

the KNIGHT **VYTYIS** 1990  
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

GEGUŽĖ / MAY

VOL. 76: No. 5



# VYTIS

## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

GEGUŽĖ / MAY  
1990

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All correspondence should reach the Editor by the FIRST OF THE MONTH, two months in advance of issue. The editors assume no obligation to return any material or photos unsolicited. Use of material from VYTIS permissible only if credit is given to VYTIS, its authors, artists, or photographers.

## A VISIT TO ŠILUVA

Edward Baranauskas

One of the most well known religious shrines in Lithuania is located in the small town of Šiluva, approximately 100 kilometers (62 miles) northwest of Kaunas.

What happened in the pastures on the outskirts of this small farming community in 1608, preceded by more than two centuries the events at LaSalette and Lourdes, and by three centuries the happenings that took place at Fatima. Mary's apparitions at Šiluva are among the least known of her appearances. The first appearance took place on European soil and Her second on earth; only Mexico's famed shrine at Guadalupe, where Our Blessed Mother appeared in 1531, is older.

A magnificent chapel now stands at the site of the apparition. Its construction was begun in 1912 and was to replace a much smaller one that was built almost a century before. It was completed in 1924 and is named the Chapel of the Apparition of Mary. On top of the rocks where Blessed Mother Mary appeared before the shepherds stands a statue of Her holding the infant Jesus, at the top of a tall pedestal. It is between two altars, one facing the front of the chapel and the other facing the rear. The edges of the rocks may be seen on the sides of the altars where the faithful go around it on their knees.

The church of Šiluva is one of the most beautiful in Lithuania. The miraculous painting of Our Blessed Mother of Šiluva is placed above the main altar. It is usually covered with another picture of Mary and is uncovered only during services. This miraculous painting appears to be a copy of the one at the Santa Maria Maggiore Basilica in Rome.

The first church in Šiluva, built in 1457 was made of wood

and eventually burned down as did the churches that followed. The present day church replaced a smaller one and is built of stone. Construction was started in 1760 and completed in 1775. In 1975, Pope Paul VI granted the title of

"basilica minor" to the church. The carving of the statues took 24 years.

On the right side inside the church near the main altar is a chapel. Here can be seen the chest that was unearthed in 1612 with the help of a blind man who led the searchers to its location. The chest was dug up at the same spot where the Holy Virgin is alleged to have appeared and the man's sight was restored. The top of the chest is covered with a glass partition and one can see some of the items that were found in it such as a chasuble and stole. It seems that inside this chest were not only the documents to the lands to prove that Šiluva's estate owner Peter Gedgaudas donated them to the Catholics but in it was also hidden the miraculous painting.

The painting was in the first churches of Šiluva and after that it was hidden from the Calvinists. After the box was found, the painting was always displayed on the main altar of the church of Šiluva. Around 1677, a metal robe

was formed from the votive offerings and put in place on the painting. Because of the miracles that happened at the painting, the Holy Father gave permission to put a crown on the head of the Holy Mother Mary on September 8, 1786. In 1957 when the picture was restored, it was clearly seen that the canvas was folded several times.

A visit to Šiluva would not only be an educational experience but an emotional one as well.



Cover Design: "OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE"

Paper-cutting by DAN PAULOS

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**ATBUDIMAS**

*Pavasariui grįžus,  
žydi ir žaliuoja  
žemė aptaškyta  
kančia ir krauju...*

*Laisvės išsiilgus  
mūs tauta kovoja,  
aukuruos tėvynės  
daug liepsnų naujų...*

*Lietuva jau bunda,  
Lietuva jau kelias,  
aikštėj laisvės Šaukia  
Jos vaikų minia...*

*O nakties žvaigždynai,  
tartum šviesios viltys,  
žėri, spinduliuoja  
Nemuno dugne...*

*Lai lietuvių siekius  
lydi naujos dienos!  
Lai vienybė klesti  
širdyse visų!...*

*Lai vilčių žibintai,  
naujai aušrai tekant,  
išpuošia rytojus  
tūkstančiais šviesų...*

*Laimink, Visagali,  
mūsų gimtą šalį  
ir kovas mūsų brolių,  
ten Lietuvoje!*

*Lai pasaulis mato,  
kad po vargo metų  
laisvės žiedas skleidžias  
tautos širdyje...*

**Eilėraštis**  
**Romualdo Kisieliaus**

**AWAKENING**

*With spring's return,  
The land, sprinkled  
with pain and blood,  
Begins to blossom  
And grow green.*

*Yearning for freedom  
Our Nation struggles,  
And many new flames  
Are on the Father land's altar.*

*Lithuania is stirring,  
Lithuania is rising;  
Calling for freedom  
In the open fields  
Are throngs of her children.*

*The night's constellations  
Like lights of hope,  
Shimmer and sparkle  
In the depths of the  
Nemunas River.*

*May the goals of Lithuanians  
Lead to new tomorrows,  
And may unity of purpose,  
Flourish in their hearts.*

*And may the torch of hope  
With the coming of each dawn  
Adorn all their tomorrows  
With myriads of lights.*

*Bless, O Almighty,  
Our native country.  
And the work of our brothers  
For a new Lithuania.*

*Let the whole world see  
That through years of pain  
and hardship,  
The blossom of freedom  
Lies in the nation's heart.*

**Translated by**  
**Sister Virginia Marie Vytell, CJC**

**SONG OF VILNIUS**

© by Michael J. Bielawa

*Song of Vilnius...  
Song of Vilnius.  
Half century of torture,  
Half century of crime.  
Vilnius, Vilnius  
Rise now, the moment is prime.*

*For tides of hope rise as ceaseless as  
the rhythmic waves sing the  
Praying Lady's unyielding  
rhyme.  
Vilnius, Vilnius  
Rise now, the moment is prime.*

*And join the chorus,  
do join the chime,  
Peoples of the world  
realize the reality of the times.*

*Trumpets of freedom yet echo from  
victorious Grunwald of old,  
from peaceful chants of the  
Movement,  
From the silent truth that we hold.*

*Vilnius, Vilnius  
Your freedom and mine.  
Vilnius, Vilnius  
Rise Now! The moment is prime.*



## Lithuania's Long Path Toward Freedom

**February 1918** — Lithuania, an independent state and later a Grand Duchy under the former Russian empire, is proclaimed an independent kingdom under the protection of Germany.

**November 1918** — Lithuania becomes an independent republic.

**1920** — Vilnius and other Lithuanian territory is occupied by Poland and is not reunited with Lithuania until 1939.

**1939** — A nonaggression pact is reached by the Soviet Foreign Minister, Vyacheslav M. Molotov, and Hitler's Foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop. Secret protocols give Moscow predominance in Lithuania and the other Baltic states.

**1940** — The Soviet Union occupies the three Baltic states which become Soviet republics.

**1941** The Baltic states are occupied by Nazi Germany.

**1944** — Soviet authority is restored in the Baltics.

**1953** — Longstanding armed resistance by Lithuanian partisans against Soviet power ceases.

**1972** — A wave of discontent breaks out in Lithuania. Protest petitions and other appeals for help are smuggled out.

**October 1988** — A grassroots Lithuanian political organization called Sajūdis, or the Movement, holds its inaugural congress in Vilnius. It reports a membership of 180,000 and draws more than 200,000 supporters into the streets for a torchlit parade.

**February 1989** — Sajūdis announces that its ultimate goal is to restore "an independent and neutral Lithuanian state in a demilitarized zone." It also affirms that Lithuania was occupied by the Red Army against the Lithuanians' will.

**August 22, 1989** — A commission of Lithuanian parliament declares that Moscow's annexation of the republic in 1940 was invalid. The commission thereby becomes the first

official body to mount a direct challenge to the legitimacy of Soviet rule in Lithuania.

**September 23, 1989** — The Lithuanian parliament votes to declare the 1940 Soviet annexation invalid, thus providing what could become the legal basis for Lithuania to secede. The unanimous vote makes Lithuania the first of the three Baltic republics to mount a formal challenge to the legitimacy of Soviet rule.

**December 7, 1989** — The Lithuanian parliament votes overwhelmingly to abolish the Communist Party's guaranteed monopoly on power. Lithuania thus becomes the first of the 15 Soviet republics to do so.

**December 20, 1940** — The Communist Party of Lithuania votes overwhelmingly to break away from the Communist leadership in Moscow. It is the first local party in Soviet history to declare itself independent of the Kremlin. The Lithuanian party then declares that a chief goal is the creation of "an independent, democratic Lithuanian state."

**January 1990** — Gorbachev, after criticizing the vote at first, meets with Lithuanian Communist Party leaders and indicates that he understands the motivation behind the vote. He says he will not attempt to make them undo it.

**February 24, 1990** — Lithuania holds parliamentary elections, the first multiparty vote in the Soviet Union since shortly after the Bolshevik Revolution. The electorate strongly rejects the Communist Party and provides the parliament with a firm mandate for independence.

**March 8, 1990** — Lithuanian officials report that Mr. Gorbachev has demanded that Lithuania pay the equivalent of \$33 billion in compensation if the republic breaks away.

**March 11, 1990** — The Lithuanian parliament elects the first non-Communist premier of a Soviet republic. It also changes the name of the republic. The Parliament then votes to have Lithuania secede from the Soviet Union and recover the independence that was lost in 1940.



## No, My Friends, We Won't Go Slow

Jonas Mekas

There is an old Lithuanian fairy tale about a young princess kidnapped by a foreign king. The king loves her very much (for her beauty) — almost as much as Mikhail Gorbachev loves Lithuania (for its grain, meat and seaports). Every time the princess expresses a desire to visit her old parents, the king gives her a pair of shoes to wear down before she can go home — first wooden, then glass, then iron.

Now, Gorbachev tells Lithuanians: You have to give me five years' notice, then I'll let you go home.

Ah, we all know how many beautiful princesses have died young. That's what we used to say about Lithuania — we being poets and artists, all Lithuanian, in displaced persons camp after World War II.

After Yalta, we had very little hope that Lithuania would ever become independent again. But the princess didn't die, after all.

Lithuania is independent again — independent, as the U.S. stands on the sidelines watching the Beast going after the Beauty. If the Beast doesn't get her, we'll shout, "Bravo! Bravo! You survived!"

When the Soviet Army rolled into the villages of my free and independent Lithuania in 1940, I was 17 years old. At that time, in my passport my height was 5 feet 8 inches. In 1941, German tanks rolled in and I ended up in a Nazi forced-labor camp. In 1945, the war ended; the forced-labor camps were closed and, and I was a free man, with no country. In my displaced person passport, my height was 5 feet 7 inches.

In 1965 in New York City, I remeasured myself for my U.S. passport. My height was again 5 feet 8 inches. It took me some time to understand what had happened to my height: it was freedom, liberty, that made me taller.

For six years, I had lived the life of a slave. Gradually I lost the sense of what I really was, of what a human really is or could be. Every body else had a right to be free, independent, but Lithuanians could not be free.

I will never know how many inches my spirit had shrunk, and I don't even want to try to evaluate the horror of the abyss into which the spirits of those who remained in Lithuania during the 50-year war have sunk.

For Germany, for France, for Japan, for the U.S., the war ended in 1945. But not for Lithuania. The war in Eastern

Europe is ending only now. Can you imagine what this means — a 50-year war?

But I have been free for years. It took me a long time to get out of the bent-down, humble-slave posture. Like the winter cold leaving frozen soil, it took time.

No, I didn't grow one inch taller. I straightened out. I lifted my spirits up. I was a free man. I was walking free and tall. Liberty is not just an idea. It is very physical. Our very body needs it, experiences it, lives it. Without liberty, it shrinks, it shrivels, it becomes nothing.

But they still say — I read it every day in the newspapers — "Ah, the Eastern Europeans are too much in a hurry to become free. They are 'nationalists,' they may upset the economic, the political balance of Europe. Stay put, don't rush."

No, my friends. Neither the balance of power, nor the economy — nor life itself — has any meaning if even one single nation, one person, remains enslaved. Only when there is total and absolute

respect for the individual, and for the national freedoms of every country — of every culture — can the world then call itself civilized.

Do you know how much salt can be absorbed by water? Only so much. And how much humiliation and slavery a human can take? Only so much. Lithuania long ago absorbed all the salt it can take.

(Jonas Mekas, a poet and film maker, is the director of the Anthology Film Archives, a museum.)

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### *Lithuania has slaved too long*

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## HONORARY MEMBERSHIP CANDIDATE REV. MSGR. DR. JOSEPH PRUNSKIS

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP** candidacy will be bestowed on Msgr. Dr. Joseph Prunskis at the 77th National Convention to be held in Pittsburgh, PA. To sum it up, he is a very humble and remarkable man. His writings have infused our Lithuanians with a revived national spirit, and his entire life is dedicated to God, his country and to humanity.

Msgr. Dr. Prunskis was born on December 22, 1907 in Žvilbučiai, Utena County, Lithuania. Like his father, he was a farm boy growing up with two brothers and two sisters. He attended high school in Utena and started writing articles at age 14. In 1932 he graduated from the Theological Seminary in Kaunas at which time he was ordained to the priesthood. He taught school in Kupiškis, was an assistant to the church pastor and became active in journalism. In 1935 he received his licentiate in Canon Law at the University of Kaunas and in 1945 received his doctorate degree at Catholic University in Washington, DC.

In addition to his many pastoral duties, he became heavily involved in journalism. He became editor of a weekly newspaper, *Mūsų Laikraštis* (1935-37), editor of a daily newspaper, *the Twentieth Century* (1936-39) and Director of the Catholic Press Bureau (1939-40), all in Kaunas, Lithuania.

In 1940 when Lithuania lost its independence, Msgr. Prunskis learned from his friends that he was wanted on Stalin's preferred list for a free trip to Siberia, he then knew it was time to leave his homeland Lithuania. When he escaped and crossed the German border, he was placed in a concentration camp for ten days, and then made his way to the American Embassy in Berlin. In a few weeks, he received an invitation from Msgr. Krushas to come to the United States, traveling to Chicago by way of Spain.

Subsequently he learned that his father, mother and uncle Rev. John Prunskis were taken as prisoners by the Communists. Within 19 months his father and uncle died due to lack of food and the extreme cold weather. His mother remained a prisoner for six years. She escaped to Moscow with money

sent to her by Msgr. Joseph from America. Eventually, she received an invitation to migrate to the United States because Msgr. talked to Krushchev when he visited the United States.

