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KNIGHTS OF
LITHUANIA
74th NATIONAL
CONVENTION 1987



1987

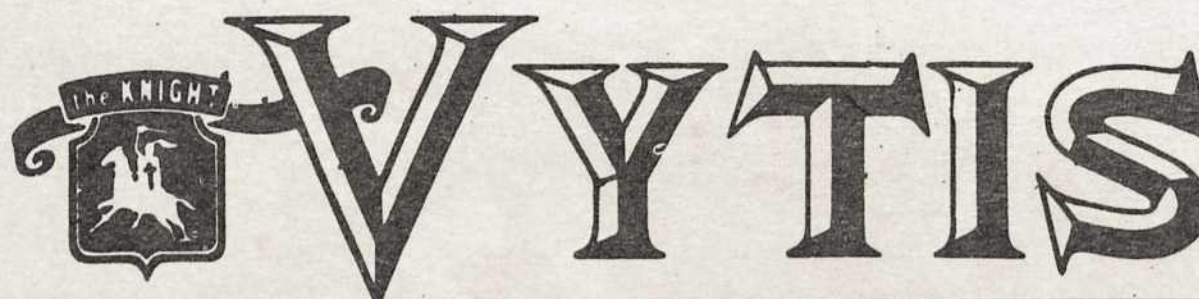
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SPIRITUAL ADVISOR
Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, OP
Providence College
Providence, RI 02918
(401) 865 - 2380

PRESIDENT
Frank Petrauskas
201 Bennington Dr.
Syracuse, NY 13205
(315) 492 - 0689
1st VICE PRESIDENT
Frances R. Petkus
800 Haldeman Ave.
Dayton, OH 45404
(513) 236 - 0395

2nd VICE PRESIDENT
Frank Peterson
256 Sea Hill Rd.
North Branford, CT 06471
(203) 481 - 0776

3rd VICE PRESIDENT
Marytė Lepera
117 Boulder Rd.
Plymouth Mtg., PA 19462
(215) 825 - 2740

RECORDING SECRETARY
Mary Juzenas
4613 W. 102nd St.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(312) 425 - 6014

TREASURER
Alphonse Trainis
111 Old Towne Rd.
Cheshire, CT 06410
(203) 271 - 2876

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Mary Rusas Kober
2 Bayview Ave.
Port Washington, NY 11050
(516) 767 - 1517

TRUSTEE
Eugene Ashley
2219 Orville Ave.
Kansas City, KS 66102
(913) 342 - 5065

TRUSTEE
Mary F. Kinclius
2461 W. 45th Pl.
Chicago, IL 60632
(312) 927 - 4990

MAD PRESIDENT
Jonas Adomėnas
69 Irving Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11237
(718) 497 - 5212

VYTIS STAFF

DALIA BULVICIUS
Editor in Chief
Franciscan Press
341 Highland Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11207

MARY RUSAS KOBER
Associate Editor
2 Bayview Avenue
Port Washington, NY 11050

PHILIP SKABEIKIS
Feature Editor

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

BIRUTĖ KIDOLIS
Art Editor

MAMD PRESIDENT
Algerd Brazis
8022 W. 85th Pl.
Justice, IL 60458
(312) 598 - 6193

MCD PRESIDENT
Frances R. Petkus
800 Haldeman Ave.
Dayton, OH 45404
(513) 236 - 0395

NED PRESIDENT
Albert G. Jaritis
75 Gates St.
S. Boston, MA 02127
(617) 269 - 1503

LEGAL ADVISOR
Saulius V. Kuprys
Henehan Donovan & Isaacson
135 S. LaSalle St., Rm 3905
Chicago, IL 60603

VYTIS EDITOR
Dalia Bulvičius
Franciscan Press
341 Highland Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11207
(718) 782 - 1541

ARCHIVES CHAIR
Longinas Svelnis
43 Gage St.
Needham, MA 02192
(617) 444 - 7499

CULTURAL CHAIR
Regina Kot
R.D. No. 5
Mannys Cors Rd.
Amsterdam, NY 12010
(518) 843 - 0366

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP
Stanley Vaitkus
516 Hialeah Ct.
Vandalia, OH 45377
(513) 898 - 3030

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS
Dr. Jack Stukas
234 Sunlit Dr.
Watchung, NJ 07060
(201) 753 - 5636

LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE
Apolonija Ziausys
4 Bartlett St.
Amsterdam, NY 12010
(518) 842 - 7208

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Sabina Klatt
45 Windsor DR
Oakbrook, IL 60521
(312) 573 - 0066

RITUAL COMMITTEE
Rita Pinkus, Chair.
76 Providence St.
Worcester, MA 01604
(617) 756 - 1439

Albert Zakarka
6958 S. Rockwell St.
Chicago, IL 60629
(312) 434 - 7785

Scottie Zukas
5112 S. Mayfield Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638
(312) 582 - 3820

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
William J. Piacentini, Jr., Chair.
362 Webster Ave.
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 943 - 3495

Clemencine Miller
80 Cottage St.
Trumbull, CT 06611

Paul Binkis, Jr.
7126 S. Fairfield Ave.
Chicago, IL 60629
(312) 471 - 4804

Gloria Dauchess
516 Greenwood Ave.
Pottsville, PA 17901
(717) 628 - 5700

Rita Shevokas
87 Water St.
New Philadelphia, PA 17959
(717) 277 - 6913

Sr. Alvernia Walls, O.S.F.
Grove & McRoberts Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15234

LCR COORDINATOR
Florence Zalaskas
264 Bowen St.
South Boston, MA 02127
(617) 269 - 1873

K of L FOUNDATION
Loretta Stukas
234 Sunlit Dr.
Watchung, NJ 07060
(201) 753 - 5636

VYČIŲ VEIKLA EDITOR
Alexander Pakalniškis, Jr.
11 Sycamore Lane
Westfield, Ma 01885

Editorial

Well, here is our first baby, hope you like it!

Our sincere thanks to all who assisted us by sending in articles, especially Anne Wargo Al Wesey, Fran Petkus, Jonas Antanavičius and others. We are sorry not to have printed some of them but we incorporated much of the information in the printed ones.

It is very important that you continue to send in items. Don't think they may not be

good enough. Send them in and we will judge. Photographs are also welcome.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Al Wesey of Council 109 who has donated a generous amount towards the making of cuts. The printer charges 5 dol. per cut, and you can see how expensive it is when you count all the photos in this issue.

Last but not least, please give us constructive criticism. We are open to advice or suggestions. Let's all work faithfully together towards a better VYTIS.

Dalia Bulvicius — Editor

Mary Rusas Kober — Associate
Editor

WE LEFT OUR HEARTS IN KANSAS CITY

DALIA BULVICIUS

To many of us, gathered at the 73th convention in Allentown, Pa, it was a mild shock, when Council 150 invited us to come to Kansas City, Kansas for the 74th Convention. We had to admit that we did not know too much about the place. Visions of the Wizard of Oz, Judy Garland, Toto and great open plains raced through our minds. Council 150 must really be brave to undertake this formidable task. Some councils, the so-called "experts" at arranging conventions, must have had some doubts. Our baby, Council 150, only three years old and already arranging a convention. Many of us older councils acted like worried moms. Boy, did our baby surprise us!

At the Kansas City airport we were greeted by a large LABAS sign which brought a sentimental feeling to our hearts. Again at the hotel entrance the marquee proclaimed "Welcome Knights of

Lithuania"! What a warm reception. Even the thermometer stood at 97 degrees and it was only 10 a.m.

Those of us who had arrived earlier were treated to various tours. There was much to learn about this area. For me, it was especially meaningful. When I arrived in the States in 1949 Harry S Truman was president. And now, here I am visiting his homestead in Independence, Missouri and placing a flower on his grave. I often thank Harry for producing a daughter like Margaret, who is a great writer and whose mystery novels are a real treat to me.

The opening Mass was offered by spiritual advisor Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis at the beautiful church of St. Mary's — St. Anthony on Thursday July 30; The convention motto was taken from the writings of Blessed George Matulaitis: "Seek God, bring His Spirit to all things"! The first session was opened with the presentation of the colors and a prayer by Father Jurgelaitis. A special prayer was offered for our deceased members especially Larry Janonis and Irene Sankus who were terribly missed at this first convention without them. They both were exemplary presidium members. Today their places were taken by chairman Algirdas Budreckis and co-chairmen Frances Petkus and Jonas

Adomėnas. Secretaries were Rita Pinkus and Ann Bender.

Eugene Ashley, chairman of the convention welcomed us and Frank Petrauskas our ever popular president gave his "State of the Organization" report. Loretta Stukas, Clemencine Miller and Victor Matthau shared their experiences with us from the 600th Christianity jubilee in Rome.

At the second session, our treasurer Teresa Trainis informed us of the organization's financial situation. Mary Kincius and Vincent Gray performed their duties as trustees.

Loretta Stukas, K. of L. Foundation chairman gave her report. The Foundation was started in 1984 and at present has \$35,000. Each council should try to contribute at least \$100 to it. Next year when we are celebrating our 75th Anniversary it would be nice to see \$75,000 in the foundation. Loretta also announced the winners of the essay contest: 1. Sabina Klatt, Chicago, Ill; 2. Mary Sazecki, Forest City, PA; 3) Ernie Suktus, Chicago, Ill.; Honorable mention was given to Mary Lucas.

A religious panel was presented by Father Anthony Jurgelaitis. He spoke on our personal responsibility after the Christianization Jubilee.

Mass before the second session was held at the beautiful St. John the Baptist Church. Here we were shocked to see the walls decorated with a few swastikas. Later we discovered that when the church was build they simbolized "the welfare of an individual or thing".

At the third session, Larry Švelnis, Archives Committee Chairman gave a lengthy discussion about the state of our organization's official flag. We need a new one desperately and it has to be authentic, Larry told us. It was decided to form a committee and try to get a flag by the 75th convention.

The afternoon panel was presented by Dr. Victor Stankus of Cleveland, Ohio, a very active member of the community and in various Lithuanian organizations. He spoke about the OSI and the Lithuanian holocaust. He told us that Lithuania supported the allies during World War II and that Lithuania was the only country to boycott the German efforts to enlist men to the SS. He explained how we, as an organizatrion and as individuals can help the victims of the OSI persecution.

In our resolutions: we thanked Pope John Paul II for his kindness to the Lithuanians while in Rome; also we thanked Father Joseph Dambrauskas, MIC

for his efforts in the beatification of Blessed George. Msgr. Al Bartkus, Archbishop P. Marcinkus and Msgr. A. Bačkis also got our AČIŲ LABAI!

At the Saturday morning session Junior Vice President Marytė Lepera introduced us to the younger part of our organization. She recited a poem (Marytė is the unofficial poet laureate of the K. of L.) describing the activities of the Juniors at the convention. Frances Rauba of Shenandoah, PA donated \$2000 towards sending a junior to the Lithuanian Youth Congress which will take place in Australia in December. Two juniors were selected, namely, Rita Zakarka of Chicago and Rima Hartvigas of Amsterdam, NY.

Amber Keenan of New York presented a plaque to President Petrauskas in memory of her grandfather Peter Zupko who had recently passed away. The Junior program ended with the youngsters singing "Mažiukas traukinukas" (A little train). A big ačiū labai must be given to Marytė Lepera for her dilligent work with our *atžalynas*.

Our popular president Frank Petrauskas was reelected for a 3rd term. We were happy to have Dr. Jack J. Stukas back again in the Lithuanian Affairs committee. (The rest of the board can be found on the inside front cover of the issue).

