

Kosciusko Statue in Lafayette Park across from the White House.
Photo: A. Cizauskas, Jr.



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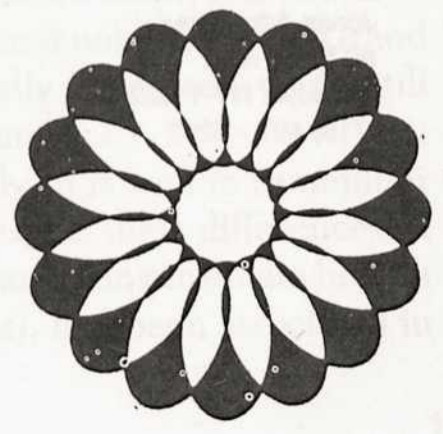
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EDITORIAL COMMENTS

We thank you for your kind words about the few last issues of VYTIS. It is a lot of work but we enjoy it. But remember, without all of you there would be no VYTIS. Please contribute as Al Cizauskas has done with his beautiful article this month.

A reminder: April is our 75th Anniversary Issue. Send us your old photos, articles, etc., anything that you might think would be enjoyable to share for all of us. As dr. Al Budreckis tells us: *Mykolas Norkūnas 1913 m. balandžio 27 d. sušaukė steigiamąjį suvažiavimą, Lawrence, Mass. Šv. Pranciškaus parapijos salėje.* Deadline — February 15.

Please do not send Council News to Mary or myself. Helen Chesko is the editor for that department. It takes twice as long and we are aiming for a VYTIS, which would appear on the first week of each month, so please help us.

January is a special month for Lithuania. In it we regained our gateway to the sea — Klaipėda and Lithuania Minor. It would be a good idea if a council's cultural department would remind the members about this event during a meeting. If possible try to read a brief excerpt from Lithuania's history dealing with this period.

Next month, on February 16 we will commemorate the 70th anniversary of Lithuania's independence — a time of joy as well as of grief. Try to prepare for it accordingly.

Visiem Vyčiam linkime sveikų ir laimingų 1988!

*Dalia Bulvičius — Editor
Mary R. Kober — Associate Editor*

A KNIGHT TO REMEMBER

ALBERT CIZAUSKAS

Ask almost any Lithuanian about Thaddeus Kosciusko, and the likely answer will be, "Some Pole who fought in the American Revolution." Strangely, few Lithuanians today know that Kosciusko was born a Lithuanian, a member of the landed gentry in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.

Some time ago I wrote in the VYTIS, urging the Knights of Lithuania to commemorate Kosciusko's birthday, February 12, in some appropriate and public way. In Washington, D.C., for instance, several members of Council 142 lay a wreath at Kosciusko's statue which stands across from the White House in Lafayette Park. Some Councils might find it convenient, lacking a public memorial to the man, to review the facts of his exciting and adventurous life, or even to write to a local paper about him. The coincidence of Lincoln's birth with that of Kosciusko's is also an interesting point, since both men shared similar humanitarian ideals.

The question naturally arises, why is Kosciusko known almost exclusively as a Pole? This was not always so. When Kosciusko died in 1817, Lithuanians petitioned the Czar to permit him to be buried on the soil of his own country. The Czar refused, according this privilege

instead to the Poles who buried him with great ceremony in Cracow next to the Kings of Poland. Most Polish historians, nevertheless, acknowledge Kosciusko's Lithuanian heritage (among them Mieceslaus Haiman, the most noted of his biographers) but then add, with a sly, jingotic thrust, that Kosciusko was Lithuanian in the same sense that Washington was a Virginian.

Here of course, the Poles do history and themselves a disservice. The facts are otherwise. Kosciusko was born in 1746 into an ancient family of Lithuanian-Ruthenian stock. The Kosciuskos were of the minor nobility with relatively modest holdings in the southern reaches of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, an area known as Ruthenia, or Belorussia. The Grand Duchy, it should be understood, had been united for several centuries with the Kingdom of Poland. The Kosciusko family, in common with most of the landed gentry and nobility in the Grand Duchy, had become superficially Polonized while still regarding themselves as Lithuanian.

To understand this anomaly, it is well to remember that Poles and Lithuanians, despite their differences in language and race (the Lithuanians being the main branch of the non-Slavic Baltic peoples), had been associated in

a political and religious sense ever since Grand Duke Jogaila had become King of Poland (and hence ruler of both countries) late in the 14th century. The union was relatively loose at first, but since the position of King and Grand Duke continued to be held by the same individual, the union gradually grew closer. Finally in 1569, the two states agreed to share a common Diet (parliament), sitting at Warsaw. Lithuania, originally the larger and militarily the stronger, retained its separate officials, treasury, and army, all attributes of a sovereign state.

Despite a long history of mutual antagonism between the two peoples, however, the attraction of the court at Warsaw had its predictable effect. Lithuania's upper classes in time tended to look upon Warsaw as their social and cultural arbiter, much as most of western Europe looked to Versailles for many years as the epitome of aristocratic elegance. Inter-marriage and a steady stream of colonization from the Kingdom of Poland eastwards into the Grand Duchy and its leavening influence, too.

The frequent confusion of Lithuanian and Pole, which persists to this day, is thus not surprising, despite the fact that the peasants retained to the full their Lithuanian identity and language. An account of the unique relationship between the two countries may be found in one of the classics of European literature, *Pan Tadeusz*, a pastoral epic of Lithuania written in Polish by a Lithuanian, Adam Mickiewicz, a native of the same area of old Lithuania as Kosciusko.

It is also important to remember that Kosciusko identified himself as a Lithuanian on several public occasions. There need be no argument about Kosciusko's national heritage, nor that he served both Poles and Lithuanians in leading a heroic but futile struggle for national survival against the three super powers of the day, Russia, Prussia, and Austria. The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was completely wiped off the map of Europe in the year of 1795, the larger share of the spoils going to Russia.

Prior to his military leadership of Poles and Lithuanians against the triple alliance, Kosciusko had given evidence of military genius in the American Revolution. His fortifications at Saratoga, New York, were a critical factor in preventing the British from splitting the Colonies. It was the Americans' first major victory and secured for them the open support of the French, without which American victory might not have been possible. Kosciusko also fortified West Point, making it an impregnable barrier to any further British attempts to divide the Americans. His third contribution was in the south where his engineering talents helped push the British out of the Carolinas and forced them up into Virginia where Washington and the French finally defeated them at Yorktown.

Kosciusko's exploits in America, and his underdog role against Russia, Prussia and Austria, made him into a "hero of two worlds," as he came to be called. But there was much more to the man than an able and courageous fighter. Kosciusko also passionately believed in a social philosophy that was well ahead of his time, even ahead of the revolutionary philosophy embodied in the Declaration of Independence. Kosciusko believed that political freedom is a necessary precondition of social justice, and that social justice is not possible without the means to sustain it. In furtherance of these lofty ideals, Kosciusko freed the serfs on his own estates in Lithuania, and, as leader of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, he not only promised freedom to the thousands of serfs in both countries, but also the land on which they worked. As he perceptively observed, "Liberty alone does not provide for the peasant and his family." He understood that political freedom and social justice must go hand in hand, or else the one is meaningless without the other. This doctrine is especially relevant today, when the Soviet Union pretends to give its citizens "social justice" but at the price of political freedom. The impossibility of such a compromise may be seen in the Soviet Union where neither political freedom nor social justice prevail.

Kosciusko was an intimate friend of Thomas Jefferson with whom he maintained a correspondence for over twenty years. One of the most revealing and touching acts of Kosciusko's long career took place at the time of his second departure from America. He then willed to his good friend Jefferson all the money he had earned during the Revolution for Jefferson to purchase not only the freedom of black slaves, but also to finance their education. This was at a time when Jefferson, an enlightened statesman and philosopher, was still a slave owner. It demonstrates Kosciusko's firm conviction that political liberty is a right that is color blind and that education is an essential ingredient of political liberty.

In a biography by John Quincy Adams, the sixth President of the United States, Kosciusko is hailed as one of the two most eminent foreigners to fight in the American Revolution (the other being Lafayette). The French historian, Michelet, called Kosciusko the "Last Knight of Europe" because of his chivalrous defense of political freedom and social justice. We Knights of Lithuania can do no less than to reclaim Kosciusko's heritage, not in a self-defeating spirit of nationalistic rivalry, but in a willingness to share, with all those who are concerned about the condition of man today, the memory of a great Lithuanian, a great soldier and a great humanitarian. His philosophy, well ahead of his time, is still ahead of ours, as more than half the world remains neither politically nor materially free.

(I will be glad to provide a full-length biography of Kosciusko to any Council that asks me for it. My address is: 2339 Walnut St., Falls Church, VA. 22046.)



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OUR HISTORIAN INFORMS US

"Final K. of L. History Report: Hazards of a Historian

Rev. William Wolkowich

By the time you read this article, the K. of L. history should be in the hands of the printer. The plan is to have the book for distribution at the 1988 spring district conventions.

