

1987

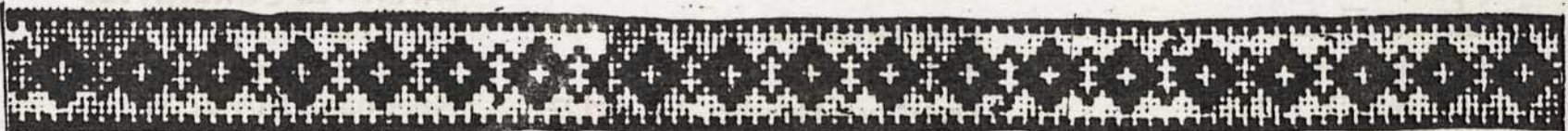
Vol. 73 - No. 2

February - Vasaris



Per kryžių į laisvę. (From Šaltinis. Designed by Antanas Skirka)

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1987

February - Vasaris

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## Lithuania 1387:

### At First: Dynastic Politics

*Algirdas Budreckis*

Yes, like other European countries, Lithuania was christianized for political reasons. The precedent was set by Roman Emperor Constantine the Great.

The accession of Jogaila in 1387 as Algirdas' successor to the throne of Vilnius led to the religious and political transformation of pagan Lithuania. His accession was not a happy one. His older brother Andrew of Polotsk immediately revolted and refused to recognize him as a grand duke. Compelled to abandon Polotsk, Andrew zealously sought the goodwill of the Livonian Order and Moscow.

In view of these events, it is not all strange that Jogaila attempted to win the aid of Lithuanians greatest foes, the Teutonic Knights. His supporters such as the dowager Juliana, brother Skirgaila, Vaidyla and Hanrike, a German merchant residing in Vilnius, were quite inimical to Grand Duke Kestutis, who had not acknowledged Jogaila as Algirdas' lawful successor, but also scrupulously retained the same admirable relationship that had existed between Algirdas and himself for some 33 years.

This relationship did not last. Civil war broke out in 1382. After being assured personal immunity, Kestutis and his son Vytautas agreed to begin negotiations in August, 1382. But once they came to Jogaila's camp, they were seized and taken to Vilnius. Kestutis was transferred to Kreva where he was strangled upon Skirgaila's orders five days later.

Becoming supreme ruler of Lithuania, Jogaila was required to pay the price for his conspiracy against uncle Kestutis. On October 31, 1382 his representative Skirgaila agreed to three distinct pacts with the Teutonic Knights which bound Jogaila to the following conditions: the cession of Lithuania Samogitia up to the Dubysa River, the maintenance of peaceful relations with both branches of the Teutonic Order on the Baltic, and the obligation to christianize the Lithuanian nation within a period of four years.

Not long after the pacts of Dubysa were signed, the Teutonic Knights demonstrated their perfidy and violated their terms with Jogaila. They assisted Duke Jan of Masovia to retain the district of Drohyczin and Mielnik (part of Podlachia), which he had seized from Lithuania in July, and readily supplied Jan with funds. Furthermore, when Vytautas succeeded in escaping from prison, the Teutonic Knights not only gave him refuge at Marienburg, their headquarters, but also pronounced themselves willing to support his claims against Jogaila.

Under such circumstances, Grand Duke Jogaila could not consider himself under obligation to observe the pact of Dubysa. Consequently, Samogitia continued to remain in Lithuanian hands. And despite the wishes of the Teutonic Order, Jogaila compelled Masovia to restore the areas of Drohyczin and Mielnik to Lithuania early in 1383. The subsequent conference between



*Kestutis*



*Jogaila*



*Vytautas*

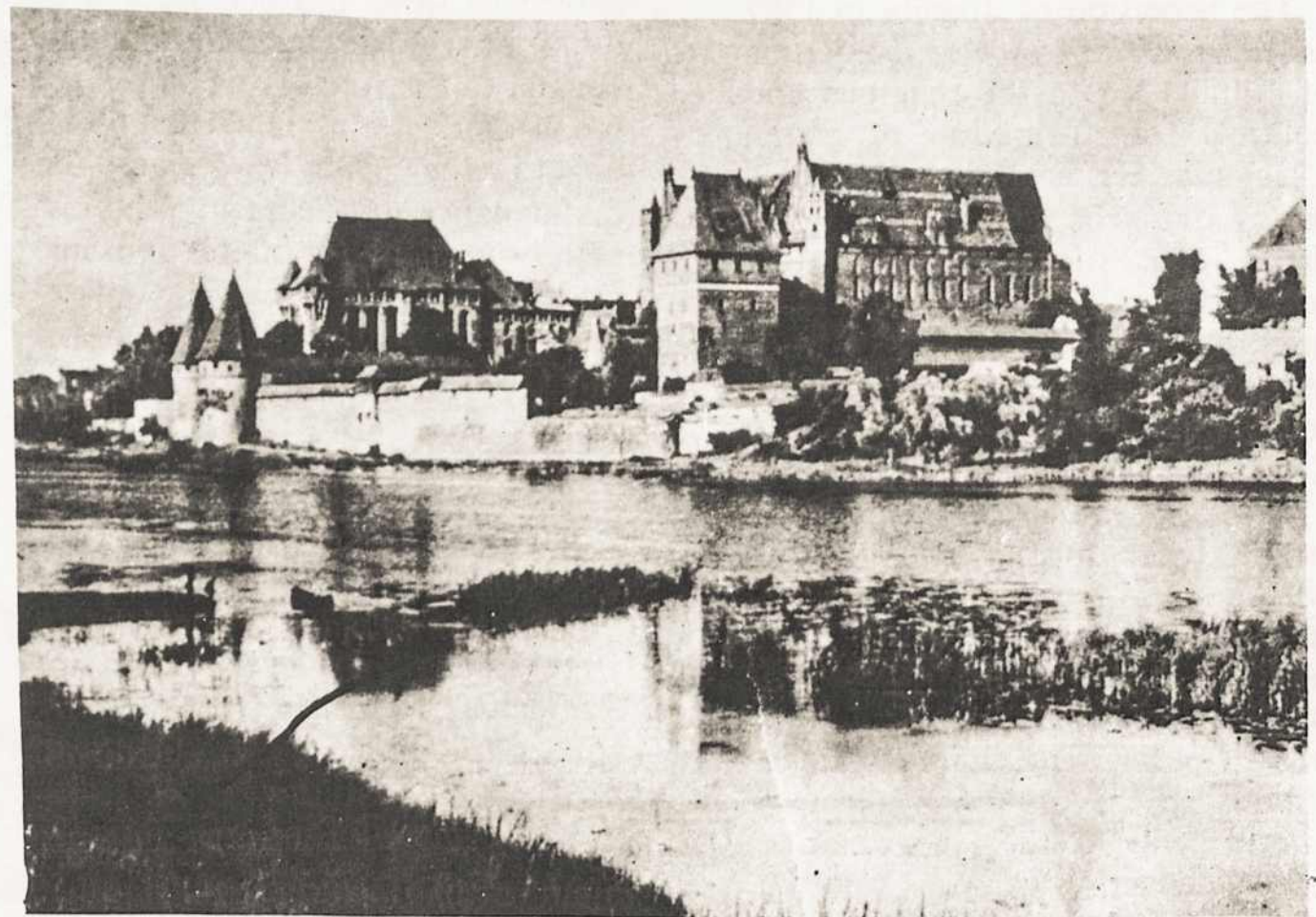
Jogaila and the Grand Master Conrad Zollner in July, 1383, failed to improve Lithuania's relations with the Order, which three months afterwards received pagan Kestutis' sons Vytautas and Tautvilas into the Roman Catholic faith and declared war on the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.

In the late autumn of 1383, Vytautas invaded Lithuania with a force of Teutonic Knights and Lithuanian partisans. Unable to hold Trakai and to take Vilnius, he withdrew to Prussia. The Teutonic Knights then placed him in charge of one of their fortresses on the Nemunas, New Marienburg. This base was intended to serve as a rallying point for Vytautas' supporters in Lithuania, whom Jogaila had not hesitated to oppress severely. However, the various overtures made by the Grand Duke were not without fruit. And in 1384 the two cousins were reconciled: Jogaila consented to establish Vytautas as the grand duke's viceroy in all of the territories previously governed by Kestutis. Vytautas agreed to content himself with the Gardinas and Bresk Litovsk areas and Volhynia until Duke Skirgaila could be transferred from Trakai to Polotsk. Thereupon, Vytautas abandoned the Teutonic Knights, destroyed their strongholds of Georgenburg, New Marienburg, and New Baierburg, joined with Jogaila's troops, burned New Marienwerder, and took up his residence at Gardinas.

Even while Jogaila was still negotiating with Vytautas, the Polish lords offered Jogaila the Polish throne and the hand of their youthful queen, Jadwiga, in marriage. On August 14, 1385, in Lithuania, by the Act of Kreva, Jogaila confirmed all the promises he made through his representatives to win Jadwiga for his spouse and the Polish throne for the Lithuanian Grand Duchy. Jogaila agreed to federate the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Kingdom of Poland under one head, to christianize the Lithuanian nation, to make monetary reparations to



*Kęstutis arraigned at Kreva*

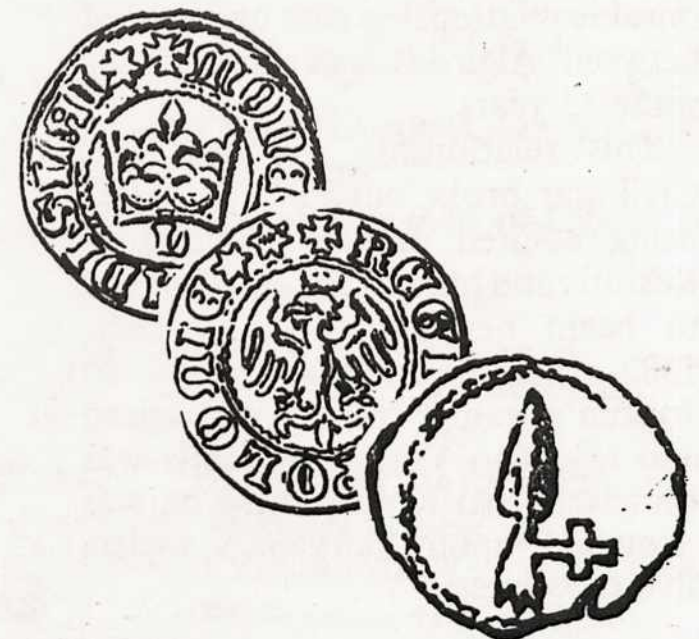


*Marienburg*

Wilhelm of Austria, who had been betrothed to Jadwiga.