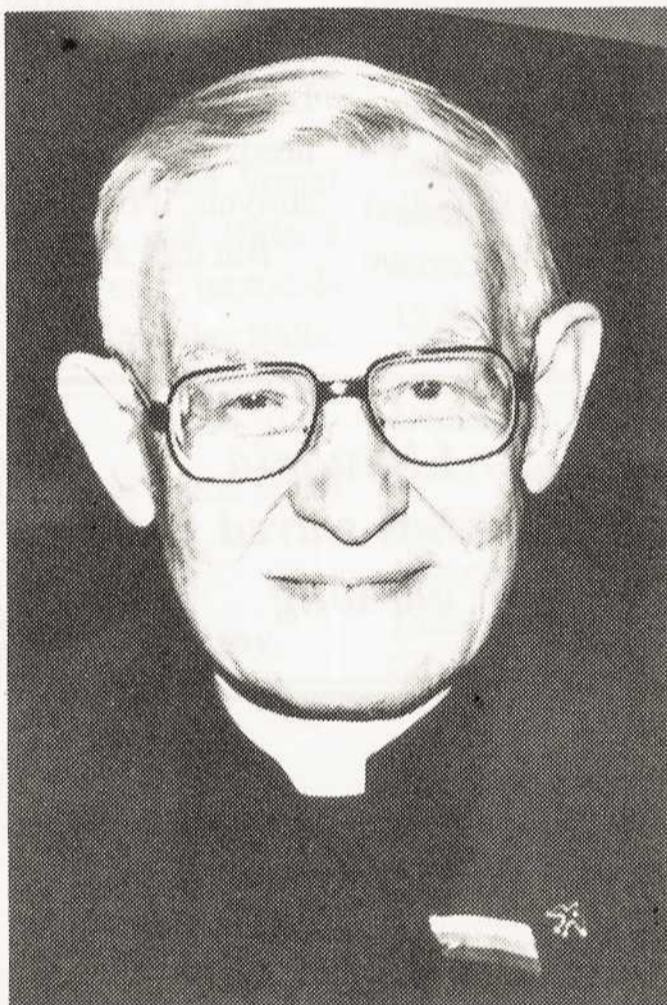
While residing in Chicago, Msgr. became Director of the Press Bureau (1943-45); editor of *Draugas* (1948-72); editor of the *Marian Magazine* (1964-69); instructor of Journalism

at the Lithuanian Pedagogical Institute; contributor to the Lithuanian Encyclopedia (1953-69) and editor of *Laivas* since 1972. At present, he is the Director of Information for the American-Lithuanian Council and resident assistant at the Queen of Universe Church where he was promoted to Monsignor.

Through his writings, he publicized Lithuania more than any man of his time. He has written some 10,823 articles for newspapers such as the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, *Draugas*, plus the *Ukranian*, *Polish*, *Czechoslovakian* and *German* periodicals. He speaks nine languages. His writings have substance, feeling and impact relating to religion, Communism, Lithuania's freedom, plus humanity. His work is devoted to God and Country.

He has also written approximately 36 books, most of them being in Lithuanian. A few titles are: *How to Write for Newspapers* (1940) with second edition (1950); *Communism and Revolution in America* (1942); *A Year with God* (1958); *Men on the Wrong Path* (1960); *My Concept of the World* (1958); *Lithuanians in Siberia* (1981).

Msgr. Prunskis joined C-5 Chicago in 1985 and has traveled extensively around the globe. From the royalties he receives from his publications, he donates towards awards for scientific, religious and journalistic achievements. He has donated money towards many scholarship awards. He contributes to individuals for their achievement in local community affairs. He does not spend money upon himself. At present, he has good health with the exception of a heart attack and glaucoma in one eye. We are proud to pay homage to this individual as an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania organization.





## "LET MY PEOPLE GO" Story of a Lithuanian American Priest

© by Albert Cizauskas

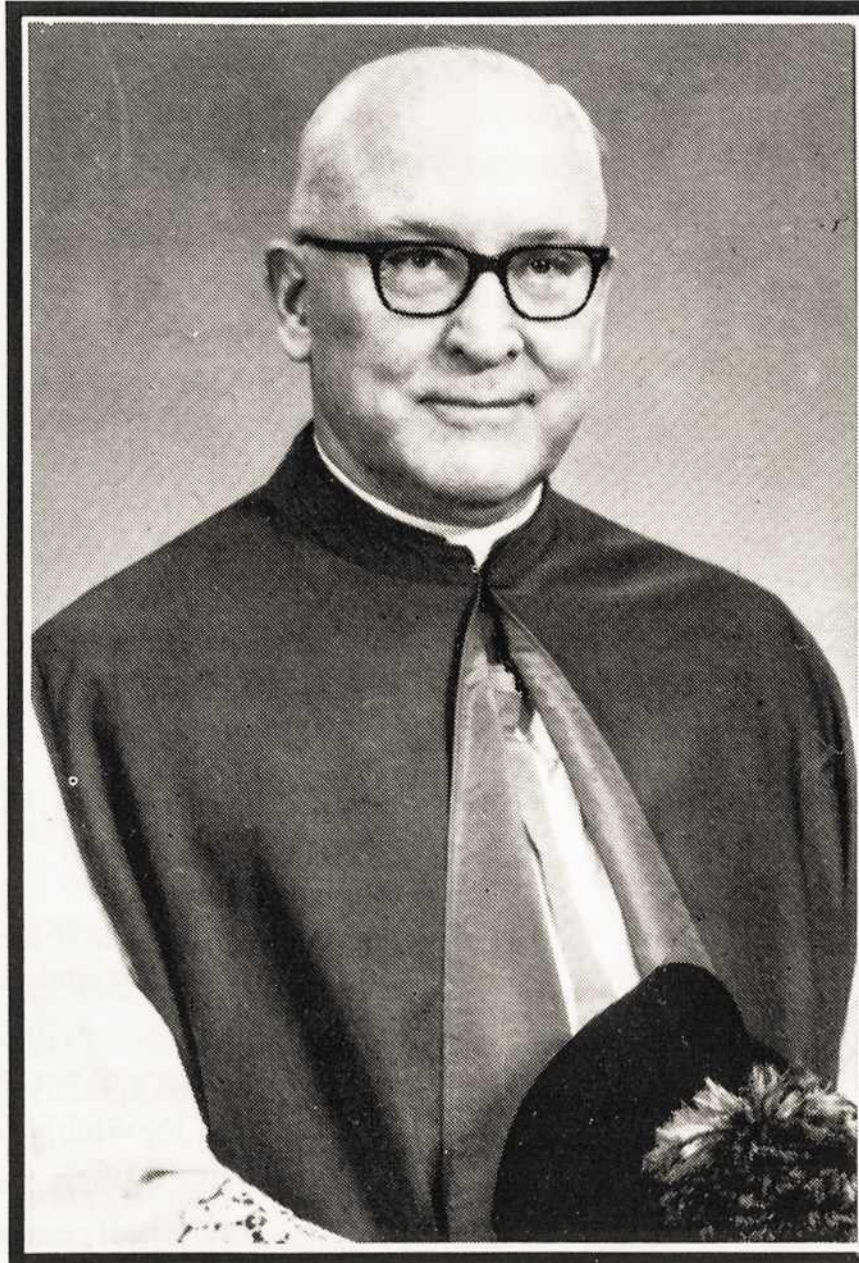
Msgr. John Balkunas, who died last year, was an outstanding churchman, patriot, and politician. He combined a magnetic personality and oratorical skills with an unflagging energy in defense of Lithuania's right to an independent national life.

At the same time, he was a builder out of the old mold, like the American Catholic prelates of an earlier age. The church of the Transfiguration in Maspeth, Long Island, is a tribute to the late Msgr.'s pioneering work among Lithuanian Americans. He had found a small country chapel and left it a flourishing parish, with a new church edifice modeled on Lithuanian themes.

Msgr. Balkunas was unique in other respects as well. At an impressionable age, he was exposed to both American and Lithuanian cultures, spending the first ten years of his life (1902-1912) in a small mining community in Pennsylvania, and the next ten years in the educational system of Lithuania, part of it in the newly reborn state. He followed his parents back to the United States where he completed the clerical studies he had begun in Lithuania and was ordained priest in 1926. This dual background accounted for his expert knowledge of the language and customs of both countries, enabling him to bridge the gap between the prewar and postwar Lithuanian immigrant generations. As a result, he was acceptable to both, an advantage which those raised entirely in one or the other milieu, too often lacked. It was this background, together with his persuasive personality, which made him so successful a leader of all factions of the Lithuanian American community at a critical period.

Msgr. Balkunas was also an active supporter of the Knights of Lithuania, often participating in its national conventions

and encouraging the activities of Council 110 in Maspeth, which is closely associated with the Transfiguration parish. He also served as spiritual adviser both to the Maspeth council as well as to Council 109 in Great Neck, Long Island.



**Msgr. John Balkunas - May 31, 1989**

### A Man of Two Worlds

In a eulogy delivered at the deceased's funeral rites, Joseph Laučka, a Council 142 member and prominent Lithuanian American activist from before the war, pointed out that when the Balkunas parents decided to return to Lithuania in 1912, the future Monsignor had already spent four years in an American grade school and, in effect, was an "American" youngster in all respects. Ironically, the parents' return to Lithuania shortly preceded the outbreak of World War I, trapping the family in the terrible conflict that raged back and forth across the soil of Lithuania. On the other hand, the family also lived through the exhilarating struggles for Lithuania's independence, an experience which molded the adolescent John Balkunas into an ardent

Lithuanian patriot for the remainder of his life.

The new Lithuanian priest chose to work in the Brooklyn diocese with its sizable Lithuanian colony and shortage of priests. His first appointment was to the church of the Annunciation for two years. An amusing incident I witnessed as a student at the parochial school provided one of the earliest displays of the vigor and direct action that came to be associated with John Balkunas. One of the boys in my class had been more than the poor nun could handle, so she turned to the new vicar for help. He came into the class one day, removed his belt and thrashed the unfortunate miscreant.

There was peace and order for a long time thereafter in Sister's class.

Father Balkunas' next assignment was to the Queen of Angels parish where he faced the first big test of his priestly career. Due to the frequent illness of the pastor, the burden of administering the entire parish fell on the young assistant's shoulders. He soon won the parishioners' confidence and devotion with his charismatic personality and sincere behavior towards all, both young and old. "His well prepared, well delivered sermons were eagerly awaited by the parishioners" and soon other parishes began to invite him to speak on the more important feast days. It was thus that the bright new star of Father Balkunas began to rise in the Lithuanian American Catholic community.

### Pastor

In 1933, in the depths of the Great Depression, Brooklyn Bishop Thomas Malloy promoted Father Balkunas, after only seven years as vicar, to his first and only pastorate. This was, however, to the small and bankrupt church of the Transfiguration in Maspeth, then largely an under-developed countryside, with open fields and truck gardens. Only a meager handful of parishioners were on the books but the parochial debt was in the thousands of dollars.

The new pastor faced a daunting task, but one which he tackled with customary zeal. He exuded the same type of invigorating confidence in the face of great odds that made the then-President, Franklin Roosevelt, such an outstanding leader. In no time, the number of parishioners rose, plans were laid for a new rectory and church and a staggering debt (for those times) of half a million dollars was incurred. As parishioners continued to flock to the reborn parish with its young and dynamic pastor, the Bishop appointed two vicars to assist him with the greatly augmented parochial work load.

It did not take long for the Bishop to recognize the pastor's achievements, all the more remarkable for those economically difficult days by appointing Balkunas as "diocesan

adviser". His work was honored even by the Vatican when Pope Pius XII elevated him in 1948 to the grade of Monsignor and he continued to climb the ecclesiastical ladder until he attained the highest Monsignorial rank, that of Apostolic Protonotary (an honorary title derived from the members of the College of Protonotaries in Rome who register Papal acts). This was a signal honor both to the man and to Lithuanian Americans as few prelates are accorded this distinction. There remains today only one other Lithuanian priest with

this rank, Msgr. Ladas Tulaba of Rome.

Though immersed in the spiritual and administrative responsibilities of his thriving parish, Msgr. Balkunas found time and energy to engage in work of a broader scope. From his earliest days, he was blessed with a gift for words which, as noted, earned

him a reputation as skilled orator, and soon also as an influential writer and editor for many Lithuanian Catholic journals.

His tendency to act in the interests of church and country carried him inevitably into the thorny jungle of Lithuanian political life. When the history of Lithuanian American society for the half century from the 30's to the 80's is written, Msgr. Balkunas will be remembered as the "great unifier". He possessed that rare gift of pulling together traditionally competing Lithuanian factions - such as nationalists, socialists, and Catholics, including their splinter factions - for the purpose of common action in defense of the Lithuanian cause. Once he was even able to entice the rigidly ideologue communist group into joining their fellow Lithuanians. This historic occasion took place in 1938 at a mass meeting in Cooper Union Hall in New York, to publicize the disgrace of Poland's bullying tactics against its smaller neighbor. The principal organizer and speaker was Msgr. Balkunas, who charged his listeners with the electric force of his personality and words.



*Msgr. Balkunas delivering a homily at Matulaitis Home in Putnam, CT*

The energetic young priest was also zealous in the defense of Lithuanian Catholic interests. In the summer of 1938, he led a Lithuanian Catholic delegation to President Smetona, requesting the President to ease restrictions on Lithuanian church groups and activities, aimed chiefly against Catholic youth societies. (An interesting sidelight is that one of the youth organizations, the "Pavasarininkai", had close relations with the K of L whose annual convention was held at Kaunas in 1928 with the support of the Lithuanian group). Anthony Mažeika, a high-ranking Knight and close associate of the Msgr.'s was part of the delegation. As a result of Balkunas' intervention, the situation improved somewhat for the Lithuanian Catholic youth groups.

### Response to Soviet Aggression

Now ensued a period of intense activity by Msgr. Balkunas to publicize Lithuania's plight under Soviet occupation and to render all the support feasible to those fortunate enough to escape. With boundless energy, he organized meetings all over the country to channel Lithuanian efforts into one broad and effective campaign. Conspicuous by their absence this time, however, were the Lithuanian communists, who followed the party line so slavishly that they even rejoiced in the Soviet annexation of Lithuania.

