



Kazimieras Šimonis — Troškulys (Thirst)

Lithuania thirsts for freedom!

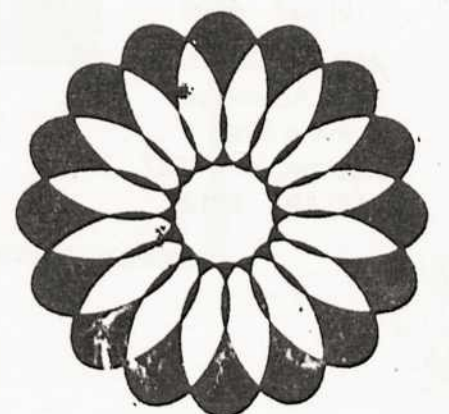


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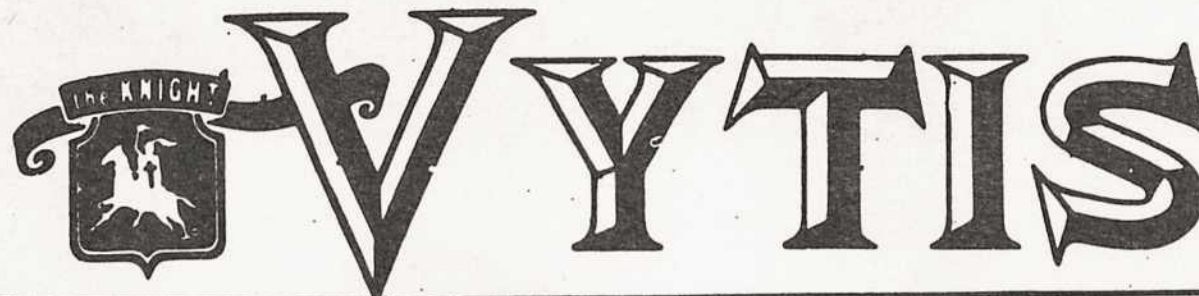
The Knights of Lithuania Journal



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## EDITORIAL

The beautiful spring time month of June is a symbol of rebirth and life. For us Lithuanians the opposite is true. June is Baisusis Birželis symbolizing torture and death for thousands of our brethren when they were exiled to Siberia. Many never returned. During our Terrible June Days commemoration remember them in your prayers.

Our president Frank Petrauskas wants to remind you that the Knights of Lithuania History books are ready. You may obtain them from your District Presidents whose addresses are listed on the inside front cover of the

VYTIS. It is a very well written book and a must for every member's library. Buy one for a friend, who is not a member; and introduce him to our organization.

Concerning our VYTIS 75th Spotlight item: All your editors are extremely busy people. Do not send us a bunch of meaningless pictures and newspaper write-ups. We need a history of the council and a few meaningful pictures.

A most restful summer to all! Hope to see you in Washington, D.C.!

## Remembering Irene Sankus

It is extremely sad when an organization within a short span loses two of its staunchest pillars. It recently happened to the Knights of Lithuania. In November of 1986 Honorary Member Larry Janonis left us and in June 1987 Irene Sankus followed him.

It was exactly a year ago this month that many of us heard the news that someone we knew, loved and emulated is no longer with us. Irene Sankus' absence at the Kansas City convention was especially sad for us. We were so accustomed to see her and Larry presiding on the stage.

Born in the United States, Irene got involved early in life in Lithuanian affairs. Once she joined the Knights, she was active on the council, district and national levels. It was a honor for us to know her. Every once in a while a little note would arrive advising, suggesting or thanking! She was such a thoughtful person. Glancing back on her lifespan, it seems that she only existed for the Lithuanian way of life. She lived for the Knights and their spirit. She gave so much of herself to councils, districts! How many Memories of Lithuania banquets were arranged by Irene? To district meetings and other affairs she gave her heart and soul. No one was surprised that hundreds showed up for her funeral.

In the springtime, when all life is renewed

Irene went to her Creator whom she served so faithfully. Her journey ended and she was given an honorable discharge as a true Knight.

Remembering Irene and praying for her is praiseworthy. But we will please her most by emulating her. We might not be able to fill her shoes, but let's all try!

### REST IN PEACE



**IRENE K. SANKUS**

June 22, 1987

## LITHUANIA IS ALIVE!

Daniel Yenkevich

Lithuania lives! Both in Lithuania and elsewhere, it is very clear that Lithuanians everywhere have not stopped expressing their will to be free. And they know that they have to pay a heavy price for the right to live next to such large neighbors, and the Lithuanian nation is so small. Over long centuries they have paid that heavy price willingly, and they know that they must try to avoid meaningless sacrifices, unnecessary suffering, and most of all we Lithuanians who enjoy greater freedom must always help one another, especially those who live in Lithuania.

Let us look at our record in history. In 1979 during the partition of Eastern Europe, and again during the Revolts of 1831, 1863, and 1905 our little Lithuanian nation told the world that it did not want the foreign rulers. In 1918-20, while the world was still refusing to believe it, the Lithuanians paid with their blood for their independence and finally became equal members in the family of free nations. And in 1941, they again told the world that neither Communist Russia, nor Nazi Germany had the right to rule Lithuania. But sad to say, little Lithuania was crushed between the two giant predatory powers, and she fell into the grasp of Russia, as had been agreed to in the Molotov Ribbentrop Pact of 1939. When the Armies of Soviet Russia marched into Lithuania in 1941, they deprived these Baltic people of their basic human rights, including the right to self-determination. But the Lithuanian spirit did not die! — the guerilla war continued from 1944 to 1952, and they looked in vain to the West for assistance. It did not come. Hundreds of thousands of our Lithuanian brothers and sisters were deported to the cold North for a slow death.

But Lithuania lives! In the 1960's, the burning desire for freedom was seen flickering in the flames, as Kalanta and Stonys immolated themselves, crying out as they burned, "Freedom for Lithuania". Yes, indeed, Lithuania lives! In the 1970's underground publishing was born, — at least fifteen journals strong. This was followed by petitions and memoranda, accompanied by thousands of signatures. In the most recent underground publication of "The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania" — the 74th issue since it began in 1972, this journal gave wide coverage of the 600th anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania, including a record of interference by government agents. It criticized the barring of Pope John Paul II from visiting Lithuania. It demanded the reinstatement of Bishop Steponavičius, and the release of the imprisoned priests, Matulionis, Svarinskas, and Tamkevičius. And again they deman-

led the return of Klaipėda's "Queen of Peace" Church to the believers.

How much determination — how much daring do the strong-willed people have to summon as they proclaim to the world that Lithuania is alive! How much determination is there as she drives on after almost 50 years, and each day expresses her will to be free and equal among the free states of Europe. August 23rd, 1989 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939, which placed the Baltic states into the Soviet sphere of interest. Brace yourself for that anniversary!

In a statement that appeared in the Vilnius newspaper, Tiesa, on November 29, 1987, Mikhail Gorbachev said to Kenneth Kaunda, President of Zambia: "The Soviet Union supports each nation's right to choose independently the ways and forms of its development. It sympathizes with the nations of the 'frontzone' states, those nations that have chosen the road of independence and progress . . ." Such a statement may be a good propaganda tool that Gorbachev could use on the President of Zambia, but it becomes a joke if Lithuanians apply this same statement to Lithuania.

There is much talk of 'glasnost' these days. As regards the "Baltic Question," — which President Reagan was asked to raise during his Summit meeting with Gorbachev in December of last year, Gorbachev's "glasnost" would bring him face to face with the German-Soviet Pact of 1939. One German newspaper recently stated that Gorbachev's willingness to discuss this subject would mean putting into question the entire contemporary Soviet Western boundary and the legality of the incorporation of the three Baltic States into the Soviet empire. Carl Gustav Ströhm: "Demonstrations on the Soviet Baltic Sea Coast" in *Die Welt*, Hamburg, August 25, 1987).

So much for glasnost. Any surface reforms of "glasnost" will not convince the world that Russia can join the family of self-respecting nations until the Soviet rulers prove by their actions that they respect human rights and national rights.

So what are we to do about all this?! What can I do as a Knight of Lithuania? Let us just ask ourselves: Does Lithuania live? Does she live in Us, who pride ourselves on being Lithuanian? Or is it enough, as "Vyčiai" to gather on a cold February day to raise the Lithuanian flag? Or better yet, is it sufficient that our major concern be taken up with worrying about how many points I'm getting for the next degree? Where is our solidarity with our Lithuanian brothers and sisters who are suffering in Lithuania? We

must organize and be of service. Write letters to our senators and representatives concerning the plight of Lithuania. Read the Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania, and be in touch with the Office of Religious Aid in Brooklyn and ask what we can do. And if you have not done so already, then adopt a parish in Lithuania and support them with more than good wishes, but offer financial support on a regular basis. Also write to the imprisoned priests in the Soviet labor camps, and encourage them. There are so many

things we can do. But let us not stand idle. Let us make a noise that the leaders in our country and the Soviet Union will sit up and take note. Let us use "glasnost" to our advantage. Lithuania lives! She lives in you and me as we assure Lithuania as we cry out: "Together with you, brothers and sisters, and with all the Soviet-enslaved peoples, we are striving for the freedom of Lithuania and the other nations."



## ***The Lithuanian Champs of all Russia***

### **WINNERS 3 TIMES IN A ROW**

### **RECEIVING GOLD MEDALS 1985-86-87**

The Lithuanian Kaunas "Žalgiris" Basketball team once again became champions of all Soviet territories. This is the third time in a row that they have received Gold Medals. This season's victory was difficult since from the start and at the end, they had to play without their star player — Arvydas Sabonis.

This victory was an especially sweet one because it was witnessed by 7,000 Lithuanian spectators who journeyed to Moscow to see the Russian team (made up of mostly Army members) defeated by the Lithuanians. Back in Kaunas 10,000 gathered at the airport to greet their champs. This was one of the largest gatherings of Lithuanians in many years.

During the regular season, the Lithuanians were in second place, as they won only 24 games to the Soviets' 29. So being first and second in European competition, there had to be a show-down. Two out of three games won would establish the championship. In the first game "Žalgiris" had to play without Sabonis, who was injured, and also without a few other good players, because the coaches wanted to "save" them for the final games. So, without them, the Soviets had the upper hand and won 81-92. The Soviet proved to be superior since their team was made up of select players from all over the Soviet Union and its republics. This first game was played in Kaunas at the Sporto Salė (Sports' hall) which was built back in 1939.

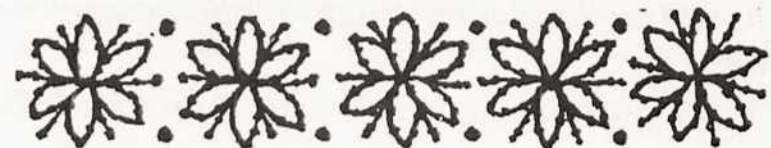
The second game was to be played in Moscow on March 24th. Sabonis had just recovered and the coach Garastas had to get permission from the doctors for Sabonis to play. Sabonis, still feeling weak, played only for 7 minutes and was then taken out for a 4 minute break. In these 4 minutes, the Russians scored 19 points to 0 for the Lithuanians. But eventually the Lithuanians "awoke" and beat the Russians 70 to 67.

So the playoffs were tied and there had to be a third game. Some 13,000 spectators, more than half of whom were Lithuanians jammed the hall.

The game was very close. With only seconds to play, the Lithuanians were ahead by 3 points. But as the final buzzer sounded the Russian team tied the score. In overtime, the Lithuanians were relentless and scored 10 points to 0 for the Russians. Final score — 83 - 93.

To reach the semi-finals, the Lithuanian team had to win 40 games in various places. This victory made the Lithuanians Champs of all Russia and her territories. During the season, the Lithuanians beat Spain, Israel and France.

Following this great event, the Russians recruited several Lithuanian players to join the Russian team so that Russia be eligible for the championship of Europe.



### **TO ALL COUNCIL PRESIDENTS**

Mandates for your Council delegates to the National Convention in Washington, DC this year will be sent to you sometime during the month of June. Please elect your delegates at your June meeting and return the Mandate to the National Financial Secretary no later than July 15th. If the Mandate is not returned by that date, your delegates WILL NOT BE PERMITTED to vote. Your cooperation would be most appreciated.



## *It seems like only yesterday...*

### A REVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

By: Al Wesey

In 1912 at a Roman Catholic Alliance Convention in Boston, Mykolas Norkūnas presented the idea of organizing a youth group. He immediately made friends and cronies. Among them were St. Bugnavičius and the Reverends Ant. Kaupas, Pr. Virmauskis, Pr. Juskaitis, Pranas Juras and Jeronimas Vaicunas.

Encouraged by his friends from the Boston Convention, Norkūnas called for an organizational convention at Lawrence, Mass. on April 27, 1913. The convention was small and ten "pioneers" gathered together. Their first organizational name was "Lietuvos Sakalai". The patron saint selected was St. Casimir. Monthly dues were ten cents.

Later that year at a Pittsburgh Lithuanian Catholic Fed. Congress (not the Alliance) Norkūnas spoke on his youth organizational idea and after much discussion the Federation accepted his ideas and principles. At this Congress the name was changed to the Knights of Lithuania. The patron saint St. Casimir was approved and the motto became "For God and Country".

It is only fitting that a few introductory remarks should be made about Mykolas Norkūnas. He was born in Lithuania, the eldest son of Andrius and Ona (Lasauskaitė) Norkūnas. He learned to read and write in Lithuanian which at that time was against the law in czarist Russia, (who occupied Lithuania at that time). He helped smuggle Lithuanian books and for his Lithuanian activities was arrested by the Russians. In 1883 he left Lithuania and came to the United States, namely to Boston. Here he studied English, photography and flag making.

Upon moving to Lawrences, for a time, he was active with Polish groups. And what do you know — he married a Polish girl! They had four daughters and one son. His wife influenced Mykolas to start a business making flags, plus emblems and badges. Because the children favored the mother's native land, there was a certain strain on the marriage.

The second convention in 1914 showed that there were 12 councils with 700 members. By-laws were discussed and members from the age of 16 - 35 had the right to vote. Older members had no votes, only a voice. An organizational flag was decided upon. Norkūnas was made the first Honorary Member.

A word on ethnicity and morals. The first the Knights accepted men and women, single or married. They were to practice, defend and advertise their religion. Some of the suggested rules were: the Knights should not mingle

with socialists and communists, they should stay away from saloons, pool halls and other "shady" places. The Knights needed a role-model, so the Grand Duke of Lithuania — Vytautas the Great was selected.

For the young Knights (the immigrants) the American culture was strange. Everything here was so different from the "old country" — social habits, dress, food, etc.. They were sure that nationalism and religion would hold them together. The Knights were encouraged not to socialize with other ethnic groups for fear they would intermarry. As late as 1944 a resolution was passed at the national convention against mixed marriages. Because of this resolution the Knights lost many members. The membership never exceeded 4000. The Knights did not foresee that a marriage partner could be a potential member.

