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1991

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

VOL. 77: No. 9

LAPKRITIS / NOVEMBER



Historical event taking place in New York City when the tri-colored Lithuanian flag was raised at the U.N.

Photo: U.N. Staff

VYTIS

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

LAPKRITIS / NOVEMBER
1991
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LITHUANIA - FREE AT LAST!

Celebrations Everywhere

by Loretta Stukas

With prayers, letters to editors and the media, demonstrations, seminars, commemorations, Knights of Lithuania and other Lithuanians in the free world spoke out for 50 years, against the injustices being imposed on their suffering brothers and sisters in Lithuania, in what seemed to be a vain attempt to tell the world of Lithuania's plight and to enlist aid for the return of her independence from the brutal occupiers, the Soviet Union. We commemorated Lithuanian Independence Day, read proclamations from Presidents, Governors, Mayors and other U.S. leaders and spoke out against the incarceration of dissidents, vowing not to forget these seemingly forgotten occupied people, yearning to be free.

As a bit of light began to dawn with "perestroika" and "glasnost", we rejoiced with Lithuania as she bravely redeclared her independence in May, 1990, prayed that she survive the blockade of the summer of 1990, mourned with her as she buried innocent victims of the Jan. 13, 1991 bloody attack on the Vilnius TV Tower and the July 30 execution of customs officers at Medininkai. As Knights, we sent containers of medical supplies, books, food, clothing, religious goods, baby things to Lithuanians, to help them keep body and soul together, always hoping for an independence breakthrough. Pres. Bush and the USA government continued to stall in recognition of Lithuanian Independence.....Pres. Landsbergis continued to stand firm in his political and moral conviction that Lithuania CANNOT back off of its resolve, and that Lithuania SHOULD AND WILL BE FREE!

Then it happened! An aborted coup in the USSR, the collapse of the Communist Party in Russia and the other republics, destruction of monuments to Lenin and other symbols of the hated occupation throughout the USSR, a new and confused Soviet Union made up of republics racing to declare THEIR independence, all signaled an end to the stifling Communist oppression and the opening of doors and windows to let in the

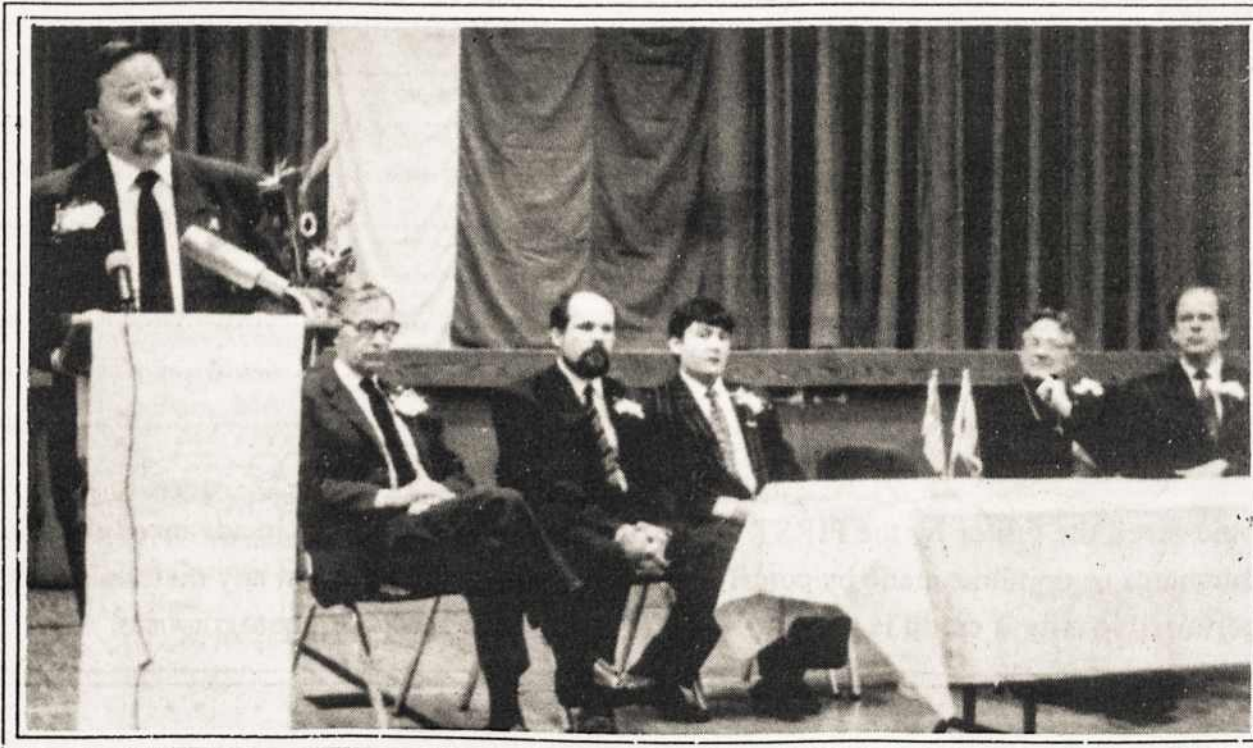
fresh air of freedom and self-determination, especially to Lithuania and her sister Baltic Republics of Estonia and Latvia.

Free nations of the world now raced to recognize the three Baltic nations as independent. On Sept. 2 Pres. Bush finally recognized the three Baltic Republics as independent countries and vowed to exchange ambassadors and provide humanitarian and economic aid to the three nations. Finally, on Sept. 6, members of the reorganized Soviet Union Peoples' Council voted to release the Baltic Republics from the USSR. Free at last!

How does one celebrate such an event, an event that most of us did not dream could happen in our lifetime? How do we handle the beautiful sight of Lithuania's President speaking at the United Nations, representing a nation now a full member of this august body? How do we express the jubilation of seeing former dissidents for whom we prayed so long now leading free lives again Balys Gajauskas is televised walking through the now abandoned cells of the KGB where he had been incarcerated for so many years Rev. Sigitas Tamkevicius is elevated to Bishop and named head of CARITAS Rev. Al. Svarinskas is elected to public office in his village. How do we cope with the elevation of our Lithuanian Legation to an Embassy? Can it be true?

From coast to coast, American Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians prayed, popped champagne, partied, were interviewed by members of the media, met with national, state and city leaders and congratulated one another on this great event. To fully capture the fullness of these celebrations and events is impossible. But we hope we can provide at least a kaleidoscope of the events surrounding this important mo-

ment in history. While the celebrations varied in scope, intensity, flavor, one common thread appears in all of them... UNITY! Regardless of who organized the events, they were shared by members of ALL groups.



Pres. Landsbergis speaking to audience at Lithuanian Cultural Center in Brooklyn.



Pres. Bush speaking to a group of Baltics.

tives of all three Baltic Republics, all joined hands to celebrate the victory.

SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EVENTS

PRES. BUSH MEETS BALTIC LEADERS

Saying that he welcomed the Baltic Republics "back to the commonwealth of freedom", Pres. Bush met with 3 Baltic diplomats posted in the US and about 50 Baltic-Americans, to discuss his plans to assist the Baltic Republics in reintegrating their countries into the West. The meeting was held Sept. 11 in the Roosevelt Room of the White House. Mr. Bush announced a six-point program which included 1) U.S. co-sponsorship of the Baltic Republics for admission into the UN on Sept. 17; 2) unfreezing of financial assets in the U.S. held by the pre-WW-II Baltic governments; 3) normalization of U.S. economic relations with the Baltic Republics; 4) U.S. assistance in integrating the Baltic economies into the world economy; 5) coordinated efforts by the U.S. and its allies to provide economic assistance; and 6) establishment of a Peace Corps program.

Mr. Bush paid tribute to the three Baltic diplomats, lauding their "tireless devotion" to Baltic freedom during the "dark days" of the Cold War and also praised Baltic-Americans who worked for Baltic independence, saying their actions "honored" both the Baltic States and the United States. Other speakers included Deputy Asst. Secretary of State for European Affairs Curtis Kamman and National Security Council Director for European Affairs Nicholas Burns, who provided added details on the President's remarks. Ed Derwinski, Sec. for Veterans Affairs announced that his department would supply the Baltics with surplus medical equipment.

Stasys Lozoraitis, now Ambassador to the U.S. and Anicetas Simutis, now Ambassador to the UN, represented the

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Lithuanian diplomatic Corps. Other attendees represented various Lithuanian organizations. Loretta Stukas attended, representing the Knights of Lithuania. After the meeting, the Baltic representatives enjoyed champagne and snacks at the Lithuanian Embassy.

NEW JERSEY GOVERNOR RECOGNIZES BALTIC INDEPENDENT REPUBLICS

Gov. Jim Florio directed New Jersey's international trade office to pursue trade links with the independent nations of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia at a meeting Sept. 6 with Baltic community leaders in the Governor's Trenton office. "With freedom come new opportunities for everyone. The best foundation for freedom is a strong economy and we, in New Jersey, want to do all we can to help. We already have deep ties with the Baltic States and we're exploring ways to make them stronger," said Gov. Florio. "One of the best places to start is in trade. I envision a host of joint ventures and we, in New Jersey, have the ability, the location and the willingness to establish export-import ties with these countries." New Jersey pharmaceutical, communications and electronic companies have the technology to undertake these activities and the state's East Coast location, air and sea transportation facilities, and strong ties with Western Europe underscore the potential for doing business with the Baltics.

Representatives of each of the Baltic Republics also spoke, providing added ideas for trading with the Baltics. Dr. Jack Stukas spoke on behalf of the Lithuanians, stressing the need for immediate action, so that New Jersey can benefit from the transformation of the Baltic societies into market-driven economies. Before the general meeting, Dr. Jack Stukas, NJ Ethnic Advisory Council member Loretta Stukas and Dr. Vytautas Sirvydas, Chief Cardiac Surgeon of the Vilnius University Hospital took part in an earlier meeting of Baltic representatives and the Governor's staff.

Gov. Florio and his staff have demonstrated their concern for the Baltic Republics with concrete actions in the past. We look forward to more such actions in the future, especially now that the Baltics have become free nations.

LITHUANIA IN THE UN

Not the least of Lithuania's accomplishments in the month of Sept. was her admittance into the United Nations. The event was formalized on Sept. 17 with the United States and a host of other nations co-sponsoring their membership, and with their acceptance by acclamation.

Pres. Landsbergis was eloquent in his acceptance speech, speaking of the importance of self-determination for all

nations and telling the world that all are welcome to visit Lithuania as true friends and that all citizens of Lithuania will be treated with full respect and provided all the privileges of citizenship, regardless of national origin. He vowed that Lithuania will be true to all that is expected of her as a full member of the community of free nations. The UN session was followed by a flag raising ceremony in front of the UN Building in Manhattan. There were emotional moments when each of the Baltic Republic flags were raised, to the cheers of the crowd and the shouts of "Lietuva, Lietuva." Later that evening, the Baltic leaders were congratulated at a reception in the Polish Club in Manhattan.

A day before the UN ceremony, the three Baltic Presidents were received by Pres. Bush in the White House Rose Garden, where he congratulated them and pledged U.S. help in establishing their new economies.

Before returning to Lithuania, Pres. Landsbergis and his entourage were feted at a Bon Voyage reception at the Lithuanian Cultural Center in Brooklyn, as guests of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. Some 300 people gathered at mid-day Thurs. Sept. 19. Many K of L'ers, including Mary & Anthony Kober, Joe & Josephine Zukas, Jean Karpus, Jack & Loretta Stukas, Ed & Irene Senkus and Ann Morrissey were in the audience. Pres. Landsbergis and Ambassador Lozoraitis again expressed thanks for past work and asked for future help for Lithuania. The crowd toasted Pres.



Gov. Florio of NJ with Loretta Stukas and other Lithuanians.

Landsbergis with champagne and each attendee was provided the opportunity to personally greet Pres. Landsbergis and the other members of the delegation.

TOWARD CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT

Lithuanians of Cape Cod, led by Alfonsas Petrutis, former Lithuanian Chief at the Voice of America, and now head of the local Lithuanian American Community, included the acceptance of a "thank you" resolution as part of their celebration on Sept. 4. Later, Mr. Petrutis and his wife Regina, plus John Pautienis and Edward Shakalis, went to the Hyannis office of US Rep. Gerry Studds to present the Congressman with the resolution, thanking him for backing Lithuania's drive for independence and seeking his continued political support in Washington for economic and technical aid for Lithuania. Rep. Studds has entered the resolution into the *Congressional Record*, expressed his joy that freedom has finally been restored to the Baltics and vowed to continue to press for measures which offer support for the people of the Baltic nations "as they make the difficult transition to true independence."

Congressmen from various other states also wrote to their constituents, expressing congratulations and pledging future support for economic aid to the Baltic Republics.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

In the Anthracite area of Pennsylvania, celebrations began with Masses of Thanksgiving in all the Lithuanian churches in the area. A special Mass was sponsored by C-144 at our Lady of Siluva Church of Maizeville, Sept. 29, and was followed by a champagne reception.

The flags of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania flew free once again as Baltic Americans gathered for a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Freedom of the Baltic States at Holy Cross Church, Dayton, OH. The Sept. 8 events included a Mass, a procession in which the American and three Baltic flags were carried to the Shrine of the Three Crosses and a wreath was laid in honor of those who gave their lives in the three nations for freedom. A reception followed, where various dignitaries representing all three countries spoke and traditional Lithuanian foods were served. Local newspapers covered the events, featuring photos and interviews with the participants. All three local TV stations provided wide coverage. K of L C-96 was prominent in planning the event and National President Fran Petkus, Elinor Sluzas, Aldona Ryan and Rev. Vaclovas Katarskis headed the committee.

Daytona Beach, FL Lithuanian American Council (ALTAS) sponsored an independence celebration on Sept.





K of L'ers at Lithuanian Cultural Center with the President. Standing: Ed Senken, Joe Zukas. Seated: Josephine Senken, Mary Kober and Ann Morrissey.

8 beginning with Mass in the Prince of Peace Church, Ormund Beach. The Mass in a non-Lithuanian church included Lithuanian prayers and readings, as well as hymns by the local Lithuanian choir "Sietynas". A formal program of talks, poetry and a choral concert followed the Mass, and a celebration with food, liquid refreshments and socializing ended the day's happy event.

St. Peter's Church in South Boston, MA offered thanks to God for Lithuania's Independence on Sept. 8 and again on Sept. 15. The Sept. 8 Mass was originally intended to commemorate the Blessed Mother's Birthday and the Lithuanian National Day, but this year, thanksgiving also entered the prayers. The Sept. 15 Mass offered by Pastor Albert Contons, the day before his departure for Lithuania, was again in Thanksgiving for Lithuania's freedom and asking God's blessing on his journey.

All the Lithuanian churches of New Jersey expressed thanks to God, Our Lady and St. Casimir with special Masses of Thanksgiving during Sept. and were widely publicized on TV and the local media. Newark's Holy Trinity Church combined the celebration with their parish's 90th Anniversary. At the Anniversary Mass, Newark's Archbishop McCarrick, a long time friend of Lithuania, spoke of how Lithuania's 50 years of suffering did not sway her from her devotion to Christ and His Church. He congratulated local Lithuanians on their work on behalf of the land of their heritage.

Bridgeport, CT C-141 held their Mass of Thanksgiving on

Oct. 6 in St. Casimir's Church and the Greater Hartford Baltics celebrated and expressed thanks at an ecumenical service in the Hartford Cathedral in October.

Likewise, C-152 Eastern Long Island fittingly honored this joyous occasion by sponsoring a Mass of Thanksgiving in a non-Lithuanian Church, St. Patrick's in Southold. The welcoming homily by pastor, Rev. Martin Osborne, recounted for the congregation in a very appropriate address the depths of slavery and degradation from which Lithuania has now been raised. Following Mass, council members and guests gathered in the church hall for refreshments and the sharing of fraternal joy at the meaning of that day. It was one celebration where the power of God over earthly events was emphasized.

Without a doubt, many other K of L councils and communities held special Masses of Thanksgiving in their parishes, and we congratulate all of you for your efforts.

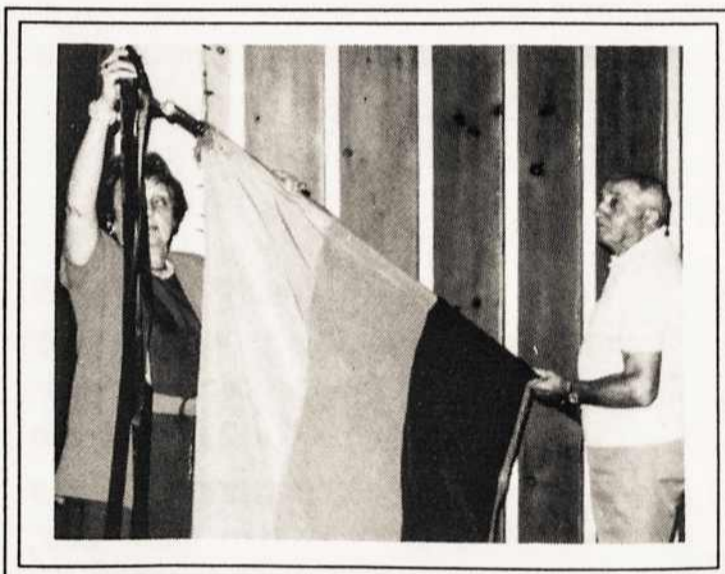
CHAMPAGNE, ANYONE?

For days after the coup, Chicago Lithuanians let it be known that a celebration was in order at 7 p.m. of the day Pres. Bush recognized Lithuania as independent. Conveniently, it was Labor Day, so some 1,500 or 2,000 people gathered at the Lithuanian World Center, Lemont, IL, for a program and picnic. Champagne was served by the Center, pizza was donated by the Lithuanian owners of Bacino's Pizza - Dr. Biskis and the Bacinkas family. The program included congratulations from local Congressmen and other political and cultural leaders. A new Lithuanian flag, dedicated to those who sacrificed their lives for Lithuanian independence, was raised, and music and dancing in the moonlight completed the excitement of the evening. A special guest at the event was Dr. Vytautas Sirvydas, Head of Cardiac Surgery at Vilnius University Hospital, who attended the Lithuanian Physicians' Convention in Chicago Labor Day weekend. Dr. Sirvydas, who was on a special study assignment at Deborah Hospital in New Jersey for three months, made many contacts for humanitarian and medical aid to Lithuania. C-36 member Al Domanskis helped organize the event, which was attended by many other K of L'ers.