Despite the attacks of the Teutonic Knights on Vilnius and Asmena, Jogaila was baptized at Cracow on February 14, 1386, and four days later wedded to Jadwiga. He was crowned King of Poland on March 4th as Wladislaw II.

The official christianization of Lithuania was to begin among the Highlanders — Aukstaiciai during the early part of 1387.





**CANDIDATE FOR  
HONORARY MEMBERSHIP  
REV. MSGR.  
ALGIMANTAS BARTKUS**

Rev. Algimantas Bartkus was born in Kraziai, Lithuania, Nov. 10, 1940 to Edmundas and Josephine (Pilenaite) Bortekevicius. In 1943, the family had to leave Lithuania because Edmundas was a teacher, and to the Russians that was a crime which was punishable by arrest and deportation to Siberia.

The family lived in Germany until 1948 when they were able to emigrate to San Paulo, Brazil. Algimantas finished his elementary and secondary training in San Paulo and became very fluent in the Portugese language.

In 1958, his family emigrated to New York where his grandparents resided. Young Al remained in Brazil where he completed his last year of high school. In October of that year, he went to Rome where he began his studies for the priesthood. He entered the Lithuanian College in Rome and attended the Pontifical Gregorian University, where he earned a Master's Degree in Philosophy and a B.A. in Theology, there he mastered Latin, the language of the church and Italian, the language of the country. At this point, he was fluent in Lithuanian, Portugese, Latin and Italian. He was ordained July 11, 1965 by His Excellency, M. Reh, Rector of the American College at the Basilica of the Twelve Apostles. The next day, he celebrated his First Mass at the Basilica of the Holy Cross, where the Sacred Relics of the Holy Cross are kept.

In Mid-August of 1965, he returned to the United States, where he celebrated his First Mass for his loved ones at Annunciation B.V.M. Parish in Brooklyn.

His first assignment was assistant pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Mahanoy City, Pa. assisting Rev. Pius Chesna. From his very first assignment in Mahanoy City, Father Bartkus, or Father Al as he lovingly became known to all Lithuanians in the Anthracite Coal Regions, became active in the Annual Lithuanian Day.

In 1971, he was assigned to St. George's Parish in Shenandoah as assistant to Msgr. Joseph Karalius. There Father Al continued his propagation of Lithuanian Customs and his efforts to keep the Annual Lithuanian Day alive. From St. George's, he was transferred to St. Francis of Assissi Parish in Minersville to assist Msgr. Casmir Keevence. During these assignments, he taught at Cardinal Brennan High School.

In 1972, he was transferred to Easton, Pa. where he served two parishes; St. Bernard's (Territorial) and St. Michael's (Lithuanian). Father Al administered to the Lithuanian and Portugese Communities in that area. He also taught at Notre Dame High School and was chaplain at Northampton County Prison and was in charge of the Easton Catholic Hour on the Radio.

In September 1972, he was appointed pastor of St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair. There he started a monthly all Lithuanian Mass — from this Mass, he formed an organization which called itself the Lithuanian Ethnic Committee. With his help, a beautiful Lithuanian float was built for the large Pottsville Winter Carnival Parade, and brought back many Lithuanian customs to the parish and county. During the Bi-Centennial Year, another beautiful float was built, and this float was entered in many parades with much acclaim.

The organization, at this time, had grown to over 50 members and Father Al felt it should be associated with a National Organization.

With his guidance, the organization joined the Knights of Lithuania, and in March 1977 was chartered. Through his efforts the Anthracite Council which he was instrumental in organizing has grown to the membership it has today.

While in St. Clair, he was instrumental in church renovations, which included the parish rectory, church grounds and church hall. He was transferred to Annunciation B.V.M. Church in 1978, where he made many improvements. He remained in Frackville until he was called to Rome to become Assistant Rector of the Lithuanian Pontifical College.

Father Al was largely responsible for the rebirth of Lithuanism in the Anthracite Regions of Southeastern Pennsylvania. He served on the Lithuanian Day Committee while a Pastor and Assistant Pastor from 1971, and when the Priest's League felt they could no longer sponsor this affair, had the Knights of Lithuania take this over. Without his help during the years 1975 to 1978, this annual event might have been disbanded. With his efforts, and the Knights of Lithuania, this affair has continued until in 1986, the 72nd Annual Day was celebrated.

While in Schuylkill County, he had a weekly Lithuanian Radio Program and a Lithuanian Mass which was celebrated weekly. Because of Father Al, this weekly radio program has continued. His contribution to the

Lithuanian Community has been extensive — because of his efforts, the Anthracite Council has a beautiful Lithuanian Museum and Cultural Center in Frackville, Pa.

Although saddened when he left for Rome, the members of his council where he had served as Spiritual Advisor from the beginning, were happy he was going to Rome, the center of Catholicism. Since he left, he has continued to be a Royal Knight and good member of C-144.

On June 25, 1985, the Sacred Congregation for the Catholic Education appointed him officially as the Rector of the Pontifical Lithuanian College/Seminary. At the same time, the Holy Father made him Honorary Prelate.

Msgr. Algimintas Bartkus has fostered all the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania in his years of serving the Lord. He is devoted to His God, His Church, to his adopted country, the United States, to the land of his birth and to all that is Lithuanian.

## INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM OF ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

ROME: JUNE 24-26, 1987

In order to review and study what is known about the historical events connected with the Christianization of the last corner of Europe, the Pontifical Committee for Historical Sciences, presided over by Prof. Mons. Michele Maccarrone, in obedience to the express desire of the Holy Father, is organizing an International Colloquium of Ecclesiastical History.

Scholars from various nations, distinguished by their competence in this field, have been invited to read papers at the Colloquium. There will be a discussion of topics concerning the relationships of the neighboring Christian peoples with the Lithuanians who were still pagans, concerning the relationships of evangelization in those times and places, concerning the action carried out by the papacy, by the various religious orders, and by other ecclesiastical institutions in the Christianization of Lithuania.

Among the speakers will be:

*Marina Gimbutas*  
(University of California at Los Angeles)  
Researcher of the prehistory of the Baltic peoples.

*Raza Mazeika*

(Author, Toronto, Canada)

The investigator of the history of the age of the Grand Duke of Lithuania Algirdas and of his links with Christianity.

*Michael Giedrovc*

(Oxford University, Great Britain)

A descendant of an ancient Lithuanian ducal family. Relations of the popes of options of the Lithuanians up to that of Kreva (1385)

*Prof. Paulius Rabikauskas*

(Pontifical Gregorian University-Rome)

The circumstances of the baptism of Samogitia (1413-1417).

The Colloquium wishes to make better known and appreciated "this common cultural and spiritual patrimony that unites the various nations of Europe, and to recall likewise the 'Christian roots' that gave fruitfulness and nourishment for centuries to all that happened in the history of this continent".

# OFICIALALUS SKYRIUS



# OFFICIAL NEWS

## SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

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

Donations to the scholarship Committee may be forwarded to CLEMENCINE MILLER, 80 Cottage Street, Trumbull, CT 06611.

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

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

## K OF L

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## CORRECTIONS

Sept-Oct 1986 Convention issue of VYTIS:  
Convention Closing Mass (Page 26)

Sr. Valeria of the Sisters of St. Francis led us in the scriptural readings for Sunday's Mass.

## APOLOGIES

The September-October Convention issue of VYTIS contained a photo that was not properly identified.

The photo on Page 38 was used to illustrate the theme of the panel discussion regarding Lithuania culture today. Although one of the panelists of this discussion was Gintaras Karosas it was not one of his photos.

The photo was a reprint from BRIDGES. Our apologies to BRIDGES, its staff and contributors for this error.

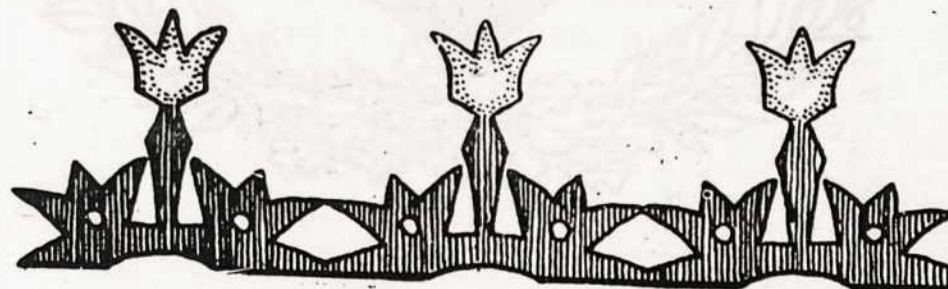
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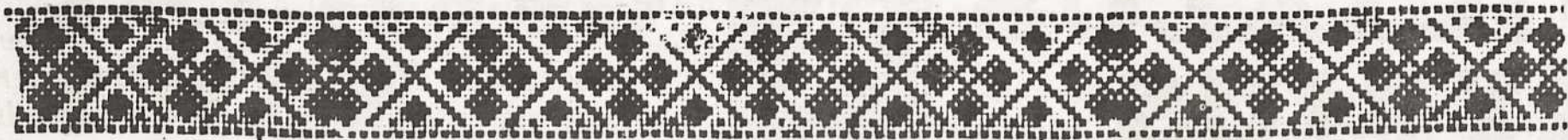
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## MARCH

- 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
- 15 C-152 Annual  
Lithuanian Independence Day  
and St. Casimir Commemoration  
Communion and Brunch  
St. John the Evangelist  
Riverhead, NY  
The Tolendoll Inn  
Mattituck, NY
- 15 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
- 26 Council 144  
10th Anniversary

## MAY

- 3 C-96 Dayton, OH  
CHRISTIANITY JUBILEE -  
PILGRIMAGE  
to the Basilica and  
National Shrine  
Our Lady of Consolation  
Carey, Ohio
- 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

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

## SEPTEMBER

- 5-6 Jersey City International Folk
- 18 Lithuania Christianity Jubilee  
Allentown, PA
- 19 Lithuanian Day  
Greenport, L.I., NY

## OCTOBER

- 4 Lithuania Christianity Jubilee  
Boston, MA
- 17 C-29 Annual Dinner Dance  
Holy Trinity Parish Hall  
Newark, New Jersey

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 ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS REQUIRED: \_\_\_\_\_

**CORRECTION NOTICE**

In the January issue of VYTIS the cost

of the 11 Night 12 Day Tour

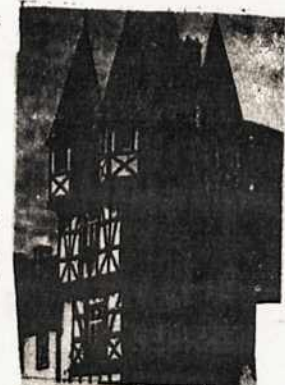
was mistakenly listed as

\$1195.00.

