



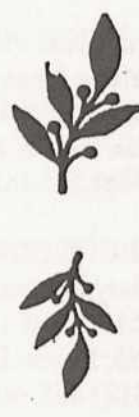
VYTYTIS

1990

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

BIRŽELIS / JUNE

VOL. 76: No. 6



IR AŠ TAVE MATAU, OLIGTUVA BRANGI,
 NUMINTA KOTŲ SVETIMŲ, IR TAVO KANČIĄ;
 MATAU KAIP TU ATEINANČIAIS LAIKAIS ŽENGI
 LAISVA, DIDINGA, IR BE SIELVARTO, BE PANČŲ
 JONAS AISTIS

VYTIS

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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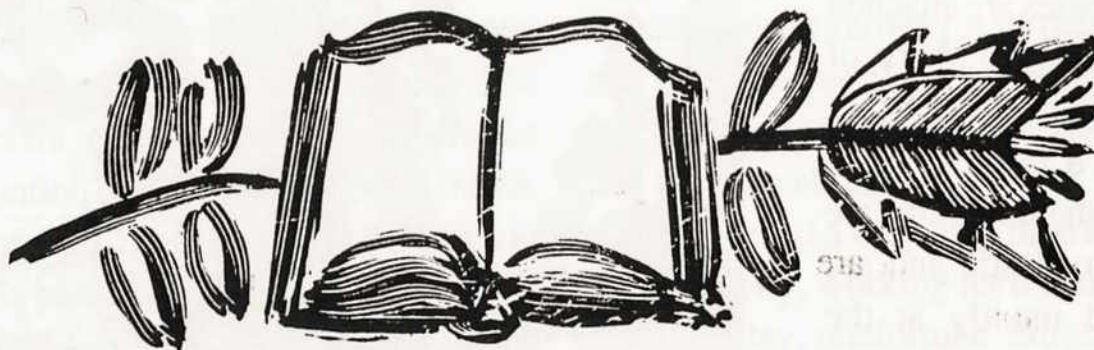
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HILL OF CROSSES

Edward Baranauskas



There are several religious shrines in Lithuania that are revered by the Lithuanian people and one of them is known as "Kryžiu Kalnas" or "The Hill of Crosses".

The hill itself is rather small and is almost perfectly round. It is about 76 yards long, 65 yards wide and is slightly recessed in the middle. It is located approximately five miles north of Šiauliai, the fourth largest city in Lithuania, and not very far from the small town of Meškuičiai; hence, it is sometimes called the Meškuičiai Hill. (Šiauliai is about 150 miles northwest of Vilnius and about 94 miles north of Kaunas.)

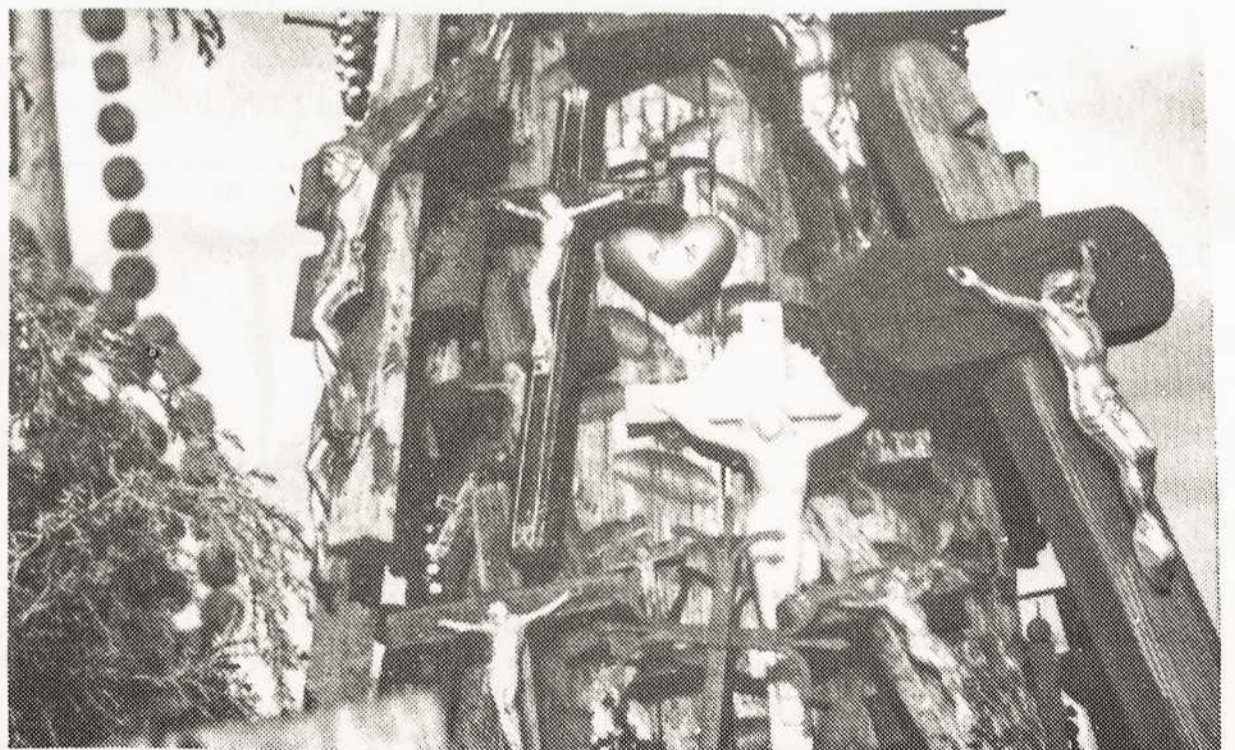
A visitor to this small area would be awe-struck by the sight of so many crosses standing on such a small hill, each one varying in height from one foot to as much as twenty feet. Smaller crosses are attached to each one and countless numbers of rosaries adorn most of them. The smaller crosses, measuring only a few inches in length and numbering in the hundreds, are made of amber, wood or plastic and are scattered about, placed mostly at the pedestals of the statues of Jesus Christ and Our Blessed Mother. Memorials of polished stone are placed at various spots on the hill. This is truly an unforgettable sight to behold.

What is there about the Hill of Crosses that holds such a special place in the hearts of the Lithuanian people? The first crosses appeared on the hill following the unsuccessful revolt against Russian rule in 1831 during the reign of Czar Nicholas I, in loving memory of those who were killed or exiled to Siberia in that failed attempt. More crosses were placed there following another fruitless uprising in 1863-1864 during the rule of Czar Alexander II. Later on, the crosses were brought by the sick and the unfortunate making a pilgrimage there, especially on the Feast of Corpus Christi. Many came from near and far to pray and it has been said that many of those who worshiped here were cured of their ailments.

In 1900, there were about 130 crosses on the hill and their numbers gradually increased so that by 1938 there were over 400. After World War II, crosses were placed there by Lithuanians returning from exile in Siberia, or imprisonment, to give thanks to the Lord for their safe return to their homeland. Today, there are perhaps

thousands of them and the custom now is that anyone who comes to visit, should bring a cross and leave it somewhere on the hill, regardless of its size. It should be interesting to note that the Hill of Crosses was never used for burial purposes, nor was a Mass ever celebrated on it, even though there is a mini-altar. There appears to be a shortage of room, so it should come as no surprise to see crosses being placed alongside the hill.

There are interesting and different inscriptions to be found on many of these crosses: there is a message of thanks for the blessing of good health; a request for a prayer for the



motherland; elsewhere, there is a prayer for those who have strayed.

Fate was not too kind with the establishment of a Soviet government in Lithuania, whose official policy was atheism; as a result, religion was discouraged in many different ways.

The Hill of Crosses survived the battles during the war, and like the Lithuanian nation, had its share of grief and tragedy following the end of hostilities. Although the guns of war were now silent, a different kind of war was about to begin. It was the war against religion, a struggle between the powerful and the powerless and the determination of the authorities that godlessness and atheism should prevail. The tenacity of the Lithuanian people was to be put to the test.

A disaster of monumental proportions struck the hill during the morning hours of April 5, 1961. It was not caused by the forces of Mother Nature but by man himself. All the crosses were uprooted, destroyed and hauled away in trucks by army and police units, with the help of groups of prisoners. It became an eerie scene of desolation. And so, the love and devotion of generations of Lithuanians disappeared in a single day.

No one should, however, underestimate the spirit, the determination and the courage of the Lithuanian people. Gradually, with the passing of each day, crosses appeared on the hill, and their numbers increased to the point where the authorities deemed the situation could no longer be tolerated. They struck as the month of April drew to a close in 1973 and it was a repeat of what took place twelve years earlier. Once again, the area was cleared of all crosses. Were the Lithuanian people discouraged by this second act of vandalism?

Again, the Hill of Crosses slowly recovered from its wounds and scars and by May of 1977 there were already 360 larger or smaller crosses in place. The word "fear" apparently



does not exist in the Lithuanian dictionary, for this show of defiance to the authorities ultimately prevailed.

The story of the Hill of Crosses is truly a remarkable one and is a tribute to the unconquerable Lithuanian spirit that made it possible for it to survive during its darkest hours.

Because of the many changes that have taken place in Lithuania during the past few years, the Hill of Crosses has been declared to be a historical landmark and is now under the protection of the very government that once sought to have it destroyed. Its survival as a religious shrine has been assured unless some unexpected political changes, to the contrary, take place at the government level.

One must wonder if the prophecy of Vincentas Borisevičius, Bishop of Telšiai, is about to come true. He was arrested, sentenced to death and executed in 1946 for the crime of being a "bourgeois national leader". The judge, after announcing the verdict, boasted tauntingly: "It is we who are the victors". The Bishop replied calmly: "Your hour of victory is brief. The future is mine. Christ will be victorious, just as my Lithuania will be victorious".

The Legends of the Hill of Crosses

Lithuania is known for its many folktales and legends and so it should come as no surprise to anyone that there are a few legends about the Hill of Crosses, too. Here are three of them and they are all different:

It happened a very long time ago. The people of Žemaitija lived happily, working hard and making merry on holidays. But, one day, misfortune struck. Žemaitija was invaded by the Teutonic Knights. The people of Žemaitija refused to bow to these invaders and they took a stand against them and fought with all of their might. Very soon they were exhausted because the enemy outnumbered them by far. Lithuanian

blood flowed in streams during a terrible battle.

The surviving warriors decided it was better to die free than to live as slaves. The heroes gathered together on a high hill, lit a huge bonfire and leaped into it, one by one. Someone put up a wooden cross on the high hill in memory of the heroes of Žemaitija.

Another old legend tells us that many, many years ago there was a church on the hill. One day, it was struck by

lightning, was destroyed and was covered by sand.

Area residents tell another story of how a small chapel once stood at the foot of the hill. Lithuanian revolutionaries came here to pray during one of the uprisings. The Cossacks arrived, locked the doors and buried the chapel with everyone inside by covering it with dirt. In time, the roof rotted away, caved in and that is why the hill has a slight recess.

VILKAVIŠKIS

Regina Kot, K of L Cultural Chairlady

Many of us will perhaps be touring Lithuania during the Dance and Song Festival taking place there this year. An interesting place to visit at that time would be the historic city of Vilkaiviškis.

Vilkaiviškis is the second largest city in southern Lithuania; the largest being Vilnius. In 1974, it had a population of 9,300 an increase of about 1,000 over the population of 4 years earlier in 1970. It is situated in a fertile plain 18 km. from the western Lithuania border at the junction of the Šeimenai and Vilkauija rivers.

Vilkaiviškis was settled in the 16th century but because of constant warfare with the Teutonic Order, Vilkaiviškis, along with all of south Lithuania, lost most of its inhabitants and reverted to a wilderness of forests.

After the Teutonic Knights were defeated and they ceased to be a threat to our people, Vilkaiviškis again began to flourish.

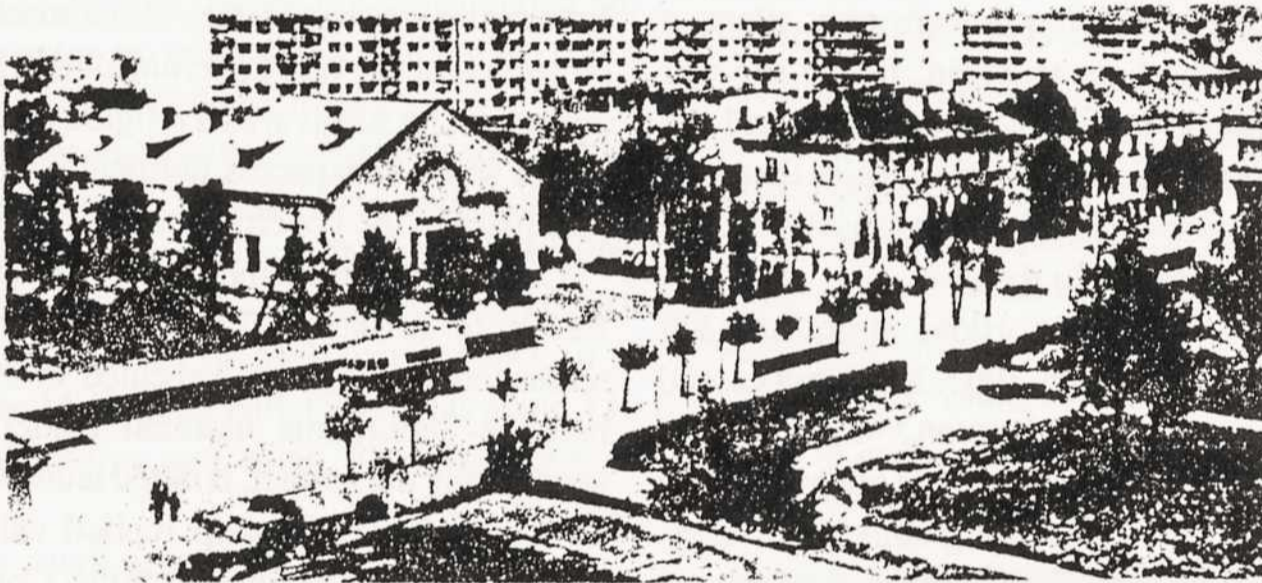
It is interesting to note that in 1812 when Napoleon marched to Moscow, he spent 4 days in Vilkaiviškis and reviewed his troops just outside of the city.