In mid-Sept., Chicago's Lithuanian Consul Vaclovas Kleiza feted representatives of American Lithuanian organizations and diplomats from many nations with champagne and refreshments at the Balzekas Museum in Chicago. Evelyn Ozelis, Estelle Rogers, Dell Zunas were among the Knights of Lithuania members present.

Baltimore's celebration sponsored by the "Free Lithuania Committee" was also held on Labor Day. It was called to coincide with Pres. Bush's announcement. Included in the 500 some guests at the Lithuanian Club of Baltimore were Maryland's Gov. Schaeffer, Sen. Barbara Mikulski, Cong. Cardin, Bently & Mfume, and media representatives of three TV networks. The party was scheduled for early in the day so that it could be televised live on the 5:30 News. Guests talked, danced and enjoyed sandwiches, fruit champagne and other refreshments - a well earned pause while they prepared to begin their next steps in helping Lithuania. National Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Vince Boris helped organize this event.

The Los Angeles Baltic community's spontaneous Independence celebration, on Labor Day, at the Lithuanian parish hall, announced by word of mouth and local media, brought



HM Loretta Stukas & Kazys Sipaila remove ribbon of mourning from Lithuanian flag during AIL celebration.

out an estimated 1,500 people including the 3 Baltic Consulate Representatives, major media representatives, members of the diplomatic corps of several nations, musicians, artists, poets. Thanks to the efforts of Marytė Sepikas, at least 82 members of the local Knights of Lithuania C-133 attended. Each Baltic Consul greeted those present with congratulations and each Baltic nationality provided some cultural talent. Lithuanian Bart Bernardas Brazdionis, together with his daughter and granddaughter thrilled the audience with recitation of some of his poetry. Because St. Casimir's church hall accommodates only about 500 people, much of the celebration, which included champagne and light food, was outdoors where guests sang, danced and socialized late into the evening.

The Baltija Restaurant was the scene of yet another independence champagne celebration on Labor Day in New York which was organized by Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. Consul General Anicetas Simutis (now Lithuania's UN Ambassador). the principal speaker, commented that our work for Lithuania has finally been crowned with the beautiful wreath of independence. The New York network TV

News attended. The Greater New York area viewers were treated to interviews with many Lithuanian activities from New York while party guests were treated to Lithuanian cuisine specialties and good companionship.

The South Boston Lithuanian Club was the site on Sept. 2 for a celebration by local Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians. Some 400 Baltics and their friends joined the celebration. With tears of joy, guests sang each of the Baltic Anthems, then enjoyed refreshments and friendship. The celebration was organized by the local Baltic Freedom committee and was televised by local stations. A more formal celebration to include a Mass and banquet, is planned for Nov. 16.

The 15th annual picnic of the Philadelphia Lithuanian Home, held Sept. 8 took on new meaning this year. Such picnics in the past aimed to collect funds to help Lithuania's cause, encourage visitors to join in the work to help free Lithuania. This year's 600 participants, many wearing Lithuanian shirts, amber and yellow, green and red ribbons, enjoyed the opportunity to rejoice in the fruits of their labor, for now Lithuania is finally independent! After remembering those who gave their lives for Lithuania and singing the National Anthem, the program continued with games and entertainment, Lithuanian music and dancing, traditional foods, and the opportunity to dwell on the good news of Lithuania's independence.

Worcester, MA Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians celebrated the Independence with a Baltic Night at a local Worcester Pub, hosted by Lithuanian Radio Hour Ed Meilus, Jr. The Lithuanian Scout troops "Neringa" and "Nevezis" celebrated an "Evening of Dreams" on Sept. 7 at Marionis Park with members from various Worcester Lithuanian organizations. The Lithuanian National Anthem and "Lietuva Brangi" were sung with great emotion, a short cultural program thrilled listeners and, of course, champagne toasts and refreshments made this truly an evening of "dreams come true". In Oct., the K of L C-26 continued the Worcester celebrations with a banquet commemorating the council's 75th Anniversary.

Over 300 Lithuanians and guests attended the Sept. 12 celebration at the St. Petersburg, FL Lithuanian Club sponsored by the club where everyone enjoyed a delicious Lithuanian dinner, a program of talks about Lithuania, singing and dancing, and, of course, the ever-popular champagne. The profits from the evening, plus donations that night and later, were designated to be donated directly to the Lithuanian government. The celebration netted \$3,000 and, to date, over \$5,000 has been donated to this fund. Congratulations to Lithuanian Club Pres. and Pres. of K of L C-147, Antanas

Gudonis, and his fellow St. Pete's Lithuanians for combining a good time with help for Lithuania.

WORK, MUSIC.....AND MORE CHAMPAGNE

New Jersey's Americans for Independent Lithuania (AIL) which includes representatives of NJ's K of L, Bendruomenė, Youth groups and others interested in helping Lithuania, turned their regularly scheduled meeting of Sept. 3 into a celebration of Lithuania's Independence, with a celebration of champagne, coffee and a wide assortment of home made snacks and sweets. The celebration at the Lithuanian Catholic Community Center in Kearny followed prayers, discussions and plans for the future of the organization. A moving part of the ceremony was a prayer for Lithuania's success by Msgr. D. Pocius, a moment of silence in respect for those who died in Vilnius on Jan. 13 and in Medininkai on July 30 and the removal of the black ribbon of mourning from the Lithuanian flag by Pres. Loretta Stukas and K of L HM Kazys Sipaila. The event was widely covered by the local press.

The New Jersey celebration continued on Sept. 22-23 at the NJ Ethnic Festival. Bronius Muras and his group of musicians and singers, the first group to come from Lithuania since Independence, led some 200 Baltic representatives in the Ethnic parade, entertained later in the day's program and presented Gov. Florio and his wife with Lithuanian art work and amber. Lithuanian display, sales and food tables prepared by AIL and K of L C-90 were most popular and provided guests with ample samples of Lithuanian cuisine and art.

What originally was meant to be a routine "fund raiser" for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, planned as a Musical Baltic Feast, turned into a Baltic Independence Victory celebration at the Bloomfield Hills, MI home of Dr. & Mrs. Robert Galacz. They and co-hostess Virginia Hatzenbeler (Latvians) had fortuitously picked the night before the DSO's season's opening being the first of two Musical Baltic Feasts benefitting the DSO. The recent liberation of the Baltic Republics, the presence of DSO director Neeme Jarvi (Estonian), flags of the Baltic countries decorating the dining areas, the succulent specialty dishes, and the Baltic folk songs played after dinner, made for a most elegant and happy celebration for the 44 guests

present. Bob Boris of C-102 Detroit, was among the organizers and one of the "feast preparers".

In Bridgeport, CT on Sept. 2, in the home of Clem Miller, C-141 President, the council's Lithuanian Affairs committee was busy writing letters to Congress, the President, the media, urging quick recognition of Lithuanian independence. In the midst of their work came the announcement on TV of Pres. Bush's recognition of the Baltics' independence. Their letters were successful even without being mailed. The meeting was closed a few bottles of "bubbly" were retrieved and a well earned celebration was begun, but not until a few congratulatory FAX messages were sent to Lithuania's Pres. Landsbergis and others.

TO TRAVEL OR NOT TO TRAVEL

Long before the USSR coup, members of Lithuanian Opera Chorus of Chicago planned to visit Lithuania where they would perform in the opera "I Lituani", with soloists from Chicago and Lithuania. The group of some 60 singers and guests planned to leave Aug. 25 - which turned out to be the Sunday after the coup! Aug. 20, they were told the group would not go. Aug. 21, the coup was breaking up and now they were going. They left Aug. 25, arrived in Lithuania Aug. 26, and returned Sept. 12. Included in the group were K of L'ers Evelyn Ozelis of C-36 and Glen Perutis and Peter Zansitis of C-16.

The decision was a good one as the group reports. They visited Lithuania at a most historic time. They became the first group of travelers to enter Lithuania using Lithuanian visas.....their performances of the patriotic "I Lituani" were most timely and were received with great emotion and



Dr. V. Sirvydas of Vilnius, Irene Veblaitis, Dr. Jack Stukas enjoy champagne after meeting with New Jersey's Gov. Florio.

jubilation. They visited Parliament and met Pres. Landsbergis who thanked everyone for their help in restoring Lithuania's independence, and reminded them that Lithuania's future success will require many joint efforts and a lot of patience on the part of Lithuanians everywhere. As the group traveled across Lithuania during the week that Lithuania's independence was recognized by the USA and finally by the USSR, champagne corks were not popping in the towns and villages. Lithuania's people, while elated at the news, were apprehensive and in shock, and wondered whether this could be a dream from which they would soon awake! With the Russian army still present and very much in view in all parts of the country, with shortages everywhere, can we wonder why the newly-freed citizens are not yet jumping for joy?

Lithuania - the "little mouse that roared" - began the Soviet Union upheaval with her redeclaration of independence in March, 1990. At that time, the world said it couldn't be done the Russian bear could not be overthrown. But

Christ and His beloved Mother Mary, patroness of Lithuania, answered our prayers - "Palaimink žmonija, išgelbėk vergija". They blessed Lithuania and the other nations under USSR rule yearning to be free. And our Lithuanian people, religious, staid, determined, stalwart, led by Pres. Landsbergis, a leader of remarkably strong morals, principles and determination, showed the world that truth will win out. Let us thank God and all who helped make it happen, and now shift gears as we work to help her economically, physically and morally, to become an exemplary and strong member of the community of independent nations of the world.

(Author's note: Sincerest thanks to Bob and Vince Boris, Fran Petkus, Al Domanskis, Clem Miller, Evelyn Ozelis, Marytė Sepikas, Anna Wargo, Rita Pinkus, Antanas Gudonis, Victor Nakas and the Lithuanian press for providing the information for this story. If your celebration was omitted, we apologize. This was intended only as a cross-section of what went on time and space do not permit us to cover EVERY celebration).

FREEDOM AT LAST IN LITHUANIA

Frances Petkus, K of L President

As Martin Luther King said: Free At Last - We are Free At Last!! Jackie Gleason's famous quote was: "How Sweet It Is!" We can truly relate to these words as we taste the fruits of victory in the struggle to see Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia free and independent. It is truly a glorious feeling to be alive and celebrating in the reward for the years of work the Knights of Lithuania have contributed in helping the Baltic States reach the goal - FREEDOM! The messages many Lithuanians in the States are getting from their families in Lithuania is that much work is ahead but they are FREE! What a ring that word has - FREE!

Many of us have already participated in Masses of Thanksgiving. That is the first step to recovery - prayers! We must believe it was through prayer our mission was accomplished. What about the 24 hours a day Rosary Chain that began following the 77th national convention? Many priests and ministers would say with the Power of Prayer, who can stop success with God behind us? How many of us also turned to St. Casimir and Archbishop Matulaitis for intercessions?

There is work ahead for us. The Knights of Lithuania have also done what is needed when called upon for help. Now we are needed more than ever. Many projects have already begun in the reorganization of Lithuania from an enslaved nation to a democratic state. Members have been and are going over to Lithuania to give input in areas where needed

such as political or otherwise. Our third 40' medical container has already been shipped to Lithuania with over 2 million dollars in value of medical supplies. Members from other areas have been sending medical supplies on their own through the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Center in Brooklyn, NY. Tons of books have already been shipped and continue to be sent over. Help is needed at the Lithuanian College in Rome. Seminarians from Lithuania attending the college need sponsors. With Mr. Stasys Lozoraitis now official Ambassador for Lithuania in the United States, the Lithuanian Embassy will be needing help. As time goes on, we shall keep you informed as requests come in.

Another area we need to cover is to write to our senators, congressmen, newspapers and magazines thanking them for their support the past fifty plus years. And yes, don't forget the TV stations.

With God's help and much prayer we can see speedy success during this transitional period Lithuania is facing. Our convention theme has been answered: TĖ SKAMBA LAISVĖ LIETUVOJE.

I wish to thank the delegates at the 78th National Convention for their support in electing me your president for this term. I am here to work with you. Should you need help from me or the new board, please contact us. Looking forward to a very fruitful year.

WE SHALL OVERCOME

By Leo Venckus

The dry, hot and long summer days are almost gone and over. Not only here in the USA but also in Europe and our dear, old homeland LIETUVA.

While the Knights of Lithuania were praying for the freedom of Lithuania before, during and after attending their annual Convention in Florida, the evil forces of Communism committed another act of terror and murder at the border post of Medininkai killing seven young Lithuanians, some of them perhaps our grandsons or nephews, soaking the dry soil with their blood in that hot summer night. But their blood was not shed in vain.

When the world awoke on Aug. 19 and heard the shocking news about the Coup in Moscow the night before, Lithuania's president Vytautas Landsbergis, who had not slept but prepared a speech during the night, did not waver for a moment; early that morning before the Soviet paratroopers managed to cut off the radio station at Sitkūnai, near Kaunas, Landsbergis warned his people of the looming dangers created by the hardliners hunta. "Avoid useless confrontations and casualties," he said. "Stick to our civil disobedience and passive resistance to the occupants. Their orders are illegal in Lithuania. Our strength lies in our strong will and spirit. We shall overcome. We are with you," said Landsbergis "and we shall remain in our posts until the end. No matter what happens, remember that the darkest part of night is just before dawn. (...tamsiausis nakties dalis būna prieš aušra.)" What a man. What words. They inspired and strengthened the nation.

Boris Yeltsin must have learned from Landsbergis. He, too, did neither bend nor bow to the demands of the hunta of radical Eight. On the contrary — Yeltsin immediately issued proclamations declaring the imposed curfew, the state of emergency, closing down of radio and TV stations, etc. illegal and that those responsible for the Coup would be dealt with severely.

Boris Yeltsin, like our Landsbergis, did not leave his Parliament building, but surrounded himself with armed guards ready to fight. Like in Lithuania, thousands of people rallied in support of freedom and democracy. Unfortunately, the casualties in Lithuania were much higher: 21 against only 3 in Moscow. Donna nobis pacem.

Mikhail Gorbachev would never have survived this Coup without the help of Boris Yeltsin. But when he was returned to the Kremlin, it seems that Gorby still did not fully realize his tragic situation and what had happened. He again expressed himself, as often before, to be supportive of the

Communist Party (but that lasted only for a day or two). He even went so far as to appoint a known hardliner General Moiseyev (as vicious as Col. Alksnis) as Chief of the Armed Forces.

While this was going on in Moscow, while Estonia and Latvia following Lithuania's earlier taken steps, declared their independence and other former Soviet republics prepared themselves to act similarly, it seems that our President George Bush must have felt similar to Cuba's dictator Fidel Castro — saddened to hear and realize that his friend Gorby is no longer the powerful Soviet leader he once appeared to be. While the whole world was getting busy granting recognition to the independence of the Baltic States, George Bush was still "boating around the bush" as if waiting for permission from Gorbachev to do so.

While all our presidents since the end of World War II were fighting Communism and arming the USA against Soviet tricks and threats, the president elected by Americans in 1988 seems to regret the crumbling of the Soviet Union and the downfall of his pal Gorby.

It seems that Bush cannot bring himself to believe that the Soviet Union has really broken up and changed its shape geographically as well as its political form and structure.

Fortunately, this will not alter nor hinder the fact that the freedom loving nations, suppressed under the Soviet regime until recently, will now develop fully and exercise their hard won independence.

No matter whether George Bush likes it or not, the U.S. Congress with its sensible and wise members is following not the supposed "leadership" of Bush, but of most Governments of the Western world, supporting actively, not by lip service the right and just aims of suppressed people.

When George Bush recently addressed the Ukrainian parliament in Kiev, he insulted the Ukrainians as much as he did the Baltic people. It would, therefore, be no wonder, with the general election coming up next year, that these and other freedom loving ethnics (like Slovenians, Croatians, etc.) will remember Bush and his hypocritical attitude and vote accordingly.

Sorry George — we read your lips and notice your actions.



PRESIDENT BUSH'S COMMITMENT TO THE BALTIC REPUBLICS

On Sept. 11, Pres. Bush hosted a meeting at the White House with the heads of Baltic Legations.

During his remarks, the President paid tribute to those who fought for years for Baltic freedom. After which, he outlined a series of initiatives designed to help the Baltic States to transform their markets to free ones. The United States will:

- * Sponsor Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania for membership in the United Nations at the General Assembly which was done on Sept. 17;
- * Unfreeze the financial assets that the United States has

safeguarded for the Baltics for over 50 years;

- * Move quickly to extend Most Favored Nation treatment and many other assistance packages;
- * Encourage the Baltic membership in the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and a host of other international economic institutions that are vital to integration;
- * Work to provide technical assistance and other programs under the Support for Eastern European Democracies Act; and
- * Establish a Peace Corps program for all three Baltic States.



Albert Klizas, Lithuanian Affairs Chairman Amber District, B. Kuzmickas, dignitary from Lithuania and Anna Wargo, former K of L President attending the Senate Hearing of the Helsinki Commission in Washington, DC

BALTIC WARNINGS

Although political conditions in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have been easing in recent weeks, the U.S. State Dept. is still warning about medical conditions.

In all three countries, the State Department notes, "medical care does not meet Western standards. There is a severe shortage of basic medical supplies, including disposable needles, anesthetics and antibiotics. Tourists in frail

health are strongly advised not to visit."

Also, consular assistance cannot be provided until embassies have been established in the Republics. However, as we go to press, it has been reported that a Darryl Johnson has been appointed U.S. Ambassador to Lithuania.

A REPORT ON HISTORY'S LARGEST PETITION DRIVE FOR LITHUANIA



Pres. Landsbergis with TFP commission that travelled to Vilnius to deliver the 5,218,520 signatures collected by the TFPs in support of Lithuania's independence.

