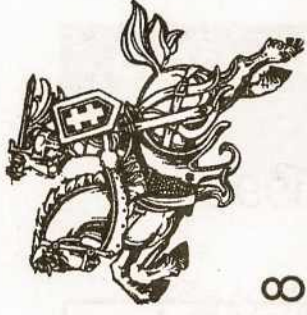
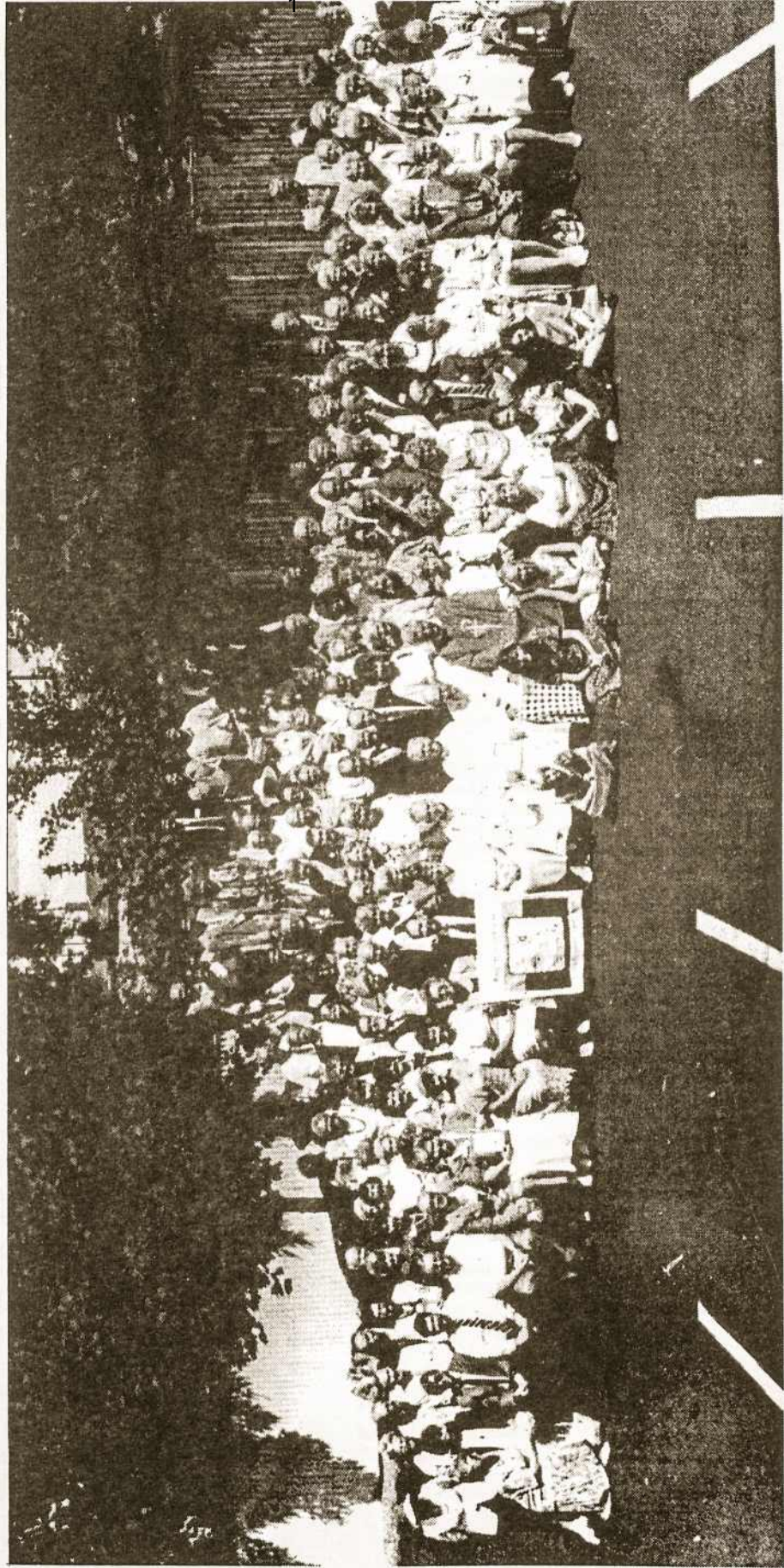


# VAI



The Knight  
volume 82: no. 8



*83rd National Convention Issue - Rugsējis/Spalis - September/October 1996*

**VYTIS**  
**-THE KNIGHT-**  
 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA  
 SUPREME COUNCIL  
 OFFICERS  
 1996 - 1997



Rugsėjis/Spalis  
 September/October 1996  
 Volume 82: No. 8

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*Lift our Voices!*



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VYTIS - the Knight - is the official publication of the Knight of Lithuania. The Knights of Lithuania endeavors to instill in its members an attachment to Lithuania, the land of their ancestors, and a knowledge, appreciation and love of the Lithuanian language, customs and culture.

## To My Fellow Knights:

I came back from the Convention in Brockton with many things on my mind, namely where do I see the Knights of Lithuania as the year 2000 draws nearer. The glue that has held our beloved organization together for many of our 83 years was the ability of our immigrant forefathers and foremothers to retain our culture and tradition in this 'new' country they arrived in. Some went to the coal fields of Pennsylvania, to the agricultural centers in Illinois and Kansas, to the seaports of New England, to the dairy centers of New York State, and later West to Los Angeles and pockets in between. Some preferred the big cities and some favored small towns, but mostly all of them came and settled where they could make an honest living and raise their children. We all grew up with an awe and respect for the country that our families were forced to leave, whether by choice or by force.

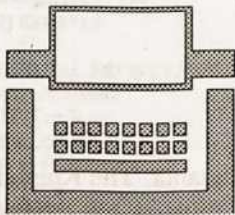
Where am I leading you, fellow Knights? I'm leading you to an obvious conclusion. Our strength has been predicated on our spirit, on our drive and our ability to overcome all odds (see 1/13/1991, when the murders of fourteen in Vilnius made the front page of the *New York Times*).

The Brockton Convention got me thinking. Where is the strength in our organization? Where are the future torch bearers who will be the strong leaders to take the Knights into the future? There are no Communist dogs to resent or hate. Peace has broken out all over the world and yet we appeared at the Convention to be pitting brother against brother, sister against sister. This scene hauntingly reminded me of my recent trip to Lithuania, while touring the KGB Museum and discovering that Lithuanians were also members of the KGB, torturing and murdering their very own people! (More in a future VYTIS issue).

My council, Council 110, led by Bruno Rutkunas, is a good example of where I see the Knights elevating themselves to. It's full of active workers, we party hearty - when Bruno throws his seasonal bashes they are attended by council members from all over our District. Our treasury has its peaks and valleys, but our prime focus is to give what we can to the K. of L. and other worthy Lithuanian causes. I was proud to see C-110 leading the pack with a \$1,000.00 donation to Aid to Lithuania and I'm sure we're not the wealthiest council or district. When our treasury needs new reserves, what does Bruno do? He unites us with another fund-raiser, where we eat, dance and enjoy each others company again for the short time we all have remaining on this earth. Perhaps after reading the Resolutions and discussions of the Brockton Convention, you'll draw your own conclusions. The delegates made a great effort in their generosity, as you'll note by the Greetings pages. We raised \$18,759.00!!

So a great big ačiū to all who attended the Brockton event. And if you didn't, make Dayton a must next year. P.S. - To my pals in Pallatine, Illinois - Hugs, Kisses, ten yellow roses and eight blueberries to you.

