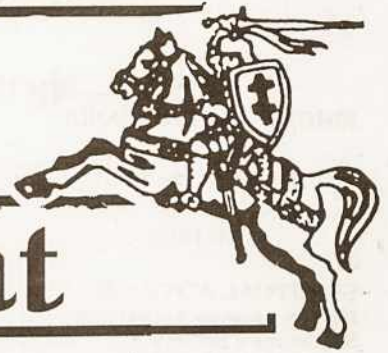

VYTIS



The Knight

Convention Issue 1994 - Volume 80 Number 8



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VYTIS

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All correspondence should reach the editor by the **TENTH of the Month, prior to next cover date.** (e.g. December 10 for the February 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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VYTIS... On this issue... Convention Issue 1994
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA... Volume 80 No. 8



The Knights of Lithuania 81st National Convention from the delegates perspective

a compilation

The 81st National Convention of our organization has taken its rightful place in history. It was neither controversial nor dull. It was rather, a true barometer of the concerns of our organization - our continued work for God and Country - the land of our ancestors, Lithuania. This was evidenced by the emphasis on how we can continue to assist Lithuania in terms of its economic and spiritual rebirth. This was evidenced by the session roundtables, guest speakers, and the reports presented.

This article serves to chronicle the events of the 4 days in Chicago that have set the course for another year of action by us all. Contributors to this compilation include: HM Frances Petkus, Dorothy Banos, Evelyn Ozelis, Bernice Aviza, and John Baltrus, while HM Loretta Stukas compiled and set the greetings and Vince Boris compiled and set the resolutions that were accepted at the convention. Our thanks to all.

OPENING MASS

Holy Name Cathedral was the scene for the opening Mass. The Principal Concelebrant was His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin. Co-Concelebrants were Rev. Richard M. Dodaro, Spiritual Advisor of Convention Host Council 16, Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, Supreme Council National Spiritual Advisor who was also the homilist, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, Spiritual Advisor of the Mid-America District, Rev. Anthony Puchinsky, Rev. Anthony Markus, Spiritual Advisor to K of L Juniors and Rev. John Kuzinskis, Pastor of Nativity of the BVM Parish in Chicago, IL.

Rev. Dr. Anderlonis in his most eloquent homily cited the works of two



recently deceased K of L Honorary Members the Hon. Stasys Lozoraitis and HM Dr. Jokubas (Jack) Stukas. He said that these men personified the motto of our organization making every act in their lives one for the betterment of Lithuania. In particular he cited Dr. Jack Stukas' credo, in Lithuanian, which proved to be a moving tribute to the work of our beloved deceased member.

The Knights of Lithuania Choir under the capable direction of muz. Faustas Strolia provided the music and lead the congregational singing for the Mass. Organist was Ms. Sheila McAndrews.



The Offertory Gifts were presented by HM Frances Petkus, Supreme Council President, Mary Beth Slakis, Host Council President (C-16 Chicago) , Petras Austrevicius, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to Finland (who participated in the Mass with his family) and Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United States.

After Communion, Cardinal Bernardin addressed the congregation of about 100. He reminisced about his recent visit to Lithuania. He spoke of how Lithuania's Hill of Crosses left a lasting impression on him of the faith of the Lithuanian people that never wavered that never was extinguished even during five decades of Soviet domination. Spiritual rebirth is in evidence, he said, and you Knights must accept the challenge to act in the land of your ancestor's best interests.

After a moving ceremony at the Cathedral all delegates returned to the convention headquarters hotel - The Marriot - for the first plenary session.



FIRST PLENARY SESSION

With the presentation of the colors, the Supreme Council Officers and National Committee Chairpersons marched into the convention hall which was decorated with the tricolors of yellow, green and red. A banner was hung that reminded all the delegates of the 81st National Convention motto: Knights of Lithuania :Our Heritage - Our Strength. National President HM Frances R. Petkus called the convention to order, calling upon the National Spiritual Advisor Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis to deliver the invocation. The opening prayer included a moment of remembrance for the recently deceased honorary members - Dr. Jack Stukas, Juozas B. Laucka and The Hon. Stasys Lozoraitis. The Star Spangled Banner and Lietuvos Himnas were sung by the delegates and guests accompanied on the piano by Leonard Simutis, Jr. at the piano. Roll call of the National Board followed. All were present. Council 16 president, Mary Beth Slakis greeted the assemblage wishing all a productive convention and an enjoyable stay in Chicago. Convention General Chairman Robert A. (Robbie) Martin, Jr. expressed warm greetings and made himself

available if any situations would arise during the convention and would need his help. The delegates then voted to approve the agenda as presented in the convention handouts.

What followed was the election of the Presidium and other functionaries for the convention.

Amber District President Elsie Komisky gave the presentation on behalf of the nominating committee which was made up of all district presidents. The elected Presidium was : Evelyn Ozelis Chairperson, Co-Chairs were John Mickunas and Loretta Stukas. Bernice Aviza and Muriel Lekstutis Zambuto served as Presidium secretaries. Sargeants-at-Arms were Leonard Kapochus representing the Amber District, Glenn Perutis - MAMD, John Sakal - MAD, Mike Shea - MCD and Edward Gurauskas - NED. The Resolutions Committee consisted of Vincent Boris, Chair, Terry Strolia, Rita Pinkus, Frank Petrauskas, and Sr. Helen Ivanauskas. Those elected to the Greetings Committee were: Mary Kincius, Antoinette Sakal, Margaret Dapkus, and Eleanor Vaicaitis. Bertha Stoskus and Nellie B. Romanas were elected to review the minutes of last year's 80th National Convention in Worcester, MA. Peter P. Zansitis was elected Parliamentarian. The mandate committee was chaired by Rita Sussko and included Ann Marie Kassel, Agnes Mickunas, Irene Svekla, Annamari Sluzas Berger and Georgi Macke.

Presidium Chair Evelyn Ozelis read greetings from Bishop Paulius Baltakis, Bishop Sigitas Tamkevicius of Kaunas, Lithuania and Bill Clinton, President of the United States. Many greetings from other Lithuanian organizations were given in person. These included: Sr. Angela Balchunas representing the Sisters of St. Casimir - Chicago, IL; The Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania in Chicago, IL Mr. Vaclovas Kleiza; The Lithuanian Scouts Association represented by fil. Rimas Griskelis and fil Ramune Steponaviciute who also presented a commemorative book; The Lithuanian American Council (ALTAS)



Mrs. Matilda Marcinkus; The World Lithuanian Community (Pasaulio Lietuviu Bendruomene) - Mr. Vacys Garbonkus.

Following the greetings the State of the Organization Report was given by outgoing Supreme Council President Frances R. Petkus. (This report is printed in its entirety and as presented in this issue of VYTIS.) Upon completing the order of business scheduled for the First Plenary session the Mandate Report was given. Adjournment followed the Closing Prayer.



THURSDAY EVENING GET TOGETHER

The Thursday Evening Festivities began with everyone boarding buses for the 45 minute trip to the Polonia Banquet Hall. There, conventiongoers settled in for a delicious meal and some rousing entertainment. Although it seemed that the evening had a bit of a Polish flair to it, our hosts were most accomodating and the decorations of yellow, green and red balloons accompanied by a specially designed balloon with the Knights of Lithuania Vytis at each table, helped kindle our Lithuanian spirit.

While the busses were arriving, everyone was able to socialize for about an hour and enjoy a few drinks. Following the invocation by our Spiritual Advisor Fr. Joseph Anderlonis the culinary feast began. The creamy chicken soup, which was served first, drew many good comments because of some of its unique ingredients. Following salad, the main course consisted of sausage, chicken, roast beef, green beans, and mashed potatoes served family style. Everyone had more than enough to choose from and eat.



The entertainment for the evening was provided by the Midway Musical Aairs. At least that is what they called themselves that evening. The Polish Band, under the direction of Eddie Nowak, has been together for nine months. The band consisted of four concertina, 1 violin and 1 clarinet player along with the drummer. From John Baltrus' conversation with them, this group of "youthful looking" elderly gentlemen seemed to be a loosely organized pick-up band of accomplished musicians. Playing once a week, they enjoy entertaining people at various locations on Chicago's South Side. They all have obviously been on the wedding and banquet circuit in some form for many years, as evidenced by their lively and entertaining music. While we did not hear any of our Joe Thomas favorites or Lithuanian folk songs, everyone was able to do his share of polka dancing and have a really good time.

While some were dancing, others were socializing. The evening provided the opportune time to catch up on what's happening with old friends, make new ones or even to speak informally with Ambassador Eidintas.

The crowd began to thin out a



little early, probably because of the long trips that many delegates had made to get to Chicago. Many had arrived earlier that morning. Still others were preparing for the grueling schedule for the remainder of the convention. No doubt others wanted to head back to the headquarters hotel to continue their own celebrations 'till the wee hours of the morning! In any event, time passed quickly, because everyone was having a good time and soon we realized that it was time to head back. As we travelled by bus to the Marriot, we all noticed that it had turned sharply cooler outside. This was a harbinger of the pleasantly cool and sunny weather we were all to enjoy for the remainder of the Convention.



FRIDAY MORNING MASS

Mass was held in the hotel meeting room at 8:30 AM with many delegates and guests in attendance. The Mass was celebrated for the intention of all Deceased Members of the Knights of Lithuania. Concelebrants were Rev. Joseph Anderlonis, Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus of the Lithuanian College in Rome and Rev. John Savukynas, MIC. The readings for the Mass were read by Rita Zakarka and Phyllis Pelletier both of C-112 Chicago. Glenn Perutis accompanied the assemblage on the piano for congregational singing of hymns. Rev. Anderlonis was the homilist and expanded his theme of service to others which he spoke about at the opening Mass in the Cathedral.



SECOND PLENARY SESSION

After a brief break, the session was called to order and was opened with a prayer given by Rev. Anderlonis.

John P. Baltrus and Peter P. Zansitis presented a detailed Trustees' Report which included a statement of condition, inventory and summary of bids received for the 1995 Convention. After a review of the Minutes of the 1993 Convention a report was presented by Nellie Bayoras-Romanas. The minutes were accepted pending fixing of misspellings the most notable



of which was the word WORCESTER, host city for last year's convention.

HM Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of the Lithuanian College in Rome, thanked fellow Knights for all of their support both moral and financial. He commented that 50 years of oppression did not waiver the faith of the Lithuanian people did not water down their beliefs. Lithuania needs holy men, trained priests to continue forward on the road to spiritual rebirth. The need is critical to support the Lithuanian College which prepares priests for ordination. He also spoke about the current students living in Rome and the Guest House operated in conjunction with the College. They need help in acquiring new books and the buildings are in dire need of repair. Our help is needed. Always remember your College in Rome.

John P. Baltrus then introduced the Main Speaker of the session, Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas, the Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United States. In his most eloquent speech, delivered in English, he touched upon historical events, current issues and problems and future goals. The entire text of Amb. Eidintas' speech is printed

in this issue of VYTIS. A question and answer period followed. All were impressed with the Ambassador's candid and informative answers to questions both formally and informally throughout the Convention.

Greetings were presented and resolutions were discussed and voted upon. The mandate committee reported that 134 delegates and alternates were present of which 127 were eligible voters. The session adjourned with a prayer by Fr. Anderlonis.



THIRD PLENARY SESSION

After a brief break for lunch, the third plenary session was called to order and opened with a prayer by the National Spiritual Advisor.

Edward Barkowski, Supreme Council Treasurer, gave a complete, yet concise Treasurer's Report for the 1993-1994 Term. The report was given unanimous approval by the delegates. Ed also presented the projected 1994-1995 budget for the Supreme Council to use as a guide for the next term's operations.

Vince Boris then introduced the guest speaker for this session of the Convention, Jeff Nelson. He is a leader in the United States Baltic Foundation. Mr. Nelson's talk covered the background of the Baltic States and the history of cooperation between the

Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian people, governments and diaspora. He clearly defined the mission of the United States Baltic Foundation. One goal is to create and coordinate groups or better yet teams of Americans who are able and willing to help the Baltics on their road to recovery and reconstruction. The United States Baltic Foundation has established Municipal Centers at the University of Tartu, University of Latvia and Kaunas Polytechnic Institute and the University of Technology. Student exchanges are in the works. USBF is developing a series of projects to help expunge lingering post-communist corruption in the Baltics. Also, Independent Media Centers are being established to give support to non-government print and electronic media while promoting freedom of speech and press, rights we take for granted here in the United States. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is developing a mutually beneficial arrangement while Trade Missions are being set up.

After a brief question and answer period the session continued with resolutions, greetings and brief announcements. The Nominations Committee headed by Amber District President Alsie Komisky gave its report of those nominated for positions on the Supreme Council.



After the mandate report the session was closed with a prayer. Delegates sped off to supper and to prepare themselves for Cultural Night at the headquarters hotel.



FRIDAY NIGHT - CULTURAL NIGHT

LITHUANIA AND THE CLASSICS : AN EVENING OF MUSIC

To say the least, this was a very exquisite concert, very professional, which was made up of talent and an excellent repertoire. At the outset let us get acquainted with the artists.

Soprano, Praurimė Krasauskas-Ragas was born in Taurage, Lithuania. A longtime resident of Chicago, she started her vocal studies with Alice Stephens. Mrs. Ragas continued her studies at DePaul University School of Music and at the Chicago Conservatory of Music where she earned her degree. The soloist has given concerts throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, Germany and three years ago in Vilnius Lithuania. She has performed leading roles in many Operas and Operettas. Izabelle Motekaitis was her last voice teacher.

Baritone Algerd Brazis, an experienced stage veteran, has participated in numerous concerts and opera presentations both here and abroad. He was soloist at the Metropolitan Opera in New York and gave a recital at world famous Carnegie Hall there. He has performed with the

Chicago Lyric Opera and the Lithuanian Opera Company of Chicago. He has appeared in 24 different Baritone roles in many operatic presentations.

Pianist Manigirdas Motekaitis, a resident of Chicago since 1949, was born in Lithuania. He received his first exposure to music from his mother, Izabele Motekaitis who was the leading soprano soloist with the Kaunas State Opera. Mr. Motekaitis earned his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Piano Performance from DePaul University school of Music. He has given many recitals, has served as an accompanist, in ensemble performances, and as a soloist with many symphony orchestras including the Chicago Philharmonic.