To relate step by step the prodigious labors of Msgr. Balkunas during the war years would exceed all the pages of VYTIS. Suffice it to say that he spearheaded organizational efforts aimed at the formation of a united relief fund for Lithuanians, known as BALFAS, of which he was both the inspirational and practical leader for many years. He also organized and attended meetings with President Roosevelt to help ensure the continuance of American policy recognizing Lithuanian sovereignty. He was also the persuasive voice with the American bishops' committee which, as a result, allocated much needed material support. But the capstone of his efforts was his lobbying, together with other dedicated individuals, for the passage of the landmark postwar legislation opening the doors of this country to "displaced persons". About 30,000 Lithuanian refugees emigrated as a result of this generous American gesture, and a new word, "Diepukai" entered into the Lithuanian lexicon.

This postwar wave of Lithuanian immigrants, however, virtually swamped the existing Lithuanian establishment in the United States. Reared in a different environment, the newly arrived refugees professed themselves dissatisfied with what they found here. Well coordinated and led, they were determined to bypass the long-established structure of

Lithuanian society in this country. For their part, the American born Lithuanians resented what they regarded as the cavalier dismissal of all that had served them and their parents well.

Apart from re-establishing the various organizations they had known in independent Lithuania, the new group proposed to set up a global institution which would embrace all Lithuanians in the free world. Msgr. Balkunas' position on this potentially divisive issue was crucial because of his pre-eminent role among the earlier generation of Lithuanian Americans. Always open to new ideas, Msgr. Balkunas decided to support the notion of a global community, the key element in the post-war campaign to revamp Lithuanian American society. He was, naturally, welcomed by the refugee faction and became one of the founding fathers of the Lithuanian World Community, Bendruomenė. Balkunas' action, which seemed surprising at the time was, in retrospect, no more than a logical extension of his own earlier initiatives for coordinated action on Lithuania's behalf.

### He Couldn't Say No

At the time of Balkunas' elevation to the Monsignorial ranks, one of his fellow prelates noted that he was incapable of refusing any request involving service to church or country. Another priest put it this way: "He spared neither help, nor time, nor even his own financial resources, for the welfare of the church and suffering Lithuania".

The account given above provides only the barest essentials of his activities in the service of God and country, goals which are also those of the Knights. No account, however, would be completed without mentioning his participation after the war in European Christian Democratic groups, lobbying for the Lithuanian cause at the UN, speaking to his fellow Lithuanians over the Voice of America, and delivering the invocation at the US Senate commemorating Lithuanian independence.

The limitless energies of this unusual man were finally stilled by the ravages of cancer on the last day of May, 1989. Funeral rites were held in the church he had built in Maspeth, attended by countless parishioners, friends and fellow warriors in the causes he held dear. The esteem in which he was regarded by the church he had served so well was manifest in the attendance of three bishops among the concelebrants, among them Baltakis and Mugavero of Brooklyn. On behalf of the Lithuanian people, the Consul General of free Lithuania at New York, Anicetas Simutis, delivered one of the several eulogies. The funeral oration was given by the Fran-

ciscan Provincial, Placidus Barius.

### “Let My People Go”

These moving words of an old Negro spiritual epitomize the theme of the Monsignor's long struggle on behalf of his people in occupied Lithuania. At the end of his life, we can

imagine the Lord taking him to the mountain top, from whence he could see, almost as a mirage, the promised land of freedom. But after decades of Lithuanian wandering in the desert of Soviet oppression, one might well hear John Balkunas' impatient cry: “How much longer, O Lord, how much longer?”

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## WE MOURN THE LOSS OF TWO HONORARY MEMBERS ANTHONY MAZEIKA and JOSEPHINE DAUŽVARDIS



Anthony Mazeika joined the Knights of Lithuania organization in 1927. He served continuously on many levels on the National Executive Board, Districts and local council activities. He helped to revitalize councils in Pittsburgh, PA, Brooklyn, NY, Elizabeth, NJ, Bayonne, NJ and DuBois, PA. He was national president from 1935-38 and again in 1941-42.

In 1934 Anthony went to Lithuania representing the K of L in the Pavasarininkų Congress. In 1938

**March 19, 1990**

he led a tour to the Lithuanian Eucharistic Congress to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Lithuania's independence.

He received his Honorary Membership in 1947 being very active with Brooklyn C-41. At the time of his retirement, he moved to Florida and organized C-147 in St. Petersburg serving as their first president. He was very active in K of L functions until his recent illness. *Amžina atilsei Antanių.*

Josephine Dauzvardis was appointed Consul General of

Josephine Dauzvardis was appointed Consul General of Lithuania at Chicago to succeed her late husband Dr. Peter P. Dauzvardis, serving from 1971 to 1986.

Mrs. Dauzvardis was a native of Worcester, MA. She was a graduate of Northeastern University School of Law.

She taught Lithuanian language, singing and folk dancing to several childrens' groups and was active in American and Lithuanian civic, musical, amateur theatrical and other cultural activities.

She was a member of C-112 Chicago and received her Honorary Membership in 1978. She is the author and compiler of “Popular Lithuanian Recipes” now in its fifth printing. Her activities are too numerous to mention but she will be sorely missed by the Lithuanian community. May she rest in peace.



**January 29, 1990**



### SHORTAGES IN LITHUANIA

The Ministry of Trade in the USSR states that because of certain shortages, vast amounts will be imported. Among many other items, it is noted that shortages include 300 million razor blades, 10,000 tons of toothpaste, 180,000 tons soap/powder, 30 million pair pantyhose. Tourists to Lithuania should bring their own supply and not attempt to purchase same on the public markets.



### SOVIETS MAY LOSE FARM SYSTEM

The demands for the independence in Lithuania may have an effect on the Soviet Olympic team, especially if more Baltic republics follow suit.

Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia sent their own teams to the Olympics prior to 1940, before they became part of the Soviet Union. Along with Lithuanian basketball talent of years past like Arvidas Sabonis, Sarunas Marciulionis and Rimas Kurtinaitis, the Baltic republics now stock the Soviet cycling and bobsled teams. Ukraine supplies most of the Soviet soccer team while Georgia and Armenia provide many top wrestlers and weightlifters.

## THE JOY OF FLIGHT A True Story by Eddy Budelis, C-3 Philadelphia

As the early years of the 70's decade showed some cracks and openings in the Iron Curtain, a small group of amiable and intrepid Marylanders set out to venture through one of those cracks to visit Lithuania — this, for the first time since 1939! The voyagers packed ballpoint pens, chewing gum, jeans, wigs, a prescription or two (all valuable gifts) and were off.

Entering the USSR at Leningrad, formerly Stalingrad, formerly Petrograd, they bravely faced customs/immigrations screening. Of course, they were checked for weapons - the kind that kill the body. But there also were shakedowns for weapons of the mind: the authorities were very thorough in seeing to it that no Bibles or Sear's/Wards catalogs got in specifically, nor any western publications, generally.

Tucked away among many expectations were images of viryta, krupnikas and citrinas in each mind's refreshment compartment. Alas, the drinks of Lithuania that followed Lithuanian emigrants to the U.S.A. in the first quarter of this century were not to be found. But to their comfort and enjoyment, the travelers were rewarded - and soon. Upon arriving at the Gintaras Viešbutis in Vilnius, a high priority need to counterattack road dust called for a stop at the hotel's bar. Here was a bartender preparing a beverage so artistically and with such ingredients that already the trip had to be deemed a success in terms of cultural exchange.

So...when in Lithuania, do as the Lithuanians! Therefore, from the lips of the most adventurous visitor came a bold, "I'll have one of THOSE." THOSE was a SKRYDIS (flight), the bartenderis (to use Lombard Street Lithuanian) informed us. That should have been warning enough. But the adventurous one did not waiver. The libation was not only delectable but also answered the question why Lithuanians there do not have to go to a prescription counter for sedatives or tranquilizers.

The next task was to get the recipe, then to get it out of the country. Don't ask how! Just gather the ingredients in the following recipe - mix, stir gently and it's ready to sip. SVEIKS! SIP, Sip, Sip, Sip.....

SKRYDIS (Or, the Joy of Flight)

1/3 oz. Black Cherry Liqueur	2/3 oz. Orange Liqueur
1/2 oz. Champagne	2/3 oz. Cognac

Ice Chunks

## KULVIETIS ASSUMES LEADERSHIP OF EDUCATION IN LITHUANIA

Maryland Lithuanians and the John Carroll School community met Vladimiras Kulvietis in the spring of 1989 when he came as the principal of Salomėja Neris Secondary School in Vilnius. He arrived with the spirit of Sajūdis in his heart as did his exchange students and colleague.

Kulvietis has been named Lithuania's new Minister of Education. He thus becomes part of the restructuring in a vital way. The quiet, dedicated Sajūdis educator reportedly is losing no time in moving to revamp the curriculum to resemble that of independent Lithuania, notably the inclusion of teaching religion.

## LITHUANIAN EDUCATION RESEARCH PAPERS PRESENTED TO LITHUANIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY

Two research papers on education in Lithuania are now available at the Lithuanian library in Baltimore, the products of graduate work by Edward M. Budelis for the University of Maryland in the 60's.

The larger 102-page paper is *An Investigation of the Development and Implementation of Academic Curriculum in Secondary Schools of Lithuania, 1918-1940*. It is now viewed with a different perspective in light of current happenings in Lithuania. The appointment of Vladimiras Kulvietis to the new government of Lithuania as Minister of Education adds significance to the work.

The second paper is *The Image of the United States as Seen in Four Soviet Lithuanian Textbooks*. This 45-page study of four grammar books focuses on the Soviet's broad attempts at influencing youth. The texts had to be translated from Lithuanian before analytical work in English was completed.

Both phases were done by C-3 Philadelphia member Ed Budelis.

-Vilties Balsas, Baltimore



## LITHUANIAN KUČIOS at MUSEUM in Chicago, IL

On December 10, 1989, the Knights of Lithuania Dancers, under the direction of Frank Zapolis, performed the traditional Lithuanian Christmas at the Museum of Science and Industry's "Christmas Around the World". Frank Zapolis, with his talented actors, dancers and stage hands have been presenting the Christmas show for over 20 years to the delight of the Chicago area Lithuanians and non-Lithuanians. As usual the auditorium was filled to capacity with a receptive audience.

The performance was comprised of two parts. Act I enacted the Lithuanian Kučios tradition with Christmas wafers and table settings. Act II showed how the Lithuanian youth looked forward to Christmas with their traditional games, dancing and singing well into the evening. Naturally, Grandfather Christmas with his long robe, white beard and a bag of sweet smelling soap for the girls and apples for the boys, made his appearance followed by Mid-America Juniors. There were many proud and beaming smiles in the audience when the sons and grandsons, daughters and granddaughters danced the traditional Lithuanian dances for Grandfather Christmas.

Our many thanks to the untiring efforts of the Knights of Lithuania Dance Group director Frank Zapolis and his many talented assistants and dancers.

*Albert Zakarka*

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## GORBACHORTLES

If people drown their sorrows in humor, then two recent jokes about the Soviet Union suggest the nature of the sorrows there: Consumer goods and services remain scarce, and Gorbachev's promised economic reforms haven't taken hold.

JOKE 1: Ivan places an order for a new Soviet-made car. "When can I take delivery?" he asks. The salesman consults his calendar. "How about 10 years from Monday," he responds.

"Morning or afternoon?" Ivan asks.

"Does it matter?" asks the salesman, "It's 10 years from now."

"Yes," says Ivan, "but the plumber's coming in the morning."

JOKE 2: Vladimir and Sergei are standing in line to buy

## LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY PARTY IN WASHINGTON

Yet another sign of perestroika along Washington's mythical Embassy Row: a nonstop receiving line at the Legation of Lithuania, where Charge d'Affairs Stasys Lozoraitis Jr. and his wife, Daniela, greeted more than 300 guests at a celebration of Lithuanian independence.

They were remembering the Lithuanian independence of 1918, not 1990, however. The country was forcibly annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940, and the 16th Street legation has been an outpost without a country ever since. That may begin to change after the recent parliamentary election.

Predicting a democratic majority, Lozoraitis said, "Parliament will declare that Lithuania should be free — not immediately, but after elections in Russia, Estonia and Latvia. Then step by step, they'll start reorganizing the state. As far as we know, Moscow has already decided — knows — that sooner or later this will happen and they will have to let us go."

Besides members of the highly supportive Lithuanian community, in the crowd were two other Baltic freedom fighters: Estonian Consul General Ernst Jaakson and Latvian Charge d'Affairs Anatol Dinbergs. Guests included the Bush administration's highest-ranking official of Lithuanian ancestry, Anna Kondratas, HUD assistant secretary for community planning and development.

Old-timers at these national day parties knew some things had already changed when word got around that Secretary of State James A. Baker III had sent "deep regrets" over not being able to attend. Past U.S. secretaries of state "never even bothered to R.S.V.P. before," said a Lithuanian patriot.

The most revealing message, however, came when guests bellied up to the bar. Where vodka of any origin once was banned, Lozoraitis this year provided a choice: Polish or American brands.

*The Washington Post*

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toothpaste. Hours pass. Finally, in frustration, Sergei explodes: "For years, we've been waiting for Gorbachev to keep his promise about more consumer goods. I've had it. I'm going to go get my hunting rifle and kill Gorbachev."

"Okay," says Vladimir, "I'll hold your place in line."

Three hours later, Sergei returns.

"How'd it go?" asks Vladimir. "Terrible," says Sergei, "the line was even longer there."

## KAZYS ADOMAVIČIUS Marionis Park, Shrewsbury, MA

Best wishes are in order to Kazys Adomavičius who was recently honored at a testimonial noting his first twenty-five years as president of the Lithuanian Charitable Society and its Marionis Park (located in Shrewsbury, MA just outside Worcester). Kazys has earned the respect and recognition given him at that gathering and the events of the day have been wonderfully set on film for his personal library of happy memories. Gifts, plaques, greetings and other memorabilia adorn his Marionis Park office. Kazys' strong commitment to all things Lithuanian has made him a popular personage in this area. His leadership skills stemming from early child-

hood to the present all attest to his qualifications. We of C-26 are proud to claim Kazys as an active and dedicated member and we doubt that there is a K of L'er anywhere who is not aware of his generous hospitality to each and every function of the Knights of Lithuania, be it large or small. Everyone wants to belong to a club that achieves the extraordinary, and this explains the long waiting list of individuals yearning to become members of Marionis Park. Congratulations to Kazys Adomavičius on his 25th anniversary of Marionis Park presidency. He has made us all winners!!

