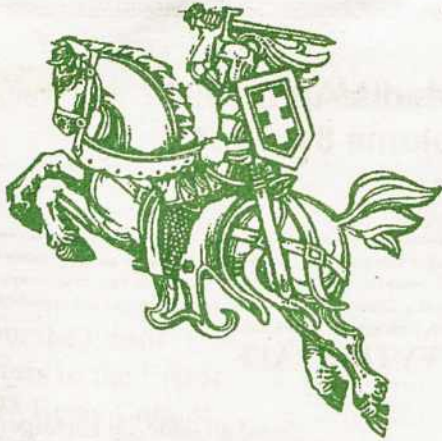


Volume 81: No. 4  
April 1995



# VYTIS

Knights of Lithuania

## BALANDIS / APRIL

*THE COOING VOICES OF THE FIRST SPRING SONGBIRDS, THE WILD DOVES ("BALANDIS") CAN BE HEARD IN LITHUANIAN COUNTRYSIDES. THEIR SOFT COOS ARE NOT YET DROWNED OUT BY THE OTHER SONGBIRDS, WHO RETURN LATER ON IN THE SPRING.*



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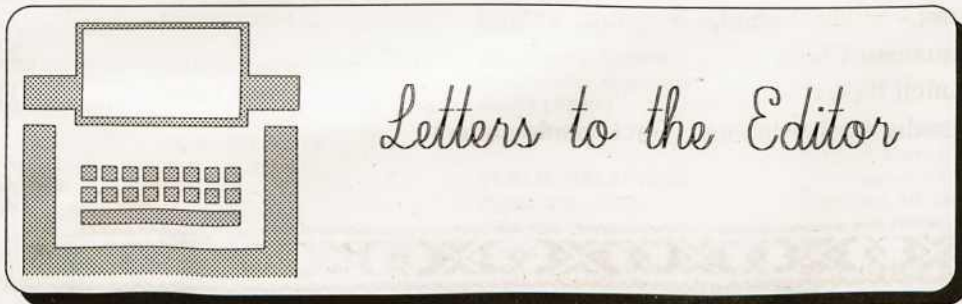
## FROM YOUR EDITOR

A company president once had a saying posted on his office wall. It read, "Lead, follow, or get out of the way."

On March 24 and 25 I had the honor and privilege of attending my first Supreme Council meeting in Worcester, MA. Good leaders and good followers were certainly present. Although resolutions and a report of the meeting won't be available until the next issue, I'd like to share my thoughts with you. It was an experience with a room full of workaholics who dedicate time, energy, effort and money for the love of our Lithuanian organization, not for ego gratification or personal gain.

The meeting began at 11:00 AM Saturday at Marionis Park and lasted until almost 9 PM that night with time out for a light lunch, mass at St. Casimir's Church in Worcester and a hot supper. Our C-26 Worcester hosts did all the serving and cleaning up. Sure, we had fun during food breaks and hospitality evenings. But, overall Evelyn Ozelis and the Supreme Council workaholics kept going with energy and stamina that most find hard to muster. A few of us traveled again to a Mid Atlantic District meeting on Sunday, March 26 in Maspeth, NY, completing our Lithuanian marathon weekend. Understanding spouses and family members did not see us until Sunday evening. When I got home, my head needed an icepack! How do these amazing people do it, I wondered.

It's rare to witness such dedication of individuals to our heritage. Most people would rather watch TV and complain about aches and pains. Hats off to President Ozelis and the Supreme Council members who must lead the course for the future direction of the Knights of Lithuania, using utmost tact and diplomacy. Thanks again for the opportunity. We must all do these things for love. Happy Easter to all.



### LITHUANIAN JUNIORS WILL DISCOVER FRIENDS

To the editor:

Somewhere between summer camp and the first day of school, you'll have the opportunity to experience the warm laughter of friends who share a common thread. The thread is your Lithuanian heritage.

My name is Irene Vizgirda. My friend, Tina Bulota and I have already started planning all the things we can show you when you attend the convention in Michigan. There will be convention

functions for you to attend, as well as individual and group activities geared towards you and your Lithuanian heritage. Tina and I have been friends for a long time, and it's our Lithuanian background that brought us together. We've always had fun shopping and going to the movies, but we also share extra activities like learning about our culture and ethnic background. It's definitely not boring and there's a lot to experience and do.

Our main goal for the Youth Group at the convention is: Have fun while meeting new friends and learning about our Lithuanian heritage.

I would like to invite anyone interested in learning more about their heritage to come to the convention. Come see what I mean when I say...*Lithuanian friends are the best part of being Lithuanian.*

Irene Vizgirda  
C-102, Detroit, MI

### **BIGGER LITHUANIAN DAY IN PA**

To the editor:

After Barnesville, PA, we had our Lithuanian Day at Rocky Glenn in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Now Lithuanian Day is celebrated in a mall!

Why not have Lithuanians at the Kingston Armory? Every September there is a festival for 3 or 4 days featuring entertainment and different traditional foods. The armory can accommodate thousands of people. We sure miss the get togethers where all Lithuanians can dance, bring a lunch or buy food. We need a better place (than a mall) to celebrate Lithuanian Day.

Vytiskai  
Marie Laske  
C-74, Scranton, PA

**FRATERNAL EASTER GREETINGS  
TO ALL OUR FELLOW KNIGHTS  
FROM C-152, EASTERN LONG  
ISLAND, NY**

*"Linksmu Veliku"*



# KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.

## 1995 ESSAY CONTEST

Has the K of L become a second "family" for you? Have you found new friends, or perhaps even a spouse, through your membership? Has your attendance at K of L events given you new insight into your heritage (or, if an associate member, into your spouse's heritage), or provided an opportunity to help those less fortunate in Lithuania?

The Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc. invites you to recall the K of L benefits, by entering its annual Essay Contest. The topic this year is:

**"How has your membership in the Knights of Lithuania enhanced your life? Elaborate on a specific aspect or an ongoing benefit you have experienced."**

This year's contest should provide you joy as you recall what the Knights have meant to you, and interest to fellow members as they compare your experiences with your own. Enter the Contest and share your thoughts. Rules are listed below.

- LENGTH:** 450 to 500 words (count all words).
- DEADLINE:** July 1, 1995. Essays received after this date will not be considered.
- ELIGIBILITY:** A contestant must be a Knights of Lithuania member (Honorary, Regular or Associate) in GOOD STANDING, OR a member of a Junior Council which is duly registered with the Supreme Council.
- CRITERIA:** Essays will be judged on content, originality, and ATTENTION TO CONTEST TOPIC. Correct grammar and neatness will also be considered in judging.
- MANUSCRIPT:** Must be typed or written legibly, double spaced. The FIRST PAGE should contain ONLY your name, address, council number, and the essay title. Succeeding pages should contain the essay contents but NOT your name. This is to assure anonymity in judging.
- PRIZES:** 1st Prize - \$300, 2nd Prize - \$200, 3rd Prize - \$100.
- JUDGES:** Adolf Klova (AMD), Clemencine Miller (NED), Evelyn Ozelis (MAMD), Aldona Ryan (MCD), Loretta Stukas (MAD), Louise Kleabonas (1994 Contest Winner)
- MAIL TO:** Mrs. Aldona Ryan, 6591 McEwen Rd., Centerville, OH 45459
- WINNERS:** Will be announced August 12, 1995, during the 82nd National Convention in Detroit, MI. Winning entries will be published in VYTIS.
- SPONSOR:** KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC., via a grant from Msgr. Juozas Prunskis.

The **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.** is a tax-exempt endowment fund which uses interest from its investments to finance cultural and religious projects of the K of L. This contest is just one of its projects. This year, besides giving a generous scholarship to a deserving member and sponsoring the Annual Essay Contest, the Foundation sent contributions of Catholic literature and reference materials to the library of the new Dept. of Religious Education in Vilnius, Lithuania. It needs your support to grow and be able to engage in other such projects.

The Foundation has been in existence for 11 years.

You can help keep it in existence by joining the Foundation to increase its capital and provide more funds to help Lithuania and Lithuanian projects. A donation of \$100 entitles you to membership in the Foundation, and supports the Knights' future. Are YOU a member of the Foundation? If not, why not join today? If you are a member, consider making an additional donation.

Send your tax-deductible donation to:  
Mrs. Evelyn Ozelis, Treasurer  
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Chicago, IL 60632

# A Trilogy of Easter Traditions

Editor's note: We've decided to feature three essay prize winners from the Knights of Lithuania 1994 Essay Contest. The topic of the contest was to "describe at least one Lithuanian tradition from a holiday practiced in your family, in the past or present." Enjoy!

## A LITHUANIAN EASTER IN BROOKLYN

*Second Prize Winner*  
*Albert Cizauskas,*  
*C-142, Washington, DC*



At the time, it was easy to miss the importance Lithuanian religious traditions played in the life of our family. I now see they were the pivot about which family life revolved in a blend of old country customs and new country ways.

My remembrance of Lithuanian Easters long past begins as the six weeks of Lent were drawing to a close. While still observing the penitential character of the season, my parents became increasingly engrossed in elaborate preparations for the traditional Lithuanian Easter meal. For us children, the strangest of these occurred when mother brought home a fat goose, not already dressed and ready for the oven, but alive. The arrival of the holiday goose always caused much excitement and even consternation because father would slit the bird's throat with his razor and collect the blood into a pan. The blood became the basic ingredient of a dark liquid enriched with apples, plums and spices to make a nourishing and tasty soup my parents called "Juka." In a sense, this exotic food symbolized the mystery of which Easter was a triumphant beginning, a sacrifice that became our food.

In retrospect, even more wonderful than the

wonderful Lithuanian dishes mother prepared for our Easter meal, was attending the Resurrection Mass. I would huddle with my parents as we walked the mile or so to the church in the chilly darkness that preceded the dawn. As we entered, the sight of many lighted candles, the lavish display of Easter lilies arranged by the good nuns in a triumph of nature and art, and the sense of expectancy which pervaded the congregation as it waited for life to overcome Death, never ceased to

thrill me.

The great moment came as the first rays of the rising sun filtered through the stained glass windows and the pastor, leading a procession of altar boys and Sodality girls, would intone the glorious news of the Resurrection with the traditional Lithuanian Easter hymn, "Linksma Diena" ("O Joyous Day"). With that, the church organ and the church bells, silent since Holy Thursday, would erupt in happy tumult. A sweetly-acrid smell of incense filled the church, the aisle floors were covered with multi-colored flower petals strewn by the Sodality, and the pastor, bearing aloft the golden Monstrance, would bring the procession to its sacred climax at the resplendent main altar.

Such scenes were among the glories of the old church, recapturing for our parents the rich traditions of their homeland in a new land, bringing beauty for a brief moment into their lives. Our parents hungered for something more than bread alone, and they were abundantly fed celebrating feasts like Lithuanian Easter more than half a century ago in Brooklyn.

## Easter Time --- celebrated 60 years ago

*Honorable Mention*  
*Bruno Rutkunas,*  
*C-110 Maspeth, NY*

The activity around and in my parents cold water flat a week before Easter Sunday was hurried and hectic. Mom and Pop had left their homes in Lithuania and settled down in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, remembering their traditional customs. Preparations for the Easter celebration included cleaning, dusting, refurbishing and hanging washed curtains on the windows. After mass on Palm Sunday, I proudly wore my hand made palm cross on my jacket. Mom started to do some shopping, visiting the Lithuanian owned grocery, bakery and butcher shop; most Lithuanian Americans supported their brethren! On Holy Thursday, we visited at least 3 churches, saying prayers and hoping to receive some extra blessings.

My father worked as a tailor at a Lithuanian owned clothing factory and he would bring home empty wooden thread spools for me. On Good Friday, we spent an hour or so in church, keeping vigil and praying silently. A couple days earlier, I noticed some pork casings blown up and hung up, drying. Late Friday afternoon, my father helped grind the fresh Boston butts on a mechanical chopper which was clamped on the wooden kitchen chair. When the meat was finely chopped, Mom added some secret spices, storing it in our Ice-Box! On Saturday morning, the meat was stuffed into the moistened casings then tied every 24 inches and placed into a huge pot of boiling water, cooking for one hour. We called these "Kielbasi", nowadays "Desras" is often used to describe these sausages.

Saturday noontime, we devoured all the

home made meat dishes, marking the end of our fasting and all the fish, cheese and pancakes we that we ate during lent. Dark bread was a feature and the half-sour pickles soaked with dill and spices in a crock pot completed our menu.

Later in the day, eggs were boiled with peeled onion skins and they became a vivid brown color; perhaps this started the vegetable coloring dyes of to-day. These were no match for the intricately decorated eggs made by others, but sufficient for us. Easter morning I was given a chocolate bunny purchased from our neighboring Lithuanian candy store; and I showed off my toy train, made with the wooden spools.



We had fun trying to break each other's eggs; one person would expose the top of it, while the other would hit it with his. My father always broke mine, since he hit my hand-held egg on the side, even though I tried not to expose it. I was told that in Lithuania, they caught a farmer using a polished rock as his egg; they confiscated all his broken eggs.

After mass, we paraded around in our suits, (girls wore hats) and enjoyed the afternoon. We feasted again on Sunday night and on the second day of Easter, we had either cabbage or beet soup, which was made using the left over liquid from the Kielbasi. Today, we still try to carry on the tradition, with store bought everything. It is still enjoyable, but not the same!

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### *Phrases heard in today's Lithuania...*

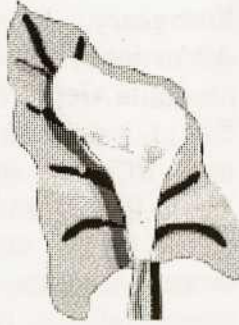
- May the men who head our government get a hernia raising their own salaries and our taxes...
- May you only eat, the promises of the government...
- May you become a working unemployed...
- May you look for justice, as you try to regain your seized real estate..



## My Childhood Easter

### *Honorable Mention*

*Anna Helen Mc Donald,  
C - 144, Anthracite, PA*



I would like to go back in time and share some of my fondest memories of my childhood.

Preparation and celebration of Easter were special and sacred times in our family filled with love, tenderness and enthusiasm for "the extreme finale" leading to "a new beginning".

