

VYTIS

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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Men of Destiny by John M. Grenda-Lukas

Both St. Casimir and Mykolas Norkunas were men of destiny, who will be long remembered. One by all Lithuanians as the Patron Saint of Lithuania, Lithuanian Youth, Youth worldwide or the Knights of Lithuania; the other as the founder of the Knights of Lithuania and of other organizations in the Lithuanian and Polish communities of the United States. Both aptly illustrate the statement made by well-known Renaissance artist Michaelangelo: "Trifles make perfection, and perfection is no trifle." Each man tried to do his best and be the best in all things both large and small.

St. Casimir Gediminskis is the princely saint whom Lithuanians have accorded their trust, hope and aspirations. He was appointed patron Saint of Lithuania in 1636 by Pope Urban VIII and patron Saint of Lithuanian youth on June 11, 1948 by Pope Pius XII. His great grandfather Algirdas extended Lithuania to the Black Sea and twice besieged Moscow. His grandfather Jogaila married Queen Jadvyga of Poland in 1386 and brought Christianity to Lithuania. His grandmother was Sofija Alseniske - a Lithuanian Duchess - Jogaila's fourth wife. His father was King Casimir IV. His mother was Elizabeth Hapsburg of Austria. St. Casimir was the second of six sons and six daughters. The eldest was King of Bohemia and Hungary; three were Grand Dukes of Lithuania and Kings of Poland; one was Cardinal Bishop of Cracow; and one was a saint. The five daughters married into German nobility, while one died in infancy. From the five sisters, St. Casimir is great uncle and cousin to almost all the Royal Houses of Europe. The Queen of

England is a great grandniece ten generations removed from St. Casimir. St. Casimir was born in Cracow on October 3, 1458.

Mykolas Andrius Norkunas was born on December 1, 1869 in Kruminė, Trakai County, Lithuania. His father was Andrius Jokubas Norkunas. His mother was Ona Lasauskas. He was the eldest son and had the responsibility of working on the family farm. Thus, he, unlike St. Casimir, did not have the privilege of a home tutored education. Norkunas had to leave school to work on the farm. This was to spur him on to go to night school in the United States when he emigrated in 1892, coming to the Boston area where he lived with his brother-in-law Jonas Uzdavinas. He left Lithuania after being released from a Russian prison for smuggling books - some packages of which contained pistols. At the time the Russian Tsarist government was attempting to prevent Lithuanians from printing their books in the Latin alphabet. (*Spaudos Draudimas*) in an attempt to wipe out the Lithuanian language and culture. Mykolas felt strongly that the Lithuanian language and culture should be preserved and became a book smuggler (*Knygnešys*) a much honored endeavor.

When he arrived here in the US, he attended night school to learn English, photography, drafting and flag-making, subjects he would later use. After graduation, he became founder of the first Lithuanian Newspaper in New England - **The Lithuanian Newspaper of Boston** - with Rev. Zebris of Waterbury, CT as editor. Only seven issues were published between November 1, 1895 and December 27, 1895.

On January 31, 1903, Norkunas married Wladyslawa Smieckowska in So. Boston. He had four daughters - Eugenia, Cecilia, Aldona and Phyllis,

and one son Zenon. He was born into a family not of great landowners or national figures, but of common people.

St. Casimir was privileged to be educated by private tutors as was custom for royalty and nobility. He spoke Polish, German, Latin, and learned Lithuanian on his own. Like Norkunas, St. Casimir had a great fondness for the Lithuanian language and culture.

Both men had a lively faith and a deep devotion to religion. St. Casimir did not allow himself to be corrupted by the luxuries of court life. He found true happiness in centering his life around God and practicing self-denial. He spent more time in the chapel than in the palace - forgetting his meals. He wore a penitential hairshirt and slept on a wooden floor. He had a strong devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. A hymn **Daily, Daily, Sing to Mary**, was his favorite and asked to have a copy of it buried with him in his coffin.

Norkunas also had a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and tried to avoid the temptations of life especially food and drink. At one time, he even became president of a Temperance movement. He founded a devotional society on April 17, 1905 called the **Our Lady of Vilnius, Gates of Dawn**, to spread devotion to the blessed mother in the Lawrence, MA area. He was an officer of many church organizations e.g. the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation. He organized St. Francis Parish in 1903 and served as president and secretary until Rev. Jusaitis arrived. Both St. Casimir and Norkunas worked to help the underdog to improve the lot of the people. St. Casimir was known as the *-defender of the poor*; Nockunas as *-The Founder*. Both defended all if the cause was just.



St. Casimir is especially known for the many miracles curing people and for his intercession to help Lithuania in its struggle with the Russians. In 1518, he appeared at the Lithuanian fortress of Polock, near the Daugava river, as a white knight on a white horse, charging with his sword held high. He was responsible for routing the Russians and stopping their advance in the East. This resembled the national emblem of Lithuania - *Vytis*.

Both men suffered disappointments in life. St. Casimir's was his defeat as he attempted to seize the throne of Hungary. This resulted in Casimir's decision to give up the passing glamor of earthly thrones to win the heavenly crown of eternal glory. At age 13, his mother sent him to claim the Hungarian throne after her brother, the King of Bohemia and Hungary, died. Even though her older sister, the Duchess of Saxony, had a better claim to the throne, St. Casimir obeyed his mother and went off to secure an earthly crown. In 1471, he went to free the Hungarians from an oppressive ruler as his mother claimed. He returned to Poland greatly disappointed and disillusioned. As a dutiful son, in 1474, he accepted the appointment from his father to rule Lithuania. In 1479 he became Grand Duke. In 1481, he was transferred back to Poland to govern.

(continued on next page)

Norkunas also suffered many disappointments in trying to found and keep the Knights of Lithuania going. He had many disappointments in his personal life also. He started many businesses, to see each one fail, requiring him to work in humble jobs to support his family. His first newspaper failed after seven issues in 1895. His flag and insignia shop in Brockton, MA started in 1915, burned down, without any insurance protection. He worked at farming, home construction, foundation digging, hat making and book selling. The grocery store he opened in 1917 in Lawrence soon went under, forcing him to work in a factory. Even though disillusioned at times, he could console and encourage others. His biggest tragedy occurred in 1947 when his wife died - leaving him griefstricken.

Both men suffered from serious illnesses. St. Casimir from tuberculosis which led to his early death on March 4, 1484 at Gardinas castle in Lithuania. He was buried in Vilnius in a special chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin in the Cathedral; in great pomp for the time. Norkunas suffered from a hearing loss and severe arthritis. He served two terms as National K of L President 1913-1915. He was forced to give up the presidency of the organization which he founded, with nine others in St. Francis Parish Hall, Lawrence, MA, on April 27, 1913, because of his hearing loss. He continued to nurture the Knights of Lithuania by letter writing, speech making and personal contact until his death on April 1, 1951 at Bon Secours Hospital, Methuen, MA. At one time he was told that he was not educated enough to found and lead an organization by those who later took over as national officers. This was a severe disappointment to him. He was hampered by advancing physical infirmity coupled with a habit of

rambling and repeating himself. At some conventions he challenged the presiding officers sense of tact by his presence and desire to give speeches.

Mykolas Norkunas was buried in Sacred Heart Cemetary in Andover, MA on April 3, 1951. His Mass was presided over by Msgr. Francis Juras. One of the pallbearers was a past president of Council 78, Lawrence, MA John Zemis.

St. Casimir is the symbol of the Lithuanian peoples' struggle against Moscow and the saint who has tried to preserve and strengthen the Catholic faith in Lithuania. Mykolas Andrius Norkunas is the symbol of the Knights of Lithuania, the founder, who tried to preserve and strengthen the language and culture and to keep Lithuanian youth from going astray. Both were humble in performing the work tasks assigned them. Both tried to console and encourage others. Both were humble people, born with the destiny to be remembered by thousands, while the rich and mighty are soon forgotten. Both our patron saint and our founder truly illustrate "Trifles make perfection and perfection is no trifle."

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To be a Knight means to be of service ...