This was incorrect.

It should be \$1599.00

We apologize for any difficulty this error has caused



## THE TRUTH OF SOVIET DUPLICITY

*By Bernice Aviza*

This year Lithuania will celebrate the 600th anniversary of its Christianization. The thought of such an event should normally generate warm feelings of joy, happiness and inner peace...something like birthdays, first communions, confirmations. However, when we realize the struggle the Church in Lithuania has faced and the struggle it continues to face, the people who have been imprisoned, who have died because of their faith, the churches that have been closed...we sadden, and we wonder what miracle has even kept this church alive.

How does faith "live" when government authorities force atheistic teachings in school? How confused does a small child become when his teacher talks about God, the church and religion as superstitious evils, while his parents try to instill in him at home the 10 commandments and the Christian importance of obeying them? How do parents feel when they realize their choice of being believers will jeopardize their family's living accommodations? How do they explain to their teen-ager that he will not be able to go on to a special vocational school because he is a Christian? How do seminarian students feel when government authorities come to the seminary to instruct them in sermon-giving? What happens when it is feared to discuss religion openly? Where is the vitality in this type of faith?

As Eve was tempted by the apple of Satan's tree, Lithuanians are tempted by the inequalities of Soviet lifestyles to disprofess their beliefs. Fortunately, the majority of Lithuanian believers have discovered that the "Good News" does not lie in Soviet ideology but in Christ's gospel.

## SOVIET CLAIMS OF REFORM AND HOW THE SOVIET UNION TREATS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA

Despite the Soviet Union's efforts to create the image of improved relations with the Church and improved conditions for dissidents, its real intentions are seen in its treatment of the basic components of the Church in Lithuania -- the Church buildings, the clergy and the believers.

The CATHEDRAL OF VILNIUS, confiscated from the faithful, converted into an exhibit hall, the holy remains of St. Casimir dispossessed from it, the statues of three saints ripped from its portico--stands in silent witness of a people whose faith perseveres in the face of ongoing persecution. The church named after Lithuania's patron saint, St. Casimir, has been turned into a museum of atheism. After official permission was granted by Soviet authorities to build the QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH in Klaipeda, it was seized, decapitated and turned into a concert hall. Persistent demands have been made by individuals and organizations, yet these churches have not been returned to their rightful owners -- the believers.



*Cathedral of Vilnius*

This past November, the U.S. Catholic Conference passed a resolution of solidarity with Lithuanian believers demanding the return of these Churches. The resolution was forwarded to Soviet officials.



*Fr. Sigitas Tamkevičius with Exiled Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius*

*Lithuanian faithful on pilgrimage to Šiluva*



Lithuanian clergy have issued numerous complaints to Soviet authorities for interfering with their obligations to the Holy Father. The Holy Father has been refused permission to make a pastoral visit to Lithuania during this year's Jubilee activities. Likewise Lithuanian clergy are "quarantined" and have been forbidden to travel to Rome to participate in the Vatican solemnities marking Lithuania's Christianity Jubilee.

Under Gorbachev, never since the days of Stalin, have there been so many Catholic priests in prison in the Soviet Union. Among those incarcerated currently are three very popular Lithuanian priests - Fr. Alphonse Svarinskas, Fr. Sigitas Tamkevičius, and Fr. Jonas Kastys-Matulionis. Their parishioners have signed petitions asking that these priests be allowed to return to their pastoral duties. Fr. Tamkevičius is especially liked by the youth who have rallied strongly behind his cause. In December, Soviet authorities in Vilnius summoned Fr. Tamkevičius from prison camp. He was transported wearing civilian garb so as not to create any type of spectacle. Officials demanded that he admit his guilt and make an official statement to the public of his wrongs. Fr. Tamkevičius refused, saying he had no guilt to admit. Subsequently, Fr. Tamkevičius was re-dressed in his prison uniform, for the purpose of arousing attention, and to be mocked in Vilnius before being returned to prison camp.

The Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania, published regularly since 1972, have become documented testimony of how people in Lithuania, in every walk of life, are affected by oppression. In its volumes we are told what it is like to be a Christian in Lithuania. Atheistic pressure on schoolchildren publicly humiliated if they are found to be churchgoers, litigation against an elderly woman for erecting a cross in her front yard, secret police efforts to infiltrate the one and only seminary still functioning, incarceration in prisons and mental hospitals. Perhaps most significant are the accounts of the trials of religious activists - very often accused for nothing more than possessing a copy of the Chronicle or similar literature. In these judicial proceedings, we see what our Lord foretold - the bearing of heroic witness by the accused to the good news of Christ. Their immediate audience, however is those authorities who, as the instruments of oppression, act as prosecutor and judges.

Last October, I had the opportunity to attend the 25th anniversary of LCRA in New York. Cardinal Bernardin was guest speaker. In his address he asked what the struggle of Lithuania means to us and what we mean to them. He remarked that today, the promotion of human rights has become a religious task if there ever was one. We need to give sustained attention to the moral and human travesties which occur daily in Lithuania and other places in the Soviet Union. The fact that the media does not remind us daily of the persecution of the faithful 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.

A very familiar theme in Christian art and also Lithuanian folk art is the weeping Christ, or the worrying Christ who is saddened by the evils he sees befalling his flock whom he loves. In order to show that we are willing to follow Christ and become one of his disciples we must display willingness to sometimes die for Him and His Message. Believers in Lithuania, in the maintenance of their faith under persecution, have given us a message that we must spread in order that we will all come to know the fullness of Christ's gospel.



# LITHUANIA

Lithuania —

I am angry at  
a force that stripped  
you of your virtue!!  
and your cry was reverberated  
by echoes around the earth.

Now —

the cries are eerily silent!!  
only eyes mirrored unspoken passions,  
and pain endured silently.

Messages —

are received across the sea  
of your muteness and lack of strength.  
and the forgotten forlorn.

Oh! Sorrowful Mother,  
they are without arms!!

Doubt —

Shadows grown  
out of proportion  
that prompted  
the sun to lose itself.

The moon was blood,  
the stars! Oh! Where are they?  
an ache that never ended  
my soul is in exile  
as God is hidden!

Hope —

As I'm a "child of God"  
I must look at the radiant sun.  
Weep no more, Lithuania,  
It too shall shine on you once more.

Mary Beers

Lithuanian Class of  
Park Forest, IL

# VASARIO 16

Šiuo Vasario 16 dienos aktu Lietuva išreiškė savo vieningą laisvą politinę valią, ir atstatė pertrauktą valstybinę nepriklausomybę. Vasario 16 dienos aktas, kaip vienas svarbiausių mūsų laikų dokumentų, yra ir pasiliks mūsų tautos nepakeičiamas amžinasis credo, kovojančios tautos idealas. Nei okupacija, nei bet kokia jėgos prievarta jo negalės pakeisti iki tauta bus gyva. Tik tautą sunaikinant, galima sunaikinti ir šį aktą, jos idealą.

Tik Vasario 16 dienos aktas pateisino ir įprasmino tautos pasi-

šventimą ir aukas kovoje dėl laisvės. Jis ir dabartinėje, žūtbutinėje kovoje dėl laisvės ir tautinės egzistencijos, sudaro pagrindą ir prasmę. Jis įkvėpė mūsų tautos kovotojus savanorius, partizanus, sukilėlius ir ugnies kančia savo gyvybes paaukojusius jaunuolius. Tai mūsų tautos naujųjų laikų didvyriai, kankiniai.

Vasario 16 dieną švenčia išblaškyta ir pavergta tauta su skaudančia širdimi, bet nepalaužta valia. Dar niekad Lietuva savo istorijoje nebuvo patyrusi tiek skriaudos ir kančios iš savo rytų kaimyno kiek

šioje nežmoniškoje okupacijoje. Tauta pakėlė milžiniškus nuostolius, bet nesuklupo prieš baisų okupantą. Tautos kraujo ir gyvybės milžiniškos aukos suteikia stiprybę ištvermei ir gimdo didvyrus naujose kartose.

Su džiaugsmu tenka konstatuoti faktą, kad šią sunkią ir nelygią kovą su tėvynės okupantu pradeda perimti naujoji mūsų karta - jaunimas ir ryžtasi ją tęsti iki galutinės pergalės. Tai mūsų didžioji viltis ir laidas, kad Vasario 16 dienos aktas vėl bus pakartotas Vilniuje.

## VASARIO ŠEŠIOLIKTOSIOS AKTAS

### NUTARIMAS

Lietuvos Taryba savo posėdyje vasario 16 d., 1918 m. vienu balsu nutarė kreiptis: į Rusijos, Vokietijos ir kitų valstybių vyriausybes šiuo pareiškimu:

Lietuvos Taryba, kaip vienintelė lietuvių tautos atstovybė, remdamos pripažintąją tautų apsisprendimo teisę ir lietuvių Vilniaus konferencijos nutarimu rugsėjo mėn. 18-23 d. 1917 metais, skelbia atstatanti nepriklausomą demokratinius pamatais sutvarkytą Lietuvos valstybę su sostine Vilniuje ir tą valstybę atskirianti nuo visų valstybinių ryšių, kurie yra buvę su kitomis tautomis.

Drauge Lietuvos Taryba pareiškia, kad Lietuvos valstybės pamatus ir jos santykius su kitomis valstybėmis privalo galutinai nustatyti kiek galima greičiau sušauktas steigiamasis seimas, demokratiniu būdu visų jos gyventojų išrinktas.

Lietuvos Taryba pranešdama apie tai ..... vyriausybei, prašo pripažinti nepriklausomą Lietuvos valstybę.

Vilniuje, vasario 16 d. 1918 m.

Dr. J. Šaulys  
J. Šernas  
A. Smetona  
J. Smilgevičius  
J. Staugaitis  
A. Stulginskis  
J. Vailokaitis  
J. Vileišis

Dr. J. Basanavičius  
S. Banaitis  
M. Biržiška  
K. Bizauskas  
Pr. Dovydaitis  
S. Kairys  
P. Klimas  
Donatas Malinauskas  
Vl. Mironas  
S. Narutavičius  
Alfonsas Petrulis  
K. Šaulys

# SENOVĖS LIETUVIŲ VAISTAI

## Lithuanian Folk Medicine

By APOLONIJA (Pollx) ZIAUSYS

We hear and read a lot about our Lithuanian gold called amber, but not everyone knows, that amber has healing power.

