



St. Casimir — Šv. Kazimieras.

Photo by Kisielius



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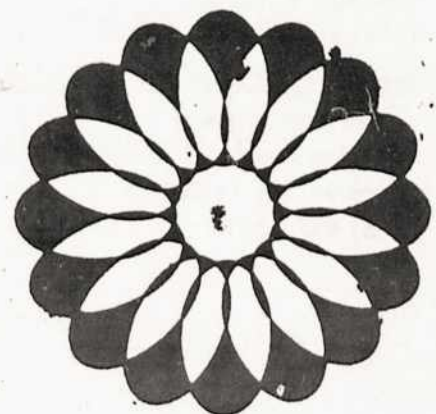
KOVAS -

MARCH

1988

VOL. 74: NO. 3


Knights of Lithuania Journal





1988  
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# VYTIS



VYTIS is published monthly October thru June, bi-monthly July-August and September - October by the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA. Subscription \$10.00 per year. Second class postage paid at Chicago, IL. Business address: 5112 S. Mayfield Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. All correspondence should reach the Editors by the FIRST OF THE MONTH two months in advance of issue. The editors assume no obligation to return any material or photos not solicited.

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## EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Believe me, we are most thankful for all your kind words and compliments. Ačiū labai visiems! But...! I will be dating myself (Dalia) when I say, that when I first arrived at these happy shores, one of my favorite TV Shows was Mr. Ed (How many remember it?) "A horse is a horse, of course, of course, and no one can speak to a horse of course unless the horse just happens to be the famous Mr. Ed.) What has this to do with our Vyčiai you are probably wondering? Well, straight from the horse's mouth, yours truly would like to hear even your negative comments. WE are open to all opinions! Don't let us hear it from a second source. We dislike comments such as "so and so thinks, so and so said". Please tell it to us. We won't bite.!

Another point: At our council and district levels, we, the editors have become quite popular. Why don't you do this and Why don't you include this and change this! We keep on hearing Mieli Vyčiai! We are not getting any younger. And what we hear at a meeting, evaporates at times. So please write! Do not think your suggestion is not good enough. We are the editors and we will treat you most kindly. **SO.....PLEASE ....WRITE.....! Don't let it be the same people all the time, we need new blood!**

**Šv. Kazimierai meliskis už mus!**

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

**Šv. Kazimierui —  
Lietuvos globėjui**

**A. TYRUOLIS**

*Tėvynės mūsų Lietuvos Globėjau,  
Kazimiere, šventasis karalaiti,  
Tavin mūsų maldos ir dejonės aidi  
Užtarki ją, tiek sykių jai padėjęs.*



Šv. Kazimieras — dail. A. Tamošaičio

*Čia žemėj lelija skaisčia žydėjęs,  
Duok mūs jaunimui tavo pėdom eiti,  
Kad jis, pamildamas dorybių kraitį,  
Vėl taptų tėviškės naujos grindėju.*

*Ak, kad sugrįžtume tave pagarbinti  
Į sena Vilnių katedroj brangiojoj,  
Kur aukso karste tavo palaikai šventieji.*

*Ir kad, įveikę kūno audrą žvarbią  
Ir stoję Viešpaties akivaizdoj šventojoj,  
Įžengt galėtume, kur tu esi jėjęs.*



**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:**

## *K. of L. History Book*

The Knights of Lithuania History Book, written by Father William Wolkovich and published by Grafacon Press, is scheduled to be completed by March 1, 1988. This is the book we all have been looking forward to with anticipation. Now we have a condensed history of our 75 years as an organization. Now we can follow through the pages of our history from the very beginning in 1913 till the present of 1988. Won't it be nice to read about those people who started the K. of L. and who worked over the years to build the K. of L. into the fine organization it is today?

Only 2,500 books will be printed so if you would like a copy, be sure to purchase it right away because they will go fast. In 1987 we had a total membership of 4,567, so you can see my reasoning in encouraging you to purchase immediately. Those who hesitate will lose.

The greater amount of the books will be handled and sold by the 4 District Presidents and their committees. We feel this is the best way because the people in each District will be close to the source of supply. Be sure to contact your District President and he/she can arrange to get the book to you.

Those who contributed \$75.00 to the History Fund during the past years will receive a free hard cover copy from Helen Shields, who is Chairman of the History Fund. Helen has your name on her list so she will be in contact with you.

The cost of the book will be \$20.00 for the soft cover and \$35.00 for the hard cover. In case your District President has to mail the book to you, there will be a small postage fee. Both the hard cover book and the soft cover book will have a beautifully designed cover which was done by a Lithuanian artist.

The book which is in English, was written by Father William Wolkovich. There is a small Lithuanian section which was written by Dr. Algirdas Budreckis. Both gentlemen are members of the Knights of Lithuania. There is a number of photographs in the book which adds to the richness of it.

As I have stated earlier, don't hesitate to purchase this book because in a short while they will be sold out. Don't be left out in the cold! We are one of the few Lithuanian organizations who is 75 years old and which has its own history book. We have much for which to be thankful. Good luck to all of you and happy reading.

*Frank Petrauskas*  
National President



### **CULTURAL CORNER**

## **M A I R O N I S**

**1862 - 1932**

**Regina Kott**

About 8000 patriots gathered in Kaunas on Nov. 2, 1987, to honor the great poet and priest Maironis commemorating the occasion of his 125th birthday.

It has been reported that approximately 300 people paid their respects at the site of his tombstone, which is by the wall of Kaunas cathedral, by singing religious songs and reciting poems composed by Maironis. During the Mass at the Cathedral, Bishop Juozas Preikštas, reminisced about Maironis' life as priest and poet.

We, in the free world, also remember the great contributions which Maironis bestowed on us his fellow Lithuanians.

*Pavasario balsai* (Voices of Spring) his first collection of poems appeared in 1895 under the pseudonym of Maironis. His real name is Jonas Mačiulis. He was born at the estate of Pasandravys, county of Raseiniai, on Oct. 21, 1862. He graduated from a Russian high school in Kaunas. He studied literature at the University of Kiev

in 1883. Shortly, he withdrew from it, because he was not atune with his lectures and the spirit of the students. He attended Kaunas Theological Seminary from 1894 - 88, and from 1888 - 92, he studied at the Theological Academy of St. Petersburg, getting a master's and doctor's degrees in theology.

In 1909 he became the rector of the Kaunas Theological Seminary. He addressed the seminarians publicly in the Lithuanian language, thus breaking the custom of using only Polish or Latin.

In 1922 he was elected honorary professor and taught moral theology, as well as Lithuanian and world literature. He received an honorary doctorate in literature in 1932.

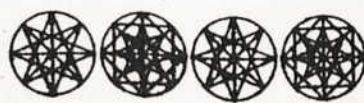
Some of the popular poems by Maironis are: *Kur bėga Šešupė*, (Where the Šešupė Flows), *Aš norėčiau prikelti*, (I Would Like to Awake Them), words of the popular religious hymn *Marija, Marija*; a prayer — *Ačiū*



*tau Viešpatie*, (Thanks, O Lord), One of Maironis' finest poems are: *Vasaros naktys* (Summer's Nights), *Lietuva brangi* (Beloved Lithuania). He also wrote a ballad about the goddess of the sea and her mortal lover — *Jūratė ir*

*Kastytis*.

Many of us agree that his poems are permeated with a delicate idealism and patriotism.



## Knights of Lithuania 75th. Jubilee Committee Report

*As presented to the 74th National Convention  
August 1, 1987 — Kansas City, Kansas  
Loretta I. Stukas, Jubilee Committee Chairman  
for the 75th Jubilee Committee*

As we complete one important Jubilee Year — the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee Year, we, as Knights of Lithuania should plan to celebrate yet another Jubilee — the 75th Anniversary — Diamond Jubilee — of our Knights of Lithuania.

### WHAT?

Celebration of 75 years of Lithuanian American Catholic Activity as Knights of Lithuania.

### WHEN?

1988 — ALL Year, culminating at the 75th National Convention

### THEME?

Celebrate our past — look to our future, and thank God for our Blessings, as we let the rest of the world know what we're about!

### HOW DO WE CELEBRATE?

On a National Scale:

- The 75th National Convention
- Publication of our Knights of Lithuania history.
- Special issues of VYTIS, and a special section of VYTIS to advertise National, District and Council Jubilee activities.

— Added donations to the Knights of Lithuania Foundation

- Special Scholarships
- Perhaps a "Time Capsule" at the Archives, to be opened at the 100th National Convention.

But a proper celebration requires more than activities on a National scale. It requires "grass roots" activity, by each member, each council, each district.

### WHAT IS PLANNED?

Each council and district will be asked to plan some special activity to properly celebrate this Jubilee Year. They will also be asked to plan some special activity to properly celebrate this Jubilee Year. They will also be asked to report on what is planned, what was done, so that the activities can be shared with other councils through reports in VYTIS as well as reported at the 75th National Convention.

### WHAT CAN YOU AND YOUR COUNCIL/DISTRICT DO?

Activities must be tailored to your local circumstances. Your location, number of members, specific talents available, and finances should be considered in planning your Jubilee activities. The scope of your activity depends on your individual group. What is important is that ALL members should be involved.

Whatever activities you plan, it is important that the activities be publicized in VYTIS and in the American and Lithuanian Press, and be reported to the Jubilee Committee.

### WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Several councils and districts have already begun planning their Jubilee activities. If your group has begun plans, congratulations!

For example:

— The New England District plans a Mass in Lawrence, MA, followed by a visit to the grave of our Founder, Mykolas Norkunas.

— C-74; Binghamton is trying to obtain funding



from a local business to donate the Lithuanian Encyclopedia to all schools in New York State.

If you need some ideas, here are some suggestions:

— A concert of Lithuanian performers, open to Knights of Lithuania and other members of the community.

— A Holy Hour or Mass, with local Bishops and clergy presiding.

— A special Memorial Ceremony, honoring Knights of Lithuania Founders on a national or council level.

— A special speaker, etc., at District or Council Communion Breakfast

Donation of Lithuanian books or the Knights of Lithuania History to the local public library.

— A ceremony or event to honor your Council's Charter Members or oldest members.

Activities geared especially toward bringing more youth into the council and district activity.

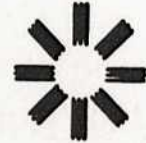
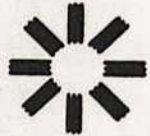
Organization or improvement of a Junior Council in your council, to guarantee the organization's future.

The list can go on and on. It is limited only by your zeal, energy and imagination. What is important is that something be planned.

Please discuss these and other ideas your meetings and report back to the Jubilee Committee

***Time to make plans!***  
***National Convention, Sheraton***  
***Hotel, Washington, D.C.***

***JULY 28 - JULY 31***



***Make your vacation plans now!***  
***Let's celebrate our 75th***  
***Birthday together!***

***Iki malonaus pasimatymo!***

***75th NATIONAL CONVENTION:***

The highlight of the Jubilee Year will, of course, be the 75th National Convention. The 73rd National Convention voted to allow the Supreme Council to host this most important Convention. The Jubilee Committee was charged with the task of selecting a Convention site and presenting the site and date to the delegates of the 74th Convention.

After considerable deliberation, investigation and discussion, it was decided to LOOK FORWARD and travel to our Nation's Capital — WASHINGTON, DC, to celebrate our 75 years of existence and look ahead to the next 75!

Meeting in Washington will provide an opportunity to invite officials of our Government to our Convention, to enjoy the capital of our great nation, and to show an expression of our gratitude to the USA for allowing us to FREELY meet and deliberate, and to promote our heritage.

The committee investigated a number of hotels by mail, phone, and actual visit, to select an appropriate site for the Convention.