After World War I with the establishment of Lithuanian Independence (1918), Vilkaiviškis became resurrected with industrial plants producing agricultural and cement products, machinery and tools, bristle brushes, soap, vegetable oil, candy, clothing and flax thread. There were 5 mills, 2 printing establishments, 3 hospitals, 2 Catholic churches, 2 syna-

gogues and a Lutheran church. The Catholic church of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a new edifice built in the Roman style became a cathedral when the Diocese of Vilkaiviškis was formed in 1926. In 1929, a three story seminary was built there.

During World War II, Vilkaiviškis was devastated. When Russia occupied Lithuania in the summer of 1944, only 10%

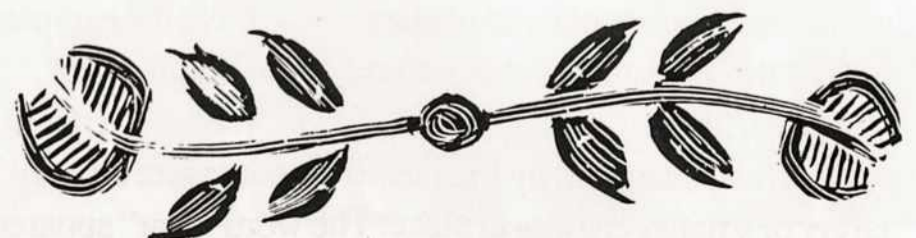
of the buildings in the city were intact. The cathedral was damaged during the war and the Soviet government did not allow it to be restored. It was torn down; in its place is a city park. The diocesan buildings and seminary were confiscated; the seminary now houses a sewing factory.



The new Vilkaiviškis

This large Lithuanian city has since been rebuilt and continues to exist. During the struggle to survive, the valiant people of Vilkaiviškis have built a fruit and vegetable canning factory, a tuberculosis hospital, schools and large factories manufacturing clothing, metal tools and carpentry items.

(Encyclopedia Lituanica)



VILNIUS TO MOSCOW:

John V. Chervokas

Although I have yet to set foot on Lithuanian soil, I spoke its language before I spoke English. Raised in a warm and proud Lithuanian community in Massachusetts, my earliest words were "mamyte" and "tevelis", rather than "mommy" and "daddy."

Fifty years later, I still reveal, albeit less and less grammatically, in the language that some scholars say may be the world's oldest spoken language. Indeed, Lithuanian is a curiously intriguing tongue, many of its words having a kinship with Sanskrit. Lithuanian is expressive, fairly easy on the ear and rather colorful.

In fact, there is one Lithuanian expression from my childhood that seems to have been created especially for this moment in time. My grandfather would use the word whenever he had



enough of my pestering him in his orchard. My grandmother used the word often as she once again caught me snitching potato pancakes from her frying pan.

"Pasisvilpk," they would say. "Pasisvilpk, Jonukai." Literally, the word means "go whistle." Idiomatically,

it means "buzz off," "go fly a kite."

I have had the word printed on a button that I'm wearing these days. People ask me about the curious word with the little bird-in-flight symbol over the second "s". I tell them that the symbol means that the second "s" should be pronounced "sh". It's "pah-si-shvilpk." And I am happy, naturally, to explain the meaning of "pasisvilpk," to any and all who ask about it.

I wonder if they are using the word much in Vilnius these days. I wonder if the Lithuanian President, Vytautas Landbergis, would like one of my "pasisvilpk" buttons. It seems the perfect response to "perestroika."

John V. Chervokas is executive vice president of Sudler & Hennessey, a health care advertising agency.

Kindling the Love for God and Neighbor!

By Dalia Bulvičius

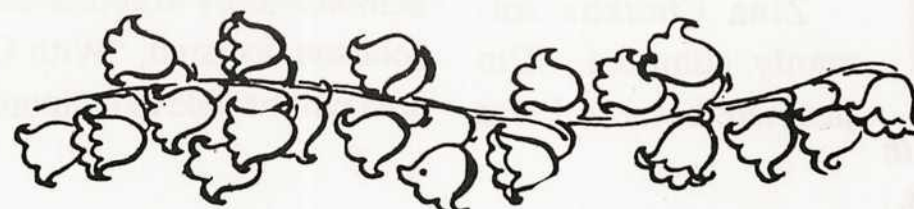
Resting comfortably in my hotel in Lithuania in 1982, after a whirlwind tour of Vilnius, my reverie was interrupted by a timid knock. When I opened the door, the young woman who stood there was vaguely familiar. Finally it dawned on me — before me stood Nijole Sadūnaitė of the Chronicles fame. She had become like an old friend, since for many years I had helped to translate and publish these "voices of the oppressed Church in Lithuania". Our two-day visit was too brief. There were quick trips to the dollar store and an exchange of gifts. One can not put a monetary value of what she presented to me such as a box of wooden matches on which was written, 'MYLIMAI DIEVO IR ARTIMO MEILĖ ŠIRDYJE, LINKI JŪSŲ SESUTE NIJOLE.' She also gave me her uniform worn in prison, which since then has visited many K of L councils.

Six years later, once again I heard a gentle knock. This time it was the office door at the Franciscan Press in Brooklyn. There again entered Nijole, this time as a good will



Dalia Bulvičius and Nijolė Sadunaitė in Brooklyn

ambassador from our poor occupied Lithuania. Her visit with me was even briefer this time but a happy one! We separated wishing each other to meet again in Free Lithuania! 🍏



Fight for Freedom

Victoria Masto

Lithuania is a nation motivated by the urgency for freedom and autonomy which it lost because of the Anti-Aggression Pact between Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin over 50 years ago.

Inspired by Lithuania's daring attempt to regain its sovereignty, American Lithuanians, as well as Latvians, Estonians and Ukrainians have begun to vent their hopes and frustrations in the form of organized peaceful demonstrations.

On March 31 at St. Joseph's Cathedral of Hartford, American citizens with Baltic heritages, along with religious and political dignitaries seized the opportunity to offer hope despite the Bush Administration's reluctance to formally recognize Lithuania as an independent country.

The national flags of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Ukraine unfurled with somber dignity beneath overcast skies as a crowd of over 400 people gathered - some dressed in their native costumes - to poignantly express their hopes and frustrations concerning the political upheaval occurring in Eastern Europe.

"We have to demonstrate to show our solidarity. We have to change the minds of American politics - the Russians have been an occupying force in Lithuania for over 50 years and it's time the U.S. peacefully exerted pressure in trade and diplomatic summits," said Joseph Karmuza, a member of the Knights of Lithuania C-50 in New Haven.

Dressed in the native costume of Lithuania, Patricia Illing-

worth said, "That for every action, there's a reaction - it may not be immediate, but this demonstration will give onlookers something to think about. Although we're Americans, we are still part of our homeland. We want our relatives and friends that we left behind to have the same advantages that we have here in the states. We don't want them to be encumbered by someone else's ideas."

Zina Cherkus solemnly admitted, "I'm just here because I was



Group of Lithuanian students demonstrating.

born in Lithuania and I never thought its freedom would come in my lifetime. I was two when my family fled."

Lucy Samulis hopes that Saturday's demonstration "... will educate the public about the situation in Eastern Europe and join Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Ukraine together as sister countries."

Latvian-American Avia Koiva hopes that the demonstration shows that "... we are behind the Baltic states all the way. I would love to see Bush put a trade embargo on the USSR. I'm really ticked that the U.S. isn't taking a stronger stand with the Baltics."

Tiiu Anson, an Estonian-American, hopes that such demonstrations will "... awaken the historical fact that these three countries are occupied. No one should live under foreign occupation. Freedom is the most precious thing."

Besides Americans with Baltic heritages, religious and political officials spoke out for Lithuania's fight for freedom.

Father Joseph from the neighboring Trinity Church revealed the symbolism of the tri-colored Lithuanian flag. "Yellow represents the life-giving sun nourishing the land. Green represents the fertile farms, forests and meadows of Lithuania and red stands for the blood shed for freedom and the martyrs and saints who sacrificed their lives for their beliefs."

The Connecticut General Assembly extended its support of Lithuania's actions in Resolution 34, which was read as demonstrators listened intently. Congresswoman Nancy Johnson declared, "With U.S. strength and support, Lithuania will be able to maintain freedom for many long genera-



Tiiu Anson & Paula Masto with Estonian and Lithuanian flags.

tions." State Representative Barbara Canelli defended Lithuania's political defiance. "The Lithuanian people are motivated by justice, the habits of the heart cannot be denied."

An undeniable spark of shared hope illuminated an other-

wise oppressive, gray Saturday afternoon. These people shared in the knowledge that the Soviet Union never had any legal or moral right to occupy Lithuania. Demonstrators passionately voiced a powerful message for Lithuania's political independence. Hundreds of mouths spoke as one in the crowd emphatically chanted, "Soviets Go Home!"

OUR FIRST BILLION DOLLAR EXECUTIVE DAVID MACKIEWICH

President of Standard Federal Savings and Loan Association

By Konstant J. Savickus

The founder of Standard Federal Savings and Loan Association was Justin Mackiewicz in 1909. After his death, his son Justin, Jr. took over and now his grandson, David Mackiewicz, is President.

David's father was a very honest man, a friendly man, and a considerate man. The door of his office was always open to his depositors and employees; he took a personal interest in their problems and helped them.

Today the same is said about David Mackiewicz and accounts for the success of Standard Federal. An additional factor in the institution's success is explained by David, "We don't take unnecessary risks; we handle our customers' money as though it were our own." Thus Standard Federal continues to grow and remains one of the strongest institutions in the country, with \$1.2 billion in assets and over 100,000 customers.

At present there are eleven Standard Federal offices: three offices are located in Chicago and the others are located in the suburbs of Downers Grove, Lombard, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park, Oak Lawn and Palos Heights. The headquarters remain at Brighton Park in Chicago. Asked why he took on added responsibilities by expanding the institution, David remarked: "We can't be stagnant - we have to grow with the times and be willing to accept challenges."

I asked David why there hasn't been another depression like that in 1929 when many banks closed, when people sat on curbs in front of banks hoping they would open and give them at least a part of their life savings, when many people lost all their savings. He replied: "Federal deposit insurance of up to \$100,000 now guarantees the safety of savings



deposits. In addition, government agencies and economists now have a greater knowledge of how to protect the economy against a depression."

When asked why some large financial institutions became insolvent, David answered: "A lack of good judgment, poor investments, incompetent management and unstable economic conditions all add up and lead to insolvency. You have to know banking to be a good banker. For example, from experience I have found that home loans are one of the soundest investments we can make."

Standard Federal has been a family institution for over 80 years. It is a very sound success story so I asked him how long he thinks he will continue. His answer was, "My son Kurt who is 25 years old has been working with me and has been doing the work for several years. He enjoys banking and meeting new people, so I feel the family tradition will continue for another generation in good hands."

Standard Federal has always heartily supported Lithuanian activities. Therefore, in conclusion I asked David, "If you were invited to come to Lithuania when it regains its freedom to help rebuild its economy, would you go?" He answered, "I would seriously consider it. Being Lithuanian myself, I would like to help other Lithuanians."



NEW ENGLAND MEMBERS DEMONSTRATE AND PROTEST IN KENNEBUNKPORT AND WASHINGTON

By Andy Akstin

NED Lithuanian Affairs Chairman and member C-116 Worcester, MA

Lithuania's pursuit for independence heard over the news media and the upcoming pro-independent vigil scheduled for March 17 in Washington, DC prompted a group to meet at the So. Boston Lithuanian Citizens Assn. to decide what action the New England Lithuanian organizations would take to coincide with the scheduled demonstration in Washington on that day. A Boston City Hall program was rejected in favor of a vigil at President Bush's summer home - Kennebunkport, ME. Some 500 members of Bendromenė, Vlikas and K of L Councils united with a common focus on Lithuanian liberty and drove to Kennebunkport on March 17. Council 116 Pres. Irene Tamulevich helped organize this show of support.

The group met at the Franciscan Monastery where the good friars enthusiastically received us. After Mass in the chapel, we drove to the beach parking lot where we took our flags, banners and placards and marched the two mile trek to Bush's summer home. Accompanied by local police and a flock of news media covering the event, we gathered in front of Mr. Bush's driveway. Pres. Bush was in Washington but the media coverage was nationwide. Speeches, songs and a candlelight vigil marked the call for greater U.S. support for the restoration of Lithuania's independence. Weary but enthusiastic, we marched back to the Monastery with great expectations for future results.

