between Rome-Vienna via Austrian Airlines
- ...Half-day city tour of Vienna
- ...Opt. 1-day excursion-Yugoslavia
- ...2-Nts accomodations at Hotel Winkler, Salzburg
- ...Opt. 1-day tour-Innsbruck
- ...3-Nts accomodations, Atrium Hotel, Munich
- ...Farewell Dinner,Dancing at Munich's famous Hackerkeller...
- ...All transfers between airports; hotels via private motorcoach
- ...Half day city tour of Rome
- ...Archbishop Matulaitis Mass at at 12 Apostles Basilica
- ...Special Audience with Pope
- ...Concert/Cultural Exhibit
- ...2-Nts accomodations, Imperial Hotel, Vienna
- ...Dinner at Grinzing wine village
- ...Motorcoach transfer to Salzburg
- ...Half-day city tour of Salzburg
- ...Dinner, first evening, Salzburg
- ...Motorcoach transfer to Munich
- ...Half-day city tour of Munich
- ...Opt. tour program in Munich

BOTH TOURS INCLUDE

- ...Services of tour guide
- ...Local taxes and service charges on all included features...
- ...Baggage Handling/2 pcs per person

To make a reservation and receive the complete itinerary complete the coupon below, indicate which tour you wish to join, and return it along with a deposit of \$100.00 per person by FEBRUARY 1, 1987 to:

HOLIDAZE TOURS, 810 BELMAR PLAZA, BELMAR, NJ 07719

Further information regarding the program may be obtained from:
 DR. JACK J. STUKAS, 234 SUNLIT DRIVE, WATCHUNG, NJ 07060 (201) 753-5636

PLEASE RESERVE SPACE ON THE FOLLOWING KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CHRISTIANITY TOUR:
 7-NIGHT TOUR --- 11-NIGHT TOUR ---

NAME _____ TELEPHONE NO: _____
 ADDRESS _____ ROOMING WITH: _____
 _____ HOLIDAZE ARRANGE ROOMMATE _____

ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS REQUIRED: _____

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KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION REPORT

This is a report of the Knights of Lithuania Foundation since the 72nd National Convention held in New Haven, CT in August 1985.

Our present legal advisor is Saulys Kuprys, who was recommended by Alexander Domanskis, who replaced John Narusis who was seriously ill and recently died. Through their united efforts the Foundation was awarded 'tax-exempt' status by the Internal Revenue Service retroactive to the date of establishment of the Foundation. Tax exemption applies to all donations that have been made to the Foundation to date.

Since August 1985 to the present we have received the following donations to the Foundation:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|--|
| 1. | \$100.00 | Marcella Andrikus |
| 2. | \$5000.00 | Peter Kilder Fund through Dr. Jack Stukas |
| 3. | \$100.00 | Dr. Jack and Mrs. Loretta Stukas as a gift from Nancy Pawasauskas Miro |
| 4. | \$100.00 | William Marcilonis |
| 5. | \$155.00 | Chicago Lithuanian Circle |
| 6. | \$200.00 | Council 86, DuBois, PA |
| 7. | \$200.00 | Rev. Anthony Baltrashunas, So. Boston |
| 8. | \$300.00 | Rev. Joseph Prunskis, Chicago |
| 9. | \$12,500.00 | Ben Karklius, C-25, Cleveland |
| | <u>\$19,555.00</u> | |

The Alice Karklius Memorial Scholarship was established by Ben Karklius in memory of his late wife. Each year the interest of Mr. Karklius' investment will be presented to the Scholarship Committee who in turn will select one outstanding candidate/applicant for this special scholarship. That person will receive the entire proceeds of this special interest fund.

Mr. Karklius wants his donation to be a \$25,000 sum. He will add the other \$12,500 next year so that the scholarship will be further enriched. To officially kickoff this scholarship, Mr. Karklius has also donated, very generously, an additional \$2,000. This will be used as this year's first Alice Karklius Memorial Scholarship. I am sorry Mr. Karklius will not be able to attend this convention, however, we owe him a great debt of gratitude.

In order to maintain our tax-exempt status it is very important that most of the funds we receive be from the general public, that is, members and councils. It should not be just one individual. So because we had this one big donation, we need to offset it by a lot of smaller donations. We are counting on you for your help. We are encouraging all members and councils to take an example from those people and councils who have already donated to the Foundation. We also encourage you to remember the K of L Foundation in your will. Invest in the future of your organization. Invest in the K of L Foundation

IN MEMORY OF ALICE K. KARKLIUS



Alice Bikinas Karklius was born on May 18, 1919 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She had five brothers and one sister. Alice joined Council 19, Pittsburgh in 1949. She was an active member of that council until

she married Ben Karklius on May 31, 1958. After her marriage Alice moved to Cleveland. She transferred her membership to the Cleveland Seniors. In 1970 Alice and Ben both transferred from the Cleveland Seniors to Council 25.

