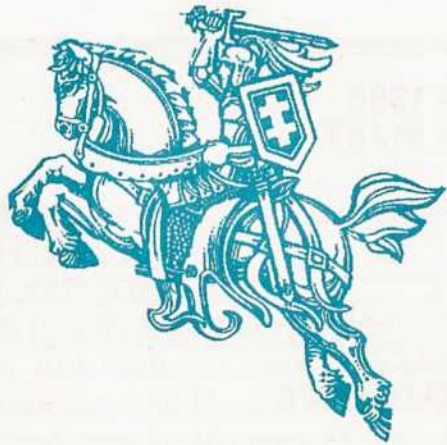


Volume 81: No. 5
May 1995



VYTIS

Knights of Lithuania



GEGUŽĖ/ MAY

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MONTH IN LITHUANIA, WHERE EVERYTHING IS SPROUTING AND BLOOMING. THE CALL OF THE CUCKOO, "GEGUŽĖ", A BIRD CHERISHED BY LITHUANIANS, IS HEARD IN THE FOREST.

VYTIS

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
SUPREME COUNCIL
OFFICERS
1994-1995



Gegužė/May 1995
Volume 81: No.5

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis
St. George's Rectory
3580 Salmon Street
Philadelphia, PA 19134
(215) 739-3102

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(312) 254-7553

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(518) 355-7483

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Rita Sussko
1254 Grandview Avenue
Union, NJ 07083-3729
(908) 686-4226

TRUSTEES

Peter P. Zansitis
6939 So. Crandon Avenue
Chicago, IL 60649
(312) 363-2023

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VYTIS STAFF

Editor: Marytė Abbott

Council News Editor: Dalia Bulvičius

Layout & Design: MBA+

Bus. Manager: Richard Niedvares

tel. (312) 764-3996 fx. (312) 764-5847

Send all editorial correspondence to:

M. Abbott - VYTIS

P.O. Box 1934

Grand Central Sta. NY 10163-1934

tel. (718) 937-3352

TRUSTEES

John P. Baltrus
5325 Orchard Hill Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15236
(412) 881-1716

AMBER DIST. President

Elsie Komisky
140 South Wylam Street
Frackville, PA 17931
(717) 874 - 1181

MAMD President

Algerd Brazis
13438 Westview
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(708) 361-5594

MAD President

Bernice Aviza
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(518) 459-5256

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NED President

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Henchan, Donovan, Issacson
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PUBLIC RELATIONS

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4638 51st Street
Detroit, MI 48210
(313) 554-3288

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS

Vincent B. Boris, Chair
5678 Vantage Point Road
Columbia, MD 21044
(301) 596-4203

LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE

Virginia Vaitekoniš Obando
1248 Waverly Place
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(908) 820-9577

RITUAL COMMITTEE

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8200 Anchor Dr. #801
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(717) 429-0132

K OF L FOUNDATION

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Watchung, NJ 07060
(908) 753-5636

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Motinos Diena

Anksti pavasarį yra minima Motinos diena. Jos tikslas yra iškelti geros motinos vertę bažnyčiai, tautai ir šeimai. Motinos dienos minėjimas iškilo po 1945 metų, karui pasibaigus. Popiežius Pijus XII Kat. Moterų kongrese pasakė; "Duokite mums daugiau gerų motinų aš atgaivinsiu pasaulyje tobulesnę dvasinį gyvenimą." Motinos pagerbimas ir nuoširdus vertinimas, paskatina jas toliau aukotis šeimai, tautai ir Bažnyčiai.

Cover illustration from Šv. Pranciškaus Varpelis - The Bell of St. Francis, Kennebunkport, ME, 1989



A Message from Our President

When the first Mother's Day was celebrated in 1908, mothers were honored in part for the tremendous amount of physical labor involved in caring for a family.

Now, the washboards are gone and so is the ax many moms used to chop wood for the cooking stove.

In many ways, however, modern living has placed mothers in a more difficult position than before. Raising children in the 1990's carries responsibilities our great grandmothers could not have imagined. Even today's grandmothers are thankful they are not the ones to cope with modern problems like drugs and new diseases.

Motherhood has always been fraught with risks and plenty of work, but most mothers would not exchange the experience for any other kind and for that we are thankful. Happy Mother's Day to all our much loved and hard working mothers and all "mother's special helpers" in the teaching, nursing and other professions who care for our children.

Evelyn Ozelis

Only Mother...

Nobody knows of the work it takes to keep the house together,
 Nobody knows of the steps it takes,
 Nobody knows but Mother,

Nobody knows of the sleepless care bestowed on tiny children,
 Nobody knows of the tender prayer,
 Nobody knows but Mother,

Nobody knows of the tears that start, the grief she gladly smothers,
 Nobody knows of the breaking heart,
 Nobody knows but Mother,

Nobody clings to the wayward child, though scorned by every other,
 leads it gently from pathways wild,
 Nobody can but Mother,

Nobody knows of her heav'nly prayer for those her erring children,
 Pride of her heart, so pure, so fair,
 Nobody, only Mother.

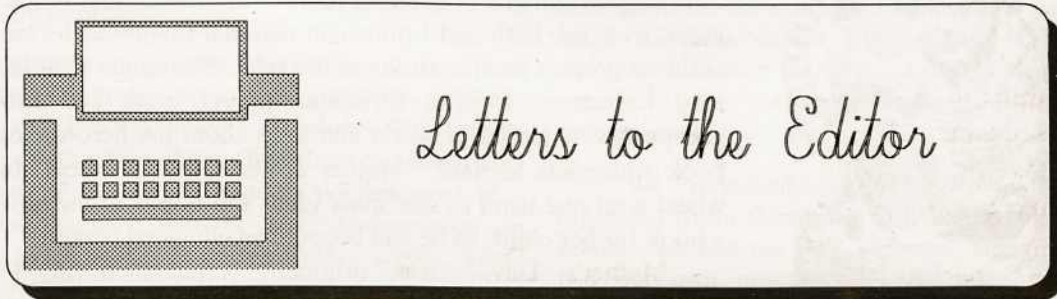


FROM YOUR EDITOR

It's May! The most beautiful month of the year. May is special - the flowers begin to come to full bloom, the birds begin to raise their newly hatched chicks, the trees are bright green and life begins to shake off winter blues, the March winds and April showers. What better month of the year to celebrate motherhood?

Ačiū , ačiū , to the editors and staff of Darbininkas for the Lithuanian characters which inspired us to include a Lithuanian Language section and begin subheads in Lithuanian. Get well wishes to Virginia Obando, Lithuanian Language Editor.

Happy Mother's Day, to my mom and every other mother in the Knights of Lithuania.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS

To the editor:

The table is set. The 82nd National Knights of Lithuania Convention table is set and we are expecting you! A grand time is planned, the details are being finalized, and we here in Detroit anxiously await that week in August when we meet here to help celebrate C-102's 75th Anniversary, as well as, the founding of St. Anthony's parish, our home for these many years.

Don't forget our pre and post Convention activities, which will round out the full schedule C-102 and the Supreme Council have planned for one and all.

At this time I would like to extend a special invitation to those who have never attended our National Convention. Please join us August 9-13. Go to your council meeting; get involved; become a delegate or alternate to the convention for your council or district. Come as a guest and watch the Knights in action. Enjoy Michigan and what the Detroit area has to offer. The hotel (the Novi Hilton) is first rate and affordable for the convention goers.

Don't miss out on the great opportunity to meet fellow Knights from across the country and make our 75th Anniversary celebration something special.

Respectfully,

*Tim Baibak, General Chairperson, Host Committee
82nd National Knights of Lithuania Convention*

May, in honor of Mary and all Mothers

One of the most difficult to emulate is Blessed Mary, the mother of Jesus. She not only commands our prayers and respect, but we also see her as the mother of mothers, a caring, nurturing and loving lady. During the last number of years, devotion to Mary has increased and the prayer of the rosary has captured many followers. The rosary is prayed in some places as a meditation for up to seven consecutive days, and we pray to Mary for peace in the world.



Our Lady of Siluva, a picture of a sculpted bas relief by V. Kasuba executed for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Chicago.

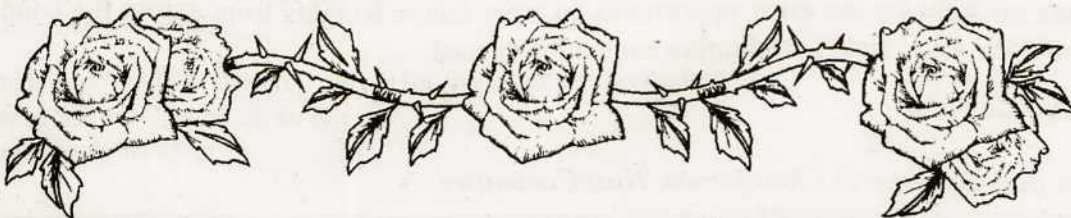
In Lithuania, Mother's Day is considered very precious. A 1529 Statute of Lithuania states that children must care for their mother and father in their old age. The Lithuanian language has about 80 terms for mother. During the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century, an era of national rebirth, the Lithuanian mother stood guard over the faith and Lithuanian national identity. She taught her children prayers and the truths of the faith. She taught her children to read Lithuanian from a forbidden prayer book and Lithuanian grammar. She taught in secret and tales about the heroic mothers of book smugglers abound. "Mother at her spinning wheel" turns the wheel with one hand as she spins yarn, and points to the alphabet in a book for her child, so he can become an educated person.

Mother's Day was originally established in 1908 in Philadelphia, and has been a special holiday in both America and Lithuania.

Vocation of a Mother

- The mother of a Saint?
- Most important educator?
- A student of child nature?
- A molder of character?
- A helper to the pastor?
- A coworker with an angel?
- A holder of the world's destiny?
- A preserver of innocence?
- A handmaid of Our Lady?
- An apostle to the family?
- A co-creator with God?

-the Christian Mother



A Rich Heritage

by Albert Cizauskas

©1995

A remarkable speech was delivered by one Povilas Zumbakis on the occasion of the celebration of Lithuanian Independence Day in New York. The unusual speech was published by the Lithuanian weekly, "*Darbininkas*" in its issue of March 11 under the intriguing title of "When Will 'We' and 'They' Speak a Common Language"? (Zumbakis is identified as an "Attorney" whose perceptive remarks have frequently appeared in "*Darbininkas*".)

Before quoting from the speech, some explanatory remarks are in order.

My parents emigrated to this country at the turn of the century. At home, we spoke Lithuanian with our parents and English among ourselves. Our parents imbued us with a love of their homeland and imparted a knowledge of Lithuanian history. We belonged to a Lithuanian parish (that of the Annunciation in Brooklyn) and attended its elementary school, where our Lithuanianism was further nourished. As a result, I refused to alter my family name and melt into the common Anglo-Saxon pot of Smith's and Chase's.

The end of WWII once again saw an influx of immigrants. I and others like me looked forward to establishing a common bond with the newcomers. However, with few exceptions, these "New" Lithuanians distanced themselves from us and formed their own institutions, spurning those already in place. It was like a shock of cold water to experience a sense of being "looked down" upon us as somehow "inferior". True our knowledge of the Lithuanian language was imperfect, but this need not have been an insuperable obstacle to a common relationship.

In the speech alluded to, I have for the first time seen this supercilious attitude acknowledged and soundly excoriated by one of their own number. With considerable emotion, Zumbakis chastised his audience as follows (freely translated):

"In America, there have been three immigrant waves. The first consisted of those who had come to these shores before the turn of the century and especially, those who had emigrated from, 1905 to 1925... These Lithuanians left a rich heritage for us in

this country: parishes, churches, journals, radio programs, choruses and so forth. They supported and loved Lithuania. I had the opportunity to see documents chronicling the activities of women's groups in the Cicero area (near Chicago) during the year of 1925. That year these women earned about one dollar weekly and yet each week they contributed ten cents for Lithuanian causes. These early immigrants played a crucial role in the winning of Lithuanian independence. The whole world, especially America, got to know that Lithuanians were a strongly unified people. These Lithuanians from the first wave also helped those of us in Soviet prison camps, they helped their brothers and sisters suffering in Siberia, they prepared the way for us in this country." We are the second immigrant wave. We came, looked about, and concluded that we were culturally superior, better educated, even more intelligent. On the contrary, I believe it is we who owe much to these earlier Lithuanians. We have not adequately thanked them for what they have given us, nor have we sufficiently valued their immense achievements.

"We separated ourselves from them... We organized (from Germany) VLIKas, attended Saturday schools, we had our own choruses, athletic clubs, we had our own press. We were better than 'they'." Attorney Zumbakis had much more to say in his unprecedented address. But at least one more of his trenchant observations may be of interest to the readers of *Vytis*. "Now we are witnessing the arrival of the third immigrant wave and we don't know how to coexist with these newcomers. As a result, many of these latter-day immigrants are doing what we did, they are distancing themselves from us. They have, for example, elected to observe Lithuanian Independence Day by themselves, unwilling to associate with us. And we can't blame them since we gave them a cold welcome.

"We did not follow the example of the earlier Lithuanians, who warmly welcomed us fifty years ago".

A speech of this stature should be must reading for all Lithuanians, not only for its belated recognition of what earlier immigrants accomplished here with their blood, sweat and tears, but also for its call for social unity as a critical juncture in Lithuanian history. So three cheers for Povilas Zumbakis who had the courage and candor to indict his fellow Lithuanians of the second wave. He spoke the unspeakable, that all three waves of Lithuanian immigrants are equally Lithuanian with their own unique attainments aimed at the same goal, the survival of Lithuania as a free nation.

FAUSTAS STROLIA CANDIDATE FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

He might be engrossed in teaching the K of L Choir in Chicago or directing 14,000 singers at the Lithuanian Music Festival in Vilnius. He might be entertaining senior citizens with his music at Chicago's Seklyčia or accompanying K of L Juniors at a K of L Convention or telling his grandchildren about their Lithuanian heritage. But wherever you find **FAUSTAS STROLIA**, you can be sure his talents and demeanor represent the Knights of Lithuania in the finest sense.