With the scheduled visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Edvard Shevardnadze, I took vacation time from work to assist for one week at the Government Affairs Office of the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc. in Arlington, VA. The two person legislative lobbying operation which is staffed by Asta Banionis and Darius Sužiedelis was established

in January of this year. The office has been swamped with work because of events unfolding in Lithuania while pursuing Senate support of Resolution 109 and Congressional Resolution 289. Along with press contacts and interviews,

calls from Vilnius and handling hundreds of phone calls daily, volunteers were sorely needed in helping the operation. Staff and volunteers work in an incredibly effective and productive manner. Computer programming and operators, clerical staff, students and jacks of all trades combined with the efforts of



Marchers in Kennebunkport, ME

Asta and Darius.

With the very active participation of K of L and Lithuanian organizations compelling the Representatives support, the Senate passed Resolution 109 by a vote of 93-0 and Resolution 289 passed 416-3. K of L pres. Anne Wargo and Gintaras Cepas of Boston were instrumental in helping notify councils across the state and nation of upcoming votes and news.

A demonstration was quickly organized for Shevardnadze's visit. Irene Tamulevich arranged for K of L's and others in central Massachusetts to have three buses travel the 12 hour journey to DC. In DC we met the 1,200 other demonstrators from all over the country who came in 23 buses, planes and autos for the event. Demonstrations took place at the White House, State Dept., Soviet Embassy and the Capitol steps

where the group was addressed by five Congressmen and other speakers. The message that the hoard of media heard was clear.....America, not just Lithuanian-Americans, want the Lithuanian government recognized by the U.S.

The AFL-CIO National headquarters located directly across the street from the Soviet Embassy permitted the thousand-plus dem-



Andy Akstin, Worcester, MA, Cong. Marty Russo (D-IL) and Michael Yuknis, Chicago.

onstrators raise the tri-color on their flagpole. Shevardnadze appeared stunned by the chorus of boo's and chants "Freedom Now!" The event was a smashing success.

The Resolutions had been passed by huge margins, the White House, Capitol and Soviet Embassy were surrounded by the highly charged and committed Lithuanian community. I had arranged for participants from MA, PA and CT to meet with 30 of their Congressional Representatives. Also, Mike Yuknis, National Lithuanian Affairs officer who has been

actively lobbying "on the hill" for the K of L with myself met with Marty Russo, D-IL the co-sponsor of Resolution 289. When the Resolution vote was tallied, we notified Lithuanian Charge d'Affaires Stasys Lozoraitis of the outcome.

The K of L across the nation is to be commended for the work it has done to rally government and public support and awareness of Lithuania. We all work and pray for great days ahead for our beloved ancestral homeland.

AŠ BIJAU NUMIRTI LIETUVOJE

Gintaras Žukauskas, M.D.

Vieną vakarą išsikalbečiau su jauna miela lietuvaitė iš Kalifornijos. Ji man papasakojo kad labai norėtų atvažiuoti į Lietuvą pabūti dainų šventėje aplankyti tėvų kraštą.

Bet aš bijau numirti Lietuvoje! Jeigu jau ten susirgisi, nors ir sloga, tai būtinai numirsi. Man visi pažįstami pasakojo, kad jeigu pakliūsi į ligoninę, tai gyvas iš ten neišeisi. Juk jūs net aspirino neturite!

Man, kaip gydytojui daug metų dirbusiam Lietuvoje, keista tokia mūsų tautiečių nuomonė apie Lietuvos mediciną. Kažin, ar visi žino, kad Lietuvoje sėkmingai gydomos praktiškai visos ligos, atliekamos sudėtingiausios operacijos, net širdies transplantacijos.

Bet, vis tik tai tenka pripažinti, kad jos žodžiuose yra ir dalis tiesos. Šiuo metų stažuojusi Čikagos ligoninėse, tad aiškiai matau skirtumus tarp medicinos lygio Lietuvoje ir USA. Pirmiausia, daro įspūdį naujais tobulia medicininė aparatūra, įvairi naudojama technika, milžiniškas kiekis vienkartinio naudojimo įvairios paskirties daiktų. Reikia pažymėti ir labai aukštą gydytojų išsimokslinimo lygį, puikiai organizuotą ir vykdomą gydytojų paruošimo ir pastovaus jų tobulinimosi programą.

Žinoma, medicininės technikos ir aparatūros problemų šiuo metų Lietuvoje mes nesame pajėgūs išspręsti - tai galima bus padaryti tik kartų sprendžiant bendros Lietuvos ekonomikos problemas. Tokios pramonės išvystymas mažoje šalyje nėra rentabilus, tad daug ką teks pirkti užsienyje. Tikimės, kad stiprėjant Lietuvos ekonomikai, litui tampant laisvai konvertuojama valiuta, spės ir ši problema.

Iš kitos pusės, jau šiandien galima būtų pasistengti, kad Lietuvos gydytojų išsimokslinimas būtų pakeltas iki pasaulinio lygio. Tai sunku pasiekti vien tik gerinant mokymą aukštosiose medicinos mokyklose Vilniuje ir Kaune. Tam reikia

kuo platesnių kontaktų tarp mūsų gydytojų ir Vakarų pasaulio medicinos. 1989 metų Gegužės mėnesį atkurtos Lietuvių Gydytojų sąjungos suvažiavime buvo plačiai svarstyti šie klausimai. Jame, beje, dalyvavo nemažai mūsų tautiečių gydytojų iš viso pasaulio, tame tarpe ir iš USA.

Nors ir nedidelį, bet savo indelį į šios problemos sprendimą norejosi įnešti ir man. Liepos mėnesį, kai lankiausi USA su

Lietuvos buriuotojų komanda po pirmojo transatlantinio plaukimo, keletą dienų viešėjome ir Čikagoje. Mano laimei, iš visų sutiktų tautiečių su kuriais teko kalbėti šia tema, ponas Juozas Kulys labai susidomėjo šia idėja. Ilgokai pasvarstę, mes preliminariai numatėme šios problemos sprendimo galimybes. Beje, ponas J. Kulys dirba Cook County ligoninėje. Tai didelė, turinti labai geras gydymo tradicijas ligoninė, kurioje gerai išvystytos visos medicinos sritys. Ten yra puiki bazė stažuotis kitų šalių gydytojams.

Bene pagrindinę problemą sudaro tai, kad Amerikoje nepripažįstamas gydytojo diplomatas, jeigu jis gautas ne USA. Kad diplomatas būtų užskaitytas, reikia perlaikyti tikrai sudėtingus EFMGM egzaminus. Jų neišlaikius, jokia medicininė veikla čia negalima.

Tad pirmoji mūsų plano dalis liečia jaunus gydytojus, kad jie galėtų išlaikyti šiuos egzaminus ir praeiti rezidentūros programą - pilno gydytojų paruošimo USA programą. Tam reikėtų jiems čia atvykus praeiti nemažai kainuojančius paruošimo egzaminams kursus, po to laikyti egzaminus, ir tik po to pradėti rezidentūros programą. Jos metų iš tikrą baigusio medicinos mokyklą jauno gydytojo paruošiamas labai aukštos kvalifikacijos, plačios erudicijos daktaras. Optimalu būtų šiuos egzaminus laikyti Lietuvoje, bet dėl puikiai žinomų politinių motyvų iki šiol tai buvo neįmanoma.



Mes tikimės kad pasikeitus klimatui Europoje, ir ypač Pabaltijo respublikose, ateityje tai bus įmanoma organizuoti. O šiuo metu mes norėtume sudaryti sąlygas keletui jaunų gabių gydytojų atvykti į USA ir išlaikyti šiuos egzaminus. Jie galėtų grįšti į Lietuvą ir ruošti kitus jaunus daktarus šiu egzaminų laikymui, kuriuos ateityje, galvojame, bus galima laikyti Vilniaus Universitete. Taip ši programa turėtų įgauti pastovų pobūdį kad kiekvienais metais po keletą jaunų gydytojų galėtų įsijungti į rezidentūros programą USA. Keletą metų pasimokę pagal šia programą, jie grįžtų į Lietuvą tikrai labai aukštos kvalifikacijos gydytojais. Tikiosi kad lėšas šios programos vykdymui galima būtų gauti kredito forma iš lietuviškų kredito organizacijų USA, su kuriomis man dar teks vesti derybas. Net ir išsprendus lėšų klausimą, tektų spresti šiu jaunų žmonių apgyvendinimo ir išlaikymo klausimus, kol jie išlaikys egzaminus ir galės pradėti dirbti rezidentais, beje, gaudami visai neblogą darbo užmokestį. Manau kad šiuo klausimu galėtume kreiptis į tautiečius Chikagoje — gal atsiras norinčių priimti pas save pagyventi jauną gydytoją iš Lietuvos keletui mėnesių.

Antras, ir ne mažiau svarbus programos punktas yra mėginimas sudaryti aukštos kvalifikacijos gydytojams iš Lietuvos galimybes trumpą laiką stažuotis USA ligoninėse. Manau kad tokios nuo 3 iki 6 mėnesių trunkančios stažuotės duotų labai daug naudos geriausiems mūsų gydytojams, nuo kurių išsilavinimo ir erudicijos daugiausia ir priklauso sveikatos apsaugos lygis Lietuvoje. Ši programos dalis yra palyginti reali ir nesunkiai įgyvendinama. Tai įrodo ir tai kad ji jau šiandien yra vykdoma. Aš esu pirmasis gydytojas iš Lietuvos, kuris pagal tiesioginį susitarimą su Cook County ligoninė be Maskvos tarpininkavimo, jau atliekų 6 mėnesius trunkančia stažuote Illinojaus universiteto sveikatos centre, kraujagyslių chirurgijos skyriuose. Čia man sudarytos labai geros sąlygos kelti savo kvalifikaciją, galiu labai daug pamatyti ir išmokti.

Tačiau ir ši programa savaime nevyksta. Reikėtų sudaryti nors minimalias gyvenimo sąlygas atvykstantiems gydytojame, užtikrinti pragyvenimo minimumą. Malonu

pažymėti kad jau preliminarinių derybų su Lietuvių Fondu metų, ponas Baras palankiai sureagavo į šį projektą pažadėjo esant galimybėms, suteik ti šiems gydytojams stipendijas.

Tad tokie gan nelengvi šios programos vykdymo keliai. Šiu problemų sprendimui ir stažuočių organizavimui ponas Juozas Kulys įsteige Lietuvių medicinos ir sveikatos apsaugos fondaciją. Kiekvienas norintis gautų ja paremti pinigais ar kitais gerais pasiūlymais.

Gaila tik, kad Amerikos lietuvių gydytojų asociacijos pirmininkas ponas A. Vanagūnas gana abejingai sutiko šia programą. Iš gana ilgo pokalbio su juo tesupratau kad jam žymiai svarbiau šiuo metu nusamdyti sekretorę asociacijos reikalams, negu tiesiogiai prisidėti prie šių problemų sprendimo. Ir tai turintomeny aukšta šios asociacijos prestiža ir nemažas galimybes.

Tup pačiu norečiau nuoširdžiai padėkoti visiems padėjusiems man šios progamos vykdyme, ir ypač daktarui Adomavičiui labai padėjusiam man tiek moraliai, tiek ir materialiai.

Pries išvykstant į USA Lietuvoje Sveikatos apsaugos ministerijoje kartų su Lietuvos gydytojų sąjunga rimtai apsvarstėme šios programos projektą. Vieningai prijome nuomonės kad programa labai reikalinga, ir reikia dėti pastangas jos įvykdymui. Mane, kaip vykstanti į pasaulio lietuviu mokslo ir meno simpoziumą skaityti pranešimą ir po to stažuotis Cook County ligoninėje, įgaliojo derinti šios programos įgyvendinimo klausimus su suinteresuotais Lietuvių išėivijos atstovais. Pirmo mėnesio veiklos rezultatai kelia optimizmą. Tikiuosi kad jau 1990 metu rudenį pirmieji gydytojai galės atvykti i Chikagą trumpa laikėms stažuotems ir ruošti EFMGM egzaminams.

Baigiant tenorėčiau atsakyti į savo mielos geltonplaukės pašnekovės klausimą "Ar aš nenumirsių Lietuvoje?" - tiesiai ir aiškiai - "Gali drąsiai važiuoti Lietuvon. Medicina pas mus bus ne žemesnio lygio, negu visame kultūringame pasaulyje!"

P.S. Honorarą skirių Lietuvių medicinos ir sveikatos apsaugos fondacijai.

CAMP NERINGA

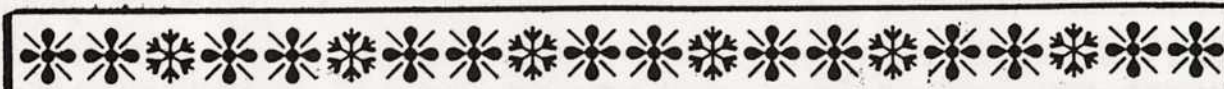
CAMP NERINGA is a summer must for children of Lithuanian descent. The Lithuanian Sisters from Putnam, CT are preparing their 20th camping session this July 1-14, 1990.

NERINGA is a invaluable experience for children not only to gain self assurance and a healthy independence, but

also, to solidify their ethnic self identity.

The daily program involves various educational and cultural Lithuanian activities, together with regular 'camp' experiences, i.e., bonfires, hikes, evening programs.

For information: NERINGA, ICC-RT 21, Putnam, CT 06260; 1-203-928-7955.