Mr. Motekaitis has performed in Canada, Germany, Belgium and Poland. Currently he is the organist at the Lithuanian Jesuit Chapel, the accompanist for the Lincoln and Lithuanian Opera Companies and he gives private lessons in Chicago area. He has been awarded three medals in Chicagoland Music Festival Competitions.

Violinist, Linda Veleckis, has earned degrees in music from the University of Illinois and Boston University. She has appeared in concerts for Lithuanian communities in Chicago, Los Angeles, Boston and New

York. In the fall of 1991 Linda was soloist with the Lithuanian National Philharmonic in Vilnius. This concert was the first to be performed after US recognition of the Restoration of Lithuanian Independence. The violinist has performed with the Elgin Symphony, Illinois Philharmonic, Northwest Quartet and the Ensemble Lyrique. She is active in the Lithuanian Opera Company of Chicago, where she has played in the orchestra for productions both in Chicago and Vilnius.

Cellist, Susan Stein, has a Bachelor's Degree from the American Conservatory of Music, a Bachelor's of Music Education and a Master of Music Degree from Northwestern University. Currently she is a free lance cellist. She has played with the Illinois Philharmonic, the Chicago Chamber Orchestra and other groups including her own - the Ensemble Lyrique. Susan is also a music teacher in Chicago and at the Highland Park Music Arts School.

Putting these five talents together, you had a classical program Par Excellence.



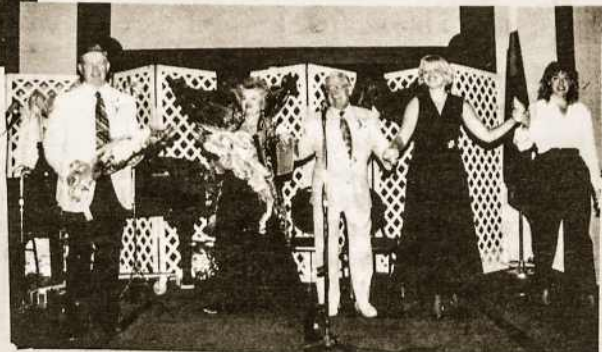
The concert opened with the duet of soprano Praurime Ragas and baritone Algerd Brazis. To the delight of the "packed house" the duet of patriotic Lithuanian Music - especially the longing TEVYNE LIETUVA was impeccable. The effective and interesting presentation of Praurime Ragas, Linda Veleckis and Susan Stein was a delight, a truly classic program especially the rendition of Vai Pute, Pute. As usual, Algerd Brazis entertained us all with "Maxim's Song" from the Merry Widow. He was a real Prince Danilo and a gallant Romeo. His rendition of "Joy in My Heart" was beautiful. We then heard the traditional "Ant Kalno Karklai", with an unusual arrangement sung by Praurime Ragas. Her enthusiastic presentation of "Vasara" made us all want to sing and dance.

After a brief intermission, the second half of the program treated us to a flawless combination of tones by Linda Veleckis, Susan Stein and Manigirdas Motekaitis. There was a great joy of sounds, brilliant interpretations... haunting, serene and dramatic. This was truly relaxing and soothing.

To end this exceptional evening Praurime Ragas and Algerd Brazis sang

the playful and flirtatious duet, with just the right touch of humor - Oi Berneli Vienturi and the sentimental song of our childhood Stasys Simkus' Plaukia Sau Laivelis. Can you feel the sailboat drifting along the high shore?

Of course we did not want the evening of music to end.... the applause continued... but as the old saying goes ... All good things must come to an end. This was truly a wonderful night.



SATURDAY MORNING MASS

Once again Mass was celebrated at the convention headquarters hotel at 8:30 AM with many delegates and guests in attendance. On this day the Feast of the Transfiguration the Mass was offered for the intention of Lithuania. Concelebrating the Mass were Rev. Joseph Anderlonis, Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus and Rev. John Savukynas, MIC. Lector for the Mass was Vincent Boris of C-102 Detroit. Continuing in his cycle of truly inspiring homilies, Fr. Anderlonis called on us all to be transformed in our activities on Lithuania's behalf. The congregation was in fine voice, singing the hymns so traditional and close to us that the hotel resounded in our voices raised in praise to our Creator.



FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

After a brief break following Mass, the session was opened with a prayer. Convention business continued with greetings and resolutions. Then, in the absence of Anne Cheplick, Frances Petkus presented individual and

council Membership Awards as follows:

Council Awards:

1 to 50 Category

Council 139 - Detroit : 7 new members
Council 143 - Pittston : 7 new members

51 to 100 Category

Council 102 - Detroit : net 11 new members (16 less 5)

101 to 200 Category

Council 36 - Chicago : net 9 new members (14 less 5)

201 to 300 Category

Council 144 - Anthracite : net 10 new members (13 less 3)

301 and over Category

Council 112 - Chicago : net 16 new members (28 less 12)

Individual Awards:

1 to 50 Category

Lillian Petravicius of C-139 Detroit
7 new members

51 to 100 Category

Robert Boris of C-102 Detroit
8 new members

101 to 200 Category

Maryte Sepikas of C-133 Los Angeles
16 new members

201 to 300 Category

Joseph Dereskavich C-144 Anthracite
6 new members

301 and over Category

HM Estelle Rogers of C-112 Chicago
8 new members.

Sponsoring new members is truly one way to keep the Knights of Lithuania alive and active. Growth and new ideas can only add to ones vitality. The list was compiled by the National Second Vice President for membership - Anne Cheplick.

Supreme Council Ritual Committee Chair Helen Chesko reported that there are twelve candidates for the Fourth Degree. Four are present at the Convention all will receive their Fourth Degree in a solemn ceremony at the Convention Closing Mass.

HM Loretta Stukas, Chair of the Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc. gave a detailed Annual Report on financial condition and also completed projects. She also announced the winners of the 1994 Essay Contest. The winning essays will be published in future issues of VYTIS.



Christine Cius of Chicago, the Official Knights of Lithuania delegate to the World Lithuanian Youth Congress held in Lithuania and England this summer, gave a detailed report to the convention delegates which included an interesting slide presentation. For those of us in the audience who have either been to previous Youth Congresses or visited the sights shown in the slides, it brought back fond memories of days long since gone by. It is important to support the efforts of our young people so that our fine organization can continue to live long and prosper.

The Mandate Committee

reported that there were 137 present of which 130 were voting delegates.

Election of Supreme Council Officers for the 1994-1995 term followed. For each position nominations were accepted from the floor and when more than one candidate was vying for the same office a formal secret ballot was conducted. Ballots were collected and counted by the Convention Sergeants-at Arms. Only the winner's name not the vote count was announced to the delegates. This process was used for each individual position.

Spiritual Advisor:

Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis
elected unanimously

President:

Edward Barkowski C-136
Evelyn Ozelis C-36
elected - Evelyn Ozelis

First Vice President:

Nellie Bayoras-Romanas C-143
Thomas Bruzga C-86
Mary Kincius C-36
elected - Thomas Bruzga

Second Vice President:

Robert A. Martin, Jr. C-16
elected unanimously

Third Vice President:

Frances R. Petkus C-96
elected unanimously

Recording Secretary

Agnes Mickunas C-3
elected unanimously

Treasurer:

Edward Barkowski C-136
elected unanimously

Financial Secretary:

Rita A. Sussko C-29
elected unanimously

Trustees (two) :

Peter P. Zansitis C-16
John P. Baltrus C-19
elected unanimously

Ritual Committee:

John Mickunas C-3
elected unanimously to 3-year term.

Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chair

Vincent Boris C-102
elected unanimously.

Cultural Committee Chair

John R. Mankus C-76
elected unanimously.

Archives Committee Chair

Longinas Svelnis C-17
elected unanimously.

Honorary Membership Chair

Loretta Stukas C-29
elected unanimously.

Scholarship Committee:

Maria Deksnis C-112
Irena Gecas C-96
elected unanimously to 3-year term.

Public Relations Committee Chair

Regina Juska C-102
Glenn Perutis C-16
elected - Regina Juska.

Lithuanian Language Committee Chair

Dalia Bulvicius - declined
Dr. Virginia (Vaitekonis) Obando
elected Dr. Virginia Obando C-52

K of L Foundation, Inc. Chair.

Loretta Stukas C-29
elected unanimously.

St. Casimir's Guild Chair

Anna Klizas Wargo C-144
elected unanimously.

Aid to Lithuania, Inc. Chair

Robert Boris C-102
elected unanimously.

Once the officers were elected, more resolutions were passed and greetings were announced. This session as all other sessions during the convention adjourned prior to the scheduled time per the approved agenda, affording the delegates extra time for various activities.

**FIFTH PLENARY SESSION**

The last session of the 81st National Convention was called to order and opened with a prayer by Fr. Anderlonis. On the agenda was the Juniors with their report of the Junior Convention held concurrently. Supreme Council Third Vice President for Juniors Robert A. Martin, Jr. spoke about the Juniors and their activities and then called upon Andrew Svekla of C-3 to speak on behalf of the Juniors.

(His written report is separate of this compilation and appears in this issue of VYTIS.) All participating Juniors introduced themselves by stating their names and from where they came. Each Junior was awarded a conventionship and was given amber mementoes and a certificate.

The session continued with acceptance of resolutions and more greetings. A "rare musical treat" followed as presented by C-102 members from Detroit, the hosts of the 82nd National Convention next year. They "rolled out the barrel" and welcomed everyone to the 1995 convention by passing out prepared packets and pre-registration forms as happy music for happy people was played on the accordion. Boy are these guys organized!

With the conclusion of the mandate report, several announcements germane to the banquet followed. With all convention business completed the last of the convention sessions was closed with a prayer and a resounding singing of VYCIU HIMNAS.



CONVENTION BANQUET

With the business of the 81st National Convention completed, the delegates, guests and friends on the K of L enjoyed a cocktail hour in the Grand Ballroom of the Marriot Hotel before the exquisite dinner was to be served. Newly elected Supreme Council Officers, Committee Chairs, Honorary Members and other dignitaries were the guests of the convention host council for hors d'oeuvres and cocktails prior to the banquet.

At the appointed time the head table guests other dignitaries entered the ballroom to the warm ovation of the delegates. National Convention Co-Chair Kenneth Rudmin, who ably executed the Master of Ceremonies duties for the evening, introduced our National Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD who gave the invocation. The national anthems of The United States and the Republic of Lithuania were sung by the assemblage. Dinner followed. After dinner the head table and other dignitaries were introduced. Our newly-elected Supreme Council President, Evelyn Ozelis, C-36 Chicago, thanked everyone for their support. Evelyn stated that she looks forward to a year of working together as we continue to fulfill the many obligations and

commitment to service of our organization.

Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Chair, Dorothy Banos, gave a brief description of the qualifications of this year's recipients and announced the winners of the scholarships. They were:

The Alice Karklius Award to Andrew Svekla of C-3

The Irene Sankus Award to Vldas Gedgauskas of the Lithuanian College in Rome

Other winners were:

Richard Allen Fuerst C-136

Ryan Todd Miller C-141

Stacey Ann Harvilicz C-144

Lisa Marie Kordorsky C-50



Honorary Membership Committee Chair, Loretta Stukas, had the pleasure of formally introducing this year's Honorary Membership Recipients:

Rev. Stasys Raila C-110

Elinor Sluzas C-96

Anna Klizas Wargo C-144

Rev. Raila could not participate in the convention and his award will be presented during an upcoming Mid-Atlantic District event. Elinor and Anna received their well deserved awards during the banquet. Descriptions of their activities and dedication to the Knights of Lithuania are well known,

documented and appreciated by us all. Full biographies appeared in the May 1994 issue of VYTIS. The membership was pleased and happy to see Honorary Membership Committee Honorary Chairman Stanley Vaitkus in attendance to present the new HM's their medals.



Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chairman, Vincent Boris had the honor and privilege to introduce the Knights of Lithuania Rev. John C. Jutt - Jutkevicius Friend of Lithuania Award 1994 Recipient. The award went to Dr. Dharmapuri Vidyasagar, Chief of Pediatrics and a Neonatologist at the University Of Illinois at Chicago. He is also an associate of the World Health Organization. the honoree has been working in Lithuania for three years, having established two perinatal clinics one in Kaunas and the other in Vilnius. Dr. Vidyasagar, in accepting the award pledged continued aid to Lithuania and mentioned that his wife, also in the medical field looks forward to doing her part for Lithuania as a cardiologist.

Closing remarks were by Rev. Richard Dodaro, Spiritual Advisor of Host Council 16. As one of Italian descent, Father can attest to the fact

that spaghetti and kugelis go well together.

The Saulius Gylys orchestra provided music for the assemblages dancing and listening pleasure. After an enjoyable night, conventioners headed for various celebrations and for some well deserved relaxation.

FAREWELL BREAKFAST & SUNDAY CLOSING MASS

A leisurely sit down breakfast was held at the hotel. It gave many delegates and guests one more chance to visit before leaving for home or heading for the closing Mass at All Saints - St. Anthony Parish, home of convention hosts, Council 16.