Preparation started early in the week. We always "dye" eggs. Mom cooked them and my Dad and I "colored" them. One year we decided that we were going to "concoct" a black egg. My Mom became irritated with us because we used up 5 dozen eggs - got real close - but not a true, black egg. We scratched designs on them with a pen knife, quite a delicate task.

We would "dob eggs" to see who had the strongest. It took me quite a while to catch on why I always lost, but I did. At the last minute my Dad would stick his thumb down the back of the egg and would smile when he cracked mine. We sure had enough of "pickled eggs" - red beet eggs.

Mom would buy the horseradish root, peel it and then grate it. If you think onions are strong, they're mild compared to a horseradish root. Tears would run down Mom's cheeks as she grated away.

Mom's specialty was a big, white cake of three layers with butter icing and covered with freshly grated coconut and trimmed with a chocolate bunny in the middle and "birdie eggs", in the form of a nest around it. My only regret is that I never got the recipe, because there was none in existence. Mom used cups, pinch of, spoonfuls, Those were her measurements - the whole technique was in Mom's head.

No matter how hard the times were we always had special holidays.

Since I attended "Sister School" as the kids in those days called Parochial School, At 6 AM we had special processions on each day of Holy Week: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and the early morning Resurrection services on Easter morning. In the lower grades - 1st and 2nd, we were "flower girls" and carried baskets of flower petals and strew them on the aisle at the front of the procession. On Easter Sunday the procession started outside, with everyone holding lighted candles we marched into the church.

The blessing of holy water took place on Holy Saturday. That same afternoon, the food was carried to church and blessed. The baskets were beautiful, lined with the traditional Lithuanian linen. Each one tried to outdo the others in their own way decorating the baskets. Inside was the traditional Easter food: intricately carved butter lambs or cakes. The children always traded Easter eggs, and in the family - whole Easter baskets.

The house had to be cleaned from top to bottom signifying "a new beginning". New clothes, Easter bonnets were big treats. Each one tried to outshine the others in different ways. Little girls wore bonnets, little purses and white gloves. In my day, you didn't go to church unless you wore a hat or some type of a head covering, even a shawl.

Not quite a tradition but today's standard procedure to wear slacks, for women to church was unheard of. Only men and boys wore blue jeans, but never to church. A shirt and a tie was a must, polished shoes, never sneakers. Sneakers were for gym and playtime.

In those days, children were seen but not heard. Spoke only when spoken to, never, ever talk back to adults or even mumble, or it was punishment time. We could express ourselves during playtime. At a very early age, we were taught to respect our elders and mind our manners.

Much of this is tradition handed down. Respect and discipline was parts of our lives every day, not just on Easter or other holidays. "Lietuva per amzius" was our golden rule.

## The Bells Toll for a Lithuanian School

### *Marianapolis College, A Struggle for Survival*

by Rev. John C. Petrauskas, MIC

*Editor's Note: This is the third and final part of a series on the history and establishment of Marianapolis College.*

An unexpected decision in what was currently a controversial area of school policy appeared in Bishop Bucys' visitation report. The increase in the number of non-Lithuanian students, he wrote, should be a cause for rejoicing. Every aspect of the school program should be perfected so that even greater numbers of students of any national origin whatsoever would enroll at the school and that their attendance be beneficial to them.

The enrollment for the 1946-1947 school year increased to 92 students. Included in the student body was an influx of postgraduate students - GI's of World War II who needed some additional academic preparation for admission to college and were taking advantage of the GI Bill. Also enrolled were seven orphan refugee students from Lithuania for whom Marianapolis was financially responsible. In February, two of the Marian Fathers were assigned to visit the Lithuanian parishes to recruit Lithuanian students.

In the spring of 1947, a new development brought hope to Marianapolis as a number of Lithuanian "Displaced Persons" sought, after

the war to come to the United States. The Emergency Temporary Displaced Persons Admission Act defined a displaced person as "a person in Germany, Austria or Italy who 1) is out of his country of former residence as a result of events subsequent to the outbreak of World War II; and 2) is unable or unwilling to return to the country of his nationality or former residence because of persecution on account of race, religion or political opinions." The Lithuanian "Displaced Persons" numbered about 80,000. Prior to this Act, the annual immigration quota for Lithuania was 386.

The 1947 graduation class, the largest ever, included 16 high school students and 30 postgraduates. The non-Lithuanians outnumbered the Lithuanians, 31 to 15. The class valedictorian was a Putnam student, Henry Vadnais.

At a meeting of the Lithuanian Benefactors of Marianapolis on October 12, 1947, Father John Vaitekunas of Providence commented that students of non-Lithuanian nationalities should not be entirely excluded from Marianapolis. Father Augustine Petraitis of Worcester urged that the college department be reopened. He expressed his opinion that the high school enrollment was unlikely to grow in any spectacular manner since local high schools are available at little or no cost, an important consideration for parents of limited financial means.

A visitation by the Provincial, Very Rev. John J. Jancius, was made on October 7, 1948. He noted the fact that only the high school department is in operation. The high school, which had been known as Marianapolis High School and Marianapolis Academy, was now, for the first time referred to as Marianapolis Preparatory School. The Provincial also noted that Marianapolis is intended "primarily for

young men of Lithuanian origin".

Starting with September of 1946, G.I.'s and postgraduates dominated the enrollment. The five graduation classes of 1947 to 1951 numbered 131 postgraduates and 73 high school students. Ten of the postgraduates and twenty-eight of the high school students were of Lithuanian extraction, comprising only 18% of the graduates. Of the 28 Lithuanians, only five could be ascribed to the new immigration.

In August of 1949, a long article appeared in *Darbininkas*, a Lithuanian newspaper. It was a renewed effort to entice more Lithuanian students to enroll at Marianapolis. The article pointed out that "Marianapolis must become for all Lithuanians of good will, an educational institution which has their full support and endorsement as a bastion of Lithuanianism."

In yet another article in *Darbininkas* (Vol. XXXVI, No. 19) a last ditch appeal was made for a return to the original purpose of Marianapolis. The story pointed out the difference in educational and cultural levels between the Lithuanian immigrants prior to World War I and the most recent immigrants of post World War II, the ones who had all the educational and cultural advantages of twenty-five years of national independence in Lithuania.

The article went on to explain that Marianapolis was established as an educational institution for young men of Lithuanian descent and even at this late date the school still offered every opportunity and enticement to students of Lithuanian ancestry. To this end the school extended a warm welcome to newly arrived Lithuanian displaced persons and offered to

provide their sons with a Lithuanian oriented education and training (auklejimas).

Included in the school catalogue at this time in its statement of aims was the following: "To acquaint students of Lithuanian parentage with the language, Literature, history and traditions of Lithuania by presenting a complete program of Lithuanian culture."

Despite all these efforts, the 1951-1952 school year began with an enrollment of only 27 students, 12 of whom were of Lithuanian extraction.



During the nineteenth annual meeting of the Lithuanian Benefactors of Marianapolis on October 21, 1951, discussion centered on the future of Marianapolis - its life and death as a Lithuanian educational institution.

School officials reported that intensive efforts to effect the original purpose of Marianapolis as a Lithuanian school for Lithuanian students failed to produce the expected results. The school was now in dire financial straits. The administration was now faced with a difficult choice - to continue to struggle as a Lithuanian school or to become a truly American school, accommodating itself to students of all nationalities. The ensuing discussion was lively and productive of various recommendations.


Present by personal invitation were three specialists in Lithuanian affairs: Dr. Juozas Leimonas, Father Stacys Yla, and Dr. Antanas Serksnas. Their function was to provide expert advice concerning the ethnic, pedagogical and economic problems of Marianapolis.

The nub of the discussion was - does the

Lithuanian community want a Lithuanian school and is it practical to have such a school?

After hearing many suggestions, the consensus was to establish an advisory board consisting of pedagogical and economic specialists, including members of the old and new immigrations as well as American born Lithuanians. Proposals to this board were to be published in the Lithuanian press before the close of the current school year.

Actively participating in these discussions, besides the invited experts were Bishop Vincent Brizgys, Monsignor Francis Juras, Father John Vaitekunas, Father Joseph Valantiejus, Father Augustine Petraitis, Father Michael Vembre, Father Peter Karlonas, and Joseph Liola, a Marianapolis alumnus.



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After all the discussions and promotions, only 42 students enrolled for the 1952-1953 school year. Ten of the students were of Lithuanian descent and four of these were sons of displaced Lithuanians. Seven students comprised the graduation class of 1953 - four high school students and three postgraduates. For the first time in the history of the school there were no students of Lithuanian extraction in the graduating class.

In retrospect, it became sadly evident that the 27,000 Lithuanian displaced persons who emigrated to the United States were either unable or unwilling to provide the one hundred students of Lithuanian extraction required for Marianapolis to pursue its original goals.

In the Spring of 1954, to broaden the enrollment base, ten thousand copies of an 8 1/2 by 11" brochure with pictorial representations of academic life at Marianapolis were printed and copies were mailed to all the parochial and elementary boarding schools in the United States. For the 1954-1955 school year the enrollment increased to eighty students with representation from Colombia, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru as well as New York, Michigan, Illinois, New Jersey and the New England states. Marianapolis was fast becoming an American and International school.

The graduating class of 1956 numbered 25 students, not one of whom was of Lithuanian parentage.

A sad awakening from a visionary dream.  
The bells tolled for a Lithuanian school.

One can't help but wonder if what happened to Marianapolis was but a precursor of what is happening to our Lithuanian parishes.

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# OFFICIAL NEWS

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## Membership News

Robert A. Martin, Jr. - 2nd Vice President, Membership

*1995*

### *Membership Drive*

As you know, the 1995 Membership Drive is in full swing and I'm looking forward to what I know will be our best year ever. Just a reminder that in order for newly signed up members to count in this year's drive the membership sign up card and dues must be received by Supreme Council Financial Secretary, Rita Sussko, by June 30, 1995. Keep up the good work.

### *K of L Brochure*

We are in the process of redoing the Knights of Lithuania Brochure. As soon as we are able to update this vital K of L publication, we will have them printed for the entire organizations' use. In the meantime, please feel free to continue using the one you have. The updated brochure should be ready for you by this year's convention in Detroit, MI.

### *New Councils*

Do you have a lead on a new K of L council? If so, please let me know. I will be happy to help you in any way I can. Be it general information or to aid in processing the paperwork, I'm here for you. My address and phone information are printed on the front inside cover of Vytis. I'd love to hear from you.

Currently, we are talking to fellow Lithuanian-Americans in Glendale, Arizona about a possible council in their area. With time, I hope this will become a reality.

### *Questions? ? ?*

If you have any questions regarding any aspect of the organization, please feel free to contact me. I'll do my best to answer your questions, or at least let you know who can.

## LENTEN PENNIES FOR CHILDREN'S LUNCHES

Easter and Springtime -- but not for everyone. Do you know how parents experiencing harsh lives must suffer when they cannot even provide bread for their children? In Lithuania, there are children who cannot bring even a sandwich to school, because their parents do not have the means. In Lithuania, there are families who cannot even give their children money to buy food in the school cafeterias.

The lack of nourishment weakens a child's mental capacity, and a totally hungry child's intellectual condition becomes an impedance to educational progress.

For these reasons, Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, Inc. announces its "Lenten Pennies Program" to help Lithuania's Catholic School student's lunch program.

We appeal to all Lithuanians to come to the aid of Lithuania's children, with a small Lenten donation of a quarter -- 25 pennies -- for each day of Lent. That quarter is worth about one Litas in Lithuania, and one Litas will buy one child lunch for one day.

May these "Lenten" donations continue until the "Lenten Season" in Lithuania ends and Lithuania's children experience a true "Resurrection" from material and spiritual hunger.

Your Lenten donations are needed now. Please send your weekly or monthly donations of "Lenten Pennies" to: **Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, Inc., 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11207, telephone (718) 647-2434.** Mention that the donations are for the children's lunch program. LCRA will send the donations to Lithuania and see that they are properly distributed to provide lunches to the Lithuanian children.

### IN MEMORIAM Rest in Peace

**Benedict E. Coach**  
C-30, Westfield, MA  
Council President  
K of L member for  
over 50 years  
March 12, 1995

**William Anthony**  
C-96, Dayton, OH  
Oct. 16, 1994

**Elizabeth M. Wytenas**  
C-41, Brooklyn, NY  
Oct. 18, 1994

**William Yuscavitch**  
C-17, S. Boston, MA  
Feb. 2, 1995

**Frank Lucas**  
C-25, Cleveland, OH  
Aug. 1994

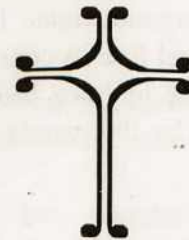
**Charles Freberg**  
C-144, Anthracite, PA  
Dec. 14, 1994

**Charles Augustinas**  
C-110, Maspeth, NY

**Povilas Naureckas**  
C-36, Chicago, IL  
Feb. 19, 1995

**Betty Luksus**  
C-100, Amsterdam, NY  
Feb. 23, 1995

**John F. Thomann**  
C-110, Maspeth, NY  
Feb. 22, 1995



# TOURS TO LITHUANIA 1995

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<b>Latvian Extravaganza</b>	8 days, 6 departures	1,699.00
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**Romas Kezys, Pres. of VYTIS TOURS**  
 K of L member C-41



## WE REMEMBER JACK J. STUKAS

A year ago, April 29, 1994, the Knights of Lithuania lost a most valuable member, Dr. Jack J. Stukas. He was not only a member, but an inspiration to so many of us in so many areas in which he was a leader.

Many of us knew him as director and announcer of the "Memories of Lithuania" Radio Hour (in Lithuanian) for 53 years, and of the "Music of Lithuania" Radio Hour (in English) for 25 years. Broadcast at Seton Hall University in New Jersey where he was a Professor of Marketing and International Business for 25 years until his retirement in 1986. Even after he became seriously ill in early 1994, he continued to prepare the radio hours, although he could not announce them because of a voice problem. His wife Loretta, John Patrick and Algis Simukonis announced and helped prepare the programs when Jack became ill. The program took a leave on April 24, just days before he died. He helped prepare the last program.