The site chosen is:

The SHERATON WASHINGTON HOTEL

The dates:

July 28 - July 31, 1988

The Hotel is located on 12 ½ acres of beautifully landscaped land. It is well equipped to handle Conventions, has beautiful meeting and banquet halls, many formal and informal restaurants and cafes. It is just a few miles from the Washington Zoo, a short taxi ride or subway ride from the White House and other sights in Washington.

Special rates were promised for the Knights, at a considerable discount from the normal "off the street" rates. The quoted rates are as follows:

Single Occupancy — \$65.00

Double Occupancy — \$75.00

Triple Occupancy — \$85.00.

No extra charge for children under 18, sharing a room with parents.

Parking, with unlimited "in and out" privileges, is \$6.00 per day.



Suite costs are available upon request.

Honorary Member HELEN SHIELDS of C-3 Philadelphia, will serve as Convention Chairman. The Convention Committee will include members of the Jubilee Committee as well as other volunteers from various councils across the country.

More information on the convention will be forthcoming as the schedule is prepared and more information becomes available. In the meantime, please begin your own council and district plans for celebrating this important Diamond Jubilee, and encourage your members to attend and support the National Convention.

Many organizations were born ... and died... during the past 75 years. The Knights of Lithuania has also had many and varied problems, but, through the grace of

God, the intercession of St. Casimir and Blessed George Matulaitis, perhaps, and the hard work and perseverance of the many leaders that have gone before us, it has survived. Perhaps "someone up there likes us". Or perhaps our work is not yet completed.

Whatever the reason, let us all use the coming Jubilee Year to thank God for the graces He has granted us, and to celebrate and rejoice in our history and strengthen the organization's foundation for future generations of Knights.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Loretta I. Stukas**  
 Loretta I. Stukas, Chairman  
 75th JUBILEE COMMITTEE

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#### IN MEMORIAM

**STANLEY BLECKA**  
 C-109 Great Neck, NY  
 Died: January 16, 1988

**HELEN L. ZAREMBA**  
 C-17 So. Boston, MA  
 Died: January 23, 1988

**JOSEPH ZUBAVICH**  
 C-74 Scranton, PA  
 Died: June 11, 1987

**ESTELLE YANCHUS**  
 C-5 Chicago, IL  
 Died: September 20, 1987

**JOSEPH BELZA**  
 C-90 Kearny, NJ  
 Died: November 27, 1987

**ALYSE ONAITIS**  
 C-19 Pittsburgh, PA  
 Died: January 1988

**BERNARD MINKUS**  
 C-30 - Westfield, MA  
 Died: February 4, 1988

**EDWARD LEWIS**  
 C-74 Scranton, PA  
 Died: September 19, 1987



## NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our membership drive is now in progress. It will run between January 1, 1988 and June 30, 1988. It is not late to seek new members into our organization. As said many times, new members should be recruited at all times, not only during a membership drive.

As stated by our National President, Frank Petrauskas, in several of his articles in the VYTIS, new members are out there waiting to be asked to join our organization. You know a lot of people like to be asked and in doing so it makes them feel as if they are wanted. So start talking and get acquainted with these new new prospective members.

The rules and awards will be as follows:

COUNCILS	INDIVIDUALS
Under 50 members	From councils with under 30 members.
51-100 members	From councils with 51 to 100 members
101 - 200	From councils with 101 to 200 members
201 - 300	From councils with 201 to 300 members
301 and over	From councils with 301 or more members.

Regarding awards for the councils, the total number of new members will be determined by the number recruited less the number of present members who failed to renew their membership in the organization for the present year. Example: Council with X number of members as of December, 1987 and if council has recruited 25 members during this Membership

Drive, but has lost 5 members by not renewing their membership for this coming year, the lost members will be reduced from the total of new members recruited or giving a total of 20 new members ie 25 less 5 equals 20. The lost members would not include the deceased.

New members will also include any Juniors recruited.

Special awards will be for the following:

Organizing a new council.

Re-organizing a dormant council

Additional rules to remember:

Only new members signed into council between January 1, 1988 and June 30, 1988 will be included.

Payment of one year's dues is required on new members.

New members will be classified as follows:

Members joining the K. of L. for the first time.

Former members re-joining the K. of L.

Junior members advancing to regular membership.

Transfer from other councils — **WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

Records of the Supreme Council Financial Secretary will be used in determining the winners.

Special circumstances may arise during the drive and they will be judged on an individual basis.

Now its up to everyone to get out and recruit these new members that are out there. Talk to them personally, call them on the phone or whatever, and see how your council as well as the National Organization grows.

It's not too late — **DEADLINE JUNE 30, 1988.**

*Frank J. Peterson*  
2nd Vice President

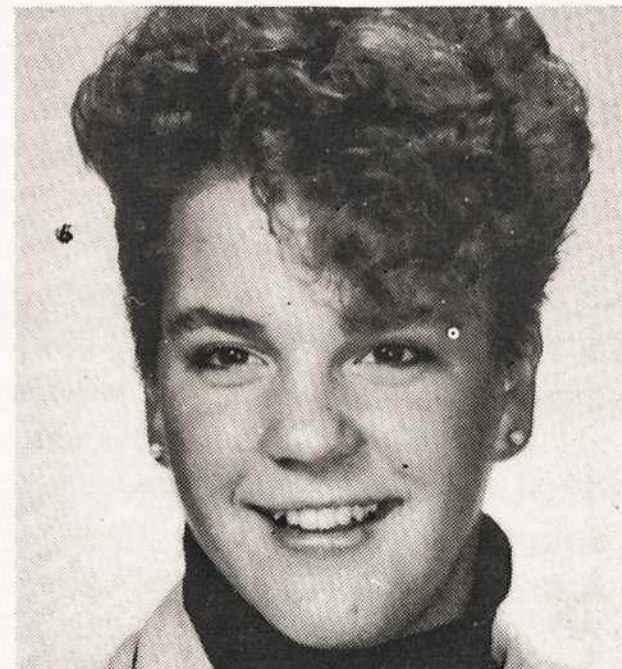
*Mielas p. Pranai Petrauskai,*

*I am shamefully writing this delayed thank you to you and those of you involved in my being chosen as one of the delegates to the VI Pasaulio Lietuvių Jaunimo Kongresą.*

*I must tell you all how shocked and excited I was to find out I was chosen. I was like a small child on her birthday, just squealing with delight! Since then I have been busy with all of the arrangements and correspondence that goes along with it and also with the studies, papers and exams, that go along with being a college student. But I must admit, I love the action!*

*I also want to assure you that I intend to make the Knights of Lithuania proud of whom they have chosen. Thank you again for your faith in me, and for granting*

*me this honor. You will not be sorry!*



*Rima M. Hartvigas*





**SABINA KLATT HENSON**

***1st. Place Winner — 1987 Knights of Lithuania Essay Contest***

SABINA KLATT HENSON has been a faithful and active member of the K. of L. since she first joined C-36 in Chicago. Shortly after joining, Sabina became C-36 Financial Secretary. Later, she served as Council President for 3 years, Vice-President of the Ill.-Ind. District, in charge of Membership for 4 years, and has been C-36 Public Relations Chairman, and VYTIS Correspondent.

She helped reorganize C-14, Cicero, C-38, Kenosha, and has most recently reorganized C-36's Junior Council.

She is currently serving on the National Board as Public Relations Chairman.

Sabina is also active in numerous other Catholic, Lithuanian and Parish organizations. We congratulate Sabina on her excellent work in the Essay Contest.

***“How Has My Knights of Lithuania Membership Helped Me Become a Better Catholic***

The Knights of Lithuania has a strong reflection on Catholic events, is the mirror of love and is a barometer of the true faith.

It has always been an honor to say, I belong to the Knights of Lithuania. It is a good Catholic organization with foundation roots deep down from the beginning of its time. It has helped me to become a better Catholic in so many ways.

***Knights of Lithuania Foundation . Inc.***

**ESSAY CONTEST**

During 1987 Lithuanians celebrated the 600th Jubilee of the Lithuanian Christianity and the Foundation sponsored an essay contest entitled: “How My Knights of Lithuania Membership Helped Me Become a Better Catholic”. During the 74th National Convention in Kansas City Awards were given to Sabina (Klatt) Henson — C-36 — first place; Margarset Cyzesky — C-46 — second place; Ernie Sutkus — C-5 — third place; and the late Mary Lucas, HM C-96 who passed away January 1, 1988 — honorary mention. Enjoy the essays and see if you agree with the judges. Let's hear from you!



We work close with priests in all functions of our organization with much guidance and support, We find God's presence at meetings, as it is said, “Where there are two or more — I am present.” Starting and ending the meeting with prayer are inspiring. Knowing that our souls live forever, we remember our deceased with love, prayer and reverence. There are Masses offered which is the greatest sacrifice. Practicing our Catholic faith always with observing St. Casimir's Day Commemoration, Day of Prayer, reading the religious writings of our Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor and other information articles about our faith in the VYTIS. Also our Spiritual Advisor's words at our meetings.

Through many of our works, such as our help given towards the *Chronicle*, praying for our Prisoner of Conscience, defending the Lithuanian Catholic Church. Keeping God on our lips and in our hearts show that we believe in Christ. Being charitable in all fields — helping our youth with scholarships, keeping them active with meetings, dancing and various functions — being together as one.

Also belonging to the Knights of Lithuania Choir has brought much contentment, singing the praises of God in Church and various Catholic functions. Our singing is a prayer of love. All of our prayers bring us together. Everything we do makes me a better Catholic. We are United — one in the Spirit.

When Rev. Paul Juknevičius wrote me in, I felt, I became a Vessel of God, and an Instrument of God and a Spokesman of God. Being a vessel, I learned and stored so much in understanding, in proving and knowing that I belong to the true Church of Christ. I felt an inner power inside of me to help others in all ways, with the faith being overpowering. Whatever I do is for God and our Country and fellow man. Our Catholic Faith is better understood when we live it and express it as we do as KNIGHTS. As an instrument of God I am a tool and am



helpful in spreading God's words to someone who needs help to find the truth or is less fortunate than I. Being a spokesman of God, in time of need has been in me. I do stand up for my faith strongly as I proudly say I am a Knight of Lithuania fighting to keep our Christianity strong and keeping Lithuanian alive on our lips and in our hearts. I know God is everywhere and feel that the club has made me more alert of being a better Catholic in all my ways. I have spread my wings in all Catholic affairs standing proudly. I am a Knight of Lithuania and am not afraid of any venture, as God is with me.

### *Margaret Cyzeski — 2nd place*

Membership in the Knights of Lithuania is a new but none-the-less moving experience for me. I have always been proud of my Lithuanian Catholic heritage, but, as a member of the Knights of Lithuania, I have not only learned a great deal about my heritage, but also, I have had the privilege of becoming involved in movements defending Lithuanian Catholicism.

The council to which I belong has an annual flag-raising ceremony in celebration of Lithuanian Independence Day, February 16. It takes place after Sunday mass in our local Lithuanian parish. As part of the ceremony, the Lithuanian and American flags are raised, and the Lithuanian National Anthem and the Star Spangled Banner are sung. I find this ceremony to be an extremely symbolic experience, in that it ties together my three cultures: Lithuanian, Catholic and American.

Our council continues its work in March with the feast of St. Casimir, Patron Saint of Lithuania. Our celebration again takes place with Sunday mass at our Lithuanian parish. The ladies and men of our council come dressed in their Lithuanian costumes. Specially chosen gifts are presented during the Offertory, and the symbolism of these gifts to Lithuanian Catholics is read. Appropriate Lithuanian hymns are also sung. The celebration of the feast of St. Casimir in this manner reminds me that I am not only Lithuanian, but also Catholic. This celebration gives the members of the Knights of Lithuania a chance to work more closely with our local Lithuanian parish and to participate more fully in the sacrifice of the mass. Through my preparation for, and participation in this celebration, I found deeper meaning in the sacrifice of the mass.