Alice was a "court hearing assistant" and worked for the Social Security System for over 30 years. In 1976 she took early retirement. Alice also enjoyed "dabbling" in the stock market.

She was curious and inquisitive about life and people. Alice loved to travel. She took numerous cruises and also traveled extensively in Europe, the U. S., and Hawaii.

Alice possessed a strong interest in her Lithuanian heritage. She was a student in Lithuanian language classes offered by Dr. Danguole Tamulionas

Her love to dance and sing shone in her bubbly, happy go-lucky personality. She also sang in the Coir

of Our Lady of Perpetual Help for over 25 years.

Alice was always cooperative and willing to work. She served as a volunteer at OLPH School Library. She was active on numerous K of L committees and was Council 25's Financial and Recording Secretary for 7 years.

In 1976, Alice was presented with her 4th Degree at the National Convention held in Dayton, Ohio. She always was very proud of this honor.

On December 17, 1983 Alice died of cancer. In her memory, her husband, Ben Karklius, has donated \$25,000 to the Knights of Lithuania Foundation. This donation established the "ALICE KARKLIUS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND".

This fund serves as a living memorial to Alice. Through it, Alice's love and concern for her heritage will live on.

K of L



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FEBRUARY

8 Memories of Lithuanian Banquet
Chicago, IL

14: C-100 Annual Lithuanian
Independence Day Commemoration
St. Casimir's Church Hall
Amsterdam, NY

20-22 St. Petersburg, FL
International Folk Festival

MARCH:

C-152 Annual
Lithuanian Independence Day
and St. Casimir Commemoration
Communion and Brunch
St. John the Evangelist
Riverhead, NY
The Tolendoll Inn
Mattituch, NY

8 Mid-Atlantic District
St. Casimir's Communion
Luncheon-Meeting
Host: C-110, Maspeth

8 Mid-America District
Annual St. Casimir Day
Host: C-112 Chicago

18 C-29 Newark
Annual St. Casimir
Communion Breakfast

21 Supreme Council Meeting
Philadelphia, PA

APRIL

12 C-29 Newark Annual
Cake Sale for the benefit
of Holy Trinity Parish

18-19 MAD Annual Lithuanian
Festival-Maspeth, NY
Transfiguration Church

26 Council 144
10th Anniversary

MAY

3 C-96 Dayton, OH Pilgrimage
National Shrine of Our Lady
of Consolation

17-18 Connecticut Commemoration
600th Anniversary
Lithuania's Christianity
St. Joseph's Cathedral
Hartford, CT

22-24 Pittsburgh, PA
Folk Festival

JUNE

27 Lithuanian Day
Marquette Park, Chicago

28 600TH ANNIVERSARY
LITHUANIA'S CHRISTIANITY
Pontifical Mass
The Vatican-Rome
Vilnius, Lithuania

JULY

10-12 Lithuanian Days
Brighton Park, Chicago

12 Franciscan Fathers Picnic
Kennebunkport, Maine

26 Sisters of the Immaculate
Conception Picnic
Putnam, CT

 JULY 29 - AUGUST 2
 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
 74TH NATIONAL CONVENTION
 HOST: C-150, KANSAS CITY, KS

AUGUST

16 73rd Annual Lithuanian Day
Rocky Glen Park, Moosic, PA

23 Annual Pilgrimage for the
Suffering Church in Lithuania
North American Martyrs Shrine
Auriesville, NY

OUR PRISONERS

Christmas Eve

*My native land, like a mother you conceal within you
The hope of bright comfort.
That white Christmas Eve I hear you call your children —
In my thoughts I fly to embrace you, my homeland,
I speak with you.*

*I am greeted from a distance by Gediminas' city,
The steeple crosses, the Mother of the Gates in
history's night —
Resolved to go a journey of a thousand miles,
I slump to my knees,
I kiss the ground, my native soil —
And you still call to me . . .
As though I see the house where I was born . . .*

*And the table Christmas Eve,
The white tablecloth, my mother's hair shines silver,
Her dewy eyes so kind, her hands folded for
prayer after work . . .*

Oh Lithuania! In the white dream I see you!