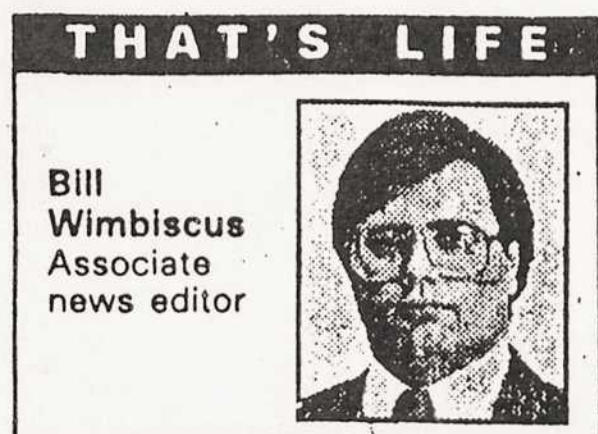
In the early years, the Knights had many obstacles to overcome trying to form new councils and trying to hang on to members. The Socialists were against the Knights. Some pastors claimed that the Knights were not practicing Catholics. Some called the Knights drunkards others insisted that they did not attend Mass. Some pastors did not allow councils to be formed in their parishes. The atheists had good agitators and they were constantly harrassing the Knights, priests and other religious. Some councils were arrogant and did not pay their dues or cooperated with District or Supreme Council rules. The Lithuanian press also proved to be not too friendly. Some gatherings and debates actually ended in fist fights.

In 1916 the leaders of the Knights were concerned with "assimilation" of its members. They wanted to keep up the Lithuanian culture, language, customs, etc., since a large percentage of the membership slowly began to Americanize. They were joining Irish parishes and neglected their fellow countrymen and organizations. Prof. K. Pakstas, H.M. a staunch supporter of Lithuanianism, called this Americanism "a disease". The Knights were warned against becoming too modern; to avoid movies, candy, ice cream, automobiles, etc. Even the Americanization of names was frowned upon. Tabu for the Knights was jazz bands, the Charleston, and tango.

In those days various sports were popular. The 1915 National Convention approved a sports program and encouraged councils to organize teams. Baseball especially proved to be a big attraction. Some players and team proved to be so good that they went into high caliber American competitive teams. In 1950 bowling teams

were organized. Many councils and individuals have trophies to show off their abilities in sports.

The Federal Government did not keep track of the Lithuanian immigrants until 1910. The Lithuanians were lumped together with the Poles or Russians. According to the historian A. Kucas, there were between fifty and one hundred thousand Lithuanians residing in the United States prior to 1900. From 1913 when the Knights were organized until 1921 the number of immigrants who joined the organization was 4655.



Joliet, IL Herald-News

## Name gets brutalized yet again

It was bound to happen sooner or later. My youngest daughter came home from her first day of preschool a few weeks ago with a name tag pinned to her dress. The tag read Meg Wimbiscus.

Welcome to the club, I thought.

For as long as I can remember, and undoubtedly long before that, the name Wimbiscus has proved to be unpronounceable and undecipherable to the average American citizen.

Typically, most people drop in an extra "u", or two, hence: Wimbuscus, Wumbiscus, and, of course, the ever popular Wumbuscus. Other delightful variations include Wimbiscuits, Wymbukus, Weembiskus, Wisbiscus and Wimbi-kus, which is apparently a Slovenian variant.

And now this wondrous legacy had been passed on to my children. Just like a genetic disease.

Both Meg and her sister, Kate, don't really mind the assault on their surname — they are too young to pronounce

it the same way twice, let alone spell it. But just give 'em a few years.

After 28 years of hearing my last name folded, spindled and mutilated, I've learned to grin and bear it. I don't even bother to correct people any more. I just hope they get my first name right. (One of the reporters here has referred to me as Bull Wumbuscus on occasion, leading to a new nickname. Ouch!)

It's a different story for my wife, Sara, who's only had the privilege of a Lithuanian last name for the past 5½ years. She still cringes a bit when we're paged in public.

On the other hand, she has adopted the faster, more efficient signature that both my father and I favor: a "W" followed by a squiggly line. All those humps, loops and dips make it a hard name to sign in a hurry.

I still can't understand why people have such big problem with it. It's so simple. Wim-bis-cus. You spell it just how it sounds. You say it just how it's spelled.

Still, it's a Lithuanian name, akin to so many of those Eastern European whose cryptic spellings have nothing in common with their pronunciations.

Lithuania, for those unenlightened, is northeastern European country on the Baltic Sea that is now part of the Soviet Union. I don't know much else about it, although my Uncle Barney once told me the derogatory reference for Lithuanians in his time was "goose herders". I'm not sure why.

But even as Lithuanian name, it's something of a rarity. Several years ago, when the mini-series "Roots" gave birth to the fad of tracing your family lines, we were told only 19 families in the United States share the name. I can account for most, but I've never been able to find my last name in an out-of-town phone book.

You can imagine our joy when it came time to name the babies. I found out fast that my parents and my dad's brothers had already gleaned all the good combinations. (I am William J. Wimbiscus III. Apparently my father and grandfather liked the name or couldn't come up with anything better).

First names of Wimbiscus children have to be short and sweet because the three-syllable surname can result in a real tongue-twister. My siblings and cousins therefore all have names like John, Tom, Bob, Mary, Sarah, Anne and the like.

My wife and I struggled for months looking for the right names. Hibiscus was no good, and Narcissus was right out. We finally settled for Katherine and Margret, which both go nicely with their last name. (God only knows what we'll do if we have another, but at least I beat my brothers to the draw. They'll have even fewer names to choose from.)

So now my daughters can look forward to a life of having a funny last name that begins with "W" and all the scholastic benefits that go with it. They'll always sit in the last row at school, always be at the end of the roll call and always have subtly sarcastic pleasure of correcting the teacher on that first day of class.

## 75th Anniversary Spotlight on:

# Council 79 — Southfield

Since our organization has reached its diamond year of existence, it seems right and fitting that a history of our council should be reviewed at this time.

Records of the original council cannot be located. Reactivation procedures began in the fall of 1958 when a small group of St. George's parishioners met at the home of Ralph and Ann Valatka. Included with the hosts were Anthony Dainus, Joseph Chaps, Edward Salas and Frank Zager with Robert Boris, our mentors from C-102.

Through the years our activities and accomplishments have been many and varied. In January, our newly formed enthusiastic group agreed to host the National Convention with the help of sister C-102, the multitalented of each council were recruited to produce one of the most memorable evenings enjoyed at a convention. It was a fast-paced variety show that had several participants who were non-Lithuanian spouses of members singing Lithuanian songs. Somewhere, someone has a tape of it.

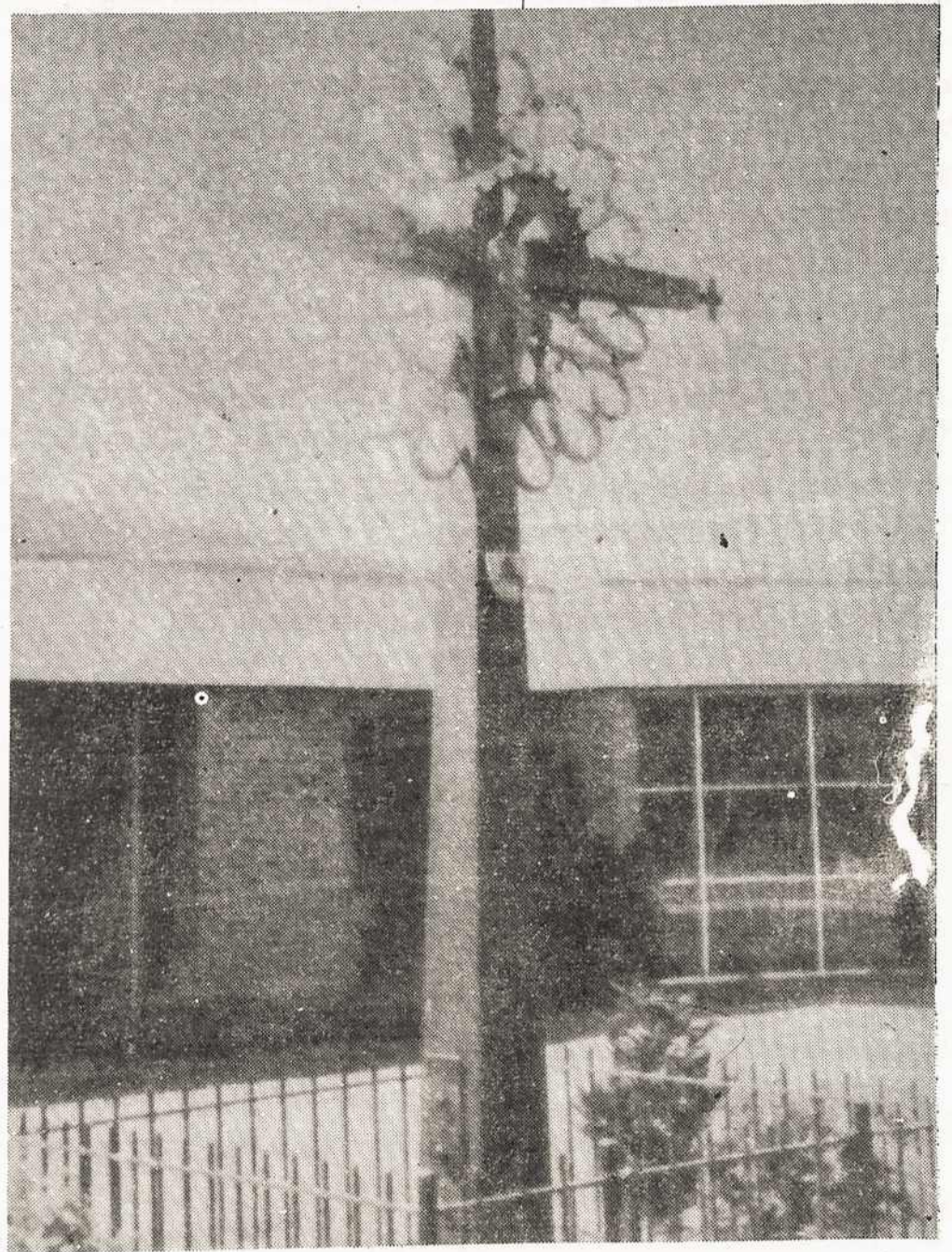
Under the able leadership of the respective presidents, we hosted another National Convention in 1974, Mid-Central District conventions, pilgrimages and bowling tournaments besides numerous council activities.

A Junior Council was organized under the direction of the Valatka and Zager families. A "Golden Agers" group was founded with the guidance of Ann Valatka and is still active today.

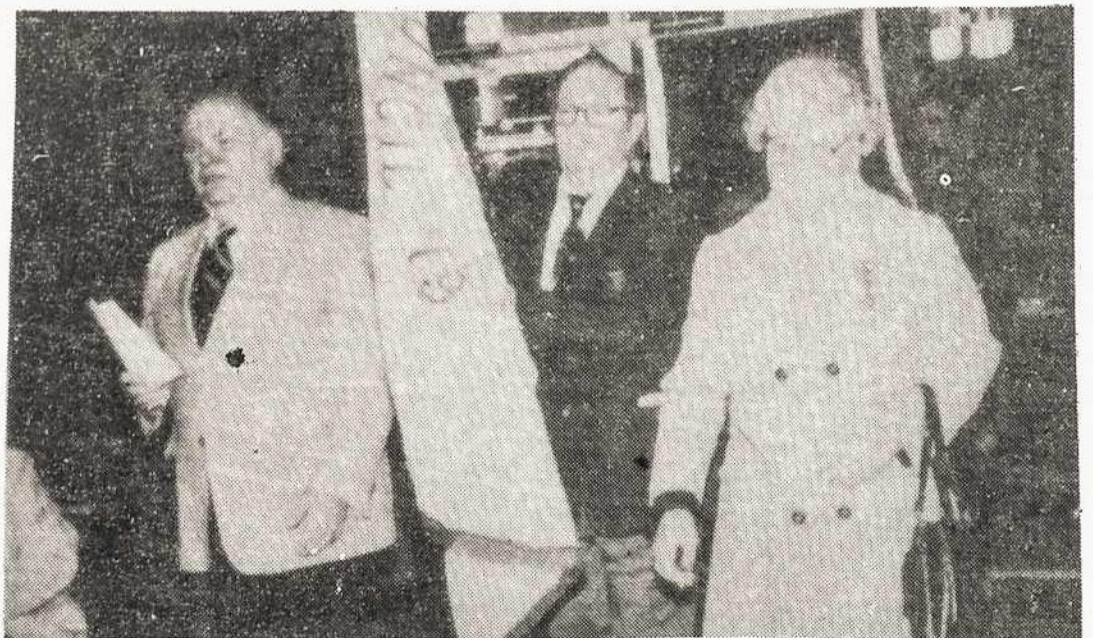
Over the years the following served as presidents: Anthony Dainus, our first Honorary Member; Leon Galinskas, Ruth Grash; Gerald Zager, Magdalena Smailis, currently and now deceased Joseph Kazlauskas, Edward Martin and Frank Zager.

Though our ranks have dwindled because of age and migration of members, we are proud that for two years we were the largest council and that one of our members is the second cousin of Fr. Anthony Kaupas, one of the founders of the Knights of Lithuania.

*Bee Jay*



A Wayside cross donated to the parish by Council 79. The artist is Vytautas Jonynas



Council 79 members carrying the flags into church. From the left Frank Zaeger, Mykolas Vale, Magdalena Smailis.





Knights of Lithuania Council 79 Choir in 1922.



Knights of Lithuania enjoying themselves at a parish picnic..



Making money. Knights selling lottery tickets.

## *Seems like yesterday....*

### **FIFTY YEARS AGO - AROUND NEW YORK**

*By George Blecka*

On April 11, 1937 the Brooklyn Liths and the Great Neck Knights of Lithuania put on an exhibition game in basketball to the delight of our sport fans since it was a very spirited game.

In addition, the Maspeth team played the Waterbury City Champs scoring 43 to 42 with Maspeth as the victor. The stars for the winning team were Augustinas and Kryger while Joe Boley shined for the losers. These same teams had played many times against each other with Maspeth coming out ahead - 34 to 22 - before 800 fans. Even Rev. Aleksiuinas of Queen of Angels Church in Brooklyn and Rev. J. Balkunas of Transfiguration Church in Maspeth were present.

Those were the good old days, as we reminisce .... with the admission only 45 cents which included dancing after the games. Remember Joe Allen and his radio orchestra?

### **FIFTY YEARS AGO - AROUND CHICAGO**

*By Ernie Sutkus*

Twelve teams of the Knights of Lithuania League from Lithuanian parishes played season games in basketball every Sunday afternoon for seven years at St. Phillip's gym. Cicero C-14 was the big gun in later years with four championships. One of its players, Frank Talzunas, was convinced by Konnie Savickus to go to Kaunas where he became the high scorer when Lithuania won its first European Championship in 1937.

Back in 1932, C-112 won the League's Championship; in other years Town-of-Lake and Bridgeport also won it. Dancing followed the games with admission being 50 cents. Thus, during the economic depression, the K of L members had pleasant moments of entertainment to remember.

### **FIFTY YEARS AGO - AROUND KAUNAS**

In 1935 eleven Chicago athletes arrived in Lithuania to participate in a Sport Olympiad in basketball, swimming, track and boxing. When they played basketball, it was NO CONTEST by the Kaunas team since the score was 70 to 2 at half-time resulting in the Chicago team giving an exhibition between its ten players with Ed Krause as the star. Konnie Savickus then decided to give up his law practice for a year and instruct the Lithuanians in basketball which resulted in their winning the European Championship of 1937. Konnie was better known as the "Father of Basketball" in the country. The sport grew like mushrooms in Lithuania. At present the Russians are touring the world with Lithuanian players and claiming them as their own. (Presently, the only place Lithuania can find justice, sympathy and freedom is in the dictionary).

It seems like yesterday...

Anonymous (evaluation of leadership course at Marianapolis): "To be a good leader, we should know more about our organization. It would have been beneficial to have had an acquaintance course with the organization itself — how it was organized, its history."