Born in Lithuania, Faustas was forced to flee his beloved homeland with his family when the Soviets occupied it. After a few years in Germany, the Strolia's emigrated to the US in 1956. Faustas settled in East Chicago and later in Chicago, IL, where he continued his musical work with parishes and groups. He inherited the musical talents of his father, Juozas, a well known Lithuanian musician and composer, as did his brothers Vytautas and Hercules, both of whom also have continued as performers, directors, and musical consultants.

Faustas studied at the Pontificio Instituto di Musica Sacra in Rome, and earned a Bachelor and Master of Music Education at Chicago's Conservatory College. He has been organist and music teacher at various parishes in the Chicago area, and currently is Organist and Music Director at St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Calumet City, IL.

Faustas Strolia's introduction to the Knights came in 1960, when, as music counselor at Camp Dainava in Manchester, Michigan, he worked with a K of L Junior

Camp. Later that year, when Chicago K of L-ers were reorganizing the K of L Illinois-Indiana (now MidAmerica) District Choir, the District Board approached Faustas to lead the choir and he enthusiastically accepted. He has been Choir

Director and a dedicated member of Chicago's C-36 ever since.

Under his direction, the choir has spread the name of Lithuania and the Knights of Lithuania all over the Chicago area, and in various other cities of the US and Lithuania. The choir has appeared in large concerts and international festivals, as well as informal gatherings. They took part in many Lithuanian Song Festivals in the US, and in Lithuania in 1994.



Faustas also directed the K of L Choir in the production of two long-play records, 5 films for the Lithuanian TV Program of Chicago, plus two videos - "A Lithuanian Country Wedding" and "The Seven Last Words of Christ" and a Lithuanian Language Tape made with the K of L Choir and the Vaiva Ensemble. When the Knights updated their constitution in the 1980's, Faustas translated the document into Lithuanian.

His work with the Knights also included five years as a song and dance teacher for the Juniors of his Council 36 and director or advisor of music programs at numerous K of L events on a local, district or national plane. Faustas is a frequent delegate to National Conventions, and has organized the Cultural Evenings at several. Even when not scheduled, he has stepped in as accompanist for various parts of the Conventions, from religious to social events. At one Convention, when the accompanying tape suddenly broke during a Juniors' Program, Faustas spontaneously took over accompaniment

without missing a beat, to the relief of the performers and the delight of all attending.

The Knights of Lithuania Choir provided Faustas an additional benefit -- it was here that he met his life's mate, Theresa Pupinik, whom he married in 1962, and who has been an outstanding help mate to Faustas in his K of L and other work. The Strolias raised an outstanding family. They boast of four active and talented sons --

Paul, Tom, John, and Matthew -- four caring daughters-in-law plus four granddaughters and one grandson. Their sons are all active in the Knights as well, and three of them are past recipients of K of L Scholarship Awards. All are accomplished musicians in addition of their regular careers. They all assisted in the production of K of L Choir tapes and videos.

This fine musician's accomplishments extend well beyond the Knights, and are too numerous to recount in detail. At four of the US Lithuanian Song Festivals, he served as director of the children's choruses. He served as Music Director at one of the US dance festivals. At the 1994 Festival (Dainų Šventė) in Lithuania, Faustas was honored to direct the singing of his father, Juozas Strolia's, composition "Težydi Vėliai Lietuva" by combined choruses of 3000 in Kaunas and 14,000 in Vilnius.

Faustas Strolia is a prolific composer and has hundreds of hymns and folk songs to his credit, some of which have appeared (and will continue to appear) in VYTIS. Some of his hymns were published in Rome and elsewhere, and he is currently preparing many others for publication. He composed a Mass which is sung regularly by the K of L Choir. For his composition "Sibero Giesmė" (the Siberian Hymn) in which he set to music a prayer from the Siberian Prayer Book, he was honored by the Siberian Refugee organization "Tremtiniai"

and during his recent trip to Lithuania was presented flowers by representatives of the group.

He organized and directed the "Vaiva" vocal group which performed musical plays translated to Lithuanian in Chicago, New York, and elsewhere from 1973 to 1987, was a choirmaster for the Lithuanian Opera of Chicago and the Lithuanian Choir "Dainava", was Lithuanian folk dance instructor and accordionist for the Dainava dancers. He



was a music teacher at various Lithuanian Grammar and High Schools in the Chicago area, music counselor at Lithuanian summer camps in Michigan and Vermont, and a director of music in schools in Germany before emigrating to the US. Faustas also taught the junior group of the youth choir "Audra" and directed the Chicago Lithuanian String Ensemble. He regularly entertains at the Lithuanian Senior Citizen Center "Seklyčia". He is currently President of the Lithuanian Musicians' Association of North America, a post he has held since 1987.

For all his work in Lithuanian music, Faustas received the "Award of Distinction" from the Mid-America District of the K of L, was awarded an Honorary Degree by the Lithuanian Teachers' College, was named "Musician of the Year" in 1986 by the Lithuanian World Community and "Man of the Year" in 1984 by the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture and in 1983 by the Vydūnas Youth Fund of the Lithuanian Scouts Assn. Clearly, **FAUSTAS STROLIA**, who has devoted most of his life and talents to spreading the appreciation of Lithuanian music and enhancing the name of the Knights of Lithuania is most worthy of the title of **HONORARY MEMBER**.

Loretta Stukas, H.M.

FRANK PETRAUSKAS CANDIDATE FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Frank Petrauskas joined the Knights of Lithuania in March of 1952 while he was stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. Ask any member of C-96 what they remember about him and they will all say he was "friendly, outgoing - hardworking - and his usual greeting was, 'Hi, sweetheart! How are you?'" While there, he sang in the choir and served as Cultural Chairman for the 1952 National Convention held in Dayton.

When Frank was discharged from the Air Force in September, he moved to Tonawanda, New York prior to enrolling at Syracuse University. There, he reorganized, I C-92 Niagara Falls. As its first president, he started a close relationship with C-93 Rochester.

At the 1953 National Convention, Frank was elected as National Sports Chairman. He organized and was chairman of the first K of L national golf tournament in 1954. He also assisted with other tournaments including bowling tournaments.

In the mid-60's, Frank gathered together a few Syracuse Lithuanians and organized a Lithuanian picnic. This became a yearly event. Later, he invited the Latvians and Estonians and became Chairman of "The Baltic States Group." At this picnic, there were sports events, food, drinks, songs and dances. He was very active in Captive Nations celebrations.

Finally, in 1974, Frank convinced the Syracuse Lithuanians to form a K of L Council. At the Detroit National Convention, C-140 Syracuse received its charter with Frank as its

first president. Except for one year, he has remained in this position.

When C-140 hosted the National Convention in 1978., Frank acted as Chairman. The convention was very successful.



In 1970, Frank entered the Lithuanians in the Syracuse Festival of Nations. Preparing foods at his house, housing guests, inviting out-of-town dancers and singers to participate, and making potato pancakes for a tidy profit has been part of his duties.

From 1981 to 1984, Frank served as National Third Vice President at which time he put through legislation, to merge the few remaining Senior Councils with the Regular Councils.

He became National President in 1985. At this time he headed the "fund raising for the remodeling of the Statue of Liberty." The K of L raised the most funds of all Lithuanian organizations. 1986-87 was the 600th anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania. Many members went to Rome and Frank asked Dr. Jack Stukas to represent him and the Knights of Lithuania. 1987-88, we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the K of L. Frank was active with helping Washington D. C. hold the National Convention that year. Also, at that time, Frank was directly involved in the reorganization of C-72 Binghamton and C-136 Albany which is now called Hudson-Mohawk.

Over the years, Frank has written hundreds of letters to public officials and newspapers about the problems in Lithuania. He has had scores of interviews with the news media and has appeared on television and radio. The Syracuse media called him "Mr. Lithuania."

Frank had a Lithuanian radio program for two years over a local radio station called "Lithuanian Melodies." It was one hour duration every Sunday afternoon.

In May 1994, Frank and his wife, Irene, spent two weeks at the Lithuanian Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport where they pruned and trimmed the shrubs and trees on the entire 36 acres. They donated this labor. As a Landscape Architect, Frank has received many awards for his splendid work in Syracuse in his field. The vegetation at the Monastery was heavily overgrown. Frank stated, "I did the pruning -and trimming and Irene picked up the cuttings and placed them in a pile. The young novices placed the piles on a truck and hauled them away."

As of the end of 1994, Frank has sent to Lithuania 95 boxes of sample medicine through Aid to Lithuania Catholic Religious Aid. These medicines he collected from various doctors, hospitals, and medical centers. The value would be approximately one half million dollars. He has also sent 12 boxes of

books, 7 boxes of priests' vestments and 3 boxes of personal items.

Frank is now retired after 40 years in business as a Landscape Contractor. He and Irene do a lot of volunteer work. They work at the Francis House which cares for cancer patients who are in their last months of life. Frank also heads a Bingo team at St. Stephen's Church and he heads a team of retirees at this church who make pierogies every winter.

Frank and Irene are the parents of seven children and six grandchildren. He is a 4th degree Knight.

Space does not allow the listing of all the work done by Frank Petrauskas for the Knights of Lithuania and his fellow man. He is a most worthy candidate.

Aldona Ryan, H.M.

Welcome New Members

C-1, Brockton, MA

Betty Orzechowski
Rev. John Prusaitis

C-3, Phila., PA

Cecilia Batten
Jessica Conaboy

C-7, Waterbury, CT

Paul Matulunas
Nellie Matulunas
Mrs. Nellie Matulunas
Ann Vicas
Joseph Vicas
Stella Woodacre

C-25, Cleveland, OH

Catherine Schnieder
Clifford Schnieder

C-26, Worcester, MA

Charles S. Pavolis

C-41, Brooklyn, NY

Lucy Paknys
Vytenis Radzivanas
Raymond Shovelski

C-79, Southfield, MI

Larry Whiteside
Mary Ann Whiteside

C-86, DuBois, PA

Kevin Moore
Michael J. Moore
Mimi Moore

C-102, Detroit, MI

Constance Stanulis
Joseph Stanulis

C-109, Great Neck, NY

Henry Alilionis

C-110, Maspeth, NY

Vytautas Gudelis

C-112, Chicago, IL

(Marquette Park)
Daiva Meile
Frank Meile
Dr. Arvydas P. Zygas

C-133, Los Angeles, CA

Dana Bartulis
Christina Dodge
Mildred Grassko
Anthony Pieta
Susan Pleta
Ruta Sepetys

C-153, Treasure Coast, FL

Joan Bizousky





In honor of Mother's Day we will print another short satire about: an "The Ideal Wife" as seen in five different situations. The author is Vytautė Žilinskaite. One must remember that these satyres were written in 1970 in Soviet occupied Lithuania, a time of severe censorship. It is taken from a collection called "Karuseleje" (On the Carousel). It is an abridged free translation. Enjoy!

Dalia Bulvičius

Is there a man who does not wish for an ideal wife? We will paint you five situations of the perfect wife.

1. When both return from work

Wife: I bet you are dead tired, my little sparrow. Give me your briefcase. Go into the yard and lie down on the hammock. I know how difficult it is to sit in the office seven hours a day. Soon I will start preparing your favorite dish - cepelinai (a Lithuanian meat and potato dish - very difficult to make). Don't worry I will manage to drag the sack of potatoes from the cellar. Darling, would you like me to bring the TV out here so you won't be bored.?

2. When the husband comes home drunk

Wife: O, I am so glad that you found your way home and that you did not fall in a ditch, and get

hurt. You the light of my life. Who dared to dirty your sleeve and tear your pants? You poor dear! Oh, you can hardly stand, sweetheart! Lie down darling. Perhaps you would like a cucumber, or some sour milk? You seem to have the hiccups, shall I call a doctor? Put your little head on this pillow. Let me kiss your moist lips. What, is that port wine that I smell? Why did you not tell me? I would have given you extra roubles for good cognac. Why are you torturing yourself, my heart of gold.

3. When the husband comes home after a night out, God knows where

Wife: Finally you returned, my brave knight. Don't try to explain! My motto is - to mind my own business. Why did you put on this ugly tie? When you visit beautiful ladies, you must wear your best. Let me remove that long blond hair from your shoulder. It is almost as long as our friend Zoses. It is a beautiful hair! You have good taste. Now it is most important that you have a good rest. It is just two hours until you have to leave for work, so you can take a nap. I will sit nearby and chase the flies away.

4. With friends

Wife: May your tongues dry up saying such foul things about my husband! He is as pure as a crystal!. Even now I don't know what I did to deserve such as husband! The ideal of masculinity! (sheds tears of joy)... May your throats rot!

5. Separation or divorce

Wife: We will divide our belongings in this manner: the piano, television, refrigerator - for you, the childrens' beds and toys for me. The apartment is also yours, the children and I will manage in my mother's flat. Tell your girlfriend that the rug is at the cleaners. The widows are washed, floors waxed, the bedding fresh, a bouquet of roses is in the vase on the table. What else? O yes, the champagne is chilling in the fridge and soon I will send over a cake. Don't get upset if your co-workers annoy you at work about our situation. Tell them that I was a real witch, and if you wish it, I'll fly over on a broom. Ta ta!



Knights of Lithuania Council 16 - Chicago, Illinois

SPONSORS

NEW YEAR'S EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

December 30, 1995 - January 6, 1996

Price: \$ 1,350.00

Itinerary: Depart and arrive Miami, St. Maarten, St. John, St. Thomas, Great Stirrup Cay, & three uninterrupted days at sea.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA COUNCIL 16 invites you to join us as we ring out 1995 and ring in 1996 on an exciting and unforgettable New Year's Cruise sailing the **Eastern Caribbean** on the cruise ship **NORWAY** of the **Norwegian Cruise Line**. The **NORWAY**, previously called S.S. France, has been hailed for her plush splendor, architectural marvels, and exquisite cuisine. After a \$60 million refurbishment the ship emerged with her classic features intact; art deco murals, two story Broadway Theater, magnificent ballroom, a new world class Roman Spa, and glass-enclosed fitness center, making it the most legendary ship afloat.

