

WYTIS

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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GEGUŽĖ / MAY 1994



AUŠROS VARTAI - Vilnius - The Gates of Dawn

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KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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All correspondence should reach the editor by the **First of the Month**, two months in advance of issue. (e.g. April 1 for the June issue). Except for the information contained in the Official News - Oficialus Skyrius section in the journal, The Knights of Lithuania and the editor assume no responsibility for the statements or opinions expressed by any contributors, nor any obligation to return any unsolicited material or photos.

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ALMANAC

LIETUVIŠKAS ALMANACHAS

1994

GEGUŽĖ - MAY

Sunday 1 : Juozapas, Gegutė, Žilvinas
 Monday 2 : Atanasas, Meilė, Eidmantas
 Tuesday 3 : Pilypas, Jokubas, Jaunius, Diva
 Wednesday 4 : Florijonas, Beržas
 Thursday 5 : Girgždutė, Neris, Barvudas
 Friday 6 : Arga, Baltuolė, Rokantas
 Saturday 7 : Danutė, Butautas, Rimta
 Sunday 8 : MOTHERS' DAY ; Stanislovas, Daina
 Monday 9 : Austė, Džiugas
 Tuesday 10 : Putinas, Survaida
 Wednesday 11 : Mamertas
 Thursday 12 : Neris, Akilejus, Pankracijus
 Friday 13 : Alvydė, Surminas, Gardevutis
 Saturday 14 : Motiejus, Milda, Gintaras
 Sunday 15 : Sofija, Jaunutė, Algedas
 Monday 16 : Augmantė, Gertautas

Tuesday 17 : Paskalis, Virkantas
 Wednesday 18 : Jonas , Feliksas
 Thursday 19 : Taura, Gilvinas, Skaistuolis
 Friday 20 : Bernardinas, Vygintė, Eidvilas
 Saturday 21 : Vydminė, Vaidievtis
 Sunday 22 : Elena, Rita, Julius, Aldona, Eglė
 Monday 23 : Deziderijus, Eufrozina
 Tuesday 24 : Algirdas, Gina, Voverė
 Wednesday 25 : Grigalius, Marija Magdalena
 Thursday 26 : Pilypas, Kinta
 Friday 27 : Augustinas, Neringa, Gindas
 Saturday 28 : Rima, Aušra
 Sunday 29 : Erdvilė
 Monday 30 : MEMORIAL DAY ; Joana
 Tuesday 31 : Petronelė, Žilvinė

GEGUŽĖ (MAY) is the most beautiful month in Lithuania. Everything is sprouting, blooming and verdant. In the forests, the call of the cuckoo bird (*gegutė* or *gegužė*) is heard. The bird is cherished by Lithuanians and gives the month its name.



Help For Hearing

(NAPS)—Here's news many are glad to hear: a new device is under consideration by the FDA that may help adults who no longer benefit from hearing aids. Called the Clarion cochlear implant, it is currently being tested at select medical centers throughout the United States.



A cochlear implant is an electronic device, part of which is surgically implanted behind the ear and part of which is worn like a beeper. Unlike hearing aids which take sound and amplify it, cochlear implants directly stimulate the nerve endings in the inner ear. Cochlear implants have already helped many people to hear and understand speech.

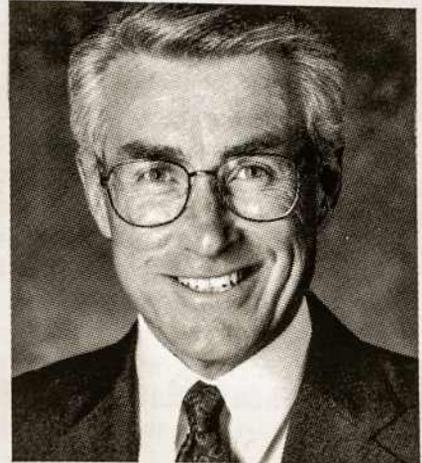
The Clarion represents a new generation and incorporates some of the latest advances in cochlear implant technology. For a free information package, contact Advanced Bionics at (800) 678-2575 (voice) or (800) 678-3575 (TDD).



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CHICAGO 60601

JIM EDGAR
GOVERNOR

January 18, 1994



Ms. Frances Petkus
President
Vytis-The Knight
800 Holdman Avenue
Dayton, Ohio 45404-1442

Dear Ms. Petkus:

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I would like to send my congratulations to you, the staff and readers of Vytis-The Knight as you celebrate your 79th anniversary of the newspaper.

Vytis-The Knight has helped bring community and national news to its readers, giving them a source of common interest and information on vital issues. The service you have provided for the Lithuanian American community is to be commended.

Please accept my best wishes on this anniversary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Edgar". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jim Edgar
GOVERNOR

JE:pm

Who was Jurgis Sauerveinas ?

by Leo Venckus

After receiving the February 1994 issue of VYTIS, I noticed, to my delight, music on the inside back cover with the heading: *Lietuviais Esame Mes Gime*. I have known this song since my childhood in Klaipeda. It is often referred to as the Anthem of Lithuania Minor - *Mažosios Lietuvos Himnas*. Today, one could not find many Lithuanians, especially among those who arrived in the United States after World War II who haven't heard the song or haven't themselves joined in the singing of those inspiring words:

Lietuviais esame mes gimę,

Lietuviais norime ir būt !

which mean: Lithuanians we were born, Lithuanians we want to be! But if you ask any ordinary Lithuanian if he or she knows who the author of the song is, you would get Jurgis Sauerveinas as your answer. Such an answer, however, is not quite correct. Granted, the name "Sauerveinas" has a Lithuanian sounding ending. Names ending with -as, -is, or -us are usually Lithuanian or Greek. But, if you would look again at that inside back page of February '94's VYTIS, you'll notice "Sauerwein" instead of "Sauerveinas" as we Lithuanians usually pronounce his name.

Sauerwein, which is the correct spelling of the author's name was neither Lithuanian, nor Greek, nor Prussian. He was a German. But his love and affection for the Lithuanian people he knew when living among them, the affinity for their language and traditions made him a Lithuanian by association. Sauerwein became an activist and fighter for the human rights of Lithuanians living in East Prussia often called Lithuania Minor - *Mažoji Lietuva*. He was different than most who lived in this part of Prussia - Rytprusiai - which was then inhabited mostly by Lithuanians and Prussians. Today, unfortunately, this area is populated mostly by Russians and other citizens of the former Soviet Union. There are some Poles and Lithuanians

but hardly any Germans. They were expelled after World War II. Their estates, homes and possessions were taken over by Soviet colonists that were streaming in endlessly. But let's get back to Sauerwein.

A genius in languages, Dr. Georg J. Sauerwein died at the age of 73 in Oslo, the capital of Norway on December 16, 1904. Son of a Lutheran pastor, he was born on January 15, 1831 in Hannover, Germany. He studied theology, philosophy and languages at Goettingen and Vienna universities, receiving his Ph. D. in 1873.

Being a very gifted young man Sauerwein developed his talents and became fluent in nearly 60 foreign languages, among them Swahili and Lithuanian. By his own admission, the Lithuanian language fascinated him since his early years and it "had grown into his heart as if it were his mother tongue". It seems that he came in contact with the Lithuanian language for the first time at Gronau, a Saxonian city, where his parents had moved in his childhood. There were factories in Gronau that employed Lithuanians.

In 1874 Sauerwein came to Tilžė - Tilsit a town on the Nemunas River which was the border of then German-ruled Lithuania Minor and czarist Russian-ruled Lithuania Major. There he befriended members of the Lithuanian Renaissance movement and almost immediately became one of its principal spokesmen. He popularized the Lithuanian cause in the German press and encouraged ethnic pride in Lithuanians themselves, writing numerous poems, newspaper articles and pamphlets in Lithuanian. When the Prussian government intensified its campaign to abolish Lithuanian from use in schools and Lithuanian-inhabited districts, Sauerwein helped to organize protest petitions. In 1878 he accompanied a delegation to Kaiser Wilhelm II, who was also King of Prussia. The delegation included 13 women in Lithuanian native dress and 3 peasants asking for royal intercession on behalf of the Lithuanian language. The kaiser, who received a memorandum written in both German and Lithuanian by Sauerwein,

promised to look into this matter, but at the same time urged the Lithuanians to elect their representatives to the Prussian legislature, since even he was bound by its laws. Some time later Sauerwein used his stay in Berlin as an opportunity to give a series of public lectures on Lithuanian ways and culture. He asserted that it was unfair to discriminate against the language of a people who were among the kaiser's most loyal subjects. He himself became a candidate for the Prussian legislature with the intention of representing Lithuanian interests, but he never won, because of the lack of vigorous Lithuanian support. Bitter about this failure, Sauerwein left Tilžė in 1898 never to return.

Dr. Jonas Basanavičius, a physician and ethnologist who later became known as a leader of the Lithuanian National Revival, received some letters from Sauerwein which were written in Norway in 1903. In them Sauerwein expressed a longing for the land and its people he had learned to love.

After Sauerwein's death in 1904, Dr. Jonas Basanavičius succeeded in collecting most of Sauerwein's writings and poems, editing them to use the more modern form of literary Lithuanian. The intention was to publish these collected works. Recently, a retired Lutheran pastor, Alfred Franzkeit, who was born in Lithuania and has been living in Germany since about 1940, took it upon himself to publish Sauerwein's poems. Alfred Franzkeit has visited Lithuania many times since independence was restored in March 1990. He has translated many Lithuanian poems into German and published them. Among those translated into German was the epic *Anykščių Šilėlis* by Baranauskas, which reminds me of Nadas Rastenis who so beautifully translated the same poem into English as - The Forests of Anykščiai.

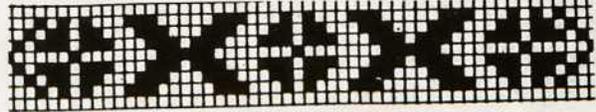
The recently published poems of Sauerwein appear in a booklet of 143 pages. It contains 52 poems of which 41

appear in both the original Lithuanian and German, as translated by Alfred Franzkeit. Nine poems were written only in German and another two appear translated by Sauerwein himself into Latin and French.

To obtain a copy of Georg Sauerwein poems write to:

Alfred Franzkeit, P.i.R.
In den Wiesen 3
27259 - Wehrbleck
Germany

(sources for this article included Encyclopedia Lituanica)



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

* * *

The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists.

—Gilbert Keith Chesterton

ST. CASIMIR'S COLLEGE APPROACHING JUBILEE YEAR

Vincent B. Boris

The Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome is fast approaching its Golden Jubilee Anniversary. On May 4, 1994, the college will have completed 49 years of service to Lithuanian Roman Catholics; plans are now being made for a fitting 50-th Birthday celebration in 1995.