Amber — also called succinite is the fossil resin of extinct coniferous trees that lived sixty to seventy million years ago. It is usually a pale yellow color. It occurs in round irregular lumps, grains or drops: has a perfectly conchoidal fracture, is slightly brittle, and emits an agreeable odor when rubbed. It burns with a bright flame and pleasant smell. It becomes negatively electric by friction, and possesses this property in a high degree: It was obtained by ancients on the south coast of Baltic Sea, where is still found and obtained commercially by strip mining. It is also found in small quantities in Sicily, Romania, Siberia, Greenland, Burma, Australia and the United States. Amber is employed in the arts, it is also used in the manufacture of beads and other ornamental articles, cigarette holders, pipe stems, rings, pins, bracelets and in the making of varnish.

According to myth, it is the congealed tears of Phaethon's sisters who were turned to trees while weeping for his death. Amber is three to eight per cent succinic acid and has been used as a cure for countless illnesses including asthma, rheumatism and internal disorders. Amber amulets were worn by Roman women as a protection against witchcraft. It was thought to be powerful medicine in hysterics, hypochondriac cases and for throat ailments.



Tears and amber from Phaethon's sisters who were turned to trees while weeping for his death. (From "Amber, The Golden Gem of the Ages")

Senovėje lietuviai gydėsi įvairiom žolelėm, gėlieų židais, medžių lapais, žievėmis, uogomis, šaknelėmis ir kitokiomis priemonėmis. Pavyzdžiui:

**Agurkas - Cucumber:** Jo riekelė lengvai trindavo veidą, kala ir rankas, kad oda būtų švelni ir sumažėtų raukšlės.

**Beržo lapai - Birch leaves:** Arbatą naudojo nuo nemigos, nes manė, kad veikia raminančiai.

**Apyniai - Hops:** Vartojo alui daryti, žiedų arbata nuo nemigos, nervų nura minimui, nuo skausmų, sužadinimui apetito ir nuo odos niežtėjimo.

**Citrina - Lemon:** Sunką gėrė nuo slogos, reumato, galvos skaudėjimo, astmos kosulio, žaksėjimo. Sakoma, kad žievė pavirinta acte ir ja, patrintos karpos, visam laikui išnykdavo.

**Česnakas - Garlic:** Česnaką valgė, kad apsisaugot nuo vėžio ligos, kirminų, aukšto kraujo spaudimo, reumatinių skausmų, laikydavo burnoj apsisaugot nuo slogos ir daugybę kitokių ligų.

**Dobilas-Clover:** Arbatą vartojo nervų nuraminimui ir nuo raumenų spazmų.

**Jazminas - Jasmine:** Žydinčio jazmino puokštes mėgdavo laikyti kambariuose nes jo kvapas ramina nervus ir buvo geras vaistas nuo nemigos.

**Konvalija (Pakalnutė) - Lily of the valley:** Arbata buvo geriama nuo širdies ligų. Žiedus užpildavo spiritu, užkasdavo bonkutes į žemę keletai savaičių ir taip pasigamindavo skaniai kvepiančių kvėpalų.

**Kmynai - Caraway:** Arbatą gerdavo nuo vidurių skaudėjimo, sėklas dėjo į ruginę duoną, surį, varškę ir kitur.

**Krapai - Dill:** Sėklas virė vyne ir garą įkvėpdavo, kad nustotų žaksėti.

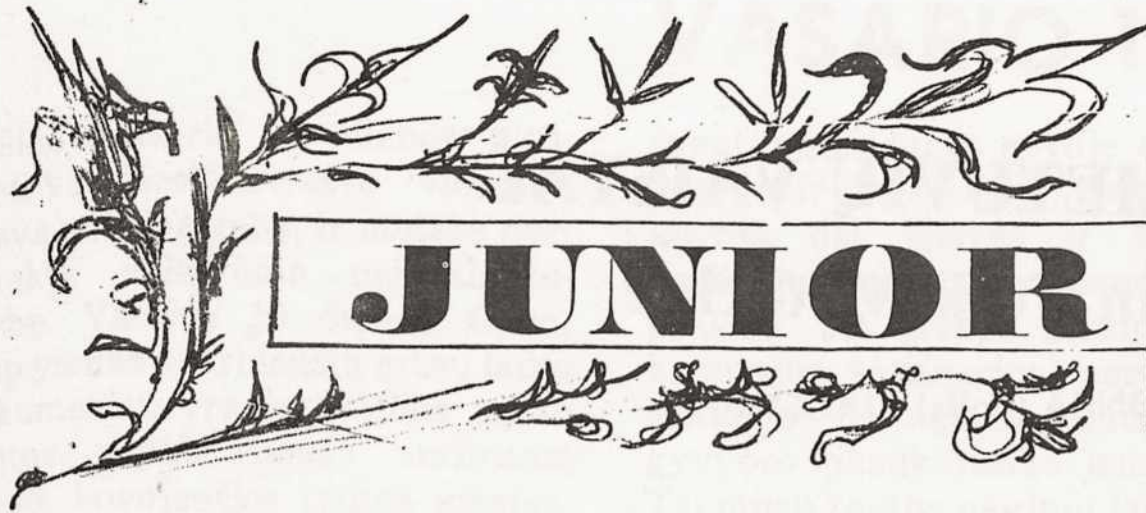
**Krienas - Horseradish:** Valgė, kad padėtų inkstams pašalinti iš kūno vandenį ir kitas nereikalingas medžiagas.

**Liepos žiedai - Linden:** Žiedų arbatą vartojo nervams nuraminti, išprakaitavimui, nuo galvos skaudėjimo, isterijos, taip pat plaudavo žaizdas. Žiedų medus turėjo didelę vertę.

**Pinavija, Bijūnas - Peony:** Bijūno žiedų lapelius virė ir gėrė nuo išgasčio.

**Pienė - Dandelion:** Žiedų arbatą gerdavo nuo, reumatinių skausmų, karščio nemigos, išvalymui inkstų, puslės, kepenų. Čigonai sakydavo, Kad karpos dings, jei patrinsi pienės stiebo sunka.

/Bus daugiau/



# JUNIOR NEWS

JUNIOR K. of L.  
AMSTERDAM, NY  
C-100

The election of our officers for 1987 took place at our October meeting.

Kenneth Jasiewicz - President  
Joseph Kot - Vice President  
Judy Nikstenas - Secretary  
Richard Jasewicz - Treasurer  
Tim Sakal - Sergaent-at-Arms  
Kelly Olson - Sergaent-at-Arms

A new member was welcomed - Micholeana Tambasco.

At our November meeting we made straw ornaments. Some of us attended the Festival of Nations in Syracuse, and found our National President, Frank Petrauskas working there. At the same time, New York Gov. Mario Cuomo made an appearance also. So we got to see him, too.

The next day, in Albany, a few of us helped out Bernice Aviza at the Lithuanian booth at the Albany Festival of Nations. Joseph Kot and Kelly Olson participated in the opening parade of nations. Joseph Kot also got to see one of his camp counselors from Neringa. The "Birzelis" Lithuanian Folk Dance Group from Hartford performed.

We had a nice Christmas party at St. Casimir's Social Center. We played games and sang Lithuanian and English Christmas carols.

Over Christmas vacation, some of us went roller-skating.

Joe K. (Jozukas)



*C-100 Jrs enjoying their Christmas Party at St. Casimirs' Church, Amsterdam*



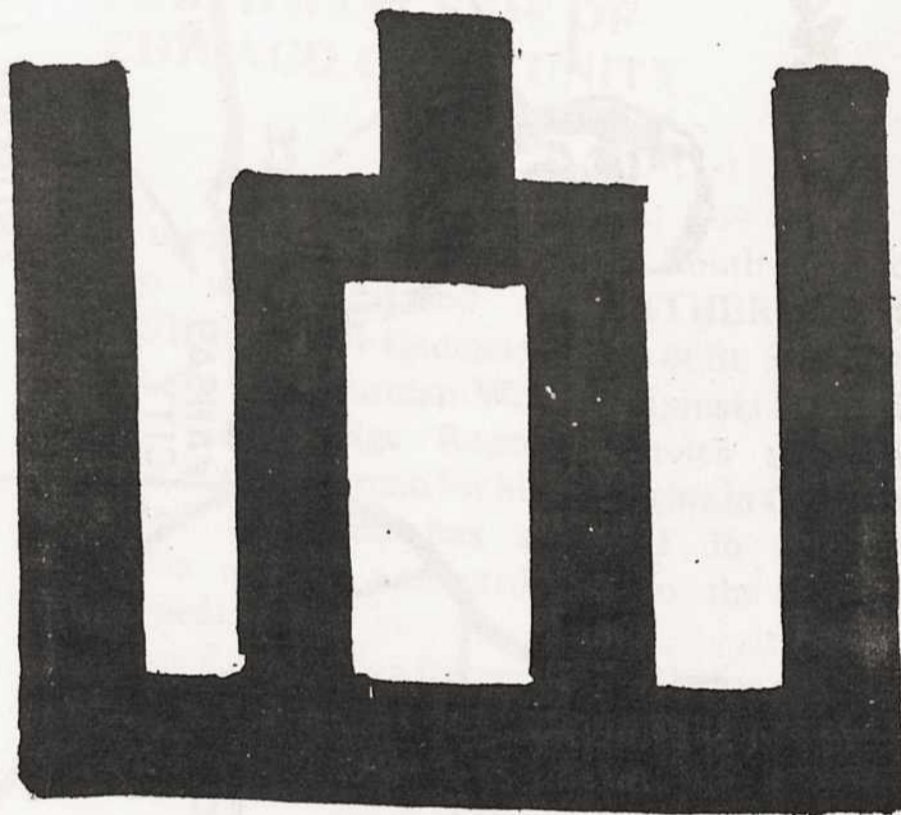
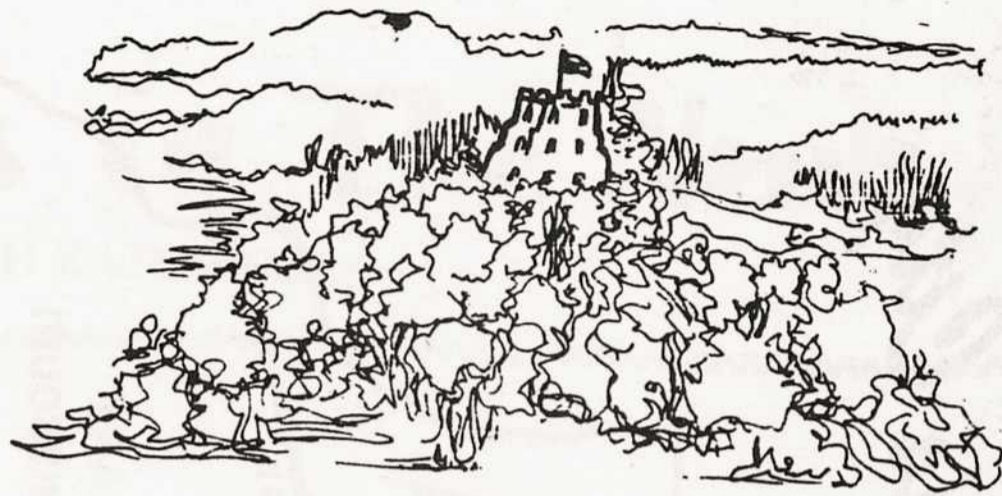
*C-100 Juniors visit National President Frank Petrauskas at Syracuse Festival of Nations (Kristen Olechowski, Pres. Petrauskas, Kelly Olsen and Joe Kot).*