It's been a long journey since the day this writer accepted the National Board invitation to prepare a complete study of the Knights. En route from spring 1982 up to now, I encountered a number of "hazards" and surprises. Here is a sampling: knee surgery, a parish transfer (with 100 cartons of books), an encounter with the latest computer technology, unprocessed archival data, and indexing.

The manuscript was prepared on discs, steered by a word processor program in an Apple II-E, ready for printout and delivery in that condition. Meanwhile, there was a search for a firm that could handle the Lithuanian diacritical markings. In the spring of 1987, I learned that it is now possible to set type directly from computer discs — a saving of several thousand dollars for the Knights. The "catch" though was the hours-consuming need to go over the entire text, inserting symbols at each diacritical mark. The typesetting company provided these arbitrary signs, consisting of three or four characters, added just before the letter calling for a mark. An example will help (or confuse)! Take the surname "Kriščiunevičius." I had to type it on my computer as Kri;aks;akciunavi;akcius. Easy, right? You see, ";ak" is the symbol for the check mark over a "c," or "z." Meanwhile, the quotations ("!si!" and !e!) parentheses, chapter titles, all required their own symbols. But enough of that!

Moving on to archival material, be aware that several cartons of Boley, Jutt, and Chicago papers are in the K. of L. Room at the ALKA in Putnam, Connecticut, crying out to be processed. Since the Knights have not yet seen fit to hire a professional archivist, those papers remain mostly inaccessible to a researcher. Hours and hours are needed to read through each piece of paper in those boxes; sort them out; record them alphabetically on file card, with sender -recipient, date, content summary. This calls for experience in history and language. Even so, I trust that nothing critically important is missing from my study, although obviously some fine points are lacking. (Also, some data arrived much too late for consideration. The writing itself ended in June 1987. Since then almost weekly visits to the typesetter have been going on.)

LIETUVOS IR KITŲ ARTIMŲ ŠALIŲ VALGIAI

Apolonija (Polly) Ziausys

Lietuva yra nedidelė, tačiau kiekviena sritis turi labiausiai mėgstamų patiekalų.

Aukštaičiai — blynus, varškę, kugelį, dešras, šaltieną. Suvalkiečiai rūkytos mėsos patiekalus, didžkukulius (cepelinus), vėdarus. Dzūkai — valgius iš grybų, bulvių. Žemaičiai — kąstinį su bulvėmis, sūrį, šiupinį, rasalą.

Rasalas gaminamas taip: Išverdi burokėlius (raudonus), supiaustai, dedi į virintą karštą vandenį su pipirais, lauro lapeliais, svogūnais, paskanini silke ir valgai su karštomis bulvėmis (tinka kūčių vakarienei). Kitas žemaičių valgis: spirginė, kanapinė, druska. Tai su svogūnais, pipirais druska keptuvėje paskrudintos ir sugrūstos kanapės (hemp).

Žemaičiai antros vestuvių dienos rytą mėgsta saldumynų persivalgiusius svečius pavaišinti rusalų, spirgine, (kad širdis atsigautų). Mėgsta avižinių miltų kisielių. Šiais laikais avižinį kisielių galima pagaminti ir be avižinių miltų. Avižinius dribsnius (rolled oats) užpilti vandeniu, įdėti juodos duonos (rugienės) porą riekelių ir užmerkti 24 valandoms ir išvirti. Dzūkai tą kisielių valgė su mėšiniu — medumi ar cukrumi pasaldintu vandeniu. Mėšinių pasaldytas kisielis tinka kūčių vakarienei. Žemaičiai jį valgė su sviestu ir spirgučiais.

Aukštaičiai — virtinių piragėlių tęslą iš miltų ir įdarydavo, grybais, mėsa, varške, šutintais rūgščiais kopūstais, uogomis, bulvių košę. Vidurio

lietuviai mėgo piragėlius iš virtų bulvių. Netikėtą svečią vaišino medum, sūriu, kaimiška duona, rūkyta dešra, kumpiu ir t.t.

Lietuvoje labiausia mėgstama pasigardžiuoti, silke su grybais, žemaičių kastiniu žuviene, šaltibarščiais, gira, skilandžiu, lietuviškomis dešrelėmis, koldūnais-virtiniais, pyragais, kūgeliu su kiaulės kojytėmis, didžkukuliais-cepeliniais.

Vokiečių gurmanai G. Lindė ir H. Knoblochas po nedidelių socialoginių tyrimų nustatė, kuo rusų šalies miestuose labiausiai mėgstama pasigardžiuoti. Lietuvoje — Vilniuje jau gana seniai cepelinai konkuruoja virtinius (koldūnus). Cepelinai tai ilgi apvaliniai kukuliai iš tarkuotų bulvių, prikimšti įvairaus įdaro: mėsos, silkės, varškės, grybų... Paduodant į stalą, jie palaistomi lydytu sviestu, arba grietine, spirgučiais, valgomi su įvairiausiais padažais.

Latvijoje — Rygoje — pieniška perlinių (barley) kruopų sriuba. Maskvoje — barščiai ir blynai. Tobalske — koldūnai (virtiniai). Jakutske arklienos muštunikais, Samarkande — avienos plovu, Tbilisyje — vištienos čachochbiliu. Norilske — šiaurės elnio liežuvio ragū.

Patarlės:

Škada žento, gaila varškės.

Pagal Jurgį ir kepurė.

Tyli padėka nedaug kam naudinga.



OUR HISTORIAN INFORMS US (Cont'd)

Finally, the dreaded indexing had to be faced. To hire a professional indexer is a very costly matter. One would have to find a specialist to handle the Lithuanian character of the history. So I prepared a lengthy alphabetical list of names, places, and essential topics. This list was printed out, and the idea was to recruit some three or four people to handle these sheets of entries. By the time this article appears, please God, I shall have met with these hired hands. The job will have been to read through (at lightning speed) the entire text, now prepared

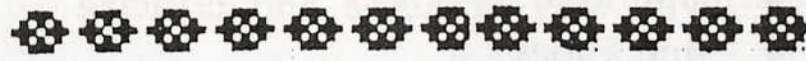
in page form by the typesetting firm, shouting out names and page numbers for the assistants to write down. But wait! One more phase, please. The page numbers on all those sheets will have been entered on the computer discs.

If you have read this far in what could be a boring piece, I commend you. Put yourself in my shoes, reading, among other sources, 100,000 pages of all the back issues of VYTIS. Maybe that's why few are foolish enough to face the hazards of history research and writing!

THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

74th National Convention — Kansas City, Kansas

1986 – 1987 Membership Drive



The membership applications processed by Mary R. Kober, National Financial Secretary, has disclosed the following information and statistics:

Council	Applicants	Membership	Enrolled by
C-5 Chicago	35	48	K. Savickus (35)
C-24 Chicago	15	137	A. Paladino (7)
C-26 Worcester	21	155	F. Kulakusky (8)
C-29 Newark	17	171	E. Cavello (4)
C-36 Chicago	17	221	O. Naujekiene (8)
C-50 New Haven	29	220	A. Gedrim (15)
C-90 Kearny	33	92	E. Rokas (26)
C-110 Maspeth	35	389	J. Adomėnas (26)
C-112 Chicago	23	288	E. Rogers (8) E. Kasputis (8)
C-144 Anthracite	17	254	J. Pieza (4)
C-150 Kansas City	19	39	L. Srubas (10)
C-152 Riverhead	13	112	J. Lott (3)



Based on this information the following are winners of the drive. In the council category, the following councils are winners:

FIRST PLACE – Tie between C-5 Chicago and C-110 Maspeth

SECOND PLACE – C-90 Kearny

THIRD PLACE – C-50 New Haven

FOURTH PLACE — C-112 Chicago

In the individual category, the individual enrolling the most members are:

Councils

Under 50 members	_____	Konstant Savickus C-5
51 - 100 members	_____	Eleanor Rokas C-90
101 - 200 members	_____	Fran Kulakusky C-26
201 - 300 members	_____	Alex Gedrim C-50
Over 300 members	_____	John Adomenas C-110

Many thanks to all who participated in this drive



Vytiškai,
FRANK J. PETERSON
 2nd Vice President

IN MEMORIAM

Patricia Richards
Member C-7 Waterbury
Died: June 25, 1987

CHARLES GRIBAUŠKAS
Member C-7 Waterbury
Died: October 25, 1987

ERNEST KUNDROTAS
Member C-7 Waterbury
Died: November 5, 1987

ALDONA STUOPELIS
Member C-7 Waterbury
Died: November 30, 1987

Bernice Laurian
C. No. 112 - Chicago

Antanas Dirse
C. No. 147 - St. Petersburg, FL
Died November 27, 1987

Michael Marcinkus
C. No. 36 - Chicago

WHICH ARE YOU?

Are you an active member - the kind that would be missed, or are you just content that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help your council along - or are you satisfied to simply say that you "belong"?