When Lithuania threw off the yoke of communism by proclaiming its independence on March 11, 1990, few people expected the many obstacles that small Baltic country was to encounter. It was supposed by not a few that the Soviets would allow Lithuania, historically known as the "Land of Mary" to join the family of free nations.

Instead of coming to the aid of the beleaguered Baltic nation, most world leaders reacted with silence, indifference or timidity. Lithuania was being sacrificed on the altar of concession by those fearful of the ire of the Red Bear.

In view of this, the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) Bureaus in 20 countries decided to launch a worldwide petition drive in support of Lithuania. The message the public was asked to sign was addressed to Pres. Landsbergis. The TFP collected 5,218,520 signatures — making this the largest single petition in history. Thus, this message of moral support for Lithuania's freedom and independence was signed by one out of every 1,000 inhabitants of the earth. Senators and congressmen were among the signers of the American TFP petition. Around the world, the cry "Freedom for Lithuania!" resounded in a dozen languages. The petition received widespread support. The campaign became a familiar sight on city streets, at fairs and festivals, at universities, from north to south, from east to west, TFP members and volunteers crisscrossed the nation, reaching even Puerto Rico, Brazil, India and the Philippines,

to obtain signatures. People who knew little about Lithuania soon became informed. "You mean to say that the Soviets aren't giving them their freedom? That's horrible!" exclaimed a young street vendor in Chattanooga as he signed the petition. "I think it's disgraceful how we have done nothing for them," said one indignant mother as she signed in front of a supermarket in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Others responded negatively.

"Lithuania is better off under communism," yelled an elderly businessman in downtown Manhattan. "I'm not affected by what happens over there. Why should I be concerned?" claimed a young truck driver in Boise. A feminist in downtown Kansas City, Missouri exclaimed, "How ironic! I'm a communist but I cannot help but sign". One student from Texas A & M had done more than sign: "I got up in front of my math class and asked them all to sign up." One business man in Chicago said "Gorbachev is like all the rest. He just has a nicer mask".

On Dec 2, 1990, a commission representing the 20 TFP Bureaus left for Moscow, later continuing on to Vilnius. Its purpose was to present President Landsbergis the 5,218,520 signatures (a figure exceeding Lithuania's population) collected in over 20 countries. The delivery took place with solemnity on Dec. 4, 1990 in the Lithuanian Parliament. The Lithuanians were very expressive of their gratitude. People embraced TFP members in the streets. Some wept with joy. Their gratitude was exemplified in a statement by the Sajudis Movement: "We wish to express our deep gratitude for your tireless efforts in collecting 5,218,520 signatures in support of Lithuanian independence. Please know that this great gift that you have given to the people of Lithuania will always be appreciated and remembered." The text of the petition message follows:

"We, the undersigned, have been following with lively interest the drama taking place in your noble country.

We recognize Lithuania as one of the innocent victims of

LIETUVA Our Heritage

(Thoughts on Lithuania)

the sinister Ribbentrop-Molotov pact of Aug. 23, 1939, which unjustly and violently robbed your country of its independence.

We shared in the burgeoning hope that swept Lithuania when events made the recovery of independence possible after fifty years of cruel captivity.

As the uncertainty of the international scene threatens your reborn hopes, we wholeheartedly participate in your anguish. We raise a cry of indignation and protest - of protest against any political arrangement that would delay putting into effect the glorious declaration proclaiming Lithuania a free and independent country proudly assuming its place in the family of nations.

In this regard, Mr. President, Lithuania will always have the support, respect and admiration of the undersigned, who express their dispositions to you precisely when your cause for independence seems to be at a critical juncture.

We beseech that God help and guide you in your valorous effort to obtain the immediate recognition of your independence by all free nations."

With the help of the above mentioned petition, our prays to Our Lady of Siluva, the self determination of all American Lithuanians, such as the Knights of Lithuania organization, our goal has finally been reached. Long Live Free Lithuania!

We weep for them — they know we care.
Our lives are here, but our hearts are there.
Lithuanians struggle in a tyrannized nation,
As the Soviets continue this useless devastation,
With convictions so strong that they're willing to die,
Let the flag of the Lithuanian people fly ever so high!

Let us be mindful that though we are free,
The price was high, as theirs will be.
Freedom won't come easily in this Baltic state,
As long as the Soviets are allowed to dictate.
The peoples of the Free World must unite as one,
Until this yoke of tyranny has been shun.

They gave us our strength (we thought it was our own);
We realize it was their gift, now that we're grown.
They endure the hardships, the hunger, the strife
So their children will inherit a better life.
Our pride and our strength, my Sisters and Brothers,
Is the wealth we inherited from our
Lithuanian fathers and mothers.

*Susan (Deslaurier) Jacques
Millbury, MA*

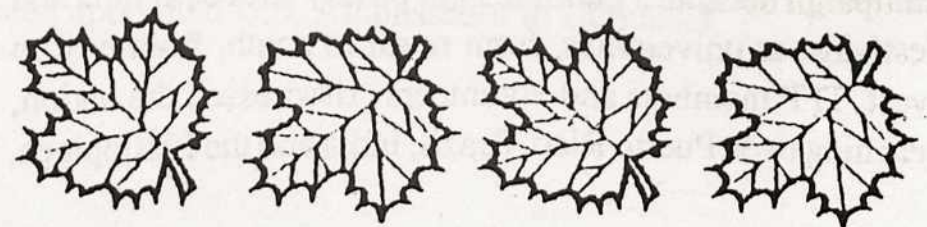
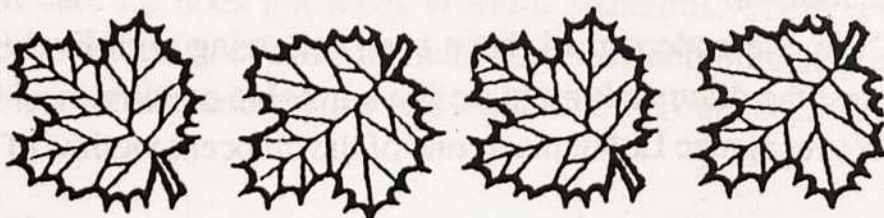
POLISH-LITHUANIAN FRIENDSHIP IN CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK

At the southeastern corner of the Great Lawn in Central Park stands an equestrian statue of Jogaila (Jagiello in Polish). Glen Urbonas, member of C-110 Maspeth, NY wondered why Poland is prominently inscribed on two sides of the pedestal without equal vision space for Lithuania. Urbonas contacted the Consul General of Poland as well as several prominent Polish-Americans and proposed that LITHUANIA be added onto the pedestal. Their reaction was positive and friendly.

Urbonas researched the history of the statue. Sculpted for the Polish pavilion at the 1939 World's Fair, the statue was placed in storage when the fair closed in 1940, then erected

on its present pedestal in Central Park in 1947. Urbonas points out that since the pedestal, unlike the statue, has no intrinsic historical value, it will be easier to get permission to change it.

When Juozas Kazlas, Editor of Lithuanian Times met with the Consul General of Poland to thank him for diplomatic recognition of the Baltic States (also present were Tadas Jacukovicus of the Lithuanian-Polish Cultural Center and representatives of BATUN) the Consul General mentioned the Jogaila project and proposed that a Polish-Lithuanian friendship festival be organized in Central Park next spring or summer, on the occasion of the unveiling of the newly-engraved pedestal.



KING MINDAUGAS

(1236 - 1263)

by Edward Baranauskas

Most historians regard Mindaugas as the one who united and formed the strong nucleus of a Lithuanian nation and became its first rulers of a nation that survived years of turmoil following his assassination, and one which lasted until the Gediminas dynasty came into power in 1295.

Up to the time of Mindaugas, little was known of Lithuania. However, a more or less organized Lithuanian state existed, which was ruled by twenty-one individual regional princes. Even though they were independent, they did have a common bond, as they banded together in military campaigns against their hostile neighbors.

Very little is known about the early years of Mindaugas. His father was rarely mentioned by name in the early chronicles; one stated that his father was a powerful ruler who had no equal in Lithuania; a noted Polish historian was convinced that Mindaugas' father of unknown name had already unified the Lithuanian principalities into a state and partitioned them among his sons before his death.

However, his father is first mentioned by name in the more extended 16th century Lithuanian chronicles written in Old Church Slavic. There the name is given as Rinkgivilt, Ringolt, Ryngolt and Rinkolt, but the accepted Lithuanian version of those names is Ringaudas. He is described as Lithuania's grand prince who turned over the reigns of state to Mindaugas before his death. Even the most critical interpretation of the various documents do not dismiss the existence of some Lithuanian prince named Ringaudas who preceded Mindaugas.

The unification of Lithuanian principalities posed a formidable challenge for Mindaugas. History has shown that political change never comes easy. Mindaugas had to overcome resistance not only from the regional princes but also from his rivals who laid claim to the throne of Lithuania. As a result, the use of force was inevitable. Some of his opposition lost their lives in the struggle, others were assassinated or were expelled from the country, while still others submitted peacefully.

Constant wars with his hostile neighbors posed a greater threat to the survival of Mindaugas, and this prompted him to negotiate a peace treaty with the Livonian Order with the promise to accept baptism if the fighting would stop.

Andrew of Stirland, the master of the Knights of the Sword, was charged with the baptism and coronation of Mindaugas and came to Lithuania in the early part of 1251 with his entourage of servants and followers. Mindaugas accepted baptism together with his wife Morta (Martha), two sons and some members of the royal court. It was not until 1253 that the coronation took place and the crown was placed on his head in the pope's name. Mindaugas was now the King of Lithuania and was acknowledged as the equal of other Christian kings.

Mindaugas made many enemies and even some of his own relatives hated him. The rivalry to the throne of Lithuania and the lust for power eventually led to a plot to assassinate him.

Prince Treniota of Samogitia and Prince Daumantas of Nalšia working together killed Mindaugas and his two younger sons, Ruklys and Rupeikis in 1263, ten years after the coronation of the king. His oldest



Mindaugas - King of Lithuania

RULERS OF LITHUANIA (Cont'd)

and only surviving son, Vaišvilkas, feared for his safety and fled to Pinsk where he stayed for a while. Despite the fact that he was the legal heir, Prince Treniota assumed the throne.

Samogitia was one of the regions of Lithuania and today is known as Žemaitija. Nalšia was another region located in the northeastern part of Lithuania in what is known today as Aukštaitija.

The royal crown disappeared and the process of converting Lithuania to Christianity came to an end.

Were there other motives that prompted these men to kill the king and his two sons?

Let's take up the case of Prince Treniota. His father was Prince Vykintas of Samogitia and his mother was the sister of King Mindaugas. In the process of unifying the Lithuanian territories, Mindaugas seized the lands and possessions of Prince Vykintas and sent him to fight against the Russians in the east, promising him that he could keep everything he conquered. After a few years, he returned to take up arms and formed rebellion against Mindaugas. He was killed in a bloody confrontation at Tverai, in Samogitia, in 1251.

It is possible, therefore, that Prince Treniota also wanted to avenge his father's death.

Prince Daumantas was one of the regional princes who cooperated with Mindaugas in allowing his region to become part of a unified Lithuania. They married sisters and they defended themselves from attacks by the Livonian Order.

Later, however, he became Mindaugas' enemy and allied himself with Prince Treniota. The Volynian Chronicle gave another reason why he helped to assassinate Mindaugas: When Queen Morta (Mindaugas' wife) died, Mindaugas kept her sister (Daumantas' wife) for himself in his castle following the funeral. Daumantas was probably in no mood to let Mindaugas get away with that.

It may seem hard to believe but Mindaugas was the first and the only king that Lithuania ever had. The coronation ceremony was only meant for Christian kings during that period in history because that was the custom. Pope Innocent IV granted the title of king to Mindaugas only after he was baptized. The other rulers of Lithuania who followed Mindaugas (Gediminas, Algirdas and Kestutis) were offered the royal crown on condition that they accept Christianity, but they demanded, in return, that the wars against Lithuania by the Teutonic Knights should be stopped first. Since no agreement was reached, nothing changed. Vytautas the Great was the only one who came close to being crowned king. Towards the end of his reign, he was offered the royal crown by the Roman Emperor Sigismund of Luxemburg because he had already accepted Christianity. Unfortunately, Vytautas died following an accident before the coronation could take place.

Mindaugas' accomplishments left his mark in history; he unified the Lithuanian nation, he was the first one who attempted to Christianize the Lithuanian people and he was the first and only one who was crowned King of Lithuania.

MY LETTER TO YOU (I'M NOT SO SURE)

Just a line to say, I'm living
That I'm not among the dead
Though I'm getting more forgetful
And mixed up in the Head.

I got used to arthritis,
To my dentures, I'm resigned,
I can manage my bifocals
But God I miss my mind.

For sometimes I can't remember,
When I stand at the foot of the stairs,
If I must go up for something,
Or have I just came down from there.

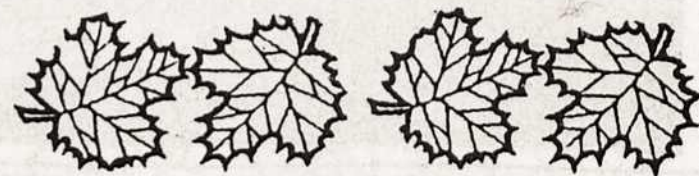
And before the fridge so often,
My poor mind is filled with doubt
Have I just put some food away, or
Have I come to take some out?

And there is a time when it is dark
I stop and hold my head
I don't know if I'm retiring, or
Just getting out of bed.

So if it's my turn to write to you,
There's no need getting sore,
I may think that I have written
And don't want to be a bore.

So remember that I love you,
And wish that you were near.
But now it's nearly mail time,
So must say, "Goodbye, Dear??"

Here I stand beside the mailbox,
With a face so very red,
Instead of mailing you my letter,
I opened it instead.



THANKSGIVING



Thanksgiving is one of the distinctively American holidays, although the custom of an autumn thanksgiving celebration is probably as old as man's first harvest.

In America, the custom was started more than three centuries ago by the Pilgrims. Among the earliest settlers in America, the Pilgrims had fled from England, where they were persecuted for separating from the established church and forming a congregation of their own. In 1620, a small band of them sailed for America on the Mayflower to find a place where they would be free to worship God as they chose. They dropped anchor off the sandy shore of Cape Cod, landed at Plymouth Rock and established their colony. During the first hard winter, forty-four of the 102 settlers died.

However, the spring of 1621 brought sun and warm rains together with some Indian friends who taught the settlers how to plant Indian corn and to fertilize it with fish. Able at last to plant a good crop of grains and vegetables, the Pilgrims reaped an autumn harvest so abundant that the Governor of the colony, William Bradford, ordered a three-day period of thanksgiving.

The Indians were invited to share this celebration with the settlers and more than ninety of them arrived led by their chief Massasoit. They showed the Pilgrims where to find wild turkeys and tart red cranberries. Together with corn and pumpkin, these foods became traditional for the Thanksgiving feast. The three day celebration included church services, feasting and sporting events such as races and wrestling matches between the settlers and the Indians.

As Americans throughout the country give thanks on the last Thursday of November, they follow the example of the early Pilgrims. Today, Thanksgiving is a family day; an occasion for families to gather together. It is also a time to share with those less fortunate than ourselves. It is a holiday when those who would otherwise be alone are often welcomed into the home to join in the celebration. Above all, Thanksgiving is for many people the one day in the year they remember to give thanks for the blessings and what America has done for them.

It is a day, especially in these times of self-criticism and civil disturbance, to remember and be thankful for the many things that are right with America.

Let us be thankful, among other things, for an economy that provides jobs for Americans, that gives the individual the opportunity to reap a growing reward for his skills, that yields a total income that is rising and which enables the average American family to buy all the food it needs, compared to other countries.

Let us be thankful for a form of government in which every citizen is free to cast his vote to shape the future of his country, in which the people rule, through their elected representatives, in which change can be effected through debate and ballot, in which there is freedom of speech and of the press and where writers and artists do not live under the threat of imprisonment.

Let us be thankful for better health and longer lives. In 1910, the average American could expect to live to age 50. Now he can expect to enjoy life to 80 and 85.

Let us be thankful for the dedication of our young people and for a superb educational system that is always striving to be better. More Americans finish high school than students in any other country and a large percentage go on to colleges and universities. America's investment in educating its youth is unmatched. A unique cooperation between our universities, industry and government has enabled us to develop technical capabilities which put us on the threshold of new worlds.

Let us be thankful for the magnificent assemblage of peoples here in America — people of all races and nationalities — who are learning to live together harmoniously and in mutual respect.

These are no small things for which to give thanks. These, and much more, are what is right with America. They give Thanksgiving a broader meaning. Thanksgiving, in turn, is a good day to remember and be thankful for all blessings received.

A.C.N.S



Remembering the Ramova

by Gediminas Indreika

The golden age of the movie palace was the 1920's when in every city grand movie theaters were being built. Little do we know that in Chicago, the Lithuanian community got together to build their own movie palace, at first dubbed "the Lithuanian Roxy." It was to be an atmospheric theater, with an auditorium recreating an outdoor garden and a blue sky studded with twinkling stars. A grand three-story lobby greeted patrons. A contest to name the new theater was held in 1929. The name Ramova was chosen, meaning "A Serene Place" in Lithuanian.

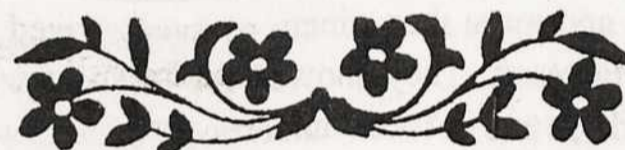
The grand opening of the Ramova took place on August 18, 1929 with a fabulous program. A symphony orchestra played specially orchestrated Lithuanian songs. Performers included baritone Howard Preston of the Chicago Opera, and Antanas Vanagaitis, composer and comedian. The screen featured film of the Lithuanian Liberty Bell send-off to Lithuania, as well as movies of community picnics and beauty contests. Added attractions were Movietone news and Vitaphone featuring Fox Follies. Regular movies started with Romberg's "Desert Song."