When the Lithuanian Nation regained its independent homeland in 1990, a new era opened in the operations of the College. It began to be of service not only to Lithuanians in North and South America, Australia and Germany but also to the Church in Lithuania. The Lithuanian Pontifical College (LPC) provided a home for Archbishop Vincentas Sladkevičius when he came to Rome for his consecration as Cardinal. The college has continued to provide a domicile for visiting Lithuanian clergy as well as the hierarchy of Lithuania, who are now able to make their required visits to the Pope. Beginning in August 1991, both ordained priests and seminarians from Lithuania have been arriving at the college to receive broader theological training and deeper insight into the structure and workings of the world wide church. Already in June 1993, the first fruits of this effort were attained when two of the priest/students returned to Lithuania with advanced academic degrees. One is filling the position of Vice-rector at the Interdiocesan Seminary in Kaunas; the second is on the Theological Faculty of Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas and teaches both at the University and at the Seminary.

Today all 20 students, 10 seminarians and 10 ordained priests, are from Lithuania. Under present plans, at least two of the ordained priests will return to Lithuania each year and will begin to fill the many leadership roles among the Lithuanian clergy. Despite having approached its natural position and function in the life of the Church of Lithuania, St. Casimir's College will not ignore the Lithuanian communities in North and South America, Australia, Germany and elsewhere. Each of these communities had a preponderance of aging clergy who must soon be replaced. St. Casimir's College continues to pride itself on being that special place where young men from Lithuania or from the Diaspora can come for pastoral or priestly formation and preparation to serve Lithuanians, wherever

they might be. The College must yet, however, look chiefly to the West for financial and other support which are still beyond the capability of the Church in the Homeland.

A major fund raising effort is planned as one aspect of the Jubilee Year. The St. Casimir Guild, originally formed by the Knights of Lithuania as a means of supporting the college, will be making an effort to increase its member-



*The Pontifical Lithuanian College of St. Casimir
Via Caselmonferrato, Rome Italy.*

ship. The current drive to raise money to purchase new vestments anticipates the increased number of liturgical events involving local and visiting church dignitaries during the Jubilee Year. The vestment purchase drive, which was initiated at the K of L National Convention in 1993, has a target goal of \$10,000 and has reached the half-way mark. There is every hope that this specific drive will be completed by the start of the Jubilee Year.

In general, to maintain one student in Rome for one-full school year, the cost is approximately \$10,000, depending upon the existing dollar to Italian lira exchange rate. These costs include many non-scholastic needs such as medical, dental and optical care, clothes, transportation and personal needs. Of course, the normal cost of maintaining the College, itself, and its faculty constitutes a major requirement for support funding.

To support the College, several means of contributing are available. All contributions made through the St. Casimir's Guild are U.S. Income Tax deductible. General contributions are applied to the endowment fund through which the College hopes to one day become fairly self-sufficient. Special contributions designated as supporting the needs of individual seminarians can be made under the "Adopt" a Seminarian Program. Mass stipends are also accepted through the St. Casimir's Guild and are used to support both staff and ordained students.



Pope John Paul II bids farewell to Msgr. Al. Bartkus after his second visit to the College, July 1990.

For further information please contact the St. Casimir's Guild (see inside cover).

FREE THINGS TO SEND FOR

(NAPS)—For free brochures on children and hearing, write to "Children and Hearing," c/o House Ear Institute, 2100 West Third St., Fifth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90057.

For information on a career as a nurse anesthetist, contact the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) at 222 S. Prospect Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068.

For more information about recent research into nerve cell growth, write Americans for Medical Progress, Crystal Square Three, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 907, Arlington,

VA 22202; or call (703) 412-1111.

To learn about short duration funds, interested investors can send for a free booklet called "Ways To Increase Return In A Low Rate Environment." Write: The Montgomery Funds, 600 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111; or call: 1-800-572-FUND (3863).

For facts on a portable computer that gives automotive technicians a fast and accurate method of fault diagnosis, call Ray McNulty, GenRad, Inc. (508) 369-4400.

For a free booklet about rechargeable power, call Millennium at 1-800-226-7697.

For free brochures on IBM-PSL technology such as used by NASA, call Eduquest at 1-800-426-4275.

For free brochures about Mall of America, lodging and other things to do while visiting the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, write the Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau, 9801 Dupont Avenue South #120, Bloomington, MN 55431 or Mall of America's Tourism Department, 60 East Broadway, Bloomington, MN 55425.

Antanas Strazdas: A Voice of Lithuania's Rebirth

by John R. Mankus
National Cultural Chairman

Antanas Strazdas was born on April 4, 1763 in Juzintu village in the district of Rokiskis, Lithuania. After completing his primary education, he entered Varniu Seminary. He was ordained into the priesthood and subsequently joined the Varniu Seminary faculty. He remained there as Vicar for the rest of his life. Antanas Strazdas was the first among the clergy to publically express his love for Lithuania, its language, history and culture to a Polonized, Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church. At a time when many Polish and Polonized Bishops forbade the use of the Lithuanian language at Masses, he wrote over 50 hymns in Lithuanian, specifically for use at religious services. The most famous hymn is one we all know - *PULKIM ANT KELIŲ*.

Many of his poems and songs dealt with the difficult existence of the Lithuanian peasant and his struggle to survive under the yoke of Serfdom. His works became extremely popular with the common people and eventually his message planted the seed of Lithuanian national rebirth in the Lithuanian clergy and nobility. What follows is one of his poems, *IR ATSKRIDO JUODAS VARNAS*, along with my translation into English. His works contain words and phrases not commonly used in today's modern Lithuanian Literature.

Ir Atskrido Juodas Varnas by Antanas Strazdas

Ir atskrido juodas varnas,
Ir nuleido savo sparnus,
Ir ant baslio atsistojo, -
Klauskite ką, ans jums loja:

Kai tik svietas prasidėjo,
Dievas lyguma padėjo
Žmonės kai Dievą užmiršo
Ir velnią sau nusipiršo,

Liepė garbinti balvonus,
Ir tuojau uždėjo ponus...
Mums tik juoda duona krimst,
Sunkias bėdas taikiai kešti.



Ponam uliot, kortom groti;
Minkštuos pataluos gulėti,
Lietuviškai nekalbėti,
Į žmones kreivom žiūrėti.

Svetimo tik triuso laukė,
Bi tik žmogų prisitraukia;
Paskutinį kraują traukia
Kad dvaran nusišaukia.

Nors kuną, kaip mes nešioja,
Delto kas dien mus pešioja,
Jau prikalta daugel plieno -
Ateis tokia del jų diena ! ...

Jie nemyli lietuvninkų,
Prastu žmonių darbininkų;
Chamais anuos jie vadina
Ir mokesčiais apsunkina.

Ne tokie jų tėvai buvo,
Kurie dabar jau pražuvo,
Jie Lietuvos kraštą, kalbą mylėjo,
Su žmonėm draugystę turėjo.

(translation is found on next page)

... And A Black Crow Flew In
by Antanas Strazdas
Translated by John R. Mankus

And a black crow flew in
 And it rested its tired wings
 And settled on a nearby pole
 Listen, what its crowing told.

Upon arrival of enlightenment,
 All were equal in God's land
 When the Maker was forgotten
 Satan's evil was at hand.

Told to worship idols false
 Introducing master's role
 Only dark bread for the poor,
 Evil tidings were the rule.

As the high-born played, exploited
 Resting upon pillows soft
 Lithuanian was not spoken
 They looked down on native folk.

Always craving foreign items
 Upon summoning common folk
 Final blood from them they want
 As they carry serfdom's yoke.

Though, body they possess like us
 They demand much more from us
 There will come a reckoning soon
 When they will get their just tune.

They despise our native people
 Who work hard from dawn to dusk
 Lowly catfish they do call them
 And reward them with more tax.

Unlike their forefathers are they
 Who many ages ago have passed away
 They loved their Lithuanian land
 Peasants, nobles worked hand in hand.



*March 8, 1994. Council 112 Members receiving
 Third Degree 1 to r: Adele Zunas, Joe Kuizin,
 Matt and Philomena Vilutis.*

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From left: Henry, Lauretta & Michael Pant; Tipper and Vice President Al Gore

Ever since he was about 8 years old, Michael Pant "was always goofing around in the kitchen with his mom", remembers his father, Henry. By the time he was 14, the Fairborn boy was cooking gourmet dinners. Now he's 24 and prepares just about anything imaginable for the Vice President of the United States.

"I'm the youngest one of the Vice President's chefs. Everyone else is over 30. At first it was kind of intimidating, but everybody just kind of accepted me, and I really enjoy it a lot", said Pant, who was among the three new chefs hired in fall of '93 to serve Vice President Al Gore and his family.

Pant has spent much of his young life in some kitchen or another - and he believes that his experience is what landed him the job.

"He has cooking in his blood", said his mother, Lauretta, noting that Michael's great aunt, Mary Lucas, used to run Mary Lou Catering in Dayton, a business that her daughter, Elaine, took over and renamed The Main Course. Lauretta and her husband, Henry, a longtime Greene County sheriff's

deputy, fondly remember the dinners Michael made for them when he was a youngster. "He started off with spaghetti, because that was easy, and before we knew it, he was making cornish game hens with wild rice", Mrs. Pant said. "I think it really started with Valentine's Day. He liked to make dinner for Henry and I - and he'd really go all out. He'd put out the lace tablecloth, candles, flowers, my china, and played romantic music - and he made his brothers go away. It was really something."

Mother and son both remember one birthday celebration in particular. The caption in the family album reads - Aug. 24, 1986, Laurie's birthday. The photos show a young smiling Michael dressed in a black silk robe and a pointy Oriental hat, standing on the family back patio. On the brick wall are two "tapestries" Michael had made, graced with black crepe-paper streamers. On the table are red candles, silverware with bamboo handles, white flowers and an Oriental woman figurine. Even though this meal was served over seven years ago, both mother and son readily rattle off

the menu: Peking chicken, egg rolls, Oriental shrimp and fried rice topped off with deep-fried apple and banana slices with sesame -orange glaze - not to mention homemade fortune cookies. " My mother was so shocked, excited and happy", Pant said. She recalls, " I was real pleased because he went to so much trouble", then adds with a chuckle, " But you should have seen the sink. It was a disaster. He had pots and pans from floor to ceiling. He's come a long way since then."