Do you ever volunteer to help the guiding stick? Or leave the work to just a few, then talk about the clique?

Come out to the meetings and help with hand and heart; don't just be a member, but take an active part!

Just think this over, member - you know right from wrong.

Are you an active member or do you just belong?

Alex Gedrim, C-50

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**On the Question of Language**

Joe Boley

To every Lithuanian conscious of his inheritance, the Lithuanian language is much more than a means of communication. It is a page of history, involving great personal sacrifice, decades of clandestine book smuggling, imprisonment, and exile. It is an inspiring saga of our forefathers' iron-willed determination flatly to reject the proffered speech and detestable foreign characters of their imperious masters but to prefer the sounds and letters which they called their own. For these are the sounds best suited to express our innermost thoughts and emotions: sounds which were a factor in implanting in our youth the original idea of the Knights of Lithuania. These are the sounds that have sustained our brothers and sisters in many a foreign country and kept them bound together as a family. These are the same sounds that pour forth from a Lithuanian breast in love song and lullaby, in joy and in sadness, and in solemn prayer too — words whose age-old nuances only a Lithuanian can fully fathom.

Is it any wonder, then, that the founders of the Knights of Lithuania saw fit to spell out specifically as one of the sacred goals of the organization the preservation of the Lithuanian language? Not sports, with which they hoped to attract the youth, nor music, without which life would be a dreary existence, nor art, nor learning, nor social life, but the preservation of our language and all the cultural elements attached thereto.

However, unlike many earthly possessions, language cannot be preserved under lock and key. It flourishes best with wide and constant use; it is its loving use that gives it luster and sheen. The trouble is, one will hear said, "Living here..." Yes, living here is not an ideal environment for the cultivation of the Lithuanian language. But living here or anywhere, making excuses will accomplish little or nothing of positive worth. Only full recognition of our duty and our key position at this point of time, only the realization of our obligation to pass on our heritage to future generations will provide

us with the motivation and the energy to bestir us.

Where to begin? Where all life's projects begin: within ourselves. Begin with a better knowledge of our history — of the land whence came that beautiful language of ours. One's roots are getting to be important even to the most primitive tribesmen. The higher the intelligence, the deeper will be the perception and appreciation of one's heritage. As that loving friend of the Knights, Msgr. Krupavičius, used to counsel us. *Lietuvis su lietuviu kalbasi lietuviškai!*

Begin by speaking Lithuanian, even if imperfectly. Be proud of these mellow Lithuanian sounds; do not apologize for them. You will thus encourage others, who may be too timid to venture in Lithuanian. Equip yourself with a Lithuanian-English dictionary. Allow yourself the luxury of delving into a book like *Introduction to Modern Lithuanian*, with its rules of grammar explained to you in English. Read. Listen. Ask. Enjoy.

As you begin to feel a growing Lithuanian consciousness, bring it with you into every Lithuanian assemblage, especially your K. of L. council meetings and activities, before, after, and between the meetings. Sometimes one helpful suggestion will sway your fellow members in the direction of the ideal we are trying to achieve.

In our deliberations, in our reports and minutes, in VYTIS correspondence, let us make room for the Lithuanian word. To be a more effective president, secretary, committee chairman, knowledge and use of Lithuanian is a valuable asset. The case of Father John Jutkevičius (1914 - 1971) remains an everlasting example. Knowledge of the language will not come to us by merely wishing for it. There must be some effort made on our part. Daily perusal of a column or two in a newspaper or a page or two in a book will result in considerable progress. Reading and speaking it at every opportunity will give us

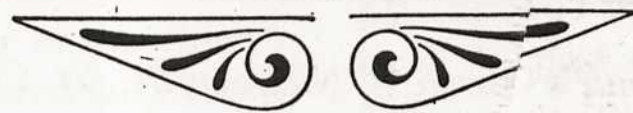
increasing facility in our handling of the language. Then especially in a position of leadership, a gentle prod to the rank and file, or merely the example without any prodding, may awaken the dormant Lithuanian spirit in our friends and fellow members. Such cultural effort in our council would soon be greeted with joy by the entire Lithuanian community.

Organize a Lithuanian reading class, which meets regularly to read aloud from an interesting book or newspaper. Bring some of the more interesting passages for a reading at the council meeting. The district should foster such reading sessions in all its councils. Where possible the district should institute reading competitions and give honorary recognition to councils for propagation of the language. Strive to attain a wide membership participation in this purposeful activity. Communion breakfasts are splendid occasions for such reading presentation. Concerts and other programs of entertainment ought to feature primarily works by Lithuanian composers and writers. This holds for programs on local, district, and national levels. A K. of L. sponsored affair must without exception abound in Lithuanian character. Anything else is readily available almost any hour of the day on the television tube.

Council greetings in the VYTIS and all program booklets are much more suitable in Lithuanian than in English. Also, just as a Lithuanian Mass is more appropriate to the K. of L., so is a Lithuania prayer before a meal or meeting, or a convention session.

A thinking Lithuanian — sąmoningas lietuvis — will always seek ways and means to advance the use of our language. To a true K. of L. member it will be a matter of pride and principle to increase his proficiency in the Lithuanian language and to inspire others, especially those coming after us, to do likewise.

National heritage is an invaluable treasure and our language is our greatest heritage.



ST. CLAIR, PA.

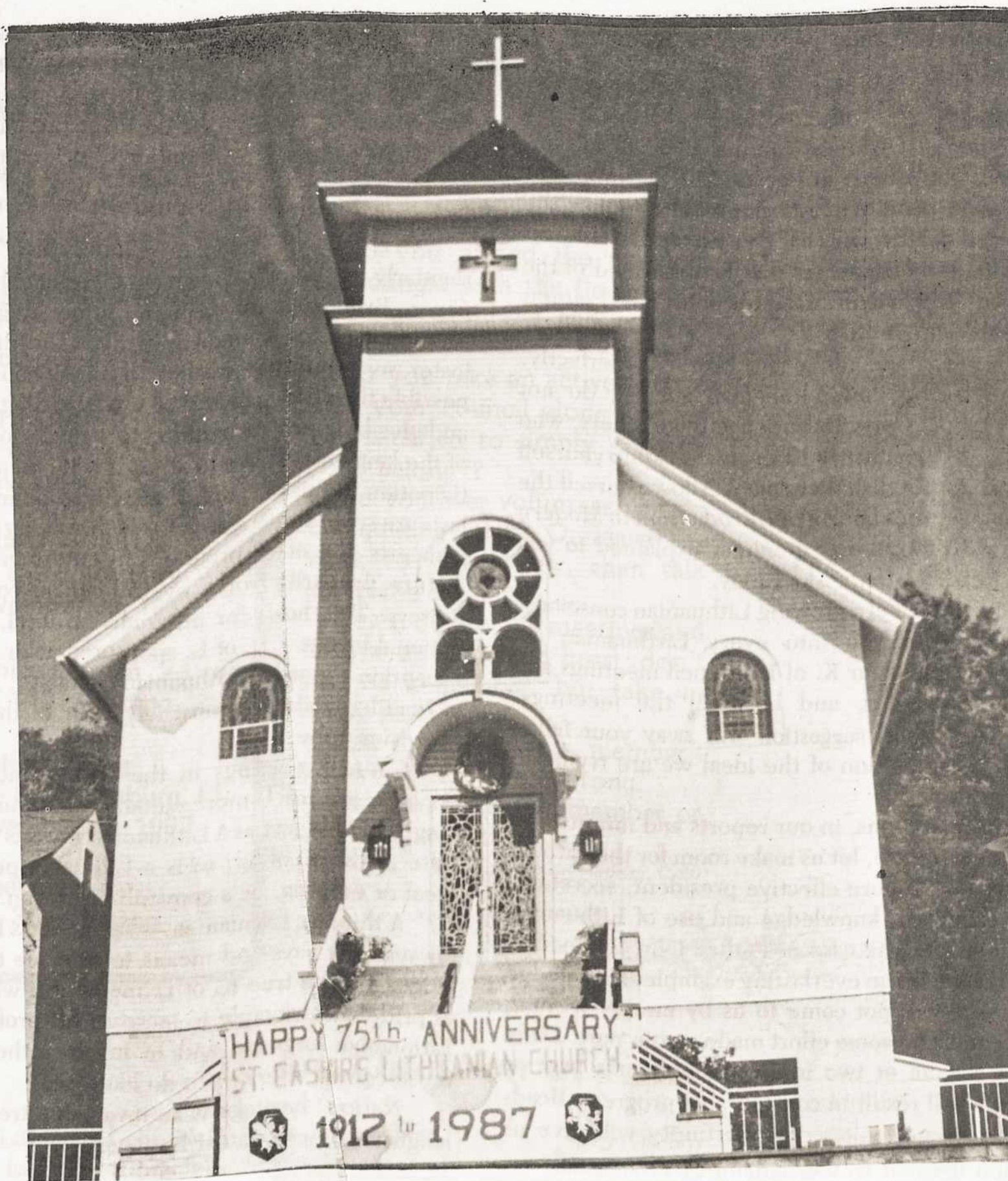
75th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CASIMIR'S PARISH

1987 was a year of celebration for St. Casimir's Parish in St. Clair, Pa. The parishioners not only celebrated the 600th Anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania, but they also celebrated the 75th. jubilee of the parish.

