

the KNIGHT **VYTYIS** 1989

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA



Linksmų Velykų- Happy Easter

VYTIS

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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VYTIS STAFF: Mary (Rusas) Kober, Editor-in-Chief
Two Bayview Avenue
Port Washington, NY 11050
(516) 767-1517

Dalia Bulvicius
Feature Writer
30 Montrose Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11206

Helen Chesko
Council News Editor
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LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE
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**ST. CASIMIR'S COLLEGE
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EDITORIAL

On March 4, Lithuanians celebrate the Feast of St. Casimir, patron saint of Lithuania. This day is as dear to our hearts as is February 16 - Lithuanian's Independence Day. March 4 is the Feast Day of the only Lithuanian who has been officially proclaimed a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. The holy person of St. Casimir, his many great ideals and great virtues have not changed or disappeared over the years and are still an inspiration to all Lithuanians. Also, on March 17 we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, on March 19th another great Saint's Feast Day, St. Joseph and finally on March 26 Blessed Easter. The Executive Board and Vytis Staff wish all readers happy and blessed holidays.

You will note the name and address label on your March issue of Vytis has been computerized. If your name or address is incorrect or you know of someone who has not received their Vytis, please contact Vytis editor. Questions relating to dues should still be forwarded to the national financial secretary and problems in connection with Vytis to the Editor.

Bishop Paulius Baltakis, OFM

Greets the Knights of Lithuania



Broliai ir Sesės Lietuvos Vyčiai:

Kristaus prisikėlimo šventėms artėjant, džiaugiamės visi kartu taip pat ir Lietuvos tautinių ir valstybinių atgimimu. Kuo nuoširdžiausiai linkiu ir Lietuvos vyčių garbingai organizacijai augti ir stiprėti. Su džiaugsmu ir meilė visi tarnaukime Dievui ir Tėvynei! Visiems linkiu kuo linksmiausių Šv. Velyku!

Vytiškai,

VYSKUPAS PAULIUS BALTAKIS, OFM

Dear Knights:

With Easter season approaching, together we rejoice in the revival of our Lithuanian government. I sincerely wish the Knights of Lithuania organization to grow and be strong and with love and happiness we serve God and Country. Best wishes for a Happy and Holy Easter.

Vytiškai,

BISHOP PAULIUS BALTAKIS, OFM



'A PLEA FOR FREEDOM'

By Ann H. McDonald

The Lithuanian flag has colors of three but
can't fly over a land that's free.
Red is for the bleeding heart - praying to be free,
Green is for hope - a plight for Liberty,
Yellow is for the ray of sunshine that faith has kept alive
Someday the ray will become a sunburst,
for this we'll strive.
God Bless this small country of our heritage, with love,
St. Casimir, our patron, watch over it from above
Give the people who hold them in bondage a
compassionate heart and open mind.

Give Lithuania her freedom -
A more grateful nation you'll never find.
Our heritage is one we're proud of
embedded deep in our heart
A love of our ancestry - taught right from the start
Tales of childhood and things that were cherished
memories never told before.
Oh - to turn back the clock and walk down
"Memory Lane"
To let our ancestors take us "back home" again.

What's happening to Our Lithuanian Parishes?

Rev. Peter Stravinskas

A few weeks ago one of my parishioners reacted to the news of the potential closing of two Lithuanian parishes in another city with the line: "Father, what are they doing to our Lithuanian parishes?" I responded: "What they are you talking about?" "The bishops," came the reply. To which I inquired, "Have they ever closed a parish of 5000 families with a vibrant school and well-attended liturgical services?" Stunned silence.

Having served in the Lithuanian Apostolate for some time now in a variety of capacities, I think I am in a position to offer a few reflections on the difficulties faced by our parishes. I will say some things that will offend some people, but our goal must be confronting the truth and not attempting to please people -- otherwise, we will see even more parishes closed with increased frequency.

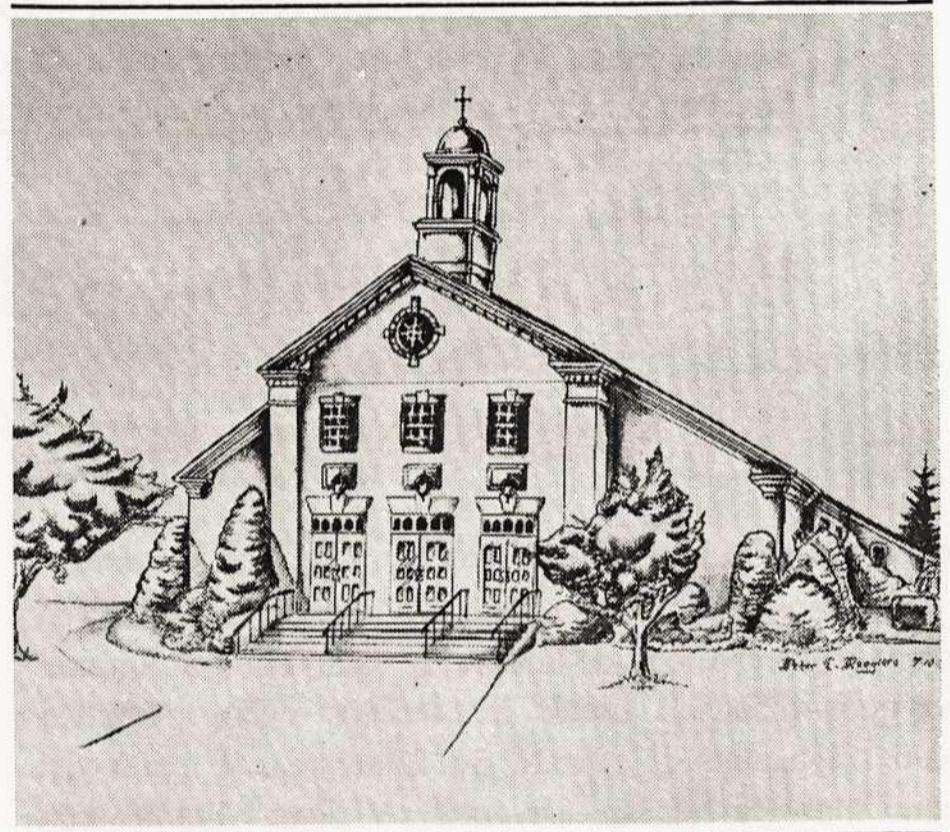
I would identify five areas which call for attention.

1. As Lithuanians moved out of the old neighborhoods and into the suburbs, few have felt compelled to return to their parishes for worship. They do, however, want the parishes to remain open for the high holy days or for their funerals. Some salve their consciences by sending in checks periodically. Certainly a pastor is grateful for financial support, but a parish is in the business of saving souls and not in operating a bank. The question to ask is: "If I do not want to attend my home parish, why am I upset if it is slated for closure?"

2. Not a few Lithuanians are given to using the parish for they feel like magicians trying to pull rabbits out of a hat, week after week, inventing social functions to attract parishioners, so that Sunday Mass can have a half-way respectable congregation. While the cultural and social are important to maintain, our primary focus - once again - is religious. If that is not the interest of the people, then they do not want a church; they want a social hall, and no priest or parish is needed for that.

3. Modern Lithuanians have failed to foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life and, in my judgment, in far higher proportions than many other traditionally Catholic immigrant groups. Many have been sucked into a vortex of materialism, consumerism and status-seeking; therefore, they are repelled by the notion of a child who would forego these pleasures. Yet who will supply the vocations to staff Lithuanian parishes and institutions?

Oddly enough, some people are disturbed at the prospect of having non-Lithuanians serving as their priests and religious. As an aside, it might also be noted here that Hispanics have rarely reacted negatively to non-Hispanic clergy and religious, who tend to their spiritual welfare.



4. Which brings us to Lithuanian xenophobia. All too often Lithuanians seem terrified at the prospect of having "outsiders" involved as members of their parishes and so refuse to welcome them. Catholicism is a worldwide religion, in which no one is a stranger who shares our Faith; that attitude needs to be clearly reflected in our parochial life by including others in a positive and wholesome manner. Grudging toleration will not do. Practically speaking, the survival of Lithuanian parishes to any degree may well depend on how they accept the presence of non-Lithuanian parishioners.

5. All too often Lithuanian parochial life is too identified with the language. While the preservation of the language is important and is an understandable goal, it can become an obstacle for many second- and third-generation Lithuanians and also for attracting young Lithuanian priests. At times, parishioners can be so adamant on the issue that one wonders if one is running a church or a language school. This last point might be underscored in still another way. Some time ago I knew of three young Lithuanian priests who were interested in obtaining at

least a gentleman's acquaintance with the language; they sought out a tutor, who wanted to charge them \$15 an hour each! So much for interest in language and priests alike.

The above suggestions are presented, not to be negative but to make a start toward getting the Lithuanian parishes back on a track which will return them to viability. If these suggestions are rejected out-of-hand, I don't think it

will be fair to declare that they are closing our Lithuanian parishes; rather, will have to say that we have decided to close them.

(Fr. Peter Stravinskas is the Administrator of Holy Trinity Church in Newark, NJ and serves as Vocations Director for the Lithuanian Apostolate and as a representative on the Committee for Migration and Tourism of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops).



THE NEED FOR SOMETHING PAST THE 4th DEGREE

Al Zakarka, National Ritual Chairman

As National Ritual Chairman, I feel a strong obligation and duty to bring to light some ideas on what our organization can do to supplement our degree presentations without doing an injustice to our Third and Fourth Degree medals.

I believe many of our members would agree there is a need for something past the Fourth Degree. As an organization, we need to keep most of our 4th degree recipients on *Active Participation* in order to bring our organization well into the 21st Century. It is a shame and a waste of talent to see some of our 4th degree members slack off because they feel they worked hard enough for our organization.

I would like to throw out for discussion to our membership an idea that would not take away the importance of our present degrees but something that would supplement our degree program.

My suggestion is to continue the use of the present point system in allowing very active 4th degree members to enter THE ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA JUOSTA. We could commission someone to design a specific Lithuanian Juosta to be used only by

our Knights of Lithuania organization. This Juosta would be worn at all Knights of Lithuania commemorations. Certainly it should not be a relatively easy task to enter this order. I would recommend a minimum of ten (10) years after awarding of the 4th degree and with a minimum of 250 points. Our organization could follow the same system of utilizing our council Ritual Chairpersons to provide the necessary paper work and ultimate approval by the National Ritual Committee.

A logical question would be: When would this Knights of Lithuania Juosta be presented and, especially, who would pay for it? As to presentation, my recommendation would be at the St. Casimir's Day celebrations. As to cost, my recommendation would be an equal split between the receiving member and his or her council.

It would be appreciated if each council Ritual Chairperson discuss this idea with their members and return some feedback information and/or additional suggestions to the National Ritual Chairman. My address is: 6958 So. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60629

K OF L HISTORY BOOK

The Knights of Lithuania history book written by Rev. Vincas Valkavicius has been available to the membership for the past nine months. This book is the result of years of research and much hard work on the part of the author. He gave us a book full of information and we, the Knights, should be proud to own one since it is all about our wonderful organization. Students, especially, could find a wealth of information for their term papers and

reports.

We, therefore, urge members to purchase a copy. They are available from your district and council presidents, or by ordering a copy from:

Frank Petrauskas
201 Bennington Drive
Syracuse, NY 13205

Franciscan Press
341 Highland Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11207

THE FOUR REGIONS OF LITHUANIA

Part II

AUKŠTAITIJA

Aukštaitija comprises the wavy highlands and the fertile, central lowland of the eastern part of Lithuania, stretching from the Nevežis and Nemunas Rivers. These highlands rise to some 650 feet above sea level, with blue lakes in the lower areas. The largest lake in Lithuania (Drukšiai), the deepest one (Tauragnas, 200 feet), and the longest one (Dubingiai, 14 miles) are among them. Sartai Lake is frequently visited by tourists and vacationers.



A typical wayside shrine. In Lithuania it is called a "koplytstulpis" or translated "a little chapel on a pole". The word is a combination of two words, *koplyčia* (chapel) and *stulpas* (pole). At the very top is a characteristic design called "saulute" which resembles the sun giving off its rays in all directions. The Lithuanian word "saule" means sun, and "saulutė" is the diminutive form meaning "little sun".

Aukštaitija was first mentioned in the annals of the Von Dusburg chronicles in the early 14th century, and it

referred to the Lithuanians living east of the Nevežis River as Aukštaičiai. The geographical meaning of the name is also emphasized in the letter written by Vytautas the Great to Emperor Sigimund on March 11, 1420. It stated that Žemaitija and Aukštaitija "have always been, and remain at present, one and the same Lithuania, as it has one language and is inhabited by the same people. The Žemaičiai call the rest of Lithuania Aukštaitija because this land, in comparison to Žemaitija, is somewhat higher".

The Lithuanian word "aukštas", translated into English, means "high"; hence, the highlands of Lithuania are called Aukštaitija.

Vilnius is mentioned as the capital of Lithuania from documents dating back to the 14th century. The principality of Vilnius encompassed the northeastern part of Aukštaitija, at that time, and the principality of Trakai the southwestern.

Some of the more well known cities in the region of Aukštaitija are Kaunas, Panevežys, Kedainiai, Ukmerge and Rokiškis.