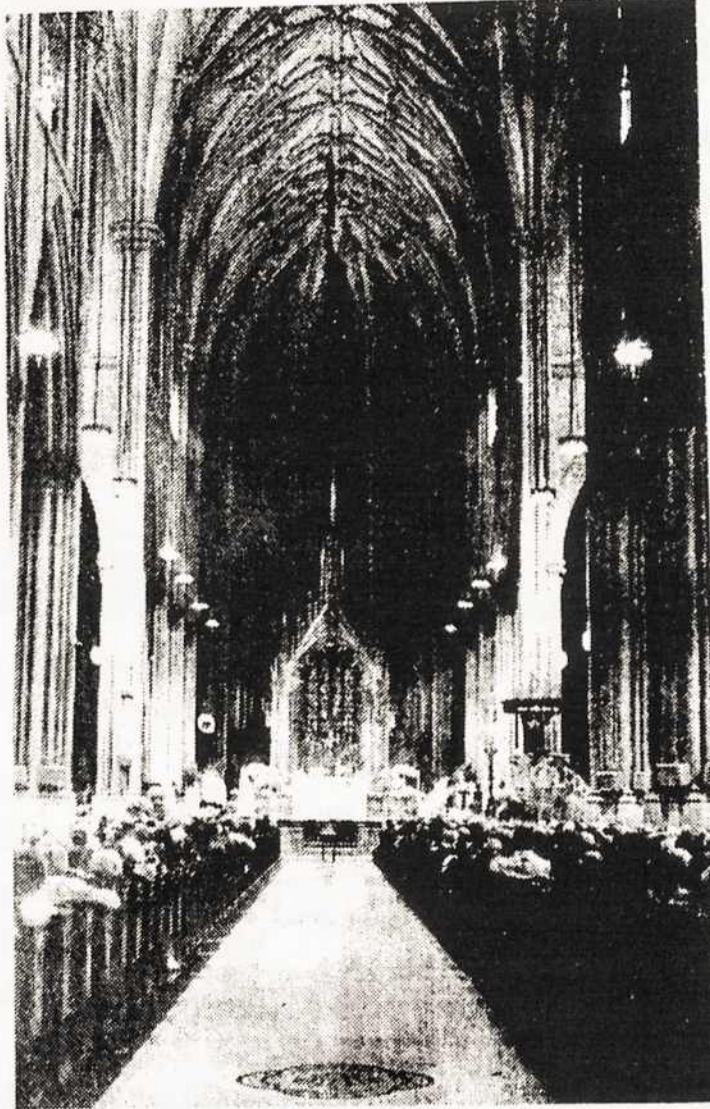
Day of Prayer for Lithuania at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City

Helen Matulonis, C-110 Maspeth, NY

A Day of Prayer for Lithuania began with more than 1,000 demonstrators waving Lithuanian flags and placards rallying outside the Soviet Mission to the United Nations to protest measures taken against Lithuania by the Soviet government. After hearing Sen. Alphonse D'Amato and Council General of New York Anicetas Simutis denounce Pres. Bush's cautious approach to the tense situation, protestors in a very orderly and peaceful demonstration marched down Fifth Avenue to St. Patrick's Cathedral for a special Mass. Even Non-Lithuanians assembled on the sidelines joined the marchers to assist them in their cause.

Prior to the Mass on the steps of St. Patrick's, there were hugs and kisses with tears of joy and laughter warmed by God's beautiful sun. It was particularly noted that Lithuanians came from all walks of life by car, foot, train and bus. Among the throngs were members of the Knights of Lithuania from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and distant New York. The massive number of signs, placards and the display of colors rendered by the ladies in costume and the flag bearers caught everyone's eye. It was noted our costume-clad ladies were overtaken by strangers to pose for pictures.

The Mass started with a procession of Bishops, clergymen and other selected participants. The congregation numbering over 2,000 sang "Pulkim ant Keliu" led by the Annunciation Choir from Brooklyn, NY with soloist Stefa Jonaitytė from Vilnius. Principal celebrant was Most Rev. Antanas Vaicius, Bishop of Telšiai, Lithuania. He briefly spoke at the beginning of the Mass thanking our people in the United States for their moral support. He also stated his homeland could accept the Soviet cutoff of oil and any other sacrifices necessary to maintain its independence. It gave me great pleasure to be one honored with an introduction to Bishop Vaicius who not only extended a personal blessing on Yours Truly but also incorporated his blessing on the deeds of the Knights of Lithuania, of whom he has read and heard of quite often. Most Rev. Thomas Daily, newly appointed Bishop of Brooklyn gave the homily stating, "No wonder Lithuania has such a devotion to



*Day of Prayer at St. Patrick's Cathedral in
New York City*

the suffering of Our Lord and no wonder it is known as the Land of Crosses for its weathered way-side shrines! No wonder Rupintojelis, the pensive Christ, is a national symbol. The present trials of Lithuania are only the latest in a long history of suffering."

A letter of support from Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York was read.

The Vatican was represented by Most Rev. Renato R. Martino, Apostolic Nuncio-Permanent Observer of the Holy See. Most Rev. Basil H. Losten, Bishop of Ukrainian Catholics in Diocese of Stamford, CT and our very own Most Rev. Paulius Baltakis, Bishop for Lithuanian Catholics in Diaspora, were also concelebrants of the Mass, together with approximately 25 Lithuanian clergy at the altar. The Mass ended with singing of "Marija, Marija" as everyone left the Cathedral with

great hope and optimism for a just and peaceful solution to the present Lithuanian crisis.

After Mass, the streets were a sea of buses which surrounded the Cathedral adding to the crowd of Lithuanians. One can wholeheartedly agree that we truly had a picture of "Little Lithuania" on the site of 5th Avenue at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

Vyčiai - Lietuviai - nenustokim dirbti Dievių ir Tėvynei!



Interview with a Lithuanian Exchange Student

Audrius Bruzga is a Lithuanian exchange student who is presently studying at Union College in Schenectady, NY. He left Moscow on Aug. 16, 1989 and is one of 60 Soviet exchange students; five of whom are Lithuanian, who came to the United States to study at various universities and colleges. Upon completion of his studies, he will return to his native Lithuania on June 20.

Q. Prior to coming to the United States, were you a student at the University of Vilnius?

A. Yes. I studied the English language for three years and will resume my studies at the university after my return.

Q. How were you chosen to come here to study?

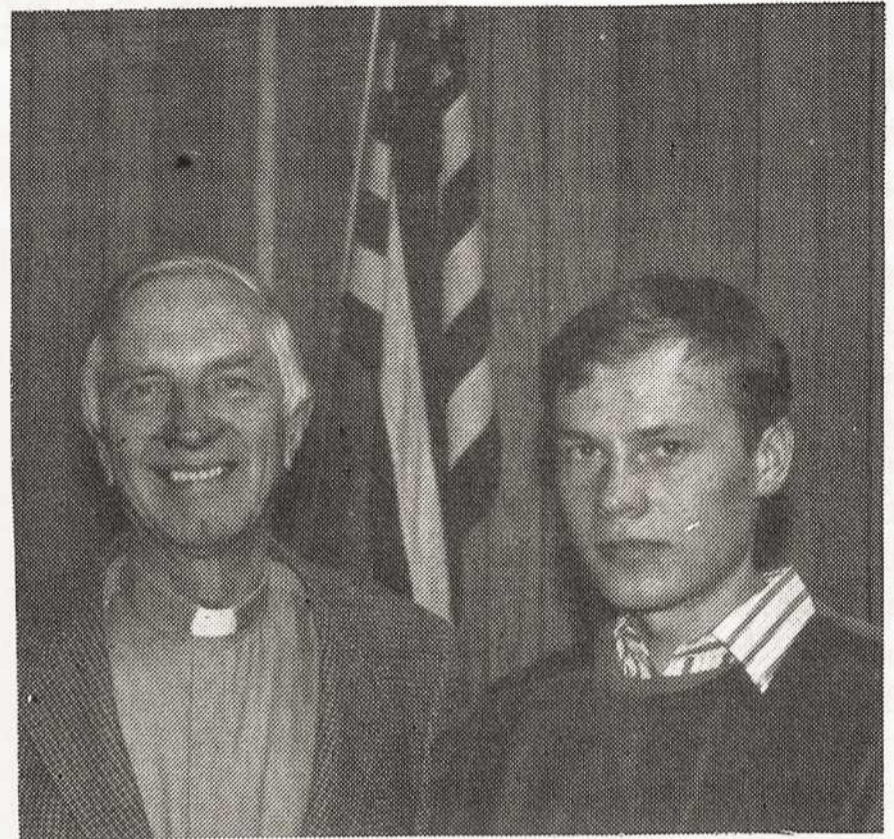
A. In the middle of Dec., 1988, the English Dept. chairman invited me to come to his office. He asked me if I would be interested in going to the United States to study the English language as a major subject. I replied that I would. He went on to explain that there was only about a ten percent chance of my going. I began to think that there was not a serious possibility of my being selected because of those odds. Why I was selected for such a chance to study abroad, he never did say and I had no idea. The students who were chosen by the University of Vilnius all were in their third year of studies.

Q. Did you ever give up hope of coming to the United States to study?

A. There were no encouraging signs. I waited for the decision one way or another and continually asked and thought that they had forgotten all about me. In June, when the school year was over, there was still no word. I gave my address to the Office of International Relations and asked them to please let me know if any word would be forthcoming.

Q. When did you receive the good word?

A. During the first week in August. I was given four days to pack my luggage, was told to be prepared to go and that my passport and visa would be given to me in Moscow. I arrived in Moscow about the 9th of August after flying in from Vilnius. Even though I was in Moscow with my luggage and was ready to depart, I was only given a 50-50 chance of leaving. There were students who went to Moscow planning to be exchange students but did not get permission and had to return home. We stayed at a hotel for one week waiting for our documents and plane tickets. The U.S. Embassy issued our visas the day before departure. Plane tickets were not given to us since a special plane was commissioned to take the



Rev. R. Baltch, pastor St. Casimir Church in Amsterdam with Audrius Bruzga.

group of students. We did not leave on a regularly scheduled flight. The remaining seats were given to passengers who were going to the United States. It was a large airplane but we had to stop and refuel at Shannon, Ireland and Gander, Newfoundland before arriving in New York.

Q. Were you given a choice of which college you would attend?

A. No. We learned of our college assignments the evening before our departure. None of us had any idea what courses we were going to study. I was told I would be at Union College in New York State and had no idea what the name of the city was. I had a vague idea of what this college looked like. I did know that the educational system in the United States was different from that in the Soviet Union.

Q. After your arrival at the JFK Airport in New York, did you go directly to Union College?

A. No. We arrived in New York on Aug. 16. From there, all of the 60 students were transported in two buses to Middlebury College in Vermont. We stayed there for two weeks for orientation and to familiarize us with the educational system in the United States and also how to behave and adjust ourselves in the new environment. A van from Union College in Schenectady arrived to transport five of us to the school. Only two remained - myself and a student from Belorussia, - the other three were taken to colleges further west.

Q. When did you start attending classes and what courses are you studying?

A. Before classes started, I attended freshmen orientation lectures for one week and on Sept. 7 I began my studies. I was given a list of courses to choose from. I selected economics, American literature and International Politics. Actually, I am majoring in English.

Q. Can you tell us something about yourself and the other Lithuanian students?

A. I am from Šiauliai and the other four students are from Vilnius. We were all assigned to different schools in the northeastern part of the United States. One student in our group, Yolanta Macevičiute, is studying American literature, micro economics and public speaking at Wellesley College near Boston. Rytis Martikonis studied law at Vilnius University and is now studying political science at Bowdoin College in Maine, not too far from Kennebunkport. Kestutis Sadauskas

is studying geography at Middlebury College in Vermont. Remigijus Bartaška is studying economics at Haverford College near Philadelphia.

Q. Can you tell us who is paying for your education here?

A. According to an agreement made, each college provides for the students. This includes books, tuition, room and board and \$150 each month for personal expenses. These expenses total about \$25,000 a year. In addition, the college pays for all field trips that we are authorized to go on. As you can see, Union College is a very expensive school to attend.

I am certain Audrius will return home with many pleasant memories of his stay in the United States, having traveled across the country by bus and visiting the Lithuanian communities in Chicago, Los Angeles, Boston and Washington, DC. Bon voyage, Audrius!

By Edward Baranauskas, Schenectady, NY

Resolution submitted by C-26 Worcester, MA to the National Executive Board and to be Voted upon by Delegates at National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Knights of Lithuania was first composed in the Lithuanian language and subsequently translated into English, and

WHEREAS, in the Constitution, Article V - Organization Members, section 3d, the Lithuanian terminology - "Garbės Nariai" is translated as Honorary Members, which is a good verbally literal translation but does not accurately describe the intended concept, and

WHEREAS, moreover, the Constitution goes on to describe Honorary Members as "those individuals designated by the National Convention for their outstanding accomplishments for the welfare of the organization and its ideals," and

WHEREAS, the dictionary describes honorary as something "conferred or rendered merely for the sake of honor, without the usual requirements, functions, privileges, or other adjuncts,"

BE IT RESOLVED that the word "Honorary" in the designation "Honorary Member" in Article V, 3d, of the Constitution be amended to read "Distinguished Service" so that the full title, instead of "Honorary Member" be "Distinguished Service Member" in every occurrence throughout

the Constitution.