He served as National President of the Knights of Lithuania for four years, organizing many trips on behalf of the Knights, to various parts of the world, to the blessing of the Lithuanian Chapel in Rome and Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee festivities in Rome. He was also the chairman in organizing Lithuanian American participation during the New York World's Fair in 1964-65.

He married Loretta Kassel (Kaselyte) of Chicago in 1964. They met through their work in the Knights of Lithuania, and continued working for the Knights, on his radio program and other Lithuanian projects together throughout their 29 years of marriage.

With his wife, Loretta, he initiated a



Lithuanian Project at Deborah Hospital and raised over \$60,000 to send a medical team of 51 members of Deborah's staff to Lithuania, to operate on 19 Lithuanian children and to equip two operation rooms and donate several million dollars worth of medicine and equipment.

Jack was elevated to Papal Knight of St. Silvester in 1985 by Pope John Paul II, for his work for the Church and Lithuania. He was presented the Caritas Award by the Archdiocese of Newark, in 1985, for his work for Holy Trinity Lithuanian RC Church.

He served as Chairman of the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee Committee of New Jersey. He represented the National President of the K of L at the festivities of the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee in Rome in 1987, presented the K of L gift

### Prof. Dr. Jokubą Prisimenant

Pirmą kartą prof. dr. Jokūbo Stuko balsą išgirdau per radiją, 1955 m. rugsėjo mėnesio pradžioje. Netrukus teko su profesoriumi ir asmeniškai susitikti, nes jis nebijojo žmonių ar lietuviškos veiklos. O toje veikloje jis buvo vis vadovaujančiose vietose: ar tai vadovaujant programai New Yorko įvykusioje Pasaulinės parodos Lietuvių Dienoje, ar Kultūros Židinio vajaus pradiniame pokylyje, ar vysk. Pauliaus A. Baltakio, OFM, konsekracijos bankete. O ka jau bekalbeti apie Jokūbo darbą is talką Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos vadovybėje? Jokūbas Stukas ilgai išliks ne tik savo šeimos narių, bet ir gausių draugų atmintyje ir maldose.

-Kun. dr. Kornelijus Bučmys, OFM  
"Darbininko" vyr. redaktorius



to the Holy Father during the Papal Audience. Jack was a member of Lithuanians for Independent Lithuania and the New Jerseyans for Baltic Freedom. He authored "Awakening Lithuania". Producing a second edition in 1991.

At his death, Jack was a Director of Schuyler Savings Bank, Kearny, NJ, a post he held for 29 years, and bank president for over 10 years. The bank was founded and is led by Lithuanian directors. It contributes heavily to the community as well as to Lithuanian causes. He was the treasurer of the Alliance of America (Susivienimas Lietuviu Amerikoje) for three years.

He developed prostate cancer in late 1991, underwent radiation and hormone therapy and was in remission until late 1993, when the cancer spread to the bones in his back. After that, in spite of various treatments, the cancer spread quickly, and after a very painful illness, he died April 29, 1994 in Overlook Hospital, Summit, NJ.

During his wake at the Buyus Funeral Home, the Knights of Lithuania held a special wake service, which was led by National Spiritual Advisor Rev. Joseph Anderlonis and past National President Anna Klizas Wargo.

He was buried May 3, 1994, in a Stukas family plot at Holy Cross Cemetery, No. Arlington, NJ, after a beautiful Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows



Dr. Jack Stukas

Lithuanian RC Church, Kearny, NJ. Bishop Paulius Baltakis was chief celebrant of the Mass, with Msgr. D. Pocus, Our Lady of Sorrows Church Pastor, Msgr. V. Balciunas of Putnam, CT, and Rev. T. Dzrenda, Pastor of St. Mary's Church in Watchung concelebrating. Over 300 relatives and friends attended.

Genevieve Mazur and a choir of friends sang the Mass as well as numerous hymns written by his brother, Louis Stukas. Jules Veblaitis played the violin. Knights of Lithuania Honorary Members and National Officers from all over the US formed an honor guard at the funeral home, church and cemetery. Nieces, nephews, and Godchildren of Jack and Loretta served as Pall Bearers, readers, and gift carriers. Eulogies were presented by the President of Seton Hall University, President of the Knights of Lithuania Frances Petkus, and President of the Lithuanian Alliance of America, Dr. Vytautas Dargis.

Jack treasured life, and even in his great pain, considered each new day a gift of God. Jack died as he lived, full of hope and love but accepting the will of God in his destiny. He was a legend to many in the K of L.

A special memorial mass will be held in his honor at the Holy Trinity Church of Newark, NJ on Sunday, April 30 at 10:00 AM. Friends are invited.

### *A Special Christmas Gift*

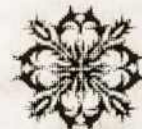
Jokubas Stukas was my best Christmas gift ever.

In the late 1940's, my widowed mother, my sister and I arrived for the first time in the United States from war-torn Europe. Times were rough and we had a difficult time making ends meet. But we managed to buy a radio. It was in the early '50's around Christmas that I heard, "Lietuviai esame mes gime," then Jack's golden voice, "Laba diena malonus klausytojai!"

I will never forget that day. That Christmas was special.

- Dalia Bulvicius

*Editor's note: VYTIS readers are invited to tell an interesting story either humorous or inspiring about Jack Stukas. They will be considered for publication in future issues.*



## LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

### ANOTHER LITHUANIAN CENTENARIAN

On December 6, 1994, Barbara Gapsis, a long time resident of Newark, NJ and currently a resident of Hunterdon Care Center, Flemington, celebrated her 100th birthday! Miss Gapsis was feted with champagne, cake and coffee by family and friends at the Hunterdon Care Center, Leisure Court, Flemington, NJ. A highlight of the celebration was Lithuanian and American music provided by the ever-popular Joe Thomas and his accordion!

A native of Lygumai, Lithuania, Barbara emigrated to the US as a teenager, in 1907, with her parents, a sister, brother and cousin. The family settled in the Ironbound section of Newark, NJ where they eventually owned and operated a tavern, and were active in Holy Trinity Lithuanian R.C. Church. Her brother, James, eventually moved to Philadelphia, but Barbara, employed as a garment worker in New York, remained in Newark.

Always a caring daughter and sibling, Barbara's forte was the care of her family. After her father's death, she supported and looked after her aging mother, Ursule (who died at age 97), and took care of her sister, Catherine Hlatky and her family after Catherine developed Multiple Sclerosis. Later, she lived with and cared for her elderly aunt, Martha Kareivis. When Mrs. Kareivis died, Barbara



*Barbara Gapsis and her niece,  
Loretta Stukas*

lived in her own apartment on Elm St. in Newark until age 92, when a fall broke her leg and prevented her from living alone anymore.

Barbara lived for awhile with her nephew, the late Dr. Jack Stukas and his wife, Loretta (K of L Honorary Members) in Watchung, NJ, and in April, 1987, moved to the Hunterdon Care Center.

Barbara, now confined to a wheelchair, still has her full senses and enjoyed her birthday celebration. She enjoys the staff, and especially enjoys the treats of "Lithuanian soul food" which her family brings her occasionally. When asked by her friends how old she

feels, Barbara responds, "about 90!"

We wish Barbara Gapsis many more happy and healthy years in our midst.

### LETTER FROM EINSTEIN DISCOVERED IN VILNIUS

Among the artifacts recently discovered in a Vilnius Catholic church was a letter written by Albert Einstein in 1929. Einstein had written about the impoverishment of Eastern Europe during that time, and especially the Jewish pogroms. This letter and thousands of rare Jewish documents were returned to the YIVO institute for Jewish research in New York, following negotiations with the Lithuanian government to release them. Most of the artifacts were letters and photographs of pre-WWII depicting life in Eastern Europe. The material was thought to have been lost.

# LITHUANIAN STOREHOUSES (KLETIS)

by

JOHN R. MANKUS

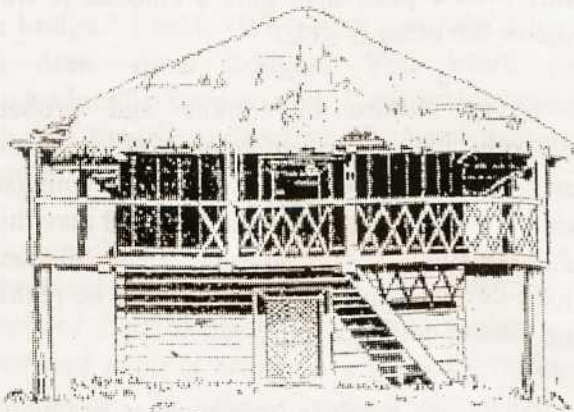
Storehouses, warehouses and sheds have been associated with farms and plantations for hundreds of years. In Lithuania these storehouses are called "KLETIS" and virtually most of the more prosperous farms and plantations had at least one storehouse for the household. Some linguists believe the name "KLETIS" is derived from the SANSKRIT word "KALI" meaning wood, thousands of years old. The architecture of the kletis was often similar to the main farm



*"Kletis" storehouse, Birzai region*



*"Kletis" storehouse, Kedainiai region*



*"Kletis" storehouse, Vilnius region*

dwelling, but considerably smaller. It can be said that, as the wayside Lithuanian crosses, the architecture of each kletis was different. In some cases, depending on the prosperity of the farm or plantation, the kletis had two stories. In almost all cases the kletis was built with wood (wooden logs), doors were often a foot above the ground, some had a window or windows and some had a small porch (PRIEKLETIS). The architecture included thatch roofs and gable adornments, often similar in style to the main dwellings. Note the differences in architecture of the kletis from the Birzai, Kedainiai and Vilnius regions.

# The Blessing Called Humor

*compiled by Rev. John Savukynas, MIC*

The word humor, introduced into English from Latin, originally meant fluid. The ancient and medieval worlds were ignorant of the circulation of the blood and other functions of human physiology. Thus in early English we find humor applied to any of the four fluids which were responsible for one's health and temperament. These fluids were the blood, phlegm, yellow bile, and black bile.

If a person was of cheerful temperament it was believed due to the predominance of the blood; if he was unemotional, it was because of the phlegm, if irritable, it was due to the excess of yellow bile, if melancholy it was too much black bile.

Health and disposition were supposed to consist of a balance among these humors, much as we are discovering today through biochemistry how nutrition can improve health and disposition and even one's receptivity to humor.

By linguistic extension, English writers began to use the term humor to describe a person's inclination towards the odd, the eccentric, the amusing. It has gradually come to mean the expression or appreciation of the comic or laughable even more than a state of mind or mood.

Have you ever wondered why executives like to tell jokes? Why people like to start speeches with jokes, or why a good joke will

crack you up whether you want it to or not? Jokes are a type of release valve that enables us to think the unthinkable, accept the unacceptable, discover new relationships, adjust better, and maintain our mental health. They are also funny. Without them we probably would be a dull, dim-witted society trapped in a harsh world too serious to bear.

"Wit, jests, laughter, jokes or humor are probably the first and oldest steps in achieving detachment from the dreariness that invades everyday existence," said Dr. Julius E. Heuscher, a Stanford University psychiatrist.

Jokes are a special language used to convey information, laughter, insults, or to reveal deeper emotions in ways that are socially acceptable, according to Dr. Israel Goldiamond, a University of Chicago psychologist. "Humor often is used to express a person's true feelings when he thinks it is unwise, tactless or risky to state what he really thinks," Goldiamond said.

"Jokes are a favorite technique people have to make their lot in life a little more bearable," Goldiamond said. An old Yiddish joke: The only time a poor man gets a chicken is when one or the other is sick.

Every culture has jokes and probably everyone has a sense of humor, although they may find different things funny. A youngster seeing someone slip on a banana peel may think it's very funny. But an adult seeing the same thing doesn't think it's funny because he realizes the person could get hurt.

Analyzing jokes is becoming as popular as analyzing dreams for some psychotherapists. Some are even using jokes to get a point across. Goldiamond said, "When a patient tells me he is trying as hard as he can but still isn't

improving I tell them about Charlie Brown's predicament when he says: 'I don't know why we are losing all these baseball games when we are so sincere.' " The patient laughs but also gets the point.

Some patients dream jokes according to Heuscher. One of his patients an obese lady who was forever deciding to start a diet tomorrow, dreamed about receiving a phone call from a stranger who kept insisting that he was "Tom Morrow". Another patient, an ex-nun fearful of being disappointed but desperately looking for support and genuine friendship, conjured this pun: She dreamed she was in a large church and stumbled down a stairway, falling into the arms of an expriest named "Armstrong". "A therapist would never allow a dream to be sidestepped with the remark 'it is only a dream' and he must not allow a joke to be dismissed as 'only a joke', " Heuscher said. (There are times when I tell jokes while dreaming. Times when I awake laughing. When I awake, there are times when I don't remember the joke. There is one I remember distinctly. A man said to me, "Look at this map, this river. All these towns and not one bridge." I said, "Why don't you take a pen and draw some bridges? You heard of drawbridges.") Semi-retired, I am preoccupied with two hobbies, collecting jokes and making rosaries.

Jokes allow us to think in different ways. A schoolteacher demonstrating the harmful effects of alcohol places a worm in a glass of water and another worm in a glass of vodka. The worm in the vodka shrivels; the worm in tile water remains vital. When the teacher asks the class what they learned from the experiment, Jimmy eagerly raises his hand and declares, " If you drink enough vodka, you won't get any worms."

Roots and herbs were the first gods of fitness. Then weight-lifting, yoga, roots and herbs again, aerobics, jazz dancing, jogging, racquetball. Now grin-and-bear-it health engineers are out to prove that laughter may really be the best medicine. "A good laugh, like a good workout, produces an overall sense of well-being," says Dr. William Fry, an associate clinic professor of psychiatry at the Stanford University Medical School. Laughing raises skin temperature and heart rate, flexes adrenaline-like hormones called catecholamines. These stimulate the brain, increase alertness and ready the body for action. Laughter or humor also helps us to cope with stress. Because you're usually storing emotions in the body, you can develop ulcers, colitis, high blood pressure. Laughter has the advantage of having people breathe deeply, moving the chest muscles around. It's difficult to hold onto tension while you are laughing.