Some of Lithuania's classic writers came from Aukštaitija, namely Bishop Antanas Baranauskas, Jonas Biliunas, Juozas Tumas-Vaizgantas and Antanas Vionuolis, who lived in the surroundings of Anykščiai.

Aukštaitija may not have any significance to some

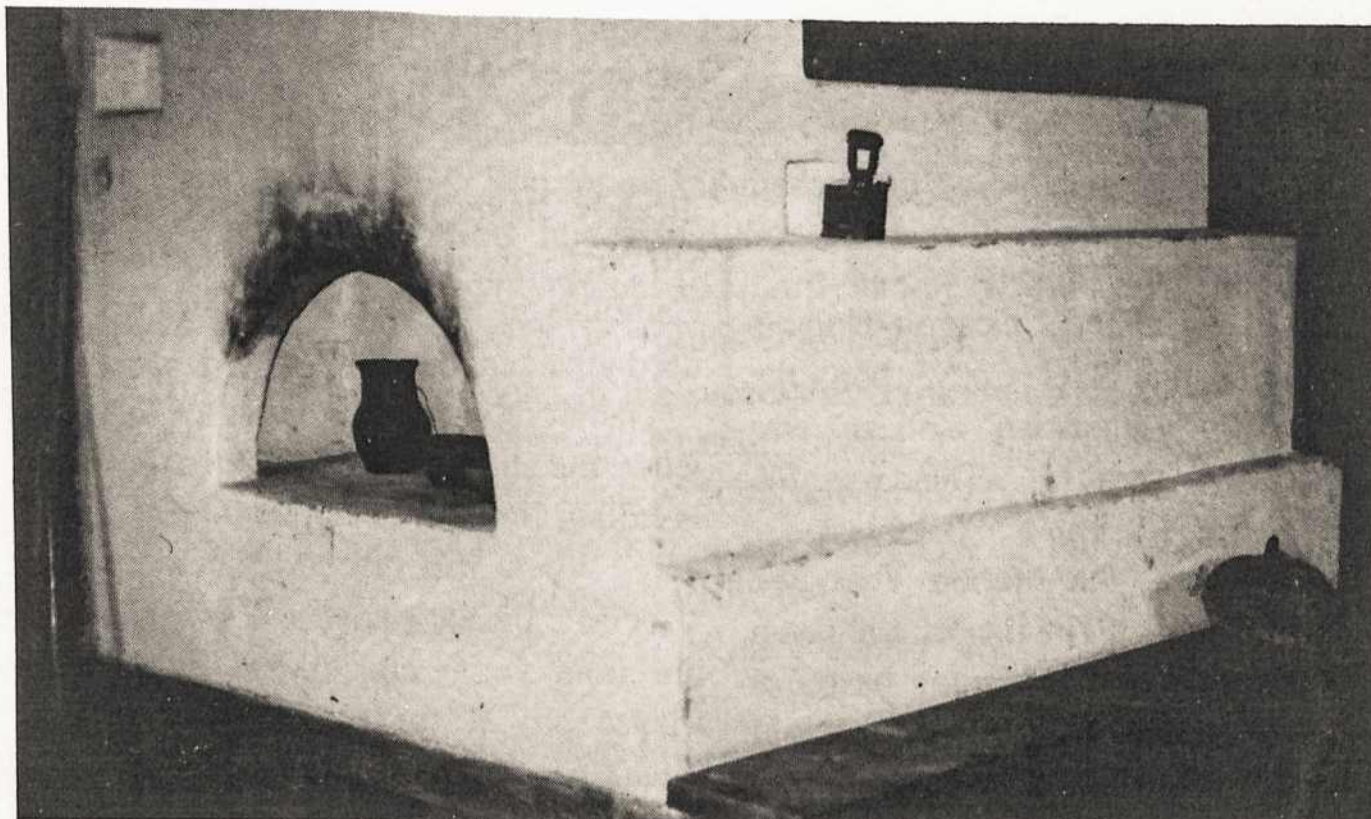


A typical farm house in Aukštaitija.

people, but to me it has a special place in my heart for that is where my parents came from. I still remember the stories my mother told me about her childhood days, especially when she slept "on the stove" in the farm house during the winter months. While I found it

difficult to picture her doing this, after I visited the typical farm house in the Aukštaitija part of the Country Life Museum in Rumšiškės, I realized that it was a way of life in those days. *Ed Baranauskas*
(To be Continued)

A stove used primarily for baking bread and potato pudding (kugelis). The top part was used for sleeping in the winter months and could accommodate two people. The bottom square opening is called "papečkė" meaning "under the stove". During winter months, hens were put in there to keep them warm.



KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CHOIR'S LENTEN CASSETTE

Albert Zakarka

Several years ago the Knights of Lithuania Choir, in conjunction with the Mid-America District, approved the production of a cassette in Lithuanian, in order to continue our national goal of publicizing our language of Lithuania. After considerable hard work, the cassette was produced and made available for distribution to the world.

Our cassette is divided into two parts: Part One features The Seven Last Words of Christ composed by Theodore DuBois and sung by soloists, choirs and orchestra. Part Two features a prayer written by young Lithuanian girls in Siberia which was smuggled out to the Free World. The beautiful words were put to music by our own Knights of Lithuania member and Director Faustas Strolia. The soloists for The Seven Last Words of Christ are: Praurime Ragiene, soprano; Rimas Strimaitis, tenor; and Algird Brazis, baritone. The soloist for the Lithuanian prayer Suledė jusiomis Lūpomis - Kalėdų Malda is Algird Brazis. Al, president of Mid-America District for many years, formerly with Metropolitan Opera Co., has been a featured soloist with the K of L Choir since its reorganization 29 years ago.

The entire production of the cassette was under the direction of Faustas Strolia. The Knights of Lithuania Choir wishes to express sincerest thanks first to Faustas Strolia, our director; soloists Praurime Ragiene, Rimas Strimaitis, Algird Brazis; Robert Mockus, assistant director; Darius Polikaitis, audio; Algimantas Kezys, SJ, photo; St. John's Fisher Choir, St. Barnabas Choir and a 30-piece orchestra. With their help the Knights of Lithuania Choir was able to promote our national goal of keeping our Lithuanian language alive.

This cassette is a beautiful and practical item, a perfect Easter gift, especially for the aged who are shut in and can't get out. It could be played on many occasions during the Lenten season. One church played an English version of The Seven Last Words of Christ on Good Friday. Wouldn't it be nice to hear Lithuanian words with music in some of our old Lithuanian churches during the Lenten-Easter Season?

We are, of course, proud to announce that our cassettes are now being played in Australia, Brazil, Argentina, Canada, England France, Italy, and hopefully soon in

LITHUANIA.

The intention of this article is to reach our membership who have never heard about our cassette, as well as those who had good intentions of obtaining one, but simply forgot. Cassettes are available by sending \$11.00 to Ann

Marie Kassel, 7336 - 2 Winthrop Way, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

I urge all our members to help our choir keep alive one of our national goals of expanding our Lithuanian language by buying a cassette, by playing it, and by enjoying it.



LETTERS

Dear Madam President:

In 1984 at the Chicago's Knights of Lithuania Nat'l Convention, the Pontifical Lithuanian College was officially "adopted". This was the fruit of St. Casimir's 500 Jubilee.

This year, the Marian Year, the Golden Jubilee Knights of Lithuania Convention in Washington passed a resolution that each Council would support the "adopted" godson at least once a year. *Christmas Holiday*, when we remember with great love our sons and grandsons, it was suggested that the Knights would think of their "adopted godson" in Rome.

Knights of Lithuania is the first and only Lithuanian organization who, inspired by St. Casimir, understood the importance of the Lithuanian Seminary in Rome, the only one in the free world, and the need to support it. Indeed, our Lithuanian "castle" and base in Rome has been instrumental of many great events to our Lithuanian church and nation.

The Knights are also the very first ones who started our seminary's Endowment Fund. We must assure this Lithuanian Institute's future in the heart of Christianity, not only for our Lithuanian parishes and organizations in the West, but especially for the church in Lithuania. Many other countries much bigger than our little Lithuania are not able to establish what we

already have. But we need the support of all the Lithuanian Catholics in the free world. We do need your support.

Therefore, this is the reason of this letter: the almost 5 year old "godson" is calling for your understanding and help. When you meet to celebrate "Kučias", please remember us and our (and your) mission in Rome. Please say a fervent prayer for vocations. We need so much many young Lithuanian men (and women) who would dare to offer their whole lives for higher ideals.

Be assured of our prayers for you and your intentions. In the name of all of us here, superiors and students, I thank you in advance for your past support and we wish you a truly Linksmų ir Šventų Kalėdų ir Laimingų Naujųjų Metų.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Vytiškai

Msgr. Al. Bartkus, Rector

Didžiai Gerbiamoji Ponia Klizas Wargo:

Nuoširdžiai dėkoju jums ir Lietuvos Vyčiams už man pareikštus sveikinimus bei linkėjimus Konsekracijos proga. Ypač esu dėkingas už maldas. Taip pat nuoširdus ačiu ir už dovaną.

Su malonuma prisimenu Lietuvos Vyčių Jubiliejinį Seimą, kuriame ir man teko dalyvauti.

Džiaugiuosi, kad mano Konsekracijoje dalyvavo ir ponia J. T. Burlen - kaip jūsų atstovė.

Šia proga linkiu jums, jūsų bendradarbiams ir visiems Lietuvos Vyčiams sėkmės jų veikloje bei gausios Dievo palaimos.

Su pagarba,

Ark. A. J. Bačkis

IN MEMORIAM

ALEXANDER MATHES
C-112 Chicago, IL
† December 7, 1988

HELEN SUZOR
C-30 Westfield, MA
† December 11, 1988

VICTOR AUGUST
C-25 Cleveland, OH
† December 22, 1988

JOSEPH OLINSKI
C-30 Westfield, MA
† December 24, 1988

JOHN KLIMAS
C-110 Maspeth, NY
† December 27, 1988

LEO MESHAK
C-63 Lehigh Valley, PA
† January 8, 1989

REV. ANTANAS RACKAUSKAS
C-41 Brooklyn, NY
† January 31, 1989

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

© by Albert Cizauskas

A long-time member and faithful supporter of the Knights of Lithuania died a year ago on February 29th. His life was dedicated to the Lithuanian cause which he served in different ways, encompassing different careers, each of which was sufficiently distinguished to have earned honors for many less energetic individuals.



This unusual man was Constantine (Kostas) Jurgela, affectionately known as "Connie" by his many friends in the American Lithuanian community. Connie's multifaceted career included such diverse activities as fighter for Lithuanian independence, foreign affairs expert, lawyer in American courts, adviser to national leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties (including a President of the United States), head of the Lithuanian section of the Voice of America, member of the international boy scout movement, scholar of Lithuanian history with several books and numerous articles to his credit, and prominent leader of the Knights of Lithuania.

Connie's boundless energy and ability were focused upon an issue central to his life and which defined the man - Lithuania's right to be free. But he was also an American whose love for his country and understanding of its democratic principles enabled him all the better to know that freedom is not a free gift, but must be vigilantly defended against its enemies. This he did during an action of life which spanned more than eight decades.

Curriculum Vitae

A resume of a man's life is seldom more than a list of what a man has done but in Connie's case, its Renaissance-like scope gives us some notion of his remarkable versatility.

The future Lithuanian patriot and activist was born in New Jersey in 1904, and moved to Lithuania with his family at age 10, shortly before World War I. In 1919 at age 15, he volunteered in the Lithuanian armed forces, serving in the successful six-month struggle to clear the country of Russian troops. One of Connie's favorite stories dealt with his adventures fighting in the streets of Klaipeda during the campaign to recover Lithuania's ancient outlet to the Baltic.

After his military career, for which he was well decorated, Connie Jurgela served two years in the newly-established Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Returning to the United States in 1924, the ambitious young man earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Brooklyn Law School and a doctorate in history from Fordham University. From 1929 to 1936, he was secretary of the Lithuanian Consulate General in New York and then practiced law as a member of the New York and Supreme Court bars.

Connie's career now took off into the national arena. During the following World War II, he directed the Lithuanian American Information Center in New York, winning widespread publicity and sympathy in the American community for Lithuania's plight under both the Nazi and Soviet occupations. With his evident political and public relations skills, Connie became an adviser on Lithuanian-American interests to the staffs of such national leaders as Al Smith, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Wendell Wilkie, Thomas E. Dewey, John Foster Dulles, and New York Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia. He was also an accredited correspondent to the United Nations.

In 1951, Connie was appointed the first chief of the Lithuanian section of the Voice of America, where he served until his retirement in 1974. During this time, he was a member of the prestigious Lithuanian Academy of Sciences in Rome, and of the Lithuanian Studies Institute in Washington, DC. Among his many scholarly works is the History of the Lithuanian Nation, published in 1948, the first larger work of its kind in English, and an updated version, Lithuania: The Outpost of Freedom, which came out in 1976. He also contributed articles on Lithuanian history to Grolier's, Collier's, and the Lithuanian Encyclo-

News from Lithuania

SOVIET AUTHORITIES MOVE TO EXERT GREATER CONTROL OVER SAJUDIS

In another sign that Soviet authorities are attempting to tighten their grip over the largest grass roots movement in Lithuania, government searches were conducted at locations where the movement's publications are mass produced.