We'll visit **ST. MAARTEN**, an island with a split personality, One half is *Dutch* with its *duty-free shops* and *distinctive island architecture*. The other half is *French*, with *cups of espresso* in *outdoor cafes*.

In **ST. THOMAS** you can go bargain hunting in the shops of *Charlotte Amalie* or sunning in *Magens Bay*, listed among the world's ten best beaches.

ST. JOHN will enchant you with its *dense mountain forests*, *white sand beaches*, and *superb coral reefs*.

Your cruise would not be complete without a day in the **GREAT STIRRUP CAY**, Norwegian Cruise Lines Private Island. There you can *relax on the white sand beach*, *partake in water sports*, *enjoy a luxurious picnic lunch*, and *listen to the sounds of calypso music*.

Price includes: air far from most US cities, inside Cat. L cruise accommodations, port charges, and transfers. Limited number of outside cabins are also available.

**Make your reservations to join us now.
Space in limited.**

All cruise arrangements are being made by:

**American Travel Service
9439 South Kedzie Avenue
Evergreen Park, IL 60642
Tel.: 708-422-3000
800-422-3190
Fax: 708-422-3163**

Ask for Rita

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Saturday: Depart From Miami

Sunday: At Sea

Monday: At Sea

Tuesday: St. Maarten

Wednesday: St. Thomas / St. John

Thursday: At Sea

Friday: Great Stirrup Cay

Saturday: Return to Miami

Freedom of the Press in Free Lithuania

Fr. William Wolkovich-Valkavicius

The first wave of Lithuanian immigrants in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century reveled in its newfound liberty of the printed word. Though wanting in experience to write, edit, print, and market their wares, these enterprising journalists and publishers poured out thousands of newspapers, pamphlets, calendars, and almanacs. Most of these ill financed attempts became aborted ventures through lack of expertise. Nevertheless, those that survived for any length of time left a remarkable legacy. An entire master's thesis of Danute-Dana J. Tautvilas is devoted to "The Lithuanian Press in America." Her 127-page typescript study, done at Catholic University in 1961, seeks to describe a whole range of works from 1879.

The same unbounded zeal has been sparking in our blood relatives of the Baltic homeland since recovering freedom of the press by 1989. Academics and journalists have rushed into print in a variety of enterprises, many of which have already fallen by the wayside for lack of funding and sufficient readership. Some have survived, and still others enter the public arena, striving to lure an adequate readership.

The purpose of this essay is to describe a few of the varied publications from among the many emanating in Lithuania. I have chosen *Caritas*, *Lietuvos Mokslas* and *Kolekcija*.

As early as October of 1989, *Caritas* made its appearance, sponsored by a feisty Catholic women's association of the same name. They cautiously included a Russian inscription, evidently the required sponsor, name and address. Needless to say, the Russian paragraph soon disappeared! *Caritas* prints short articles on devotions, lives of canonized saints and other holy models, religious instruction, etiquette lessons, news of "Caritas" chapters around the nation, and an occasional

"letter-to-the-editor." After the original outburst of enthusiasm with a run of 18,000 copies, the monthly listed a more modest printing of 6,000 for its issue of January 1995.

Lietuvos Mokslas is a hefty quarterly with the English subtitle: "Science and Arts of Lithuania." Judging from its masthead, the scholarly publication began in 1992. A sample copy of 1994 - 11 tomas, 2-3 (3-4), with 224 pages, spans the range of academic studies embracing: electricity, language, music, folk songs, archeology, and Sacred Scripture. The last item is an interview with Father (now Monsignor) Antanas Rubsys on his translation of the Old Testament book of Ruth. The priest is Professor Emeritus of Manhattan College in the Bronx section of New York City, and is progressing with a monumental work, translating the



entire Old Testament.

The third sample is a new undertaking, just off the press in a run of 1,500 copies. *Kolekcija* is the fruit of the "Lithuanian Collectors Association." Its purpose is to publicize the holdings of Lithuanian museums and to rescue artifacts of all kinds that give witness to Lithuanian life in the homeland and abroad. As one might expect, *Kolekcija* is richly illustrated. Just about anything is worthy of mention as a "collectible" encompassing: coins, stamps, posters, flyers, receipts, and the more obvious items such as paintings and ceramics. The magazine summarizes its contents in a single-page multi-lingual format, using English, German, and French.

Tastes and interests of *Vytis* readers among the Knights of Lithuania may incline them to write to one these publications for information,

so here are the addresses:

Caritas Vilniaus 29, 3000 Kaunas

Lietuvos mokslas Gedimino pr. 3, 21 kamb.
2600 Vilnius

Kolekcija Gedimino 10, 3000 Kaunas

Lithuanian Summer Language Camps For Youth and Family Fun & Learning

Summer offers a wide variety of options for children and family alike. One such option is Lithuanian Ethnic Camps. Perhaps family travel plans can include a week at one of them.

Camp Dainava in Manchester, Michigan, offers a Lithuanian language course on *August 6-13, 1995*. Beginners, intermediate and advanced students are welcomed or those who just need to refresh their Lithuanian language skills. No limits are imposed on age or formal education, learn from experienced instructors in a vacation-like setting. Call Ruta Udryns for information at (517) 784-7834.

Camp Ausra, located in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, is special because the Lithuanian Language and culture become a living reality. Learn traditions and language along with songs and dances. Folk tales are dramatized; arts and crafts are a daily experience along with swimming and hiking and enjoyment of the outdoors. The camp gives campers the opportunity to live together within their respective age groups in a



Christian environment. Mass is celebrated 3 days a week; religion and personal growth are interwoven in all activities of daily camping. Dates are *July 9-22, 1995*. For more information write to Sister M. Angela, CJC, 25 S. Broad Mountain Ave., Frackville, PA 17931

Camp Neringa, located in the hills of southern Vermont, is administered by the Lithuanian Sisters from Putnam. After 25 years it still offers a unique opportunity for children of Lithuanian American heritage to experience one's ethnicity in beautiful surroundings. Children and families have returned year after year with a sense of belonging to a "bigger family". The session for children 7-16 years old is from *July 30 - August 5th*. The family session is scheduled for *August 17-20*. Anyone wishing more information can write to Neringa, 600 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260 or call (203) 928-7955



Official News:

Applications for 4th Degree, along with a check for \$6.00 must be received by the National Ritual Committee before June 30, 1995.

Ann Marie Kassel
Ritual Chairman

Knights of Lithuania
SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS
from August 5, 1994 to December 31, 1994

Mid-America District	\$2,500.00
George & Frances Burila	100.00
I.M.O. Dr. Jack Stukas, H.M.	
Mary Ann Gercius	60.00
Anonymous	50.00
Dorothy A. Banos	50.00
Marge Helen Labadis	50.00
I.M.O. Bill Labadis	
John & Agnes Miskunis	50.00
I.M.O. Dr. Jack Stukas, H.M.	
Margie Davidonis Senek	50.00
I.M.O. Len Davidonis, Joseph Boley, Dr. Jack Stukas, H.M.	
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Rita Pinkus	25.00
Ann Radzevich, I.M.O. Anthony Radzevich	25.00
Bertha Stoskus	25.00
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Walter & Irene Svelka	25.00
I.M.O. Martin Rugi and Dr. Jack Stukas, H.M.	
Jewel Ushka	25.00
Julie H. Zakarka, I.M.O. Albert Zakarka	25.00
Agatha Bender	20.00
Maria Deksnis	15.00
Thomas & Anna Helen McDonald	10.00
Prof. V. & Nellie Romanas	10.00
I.M.O. Dr. Jack Stukas, H.M.	
Rita & Denise Zakarka	10.00
I.M.O. Albert Zakarka	



-Dorothy Banos, Chair

OFFICIAL NEWS

Oficialios Naujienos

RESOLUTION

Re: Disallowance of proxies at membership meetings

At a Supreme Council meeting held on March 25, 1995 at Worcester, Massachusetts, a quorum being present and upon presentation and discussion thereof, a vote was had and the following resolution was thereby adopted:

WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania is a not-for-profit Illinois corporation duly organized and operated under the laws of said state, and

WHEREAS, it has been established that, under the statutes of the State of Illinois, not-for-profit corporations are permitted to utilize proxies at membership meetings; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the utilization of proxies is not conducive to the orderly and efficient conduct of such meetings and since the said statute further permits organizations to limit and disallow the utilization of such proxies;

IT IS, THEREFORE, RESOLVED to propose that the Constitution of the Knights of Lithuania be amended to add a paragraph 10 to Article XIV as follows:

10. Proxies may not be utilized at membership meetings.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed amendment be published in VYTIS and be presented to the delegates of the next National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania with the recommendation of the Supreme Council that such be passed for the benefit and welfare of the organization.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

by: *Evelyn Ozelis*

It's President

Attest:

Agnes V. Mickunas

It's Secretary

RESOLUTION

Re: Change in Tax Exempt Status

At a Supreme Council meeting held on March 25, 1995 at Worcester, Massachusetts, a quorum being present and upon presentation and discussion thereof a vote was had and the following resolution was thereby adopted:

WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, currently has an exemption from the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c) (7) as a sport's league and recreational organization;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the current activities of the organization are more accurately described under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization engaged in social and civic activities for the public welfare;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Council is implicitly authorized to take needed steps to preserve and promote the welfare of the organization as such may be dictated from time to time, in and about its pursuit of its mission and related activities;

WHEREAS, it has been established by the Supreme Council. that, for the good order of the organization a change in its status be sought in accord with that stated above;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Council authorizes and empowers its legal counsel to proceed to take all necessary legal, technical and administrative steps to obtain a classification from the Internal Revenue Service which is in keeping with its current activities under the aforesaid Section 501 (c) (4) as a social and civic organization exempt; under the said paragraph and that it is further authorized to make the necessary expenditures to achieve this change, all for the good of the organization.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

by: *Evelyn Ozelis*
It's President

Attest:

Agnes V. Mickunas
It's Secretary

RESOLUTION

Re: K of L representation on Camp Dainava Board

At a Supreme Council meeting held on March 25, 1995 at Worcester, Massachusetts, a quorum being present and upon presentation and discussion thereof a vote was had and the following resolution was thereby adopted;

WHEREAS, the Knights of Lithuania from its inception has been a charter member of Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation of America, a national umbrella organization which is a corporate affiliate of the United States Catholic Conference;

WHEREAS, the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation of America has in 1955 organized the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation Youth Camp "Dainava" for the purpose of promoting religious and cultural activities among Lithuanian American Catholics and particularly young people; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Camp Dainava has representatives from Catholic organizations active in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed mutually beneficial for the Knights of Lithuania and Camp Dainava that there also be a representative of the Knights of Lithuania, as the largest lay Catholic Lithuanian organization in the United States, on the board of Camp Dainava.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania is authorized to delegate a representative to the board of Camp Dainava and, that upon the appropriate changes having been made in the by-laws of the said Camp

Dainava and, that such representative thereafter be appointed annually by the Supreme Council to serve in such a capacity and to report to the Supreme Council and to the National Convention on the activities and status of the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation of Youth Camp Dainava.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

by: *Evelyn Ozelis*

It's President

Attest:

Agnes V. Mickunas

It's Secretary

**Resolution to Amend
The Constitution of the Knights of Lithuania
as
Proposed by Council 16, Chicago, Illinois**

Whereas, several Council and Districts of the Knights of Lithuania have experienced difficulties in securing a Lithuanian religious to serve as Spiritual Advisor, *And*

Whereas, the constitution provides that the Spiritual Advisor of a council is the parish pastor, or his appointed assistant,

Whereas, with the shortage of Lithuanian priests, and the Canonical suppression of Lithuanian parishes having taken place, and which may take place, *And*

Whereas, in those parishes with a non-Lithuanian pastor, or clergy, wherein a council exists, a Constitutional contradiction occurs,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this the 82nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, at Detroit, Michigan,

That Article V, Section 1. b. (Members) of the constitution of the Knights of Lithuania be amended to read:

"be of Lithuanian extraction or the spouse of a Lithuanian, or a Catholic religious serving as Spiritual Advisor of a Council, and"

AND FURTHER THAT, the first sentence of Article V Section 2 c. be amended to read:

"An associate member may be a non-Lithuanian Catholic spouse of a person of Lithuanian extraction, or a non-Lithuanian Catholic religious serving as a Spiritual Advisor of a Council."

The above Proposed Constitutional Amendment Resolution has been approved by a majority of the Current Active Councils of the Knights of Lithuania and was presented to the members of the Supreme Council during their meeting in Worcester, MA on Saturday, March 25, 1995.

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

Baltic Enterprise Fund Planting Seeds for Lithuanian Entrepreneurs

Beginning this month, Michael Diedring, Country Representative for Lithuania, will arrive in Vilnius looking for businesses that may want startup funding from the Baltic American Enterprise Fund.

The Baltic American Enterprise Fund is the latest enterprise fund to be established by the US Congress under the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989. The creation of the Fund was formally announced by President Clinton on July 6th, 1994 during his visit to Riga, Latvia.

The Baltic American Enterprise Fund has authorized capital of USD \$50 million. It was created to assist in the growth and development of small and medium sized private Baltic enterprises in a free-market environment.

The Fund is authorized to invest in small and medium sized private sector businesses, make loans to small and medium sized private sector enterprises, issue guarantees and provide small amounts of technical assistance to them.

Representatives will work with Lithuanian entrepreneurs in close collaboration with government development agencies, private sector chambers of commerce, commercial banks and others to identify enterprises that might benefit from its financial services.