*You still call, "Come home. Enough!"
Through silver, snowy, icy,
Dense wire barriers, the little bells are ringing —*

*Midnight Mass — the guard's lock —
And again silence, deafening silence . . .
While the prisoner's lot is a poor shack,
a day without a word of kindness,
An icy cold in the heart . . .
That white night, the star of Bethlehem,
Poured light into it
And days of freedom in the distance
Began to shine like a dream . . .*

Dagys

Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania No. 65



Joy and Blessings on the Birthday of the Infant Jesus

Remember your prisoner of conscience's birthday with a gift to L.C.R.A.

-CORRECTION TO 1986 L.C.R.A. DONATIONS-

C-29, NEWARK.....	\$100.00
C-96, DAYTON.....	\$100.00

* REMINDER *

ALL COUNCILS SHOULD SEND THEIR DONATIONS TO ME IN ORDER TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 1987 L.C.R.A. DRIVE.

JONI REINHART
L.C.R.A. COORDINATOR

CARDINAL BERNARDIN SALUTES Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid ON ITS 25th ANNIVERSARY

On October 25th, the 25th anniversary of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid was marked by a concelebrated Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

Principal celebrant was Archbishop Charles Salatka of Oklahoma City. Other bishops assisting him were Bishop Paul Baltakis, Bishop Vincent Brizgys and Bishop Basil Losten, of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford, CT. Cardinal Joseph Bernardin also assisted, as well as 30 other priests.

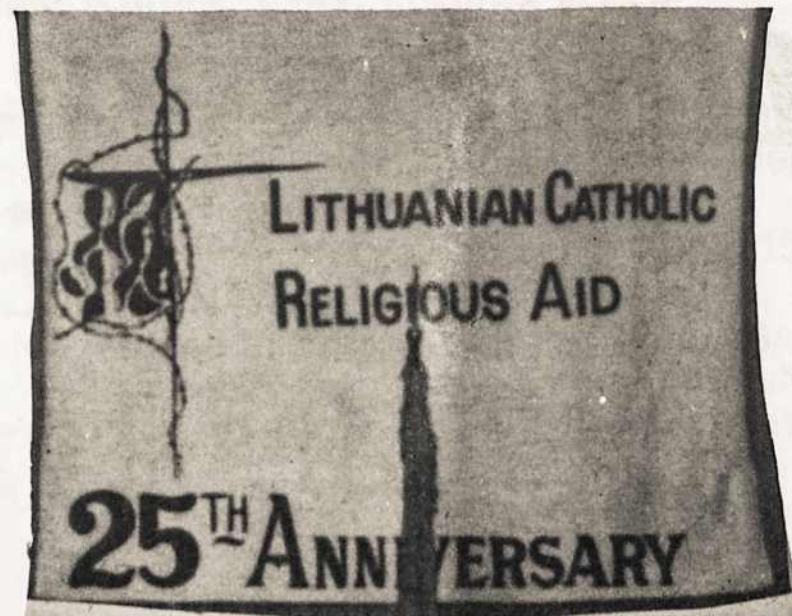
Homilist was Fr. J. Bryan Hehir, Secretary for International Peace and Development of the USCC.

Fr. Hehir told the congregation that "we know Lithuania stands in stark contradiction to what the human community says should be expressed as human rights. . . In our time, the question of the relationship between the Church and human rights is a particularly important theme. It rose from the conviction that the dignity of the human person is a religious issue. . . the promotion of human rights is a religious task if there ever was one."

Following Mass, a dinner was held at the Waldorf-Astoria. Cardinal Bernardin was the principal speaker. Cardinal reiterated Fr. Hehir's theme in his address. "We surely need to express our moral indignation at the violation of human rights in South Africa; Central America, Northern Ireland, the Middle East, and Afghanistan. However, he stated, the plight of the Lithuanians needs more attention. The fact that the media do not remind us daily of the persecution in Lithuania makes it even more imperative that, as a faith community, we leave no stone unturned in publicizing the plight of our brothers and sisters."

Cardinal Bernardin expressed his support of a resolution to be introduced by Bishop Baltakis at the U. S. Bishop's Conference in Washington, November 10-13. However, Cardinal Bernardin stressed that more is needed than an occasional support because of the resolution. We need to give sustained moral and human travesties which occur daily in Lithuania and other places in the Soviet bloc. He recommended that the issue be placed on the continuing agenda of the NCCB and the USCC and that a special staff person be assigned for this purpose.

Fr. Casimir Pugevičius, L. C. R. A. Director, presented Cardinal Bernardin with the "Msgr. Juozas Končius Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Award" for his support of the Lithuanian community.