It was early in the 1900's that approximately 70 Lithuanians settled in the little mining village of St

Clair, Pa. Most were Catholic and attended either the Slovak or German Catholic churches because they had no church of their own.

Rev. Vincent Dargis came to St. Clair occasionally from his parish in Mahoney City to minister to their spiritual needs and to urge them to organize their own church. Later, Rev. J. Dumcius, having succeeded Rev. Dargis, came to St. Clair at least



St. Casimir's Church, S. Nicholas St., St. Clair, PA

once a month for Holy Mass which was celebrated in the Slovak Church.

In 1912 the parish was formed, and the first pastor assigned was Rev. J. Kutas. The first Mass was offered in the local hall and in the schoolhouse of the St. Boniface German Church.

In 1915, Rev. M. Durickas was assigned to the parish. At the same time the hard-working Lithuanians bought three lots. Ground was broken and erection of the church began. These early Lithuanian-Americans sacrificed much to build their own church; a parish with their own customs and language. After a hard day's work in the local mine,

they helped build their church. With the little money that they had, they put everything they could to accomplish this deed. On October 22, 1917, the cornerstone was laid and the church was officially named St. Casimir's Church.

After the completion of the church, Rev. Durickas left for Lithuania and he was replaced by Rev. J. Rastutis who served the parish from 1918 until 1923. These years mark great progress in the church.

From 1923 to 1926, three pastors served: Rev. Paul Mezvinskas, Rev. John Bula and Rev. C. Klevence. In 1926, Rev. V. Matulaitis was named pas-

tor, and served until Dec. 8, 1937 when he was replaced due to illness. He was followed by Rev. Peter P. Laumakis, Father Laumakis was pastor for over 30 years when he was named Pastor Emeritus due to a serious illness in 1968. During his years as Pastor, the church progressed — He placed a beautiful Shrine to Our Lady of Fatima in 1952 at the right entrance of the church, and began the First Saturday Peace Mass, which has continued to this date. He also founded the Rosary Confraternity at the same time, and this organization has served the church both spiritually and financially for the past 35 years. The President of the Rosary Confraternity is K. of L. member, Anna Klizas Wargo. Members devote their prayers by the daily rosary, place flowers on the altar at all Peace Masses and Special Devotions.

Father John Luksys succeeded Father Laumakis and in his years, he had a new entrance placed in the church for those who could not walk steps, he had a new parking lot and roadway constructed and a large garage which could be converted into a covered stand for the annual summer bazaar.

FATHER Luksys was transferred in 1974, and Rev. Algimantas Bartkus became Pastor. Father Bartkus started a monthly Lithuanian Mass and formed a Lithuanian organization from all over Schuylkill County. This organization joined the Knights of Lithuania and officially became Council 144 in January of 1977. Father Bartkus remodeled the Church hall and the rectory during his pastorate.

After Father Bartkus was transferred, Rev. William Linkchorst had the interior of the church remodeled and the exterior was covered with vinyl. After a short time, he was transferred, and was replaced by Rev. Daniel Yenushosky. Father

Yenushosky had a beautiful Shrine to St. Casimir erected on the left grounds of the church. He was only pastor for a short time, when due to the untimely death of Rev. Joseph Shelonis, he was transferred to St. Francis Church in Minersville.

In August 1986, the parish was fortunate in the new pastor, a young energetic Lithuanian priest, Rev. Ronald Jankaitis. Throughout this past year, Father Jankaitis led the Parish in many spiritual and cultural affairs to celebrate the 75th Anniversary.

The celebration was opened with 40 hours which ended with a High Mass on St. Casimir's Day, March 4 with the principal celebrant, Bishop Thomas Welsh of the Allentown Diocese. Throughout the year special services were held which culminated in a Solemn High Mass in October, with Bishop Welsh as principal celebrant, Rev. Jankaitis and Rev. Linkchorst as concelebrants, assisted by 40 priests of the Allentown Diocese. During the Mass, Bishop Welsh wore a Chasuble made especially for the celebration with a picture of St. Casimir on the front and back of the chasuble.

A banquet followed attended by parishioners and friends. M.C. for the banquet was son of St. Casimir's, Rev. Gerald Gobitas, Pastor of Annunciation B.V.M. Church in Frackville, Past pastors were represented by: Father John Lukšhs, now pastor emeritus of St. Francis Church, Minersville, Pa.

We are grateful to the early Lithuanian immigrants who worked so hard to form this parish; to the children and grandchildren of these early parishioners who are keeping the parish alive and to all the past and present pastors who preserve the Lithuanian traditions and built the parish into the beautiful church it is today — AČIŪ DIEVUI!



Gera žmona

Kalbasi du draugai:

— Gavau labai gerą žmoną. Įsivaizduoji, kai grįžtu namo po darbą, ji net apsiaustą padeda nusivilkti, paskui paduoda šlepetes ir pirštines . . .

— Kam tau pirštines namie?

— Su guminėmis pirštinėmis patogiau bulves skusti ir indus plauti.

Pavardė

Įstaigon atvykusią mergaitę tarnautojas paklausė:

— Tamstos pavardė?

— Aš dar neturiu pavardės, — aiškino mergaitė.

— Kaip tai? — susidomėjo tarnautojas.

— Aš dar neištekėjusi. Ta pavardė, kurią turiu, yra mano tėvelio pavardė, o savo pavardę aš gaūsiu, kai ištekėsiu.



On Oct. 7, 1987, Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid with Congressman Henry Miller (R-WA) and Edward Feighan (D-OH) jointly organized a reception to honor former Lithuanian dissident Vytautas Skuodis. At reception from left: Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, Executive Director of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, George Weigel, Pres. of Madison Foundation, Rep. Henry Miller and Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid staff member Marian Skabeikis (C-41 Brooklyn).



MŪSŲ PASIDIDŽIAVIMAS — OUR PRIDE

THE HONORARY MEMBERS (Living)

3 - PHILADELPHIA, PA
Helen Shields - 1963

7 - WATERBURY, CT
Marcella (Andrikis) Aleksis - 1968

17 - SO. BOSTON, MA
Rev. Albert J. Contons - 1978
Phyllis Grendal - 1950
Jack Sharkey - 1928
Longinas Svelnis - 1972
Anthony Young - 1950

26 - WORCESTER, MA
Ann Bender - 1968
Rita Pinkus - 1976
Joseph Sakaitis - 1968

29 - NEWARK, NJ
Kazys Sipaila - 1979
Jack Stukas - 1966
Loretta Stukas - 1976

36 - CHICAGO, IL
Stanley Pieza - 1963

41 - BROOKLYN, NY
Joseph Boley - 1956
Simas Kudirka - 1975

52 - ELIZABETH, NJ
Anne (Mitchell) Matulevich - 1959

61 - PATERSON, NJ
Anne Klem - 1969

78 - LAWRENCE, MA
Rev. Albin J. Janunas - 1984

79 - SOUTHFIELD, MI
Anthony Dainus - 1980

96 - DAYTON, OH
Mary Lucas - 1968
Stanley Vaitkus - 1968

102 - DETROIT, MI
Robert Boris - 1970

103 - PROVIDENCE, RI
Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis - 1986

109 - GREAT NECK, NY
Mary (Rusas) Kober - 1982
Alexander Wesey - 1974

110 - MASPETH, NY
Most Rev. Paulius Baltakis - 1985

112 - CHICAGO, IL
Most Rev. Vincentas Brizgys - 1958
Eleanore H. Laurin - 1966
Estelle Rogers - 1985
Hon. Josephine Dausvardis - 1978

144 - ANTHRACITE, PA
Rt. Rev. Algimantas Bartkus - 1987

147 - ST. PETERSBURG, FL
Anthony J. Mazeika - 1947
Jonas Valauskas - 1983

NOT AFFILIATED WITH A COUNCIL
Most Rev. Charles A. Salatka - 1962



(BELATED)

*Linksmų Šventų Kalėdų
Laimingų Naujų Metų*

*Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season
to all K. of L. members*

COUNCIL 67 – BAYONNE, N.J



WE GET LETTERS ... MUMS RĀŠO ...

Congratulations on your appointment as editor-in-chief of the VYTIS. I could see the change in your November issue, professional-looking and interesting to read. I also read your editorial and heard you. So I've enclosed an article on one of my favorite subjects, Kosciusko. I hope that you like it enough to publish. I ask only one thing. Would it be possible to run it in your January issue so that it would be in time for Kosciusko's birthday commemoration, which is on February 12?

Once again, congratulations and best wishes on your making VYTIS a good publication. Keep it up.