* * * * *

KADANGI, Lietuvos Vyčių pirmoji Konstitucija buvo parašyta Lietuviškai, ir vėliau išversta į anglų kalbą, ir

KADANGI, Konstitucijos 5-tame artikelyje, "Organizacijos Nariai", 3-čiame paragrafe, Lietuviškoje terminologijoje "Garbes Nariai" yra išversti, kaip "Honorary Members" ir nors vertimas yra geras, pažodiškas bei tikslus, jis teisinga, neišreiškia tikslios minties, ir

KADANGI, toliau konstitucija apibudina garbės narius kaip "tuos asmenis kuriuos metinis seimas designuoja kaip ypatingai nusipelnčius organizacijos gerovei ir idealams," ir

KADANGI, žodynas apibudina žodį "garbės" kaip suteikta ar įteiktas vien tik dėl pagerbimo, be įprastų reikalavimų pareigų privilegijų ar kitų priedų

NUTARTA, kad žodis "garbės narys" konstitucijos 5-tame Artikelyje, 3-čiame paragrafe, būtų pakeistas į nusipelnęs tarnyboje, ir taip pilnas titulas, vietoje "Garbes Narys" būtų veikloje tarnyboje narys visur kur tas titulas pasirodo konstitucijoje.

NATIONAL CONVENTION - JULY 26-29, 1990 Pittsburgh, PA

Of the many National Rooms at the University of Pittsburgh, a visit to the Lithuanian Room is an outstanding attraction when attending the National Convention. A sight-seeing tour of Pittsburgh including a visit to the University of Pittsburgh will be featured for the early birds on Wednesday, July 25th.

The Lithuanian Room depicting a Lithuanian classroom incorporates into its design many things considered most precious by the people. A fresco on the rear wall niche is an enlarged true copy of the painting *The Two Kings* by Čiurlionis. This mural sets the tone for a room which pays tribute to the symbolism and love of nature and home reflected in Lithuanian folk art. The trees are the Lithuanian forests which cover a dark and uncertain past. Among the branches are stars, points of hope. Against the nocturnal background are two kings, one holding a bright jewel while the other guards it with his sword. The jewel is the Lithuanian village - thatched cottages, white birches, willows - the most precious possession of Lithuania.

The door's wooden planks are laid in a diamond pattern similar to those of many farm structures. At the center of the door is a carved rosette, symbol of fire. Above the entrance,

a stylized sun between two horses' heads represents light and sound believed to ward off evil spirits. The white oak molding of intersecting scallops resembles decorations found on farm granaries or kleitis. Names of famous Lithuanians are carved on the frieze above the blackboard, i.e., Kudirka, Maironis, Čiurlionis.

The wall fabric is linen woven in a design called "The Path of the Birds". Its frame is of white oak and rare bog oak. Black or bog oak acquires its deep hue while submerged in a marshy bog for decades. Farmers thus preserve prime trees to make furniture which is treasured as heirlooms.

The professor's desk is modeled after a household table and the lectern incorporates details of a spinning wheel spindle. Student chairs are carved with a design found on household utensils. The radiator enclosure is perforated with a design of wild rue leaves, the Lithuanian national flower. Traditionally, a bride is crowned with a wreath of rue, symbol of chastity. Windows of hand-pressed glass bear leaded medallions in the form of sun ornaments often found on wayside shrines. The architect for this Lithuanian room was Antanas Gudaitis, Kaunas and was dedicated on October 4, 1940.



Lithuanian Nationality Room in the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh.

77th National Convention Schedule - Tentative* July 25 - 29, 1990 - Pitts- burgh, PA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1990 -

PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

- 9:15 a.m. Depart Sheraton for Golf Outing
- 1:00 p.m. Cultural Tour of Pittsburgh
- 8:30 p.m. Evening get together - Sheraton

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1990

- 9:00 a.m. Supreme Council Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Shuttle bus service begins to opening Mass.
- 11:00 a.m. Opening Mass - St. Casimir Church
- 2:00 p.m. Opening Session - Sheraton
- 7:00 p.m. Three Rivers Cruise - Gateway Clipper Fleet

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1990

- 9:00 a.m. Session II - Sheraton
- 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass - Sheraton
- 2:00 p.m. Session III - Sheraton
- 8:00 p.m. Cultural Night Program - Sheraton

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1990

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass - Sheraton
- 9:30 a.m. Session IV - Sheraton
- 1:00 p.m. Session V - Sheraton
- 5:30 p.m. Shuttle bus service begins to Lithuanian Hall. Cocktails served at Lithuanian Hall.
- 7:00 p.m. Closing Banquet
- 10:30 p.m. - Shuttle bus service to Sheraton

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 1990

- 9:00 a.m. Shuttle bus service begins to St. Casimir Church
- 10:00 a.m. Closing Mass - Convention Photo
- 12:30 p.m. Luncheon - Sheraton

* Times and locations (except Wednesday and Sunday) are subject to change. Please check the official schedule when picking up your registration packet.

Also, any one owning a Lithuanian costume is encouraged to bring it to the convention.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A GREAT IDEA!!

Dear Editor:

With the crisis escalating in our homeland and with no help (as yet) from the outside world, it would appear that it is up to us to take care of our countrymen.

The Norwegians have the oil;

The Lithuanians have the need (for the oil); and

The (Lithuanian) Americans have the hard currency.

Why can't we put this together and make the situation work for all concerned? With almost one million (per Lithuanian Legation, Wash., DC, 4/20/90) of us in America, surely we can make a difference without too great a sacrifice. Consider the resources if each of us gave one dollar a day for a year: \$365 million; or \$10 a month (that's less than 35 cents per day) over a period of a year would amount to \$120 million. For less than the cost of two movie tickets per month, we might be able to improve the lot of our fellow Lithuanians.

I visited Lithuania privately last May and felt some inconvenience when I awoke occasionally to no water, or no hot water, but can you imagine the hardships they suffer currently? Ultimately this situation is in the hands of the Lord, but we must also remember that God helps those who help themselves. We cannot sit idly by, wringing our hands and saying this is terrible. We have a moral obligation to make it better and we can do it if we work together.

Why couldn't we have a charitable/tax deductible status; why couldn't we deposit contributions into an interest-bearing account with automatic payments being made to the Embassy of Norway here in Washington? Perhaps the situation is oversimplified, but can we be faulted for trying? Obviously, research needs to be done, but in the meantime, it is spring, the season of new beginnings, and this is a seed of hope that should be planted.

Kay A. Yankoski, V.P. C-142 Wash., DC

HERITAGE CAMP - DAINAVA, MI

Stovykla įvyks J. St. DAINAVA, Manchester, MI nuo šių metų Birželio 24 d. iki Liepos 1 d. Vaikų amžius - nuo 8 m. iki 16 m. 7 metų vaikai bus priimami, tik, jei stovyklaus vyresnis brolis ar sesuo.

Kaina pirmam vaikui iš šeimos \$125.00, antram ar trečiam iš tos pačios šeimos, bus daroma nuolaida.

Visais šios stovyklos reikalais kreiptis telef.: 1-708-301-8001 arba adresu - Jadv. Damušienė, 13255 Oak Ridge Lane, Lockport, IL 60441.

Lithuanians in the News

DECORATING EGGS POINTS TO THE GLORY OF EASTER



Clemencine Miller, Pres. C-141 Bridgeport, CT with granddaughter Sarah decorating Easter eggs.

Clemencine Miller of C-141 Bridgeport and granddaughter, Sarah, have traditionally colored eggs each year for Easter at her dining room table laden with brightly colored, hand-woven cloth from Lithuania on which decorated Easter eggs repose in beautiful antique glass bowls. Although it is 1990, the scene could have taken place many years ago in Lithuania. Clemencine is passing on an ancient form of folk art to a new generation and renewing the beauty of the Resurrection and the joy of Easter.

Every year Clemencine teaches classes in egg decorating during Lent to interested parishioners from St. George Parish. For ten weeks each year she also sponsors classes in Lithuanian culture and language taught in her home by former Sacred Heart University professor Vitalis Zukauskas.

The eggs that are made have a deep religious significance and the colors used are symbolic. Blue is used for good health, yellow for prosperity and fertility and red for happiness and love. Though the dyes have changed, the best ones coming from Germany, the process remains the same. Eggs are hard-boiled with vinegar added to the water to strengthen them. They are then covered with a coat of bee's

wax which she buys each year in Vermont. At that point, designs are etched on the eggs with a pin or some other type of sharp instrument. Finally, they are colored and lightly polished with oil for gloss.

In a couple of decades there will be another dining room table with bowls of colored Easter eggs. Sarah will pass on the Easter egg tradition to her own children and grandchildren renewing the story of the Resurrection, rebirth and eternal life.

LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY VIEWS ROOTS WITH PRIDE

In a small meeting room above a tavern in Kearny, the gregarious ladies of the Knights of Lithuania talked of rosary beads and books for their homeland, and ticket sales for the spring dance.

Together, many members of the 75 year old spiritual and social organization forged the backbone of the Lithuanian community in Kearny, men and women who buried their sorrows in hard work and prayer.

Eleanor Rokas, past president of C-90 stated, "I think there's a strong and fierce pride that these people have. For so many years, nobody has known who we are of what we are. No one knows how they've suffered."

The reporter of the Star Ledger interviewed many other



Rev. Dominick Pocius, Kearny chats with Albina Bilaitis and Marija Melynys during a break in the Knights of Lithuania meeting.

members - Dr. Stasys Skripkus, Marija Melinas, Frances Grinewich, Elizabeth Didzbalis, Jack Stukas, Julius Veblaitis Albina Bilaitis and Rev. Dominick Pocius. Each one expressed their rejoice of the restoration of Lithuania's independence from the Soviet Union. They also expressed hope about the present situation in their ancestral land. They felt that Lithuania was always independent for so many years and emphatically stated they are not Communists.

SHENANDOAH NATIVE FETED FOR DUTY IN AF

With the men and women of Kessler Air Force Base Medical Center and his immediate family in attendance, Maj. Robert T. Marousky retired on Feb. 1 after more than 20 years of service. A native of Shenandoah, he is the son of Margaret Marousky of C-144 Anthracite.

A 1966 graduate of Pottsville Hospital School of Nursing, Maj. Marousky served as scrub nurse at Phila. Children's Hospital for Dr. C. Everett Koop, U.S. Surgeon General under Pres. Reagan. His Air Force experience began in 1969 when he and his wife enlisted together. The first overseas assignment for him was 1983-88 in England where he was operating room/central supply supervisor. He also served as consultant for three wartime hospitals. July 1988 brought him back to the states for his final tour at Kessler AFB, Mississippi, as staff development officer for the medical center surgery department.

In a moving speech at the close of the retirement cere-



Retired Maj. Robert T. Marousky

mony, Maj. Marousky expressed thanks to his peers and superiors for the many challenging opportunities he had been privileged to share with them. He also saluted his family for the supportive role they played throughout his career.

K of L CALENDAR

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 - Lithuanian Day, Auriesville, NY - 1:30 p.m. services - 4:00 p.m. Mass, C-100 Amsterdam.
 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.

DID YOU KNOW!

Lithuanians once worshipped the Sun, Morning Star and had Gods of the field and forest. The nation was once twenty-one separate little kingdoms. Mindaugas, the Just, great ruler of Lithuania unified the country. He also embraced the

Catholic religion and brought Christianity into his nation. Because of this action, the Pope in Rome sent a special delegation and crowned Mindaugas King of Lithuania.

Lithuanian Kitchen

Lietuviška Virtuvė

The following recipes are taken from the book, "Lithuanian Customs and other Ethnic Cookery" which was published by C-144. Our congratulations to C-144 for their very special cultural and culinary contribution of our Lithuanian heritage. Knyga, geriausias draugas, A book, one's best friend.

SOUR MILK - RAUGINTAS PIENAS

1 qt. pasteurized milk
4 Tbsp. sour cream or buttermilk

Rinse bowl in hot water. Put in sour cream and slowly mix in milk. Let stand in warm place 24 hours. Test by inserting knife in center for solid. After solid curd is formed, refrigerate, serve with hot, boiled potatoes in jackets. If you keep a small amount, you can use it as a starter for the next batch.

Petrona Prep

COLD BEET SOUP - ŠALTIBARŠČIAI

1 can shoestring beets or 5-6 fresh beets, cooked and sliced.	1 qt. milk 1/2 medium onion (diced) Sprig of green dill, chopped
2 cucumbers, diced salt/pepper to taste	1/2 pt. sour cream

Stir milk slowly into sour cream in large bowl and blend well. Add all other ingredients and serve with hot potatoes. If you want soup colder, add ice cubes.

Vera Beninsky

POTATO PUDDING - KUGEL

5 or 6 large potatoes 3 eggs 1/2 cup milk	1 stick margarine salt/pepper to taste
---	---

Peel and grate potatoes in medium sized bowl. Melt margarine, stir in beaten eggs and milk. Add to grated potatoes, mix well. Bake in 1-1/2 quart casserole for one to one and one-half hours at 350°.

Helen Chesko

GRATED POTATO DUMPLINGS TRINTŲ BULVIŲ VIRTINIAI

3 lbs. potatoes 4 Tbsp. flour 1 egg	1 onion Salt & pepper 1 lb. beef or pork, cooked
---	--

Grind or fine cut meat, add sauteed onion, salt and pepper. Mix well. Grate raw potatoes and squeeze out all liquid. Mix flour and egg with raw potatoes, add salt and knead well. Take

a piece of potato mixture the size of a 2" circle and flatten out in your hand. Place a small amount of meat filling in center and cover and seal well. Cook in salted water 25-30 minutes. Drain and put bacon and sauteed onion or butter and sauteed onion over them.

Grated potato may be filled with cottage cheese, 1 lb., and 2 eggs; if too dry, add sour cream. Serve with sour cream and melted butter.