The Chairperson of the Baltic American Enterprise Fund is Ambassador, Rozanne L. Ridgway, former Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs and currently a director of some of America's



Rob Medonis, VP/Fin Secretary C-19, Pittsburgh at the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 21, 1995. "I brought Council 19's flag with me on the march and everyone wanted to know what did 'Lietuva' mean."

largest and successful financial and industrial corporations.

Nashville Songwriters' Award Winner

Congratulations to **Bill Montvilo, Jr.** (C-110, Maspeth, NY) for his work with fellow musicians in receiving the Nashville Songwriters Association International Composers award on March 10, 1995.

They had also been nominated for the Dove Award for Song of the Year. The Song, "My Life is in Your Hands" was dedicated to the memory of his deceased mother, Janet Montvilo on singer Kathy Troccoli's album.

MAN OF THE YEAR

The annual "Man of the Year" awards banquet of the L. C.C.A. will honor **Frank Zapolis**, C-36, Chicago for his extended years as Director of the Knights of Lithuania Dancers on Sunday, May 7, 1995 at the Grand Ballroom of the Martinque Restaurant.

MYLIMOJI KARALIENE

Maironis

Lygiems balsams

© Faustas Strolia 1962

Faustas Strolia

p $\text{♩} = 60$

1. My-li- mo - ji Ka - ra - lie - ne, Vieš - pa - ti Dan - gaus, Ne - ap -
 2. Oi ne - duo - ki, Mo - ti - nē - le, man pra - žūt gy - vai! Su - gra -
 3. Kad prie ta - vo nu - my - lė - to dan - giš - ko Sū - naus Šauksiuos

1. leis - ki čia ant Že - mės vargs - tan - čio žmo - gaus! Tu ste -
 2. Žink prie tik - ro Die - vo ei - nan - ti krei - vai, Kad ne -
 3. verk - da - mas per teis - mą vei - do ma - - lo - naus, Duok, kad

f

1. buk - lais iš - gar - sė - jus, Vil - ti - Ta - vi - mi pa - dė - jus, *p* Ne - ap -
 2. rūš - tin - čiau Jo vei - do, Kurs tiek kar - tų man at - lei - do Nuo - dė -
 3. Teis - mas Jo bai - sin - gas Man iš - pul - tų ma - lo - nin - gas Va - lan -

p

1. leisk ma - nęs, Ne - ap - leisk ma - nęs.
 2. mių kal - tes, Nuo - dė mių kal - tes.
 3. doj mir - ties, Va - lan - doj mir - ties!

pp *rit.*

LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS

PAVASARIS

MAIRONIS

Faustas Strolia

Akompanimentas Jono Byansko

Lygiems balsams

© 1962 Faustas Strolia

d.=60

Piano introduction in 6/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music features a series of chords and melodic lines in both hands, with dynamic markings *f*, *ff*, and *mf*.

Vocal line starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It begins with a *p* dynamic and includes a *mp* dynamic marking.

1. Pa - va - sa-rio sau-lė pra - švi-to mei-liai Ir juo-ki-a-si, šir-dį vi -
2. Iš - au - šo! Iš-au-šo! Vė - je - lis lau-ky Bu - čiuo-ja, gai- vi- na krū-
3. Taip gied-ra ir links-ma! Tiek švie-čia vil- ties! Vien mei- lę no - rė- tum dai-

Piano accompaniment for the first part of the song, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It includes dynamic markings *p*, *mf*, and *mp*.

Vocal line for the second part of the song, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It includes dynamic markings *mf* and *f*.

lio - ja: Is - ki - lo i dan- gy aukš- tai vie - ver- siai, Čy -
 ti - ne: Pa - bi - ro, pa- skli- do zie - dai ant lan- ku - Vai-
 nuo - ti, Ap - im - ti pa- sau - lį, pri- glaust prie šir- dies, Su

Piano accompaniment for the second part of the song, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It includes dynamic markings *mf* and *f*.

F. Strolia-Pavasaris. ž. Maironio. akomp. J. Byansko (lyg. bals.) 2

allargando e molto cresc. **ff**

re - na, spar - ne - liais plas - no - ja, Iš - ki - lo į dan - gų aukš -
ni - kū ei - lė pir - mu - ti - nė, Pa - bi - ro, pa - skli - do žie -
mei - le sal - džiai pa - bu - čiuo - ti, Ap - im - ti pa - sau - lį, pri -

allargando e molto cresc. **ff**

mf *mp* *p* *pp* **Fine**
(3. p. ◡)

tai vie - ver - šiai. Cy - re - na, spar - ne - liais plas - no - ja.
dai ant lan - kū - Vai - ni - kū ei - lė pir - mu - ti - nė.
glaust prie šir - dės. Su mei - le sal - džiai pa - bu - čiuo - ti.

rit. *a tempo* *p* *pp* **Fine**
(3. p. ◡)

mf *mf* *mp* *p* **DS.**
al **Fine**

Knights of Lithuania 82nd National Convention

August 9 - 13, 1995

REGISTRATION & RATE INFORMATION

CONVENTION REGISTRATION RATES:

Early Registration (deadline July 1st)	\$95.00
Late Registration (after July 1st)	\$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-together Party, Cultural Night, Lunch Friday and Saturday, Convention Banquet and Sunday Brunch.

HOTEL:

NOVI HILTON • 21111 Haggerty Road • Novi, MI 48375 • (810) 349-4000

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 and time)* _____ *(circle)* Plane or Auto

Approximate Departure *(date and 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

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



Knights of Lithuania Council 102

A PROFILE OF SERVICE TO OTHERS

Part I - The early years

Editor's note: This is the first part of a three part profile on C-102, Detroit, our host council for this year's K of L national convention. The information and photos were compiled by the convention committee, with special thanks to HM, Bob Boris and Vincent Boris.

On March 4, 1920, the Rev. Fabijonas Kemesis, pastor of St. George's Parish, Detroit, gathered a small group of Lithuanians living on the west side of Detroit who would form the nucleus of a new Knights of Lithuania Council to discuss organizational matters and meet with visiting Chicagoan Ignas Karosis, the then National President of the Knights of Lithuania. At that time, St. George's was the only Lithuanian parish in Detroit and the home parish of Knights of Lithuania Council 79. There was already established a strong effort aided by Fr. Kemesis to organize a new Lithuanian Parish on Detroit's west side where many more recently arrived Lithuanians had settled. Elected as officers of the prospective council were: Juozas Taukus, President; Rapolas Piragis, Vice-President; M. Balnius, Financial Secretary; and, Jonas Nakas, Treasurer. Fr. Kemesis agreed to serve as Spiritual Advisor. The new council was granted a charter and assigned the designation as Council 102; the new parish was named in honor of St. Anthony and officially became the home of C-102.

The group was very active from its very inception and several social functions were planned during that first winter. A choir was formed under the leadership of composer Alexander Aleksis who became an important cultural influence on the whole



*Photos: Top - Rev. Ignas Boreisis, founding Pastor of St. Anthony's Lithuanian Parish and Altar of St. Anthony's Christmas (circa 1935)
Bottom - Council 102 "junior" choir (circa 1923). Courtesy of C-102 archives and HM, Bob Boris.*



Detroit-Lithuanian community. Also in 1920, a young Lithuanian, Ignatius F. Boreisis, completed his studies at the Sts. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan, and was ordained into the priesthood. (It might be noted that several Lithuanians had come to study for the priesthood at this Polish sponsored seminary and had even formed their own K of L council - 54.) The Council 102, K of L Choir performed outstandingly during the ceremonies. Newly ordained Fr. Boreisis was assigned the task of organizing St. Anthony's. With the formation of the parish and completion of the church building in 1925, the council found it had a true focal point for its activities and rapidly grew in membership.

In the early years of Council 102, many dances, plays, concerts and other cultural events were sponsored during the winter months; summers were filled with sports and picnic outings. Profits from these ventures were usually shared with the parish so that Council 102 was responsible for many of the improvements in church facilities. Perhaps the most noteworthy was the raising of \$6,000.00 to purchase a new pipe organ for the church. The Knights also maintained a lively interest in their ethnic heritage and responded to needs of their newly independent ancestral homeland. They always took the lead in the celebration of Lithuanian Independence Day and other national observances.

Sports played a very important role in the life of the council which fielded teams in both baseball and basketball. Together with the teams of other ethnic groups, citywide leagues were formed. Regional tournaments with Knights in neighboring cities were arranged. With the advent of World War II, however, many members were called to serve their country in the armed forces, and the sports activities of Council 102 were curtailed. The group was kept together through the untiring efforts of their energetic President, Helen Zaliagiris-Smolek. Together with a number of other young women, she carried on a correspondence campaign and sent packages to K of L members in the armed services. After the war, Fr. Boreisis called a special meeting and the council was revitalized. Many new members were recruited and Council 102 became one of the largest councils in the country. Once more baseball, bowling, concerts, dances and dramatic presentations were undertaken. A new choir was formed to sing at High Mass every Sunday.

Next Month - The Post War Period



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

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

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IN THE SERVICE OF LITHUANIA

Meet the Members of the Embassy Staff

Part two of a two part overview of the Lithuanian Embassy Staff. See April issue for part one.

In December 1993, Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas took up duty as Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United States. The embassy was gradually assigned staff. Last month, we featured a brief biography of four of the Embassy staff, this month, the remaining members.

*The Embassy of the
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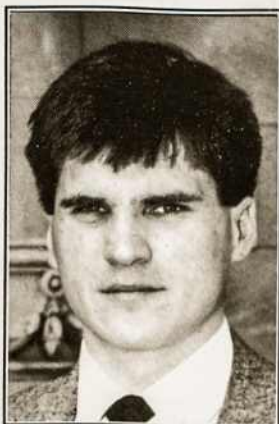


Darius Prankevičius **Second Secretary**

Mr. Prankevičius arrived at the Embassy on November 16, 1993 to take the position of Second Secretary in charge of economic affairs. Darius' tasks include working with U.S. economic, trade and finance authorities; performing economic analyses, and arranging for trade and other financial negotiations.

He was born in Vilnius on May 2, 1967. Being attracted to the exact sciences particularly to mathematics, he matriculated at Vilnius University in 1985 and entered the School of Economics; but, his formal education was interrupted by two years of involuntary duty with the Soviet Army. After completing military service, Darius rejoined the University from which he graduated with honors with a degree in economics in 1992.

Darius is somewhat of popular celebrity as well, having been a part-time newscaster on the popular Lithuanian TV news programs "Panorama" and "News." His youthful good looks, excellent presentation and attractive persona drew a fairly large following. Nevertheless, he accepted a position with the Press and Information Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and graduation, transferred to the Political section to work in developing relationships with the European Union. After completing (with distinction) a Diplomat Training Program with the Hoover Institute at Stanford University, he returned to service with the Economics section of the Foreign Ministry.



Ramūnas Astrauskas

While not in the formal diplomatic service and despite his youth, Ramūnas Astrauskas is the longest-term employee at the Embassy, having taken a position at the embassy in February 1992. He has, and does, perform a variety of duties: processing visas; fielding questions on citizenship; validating other documentation; arranging and overseeing the absentee balloting in the 1992 Lithuanian elections by U.S.-resident Lithuanian citizens. Since December 1993, he has been given various administrative duties as well as responsibility for personnel matters concerning the embassy employees. To use an American term, Ramūnas is a "jack of all trades." He can be seen in roles as diverse as official photographer (He, in fact, took the photographs for this article.) and as chauffeur for the Ambassador.

Ramūnas Astrauskas was born in Vilnius on November 25, 1966; finished middle school #40, in Vilnius, and attended Vilnius University. He was enrolled in the Department of Natural Sciences and was pursuing a course in Ecology when, in the fall of 1991, he and his wife, Asta, decided to come to the United States. His wife is now furthering her medical training as a doctor at a clinic in Washington, D.C.



Kerry Stromberg

Having joined the embassy staff in 1994, Ms. Stromberg is one of the newest of the employees. Ms. Stromberg performs secretarial and other administrative functions for the Embassy. In addition, she assists the Ambassador on educational and cultural issues. She is responsible for expanding educational programs and student exchanges between the U.S. and Lithuania. Ms. Stromberg is also involved in developing relations with U.S. foundations and other organizations which might assist in the reformation of the Lithuanian educational system and support cultural development.

Kerry is a third generation Lithuanian-American. She attended Villanova University and served as Student Government President in her final year. She earned her baccalaureate degree in Communications and Business. From 1991 to 1993, she lived in Lithuania where she taught English and Public Speaking at both Vilnius University and the Institute for Advanced Training of Teachers in Vilnius. She also conducted seminars in various other Lithuanian cities and delivered lectures as part of the In-country orientation of the U.S. Peace Corps volunteers and as part of the A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education) summer seminar series. She also guest lectured at the Vilnius Pedagogical Institute.

She has been active in Lithuanian American community activities. She was a member of the "Berželio" Folk Dance group of Hartford, Connecticut, and has been a member of the Coordinating Committee of the Neringa Summer Camp in Vermont.

Leonard Linas Orentas - Advisor for Economic Affairs

Mr. Orentas has been with the embassy since the fall of 1992 and is primarily concerned with business and economic activities. In cooperation with the U.S. Baltic Foundation, he participated in the organizing of the second American-Lithuanian business conference in June of 1993; and, in the fall of the same year, he helped organize the Lithuanian American Community, Inc. economic conference in California. His current responsibilities include development of marketing for Lithuanian exports to the United States; encouraging investments in Lithuania; and, promoting relations with U.S. commerce and trade institutions.



Born on March 11, 1967 in West Hartford, Connecticut, Linas is a first-generation Lithuanian-American, as is his wife, Nerija. They have an eight year old daughter, Joana. He is a graduate of Central Connecticut State University with a Bachelors Degree in Political Science and a minor in Economics. During his student years, he served for two and a half years in various positions for the State Senate Republicans.