*Olga Kersis, C-26 Worcester, MA*



*Kazys Adomavičius, president of Marionis Park in Shrewsbury, MA*

### LITHUANIAN ETHNIC CAMP

The Sisters of Jesus Crucified are sponsoring a Lithuanian Ethnic Camp which is God oriented, encouraging patriotism and love of America, as well as developing an appreciation for the customs and traditions of the Lithuanian Heritage. This camp will be held at St. Mary's Villa, Elmhurst, PA from July 8 through the 21 for boys and girls between the ages of 8 through 16.

This year the Sisters are introducing something new - A Bible Camp. It will take place for one week, July 1 to July 7.

The cost of the camp is \$100.00 per week as well as a \$10.00 registration fee.

The Lithuanian Catholic Alliance will sponsor children of parents or grandparents that belong to the Alliance.

For further information, contact Sister M. Angela, CJC, 1404 N. Washington St., Wilkes Barre, PA 18705.

## Lithuanian Kitchen

## Lietuviška Virtuvė

The recipes for this month, which have been sent to us by our readers couldn't be easier to prepare, are perfect for May. Ačiū labai to our Lithuanian cooks for their recipes.

*Stella Matulonis*

### THREE LITHUANIAN FAVORITES MADE EASY

*Bronė Wisniauskas, C-10 Athol-Gardner, MA*

#### 1. **KARBANADAS** Tenderized Baked Pork Chops or Cutlets

Pound meat with mallet until thin, dip into beaten egg; then into a mixture of flour, bread crumbs, grated corn chips, salt, pepper, garlic powder and dash of paprika; marjoram or oregano may also be added.

Pan-fry meat to a golden brown on both sides, then place into a baking dish; add a little meat stock and bake at 350° for 40 mins. or until done. Serve with sauerkraut and with potatoes that have been boiled or baked in oven along with the meat.

#### 2. **ŽRAZAI** Tenderized Beef Roll-Ups

Slice bottom round beef (turkey breast can also be used) about 1/4" thick and pound slices with mallet; season with salt, pepper and garlic powder. In saute pan, add oil and cook finely chopped onion and celery. Add cooked vegetables to your favorite stuffing mix. Mix well and spread on meat slices; roll up and fasten each with a toothpick. Place in baking pan, pour on some water (or broth), garnish with parsley. Cover and bake in 350° for about one hour.

#### 3. **BALANDELIAI** Cabbage Rolls

Parboil a head of cabbage and separate leaves. Using your favorite meat mixture, season it, and add some cooked barley or rice. Mix well. Add spoonful of mixture on a cabbage leaf and roll up. Slice a few carrots and place into bottom of a large cooking pan, place cabbage rolls on top of carrots and add

water to cover. Pour a can of either tomato or cream of mushroom soup over rolls. Cook about one hour. Garnish with parsley when serving.

### VEGETERIAN MID-WESTERN SOUP

1 cup dried white beans	4 cloves crushed garlic
1-1/2 cup water	1 - 16-oz. can tomatoes
1 diced potato	1/4 cup olive oil
1/4 lb. green beans cut up	3 tsp. basil
2 zucchini, diced	1/2 tsp. oregano
2 chopped onions	salt, pepper to taste
1 stalk celery, chopped	chopped parsley

Wash dried beans, place in large saucepan; add water. Bring to boil; boil for 2 mins.; cover and let simmer for 1-1/2 hrs. or until beans are tender. Add potatoes, green beans, garlic, oregano, basil. Simmer for 20 mins. In another pan, saute onion and celery until golden; add to soup. Add tomatoes, zucchini, salt and pepper. Simmer for 20 mins. Add more water if too thick. When done, add parsley. Flavor improves if made a day before serving.

*Adele DeAngelo, C-110 Maspeth, NY*

### NEW ORLEANS RED BEANS AND RICE

1 lb. dried red kidney beans	1/4 cup chopped celery
1 qt. water	1/2 tsp. tobasco sauce
1 ham bone (or hock) with ham	1 tsp. salt (optional)
1 large chopped onion	1/4 tsp. thyme
2 cloves chopped garlic	1 bay leaf
3 cups cooked rice	

Soak beans in water overnight. Pour all into large heavy Dutch oven type of pan. Add remaining ingredients EXCEPT rice. Simmer 3 hours or until beans are tender. Add water when necessary during cooking. Water should barely cover beans at end of cooking. Remove ham bone when done, cut off meat into small pieces and return to pot. Remove 1 cup of beans and mash to a paste. Add to mixture in pot and stir until liquid is thickened. Serve hot over rice. Serves 6.

*Jean Mactutis, C-109 Great Neck, NY*



## Lithuanians in the News

### RETIRES FROM U. S. NAVY



Georgiana Banellis, a Lieutenant Commander of medical Service Corps finished her 20th year of active duty naval service on Dec. 12, 1989 retiring from Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, FL. She was born and raised in Logan, UT. Her father is of Lithuanian heritage who moved from Pennsylvania to Utah. He, too, served in the Armed Forces.

In 1969 she graduated from University of Utah

*Georgiana M. Banellis* in Salt Lake City with a degree in Foods and Nutrition. In August 1969 she became a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy. Her naval career continued with tours of duty in the Pennsylvania area with plenty of chances to visit her birthright origin in Pittston and West Pittston wherein her grandmothers resided.

While on tour duty in Cleveland, she became happy with her Lithuanian heritage roots and multiple associations with the Lithuanian community there. She learned the Lithuanian language from a special lady and had many exposures to the beauty of the Lithuanian culture, dance and crafts and not to forget to mention the wonderful Lithuanian foods.

Now that Georgianna is retired, her immediate desires are to return to her western roots in Logan, UT.

### TO SPEAK AT WORLD CONGRESS

Rev. Eugene Sawicki, EdD, RN, I.C.L., pastor of Our Lady of Vilnius and spiritual advisor of C-12 in New York City has been invited by the International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants to be a speaker at a plenary session of the XIV World Congress to be held at Mount St. Vincent, Rosedale, NY from June 12-15, 1990. His topic will be "Ethics of Decision in a Changing World". He

will speak on June 14 at 9 a.m. The theme of the Congress is "Values in a Changing World". Father is also a chaplain with the New York City Fire Department.

### TIMES ARE A'CHANGIN'

The spirit of freedom has awakened in Lithuania but in faraway Maryland, Dovile Bieliauskaite anxiously watches the evening television news each night. In a way, she would like to be at home. Dovile was an exchange student at John Carroll School a year ago. She is an 18-year old Lithuanian student now attending Hartford Community College study-



*DOVILE BIELIAUSKAITE*, a Lithuanian exchange student ing psychology and English.

Miss Bieliauskaite said she has studied Lithuanian history in school but only as approved by the Soviets. Although both her grandparents are living, she does not question them about the past knowing it hurts them to think about it and since some

### *Lithuanians in the News (cont'd)*

are still very afraid to discuss it.

Her future plans are uncertain. She might attend Northwestern University near Chicago where some of her relatives live.

John Carroll High School hosted another group of 15 Lithuanian students and two teachers for a 24-day stay. The school is accepting financial donations and contributions for the students which can be mailed to: John Carroll School, 703 Churchville Rd., BelAir, MD 21014-3499. (Ed. This is certainly a worthy cause and hope VYTIS readers will cooperate).

*The Aegis*

### **JANKEVICIUS READY FOR OTHER SPORTS**

When Lithuanian Sandy Jankevicius' career at Salisbury State University ends very shortly, sports will not disappear from her life.

Sandy says that sports are too much fun to give up. She has taken the first steps toward a coaching career. She helped coach a junior high school team in her freshman year and now

student teaches physical education in an elementary school. She has also won three Eastern States Athletic Conference titles while playing volleyball. Basketball is her favorite sport. Volleyball and tennis are two others she loves. She played all three in high school. She has been an active athlete for a long time and hopes to remain so for many years.



*Carroll County Times* SANDY JANKEVICIUS




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## **K of L CALENDAR**

May 18-20, 1990 - MCD Convention & Bowling Tournament, C-96 Dayton, OH Hosts.

June 10, 1990 - Amber District Meeting: Hosts C-72 Binghamton, NY

June 16, 1990 - Nat'l Executive Bd. Meeting - Chicago, IL

June 22-24, 1990 - NED Retreat - Kennebunkport, ME

June 28, 1990 - Day at the Races - C-24 Chicago, IL

July 26-29, 1990 - 77th National Convention - Hosts: Pittsburgh #19

August 26, 1990 - 5th Annual Lithuanian Festival - American Legion Hall, Greenport, NY - C-152 Eastern Long

Island, NY Hosts.

September 19, 1990 - C-79 Southfield, MI - Annual Luncheon & Card Party, Divine Providence Cultural Center.

September 28-30, 1990 - C-79 Southfield, MI - Hosting MCD Pilgrimage.

October 7, 1990 - Champagne Brunch, C-112 Chicago, IL

October 14, 1990 - C-29 Newark, 75th Anniversary..

November 4, 1990 - 75th Anniversary, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Kearny, NJ - C-90.

November 4, 1990 - C-79 Southfield, MI - Annual Fall Festival, Divine Providence Cultural Center.

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### **Smile**

A smile costs nothing but creates much.

It happens in a flash and the memory of it lasts forever.

It cannot be begged, borrowed or stolen,

but it is of no earthly good to anyone until it is given away.

So if in your hurry to meet someone who is too weary to smile,  
leave one of yours.

For no one needs a smile quite as much as he who has none to give.

*Submitted by Alex Gedrim, C-50*

### **Route of the Problem**

Delicious foods may make us drool;

But savvy folks observe this rule:

A moment's pleasure on the lips

Can mean a lifetime on the hips.

### **BUSINESS:**

We all are manufacturers —  
some make good, others make trouble and  
still others make excuses.

## THE 77th NATIONAL CONVENTION UPDATE

### JULY 25-29, 1990

### Pittsburgh, PA

A few changes have been made to the convention schedule since the mailing was sent out to all our members. Also early registrants have asked for clarification regarding some of the convention details.

#### HOTEL:

The convention rate is good from Tuesday, July 24 thru Sunday night, July 29. Children, age 18 and under, may stay in their parents room at no additional cost. Unfortunately an error was made in the earlier mailing stating that the rate of \$90 applies for up to 4 people in a room. It should have stated that the \$90 rate is for double occupancy and there is a \$15 per person charge for extra adults sharing a room. The convention committee deeply apologizes for the error.

#### REGISTRATION:

The registration fee covers the costs of all items on the schedule except for golf and the tour. The only meals that are included are the Saturday banquet and Sunday luncheon. Naturally, bus transportation is included. The convention discount for travel on USAir can only be obtained by calling 800-334-8644 (either you or your travel agent can call this number).

#### SCHEDULE:

The starting time of the cultural tour on Wednesday has been moved back to 2:00 p.m. to allow more people to participate.

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### LIETUVIŲ KALBOS KAMPĖLIS

**Kalbėkime Lietuviškai**

**Let's Speak Lithuanian**

*Apolonija (Polly) Žiausys*

#### KAIP RAŠYSIME MŪSŲ TAUTINIŲ ŠOKIŲ VARDUS

Prof. dr. A. Klimas (Pasaulio Lietuvis) cituoja Kalbininkės N. Šližienės mintis, kad 1. "Lietuvių liaudies šokių, kaip tam tikrų meno kūrinų, atliekamų scenose, aikštėse ir kitose viešose vietose, pavadinimai turėtų būti rašomi didžiąja raide ir su kabutėmis: "Gaidys", "Kalvelis", "Kubilas", "Sadutė" ir taip toliau; 2. "Kabučių gali nebūti tais atvejais, kai pavadinimai pateikiami skirtingu šriftu, tačiau ir tada jie rašytini didžiąja raide: Gaidys, Kalvelis, Kubilas, Sadutė ir t.t." 3. "Tie šokių pavadinimai, kurie suvokiami kaip bendriniai, paprastai rašomi mažąja raide, pvz. valsas, polka, kadrilis."

#### PATARLĖS:

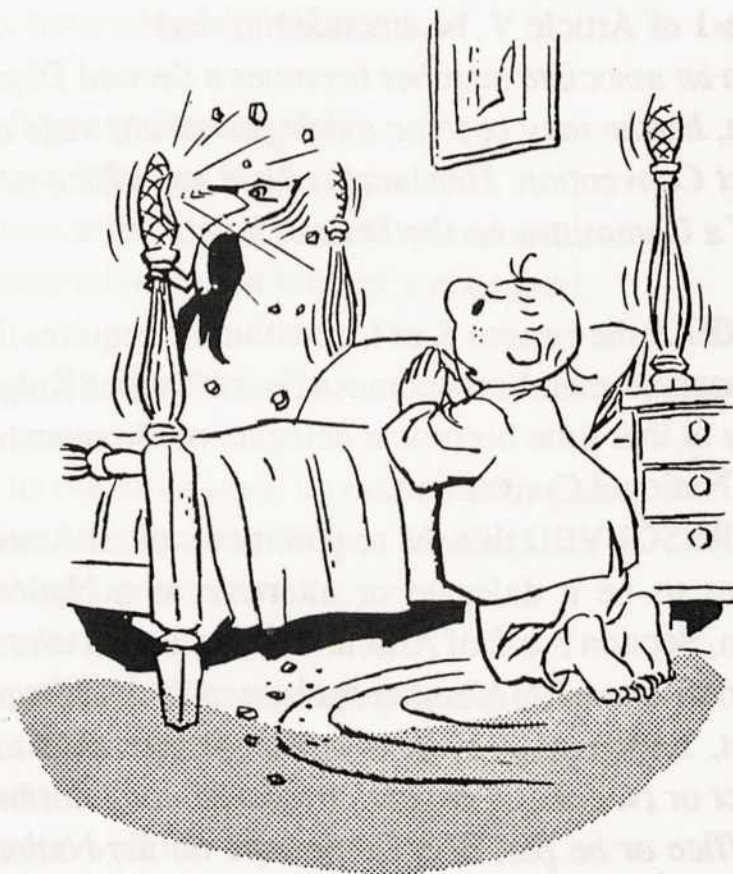
1. Kas nori dirbti - ieško sprendimų, kas nenori dirbti - ieško priežasčių.
2. Užsispyrimas yra - kvailių energija.
3. Žmogus numato - Dievas nusprendžia.
4. Tinka, kaip baravykas į barščius.
5. Pilsto iš tuščio į kiaura.
6. Pučiasi, kaip varlė agurkuose.
7. Akyse-kaip šilkas, už akių- kaip vilkas.
8. Mekena, kaip ožiai kopūstuose.