A representative of the Lithuanian Movement to Support Perestroika, or Sajudis, confirmed that the inspections took place and said inspectors were investigating whether unsanctioned publications were being produced. The spokesman added that the government ordered tighter control of duplicating machines.

The inspection's come in the wake of news that at least eight independent publications put out by Sajudis - including its largest, "Atgimimas," which has a circulation of

100,000 - were put under state censorship for the first time in December. Since then government censors reportedly have been deleting passages that, in their judgment, contain military and other strategic information.

In another sign that the government is adopting a tougher attitude toward Sajudis, Lithuania state media announced recently that the organization's assets, said to extend one million rubles, have been frozen because Sajudis has failed to adopt organizational status, as required by banking rules. The state-run bank's move is expected to hurt the election campaigns of pro-Sajudis candidates who had been expecting financial support from Sajudis in their effort to win seats to the new Congress of People's Deputies.

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

(Cont'd)
pedias.

Ever since his youth in Lithuania, Connie was active in international scouting. In recognition of his efforts, he was awarded the honorary rank of Boy Scout of Italy, the Medal of Merit of the Boy Scouts of Belgium, as well as the Fleur de Lis of the Boy Scouts of Lithuania.

During his entire career in the United States, Connie was a faithful member of the Knights of Lithuania and served as president of councils in the New York and New Jersey regions. He was also president of the Baltic American Society, grand marshal of Lithuanian Day at the New York World's Fair in 1939, and president of the Baltic States Committee at the New York World's Fair the following year.

A Beacon of Light and Hope

This list of Connie's activities is impressive, but it doesn't exhaust all that he did to advance Lithuanian interests nor does it tell us that he was more than a joiner and leader. In his innermost self, Connie remained a simple man with the simplicity of greatness: a warm

friend to all, sure in his Catholic faith, and unshakeable in his conviction of the ultimate victory of the Lithuanian cause.

My final remembrance of Connie Jurgela is that of a man, advanced in age and much weakened by a stroke, standing in the bitter cold of a February day, to participate in Council 142's annual wreath-laying ceremony at the foot of the Kosciusko statue across from the White House. He died nine days later.



KNIGHTS TO THE SUN

Maspeth C-110 is sponsoring a Caribbean Cruise to St. Thomas, St. Maarten, Barbados and Martinique on the FESTIVALE operated by Carnival Cruise Lines for seven days from December 3, 1989. Free round trip airfare provided to San Juan, Puerto Rico from over 95 cities. Early booking provides choice of cabins and a 20% reduction in list price. For further information, write to: Knights of Lithuania, P.O. Box 396, Maspeth, NY 11378.

LET'S SPEAK LITHUANIAN - KALBĖKIME LIETUVIŠKAI

Išmokime naujų žodžių ir nevertokime svetimų

Apolonija (Polly) žiausys

	<u>CORRECT</u>	<u>INCORRECT</u>		<u>CORRECT</u>	<u>INCORRECT</u>
Addition	Pridėjimas	Pridėckas	Parsley	Petražolė	Petruška
Bad	Blogas	Prastas	Peasant, ill-bred	Blogo elgesio, neišauklėtas	Chamas, mužikas
Barrel	Statinė	Bačka	Poker	Žarstiklis	Kačerga
Bench	Suolas	Zaslanas	Porch	Priešbutis	Gonkos, porčius
Bluing/azure dye	Melsvė	Lazurka	Potato Starch	Bulvių miltai	Kraskmolos
Blunder away	Praleisti, išnaudoti	Išpūstėti	Problem,		
Bookcase	Knygdėtė	Atažerka	question	Uždavinys	Zadačius
Boot lace	Batų raiščiai, batraištis	Šniūreliai	Punishment	Bausmė	Koronė
Bonus	Premija, priedas	Magaryčia	Pupil, student	Mokinys, studentas	Učnys
Button	Saga	Guzikas	Rag	Skiautė, skuduras, skarmalas	Ryzas, rieksas
Carpet, rug	Patiesalas, kilimas	Divonas	Safety pin	Žiogelis, tam tikra sagutė	Grafka
Candlestick	Žvakidė	Liktorius	Scales	Svarstyklės	Vogos
Cigarette holder	Pypkiakotis, kandiklis	Cibukas	Scrub	Šveisti	Šeravoti
Consecrated wax candle	Graudulinė	Grabnyčia	Shingle	Malksna	Gontas
Cork	Kamštis	Korkas	Stein, goblet	Taurė	Bokalas
Corn	Nuospauda, trynė	Mazolis	Splinter, chip	Skala	Balana
Corn-flower	Rugiagėlė	Vosilka	Taste	Skonis	Smokas
Corral	Užtvara, galvijams	Zagrada	Tavern, saloon	Smūklė	Karčiama
Curb	Šaligatvio pakraštys	Raštokas	Tobacco box, pouch	Tabakinė	Tabokierka
Dandy, fop	Dabita	Frantas	Tools	Įrankiai	Tulšės
Defective	Niekėna	Brokas	Treat	Vaišinti	Fundyti
Desire, whim, caprice	Užgaidas	Kapryzas	Trash, rubbish	Šlamštas	Chlamas
Devil	Velnias	Čiortas	Thumb tack	Mygtukas	Knopkė
Dirty	Nešvarus	Brudnas	Truck	Sunkvežimis	Gruzovikas
Flower planting pot	Gėlėm sodinti puodas	Vazonas	Trunk, suitcase	Lagaminas	Čemodanas
Hips	Strėnos	Kulšės	Trouble, hardship	Rūpestis, vargas	Klapatas
Hinge	Šąvara	Zuviesa	Washing Vat	Velėtuvė	Balėja
Hotel	Viešbutis	Hotelis			
Journeyman, artisan	Pameistrys, amatininkas	Gizelis			
Lamp shade	Lempos gaubtas	Abažuras			
Light vehicle, carriage	Karieta	Kalamaška, brička			
Marked	Pažymėtas	Paznočytas			
Occupant	Gyventojas, nuomininkas	Rendorius			

IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY.....

Norkunas: Vyčių banketė 1948: "Ei, Vyčiai, gyvenam Tautai ir Bažnyčiai - tai Vyčių originalus ir neskolintas obalsis."

Anonymous evaluation of leadership course at Marianopolis: "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".

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP CANDIDATE FRANCES PETKUS

For Fran Petkus it all began in March of 1948. Never having been exposed to a Lithuanian community, other than a few family gatherings, Fran joined C-12 in New York City. She heard of the Knights of Lithuania from a cousin who belonged to the Linden, NJ council. She did not know anyone in C-12 but after the initial first step her "career" as a Knight began. Fran is a first generation Lithuanian on her father's side, Frank (Bakanauskas) Baskis. Her mother was Eileen McKenna.

As a member of C-12, Fran held the positions of vice president, recording secretary and Vytis correspondent. She was on many council committees whether a committee member or a worker. She participated in the council's annual bowling league and other sports activities, being the New York-New Jersey District sports secretary. She also participated in many district activities as a delegate from C-12. She was also part of the functions sponsored by Our Lady of Vilnius Church in New York City.

Fran married Michael P. Petkus in 1952 whom she met through the K of L and moved to Dayton, OH becoming a member of C-96. For several years she was C-96's recording secretary and held the position of Vytis correspondent. She chaired many committees such as social program, in charge of council's raffle at their annual Lithuanian Day Picnic, Telephone Squad chairperson and C-96 Ritual chairperson. She has also become involved in flower arrangements for C-96 annual cemetery visit since her husband passed away in 1976. She chaired the Mid-Central District Fall Convention/Pilgrimage in 1987. When not chairing a function, she was usually found on a committee in some capacity, including arrangements for annual Women's Retreat, council Christmas parties, various social gatherings, annual Christmas card sale, nominating committees, council family picnics, New Year Eve's parties, bake sales, Holiday bazaars, bylaws committee, annual Christmas caroling to the sick and shut-ins of Holy Cross parish, council sponsored Evenings of Recollection and representing the council at Captive Nations gatherings. She also rarely missed a council meeting. For the past two years, she has been the council's bulletin editor.

In 1955 when C-96 reorganized its Junior council, Fran and her husband were co-vice presidents in charge of Juniors. They made many arrangements for the Junior's participation at Camp Dainava near Jackson, MI. As part of the Junior Camp Week, Fran and Mike rounded up



volunteers to drive the young people to camp.

On the district level, Fran participated as often as possible as a delegate and served as Mid-Central District President for the past four years. This position gave her the privilege to be on the National Nominating Committee. She also represented the district at national conventions and Supreme Council meetings. She also attended all of the district sponsored Day of Recollections held at Carey, OH and served on various other District committees. Fran has been a Fourth Degree member since 1970.

Fran was on the National Ritual Committee for six years; two of them as chairman. While on this committee, she assisted in the upgrading of applications for presentation of various degrees. In 1981 at the national convention, she set up the ritual panel which proved very successful and lively. She worked closely with the newly formed Anthracite council as they prepared their members for degrees. Fran still has on display a polished chunk of coal that the council gave her for her assistance. Fran was appointed coordinator for the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid project and was successful in supporting this group with monetary donations. This was a very rewarding project for her because of its goal. For the past two years, Fran has been 1st Vice President in charge of Special Projects. One of her duties last year was liaison person between the National Executive Board and the Diamond Jubilee Committee. Also, with assistance from

2nd Vice President, she coordinated the national convention panel dedicated to acknowledging four of the great members who contributed much to the Knights of Lithuania organization. In 1988 she was part of the Diamond Jubilee Committee assisting in arrangements for a display of national convention pictures and convention program books of many years past.

Fran has been on the national convention presidium acting as chairman at the convention in Washington. She has served on four national convention committees; her first in 1951 as a C-12 member and in 1967 and 1976 while a member of C-96. In 1976 she and Mike took the chairmanship of National Junior activities. When Mike passed away, Fran remained with the project as chairman.

Fran was a representative of the K of L group in the celebration of the 600th anniversary of Lithuania's Christianity and the beatification of Blessed George Matulaitis in Rome.

In her many other Lithuanian activities, she is a member of Holy Cross Lithuanian Church assisting with their annual parish picnics. She was on the parish's Archdiocesan Fund Drive Committee and also on the parish's Annual Archbishop's Fund Drive. She has been chairman of Holy Cross parish's annual Easter Brunch and children's Egg Hunt after the 6 a.m. Resurrection Mass. When Holy Cross formed a Lithuanian Cultural Committee, Fran worked on this committee and on Dayton's Annual World Affair weekend. She participated in the parish's annual Lithuanian Independence Day program. When Simas Kudirka was guest speaker, while being on Lithuanian Affair Committee, she made arrange-

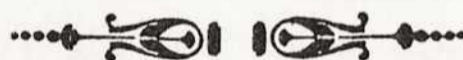
ments to greet Simas at the airport upon his arrival in Dayton. She has worked on many parish committees including the 60th Anniversary celebration and on the committee for the celebration of its 75th anniversary in 1989. She was instrumental in starting the parish's weekly bingo which was a well worth project since the parish no longer holds its annual parish picnics.

Community-wise, for many years Fran collected donations for the Mother's March of Dimes and worked with Dayton State Hospital bingo parties. She also spent several terms working with her local Junior High School in the RIF program. She has been an active member with the local PTA's at schools where her sons attended. Fran and Mike raised their two sons within the realm of the Knights of Lithuania. When the City of Dayton held a city-wide International Olympiad in 1976, Fran was a member of C-96 bowling team.

Fran has held many positions in the work field. She has been a computer operator doing work in budget study programs and payroll. For the past few years she has been an abstractor working for a firm that banks information and supplies it to local credit agencies. She also has a part time business of her own.

Fran's hobbies are reading, knitting, baseball, football, bowling, traveling and finding new restaurants.

Fran has always been proud of her Lithuanian heritage. She may be limited in the Lithuanian language but when meeting new people, she does not hesitate to let them know she is of Lithuanian descent and very willingly informs them where Lithuania is situated and the struggles facing the Soviet oppressed country.



Lietuvių Liaudies Mįslės

1. Kai mėlynas, juokiasi, Kai pilkas, verkia.
2. Dundulys kalnas, geležinis arklas. Kai sužvinga, toli girdis.
3. Dega visą dieną, bet nesudega.
4. Močia pasislepia - tėvas pasirodo.
5. Balta paklodė visą pasaulį užgulė.
6. Kas pučia be lūpų?
7. Vaikščiojo panelė po pievelę ir išbarstė perlus. Menuo matė, nepasakė, saulė kėlėsi ir surinko.
8. Lokia pulkas žasų, žmogus pamates sušunka: --Vajė, šimtas žasų lekia! Viena žasis iš to pulko atsiliepia: -- Jeigu mūsų būtų dvigubai tiek, kiek yra, ir dar pusė tu, keik yra, ir dar ketvirtas to, ir dar pusė to kiek yra, ir dar

ketvirtas to, ir dar prisidėtum tu, tada būtų šimtas. Keik buvo žasų?