Jack Juozaitis, (new K. of L. President in a letter Jan. 1. 1949): "I have a problem — the Lithuanian, in our councils and district... I've visited several councils now and I find the situation the same. Lithuanian is something taken for granted but not used in the meetings, activities, or programs of most of the councils because they find it easier to just speak English."

Father A. Jurgelaitis (reporting on Workshop on K. of L. Problems VYTIS, Oct. 55): "The general consensus of the workshop was that the councils were not making a normal or average effort to preserve and spread Lithuanian culture among the members. Strongly voiced was the opinion that only by a greater stress on K. of L. ideals in each council would the organization become stronger. It was a definite opinion that it is time right now to put the social activities of the K. of L. in second place and give primary importance to the religious, cultural and patriotic.

"As a means to furthering knowledge and facility in speaking Lithuanian, the participants thought it a good idea to have a Lithuanian Conversation Course as a regular part of each meeting. This course could be taperecorded and distributed to each council for study and practice."

*It seems like yesterday...*

**Prof. Juozas Eretas:** (a Swiss, who proved to be a great friend and benefactor of Lithuania during her time of independence.) He spoke Lithuanian fluently, married a Lithuanian girl and raised a Lithuanian family): "Neklaidingas ženklas, ar žmogus dar tebėra "tautietis" yra tai, kaip jis žiūri į savo gimtąją kalbą. Juk kalba, taip tyriai ir taip tobuliai atvaizduoja tautos bruožus bei ypatybes, kad drasiai galima sakyti, jog tauta niekuo neapsireiškia taip savitai (...) kaip kalboje. Kas tolinasi nuo jos, tas tuo pačiu tolinasi ir nuo savo tautos".

*It seems like yesterday...*

**Prel. M. Krupavičius** (Lithuanian statesman and a great admirer of the Knights of Lithuania): "Lietuvis su lietuviu kalbasi lietuviškai."

*It seems like yesterday...*

**Prof. Eretas** (Addressing the leadership of Lithuanian organizations in Lithuania): "Tu bijai iš visos širdies bedirbdamas išsisemti. To nebijok, nes yra atbulai. Juo daugiau žmogus duoda, juo daugiau auga jojo jėgos. Amerikonai jau seniai tai yra pastebėję: 'Ceasing to give, we cease to have?' **Dalink ir būsi turtingas.** Dalink viska: savo žinias, savo energijas, savo linksmumą, savo gyvumą, savo dorumą, savo sumanumą, savo sceninius gabumus ir t.t. Visa tai iššauks Tavo kuopos nariuose taip pat naujas energijas, naujų žinių, naujo gyvenimo, linksmumo, atsiranda nauju talentu. Iš visos širdies pasidarbuodamas kuopos vadas yra stebuklingas žmogus: ką jis paliečia viskas ima gyvuoti. Darbuokis nebijodamas išsisemti. Ir žmonių patarlė sako: Juo giliau į mišką, juo daugiau grybų."

Once again I just cannot help but comment on the tremendous improvement in the quality content and make-up of the Vytis since Helen Chesko, Dalia Bulvicius, Mary R. Kober became the staff. I am not alone in my admiration and appreciation .... many of the Lehigh Valley Council 63 feel as I do. Hats off to you all and we wish you continued success!

*Lehigh Valley, PA    Joseph F. Ogint*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

One of your readers inquired about Father Gallitzin. Yes, it's true that he was the first priest ordained in the United States and that he was descended from the prolific Gediminas dynasty. It just so happened that a long article has been published on the Gallitzins in the February issue of *Lithuanian Days*, of which I am the author.

The story is truly a "fantastic" one, dealing as it does with some of the greatest personalities of Russian history. The opening paragraph from the article entitled "God and the Golitsyns" (the family name is spelled by historians in many ways) reads as follows:

"The first priest ordained in the United States, who received all his orders and training here, was descended from one of Lithuania's mightiest rulers, Grand Duke Gediminas. Truth, they say, is stranger than fiction, and seldom was this more evident than in the life of Father Dmitri Augustine Golitsyn. Born into a princely family, he renounced the pomp and glitter of court life to become a pioneer missionary to the settlers in the wilderness of western Pennsylvania.

How this all came about would make an exciting TV mini-series. For over forty years, Father Gallitzin, called the "Apostle of the Appalachians," brought the gospel to the American frontier. "His settlement at Loretto, Pennsylvania, in 1799, was like the mustard seed from which other missionaries branched out, making this corner of Pennsylvania a Catholic enclave in Protestant region. At the time of his death, in 1840, there were over 10,000 Catholics where there had been barely a dozen at the time of his arrival."

Truly, Father Gallitzin is a role model for us Knights of Lithuania.

"Earlier than many of his contemporaries, he envisioned a Catholicism which would blend with the new country's political institutions. He lived our motto: "For God and Country."

Vytiškai,

*Al Cizauskas*

Through you I hope I can get information or the actual Novena booklets to "Our Lady of Šiluva".

I am a member of the Knights of Lithuania Syracuse Council. Since this booklet was published by the K. of L., I assume you can help me.

Needless to say, I am proud of my Lithuanian heritage as both my parents came from Lithuania, but are now deceased. Thank you! Ačiū!

*Mrs. Mary Nowak*

(We are happy to help you out. Next month we celebrate the Feast of our Lady of Šiluva. We will feature a few articles concerning this holiday. You may obtain these booklets from: Mrs. Barbara Kartanowicz, 106 - 49 97th Street, Ozone Park, N.Y. 11417. Telephone (718) 835-9250. — Editors)

Labas!

Congratulations on the jubilee issue of April 1988!

Please be aware that Zdanavičius was NOT a priest! (p. 3), and that Norkūnas was buried in Methuen, NOT Lawrence (p. 4).

Hope to see you in D.C. at the 75th.

Broliškai Kristuje,  
*Kun. Vincas Valkavičius*

(Kun. Vincas Valkavičius is the Lithuanian version of Father William L. Wolkovich, a marvelous historian and also a terrific musician. He wrote us a beautiful Knights of Lithuania history. Thank you Father for your correction. — Editors)

## VYTIS SPOTLIGHT ON

# The Rebirth of a Parish SAINT GEORGE PARISH ALIVE AND LIVING

On March 2, 1892 the Lithuanian Church of Saint George was founded at 33rd and South Lituanica Avenue, then Auburn Avenue, in Chicago. Within the first ten years of its existence the present day gothic building was constructed. Over the years the parish has continued to survive from its peak, when over 800 families were parishioners, to its low, when parishioners numbered only 325 families. today with 450 families, of many ethnic backgrounds, the parish is experiencing a celebrated rebirth.

As time passed the needs of the parish changed and the leadership of the parish came forth to meet these changing needs. While the parish is a good ethnic mix two major ethnic groups constitute the majority of parishioners at Saint George. They are Lithuanian and Hispanic. With this in mind the parish leaders, after conducting a parishioner survey in late 1984, saw fit to establish two ethnic committees to work on behalf of these two groups. the first of the two was for its Lithuanian members, today this committee is known as L.A.B.A.S., Lithuanian Americans of the Bridgeport Area Society, which in the last year has increased its membership by 73%. The second was for its Hispanic members. These committees are in addition to the parish's Women's Club, Senior's Club, and the Sisters of Saint Casimir Auxiliary, Chapter 2, to name a few. The newest organization to the parish is actually a long established organization which the parish has joyfully rejoined. It is none other than THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA, Council 16, which is now reorganized under the direction of Glenn Edward Perutis, Council President, and Rev. Richard M. Dadaro, Pastor of Saint George Parish and Council Spiritual Advisor, with special thanks to Stella Kaulakis, K. of L. Council 36 member, for her assistance in the reorganization task.

With Saint George's rebirth also comes some physical change. Currently several projects are underway at Saint George. They include: the refinishing of the pews, begun in 1986, landscaping of the

parish grounds, begun in 1987, a complete renovation and modernization of the parish hall, also begun in 1987, and the construction of a new altar extension, which adds 200 sq. ft. to the floor of the present altar, begun this year. Other projects planned for the future are: construction of a shrine to Saints Ann, Theresa, Casimir, Francis and Anthony and Blessed George Matulaitis, the carpeting of the altar-area and main aisle, and the installation of a 2 ½ ton marble altar of sacrifice.

All of these projects and others are being done



Šv. Jurgio parapijos bažnyčia Chicagoje.

with a planned completion time of early 1992 when Saint George Parish, the oldest Lithuanian Parish in the midwest, will celebrate its 100th Anniversary. So come and visit us, your family, here at Saint George and see first-hand the spirit of a parish that is truly ALIVE AND LIVING.

*Robert A. Martin Jr.  
K. of L. Council 16*



During the special St. George Parish Family Mass on March 6, 1988, council officers were officially installed by Rev. Richard M. Dodaro, pastor of St. George, the oldest Lithuanian Church in Chicago. Following Mass, a social was hosted by the Lithuanian Americans of the Bridgeport Area Society in the church hall.



**Prelatas M. L. Krušas**



**K of L Council 16 officers (l to r): Agnes Rainis, Secretary; Glenn E. Perutis, Pres., Rev. Richard M. Dodaro, Spiritual Advisor, Deborah Martin, Treas.; Peter Zansitis, Vice-Pres.**



# A Challenge

Victor G. Matheau

The year 1988 is the 35th anniversary of the introduction and adoption of a resolution establishing the Friend of Lithuania Award. This action was accomplished at the 10th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania held in Boston, Mass., in 1953.

For two years Father John C. Jutt (Jutkevicius) chairman of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, sought funds for the striking of a medal and its purchase. His appeal was featured in the June 1955 issue of the VYTIS. "We have begun a drive for \$1,000.00 for the creation of a medal to be awarded to those non-Lithuanians who have distinguished themselves by rendering outstanding service to the cause of Lithuania and her people". The first medal award donors were then listed.

The November 1955 issue of VYTIS contained an article authored by Father Jutt entitled K. of L. Award Medal: A History. Quote from his article: "The aid given Lithuania by some non-Lithuanians has been invaluable and their service could not be permitted to pass without special notice. Consequently in 1953, the members of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee of the Providence Council 103, proposed to the national convention, held that year in Boston, a resolution calling for the creation of a special medal to be awarded as a special honor to those non-Lithuanians who have espoused the cause of Lithuania and whose aid in her behalf has been of an extraordinary nature. The resolution stipulated that the recipient must be a non-Lithuanian, who has no connection with any Lithuanian society and who is not married to a Lithuanian. It also stipulated that the award would not necessarily be made on an annual basis but whenever the K. of L. deemed that there was occasion for doing so."

The July 1967 VYTIS 54th national convention issue states that Father Jutt informed the membership that he had purchased 12 more gold medals at a cost of \$292.00. During 1970 an issue of the VYTIS was paid, as Father Jutt had promised, from the excess of donations that he had received towards the purchase of the medal.

With everyone working and anticipating a successful 75th Jubilee national convention in Washington, D.C. this coming summer, the membership should be informed of a coming milestone in 1990, of the 35th anniversary of the first presentation of the Friend of Lithuania Award. If the fire is not stoked, if more wood is not added to the hearth, the fire will die out. This most prestigious award, that has kept the Lithuanian cause before the eyes of this country and the world, so aptly now known as the "Rev. John C. Jutt, Friend of Lithuania Award", must continue to be sponsored and perpetuated by the Knights of Lithuania. For many years interest in

this award has only been evident at national convention time. May this article serve as a small source of information to newer members and rekindle and renew the long dormant interest of older members.

Will history repeat itself? With no Father Jutt, can the membership in two years, be induced to contribute for more medals with the surplus of donations being applied to the cost of a special commemoration of the VYTIS in 1990 as Father Jutt accomplished in 1970? This is the CHALLENGE.

Recipients were as follows:

1. 1955... The Hon. Charles E. Kersten, Congressman from Wisconsin
2. 1956... The Hon. Paul H. Douglas, Senator from Illinois
3. 1957... -
4. 1958... The Hon. Daniel J. Flood, Congressman from Pennsylvania
5. 1959... The Hon. G. Mennon Williams, Governor of Michigan
6. 1960... The Hon. Thomas J. Dodd, Senator from Connecticut
7. 1961... -
8. 1962... The Hon. Ray J. Madden, Congressman from Indiana
9. 1963... Richard J. Cushing, Archbishop of Boston
10. 1964... The Hon. Richard J. Daley, Mayor of Chicago
11. 1965... The Hon. William F. Knowland, Senator from California
12. 1966... The Hon. John S. Monagan, Congressman from Connecticut
13. 1967... George S. Barmann, Editor, "Catholic Telegram Register" - Cincinnati
14. 1968... -
15. 1969... The Hon. Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Congressman from New Jersey
16. 1970... The Hon. Roman C. Pucinski, Congressman from Illinois
17. 1971... Robert S. Brieze, Latvian from Massachusetts
18. 1972... -
19. 1973... The Hon. John McCormack, Speaker of U.S. House of Representatives, Massachusetts
20. 1974... The Hon. Martha W. Griffin, Congresswoman from Michigan
21. 1975... The Hon. Robert P. Hanrahan, Congressman from Illinois
22. 1976... Sergei Kovalev, "In Absencia", Soviet Prisoner

19. 1977.. Alfred Friendly, Jr., Journalist, Deputy Staff Director "Helsinki Commission".
20. 1978.. The Hon. Samuel S. Stratton, Congressman from New York.
21. 1979.. The Hon. Edward J. Derwinski, Congressman from Illinois
22. 1980.. Rev. Michael Bourdeaux, Anglican Priest-Author from Keston College, Kent, England
23. 1981.. The Hon. Charles Daugherty, Congressman from Pennsylvania
- 1982.....-
- 1983.....-
24. 1984.. Sister Ann Gillen, Executive Director of Inter-Religious Task Force for Soviet Jewry.
25. 1985.. John F. Whealon, Archbishop of Hartford, CT
26. 1986.. The Hon. Don Ritter, Congressman from Pennsylvania
- 1987.....-
27. 1988.....?????

In thirty-three years of existence, the award has been presented 26 times. No presentations were made in 1957, 1961, 1968, 1972, 1982, 1983 and 1987; a total of seven years.

A breakdown of recipients reveals that 12 were Congressman, 1 Congresswoman, 3 Senators, 1 Governor, 1 Mayor, 2 Archbishops, 1 Editor, 1 Journalist on Helsinki Commission Staff, 1 Latvian, 1 Soviet Prisoner, 1 Angelican Priest and 1 Religious Sister.

Further scrutiny establishes that 18 were elected government public officials, 4 are placed in religious category, 2 in the Press-media, 1 a Latvian patriot and the same should be applied to the Soviet Prisoner, a revered patriot.

It is very interesting to note from what geographical section of America one finds the 18 serve their constituents and we, the members of the K of L and all Lithuanians.

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| East:        | 5 | 4 Congressmen - Mass., Conn., New York and New Jersey   |
| Pennsylvania | 3 | 3 Congressmen   |
| Mid-West     | 9 | 1 Congressman from Wisc. and Indiana<br>3 Congressmen from Illinois<br>1 Mayor from Illinois<br>1 Congresswoman from Michigan<br>1 Governor from Michigan |
| California   | 1 | 1 Senator   |

It is regretful that no recipients were worthy, available or for whatever reason never found in seven separate years. If only those vacancies had been filled by not so prominent national figures, but by low key blue collar type citizens, the balance and representation would have been just superb.

## CULTURAL CORNER

### *Origin of the Lithuanians*

When Asia became overpopulated, people migrated to Europe, The Lithuanian race was among these. They settled near the Baltic Sea. They spoke a language with seven dialects — the chief among these was the dialect of "Aukštaičiai" and "Žemaičiai".