The healing power of laughter is hardly a new idea, It goes back at least to the Old Testament ("A cheerful heart is a good medicine," the book of Proverbs says) and is embodied in long-standing folk wisdom that "laughter is the best medicine". Now, scientists are trying to establish exactly how humor and health are connected. It is an elusive subject but researchers are making some headway.

Donna Deanne, professor of nursing at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio said, "studies have shown that hearty laughter releases endorphins, a kind of natural pain-killer, and thus increases tolerance for pain. And laughing accelerates heart and breathing rates, just like aerobic exercise- it's even been called " internal jogging."

Recognizing humor's value, a number of hospitals across the country have created programs to show comedy. Some even bring in voluntary clowns to lighten patients' days with laughter.

One question that hasn't been studied is whether humor, or the capacity for humor, changes as people grow older. Many psychologists would say that people's basic personalities remain the same. But at the same time the things people learn as they go through life ought to change their vision of the world in some way. When they see the tremendous ambiguities they live with, they have the capacity for humor.

A new kind of humor is surfacing in religions and theological circles. Archbishop Edward McCarthy of Miami suggested humor as the fifth mark of the Roman Catholic Church, after "one, holy, Catholic and apostolic." He said, "I think it reflects a maturity in the faith when we are able to laugh

at ourselves."

The newly refurbished sense of humor is particularly comfortable with our humanity, very much in spirit - if one were to select an ecclesiastical paradigm - of Pope John XXIII. It was he who once reminisced that there are several ways to lose money-carousing, gambling and farming, and that his father chose the most boring of the three alternatives. When asked, "How many work in the Vatican?" He replied, "Half of them!"

Spend some time with people who have a sense of humor: their perspective will be contagious. Spend some time with people who can laugh at themselves. Anyone can laugh at another's stupidity; it takes a special gift of self-awareness and self-consciousness to recognize folly in ourselves. Pray for the gift of a sense of humor. Pray with hope and faith and it will come. God lives in laughter, lightness, freedom, spontaneity and some unfamiliar place. And don't believe anyone who tells you otherwise.

## Is there Lithuanian humor?

- by *Dalia Bulvicius*

The talented Lithuanian author and satyrist Vytautė Zilinskaite wrote in 1970 a tongue in cheek collection of anecdotes and satyres titled "*Karuseleje*" (On the Carusel) about life in the then Soviet occupied Lithuania. So subtle was her criticism of the Soviet system that she got away with "murder" with the Soviet censors and completely pulled the wool over their eyes. We thought that the readers of VYTIS would have a laugh or two in this April fools month. This is a loose abridged translation.

## Opinions

The young artist Sepetėlis (small paint brush) decided to have his first art exhibit. The exhibit was held in a small hall. By the door stood a small table. On it a book for the visitors to write in their opinions of the exhibit.

From the first day of the show Sepetėlis was eager to read the comments of the visitors to the show, but he resisted the temptation and eagerly awaited the end of the exhibit.

The show ended. The first entry was plain, "Why did you not include paintings of dog catchers?"



The second, "We just loved the show, especially the milkmaids and the fishermen." Signed, The second graders at the Octoberist (Spaliukai - a young peoples communist organization) group at the eight-year school.

Next, "I just loved the duck swimming in the pond." Respectfully, J. Bumbuliauskas.

The following entry, "Comrade Bumbuliauskas-Take the No. 35 bus and go to the pond. Here you will see that the bird you referred to as a duck is a goose." The signature was illegible.

"For shame," wrote the next person. "Why fight over a peeled egg. (Trivia). Do we not see what's of importance here! Who cares if it is a duck or a goose! What is of importance is that it lives under the Soviet system." Signed Alg Vimpilas, university student.

Sepetelis mopped his brow.

"If our education systems produce such scholars as Vimpilas," bemoaned the next writer, "We should close down the university and board up its windows."

"People why are you arguing about such trivia? Gaze out the window and see the beauty of nature." - D. Danguolyte.

"Gaze out the window!?" moaned Sepetelis.

"It is not a goose but a duck. Where is the guy who suggests that one take No. 35 bus to the pond? Why does he not go there and find out, that laboratory rat!"

"YOU are the foul mouthed rat. Don't dirty this book if you have nothing to write in it." Signed: An ordinary visitor.

"Brothers! Let's not insult one another! Let's solve the problem as adults and decide what kind of bird, swimming in the pond the artist, comrade Sepetelis, created. It has a short bill proves

positively that the bird is a duck. It is swimming in the MIDDLE of the pond, therefore it is a duck. The geese stay on the edges of the pond where they find their favorite food, frog eggs. I suggest we ask the experts." Signed K-iene.

"I know who you are. You are Mrs. Kerpienė. Indeed I feel sorry for you. You did finish agricultural college and still can not distinguish between a duck and a goose."

Signed, your former classmate.

"Hey you, that former classmate, what are you doing here in the city if you finished agricultural college?"

"Let's show more patriotism all you "duckists" and "goosists"! What will a visitor from our brotherly republics and especially the visitors from abroad think when they read all these comments in the book? Go to the pond and I suggest that all of you cut your throats there." Signed, the editor of the daily, *Vaivorykstė* (Rainbow)

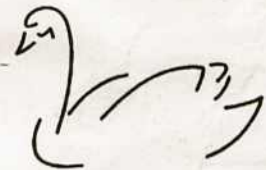
A duck or a goose? A few hundred years ago Hamlet asked, "To be or not to be, that is the question? Looks like we have come long way a duck or a goose. Ha ha ha!

"Goose!"

"Duck!"

"Goose!"

"Duck!"



The final opinion, "The exhibit is grand! We can see that you are influenced by Raphael and the artists at "Sluota". (Broom, a satire magazine published in Lithuania, something like MAD magazine in the United States.)

The artist sighed and in a gait of a drunkenness staggered to the picture which offended so many visitors. Looking at it he mumbled, "Oh heavens don't they know what a swan looks like?!"

# Knights of Lithuania 82nd National Convention August 9 - 13, 1995

## REGISTRATION & RATE INFORMATION

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION RATES:

Early Registration ( <b>deadline July 1st</b> ) .....	\$95.00
Late Registration ( <b>after July 1st</b> ) .....	\$100.00
Youth Registration (under 18 yrs) .....	\$70.00
Pre-Convention Trip A. ....	\$40.00
Post-Convention Luncheon .....	\$10.00

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

Chartered bus service to Opening and Closing Masses, Get-to-gether Party, Cultural Night, Lunch Friday and Saturday, Convention Banquet and Sunday Brunch.

### HOTEL:

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Special K of L rates:

Single - \$ 72.00 • Double - \$ 82.00 • Suites - \$ 215.00 & up. Unlimited "FREE" Parking • Toll free reservations call 1-800-HILTONS • Hotel will honor "special K of L rate" until **July 1st**.

### PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES: Choose A or B

#### Wednesday August 9th:

#### A) Bus Trip to Frankenmuth, Michigan includes:

2 hours at Bronner's world famous Christmas store • 3 hours shopping at Birch Run Outlet - 165 outlets • 1 hour to explore Frankenmuth (a bit of Bavaria in Michigan) - "Chicken Dinner" (all you can eat) at Bavarian Inn • Bus departs hotel at 9:15 AM returns at 8:00 PM • Cost \$40.00 includes dinner. (*Please register before July 1st*).

#### B) A Day At World Medical Relief, Inc.

Sorting & Packing at World Medical Relief for next AID TO LITHUANIA CONTAINER. • Leave Hotel at 8:00 AM return 2:00 PM • Transportation provided. Free. (*Please register before July 1st*).

### POST-CONVENTION ACTIVITY:

**Sunday August 13th:** Join the parishioners of St. Anthony's Lithuanian Church as we mutually celebrate our 75th Anniversary. Luncheon will be served immediately after Mass in the parish hall. (*Please register before July 1st*.)

*Maps, directions to hotel and shuttle service information between Metro Airport and Novi Hilton will be mailed to you upon receipt of your Registration Form and Check.*



## CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

*(Please print)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Council No. \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name or Nickname as you prefer it to be shown on your badge \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Arrival *(date & time)* \_\_\_\_\_ *(circle)* Plane or Auto

Approximate Departure *(date & time)* \_\_\_\_\_ *(circle)* Plane or auto

I would like to participate in Pre-convention activity, *(circle)* **A B Neither**

I would like to participate in Post-convention activity, *(circle)* **yes no**

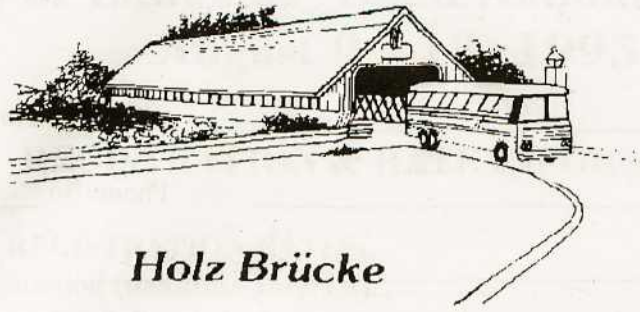
I will attend as *(circle)* Delegate Alternate Guest Youth Clergy Honorary Member

Enclosed check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(payable to Knights of Lithuania C-102)

**Mail to: Regina Juska, Convention Secretary**  
**4638 51st Street**  
**Detroit MI 48210**  
**Phone: (313) 554 3288 • Fax: (313) 554 1670**

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*(Please clip the form above and mail together with your check to the convention secretary)*





Holz Brücke

Frankenmuth<sup>®</sup>

Christmas  
Eichen Amers



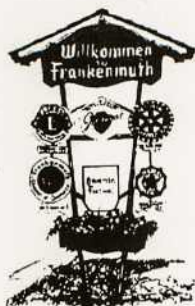
Bavarian Inn Glockenspiel Tower

and  
Hummels Hospitality

are what best describe the

small Babarian Town of

Frankenmuth, Michigan



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRE-CONVENTION TRIP TO FRANKENMUTH, MI

Frankenmuth received its derivation from the German words "muth" - courage and "Franconia" - from where the first German Lutheran missionary settlers came in 1845 to bring Christianity to the Chippewa Indians. The small town with a population of 4,000 has become a popular tourist attraction which annually draws more than 3 million visitors. Why would people travel hundreds of miles from all states to Frankenmuth? **FOOD**



Frankenmuth is the chicken -dinner capital of the world. The two largest restaurants, The Bavarian Inn and Zehnders, sell over 2 million family style chicken dinners every year. They are located directly across the

street from each other and are owned by brothers Edwin and Willie Zehnder. German music, Bavarian decor and waitstaff in traditional German costumes provide the authentic German atmosphere and aura. A typical family style chicken dinner consists of many platters of fried chicken, bowls of chicken noodle soup, mashed potatoes, giblet gravy, dressing, coleslaw cranberry/orange sauce, coffee or tea, and an ice cream dessert. ( Mmm Mmm good... Getting hungry yet?!) If you do not care for the bird, the restaurants do offer a standard fare menu. There are 8 other restaurants in town.



### BRONNER'S CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND FRANKENMUTH, MICHIGAN

Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland, owned and operated by Wally Bronner has been labeled as "the world's largest Christmas store." Over 2 million visitors/shoppers come annually to the extravagantly decorated 27 acre fantasy. Visitors are greeted by "Welcome" signs in more than 60 languages. There are more than 50,000 different gift items, trims and displays.

The shopping district consists of 46 stores and 2 museums. There are additional stores offering scrumptious edibles, a winery, brewery and bakery.



The town is small, the local people friendly and congenial. There is much to see and plenty to buy. Try it - **you will like it!** Come aboard and enjoy a bit of Bavaria, and spend the day with your fellow K of L'ers, See you soon (August 9, 1995)!!!

*- Regina Juska, 82nd National Convention Secretary*

# Frankenmuth®

**Knights of Lithuania**  
**82nd National Convention**  
**August 10-13, 1995**

*Headquarters: Novi Hilton, Novi, Michigan*  
*Host: St. Anthony's Council 102, Detroit, Michigan*

Dear Friends,

On August 9-13, 1995, Knights of Lithuania from every part of the USA will converge on Detroit for their 82nd National Convention. Detroit Council #102 will be the host. To properly commemorate this occasion, a Souvenir Program Booklet will be published. We know that you will want to express your greetings to the delegates and your friends by placing an "ad" in this booklet. Your "ad" will also assure a financially successful convention. Prices are as follows:

- ( ) Full Page (8 1/2" x 5 1/4") \$100.00
- ( ) Half Page (4 1/4" x 5 1/4") \$ 50.00
- ( ) Quarter Page (2 1/8" x 5 1/4") \$ 25.00
- ( ) Patron (Name and Council # only) \$ 2.00

AD COPY Please type or print your message in this space.  
 (If using a logo, please include camera-ready black and white artwork.)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Knights of Lithuania, Convention Booklet** and mail to:  
 Michael Shea, Chairman ♦2381 Bratton ♦Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 (810) 334-7575

**DEADLINE: July 1, 1995**

*Detroit Council 102 Founded in 1920*  
*Celebrating 75 years of Service to God and Country*



## Juniors Forum

### *News & Views about Juniors*

At the beginning of this term as Supreme Council 3rd Vice-President letters were sent to all the districts and council presidents. I am pleased to write that I did hear from the following councils: C #52 Elizabeth, NJ; C #74 Scranton, PA; C #78 Lawrence, MA; C #96 Dayton, OH; C #109 Great Neck, NY; C #146 Harrisburg, PA; C #150 Kansas City, KS.