### Letters to the Editor:



#### Scholarship Thanks

To the Editor:

I wish to thank all the members of the Scholarship Committee and the members of the Knights of Lithuania who contributed to the Scholarship Fund. Your generosity is much appreciated. My family and I were finding it

difficult to determine how we were going to pay for my education. The unselfish generosity of all of you has brought me one step closer to achieving my goal of graduating from college.

Thank you all, again.

Sincerely,

**Jessica L. Waska**

**Scholarship recipient**

**Council 26, Worcester, MA**

(☛turn to page 13 for more letters. Scholarship recipients listed elsewhere in this issue.)

## Knights of Lithuania 83rd National Convention State of the Organization Report presented by Evelyn Ozelis, National President - August 8, 1996

In accordance with Article XI of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, I submit to the Delegates of the 83rd National Convention, the National Executive Board's Annual Report. Wherein, all reports have been submitted and combined before the National Convention. It is important to note that this is but a summary of the work done by your Executive Board. The officers have provided reports of their activities. You are urged to take home a set of these reports, read them, thoroughly and share the contents with your council members.

**Spiritual Advisor,** Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, S.T.D., has attended all Supreme Council meetings, except the Chicago meeting in June. His priestly and pastoral duties prevented his presence. The Knights of Lithuania are most grateful for his counsel and guidance throughout the year. He has continued the monthly policy of offering a mass for all deceased members, in particular, those names submitted by various councils. Father has hosted the Supreme Council meeting in October with the assistance of Council 3, Philadelphia. Not only is he our Spiritual Advisor, but also our very best friend.

**President,** Evelyn Ozelis, organized four meetings and presided over all. Meetings were held in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago and Detroit. The able assistance of host councils for these meetings was most appreciated. They were all most gracious and accommodating. There has been much correspondence from various organizations, and Knights of Lithuania members as well. All correspondence was acknowledged. I re-appointed the business manager and the editor for VYTIS with the approval of the Supreme Council for the year 1995-1996. Initiated several new projects such as Resolutions Revision Committee with 30 years of resolutions, Budget Resolutions Committee. I represented the K. of L. at a "Draugas" fund raising banquet, Lithuanian American Council Conference, an award dinner for Ambassador A. Eidintas, the Feb. 16 Commemoration in Chicago, were I greeted

in Lithuanian and English. Received invitations to attend Feb. 16 Commemorations in Washington, D.C. and New York City. Unable to attend, I acknowledged the significance of this special date with a letter in Lithuanian. I greeted the Ateitininku Federation as they were honored by the Mid America District. I was a member of the Honorary Committee for the 40th Anniversary of the Lithuanian Opera of Illinois.

I met with the Brockton Convention Committee and kept very close contact for all convention arrangements. I appreciated their courage and fortitude for a grand convention time. I have remained active with my council and district, representing the Knights of Lithuania as a Director with the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce, and am the Lithuanian American Council Vice President. I am also a Eucharistic Minister for the Lithuanian mass at my home parish.

I conferred with all Supreme Council officers for various reasons. Their opinions and suggestions were most appreciated. I have been fortunate to have an outstanding Supreme Council. For this I am grateful.

This June 30, three women of the Chicago area were awarded "Outstanding Lithuanian American Women" by the prestigious Chicago Lithuanian Woman's Club, and I was honored to be one of them. We were selected for our outstanding work with the Lithuanian American Community and our other organizational works.

I will be in Lithuania this September and intend to represent the Knights of Lithuania while visiting church dignitaries and others.

One of my saddest obligations this year was to preside at the wake and funeral of First Vice President, Tom Bruzga. We lead him to his final resting place as a true Knight of Lithuania.

**First Vice President,** Tom Bruzga, attended 3 meetings during his term. He was the chairman of the newly appointed Resolutions Revision

Committee. Tom attended to his job with much enthusiasm. He was a most able assistant to the president. Tom was very active with his council and district. He kept contact with other members of the Supreme Council on matters relevant to the business of the Knights of Lithuania. Rest in peace, Tom!

**Second Vice President,** Robert Martin, Jr., attended all Supreme Council meetings. He has been working diligently to promote membership to the Knights of Lithuania in spite of the fact that he was attending evening classes. He managed to complete the membership pamphlet and the convention hosting manual. Rob has been active with his council and district. He also is an active member of the Mid America District Knights of Lithuania Choir. Rob has been a board member of the Supreme Council for 6 years.

**Third Vice President,** Elena Mikalauskas, is a very capable and energetic young lady with her work with and for the Juniors. Elena has written articles for VYTIS for her Juniors. She herself has come up from the ranks, as a Junior, and today has shown how well she can work with the youngsters. Her road has been a difficult one, as there were times when there was a lack of communication from the Junior Councils. She has planned good Junior convention activities.

**Recording Secretary,** Agnes Mickunas, has served her position as National Secretary extremely well. She is an asset to our organization. She found time to make arrangements for our meeting in Philadelphia. Her minutes were precise and always sent out on time. Agnes has willingly obliged to send out council rosters and mailing lists whenever other Supreme Council members had made their requests. Agnes has always been a straight forward person, and never hesitated to address you with her statements. The president has been extremely fortunate to have Agnes as secretary. She never hesitated to give of herself. With all of her secretarial duties, she prepared letters of greetings to the many organizations to our 83rd national convention. Aciu Agute!

**Treasurer,** John Baltrus, attended all but the Chicago meeting. He is extremely knowledgeable and scrutinious in this job. He has kept constant

contact with me and also with our legal advisor. John has kept an unrelenting vigil on our finances. He has prepared the budget from the recommendations of the Budget Resolutions Committee and his own findings. He will present a complete report of our financial standing at this convention. He has served untiredly for this past year and has been very cooperative! A job well done!

**Financial Secretary,** Dorothy Banos, participated in all but one Supreme Council meeting. This is her first time as Financial Secretary and she found it a challenge. She has kept contact with the Business Manager of VYTIS so that changes would be implemented as soon as possible. She has not hesitated to cooperate and work with all councils. She has kept all lines open for communication. Dorothy has done a fine job.

**Trustees,** Mary Beth Slakis and Mark Bell have done a thorough job in scrutinizing the financial books of the various committees within the Supreme Council. They are both young, energetic, outspoken and have accounting backgrounds. Relentlessly they pursued bid requests for the 1996 and 1997 conventions. And they were successful! Mark volunteered to find a way to put the K. of L. Manual on computer disk; Mary Beth worked with the Budget Committee. These two trustees have done an outstanding job and are to be commended. They have attended the Supreme Council meetings and have offered suggestions and opinions for the betterment of the organization.

**Amber District,** John Mankus, President of the District, is Chairperson of the Supreme Council Nominating Committee and has been in constant contact with district presidents to complete the nomination slate. He has been working with aid to convents and hospitals in Lithuania at a local level. The district councils have four monthly pickups for humanitarian aid to Lithuania. His district council have participated in ethnic festivals, spring festivals and at other events. His council sets goals for various fundraisers. John continues to translate letters from Lithuania. He has been a very cooperative member of the Supreme Council.

**Mid America District,** Peter Paul Zansitis, District President, attended all the Supreme Council

meetings. The Mid America District established the District Recognition Award. The first awards will be given at the Sept. 28, 1996 district meeting in Chicago. The Mid America District voted to donate equally to the K. of L. charities at the 83rd National Convention. The Mid America District also supports the Mid America District K. of L. choir and dancers. The dancers have participated for the past 50 years at the "Christmas 'Round the World" program at the Chicago Science and Industry Museum, United Airlines and others. The choir has participated at five different programs. They have also produced the Lithuanian Catholic Heritage video tape of Lithuanian Catholic parishes past and present in the Chicago area. The choir is now preparing for its 80th anniversary celebration slated for October 1996.