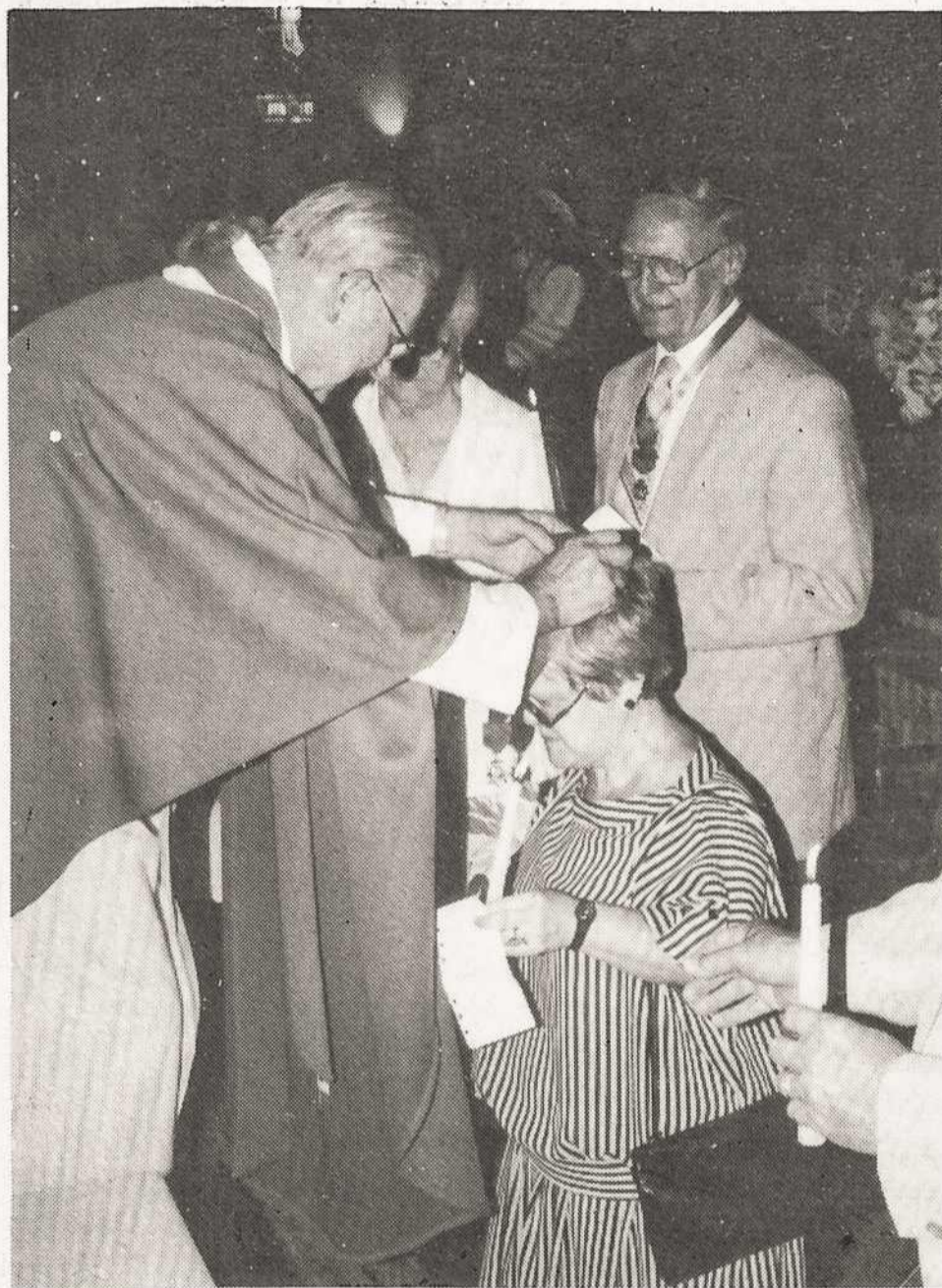
K. of L. History Fund chairman Helen Shields informed us that the history's author Father William Wolkowich has completed the book and it is at the printer. Yours truly, had a sneak preview of a summary of the book. It is beautifully written in an easy to read style. It will appear in 1988. The book is in English with a summary in Lithuanian by Dr. A. Budreckis. Good job Father William!

It was decided to hold our diamond 75th convention in Washington DC It will be hosted by the Supreme Council and the chairman will be Helen Shields. Chicago has invited us in 1989.

At the Saturday banquet Clemencine Miller of the Scholarship Committe presented Alice Karklas Memorial Scholarships to: Judith Ann Rekstenis, Amsterdam, N.Y. — \$1900.00, and \$1000 each to Kenneth Jasowicz, Amsterdam, N.Y. and Barbara Mickūnas, Philadelphia, PA.

Honorary membership was conferred to Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of the Pontifical College in Rome, founder of the Anthracite Council 144. It is the highest honor given by the K. of L.

Sunday, at the closing Mass, fourth degrees were awarded to Vincent Gray, Cleveland; John



National Spiritual Advisor Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P. bestows the 4th Degree to Dalia Bulvičius. Photo: Bernice Aviza

Antanavičius and Dalia Bulvičius both of New York.

I really must admit that this was one of the best organized conventions that I attended. As I stood with John Antanavičius waiting for our planes it was 104 degrees outside and also in our hearts inside. They were filled with warmth for the beautiful knights of Kansas City. We learned so much here. On TV, we were taught how to milk cows, feed pigs and how to cook a brisket of beef in a car standing in the hot sun for 6 hours, we learned that a Kansas City block is a mile long and the hotter it gets the longer the block. We broke the speed record posing for our convention photo. Imagine our poor girls standing in the hot sun with their native costumes. But most of all we learned that there is a small Lithuanian flame flickering brightly in Kansas City of God and Country.



CLERGY, HONORARY MEMBERS, DISTRICT & COUNCIL DELEGATES ATTENDING THE 74th NATIONAL CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY, KS. JULY 29th — AUGUST 2th, 1987

Clergy — Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P.
Honorary Member — Loretta Stukas
Supreme Council — Marytė Lepera, Algirdas Budreckis, Al. Jaritis, Frank Petrauskas
New England District — Rita Pinkus, HM, Ignatz Hobitz
Mid Atlantic District — Ann Dudewicz, Dalia Bulvičius
Mid America District — Algerd Brazis, Mary Juzėnas
Mid Central District — Marian Gray, Helen Bernardi
Council No. 1 — Frances Bumila, George Bumila
Council No. 3 — Helen Shields, HM, Agnes Mickunas
Council No. 5 — Konstant J. Savickus
Council No. 12 — Jonas Antanavičius, Helen Cuprewich
Council No. 17 — Ann Voveris, Aldona Keaney, Florence Zaleskas, Phyllis Gendreau, Alice Opanasets

Marian Matachinskas, Ann Lauzauskas, Larry Svelnis, HM.
Council No. 19 — William Kolicius, Bertha Kuzma, Andrew Rogar
Council No. 24 — Aušra Padalino, Frank Jurgaitis, Helen Jurgaitis
Council No. 25 — Vincent Gray, Nellie Arunski, Alvina Luiza, Frances Pranskevich, Betty August, Victor August
Council No. 26 — Ann Bender, HM, Anne Bucinskaš, Rita Karrytais, Ann Walinsky, Stephen Walinsky, Sr.
Council No. 27 — Elizabeth (Sonia) Skricki, John Skricki
Council No. 30 — Kunigunda Coach, Benedict Coach
Council No. 36 — Mary F. Kincius, Scottie Zukas, Evelyn Ozalis, Sabina Klatt, Helen Maizia, John Maizia
Council No. 38 — Charles Krusa, Julijona Krusa
Council No. 40 — Agota Tiskus, Bronius Tiskus
Council No. 41 — Helen V. Kulber, Beatrice Hoff
Council No. 50 — Frank J. Peterson, Isabel Peterson,

Audrey M. Toole, Mary Gaipel, Helen Medley, Magdalen Cronin.

Council No. 52 — Annie Mitchell - Matalavich, HM

Council No. 72 — Irene E. Grikenis, Casey P. Grikenis

Council No. 78 — Anna Axtin, Marion Hobitz

Council No. 79 — Magdalena Smailis

Council No. 86 — John Amilkavich, Benedict Radzevich, Gertrude Amilkavich, Mildred Radzavich

Council No. 96 — Frances Petkus

Council No. 100 — Elizabeth Kuzmich, Anthony J. Radzevich, Genevieve Gobis, Bernice Aviza, Polly Ziausys, Adeline Raila, Steve Raila

Council No. 103 — Beatrice Mathieu, John Jacknevich

Council No. 109 — Anthony Kober, Mary R. Kober, HM, Alexander Wesey, HM

Council 110 — Antonine Adomenas, Jonas Adomenas

Council 112 — Paul Binkis, Jr., Albert Zakarka, Julie Zakarka, Estelle Rogers, HM, Aldona Gyls,

Theresa Vaitkus, Aldona Brazis, Elenore Kasputis, Peter Juzenas, Josephine Juzenas, Edward Pocius, Anele Pocius, Ronald Maldunas, Dorores Maldunas.

Council 140 — Veronica Sutkus, Norman Klimas

Council 141 — Clemencine Miller, Teresa Trainis, Alphonse Trainis

Council 142 — Julia T. Burlen, Joseph G. Chaplick

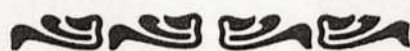
Council 143 — Nellie Bayoras Ramañas, Dorothy A. Banos

Council 144 — Helen Chesko, Ann Dunlap, Elsie Kosmisky, Helen Kratulis, Mamie Pieri, Florence Orzechowski, Joni Reinhart, Frances Rauba, Anna Supernavage, Anna Klizas Wargo, Beatrice Wesley, Eleanor Yankofski, Olympia Zelinski

Council 149 — Stella Meleod, Adella Telmos

Council 150 — Peter Koia, Marion Koia, JoAnn Timm

Council 152 — John J. Sakal, Antoinette V. Sakal



Knights of Lithuania
74th National Convention
State of the Organization Report

As presented by Frank Petrauskas,
National President July 30, 1987

I am submitting to the delegates of the 74th National convention a condensed report of all Officers, District Presidents and Committee Chairmen for the 1986 - 87 term. The full officer reports are available for your taking. Please take one of each and take them back to your local council so they will be available to your membership.

Spiritual Advisor

Father Anthony Jurgelaitis attended all Supreme Council meetings. He assisted in the planning of this convention and among other things he will chair a panel during the Convention. Also due to a scarcity of Lithuanian priests, Father will be called upon to handle more religious proceedings.

Father Anthony remembered all of our deceased members in his Masses.

President

President Frank Petrauskas organized and presided at 4 meetings of the Supreme Council. He attended and spoke at many council and district affairs. He participated in the 600th Anniversary Celebration at Hartford and at Newark. He also participated in Lithuanian Day at Moosic, Pennsylvania, Lithuanian Day at Auriesville Shrine, N.Y., and "Day of Prayer" at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

Frank sent letters of greetings to other Lithuanian

organizations when important meetings or conventions were scheduled. He sent out a general letter to all councils and districts and many letters to various individuals.

Frank arranged to have a nice portrait of Archbishop George painted and presented to Pope John Paul II during our 600th Anniversary Celebration in Rome. He requested Dr. Jack Stukas to make the presentation.

First Vice President

The first Vice President's new title now is "Special Assistant" to the President. Dr. Algirdas Budreckis has just been that. He has been most helpful to your President. He has translated a number of letters into Lithuanian and he even translated a letter into Italian.

Al wrote a number of articles for *Vytis*. He also wrote for *Draugas*, *Darbininkas*, *Dirva*, *Sandara*, and *Tėvynė*. He condensed and translated into Lithuanian a synopsis of the official History of the Knights of Lithuania which was written by Reverend William Wolkovich.

Second Vice President

Membership Vice President Frank Peterson has been quite busy with his duties. He has made contacts concerning the forming of junior councils and regular councils and he followed that up by sending out materials to all contacts. The prospects look good for the reorganizing of C-42 New Britain, Connecticut, C-89 Baltimore,

Maryland and C-93 Rochester, New York. Frank is also looking with glee about the prospects of forming some new councils here in the Mid-West. He conducted the membership drive and he will present the awards at this convention.

Third Vice President

Juniors Vice President Marytė Lepera has been deeply involved with her duties. For the last two years she has been raising funds to send one or two youths to Australia for the World Youth Congress. Her efforts have been successful.

Marytė has planned a full and exciting Juniors convention in which she will be busy the next few days.

Recording Secretary

Secretary Mary Juzenas attended all Supreme Council meetings and she discharged her duties in a most professional manner. She recorded the minutes and sent them out to all of the necessary people. She compiled lists of Supreme Council, District and Council officers and distributed them to all who should receive them. Mary was most helpful to your President.