Linas has maintained a high level of interest and participation in ethnic, social and religious activities. In 1987, he filled a summer intern position at the Joint Baltic-American National Committee. He has been very active within the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc. (LAC), in Hartford where he was most active with the youth section. During 1991-1992, he was employed by the LAC National Executive Committee. He is a member of Ateitininkai and former member of his Lithuanian parish council in Hartford.

Thomas Michalskis, Ph.D. Secretary and Special Assistant to the Ambassador

Dr. Michalskis assumed his position in December 1993 with the arrival of Ambassador Alfonsas Eidintas. He performs a variety of functions necessary for the fulfillment of the Embassy's mission in an institutional sense, including internal and external communications with a wide range of constituencies.



Born in Brooklyn, New York, on December 3, 1938, Tom is a third generation Lithuanian American. As a member of Mary, Queen of Angels parish in Brooklyn and a member of Council 41 of the Knights of Lithuania, Tom grew up with an involvement in Lithuanian American affairs. His wife, Helen Matusevicius, from Maspeth, New York, was also a K of L member.

Tom attended Fordham University where he studied Political Science and International Relations and did graduate work in Soviet and East European Studies. He earned his Doctorate at the University of Buffalo. In addition, he completed two years of study on Germanistics at Hamburg University in Germany. His experience includes 20 years in educational administration, teaching and research. He is an author of a considerable number of articles, abstracts and translations. He is fluent in English, Lithuanian, and German and has a lesser capability in Russian and Polish.



HM Anne Wargo gave Vytis a great Lithuanian cookbook, Virėja, by K. Petrikienė, ©1937, Amerikos Lietuvių Darbininkų Literatūros Draugija.

The book sold for one dollar and there was even a special section that listed those who sold the most books. Rev. Daniel Yenkevich of Our Lady of Vilnius, C-12, took the time to try out a few of the recipes and translated them for this month's issue. Aciu, to Anne Wargo and Rev. Daniel.

BAVARIAN RED CABBAGE

1 1/2 lb. head of red cabbage
3 Tbs butter or bacon drippings 1 large onion, minced
1 large tart apple, peeled and sliced
1 cup hot water
1/3 cup vinegar 2 tablespoons brown sugar 5 whole cloves
1 teaspoon salt

Shred the cabbage. Melt butter in pan in which the

cabbage is to be cooked. Add onion and cook slowly until soft and yellow. Add cabbage, apple, water, vinegar, sugar, cloves and salt. Toss together. Cover and cook just until cabbage is wilted. Uncover and cook 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Enjoy.

SAUSAGE & KRAUT

4 slices bacon, cut into 1 inch pieces
1/2 lb. boneless pork, cut into 1/2 inch cubes
1/4 cup chopped onions
1/2 lb. Polish sausage, sliced
1/4 cup dry white wine
1 4-oz. can sliced mushrooms
1 1/2 tsp instant beef bouillon granules
3/4 tsp paprika
1 bay leaf
1 16-oz can sauerkraut, drained and snipped
2 tablespoons cornstarch

METHOD:

In a 3 quart saucepan cook bacon till crisp. Drain, reserving drippings, set aside.

Brown pork cubes and onions in bacon drippings. Stir in cooked bacon, sliced sausage, wine, undrained mushrooms, beef bouillon, paprika, bay leaf and 2 1/2 cups water, cover, and simmer about 1 hour or till pork is tender. Remove bay leaf: discard. Stir in sauerkraut. Stir 1/4 cup cold water into cornstarch. Add to sauerkraut mixture: cook and stir till thickened and bubbly. Cook and stir 1 to 2 minutes more. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

NOTE:

I sometimes alter this recipe. I do not like to add cornstarch. Also I like to mix fresh cabbage (shredded) with the sauerkraut.

HUNGARIAN GOULASH **Vengrų Gulažas**

2 lbs. lean veal
2 tablespoons cooking oil
3/4 cup flour
1 tablespoon red pepper, i.e. paprika
1 onion
1 medium clove garlic
1 cup boiling water
salt

Cut up the meat into medium sized cubes; flour the meat on all sides. Pour the cooking oil (or lard) into the cooking pot and heat on high heat, and brown the floured meat on all sides. Add the finely cut up garlic clove, the sliced onion;

sprinkle with salt and one tablespoon paprika, adding to it one cup of boiling water, and over a light flame cook for one hour.

RICE PUDDING WITH APPLES

Ryžių su Obuoliais Pudingas

1/2 cup rice
3 eggs
1 cup milk
1/2 cup sugar
cinnamon or nutmeg
2 apples

Cook the rice as directed, until soft. Drain and rinse with cold water, and drain thoroughly. Place in bowl, add sugar, beaten egg yolks, a bit of salt and flavoring.

While the rice cooked, wash and cut up the apples in three sections, cut out the seeds, place in a covered pot with a little water and boil over light flame until the apples are soft. To the rice fold in the well beaten egg whites, the boiled apples and bake in the oven for 20 minutes.



In Memoriam

Martha V. Akelaitis
C-135, Ansonia, CT
March 27, 1995

Catherine Briscoe
C-3, Philadelphia, PA
Feb. 13, 1995

Frank Kondrotas
C-26, Worcester, MA
Feb 26, 1995

John Umpa
C-78, Lawrence, MA
Feb. 15, 1995
93 years of age
Life Member

Ruth Romsdell
C-26, Worcester, MA
March 7, 1995

Vytautas Targonskis
C-146, Harrisburg, PA
March 1995

Helen B. Bowman
C-146, Harrisburg, PA
Feb. 25, 1995

Marilyn Kapochus
C-3, Philadelphia, PA
March 24, 1995



Blanche Genaitis
C-10, Althol, MA
March 28, 1995

Helen Mallen
C-139, Detroit, MI
June 16, 1994

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Juniors Forum

News & Views about Juniors

I am truly very happy with the response from the Juniors and their participation in the May issue of VYTIS. May, as we know, is dedicated to the Blessed Mother and all mothers! Juniors - continue to fill the VYTIS with your ideas and activities. This is your "space"!

With the 82nd National Convention fast approaching, I am looking forward, along with the convention committee, to meeting all of you in Detroit. The Junior Activities at the convention are being firmed up. You will have your convention meeting on Saturday morning, August 12th! Come prepared to share your thoughts on what you would like to see as a part of the Junior Councils. Come prepared, of course, to renew friendships from previous conventions and, like the regular delegates, make new friends!

Frances R. Petkus
SC 3rd Vice-President



Congratulations to Allen J. Cius, President of Junior C-36, Chicago, shown here with his mother, Joan, for his poem, "Unconditional Love", published on the next page. Allen is 17 and a senior in high school.



Correction to March's Junior article: Omitted was C #50 Juniors (New Haven) thus making eight (8) Junior K of L Councils. My apologies!

Junior Advisor/Council = Lifeline of the Knights of Lithuania
Dedication/time/work

Unconditional Love

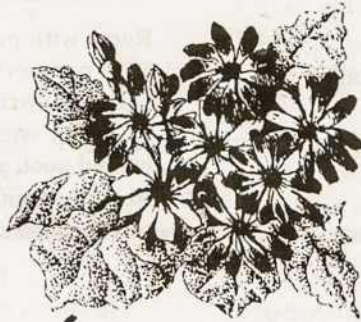
So tell me how much you would pay,
For a mother like this to come your way,
Any amount and the heavens above,
Couldn't win any of my mother's love,

She cared for me ever since I was a child,
With her look and touch always so mild,
As the teen years roll on we grow apart,
But she knows I still love her deep in my heart,

You were always there to be my friend,
You always have plenty of advice to lend,
I will never forget the memories of the past,
Knowing our relationship will always last,

When the time comes for me to go away,
I'd know the words I'd want, but just can't say,
Good-bye to the mom who loved me from day one,
She as my mom, me as her son.

*Allen J. Cius,
Pres. of Jrs. C-36, Chicago*



Juniors' Honorable Mentions:

It's refreshing to see children of one family write about their mother, each expressing love in a different style. Congratulations to Mary and Anna Cius for their poetry and prose.

My Mother

My Mother, My Mother
She's nice and funny,
better than lots of money
she takes care of me everyday,
hugs me, loves me, and works and
cleans twelve to nine with that
cleaning, smelling pine.
So that's my mother and I
don't want another.

Mary Cius
Juniors C-36, Age 11

My Mother

My mom is the greatest because she takes care of me. She is always there when I need her. She is always home when I get out of school. She gives me treats, and helps me with my homework. When my mother goes to the store, most of the time she buys me things. My mother is always worried if my clothes are clean, or if I have enough of food to eat. She always keeps the house clean. I think my mother is a very special person. I love my mom. Thank God for giving me such a great mom.

Anna Cius, Juniors C-36, Age 8

Here is a summary of remarks about pastors of a typical Catholic parish:

If his homily is long: "He puts us to sleep."
If it's short: "He is unprepared."
If he raises his voice: "He's shouting."
If he speaks normally: "We can't hear him."
If he's away: "He's always on vacation."
If he stays home: "He doesn't have a life."
If he's in the rectory: "He never visits his parish."
If he mentions finances: "He always talking money."
If he doesn't: "Our parish never does anything."
If he's young: "He has no experience."
If he's older: "When will he retire?"

And, of course, if he dies: "No one can EVER replace him!"



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Kalbėkime Lietuviškai



Meals

In Lithuanian, there are two words for eating: **ėsti** for animals and **valgyti** for human beings. The following is a typical conversation at breakfast:

Let's Speak Lithuanian !



Labas rytas.
Ar pusryčiai paruošti?
Tuoju bus.
Belaukdamas,
prašau, padenk stalą.
Mielai. Kur yra indai?
Spintoj, ant lentynų.
Padėk juos ant stalo.
Ar tu nori arbatos?
Ne. Prašau, duok man
apelsinų sunkos ir
minkštai ar kietai virtą
kiaušinį.
Kokios duonos tu nori:
juodos ar baltos?
Jurgi, ką tu valgai?
Aš valgau duoną su uogiene.
Prašau, duok taip pat man.
Prašau. Gero apetito.

Good Morning.
Is breakfast ready?
It will be right away.
While you are waiting
please set the table.
Gladly. Where are the dishes?
In the cabinet, on the shelves.
Put them on the table.
Do you want some tea?
No. Please give me
some orange juice and
a soft - or hard - boiled
egg.
What kind of bread do you want,
rye bread or white bread?
Jurgis, what are you eating?
I'm eating bread with jam.
Please give me some, too.
Here it is. Bon appetit.

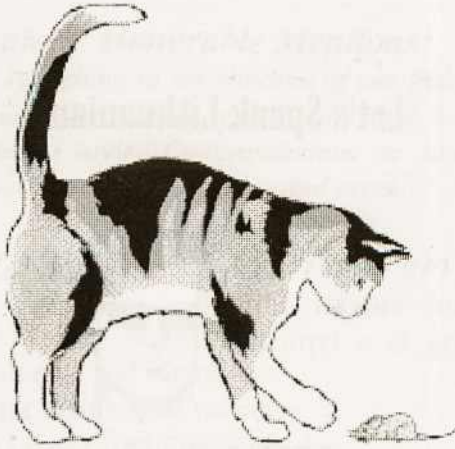
-From "Easy Way to Lithuanian" lessons and tapes, available through Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago.

Hints on how to pronounce - a

this letter denotes a long, open central vowel sound similar to the *a* in English *father*. Examples: **vyra** "man" (acc. singular), **ta** "that", **ažuolas** "oak".

ž

Pronounced like the *s* in the English word, *measure* or the *g* in the word, *rouge* or *genre*. Examples: **žilas** "grey", **žioplys** "joker or dopey", **žolė** "grass".



DANDY, A CALICO CAT

Antonia M. Wackell, C-26, Worcester, MA

During a World War, there was always an absence or a shortage of commodities: flour, butter, sugar, coffee rationed, and travel by automobile was restricted. Lesser quantities of oil had to be allocated for homes and buildings, so that it was necessary to close off rooms and areas to conserve the precious warmth.

One evening, in our large stove-heated kitchen (the furnace, of course, was lacking fuel), we were startled to hear vague sounds issuing from the piano in the closed-off parlor. Softly, scarcely audible at first, then with force, the notes seemed to run up and down repeatedly. A brief lull. Suddenly, a jarring thump!

Someone among us whispered: "Ghooooosts!" One, more courageous than the rest, jumped up to investigate as to who, or what manner of ghost would be striking the keys in a cold room, and the piano was always closed. Slowly, the stouthearted one opened the door. The ceiling light flashed on. Cautiously, the kitchen fraternity jammed behind to act as a rearguard--in case?

So preoccupied and fascinated by the sounds created, the ghost--we looked and gasped--was...Dandy! Dandy, unaware of the sudden brightness in the room, nor of us intruders, was about to strike the keys when sudden screams: " Daaandy! " . . . " Dandy-y-y?" startled the frightened feline into a nose-dive from the piano. He leaped through space, and raced from the room to disappear under the kitchen stove. All nine lives were safe! Although trembling with fear, they were safe! Here they would stay!

Dandy, a calico cat, with many years and experiences behind him, snubbed all temptations, cajolery, former delicacies to lure him out from under his security. He growled at all attempts, all endearments for appeasement. He had been terrified, offended and humiliated! They had frightened him--so much so--he was still trembling. The screams, yells, and then that pesky laughter!... It was all too much for his delicate constitution!

He would never divulge how he happened to be in that room. Nor that he had had long enjoyable catnaps on all the soft chairs. Nor how long he had been confined. They will never know! Let them wonder... he was safe under the stove where they could not reach him NOR enter themselves...so let them wonder.

As for us, the collective assertion was: "We did not go into the parlor, and we did not let him in!" We could only suppose that when Dandy (however he managed to enter a banned zone) discovered that there was no exit for him, he reacted in true feline craftiness--to make sounds on that monster something--or else--waste slowly away...!