## GEDIMINAS' COLUMNS

### What You Need:

1. Heavy colored paper  
Red. Yellow. Green
  2. Scissors
  3. Glue
1. Trace the design of Gediminas' Columns shown below on to heavy paper.
  2. Cut it out and then make 6 more forms - 2 red. 2 yellow. 2 green.
  3. Take three of the "Columns" and place one upon the other. Make sure the red is on the bottom. then the green. and last of all yellow.
  4. Glue them together. but do not glue the very edges.
  5. Fold back the edge of the green "column" so that the red shows.
  6. Fold back the edge of the yellow "column" so that the green shows.
  7. Trim the paper with a scissors on the fold line that you just created.
  8. Make another set of 3-columns.
  9. Glue the two sets of columns back to back.



## GEDIMINO STULPAI

The Post Gates emblem was the symbol of Gediminas' Sovereignty. He inscribed it on coins, shields, flags and seals, as did many of the earlier historic sovereigns, using the image of their own palace or city gates.

Gates figured in the heraldic bearings of a good number of European cities (Riga, Klaipeda, Vilnius). The idea was undoubtedly brought to Lithuania during the Middle Ages by the much-traveled missionary religious, who, in many instances, acted as scribes and secretaries to the Grand Dukes of Lithuania.

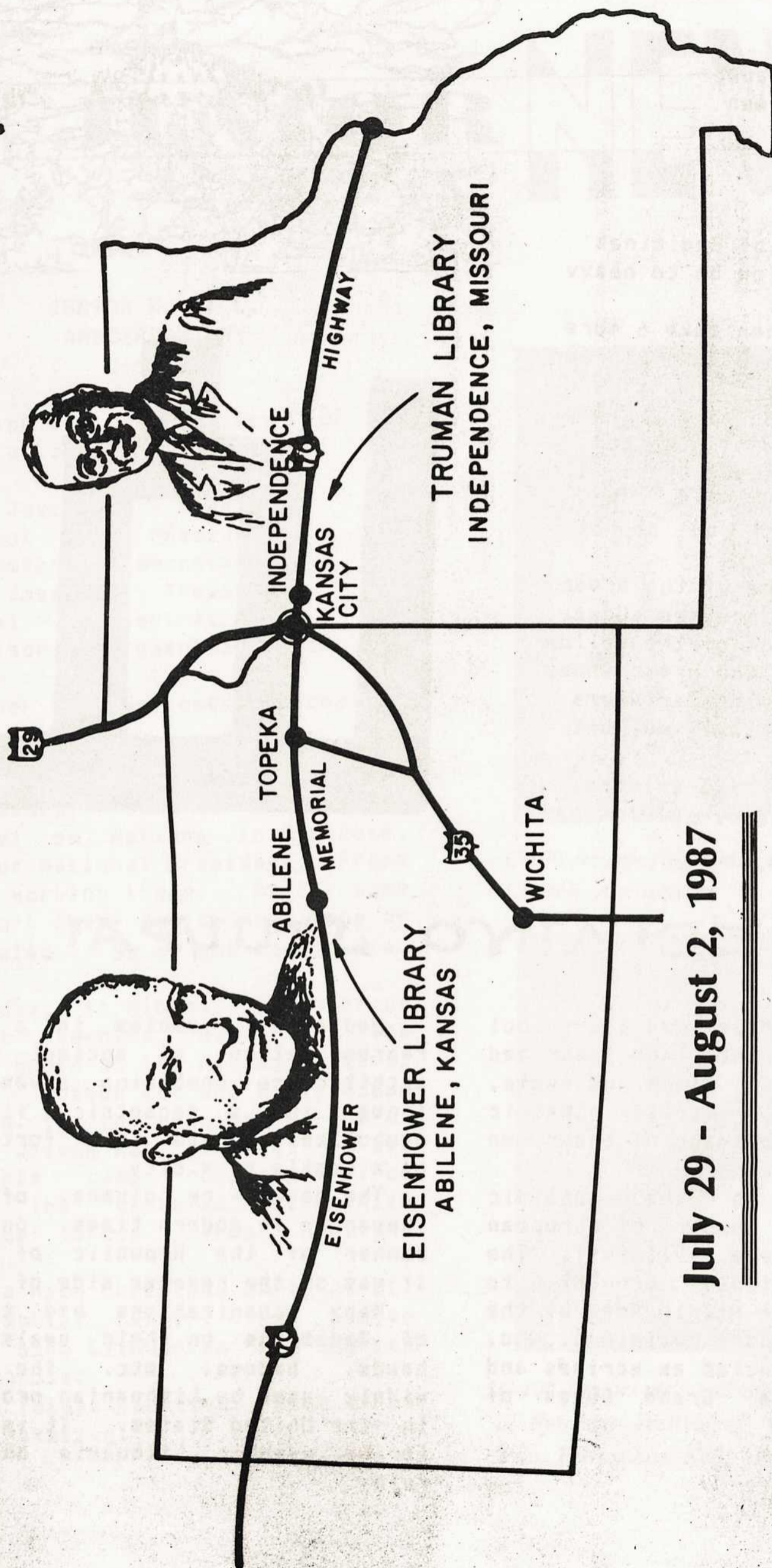
Gediminas' emblem is a realistic representation of ancient Lithuanian architecture combining seven straight lines in a geometric figure. It symbolized a gate in a fortified wall of a castle or a city.

The gates, or columns, of Gediminas appeared in modern times, on the state banner of the Republic of Lithuania. It was on the reverse side of the Vytautas.

Many organizations had the Columns of Gediminas on their seals, letter-heads, badges, etc. The emblem is widely used by Lithuanian organizations in the United States. It is forbidden to be used in Lithuania under Soviet rule.

18

*Plan Now To Attend The  
1987 K.O.L. Convention in Kansas City*



*The Convention Site is in the Heartland of two  
of America's Greatest Presidents!*

**HOST COUNCIL 150 KANSAS CITY**

# Lithuanians in The News

Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



*Congressman William Lipinski awarding Father Joseph Prunskis the Ray McDonald Community Achievement Award*

Noted in "The New York Times" and the "St. Petersburg Times", eighty Americans from 42 ethnic groups were named as recipients of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor by the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation.

The medals were presented to the recipients, all either naturalized or native Americans at a ceremony Oct. 27th on Ellis Island. That was the day before the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Statue of Liberty, the final event of the 1986 Liberty Centennial observances.

Among the recipients was DR. C. KAZYS BOBELIS, St. Petersburg, Fla., who was born in Lithuania and emigrated to the United States in 1942. He has been a urologist/surgeon for 25 years and a staff member at St. Anthony's Hospital for 10 years.

Dr. Bobelis is honorary chairman of the Lithuanian-American Council and president of the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania.

## FR. PRUNSKIS HONORED BY SOUTHWEST SIDE OF CHICAGO COMMUNITY

An award for dedication to the Southwest Side of Chicago was presented to FATHER JOSEPH PRUNSKIS, retired associate pastor of St. Symphorosa Church, by Congressman William Lipinski (D — 5th).

The "Clear-Ridge Reporter" notes that Father Prunskis is a spokesman for human rights in Communist-controlled countries, has authored 36 books and pamphlets and is a contributor to the Lithuanian Encyclopedia.

Father Prunskis is a frequent contributor of articles to the "Vytis".

\* \* \*

## DR. K. BOBELIS RECIPIENT OF ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR



## MISS U.S. TEEN - CHRIS ZUKAUSKAS

From the "Detroit Free Press" — Winning: CHRIS ZUKAUSKAS, 18, of Elizabeth, Pa., the title of Miss U.S. Teen.

## MARY KINCIUS NAMED "WOMAN OF THE YEAR" BY BRIGHTON LITHUANIAN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

MARY F. KINCIUS, President of C-36 Chicago and Trustee of the Supreme Council, was named "Woman of the Year" by the Brighton Lithuanian Homeowners Association.

The award was presented during the 25th Anniversary Banquet of the Homeowners Association last November at the Šaulių Hall in Chicago.



### ALGERD BRAZIS Recipient of Balzekas Museum Annual Excellence Award

The Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Agency commemorated its Silver Jubilee (1961-1986) last October at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City, with a solemn pontifical Mass, notes "The Recorder".

The principal celebrant was the Most Rev. Charles Salatka, archbishop of Oklahoma City, Okla. concelebrating the Mass were the Most Rev. Paulius Baltakis, bishop for spiritual care of Lithuanians beyond Lithuania; Most Rev. Vincentas Brizgys, auxiliary bishop emeritus of Kaunas, Lithuania in Exile; and the Most Rev. Basil H. Losten, bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford, Conn.

Pope John Paul II sent his greetings and blessing. Greetings from President Ronald Reagan were read by Linas Kojelis, representing the president at the dinner.

Recipient of the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid award was His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, archbishop of Chicago. A testimonial to Cardinal Bernardin was given by Bishop Baltakis and Dr. V. Peter Vygantas, senior vice president of Americana Hotels.

In attendance were members of C-100, Amsterdam,



Mary F. Kincius, "Woman of the Year", shown with Victor Utara, C-36, president of the Brighton Lithuanian Homeowners Association, and 12th Ward Aldermanic candidate David T. Zwolinski

The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture held its Annual Excellence Award Dinner in December in the new museum building at 6500 S. Pulaski, Chicago, Ill., in the Amber Ballroom.

