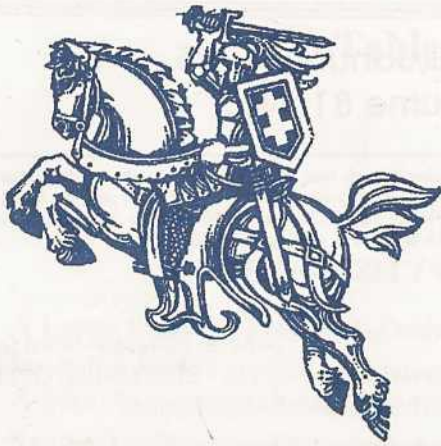


Volume 81: No 1.
January 1995



VYTIS

Knights of Lithuania

SAUSIS / JANUARY

IN LITHUANIAN, THE NAME IS DRAWN FROM THE ROOT, "SAUS-", WHICH REFLECTS THE HARD, DRY COLD THAT NORMALLY PREVAILS IN LITHUANIA THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. ALL OF NATURE IS COVERED WITH A THICK BLANKET OF SNOW. THE SNOW IS FINE, DRY AND BLOWN BY THE WIND.



VYTIS

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All correspondence should reach the editor by the **first of the month**, two months in advance of the issue and should be typewritten and double spaced. Except for the information contained in the Official News, the Knights of Lithuania and editors assume no responsibility for the statement or opinions made by the contributors or no obligation to return any material or photos unsolicited. Use of material from VYTIS is permissible only if credit is given to VYTIS, its authors, artists or photographers.

A Letter from Our President

January 1995

Dear Fellow Knights:

Due to increased career responsibilities and pressures, VYTIS Editor Eduardas Meilus tendered his resignation, and that of his entire staff, effective immediately. I extend warmest thanks to Eduardas and his staff for their efforts in preparing VYTIS during the past year, and wish them all good luck and God's speed in their future undertakings.



*Evelyn Ozelis
National President*

It is our good fortune that Maryte Abbott of Council 110, Maspeth, NY, has agreed to assume editing VYTIS, and it is with great pleasure that I announce her appointment as Editor-in-Chief of VYTIS beginning with this issue. She is in the process of selecting a staff to assist her in this large undertaking. Thanks for taking on this responsibility.

In the name of the Supreme Council, I apologize to the membership for the problems that have caused delays in publishing the last few issues of VYTIS. I ask your cooperation in supporting our new VYTIS staff with your articles, news items and suggestions. Together, we can assure a timely and interesting publication.

The addresses of the new staff are listed on the front inside cover of this issue.

I would like to wish all the membership a most happy, healthy and fruitful New Year. In ending, may I share with you a quote from an unknown author who expresses my feelings:

"Going forward into a New Year, I want to stop and thank you Lord, for the special people who walk through the triumphs and trials of life with me. Thank you, Lord, for my friends."

Teissipildo Auksciausiojo vale Naujuose Metuose!

Vytiskai!

Evelyn Ozelis, National President
Knights of Lithuania

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Sviekas and Happy New Year!

This month marks the 4th anniversary of the freedom of the Lithuanian people from former Soviet oppression. Four short years have changed our ancestral home. We must not forget how hard it was to gain freedom. Now, Lithuania and Lithuanians are learning that with freedoms come responsibilities.



My mission in accepting the editor-in-chief position of *Vytis*, is to assist this great organization perpetuate it's traditions, and enable these treasures to be received by the next generation of Knights. It is up to the rest of my fellow Knights to help me with this task. *Vytis* would like writers to contribute articles, short stories, poetry and any story that relates to Lithuanians across the sea or American-Lithuanians here at home. Photographers are welcome to contribute, too. It's up to all the Knights to make *Vytis* a publication that is received promptly with timely information. A publication non-members might want to take a look at, and ask us questions.

I would like to thank Evelyn Ozelis, Loretta Stukas, Vincent Boris, Helen Matulonis, Virginius Barkauskas, Julia Gomez, Mirga Bablin, Rita Sussko, Richard Niedvares and --most of all my husband, Jack-- for helping me organize and accomplish this issue. Aciu labai.

Through membership drives, beginning now through June, *Vytis* will feature any council's drive for new members with articles you submit. The importance of continuing Lithuanian tradition starts with the Knights.

Maryte Abbott

Instructions for article submissions:

1. 1" margins on all sides of an 8 1/2" x 11" page.
2. Type double-spaced w/o indenting paragraphs. Leave space between paragraph.
3. Make sure you have a good working typewriter ribbon.
4. Do not "handwrite" (signature, corrections, additions) on the copy page.
5. PC Users can submit .SAM, .WPS, or WP60 formatted disks.
6. Handwritten Council News may take longer to appear.

Thank you. Aciu.

A 25TH ANNIVERSARY JUBILATION

by *Ausro Maknys*
C-3 Philadelphia

The morning of November 20 dawned bright and beautiful with balmy temperatures. It was the last Sunday in Ordinary Time before the start of the new Church year. What a glorious day for St. George, the little parish in Port Richmond, to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the ordination of its pastor, Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis. Family, friends, fellow clergy, member Knights of Lithuania and St. George parishioners joined to honor their beloved relative, friend and priest. The Jubilee Mass at 3 PM was preceded by a trio of songs sung by St. George's Choir and included one of Father Joe's favorite hymns, "What a Friend We have in Jesus". It was a grand procession that entered the St. George Church, accompanied by the triumphal

sound of the brass quartet, trumpets and trombones played by the students of Temple University.

In his typical and endearing style, Father Anderlonis made light of himself and the occasion when he greeted the congregation with the words, "Why are you all here?" But we all knew and keenly felt the poignancy of the moment when the invocation in memory of the deceased included Father Joe's beloved mother Ida.

The homily was presented by a fellow seminarian of Father Anderlonis, The Rev. Michael J. Sheridan, Pastor of the Church of the Immacolata in Richmond Heights, Missouri. Father Sheridan highlighted Father Joe's career and qualities that endear him to us.

Father Anderlonis joyfully received the Offeretory gifts carried by his nieces and nephews and doled out kisses and hugs to Amy, Karie, Tim, Andrew and Anastasia Anderlonis. The solemnity of the ceremony was embodied in the twenty-five priests who arched the altar

LINKSMŲ NAJŲ METŲ!



FROM MSGR. AL BARTKUS
THE PRIESTS AND STUDENTS

AT THE

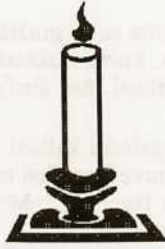
LITHUANIAN PONTIFICAL COLLEGE IN ROME
CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE ST. CASIMIR GUILD
DONATIONS ** VESTMENT FUND ** MASSES

ANNA K. WARGO
PRESIDENT

Svekla and National Officers, Agnes and John Mickunas.

May this

NEW YEAR



Bring to you

The music of LAUGHTER

and

The warmth of FRIENDSHIP

Eleanor Sluzas
Honorary Member
Council 96
Dayton

in a semi-circle during the Consecration to concelebrate the anniversary Mass. Council 3 Vyciai, Julie Kowrak and Stanley Petraitis performed a moving duet of "Meile Kryziaus" and led a chorus of "Ilgiausiu Metu" and were joined in the singing by Vyciai and Lithuanian parishioners. A school bus was chartered and visitors car pooled with family and freinds for the drive north to Fisher's Tudor House at Street Road in Bensalem, PA where festivities to honor Father Anderlonis continued.

Since Father Anderlonis is the National Spiritual Advisor of the Knights of Lithuania, may officers who visited St. George in October returned to celebrate his Jubilee. National K of L President Evelyn Ozelis presented him with a gift. Other officers were Rita Sussko, Vincent Boris and John Mankus, as well as honorary members Loretta Stukas and Anna Klizas Wargo. Amber District officers Elsie Kosmisky, Eleanor Vaicaitis and Helen Chesko attended as well as Mary Shalins and Grace Mankus from New York. Philadelphia's Council 3 showed a large attendance including Rev. Timothy Burkauskas, Rev. Eugene Wassel, Diane and Joseph Drumstas, Irene and Walter

An hour of cocktails with open bar preceded the prime rib dinner served in the Grand Ballroom. Rev. Gregory J. Parlante, Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia served as Master of Ceremonies and Rev. Msgr. Robert T. Sheeran, Vice-chancellor of Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ offered the invocation. Thomas and Andrew Anderlonis provided the opening and closing toasts with words of affection that only brothers could express. Those stories Father Sheridan had long promised to reveal were partly disclosed in the reminiscences of Rev. John E. MacInnis, Director of the Pastoral Institute at St. John Seminary in Boston, who shared Father Joe's seminary days in Rome. Rev. John Kelly, Newman Chaplain at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA was a frequent visitor for Sunday Masses at St. George and he recalled the comical feud with Father Joe for originality in their Christmas sermons. If we took our eyes from the speakers, we could see Father Joe wiping tears of laughter from his own eyes, for the memories stirred, and joyous times evoked.

Father Anderlonis was getting a royal roasting from his fellow priests and loving tributes of devotion from parishioners who represented St. George's Auxiliary, Home & School Association, Sodality and the Men's Committee. Mrs. Terese Gecys of the Philadelphia chapter of the Lithuanian-American Community presented a book of Lithuanian art to Father Anderlonis in appreciation of his leadership and guiding presence. Father Anderlonis capped the tributes with his own words of love and gratitude to the people in his life who brought him to this day, and surrounded him tonight. Father acknowledged his debt to his own father, *Joseph*, to Msgr. Vito J. Martusevich, pastor emeritus and his predecessor at St. George, and to his home parish of St. Andrew's Church in Philadelphia. Father Joe recalled the anonymous Franciscan brother who wished him, as a young seminarian, "Ad Bonum Sacerdotium." Twenty-five years later, on the Feast of Christ the king, under the crown of Christus Victor, Father Joseph Anderlonis shared the dignity of Holy Orders with his fellow priests, and the blessings of pastoral care with the people he served, "For a Good Priesthood."

SAUSIO TRYLIKTOŠIOS TESTAMENTAS

Lietuvos Respublikos piliečiai, kurie tikite Lietuva, kurie mylite savo gražią gimtąją žemę, tėvų ir motinų kalbą ir dainas, visa tai, kas yra Tėvynė ir ką praradęs lieki našlaitis, kurie trokštate, kad Lietuva būtų laisva ir garbinga valstybė, žinokite: ji tokia bus, ji amžinai atgims, nes bus išlikusi Jūsų širdyse.

Aš kalbu Jums tuos žodžius iš anksto numatęs, kad gal nebegalėsiu kalbėti. Atėjo dar viena naktis, kuri nebebus ilga, kaip nebebūna ilgas tamsiausias metas prieš aušrą. Supuvę vergijos namai griūva, ir nei prižiūrėtojų siutas, nei parsidavėlių šliaužiojimas nebegali to sovietijos kalėjimo išgelbėti. Mums reikia išlikti savo sodybose, savo šeimose, savo žemėje, nebėgant į šalį nei nuo žemės, nei nuo sąžinės.

Saugokite nesuterštą sielą ir žemę, dangų ir vandenį, nes vis tai -- Lietuva, reikalinga ir mūsų vaikams, mūsų palikuonims. Atsiminkite, kad Lietuvoj teisėti yra tik Lietuvos įstatymai, ir tuo ginkitės, kad Jus persekios. Nepripažinkite, kad anie Jus gali teisti už ištikimybę Lietuvai.

Ištieskite ranka persekiojamam ir padėkite artimui, o nusigržkite nuo šnipo ir skundiko. Brangindami savo garbę, išsaugosime, atgausime Lietuvos garbę.

Vytautas Landsbergis

A Successful Completion to the

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION 1994 ESSAY CONTEST

Not the least of the functions of the Knights of Lithuania is encouraging members to appreciate Lithuanian culture and traditions, and instilling in them a desire to practice the traditions in their families. Without a doubt, most members have traditions that have been passed down through generations, perhaps modified somewhat to meet modern day needs. The Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc. provided each member an opportunity to share some of their Lithuanian family traditions through its annual essay contest.

The topic of the 1994 Foundation Contest was:

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

Essays were judged on the basis of content, style, grammar, creativity, general appearance, and adherence to the stated topic. Judging was anonymous -- judges did not know the identity of any of the entrants until the judging was over. Winners were announced at the 81st National Convention in Chicago, IL. The winning entries will be published in this and subsequent issues.