After his initial dabbling in the kitchen, Pant enrolled in the food service program at Greene Joint Vocational School (now the Greene County Career Center) and graduated from there and Fairborn High School in 1987. He worked as a salad cook at 10 Wilmington Place, a Dayton retirement community and also studied restaurant management at Sinclair Community College before enlisting in the Navy in March 1988.

Pant then became one of seven cooks who prepared four meals a day for a crew of 150 aboard the *George Washington Carver SSBN* (Submersible Ship Ballistic Nuclear). Several years earlier, the Pant family had toured the *USS Yorktown*, a battleship docked at Charleston, SC. There, taped to the window of the ship's galley was a recipe for a batch of 1,000 chocolate chip cookies. "Michael turned to Henry and said, 'One day I'm going to make those'.... and years later, he called when he was working on the submarine and said, 'Dad, remember those 1,000 chocolate chip cookies ?, I made 'em!'" recalls Mrs. Pant.

After three years at sea in the sub, Pant heard about an opening as a chef for the US Department of Defense. He landed that job and found him serving the likes of Defense Secretary Les Aspin and his predecessor, Dick Cheney. Through his naval experience, Pant also got training at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI, one of the nation's top culinary schools. He also worked under Fritz Sonnenschmidt, master chef and dean at the Culinary Institute of America at Hyde Park, NY.

Pant joined the Nation's Capital Chef Association of the American Culinary Federation. Then he learned in May of 1993 about an opening at the vice president's house. Pant underwent an intensive three-day interview in which he said he was asked questions such as " How would I become an asset to the vice president ?" Pant said, "I just basically told them about all the experience I had, things I had done for the secretary of defense - floral arrangements, cake decorations,

bartending, organizing functions.... and I was hired." For security reasons, Pant said he can give few specifics about the work he does for the Gore family. "It's family- oriented, with some gourmet cooking", he said. "Some meals are more elaborate than others. One night we might have pizza, another, cornish game hens." Pant said the Gores are very health -conscious, and "Mr. Gore likes a lot of salads", so Pant enjoys experimenting with unusual customized salad dressings. Pant said he initially was nervous about cooking for Aspin, Cheney and Gore, but "after a while, they just seem like anybody else".

Mrs. Pant was impressed when she met Gore at a reception in September 1993. "He said he was so pleased to have Michael on their staff", she said. Pant has received the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his work serving Pentagon officials. He also has been awarded a full scholarship, valued at \$ 23,000, for a 22-month course at the Culinary Institute. But he cannot begin his studies there until he fulfills his four-year obligation to the vice president and then completes an additional period at sea, Mrs. Pant said. "We're just so proud of him and we know he's going to keep on being successful", she said. "It just seems like the right thing for him to do." When Pant is not cooking, he likes to eat. But he also likes to stay in shape. So he plays tennis, runs and lifts weights. Then he goes to restaurants, where he admits he can be quite a critic. "Most of the time when I go out to eat, I'm able to say, 'They could have made this better by adding that', or whatever. Most people who are with me think it's hilarious", he said.

Asked what it takes to become a good cook, he replied, "Cooking is a science, an art and a sharing of knowledge... but the biggest part is time management. If you try to rush it, it doesn't look right and it doesn't taste right. So I guess what I'm trying to say is you need a lot of patience and a good recipe."

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This article first appeared in the Dayton Daily News on December 1, 1993 and is reprinted with permission. Henry , Laretta, and Michael are members of Knights of Lithuania Council 96 Dayton, OH. Michael's maternal grandmother, Veronica Omlor, is a charter member of C-96 and a Fourth Degree Knight. Congratulations to all. Best wishes Michael. Have you served the Gores Lithuanian dešros, kopūstai and kugelis ?

**There is nothing permanent
except change. —Heraclitus**

In Memoriam

a.†a.

Alphonse Chepalis
C-143
February 24, 1994

a.†a.

Jimmy Greiner
C-110
March 15, 1994

a.†a.

Joseph Gradowski
C-152
March 18, 1994

a.†a.

Valerie Masones
C-152
January 13, 1994

a.†a.

Mary Stanionis
C-100
November 28, 1993

a.†a.

Vera Kuzmick
C-110
March 23, 1994

a.†a.

Adella Patellos
C-19
January 6, 1994

a.†a.

Gene Razwad
C-17
November 20, 1993

a.†a.

Joseph Gradowski
C-152
March 17, 1994

a.†a.

Catherine Snachkus
C-110
1994

a.†a.

Roland J. Bishop
C-17
March 9, 1994

a.†a.

Mary Akstin
C-116
March 13, 1994

a.†a.

Stanley Kamendulis
C-26
April 15, 1994

a.†a.

John Luciw
C-29
March 7, 1994

a.†a.

Mariona Zebris
C-17
March 12, 1994

a.†a.

Helen Chepulis
C-135
March 17, 1994

*Amzinaji Atīsi duok mirusiem, Viespatie
ir amzinoji sviesa jiems tesviecia.
Tegu ilsis ramybeje. Amen.*

To treat your facts with imagination is one thing, but to imagine
your facts is another.

—John Burroughs

MARIJA, GELBĒK

IŠ VOKIEČIŅU

♩ = 84

Ma - ri - ja, Ta - ves mel - džiam; Ma - ri - ja, pa - dēk, šioj

a - ša - ru pa - kal - nēj gel - bēt pa - sku - bēk, Ma - ri - ja, mums pa - dēk, mus

vargstančius gel - bēk. Ma - ri - ja, mums pa - dēk, mus vargs - tan - čius gel - bēk.

2. Tu priebēga kaltųjų; Marija, padēk,
Pažvelk ant verkiančīųjū, gelbēt
paskubēk.
Marija, mums padēk, vargstančius tu
gelbēk,
Marija, mums padēk, vargstančius tu
gelbēk.

3. Su viltim tavēs meldžiam; Marija,
padēk,
Dēl visū tavo kančīų gelbēt paskubēk.
Marija, mums padēk, vargstančius tu
gelbēk,
Marija, mums padēk, vargstančius tu
gelbēk.

Math and Science - Trepidation & Delight

by Amanda Muliolis,
Cleveland, OH

A.P.P.L.E. stands for American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education and is an organization that was formed in 1990 when Lithuania was fighting for its independence from the Soviet Union. Many Lithuanian-American professional people were forming groups to help Lithuania change into a modern, democratic society. Lithuanian educators in the US were one of the first groups to do so, as well as to forge ties with the Ministry of Education in Lithuania.

As soon as I heard about this organization, I knew that it was tailor-made for me. A.P.P.L.E. gave me a way of contributing my expertise in the field of education. 1993 was the third summer of A.P.P.L.E. seminars for teachers in Lithuania and I was asked to organize the science and math sections at three locations. I spent two weeks in Vilnius, two weeks in Klaipėda and one week in Birštonas, together with about 70 other educators giving lectures, workshops and socializing with Lithuanian teachers.

Since my husband and I have many relatives there, we went to Lithuania two weeks before the seminars. We were met at the airport by about 40 relatives and each family gave us flowers. Our bouquets were enormous by the time we greeted everyone. Although we only knew three of our cousins, we felt such warmth and love from all, that we felt as if we had come home. For two weeks, my husband and I traveled the length and breadth of Lithuania - from my birthplace near the Latvian border to my husband's home at the southern tip, from Vilnius near the eastern border to the shores of the Baltic Sea to visit a Scouts Camp, where the 75-year jamboree was in progress. Then my husband flew home and I joined my colleagues at the seminars for teachers.

At the opening ceremonies, about 60 educators from the US sat on stage, while about 200 Lithuanian teachers sat in the auditorium and gazed at us. We were welcomed with flowers, songs and speeches, then four of us left for Klaipėda to teach English for four weeks; about half traveled to Marijampolė to hold a two week seminar for about 160 teachers, while 28 remained in Vilnius, where the teachers from our audience came to hear about teaching methods, psychology and administration of schools in the United States.

The science section, which I helped organize had 23 participants. Three teachers from the US, none of whom had Lithuanian backgrounds or knew the language were my helpers. Among the four of us, we conducted 4 and 1/2 hours of lectures and workshop-type activities each day for two weeks. Since neither Sue Saccomando, nor Pricilla and Ronald Tougas spoke Lithuanian, I was their interpreter during most of these two weeks. For one hour each day we gave Choice lectures, which allowed teachers from different sections to participate in cross-section activities. During this time, I worked with people interested in computers - my parish donated 5 Apple II's and Terri Pastura donated one Apple IIc System in order to make these lectures a hands-on activity.

In the afternoon, one hour was devoted to English improvement. Our students had a choice of participating in a beginners, intermediate, discussion or song and game group for learning English or they could practice their English using computers. Our evening programs included a Lithuanian folklore night, a talent night, an American Indian night, visits to Lithuanian schools, museums and other social gatherings. Weekends were devoted to sightseeing trips.

Although Pricilla and Ron went home after the Vilnius seminar, Sue and I were joined by Robert Edmondson from Hawaii for our two weeks in Klaipėda, the port city on the shore of the Baltic Sea. Robert's parents are both Lithuanian, but he knew little about his heritage until he met a Lithuanian in Hawaii in 1992. This prompted him to do some investigating and he heard about A.P.P.L.E. Getting involved in this project was his way of getting to know about Lithuania. Our schedule in Klaipėda followed the same outline as in Vilnius. The science section had 16 participants while over 300 teachers attended the seminars there.

Our final session was in Birštonas, which is a health resort town. Here, only teachers who had attended an A.P.P.L.E. seminar in 1992 could participate. Eighteen mathematics teachers were enrolled in my section. Bea Taylor was my co-lecturer, while my cousin Zina was Bea's interpreter. These math teachers enjoyed the activities we presented, especially those that require no fancy equipment - just paper, pencil and string.

The nicest compliment came at the end of the seminar from a teacher who rarely smiled.

(continued next page)

OF HEALTH

Your Bones: The Framework

For Healthy Living

She said, "I was watching you prepare for your lectures and laughing among yourselves. I thought - just wait... by the end of two weeks they will also be frowning. Instead, you taught us to laugh with you." Life is very difficult in Lithuania at this time; there is much to worry about, not the least of which being where the money will come from to purchase tomorrow's bread. People do not smile easily -- they were taught to fear one another. Distrust of your fellow workers was the order of the day when the now crumbled Soviet Regime was in power. Now, many have trouble opening up and learning to trust one another or to help one another. It is difficult for teachers in Lithuania to relinquish their authoritarian position in the classroom and accept student's input, discussion and inquisitiveness. During these seminars, we hoped to model for them the friendlier and more cooperative atmosphere that exists in schools such as my own - St. Augustine's; where the adage "Take care of one another" is often heard and more often followed.