9. Kas kalba ką tik nori, būna priverstas klausytis, tai ko nenori.

10. Ant aruodo ir kiaulė gera šeimininkė.

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### BROTHER JUNIPER



"Let's have a little quiet, please!"

**RESOLUTIONS submitted by MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT and approved by  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD at meeting of OCTOBER 21, 1989  
to be voted by delegates at National Convention**

1. WHEREAS the current Knights of Lithuania Constitution states that the Spiritual Advisor is the parish pastor or his appointed assistant;

WHEREAS certain councils of the Knights of Lithuania are not associated with a specific parish and have no Spiritual Advisor;

WHEREAS such Councils have had to designate a priest from a neighboring community as Spiritual Advisor;

BE IT RESOLVED that the signature of the Spiritual Advisor be optional rather than required and Section 7 of Article IX be amended to read:

*"Council and District delegates must present to the convention a formal mandate with signatures of their president, secretary and spiritual advisor and a seal. Signature of a spiritual advisor is optional"*.

2. WHEREAS the current K of L constitution requires that when an Associate member becomes a Third Degree Knight, he/she may become a delegate or alternate to a District convention;

WHEREAS the current K of L constitution stipulates that an Associate Member cannot hold an office on the district level;

BE IT RESOLVED that the requirement of an Associate Member to be a delegate or alternate to a District Convention, Section 3-e-1 of Article V, be amended to read:

*"When an associate member becomes a Second Degree Knight, he/she may become a delegate or alternate to a District Convention. He/she may hold any office or be part of a Committee on the District level."*

3. WHEREAS the current K of L constitution requires that when an Associate member becomes a Fourth Degree Knight, he/she may at that time become a delegate or alternate to a District or National Convention;

BE IT RESOLVED that the requirements of an Associate Member to be a delegate or alternate to a National Convention, Section 3-e-2 of Article V, be amended to read:

*"When an Associate Member becomes a Second Degree Knight, he/she may be a delegate or alternate to a District or National Convention. He/she may not hold any office or be part of a Committee on the National level."*

1. KADANGI dabartinė Lietuvos Vyčių konstitucija nustato kad kuopų Dvasios Vadai turi būti parapijos klebonas ar jo nustatytas vikaras, ir

KADANGI kaikiurios Lietuvos Vyčių kuopos nepriklauso prie parapijų ir neturi Dvasios Vadų;

NUTARTA, kad Dvasios Vado parašas būtų ne būtinas bet optimalus, ir Sekcijoje 7, Artikelio IV būtų pakeista sekančiai:

*"Kuopų ir apskričių atstovai turi įteikti seimui formalų įgaliojimą su savo pirmininko, raštininko ir dvasios vado parašais ir kuopos ar apskrities antspaudu. Dvasios vado parašas yra nebūtinasis."*

2. KADANGI dabartinė Lietuvos Vyčių Konstitucija nustato kad kai narys/ė bendradarbis/ė tampa trečio laipsnio vytis/vytė, jis/ji turi teisę būti delegatas/ė, ar atsarginiu/ė Apygardos seime;

KADANGI dabartinė Lietuvos Vyčių konstitucija sąlygoja, kad narys/ė bendradarbis negali būti išrinktas į Apygardos valdybą;

NUTARTA kad reikalavimai bendradarbis narys/ė būti delegatu/delegatė ar atsarginiu/e Apygardos seime, Sekcijoje 3-e-1, Artikelio V, būtų pakeista sekančiai:

*"Kai narys/ė bendradarbis/ė tampa antrojo laipsnio Lietuvos Vyčių, jis/ji gali tuomet būti delegatu/ė arba atsarginiu/ė apygardos seime. Jis/ji neturi teisės būti renkamas/a į apygardos aldybą, tačiau gali būti paskiriamas/a į apygardos komitetą."*

3. KADANGI dabartinė Lietuvos Vyčių konstitucija reikalauja kad kai bendradarbis/ė narys/ė tampa ketvirtojo laipsnio Lietuvos vytis/ė, jis/ji turi teisę būti išrinkti delegatas/ė ar antrasis/antroji per apygardos ar visuotiniame seime. Sekcija 3-e-2, Artikelio V, būtų pataisyta sekančiai:

*"Kada narys/ė bendradarbis/ė tampa antrojo laipsnio Lietuvos vytis/ė, jis/ji gali tapti delegatu/ė arba atsarginiu/ė apygardos arba metiniame seime. Jis/ji neturi teisės būti renkamas/a į Centro Valdybą nei į kurį nors Centro Valdybos komitetą."*



## LETTER TO EDITOR

### SUPPORTING THE LITHUANIANS

Dear Editor:

Lithuania has a soul of its own and her message rings like a clear bell to every Lithuanian wherever they may be. Like wings from heaven Lithuania has sung her song. We Lithuanians living in America have never stopped singing Lietuva Tėvyne Mūsų. Like Darius and Girenas gliding across the Atlantic Ocean so many years ago, we American Lithuanians fly to Lithuania with our message of love, and in spirit support their struggle for freedom. The Lithuanian Connection does not end with newspaper reports or television media, but rather begins with each of us Lithuanians contributing to the freedom of Lithuania by having our voice heard.

We need to remember the words of the late Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, who in his book, *Guide To Contentment*, wrote:

“Communist leaders appear to be so good and democratic and freedom-loving one day, and so cantankerous, deceitful and full of lies another day.”

This seems to be true today, even as we read, listen and watch the actions of the Soviet Union against Lithuania.

The enclosed poem was written by myself to a friend of mine who lives in Lithuania in order to tell Lithuanians that we indeed care about their struggle and in spirit fight for justice with them. We all know that one thing atheism brings is chaos. And we American Lithuanians must be fearless in speaking out truth regarding the events taking place in Lithuania today. Although Gorbachev gives the impression that he is willing to bring Russia into the 21st century, he has a long way to go in the field of human rights. Only if he frees the Baltic States, will he achieve greatness. Only if he guarantees present Lithuania to rule its own destiny can peace exist.

It has been my pleasure speaking to you through this written correspondence and it is my hope that you will print the poem to Lithuania in VYTIS. I am a poet and I believe that the poem expresses the feelings and wishes of many Lithuanians living in America today. It also expresses the feelings of Lithuanians fighting the battle for freedom in our fatherland.

Respectfully submitted,  
(Signed) Gerre Palokas

P.S. I am a member of C-144 Anthracite, PA. Your work as Editor-in-Chief is indeed professional. Vytis has one of the best means of information about Lithuania. It also allows members to participate in expressing their views. It is this type of magazine and journalism reported in Vytis that makes Lithuanians mark excellence in the name of Lithuania. Thank you for a current magazine which supports Lithuania. I

personally appreciate your work. And am glad that you are the light at the top of the tower to see that we American Lithuanians are better informed about that great Baltic State of LITHUANIA.

### POEM TO LITHUANIA from Gerre Palokas An American Lithuanian

Today I awoke with a legacy.  
Hear me LITHUANIA!!  
On this side of the Nemunas,  
I cry you my tears.  
And today I know how you felt, when  
your sons marched off to war.

The old photographs remind me  
of how you wondered and mourned your dead,  
not knowing another kind of wolf was at your door.  
And the cry of Vilkas was only a howl  
compared to the Nazi and Communist.

Each time I hear your name  
I think of your fear.  
Even now I can feel the faint glow  
in your eyes against my tear stained face.  
I, too, remember LITHUANIA.

Oh, all you peasant mothers.  
We have left your Baltic shores.  
We have missed your forests splendour.  
We have missed your land of amber gold.

Russia, Oh, Russia,  
Give us our sons.  
Give us our daughters. Lay down your guns.  
Give us our freedom. Give us God's peace.  
Give back our nation.  
Surrender your lease.  
Shake off your fury raging against our blood.  
Hear us, Oh, Russia. Hear our ancestors cry.  
Draw aside your curtain.  
Lest your well run dry.



*Letters (cont'd)***CONGRATULATES VYTIS**

Dear Editor:

It is very sad that in my later years I finally found out what a great organization the Knights of Lithuania has become.

I can't believe what a feeling the magazine VYTIS gives me. Especially when one reads all the activities going on in all the cities throughout the U.S.A. It gives me the feeling that I know each Lithuanian personally. This VYTIS of ours is probably the best magazine of any organization in the U.S. I only hope it continues forever for the sake of young Lithuanians throughout the world and not only America.

The Lithuanian kitchen is something else; it brings back a lot of memories of my folks way back when. One must appreciate an article like that.

So for my council which is doing a great job, I want to say your publication VYTIS has made me feel proud to be a Lithuanian.

May Lithuania live forever!! Thank you.

*Bill Seskowski, C-26 Worcester*

**SMŪTKELIS**

*Faustas Kirša*

Šimtmetis senis ant tėvelio dvaro

Drožia dievuliuka, kurs stebuklus daro.

Kai iš ūkio sūnų Sibiran išleido,

Tas kančias ir drožia Viešpačiui ant veido.

Drožia, skiedros krenta, dievuliukas žiūri -

Dievdirbis skausminga pati Dievą kuria.

Jis pats savo širdį, kančią kryžiuoja:

Dievui veria šona ir subado kojas.

Ant galvos vainika iš erškėčių pina,

Baltą medį drasko, drožia ir kankina.

Pasirėmes ranka ant kaulėtų kelių,

Su kančia ir siela gimsta pats smūtkelis.

Širdžiai nuraminti tiek skiedrų privelta:

Dievas atsistoja iš po senio kalto.

Dievdirbis nušvinta ir stebukla mato:

Apie Kristaus galvą spindulėlių rata.

**THE 23rd PSALM FOR BUSY PEOPLE**

The Lord is my pace-setter, I shall not rush.  
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals  
He provides me with images of stillness,  
which restore my serenity.

He leads me in ways of efficiency through  
calmness of mind,  
And His guidance is peace.

Even though I have a great many things to  
accomplish each day  
I will not fret for His presence is here,  
His timelessness, His all-importance will keep me  
in balance.

He prepares refreshment and renewal in the  
midst of my activity  
By anointing my mind with His oils of tranquility,  
My cup of joyous energy overflows.

Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the  
fruits of my hours,  
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord.

Kai smūtkeliui plėšė paskutine skiedra,  
Iš kūrėjo lūpų žodis pasigordo:

“Dieve, abejoju, ar tam stuobriui reiktų  
Mano pirštų darbo, kad stebuklas veiktų.”

“Dieve, Tu per kančią kruvinaisiais skruostais  
Saldai mano skausma, ašaras nušluostai”.

“Jei stebuklus rodai, aš Tavęs maldauju:  
Gelbėk nekaltuosius, bausk, kurie kerštauja.”

O kai jis Dievulį nunešė šventovėn,  
Viso krašto žmonės grįžo į dorovę.

Ir patsai senelis už jaunystės vėjus  
Atsiprašė, lūpas prie žaizdos pridėjęs.



# 1990 LITHUANIAN SONG & DANCE FESTIVAL

## July 5 - 8

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BALTIC TOURS welcomes you to Lithuania's traditional Song & Dance Festival. Held every five years, the Festival focuses upon the rich and colorful folklore traditions of the Lithuanians. The Country's best folk dance ensembles, choral groups, country music bands and professional musicians present a spectacular four day program in Vilnius' outdoor parks.

BALTIC TOURS is offering six distinctive tours of 7, 10 and 13 days in Lithuania that will include the Festival programs. We hope you will join us and be one of the fortunate participants in the 1990 Song & Dance Festival.

### LITHUANIAN FOLK SONG & DANCE FESTIVAL TOURS

#### LITHUANIA, RUSSIA & FINLAND

15 Day tour with 7 Days in LITHUANIA  
7 nights VILNIUS, 2 nights MOSCOW  
2 nights LENINGRAD, 2 nights HELSINKI  
via FINNAIR

##### LIETUVA HOTEL

**TOUR #629** \$2,459.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
June 29-July 13 \$2,659.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement (if available) \$339.00

#### LITHUANIA

13 Day Tour with 10 Days in LITHUANIA  
11 nights VILNIUS  
via PAN AM

##### LIETUVA HOTEL

**TOUR #703A** \$2,049.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
July 3-15 \$2,249.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement (if available) \$249.00

#### LITHUANIA & FINLAND

14 Day Tour with 10 Days in LITHUANIA  
11 nights VILNIUS, 1 night HELSINKI  
via FINNAIR

##### TURISTAS HOTEL

**TOUR #703B** \$1,949.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
July 3-16 \$2,149.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement (if available) \$189.00

##### TRINAPOLIS

**TOUR #703C** \$1,749.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
July 3-16 \$1,949.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement (if available) \$159.00  
In a quiet wooded area in the Zirmunu section of Vilnius, Trinapolis contains a four story hotel within a tourist complex with a restaurant and a bar. It is suitable for individuals or groups.

##### COMPOSERS APARTMENTS

**TOUR #703D** \$1,649.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
July 3-16 \$1,849.00 from Chicago

For individuals wanting private accommodations, apartments can be rented in the Composers Apartment Complex, which is near Vingas Park. Apartment rentals are available for 7 couples and include rental only. Transfers, meals, sightseeing and the Festival programs are up to the individual.

