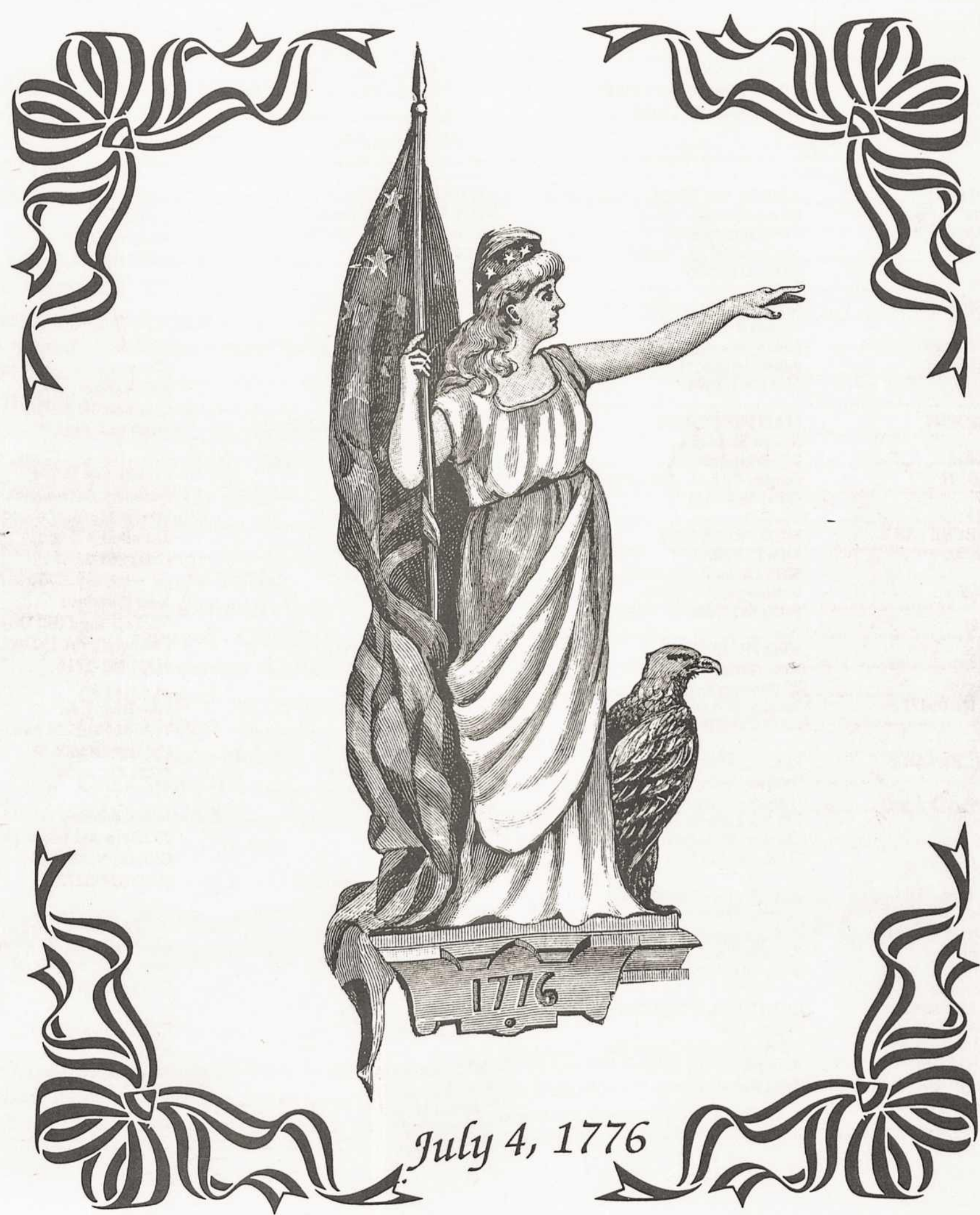
 **V V Y T I S** 1991

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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VYTIS

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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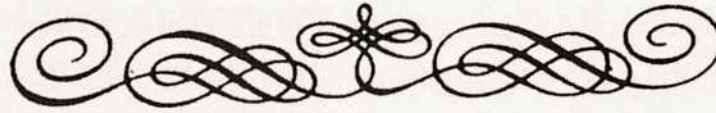
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Table of Contents - Turinys



Redeeming an Ancient Identity - <i>Cherie Lebrun</i>	2
Lithuanian Traditions - <i>Rugiapūtė</i>	4
Landsbergis welcomes U.S. Investors - <i>Albert Cizauskas</i>	5
Help Soviets - Demand Reform	6
Brother Juniper	6
CSE Nominates Baltic Peoples for Nobel Peace Prize	7
A Bit of Lithuania in Pennsylvania - <i>Anna Klizas Wargo</i>	7
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin	7
The Lithuanian Music Festival - <i>Stella Matulonis</i>	8
Second Chance - <i>Mary Romano</i>	9
Knights of Lithuania 78th National Convention - Tentative Schedule	10
Special Airfares for K of L Convention	11
Vaikiai iš Amerikos Viešbučio	11
In Memoriam	11
Lithuanians in the News	12
Celebrates his Golden Anniversary	13
Fly Our Flag	14
Tid Bits	15
The World of Sports - <i>Dr. Antanas Skučas</i>	16
Lithuanian Kitchen - <i>Lietuviška Virtuvė</i>	17
Lithuanian Dictionary - <i>Žodynas</i>	18
The Song of the Trees	19
KASA	20
Council News - <i>Vyčiai Veikia</i> :	
Mid-Central District - C-19 Pittsburgh	21
C-27 Norwood - C-36 Chicago	22
C-100 Amsterdam - C-109 Great Neck	23
C-110 Maspeth	25
C-112 Chicago	26
C-130 Hudson-Mohawk - C-140 Syracuse - C-142 Washington, DC	27
C-154 Spring Hill	28
There is but One Lithuania	Back Cover



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Redeeming an Ancient Identity

by Cherie Lebrun



Illustration by Tom Duckworth

I am only one descendent of the 1,500,000 Lithuanians who fled their homeland during the 20th century to save their culture. But during the past year I have come to feel the emotional and spiritual burden of that group. Perhaps that is why what follows is more an impassioned plea than a rational discussion of the issues.

Shortly before World War I, my grandparents "Ma" and "Pa" were smuggled on a ship to America after fleeing their "Land of Rain" (the meaning of Lithuania). Led by an underground guide, they travelled by foot, living in ditches and hiding in damp Lithuanian forests. After a few failed attempts, they successfully escaped the gunfire of the Russian border police and made their way to the Lithuanian port on the Baltic Sea. They arrived at Ellis Island possessing only the tattered clothes on their bodies, their painful memories and their deep faith in God. They settled in a Lithuanian refugee colony near St. Charles, IL.

Ma and Pa well represented the impoverished victims of the 19th century, especially its last two decades, when thousands of Lithuanian refugees, rebel leaders and patriots fled abroad. They also belonged to an age which marked the beginning of Lithuania's independence movement when their country continuously defied Russification. When my

grandparents were born, the Lithuanian newspaper, *Aušra* (Dawn), was secretly distributed. Patriots transported periodicals, almanacs and prayerbooks published at Tilsit by the Society of the Friends of Lithuania across the border, risking fines, prison and exile in Siberia. Hundreds of books were smuggled underground and read in secret. "Hurry, hide, the Russians are coming!" was a frequent expression.

Although their home was pillaged, their books burned and numerous Lithuanian uprisings suppressed, Lithuanians' desire for liberty only grew stronger. By the time Ma and Pa arrived in the United States, the Grand National Congress had met in the capital and demanded Home Rule for Lithuania in 1905.

Like many immigrants, my grandparents fled to America believing that the streets were paved with gold, but only finding long, bitter hours in factories unprotected by unions. Caught by the industrial cogs of capitalism and cheap labor, Pa worked long hours in a scorching iron factory. Neither Ma or Pa ever learned to speak English. Pa wrote an "X" for his signature.

The pneumonia Ma contracted on the cold freedom journey adversely affected her health for her remaining lifetime. Despite her fragile condition, she bore two daughters and two sons. Her elder daughter, Elana, was my mother. I was her youngest child, and it has been through our relationship and her enduring spirit that I have come to know myself as a Lithuanian. My mother, or "Honey" as she was known, died in 1982.

The 1990 Baltic crisis came at a time when I was both unemployed and on disability. Honey's spirit seemed to follow me everywhere, even in my dreams. Thoughts of Lithuania monopolized much of my time. I found myself collecting every news article, joining protest marches, being interviewed by Los Angeles' Channel 5, phoning and writing George Bush, congressmen and senators, handing out petitions, sending 200 impassioned articles to various publications, wondering if Ma and Pa originated from the old Žemaičiai or the Aukštaičiai tribes.

Enroute to my ancient roots, I seemed to be my only family member obsessed with Lithuania's independence. Since my Lithuanian relatives were far away in Illinois, I felt alone. My oldest brother mailed his signed independence petition back to me, but said, "Nobody cares about Lithuania."

So why should I care? Why was I so tormented by my ancestors' suffering? My deceased relatives and all the Baltic natives seemed imbedded deep in my subconscious. I wanted

to set them free, once and for all.

My mother's spirit seemed to guide me to St. Casimir's Catholic Church in Los Angeles. Named for Lithuania's patron saint, it was a meeting place of Western Christian and the ancient Indo-European cultures, a mother-center protecting hundreds of refugees, old and new. At St. Casimir's, I became more enamored with my roots and this ancient civilization's answer to what human life could be like when there is a more direct relationship between man and nature. I felt like I had entered a world of soul mates.

One of the founders cheerfully greeted me, took me into his office and loaded me up with an assortment of reading material.

The director of the folk dance group, "Spindulys" (Ray of the Sun), invited me to her home to page through volumes of photos. She inherited the group from her mother, Ona, who arrived in this country carrying only a cross, photos, prayer book and a dream book with her recorded dreams.

My visit with the weaver was almost like being with my mother again. With broken English, she repeated, "This is my job," as she measured me for my first Lithuanian costume. In her eyes, I could see a deep concern that this art form might one day disappear. She carries on a tradition that dates back to prehistoric times, symbolic patterns praising nature. She began weaving in Lithuania at 7-years-old and continued to weave secretly during the Soviet ban on all private weaving.

At St. Casimir's I also heard the old Lithuanian songs called "dainas" (meaning to think, ponder, remember), that have been handed down orally since ancient times. Through the oral tradition of the dainas, Lithuania's ancestors worshiped God through nature. In Lithuania, the sun is a feminine goddess married to the male moon-god. Their culture and language represents equality of the sexes, including a great respect and faith in the mother-god, the feminine spirit, Mother Earth. Unlike the Russians, Lithuanian women owned and inherited property.

During the holidays, I fondled the crocheted doilies I inherited from Ma. Daily I read a prayer-like note from my cousin in Lithuania: "Write dear sister, I shall be waiting." Like the Kuwaitis living in the United States during Hussein's atrocities, I felt helpless; and I thought about my mother, Honey, constantly.

Like a movie of the past, I saw my mother in her garden and remembered her love for Mother Earth, her charity to the poor, her love of different cultures and all their recipes. Like Lithuanians in the "old country", we believed in ghosts, spirits living in rocks, the power of prayer. She always promised she would knock twice on a wall near my bed after she died. When I woke up to these knocks, I'd know she was

in paradise.

Most of all, Honey had wanted her children to be Americanized so they wouldn't suffer the hardships that she and her parents had. Many times she would weep at my questions, saying, "Let's not talk about those horror stories anymore." She desperately wanted to transcend the pain, especially her continuous nightmare about being chased, one I also inherited.

Maybe because I was the youngest of the family, I spent time alone with Honey's pain. Sometimes I tape recorded her conversations with my father. I still have them. Hushed beneath her outward appearance of strength, my mother was a delicate spirit, unconsciously carrying deep-rooted suffering.

I'm sure this is one reason she fell in love with Leo, my friendly, bubbly father, always talking and full of smiles, a blue-blood and cousin of former French President Albert Lebrun. Through my father, Honey was assimilated easily into the American mainstream.

I was born when Honey was 40 years old. By then, she lived far away from the St. Charles Lithuanian community. We visited St. Charles almost every year, but instead of attending week-long Lithuanian weddings, I only remember the Lithuanian wakes. Everyone seemed to be dying. Of course, I'd play with cousin Genny's Lithuanian dolls as I'd hear my relatives speaking Lithuanian, discussing the problems of the day. But the Lithuanian culture was only a vague reality to me. It was never intellectualized; it had come to me only through my mother's spirit.