The award recipient was ALGERD BRAZIS, member of C-112 Chicago and president of the Mid-America District, honored for his lifetime achievement and dedication to the performing arts.

Al toured Europe in 1938 with Pirmyn Chorus and sang his first leading role in an opera at the Goodman Theatre, Chicago. He then won many auditions with the San Carlo and Chicago opera companies.

After serving with the United States Army Tank Corps during World War II, he won auditions with the New York City Opera. In 1951, he had a successful recital in New York's Carnegie Hall and was signed by Rudolph Bing to a three-year contract with the Metropolitan Opera for 275 performances. Some of the outstanding talent he performed with were Helen Traubel, the late Richard Tucker, Jussi Bjorling, and the late Maria Callas.

After leaving the Metropolitan Opera, Al toured the country fulfilling many engagements. In Chicago, he performed with the Lyric and Lithuanian Operas, sang on the Theater of the Air on WGN radio and also performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in a Grant Park concert and in Orchestra Hall.

His wife ALDONA, also a member of C-112 Chicago, is an outstanding pianist and serves as his accompanist. Their four daughters also perform in the music field.

Chairmen of the dinner were STASYS BARAS and ARNOLD VOKETAITIS, both opera soloists. Special recognition was given to the openings of the Chicago Lithuanian Opera in 1956 and the Lithuanian Opera in Kaunas in 1920.

\* \* \*

ANN JILLIAN and her husband ANDY MURCIA were guests on the Phil Donahue show which aired on CBS-TV December 22nd.

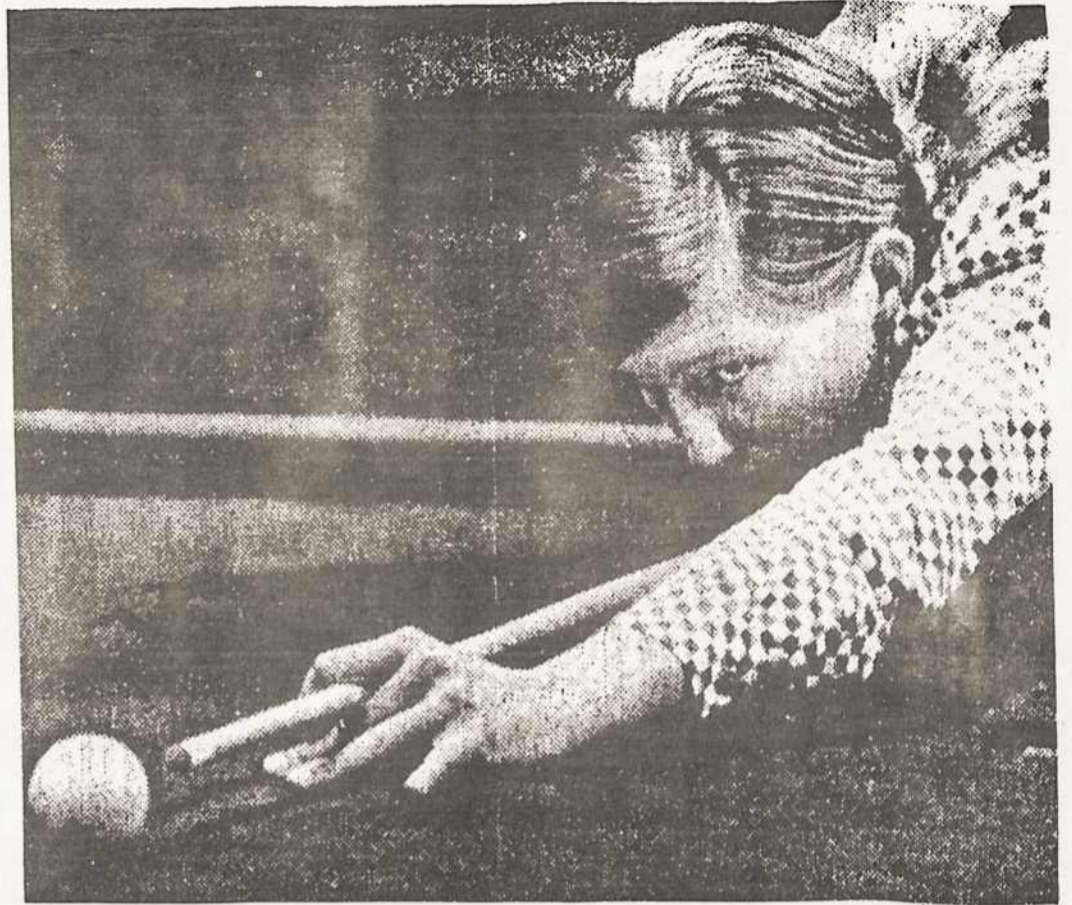
## BILLIARDS HALL OF FAME - JEAN BALUKAS

JEAN BALUKAS, 27, is Women's Professional Pocket Billiards champ, having won more than 100 billiards titles. She has been inducted into the Billiards Hall of Fame.

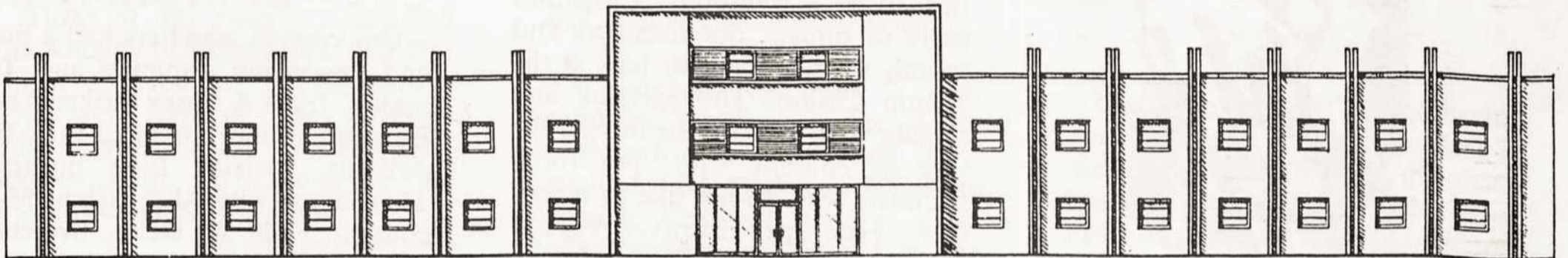
In a professional career that dates back almost two decades, she is the top record holder for organized women's competition.

A resident of Bay Ridge, New York, she is considered the greatest woman player of all time. She entered her first professional tournament at 9. In 1972, at 16, she captured her first U.S. Open Championship and became the youngest national champion in American sports history.

Jean's father is Lithuanian, and mother is Norwegian. They have attended several events at the Cultural Center in New York, and take pride in their Lithuanian heritage.



## TOURING THE NEW BALZEKAS MUSEUM OF LITHUANIAN CULTURE



### New logo of the Balzekas Museum by Ann Rackas Museum Architect

The main exhibit of the new Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture is "Lithuania Through The Ages". It focuses on Lithuanian history and culture from pre-historic times to the present.

The Women's Guild Room has been newly designed and the exhibits revolve around the role of Lithuanian women. A featured exhibit is on 19th and 20th century Lithuanian women and their exceptional contributions to their country and their people. Other highlights include the new authentic Lithuanian costume exhibit, textile display and "Amber in the Art Form".

The new art gallery was opened in conjunction with the grand re-opening festivities that took place in September. A most outstanding exhibit is featured. The "Time and Space" exhibit contains over 100 pieces of fine art and is collected from over 20 noted artists of Lithuanian descent.

At the opening festivities the Chicago Psaltery Ensemble, one of the few Lithuanian folk music groups in the United States presented a beautiful program of Lithuanian folk music on traditional instruments.

The Knights of Lithuania Choir under the direction of Faustas Strolia, C-36, also presented a musical program.

The new Balzekas Museum will serve as not only a museum and archive for Lithuanian historical materials but also as a cultural center for all Lithuanians to use.

# Vyčiai Veikia



# Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT



### C-3 — PHILADELPHIA

Our 1986-87 year started out with great enthusiasm on the part of the membership. In October Father Eugne Wassel, our spiritual advisor and pastor of St. Casimir's Parish, asked us to join his parish in the Festival of Faith and a Healing Mass. We are proud to report that our members attended the opening Mass on Sunday morning. After Mass, there was coffee and cake. Thanks to Joe Drumstas and Victor Stepalovitch. The meeting was conducted and elections were held. Some members stayed on for the Healing Mass.

The November meeting was very well attended. Father Wassel was again with us to swear in the following officers: president, Joseph Drumstas; vice president, Victor Stepalovitch; secretary, Dianne Drumstas; treasurer, Marge

Petronis and financial secretary, Agnes Mickunas. After all the business of the day was concluded, we had a lovely wine and cheese party. Thanks to Marge Petronis.

With a new year comes new ideas. Instead of a traditional Christmas party or dinner, our members and friends went to try their luck at the Trump Casino. The partying and singing were held on the bus on the way to Atlantic City. For those members who do not like to travel, our vice president, Victor Stepalovitch whipped together a mini-Kucios after our December meeting.

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Anneta Zulick in August and Joseph Kibaratas in November. Council 3 extends to Jeanne Janonis sincere sympathy. Larry was one of our dearest friends and will be missed by Council 3.

*Dianne Drumstas*

### C-74 -- SCRANTON

Council 74 hosted their annual Kucios, the traditional Christmas Eve supper, on December 7 in St. Joseph Church Hall. President Gertrude Romeika reported a good attendance of members and guests.

Mary and Jerome Costello co-chaired the event. Committee members were Marie Laske, decorations; Ann Lisowski, gifts; Peg and Ed Romanuskas, "virytos"; Margaret Laibinis and Ann Galenas, greetings; Gertrude

Romeika, tickets; Dick Laske and Jerry Costello, chances; Rose Stanches, "plotkeles"; Nancy Laske and Jerry Costello, Jr., tree decorations.

*Martha Brack*

### C-72 -- BINGHAMTON

Our council members had a busy and rewarding summer and fall season. Irene & Casey Grikenis and Elizabeth Kunce attended the Mid-Atlantic District June meeting. They, along with Al & Melane Marchuska, Felix & Helen Svereika, participated in the Amsterdam, Doylestown and Auriesville Lithuanian functions and pilgrimages.

Our June picnic was a particularly enjoyable and satisfying event in which all twenty-two of our members participated.