I, as all members of the Knights of Lithuania, find the trials and tribulations of the native Lithuanian people, both past and present, extremely meaningful. I have a deep-seated love for that Soviet-occupied country in Eastern Europe and sincere sympathy for its people and its problems. I believe this is the main reason why people become members of the Knights of Lithuania. It makes me, a Lithuanian Catholic in America, realize how special my

heritage is and reminds me never to take it for granted. This, in itself, deepens my loyalty to the Catholic Church and to my Christian beliefs.

I have been a member of the Knights of Lithuania less than a year. These are just a few of the countless ways my Knights of Lithuania membership has already helped me to become a better Catholic. In becoming a better Catholic, I have been given the opportunity to learn and to understand more fully, to prepare for and to participate in, to defend, and to admire my Lithuanian Catholic heritage.

### *Ernie Sutkus — 3rd place*

It is a well known axiom that environment and association with people, will affect one's character — which means that if you choose your friends wisely you will certainly worship God and be loyal to your country. In becoming a member of the Knights of Lithuania, such purpose can be achieved since that is the primary goal of that organization.

While in Lindbloom High School in Chicago from 1936 to 1941, I joined the Knights of Lithuania Choir and even went to New York to sing with it when Antanas Pocius was its Director. Later Juozas Sauris became the Director in 1946 after the War years. We practiced our songs at Mark White Square, then when Leonard Simutis Jr. became Director we had our rehearsals at Gage Park. After that we transferred to the K. of L. Hall on 47th Street. I was very happy to belong to the Choir since I met my wife there in 1939 and we were married in 1941.

We sang in all of the Lithuanian churches, and at various public functions. Our Catholic religion was definitely instilled in our hearts since we sang songs worshipping our Maker. I COULD FEEL.....THE BEAUTY AND SOLEMNITY OF THE MASS AND SENSE THE SANCTITY OF THE CONSECRATION OF CHRIST. Our songs did relate various episodes of life in Lithuania too, We also joined the Choir of the Immaculate Conception Church.

In the past year Council 5 has been growing and I was proud to help increase its membership. In fact my wife's brother Richard Kass and his family were induced to sign up; a total of 9 members. Together our Lithuanian spirit was thus rejuvenated and there is a closer tie to the Church and Lithuania. The new members read my VYTIS and were happy to find most of it is written in English, so they could enjoy and learn from its contents. They cannot read Lithuanian, having been exposed to the process of Americanization in our schools, and in life generally. They too are proud of what the Lithuanians are accomplishing in the political and educational fields, as revealed in the VYTIS. Previously they had no idea how badly the Church and priests, and the Catholic people were discriminated against in Lithuania. The



600th Anniversary of Lithuania accepting Christianity would also have escaped their attention if they had not read about it in the magazine.

In a direct or indirect way, belonging to the K. of L. has increased our interest in the Church, since that organization participates in all important holidays of the Church and its other functions. The special recognition for its patron St. Casimir each year makes us feel closer to God and our Country. The K. of L. is the only organization of American-Lithuanian Catholics surviving since its inception in 1913 — and I feel in time every Lithuanian will belong to it like I do.

We know too that every Council gives a member the chance to prove what he can do, in leadership or initiative. He can start organizing a religious celebration with the Council's approval, or an educational event, or an athletic contest, or promote a cultural affair in drama, song, or dancing. It will make him a greater individual if he does accomplish a worthy objective — and if he can't lead, he can follow as a loyal member. I concentrated on the K. of L. Choir and was President of it too, and I enjoyed singing the songs in Church with the Choir praising our Lord. May He bless all of us in such endeavors.

### *Mary Lucas, HM — honorary mention*

When I heard Father Prunskis' appeal for essays, I immediately recalled the many events and happenings which have brought me to realize the many ways in which I became a better Catholic. When our council was organized in 1936, I was sixteen years old and was accepted into the organization as a charter member and remained with the council to the present time. I was active from the beginning and accepted offices in the Council, District and finally advanced to National First Vice-President of the Supreme Council.

Reading the Constitution helped me to realize that our work involves many phases. I was especially drawn to our motto, "For God and Country", it brought home the fact that this organization means more than fun and games.

Our parish is small and therefore we had no Catholic school. I learned my Lithuanian prayers at my mother's knee. After I entered grade school, our pastor, Father Slavinas decided to hold catechism classes every day after school hours to prepare us for First Communion, Confirmations and general religious training. This continued for years until Father returned to Lithuania.

We scheduled monthly Communion days and attended in a body. We joined the church choir and sang Lithuanian hymns during Lent on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday afternoons. (This was one of my mother's strict rules). She also encouraged us to learn to read and write in Lithuanian at which I became very affluent, since our K of L minutes

had to be written and read in Lithuanian during those first years.

In later years, we organized Ladies and Mens Retreats. The ladies went to the Dominican Retreat House and the men attended the Franciscan Retreat House in Milford. We planned evenings of Recollection, also sent for Lithuanian Missionaries to preach in our church. We also attended week-end Retreats at Bergamo Center from which we returned filled with the Holy Spirit and a feeling of deep spiritual renewal.

C-96 organized Pilgrimages in various cities of our District in conjunction with our Spring Meeting. Our latest Pilgrimage was a bus trip to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation on May 3rd in Carey, Ohio. While there, we celebrated the 600th Anniversary of Lithuanian Christianity.

During our national letter writing campaigns, we wrote to Senators, Congressmen and Presidents urging the freedom of Lithuania. Our letters continued to the prisoners of conscience. Other projects are: annual cemetery visits to our deceased members, visits to the elderly members of our parish, St. Casimir's celebration are never forgotten.

The highlight of my life in the K of L was the trip to Rome to participate in the blessing of "Our Lady of Ausros Chapel", also receiving Holy Communion from Pope Paul, then the trips to Fatima and Lourdes Shrines with Dr. Stukas' excursions. All these participations are unforgettable events which have brought me closer to my God and I thank Him every night for giving me the opportunity to serve Him.

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### I DO BELONG

Deep in my heart, I only know,  
To be a K of L member,  
Was the best way to glow.

Attending all the meetings,  
Was my greatest goal to reach,  
Never did it enter my mind,  
To ever, ever screech.

Even tho I pay my dues,  
There are those, who still love  
to ruse.

Whether I volunteer,  
Or sink back into Limbo,  
There are still those,  
Who are just plain cranko.

So, members, what will it be?  
The same old, or a new song.  
Let's sing together, anyway,  
I DO BELONG, I DO BELONG .

*Helen Balchus, C-50*



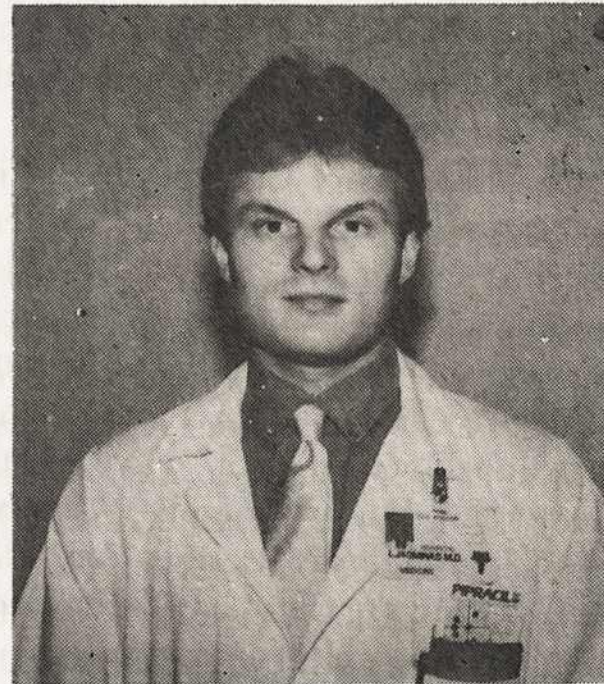
# LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

## LIETUVIAI NAUJIENUOSE

### DR. LIUDAS JAGMINAS – MEDICAL DOCTOR

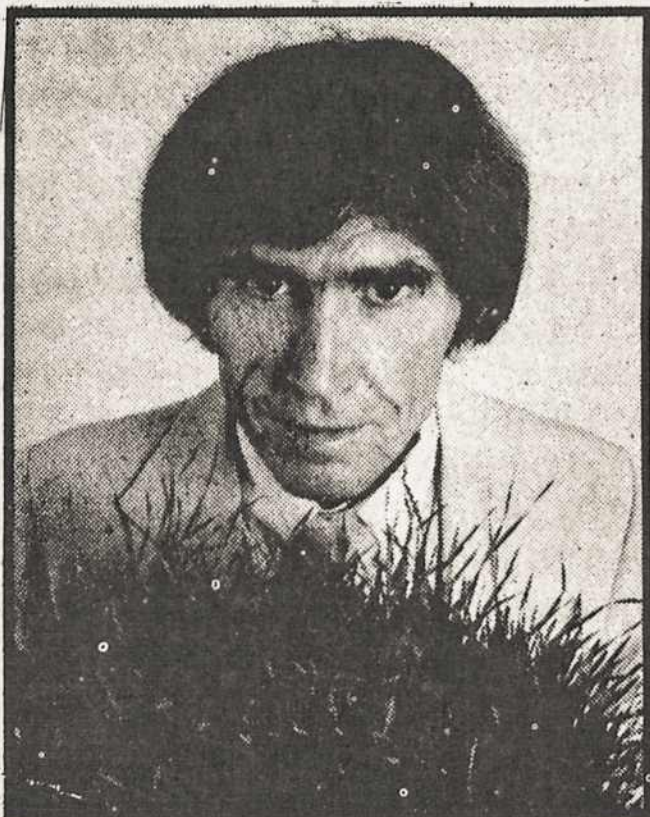
Liudas Jagminas the youngest son of Margarita and Romualdas Jagminas, resident at Bridgewater, Mass is a Medical Doctor. Liudas completed the Bridgewater Raynham Regional High School and finished his studies in medicine at Brown University, Providence, R. I. with a doctor's diploma. His internship was completed at Brown's University Miriam Hospital. He continued his studies at the Research Cardiovascular Nuolar" section, at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. His specialty is Emergency Medicine and Critical Care medicine.

Dr. Jagminas participates in a variety of Lithuanian affairs. His Lithuanian is fluend. In his youth he was an active member of a Lithuanian dance group. and last but not least he is a member of the Knights of Lithuania. All of us vyčiai wish this young doctor a most successful future!



### THE GODFATHER OF WHEATGRASS HITS THE COMEBACK TRAIL

An interview with Viktoras Kulvinskas appeared in *Whole Life*, issue of Oct. 1987, a journal for personal health and natural living. Born in Lithuania in 1939 and presently living in New York City, Kulvinskas is known as the godfather of wheatgrass. He's now wearing a suit and speaking a little less dogmatically, but when it comes to diet and nutrition, he's the country's most radical proponent of a raw/live foods diet. Over the past 20 years Kulvinskas fed over half a million people with his live food cuisine and touched the lives of his many followers with over 1,000,000 books sold and 15,000 hours of lectures worldwide. Kulvinskas gave comedian/activist Dick Gregory support and advice on nutrition and fasting during Gregory's famous 900 mile run from Chicago to Washington. Kulvinskas also worked with Lithuanian born Dr. Ann Wigmore, Director of "Hippocrates Health Institute" in Massachusetts. To learn more of his diet, contact: Viktoras Kulvinskas, P.O. Box 279, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013.





# LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

As the *Livonia Observer* reports: Michelle McKenzie won honors in the 16th annual high school girls' swimming championship held at the Michigan State University. A Livonia Stevenson H.S. senior, McKenzie won honors in the 200 freestyle. "Michelle has a lot of talent but she works very hard, too," said Greg Phil, Stevenson's coach. "She's the hardest worker I've ever coached. She's a very dedicated and a great team leader." Her swimming activities do not interfere with her studies. So far, she has been interviewed by 5 colleges as a prospective student. Michelle is the granddaughter of Albina Kurpovic, Council 139, Detroit, MI.