Financial Secretary

Financial Secretary Mary Kober has just completed her first year in office. It has been a busy year for Mary. She has attempted to correct some inequities with the dues structure and the *Vytis* mailing list. Despite some opposition and criticism, Mary has gone ahead and corrected most of the problems. It appears now we will have a more smooth operation.

Treasurer

Treasurer Teresa Trainis was her usual efficient self. She handled our monies in a very professional manner and she kept your President informed on all money transactions. She will give her full report later in this convention.

Trustees

Mary Kincius and Vincent Gray have performed their duties to the best of their abilities. They will audit the financial records and report their findings to this convention.

Legal Advisor

Saulius Kuprys is now into his second year as legal advisor. He has corrected some of our legal problems and has our operation running much more smoothly.

Mid America District

President Algerd Brazis reports a lot of activity in his district. They held 4 District meetings along with their normal annual events and social events. The K of L Choir and the K of L dancers were active throughout the year. There has been an increase in membership. The district was deeply saddened by the death of Irene Sankus long time District Officer and Supreme Council

Officer. She will be missed by all because she was a mover and a shaker. She was a great help to your President. May her soul rest in peace.

Mid Atlantic District

Another death which left all K of L'ers in shock was the passing of Larry Janonis, long time Mid Atlantic District President. He is missed by all — especially your President. I could always count on him for advice and assistance. May his soul too, rest in peace.

Jonas Adomenas has take over Larry's duties. Jonas reports a continuation of district activities as in the past. There were three District conventions along with two 600th Anniversary Celebration on the same day — Newark and C-152 Riverhead. Also the Second Annual Day of Prayer at Doylestown was attended by many K of L'ers.

Council activities were many and varied. Jonas is making a point to visit each and every council in the district.

Mid Central District

Our effervescent President of the Mid Central District, Fran Petkus has submitted a nice detailed report. The Fall convention was held in Cleveland and the Spring Bowling Tournament - Meeting was held in Detroit. Both were well attended and enjoyed by those in attendance. Fran reports all councils are active and they are involved in a lot of activity. They are conducting membership drives to increase their membership.

New England District

President Albert Jaritis reports a lot of activity on both the district level and the council level. the Hartford 600th Anniversary Celebration was a big event and there will be another in Boston in October.

Vytis Editor

Editor Bernice Aviza has been besieged by sickness this past year and hasn't been able to maintain a regular schedule with the *Vytis*. She submitted her resignation in January but we were unable to find her replacement until recently. Hopefully the good ship *Vytis* will be back on course and back on time again.

Lithuanian Affairs Committee

The new chairman this year is Evelyn Ozelis. She is assisted by Scottie Zukas and Casimir Yanish. They are doing a good job with the Bulletin. Please continue to send in your clippings.

Lithuanian Cultural Committee

Chairman Regina Kot had a productive year. She wrote articles for the *Vytis* and she mailed out cultural readings to each council. Regina is also very active with her local council and the district.

Ritual Committee

Chairman Magdalena Smailis reports that she has

been in contact with various councils and individuals concerning degrees. Magdalena and her committee have approved a number of candidates for the Fourth Degree which will be received at this convention.

Public Relations Committee

Chairman Anna Klizas Wargo has been busy sending news releases to all Lithuanian newspapers, English newspapers, radio stations and television stations. She covered the wrap up of our '86 convention and she publicized our '87 convention plus many events inbetween.

Scholarship Committee

Chairman William Piacentini reports that all payments were made to the 1986 scholarship winners. Applicants for this year's awards have been processed and the winners will be announced at this convention.

Honorary Membership Committee

I am sorry to report that long time chairman Anthony Mažeika has resigned because of ill health. He will be missed by all K of L'ers.

The Honorary Membership recipient this year will be Msgr. Al. Bartkus, Rector of St. Casimir's College in Rome.

Archives Committee

Chairman Larry Svelnis reports his committee had three working meetings in the Archives Room with much work being done. He said the fifth anniversary Open

House of the Archives room has been postponed until a later date.

Lithuanian Language Propagation

Chairman Apolonija "Polly" Žiaučys has taken over a dormant committee and has instilled a lot of life into it. She has made it vibrant. She has encouraged more use of the Lithuanian language in all of our affairs. She has written much about our language and she has talked to many peoples encouraging more use of our language. Labai ačiū, Polly.

Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid

Chairman Joni Reinhart reports her committee didn't have as good — donation wise — a year this year as last year. She tried hard but there were too many other committees and organizations competing for those same monies. Joni did well however with over \$1,500.00 collected. When you see Joni during this convention please make a contribution to Religious Aid and then I'm sure she will sleep better at night knowing that her committee was successful.

Knights of Lithuania History

Helen Shields, History Fund Chairman is still accepting contributions and Father William Wolkovich has completed our History book and has turned it over to the printer. It will be ready for distribution in early 1988. A copy of our 75 year history is a must for each K of L'er because you and I are very much a part of that history.



Archives Chairman Longinas Svelnis and William Kolicius discussing the need for a new official flag. Photo: Dalia Bulvičius

Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.

Chairman Loretta Stukas would like to see more contributions to the Foundation from individuals and councils. This is a stipulation of the Internal Revenue Service. A contribution today will be an investment into our future.

Day of Prayer

Day of Prayer at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Ddoylestown, Pennsylvania was not as well attended this year as last year. Still it was successful. Bishop Paulius Baltakis, OFM celebrated the Mass and Father Timothy Burkauskas made sure everything ran smoothly.

600th Lithuanian Christianization Jubilee .

The highlight of our 600th anniversary celebration was our Mass in Rome with Pope John Paul II on June 28. I was unable to attend but I'm told by some who did attend that it was a most beautiful and exciting affair. The Pope was very accommodating and most hospitable to us Lithuanians. There will be more reports given during this convention.

Some councils and districts have already had their 600th Anniversary Celebrations while others will have theirs in late summer and fall. Attending these celebrations makes one feel very proud to be Lithuanian. We have much to be thankful for and much to thank Almighty God.

75th Jubilee Committee

This committee chaired by Loretta Stukas will report to this convention as to their progress in locating a convention site for next year and what plans they have made for that convention,. We have another year of excitement ahead of us.

Conclusion

All in all, I think we had a good year. We've bveen busy with much activity. I know I have been extremely

busy with Knights of Lithuania business and my landscaping business. I've tried to honor each request for my presence. I traveled far and wide. I firmly believe a President should be active because as a President goes and does so goes the organization.

We had a few departed members who left some mighty big shoes to fill. Who is going to fill those shoes? Who is going to shoulder the responsibility that these individuals so gladly shouldered during their lifetime?

You and I must fill these shoes. You and I will shoulder that responsibility because we love the Knights of Lithuania so very much. When there is a job to be done you and I will do it because you and I will not allow our dear K. of L. to crumble and fall. We held up fine for 74 years and we'll hold up for many more years.

When the Nominating committee comes around and asks you to run for a certain office, don't just say "yes". Say, "yes, yes, yes, I'll be most happy to run". If a dummy like me can be President then you who are much smarter can handle any job.

I want to thank my Supreme e Concil people for all of their help and assistance and for their cooperation which permitted us to work together in perfect harmony. I also want to thank others who I called upon from time to time for assistance. I want to thank my wife Irene who did a lot of typing and editing for me. And I want to thank you my dear delegates for electing me to the Presidency.

While I'm in the thanking mood I want to thank our fine hosts, C-150 Kansas City for hosting this convention which allows us to come to Kansas City and enjoy their hospitality. I know we will enjoy ourselves.

Please get involved in this convention. Don't just sit and be a spectator. When you get involved you enjoy the convesntion much more. As I have said in my last year's report, "Let us work together and let us play together during this convention in good harmony". If we do we will accomplish much. Please have yourself a good convention. Širdingai Ačiū.

Taking a break: MAD President John Adomenas, I Vice President dr. Al. Budreckis and MCD President Frances Petkus.



Report of the National President

To the 74th National Convention
Convention Center, Kansas City, Kansas
July 30, 1987

This is a list of my activities as your National President for the past year:

1. Scheduled and chaired 4 meetings of the Supreme Council.
2. Attended Lithuanian Day at Moosic, Pa. and Lithuanian Day at Auriesville Shrine, NY.
3. Had Vince Gray sub for me at VLIKas meeting in Cleveland.
4. Sent letters of greetings to Alka and Bendruomenė to their annual meetings.
5. Attended and spoke at C-72 Binghamton, MAD meeting in Amsterdam Christmas Party, C-140 Syracuse Independence commemoration, C-100 Amsterdam Independence Commemoration, C-109 Great Neck St. Casimir's program, C-140 Syracuse St. casimir's program, C-144 Anthracite 10th anniversary celebration, 600th Anniversary Mass and Wayside Shrine blessing in Hartford Conn. Was interviewed by local Hartford TV Station, 600th Anniversary Mass and Banquet in Newark, MAD meeting in Manhattan, Day of Prayer at Doylestown, Penn.
6. Sent a general letter to all councils.
7. Attended the funeral of my dear friend and long time MAD President Larry Janonis.
8. Sent letter of greetings to Lithuanian Religious Aid and Father Casimir Pugevicius on their 25th Anniversary Mass and Banquet.

9. Appointed Phil Shabeikis to the 75th Anniversary Committee to replace Larry Janonis.

10. Received letter of resignation, from Anthony Mažeika, Chairman of the Honorary Membership Committee.. due to ill health. I appointed Stanley Vaitkus as new chairman.

11. Received letter of resignation from Bernice Aviza, *Vytis* Editor. We searched for months for a new editor and recently our search has been successful. We hope to return to a normal schedule with the *Vytis*.

12. Arranged for a portrait of Archbishop George Matulaitis to be painted and presented to Pope John Paul II during the celebration of Lithuania's 600th year of Christianity in Rome. Requested Dr. Jack Stukas to make the presentation

13. Was involved with a heavy volume of correspondence this past year. Much of it concerned the 600th Anniversary. Now comes our 75th Anniversary as an organization.

14. Despite the delay with *Vytis*, I think we had a good year. There was much activity and most of us got involved in a variety of projects. The K of L was by far the leader of all Lithuanian organizations this past year.

15. I want to thank the Supreme Council and all of you for all of your help in various ways. Let's keep working and growing and improving. Let's make our 75th anniversary year a year to remember.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK PETRAUSKAS
National President



The Kansas City Aidas dance group presenting the gifts at the Saturday Mass. Mass celebrant — Msgn. Algimantas Bartkus.



Official Knights of Lithuania 1987 Convention **Federal Building.**
 Photo. The background is the Kansas City (To receive your copy, see the back cover of this issue)

M Ū S Ū A T Ž A L Y N A S

There were many special people who assisted me during the Convention and should be noted: 1. Leo and Fran Srubas — C-150, 2. Bill Strumillo — C-150, 3. Gene & Dona Ashley — C-150, 4. Frank Petrauskas, 5. Jeanette Brower — Guest, 6. My mother, Ann Dunlap — C-144.

Thank you Julie Burlen, for your special donation of \$100.00, and thank you Alice Zupko for your special donation of \$50.00. This is our special project treasury. This Convention was of special importance because we selected two youths to attend the *Šeštąjį Pasaulio Lietuvių Jaunimo Kongresą* in Australia. The committee consisted of: Elsie Kosmisky — C-144, Frances Rauba — C-144, Adeline Raila — C-100, Kunigunda Coach — C-30, Aušra Padalino — C-24, Audrey Toole — C-50, Lenore Balten — C-3, Algerd Brazis — C-35 and Frances Bumila — C-1.

Frances Rauba contributed another \$1000.00 to our special Jr. project. Thank you, Frances. Frances has been on the Jr. committee since last year. At the convention, Frances was called to the stage and presented with five amber mushrooms on a wooden plaque, (to symbolize the five juniors attending). "Ačiū labai Jr. K. of L — 8/87" was inscribed on it.

The recipients of the Jr. K. of L, special project were: Rita Zakarka — Chicago — C-112 and Rima M. Hartvigas — Amsterdam, N.Y.

We asked our recipients to submit a written report of the congress to our National president, with copies to the 3rd National Vice President and Vytis.

Our business meeting was on Saturday morning August 1, 1987. The meeting was attended by five juniors, and three senior members.