9. Sėdi trys katės. Priešais kiekvienos katės - dvi katės. Ar daug gi tų kačių?

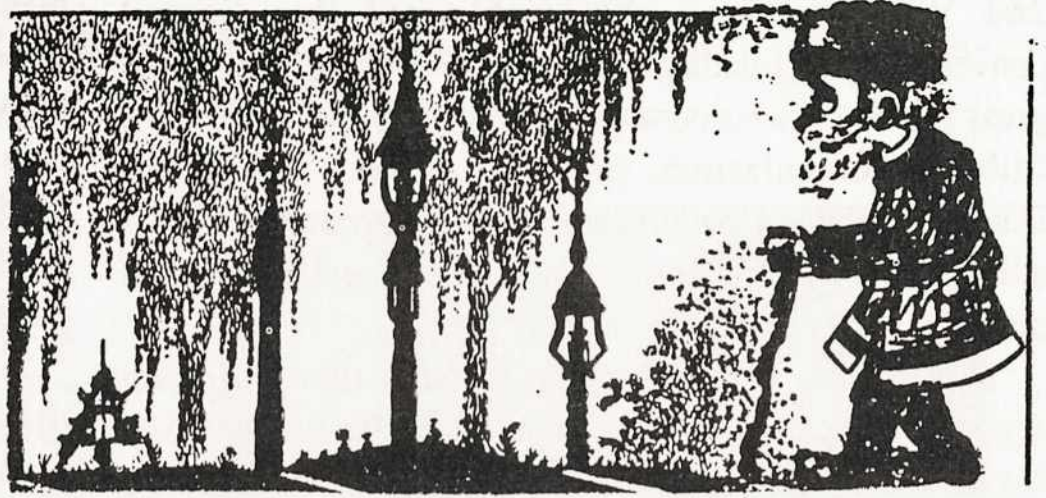
10. Buvo susirinkę dešimt bobų kurios puotavo. Pasibaigus puotai, jos visos viena su kita pasibučiavo. Kiek kartų jos bučiavosi?

11. Lėkė dvylika gulbiu. Viena nušovė. Kiek atliko?

12. Dėl ko varpas skamba?

1. Dangus; 2. Dangus, žaibas, griaustinės; 3. Saulė; 4. Saulę ir mėnulį; 5. Sneigas; 6. Vėjas; 7. Rasa; 8. Trisdešimt šešios; 9. Trys; 10. Devyniasdešimt kartų; 11. Viena; 12. Dėl to, kad jo vidurys tuščias.

"Dede Kastukas Sako" ~



What the Future Holds

The only honest statement a fortune teller can make to you (or any prognosticator) is that you'll have ten dollars less when you leave her place. A gypsy can gyp you; and did you notice these forecasters are mostly women? You, yourself, may have a premonition now and then of what may happen to you. However, don't ever think you're the master of your destiny.

When Harold Washington, Chicago's Black Mayor, was recently elected for a second term, he stood behind his desk, looked at the many news reporters and TV men present, then proudly raised his arms and boasted: "I'll be Mayor of Chicago for the next twenty years!" One month later he was dead of a heart attack. Only the creator can foretell the future.

* * * *

After the party, upon leaving, the wife complimented her husband telling him: "You were terrific tonight, you put both feet in your mouth!"

* * * *

Apparitions - Hallucinations - Miracles

Are you a doubting Thomas? In Yugoslavia in the village of Medjagorje, there's a St. James Church on a mountain side where several youths claim the vision of Virgin Mary has only appeared to them since 1981 each year. The appearances ended in 1988. The youths stated ten secrets were given them to keep which would later be revealed to help make the world a better place to live in.

Thousands of visitors and pilgrims have come to the church and village daily. Some state they saw certain light phenomena in the heaven. All of them asserted they returned home with a greater serenity of peace in their heart and a new intensity in religion. The Vatican has appointed a commission which is continuing its investigation of the apparitions.

* * * *

A Sure Sign

A man knows he's definitely getting old.....when a lady on the bus gets up to give him her seat.

Extraordinary Perception

That's a gift some people have. If you're that fortunate, within yourself, you may experience premonitions of events that will happen in the future. It's a type of clairvoyance - a clear perception of something not usually discernible to the mind.

It's like fortune telling or horoscope reading and many Gypsies claim they're experts at it by feeling the bumps on your head they can tell how many times you fell on the floor when you were a kid; or by looking at your palm they can tell your wallet will be five bucks lighter for their information. Even our ex-President Reagan and his wife Nancy have been accused of believing in what these prognosticators of the future have to say.

Seriously, I remember going to a public building when I was twelve years old and once inside an office there, I said to myself, "I'm going to work here some day" and 26 years later, I did work in that office. You don't have to be any type of clairvoyant to know that you're going to die some day, or that you'll have to pay taxes as long as you're alive.

The Big Vote Is In...

The Republicans are in power again because the economy is rolling along at the same pace. After the election we say "the best man won". Unfortunately, that is not always the case - the best man is somewhere working in the private world and has no interest in that game of politics and public recognition. Once in a while, we're lucky to get a good man in the president's chair. History will show Kennedy and Truman were in that class.

Food from the Bad ...

Don't feel sorry for the Gorbachev's - let the shortage of food in Russia and her faltering economy cause a revolution in that country, so all captive nations can break away from their control. History shows to get liberty back, there is blood shed. The Communists spent all their money for years on armaments to force people into slavery - let justice take over for a change.

Lithuanians in the News

CAPTIVATING CUISINE

Lithuania's food culture reflects both its locale and political realities



Photo by George L. Rosenblatt

Chef Vida Duobkeviciene, of Bociu restaurant in Vilnius, offers visitors a buffet of Lithuanian specialties.

In the *Chicago Tribune* under Food Guide, author William Rice while on the first food tour of Lithuania by Americans, also experienced nibbles of an opera in Vilnius to a concert by a children's violin ensemble in Panavezys. The tour included an itinerary in Moscow, Latvia, Estonia and Leningrad. He noted that dairy dishes and elaborate pastries are part of the tradition, while the heavy reliance on potatoes, beets and pork products are dictated by the climate. Grains are used to produce memorable breads and beers, often flavored with caraway. The cooking style emphasizes richness and fat (when appropriate ingredients are available). Spice is used sparingly. From the markets he visited, he noted the choice of food is extremely limited, by our standards. Also, the quality and cost varies dramatically from the dismal state-run shops to markets where farmers are allowed to sell their products directly to consumers.

Pork season is during the winter months. With rare exceptions, lamb and veal is only available during the spring and beef is rarely seen. There is cabbage, outsized carrots we would feed to animals. The most attractive product in Lithuanian markets is mushrooms.

Also, everywhere, despite the chilly climate, are lovely fresh flowers. Depending on the availability of ingredients, prices in restaurants are filled in on a daily basis for dishes that can be prepared. There are no "secret" ingredients to distinguish one chef's preparation from another's because each recipe must be approved by a government committee.

At a bakery in Panavezys, they witnessed the creation of a Lithuanian signature, the picturesque and surprisingly tasty tree cake. This cake with tree-like "limbs" may reach 3 ft. in height. Ironically, this tree cake is not considered traditional since it has been borrowed from the Germans.

Reporter William Rice found most of the restaurants visited were charming. Some of the most agreeable places were the most informal. Beer is a Lithuanian specialty, as are spiced fruit juice and alcohol punches (3 different punches, each identified as the "national drink"). While visiting the Bociu restaurant in Vilnius, chef Vida Duobkeviciene, remarked that women chefs are respected in Lithuania since everyone knows Lithuania is a matriarchy. She was asked what she enjoyed eating most when at home. Her reply "Black bread, bacon and vodka".



SENTIMENTAL HOLIDAY

For first time in 44 years, Christmas is official in Lithuania.

In the *Chicago Tribune* under Food Guide, Patricia Tennison writes about Lithuanian Christmas traditions interviewing Alicija Ruibys. When Alicija surveyed the traditional 12 dishes laid out on her finest linen on Christmas Eve in Palos Heights, and her Chicago-born grandchildren chatter in her native Lithuanian, her heart glowed warmer this year than ever before.

For the first time in 44 years, Ruibys' cousins in Lithuania were allowed to celebrate Christmas Eve officially. Lithuanian Christmas traditions - from herring on the table to straw hidden beneath the tablecloth - that other displaced Lithuanians practice elsewhere in the world deepens in meaning, she says.

Lithuanians in the News (Cont'd)

"There is more sentiment this year", says Ruibys, a dentist who practices in Marquette Park, a Southwest Side middle-class neighborhood that abounds with Lithuanian delicatessens, restaurants and a vital cultural center and museum.

Lithuania, nestled between Poland and Latvia against the Baltic Sea, was once an independent country but now is one of the republics of the USSR because of policy of *glasnost* or "openness" that Mikhail Gorbachev seeks throughout the USSR, Lithuanians now officially can celebrate Christmas.

"They are trying to open things up. The cathedral in Vilnius has been turned back to the Catholics. Slowly, there will be more freedom."

Christmas Eve is a family celebration and children who are away at college or on their own come home to their parents. The evening begins with an oversized communion wafer from the church that every family member must share before dinner feast begins. "In Lithuania, everything is hard to get, even sugar," says Ruibys. The table must include at least 12 dishes - symbolic of the 12 apostles - but no meat or dairy products. Beverages take a back seat - water or maybe tea and an unusual mixture called poppy seed milk. Straw is hidden under the tablecloth, a symbol that Christ was born in a manger. After dinner, everyone draws a straw. Whoever draws the longest, tradition claims, will live the longest. Unmarried girls step outside after dinner and each throws one shoe over her shoulder. Whatever way the toe points, from that direction her future husband will come.

As the doors open wider between the USSR and United States, travel from Lithuania to Chicago has increased. Visitors from abroad smuggle heavy amber



Tribune photo by Bob Fila

Vitalija Vasaitis, left, and her mother, Alicija Ruibys, celebrate the holidays with stuffed whitefish and mushroom dumplings.

(Lithuanian "gold") jewelry and modern ceramic vases that can be purchased in gift shops along 71st St. Some of the young Lithuanians abroad are just now hearing the Lithuanian national anthem and rediscovering the red, green and yellow flag of Lithuania.

Various Lithuanian recipes were printed, especially the ever-popular Mushroom Bake which was taken from "Popular Lithuanian Recipes," compiled and edited by Josephine Dauzvardis, former Consul General of Lithuania in Chicago.



On CNN cable, February 2 - "Larry King Live", ANN JILLIAN and husband Andy Murcia were interviewed by Larry King. The couple spoke and received telephone calls from viewers about Ann's double modified radical mastectomy. When she and Andy learned that surgery was necessary, it came to them as a shock and a denial. She took the unselfish attitude on how the entire traumatic situation would affect Andy since women also must confront the issue of acceptance as well. She believes that one must make the best of living each day without worrying about what is going to happen in the future. She attributes cancer mainly to genetics since a relative who now is 80 had cancer surgery and also feels that smoking is definitely a hazard. She stated that early detection and swift medical attention are the best protection against cancer. She has a checkup every three months.

Also, Andy suffered Bell's Palsy the day after Christmas. It was slightly noticed on television, however, he claims he is doing very well with the slight problem.

Ann was seen on NBC television, February 20 in the Movie "Original Sin" starring Charleton Heston.

Nepasidauk, Juraitė - we Lithuanians are all rooting for you.

Lithuanians in the News (Cont'd)

Stefanija Rastikis

**REMEMBERING LITHUANIA**

Her near-starvation in a displaced persons camp makes her country's hearty cuisine more special.

When Soviet troops invaded her native Lithuania, Stefanija Rastikis escaped in a rowboat. With two men, one pregnant woman, a 5-year old and two other women, she headed for Germany. The trip took two months. The Lithuania she fled in 1944 does not exist today. Now it's a republic of the Soviet Union.

What followed for her was near starvation in a displaced persons camp. Hope came when a Lithuanian priest found a sponsor for Mrs. Rastikis, her husband and young daughter in Dayton.

Proud of her heritage, she's a very active member of Lithuanian organizations in Dayton. "I want people to know my beautiful country," she says. A small agricultural state, Lithuania offers a simple, hearty cuisine. As with most nostalgic expatriates, it's the food that re-kindles the memories. "We smoked the bacon ourselves. She remembers it being so well-cured they could eat it raw. Potato pancakes and soup are other breakfast specialties.

Mealtime is family time. Lithuania once was a predominantly Catholic country. Holding out a candle in a wooden holder, she explained, "I lost everything when we left. I had only a backsack and my suitcase. But this candle is always with me. My mother made this from our bees. Once a year at Kucios, we light the candle and sing Christmas carols. Family gatherings with children and grandchildren happen often and Lithuanian dishes are plentiful. Seldom are bacon buns and sauerkraut soup served without a "remember when..." stories of those who were left behind. Stefanija and her husband Julius are members of C-96 Dayton. *Bill Schmidt, Dayton Daily News*



JEST KIDDING: The exam question was a real puzzler; it asked: Why is the word psychic spelled with a "p"? The young man up front did not have the answer, but he felt he could not leave the question unanswered. Shaking his head he finally wrote: "It pertainly does pseem psilly".

"I sure wish you'd let me take my bath in the morning instead of at night," my first grade child said to me one evening. "Our teacher always asks us in Health whether or not we had a bath today and I haven't been able to say "Yes" all year".