This past winter, however, while 85 percent of the U.S. population was in a state of euphoric, yellow-ribbon patriotism, I felt betrayed. The Bush administration had given Lithuanian delegates only a lukewarm welcome in 1990. There was only quiet support for my ancestors' homeland's fight for freedom. Meanwhile, Bush continued his telephone tete-a-tetes with Gorachev, politely disagreeing with ongoing suppressions. I could only wonder if honesty and truth were being replaced by hypocritical diplomacy. I feared this might be the definition of today's "Americanism." The free world had never needed Lithuania's hogs and flax. If the Baltics were major oil producing countries like Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, President Bush himself might be protesting on behalf of them.

Most Americans don't even seem to know where Lithuania is, always confusing the Baltics with Balkans. Few people are aware of Lithuania's vibrant history. Perhaps, the Baltic countries needed Gorbachev's publicist.

When the Lithuanians were recently surrounded by Soviet troops, they sang an old daina: "We will meet you in paradise,

we will be your friends." Similarly, the Lithuanian girls deported to Siberia in 1953 wrote prayers "Unite us all by lively faith, unquenchable hope and love that knows no bounds Help us to overcome the slavery in ourselves, so that we may not destroy the liberty of others." Those words resound in my mind and heart as I think about my mother and hope for a free Lithuania. And I can only hope that Americans and people all over the world will also hear the longing behind the Lithuanians' words and recognize that their struggle is the greatest of all struggles: the struggle for freedom and the redemption of their identity.

A public relations professional, Cherie Lebrun is a 1972 graduate who resides in Santa Monica, California.

LITHUANIAN TRADITIONS

RUGIAPJŪTĖ

The Rye Harvest

In early times, the rye harvest was begun after the noon meal. The entire family went out into the fields where they would kneel, kiss the ground, and pray: "Thank you, Lord, for this field of plenty." The first cutting was one foot long and the honor of cutting and tying it went to the head of the family. When ten feet of rye were cut and tied, they made up one stack. The family gathered around the stack to eat rye bread with salt and have a drink of water, in which the crust of the bread had been immersed. Having a great deal of respect for nature and deeply religious, the farm families felt "bread should be met with bread."

In the region of Dzūkija the first cutting is termed the "host," which the workers would decorate with greenery and bring back to the homestead in the evening, where it would stand in a corner. When the harvesting was finished, this first cutting was spread out in the barn so the mice would not chew on the stored grain.

From the very last foot of grain, spikes were collected for wreath-making; hay was plucked for a sash, and, the seed thrashed from it was mixed in with all the grain as being "blessed" and "holy". The very last wreath made from the spikes was buried together with bread and salt, saying: "We removed the bread from the fields and that bread we now bury in the fields." This ceremony, it was believed, would result in a good harvest the following year.

At the completion of the harvest, the sash and wreath were presented to the host and hostess, telling the story of the harvest. The evening was concluded with an abundance of food, merrymaking and dancing.

Pasišvilpk, Mr. G.

(PASIŠVILPK in Lithuanian means 'GO WHISTLE. In comparable American slang, it means "GET LOST" or 'BUZZ OFF". This song is dedicated to the indomitable spirit of the Lithuanian people and to American/Lithuanians.)

Now, listen real close,
 And I'll teach you a word,
 It's one that the boss,
 In the Kremlin has heard,
 It's from Lithuania
 Which seeks to go back,
 Before Hitler signed with
 Joe Stalin a pact.

Lithuanians say with disdain
 We'll have freedom back again.
 Don't tell us five years, then maybe wait and see
 The Eastern Europe states,
 This demand to them relates,
 We say to you, "PASIŠVILP", Mr. G.

You admitted that Stalin was wrong,
 When he said that we belong,
 Estonia joined with Latvia made three,
 For fifty-one years and more,
 Of an economic bore,
 We say to you, "PASIŠVILP", Mr. G.

When you sent us your best Black Berets
 To see everyone obeys,
 They shot and killed unarmed people, twenty-three
 For a man of peace and tact,
 Is this any way to act?
 We say to you, "PASIŠVILP", Mr. G.

We are planning for the day,
 When Ms. Freedom comes our way,
 Tyrannical acts won't stifle LIBERTY,
 Now, prove to the world's surprise,
 You deserve the Nobel Prize
 'til then it's still, "PASIŠVILP", Mr. G.
 Yes, 'til then it's still PASIŠVILP, Mr. G.

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LANDSBERGIS WELCOMES U.S. INVESTORS

© by Albert Cizauskas

On May 6 at the Washington headquarters of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the President of Lithuania, Vytautas Landsbergis, made a strong plea for foreign investment. His American audience of business leaders heard the President declare that the Lithuanian Parliament was working to re-establish the country's liberal prewar policy toward foreign investment, including the all-important right to ownership of private property. As to treatment of profits from such investment, he declared that taxation would be minimal if such profits were re-invested in Lithuania. Landsbergis frankly admitted, however, to the ever-present risk of Soviet interference, but he himself remained an optimist that matters at issue between Lithuania and the USSR would be satisfactorily resolved. After all, foreign investment in Lithuania, he emphasized, would be advantageous for everyone, including the Soviet Union.

The talk and a brief question-and-answer period were sponsored by the U.S.-Baltic Foundation, the Central and East European Trade and Technical Assistance Center, and the National Chamber Foundation of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Linas J. Kojelis, introduced President Landsbergis, stressing the Lithuanian leader's enthusiastic embrace of free market economics. Victor Nakas, Washington head of the Lithuanian Religious Information Center, translated for the President.

Landsbergis' hour-long talk ranged widely over important economic and political issues confronting the Lithuanian Republic today. A few of these are covered below.

The Lithuanian President explained that three years ago, the newly-emergent popular front, SAJUDIS, consulted with similar popular fronts in Latvia and Estonia, with regard to fundamental economic reforms in their respective countries. However, not much materialized from these efforts because the Soviet Union insisted upon absolute control despite its lip service to "economic autonomy." As SAJUDIS' leader, Landsbergis became convinced that without political freedom, economic progress was impossible.

The speaker then summarized Lithuania's post-war history. For ten years starting with 1944, Lithuanians resisted Communist rule with the limited means at their disposal, which the Soviet Union countered with brutal repression: tens of thousands were slain, and hundreds of thousands were sent to Siberia where many perished. The nation endured "50 years of injustice" with only a brief respite lately. With the summer of 1989, however, matters once again took a turn for the worse. The Soviets clamped a severe economic blockade

in 1990 on the Lithuanian economy after the country had reaffirmed its independence and voted freely for its own government. This action by the Soviets pointed up the need for an Emergency Relief Fund to tide the nation over such crises in the future.

Out of this bitter experience, the speaker said there grew an enhanced understanding in the world community of the complex issue of Lithuanian independence. He cited, as an important example, the action of the U.S. Senate in passing legislation to establish a Baltic Relief Fund (which the House turned down). The Lithuanian President emphasized, however, that at this time, his government was not seeking financial aid but rather trade ties and technical assistance from Western countries. "There has been some progress," he said and alluded to the present meeting as a step in the right direction. He also thought his business audience would be encouraged to hear that Lithuania had virtually no external debt and, in fact, would be "justified" in asking reparations from the Soviet Union.

Other important pluses for foreign investment were the industrious Lithuanian people and the country's geographic position as a transit point for trade. In addition, the country's quiet beauty encouraged the development of tourism. Whatever happened, however, the President assured his listeners that his government was determined to prevent ecological damage.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Responding to a query about Lithuania's contacts with the other republics, Landsbergis said these included Russia, Georgia, Armenia and the two other Baltic countries. Contacts in the past were also frequent and fruitful with the former Soviet Foreign Minister, Shevardnadze.

As to Lithuania's Baltic neighbors, Landsbergis said a tripartite agreement of cooperation had existed since 1934. Present hopes envisioned a Common Market but there was little progress to date. All three countries followed "similar paths" but nonetheless their interests were not identical due to different sorts of problems. On the other hand, the speaker praised relations with the new Poland and cited the considerable aid received from it. Furthermore, Lithuania and Poland shared an "old historic relationship" which was not true of the other Baltic countries. Landsbergis then digressed and said he had once asked a large audience of Lithuanians that if the Soviet Union closed the border between the two countries, would they be willing to march en masse and force its reopening. The answer was a resounding "Yes".

With regard to the recent rapprochement between Gorbachev and Yeltsin, Landsbergis said it remained to be seen how long it would last.

To another questioner, he said that although the Soviets controlled the banking system with the ruble as the official currency, Lithuania had its own banks and intended later this year to issue its own national currency. As to the plunging value of the ruble, he smilingly noted that Lithuanians referred to it with disdain as mere "wallpaper". (Note: While the official rate is 1.69 rubles to one U.S. dollar, on the black market, one dollar is worth more than 30 rubles, at the present time.)

With respect to the new agreement re-affirming the allegiance of the 15 republics to the Soviet Union, media reports stated that nine republics were prepared to sign, but that six refused. Landsbergis said this was erroneous. The media should have reported that of the other six, only three republics refused to go along with Gorbachev's latest scheme to save the Soviet empire. The agreement simply did not apply to the second three republics, the Baltics, because they were never legally a part of the Soviet Union.

President Landsbergis concluded the morning's talk by inviting his receptive audience to visit Lithuania and see for themselves.

HELP SOVIETS — DEMAND REFORM

The question of aid to the Soviet Union is increasingly difficult, not just for President Bush but for the American people. The amount of aid the Soviets are seeking seems to rise on a much steeper line than the amount of basic reform they are willing to accomplish. At some point Americans must wonder if Soviet leaders have a real plan in mind or whether they are merely looking for a way to insulate themselves from real life.

The basic notion of an infusion of aid and capital from the major market economies makes sense, and it is an idea this newspaper [Dallas Times Herald] has supported from the beginning. From every possible point of view, it is in the American interest to see the people of the Soviet Union freed from the shackles of a ruined and ruinous economic and political system. The collapse of the Soviet system may be the greatest proof in history that freedom is not merely an ideal, it is the only practical reality.

To the extent that Mikhail Gorbachev has been able to lead his people toward reality and freedom, then he and his leadership are deserving of American support. But there are dire pitfalls for Americans in shoring up a Soviet system that stops short of real reform.

The centralist rulers of the Soviet economy have made a habit of supplying themselves with hard currency by taking products from the satellite republics under duress and then selling them abroad to their own benefit. The central government buys electricity from Estonia at less than the cost of production, for example, and then sells it to Finland at the world rate. The central government gets the profit. Estonia gets a mountain of oil shale ash. The American people cannot be party to that kind of economic and moral corruption.

President Bush told Soviet leaders that he could not seriously entertain their requests for aid until there was real movement on the reforms front. Privately, White House

sources have been saying the reality gap seems to be getting worse, not better, in recent Soviet aid requests.

We continue to hope Mr. Bush will find a way for the United States to contribute toward change in the Soviet Union. It still looks as if the best available candidate for carrying out that change is Mr. Gorbachev. But all Americans need to be aware we are talking about doing business with people who have some very bad business in their files. We must make the correcting of those matters a mandatory condition for assistance

Editorial - Dallas Times Herald

BROTHER JUNIPER



"What do you mean, they're no good? They're the same buttons you put in the collection basket last Sunday."

CSE NOMINATES BALTIC PEOPLES FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

On Jan. 31, 1991, the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) has nominated the "peace and freedom loving peoples of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania" for the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize.

"Recent events have shown that the Baltic peoples' heroic, non-violent struggle for independence will not be easy," said Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), chairman of the Commission. "But assuming that Soviet authorities still care about their image in the new world order, international pressure may be the most effective means of helping the Balts regain their freedom."

"It is indeed ironic that the people who are most deserving of this year's prize are being oppressed by last year's winner," said Sen. Dennis DeConcini, co-chairman of the Commission. "The Nobel committee could send Mr. Gorbachev a strong message by giving this year's Nobel Prize to the Baltic peoples."



A Bit of Lithuania in Pennsylvania

Memories of Lithuanian Day

Anna Klizas Wargo

When I was a child, many years ago, there were three important holidays in my life — Christmas, Easter and August 15. Lithuanian Day, Christmas and Easter were the layers on the cake but Lithuanian Day was the icing. With great anticipation we waited for this glorious day.

A week before the big day, my mother started preparing the food for the picnic — what food it was! Breaded pork chops, bandukes, mesinė dešra, barščiai, dill pickles and all the other good Lithuanian foods, home made breads and cakes, baskets and baskets of goodies. There was home made root beer for the women and beer, schnappes and "viritos" for the men.

My brothers and their friends all went to the park the day before the 15th to obtain a table and there they stayed overnight so no one else would take it.

Finally, the big day arrived. Early in the morning, all the relatives gathered together in a hired truck and started to Lakewood. On the way to the park, everyone including the

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

August 15 On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined as a truth revealed by God that the Immaculate Mother of God, Mary ever Virgin, when the course of her life on earth was finished, was taken up body and soul into heaven. Such is the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin.