C #78 at one time did have a Junior Council. Former Juniors now in the regular council are John Grenda-Lucas, who has held too numerous offices to list, and Dorothy Blazeitch who, also, has held many offices. C #146 has one Junior who remains active in the regular council and has held many offices, Lorraine Grabauskas. Lorraine has also been a K of L Scholarship recipient. C #96 has had many Juniors move on into the regular council: John A. and Amy Berczelly, Annamarie Sluzas-Berger, Maryann Blum, Michael Blum, Ann Boeke, Joseph and Christine Fletcher, Irena and Rita Gecas, Eric, Aaron and Molly Geiger, Barbara and Julia Goecke, Jimmie Kavalaukas, Christine Kavy, Barbara Lastoskie, Eleanor Mantz, MaryAgnes, George(nd) and Elena Mikalauskas, Richard Noreikas, James and Tim Pacovsky, Lauretta, William, Michael and Robert Pant, Michael F. Petkus, Laima Rastikis-Vermillion, Catherine Roberts, Jerry Scott, James Sinkwitz, AnnaLouise Tucker. These former Juniors remain in C #96 with many of them holding offices in various capacities too numerous to list. The following former Juniors have been K of L

Scholarship recipients: Eric and Aaron Geiger, Julia Goecke, Barbara Lastoskie, Elena and MaryAgnes Mikalauskas, James and Tim Pacovsky, Laima Rastikis-Vermillion and Rita Gecas.

The point in sharing all this with you notes that Junior Councils can be successful in increasing membership in the regular council. It takes effort, follow through and belief that it works. With C #96 and other councils being so successful in promoting Juniors just proves a council that believes in the "system" gains from the fruits of its efforts.

As of this writing there are seven (7) Junior Councils. They are C #16, Chicago; C #36, Chicago, C #96, Dayton, C #100 Amsterdam, C #112 Chicago, C #136, Hudson-Mohawk, NY, and C #141, Bridgeport, CT. I have received correspondence from Councils #36, #96, #136 and #141 and this has been appreciated.

If you have a Junior Council and the Supreme Council is not aware of this, please, write and let us know. We need to have the records accurate for the national convention report. Also, we want to assure your Juniors recognition at the convention. We want to be sure the Junior Conventionship Awards do not leave anyone out who is eligible.

Have we motivated you in any way to start or reorganize a Junior Council? Let me know and we will work out the details.

Vytiskai,  
Frances R. Petkus, SC 3rd Vice-President

### C-136, Hudson-Mohawk Juniors by Robert J. Hayner

On February 7, 1995, we had our first meeting of the new year and elected our officers: President-Marilyn Hayner, Vice-President, Anna Butwell, Secretary- Eva Rogers, Treasurer-Sean McCafferty and VYTIS Correspondent-Robert Hayner.

We sent Valentines to 34 shut-ins who live in the area. You can see that by the picture we sent. We plan to send greetings on *Valentine's Day*, *Easter*, *Thinking of You's* and *Christmas*.

At the Annual Independence Day Celebration, we participated at the Mass and helped to serve food after the service.

We are sending gifts to 39 orphans in Marijampoli. They range in ages from 8 - 18. Each of us chose a name and

purchased a gift appropriate to the age of the orphan chosen. In March, our gifts were sent along with the ones that the adults sent.

Our group will be sending a picture along with the gifts so that they can see our faces. We hope to hear from them. Our advisor, Mrs. McCafferty, and her mother will be visiting there in June and will take pictures of the group. We will keep you informed.

### C-36, Chicago Juniors by Sabina Rucaite Henson

February 19, 1995 was set aside for the Lithuanian Independence Day celebration at Immaculate Conception Church. As Jesus Himself said, "Ask and you shall receive". That is what we did. Asking all to be a part of this beautiful remembrance, which has been a day we will always remember.

The day arrived and everyone came. The church was packed with people and the altar had the

candles, flowers and it created such a majestic aura. Our American and Lithuanian flags proudly stood near the altar giving us such a strong feeling as though we were in Lithuania. The Lithuanian Choir started to sing Lithuanian hymns and we started to proudly walk in procession. The Sauliu organization walked in first carrying the American, Lithuanian and their flags. Then we, the Knights of Lithuania Council 36 Juniors, walked in with our Lithuanian Flag carried by Anthony Apanavicius and Honor Guard was Mary Cius. Carrying our banner was Matthew Apanavicius, Daniel Gudziunas, Anna Marie Cius. Walking behind was Elliott and little Eric with Sabina Rucaite Henson, the third Vice President, in care of the Juniors. It was sad that our president, Allen Cius, Danielle and Gregg Gudziunas weren't able to be with us but they were with us in spirit. Following us were the Knights of Lithuania members, Lithuanian American Roman Catholic Women's Alliance - Chapter 20 and Bendromines organization. It was also nice that Lucas Gudzinis was an altar boy. Our Spiritual Advisor,



*C-36, Chicago Juniors*  
Photo by Mrs. Anna Gudziunas

Rev. Fabian Kireilis celebrated the Mass.

Could you see how very proud we all were? I don't think God was upset with us for not being humble because I think that He was proud to see all of us participating and showing our love for Lithuania. Everyone looked so nice with their costumes and the boy wearing such beautiful juostas that were brought from Lithuania. It seemed like magic was swirling all around us as our inner beauty shown through all of our eyes, and the warmth of our smiles showed our sincerity of our love for God and Lithuania.

After such a beautiful Mass, we gathered and had a small meeting. We elected a new President. Anthony Apanavicius was voted in unanimously. Congratulations to our new President Anthony and a great big thanks to all of our Juniors 36 members for making our Lithuanian Independence Day a special day of prayer and love.

# IN THE SERVICE OF LITHUANIA

## *Meet the Members of the Embassy Staff*

It was a scant three and one half years ago, in the wake of receiving worldwide full and formal recognition of the reestablished Republic of Lithuania, that then President Bush accepted the diplomatic credentials of Stasys Lozoraitis. His status was raised from that of *charge d'affaires* to Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United States. The Lithuanian Legation building in Washington

D.C. was redesignated as the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania. At that time, Ambassador Lozoraitis was the only diplomatically credentialed Lithuanian filling a representational role in Washington. The remainder of the Legation/Embassy staff were Lithuanian-Americans mostly on volunteer status. Gradually, personnel born and raised in the Republic of Lithuania were assigned to the Embassy to begin to form a normal diplomatic staff. In December of 1993, Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas took up duty as Ambassador representing the first freely elected President and Government of the reborn Republic. A brief biographical sketch was presented to VYTIS readers in the March 1994 issue.

The Embassy staff now serving under the Ambassador stands at nine personnel. Five carry diplomatic status with accreditation by the U.S. Department of State; four additional staff members are full time employees, three of whom are American-Lithuanians. This month we feature the following members:

### **Jonas Paslauskas - Counselor**

Assigned to the Embassy in September 1993, Mr. Paslauskas fills the primary role as Senior Staff member and deputy to the Ambassador. His functional duties include maintaining liaison with the U.S. Department of State, the Senate, House of Representatives, and the foreign Diplomatic Corps in Washington. He oversees the Lithuanian consular activities and personnel in the United States.

Born on June 12, 1957 in Vabalninkas, Birzai region (Northern Lithuania), he is married and, with his wife, Dalia, are raising two children, a son Jonas (5) and a daughter Marija (3). He graduated from Vilnius University, Department of Languages, with a degree in English Language and Literature in 1983. He spent part of one year (1993) in Switzerland for postgraduate study in International Law and Economics, as well as international organizational functions.



### *The Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania*

*H.E. Alfonsas Eidintas,  
Ambassador*

*2622-16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20009*

*tel. (202) 234-5860*

*fax (202) 328-0466*

*Normal business hours:  
9 AM to 4:30 PM  
Monday through Friday*



Mr. Paslauskas has been with the Foreign Ministry since its inception after the Declaration of Independence. He served as First Secretary of the Protocol Division. He has short tours of duty in Sweden and Finland. He was involved in making arrangements for several high ranking dignitaries who have visited Lithuania since Independence. These included Pope John Paul II, Scandinavian royalty, presidents and prime ministers. Jonas is a polished professional diplomat with a winning smile and a sparkling, yet dignified and engaging, personality.



### **Sigute Jakstonyte - First Secretary**

Ms. Jakstonyte is a lawyer with a wealth of training and expertise which she brought to the Embassy on January 6, 1994. Her primary duty at the Embassy includes attention to a number of complex legal matters involving negotiations and preparation of texts of international treaties and agreements. She is also a resource person dedicated to helping private citizens in many legal situations such as adoption and other matters. Her voluminous workload includes answering all sorts of inquiries by mail and fax, requiring a balance between the requirements of law and meeting human needs.

Sigute Jakstonyte was born in Alytus (Central city of Dzūkija-Southern Lithuania). She received her law degree from Vilnius University in 1979. She completed a course of study in Diplomacy and International Law at the Graduate Institute of the University of Geneva, Switzerland, and at the International Trade Institute in Dublin, Ireland.

She broadened her legal experience in the Ministry of Justice and for several years served in the Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania. Immediately prior to her assignment in Washington D.C., she held the position of Head of the International Economic Treaties Division of the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



### **Dr. Stasys Sakalauskas - Counselor**

Assigned to the Embassy since July 19, 1994, Dr. Sakalauskas' tasks include - oversight of relationships between Lithuanian and U.S. social institutions and resources; establishing media and public relations; maintaining cooperative efforts with Baltic-American organizations; and, coordinating military affairs and military-to-military cooperative efforts.

Stasys Sakalauskas was born in Kaunas on August 19, 1946. Having graduated from the Salomeja Neris Middle School in 1964, he continued studies at the Kaunas Polytechnical Institute where he majored in Mechanical Engineering. In 1969, he accepted a position as assistant at the Institute of Technology where in addition to continuing his postgraduate studies, he served as mentor to undergraduate students. In 1982, his doctoral dissertation was accepted and a doctoral degree conferred.

In 1991, he joined the Foreign Ministry and was assigned to the American section of the Political Department. Between 1991 and 1994, he served as the Head of the Division of the



Americas. In 1992, he attended Leeds University, in Great Britain, where he completed a course in diplomatic studies. His wife, Jurate, has a combined degree in Engineering and Economics. They have two sons, Antanas (16) and Vytautas (14)

### Dr. Vytautas Zalys - First Secretary

Arriving during August, 1993, Dr. Zalys was among the first to be assigned to the Washington Embassy directly from Lithuania by the reestablished government. His primary position is that of First Secretary for Political Affairs. His additional duties involve working with the press and collaboration with the various American and Lithuanian-American organizations.

Born on August 3, 1956, in the small town of Tytuvėnai in North Central Lithuania, Dr. Zalys grew up in the seaport city of Klaipėda. He attended the University of Vilnius, majoring in International Relations. He specialized in the relations between Great Britain and Lithuania during the 1918-1929 period and graduated with honors in 1979. Joining the faculty of the Klaipėda Lithuanian Conservatory, he lectured on Lithuanian cultural history. In 1985, he began a doctoral studies program with the Lithuanian Studies Academy of the Lithuanian Historical Institute. In 1989, he completed his doctoral dissertation which was an analysis of the international position/situation of the Baltic States from the eve to the beginning of World War II. His was the first dissertation written in Lithuania which identified the events of 1940 as occupation and annexation.

Dr. Zalys has written extensively with articles published in academic journals both in Lithuania and abroad. He has attended numerous international academic symposia on International Relations and has studied briefly at the University of Wisconsin and Cambridge University in England. He joined the Foreign Ministry in 1990 and has been involved in relations with Poland, settlement of the border problems with Belarus.

*Part One of a two part overview of the Lithuanian Embassy Staff. Next month's installment will feature the remaining members.*



#### Lithuanian Language Course

at

### CAMP DAINAVA

Manchester, MI

August 6 - 13, 1995

For beginners, intermediate and advanced students or those just wishing to refresh their Lithuanian Language.

No limitations regarding age or formal education. Experienced instructors with vacation-like surroundings and atmosphere. For information and application:  
Mrs. Ruta Udrys, 1718 Maunta Lane, Jackson, MI 49201 Tel. (517) 784-7834

# Sveiki Sulaukę Šventųjų Velykų

Muzika  
LIUDAS STUKAS

1. Svei-ki su-lau-kę — Šven-tų-jų Ve-ly-ky;  
 2. Kai žen-ge Die-vas aukštyn links-my-bė ai-dė-jo,  
 3. Gar-bė Tau, Kris-tau, — kurs — pri-si-kė-lei,

1. Gar-bin-gos šven-tės Pri-si-kė-li-mo!  
 2. Gau-dė tri-mi-tai, Vieš-pa-čiui žen-giant.  
 3. Ir mums į dan-gų var-tus at-kė-lei.

1. Kris-tus — at-pir-kė-jas mir-tį nu-ga-lė-jęs.  
 2. Te-si-len-kia, te-gie-da Tau — vi-sa že-mė.  
 3. Duok tai-ka šei-moms, tautoms ir vi-sam pa-sau-liui.

Al - le - lu - ja, Al - le - lu - ja, Al - le - lu -

ja. Al - le - lu - ja, Al - le - lu - ja,

Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ja, al - le - lu - ja.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia.



## LITHUANIAN CHEFS

*This month's special recipe was submitted by Vince Samaska of C-36 Chicago who is a specialized baker of whipped creme cakes. The Raguolis is a special cake baked on a spit for both Easter, Christmas and special occasions. It's not an easy recipe, but if one has or can create a hand cranked spit fitted with a tapered wooden spindle, it may be worth a try.*

### Raguolis Spiced Holiday Log Cake

You will need a hand-cranked spit fitted with a wooden spindle tapering at one end and a roaring fireplace to set it next to. A drip pan should be positioned below the spit to collect any batter that drips during baking. Run clean white cord from narrow to wide end of spit. One person should hold cord against the narrow end, while another wraps cord tightly in one layer around from wide to narrow end of spit. The cord will enable you to remove cake from spit after baking. Wrap cord covered spit tightly with

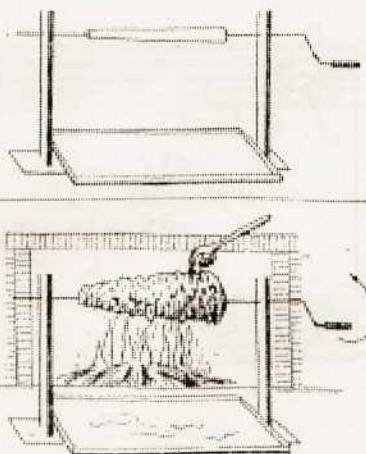
parchment paper and tie with string at both ends and center. Grease parchment with butter.