It was a long war. Traveling continued to be restricted. Sugar and coffee still rationed. Heating oil was insufficient. So, for a long time, if Dandy was not visible, the cold parlor and equally cold rooms were hastily checked for a canny, would-be-virtuoso called Dandy, a calico cat. ❖❖❖

Council News '95

Amber District

by Agnes Mickunas

The Amber District's St. Casimir's Day celebration was hosted by C - 3 Philadelphia on Sunday Spiritual Advisor celebrated the Mass at St. Casimir's Church.

The District's Ritual Committee comprised of Helen Chesko, Anne Challan and Dianne Drumstas, awarded Third Degrees to: Rev. Joseph Anderlonis, C - 3 Philadelphia; Barbara Miller, C - 72 Binghamton; Josephine Maniks, C - 144 Anthracite and Helen Paskey, C - 144 Anthracite.

Warmest congratulations to our new Third Degree recipients. Valio!

Our annual raffle for the District Treasury, under the direction of Joseph Danacho, C - 118 Hazleton was a success. We appreciate the efforts of Joe along with his wife which resulted in a successful conclusion. Our thanks to all the Knights of Lithuania who supported this most important venture.

We are pleased that Joanna Gilbert, President of C - 146 Harrisburg has agreed to chair this raffle for the coming year.

It was necessary to cancel District plans for another trip to Kennebunkport this coming June. Instead, C - 144 Anthracite has agreed to look into the possibility of spearheading a District picnic in their area in either June or early July.

The Amber District congratulates the new VYTIS Editor, Maryte Abbott, on her appointment. Our best wishes and support to Maryte and her staff.

President Elsie Kosmisky, Rev. Joseph Anderlonis, Dorothy Banos, Anna Wargo, Helen Chesko, John and Agnes Mickunas, Nellie B. Romanas and John Mankus attended the Supreme Council meeting held in Worcester, on March 25.



Very Patriotic Lithuanians at Kennebunkport from C-26, Worcester, MA: Aldona Waska, Lillian Kondrotas and Victoria Augustine



New England District

by Aldona Marcavage

The NED board meeting began when President Bertha Stoskus invited Deacon Al Jarvis to say the opening prayer. This included a special prayer for A.A. Benedict Coach, President of Westfield C-30, a very active member and much loved Knight. He will be missed by all. Our sympathies to Cookie and family.

The secretary and treasurer's report brought us up to date. Robert Boris sent thanks for our contribution to *Aid to Lithuania*. Eduardas Meilus sent his regrets and explanation for leaving the Editor's job of VYTIS. Best wishes on his new venture.

The NED Spring Convention took place on April 30th in Westfield. The meeting and a brunch followed the 11 am Mass at St. Casimir's.

Irene Tamulevich announced this year's Holy Hour will be May 21, 1995 at Our Lady of Vilnius Church in S. Worcester at 3 pm. Refreshments will

be served later at Maironis Park. Contact Irene for tickets and information.

Since plans for the Franciscan Guest House have changed this year, a vote was taken regarding the annual NED Retreat. In spite of a closed kitchen, except for continental breakfast, the inconvenience was overlooked for the pleasure of a spiritual weekend with friends in Kennebunkport. So the retreat is still scheduled for June 23, 24, 25, 1995. A Franciscan father will be Retreat Master. Deposits to cover reservations should be sent to Father Gabriel, but please advise Al Akule of your desire to participate. His telephone number is 1-617-233-3734.

There are three friends who enjoy dressing alike in striking eye-catching outfits of yellow, green and red, each year at Maine retreats. These three little maids from Worcester C-26 are: Aldona Waska, Lillian Kondrotas and Victoria Augustine.

Larry Svelnis reported that the K of L has a bigger room at last at ALKA, but there is much work to be done. He is asking for volunteers to help him. He would like to have this room looking good before he goes into the hospital for a hernia operation.

Co-hosting the October 22, 1995 Cultural Festival at Maironis Park will be Norwood and Providence. Success to Ann Leseman as new C-26 President who will experience playing CEO at this affair for the first time while Rita Pinkus merely observes. The aim this year is to make this more of a children-oriented program. This year the raffle prizes will be money donations rather than gifts.

We are hoping Father Janiunas (C-78) has made a complete recovery and is now enjoying good health once more.

We are saddened by the news that NED lost Martha Akelaitis (C-135, Ansonia) who died on March 27, and Blanche Genaitis (C-10, Althol) who died on March 28, 1995. Blanche will be remembered for her work as a long time member of the Scholarship Committee among other things. May they enjoy the nearness of God in eternity. Our sincerest sympathy to their families.

Supreme Council Trustees are seeking convention sites for 1996. Can Brockton be considered? NED Fall Convention will be hosted

by C-26 Worcester on September 17, 1995.
Su Vytiška Meile.

Mid - Atlantic District

by Marytė

Over a hundred and fifty Knights, friends and family attended the Mid Atlantic District Convention on Sunday, March 26 at Transfiguration Church in Maspeth. A special St. Casimir Celebration began with the Lithuanian Mass where a number of our district ladies donned the beautiful Lithuanian traditional dress and led a procession and prayers to St. Casimir. Mass was celebrated by Msgr. Frank Bulovas, our spiritual advisor and assisted by Fr. Ted Rooney, the new Pastor of this parish. Transfiguration Church choir members added their voices, and this plus the sunshine began a beautiful day.

Third degree medals and certificates were awarded to fourteen members with 8 to 50 years of membership. They are: Council 12, New York - Constance Nehwadowich and Bertha Stanwick; Council 29, Newark - Sally Delunas, Petre Pliskaitis, Dana Rogers and Brone Venckus; Council 109, Great Neck, NY - Bertha and Howard Fuchs, Martha Krug, Jack Malis, Stella Matulionis,



Helen Yakaitis receives her 4th degree as Msgr. Frank Bulovas and Mid-Atlantic District ritual committee officers look on.

Mary Santagata and Mary Ann Wesej; Council 110, Maspeth - Natalie McCormack.

The meal featured a variety of delicious dishes - stuffed cabbage, chicken, desros and kopustai with homemade cakes for dessert. Host council 110's Maspeth knights prepared a festive table filled with everything from a "goodie bag" of favors to a multiple prize raffle.

The meeting featured a number of special guests and speeches. Petras Anusas, the Lithuanian Consulate General in New York spoke of conditions in Lithuania today. He stressed that we Lithuanian - Americans and American - Lithuanians must work

just as hard now after Lithuania's freedom as we did before. Perhaps even more so.

MAD public relations chairman, Romas Kezys spoke about the topic - Lithuania today. Kezys, who is also a local Lithuanian radio personality and communicates with Lithuania on a daily basis, added to the Consulate General's report, by citing high crime, shortages of goods, an unstable taxes and the lack of foreign ownership of land as reasons why foreign investors avoid Lithuania. So far only Philip Morris has built a plant and is conducting business in Lithuania. His was indeed a sad commentary.

Some positive news about Lithuania was offered by Muriel Lekstutis. She reported that a store has opened in Ithaca, NY, which sells garments marked - "Made in Lithuania".

Msgr. Bulovas gave a rousing speech on Lithuania's road from the depths of depression to prosperity. He added that when "Lithuania was down, it didn't look like she would ever get up again". He credited the United States Knights of Lithuania with helping Lithuania prosper in 1939. Hon. Fred Schmidt, former Assemblyman and current Civil Court Judge, who throughout the years had supported many Lithuanian causes, was also a guest along with HM Fr. Stasys Raila, Fr. Jonas Pakalniskis and Jeanne Dorr, a writer for "Bridges"



HM, Rev. Stacys Raila (top left) with Transfiguration Pastor Fr. Ted Rooney, Fr. John Pakalniskis and Msgr. Frank Bulovas at MAD Convention in Maspeth, NY.

and member of the Lithuanian American Community.

Ms. Dorr gave a talk on Lithuanian orphans in the rural communities and on the organization, Lithuania's Forgotten Children. A number of persons and councils have "adopted" orphans through this organization.

Bernice Aviza, President of the Mid Atlantic District, reported on the inclusion of a Lithuanian booth at New York Governor George Pataki's inaugural reception. The booth featured Lithuanian soul food and crafts. One of the highlights of the meeting was the special raffle for increasing the district's treasury.

District Treasurer, Josephine Zukas, reported 332 books sold, adding over \$1,400 to the treasury. Winners were: Mary Blecka of Great Neck - \$100; Ken Case of the Elks Club - \$50; and Nellie Wassel of C - 100, Maspeth - \$25.

Members had a discussion on the possibility of hosting the upcoming National Convention in 1996. Hotel sites such as New York City, Long Island or Albany, NY were discussed as possibilities. No final decision was made as yet. The next MAD meeting will be held on June 11th or 17th (to be announced) in Kearny, NJ.

C-7, Waterbury, CT

by Arlene Stiklius

Our council's Potato Pancake dinner was a huge success and we are grateful to all members and parish people that attended. Special thanks to the cooks Ann Kundrotas and Joan Shukaitis for a job well done. Also, thanks to the kitchen help, Arlene Stiklius, Ann Roach, Diane Gay, Theresa Shukaitis, Doris Snirpunis, Agnes Bauza, Frances Januska and Marge Philbin. The men, Ed Bebrin and Joe Stiklius.

Thank you Joe Stiklius for the new floor in the men and women's rooms. They look very nice.

Welcome home to Father Paul Sabulis, who is now resting at St. Joseph's Rectory. Father Paul

expresses his thanks to all parishioners and K of L members.

The K of L have a Dream Team of their own now and challenge all comers. At center Fr. Frank (Dead Eye) Karvelis, Forwards, Edmund (Lefty) Adams, Edward (Too Tall) White, and Guards, Fr. Paul (Spike) Sabulis and Walter (I can still dribble) Blinn. We have Fr. John (aka Bob Cousey of his day) Rickteraitis. Coaching this great team, none other than Joe Samoska. St. Joseph's Hall will be the home court. Stay tuned for more.

Get well wishes go out to Vincent and Regina Klimas, 5 Dillon Dr., Terryville, CT 06787. Both of whom are recuperating from serious illnesses. Best wishes to Victoria Sillman who had a brief stay in the hospital. Theresa Kacergius is on the mend from her knee surgery. We wish her a 'speedy recovery.

We urge all members to attend our spring meetings. Until then God bless all of you.

C - 12, New York

by Irene Senken

It is fitting and proper to thank the Good Lord for a winter that was not as devastating as the one we had last year. The media did a good job in painting a picture of a very harsh winter and as a result several of our members left for sunny Florida, including yours truly.

Alice Zupko, a member of our council and proprietor of Alice's Palace in North Fort Myers, Florida, has a beautiful home with all of the facilities for comfort and spaciousness. Alice enjoyed having as guests several K. of L's. C - 110 Maspeth, Millie Gregatawicz and Charlotte and Ed Adomaitis. Irene and Ed Senken from C - 12 NY, enjoyed their first visit at Alice's Palace and we all had a wonderful time. We thank Alice for being a gracious hostess and treating us like family.

I have it on good authority that C - 12 send a new group to Alice's to avail themselves of her hospitality, Connie Nehwadowich, Helen and Vincent Cuperwich, Joe Kscenaitis and John Antanavicius.. I am sure that these wonderful people had a good time.

Aldona Kepalaitė, a pianist and the organist at

our home base parish Our Lady of Vilnius, also a member of our council participated in the 77th annual commemoration of Lithuania's Declaration of Independence at the Cultural Center in Brooklyn, NY. She performed various works of Lithuanian composers and two Chopin's compositions. Father Eugene Sawicki, pastor of our and a number of C-12 members enjoyed her performance immensely. We are proud of you Aldona!

Word has it that Joe Sable is ailing and to keep him in our prayers. We wish him a speedy recovery.

C- 16, Chicago, IL

[Bridgeport]



Council 16 would like to congratulate our newest 3rd Degree Members, Diann Martin, Richard Schultz, and MaryBeth Slakis. The medal presentation was made by MidAmerica District Ritual Chairlady, Ann Marie Kassel, on Saturday, March 4, 1995 at the Marian Fathers Monastery during the Mid-America District's Annual St. Casimir's Day Commemoration and Spring Meeting. Diann, Richard and MaryBeth join fellow members Stella Kaulakis, Deborah Rudmin, Kenneth Rudmin, Christine Schultz, Robert Martin, Jr. and Peter Zansitis in this honor.

Council 16 is keeping busy with local works. Members, along with fellow Lithuanian Group, St. George L.A.B.A.S., in sending much needed supplies to Sr. Gemma, S.S.C. who is working with orphans in Lithuania. A total of five boxes were shipped for a Easter arrival. The shipping costs were underwritten by St. George L.A.B.A.S. We wish to thank them for their continued good works for Lithuania and their wonderful spirit of camaraderie they share with our council.

We are sponsoring a Caribbean Cruise this year for New Year's aboard the *NORWAY*. We invite all our fellow Knights to join us as we toast out 1995 and welcome in 1996 while sailing through the Caribbean. The cruise will leave from Miami on Saturday, December 30, 1995 and WI to St. Thomas, St. John, St. Maarten, and Norwegian Cruise Line's Private Island. Contact Rita at 1-800-422-3190 for more information or to register

to join us, The cost is \$1,350.00 per person and includes airfare from most U. S. cities.

C - 29, Newark, NJ

by Eva Coll

On November 27th, our members rolled up their sleeves and helped our Parish with its Pre - Advent Pancake Dance. There were many chores involved in making this affair a success. We started with the clean - up crew, before and after, then the kitchen crew, that not only prepares a delicious luncheon, but stays on to help fry the pancakes the whole afternoon. The pancake crew, consisting of potato peelers, graters, mixers and fryers. We also had pancake sales people, waitresses, bartenders, raffle sellers and runners. Thanks to all our members and parishioners for all their help and dedication in making this affair a financial success. Aciu! Aciu! Aciu!