After all participants marched into church, lead by Supreme Council Officers, Honorary Members 4th degree recipients, those in attendance who earned the fourth degree, received their blessed medals from National Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD. They were:

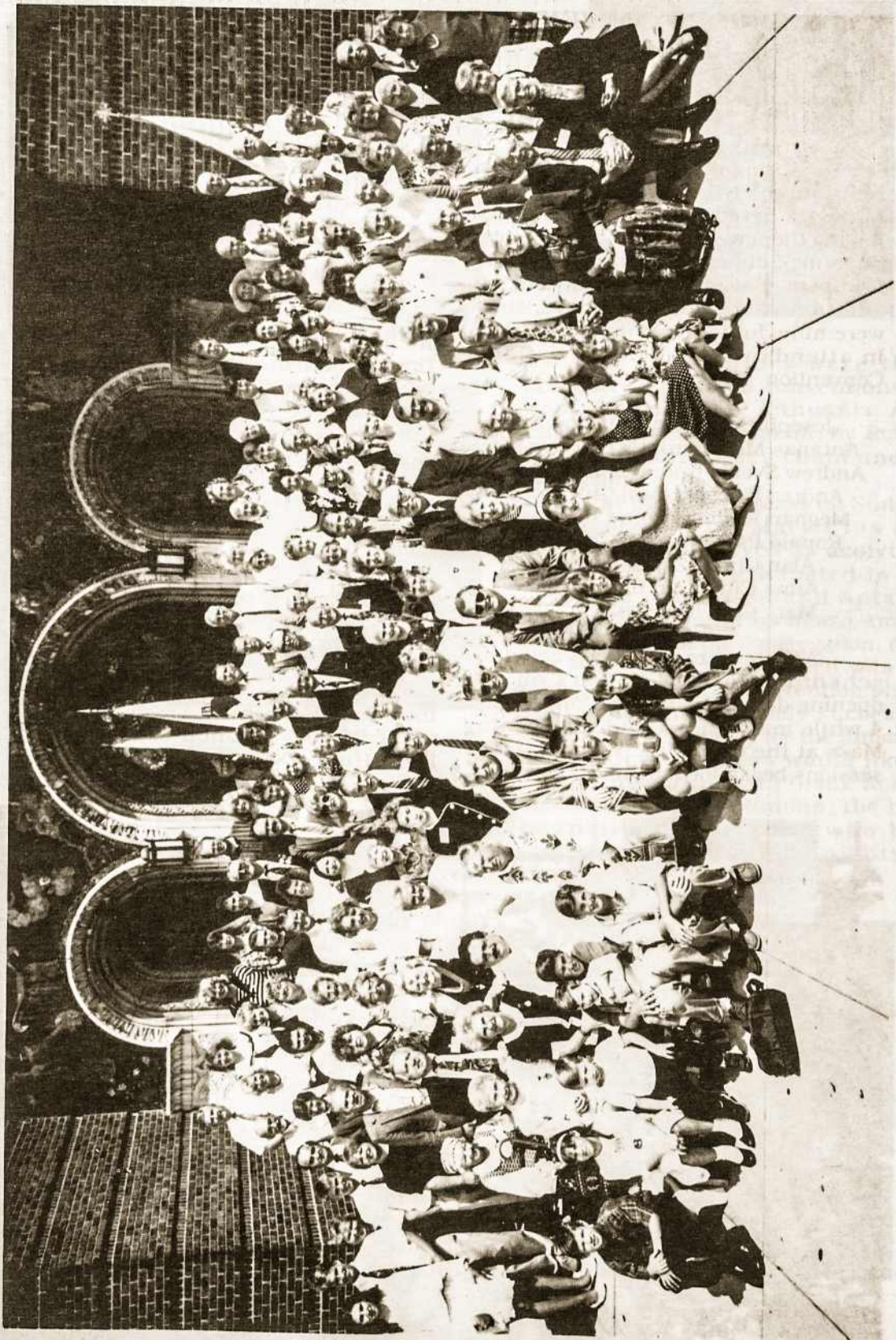
Rev. Anthony Markus - Chicago
Dolly Oberaitis C-25
Richard Marks C-25
Jean Marks C-25

The newly elected Supreme Council Officers then publically took the oath of office.

Concelebrants of the Mass were Rev. Anderlonis, Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus and Rev. Anthony Markus. Continuing his theme, Rev. Anderlonis gave a very inspiring, challenging and thought provoking homily which raised the spirit of all present. Immediately after Mass the Official Convention Photo was taken.

This concludes our eyewitness report of the 81st National Convention.

See you in Detroit August 9-13, 1995.



K of L JUNIORS CONVENTION REPORT

by Andrew Svekla C-3

During the first week in August, Lithuanians from all over the United States gathered in the City of Chicago. Among them were delegates, alternates, Supreme Council Officers and Honorary Members. Have I forgotten anyone? In addition to those listed above, there were nine Junior Knights of Lithuania in attendance at the 81st National Convention. They were:

Joseph Berger from Dayton, OH
 Antanas Meilus from Worcester, MA
 Andrew Svekla from Philadelphia, PA
 Andrea Deksnis from Chicago, IL
 Meghan Rudmin from Chicago, IL
 Ronald Padilino from Chicago, IL
 Alan Cius from Chicago, IL
 Anna Cius from Chicago, IL
 Mary Cius from Chicago, IL

There were no official activities scheduled for the Juniors on the opening day of the convention, August 4 while many did attend the opening Mass at the Cathedral. As convention sessions began for the "adults" many of

the Juniors explored the hotel and ended up at the 9th floor pool.

Friday was a busy day for the Juniors. We assembled in the hotel lobby at 8:30 AM. From there we proceeded to eat breakfast at a nearby McDonalds. We then walked a short distance to the "Here's Chicago" presentation at the Watertower. This presentation is a tourist attraction that consists of two short films and a museum. The movies give visitors a look at the fascinating history of the city by exploring the culture, architecture and traditions of Chicago. The museum displayed exhibits on the Great Chicago Fire (started by a cow) and the Al Capone Gangster Era. We then traveled by bus to the Field Museum of Natural History. Dinosaurs, natural wildlife and the Tombs of Ancient Egypt were among the topics the Juniors learned about on this day. By 4:00 we were ready to call it quits. We returned to the hotel via Chicago public transportation. The Juniors were accompanied on this trip by Debby Rudmin, Maria Deksnis and Mr. Berger.

Saturday was another big day for the Juniors. Robbie Martin called the Junior Convention Session to order at 11:00 AM. A lunch consisting of Pizza Hut pizza was provided. At the





meeting, Christine Cius gave the Juniors a detailed account of her trip to Lithuania and England as the official delegate of the Knights of Lithuania to the World Lithuanian Youth Congress. Christine answered many of our questions and satisfied many of our curiosities by sharing the many interesting pictures she took during her trip. After her presentation, the meeting turned into an open discussion on the state of Lithuanian affairs and in particular how the Lithuanian young people are affected by it all. Later on in the afternoon, the Juniors attended the convention's plenary session. There, each Junior was called upon to introduce himself to the convention delegates, even though some were obscured by the podium. Andrew Svekla represented the group and gave a brief synopsis of the Juniors activities



Each of the Juniors were then presented a \$ 25.00 conventionship from the Knights of Lithuania. Also each was given a memento by Robbie Martin an amber key chain and an amber pin.

At the closing Mass on Sunday, Meghan Rudmin, Mary Cius and Andrew Svekla served as acolytes , Joseph Berger participated in the Offertory procession and Antanas Meilus' voice could be heard among those singing in the congregation. After the Mass all that remained was the taking of the official convention photo. That ended an extremely successful convention - especially for the juniors,

All the Juniors would like to take the opportunity to thank Robbie Martin and Debby Rudmin, the host council and everyone who has supported the Junior Knights of Lithuania. See you in Detroit.



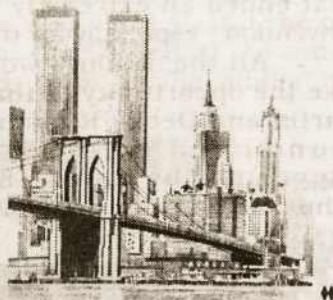
PRE-CONVENTION TOUR

August 3, 1994

By HM Fran Petkus

Those of us arriving a day before the official convention started had an opportunity to be reminded of what a beautiful city Chicago really is. For a metropolis of its size and population, the downtown area, with its wide streets, remain clean looking and interesting. Some members went sight seeing while those of us who signed up for the Luncheon and Riverboat Gambling Cruise, met in the lobby of the Chicago Marriot Hotel.

Under the care and direction of co-chairs, Mary Beth Slakis and Christine M. Schultz, we headed to the Hickory Pit for a buffet lunch. There was plenty to eat and time to enjoy our lunch so no one should have gone away hungry. From there the bus took us to Joliet, Il. where we boarded "The Harrah's" for two hours of fun.

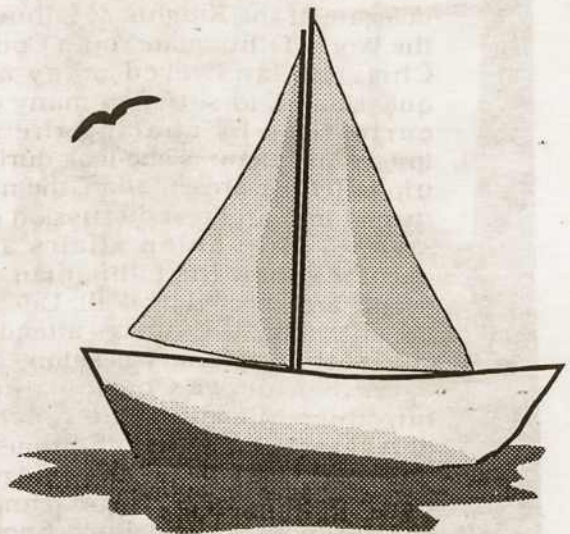


With many heading to the various tables to try their luck, it didn't take long to decide to take a break and go up on deck to see how far we had travelled. Much to our dismay, we had only ventured from one pier to the next extending just out far enough in the water to be within the law to lock the ship and proceed with the gambling games. It was in this position that the



ship stayed until the allotted time to dock. Many continued to try their luck at the variopus machines while some of us spent the time visiting and getting caught up on activities since we were together last year.

The cause of this change in plans unfortunately was due to a teenager having drowned further up the river. All boats were not permitted to leave their area while the safety crews were searching the area for the missing person. With the transportation chair, Richard G. Schultz, keeping us in his care, we headed back to the Marriot, comparing results of the trip.



**Address given by
Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas, Ambassador
of the Republic of Lithuania
to the United States
at the
81st National Convention
of the
Knights of Lithuania
Chicago, IL August 5, 1994.**

Dear Knights and Ladies of Lithuania,
Lietuvos Vyčiai

Personally, and on behalf of the people and government of a free and independent Lithuania, I would like to sincerely thank you for the honor and privilege of being with you today.

For over 80 years, the Knights of Lithuania have been in the forefront in maintaining a centuries old Catholic, Lithuanian heritage in the United States of America. You were among the first to engage in a concerted effort to deliver your ancestral homeland from foreign encroachments and obtain United States recognition of Lithuania as a free and independent state following World War I. During the darkest hours of Soviet Occupation and Nazi devastation of our land, during World War II, you never flinched in your untiring efforts to free Lithuania from foreign oppression.



Following World War II, you sponsored and welcomed thousands of hungry and homeless Lithuanian refugees to your shores and into your hearts and homes without expecting anything in return. Unfortunately, expressions of gratitude and appreciation during those harrowing times were not always forthcoming, even from those you helped. I would like to stop and thank you now.

It would be nice if I could tell you that the "battle has been won!" I would like to tell you that "all is well" in Lithuania, but I can not. We do not yet have the Lithuania we all want, dream of, fought for and died for. There is still much to be done and Lithuania needs your help today just as she did during the hard days of reconstruction following World War I.

I need not tell this audience that our noble traditions of statehood, freedom and independence date back to the 13th century, when Lithuania was a major European power. Yet we were unable to successfully withstand pressures from the Teutonic Knights to the West and Moscow to the East and were forced into a military alliance with our Catholic neighbor, Poland, which gradually evolved into a Commonwealth of Both Nations. Together with Poland

we were eclipsed from the political map of Europe in 1795.

Twice during the 19th Century we rose up against our oppressors to no avail. Though we lost battles, we were never defeated and carried on our struggle by other means. We turned to our inner strengths to carry us through to our language, to education, to the smuggling of books and other literature into our homeland from across the Nemunas. Under the leadership of spiritual giants such as Bishop Motiejus Valancius, we first "saught the kingdom of God", trusting that all things "would be added unto us". Emphasis was put on the moral regeneration of the nation, temperance and our cultural and linguistic revival.



As a result, full independence was regained in 1918-1919 and we flourished as a people and a nation. Unfortunately our natural course of development was violently cut off by World War II and the brutal Soviet occupation, which lasted some 50 years and left many wounds and scars on our national psyche and development. We are struggling with that ugly heritage today. We suffered tremendous losses as a result of the physical and cultural genocide perpetrated against our people

no less and even more than some others.

Though subjugated by the Soviet Union for some 50 years, we never lost our thirst for independence. We are neither a "new nation" nor a "new state". From our past experience, we do not wish to ever again become involved in any entangling alliances with the successor states of the USSR. At the same time, as a matter of self-interest, Lithuania today, seeks the best possible and the friendliest of relations with the Russian people, who are and always will be our neighbors. We believe in Divine Providence. Lithuanians are not by nature a vengeful people. We wish Russia well as she struggles out of the Communist cataclysm we shared together. We hope for the revival of a democratic Russia based on the brighter traditions in Russian history anteceding the devastation of the Golden Horde and the subsequent triumph of Muscovite autocracy and Communist depotism.

At the same time we must be soberly vigilant. Though Russian troops have completely withdrawn from Lithuanian soil, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) combat ready military units are poised within a 20 mile striking distance of our capital - Vilnius. Russian military units are concentrated in nearby Kaliningrad to the west. As a result, we have every reason to be concerned with our security, especially since the political situation in the east is far from clear and stable. There are those of the ilk of Mr. Zhirinovsky who has promised to make Lithuania into a nuclear wasteland by blowing radioactive winds across our border. Of course, it is obvious that he is not much of a scientist. Yet in our century, we witnessed one who was " not much of an artist " , engineer the genocide of millions in Europe. Given the modern means of war and the state of technology, we would be fools if we took those such as Mr. Zhirinovsky either too lightly or too seriously.

Currently there is a security vacuum in Europe which must be filled.

Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia are all seeking full membership in NATO as a consequence. To that end we were among the first to endorse the "Partnership for Peace Program" as a stepping-stone towards full membership in NATO. We do not view membership in NATO as merely membership in a military alliance, but as a guarantee of the development of our fledgling and still imperfect democracy. Lithuania more than meets the minimum requirements for membership. We control our own land, sea and air space. We have stable relations with all of our neighbors. We do not have any territorial claims on anyone. We do not have a "national minority" problem. We have enacted liberal and internationally recognized citizenship laws granting full civil rights and cultural as well as religious autonomy to all the inhabitants of our country. Lithuania has a long traditions not only of "tolerance" of



others but "acceptance" of diversity and multiculturalism. Throughout our history, Lithuania was the haven of the oppressed and those persecuted elsewhere. Yet today as before, we can not unilaterally defend ourselves against the massive might of Eurasia should it again turn on us. We are therefore making every effort to meet NATO standards. Left to our own

devices our very survival could be called into question...