To prepare batter, cream 1 lb. (4 sticks) room temp. butter and 2 cups powdered sugar until fluffy. Continue beating and add a total of 30 egg yolks, 2 to 3 at a time. Toward end add 1 to 2 tsp. vanilla extract and 1 tsp. grated nutmeg. Sift in 3 cups flour and 2/3 cup potato starch. Gradually add 1 cup heavy cream. Separately beat 30 egg whites to froth and gently mix into yolk batter.

Place spit near flame and when it is hot ladle some batter the full length of top. Turn spit slowly toward flame, cover bare top with batter, turn toward flame and continue procedure until surface is covered by baked batter. Ladle some batter onto spit, turning it this way and that for "spikes" to form. Icicle type drips of batter will set in heat, forming increasingly larger "spikes" with each successive ladling of batter. Turn spit slowly so entire surface gets evenly baked. As log cake gets thicker, it

should be turned even more slowly. It is ready when surface is a nice golden brown. Move spit and rack away from flame and let cake cool to room temperature.

Remove spit with baked cake encasing it and stand on table narrow side up. Have someone gently tug protruding cord at top and unravel string. This loosens cake which can be lifted up, leaving spit behind. This 15 to 18 inch tall cake makes a spectacular centerpiece at any



holiday table. To serve, cut into 3 to 4 inch tall rounds, starting at the top, then cut rounds into fairly thin slices. Leftover cake can be refrigerated for a week. It also can be stored in freezer indefinitely.

Proper preparation of this traditional cake requires feel and flair and is not recommended for anyone who has not done much baking. Some, however, have obtained satisfactory results from the simplified version below.

### Easy Broiled Log Cake

Cream 4 sticks of room temperature butter or margarine until fluffy. Continue beating and gradually add a total of 8 eggs, 3 cups of flour, and 2 1/2 cups of powdered sugar. Add eggs one at a time and flour and sugar one tablespoon at a time beating until fully absorbed before each new addition. Towards the end, sprinkle in one tbs. baking powder and 2 tsps. vanilla extract. Butter bottom of tube pan, sprinkle with bread crumbs. Pour in 5 tbs. of batter and place pan under pre-heated electric broiler or broiling segment of oven. Top of pan should be 5 inches from flame. Broil until batter turns light golden brown, remove from heat. Add 5 more tbs. of batter, broil until light golden brown, remove from heat. Repeat until all batter is used up. Note: depending on the heat, you may need 1 to 2 minutes to bake each layer. After baking about 3 layers, test for doneness with

wooden pick. As cake gets taller and closer to flame, you may want to use the next lowest oven rack level. Allow to cool somewhat in pan, then remove and let cool completely. Serve just as is or dust with powdered sugar.

*More Holiday favorites from C-144, Anthracite, PA and Anne Wargo. Aciu.*

### Ausukes Crusty Crullers

1/2 pt. sour cream  
4 egg yolks  
2 cups flour  
1 jigger brandy

Mix all ingredients, making a soft dough. Knead and work smooth. Roll out very thin. With wheel cutter, cut into 2 by 3 inch oblongs, making a slit in the center and twist in any way your artistic temperament prompts you. Drop in deep fat until only a delicate shade of light brown;

drain on paper towels, dust with powdered sugar.

Another recipe variation:

3/4 cup flour  
1 Tbsp. sweet cream  
1/4 tsp. salt  
2 Tbsp. sugar  
1 tsp. brandy or vanilla

Use same directions to prepare.

### Riesutu Saldainiai Nut Dainties

2 Tbsp. finally chopped nuts  
1 Tbsp. orange juice  
1 Tbsp. honey  
1 Tbsp. bread crumbs  
powdered sugar

Combine nuts and orange juice and set aside for about 30 minutes. Then add honey and bread crumbs and mix well. Pinch off small amounts to form "nuts". Roll in sifted powdered sugar.

welcome

new members

**C-102, Detroit, MI**  
Catherine Mayesky

**C-110, Maspeth, NY**  
Michael Sherrin

**C-112, Chicago, IL**  
(Marquette Park)  
Cass Bukauskas  
Jurate Bukauskas  
Estelle Kauppi

**C-144, Anthracite, PA**  
Joanne Antanavage  
Rose Kerrick

**C-147, St. Petersburg, FL**  
Eugenia Satraitis

**C-153, Treasure Coast, FL**  
Robert Mehler  
Ona Mehler



## Lithuanian Poets Corner

### ANTRA VAIKYSTĖ

Daug kartų saulė pakilo ir nusileido  
Metai išvedžiojo takelius ant veido  
Plaukus nudažė spalva sidabrinė  
Akys reikalauja dvigubu akinių.

Artritas skausmą kaulams dovanojo  
Kenčia rankos, pirštai ir silpsta kojos  
Dantys - valyti, gręžti ir taisyti,  
Traukti, kankinti ir nauji statyti.

Ausys negirdi, jei ir skamba varpai,  
Ka nors pasakęs, tuojau pamiršai.  
Liptai statesni ir sunkiau užlipti.  
Atsibudus, iš lovos, dar sunkiau išlipti.

Nežinai kur eini, ar kur nuvažiuoji,  
Ar panosėj mурmi, ar dainelę dainuoji.  
Šiaip taip, nužingsniaavęs į bažnytelę  
Pradedi melstis Dievo Motinėlei.

Bet, kai rožinį kalbi, poterėlius pameti  
Ir vėl iš pradžios kelis kartus kali.  
Na, ir pamokslą nelengva klausyti,  
Ką klabonas sakė, sunku pasakyti.

Jei vargonai garsiai neužgrotu,  
Parapijos choras taip, gražiai negiedotų,  
Staiga neišgązdintų silpnų ausų,  
Reikėtų linkėti "Saldžių sapnų".

Jei ką girdėjai, ar pamatei,  
Dažniausia, faktus sumaišei,  
Bet verkti nori's ir juokas ima,  
Kai pasižiūri į kaimyną.

Kurs nemiegodamas sapnuoja  
Ir už tave, daugiau kvailioja.  
Ačiū Dieviu, kad juoktis gali  
Ir linksmos širdies esi.

Sako, kad "antra vaikystė."  
Po šimts pypkių, jie neklysta.  
Savo kalytę "Gintarytę"  
Pavadinu "Mano Katyte".

Dviejų kojų negana,  
Reikia psiremt lazda,  
Ha, ha, ha, - ha, ha, ha,  
Reikia juoktis ir gana.

by Polly Žiaušys  
C-100, Amsterdam, NY



# Council News '95

## C-10, Athol - Gardner, PA

by Vincukas

On Sunday, February 26th our council sponsored the annual Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration at St. Francis Church, Athol. A capacity crowd filled the hall. The program began with the singing of both national anthems. The invocation was given by Rev. John Petrauskas, MIC of Gardner. Council president Bill Wisnaukas gave the opening address and was M.C. The South Boston Folk Dance group, "Samburis" under the direction of Naida Snipas entertained us with a program of folk dancing which was greatly appreciated.

The mayor of Gardner Charles Manes gave a great speech and read the proclamation from the city of Gardner. The benediction was given by former pastor Rev. Joseph Jurgelonis, now of Ashburnham. The K. of L. ladies treated all who were in attendance with delicious pastries and coffee. Following the reception the K. of L. treated the performers, invited guests and members to an excellent buffet. They all outdid themselves. Both dailies carried this event with great coverage along with pictures on the front page.

Food chairmen were: Nellie Melaiks and Patricia Shatas, coffee - Sophie Florentino, decorations Broné Wisniauskas, set up and clean up - David Lucas, Howard Beaudette, Bob Paliulis and Frank Melaiks. Fliers and programs - Kathryn Paliulis, publicity - Bill



*"Samburis 1994 Lietuva" performed at the Athol Gardner Lithuanian Independence Day program Feb. 26 at St. Francis Church Hall*

Wisniauskas and the greeting committee - Eleanor Baltakis and Howie Beaudette and the rest of our able council members assisting with the food. Sadly missed were: Blanche Genaitis, Batrice Richard, Martha Eliason and Valerie Smith because of illness. Howie Beaudette and Sophie Florentin have done a great job of collecting used stamps for the Lithuanian orphans. This is Sister Helen Ivanauskas project. Bronius Savulis of Greenfield is recuperating after a hip operation, his wife Brone after a second knee replacement and detached retina. Still under the weather are Paula Shatos and James Eacmen.

The Athol Daily carried a historic picture of the Lithuanians who called for the Tag Day for war-torn Lithuania in November of 1916. It was submitted by Dr. Henry Gailiunas. About 50 persons were pictured. Our dailies give us great coverage.



*Tina Shatos  
and Nellie  
Melaiks at  
C-10's 80th  
Anniversary  
celebration at  
St. Francis  
Church*

### C-12, New York, NY

*by Dalia Bulvicius*

Since our regular correspondent Irene Senken is on a vacation with her husband Ed, I will pitch in with the happenings at C-12 in their absence.

Our February meeting and commemoration of Vasario 16 was snowed out. By the degree of our honorable president Ed Burba Cook the meeting was canceled.

We had a combined independence and St. Casimir celebration on March 5, 1995. The Mass was offered for the deceased members of our council. Our pastor and spiritual advisor Father Eugene Sawicki spoke about our favorite saint. After Mass, the program began with Dalia Bulvicius leading a prayer to Sv. Kazimieras (in Lithuanian). She introduced member John Lostys, who gave a short speech about a St. Casimir's parish in Venecuela, South America, which our Bishop Paulius Baltakis recently visited.

Two poems by Bernardas Brazdionis were recited: Dalia Bulgaris recited - "As cia gyva", and Aldona Zaunius - "Valandos".

For the finale our president Cook introduced a special guest - the new *Vytis* editor Maryte Abbott. She asked us for our input in *Vytis* because this magazine is a part of all of us. She also spoke briefly about St. Casimir.

A brief meeting followed to discuss upcoming events. Especially the MAD convention in Maspeth, NY. The meeting ended with a prayer by Father Daniel Yenkevich and the singing of the Vyciu himnas.

The pot luck buffet was filled to capacity. Imagine, we had 4 kinds of kopustai alone. With coffee and cake we serenaded Jean Janonis on her birthday this month.

### C-26, Worcester, MA

*by "Olga"*

The February meeting at Maironis Park was highlighted by a potluck supper to honor Saint Valentine! Tables were pleasantly and tastefully decorated with white doily vases filled red candy-heart "blossoms", arranged by Ann Walinsky to celebrate the occasion. The fruitful meeting, and dinner of entrees, salads and desserts appealed to everyone. Continuing his series of talks on the New Catechism, Father John Petrauskas, MIC, our spiritual advisor, spoke on the Fourth Commandment. Obligations of parents and children, and a reminder that respect for parents must never end, caused Fathers audience to sit quietly and listen to the lesson.

Our council participated in Worcester's celebration of Lithuania's Independence Day by (1) attending Mass in the morning at St. Casimir's Church where, Joseph Salknus was flag bearer for our council and Daniel Shimkus marched with the Color Guard of the Lithuanian War Veterans, and then (2) in the afternoon participated in the program at Maironis Park. Each member wore a ribbon of yellow, green and red on his/her lapel and those who have earned Degree medals wore them proudly, too.

Several members of our council volunteer their services at St. Vincent Hospital here in Worcester. At a recent meeting of the



hospital's guild of volunteers, members were entertained by the Greendale Retired Men's Chorus. Francis Ginkus and Francis Degutis have been singing with this group for years and so it was no real surprise when they sang a duet, the Lithuanian version of "Yes, We Have No Bananas." Public proclamation of Lithuanian pride to a non-Lithuanian audience can do much in spreading Lithuania's fame. Also in this group is Joseph Ivaska. Bravo, gentlemen.

Seventeen of our members traveled to Athol, Massachusetts in November to celebrate with Council 10 their 80th Anniversary: Bill Leseman (drove the van), our president, Ann Leseman, Nell and Joe Salkaus with daughter Elaine, Adele and Francis Degutis, Helen Gillus, Steve and Ann Walinsky, Lillian Kondrotas, Aldona Waska, Victoria Augustine, Frances Kulakusky, Ann Render, Ann Bucinskas and Rita Pinkus. Also joining us was the president of the New England District, Bertha Stoskus. Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church was concelebrated by the pastor, Father Raymond Messier, our spiritual advisor, Father John Petrauskas, MIC, and Father Albin Tankauskas. Sincere thanks to Father Messier and Council 10 for a grand spiritual and cultural experience.

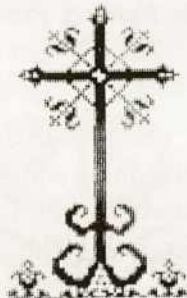
Special thanks to president Ann Leseman and secretary Ruth Gadilauskas who were sources of information for this issue. It gives our faraway members an idea of what's going on here: Alena & Tony Burch of Philadelphia Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Recchia of Exeter, RI, Mark and Kathleen Walinsky in Vail, Co, Mrs. Anne Gorden in Port Lee, NJ, Mr. and Mrs. Greg Sokol down on Cape Cod, Ann and Vinnie Grazulis in Torrance, CA and Judith Ginkus Lofty in Littleton, CO.

Aldona Waska and Lillian Kondrotas vacationed in Florida (ask Lillian about her darling new granddaughter. Nell Dailida

travels to Kennebunk, Maine often to her other home. Terry and Kazys Adomavicius are back from Aruba. Bill and Carol Grigas are on the ski slopes every chance they get.

Rita Karrytais continues to visit different parts of the world. Rita Margosian is visiting her son and his family in North Carolina. Mark and Kathleen Walinsky of Vail, CO were hosts to parents Steve and Eleanor Walinsky, and Mark's sister and brother-in-law, Lynne and Michael Jalbert where they spent 10 glorious days skiing and enjoying each other. Alfred and Vivian Rogers are visiting their son and his family in Florida for a few months and especially enjoying granddaughter, Heather. A traveling group! A word of appreciation to Barbara Pantos for her good writing, and fair and accurate reporting of council news these past few years. While she is no longer writing, she remains a most active member.

Su Diev del dabarties ... iki sekancio numerio!