In order to foster our Lithuanian language we observed five minutes of speaking only Lithuanian. It was at this time we learned of school activities, family activities, and family pets. After the five minutes we continued to discuss simple Lithuanian words.

The question was asked, "Are you proud to be Lithuanian and why?" All were proud to be Lithuanian for many reasons some of which were: 1. My friends are Lithuanian; 2. Our heritage will live on; 3. Our culture will live on; 4. There's nothing like it; 5. We attend conventions; 6. You don't have to be ruled by other groups; 7. We can talk secretly in our own language; 8. Because my dog has a Lithuanian name.

We all enjoyed a Lithuanian tape. The children actively participated in the discussion. The meeting was closed with a recitation of the *Vyčių Hymnas* and a Lithuanian prayer by Donute Butta.

Junior Conventionships were awarded to: 1. Amber Keenan; 2. Dana Butts; 3. Nina Padalino; 4. Roniukas Padalino; 5. Natalia Padalino.

I thank those young juniors for attending the 74th National convention and entertaining us with the Lithuanian song "A Little Train", which pleased the convention participants.

Respectfully submitted,

Marytė Lepera

3rd Vice President



MEMORIES — of beautiful events

PRE CONVENTION TOURS

President Harry S. Truman Museum Tour Wednesday July 29, 1987

On Wednesday, two excellent tours were simultaneously offered — the Heart of America and the Harry S. Truman — both of which were very tempting.

For those who elected to go on the Harry S. Truman tour, an air-conditioned bus was ready to transport us to the Independence Square Courthouse where Harry S. Truman began his political

career as a judge. For a few minutes a stop was made in front of the Truman home, where the President resided from his marriage to Bess Wallace Truman in 1919 until their deaths. Visitors to Harry S. Truman library & Museum can, among many other options, visit the Oval Office with President Truman himself narrating the tour. The building houses millions of presidential documents relating to the Truman administration. The building also contains private offices where, while President, Truman met

such notables as John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Jimmy Carter and Hubert Humphrey. President and Mrs. Truman are both buried just outside of his private office. Upon visiting their graves, one gets the eerie feeling that the President will speak to everyone from his office. We toured the Marshal's Home and Jail Museum which housed such notorious prisoners as Frank James (brother of Jesse). This building provided a home for the county marshal, together with an attached 12 cell jail, with two foot

thick limestone walls which is preserved as it existed during the Civil War. The tour included a brief stop at the Vaile Mansion, once owned by Harvey Vaile of Independence, which is said to be one of the best examples of Victorian architecture in the United States. In 1897, the Vaile home became a private sanatorium, then a nursing home and later a tourist attraction. The conclusion of the tour brought the group to the RLDS Auditorium of the Reorganized church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons), which was very inspiring. This building was constructed to house the church's conferences and administrative offices. It can seat approximately 6,000 and is also the home of one of the best organs in the country. A half hour organ recital was most relaxing to all.

Mary Kober — C - 109

***The Heart of America
Tour
Wednesday July 29, 1987***

The delegates who chose the Heart of America Tour, also in an air-conditioned bus. First of all we were given a few vital statistics of Kansas City. It is an unique city since it is both in the States of Kansas and Missouri. It has more fountains than any other city in the world except Rome and has more miles of boulevards than Paris. Kansas City is proud of such notables as Lewis & Clark, J. C. Nichols, who created the nation's first shopping center, Harry S. Truman and Hallmark. The bus took the delegates through the downtown area past the restored historical buildings, the financial district, the stockyards and the convention center. A brief stop was made at the Liberty Memorial not only to view the skyline but also to go through the WWI Museum with its weapons, uniforms and other memorabilia. The bus driver drove into the underground caves where numerous

warehouses are located. Westport, another restored area was also on our route. It is a collection of stores, restaurants and courtyards. Claiming to be a shopper's paradise, Kansas City boasts of still another shopping center, the Country Club Plaza. The buildings are modeled after the sister city, Seville in Spain. The 14-block district with its shops, restaurants and fountains is, in essence, an outdoor museum. We saw many mansions owned by such millionaires as Prendergast, H. & R. Block, Russell Stove and others. The millionaire's row is known as Mission Hills, the most elite residential area of all. We paused for a cold drink and a quick view of Crown Center which is a "city within a city". It is privately financed and covers 85 acres. Besides the show, there are two luxury hotels, condominiums, as well as major offices of Hallmark Cards. The waterfalls are also very spectacular. We found this tour to be extremely informative as well as interesting.

Adeline Raila C-100



Mandate Committee: Mary R. Kober — c-109, Scottie Zukas - C-36, Sabina Klatt — C - 36 and Aldona Gylys, C — 112.
Photo: Tony Kober



Thursday Night Get Together July 30, 1987

Two air conditioned buses transported delegates and guests for the Thursday Night Get Together at Golden Buffet Restaurant in Kansas City, Missouri. Upon entering the restaurant, we immediately observed the 40 salad dishes and some 40 entrees to satiate our palate. The cocktail hour helped to liven the party and the delicious buffet made us forget our colories. While dining, a 15 piece accordion band entertained the group, of which several Kansan City members performed. Nonetheless, our ever popular Al Brazis of C No. 112 of Chicago conducted a sing-along session which kept the crowd in a lively setting. After some two hours of singing and dancing, all weary and tired delegates and friends were transported in buses back to the hotel.

Mary Kober — C - 109



HERITAGE NIGHT Friday, July 31, 1987

What a beautiful program we had on Friday, the Heritage night, at Knights of Lithuania Convention in Kansas City! Heritage means "ethnicity" — including Americans, Croations, Slavs, Lithuanians and Poles and probably several others. We met a variety of nationalities during this convention. There was a Frenchman, a woman who spoke a meek Lithuanian, she was married to a Belgian. Even the churches we attended belonged to different nationalities, none of them Lithuanian, all of them were truly historical treasures.

The Heritage Night was held at the newly refurbished Folly Theater. Even the city's daily *Kansas City Kansan* devoted a half page spread to this "command performance" of

the Knights of Lithuania. The Folly used to be a burlesque and vaudeville theater but lately it became "legitimate". It was beautifully decorated and reminded one of an opera house. Like most opera houses on a Friday night during the season — this theatre was packed.

The program had an international flavor. An elderly man, shyly tiptoes from behind the drawn curtain. Speaking softly and very slowly, he introduces himself as Dr. Vytautas Gabelis. He came from St. Louis to do the honors. His presentation was most original and extremely warm in both the English and the Lithuanian languages.

The *Rambynas* choir came all the way from Omaha — some 200 miles to entertain us. They looked beautiful in their native costumes. Who would have thought that we would see and hear a Lithuanian group way out here? The choir was directed by Algimantas Totilas and accompanied by Dana Salkauskas. After several songs, our master of ceremonies (who with each appearance got louder applause), was so moved, that he burst on the stage and enthusiastically proclaimed: "ALL RIGHT?!" The audience took up the phrase of "all right" and this pass word resounded the whole evening.

Next on the program was one of America's greatest accordionists — the Croatian Don Lipovac. He won countless national and international competitions and tonight we all enjoyed his great talent. His repertoire consisted of classical and popular music, waltzes, polkas etc. He used three different kinds of accordions.

Soon "Mr. All Right" appears and introduced the Lithuanian Folk Dancers Group — the KCK Aidas, who awed the public. The group consists of about 40 dancers most of which are over the age of 40. (Some of our councils could use them as an example.) They kept us spellbound from the *Klumpakojis*, the *Noriu miego* plus five other dances. Incidentally, the director of the dances group is a non-Lithuanian, Anita M. Strumillo. Nice work Anita! Mr. Strumillo is Lithuanian. The group was accompanied on the bass by Phillip Ashley (son of the convention's host Gene Ashley) and Don Lipovac on the accordion.

The last part of the program was called — "A Touch of Kansas City".

Al Wesey — 109

Metropolitan Opera soloist, Algerd Brazis entertaining at the Cultural Night party. Photo Tony Kober



What else but a Banjo Band. Like in the old minstrel days, 13 banjo players jazzing up music of the good old days like river songs, *Oh Susanna*, etc. They looked very sharp in their straw hats and red vests.

Back at the hotel a beautiful reception of wine, cheese and music awaited us. The host council outdid itself in their hospitality and efficiency. It is difficult to believe they are a small council and only three years old. The bussing between events and home base was flawless. They did a beautiful job in entertaining us. Not one was sorry we took this long trip to Kansas City, about which we had only heard from the Wizard of Oz. What a surprise! We are proud you are one of us! Keep up your activities, your enthusiasm and don't slow down. Bravo, bravo!

Omaha, we are waiting for you to join us.



THE CLOSING BANQUET Saturday, August 1, 1987

After two delightful evenings of dancing, singing and folk dancing, we finally came to the closing banquet of the 74th Knights of Lithuania National Convention, which was held in Kansas City, Kansas.

The banquet was the closing highlight of this conclave. It was attended by all the delegates and guests in a final farewell. The entertainers were from as near as the outskirts of Kansas City and as far away as Omaha, Nebraska. The Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Vytautas Gavelis, who arrived in the U.S with the flood of displaced persons after World War II. He was as delightful now as he was the previous night, when, he hosted the Heritage Night, where in his commentary

he coined the jubilant approving phrase "ALL RIGHT".

His first duty was to introduce the head table consisting of Supreme Council officers, clergy and the Mayor and Mrs. Joseph W. Steineger, Jr. of Kansas City.

The program started with scholarship committee chairman Clementine Miller presenting awards to deserving juniors: Judianne Nikstenas, who is a third generation K of L member and whose grandmother was an original K of L'er; Kenneth Jasewicz, who was a junior council president and an altar boy, and Barbara Mickunas, who is active in the Philadelphia council No. 3. She has been attending conventions since 1982.

Our National President Frank Petrauskas thanked the Knights for re-electing him to a third term and complimented our hosts for such a good job in fulfilling their duties and making our stay a peasant and enjoyable one. He praised the Lithuanian song group from Omaha, Neb. who really surprised everyone with the program they put on. The President hoped they would in the near future reorganize the council of the K of L which was once operating in Omaha.

Since our Honorary Membership Chairman HM Anthony Mažeika was unable to attend the convention, HM Helen Shields introduced the new Honorary Member to the audience. He is Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus. Monsignor was born in Lithuania, grew up in Brazil, and studied for the priesthood in Rome. He was sent to a parish in Pennsylvania — the Anthracite area. Once there he organized the Lithuanian Knights, a Junior council and created a Lithuanian radio program. Msgr. Bartkus pledged his support to the organization and

distributed medals brought from Rome to deserving members among which were HM Loretta Stukas and Eugene Ashley, 74th Convention National Chairman.

We had the pleasure of having the Mayor of Kansas City with us. The Honorable Joseph Steineger, Jr. felt honored to be with us but, felt he had to apologize. He said, he did not order the 100° temperatures which lasted during the duration of the convention. He hoped, that those who expected to see Indians and Cowboys in the streets of Kansas City were not too disappointed. He had the Key of the City with him, but alas, President Frank, had to leave early and missed the presentation. Let's resolve that in future conventions, we'll invite the Mayor early, so we can get the Key!

The finale was three hours of non-stop dance music played by a national champion accordionist and his crew. Let's say his music was in a class with our New York and the tri state area favorite musician Joe Thomas. And, at least for once we had a dance floor large enough for all of us to dance comfortably.

Valio, and thank you Kansas City Vyčių Council 150 for a job well done! *Al Wesley — C - 109*

Introducing Kansas City: The Kansas City metropolitan area is home to 1,493,900 residents. In Kansas City, Missouri, an area of 316 square miles, 448,159 reside. Kansas City is the 26th largest city in the nation; comparable in size to such cities as Seattle and Denver and larger than Atlanta, Miami, Pittsburgh and St. Louis. Kansas City is not flat, not a cowtown, is in Missouri AND Kansas. Kansas City is a top convention city. It has hosted in the last ten years 500,000 delegates including the K of L members. All of them can't be wrong!

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID REPORT

A wrap-up report from the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Drive of 1986 - 87.

Because of the Districts, Councils, and Membership we reached \$1,870.73 for this term.