In supporting priestly vocations - The St. Casimir's Guild is a semi-autonomous activity dedicated to the support of the Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome. The Guild sponsors three programs : collection of donations for a general endowment fund administered by the Rector, obtaining Mass stipends for the support of Lithuanian priests studying in Rome, and coordinating a program of "adopting" seminarians from Lithuania by providing regular contributions for their non-academic needs. Checks should be made payable to : **The St. Casimir's Guild** and mailed to:
Anna Klizas Wargo 125 So. Morris Street St. Clair , PA 17970

In Humanitarian Aid - Aid to Lithuania, Inc. is a semi-autonomous organization under the aegis of the Knights of Lithuania , that provides medical supplies, equipment and medicines to Lithuania during this crucial transition period from a Soviet-occupied and suppressed nation to a free and self-sufficient democracy. At least one 40-foot container of donated materials is shipped each calendar quarter. Administrative costs are covered by the K of L so that 100% of donated monies are applied to humanitarian aid. Checks should be made payable to **Aid to Lithuania, Inc.** and mailed to;
Aid to Lithuania, Inc. 4557 Fairway Court , Waterford, MI 48328-3483

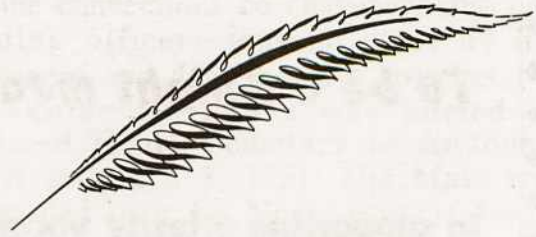
In Education - K of L Scholarship Awards are presented each year to deserving members who are pursuing studies at the college level. The Scholarship Fund is totally dependent upon donations and bequests from members payable to the **Knights of Lithuania - Scholarship Fund.** Point of contact is:
Florence Zaleskas 264 Bowen Street So. Boston, MA 02127

In Cultural Advancement - The K of L Foundation is an endowment fund which supports and funds projects to further the cultural, religious or humanitarian objectives of the Knights of Lithuania. Donations are tax deductible. Checks should be payable to the **Knights of Lithuania Foundation** and sent to:
Loretta Stukas 234 Sunlit Drive Watchung, NJ 07060

In Upkeep of the National Shrine - The development of an endowment fund to support the upkeep of the Chapel of Our Lady of Siluva at the Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception located in Washington, D.C. was adopted at the 75th Knights of Lithuania Anniversary Convention. Donations are tax deductible. Checks should be payable to the **Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception** and mailed to:
Julia Burlen 2403 Belair Drive Bowie, MD 20715

**K of L Foundation
1993 Essay Contest
Third Prize Winner**

**Maryte Abbott , C-110
Maspeth, NY**



It is said that each ethnic group within the United States' giant melting pot produces people like their ancestors. Should history accurately describe the Lithuanian people, it would be - fearless in the face of battle. One need only think of Ann Jillian, whose radiance shines beyond her battle with cancer; Kim Bergalis, who lost her battle with AIDS but fought to testify to the US Congress; and athletes Darius Kasparaitis and Sarunas Marciulionis, whose battles on the ice and the court have given them, and Lithuania, new-found fame, glory and respect.

America's minority of nearly one million US Lithuanians not only celebrate July 4th as America's Independence Day, but also celebrate July 6th as a special day, which unified their Lithuanian homeland 740 years ago. Many of today's school children can not recall our country's unifier and father, George Washington, who did the same only two centuries ago. But, Lithuanian students perhaps because the bloodshed of their newly restored freedom is still fresh, do know their country's unifier - namely King Mindaugas, the first King of Lithuania.

The year was 1243. Eastern Europe was ruled by warring dukes who owned their own states. The Duchy of Volynia, a Teutonic Order of Knights, hostile and warring, had control of Latvia and were poised to invade the Duchies of Lithuania. On the eastern front, the Russian City-States of Polotsk, Vitebsk, and Smolensk, were prepared to do the same. Perhaps, the phrase - *united we stand, divided we fall* - was lobbied by Mindaugas as he tirelessly toiled to organize the

various Lithuanian Duchies to defend their land and people. Mindaugas fought numerous battles repelling the aggressors and winning the trust of the pagan landholders. He was baptized into Roman Catholicism in 1251, in hopes that Pope Innocent IV would defer the invaders and the Livonian Knights would cease their aggression.

Having converted to Christianity and then crowned King of Lithuania in 1253, his goal of peace with the invaders was shortlived, however. At the Battle of Durbe in 1260 a combined fighting force of all rivals and the united Lithuanians were able to defeat the Teutonic Knights. In the 10 years after his coronation, King Mindaugas conducted 33 major military campaigns defending the Lithuanian homeland. Eventually rivalry among Lithuania's Dukes led to the assassination of Mindaugas in 1263.

Although Lithuania would take another 120 years to fully accept Christianity, Mindaugas was not murdered to destroy the newly united country. It was rather opposition to his policies and political rivalry that led to his assassination. Yet, despite the hardships turmoil and chaos, this unified group of independent entities became a unique country that would develop and keep its own identity, chart its own destiny and gain international respect. Almost 740 years later, the Lithuanian people showed fearlessness in battle, in the face of death, by ousting the Russian communists. The tradition of Mindaugas was not forgotten. The bravery of these heroes will be the future Mindaugas' of new generations.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.

1994 ESSAY CONTEST

Did you exchange Lithuanian colored eggs at Easter, or bless food on Holy Saturday? Or do you recall special ceremonies, serious or fun, at other Lithuanian holidays, as Shrove Tuesday, or "Žolinė", or a family member's name's day?

The Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc. invites you to share these or other traditions, by entering its annual Essay Contest. The topic this year is:

"Describe at least one Lithuanian tradition (from a holiday other than Kucios) practiced in your family, in the past or present."

This year's contest should provide fun to the entrants as they recall family celebrations, and interest others who perhaps may decide to incorporate some of these traditions into their own lives. Enter the Contest and share your memories. Rules are listed below.

- LENGTH:** 450 to 500 words (count all words).
- DEADLINE:** July 1, 1994. Essays received after this date will not be considered.
- ELIGIBILITY:** A contestant must be a Knights of Lithuania member (Honorary, Regular or Associate) in GOOD STANDING, OR a member of a Junior Council which is duly registered with the Supreme Council.
- CRITERIA:** Essays will be judged on content, originality, and ATTENTION TO CONTEST TOPIC. Correct grammar and neatness will also be considered in judging.
- MANUSCRIPT:** Must be typed or written legibly, double spaced. The FIRST PAGE should contain ONLY your name, address, council number, and the essay title. Succeeding pages should contain the essay contents but NOT your name. This is to assure anonymity in judging.
- PRIZES:** 1st Prize - \$200, 2nd Prize - \$100, 3rd Prize - \$ 75.
- JUDGES:** Adolf Klova (AMD), Clemencine Miller (NED), Evelyn Ozelis (MAMD), Aldona Ryan (MCD), Loretta Stukas (MAD), Tom Bruzga (1993 Contest Winner)
- MAIL TO:** Mrs. Aldona Ryan, 6591 McEwen Rd., Centerville, OH 45459
- WINNERS:** Will be announced August 6, 1994, during the 81st National Convention in Chicago, IL. Winning entries will be published in VYTIS.
- SPONSOR:** KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC., via a grant from Msgr. Juozas Prunskis.

The **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.** is a tax-exempt endowment fund which uses interest from its investments to finance cultural and religious projects of the K of L. This contest is just one of its projects. This year, besides giving a \$2,000 scholarship to a deserving member and sponsoring the Annual Essay Contest, the Foundation sent some 300 beautiful Picture Bibles, some Lithuanian and some English, to Lithuanian schools in Utena and Kretinga, Lithuania, to our own Lithuanian Franciscan Sisters. It needs your support to grow and be able to engage in other such projects.

This year, the Foundation celebrates its 10th Anniversary of existence. You can help celebrate

that anniversary by joining the Foundation and increasing its capital and provide more funds to help Lithuania and Lithuanian projects. A donation of \$100 entitles you to membership in the Foundation, and supports the Knights' future. Are YOU a member of the Foundation? If not, why not join today? If you are a member, consider making an additional donation, as a 10th Anniversary gift.

Send your tax-deductible donation to:
Mrs. Evelyn Ozelis, Treasurer
2533 W. 45th St.
Chicago, IL 60632

Easter Scenes

by Antonia M. Wackell

On the afternoon of Holy Saturday, the day before Easter, we trudged importantly over brick sidewalks, crossed bumpy cobbled streets and trolley tracks always on guard lest we trip and scatter the very special contents of our Easter baskets.

It was a long walk to the church. We were now old enough (5 - 9 year olds) to make the trip without our elders to obtain the customary Holy Water. Our baskets contained portions of food carefully packed for the priest's blessing.

Although it was early when we entered the church, several adults were praying near the side altar where two men, typifying ancient Roman soldiers, equipped with helmets, swords and shields, guarded the tomb of Our Lord. Nearby, also keeping vigil, were women, girls and boys on their knees.

The main altar, covered with a cloth of lace, surrounded by palms and flowers, was radiant in the softness of candles and lights. A huge crucifix, that normally hung on the wall in the vestibule, now reposed at the side altar where a long line of kneeling people crept slowly on their knees, knelt on a velvet cushion, kissed the crucifix and dropped coins into a receptacle nearby.

We sat a short distance from the main altar, readied our baskets to be uncovered instantly and waited. When the pastor arrived to bestow the blessing, there arose into view pretty baskets, decorated baskets of all kinds, sizes and shapes. The appetizing aroma of eggs, sausages, hams, freshly baked Easter breads rose in fragrant waves as some digestive systems were heard to rumble. (In Lithuania it had been necessary, a long and ancient custom that every family prepare two baskets of food. A small one for the family's Easter table and a larger one containing bread, meat, rye or wheat, to be distributed to the poor who were waiting near the church on Holy Saturday.) Here, there were no poor assembled at the church's door.