The Ramova theater was successful well into the sixties. But as TV and video relentlessly killed most theaters, the Ramova closed in the 1980's. Today the building and office block is for sale. The surrounding community of Bridgeport is thriving, with the new White Sox stadium recently opened nearby. Maybe the Ramova will be restored and reopened, a reminder of the industrious Lithuanian community in Chicago.

Sources: Margutis Magazine, July & August 1929 issues.)



Ramova Theatre in Chicago



VOLUNTEERS, GOD BLESS THEM

Many will be shocked to find
 When the day of judgment nears,
 That there's a special place in heaven
 Set aside for Volunteers.
 Furnished with big recliners,
 Satin couches and footstools,
 Where there's no committee chairmen,
 No group leaders or car pools,
 No eager team that needs a coach,
 No bazaar and no bake sale.

There will be nothing to staple,
 Not one thing to fold or mail,
 Telephone lists will be outlawed,
 But a finger snap will bring
 Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
 And treats fit for a king,
 You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few
 And work for all they're worth?"
 Why, all those who reaped the benefits
 And not once volunteered on Earth.

ANOTHER LITHUANIAN CONGRESSMAN FROM TEXAS

Not only do we have U.S. Rep. Richard J. Durbin (D.Ill) who has tremendously supported the Lithuanian cause, we also have Rep. Bill Sarpalius (D-Tex.) of Amarillo, of Lithuanian ancestry who has also urged Pres. Bush to recognize Lithuania's independence.

The congressman claims he grew up with little knowledge of his heritage. A former teacher and businessman, he was raised with his two brothers at a Boys Ranch near Amarillo. It was not until shortly after his election to Congress in 1989 that he was contacted by President Vytautas Landsbergis and informed of his Lithuanian surname.

Later, Sarpalius learned that he was the great-nephew of Lithuanian composer Peter Sarpalius and the great-grandson of a Lithuanian immigrant who settled in Chicago.

Striking up a friendship with Pres.



William Sarpalius....one of the few congressmen of Lithuanian ancestry.

Landsbergis, Mr. Sarpalius has visited the republic twice, the first time with three other U.S. congressmen on the day after Lithuania's first free elections, Feb. 24, 1990. The representatives met with Pres. Landsbergis and other newly elected leaders and advised them on establishing a new government and provided them translated copies of the U.S. Constitution. "It was the most moving experience of my life," Sarpalius said.

Since his visits to Lithuania, Mr. Sarpalius said he and Rep. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., who is also of Lithuanian decent, have been promoting Lithuanian independence.

The death of communism was no surprise, Mr. Sarpalius said. "The Lithuanian people had nothing but determination, but they were the spark that led the fire that spread throughout the Soviet Union. It makes me very proud to know that I had a small part in Lithuania's freedom". Mr. Sarpalius said.

Shared Beauty

The following poem was written by Lithuanian Dr. Robert Smithdas, the deaf/blind Assistant Director of the Helen Keller National Center.

I cannot see a rainbow's glory spread
 across a rain-washed sky when storm is over;
 nor can I see or hear the birds that cry
 their songs among the clouds, or through bright clover.
 You tell me that the night is full of stars,

and how the winds and waters sing and flow;
 and in my heart I wish that I could share
 with you this beauty that I cannot know.
 I only know that when I touch a flower,
 or feel the sun and wind upon my face,
 or hold your hand in mine, there is a brightness within
 my soul
 that words can never trace.
 I call it Life, and laugh with its delight,
 though life itself be out of sound and sight.



PUTTING A LOW FAT TWIST ON ETHNIC FAVORITES

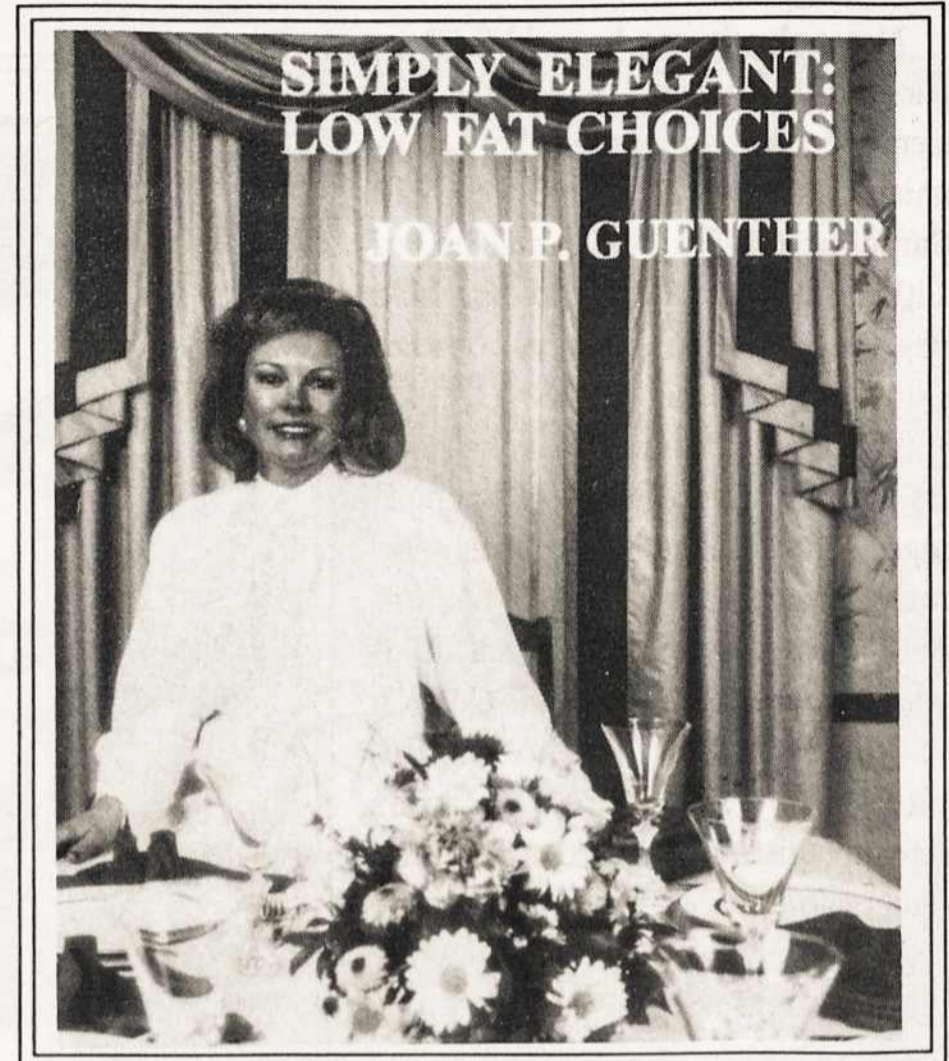
Cancer, heart disease, high blood pressure, obesity - are national diseases. The facts are real. And the culprit? A diet too high in fat and too low in fiber. Can this be controlled? "Yes" - an emphatic "Yes" believes Joan Guenther, author of a new cookbook, *Simply Elegant: Low Fat Choices*. The trick is in substituting low fat alternatives and increasing the types and varieties of high fiber foods to produce healthy, palate pleasing meals.

Joan draws on her 20+ years of world travel in which she has collected and adapted over 275 ethnic recipes and cooking techniques ranging from simple to complex - from down-home American to intriguing international accents.

"The major driving force in writing this book came with the development of colon-rectal cancers by my parents within three years of each other. After extensive, radical surgeries, they are now survivors committed to healthier eating and living." The 300 page book relies heavily on fresh ingredients and sticks with spices and condiments readily available to most cooks. It is "user friendly" in that the large print is easy to read and the spiral bound format allows the book to lie flat when opened.

A few of Joan's recipes, Sauerkraut Balls, Mustard Sauce and Lithuanian Honey Cake appear in this issue's Lithuanian Kitchen. *Simply Elegant* also reminds us that presentation is an important element in eating enjoyment, and one easily achieved. A variety of suggested table decorations are found throughout the book.

Joan Peculis Guenther is a native of Worcester, MA and a graduate of Anna Maria College where she earned a B.A. degree in Sociology and an M.A. degree in Psychology. After serving as Director of Medical Social Work at Worcester City Hospital, and later, a business executive in spe-



cialty chemicals and international trade, she has spent many years in food research with special reference to low fat gourmet cooking. Having traveled throughout the world collecting ethnic recipes and cooking techniques, Ms. Guenther has gathered together, and presented in this book, culinary low fat specialties representative of many nations. She and her husband reside in Palatine, Illinois. Her parents are members of C-26 Worcester, MA.

The book may be ordered by sending check or money order for \$19.95 to: *Simply Elegant: Low Fat Choices*, P.O. Box 453, Palatine, IL 60078.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

November 3, 1991 - C-79 Southfield, MI Fall Festival.
 November 10, 1991 - Annual Mass for deceased members -
 10 a.m. Host C-36, Immaculate Conception Church.
 December 14, 1991 - Winter Mid-America District meeting.
 Host: C-24, Marian Fathers Monastery.
 January 12, 1992 - Knights of Lithuania Choir Dinner/
 Dance. Šauliq Namai Hall.
 February 2, 1992 - MAMD 32nd Annual "Memories of
 Lithuania" banquet. Martinique Restaurant.

March 8, 1992 - MAD Annual Communion Breakfast and
 meeting. Host C-41, Brooklyn, NY
 March 11, 1992 - St. Casimir's Day commemoration and
 Spring MAMD meeting. Host: C-24, Nativity B.V.M.
 July 16 - 19, 1992 - 79th National Convention, Allentown
 Hilton Hotel, Allentown, PA - Host C-144 Anthracite,
 PA.

Lithuanians in the News

PAPP NAMES AKALAITIS TO STEP IN AS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL HEAD



JoAnne Akalaitis

Joseph Papp, founder of the New York Shakespeare Festival and its sole artistic leader for 37 years has appointed Lithuanian JoAnne Akalaitis to succeed him. The appointment ends a year of speculation on who would take over. The choice

of Ms. Akalaitis, 54 years old, who has been Mr. Papp's artistic associate for the last year, signals a major change in the programming direction of the festival, long considered the premier nonprofit theater in the United States.

As might be expected, Ms. Ackalaitis' new season will consist mostly of classics, albeit those that are infrequently produced. "Jungle of the Cities" will open the season.

Ms. Akalaitis grew up in Chicago, is a graduate of the University of Chicago and did graduate work in philosophy at Stanford University.

MIRACLE MAMA



Six years after breast cancer, Ann Jillian defies the odds and awaits her first baby.

Ann Jillian makes no secret of her joy at being twice blessed: once by surviving cancer and now by conceiving her first child — after age 40. Ann says "This baby is a miracle. It's like God nodding and saying 'I'm pleased with what you've

done'. God gave me back my life and I'm living my reward."

The couple spend hours trying out names for the baby (Hope and Andrew Howard lead the short list) and shopping for a larger, more child-proof residence — on a quieter street and with no swimming pool. As the baby's arrival approaches, the couple pray each day that their child will be healthy. This newcomer is expected in Feb. 1992.

Ann Jillian was born in Cambridge, MA to a Lithuanian machinist and his wife but moved to California at age 6 when her parents impressed by their tot's talents, decided to prime her for a movie career.

Vytis staff and all its readers wish Ann and Andy many happy days ahead with their new adventure.

APPOINTED IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE.



Dr. Zita M. Šimutis

Dr. Zita M. Šimutis, was recently appointed into the federal government's senior executive service. Lt. Gen. William H. Reno, deputy chief of staff for personnel presided. Lt. Gen. John Crosby and Brig. Gen. Tom Jones were

LITHUANANS IN THE NEWS (Cont'd)

present along with several hundred members of the U.S. Army Research Institutes manpower and personal laboratory of which Dr. Šimutis is the director. The ceremonies took place at the U.S. Army Research Institute in Alexandria, VA.

Dr. Šimutis received her Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the University of Connecticut in 1971 and held postdoctoral fellowships in psychology at the University of Toronto from 1971 to 1976. She joined the Army Research Institute in 1976 as a research psychologist. She and her husband Dr. Michael Drillings live with their son in Virginia.

Dr. Zita M. Šimutis is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Leonard J. Šimutis and the granddaughter of Leonard Šimutis who was a pioneer Knights of Lithuania activist and honorary member.



Ruta Kapociūtė

At the Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island Rūta Kapociūtė from Lithuania presented "Documentary Sketches of Lithuania". The documentary was a video presentation of several tapes with introductions and comments by Rūta on their contents. The first tape was an interview with three Lithuanian women who were forcibly deported to Siberia by the Soviets at the time of mass deportations. They recounted their experiences during this terrible part of their lives and how they managed to survive. The second tape dealt with the events leading up to and including the Declaration of Independence in March 1990, a very emotional period. The final and longest tape, showed that terrible day of Jan. 13, 1991 when the Soviet Black Berets murdered 14 unarmed Lithuanians and seriously injuring several hundred others.

Rūta is quite personable and her English is excellent. She made her presentation very understanding, informative and interesting. Her most important work seems to be in Laser research. We believe that in "layman's language" she is involved with treating tumors by injecting them with dye and then exposing them to laser light. Rūta earned her undergraduate degree at Vilnius State University, Dept. of Physics in 1979. She received

DOCUMENTARY PRESENTATION

her PhD in 1989 from the Institute of Biophysics of the Semmelweis Medical University in Budapest, Hungary.

Kapociūtė presently is a research fellow in the Laser Research Center of Vilnius University. Geriausių linkejimius, Rūtai!

YOUTH HAS CRUMMY IDEA FOR A BETTER MOUSETRAP

There is something about the crumbs at the bottom of a cereal box that no one seems to like. They get spongy; they congeal. Eleven-year old Peter Bluvas, Jr. from Amsterdam, NY did not like the soggy mush for breakfast. Peter knew there must be a way to stop the cereal dust from reaching his bowl.

When his teacher asked him to enter a program to create an invention, it didn't take him long to come up with the "crumtrap". It consists of a rectangular cardboard tab with small holes punched into it and would be placed about 1/2" from the bottom of the box by cereal-packaging companies. "You would keep the holes open until the last bowl. Then you shake the box to get the crumbs to fall down under the tab and you close the holes by pulling the tab closed", he said. Voila — crumb-free cereal.

Peter's teacher said he spent most of the school year on the project. A representative from program headquarters said that 35,000 schools participate in the program which was started in 1987 to encourage innovative thinking by students.

As part of the prize from the national non-profit company sponsoring the program, Peter was awarded a \$200 savings bond in a ceremony at his school.

Peter plans to consider working toward a patent for the



Eleven-year old Peter Bluva of Amsterdam displays his invention, the cereal crumtrap.

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS (Cont'd)

crumtrap, even though he learned through his research that it can cost up to \$800 to apply.

PHOTO EXHIBITION AT COLLEGE

A Photographic Cornucopia: The gift of Dorothy and Eugene Prakapas was a showing of a sizable portion of the 105 photographs given to the Ackland Art Museum at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Prakapas gift is made up of two groups of images: Central European material from between the two World Wars, and an interesting group of contemporary Lithuanian photographs.

The donors, Eugene and Dorothy Prakapas, have for many years been prominent photography dealers in New York. They specialize in Constructivist and related work from the period 1920-1940 in central Europe. It has been the Prakapas' great accomplishment to bring this work to the attention of the American art world.



Photo by Romualdos Pozerskis, Lithuanian, born 1951; from the series *Lithuanian Old Cities* loaned by the Prakapas..

LAI GYVUOJA MŪS TĖVYNĖ

Lai gyvuoja mūs Tėvynė,
Brangi Lietuva;
Pagarbos čia visų verta
Garbinga, laisva.

Ji per amžius mūs didvyrių
Buvo valdoma;
Didžiųjų tautų galybe
Nenugalima.

Visi jos garbingi sūnūs
Tuom didžiuojasi;
Dėl jos laisvės ir gerovės
Čia darbuojasi.

Užtekės saulė liuosybės
Jai pramatoma;
Dievui laiminant ji vėl bus
Nepriklausoma.

Prel. M. J. Urbonas, LL.D.



Lithuanian Kitchen - Lietuviška Virtuvė

LITHUANIAN COFFEE CAKE LIETUVIŠKA TORTAS

1/2 lb. butter or margarine	<u>FILLING:</u>
2 cups sugar	1/4 cup sugar
4 eggs	2 tsp. cinnamon
2 cups sour cream	4 Tbsp. walnuts
2 tsp. vanilla	1/2 cup chocolate
2 tsp. baking soda	chips
1/2 tsp. baking powder	
3 cups flour	

Heat oven to 350°. Butter and flour a large roasting pan, spring form or bundt pan.

Mix all filling ingredients in small bowl. In large bowl, cream butter, gradually add sugar; beat in eggs one at a time. Add sour cream, vanilla and blend well. Add soda, baking powder and flour mixing well until combined.

Place half of batter into pan; spread filling over batter. Pout in remaining batter. Bake at 350° for 50 mins. or until done.

Jean Mordes

KOŠELYNA Lithuanian Headcheese

2 fresh pigs feet	4 bay leaves
2 fresh hocks	8 whole black peppercorns
1 lb. pork neck bones	2 cloves garlic
2 stalks celery, cut in half	1 tsp. instant chicken bouillon granules (optional)
1 tsp. salt	8 cups water, or more

Clean feet and hocks; rinse well. In large saucepan, combine feet, hocks, neck bones, celery, bay leaves, peppercorns, garlic, chicken granules; add water. Simmer covered for two hours. Skim off foam; add salt. Simmer, covered for two additional hours. Remove all meat. Cool broth and then strain broth through cheesecloth. Remove skin and meat from feet, hocks and neckbone. Discard bones and skin, if desired. Chill broth until partially set; fold in shredded meat. Refrigerate until firm. Scrape off hardened fat layer before serving.