### C-52, Elizabeth, NJ

*"Little Susie Knight"  
& William Senkus*

The annual St. Casimir Feast Day Mass and luncheon was celebrated on Sunday, March 12, 1995. Mass was offered at SS Peter and Paul R. C. Church at 11 AM. Archbishop Theodore McCarric was celebrant. A buffet luncheon followed in the parish hall. Entertainment included Ausra Mackevicius Cohen, a Kankles performer and vocalist. A dance group perform.

Janette and Jimmy Stokas are enjoying their vacation in Florida. Agnes Alksninus was elected President of the parish Senior Citizens' club, an active K. of L. member. Ann Banas is

up and around after her illness. Stay well Ann. Helen Balandis is now starting trips to various destinations, now that the holidays are over for the Senior Citizens. Ann and Tony Baronas are always willing to help, when asked, shows good club spirit. Ruth Brazinski and Julianna Liana are busy with St. Casimir celebration and communion plans. Daniel Degutis is busy helping at the Bingo games Fridays. Also he is an usher at the church Sunday. Tikrai lietuviskai! Marian Dudis is around again, after a long illness. Good to see Marian; her husband Frank and sons George and Ritchie are pleased to see Marian's health improved. Eva Frank is busy knitting and crocheting for various seniors' homes and needy patients.

Helen Garby still keeps up with the club's activities even though she resides outside our town. Lee Grynys does a good job decorating the church for all occasions at SS Peter and Paul church. Lorraine Staboris is also noted for her good taste menu in preparing Lithuanian desros at social events.

SS Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church, Elizabeth, NJ this year is celebrating its centennial year.. Rev. Alfred T., Zemeikis is the present pastor. Father Al is also the spiritual advisor of the council.

The St. Casimir Feast celebration was March 12. In charge of the arrangements for the communion breakfast was: Ruth Brazinski and Juliana Liana. Members assisting were: Ann Baronas, Frances Milewski, Mary Mackelis and Annie M. Matalavich.

### **C-63, Lehigh Valley, PA**

*by Evelyn Harryn*

Council-63 started the new year with an eagerness to get all projects and fund-raisers underway!

Officers for the new year are - Pres. Joseph Ogint; Vice -Pres. Ben Apanavicius; Treasurer- Walter Balchunas; Rec. Secretary- Evelyn Harryn; Financial Secretary- Jane Lutick- Sgt. at Arms- Andrew Keraga and our Lithuanian Affairs and Public Relations Correspondent- Albert Klizas. Council's Sunshine Lady is Ann Wonsok.



*Sts. Peter & Paul pastor,  
Rev. Al Zemeikis*

By the way, Ann Wonsok has recently had back surgery. Thank God, Ann's surgery was successful, and she is home recuperating. Keep up the good work Ann! We are all praying for your speedy recovery!

Our Annual Portrayal of Kucios took place on December 3rd in St. Michael's Hall. It opened with the "Procession of Lights" consisting of the Lithuanian Choir, led by Ben Apanavicius. The procession entered the Candlelit Hall singing "Tyli Naktis" with each member carrying a lighted candle.

Pres. Ogint served as Emcee. He led the "house" in opening prayer. Pres. Ogint also served as "Head of the House" with the "Breaking of the Bread". Su Platkelies! A Holiday Toast was given by our annual toastmaster, Albert Klizas. The Traditional Food Table was hosted by Lillian Klinosky, Jane Lutick, Jeanette Klizas and Adele Keraga.

They also served as waitresses, serving the Birsti Soup and Mushroom Barley Soup. The main entree was Crab Cakes. There was a great variety of tantalizing Desserts, which just seemed to melt away!

"Kucios" was chaired by Evelyn Harryn, co-hosted by Lillian Klinosky and Dora Lushis. Many thanks to all that helped and participated in every way! A very "thanks" to Ben Apanavicius and the Lithuanian Choir members who so beautifully entertained us with songs

and sing-a-long caroling. Aciu Labai Ben and Choir!

Council-63 proudly participated in the Bethlehem Historical Society Ethnic Tree Exhibition. There were fourteen trees exhibited. Again the Lithuanian Tree drew much attention from tourists and local groups.

The fascinating feature is that the tree is decorated with all hand made items of natural materials such as straw, wood, crocheted items, nutshells filled with sand, tiny seashells and chips of amber from the beach in Polanga, Lithuania. Jane Lutick spent many hours making these!

We were informed that close to three thousand people saw these trees.

Lehigh Valley Council 63 held their Tri-City Flag-Raising on Feb. 16th Pres. Ogint officiated in the Allentown-Raising. Present were the city mayor, Councilmen, and other city and state officials. Also, the news media, which gave the Lithuanians distinctive coverage. And by the way, Pres. Ogint was very proud and grateful for the support he received from his own Council members! The city of Bethlehem :Al Klizas headed this program, with Mayor Ken Smith in attendance. Mayor Smith by the way is of Lithuanian descent. And Valeria Smickle and Jane Lutick arranged the Easton Flag-Raising.

They also were pleased with the group of supporters in attendance.

Council-63 held their Annual Independence Day Celebration, combined with St. Casimir's Day. A beautiful Mass was arranged with the Lithuanian Hymns sung by our choir members. It was under the direction of Ben Apanavicius A catered luncheon was then served in the church hall. Ice Cream and cookies were served by Jeannette Klizas-Jane Lutick and Lillian Klinosky.

Pres. Ogint gave the invocation, and Father Grabish gave the Benediction. The grand

Finale was super! The choir members and a few of our council members, with Ben Apanavicius directing, led in the singing of some beautiful Lithuanian songs. Everyone is already looking forward to the next time.

Another "Flea Market" was planned by Dora Lushis. The dates set were March 24& 25th. We had been looking forward to this event being as successful as the past ones have been! The proceeds send our treasury figures soaring upwards! It is one of our main sources to contribute to the Aid to Lithuania Fund. Jack Lushis is the backbone of this operation, along with his wife, Dora, and Bob Klova plays a big part. Following the flea market, is the "BalfasDrive". Under Bob's supervision boxes are packed and loaded in his truck, then he and his brother Ed take off to Philadelphia to drop them off for the ship carton. Without these dedicated members the Knights of Lithuania could not be what they are today!



Plans are underway for C-63 to participate in the "Christmas City Fair. This is the "Christmas in July" event. It is Three whole days of frying "Bleenies" in the heat of summer! It is what we consider the "Labor of Love" for our ancestors and Heritage! Ask Bob Klova and Andy Keraga, also Walter Balchunas. They have been frying for quite a few years now. Our stand has become well known. People have told us they find us by the aroma in the air, then look for the yellow-green & red trim.

Council 63 also held a "Basket of Cheer" Raffle. Council's treasury has been well endowed from the success of it! We give Dora & Jack Lushis a great big "ACIU" for all their time and work! Also "aciū" to all the ticket sellers and big buyers.

At the February meeting Treasurer, Walter Balchunas read a letter of sincere appreciation from Bishop J. Zemaitis of Lithuania. This was



*Scranton's C-74 flag  
raising on Feb. 11, 1995  
Ed and Peg Romanauskas,  
chairpersons*

for Council's donation toward the restoration of the Cathedral of Vilkaviskius. When Jane Lutick was in Lithuania last year she made it a point to visit the area. She said the work then was already near the Steeples. And what a good feeling to know in some way, we helped this to come about!

Council 63 is mourning the loss of a dear friend and member. She is our Irish-Lithuanian! Mrs. Betty Griskos, Our council was certainly enriched with her love for Lithuanians and her generosity. Her Lithuanian husband, John Griskos was always in full support of all her activities and generosity! Our deepest sympathy is extended to you, John! She will be greatly missed by many people whose lives she touched with her warm Irish heart! "May She rest in Peace".

Thanks to Adele Keraga for doing such an outstanding job with the Stamp Collection Program. Remember to keep clipping those stamps for her.

Don't Forget- Lithuania had their Elections on March 25th! Be informed Regina Valyte (a house guest of Jane Lutick's, when she visited the U.S.) ran for Deputy! Best Wishes to her! Regina teaches Catechism in a few schools and works with orphans and young children. She is Council's contact as to where help with children is needed.

Our Bleenies Lady is back in the swing of things again! Valeria Smickle went through extensive heart & valve replacement surgery! She told us God gave her a new lease on life!

Now she is ready to chair the Christmas City Bleenai Fair again! May God Bless her and keep her strong! Valeria does have the right outlook on life.

Pray for Lithuania!

Su Diev

### **C-74, Scranton, PA**

*by Marie Laske*

Many thanks to all who attended the Mass celebrated by Bishop Timlin, the march which followed through the Scranton streets reciting the Rosary.

Although we are a small group we are very busy. We attended the 16th Ethnic at St. Peter's Cathedral with 7 nationalities reciting the Rosary. The Lithuanians recited the first decade. Some wore the Lithuanian national costume. Most of the Lithuanian participants were from Pittston and Scranton.

Edward and Peg Romanauskas co-chaired our Lithuanian Flag Raising with the assist of Marie and Richard Laske, John Ramoska and Della Zvirblis. Della later served refreshments. Msgr Peter Madus blessed the flag. Among those who attended were Dr. Romas Dovidaitis, Regina Petrauskas who represented the Lithuanian World Community, Nellie Romanas and Ann Marie Sewtsky from Pittston, John Pocius, George Saduskas, Lithuanian Alliance of America and many local politicians.

We had a combined Lithuanian Independence Mass and St. Casimir's

Communion Mass. The singing was led by Helen Cravath and Bertha Zeck. The communion breakfast was served immediately after mass.

At the Pro-Life Breakfast we had a nice crowd. The speaker was Olivia Gans, who proved to be very interesting. She gives talks and shows pro-life tapes in



many foreign countries. She is so effective that even some who favor abortions are impressed.

We traveled to the Luzerne Flag raising. Once again Nellie Bayoras did a great job. She is a good Lithuanian worker!

Pray for our sick Knights!

### **C-79, Southfield, MI**

*Bee Jay*

Our March meeting was held on Ash Wednesday. After attending Mass, we proceeded to the hall for coffee and get together.

Our hosting of the MCD Bowling Tournament and semiannual meeting was the main topic discussed. Sylvia Jarosz, our ritual chairlady, is preparing to award third degree medals to several deserving members during the Sunday mass. The date of the event is the weekend of May 19-21. We are hoping for a good representation from our sister councils in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Richard Danielak is the chairman of the activities. Pres. Margaret Dapkus urges all council members to make an effort to attend.

We were informed that our council lost two members through death in the last few months -- George Kase and George Leskosky, both members of long standing. George, the latter, with his wife, Sophie, had been living in Florida for the last dozen or so years. Let us remember them in our prayers.

*C-90 members attend the annual Lithuanian flag raising ceremony at Town Hall in Kearny, NJ, in celebration of Lithuanian Day.*

*Photo by Laimute Kohanski*

Sunday March 5th, despite inclement weather, approximately 30 gathered for our annual commemoration of St. Casimir's Day. We were happy to have members from Council 102 join us at an early 9:00 am mass.

At our previous meetings we spoke for a Lithuanian orphan to sponsor, but as yet have not heard of the name assigned to us. Council members! When you receive a card with a calendar of our '95 activities, do not discard it. Use it for reference.

### **C-90, Harrison-Kearny, NJ**

*by Lilly Sudol*

Council 90 members were off to a busy 1995, beginning with our annual bus trip to Atlantic City on January 14th. This year brought us to the beautiful and exciting Showboat Casino. A good time was had by all. A big "thank you" to chairperson Len Rokas for again arranging this most enjoyable social event.

On February 12th we held our Lithuanian Independence Day celebration with a traditional 10:00 AM Lithuanian Mass, followed by flag raising ceremony at our Town Hall. A social followed with a breakfast buffet at the Lithuanian Catholic Community Center in

Kearny. It was attended by over 80 members and their guests. Committee members Audrey Przybylski and Becky Nakrosis did an outstanding job hosting the celebration and we congratulate them on the success of this event.

We once again had our annual Pancake Dance (Blynu Balius) which took place on March 5th. We had a nice crowd of members, children and grandchildren who enjoyed the various games.

Council 90 is pleased to announce the arrival of our newest "junior" members: Ann Catherine Cerpial and Kristen Taylor Gelenitis. Congratulations to the proud parents Cathy and Greg Cerpial, and Terri and Paul Gelenitis. Also, congratulations are extended to grandparents Eleanor and Len Rokas and Eleanor Gelenitis.

Council 90 recently donated funds for the refurbishing of the wayside cross located on the grounds of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, in addition to replacing the K. of L. Vytis flag in church.

We extend our sincere condolences to the families of Council 90 members who recently passed away: Anthony Gelcius, Antoinette Stralkus and Ann Shiviski. May they rest in peace.

Monsignor Dominick Pocus, pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Lithuanian Catholic Church in Kearny, New Jersey will be celebrating his 50th Anniversary of ordination to the priesthood on Sunday, May 7, 1995. The parish is honoring his many years of service with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 2:30 P.M., followed by a Testimonial Dinner at the Fiesta in Woodridge, New Jersey at 5:00 P.M. For further information regarding this celebration, please call Our Lady of Sorrows rectory at (201) 998-4616. Contact Persons: Doreen Miterko at 201-998-4616 or Rev. James Sheerin at 201-998-4616.

## C - 96, Dayton, OH

by Fran Petkus

February saw the Mikalauskas', George, Frances and Elena, hosting C #96's Juniors. MaryAgnes Mikalauskas recently received a video tape from friends in Vilnius covering various activities that had taken place there. From the tape the Mikalauskas' shared with the Juniors Lithuanian children at play. It was interesting to see the type of teeter totter and other outdoor ways the Lithuanian children entertained themselves. It also showed the children participating at an outdoor fair. This was followed with the Juniors making Valentine cookies to take home and share with their parents. The day was wrapped up with all enjoying pizza and all the trimmings!

On February 17th the Holy Cross Parish "Vejeliai Dancers" performed at Dayton's Old Court House. This was in conjunction with the display on going at the Court House, until April, 1995, dedicated to the Eastern European migration to the Dayton area in the late 1890's through the early 1900's. K of L members who are a part of the dance group are Robert Pant, Norma Petkus, the Geiger's, Eric, Aaron and Molly. Molly is also the group's director.