This year's contest provided joy to the entrants --

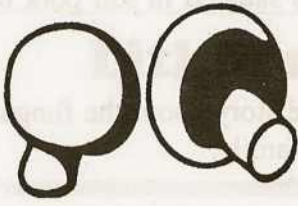
as they recalled family celebrations, and will do so to other members -- as they read about how others spend Lithuanian holidays and perhaps decide to incorporate some of these traditions into their own lives. We thank all the members who entered the contest, and congratulate those in the "winning circle", namely:

1st (\$200.00) Louise Kleabonas, C-100
2nd (\$100.00) Albert Cizauskas, C-142
3rd (\$ 75.00) Anna Sikora, C-144
Hon. Men. Bruno Rutkunas, C-110
Hon. Men. Anna Helen McDonald, C-144

The Knights of Lithuania is most grateful to Rev. Msgr. Juozas Prunskis for his generosity in donating a special grant of \$10,500 to the Foundation, with the specification that the interest from the grant be used for an Essay Contest, encouraging members to think about and write about Lithuania, her customs, and the Knights of Lithuania.

We encourage all members to enter the next contest!

Loretta I. Stukas, President
 Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.



THEY'RE OUT...

By Louise Klebonas
C-110 Amsterdam, NY

First Prize Winner

The day dawned bright, sunny and beautiful. It was autumn and the air was crisp with an early frost.

Suddenly the phone rang. As I picked it up, a man's voice shouted, "THEY'RE OUT!" I recognized the voice as a close family friend.

The message was an annual call. The MUSHROOMS had reared their lovable and delicate little heads.

My husband and son quickly got their baskets and knives together. How they both love mushrooming

In the early years of our marriage, I realized that a fungus was invading our family life. All during the last forty-five years, the mushrooms have cast their spell.

My husband was quite young when his mother and father took him along with them in the woods and he learned to pick only those mushrooms that he could recognize.

Our son was quite young when my husband started taking him out in the woods, and taught him the fine art of mushrooming. He was just old enough and big enough to hold a knife in one hand and a basket in the other. It's a tradition they still enjoy and share together. They wait anxiously for the phone call -"THEY' RE OUT".

Last October they picked six baskets of Grybas. When I arrived home, my son was sorting, my husband was washing, and my kitchen was a disaster. Knowing full well that my kitchen would never be the same if I didn't help out, I abandoned my first impulse to leave home, and started washing, cutting, and cooking. That night we put sixteen quarts of their precious harvest in the freezer.

Sometimes we oven dry some of the mushrooms. The pungent aroma fills the house and wafts out the door to greet any visitor.

I remember as a new bride, receiving a tiny wooden box with a sliding cover from my husband's family in Lithuania. It held a necklace of dried mushrooms and was treated like a gift from heaven.

In 1990, my husband and I visited Lithuania for the first time. We were at the Rumsiskes Museum where a wood carver was displaying his art work in the field. Suddenly I turned around and they were both gone -- soon to return with a large and beautiful Baravykas. My husband was ecstatic.

On a trip to Alaska, we were aboard a tour bus which had stopped at Mendenhall Glacier in Juneau- The sight was spectacular, but my husband was more interested in kicking around the leaves which had fallen the previous year in the forest surrounding the parking lot. Soon

he uncovered a perfect example of a mushroom hiding underneath.

I fondly remember a day, many years ago, when my small son came home proudly carrying a ceramic mushroom which he had made as a Christmas gift for his beloved Grandma Bobute.

Holiday dinners are never complete without mushrooms and onions sauteed in salt pork or butter.

And now you know the story about the fungus which has invaded my family.



**Mid-America District,
Chicago, IL, Knights of
Lithuania meet with visiting
President of Lithuania, A.
Brazauskas.**

L to R: Vince Samaska, C-36; Pres. A. Brazauskas; Mrs. Aldona Brazis, C-112; and Algerd Brazis, C-112, and President of the Mid-America District. Submitted by Mary Kincius, C-36 Photo by: J. Tamulaitis

**WELCOME
NEW
MEMBERS**



Vincent Youravich
C-118

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Tumenas
C-112

Jeanne B. Budgin
C-90

Phillip Stasukaitis
C-112

Albert Gabalis
C-79

Jacqueline Wojtowicz
C-79

Louis Renauld
C-79

Roland Kase
C-79

Irene Vizgirda
C-102

Joyce Anne Griffin
C-136

Lithuania's Window to the World

- Klaipeda -

By Dr. Jack Stukas

©1993

On January 15th, Lithuanians in the Free World will once again mark the anniversary of the liberation of its port city, Klaipeda, or Memel as the Germans who had occupied it designated. So-called Memelland had been lopped off the old German Empire at the conclusion of World War I. The treaty of Versailles in 1919 France had received permission to administer it as a mandated territory. It was a small parcel, only about 1100 square miles, stretching 100 miles wide and tapering to ten miles at the shore of the Nemunas River. This city meant a great deal to the Lithuanians with its outlet to the seaports of the world, the port of Klaipeda.

The 150,000 inhabitants are chiefly of Lutheran faith and Germanic in culture, presenting an interesting study. It was argued that these people were originally of Lithuanian stock. Most of them spoke or understood the Lithuanian language and could easily claim Lithuanian kinship. However, they sent their sons for many generations to German schools which fostered Germanic cultural influences in the area. The small German minority in Klaipeda resented any change nor attachment to Lithuania, preferring to remain a part of Germany.

On January 10th, 1923, various groups and band of Lithuanian troops gathered at the Lithuanian-Memelland border to hear the last instructions from Colonel Jonas Budrys and his Captains. The zero hour for this irregular invasion of Memelland had not been definitely set and there was some hesitation.

Sometime before the Lithuanians had decided to stage an uprising within the Territory since they not only had coveted for some time this natural addition to their land, but were fearful it might be given a Free State status or handed to the Poles by the Conference of Ambassadors. The Lithuanians marched in, following the peoples demonstration at Heydekrug. A weak resistance was put up by the French garrison which was caught napping. In answer to a hasty summons by the French, the British put in at Klaipeda a small man of war. This British ship threatened to shell the city unless the Lithuanians withdrew promptly. The Lithuanians apparently told them to go right ahead and proceed with their occupation of the entire territory. After some consultations between the contesting parties, it was agreed that the Lithuanians should make a token withdrawal to allow the French to leave in dignity, with the understanding that the subsequent Council of Ambassadors would satisfactorily settle the question.

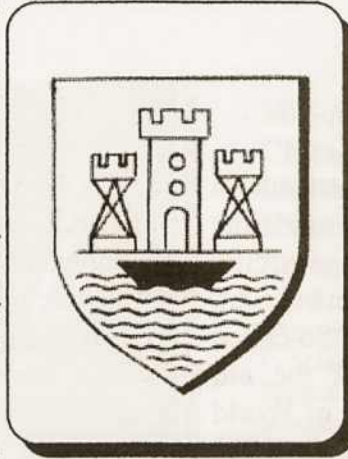
However, this body appears to have been one of the most inept and incompetent that ever graced the Council boards. They drew up a twin document known as the Memel Convention and Statute, that set the stage for long and continuous bickering and strife between the Lithuanian government and the territory. On March 15th, 1923, the same Council formally recognized the Lithuanian-Poland border as most recently defined, disregarding the Lithuanian-Polish Treaty of 1920, which recognized the city of Vilnius as Lithuanian, and temporized on the arrangement of 1923, involving Memelland or Klaipeda.

The acquisition of Klaipeda did give Lithuania a first class port from which she would reach out and trade with the world. It did bring a certain expansion prosperity to the territory by this addition of a natural hinterland, although the Memellanders continued to reject all the proposals calculated to bring about closer coordination between them and Lithuania. It did aid tremendously the exporting efforts of Lithuania.

In 1924, the territory was made an autonomous region within Lithuania by the Council of Ambassadors and its own legislature. In 1939, Nazi Germany demanded Lithuania restore Memel - Klaipeda to Germany. On her part, Germany agreed to reimburse Lithuania for all investments made within the territory from 1923 to 1939. She further agreed to give Lithuania a lease of 99 years for a portion of the harbor. But these promises were never kept. Though loath to give up her much needed outlet to the sea, Lithuania preferred to avoid open conflict with a Germany now on the march. On March 21, 1939, Lithuania with force, ceded the territory to Germany. The Nazis then rapidly

occupied the region and two years later, in June 1941, invaded Lithuania and occupied the entire country.

Following the defeat of Nazi forces, the District of Klaipeda was captured by Soviet troops in 1945 and was returned to Lithuania, which by then was forcibly annexed to the Soviet Union.



Klaipeda Coat of Arms

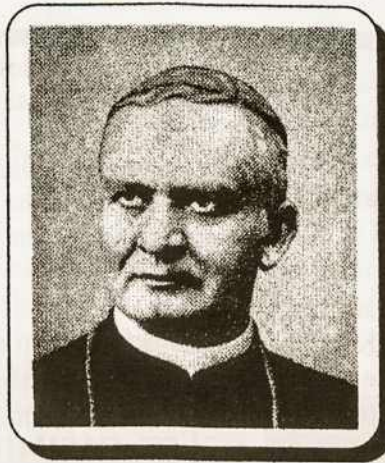
Klaipeda is once again Lithuania's major port city. Having started as an old Lithuanian settlement, it was conquered by the Teutonic Knights in 1252, who renamed it Memelburg.

Klaipeda is becoming an increasingly important as an ice-free seaport with shipyards and an industrial center. Once again, Klaipeda has become the "window to the world" of an independent Lithuanian republic.

*Submitted by Loretta Stukas, HM,
from the Archives of her late
husband, Dr. Jack Stukas.*

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telex 495-0763



Blessed George Matulaitis (1871 – 1927)

Blessed George Matulaitis born in 1871 In Lithuania, lived in tumultuous times. Grounding himself in God's presence, he strove to meet every contingency and trial with equanimity and honesty. He dedicated himself to God's greater glory and to the salvation and perfection of souls. In all situations and all capacities, including positions of authority, which he did not seek, he served God's people unreservedly. He continually studied, read, and conferred With others so that his work should be as precise and as effective as possible. He constantly examined his life in the light of Christ's example. He generously served the Catholic Church, which he loved.

Blessed George Matulaitis renewed the Marians, which he joined, and founded two religious communities for women, one of them the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was concerned that the Church not lack

dedicated, competent workers, especially in areas most neglected.

All his life he know physical suffering. At various times he was mocked, persecuted and criticized; political groups tried to use him for their purposes, but Archbishop George was alert and remained unambiguously true to God and to the Church. He died in 1927 and was beatified in 1987.

Blessed George Matulaitis was a model Christian. Unconditionally loving God, in whom he delighted, he faithfully served the Church. He lived and worked for others, recognizing justice and peace as the foundations of a good society; he saw everything in the context of the Divine; he weighed all options in view of the eternal. His life attests God's beauty and love. His example sheds light in the darkness and guides others to the Source of all being. Blessed George wished, in his own words, *to burn like the candle on the altar, consumed by the heat of labor and the fire of love for God and for Gods Church.*

OFFICIAL NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP THANKS

To the Knights of Lithuania & Scholarship Committee:

I wish to take the opportunity to express my most sincere thanks to all the members of the Knights of Lithuania and the Scholarship Committee for the generosity in granting me a scholarship award.

This award will be very helpful towards this year's expenses at school. We are indeed fortunate to have the scholarship program as part of the Knights of Lithuania. In the future I will do my best to spread the Lithuanian culture and causes. Thank you, again, for helping me further my education.

Sincerely
Ryan Miller
Trumbull, CT

Dear Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Committee,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Knights of Lithuania for the scholarship I was awarded at the 81st National Convention in Chicago. I was overwhelmed and extremely honored to receive the \$2,000 Alice Karklius Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship will be very helpful as I continue my education in Washington, D.C., where I will be a freshman this fall. While at school, I plan to pursue a major in Environmental Policy.

The Knights of Lithuania is an important part of my life and will always be. I am proud of my Lithuanian heritage and consider myself fortunate to be a member of this wonderful organization. Hopefully, my location in Washington will give me

new opportunities to explore and promote my Lithuanian roots.

Once again, "labai sirdingu aciui" to the Knights of Lithuania and the Scholarship Committee for awarding me this prestigious scholarship

Vytiskai,
Andrew Svekla

ST. CASIMIR'S GUILD DONATION:

The Mid-America District's donation of \$2,000.00 to the St. Casimir's Guild was not included in the Convention Issue of VYTIS.