Bertha Bedell



SAUERKRAUT BALLS

3/4 lb. lean ham, ground	2 tsp. Dijon mustard
1/2 cup chopped onion	1/4 tsp. garlic powder
2 (14 oz. cans) sauerkraut,	1/2 tsp. pepper
rinsed, drained and	1/2 cup flour
chopped fine	2 eggs plus 2 egg whites, beaten well
4 Tbsp. dry bread crumbs	1/2 cup skim milk
6 oz. Neufchatel cheese	1-1/2 cups dry bread crumbs
4 Tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped	

Preheat oven to 400° degrees. Mix together ham, onion, sauerkraut, bread crumbs, cheese, parsley, mustard and seasonings. Form mixture into 3/4" balls. Roll the balls in flour, then dip in a mixture of egg, egg whites and milk. Roll balls into 1-1/2 cups bread crumbs. Place balls on cookie sheet that has been sprayed with a non-stick vegetable spray. Bake until crumbs are brown (15 mins.). Serve with following Mustard Sauce. Makes about 75 balls.

Joan Guenther

MUSTARD SAUCE

1/2 cup Dijon mustard	1/2 cup plain non-fat yogurt
2 tsps. sugar	1/2 cup fresh dill, chopped
1/4 cup white wine vinegar	
Salt, pepper to taste	

Combine all ingredients. Whisk until smooth. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Makes 1-1/2 cups.

Joan Guenther

LITHUANIAN HONEY CAKE

1 cup honey	2 tsps. baking soda
3/4 cup sugar	1 tsp. almond extract
1/2 cup non-fat plain yogurt	1/4 tsp. each: cinnamon, cloves, cardamon, ginger, lemon zest
1/2 cup sour cream	
2 eggs	
2 egg whites	
1 Tbsp. canola oil	
3 cups flour	

Preheat oven to 350°. In large mixing bowl, beat together honey, sugar, sour cream and yogurt. Beat in eggs and egg whites, one at a time. Add remaining ingredients gradually, beating constantly. Pour into a bundt pan which has been coated with a no-stick vegetable spray. Bake for 45 mins. Cool. Dust with powdered sugar. Serves 10 to 12.

Joan Guenther

Official K of L News

ST. CASIMIR'S GUILD

Lithuania is free at last. With this new freedom comes new responsibilities for all of us. One of the important projects is the continued support of the St. Casimir Guild of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome. At the time of the Coup in the Soviet Union, twenty young men arrived in Rome, nervous, not knowing what the future held for them or their Fatherland. Of these, fifteen were seminarians and five were priests. With the coming of these future priests for Lithuania, the College is in need of funds to continue their work. We

ask you to contribute whatever you can, no matter how small it may be, for this worthy cause.

Our secretary-treasurer has resigned due to retirement and moving from the area. A new secretary-treasurer has accepted this responsibility: Miss Betty Tumas, RD 2, Box 250 Hometown, Tamaqua, PA 18252.

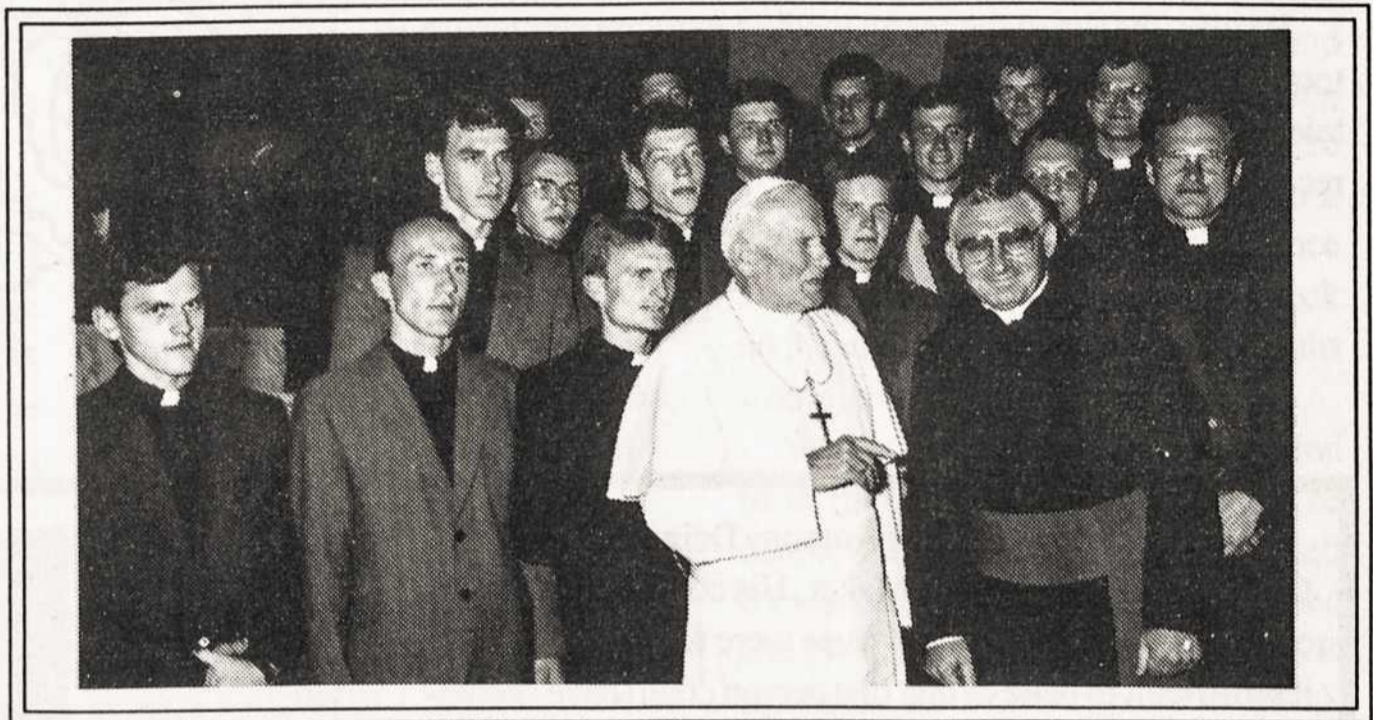
Those of you who are interested in adopting a seminarian, please contact me and I will send the name to you along with instructions.

In addition to the donations received at the convention, the following donated were subsequently made to the Guild: \$50.00 Joseph & Agnes Waitonis; \$25.00 Bertha Stoskus; \$25.00 E. Ruth Kreioch IMO Marcele Savickienė, all from C-103 Providence, RI. *Anne Klizas Wargo*

FROM LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Now that we have sipped our champagne toasts and basked in the euphoria of a 50-year old dream come true; it is time for some sober reflections on where we stand; what needs to be done, and what needs to be done first.

It was forty plus years ago that Fr. Jutt gave a very impassioned speech at our National Convention that led to the establishment of this committee. I know that there are still members out there who remember the speech and have worked since those days so that the name of Lithuania would



Mnsgr. Bartkus and the Pope welcoming seminarians from Lithuania to the College in Rome..

not perish from living memory and that our beloved Tėvynė would once again stand among the free nations of the world. These goals have been reached out before we move on into new and perhaps more challenging activities, it is appropriate that we first say thanks.

Thanks be to God for the grace of faith, courage and perseverance bestowed on our Lithuanian brothers and sisters that enabled their survival until these days of deliverance. May He continue to guard and guide them into the perilous future.

Thanks to each of you and your predecessors over the years for your dogged perseverance in letter writing, campaigning and demonstrating for the cause of Lithuanian independence. You can be assured that the pressure you put on legislators and other elected officials was felt and was effective.

Thanks also to those legislators who really didn't need to be prodded and went out of their way to take official notice of Lithuania's plight and introduce bills into Congress that brought the light of national attention into focus on the atrocities perpetrated by the Soviets on the people of Lithuania and the needs of those peoples for assistance.

Thanks to our elected executives including the President. Their proclamations of Captive Nations' Days, Commemo-

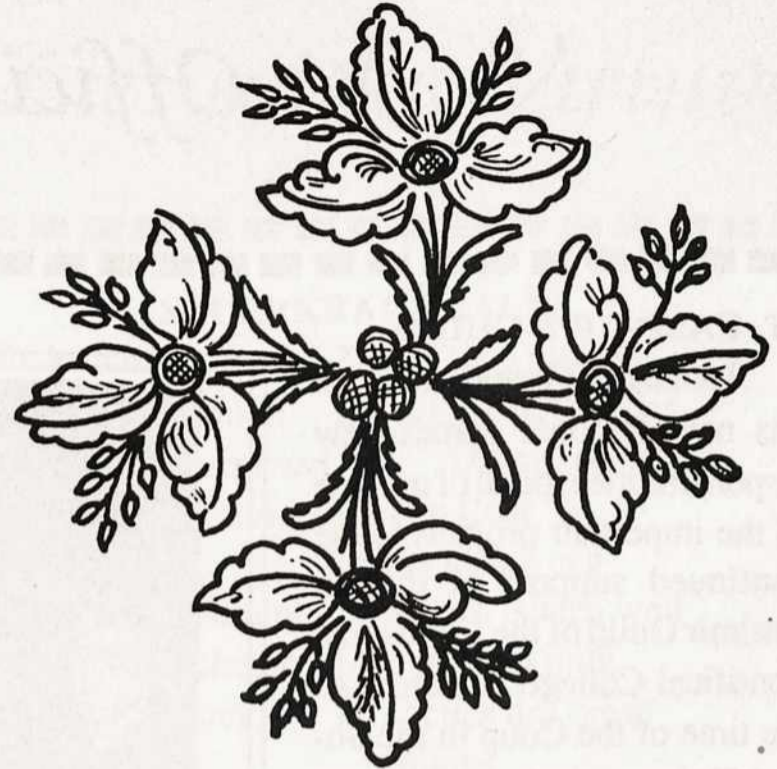
OFFICIAL K OF L NEWS (Cont'd)

ration of Lithuanian Independence Days, etc. over the years kept alive the hope that one day independence would be regained. Our patience was stressed to the extreme in recent months and at times our exacerbation may have led to harsh words; but we rejoice that right prevailed and look past our previous frustrations.

Finally, thanks to the many media reporters, commentators and editors in both the written press and broadcast/televised programming. They brought to light and featured recent events in Lithuania in especially effective ways.

Teskamba per Amžius Laisvė Lietuvoje.

Vincent Boris, Chairman



On August 15, 1991 HM Anthony Dainius, C-79 Southfield, MI was taken to his Maker. His contributions to the church and the Lithuanian cause were too numerous that it is difficult to believe that one person could have accomplished it all.

After graduating from Sacred Heart Seminary in 1932, he pursued a career of free-lance writing. His contributions to numerous publications established him as a knowledgeable and thorough journalist. His subject was exclusively Lithuania and Lithuanians. It was sad he was not able, finally, to experience Lithuania's independence. His endeavors and achievements are well known to the editors of "Draugas", "Darbininkas", "Amerika", "Dirva". etc., plus the Detroit, MI dailies. They will remember him as the writer who possessed the intricate knowledge of the Lithuanian situation. Senators and Congressmen also often heard from Tony.

Many years of his life were devoted to the three churches of our congregation - three, because expressways demolished two of them. He worked diligently with the Archdiocese, the pastors and committees to resolve the problems of relocating and constructing new sights. After each church was established, he instigated charitable projects - Holy Name Society which he presided over for 25 years and was in charge of lectors, ushers and altar boys. At Divine Providence Church, he built and maintained a Christmas creche. As building chairman, he reserved for our council the privilege of erecting a Lithu-

anian outdoor cross, whose construction he supervised.

Our council feels one of his greatest deeds was his help in reactivating C-79 in 1959 after a 35-year lapse. As the first president, he was instrumental in acquiring new and old members and at that time we became the largest council.

For these accomplishments and others too numerous to mention, he was awarded the Honorary Membership in 1979. His ambitions might have provoked the stroke he suffered six years ago. It confined him to a nursing home where his life ended on an auspicious day — the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin. He was the most illustrious member in our council's existence. Although he was inactive for the last years of his life, we remembered him in our prayers and at Christmas time.



The late H.M. Anthony Dainius

Bertha Janus

R. I. P.



C-136 Hudson-Mohawk members arriving with bus to Monastery.

was absolutely delicious and bountiful, served in an attractive buffet style, so you could eat as much or as little as you wanted. At every meal, there were choices reminiscent of our Lithuanian Mom's kitchen which were thoroughly appreciated. We also enjoyed a special treat after our meals listening to a young and beautiful native Lithuanian student of music, offering her special selections. Such natural beauty and talent.

The Monastery is located just minutes away from the village in Kennebunkport and many of us enjoyed the short walk. Some of us also treated ourselves to a guided tour via the local trolley where the driver pointed out the areas of interest including the summer home of Pres. Bush and his family. On one of the days, we piled into our bus and some went to Ogonquit to sightsee while others continued on to the Kittery Shopping Plaza for some shopping.

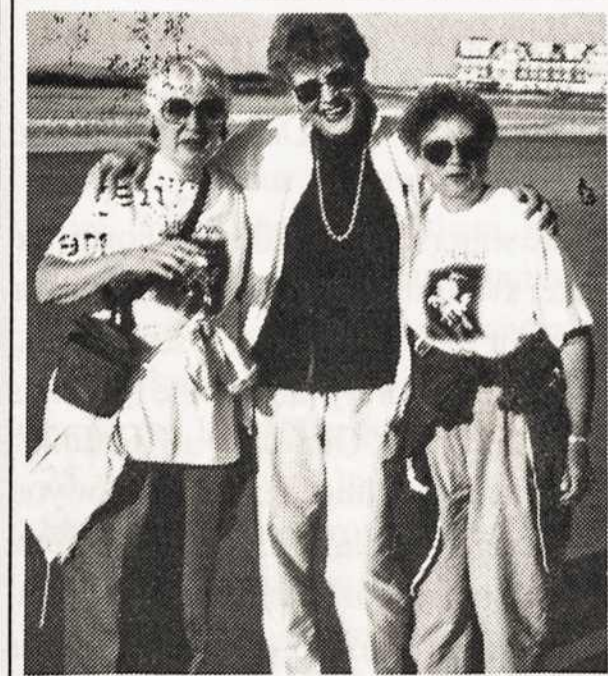
Everyone had a wonderful time and we all especially enjoyed the youngest traveler, Corinne LeVine, the 11-

month old daughter of David & Shelly (members of C-136). She was such a joy and so well behaved that we all delighted in holding and playing with her.

The time passed too quickly and it was time to leave. There were tearful good-byes and a reservation for next year. Now we can look forward with anticipation to our next retreat, God willing. We highly recommend this "little piece in Heaven" to all.



In front of Chapel: Dot Richmire, Gen Deery, Joan Parker, Bernice Aviza



On beach at Kennebunkport: Joan Parker, Dot Richmire, Betty Parker.



In village of Kennebunkport: Pat Falco, Ed Barkowski, Betty Parker.

Council News - Vyčiai Veikia

MID AMERICA DISTRICT

Mid-America District has been very busy, as usual. This past May several members of the District attended a reception for Pres. Landsbergis at the Museum of Natural History in Chicago. The summer saw us celebrating the annual Fourth of July Picnic held at Pines Restaurant & Garden in Pines, IN. Chairlady Aldona Brazis did a wonderful job of coordinating an afternoon of good food, good friends and a lot of fun. After lunch was served many members joined in games arranged by Mary Beth Slakis, Janeen Perutis and Rob Martin. A raffle was run by Ellie Kasputis assisted by Eleanore Laurin. Everyone enjoyed the day to its fullest.

In August, many district members headed for Florida to attend the 78th annual national convention. Upon returning, it wasn't long before turmoil in Lithuania brought us together at Immaculate Conception Parish for an evening Mass for the Baltic States. Rita Zakarka chaired the event with the help of Revs. Anthony Markus and Anthony Puchenski. Readings were done in English by Denise Zakarka and in Lithuanian by Evelyn Ozelis. Algerd Brazis did the singing accompanied by Faustas Strolia. To add to the joy of Lithuania being proclaimed independent, three members of MAMD, Evelyn Ozelis, Glenn Perutis and Peter Zansitis, traveled with the Lithuanian Opera Co. of Chicago to Lithuania and were among the first to receive Lithuanian issued Visas.

Our District meeting was held in September with C-16 acting as hosts at All Saints/St. Anthony Parish. Excellent food was prepared by Pres. Ken

Rudmin and Deborah Martin. With Al Brazis we all joined in the singing of Lietuva Brangi. Vice Pres. in charge of membership, Ellie Kasputis, announced the winners of the drive for the past year, i.e., councils: 1st place C-112, 2nd place Chicago Srs, 3rd place C-14. Individual category: 1st place Ellie Kasputis, 2nd place Estelle Rogers, 3rd place Sabina Henson. An appreciation award was given to C-133 of California who recently joined our District. C-133 Pres. Marytė Sepikas can be proud of the job our California Knights are doing. Remaining prize money was split among Jr. C-24, 36 and 112.

Election of officers took place with following result: Pres. Algerd Brazis; 1st Vice Pres. Evelyn Ozelis; 2nd Vice Pres. Eleanor Kasputis; 3rd Vice Pres. Sabina Henson; Sec. Rob Martin; Treas. Frank Svelnis; Trustees Ken Rudmin, Thos. Strolia & Peter Zansitis; Sgts. at Arms Joseph Martikonis, Glenn Perutis & Mary Beth Slakis.

The K of L Choir is busy preparing for the next year. The choir will hold their annual dinner/dance on Jan. 12, 1992 at Šaulių Hall. New choir pres. Sabina Henson promises a wonderful year ahead.

Members from various councils attended the annual Draugas Banquet at Martinique. Good to see a large K of L attendance for such a worthy cause.

Our next meeting will be held Dec. 14 hosted by C-24. *Ellie Kasputis*

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

The District's fall meeting on Sept. 29 was hosted by Hudson-Mohawk C-136 in the beautiful surroundings of the Shrine of the North American Martyrs

in Auriesville, NY. We thank them for their friendly, warm hospitality.

Along with members who came by car, two buses arrived, one from Maspeth C-110 and the other from Great Neck C-109. Coffee and danish were served to those who came early.