After the blessing, white covers carefully refolded, we joined others in the entrance area to fill our containers with the Holy Water blessed during Mass in the morning. The Holy Water had many purposes : It was used in the sick room, sprinkled about the house during severe storms, sprayed , ungrudgingly, the fields for the harvest's generous yield. Small amounts

were poured into the mini fonts (stoups) that hung on kitchen door frames. Family members as they left their homes, would dip two fingers into the water, make the sign of the cross and leave. Some fonts were hung outside the doors.

Our pleasant mission fulfilled, the long walk seemed to be much shorter. Perhaps it was the recollection of brown eggs placed so carefully, between many layers of onion skins (hoarded for months by mothers) now cooled off in the pots and waiting to be transferred into a large woven basket. That was an allarming responsibility ! It could not be rushed. A broken egg boded no-good ! It meant that there would be one less egg for the egg fights. Hence extreme caution had to be used by a pair of excited hands. Eggs beautifully designed with beeswax and colored, had been prepared beforehand.

We were sad to have missed the young men singers who went from household to household greeting the family with: *Little father, little mother ; Shall we gladden your humble home ? Which of these songs shall we sing ? - Christ our Lord Rose From the Dead ? or The Joyful Day Has Already Begun to Shine ?*

If the first song was requested, the singers received three eggs. Should the second be desired, then they were the recipients of four eggs, because the hymn had many verses. If an accordion or *skipka* accompanied the singers, then more eggs were lavished upon them. Decorated eggs were not expected. The young men wanted to eat the eggs, not to preserve them.

It was long past the lamplighter's appearance in the street when we finally fell asleep. It was still dark when we were awakened Easter morning. We crept out from under the cozy feather tick, dashed into the kitchen where a wood fire crackled in the huge cast-iron stove and a kettle of hot water was ready to wash away the sleep from heavy eyes.

The stillness of the night in the deserted streets seemed to make the distance to church so much greater than it did the day before. The friendly, Irish night patrolman, greeted us with - " And a Happy Easter to all of you my draugai. There are others going to church just ahead of you." Our new generation responded, "Happy Easter, Mr. Timothy." Our elders called out " Linksmy Velyku".

Our seniors constantly urged us on, not to lag, reminding us of the steep hill that would unquestionably slow our speed and perhaps, make us late. We finally entered the church's bell room's dismal, cold interior,

crowded with others our age and a few 'older girls' who snapped, " You're late ! Find your partners ! " We dropped our coats onto the others piled up, positioned ourselves in the Easter procession now beginning to enter the already over-filled church.

Two hours later, as we surged out through the church entrance, we felt the cool morning light. The previous quiet was now perforated by joyful greetings and the rattle of the trolley car as it clanged down the hill to receive some churchgoers who lived or worked elsewhere.

As we entered the warm kitchen, calling in unison **Linksmų Vėlykų, Garbė Jezui Kristui !!** we were given small tasks to dispatch if we wanted to have a happy Easter. At noon the table was ready for our Easter rejoicing. Mother placed the blessed food which had been portioned off for each individual, before father. After receiving our share, we sprinkled a few grains of salt on the bread and eggs. We suddenly recalled that just the previous Easter, while in Lithuania, our grandmother reminded us that the "... blessed Easter bread and salt meant that bread will always be on the family's table."

During the afternoon, well-wishers arrived and were offered mother's bread, admired decorated eggs or exchanged them, but especially to engage in the long-awaited competition. Whose plain brown egg would survive as the winner in the intense, but very calculating egg fights. Who would be the happy winner whose egg had a strong shell to fracture and accumulate all other eggs.



Clarifications and Amplifications

The article which documented the Pre-Convention Trip in Volume 79; No. 8 of Vytis had several omissions. The following clarifies and amplifies that which has already appeared in print and was submitted by Anne Leseman C-26 Worcester, MA who coordinated the Trip.

Upon arrival at Marianapolis campus we were greeted by Headmaster, Father Timothy Roth. He then introduced us to deacon Don Phinney. Father Roth led one group on the tour of the campus and Deacon Phinney led the other group.

We would like to thank Sister Eugenija of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary for interrupting her retreat by welcoming us to their community. Sister Eugenija led the group in prayer at their chapel. Together we prayed for the success of their retreat and our convention.

Knights of Lithuania Calendar of Events

May 20-22, 1994
MCD Spring Meeting,
Pittsburgh, PA , C-19 Hosts

June 4, 1994
Supreme Council Meeting
Chicago, IL

June 17-20, 1994
AMD Meeting and Pilgrimage,
Kennebunkport, ME

August 4-7, 1994
K of L 81st National Convention,
C-16 Hosts, Chicago, IL

September 11-14, 1994
C-136 Annual Pilgrimage,
Kennebunkport, ME

Aid to Lithuania Donors' List

Donations received July 1, 1993 to December 31, 1999

Estate of William Dabkus c/o K. Miskinis. Adm.	Oak Park, MI	\$ 11,000.00
Aid To Lithuania Dinner 11/14/93	Detroit, MI	\$ 1,301.00
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Mr & Mrs Stanley Diskavich	Torrington, CT	\$ 100.00
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Papal Tour Tape % Regina Juska	Detroit, MI	\$ 100.00
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Lithuanian Club of Dayton % E. Mikalauskas	Dayton OH	\$ 55.00
Mr Mark T Miller	Milmay, NJ	\$ 52.00
Gardenview Garden Club	Dayton, OH	\$ 50.00
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Ceslova Pliura		\$ 10.00
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Mr & Mrs Petras Bitleris		\$ 10.00
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Stasys Bartkus	Detroit, MI	\$ 10.00
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B. Neverauskas	Sterling Heights, MI	\$ 10.00
Kazys Ramasauskas	Livonia, MI	\$ 10.00
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Ceslova Naumiene	Livonia, MI	\$ 10.00
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A & N Dumbrys	Chicago, IL	\$ 5.00
Helen Jucius	Chicago, IL	\$ 5.00
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S Krusnis	Chicago, IL	\$ 5.00
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Grazina Senkeviciene	Chicago, IL	\$ 5.00
A. Pretkelis	Chicago, IL	\$ 5.00
Peter Jasaitis	Chicago, IL	\$ 5.00
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Vacys Slusnys	Detroit, MI	\$ 20.00
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Antanas Vaitiekus	Detroit, MI	\$ 20.00
Vladas Jomantas	Redford, MI	\$ 20.00
Ms. Lilliam Petravicius	Redford, MI	\$ 20.00
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John Ramoska		\$ 50.00
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Dorothy, NJ		\$ 50.00
VanNuys, CA		\$ 50.00
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Dearborn Heights MI		\$ 50.00
Royal Oak, MI		\$ 50.00
Farmington Hills, MI		\$ 50.00
Dearborn Heights MI		\$ 50.00
Whitmore Lake MI		\$ 50.00
Chicago, IL		\$ 50.00
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Frackville, PA		\$ 50.00
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Philadelphia, PA		\$ 50.00
Mahanoy City, PA		\$ 50.00
Pittston, PA		\$ 50.00
Pittston, PA		\$ 50.00
Livonia, MI		\$ 50.00
Ann Arbor, MI		\$ 50.00
Bowie, MD		\$ 50.00
Southfield, MI		\$ 50.00
Detroit MI		\$ 50.00
Berkley, MI		\$ 50.00
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W. Hazleton, PA		\$ 50.00
Dearborn Heights, MI		\$ 50.00
Milmay, NJ		\$ 50.00
Glen Mills, PA		\$ 50.00
Dorothy, NJ		\$ 50.00
Milmay, NJ		\$ 50.00
Farmington Hills, MI		\$ 50.00
St. Clair, PA		\$ 42.24
Pennsauken, NJ		\$ 41.25
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Dayton, OH		\$ 40.00
Ann Arbor, MI		\$ 40.00
Holmes, PA		\$ 40.00
Philadelphia, PA		\$ 40.00
Evanston, IL		\$ 37.50
Pittsburgh, PA		\$ 35.00
Saratoga Springs, NY		\$ 35.00
Dearborn, MI		\$ 30.00
Detroit MI		\$ 30.00
Philadelphia, PA		\$ 30.00
Beverly Hills, MI		\$ 25.00
Eddystone, PA		\$ 25.00
Media, PA		\$ 25.00
Media, PA		\$ 25.00
Holmes, PA		\$ 25.00
Larksville, PA		\$ 25.00
Drums, PA		\$ 25.00
Churchville, PA		\$ 25.00
Camp Hill, PA		\$ 25.00
Wayne, PA		\$ 25.00
Hammonton, NJ		\$ 25.00
Minoltola, NJ		\$ 25.00
Oak Brook, IL		\$ 25.00
Lake Orion, MI		\$ 25.00
Warren, MI		\$ 25.00
Pittsburgh, PA		\$ 25.00
Allison Park, PA		\$ 25.00
Pittsburgh, PA		\$ 25.00
Willowich, OH		\$ 25.00
Dayton, OH		\$ 25.00
Munhall, PA		\$ 25.00
Detroit, MI		\$ 25.00
Detroit, MI		\$ 25.00
Dearborn Heights MI		\$ 25.00
Dearborn MI		\$ 25.00
Ansonia, CT		\$ 25.00
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 Vytautas Dijokas
 Val Vilunas
 Lucille Kilkus
 Alvira Gedaminas
 Napoleonas Zajancauskas
 V. Buzinskas
 Stanley Juozapavicius
 Jonas Veiveris
 Lionaida Cizikiene
 Kun F. Kireilis
 A. Meskauskas
 J. Zadeikis
 A. Smilga
 V. Jakovickas
 J. Arlauskas
 G. Meiluviene
 Kay Wallunas
 Mr & Mrs Eduard Litvinas
 Vanda Milavickas
 August Wolfer
 Jonas Svaras
 Valerija Simkus
 Sister Margaret Louis Rupsis

Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 5.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 4.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 3.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 3.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 2.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 2.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 2.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 2.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 2.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 2.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 1.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 1.00
Chicago,	IL	\$ 1.00
Nerinx,	KY	\$ 0000.00
		Total: \$32858.46

In Memoriam

a.†a.