**Mid Atlantic District**, Ed Barkowski, District President, was involved with hosting a basketball game between the Lithuanian all-stars and Siena College in the Albany area. Siena's basketball coach was so impressed with the team from Lithuania, he spoke with its coach and offered one year scholarships to four students who have arrived. Hudson-Mohawk Council 136 is providing moral support for the students and the council periodically checks with them. Edward was selected to be the Budget Resolutions Committee Chair and is also a member of the Resolutions Revision Committee. He has aided Apolonia Ziausys of C-100, Amsterdam, with the shipment of scores of packages of medical supplies to Lithuania.

**Mid Central District**, Lillian Petravicus, attended all but one Supreme Council meeting. No report has been received at this time. The district and councils have set goals at various events and fundraisers. I am sure that their obligations have been met. There will be a complete report from the District at the 83rd National Convention.

**New England District**, Bertha Stoskus, District President attended all Supreme Council meetings. Two semi-annual New England District conventions, the first in September at Worcester, MA, hosted by Council 26. Twelve councils attended with a total of 140 delegates, clergy, honorary members and guests. Fourth degrees were awarded at the Mass. The Spring Convention was

held in Ansonia, CT, hosted by Council-135. Twelve councils attended with a total of 109 delegates, clergy, religious, honorary members and guests. The District had the annual fund raiser at Maironis Park. It was a tremendous success. Their Annual Retreat at the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, Maine, was well attended with 90 people present. I appointed Bertha Stoskus as 1st Vice President as a result of vacancy due to the death of Tom Bruzga, with the approval of the Supreme Council. I also asked Bertha to take on the Chairmanship of the Resolutions Revision Committee. She most willingly obliged!

**Archives Committee**, HM Longinas Svlenis has not been able to attend Supreme Council meetings. Larry has been able to procure a larger room for our archives at Alka. He has been to the archives rooms several times and had their committee meetings there. He has received valuable material but asks that you send material directly to Alka Museum in Putnam, CT, and not to Larry's home in Needham. The Archives Committee will have a display at this convention highlighting several of our past leaders and honorary members. Larry and his committee are to be lauded for their dedication in maintaining the archives.

**Legal Advisor**, Saulius Kuprys, was able to attend only one Supreme Council meeting in Chicago. He has filed all required reports with the appropriate government agencies to which the corporation must report. He has filed information return 990 to the Internal Revenue Service as required. An annual report to the secretary of the State of Illinois renewing our corporate status was sent. Mr. Kuprys maintains contact with the subsidiary corporations of the Knights of Lithuania. He has always responded to various miscellaneous matters which have come up from time to time. He has maintained contact with the President.

**VYTIS Editor**, Maryte Abbott, was appointed VYTIS editor by the President with Supreme Council approval. She is grateful to everyone who has given her assistance, constructive criticism and their time. She has done much to enhance VYTIS readers. VYTIS - the Knight, is a classic publication. Maryte has set many goals and has met a quite a few. She will continue to astound us with

her professionalism. Her council news editor is Dalia Bulvicius. Maryte and the business manager keep in constant contact. There are still some problems with the post office, production and other technicalities, but they will be worked out in time.

**VYTIS Business Manager**, Richard Niedvares was appointed VYTIS business manager by the President with the approval of the Supreme Council. He has kept in contact with Maryte Abbott, the editor, and Dorothy Banos, the Financial Secretary for a smoother operation. Richard has attended three meetings with the auditor of the U.S. Post Office in Chicago. Richard and I spent three hours with this auditor each time we were called in. Richard has spent hours with our legal advisor. An application through our legal advisor, is currently being presented to the postal service to amend the category under which VYTIS - the Knight magazine is being distributed. If approval is granted, this will alleviate some of the administrative and bureaucratic burdens, with which the business manager is saddled with. He has invoiced all advertising. New guidelines for this position of business manager are available in the revision of the K. of L. Manual. This is a full time job!

**Cultural Committee**, John Mankus, chairperson continues to send out cultural articles to districts. He has contacted council and district members for cultural information feedback. John has translated many poems and articles for VYTIS. He is also chairperson of his council's humanitarian shipments to Lithuania. John is a talented individual and he willingly shares these gifts with us.

**Honorary Membership Committee**, HM Loretta Stukas, chairperson attended every meeting except one. Honorary membership will be conferred on Archbishop Paul C. Marcinkus and Alexander Akule during the 83rd National Convention at Brockton, MA. Honorary Membership Chairman, Stanley Vaitkus died on July 25, 1996. Please remember him in your prayers. There are currently 30 living honorary members, 17 men and 13 women. Councils and districts are invited to submit names of outstanding members for honorary membership. You must follow the guidelines printed in the Knights of Lithuania Manual. Also write to the Honorary

Membership Committee for information regarding presentation of a candidate, if necessary.

**Lithuanian Affairs Committee**, Vincent Boris, chairperson, attended all Supreme Council meetings this term. For quite a while now Vince has been preparing us for his resignation as Chairperson of Lithuanian Affairs. Each time I asked him, "Are you sure this is what you want to do." His contributions to VYTIS on various subjects is most gratifying. If you are in need of information on most subjects, he will find it. Vince has been involved as a representative for JBANC (Lithuanian American council member). He has widespread knowledge of world political affairs and contacts at most governmental levels. He has a magnitude of accomplishments and has shared his time, information and energy with us.

**Lithuanian Language Committee**, Dr. Virginia Vaitekoniš Obando, chairperson, has attended two Supreme Council meetings. She has written articles for VYTIS and has translated articles that will be forthcoming. She has conducted sessions of a Lithuanian heritage hour for her council members and their children. Virginia is consulting members of several councils on Lithuanian language learning strategies. Virginia has done numerous translations for Knights of Lithuania members. She is an asset to our organization.

**Public Relations**, Regina Juska, chairperson, attended all Supreme Council meetings. The Knights of Lithuania activities were all covered with almost a weekly article in all three U.S. Lithuanian newspapers. Regina has translated articles for K. of L. Foundation, Aid to Lithuania and others. She prepared five articles for the 83rd National Convention events. Regina has never declined to assist whenever and wherever needed. She has taken on many responsibilities and has followed through on all of them.

**Ritual Committee**, Nellie Bayoras-Romanas, chairperson attended all but one Supreme Council meeting. She has fulfilled her duties and has conducted this committee quite well. She has received 14 applications for the fourth degree and is awaiting confirmation of eligibility. Nellie always kept in contact with the President and her committee members for clarification on different issues. She



continues to offer her assistance whenever needed.

**Scholarship Committee,** Maria Deksnis, chairperson attended all Supreme Council Meetings this term. Being a school teacher, Maria recognizes the need for young people to continue their education. She has worked very thoroughly with her committee members. She anticipates good support this year for the scholarship fund. I have had much contact with Maria. She is a very capable chairperson. With the help of the Knights of Lithuania scholarship fund, we are helping qualified young persons to further their education.

**Aid to Lithuania, Inc.** HM Robert Boris, chairperson, attended all but one of the Supreme Council meetings. Bob once again successfully initiated the third annual George Perles Golf Tournament this year. The proceeds of \$15,000 will be used for shipping necessary supplies to Lithuania. Through June of 1996, 38 containers of medicine and medical supplies have been provided for Lithuania. Bob's professionalism as vice president of sales (before retirement) is portrayed in his accomplishments with Aid to Lithuania, Inc.