Since these people came from a pagan land, they brought the pagan religion with them. The Lithuanians believed in many gods:

**Perkūns** — god of thunder was the highest of them all.

**Patrimpas** — was second highest. He was invoked for the success of the harvest.

**Pykuolis** — was the god of wrath. It was believed he punished the people for their sins and evil doings.

**Kovas** — was the god of war

**Milda** — was the goddess of love

**Lazdona** — was the goddess of forest and was invoked by hunters.

**Laime** — was the god of providence and good fortune

And to honor these gods, shrines were built (Žinčios). It was customary to have a shrine for every god, thus having many gods meant having many shrines. One of the famous and largest ever built was ROMUVA. It was situated where Prussia is now. And ever since Lithuania has become Christianized, a beautiful Cathedral was built there to symbolize the conversion.

The most virtuous and most intelligent men were selected to act as ministers unto these gods. They were called "priests". Krivis was the high priest and his helpers were called Krivaičiai.

Vestal virgins cared for sacred fires. They were not allowed to get married. They consecrated their lives to these gods.

They believed in a hereafter — heaven and hell. And that the good will be rewarded and evil will be punished. All dead bodies were cremated and buried in hills. The more distinguished the noble people were buried the higher the hills. Thus we have Gedimino Kalnas and Birutės Kalnas.

#### Paršelis

#### Like Father like Son

Tėvas: Jonuk, tu per daug nori. Esj tikras paršelis. Ar žinai kas yra paršelis?

Jonukas: Taip, tėveli. Paršelis yra kiaulės sūnelis.

## OUR TALENTED KNIGHTS

George and Frances Mikalauskas

*By: Nancy Olinger*

*(The following was submitted to us by Frances Petkus C-96 — Dayton president. It was voted in their March 1988 meeting that this newsitem from the Our Lady of Mercy monthly publication MER-SCENE be printed in the VYTIS.)*

George and Frances Mikalauskas have been Our Lady of Mercy parishioners for 25 years and will be married for 29 years in June. They have three children, all grown and out of college. They are looking forward to having grandchildren now that one of their children is married. They are very involved with their "nationality parish" Holy Cross. Since it is a small parish, they are kept busy, helping out.

George grew up in old North Dayton as a first-generation American. His parents came to the United States from Lithuania. He is employed as a journeyman (machine repair) at G. M. Frances is from Cleveland and also of Lithuanian descent; she and George met through the Knights of Lithuania. She is a volunteer librarian at our school library now and was very involved in school activities when her children were at Mercy. Frances has been a Bingo volunteer since Bingo was started here 12 years ago. George's involvement in the parish includes being one of the first lay distributors. His hobbies include cooking and wood carving. His cooking specialty is turtle soup (made from snapper turtles) which he prepares in 90-gallon batches for Holy Cross Parish festivals and carry-outs.

George's hobby of wood carving is very special to him. He began as an amateur wood carver several years ago. His first major project was to make a shrine for the Sisters here at OLOM when they moved from the current rectory to a house across from the rectory. The shrine was to St. Francis and it was an eight foot chapel-style shrine constructed of wood with a statue of cast stone treated to look like wood. After this was completed, George was asked by his nationality club to carve a crosier (carried ceremonially by Bishops) for the Lithuanian Archbishop Paulius Marcinkus. This was quite an honor as it was to be presented to the Archbishop at the Vatican.

Here at OLOM, we are fortunate to have some of George's work in three different carvings. The first carving he did was for the school cafeteria when his children were here. It is a smaller cross with a peace theme called "the Cross of the Holy Spirit."

The second cross was carved after George noticed there was no wooden crucifix in our church. George

received permission to do one for the church and Father Willman asked that it be done for the then-new confessional area. The inscription and theme for this one was "Father, forgive them." When George delivered it to the rectory, Father Willman was not in. After seeing how lovely it was, Father Willman called George to ask if the crucifix could be hung above the Tabernacle, where it still is.

Sharing the RENEW program with Frances inspired George to make the Blessing Cross which hangs in Founders' Hall. It is formed of a man's and woman's hands in the shape of the cross with the image of the Holy Spirit at the top and the inscription of "Love" at the bottom. It's theme is the Holy Spirit blessing marriage and that even love has its cross to bear.

George has also done crucifixes for St. Paul's in Englewood and for the Sisters of St. Francis in Pittsburgh, Pa. He also hopes to do another carving for OLOM. George is very humble about his special talent and gives all the credit for the many carvings he has done to his wife, Frances. He feels that without her help, support and patience when he fills all his free time with this carving, he would not be able to create the things he has.

Obviously, both George and Frances have many gifts to share and, thankfully, we here at OLOM can share in them.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that the 30th annual Scholarship awards will be presented at the 75th National Convention to be held in Washington, D.C.

Applications are now available from the Scholarship Committee Chairman William J. Piacentini, 362 Webster Avenue, Cranston, Rhode Island 02920. Members are strongly urged to request applications immediately.

Donations to the Scholarship Fund may be made to the Scholarship Committee Treasurer Clemencine Miller, 80 Cottage Street, Trumbull, Conn. 06611.

The deadline date for applications to be considered for this year's awards is **June 30, 1988**. Incomplete applications will not be considered by the committee. Do not delay in processing applications.



# Lithuanians in the News

## JAKUBAUSKAS PAID HIS DUES, climbed academic ladder of success

*The Saginaw News* writes about Edward Jakubauskas becoming 10th president of Central Michigan university. Raised in Connecticut, he has risen through the ranks of academia to become president of the 5,000-student State University of New York at Genesee. He earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Connecticut in 1952 and a master's degree in economics there in 1954. Drafted in 1954 to work in the Army Education Program in Germany and Washington, D.C., for two years, Jakubauskas went on to earn a doctorate degree in 1961 from the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Jakubauskas states "I'm a person who has had to earn my way every step, had to prove myself. There wasn't anyone pulling me up on the ladder."



JAKUBAUSKAS



## IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE? when he can't promise cure, he offers comfort

*The Detroit News* interviewed Dr. Vainutis K. Vaitkevičius, who is dedicated to cancer research and his respect for patients. As Chief of medicine for Harper-Grace Hospitals and the Detroit Medical Center and chairman of the department of internal medicine at Wayne State University School of Medicine, Dr. Vee, as he's known in the community, helped build the Medical Center's oncology division into one of the most respected cancer research and treatment facilities in the country. To honor his contributions, Harper dedicated its new, space-age, \$11-million magnetic resonance imaging center to Dr. Vaitkevičius. Dr. Vee was born in Lithuania. Left an orphan at 17, he and his grandfather were sent to separate Nazi death camps. Dr. Vee served nine months of hard labor at Auschwitz. When the war was over, he went to the American zone in Frankfurt to study internal medicine. Known as the doctor of last resort, he often treats patients who have cashed in most of their hopes. When he can't promise cure, he offers comfort. and for many, he extends life by years.

## SOVIET BRUISER USES HIS FEATHERY HOOK .....

*The New York Daily News* informs that the hook shot came from somewhere in Lithuania and kept dropping, time and again, into a basket in the South Bronx.

"I have used the shot since I was a kid," Gintaras Einikis said, through an interpreter. "I have heard of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar."

Einikis was one of 12 members of the Soviet Union National Junior team that routed the New York Gauchos Basketball Team. Einikis was an enigma - a 6-foot-8 bruiser with a soft touch who scored 24 points and gathered 12 rebounds.

"You like him?" asked Soviet coach Vladimir Obukhov. "I like him, too. Today he played his usual."

Back in Kaunas, Lithuania, the 18-year old Einikis is becoming a major celebrity, the star center of his home town team.

The Russians now move on to nine other cities and nine other basketball engagements. (Watch for him as he plays in your home town - Editor).

## *A Saint — Unaware?*

### *Remembering Sister Anne, O.F.M.*

*By. Frank Petrauskas*

I would like to tell you a true story about Sister Anne (Adamavičius) O.F.M. Sister Anne was born in 1900 in Westfield, Massachusetts. Her childhood years were as placid as could be expected in a poor and large Lithuanian family. Often times there wasn't much food on the table but the family somehow survived and the children grew to responsible adults. In secular life Sister Anne's name was Helen Adams.

When Helen was in her early twenties she worked in a local box factory. Late one afternoon a lightning and thunder storm was fast approaching. Helen went to the rear of her machine to close the window, when a strong gust of wind blew her hair into the machine and the suction of the machine pulled her up about a foot from the bench on which she was standing. She was literally hanging by her hair. Momentarily she heard a tearing sound, her scalp was pulled off and she dropped to the floor. Can you imagine the situation? Even though Helen felt no pain, instinctively she felt she needed assistance: "Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on me! Holy Mary, pray for us! Good St. Anne, pray for us!" Again Helen glanced up at her previous scalp, and it seems as if she heard St. Ann say: "Don't be afraid. You'll be all right!"

A doctor was called and they took her to the hospital. A priest came and he gave Helen the last rites. It was to him that Helen expressed her wish to join the Sisters of St. Francis — the Poor Clares.

The doctors had little hope. Helen's neck which had been ripped in such a way that her head hung over her shoulder. Her right ear was torn off, but she never lost her hearing. Over a period of eleven months she had 24 skin-grafting operations. Later 20 doctors examined her and proclaimed that it was like a miracle — the skin grafting was successful.

Helen was especially devoted to St. Anne's Shrine at Fiskdale, Massachusetts. Here her devotion to St. Anne grew and became stronger. Here she met Andrew Ahearn, who introduced her to the shrine of St. Anne in Quebec, Canada. Here she journeyed countless times to pray at the shrine.

Helen joined the Poor Claire order at Syracuse,



N.Y. On September 24, 1929 she took a train and then a boat to their novitiate on the Island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands. There she became Sister Anne. She was given charge of the babies of leperous parents at Kapiolani Home. Later she worked with leper women and girls on the Island of Molokai which was made famous by Father Damien and Mother Marianne Kopp. Sister Anne spent 31 years at Molokai.

The work was hard at Molokai. The patients' oozing sores had to be washed and the bandages changed daily. Many of the patients were bed-ridden so it meant complete care. Sister Anne in her warm friendly way and her sunny disposition was a favorite of the patients. She would tend to their needs and comfort them with prayer and conversation.

It is documented, that when people contact leprosy, they become hostile, sullen and uncooperative. Sister Anne had a way to warm the hearts of those individuals and help them to accept their cross in life.

After spending 31 years at Molokai, Sister Anne was transferred back to the Franciscan Motherhouse at Syracuse, New York. Once again she cared for the elderly patients at Loretto Rest Nursing Hom-

we. Once again she became the favorite of the patients because of her sunny disposition.

Despite all of her personal misfortunes, she had a beautiful outlook on life. She drew people to herself. She started many rosary groups in Syracuse and she was noted for her visits to the poor and needy, cheering them up with food and clothing. Gifts of money she would immediately distribute to the poor. She was famous for her phone calls to the poor and the shutins.

I first met her in 1981 and introduced her to some of the Syracuse Lithuanians. She became a member of C-140. She was so happy to be associating with Lithuanians once again. Her last association had been back in 1929. She attended a number of Masses connected with Lithuanian affairs and yours truly took her to the Lithuanian Day at Auriesville Shrine. It was a pleasure for us to bring some happiness in the last years of her life.

Three years ago, Sister Anne's health began to deteriorate. First she was hospitalized, then, placed in a nursing home. My wife Irena and I visited her often. We would bring her Lithuanian food-items and that would make her so happy. She always enjoyed Lithuanian food.

Two years ago she suffered a stroke and lost her speech and movement. It was difficult to converse with her. Later on her health declined so much that she didn't recognize us.

Sister Anne died on March 10, 1988. I feel very honored to have known her and to have been her friend for those few short years. I truly believe she was a living saint. I know her reward in heaven will be great. My reward for knowing her was doubly great for she entered the convent the year I was born and she was buried on my birthday, March 14. Sister Anne is now my personal saint.



## Catholics under Gorbachev

*Rev. Joseph Prunskis*

The largest and strongest community of Americans of Lithuanian descent is in Chicago. The 4 million dollars in assets of the Lithuanian Foundation established to support the fostering of Lithuanian culture, ethnic heritage and based in Chicago attests to the vitality of this community.

Lithuanian Americans, being mostly Catholic, are very much perturbed by the oppression of their brothers in Lithuania which is occupied by the Soviet Union. Great difficulties remain even under Gorbachev. Proof of this are several facts announced in the latest issue (No. 75) of the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, an underground newspaper published under extremely great danger.

In the recent issue of this journal, sent via secret channels in the U.S., is published astounding information, concerning the funeral of a teacher by the name of G. Petrauskienė. Her funeral was on May 22, 1987. Her mother decided to have a religious funeral for her daughter. However, local communist officials said that if she buried her daughter with church liturgy, she herself could lose her position at work and the daughter of the deceased might lose the possibility of continuing her studies. The mother, nevertheless, remained adamant, not succumbing to their intimidation. The communist officials then forbade fellow teachers and students to partake in the funeral services. This occurred in the

city of Panevežys.

At Palevene, the believers erected a new wayside cross. The president of the local executive committee, established by the occupational forces, ordered the cross to be removed. When the people refused, the chairman of the executive committee cut the cross to pieces and threw them into the bushes.

In another place, the villages of Šiaudinė, local people erected a cross in the ancient cemetery. the "culprits" were fined 30 rubles and warned that if they did not remove the cross, it would be removed by the members of the local occupational institution and those who erected the cross would have to pay for the "labor" involved in demolishing the cross.

The Lithuanian priests, Rev. Sigitas Tamkevičius and Rev. Alfonsas Svarinskas, are still being kept in slave labor camps. Several other sincere and active Catholics are currently incarcerated in psychiatric wards where they are being administered chemicals for the purpose of destroying their personality. Even such a sincere defender of human rights and the rights of believers, Nijolė Sadūnaitė, a former detainee in slave labor camps, is now being followed, threatened, and mistreated considerably.

The prayers of the American Catholics and the pressure of public opinion could certainly alleviate their plight.

## *My Father's Ancestral Country — Historic Lithuania*

*By Jennifer Pieza*

(FOREWORD: One morning, the teacher of Huston Middle School, Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania, surprised her 7th grade pupils, when she said: "I would like to have you write an essay on your father's ancestry, describing the country from where his parents came. Jennifer Pieza, age 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Aquinas Pieza of Lower Burrell, wrote the following:)

\* \* \*

My father is the son of Stanley Pieza and the late Anne Pieza, both born in Lithuania. They both were children when their parents brought them from Lithuania to the United States prior to World War I. My father was born in Chicago. My grandfather is a retired journalist, and my grandmother, a noted Lithuanian folk singer and choral director, died in 1982. They both lived for many years in Chicago.

I learned a lot about Lithuania from my grandparents and from my research in public libraries and from the pages of VYTIS, the Knights of Lithuania journal.

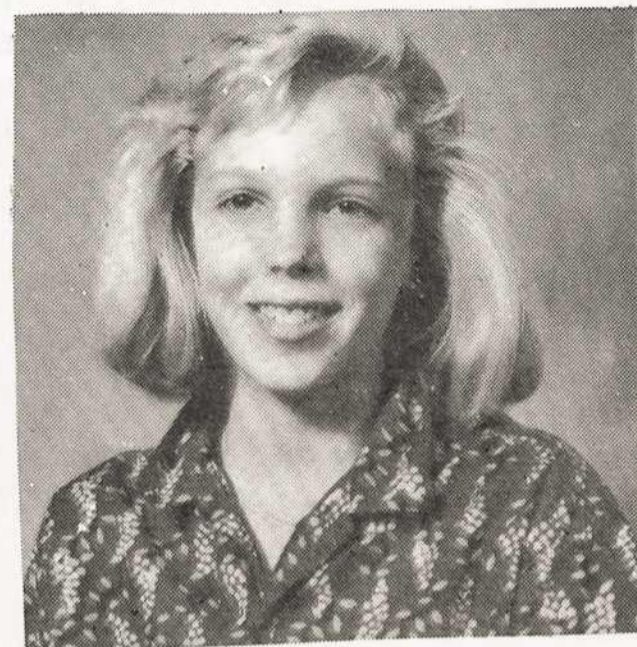
Take a look at a European map and let your eyes fall on the Baltic Sea which is near Sweden. Lithuania is on the southern shore, near Latvia and Estonia. It is surrounded by Russia on the east; by Poland on the south; by Germany on the west; and by Sweden on the north.