"It was truly fitting, it was becoming, that she should be taken up into heaven and not lie in the grave till Christ's second coming, who had passed a life of sanctity and of miracles such as hers Who can conceive that God should so repay the debt, which He considered to owe to His Mother for the elements of His human Body, as to allow the flesh and blood from which it was taken to molder in the grave? Or who can conceive that that virginal frame which never sinned, was to undergo the death of a sinner?...

Jesus and Mary both passed through the gate of death into heaven. In her own way, Mary was crucified with Jesus. She patiently stayed on earth, after His Ascension, so long as God willed.

From her place in heaven, she still abides invisibly with us, ever our refuge, our comfort, our hope. Through the Communion of Saints, of which she is Queen, we share in the joy and glory of her Assumption. to which the Entrance Song of the Mass of August 15 gives us the key.



young ones, sang the lovely Lithuanian folk songs, "Mūdu du broliukai", "Trys sesutės", etc. How joyful we all were.

After the baskets were all unpacked in the park, our parents greeted old "parapijonus", we all went to Mass at the ballroom. How the heavens resounded with "Pulkim ant Kelių" and "Marija, Marija."

In the afternoon there was always a program and in the evening, a dance for the young folks. During the day, the children went on rides and the grown-ups all got happy. The music and laughter of thousands of Lithuanians was heard throughout the park. When the day was over, we packed into our truck, tired but happy, singing all the way home and looking forward to another year. My mother always reminded us, "Vaikai, nepamirškite Lietuvybę".

I now look back to those early years when Lithuanian Day first began. For many years, this day has been the icing on the cake for thousands of our people and as the spirits of those early Lithuanian immigrants look down upon us, their children and grandchildren, I say to my mother with great pride, "Nepamiršom Lietuvybę". (We have not forgotten our heritage).

THE LITHUANIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

by Stella Matulonis

The Lithuanian Music Festival was held in Chicago, IL from May 15 - 28, 1991. This two week musical event included memorable performances by Lithuanians from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Members, directors and soloists of the Lithuanian Republic Opera, Ballet and Orchestra joined with their American and Canadian-Lithuanian counterparts of the Chicago Lithuanian Opera Company, church choirs, youth choruses together with the folk dancers. All contributed most capably to this very memorable and professional music event which included opera, ballet, poetry, religious and traditional native music and songs.

The Religious Music Concert was held on May 15 and commemorated fifty years of Lithuanian deportations to Siberia. Poetry Day was held on May 17 and was a fitting tribute to the spirit and beauty of the writings of the Lithuanian poets.

Another highlight of the festival was the two fully staged performances of the Opera "I Lituani" written by Amitcare Ponchielli, the well known Italian composer of the often performed "La Gioconda". "I Lituani" was performed by a joint cast which included directors, soloists and members of the Lithuanian Republic Opera Ballet and Orchestra and the Chicago Lithuanian Opera Company. This three act opera tells the story of Lithuania's struggle for political freedom during the Middle Ages against the Teutonic Knights. The full house audience could easily substitute the Communists and Soviet Russians for the Teutonic Knights and place Lithuania's struggle for freedom into the present day. As a result of this politically explosive theme, "I Lituani" has never been performed in Lithuania. However, because of the current "perestroika" atmosphere in Moscow, the two opera companies are planning to complete this cultural exchange by taking this "I Lituani" production to Vilnius for five performances in August 1991. This entire production of the opera - the singing, the orchestra, the costumes, the staging was of such a high professional caliber that one wishes this opera could be given throughout the world, not only for its message of freedom but to show how capable the Lithuanians are.

The schedule of events for Sunday, May 26 began with a 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Nativity Blessed Virgin Mary Church. The Choir of the Nativity BVM led by Maestro Antanas Linas sang the hymns in a most professional manner. There

were many concelebrants at the Mass. Church services at 10 a.m. were also held at the Lithuanian Evangelical Lutheran Home Church.

The Lithuanian Song Festival was held on Sunday afternoon at the University of Illinois at Chicago Pavilion and what a wonderful afternoon that was! Ann Jillian, our Lithuanian good-will ambassador was the mistress of ceremony at this event. Ann, who was dressed in a beautiful Lithuanian

costume, announced the events of the program in flawless Lithuanian and English.

The Song Festival offered traditional Lithuanian songs that have been preserved for many generations; some can be traced back to the 9th century. The songs were sung by approximately 800 members of American and Canadian choirs and junior choruses all in native Lithuanian dress. Added to this colorful group of singers were some 200 folk and youth dancers, also in beautiful Lithuanian garb. Try to imagine these 1,000 Lithuanians dressed in



national costumes, singing and dancing to the music of the Lithuanian symphony orchestra. You can understand then, why this festival will always be remembered by those who attended.

The American and Canadian Lithuanian communities, their organizers and directors of this Music Festival are to be congratulated upon their stunning success and should be encouraged to plan another such event. Lithuania's Opera and Ballet Co., an 80 member ensemble, including a 50 piece symphony orchestra travelled 5,000 miles from Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, to sing, dance and play with their fellow Lithuanians. There were 800 choir members and 200 folk dancers who travelled from all parts of the U.S. and Canada to take part in this event. A youth chorus and youth folk dancers also participated and they are to be complimented for the excellence of their performances, native costumes and their dedication to their Lithuanian inheritance.

Lastly, all the Lithuanians, and there must have been about 9,000 of them who filled the stadium to its rafters and who travelled from all over our continent are also to be congratulated for their patriotism and loyalty to their Lithuanian heritage.

Second Chance

9-month-old returned to Lithuania after heart surgery is successful

by Mary Romano

9-month-old Migle Grigutis returned to Lithuania to start a new life. For an infant to be given a new beginning so quickly is ironic, but the second chance she was given is nothing less than miraculous.

Migle, who lives with her father and mother, Sirmantas and Virginia Grigutis in Vilnius, Lithuania had a serious heart defect. Serious enough that she would have died by now if it hadn't been for the efforts of Jack & Loretta Stukas of Watchung, NJ and officials at Deborah Hospital in New Jersey.

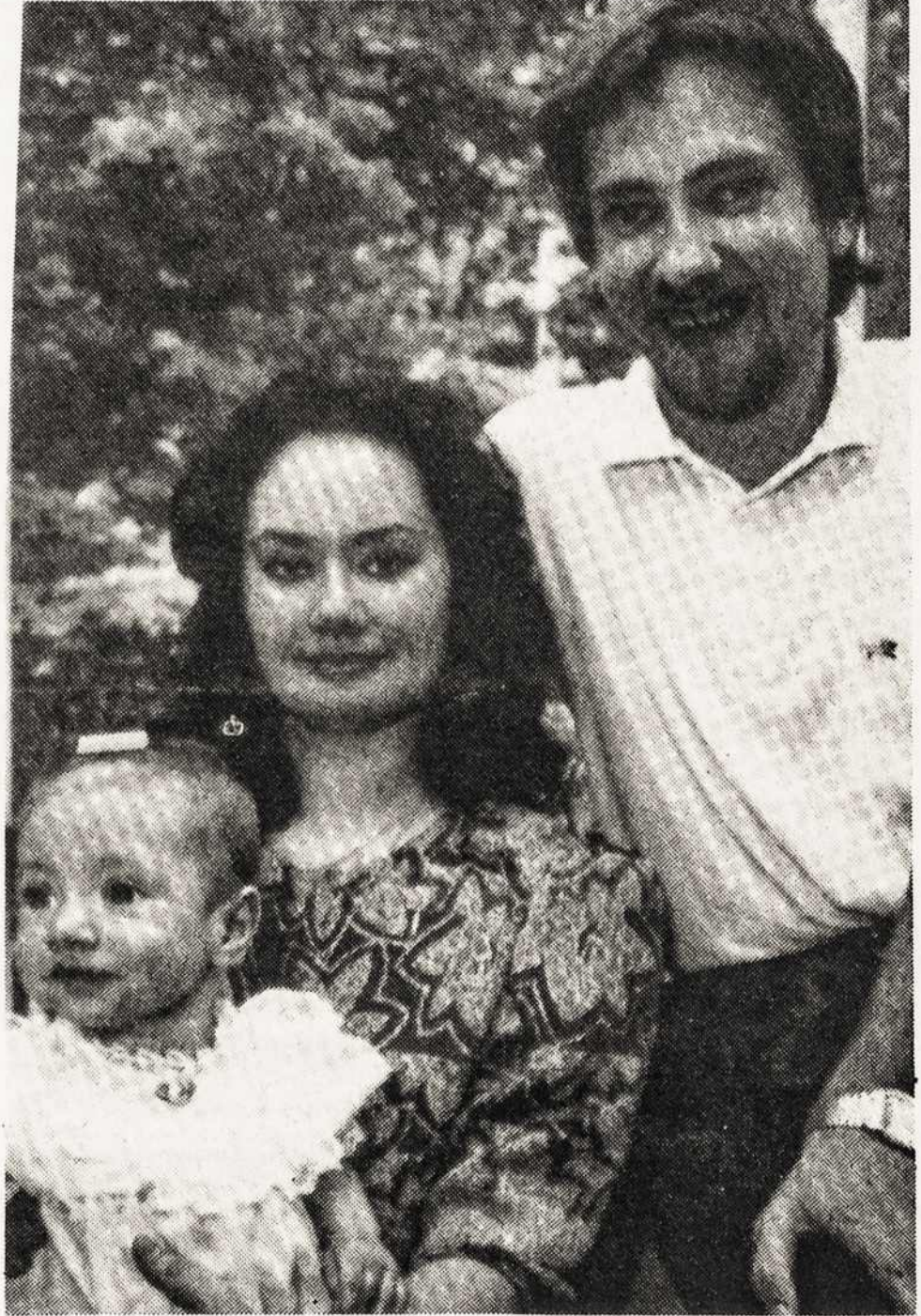
The baby was diagnosed with persistent truncus arteriosus, a condition as complicated as the name. She had one, not the normal two arteries leading from the heart, and a hole between two ventricles. The hole needed to be closed and a human donor was needed for the missing artery. The doctors performed the three-hour operation. However, before going for the tests and the surgery, the baby was baptized with the Stukas' acting as godparents.

Migle's grandmother and grandfather, Skalve & Joseph Grigutis who live in New York said, "We are very happy and she is alive and is growing. Her defect was very complicated and in Lithuania they don't have the equipment. We were told there was no choice, she will die without the operation."

The hospital's Children of The World program has operated on 2,000 children from 50 countries in the last 18 years. Surgery can cost anywhere from \$20,000 to \$150,000. Once the baby's plight was learned, a letter campaign was started to the president of Deborah Hospital and money was raised to bring the child and her parents to New Jersey.

When the child goes home, her Lithuanian doctor is coming to New Jersey to learn how to save more lives. Deborah Hospital has invited Dr. Vytautas Sirvydis to spend three months at the hospital.

The Grigutis family is overjoyed with Migle's new-found health.



After getting a second chance at life, 9-month-old Migle Grigutis will return to Lithuania with her parents Virginia and Skimantas.



SIGNS OF THE TIMES:

In a New York City office: " Think small! Big ideas nearly upset everybody".

At an Ashland, WI optometrist's office: "If you don't see what you're looking for.....you've come to the right place."

In an Internal Revenue Service office: "File your income tax; don't chisel it."

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
78th National Convention
Trade Winds - St. Petersburg Beach, FL
August 1 - 4, 1991

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1991

Registration 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon and 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 Hospitality Room 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1991

Registration 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 Supreme Council Meeting 9:00 a.m.
 Shuttle buses begin to St. John Church 11:15 a.m.
 Opening Mass 12:00 Noon
 1st Plenary Session 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Registration 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 Shuttle buses begin to Lithuanian Club 5:30 p.m.
 Get-together 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1991

Registration 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 Mass at Hotel 8:30 a.m.
 Breakfast 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
 2nd Plenary Session 10:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
 3rd Plenary Session 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Registration 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 Cultural Concert 8:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
 Hospitality Room 10:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1991

Registration 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
 Mass at Hotel 8:30 a.m.
 4th Plenary Session 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
 5th Plenary Session 1:30 P.M. - 4:00 p.m.
 Supreme Council Meeting 4:15 p.m.
 Banquet 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 1991

Breakfast Buffet 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
 Shuttle buses begin to St. John Church 12:00 Noon
 Closing Mass 1:00 p.m.
 Convention Photo at Church 2:00 p.m.

SPECIAL AIRFARES FOR KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA TO 78th NATIONAL CONVENTION

USAir agrees to offer an exclusive low fare for the attendees of the Knights of Lithuania National Convention to be held August 1 - 4, 1991 in Florida. This special fare will offer a 40% discount off the standard round trip day coach fare for travel from the Continental United States to Tampa, FL. These meeting discounts are valid between July 29 - August 7, 1991. However, a minimum of ten (10) passengers traveling via USAir is required.