Anna White
C-90

February 1, 1994

a.†a.

Charles Mitchell
C-79

November 28, 1993

a.†a.

Anthony Poehallis
C-135

October 29, 1993

a.†a.

Monika Ivanaukiene
C-147

December 2, 1993

a.†a.

Valerie Kundratas
C-79

January 11, 1994

a.†a.

Marianna Bealis
C-152

February 14, 1994

a.†a.

Bill Winkus
C-135

October 20, 1993

a.†a.

Barbara Silkanas
C-144

January 12, 1994

a.†a.

Edmund Binkus
C-3

February 4, 1994

a.†a.

Anna Sestokas
C-110

January 5, 1994

a.†a.

Anna Tamalavage-Gaysunas
C-50


January 16, 1994

a.†a.

Peter Povilaitis
C-109

February 17, 1994

*Amžinaji Atilsi duok mirusiems, Viešpatie,
ir amžinoji Sviesa jiems tešviečia.
Tegu ilsis ramybėje. Amen.*


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Includes: instant coffee, ground coffee, instant tea, instant cocoa,
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cocoa, sugar, rice, macaroni, fresh or dried fruits, mayonnaise, herring,
peas or pickles, chocolate, multivitamins & aspirin.

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Includes a variety of food products (no meat).

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New York, NY; and St. Petersburg, FL

When writing, please enclose your phone number.
Your questions will be answered immediately.

Knights of Lithuania
81st NATIONAL CONVENTION
AUGUST 4-7, 1994

Headquarters: CHICAGO MARRIOTT HOTEL
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Host: COUNCIL 16



Dear Member,

This August 4-7, 1994, Council 16 will welcome you to Chicago when we gather for our 81st National Convention, being held at the Chicago Marriott, on lovely Michigan Avenue. As we do each year we will once again have an annual Convention Program Book. The Convention Program Book allows all of us a chance to greet our fellow K of L'ers in a lasting yearly remembrance.

If you would like to place an ad in this year's book please use the space provided below or, if you prefer, a separate piece of paper for you message and return it to the address below by Wednesday, June 1, 1994.

Prices for ads are as follows:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00 - Back Cover | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00 - Inside Cover (Front and Back) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00 - V.I.P. Full Page |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 - Full Page | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 60.00 - Half Page | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 30.00 - Quarter Page |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 10.00 - 2 Line Greeting | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 5.00 - 1 Line Well Wisher | |

I look forward to seeing you in Chicago this August.

Vytiskai,

Kenneth D. Rudmin
 Program Book Chairman

{Ad Space}

Send to: Knights of Lithuania Program Book
 c/o Kenneth D. Rudmin, Chairman
 929 West 34th Place
 Chicago, IL 60608

Knights of Lithuania
81st NATIONAL CONVENTION
AUGUST 4-7, 1994

Headquarters: CHICAGO MARRIOTT HOTEL
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Host: COUNCIL 16



Please join us for the **Knights of Lithuania 81st National Convention** this August 4-7, 1994, at the beautiful **Chicago Marriott Hotel**, located on Chicago's famous Magnificent Mile. We look forward to welcoming you.

For **Hotel Reservations** please call the **Chicago Marriott Hotel** direct at (312) 836-0100. Please specify **Knights of Lithuania** when making your reservations to insure the convention rate of \$95.00 single or \$105.00 Double/Triple/Quad. per room. Room reservations must be made by July 1, 1994.

Convention Registration: Pre-Convention Trip: \$30.00 per person (must be 21 years old)
 Adult Convention: \$100.00 per person
 Junior Convention: \$ 70.00 per person

PRE-CONVENTION TRIP, Wednesday, August 3, 1994: Luncheon and Riverboat Gambling Cruise.

Leave the Chicago Marriott at 11:00 a.m., by bus, for the Hickory Pit Restaurant, one of Bridgeport's Finest, for a buffet luncheon. After lunch be taken by deluxe motor coach to Joliet, IL, where you'll board "The Empress" Riverboat Casino for a two hour river gambling cruise. After you've broke the bank you will return to the Marriott around 7:00 p.m. Included in the trip are: Round trip bus transportation, Hickory Pit Luncheon and "Empress" Riverboat entrance ticket. (Gambling is on your own.)

ADULT CONVENTION REGISTRATION: Includes all required bus transportation, Get-together Dinner/Dance, Cultural Night Concert, Convention Banquet and Farewell Breakfast. (Please see the Official News section of this issue and future issues for more Convention Information.)

JUNIOR CONVENTION REGISTRATION: Includes all of the above and Junior activities being planned.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

- Pre-Convention Trip (\$30.00 per person)
 Adult Convention Registration (\$100.00 per person)
 Junior Convention Registration (\$ 70.00 per person)

MAIL TO: Mrs. Diann Martin
 3420 South Lituanica Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60608

(Please Print)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **COUNCIL #:** _____

ARRIVING ON: _____ **DEPARTING ON:** _____

(Please make checks payable to: Knights of Lithuania Council 16)

Lithuanian Penpals Meet

by Sr. Regina Janusa C-24 Chicago

When Anne Wargo, past president of the Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council and current chair of the St. Casimir guild, announced a project inviting individual members to "adopt" a seminarian from Lithuania who is studying in Rome, I liked the idea, and sent in my name.

I was assigned Arvydas Ramonas, a 25-year-old seminarian from Salantai, a village near Kretinga. This is his second year at the Lithuanian College in Rome. We have been corresponding on the average once a month. Arvydas is a serious student, deeply religious and writes interesting letters.

These young seminarians depend on contributions from benefactors because when they came from Lithuania, all they had were the clothes on their backs. It was suggested that penpals might send them a little gift of pocket money now and then.

One day the thought crossed my mind that somehow, someday I would meet this penpal. It happened sooner than I expected. In September 1993 my sister gifted me with a ticket for the K of L Pilgrimage Tour. Arvydas wrote that he would be in Lithuania for the summer, so I sent him my itinerary. The tour included a stop at *Orvydy Sodyba*, a quaint outdoor museum, which was just down the road a piece from his parents house. We planned to meet there.

When our bus arrived, Arvydas was waiting with his father's car at the entrance to the park. We made a quick trip to his parents' home, visited, took pictures and hurried back to the tour bus, foregoing the chicken dinner his mother had prepared. Recently his mother wrote to me - Now I have another penpal.

I recommend this way of extending friendship and support. If you are interested, write to Anne Wargo.



*Arvydas Ramonas
Lithuanian Seminarian
studying in Rome*

VACATION IN SUNNY FLORIDA.

Room with private bath \$200 per week. Room with semi-private bath \$150.00 per week. Includes continental breakfast, heated pool, air conditioning. Near shopping malls and beach. A. Zupko, 5886 Guest Court, North Fort Myers, FL 33903. Tel. (813) 656-5886.

Remember when.....



LITHUANIAN KITCHEN — LIETUVIŠKA VIRTUVĖ

Honey Liqueur

Krupnikas

- 1 tbsp. caraway seeds
- 10 cloves
- 10 whole allspice
- 2-3 sticks cinnamon
- 1 stick vanilla
- 2 pieces yellow ginger
- 2 pieces white ginger
- 10 cardamom seeds
- 1/2 nutmeg
- 2-3 strips orange rind
- 2-3 strips lemon rind
- pinch of saffron
- 4 cups water
- 2 lbs. honey
- 1 quart grain alcohol

Crack cardamom seeds and nutmeg. Boil them, spices, rind, and water in a covered pot until liquid is reduced to about 2 cups. Strain. Bring honey to a boil, skimming off foam. Pour first liquid into honey. Remove from heat as far away as practical in order to prevent flare-up or explosion of the alcohol. Slowly and carefully pour in alcohol. Replace pot onto a very low flame. Heat for 15 minutes. Be careful not to simmer or boil. Remove from heat. Cool in the same pot. On the following day, pour into bottles, allow to settle. If a clearer liqueur is desired, filter through paper or cloth and rebottle.