We continue to seek our rightful place in Europe and the world within an international framework of peace and security. To this end we have sought to strengthen even more our historically close ties with neighboring Latvia and Estonia. We have reached out across the Baltic Sea to our Nordic



friends in Scandinavia seeking their friendship and support. We have reactivated our dormant relations with a modern, democratic Germany as well as France, the United Kingdom and other Western European nations. We have normalized our relations with Poland, with which we share a common border giving us access by land to the rest of Western Europe. In spite of some particularly painful memories, particularly of the more recent past, we look to the future and not the past in our relations with Poland, which has resulted in a treaty of cooperation and friendship between our two countries. While moving ever westward, we have not forgotten our historic linkages and interaction with the east, where we also have many interests. We seek to keep the avenues of communication open with the east, while lessening our dependence on it, particularly in the

field of economics. It is to be hoped that in time Lithuania will no longer be a battleground between east and west, but as firm in its security as are Belgium and the Netherlands located between Germany and France. Such would be the ideal for us and our Baltic neighbors.

Above all we have valued and continue to value our good relations with the United States of America. The bonds that tie us together are strong and unbreakable. These bonds have been nourished by the " blood, sweat, and tears " of hundreds of thousands of Lithuanian immigrants and political emigres and refugees who have so magnificently contributed to the growth of this magnificent country in every way. Between the wars, Lithuania was known as " Little America " . We certainly would not mind approximating that status again in our own unique Lithuanian way.



We are well aware that the United States of America never broke her faith with us. The United States never recognized our incorporation into the USSR. This is due in great part to the untiring lobbying efforts of Lithuanian Americans Led by the VYČIAI. Today America is the only remaining

" superpower ". But, Lithuania does not only view American power in military and economic terms, but more so upon her strength as the world's leading democracy and guarantor of world peace and stability. At times this has been and will continue to be an awesome burden to you, but America has never backed down when it came to meeting both challenges and opportunities.

Recently we Balts had the pleasure of welcoming President Clinton to our shores in Riga, thereby opening a new chapter in our relations with the United States. He is the first sitting American president in office to come to visit us. I am happy to say that President Clinton is at the head of thousands of Americans from all walks of life and ethnic backgrounds we are hosting these days. Those of us who work at the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington, DC are pleasantly astounded by the great interest shown by Americans in Lithuania. Some weeks we issue up to 300 visas to Americans to help, study or simply visit our Lithuania. The Iron Curtain over Lithuania has certainly fallen, never to be hung again.

Although we are gratified by the traffic between America and Lithuania, I for one, not to mention members of my staff consider the present requirements for visas for American travellers to Lithuania an impediment. I have therefore advised the Lithuanian Government to drop visa requirements for all American citizens travelling to Lithuania. I have every reason to believe that the Lithuanian Government will soon act favorably on my recommendation. Americans are welcome in Lithuania, always have been and always will be.



At this time I would invite your attention to the unenviable economic plight of Lithuania. Immediately after re-independence many of us had unrealistic expectations of economic aid from abroad. America and the west can help, but we have to learn to stand on our own two feet. It is difficult for most of you here in the States to appreciate how totally we were absorbed into the Soviet system, body and soul. Stalin himself so intertwined our economy with that of the USSR to make it well nigh impossible for us to exist outside of the confines of the then USSR. We lived in a command economy with centralized planning from Moscow.

Local and personal initiative was squelched. We lived isolated from the outside world. Without a doubt living in a totalitarian pressure cooker did have a negative effect on each of us to one degree or another. It will take time for us to change and implement change.

Over the past three years, Lithuania has been engaged in a transition from a planned to a market economy. This has caused many in our country a great deal of pain and dislocation. If you can imagine a whole nation on welfare, that is what the Lithuanian economy was like under the Soviet system. Initiative and entrepreneurship as well as the Lithuanian work ethic were stifled. The population was for the most part minimally provided for in most areas of life. Now people have to fend for themselves as in the United States. It is difficult for many, especially Senior Citizens on fixed incomes of the equivalent of \$ 40 per month to survive without a social safety net.

Economic reform in Lithuania is driven by three locomotives - stabilization, investment and economic growth. Today we are focusing on the implementation of strict monetary policies and the liberalization of trade. We have abandoned the old system of quotas and licenses by the regulation of trade through tariffs. We have our obligations to the International Monetary Fund and are strongly committed to the reduction of trade barriers.

I would like to direct your attention to a few instances which reflect the stage of economic development and reform in Lithuania. Inflation has beaten down every nation on the path from a planned to a market economy, Lithuania is no exception. In 1992 inflation was measured at 1,120 per cent. In 1993 - 188%. In addition during April 1993, inflation reached the rate of 25 % per month. By 1994 during the same month it stood at 1.6 %. It is forecast that in 1994 inflation will be around 40 % . Progress is notable. A major factor in reducing inflation was the introduction of our national

currency, the LITAS, in June 1993 which allowed us to implement a strict monetary policy and strengthen our national banking system. With the introduction of the LITAS, our national reserve of convertible currency rose from \$ 162 million to \$ 404 million. During the spring of 1994 a Currency Board was established and the LITAS was pegged to the US dollar. As a result the convertability of our currency is fully backed by our gold and convertible currency reserves. The tying of the LITAS to the US dollar created an environment of stability and clarity in our business and commercial relations.



Another vital aspect of reform is privatization, which we are successfully introducing in the opinion of international experts. Today more than 50 % of all laborers in Lithuania are employed in the private sector. Private wealth now constitutes approximately 60 % of state wealth to be privatized. By the end of 1994 we will have completed the first stage of privatization with investment checks and will move on to privatization for hard currency.

The third locomotive is investments, sewn together with the process of privatization and overall economic development of our country. Lithuania invites investments in all areas of her economy, but especially in



the spheres of energy and transportation. These areas are heavily influenced by our geopolitical situation as well as economic growth. A project of primary importance to us is the construction of a crude oil terminal on the shores of the Baltic Sea. It is my pleasure to announce that the bid to construct this project was awarded to an American Firm, FLUOR- DANIEL. In tandem with the largest oil processing facility in the Baltic Sea which we now have, this terminal will give us an alternative channel for the import and export of energy and raw materials. The refinery and terminal are not only economic assets but offer us a perspective for political stability and economic independence.

Although we have had many successes in a relatively short time, there are still many serious problems to be dealt with. Industrial production has declined by 51 % in 1992 and by 46 % in 1993 thereby raising the unemployment rate to an unacceptable level. This transitory period has also affected agricultural laborers very seriously. Traditionally, Lithuania was always an exporter of agricultural produce. Today the situation is different. Most of our agricultural and dairy products are not as competitive abroad and there is stiff competition in the domestic market. But, we are convinced that this is only a temporary situation. 90 % of state capital in Lithu-



anian agriculture has already been privatized. We look to the future with hope and optimism.

Our foreign trade is still heavily dependent on our eastern neighbors, although such dependence is declining as we pursue other markets. In 1993, Lithuania has signed nine free trade agreements and eleven agreements for most favored nation status with nations abroad. In 1993 Lithuanian exports reached 2 billion US dollars. Intense preparation is underway to prepare us for real membership in GATT. Last month we signed a free trade agreement with the European union, which in six years will develop into an associative agreement.



Our integration into Western economic structures is being expedited by some unjust and discriminatory Russian trade policies towards Lithuania. The November 1993 treaty signed with Russia for most favored nation status has not been implemented due to Russian insistence of linking economic agreements with political issues. Yet the Lithuanian proverb says, "There is nothing so bad out of which some good does not come." From our perspective we do have some difficulties in marketing our goods in the east, but this will only accelerate our integration into the west.

As ambassador, I have concentrated my remarks on political and economic challenges facing our nation. There are however many other areas of concern we share, such as health, crime, education and above all the moral religious and cultural regeneration and rejuvenation of Lithuania.

Again, I wish to thank you all for your kind invitation to visit with you here today in Chicago. I am sure we will meet again. I now welcome your questions, comments and criticisms, which I view as the beginning of dialogue and cooperation between us.

Nuoširdus Lietuviškas Ačiū !

**DELEGATES
Attending the
81st National Convention
Chicago, IL
August 4-7, 1994**

HONORARY MEMBERS:

Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Algerd Brazis, Annie Mitchell Matalavich, Rita Pinkus, Estelle Rogers, Loretta Stukas, Longinas Svelnis.

SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM Frances Petkus, Evelyn Ozelis, Robert A. Martin, Jr., Agnes Mickunas, Edward Barkowski, Rita S. Sussko, Peter P. Zansitis, John P. Baltus, Elsie Komisky, HM Algerd Brazis, Bernice Aviza, Lillian Petravicius, Bertha Stokus, Salius Kuprys, HM Longinas Svelnis, John Mankus, HM Loretta Stukas, Vincent Boris, Glenn Perutis, Helen Chesko, Dorothy Banos, HM Robert Boris, HM Anna Klizas Wargo.

CLERGY:

Rev. J. Kuzinskas, Rev. A.L. Markus, Rev. J. Savukynas.

DISTRICTS:

AMBER - Elsie Komisky, Dorothy Banos

NED - Joseph Stiklius

MAD - Muriel Lekstutis

MCD - Agatha Bender, Timothy Baibak

MID-AMERICA - HM Algerd Brazis, Theresa Vaitkus

COUNCILS:

C-1 Brockton - Sr. Helen Ivanauskas, Frances Bumila, George Bumila.

C-3 Philadelphia - Leonard Kapochus, Marilyn Kapochus, Agnes Mickunas, John Mickunas, Irene Svekla, Walter Svekla.

C-7 Waterbury - Petronella Alexander, Anthony Alexander, Veto Kelmelis, Walter Maknis, Anthony Polman, Arlene Stiklius, Antoinette White, Ed White.

C-12 New York - John Antanavicius, Helen Cuprewich, Vincent Kuprewich, Joe Kscenaitis, Alfred Malluch, Alice Zupko.

C-13 Chicago - Georgi Macke

C-14 Cicero - Aldona Brusokas, Jean Vance.

C-16 Chicago - Agnes Rainis, Wanda Pliskaitis, Mary Beth Slakis, Jean Slakis.

C-17 So. Boston - Mary Matachinskas, Alice Opanasets, HM Longinas Svelnis.

C-19 Pittsburgh - Helen Graham, Andrew Rozger, Zeno Yoksas

C-24 Chicago - Josephine Mankus, Stanley Mankus, Ausra Padalino

C-25 Cleveland - Jean Marks, Richard Marks, Helen Oberaitis

C-26 Worcester - Rita Karrytais, HM Rita Pinkus, Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr.

C-36 Chicago - Joan Cius, Ann Marie Kassel, Mary F. Kincius, Johanna Johnston, Sabina Henson, Faustas Strolia, Terry Strolia, Sophie Zukas, Gerry Mack.

C-38 Kenosha - Al Blazaivier, Sylvia Meyer

C-41 Brooklyn - Bill Kumeta

C-52 Elizabeth - HM Annie Mitchell Matalavich

C-72 Binghamton - John R. Mankus

C-79 Southfield - Margaret Dapkus, William Dapkus, Bertha Janus, Anna Uzdavinis.

C-86 DuBois - Tom Bruzga, Lee Moore, Irene Yanek, Mary Beth Yanek

C-96 Dayton - Rita Ambrose, Mark Bell, Annamarie Berger, Irene Gecas, Eric Geiger, Elena Mikalauskas, Frances

Mikalauskas, George Mikalauskas,
Robert Pant, HM Elinor Sluzas.

C-100 Amsterdam - Gene Gobis,
Elizabeth Kuzmick.

C-102 Detroit - Regina Juska, Michael
Shea, Theresa Shea, Joseph Stark,
Richard Straskys, Eve Stark.

C-103 Providence - Bette Ciuryla,
Edward Gurauskas.

C-112 Chicago - HM Estelle Rogers,
Mary Anna Gercius, Vida Sakevicius,
Rev. John Savukynas, Maria Deksnis,
Phyllis Pelletier, Anele Pocius, Julie
Zakarka, Rita Zakarka, Denise
Zakarka, Edward Pocius, Dolores
Wainauskis, Eleanor Kasputis, Dr. Vida
Noreika, Valeria Stanaitis, Joseph
Stanaitis, Donna Juraitis, Adele Zunas,
John Adomenas, Dolores Adomenas.

C-133 Los Angeles - Josephine Barzda,
Jack Bruzas, Maryte Sepikas

C-136 Hudson-Mohawk - Edward
Barkowski, Bernice Aviza

C-139 Detroit - Lillian Petravicius

C-140 Syracuse - Frank Petrauskas,
Irene Petrauskas

C-143 Pittston - Nellie Bayoras -
Romanas, Ann Soha, Steve Soha

C-144 Anthracite - Sue Bandatelli,
Helen Chesko, Eleanor Vaicaitis, HM
Anna Klizas Wargo, Ann Supernavage.

C-147 St. Petersburg - Dolores Jonaitis
John Jonaitis, Aldona Kirstuk, Victoria
Kleiva.

C-152 East Long Island - Angela
Minsavitch, John Sakal, Antoinette
Sakal.

Compiled and Submitted by:
Rita S. Sussko
National Financial Secretary



**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
81st National Convention
State of the Organization
REPORT**

*presented by HM Frances R. Petkus,
National President
AUGUST 4, 1994*

In accordance with Article XI, Section 2 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, I hereby submit to the delegates of the 81st National Convention, the National Executive Board's Annual Report, wherein, all reports have been submitted and combined before the National Convention. It is important to note that this is but a summary of the work done by your Executive Board. The officers have provided in depth reports of their activities. I urge you to take home a set of these reports, read them carefully, and share the contents with your council members.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Dr. Joseph J. Anderlonis, STD, as in past years, continues to make himself available to the members of the Board when situations arise and we need his expertise. Father was able to attend all of the Board meetings this term. He also continues to set aside one Mass per month at his parish for the deceased members of the Knights. Father, along with Council #3 of Philadelphia, hosted the October Supreme Council meeting. With many members in attendance, Father conducted the K of L Wake Service for Honorary Member and past K of L President Dr. Jack Stukas.