Editor's Note:

This article was submitted by Barbara Wilcinskas-Schmidt of Council 141 in Bridgeport, CT. The Knights of Lithuania have been very supportive both as an organization and as individuals of A.P.P.L.E. At the 80th National Convention in 1993 for example a donation by the K of L in the sum of \$ 500.00 was authorized. Since the membership was so generous to A.P.P.L.E., its staff thought that the K of L would be interested in a first person observation of last summer's activities.



What many consider the first practical typewriter was invented by Christopher Sholes in 1868.

(NAPS)—It may come as a surprise, but your bones do more for you than you may realize. They don't just stand around holding you up. Bone is one of the most active tissues of the body. It cleanses the blood of harmful substances, stores minerals such as calcium, fluoride, phosphorus and sodium and contains the marrow from which new red blood cells are made.

If you want to have healthy bones, it's wise to take good care of them all your life. Here are some bone-chilling statistics that show you why:

- More than 25 million Americans are affected by osteoporosis, a disease which leads to excessive loss of bone tissue and an increased susceptibility to fractures.

- The estimated health care costs of osteoporosis is \$10 billion a year.

- The National Institutes of Health have cited osteoporosis as one of the three deadliest diseases affecting women, along with cardiovascular disease and breast cancer.

- Almost half of all women over age 50 can expect to suffer a fracture related to osteoporosis. Fractures generally occur in the hip, spine and wrist.

- Since osteoporosis is symptomless, the first sign of it is often a fracture.

- The people most likely to be at risk are women of Caucasian or Asian descent. Other risk factors include early menopause, small bones and a slim build, inactivity and a diet low in calcium. Women who smoke and drink alcohol excessively have added risk factors.

Fortunately, according to nutritionists at the National Dairy Council, there are a number of things you can do to protect yourself from osteoporosis.

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**Knights of Lithuania Foundation
1993 Essay Contest
Honorable Mention Winner
Marytė Bizinkauskas, C-1
Brockton, MA**

DATELINE :1251 - TRAKAI

Preparations are under way for an event that will change the course of history for the people that live in this Baltic region, namely the Coronation of their first King - Mindaugas.

Mindaugas, with the aid of his father, Ringaudas, successfully negotiated a treaty with the 21 regional dukes to form the new nation of Lithuania which would be ruled by a King. The treaty was not easily forged and there exist some unfriendly factions. The greatest opposition comes from Treniota of Samogitia, who is still regarded as a possible threat to the new government. Treniota resents the takeover of his land despite Mindaugas' assurance that he can keep all new lands seized in battles against their common enemy from the east - Russia. Fortunately, Mindaugas has a solid ally in Daumantas of Naslia. Mindaugas knows that the stronger the coalition he forms, the less chance there is for a *coup d'etat*.

Despite the dark clouds of uncertainty in the political arena, preparations for the celebration are in full swing. Morta, Mindaugas' wife is busy overseeing the preparation of a lavish feast. Heads of State of numerous other nations are arriving with their *entourage* to witness the Coronation and to welcome another monarch into the circle of Christian Kings. Andrew of Stirland, The Master of the Knights of the Sword and agent of Pope Innocent IV, will be officiating at the ceremony.

Today's Coronation is the culmination of 2 years of preparation which included the Baptism of Mindaugas, his wife Morta and sons Ruklys and Rupeikis. Receiving ongoing instruction, Mindaugas is prepared to receive his crown and the full recognition of Rome. A formal reception is to follow including feasting, singing, juggling, dancing, magic and sorcery. The

19

celebration is to last a week after which Rex Lituaniae will tour the countryside with his family. The closing event will be a jousting match of the 21 regional dukes to determine the greatest warrior. The winner will become the head of a new order - Knights of Lithuania whose job it will be to serve their king in every way possible. The Knights will be responsible for the promotion of the Lithuanian language, customs and cultural awareness. The motto of the Knights shall be " For God and Country". As part of their duties, they shall inform the rest of the world about Lithuania and assist King Mindaugas in forging new and lasting alliances with other countries.....

DATELINE 740 Years later...

That grand coronation was the catalyst for a number of events that followed some of which include:

1392-1430 - the stretching of Lithuania's borders from the Baltic to the Black Sea during the reign of Vytautas the Great, whose untimely death robbed him of the chance to be crowned Lithuania's King.

1458 - The birth of Saint Casimir

15th - 18th Centuries - a Lithuanian - Polish Commonwealth was established to defend against attacks from the Teutonic Knights and the Tartars. This alliance was clearly for convenience.

1795 - the partition and subjugation of Lithuania by Russia.

1860's & on - the rebirth of Lithuania due to the likes of Basanavicius, Valancius, and Maironis; also women like Emilija Plateryte who strived to instil the fire of Lithuanian nationalism.

1912 - C- 1 K of L est. in Brockton, MA

1918 - Lithuanian Independence restored

1918-1940 - 22 years of Economic growth

1940 - illegal annexation of Lithuania by the USSR, the lowering of the Iron Curtain onset of mass deportations, but not the destruction of a nation.

1990 - Ultimate victory over Communism and the Reestablishment of Independence

1993 - Lithuania strives to create an atmosphere of peace and prosperity for all

2000 - who can even guess what wonderful things there will be to report ?

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:

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| <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

Please make checks payable to: Knights of Lithuania Council 16

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
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1994

- 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 Lituania Avenue
Chicago, IL 60608

(Please Print)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **COUNCIL #:** _____

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

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

1994 CONVENTION UPDATE

Plans for the 81st National Knights of Lithuania Convention are progressing and Council 16 looks forward to welcoming you to Chicago this summer.

The Chicago Marriott Hotel, 540 Michigan Avenue, will be taking room reservations until Friday July 1, 1994. After that date rooms will be on an availability basis. Please make your reservations by calling the Chicago Marriott Hotel at (312) 836-0100. Please mention the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA when you make your reservations. Rooms are \$ 95.00 for single or \$ 105.00 for dbl./trip./quad.

The pre-convention trip , **Luncheon and Riverboat Gambling Cruise**, is proving to be very popular. Space is still available for those who would like to participate on Wednesday August 3, 1994. The trip consists of a buffet luncheon at the HICKORY PIT

restaurant and the cruise aboard THE EMPRESS Riverboat. Cost is \$ 30.00 pp and you must be 21 years old to go.

Juniors will surely enjoy the activities planned for them during the convention. Aside from participating in all regular social activities, juniors will take a tour of Chicago, including some of its world famous museums on Friday. On Saturday the Juniors will gather on the convention hotel's fitness level for a Junior Olympics in the morning and then joining all for the fifth plenary session after a luncheon.

A complete tentative schedule will appear in the June 1994 issue of VYTIS. Council 16 hopes that you will enjoy this year's convention and can't wait to see you in August.

Submitted By: Robert A. Martin, Jr.

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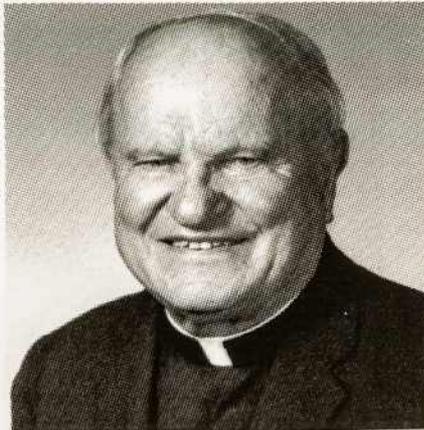
Congress authorized the issuance of the five cent coin we call a nickel on May 16, 1866.



The Louvre, the great Paris museum, first opened to the public in 1793.

23 REVEREND STASYS RAILA CANDIDATE FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

When Rev. Stasys Raila was asked in 1983 how he intended to commemorate his 50th Anniversary as a priest, he thought awhile, then responded "I would like to remember my past 50 years of priesthood in this world praying, meditating personally and in solitude." But his now 61 years in the priesthood were spent in anything but solitude! Father Raila has contributed greatly to helping his native Lithuania, those who fled from an occupied Lithuania seeking freedom, and those who were born away from Lithuania but wanted to maintain ties to their motherland Lithuania and her religious and cultural life.



Born in Lithuania in 1905, he was active from 1933 to 1939 with Lithuanian students and cultivated religious programs, set up proper procedures in orphanages and shelter homes. During those years, he studied at the University of Vytautas the Great in Kaunas, where he received a degree in theology and completed studies for a Doctor of Theology degree. He also taught students in Kaunas and was spiritual director for several church organizations.

Father Raila came to the US in 1939 to visit relatives, study Catholic action and visit the World's Fair. While visiting, World War II broke out, Lithuania was occupied by the Nazis and then by the Soviets, and Father was forced to remain in the US. Cardinal Dougherty of Philadelphia helped Father Raila obtain a permanent visa to remain in the US and appointed him to work with various Lithuanian parishes in this country.

From 1939 to 1960, Father Raila worked in Lithuanian parishes in the diocese of Philadelphia, and from there, helped sponsor and help hundreds of displaced persons from Lithuania to relocate to the US. He contributes extensively to the Lithuanian Catholic press and has published four books on various religious themes.

Perhaps Father Raila's greatest achievement was the initiation of the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid (LCRA) organization, headquartered in Brooklyn, which he headed as its first Executive Director from 1960 to 1976. Under his excellent leadership, the agency provided vast amounts of relief to persecuted Catholics in Lithuania. The organization grew in effectiveness and became known as a viable vehicle

for Catholics of the Free World to assist their co-religionists in Soviet-occupied Lithuania. It continues today, assisting the newly independent Lithuania cope with the problems created by over 50 years of occupation by a godless Soviet Union.

In 1973, Bishop Mugavero appointed Father Raila as an assistant pastor in Annunciation Church in Brooklyn. In 1978, he was appointed associate pastor of Transfiguration, Maspeth. Although retired from there now, he continues

to assist at the church, to the joy of the parishioners.

In 1941, Father Raila joined the Knights of Lithuania, and considered the organization a wonderful tool for effecting many of his projects. In Philadelphia he worked with Council 3 members organizing Lithuanian shows and concerts, and during the war years, working with the Red Cross. When he came to Brooklyn in 1960, he worked with the local Knights, became a member of Maspeth Council 110 and gained his Fourth Degree.

Father Raila attended many Knights of Lithuania Conventions, always with a new project or plan to suggest to the membership. As Director of LCRA, Father instituted a "Calendar of Prayer", and encouraged the Knights to bring it to fruition. The calendar assigned specific days of the year to various organizations and parishes on which the assignee would conduct special prayer services for Lithuania, so that everyday someone would be praying for Lithuania. His calendar prescribed the specific prayers as well. Through his urging, K of L Councils and Districts throughout the USA continue to conduct these Days of Prayers.