**K. of L. Foundation, Inc.,** HM Loretta Stukas, chairperson attended three Supreme Council meetings this term. The finances of the Foundation will be announced at the convention. As usual, the Foundation sponsors an essay contest. The winners will be announced during the convention. This year the foundation arranged to outfit 35 members of the Lithuanian order of Sisters of the Eucharistic Jesus. These sisters worked underground to prepare the Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania during the occupation. The fabric material was donated, and many Foundation and K. of L. members donated personally to this cause. The money was used to sew their habits, also, shoes, medication and some money to use in making needed repairs to their building. Donations from the general membership are needed on a regular basis to guarantee the tax exempt status of the Foundation. Loretta has contributed articles to VYTIS and is also a member of the Budget Resolutions Committee.

**St. Casimir Guild, Inc.** HM Anne Klizas Wargo, chairperson, was unable to attend any of the Supreme Council meetings for this term. On behalf

of the Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome, Anne asks for continued support both financially, with mass requests and spiritually. The mass requests are forward to Rome each month along with the mass stipends. These masses support the student priests and the Priests at the college, since they do not have any other income. There will be a pilgrimage to Rome in March of 1998 for the 50th anniversary celebration of the Pontifical Lithuanian College. The Guild will be planning this event. Anne has untirely given of herself for this special guild. Anne is in constant touch with Msgr. Bartkus in Rome.

**History Books** - Frank Petrauskas has done a tremendous job on inventory of the few remaining books. The Supreme Council has voted to eliminate the cost of books and they are available to all at the annual convention.

#### Summary

I was pleased with the executive board members voted in by the delegates last year. We have had a very busy year. We initiated a few new projects and completed the old projects. My thanks to the members of the National Executive Board who attended the meetings and were faithful to the duties of the offices they accepted. A special thanks to our deceased member, Tom Bruzga. He worked so well!!

Looking over the Financial Secretary's report, I note that we had a total of 4,296 members for the year 1995. This year we are minus 117 members. We must realize that many of our members are 60+ and are of ill health and may not be with us for much longer. It is our responsibility to look ahead to the future of our organization. If each council was able to recruit two young adults into their group, this would be a revitalization of the councils. You would be amazed at how well young adults today work with older people. We must give them the opportunity as well as our guidance to become our K. of L. future. Today the Supreme Council Executive Board has 6 young members in office and it has made a difference. They are vocal, they are energetic and they working! Last year's essay contest revealed the friendship and warmth that enhanced the life of one's membership in the

(☞ Turn to page 13)

## NUMBER OF SESSIONS ATTENDED BY DELEGATES - 83RD NATIONAL CONVENTION - BROCKTON, MA, AUGUST 8-11, 1996

by Dorothy Banos, National Financial Secretary

### HONORARY Members Attending

Algerd Brazis, Robert S. Boris, Rev. Albert Contons, Rev. Albin Janiunas, Annie Mitchell Matalavich, Frank Petrauskas, Rita Pinkus, Estelle J. Rogers, Elinor Sluzas, Faustas Strolia, Loretta Stukas, Longinas Svelnis, Anne Klizas Wargo.

### SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICERS Attending

Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, Evelyn Ozelis, Robert A. Martin, Jr., Elena Mikalauskas, Agnes Mickunis, Dorothy A. Banos, Mark A. Bell, Mary Beth Slakis, John R. Mankus, Peter Paul Zansitis, Edward Barkowski, Bertha Stoskas, HM Longinas Svelnis, HM Loretta Stukas, Regina Juska, Vincent B. Boris, Nellie Bayoras-Romanas, Maria Dezknis, HM Robert S. Boris, HM Anne Klizas Wargo, Maryte Abbott, Richard Niedvares

CLERGY Attending - Rev. Peter Shakalis, Sister Helen Ivanauskas

### DISTRICT Delegates

AMBER - Leonard Kapochus - 5; John Mankus - 5  
NED - Aldona Marcavage -5; Ann Vaichus - 3  
MAD - Edward Jackatt -5; Joseph Zukas - 5  
MCD - Brian Johnson - 5  
MAMD -Georgiann Macke -5; Peter Paul Zansitis-5

### COUNCIL Delegates

C-1, BROCKTON: Maryte Bizienkauskas-1; Veronica Cote-5; Anthony Green-2; John Statkus-1; Frances Bumila-2  
C-3, PHILADELPHIA: Daina Kapochus-5; Irene Svekla-5; Walter Svekla-5  
C-7, WATERBURY: Anthony Alexander-5; Petronella Alexander-5; Anne Kundratas-5; Anthony Polman-5; Doris Snirpinis-5; Irene Stiklius-5; Irene Stiklius-5; Joseph Stiklius-5; Alma Torro-3  
C-12, NEW YORK: John Atanavicius-5; Helen

Cuprenich-4; Stella Marcinauskas-5; Irene Senken-5; Kathy Yacovonis-1; Tony Yacovonis-5; Alice Zupko-5

C-14, CICERO: Aldona Brusokas-5

C-16, CHICAGO: Richard Schultz-5

C-17, SOUTH BOSTON: Alexander Akule-5; Patricia Akule-5; Regina Alexander-4; Mildred Daniels-3; Anne Evans-5; Sr. Eugenia Glineckis-4; Aldona Keaney-5; Frank Markuns-5; Virginia Markuns-5; Marion Matachinskas-5; Alice Opanasets-5; Frances Savicke-3; Lillian Vallis-4; Florence Zaleskas-5

C-19, PITTSBURGH: Agatha Bender-4; Helen Graham-4; Nelson Graham-3; Andrew Rozger-5

C-26, WORCESTER: Anne Bucinskas-4; Mae Bucinskas-5; Angela Busky-5; Rita Karytais-5; Arthur Racicot-5; Marion Racicot-5; Alfred Rodgers-2; Vivian Rodgers-2; Casimir Serafinis-2; Ruth Serafinis-2; Joan Wojciak-4  
C-27, NORWOOD: Leonora Jarvis-5; Albie Jarvis-5; Stanley J. Wasil-3

C-29, NEWARK: Ignatius Gavas-4; Rita Sussko-5  
C-30, WESTFIELD: Joseph Buckitias-5; James Rogers-5; Marcia Rogers-5

C-36, CHICAGO: Joan Cius-5; Ann Marie Kassel-5; Mary Kincius-5; Glen Perutis-5; Sr. Margaret Petcavage-3; Theresa Strolia-5  
C-41, BROOKLYN: Bill Kumeta-5

C-50, NEW HAVEN: Helen Medley-5; Isabel Peterson-5; Audrey Toole-5

C-63, LEHIGH VALLEY: Evelyn Harryn-3; Paul Harryn-3; Adele Keraga-5; Andy Keraga-5; Jane Lutick-4; Nell Shirock-5

C-72, BINGHAMTON: Charles Almanas-4; Casey Grikenis-5; Irene Grikenis-5; Art Stankevitz-5

C-74, SCRANTON: Casimir Yanash-3; Ruth Yanash-4

C-78, LAWRENCE: Ignatius Hobitz-5; Marion Hobitz-5

C-79, SOUTHFIELD: Margaret Dapkus-5; William Dapkus-5

C-86, DUBOIS: Lee Moore-5; Paul Moore-5

C-90, KEARNEY: Elena Nakrosis-4; John D. Nakrosis-5

C-96, DAYTON: Frances Mikalauska-5; George Mikalauska-1; Michael Petkus-3

C-100, AMSTERDAM: Genevieve Gobis-5; Helen Kuiber-4; Elizabeth Kuzmich-5; Polly Ziausys-4