On December 4th we celebrated our Christmas party. Chairpersons Donna Rogers and Nellie Krynicki did a great job in making this a happy and merry event. A table was set up with two punch bowls (one with, one without) and a variety of delicious appetizers started the merry making. Immediately following was a catered buffet, consisting of chicken, roast beef and all the trimmings. Some of our ladies volunteered to make a dessert table with a variety of cakes, cookies and puddings. Everything was delicious. We thank Donna and Nellie and all their helpers for a terrific job!

On January 15 we held our annual Chinese auction. We usually hold this affair in November, but we had to cancel at that time and postpone it until January. Since this is a good moneymaker we made sure that we had it. Margie Brazaitis has chaired this affair for many years and we thank her and her committee for a job well done.

On February 12 we celebrated Lithuania's Independence Day with a special 10 AM Mass held at Holy Trinity Church. After the Mass, members gathered in the hall for a regular monthly meeting. During the meeting, one of our members, Dr. Yudd made an appeal for some much needed financial

help to be sent to Lithuania. Dr. Yudd has been involved in collecting and sending medical supplies used equipment to Lithuania for some time. A collection was taken up from our members in attendance and the total collected was \$300. In addition our council contributed \$200. Thank you all!

February 26 - Pre-Lenten Pancake Dance. Yup! Our council turns out for this one too! All the same workers, all the same chores and I am left with the same sentiments: I ask God to bless all of our members and parishioners who participated! Thank you all.

On March 5 we celebrated our annual Communion Breakfast after the 10 AM Mass. The Mass was made special by members Donna Rogers and Loretta Stukas who wore their authentic Lithuanian national costumes. Some of our men wore their juostas. There was the usual procession to the altar bearing gifts in honor of St. Casimir. Nellie Krymicki and Donna Rogers did such a good job chairing the Christmas party so we grabbed them again to chair this one too. Father Anthony Paskus was our guest speaker. He spoke about the hardships existing in Lithuania today. Marie Guoba suggested that if everyone would put 25 cents in the bank everyday during Lent we could accumulate a sizable amount which we could send to Lithuania's aid. Good idea Marie! I'll follow up with the results in my next report.



C - 50, New Haven, CT

by Audrey Toole

Council 50 held a very successful St. Casimir's Day dinner. The delicious home cooked food was prepared by Theresa Strimaitis and her committee, while Irene Meizies and her efficient committee worked on the serving and other details. The St. Casimir's church hall was appropriately decorated with Lithuanian flags. Father David Krahel spoke on the importance of retaining our Lithuanian ethnicity.

We continue to keep in our prayers all members who have been ailing and recuperating these past

few months: Ruth Perette, Frank Gybowski, Al and Eleanor Gutauskas, Ann Rinkevicius, Mary Yanus and Marcie Stadolnik. We pray in a special way for our seriously ill spiritual advisor Father Karalis! Our sympathy is extended to the family of deceased member Stanley Morcus.

St. Casimir's Church held its annual Palm Sunday Food Fair with the help of Council 50 members. Lithuanian sausage and other tasty foods and home baked goods were available to eat and to take home.

Our president, Isabel Peterson is working hard and attending to her many duties. She makes herself available to help in any way. We do appreciate her endeavors.

C -96, Dayton, OH by Fran Petkus

As March comes to an end we know Winter is on its way out. But, March also is the month the K of L councils and districts hold Masses for our Patron, Saint Casimir. On March 5th our Religious Chair, James Geiger took charge of the occasion making all the arrangements for the day.

Members assembled in the church hall prior to the 9:30 AM Mass. Our Sgt-atArms, Robert Pant, lead us into church carrying the councils special cross which had been hand carved by George Mikalauskas. Fr. Michael Holloran had a special homily using St. Casimir's life style as an example we might want to follow. Molly Geiger carrying the white lily and Henry Pant carrying a picture of St. Casimir placed both at the St. Casimir's Altar. Offertory Bearers were Amy Berczelly, James and Eric Geiger.

At the end of Mass Aldona Ryan HM lead the members and parishioners in the litany of St. Casimir in Lithuanian. This was followed with the formal presentation of the First Degree to Amy Berczelly, Molly Geiger and Henry Pant by Ritual Committee member, Eloise A. Berczelly. The Second Degree presentation was made by Ritual Chair, Frances R. Petkus to James and Eric Geiger. Services concluded with the singing of the Vyciu Himnas.

Members and guests headed to the Radisson Inn



L to R - (Top) C-96 Ritual, Eloise Berczelly presents Eric and James Geiger 2nd Degrees with Fran Petkus, Ritual Chair. (Bottom) Eloise and Fran present Henry Pant, Molly Geiger and Amy Berczelly their 1st Degrees.

for a buffet lunch. With this taking place in a private room, we were able to hold our monthly meeting as members finished eating. It was a wonderful day well spent. In town for this special program was our Nashville, TN member, Mark Bell and his mother, Jean.

Sports Chair, Joseph Fletcher, has set the practice dates for those who are planning to bowl in the Mid-Central District's Annual Tournament. Most of us had not picked up a ball since last year's tournament, some longer than that. But, Mother Nature was kind by not letting us have too much pain from unused muscles. Fran Petkus came home from a very busy Supreme Council meeting in Worcester, MA on March 25th. Several members helped in the cleaning of the Stations of the Cross, etc., following the completion of the painting of the interior of Holy Cross Church.

Get well wishes are extended to Bernadette Noreikas, Annadel Miller and Dorothy Conrady.

Happy Thoughts! Happy Day!



C - 102, Detroit, MI

by Mariuté

On March 5, Council 79 hosted the St. Casimir Day Mass at Divine Providence Church. Breakfast followed at the Pancake House. After breakfast some members returned to Divine Providence Social Hall to participate in the Scouts' Festival.

At our March meeting we welcomed new member Joe Stanulis, cousin of Michael Vichinsky. Michael and his daughter Kristen drive every month from Chelsea, Michigan, to attend Mass and meetings - such dedicated members. With the absence of our Cultural Chairwoman, Donna Stanievich, we missed her monthly interesting reports. Donna was visiting her Dr. Son and family in Buffalo, NY. HM Bob Boris found some very interesting memorabilia about the formation of

Council 102, 75 years ago. It included the first minutes of the first meeting, pictures of members, the start of the building of St. Anthony's Church, and other interesting facts that everyone enjoyed. Don't know where Bob finds all this information, but we are lucky to have him as a member. Bob also nominated Antanas Balsys, of Vilnius, Lithuania to enroll in our council. Bob also reported that we sent 2 more containers to Lithuania. Bob received a call from a non-Lithuanian woman in California, who wanted information on how to send a 40 foot container of medicine and clothing to Lithuania. Bravo! Bob Boris for the presidency of the United States!

Deepest apologies to Helen Smolek and Edna Klucens, for having omitted their names for earning The Good Merit Badges at our October Pilgrimage. SORRY. Helen along with the Medonis have returned from another winter in Florida, now if we can only get the Bunikis back, our Council would be in full swing.

Our Convention Committee is working diligently on the convention and has everything under control. We hope for a large turnout. The convention is August 9 - 13, at the Novi Hilton, Novi, Michigan.

Deepest sympathies to Theres Shea on the passing of her sister. Ruth Wagster was blessed

with another great-grandchild. The two brothers received a baby sister.

Hoping to see you all in May at the Mid-Central District meeting and Bowling Tournament in Southfield, MI, and in August at the National Convention.

C-110, Maspeth, NY

by Bruno Rutkunas



Our March meeting was a brief one, held on Sat. Mar. 25, in order to prepare the church hall for the MAD convention on Sunday the 26th. Membership approved sponsoring a full page ad in the journal commemorating the 82nd National Convention. Members also authorized a generous donation to the Transfiguration Church for the

use of their hall and facilities. Jean Mactutis, our financial secretary, reported that almost 300 members have rejoined the Knights, in spite of the recent 50% increase in membership dues. After our light brunch, everyone helped Mary Stelmokas, Chairperson, to set up the tables, decorations, raffle gifts, etc. for the MAD meeting the next day.

Thanks to the efforts of Pastor Father "Ted", the extraordinary painting of St. Casimir was relocated to the front of the Transfiguration Church and dedicated at the 11:15 mass; a total of 14 K of L members received their 3rd degrees at this mass.

All went well at the District meeting and brunch; guests included Hon. Judge Fred Schmidt, Peter Anusas, Lithuanian Consulate and Jeanne Dorr, active in orphan care. (See Mid Atlantic District meeting, elsewhere in this issue.)

Bishop John Daly led the procession in Maspeth on Good Friday afternoon which involved participation by three Catholic churches - Holy Cross, St. Stanislaw and Transfiguration. Hundreds of parishioners walked by the churches saying prayers in English, Polish and Lithuanian for the 14 Stations of the Cross. This touching and memorable event was later shown on some local TV stations!

Violet Zvirblis has resigned as Vytis Correspondent for personal reasons.

C - 140, Syracuse, NY

by Frank R. Petrauskas

Pusbrolis

Mike Wilton retired from the IRS on October 1, 1994. Mike was an investigator and he was involved with a number of important cases over the years. On one case he worked along with the FBI in which a former Syracuse mayor was caught and convicted in a 1½ million dollar kickback scheme.

Upon his retirement, Mike was featured in the *Syracuse Post - Standard* in a nice big article. We all wish him well in the months and years down the road. Mike and his two daughters, Meg and Marcia, are members of C - 140. Now he will have more time to go golfing with two other retirees, Dan Petrick and Frank Petrauskas.

We would like to welcome some new members: Dan Petrick and his wife Mary Margaret. Dan is a native of Minersville and St. Francis parish. Mary Margaret is a Syracuse native. Dan is a recent retiree of the B. G. Sulzle Company and Mary Margaret is a Avon representative. They are a welcome addition to our council. Dan is a HAM radio operator and he is able to receive Radio Vilnius frequently and is in contact with a number of Lithuanian radio operators throughout the United States.

We also welcome Christopher Lawton, who was born in July of 1994. The proud parents are Ann Marie and Chuck Lawton. Proud grandparents are Jack and Catherine Brandt and proud great-grandmother is Katherine Cravetts. Chris brought his parents to our St. Casimir's Mass and celebration and received a lot of attention. He is a friendly little fella!

Council 140 turned 20 years old in 1994. We celebrated in October with a Mass and a brunch at Act II restaurant with a nice turnout of members and guests. Much has happened in those 20 years and we did some reminiscing as we visited with each other.

Our Christmas brunch was held at the same restaurant and we had another nice turnout. Everyone was in a good mood and we exchanged holiday greetings before we departed.

Independence celebration began with Mass and

Fran Marlin of C-141, Bridgeport, CT, the winner of the first lottery prize, at St. Casimir's Celebration.



after a program and a short meeting. The refreshments were provided by Cassie Stanley and Ruth Hare. Cassie does this each year. She was born on St. Casimir's feastday and she and John were married on Lithuania's Independence Day - February 16, therefore these dates are special for this couple. Participating with us was Father Peter Gleba, St. Stephen's new pastor. It looked like he really enjoyed himself.

St. Casimir's celebration began with Mass followed by a reading about St. Casimir. Refreshments were provided by Veronica Sutkus, who took good care of us. It was good to see Joy Diorio and Walter and Anne Guentert. Walt and Anne live in New Hartford, which is near Utica. They join us whenever they are able.

Congratulations to Veronica Sutkus and John Stanley who were the winners of the Amber District raffle. Congratulations also to Frank and Irene Petrauskas on their new granddaughter.

Son Matt and his wife Jean went to China and adopted 2 year old Christina Marie. In May, 1994, Ann Petrauskas graduated from SUNY in Binghamton with a degree in nursing. She is now working for the University of New Mexico Hospital in Albuquerque. Barbara Petrauskas is spending a year in Australia working and traveling. She previously traveled throughout Europe. Both girls are members of C - 140 Syracuse.

Our prayers to Helen Contons, C - 17 on the passing of husband Steve. May his soul rest in peace. We had many good times and may fond memories.



C-141 Guest speaker, HM, Loretta Stukas at Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration 2/19/95 Photo by Bob Marcavage

C-141, Bridgeport, CT

by Aldona Marcavage

On March 13, 1995 nearly one hundred pounds of beautiful nearly new vestments were sent via VILTIS Parcels to Msgr. K. Vasiliauskas, Kunigu Seminaria-Vilnius. Deacon John Rigeley (C-141) discovered their availability and Aldona and Sylvester Marcavage packed and mailed them, together with over 200 colorful rosaries made by elementary school children in a Milford Parochial school, and a variety of bathroom soaps collected by the children and given by John Rigeley. I'd like to note that the contributors of these articles were not Lithuanians--just good Catholics.

The annual St. Casimir Mass and brunch were well attended and enjoyed. President Clemencine Miller and her committee, with many years of experience, did a fine job of planning, preparing and serving the delicious meal.

Members once more, feted Msgr. Pranckus with a birthday dinner at the Three Door Restaurant. Many happy returns, Monsignor!

Pat and Bob Silk's daughter, Patti, got married on March 18, 1995. Our very best wishes to the newlyweds.

Lithuanian language and culture classes have once more resumed with nine students. This is the tenth year; these classes are conducted in the home of Victor and Clemencine Miller. If only their dining room table could talk!

Prayers are requested for our ailing members: Ann Gecevich who is recovering from surgery; Mitch Marcinauskis, and Ann Petrus, who is very seriously ill at this time.

Su Vytiška meile.