L.C.R.A. 25th Anniversary

Also honored at this dinner were Rev. Stasys Raila, Msgr. John Balkūnas, and Bishop Vincent Brizgys, for their efforts in the establishment and promotion of L. C. R. A. Testimonials were given by Dr. V. Peter Vygantas and awards were presented by Bishop Baltakis.

The evening could not pass without commendation of L. C. R. A.'s current staff. The Knights of Lithuania salutes you all and pledges our continued support of your endeavors.

RESOLUTION OF U. S. CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ON LITHUANIA NOVEMBER 12, 1986

In anticipation of the 600th anniversary of the conversion of the Lithuanian nation, to be marked in 1987, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States wishes to express solidarity with our brothers, the Lithuanian Bishops and the Lithuanian people.

We respectfully request all ordinaries to proclaim June 28, the day on which the anniversary will be celebrated with a papal Mass in Rome, a day of prayer for the persecuted Church of Lithuania, with an appropriate insert in the prayer of the faithful for that day.

We call upon Soviet authorities, in keeping with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Helsinki Final Accords of 1975, and other international agreements, to respect the human rights of the people of Lithuania, to honor the request of the Bishops of Lithuania for restoration to religious use of the Cathedral of Vilnius and of the Church of St. Casimir in Vilnius, together with the Church of the Queen of Peace in Klaipėda.

We also call upon the Soviet government to honor the request of the Bishops of Lithuania to allow publication of a new Lithuanian translation of the Scriptures.

Lithuanians in The

NEWS



Edited by

RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



Lithuanians participate in "Pittsburgh Renaissance"

Pictured in an article entitled "Pittsburgh Renaissance," in an unidentified periodical, are a group of Lithuanians in national costume preparing for a parade.

Long Branch NJ doctor is "Lithuanian" boy who made good

"Long Branch boy makes good" — a feature story in the Asbury Park Press.

From the window of his spacious sixth-floor office in Long Branch, New Jersey, DR. CHARLES L. ZUKAUKAS can see the yellow frame house where his parents rented rooms to summer visitors during the Depression.

Zukaukas is one of the most prominent physicians at the Jersey shore. He was recently installed as president of the Society of Surgeons of New Jersey.

He was born in Newark. When he was 8 years old, his parents, who emigrated to this country from Lithuania, moved to Long Branch. He's lived there ever since. "I'm a devoted Long Brancher. I never want to leave," he said.

Lithuanian - Member of Research Team studying Bone Growth

According to "The Naperville Sun" Naperville, Ill., a University of Rochester (N.Y.) Medical Center team says it has isolated a molecule that stimulates bone growth and may be the key to effective new treatments for osteoporosis and to healing fractures that fail to knit.

DR. EDWARD PUZAS says the research is based on natural body processes for replacing lost bone tissue.



**Syracuse Lithuanian
honored for
Radio Program
by National
Association**

CECILIA PETRAUSKAS, consumer horticulture agent with Cooperative Extension in Onondaga County, N.Y., has been honored by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents for her radio program "Green Thumb Garden Tips" which is aired locally on WSYR radio, notes the "Herald American", Syracuse, N.Y.

Cecelia is the daughter of IRENE and FRANK PETRAUSKAS, National President.

**Lithuanian woman first lieutenant Colonel
in Connecticut National Guard**

The Connecticut Army National Guard for the first time has promoted a woman officer to the rank of lieutenant colonel — MARILYN SHAKNAITIS FITZGERALD, daughter of the former Sheriff FRANK J. SHAKNAITIS, reports "The American," Waterbury, Conn.

She is attached to Headquarters Co., 213th Medical Brigade in New Haven as chief nurse, and when not on military duty works at the Connecticut Valley Hospital in Middletown as a registered nurse.

**Illinois College holds Reception
for Rev. Algimantas Kezys**

Illinois Benedictine College, Lisle, Illinois, participated in Illinois Arts Week last October by holding a reception for Chicago photographer, the Rev. ALGIMANTAS KEZYS, notes "The Naperville Sun".

Father Kezys discussed his suite of 10 photographs entitled "Society of Man", in the Theodore Lownik Library Gallery. The prints were displayed at the college from October 12th through October 24th. The college purchased the photos through a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

The Midwest Museum of American Art recently displayed Father Kezys' photographs of scenes from the national and local parks in the United States. Loyola University Press has published these photographs in a book entitled "Nature: Forms and Forces".

**Helen Kulber, C-41, authors article
on Lithuanian Immigrant Family**

A story written by HELEN KULBER, C-41 Brooklyn, N.Y., appeared in the Home Reporter and Sunset News, Brooklyn, last July 4th.