Father Raila is especially interested in attracting youth to the Knights, and worked toward that goal at all meetings and conventions. Vibrant and outspoken, Father does not let the Knights, young or old, forget their Lithuanian heritage. Throughout his many years of dedicated service, he has contributed guidance and strength to the Knights to carry forward the principle of "For God and Country", serving as an example to us all. Indeed, Rev. Stasys Raila is a most worthy candidate for Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania.

ELINOR SLUZAS CANDIDATE FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

It has been said, ... "You can preach a better sermon with your life than with your lips." For the past 49 years (a member since 1945), Elinor Sluzas has "preached with her life ...," giving unselfishly of her time and talents to the Knights of Lithuania and the preservation of the Lithuanian heritage.

Elinor has worked untiringly not only on the council, district, and national levels for the Knights of Lithuania but for the Lithuanian community in the Dayton, Ohio area.

On the National level, Elinor served as Vice-President in charge of Juniors, 1982-1985. While serving in this capacity, she compiled and printed a useful handbook for Junior Advisors on the Council level and a booklet of by-laws and recommended activities for Juniors. She was a frequent delegate at National Conventions, where she also served many times as a panelist. She was in charge of a cultural display at the 75th Jubilee Convention and helped in many other national causes. She reported on Conventions and other activities in VYTIS.

During the commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of St. Casimir's death in Rome, Elinor was an important committee member, helping arrange various K of L activities there, and had the privilege of serving as a reader during the Pontifical Mass. Elinor has helped the Lithuanian Pontifical College of Rome and the Deborah Foundation Lithuanian Project with collecting finances, and currently is a board member of the Aid to Lithuania Committee.

As early as 1947, Elinor served as Mid-Central District Secretary, and was the District President for three years, 1974 to 1977. Her own Council 96 benefited greatly by Elinor's leadership abilities as well. She served as officer, committee chair or member on religious, cultural and social projects of her council. The list of her accomplishments on the Council level is too long to itemize. Elinor is what is called "a shaker and a mover", always knowing what needs to be done, how to do it, had how to get people to help get it done.

Elinor's love for Lithuania and her Lithuanian heritage extends into the parish, into the Dayton community, and even into her personal career as



owner of ELINOR'S AMBER ROSE EUROPEAN RESTAURANT.

At her Lithuanian parish, Holy Cross of Dayton, She was the Choir Director for many years and taught the youth traditional Lithuanian hymns. She has chaired and acted as Mistress of Ceremonies for many parish functions. Her major challenge today is working to keep Holy Cross Church open as an autonomous, Lithuanian parish and is on the committee to find a Lithuanian priest for the parish since the death of Rev. V. Katarskis.

For many years, Elinor has been chairman of the Lithuanian Cultural Council. She also was spokesperson for the Vejeliai Lithuanian Folk Dance Group of Dayton, helping build a strong foundation for the group. She is frequently called on to speak to professional groups on topics not related to Lithuanianism, but also manages to incorporate something about Lithuanian into her talk.

She has appeared on Dayton's Radio Station WVUD, doing a half-hour show on Lithuania, and has been chair for 8 prize-winning Lithuanian booths at Dayton's International Festival WORLD A'FAIR for 18 years and was named its Honorary Chairperson.

During Lithuania's struggle for independence, Elinor subscribed to LCRA daily new reports about Lithuania, which came in over her restaurant's FAX, and which she released to the Media in Dayton as news broke. Her establishment became the media's viable source of information.

Elinor is blessed with a strong, close family unit. Her 93 year old mother Anna Ambrozaitis is a constant inspiration. Elinor has two supportive children, daughter Annamarie and husband Mark Berger, and son Anthony and daughter-in-law Debra Sluzas, three grandchildren, plus a brother, three sisters and their families, to complete a close, old fashioned Lithuanian family.

Elinor's untiring work for the Knights of Lithuania and her accomplishments and enthusiasm for the Lithuanian cause make Elinor Ambrose Sluzas worthy of Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania.

ANNA KLIZAS WARGO CANDIDATE FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Anna Klizas Wargo was taught from early youth by her immigrant parents to "nepamirsk Lietuivybes." She has lived this way all of her life.

In the early 1970's there were few Lithuanian activities in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. When Honorary Member Msgr. Al Bartkus became pastor of St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair in 1974, he reestablished a monthly Lithuanian Mass. Soon many Lithuanians from the surrounding area began to participate. Two who attended this Mass, namely Anna Klizas Wargo and Bernice Mikatavage, decided to form an organization to promote Lithuanian culture. Anna has now been nominated for Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania.



Letters were sent to all Lithuanian parishes inviting people to a meeting. Approximately 35 attended and the Lithuanian Heritage Club began, with Bernice and Anna as president and secretary, and Father Bartkus as Spiritual Advisor. The club's first endeavor was a float for the 1975 Pottsville Winter Carnival Parade. This beautiful 40 foot Lithuanian float received the Queen's Trophy, and the ensuing publicity awakened the Lithuanian spirit in Schuylkill County.

In 1976, the club changed its name to "Lithuanian Bicentennial Committee" and Anna continued as secretary. Another float represented Lithuania in all county community parades winning many awards. This group also assisted the Lithuanian clergy with preparations for the Annual Lithuanian Day established in 1913, held the Sunday in August closest to the fifteenth. Anna ably served as secretary and public relations chair.

After the Bicentennial, the group, through the efforts of a dedicated Knight, the late Joseph Yanulaitis, joined the Knights of Lithuania in January, 1977, as Anthracite Council 144. Anna has served as president, secretary, treasurer, VYTIS correspondent and public relations chair. She participated in demonstrations for Lithuania's freedom, wrote numerous letters to prisoners of conscience and contacted many Congressmen about Lithuania's plight. Anna has chaired or served as a committee member for St. Casimir Breakfasts, Kucios, Lithuanian Day Banquets and Commemorations of Lithuanian Independence. Her leadership resulted in

a new awakening of the Knights through Pennsylvania, as new councils arose in surrounding communities. She was also instrumental in organizing the Amber District of the Knights of Lithuania.

Anthracite Council sponsors a Lithuanian Museum and Cultural Center at Frackville, PA and Anna has been treasurer since its inception 12 years ago. She arranged outstanding concerts and programs to raise funds for the Center.

On the national K of L level, Anna is the immediate past president (1988-1991). She has served on the Supreme Council since 1979 as secretary, cultural chair, public relations chair and for the past two years as president of the St. Casimir Guild of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome. Anyone who attended the National Conventions from 1977 to 1993 was sure to recognize Anna's cheerful face.

For her commitments and contributions to the Knights of Lithuania Anna earned the Fourth Degree in 1983, was twice honored as Knight of the Year by the Mid-Atlantic District and was Lithuanian of the Year in Schuylkill County.

As a member of the Friends of Siluva Lithuanian Choir since 1988, Anna sings at the monthly Lithuanian Mass at Our Lady of Siluva Church. She has been an active member of St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair all of her life. As a child she acted in Lithuanian plays and sang in the Junior Choir.

The St. Casimir Rosary Confraternity has benefitted from her leadership ability. She has held an office 38 of the 40 years of its existence, serving as president 5 times. Currently, she serves on the Parish Finance Committee, is a lector and choir member. A past president of the Lithuanian Women's Club of Schuylkill County, Anna has been active in this group since 1953.

Retired as a Caseworker at the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, she now devotes three hours daily to a local nursing home where her ability to speak her native tongue endears her to the elderly Lithuanian residents.

Anna's enthusiasm in promoting Lithuanian culture and her continuous leadership and commitment to Lithuanian causes makes her an excellent candidate for Honorary Membership.

Let's talk Lithuanian²⁶— Kalbėkime lietuviškai!

Dalia Bulvičiūtė-Bulvičius
LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE COORDINATOR

SAUSIO 13-OJI – LAISVĖS GYNĖJŲ DIENA

Ne gėlės raudonai pražydo

*Ne vilkas gūdžią nakti staugė,
Ne žirgas žvengė ant kalvos, —
Tąnakt sirenos visos kaukė
Ir šaukė ginti Lietuvos.*

*Ne vėtra audroje ten gaudė,
Ne krupčiojo žaibais naktis, —
Tai žmogų jie tenai sušaudė,
Kad žodį LAISVĖ tarė jis.*

*Tik vieną žodį LIETUVA
Jis priešui mirdamas kartojo,
Tik vieną žodį: bus laisva
Tėvynė Lietuva!*

*Ne gėlės raudonai pražydo
Tą naktį sausio vidury.
Tai nečiulbėjo, nepragydo
Virš bokšto pilkas vyturys.*

*Tai traiškė pikto priešo gaujos
Vikšrais lietuvių krūtines,
Tai dėmės mūsų brolių kraujo,
O ne raudonos gėlės, ne.*

*Tik vieną žodį LIETUVA
Jie priešui mirdami kartojo.
Tik vieną žodį: bus laisva
Tėvynė Lietuva!*

Antanas Paulavičius

*Sakau, kokie mes stiprūs, mano
ranka tavo rankoje, o tavo ranka — jo
rankoje. Šitoje visą lietuvą ap-
kabinusioje rankų grandinėje amžinai
jausime ir jų žuvusiųjų rankas, jie
stovės kartu su mumis, kaip tą sausio
13-osios naktį, prieš tankus ir au-
tomatus, prieš tamsą ir smurtą, prieš
bėgėdišką melą ir šmeižtą.*

Justinas Marcinkevičius



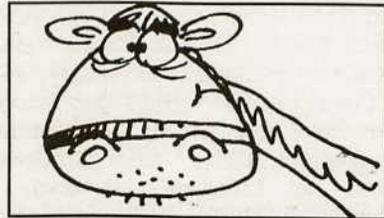
Close Relatives

Šeimyninio barnio įkarštyje žmona šaukia vyrui:
— Jau geriau aš būčiau ištekėjusi už paties velnio!
— Tai neįmanoma, — ramiai atsako vyras, — santuoka
tarp artimų giminių draudžiama.

Faithful Friends

Vyras dvi paras negrįžo namo. susijaudinusi žmona
pasiuntė telegramas 5 jo geriausiems draugams, klaus-
dama, ar nėra pas juos jos vyro. Netrukus gavo penkis
atsakymus:

— Nesirūpink, jis pas mane.



The world's horse popula-
tion is estimated to be 75 mil-
lion.

Annual Membership Drive January 1 to June 30, 1994

Our annual membership drive is now in progress and will encompass the period from January 1 to June 30, 1994.