MEAD

Ancient Recipe

Midus

- 2 quarts honey
- 5 gallons water
- 1/2 pound hops
- yeast
- 1 slice bread

Measure and pour exactly half of the honey and water into a large kettle. Using a stick, mark on the stick the distance from the top of the kettle to the surface of the contents. Pour in remaining honey and water. Bring to boil. Tie hops in clean cloth, place in kettle. boil until one-half of the liquid remains (find this out by using the stick marked earlier.) Cool. Strain through several thicknesses of cloth into a barrel or crock. Spread enough yeast on bread to cover thickly. Place bread in liquid. Mead will begin to ferment in three days. Strain again, pour into bottles, set in a cool spot. Mead can also be stored and aged in oaken barrels. Aging improves mead. It is said to be at its best 2-3 years after bottling or aging in oaken barrels.



Beet Wine

Burokinė

- 10 medium beets
- 1 gallon water
- 2 1/2 lbs sugar
- 1 cake yeast
- 1/4 tsp. pepper

Pare and quarter beets. Boil in water until tender. Let stand 24 hours. Remove beets. Add enough water to make 1 full gallon liquid. Add sugar and pepper. Boil 10 minutes. Strain through cloth into clay crock. Spread yeast on a slice of bread thoroughly dried in oven. Place into lukewarm liquid. Let ferment for 10 days. Bottle. Do not cork tightly.

Hot Beer

Šildytas Alus

- 1 bottle beer
- 2 tbsps. butter
- 2 tbsps. sour cream

Pour beer into pan. Add butter. Heat, but do not boil, until quite hot. Place sour cream into a bowl or pitcher. Slowly pour beer into it, stirring briskly. Drink hot.

LET'S TALK LITHUANIAN — KALBĖKIME LIETUVIŠKAI

Dalia Bulvičiūtė-Bulvičius
LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE COORDINATOR

TRUPUTJ PAGALVOKITE!

Vieną vakarą Jonaičių šeimos moterys išėjo į bažnyčią: Senelė, dvi mamos, dvi dukros, anūkė... Neskubėkite atsakyti, pagalvokite ir sužinosite, kiek žmonių išėjo į bažnyčią?

Do you know how many people went to church. The answer is 3! Why?

Š y p s n i a i

Something worth bragging about

Trys vaikai giriasi kalbėdami apie savo dėdes. Vienas sako:

— Mano dėdė yra kunigas. Visi, kurie į jį kreipiasi, sako "gerbiamasis".

Kitas giriasi:

— Mano dėdė yra vyskupas. Žmonės jį vadina "Jūsų ekscelencija".

Trečias atsiliepia:

— Tai niekis. Mano dėdė sveria 400 svarų ir yra 7 pėdų aukščio. Žmonės jį pamatę sako: "O, Dieve mano"!

Necessity — the Mother of Invention!

— Tavo kaimynė neįtikėtina greitai atratino savo vyrą vėlai grįžti vakarais. Kaip tai jai pavyko.

— Jis neseniai vėl grįžo labai vėlai, žmona paklausė: "Tomai, ar tai tu"? Iš karto padėjo.

— Kodėl?

— Mat jo vardas Mykolas.

Seeing ourselves as others
see us would probably confirm
our worst suspicions about
them.

—Franklin P. Jones

It's a miracle!

Minioje prieš šventyklą kartą pasigirdo garsus riksmas:

— Broliai, aš vėl galiu vaikščioti! Aš vėl vaikštau!
Šaukiantįjį apsupo susijaudinusi maldininkų minia:
— Sakyk, broli, kaip atsitiko tas stebuklas?
— Pavogė mano automobilį.

Reincarnation

Susitinka du Lietuvos Vyčiai. Vienas:

— Ar tu tiki sielų persikūnijimu? — klausia vienas:
— Žinoma. Aš anksčiau buvau asilas.
— Kada?
— Kai tau paskolinau tūkstantį dolerių.

Little White Lies

Tėvas pasakoja sūnui:

— Kai aš buvau mažas, niekad nemeluodavau.
— O nuo kada tėtė, tu pradėjai meluoti?

You Owe Me!

— Paskolink dešimt dolerių.

— Kad turiu tik penkis.

— Gerai, duok penkis, ir penkis dar būsi skolingas.

Who is Teaching Here?

Profesorius: Vienas kvailys gali užduoti daugiau klausimų negu dešimt protingų atsakyti.

Studentas: — Nieko nuostabaus, profesoriau. Už tai tiek daug mano draugų neišlaikė jūsų egzamino.



On any given day, 71 percent
of Americans read a newspaper.

VIENLANGĖJ GRYTELĖJ

VIE-N-LAN-GEJ GRY-TE-LEJ RA-TE-LIS TIK SU-KAS, SU ŽODŽIAIS TEN LIEJAS MALDA.
O TU NE-ŽI-NO-JAI, IR TU NE-ŽI-NO-SI, KO VERKĖ MO-TULĖ SE-NA.

Vienlangėj grytelėj ratelis tik sukas,
Su žodžiais ten liejas malda.
O tu nežinojai ir tu nežinosi,
Ko verkė motulė sena.

2 k.

Žaliuojančiam kaime užaugo trys sūnūs,
Trys sūnūs – tvirti ažuolai:
Išėjo į karą mus ginti nuo priešo,
Aukojos Tėvynei šventai.

Nelauk, motinėle, prie klevo vartelių –
Trys sūnūs negrįš niekadose:
Viens žuvo Sirvintuos, antras – Radvilisky,
Trečias – pilkam pajūry.

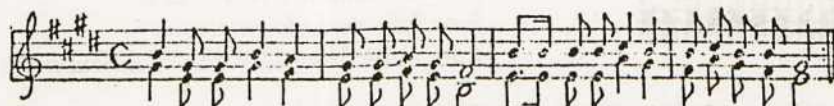
O tu nežinosi, ko rūtos daržely
Kas rytą pravirksta rasa,
Ko jauna sesutė į miško kalnelį
Takelį numynė basa?

Vienlangėj grytelėj ratelis dar sukas,
Su žodžiais dar liejas malda,
Bet tu nežinojai ir nesužinosi.
Ko verkė motulė sena.



VILNIAUS KALNELIAI

(„Kaip Tėvynė vaduojama“)



AUŠ-TA AUŠ-RE-LĖ, NE-TO-LI DIENA, RENGIASI Į KOVĄ, VI-SA LIETU-VA.
VIL-NIAUS KALNELIAI, SVEIKINAME JUS, Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

Aušta aušrelė, netoli diena,
Rengiasi į kovą visa Lietuva.
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

Mūsų vadai narsūs veda mus kovon,
Drauge palaidos žemelėn juodon.
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

Priešo mes nebijom, nebaisi mirtis,
Karžygiui brangesnė yr, garbė, šalis!
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

Čia sena matutė mūs neapraudos,
Tik raiba gegutė kartais užkukuos.
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

Neraudok, meilute, žuvusio kovoj,
Man ramu miegoti žemėj myllmoj.
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

2 k.

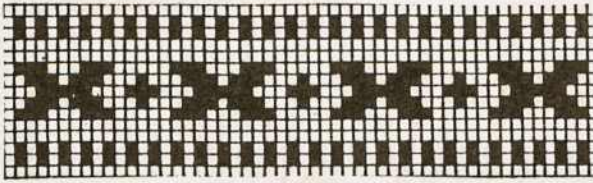


Čia, papūtus vejui, krinta kai kada
Ant karžygio kapo sidabro rasa.
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

Jei ašaros krinta nuo pušų senų,
Neraudok, mieloji, man miegot ramu!
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus.

As ir tą atninsiu mirties valandoj,
Jog esu lietuvis, gimęs Lietuvoj.
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!

Drąsiai, broliai, zenkit, būkite tvirti,
Ruoškites į kovą – jau priešai arti...
Vilniaus kalneliai, sveikiname jus,
Ruoškite drąsuoliams tinkamus kapus!



Lithuanian Language Course at Camp Dainava Manchester, Michigan

Date: July 17-24, 1994

This course is designed for beginners and intermediate level students and includes readings in Lithuanian literature. Those who just wish to brush up on their Lithuanian language will truly benefit by participating in the course. The curriculum for the week also features instruction in Lithuanian Folk Songs and Folk Dances.

There is no limitations with regards to formal education or age. The instructors are experienced and the course is set in vacation-like surroundings and atmosphere.

For more information and an application contact:

Mr. Bronius Krokys
1124 Hedgerow Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19115-4835
Tel. (215) 671-0397

Lietuvos kančia

*O Lietuva, kiek daug kančių pakėlei,
Kai tavo žmones vežė trėmė.
Juos kišo po ledu, marino.
Kiek daug žmonių iššaudė, nukanino*

*Kiek Sibire lietuvių šalo, mirė.
Kas pasakys kiek liko jų tuos tyruos.
Kiek iškentėjo mano Lietuva
Ir liko, liko ji gyva!*

*Baisi atėjo sausio tryliktoji,
Naktis ta Vilniui kruvinoji...
Prieš tankus žmonės stoji gynė
Tave, o mano Lietuva tėvyne.*

Raminta Bijanauskaitė



C-1 Members hard at work.....