In the Spring of 1922, Helen's aunt, 15-year-old ANTANINA ZARSKIS and her mother, MARIJONA, arrived in America on the "Empress of India." They came from war-ravished Lithuania via London, where Antanina had been hospitalized with measles for a month.

Then, at Ellis Island, it was discovered that she had glaucoma. Due to the strenuous efforts of her family in Bay Ridge and influential friends, deportation was prevented. Her mother was released and Antanina received medical treatment on the island for 19 months.

She had a lovely voice and often entertained with other patients, all dressed in their national costumes.

She and her mother lived in Bay Ridge until she married CHARLES BINKINS, whose parents also emigrated from Lithuania. Both were active in community affairs and photography.

When the Bay Ridge Historical Society visited Ellis Island a few years ago, Antanina added her personal remembrances to the guide's interesting remarks.

**Lithuanian "Retired" Union Leader still
active in fight for better Health Care**



If General Electric Co. officials thought they wouldn't be hearing much from outspoken union leader JOHN STANLEY now that he is retired, they didn't look out the office window, notes the "Herald-Journal," Syracuse, N.Y.

Stanley, a member of C-140, Syracuse, who in one year alone called 68 strikes against GE plants in the Syracuse area, returned to the picket line last September, this time leading the company's retired workers in a protest against inadequate health care benefits and pensions.



S. Casimir Academy - Maria High celebrates Diamond Jubilee

On November 2, 1986, the Sisters of St. Casimir in Chicago, Illinois, celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of St. Casimir Academy and Maria High School.

Founded in 1911 as St. Casimir Academy by the Sisters of St. Casimir, the school first opened its doors to 21 students. Today the enrollment numbers 1244 students. From the original building, the Academy expanded three times.

In 1952 the school moved from its first site at 2601 West Marquette Road, which now serves as the Motherhouse, to 6727 South California Avenue, and thereafter became known as Maria High School.

The Eucharistic Celebration of the Jubilee took place in the Chapel of the Motherhouse. Principal Celebrant was the Most Reverend Placido Rodriguez, CMF, DD, with the Most Rev. Vincentas Brizgys presiding.

The Diamond Jubilee Banquet took place in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Inn of Oak Lawn, Illinois. Greetings were expressed by Sister M. Joanela, SSC, General Superior of the Sisters of St. Casimir, and Sister Grace Ann, SSC, Principal of Maria High School.

Editor's Note:

I am proud to add that my mother, ANGELA EWALD SIMUTIS, was the first and only graduate of St. Casimir Academy's Class of 1917, the first graduating class. I graduated from St. Casimir's in 1944, and daughter Anne Kazlauskas Casperson graduated from Maria High School in 1970 - three generations of excellence in education.

John (White Eagle) Tomkus honored by Naugatuck Indians

According to "The Observer", Chicago, Illinois, the 2nd Annual Indian Powwow of Naugatuck, Connecticut was held in memory of White Eagle, also known as JOHN TOMKUS, of Lithuanian descent.

While a member of the Air Force in California, Tomkus married an Indian girl, Jane Deerheart. Her grandmother claimed that Tomkus looked like a white eagle when he walked bare-chested in the woods. Hence his newly acquired name. Later in his life, Tomkus began to use his Indian name, White Eagle, and moved to the forefront of representing the Indian people.

John Tomkus, White Eagle, died last December. The Naugatuck Indian Powwow has been renamed the John White Eagle Memorial Indian Powwow.

Caren Collins, T.V. News Director

A Flint, Michigan newspaper article featured CAREN COLLINS, Channel 25, WEYI's News Director, who has a master plan to bring the station's news operation up from the ratings basement.

Caren is Lithuanian on her mother's side, and a niece of MARYANNE GUERRIERO of C-102, Detroit, Michigan.

A Michigan native and University of Michigan graduate, she came to Channel 25 from Amarillo, Texas, where she served as news director for KAMR-TV. Caren is one of the few female news directors in the country.



**VYČIAI
VEIKIA**



**COUNCIL
ACTIVITIES**



Edited by HELEN CHESKO, 1000 E. Pine St., Mahanoy City, PA 17948

C-25 CLEVELAND

Prasidėjus žiemos sezonui, Clevelando lietuvių kolonijos organizacijos, pradėjo rūšti Clevelando ir apylinkės lietuviams įvairius parengimus-subuvimus. Gruodžio 13 dieną, negausioj Clevelando lietuvių kolonijoje vyko net trys gražas ir įvairūs parengimai. Lietuvos Vyčių 25-tos kuopos tradicinė šv. Kalėdų šventė (Christmas party) Europe center 911 East 185 g-vė, Lietuvių namų didžiojoje salėje svajonių koncertas ir žematinėje meškeriotojų klubo narių jų šeimų ir svečių balius. Visi trys parengimai buvo gražiai suorganizuoti ir gausūs svečiais.