Michelle McKenzie



Paul Rutenis

Long Island powerboat racers won three world championships and one national championship at the American Power Boat Association's KAZE CaRa World Offshore Championships in Key West, FL.

The most impressive victory was posted by the Kalibat brothers of Island Park, Jeff 25 and Ken 26, who won all three races in the Stock B class in their 28-foot K & K Ghost. It is the third year in a row that the Kalibats have won all three championship races, the fourth year in a row they have won the world's and the fifth time they have been world champions in their class. Kenny and Jeff Kalibat are the grandsons of Peter and Ann Kalibat, members of C-110, Maspeth, NY. Peter, his son and grandsons have dominated the Key West World Championship Races for the last forty years.

## A SOCCER CHAMPION – PAUL RUTENIS

As noted in the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, Paul Rutenis, has been playing soccer for 15 years of his young life. He is with the Clamson University team and is its captain. During the past 4 years, the team for the 2nd time won the National Collegiate Athletic Association title, Paul was awarded the "First Team All-American" title which was presented by the Soccer Coaches' Association of America. Paul's future plans include a lot of soccer — "I would like to play on the professional level and later coach." Paul's parents are Vida and Grožvydas Rutenis, his grandparents Vera and Jonas Rutenis. Paul is working towards a business degree at Clamson.



Kenny and Jeff Kalibat



## LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID 1988 CAMPAIGN

Our drive to raise funds for LCRA is now underway for 1988. In the past we, K of L members, have been generous in contributing to this special fund to help make known the plight of individuals in Lithuania who refuse to abandon God.

This year, as we celebrate our 75th anniversary, let us all try to add a little extra to our gifts and in our efforts to encourage all to show in practice our love for God, our appreciation of the sacrifices and sufferings of our brothers and sisters in Lithuania, and our pride in contributing to the publication of another issue of the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*.

The 1988 drive will conclude at the end of June 1988. Already contributions of \$215 have been received. We also thank C-29, Newark, N.J. for their generous donation of \$100 sent directly to LCRA. This gift was offered to thank LCRA for their use of the visual display of Human Rights Violations in Lithuania. All who have seen this display have been greatly impressed and left with images of the terrible indignities imposed on those willing to express their faith in God.

Looking forward to a very successful 75th anniversary (1988) LCRA Drive.

**Florence Zaleskas**  
LCRA Coordinator

### Living on a Prayer

Two nuns were making calls in a tough part of the city one morning. When they got back to their rather dilapidated car, they said a little prayer, hoping it would start. But it didn't, despite several attempts.

Just then, a tough-looking man who had been watching them tapped on the driver's window and motioned for the sister to move over and let him try. It had been only slightly flooded, and it started instantly for him.

As the nuns thanked him profusely, the man shrugged. "That's O.K., sister," he replied. "I ain't never been the answer to a prayer before."

—Martha J. Beckman

## A T r i b u t e

A short time ago, I learned of the death of Sister Paulette, who had been my teacher in the third, fifth, and sixth grades of the Annunciation elementary school in Brooklyn, more than half a century ago. Having her in those three grades was not due to a shortage of nuns, but reflected her rapid promotion in the school. I have often thought of Sister, a dedicated and highly-intelligent religious, who, with good grace, firm discipline, and the patience of Job taught classes of thirty and forty children of Lithuanian immigrant parents who themselves had little or no schooling. Mixed in her classes, as throughout the school, were the handfulls of misguided hellions who made her life more difficult than it need have been, but not more difficult than she made it for them. Somehow, she managed to instill into us the academic knowledge mandated by the New York State of Regents, and, more importantly, the moral and social values to guide us in our mature lives.

Sister Paulette, and the other Lithuanian nuns at Annunciation, are the unsung heroines of an earlier age, teaching members of St. Dominic's great Order of Preachers, to whom we owe a long—deferred tribute for having done so much for so many of us and for having asked so little in return.

*Ave atque vale*, Sister Paulette. You and the other good nuns of the old church have left behind a rare and precious heritage that is like a light shining in the darkness of our strident and self-centered world.

## V i l t i s

*Priešo baisi ranka  
Neužsmauks Birutės daig,  
Neišplėš Vytauto sielą  
Iš mūsų Lietuvos.  
Gegutė vėl skambės  
Per kaimus, ir gailinga  
Mūs žemė vėl bus laiminga.*

**Albert Cizauskas**

A budget is what you stay within if you go without.

Claude McDonald

◇ ◇ ◇

Patience is the ability to put up with people you'd like to put down.

Ulrike Ruffert



## LIETUVIŲ KALBOS SKYRIUS

# Let's Speak Lithuanian Kalbėkime lietuviškai

APOLONIJA (POLLY) ŽIAUŠYS

## Mįslės — Riddles

1. Vidury dvaro senis šypsosi. (Menulis)
2. Vasarą nesušyla, žiemą nesušąla. (Akmuo)
3. Po paklode dig dig dig. (Vanduo po ledu).
4. Juodas jautis dangų raižo. (Debesis)

## Juokeliai — Jokes

Tėte, duok man pusę dolerio.  
Kai aš buvau tavo metų, prašydavau tik centų.  
Tai gerai, tėte, — duok man penkiasdešimt centų.

Kiekviena rytą žadintuvo skambutis mane pažadina  
tarsi šūvis.

Ir tu tą pačią akimirką pašoki?  
Ne. Guliu it nušautas.

Motina pelė aiškina mažom peliukėm:  
— Kai jūs būsite didelės, tai patirsite, jog mes  
bijomės vyrų, o vyrai bijosi moterų, moterys gi bijosi  
pelių.

## Faith, an Inspiration

Faith, in times of strain, has been a source of inspiration. Yet we, who believe, have been ever so grateful to our dear parents, our teachers, our religious who instilled in us this Faith. Can we instill our Youth of today? Can we erase the headlines of violence and replace it with Faith? So often one hears, "where did we go wrong? Will we ever receive an answer?"

We are aware of failings. Yet, keeping the hope before us is a help. At least we know what we want in life to be and we can cherish "hope". It seems our youth is meeting life without any sense of ultimate purpose. That to us is tragic! It is better to have a great ideal and often miss the mark than to have no ideal and live without striving. Life always is richer and better for us and for others when we greet the dawn knowing what we want to be. But without faith this cannot be attained.

As Knights of Lithuania, let us instill into the hearts of our Youth reverence for without reverence there is no Faith, nor hope, no life.

Through Faith and reverence our religion will not be lost. Through the intercession of Blessed George Matulaitis may our retiring priests/sisters soon be replaced by our Youth who regained its Faith. **Pabuskim! Dirbkim Dievui ir Tėvynei!**

Helen Matulonis, C-110 Maspeth

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

Dear Editors,

One of the best stories in the January (1988) issue of the VYTIS, Knights of Lithuania Journal, was your excellent coverage of the 75th anniversary of St. Casimir's parish in St. Clair, Pennsylvania. It was also a joy to see the picture of St. Casimir Church which appeared prominently with the story.

In the well written story, you relate the interesting drama of St. Casimir parish, founded by the immigrants from Lithuania who worked in the coal mines — and did not forget their God. With their hard earned money and many sacrifices, they built a church rooted in Lithuanian traditions and which to this day plays a significant part in the lives of America's Lithuanians.

The Sunday of September 6, 1987, was a tragic day in the history of America's Lithuanians — on that day two Lithuanian historic parishes were definitely closed — that of Our Lady of Vilnius in Chicago, and the St. Francis Church of East Chicago, Indiana.

So dear VYTIS' editors, keep writing about historic Lithuanian parishes existing in the United States.

The Lithuanian parish plays a significant role in keeping alive the identity of the Lithuanians in America.

Stanley Pieza

P.S. A word about famous Lithuanians. We can be proud of such as Father Gallitzin of the Lithuanian

Gediminas family who was the first Catholic priest ordained in the United States. (I better check on this further. I have been at the tomb of Father Gallitzin in Gallitzin, PA, and on the tomb it is inscribed: "Father Gallitzin of the Lithuanian Family of Gediminas." This is a fantastic story...)

Sudiev ir su meile,

Stanley

(Ačiū labai The newsstory about the St. Clair parish was contributed by Anne Wargo, a faithful K of L'er. your research on Father Gallitzin sounds very promising. Please contribute a story....it would be most interesting to find out more about this little known personality: Vytiskai, **Redaktorės**)



## A FAMILY CELEBRATES

In November of last year, Aušros Vartų parish, (home base of C-12) Manhattan, N.Y. was the place of a happy event — the Marcinauskai — Stella and Mitchell were celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary and the whole parish hall was rocking to the beat of Joe Thomas music.

Stella Kavaliauskas, only a few years after her marriage became a widow with two small sons — Andrew and Steven to raise. But she was at the right place and at the right time, and so was Mitch Marcinauskas. They got married 25 years ago and produced two more handsome sons — Mitchell and John.

Stella (we all know her from the Allentown convention home made pickles fame. Their aroma drew many to her room.) put much effort that everything at the celebration should be the same as it was 25 years ago. It was the same church — Aušros Vartų, the same orchestra with C-12 member maestro Joe Thomas in charge, the same caterers — Beleckis and many of the same guests. The readings in church were done by children and grandchildren, all wearing the traditional

Lithuanian juosta. The soprano Rasa Bobelytė-Brittain sang at Mass. The bridesmaids were the same: Jean Daunauski-Helpert and Margaret Sera D'Elia. Since the best man Kęstutis Švelnys had passed away, his son Leonard Švelnys took over.

A great time was had by all. Guests came from all over. From Florida came V. Beleckis, the caterer of 25 years ago and family friend. We are sure he was pleased with the good job his son was doing.

Before the festivities ended, the sons: dr. Steven, Andrew, Mitchell and John (who is an accomplished dancer with the Lithuanian dance group Berželis in Hartford) gave their parents a pleasant surprise — they presented them with an all expense paid trip to Lithuania. Of course a few of the C-12'ers have already decided to tag along and “supervise” this second honeymoon of C-12 favorite couple.

After a rendition of “Ilgiausių Metų” we all wished Stella and Mitch 25 more happy ones and to make sure to invite all of us again. And Stella, remember the pickles your promised to bring to the Washington convention, they will be one of the highlights of our 75th year!



Manhattan's Council 12's favorite couple celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary: Stella and Mitchell Marcinauskis. We see them being welcomed from renewing their vows with bread, wine and salt presented by 3 of their 4 sons: From the left: son Mitch, son Andrew Kolesk, Stella and Mitch and son Dr. Stephen Kolesk. All took place at Our Lady of Vilnius parish hall in November, 1987. Photo: Millie Pietz



# Vyčiai Veikia

## Council Activities

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

### C-3 — PHILADELPHIA

1987 m. spalio mėn. 11 d. susirinkime kuopos vicepirmininkas Viktoras Stepalovitch pranešė, kad Šv. Jurgio parapijoje gruodžio mėn. 5 d. galima gauti salę po tos dienos 5-tos val. Mišių. Nutarta trečią kartą ten ruošti Kūčias. Sudarytas komitetas iš Prano Downeney, Onos ir Juozo Marro, Irenos Ozalis, Dianos Drumstas, Margaretos Petronis, Elenos Šaulytės, Dolores ir Ričardo Herbert, Lilianos Greymas, Anastazijos Binkienės ir komiteto pirmininko Viktoro Stepalovitch. Posėdžiauta beveik kas savaitę Elenos Šaulytės bute. Pasidalinta pareigomis kas ką padarys ir nustatyta Kūčių programa.