Sincerely,

*Al Cizauskas
Falls Church, VA*

(Thanks for the kind words, Al. Just one small error in your kind letter. I did not make VYTIS a good publication. WE did: Mary Kober, Helen Chesko, all our contributors and myself.) We loved your article. Please send more!

... Aš studentas — I shall use my dictionary to try to get the gist of the story (November VYTIS, p. 1), but what about Lithuanians and non-Lithuanians especially who will miss it all. If possible give thought to short English version of what each photo depicts. I'm trying to attract non-Lithuanian spouses to remain with us. Honestly I love the VYTIS. You people are to be commended. Very nice issues. Most sincerely, vytiškai

Victor G. Mathieu

(Mes dekojame mielam studentui Viktorui. Mėginsime tau pagelbėti. Up to now the mail is 2:1 in favor of more Lithuanian in the VYTIS. Let us hear from more of you regarding this matter)

ACHIEVEMENT:

The man who rows the boat generally doesn't have time to rock it.

At the December meeting of Council 25 in Cleveland a discussion was held on the "new Vytis". Everyone agreed it was a great improvement. A motion was made that we write you to commend you on what is a great job you and your staff have done. We like the print, the articles and the promptness of the mailing.

*Vincent Gray
President C-25
Cleveland, OHIO*

*Marion Gray
Rec. Secty. C-25*

(Ačiū labai mielieji! It's people like you that make our job worthwhile.)



LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

LIETUVIAI NAUJIENUOSE



William Senkus - C-52 Elizabeth, NJ

The October 14th issue of *The Citizen* of Hillside N.J., BILL SENKUS of C-52, Elizabeth, was written up under heading: LITHUANIAN LORE A LABOR OF LOVE FOR WILLIAM SENKUS. Bill has chronicled the history of St. Peter & Paul Lithuanian Church and the Lithuanian community it served. Bill has written a 150-page book and, is still writing and documenting the lives and times of his people. Bill states that "If nothing is put into writing, then we will be forgotten". Bill's book, which is titled *The History of a Lithuanian Community in Elizabeth, New Jersey* is a detailed account of a people who have remained together through good and bad times. Bill intends to publish another book marking the 75th anniversary of the death of the man who became known as the "last of the whiteclothed Marianists" relating to a grand uncle who was a Marian priest in Lithuania during the late 19th century.



The October 25th issue of *Wisdom Age & Grace* column by Northwest Indiana Catholic, STANLEY PIEZA, HM of C-36 Chicago was written up with a heading of: NORTH JUDSON JOURNALIST "RETIRED TO", NOT "RETIRED FROM". Stanley has written articles about local happenings at Little Company of Mary Health Facility and All Saints parish in San Pierre. He was an editor of religion and a Vatican correspondent for William Randolph Hearst's *Chicago American* and the International News Service, stating: "I'm probably the only living U.S. newspaperman who spoke to four popes — Pius XII, John XXIII, Paul VI and John Paul II". Pieza is considered one of the founders of the Lithuanian College in Rome. When he retired in 1970, Cardinal Cody appointed him executive secretary of the Archdiocesan Union of the Holy Name Societies of Chicago, and director of Chicago's Catholic Youth Organization, from 1970 - 72. After that he turned his activities closer to home. "You don't retire FROM, you retire TO" he commented. "Keeping involved in the community is a great resource for not getting old". Between his church and community activities, and spending time with his children and 16 grandchildren, Pieza doesn't have time to grow old.



Stanley Pieza, HM - C-36 Chicago, IL

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS (Cont'd)

TRUE ACHILLES HEEL

ARVYDAS SABONIS, a Lithuanian star center of the Soviet national basketball team, underwent emergency surgery in Vilnius after falling down a flight of stairs and rupturing his achilles tendon for the second time. Tass, the Soviet news agency, hinted that the career of the 7'2" center is seriously threatened. Tass also accused SABONIS of carelessness. He had the same tendon repaired in a 3-hour operation and was expected to be sidelined for at least a year. While recovering in Palanga, Sabonis again slipped on some stairs and fell. Without SABONIS, the Soviets lost in the final to Greece, 103-101.

CAPT. MARK A. VAITKUS, son of HM Stanley and Helen Vaitkus, C-94, Dayton, OH has been decorated with Army Commendation Medal at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Washington, D.C.

The Army Commendation Medal is awarded to those individuals who demonstrate outstanding achievement or meritorious service in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Army. Capt. Vaitkus is a Research Social Psychologist. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and the University of Michigan.



TWO HUSBANDS, ONE WIFE - Actress Ann Jillian poses with her husband, Andy Marcia, right, and actor Tony Bianco, who plays her husband in "The Ann Jillian Story" to be shown by NBC-TV this season. Jillian underwent a double mastectomy and has continued her acting career. (Newsday)

Bulvių košė

Mokytojas: Romuk, jei mama turi tik keturias bulves, kaip ji gali jas padalinti penkiem vaikam, kad visiems išeitų po lygiai?

Romukas: Padaryti bulvių košę, ponas mokytojau!



DUPLICATES?

If you receive two identical copies of VYTIS clip the address labels and send both to National Fin. Secretary. Allow 1 month for duplicates to be combined.

LET'S SPEAK LITHUANIAN!

KALBĖKIME LIETUVIŠKAI!

Blind alley—aklygatvis
By-way—šunkelis
Speedway—greitkelis
Highway—plentas
Traffic light—šviesoforas
Ice jam—ledkamša

Naminių gyvių pavadinimai

Dog—šuo
Bitch—kalė
Pup, puppy—šuniukas
Young dog, whelp—šunytis
Tom cat, he cat—katinas
She cat—katė
Kitten—katytė, katinėlis
Rooster—gaidys
Hen—višta
Chick—viščiukas
Capon—vištgaidis
Chicken—vištytis
Turkey—kalakutas
Turke, hen—kalakutė, kurkė
Young turkey chicks—kurkutis
Turkey cock—kurkinas
Bull—bulius
Cow—karvė
Heifer—telyčia
Calf—veršis

PROVERBS – PATARLĖS:

Žodis veršiu išaina, jaučiu pareina
(Words leave like a calf, return as an ox) or mountains out of molehills.

Nepirk katiną maiše (Don't purchase a cat in a bag)

Rėkia taip ožys į turgų vedamas.
(Crying like a goat on the way to the market)

Neprašyk Dievo, kad našta palengvintų, bet prašėyk kad nugarą sustiprintų. (Don't ask God to lighten the load. Ask Him to make your back stronger)

Polly Ziausys

THOUGHT FOR ANY DAY:

"Life is a ball, some catch it, some throw it, some dribble it, some drop it. some just take it home and forget where they put it".

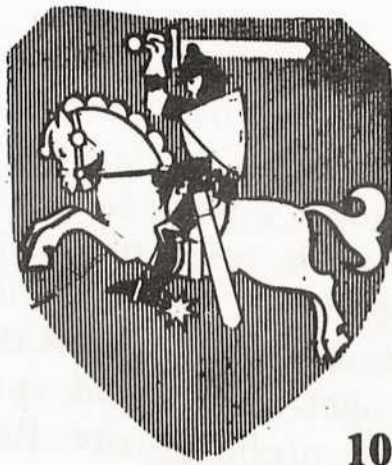


*75th Anniversary Mass - St. Casimir's Church,
St. Clair, PA*



Sister Mary Arline Bujanauskas, C-135 Ansonia celebrated her Golden Jubilee. Helen Chaplik and Chris Slushinski (front row), Mildred Driznus, Mildred Stachowicz and Violet Brazaitis join Sister Arline.

VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Edited by HELEN CHESKO,

1000 E. Pine St., Mahanoy City, PA 17948

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT



C-103 - Women of St. Casimir's Lithuanian parish in Providence, dressed in native costumes, pose with Bishop Gelineau on the steps of the church.

Photo A. Myette

C-103 — PROVIDENCE

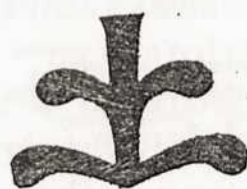
The only Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Providence, which encompasses the whole State of Rhode Island, is St. Casimir's.

On September 26, this very small parish commemorated the 600th Anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania with the Ordinary of the Diocese Bishop Louis E. Gelineau as the principal celebrant of a Mass assisted by Bishop Daniel P. Reilly of the Diocese of Norwich, Connecticut,

the pastor of St. Casimir's Rev. Izidorius Gedvila and fifteen Lithuanian priests from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

A reception and banquet followed in the parish hall that was filled to capacity.

VGM



MID CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

On Sunday, September 6, our council lost one of our long-standing and active members. Frank Zager's "In Memoriam" is printed elsewhere in this issue.

Our council's annual fall festival was not held as such because of the lack of workers. Suddenly we find ourselves aging and cannot take on responsibilities which require days of planning and hours of work to see that plans are carried out.