Special thanks to Bronislaw Lazauskas for his continued support. This year Bruno raised \$185.00.

Also to all the councils who took up Membership Drives. A total of \$128.00 was raised thru these drives.

To all the members who have been faithful donors each year. because of you we continue to succeed.

DONATIONS

Kazys & Terese Adomovicius C No. 26	7.00
Helen Chesko C No. 144	20.00
Mary Gustas C No. 144	5.00
Jeane Janonis C No. 12	
IMO Larry Janonis	20.00
Peter J. Kasilionis C No. 62	30.00
Veronica Kazlauskis C No. 41	10.00
Regina & John Kot C No. 3	10.00
Bronislaw Lazauskas c No. 7	
(The Ambesr Club, Inc.)\$25.00	185.00
Anthony M. Miner C No. 116	100.00
Domicile McNevech C No. 144	5.00
Mary Narcavich C No. 144	10.00
Florence Orzechowski C No. 144	
IMO Edward Orzechowski	10.00
Rita & Ted Pinkus C No. 26	5.00
Fran Petkus C No. 96	25.00
Mary F. Recchia C No. 26	25.00
Joni Reinhart C No. 144	
IMO Jennie C. Achenbach	10.00
Loretta & Jack Stukas C No. 29	25.00
Sister Valeria, Ann Zaldaris, & Helen Chesko C No. 144	
IMO Anthony J. Sockel	20.00
Anne & Joseph White C No. 17	35.00
Jo & Joe Zukas Port Washington	20.00
Bernard Zilaitis No. 144	5.00
C No. 3 Philadelphia	50.00
C No. 17 South Boston	50.00
C No. 17 Membership Drive	26.00
C No. 25 Cleveland	50.00
C No. 26 Worcester	25.00
C No. 26 Membership Drive	48.00
Mary Anusauskas, Victoria Augustine, Tony	

Brosowski, Anne Bucinkas, Adele Ceresko, Virginia Cummings, Mary Duggan, Virginia Fekoski, Frances Gloskas, Walter Gramala, Claire Grigaitis, Vincent Grozulis, Emily Gudzevich, Jo & A. Iraska, William Karas, Carol Kardokas, Rita Karrytais, Anna Kerai, Olga Kersis, Mary Komandulis, Alphonse & Lillian Kondrotas, Charles & Frances Kulakusky, Charles & Mildred Lapinskas, Anne Lesemon, Rita Margosian, Bert March, Nell Mitchell, Betty O'Donnell, Eva Peculis, Paul Puris, Marion Racicot, Rita Sohol, Don Shimkus, Gerry Tagmon, Dorothy & Joe Virbosius, Ellie & Steve Walinsky, Jr., Anne & Stesve Walinsky, Sr., Virginia Walent, Aldona Waska, Tillie Zelesky.

C No. 41 Brooklyn	10.00
C No. 46 Forrest City	25.00
C No. 50 New Haven	50.00
C No. 52 Elizabeth	10.00
C No. 78 Lawrence	100.00
C No. 79 Southfield	50.00
C No. 86 DuBois	50.00
C No. 96 Dayton	25.00
C No. 109 Great Neck	25.00
C No. 110 Maspeth	100.00
C No. 113 Hazleton	25.00
C No. 143 Pittston	100.00
C No. 144 Anthracite	100.00
C No. 144 Membership Drive	54.00
Anna Bender, Mary Brennan, Francis Brillas, Ann Carlitus, Edward Carlitus, Helen Chesko, Verna Dunisavich, Gloria Duchess, Julia Dopkin, Ann Dunlap, Marcella Kashelonis, Gloria Dauchess, Julia Dopkin, Ann Dunlap, Marcella Kashelonis, Mary & John Koos, Florence Kublusky, Helen Labadis, Mary Labadis, William Labadis, Alma Linder, Marge Marousky, Joseph Martinas, Bernice Mickatavage, Ann Morgalis, Helen Matunas, Anna Milbut Nardini, Mary Najda, Mamis Pieri, Joseph Puza, Beatrice Rudzinski, Pat Rounda, Ann Radzavage, Ann Supernavage, Helen Sullivan, Bestty Tuymas, Elenor Vaicaitis, Beatrice Wasley, Eleanor Yancofski, Marge Yezulinas, Lucy Zelonis, Olympia Zelinski, Ann Zaldaris, Ann and Albert Yackachonis,	
C No. 149 Saginaw	10.00
Mid-Atlantic District	50.00
Mid Central District	50.00

National Convention

Greetings Committee — 1986 35.00

National Convention

Greetings Committee — 1987 155.00

Bernice Aviza — \$25.00, Gene Gobis — \$5.00, Scot-tie Zukas — \$10.00, Frances & George Bumila — \$50.00, Elizabeth Kuzmich — \$10.00, Mary Kin-cius — \$25.00, Frank Petrauskas, Ann Klizas Wargo — \$10.00

Interest 14.73

Total \$1,870.73



4th Degree Ritual Awards

Recipients of the 4th Degree at the National Convention were:

- John Antanavičius — C No. 12
- Dalia Bulvičius — C No. 12
- Vincent Gray — C No. 25

The following members were not present at the National convention and, therefore, will receive their 4th Degree at either a District or Local council function:

- Marian Shapiro — C No. 26
- Elizabeth Luciw — C No. 29
- Rita Sussko — C No. 29
- Jean Kavelines — C No. 74
- Marie Laske — C No. 74
- Richard C. Laske — C — 74
- Msgr. Michael Ozalis — C No. 74
- Rev. Anthony Grigaitis — C No. 100

Recipients of the 4th Degree: Vincent Gray, C-25, Dalia Bulvičius C-12 and John Antanavičius C-12. With them is Ritual Committee member Magdalena Smailis of C-79. Photo Bernice Aviza



John O'Donnell
C-110 — Maspeth
Died June 26, 1987

Albert Balulis
C-144 — Anthracite
Died June 21, 1987

Beatrice Shomoskie
C-144 — Anthracite
Died June 26, 1987

IN MEMORIAM

Bruno Strimaitis
C-50 — New Haven, CT
Died July 22, 1987

Andrew Kleha
C-144 — Anthracite
Died August 6, 1987

Mary Jakubaitis (Jackub)
C-50 — New Haven, CT
Died August 31, 1987



Stanley Ruginis
C - 110 — Maspeth
Died September 7, 1987

Peter Zeller
Died May 25, 1987
C — 96 — Dayton, OH

James C. Razauskas
Died June 14, 1987
C — Dayton, OH

We Left Our Hearts In Kansas City—



1. Frances Rauba of C-144 donor of \$2000 award to send a youth delegate fo the Lithuanian Youth congress in Australia with Rita Zakarka of C-112 recipient.

2. Guest speaker Dr. Viktoras Stankus explaining the ethics of the OSI. Photo Bernice Aviza



3. Evelyn Ozelis doing the readings at Mass. Photo Bernice Aviza

4. John Antanavičius being awarded his 4th degree. Phc Bernice Aviza.

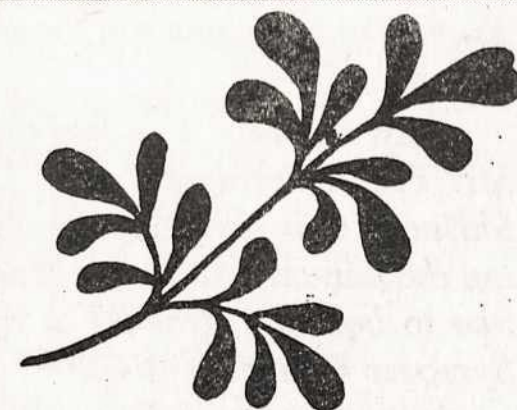




5. Bernice Aviza from Amsterdam swinging with an unknown admirer from Kansas City. Photo Dalia Bulvičius

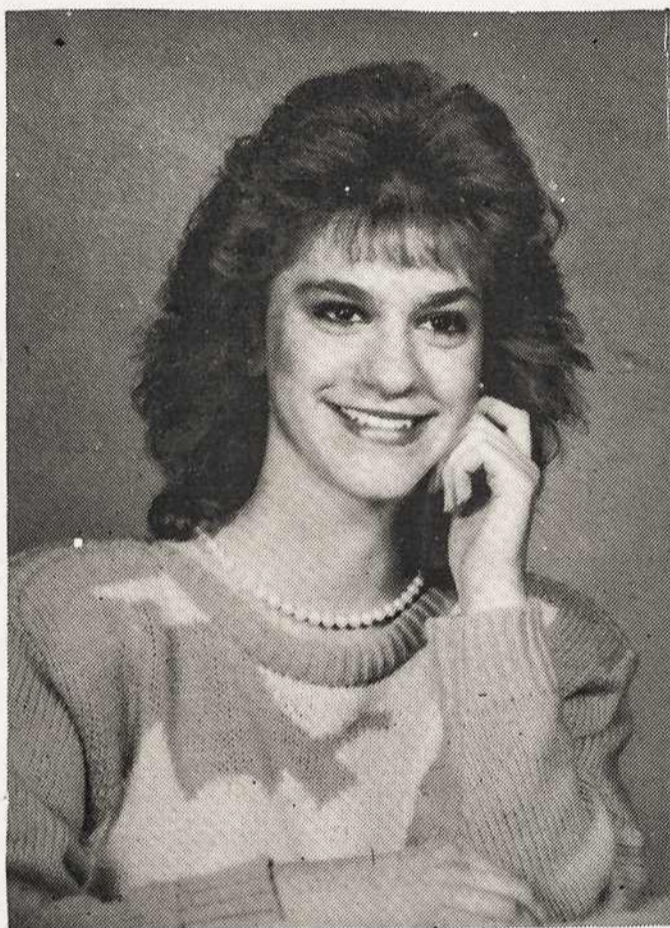
6. National President Frank Petrauskas and wife Irene enjoying themselves at the Thursday eve get-together. Photo Tony Kober

7. Hosts C-150 – Larry, Leo & Frances Srubas. Photo Tony Kober



MŪSŲ JAUNIMAS MUMS DĖKOJA

OUR YOUTH EXPRESS ITS THANKS



*Dear Mr. Piacentini and the
Knights of Lithuania
Scholarship Committee:*

As the second recipient of the Alice Karklus memorial Scholarship, I'd like to give you all my sincere thanks for honoring me with such a generous award. I was quite shocked when I was notified by mail.

My scholarship of \$1,900 will contribute towards my first year studies at Syracuse University. I am enrolled in the School of Management and intend to pursue a career in accounting.

I am very proud of my Lithuanian heritage. Being an active member of the Junior Knights of Lithuania and St. Casimir's Church, I've learned a lot about Lithuania's past and present and I've made friends with people of all ages. I plan to continue my involvement with the Knights of Lithuania and the church throughout and after college.

Just recently, I've had the good fortune of meeting Mr. Frank Petrauskas, our K. of L. president, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs' in Auriesville, N.Y. during the annual Lithuanian Mass. As time allows, I would like to become involved in the works and pleasures of Syracuse Council — 140.

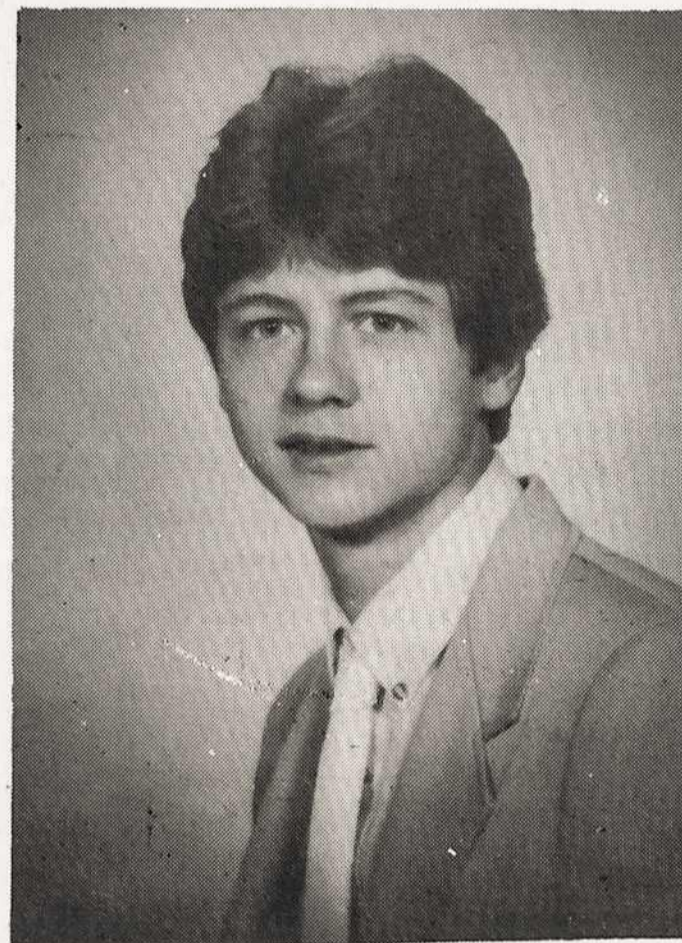
Again, I'd like to thank you all. I would also like to give Mr. Benjamin Karklius my special thanks for setting up this scholarship in his wife's name. It makes it easier for Lithuanian students like myself to pursue higher education.