Dear Knights:

On behalf of Msgr. Bartkus, the staff and students of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, I wish to thank all who contributed to the St. Casimir Guild at the 81st National Convention in Chicago.

We have reached a little past the half way mark of our \$10,000.00 Vestment Goal. If you could help in any way to achieve this goal, it would be most appreciated.

Masses are available for your deceased loved ones. If you need Mass Cards, please get in touch with me.

May God bless you all for your continued support of this worthy cause.

Vytiskai,
Anna Klizas Wargo
President
The St. Casimir Guild

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

4th Degree Member Profile

--Anthony F. Yacavonis, C-12 NYC

Anthony was born in Mahanoy City, Pa. January 18, 1909. At the age of nine he relocated to Brooklyn, N.Y. At the age of seventeen he was playing violin in a band and that's where he met his future bride Kasimira Racauskas. They became man and wife on August 19, 1932. They are blessed with three children and two grand children.

During his young life he enrolled in City College N.Y. to obtain a degree in accounting. It was during that time that he took a test for the N.Y.C. Fire Department a job that he remained in until retirement.

Anthony has resided in Rosedale, N.Y. for forty years. To his family he is known as "Uncle Andy the family entertainer." His magic tricks have been enjoyed by children for decades. Life to Anthony is worth living because he has many interests and hobbies and swims every day in a pool close to his home. He is a fisherman and avid gardener lining his driveway with the National Flower of Lithuania, ruta. Anthony still finds time to play his violin and mandolin.

Puerto Rico as Maine are Anthony's favorite travel destinations. He loves the French language and he has traveled to France to brush up on the language. Lithuania is on Anthony's travel list. He hopes to travel there in the near future. Anthony loves his Lithuanian heritage and reminds his family to keep Lithuania in their hearts.



Anthony Yacavonis

He is loyal, lovable, knowledgeable, witty and hard working. My first experience with Anthony was at a K of L meeting at Our Lady of Vilnius Church. He was in the kitchen with his wife Kasimira, busy getting food ready for our potluck luncheon after our monthly meeting.

Anthony and Kasimira worked the kitchen until Kasimira became ill and could not attend the meetings. At one time, they were patients at La Guardia Hospital. Unfortunately Kasimira's condition worsened and Anthony cared for her until her death.

CORRECTION

Sorry, we goofed. In the Resolutions passed at the 81st National Convention in Chicago, and as reported in the Convention Issue (Vol.80, No. 8) of VYTIS on page 42, Fr. Anderlonis is identified as Pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Philadelphia. We all know that he is the able and well-loved Pastor of St. George's. The mistake is inexplicable. Our sincere apologies to Father Joe,

Council 12 was fortunate to have Anthony as it's Cultural and Historical adviser. He researched every presentation and submitted his findings to the council. His humor was most enjoyable and our members looked forward to his talks. As a dedicated member he has enlisted several members of his family as Knights.

Anthony Yakavonis went out of his way to provide transportation to people for meetings and other functions All of these attributes that were contained in this man led him to the honor of receiving the 4th Degree, as faith would have it, Anthony became ill and necessitated hospitalization.

The 4th Degree was so important that he left the hospital wheelchair and all against his doctors orders. He arrived at the Worcester Convention in his wheelchair knowing that he would receive his 4th Degree. This was a great moment in the life of Anthony Yacavonis and he was so proud. He set a wonderful example for all of us.

Thank God Anthony has regained his health and now we can look forward to music and song at all our meetings, with Anthony Yacavonis and his mandolin.

Submitted by Irene Senken, C-12, New York

A MOST REMARKABLE YOUNG LADY

Frank and Emma Povilaitis, C. 79, Southfield, MI members are bursting with pride. An outstanding granddaughter, Carrie Povilaitis, is the reason.

As captain of her Troy (MI) high school girls' soccer team, she led them to the State Class A championship.

As though that were not enough fame to glory in -- on the very day the championship game was played, Carrie was named State Ms Soccer. She heard it from her coach as she and several team mates were hurrying to commencement ceremonies (with their uniforms under the graduation gowns).

Carrie anchored a Troy defense that notched 16 shutouts and boasted a 0.43 goals against average. She also collected 5 goals and 11 assists for 16 points. Her coach, Kevin Kelly, said, "She's the most versatile soccer player I've ever coached. College coaches were drooling over her." With her ambidexterity, she played every position but goalie during her high school career.

Coach Kelly thought her sweeper duties were remarkable.

Coaches of opposing teams had high praise for her athletic abilities. When they convened for the "Ms Soccer" vote, her name was the first announced. They unanimously agreed, "she's the one." No other names were mentioned.

She'll take that versatility to the University of Michigan, where she'll play for the first year varsity program and study in the prestigious Women in Science and Engineering program.

Submitted by Bertha Janus, C-79



*Pictured above: Blessing of the tribute to Stasys Lozoraitis, HM, in Lithuania
Submitted by Anne Wargo*

Šiaulių Kūdikių Namai

During the Summer of 1993, C-110 members Ann Morressey and Helen Matulonis traveled to Lithuania to visit the orphanages that many of our council's send packages to. These were some of the "priceless memories" brought back.

According to Sister Helen Ivanauskas of C-1, Brockton, 3,000 diapers, rubber pants and safety pins were sent this past year from "Lithuanian Children's Relief".

"This was a must since babies sat on potties all day they're little 'rumps' get sore, not due to negligence, but due to the fact that supplies were not available," added Sister Helen.



*Top photo: Ann Morressey and Helen Matulonis play with 18 mos. old bronchitis affected orphans.
Bottom Photo: Children on the potty all day
Photos courtesy of Helen Matulonis, C-110*



*An "I want to see" orphan at Šiauliai
Photo courtesy of Helen Matulonis, C-110*



CROSSING THE THRESHOLD OF HOPE

By John Paul II
 Edited by Vittorio Messori
 Translated by Jenny McPhee
 and Martha McPhee
 244 pp. New York
 Alfred A. Knoph. \$20.

Book Review
 by Maryte Abbott

After five weeks as number one on the NY Times bestseller list, the NY Times book review section finally wrote a story buried on page 64 on Sunday December 4, 1994 of this most fascinating, awe inspiring book. I thought it deserved more than what the Times gave it, although the story represented the book well. I was also quite pleased when Pope John Paul II was chosen "Man of the Year for 1995" by

Time Magazine. He had deserved this honor for a long time.

Pope John Paul II has a mission to bring believers on track.

"Be not afraid," he states, "of yourself or others." When asked about what it must be like to be the head of one of the world's greatest religions, he thanks his own father for teaching him to recite a prayer everyday to the Holy Spirit. He quotes both Testaments of the Holy Bible and will pique many reader's curiosities to read St. Augustine, St. John of the Cross and other works referred to.

His gems of wisdom are richly rewarding to meditate over. One of the most thought provoking chapter, "On Human Rights" Pope John Paul II views a "person as a being for whom the only suitable dimension is love" adding to Kantian ethics "love for a person excludes the possibility of treating him as an object of pleasure."

Perhaps the running thread of what made the Pope's best seller into exactly that is the spirit of optimism in a pessimistic environment. Rather than looking at what separates us, he looks at what unites us; rather than looking at excuses, he states

Pope John Paul II's best inspirational quotes from Crossing the Threshold of Hope:

On unity lost: "What separates us as believers in Christ is much less than what unites us."

On youth and hope: "Life has meaning to the extent that it becomes a free gift for others."

On praying: "The Holy Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness."

On salvation: "The world, tired of the (old) ideology, is opening itself to the truth."

On the world's reaction: "Which is the greater burden, the truth- even the most demanding, or the appearance of truth, creating the illusion of moral honesty."

On fear: "Gods demands never exceed man's abilities."

that we must take responsibility for our lives no matter what station in life we may occupy.

Pope John Paul II wrote this book in answer to questions posed to him by Italian journalist Vittorio Messori for a television interview to mark the 15th anniversary of his pontificate in October 1993. The interview never happened, but answers to Messori's questions were delivered by a Vatican spokesman last Spring and Messori claims the work is strictly the Holy Father's and little was edited.

His replies to questions on topics such as other religions from Buddhism to Judaism give readers inspiration to pray and plenty of food for thought. This should be a must read on a good Catholic's book list, and there's even an audio copy available for those who'd rather be read to. Some people tell me the Pope has Lithuanian ancestry.



*The Officers and Members
of
Council 143, Pittston,
PA
Wish our Fellow Knights
a Happy New Year
1995*

NAUJIEJI METAI

Gyvenimo laikrodis vis nesustoja,
Kol dvyliką žmogui netyčia išmuš:
Jis įpėdin eina kaip koja į koją.
Kol kelią pabaigęs sustos ir suduš.

To laikrodžio skaitomi slenka sau metai -
Vienodo greitumo: per dienas ir naktis;
Čia žmogus dar amžių gyventi sau keta,
O žiūri - jau reikia užmerkti akis.

Bet vilties, svajonių ir laimės troškimo
Tie metai kiekvienai labiau kupini;
Šiais metais žiurėk, jai čia vieni nurimo-
Kitais jau nurims nuo troškimų kitų...

Bet metai naujieji vis liepia mums stengtis
Pasiiekti geresnę sau laimę - sapnus,
Ir yra gerai juos gyvendinti rengtis:
Nežiūrint - ar bus kas iš to, ar nebus...

Kiekvieno likimas dalimis suskirstė
Gyvenimą amžių - į laiko metus -
Gyvenkite, laukite, gal nusiirsite
Į laimę per naujus sulauktus metus!...

Arėjas Vitkauskas



WE REMEMBER

Jonas Valauskas of C-147, St. Petersburg, Florida, died on October 18, 1994 at his home. He was 89 years old. Mr. Valauskas became an honorary member on August 29th, 1983 at the National Convention banquet in Philadelphia. He joined Council #147 on January 28, 1978. He was the sponsor (Mecenatas) of our K of L "75 YEARS OF LITHUANIAN HISTORY" publication. He also sponsored the K of L Room at the ALKA Museum in Putnam, CT., plus a special Wayside Cross in Portland, Oregon in memory of Lithuanians who died in the deportation to Siberia. He donated generously to the K of L Council #147 Flag Fund.

Mr. Valauskas came to St. Petersburg Beach in 1972 from his native Chicago. He is survived by his wife, Ida.

Editor's Note: Jonas Valauskas had written to thank the K of L for members who thought of him during his long illness. He wrote a beautiful handwritten letter in Lithuanian which translates:

"Knights of Lithuania 81st National Convention, Supreme Council Members, Delegates, Guests and all Districts:

I am sending you my utmost thanks and brotherly love to all of you, especially those of you who sent me get-well wishes from the 81st Convention. Many of the names I recognized and it brought back many memories. Thank you again, all of you in remembering me in my long and difficult illness.

Thank you Loretta Stukas and my sincere sympathy on the loss of your husband, Jack. Thank you Dolores Jonaitis, C-147, for your effort and thoughtfulness.

Vitiskai
Jonas Valauskas
Sponsor of K of L Room at ALKA
(PUTNAM)
& K of L 75 Years History Book"



IN MEMORIAM

Rest in Peace

Aleksas Kraujolis
C-147, St. Petersburg
August 27, 1994

Jonas Valauskas
C-147, St. Petersburg
October 18, 1994

Walter A. Rucas
C-36, Chicago

Francis Kasper
C-29, Newark
Dec. 15, 1994



Juniors Forum

News & Views about Juniors

In perusing VYTIS issues from 1960 through 1970, I found that the Junior Knights of Lithuania were FLOURISHING during that whole decade. There were active Juniors in all Districts. The Councils sponsoring Juniors included: C-3, Philadelphia; C-6, Hartford; C-7, Waterbury; C-10, Athol; C-17, Boston; C-19 Pittsburgh; C-25, Cleveland; C-26, Worcester; C-29, Newark; C-30, Westfield; C-36, Chicago; C-52, Elizabeth; C-67, Bayonne; C-78, Lawrence; C-79, Detroit (Southfield); C-90, Kearney; C-96, Dayton, C-100, Amsterdam; C-102, Detroit; C-103, Providence; C-110, Maspeth; C-116 S. Worcester and C-133, Los Angeles.

There were four geographic groupings of Junior Councils within the New England District (NED). Regional meetings and get togethers were held. The Juniors in the then NY-NJ District also held several regional conventions with formal programs not unlike the regular K of L conventions. The MCD had also planned regional Junior meetings; one plan fell through, but the meeting at Carey, Ohio, organized by a.a. Helen Shields, HM, was a tremendous success.