If all your members pay their dues **NOW** this will help your council receive an award. A membership drive is conducted for the purpose of increasing our numbers, not to replace those members lost because of non-payment of dues. Once all your members pay their dues, you can concentrate on soliciting **New Members**.

Awards will be given this year to those councils who have recruited the most new members in the following categories:

Council Awards

- Councils with less than 50 members
- Councils with 51 to 100 members
- Councils with 101 to 200 members
- Councils with 201 to 300 members
- Councils with over 300 members

Individual Awards

- Councils with less than 50 members
- Councils with 51 to 100 members
- Councils with 101 to 200 members
- Councils with 201 to 300 members
- Councils with over 300 members

All awards are based on net gains in council memberships. Please understand that you may have signed up many new members, but if your council drops members because of non-payment of dues your council will not gain anything. The gains will be based on the total membership of each council supplied by the National Financial Secretary based on her records as of June 30, 1994.

Former members who have married or have dropped out for a few years may be ready to join. Don't overlook these potential members. We also should encourage our children and grandchildren to keep their Lithuanian heritage and traditions alive, by joining our Lithuanian organization - The Knights of Lithuania. We need to encourage the younger generation - They are our future. Increasing membership should be every council's priority. Good Luck!

Vytiskai,

Ann Y. Cheplick

Second Vice President, Supreme Council

Planning for the 1995 National Convention

How would your council like to gain fame and fortune ?

It is possible to do so by hosting the 1995 Knights of Lithuania National Convention.

Do you think that your city and council have something to offer for all K of L members ? Perhaps you were unsatisfied with certain aspects of previous national conventions ?

Here is your chance to do it better. The Supreme Council Trustees would like to hear from you. If you have a definite interest or if you need additional information, please call me at 412-881-1716 before July 31, 1994 and make your intentions known. We would like all potential bidders to make a presentation during the 1994 National Convention in Chicago this August.

Vytiskai,

John P. Baltrus,

Supreme Council Trustee

VYTIS Mailing

As many of you are aware, the US Postal Service has been experiencing some difficulty with service in the Chicago, IL area. This is from where VYTIS is mailed. We ask your continued patience as we continue to work with the Postal Service to correct any problems you have with receiving your VYTIS on time.

Youth Congress Project Update

We are still planning on sending a young member of our organization to the World Lithuanian Youth Congress this summer in Lithuania. If you would like to aid us in this project we would welcome your assistance. Please send your donations to:

Knights Of Lithuania
Youth Congress Project
3420 South Lituania Avenue
Chicago, IL 60608

Thanks for your support.

Robert A. Martin, Jr.

3rd Vice President, Supreme Council

Council 3 Philadelphia, PA

Council members gathered at St. George's for the first meeting of 1994. All agreed that we had finished the old year in fine fashion with a wonderful Christmas Party and the 9th annual Kucios held for about 150 people at St. George's Hall. Our council was happy to have a guest speaker, Jurate Stirbys, tell us about her experiences and the living conditions in Lithuania during her 11 month stay while working with APPLE. After her talk, Jurate answered questions and chatted with members. We really enjoyed having her with us.

Our lovely Financial Secretary, Alice Bacon, is busy this time of year collecting dues.

If you have not responded to her notices yet, now is the time to be paying your membership dues. Nellie Pandza, our very caring council sunshine lady does an excellent job remembering the happy and sad occasions in our lives with the appropriate cards and Mass remembrances. She also checks with members who have not been present for awhile. At this meeting she mentioned the following people, and we send our special hello and we miss you to Sally Andrews, Catherine Briscoe, Donna Sulmar, and Joe and Ann Marro.

Philadelphia has been experiencing the coldest, iciest and snowiest winter in many years. The weather caused a one week delay for St. George's Pre-Lenten Banquet, and the Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration was moved from February 13 to March. Our annual St. Casimir's Day Celebration was on March 6 with Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Casimir's Church. A Brunch followed and degrees were awarded by the Council Ritual Committee.

The members of our Council were saddened by the death of our faithful member, Edmund Binkis. He will be remembered for his gentle manner, his love of Lithuania, being the council correspondent to the Lithuanian newspapers and for many years has taught the Lithuanian classes before meetings. Our sympathy is extended to his wife and family. Also we extend our condolences to Alberta Weigand on the death of her father, Albert Bekeris.

**Council 10 Athol - Gardner, MA**

Tina Andraliunas Shatos reached her 90 birthday on January 14. When C-10 was organized in May of 1914, Tina was 10 years of age. She was admitted as a member but did not have to pay dues until the age of 16. Tina has been an uninterrupted member of C-10 for 80 years. She has to be one of the longest members in terms of years in the K of L organization. Congratulations, Tina!

Also, congratulations are in order to our Council's Financial Secretary, Howie Beaudette who has already collected 100% of our Council dues for 1994. Thanks, Howie.

Anne Zilinski underwent a triple by-pass recently and is doing well. Walter Mikas was laid up with leg injuries following a car accident. James Eacmen and Marge Senk were also hospitalized. We all wish them a quick recovery.

Sophie Fiorenino's brother's home was badly damaged in the Los Angeles earthquake. Blanche Genaitis spent time in the State of Washington and Florida. Joanna Chastney spent 6 weeks visiting with her brothers.

Condolences are extended to Roberta Landry on the recent death of her father, Mr. Muzzy. Bobbie lost both parents in four months. The K of L offered Masses for the repose of their souls.

Due to the unavailability of a cultural program C-10 did not sponsor a Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration this year, the first time in 23 years. Council members attended Worcester, MA and Nashua, NH commemorations.

Vincukas



Council 10 Members enjoying each others' company at their annual KUCIOS.

Council 26 Worcester, MA

Lithuanian Independence Day was celebrated with a Mass at Our Lady of Vilnius Church in Worcester. Bishop George Rueger, adorned in his juosta, spoke on the family. A reception followed the service in the church hall. Later in the afternoon, a program commemorated Lithuania's history with many members of the Lithuanian Community in attendance at Maironis Park. The main speaker was the Lithuanian Consul General of New York, Mr. Kucinskas.

Our expression of sorrow is extended to Dorothy Virbasius on the death of her brother, Donald Zalauskas; Helen Banis on the death of her brother, Peter Daniels; and Virginia Ivaska on the death of her sister, Mildred Houston.

Welcome to Fr. Anthony Nockunas, the new assistant pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Worcester, MA. A Sacred Concert was held at St. Casimir's Church on April 17th as one of the many programs for the Centennial Celebration of St. Casimir's Parish.

Jennie and Paul Puris' daughter, Karen, was married on April 23rd to Charles Shearns.

Kazys and Teresa Adomavicius enjoyed three weeks in Aruba. Rita Margosian's son,

Lt. Col. Michael Karpecus (former Junior K of L'er) retired from the Air Force and is now teaching learning disabled children in Falls Church, VA. Dwight and Virginia Cummings have an 8th grandchild, Michael Dwight Kelley. Also they have a second great grand child, Sean Cummings. Chuck Serafinas retired from Raytheon. Congratulations to you all.

Barbara Pantos





*Council 29 Communion Breakfast: l to r
Harold Kaminskas, Msgr. Pocas, HM Kazys
Sipaila and Vytis Editor Eduardas Meilus, Jr.*

Council 29 Newark, NJ

The mean inclement weather of January and February forced our council to cancel all the events that were planned for those two months. This is " what should have been, but wasn't ":

January 9, 1994 - Monthly meeting and Holiday Party - cancelled

February 6, 1994 - Monthly meeting - cancelled

February 13, 1994 - Pre-Lenten Pancake Dance - cancelled

February 20, 1994 - Lithuanian Independence Day - cancelled.

I'm happy to report, though, that the first event planned for the month of March was not cancelled. On March 6 we held our annual Communion Breakfast. The day started with a Mass held at Holy Trinity Church and followed by a delicious dinner in our parish hall. We were very fortunate to have Vytis Editor, Eduardas Meilus, Jr. as our guest speaker. We owe him many thanks. He not only entertained us with a very interesting talk on the life of St. Casimir (in English and Lithuanian) but also joined our choir in song at Mass. Eduardas' voice was outstanding and the parishioners

complimented him on his singing. He knew all the songs and joined right in. *Aciu, Aciu labai.* We enjoyed having you.

We also had four doctors from Lithuania as our guests. They are here in America on a special program being offered by the Deborah Heart Center in New Jersey. They spent several months observing the latest techniques and equipment being used in America. They seemed very much at home and seemed to enjoy themselves. We wish them good luck.

On March 13, Kazys Sipaila, Harold Kaminskas, Rita Sussko, Helen Radicsh and Marie Guoba attended the District meeting hosted by Council 136, Hudson-Mohawk, NY. It was a long four hour trip, but the group said that they enjoyed every bit of it. The Hudson-Mohawk members were very hospitable, the meeting - well organized, the food was good and it was a day well spent.

On a sad note: George Tatoris entered into Eternal Rest on January 23, 1994. We will miss George and all pray that he rest in peace.

Until the next time,

Eva Coll



*At the C-29 Communion Breakfast :
center - Loretta Stukas, flanked by
Doctors from Lithuania. At left -
Eduardas Meilus, Jr. at right -
HM Kazys Sipaila*

Council 36 Chicago, IL

It has been an extremely busy time for our Council. Election of officers was held in October. The newly elected officers are:

Evelyn Ozelis - President
 Ray Wertelka - 1st Vice President
 Victor Utara - 2nd Vice President
 Sabina Henson - 3rd Vice President
 Frances Urnazus - Recording Secretary
 Lillian Micka - Corresponding Secretary
 Val Vilunas - Financial Secretary
 Mary Kincius - Treasurer
 Vytautas Dijokas, Steve Rudokas, Frank Grigalunas and Frank Zailskas - Sgts.-at-Arms
 Irene Norushis, Vince Samaska, Anthony Stakenas - Trustees
 Scottie Lukas - Ritual Committee Chair
 Dave Gaidas - Program Committee Chair
 Evelyn Ozelis - Lith. Affairs Committee Chair
 Vince Samaska - Lith. Culture Committee Chair
 Al Zukas - Publicity Committee Chair
 Johanna Johnston - Social Committee Chair
 Ray Wertelka - Wake Committee Chair
 Val Vilunas and Irene Norushis - Cheer up Committee Chairs
 and most important of all our Spiritual Moderator Rev. Fabijonas Kireilis.

We were hosts for the District Memorial Mass on November 7, 1993, and due to the graciousness of our pastor, Rev. Puchenski, we once again were allowed a second collection at all Masses for AID TO LITHUANIA. As a result we were able to send Bob Boris \$830. Previously, at the convention we presented him with \$350 which was from a fund raiser in June. Approximately \$1,100.00 for one year!!!