Tą vakarą Šv. Jurgio bažnyčioje Šv. mišias koncelebravo parapijos klebonas kun. Anderlionis su prelatu Vito Martusevičiumi, klebonu emeritu. Aukas (plotkeles, kūdikėlio Jėzaus statulėlę, koplytėlę, vandenį ir vyną) prie altoriaus nešė jaunas vytis Andrius Sveikla, tautiniais rūbais apsirengusios vytytės Dolores Herbert, Irene Sveikla, Anastazija Binkienė ir kuopos pirmininkas Juozas Drumstas.

Po Šv. Mišių apie 160 asmenų vyko į salę. Čia kiekvienam buvo nurodyta stalai ir vietos prie stalų. Visi stalai buvo šventiškai papuošti. Programą pradėjo klebonas Juozas Anderlionis perskaitydamas tai dienai skirtą evangeliją ir palaimindamas plotkeles.

Tada pasveikino visus čia susirinkusius vakarienei, ragindamas didžiuotis savo kilme, palaikyti savo kultūrinės tradicijas ir būti optimistais — tikėti, kad mūsų broliai ir sesės Lietuvoje išvys Laisvės aušrą.

Pirmininkaujantis Vladas Sveikla nušvietė Kūčių prasmę, tradicijas ir valgius, kuriuos kiekvienas galėjo rasti lietuvių ir anglų kalba gražiai išleistoje knygutėje (Our Kūčios menu). Juozas Drumstas perskaitė Kalėdų maldą iš keturių mergaičių Sibire parašytos maldaknygės "Marija gelbėk mus". Pirmininkaujantis dar perskaitė eilėraščių, parašytą Jadvygos Sarcevičiūtės "Kūčios — širdies dalykas."

Vakarienės metu 3-ji kuopa pagerbė savo narį kun. Juozą Anderlionį, įsigijusį šią vasarą "Doctor Sacret Theology" doktoratą. Garbės narė Elena Šaulytė įteikė jam 600 metų Krikščionybės jubiliejaus medalį, įrėmintą, Juozo Marro meniškai atlikto darbo lietuviškame stiliuje, mediniame rėmelyje.

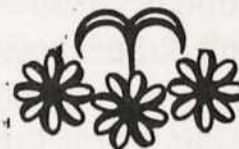
Vakarienės užbaigimo maldą sukalbėjo prel. Vito Martusevičius.

Užbaigdamas Kūčių vakarienę rengimo komiteto pirmininkas Viktoras Stepalovitch padėkojo visiems prie šio renginio suruošimo prisidėjusiems. Reikia paminėti, kad be komiteto narių darbu virtuvėje ir stalų aptarnavime įsijungė dar Irena Sveikla, Dolores ir Ričardo Herbert duktė ir sūnus su draugais ir Dolores broliis.

Po vakarienės Šv. Jurgio parapijos vargonininkas Stasys Petraitis pravedė keletą kalėdinių giesmių giedoju-

mą. Kad visas Kūčių vakaras, kaip lietuviai sako, praėjo kaip sviestu pateptas, tai daug priklauso ir nuo Elenos Šaulytės, turinčios tiek daug ilgo organizacinio patyrimo. Neabejojame, kad ir Vyčių organizacijos deimantinio jubiliejaus minėjimas Philadelphijoje 1988 m. gegužės mėn. 15 d. taip sklandžiai ir vykusiai praeis.

E. B.



### C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Following the evening Mass on December 12 at St. Francis Church, our K of L held their annual Kūčios. The candles were lighted and our K of L family gathered at the tables. Rev. Joseph Jurgelonis read the Christmas Gospel according to Luke; then he distributed the blessed "plotkelės" to all. Each shared with one another the age-old custom of sharing and expressing their best wishes for well-being in the New Year.

The Kūčios could indeed be described as everything a Lithuanian holds dear — God, family and country, all wrapped up into one. No other event contains such rich symbolism, honored customs, love and legend. In a real sense Kūčios is what being Lithuanian is all about.

The girls outdid themselves with a wide variety of meatless Lithuanian specialties topped off with those



calorie-loaded Christmas pastries.

On the next day the council and pastor sponsored the Christmas party for the parish's thirty-three altar boys with an afternoon of bowling and lunch at the Lucky Lanes. Lennie Davidonis acted as Santa.

Our Gardner Lithuanians displayed a Lithuanian Christmas tree and Kūčios table at the Gardner Heritage Visitors Center during the month of December. Another exhibit portrayed the Christmas customs and traditions of the Lithuanian people. The Lithuanian family, dressed manikins in costume, were an added attraction. The exhibit was extraordinary and received wide acclaim in the area. Opening day drew 514 visitors to the center. Bronė and Bill Wisniauskas, Bronė Bekeris and Vanda Sherksnis were on hand in costume to explain the talk about the various aspects of our holiday customs. Bravo!

We extend our deepest sympathy to Paula Shatos, our financial secretary, and her family on the untimely death of their daughter Sally Hickey of Orange at the age of 32. She leaves her husband, mother and 22-month old son, sister and two brothers. May she rest in peace and may the Lord give her family strength.

The Genaitises attended the military wedding of their grandson Ensign Paul Erickson and Denise Mianeki at Corpus Christi Chapel in Edmunds, WA, on September 19. Ensign Erickson is a designated aviator in the US Navy pilot training program.

A speedy recovery is sent to Alice Perekslis.

Vincukas



## C-19 — PITTSBURGH

The month of May was an especially busy one for C-19 members. On



*C-19 - Women of Lithuanian heritage dressed in costume for the Mass marking 600th Anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania. L to r: Ann Aleliunas, Patricia Macey, Alice Lewellen, Rev. Richard Lelonis, Bess Biamonte. Bishop Bevilaqua officiated at the Mass with Bishop Paul Baltakis, OFM and Rev. C. Pugevicius among the concelebrants.*

*(C-19); Patricia Macey*

*Photo: J. C. Keenan, Pittsburgh Catholic.*

May 3 a busload of K of L'ers and their friends visited the shrine and tomb of Father Gallitzin at Loretto, Pennsylvania. The high point of the tour was the fascinating Gallitzin Chapel with all its memorabilia of Fr. Gallitzin's life.

We were pleased that Fr. Karaveckas, our spiritual leader, was able to accompany our group and we enjoyed his leading us in the Lithuanian sing-along on the return trip.

A special thanks to Marge Turner for her excellent organization of the bus trip and President Bill Kolicus for providing us with a history of Fr. Gallitzin and his Lithuanian connection.

On the 16th of May, some of our members attended the Mid-Central District Meeting and Bowling Tournament. Another group together with our Lithuanian class members participated in the annual three-day Folk Festival which features among 28 nationalities a Lithuanian display.

During May, C-19's spiritual headquarters, the beautiful Saint Casimir's Church of South Side, Pittsburgh, had the honor of being selected as a location for a Hollywood

movie filmed in Pittsburgh.

Our council extends a vote of thanks and appreciation for the efforts of our members Mary Pakutinskas and Eleanore Lewicki in keeping C-19 actively involved in interesting projects.

1987 has been a rewarding year for C-19 members as we were privileged to participate in the beautiful and impressive celebrations of the 600th Anniversary of Christianization of Lithuania.

In June our members traveled by bus to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, where we participated in the special Mass offered by Principal Celebrant and Homilist, Most Reverend James A. Hickey, Archbishop of Washington. The Čiurlionis Kanklės Ensemble of Cleveland performance at this Mass was superb. The Mass was beautiful as were the Wayside Shrines exhibited by the Baltimore Lithuanian Museum. We also enjoyed a very pleasant program held after the Mass at the Ukrainian Catholic Shrine where we were graciously served coffee and snacks.

In October at St. Anthony Church, Bridgeville, Fr. Alexander



Ziubrys OFM observed the occasion with a Pontifical Thanksgiving con-celebrated High Mass, main Cele-brant, Most Reverend Vincent M. Leonard, former Ordinary of Diocese of Pittsburgh. K of L members, Mary and Vincent Tamy in their Lithuanian costumes presented Rev. Leonard a special commemorative medallion. The St. Anthony Choir sang familiar Lithuanian hymns. After Mass, a very elegant reception was held in the so-cial hall. Most of our C-19 members attended and enjoyed this celebration.

Our third and last solemn com-memoration occurred on December 7 when Bishop Anthony Bevilacqua of Pittsburgh celebrated the Diocesan Commemoration of the 600th An-niversary of Lithuania's Christianity at St. Paul's Cathedral. Approximately 700 persons were present. Our K of L members attended in their national dress. We also joined in singing Lithuanian hymns before and during Mass under the direction of Sister M. Francesca.

We were honored by the presence of Most Reverend Paul Baltakis OFM who concelebrated the Mass with three bishops and twenty-three priests in-cluding several representing Lithuani-an parishes in the Pittsburgh area. Rev. Father Pugevičius, chairman of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid was the Homilist.

A grand dinner was held at Du-ranti's Restaurant after the Mass at which time both Rev. Baltakis and Rev. Pugevičius delivered inspira-tional and eloquent speeches. To every participant, it was an occasion that made us very proud to be called Lithuanians.

Mary H. Tamy



At the Chicago Council 24 Christmas party. Seated L. to R. Tony Taranto, Spiritual Advisor Father Peter Cibulskis, President Aušra Padalino, 1st Vice President Bruce Neberieza. Standing L. to R.: Loretta Simon, Irene Murdock, Olga Eastman, Corresponding Secretary Clare O'Dea, Irene Aizinas, Financial Secretary John Paukštis. This is Council - 24's Christmas party organizing committee.

## C - 24 — CHICAGO

On Saturday, Nov. 20, 1987, our Council held their annual dinner-dance honoring John L. Paukstis, Past President at the Landmark with a capacity crowd attending.

A special plaque was present-ed for his many years of activity. The following chairpeople were active in the tribute to our honoree: Ausra Padalino, Bruce Nebereiza and Clare O'Dea.

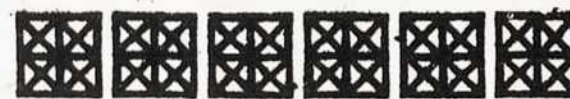
Council 24 celebrated its Christ-mas party on December 14, 1987. President Aušra Padalino welcomed Moderator, Reverend Peter Cibulskis and all the members. After an opening prayer by Fr. Cibulskis, the festivities began with a delicious meal prepared by our hospitality committee — Aušra Padalino, Claire O'Dea, Irene Murdock and Olga Eastman. Then everyone was happily surprise by a visit from Santa Claus who presented each member with a lovely gift. Frank and Helen Jurgaitis were responsible for the wonderful Santa Claus costume and arrange-

ments for the gifts to be distributed. Many, many thanks to the both of them!

There was also a small raffle which help to fill our Council coffers. Later, we had a "sing-a-long" with songs in Lithuanian and Christmas carols, let by Fr. Cibulskis and Tony Taranto. Everyone was so happy to have past president John Paukštis join us. John is recovering from a heart attack. His wife Lillian was with him.

Finally, the evening ended with happy conversation. Holiday greet-ings to all and farewell until next year. A good time was had by all. Thanks to all for coming.

AP



## C-25 — CLEVELAND

Our meeting in December brought on a bevy of activity to last all year round. In addition to the pri-vate parties planned, C-25 held the annual yuletide celebration at the Lithuanian Village Party Center. A



delectable meal was served, gifts exchanged, 50/50 raffle won by M. Gray and a prize clown was awarded to L. Yurkovic. A surprise gift from Santa was presented to J. Marks. The flowing red gown was worn then and there — apropos of the festive occasion. Jean looked positively marvelous! A. Luiza chaired the planning with a remarkable committee. Music was by Joe.

Our chaplain was not present for the meal but stopped in later with a guest. Fr. Kijauskas presented Vytautas Skuodis, a Chicago-born Catholic dissident who knows the hardships of Soviet prisons. The Soviet Union held Skuodis in Mordovia Prison for seven years after he wrote "Spiritual Genocide in Lithuania," a book that told how the Catholic Church was being eliminated by the Communists. He was charged with anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda. Best of luck! You're in our prayers.