During this time frame, there were well over 300 Juniors. They were active in crafts, sports, Lithuanian language courses, field trips, etc. One of the favorite meeting places was Camp Dainava where Faustas Strolia would frequently both entertain and teach folk songs to the campers. Many of these young people were faithful in writing articles for the Junior section of VYTIS. It was common to see more than one page of Junior articles, poems and information.

When contacting councils to encourage them to reorganize or start Junior councils, I frequently get a response that "there is no one to volunteer." Well, why don't we "tap" some of these former Juniors and challenge them to use their experience to revive or start a Junior group. Juniors with talent and potential are out there. We need volunteers to become Junior Advisors that will challenge and guide our youth into experiencing the Knights of Lithuania and gaining an appreciation of their Lithuanian heritage.

A REMINDER: Dues are due. Please forward all Junior Council dues to the Supreme Council Financial Secretary (see inside front cover for address.) Don't delay!!!

Frances R. Petkus
Supreme Council, 3rd Vice President

JUNIORS VISIT UNITED NATIONS

by Eva Rogers
 Junior Knights of Lithuania
 C-136, Hudson-Mohawk
 (age 14)

On December 2nd, 1994, the Knights of Lithuania, Hudson-Mohawk Council traveled to New York City. Miss Damusis led us on a tour of the offices of the Lithuanian Legation to the United Nations. She told us about some of the work Lithuania's representative does. After our tour, we met with the newly appointed



*Consulate General Petras Anusas is presented a donation from Hudson-Mohawk C-136
 Photos by Bob Hayner, Junior C-136*

Consulate General Petras Anusas. We presented the Consulate General with a donation and talked to him about some of the problems in Lithuania. He told us that things are improving slowly. A man from the Consulate videotaped our visit. The videotape will be shown on Lithuanian television.

After our visit, we returned to our bus and prepared for a tour of the United Nations. At the UN, we saw the conference and committee



Lithuanian Flag flies at United Nations

rooms. We saw where Lithuania's delegate sat in the General Assembly. The guide showed us gifts presented to the United Nations by some of the member countries. He talked to us about some of the projects that the United Nations works on. He said that UNICEF helped obtain vaccines to immunize children all over the world including Lithuania.

GRATEFUL EYES

I sometimes often wonder
 While walking down a road,
 How dreadful it would be
 Never to see that road.

N'er to see God's wonders,
 Alone in a world of sound;
 A dense world of darkness;
 Kept from the things around.

'Twould be my greatest trial
 N'er to see these wonders.
 Thanks to be God's sweet love
 Sight's joy I n'er ponder.

*Barbara Sachs
 C-3, Philadelphia
 VYTIS, November 1961*



LITHUANIAN CHEFS

Editor's Note: We'd love to hear from some of our member chefs out there. Each month, we'd like to feature some favorite Lithuanian recipes enjoyed by members. To become our monthly guest chef, submit three to six of your favorite Lithuanian recipes. Please type them and include your name, council, city and state. You may even include the history of the recipe if it has been handed down, a photo of the chef cooking it or the food itself. Please put LITHUANIAN CHEFS on the envelope. Aciu.

This month we're featuring a favorite kugelis recipe, found from the recipes of C-12, New York, member Julia Gomez. Mrs. Gomez says this is especially good if baked in a large, well greased large cast iron pan. It was a favorite of the Pennsylvania coal miners and some say it also has Welsh origins.

POTATO PUDDING

7 large potatoes
1 tbs. salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
4 slices bacon, cooked and minced

3 eggs
1 cup oatmeal
1 large onion, minced

Peel and grate potatoes into a large mixing bowl; add salt, pepper, oatmeal and eggs and stir well. Fry minced onion and bacon together until golden brown. Add this to the mixture and stir. Bake in a well greased pan about 3 inches deep for one hour in a 350-degree oven. Then, increase the temperature to 450-degrees and continue baking until the top is a nice deep golden brown. Serve hot with sour cream or applesauce.

FAVORITES FROM
LITHUANIAN COOKERY
Copyright 1989
by Izabele Sinkeviciute
published by Darbininkas,
Brooklyn, NY

RED BEET SOUP

3 lbs. pork or beef
4 medium red beets
6 dried mushrooms
6 peppercorns
1 bay leaf
soup greens
1 cup sour cream

The broth tastes better if cooked with pork. Put meat, soup greens, seasonings, and well-washed dried mushrooms into boiling water and cook until meat is tender. Remove meat and mushrooms, strain broth. Cut mushrooms into julienne strips. Cook or bake the beets, peel and grate coarsely. Add lemon or beet juice to the broth for tartness (to taste). Add beets and mushrooms; heat the broth so that it will turn a red color from the beets. Saute 1 tablespoon of flour in butter, dilute with the broth and add to soup. Stir in sour cream. Serve with peeled or unpeeled cooked or baked potatoes.

LITHUANIAN STEW

2 lbs. beef
1 onion
1/2 lb. soup greens
1/2 cup sour cream
2 cups broth
4 oz. butter
2 tablespoons flour
1 bay leaf
salt, pepper

Cut meat into fairly large pieces, pound, sprinkle with flour and brown in hot fat. Place a layer of coarsely cut up vegetables in a heavy pot, add a layer of meat, then vegetables again, etc. until vegetables and meat are used up. The top layer should be vegetables. Add broth, cover the pot, and braise until the meat is tender. Add the cream, heat and serve. The stew is served with wide egg noodles and tomato salad.



RASK LAIKO ...

Kai vieni metai baigiasi ir prasideda kiti, savaime ateina mintys apie laiką -- apie jo vertę ir prasmę. Laikas yra brangiausias žmogaus turtas šioje žemėje. Amžinybėje laiko nebus. Ten nebus nei praeities, nei ateities, tik nuolatinė dabartis. Nuo laiko sunaudojimo čia, žemėje, priklausys mūsų laimė amžinybėje.

Dažnai savo apsileidimą mes stengiamės pateisinti "neturėjimu laiko", bet jeigu atviriau į save pažvelgsime, tai turėsime prisipažinti, kad neturime tik noro. Mes galime ir turime surasti laiko viskam.

Rask laiko dirbti --
tai pasisekimo laidas.

Rask laiko galvoti --
tai jėgos versmė.

Rask laiko žaisti --
tai amžinos jaunystės paslaptis.

Rask laiko skaityti --
tai išminties šaltinis.

Rask laiko būti draugišku --
tai kelias į laimę.

Rask laiko pasvajoti --
tai kilimas prie žvaigždžių.

Rask laiko mylėti ir būti mylimu --
tai dievų privilegija.

Rask laiko apsidairyti aplinkui --
diena per trumpa būti savanaudišku.

Rask laiko juoktis --
tai sielos muzika.

Rask laiko klausyti --
klausyti Dievo ir kito žmogaus problemų, rūpesčių bei džiaugsmų, --
tai krikščionybės esmė.

FIND TIME ...

When one year ends and another begins, our thoughts naturally turn to time -- about its value and meaning. Time is a person's dearest treasure on this earth. There will be no time in eternity. There, there will not be a past nor a future, just ever the present. How we use time on earth will determine our fortune in eternity.

Frequently, through our negligence, we try to justify "not having time", but if we look at ourselves truthfully, then we must admit that we just don't have the desire. We can and must find time for everything:

Find time to work --
this is the guarantee of success.

Find time to think --
this is the source of strength.

Find time to play --
this is the secret of eternal youth.

Find time to read --
this is the well of intelligence.

Find time to be friendly --
this is the road to good fortune.

Find time to dream --
this is an ascent to the stars.

Find time to love and be loved --
this is the privilege of the gods.

Find time to examine your surroundings --
the day is too short to be selfish.

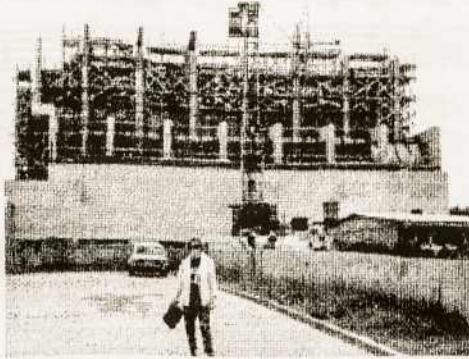
Find time to laugh --
this is the music of the soul.

Find time to listen --
listen to God and the other person's problems, worries and joys --
this is the essence of Christianity.

In Honor of Blessed George Matulaitis

From the Journal of Mirga Bablin, C-100 Amsterdam, NY
June 13, 1994

"... We drove to the site of Blessed George Matulaitis Church, (being built) on a lovely hill overlooking the city of Vilnius. It is progressing well, getting higher than when we saw it last September. Father Medordas Ceponis, the young pastor of the chapel and school, located on the site, greeted us warmly. In our discussion, he mentioned several hundred youngsters received their First Communion just recently. What a wonderful sign of the Lithuanian people formally welcoming back their religion!



We gave Father Ceponis \$100 contribution toward the building fund for our families intentions. Since I never had a good likeness of my third cousin, Blessed George, Father gave me a beautiful 8x10" picture of him. It now occupies a special place of honor above our dining room buffet."

Photo Left: Mirga Bablin stands in front of site of Blessed George Matulaitis Church under construction in Vilnius. Ed Bablin, C-100, photographer.

Vytis is over 750 years old!

LITHUANIAN STATE EMBLEM

Lithuania's emblem of state is the *Vytis*. It depicts a knight astride a leaping stallion. The knight holds a raised sword, is clad in armor and carries a shield bearing the imprint of a two-barred cross. Later, this cross became known as the *Vytis Cross*.



The oldest *Vytis* surviving is depicted on coins dating back to the times of Algirdas and Kestutis. Yet it is believed that the *Vytis* was already in use as far back as the days of the rule of King Mindaugas around 1240. The oldest surviving coins show *Vytis* on one side and Gediminas' Columns on the other side.

*From Lithuanian Customs and Traditions
Danute Brazyte Bindokiene
1989 Lithuanian World Community, Chicago, IL*

Petro laivas

Andante



1. Pet- ro lai- vas plauks, kaip plau- kes, ten, kur Kris- tus i- ria jį.
2. Džiau- kis, Mo- ti- na Lie- tu- va, tu po Kris- taus vė- lia- va:



nors ne- liau- sis vė- jas kau- kes ir aud- ra bai- si, bai- si.
tįoj ke- lio- nė- je ne- iš- va Pet- ro lai- vo i- gu- la- -



1. Vi- są ke- lio- nę Die- vo ma- lo- nę sau- gos ir bu- dės;
2. Kris- taus brangi- ji liau- dis šven- to- ji, Jo- no - Pauliaus ve- da- ma, -



Iš- min- tin- go- ji Dva- sia Šven- to- ji am- žiais jį ly- dės.
jū- ra aud- rin- ga plauk iš- tver- min- gai, lai- mėn švie- žia- ma.

O Kristau, pasaulio Valdove

Andante



1. O Kris- tau, pa- sau- lio Val- do- ve, ir žemės ir aukš- to dangaus!
2. O Kristau, o mei- lės šal- ti- ni, gyvenk mūsų šė- moj, ju pa- švesk!



Tau am- žiais ir gar- bę ir šlo- vę var- pai šir- dy- sc mū- cų gau- s.
Kaip bro- lius į džiaug- mo tē- vy- nę šven- toj Eu- cha- ris- ti- joj vesk.



Kaip pa- va- sa- rio žy- dinčioj šventėj ly- di Kristaus švie- si vė- lia- va.



Su Ta- vim ei- na tau- tos gy- ven- ti, su Ta- vim eis vi- sa Lie- tu- va.

Petro laivas text by J. Tilvyčio, music by T. Brazio

O Kristo, pasaulio Valdove text by B. Brazdzionio

music by K. Kavecko

Courtesy of: Virginijus Barkauskas, C-110

AID TO LITHUANIA

Donations received during January thru June 1994

We extend utmost gratitude for their unflagging generosity to all our supporters who have provided the means for supplying an aggregate of nearly \$10,000,000.00 worth of humanitarian aid to the poor and sick of Lithuania over the past four years.

Over \$1,000.

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* * * * *

Again, on behalf of the entire volunteer staff and supporting workers of Aid To Lithuania, INC., I would like to thank each of the above-named contributors for their generosity. I would also like to apologize for the inadvertant delay in publishing this listing; a listing of contributions during July - December 1994 will be forthcoming.