Lost in translation

Two Lithuanian ladies were crossing the street in Palm Beach, Florida. A car ran the signal and was fast approaching them:

— Neikit, neikit, (don't go, don't go) shouted one of the women to the other!

A black gentlemen standing nearby was interested. "Where do you see somebody naked, lady?"

(A true story)



All correspondence should reach the Editors by the FIRST OF THE MONTH, two months in advance of issue. The editors assume no obligation to return any material or photos solicited or unsolicited.

TRADITION OF EASTER EGG COLORING

The fun of coloring Easter eggs is something that we never seem to outgrow. The tradition of coloring eggs dates back thousands of years and pre-dates Christianity by some 3,000 years. Almost every culture, including Lithuania, has customs or games involving coloring eggs as part of the Easter ritual.

Americans can thank the Pennsylvania Dutch for bringing the custom to this country. While the egg was regarded as a symbol of new life by some ancient cultures, its significance to the early settlers was more fundamental. The collection of eggs was a daily task for the farmers and eggs were especially important to the farmers' wives, who needed more than usual during Eastertime for their holiday baking.

One custom popular with the children was to collect and hide nearly all the eggs laid within a month before Easter to the great consternation of their mothers. The children presented the missing eggs to their families on Good Friday. The eggs were then hard-cooked, colored and eaten during the Easter festival.

The traditions surrounding colored Easter eggs were practiced by the entire family. However, it was the women who performed the elaborate coloring and decorating techniques. The process of coloring required long hours of boiling onion skins, alder catkins, hickory bark, madder root, coffee and walnut hulls to obtain the desired colors.

Scratch-carving was very popular in the Pennsylvania Dutch sections of the country in the 18th century. The

egg was dyed a solid color and then an ornamental design, frequently bearing the recipient's name and birth date, was scratched on the shell with a needle or other sharp tool.

Calico eggs were also very popular during that period. In those days, fabrics were not colorfast, and people expected them to lose their color when they were washed. Women took eggs and wrapped them in scraps of brightly colored, printed cloth. When the eggs were unwrapped, they were decorated with the patterns from the cloth.

Easter egg decorating and the custom of holiday games have become a part of American and Lithuanian holiday tradition. And like most of our traditions, they encompass the lore and customs of the old and the new.

Easter Egg Tips

If you plan to eat your decorated Easter eggs, do not use felt tip pens or rubber cement for decorating since egg shells are highly porous and these materials may be toxic.

Darning needles, pins and scissors are excellent tools for designing or applying decorations.

To preserve eggs, empty them before coloring by making holes in both ends, breaking the yolk and then blowing out the insides.

When hard-cooking eggs, use enamel or glass cookware. Iron or aluminum causes a reaction that prevents the shells from taking color.

Use a bottle cap or a curtain ring as a stand upon which the egg will dry evenly.

Workbasket

VELYKŲ MALDA

Velykos, Velykos atėjo! Bet žmonės
Kamuoja kraujuos be vilties
Ir prašo jau kėlusio Kristaus malonės
Išgelbėti juos nuo mirties.

Už nuodėmes mūsų ant kryžiaus, o Dieve,
Mirei ir kentėjai kančias;
Kada prisikėlei iš karsto, o Tėve,
Patraukei prie savęs minias!

Jei žmonės, o Dieve, laikus atsimintų
Ant Kryžiaus kada Tu mirei,
Tada tikrai blogiui gal kelią pastotų -

šiandien neskambėtų kardai!.

Tur but prasikaltom, o Dieve geriausias,
Kad bausmę uždėjai ant mūsų,
Kad spaudžia mus vargas vargelis kietasis,
Kad daugelis ein į kapus? ...

Atleiski kaltybes, o Dieve brangusis,
Tau puolam po kojų kurios
Už nuodėmes mūsų vinimis prikaltos -
Ir meldžiam ramybės šventos!

1916 m. Šimutis "Ilgesio Valandėlės"

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BE I NARYS I TARYBA (144) VIENAS SIMTAS KETURIASDESIMT

FOUR. THIS IS THE ONLY TIME THIS YEAR THE CLUB
KETURI. SIS BE JUO TIK LAIKAS SIS METAI JUO KLUBAS

WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR VYTIS. THIS IS ONE WAY
VALIA BUTI PASKELBTI UZ MUSU VYTIS. SIS BE VIENAS KELIAS

TO KNOW HOW MANY "REAL" LITHUANIAN MEMBERS WE HAVE.
I ZINOTI KAIP DAUG "TIKRAS" LIETUVIU NARYS MES TUREM.

NON-MEMBERS ARE "WELCOME". PLEASE WRITE, THANK YOU
NE NARYS BE "SVEIKAS". PRASAU RASYTI, ACIU

VERY MUCH - SO LONG, GOODBYE.
LABAI, IKI PASIMATYMO, SUDIEV.

76th National Convention August 3-6, 1989

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Countryside, Illinois

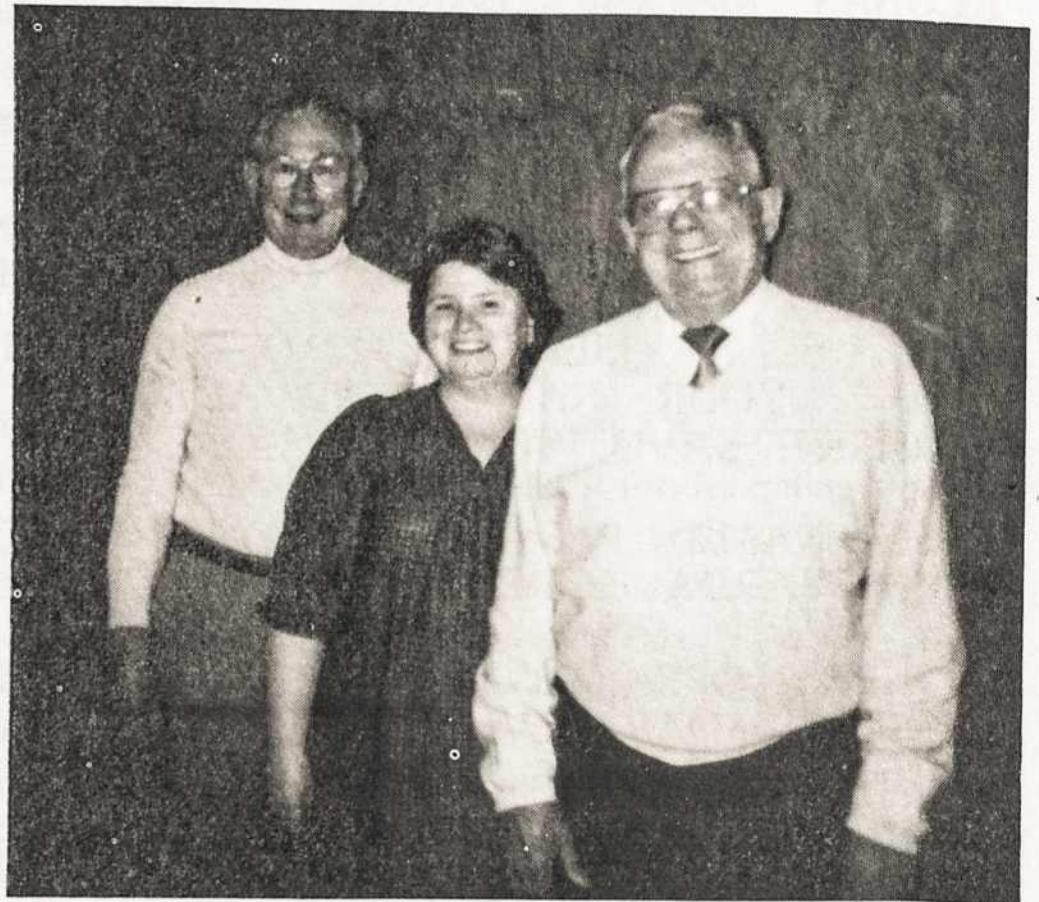
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Chairman: Algerd Brazis
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Deadline for ads and greetings: May 15, 1989.

75 75

VYTIS 75TH JUBILEE SPOTLIGHT ON:

Council 147

St. Petersburg, FL



C-147 Officers: L to r: Kazys Kleiva, organizer of council business; Msgr. J. Balkūnas, trustee; Viktorija Kleiva, Sec.; Anthony Gudonis, Pres.; Rev. John Gasiūnas, Spiritual Advisor; Victoria Jacobson, Public Relations; Charles Vilnis, Trustee. Second row: Helen Vilnis, Fin. Sec.; Marija Žigaitis, Treas.; Dr. Aldona Valis, Cultural Chairlady; Terese Liutkus, Vice Pres.; Al Kraujalis, 1st Vice President.



Knights of Lithuania C-147 was founded on Jan. 28, 1978 at the Lithuanian Franciscan Mission in St. Petersburg, FL. It became the first council in this state. At this initial meeting present were: Msgr. J. Balkūnas, Anthony and Sue Mažeika, Adolfas Palečkis, Charles & Helen Vilnis. Newly enrolled were: Dennis Mažeika, DDS, Audronė Mažeika, Rev. T. Degutis, Rev. J. Gasiūnas, Al & Violet Kraujalis and Jonas Valauskas.

On Dec. 2, 1978 the following were elected council officers: Spiritual Advisor, Rev. J. Gasiūnas, Pres., Anthony Mažeika, Vice Pres., Al Kraujalis; Sec., Victoria Kleiva; Treas., Adolfas Palečkis, Fin. Sec., Violet Kraujalis; Lithuanian Affairs chairman, Kazys Kleiva; Public Relations, Victoria Jacobson; Membership, Terese Liutkus; Cultural, Jonas Valauskas and Trustees, Msgr. J. Balkūnas and Charles Vilnis.

Through the efforts of Victoria Jacobson, in 1979, on

the occasion of Lithuania's Declaration of Independence Day, a Mass was offered at St. John's Church. Msgr. Balkūnas and local priests concelebrated and preached an interesting homily to the local American community, informing it about the situation in Lithuania. The Mass was shown on television during the evening news. The tradition of having this Mass continues to the present day. Also through the efforts of Mrs. Jacobson, the Lithuanian tri-color is flown at various locations in Florida on February 16.

At the national convention in 1979, the council was given awards for successfully completing membership drives. At that same convention, Msgr. Balkūnas received his Fourth Degree.

April 22, 1980 was a historical day for C-147. The Lithuanian flag was presented to the then Governor of Florida, B. Graham.

It is difficult to enumerate all the accomplishments of C-147. Enough to say that it is one of the more active councils working for God and Country. This is due to the present and former officers. Among those that come to mind is Anthony Mažeika. From 1927 he was always an officer whether on the council, district or national level. Through his efforts, councils were revived in Pittsburgh, Brooklyn, Elizabeth, Bayonne, and DuBois. A few were newly established. For all of his accomplishments, Anthony Mažeika received the Honorary Membership in 1947.

Even though C-147 is only 10 years old, its accomplishments rival some of the old timers of the organization.

Mielieji, Vyčio štabas ir visa organizacija linki jums ILGIAUSIŲ METŲ!



75 75

How To Know You're Growing Old

- Anonymous (Marian Helper Bulletin)

Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work.
The gleam in your eyes is from the sun hitting your bifocals.
You feel like the morning after, and you haven't been anywhere.
Your little black book contains only names ending in M.D.
You get winded playing chess.
Your children begin to look middle aged.
You finally reach the top of the ladder, and find it leaning against the wrong wall.
You join a health club and don't go.
You begin to outlive enthusiasm.
You decide to procrastinate but then never get around to it.
Your mind makes contracts your body can't meet.
A dripping faucet causes an uncontrollable bladder urge.
You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.
You look forward to a dull evening.
You walk with your head held high trying to get used to your bifocals.
Your favorite part of the newspaper is *25 Years Ago Today*.
You turn out the light for economic rather than romantic reasons.

You sit in a rocking chair and can't make it go.
Your knees buckle and your belt won't.
You regret all those mistakes resisting temptation.
You stop looking forward to your next birthday.
After painting the town red, you have to take a long rest before applying a second coat.
Dialing long distance wears you out.
You're startled the first time you are addressed as *old timer*.
You remember today that yesterday was your wedding anniversary.
You just can't stand people who are intolerant.
The best part of your day is over when your alarm clock goes off.
You burn the midnight oil after 9 p.m.
Your back goes out more than you do.
A fortune teller offers to read your face.
The little gray haired lady you help across the street is your wife.
You get exercise acting as a pallbearer for your friends who exercise.
You have too much room in the house and not enough in the medicine cabinet.
You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING

Hoping to paint "the most beautiful thing in the world," an artist asked three people what they thought it might be.

"Faith," replied the clergyman, "you'll find it at every altar."

"Love", said a young bride. "Love builds poverty into riches, it sweetens tears, makes much of so little. Without it there is no beauty."

"Peace is the most beautiful thing in the world," answered a weary soldier. "War is ugly. Wherever you find peace, you find beauty."

Entering his door he saw faith in the eyes of his children and love in the eyes of his wife. And in his home, he saw the peace that love and faith had built.

So he painted "the most beautiful thing in the world." And he called it home.