On Sunday, December 13, C-25 hosted the Koffee Klatch in Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish hall after the ten o'clock Mass. Delicious food donations, good coffee and ample volunteers for serving made for a pleasant Sunday and a satisfying contribution. Chairperson was N. Arunski. Thank you, one and all.

After installation in January, a complete roster of officers will be announced. As an afterthought, it gives me great pleasure to thank you for your support during my reign as Vytis Correspondent.

DOLLY-O



## C-26 — WORCESTER

The New Year is upon us and with it a new challenge. Our new Executive Board needs your personal in-

put and suggestions as we head into 1988. They are Rita Pinkus, President; Mildred Lapinskas, Vice President; Aldona Waska, Secretary; Marion Racicot, Financial Secretary; Ted Pinkus, Treasurer; Bill Leseman, Auditor; Bill Karas, Sergeant at Arms; Virginia Cummings, Publicity; Ann Bender, Lithuanian Affairs; Marion Racicot, Ritual; Spiritual Advisor to be announced next month; Olga Kersis, Vytis Correspondent.

Here is one area where we want no competition! On the sick list before Christmas were Sister Joyce Ridick SSC, Ph.D., who will be ready soon to return to her professorship in Rome, her mom, Ann Ridick with a broken ankle, Alex Pridotkas, Rita Margosian, Mary Kamendulis, Anna Kersis, Anne Bucinskas, Steve Walinsky Sr., Joseph Sakaitis, Adele Tagman and Ted Pinkus. Lenore Adamonis has been ill for some time, confined to her home, and cards and notes would be welcome, we're certain. Address them to her at 25 Baltic Road, Worcester, MA 01607. Prayerful get-well wishes to all.

Rasa Grigaitis' mom, Mrs. Vaclovas Dedinas, was left homeless as a result of a fire in one of the apartments in her building. Fortunately, she was not injured. Her daughter and son-in-law, Edmund, stepped right in and took care of everything. She is now settled in her new apartment.

Al Seilus' son and daughter-in-law, Ralph and Karen Lee, were home for the Christmas holidays, the last visit for the next two years. Ralph will be stationed in Iceland with the US Air Force.

Congratulations to Jack Kazlauskas, our friendly Digger O'Dell, who was top votegetter on the parish council, with Geraldine Tagman coming in second.

Congratulations to Janet Ginkus who became Mrs. Asa Allen last October. Janet is a school teacher, singer-guitarist, multi-talented young lady.

Our thanks to Alexander Pakalniškis Jr. for his verbatim translation into Lithuanian of our column

for publication in the Draugas. It was a pleasant surprise to see it there.

Nine degree temperatures aren't phasing Kazys and Terry Adomavicius one bit. They're sunning themselves in pleasant Aruba!

Paul Puris, artist, is responsible for the very good, original sketch which made up our council's Christmas greetings in the December issue of Vytis.

Congratulations to Mary Shimkus, daughter of Dan and Betty Shimkus, who was married to Robert D. O'Neil Jr. on October 10 in St. Paul's Cathedral by Bishop Timothy Harrington.

When Peter Ivaska took upon himself a bride, Joan Pendergast Thorn, his little 6-year old Lynn gained a 4-year old brother Michael and a 2-year old sister, Kale. They were married by Peter's uncle, Father Alphonse Volungis, pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church. Another uncle, Francis Degutis, was lector. The wedding took place at Prince of Peace Church in Princeton on December 6. Congratulations to all!

Judy Ginkus spent six months in Chicago training for special skills for her position with ATT.

Congratulations to Marion and Arthur Racicot who celebrated 30 years of wedded bliss on November 22.

Over 100 members attended our council Christmas party held December 8 at Maironis Park. Our new pastor, Father Vincent Parulis MIC, attended his first K of L event and was heard to say, "I had a very good time!" We're happy to hear that, Father!

"Olga K."





## C-27 — NORWOOD

Time goes by so swiftly and for some people there are not enough hours in a day. All of us attending school went back after Labor Day. Paul Picard, a K of L scholarship recipient, made the dean's list in June. Irene Skrieki is busy at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As for myself, from Lasell Junior College I went on to University of Massachusetts, Boston Harbor Campus.

Not much was accomplished at our September meeting. It looks like our council is on a twelve-month vacation or else "paseno visi."

Helen and Stan Dallalis took a cruise to Bermuda in September where hurricane Emily caught up with them in Hamilton. They had a very good time.

In October we had elections and Betty Skricki was voted president. We all have faith in her and know she is a good leader.

October 17 was our semi-annual dance which again proved that the Knights were just too tired from the summer to "wing it."

November we had a communion breakfast which our parishioners thoroughly enjoyed. Much thanks to Betty and John Skricki, Adele and Fred Picard, Aldona Jackson, Mary Ann Tamasanis, Nancy and Stan Dallalis along with George Barton. They did it all which goes to show even this handful completely catered to our over 100 parishioners.

Helen Dallalis has been ailing with her RA. However, she thanks everyone for their many cards and good wishes.

Hoping I have a little more news next time, I wish you all "geru dienu."

Nancyte



*Santa in the person of Antanina Skroudys distributed candy canes to members of C-29 Newark's Christmas party.*

## C-29 — NEWARK

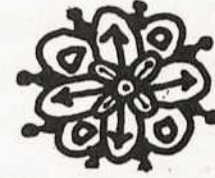
We reserved Sunday, November 29, 1987, to hold our annual Chinese Auction. I am happy to report it was a financial success. We had some great prizes which included a microwave oven and meat slicer, neither of which I was lucky to take home with me. Chairlady Margie Brazaitis and her committee deserve a big word of thanks for their dedication and hard work.

Our annual Christmas party was celebrated December 13 at Holy Trinity Parish Hall. To say it was a terrific affair is putting it mildly. Our cocktail chairperson, Anne O'Neill, and her committee started things swinging with her delicious "Bubbly" and the best hors d'oeuvres ever.

A delicious hot and cold buffet followed with a variety of food too numerous to mention. To top all of this, we had a desert table for the sweet tooth. There was strawberry shortcake, cheesecake, tarts, chocolate mousse, rice pudding, mints and nuts. If I missed anything, please forgive me.

Last but not least, some well-deserved thank yous are in order to Lillian and Joe Russell for furnishing the music, to Mary Stonis for all those delicious cookies at each table and to Adele Matthews and her committee for a job well done.

Eva Coll



## C-30 — WESTFIELD

Council 30 welcomes our new spiritual advisor, Father John L. Sullivan. We hope his stay at St. Casimir will be pleasant.

St. Casimir Church received a pleasant surprise visit from Rev. Bishop Leo O'Neil, Auxiliary Bishop of Springfield, in residence at Marion Congregation in Stockbridge. Bishop O'Neil had just returned from Rome where he attended the special celebration of Lithuania's 600 years of Christianity and the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis. He was impressed by the huge crowds of Lithuanians from all parts of the world who came to honor one of their own. He learned of their strong faith under so much persecution because of their beliefs. His visit was prompted by his admiration for the Lithuanians and he made known his feelings to the parishioners of St. Casimir.

Congratulations to Anne and Joseph Sabonis who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year. Also, celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary are Edna and Frank Bernardicius. Best wishes to both couples and may they have many more healthy, happy years together.

Our representatives to the New England District Convention which was held in New Britain were Gene Duda, Cooky and Bennie Coach and Marsha and Jim Rogers.

A good cause draws a good crowd. The annual scholarship drive at



Maironis Park in Worcester; proved it to be true. Many members from the Westfield Council were there helping with their contributions. Traveling from the Cape were our faithful members, Mary and Bernie Minkus. It was good to see them.

Council 30 officers for the coming year are James Adamaitis, president; Marsha Rogers, secretary; Kuni-gunda Coach, treasurer; Nellie Lord, scribe; Kunigunda Coach, ritual; Eugenia Duda, cultural and Benedict Coach, Lithuanian affairs.

Illness is stalking Council 30. On the sick list are Dell Zumbuski and Helen Kazimeraitis. Helen Alexik, on a vacation in California, became so sick that she had to go to the Emergency Room. She was admitted into the hospital and will have to stay until her condition can be stabilized. We wish them a speedy recovery."

St. Casimir held a three-fold celebration. The church was formally redecorated marking the completion of the interior renovation project, confirmation and the 600th anniversary of Lithuanian Christianity. Rev. Bishop O'Neil was the celebrant. Marsha Rogers and Eugenia Duda were in charge of the K of L's contribution. At the presentation of the gifts Gene Duda dressed in a Lithuanian costume presented Rev. Bishop O'Neil with a Lithuanian Christianity Medallion, a gift from Council 30.

In the parlor tables were set up with a wide assortment of beautiful Lithuanian linens, amber jewelry and pictures, lovely straw pictures and decorations. These artifacts drew many interested guests, some of them wanted to buy them. The articles are privately owned and were not for sale.

A harvest theme decorated the luncheon table which was laden with a variety of food. It was a very enjoyable and memorable day!

Nellie Lord



## C-46 — FOREST CITY

We had a very successful year. More members joined our council. Our meetings are well attended. Every business meeting is followed by dessert and coffee. This social hour is enjoyed because it gives everyone a better chance to get acquainted.

Thanks to Alice Puntar, chairman of arrangements, Della Armstrong and Stasia Wallace, who crocheted little stockings filled with candy as table favors for each setting, our Christmas party was great.

A big attendance with Santa having many useful gifts in his grab bag added to the enjoyment. Teri Trusky made and donated a lovely large ceramic sled pulled by reindeer. This was our first door prize. Needless to say everyone said "make it mine." We also had ten more door prizes also donated by our members.

Everyone left the party in a holiday spirit.

Blanche Motsko



## C-50 — NEW HAVEN

On November 14 we held our annual Christmas boutique and turkey raffle. My, oh my! This event has mushroomed in leaps and bounds since Al Gedrim proposed the idea of a turkey raffle. It proved to be so successful the first year that the following year George Kisielius and Eleanor Gutauskas quickly conceived the idea that Christmas boutique be added. Now we have one big affair which takes place very year in the week preceding Thanksgiving Day.

Frank Peterson, Ann Kordorsky and Mike and Irene Meizies formed the committee. Mike and Irene were in charge of selling the raffle tickets and the prizes offered were fantastic. our Potato Pancake Ensemble of Frank Peterson, Al Gutauskas, Al Gedrim, John Aunce and Bob Morcus peeled and grated the potatoes, fried and served the best piping hot, crispy, plump pancakes you will ever eat in your lifetime. The line was continuous from noon to six.

Eleanor Gutauskas was busy selling the tickets for the pancakes as well as dešras and sauerkraut. Helen Case was equally as busy in her corner of the kitchen sorting out the dešras which were packaged for sale. Nearby Frank Kordorsky was selling a little bit of cheer to go along with your meals.

Marge Cronan and Mary Geipel were sitting at a table of Lithuanian ornaments. Incredible to see so many beautiful ornaments made by our own girls. Thanks to Helen Medley, Ann Kordorsky and Eleanor Gutauskas for helping in making this wonderful display possible. Isabel Peterson had an interesting display of Lithuanian crafts, including a 16-inch Lithuanian doll.

Rose Kisielius was selling raffle tickets for prizes specially donated for her table. Joan Augustine and Audrey Toole displayed quite a selection of religious wall plaques, rosaries, crucifixes, jewelry and unusual items to decorate your home spiritually or even to adorn your image with a speck of Christianity.

Ann Meskins and Ann Gedrim kept the baked goods moving. There was plenty of choices from Lithuanian breads from Waterbury bakery to specially baked bread from the kitchen of Edith Kazlauskas.