For reservations, call USAir's Meeting and Convention Office toll free at 1-800-334-8644 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday. You must refer to GOLD FILE NO.

02596940. Once your reservations are confirmed, tickets will be mailed to you or USAir will suggest several other convenient methods of purchase.

If you normally use the services of a travel agent, please have them place the call so that they may obtain the same advantages for you. This special fare is only available through the Meeting and Convention Reservation Office and GOLD FILE NO. 02596940 must be mentioned in all cases.

We also call to your attention that should you use any other airline but USAir, the fares to Tampa, FL are lower if you travel on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Noon Friday to Noon, Monday are the most expensive days to travel.

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VAIKIAI IŠ AMERIKOS VIEŠBUČIO

(The Children of Hotel America)

(A Lithuanian Film Studio production directed by Raimundas Banionis. Reviewed at Berlin Film Festival in Feb. 1991. Running time: 90 Mins. Cast: Rina: Gabija Jaraminaite; Jagger: Augustas Savelis. Also with Jurga Kasciukaite, Rolandas Kaslas, Gediminas Karka.)

Though technically a film from the Soviet Union, "The Children of Hotel America" is a Lithuanian production and an angry one at that. Its timely assaults of Moscow's tough rule over the Baltic state, though couched in a story set in 1972, could spark international interest.

For teens in Vilnius, news of Woodstock has been immensely influential and they decide to hold their own rock love-in. They set out for a campsite near a lake, and though there isn't a lot of music, they all have a good time skinny-dipping, lovemaking and talking peace. In the morning,

scores of police brutally attack the teens. The boys' heads are shaved, and they're returned in custody to their parents.

That's the background to a sweet love affair between cheerful, bespectacled Jagger (named after Mick, naturally) and Rina, a conventional girl whose family eventually emigrates to Israel. The couple make love at the campsite, but are separated later.

Title refers to an unofficial club to which these pro-Yank teens belong. Their fascination for all things American is really a rebellion against all things Russian. In light of current events, picture can be seen as an angry cry for Lithuania's freedom.

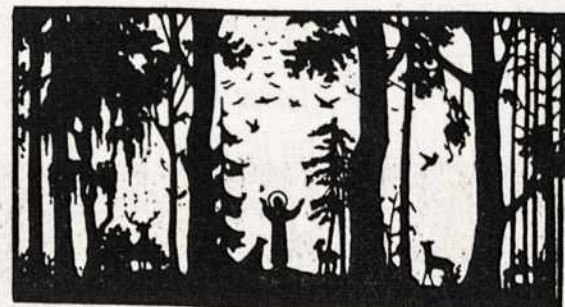
But it's a small-scale picture, technically rough at times, though appealingly acted by its earnest young cast. A symbolic earthquake in the final scene suggests that change may, after all, be on its way.

Variety

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IN MEMORIAM

ALBINA KODIS
C-36 Chicago, IL
† April 26, 1991



Lithuanians in the News

LITHUANIAN DESIGNED CAROUSELS

The flamboyant, baroque-style horses for which Coney Island carousels are famous were first designed by a Lithuanian named Marculionis. It took 70 pieces of wood to make just one carousel horse, the head alone required 16 pieces.

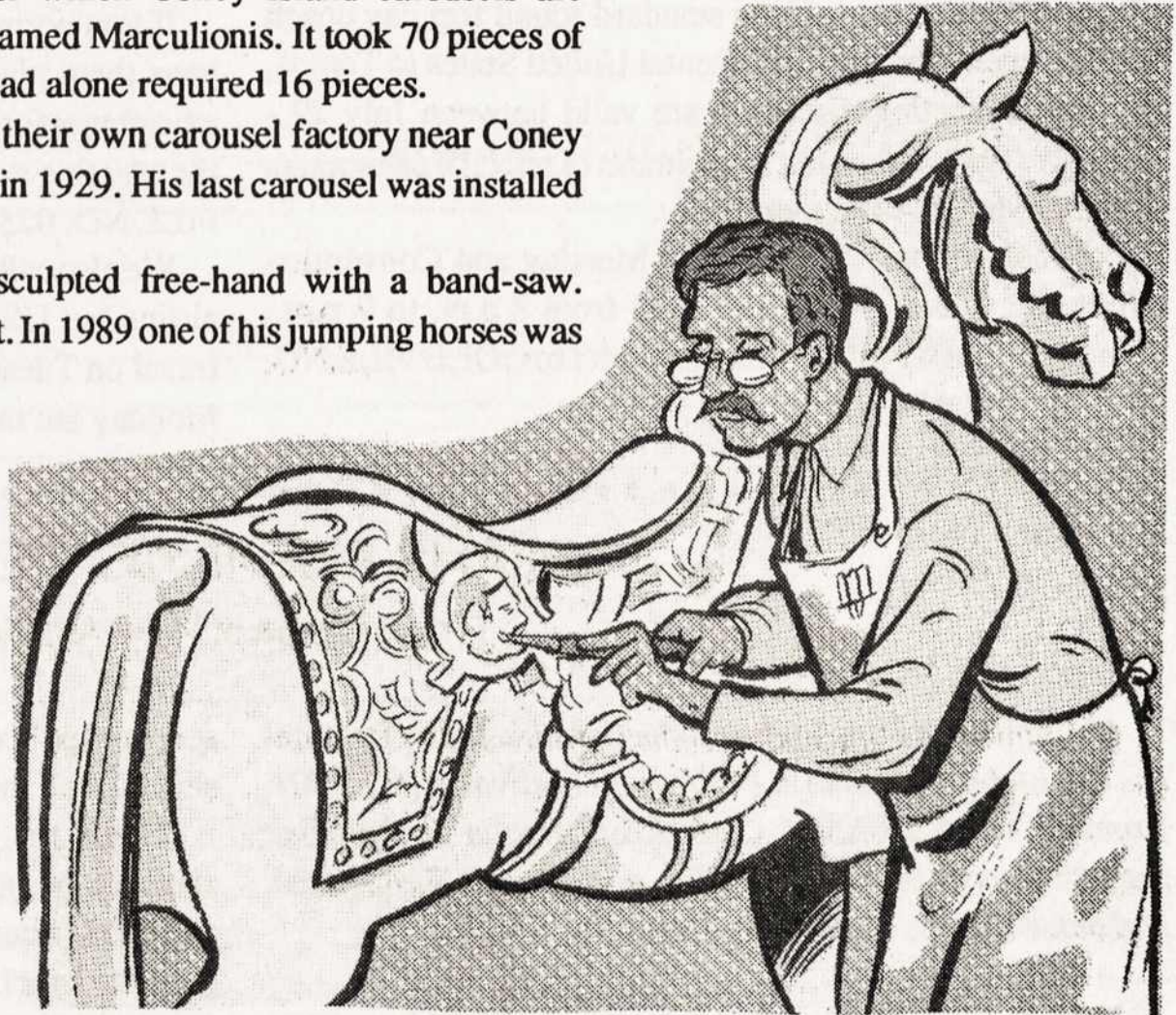
In 1909, Marculionis and his sons opened their own carousel factory near Coney Island. Declining orders forced them to close in 1929. His last carousel was installed in the Prospect Park Hotel at Coney Island.

He is the only carver known to have sculpted free-hand with a band-saw. Sometimes he signed his work with his portrait. In 1989 one of his jumping horses was sold for a record high of \$121,000.

LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT

U.S. Army Reserve Staff Sergeant John Pieza, son of HM Stanley Pieza, explained to junior and senior high school CCD students at All Saints in San Pierre what lifesaving equipment a soldier carries: "All that is in the equipment may save a soldier's life — but during actual bombardment when lives are in danger, even atheists exclaim, 'Oh God.'"

He is a graduate of Lewis College with a degree in space engineering. At present he is in charge of the helicopters at the Army Reserve base in Glenview, IL. John also owns a gas station in Chicago.



LONG-TERM WORKERS HONORED

Amsterdam Memorial Hospital recently honored employees who have given many years of service to the hospital and its adjacent nursing home. The employees were honored at the annual Dinner held at Holiday Inn. More than 250 employees attended the event.

One of the top honors went to Edward Ziausys, a member of Amsterdam C-100 and employee in the materials management department at the hospital who celebrated 30 years of service with the 233-bed acute and long-term care facility. Congratulations, Edward.



BROCKTON, MA NATIVE INVITED TO SING AT OPERA HOUSE IN LITHUANIA

Maryte Bizinkauskas, an opera singer from Brockton and Canada sang at the opera house in Vilnius and had the honor of singing for Vytautas Landsbergis. She did four performances and also sang at the Vilnius Cathedral for Easter.

Among the reviews that she received, it was quoted as saying, "Her voice is indeed worthy of the Metropolitan Opera".

The Conservatory of Vilnius has accepted Maryte as a post graduate student which she intends to return for a half a year or so to work with another opera singer on some vocal things and to prepare new operatic roles to be performed in the opera houses.

While traveling through Lithuania, she found the people very optimistic in spite of all they have gone through with the Jan. 13 atrocities. They try to live their lives normally and not

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS (Cont'd)

succumb to intimidation. They go to work, to church, to the opera and to the theater.

Bizinkauskas lives in Canada with her husband, Petras Bilda and their 3-year old daughter. A graduate of Brockton High School, she received her undergraduate degree in opera at the Boston Conservatory of Music and a master's degree at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia for which she received a full scholarship. In 1985, she was chosen the winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Auditions.

Maryte Bizinkauskas with President Vytautas Landsbergis in Lithuania



CELEBRATES HIS GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday, June 2, 1991, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, Pastor Emeritus of Nativity BVM Church in Chicago, celebrated his 50th Priesthood Jubilee with many of his parishioners and friends. Mass was celebrated with Bishop Vincent Brizgys presiding and some 20 priests acting as concelebrants at Mass. Immediately after Mass, reception was held at the Mayfield with over 300 friends attending.

Rev. Anthony J. Zakarauskas was born on July 3, 1917 in Cicero, IL. He is the son of Constance Gervaitė and Frank Zakarauskas. He is a graduate of St. Anthony's School in Cicero and Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago. He is also a graduate of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, IL in 1941 and received a BA, MA and STL degrees. He was ordained a priest on May 3, 1941. After ordination, he attended the Graduate School Division at DePaul University and at Loyola University.

Fr. Zakarauskas has served in many capacities at various churches and as chaplain at St. Casimir's Sisters Motherhouse and Holy Cross Hospital. His final assignment before retirement in March 1988 was as pastor of Nativity B.V.M. Parish in Chicago.

His activities are too numerous to mention. He served as chaplain to many organizations especially spiritual advisor for C-112 Chicago for the past 50 years. He was also involved on many committees and helped to form many societies.

In retirement, Fr. Zakarauskas lives with and cares for his



Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas

95-year old mother. He presently, however, is a part-time chaplain at St. Francis Hospital and Holy Cross Hospital. On Sundays he assists at Queen of the Universe Parish and also at St. Anthony's Parish. At other times, he relaxes and enjoys his retirement. Ad Multos Annos!



FLY OUR FLAG



"The flag is the embodiment, not of sentiment, but of history. It represents the experiences made by men and women; the experiences of those who live under the Flag."

Pres. Woodrow Wilson, June 14, 1915

Anytime our military has fought on foreign soil, Americans have displayed the flag as an important way for those of us at home to express our support and prayers for the courageous young women and men serving our country.

Our American Flag has long exemplified the spirit of those who lost their lives in battle as well as those who fought valiantly and survived. It stands for all our ancestors who worked, saved and sacrificed at home to raise their families in such a strong, free and prosperous land.

It stands for the freedom that so many other countries in the world are just now beginning to experience.

It stands for us and, Heaven permit, it will fly for our children and our children's children in the land still strong and free.

With the war over and our troops coming home, we should continue to fly our flag because of all it symbolizes. Oliver Wendell Holmes may have said it best — "One Flag, one land, one heart, one hand, one Nation, evermore!"

THE FLAG ACT

The Stars and Stripes became the official flag of the United States with the first Flag Act, passed by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777.

The act stated: "Resolved, that the Flag of the 13 United States be 13 stripes alternate red and white; that the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

FLAG RULES

The American Flag may be displayed from sunrise to sunset on stationery flagstaffs on public or private buildings on all days that weather permits, but especially on State and National holidays and on days proclaimed by the President.

The Flag should be at half-staff on Memorial Day until noon, then be raised to the peak.

The Flag should be displayed daily on or near the main entry of every public building or building complex; in or near every school during classes; and in or near every polling place on Election Day.

The Flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during hours of darkness.

When the Flag is to be flown at half-staff, it should first be raised to the peak and, after a deliberate pause, lowered to the mid-point on flagpole or staff. Before being lowered at day's end, it should again be brought to the peak.