The congregation marched with our flags to church where the day began with a 12 noon Mass in the Shrine Coliseum, a magnificent edifice wherein the altar is situated in the center of a huge rotunda of pews. Rev. Juozas Grabys, STD celebrated the Mass, giving thanks for the freedom and independence that Lithuania now has and for which our people have prayed for so many years. (Father is formerly from Watervliet, NY and now is the new pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Amsterdam, NY, continuing the administration of the late much-loved Rev. Robert K. Baltch. Welcome, Father!) Lectors were Apolonija Ziausys who read in Lithuanian, and Edward Barkowski, in English. Since there were many communicants, a request for Eucharistic Ministers brought forth Toni & John Sakal of Eastern LI, Dorothy Sokal of Maspeth and Jo Zukas from the Great Neck council. It was good to join with the choir in singing the Lithuanian hymns during Mass; we must do it as often as we get the opportunity.

After Mass, everyone gathered in the cafeteria where we helped ourselves to a delicious ham dinner served with a salad, apple pie and various beverages. *Visi buvom labai patenkinti!* A raffle of numerous prizes later made for many happy winners.

The business meeting followed. Fr. Grabys opened the session with a prayer and greetings were extended by the host President, Ed Barkowski. While we certainly had a "full house", we again regret the absence of representation from any of the five New Jersey councils. Usual reports were given as well as the



MAD Newly Elected Officers for yeat 1991-1992.

Florida National Convention report by delegates Bernice Aviza & Apolonija Ziausys.....Cultural Chmn. Ed Cook explained the workings of TFP (American Society for Defense of Tradition, Family and Property)...Lithuanian Affairs Chairlady, Bernice Aviza, noted that this committee would now be directing their efforts in different channels.....We took a half-page ad in Vytis Christmas issue.....To obtain new members, each council will be encouraged to participate in the National Membership Drive. We are certain we can do better than the 1,403 members we now have in this District.

Elections of officers and committee chairmen also took place. Those elected were: Pres. John Sakal; 1st Vice Pres. & Public Relations, Josephine Zukas; 2nd Vice Pres. Ed Senken; Sec. Jeanne Janonis; treas. Mirga Bablin; trustees Ann Tarmey, Millie Pietz, Joseph Stelmokas; Lithuanian Affairs, Bernice Aviza, Adeline Raila, Irene Tice; Cultural, Ed Cook, Al Marcel; Ritual, Jovita Sleder, Rita Sussko & Ann Adomenas. Spiritual advisor of many years has been Msgr. Frank Bulovas, pastor of Transfiguration Church, Maspeth, NY. Father has now retired and we are not certain at this time who will be assigned to us. This will be the decision of the Lithuanian Priests' League. We thank

Msgr. for his support and loyalty to our organization and our district, and wish him many healthy, happy years ahead. Ad Multos Annos!

After the meeting everyone assembled at the Outdoor Shrine to say a rosary for Lithuania. While Lithuania is now free, now independent of Soviet rule, she still needs our prayers.

The next District meeting will be combined with the annual commemorative St. Casimir's Day Mass and Luncheon, will be held March 8, 1992 at Annunciation Parish, Brooklyn, NY hosted by C-41 members with their president William Kumeta.

Ann Morrissey of Maspeth C-110 is our District's K of L representative who meets with other Lithuanian organizational leaders in the Queens area. She made some hurried phone calls inviting all who could attend on Sept. 19 to meet Lithuania's Pres. Vytautas Landbergis, who would be dropping by the Franciscan Cultural Center in Brooklyn, NY. The President's visit was a short one; his talk, thanking the people and the various organizations for their help, was also brief. Perhaps we are selfish in our disappointment that the K of L was not mentioned. Though he was pressed for time, he greeted and shook hands with each one individually. We made it known that we were members of the K

of L and that we would continue to pray for the country's well being. He was very cordial and most gracious, commenting that he knew of the K of L and of VYTIS. It was a solemn, emotional meeting, and we were privileged to have been there.

A Happy Thanksgiving to all. These are great days and it is a time for rejoicing!
Jo Z.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

Rev. Albin Janiunas, pastor of St. Francis Church and spiritual advisor of C-78 celebrated Mass which officially began the day for the NED Convention in Lawrence on Sept. 22. A hearty brunch was served in the church hall immediately after Mass. A wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Mykolas Norkunas took place

C-78 Pres. John Grenda-Lukas welcomed delegates and guests. Rev. Shakalis, District spiritual advisor spoke briefly about the recent events in Lithuania. It is evident that our prayers were being answered during those many years of Lithuania's suffering. Various reports were given by John Grenda-Lukas, Rita Pinkus, Irene Tamulevich, Sister Helen Ivanauskas, SJC and Sister Eugenia Glineckis, SJC. Pres. Al Akule reported on the Kennebunkport Retreat Weekend in June. Cookie Coach announced that deposits for next year's retreat should be made by April 1. Reserve early. Please note the new address of Helen Dallalis, 17 Marlin Dr., E. Falmouth, MA 02536 - (508) 457-4895. Vic Mathieu was happy to report on his participation for the first term as an associate member delegate to the convention in Florida. His humorous comments were factual, thought-provoking and enjoyable. Vic made some concrete suggestions regarding convention procedure

Two buses from the Boston area attended the celebration of Our Lady of

Silva Chapel in Washington.

New District Bylaws are being printed and will be distributed with one copy for each family.

Due to the rise in cost of living, funding to councils hosting the NED meetings will be increased from \$250 to \$400 effective with the spring meeting in New Haven on April 27.

The following three members who could not attend the national convention in Florida received their Fourth Degree in Lawrence: Ignatius Hobitz, Joan Lisauskas, both of C-78 and Frances Kulakusky, C-26. Third Degree was presented to Alice Rytas, C-103. Blanche Genaitis sent word that because of recent surgery, she could not attend the meeting but would like to remain on the Scholarship Committee.

On Nov. 3 a benefit concert for SOS Vaikai was held at Marionis Park.

The District meeting ended with a delicious dinner. A big Lithuanian Ačiū to members of C-78 who made this meeting a pleasant experience. See all of you in New Haven on April 27.

Aldona Marcavage

The NED held their annual Cultural Festival on Oct. 20 at Marionis Park, Shrewsbury. Each council participated in the day's events. There was a Lithuanian boutique where crafts, books and amber jewelry were on sale. There also was a Christmas Boutique to prepare for the upcoming holidays. A game of chance was also held to benefit the scholarship fund. Gourmet dinner and sandwiches were served and music was provided throughout the day. Everyone attending had a nice time.

Virginia Cummings

C-5 CHICAGO, IL

This past summer, Pres. Arturas Poviliunas of the Lithuanian Sports Olympic personally invited Konnie J. Savickus, the "Father of Basketball" to

participate in the festivities. Konnie responded by attending the events in Kaunas and Vilnius plus donating \$6,850.00 to help pay their expenses and donating 24 trophies. Two of those trophies were given by Val & Joseph Stanaitis and three by Estelle Rogers of C-112, and one exceptional trophy was donated by Don Varnas Post #986 of the American Legion.

Lithuania is known as the Basketball Center of Europe. There were 5,000 post cards printed and sold throughout Lithuania showing Konnie and Arvydas Sabonis discussing the progress of that sport and indicating the difference in size of the two men: Konnie at 5'9" and Sabonis at 7'4". Sabonis was the top player in Europe and at the Seoul Olympics in Korea.

Konnie Savickus' appearances in Kaunas on TV mentioned the fact that two members on the 1937 team winning the first European Championship, were former K of L members. Also, three K of L members were on the 1939 European Team. There were no K of L teams in the 1991 games in Kaunas.

The next Olympics will be held again in Lithuania in 1995. Let's hope some Councils will, at least, send their men's or ladies' bowling teams at that time to win the gold medals and enjoy a real friendly reception in FREE LITHUANIA.

P. Sutkus

C-10 ATHOL-GARDNER, MA

On July 4 the Orlando Sentinel featured a front-page article on our own Dick Genaitis, owner of Rite Media and his seven billboards he erected to aware the public that Lithuania was occupied. Bravo Dick!

Sophie Florentino, a member of our council and St. Francis parish is busy with others restoring a stained glass window at St. Francis.

Good health wishes are extended to our vice president Len Davidonis who

has been under the weather lately.

Walter Visniauskas Winkis, formerly of Ansonia and a cousin of Pres. Bill, reached the age of 96 and has outlived the mortality tables of life insurance. Walter is now a resident of the nursing home in Putnam. May he live to be a hundred and more!

Sincere condolences are extended to Howie Beaudette on the recent death of his mother, Anna. Howie was a dedicated son who took care of his mother for the past seven years. May she rest in peace.

Several carloads of K of L'ers attended the annual picnic in Putnam and enjoyed themselves. *Vincukas*

C-26 WORCESTER, MA

Herewith is a compilation of activities and experiences of our council.

Final gala of our council's 75th jubilee year took place on Oct. 12 with a dinner dance held at Maironis Park. New England Holy Hour this year was hosted by Fr. Alphonse Volungis, pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church and spiritual director of C-116 and Irene Tamulevich, president. Fr. Shakalis of Brockton's St. Casimir's was celebrant.

Efforts of Ann Leseman, chairlady, and her committee resulted in a super profit from the June picnic held at Marionis Park.

Heartfelt condolences to Carol Gillies on the death of her son Paul; also to Geraldine Paliliunas on the death of her brother Bill Thompson, Jr.; to Irene Mamavich on the death of her brother Joseph (Kay) Katauskas and to Joe Sakaitis on the death of his sister Anne Rutelonis. Please pray for the good health of Withold Ivaska, Anna Kersis, Vyto Morkunas, Rita Pinkus, Emily Gudzevich, Joseph Sakaitis, Lillian Kondrotas, Aldona Waska, Teresa Adomavicius, Anna Bender and Stanley Kamendulis.

The July meeting with super cook-

out was held again this year at residence of Eleanor & Steve Walinsky, Jr. Other committee members included their son Mark, home for vacation from Vail, CO, Mary & Alex Anusauskas, Ann & Steve Walinsky, Sr., Elaine Selkhaus and Bill Grigas, Sr. and Jr.

Golden wedding anniversary congratulations this year to Antoinette & Joseph Ivoska, Rita & Ted Pinkus and Nell & Joseph Selkhaus. Silver wedding congratulations to Eleanor & Stephen Walinsky, Jr.

Congratulations to Marilyn Buckley, daughter of Bill & Anne Buckley, who won silver and bronze medals at the Special Olympics this spring. Marilyn was also part of Channel 4 feature. Congratulations also to Paul & Genevieve Puris on the birth of their first grandchild, Elizabeth Mary. More congratulations to Fr. Albin Yankauskas, former pastor of St. Casimir's on his 40th anniversary of ordination to the holy priesthood.

Through the initiative and talent of Charles Kulakusky, the beautiful life-size figure of the Crucified Christ was restored and replaced in our St. Casimir's Church. Thank you, Charles, for a wonderfully accomplished task. Lending Charles a hand where needed were Bill Leseman and Alex Anusauskas.

When Mildred & Charles Lapinskas prepared for their spring trip to Las Vegas, Millie said, "Please pray for our safety! Ten family members on one plane." Thank the good Lord, all went just beautifully and a good time was had by all! Rita Karrytais gave a travelogue at a recent meeting on her trip to New Zealand and Australia.

Dan & Betty Shimkus were recently recognized by the Preservation Worcester group for renovations to the original structure of a three-decker house they own in Worcester. A great feat!

Eleven delegates from our council

travelled to Holyoke for the spring NED Convention where Fourth Degree was awarded to Frances Kulakusky and Third Degree to Arthur Racicot.

Our spiritual director, Fr. John Petrauskas MIC, finished the season of spiritual talks on the virtues and we are looking forward to the new series this fall.

Geraldine Paliliunas and grandson Joseph Howard reported that the bowling banquet took place on April 27. Among award winners were Lewis Lloyd and Adele Degutis for high averages.

Welcome to Helen Banis, our newest member. "OLGA"

C-27 NORWOOD, MA

With a successful year of activities thus far, our council held nominations in June for Oct. 1 election of officers.

Highlighted by a July 4 parade made most of us proud of our Lithuanian heritage. It was a feeling the council president had, as if just being elected Mayor of a city.

Our first Octoberfest attracted many members, visiting Knights and friends of Lithuania on Oct. 12 in St. George Founder's Hall. Folk dances added to the event.

We welcome back John Skricki after a brief illness. It is great to see you at council meetings.

New members Stanley & Theresa Wasil, Stanley & Aldona Medvesky joined us in March at St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast. We welcome all of you to our folds.

Helen & Stanley Dallalis are once again the proud grandparents of Stevie Dallalis. Both Helen & Stan have made C-27 a success throughout the years. They recently moved to E. Falmouth on Cape Cod but will be coming to our meetings. We wish them good health and many enjoyable years.

Council members also extend best

wishes to David Tamasanis and his bride-to-be - Sept. 21 was their day. Dave is the son of our secretary Mary Tamasanis. May God bless them with many happy years together. *Jurgutis*

C-29 NEWARK, NJ

Our council spent a beautiful Sunday in Sept. celebrating the 90th anniversary of Holy Trinity Church. We were twice blessed with the presence of the archbishop of Newark and Most Rev. Paul Baltakis, OFM. Concelebrating priests were Rev. Peter Stravinskis, Rev. Dominick Pocius and Rev. Pugevicius. Getting this affair together made us very busy. Our annual Dinner and Dance of Oct. 6 was cancelled. We wish Holy Trinity Church many fruitful years ahead and to pastor Rev. Stravinskis our heartfelt thank you for such an inspiring and beautiful Mass.

Many members attended the 25th Anniversary of Our Lady of Siluva Chapel in Washington. *Mary Cullen*

C-36 CHICAGO, IL

Congratulations to Christine Cius, C-36 Juniors, who was a debutante in the 29th Amber Ball sponsored by Lithuanian Women's Club of Chicago held recently. Seven outstanding young ladies of Lithuanian ancestry became Gintarėles. Co-chairpersons for the ball were Aldona Brazis, C-112, Irene Norbut, Ausra Padalino, C-24. Our C-36 Genevieve Maluska was the music coordinator and introduced the Gintarėles.

The Juniors also participated in the May crowning of the Blessed Mother.

At our July meeting we were greeted with "Labas - Aloha". Both words have five letters and have the same meaning. We had a Hawaiian luau which was enjoyed by everyone. Quite a number wore their Hawaiian outfits. First and Second Degrees were awarded. The annual Mid-America District picnic was



Members of C-29 Newark, NJ drinking a champagne toast in honor of Lithuania's freedom.

held at the Pines Restaurant in Pines, IN. Many members attended and played the fun games.

Speaking of get-aways, some members attended C-14's races, C-16's



C-36 Junior Christine Cius at the Amber Ball in Chicago.

Galena Riverboat Trip and C-24's Spirit of Chicago Boat Ride.

Our Sept. meeting featured a buffet. It was election night and Scottie Zukas served on the Nominating Committee. Following were elected: Sabina Henson, pres.; Ray Wertelka, first vice pres.; Joseph Martikonis, second vice pres.; Joan Cius, third vice pres.; Frances Urazus, rec. sec.; Mary Kincius, treas.; Val Valiunas, fin. sec.; Allen Cuis, corres. sec.; Vytautas Dijokas, Frank Grigalunas and Antanas Sireika, sgts. at arms; Irene Norushis, Vince Samaska and Tony Stakenas, trustees.

Loretta Stukas was our guest. As former president of our council, we always welcome her and her experiences in Lithuanianism. It was also interesting to hear from Evelyn Ozalis of her experiences in Lithuania as a member of the opera group. She was on television, visited relatives and met Pres. Landsbergis.

When Pres. Landsbergis arrived in Chicago, we greeted him with "Lietuva Bus Laisva". Here it is - a dream come true!

Eternal rest grant unto our deceased

members Albina Kodis, sister of Lillian; Mrs. Boese, mother of Jeff Boese and mother-in-law of Laime Boese. Let perpetual light shine upon them and all our deceased members.

Sabina Henson

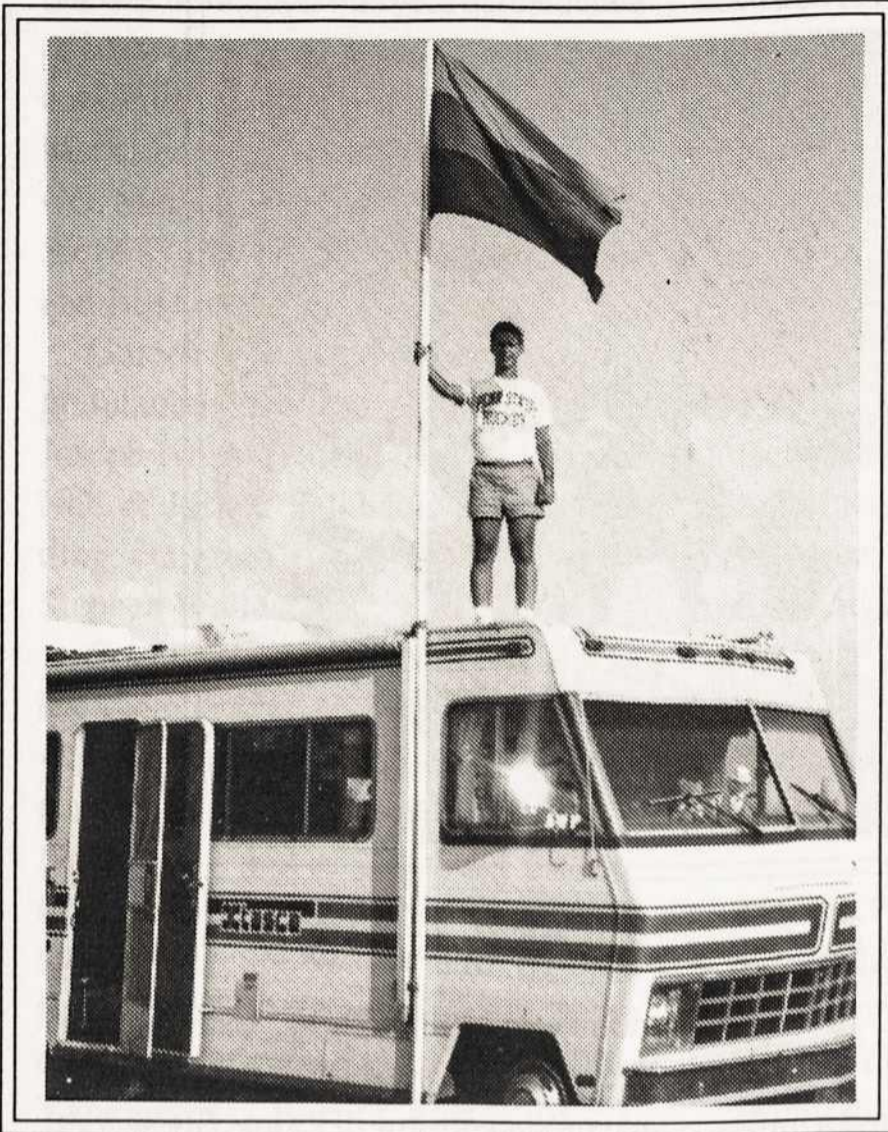
C-52 ELIZABETH, NJ

The Lithuanian festival and religious service celebrating the U.S. recognition of Lithuania as an independent nation took place at Sts. Peter & Paul Church in Elizabeth on Sept. 8. Mass was celebrated by Rev. Alfred Zemeikis, pastor. Prayers were offered for the Congressmen and Senators who promoted and supported the Lithuanian cause. A wreath-laying ceremony was held at the Wayside Shrine in honor of those who died for freedom during the past 50 years. A gala festival featuring Lithuanian food was enjoyed by those in attendance.