The first inhabitants of Lithuania were Indo-Europeans separated into different tribes and later into different nations. Among those tribes, about 2000 B.C. appeared quite distinct tribes of Lithuanians, Prussians, and Latvians using one similar language. They were called Baltics.

The Lithuanian language is considered the oldest spoken language in Europe. It belongs to the Baltic branch of the Indo-European family and it is written in the Latin alphabet with 32 letters. Lithuanian is closest to the Sanskrit, an ancient literary language of India.

While Lithuania was covered with impassable forests, people settled along the rivers and lakes, and made living by hunting, fishing, cutting wood, and cultivating the land acquired from the forests. Occasionally they went to war against intruders from outside.

Lithuanians, before becoming Roman Catholics in the year 1387, worshipped the powers of nature — sun, moon, stars, fire, forests and various spirits, all of whom were greatly respected as holy ones. Lithuanians very deeply believed in life after death. When a Lithuanian accepted Christianity, his belief in life after death found clarification and joyful blessedness of eternal life with God, and he accepted it with his whole heart into his



daily life. The apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the shepherds at Šiluva in 1608 so strengthened the Lithuanians' faith and daily religious life that the country gained recognition as Holy Lithuania.

In the 13th century Lithuania was divided among Grand Dukes and, facing increasing attacks from the east and west, united themselves under the leadership of King Mindaugas from 1236- 1263. He received Roman Catholic baptism, and with the help of Franciscan and Dominican missionaries began to convert the nation to Christianity. By this action King Mindaugas stopped the invasion by Russians and Germans who were trying to bring Christianity to Lithuania by sword, fire and occupation.

In further history of Lithuania there were two great cousins, Grand Duke Jogaila (1434), who by marriage became King of Poland and ruled that country from Cracow and Vytautas the Great (1430) who reigned in Lithuania with amazing success. They united both countries and crushed invaders from Russia and Germany.

After the death of Jogaila and Vytautas other Grand Dukes divided the country among themselves and by that division the power to resist enemies diminished and both countries ended in division by their neighbors, Russia, Prussia and Austria in 1795. Most of Lithuania has been occupied by Russia under the Czars and has begun to suffer greatly for its nationality and religion. The Lithuanian press was forbidden to print prayer books and the people were forbidden to read them. Thousands of Lithuanians were sent to prisons, exile to Siberia or some of them hanged at home. Young men had to do military service in Russia for 25 years! These were very dark days for Lithuanians. Many men escaped by going to the United States of America.

At the end of the First World War the Lithuanians

rose up against new invaders, the Communists from Russia, and courageously died fighting for their country's freedom and independence. On February 16, 1918, Lithuania proclaimed herself a free and independent state with a democratic government under the President.

There are about 3 million Lithuanians living in Lithuania and there are over 1 million Lithuanians abroad, with nearly 100,000 of them living in Chicago, the capital of America's Lithuanians. Chicago Illinois, was the home of my grandfather. The largest city in Lithuania is Vilnius, with a population of over 275,000. Today it is the capital of Soviet occupied Lithuania.

The first president of Lithuania, Antanas Smetona, and his wife were guests in the home of my grandparents in Chicago, about 40 years ago. When the Russians took over Lithuania in 1940 Smetona escaped to Germany with his family and then later came to the United States under the U.S. Displaced Persons Act. My grandfather has a picture hanging in his library of President Smetona and my Aunt Joanne. As a little girl, she was reading a book for the Lithuanian president. He died in a tragic fire in his home in Cleveland, Ohio.

A beautifully flourishing country during its independence, Lithuania was disturbed by the Second World War and destroyed by the Soviet Red Army occupation in 1940. Lithuania has been incorporated by force into the Soviet Union. Property was confiscated and thousands upon thousands of Lithuanian patriots were deported to the slave camps of Siberia where hundreds of them have suffered death. At the present time severe persecution continues in Soviet occupied Lithuania. Many churches are closed or turned into museums, halls or storage places. All religious life is controlled by the communists in Moscow. The faithful of Lithuania are begging the Western World to hear their cry and press the Soviet Union to respect human rights at least according to the signed agreement with other nations at Helsinki.

My grandfather still has relatives living in Lithuania and would very much like to visit them before he dies.

Perhaps in my future there will be an opportunity to visit Lithuania, the home of my ancestors on my father's side.

## CONVENTION NEWS

**EI VYČIAI!!!**

**Your organization is calling you to come celebrate its 75th Anniversary in Washington, D.C. during July 27-31, 1988.**

**From East, West, North and South, let us congregate to pay tribute to those who came before us, to rejoice in our accomplishments and to formulate plans for the future.**

**Districts and Councils are requested to PLEASE bring your Knights of Lithuania Flag.**

**All Delegates and Guests who have National Costumes are requested to wear them to the opening and closing Masses.**

**Please make your hotel reservations as early as possible.**

**Afternoon and evening tours are \$15.00 for each.**

**Registration fee includes 3 meals, concert and bus transportation.**

**JR. K. OF L.  
CONVENTION 1988**

Another year older?

How could it be?

Another Jr. convention for you and for me.

How can I get there?

Where will it be?

The Sheraton Washington for you and for me.

What will we do?

"WHAT - WILL - WE - DO"?

On Thursday we will, visit the zoo.

Will there be more then?

I want to know.

On Friday the Smithsonian, we all want to go.

How about business?

The time is here.

Saturday morning, We're set in High Gear.

Don't forget Sunday

A time for goodbye.

A promise within us

Lithuania won't die...

## "Dede Kastukas Sako"

If you're inclined to be economical at Convention time, don't sleep thirteen in a bed - it's considered to be unlucky.

Before or after the K of L Convention, don't forget to spend a couple days in Washington, DC for sight-seeing. People from all over the world come to this city to see the Smithsonian Institute and Lindbergh's plane, the National Gallery of Art, George Washington's home in Mt. Vernon, also Capitol building. You can get into part of the White House (with a pass you get from your Congressman for free) but walk lightly because Nancy may be baking a cake. Don't expect to be invited for lunch.

The Memorials are terrific to visit too .... Lincoln's, Jefferson's, Washington's. Then walk along the Potomac River, you might even find the Dollar George threw across the River. If you do find it, check the date. A lot of people throw silver dollars around just to confuse the tourists, I think. If you see all the places mentioned, you'll go back home full of culture.

Another bit of advice if you're going to the Convention, don't wear your winter underwear. If you were in Kansas City last year - they gave you a heat treatment - Washington, DC has the same type of temperature in July, hot or hotter. You'll see that most of the home folk there are sunburned. "Have a good time, yo all".

Did you ever work for a Supervisor who derived a fiendish enjoyment by harrassing you at work - so it made life miserable for you? He or she would make a mountain out of a simple molehill error on your part - in your typing or placing a card in the wrong filing cabinet, or making an improper stitch in a garment, or making a wrong guess on some work. He liked to see his underlings get frustrated to demonstrate his superiority. That kind of Supervisor should be eliminated for he can't handle the job - it's too big for his stupid character.

There are many policemen with that type of nature - who abuse their authority thinking the uniform makes them an intellectual giant and boss of the block they live in. Their children too become arrogant and love to let you know when you scold them for stepping on your newly planted grass and flowers that "my father's a policeman!" I once asked a wise but humble judge who was a friend of mine, why he didn't think he was an important man, like the other judges think they are, and he answered, "It's just another job - I'm just fortunate to be here. I'm not better than any other person".

As to the Preacher Evangelists and Politicians who had affairs with Sidewalk Princesses . . . they can appreciate the fact that the law of nature to propagate the race is above their ability to stifle their lust. The Evangelists didn't practice what they preached, and the Politicians didn't remember there's a law on disorderly conduct. Everything is fine living in such fashion until you get caught, then Plop goes your entire future.

Each of us has our own faults, small or large, so don't cast the first stone. Instead of chasing women as a pastime, you may be a heavy drinker which you will never admit to, or a compulsive gambler, or addicted to drugs. If any one of those evils is your particular pastime, you have a real problem, and don't know what real happiness is. Try moderation and discipline as a starter, with a lot of prayer, and that's easier said than done.

Did you know that Russian Christianity began in 988 AD under Czar Vladimir I, who adopted the Greek Orthodox Rite. The Russian Orthodox Church officially began in 1054 AD. When Lenin's Bolsheviks killed the Czar in 1917 before the First World War was over and took over the reins of government - religious freedom for the Russian people was quickly restricted.

After the Bolsheviks came the Communists, an organized group of about six million who took all the good jobs for themselves as well as the freedom of the unorganized 260 million Russian people. An ordinary Russian can't travel where he wants to, he can't say anything or write anything against the government, he can't worship as he wants to, he can't work where he wants to. All he got after the Czar was murdered, was six million Communist Czars - and NO freedom. Life is a real Puzzle.

Protestors, demonstrators, non-conformists, hippies .... march thru the streets of New York, Chicago and San Francisco on any pretext. They shout for peace, the end of war, or yell at the President and Congress as to what should be done for the good of all people. These characters assume they know all the answers to the world problems, and are better informed than the President and our Congress as to policy and government. They fail to remember that those men were elected to office and work as best they can for their own families and the nation. Street demonstrations that try to disrupt society - is the price we pay for the full freedom given to all Americans. Many of these demonstrations are Communist inspired to undermine a democratic government. Leaders of these uprisings have never offered better plans to attain what they're shouting for - they exhibit physical violence and destruction of property on the streets as their way to Peace or the elimination of war .... this method fails to make sense to sensible people. It's easy to destroy a government, it's difficult to build a good one.

Yra Kalba — Yra Tauta, Nėra Kalbos — Nėra Tautos

### Senovės Kupiškėnų Vestuvės (Lietuvoje)

Apolonija (Polly) Žiaušy

Laikas bėga, papročiai keičiasi. Todėl ir posakis su-  
galvotas: "Keičias rūbai margo svieto".

Prieš 50 - 60 metų, kupiškėnų (Kupiškis — miestas  
šiaurės rytų Lietuvoje) vestuvių papročiai buvo labai  
įdomūs. Gyvos anų laikų dainos, šmaikštūs kupiškėniškos  
tarmės žodžiai, piršlybos, kurios vykdavo prieš vestuves,  
kraičio derėjimas, jaunosios puošimas, jaunosios rauda  
atsisveikinant su tėveliais ir namiškiais., Kaip žinote,  
būtinai vestuvių dalyviai, greta jaunųjų yra piršlys su  
svočia.

Piršlybos — match-making, matching

Piršlys — match-maker

Svočia — lady match-maker

Jaunikis — bride groom, man about to be married

Jaunavedys — bridegroom, the newly married one

Jaunavedžiai — the newly married couple

Jaunoji — bride

Pamergė — bridesmaid

Pirmoji pamergė — maid of honor

Pajaunys — the best man

Pabrolis — ushers

"Bromas" (iš lenkų kalbos) Vartai-gates, gateways

išsipirkti — to buy of

Jžtvara, užtvėrti — to fence up, to block up

Vestuvėninkai — wedding party

Persirengti — to disguise, to change one's clothes

šmaikštus — swift, nimble

Sodas" — chair, throne, for the bride

odas — garden, orchard

Krepšys, krepšys — basket, pouch

Sutuoktuvių liūdijimas — marriage certificate.

Nepabosti — to grow tired, to feel bored.

Liežuvingas — given to blabbing

Kaltinamasis aktas — bill of indictment, accusation

Nedorybė — vice, misdeed

Nuteisti — to sentence, to condemn, to hang

Budelis — hangman, executioner

Kaltas — guilty

Pavogti — to steal, (pavogtieji — taken as hostages).

Išmokę šiuos žodžius, "važiuokime į kupiškėnų ve-  
stuves.

Jaunieji, piršlys su svočia ir pabroliai su pamergėmis.

Visi jie vyksta į bažnyčią (dabar į metrikacijos biūrą), kur  
sutvarkomi dokumentai. Grįžtant jiems kelią gali užtvėrti  
"bromai" (vartai), gėlėmis papuošti vainikai. "Bromus"  
ruošia tie, kurie pažįsta jaunuosius. Prie "bromo" reikia  
"išsipirkti" — parodyti jaunuosius, o piršlys ir pabroliai  
užtvėrėjams palieka vaišių, saldainių, tortą. Kartais būna  
net aštuoni "bromai", neleidę vestuvėninkams pravažiuo-  
ti. Bet dažniausiai pasitenkinama viena užtvėra, kurią  
organizuoja, saldainių norintys vaikai.

Atvažiuavę į jaunosios namus vestuvėninkai turi daug  
rūpesčių. Pirmiausia tikrinama, ar jaunoji moka suvystyti  
vaiką (lėlę), ar jaunikis sugba skaldyti malkas, ar kokį kitą  
darbą padaryti. Pamergės ir pabroliai gauna įvairių klau-  
simų kuriuos reikia išmaningai atsakyti. Praėjusius šią  
užtvėrą jaunuosius ant slenksčio (threshold) pasitinka  
tėvai su duona ir druska, su vandens stikline arba vyno.  
Palinki jiems sėkmės.

O toliau — visai nelinksma. Vestuvėninkai randa  
"persirengėlių" užimtą vaišių stalą. Svečiai būna persi-  
rengę jaunaisiais, piršliu, svočia, išsidažę veidus ir visai  
nekreipia dėmesio į atvykusius vestuvėninkus. Dainuoja  
dainas, liepia jiems netrukdyti, sakosi, čia besilinksminą  
jau kelias dienas, turį savus jaunuosius. Tikrasis piršlys  
turi šmaikščiai atsikirsti. Kartais virš stalo kabo ir šiaudų  
meniškai nupintas "Sodas". Reikia "Sodą išpirkti, Stalą  
užsėdusieji dainuodami giria "sodą", "jei jūs sodo nedėre-  
sta, kur jūs savo marčią dėsta (dėsite)". Užstalėje būna  
pastatytas ir saugomas krepšys. Jei piršlys sugeba įmesti  
į krepšį savo kepurę, tas skaitomas išpirktu. Jei ne, jį  
išperka pridėdami arti pilną (almost full) krepšį saldainių,  
išgėrimo ir kitų gėrybių. Tas gėrybes išsidalins užsėdusie-  
ji stalą. Pagaliau "persirengėliai" pasitraukia. Tikri vestu-  
vėninkai susėda, prasideda iškilmingoji vestuvių dalis. Pi-  
ršlys perskaito sutuoktuvių liūdijimą, pasako kalbą apie  
jaunuosius, padėkoja tėvams. Kalba kiti svečiai. Kadangi  
visi sėdi priešais labai gausiai apkrauto stalo, tai  
nepamišta ir pasistiprinti ir atsigaiivinti. Po to padainuo-  
ja, muzikantai pakviečia pašokti. Lietuviai mėgsta ilgus  
pasėdėjimus už stalo. Kad nepabostų, piršlys arba svočia  
turi būti labai liežuvingi ir užimti svečius.