When other flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the American Flag must be hoisted first and lowered last. When other flags are flown from the same rope, the American flag must always be at the highest point and centered. No flag may fly above or to the right of the American flag on American soil.

When the American flag is displayed from a staff in a public auditorium, it should always be at the speaker's right as he or she faces the audience (the audience's left). Any other flag must be on the opposite side of the speaker.

If displayed flat against a wall, the Flag should be placed above and behind the speaker. Displayed either horizontally or vertically, the field of stars must always be at the observer's left.

When placed on a casket, the field must be at the head and over the left shoulder. The Flag must never touch the ground or be lowered into a grave.

When the American flag is carried in a parade or procession, it must be in the center and in front of a line of other flags; or when carried by a color guard, on the extreme right.

The Flag is never dipped to anyone or anything; is never displayed with the union (field) at the bottom (that signifies extreme danger); and is never allowed to touch the floor, ground or water.

And, perhaps most of all, the Flag must never be treated with disrespect in any way.

PRAYER FOR AMERICA

Almighty God, you have given us this good land for our heritage. We humbly ask that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning and pure manners.

Save us from violence, discord and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties and fashion us into one united people - this multitude brought here from many kindreds and tongues.

Endow with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in your name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home. Through obedience of your law, may we show forth your praise among the nations of the earth.

In time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and, in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

(Thomas Jefferson recited this prayer each day during his eight years as President of the United States of America.)

TID BITS

ANOTHER FALSEHOOD!!!!

The chief Soviet law enforcement officer denied that Soviet troops shot and killed civilians during a violent confrontation in Lithuania last January, sharply contradicting accounts by Western journalists and Lithuanian demonstrators who witnessed the assault.

The report stated that the victims had not been crushed by tanks or shot by troops but that they were shot and killed by "Lithuanian militants" or crushed under their own cars. The report further stated that the soldiers had to defend themselves and that six people were killed by shots hitting them in the back from above evidencing that the Lithuanians were up in the broadcast station or sniping from nearby rooftops.

Lithuanian officials denounced the report as filled with "impudent and boundless" lies. The Soviet investigators had not witnessed the events or the autopsies on the victims and could not have had evidence to support their conclusions.

Apparently the chief Soviet law enforcement officer never saw the video tapes taken during this assault!!!!

AMERICA'S LIBRARY OF CONGRESS IS WORLD'S BIGGEST

The U.S. Library of Congress is the biggest library in the world by far — with 90 million items. That's more than three times the number in the second-place Lenin Library in Moscow.

In fact, if someone spent just one minute glimpsing at each item stored there, working eight hours a day, five days a week, it would take 648 years to examine everything.

On the library's 535 miles of shelves — enough to stretch from Miami to Atlanta — you'll find one of three perfect copies of the Gutenberg Bible and the world's oldest example of printing: passages from a Buddhist text printed in the year 770.

Oh yes, Vytis magazine is also on the files of Library of Congress.

A COLLECTION OF DEVILS

In 1906 the famous Lithuanian painter and composer, Mikalojus Ciurlionis received a figurine of the devil as a birthday present. Thus began a collection of toy devils. When Ciurlionis died, he left a large museum of toy devils, which is known far beyond Lithuania.

A designer for Moscow's Central Puppet Theater was deeply impressed by the museum. She also has a collection of devils, which includes 314 figurines, ceramic, porcelain,

wooden and others made of more unusual materials, such as pen caps and pumpkins.

WHAT A WASTE!

It has been reported that Americans throw out 10 times their weight in trash every year — enough aluminum to rebuild the entire American air fleet 71 times, enough steel to reconstruct Manhattan and enough wood and paper to heat five million homes for 200 years. Unbelievable!

NEW ORGANIZATION PLANS TO MARKET BALTIC FEATURES

Scandinavian Films, a joint organization representing the Scandinavian countries and Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, has established a cooperative organization named Baltic Camera to create a film system independent of the Soviet Union's.

Scandinavian Films will send film equipment to the Baltics and arrange Baltic Film Weeks in Nordic countries. It is also trying to find ways of bringing Baltic films to the European market through Scandinavian marketing organizations.

The Baltic States produce about 15 feature films, 20 animated cartoons and more than 20 documentaries annually.

EXPENSIVE CITIES

According to a recent survey of 100 cities in the U.S., the following are the 10 most expensive in which to do business — based on the average daily cost for a car rental, hotel room and meals:

1) New York	\$332
2) Boston	260
3) Washington, DC	248
4) Chicago	248
5) Los Angeles	229
6) Santa Barbara, CA	223
7) Houston	221
8) Newark, NJ	219
9) Philadelphia	214
10) Dallas	213



THE WORLD OF SPORTS

Dr. Antanas Kučas

Lithuanians love sports and games of all kinds from boxing to chess. The Government of independent Lithuania built an imposing Chamber of Sports and a stadium in the provisional capital, Kaunas, when it might have used the money for "more useful" purposes. Figures of the sports world have become folk heroes on both sides of the Atlantic. Top name but a few of those who have made their mark:

Jack Sharkey (Juozas Žukauskas) was world heavyweight champion in 1932. A Worcester, MA girl, (Ospavičius), won the world swimming meterrace in the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam. Albina Osipavitch athlete who during her swimming career won a total of sixty-five medals and twelve trophies. At the same time she was an active member of the Knights of Lithuania and was awarded that organization's highest honor. Another swimming star was John Macionis, member of a Yale University swimming team and a record holder.



Frank Lubin, captain of the U.S. basketball team in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, later visited Lithuania with other American basketball players like Konstant J. Savickus, and coached that country's players into a top-ranking team which won the European basketball championship in 1937 and again in 1939.

Lithuanians have taken part in practically all the sports life in the United States. There have been outstanding golfers some of whom, notably Bill Burke (Burkauskas), became champions. George Chip and Justin Sirutis were boxing champions. There have been many wrestlers among them Andy Kondrat (An- tanas Kundrota) and Sar- polis, are the best known.



Many of the American college and university athletic teams have had and have Lithuanians on their roster. J. Grabauskas was captain of a Prince- ton basketball team. It has even happened that a university team consisted mainly of Lithuanian players, as, for instance, the football team of the Catholic University of America (Washington, DC) in the fall of 1935. Lithuanian athletes were and are to be found on many of the professional baseball, football and basketball teams. Perhaps the most widely known names of the latter-day football players are those of Johnny Unitas (Jonaitis) and Dick Butkus.

Since 1949 there has been a Lithuanian Committee of Sports and Physical Culture, with its center first in Chicago

and then in New York, which promotes all kinds of sports activities. In 1957 the Committee became a member of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States. It has branches all over the country which engages in various athletic con- tests with one another and with other American amateur sports groups. Because of close relations with Lithuanian athletes in Canada, the Lithuanian Alliance of Sports and Physical Culture of North America was formed in 1958.

The Alliance's champion basketball team toured South America in 1959 winning twelve of the seventeen games it played. In 1964 the team toured Australia and won twenty-four out of twenty-five contests; this included a victory over Australia's Olympic team. On its return to North America it defeated Canada's Olympic team in Toronto.

Lithuanians hold The most recent Lithu- fore in this sport is the door tennis player Vi- Gerulaitis won the in Vienna, defeating



tennis in high regard. anian to come to the young professional in- tas Gerulaitis. In 1974 Grand Prix tournament outstanding players from Sweden, Rhodesia, South Africa and the American tennis star, Gorman. In the contest for the U.S. Professional Indoor Singles Title in Philadelphia (Jan. 1975) in which 84 contestants took part, Gerulaitis was one of the finalists. He then played against Marty Riessen, one of America's top ten players over the last decade. Riessen won but Gerulaitis came out second in the tournament — rather a good showing for a twenty-year old.

Tennis seems to be in the Gerulaitis' blood: his younger sister Rūta is an expert player; his father, the late Vytautas Gerulaitis, was for three years tennis champion of Lithuania.

The list of Lithuanian Americans who have obtained recognition in athletics is long — too long to be given here.



Lithuanian Kitchen

Lietuviška Virtuvė

KUGELIS

7-8 large potatoes 2 Tbsp. quick cooking
2 eggs farina
1 small can evaporated 1/4 lb. bacon, chopped
milk 1 med. onion, chopped
salt, pepper to taste

Peel and grate potatoes. Add eggs, seasonings, milk, farina and mix. Fry bacon, add onion and cook until golden brown. Take 1/2 of bacon drippings and coat a 9" x 13" baking dish with bacon mixture. Add cooked bacon and onion to the potato mixture and blend. Pour into baking pan and place into a 400° F. preheated oven for 10 mins. Lower heat to 350° F. and bake for 50 mins. or until done and browned on top and sides.

MARINATED CAULIFLOWER SALAD

Žiedinis Kopūstas Vinagretas

1 large head cauliflower 2 Tbsp. sugar
in small florets 1 Tbsp. minced fresh
1/2 cup dry white wine ginger (or 1/2 tsp.
1/2 cup white vinegar dry ginger)
1/2 cup water Salt, pepper
1/2 cup olive oil 1 green pepper, cut in
1 clove garlic, minced chunks
1 cup cherry tomatos 1/4 cup chopped parsley

Place cauliflower in heatproof bowl and set aside. In saucepan add the wine, vinegar, water, oil, garlic, sugar, ginger and seasonings and boil for 3 mins. Pour over cauliflower and toss to coat well. Stir often until cooled to room temperature. Add the green pepper, tomatoes and parsley. Cover and refrigerate at least overnight. Remove to serving bowl with slotted spoon.

Dalia Bulvicius

COLD HERRING SALAD

Vinegretas Su Silke

8 oz. small white beans 3 Tbsp. butter
1 can beets or 4-5 freshly 1 small onion, chopped
cooked beets Salt, pepper
1 can herring or 1 - 8 oz. 8 oz. sour cream
jar of herring Chopped parsley
2 small cans mushrooms, 3 potatoes, cooked &
chopped or 10 oz. freshly cubed
cooked mushrooms

Boil white beans until soft in salted water and drain when soft. Heat butter in small saucepan and saute onions and mushrooms. Chop herring and beets into small pieces. In large bowl, place beans, beets, herring, potatoes and saute mix. Mix all ingredients, add sour cream and blend lightly. Serve on bed of lettuce and garnish with parsley.

ONION KUCHEN

Svogūnų Ragaišis (arba Duona)

2 large onions, sliced 1 cup sour cream
and sauteed in butter 1 egg
(or bacon fat) 2-3 Tbsp. poppy seeds
1 pkg. oven ready buttermilk biscuits

Line bottom of greased 8" round pan with unbaked biscuits (roll with rolling pin to stretch biscuits as needed). Spread sauteed onion over biscuits. Beat egg and sour cream together and spread over the onions. Sprinkle with poppy seeds. Bake at 375° for 30 mins. or until done.

COLD BEET SOUP

Šaltį Barščiai

5 large fresh cooked beets, 2-3 Tbsp. chopped dill
sliced julienne 8 oz. sour cream
OR a #2 can shoe string 1 cup skim milk
beets 5-6 cups cold water
1 cucumber, peeled and Salt, pepper to taste
chopped 1 small onion or
4 hard boiled eggs, peeled scallions, chopped
and chopped 4-6 hot boiled potatoes

In a large mixing bowl, mix beets, cucumber, onion, eggs, dill and seasonings. In a small bowl, mix sour cream and milk until blended; and add to ingredients in large bowl. Mix well and add water as needed. Season. Serve with a dollop of sour cream on each plate - and with boiled potatoes on the side.

STRAWBERRY SHERBET

4 cups sliced strawberries 2 cups sugar
2 cups low fat, salt free buttermilk

Mix all ingredients in a blender. Place into ice trays. Freeze until solid. Reblenderize and freeze again. Delicious!