William Senkus

C-63 LEHIGH VALLEY, PA

C-63's internal newsletter reporting our Feb. 17 Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration luncheon at the Glass Slipper Restaurant in Bethlehem,



C-63 Paul Tihansky displays Lithuanian flag over his recreational vehicle at Penn State University.

included Loretta Stukas name among the speakers. She rendered an in-depth status report on the medical supplies shipped to Lithuania by the K of L and the abysmal state of Lithuania's community. Her report was very informative and well received.

Bethlehem's 250th anniversary parade on June 1 included a contingent from C-63, some of whom were in national costume. Participants carried Lithuanian and American flags and a large banner identifying us as Lehigh Valley C-63, Knights of Lithuania. Our people received rounds of applause along the parade route. Also, Bethlehem Mayor Ken Smith was not shy to announce that his mother is Lithuanian. Evelyn Harryn was the chairlady for the event which was arranged by Al Klizas, public relations chairman.

The aroma of potato pancakes (blynai) permeated the air at Easton's Heritage Day Festival on July 7 and at

weather was good and the expectant food lines formed and held on all three days. The public has come to take for granted that there definitely will be a Lithuanian Potato Pancake Stand at the fair and look forward to indulging. The crews were tops and their contributions of volunteerism and hard work is deeply appreciated. They are the ones who replenish our treasury to sustain the Lithuanian cause.

Allentown Mayor Joseph Dadonna returned from a trip to Lithuania as a member of a 21 member American delegation which was sent to Lithuania to conduct seminars for officials from the Baltic States on municipal government in a democratic free market society. His presentation focused on municipal fire fighting in the City of Panevežys. He was impressed by Lithuania's physical beauty. He called a meeting to determine if Allentown could work out an arrangement whereby

Bethlehem's Christmas City Fair on July 19, 20 and 21. Our council had a stand at both events which were chaired by Robert Klova. July 7 was a particularly challenging date because the festival experienced a deluge of rain and gale force winds. There were times when the crew thought that their stand was about to be blown across the Delaware River into Phillipsburg, NJ, but they grimly held on and even generated a respectable profit. Talk about Lithuanian tenacity! The Christmas City Fair operation fared a little better. The

a Lithuanian firefighter from Panevežys can visit and attend the Community Colleges and the Fire Academy where he could learn the latest fire techniques.

Thirteen members attended the Baltic Freedom Day ceremonies at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown in June.

Council members mourn the death of Edward McGary, Jr. on June 16 and the accidental death of Joseph Simmons on July 1. Eddie and his wife Nellie are charter members. He will be remembered for his many participations in the Christmas City Fair. Joseph, son of Trudi and Joseph Simmons, participated in council functions with his parents. We extend our most heartfelt sympathy to the McGary/Lushis family and to the Simmons/Pettit family. May God rest their souls.

The following officers were elected: Robert Klova, pres.; Joseph Simmons, vice-pres.; Walter Balchunas, treas.; Evelyn Harryn, rec. sec.; Jane Lutick, fin. sec.; Valerie Smickle & Jacob Zansitis, trustees; Andrew Keraga, sgt. at arms. Al Klizas will continue to serve as Lithuanian Affairs Committeeman.

Paul Tihansky, son of Emilie & John Tihansky and a senior at Penn State, is proud of his heritage and flies the Lithuanian flag high atop his recreational vehicle. This comes in handy because everyone who tailgates at Penn State flies a flag or banner so their friends can find and join them.

Sept. 22 was a very super Sunday for selling blynai (potato pancakes). It was a beautiful day and business was great. Every last drop of the batter was cooked and a good time was had by all. Pizza Hut and Domino's couldn't have delivered the goods any faster than our team with blynies. And there wasn't one dissatisfied customer, many of whom came from the Anthracite Region. The operation was chaired by Evelyn Harryn. Her team consisted of husband

Paul, sister Lillian Klinosky, Liz & Doug Eisenhower, Andy Keraga, Joseph Ogint and Dr. Adolph Butkys. Our warmest thanks to these special people. This Allentown event gets bigger every year. *Joseph Ogint (Uogintas)*

C-72 BINGHAMTON, NY

On July 29, members Rev. John Mikalajunas, Alphonse & Melane Marchuska and Carla Wilson traveled to Amsterdam for the transfer of the body of Rev. Robert Baltch, a native son of St. Joseph's Parish in Binghamton. They were also present for the Mass of Christian Burial on July 30. Fr. Baltch celebrated his first Mass as a priest in St. Joseph's and preached the Diamond Anniversary Mass in Oct. 1988. It is with great sorrow that we buried this faithful priest and true Lithuanian Patriot.

On Sept. 19, Fr. Mikalajunas celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving for the independence of Lithuania. Pres. John Mankus read the scriptures in Lithuanian as well as poetry. Channel 40 WICZ TV was on hand and gave TV coverage to the event. Arunas & Joilta Butkievicius, recent immigrants from Lithuania, were interviewed on TV and expressed their gratitude that they were reunited with their five year old daughter Dominella on Aug. 8, 1991. A covered dish supper prepared by the members was served. Over 60 people joined in on the Binghamton festivities.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated for deceased member Edward Grenchus by Fr. Mikalajunas at St. Ambrose Church in Endicott.

On Nov. 18 C-72 will host a luncheon for the Lithuanian National Basketball team at St. Joseph's Cultural Center. The Basketball team will play SUNY Binghamton Colonials at SUNY Binghamton. We invite all Lithuanians to join us at this game be you from Scranton vicinity, Syracuse or Amsterdam or

wherever you live. This team will be entered in the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain.

We also make mention that we have copies of our famous Lithuanian & American Cookbook published in 1985 at a cost of \$7.50 per book including postage and handling. Write to St. Joseph's Church, 1 Judson Ave., Binghamton, NY 13905 making your checks payable to the church. They make excellent Christmas gifts. The book is in 38 of the 50 States and in the countries of Lithuania, Japan, Ireland, Poland, France and Canada. Join the growing number of fans of this book.

Rev. Fr. John E. Mikalajunas

C-74 SCRANTON, PA

Regina Petrauskienė of the Lithuanian-American Community of Scranton and vicinity, was the originator of the celebration of a commemorative Mass for Lithuanian patriots who perished during the 50 years of Soviet domination and exploitation. With the kind permission of Sr. Mary Reap, president of Marywood College, the Centennial Mass took place in their Regina Chapel on Saturday, June 15 at noon. Msgr. Peter Madus of St. Joseph's Church in Scranton was celebrant, Helen Moran of St. Michael's Church accompanied Lithuanian hymns sung by the congregation. C-74 were co-sponsors and promoters of the solemn event.

During the homily and in the lectures that followed in a conference hall of the College, the people were reminded of Lithuania's great past as a nation, her forced incorporation into the Soviet Union, and of her present struggle for freedom and independence as a sovereign nation. All were urged to contact their senators and representatives of their districts to support Lithuania's efforts and those of Latvia and Estonia, for the final attainment of their goal.

Was it Shakespeare who said, "Truth

crushed to earth will rise again"? However it may be, Lithuanians took a giant step in this direction on March 11, 1990. The newly elected Parliament voted "to restore the exercise of the sovereign powers of the Lithuanian state." The vote was 124 to 0, with 9 abstentions and absentees.

Our prayers and moral support hastened the implementation of independence for the Baltics and may freedom ring forever. *Sr. Virginia Vytell, CJC*

C-109 GREAT NECK, NY

While there have been no meetings during the summer months, we have gotten together for two picnics in the Kings Point Park. Perhaps we should have more picnics - we get better attendance sometimes than we do at our meetings! We thank everyone for their culinary donations, and especially commend Chefs Vincent Dragunat and Walter Mordes who stand and serve midst the smoky barbecue fires and still manage to smile.

Aug. 11 was the 50th wedding anniversary of Al & Star Wesey. We congratulate this industrious couple and wish them good health for many more years together. Al has been our council's president for many years and we do appreciate this man's stamina! Kestutis Miklas has been named the official Lithuanian "Darbininkas" newspaper's accredited correspondent in the United Nations. Much success!

Congratulations are also in order for our spiritual advisor of many years, Msgr. Frank Bulovas, who retired as pastor of Transfiguration Church, Maspeth, NY. Msgr. would drop in our meetings and socials from time to time, giving us spiritual guidance or just encouraging us in the small membership we had at the time. We always enjoyed having him there. (Msgr. could never tell a joke without laughing and



Great Neck C-109 members Josephine Zukas & Mary Kober discussing current events with Lithuania's Pres. Landsbergis

almost giving it away before the punch-line!) We wish Msgr. healthy, relaxing retirement days, and all good things for the future.

Sincere condolences are extended to Bill Statkevicius who recently lost his beloved sister, Anna Pothlanski.....Our Colorado member, Bernice Pingel, lost two brothers living in Lithuania, but was notified months later about their respective deaths, due to the turmoil the country was in at the time.....Vanda Vebeliunas also lost her 87-yr. old mom, Jadvyga Tamoseviciene, whom we had met while attending L.A.C. picnic at their spacious grounds in Lattingtown, L.I. Her mom was brought "home" to Chicago where the burial took place. Our heart goes out to all of these bereaved members.

Our council hired a bus to take us to the Mid-Atlantic District meeting in Auriesville, NY. It truly is beautiful country, rolling hills, open meadows, glorious views at each turn in the road and really suburbia. Attending an out-of-town District meeting was a "first" for some of the members. Their reaction was, "Interesting - but confusing." We regret very much there wasn't time to walk around and

enjoy the grounds. (A few members slipped away and were able to do a little sightseeing). On the way home, our bus driver stopped at a farm stand (just down the road a'piece) where we loaded up with a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables. Since the bus was contracted to leave at a certain hour, we had to depart a little earlier, and were delighted with the apples and sandwiches that the host C-136 had prepared for us. We thank them for their kindness. We also toasted Jo Zukas' election to the District's 1st Vice Presidency with one of the "refreshment" prizes they

won in the raffle. As we literally crawled behind the bumper-to-bumper traffic, we sat back and enjoyed the film, "Once Around", wherein Richard Dreyfus fractured the Lithuanian language and Fr. Wm. Wolkovich of Norwood, MA, in his beautiful voice, started to sing the hymn "Marija, Marija" but, unfortunately, was interrupted. Though it was late when we arrived in Great Neck, we enjoyed the day.

As Thanksgiving Day will soon be here, let's remember to include a special prayer that Lithuania will receive the strength that the freedom of democracy will give them. Have a good day!

Jo.Z.

C-110 MASPETH, NY

On June 15, our council left by bus for Doylestown, PA to commemorate the anniversary date of June 14 on which date thousands of innocent Lithuanians were deported to Siberia. The pilgrimage was chaired by Helen Matulonis. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Baltakis, concelebrants being Bishop Zemaitis of Lithuania assisting with a dozen visiting priests in attendance.

The theme of Bishop Zemaitis' homily was "The Trials and Tribulations of Lithuanian people living under the Tyrant Kremlin Yoke."

Rev. Anderlonis of Philadelphia delivered his homily in English, giving a forceful, dynamic outline of today's events in Lithuania. Mass was well attended and it was most heart rendering to see the pillars all clad with the tricolors of Lithuania. *Joseph Dugan*

Even though our council did not have meetings during July and August, we continued to write to our politicians for aid to Lithuania. Ten members attended the National Convention in Florida. The accommodations and the social activities added to the enjoyment of sharing each others company at all the functions.

A handful of our members celebrated with C-152 Eastern Long Island's Mass.



C-109 members and friends attending MAD meeting in Auriesville, NY



C-110 Maspeth - Mary Stelmokas and Jean Rutkunas testing waters at TradeWinds in Florida.

A special Mass was also held at Transfiguration. Helen Matulonis composed and mailed a thank you letter to Pres. Landsbergis for his untiring efforts to obtain his country's freedom.

Our meeting in Sept. was well attended with over 100 members. Jim Crockett, ancestor of David Crockett was present and received a standing ovation for his help and support to Ann Morrissey's demonstrations during July and August. Ann obtained Pres. Landsbergis autograph when he spoke at the Cultural Center in Brooklyn..

Congratulations to Sophie & Tony Maculaitis who celebrated their 60 wedding anniversary and to Evelyn & Iggy Walles who celebrated their 44. Congratulations also extended to first degree recipient Ann Morrissey and

second degree recipients Mary Stelmokas and Anna Meskauskas. Our prayers go out to members on the sick list: John Mattina and Agnes Lusenkas.

In Sept., Helen Matulonis, Peter Zuyus, Roman Wensek, Paul & Ann Morrissey, Ann Ackalitis and Bruno Rutkunas attended the meeting of the United Veterans and Fraternal Organization of Maspeth. Our council joined the mixed groups so that Lithuanians could participate in parades, meetings and other civic activities. We intend to display a Lithuanian flag when these events occur.

C-110 members and guests journeyed with a full bus to Auriesville, NY to attend the Mid Atlantic District meeting hosted by C-136 Hudson-Mohawk. Mass was celebrated at 12 noon at the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs with luncheon and meeting following. Since there was insufficient time to say the Rosary at the Shrine, we prayed the Rosary on the bus returning home.

Bruno Rutkunas

C-112 CHICAGO, IL

Welcome to Fall and another year of K of L activities. In Sept. we elected new officers and appointed committee chairpeople as follows: Donald Petkus,

Jr., pres.; Al Mockus, 1st vice pres.; Eleanor Kasputis, 2nd vice pres.; Maria Deksnis, 3rd vice pres.; Al Dagis, treas.; Theresa Vaitkus, rec. sec.; Mary Juzenas, fin. sec.; Dolores Wainauskas, corres. sec.; Frank & Lorraine Svelnis, trustees; Ed Deksnis, Matt Vilutis, Peter Juzenas, Joseph Kuizen, sgts. at arms. Our continuing spiritual advisor is Canon Vaclovas Zakarauskas. Appointed committees are: Lithuanian Affairs, Rita Zakarka; Social, Julie Zakarka; Ritual, Eleanor Laurin; Courtesy/Wake, Estelle Rogers; Vytis Correspondent, Gerrie Chaplin; Publicity: Aldona Brazis; Photographer: Dolores Wainauskas; Historian, Susan Binkis. In the meantime, this has not been a lazy, hazy summer for many of our members who found various ways to keep busy.

Our spiritual advisor, Canon Zakarauskas, turned 85 in Oct. We thank him for more than 30 years of faithful support of C-112, attending all our meetings and offering words of wisdom and encouragement. May he continue to enjoy good health and provide us with spiritual guidance for many more years to come. A parish dinner was held in his honor with many well-wishers coming to join him on this happy occasion.

Kudos to Paul Binkis who after long years of study can write "MSW" after his name.....he has the mettle to make a fine social worker.....wife, Susan, continues to teach school while pursuing a master's degree in her "spare time".....Janet Rogers graduated with honors from St. Bernadette and now attends St. Ignatius High School.....Bernadine and Louis couldn't be prouder.....Ellie Yundul and Josephine Mucha (our Florida members) joined in 95th birthday festivities for their mother.....Vera Paukstis' family and friends gathered together for the occasion of her 75th birthday.....Julie Zakarka, Mickey Petrocius and Dol-



C-110 Maspeth members touring lovely Canada in June.

ores Adomenas attended the 50th year reunion of Nativity BVM grammar school graduates held recently at Sharko's....Lorraine Svelnis is volunteering her time at Holy Cross Hospital....Need sports jackets, T-shirts, etc., see Al Mockus at his new specialty sports store located next door to his real estate office....by the way, who is that raven-haired beauty seen cruising around town with Al....rumor has it her name is "Suzette"....Ruth Dagis is testing the waters of show biz. She got rave reviews for providing the entertainment at a recent wedding reception....Rita & Julie Zakarka had a wonderful time touring Europe.Alexander Antanas Pakalniškis entered the world on June 27 weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz.....daddy Alexander, Jr. is a transplanted C-112 member now living in Santa Monica and is the editor of Draugas' "Vyčių Veikla" column....Welcome to new member in our midst - Sandra Skinner sponsored by Estelle Rogers....Al Brazis is on the mend from hip surgery in Sept....how sad to hear of the passing of our member, Viola Mann, on Aug. 28....our heartfelt sympathy to her family.

We had an admirable representation of C-112 members at the 78th National Convention in Florida. Enjoying festivities and attending business meetings were: Al & Aldona Brazis, Estelle

Rogers, Dolores Wainauskas, Ellie Kasputis, Adele Zunas, Rita, Denis & Julie Zakarka, Marie, Ed & Andrytė Deksnis, Frances Shillis, Ann Sliteras, Helen Vilkelis, Betty Zibas, Terry Vaitkus, Emily & Harry Petraitis, Donna, Irene & Ann Marie Juraitis, Dolores & John Adomenas and Josephine, Peter & Mary Juzenas.