Perhaps our paths will cross in the future and I can thank everyone personally.

Už jūsų duosnumą esu ir būsiu amžinai dėkinga.

Ačiū labai, Vytiškai,

*Judianne Mikštėnas
Council 100 Amsterdam, N.Y.
Juniors*



*Dear Knights of Lithuania
Scholarship Committee:*

Thank you for your encouragement and support for my college career. I will try my hardest to do well in my courses. I am very proud of my Lithuanian heritage and I hope to be able to give back something of importance to my fellow knights. I do intend to continue with the Knights of Lithuania and plan to become more active with my church.

Vytiškai,

Kenneth John Jasewicz



Scholarship recipient Barbara Mickunas and Scholarship Committee member Clemencine Miller.

Dear Fellow Knights,

It is a distinct pleasure for me to thank the Scholarship Committee and all members of the Knights of Lithuania for the scholarship I received at the National Convention. This generous gift means so much to me as College demands a great deal financially. I can assure you that the Scholarship money I received will be put to good use.

While doing the best that I possibly can with my studies, I plan to be active as I can in the K. of L. I can only hope that I will be able to do as much for the K. of L. as you have already done for me.

Ačiū labai,

*Barbara Mickunas
Council 3, Philadelphia, PA*

1987 Juniors Knights of Lithuania Convention

The Jr. convention had a slow start,
We thought for a moment we were coming apart,
The Jrs, were younger and smaller this year,
Five in all and our group was here.

Our first event we went to the pool,
That was one of the ways of keeping them cool,
We added pizza for the kids to eat,
One good way to beat the heat.

On Friday, Bill Strumillo gathered us all,
You know that Bill, he is such a doll,
Into the van we flew in a flash,
To Kaleidoscope at Hallmark we went with a dash.

Two hundred kids, perhaps many more,
Were waiting, not too patiently by the door,
Kids on the left side, helpers on the right,
Jeanette and I were a little uptight,
Once inside the room, we were told what to do
Once the little darlings would start to come through

When at once the kids began to file in
Excitement plus fun were soon to begin,
Touch, see, and feel and kids everywhere,
Even a music box for all the children to share.

Off to the workshop a room to behold,
Crafts for the asking, a masterpiece untold,
Paper and cardboard and pieces of scrap,
Will soon be a box called a monster trap.

Soon the magic hour was done,
And all of the kids had some fun,
Back to the hotel, the Holiday Inn,
A cultural evening was soon to begin.

D a i n e l ė

*Tridi ridi raška, kas ten miške braška?
Vilkas šieną piauna, lokys riešutauja,
O kiškelis nabagėlis sau rugelius sėja.
Lapė bulves kasa ir kurmį užprašo,
Vanagėlis bajorėlis, dirvas išakėjo,
Varna kiaušius dėjo, šarka išperėjo,
Ežys, kuprą pasipūtęs krūmų ieškinėjo.
O pa, o pa-pa! kiškis vaikus lingavo,
Belinguodamas apsnūdo, katins nosį nukando.*

ALSO INTENT ON THINGS ABOVE...

Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis

On Thursday at the stroke of twelve noon, or a minute or few thereafter, the participants of the Kansas City Convention intoned the *Pulkim ant kelių* as the celebrant, Father Anthony A. Jurgelaitis, O.P., Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor, approached the altar of St. Mary's - St. Anthony's Church, where Father Raymond Davern is pastor, to begin the Sacrifice of the Mass, invoking the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon the delegates and the labors of the Knights of Lithuania National Convention.

After the readings by volunteer lectors, the celebrant preached the homily.

"Another year, another convention, another milestone," he began, "this time the farthest West the K. of L. has gone. Our goals, our ideals remain unchanged — *Dievui ir Tėvynei*, but we are meeting during the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee. When Mindaugas, his family and his court received Baptism in 1251, he was gifted with Faith, Hope and Charity as well as the Gifts of the Holy Spirit which accompany Baptism. They, the original Christian Lithuanians were blessed with the Gifts of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Piety, Fortitude and the Fear of the Lord to help them become more perfect Christians. Even though Mindaugas seems to have fallen away from his promises, Christianity perdured here and there in Lithuania: the Faith was never extinguished.

These gifts were a wonderful manifestation of God's generosity, which enable us, also, to believe and love more perfectly and

to become more responsive to the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives. So, the challenge of the Jubilee is to become more familiar with them, and more open to them. The challenge is met by praying for them, simply, asking God, which is not too difficult to do."

Music for the hymns sung during the Mass was played by Mr. David Sachen, one of the foremost organists in the nation.

Aiding the persecuted

At mid-day on Friday the Mass for persecuted peoples was celebrated at Saint John the Baptist Church, where Monsignor John Horvat is pastor. Celebrant and Homilist of this Mass was Father Jurgelaitis.

He pointed out that the history of the new born Church in Lithuania shows periods of stress and struggle and recounts moments of grandeur and grief. From the very beginning the Knights of the Cross and the Knights of the Sword placed all kinds of obstacles to the peaceful growth of the Church. The Reformation confused the people and was a cause of divisions in the Faith. The Russian Tzarist regime not only strove to russify the language, but also to pressure the Lithuanian Catholics to adopt Russian Orthodox worship. And in our own times atheistic communism of the Soviet Union is attempting to undermine and destroy the traditions of the Catholic Faith of five centuries duration. The relentless persecutions and oppression of the past fifty years urges us to go to the aid of the Lithuanian people, to pick up the weapons they provide, namely prayer and fidelity to Jesus Christ. That is why we pray for our persecuted brothers and sis-

ters in their homeland.

"As we pray for them, let's learn from them how to be heroes of the Faith. Let's learn how precious that 600 year old Faith really is. Let's learn to see, as they see, that God is at work even in these terrible trials, and that God is our strength as He is theirs." Father Anthony ended.

Remembering the departed

On Saturday the delegates and guests of the Convention returned to Saint Anthony's — Saint Mary's Church for the annual Mass for deceased members of the K. of L. There was a sizable increase in the congregation, since most of the delegates had arrived. The customary hymns were sung with devotion and musical assurance.

Principal celebrant was Monsignor Algimantas Bartkus, who was to be raised to Honorary Membership that evening and concelebrant was the Spiritual Advisor of the Knights of Lithuania, Father Jurgelaitis, who also preached the homily:

"It is good to pray for the dead," he started, "and it is a noble act for the Knights of Lithuania to maintain the brotherly, sisterly bonds that tied them together over the 74 years since its inception. Saturday of Convention week has become a sacred moment. We do not pray only for those who have died during the past year, but for all who have died in the organization. And as a matter of fact, when one member is called by the Lord and a Requiem Mass is said at the request of the Supreme Council for his or her soul, all deceased members are included. This bond of remembrance through prayer will continue as long as the K. of L. shall exist."

During the Prayer of the Faithful delegates from the various Councils took turns in announcing the names of the deceased members for whom the Mass was being offered.

The Presentation of the Offer-tory Gifts was truly in keeping with the spirit of the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee. Gift bearers were in Lithuanian native dress and brought forward the official Christianity Jubilee medallion, a large commemorative medal of Archbishop George... Blessed George... Matulaitis, beatified by the Holy Father in June, a wayside cross, a rue plant, and the bread and wine for the Sac-rifice.

His Excellency, Bishop Forest, greeted the congregation in the name of Archbishop Ignatius Strecker and the local Pastor.

The above mentioned specifically religious aspects of the Convention manifest a great deal of preparation and planning, as well as skillful coordination by the Host council under the leadership of Gene Ashley and his team. For these efforts, which demonstrate exceptional K. of L. Spirit, all Knights of Lithuania are enduringly grateful.

And finally, one activity, not mentioned in this report — The Religion Panel held on Friday — will be presented in a future issue of *The Knight* — *Vytis*.

We are thankful...

Sunday. the Masses at St. Mary's - St. Anthony's Church are celebrated at eight and eleven A.M. Thus, the Knights of Lithuania could have the beautiful church from nine to ten thirty. And what happened? It became the Lithuanian church for the day, reminding the older Lithuanians of Kansas City of yesteryear, when there was a Lithuanian church there. The church was well packed for this

occasion, as many local Lithuanians gathered for the closing Mass of the Convention, which was said in Lithuanian.

The parish choir *Rambynas* from Omaha was present in full force with a special program of hymns for this important occasion. It seemed that the entire congregation joined in the singing. Among the soloists were Al Brazis and Marytė Juzenas. Con-

celebrants of the Mass "in thanksgiving" were Monsignor Al. Bartkus and Father Jurgelaitis.

Preceding the Mass the Fourth Degree was conferred upon three worthy candidates. The prayers were said in both English and Lithuanian, so that all could understand the significance of this Degree, through which the candidates rededicated themselves after many years of faith-



ful service for "God and Country" in furthering the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

In the homily, Father Jurgelaitis stressed the importance of a proper celebration of the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee year 1987 - 88. The bottom line of this celebration is not to be the three years of preparation, nor the pilgrimage to Rome, but rather a deeper knowledge and grasp of just what our Baptism means to us, what it ought to mean.

The advice given to the pilgrims at Rome by Pope John Paul was: "Be worthy of Christ!" and "Be God's people in the world!" It is clear that if we celebrate Lithuania's Baptism and boast of it, we must be what we

claim to be — followers of Christ. Personal responsibility — "P.R." is the watchword. During this year the Christian conscious of his Baptism can't help but resolve to grow in the Faith, and do the deeds Baptism requires as a matter of personal responsibility.

If the Delegates noticed that no mention was made thus far of the Papal Blessing upon the Convention, the explanation came just after the Homily. The document from the Holy Father came early enough, but it was misplaced. The convention hosts spent hours attempting to find it; it was discovered only after the Mass and entrusted to the National Spiritual Advisor. What was not read

at the Mass, is quoted here:

"His Holiness Pope John Paul II has been informed that the Knights of Lithuania will hold their 74th National Convention on July 29 - August 2, 1987 in Kansas City. He sends his greetings of grace and peace in Our Lord Jesus Christ to those taking part and assures them of his prayerful remembrance.

During this present Marian Year, the Holy Father commends the Knights and their families to the maternal intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and in the love of Jesus her Son he gladly imparts the requested Apostolic Blessing."



**I looked for my soul
but my soul I could not see.
I looked for my God
But my God eluded me.
I looked for a friend
and then I found all three.**

—William Blake

Dedicated to

LARRY JANONIS

**Honorary Member, President, Mentor
and FRIEND**





National Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P greeting the Holy Father Pope John Paul II, at the 600 Jubilee of Lithuania's Christianization. In the background HM Dr. Jack Stukas.

**The following resolutions were all
approved by the convention delegates**

1. Resolution

WHEREAS His Holiness, Pope John Paul II in his fatherly solicitude has proposed, fostered and participated in the joyous celebration of the 600th Anniversary of the Christianity in Lithuania at which he beatified the Lithuanian Archbishop Jurgis Matulaitis, MIC, and

WHEREAS on countless occasions His Holiness has expressed in word and deed his love and esteem for Catholics who form the Church in Lithuania, and

Whereas on June 5, 1987 His Holiness issued an apostolic letter to the bishops in Lithuania, giving them continued inspiration and courage to follow in the footsteps of Our Lord,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania transmit to His Holiness its profound gratitude and joy for these manifold proofs of his paternal love and concern for the freedom and welfare of the Church and people in Lithuania.