*1st Row: Fran Bumila, Sr. Helen Ivanauskas,
Scott Kelley. 2nd Row: Doris Fralick, Julia
Tubelis, Florence Carnilla, Diane DuBois, Ed
Cominski, Sylvia Shukis.*

OFFICIAL NEWS — OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

A Word from the Supreme Council President

Dear Fellow Knights,

In reading recent Council News material in the VYTIS, I am getting the impression that the Fourth Degree awards are not being presented as prescribed in a resolution passed at the National Convention in St. Petersburg Beach, FL in 1991. The following is the resolution copied from the September/ October 1991 issue of the VYTIS. It is found on page 21.

WHEREAS, the fourth degree is the highest degree given to a Knights of Lithuania member and is normally awarded by the National Ritual Committee at a National Convention Mass, in order to maintain the dignity and prestige of this highest degree awarded by the Knights of Lithuania Organization,

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the decision of the National Ritual Committee of a candidate's fulfillment of requirements for Fourth Degree, this Fourth Degree be awarded at a National Convention Mass.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the decision of the National Ritual Committee of a candidate's inability to attend a National Convention, the National Ritual Committee may permit the Fourth Degree to be awarded by the District Ritual Committee at a District Mass, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that under severe circumstances, the Fourth Degree may be awarded to a candidate other than at a National Convention or District Mass only with the expressed permission of the National Supreme Council President who will determine if these circumstances are justified.

This resolution must be followed and afford the Fourth Degree the dignity it represents. It is, as stated, our highest award and is earned by WORK. Where else but at Mass should this honor be bestowed? Since that resolution was approved, one member has approached the Supreme Council President for permission. The reason for not being able to attend a National or District Mass was valid and approval was granted. Any questions with this, please do not hesitate to write.

I must congratulate the Council Financial Secretaries for their help in keeping the National Financial Secretary up to date on address changes, etc. within your council. We must be patient, as we are trying to stay on top of the mailing changes for the VYTIS. Continue to write IMMEDIATELY, if the VYTIS is not being received !

PLEASE NOTE: The Supreme Council is accepting resumes for the Business Manager/ Associate Editor position. Send the material to the Supreme Council president.

I do hope that everyone has survived the "old fashioned" winter we were hit with and that Spring is in full force as you read this,

VYTIŠKAI,

Frances R. Petkus
Supreme Council President

The 1994 Memories of Lithuania Banquet

by *Ellie Kasputis, MAMD Correspondent*

Congratulations to Algerd Brazis and Evelyn Ozelis for Co-chairing a very successful "Memories" banquet honoring the last two Lithuanian Churches in Chicago - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Marquette Park, with Rev. John A. Kuzinskas as pastor and Immaculate Conception Church in Brighton Park (the older of the two), with Rev. Anthony C. Puchenski as current pastor.

Seated at the Headtable were: Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, pastor emeritus of Nativity B.V.M. Church, who served as Master of Ceremonies; Rev. Anthony C. Puchenski; Rev. John A. Kuzinskas; Rev. Fabian P. Kireilis; Mr. and Mrs. Vaclovas Kleiza, Consul General of Lithuania; Mr. and Mrs. Algerd Brazis; Mrs. Evelyn Ozelis; and Rev. Vito E. Mikolaitis.

The program consisted of the K of L Dancers under the leadership of Frank Zapolis and dance instructor Lydia Ringiene. Their program was beautiful. Vocal selections followed and were effectively accomplished by the father and daughter duet of Algerd Brazis and Beverly Opelka.

Our active committee helped to make this year's event a tremendous success. The grand march was handled by Peter Zansitis; Ticket Distribution: Dolores Wainauskas and Lorraine Svelnis; Seating Arrangements: Gerry Mack; Hostesses: Ellie Kasputis and Estelle Rogers; Table Directional Host: Glen Perutis; Seating Hostesses: Mary F. Kincius, Vida Sakevicius, and Johanna Johnston; Lithuanian Colors: Mary Beth Slakis and Terry Vaitkus; Escorts: Stan Mankus, Ray Wertelka and Richard Schultz. An exceptional special *thank you* to Kazys Ozelis (a truly devoted son of Evelyn's) for all added burdens due to her unforeseen hospitalization just before the annual "Memories" event.



MAMD Memories of Lithuania Banquet : February 6, 1994

1st Row: Aldona Brazis, Algerd Brazis, Evelyn Ozelis, Dolores Wainauskas.
2nd Row: Estelle Rogers, Ellie Kasputis, Mary Kincius, Gerry Mack, Johanna Johnston, Terry Vaitkus
3rd Row: Lorraine Svelnis, Stan Mankus, Glenn Perutis, Peter Zansitis

COUNCIL NEWS — VYČIAI VEIKIA

C-1 Brockton, MA

Happy New Year! Did I say New Year? Where did the old year go? Can you believe it is 1994 already?

Council 1 had a very profitable year on behalf of the K of L and its motto Dievui ir Tevyne (God and Country). Our youngest member, Scott Kelly, won another scholarship from the K of L. This one from NED. Best of luck Scott; you are our future.

To share our blessings with those less fortunate, we had a food drive for a religious community in Lithuania. It was a huge success. About thirty boxes of food, medicine and toilet articles were collected, packed and sent. We were as excited as little kids packing up all of the goodies. Many thanks to our Pastor, Fr. Peter Shikalis, and all the parishioners at St. Casimir's Church for their generous response.

Mid December again found us busily preparing for our Annual Kūčios. With the dedicated help of South Boston, C-17, and our own members, our supper was indeed a blessed and solemn event. The traditional twelve foods were prepared and served. We began with a prayer and the breaking of Plotkeli (Holy Bred). Sister Eugenia Glenekis, C-17, gracefully led us thru the various traditions.

After the supper, Sister Eugenia provided many fun parts of Kucios: who pulled the longest straw? The shortest? One of our most pleasant surprises was our member, Maryte Bizinkauskas' daughter, five year old Vilijia, who sang, Sveikas Jėzau Gimusis....Out of the mouths of babes.... The evening ended with a warmth in everyone's heart and the true meaning of Christmas surrounding them.

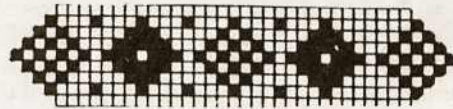
Very noticeably an "empty" chair brought a pain to our hearts. John and Ann Statkus had just buried their son, John, the day before. Our deepest sympathy to John's wife, Maria, and to John and Ann Statkus.

Thank you to all who made this Kūčios such a Blessed event. In particular, the Sisters of Jesus Crucified who opened their convent and their hearts for us to be able to enjoy and partake in this very special evening.

Our fearless leader, President Ronnie Bizinkauskas, has earned the title, Nana, not only by her family but also by two families from Lithuania who have found a home with her. She said that everyone calls her Nana, and she loves it! God Bless you, Madam President, truly you are living the words of Jesus, When I was homeless you gave me a home.

Our Vice President, Ed Kominski, our Bachelor has found himself a girlfriend. Great! Her name is Irena Rimkus, and she is from Lietuva. Sorry ladies, you missed your chance.

Our dedicated Ritual person, Sylvia Shukis, entertained her young cousin from Lithuania who is here as an exchange student. He is attending Wyoming Seminary in Pennsylvania and had the opportunity to come to Brockton for Christmas. Presently Sylvia is in the hospital. We pray she will get better quickly and returns as good as new. Well Vycai, I better end here and get ready for all the wonderful things C-1 is planning in 1994. Happy New Year from Daisey Ruta and C-1.



C-27 Norwood, MA

Our council sponsored the Annual Lithuanian Independence Observance at St. George's Lithuanian Church. Guest celebrant at the Mass was Fr. Algimantas Gudaitis S.J.; co-celebrant was Fr. William Wolkovich, Pastor. A video of news clips on the papal visit to Lithuania and a sing-a-long of Lithuanian folk songs followed in the church hall. Refreshments were served by Lenore and Albie Jarvis, Paul Zukas, Stan Wasil, George Barton, Kay Perednia and Sandy Melish.

Our very own musical artist, Katherine Perednia, accompanied the singers.

A free-will offering was held and a most generous amount was collected for the relief of the orphaned children in Lithuania.

Our K of L is also pleased to sponsor a program of music (by the Sodauto Group) and Dance (by the Samburys Group). We are hoping to be able to assist and encourage our young Lithuanian-American Samburys Dance Group in their effort to travel to Lithuania for the Folk Festival in June.

All K of L Council 27 members agree that although this has been the iciest/snowiest winter we're still in there pitching for our Lithuanian friends and charities.

Lai Gyvuoja Lietuva ir Lietuvos Vyčiai !!!

Žaibas

C-29 Newark, NJ

Catching up with Council 29 news.