Ateina 12 val. nakties. Prasideda nauja diena. Visi  
sudainuoja "Ilgiausių metų" jauniesiems. Po to galima  
eiti miegoti arba toliau linksmintis.

Sekantį rytą muzikantai grodami žadina jaunuosius ir kitus svečius. Piršlys su svočia, prisigaminę "vaistų" "gydo" besirenkančius. Nakties metu, kas nors iš svečių, nužiūrėjęs pabrolių muzikantų ar kitų svečių nerūpestingai paliktus daiktus, juos "pavogia". Ryte pakabina skelbimą apie "rastus daiktus". Reikalauja išpirkos, Visa tai vyksta visų akyvaizdoje, juokaujant.

Susėdama už stalo. Kalbama apie juokingus praėjusios nakties įvykius, skaitomos "telegbramos" kurias "atsiuntė" gandas, "senmergių kluba", "vyrų draugija". Duodami patarimai jaunai šeimai. Nuimamas jaunosios vainikėlis. Ji aprišama skarele, vainikėlis sudeginamas. Jaunosios veliumą matuojasi pamergės. Svečiai "vagia" ir slepia pamerges. Pabroliai turi as atrasti ir "išpirkti". Artėja antrosios dienos, kulminacija — piršlio korimas. Tarp svečių maišosi persirengę "teisėjai ir budeliai", ieško didelio nusikaltėlio, melagio ir apgaudinėtojo. Piršlys stengiasi pasislėpti, taip pat persirengia, kad jo nepažintų. Pagaliau piršlys pagaunamas ir prasideda "teismas". Skaitomas aktas, kuriame išvardintos piršlio "nedorybės": jis primelavo apie pieno upes ir vyno šulinius, marmurinius rūmus ir aukso žuveles ir t.t. Į kaltinamąjį aktą įpinami tikri faktai, liečiantys piršlį ir jaunuosius tik jie atpasakojami su didžiule doze jumoro. Daroma išvada, kad piršlys kaltas ir nuteisiamas "pakarti". Piršlys prašosi leidžiamas išdalinti palikimą. Skirstant palikimą, vėlei

daug juoko. Pavyzdžiui, piršlys būna apsilvilkęs kelerius (several) skylėtus marškinius. Juos nusivelka ir po vienerius išdalina pamergėms, pasakodamas, kokiuose "mūšiuose" tos skylės atsirado, kokiems reikalams tie marškiniai gali praversti: berniukams privilioti, musėms nubaidyti ir t.t. Budeliai nekantrauja. Pagaliau jaunamartė apjmuosia piršlį tautiniais raštais išmargintu rankšluosčiu. Piršlys išgelbėtas. Bet kažkas pagrobė ir vežą svočią. Pamergės bėga gelbėti. Arba vėl kažkas iš svečių paslėpė šeimininkę, ruošusią valgius vestuviniams. Pagaliau visi "kaltieji" nubauti, "pavogtieji" išvaduoti. Sėdama už stalo. Dabar jaunieji patarnauja svečiams, ragina valgyti ir gerti. Kartais ruošiamas vaidinimas "svočios" stalas, kur ji išdėsto savo parūpintus skanumynus.

Vestuvių pobūšvis eina į pabaigą.

Ne kiekvienose vestuvėse būna visi šie papročiai. Stalo užsėdimas ir išpirkimas bei piršlio korimas, kaip pačios spalvingiausios pilnos fantazijų vestuvių scenos, būna visada. Kartais jaunieji iškilmingai, visų akivaizdoje įteikia dovanas artimiesiems giminėms, bet dažniausiai ir iš senovės likęs paprotys atliekamas tyliai, neatkreipiant kitų dėmesio.

Povestuvinės kelionės Lietuvoje nebuvo populiarios. Visa išmonė ir energija atiduodama tam, kad vaišių stalas būtų kuo turtingesnis, kuo puošnesnis, kuo imantresnis, kad netraktu alaus, degtinės ir kitų dalykų.

## Proverbs

- (CONTINUED FROM MARCH 1988 ISSUE)
87. Atėmė iš ubago (elgetos) lazda.
  88. Sušilo (pavargo), kaip vagis per kermošių.
  89. Pirms i maišą, paskutinis iš maišo.
  90. Iš bėdos, šuo varškę ėda.
  91. Burkuoja, kaip du balandėliai.
  92. Dievas davė kryželį, nešk visą amželį.
  93. Trankosi, kaip Morkus po peklą.
  94. Iš didelio debesio, mažas lietus.
  95. tokia giminė, kaip devintas vanduo nuo kisieliaus.
  96. Taip artimas, kaip kūmo berno brolis.
  97. Ant arklio jojo, arklio ieškojo.
  98. Į balą puolęs sausas nekelsi.
  99. Sėdi, kaip Pilypas kanapėse.
  100. Žiūri į knygą, mató špygą.
  101. Dievas davė dantis, duos ir duonos.
  102. Tupi, kaip varlė po lapu.
  103. Nepasėjus, nér ká piauči.
  104. Pasakyk su kuo draugauji, pasakysiu, kas tu pats esi.
  105. Riebus, kaip ubago (elgetos) paršelis.
  106. Meluoja, kaip čigonas.
  107. Raudona nosis, kaip girtuoklio.
  108. Svyruoja, kaip girtas.
  109. Kimba, kaip girtas prie tvoros.
  110. Kas galvoje, tas ir ant liežuvio.
  111. Lekia, kaip aitvaras.
  112. Numynė žvirblis pelėdai koją.
  113. Jėga meilės neįgysi.
  114. Iš seno nesijuok, pats toks būsi.
  115. Nekask kitam duobės, nes pats įkrisi.
  116. Neperšokęs per griovį, nesakyk "op".
  117. Lenk medį kol jaunas, kaip pasens nepalenksi!.
  118. Kalk geležį kol karštas, kaip atšals nerpiveiksi.
  119. Bijo, kaip velnias kryžiaus.
  120. Kas ars nepavargs, kas vogs nepralobs.
  121. Aukščiau bambos neiššoksi.
  122. Prieš vėją nepapūsi.
  123. Nespiauk į dangų, pats apsispiausi.
  124. Tupi, kaip višta, ant kiaušinių.
  125. Ištižus kaip lepšė.
  126. Sveikas, kaip ridikas.
  127. Kaip moka, taip šoka.
  128. Pats groja, pats šoka.



129. Bailus, kaip zuikis.  
 130. Kvailas ir savo šešelio bijo.  
 131. Dreba, kaip epušės lapas.  
 132. Panašūs, kaip du vandens lašai.  
 133. Pinigai — galvažūdziai.  
 134. Lašas po lašo ir akmenį pratašo.  
 135. Turtingas, kaip pelė ant aruodo.  
 136. Su durnu, du turgu, su pliku nēr ko peštis.  
 137. Paregėsime, kaip dugną dėsime.  
 138. Pigią mėsą šunys ēda.  
 139. Namai pragarai, be namų, negerai.  
 140. Jei pelė drąsos turētų, tai ir katė pagauti galētų.  
 141. Paskendo, kaip akmuo vandeny.  
 142. Juodas, kaip kaminkrėtys.  
 143. Jūrą perplaukęs, klane nuskendo.  
 144. Taip negilu, kad net višta perbristi gali.  
 145. Ilgas plaukas — trumpas protas.  
 146. Ne viskas gražu, kas auksu žiba.  
 147. Mokslo ant pečių, nereikės nešioti.  
 148. Tyli, kaip liežuvį prarijęs.  
 149. Sėdi, kaip musę kandęs.  
 150. Stovi, kaip mietą (baslį) prarijęs.  
 151. Liūdi, kaip žemę pardavęs.  
 152. Neiškenčia, kaip šuo nestaugęs.  
 153. Akis už akį, dantis už dantį.  
 154. Užkliuvo už varščios ir vėl nuo pradžios.  
 155. Išbalo, kaip giltinę pamatęs.  
 156. Džiaugiasi, kaip durnius (kvailys) geležėlę radęs.  
 157. Saugo, kaip savo akį.  
 158. Dirba, bėga, bet nieko neturi.  
 159. Lekia, skuba, bet vis ant vietos.  
 160. Myli, kaip katė pelę.  
 161. Su saule, negyvenši.  
 162. Del takelio, nemesk kelio.  
 163. Per vieną ausi įeina, per kitą išeina.  
 164. Sakyk ar nesakyk, kaip žirniais į sieną.  
 165. Jam aitvaras per kaminą pinigų pila.  
 166. Žilė galvon, velnias uodegon.  
 167. Lopas ant lopo ir lopas kiauras.  
 168. Bendras arklys, visada liesas.  
 169. Nėra namų be dūmų.  
 170. Ten gerai, kur mūsų nėra.  
 171. Iš skiedros (degtuko) vežimą priskaldo.  
 172. Atitiko, kirvis kotui.  
 173. Toks tokį pažino, į veselę (vestuves) pavadino.  
 174. Žodis išskrenda paukščiui, bet jaučiu grįžta.  
 175. Kur trumpa, ten trūksta.  
 176. Dovanotam arkliui į dantis nežiūrėk.  
 177. Ant palinkusio medžio visos oškos lipa.  
 178. Neatsizadėk lazdos, nei tarbos.  
 179. Sunku dejuoti, jei niekas neskauda.  
 180. Pusę teisybės, o visas melas.

## K of L Calendar

- June 17-19, 1988 - NED Weekend Retreat - Franciscan Monastery, Kennebunkport, ME  
 July 15-16-17, 1988 - C-63 Lehigh Valley - Bethlehem Fair Grounds Blyniu Stand.  
 July 28-31, 1988 - 75th National Convention, Sheraton-Washington Hotel, Washington, DC  
 August 14, 1988 - 74th Annual Lithuanian Day - Fairlane Village Mall, Route 61 between Pottsville & St. Clair  
 September 18, 1988 - C-152 Riverhead, NY - Festival held in Greenport, NY  
 October 9, 1988 - MAD Meeting - Host Council 90, Kearny, NJ  
 October 15, 1988 - C-29 Newark, NJ - 73rd Annual Cocktail and Buffet Supper Dance - Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Newark, NJ  
 November 5, 1988 - Annual Fall Dance - Council 90, Kearny, NJ  
 November 6, 1988 - Fall Festival - Council 79, Southfield, MI

# Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

# Vyciai Veikia



## C-7 — WATERBURY

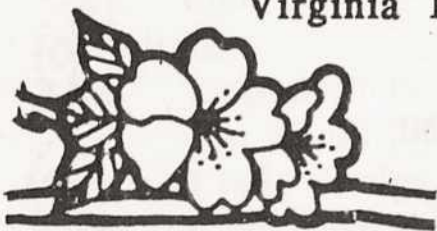
On the evening of March 3 in St. Joseph's Church, we honored St. Casimir with a Mass celebrated by our pastor Fr. F. Karvelis. After Mass, everyone was invited to the K of L Club Rooms for a delicious buffet which was hosted by Alma Torre and our president Ann Cheplick, assisted by Peg Linhard and Doris Blinn. There were about 70 people attending. A thank you goes out to our ladies who chaired the buffet and to all who attended the Mass.

On April 23, Alma Torre chaired a Tag Sale in the club rooms. It was a great success.

The K of L Bowling League has three more weeks to bowl for the year. They will recess until September. Fr. F. Karvelis is in the league and doing well. We hope he joins next year.

The bowling banquet will be held at Fisherman's Haven in Wolcott on May 14. Anyone wishing to join the league may call Ann Cheplick or Doris Blinn.

Virginia Kosa



## C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

It is with deep sorrow that I report the death of our dear member, Charles Genaitis, who was called to his reward on March 6 as our council

and all councils were celebrating the feast of St. Casimir, our patron and his, as Charles was baptized Kazimieras.

Charles was our competent recording secretary for years and attended most national and district conventions and functions. He and his wife Blanche have been in charge of the Scholarship Raffle in the district for many years.

He was ever so proud of his Lithuanian ancestry and always showed his colors. He was an inspiration to the many students he taught. He also had an excellent voice and sang in the parish choir. He truly lived our motto "For God and Country."

Fr. Joseph Jurgelonis led the K of L in the ritual with the eulogy given by President Bill Wisniauskas. The funeral was a great tribute to a truly Christian gentleman. Rev. Justin Steponaitis was chief celebrant and also gave the homily. Twenty K of L's were honor bearers who also sang the Vyčių Himnas at the cemetery.

Condolences are extended to Rev. John Petrauskas MIC, Gardner native and of St. Casimir's in Worcester, on the death of his sister Elizabeth Kopicko. Sincere sympathy to the Rodsky family on the death of their father Joseph Rodsky. May they find rest in the Lord.

Officers currently serving C-10 are William Wisniauskas, president; Leonard Davidonis, vice president; Blanche Genaitis, recording secretary; Paula Shatos, treasurer; Nellie Melai-ka, treasurer, Rev. Joseph Jurgelonis,

spiritual advisor; Brone Wisniauskas, cultural chairman; Blanche Genaitis and Frank Anoris, telephone chairmen.

Vincukas

## COUNCIL 12 — MANHATTAN, NY

We started 1988 with the usual Vasario 16 and šv. Kazimiero minėjimais. Towards the end of March we were saddened, when Our Lord called a loyal and beloved member — Anna Zindzius to her reward. The whole council mourns together with her daughter Helen and son-in-law Vincent Cuperwich. Amžiną atilsį suteik mielai Elenutei Viešpatie.

Now about "fröliche sachen"! A little "bragging" about our talented council is in order. We are the closest council to the great white way — Broadway and the stardust is affecting us.

Our member and talented pianist Aldona Kepalaitė gave her upteenth recital at Weill Hall, in Carnegie Hall. Many of us led by our spiritual advisor Father Vytautas Palubinskas, were there to cheer her on. Bravo Aldona. We also have an actor on our membership list — the talented Arūnas Čiuberkis. He is actor-producer and works with the Arts Club Theatre based at Our Lady of Vilnius hall (Home base of C-12) His most recent production was Echoes from the Baltic — A presentation of Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian poetry in the native tongue and translations. We will try to feature some of the better ones in VYTIS..

We also have an artist in residence



C-12 Manhattan, NY member Alma Korengo receiving her 3rd degree from Ritual Chairman Rita Susko at the Scranton Communion Breakfast. Photo: Dalia Bulvičius

the versatile Vida Krištolaitis, known for her abstract landscapes of Kennebunkport, Maine and other places. Last but not least — there is also a speaker in the house namely yours truly. For the first time in my life I was invited to speak at C-142 St. Casimir's commemoration. Thanks to all of them for a wonderful reception.

Linkiu visiems smagios vasaros ir iki pasimatymo per mūsų seima liepos mėnesį Washington, DC.

*Dalia B.*

## C-25 — CLEVELAND

The first two meetings of the year presented a diminished amount of members in attendance due to a winter cruise, being out of town and inclement weather. It may have been a slow start, but many plans for the future months are in the offing. The month of March came in with a roar.

St. Casimir's Day held March 6 was a memorable occasion. Mass was celebrated by our spiritual advisor Fr. G. Kijauskas at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Members then gathered at Alexander's Restaurant for a noon

meal of choice. In attendance was Fr. Goldikovskis who led us in prayer and gave a short talk on the meaning of the day and on St. Casimir. An approximated 40 members attended. We proceeded to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Hall for our monthly meeting.

When all matters were taken care of, Fr. Kijauskas assembled his VCR and we viewed the Vatican tape of the Béatification of Blessed Matulaitis that was held in Rome last summer. It was like having been there. It was a perfect feast day planned by D. Marks and committee.