2. Resolution

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania adopted the Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome, and pledged its moral and financial support; and

WHEREAS the personnel of the college, headed by Rector Monsignor Algimantas Bartkus, extended great efforts to organize the events surrounding the celebration of the 600th Jubilee of Lithuania's Christianity in Rome and the Vatican,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 74th National Convention express sincere gratitude to Msgr. Al Bartkus and his staff for the time and efforts expended which contributed to the success of the event;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania continue its financial support of the college with a donation of \$500.00.

3. Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the 74th National Convention elevate to Honorary Membership, the Most Reverend Monsignor Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, member of Anthracite Council 144, whose candidacy was approved by the 73rd National Convention in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

4. Resolution

WHEREAS the U. S. Catholic Conference has espoused its solidarity with the Catholics in Lithuania through resolutions regarding the return of the Church of St., Casimir, the Vilnius Cathedral and the Queen of Peace Church in Klaipėda, expressing concern over the imprisonment of Fathers Svarinskas, Tamkevičius and Matulaitis, and

WHEREAS the U.S. Catholic conference has expressed that the protection of Human Rights is a religious task and that the dynamic ministry is what occurs in the Church in Lithuania, where religious freedom comes to everybody and symbolize a whole range of human rights, and

WHEREAS it has been suggested that a District Chair (Office) be established within the U.S. Catholic Conference to address the plight of the suffering Church behind the Iron Curtain, most predominantly the Church in Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at this 74th National convention extend its sincere appreciation for their expression of solidarity with the Church and believers in Lithuania, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania express to the U. S. Catholic Conference the need for proposed establishment of an office to protect and promote human rights behind the Iron Curtain and urge them to expedite the establishment of this office as soon as possible.

5. Resolution

WHEREAS the most Reverend Ignatius J. Strecker, Archbishop of Kansas City, Kansas has most graciously received the Knights of Lithuania assembled in convention; and

WHEREAS he has extended the hospitality of the Archdiocese to its delegates;

BE IT RESOLVED that the 74th National convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its warmest gratitude to His Excellency for his spiritual leadership and guidance.

6. Resolution

WHEREAS Rep. John Miller (R-Washington) and Rep. Edward Feighan (D-Ohio) have recently established a congressional caucus for Lithuanian Catholic Religious Liberty in the U. S. House of Representatives;

WHEREAS the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania* spearheaded the formation of this caucus;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at its 74th National Convention held in Kansas City, Kansas congratulate & thank Congressmen John Miller and Edward Feighan for the establishment of this Congressional Caucus and for their concern for the Catholics of Lithuania.

7. Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, 74th National Convention, meeting July 30 - August 2, 1987 in Kansas City, Kansas extend greetings to Ar-

Archbishop Paul Marcinkus of the Vatican rejoicing with him that justice has been done and charges against him have been dropped.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania reconfirm its promise that "We will always walk with you!"

8. Resolution

WHEREAS Fr. Joseph Dambrauskas, M.I.C., Vice Postulator of the cause for the Beatification of Archbishop Jurgis Matulaitis, a member of the Knights of Lithuania has over many years been the source of information and constant inspiration to our organization working for the cause, and

WHEREAS His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, has raised Archbishop Matulaitis, M.I.C. to the altar of the church;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania express its gratitude and appreciation to Fr. Dambrauskas for his leadership and guidance in channeling Knights of Lithuania efforts towards the attainment of this goal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania spiritually join hands with him in a prayer of thanksgiving as we celebrate the fulfillment of his arduous endeavor for the beatification of Archbishop George. His mission has been accomplished.

9. Resolution

WHEREAS Balys Gajauskas, a leader in the fight for a free Lithuania and unofficial historian of the Lithuanian movement for independence, has been imprisoned in a Soviet labor camp for over 35 years;

WHEREAS Balys Gajauskas has always sought to preserve truth and provide accurate information regarding the plight of his fellow countrymen;

WHEREAS the door of Gajauskas' prison cell has not been opened in the Soviet Union's new openness policy (*glasnost*);

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at its 74th National Convention held in Kansas City, Kansas respectfully request that Soviet leader Gorbachev exercise his power and order the release of Balys Gajauskas, a man of peace, from prison.

10. Resolution

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania traditionally has concerned itself with the well-being of Lithuanian parishes, and

WHEREAS the number of Lithuanian priests and religious is diminishing,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT at all Knights of Lithuania meetings and conventions, prayers be offered for an increase in priestly and religious vocations.

11. Resolution

WHEREAS *Draugas* has kindly printed news of the Knights of Lithuania every week in the *Vyčių Veikla* column and has generously provided other coverage for

the Knights of Lithuania activities, and

WHEREAS Alexander Pakalniškis, Jr. has faithfully and diligently served as Editor of the *Vyčių Veikla* column,—

BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention express its sincere appreciation to *Draugas* and Mr. Pakalniškis, Jr., and as an expression of our appreciation make a donation of \$50.00 to *Draugas*.

12. Resolution

WHEREAS Darbininkas has generously printed news of the activities of the Knights of Lithuania

BE IT RESOLVED that we send our thanks and appreciation to *Darbininkas* and as further thanks to make a donation of \$50.00 to *Darbininkas*

13. Resolution

WHEREAS the Honorary Chairman of the Honorary Membership Committee, Anthony Mažeika, was unable to attend the 1987 Convention due to failing health, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania recalls his untiring service and great love for the organization;

BE IT RESOLVED that the 74th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, convened in Kansas City, Kansas send greetings and best wishes for good health and God's blessings to Anthony Mažeika.

14. Resolution

WHEREAS currently in the United States, individuals accused of war crimes cannot be prosecuted for such a crime; and

WHEREAS currently the U. S. Justice Department can seek only the deportation of alleged war criminals because of allegedly omitted or untrue information on their immigration papers to the United States; and

WHEREAS the legal traditions of the Soviet Union conflict substantially with those of the United States; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at their 74th National convention held in Kansas City, Kansas direct the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania to write to the majority and minority leaders of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and president Ronald Reagan to:

1. Initiate and support a federal war crimes statute authorizing criminal trials and suspected war criminals (per research U.S. Piracy Act, universality principle, Executive Order No. 9547)

2. to initiate and support legislation mandating that in deportation proceedings against naturalized U.S. citizens, or those with official status, federal rules of criminal proceedings will be applicable.

3. That they investigate and put an end to current practices of the U.S. Justice Department, when trying alleged war criminals which mix civil and criminal jurisprudence, as this is against all accepted U.S. judicial procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Supreme

Council of the Knights of Lithuania urge all districts, councils and individual knights to also write to the above mentioned individuals, in regard to these issues.

15. Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 74th National Convention meeting in Kansas City, KA donate \$50.00 each to:

1. Lietuvių Teisėms Ginti Fondas (American Lithuanian Rights Fund Inc.)
2. Coalition for Constitutional Justice and Security
3. Americans For Due Process.

16. Resolution

WHEREAS a public group to monitor compliance with the Helsinki Accords was recently established in Latvia;

WHEREAS on June 14th a peaceful ceremony to honor the Latvian victims of the mass deportations took place in Riga;

WHEREAS the Soviet government has declared a new "openness" policy;

WHEREAS it disregarded of this new government policy, and the rights of Soviet citizens as guaranteed by the Soviet constitution, Soviet authorities have arrested eleven persons who participated in this peaceful remembrance of those who died during the terrible days of June;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at its 74th National Convention held in Kansas City, Kansas express its solidarity with the people of Latvia in their struggle for independence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania earnestly request the United States Helsinki Committee to note these violations and to take whatever action deemed necessary in such cases.

17. Resolution

WHEREAS the month of September commemorates the anniversary of the beginning of World War II; and

WHEREAS this war was initiated by Nazi Germany's and the Soviet Union's attack on Poland (an outcome of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact signed August 23, 1939 between these two countries); and

WHEREAS Lithuania refused to join in this attack on Poland and thereby displayed support of the positions of the Allies— Britain and France;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania at their 74th National Convention held in Kansas City, KA convey these facts to President Reagan, and the majority and minority leaders of the House of Representatives and the Senate to reaffirm Lithuania's position during World War II and to have these facts commemorated annually in the U.S. Congress

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania urge all districts, councils and individual Knights to also write to the above

mentioned individuals and their Congressional representatives.

18. Resolution

WHEREAS the Soviet Union has never denounced or renounced the Nazi-Soviet Pact signed by Molotov and Ribbentrop on August 23, 1939; and

WHEREAS this treaty partitioned Poland and Lithuania between Germany and Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS the Soviet Union, in conjunction with this treaty issued Public Order No. 001223 which directed the liquidation and operative liquidation of up to 750,000 people in Lithuania, including American, British, Zionist, patriotic Jewish organization personnel, and other segments of the population in Lithuania; and

WHEREAS these inhumane acts indicate the guilt of the Soviet Union of its collaboration with Nazi Germany and the guilt of the Soviet Union of committing Nazi war crimes;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Knights of Lithuania at their 74th National Convention held in Kansas City, Kansas that the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania write to U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese, President Ronald Reagan and the Senate and House of Representatives Majority and Minority Leaders to:

1. Express the Knights of Lithuania belief that no persons based on alleged discrepancies of his/her immigration application to the United States, be deported to the Soviet Union because of likely execution by Soviet officials, i.e. Federanko.

2. Request that proceedings be initiated to try people now residing in the United States, who had collaborated with the Soviets in that time period of Soviet-Nazi collaboration (1939 - 1941) for their Nazi war crimes (this being in compliance with the Holtzman Amendment)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVES that the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania advise all District and Council Presidents to similarly write to the above-mentioned individuals and their respective Congressional representatives regarding these issues.

19. Resolution

WHEREAS the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness is a sacrosanct principle of the American heritage, and

WHEREAS abortion is a deed directly in contradiction to that heritage

BE IT RESOLVED that the 74th National Knights of Lithuania Convention meeting in Kansas City, Kansas, reaffirm its opposition to legalized abortion and be it further resolved that the Convention express its strong support for the legislation proposed by President Ronald Reagan denying government funds to agencies counseling for or providing abortions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVES that members write to the White House supporting this legislation.

20. Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 74th National convention approve the candidacy for elevation to Honorary Membership during the 75th National Convention in 1988 of a faithful, tireless, over half a century diligent member Konstant A. Savickus of Council 5, Chicago, Ill.

21. Resolution

WHEREAS a portion of the membership of the Knights of Lithuania are interested in seeing that the waiting periods between Degrees be shortened.

Whereas there are conflicting views as to what these periods should be change to or that they should be changed at all.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ritual Committee conduct an investigation on this matter and report their findings to the Supreme Council, so that the matter can be formally addressed at the next National Convention.

22. Resolution

WHEREAS the honorable René M. Lafayette, member of the R. I. House of Representatives, did become acquainted with the plight of Lithuania by his attendance at the annual "Terrible June Days" commemorative Mass in 1986, and

WHEREAS, during the current 1987 session of the R. I. General Assembly convening in the State House in Providence, R.I., he did sponsor and introduce an act H-5338 making every February 16th "Lithuanian Independence Day" in the State of Rhode Island, and this act easily passed legislature and was subsequently signed into law by Governor Edward DePrete and R. I. joined its sister states of Massachusetts and Connecticut becoming the third state in the Union to have such a day commemorating and observing Lithuania's Independence, and

WHEREAS all the proceedings on the Floor of the R. I. House of Representatives in the passage of this legislation at the urging of Rep. Lafayette was televised live and carried by four cable companies in R. I.

WHEREAS, cassette, tapes for VCR viewing were also made available and have been distributed throughout the world, in the hope that the cassetters may find their way into occupied Lithuania and give these people encouragement and hope in their struggle for freedom and human rights and

WHEREAS by the efforts and dedication of Rep. Lafayette to the cause of a free Lithuania that he may be of inspiration to others, to emulate, his achievements in having every February 16 known throughout all of our 50 States as "Lithuanian Independence Day.