Instead on Sunday, November 1, we had a successful bake sale, a 50/50 and basket of cheer raffle. Lucky members to win were Joseph Medelis, William Dapkus and Sophie Zager. We owe a substantial profit from the affair to the following: President Maggie Smailis, Margaret Ann and Chester Nashlon, Helen Santorum, Emma and Frank Povilaitis, Leonard Balkus, Mary Keller, Bill and Margaret Dapkus, Antoinette Baron and Ann Uzdavinis.

At our November 4 meeting we voted to host another St. Casimir breakfast in the Cultural Center for members, friends and

our sister councils on Sunday, March 6.

January and February meetings will not be held if we are dealt inclement weather. Attendees are asked to contact officers in that case.

Officers for 1988 are as follows: President, Magdalena Smailis; Vice President, Richard Danielak; Financial Secretary, Stella Hotra; Recording Secretary, Margaret Dapkus; Sergeant at Arms, Leonard Balkus; Treasurer, Leonard Balkus; Trustees, Frank Povilaitis, George Kase and William Dapkus; Vytis Correspondent, Bertha Janus.

Committee chairpersons will be Ritual, Maryanne Newberry; Lithuanian Affairs, Helen Santorum; Sunshine, Emma Povilaitis; Cultural, Stella Hotra; Catholic Action, Mary Keller; Rosary Chain, Violet Panavas; Public Relations, Chester Ostrowski.

We are happy to see new names in the list and wish them good luck in the performance of their various duties.

Bee Jay

C-96 — DAYTON

A beautiful celebration of the 600th Anniversary of Lithuania's Christianity was held in September at Holy Cross Church in conjunction with the Mid-Central District Convention and Pilgrimage.

Of special importance was the visit of Bishop Baltakis who celebrated the Holy Mass and was very in-

involved with all phases of the weekend.

The activities started with a get-acquainted party on Friday night at the Rode-way Inn. On Saturday morning Bishop Baltakis shared some of his background with us and spoke about Blessed Archbishop George Matulaitis. A question and answer period followed. At the district convention session C-96 members elected to the board were Fran Petkus, President; Aldona Ryan, first vice president; George Mikalauskas and Michael Pant, sergeants at arms and Sally Miller, cultural chairman. Michael Pant is a transfer from the Juniors and hopes to become involved in our activities.

On Saturday evening, everyone enjoyed our Parish Homecoming Dinner Dance. The Lithuanian Gourmet Dinner was prepared by Elaine Pacovsky and Kitty Prasmantas. The program arranged by Elinor Sluzas and Judy Petroskas was beyond our expectations. The Cleveland Men's Octet and our own "Vejeliai" Dancers were given resounding applause. Music for dancing was excellent.

The impressive Mass on Sunday was a moving experience with a beautiful procession into the church with our three Eucharistic Ministers leading the way, followed by the offertory bearers and ladies and men in Lithuanian costume. They formed an honor guard for Bishop Baltakis.

Among the offertory gifts were a portrait of Blessed Archbishop George

Matulaitis, a statue of Saint Casimir and a 600th Anniversary Mini Shrine conceived by HM Mary Lucas then carved and designed by our sculptor George Mikalauskas. After Mass, the shrine was presented to Bishop Baltakis as a gift from our council. A bountiful luncheon was then served to the delegates and guests.

Pilgrimage services followed with 190 members remembered. The lighting of the candles and reading the names of our deceased members triggered many memories of the departed ones. Truly it was a weekend to be long remembered.

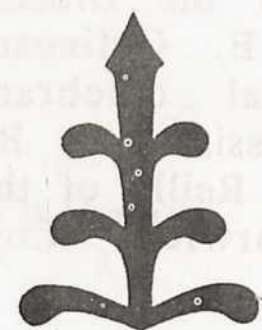
Now a little news of our C-96 members: Congratulations to Anna Marie and Mark Berger on the birth of their first baby, a son Joseph Mark. The happy grandmother is Elinor Sluzas.

Congratulations to Ann Louise Conrady on her marriage to Ron Tucker.

A happy eternity to our oldest member, Anella Petkus, who passed away after a lengthy illness. May she rest in peace.

Our annual election nite dinner and meeting was held on October 24 with most of the board retaining their spots for another year. Thank you for a job well done.

HM M. L.



MID AMERICA DISTRICT

PIRMA SYKJ... Iš C-40 gyvavimo

O ta vasara šiemet buvo tikra kan-
kynė su savo aukšta šilumos tempe-
ratūra. Ir kaip tyčia dar pablogėjo lie-
pos pabaigoje ir rugpiūčio pradžioje.
Tikėjomės, jog išbėgę iš St. Louis
apylinkių į Kansas City, Kansas mie-
stą, atsigaiivinsime už 300 mylių ma-
lonioje Vyčių Konvencijoje.

Deja saulė ir čia mus persekiojo su
virš plus 100 Fahrenheit karščiu.
Nežiūrint visų šių gamtos sukeltų ne-
malonumų, susitikimas su sesėms ir
broliais vyčiais, paliko mūsų gyveni-
mo svarbiu ir maloniu įvykiu.

St. Louis — tikriau Metro East
(East St. Louis) apylinkės C-40 po
daugelio miego metų buvo atgaivin-
tas prieš 4 metus Loretos Stukienės
pastangomis. Nors čia mums sunko-
kai einasi, nes "didžiosios society"
poreiškiai išblaškė parapiečius iš savo
gyvenviečių, kurie grupavosi per
šimtmečius aplink Nekalto Prasadėji-
mo bažnyčią. Nebedaug liko metų,
kad parapija galėtų švesti 100-to metų
sukaktį. Vyskupui A. Deksnui vado-
vaujant, kaip šios parapijos klebonui,
susikūrė stipri lietuviška parapija.
Gal dėl to ir nebuvo rūpinamasi Lie-
tuvos Vyčių organizacijos svarba, kuri
yra ne tik parapijos stiprybė, bet ir
prigimtų tautinių papročių bei ben-
dravimo palaikytoja. Be vyčių, para-
pijos lieka be lietuvių klebono ir be
lietuvių parapijiečių, nes nėra organi-
zacinio varyklio ir apimties, kuri visus
apjungtų veiklai. Nors ir pavėluotai,
bet, juk sakoma, geriau bent kada
negu niekada. Stengiamės mes tą
Vyčių padalininį ir toliau palaikyti.

Vykome į Vyčių Seimą, nors kaip
minėjau, saulė neatlaidžiai kepino vis
palaikyma 100 ir daugiau laipsnių. dėl
tos priežasties praradom daug gerų
galimybių aplankyti Kansas City,
Kansas miestą, o išvykos apžiūrėti
miestą ir kitas įdomias vietas buvo
taip rūpestingai suplanuotos Kansas
City, Kansas vyčių padalinio, seimo
dalyvių ir svečių malonumui.—

Jie, nežiūrint šios kaitros, be ato-

dairio mus informavo visais reikalais
ir vežiojo ir šen ir ten į bažnyčią
ir į vieną ir į kitą pamaldoms, kurios
buvo tik už trejetos blokų. Organiza-
torių pasišventimas buvo ne tik
stebėtinas, bet ir pilnas malonaus
draugiškumo. Niekad nepatyrėme ką
nors panašaus bent kokiuose kituose
suvažiavimuose. O programos tai ne-
pamiršamos, sakysime teatrą: buvo
tikras jaunystės jausmų prikėlėjos,
kuomet "senjorai" grojo scenoje se-
niai begirdėtas melodijas. Džiaugėsi
ne tik senieji, bet ir jaunieji. Nebuvo
jokio "Generation gap."

Nekalbant plačiai apie specialias
konvencijos - seimo - dalis, kurios jau
buvo aprašytos VYTYJE leidinyje,
mums labiausiai suteikė malonumo
nuoširdus vyčių bendravimas tarpu-
savyje. Nebuvo čia ilgų ginčų bei ne-
reikalingų diskusijų ar kalbų, kurios
yra tik laiko gaišatis ir sukelia dažno-
kai tarpusavio santykių erzelių, o buvo
tik viena linija: "mes mylime Lietuvą
iš tolo..."

Dėkingi esame Loretai už pastan-
gas atgaivinti mūsų C-40, o taip pat
įsipareigojame, kad C-40, laikytūsi
Metro East/East St. Louis ir St.
Louis/ apylinkėse, kad ir be dvasios
vadovo.

Tikimės, kad vėl pasimatysime
Washington D.C. 75 metų jublie-
jinėje konvencijoje-seime. C-40
vyčių vardu

A. Tiškuvienė

*(Agota Tiškuvienė writes about her
council— C-40, which 3 years ago
was revitalized by Loretta Stukas.
Agota talks about the Kansas City
convention, which she enjoyed very
much. She had never experienced
such warmth and hospitality. Her
council is struggling along, doing the
best it can, even though it does not
have a spiritual advisor. Thank you
Agota for your beautifully written ar-
ticle, we left it in Lithuanian since it
would be a shame to translate your
style of writing. Editors)*



C-112 — CHICAGO

Following our Novem-
ber business meeting, we
were honored to have Fa-
ther Tony Markus present
to give a brief presentation
on Our Lady of Trakai, The
Vilnius Madonna and other
images. He also had a beau-
tiful display of madonnas
which were enjoyed by an
unusually high attendance
at this meeting.