We held our first meeting of the season on September 12, 1993, also on the same day, we celebrated our annual Day of Prayer with Mass held at Holy Trinity Church, with special music and prayers for our now free Lithuania! On September 11, many of our members participated in our Parish Picnic. This affair is our Spiritual Advisor's Father Stravinskis' pet project. The theme this year was Hawaiian and some of our members came decked out in native attire. It was a fun day and well attended.

On October 9, 1993, we celebrated our Annual Dinner Dance. This affair, by far, is our councils big event of the year. It was chaired by two very dedicated ladies, Marie Guoba and Ann O'Neil. Marie handled all the dinner details and Ann did her thing for the cocktail hour. These two really know how to give a party! We thank you and your committee for all of your hard work. It was a night filled with good music, good food, and lots of celebrating. The band played Ilgausu Metu, and we all joined in to sing our good wishes to Irene and Ed Senkin (guests from C-12 NY) and Jean and George Totosis (C-29). Both couples were celebrating their wedding anniversaries, Margie Brazaitis celebrated her (not telling) birthday. The climax to our celebrating came with another outburst of Ilgausu Metu and the display of one of the largest sheet cakes I ever saw, lit up with sparklers instead of candles. This time we celebrated the 80th Anniversary of the K of L. What a beautiful tribute to the K of L!

On October 24, 1993, we held our Annual Chinese Auction, chaired by Margie Brazaitis. Margie and her committee worked hard for many days collecting and displaying the prizes.

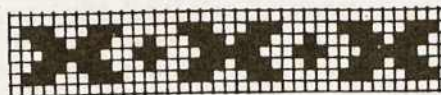
On November 21, 1993, a Farewell Mass was celebrated for our Spiritual Advisor, Father Peter Stravinskis. Father Peter informed us that he as being transferred to a R.C. Byzantine Church and would be leaving us next month. We regret his having to leave us, but we have no choice in the matter. We will miss him, and we wish him God's blessings on his new assignment.

On November 28, 1993, council member, Nellie Krynicki, celebrated her 75th birthday. A Surprise Party was planned for her by her daughter, Barbara, and council members, relatives and friends joined her in the celebration. Ilgausu Metu, dear Nellie!

At our December 5, 1993 meeting, we collected

food items for the Homeless. For several years, it has been a practice of our council to do this every Christmas time. The food is collected and then delivered to St. John's Church in Newark, who feed the Homeless on a daily basis. At our meeting, it was decided that we would collect these food items throughout the year, not just at Christmas, so that we could help feed the less fortunate more frequently. Until the next time,

Su Diev, Eve Coll



C-96 Dayton, OH

The Junior K of L Council of Dayton had their Christmas party this past December 11 at AnnaMarie and Mark Berger's home. The afternoon started with the making of Lithuanian Christmas Tree Ornaments; the great instructor was AnnaMarie! Then, Christmas Carols were sung with the help of MaryAgnes Mikalauskas. After all of this excitement, pizza was enjoyed along with watching the video of the Muppets Christmas Carol. Those who attended included Joey Berger, Jeremy Otis, Erin Petkus, Jason Otis, Linda Otis, Alex Fletcher, Christine Fletcher, Robert Petkus, Julie Goecke, Barb Goecke, Andrew Berczely, and MaryAgnes Mikalauskas. Everyone had a terrific time!

Our council has officially adopted a religious community in Lithuania. We are currently collecting donations to send the packages.

Sunday, January 30, was the official Welcome Father Mike Party to the Holy Cross Lithuanian Catholic Church. Many members attended the 10:30 a.m. Mass followed by a great time. Elinor's Amber Rose prepared Father's favorite fried chicken. Parishioners brought covered dishes to share. We look forward to Father being part of our community.

Watch out other councils! Joe Fletcher, Sports Committee Chairperson, is planning an exciting bowling time. Operators are standing by just to take the calls. We will be ready in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

MaryAgnes Mikalauskas

C-72 Binghamton, NY

Elections were held at our November meeting. Officers for 1994 are: Father John Mikalajunas - Spiritual Advisor and Spiritual Programs; John Mankus - President; Lithuanian Affairs, Public Relations, Vytis Correspondent and Lithuanian Language; Thomas Staniulis - Vice President; Irene Grikenis - Ritual Chairperson; Arthur Stankevitz - Secretary; Barbara Miller Treasurer; Robert Skiba - Financial Secretary; Trustee and Sergeant-at-Arms; Carla Wilson - Lithuanian Culture; and Mary Ann Skiba - Sergeant-at-Arms. Our council has been very active in the Aid to Lithuania Campaign. To date, with the active support and participation of Father John Mikalajunas, our membership, St. Joseph's parishioners and many doctors and pharmaceutical suppliers, our council has shipped ten large packages of medical and humanitarian supplies to five convents in the city of Kaunas. The five convents are: Sisters of Christ the King, Sisters of Eucharistic Jesus, Sisters of St. Frances of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, The Benedictine Sisters and The Servants of the Sacred Heart. Our plans are to continue this campaign through 1994. I also want to acknowledge the significant monetary contributions, to help with these shipments by John Kruse, Art Stankevitz, Father Mikalajunas



C-112 Juniors : Andreja Deksnis, Ausra Buzenas, Alina Meilyte with muz. Faustas Strolia.

and Karl Franzenburg II.

Our council, under the direction of Irene Grikenis and Delores Wasileski, ably assisted by Casey Grikenis, participated in the Robertson Center International Christmas Tree Forest Program during the Christmas season. Traditional Lithuanian straw ornaments were used to decorate the Christmas tree and displays of traditional Lithuanian Christmas and cultural items were exhibited, including a replica of a wayside cross, linens and juostos, Lithuanian Flag and Freedom painting. Carla Wilson has done an outstanding job as Director of Saint Joseph's Church Children's Choir. Barbara Miller has volunteered to be the Amber District Raffle Chairperson, good luck Barbara!

Plans are under way to commemorate Lithuanian Independence Day, February 16, and to participate in the Two Rivers Ethnic Festival at the Binghamton Veterans War Memorial Arena to be held in May. As a result of our participation in last year's festival, we are planning for an even greater measure of success in 1994.

John R. Mankus



Joe & Della Marcaitis 50th Wedding Anniversary Party. At left and right Irene & Frank Petrauskas



District Convention Amsterdam, NY September 26, 1993

Third Degree Recipients

*l to r : Harold & Irene Tice, Sophie Malkowicz, Mary Sweet, Agnes Rokit,
Adeline Raila, Mirga Bablin and Walter Malkowicz*

C-100 Amsterdam, NY

Here's a quick run-down of our recent activities. Delegates attending the 80th National Convention in Worcester were Mirga Bablin, Irene Tice, Polly Ziausys and Gene Gobis. We traveled to the convention with MAD District President Bernice Aviza. We really enjoyed the pre-convention trip to Marianopolis College and Putnam, Connecticut where we visited the Archive Room of our Organization.

After the first session on Thursday, Bernice Aviza received tragic news, the unexpected death of her sister. She immediately made plans to return home, and Polly Ziausys accompanied her. Our council's deepest condolences go out to Bernice and her family. Mirga Bablin replaced Bernice on the podium as one of the convention's secretaries.

The other secretary was her daughter, Mary Lou Abbott. This was first of its kind -- a mother/daughter combination!

Friday evening's cultural program was excellent. The Hartford group of dancers were exceptional and we really enjoyed the sing-a-long. We were thrilled to meet, talk and take photos with Ambassador Stasys Lozoraitis. It is a great loss to the U.S.A. when President Brazauskas transferred him to Italy. Congratulations to Ambassador Lozoraitis and opera singer Al Brazis in their elevation to Honorary Membership in the K of L.

Our member Ed Baranauskas was one of the

convention's photographers for the Vytis magazine. He also spoke on the lives of the flyers Darius and Girenas at the first session. We wish to thank the Worcester members for such a well-planned Convention.

From Amsterdam, Rev. Joseph Grabys and Helen Kiuber visited Lithuania at the time of Pope John Paul's presence there.

Lithuanian Day of the Auriesville Shrine was held in late August. K of L members from St. Casimir's Church choir, together with some C-136 members and Frank and Irene Petrauskas, Syracuse sang with (C-100) Billie Osenfort at the organ. Celebrant of the Mass was our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Joseph Grabys. He was assisted by Rev. Peter Jonaitis (C-100). The readings were by National Treasurer Ed Barkowski and MAD President Bernice Aviza. The juniors (C-100) presented the offertory gifts.

After the services, a get-together was held and Bill and Beatrice Jasewica were congratulated on their 45th wedding anniversary.