Florence Sakalosky

POTATO BALONEY - BULVIŲ DEŠROS

12 Large potatoes 2 onions, chopped 1/2 lb. diced bacon or 6 Tbsp. margarine	4 eggs 1 Tbsp. salt 3/4 cup milk, heated 1/2 lb. hog casing
---	--

Fry onion with bacon or margarine and add salt. Peel and grate potatoes and drain off liquid. Heat milk and pour over potatoes. Stir in rest of ingredients and stuff casings. Tie ends with string. Put in greased pan and prick with needle. Bake 325° until golden or about 1 hour.

Evelyn Prep

EASY BAKE HADDOCK

1 lb. Haddock 4 Tbsp. melted margarine	4 oz. sour cream Grated Parmesan cheese
---	--

Place haddock in baking dish, drizzle melted margarine over fish. Spread sour cream over fish and top with cheese. Bake uncovered in 375° oven for 30-40 minutes

Eleanor Stabingas

COCONUT POUND CAKE

1/2 lb. butter or margarine 1/2 cup veg. shortening 3 cup sugar 3 cup all purpose flour 6 eggs	1 tsp. coconut flavoring 1/2 tsp. brandy flavoring 1 cup milk 1 can flaked coconut
--	---

Cream butter, shortening and sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, beating after each one. Add flavorings and mix well. Add flour and milk alternately. Stir in coconut. Bake in a well buttered tube pan at 350° for 1-1/2 hours.

Anna Klizas Wargo

CALLING ALL MEN! Wanted. Your special recipes. A future issue of *Lietuviška Virtuvė* will be devoted to recipes contributed by our K of L male chefs. Mail your recipes to: *Stella Matulonis, 63 Dartmouth Rd., Manhasset, NY 11030.*

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE - NAUJU NARIU SIEKIMAS!

Mary Kincius, Membership Vice President

Have you approached anyone, or a group of anyones, to become a member and join the Knights of Lithuania?? or, renew an old membership or, renew an old defunct council?

The goal of the Knights is to keep the wonderful history, culture and customs that we have inherited and keep it very much alive for generations to come - we don't want the language to become a lost art. The USSR is definitely trying to annihilate small nations with its powerful oppression. With your help and mine and with every new (or renewed) member striving to preserve our Lithuanian civilization ... we cannot fail!

We need help in many forms social, political, financial. Yes! We have hectic times in raising monies for many projects, sponsoring scholarships, lobbying for human rights of our oppressed Lithuania - the relatives and friends that are subjugated there. We love our Lithuanian heritage; but, we also have allegiance and devotion to America.

This VYTIS publication which is sent to you has featured articles that give you knowledge of Lithuania's past, present and future. It is one of the best vehicles that we have of communication amongst ourselves, since we are so diversified and spread across a large continent. The articles are well written, informative, very timely and caters to our needs by teaching us in many ways about our Lithuanian history, language and current events.

So, it is one of our most important duties to perpetuate ourselves find those willing to help carry on, teach the youth, but most of all, enjoy the camaraderie of the members and activities both spiritual and social.

Keep in mind that our ongoing Drive throughout the year has a deadline of June 30th! To help the financial secretary, Ann Cheplick, get your enrollments in as fast as you can, even a week before she has a tremendous job of compiling records before the convention.

Help me to have a big announcement during the convention who the winners are for most individual and council enrollments. Spark that interest! Invite persons to come down to a meeting, treat them royally and get them to go all the way and sign on the dotted line. Be sure that you check their qualifications beforehand, so there would be no embarrassing rejection later. Who can be an active member? Lithuanians, American Lithuanians, part Lithuanians, married to a Lithuanian of Catholic extraction. Subscriber members can be those of any other ethnic origin; but love to be a part of, love to help or be involved with furthering the Lithuanian cause.

The following are good reasons why you should become a

Knight:

TO BECOME A BETTER CATHOLIC: Firm up our faith through the knowledge and belief of God's revealed truths along with a strong conviction from good Catholic reading, sermons and meditation. Strengthen hope from confidence and trust in God and his mercy. Develop ardent charity from the practice of faith which develops the love of God and love of neighbor and we in turn do good works of mercy.

TO BECOME A BETTER AMERICAN: Take an interest in Federal, State and local government. Vote - in all elections. Be concerned for your community and your neighbors.

TO BECOME A BETTER LITHUANIAN: To show love of Lithuania, learn more about the land of your ancestors. To love the Lithuanian language, learn of the origin, history and beauty of its sound. To love Lithuanian traditions, learn about the folk songs, dances, foods and religious observances. To love other Lithuanians through the K of L, you will meet many Lithuanians and develop strong, solid and lasting friendships.

I have had printed a brochure/flyer which you can give out to stimulate more interest. Write to me if you need a supply now. You may also pick these up at the convention.

Good luck to all of you! I'd like your name or your council mentioned as a winner. Let's get some new faces up there, for a change.

Get Involved - Join the Knights of Lithuania. Esi kviečiamas isijungti į Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos eilės!

ELIMINATE USSR ON LETTERS

Relatives and friends coming to the United States have requested that when addressing letters to Lithuania, do not write LITHUANIA USSR but only LITHUANIA. Letters so addressed have reached the addressee. It is necessary to familiarize the US post office that Lithuania is not part of the USSR.

DID YOU KNOW1

The Lithuanian people were presumed to have migrated from Asia and settled on the Southeastern shores of the Baltic Sea. Historians believe that the Lithuanians and Greeks are descended from the same early Aryan race. These Aryans formerly lived near the shores of the Caspian Sea.



HAVE YOU WRITTEN YOUR LETTERS?

D'Amato at the Border: Legitimate Trip or Grandstanding?

I was amazed that you accused Sen. Alfonse D'Amato of conducting a publicity stunt in his effort to visit Lithuania at the invitation of its elected president, Vytautas Landsbergis ["D'Amato's Lithuania Ploy: Cynical Grandstanding," April 10]. Since when is standing up for the rights of people to govern themselves and responding to a direct appeal from the new Lithuanian democracy political posturing?

More pertinently, your editorial writers are evidently ignorant of D'Amato's long involvement and interest in the struggle for freedom in the Baltic states as well as other captive nations. As the past chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Helsinki Commission, D'Amato was in the forefront, challenging the illegal Soviet claims to the Baltic nations initiated by the Hitler-Stalin pact. He was a supporter of Lithuanian independence long before the press started paying attention to the issue, and will remain one long after it loses interest. Your editorial, by suggesting that D'Amato is a Johnny-come-lately to the issue, is factually incorrect.

Two hundred years ago, this nation reached out to the world community and asked for support for its struggle for independence. Fortunately, that call was answered. We only hope that, as



D'Amato

Lithuanians struggle against great odds for those same freedoms, men like D'Amato will continue to take action for freedom, instead of simply paying lip service to the concept of democracy.

C.K. Bobelis
Washington, D.C.

Editor's Note: The writer is chairman of the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania.

DAILY NEWS, Sunday, April 1, 1990

LETTERS VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Lithuania calling

Brooklyn: If it's okay to right wrongs in South Africa and help Israel, what about Lithuania? World leaders and politicians should help her regain her freedom after 50 years of being illegally taken over. All I hear is a deafening silence. Why?

Robert Jones

Imagine Living in Lithuania

Thank you for the sympathetic and supportive "Lithuanian David" and "Hands Off the Baltics" from Rowland Evans and Robert Novak [editorial and op-ed, March 21], both of which describe the efforts of Lithuania, an unarmed nation of 3.7 million people seeking independence from the Soviet Goliath.

Can you imagine living where you could not fly your flag or sing your national anthem; where the church of your patron saint was turned into a museum to atheism and where other centuries-old churches were used as warehouses for oil drums and dirty equipment; where "Kill the Lithuanians" is scrawled in Russian on the side of a church; where 80 percent of your crops go to your oppressor; where you have not seen laundry soap in the stores for over two years; where "we eat what we can get"; where you speak freely but

carefully only on the streets because the walls and telephones have "ears"; where a gift of American aspirin, coffee or Band-Aids is treasured; where everybody has family or friends who have suffered through Siberian exile; where the most prominent features of the park in which your children play are a statue of Lenin and a Soviet tank? I weep on arriving and I weep on departing, knowing that this would be my life today if my grandparents had not emigrated.

Do we ignore the neighborhood bully as long as he's not in our neighborhood, or do we try to save the Lithuanians just as we try to save the whales and the rain forests? Surely Lithuania deserves to be on the endangered-species list too.

The courage and determination of my countrymen make me proud to be a Lithuanian.

KAY A. YANKOSKI
Alexandria

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

You wimps!

Manhattan: Re your editorial "Bush plays it cool on Lithuania," supporting the administration's policy of patient noninterference as "the best way the U.S. can help Lithuania gain the freedom it seeks": What future can there be for reform in the Soviet Union if that union itself is based on unjust and brutal incorporation? I am astonished that the Daily News chose to support a discredited totalitarian structure rather than a newly resurgent democracy. American recognition of an independent Lithuania would signify a recognition of justice.

Lilia Poskus

OPINIONS OF THE MEDIA

JIM MORIN'S VIEW

Jim Morin The Miami Herald



EYEBALL-TO-EYEBALL

NEWSDAY, FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1990



CARTOON VIEW

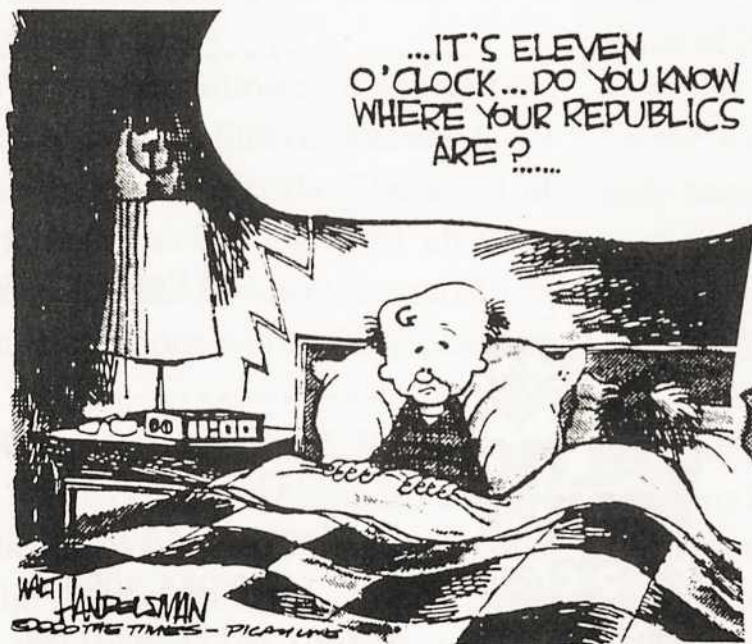
Summers The Orlando Sentinel



Summers, The Orlando Sentinel



Newsday / Bernie Cootner



Walt Anderson The Times - Picayune

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, 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 & 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, 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

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

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

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

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

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)

Council Activities

Vyčiai Veikia

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

The often heard phrase, "It is always nice to visit Newark" came true on March 11 when C-29 hosted the District Communion Breakfast and meeting.

The Mass was especially moving. It was concelebrated by the administrator of Holy Trinity parish, Rev. Peter Stravinskas and two seminarians, Nicholas Gregoris and Daniel Strudwich. In his sermon, Father dwelled on St. Peter's phrase from the gospel: "Lord, it is good for us to be here" and that "Our will should be God's will." The entire Mass except the homily was held in Lithuanian. The following gifts symbolizing St. Casimir's life were presented: a crown - royalty; crown of thorns - suffering; lily - purity; cross - loyalty.

After Mass, a large representation of 10 councils gathered in the hall where we, once again, enjoyed a most delicious brunch. Sister Igne Marijošiūtė from Putnam, CT was the guest speaker. Brimming with energy, Sister explained her work printing religious text books for the children in Lithuania. It is amazing how much one person can accomplish. She incited everyone to such enthusiasm that over \$700 was collected for her work.

The meeting followed with welcomes from Father Stravinskas and C-29 president Kazys Sipaila. The spirit of the meeting and thoughts of all were back in Lithuania where the most important elections were taking place on that day.

Ritual chairmen, Joe & Jovita Sleder and Rita Sussko presented 3rd degrees to the following: C-29 - Marie Guoba, Nellie Krynicki; C-100 - Gerard Drenzek; C-110 Walter Klosis, Julia Matule-

wich; C-152 - Anne Tarmey.

Two hundred copies of a letter prepared by Rev. Anderlonis addressed to Pres. Bush were distributed for members' signatures and mailing. A motion was made and seconded that the district make a donation to Nijole Sadunaite. A letter was to be sent to the newly elected president of Lithuania, Vytautas Landsbergis. C-29 invited all to their 75th birthday which will be celebrated on Oct. 14, 1990.

Sveikiname pirminiku Kazys Šipaila and the hard working committee for the nice day enjoyed in Newark. Also, a special thanks to talented Marge & Walter Brazaitis who created the beautiful napkin rings and name plates. What a labor of love!

Let's end with a phrase of Fr. Peter's regarding the Peter Pence's collection made that day: "Let's hope that this money will be used to finance our Holy Father's trip to Lithuania!" Amen to that.....

Dalia Bulvičius

C-154 SPRING HILL, FL

Hello Everyone! We are the newly organized K of L council in Spring Hill, FL as of March 1, 1990. We are located about 50 miles north of St. Petersburg on the west coast. We have presently only enrolled 14 members but do hope to get many more to join. In fact, we have a large group of Lithuanians living in this area who are very interested in their heritage and the K of L organization can assist them in knowing more about its motto - For God and Country. If anyone in this area is interested in joining, please contact George or Helen Mayer, 6523 Clearwater Drive, Spring

Hill, FL 34606. Telephone: (904) 686-1836. We are anxious to meet the members of other councils in Florida and possibly some day have one big get together of Lithuanians residing in this State which is a great possibility. Until next time.