Thanks to hostess of the
evening Philomena Valutis
for a delicious treat follow-
ing the presentation.

Our hearts and prayers
go out to our choir director
Faustas Strolia who was in-
jured by an automobile and
at this writing is hospita-
lized. We sincerely hope he
soon will be well.

ARDEE

C-150 — KANSAS CITY

At our last meeting C-
150 elected a new slate of of-
ficers, chairmen and trus-
tees. Our new council presi-
dent is Leo Srubas who had
previously served as treasu-
rer. Vice president Gene
Ashley was reelected and
will serve as membership
and cultural chairman. Lou-
An Rayn was elected recor-
ding secretary. Our newly-
elected treasurer is Paul
Purduski. C-150 now has two
trustees in David Werp and
Charlie Purduski and a Vytis
correspondent and public
relations chairman in Lar-
ry Srubas.

Because C-150 does not
have a Lithuanian priest,

Charlie Purduski will serve as spiritual advisor for the council.

C-150 members would like to thank our retiring officials for their services this past year. Our new officers, trustees and chairmen are excited about their new roles as K of L leaders and are investigating ways in which council members can promote their Lithuanian language, culture and customs through their Roman Catholic faith.

Tony Granosky played host, tour guide and translator for his cousin and her husband from Dotnuva, 60 miles north of Vilnius, Lithuania. Jonas and Raimonda Trascienous arrived in the United States at the end of September and spent one month in Kansas City learning about life in America.

On October 12, C-150 officers, their families and invited guests honored the couple with a pot-luck dinner at Bill and Anita Strumillo's home. The dinner gave members the opportunity to learn first hand the rigors of daily life in Soviet-occupied Lithuania.

C-150 members would like to commend the Vytis staff for their first issue featuring the K of L 74th National Convention in Kansas City. The glowing reports about our warmth and efficiency as hosts was only inspired by our desire to help our fellow Lithuanians and to welcome our guests who had never experienced genuine Kansas City hospitality.

Larry Srubas



MID ATLANTIC DISTRICT

C-46 — FOREST CITY

At one of our recent meetings Beatrice Stanis and Helen Zlotucha presented Lithuanian and American flags to our council president, Michael Yavorosky.

Lithuanian Day at Rocky Glen was enjoyed by some of our members. Many of our members attended the September MAD meeting, hosted by Pittston Council.

At our October meeting, all present officers were re-elected to serve another term. Beatrice Stanis will be our new Vytis correspondent.

November 1 we attended Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, to commemorate the 600th Anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania.

Our spiritual advisor Father Sitko participated in the Mass celebration. Mary Prezelski, dressed in her Lithuanian dress, was one of the gift carriers. Michale Yavorosky, our president, served as an usher.

We enjoyed the delicious dinner following Mass at the Convention Center in Pittston.

Blanche Motsko

C-50 — KEARNY

At our September meeting, John Adomenas, president of the Mid-Atlantic District, presented us with a plaque for second place in

the membership drive.

Our annual October dance was a huge success. Friends from Newark and New Albany, Pennsylvania, helped us celebrate. Joan Benvenuti and Cathy Rokus and their committee members, Gerry Benvenuti, Lorraine Byron, Dot Ferguson, Theresa Gilcius, Eleanor Gellenitis, Fran Grinewich, Ann Pringle, Len Rokas and Dot Songile made this event a good time for all. Labai aciu!

November was really a busy month for us. On the eleventh Gen Mazur brought back many happy childhood memories with her sing-along of Lithuanian songs our parents and loved ones sang.

On the eighteenth Della Yaniscavitch demonstrated the art of making Lithuanian Christmas ornaments.

Thank you members and friends for making Council 90 come alive again. Getting to know our culture and heritage a little better is so important in today's fast-moving world. Being Lithuanian is something to be proud of!

Dorothy Songile

C-63 — LEHIGH VALLEY

Council 63, Lehigh Valley, sponsored their fifth Ruta Ball and celebrated their fifth anniversary on November 1 at the Candle Light Inn, Bethlehem.

At the outset, members and guests paid tribute to and reflected upon the memory of the man most responsible for organizing

Council 63, Mr. Anthony J. Sockel.

Entertainment was provided by the Denny Hardock Band. After a few authentic selections were played, the crowd was in full swing. Committeemen for the affair were Messrs. Adolf Klova, Joseph Ogint, Robert Klova and Al Klizas.

A new board of officers presided over Council 63's meeting of November 15 which was held in St. Michael's Church Hall, Easton. The board consists of President Joseph Simmons, Vice President George Deriscavage, Treasurer Robert Klova, Financial Secretary Jane Lutick and Recording Secretary Ann Pettit.

Final plans were made to conduct the council's annual Kucias on December 13. Committee chairladies for this affair are Mrs. Mary Sabol and Mrs. Trudy Simmons.

Arrangements are being made to conduct the annual Lithuanian flag raising ceremonies in the cities of Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton on Lithuanian Independence Day. A banquet will follow on February 21.

This is the manner in which Council 63 keeps the plight of Communist occupied Lithuania alive in our fellow American's conscience. Committee people for these events are Joseph Simmons, Al Klizas, Adolf Klova, Robert Klova and Joseph Ogint.

JOSEPH F. OGINT



C-74 — SCRANTON

CELEBRATING THE 600 CHRISTIAN JUBILEE OF LITHUANIA IN THE SCRANTON DIOCESE

All Saints Day was a golden letter day for Lithuanian Catholics in the Diocese of Scranton. Besides being a day set apart by the Church to honor all the saintly heroes, it was chosen by the Scranton Diocese as the day on which to commemorate the 600 Birthday of Christianity in Lithuania.

As a perfect day in autumn, it was cool and sunny. The trees had already shed their multi-colored leaves which were not missed when the Knights of Lithuania dressed in colorful national costumes emerged from cars and buses that stopped at St. Peter's Cathedral. Lithuanian parishes from Scranton, Duryea, Eynon, Forest City, Hazleton, Kingston, Luzerne, Pittston, Sugar Notch, Wanamie and Wilkes Barre were represented. Others came from mixed parishes and from out of state. When the crowds finally entered the cathedral, every available pew was filled. There was standing room only.

Yellow booklets with Lithuanian motif on the cover containing the order of the Liturgy and hymns for the occasion were distributed. The flowers in the sanctuary, yellow and red against a background of green leaves, silently proclaimed the Lithuanian Jubilee.

Marching in procession as the choir sang "Pulkim

Ant Keliu" six altar boys preceded the two readers, Sister Virginia Marie Vytell CJC, and Commander Clement V. Maslow. Fourteen priests were followed by the Rev. John E. Rikteraitis who came from New Britain, Connecticut, to deliver the homily. The Most Rev. James C. Timlin completed the procession.



C-74 Scranton - Marie Laske, Dick Laske and Jean Kavalines receiving their 4th Degree in Pittston.

During the liturgy, singing in Lithuanian and Latin, the combined choir of Lithuanian parishes directed by Linda Houck and Edwina Ustynoski and led by the organist Robert Keller performed splendidly. The cultured voice of Milda Vilushis filled in as cantor. The congregation joined in many of the familiar hymns.

As is customary, gifts were carried in procession by a representative of every Lithuanian parish in the diocese. Among them were a picture and biography of Blessed George Matulaitis, Gate of Dawn Shrine, a jubilee medallion, a Marian prayer book, a Wayside Cross, and a carved Lithuanian Knight.

When the Liturgy ended and the Lithuanian Himnas was sung, the people had time to drive leisurely to the Convention Center in Pittston where dinner was served.

When the three-piece orchestra filled the air with pulsating rhythm, many feet kept time under the table before couples ventured onto the dance floor.