Council 72 was extremely fortunate to have National President Petrauskas in attendance at our September 21 meeting which was held in conjunction with our first annual fall dinner. Special guests Adeline & Steve Raila narrated VCR tapes of their recent visit to Lithuania.

Dinner chairperson Joseph Missavage, ably assisted by his wife Edith, did a tremendous job in organizing twenty-one persons of the dinner committee to truly make this a Lithuanian banquet. The menu contained all the special goodies. Everyone had such a great time that it was agreed to invite guests and potential members to the second annual fall dinner.

Our November meeting included the election of officers for 1987. They are Irene Grikenis, president; Arthur S. Stankevitz, vice president; Mary Ann Skiba, secretary; Casey Grikenis, financial secretary; Mary Guokas, treasurer and John Mankus cultural chairman and Vytis correspondent.

This month's cultural discussion of Lithuanian history pertained to the pre-historia era, the formation of the Lithuanian landscape, original inhabitants and their culture, original Lithuanian tribes and the first references of Lithuanians in foreign chronicles.

Our members were very active in Saint Joseph Parish fall and winter activities, such as church breakfasts and suppers, this year's Christmas banquet and the church choir where every Sunday hymns are sung both in English and Lithuanian.

Three of our members attended the Knights of Lithuanian 73rd National Convention in Allentown. They were Irene & Casey Grikenis and Father John Mikalajunas. Father John participated in the Faith Awareness Program.

*Iki pasimatymo*  
John R. Mankus

## C-100 — AMSTERDAM

Rev. Anthony Grigaitis opened our well-attended October meeting with prayer. Election of officers resulted in persuading Tony Radzevich to accept the office of president for another year. The rest of the officers were reelected to their respective offices with the exception of cultural chairman. Mr. & Mrs. Steve Raila stepped down from the cultural chairmanship. Polly Ziausys accepted that chairmanship.

For the finale, a surprise farewell party for Father Grigaitis who is leaving us for the Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam was staged with Irene & Harold Tice chairing the event. Many members brought covered dishes. Father Grigaitis was most pleasantly surprised and thanked us with the promise of returning in spring for a visit.



*The Fourth Degree is bestowed upon Rev. Anthony Grigaitis. Fr. Baltch, Elizabeth Kuzmitch, Polly Ziausys and Anthony Radzevich assist.*

On Sunday, November 2, Rev. Anthony Grigaitis was inducted into the Fourth Degree at Mass. Rev. Baltch, Ritual Chairman Elizabeth Kuzmich, President Radzevich and Polly Ziausys participated in the presentation.

Bernice Aviza, Regina Kot, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Raila, Gerard Drenzek and Junior Kristin Olechowski attended the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Jubilee Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and dinner at the Waldorf Astoria.

The Berzelis Dancers from Hartford performed at the Festival of Nations at the Albany Empire Plaza on November 16. Bernice Aviza was assisted by Polly Ziausys, Gerard Drenzek, Regina Kot and Juniors Kristin Olechowski, Judianne Niksteans, Kelly Olson and Joseph Kot. Ed Baranauskas and Genute also assisted.

Polly Ziausys reported on preparations for commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day. Dr. Jack J. Stukas will be the principal speaker. A new group of dancers from Rochester under the direction of Mrs. Jadvyga Regina will perform.

Our November 10 gathering opened with a Lithuanian Mass in memory of our deceased members. Father Faltch celebrated the Mass; Polly Ziausys did the readings; offertory gifts were presented by President Anthony Radvevich and his wife Ann. The list of deceased members was read by Vice President Gene Gobis.

Business meeting followed in the Social Center. Bernice Aviza announced that Governor Cuomo issued a proclamation on the 10th anniversary of the Helsinki Committee.

Hudson Valley College again was a Lithuanian course with Genute Baranauskas teaching. Twenty-six students enrolled.

Father Baltch spoke on the upcoming events in Rome for the 600th Jubilee. He also stated that predictions were made that by the year 2010 there will be no priests of Lithuanian extraction in the USA. The Knights of Lithuania and the Lithuanian American Community will be the only two organizations in existence at that time.

President and ~~Mr.~~ Radzevich and Mr. & Mrs. Edward Ziausys

served cider and doughnuts at the November meeting.

Irene Tice along with her husband Harold chaired the Christmas party. Bill & Jennie Burimaukas, Sophie & Walter Malkewicz, Steve & Adeline Raila, Gerard Drenzek, Ed & Polly Ziausys, Helen Zytkowski, Regina Kot & Vincent Rossi served on the committee.

*SMILE & SPARKLE*

### C-109 — GREAT NECK

With nary a cloud in the sky, Council 109 members and guests celebrated with a picnic in famed Kings Point Park. Heavens agreed and let the sunshine flow with food galore, topics galore all made merry.

To join the festivity a raccoon appeared to partake of food with us. Natch, he stole the show. Many were tempted to take him home as a pet. To give the party an international flavor, Jane Schwarz wore a babushka.

One of our best known and best loved members, President Alexander Wesey, was greatly feted by being named "Man of the Year" by the business community of Great Neck. Honors were bestowed at the US Merchant Marine Academy. Proudly we hail our most honored President.

Attention Chicago! Be on the lookout for Darrell Tomasiunas, our Vice President, whose business was transferred to your Windy City. Grab him quickly — a dedicated member.

We welcome our new members to 109. Our cordial club salutes Constance Metz, Dorothy Audryasukas, Charles & Katherine Nikiunas. Our drive is on for new members.

Congratulations to Mary Rusas Kober who was elected National Financial Secretary. We're bursting with pride to have Council 109 represented. A very good and wise choice!

Bus rides to Atlantic City seem to be very profitable. More will be scheduled this coming year. Lady Luck still rides high!

Elections were recently held. Our new Board is as follows: President, Al Wesey; Secretary, Connie Metz; Financial Secretary, Mary Santagata; Treasurer, George Blecka; Sergeant at Arms, Anthony Kober; Vitis Correspondent, Jack Malis; Social Committee, Mary Santagata, Bertha Fucks, Amelia Mileskie, Jane Swarz, Martha Krug; Cultural, Eufemija Cibas, Stacia Wain.

*Eufemija*

Ran into Bill, Pete and Joe Bernatovich and their lovely wives. Was sorry to hear they suffered family losses. May the days ahead be brighter and may we see more of them at our functions.

*"Jackutis"*

### C-110 — MASPETH

While the days of our lives march on so does death. Our council suffered a great loss in October. Four members died: Peter Unger, Walter Kash, John Lekstutis and Alice Veyvoda.

The Board of Directors and members performed the Knights of Lithuania Christian Wake Ritual that reveals the conception of life's meaning and man's destiny. The members extend their condolences to the surviving families. The memories of the deceased will be kept alive in the Council Memorial Service.

The Barn Dance held on November 22 was attended by 116 members and friends. It was an inspiring event and a wonderful evening of both square and traditional dancing. The evening ended with all in good spirits. Congratulations are in order to the following committee members: Al Kraujalis, chairman, Stasia Kraujalis, Frank & Nellie Iuskevich, Anthony & Helen Yakaitis and Joseph Marcella.

There is one day that members of Council 110 become truly Americans and that is on Thanksgiving Day. This is the day we count our blessings and remember in our prayers those in Lithuania for their hope for justice and freedom.

Tour Director Adomenas and his travellers returned home safely from their trip to Hawaii with a stopover in Las Vegas. The consensus of opinion was that the trip was very enjoyable.

*Joseph C. Dugan*

### C-140 — SYRACUSE

Your reporter has been a little lax. It is nearly a year since our last report. We promise to bring you up to date with this report.

Our new member, Dr. Tom Michalsi, had the good fortune to attend the 400th anniversary celebration of the University of Vilnius in 1979. After one of our meetings Tom showed us not only his slides of the University but also the city of Vilnius and the Lithuanian countryside. It was a beautiful presentation and our members were grateful to Tom.

Our younger members, Dr. Peg and Joe Stanley, presented us with a potential member. They had a baby daughter in December of 85 and we congratulate them.

C-140 celebrated the commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day on February 16 with a Mass followed by a program and refreshments. Vice President Bill Cook spoke on "The Lithuanian Air Force Between WW I and WW II." Bill did a lot of research on this subject and hopes to write a book on it. His talk was well received by the members and guests.

St. Casimir's Day was celebrated with a Mass and brunch at the Ramada Inn. As usual there was a nice turnout. Veronica Sutkus was chairperson.

Six of our members attended the MAD meeting in Frackville on March 9. They were impressed with the large attendance and the fine hospitality of C-144.

In May C-140 members had the honor and pleasure of attending the Golden Wedding Anniversary celebration of two of our founding members, Jack and Mary Zutant. The Bernie Schmidt Singers, a local



group in which daughter Elnora is a member, participated at the Mass when Jack and Mary renewed their vows. A reception followed at the Quality Inn. Their four beautiful children along with their spouses did an excellent job with arrangements. It was truly a lovely day.

At the MAD meeting Mass on June 8 at Forest City, Jack and Mary again renewed their vows because they were married in St. Anthony's church. During the meeting they received their Third Degree Medals. A large group of Syracuse members attended.

Some of our members attended the Day of Prayer at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, on June 14. It was a beautiful day. Thanks to Father Timothy!

C-140 had a nice turnout for the National Convention in Allentown. Our members returned home with good reports and good grades for Chairman Helen Shields and her staff. We were also happy to see our own Frank Petrauskas reelected to his second term as National President. Congratulations to Katherine Cravetts and Catherine Brandt on receiving their Fourth Degree.

Our people are excited about the 1987 Convention in Kansas City. Plans are being made to attend.

A Mass for the Oppressed Church of Lithuania was held at St. Stephen's on September 21. After Mass there was a short business meeting with refreshments.

Irene Petrauskas had a major operation in late August. Her recovery was slow but steady.

At our October meeting, the following slate of officers was elected for 1987: Frank Petrauskas, president; Paul Rudd, vice president; Jack Brandt, treasurer; Irene Petrauskas, secretary; John Stanley and John Sutkus, trustees.

Our council hosted the October Supreme Council Meeting at St. Stephen's Church. Veronica Sutkus and her assistants served lunch and dinner and catered to all of their needs.

The Festival of Nations was again successful for the Lithuanian booth. Nellie Bayoras-Romanas and Helen Banos of C-143 Pittston exhibited their many precious Lithuanian artifacts. Our famous potato pancakes were again a sellout. Lee and Paul Moore of C-86 Dubois were our guests for the weekend so we put them to work to learn first hand the potato pancake routine.