#### LITHUANIA & GERMANY DIRECT FLIGHT INTO VILNIUS BY PRIVATE CHARTER

18 Day tour with 13 Days in LITHUANIA  
14 nights VILNIUS, 2 nights WEST BERLIN  
via KLM & AEROFLOT CHARTER

##### LIETUVA HOTEL

**TOUR #702L** \$2,269.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
July 2-19 \$2,369.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement (if available) \$399.00

##### TURISTAS HOTEL

**TOUR #702T** \$2,049.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
July 2-19 \$2,149.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement (if available) \$299.00

FOR BROCHURES AND ITINERARIES,  
PLEASE CONTACT:

(A Paid Advertisement)

**BALTIC TOURS:**  
77 Oak Street, Suite 4  
Newton, MA 02164  
(617) 965-8080 - FAX (617) 7781

## 1990 TOURS TO LITHUANIA

WITH SOME FLIGHTS FROM BERLIN INTO VILNIUS BY PRIVATE CHARTER

10 - 19 DAY ESCORTED TOURS *with 6 - 14 DAYS IN LITHUANIA*

DEPARTURES *from* BOSTON, CHICAGO & NEW YORK

### LITHUANIA & CZECHOSLOVAKIA

11 Day Tour with 6 Days in LITHUANIA,  
7 nights VILNIUS, 2 nights PRAGUE  
via CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINES

**TOUR #608** \$2,099.00 from New York  
**June 8-18** \$2,299.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$279.00

### LITHUANIA & SWITZERLAND

15 Day Tour with 10 Days in LITHUANIA, 11 nights  
VILNIUS, 2 nights ZURICH via SWISSAIR

**TOUR #614** \$2,269.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**June 14-28** \$2,469.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$299.00

### LITHUANIA, FINLAND & ESTONIA

15 Day Tour with 9 Days in LITHUANIA  
Boat Cruise from HELSINKI to TALLINN and Return  
10 Nights VILNIUS, 2 nights HELSINKI  
1 night TALLINN via FINNAIR

**TOUR #801** \$2,389.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**August 1-15** \$2,589.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$319.00

### LITHUANIA, RUSSIA & FINLAND

15 day Tour with 7 days in LITHUANIA, 7 nights  
VILNIUS, 2 nights MOSCOW, 2 NIGHTS  
LENINGRAD, 2 nights HELSINKI via FINNAIR

**TOUR #813** \$2,459.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**August 13-27** \$2,659.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$349.00

### LITHUANIA & AUSTRIA

15 day Tour with 10 Days in LITHUANIA, 11 nights  
VILNIUS, 2 nights VIENNA via AUSTRIAN AIRLINES

**TOUR #808** \$2,399.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**AUGUST 8-22** \$2,599.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$299.00

### LITHUANIA

10 day Tour with 7 Days in LITHUANIA  
8 nights VILNIUS via FINNAIR

**TOUR #943** \$1,809.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**September 13-22** \$2,009.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$199.00

### LITHUANIA & FINLAND

14 Day Tour with 10 days in LITHUANIA, 11 nights  
VILNIUS, 1 night HELSINKI via FINNAIR

**TOUR #913** \$2,209.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**September 13-26** \$2,409.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$299.00

### LITHUANIA & CZECHOSLOVAKIA

12 Day Tour with 8 Days in LITHUANIA, 9 nights Vilnius,  
1 night PRAGUE via CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINES

**TOUR #106** \$1,699.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**November 5-16** \$1,899.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$169.00

### LITHUANIA & CZECHOSLOVAKIA

15 Day Tour with 10 days in LITHUANIA  
11 nights VILNIUS, 2 nights PRAGUE  
via CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINES

**TOUR #105** \$2,159.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**October 1-15** \$2,359.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$199.00

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S IN LITHUANIA

15 Day Tour with 11 days in LITHUANIA, 12 nights  
VILNIUS, 1 night PRAGUE  
via CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINES

**TOUR #1225** \$1,799.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**Dec. 21-Jan. 4** \$1,999.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$219.00

(Cont'd next page)



**BALTIC TOURS (Cont'd)****NEW YEAR'S IN LITHUANIA**

15 Day Tour with 11 Days in LITHUANIA,  
12 Nights VILNIUS, 1 night PRAGUE  
via CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINES

**TOUR #1280** \$1,799.00 from Boston & N.Y.  
**Dec. 28 - Jan. 11** \$1,999.00 from Chicago  
Single Supplement \$219.00

**FOR DETAILED INFORMATION AND  
BROCHURE, PLEASE CONTACT:**



77 Oak St., Suite 4  
Newton, MA 02164  
(617) 965-8080  
FAX (617) 332-7781

(A Paid Advertisement)

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## WHO IS A SENIOR CITIZEN?

A Senior is one who was here before the Pill and the population explosion. We were here before television, penicillin, polio shots, antibiotics and frisbees. Before frozen food, nylon, Xerox, Kinsey, radar, fluorescent lights, credit cards and ball point pens. For us time sharing meant togetherness, not computers; a chip meant a piece of wood, hardware meant hard wear, and software wasn't even a word. Coeds never wore slacks.

We were here before pantyhose and drip-dry clothes. Before icemakers and dishwashers, clothes dryers, freezers and electric blankets. Before Hawaii and Alaska became states, before men wore long hair and earrings and women wore tuxedos. We were before Leonard Bernstein, yogurt, Ann Landers, plastic, the 40-hour week and minimum wage. We got married first, then lived together. When you were gay, you were cheerful! How quaint can one be?

Closets were for clothes, not for coming out of, bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not Volkswagens. We were before Grandma Moses and Frank Sinatra and cup-sizing for bras.

Girls wore Peter Pan collars and thought cleavage was something butchers did. We were ahead of Batman, Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer and Snoopy; before DDT, vitamin pills, Jeeps, disposable diapers and pizza.

Cheerios, instant anything and McDonalds were all unheard of. We thought fast foods were what you ate during Lent. We were before Boy George; before FM radios, tape recorders, electric typewriters, word processors, electronic music, disco-dancing (and that's not all bad).

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was for mowing, coke was a refreshing drink and pot was something you cooked in.

If we'd been asked to explain CIA, MS, NATO, ERA or IUD, we'd have said it was alphabet soup.

**WE ARE TODAY'S SENIOR CITIZENS, A HARDY BUNCH WHEN YOU THINK OF HOW OUR WORLD HAS CHANGED AND THE ADJUSTMENTS WE'VE HAD TO MAKE.**

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## SPRING

*There is beauty in this world of ours,  
In the flaming images of flowers,  
In April's spring, so fresh and mild,  
In the primal innocence of a child.  
But oh, how little truth.*

*There is much joy that may be had,  
A dozen passing games, the hour's fad,  
A toast, a song, a friend both true and rare,  
All serve to while and guile away our care.  
But oh, how much more ruth.*



## Council Activities

## Vyčiai Veikia

### AMBER DISTRICT

C-3 Philadelphia hosted the Amber District St. Casimir's Celebration and District Meeting on March 11 in St. Casimir's Church. Rev. Joseph Anderlonis, national spiritual advisor and pastor of St. George Church, Philadelphia was celebrant and homilist. Fr. Wassel was concelebrant. Readings were by Anastasia & Edmund Binkis. The church choir with Stasia Utkus at the organ rendered beautiful hymns.

Before Mass, ritual committee chairlady, Helen Chesko, with Diane Drumstas and Anne Challan presented the following candidates with the third degree: Anastasia & Edmund Binkis, C-3; Mary Labadis, C-144; Mary Chorba, Anastasia Stanley, Genevieve Dajnowski and Julie Lasky Farrell, C-143.

Delegates and guests assembled in the parish hall for brunch which was prepared and served by C-3 members.

Walter Svekla acted as master of ceremonies with a short program. Victor Stepolovitch, C-3 president welcomed the visiting Knights. National pres. Anne Wargo extended greetings from the supreme council. Fr. Anderlonis spoke briefly. Prayers were offered for Lithuania on this day of the declaration of independence.

Business meeting followed with district pres., John Mickunas, presiding. Officers and committee chairmen presented their respective reports. Representatives and presidents of following councils reported on their activities: C-3 Philadelphia; C-63 Lehigh Valley; C-118 Hazleton; C-143 Pittston; C-144

Anthracite and C-146 Harrisburg.

Mandate committee reported 50 delegates, 38 guests, 5 officers and 1 honorary member.

C-74 Scranton was welcomed into membership in the Amber District. Helen Cravath, pres., informed the district that the council voted affirmatively on this move.

Donation of \$100 was contributed to the National Scholarship Fund and \$50 was allotted for a half-page announcement in the convention program book. Raffle winners were: Paul Harrgan, Easton, first prize; Helen Condy, W. Hazleton, second; Jean Zambott, Hazleton, third; Barbara Motley, Pottsville, fourth.

Cultural chairman John Mankus extended an invitation to come to Binghamton for the next district meeting which will be hosted by C-72 on June 10.

Dinner was served and all departed with many, many thanks to the host council for their gracious hospitality.

### MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

A Mass of Thanksgiving for continued freedom for Lithuania was recently held in St. George's Lithuanian Church. This most somber and hopeful Mass was sponsored by our District. Many Knights and guests filled the church to capacity. Many were dressed in native costumes. At the opening of the Mass, Rev. Markus urged for the need of constant prayers, novenas and vigils for Lithuania. Mass was concelebrated by Revs. Richard Dodaro, Albin Kiskunas, John Kuzinskas, Anthony Zakarauskas, Anthony Puchinskas, Vaclovas Zakarauskas, Peter Cibulskis, Anthony Markus and Anthony Sulaitis. Rev. Saulaitis gave the homily. Glen Perutis directed the St. George's and K of L choirs. Algerd Brazis and Mary Juzenas, soloists, sang the Lithuanian hymns.

Rev. Dodaro announced to the congregation that the 98 year old Lithuanian St. George's church will be closed effective July 1, 1990. This news was disturbing to all. After Mass, refreshments were served in the church hall.

With the combined choirs of St. Andrew the Apostle Church, St. George of Tinley Park, and St. John Fisher, the Knights of Lithuania, performed the Seven Last Words of Christ. This 90



MAD - Rev. P. Cibulskis, C-24 Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Anthony Markus, Jr. Spiritual Advisor, Ann Marie Kassel, District Ritual Chairlady, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, District Spiritual Advisor and Algerd Brazis, District President



*Mid America District Mass of Thanksgiving.*

member choral group with soloists and orchestra under direction of Faustas Strolia presented this lenten performance at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Calumet City. A standing ovation was given to the choirs and conductor for such a splendid performance.

Aldona and Pres. Algerd Brazis will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary during May of this year. We

wish them many more happy and healthy years. Congratulations to our recent 3rd Degree recipients, Rev. Anthony Markus, Aldona Brazis, Josephine & Peter Juzenas, Donna Juraitis of C-112, Dave Gaides and Helen Meizis of C-36. *Albert Zakarka*

### NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

A reminder that June will be here before we know it. Those of us who have not decided to join the group in Kennebunkport, ME for the retreat June 22-24 will be missing something special. Last year the weekend passed all too quickly. The retreat master was very informative and interesting. The food was superb; the scenery a pleasure and our company of fellow Knights the best. Reservations

are limited, so hurry! The cost for the package deal including lodging for two nights, six meals including tax is \$89.00 for double occupancy (two persons); single (one person) \$105.00. To reserve, either call Fr. Gabriel at: 1-207-967-2011 or write: Attn: Rev. Gabriel, Franciscan Guest House, P.O. Box 980, Kennebunkport, ME 04046 enclosing deposit of \$30.00 per room.

*Aldona Marcavage*

### C-7 WATERBURY, CT

St. Casimir's Day was observed with a Mass at St. Joseph Church celebrated by our spiritual advisor and pastor, Fr. F. Karvelis. He gave a short homily on St. Casimir, his birth, childhood, sainthood and his death. Our Lithuanian choir sang at the Mass. After Mass, everyone was invited to go to the K of L clubrooms for a delicious buffet served by our K of L ladies. Thanks to Alma Torre, chairlady, Margaret Linhard and Toni White for a job well done. There was a good turnout.

Our president and national financial secretary Anne Cheplick vacationed in Florida with her daughter Pamela Shortell. John & Dolores Jonaitis, our secretary, just returned from a restful vacation in California. Glad to see them all back.

Diane & David Gay are expecting their first child. Grandmother Ann Kundrotas is excited because it is her first grandchild. We wish them the best and our prayers are with them.

Susanne Kosa, daughter of Alexander and Virginia, was confirmed on March 24 at St. Joseph's Church.

During the month of February we lost a member, Peter Blinstrubas. Our sympathy goes out to his family,

*Virginia Kosa*



*Rev. Anthony Markus highlighting the meaning of the Mass of Thanksgiving for Lithuania*





*Rev. Paul Sabulis of St. Joseph's Church declared Mayor for a Day in Waterbury, CT.*



### **C-25 CLEVELAND, OH**

St. Casimir's Day in Cleveland was near perfect. A large attendance gathered at Our Lady of Perpetual Help for Mass. Members received their various degrees with a blessing from Fr. Kijauskas. Then on to the Lithuanian Hall for a delicious dinner of pork chops and kugelis. A meeting followed.

The second bowling social was held at Jim & Joan Thompson's home. As usual, food and refreshments were in abundance and there was a Lithuanian sing-along.

Vince Gray and Al Shigo both are home from the hospital and are recovering nicely.

Steve Yurkovic had his auto stolen. It was returned to him with \$2,800 damage.

Urula Kunsitis finally retired and states she loves retirement. Albina & Al Wallis' son was transferred to Los Angeles. They now have a nice place to visit on vacations.

Our dear vice president, Alvina Luiza, passed away on Feb. 7. She was the spark plug for C-25, always the first to

offer and give of herself. There is a sadness here among the council and she is deeply missed.

Sr. Nijole Sadunaitė, the Lithuanian nun, was here on a speaking engagement. She is a fighter for Lithuania's independence spending some years herself in Siberia. Her book, "A Radiance in the Gulag", tells of those experiences.

Some 750 people gathered in the Neff Road Auditorium to mark the 72nd anniversary of Lithuania's independence day.

The event was sponsored by the Lithuanian Women's Catholic Association of Cleveland.

Since Lithuania has now declared herself as an independent nation, let us pray that all is resolved soon. Display your bumper stickers. Advertise Lithuania.

*Joe Ivoska*

### **C-26 WORCESTER, MA**

Just a few short weeks ago we thought the winter would never end! Now we're enjoying a most beautiful time of the year, Spring! "The flowers that bloom in the spring, tra-la!" Congratulations to Kathy and Leo Nalivaika whose baby daughter, little Miss Kristin Elizabeth, was born on Jan. 14. Al Seilius' son follows in his dad's footsteps with a military career. Ralph Seilius is now Captain in the U.S.A.F. stationed at Holloman A.F.B. in New Mexico where he's Weapons Director with instructor status. Congratulations to Dorothy Virbasius who won the election for treasurer at Marionis Park by a two-to-one victory. Overwhelming! Eduardas Meilus, Jr. continues to do a terrific job on his Sun. evening Lithuanian hour "Aušra" in keeping us informed on what's going on in Lithuania and what's being done about it. Mary Duggan made a suggestion that

was unanimously accepted requesting that a Mass be offered for Lithuania now when she needs prayers desperately. Fr. John Petrauskas, MIC, offered Mass for this intention on April 10 at 7 p.m. Our meeting followed.