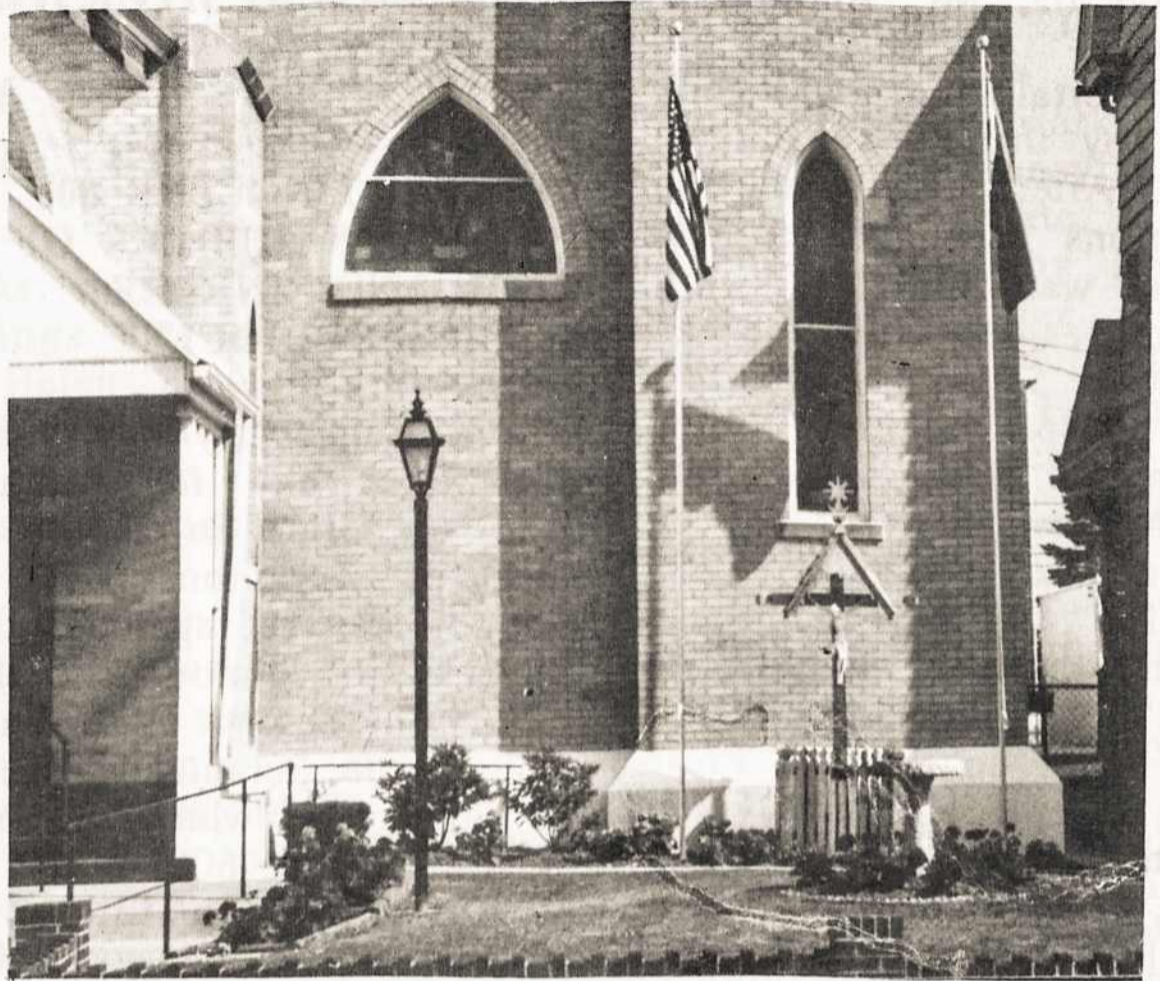
The events of a truly enjoyable afternoon and evening will long remain in the hearts and minds of each celebrant.

C-118 — HAZLETON

Our annual picnic was a day of good food and fun. Nellie Masyjada was crowned Queen for the day. Her attendants were Julie Solonoski, Mary Lapinski, Valerie Dencho and Loretta Youravich, past Queens.

MAD President Adomenas and his wife were our guests. We were also happy to have Elsie Kosmisky of Anthracite Council. As usual, Val and Joe Dancho did a great job in catering and chairing the affair. Frank Grink and Joe Levandoski were welcomed as new members.

Several of our members received certificates of appreciation from the Eckley Annual Patch Town Days. Eckley is a restored mining village and museum. Our council had a booth and sold "desras." Val and Joe Dancho along with Dolores Quinn displayed articles from Lithuania. Many nationalities were represented.



C-118 Hazelton presented Lithuanian and American flags and built the flag poles at Sts. Peter and Paul Church.

The following officers were elected at the September meeting: Val Dancho, president; George Norris, vice president; Ruth Alansky, treasurer and Dolores Yuscavage, treasurer.

Outgoing president John Lapinsky thanked the council for their cooperation during his term of office. The council gave him and his officers a round of applause for their excellent leadership.

President Dancho assumed her role as president and named Albert Launikonis as financial secretary; Joe Dancho, sergeant at arms; Marie Alansky and Anna Kubishin, trustees.

We are all very thankful to God and the many people who prayed for our spiritual advisor. Father Skitski is back among us after surgery. We look forward to many years with

him as our guide.

Alma Launikonis

C-100 — AMSTERDAM

Our council held its October meeting without our spiritual advisor. Father Baltch was taken ill a few days prior; we wish him a speedy recovery.

President Radzevich introduced Edward Barkauskas, president of Council 136 Albany. Gene Gobis read the MAD report and invitation to attend the 600th anniversary of Lithuania's Christianity on November 8 in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

Eleanor Olechowski read the minutes. Treasurer Sophie Olbie updated the members on the finances and gave a report on the outdoor bake at Mary Ann's Tavern.

Irene Tice, chairman of the Christmas dinner, announced that Mary Yutes will co-chair with her and that Leo and Christine Tuttle, Stanley and Joan Rimkunas and Christine Tambasco will serve on the committee.

Sophie Olbie, a charter member, was congratulated on her 45 years of membership in the St. Casimir's Auxiliary. Valio, Sophie!

Ed Baranauskas, Lithuanian affairs chairman, told of the interest of the public at the Lithuanian booth in Clifton Park. His wife Genuite and Bernice Aviza helped with the display of artifacts and also participated in the fashion show in their national dress.

Polly Ziausys, cultural chairman, gave an interesting talk on the Lithuanian pagan gods. The most known to many was Perkunas, the god of thunder. Milda is the goddess of love and Kovas is the god of war. The Lithuanians did not worship idols but nature.

Gerry Drenzek was honored with a birthday cake and song by the refreshments committee of Regina Kot, Regina Hartvigas, Birute Ralys and Irene Tice. Since the next was St. Edward's, we recognized the four Edwards in attendance — Edward Bablin, Edward Baranauskas, Edward Barkauskas and Edward Ziausys.

Now a note of sadness. We lost our beloved Louise Kerbelis on September 24. Our deepest sympathies to Mirga Bablin and her family. A large group of members attended the K of L services led by Father Baltch and President Radzevich.

Louise Matulaitis Kerbelis was a cousin of Blessed Archbishop George Matulaitis. Amzina atilsi duok mirusiai Viespatie!

We also extend our sympathies to Sophie Pileckas Zager, former Amsterdaminian, on the recent loss of her beloved husband Frank Zager of C-79 Southfield.

SMILE and SPARKLE

C-109 — GREAT NECK

We were pleased to have our Spiritual Advisor, Msgr. Frank Bulovas at our October meeting. He gave us an interesting talk about the Rosary and our devotion to the Blessed Mother. Msgr. Bulovas closed our meeting with a Lithuanian prayer.

We applaud our delegates President Al Wesey and National Financial Secretary Mary Rusas Kober who attended the 74th National Convention in Kansas City for their most interesting and informative articles that they contributed to Vytis. After reading those articles, one felt that they were at the convention. Thanks to Kansas City for being such wonderful hosts to our attending members. "Aciu" again.

Eupemija Cibas and Isabelle Boza joined many other Lithuanians at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City to help commemorate the 600th Anniversary of Lithuanian Christianity. Cardinal John J. O'Connor who was assisted by Lithuanian Bishop Paulius Baltakis, spoke about Lithuania. Eupemija is on our cultural

committee and we are looking forward to a report on her trip to St. Patrick's.

Hamburgers and all the trimmings were served at our November meeting. As the hamburgers were carried from the kitchen, we could hear "come and get 'em while they're hot." Our social committee, Martha Krug, chairlady, Bertha Fuchs, Mary Santagatas were assisted by Joe Carroll who kept those pans sizzling.

Nice to see Joe Savicky, Rita and Bill Bernatovich attending our meetings. Keep coming; we need your support.

Good to see Tony Kober up and around again. He's still his cheerful self.

Pay up your dues if you haven't already done so. Jack "Jackutis" Malis is our new financial secretary.

Till next time — Su Diev!

Maryte



Linguistics

The Russian secret police, the KGB, found out that an old Jewish man started to study Hebrew.

So, he probably wants to defect, they thought and went to interrogate the poor fellow.

"Why are you studying Hebrew?" — the police demanded.

The man replied: — "Well, I am getting old, and I will soon meet my Maker, so I want to learn His language.

—"What makes you so sure that you are going to heaven?" asks the police. "Perhaps you will go down below".

—"O that's alright the man replies. I know Russian already!

LITHUANIAN INFORMATION
CENTER
5620 S CLAREMONT
CHICAGO, IL 60636

VYTIS

5112 S. Mayfield
Chicago, IL 60638

Return Requested
Address Correction Requested



*C-152 Riverhead - Shrine
Statue of Our Lady of the
Island before procession and
Mass held during the Spring.*



*C-152 Riverhead - Mass being held at Shrine of
Our Lady of the Island with a Montfort Priest,
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Scrill and Tom Tarmey,
Lector.*