November and December were not happy months. In November we lost our dear friend Larry Janonis, long time MAD President. Our sincere sympathy to his dear wife

Jeanne. On December 2 we lost one of our founding members, John Sutkus. John and his wife Veronica were two of our most active members. If it had any Lithuanian flavor, they were interested. John will be greatly missed by C-140. We extend to Veronica our deepest sympathies.

Former Vice President Bill Cook and his wife Kathy moved to Maine. They will be teaching at the University of Maine. Good luck to you both!

*Pusbrolis*



*C-140's potato pancakes a sell-out again at The Syracuse Festival of Nations*



*Nellie Bayoras-Romanas and Helen Banos of C-143 Pittston exhibit Lithuanian artifacts at Syracuse Festival of Nations*

## C-144 — ANTHRACITE

Anthracite Council held its annual traditional Kucios in Saint Casimir Parish Hall in Saint Clair.

Anne Wargo was mistress of ceremonies. A welcome was given by Father Ronald Jankaitis, parish pastor, and Joseph Yezulinas, president. Father Matthew Jarasunas, spiritual advisor and pastor of Our Lady of Siluva, Maizeville, gave the Kucios blessing in Lithuanian followed by the reading of the Gospel.

The Christmas wafers, plotekes, were then shared. With the breaking of the wafers, each one wishes good fortune, health and happiness in the coming year.

The Christmas Eve dinner was then served with 12 foods representing the 12 apostles: red beet soup with mushrooms, fruit compote, cranberry pudding (kiselis), biscuits with poppy seed milk (bobukes su aguonu piena), baked fish, saurekraut with sardines, peas, potatoes, rye bread, apples, nuts and cookies.

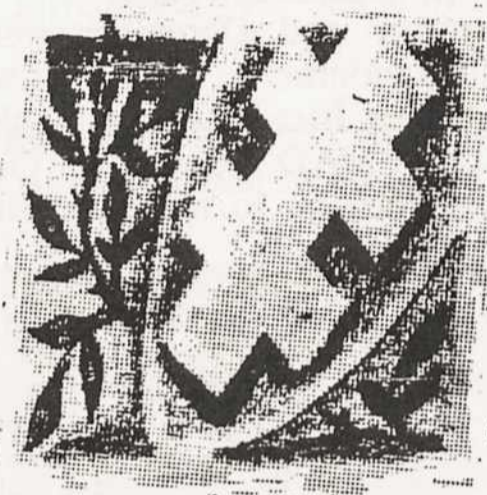
Following the meal, Rita Shevokas gave a reading on Kucios traditions and the Christmas Eve superstitions of old Lithuania. She then led the group in the singing of Lithuanian Christmas carols. Rita and Gloria Dauchess then played the part of Kaledu Dedukas in the awarding of the prizes.

Clergy attending were Father Robert Potts, pastor St. George, Shenandoah; Father William Linchorst, SS. Peter & Paul, Tamaqua; Father Daniel Yenushosky, St. Francis, Minersville. Special guests were Sisters of Saint Casimir, Minersville, and Sisters of Jesus Crucified, Frackville and Elmhurst.

Co-chairpersons were Anne Wargo of Saint Clair and Helen Chesko of Mahanoy City, assisted by Ginner Kazlauskas, Natalie Yurickones, Nell Klizas, Francis Brillus, Beatrice Rudzinski, Saint Clair; Frances Stefanick, Agnes Morse, Middlesport; Victoria Caldwell, Pottsville; Esther Bartashus, New Philadelphia; Pat

Roberts, Verna Danisavich, Kathy Bridgen, Mahanoy City; Anna Zaldaris, Betty Tumis, Ann Nardini, Tamaqua; Rita Shevokas, New Philadelphia and Gloria Dauchess, Pottsville.

## Mid Central District



## C-25 — CLEVELAND

A very quiet meeting was held in October with minimal members in attendance. Election of officers was postponed until November.

Opportunity presented itself and the Oberaitises flew to Germany for a five-day visit in a beautiful country with congenial people and weather comparable to our as reported. The standard of living is high, but a Porche can be purchased for \$3000 less than in the USA. No-o-o, we didn't!

The November meeting was well attended, and nominations and election of officers came about with no problems. The slate of officers remained the same with one or two exceptions. Congratulations to all!

The Jakubs went "down-under" to visit Australia while the Machutas went "up-over" to see Hawaii. All returned in time to help with the Koffee Klatch on November 28 in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Hall. All donations are presented to the parish.

On December 6 Cleveland was presented with the opportunity to enjoy the entertainment of the Lietuviu Meno Ansamblis Dainava and Lamento Lietuviu Tautiniu Soku Grupe "Spindulys." The

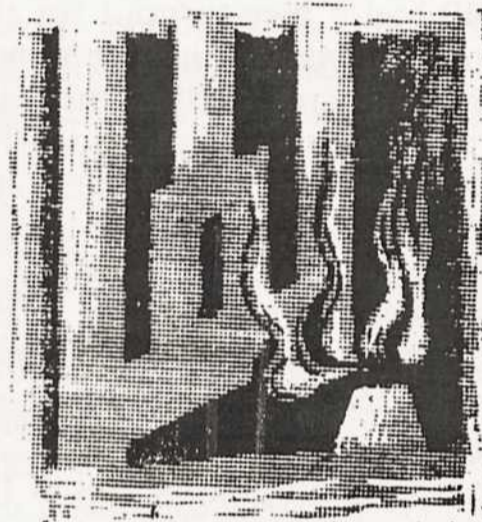
Chicago group presented "A Lithuanian Wedding." Good show! A few familiar faces were in the audience.

The December meeting brought forth a marvelous attendance. There was discussion of our contribution to OLPB Building Fund. We're working on it. Some good ideas are floating around.

Our annual Christmas party was held on December 13 at Europa Party Center. Fifty participants were visited by Santa, Joe Ivoska. Good food, gifts for everyone and a good time was had by all. A big hand for the committee!

*Dolly-O*

## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT



## C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Our council held their annual Kucios on December 13 following the evening Mass at St. Francis in Athol. The church and hall were decorated for the holiday season, including Lithuanian style Christmas trees decorated by St. Francis Women's Guild.

As head of the K of L family, Fr. Steponaitis began with a prayer of thanksgiving for the blessings of the past year and added a wish that all remain intact within the coming year. He blessed, broke and shared the plotkelis with all in attendance, and they in turn with each other.

The menu consisted of twelve meatless specialties symbolizing the twelve apostles: fish chowder, various herring dishes, kugelis,

## MID-AMERICA DISTRICT



*C-112 (Chicago) along with Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas enjoying a dinner-dance*



*Dr. Leonas Kriaučeliūnas, National K of L representative to ALTas, Irene Sankus and Algerd Brazis, MAMD VP and President.*



**ARTHUR C. KAMMER**  
Member C-110, Maspeth  
Died December 19, 1986

**JULIA VANCE**  
Member C-110, Maspeth  
Died January 1987

**LOTTIE ULRICH**  
Member C-110, Maspeth  
Died January 5, 1987

**FRANCES SANTIC**  
Member C-110, Maspeth  
Died January 27, 1987



**JOSEPH KIBARTAS**  
Member C-3, Philadelphia  
Died November, 1986

**ANN KAYRUKTIS**  
Member C-143, Pittston  
Died January 5, 1987

**JOSEPH MESKINS**  
Member C-50, New Haven  
Died December 10, 1987

**IMELDA CHIVAS**  
Member C-145, Holyoke  
Died November, 1986

**JOHN SUTKUS**  
Member C-140, Syracuse  
Died December, 1986

C-112  
 MRS. JOSEPHINE DAUZVARDIS  
 CONSULATE OF LITHUANIA  
 6147 S. ARTESIAN  
 CHICAGO, IL 60629

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

Return requested  
 Address Correction Requested



casseroles, farmer's cheese and Christmas pastries.

Following the meal, Lithuanian traditions were enacted. All in attendance reached into a bowl of nuts and counted them. An even number indicated marriage to the singles, an odd number another year alone. Straws were also drawn. The length of the straw determined the length of life or to the young the length of their single life.

Traditional carols were sung with Alec Kuzmeskus at the piano.

Both dailies carried lengthy articles of the event, and the Gardner News included Lithuanian recipes for a typical Kucius supplied by Brone Wisniauskas.

Many of the K of L'ers were seen at St. Francis Parish Appreciation Dinner on January 11.

The Genaitises spent several weeks with their daughter and family in Seattle, Washington. Julia Meehan recently returned from a trip to the Caribbean Islands.

Welcome to C-10 Bruno Savulis of Greenfield, brother of Brone Wisniauskas.

*Vincukas*

### C-50 — NE HAVEN

Our Seventh Turkey and Christmas Boutique took place in St. Casimir's Church Hall on November 22. Eleanor Gutauskas and Sophie Aunce were in charge of the boutique. Bruno Strimaitis, Frank & Irene Peterson and Mike Meizies took care of the raffle tickets. We also had an assembly line working in the kitchen to keep

**FREEDOM**

**FOR**

*Lithuania*



those hot bleenies going throughout the afternoon. It was a fantastic day with more members getting involved. The Yuletide spirit prevailed once again.

John & Barbara Petrullis, Barbara, Robert, and Jerry Morcus, Mary & Albin Papeika and Anthony Adams were sworn in as new members at the November meeting.

Installation of our new officers took place before Mass on December 7. Father Karalis gave us his blessing and expressed his best wishes for the new slate as follows: Frank Peterson, president; Albert Gutauskas, vice president; Ann Meskins, treasurer; Audrey Toole, recording secretary; Al Gedrim, financial secretary; Helen Balchus, corresponding secretary; Isabella Peterson, Anthony Kordorsky, sergeants at arms and Bruno Strimaitis and Helen Medley, trustees. Helen Balchus continues as Vytis correspondent and Bernice Barile serves as ritual chairman.

*Helen Blachus*

### C-26 — WORCESTER

A severe ice storm forced postponement of our Christmas party to January 13.

We commend co-chairpersons Ann Bender and Rita Pinkus and committee on their beautiful work for our council's 70th anniversary held last November 15.

Congratulations to young Bill Grigas, son of Bill and Carol, who was awarded the distinction of "Ace Carrier" at a banquet recently given by Worcester's newspaper, The Telegram & Gazette.

A warm welcome to Leonore Adamonis, Phyllis Morin and Eva Peciulis, all of whom have rejoined Council 26.

A happy, healthy and prosperous 1987 to all our K of L friends!

*"Dzukele"*