The annual Lenten baked fish supper took place in March, another great social success. This wonderful meal was prepared by Withold and Virginia Ivaska and their committee consisted of Adele & Francis Degutis, Rita Margosian and Ann Walinsky. Servers included Lynne Walinsky and her grandfather Steve Walinsky, Sr. Honored guests included our pastor Fr. Vincent Parulis, MIC, our spiritual director, Fr. John Petrauskas, MIC, Our Lady of Vilna's pastor Fr. Alphonse Volungis and retired (but still very active) Fr. Albin Yankauskas. Many members also attended.

Geraldine & Eddie Paliliunas enjoyed their cruise immensely and urge others to do the same. Al & Vivian Rodgers spent several weeks in Florida and on the way home, spent a few days with dear and old friends, Joe & Rita Kapurch, in Annapolis, MD.

Our president Rita Pinkus welcomed the NED Board of Officers for a meeting in St. Casimir's Church hall on March 25th. We knew this was an important session because Bill & Bronė Wisniauskas and Blanche Genaitis, all of Athol, left a Marionis Park affair very early in order to attend the meeting.

And speaking of meetings, Kazys & Teresa Adomavičius with approximately 30 other Worcesterites drove to Kennebunkport, ME where they joined other area groups (Boston, etc.) for a special meeting of prayer and action with the intention of making the world aware of Lithuania's plight and begging assistance for her cause. The motorcade along the Maine coast was impressive! More later.

Our very dear member Alphonse Kondrotas died in March. Our heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Lillian, their sons and Alphonse's brothers and sisters. Edwina Ginkus' sister, Nell, also died in March following a long and difficult illness. Condolences to this family as well.

Frances & Charles Kulakusky and Mary & Alexander Anusauskas thoroughly enjoyed a recent trip to Atlantic City. Arthur Racicot was attending meetings alone because his wife, Marion, was knee-deep in preparing tax returns. She breathed a sigh of relief with the end of the tax season! We remember Vyto & Anne Morkunas' sons were just toddlers! We were surprised to hear that the oldest is now working as an electrician at St. Vincent's Hospital while the younger one is in high school, thinking about college. My, how time does fly!

Bye-bye for now! Iki sekančio numerio!  
"Olga"

### C-29 NEWARK, NJ

The Mid-Atlantic District annual St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast and district convention was hosted by our council at Holy Trinity Church on March 11. Our day started with a Mass. The colors were carried down the aisle by Kazys Sipaila, our president, and Bernie Skripata. Mass was celebrated by our Rev. Peter Stravinkas.

Danguolė Didzbalis explained the meaning of the offertory gifts. Kazys Sipaila presented the picture of St. Casimir; the lily by Rita Grazulis symbolizing virtue; the cross by John Stumis symbolic of the undying loyalty of St. Casimir to Christ and his church; crown of gold by Brone Venckus; crown of thorns symbolizing St. Casimir's sense of justice, sympathy for the poor and oppressed and duty first to Christ



*MAD Breakfast in Newark with Al Wesey, C-109, Kazys Sipaila, C-29 and guest speaker, Sister Igne of Putnam, CT.*

the King by Harold Kaminskas. The wine, water and host were carried by John Adomenas and Bernie Skripata. The women wore their Lithuanian costumes and the men juostas. The chapel was filled to capacity with a great showing of our K of L members throughout the region.

After Mass we assembled in the parish hall where a delicious luncheon was served. Rita Susko, our chairlady, and her committee of loyal workers are to be complimented on a job very well done.

Loretta Stukas acted as toastmistress. Rev. Stravinkas spoke first. We were honored by Sister M. Igne of the Immaculate Conception Convent, Putnam, who spoke so full of heart about all that was taking place in Lithuania and the freedom they wish to attain. Surely you had to be moved by her words. The delegates made her happy with individual contributions to buy sorely needed catechisms. It was a delightful experience for all of us to hear her inspiring talk.

Jovita Sleder and Rita Sussko in-

stalled Marie Guoba and Nellie Krynicki with the Third Degree. Congratulations!

When the luncheon was over, district meeting convened, led by president John Adomenas, with approximately 180 delegates attending. The



*Rita Sussko, chairlady and Helen Radisch, with Sr. Igne at MAD Breakfast hosted by C-29*

green and yellow needlepoint nameplates were made by Walter & Margaret Brazaitis.

A date to remember: We will be hosting our 75th anniversary on Oct. 14. Preparations are underway.

Our annual bake sale was held on April 8 in the parish hall. All proceeds were given to the parish. We thank everyone who helped make it a very successful bake sale.

Mary Cullen

### C-52 ELIZABETH, NJ

C-52 members and guests commemorated St. Casimir's Feast Day by attending Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul Church in Elizabeth. Rev. Al Zemeikis, pastor, Rev. Joseph Pragulbickas, retiree and Rev. Peter Aquino, in residence, celebrated the Mass. Deacon Henry Kerturwitis assisted.

In the offertory procession, HM Anna Matalavich presented the portrait of Cardinal Vincentas Sladkevicius and Joseph Linkus carried the Coat of Arms of this first Lithuanian Cardinal. Homily was given by Rev. Zemeikis. American and Lithuanian flags were flown on the church pole outside.

Following church services, dinner was held in the parish hall. John Adomenas, Mid-Atlantic District president was the guest speaker. His speech was well received. He especially urged members to make a trip to Lithuania.

Luncheon committee consisted of Ruth Brazinski, social chairlady, Anna Matalavich, Mary & Vince Mackelis, Anne & Anthony Baronas and Frances Milewski, Daniel Degutis, Vince & Agnes Alkaninus, Zephy & Walter Yuknavich.

Our ladies baked cakes for dessert. Dinner was catered and we all enjoyed this special St. Casimir's Day celebration.

William Senkus



Helen Kulber, far right, of C-41 Brooklyn at a Business and Professional Womens Club Dinner-meeting with several officers.

### C-63 LEHIGH VALLEY, PA

C-63 again sponsored the Lithuanian flag-raising in Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton on Independence Day Feb. 16. Mayor of each city officiated at the ceremonies and issued proclamations calling upon the citizens of their city to join in the observance and to support Lithuania's quest for independence.

At the Allentown ceremony, speaker Joseph Ogint cautioned the public not to be mesmerized with Gorbachev and think of him as a hero when in fact he still was the same Communist as five years ago. Ogint emphasized that Gorbachev's apparent turn toward democracy was out of necessity and not because he had a change of heart. He lost the arms and space races with the United States and was pressed into a corner by the NATO Alliance. His bankrupt communist system could not supply the consumer with goods needed by the people. Store shelves are empty and revolution was brewing. He had to do something, or else!

Council observed St. Casimir's Day with a Mass at St. Michael's Church in Easton. This was followed by a luncheon and a brief council meeting. Pres. Jane Lutick presided over the affair.

Two of our members, Violet Price and Mary Sockel, have been ailing re-

cently. We look forward to their return. Violet led the Easton contingent in their annual flag-raising in Center Square until this year. Mary Sockel assisted her late husband Anthony in organizing our council and has served in various capacities, last of which was recording secretary. Get well, ladies, we miss you!

Andrew & Mary Sabol, Joseph & Trudi Simmons attended Mass and reception for Nijole Sadunaitė, nun and renowned Lithuanian activist, at Our Lady of Siluva in Maizeville on March 18.

Joseph Ogint

### C-74 SCRANTON, PA

Congratulation to our Lithuanians who proclaimed their independence on March 11. May they obtain their long awaited goals. Our prayers go with them.

We celebrated St. Casimir's Day with Mass remembering our founding fathers and mothers who built our church and gave us the inheritance of our Catholic faith. Gift carriers were Casimir & Ruth Yanish, Patsy Simms, Rose Stanches and Mary & Jerry Costello. Breakfast immediately followed which was chaired by Della Zvirblis. Rev. Peter Madus opened by saying grace.

We adopted a parish in Lithuania by pledging \$450 in aid over the next three years. Everyone was more than generous. We joined several Lithuanian churches each Sunday during Lent for "Graudus Verksmai" gathering at a different church each week. Some of the priests who participated were Msgrs. Anthony Norkunas, Frank Yashkas, Michael Ozalas, William Pakutha, Revs. Peter Madus, Peter Alisauskas and Paul Gerosky. The choir sang beautifully and a good turnout attended. It was refreshing to hear the greetings to each other in Lithuanian. After services, we had a lovely social hour.

Our condolences go out to the family

of Margaret Laibinis who died Feb. 20. She always had a cheery greeting although she was seriously ill for the past few years. Amžina atilsi.

Lithuanians were represented at the St. Patrick's Day parade. Pres. Helen Cravath, Nellie Romanas and Dorothy Banos rode a float in their Lithuanian attire.

Get well wishes extended to Ann Matelevich who recently had surgery. God's speed!

Each October during the first Sunday at 3 p.m. at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton, we host the Lithuanian Rosary for the conversion of Russia and freedom for Lithuania. Everyone is invited. *M. Laske*

#### C-100 AMSTERDAM, NY

On Nov. 8, C-100 member John Whelly made his peace with God. Prior to his long illness, John was a faithful member who enjoyed chairing the refreshment committee when it was the men's turn to be in charge. He would also entertain us at the piano or play his banjo at our outings with members joining in singing the melodies. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Mildred and his sister-in-laws, Frances DiBart and Helen Dylong. May he rest in peace.

Sorrow struck twice for us in November. On Nov. 17, Dr. Adam Kindar made his peace with the Lord. Doc was proud of his Lithuanian heritage. For many years, our council held its summer outings at his form in Galway, NY. He enjoyed picking mushrooms. Amsterdam lost a great man. We extend our condolences to his wife, children, grandchildren and his sisters.

On Dec. 18, our council lost another member, Rev. Anthony Grigaitis. He served at St. Casimir's Church in Amsterdam from 1967 until 1986. For the past three years he resided at the Matu-

laitis Nursing Home in Putnam, CT. Funeral Mass was held in Amsterdam with Rev. P. Baltakis and 20 priests concelebrating the Mass. Our council members participated in a special K of L service conducted by Rev. R. Baltch. May he rest in peace.

The 72nd anniversary of Lithuania's independence was commemorated on Feb. 17 with Mass held at St. Casimir's Church. A procession began with the carrying of the American and Lithuanian flags by Gerard Drenzek and Vincent Rossi. The first reading was given in Lithuanian by Polly Ziausys and Assemblyman Tonko read the second reading. St. Casimir's choir under direction of John Nye sung a number of Lithuanian hymns.

A dinner program followed in the Social Center. There were approximately 150 in attendance. Rev. Bernard Gustas, pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Schenectady, served as master of ceremonies. Assemblyman Tonko commented on the present situation in Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Ukraine. He also wished Fr. Baltch a happy birthday. Gene Gobis, vice pres., acknowledged everyone present including the Ukrainian delegation. She thanked Mayor Paul Perillo for proclaiming Feb. 16 Lithuanian Independence Day in Amsterdam. Gov. Cuomo's proclamation and Senator Hugh Farley's Senate Resolution 537 were also read.

Rev. Gustas introduced the main speaker, Andrius Bruzga, a young exchange student studying at Union College. He spoke of the elections, names of the parties, economic needs and inflation in Lithuania. Steve Bedzis, representing the Ukrainian group, commented on the human life chain staged in the Ukraine. The Sodauto Ensemble group from Boston performed with their director Mrs. Gita Kupcinskas. The

audience was captivated with their excellent performance. Our Juniors, grandchildren of Bea & Bill Jasewicz, all nine of them, helped the performers.

On March 4, St. Casimir's celebration, Mass was held at St. Casimir's and luncheon at Valention's Restaurant, Cranesville. At the conclusion of the luncheon, Vincent Rossi and Harold Tice distributed leaflets on St. Casimir. Irene Tice conducted a successful question and answer program, concluding with a prayer to St. Casimir. Andrius Bruzga, exchange student, again spoke of his experiencing the return of St. Casimir's body from Sts. Peter & Paul Church to the Cathedral of Vilnius. Carriages and horses that were to transport the body did not arrive in time for the procession. As a consequence, priests including Bishop Baltakis, carried the heavy silver coffin to the Cathedral.

Elizabeth Kuzmich, ritual chairlady, presented candidates for installation as follows: First Degree: Christine Tambasco and her children, Junior members Mikalina, Robert & Timothy; Second Degree: Walter & Olga Wilkevitch, Stanley & Joan Rimkunas. Fr. Baltch installed the members. Congratulations!

Beatrice Jasewicz thanked Genutė and Ed Baranauskas for donating a Lithuanian doll for a raffle. Cathy Westerling was the lucky winner. The centerpieces were won by Ed Baranauskas, Irene Tice and Gerard Drenzek. *SMILE & SPARKLE*

#### C-110 MASPETH, NY

I take this opportunity to express regret to those of you who were disappointed in not seeing the council's doings in VYTIS. Absence was due to family illness and as a result, various meetings and functions were missed.

The first meeting of the year in Jan. was held at Transfiguration parish hall.

After Mass, members gathered to partake of food and refreshments. Upon completion of the business meeting, Edward Jakatt gave a presentation and showed slides of the recent council's Caribbean Cruise.

A large group of Knights met with Mayor David Dinkins. He presented a proclamation declaring Feb. 16 as Lithuanian Independence Day to be observed by the City of New York. Members and friends commemorated the 72nd anniversary of Lithuanian Independence Day on Feb. 18. After Mass, food and refreshments were served in the parish hall. A short program was presented by Helen Matulonis. Upon its conclusion, Al Marcel read Mayor Dinkins' proclamation. Also, Assemblyman Frederick Schmidt presented Gov. Cuomo's proclamation from the State of New York.

The council's annual commemoration of St. Casimir was celebrated with Mass at Transfiguration. The celebrant was Msgr. Frank Bulovas, pastor. Homily was presented by Rev. Stasys Raila who spoke on the virtues of St. Casimir. Following Mass, luncheon was served in the hall. Helen Matulonis, chairlady, welcomed all who attended. Msgr. gave the invocation. Helen Venis gave a beautiful recitation on the life of St. Casimir. We, K of L members, are trying to fulfill one of St. Casimir's greatest virtues — love, perfect love.