C-103, PROVIDENCE: William Piacentini-1; Sophia Sakalys-4; Agnes Waitonis-5

C-109, GREAT NECK: Josephine Zukas-5

C-110, MASPETH: Anna Ackalitis-5; Helen Cummins-5; John Cummins-5; Ann Morrissey-1  
Frances Jackatt-5; Helen Matulonis-5; Brian Rutkunas-4; Bruno Rutkunas-4; Jean Rutkunas-4;

Joseph Stelmokas-5; Mary Stelmokas-5

C-112, CHICAGO: Aldona Brazis-5; Edward Dekanis-5; Ellie Kasputis-5; Emily Petraitis-3;

Harry Petraitis-3; Anela Pocius-5; Edward Pocius-5; Matt Vilutis-5; Philomena Vilutis-5;

Julie Zakarka-5

C-116, WORCESTER: Genevieve Borowski-3; Anna Miller-3; Anthony Miner-3;

Dorothy Sinkavitch-3

C-133, LOS ANGELES: Maryte Sepikas-4

C-136, HUDSON-MOHAWK: Bernice Aviza-5

C-140, SYRACUSE: Irene Petrauskas-5

C-141, BRIDGEPORT: Dorothy DeGennaro-5; Lee C. Marcinka-5; Sylvester Marcavage-5;

Clemencine Miller-5; Barbara Schmidt-5; Patricia Silk-5; Alice Wilcinkas-5; Stephen Wilcinkas-5

C-143, PITTSTON: Helen Karpovitch-5; Jean Mihalick-5; Annamarie Sewatsky-5;

Ann Soha-5; Steve Soha-5

C-144, ANTHRACITE: Helen A. Chesko-5; Elsie Kosmisky-5; Anna Helen McDonald-5; Thomas McDonald-5; Evelyn Prep-5; Victor Prep-5;

Anna Supernavage-5; Eleanor Vaicaitis-5

C-146, HARRISBURG: Joanna Gilbert-4

C-147, ST. PETERSBURG: Dolores Jonaitis-5; John Jonaitis-5; Aldona Kimstuk-5

C-152, EASTERN LONG ISLAND: Muriel Lekstutis-5; Beatrice Lucka-5; Fred Lucka-5;

Angela Minsavitch-5; Antoinette Sakal-5; John Sakal-5; Tom Tarmey-4

C-153, TREASURE COAST: Frances Daniels-5; James Marcinkas-5; Florence Miskinis-5



## 1996 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE AWARDS

*by Robert Martin, Jr.*

### Individuals Category

1st Place Winner - Maryte Sepikas of Council 133 - Los Angeles, California

Tie - 2nd Place Winner - Frances A. Daniels of Council 153 - Treasure Coast, Florida

Tie - 2nd Place Winner - Richard Niedvares of Council 16 - Chicago, Illinois (Bridgeport Area)

3rd Place Winner - Robert Wislock of Council 156 - Shamokin / Coal Township, Pennsylvania

### Councils with under 75 Members Category

1st Place Winner - Council 156 - Shamokin / Coal Township, Pennsylvania

2nd Place Winner - Council 16 - Chicago, Illinois (Bridgeport Area)

3rd Place Winner - Council 116 - Worcester, Massachusetts

### Councils with 76 to 150 Members Category

1st Place Winner - Council 141 - Bridgeport, Connecticut

Tie - 2nd Place Winner - Council 7 - Waterbury, Connecticut

Tie - 2nd Place Winner - Council 29 - Newark, New Jersey

3rd Place Winner - Council 152 - East Long Island, New York

### Councils with 151+ Members Category

1st Place Winner - Council 133 - Los Angeles, California

2nd Place Winner - Council 144 - Anthracite, Pennsylvania

3rd Place Winner - Council 112 - Chicago, Illinois (Marquette Park Area)



## 83rd National Convention Brockton Holiday Inn - Brockton, MA August 7-11, 1996



*Concelebrants at opening Mass on Aug. 8: (l to r) Rev. Albert Abračinskas, Fr. Simon Saulenas, Fr. A. Ykasala, Fr. Albin Janiunas, Fr. William Wolkovich, Fr. John Prusaitis (Pastor St. Casimir's), Bishop John McCormack, Fr. Joseph Anderlonis (National Spiritual Advisor), Fr. Albert Contons and Fr. Peter Shakelis (former Paster of St. Casimir's).*

The motto of the 83rd National Convention was "*Pakelkime Balsus! Lift our Voices!*"

Our convention began with on a beautiful day with an opening Mass at St. Casimir's Church in downtown Brockton. Ten priests celebrated the Mass including the area Bishop, John McCormack. Juniors dressed in Lithuanian costumes led the procession. Music featured a operatic solo by Maryte Bizinkauskas. The Mass was offered for God's blessings on our upcoming convention endeavors.

### FIRST PLENARY SESSION

Supreme Council President, Evelyn Ozelis called the convention to order following the presentation of colors and Supreme Council Officers. The opening prayer was led by Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, National Spiritual Advisor, and delegates sang the American and Lithuanian National Anthems. A warm welcome to Brockton was given by Veronica Bizinkauskas, President of C-1, Maryte Bizinkauskas and Veronica B. Cote, Convention Chairpersons. Brockton's Mayor, Jack Yunits, who is of Lithuanian ancestry, spoke of the early Lithuanians in the area who were shoemakers,

tanners, and factory workers. The mayor noted the changes in the city of 100,000 people through the years and told how his own children were educated at St. Casimir's School.

Nominees for the Convention Presidium Officers were: Presidium Chair, John Mickunas; Co-Chairs, Fran Petkus and Robert Martin, Jr.; Secretaries, Barbara Schmidt and Bernice Aviza; Sgts. at Arms, Andy Kereiga (Amber), Glenn Perulis (MAMD), Joe Stelmokas (MAD), Brian Johnson (MCD) and Sylvester Marcavage (NED). Resolutions Committee, Vincent Boris (Chair), Terry Strolia, Frank Petrauskas, Sr.

Helen Ivanauskas and Fr. Volkovicus; Mandate Committee, Dorothy Banos (Chair), Georgiann Macke, Ann Marie Kassel, Agnes Mickunas and Irene Svekla; Greetings Committee, Isabel Peterson, Mary Kincius and Anna Helen McDonald; Elsie Kosmisky and Eleanor Vaicaitis reviewed the minutes from the previous convention; Peter Zansitis reviewed parliamentary procedure.

President Evelyn Ozelis gave her report on the State of the Organization. A budget proposal for 1996-1997 was presented by Treasurer, John Baltrus, and accepted by the delegates.

Additional greetings, a mandate report and prayer concluded the session.

### SECOND PLENARY SESSION

Sr. Marilyn Kuzmickus, Mother General of the Srs. of St. Casimir, spoke of the need for the canonization of Mother Maria Kaupas, foundress of the order. Petitions were passed out and signed. The sisters also featured a table with information and copies of a children's book, *Kaze's True Home*, on the life of Mother Maria Kaupas. (See story in Jul./Aug. VYTIS.)

In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, this morning's session was scheduled to feature a panel discussion regarding Lithuanian Affairs. In an earlier session, the 1996-97 budget, approved by the Supreme Council and adopted by the convention carried a zero budget for Lithuanian Affairs. After a quick adjustment, the panel focused on alternatives. The panel was led by retiring SC Lithuanian Affairs Chair, Vincent Boris and included Pranus Ciziunas, Operations Manager for the Joint Baltic-American National Committee (JBANC), Mark Bell, SC Trustee and C-96 Dayton member, and Maryte Abbott, VYTIS Editor-in-chief and member of C-110, Maspeth, NY.