C-10 ATHOL-GARDNER, MA

Our council recently sponsored a Mass and Lenten Benediction for the intentions of Lithuania that was attended by several hundred persons. Pastor and advisor, Rev. Jos. Jurgelonis, gave two excellent homilies on the occasion.

Bill & Bronė Wisniauskas entertained two cousins, Irena Sulcius, from Kaunas and Rimas Zabulionis from Panevežis for 33 days. The Gardner News carried a lengthy interview.

Our condolences are sent out to Joanna Chastnez on the recent death of her father, Frank Rimsa, age 99.

At our April 25 meeting the Athol girls treated us to a traditional Easter brunch. Brone Wisniauskas was in charge of the Lithuanian Easter games. Helen Simkunas won first prize for the nicest margutis and Paula Shatos took second place with her margutis. Brone won the egg rolling contest.

Get well wishes are sent to Frank Anoris now residing at the Quabin Valley Convalescent Home in Athol and to Lennie Davidonis who recently spent some time at St. Vincent's in Worcester.

We are wondering why Doc Gailunas spends so much time in South Boston? Sophie Fiorentino returned from an extended trip to California.

It's great to see the Lithuanian tricolors at the home of Howie Beaudette off Route 2 in Gardner.

Vincukas

C-12 NEW YORK, NY

We would like to thank all of you for the letters and phone calls of sympathy



Jovita Sleder, Jos. Thomas, Kazys Čiurlys and Emily Kasmin on recent Caribbean Cruise.

on the departure of my dear Siamese Aida who on April 3 at age 16 went to that "happy kennel" in the sky. She rests on the grounds of the Lithuanian Cultural Center in Brooklyn.

Our dear financial secretary finally "rejoined" us this spring. Welcome back Connie Siatsis ir linkim tau "Sveiku" 1990. Our dear member and widow of Peter Zupko, Alice, met a life-companion and this spring they became man and wife. Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. George Haskins.

February and March were busy ones for C-12. Mass was offered for our freedom fighters by visiting C-41 Brooklyn Daniel Staniskis. We all enjoyed this Lithuanian Mass. As we all sang a resounding "Lietuva, Tėvyne Mūsų" a procession of Lithuania's tricolors approached the altar. We felt as one with struggling Lithuania and prayed for the approaching elections to be held in the near future. After Mass, all in attendance saw a video tape of recent events in our homeland in which the constant cry of "Lietuva, Lithuania!" was echoed. A special thanks to our

hard-working president, Ed Burba Cook, who very often lugs his VCR over 100 miles so we can enjoy these tapes. A highlight of the commemoration was HM Joseph Boley's rendition of Bernardas Brazdžionis poem, "Aš čia gyva."

In March we had our annual St. Casimir's Communion breakfast. A Mass for the deceased members of C-12 was held. Due to technical difficulties, a VCR showing had to be cancelled. But



Mr. & Mrs. George Haskins, former Alice Zupko of C-112 Manhattan

Lithuanian ingenuity prevailed when Dr. Jack Stukas spoke about the recent events in Lithuania. Sr. Theresa Tamgney was introduced by Pres. Cook. Sr. works as a chaplain at the Development Rehabilitation Service's Office. At her office, she discovered one of the patients, a Lithuanian, Rimgaudas Biliūnas whom she introduced to the audience. The festivities ended with Vida Kristolaitis reading a poem "Kunigaikščio Žirgas" and a special prayer for Lithuania.

So as you see, the Lithuanian spirit goes on at C-12 in Manhattan, due mostly to its great president, Ed Burba Cook.

Dalia Bulvicius

C-19 PITTSBURGH, PA

On March 24, a busload of fellow Lithuanians participated in a Freedom Rally held at Lincoln Memorial Plaza in Washington. Following C-19 Knights attended: Rev. W. Karaveckas, Mary & Vincent Tamy, Bertha Kuzma, Agatha Bender, Marge Turner, John Baltrus, Andy Rozger, Bill Kolicius, Eleanor Lewicki and Eleanor Alelunas. Although the weather turned bitterly cold this, the event was a moving and colorful one. After some stirring speeches, all participants formed a circle around the reflection pond of the memorial. The beautiful bright flags of yellow, green and red were a dramatic sight. We all joined in the singing of the Lithuanian national anthem, Marija Marija and America the Beautiful.

Again on April 4, Pittsburgh Lithuanians attended a Freedom for Lithuania Rally in Washington. This demonstration was well attended with bus loads from as far as St. Petersburg, FL, Chicago and other distant points. This protest rally was specifically centered around the White House gates and picketing of the Russian Embassy. We are proud of all who enthusiastically participated in this demonstration.

On April 7 we were happy to host members of the Supreme Council at the Lithuanian Citizens Society Hall, South Side, Pittsburgh. Members and guests attended an evening Mass at St. Casimir's Church. After Mass, everyone enjoyed a hearty dinner returning to the hall.

With the help of the Supreme Council, all C-19 members are working hard toward making the upcoming convention on July 26-29 a huge success.

Mary H. Tamy

C-26 WORCESTER, MA

After a long cold winter, vacation is on everyone's mind right about now. What better place to vacation than in Pittsburgh for the National Convention with a stop over in Bridgeport for the New England District Convention.

With April, came National Secretary's Week. A salute to our very own council secretary, Aldona Wawska, for the fine job she does.

Our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Petrauskas MIC was celebrant at the Mass held on April 10 for Lithuania's intention. Our huge St. Casimir's Church was three-quarters filled on that week night. Bill & Anna Leseman very kindly absorbed the cost for the "coffee and" served to all present. Joe & Antoinette Ivaska can tell you all the things to do and see in Florida. They toured nearly the entire state recently and have pictures to show and tales to tell.

After the death of both her husband and daughter, Vera Scarbeau plunged into college studies and is presently teaching in the Worcester School System. We are proud to congratulate her on earning a great big "A" in Western Civilization recently from Harvard University.

Virginia Walent is a silent worker; you'd hardly know she is there. However, she's one of our members who joins a committee very willingly. We

are glad to have her.

Fr. Alphonse Volungis is pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church here in Worcester. He was associate pastor at our church for many years. Plans are being finalized by his parishioners for a testimonial to Father in May. We join Father's parish in extending our very best and kindest wishes for this wonderful occasion. Our former pastor of 15 years, Rev. Anthony Miciunas MIC now pastor of St. Peter's Church in Kenosha, WI will note 50 golden years in the holy priesthood. Our very best wishes on this beautiful occasion to Fr. Miciunas.

Perhaps Mildred & Charles Lapinskas did not strike it rich on their recent trip to Nevada, but they sure had a great time. Our president and her husband, Rita & Ted Pinkus, spent Easter with their children in Philadelphia.

Anne Bucinskas does a great job with her sunshine position in sending greetings to our sick members. We actually cheered when she won the attendance prize at our last meeting.

That's all folks, see you later.

OLGA

C-52 ELIZABETH, NJ

Archbishop McCarrick wrote in the "Catholic Advocate" under date of March 28, the following: "Here in the Archdiocese of Newark, which has been blessed with the presence of so many men and women from that heroic land, we pray for our sisters and brothers in free republics of Lithuania and we stand with them at this crucial time. May the fire of freedom never be quenched again in Lithuania even for a moment. We have seen heroism. May it be crowned with liberty."

In the same newspaper on March 25, the following was quoted: "Parishioners of Sts. Peter and Paul Lithuanian Parish, Elizabeth are petitioning President George Bush to have the United States recognize Lithuania as an inde-

pendent nation."

On March 27, C-52 members and parishioners traveled by bus to Washington to demonstrate and march in support of the new government of Lithuania and to encourage other nations to recognize Lithuania's government.

William Senkus

C-63 LEHIGH VALLEY, PA

C-63 mourns the loss of Mary Sockel, widow of our council's founder, Anthony Sockel. Mary died on April 3 in her home after two hospitalizations. She was an extremely active lady of 82 who spent the last 10 years doing hospital volunteer work and as past president of the Prime Time Club at her parish church of St. Thomas More in Salisbury Township. Mary will be fondly remembered for her total support of her husband when founding our council in 1982. She gave not only of herself but financially as well. She last served as recording secretary in 1989. We bid her goodbye with a K of L Christian Wake Ritual. Our condolences to her daughter and other family members.

The council meeting on April 22 was well attended. Everyone was fired up with Lithuania's March 11 declaration of independence. Locally, members appeared on television and participated in radio interviews. Numerous letters were written to the politicians and newspapers. Most notable contributors were Joseph Simmons and Al Klizas. Our fervor will not diminish.

Agnes Gackenbush, a sporadic visitor to our council and of the Episcopalian faith, is an avid Lithuanian. American-born and with little knowledge of the language, she decided to be tutored by Prof. Schmalsteig at Penn State University. She was so grateful to the professor that she offered him an Easter gift which he accepted with the provision that it be given to the Knights in both his name and Agnes. Thank you

Professor Schmalsteig and Agnes for your gift of \$110.

Council began preparations for participating in Bethlehem's Christmas City Fair on July 13-15. As for the past seven years, we will again operate our potato pancake stand and also sell sausage sandwiches. Betty Carey is again chairlady who did an outstanding job last year. While we saw some visitors from other councils last year, we are looking forward to see many more this year. Please visit us if you can and you will partake of the tastiest blynai in the Lehigh Valley.

Violet Price is still recuperating at home and we are looking forward to her complete recovery. Violet led the program of Lithuanian flag-raising in Center Square, Easton, until her illness. Get well soon; we need and miss you.

Joseph F. Ogint

C-72 BINGHAMTON, NY

About 40 residents of Lithuanian decent attended our Feb. 16 celebration at Binghamton City Hall. Mayor Crabb issued a proclamation for Lithuanian Independence Day. The tri-colors of Lithuania flew over the city for the day. As the flag was raised, the group sang Lietuvos Himnas. The festivities concluded with a light lunch at St. Joseph's Cultural Center.

Algis Geniusas spoke to our group on April 19. He was visiting Binghamton from Vilnius. Over 50 people attentively listened as he spoke in English about his life and the situation in his homeland. He is an English professor at the Academy of Sciences in Vilnius. He will continue to travel and speak in the United States. We were honored by his presence.

On May 6 the Two Rivers Ethnic Festival was held at the Broome County Arena in downtown Binghamton. It was a full day of celebration with entertainment by the Brigham Young University



Elena Muliolytė Greene playing a selection on the kankles in Binghamton, C-72, during Christmas season.

Dancers as well as local song and dance groups. Many European, Asian, African and American organizations set up exhibits with cultural displays. Ethnic foods were also available. Our K of L council sold potato pancakes and kugelis. St. Joseph Church members provided home-baked goods. Elena Muliolytė Greene played the kankles.

A hearty welcome goes out to the Amber District as C-72 is proud to host the June 10 meeting. At 10:30 a.m. coffee and pastries will be available for early arrivals. Holy Mass will be celebrated at Noon at St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church. Following Mass, a dinner and district meeting will take place in the Social and Cultural Center. All areas have handicapped access. Join us for the occasion.

Congratulations to our members, Anna Franzenburg, John Guokas and Barbara Miller who were inducted into the First Degree. Welcome to our new members, Harry & Mary Ann Pakel. Barbara Miller is our new council's Vytis correspondent. Welcome, Barbara!

C-74 SCRANTON, PA

Our council welcomed Leona Bozenka who moved here recently from New Jersey. We hope that she will be as good a worker as her sister Mary Costello. Welcome Lee.

Joan Noreika recently returned from St. Augustine, FL after visiting with her son. Marie & Dick Laske and Ann Lisowski spent two weeks in Florida visiting Disney, Epcot and Sea World. They stopped at Elkton, FL and visited Marie's brother and his wife, Joseph & Dorothy Sar-

nauskas who are also fellow Knights.

On the sick list and on the road to recovery are Ann Matulevich and Joseph Saibitus.

Everhart Museum had an interesting display of amber and life of a coal miner and also life in an orphanage as a child by Lithuanian artist Steven Kilbert from Chicago.

Rev. Casimir Pugevicius from Brooklyn came to Scranton to make an appeal for Lithuanian Religious Aid. He served Mass at St. Joseph's in Scranton. Peg & Ed Romanauskas and Marie & Dick Laske accompanied him to Duryea for the 6:30 Mass at St. Joseph's. After Mass, they enjoyed dinner at Castle Restaurant. Fr. Casimir was very informative about Lithuania. He spoke of how valuable a printing press would be in Lithuania in order that religious books could be printed.

Marie Laske

C-79 SOUTHFIELD, MI

Our council had a productive meeting April 4. Many decisions were finalized concerning the hosting of the Mid-

Central District Pilgrimage on Sept. 28-30.

Lithuanian Affairs Chairlady Helen Santorum led a discussion regarding the on-going political events taking place in Lithuania.

During the past months a number of our members were subjected to major surgeries. Among them were Mary Keller, Anthony Repshas and Anne Valatka. Helen Patocki and her niece, Dorothe Martin, our Florida member, are also on the sick list. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

On Feb. 23 a future K of L member was born to Cynthia & Chester Ostrowski. Kaitlin Elizabeth is her name.