Robert S. Boris

Aid to Lithuania, Inc.

NUOŠIRDŽIAI AČIŪ, AČIŪ, AČIŪ!

Council News '95

What's Happening with Knights of Lithuania Councils around the Country

attending the funeral of noted Lithuanian tennis great, Vytis Geralaitis, and requesting the group keep him in their prayers.

Mid-Atlantic District News

Over a hundred Lithuanians attended a special Lithuanian Mass on September 25, 1994 that began the Mid Atlantic District Convention. Members and their guests were treated to beautiful Lithuanian and Latin hymns and the special service that honored two very special Knights. Father Vytautas Palabinskas, along with Rev. Stasys Raila and Fr. John Pakalniskis celebrated the Mass at which Father Palabinskas was honored with his fourth degree. Rev. Raila was honored with an Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania, the highest honor to be awarded to a member. Third degree awards were also presented to Stanislaus Lukasavicius (C-41) and Joseph Russell (C-29).

Host Council C-41 of Brooklyn provided a delicious feast of the most enjoyed Lithuanian foods and allowed a lengthy afternoon meeting that included reports on National Convention highlights to a discussion of the shortage of Lithuanian priests. Some delegates reported on

Editor's Note: Due to the large amount of Council News submitted over the past months, some of your stories may not appear. Please be patient, you will read them either this month or next. And please keep submitting your council's news and photographs.

District President, Berniece Aviza, reported that District Junior Knights were planning a visit to the United Nations in November to meet with the Lithuanian delegation. First Vice President, Edward Senken, noted that although our district has the largest in membership of 1262 members, a drive for new members was needed .

Delegates decided to prevent schedule conflicts by asking all Mid-Atlantic Councils not to schedule activities on MAD Convention days. The following officers were elected for 1994-1995: Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Msgr. Frank Bulovas; President - Berniece Aviza; 1st Vice President - Membership - Edward Barkowski; 2nd Vice President - Juniors - Christine Tambasco; Secretary - Mirga Bablin; Treasurer - Josephine Zukas; Trustees - Frances Jakatt, Muriel Lekstutis and Ann O'Neill; Lithuanian Affairs - Romas Kezys; Public Relations - Mary Kober; Cultural - Anthony Yacavonis; Ritual - Joe Zukas - Chairman, Beatrice Luska and Amy Girdauskas; Mandate Chair - Jean Machtutis; Resolutions Chair - Tom Tarmey and

Sergeants-at-Arms - Ed Cook and Joe Stelmokas.

Tickets for a special raffle to help raise funds for the District treasury were distributed and sold. Money and unsold ticket books are to be sent to MAD Treasurer, Josephine Zukas. Drawing for prizes will be held at the March 26, 1995 Mid Atlantic District Convention. Hosts are C-110, Maspeth. The meeting will be held following the 11:15 AM Lithuanian Mass.

Maryte Abbott

C-1 - BROCKTON

We certainly are living up to our motto "More in 1994". Already it is October where is that "good ole summer time?" Now, and behold, with beautiful Autumn visiting us, we need to cherish each moment before she says "Su Diev" and leaves us as quickly as she came.

Spring time found us busily cleaning our closets for our Annual Clothing Drive with its goal to reach 400 bags. With everyone's help, we were able to achieve our goal.

Our Council was very busy with parties and celebrations namely, Fr. Peter Shakeli Pastor, retired and our members prepared for this event by inviting all family, friends and parishioners to a deliciously served meal. Amidst the fond good-byes, prayers and praise were copiously expressed to Fr. Peter. Father planned to spend the summer in Lithuania, teaching and upon his return will live in his family hop With fond memories, we wished him God's Blessings.

As we said "good-bye" in one instant, the next moment, we were already planning on welcoming our new Pastor, Fr. John Prusaitis. Again our dedicated Council formed the Core group for the

welcome and installation of Fr. John. A real Vyciu Dvase was displayed when tables laden with food, and a hall well decorated, welcomed Fr. John to our parish and Council.

Since we are in the celebrating mood, let's remember our Jubilarian Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis for his 50th year as a Priest. Fr. Anthony celebrated Holy Mass wit family and friends present. Our Council served a delicious meal fit for a Golden Jubilarian and God's Choicest Blessings were expressed for many more years in His service.

Not only did we prepare for all the celebrations at the Church but we put our "Chef's Hat" on and featured our famous "K" dinner - Kielbasi, Kopusta, Kugeli and "K"alories at the annual Sunday In the Park. This event featured many different countries displaying their food, culture, crafts, etc. Truly, a wonderful event meeting many old friends and making new ones. Maybe we should start a catering service after all of this experience!

Congratulations to Florence Camilla on achieving her 3rd Degree; to Pat & Norm Achorn on their Silver Jubilee, to Philip and Veronica Bizinkauskas Cote on the birth of their daughter Alexandra Rose, not to forget the proud Nana (Ronnie Bizinkauskas) who is in 7th HEAVEN. In mentioning our Pres. Ronnie, we are grateful to God and everyone's prayers for praying her back to health. She had a serious operation on her mouth after came out with flying colors. She was even on the "same diet" as her granddaughter. Nothing like a Nana's love and Madam President, please keep up the good work day be day and in every way, better and better.

Our talented member Maryte Bizinkauskas performed in a benefit concert at Maironis Park in Worcester on behalf of Lithuanian Children's Relief, Inc. It was truly a wonderful success financially, culturally, socially, and calorically. Thanks to the "out of this world" pastries created by Nijole Ivanaukas Potts. Delicious!

So many people were involved in all these happenings over these past few months that it's impossible

to thank everyone by name, hence ACIU, thank you to all.

Just a note before I end this epistle, our member, Sr. Helen is collecting Canceled postage stamps, foreign and domestic for "her" children, through Lithuanian Children's Relief, so please pass the word along, "Save a STAMP, Save a CHILD".

To one and all, HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Su Diev

Daisey Ruta

"MORE IN '94"

Lithuanian Children's Relief motto "More in 1994 certainly has become a reality. From sending two tons of Vegetable seeds in the Spring, several containers of Gerber Baby Food, clothes, shoes, soap and a variety of other "goodies" LCR was just notified that its shipment of 21 washers, and 21 dryers has reached its destination in Lithuania, outfitting the six Infants Homes.

In addition to the washers and dryers, three thousand diapers, rubber pants, safety pins were added to the shipment. This was a "must" for it was learned that babies sat on potties all day, hence their little "rumps" were blistered and red. Not through negligence, but simply because supplies are not available.

However, all these wonderful works could never be achieved if it were not for our wonderful benefactors. At this moment, I would like to thank all who so generously contributed to our annual raffle held on October 16th. The winners of the raffle were: #1 - Bill Dapkus of Farmhills, MI; #2 - St. Casimir's Ladies Guild of Amsterdam, N.Y.; #3 Joseph Mikal, Brockton, Ma; #4 - Ellen Spud, Fiskdale, Ma. Congratulations!

These are the winners, but the real heroes of every event, are the children! In their name "aciu", "thank you" to one and all.

A note of thank you also to everyone who has sent canceled postage stamps. The response is great. Please continue to keep LCR in your heart.

I spoke of our wonderful benefactors and here I would like to pause to remember a very special benefactor, Volunteer of LCR, Antanas Kulbis.

Antanas, a young, inspiring youth gave countless hours of dedication on behalf of Lithuanian Children's Relief in serving the needs of the children. In winter of '93, through snow, cold and lack of heat, Antanas left his young wife and family traveled to Lithuania to distribute the contents of three containers consisting of food, medicines and clothing, to the orphanages and institutions.

While on this mission of Mercy, Antanas showed his true generosity. He encountered a young boy who was dying from a high fever and no antibiotics to give. As immediately offered his own antibiotics which he was using for his own cold and literally saved the young boy's life.

Making videos was Antanas' great skill. Hence, while on the mission, he videoed his venture and presented LCR with two wonderful videos depicting the tremendous need of the children and families in Lithuania.

Antanas died suddenly on September 26, 1994 at the age of 32. His work on the videos, his dedicated spirit, his generosity, his love for life will live forever in the children, in his family, in LCR and everyone he met.

Our sincere sympathy to his wife, parents, sister, brother and his family.

Thank you, Aciu Antanai from the children you helped and all whose lives you touched. May you be blessed with Eternal Happiness.

*Sister Helen
Ivanauskas, CJC*

C-26

WORCESTER

We are blessed to live in one of the New England States. The colors of the foliage, the brisk air, and our mild weather make it enjoyable riding to our meeting. Anna Walinsky decorated the tables with sprigs of Bittersweet bringing Fall colors into our October meeting as she coordinated the pot luck supper. Again the membership outdid themselves with so many varieties of dinner samples.

Eduardas Meilus, Jr. gave a report on the August Convention and our President, Rita Pinkus is recouping from her accident in Chicago. Fr. John Petrauskas went over the First and Second Commandment of the new catechism and compared it with the old Baltimore Catechism. Back from vacations are Charlie & Frances Kulakusky from Atlantic City and Fran Grigas who went to Las Vegas for a cousin's wedding. Adele and Francis Dugatis entertained Adele's brother, Francis Ivaska from Long Beach, Cali-



C-25 president, Dick Marks met with Lithuanian Ambassador to the US, Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas (left) at 81st National Convention in Chicago.

fornia for three weeks. Rita Karrytais attended the K of L convention in Chicago.

Our congratulations go out to the anniversary couple, Stephen & Anna (Zaparaskas) Walinsky, Sr. who celebrated their 55th Wedding Anniversary. Anna is the organist and Steve sings in the Choir of St. Casimir's Church. They are longtime members of C-26 along with their children and the newest members, their grandchildren.

We express deep sorrow to Tony Anton on the death of his sister, Julia

Kezukevicius, age 90. May she rest in the peace of the Lord.

Bill Leseman is recuperating after a second eye surgery. Keep the following members who are ill in your prayers: John and Ann Ridick, Frank Kondrotas, and Edwina Ginkus.

The NED Fall convention was well attended with 19 delegates from C-26. Anna Leseman organized a van bus to deliver them to Waterbury, Conn. Fr. John concelebrated Mass and presented awards to 4th Degree recipients. The Nominating committee consisting of Claire Grigaitis, Aldona Waska, and Barbara Pantos presented a slate of officers. The following names were voted as the new 1995 Board of Officers of C-26: President, Anne Leseman; Vice Pres, Joan Wojciak; Treasurer, Lillian Kondrotas; Recording Secretary, Ruth

Gadilauskas; Public Relations, Dorothy Spokis; Fin. Secretary & Ritual, Marion Racicot; Vytis Correspondent, Olga Kersis; Lithuanian Affairs, Eduardus Meilus, Jr.; Auditor, William Lese-man; Sargent-at-arms, Charles Kulakusy; and Spiritual Advisor, Fr. John Petrauskas.

Sudiev! *Barbara Pantos*

C- 29 - NEWARK

I usually do not make mention of any BAD NEWS or CONDOLENCES until the last Paragraph of my report, but this time, I feel I must mention them in my first. With heavy heart and deep sorrow, I report the loss of five of our members who passed away to their Eternal Rest this summer. With deep felt sympathy, we offer our Condolences to the families, relatives and friends of Regina Schmidt, Catherine Dobar, Jack Stukas, Leo Golmonavich and Casimer Yakovonas. May they rest in peace



*C-29 Harold & Jean Kaninskas
celebrate 50th Anniversary*

Our first meeting of the new season was held on September 11th and since most of us had not seen each other since last June, we enjoyed exchanging stories of where we went, what we did and what happened. Our President, Kazys Sipaila, had some interesting stories to relate since he just recently returned from a trip to Lithuania. Although he was happy visiting with his family and friends, he, like many others who had been there, was disturbed by the many struggles the people were still having. Until the economy of Lithuania improves, we must continue to pray for them and help them in any way we can.

September 18th saw our Council Members roll up their sleeves and help our Parish with their Annual Picnic. It was a well attended affair, weather perfect, plenty of good food, good music and loads of fun. Marie Guoba, our Sunshine Lady was the Chair and with the help of a terrific committee, the affair was a huge success. We thank you all!

On September 25th, six of our members, Rita Sussko, Loretta Stukas, Ann O'Neill, Kazys Sipaila and Lillian and Joe Russell attended the MAD meeting, hosted by Council 41 in Brooklyn, N.Y. Congratulations to Joe Russell who earned his Third Degree - keep up the good work! Thanks were extended to Council 41 for their hospitality and a well conducted meeting.