Mr. Ciziunas explained that JBANC is a 35 year old organization in which representatives of the three Baltic-American Organizations, the Estonian American National Council, the Latvian American Association and the Lithuanian American Council maintain an office in Rockville, MD, with two paid employees to staff it. It is a liaison between these Baltic groups and Congress, the White House and the Administration. JBANC produces a periodic "Legislative Update" reporting the status of Congressional bills in progress that is available by fax, E-mail or postal mail. They also publish a quarterly newsletter, JBANChronicle which covers Baltic issues from a Washington perspective for a \$20 subscription fee. JBANC is also establishing a WebSite to provide action items and a list of current events. Call Pranus at 301-340-1954 for details.

Mark Bell, a Lithuanian-American activist who lives far from a Lithuanian enclave, discussed problems and solutions to maintaining current information on events in Lithuania. He shared a number of Lithuanian Internet addresses, which can be accessed via home computer or a local library that is on-line. He also spoke of the new English language weekly, Draugas, and the Baltic Times, also published on a weekly basis in Riga as sources.

Maryte Abbott rounded out the discussion with a proposal for future Lithuanian Affairs Committee people that focuses not only on political action but also on pro active advocacy for Lithuania. By promoting tourism, cultural information and encouraging investment and by widening our scope

into non-Lithuanian media, such as Catholic publications, travel and specialty magazines, she pointed out vehicles to get the message of Lithuania out. She suggested the use of VYTIS as an initial vehicle to hone writers skills and for those who don't like to write, to speak with radio talk show hosts.

Later action reinstated some funding to continue Lithuanian Affairs. An unprecedented amount was donated also at the Greetings desk, giving hope for the future of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee.

Following a closing prayer, special luncheon meetings were held for Aid to Lithuania and the K. of L. Foundation.

### THIRD PLENARY SESSION

This session opened with a prayer and a report by the Trustees.

Robert Boris, president of Aid to Lithuania, Inc. gave his report on the activities of ATL during the year. The 3rd Annual George Perles Golf Tournament raised almost \$16,000.00 for ATL in July, enabling the shipment of much needed Hepatitis-B vaccine. Bob noted that the late Tom Bruzga, past 1st VP, had left 10% of his estate to ATL, Inc. and was thankful for Tom's generosity.

Bob said that besides much needed donations, Lithuanian hospitals are in need of bedsheets, vitamins, baby food, sanitary supplies, soap, ear thermometers, and other medicines.

A panel discussion entitled "K. of L. Reminiscing for Revitalization" featured Eleanor Sluzas and Loretta Stukas who described each decade and what the Knights were active in during the time. Eleanor broke out in song during this "lighter side" discussion, while Loretta gave a brief synopsis of what the Knights were actively engaged in during each decade such as the visit to the Knights by Blessed George in the 1920's, the California convention in the 1950's, the shrine at the NY World's fair in the 1960's, the acceptance of non-Lithuanian spouses in the 1970's and many other exciting activities. Eleanor and Loretta had the delegates laughing, naming the tunes and in a good mood following their panel. Delegates were also asked to fill out a questionnaire.

Nominations were then held for Supreme Council Officers. Resolutions, greetings and a

mandate report were made. The afternoon session was closed with a prayer by Fr. Anderlonis.

#### **FOURTH PLENARY SESSION**

Eligible fourth degree candidates were presented by Nellie Bayoras-Romanas. (See page 20 for list).

Robert Martin, Jr., 2nd Vice President, gave awards to councils and individuals who helped to increase membership. (See page 9 for listing.)

HM Loretta Stukas gave her report on the K. of L. Foundation and named the essay contest winners. There were 13 entrants and 6 winners. (See p. 14 -15 for winners and 1st prize essay.)

Elections were held for Supreme Council officers for 1996-1997. See inside cover for full listings of names and addresses.

Following the closing prayer and adjournment, a special luncheon meeting was held for the St. Casimir's Guild.

#### **FIFTH PLENARY SESSION**

Following a special greeting by Fr. William Volkovich, the St. Casimir Guild Report was given by Anna Klizas Wargo, president of the Guild. Anna reported that \$15,000. was forwarded to the Pontifical College from donations received in 1995.

From July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996, 334 Mass requests were received. The requests along with the stipends of \$10.00 each are sent to Rome each month and used by the student priests who have no other income. There were 20 student priests this year attending the college.

The St. Casimir Guild will be planning a pilgrimage to Rome in March 1998 for the 50th anniversary celebration of the Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome. More information on this special journey will be available early in 1997.

Anna Wargo thanked all who donated to the St. Casimir Guild financially and through their prayers during the year and at the Greetings desk.

Juniors gave their report and were awarded their conventionship stipends of \$25.00 each by Elena Mikalauskas, 3rd VP, Juniors. (See pg. 16.)

Following a brief discussion to maintain fiscal responsibility by Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Joseph Anderlonis, discussion followed on whether or not to accept the recommendations made by the budget committee to cut monetary resolutions. The

delegates agreed to accept most of the budget committee's recommendations in a close vote with plenty of arguments both pro and con. Monetary donations that remained the same as 1995 (last year) were: St. Casimir's Guild at \$1,000.00, LRCA at \$100.00 and the Junior's conventionship stipends at \$25.00 each. The following were cut: Lithuanian Catholic Children's Relief from \$1,000.00 to \$500.00, Darbininkas and Dirva from \$200.00 to \$100.00; The Sisters of Jesus Crucified, Srs. of St. Casimir, Srs. of St. Francis of the Providence of God and Srs. of the Immaculate Conception from \$200.00 each to \$100.00 each; Aid to Lithuania's request for a \$3,500.00 operating budget for 96-97 was cut to \$500.00. An Amendment was made by Bernice Aviza for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee to provide \$300.00 to their operating budget, following the budget committee's original recommendation of zero. Last year's Lithuanian Affairs resolution was for \$1,500.00. An amendment was also made for Draugas, following the budget committee's recommendation to grant \$100.00 to the newspaper. The VYTIS editor's recommendation to provide four no-cost quarter page advertisements to promote the new English language edition in lieu of any payment, was approved. In total, the budget resolutions committee and delegates reduced monetary resolutions from \$8,775.00 in 1995 to \$3,275.00 for this year. (See Resolutions section elsewhere in this issue.)

Next year's convention site was selected at Dayton, Ohio with C-96 as our hosts. HM Fran Petkus and Eleanor Sluzas gave the delegates pre-convention publicity, emphasizing the room suites available and the sites proximity to the U.S. Air Force Museum and other local attractions.

VYTIS editor, Maryte Abbott presented the first annual Council News and Writer's awards. Certificates were presented to: Fran Petkus (C-96), Marie Lasky (C-74) and Vincukas (C-10) for council news and Ed Baranauskas (C-100), Antonia Wackell (C-116) and Vincent Boris (C-102) for articles and poetry writing.

The convention sessions were concluded with greetings, mandate, announcements and a closing prayer.



(from pg. 7 **STATE OF ORGANIZATION**)  
 Knights of Lithuania. This year's essay contest "How should the changes in Lithuania affect the focus of Knights of Lithuania activity" revealed some new ideas. In all instances, the focus is toward education, the Catholic Church, and humanitarian aid! ... Not only to our brethren in Lithuania but here in America as well!

Elections will take place in Lithuania this year. Elections will take place in the United States this year. The needs are the same - education, health care, family life and church. We will have to cope with the inadequacies of both nations. But there is a difference, our country is a democracy, and the Republic of Lithuania is having a difficult time coming into the free world.