Lietuvos Vyčių 25-tos tradicinė kalėdų šventė prasidėjo 6:30 val. vakaro su cocktails, šilta ir įvairia vakariene, kalėdinių dovanų pasikeitimu, muzika ir šokiais. Šventoje dalyvavo kuopos dvasios vadas Kun. G. Kijauskas, S.J., Kun. Jonas Sukackas. kalėdų senelis iš

Lietuvos kuopos nariai, jų šeimos ir daug svečių vakaras kaip ir visados pas Lietuvos Vyčius praėjo jaukioj, gražioj ir linksmoj nūotaikoj.

Meškėsiootojų, kaip jie save vadina žuominku klubų. parengimas taip pat praejo su dideliu pasisekimu. Pilnutėlėje Lietuvių namų žematinėje salėje, didelę publikos dalį sudarė vidarinio amžiaus vyrai ir moterys, daug lietuvių draugų amerikony kurie myli lietuviškas parengimus, maista ir kugeli. Parengimas su pakile nūotaika esant gerai muzikai tesesi iki vėlyvos nakties. Atėjus laikai sale uždaryti, svečiai nenoriai skirstėsi į namus. Kiek teko girdėti, svajonių koncertas taip pat praėjo gražiai. Linkėtina Clevelando lietuvių kolonijos organizacijom ir prasidėjus žiemos šalčiams nesustoti, bet ir toliau su gražiais ir įdomiais parengimais linksminti Clevelando ir apylinkės lietuvius.

E. Pranckus

C-109 GREAT NECK

The following poem appearing under Dear Abby column with Author Unknown was found very touching by some of our members and we would like to share it with our friends:

*"I would rather have a little
rose from the garden of a friend,
Than flowers strewn around my
casket when my days on Earth
must end.*

*I would rather have a living
smile from one I know is true,*

*Than tears shed 'round my
casket when this world I bid adieu.
Bring me all the flowers to-
day whether pink or white or red.
I would rather have one blossom
now than a truckload when I'm
dead."*

COUNCIL 24
WISHING YOU ALL GOOD THINGS
NOW AND THROUGHOUT
THE COMING YEAR!



(In Photo, from Left to Right)

Gary Hochsprung.....Trustee
 Clare O'Dea.....Corresponding Secretary
 Father Cibulskis.....Spiritual Advisor
 Ausra Krisciunaite-Padalino.....President
 Ruta Kosmopoulos.....Recording Secretary
 Bob Gawryla.....2nd Vice President
 Frank Jurgaitis.....Trustee
 Kazys Aizinas.....Ways and Means
 Bernice Neberieza.....Hospitality Co-Chairman
 Jonas Levickas.....Ways and Means
 Charles Lelugas.....Ways and Means
 Irene Murdock.....Social Co-Chairman
 Frank Zailiskis.....Sergeant-at-Arms
 Olga Eastman.....Social Co-Chairman
 Justin Kajokas.....Sergeant-at-Arms
 Loretta Simon.....Hospitality Co-Chairman
 Vince Nebereiza.....Sergeant-at-Arms
 Alice Kent.....Lithuanian Culture
 Joseph Simon.....Sergeant-at-Arms
 Lillian Paukstis.....Hospitality Chairman
 John Paukstis.....Financial Secretary

Missing from Photo

Bruce Nebereiza.....Treasurer
 Kristina Norkus.....3rd Vice President
 Irene Aizinas.....Lithuanian Publicity

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

For over 20 years this column of C-79 News was written by SOFFI. Sophie decided to retire and borrowed a famous quote, "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away." "So, as it goes" said Soffi, "although I will fade away from this column, I plan to stay active in the K of L. I enjoyed writing for the Vytis and will miss it. However, a capable and creative correspondent, Bertha Janus, will assume the duties of providing council news. Dauk sekmes, Bertha."

We'll miss Soffi in our Council News Columns. We welcome Bertha Janus.

Thanks for the vote of confidence, Soffi. I'll try to do as well as you did.

For those council members who rarely or never attend a meeting, the following were elected to offices at the October and November meetings: President Magdalena Smailis; Vice President, Richard

Danielak; Recording Secretary, Marianne Newberry; Treasurer, Frank Zager; Financial Secretary, Stella Hotra; Sergeant at Arms, Leonard Balkus.