PRESIDENT

HM Frances R. Petkus organized and presided over three main meetings and two smaller sessions this past term. The meetings were held in Worcester, Philadelphia, Detroit and Chicago. The host councils for these gatherings certainly made the Supreme Council feel welcome. Mail has been

heavy once again. This is a good sign. People continue to learn about the K of L. The president had the pleasure of making all the arrangements for the Lithuanian Ambassador's stay during the National Convention. A letter was sent to Mrs. Lozoraitis from the K of L upon hearing of the sudden loss of the Hon. Stasys Lozoraitis. We received a very loving note of thanks from Mrs. Lozoraitis. Greetings were sent to Rev. Dr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, past National Spiritual Advisor of the K of L and to Rev. John Savukynas commemorating their 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood. The president participated in the 1993 Tour to Lithuania which included the Pope's Mass and dedication of the K of L Cross at the Hill of Crosses. A letter of thanks was sent to Gov. Edgar of Illinois for his congratulations on the occasion of the 79th Anniversary of VYTIS. A letter was written to Gov. Casey of Pennsylvania regarding the preservation of Holy Cross Church in Mt. Carmel through the National Register of Historical Places. The president had the pleasure of attending the Amber District's Annual St. Casimir's Day Celebration Mass and meeting. This gave me the opportunity to get to know more of the district's members. The president sent in several articles to VYTIS for publication as Official News. The president maintained contact with members on the Board in general and when called upon. The president continues to remain active in her council and district (MCD) and with the committee to keep Holy Cross Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church autonomous in Dayton, Ohio.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Evelyn Ozelis missed only one meeting this term and that was due to illness in the family. Evelyn has helped the president very willingly when called upon. Evelyn has been working with the Supreme Council Archives Committee in trying to obtain a larger room for the K of L Archives in Putnam, CT. Evelyn has been working with

HM Loretta Stukas, in overseeing the printing of the updated Knights of Lithuania Constitution. There will be copies available for distribution at this convention. Evelyn continues to be active in her district and with her council.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Anne Cheplick was unable to attend Supreme Council Meetings this term. No report has been received up to this point in time. Anne submitted an article for publication in VYTIS, as Official News, regarding the requirements for earning Membership Awards. These awards will be presented during one of the sessions of the convention.

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Robert A. Martin, Jr. has attended all of the Supreme Council meetings. Along with C-16 members, he hosted the June Supreme Council meeting. Rob, as we know him, reestablished distribution of copies of VYTIS to Junior Councils in the organization. Rob worked closely with the Committee that organized the Lithuanian World Youth Congress held this summer in Lithuania and England. Once a member of the Knights was chosen to represent the K of L, Rob took care of all the arrangements. You will be meeting this young person during the convention. Rob has been working very closely with the national Financial Secretary in resolving VYTIS mailing list issues. Rob, as you know, is chairman of this convention and very active in his council. Rob just returned from Lithuania after participating in *DAINU SVENTE* as a member of the K of L choir. Rob is one of our younger members who certainly has a lot of energy and input.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Agnes V. Mickunas attended all Supreme Council meetings, prepared the minutes, and mailed them out to

the Board and Honorary Members. Agnes has done a great job in this her first term of office. Along with Father Anderlonis and the members of C-3, Agnes was part of the host committee for the October Supreme Council meeting in Philadelphia. Agnes took care of any required mailings, in particular, the letters informing various officials and Lithuanian Organizations about the 81st National Convention.

TREASURER

Edward A. Barkowski did attend all of the Supreme Council meetings. Edward must, once again, be commended for a job well done. Keeping the books for our treasury is a challenge and takes patience of which Ed seems to have much. The treasurer's complete report will be presented at this convention along with a projected budget for 1995.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Rita S. Sussko did attend all of the Supreme Council meetings. One can't say enough about the dedication, concern and patience Rita has put into her duties as National Financial Secretary. Rita has also put in a great amount of time working on the VYTIS mailing list. When asked to take on a special project regarding the National Financial Secretary records, Rita was most willing. The membership must be thanked for their cooperation in sending the mailing changes to the National Financial Secretary. Rita continues to run a very efficient office.

TRUSTEES

John P. Baltrus and Peter P. Zansitis have both attended all of the Supreme Council meetings. Both have fulfilled their duties by reviewing the financial books of the various committees within the Supreme Council Board. Peter has taken on the project of approaching the Board for update information regarding the K of L Manual. Peter remains on the

committee reviewing applications for the position of VYTIS Business Manager. Peter was on the committee, along with C-16 members, that hosted the Supreme Council meeting in June and has, also, been on the committee hosting the 81st National Convention.

John took responsibility of summarizing inventory in possession of the members of the Board. Both attended *DAINU SVENTE* in Lithuania. Both continue to be active in their districts and councils. Both have been very diligent in performing their duties as Trustees.

AMBER DISTRICT

Elsie Komisky, District President, has attended all the Supreme Council meetings this term. There are 11 councils in the district and all are meeting the goals that they have set for themselves. The district had a very successful raffle which will enable them to make donations to various requests. The district has been active in Lithuanian Affairs activities such as flag raising and participating in a seminar/dinner held by the Pennsylvania National Guard that included National Guard personnel from Lithuania. As a first, they held a district pilgrimage in Kennebunkport, ME. As Supreme Council President, I had the pleasure of participating in the District's St. Casimir Mass and meeting. Elsie participated in *DAINU SVENTE* in Lithuania.

MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

HM Algerd Brazis, District President, attended one Supreme Council meeting and represented the Knights of Lithuania at the 8th Symposium of Lithuanistic Studies. No report has been received from the district at this time, but as in the past, I am sure that the district and its councils have met their obligations as they presented themselves. There will be a complete report from the district during the sessions of the 81st National Convention.

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Bernice Aviza, District President, attended all Supreme Council Meetings. There are 15 councils and 2 Junior Councils in the district. Many councils in the district have been busy gathering medical supplies, sponsoring and supplying food, clothing and toys for the children in Lithuania. The district has been busy entertaining guests from Lithuania and meeting their obligations as usual. Bernice volunteered to chair the "Adopt an Order of Nuns in Lithuania" project. This project proved to be very successful. Records show that there is one order not yet adopted. If interested, check with Bernice. The Junior councils in the district have been very active, participating in various international festivals, basketball games and the like.

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

This is Lillian Petravicius' first time to hold office as a District President. Lillian has attended two of the Supreme Council meetings since taking office. The district has 8 councils and one Junior Council. The councils are meeting their obligations actively and financially. The district holds two meetings per year. They have a Spring Convention/Bowling Tournament which Pittsburg hosted this year. The Fall Convention/Pilgrimage in October 1993 was hosted by the Cleveland Council. Lillian is President of her council (# 139) in Detroit. She participated in *DAINU SVENTE* in Lithuania as part of a Dance Group. Lillian was on the committee that hosted the March Supreme Council meeting in Detroit.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

New England District President, Bertha R. Stoskus, has attended two of the Supreme Council meetings. Her district has held two Board meetings, a Fall convention hosted by C-17 So. Boston and a Spring Convention hosted

by C-116, So. Worcester. The district continues to fulfill its obligations and has awarded 34 District Scholarships since 1971. There are 14 Councils and 2 Junior Councils in the District. Former National Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis of Providence, RI, celebrated his 50th Anniversary in the priesthood. Bertha and her sister, Ruth Krecious, have been working at trying to get a larger room for the Knights of Lithuania Archives at ALKA in Putnam, CT along with the National Archives chairperson and others on the Supreme Council Board.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

HM Longinas Svelnis, Archives Committee Chairperson, was able to attend one meeting this term. He, with his staff, have been trying to secure a larger facility at ALKA in Putnam, CT where our archives are stored. Longinas (Larry) continues to ask members to mail archival material to :

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

c/o ALKA

P.O.Box 608

PUTNAM, CT 06260

Longinas continues to be active in his district and council C-17 so. Boston.

LEGAL ADVISOR

Saulius V. Kuprys, although unable to attend any of the Supreme Council meetings this term, made himself available when we needed to turn to him for legal advice. Saulius continues to prepare the organization's taxes and oversee Aid to Lithuania, Inc., St. Casimir's Guild, Inc. and the Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc., keeping them current with the latest tax rulings.

VYTIS EDITOR

Upon returning from Lithuania last year, the Supreme Council Board was surprised when the VYTIS editor informed us she and her staff were resigning. Fortunately, the Supreme Council pulled together and were able

to compile and publish the November 1993 issue of VYTIS. With many of us doing the minor chores in preparing the issue, much credit goes to Vincent Boris and HM Loretta Stukas. They worked dilligently getting the material camera ready for publication. Nothing but praise and congratulations came in for that issue. The Board turned to the one candidate who had applied for the position of Associate Editor, Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr. to take on the editorship of VYTIS. The new staff includes Ruth Sarafinas as Council News Editor and Terese I. Meilus as layout and design coordinator. (All are active members of C-26 Worcester) There were some difficulties in starting out and some problems along the way. As the new staff "settles in" things will improve. Other than the June 1994 issue, VYTIS came out on time. There was one change made in the transition. We have gone back to the old system of another person being in charge of the VYTIS mailing list - not the editor. Robert A. Martin, Jr. had taken on this responsibility. In time, working with the National Financial Secretary, the list should be running current each month. There were 360 names not on the list when the changeover was made. This has been corrected. With patience, the situation will be resolved. Feedback from the membership is vital to the success of VYTIS.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

John Mankus was unable to attend two meetings. As in the past, John continues to send cultural material to District Cultural Chairpersons who in turn pass on the material to their councils. John has put much time and effort into preparing the information. John continues to be very active in his council and district. John has also sent articles to VYTIS for publication. John continues to teach Lithuanian classes and translates for people when called upon to do so.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

HM Loretta Stukas, chairperson missed two meetings this term. One due to her husband HM Dr. Jack Stukas' health and then we were all saddened when we heard of his death. There were three other outstanding Honorary Members to pass away this term: Juozas Laucka, Stanley Pieza and the Hon. Stasys Lozoraitis. Nominess for the Honorary Membership Award at this convention are: Rev. Stasys Raila, Anna Klizas Wargo and Elinor Sluzas. There are currently 28 living Honorary Members, 18 men and 10 women. New candidates for next year's presentation will be proposed at this convention.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Vincent Boris, chairperson, has attended all Supreme Council meetings this term. Vincent has faithfully published a bulletin each month to the pleasure of his readers. As stated in the past, if you are not on the mailing list, you may be missing out on some interesting and important material. The mailing list is up to 183 "subscribers". A voluntary donation is most appreciated to help defray the cost of printing and mailing. Vincent worked on the November 1993 issue of VYTIS and has submitted articles the the editor for various subsequent issues. Vincent gathered material from previous National Convention Song Books and put together a song book for the members and guests participating in the K of L Tour to Lithuania this year. Vincent has participated in several White House Briefings. This has been a plus for the organization.

BE INFORMED - Read the Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin !!!

LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE COMMITTEE

Dalia Bulvicius attended two of the Supreme Council Meetings. Dalia has submitted articles for publication in VYTIS. Dalia has made herself available to translate material when called upon to do so. Dalia represented the Knights of Lithuania at the

Lithuanian National Foundation meeting in Brooklyn, NY. She is continuing her work on the HM Joseph Boley Video Project and prepared greetings from the K of L in commemoration of the 85th Birthday and 60 years of consular service in the Lithuanian Diplomatic Corps for Amb. Anicetas Simutis.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chairperson Glenn Perutis has attended all Supreme Council Meetings. Glenn has dilligently sent articles into various publications, many of them being printed. Glenn's material appeared in some Lithuanian-American and Lithuanian-Canadian papers. Glenn is active in his council and was part of the committee to host the Supreme Council in June and the National Convention in August.

RITUAL COMMITTEE

Chairperson Helen Chesko has attended all the Supreme Council meetings this term. There are 11 members who have been approved to receive their Fourth Degree this year. Helen has worked closely with her committee and they have put together some suggested changes in the Ritual Point System. These will be submitted to the delegates for approval.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairperson Dorothy A. Banos attended two meetings of the Supreme Council. One meeting was missed because of a change in the Board's schedule. The committee continues to work hard raising funds to support this very special project of the Knights of Lithuania. Donations were down once again. Many scholarship recipients remain active members of the organization. It is sad to see this function of the K of L lacking membership support. Let's work to bring this aspect of our activities back

AID TO LITHUANIA, INC.

HM Robert Boris, chairperson, not only attended all the Supreme Council meetings this term, he also helped host the March meeting in Detroit. All that Bob has done this past year is well covered in his detailed report. A detailed financial report is also included. One of the highlights was Aid to Lithuania's First Golf Tournament with proceeds going to medical supplies and the like for Lithuania. Bob chaired the K of L's second trip to Lithuania. This one took in *DAINU SVENTE* and took place in June/July 1994. As the one last year, this proved to be most successful ; with comments being - fantastic !!!

ST. CASIMIR'S GUILD, INC.

Chair Anna Klizas Wargo attended every Supreme Council meeting this term. Anna continues to be the very dedicated caretaker of the Guild. Anna reports that Masses for the Guild have been coming in very steadily. Anna encourages all members and councils to support the Guild Vestment Fund Drive. The drive is ongoing, until our goal is reached. Anna continues to stay in touch with Msgr. Bartkus in Rome on a regular basis.

K OF L FOUNDATION, INC.

HM Loretta Stukas, chairperson as stted earlier was able to attend two mwwtings this term. Loretta will brief the membership on the financial scope of the Foundation during the convention. Winners of the Foundation Essay Contest will also be announced the prizes for which comes from the interest that the foundation earns on its invested capital. With extra funds available this year, Bibles for chiildren in Lithuania were purchased and sent out. To become a voting member of the Foundation a \$ 100.00 donation is required. This can be given all at once or at various times until the total is reached. The foundation gives the Knights of Lithuania added security for

an organization of this size. Contributions continue to firm our security.

IN SUMMARY.....

We can be very pleased as the Knights of Lithuania continues to do what it can to help Lithuania. Aid to Lithuania, Inc. continues to secure medical supplies and the means to ship containers to Lithuania. Many of you on an individual, council and district level are doing more than your share in shipping medical supplies. You have seen to the needs of the Lithuanian children and helping the religious needs through the St. Casimir's Guild, Inc. the adoption of an order of nuns and the like.