Our next project was our 5th Annual Candlelight Dinner on Saturday, December 4, 1993. It was a tremendous success. We had good friends, good food, and good music! Our grand raffle was for our church since it has a huge repair job on \$350,000 to fix the roof. The raffle allowed us to donate \$1,000. In addition, the first prize winner of \$250 donated his winnings to this fund also. This is our Home Base and the K of L is highly recognized by the entire parish community!!!

We kept the traditional Kucious at our December 20, 1993 meeting. Father Kireilis blessed the Holy Wafers and all of us as well.

The attendance was great. Our own Faustas Strolia accompanied us with his accordion and guided us, as we sang traditional Lithuanian and American carols. Everyone seemed to have a delightful time and did not want to leave early! Many good wishes were exchanged and hugs and Ilgiausiu Metu!!!

The January meeting night and guest speaker was cancelled...It was cold, cold, cold....

The 34th Annual Memories Banquet was held February 6, 1994. MAMD high point of the year was a huge success. Our parish was honored, and there were approximately 470 guests. Council members were well represented at this affair and four of our own were on the committee: Evelyn Ozelis- Chairperson ; Gerry Mack - Seating arrangements; Mary Kincius and Johanna Johnston seating hostesses.

Once again, our council was involved in the Parish Mardi Gras on Saturday and Sunday, February 12 and 13. Our booth was manned by Gerry Mack, Lucille Kilkus, Mary Kincius, Johanna Johnston, Scottie and Al Zukas, Victor Utara, Irene Norushis, Vince Samaska, Frank Zailskas, and Evelyn Ozelis. C-112 and C-24 members came thru to enjoy themselves. The theme this year was Roaring Twenties...and we sure had a couple of good looking flappers operating this booth. Broadway here we come!!!

A Lithuanian Independence Commemoration was sponsored by ALTAS at Maria High School on February 13. Mary Kincius sang both national anthems, and Evelyn Ozelis was responsible for greeting all dignitaries.

Dr. Leonard Simutis C-112 and Evelyn Ozelis C-36 represented the K of L at the reception commemorating the 76th Anniversary of Lithuanian Independence held at the Consulate General of the Republic of Lithuania in Chicago. Under the leadership of Sabina Henson, the 3rd Vice President, our Juniors participated at Bendruomene's Lithuanian Independence Mass at Immaculate Conception Church.

We welcomed new members to our general meeting on February 21, 1994. They

are: Lucy and Casimir Zurlis, Brone Rusteikiene, Albinas Zaliauskas. Rev. Fabijonas Kireilis administered the oath to these members. Our guest speaker, Judge Loretta Douglas (Nee Derencius), was very informative to the audience regarding the judicial system as a judge has to work with it in criminal court. It was the wishes of the membership to continue our support of the K of L's various projects and also to work to adopt a foster child in Lithuania for \$150 per child, per year. It was a very amicable evening and members lingered on for a longer period of time, than usual.

On March 6, 1994, a St. Casimir Mass for our Council was held at Immaculate Conception Parish at 10:00 a.m. in Lithuanian. Also, a district meeting and traditional Mass was held at 8:30 a.m. The host was C-16. Many attended the District Mass while others chose the later Mass.

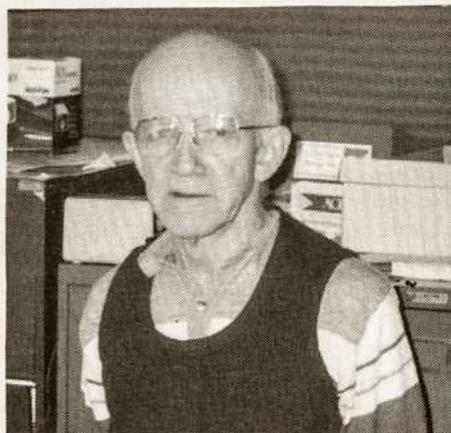
Iki Kita Syki!!
Untala

Welcome New Members

Joseph Daniel - Council 29
Alice Grady - Council 50
Albert Gutauskas - Council 50
Rita Gutauskas - Council 50
Nicholas Mazza - Council 29
Janis Mazza - Council 29
Elinore Reid - Council 102
Richard Silaika - Council 136
Regina Yetkowski - Council 74

A VYTIS Salute to..... Rev. Peter Cibulskis, MIC

by Glenn Perutis, Public Relations Chair



A gentle man has left DRAUGAS and the VYTIS. Rev. Peter Andrew Cibulskis, MIC has been transferred from his position at the DRAUGAS Printing Press to his new assignment as Associate Pastor of St. Peter's Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin. This gentleman has been handling the technical ends of the VYTIS since 1989 as part of his responsibilities at DRAUGAS.

Rev. Cibulskis attended Our Lady of Vilnius Elementary School and Harrison High School. After completing high school he served for 32 months during WW II in the US Army Air Force ground service corps. He then entered the Marian Hills Seminary in Clarendon Hills, IL. After his ordination in St. Raymond Church in Joliet, IL by Bishop McNamara, Rev. Cibulskis worked with young seminarians at Marian Hills Seminary as House Superior. He was also procurator of Marian Hills Seminary and Marianapolis in Thompson, CT. Rev. Peter is a long standing member of Knights of Lithuania Council 24. He is currently C-24's spiritual advisor. He has also attended several National Conventions. His new assignment is his first real pastoral position as a member of the Marian Fathers.

Rev. Peter approaches this job as he does every other job, with quiet dedication, professional preparation and prayerful belief in the Lord. The Supreme Council bids a fond adieu to Rev. Cibulskis and wishes him well in his new assignment. We salute you. We thank you for your splendid attitude and cooperation in working with the VYTIS staff and we pray that God will bless you and keep you all the days of your life.

Council 50 New Haven, CT

After a snowy start to 1994, members were finally able to plan and participate in council activities. With the help of St. Lawrence school in West Haven, CT we were able to send nine boxes of books to the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid for its Catholic School project.

St. Casimir's Day Dinner took place in the church hall, where good food and good company were in abundance. Our travel chair, Irene Meizies, has been busy planning for trips during the year.

Sunshine Committee Chair, Eleanor Gutaszkas, has been in contact with ailing members including: Al Maculaitis, Charles Zaremski, Stanley Morcus, Sophie Radziunas, Pat Tamulis, David Peterson and Ella Medley. We pray for their good health and for that of all our members.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of deceased member Ann Gaysunas.

Congratulations to Frances and John Prishwalko on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Audrey Toole

Council 72 Binghamton, NY

Many of our members participated in Saint Joseph's Mardi Gras covered dish supper at Saint Joseph's Parish Cultural Center. Our members, Delores and Henry Wasileski, Carla Wilson and Milane Marchuska all worked hard to make this a very successful event.

Since we began our humanitarian AID TO LITHUANIA drive, our Council has shipped twenty 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. Many thank you letters were received from the Sisters, translated by John Mankus and shared with our members. Father John Mikalajunas also shared these letters with Saint Joseph's Church parishioners, who contributed generously to this drive. Our plans are to continue this campaign through 1994. Special thanks go to Richard Hogan of Appalachian NY, who made and donated five hundred rosaries to this drive. I also want to acknowledge significant

additional monetary contributions, to help with these shipments by Betty Stevens, Art Stankevitz, Joana Mankus and Bonnie and Jeffery Edson.

Irene and Casey Grikenis and Carol and Harold McMurray are spending the cold winter in sunny Florida. Bob and Mary Ann Skiba are on a well earned cross-country vacation with their new RV.

The Lithuanian Independence Day celebration held February 16 was a very successful event. Binghamton Mayor Richard Bucci, Father Mikalajunas and Council President, John Mankus, spoke at the City Hall celebration. Barbara Miller Carla Wilson and Delores Wasileski wore traditional Lithuanian costumes. After the brief speeches, the Lithuanian flag was raised over Binghamton, and Carla Wilson led us in the singing of the Lithuanian National Anthem. Thirty of our members and friends participated in the celebration. John Mankus was interviewed by local TV stations on present and past conditions in Lithuania.

Plans are being finalized for our Council to participate in the Two Rivers Ethnic Festival at the Binghamton Veterans War Memorial Arena to be held in May.

John R. Mankus



Council 74 New Officers being sworn in by Msgr. Peter Madus.

Council 74 Scranton, PA

We had a very good attendance at the 15th Annual Ethnic Rosary hosted by the Diocesan Ethnic Group at St. Peter's Cathedral. Nellie Bayoras Romanas led the rosary. Rev. Gregory Finn OSJ, who is the Vice Rector and Vocational Director at St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary, was principal homilist and celebrant.

Our members who attended were: Ann Patelunas, Rose Starches, Peg and Edward Romanauskas, Martha Brack, Della Zvirblis, John Ramoska, Marie and Dick Laske and our newest member, Regina Witkowski.

Nellie Bayoras did a great job at the flag raising at Luzerne. She must have invited every politician in Pennsylvania, she even got a proclamation from Governor Casey. Our initial flag raising day was canceled because of the snow, but we had it the following Saturday. Msgr. Peter Madus blessed the flag, Mayor James Connors gave us a greeting and welcomed everyone. Dr. Richard Fitzsimmons, whose mother is Lithuanian, spoke about Lithuania. He was in Lithuania during the summer along with Regina Petrauskas, to teach the youth of Lithuania about the library. George Sadauskas, Lithuanian Catholic Alliance, and Nellie Bayoras Romanas also spoke. John Ramoska and Richard Laske were Chairpersons. Edward and Peg Romanauskas

and Marie Laske served refreshments

Our council also served clam chowder to all who attended the Lenten Service Friday. The proceeds went to the "Rice Bowl" for the Poor.

Marie Laske

Council 100 Amsterdam, NY

The 76th Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence (February 16) was commemorated on Saturday, February 19, with a Mass at 4:30 p.m. Flag bearers, Vincent Rossi and Gerard Drenzek, led the entrance procession followed by C-100 Knights of Lithuania President, Irene Tice, the K of L Juniors, and the celebrant of the Mass, Rev. Joseph Grabys. The readings were by Polly Ziausys and Assemblyman Paul Tonko. The hymns were sung by St. Casimir's Church choir with John Nye at the organ.

A dinner and program followed in Father Baltch Social Center. Vincent Rossi was Master of Ceremonies. The Welcoming Address was done by President Irene Tice. Assemblyman Paul Tonko spoke prior to the dinner. He stated that his resolution on Lithuania's independence had to be delayed due to the death of Assembly Speaker, Saul Weprin. It will be presented at a later date.