LITHUANIAN DICTIONARY - ŽODYNAS

Countries and Nations - Šalys ir tautos

Denmark	Danija	dah'neeyah
a Dutchman	olandas	ol'ahn'dahs
England	Anglija	ahng'leeyah
the English	anglai	ahn'gli
an Englishman	anglas	ahng'lahs
Europe	Europa	ee'uro'pah
a European	europietis	ee'uro'py'eh'tees
France	Prancūzija	prahntsoo'zey'ah
the French	prancūzai	prahnt'soo'zi
a Frenchman	prancūzas	prahnt'soo'zahs
Germany	Vokietija	voki'tee'yah
Holland	Olandija	olahn'dee'yah
Italy	Italija	ee'tah'lee'yah
Russia	Rusija	roo'see'yah
a Russian	rusas	roo'sahs
Spain	Ispanija	ees'pah'neeyah
Sweden	Svedija	shveh'deeyah
Switzerland	Sveicarija	shvaytsah'ree'yah
Turkey	Turkija	toor'keeyah

Travel by Rail or Road -

Kelionės geležinkeliu ir keliais

Arrival	atvykimas	ahtveeh'kee'mahs
bill	raštas; sąskaitas	rahsh'tahs; sahs'kai'tahs
departure	išvykimas	eesh'vee'kee'mahs
engine	mašina	mah'sheenah
guard	sargas	sahr'gahs
guide	vadovas	vahdo'vahs
interpreter	vertėjas	verteh'yahs
luggage	bagażas	bah'gah'zhahs
porter	nešikas	ne'shee'kahs
railway	geležinkelis	gala'zheen'kelis
road	kelias	ka'liahs
ticket	bilietas	bil'eh'tahs
train	traukinys	trouk'in'eehs
trunk	skrynė	skree'neh
waiter	tarnas; padavėjas	tahr'nahs; pah'dah'veh'yahs

Travel by Sea - Kelionė jūromis

Anchor	inkaras	een'kah'rahs
boat	laivas	lai'vahs
cabin	kajutė	kah'yoo'teh
captain	kapitonas	kahpeeto'nahs
custom-house	muitinė	mooy'teenah
ferry boat	keltas	kal'tahs
fishing	žuvavimas	zhoovah'veemahs

flag	vėliava	vehla'vah
landing	prieplauka	preh'plowkah
lighthouse	švyturys	shvee'toor'ees
oar	irklas	eerk'lahs
pilot	vairininkas	vai'reeneen'kahs
rope	virvė	veer'veh
sail	plaukimas	plow'kee'mahs
ship	laivas	lai'vahs
voyage	kelionė	ke'lo'neh

Amusements - Pasilinksminimai

Admission	ileidimas	eeh'laydee'mahs
ball (dance)	balius	bah'loos
band (orchestra)	orkestras	or'keh'strahs
cinema	kino	kee'no
circus	cirkas	tseer'kahs
concert	koncertas	kon'tsertahs
piano	fortepijonas	forteh'peeyo'nahs
male singer	dainininkas	dain'eeneen'kahs
female singer	dainininkė	dain'eeneen'keh
violin	smuikas	smooy'kahs
exhibition	paroda	pah'rodah
exit	išėjimas	eesheh'yee'mahs
sports and games	sportas ir žaidimai	spor'tahs eer zhaidee'mai
billiards	bilijardas	beelee'yahr'dahs
boxing	boksas	bok'sahs
chess	šachmatai	shak'mah'tai
hunting	medžiojimas	med'zhio'yeemahs
races	lenktynės	lenk'teeh'nes
rowing	irklavimas	eerklah'veemahs
swimming	plaukimas	plowkee'mahs
subscription	abonementas	ah'bon'ehmen'tahs
theatre	teatras	tey'aht'rahs
act	veiksmas	vayks'mahs
actor	artistas	ahrtees'tahs
actress	artistė	ahrtees'teh
boxes	ložės	lo'zhehs
curtain	uždanga	oozh'dahn'gah
dancer	šokėjas	shokeh'yahs
manager	teatro direktorius	tehah'tro deerehk'tor'yoos
opera glass	žiūronai	zhoor'onai
play	vaidinimas	vaidee'neemahs
seats	vietos	veh'tos
stage	scena	seh'nah
ticket	bilietas	bee'lyt'ahs

The Song of the Trees

There is no better metaphor for the dialogue between our Lithuanian ancestors and nature than the song of the stringed instrument known as KANKLES.

Of ancient origin, its common Baltic name is kanteles, from the verb kantei, which corresponds to the Latin canere or cantare, to play, to sing. There are written references to kankles as early as 1625 where they are mentioned in the translation of the Psalms by Jonas Bretkunas. The oldest surviving example of this instrument is from the Eighteenth Century.

According to ancient traditions, the best kankles were made from trees that were felled during a funeral procession. Their sound was even better if they were carved during the funeral service itself. A description of some kankles made around 1780 mentions that the tree from which they originated was chopped down by a son while he was burying his father. There are legends of kankles being carved from the bones of the dead or from trees that were once men and women suffering some immense grief. This seems to be the origin of a wide-spread European ballad motif: "the singing bones." It is said that the trees themselves wept with the bereaved and thereafter exhaled their sobs from the instrument carved from their wood.

The instrument's popularity waned in the countryside at the end of the 19th Century, its gentle tone incapable of competing with the more powerful violin as an accompaniment to the merriment that attended agricultural rituals. However, because of faithful interest on the part of talented amateurs such as Petras Zoris (1839-1934) and Pranas Puskunigis (1860-1946), its bittersweet sound survived.

With the rise of national romanticism at the turn of the century, Jonas Garalevicius, an organ-maker, began manufacturing the first of some 2000 kankles in 1901 and, in 1910, published the first book devoted entirely to the instrument. By 1914, Pranas Puskunigis and Saliamonas Banaitis had formed a kankles orchestra that gave concerts in Lithuania and East Prussia.

During the period of Lithuanian Independence, 1918-1940, Justinas Strimaitis (1895-1960) did much to establish the instrument's popularity. He extended its musical range, and developed a new tonal gradation and a fingernail technique of playing. His orchestra consisted of 12 kankles with a range of 5 octaves. Soon, it was possible to play almost any simpler composition originally written for piano.

In 1925 a Kankles Society was established by Jonas Bendorius which was responsible for creating wide-spread interest. The Society maintained its own workshop and

sponsored a music school teaching more than 300 students enrolled at one time.

In 1940, a women's orchestra, was formed in Vilnius by Ona Mikulskis as part of the Lithuanian Folk Ensemble Ciurlionis, directed by her husband, Alfonsas Mikulskis. Having fled from Lithuania just prior to the second Soviet occupation in 1944, Ona and Alfonsas Mikulskis reestablished the Ciurlionis Ensemble in Cleveland where it still flourishes today.

In occupied Lithuania, the foremost Kankles orchestra is the Lietuva Ensemble under the direction of Pranas Stepulis. Since 1954, the instrument has undergone numerous modifications, including an extension of its range to 4 octaves. Its playing is taught at the Vilnius Conservatory and other musical institutes throughout the country.

Kankles are played on the knees by plucking strings stretched over a flat wooden soundbox with the fingers of the right hand or a plectrum. The bottom of the soundbox is made from willow, birch, elm or juniper, while the top is usually a thin piece of spruce which is decorated with carvings of flowers or stars and holes which enhance the instrument's acoustical properties.

The trapezoidal soundbox in use today evolved from one that had been carved from a single piece of wood. It is approximately 5 cm. thick, the base of the trapezoid being about 50 cm. in length, the shorter opposite side 30 cm. Of the remaining two sides, one is 21 to 30 cm. long, usually finished in a straight line or semi-oval, the other, longer side, sloping and frequently ending in a scroll.

The most ancient versions of kankles had only five strings, made of sheep or goat gut, but the modern versions have as many as 13 steel strings fastened at the narrow end of the soundbox where they are raised by a wooden or stone bridge. Just as in other stringed instruments, they are tightened by wooden pegs at the other end.

Lithuanian Days



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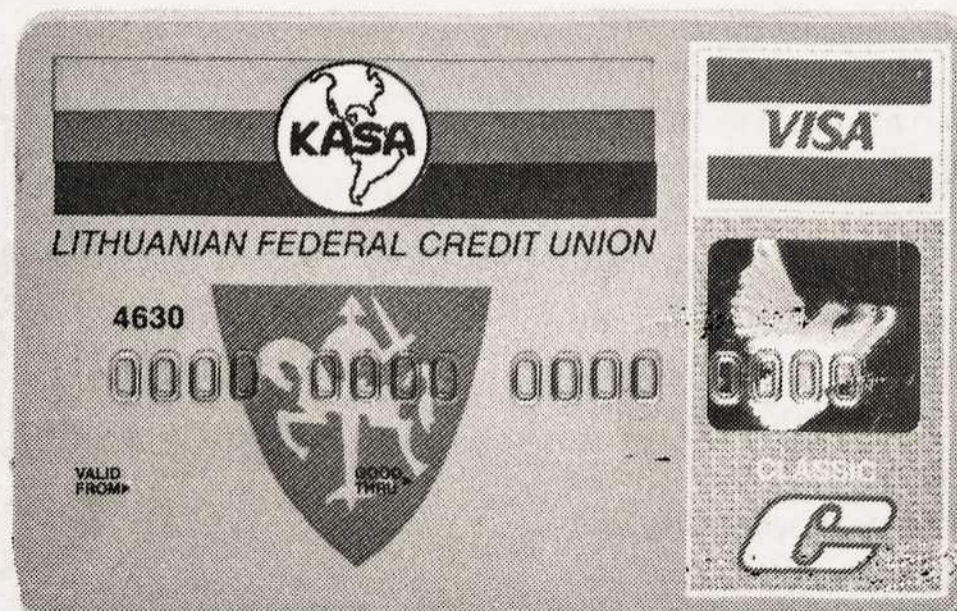
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Council News *Vyčiai Veikia*

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

Our District held its spring convention and bowling tournament during May in Cleveland. The convention was hosted by Cleveland C-25 under the leadership of council president, Helen (Dolly) Oberaitis assisted by general chairperson Joanna Shigo. The weekend began with a reception on Friday evening at the Mentor Travelodge Hotel. A general meeting was conducted on Sat. morning by District president John Baltrus. Several important business items were discussed and donations were approved to the St. Casimir Guild and the Scholarship Fund.

On Sat. afternoon, the convention attendees competed in a bowling tournament. A total of 14 five member teams from seven councils, including Dayton's junior council, participated. The competition proved to be exciting and several impressive scores were recorded. The overall winners were the Cleveland team captained by Charles Machutas.

Sat. night's entertainment featured a hoedown at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church where members and guests dressed in Western attire danced with the help of a local square dance caller. Several delicious snacks were served. A Chinese raffle of some Lithuanian items was held to raise funds for the host council.

The weekend concluded on Sun. with Mass in memory of deceased K of L members celebrated by the District's spiritual advisor, Rev. Gedimi-

nas Kijauskas. His sermon reminded us that our organization is one of the ways through which God touches his people. We were honored to have the renowned Ciurlonis Choir sing during the Mass. Elena Mikalauskas of Dayton C-96 received her third degree at the opening of the Mass.

Finally, the banquet was held at the Lithuanian Hall during which the bowling awards were presented by bowling chairman Charles Machutas. The Cleveland Council was thanked for being gracious hosts during the weekend. The drawing for the District's 50/50 raffle was held and the winner was Mary Vaglia of Pittsburgh. The District members will meet in Pittsburgh for their fall pilgrimage during October 1991.

C-19 PITTSBURGH, PA

C-19 recently approved the distribution of profits from the National Convention held in 1990. A committee

headed by treasurer Len Barcouky was formed to recommend to the general membership various needs to which the profits could be donated. The profit arose solely from the ads in the Convention Journal. Registration fees barely covered the cost of activities.

The largest donation of \$1,500 was made to the Auxiliary of the Sisters of St. Francis in Pittsburgh. The Sisters have faithfully served the Lithuanian Community in our area for several decades and have always participated in K of L activities. The donation will go toward the purchase of a sound system for their chapel in order that the elderly Sisters may be better able to hear Mass. Two of our members, Sister Valeria and auxiliary member Lillian Gailys were on hand to help C-19 president John Baltrus and former president David Wenslovas, who were convention co-chairmen, present the check at a special ceremony.

We also presented a check in amount of \$500. to our local Lithuanian Radio Program which recently moved to a new station to increase its signal strength. Approximately \$250. was donated to visitors from Lithuania. A nurse who was visiting from Lithuania



C-19 Pittsburgh presenting check to Sisters of St. Francis. L to r: Sister Valerie, Rita Gill, John Baltrus, Mary Weinert, Dave Wenslovas, Lillian Gailys, Sister Alma.

was given money to purchase medical supplies; a young lady visiting the Sisters of St. Francis was given a donation to cover the cost of shipping books to her religious school; and cost of shipping books destined for Lithuania to New York from the Sisters was also covered.

K of L projects were supported as well. Following donations were authorized: \$500 - K of L Medical Relief; \$750. - St. Casimir's Guild; \$200. - Scholarship; \$300 - Supreme Council treasury. Finally, we did not forget our adopted parish in Lithuania with a donation of \$500.

Approximately \$1,500 of the profit remains in our treasury for future projects and other donations. We are extremely grateful to all of those who supported us at the convention last year. Only through the generosity of K of L members and others in our local community were these donations possible. We hope that the \$6,000 we raised on our Convention Journal will be an incentive for other K of L councils to take on the seemingly daunting task of hosting future National Conventions.