Šventų Velykų
stebuklas
tepražysta
mūsų širdyse
nevystančiais
TIKĖJIMO
VILTIES
ir MEILĖS žiedais

ALELIUJA!

NUOŠIRDŽIAI SVEIKINAME!

Council Activities

Vyčiai Veikia

AMBER DISTRICT

The newly formed Amber District of the Knights of Lithuania organized in the summer of 1988 held its first meeting at St. Michael Church in Easton in October.

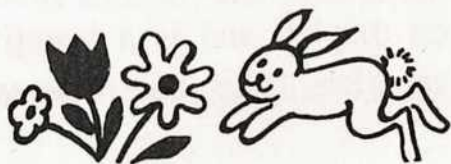
The following officers were sworn in: Fr. Matthew Jarasunas, spiritual advisor; Joseph B. Simmons, pres.; Leo Butsavage, vice pres.; Edmund Carlitus, treas.; Ann Pettit, sec.; Joseph Yezulinas, Lith. Affairs; Nellie Bayoras Romanas, public relations; Walter Mameniskis, cultural; Anne Challan, ritual and Victor Stepalovitch, Vytis correspondent.

Following is a list of the nine councils together with their presidents: C-3 Philadelphia, Walter Mameniskis; C-46 Forest City, Michael J. Yavorosky; C-63 Lehigh Valley, Jacob Zansitis; C-74 Binghamton, John Mankus; C-118 Hazleton, Valentina Dancho; C-140 Syracuse, Frank Petrauskas; C-143 Pittston, Nellie Bayoras Romanas; C-144 Anthracite, Eleanor Vaicaitis; C-146 Harrisburg, Clara Gudilonis.

A fund-raiser is planned to get the district treasury started in the form of a money raffle. Councils will be notified of details.

Next meeting scheduled in Pittston on March 12 in St. Casimir Church. Third degrees will be awarded to eligible candidates.

Victor Stepalovitch



C-3 PHILADELPHIA, PA

C-3 was treated to a rare audio-visual presentation of the July rally in Vilnius when the tri-color flag was displayed openly by the stadium. The video tape had sub-titles so that people could understand what was being said. This tape was preceded by remarks from Jurata Styrbiene who offered her own insights on the happenings in Vilnius.

The fourth annual Kučios was held at St. George Church Hall under sponsorship of the council. A capacity crowd was in attendance. A dozen members and their families handled the entire affair. This was given coverage in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the city's newspaper.

The council hosted their annual Christmas party at Septembers. Twenty-five members and their families attended and had a very good time. Especially interesting to the newer members was listening to some of the happenings related by the long-time members and learning about the organization and their heritage.

St. Casimir's Day was celebrated on March 5 with Mass at St. George and a brunch at Lithuanian Music Hall. First and second degrees were awarded.

A casino bus trip was sponsored by the council on Jan. 29. Marge Petronis and John Mickunas were in charge of reservations.

Lithuanian Independence Day was commemorated at the February meeting. Members also attended the

commemoration ceremonies at the Lithuanian Music Hall where a special program was scheduled.

Victor Stepalovitch

C-10 ATHOL-GARDNER, MA

An old fashioned Kučios, the Christmas Eve supper of Catholic Lithuanians, was observed by our council on Dec. 18 in St. Francis Church Hall. Again this year, our girls outdid themselves with the meatless menu that consisted of fish chowder to the calorie-loaded Christmas pastries. Following the ceremonies, Alec Kuzmeckas at the piano led in the singing of traditional English and Lithuanian carols. A beautiful Lithuanian Christmas tree graced the hall.

Our council donated gifts for the annual altar boy Christmas party held that afternoon at Lucky Lanes Bowling Alley. The parish boasts of 30 altar boys.

Blanche Genaitis spent a month visiting with her daughter and her family. James Eacmen spent several weeks with his son in California. Mary Ann Langlois recently moved into her new home. Gladys Richardson of Gardner School System is a familiar sight in Gardner in the wee morning hours walking briskly with her friends.

David Lucas was elected a director of the Amtrak Railway Association. He coordinated the New Year weekend celebration of the Assoc. in the Gardner area. Richard Genaitis, owner of Rite Media, has been rapidly expanding in New Hampshire and Florida. Bravo, Dick!

Congratulations to Stan Misevich of Gardner who recently reached his 95th year, owner of Stanley's Lunch for the past 60 years where he worked in the bar until last year. Joseph Karpowich reached age 99 recently.

Condolences to Alice and Paul Kuzmeskus and families on recent death of their father, Alexander Kuzmeskus, who is remembered as a past president of the popular Marionis Park. *Vincukas*

C-12 NEW YORK, NY

Since you last read about us, C-12 "dirbo darbščiai" for God and Country. During our Dec. meeting, we were "exiled" to the Our Lady of Vilnius rectory. There, we had a claustrophobic and abridged (no committee reports) meeting. Our hall was taken over by Arts Theatre group who was preparing a surprise for us. After our meeting, these talented people, among which is Arūnas Čiuberskis, our member, presented us with Antanas Skema's play "The Awakening". The play takes place in the Stalinist era Lithuania and shows a gruesome picture of the sufferings - both physical and mental of the Lithuanian people. This presentation



A tearful Anna Lukscha, C-12, presenting \$1,000 check to Fr. V. Palubinskas, pastor of Aušros Vartų parish. The money was a gift to the parish by the late Mikalina Baltadonis (Anna's best friend) who passed away. M. Baltadonis also left \$1,000 to the Lithuanian College in Rome and other charities.

Photo: D. Bulvičius

took care of our ritual, cultural and Lithuanian Affairs reports, and beautifully, we might add.

Our Christmas party, as usual, had wall to wall kids who ranged from age 2 months to 85 years, eagerly awaiting Santa. Our Santa was Joe Sleder who did a terrific job in entertaining the youngsters and the young at heart. Ed Burba Cook (our young at heart president) was master of ceremonies and led the guests in a rendition of Christmas carols and songs. HM Joe Boley honored us with his visit and thanked the council for presenting him with a gift and participating at a party in his honor in November.

At present we are preparing for our commemoration of the Knights of Lithuania 75th Year Jubilee on Sunday, April 2 - for April marks the end of the jubilee year. We are planning a Mass of Thanksgiving, a banquet and a cultural program. Our actor in residence, Arūnas Čiuberskis will present a program of Lithuanian song and poetry in English translations. We invite all from near and far to join us. If interested, contact Millie Pietz, 2457 Devoe Terrace, Bronx, NY 10468. Telephone (212) 367-4653.

Linksmų Šv. Vėlykų, mielieji Vyčiai. Te kiškutis atneša daug margučių! Te prisikėles Išganytojas laimina mus visus dar gausiau dirbti Dievui ir Tėvynei!

Dalia Bulvičius

C-17 BOSTON, MA

Walking by a local bank window with paintings by some local South Boston artists on display, I stopped to peruse the paintings. One of the artist's name struck a familiar chord. The name was Amelia Vallis; then, I remembered that this artist was Millie Vallis, one of our favorite bowlers. Congratulations! I did not

realize we had that kind of talent in our council.

Thanks to Mildred Daniels who accepted the post of secretary. Ann Norinkevich, Alice Opanasets and Mary Mickavage serve on the refreshments committee. Thank you for providing the snacks at our meetings.

On Dec. 11, approximately fifty members of the council attended C-3 Annual Kučios at the Mother House of the Sisters of Jesus Crucified in Brockton. Our members who helped with the cooking were Ann Norinca-vich, Alice Opanasets, Mary Mickevich and Emily Lehman. Those who helped with the serving were Al Akule, Al & Elaine Kniupis, Virginia Markunas and Adele Martus. Others handled the raffle. Pat Akule was in charge of the tickets for our council.

As usual, Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis gave an excellent explanation of the meaning of Kučios. A booklet, beautifully printed by the sisters, was at each place setting. Prayers were read by Al Akule and Ronnie Bizinkauskas. Sr. Helen, Ronnie's sister, was the guiding light in the food cooking, table decorations and whatever was needed to make this a truly beautiful evening. A tip of the hat to Sr. Helen and C-1 for a wonderful evening that was enjoyed by all.

Fr. Contons is busy with plans for St. Peter's Parish Reunion to be held on April 23 at Lantana's in Randolph.

C-17 hosted the Third New England District Bowling Roll-off.

There were 54 passengers waiting in front of St. Peter's Chapel for C-17 excursion, dinner and tour of the famous Shrine of LaSalette, Attleboro. This shrine has some 40,000 lights on display and is a beautiful place to visit. The bus that was

taking them to the shrine broke down about one-quarter of a mile from the chapel. The replacement bus was late in arriving so the trip was put on hold.

C-17 will celebrate its 75th anniversary this year. Plans are in progress for a dinner and dance on a Sunday afternoon in September.

It was good to see Dan Averka at the monthly meeting, giving the Lithuanian Cultural report. He was missing for a while because of illness. Get-well wishes to Ann Narkevich who was hospitalized as the result of a fall and Lillian Bazzinotti who is recuperating from surgery.

C-26 WORCESTER, MA

Two months have passed since we celebrated Christmas of 1988 and the memories linger. Preparation, planning, decorating, gift-giving and religious services kept all of us so busy that the joyous season came and went much too fast for us to really enjoy it. The spirit and the true meaning of the birth of Christ should remain and instill good will in all from one Christmas to the next.

After organizing and executing the rehearsals with St. Casimir Church Choir, which is composed of many K of L'ers, our own Anne Walinsky, who is now full time organist for the parish, presented an enjoyable and inspiring Christmas carol program before midnight Mass. Assisting in the musical program were A. Tamosiunas with trumpet and fife and Stephen Walinsky, Jr. on the drum. During Holy Mass, Valius Rozevicius sang the solo part of "Oh Holy Night". All of the carols were sung in Lithuanian. A very impressive rendition of the Mass by Liudas Stukas was presented by the choir.

After 15 weeks and 45 strings of

candlepin bowling, one-half of the season gone, the winning team is Capt. L. Lloyd, G. Ivaska, M. Lapinskas & B. Parker. Chasing but not able to overtake was the team captained by F. Tagman, A. Walinsky, E. Paliliunas & M. Parker. Sure as shootin', they and all other teams will try to outbowl the winners in the second half.

Frank Kondrotas emerged victorious over a very serious surgical encounter. Although still hospitalized, he is now recuperating comfortably.

Saddened by their passing but also thankful to God that the long suffering for Agnes Law and Lenore Adamonis ended. May they now rest peacefully in the Lord's garden of complete happiness.

Felicitations to E. Paliliunas as he became a grandfather. Daughter Donna gave birth to a son on Jan. 4.

Grateful hurrahs were expressed to the Ivaska family for the delicious beef stew served before our January meeting. "Chef de Cuisine" Joe Ivaska was assisted by wife Antoinette, daughter Joanne Jacobson, sister Adele Degutis and brother-in-law Francis Degutis. Helen Gillus and Anne Walinsky helped serve.

At conclusion of business meeting Fr. John Petrauskas led the group in closing prayer and we all sang the Vyčių Himnas. S. V. W., Sr.

C-41 BROOKLYN, NY

Vyties redaktoriai pasigenda žinių Vyčių 41 kuopos veiklos. Pranešų kad 41 kuopa gerai gyvuoja ir gražiai veikia, nors savo veikla ir nesigiria. Šių metų Sausio 8 d., tuoj po sumos Apreiškimo parapijos salėje turėjo mėnesinį savo narių susirinkimą su vaišėmis, kurių metų buvo pagerbta klebonas kun. J. Pakalniškis, švenčiantis savo gimtadienį Sausio

1 d. ir keli vyčiai kurių gimtadieniai buvo Gruodžio mėnesį ar dar bus Sausio mėnesį, sugiedant dėl jų visų ilgiausių metų. Po vaišių sekė vyčių narių susirinkimas kurių pradėjo kuopos pirmininkas William Kumeta pakviesdamas vyti klebona kun. Pakalniškį maldą sukalbėti. Praeito susirinkimo užrašus perskaitė raštininkė Aldona Zaunius, o apie izdo stovi pranešimą padarė izdininkė Veronika Kazlauskas.

Praeitų metų Gruodžio 4 d., parapijos salėje 41 kuopos vyčiai turėjo savo prieškalėdinį pobuvį, kuriame dalyvavo gausus būrys vyčių ir jų svečių, kurie visi geroje ir puikioje kalėdinėje nuotaikoje prie vaišių stalų praleida laika, besiklausydami kalėdinių giesmių ir kalbų nesenai iš Lietuvos grįžusių asmenų apie patirtus ten savo išpūdžius. Susirinke vyčiai nutarė ir šį metų prieš Kalėdas vėl panasų pobuvi surengti.

Šių metų Kova 4 d. bus švenčiama Lietuvos ir jos vyčių globėjo Šv. Kazimiero šventė, kurios proga 41 kuopa nariai turės Kova 5 diena komunijos pusryčius, ir savo globejo šventę paminės.

Laikas greitai slenka ir Apreiškimo parapijos 75 metų sukakties artėja. Parapijiečiai ir vyčiai rimtai jau ruošiasi ta sukaktį iškilmingai Gegužės 21 d. paminėti.