A regular meeting was held on October 2nd at which time, our new officers and Committee Chairpersons were elected for 1994-95. our present Executive Board Officers agreed to stay on for another year and thanks

were expressed for their loyalty and dedication. God bless!

The big EVENT of the year - Dinner/Dance was held on October 8th at our Holy Trinity Parish Hall in Newark. Kazys Sipaila and Ann O'Neill chaired the affair and with their combined efforts and "know-how", plus the efforts of their terrific committees, the affair was a huge success. A varied Cocktail Hour was followed by a catered Buffet Dinner consisting of roast beef, desros, kugelis, mixed veggies, and salad. Let's not forget the homemade cakes and cookies, jello, rice pudding and ambrosia which followed. After a meal like that,

we danced to the scintillating music of the Middlesex Express Band, and ended up with a good time had by all!

Ilgiausi Metu was wished to many who celebrated the event of Wedding Bliss of 50 years by Vice Pres. Harold Kaminskas and his lovely wife, Jean and Margie Brazaitis our Recording Secretary in behalf of her birthday.

Until the next time, Su Diev
Eva Coll

C-46 - FOREST CITY

September 4, 1994 marked the 100th Anniversary of the building of St. Anthony's of Padua Lithuanian Church. On this day, the congregation zealously participates at a 1:00 P.M. Mass of Thanksgiving with Rev. Sitko, Pastor and K of L Spiritual Advisor officiating and assisted by former and present Forest City Pastors. A procession preceded the Holy Mass and the choir sang both in Lithuanian and English. offertory gifts were presented by K of L members dressed in ethnic attire. Homilist Rev. Alisaukas spoke about his youth while growing up as a member of St Anthony's Church, while Fr. Augustine also reminisced on his years of being Pastor of Forest City Churches. Fr. Toloczko was also a former Pastor assisted by Fr. Saltry. Fr. Hitchko was also much involved in all 4 Catholic Parishes. Present Pastors are Fr. Sitko-Chairman and



C-63 president, Bob Klova with brother, Ed, manning the fry stove.

Blanche Motsko

C-63, LEHIGH VALLEY

Another successful potato pancake sale was realized at the Bethlehem, PA Christmas City Fair on July 15th, 16th and 17th. The event was tri-chaired by Jack and Dora Lushis and Valeria Smickle. It was another hectic three day affair which is becoming a tradition in this area. Hundreds are repeat customers from previous years who keep passing on the word that our potato blynai are "just like Mom and Grandmom used to make". And its true. No skimping on the amounts of good quality ingredients coupled with generous dabs of soured

Celebrant Fr. Sulucki and Fr. Stanko. Mass was followed by a dinner with more than 200 members and friends attending. K of L member John Gudaitis was Toastmaster while Robert Trusky and Ann Cyzeski were main speakers. A beautifully inscribed plaque was dedicated to Charles Cyzeski for his almost lifetime efforts in beautifying and making our St. Anthony Cemetery into Perpetual Care.

Charles takes much pride in his work.

October 2nd - A meeting was held installing new officers as follows: President Bea Stanis; Vice President - Alice Puntar; Secretary - Frank Cyzeski; Treasurer- Josephine Opeka. Plans for our Annual Christmas Party were discussed.

cream or apple sauce make them so. Congratulations are in order for every member who participated in the event. It's members such as these who are dedicated and genuinely committed to Lithuania's cause, who guarantee the continued existence of our council and the Knights of Lithuania. Again, to all of them, "Aciu, labai".

Our council mourns Lenke Ulba who passed away on August 14th, 1994. Lenke, wife of Victor Ulba and mother of son Victor Jr., was of Hungarian origin yet she was a very active member in our council. She worked closely on many council projects with her sister-in-law and Financial Secretary Jane Lutick. Her presence will be sorely missed. Our condolences to her family. May she rest in Peace.



C-72 Arthur Stankevitz of Binghamton proudly displays his third degree certificate and medal.

C-74, SCRANTON

"Immigrants All Day" was held at McDade Park. Our Council had a Lithuanian Pancake Sale with Peg & Ed Romanuskas, Jean Kavelines, Regina Yetkowski, John Ramoska and Marie and Dick Laske working to raise money. The raffle winner of an Amber Necklace was won by M. Matyneak from New Castle, Del.

Along with Council 143, Pittson, we hosted the Lithuanian Rosary at St. Peter's Cathedral. Assisting Msgr. Madus, celebrant and homilist, were Msgr. Ozalas, Pastor Emeritus of St. Joseph's Church and Rev. J. Savukynas from Plano, Ill. who recited the 3rd decade in Lithuanian. Ed Romanuskas gave the scriptural readings and Mrs. Nellie Romanas led the recitation of the Rosary. Helen Cravath served

as Mistress of Ceremonies. Miss Amanda Benekine crowned the Pilgrim Virgin Statue while Rachel Georgia served as crown bearer and Elizabeth Georgia served as Honor Guard.

Sr. Elizabeth Zemaitis of St. Ann's Parish was the organ accompanist and the program coordinators were Marie Laske and Nellie Romanas.

The Amber District Meeting was certainly blessed with a beautiful day and a great turn out. Fr. Alisaukas, celebrant, was assisted at Mass by Msgr. Madus and Msgr. Ozalas. Readings were done by Ed Romanuskas and Helen Cravath while Nellie Romanas explained the offertory gifts and their meanings. A great job -

aciū.

Fourth Degrees were earned by Peg Romanuskas and Rose Stanches. Due to illness Ann Huffstutler was unable to receive her 4th Degree. A 3rd Degree was awarded to Eleanor Bellanco. Congratulations to all!

Since Lithuanian music is seldom heard in church, we received many beautiful comments on the selections which were chanted. We should do this more often. Gift bearers were John Mickunas, Steve Soha, John Mankus, Helen Churi, Ann Matulevich, Marie and Richard Laske.

Elsie Komisky, President of the Amber District, conducted the meeting attended by 91

members. Our Council outdid themselves by serving delicious food, prepared by them and Sandra Georgia, my daughter. A huge thank you is extended to our waitresses, Susan Stebins, Lillian Labas, Marie Benekine, Mary Davis, Aldona Grimes and Regina Yetkowski.

Sincere condolences go out to Leo Ze-wicki whose sister Helen Clark entered the eternal resting place. Amzina atilsi!

Marie Laske

C-79, SOUTHFIELD

During the weekend of Oct. 8-9 these members attended the Mid-Central District Meeting-Pilgrimage: Margaret and Bill Dapkus, Richard Danielak, Sylvia Jarosz, Mary Keller, Joe and Violet Panavas, Ann Uzdavinis and Bertha Janus. C. 102 were hosts and arranged an interesting meeting and services at the second oldest Catholic church in the USA - St. Anne's, where annually Detroit's dignitaries gather for St. Patrick's Day Mass. Saturday afternoon was spent in the village of Frankenmuth, the typical Bavarian town which draws thousands of visitors every year, and most of them indulge in the famous chicken dinner.

Since our Family Day Picnic, July 30, we concentrated on producing a successful annual Fall Festival. It was held Sun., Nov. 13 and through

the combined efforts of all who worked that day, yielded a welcome addition to our treasury.

Under the able supervision of our president, Marge Dapkus, all projects operated smoothly -- the bake sale, kitchen doings, the



*C-96 Dayton Officers for 1994-1995 term.
Photo by James Geiger*

straw game and a new attempt, a craft table. Those who took the time to help should be gratified with a successful affair. Incidentally, for those not able to attend, the 50/50 raffle was won by Joseph Panavas, our vice-president's husband.

In other news, though sad, it must be reported. Through death we recently lost two senior members -- Charles Bagdon, who died August 4 and Anthony Mameniskis, who passed away October 28, six days after his 103rd. birthday. Let us not forget them in our prayers. Let us also remember our ailing members -- those



*C-74 Members
at St. Ann's Monas-
tery Lithuanian
Day (left).*



*C-74 celebrates "Immigrants All"
on Sept. 10 at McDade Park. Potato
Pancake makers (1st row) Nancy Laske,
Jean Kavelinis; (2nd row) Marie & Ri-
chard Laske, Peg & Ed Romanauskas,
John Ramanska, and Regina Yetkowski.*

confined to their homes or in nursing homes as we celebrate the holiday season.

HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

Bee Jay

C-96, DAYTON

The entire Dayton Lithuanian community would like to extend a very special CONGRATULATIONS to Elinor Sluzas in receiving the Honorary Membership from the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania! A lifetime resident of Dayton, Ohio, Elinor works extremely hard not only with the K of L, but all of the Dayton and National

organizations. Elinor justly deserves the award earned and given to her. She is on the Board of Trustees for 'Aid To Lithuania, participates with the Dayton Lithuanian Cultural Council, Knights of Lithuania #96, supports the Lithuanian Social Club, member of Holy Cross Parish and more. The 'Amber Rose' Restaurant, Elinor's own establishment, is one of Dayton finest in European Ethnic dining and recently received an outstanding award from the 'Dayton Magazine.'

MaryAgnes Mikalauskas

Congratulations to Co-Chairs of C #96's Annual Fall Bake Sale the weekend of November 18-20th, Elaine Pacovsky and Loretta Pant. It

was a job well done and the profit is proof of the success. Workers for the sale were Henry and Rob Pant and Linda Miller. Behind the scene was the many members who baked, made craft items and contributed monetary donations. We had twelve door prizes of which the following council members won Pat Anthony, Ada Sinkwitz, Rita Ambrose, Frances Mikalauskas (2 prizes) and Junior Knight Joey Berger. Other winners were parishioners of Holy Cross Church. To one and all - Labai Aciu!!! Other members who are part of the councils yearly committees are: Ritual -

Eloise Berczelly; Telephone Squad - Christine Fletcher, Barbara Goecke, Ann Gitzinger, Joan Kavalauskas, Sue Keivel, Eloise Berczelly, Frances Mikalauskas; Photographer - Elena Mikalauskas. Having active Board and Committee members is what makes the many successes we have in the council.

Our Washington, DC member, 2nd Class Petty Officer, Michael Pant recently was a guest at a dinner at the Pentagon. The dinner was in honor of the Secretary of Defense Minister of Lithuania and the Secretary of Defense Minister of the United States. Micheal is part of the cooking staff for Vice President and Mrs. Al Gore. We'll be looking forward to Micheal's visit home where he can share his experiences with us.

Through the efforts of our Religious Chair, Jim Geiger, a sizable sum was collected in donations from members, parishioners and friends of Holy Cross Church for Christ the King Sisters, our adopted Order of Nuns, in Kaunas. George Mikalauskas, having made contact with

Sister Michele, with the help of Sister Michele, delivery of the donations was assured in time for Christmas.

Get well wishes go out to Karl Keivel, Richard Conrady, Pauline Pietrzak and Michael J. Petkus, Sr.



C-110 Transfiguration Choir members singing at 20th Annual Kucios, Dec. 11, '94

Congratulations go out to our council President, Elena Mikalauskas. Elena has received her Master's Degree in Master of Science/Nursing Administration with a 4.0 average. Elena, who has been a member of the Knights continuously since her Junior K of L days; Elena has been on

too numerous committees to list but she has been MCD Vice-President in charge of Juniors for the past several years; held the position of C #96's Junior Advisor for two years and has been C #96 President for the past two years. Elena is, also, a K of L Scholarship recipient.

From the members of C #96 we extend our congratulations to our National Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, S.T.D., on the occasion of Father's Silver Jubilee!

Ilgiausiu Metu!

December 20th will be the first anniversary of Father Vaclovas Katarskis' death. Father had been our councils Spiritual Advisor. Father did leave a gift to the council in his will. The council in turn sent Father's gift, IMO him, to the St. Casimir Guild's Vestment Drive for the Lithuanian College in Rome. During Father Walter's time the Cincinnati Diocese was seriously, through a task force survey, planning to combine many of the churches in the Dayton

area. The parishioners of Holy Cross Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church put our parish into the hands of God, The Blessed Mother, St. Casimir and Venerable George Matulaitis. With Father's passing, we didn't know what would happen to our parish. Well, our prayers have been answered for now. The diocese assigned Rev. Michael Holloran to take care of us. Father Mike, as he likes to be called, has never been around Lithuanians. Father had been an associate pastor as he was and is a teaching priest. From the first day Father came to us it has been nothing but 'upbeat'. Father has learned the Lithuanian prayers to open and close Mass; some of the Lithuanian hymns and has been open working with all our personalities in the parish. Father is rooting for us to remain open as a parish. We are not 'out of the woods' yet. So, please, keep our parish in your prayers!!