Our guest Sylvia Jarosz, introduced by Pres. Maggie Smailis, decided at the meeting's end to join our council. We enthusiastically welcomed her.

On April 21 Frank & Emma Povilaitis renewed their 50th anniversary marriage vows. After Mass, approximately 100 friends assembled at the Cultural Center to congratulate and wish them many more years of happiness. Vida Gogelis, daughter of Estelle & Kazys, was married on May 19 to Linus Orantas. Congratulations and best wishes to both of you.

The Pilgrimage is not the only fall project on our agenda. On Sept. 19 we will again be co-hosting with Chapter 54 of the Women's Alliance our annual luncheon and card party. Also, Nov. 4 is the date set for our annual Fall Festival which requires the help of many. Please do not refuse when asked to participate. We are all requested to record these dates on our calendars and contribute with service or attendance. After all, the planning committees spend many hours preparing the events. Let us show them we appreciate their efforts. *Bee Jay*

C-96 DAYTON, OH

Our K of L member, Cecelia Yankus passed to eternity on Feb. 27, 1990. It



The late Cecelia Yankus, C-96

has been said, "He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love."

This best described Cecelia. Because of her sweetness and kindness, she had many friends. Never did she have an unkind word for anyone. She always found good in all things and everyone she met. She was proud of her Lithuanian heritage and worked diligently at promoting and preserving the Lithuanian culture. And she loved her music, oh so talented, always ready to provide us with many hours of entertainment and now beautiful memories. She would have been so pleased to have heard Elinor Sluzas and Anna Marie Sluzas Berger sing, "How Great Thou Art" and "Sveika Maria." Cecelia had a deep faith in God. Our consolation is that Cecelia is now at peace and resting with Our Lord. *Judy Petrokas*

C-102 DETROIT, MI

The Feb. meeting, due to the fire at St. Anthony's Church, was held at the beautiful antique-furnished home of Lori & Merri Hofner. It brought back many memories of our grandparents homes. After the meeting, the Hofners served a complete luncheon.

Our St. Casimir Day Mass and celebration was a disappointment. It was cancelled by C-139 for unknown reasons. Our April meeting was held with

Mass at the newly refurbished St. Anthony's. After the fire, Fr. Babonis has recovered nicely but still faces surgery on his third degree burned hand. However, he is holding Mass and performing his religious duties.

Pres. Gus Baibak and the Guerrieros visited with the Bunikis and Medonis in Florida. They attended Mass at St. Theresa's Church in Sunny Hills on March 11. It was announced that Lithuania won the election for their freedom on that day. The parishioners were elated and applauded the announcement, stood and sang the Lithuanian anthem. What a moving moment only to be disappointed with the uproar that Russia is causing. Books that Pres. Baibak found in his cousin's home in Northern Michigan were to be sent to Lithuania but are now put on hold until we are certain they will get to the right people. A few of our members are also debating their trips to Lithuania that they are planning. Bill & Edna Klucens also enjoyed a trip to Florida.

New addition to member families are the Hofners with a new grandson; Ruth Wagster and Donna Pluto welcomed daughter-in-laws with the marriage of their sons. Get well wishes go to Eva Aukstakalnas-Stark who broke her leg and is hopping along great on a cast for eight weeks.

We are all looking forward to the Bowling Tournament in Dayton and the National Convention in Pittsburgh. See you all there!

Meriutė

C-109 GREAT NECK, NY

The bells of Lithuania are ringing their independence but we continue to pray for the welfare of our people. We're not quite ready to bring out the champagne and celebrate, but we're thinking good thoughts and hope for the very best.

We mourn the loss of a true K of L

friend, our loyal member, Isabelle Boza who, after a painful illness, died on Feb. 25. She truly loved our organization, spoke Lithuanian at every opportunity, made several trips to Lithuania and planned more, and was proud of her collection of Baltic amber and Lithuanian linens. We hope that those who will inherit her treasures will love and cherish them as she did. Remember her in your prayers.

Our St. Casimir's Day commemoration was a complete success. Mass at St. Aloysius Church and lunch at Lauraine Murphy's Restaurant were both well attended. Publicized speaker for the day was to be Romas Kezys, Director of the Lithuanian Radio Hour in Queens, NY; however, we were advised he was on his way to Lithuania (where he was privileged to witness their declaration of independence passed by its legislature). We were delighted that Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, Director of the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid in Brooklyn, NY agreed to speak in his stead. A brief history of Lithuania, and up-to-date commentary on the changes now taking place there, made for an interesting talk. We were elated with the attendance, and do thank all who came to share with one another our beautiful heritage on this particular blessed day. We look forward to more of the same next year.

To keep our members from scattering so soon after monthly meetings, our Social Committee arranged for a pasta dinner, with all the trimmings, donated by members, following our April meeting. Everyone enjoyed the repast, and lingered for quite some time. We will do it again. While it entails more work, it gives members time to meet, chat and enjoy the day in K of L friendship.

A few of our members have been vacationing. Mary & George Blecka spent over a month in Boynton Beach, Marco Island, Fl and the never-to-be-missed Disneyworld. Mary & Anthony

Kober were also in Florida, having attended the Lithuanian Independence Day celebration on Feb. 11, hosted by Victoria Jacobson, in St. Petersburg. Bertha Saltanis received a birthday present most of us would wish for - a vacation in Puerto Plata, in the Dominican Republic, which she spent with her son and family. Irene Vilgalys has now completely recovered, her broken leg mended, an accident which occurred while skiing with her husband, Jonas, in the French Alps. John & Eileen Blika became grandparents for the first time on the birth of their beloved Stephanie. Bertha & Howard Fuchs brought their two dachshunds to All Saints Episcopal Church, where all animals walked down a plastic-covered carpet to the main altar and were individually blessed. Among the many varieties of animals (birds, snakes, etc.), Oleg Cassini, famous dress designer and now professional harness racer, brought his small horse. We're certain St. Francis was smiling that day!

Anele & Petras Povilaitis will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 30. Both grew up in Lithuania but soon after their marriage, Anele was forcibly taken away from their home and never saw it again. After much hardship and with great difficulty, she was finally reunited with her husband here in the States about 12 years ago. We wish them both much good health and happiness together, which they so richly deserve. Sveikinamè!

We welcome new members to our Council, Vanda & Vytautas Vebeliunas of Lattington, LI. They are very well known in Lithuanian circles; he is the director of Litas Investment Co. in Richmond Hill, NY.

We extend good wishes for a happy retirement to Rev. Joseph E. Dunn, now Pastor Emeritus of St. Aloysius Church. Father has been most supportive of our

K of L organization and we wish him an abundance of God's choicest blessings. Ad Multos Annos!

Though not a member of our council, we send sincere condolences to the family of HM Anthony Mazeika, formerly of Brooklyn, NY and then past president of C-147 St. Petersburg, FL who passed away in March. Some of the stalwarts we are now losing can truly be called the patriots (and nucleus) of our K of L organization. We are saddened by his death. There are fond memories of Antanas; we especially admired his exuberance, enthusiasm and sincerity at all National Conventions. May he rest in eternal peace.

Much success to Pittsburgh, PA C-19, hosts to the upcoming National Convention. We understand Pittsburgh has become a beautiful city. We are looking forward to join with other fellow Knights in making plans for the future betterment of our organization and partaking of all the interesting social activities, as well. Savas pas sava! Good luck with this tremendous undertaking.

We were surprised to read excerpts of our Great neck Council News article, translated in Lithuanian, in the Chicago "Draugas" newspaper. (How did it get there?)

Happy Father's Day to all our husbands and "dad's". We love you all!

Jo Z.

C-110 MASPETH, NY

We, of this Council, now know that the Soviet Union failed in their ultimate plan to destroy the Lithuanian culture and extinguish flames of independence burning within their hearts. Let's not underestimate the gravity of the Lithuanian problems. So far, the signs are not positive. We all know that the Russian Communist System does not work.

On March 11, 40 members attended the Mid-Atlantic District mini-conven-

tion hosted by C-29 Newark. Our March and April meetings were held after the 11 a.m. Mass at Transfiguration with brunch in the church hall. The council officially declared Spring by its annual Spring Dinner and Dance held on April 22. This dance was in conflict with the Mass held at St. Patrick's Cathedral on that same day. At the demonstration before the Soviet Union United Nations, Sen. Alfonse D'Amato spoke on the economic warfare against Lithuania by Soviet Union. Thereafter, the unit marched to St. Patrick's Cathedral for a special Mass held for Lithuania. In spite of the celebrations going on in New York City, our dinner dance proceeded as planned and was attended by 220 members and friends of C-110. Needless to say, this affair was a tremendous success and was due to the following who gave of themselves and their time: Peter Zuyus and son Anthony, John & Amy Girdauskas, Sophie & Roman Wenesk, William & Zina Budris, John Virbooks, Jimmy Greiner, Ed & Fran Jakatt, Anna Kokosha and John & Sophie Waluk.

Joseph C. Dugan

C-136 HUDSON-MOHAWK, NY

It was a beautiful day on April 22. There was a bus load of members from Amsterdam, Albany and Schenectady with the destination of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. We participated in the special Mass offered for Lithuania with the principal celebrant, Most Rev. Antanas Vaicus, Bishop of Telšiai, Lithuania. Cardinal O'Connor was unable to be present because of a previous commitment

Some of our group participated in the parade that preceded Mass and originated at the Soviet Embassy which then marched down Fifth Ave. to St. Patrick's. Many carried the Lithuanian colors and placards asking for Lithuania's freedom. Some women



C-136 Members (l to r) Virginia Barkowski, Betty Parker, Tiny Jackson, Ruth Zukas, Joan Parker & Lillian Zukas proudly display T-shirts worn to the New York City demonstration on April 22.

wore the national dress. It was a beautiful sight to see.

The huge cathedral was packed full of people. When we joined in singing "Pulkim ant Kelių", I looked about and felt great pride and much hope for our Lithuania. I felt we were united with them in spirit and that God was surely listening to our prayers.

At our next meeting we will plan for our booth at the Festival of Nations sponsored annually by our local museum. We will be selling food, cold drinks, artifacts and our T-shirts. Speaking of T-shirts, most of us attending Mass in N.Y.C. wore our T-shirts and received many favorable comments.

Dorothy Richmire

C-142 WASHINGTON, DC

C-142 mourns the loss of our spiritual advisor, Rev. Tomas Ziuraitis who died on Easter Sunday. Eternal rest grant



The late Rev. Tomas Ziuraitis, O.P.

unto him!

C-147 ST. PETERSBURG, FL

Our council mourns the loss of HM Anthony Mazeika who died on March 19 after a long illness. After arriving in St. Petersburg in 1978, he organized C-147 and served as president until his health began to fail. He was born in 1906 in Brooklyn and brought to Lithuania at the age of two. His education in Lithuania was interrupted by the war. He finally finished high school in 1925 after which he returned to the U.S. He went to night school to learn English. In 1926 he enrolled in Columbia University and studied there until 1929 working at various jobs. In 1932 he received a civil engineer's degree from New York University. He was employed by the federal government in the U.S. Army flood control division in Pittsburgh and later transferred to New York in 1952. He married Susana Unger, an active K of L'er, rearing four children. He was active in LRK Federation, Altas and Balfas. He also served on the Darius and Girenas committee and later on the Vaitkus trans-Atlantic flight to Lithu-

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ania. Because of his numerous activities, he was awarded an honorary membership in 1947 from the K of L and for many years served on the Honorary Membership Committee. A funeral Mass was held at Holy Name of Jesus Church after which many of his friends and acquaintances went to the cemetery to show their appreciation for all his good works for "God and Country".

We of St. Petersburg Council extend our sympathies to his wife Susana and family. Anthony, may you rest in peace.

Alena Vilnis

C-150 KANSAS CITY, KS

A three-hour ethnic extravaganza was presented on April 1 in Kansas City with eight ethnic groups exhibiting songs and dances of their cultures. Kansas

City's Aidas Dancers presented a program of five dances: Noriū Miega, Malūnas, Sūntė Manė Motinėlė, Vakaruškas and Klumpakojis. This group is always well received being in demand for programs in the metropolitan area and out of the city as well. Knights who are members of the Aidas Dancers include Donna Ashley, Edith & Lou Ann Rayn, Christine, Marian & Peter Koia, Dolores, Jeanne & Paul Purduski, and Anita, Bill & Carolyn Strumillo. Anita is also the dance director.

A booth in the theatre lobby recently displayed Lithuanian items and foods for sale as well as Easter baskets and hand-outs pleading for support for the efforts toward independence for Lithuania.

Margarita & Kazys Zemaitis, Dick Horvatic, Judith Martin and Bill & Anita

Strumillo are representatives on the Kansas Ethnic Council. Proclamations were presented by the City of Kansas City proclaiming April 1 as Ethnic Cultural Awareness Day. The Board of County Commissioners of Wyandotte County also proclaimed April 1 as Ethnic Council Showcase Day.

The Kansas City Chapter of Bendroumenė in conjunction with the LOA and members of the Knights participated in a Miss Lithuania contest last fall to select a representative for the greater Kansas City Miss Ethnic contest. Each girl that entered presented herself very well. Mary Kelly exhibited the best knowledge of Lithuanian and was declared winner receiving a check for \$100 and a bouquet of red roses.

Marian Koia provided background music at the Miss Ethnic Kansas City contest.
Lou Ann Rayn



Minersville Area Juniors who participated in the Ethnic Costume Show at Eastern European Heritage Festival at Fairlane Mall under the sponsorship of Anthracite C-144.



"This one is our Ivy League model. It has a belt in the back."