"Establish and Average" bowling socials are in full swing. Jean and Dick Marks hosted February; Dolly and Tony Oberaitis, March; Ursula and Gene Kunsaitis, April and Joan and Jim Thompson are slated for May. These are gracious people.

Our first trimester Koffee Klatch in the parish hall was held on March 27. Ample home-baked goods were donated by members, and N. Arunski had plenty of serving help. Thank you, nice people!

Prayerfully glad to see our sick list has slowly but surely diminished

and M. Gray, A. Shigo, D. Oberaitis, A. Bendokas, J. Garnis, F. Prankevich, and S. Yurkovic are all on the mend or soon will be, if not already in the swing of things.

Dolly-O

## C-29 — NEWARK

Our annual communion breakfast was held on March 6. The celebration started with a Mass held at Holy Trinity Church in Newark. Rev. Peter Stravinskas, our spiritual advisor, was the celebrant. Two beautiful and meaningful ceremonies took place to make this a very special Mass. First, there was a colorful procession in which some of our members participated. The ladies attired in their Lithuanian dresses and the men proudly wearing their juostas carried gifts to the altar in honor of St. Casimir. The second ceremony was the presentation of K of L Third Degree Medals to Adele Matthews and Eleanore Cavallo. Congratulations to both ladies!

Immediately following the Mass



Eleanore Cavallo & Adele Matthews presented Third Degrees at C-29 Newark St. Casimir's Day celebration.

we assembled in our parish hall to enjoy a delicious luncheon prepared by our favorite cooks, Margie and Walter Brazaitis, Marie Guoba, Anne O'Neill and their helpful kitchen crew. Father Peter Stravinskas gave the invocation. As our guest speaker we were fortunate to have Gintė Damušis, associate director of Catholic Religious Aid. She gave a talk on the conditions in Lithuania today and read documentations of Soviet brutalities that are still going on in spite of all the propaganda. Rita Sussko chaired this affair, and we thank her and her committee for a job well done.

March 13, Helen Radush and Susan Sussko attended the Mid-Atlantic District meeting hosted by Council 74 in Scranton. They both worked on the mandate committee and reported 214 members in attendance with 16 councils represented. The next district meeting will be held on June 6, hosted by Council 41 Brooklyn. Both Helen and Rita enjoyed this day and reported that Scranton Council made excellent hosts.

Our annual cake sale was held on Palm Sunday. As in the past, our members pitched in every which way to make this a big financial success. There were cakes galore, crafts galore and a raffle with many prizes that were donated by parishioners and members. In addition to selling cakes and crafts, our kitchen crew was busy in the kitchen selling coffee, sandwiches and cake. Mary Honeyman chaired this affair, and we are very thankful to her and a terrific committee for their dedication and hard work. The proceeds from this affair (1400 dollars) were donated to Holy Trinity Church to help defray expenses.

Immediately following the cake sale, we held our March council meeting. Loretta Stukas, chairman of the K of I. Jubilee Committee, gave a talk on the plans being made for the up-

coming national convention. She spoke highly of the Sheraton Washington Hotel and its surroundings.

"A little birdie let the cat out of the bag" and announced that it was President Kazys Sipaila's birthday, so we all burst out with a loud "Ilgiausiu Metų, Kazy!!"

Eva Coll

## C-36 Juniors— CHICAGO

The Knights of Lithuania Juniors of Council 36 were organized by Sabina Klatt Henson, third vice president, on June 23, 1987, at the home of Laima Boese.

The following were elected to office: Ronald Novak, president; Gina Scheiber, first vice president; Beth Jensen, second vice president; Lisa Boese, secretary; Kristine Jensen, corresponding secretary; Donna Scheiber, treasurer; Allen Cius, sergeant at arms and Christine Cius, Vytis correspondent.

Father Fabian Kireillis installed the officers and donated 5 dollars to the membership fund. Mrs. Sirutis also donated 10 dollars for good luck and necessities.

Our meetings are very exciting and informative. At the July meeting Ann Marie Kassel conducted a sing-along after the business meeting.

In September we had a very special meeting in the yard of President Evelyn Oželis. We were treated to pizza and coke by John Henson.

At our November meeting we met at Graue Hill, fed the ducks and geese and hiked through the woods. Afterwards we had a turkey dinner at Sabina Henson's home. We talked about upcoming events.

For our December meeting we were with the regular C-36 members for the celebration of Kūčios. Even Santa Claus made his appearance and brought us lovely gifts.

We started the new year with a bang. Our first meeting was held at Balzekas Lithuanian Museum. It was interesting to see all the exhibits. We read about the origin of the Lithuanian people.

March 6 we were in the St. Casimir procession, carrying our Lithuanian flag was Ronald Novak with Christine Cius and Sabina Henson as honor guards. Josephine and Audrey Novak and Allen Cius carried the



*C-36 Chicago Juniors organized by Sabina Klatt Henson and officers installed by Rev. Fabian Kireillis.*



*C-36 Chicago Juniors participated in St. Casimir's Day procession at Mid-America District meeting at Immaculate Conception Church.*

beautiful banner that Mary Kincius, first vice president C-36, made and donated. The Lithuanian flag which was donated by Evelyn Ozelis was blessed after the homily by Father Kireilis. It was a highlight for us Juniors. We were all gathered proudly by our flag.

March 7 we gathered at Bit o' Magic Restaurant to get acquainted with Council 24 and 112 junior members. It was a very impressive evening and we enjoyed seeing the magic show.

We are eagerly waiting for our meetings and to keep learning about Lithuania, our culture and heritage.

Christine Cjus,  
Vytis Correspondent

## C-36 — CHICAGO

Council 36 of the Brighton Park area of Chicago, Immaculate Conception Parish, commemorated the February 16 Declaration of Lithuanian Independence with a candlelight ceremony in solidarity with the demonstrations held all over the world, espe-

cially in occupied Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. The prayerful ceremony took place at the monthly February meeting.

At the March meeting in the Immaculate Conception School Hall a Marian Year observance was held.

The council welcomed a new pastor, Rev. Anthony Puchenski who was transferred from St. Patricia's in Hickory Hills, With fond adieu, they bid farewell to their former pastor, Rev. John Kuzinskas who is located



*C-36 Chicago - Candlelight Ceremony in solidarity with the demonstrations held all over the world in commemoration of Lithuania's Independence.*

at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To commemorate St. Casimir's Day Council 36 hosted the Mid-America District quarterly meeting of all area councils. Lithuanian Mass was held at Immaculate Conception with brunch immediately afterward. Over 100 members tasted the delicious meal prepared by Helen L. Meizis and her committee. Rev. Fabian Kireilis received the Man of the Year Award for his many sacrifices and official services.

Future plans include participation in the National Convention in Washington and the annual picnic on the Fourth of July at Immaculate Conception parish.

Mary Kinčius

Ilgiausiu Metu ..... to TEKLA RUCHAS who celebrated her 100th birthday in February. A fathering of relatives and friends including many K of L'ers, enjoyed a most beautiful celebration. Starting with an evening Mass at St. George's Church, the festivities continued at the Mayfield Banquet Hall. John and Sabina Henson did a wonderful job in making the occasion a memorable one for all. (Tekla is Sabina's mother). Vince Samaska's cake made a big hit, orders will be taken for future 100 year olds.

Hosted by C-36, the District's St.

Casimir's Day was celebrated with Mass at Immaculate Conception Church with a luncheon following. The District meeting that followed awarded C-36 members Salomeja Daulys and Mary Kincius the 3rd Degree and the Man of the Year award was given to Rev. Fabian Kireilis, Spiritual Advisor of C-36. Participating in the ceremonies with their new banner, which was blessed at Mass, were the council Juniors. Many thanks to Dave Gaidas for the beautiful St. Casimir prayer cards that were donated and distributed to all who attended the Mass. Thanks to Helen & John Meizis and Rose and sister Josephine (who are non-members) for the well organized serving of the luncheon.

Congratulations to Sabina Klatt Henson for her interesting article in the Essay Contest. Our council is proud to have you as a member.

Get well wishes to our recovering members - Mr. & Mrs. Leone, Sue Suski, Sr. M. Alphonsine, John Adomaytis and any other members we don't know about. And prayers to all deceased members.

S & A

## C-46 — FOREST CITY

At the February meeting the Vyčią Himnas was translated by Charles Cyzeski.

Our annual flag raising took place on St. Anthony's Church grounds after morning Mass. This beautiful ceremony included the singing of the National Anthem and the Vyčią Himnas. Charles Cyzeski was in charge of this event.

A scholarship committee was established. Bea Stanis will chair the committee of Joey Marshall and Helen Zlotucha. Application was submitted to the council for approval.

We salute Margaret Cyzeski who won second honors for her essay which was published in the Vytis. Congratulations! Margaret is also our

council secretary.

Ritual chariperson Frances Yavorsky presented Second Degrees to Frank Cyzeski, Margaret Cyzeski, John Gudaitis and Bob Trusky.

On March 6 our council held their annual St. Casimir's Day celebration at morning Mass in St. Anthony's Church. In the offertory procession in native costume were Dorothy Andzulis, Blanche Motosko, Bea Stanis, Frances Stunges, Frances Yavorsky and Helen Zlotucha. Immediately after Mass, the Knights had breakfast at Gayle's Restaurant. A brief meeting followed.

Charles Cyzeski received his Third Degree at the Mid-Atlantic District meeting on March 13 in Scranton at St. Joseph's Church. Charles is involved in numerous church activities. Congratulations!

President Michael Yavorsky attended this meeting and Michele DeSera went as a guest. Delegates were Dorothy Andzulis, Charles Cyzeski, Blanche Motosko, Mary Markunas, Amy Morris, Alice Puntar, Bea Stanis, Frances Stunges, Frances Yavorsky and Helen Zlotucha.

Bea Stanis

## C-50 — NEW HAVEN

Many K of L'ers participated in the 70th Lithuanian Independence Day celebration on February 14. After Mass celebrated by Father Karalis, a youth procession proceeded from the church and placed a wreath at the Wayside Cross. Father Karalis said some prayers and added some comments, ending with the singing of "Maria, Maria."

In the church hall Father Karalis welcomed the invited guests and all the Lithuanians with an opening prayer and remarks for this very impressive gathering. Mayor Biagio Delieto expressed his deep concern for



Rev. Lambert Reilly, OSB, Pastor Father Karalis and Deacon Adam Michaels, participants at C-50 New Haven's St. Casimir Day celebration.

the Lithuanian Community in New Haven. A Ukrainian representative also brought a message from the Ukrainian Community. Dr. Juozas Kraučius was the guest speaker.

Father Karalis celebrated the special Mass honoring St. Casimir on March 6. He reminded us again that he is our patron saint and accomplished many good works in the very short span of his life. Father Lambert Reilly OSB from the Benedictine Abbey of Indiana was the main speaker at the banquet following the Mass.

Mike Boguslawski, Consumer Advocate of Channel 8 in New Haven, was the guest speaker. Frank Antin



Mike Boguslawski, Consumer Advocate of Channel 8 News with wife Patricia (left) was guest speaker at New Haven C-50's St. Casimir Day celebration. Publicity chairman Elizabeth Gybowski (right).

was chairman of the dinner. Frank Peterson was master of ceremonies. Others who assisted were Al and Ann Gedrim, Tony and Ann Kordorsky, Betty and Frank Gybowski, Ann Meskins, Isabel Peterson, Marie Antin, Irene and Mike Meizies, Al Gutasukas and Rose Kacillas.

New members who have joined us recently are Ann Taragowski Romano and Walter Petchulis. Welcome!

H B

## C-63 — LEHIGH VALLEY

Council 63 sadly announces the death of Mr. Česlovas Butkys on March 26, 1988, a loss shared by our council with the entire Lithuanian world community.

The Encyclopedia Lituanica says of Mr. Butkys: Jurist, born in Riga, Latvia, on July 29, 1984. He graduated from the University of Moscow in law in 1916. He returned to Lithuania and was Judge of the Kaunas Municipal Court, The Kaunas Regional Court, and the Supreme Court. He lectured in civil law at the University of Kaunas and the University of Vilnius.

He was professor at the Baltic University in Hamburg-Pinneberg, Germany. He was chairman of the Society of Lithuanian Lawyers. He came to the United States in 1951.

He has published the following works on law: The Civil Laws of Suvalkija, Civil Procedure, Explanations of the Law of Hypothec as well as short stories, feuilletons and dramatic works.

He was a lifetime honorary member of Council 63. He epitomized the educated and cultured European gentleman.

This writer saw some of Mr. Butkys' personal memorabilia such as the clothing items he wore during the

period he served as a member of Lithuania's Supreme Court. They consisted of a black top hat, celluloid collar with tie, split long tail coat, trousers with a vertical stripe down each pant leg and the inevitable white spats and cane. Only a fresh carnation was missing.

Mr. Butkys is survived by his son, Dr. Adolph Butkys, a professor of Economics and Marketing at Villanova University, his son's wife Susanne and a granddaughter Christine.

Our council conducted the Knight's wake ritual on the day of burial in Holy Savior Cemetery, Bethlehem. Your prayers for the repose of his soul would be most appreciated by his family and by our council.

Our sick list for the month of March included our vice president George Deriscavage, who is suffering from a lingering attack of bronchitis but is slowly recovering. Emilie Tihansky is recuperating at home after undergoing surgery. Mary Sabol underwent open heart surgery on March 28 and is reported to be recovering nicely. We pray for the speedy recovery of our members.

Elizabeth Carey was appointed chairperson to operate Council 63's blynai (potato pancake) stand at the Bethlehem Christmas City Fair July 15, 16 and 17. She immediately drafted her husband Joseph as a helper and enlisted the aid of her sister Valeria Smickle and Dora Lushis, last year's chairlady and also Joseph Ogint.

This is an annual event which combines hard work with fun and camaraderie. Our stand is decorated with Lithuania's national colors. We receive considerable publicity and patronage. The fairgrounds are below the Hill to Hill Bridge in Bethlehem and are festooned with various national flags, but we think Lithuania's is the biggest, nicest and naturally the best! We invite all of our fellow Lithua-

nians and friends to visit historic Bethlehem during this period and take in the colonial era sights. It is a beautifully restored town which you will truly enjoy. After seeing the sights, come down to our stand and indulge in genuine Lithuanian blynai, topped with delicious soured cream. You can't miss us as we are the guys with the loveliest flag and the best taste in town. Please mark your calendar for July 15, 16 or 17. For further information call Joseph Ogint at (215) 434-4513.

Joseph Ogint

## C-74 — SCRANTON

Council 74 was happy to host the MAD Convention at St. Joseph's Church on March 13. We had a beautiful Mass celebrated by Rev. Peter Madus with Msgr. Michael Ozalas as concelebrant and Msgr. William Pakutka as homilist.

The offertory procession led by Jerome Costello and John Ramakda as flag bearers included gifts carried by Rose Stanches, Ann Lisowski, Joseph Saibitis, Marie Laske and Mary Costello. MAD president John Adomenas and national president Frank Petrauskas presented the bread and wine. Helen Cravath was lector.

Our dinner was chaired and supervised by our president, Jean Kavelinas who made everything run smoothly. Thanks Jean for a job well done! Our speaker was Seminarian Daniel Yenkevich. We enjoyed his message.

Your council is only as good as the people who are in it. Ours proved they could host this meeting successfully. Our workers included the following: Ann Huffsutler, tickets; Ruth Yanish and Ona Matulevich, 50/50; Mary Costello, Della Zvirblis and Martha Brack, deserts; Pranas Shimkus, Joe Zewicki, Joe Saibitis, bar;

Jerry Costello, Dick Laske, Casimir Yanish, chances; Ann Lisowski, Helen Rogansky, Agatha Sueta, prizes.