During the first part of September, C-136 and C-100 held a combined outing on the shores of the Mohawk River. With the variety of food brought in by the attendees, no one went hungry. The weather was perfect. Helen Hugo brought a visitor from Brazil, a Franciscan nun who once taught at the former St. Casimir's School in Amsterdam, Sister Mary Immaculata. Many of us

reminded with her about the good ole days. Our first fall meeting was held on the 2nd Monday in September. President Irene Tice named Regina Kot as the nominating committee's chairperson. Plans for the forthcoming MAD District Convention to be held in Amsterdam (September 26) were finalized. Billie Osenfort accepted to be the organist for the special Mass. MAD District Convention: President Irene Tice was the chairperson assisted by her husband, Harold, and Walter & Sophie Malkowicz, Gerard Drenzek, Sophie Olbie - Reservations, Gene Gobis - raffle assisted by Adeline Raila. Betty Kuzmich, Welcoming Committee Chairperson, greeted the 2 busloads and a number of carloads of delegates, when they arrived with snacks and coffee. Assisting her were Judy Kastraveckas and Heleln Wojcik. Serving on the dinner committee were Mary Sweet, Helen Hugo, Mildred Whelley, Helen Dylong, Annacetta Guzielek, Jenni Burimaukas, Louise Kleabonas, Beatric Jasewicz, and Karen Syzdek (new member). Fran DiBart was unable to attend due to illness.

The Liquid Refreshment Committee was made up of Bill Burimaukas, Bill Jasewicz, Ed Bablin, and Walter Sargalis. In fact, each and every member present did their thing. Assemblyman,



At the 80th National Convention

*l to r : Rev. Al Yankauskas, Gene Gobis , C-100
and Msgr. Al. Bartkus*

Paul Tonko(C-100), gave the welcoming address. Mirga Bablin, in the absence of District Secretary, Jeanne Janonis, read the minutes. MAD President Bernice Aviza included the junior members who did some readings on Lithuania. Prior to the meeting, Rev. Joseph Grabys celebrated a Mass. His sister and niece, who were visiting him from Lithuania, added their beautiful voices in the choir. Regina Hartvigas was the Commentator. The readings were given by Polly Ziausys and Father's niece. In attendance at the Mass were the late Father Baltch's sister and brother-in-law, Prof. George Gravrogkas, and Dr. Aldona Baltch Gravrogkas, both C-100 members.

Now, back to the district meeting, two Amsterdamians were elected as district officers - Mirga Bablin - Secretary, and Christine Tambasco - Vice President of the Juniors. Eleanore Olechowski, Regina Kot and Edward Baranauskas served on the Resolutions Committee. The convention had to close due to the time that the buses were scheduled to leave. We wished everyone a safe trip, and then, they were on their way.

At our October meeting, Sophie Olbie reported on the success of the District Convention. Regina Kot presented the list of nominees for 1994. All were unanimously approved. The officers for 1994 are:

President	Irene Tice
Vice President	Gene Gobis
Treasurer	Sophie Olbie
Secretary	Beatrice Jasewicz
Ritual Chairperson	Betty Kuzmich
Cultural Chairperson	Mirga Bablin
Lithuanian Affairs	
Chairpersons	Adeline Raila & Ed Baranauskas
Sunshine	Adeline Raila
Lithuanian Language	
Chairperson	Polly Ziausys
Vytis Correspondent	Gene Gobis
Sgts-at-Arms	Bill Burimaukas & Bill Jasewicz

President Irene Tice congratulated the nine members who received their 3rd degrees at the district convention. They are: Jack & Mary Sweet, Agnes Rokit, Walter & Sophie Malkowicz, Mrga Bablin, Adeline Raila, Harold & Irene Tice. Will bring you up to date shortly. Good luck to the new editor of VYTIS and his staff.

Smile & Sparkle



C-153 Treasure Coast Christmas Party, December 5, 1993

l to r : James Marcinkus, Frances Daniels, Aldona Biliunas, guest from Lithuania, Charlene Zorskis, Felix Zorskis, Louis Stukas

C-110 Maspeth, NY

While all of us conjure up ways to relieve the icy winter cabin fever, I would like to take the opportunity to highlight our council's best of 1993 which included:

1. Two successful dinner dance events in April and October attended and enjoyed by over 300 people.
2. A commemoration honoring the 60th Anniversary of the flight of Lithuanian-American pilots, Darius and Girenas from Floyd Bennett Airfield in Brooklyn.
3. Two dozen members marching in the Maspeth Memorial Day parade honoring the slain Lithuania patriots of 1991.
4. Dozens of packages shipped to our designated Lithuanian orphanages containing food, clothing, diapers, and other necessities.
5. Sixty-five council members attending the 80th National Convention in Worcester, MA. A donation of \$1,000 from our council for shipping supplies to Lithuania.
6. Honoring our Spiritual Advisor, Msg. Frank Bulovas, on his 50th anniversary of the priesthood. And the saying of a sad farewell to Fr. Ken Wicks, who passed suddenly before Thanksgiving.

Resolutions for 1994 include shipping more goods to our designated Lithuanian orphanages, boosting membership, getting young people involved in K of L activities, keeping our Lithuanian language and culture alive, and planning new events. Let us plan good health and lots of fun and excitement in 1994.

C-147 St. Petersburg, FL

Get well wishes are extended to Maria Gelažius, our treasurer, who was ill recently. Also, to her husband, Vladas, who was hospitalized. Victoria Kleivienė, our Recording Secretary, is now recuperating from surgery.

John and Dolores Jonaitis returned from a cruise to Mexico on January 6th.

Klaipėdos Išvadavimo Minėjimas was held at the Lithuanian Club on January 11, and in Holy Name Church on January 16, Representing the K of L were Antanas Grabauskas (our flag bearer) and Valeria Leščinskas and Ona Semolevičienė were his attendants.

At our next meeting we will discuss plans for St. Casimir's Day and the awarding second degrees to qualified members.

Dolores Jonaitis



Outing on the Banks of the Mohawk River
l to r : Harold Tice, Rev. Joseph Grabys, Sophie Olbie, Sophie & Walter Malkowicz, Helen Dylong, Mildred Whelley, Fran DiBart.

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Camp Aušra is located in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, in Elmhurst, approximately 10 miles north of Scranton.

This camp is special because the Lithuanian language and culture become a living reality. Traditions and language are taught, along with songs and dances. Folk tales are dramatized, arts and crafts are a daily experience. Sports

swimming and hiking are great outdoor activities and evenings are spent being entertained by various groups of campers. Our resources are the talents of the individual campers. All are given the opportunity to live together within their respective age groups in a Christian environment. Mass is celebrated 3 days per week. Religion and personal growth are interwoven in all activities.

Costs: \$ 100.00/ week plus \$ 15.00
Registration Fee.

Session I : July 10-23, 1994

Session II or Week 3 : July 24-30

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1994 SONG FESTIVAL
 JUNE 29TH - JULY 13TH 1994



Two itineraries have been arranged for your pleasure:

GROUP A will include day trips for "first time visitors" to Lithuania. This group will have guided tours while in Vilnius, Kaunas, Palanga plus trips to Trakai, Kernave, Rumsiskes, Pazaistis and other major tourist attractions in Lithuania already visited by the people in Group B.

GROUP B will have more time to leisurely explore the old towns of Vilnius and Kaunas, enjoy the beach at Palanga, shop or visit relatives etc..

GROUP A & GROUP B will Cruise down the beautiful Nemunas from Kaunas to Nida by HYDRAFOIL • Explore the Courland Split • Visit Witches' Mountain • A "Fourth of July Picnic" in Palanga • Visit the Hill of Crosses and see the K of L Memorial Cross erected in 1993 • Lunch at the famous Seduva Mill • Stroll through Old Town Vilnius and listen to the numerous Folk Ensembles performing in the street • An evening performance of folk groups at Kalnu Parkas • Orchestra performances throughout Vilnius for several days • A Folk Dance Concert at Zalgiris Stadium • A Grand Parade to Vingio Parkas for the Major Song Festival Performance • A day trip through beautiful Dzūkija to Druskininkai via the Ciurlionis Road.

TOTAL COST \$ 2,175.00

Tour includes: Round trip (coach) air fare via Lufthansa from Chicago, JFK, Newark, Boston or Washington.
 Hotels (double occupancy) - 6 nights in Vilnius, 3 nights in Kaunas, 3 nights in Palanga, plus one night layover in Frankfurt, Germany.
 Three meals daily in Lithuania;
 All transfers and sightseeing in modern comfortable buses, services of G.T. personnel and English speaking guides, tickets to all performances of the Song Festival. Gratuities for G.T. staff (guides, drivers, porters, security personnel) Baggage handling and transfers.


Due to the very large number of anticipated visitors from overseas, hotel space will be very limited. Because of the expected size of OUR tour, we may be assigned to several different hotels, so please register, as soon as possible. **REGISTRATION & DEPOSIT - DEADLINE** May 1, 1994 The K of L tour will be limited to the first 100 persons to register, so act now and avoid disappointment.
 Please note! Sightseeing in Lithuania is strenuous - you should be in good physical condition to fully enjoy this trip. Hotels do not always have hot water or elevators.

For a detailed tour information and registration packet please contact:

K of L Tour Coordinator : Robert S. Boris

Travel Agent: 4557 Fairway Court Waterford, MI 48328-3483 (810) 682-0098

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