By reading Lithuanian publications, the Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin, you have stayed informed about the various situations in Lithuania. You have been patient as we constantly work at correcting and updating the VYTIS mailing list. We ask that you continue to send all changes into the National Financial Secretary.

If you have complaints, do not hesitate to write. We can't hear your complaints if you don't inform us. The K of L Manual is updated each year. Ask your council president for a copy of the manual, especially the sections you are concerned about.

Please keep our living and deceased members in your prayers. Many of you participated in HM Dr. Jack Stukas's services. Honorary Members were Honorary Pall Bearers - a very solemn tribute. The K of L was again blessed with a gift from a deceased member - HM Eleanore Laurin remembered us with a gift from her estate.

In closing, I thank all of you for giving me wonderful Board Members to work with these past three years. I thank all of you for your patience and for letting me get to know so many of you through our various contacts. These three years have been rewarding, sometimes frustrating, but time I would not trade back. - ACIU LABAI.

L'Association Nationale Française
 de la Maladie d'Alzheimer
 a été créée en 1981 par
 des personnes qui ont
 souffert de cette maladie
 et qui ont voulu se
 réunir pour échanger
 leurs expériences et
 leurs connaissances.
 Cette association a
 pour but de défendre
 les intérêts des
 malades et de leurs
 proches, de leur
 offrir un soutien
 moral et matériel, et
 de leur faire
 connaître les
 dernières avancées
 de la recherche
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 organise également
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 pour les professionnels
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RESOLUTIONS - NUTARIMAI

CONGRATULATIONS TO LITHUANIA

WHEREAS in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Four, we observe:

- the 741st anniversary of the Coronation of Mindaugas, which is used to mark the date of statehood and the entry of Lithuania into the family of European Nations;
- the 76th anniversary of the proclamation of an independent Republic of Lithuania;
- the 4th anniversary of the proclamation of the re-establishment of the independent Republic of Lithuania; also,
- the 3rd anniversary of the formal recognition of Lithuania as a sovereign nation and its acceptance into the United Nations; and,

WHEREAS significant progress has been made toward the achievement of normality in the economy and social structure with the introduction and success of its own national currency; the negotiated evacuation of all former-Soviet military from the territory of Lithuania; the normalization of relations with Poland; entry into the European Community; and the joining with NATO in a Partnership for Peace.

BE IT RESOLVED that we, Knights of Lithuania, being met in our 81st annual national convention convey to our brother and sister Lithuanians our most heartfelt congratulations on their fortitude and forbearance in overcoming the 50 years of Soviet occupation. We rejoice in the many achievements of this past year and wish them continued success and Godspeed in their pursuit of peace and prosperity.

* * *

**IN MEMORIAM: H.E. STASYS LOZORAITIS
JUOZAS LAUČKA
JOKUBAS "JACK" STUKAS
STANLEY PIEZA**

WHEREAS during this past year, the Knights of Lithuania lost four of its highly respected and beloved Honorary Members, His Excellency *Stasys Lozoraitis, Juozas Laučka, Jack Stukas and Stanley Pieza*.

BE IT RESOLVED that in grateful appreciation and recognition of their work, we, Delegates to the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered here at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, on this 5th day of August, 1994, pay tribute to these worthy and outstanding Knights with a moment of silence.

May the souls of these our brothers and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace.

* * *

DEMOCRACY NETWORK

WHEREAS The US Baltic Foundation has requested

that the Knights of Lithuania formally state its organizational willingness to participate in the USBF Democracy Network as an associate consortium member; and,

WHEREAS significant financial resources have been programmed for "Democracy Building" by U.S. AID and a grant proposal by USBF would ensure most effective and long range success of this program by applying a portion of these funds to the nurturing of Democratic installations through assistance by US citizens who have an ethnic, emotional connection to the Baltic region and whose work/life experience is working in, or managing, various types of civic activities such as mayor, city manager, city council, lobbyists, judicial, police, civic volunteer groups such as PTA and environmental protection groups; and,

WHEREAS the Knights of Lithuania has several members who are, themselves, qualified or have relatives or acquaintances who could qualify as advisors in such areas,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, being met at our 81st annual National Convention agree to use the human resources available within our organization and/or through our other personal contacts to support the Democracy Network program

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this agreement to be identified as an Associate Consortium Member be conveyed to the US Baltic Foundation by letter from the Lithuanian Affairs Chairman.

* * *

INCREASED ANNUAL DUES

WHEREAS it has become obvious to the Supreme Council members that the current VYTIS subscription price of \$10.00 per year, i.e., \$1.00 per issue, had become insufficient to cover ever increasing production and mailing costs; and,

WHEREAS a cost analysis conducted by *John Mickunas* at the request of the Supreme Council substantiated the general feeling that subscription prices and advertising rates must be increased in consonance with costs and needs; and,

WHEREAS the \$10. annual dues paid by most members are forwarded to the Supreme Council to underwrite VYTIS production costs,

BE IT RESOLVED that the current annual dues for regular single membership be raised from \$10.00 per year to \$15.00 per year and to \$175.00 for life-membership. Spouses and others qualifying for reduced dues will continue to be charged lesser amounts in accordance with Constitutional provisions. (Individual councils may add a surcharge to the \$15.00 to cover local operating expenses.)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this increase begin with memberships or renewals which take effect on January 1, 1995.

* * *

LIETUVOS KANČIŲ IR TREMTINIŲ ISTORIJA

WHEREAS the controversy surrounding the publication of the first of an intended series entitled "*Lietuvos Kančių ir Tremtinių Istorija*" has intruded into the proceedings of this convention; and,

WHEREAS we, as most other Lithuanians, deplore the fact that this publication only served to publicize the KGB dis-information surrounding the mass deportation of Lithuanians to Siberia over 50 years ago. The volume was published alone without commentary or the companion volumes which could have put the whole into proper perspective by including personal testimonials evidencing the lies contained in the KGB material; and,

WHEREAS the publication of this KGB-source material could be a valuable historical documentation of the brutal, malicious perfidy of the Soviet regime,

BE IT RESOLVED that we, Delegates to the 81st Annual Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, urge the publishers, Pasaulio Lietuvių Bendromenė, to rectify their error by issuing a warning caveat to be affixed to all existing volumes and most urgently pursue the publication of the remaining volumes so that the true and full horror of the actual events will be appropriately documented for future generations.

* * *

BUDGET ACCEPTANCE

BE IT RESOLVED that the budget for 1994-1995 be accepted as submitted by the Supreme Council Treasurer.

* * *

FINANCIAL SECRETARY STIPEND

WHEREAS the stipend for the National Financial Secretary has been set at \$60.00 per month for several years; and,

WHEREAS both the membership and expenses have increased dramatically over this time,

BE IT RESOLVED that the stipend for the Financial Secretary be raised to \$120.00 per month.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

FR. STASYS RAILA

WHEREAS the 80th Annual Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at Worcester, MA on

August 14, 1993, approved the candidacy of *Reverend Stasys Raila* for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and,

WHEREAS all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this candidate,

BE IT RESOLVED that this 81st National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon *Reverend Stasys Raila*, member of Council 110, Mid-Atlantic District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, because *Rev. Raila* is unable to attend this convention due to poor health, his Honorary Membership Medal be presented to him by a representative of the Honorary Membership Committee at an appropriate Knights of Lithuania event in his home District.

NUTARTA: 81-ame Lietuvos Vyčių Seime priimti į Garbės Narius *Kun. Stasį Railą*, Lietuvos Vyčių 110-tos Kuopos narį, kurio kandidatūrą buvo patvirtinta 80-ame Lietuvos Vyčių Seime.

* * *

ANNA KLIZAS WARGO

WHEREAS the 80th Annual Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at Worcester, MA on August 14, 1993, approved the candidacy of *Anna Klizas Wargo* for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and,

WHEREAS all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this candidate,

BE IT RESOLVED that this 81st National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon *Anna Klizas Wargo*, member of Council 144, Amber District.

NUTARTA: 81-ame Lietuvos Vyčių Seime priimti į Garbės Narius *Anna Klizas Wargo*, Lietuvos Vyčių 144-tos Kuopos narę, kurios kandidatūrą buvo patvirtinta 80-ame Lietuvos Vyčių Seime.

* * *

ELINOR SLUZAS

WHEREAS the 80th Annual Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at Worcester, MA, on August 14, 1993, approved the candidacy of *Elinor Sluzas* for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and,

WHEREAS all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this candidate,

BE IT RESOLVED that this 81st National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon *Elinor Sluzas*, member of Council 96,

Mid-Central District .

NUTARTA: 81-ame Lietuvos Vyčių Seime priimti į Garbės Narius *Elinor Sluzas*, Lietuvos Vyčių 96-tos Kuopos narę, kurios kandidatūrą buvo patvirtinta 80-ame Lietuvos Vyčių Seime.

* * *

CANDIDACY OF *FAUSTAS STROLIA* FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, that the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Mariott Hotel in Chicago, IL, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership - *Faustas Strolia*, member of Council 36, Mid-America District, and allow his history, outlining his services as a worthy and dedicated Knight to be published in VYTIS.

NUTARTA: Garbės Komisijos pasiulius patvirtinti *Fausto Strolio* kandidatūrą į Garbės Narius, ir atspausdinti jo darbus ir nuopelnus organizacijai Vytie žurnale.

* * *

CANDIDACY OF *FRANK PETRAUSKAS* FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, that the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Mariott Hotel in Chicago, IL, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership - *Frank Petrauskas*, member of Council 140, Mid-Atlantic District, and allow his history, outlining his services as a worthy and dedicated Knight to be published in VYTIS.

NUTARTA: Garbės Komisijos pasiulius patvirtinti *Prano Petrausko* kandidatūrą į Garbės Narius, ir atspausdinti jo darbus ir nuopelnus organizacijai Vytie žurnale.

* * *

APPOINTMENT TO HONORARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

BE IT RESOLVED that, at the request of the Knights of Lithuania Honorary Membership Committee, the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania approve the appointment of Honorary Member *Anna Klizas Wargo* to the Honorary Membership Committee representing the Amber District, thereby fulfilling the requirement of at least one representative of each District on the Honorary Membership Committee.

DONATIONS

ST. CASIMIR'S GUILD

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to this 81st Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled in Chicago, Illinois, continue to show our support to the Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome, Italy, with a donation of \$1,000 (One Thousand dollars) through the St. Casimir's Guild.

* * *

APPRECIATION OF DEBORAH FOUNDATION

WHEREAS the Deborah Foundation has continued to significantly benefit Lithuanian health care by bringing teams of Lithuanian doctors and surgical nurses to the United States to observe and learn updated surgical techniques as well as continuing to send medications and equipment upgrades to Lithuania; and,

WHEREAS the Deborah Foundation, through the largesse of its benefactors, has supplied all services and equipments at no cost to Lithuania.

BE IT RESOLVED that we, Knights of Lithuania, assembled here at our 81st Annual National Convention in Chicago, Illinois, again convey our most heartfelt appreciation to the Deborah Foundation and to Honorary Member *Loretta Stukas*, who has continued to provide significant support to the program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a donation of \$1,000, in memory of Jack Stukas, be made to the Deborah Foundation's Children of the World Program in appreciation of their efforts on behalf of Lithuanian children.

* * *

DONATION TO LCRA

WHEREAS Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid (LCRA) was extremely supportive of the Knights of Lithuania in our "Aid to Lithuania" work; and,

WHEREAS Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid continues to provide spiritual and humanitarian assistance to Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania assembled at the 81st National convention send a \$100. donation to Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid to support their ongoing work.

* * *

DONATION TO US-BALTIC FOUNDATION

WHEREAS the US-Baltic Foundation is deeply involved in assisting the three Baltic States in establishing democratic rule, developing a free market economy and encouraging Western investments; and,

WHEREAS core of support for the USBF is a contributing membership of individuals and organizations generally of ethnic Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian origins,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania support the US-Baltic Foundation by becoming a member with an organizational donation of \$500.00.

* * *

DONATION TO LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF

WHEREAS Lithuanian Children's Relief (LCR) continues to supply basic needs to institutionalized orphans and poor children in Lithuania; and,

WHEREAS many Knights of Lithuania have continued to support LCR by sending donations, merchandise, etc. and, are also actively helping to sort, pack and gather items for containers; and,

WHEREAS the mandate of Jesus challenges us to be mindful of the "little ones"; and,

WHEREAS the future of Lithuania depends on her Christian, healthy and whole children,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st annual National Convention designate a gift of \$1,000.00 from the Knights of Lithuania for the benefit of Lithuanian Children's Relief.

* * *

DONATION TO CATHOLIC TV IN LITHUANIA

WHEREAS the Catholic Faith was suppressed during 50 years of Communist rule and Soviet occupation; bringing the Catholic Faith back to prominence in the lives of the people of Lithuania will be a major project involving time and patience; and,

WHEREAS television has become the most convenient and popular medium from which to obtain information for the people of Lithuania, many of whom are working longer hours to make ends meet; and,

WHEREAS there is a Catholic television station in Kaunas endeavoring to bring Catholic teachings conveniently into Lithuanian homes; but, as with most other endeavors during this time of transition in Lithuania, funding is a serious problem,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania, living up to its motto, "For God and Country", aid

this very important project in Kaunas by donating \$1,000.00 to the Lithuanian Catholic Television Station.

ĄČIŪ! ĄČIŪ! ĄČIŪ!

APPRECIATION OF DRAUGAS

WHEREAS The Lithuanian Catholic Daily "DRAUGAS" has generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania in the "Vycių Veikla" column and in other parts of the publication,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its sincerest gratitude to the "Draugas" and its staff for their generosity and cooperation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a \$200.00 donation be sent with this expression of gratitude.

* * *

APPRECIATION OF DARBININKAS

WHEREAS the Lithuanian Catholic Weekly, "DARBININKAS," has generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its appreciation to DARBININKAS and its staff for their cooperation and generosity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a donation of \$200.00 be sent to DARBININKAS with an expression of gratitude.

* * *

THANKS TO WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF

WHEREAS the World Medical Relief Organization established as a non-profit organization to send medical supplies to needy countries has continued to make available much needed medical supplies for shipment to Lithuania. In the four years of collaborative effort with the Knights of Lithuania, 15 40-ft containers for Aid to Lithuania have already been dispatched; and,

WHEREAS the total estimated value of all donated medical aid for Lithuania is now nearly \$10 Million,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 81st Convention of the Knights of Lithuania send a thank you note to World Medical Relief for it's outstanding work.