The food was plentiful, and we sent our visitors home with huge Lithuanian sandwiches.

We are proud to have Julie Krutlies and Martha Brack receive their Third Degrees. Congratulations!

Our treasurer Ed Romanauskas is recuperating from heart surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery!

Marie Laske

## C-103 — PROVIDENCE

With our pastor and spiritual advisor, Father Gedvila, on a leave from pastoral duties to take care of family chores in the south, President Bertha E. Stoskus prevailed upon past president William Piacentini to lead us in the opening prayer of our pot-luck supper April meeting.

The business portion was conducted with dispatch. The May breakfast report was one of good progress by chairperson Irene Landanski. William Piacentini, Lithuanian affairs chairman, briefed the membership on articles in the current issue of "The Observer." Council approved donations to national Lithuanian affairs and scholarship committees. Cultural chairman E. Ruta Krecioch distributed two short Lithuanian stories for the membership to read. The correct reading, translation and comments were provided by Father Valdemaras Cukurus who favored us with his presence. We were very pleased to have Father with us. He caused many to remember old times when he was our pastor and spiritual advisor.

Coming K of L activities on the council, district and national levels are going to keep us very busy. Dates conflicting with individual council affairs make it next to impossible for

members to attend every event. Some members will attend our May 1 breakfast then go to South Boston for Father Conton's anniversary. Many would like to go to Hartford for Lithuanian Day activities at St. Joseph's Cathedral but find it impossible. NED Spring Convention in Westfield will also conflict with parish anniversary celebration in Brockton. We cannot make them all; we talk about them and assure all of our friends in the district that our prayers and best wishes are constantly with all of our fellow members.

Un Qui Prie Pour  
Lithuanie

## C-110 — MASPETH

Since our January meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, the February meeting was our first of the new leap year. Our guest speaker was Romas Kezys, director of Lithuanian World Review Radio. He spoke on the lack of cooperation between the Knights of Lithuania and those members of the Židiny's. He also requested that those present petition their respective representatives in Congress to pass legislation to provide a local radio station whereby the ethnic groups will be able to broadcast their ethnic programs.

Since the current station is about to change hands becoming totally a Spanish language station, the broadcasts of other ethnic groups will be eliminated. In order to insure permanent existence of airing ethnic programs, legislation is required so that the Federal Communications Commission provide a radio station locally for the purpose of permitting ethnic programs to be aired.

Council 110 members and friends commemorated the 70th anniversary of Lithuania's independence

with Mass in Transfiguration Church in Maspeth. Msgr. Frank Bulovas was the celebrant. Rev. Stanislaus Raila gave the homily on Lithuania's trials and tribulations.

The luncheon was attended by 180 members and friends. Helen Matulonis, Lithuanian affairs chairman, presided. Msgr. Bulovas gave the invocation. After partaking of the delicious food, Albert Zarbretsky, Kearny Council 90, spoke on the ramifications for Lithuania under the Nazi and Soviet aggression pacts.

Al Marcel presented the council with a proclamation from the New York City Council saluting Lithuanian people on the anniversary of Lithuania's independence.

On March 6, the council's annual commemoration of St. Casimir was celebrated with Mass in Transfiguration. Following Mass, luncheon was served in the parish hall to all who participated in the Mass. Helen Matulonis gave a short synopsis of St. Casimir's life as one nobly born and who was pure as a lily.

Two buses of council members left for Scranton on March 13 to attend the Mid-Atlantic District St. Casimir's Breakfast and meeting, hosted by Council 74 of Scranton. Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's Church with Rev. Peter P. Madus as celebrant and Msgr. Ozalas as concelebrant. Homilist was Msgr. Pakutka who stressed remaining faithful to Christ and your Lithuanian heritage.

Luncheon followed in St. Joseph's Hall and was served by Council 74 members. Following luncheon the MAD business meeting was conducted by President John Adomenas.

Upon adjournment, a prayer, the singing of Vyčių Himnas and "God Bless America" brought a successful convention to an end.

Joseph C. Dugan





*Marcella Gelgot, Joe Dancho and Ruth Alansky of C-118 Hazleton installed in the Third Degree at Mid-Atlantic District meeting in Scranton on March 13.*

## C-118 — HAZLETON

We all enjoyed working on our Annual Mardi Gras held in February. Joe and Val Dancho co-chaired the event which included complete dinner and dancing. Everyone looks forward to this affair.

George Norris chaired our flag-raising ceremony. Our council purchased new flags and had flag poles built on the church grounds. Mayor Quigley joined us in our commemoration of Lithuania's independence. Dolores Yuscavage presented a proclamation from Harrisburg proclaiming February 16 as Lithuanian Independence Day.

We are very proud to have three new Third Degree Knights, Marcella Gelgot, Ruth Alansky and Joe Dancho. Since we reorganized five years ago, we now have seven Third Degree Knights. Val Dancho, John Lapinsky, Albert Launikonis and Alma Launikonis are our hard-working Third Degree members.

A crocheted flag in Lithuania's tri-colors was made by the late Margaret Lapinsky, framed by her children, and presented to the church. Father Skitzki blessed the flag, thanked the

family, and hung it in the church hall for all to enjoy.

**Alma Launikonis**

## C - 141

### Bridgeport, CT

Š. m. vasario mėn. 21 d. Bridgeporto vyčiai kartu su kitomis lietuvių organizacijomis atventė Lietuvos nepriklausomybės paskelbimo 70 metų sukaktuves. Šventė praėjo kukliai tačiau su pakelta nuotaika. Pradedant su iškilmingomis šv. Mišiomis kurias aukojo prel. Fr. J. Pranskus, dalyvaujant Bridgeporto dioclezijos vyskupui Walter Custiss.

Šv. Mišių pabaigoje vyskupas suteikė palaiminimą prieš tai suglaustai peržvelgęs nenuilstama lietuvių kova prieš okupantus, katalikų Lietuvos žiaurią priespaudą, jo žodžiais komunizmas yra nesiliaunantis šetono darbas.

Per pamaldų metu pravesta rinkliava Lietuvos Religinei Šalpai surinkta gausi auka 515.00 dol. sumoje.

Oficialioji minėjimo dalis buvo perkelta į Šv. Jurgio parapijos salę, kur atsilankęs Bridgeporto miesto burmistras Thomas Bucci kurs trum-

poje kalboje pasveikino dalyvius, linkėdamas sėkmės Lietuvos išlaisvinimo darbe.

Inž. J. Nasvytis Conn. valstijos Lietuvių Bendruomenės pirmininkas analizavo komunizmo įtaka ir gresme laisvam pasauliui, kuris nenori suprasti kaip prastai gali baigtis.

New Haven lietuvių tautinių šokių grupė "Vėtra" atliko eilę gražių šokių ir paliko dalyviams malonių ispūdžių.

Čia dar surinkta virš 950.00 dol. aukų, kurios yra paskirstomos Amerikos lietuvių organizacijoms dirbančiomis Lietuvos labui.

Pereitais metais vasario 16 d. minėjimas buvo pradžia visos eilės įvykių susijusių su 600 metų Lietuvos Krikščionybės minėjimais kuriuose mūsų nariai grupėmis dalyvavo.

Lietuvos Krikščionybės kryžiaus šventinimo iškilmėse Hartford, CT. Dalyvavo ir mūsų vyskupas kartu įteikdamas vyskupo dovana 1,000.00 dol. kryžiaus statybos fondui.

Bridgeporto lietuviai gali didžiuotis, kad savo veikla užsitarnavo vyskupo simpatiją — jo asmenyje turime didelį Lietuvos prietelį.

Perrinkta kuopos valdyba: dvasios vadovas prel. Fr. Prancus, pirminkė Clemencine Miller, 1-ma vice



*VYTIS Editor Dalia Bulvicius speaking at C-141 Bridgeport, CT. On her right is President Clemencine Miller, on her left Msgr. Francis Pranskus and Barbara Smith.*

pirm. Silvester Marcavage, 2-ra vice pirm. Ann Petrus, sekretorė Barbara Schmidt, kasininkė Teresa Trainis, finansinė sekretorė Lee Marcinka, Lietuvos veikla Joseph Janiūnas, Lietuvos kultūra Aldona Marcavage. Spauda Mitchell Marcinauskis.

Daug sėkmės ilgamečiui nariui George Radzvilas kuris išrinktas Bridgeporto miesto valdybos nariu. Ilgiausių metų Lee ir John Marcinkoms su 50 m. vedybų sukaktuvėms, Stella ir Mitchell Marcinauskai tik 25 m. (tesuspejo).

Su pavasariu kovo mėn 20 dieniai jau rengiami šv. Kazimiero dienos komunija su pusryčiais, kurių pelnas jau keli metai yra skiriamas Lietuvos, Kunigų kolegijai Romoje.

M. M.

## C-144 — ANTHRACITE

Bad news was received by the Lithuanian Day Committee with the closing of Rocky Glen Park. They could not locate another place to continue this tradition.

Fortunately, Boscov's, a local department store, came up with a solution. They are sponsoring an ethnic week at the Fairlane Village Mall, Route 61, between Pottsville and St. Clair, and will open with Lithuanian Day on Sunday, August 14. The Vėdra Dance Group will perform on Sunday. Šiluva Choir and Junior Knights will also participate. Lithuanian food will be served. Lithuanian artifacts will be displayed and sold. Thanks to Boscov's the tradition will be continued.

The 74th Annual Lithuanian Day Banquet will be held at Annunciation BVM Church Hall in Frackville on Saturday, August 13.

The Lithuanian Day Committee, Bernie Zelaitis, Helen Chesko, Anne and Ed Carlitus, Anne Wargo and President Joe Yezulinas will work

hard to make this Lithuanian Day successful. Proceeds will go to the Lithuanian College in Rome. More details will be available later.

A trip is being planned to attend the 8th Lithuanian Dance Festival in Canada. Sister Angela CJC is in charge.

Rita Shevokas will again hold a Lithuanian Day Camp for all area Lithuanian children June 20 to 24. Rita is counselor of the New Philadelphia Junior Knights. She has done an excellent job teaching Lithuanian to our youth. Our congratulations to Fr. Pete Ališauskas of C-143 Pittston who will be celebrating his 45th anniversary in the priesthood. Also, we extend congratulations to Council 3 Philadelphia on their 75th anniversary in the K of L.

## C-152 — RIVERHEAD

Our February meeting had a fairly good attendance for that time of the year. With cold weather and bad driving conditions, some of us have difficulty in making the meetings.

Beatrice and Fred Lucka with some friends from Council 110 representing the K of L attended the Pro-Life March in Washington. There were about 50,000 people joining the march with a great many of them young people.

Twenty-one of us went to Maspeth to the Church of the Transfiguration to join Council 110 on the anniversary of Lithuanian independence. The Mass was a new experience for some of us as we had never attended one in the Lithuanian language. Most of us understand the language\* but have difficulty speaking it.

After Mass we went to the social rooms for the program. A buffet followed and was greatly enjoyed. For some it was a time of visiting old friends, for others it was making new

friends.

Before we left for home, we viewed the Wayside Cross. It is really a beautiful work of art. It was a most enjoyable day, especially for those of us who had never been to Maspeth.

We celebrated St. Casimir's Day March 13 by having a Mass at St. John's Church in Riverhead. It was a special occasion for some of us who received our degrees. There were 28 First Degrees and 12 Second Degrees with Father Scroll officiating. A thank you to Muriel Lekstutis, the organist, and to Fred Lucka for organizing the choir.

Following Mass we went to the Birchwood, a short distance from the church, for a country lunch which was greatly enjoyed. This was followed by a short talk by Father Scroll who admonished that as we get older, we should keep our minds active and get involved in community affairs. Several prizes were raffled off that were donated by some of the members. Our sincere thanks to Father Scroll and to Peter Dykovitz and his co-workers for making this a beautiful day.

Mary Zipkas

### REST IN PEACE

CHARLES GENAITIS  
C-10 - Athol-Gardner, MA  
Died: March 6, 1988

DR. WALTER KIRSTUK  
C-112 - Chicago, IL  
Died: March 19, 1988

JOHN RUDIS  
C-112 - Chicago, IL  
Died: March 26, 1988

ANIELE KAJOKAS  
C-24 - Chicago, IL  
Died: April 1988

## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

The Mid-Atlantic District communion breakfast meeting took place on March 6th in Scranton, PA. Host was Council 74. After a delightful trip through the beautiful Pocono Mountains, the host council greeted us with coffee and cake. About 250 Knights and guests gathered in the majestic St. Joseph's Church where Pastor Peter Madus offered Mass. He was assisted by Seminarian Daniel Yenkevich. This year the Third Degrees were awarded in church. It was a beautiful ceremony and previously all its symbolic beauty was lost in a noisy church hall.

Our main speaker was Daniel Yenkevich. His speech was inspiring and well researched. Council 74 has to be commended for its organizational skills. The program given out in Church was a labor of love with Lithuanian art work and "get acquainted items". Well done!

Our June meeting will be a special one. We are invited to Brooklyn. Hosts: Council 41. Pres. Bill Kumet is breathing new life into the council. Its membership is growing, the meetings have become more regular. There is a pot luck dinner after the meetings. Bravo 41! Let's make a special effort to attend the district meeting in Brooklyn and show C-41 that the district stands behind them.



Servers at MAD Meeting in Scranton: Martha Brack, Jule Krutles, Dick Laske, John Romoska, Ruth Yanish, Ann Mask, Marie Laske.



Mid-Atlantic Meeting in Scranton: Front row l to r: Rev. Peter Marlus, Dan Yenkevich, Nat'l Pres. Frank Petrauskas, Rev. Mikaljunas from Bigghamton, NY. Back row: Jean Kavelinas, Pres. C-74, MAD Pres. John Adomenas and Irene Petrauskas.



LITHUANIAN INFORMATION  
 CENTER  
 5620 S CLAREMONT  
 CHICAGO, IL 60636

**VYTIS**

5112 So. Mayfield  
 Chicago, IL 60638

Return Requested  
 Address Correction Requested



## *Knights of Lithuania*

### 75th NATIONAL CONVENTION

#### CONVENTION SCHEDULE

##### Wednesday, July 27th

- 1:30 P.M. Bus Tour of Washington for Early Birds  
 7:30 P.M. Bus Tour of Washington for later arrivals

##### Thursday, July 28th

- 9:00 A.M. Supreme Council Meeting  
 \* 10:30 A.M. Opening Mass  
 2:00 P.M. Opening Session  
 6:00 P.M. Depart for Anniversary Party  
 (Music by Joe Thomas)

##### Friday, July 29th

- 8:30 A.M. Mass  
 10:00 A.M. Second Session  
 12:30 P.M. Lunch Break  
 2:00 P.M. Third Session  
 8:30 P.M. Concert at Hotel

##### Saturday, July 30th

- 8:30 A.M. Mass  
 10:00 A.M. Fourth Session  
 12:30 P.M. Lunch Break  
 2:00 P.M. Fifth Session  
 7:00 P.M. 75th Anniversary Banquet & Dance  
 (Joe Thomas Orchestra)

##### Sunday, July 31st

- 10:00 A.M. Brunch - Hotel  
 12:00 Noon Buses depart for Immaculate Conception Shrine  
 2:00 P.M. Mass of Thanksgiving

\* Also closing Mass for Lithuanian R.C. Priests  
 League Convention

#### Convention registration fee:

Until June 29, 1988 ..... \$75.00  
 After June 29, 1988 ..... 85.00

#### Junior registration fee:

Until June 29, 1988 ..... 50.00  
 After June 29, 1988 ..... 55.00