Šiame susirinkime taip pat buvo nutarta ilgametę 41 kuopos narę vyte Helen Kulber rekomenduoti garbės narystei (honorary membership) kadangi ji savo veikla yra to pilnai užsitarnavusi.

Po visų tų iškilmių kalbų ir diskusijų susirinkimas buvo baigtas malda, kuria sukalbėjo 41 kuopos sielovadas kun. Danielius Staniškis.

S. K. Lukas



C-50 NEW HAVEN, CT

On Jan. 8 a bustling number of members attended our regular monthly meeting held in the kitchen basement during the cold winter season. Nell Papeika, Helen Maculaitis & Ann Kordorsky served the coffee-an'. John Saulys, cultural chair, announced plans for the Lithuanian Independence Day of Feb. 19. Instead of speakers, he presented an interesting film showing present conditions in Lithuania.

Irene Meizies got all interested members lined up for a sleigh ride on Feb. 11. The trip to the Christmas Show in Radio City, New York, turned out to be an overwhelming success. Irene suggested another such venture to see the Passion Play in Paterson, NJ on March 11. Frank Austin will head the committee for St. Casimir's Day celebration to be held in the church hall on March 5.

Fr. Karalis closed the meeting with prayer and then, of course, we all sang the national anthem. Isabel Peterson added the finishing touch with a lovely luncheon.

It is evident 1989 will be another great year for C-50. *H. B.*

C-63-LEHIGH VALLEY, PA

C-63 meeting of Jan. 15 opened with Pres. Jacob Zansitis announcing the sad news that Leo Meshauk, our friend and fellow Knight, has passed away in the US Veterans Hospital, Wilkes Barre on Sunday, January 8. He will be remembered by us for his intense pride of his Lithuanian ancestry and his avid interest and participation in council affairs. Leo was a charter member; in fact, he was the first person to join in response to an ad placed in the local newspapers by our council's founder, Anthony Sockel,

if there were any Lithuanians in the Lehigh Valley interested in forming a Lithuanian organization. This was in May of 1982. From that day until he became ill, Leo and his wife, Trudy, contributed a lot of hard work and dedication to our council. We will also remember him as a gentle and sensitive man, a romantic who loved and wrote poetry. His poem has been published in *Vytis*.

All this from a guy who served his country as a tough US Marine for 32 years, 20 years as a regular and 12 as a reservist. After retirement, Leo worked as a photographer for the New York State Correctional Institution in Beacon. That was our Leo. May God rest his soul. We extend our most heartfelt sympathy to his family.

Arrangements were made to raise the flag of the Independent Republic of Lithuania on Feb. 16 in Easton, Bethlehem and Allentown. This was followed by celebration of a Lithuanian Independence Day Mass in St. Michael's Church, Easton, on Feb. 19 after which an Independence Day Dinner was served in the Candlelight Inn, Bethlehem.

Nellie & Edward McGary recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were given a good round of applause at our council meeting. The years do not seem to hinder them much. They are always where the action is. That's why they are so young. You will even find them at the council's potato pancake stand at the Bethlehem Christmas City Fair. Nellie is the former Nellie Lushis. Congratulations to both of you. May God bless you and love you and give you 50 years more.

J. F. Ogint



C-79 SOUTHFIELD, MI

We began the new year with the same officers of last year, namely: Magdalena Smailis, pres.; Richard Danielak, vice pres.; Margaret Dapkus, rec. sec.; Stella Hotra, fin. sec.; Leonard Balkus, treas. & sgt. at arms; William Dapkus & Frank Povilaitis, trustees. Committee chairpersons are Maryann Newberry, ritual; Stella Hotra, cultural; Helen Santorum, Lithuanian affairs; Mary Keller, Catholic Action; Chester Ostrowski, public relations; Bertha Janus, *Vytis* correspondent.

Last year we lost three members through death: Ann Erdman, Isabel Pavlichak and Albina Stanulis. Please don't forget them in your prayers.

We are looking forward to hosting a St. Casimir's dinner on Sunday, March 5 and the Mid-Central District Bowling Tournament and meeting the weekend of May 19-21. Inactive members, please note these dates on your calendars.

Our hard-working officers wish for a standing room only attendance for the above affairs. Let's not disappoint them! *Bertha Janus*

C-90 KEARNY, NJ

Our fall dance was a tremendous success. Cathy Rokas and Joe Benventi did their usual splendid job. The highlight of the evening was the brief appearance of US Senator Frank J. Lautenberg who was invited to the event to receive an award on behalf of the Lithuanians of New Jersey. Theresa Bilaitis, on behalf of C-90 invited Dr. Jack Stukas to introduce the Senator and to explain the purpose of the award. The Senator has been a caring and concerned friend of the Lithuanian people since his election. As a member of the Helsinki Commission, he has been



U.S. Senator Frank J. Lautenberg, member of Helsinki Commission, accepts award from Audrey Przybylski on behalf of C-90 Kearny in gratitude for being a caring and concerned friend of Lithuanians in New Jersey.



an outspoken proponent of human rights and has spoken out frequently against the violation of human rights and the lack of religious and cultural freedom in Soviet-occupied Lithuania. Recently, he attempted to visit Lithuania during a fact-finding tour of the Soviet Union but was denied permission to do so by the Soviet Union.

Audrey Przybylski, dressed in Lithuanian costume, presented the Senator with a beautifully hand-carved plate featuring a large Vytis. The inscription read: "In gratitude to Senator Frank J. Lautenberg, Champion of Human Rights, from the Lithuanians of New Jersey". Responding to the award, the Senator thanked all present for the award, saying that he has worked for the cause of human rights because he believes all people on earth deserve freedom to worship as they wish, to

have a say in determining what kind of society they live in and to enjoy basic human rights. Mr. Lautenberg was accompanied by his children as well as several members of his staff. he and his family and guests were given a rousing ovation and a wish for success.

The raffle to refurbish our meeting room was won by Chris Danzi of Cedar Grove. Labai ačiū to Eleanor Gelenitis and her committee for a job very well done.

Our Christmas chairlady Fran Grinewich did an outstanding job in organizing the Christmas social. Joe Thomas performed and provided music for dancing and singing. Gen Mazur led us in singing and also sang a duet with Fr. Charles.

C-96 DAYTON, OH

We had a very successful Nov. meeting in combination with our

annual election of officers and election night dinner. Special thanks to those who were chosen to serve the Lithuanian community by becoming involved in K of L as officers. Swearing in of new officers took place after the Dec. meeting.

Our MCD's fall convention and pilgrimage was a great success. At this time we also celebrated the diamond jubilee year of our organization. Aldona Ryan was MC of the Saturday night banquet. Honored at the dinner were all charter members and those with 40 or more years of membership. Charter members are: Bernadette Noreikas (52) and Veronica Omlar. With 40 or more years we congratulate Eloise Berczelly (44), Mary Ann Blum (40), Elinor Mantz (44), Joseph E. Mantz (40), Frances Mikalauskas (40), Annadel Miller (41), Sally Miller (44), Frances Petkus (40), Paulette Petkus (43), Catherine Prasmantas (42), Anne Scott (48), Elinor Sluzas (43), Stanley Vaitkus (51), Helen Vaitkus (43), Charles Vanagas (42) and Frances Vanagas (44). Congratulations to all!

Congratulations to two new sets of parents: Ron & Ann Louise Tucker and their son Daniel Joseph; Joe & Chris Fletcher and their son Alex Thomas. Grandparents respectively are Richard & Dorothy Conrady and Joseph & Elinor Mantz.

Get well wishes to Annmarie Berger who is home recuperating from surgery; Mary Agnes Mikalauskas who had knee surgery; Dorothy Conrady and Jim Kavalasuskas.

The annual ladies Christmas dinner was held on Dec. 13 with 29 women celebrating. We certainly enjoyed the company of our members, some of whom we have not seen for a while. Thanks to Frances Mikal-

auskas who chaired the event.

Congratulations to our members on the district board: Joe. P. Mantz, 1st Vice Pres.; Elinor Sluzas, 2nd Vice Pres.; George Mikalauskas, trustee and Sally Miller, cultural chairlady.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Veronica Omlar and her family on the recent loss of her husband, Ernest. In times past, Ernie was an active member in the council especially in the bowling league. For the past few years, Ernie was unable to talk much due to a stroke, but he always had a smile on his face. May he rest in peace.

Fran & Eloise with Marutė

C-100 AMSTERDAM, NY

St. Casimir's Social Center, beautifully decorated by Gerard Drenzek for the Christmas season was the scene of our annual Christmas banquet on Dec. 11. Members and guests attended from Hagaman, Scotia, Schenectady, Amsterdam and Lithuania.

Michael Mikolaitis filled the role of master of ceremonies. He called on Fr. Robert Baltch, our spiritual advisor, to give the invocation. He then asked everyone present to break the Christmas wafers with each other. Everyone looks forward to this as it keeps one of our Lithuanian customs alive. After dinner, Lithuanian and English carols were sung to the accompaniment of Fr. Baltch on the piano.

Pres. Radzevich thanked the committee for their hard work in making the event such a success and concluded with Christmas greetings. Prizes were awarded by the committee. Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus (Stanley & Joan Rimkunas) appeared with gifts for everyone.

Beatrice and William Jasewicz chaired the event. Their capable com-



Delegates attending MCD Convention Meeting - Host C-25 Cleveland.

mittee included Sadie LaTorre, Helen Zytkowski, Ann Beleckas, Gerard Drenzek, Christine Tambasco, Stanley & Joan Rimkunas, William Burimauskas, Walter Sargalis and Ed Bablin. It was noted that Beatrice Jasewicz prepared most of the food for the Kucios table.

It was great to see our artist member Matthew Orante and his wife Isabelle in our midst. He presented John Kot with a painting of his Coat of Arms.

Smile & Sparkle

C-102 DETROIT, MI

Our Kučios was a success once again at the beautiful home of HM Bob Boris. Fr. Stan opened the evening with Mass. A buffet followed with socializing. Our honored guests were Dr. & Mrs. Berauskas. They and Bob Boris were the organizers of the "Save St. Anthony's Parish". Mrs. Berauskas is president of St. Anthony's Council. She, Bob and Dr., along with Fr. Babonis, represented St. Anthony's at the meeting with Bishop Mooney at the closing of churches. They gave us a report on the meeting and beautifully organized petitions and records presented to Bishop Mooney.

We want to thank all councils that signed the petitions and returned them to us in time for the presentation. In all, we had 1400 signatures. Merry & Lory Hofner obtained most of the petitions. Our organization influenced the Bishop as they gave a year's reprieve.

Missed at our Kučios this year were: Medonis, Helen Smolak, Emil & Marie Podzius, Eve & Joe Stark. Get well wishes are extended to Marie & Eve. As always, we enjoyed visiting with Vince Boris on his yearly visit. For being retired, he sure is busy with volunteer work at the hospital and teaching reading to adults.

David & Holly Peterson along with daughter Chrisy were guests of Maryanne & Joe Guerriero this summer. One of their trips took them to Toledo to see the pandas. David & Holly are members of C-50 New Haven.

With Snowbirds Bunikis, Medonis and Klucens flying south to Florida, our meetings are sparse, but they turn out to be social events lasting longer than usual.

Congratulations to Merry & Lori Hofner on the birth of their first grandson. They have two granddaughters.

C-102 is looking forward to the District Meeting and Bowling Tournament in May hosted by C-79 Southfield. *Meriutė*

C-103 PROVIDENCE, RI

The Sunday, Christmas Day, bulletin of St. Casimir's parish featured the announcements of the official holiday for the first time in 44 years of Christmas in Lithuania and closer to home was information on Christmas in Newport.

This city-wide celebration lasts the entire month of December. For several years Bishop Gelineau presided at the commemoration of the first Catholic Mass said for the French forces who came to help the patriots during the revolution. A cavalry legion under General Louis Gontaut de Biron had among his men some Lithuanian volunteers. Among his officers were Capt. James Meskauskas and Lt. Mykolas Grabauskas.

Newporters invited all citizens to participate in the Mass celebrated by Bishop Gelineau on Dec. 26 in the Old Colony House, Washington Square, Newport, RI. Lithuanians were offered the opportunity to pray for their ancestors who came here to fight and to die for the freedom which we enjoy here in America today. Victor Mathieu and his wife Beatrice have attended this Mass for many years. The Mass is said in Latin and French. Victor was asked to participate as a lector. When the Mass was completed, sponsors of the event, amongst them the Newport Artillery with their ladies in colonial dress and the officers and men in colonial uniform, asked Mr. Mathieu to again serve as lector at next year's ceremonies.

The Commander of the Artillery inquired why Mr. Mathieu attended with his wife. When informed that

Lithuanians were part of the French contingent here in Newport during the revolution, the invitation was extended for the Lithuanians to participate at the Mass in 1989. Ladies in Lithuanian costume and men with sashes would complement the occasion. The organist and choir director at St. Casimir's volunteered to have her daughter, who is also a choir director, ask her French choir to sing at the Mass. Another door has been opened in Rhode Island for Lithuanians to become better known and for enlisting much needed support for a free Lithuania.

Our monthly meeting provided the 21 members present with the report of the successful Christmas party chaired by Irene Landanski. Irene outlined plans for St. Casimir's Day breakfast to be followed by our annual May breakfast on May 7.