Let us pledge ourselves to a bright new future for the Knights of Lithuania. By demonstrating more human kindness and lots of patience, putting aside our differences and working together, we can continue to be proud of our K. of L. We did it before and we can do it again!

Sveikiniu seses ir brolius vycius su obalsiu "Gyvenam tautai ir baznyciai!"

## VACATION IN SUNNY FLORIDA !



Book your reservations now with Alice. Room with private bath \$200 per week. Room with semi-private bath \$150 per week. Includes continental breakfast, heated pool, air conditioning. Near shopping malls, golf courses and beach.

**Alice Zupko - 5886 Guest Court -  
 North Fort Myers, FL 33903  
 tel. (941) 656-5886**

### Letters to the Editor (from pg. 2)

#### More Scholarship Thanks



To the Editor:

I am writing to express my most sincere thanks for awarding me a \$2,000.00 K. of L. Scholarship. I would not have been able to attend college without it.

Ačiū labai! Vytiškai,  
**Mikalina Tambasco (C-100)**

#### Friend of Lithuania Thanks

(A portion of the letter sent to retiring Lith. Affairs Chair, Vince Boris)

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you and the Knights such a wonderful event. It is a great privilege to be honored by a group with such dedication and

commitment. I enjoyed very much meeting with so many Lithuanians from so many parts of the nation. The lovely award has taken a prominent place in my Lithuanian corner of my office, so I am reminded to keep a clear view and forge ahead. I'm afraid our project is not moving at horse-breakneck speed, but we are in forward motion.

Gratefully,  
**Sr. Margaret J. Kelly, D.C.**  
**St. John's University Lithuanian Project**



#### Reminder to Councils:

Please submit your Calendar of Events ASAP so your councils and districts will be listed in our calendar section.

**- the editors**

## A Successful Completion to the **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION** **1996 ESSAY CONTEST**

This year's Knights of Lithuania Foundation Essay Contest provided members an opportunity to ponder the changes in Lithuania after her independence. How and how much should the K of L address these new needs and how K of L goals should be ordered as a result? What new projects can we start to BEST help this fledgling nation? And what about our other goals -- keeping Lithuanianism alive among ourselves, enhancing our own organization? Where should our emphasis be placed?

The topic of the 1996 Foundation Contest was:

**"How should the changes in Lithuania effect the focus of Knights of Lithuania activity? Explain which activities should be minimized or dropped, which should be maximized or added -- and why!"**

Essays were judged on the basis of content, style, grammar, creativity, general appearance, and adherence to the stated topic. Judging was anonymous -- judges did not know the identity of any of the entrants until the judging was over. Winners were announced at the 83rd National Convention in Brockton, MA. The winning entries will be published in this and subsequent issues.

This year's contest provided members an opportunity to think about the Knights, where we have been and where we are going, while considering how we can help a newly independent Lithuania. When printed, they should provide interest to other members as well. We thank all the members who entered the contest, and congratulate those in the "winning circle", namely:

1st (\$300.00)	<b>Becky Nakrosis, C-90, Kearny, NJ</b>
2nd (\$200.00)	<b>Len Kapochus, C-3, Philadelphia, PA</b>
3rd (\$100.00)	<b>Joseph Kohanski, C-63, Lehigh Valley, PA</b>
Hon. Men.	<b>Walter Svekla, C-3, Philadelphia, PA</b>
Hon. Men.	<b>Charlotte Zemaitis Horvath, C-150, Kansas City, KS</b>
Hon. Men.	<b>Jessica Waska, C-26, Worcester, MA</b>



*HM Loretta Stukas reads essay winners.*

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

We encourage all members to enter the next contest!

*Loretta I. Stukas, President*

Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.



## Education: The Road to True Freedom

### K. of L. Foundation Essay Contest 1st Prize Winner

*Becky Nakrosis  
C-90, Kearny, NJ*

Freedom ... the word creates images of life as an individual, following one's personal path. While the idea is fundamental to some, to others it is frightening. The people of Lithuania have fought for freedom for fifty years. During that time, the Knights of Lithuania have also been fighting for Lithuania's freedom, as well as fighting to keep alive the customs and cultures of the country. Now that freedom has been achieved, the focus of not only the K of L, but also of Lithuania, must be changed. Lithuania needs to find a point of where and how to develop in order to become a competitive country. Since its independence, they have been offered many things; financial assistance, technological resources and nutritional aid. However, this support has not always been delivered. Regardless, Lithuania and her people need to be brought into the 20th century.

The most direct path to the 20th century, for an individual or for a country, is education. It is not only the duty of each Knight, but also of each Council, to support Lithuanians in learning where opportunities lie and how they can be reached. With education, the overwhelming idea of freedom can be molded into an action plan for the country. They will develop a solid direction in where the progress of the country will be going. Ultimately, Lithuania will make a contribution to the world through its development.

It is the duty of each member to support our fellow Lithuanians. A solid education will allow our people to help their country grow and change in their period of development. It will push the younger generation onto heights never before achieved within the country's boundaries. In our information age, an education can be as manageable as a computer hook up, or as simple as a book drive. It is imperative, however, to give the Lithuanians that chance and that choice.

While it is important to keep our culture alive, it is imperative to help our fellow Lithuanians. A large amount of people can be reached through US Government interaction. The Knights can easily receive information from the State Department on the views and attitudes towards Lithuania and foreign aid. A simple program of better nutrition and education, sponsored by the US Foreign Aid Fund, will produce a great difference to the citizens of free Lithuania. We, collectively, can begin a grassroots letter writing campaign to each of our elected officials. In an election year such as this, and with our national organization, there is no reason why our issues should not be met by our legislators. Too many members feel this is a great effort on their part. This unfortunate attitude will ultimately block Lithuania from gaining her financial independence. Every single member has the capability to change this situation, to write a letter, to send a message. If Lithuania is to survive as a free and independent state, it **MUST** be able to compete. The only possible way to compete is to be educated.



### Lithuanians Made the News...

Brockton's newspaper, *The Enterprise* featured a story on the 83rd National Convention in its Friday, Aug. 9 edition. The story, written by local reporter, Amy Blotcher Guerrero, told of our convention and K. of L. activities and featured a colorful photo of Juniors in Lithuanian costumes singing at the opening Mass at St. Casimir's Church in Brockton. It was featured alongside the Taunton Polish Picnic. Although our hosts provided us with copies of the newspaper, delegates snatched them up in a hurry as a pleasing remembrance of the August event.

## Junior Knights Make New Friends and Learn to Speak "Boston"



by Elena Mikalauskas

Juniors Knights were well represented at the 83rd Knights of Lithuania National Convention held in Brockton, MA. Those Juniors present included: Vilija Bizinkauskas, Anna Cius, Mary Cius, Andrea Deksnis, Bonnie Gulas, Kamile Ivanauskas, Sarah Miller, Erin Petkus, Robert Petkus, Catherine Skabeikis and Mikalina Tambasco. Guests included: Alex Deksnis and Jessica Thomas.

On Thursday morning, Juniors participated in the procession of the convention opening mass. Following mass, the group gathered and went to the Screening Committee and designed T-shirts to be given to their Lithuanian pen-pals. Sister Helen Ivanauskas had arranged for each Junior to receive a letter and craft from a child in Lithuania. The Juniors then spent time reading their letters and writing a response. After the shirt designing, the group went bowling before returning to the hotel for the evening activities.