* * *

THANKS TO MERCY INTERNATIONAL

WHEREAS Mercy International Health Services under the dedicated leadership of *Glen Haydon* has spent much time, money and energy pursuant to their proposal to establish an American-style Catholic hospital in Lithuania and which would also serve to educate personnel in modern techniques of medicine,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 81st Annual Knights of Lithuania Convention acknowledge their efforts and thank them for their continued dedication to humanitarian aid and support to Lithuania.

* * *

THANKS TO CATHOLIC MEDICAL MISSION BOARD

WHEREAS Catholic Medical Mission Board has been most generous in supplying much needed medicines for shipment to Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the 81st National Convention express our appreciation for their continuing support.

* * *

THANKS TO MAP INTERNATIONAL

WHEREAS MAP International has been most cooperative with the Knights of Lithuania sponsored Aid to Lithuania and equally generous in supplying critically needed medicines for shipment to Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the 81st National Convention express our appreciation for their support.

* * *

THANKS TO SUPPORTERS OF AID TO LITHUANIA

WHEREAS a significant level of humanitarian aid continues to be provided by Aid to Lithuania, Inc. which was initiated four years ago at our National Convention in Pittsburgh; and,

WHEREAS the past and present success has been primarily dependent upon the dedicated members of Council 102, Detroit, and the generous contributions by Knights of Lithuania Councils and Districts, individual Knights and members of various Lithuanian Communities,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the 81st National Convention acknowledge and express our appreciation on behalf of the entire organization for the extraordinary efforts of these few whose work has merited great credit not only for themselves but for the Knights of Lithuania organization.

* * *

THANKS TO CHRISTIAN RELIEF SERVICES

WHEREAS Christian Relief Services has been most cooperative with Aid to Lithuania, Inc., and is supplying critically needed financial assistance in the shipment of humanitarian aid to Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania gathered at our 81st Annual National Convention express our most heartfelt appreciation for their support.

* * *

THANKS TO ATL GOLF DAY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS a Golf Tournament was held on June 14, 1994, at the Western Golf and Country Club to benefit the Aid to Lithuania project; and,

WHEREAS through the inspiration, planning and hard work of the committee, the effort was immensely successful. A total of 155 golfers participated in the tournament and an additional 75 guests attended the awards dinner. The benefit produced over \$24,000 for Aid to Lithuania.

BE IT RESOLVED that the 81st Annual National Convention delegates, here assembled and on behalf of the whole membership of the Knights of Lithuania, in recognition of their "job well done" congratulate the Golf Tournament Committee, George Perlis, Honorary Chairman; George Sepetys, Chairman; Lou Kulikauskas and Al Duoba, Co-chairmen; Phyllis Sepetys, Secretary.

* * *

THANKS TO ŽIAUSIAI AND AVIŽA

WHEREAS *Edward and Apolonija Žiausys* (C-100, Amsterdam) and *Bernice Aviža* (C-136, Hudson-Mohawk) have worked diligently to provide humanitarian relief to Lithuania through their own efforts and in coordination with Aid to Lithuania, Inc.; and

WHEREAS they have gotten thousands of dollars worth of medicines and equipment from Amsterdam Memorial Hospital, their primary donor,

BE IT RESOLVED that the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania recognize and thank Edward, Polly and Bernice for their continued exceptional efforts in aiding Lithuania.

* * *

THANKS TO OUTGOING SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICERS

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 81st Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered here at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, Illinois express on behalf of themselves and the general membership, that they represent, their deepest gratitude to the 1993-1994 Supreme Council for its dedicated service to the organization and support of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a special note of thanks be extended to *Frances Petkus*, who having completed three years as Supreme Council President, will be leaving that office. She has demonstrated great devotion to the organization, fidelity to her office and love of her fellow knights.

* * *

THANKS TO PRESIDIUIM

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 81st Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to the Presidium and its committees for their hard work, diligence and professionalism in the conduct of the business of this convention.

* * *

AČIŪ, 16-TĄ KUOPA

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 81st Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, IL, extend our sincerest congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Host Council 16 and the entire convention committee for having planned and provided excellent programs and facilities for this convention.

NUTARTA: 81-ame Lietuvos Vyčių seime dėkoti vietinei Šikagos 16-tą kuopą už tėvišką šeimynišką ir labai nuoširdžią seimo globą. Ačiū, Ačiū, Ačiū!

**ILGIAUSIŲ METŲ! LAIMINGŲ METŲ!
SVEIKIAUSIŲ METŲ!**

CONGRATULATIONS: REV. JURGELAITIS, O.P.

WHEREAS Fr. A. Jurgelaitis celebrated the Golden Jubilee, 50th anniversary, of his consecration as a priest on May 24th of this year and,

WHEREAS Fr. Jurgelaitis had faithfully served the Knights of Lithuania as their Spiritual; Director for many years,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled on this 6th day of August 1994, extend our warmest greeting, sincere felicitations and heartfelt congratulations to Father Jurgelaitis on this auspicious occasion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a gift of \$50.00 accompany the greetings.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS: FR. FABIAN P. KIREILIS

WHEREAS Father *Fabian P. Kireilis* on June 3rd of this year celebrated the 55th Anniversary of his

ordination to the priesthood, and

WHEREAS Father Kireilis has faithfully served the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Parish, Chicago for 21 years; has been a strong supporter of the Knights of Lithuania, and has served as Spiritual Advisor of Council 36 during this period,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled on this 6th day of August 1994, extend our warmest greetings, sincere felicitations and heartiest congratulations to Father Kireilis.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS: FR. JOHN SAVUKYNAS

WHEREAS Father *John Savukynas* will celebrate his Golden Jubilee, 50th anniversary, of his ordination to the priesthood on August 13, 1994, and,

WHEREAS Father John has been a strong supporter of the Knights of Lithuania, Council 112,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled on this 6th day of August 1994, extend our warmest greetings, sincere felicitations and heartiest congratulations to Father Savukynas.

* * *

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. VINCENT
PARULIS, MIC**

WHEREAS Father Vincent Parulis, MIC, will celebrate his Golden Jubilee, the 50th Anniversary, of his ordination to the priesthood on August 28, 1994; and,

WHEREAS Father Vincent has faithfully served the parishioners of St. Casimir's church in Worcester and has been a strong supporter of the Knights of Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, extend our warmest greetings, sincere felicitations and heartiest congratulations to Father Vincent Parulis.

* * *

**CONGRATULATIONS: FR. JOSEPH ANDERLO-
NIS**

WHEREAS Father *Joseph Anderlonis* will celebrate the Silver Jubilee, the 25th anniversary, of his ordination to the priesthood on December 19, 1994; and,

WHEREAS Father *Anderlonis* has faithfully served his parishioners at St. Casimir's Church in Philadelphia and filled the position of the Knights of Lithuania Spiritual Advisor on the Supreme Council

for six years,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 81st annual National Convention, assembled here in Chicago, IL, extend to Fr. Anderlonis on behalf of the whole Knights of Lithuania organization our sincere greetings and appreciation on this auspicious occasion, wishing him Godspeed and success in all his endeavors;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we accompany our congratulations with a \$100.00 gift.

WELCOME!

WELCOME: FR. JOHN PRISAITIS

WHEREAS St. Casimir's Church in Brockton, Massachusetts, the home of K of L Council 1, has a newly appointed pastor, *Fr. John Prisaitis*; and,

WHEREAS Father John will be installed on August 20, 1994 and has stated that he will be happy and anxious to further the K of L organization and ideals,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania being met in their 81st annual National Convention extend their greetings and prayers for success to Fr. Prisaitis.

VALIO! VALIO! VALIO!

CONGRATULATIONS: ST. CASIMIR'S PARISH

WHEREAS St. Casimir's Parish, Worcester, home of Council 26 is celebrating its 100th Anniversary in November of this year,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled on this 6th day of August, 1994, extend our sincerest congratulations to the parishioners of St. Casimir's Church.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS: ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

WHEREAS St. Joseph's Parish, Waterbury, is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 81st annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania assembled on this 6th day of August 1994 extend our heartiest congratulations to the parishioners of St. Joseph's Church.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS: ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

WHEREAS St. Joseph's Parish, Scranton, PA, home of Council 74, will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania assembled at their 81st National Convention extend heartiest congratulations to the parishioners of St. Joseph's Church in Scranton.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS; ST. CASIMIR'S PARISH

WHEREAS St. Casimir's Parish in Amsterdam, NY, is celebrating its 90th anniversary on October 22, 1994,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Lithuania assembled at their 81st National Convention extend heartiest congratulations to the parishioners of St. Casimir's Church in Amsterdam, New York.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS: ANNUNCIATION PARISH

WHEREAS Annunciation Parish of Brooklyn will be celebrating its 80th anniversary on September 18, 1994; and,

WHEREAS *Father Vytautas Palubinskas*, the Pastor, will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania extend our sincere congratulations to both the Pastor and the parishioners of Annunciation Parish.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS: ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

WHEREAS St. Anthony's Lithuanian Parish in Detroit will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 1995 together with Council 102, which was established concurrently with the parish,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 81st annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania extend heartiest congratulations to both the Parish and the Council on the occasion of this jubilee.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS: ST. CASIMIR'S (RI)

WHEREAS on October 30, 1994, St. Casimir Lithuanian Church in Providence, Rhode Island, will celebrate its 75th anniversary,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates at the 81st National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania on August 6, 1994, extend best wishes and sincere congratulations to the parishioners of St. Casimir's Church, Providence, RI.

GREETINGS TO THE 81ST NATIONAL CONVENTION, 1994

MOST REV. PAULIUS BALTAKIS, OFM
Titular Bishop of Egara for Lithuanian
Catholics throughout the Free World
Brooklyn, NY

**LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS'
CONFERENCE**
Most Rev. Sigitas Tamkevičius
Archdiocesan Curia,
Kaunas, Lithuania

MSGR. ALGIMANTAS BARTKUS
Rector, Pontifical Lithuanian College
of St. Casimir,
Rome, Italy

HON. ANICETAS SIMUTIS
Ambassador to the Permanent Mission of Lithuania
to the United Nations,
New York, NY

HON. ALGIMANTAS EIDINTAS
Ambassador of Lithuania to the USA
Washington, DC

HON. VACLOVAS KLEIZA
Honorary Consul General of the
Republic of Lithuania,
Chicago, IL

HON. LEONAS A. KUČINSKAS
Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania
New York, NY

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL (ALTAS)
Mr. Grozvydas Lazauskas, President
by Mrs. Matilda Marcinkus
Chicago, IL

**LITHUANIAN WORLD COMMUNITY
(PASAUOLIO LIETUVIŲ BENDRUOMENĖ)**
by Mr. Vacys Garbonkus
Chicago, IL

**LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS'
LEAGUE**
Rev. Albert J. Contons, President
So. Boston, MA

**LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC
FEDERATION OF AMERICA**
Saulius Kuprys, President
by Peter Paul Zansitis
Chicago, IL

**LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY OF AMERICA,
Midwest Region**
Birute A. Vindasius, President
Chicago, IL

LITHUANIAN ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
Vytautas Dargis, President
Westchester, IL

**UNITED LITHUANIAN RELIEF FUND OF
AMERICA, INC. (BALF)**
Mrs. Mary Rudis, President
Chicago, IL

**NATIONAL LITHUANIAN SOCIETY OF
AMERICA, INC.**
Dr. Leonas Kriaučeliūnas, President
Chicago, IL

LITHUANIAN SCOUTS' ASSOCIATION
Kestutis Jecius, President
by Rimas Griskelis and Ramona Stephens
Chicago, IL

**JOINT BALTIC AMERICAN NATIONAL
COMMITTEE (JBANC)**
Avo E. Ora, Director, Public Relations
Washington, DC

**LITHUANIAN AMERICAN ROMAN
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ALLIANCE**
Dale V. Murray, National President
Brookfield, WI

**LITHUANIAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION,
INC. (TAUTOS FONDAS)**
Jonas Vilgalys, President
Brooklyn, NY

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID
Vida Jankauskas, Administrator
Brooklyn, NY

LITHUANIAN FOUNDATION
by Stasys Baras, President
Chicago, IL

**FEDERATION OF LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S
CLUBS**
Aldona Noakas-Pintch, President
West Milford, NJ

**LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S CLUB
FEDERATION, CHICAGO CLUB**
Aleksandra Likander, President
Chicago, IL

**AMERIKOS LIETUVIŲ KULTŪROS
ARCHYVAS (ALKA)**
Juozas S. Kriauciunas, Pirmininkas
Putnam, CT

DARBININKAS
Kun. Dr. Kornelijus Bučmys, OFM
Vyr. Redaktorius
Brooklyn, NY

CONGREGATION OF THE MARIAN FATHERS
Rev. Donald S. Petraitis, MIC
Provincial
Chicago, IL

SISTERS OF ST. BENEDICT
Sister M. Raphala, OSB, Superior
Bedford, NH

SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR
Sister Marilyn Kuzmickas, SSC
General Superior
by Sister Angela Balchunas
Chicago, IL

SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED
Sister Celestine Stakutis, CJC,
Superior General
by Sister Helen Ivanauskas, CJC
Brockton, MA

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
Sister Margaret Carney, OSF
General Superior
Pittsburgh, PA

GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

AID TO LITHUANIA:

K of L Amber District	\$250.00
K of L C-3	100.00
K of L C-41	26.00
K of L C-103	25.79
Juliann Kapochus Majeski, C-3	200.00
(IMO Frank A. Kapochus)	
Ausra Maknys, C-3	150.00
Algerd Brazis, HM, C-112	150.00
Members & Friends of C-3	145.00
(IMO Thomas McDonald 3rd, Edward & Blanche Bubel, Michael McDonald)	
Lithuanian Social Club, Dayton, OH	140.37
Ray & Nellie Pandza, C-3	120.00
Len & Marilyn Kapochus, C-3	101.00
Hedwig Gedeika, C-3	100.00
Anna M. Kapochus, C-3	100.00
(IMO Frank A. Kapochus)	
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	100.00
(IMO Rev. V. Katarskis)	
Joseph & Arlene Stiklins, C-7	100.00
Margie Senk (Davidonis), C-10	100.00
(IMO Len Davidonis, Joseph Boley, HM, and Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Alexander, C-7	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. William Dapkus, C-79	100.00
Joseph Aukstakalnis (Stark), C-102	75.00
Anonymous	65.00
Rita & Denise Zakarka, C-112	60.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Mark & Daina Miller, C-3	51.00
Ann Supernavage, C-144	50.00
Phyllis M. Pelletier, C-112	50.00
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	50.00
Anna Uzdavinis, C-79	50.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	50.00
Phillip & Dorothy Machonis, C-3	50.00
Jean Kapochus Michalik, C-143	50.00