Maryann Cappelli, Helen Medley, Frances Prishwalko and Betty Gybowski alternated at the white elephant table. Sophie Aunce had crocheted and knitted articles at her table. Marion Morcus added her artistic spe-





**C-50 New Haven Christmas Party. Committee: Walter Gybowski, Frank Peterson, Robert Morcus, Al Gedrim & Mike Meizies. Betty Gybowski, Isabel Peterson, Fr. Karalis, Marion Morcus, Ann Meskins, Ann Gedrim and Irene Meizies.**

cialty to this table. Pat Tamulis took great pride selling chances for three big jars of candy which brought in a nice profit.

Ann Gaysunas was busy at the snack table serving goodies like homemade crullers made by Edith Kazlauskas and, of course, the best cup of coffee in town.

What was Helen Bohan doing in the corner under the balcony? She had some glad tidings to share with you from her crystal ball. Leo Gaysunas engineered the Christmas lighting and also maneuvered the video sounds so we could enjoy his special musical program throughout the day.

We are proud of all our members who came or worked to make our 1987 Christmas Boutique and Turkey Raffle the best yet.

We had our biggest turnout for our annual Christmas party held in our church hall on December 12. Frank Peterson, Ann Meskins, Al and Ann Gedrim and Mike Meizies formed the committee. Members were asked to bring hors d'oeuvres and appetizers and the response was generous. The catered dinner was scrumptious with roast beef, barbecued chicken, seafood and Italian lasagna, salads and vegetables.

Everyone took part in the folk dancing and sing-along. Thanks to Walter Solek for those wonderful polkas. We also helped Frank Antin celebrate his birthday. Many happy

returns and may God replenish his dynamic spirit and energy.

The orchestra closed with "God Bless America." It was a happy evening. Thanks to all who made it so!

**Helen Balchus**



## **C-63 — LEHIGH VALLEY**

Lehigh Valley Council 63 conducted their fourth annual portrayal of a Lithuanian Kūčios in St. Michael's Church Hall, Easton on December 13.

The traditional food items were served in abundance and eaten at tables in candlelight. The increasingly popular Kūčios was then capped by the singing of Lithuanian and English Christmas carols under the leadership of Benjamin Aponavicius.

Our honored guests, introduced by President Joseph Simmons, were Father Benestad, pastor of St. Michael's and St. Bernard's in Easton, and Father Sabas, assistant pastor of St. Anthony's Church also in Easton. The program was conducted by Adolf Klova and Joseph Ogint.

**JFO**



## **COUNCIL - 72 BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK**

Praised be Jesus Christ!

As the pastor of St. Joseph's and moderator of council 72 in Binghamton, New York, I would like to share with our VYTIS readers the following information in which our council was

involved.

Council 72 even though it is a small council has been very active since 1984, when it was reactivated by the new pastor, yours truly, Rev. John E. Mikalajunas, within one month after my appointment to the small but lovely parish of St. Joseph. Since my appointment, many items with a Lithuanian flavor have appeared in the parish church, and the newly renovated Cultural Center. The parish church has received new main doors with a Lithuanian Cross forming the main theme of the doors which are made of aluminum and stained glass of red, yellow and green. The back wall of the church, which had previously depicted the horrors of hell as portrayed in the Book of Revelation now has a four by seven foot hand painted picture of the Blessed Virgin of Šiluva framed in a gold leaf frame.

The processional cross of the church is an original, which I had commissioned by Wlodzimirus Janickas of Krakow, done in silver, gold and amber crystal. There is absolutely not another like it in the United States.

All of the covers of the sacramentaries and lectionary have the Lithuanian cross embroidered as well as special altar hangings with the folk cross.

The interior of the parish hall, which has now changed its name to St. Joseph's Religious and Cultural Center, now has 18 oil paintings which measure 4x12 feet, featuring the entire cycle of Lithuanian family traditions, painted in the Lithuanian Folk Art style.

In 1985 the parish produced a lovely cookbook of 242 pages of many Lithuanian and various other ethnic recipes, as well as Lithuanian customs, and sections on how to make Lithuanian Christmas ornaments, poetry, etc. The book is enclosed in a beautiful red, yellow and green cover. The price — \$7.50 including postage and handling. (Cookbook, St. Joseph's Church, 1 Judson Ave., Binghamton, N.Y. 13905)



Most recently our Knights celebrated *Kūčias* in January. A group of 90 gathered, including both Roman and Byzantine Catholic Priests to share the *plotkeliai* in a spirit of Christian love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Rev. John E. Mikalajunas*



## C-74 — SCRANTON

Scranton Knights had a very successful *Kūčios* which was open to the public. Marie Laske was chairperson.

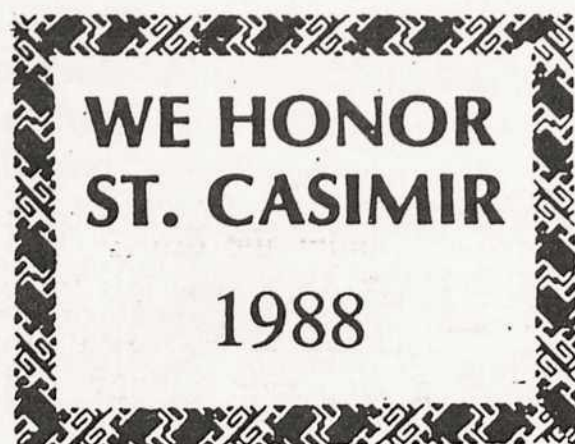
Msgr. Michael Ozalas blessed the wafers and said grace. Peg Romanaukas assisted the children Alicia and Emma Foley, Milessa Radle and Rebecca Georgia pass out the *plotkeles*.

Ed Romanaukas made "vyritos" that warmed everyone up. Mary Costello was program chairman. Ann Lisowski and Rose Stanches passed out the prizes.

President Jean Kavelinas helped decorate our Lithuanian tree. John Ramoska, Leo Zewicki, Dick Laske and Ed Romanaukas were our ticket sellers. We have reservations for next year.

John Adomenas, MAD President, and his lovely wife Ann attended our *Kūčios*.

Marie Laske



*C-74 - Scranton - Marie Laske, Kucios Chairman, with Ann Lisowski and Rose Stanches, prize chairman, are joined by Ann & John Adomenas, MAD President, at prize table.*

## C-100 — AMSTERDAM

On Sunday, December 13, St. Casimir's Social Center was the site of Council 1090 Christmas banquet. The center, decorated by Gerard Drenzek, was filled with the spirit of the season.

Irene Tice chaired the event with Mary Ann Yutes as co-chairman. Harold Tice, Christine Tambasco, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Tuttle III, and Vincent Rossi completed the committee.

Each person received a beautiful ceramic bell made by Harold Tice. Ceramic baskets filled with pine cones decorated the tables.

A social hour preceded the dinner. Hors d'oeuvres representing many Lithuanian dishes served on *Kūčios* were prepared by Nancy Yakas, Polly Žiaušys and Helen Zytkowski.

Assemblyman Paul Tonko joined in the festivities during the social hour.

Mistress of ceremonies Mirga Bablin called upon Rev. Baltch, our Spiritual Advisor, to give the invocation. He then asked everyone to sing "Sveikas Jėzau Gimusis" after which everyone broke the "plotkeles" wishing each other "Linksmų Šventų Kalėdų!"

After dinner Mrs. Bablin presented National President Frank Petrauskas who extended Christmas greetings and spoke about the observance of Lithuania's Christianization Jubilee in Chicago.

Edward Barkauskas, president of the new council in the Tri-City area of the Capitol District, wished all the season's greetings.

President Anthony J. Radzevich added his holiday message and presented Father Baltch a gift from the council. He also welcomed Joseph Shatas Sr. into membership.

Mrs. Tice thanked her committee and asked them to be Santa's helpers to distribute the grab bags. Special prizes were awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Karbočius, Genevieve



Baranauskas and Edna Stokna. Olga Wilkevitch was thanked for her gift donation.

Ceramic baskets were won by John Rokit, Eleanor Olechowski, William Jasewicz, Ann Kabasin, Biruté Ralys, Regina Kot, Irene Petrauskas, Genevieve Baranauskas, Ann Radzevich and Alger Bagdon.

Benediction was said by Rev. Matthew Cyvas, pastor of St. George Church of Albany. Peter Capobianco entertained the guests with dinner and dance music.

### SMILE AND SPARKLE



## C-102 — DETROIT

The party is over and a big thank you to Councils 86 DuBois, 25 Cleveland, 19 Pittsburgh, 79 Southfield, 139 Detroit and Fran Petkus from Dayton for making our Mid-Central District Meeting and Bowling Tournament a great success.

Friday night welcomed our guests with a lunch buffet and liquid refreshments to renew acquaintances from the year before. Saturday morning the district meeting was conducted by Madam President Fran Petkus.

Saturday afternoon the bowling tournament welcomed 14 teams. The first three top winners went to teams from Council 102 Detroit, the host council. First place was won by team members Gus Baibak, George Kayganich and Candee, Maryanne and Joe

Guerriero. Congratulations!

Saturday night a pizza party with music for sing-along was sponsored by our members Joe Aukstakalnas-Stark and John Stanievich. Everyone hated to see the evening end.

Sunday morning a beautiful Mass at St. Anthony's was celebrated by our spiritual advisor, Fr. Babonis. The St. Anthony's choir was beautiful and enjoyed by all who attended.

Sunday afternoon brought our weekend to a close with a delicious dinner prepared by Angela and Pete Buksnis. Ilgiausiq Metų was sung in honor of Fr. Babonis who will be celebrating his 25th year in the priesthood this year. HM Robert Boris was the Master of Ceremonies for the afternoon and Fr. Babonis said the Grace. Fr. Stanievich gave a speech. President Petkus thanked Council 102 for hosting the weekend. Our council also sends a big thank you to Richard Danielak of C-79 Southfield for donating all the printing for us. Thank you to Joe Guerriero for serving as chairman of the weekend.

The weekend brought a new grandson to Terry and Ray Medonis. Congratulations on Number 6!

Our Bowling League ended the season with C-102 team, Gus Baibak, George Kayganich, Joe and Maryanne Guerriero in second place. A banquet was held at the Eagles Nest. The season begins in September. Anyone wishing to join us may call Ruth Wagster, president.

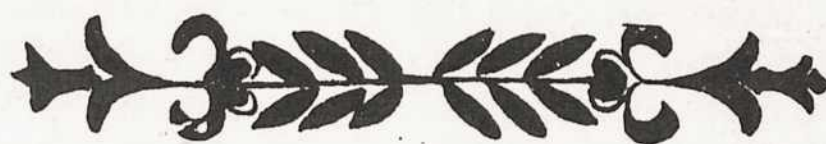
Meriute

pany of our National Spiritual Advisor, Father Jurgelaitis, who was directing and participating in an explanation of the Kūčios to the members and guests of Council 1, Brockton, being held in the spacious community center of the Bumila estate and compound in Raynham, Massachusetts.

Mark and Sally Zelonis were guests of Bea and Vic Mathieu. Mark, a native of Nashua, NH, was thrilled to renew acquaintances with old friends from Nashua who had made the trip to Raynham and who took part in Father Jurgelaitis short production taking everyone back to the night before Christmas in Lithuania.

Officers and committee members for the coming year are as follows: Bertha R. Stoskus, president; John Walaska, 1st vice president; William Piacentini Jr., 2nd vice president; Helen Gudeczauskas, recording secretary; Irene Walaska, corresponding secretary; Anthony Gudeczauskas, treasurer and Helen Zielinski, financial secretary. Trustees are Peter Denisewich and John Jacknevich. Lithuanian affairs is headed by William Piacentini Jr.; sunshine, Veronica Kiela; cultural, Ruth Krecioch; ritual, Bette Ciuryla and the final committee, social has Irene Landanski as chairperson assisted by Alice Grybas, Milda Traskauskas and Elizabeth Tribuisis. Vytis correspondent is Victor G. Mathieu.