C-27 NORWOOD, MA

Upon arrival at Boston's Logan International Airport at 4 P.M., EST, President Vytautas Landsbergis was greeted on May 5 by some 200 Lithuanians of the Boston area. Both young and older Lithuanians presented the President with flowers and singing "Lietuva Brangi - Mano Tevynė". Overwhelmed by the reception, President Landsbergis thanked everyone for the support given him.

Norwood's C-27 President, George Barton, extended greetings from the New England District Knights of Lithuania expressing our prayers and hopes for a free Lithuania.

Stanley Wasil, the newest member of C-27 brought along signs reading



C-27 Norwood Pres. George Barton with Pres. Vytautas Landsbergis

"Democracy and Freedom for Lithuania." We need more members like Stanley Wasil. Our meetings will be extended beyond June due to the 4th of July participation in the town's annual parade. We received many ovations on last year's parade entry and hope that this year's will be better.

George Barton

C-36 CHICAGO, IL

Thanks to Elena Sirutiene & William Liauba for their wonderful Lithuanian cultural program at our meetings. We are learning so many things about Lithuania.

Some council members sent in donations for medical aid to Lithuania which were forwarded to Robert Boris, national chairman.

We will not forget the speaker at our April meeting, George O'Hare, whom Dave Gaidas invited. He said one must develop a good script and delivery when asked "How do you feel or how are you doing?" Always answer in the positive, "Terrific and getting better." The

speaker is a nationally recognized business and public relations consultant. He also gave a few hints on how to obtain new members.

On May 19 many of our council members were present at Midway Airport to greet President & Mrs. Landsbergis of Lithuania. It was a blustery hot, sunny day. Many sacrificed to show our honored guest how much we love Lithuania. They were greeted with bouquets of flowers and chants of "Lietuva". Pres. Landsbergis spoke briefly with strong patriotic words. At Immaculate Conception Church a beautiful opera was presented by the Lithuanian Opera. In the church hall, the President spoke to a large gathering. This gave everyone an opportunity to personally meet with him.

The President and his wife officially opened the Dainų Šventė celebration. The Lithuanian Opera was superb; the ballet magnificent; and the juniors danced beautifully. The University of Illinois resounded with Lithuanian music. We are proud of our K of L members who participated.

Evelyn Ozelis, our president, thanks all officers and committees for their unending work in this great project, i.e., Ray Wertelka, Mary Kincius, Sabina Henson, Joe Martikenis, Frances Urbazus, Val Vilunas, Sophia Zukas, Irene Norushis, Vince Samaska, Tony Stakenis and Sgts of Arms Dijokas, Grigalunas and Kincius, Ann Marie Kassel, Liauba, Evelyn Ozelis, David Gaidas, Elena Sirutis, Helen Meizes, Irene Norushis, Frank Grigalunas, and V. Dijokas.

It was sad to have lost Tekla Ruchis and John Henson, mother and husband of Sabina Henson. May eternal rest grant unto them.

Get well wishes go to all our sick members. We miss you at our meetings. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sabina Henson

C-100 AMSTERDAM, NY

With the choir singing melodious Lithuanian hymns to the Blessed Virgin Mary on May 13, Fr. Baltch held Mass for the deceased members. Pres. Tice welcomed back Father who gave the opening prayer after his serious illness.

June 14 was designated as Baltic Freedom Day in New York State and Bernice Aviza of C-136 prepared a resolution to submit to the Albany legislature. Pres. Tice, Polly Ziausys attended the District meeting held on June 2 in Great Neck.

Edward Barkowski, pres. of C-136 invited members to a weekend at Kennebunkport, ME from Sept. 7 through 9th. Lodging will be at the Franciscan Monastery

Our Lithuanian friend, Audrius Bruzga who attended Union College last year, wrote to inform us that he was in Vilnius on that memorable day in January defending the TV station.

Refreshments were served by Betty Kuzmich, Helen Wojcik, Mirga Bablin and Judy Kastraveckas.

SMILE & SPARKLE

C-109 GREAT NECK, NY

On a very warm, sunny day, June 2nd, our council hosted the Mid-Atlantic District luncheon and meeting in Great Neck. With some apprehension, the members decided that NOW it was OUR time - that we had not hosted a District Meeting for many years. We had to find the way to assume the obligation that eventually falls on each and every council in the district. We are proud to report that it was most successful. While we do admit there is no monetary profit, there is a great deal of personal satisfaction, and we have graciously been accepting many compliments that have come our way.

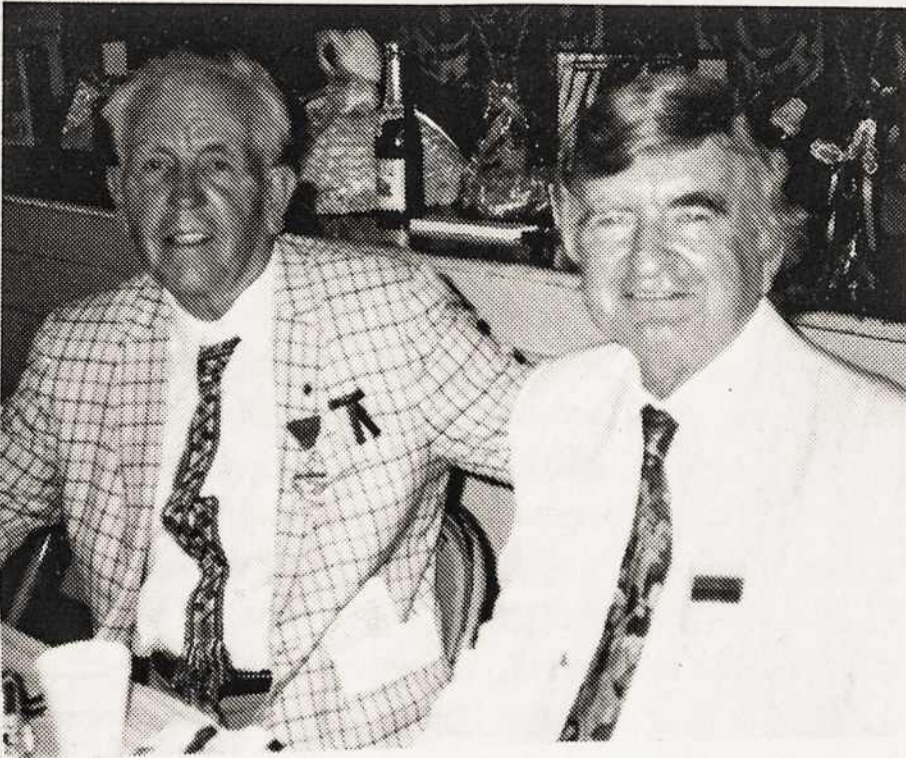
Our non-Lithuanian parish clergy of St. Aloysius Church supported our endeavor in every way. The Mass, starting with the Lithuanian National Anthem, sung by a choir which does not speak our language, was thrilling to hear. The procession of all K of L members, preceded by the flags, and Starsy Wesley and Stella Matulonis in Lithuanian costumes, brought to mind how important our heritage is, and how grateful we are to the Lord who is constantly watching over us. The Pastor, Rev. John Gorman, gave us great publicity in the church bulletin (incidentally, loved our Lithuanian "ausukės"); and during the Mass celebrated by Pastor Emeritus Rev. Joseph Dunn, as well as in his introductory address and prayers prior to the luncheon, he remarked how impressive we were in number,

devotion and loyalty to our parent's homeland. We were pleased and we thank them for their kindness. Msgr. Frank Bulovas, Pastor of Transfiguration Lithuanian Church, Maspeth, who will be retiring in September, was able to attend the afternoon meeting and we are always pleased by his presence. Msgr. is the District, as well as our council's spiritual advisor.

Our luncheon and meeting held in the parish auditorium (in the school which, unfortunately, is now closed) was brightly decorated and seemed spacious in size. Each individual was pinned with a Lithuanian emblem - either a needlepointed flag or a colorful crocheted mini-hat, and also given a small packet of favors which were donations from various local institutions. We thank our caterer for the scrumptious lunch which was both delicious and plentiful. (We, Lithuanians, all have good appetites). Our guest speaker, Vytautas Vebeliunas, having just returned from a trip to Lithuania, spoke on the hardships endured by the people, and their determination to not only survive, but to proceed with peaceful negotiations towards their right to freedom and independence. He was very



Mandate committee at MAD meeting: Jean Mactutis, Irene Senken and Amy Girdauskas.



Al Wesey with Vytautas Vebeliunas, guest speaker at MAD meeting.

patient to take part in a question and answer session, which cleared up some of the questions asked.

The District meeting followed and everything fell into place.

We thank all our own members who participated in the planning stages, the preparation, the donations, the manual labor, and the clean-up of this day. This was a concerted effort and, yet, we would be remiss not to mention a few names, individuals who helped tremendously. Starsy & Al Wesey, General Chairman who took charge, generously donated the fresh flowers and potted plants that were given to each one present. (Mary Wesey spent a week just potting each individual plant and hovering over them to guarantee their survival). Co-chairmen Anthony & Mary Kober made caterer arrangements, made the needle-pointed flowers in vases centerpieces for each of the tables which were used as table prizes, handled reservations, the sweepstakes, etc. Jack Malis and Bill Statkevicius took care of the refreshments and how important this was on this very hot afternoon. And the list of members, too numerous to

mention, who were so helpful in every way they could, goes on and on. We do thank them all, for we could not have assumed this great responsibility without them.

As we breathed a sign of relief, the day was over, and we had accomplished what we had set out to do. It CAN be done - and WE DID IT!

Two thoughts worth mentioning: There was NOT one single smoker in our midst during the entire day. (Unplanned, but how delightful that was!) AND..... though delegates to the meeting traveled from distances, from Albany, Amsterdam and even Sadie & John Petraitis representing the Spring Hill, FL C-154, there were NO delegates from any of the five closer-in-distance NEW JERSEY councils. (Food for thought?)

Sincere condolences are extended to Stella Matulonis, new member to our

council, on the very sudden death of her husband, Vito, a quiet, polite gentleman, of a gentle nature. Our heartfelt sympathies also go out to their daughter, Dr. Ursula, known affectionately as "Suzy". Clerical vestments donated by their neighboring friends are now on their way to Lithuania. Our National Officers assembling at the March 16 New Haven, CT meeting will remember Vito, who, with Stella, was in attendance. Rest in peace, dear friend.

Welcome to new members, Bertha & Albert Bedell and Linda & Peter Henry. We will be receptive to any of your new ideas. Mary Pelkus traveled to Keosauqua, Iowa, to witness the high school graduation of her only grandson, Paul McCoy. How proud we are! Congratulations to Arthur & Adele Nelson's son Mark, a pre-med student, who was married on the day of the District meeting. We missed them and others who attended the wedding.

Our Vice Pres. Bertha Fuchs had the misfortune to wrench her back, resulting in a prolonged recuperative period. With Howie's tender loving care, we know her inactivity will become bearable. Anne Miklas is preparing for



C-152 Eastern Long Island at MAD meeting: l to r: Bertha Lucka, Peter & Cam Dykowitz, Ed & Dolores Shemet, Tom & Ann Tarmey.



C-110 Maspeth at MAD meeting: l to r: Ann Jakalaitis, Anne & Joseph Duggan, Anthony & Helen Yakaitis, Evelyn & Iggy Walles.

additional surgery in July and we certainly wish her well. Members still in recovery include Stacia Wain, Phil Rutha and Anne Reardon. We want you back soon.

It is with pleasure that we finally announce the appointment of a Ritual Chairperson, Stella Matulonis. We have been lax in this regard and it will take time to check all past records to assign Ritual points to those who have earned them.

We send good thoughts to K of L members who will soon be meeting at the National Convention in Florida in August. To all others - have an enjoyable and safe summer!Jo Z.

C-110 - MASPETH, NY

During May, a Mass in honor of the Lithuanian youth, as well as a memorial to those killed on January 13 by the Russians was celebrated by Bishop Daily at the Cathedral Basilica of St. James in Brooklyn. The following members attended: Albina & John Mattina, Sophie & Peter Zuyus, Helen Matulonis, Ann Ackalitis, Anne Morrissey, Evelyn & Iggy Walles, Mary Penikas, Jean, Brian and Bruno Rutkunas. After Mass, light

refreshments were served in the cathedral's hall where the Lithuanian youth gave their rendition of a few folk dances which was very entertaining.

There was a great need for repairs to be made on the hall's entrance steps and restoring loose bricks on the rectory's entrance. Our members authorized that this work be done and our moderator and pastor, Msgr. Bulovas, was grateful for this action.