To one and all we wish you belated Christmas Blessings with a year ahead filled with your prayers answered and good health!!

Frances Petkus, HM

C-110, MASPETH

At our November meeting at Transfiguration Church in Maspeth on the 27th, council members were in for a rare Sunday afternoon treat--Virginius Barkauskas, our church organist, gave an outstanding organ "Concert of Thanksgiving" accompanied by Angela Kiausas, a leading area opera soprano. The concert featured a sonata and toccata by J.S. Bach, along with the beautiful requiem, "Pie Jesu" and encore, "Ave Maria".

Virginijus was born in 1964 in Lithuania. He attended the college of Kaunas and the

Lithuanian Academy of Music in Vilnius, studying organ with Leopoldas Digrys. In the Summer of 1992, he came to the United States to study at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana and completed his studies in August 1993.

Mr. Barkauskas has played recitals at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to the Crookston Cathedral in Minnesota and many others. Prior to coming to the United States, Mr. Barkauskas was the organist and choir director of the Archangel Michael Basilica in Marijampole, Lithuania.

Highlights of our regular meeting included more of member Ann Morressey's drive to ship orphan packages to two Lithuanian locations, acknowledgments of a successful Halloween Dinner Dance, and plans for our upcoming Christmas Kucios and Annual Christmas Party.

To all of my fellow Council 110 members, thank you for all your positive support and input to keep our council in the news, the photos and stories. Continue the good work with your new correspondent, and keep me informed. --*Maryte Abbott*

Our council, late in November and early December, shipped a total of 10 "care" packages of clothes and medical supplies to the Orphanages in Vilnius and Kaunas. Thanks go to Ann Morrissey and her helpers, Helen Matulonis and Edward Sirgedas for arranging and shipping these. After reviewing our donations over the past 4 years, not only to the Lithuanian people, but also to the Transfiguration Church, the Franciscan Fathers, et al, we spent approximately \$18,000 to help the needy. Without any hesitation, C-110, Maspeth, will continue



C-112 Chicago (top left) newly elected officers administered oath by Spiritual Advisor, Canon V. Zakaruskas. (Top right) Members relaxing during Convention in Chicago: Julie Zakara, Phyllis Pelletier, Len Shimutis, Estelle Rogers, Dell Zunas, Dolores Wainauskas, Ellie Kasputis, Aldona and Al Brazis.

to be charitable to all. Fortunately, our members and guests do support our social functions and fund raising activities. This was so, when on December 11th, 191 members and friends of Lithuania attended our 20th Anniversary "KUCIOS"; chaired by Bill and Zina Budris and the food prepared by John Klimas and Peter Zuyus. Also, we extend our gratitude to all volunteers who sold tickets (80 by Helen Matulonis), to the light-footed waitresses and to all members who setup the hall and cleaned up after this joyful and memorable family get-together.

Msgr. Bulovas and Pastor Fr. Ted attended our annual Christmas Party on December 18th and both gave us their blessings and good wishes for the forthcoming year. Father and son, Al & John Klimas prepared the Desra (kielbasi) and many members donated their homemade sauerkraut, potato salad and cakes. The chair committee of Mary Stelmokas, sisters Jean Rutkunas and Ann Ackalitis helped us enjoy ourselves during the season of Advent.

It is our pleasure to inform those who may not have heard, a dedicated C-110 member, Maryte Abbott has been chosen to replace the Editor of Vytis. Let's all wish her well and success in this new and challenging endeavor. Sadly, we must report that recently, long time members Charles Augustinas and Anthony Migliore have passed away. Please offer your prayers for them and all deceased members.

Bruno Rutkunas, interim Vytis Correspondent.

C-112, CHICAGO

The end of summer marked the beginning of a new K of L year. The first order of business was the election of officers for the coming year. We had a record turnout of 70 members all eager to cast their votes. Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Al Mockus, conducted the elections in an orderly and official manner and presented the slate of members running for office. First to be elected was president, Rita Zakarka. Then came the vice presidents: 1st V.P. Al Mockus; 2nd V.P. Ellie Kasputis; 3rd V.P. Maria Deksnis. Our new secretaries are: Recording

Gerrie Chaplin; Corresponding Karen Ramanousky; and Financial Terry Vaitkus. Treasurer is Ed Pocius. Trustees are Philomena Vilutis and Lorraine Svelnis. Sgts. at Arms are Peter Jasaitis, Ed Deksnis, Matt Vilutis, and Jack Abramite. Our flag bearer is Louis Rogers. We welcomed our Spiritual Advisor Canon Vaclovas Zakarauskas back for another year. After the elections, we all enjoyed a wide variety of dishes prepared by the outgoing board of directors. Our thanks to you -- not only for the treats but also for your yearlong dedication to your jobs.

Plans are already being formulated for next year's fund-raiser. It will be a "Games Party" to be held on Sunday, April 30 in Nativity church hall, with plenty of prizes and fun for all. Proceeds from this affair will benefit our parish and the College in Rome. Mark your calendars now so you won't miss it -- we need your help and support!

We are grateful to Leonas Narbutis for editing many hours of video tape so that the very best of the Lithuanian Music Festival could be shown after our October meeting. Judging from the rapt attention of members, his selections were perfect. Thank, also, to social chairlady, Julie Zakarka, who provided the wonderful treat we enjoyed as we watched the videos. Would you believe -- she grated 20 lbs. of potatoes to make that oh-so-good kugelis? (The next day she left town -- for a vacation.)

President Rita Zakarka announced her committee chairmen selections for the new year. They are: Lithuanian Affairs - Phyllis Pelletier; Social - Julie Zakarka; Lithuanian Culture - Leonas Narbutis; Ritual - Mary Anne Gercius; Courtesy/Wake - Estelle Rogers; Action Committee - Vida Sakevicius; Aid to Lithuania Raffle - Denise Zakarka and Phyllis Pelletier; Council Photographer - Denise Zakarka. Our able publicity team consists of Aldona Brazis for English publicity; Apolinaras Bagdonas for Lithuanian publicity; and Gerrie Chaplin, VYTIS correspondent.

Once again C-112 received two membership awards at the National Convention: as the council signing

up the most new members, and as the individual signing up the most new members -- Estelle Rogers. 'Way to go!

Welcome new members Josephine Alfanso and Al Barkus. Hope to see you at our meetings and socials. Terry Vaitkus reminds us to pay dues to her ASAP and let her know if you don't receive your VYTIS.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of long-time member, Stephen Lack. Our appreciation to Wake chairlady, Estelle Rogers, for calling members and arranging for the wake service at the Lack & Sons Funeral Home, and asking Al Mockus to conduct the service. Heartfelt condolences to his family.

Gerrie

C-136, HUDSON-MOHAWK

Our annual picnic held in August found our council hosting Council 100-Amsterdam, New York at a beautiful site along the Mohawk River part way between the two cities of Amsterdam and Schenectady.

In spite of the threat of rain, a good time was had by all who attended. Good food and good friends were the special ingredients helping to make the day a success. September found us in Kennebunkport enjoying our annual retreat at the Franciscan Monastery. We were very fortunate indeed as the weather was absolutely beautiful and our bus was full of "happy campers". All who attended had a real good time.

At our October meeting we elected the following officers and committee chairpersons: President- Lynn McCafferty; Vice-President- Ed Barkowski; Recording Secretary- Shelly LeVine; Treasurer- Dot Richmire; Financial

Secretary- June Stankus; Trustee- Estelle Nelson; Sergeant-at-arms Richard Fuerst; Ritual Chairman- Bea Twardowski; Lithuanian Affairs- Berniece Aviza; Lithuanian Culture- Stella White; Public Relations- Joan Parker; Vytis Correspondent- Dot Richmire; Sunshine- Nell Freer; Archives- Gen Deery; Telephone- Clara Tulio, Jo Sasinowski.

We hope to have a successful and fruitful year.

Dot Richmire

C-141, BRIDGEPORT

OFFICERS/COMMITTEES - 1994 - 1995

Spiritual Advisor - Msgr. Francis J. Pranckus; President- Clemencine Miller; 1st V.P.- Dr. Armundas Zakarauskas; 2nd V. P.- Joseph Janiunas; Secretary- Barbara W. Schmidt; Treas. - Patricia Silk; Financial Sec. - William Brilvitch; Vytis Correspondent. - Aldona Marcavage; Trustees - Peter Putrimas and Stephen Wilcinskis; Lithuanian Affairs - Mitch Marcinauskis and Joseph Janiunas; Cultural Affairs - Aldona Peters; Social Director- Stella Marcinauskis

With much pride and joy we look back over the last 20 years of our existence. It all began with the initiative of A.A. Teresa Trainis, her ever-helpful husband, Alphonse, and Gintare Ivaska. We became more sensitive to our roots, and developed a deeper pride in our heritage. We realized we should hold fast to all the best from the past--all The treasures of national culture, language and traditions, handed down to our generation. Hopefully we might be able to pass this love and understanding down to future generations. Over the years we have become a much better informed group of Lithuanian-Americans. With love we remember all our members who have gone before us to live with our Heavenly Father. May they rest in peace.

Our September meeting began with the celebration of Mass of Thanksgiving for the twenty years. May our council celebrate many more! Msgr. Pranckus was the celebrant, assisted by Deacon John Rigeley. Clemencine Miller presided over the first meeting of the now season. After opening prayer, and various reports, Msgr. Pranckus took charge of the elections for the coming year. There was only one change. Lee Marcinka retired after many years of service, and Bill Brilvitch was elected Financial Secretary. Many thanks to Lee for her long tenure in office. Welcome, Bill and best wishes. The rest of the officers agreed to serve for another term. Installation will take place Oct. 16, 1994 in St. George's Church. Secretary Barbara Schmidt read a note of Congratulations from NED president Bertha Stonkus.

Deacon John Rigeley donated hundreds of rosaries made by St. Mary's school children in Milford, Ct. Helen Janiunas had them sent to Lithuania's children during our drive of Aid To Lithuania. The Viltis Service will return to Bridgeport in October and November to pick up care packages for Christmas Living. Both Armundas Zakaranskas and Joseph Janiunas gave brief reports on present conditions in Lithuania. Armundas' parents live in Kaunas and supply him with many current events. Best wishes to his sister, Ilona Zakarauskas, who is sporting a beautiful engagement ring. Frank Sciarappa is the lucky guy. That's one way to get a new member for K of L! Her parents will be coming to USA for the 1995 wedding.

Barbara Schmidt flew to Lithuania with the VETRA dancers of New Haven to take part in the Song and Dance Festival. For 2 1/2 weeks she toured the country-- first visiting her father's relatives. Vytautas Vaikutis enjoyed five weeks with his family and friends of his youth. We congratulate Helen and Joe Janiunas who

celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in September-- and on Oct 16th renewed their wedding vows with Bishop Egan in St. Augustine's Cathedral.

Bridgeport made a nice showing at the fall convention in Waterbury-- 15 Knights attended. Double congratulations to Clem Miller who was reelected 3rd vice president and whose grandson Ryan Miller was granted the WED scholarship. C-141 has more representation at NED. Sylvester Marcavage was reelected Trustee and his wife Aldona accepted another term as F. R. Ray Buzak, retired educator, who made friends with Lithuania's teachers via the APPLE Connection when he visited there last year. He is now corresponding and exchanging gifts with one teacher. He recently received a book of Lithuanian Costumes. Earlier he received a handmade vest. How nice!

Get well wishes go to Peter Putrimas who tore a ligament in his leg and is recuperating at home with Sophie's TLC. Heartfelt sympathies to John Kristy and family on the loss of his wife, Anne-Maria, and the mother of his seven children. We sympathize with Clem Miller whose brother, Louis, recently passed away after a long illness. May they rest in peace.

Our next visit with fellow Knights will be at the Cultural Festival in Maironis Park. IKI!

Su vytiska meile,
Aldona Marcavage

C-144, ANTHRACITE

At the August meeting, Council 144 honored Anne Wargo, newly installed Honorary Member at the National Convention in Chicago.

Congratulations, HM Anne!

Financial Secretary Helen Chesko presented membership awards made at the National Convention. Helen Matunis, Vice President, accepted C-144 first-place award for membership writing in its respective category. Joseph Dereskavich accepted his award for writing the *largest number of new members* in the same category.