Un  
qui aime les Lithuaniens



## C-103 — PROVIDENCE

December 6 our council's annual Christmas party was held at the Greenville Inn with 36 members in attendance.

Father Gedvila missed the com-

## C-110 — MASPETH

On October 20, members and their friends under the direction of President Jonas Adomėnas left for a four-day weekend at Mt. Stratton, Vermont, a slopeside village and



sports center, to commune with Mother Nature at one of the famous hotels. This happy group returned refreshed and were ready to tackle this council's forthcoming events.

On November 4, prior to the election of council officers and upon the invitation of Frances Miglore, Rasa Razgaitis, Coordinator, Americans for Due Process, gave a very enlightening talk about individuals who allegedly committed crimes in Europe were being denied due process and are being deported to Russia for trial.

This council is indebted for the fine presentation given by Mrs. Razgaitis and will cooperate in notifying elected representatives of this council's desire to enact legislation to provide due process. It should be noted that some of our forefathers desired due process for all alleged crimes committed except treason.

Shortly after the presentation, Jonas Adomėnas accepted the election committee's list of candidates for the ensuing year. Election was held and all the officers were reelected unanimously.

On November 8, a Mass in celebration of the 600th Anniversary of the Baptism of Lithuania at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, New York City, was attended by a large number of this council's membership. The principal celebrant and homilist was His Eminence John Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York. Cardinal's Homily dwelt on the characteristics of Lithuanian history, showing such traits of high moral force by the faithful devout for the passion for Christ. They displayed their love, trust and hopes for St. Casimir, Lady of Šiluva, wayside crosses and the Hill of Crosses.

On November 21, the council ushered in the holiday season with a barn dance in Transfiguration Parish Hall, chaired by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Yuskevich. The evening was very enjoyable with plenty of traditional square dances, food and goodies.

On behalf of the officers and members of this council, congratulations

to Dr. Nancy Reziėkas and dr. John Craddock, both members of this council, upon the birth of their daughter, Miss Hillary Anne (9 lbs.) on November 8, 1987. Also, but / not least, to the proud Grandparents, Tony and Brenda Razickas.

Welcome back Mary Johnson, our Chief cook and Pot washer. For without your services the affairs that this council had held would have been lacking that Lithuanian touch, of which you so unselfishly gave. Now, that the Christmas season is upon us, our members take on a certain glow, for it's the period in which they reflect their Heritage. On 12/2/87, this Council hosted the 13th annual Lithuanian Kuėių Stalas (Christmas Eve Meal) after the 11:00 Mass, at the Transfiguration Parish Hall, Maspeth.

The tables were decorated accordingly to the Lithuanian custom with hay and ruta, in the floral arrangement, both of these symbolically display the custom. The sprig of ruta, national flower of Lithuania, a cherished emblem, representing Lithuania. Ms. Helen Matulonis assisted with the darkening of the parish hall, in order to enact the "Ritual of Light" a ceremony which was performed on a table by lighting a votive candle. thus, did Helen enlighten those present of the coming of Christ. They were also inspired and revitalized by this most revered and beautiful ceremony which reflected centuries of Lithuanian tradition.

This event was chaired by Roman and Sophie Wensek with Ms. Helen Matulonis as the mistress of ceremonies. Although it was somewhat early for Kuėias, nevertheless, the event was well attended and they all partook of the traditional twelve dishes.

Before the end of the meal, an announcement was made by our illustrious president, Jonas Adomėnas, that the following members had advanced in the Knights degree scale — Helen Abbene, Helen and John Birbooks and Catherine Zaveckas.

Of course, Christmas Day is the high-point of the Christmas season and thereby, the officers, members take this opportunity to wish one and all a sincere Blessed Christmas with an abundance of good health, happiness and prosperity throughout the new year.

Joseph C. Dugan



## C-112 — CHICAGO

In spite of our area's first big snow storm of the season, our annual Christmas social which followed our monthly business meeting was very successful with a large number of members and guests in attendance.

Vera Paukstis, our chairlady in charge for the evening, did a marvelous job of coordinating the party. With so many contributions of homemade goodies, it was bound to be a success. Our Juniors entertained us with Christmas carols which were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

It was good to see Ronald Maldunas back at our meeting following a long illness.

Welcome to new members: Joseph Briendza, Julia Sacauskas and Lillian Muzereus.

ARDEE



## C-133 — LOS ANGELES

Gruodžio 5 d. Lietuvos Vyėių susirinkimas įvyko B. ir A. Skirių rezidencijoje Burbanke, CA.

Susirinkimą pravedė pirm. Arūnas Barkus, sekretoriaujant Marytei Šepikaitei.

Edw. Antanaitis papasakojo savo išpūdžius iš Krikščionybės 600 metų



sukakties minėjimų New Yorke, Philadelphia, ir Los Angeles. Pastebėjo, kad visuose minėjimuose dalyvavo arkivyskupai, išskyrus Los Angeles.

A. Skirius pabrėžė Los Angeles Vyčių kuopos 40-ties metų sukaktį, išskeldamas svarbesnius įvykius nuo pat įsisteigimo dienos 1947 metais.

Susirinkimo metu buvo pranešta liūdna žinia — du veiklūs kuopos nariai išsiskyrė iš mūsų tarpo, iškeliavo į amžinybę: Edvardas Bartkus ir Jonas Petrauskas-Petras.

Į kuopą, B. Skirienės pakviesti ir paraginti, įstojo nauji nariai: George Kaskus ir Jack N. Bružas su žmona.

Susirinkimas užbaigtas vaišėmis.

Nedalyvavusieji susirinkime, nario mokestį (10 dol.) prašome prisiųsti finansų sekretoriui A. Skriiui, 4364 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90029.



## C-140 — SYRACUSE

Since 1987 was the year of the 600th anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania, our Frank Petrauskas, National President, was busy all year traveling and attending many affairs.

A very nice local affair was the wedding of Mary Kay Brandt and Robert Larson this past summer. Mary is the daughter of Jack and Catherine Brandt and granddaughter of Katherine Cravetts, active members of C-140. Good luck to the newly-weds! May they have much happiness and success.

Our council's delegation to the National Convention in Kansas City was Frank and Irene Petrauskas, Norman Klimas, Veronica Sutkus and her sister Jean who was a guest. Veronica flew in an airplane for the first time and is anxiously looking forward to her next flight.

The Kansas City convention was a most beautiful convention. The hosts went out of their way to ac-

commodate and please the delegates and guests. C-140 echoes the praises already heaped upon the committee by many others. Congratulations to our Frank Petrauskas who was elected to his third term as national president.

Some of our members attended Lithuanian day at Moosic, Pennsylvania; Lithuanian Day at Auriesville, New York and the MAD Convention at Pittston, Pennsylvania. Each were nice affairs.

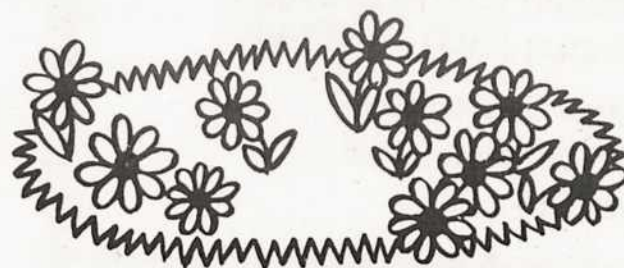
The October Supreme Council meeting was held in Syracuse. The people who cooked a delicious dinner and served it were Veronica Sutkus, Dawn and Paul Rudd, Cassie Stanley and Irene Petrauskas.

Our 19th Festival of Nations was a great success. The Lithuanian booth was well received by the record attendance. The display area was attractive with a variety of Lithuanian art, articles and a Christmas tree decorated with real straw ornaments. Our famous potato pancakes sold like hot cakes. We sold our relatively early each day.

Officers for 1988 are Father Tom Kobuszewski, spiritual advisor; Frank Petrauskas, president; Paul Rudd, vice president; Irene Petrauskas, secretary; Jack Brandt, treasurer; John Stanley, Catherine Brandt, trustees; Norman Klimas, sergeant at arms. Committee chairmen are Dawn Rudd, spiritual program; Katherine Cravetts, Lithuanian affairs; Veronica Sutkus, cultural and Jack Brandt, ritual.

Over the summer we lost two people who were close to some of our members. Mary Nowak, our member from Niagara Falls, lost her mother. Katherine Cravetts lost her granddaughter Julie. In December Jack Brandt's father died. May all their souls rest in peace. Our sympathies to the Nowaks, Cravetts, and Brandts.

Pusbrolis



## C-144 — ANTHRACITE COUNCIL

Anthracite Council held its annual "Kūčios" traditional Christmas Eve dinner at Our Lady of Šiluva Hall in Maizeville.

The Lithuanian Christmas tree was trimmed with natural straw ornaments, the type that were used in Lithuania when it was a free country.

The traditional twelve foods, fish, herring, boiled potatoes, dried peas, sauerkraut, mushrooms, red beet soup, prunes, raisin bread, biscuits with poppy seed milk, fruit and cookies were served.

Prior to the meal the blessed Christmas wafers (plotkelės) were shared by all present. The dinner blessing was said by Rev. Gerald Gobitas, pastor of Annunciation BVM Church, Frackville. The gospel was read in Lithuanian by spiritual advisor, Rev. Matthew Jarasunas, pastor of Our Lady of Šiluva Church.

President Joseph Yezulinas was master of ceremonies. Joseph Kaselonis, co-chairperson, welcomed the 125 members who attended. The benediction was given by Rev. Dean of Holy Cross Church, Mount Carmel.

We were proud to have all the pastors of Lithuanian churches in our area as our guests. Sisters of St. Casimir, St. Francis and Jesus Crucified also joined us in our presentation.

A presentation of the superstitions of Christmas Eve was given by Olympia Zelinski and Anne Sikora.

Marcella Kaselonis was chairperson assisted by members from Mount Carmel and Mahanoy City.

Anthracite Council was saddened with the passing of charter member Charles Taronis, our Lithuanian wood carver. Father Jarasunas our spiritual advisor and President Yezulinas conducted the wake ritual with a large number of members in attendance at St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair. Sincere condolences to Leona and her family.



LITHUANIAN INFORMATION  
CENTER  
5620 S CLAREMONT  
CHICAGO, IL 60636

# VYTIS

5112 S. Mayfield  
Chicago, IL 60638

*Return Requested*  
*Address Correction Requested*

## Special Events

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| March 13, 1988   | NED Holy Hour, Our Lady of Sorrows Convent, Brockton, MA   |
| April 24, 1988   | NED Convention<br>St. Casimirs Church, Westfield, MA   |
| May 15, 1988     | 75th Anniversary of K of L<br>Celebration, Lawrence, MA  |
| May 15, 1988     | C-3 Philadelphia - 75th Anniversary -<br>1:00 p.m. Mass - St. Casimirs Church<br>Followed by banquet and dance   |
| May 20-22, 1988  | Mid-Central Convention & Bowling<br>Tournament - Host C-19 Pittsburgh  |
| June 17-19, 1988 | NED Weekend Retreat<br>Franciscan Monastery<br>Kennebunkport, ME   |
| June 26, 1988    | VETRA Lithuanian Folk Dancers Picnic<br>12 Noon - 6 P.M. - Harugari German<br>Club, West Haven, CT. Further info,<br>Call: B. Schmidt (203) 878-6144 or<br>Juoza Karmuza (203) 457-1236. |
| July 28-31, 1988 | 75th National Convention,<br>Sheraton Washington Hotel.<br>Washington, DC  |



**MARCH 4, 1988**  
**ST. CASIMIRS DAY**  
**PATRON SAINT OF LITHUANIA**  
**PRAY FOR US**