*Members of C-74 Scranton at McDade Park making pancakes
l to r : Ed and Peg Romanauskas, Richard Laske, John Ramoska,
Jean Kavelines.*

Vice President, Gene Gobis, read the resolutions of Mayor Mario Villa and Governor Mario Cuomo proclaiming February 16 as Lithuanian Day in the City of Amsterdam and the State of New York. She also commended Editor Tony Benjamin on his February 16 editorial and also radio station WCSS for the many announcements of the event.

Principal speaker was Mid Atlantic District Secretary, Mirga Bablin. She and her husband, Edward, recently visited Lithuania. Her husband's relatives met them at the airport, had them as their guests and chauffeured them about, visiting the Hill of Crosses, Palanga which is a resort on the Baltic Sea, Vilnius and its many churches plus other spots of interest. Mirga Bablin's main desire was to locate her mother's relatives. Through the help of a parish priest, she finally found a relative. Her mother's maiden name was Matulaitis. Archbishop George Matulaitis, recently proclaimed Blessed by Pope John Paul II, was her mother's second cousin. They also spent a few days in Poland and Italy. While in Italy, they visited the Lithuanian Pontifical Catholic College located just outside of Rome. Her desire is to return to Lithuania once again for a longer visit.

The entertainment was performed by the Junior Knights of Lithuania. They danced a number of Lithuanian folk dances which they learned while attending summer camp Neringa in Vermont. Mrs. Regina Kot led the group in a sing-a-long of Lithuanian folk songs. Rev. Joseph Grabys gave the benediction. The event was chaired by Polly Ziausys. Sophie Olbie was in charge of reservations. Regina Kot prepared the program booklets. Other committee members were William Burimaukas, William Jasewicz, Walter Sargalis, Edward Bablin, Edward Ziausys, Gerard Drenzek, Irene Tice, Christine Tambasco, Beatrice Jasewicz and Gene Gobis.

A Communion *en corpore* and luncheon was held at Valentino's restaurant on March 6. In the absence of President Irene Tice, who is vacationing in Florida, Vice President Gene Gobis welcomed the attendees. She recognized the Mid-Atlantic officers who were in attendance: District President, Bernice Aviza; Vice President of the Juniors, Christine Tambasco; and Secretary Mirga Bablin.

Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Joseph Grabys, gave the invocation. A very interesting account on the life of St. Casimir, the Patron Saint of the



Council 72, February 16, Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration at City Hall Binghamton, NY. From l to r : Barbara Miller, Delores Wasileski, Carla Wilson, John R. Mankus, and Rev. John Mikalajunas.

organization, was given by junior member Nicholas Tambasco and his mother, Christine Tambasco.

Degrees were presented by Ritual Chairperson, Mrs. Betty Kuzmich, and Rev. Joseph Grabys. Installed to the first degree were Juniors: Daryl Jasewicz and Nicholas Tambasco; Second Degree Juniors: Jessica and Rebecca Jasewicz.

Gene Gobis thanked the chairperson, Sophie Olbie, and her assistants, Judy Kastraveckas and Helen Wojcik, for a well-planned affair.

On November 23, 1993, we lost our 4th degree member and former Ritual Chairperson, Mary Stanionis. Mary was taken ill a few years ago and was at the Mount Loretto Nursing Home at the same time of her passing. Mary had an exceptional sense of humor, and we will miss her presence at our meetings and functions. We extend our deepest sympathies to her sister, Betty Kuzmich, and her two brothers, Ben and Joe, and their families.

Smile & Sparkle

Council 110 Maspeth, NY

Winter brought us lots of snow and isolation this year as some of us built muscles shoveling. Our Council honored the traditional Lithuanian Independence Day with a special Mass on February 20, celebrated by Msg. Bulovas and Father Raila. Special ceremonies remembering the independence declared by Lithuania on February 16, 1918, included a recital conducted by Asta Barkauskas and members of the choir. Asta delighted the audience as she played the kankles and sang Lithuanian folk songs with her husband, Virginijus. A buffet lunch and music by Joe Thomas concluded the happy celebration.

In the other news, our Council has donated \$500 to support 16 young men from Lithuania studying at the Franciscan Monastery; and \$100 each to the St. Casimir's Guild and K of L Scholarship Committee. Members Ann Morrissey and Ed Sirgedes packed and shipped three more cartons of goods to the Lithuanian orphans.

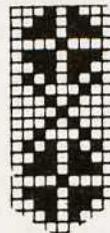
An application for the third degree was made for Mary Stelmokas, and a fourth degree application was submitted for Helen Yukaitis.

Lithuanians in the news - Carolyn Kiel, granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Ward, was

named high school scholar of the month of Pleasantville, NY. Ms. Kiel maintains a 97.5 average and hopes to attend Harvard.

Maryte Abbott

with special thanks to Bruno Rutkunas



Council 112 Chicago, IL

As I write this article, we have just been through the worst two weeks of snow and ice of the entire winter, but by the time you read this, we will be well into Spring and the flurry of new activities that it brings. Thanks to all of you for making it through the icy weather and huge snow drifts to come to our meetings and various activities.

The Memoires of Lithuania banquet was a great success this year with the Grand Ballroom of the Martinique filled to capacity. Honored this year were our two Lithuanian parishes: Immaculate Conception and Nativity B.V.M., Many of C-112 members helped with the necessary details which made this an enjoyable evening for everyone. This was also the debut of a new singing duo, Al Brazis and his lovely daughter, Beverly. For her first time in the spotlight, Beverly came through like a real trooper. May she have more opportunities to entertain us.

January's meeting had to be cancelled because of the 20 below temperatures and so, as a result, our guest speaker, Birute Zalatorius spoke to us in February on the topic of travel in Lithuania. Those of us who have not had the opportunity to travel in our native country, always find this an interesting topic. We appreciate her spending the time with us.

New members have been added to our roster! Welcome to Anthony and Aldona Guest, Gerald Ramanousky, Dalia Matutaitiene., Paula Musilek, Alice Panresis, Paul Wasinor, Joseph Shagg, Vidas Noreika, and Vitas Daulys. We hope you can all come down to the meetings and join us for our many social activities.

Gerrie



*C-147 Second Degree Recipients: 1 to r:
Aldona Kirstuk, Brone Urbonas
Petre Kasperaviciute, Ona Semoleviciene*

*Veronika Pleskus, Valerija Lescinskas.
Absent when photo was taken:
Irena Diktantas and Aleksas Urbonas.*

Council 147 St. Petersburg, FL

At the February meeting, Father Jonas Gasiunas, our Spiritual Advisor, swore in Father Steponas A. Ropolas OFM, as a new member of our Council.

Dr. Aldona Valis, our Ritual Chairperson, prepared the following candidates for Second Degrees. (Father Gasiunas conducted the ceremonies.) The candidates were: Irene Diktantas, Petre Kasperaviciute, Aldona Kirstuk, Valerija Lescinskas, Veronika Pleskus, Ona Semoleviciene, Brone Urbonas, Aleksas Urbonas.

World Marriage Day was celebrated at St. Jude's Cathedral on February 20. Frank and Bertha Stann celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a full Cathedral of other celebrants up to 71 years. There was no room for guests in the Cathedral only celebrants.

Independence Day Commemorations were held on February 16th at the Lithuanian Club and on February 20th at Holy Name Church. Antanas Grabauskas, Ona Semoleviciene and Valerija Lescinskas represented our Council 147.

Jonas Valauskas has been ill and is now in a Nursing Home. Viktorija Kleiviene is recuperating from surgery.

Dolores Jonaitis

Council 152 Eastern Long Island, NY

On Sunday, March 13th, Council members celebrated the palce held by St. Casimir in the history and culture of Lithuania by paying him special honor at our annual Mass and Communion Luncheon held at the Church of Our Lady of Ostrabrama, in Cutchogue, NY. The noonday Mass was celebrated by our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. William Scroll, who also utilized the occasion to admit new council members and to swear in our slate of officers for 1994:

Muriel Lekstutis - president
Delbert Vance - vice president
Charlene Abrahamsen - secretary
Mary Zipkas - financial secretary
Tom Tarmey - treasurer
Evelyn Niksa and Peter Petrowski - Sgt-at-Arms
Mass was followed by luncheon at the Southold Town Recreation Center, in nearby Peconic.

Our council is saddened by the recent deaths of two of our Knights - Marianna Bealis, on February 14th and Joseph Gradowski, on March 18th. May God be merciful to both their souls.

Readers are respectfully asked to include mention in their prayers of our ailing Knights: Loretta Rhinow, William Newalis and John Kuchinskas.

Thomas Tarmey



*C-152 Officers for 1994: 1 to r
Tom Tarmey, Mary Zipkas,
Del Vance, Muriel Lekstutis,
Charlene Abrahamsen,
Evelyn Niksa, Peter Petroski.*

Council 154 Spring Hill, FL

Our newly installed President, Joseph Kuchinskas, struck the gavel to call our meeting to order with such enthusiasm, we all realized that this is the beginning of a stellar year for our Council. Support for our officers was demonstrated by the fact that we had nearly 100% attendance at this meeting which was held at the Forum Restaurant in Holiday, Florida.

Annette Gnezevich, as ritual chairperson, is tabulating the necessary points for conferring degrees on deserving members - Bridget Walluk, our Lithuanian Affairs Committee Head, passed along materials she received from Central Council for discussion.

Perhaps, the highlight of the meeting was the suggestion that for our next meeting we try to bring a potential member to view our organization and how it functions.

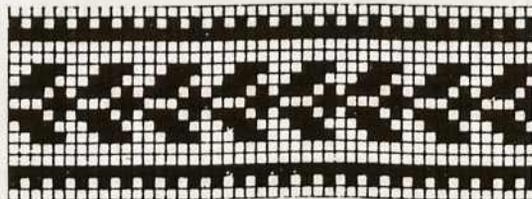
Annette and Bill Gnezevich entertained us with cocktails at the K of C Hall in Holiday to celebrate the birth of their first great-grandchild, a boy - Edward Louis Bruculerri of Houston, Texas.

George Mayer, our Past President, is leaving for a trip to Lithuania. He is accompanying his son, Randolph, an attorney, who is pursuing business arrangements for his firm.

We continue to pray for those people in Lithuania who are continuing to struggle under the new government. Stories of deprivations of food, oil and other essentials inspire us to help in any way that we are able in order to ease their pain.

Life is fragile, handle with prayer!

S. G. Petraitis



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

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THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SUPREME COUNCIL
INVITES YOU TO
VISIT LITHUANIA
SPEND 13 DAYS IN LITHUANIA AND EXPERIENCE THE
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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