Lithuanian Affairs chairman Bill Piacentini is making arrangements with the cooperation of the Lithuanian Heritage Committee of Rhode Island to distribute to local colleges and libraries situated in the cities where our members reside Fr. Wolkovich's *Lithuanian Fraternalism: 75 Years of Knights of Lithuania*. Slated to be distributed is a total of 23 books.

The evening Mass on Jan. 21 was attended by many parishioners and friends joining in a tribute of love and respect for their beloved pastor, Fr. Izidorius Gedvila, on the occasion of his retirement as administrator of St. Casimir's Lithuanian Church. Fr. Gedvila was the main celebrant. Concelebrants were Msgr. Vytautas Balčiūnas, Fr. Adolph Klimanskis, new administrator, Fr. Valdemaras Cukuras and Fr. Anthony Kacevicius. The English & Lithuanian choirs of St. Casimir's and the choir of Sacred Heart Church

of East Providence performed under the direction of Pauline Boisvert, music director and organist. Reception followed in the parish hall. The retirement program was planned and executed by Agnes Waitonis and Pauline Boisvert.

Un qui aime Lituanie

C-140 SYRACUSE, NY

A fond good bye to 1988 and a warm hello to 1989 as we slowly pass through the years of life. 1988 was a busy year for most K of L'ers with our 75th anniversary as an organization and our big celebration in Washington. The convention committee selected a fine hotel and did an excellent job with the convention. The convention will leave fond memories in many minds for years to come.

C-140 members were busy throughout 1988 with much activity. We commemorated Lithuanian Independence Day with a Mass at St. Stephen's Church followed by a program and refreshments. We did likewise on St. Casimir's Day. After Mass we all went to the Ramada Inn for a big brunch.

At a recent meeting we sold our entire allotment of K of L History Books. We were the first council to do so. Our members were enthusiastic about being able to purchase such a fine book.

Joan Petrauskas, daughter of Frank & Irene, was married in June to John Chace at St. James Church, Syracuse. Reception was held at Ramada Inn with many Lithuanians and K of L'ers in attendance. After the reception, many gathered in the Petrauskas' suite where a good old-fashioned Lithuanian sing-along took place. We wish Joan and John many happy years together.

On Sept. 25 we participated in a

Mass at St. Stephen's Church which was dedicated to the oppressed church of Lithuania and to the 75th anniversary of the Knights of Lithuania. It was a nice day and we had a nice turnout.

Our 20th Festival of Nations was by far our biggest and best ever. We went through 11 bushels of potatoes for our famous potato pancakes and 60 gals. of freshly pressed cider along with many cookies and cakes. Our exhibit had a nice mixture of items which drew a number of favorable comments. It appears that this will be our last festival. Our workers are growing older. Some are having difficulty doing the work while others cannot work. The work load falls on a few shoulders which creates a lot of pressure. We hope to try another venture with less work and pressure.

The council's slate of officers and committee chairmen remain the same for 1989 with the exception of ritual chairman which will be chaired by Dawn Rudd.

Vice-pres. Paul Rudd had a fall which resulted in some time in the hospital. He is now at home recovering slowly. Please keep him in your prayers that he may fully recover.

Our Kučios celebration took a different twist this year. Instead of having the people cook, we decided to take everybody out to a restaurant and treat them to a nice brunch. Everybody had plenty to eat and enjoyed themselves.

We congratulate Kathleen Petrauskas upon receiving her Masters Degree in Social Services from the State University of New York at Albany. Kathy also passed her state boards and is fully certified. She is now employed by Albany County Department of Health.

We welcome two new members

who recently joined our council. They are Anita Yuskauskas who is working on her PhD at Syracuse University and Michael Wilton who is a native of Syracuse.

C-140 is proud to have a national past president as an active member and congratulates Frank Petrauskas for a successful term of office and extends best wishes for good health and happiness to both Frank and Irene. *Pusbrolis*

C-142 WASHINGTON, DC

In response to an invitation from Vytis editor, C-142 accepts the opportunity to attest to being alive and well. During 1988 we held our regular meetings with excellent attendance. Being parishless has not dampened the enthusiasm of our members for things Lithuanian as can be seen from activities with other Lithuanian organizations in the area. During 1988, C-142 was involved in the following:

February - Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration at the Lithuanian Legation; Invocation by Bishop Baltakis in Congress.

March - Feast of St. Casimir celebration, MAD in Scranton; Kaziuko Muge, Art Show by Laima Simanavicius.

April - Concert by Dainuojancios Zemaities, LCRA Fr. Pugevicius and Lithuanian Information Center Victor Nakas meeting.

May - Lithuanian Mass and Donelaitis Lith. School graduation and reception.

June - Lith. Festival in Baltimore; reception in honor of 70th anniversary of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania's Independence; Baltic Freedom Day commemorating mass deportations and parade to Soviet Embassy.

July Convention with C-142 volunteers.

August - Lith. Mass at Siluva Chapel celebrated by Archbishop A.J. Backis and reception at Lith. Legation; motorcade around Soviet Embassy to protest Molotov-Ribentrop Pact.

September - Our Lady of Siluva Pilgrimage at Nat'l Shrine followed by reception in honor of dissident Dr. Algirdas Statkevicius; picnic at Discovery Farms; Lith. Mass for C-142 deceased members and reception.

October - C-142's picnic and elections.

November - Lith. Art '88.

December - meeting at LaFayette Park requesting Pres. Reagan to take up Baltic question with Gorbachev.

We concluded the year's activities with a Christmas party, hosted by Pat & Bob Carlton at their beautiful home which was artfully decorated for the occasion. Lithuanian music played while we indulged in Lithuanian foods prepared by council members. Pat's tables were laden with Kugeli, dešrių, koldunai, silkės su grietinė, kopustų, tortai, ausukės, pyraga and others. Many thanks to Pat & Bob for hosting the party. Also, many thanks to Kay Yankoski who chaired the committee and did a terrific job in organizing the party.

During 1988, we lost two loyal and terrific members: Dr. Constantine Jurgela, published historian and Barbara Darlys, Lith. opera diva. They were always available for advice, suggestions and encouragement. They are both greatly missed.

Also during 1988, C-142 had 7 candidates for 1st Degree, 6 candidates for 2nd Degree, 1 for 3rd Degree and 2 for 4th Degree.

And, we had 9 new members who joined C-142. It's been a banner year.

Julia Burlen, President



C-144 ANTHRACITE, PA

Anthracite Council again had the pleasure of joining their fellow Knights in celebrating Kučios with a family spirit at Our Lady of Siluva Church Hall. Eleanor Vaicaitis, president, opened the Kučios by welcoming the priests, sisters and members. She introduced Mary Koons, cultural chairlady, who explained the meaning and traditions observed by Lithuanians here and in Lithuania. The president then read a Lithuanian greeting. Fr. Daniel Yenushosky, pastor of St. Francis in Minersville, opened the Kučios with reading of the Christmas Gospel. Fr. Matthew Jarasunas, spiritual advisor and pastor of Our Lady of Siluva, said the Kučios prayers in Lithuanian. We all joined in singing Lithuanian Christmas hymns. Eva Yurkewicz, fin. sec., explained the custom of the Christmas wafer. Wafers were then passed and each one broke off a piece and wished each other a Merry Christmas, health and happiness in the coming year. Ann Supernavage, sec., read some other traditions that Lithuanians practice up to this day.

Rev. Robt. Potts, pastor of St. George, Shenandoah, gave the dinner blessing. Anne Wargo, nat'l pres., read a beautiful passage and we all joined in a toast. The meal of twelve different foods was then served by the women members from Frackville and Gilberton. It was chaired by Helen Labadis and Elsie Komisky. Rev. Ronald Jankaitis, pastor of St. Casimir, St. Clair, closed Kučios with a prayer.

After the meal, gifts were then awarded. Olympia Zelinski was the winner of the first prize, a basket of health and beauty aids.

After a little socializing, members went their different ways to meet again Jan. 29 for their regular

meeting at Our Lady of Siluva for Mass at noon, followed by business meeting in the hall.

Anthracite Council boasts of having a licensed radio amateur W3POA Bernard Zilaitis of Frackville who made contact with amateurs in Lithuania in Dec. An international amateur net is being formed. Lithuanian stations are a popular group with their powerful signals beamed around the world. American amateurs are lining up knee-deep to work the Lithuanian stations. Radio Vilnius comes in very strong in the eastern part of the United States. Bernard contacted Jonas, LY2ZZ, in Šiauliai to relay information to two cousins of Joe Martunas of our Council regarding confirmation of airline and time of arrival in the United States. Tony Sidla, K1AMG, of Cumberland, RI, also wrote that he made contact with Jonas in Šiauliai.

For further information, contact 73's, Bernard Zilaitis, W3POA, Council 144. *Olympia*

C-146 HARRISBURG, PA

The 75th convention was attended by Vity and Helen Grabauskas and their daughters Carol and Lorraine. Lorraine took time from her job as police officer in Fairview Township while Carol now lives in Washington. We all enjoyed this occasion and the opportunity to see fellow Knights.

In Sept. a group from our council went to Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine in Emmetsburg, MD. We were led in prayer by Joan Suders, our president, for the persecuted Lithuania. We were lucky to have a good day so we also visited the Shrine at Mr. St. Mary's College. We enjoyed a good dinner at the Cozy Inn in Thurmont.

Our council is getting smaller, but we had a nice turnout for our

Kučios. Our members brought meatless dishes and also traditional foods for Kučios. Kristy, daughter of Anthony & Lillian Marazas, told the Christmas story. We all sang carols.

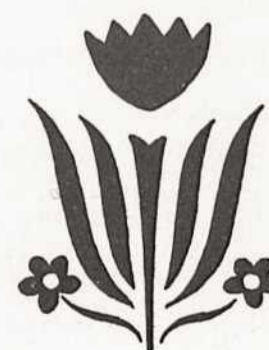
Our deepest sympathy is extended to Joanna Gilbert on the death of her mother, Anna Matukonis. She was 92 years old and was living with Joanna and her husband George.

Stanley Berulis was posthumously awarded the Paul Harris Fellow Award, the highest honor given by Rotary International. His wife Nell, our treasurer and financial secretary, accepted the award. Gifts from his friends and relatives in the amount of \$1,000 were donated to Rotary's Polio Plus program. The gift will immunize 8,000 children in Third World Countries. Knight Stanley was afflicted with polio when he was a year old and suffered a handicap. May his soul rest in peace and may Nell be consoled with her generous deed.

Our congratulations to John Povilaitis, past president of our council, upon being named chief counsel of the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission. He is an attorney and will supervise 30 lawyers who handle cases involving gas, electric, telephone, water, sewage and transportation utilities.

Our congratulations also go to our new president Clara Gudalonis; Joseph Gudalonis, vice president; Eleanor Rusatsky, sec. and Nell Berulis, treas. and fin. sec. Fr. John Smith will continue to be our spiritual advisor.

Helen Grabauskas



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C-152 RIVERHEAD, NY

C-152 looks forward to the new year of 1989 with a firm resolution to observe the council's fifth year of existence in appropriate fashion under the guidance of our newly-elected slate of officers: Mike Zukas, pres.; Adele Latinis, vice pres.; Anne Tarmey, sec.; Agnes Marma, treas.; Fred Lucka, fin. secretary; Charlene Abrahamsen and Felix Zorskis, trustees; Muriel Lekstutis & Peter Petrowski, sergeants. at arms. Fr. William Scroll continues to serve as our spiritual advisor.

Plans for council activities projected so far include:

Observance of the New York State designated Lithuanian Independence Day, Feb. 16, by participating in a Suffolk County proclamation and raising of the Lithuanian tri-colors at a special ceremony to be held on that day in Riverhead, the county seat.

Our annual Mass and Communion Lunch in honor of St. Casimir to be held on March 12.

Our council will host the Mid-Atlantic District Convention on June 4.

Planning is well underway for our

Lithuanian Festival to be held in August.

On a more internal note, Pres. Zukas is striving to keep all council members more fully informed on current and projected activities through a monthly newsletter.

Finally in recognition of the vital connection between a people's language and its culture, our council will start, as a preliminary to our monthly meetings, a Lithuanian language conversation period to be conducted by council members fluent in the language. *Tom Tarmey*



DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 12, 1989 - MAMD St. Casimir's celebration - Host C-38 Kenosha, WI
- March 12, 1989 - Amber District Communion Breakfast - St. Casimir's Church, Pittston, PA
- March 18, 1989 - Supreme Council Meeting, Chicago, IL
- April 2, 1989 - C-12 New York, NY - 75th Anniversary Celebration
- May 7, 1989 - C-103 Providence, RI - Annual St. Casimir and May Day Breakfast
- May 19-21, 1989 - Mid-Central District Bowling Tournament and meeting. C-79 Southfield, MI Hosts.
- May 21, 1989 - C-41 Brooklyn, NY - 75th Anniversary Annunciation Church
- August 3-6, 1989 - 76th National Convention. Hosts: C-112 Chicago, IL
- August 27, 1989 - C-152 Riverhead NY - Annual Lithuanian Festival, American Legion Hall, Greenport, NY - 12 Noon - 6 p.m.