BE IT RESOLVES that the Knights of Lithuania Convention held in Kansas City, Kansas, recognize Rep. René M. Lafayette for what he has done for Lithuania in so short a time and wish him luck in his young political career.

24. Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania gathered in Kansas City, Kansas for their 74th National convention, do hereby unanimously recognize, applaud and express sincere gratitude for the generous contribution of time and talent made by Sister M. Mercedes, SSC in creating the portrait of Archbishop George Matulaitis, which was presented by the Knights of Lithuania to the Holy Father Pope John Paul II in Rome during the celebration of the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis and the celebration of the 600th anniversary of Lithuania's Christianity.

25. Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 74th National Convention express the gratitude of its members to the outgoing Supreme Council for its praiseworthy service to the organization and to the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

26. Resolution

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania 74th National convention held in Kansas City, Kansas has been received by the Right Reverend John Horvat, pastor of St. John the Baptist Church with unforgettable hospitality and warmth permitting the convention to worship and offer Holy Mass at the church.

BE IT RESOLVED that an expression of sincere thanks be sent to Monsignor Horvat for his generosity and participation.

27. Resolution

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania 74th National Convention held in Kansas City, Kansas has receive a very warm welcome from the Reverend Raymond Davern pastor of St. Mary's — St. Anthony's Church and hospitality to worship in that church on three occasions;

BE IT RESOLVED that an expression of sincerest thanks be sent to Father Davern for his generosity to the Knights of Lithuania which will long be remembered.

28. Resolution

WHEREAS, on June 18, 1987, President Ronald Reagan met with Lithuanian leaders to recognize the 600th Anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania and to express moral support for persecuted Catholics in Soviet-occupied Lithuania, and

WHEREAS, during the visit, President Reagan specifically requested a list of Lithuanian Prisoners of Conscience and promised to seek their release through proper official channels as often as possible,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania 74th National convention, meeting in Kansas City, Kansas July 29 - August 3, express sincerest thanks to President Reagan for receiving the delegation and for his continued concern for the plight of the suffering Church in Lithuania.

29. Resolution

WHEREAS Rev. Msgn. Andrius Bačkis, Undersecretary of Public Affairs of the Church, at the Vatican, served as a direct link between the Holy Father and the Lithuanians in preparing for the celebration of the 600th Jubilee of Lithuania's Christianity and all the events surrounding that celebration in the Vatican and Rome,

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Knights of Lithuania 74th National convention express to Msgr. Bačkis their sincerest gratitude for his contribution to the success of the Jubilee events, and their profound pride in having a fellow Lithuanian in this most important and prestigious post.

30. Resolution

WHEREAS Honorary Member Loretta Stukas has served as the Knights of Lithuania representative on the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee Committee

WHEREAS Loretta bravely undertook the chairmanship of the Committee for the Jubilee Medalion.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 74th National Convention, meeting in Kansas City, Kan-

sas give Loretta Stukas an outstanding ovation for all the work, time and ingenuity she has devoted to this cause.

31. Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania 74th National convention express its sincerest gratitude to the Convention Presidium and Committees for their untiring efforts in the conduct of the business of this Convention.

32. Resolution

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania 74th National convention, held in Kansas City, Kansas July 30 - August 2, 1987, was hosted by K. of L. Council 150, which was organized only three years ago,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania express its heartfelt gratitude to C-150 for their courage in taking on this awesome responsibility, for their efforts in providing for a successful and fruitful convention and for their warmth and hospitality which also made the convention an enjoyable one.



Atidarymo sesija Lietuvos vyčių seime Kansas City. Algirdas Brazis praveda hymnų giedojimą. Iš k. kun. Antanas Jurgelaitis, OP, Centro valdybos pirmininkas Frank Petrauskas, solistas Algirdas Brazis, Marytė Juzėnas, Vincent Gray, dr. Algirdas Budreckis, Teresa Trainis. Nuotr. Dalius Bulvičiūtės

GREETINGS

UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE
Rev. Msgr. Daniel F. Hoye, General Secretary
Washington, DC

LITHUANIAN R.C. PRIESTS' LEAGUE OF AMERICA
Rev. Albert J. Contons, President
So. Boston, MA

SUPREME COMMITTEE TO LIBERATE LITHUANIA
(VLIKAS)
Dr. Jack J. Stukas, Vice-President
Watchung, NJ

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL, INC.
(ALTAS)
Dr. Jonas Valaitis, President
Chicago, IL

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY
OF THE USA, Inc. (Bendruomene)
Vytautas Volertas, President
Algimantas S. Gecys, Pr. Chairman
National Executive Committee
Philadelphia, PA

AMERIKOS LIETUVIU TAUTINE SAJUNGA
Dr. Leonas Kriauceliunas, Pirmininkas
Chicago, IL

LITHUANIAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.
(Tautos Fundas)
Juozas Giedraitis, President
Brooklyn, NY

LITHUANIAN FOUNDATION, INC.
Marija Remiene, President
Chicago, IL

LITHUANIAN WORLD YOUTH ASSN.
Gintaras Grusas, President
Agoura, CA

FEDERATION OF LITHUANIA WOMEN'S CLUBS
Aldona Noakas Pintsch, President
West Milford, NJ

LIETUVIU SKAUTU SAJUNGA
Petras Molis, Pirmininkas
Shrewsbury, MA

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC ALLIANCE
Thomas E. Mack, President
Wilkes Barre, PA

ALKA
Dr. Juozas Kriauciunas, Secretary
Putnam, CT

ATEITININKAI
Juozas Bronius Laucka
Washington, DC

LIETUVOS PRANCISKONAI,
SV. KAZIMIERO PROVINCIA
Kun. T. Placidas Barius, OFM, Prov.
Kennebunkport, ME

DARBININKAS
Kun. Dr. Kornelijus Bucmys, OFM, Red.
Brooklyn, NY

SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR
Sister M. Joanelle Fayert, General Superior
Chicago, IL

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
Sister Marian Blodis, OSF, General Superior
Pittsburgh, PA

SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED
Sister Mary Ruth, CJC
Superior General

SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Sister M. Paul, Provincial Superior
Putnam, CT

MOST REV. CHARLES A. SALATKA
Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

VYSKUPAS PAULIUS A. BALTAKIS, OFM
Vyskupas Lietuviams Katalikams Iseivijoje
Brooklyn, NY

VYSKUPAS VINCENTAS BRIZGYS
Hon. Spiritual Adviser, K of L
Chicago, IL

DR. STASYS A. BACKIS
Lietuvos Charge d'Affaires
Washington, DC

VYTAUTAS CEKANAUSKAS
Consul General of Lithuania
Los Angeles, CA

VACLOVAS KLEIZA
Consul General of Lithuania
Chicago, IL

ANICETAS SIMUTIS
Consul General of Lithuania
New York, NY

GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

SUPREME COUNCIL

Anthony F. Skirius, C-133 25.00
LITHUANIAN DAYS MAGAZINE
Los Angeles, CA

JUNIORS FUND

Julia Burlen, C-141 100.00
Washington, DC

Alice Zupko, C-12 50.00
Manhattan, NY

K OF L ARCHIVES

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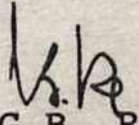
FROM THE VATICAN, July 16, 1987

Dear Archbishop Strecker,

His Holiness Pope John Paul II has been informed that the Knights of Lithuania will hold their 74th National Convention on July 29 - August 2, 1987 in Kansas City. He sends his greetings of grace and peace in our Lord Jesus Christ to those taking part and assures them of his prayerful remembrance.

During this present Marian Year, the Holy Father commends the Knights and their families to the maternal intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and in the love of Jesus her Son he gladly imparts the requested Apostolic Blessing.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Monsignor G.B. Re
Assessor

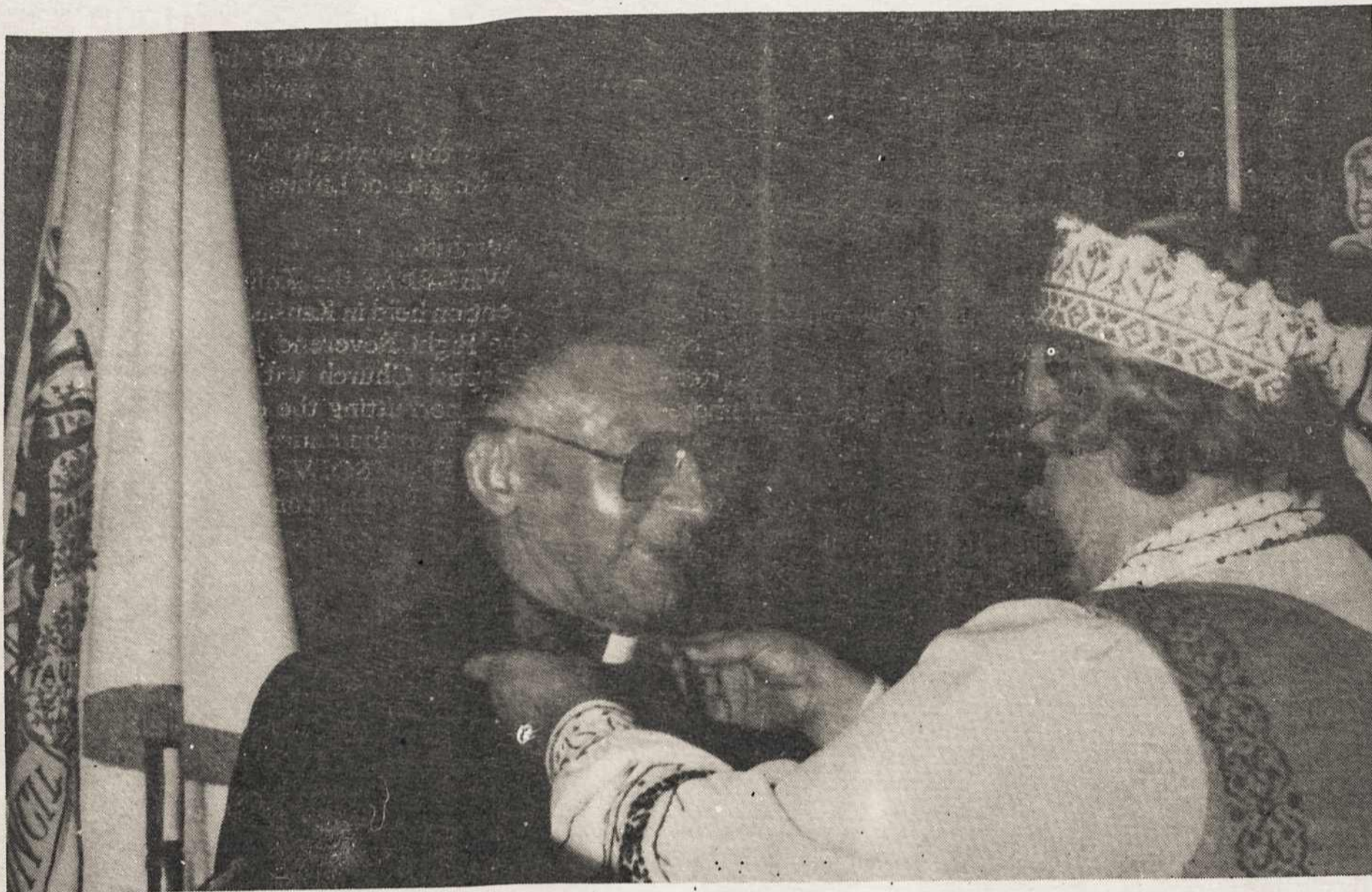
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Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas
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At the closing banquet of the Knights of Lithuania convention in Kansas City, Kansas, Honorary Member Helen Shields bestows the Honorary membership to the 1987 candidate Rev. Msgn. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of St. Casimir Pontiffical College in Rome, Italy..

To order a 8 x 10 color photo of the 74th Nat'l convention taken in front of the Kansas City Courthouse, send name, address, zip code and check or money order in the amount of \$10.00 to:

74th K of L Convention Photo
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Kansas City, KS 66104

To order a video tape of the convention (V.H.S only) send your check or money order for \$20.00 (which includes postage and handling) to:

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