Anne Sikora was presented her third place award in the Foundation Essay Contest. Anna Helen McDonald was singled out for honorable mention in the contest. Stacy Harvillez was awarded a scholarship. Congratulations to all the awards recipients!

Officers for 1994-95 were installed by Ritual Chairperson Helen Chesko and Spiritual Advisor, Father Matthew Jarasunas. They are President, Anne Wargo; Vice President, Pat Roberts, Secretary, Eleanor Vaicaitis, Treasurer; Anna Helen McDonald; Financial Secretary, Elsie Kosmisky. The Pottsville Republican featured the Knights of Lithuania, C 144 in their weekend special feature. They gave a history of the Council and all that it has accomplished since it was established.

Lithuanian Day was successful this year thanks to the hard work of the members. Donations were made to St. Casimir's Guild and to the Lithuanian Orphan's Relief. The Council also continues to pay for shipment of medical supplies to Lithuania by Sister Marilyn of the Daughters of Charity. This past year, Sister Marilyn, a non-Lithuanian has sent over \$100,000 in medical supplies, with the council paying over \$2,000.00 for shipment. A shipment of Visual Aids was also sent to a school in Vilnius and text books to a school in Kaunas.

We are happy to have Father Jarasunas back after a hospitalization. Thanks to Father for continuing the Lithuanian Masses and we pray he will continue to stay well.

Honorary Member Anne Wargo was honored by the Pennsylvania State Legislature and Representative Ed Lucyk with a Proclamation from the Legislature on her receiving the Honorary Degree.

Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Joseph Martunas, continues to work hard for Lithuania and keeps the Council up to date on what's happening there. His reports each month are very informative.

Members attended the Amber District Meeting in Scranton- Reelected from C. 144 were President, Elsie Kosmisky; Secretary, Anna Helen McDonald, Treasurer, Eleanor Vaicaitis, Ritual, Helen Chesko, and P.R., Tom McDonald

November brought a pleasant surprise to the Anthracite Council. Msgr. Kazimeras Vasilauskas, Rector of the Vilnius Cathedral was visiting the U.S. and specifically wanted to visit the Anthracite Coal Region because he had an uncle in Mahanoy City who educated him and he wanted to pay his respects at the Mahanoy City Lithuanian Cemetery. An impromptu reception was held and everyone was impressed with this holy man. He had spent 20 years in Siberia, 10 of which he worked in the Coal Mines.

Prior to his visit, a call was made to President Anne Wargo, giving her the names of the Mahanoy City relatives. Msgr. Vasilauskas thought all were deceased. What a surprise when we discovered that the Uncle who educated him was the Uncle who raised our own Helen Chesko. What a joyous reunion! Helen had photos of his parents and grandparents which he had lost when he was transported to

Siberia. They had a wonderful visit and found great joy in their discovery.

Our own Bernie Zilaitis took Msgr. Vasilauskas on a tour of coal mines which he wanted to see. The Ashland Coal mine which is closed for the Season opened just for him and gave him the grand tour of the Mine and Museum. He was taken to a Strip Mining Operation and totally enjoyed it.

But the best part of his visit was visiting the graves of his Uncle and Aunt. It was truly a blessed week-end.

Our Annual Kucia was held in Our Lady of Siluva Church with the members from Minersville and St. Clair acting as Hostesses. As usual it was a success and started our Christmas Season with reverence.

Helen Chesko, Anne Wargo, Eleanor Vaicaitis, and Elsie Kosmisky attended the Silver Jubilee in Philadelphia of our National Spiritual Advisor, Father Joseph Anderlonis. It was a beautiful affair and Father Joe certainly deserved the man accolades (And some roasting) which he received. He is truly loved by Parishioners of St. George's and his many friends in the K of L. "Ilgiausiu Metu" Father Joe, May God bring you many blessings in the future and may you have many many more years in the wonderful way you serve God.

We wish all our brother and sister Knights the best the New Year may bring. May you have good health and many blessings.

C-147, ST. PETERSBURG

Alexander Kraujalis, 78, a 4th degree member of Council 147, died August 27, 1994 at home. He was past president of our council in the

80's. We will miss him. May he rest in peace. Our Sincere Sympathy to his wife and children.

At our convention, a get-well card was passed around for signatures and given to Jonas Valauskas. He had sent a letter to all before his passing. (See page 18.)

Tautu Svente was observed on September 4th at Holy Name Church and on September 7th at the Lithuanian American Club. Antanas Grabauskas, Ona Semoleviciene, Elena Bacevicius and Valeria Lescinskas represented our council.

On Sunday September 18th, at the 1 o'clock Lithuanian Mass at Holy Name Church in Gulfport, Antanas Grabauskas and Genovaite Bakas received their 4th degrees. It was a beautiful ceremony with Father Gasiunas, our Spiritual Advisor, and Dolores Jonaitis President, awarding the medals. John Jonaitis carried the K of L flag. Flag attendants were Ona Semoleviciene and Victoria Kleiva, who also carried the gifts in full dress Lithuanian attire. All kissed the K of L Flag after the ceremony. Permission was granted by President Frances Petkus and Helen Chesko Ritual Chairman, to give the awards locally.

At our September 20th meeting, we honored our two 4th Degree members, the previous eight 2nd Degree members awarded in

February, and Rev. Matas Cyvas and Kazimiera Vaisviliene, who received their 2nd Degrees on May 28, 1994.

September 20th was also Father Jonas Gasiunas's 90th birthday. Victoria Kleiva read a bi-

ography of his accomplishments. Father also explained details of his earlier life. We all sang "Ilgausu Metu" and all of us signed his card. Members gave him individual gifts. Our members donated all kinds of food, tortas, wine, pyragas etc., too numerous to mention names, others donated money toward expenses. It was greatly appreciated and our council thanks all of you.

Our guest at the meeting was Father Gasiunas's nephew

from Lithuania. He arrived the day before our meeting. His name is "Jonas Gasiunas".

At our September meeting, three new members were sworn in by Rev. Father Gasiunas. They were Genevieve Juska, Kazimiera Arlauskas and Elena Jurkynas. Congratulations to all three.

Jonas Valauskas, Honorary member of C#147, died at home in St. Petersburg Beach after a long illness, on Tuesday October 18, 1994. He



C-147 St. Petersburg member Sue Mazeika, widow of the late HM Antanas Mazeika at the Franciscan Guest House in Kennebunkport, ME.

was the sponsor of the K of L Room at ALKA in Putnam CT. He also sponsored the K of L "75 Years of Lithuanian History". As Cultural Chairman in 1980, he donated generously to the C #147 Flag Fund. He is survived by his wife Ida. May he rest in peace. We will miss him.

Dolores Jonaitis

C-150, KANSAS CITY

On October 27th, our members were honored to meet Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas and other dignitaries from Lithuania at a reception held in the home of Anita and Bill Strumillo. Accompanying the Lithuanian Ambassador to the U.S. were Mr. Darius Pranckevicius - Economic Advisor; Mr. Petras Krautas, Pres. & CEO of Vakarų Bankas of Klaipeda, Lith. and Ms. Liuda Pociuene, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the Lithuanian Newspaper, LIETUVOS AIDAS. A great number of ideas were exchanged throughout the evening, raising enthusiasm for the future economic growth of Lithuania. Dr. Eidintas was presented with a parting gift of an Ethnic History of the City of Kansas City, Ks., which included chapters about the Lithuanian community's beginnings in this area.

On November 12th, the Council held its Fall Meeting in the Hospitality Room of "The Strawberry Hill Ethnic Museum" in Kansas City. The guest speaker was Mr. Byron Whitcraft, a member of the Society for the Preservation of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP). This organization was responsible for gathering (on a strictly volunteer basis), over 5.2 million signatures to a petition requesting the Soviet Union to free Lithuania. The signatures, which were gathered on five (5) continents of the world, were micro-filmed and then brought to Russia in December 1991, just before the "Sunday Massacre" took place.

The Spring Meeting for Council 150, is set for March 11, 1995. A Degree ceremony is being planned for members who have earned them, by that time.

Charlotte Zemaitis Horvatic, Pres.

C-154, SPRING HILL

The calendar shows that summer is over but not in the Sunshine State! Our member who left in the Spring are drifting back to join those who enjoyed the warm but refreshing waters of the Gulf of Mexico during the heat wave. We enjoyed a production of "It Had to be You" at what we call our "Off-Broadway" theater, the Angel Theater in Holiday. Annette and Bill Gnezevich spent time with their great-grandson, Edward, in Houston, Texas. Bridget and Alex Walluk entertained family and friends in Chenango Forks to celebrate Alex's 80th birthday. John and Sadye Petraitis spent time out west enjoying several of the National Parks. Joe Kuchisnkas, our President, has scheduled a meeting as this report is written. The next issue will detail the accomplishments of our council. Stay well.

S.G. Petraitis



Almanac/Almanachas...Sausis/January

The first month of the year derives its English name from the Romans who named the first month of their calendar in honor of their ancient god of doorways and fences. The god, JANUS, was depicted with two faces looking in opposite directions. In Lithuanian, the name is drawn from the root, *saus-*, which carries the meaning of "dry" and is used in combinations to reflect dry land, biscuits, crackers, etc. Typically, it reflects the hard, dry cold that would normally prevail across Lithuania at this time of the year.

Dates to remember:

January 3 - 37 YEARS AGO - On this date in 1958, the first-ever Bishop of the Diocese of Panevezys died in Vilnius. Bishop Kazimieras Paltarokas was also known as the author of a modern Lithuanian-language catechism which has been used universally within Lithuania for teaching prayers, basic Catholic precepts and responsibilities.

January 13 - 4 YEARS AGO - It was on this date in 1991 that the movement toward sovereignty and separation from the Soviet empire reached a fateful culmination in Lithuania at the TV tower in Vilnius. Fourteen civilians lost their lives during the brutal assault by Soviet special forces (OMON) troops backed up by tanks and armed personnel carriers on the unarmed Lithuanian patriots ringing the TV tower precincts. It is a day to pray for the souls of all those who lost their lives fighting for Lithuania's freedom. (See story on page 6.)

January 27 - 68 YEARS AGO - Archbishop George Matulaitis died in Kaunas in 1927. Proclaimed "Blessed" in 1987, the cause for his canonization is still being pursued. We should all be praying for a speedy resolution of his cause and his canonization as a saint of the Catholic Church. (See stories on page 10 and page 23.)

Congratulations to all those celebrating a "Name Day" in January:

Agnes (Jan 21)	Algimintas (Jan 23)	Anastasia (Jan 24)
Anthony (Jan 17)	Apolinaras (Jan 8)	Artunas (Jan 6)
Beatrice (Jan 17)	Fabian (Jan 20)	Felix (Jan 14)
Francis DeSales (Jan 24)	Jaunutis (Jan 25)	JohnBosco(Jan31)
Lilija (Jan 14)	Mary (Jan 1)	Malvina (Jan 3)
Mazvydas (Jan 24)	Peter (Jan 9)	Raymond (Jan 7)
Sarunas (Jan 24)	Sebastian (Jan 20)	Simon (Jan 5)
Thomas Aquinas (Jan 28)	Veronica (Jan 13)	Vincent (Jan 22)
Vytautas (Jan 5)	Vytenis (Jan 27)	

A Thought for January:

Visai žmonijai taika ir vienybe duoti teikis!...

May all mankind be granted peace and unity!

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1995 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Volunteer Day-World Medical Relief

Jan. 14, 28 Detroit, C-102

For further info contact:

Regina Juska (313) 554-3288

"Lithuanian Independence" Celebration

Feb. 4 Norwood, MA, C-27

Albie Jarvis (617) 762-2613

"Memories of Lithuania" Banquet

Feb. 5 MAMD

Evelyn Ozelis (312) 254-7553

St. Casimir Day Celebrations

Mar. 12 AMBD, Host: C-3

Agnes Mickunas (609) 931-3306

Mar. 26 MAD, Host: C-110

Bruno Rutkunas (516) 628-2292

Supreme Council Meeting

Mar. 25 Host: C-26, Worcester, MA

Agnes Mickunas (609) 931-3306

1995 National Convention

Aug. 9-13 Host: C-102, Detroit

Regina Juska (313) 554-3288

(Note: If your council/district has a scheduled function that is not listed, please inform the VYTIS Editor, so we may include it here. Aciu.)