Anne Morrissey, chairlady for the "Demonstrations and Lithuanian Action" arranged for our council to

march and be represented in Maspeth's Memorial Day Parade. This was the first time we joined with other organizations to remember the dead. We displayed signs listing the 14 Lithuanians killed in Vilnius on January 13 along with remembering the American servicemen and women who sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom. Evelyn & Iggy Walles and Brian Rutkunas joined Anne & Paul Morrissey at the Memorial Park. A few non-members also participated (Glenn Urbanas and friend). As the parade



C-110 Maspeth members participating in Memorial Day parade. . l to r: Helen Matulonis, Iggy Walles, Al Marcel, Evelyn Walles and Brian Rutkunas.

approached the vicinity of Transfiguration Church, a dozen more K of L'ers fell into formation, as many sidewalk spectators applauded. We placed a Lithuanian decorated wreath and an American wreath at the Lithuanian Wayside Shrine in front of the church. Without the dedication of Anne & Paul Morrissey who attended the preliminary meetings, we would not have been able to highlight the massacre of those Lithuanians killed by the Russians.

At our monthly meeting, Treas. Roman Wensek who just returned from a Las Vegas vacation, reported that our dinner-dance held in April was a huge financial and social success. The raffle proceeds were designated to support Lithuanian Relief. Many thanks were extended to chairlady Marie Stungurys for her gift donations and decorating the hall for this occasion.. Joe & Mary Stelmokas volunteered to be chairpersons for our October dance.

A full page ad was authorized for the National Convention ad journal.

We had three bus trips in June; one to Atlantic City, one to Canada and the other to Doylestown, PA. It was a great task handling three bus trips at the same time.

Our pastor and spiritual advisor, Msgr. Bulovas will retire in September. He will be replaced by Rev. Raymond Wicks. However, Msgr. will remain with the parish for the time being. We wish Msgr. Ad Multos Annos on his retirement. *Bruno Rutkunas*

C-112 CHICAGO, IL

We extend our congratulations to following new members who received first degrees at the Feb. meeting: Irene Skuodis, Genevieve Mazeika, Andrius Baltrusaitis, Apolinaras Bagdonas, Genevieve Pivoris, Sister Tarcisia Stuglis, Stephanie Markvaldas, Emily Perkins and Sister Theresa Papsis. Second degrees were given to Helen Vilkelis and third degree given to Theresa Vaitkus.

By now you have all learned of the passing of a very special man, Albert Zakarka. Al, or as he was affectionately

called A.Z because of the many Al's in our council, was a true friend in every sense of the word to many people. There was never a committee in existence on which he did not serve or an office that he did not hold. Tireless and enthusiastic, a very committed man to the K of L, he will be missed tremendously. We offer our heartfelt condolences to his wonderful family.

Our March meeting centered around a St. Joseph's table, laden with all types of tempting dishes brought by members for all to enjoy. Guest speaker from GT International Travel Agency did a presentation, complete with slides on tours to Lithuania.

We welcome with pleasure Eleanore Laurin, a lady who was active in the council and district for many years. She was the guest speaker at our April meeting relating on the history of our council and the Knights of Lithuania. She supplied us with much information on the founding of our organization. This was especially interesting to our newer members and some not-so-new members who may have forgotten quite



Members and guests with Ann Jillian at Drury Lane Oakbrook Theatre in Chicago which event was arranged by C-112 member Estelle Rogers.

a few things. Our thanks to you Eleanore.

We held our only fund raiser of the year, a Games Afternoon Party, at Nativity BVM Parish Hall in April. Members and guests played bingo and enjoyed refreshments - a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Thanks goes out to two hard working ladies, Ann Marie Juraitis and her mother, Vera Paukstis. They always come through for us, running many successful and enjoyable affairs.

Rita Zakarka continues to do a wonderful job as Lithuanian Affairs chairlady. Her enthusiasm inspires us all in our letter writing efforts. She is also doing a nice job raising funds for medical supplies to Lithuania. More power to her. *Gerrie*

C-130 HUDSON-MOHAWK, NY

Most members of our council were present and accounted for helping at the Festival of Nations held on May 18. It was a beautiful day; there was a good crowd and our booth was very successful.

The hit of the day was our potato pancakes, cooked to order, piping hot and delicious. Peggy Fuerst and her son, Richie, did most of the cooking and it was a job well done.

In addition to the potato pancakes, we offered the traditional Tree Cake and walnut cookies donated by Ginute Baranauskas.

Our closing meeting held on June 13 at a local restaurant for dinner was a huge success. We also look forward to the Retreat to be held on Sept. 6 - 8, for a weekend at Kennebunkport, ME at the Franciscan Lithuanian Monastery. A chartered bus will be our transportation.

We wish all K of L members and their families a safe, healthy and happy summer. *Dorothy Richmire*

C-140 SYRACUSE, NY

C-140 members have been busy writing to various public officials about the Lithuanian situation. We also contributed to the medical supplies. We must do everything within our power to assist Lithuania to gain her complete freedom.

Our Christmas Party was a success with many of our members and six guests in attendance. It was a covered dish affair. As you know, a covered dish affair can bring many pleasant surprises. Thanks to Veronica Sutkus who handled the arrangements.

Independence Day celebration started off with a Mass at St. Stephen's Church. Our program opened with the proclamation reading by Pres. Frank Petrauskas. This year it was tied in with the independence movement of March 1990. Arunas Juska, our Lithuanian student at Syracuse University gave an excellent talk on Lithuania. He has been in the United States since Aug. 1989. Cassie Stanley treated us to an assortment of refreshments which she does each Independence Day. It was good to see a large turnout of members and guests.

St. Casimir Day began with Mass for members and guests. Pres. Petrauskas read the life of St. Casimir after which we had a discussion on St. Casimir. Mary Zutant served the refreshments which topped off a fine St. Casimir Day.

Four of our members attended the Amber District meeting at Maizeville in March. They were Veronica Sutkus, Dawn Rudd, Frank & Irene Petrauskas. They reported that it was a good meeting with Pres. John Mickunas and his officers doing an excellent job. C-144 treated us royally with food, drinks and hospitality.

We are happy to report that two of our members announced their engagement.

Anita Yuskauskas and Chris Fink set Oct. 19, 1991 as their wedding day. They plan to have their wedding a typical old-fashioned Lithuanian wedding. Anita is having her gown made in Lithuania. Congratulations to Anita and Chris.

We recently signed up four new members. They are Meg & Marcia Wilton, Arunas Juska and Ray Tomasunas. Meg and Margaret are the daughters of member Mike Wilton. They are high school students who wish to learn more about Lithuania and become involved in Lithuanian affairs. Arunas is our Lithuanian student studying at Syracuse University. He will receive his Masters in Sociology in August and then continue to work on his Doctorate. Ray is an art teacher at a high school. His home town in Rochester and has been involved in Lithuanian activities. Welcome and congratulations to all. They will be a fine asset to our council.

Have a good summer and let's all meet in "St. Pete." *Pusbrolis*

C-142 WASHINGTON, DC

The President of Lithuania? The Bishop of Vilkaviškis? A dance and song ensemble from Vilnius? You'll find members of C-142 in attendance and engaging in other year-long activities and festivals in Washington, which, at the nation's capital attracts a ceaseless flow of Lithuanian officials, churchmen and artists.

Affairs of a quieter nature serve as a welcome change for members. As, for instance, a party at the attractive home of Beverly Meder who invited us and neighboring friends for a relaxed Sunday afternoon of eating and talking. Featuring "a taste of Lithuania, New England Style", Beverly arranged a superb menu of Lithuanian food accompanied by a printed sheet for each

guest listing the different dishes in English and flawless Lithuanian. These included such all-time favorites as borsciq, sruba, silkė su smetona and dešros su kopustais.

On a different note, Vice Pres. Kay Yankoski, accompanied by Gene & Al Cizauskas, called upon the Vicar General of the Arlington Diocese to request a special prayer for the Lithuanian people to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful each Sunday during the season of Lent. The Vicar agreed to ask the pastors of the diocese to do so. He also expressed considerable interest in Lithuanian history so that the meeting with him went well beyond the time originally scheduled.

Vice Pres. Kay also wrote several letters on Lithuanian issues which appeared earlier this year in Washington's prestigious journal, the Post.

On Sun., April 14, the co-writer of this article gave another talk on the byways and highways of Lithuanian history, to follow up one he had given some time ago on Lithuanian women who had ruled Czarist Russia. This time his remarks dealt with life in the royal court of Vytautas the Great where the magnificence and barbarity of the age existed side by side. Personal details of Vytautas as a prince and man served to give him flesh and blood, lifting him out of the pages of history books where we usually see him.

The Knights were represented at a talk given by Lithuania's Pres. Landsbergis in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on May 6 during which he spoke about recent events in Lithuania. he also assured his audience of American businessmen that Lithuania's liberal prewar policy toward foreign investment would be re-established and invited them to invest in the Lithuanian economy. The address was arranged by Linas Kojelis, president of the U.S. Baltic

Foundation.

Bishop Žemaitis of the Vilkaviškis diocese celebrated Mass on May 16 at the Siluva Chapel in Washington's Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. A reception was held in his honor the following evening at the Lithuanian Legation. Bishop Žemaitis said that the Lithuanian church is slowly being revived after half a century of severe Communist repression. Vocations to the priesthood are encouragingly up and the many church buildings throughout the land, architectural jewels, are being restored from the negligence and vandalism they had suffered in the hands of the Communists.

Gene & Al Cizauskas

C-154 SPRING HILL, FL

The Executive Committee met at the home of Sadie & John Petraitis in New Port Richey to set into motion the agenda for the next several months.

The first order of business was to initiate a Health & Welfare Committee. Ed & Tillie Laconis accepted the assignment. George Mayer recently received information from the Bayonet Point Medical Society relative to what has been called "a Health Party." Just as jewelry, brushes and housewares are sold at home parties, this health group offers to send a team of personnel to private homes to bring health care information. Because our membership has reached an age that will benefit from measures that can make our future health concerns more understandable, we are looking forward to a party as soon as one can be arranged by our Health Committee.

Charles Kuralt has a TV show called "On the Road in the U.S.A." Our members, Annette & Bill Gnezevich have clocked more miles as they travel the roads of the U.S.A. than any one we have ever met.

On July 5, George & Helen Mayer

celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. A celebration was planned by their children. Many happy returns of the day. Their granddaughter, Carolyn Gehrig, has distinguished herself by receiving five scholarships, two of which were awarded by the New York City Police Dept. Congratulations Carolyn!

Anne Gribauskas underwent eye surgery with excellent results.

We are eagerly looking forward to the St. Petersburg convention of the Knights of Lithuania. We will be on hand to make your visit a truly memorable one. For those who have never been to Florida, we know you will enjoy the unique weather, the beauty and way of life we enjoy here. The attractions that have been suggested as sites to visit are like no other ones in the world. Come and enjoy! *S. G. Petraitis*





Blanche Zukas of Great Neck, Helen & Peter Kenny of Eastern Long Island at MAD meeting and luncheon.



George Tumasonis, Bill Kumeta and Mary Shalins of C-41 Brooklyn at MAD Luncheon.



Members and guests at MAD Luncheon: l to r: Bernice Aviza, Sadie & John Petraitis, Sylvia & Al Bukas, Stella Matulonis and Polly Ziausys



Kestutis Miklas and John Sakal at MAD Luncheon



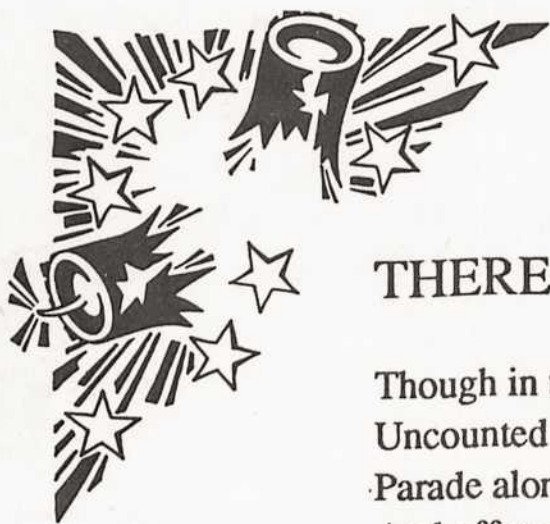
Mary & Al Wesey at Parish Hall at the festivities.

112

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14

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THERE IS BUT ONE LITHUANIA

Though in the blue fields, east and west,
 Uncounted stars and starlets nest;
 Parade along the azure plains,
 And offer pleasures without pains;
 Yet of the numberless array,
 Only the sun beams smiling day —
 Only the sun beams smiling day.

Though many countries I adore,
 I live Lithuania much more;
 I love her homes and winding roads;
 To her I pen Dainas and Odes:
 And at the end of my last day
 To her I'll give my heart away —
 To her I'll give my heart away.

Though there are lands in this wide world
 Where champagne gleams in cups of gold;
 Where woodlands whisper olden tale,
 And buds work wonders in green vales:
 And yet of many lands but one,
 Only Lithuania is our own —
 Only Lithuania is our own.



Nadas Rastenis