Joanna & George Gilbert, C-146	50.00
Lillian M. Greymas, C-3	50.00
Robert & Lorraine Holdsworth, C-3	50.00
Alphonse J. Balsis, C-3	50.00
Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	50.00
Ruth A. Wallash, C-3	50.00
Josephine O'Pecka, C-46	50.00
Irene Ozalis, C-3	50.00
Helen Kapochus Karpovich, C-143	50.00
Rita Karrytais, C-26	50.00
Mary & Helen Labadis, C-144	50.00
(IMO Bill Labadis)	
Anonymous	50.00
Dorothy Banos, C-143	25.00
Ruth T. Margis, C-3	25.00
Mary Beth Slakis, C-16	25.00
(IMO Al Slakis)	
Julie H. Zakarka, C-112	25.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	25.00
Anonymous, in honor of Rev. Anderlonis	25.00
Anne Marie Jaskel, C-3	25.00
Joseph & Constance Machonis, C-3	25.00
Susan Banditelli, C-144	25.00
Walter & Irene Svekla, C-3	25.00
(IMO Martin Rusgi)	
Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	25.00
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	25.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	25.00
Vete L. Kelmelis, C-7	25.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
Alfred & Ann Navitt, C-3	25.00
John & Dolores Jonaitis, C-147	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Tom Bruzga, C-86	25.00
(IMO Joanna Shigo)	
Bertha Janus, C-79	20.00
Charlotte Rice	20.00

PLEDGES:

Margie Davidonis Senk, C-10	450.00
(IMO Len Davidonis, Joseph Boley, HM, and Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Ms. Marcella Bartoli, C-143	216.36
Mary Ann Gercius, C-112	100.00
Thomas & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
TOTAL	\$4,600.52

ST. CASIMIR GUILD:

K of L Mid-America District	\$2,000.00
K of L Amber District	250.00
K of L C-36	500.00
K of L C-41	100.00
K of L C-143	50.00
K of L C-78	50.00
K of L C-12	25.00
Agnes F. Waitonis, C-103	500.00
(IMO Joseph A. Waitonis)	
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	300.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	100.00
(IMO Frank Ambrose)	
Anonymous	100.00
Joseph Aukstakalnis (Stark), C-102	75.00
Rev. Albin F. Janiunas, HM, C-78	50.00
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	50.00
Rita Karrytais, C-26	50.00
Mary & Helen Labadis, C-144	50.00
(IMO Bill Labadis)	
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Alexander, C-7	50.00
Michael & Theresa Stasiulaitis Shea, C-102	50.00
Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	50.00
Julie H. Zakarka, C-112	25.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Tom Bruzga, C-86	25.00
(IMO Jeanne Bruzga)	
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
John Grenda-Lukas, C-78	25.00
Anna Uzdavinis, C-79	25.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	25.00
Estelle Rogers, HM, C-112	25.00
Vete L. Kelmelis, C-7	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Susan Banditelli, C-144	25.00
Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	25.00
(IMO Mary Stanionis)	
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	25.00
Ann Supernavage, C-144	25.00
Anonymous, in honor of Fr. J. Anderlonis	25.00
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	20.00
Rita & Denise Zakarka, C-112	20.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	20.00
Phyllis M. Pelletier, C-112	15.00
Nellie & Vaclovas Romanas, C-143	10.00
PLEDGES:	
Margie Davidonis Senk, C-10	50.00
(IMO Len Davidonis, Joseph Boley, HM, and Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	

Thomas & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
TOTAL	\$4,895.00

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION:

K of L Mid-America District	\$2,000.00
K of L C-86	100.00
K of L C-36	25.00
K of L C-52	25.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	1,000.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	100.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
John Antanavicius, C-12	100.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	100.00
Ann Supernavage, C-144	100.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Al & Scottie Zukas, C-36	100.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM & Casimir Chaponis)	
Johanna Johnston, C-36	100.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	100.00
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	50.00
Ann Marie Sewatsky, C-143	50.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	50.00
Tom Bruzga, C-86	25.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Nellie and Vaclovas Romanas, C-143	25.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Vete L. Kelmelis, C-7	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	25.00
PLEDGES:	
Thomas & Anna Helen McDonald	10.00
TOTAL	\$4,185.00
K OF L SCHOLARSHIP FUND:	
K of L Mid-America District	\$2,500.00
K of L C-12	500.00
K of L C-144	100.00
K of L C-143	50.00
K of L C-36	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	100.00
Ann Marie Sewatsky, C-143	50.00
Mary & Helen Labadis, C-144	50.00
(IMO Bill Labadis)	
Dorothy Banos, C-143	50.00
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	50.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	50.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Anonymous	50.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Ann Radzevich, C-100	25.00
(IMO Anthony Radzevich)	
Susan Banditelli	25.00

Walter & Irene Svekla	25.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	25.00
Ann Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Bill Labadis)	
Jewel Ushka, C-3	25.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	25.00
Vete L. Kelmelis, C-7	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Julie H. Zakarka, C-112	25.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Rita Pinkus, HM, C-26	25.00
(IMO Ted Pinkus)	
Bernice Aviza, C-136	25.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
Agatha Bender, C-19	20.00
Maria Deksnis, C-112	15.00
Rita & Denise Zakarka, C-112	10.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Nellie & Vaclovas Romanas, C-143	10.00
PLEDGES:	
Margie Davidonis Senk, C-10	50.00
(IMO Len Davidonis, Joseph Boley, HM, and Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
Thomas & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
TOTAL	\$4,040.00

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

K of L C-36	\$25.00
Phyllis M. Pelletier, C-112	35.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	25.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	25.00
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	15.00
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	10.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	10.00

PLEDGES:

Margie Davidonis Senk, C-10	50.00
(IMO Len Davidonis, Joseph Boley, HM, and Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
TOTAL	\$220.00

K OF L JUNIORS' FUND:

Mary & Helen Labadis, C-144	\$50.00
(IMO Bill Labadis)	
Anonymous	50.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	25.00
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	10.00
Rita & Denise Zakarka	10.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
TOTAL	\$145.00

VYTIS FUND:

Susan Banditelli, C-144	\$25.00
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	10.00
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	10.00
TOTAL	\$45.00

K OF L GENERAL FUND:

Alice Zupko, C-12	\$50.00
Susan Banditelli, C-144	25.00
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	10.00
TOTAL	\$85.00

CONVENTION COMMITTEE:

Julie H. Zakarka, C-112	\$25.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	10.00
TOTAL	\$35.00

SILUVA SHRINE FUND:

Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	\$25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Anna Uzdavinis, C-79	25.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	15.00
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	15.00
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	10.00
Genevieve Gobis, C-100	10.00
TOTAL	\$125.00

DEBORAH HOSPITAL LITHUANIAN FUND:

Ann Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)	
TOTAL	\$25.00

LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF:

Dorothy Banos, C-143	\$25.00
Agatha Bender, C-19	20.00
TOTAL	\$45.00

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA ARCHIVES:

George Kisielius, C-50	\$5.00
TOTAL	\$5.00

TOTAL DONATIONS AND PLEDGES**RECEIVED \$18,450.52**

The Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council and all its Committees and Funds express sincerest thanks to all Districts, Councils, members and guests for their very generous donations, to keep our organization and its many activities thriving.

Photo Captions for the Convention Issue
All photos by and through the courtesy of
Vito C. Gestautas C-16 ,Convention Photographer

PAGE 2 Montage:

K of L Juniors lead procession into All Saints-St.Anthony's Church for the Closing Mass.
Rev. A. Markus,Rev.Dr.J.Anderlonis,Msgr.Al Bartkus, Rev. R. Dodaro.
Rev. Anderlonis gives the Thumbs-up for a great convention.
MAMD Choir under the direction of muz. Faustas Strolia sings in the Cathedral
MAMD choir at the closing Mass

PAGE 3:

Convention Co-Chair Kenneth Rudmin leads procession at Opening Mass- Holy Name Cathedral
Concelebrants surround His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin.

PAGE 4:

Cardinal Bernardin adressing the assemblage and recessing after Mass.

PAGE 5:

Delegates registering for the Convention with Loretta Gestautas and Diann Martin of C-16
HM Fran Petkus,Christine Cius and , Robert A. Matin,Jr dicuss Youth Congress

PAGE 6:

National Spiritual Advisor Rev.Dr.J.Anderlonis & National President Evelyn Ozelis in conference
At the Supreme Council Reception.....

PAGE 7:

Friends Get Together at the Thursday Night Event
Bob and Diann Martin C-16 are surrounded by festive decorations at the Get-Together Party
Getting ready for elections

PAGE 8:

HM Msgr. Al Bartkus speaks on the Lithuanian College in Rome.
HM Robert S. Boris gives a status report on Aid to Lithuania

PAGE 9:

Mandate Committee- l to r back row: AnneMarie Berger, Rita Sussko, Ann Marie Kassel; front row:
Georgeanna Macke, Agnes Mickunas, Irene Svekla.
Manigirdas Motekaitis, HM Algirdas Brazis and Praurime Ragiene at Friday Cultutal Night

PAGE 10:

Praurime Ragas, well known Lithuanian Opera Singer
Manigirdas Motekaitis, noted Chicago pianist, arranged the program and was accompanist

PAGE 11:

Linda Veleckis,violin and Susan Stein , cello performing
Soloist HM Algirdas Brazis
Performers of "Lithuania and the Classics" take a final bow l to r : Manigirdas Motekaitis, Praurime
Ragas, Algirdas Brazis,Linda Veleckis and Susan Stein.

PAGE 12:

Delegates get down to the business of voting

PAGE 13:

Greetings Committee: Back - Antoinette Sakal, Margaret Dapkus Front - Eleanor Vaicaitis, Mary
Kincius

PAGE 14:

Resolutions Committee: l to r Chairman Vince Boris, Sr. Helen Ivanauskas, HM Rita Pinkus, Terese
Strolia, Frank Petrauskas.

PAGE 15:

Convention Co-Chair Robert A. Martin, Jr. welcomes convention delegates and guests to the
convention banquet.
1994 Honorary Membership inductees Anna Klizas Wargo and Elinor Sluzas share a momment.

PAGE 16:

Presidium Officials : John Mickunas, HM Loretta Stukas and Evelyn Ozelis, Chairs and Peter
Zansitis, Parliamentarian

PAGE 17:

Official 1994 Convention Photo in front of All Saints-St. Anthony Church

PAGE 18:

K of L Juniors enjoy "Junior Olympics" under the watchful eye of Ken and Deb Martin .

PAGE 19:

Presidium Secretaries : l to r Bernice Aviza and Muriel Lekstutis

Rev. Richard Dodaro, Spiritual Advisor C-16 joins HM Msgr. Al Bartkus, Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas and HM Fran Petkus

National President Evelyn Ozelis greets the assembly

HM Loretta Stukas presents the Honorary Membership Inductees at the Banquet

PAGE 21:

Dr. Dharmapuri Vidyasagar acknowledges the Friend of Lithuania award

Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas greeted at O'Hare Aiport in traditional Lithuanian style by Loretta Gestautas and Mary Kincius.

PAGE 22:

Dr. Eidintas fields probing questions after his remarks

PAGE 23:

Vince Boris, Evelyn Ozelis, Mary Kincius and Fran Petkus Get Together

Scholarship Recipient Andrew Svekla accepts his award at the banquet

PAGE 24:

HM Elinor Sluzas cknowledges her Honorary Membership Award

HM Anna Klizas Wargo accepts Honorary Membership

PAGE 25:

Rev. Anthony Markus, Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis and HM Msgr. Al Bartkus at the Closing Mass

PAGE 26:

Closing Mass Minor Elevation

K of L Juniors bring up the gifts at the closing Mass

PAGE 27:

Rev. Anderlonis administers the Oath of Office to Supreme Council Members at the Closing Mass

l to r Mes. A.Zvarenas, Amb. A Zvarenas, Amb.Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas, HM Fran Petkus, Mary Beth Slakis, Host Council 16 President.

PAGE 29:

1994-1995 Supreme Council Officers: seated l to r : F.Petkus,R.Martin,Rev.J.Anderlonis,E.Ozelis, R.Sussko,A.Mickunas,E.Barkowski. Standing l to r : A.Brazis,E.Komisky,E.Meilus,A.Wargo,R.Boris, L.Stukas,P.Zansitis,L.Petravicius,B.Aviza,J.Mankus,V.Boris,A.Kassel,H.Banos,L.Svelnis,B.Stoskus, R.Juska.Missing when photo was taken T.Bruzga,J.Baltrus,S.Kuprys,V.Obando.

PAGE 36

Honorary Members at the 81st National Convention: seated l to r : L. Stukas, A. Wargo, Msgr. A. Bartkus, E. Sluzas, S. Vaitkus. Standing l to r: L. Svelnis, F. Petkus, A. Mitchell, R. Pinkus, R. Boris, E. Rogers.

Installation of Fouth Degree Recipients at the closing Mass





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For 49 years Elinor Ambrose Sluzas of Council 96 Dayton, Ohio shared her life with the Knights of Lithuania and through this sharing as she stated she has been blessed with many wonderful friends.

As Elinor received her Honorary Membership Award at the 81st National Convention she shared a poem she wrote for all of us. We print it here for the entire membership to reflect upon and enjoy.

I count my friends - as music
Each one a different song.....
a melody that's just your own
found deep within each heart.

Come....play for me your melody
and share with me your dreams....
and in this sharing
write new songs,
to see us through the years.

Somehow...through the noise of life
our melodies still linger
and we recall a sweeter time
of youth....and truth....and love.

Elinor Ambrose Sluzas C-96