On February 26th Holy Cross Parish and all its organizations celebrated Lithuania's Independence Day. It began with 9:30 Mass of Thanksgiving for Lithuania's regained freedom. Offertory Bearers were the Vejeliai Dancers in full costume. In closing Mass the American and Lithuanian Anthems were sung with voices really singing out loud and strong. The choir had a surprise as they closed singing the Lithuanian Anthem in English!!!

After Mass everyone headed to the church hall for a special brunch. The food, prepared by Elaine Pacovsky and 'crew', was excellent.



The formal program began with Father Holloran giving the opening prayer. Aldona Ryan, HM and president of the Sarysis Council, read the annual resolution that will be sent to President Clinton, the Ohio Senators and Congressmen and President Yeltsin. The resolution covered, amongst several requests, we remain



vanguards in assuring that *C-110, Maspeth, NY* members celebrate Lithuanian Independence Russia does not retake the *Day by serving all weekend masses in traditional costumes* Baltics, get the troops out

of Kaliningrad, entry for Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia into NATO. The Vejeliai Dancers performed several dancers and were well received by those in attendance. Guest speaker was Robert Boris, HM and president of Aid to Lithuania, Inc. Bob shared update on Aid to Lithuania, Inc. and how things are going currently in Lithuania. One young Lithuanian student who is studying economics at Berea College in Kentucky told Bob he was "right on" with his thoughts. We are happy to share that Bob's trip from to Detroit to Dayton was well worth it!!

### **C-102, Detroit, MI** *by Meriute*

With HM Bob Boris selling his home and moving into a condo, our Kucios was held at the beautiful lake home of Eva and Joe Stark. Fr. Stan started the afternoon with mass, assisted by Vince Boris, who also made the beautiful misselettes. After mass, a cocktail hour was held and later a buffet Lithuanian food dinner was served. It was a beautiful afternoon thanks to Eva and Joe, who were brave to host this doing, as they left the following day for Seattle, Washington to spend

Christmas with their daughter & family. Thanks to Terry and Ray Medonis, who co-hosted this event.

Our October council elections recruited the same officers except for recording secretary, Irene Vizgirda and Financial Secretary, Terry Shea.

Tim Baibak and his committee are busy organizing the National Convention, hosted by our 102 Council in celebration of our 75th year as K of L'ers. The convention promises to be an exciting and entertaining one. Hope you all made plans to attend Aug. 9-13 at the Novi Hilton in Novi, MI.

At our February meeting, conducted by president, Lorry Hofner, we welcomed Albina Kurpewic to our council. Our cultural lady, Donna Stanievich gave a very interesting report on the Iron Wolf, in which Joe Guerriero was happy to hear that an Italian had much to do in discovering Vilnius. Ona Serdakis brought homemade goodies for everyone to enjoy.

Attention lady bowlers to the Mid-Central Bowling Tournament in May in Southfield. Your chances of winning are greater this year as our star bowler, Susan Baibek won't be bowling, as she is awaiting triplets in August. Congratulations Sue & Danny!

### **C-110, Maspeth, NY**

*by Violet Z.*

Another Lithuanian Independence Day dawned and was observed modestly by 110 Knights. We celebrated masses in costume with refreshments afterward the weekend of Feb. 18 and 19.

Meanwhile, at Zidynis (the Lithuanian Cultural Center in Brooklyn) was more action. Before the festivities, about 50 new immigrants met with radio personality, Romas Kezys, to discuss the basics of their new life in America, jobs, housing, social and cultural aspects.

Notable dignitaries made beautiful words on stage and artists made beautiful music. Our own Asta Barkauskas on kankliu, prodigy, Wilhelm Cepinskis, a violin virtuoso, and gifted pianist, Aldona Kepalaite, soothed our souls.

On February 26, Brooklyn and Queens Bishop Rene Valero looked us over, attending all Transfiguration masses, and apparently liked what he saw. He stayed for brunch with 110.

Virginius Barkauskas, member and organist, received his first degree. Our good works continue. Ann Morrissey, assisted by Helen Matulonis, and 1st VP, Ed Sirgedas shipped six more care packages to orphans and aged in Lithuania. Please include in your prayers deceased members, Walter Brazanskas and John Thomann.

### **C-112, Chicago, IL**

**Marquette Park**

*by Gerrie*

Council 112 member, Dr. Leonard Simutis, was presented with the Mid America District's "Award of Distinction" at the annual "Memories of Lithuania" banquet on Feb. 5. Many of our members joined family and friends of Dr. Simutis in honoring him. We are

extremely proud to claim him as a 112'er as he is "one of a kind." There isn't enough space in this column to list all his accomplishments in the field of music, all the degrees he has earned, all the performing and teaching he has done, all the music he has composed, including chamber works, a sonata for piano, contatas, masses, choral and solo voice compositions, and a 30-minute ballet. He joined our council in 1938 and became director of the K of L Choir in 1941. Dr. Simutis introduced us to his lovely family, wife Zita, four children and their spouses, and ten grandchildren. Our congratulations and best wishes for a continued healthy and productive life!

When C-112's beloved Eleanore Laurin passed away, she made certain that the K of L would benefit from her legacy. The Eleanore H. Laurin Scholarship Fund was created with Julie Zakarka as administrator. The scholarships offer financial assistance to outstanding young people about to enter college. This year marked the first anniversary of the presentation of these scholarships at the annual "Memories" banquet. Julie said choosing the recipients was extremely difficult



*C-112's first degree recipients with spiritual advisor, Canon V. Zakarauskas at Feb. meeting: Grozvydes Lazauskas, Genevieve Pivoris, Michael Yuknis, Jack Abramite, Karen Ramanouskas and Phyllis Pelletier.*



because of the many talented, young people who were eligible but, finally, it was narrowed down to Janet Anne Rogers, daughter of Louis and Bernadine Rogers of C-112; Sarah Jayne Neberieza of C-24; Nina Ruta Padalino of C-24; and Allen J. Cius, Jr. of C-36 Juniors.

Julie also announced that C-112 was remembered by Eleanore with a generous financial gift. The membership agreed that the project Eleanore was involved with, namely recruiting younger generation Lithuanians to the K of L in order to preserve and continue the good works of the organization, should be continued. Council 112 will remember Eleanore with an annual mass.

Wedding Bells will soon be ringing for some very happy K of L families. Philomena and Matt Vilutis announced the engagement of their son, John; and Betty and Jim Bozec announced that son, Jim, and daughter, Janet, are both engaged. Best wishes to you all -- mothers, fathers, and children!

We'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all new members to C-112 and hope that they are able to join us for the many activities that take place during the year: Estelle Kauppi, Emma Petraitis, Cass Bukauskas, Jurate Bukauskas, Algis Bartkus, Josephine Alfano, Robert Ramanousky, Dorothy Neakrase, Frank and Daiva Meile, and Jonas and Alyce Daugenas. Hope to see you all often!

Ann Marie Kassel and Theresa Strolia, District ritual team, presented degrees to members at our February meeting. Congratulations to Phyllis Pelletier, Grozvydes Lazauskas, Karen Ramanauskas, Jack Abramite, Genevieve Pivoris, and Michael Yuknis who received the First Degree; and Emily Perkins who received the Second.

### C-136, Hudson-Mohawk, NY

*by Dorothy Richmire*

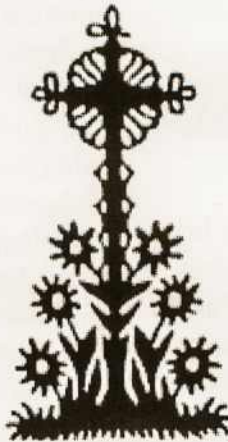
At our February 9 meeting, members packed eleven huge boxes of clothing, yarn, food, toiletries, paper products, medications, etc., and sent them off to the Sisters residing in Kaunas.

We also voted to become part of another exciting project. From a list of 39 orphans in Lithuania, we and some of our friends and relatives have selected a particular child that we will connect with. At our next meeting, we will each bring a wrapped package appropriate for "our" child. In addition, we hope that we will be able to provide a photo of ourselves and some personal background. Then it turn, we hope to begin to learn more about each child.

On Saturday evening, February 18, some members of our council joined C-100 in Amsterdam, NY for a celebration of Lithuanian Independence. We attended mass offered by Rev. Joseph Grabys at St. Casimir's Church followed by dinner completely prepared by committee members.

Junior members of C-100 had star billing during mass as they carried the offerings to the altar, each appropriately dressed in native costume. They efficiently assisted in serving guests at dinner and cleaned up afterward. In addition, they participated in a dance routine thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. It is so refreshing to see the enthusiasm in those beautiful, young faces. In our youth, we do have hope.

Sunday morning, February 19, we held our own celebration at Holy Cross Church in Schenectady, NY. Mass was offered by Rev. Bernard Gustas with Rev. Joseph Biondino



assisting. After mass, K of L members invited parish members to join us in enjoying flavored coffee, tea and finger foods. We munched on the goodies and all had a really good time.

As an addendum to a previous issue, we would like to add to our roster of officers and committee chairpersons/members for this year. The following were inadvertently omitted:

Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Bernard Gustas  
2nd Vice-President - Helen Hayner  
Junior Council Advisor - Lynn McCafferty  
Raffle committee - Frank Zebuda, Richard

Silaika

Phone Committee - Elizabeth Aviza

### C-152, Eastern Long Island, NY

*by Tom Tarmey*

On Sunday, December 18th, a day of bright sunshine and unseasonably pleasant temperature, our Council held our annual Christmas Luncheon in a beautifully decorated private dining room at the Miller Place Inn. Some 90 Knights and guests participated in an atmosphere of good food, enjoyable camaraderie and the stirring musical strains provided by our always popular Maestro, Joe Thomas.

While the Christmas Luncheon is undoubtedly the social high point of our Council's year, our attention is now turning to the formulation of plans for observing the feast of St. Casimir during this coming March. As of this writing, our Council's plans for this occasion have not yet crystalized.

At our January meeting, our Council initiated a meaningful, and, hopefully, effective participation in the program known as "Gift of Hope." This program originated under the sponsorship of the Church in Lithuania, and strives to identify particularly needy families and individuals, often living alone, whose circumstances are set forth in brief

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presentations made to K of L Councils for the purpose of having such truly deserving persons "adopted" by the Councils as a group and, also, by individual Knights. It strikes this writer that the goals of the "Gift of Hope," program, in addition to being in full accord with our binding obligations as Christians to attend promptly and as adequately as possible to the needs of the truly deprived, are entirely in harmony with the purposes for which our forebears established the Knights of Lithuania.

Finally, we respectfully ask our readers to spare a prayer for the happy repose of the souls of our most recently deceased fellow Knights, Bill Newalis and John Sidlauskas, and for an early return to good health of our Knights, Mae Zipkas and Stanley Peters.

*Happy Birthday, Dalia!*



### COMING NEXT MONTH:

- ☞ Mrs. Mother's Day contest
- ☞ Profiles of HM nominees
- ☞ The Perfect Wife

## APRIL - BALANDIS

*Linksma diena mums nušvito,  
visi troškom džiaugsmo šito,  
Kėlės Kristus, mirtis krito.*

O happy the day that has dawned for us,  
who have long awaited this joyful news,  
Christ is arisen, the pall of death is broken.

### In April:

- April 1 April Fool's Day. A day for practical jokes observed in many areas of the world including the U.S. and Lithuania. It is not unusual for papers or periodicals to publish outrageous stories in their April or April 1 edition. So be careful reading this issue.
- April 4 On this day in 1926, His Holiness Pope Pius XI established the dioceses of Kaišiadorys, Panevėžys, Telšiai, and Vilkaviškis. These were combined into a separate ecclesiastical province with the Archdiocese of Kaunas at the center. (Remember that Vilnius had been invaded by the Polish army in 1922 and later annexed by Poland.)
- April 16 Easter Sunday.
- April 23 Feast of St. George, who is revered as the second patron of Lithuania (second only to St. Casimir.)
- April 25 Feast of St. Mark, the Evangelist. It is day when the Church in Lithuania calls for special prayers for peace, health and a good harvest. Special services with processions are held in parish churches and the faithful are asked to recite the Litany of the Saints in their homes.
- April 28 Arbor Day. Observed in many parts of the U.S. since 1872 by planting trees.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE HAVING A NAME'S DAY IN APRIL:

*Alfredas (Apr 12)  
Aušra (Apr 27)  
Celestine (Apr 5)  
Danutė (Apr 22)  
Irene (Apr 3)  
Leon (Apr 19)  
Rasa (Apr 9)  
Stanley (Apr 11)  
Vincent (Apr 5)*

*Algirdas (Apr 30)  
Benedict (Apr 16)  
Dalia (Apr 9)  
George (Apr 23)  
Julius (Apr 12)  
Mark (Apr 25)  
Richard (Apr 3)  
Theodora (Apr 1)  
Walter (Apr 8)*

*Apolonius (Apr 10)  
Catherine (Apr 29)  
Dangė (Apr 5)  
Hugo (Apr 1)  
Jūratė (Apr 12)  
Martin (Apr 13)  
Rimantė (Apr 5)  
Vaiva (Apr 14)  
Zenon (Apr 12)*

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# EVENTS



## 1995 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

### Volunteer Day-World Medical Relief

Apr. 8 & 22 Detroit, C-102

### For further info contact:

Regina Juska (313) 554-3288

### Sts. Peter & Paul Centennial Celebration

May 21 100th Ann. Lithuanian Festival/Picnic  
 Elizabeth, NJ, C-52

Lorraine Staboris (908) 352-2271

### Spring Celebrations

April 30 NED Spring Convention, Westfield, MA  
 May 21 NED Annual Holy Hour, Worcester, MA  
 April 30 C-110, Spring Dinner Dance  
 May 19-21 MCD Convention/Bowling Tourn.  
 Host C-79, Southfield, MI

Bertha Stoskus (401) 331-2605

Bruno Rutkunas (516) 628-2292

Tom Bruza (814) 371-9485

### Supreme Council Meeting

June 10 or 17 Host: C-102, Detroit, MI

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.)*