Committee chairpeople are Ritual, Marianne Newberry and Margaret Ann Nashlon; Lithuanian Affairs, Helen Santorum; Cultural, Stella Hotra; Rosary Chain, Violet Panavas; Vytis Correspondent, Bertha Janus.

On September 24 we co-hosted an annual luncheon and card party with Chapter 54 of the Woman's Alliance. Profit realized was used to purchase card tables to be available for organization use.

On November 9 we held our annual Fall Festival in the auditorium of our Cultural Center. Space does not permit listing of the various duties performed by members toward its success.

Chester & Marge Nashlon left one day after our Fall Festival for their Ft. Meyers, FL, home which will be a permanent move with a few sum-

mer months in Michigan. You know you will be missed! Marianne, her sister, spent a fall vacation with them.

Joe & Violet Panavas welcomed another grandchild, Vicki Christina Panavas. Ann Ereman also announced an addition to her family — a grandson, Tyler David Nall.

Anthony Dainus, our Honorary Member, is still confined in a nursing home, recovering from a stroke suffered last year. He is slowly but progressively improving. His sister, Isabel Pavlichek, is recovering from recent major surgery.

Walter & Stella Hotra took a much-deserved vacation through the eastern states after attending a friend's wedding in Philadelphia.

Since our last publication, we lost a long-standing member, Monica Salas, mother of Edward and Leonard, who passed away October 2.

On this sad note I must end my first offering!

BEE JAY


JOHN LEKSTUTIS
Member C-152, Riverhead
(Formerly C-110, Maspeth)
Died October 22, 1986

ANNA VEYVODA
Member C-110, Maspeth
Died November, 1986

GENE BAIBAK
Member C-102, Detroit
Died September, 1986

LAWRENCE (LARRY) JANONIS
Member C-12, New York
Died November 9, 1986

JOSEPH RUDZINSKI
Member Anthracite C-144
Died October 17, 1986



IN MEMORIAM
Please remember in
your prayers...

NELLIE WASKA
Member C-116, So. Worcester
Died August 7, 1986

JOHN J. POVILAITIS
Member C-146, Harrisburg
Died October 2, 1986

ANTHONY BARRIS
Member C-110, Maspeth
Died December, 1986

CONSTANCE NAUJOKAS
Member C-7, Waterbury
Died October 20, 1986

MARGARET ROMANAVAGE
Member Anthracite C-144
Died October 14, 1986

SALLY BAKUTIS
Member C-30, Westfield
Died September 29, 1986

MONICA SALAS
Member Anthracite C-144
Died October 1, 1986

ALFRED J. YUREVICH, SR.
Member C-135, Ansonia
Died December 5, 1986

Alitalia

ROME AND ITALY PILGRIMAGE TOUR JUNE 17 -- JULY 1, 1987



THE TOUR CELEBRATES THE JUBILEE OF CHRISTIANITY IN LITHUANIA AND BEATIFICATION OF ARCHBISHOP GEORGE MATULAITIS AT A SPECIAL AUDIENCE WITH POPE JOHN PAUL II, AND A SOLEMN PAPAL MASS IN ST. PETER'S BASILICA, ROME ON SUNDAY, JUNE 28.

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(* indicates two-night stay)

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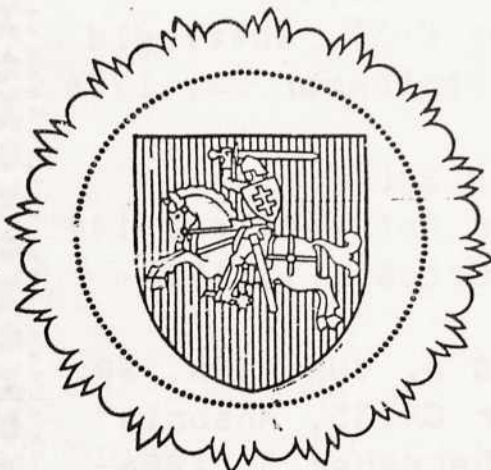
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LITHUANIA

God Promised

God did not tell me,
Only roses would grow.
That I'd find no sorrow,
On the path I must go.

But He promised to be there,
Each step of the way,
Providing a way to escape,
The temptations each day.

His grace all sufficient,
Daily to see me through.
He'd help me to conquer,
And be victorious too.