*Joseph C. Dugan*

### **C-112 CHICAGO, IL**

Our council's St. Joseph's Table was a great success. Chairlady Julie Zakarka was most thankful with all the cooperation from our council members. Many members brought a tray of their finest recipes.

Ellie Kasputis and Estelle Rogers represented the K of L at a Mass of Thanksgiving attended by our Cardinal



*Eleanore Laurin, C-112 Chicago and Rev. A. Jurgelaitis, former national spiritual advisor of C-103 Providence, RI at 76th national convention.*

and held at the Nativity BVM Church. Many Lithuanian organizations were on this committee and consequently our church was filled to capacity with standing room only.

Lithuania's freedom will be a difficult road. If we unite with prayers, God will certainly make certain that Lithuania will be acknowledged and a free nation. We ask all members to continue with their prayers and also by writing letters to all concerned.

A date has been arrived at for our Annual Champagne Brunch - Sunday, Oct. 7, 1990 with Julie Zakarka our chairlady. Please circle this date on your calendar. Proceeds will be designated to our Nativity BVM Parish Improvement Fund.

Peter Gagle, an active council and choir member, is presently at a health care center. Get well wishes can be sent to him at Americana-Monticello Health Care Centre, 6300 W. 95th St., Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

*Albert Zakarka*

### **C-133 LOS ANGELES, CA**

On a rainy Feb. 17, our council held a meeting at the home of Dennis Petras in Woodland Hills, CA. Despite the

weather, 27 members and guests braved the elements to attend. They were rewarded for their attendance by a lavish spread of pot-luck goodies. After the feast, they were further consoled by a short official business meeting, a raffle, a speaker, a free-for-all discussion, another speaker and chit-chat into the evening hours.

A raffle for St. Casimir Seminary in Rome was organized by vice pres. for cultural affairs, Robert Novak. Bob graciously offered three very fine Lithuanian objects from his collection as prizes. \$180 was collected for the seminary.

Bob Novak then spoke about St. Casimir, patron saint of Lithuania and also of the Knights of Lithuania. The talk gradually developed into a spontaneous exchange among the audience as to the then current situation in Lithuania. A wide range of opinions was expressed; for example, opinions concerning Mikhail Gorbachev's character from genuine liberator to self-serving manipulator. An air of suspense hung over the exchange as no one knew for certain what would happen in Lithuania next.

With membership having aired its



opinions, the formal program continued with Dennis Petras who described his recent trip to Lithuania. He had taken a trip there in 1979 with his father in which freedom of movement had been restricted. The current trip in Oct. of 1989 was quite in contrast to the first. He could now travel more freely. People seemed more open in expressing their opinions. Lithuanian flags and emblems were now a common sight. The strong military presence that Dennis had seen 10 years earlier was gone. It was as if the country was awakening from a long sleep.

Dennis will never forget the tall pine forest near the small town of Kacerginė. The pines are very tall and the branches only begin to thrust out from the trunks far from the ground. The effect is not unlike an umbrella. The pine trunks are like an endless hall of great columns with the branches above acting as a semi-transparent ceiling which filters the sunlight down to the firm dry moss of the forest floor. Brightly colored groupings of mushrooms enliven this moss carpet. In the forest, of all things, is a formula one race track which an Italian firm is expanding into a 9 km. track. The forest surrounds it on all sides.

Within the forest, Dennis stayed at the home of a Lithuanian sports trainer who has a silver grey wolf as a pet and a Lithuanian sauna "scaudinavia" — eat your heart out!

Trips to Lithuania by LA council members are on the upswing with the current easing of travel restrictions. Last year, at a meeting at home of John Baltadonis in Anaheim, council member Ed Antanaitis, talked of his experiences while on a 19 day trip to Lithuania. Future trips by the membership are expected.

*Jonas Sturas*

### C-141 BRIDGEPORT, CT

Early in the morning of Feb. 16, many Knights congregated at Baldwin Plaza for Lithuanian flag raising ceremonies. Clemencine Miller, pres., welcomed the assemblage. Mayor Mary Moran read the proclamation designating this day as Lithuanian Independence Day in Bridgeport. Msgr. Francis Pranckus offered a prayer. Mitchell Marcinauskas and Barbara Schmidt assisted in the raising of the tri-colors which flew over Bridgeport that day.

Lithuanian Independence Day was further commemorated on the 18th with Mass held by Msgr. Pranckus at St. George Church. Linas Kucinkas, professor from Vilnius University teaching International law at Yale University for one year, was the speaker. The lively Vetra Dancers entertained the gathering.

In preparation for St. Casimir's Feast Day on March 4, Lithuanian Mass was held in St. George's. Brunch followed after Mass. Pres. Miller was mistress of ceremonies. Council members prepared and served the meal. A brief program followed with Nat'l Pres. Anne Wargo as speaker. Peter Putrimas presented a check to Pres. Miller from the Young Mens Club. A council donation was also presented to Anne Wargo for the Pontifical College in Rome. Helen Chesko, Vytis council news editor and traveling companion of Anne Wargo, spoke briefly on the pleasure of meeting Knights who no longer will be just names in the pages of Vytis.

March 25 was a red letter day. Msgr.

Pranckus celebrated his birthday and Stella Marcinauskas retired. Congratulations and best wishes! Ilgiausių Mėtu was sung to Aldona Marcinauskas on her birthday, March 4.

Dedicated worker Alphonse Trainis was honored at a dinner in April for his many years as volunteer treasurer at Sacred Heart-St. Anthony's School which belongs to St. George's parish. Also honored that evening was our own Msgr. Pranckus.

Lithuanian Culture and Language class began in April at Clem Miller's home in Trumbull. Professor Vitalis Zukauskas travels from Brooklyn to teach us every Tuesday.

Let us all keep praying fervently for our brothers and sisters in Lithuania. May their freedom at long last be restored without bloodshed. Lord, do not forget them now.

*Aldona Marcavage*



*C-141 Bridgeport Officers (standing) B. Schmidt, L. Marcinka, R. Marcavage, Msgr. F. Pranckus, (seated) A. Petrus, C. Miller, T. Trainis.*



*Cynthia & Beverly Meder, members of C-142, at demonstration in Washington, DC.*

### **C-144 ANTHRACITE, PA**

St. Casimir's Feast Day was observed by C-144 with a Mass at Our Lady of Siluva in Maizeville. Twenty-seven delegates and guests traveled to Philadelphia for the Amber District meeting. Rev. Anderlonis was the celebrant and said the homily at St. Casimir's Church. Before Mass, Fr. Anderlonis inducted Mary Labadis with Her third degree medal. Congratulations!

Following Mass, brunch was served by host council members in the church hall. District Meeting followed. Many thanks to C-3 for hosting a successful St. Casimir's Day celebration

C-144 was honored to have Sr. Nijole Sadunaitė bring her message to Lithuanian Americans of Schuylkill County and guests from neighboring areas. She stated that after 50 years of

Bush's refusal to recognize Lithuania's independence. There were many "valios" heard during the demonstration. Closing with Lietuvos Himnas and God Bless America, the group dispersed to visit their legislators.

A visit to the Cultural Center in Frackville hosted by Eleanor Yancofski and Bernard Zilaitis resulted in Girl Scout Troupe '28 under direction of Mary Fore adopting Lithuania as their project. On Girl Scout Day at Schuylkill Mall in Frackville on March 10, the Troupe was there in costume with tri-colored crowns,

tyranny and religious oppression, the Lithuanian people are full of spirit and are fearless. Many councils were involved in the reception that it would be difficult to mention all concerned. C-144 donated \$3,000 to help sister in her humanitarian work.

On short notice, Helen Chesko, Pres. Vaicaitis and Elsie Kosmisky organized a bus trip to Wash. on March 27 to protest President

amber beads and sashes across their chests.

At the March meeting, donations of \$100 were made to the National Scholarship Fund, K of L Foundation and greetings in the national convention program book. To date, two bags of books were forwarded to the Lithuanian Project..

On May 6 in Annunciation BVM hall, our council will present a Folk Song Quartet from Phila.

### **C-149 SAGINAW, MI**

The Lithuanian fight for freedom will continue no matter what Gorbachev and other Communist leaders rule, said two officers of our council. Stella McLeod, council secretary, and Katherine Kotulionus, vice president were both interviewed by the local media.

Both women stated that Lithuania faces a long struggle; most people don't know what a Lithuanian is and they've never heard of it before until the news media has brought it into the spotlight.

### **C-150 KANSAS CITY, KS**

Officers elected for 1990 are: Eugene



*Anna Helen McDonald, treas.; Rev. M. Jarasunas, spiritual advisor; Eva Yurkewicz, fin. sec. at C-144 Commemoration of St. Casimir's Feast Day.*

Ashley, pres. and membership chairman; Irene Paulke, vice pres., cultural and ritual chairlady; Lou Ann Rayn, sec.; Paul Purduski, treas. and fin. sec.; Donna Ashley, Vytis correspondent and public relations; Charles Purduski, spiritual advisor and spiritual program chairman. Congratulations and best wishes.

Our spring fund raising function will be a cruise on the brand new "America" yacht on its first Sunday voyage, cruising the Missouri River on May 6. This promises to be a very exciting and historic trip.

*Donna A.*

### C-152

#### EASTERN LONG ISLAND, NY

On March 4 our council sponsored the Annual Communion and Luncheon in honor of St. Casimir. Some 90 members and guests participated in a most adequate and tasty meal following the Mass, which was celebrated by our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. William R. Scroll. Our luncheon speaker, Marion Skabeikis, choosing as her topic "Life in Lithuania Today", held her audience's full attention as she presented a knowledgeable synopsis of the depth and extent of the basic needs of the people of Lithuania as they now appear to be on the verge of regaining their long sought freedom from their reluctant slave masters in the Kremlin.

On March 11, our council was represented by seven Knights at the Mid-Atlantic District meeting held at Holy Trinity Church in Newark, NJ. Host C-29 demonstrated an outstanding hospitality and fraternal welcome to their visitors. Two happenings at the meeting were of particular interest to our council. Our corresponding secretary, Anne Tarmey, was elevated to Third Degree Knight and,



*MAD Pres. John Adomenas, Rev. Wm. Scroll, spiritual advisor C-152 and Joseph & Josephine Zukas, C-109 Great Neck at MAD meeting in March.*

also, took on the post of District Trustee. Congratulations, Anne!

Planning for our annual Lithuanian Festival to be held in Greenport, NY on Sunday, August 26 is only in the initial stages but our members are well aware of the intensive teamwork which will be required to make this affair the success we all hope for.

Finally, the prayers of all our readers

are most earnestly requested for the speedy and full return to good health of our fellow Knight, Tony Zambuto.

*Tom Tarmey*

### C-153 TREASURE COAST, FL

On March 4, a beautiful sunlit day, our council celebrated our patron St. Casimir Feast Day with joy, pomp and ceremony.



*Dorothy Kuryla, C-110 Maspeth, Gen Chrestian and Mike Zukas, C-152 Eastern Long Island and Bill Kumeta, C-41 Brooklyn at MAD meeting held in Elizabeth, NJ singing the Lietuvos Himnas at close of meeting.*

325

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Mass began with a procession with Joseph & John Balcunas carrying the American and Lithuanian flags leading the way. Michael Yudishas carried a portrait of St. Casimir into the sanctuary. Officers, members and visiting Knights followed. The celebrant was Rev. V. Pikturna whose homily was an eloquent tribute to St. Casimir. Pres. Connie Scheibelhut and treas. Rose Zakauskas presented the offertory gifts. St. Paul of the Cross Church resounded with the music of our virtuoso Louis

Stukas at the organ directing the Dainos Choras singing his Lithuanian compositions of "The Lord's Prayer" by Ona Ramaikienė was memorable. We left the church with the strains of "Lietuva Brangi", lingering in our ears.

A delicious dinner followed with guests from all over the United States. Loretta Stukas was guest speaker whose summation of the Knights of Lithuania's role in the past, present and future of our beloved Lietuva made an impression on a receptive and enthusiastic audience.

Loretta also presented the Treasure Coast's charter to Pres. Constance Scheibelhut. Ona Ramaikienė accompanied by Louis Stukas sang traditional songs during the dinner.

Our surroundings were enhanced by an exhibition of paintings by the award-winning artist Rimgailė Zotovienė. A heartfelt Ačiū labai to everyone whose efforts and participation made this wonderful day possible.

*Konstancija*

### In Memoriam

STANLEY WACKELL  
C-116 Worcester, MA  
† June 13, 1989

CHARLES LAUKAITIS  
C-142 Washington, DC  
† October 7, 1989

JOHN EICHLER  
C-41 Brooklyn, NY  
† November 10, 1989

BETTY SOTKO  
C-118 Hazleton, PA  
† February 15, 1990

KESTUTIS DAKNYS  
C-147 St. Petersburg, FL  
† February 17, 1990

WILLIAM A. BACON  
C-3 Philadelphia, PA  
† February 18, 1990

MARGARET LAIBINAS  
C-74 Scranton, PA  
† February 20, 1990

R.I.P.

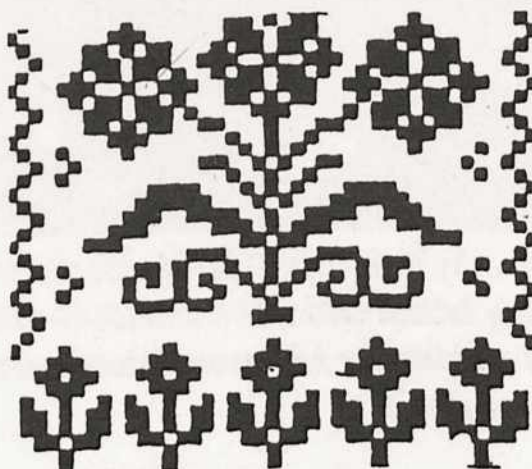
ANN ZALINSKI  
C-46 Forest City, PA  
† February 25, 1990

MARY BERZANSKIS  
C-52 Elizabeth, NJ  
† March 11, 1990

HM ANTHONY J. MAZEIKA  
C-147 St. Petersburg, FL  
† March 19, 1990

DONALD WIETA  
C-152 Eastern Long Island, NY  
† March 22, 1990

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