C-143, Pittston, PA

by Dotty

Our Council held elections for 1995 as follows:

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas; President: Ann Soha; Vice-President: Rosalie Kizis; Recording Secretary: Jean Kapochus Mihalick; Treasurer: Nellie Bayaras-Romanas; Financial Secretary: Martha Wamagiris; Trustees: Helen Mary Karpovich; Dorothy A. Banos, Mary Timek; Lithuanian Affairs: Mary Ann Cipolla; Lithuanian Culture: Ursula Danoski; Ritual: Martha Wamagiris; Historian: Annamarie C. Sewatsky; Sgt.-at-Arms: Steve Soha; Public Relations: Pamela Smith; Vytis Correspondent: Dorothy A. Banos. January 8, 1995: We were installed before Mass by our Spiritual Advisor, who also celebrated the Mass. The men of the Council hosted coffee, followed by a short meeting. Our first function for 1995 was to attend the Ethnic Rosary at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton on February 2nd. Marie Lasky, C-74, and Nellie Bayaras-Romanas, C-143, coordinated the event.

Celebrating Lithuanian Independence Day was our next activity. Nellie Bayuras-Romanas chaired the program. On February 15th, we held the flag raising at Pittston City Hall with the Mayor, Ann Soha, Nellie and Dotty taking part. A reception followed in St. Casimir's Hall with President Ann Soha and her husband, Steve, arranging the goodies provided by all members. On February 16th, we raised the flag at the Luzerne County Courthouse in Wilkes-Barre. Nellie invited the dignitaries from the courthouse, and many were present. Proclamations were read by representatives from the Governor of Pennsylvania, the Mayor of Wilkes-Barre, the Luzerne County Commissioners and the Mayor of Pittston. Col. Eugene Klimash from the Pennsylvania National Guard was guest speaker. He just came back from Lithuania. He participated in President Clinton's peace program and worked with the Lithuanian military in peaceful development of protection for their country. His talk was enlightening, and he answered our questions.

C - 144 - Anthracite, PA

by Anne Wargo

Our thanks to Victor and Evelyn Prep who chaired our St. Casimir's Day celebration. Mass was offered at St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair. The Friends of Siluva Lithuanian Choir provided the music. Rev. Ronald Jankaitis gave a beautiful homily on St. Casimir. Special offerings were carried by Vic and Evelyn Prep, Joe and Barbara Deriscavage and Gloria Dauchess. Following Mass, a dinner was held in the church hall. President, Anne Wargo welcomed the members and guests. The invocation was given by Brother Joseph Zutelis and our special guest was Father Bernard Shimkus. President Wargo spoke on St. Casimir and the blessed Mother. Father Jankaitis gave the benediction. It was a beautiful St. Casimir's feastday celebration. The committee worked hard to make it special.

The following week 17 members attended the Amber District St. Casimir's Day celebration in Philadelphia, where Helen Paskey and Josephine Manikas were presented with their 3rd degree medals by Ritual chairperson Helen Chesko. Bernie Zilaitis once again drove the van to transport the members to the meeting.

We also wish to thank Father Shimkus, who when he is able, offers a Lithuanian Mass for us. Father Shimkus, who is retired and in poor health is a great supporter of the Anthracite Council. We appreciate all he does. We are beginning to plan the Lithuanian Days which will be held this year on August 19 and 20 at the Schuylkill Mall in Frackville. This is the 82th year, and although it is not as big as it once was, we are grateful to the Mall for allowing us to keep the tradition alive. All the proceeds from this event go to Lithuanian causes.

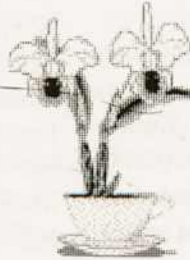
We continue to pay for the shipment of medical supplies to Lithuania by Sister Marilyn Perkins, of the Daughters of Charity order. Sister Marilyn is not Lithuanian. She visited Lithuania a few years ago and was so upset when we saw the conditions of the hospitals and clinics, that she has made a crusade of obtaining medical supplies. She sends them to specific hospitals and our council pays all

the shipping charges. In two years, she had sent hundreds of thousands dollars worth of supplies. Although she is now stationed at a hospital in Albany, NY, she still works through our Good Samaritan Hospital and Council 114. We are grateful to her for all she does for the Lithuanian cause.

Our Council also "adopted" a Lithuanian youngster from a poor family. We continue to collect stamps for Sister Helen.

C - 147, St. Petersburg, FL

by Dolores Jonaitis



Frank and Bertha Stann recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary. Congratulations and thanks for the \$3 bill.

Our newest member Eugenia Satraitis, was sworn in by Father Jonas Gasiunas at our January meeting. Congratulations! Sveikiname Jus Eugenia! Welcome to #147.

Father Matthew Čyvas gave his trustee's report. All was found in order. Thank you Father.

February 16th minejimas was celebrated February 18th at the Lithuanian American Club, and February 19th in Holy Name Church in Gulfport Florida. Antanas Grabauskas, Kazimiera Arlauskas and Ona Semolevičienė represented council #147.

St. Casimir's Day was celebrated on March 5th. Holy Mass was at 1:00 PM in Holy Name Church in Gulfport, celebrated by Father S. Ropolas, OFM, and concelebrated by Father M C. yvas, Father J. Gasiunas, Father P. Baniunas, OFM and Father Kirkalas, OFM. Giftbearers were Victoria Kleiviene and Violet Kraujalis. After Mass dinner was served at the Lithuanian - American Club for 50 members and guests. Chairmen were Victoria Kleiviene, Maria Gelazius and Dr. Aldona Valis. Especially delicious "tortas" were baked by Elena Bacevicius, Brone Urboniene and Ona Semolevičienė. Thank you ladies and all of your who helped to serve. Later the "Zilvitis" Tautiniu Sokiū Ansamblis from Kaunas Lithuania performed various folk music and dances. There are 50 members - musicians, singers



and dancers. They were also performing at Epcot Center in Orlando. We were delighted with their beautiful and exceptional performance.

Dolores and John Jonaitis had as their guests for 10 days, Dr. Maksimas Kiauleikis, M.D., and his wife, Dr. Aldona Kiauleikis, from Raseiniai, Lithuania. They truly enjoyed our Florida sunshine.

Get well wishes to Aleksas Urbonas who is ill.

C - 152 - Eastern Long Island, NY *by Tom Tarmey*

As of this writing, our council has arranged for shipment to Lithuania of about ten cartons of much needed food and clothing to those individuals and families "adopted" by our Knights under the VILTIS "Gift of Hope" program. It is, of course, our hope that these items will speedily reach our "adoptees" and will help in some significant way to make their lives a bit easier and more comfortable in the face of what is presently a harsh economy to those without access to hard currency.

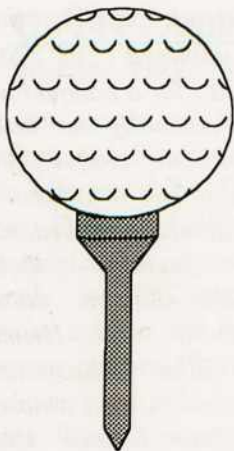
On Sunday, March 12th, our council members jointly celebrated the dual observance of the patronal feast of St. Casimir and Lithuanian Independence. Following noonday Mass at the Church of Our Lady of Ostrabrama, in Cutchogue, NY, some 65 Knights and guests traveled to nearby Riverhead for luncheon. To remind the diners that our get together had a serious as well as a social motivation, Fred Lucka and this writer delivered brief remarks on the significance of Lithuania's painfully regained freedom, and that the accomplishments of St. Casimir during his brief life were of crucial importance in the promotion of Roman Catholicism, as opposed to Eastern Orthodoxy, in Lithuania.

K of L friends of Victoria Jacobson gathered in St. Petersburg, FL, for a banquet in her honor. Presenting her with flowers and a plaque in appreciation for her many years devoted to Lithuania's freedom. Chicagoans included Dell Zunas, Estelle Rogers, Julie Zakarka, Emily and Henry Petraitis, Ellie Kasputis, Lorraine Svelnis, Al and Aldona Brazis, and Peter Jasaitis. Also from Florida, Aldona Kurstic.

We are saddened to report the recent deaths of one of our fellow Knights as well as of children of two other members of our council: Pius Kazlauskas passed away on December 29th, 1994 at the age of 91; our Sister, Mae Zipkas, suffered the loss of her son, Charles Rudolph, on February 8th; our Brother, Joe Getches, lost his daughter, Michelle, on March 1st. May God give eternal rest to the souls of the departed, and may he bless and console those left behind to mourn them!

A few words are in order concerning our departed Knight, Pius Kazlauskas, who devoted many years of his long life to the service of others. He served the public for 20 years as a traffic officer with the New York City Police Department. All through his years as a policeman, and long after his retirement as such, this good and talented man had another career which surely brightened the lives of countless children, particularly those institutionalized as crippled, neglected and abused. For more than half a century he gave performances as "Pete the Hobo", with never any thought of compensation other than the true feeling of happiness arising from the sight of enchanted little faces briefly freed from their pain and loneliness by the antics of their big friend the clown. To the men and women of the New York City Police Department, who rejoice deservedly in their long-held title of "New York's Finest", Pius (Pete) Kazlauskas was one of the "Finest of the Finest".





2ND ANNUAL GEORGE PERLES GOLF INVITATIONAL

Last June 14th The first **AID TO LITHUANIA** Golf fund-raiser took place at the Western Golf and Country Club in Redford, MI. George Perles, Head Football Coach at Michigan State University hosted the event.

During a press conference, upon his return to the United States from Lithuania over two years ago, George Perles spoke about what he saw and of his desire to do something to help. Al Brazis, President of the Knights of Lithuania Mid-America District promptly advised Robert Boris, Chairman of *Aid to Lithuania*. Then, followed a chain of events that grew into a successful fund-raising activity benefiting the *Aid to Lithuania* organization and ultimately the poor and sick of Lithuania by providing badly needed medicine and medical supplies.

Boris initially contacted Perles who suggested a fund-raising golf tournament. To assure financial success, a generous donation of \$ 10,000.00 was made by Robert Kratage in memory of his parent Anne and Anthony Kratage.

One hundred and fifty three persons participated in the Golf Tournament while an additional fifty four people joined the golfers during the Tournament Banquet. Profit of \$ 24,259.46 exceed everyone's expectation. It's quite a gift to share a day with friends while helping so many of people and families in Lithuania. We're looking forward to doing it again this year! Join us on June 12, 1995!

- Regina Juska & Irene Vizgirda

Introducing Vytis Classifieds - Where Knights can say an extra special "happy birthday", announce a new arrival, or thank someone special. Ads are only \$15 each, (\$18 to include a screened photo.) Send exact wording of announcement and check to: Richard Niedvares, Business Manager, VYTIS, PO Box 1934, GCS, NY 10163-1934 Check should be made payable to the Knights of Lithuania. Deadline for calendar events is the first of the month prior to issue. (Jul. 1 for Aug/Sept. Vytis) Follow these examples:

Ngausiu Metu
VINCE BORIS
MAY 21

**Announcing! Alexi Nicole
Girdauskas**
born 9/9/94

granddaughter
of John & Amy
Girdauskas
C-110,
Maspeth, NY



Happy Mother's Day
Evelyn Ozelis!
from Vytis
Editors

GEGUŽĖ - 1995 - MAY

A prayer for May:

*Taikos ir meiles trokšta žmonija,
Žmogaus širdis taip ilgisi ramybės!
O ją atras tik Tavo širdyje,
Tik Motinos glėby ji vėl rami bus.*

All mankind thirsts for love and peace
The human heart so longs for serenity!
But only in Your heart can they be found,
In your Motherly embrace, can we find rest!

This month, we observe:

- May 1 Feast of St. Joseph, the worker. In early times, it was not unusual for the Church to Christianize a secular feast or holiday by imparting some religious significance. In modern times, the International Labor Day (except in the US) was designated as a feast of St. Joseph in commemoration of his life as a manual laborer.
- May 5 Blessed Michael Giedraitis. A member of the Order of Canons Regular (White Augustinians), he entered the order at Bistryčia, northeast of Vilnius. He later received a doctorate in philosophy from Cracow University. He died on May 5, 1485. A life of extraordinary piety led to his beatification in 1544.
- May 7 50th Anniversary of VE Day (Victory in Europe, World War II) - The day on which an unconditional surrender of Germany was signed at Rheims, France.
- May 7 Mother's day in Lithuania.
- May 14 Mother's Day in the USA
- May 20 Armed Forces Day in the USA
- May 29 Memorial Day. Inaugurated in 1868 on May 30 as a date to decorate the graves of the Civil War dead, it has come to be a day of commemoration of all dead and has been transferred to the last Monday in May. Also known as Decoration Day.

AND A HAPPY NAME'S DAY TO ALL NAMED:

*Aldona (May 22)
Arūnas (May 17)
Erik (May 18)
Gregory (May 25)
Joana (May 24)
Miglė (May 11)
Philip (May 3 or 26)
Vitalija (May 4)*

*Algimantas (May 25)
Danutė (May 7)
Gintaras (May 5)
Irene (May 5)
Julia (May 22)
Mindaugas (May 17)
Rita (May 22)*

*Angela (May 5)
Eglė (May 31)
Gražina (May 1)
James (May 3)
Matthew (May 14)
Petronele (May 31)
Vincent (May 24)*

TC 560 P1 112
 John & Ramona Rackauskas
 10425 S. Kenton Ave.
 Oak Lawn IL 60453

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1995 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Lithuanian Days at Schulerkill

Aug. 19-21 C-144, Anthracite, PA

For further info contact:

Anne Wargo (717) 429-0132

Sts. Peter & Paul Centennial Celebration

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

Lorraine Staboris (908) 352-2271

Spring Celebrations

May 21 NED Annual Holy Hour
 Host C-116, So. Worcester, MA
 May 19-21 MCD Convention/Bowling Tourm.
 Host C-79, Southfield, MI

Irene Tamulevich (508) 754-8878

Tom Bruza (814) 371-9485

Golf Outings

June 12 2nd Annual George Perles Invitational
 Golf Tournament, Aid to Lithuania Benefit -
 Western Golf Tournament and Country Club

Robert Boris (810) 682-0098

June 26 (27 rain date) Long Island Picnic and
 Golf Outing at Orient Park

Bea Lucka (516) 298-8077

Supreme Council Meeting

June 3 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