Dottlee Dugan Reid

**COUNCIL 26 – WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS
CELEBRATES 70 YEARS!**

1916

1986

By Olga Kersis, C-26

All who gathered at Maironis Park on November 15, 1986 to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of Council 26 (of St. Casimir's in Worcester) are linked together by a common bond. We are Knights of Lithuania. Did we gather out of obligation, or genuine interest? Is what has happened to Council 26 important, or just interesting?

Mistress-of-Ceremonies Ann Bender began as follows: "When an organization can exist 70 years, one can safely assume that it was founded on lofty ideals and firmly directed toward the attainment of those ideals in order to overcome the many trials to which all organizations are subject." She went on to say, "In 1915, a band of young troupers, under the banner of St. Casimir's Parish Temperance Society, saw in the young, fast growing K of L movement a means of attaining their ideals, a strengthening of their faith, and the preservation of their Lithuanian heritage under the leadership of Rev. John J. Jakaitis, Dr. M. Rackus, Anthony Ciginskas and Joseph Bacys. This group formed a K of L Council and received their charter on May 1st, 1916. Anthony Ciginskas was elected president."

Ann's thorough research has provided us with the following facts: Former spiritual advisors, now deceased are: Rev. John J. Jaikaitis (who later became a Marian Father), Rev. Stanislaus Vembre, Rev. John Bakanas, Rev. Bruno Mazunka, Rev.

Michael Tamulevicius (Spiritual Advisor for 15 years), Rev. Joseph Budzeika, MIC, and Rev. Benjamin Uzdavinis, MIC. Living former spiritual advisors are: Rev. John Padvaiskas, Rev. Albin Yankauskas, Rev. Alphonse Volungis, and Rev. Justin Steponaitis. Our present spiritual advisor is Rev. Anthony J. Miciunas, MIC.

Seated at the head table along with Frs. Miciunas, Volungis, Steponaitis and Yankauskas, were Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P. of Providence College, present National Spiritual Advisor of the K of L, and Mrs. Teresa Ciginskas Adomavicius, daughter of our first president, with her husband, Kazys Adomavicius (President of Maironis Park).

It had been intended to have no main speakers because of our lengthy histories. However, Victor Mathiew, of Providence Council 103, our Lithuanian of French descent, presented a lively, enthusiastic report of his recent trip to Vienna, Austria where he and his wife, participated in a human rights demonstration by the World Baltic Communities of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. This demonstration coincided with the annual review of compliance with the Helsinki Accords by its signatories which include over 30 European countries, the United States, Canada and the Soviet Union. It was an excellent presentation! An additional report on Victor's

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impression of the VLIKAS convention in London was presented.

Past presidents of our council have been many. Deceased are Anthony Ciginskas, V. Kuraisa, Mary Jankowski, Edward Daniels and Frank Markunas. Living are Charles Tagman, Anthony Morkunas, Vincent Grazulis, Joseph Sipas, Valentine Baziliauskas, Joseph Zalieckas, Joseph Drumstas, Joseph Sakaitis, Charles Lapinskas, Stephen Walinsky, Jr., Brother Joseph Landis, MIC, Adam Kacavich, Ann Bender, William A. Grigas and our present president, Rita Pinkus.

Our council is proud of its four Honorary Members: Joseph Sakaitis, Rita Pinkus, Ann Bender and the late Mary Jankowski (Mary died in 1971).

A program of Lithuanian folk songs was presented under the direction and accompaniment of Ann Bender. Chorus members were Joseph Sakaitis, Edwina and Francis Ginkus, Adele and Francis Degutis, Edward Grigaitis and his sister, Claire Grigaitis. This little chorus performed in many a parish function and variety show

in many years past and was reorganized for this auspicious occasion. The program was delightful!

It was heartwarming to have so many councils represented. They were: C-1, Brockton, C-10, Athol-Gardner, C-17, South Boston, C-27, Norwood, C-78, Lawrence, C-103, Providence, C-116, So. Worcester and C-135, Ansonia. Thank you all!

Co-chairpersons for this gala 70th celebration were Ann Bender and Rita Pinkus, assisted by Ann and Stephen Walinsky, Sr., Frances and Charles Kulakusky, Virginia and Dwight Cummings, Mildred Lapinskas and Helen Gillus.

The Knights of Lithuania has enormous strength of size, longevity, service and reputation. We depend on each other and it is wonderful. Celebrate this fact. We of Council 26 thank the Heavenly Father for these memories of 70 years, and through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother and St. Casimir, our patron, we look forward to our journey together as we begin the next era. For God and Country. *Dievui ir Tėvynei.*



C-26 Honorary Members Rita Pinkus and Ann Bender



C-26 H.M.
Mary Jankowski
Died 1971