Rita Zakarka was elected National 3rd vice pres. and Maria Deksnis appointed to the Scholarship Committee. Good choices! These young women are known for doing superb work.

On Aug. 22 and 23, a demonstration, all-nite vigil, and rally were held at Daley Plaza for the freedom of the Baltic countries with some council members taking part. A closing Mass was held at Immaculate Conception Church with coverage by the television media. Fr. Tony Markus gave a very inspiring homily and the voice of Algird Brazis filled the church with song. Rita Zakarka arranged a letter writing session to thank the media for their coverage which has been tremendous.

Council board members had their first meeting on Oct. 1 and are full of ideas for the coming year. Our newly elected president, Don Petkus, is a refreshing addition to our council - full of ideas, vim and vigor and ready to go, go, go! Look for new and interesting things to happen.

Gerrie

C-133 LOS ANGELES, CA

On Dec. 8, 1990 the LA council held its annual Christmas meeting at home of Dennis Petras in Woodland Hills. Forty members and guests enjoyed the lavish pot-luck goodies. To add to the holiday cheer, it was announced that many new members had been signed up at the Lithuanian Days Fair held that previous Oct. at St. Casimir's Church in Los Angeles. Furthermore, \$120 had been cleared at the Vyčių booth on various items which had been sold by the members. Marytė Sepikas helped to organize this affair.

Robert Novak, vice pres. cultural affairs, gave a talk about Lithuanian Christmas traditions. A guest from Lithuania thanked the members for their kind hospitality and added some further insights on the theme of Christmas in Lithuania. Ed Antanitis lead the members in singing Lithuanian Christmas carols.

In March the council held its annual Easter meeting at the home of Stasė Bajalis in Los Angeles. As usual, the pot-luck began at 1 p.m. followed by the meeting at 3 p.m. \$150 was raised by the council for Lithuanian Mercy Lift. Individual members donated many times this amount to the same and related causes. One of the more noteworthy cases was member Mary Oberfield's donation of \$1,000 to Lithuanian Medical Aid through the K of L organization. Certainly the highlight of the Easter meeting was Stasė Bajalis' donation of \$2,000 to our council. The members and guests that assembled at her home were delightfully surprised by her announcement of the donation. Stasė's husband, Henrikas, had been a driving force in the production of Lithuanian Radio Programs in the LA area for many years. He passed away just a year ago. Instead of holding a luncheon in memory of her husband, Stasė felt that he would rather have her give a gener-



MAD and Great Neck C-109 Spiritual Advisor, Msgr. F. Bulovas at his retirement celebration with Rev. Pakalniskis and Rev. S. Raila attending.



A few of C-133 Los Angeles members and guests celebrating Lithuania's independence with champagne toast, etc.

ous donation to Vyčiams. Her donation was a way to express appreciation.

Martha & Ed Antanitis, delegates to the 78th National Convention provided members with convention highlights. Our council was honored for winning of second place for most new members while Marytė Sepikas was the individual honored for bringing the most new members. Marytė, in turn, donated her \$50. prize money back to the Knights.

It was also announced that our council was finally accepted as part of the Mid-America District.

Pres. Marytė Sepikas continues to walk the extra mile. Besides mailing the next meeting announcements, she also encloses a specially prepared newsletter alerting members to upcoming events.

Election of officers took place as follows: Pres. Marytė Sepikas; 1st Vice Pres. of cultural affairs Jonas Sturas; 2nd Vice Pres. for Membership Jack Bruzas; Rec. Sec. Martha Antanitis; Fin. Sec. Josephine Barzda; Treas. Dennis Petras; Vytis Corres. Cherie LeBrun; Draugas Corres. Stasė Bajalis,

Refreshment Lady Judy Karvelis; Trustees Bernice Skirius, Ed Antanitis, Don Karvelis.

Our meeting also celebrated Antanina & Antanas Brazas' 62nd wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

We will always welcome our K of L friends to California to help us celebrate!

Marytė Sepikas

C-141 BRIDGEPORT, CT

Our annual dinner-dance enjoyed success on June 2. Joe Thomas' music always puts everyone in a party mood. A fun time was realized by all those who attended. Many K of L'ers travelled to Ellis Island on June 15 which was the first Ethnic Day celebrated there. It is to become an annual affair. The Vetra Folk Dance Ensemble performed brilliantly for the thousands who watched. Barbara Schmidt was one of the dancers.

The council was well represented this year at the K of L Retreat in Kennebunkport. Enjoying the beauty and serenity of the Franciscan Friary were Aldona & Pete Peters, Clemencine &

Victor Miller, Alice & Steve Wilcinskis, Kathy & John Balcius, Lee & John Marcinka and Aldona & Bob Marcavage.

Summer time disperses people in all directions. In June, Agnes Lazdauskas flew to Lithuania and spent six weeks at her sister's home. Rose & Walter Barius' son Edward's family flew in from Tokyo for a vacation, spending a portion of it in Maine. Kathy Balcius flew to England, her "tevyne" and returned with her mother. Peter & George Radzwillas flew to Sacramento, CA to visit their sister Anne & Caz Globis and their family. Clemencine Miller's family enjoyed their annual vacation on Martha's Vineyard Isle. Alice & Steve Wilcinskis vacationed in Florida. Stefa & Vytas Vaikutis were in Chicago for the historic Lithuanian Music Festival. They met Lithuania's Pres. Landsbergis and actress Ann Jillian.

The highlight of 1991 for Stella Witkavich was the marriage of her daughter. Best wishes from all of us.

Once again the annual "Successful Aging" competition to honor five seniors chosen from across the state of

Connecticut is on. Last year the winner was our own John Rigely from Milford. He was judged on life-long accomplishments, continuing service to the community and inspiration to people of all ages. He is deacon at St. Mary's Church. John is a fine preacher and a very humble gentleman. We are proud to have him in our council.

Recently, two doctors from Lithuania were guest visitors at Bridgeport Hospital's Cardiology Dept. Our advanced technology was displayed and explained to them. Pres. Miller, a retired nurse, was translator.

A cultural experience was enjoyed by eleven of our members on June 30. A mini-van took them to New York City to see "Uncle Vanya" performed in Lithuanian with translation via head sets. It was presented by the State Theatre of Lithuania and recognized as one of the finest theater companies in Eastern Europe. Playwright Arthur Miller is said to have called Eimuntas Nekrasius, the director, a genius. This was the company's debut in New York City and an enrichment in our lives.

Su vytiška miele.

Aldona Marcavage

C-143 PITTSTON, PA

Our former pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Pittston, Rev. J. Alisauskas, and spiritual advisor of C-143 was selected as this year's recipient of the sixteenth annual John Cardinal McCloskey Award at Mt. St. Mary's College, Emmetsburg, PA which was held on Oct. 8. This Award is presented by the National Alumni Association to a Mountaineer priest in recognition of his dedicated service to the Diocese of Scranton and out-pouring of concern and love for the people of St. Casimir's parish.

Congratulations Father Alisauskas!



C-144 ANTHRACITE, PA

Anthracite Council sponsored Lithuanian Days in the Schuylkill Mall on Aug. 17 and 18. Food service was under the capable supervision of Pres. Olympia Zelinski. Monetary and food donations by members and friends of Lithuania as well as a successful raffle enabled the council to donate \$1,000 to St. Casimir Guild, \$1,000 to SOS Vaikai and \$1,000 to Medical Aid to Lithuania. Lithuanian artifacts were displayed as well as demonstrations of egg etching and straw ornaments. Entertainment was provided by the McDonalds and the Friends of Siluva Choir. Many thanks to all participants who donated and gave so generously of their time toward the financial and social success of Lithuanian Days 1991.

Anna Supernavage, Eleanor Vaicaitis, Olympia Zelinski, Eleanor Yancofski, Helen Chesko and Sr. Angela CJC were council delegates to the National Convention in Florida. Elsie Kosmisky represented the Amber District. Janet Domalakes was a national scholarship recipient. Helen Chesko was elected to the national ritual committee. Anne Sikora was second-place winner in the Foundation Essay Contest.

Many thanks to Robert Martin and his committee for a memorable convention with a special remembrance of Al Zakarka, deceased co-chairman. Congratulations and best wishes to Frances Petkus and her staff for a productive term of office.

After completing her term of office as national president, Anne Wargo assumed the chairmanship of St. Casimir's Guild. Betty Tumas will serve as secretary-treasurer of the Guild. C-144 takes pride in your having served as national president for three years.

Current council officers are: Pres. Olympia Zelinski; vice-pres. Eleanor Yancofski; sec. Anna Helen McDonald; treas. Anna Radzavage; fin. sec. Helen

Chesko. Mary Koons & Joseph Martunas will continue to keep council members up to date on cultural interests and Lithuanian affairs, respectively. And most important, we are grateful to have Fr. Jarasunas as our spiritual advisor and the privilege of a monthly Lithuanian Mass followed by a meeting in Our Lady of Siluva parish hall.

On Sept. 22, Knights and parishioners joined in honoring Eva Yurkewicz for her services as organist at Our Lady of Siluva for over fifty years. Happy retirement.

Forty-five Anthracite Knights traveled by charter bus to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington to participate in the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Chapel of Our Lady of Siluva on Oct. 13. After the ceremonies, members joined the Amber District for dinner at the Lithuanian Club in Baltimore.

Plans are well underway for National Convention 1992. Dates are: July 16-19. The place is the Allentown Pennsylvania Hilton. Plan now to attend!

C-150 KANSAS CITY, KS

Current officers for the current year are: Pres. Lou Ann Rayn; vice pres. Dolores Purduski; sec-treas. Paul Purduski.

We sent a flyer saying "Ačiu" to all who attended the Knights of Lithuania Day at the Woodlands horse races. It was a "gera diena". The food was pleasing and a good time was had by all 27 of us, especially the winners of some "pinigu".

The Kansas City Missouri Ethnic Festival was held on Aug. 16, 17 and 18 at Swope Park. Many K of L members assisted in preparing food and at the booth. The Lithuanian Aidas Dancers performed under the direction of Anita Strumillo

Lou Ann Rayn

C-152 EASTERN LONG ISLAND, NY

For Lithuanians, persons of Lithuanian ancestry and friends of justice of every lineage, the summer of 1991 witnessed the dramatic answer to the deluge of prayers which have been storming Heaven for the past 50 years - the abrupt recovery of independence for the Baltics. Members of C-152 fittingly honored this joyous occasion by sponsoring a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Patrick's Church in Southold, NY. A choral group of our own Knights, augmented by visiting Knights and friends, added gloriously to the solemnity of the day by their most feeling rendition of a selection of traditional hymns. In addition to selecting the music and chairing the choral group, Fred Lucka, following the welcoming homily of our celebrant, Fr. Martin Osborne, pastor of St. Patrick's, recounted for the congregation, in an appropriate address, the depth of slavery and degradation from which Lithuania has now been raised. At the conclusion of this beautiful Divine Service more than a few damp eyes could be seen!

Following Mass, members and guests descended to the church hall for refreshments and the sharing of fraternal joy at the meaning of this day.

C-152 is proud to note that one of our Knights, Past President John Sakal was elected at the Mid-Atlantic District meeting in Sept. to the post of District President. We wish him a fruitful presidency!

Looking ahead, members are working on details of our Annual Christmas Party to be held this year on Saturday, Dec. 14th. Co-chairman Joe Bealis and Del Vance are working out the specifics.

Finally, C-152 is saddened to report the death on Sept. 24 of our dear friend and fellow Knight, Casper (Charles) Dumblis. Our readers are respectively



C-152 Blanche Zeidat & Angela Minsavitch in front of spinning wheel from Lithuania.



Eastern Long Island's Lithuanian Independence Mass Thanksgiving held in Southold. Bertha Lucka & Mary Zipkas carrying the council's banner.

asked to include in their prayers a petition to God for His mercy upon the soul of His faithful Knight, Charlie, and for His comfort and solace of our suffering Council members Tony Zambuto and John Kuchinskas.

Tom Tarmey

C-154 SPRING HILL, FL

The newest chapters in our history

books will record in bold letters and words the emergence of the staunch Lithuanians who reclaimed their homeland from those who so ignominiously seized it over fifty years! It must be noted that the Vatican Council recognized Lithuania's independence even before Pres. Bush, the USSR or the United Nations Security Council acknowledged the restoration of her free-



Mass of Thanksgiving sponsored by Eastern Long Island. In procession: l to r: Monica Mutlos, Angie Minsavitch, Agnes Marma & Ann Tarmey.

Caught up in the excitement of a free Lithuania, our members joined the other K of L councils in Florida at the banquet in the Lithuanian Club in St. Petersburg. Good food, great beverages and earth shaking cheers made for a really super celebration.

Before comments regarding the convention are put to rest, our council

members are still basking in the warmth we felt, meeting so many K of L'ers from all over the country. We were so happy to greet such gracious, sincere, friendly and warm people. The spirit we experienced as we ate that ethnic food and stamped our feet to Joe Thomas' music put us in mind of the weddings and similar celebrations our parents described to us when we were

children. Our fondest wish is that many of the K of L who visited Florida and are now seriously anticipating spending the golden years here, will consider joining our council as we pursue our cultural heritage in a socially conscious fun loving pursuit of happiness.

Ray & Virginia Kentra, our social committee, arranged for us to attend our local dinner-theater. We enjoyed a delightful buffet and a really amusing, laugh provoking presentation of "Same Time Next Year". Other theater outings are planned in the near future.

Snow birds, Tillie & Ed Laconis attended the 99th birthday party for Tillie's mother in Detroit, MI. Al & Bridgett Walluk have returned from Chenango Forks, NY.

As soon as all of our members are back, we plan to review "Lithuania, My heritage", authored by Vladas Vijeikis and published by Teviškelė in Chicago.

Many years ago, Mr. Vanagaitis, a Lithuanian composer wrote the words, "Ei pasauli, mes be Vilniaus ne nurimsimė". Now that we can relax because Vilnius IS ours. Let us pray that Lithuania meets the tremendous task of re-establishing herself as a great nation!

S.G.P.

I WILL DO MORE.....

I will do more than belong -
I will participate.

I will do more than care -
I will help.

I will do more than believe -
I will practice.

I will do more than be fair -
I will be kind.

I will do more than forgive -
I will work.

I will do more than earn -
I will enrich.

I will do more than teach -
I will inspire.

I will do more than give -
I will serve.

I will do more than live -
I will grow.

I will do more than be friendly -
I will be a friend.

KREIVOS ŠYPSENOS

Kada kas kitas dirba ilgai, yra per lėtas, bet kada aš dirbu ką nors ilgai, esu sąžiningas.

Kada kas kitas pasiekia laimėjimą, sakau: jis turėjo laimę, bet kada aš ką pasiekiu - Dieve, kaip sunkiai turėjau dirbti.

Du dalykai gyvenime yra labai svarbus: gera lova ir patogūs batai. Žmogus,



IN MEMORIAM

EDWARD McGARY
C-63 Lehigh Valley, PA
† June 16, 1991

MICHAEL SUSSKO
C-29 Newark, NJ
† September 8, 1991

CASIMIR DUMBLIS
C-152 Eastern Long Island
† September 24, 1991

ALGIS ABARAVICIUS
C-112 Chicago, IL
† August 14, 1991

LEOCADIA SULAUSKAS
C-7 Waterbury, CT
† September 9, 1991

ANTHONY RADZEVICH
C-100 Amsterdam, NY
† September 28, 1991

MONICA BANION
C-79 Southfield, MI
† September 8, 1991

BEATRICE HOFF
C-41 Brooklyn, NY
† September 14, 1991

AGNES LUSENSKAS
C-110 Maspeth, NY
† October 7, 1991



79th KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CONVENTION

July 16 - 19, 1992

Allentown Hilton Hotel
Allentown, PA

Hosts: Anthracite C-144

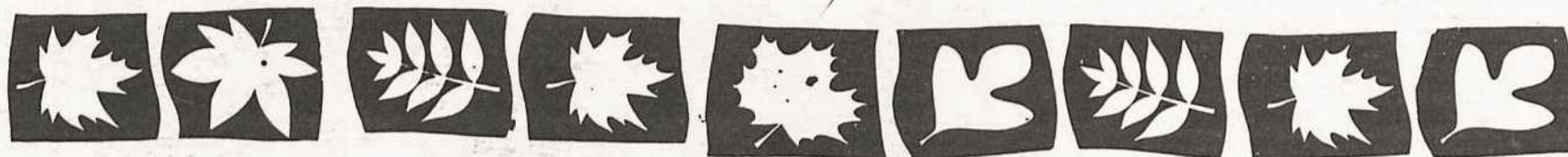
Fellow Knights and Friends:

Anthracite C-144 invites you and your guests to attend the 79th National Convention in Allentown, PA. C-144 members are very anxious to extend to you their hospitality and assure everyone of a program that will be most enjoyable to those attending. Only by your presence will it be possible to have a successful convention. Further information will be forthcoming in future issues of VYTIS. See all of you on July 16, 1992 in Pennsylvania!

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LEISKIT Į TĖVYNĘ

Liaudies Daina
Aranz. J. Žilevičius

1. Leis- kit į tė - vy - nę, Leis- kit pas sa -

vus, Ten pra- džiugs krū - ti - nė, At - gai - vins jaus -

mus, Ten pra- džiugs krū - ti - nė, At - gai - vins jaus - mus.

2. Pirm, negu aušrelė skaisti užtekės,
Ten mano dainelė linksmi suskambės.
3. Čia jausmai man žūva, kaliny širdis,
Leiskit į Lietuvą, vakys ten nušvis.
4. Svetima padangė nemaloni, nei
Teviškėlę brangią vis regiu sapne!
5. Nemuną dabina gražesni žiedai,
Širdį ten ramina meilesni jausmai.
6. Leiskit į Tėvyne, leiskit pas savus,
Ten pradžiugs krūtinė, atgaivins jausmūs.