On Friday, Juniors gathered and went on a road trip to Boston. Scott Kelly, Maria and Ed Deksnis and Michael Petkus were drivers and chaperones. The group walked part of the "Freedom Trail" and had lunch at a local pizza restaurant. After the Boston tour, the Juniors went to St. Joseph Manor, a nursing home and extended care facility to participate in an ice-cream social. At the manor the Juniors, along with Sister Helen Ivanauskas, made sundaes and visited with a group of residents. Juniors assisted the residents in returning to their rooms, after the social.

On Saturday, we held a brief meeting and

*Top photo:  
Juniors at  
St. Joseph  
Manor,  
(right) Jrs.  
attend  
opening  
Mass*



planning session before having a pool party. Thanks to Michael and Norma Petkus, Maria Deksnis and Sister Helen Ivanauskas for assisting. Even though the Juniors were having fun swimming and playing, they were also preparing for their afternoon performance for regular council members during a meeting session. The Juniors, accompanied by Agnes Mickunas on piano sang "E-I-E-I-O, We don't want to go home." Erin Petkus then described the Thursday activities. Catherine Skabeikis and Mikalina Tambasco, with their rehearsed Boston accents gave a detailed description of Friday's events, including driving by car to Quincy Market, parking bumper to bumper, placing quarters in the meter... (We thank Gary, the man at the front desk for his mini lesson on Boston accents.) Andrea Deksnis described the events of Saturday. Saturday evening the Juniors attended the banquet and many also attended the closing mass on Sunday.

Even though the majority of these Juniors had never met prior to this convention, they enjoyed spending time together. Many are already planning for next year in Dayton. Thanks for a fun time.

## Six Scholarships Awarded at Convention Banquet

by Maria Deksnis, K. of L. Scholarship Committee

Our committee chose six worthy candidates to receive a total of \$10,500.00 in scholarships this year. The first award of \$1,000.00 was to be presented to Msgr. Bartkus to be given to a worthy seminarian studying at the St. Casimir College in Rome, Italy. Unfortunately, Msgr. Bartkus was not able to join us at the convention this year, so we have forwarded the scholarship to him and he will notify us as to who will receive it.

The prestigious Alice Karklius Memorial Scholarship of \$2,500.00 was awarded to Amy Berczelly of C-96, Dayton, OH. Amy has held various positions in the Junior Knights. She actively participated in Junior events sponsored by the Junior council, and has now moved to the regular council. She is pursuing a career in the medical profession.

Mikalina Tambasco of C-100, Amsterdam, NY, received a \$2,000.00 scholarship. Mikalina has held several offices in the Junior K. of L. She formed a Lithuanian folk dance group and expressed appreciation of her Lithuanian heritage through the poem, "Lietuva" she wrote and won first prize in the Mid Atlantic District Junior Cultural Contest. Her poem was published in VYTIS (Jan.'96). Mikalina hopes to fulfill a dream occupation in Physical Therapy. She also participated as a Junior at this convention.

Jessica Waska of C-26, Worcester, MA, also received a \$2,000.00 scholarship. She is the youngest member of C-26. She joined the

Lithuanian choir at St. Casimir's Church and participates in many K. of L. activities and functions. Membership in the K. of L. is a family tradition and Jessica feels that participation in one's ethnic background is vital to being a well-rounded individual. Jessica plans to major in Biochemistry with a minor concentration in Theater Arts.

Lina Paltanaviciute of C-36, Brighton Park Chicago, received a \$1,500.00 scholarship. She has been a member of C-36 for three years. Lina graduated from the Lithuanian Institute of Education. Her diploma qualifies her to teach in the Lithuanian American Saturday School System. Lina intends to study Criminal Law.

Vincent Youravich of C-118, Hazelton, PA, was also awarded a \$1,500.00 scholarship. He has been a member of his council, which does not have a Junior council, for two years. Vincent can be counted on to assist the regular members in K. of L. fund raisers, and he helped host the annual picnic. Vincent's goal is to obtain a doctorate degree in Clinical Psychology.



*The winners (L to R top row): Amy Berczelly, Mikalina Tambasco; (bottom row): Jessica Waska, Lina Paltanaviciute and Vincent Youravich.*

*We lifted our voices and had a grand time  
at Brockton's 83rd National Convention !!!*



***Brockton's hard workers at C-1 that made it all happen. Left to right (First row) S. Shukis, Veronica Cote, Veronica Bizinkauskas, Maryte Bizinkauskas and F. Bumila. (Second row) D. Fralick, D. DeBois, F. Carnilla, A. Yarmalavich and R. Dooley. (Third row) George Bumila, A. Bumila, E. Cominski, J. Tubelis, A. Grien and S. Kelly.***



*Photo left: Mandate Committee workers: (standing) Irene Svekla and Agnes Mickunas, (seated) Georgiann Macke, Ann Marie Kassel and Dorothy Banos (chair); photo right: convention secretaries: Bernice Aviza and Barbara Schmidt.*



*Saturday night's banquet featured K. of L. President, Evelyn Ozelis addressing a crowd of 400; new honorary member, Alexander Akule and his family, K. of L. Scholarship winners and Friend of Lithuania award winner, Sr. Margaret John Kelly, D.C. of St. John's University. The meal began with a song, "Prayer Before Meals" sung to the tune of "Edelweiss", and ended with polka dancing and midnight sweets, and snacks provided by C-1.*



*Convention Presidium Officers (above) Robert Martin, Jr., Frances Petkus and John Mickunas (chair); Greetings Committee (left) included Mary Kincius, Isabel Peterson and Anna Helen McDonald.*



*...but will the convention phantom strike again?*

## From Broadway to Vilnius, by Way of Rome and Vienna

by HM Loretta Stukas

The concert's title was "From Broadway to Vilnius", but, to the listeners' delight, it traveled, in song, through Rome, Vienna, and other musical cities as well. The event was the 83rd National Convention's Cultural Evening on Friday evening. With the Holiday Inn's Grand Ballroom packed with enthusiastic delegates and guests, Brockton soloists Maryte Bizinkauskas, Danute Mileika and Algimantas Strasunskas, entertained with enjoyable renditions of compositions by Rogers, Lehar, Strauss, Simkus, Puccini and others, in English, Italian and Lithuanian.

The program varied between light and complex excerpts from light opera and operettas, as well as Lithuanian folk songs, and featured solos, duets and trios by Soprano Maryte, Mezzo-Soprano Danute, and Tenor Algimantas. A surprise treat was provided by Veronica Bizinkauskas Cote with her enjoyable renditions of some Richard Rodgers

selections. The soloists and their accompanist, Bradley Pennington, performed with professional prowess and enjoyable presentations and kept the program exciting and fast moving, and the very warm audience rewarded their renditions with enthusiastic applause.

A moving family moment came at the end of the first half of the program when Maryte dedicated her rendition of Lehar's "Vilija Song" to her lovely little daughter, Vilija. And the grand finale, Strauss' "Champagne Trio" brought smiles to all. Responding to the excitement of the audience, the trio of Maryte, Danute and Algimantas encored by repeating the number as they and the audience were treated to glasses of champagne, served quickly by the Hotel staff. To be sure, this most enjoyable concert ended on a happy note!

We congratulate the Bizinkauskas sisters and their friends for a most cultured "Cultural Evening", and thank the Convention Committee for their work in preparing this lovely event.

## Twenty Six Eligible for Fourth Degrees

by Nellie-Bayoras Romanas, Ritual Chair

Although our closing Mass wound up at the hotel ballroom, half of the eligible members received their hard earned fourth degrees at the convention. The remainder will receive theirs at the St. Casimir's Day celebration masses held in each district.

Eligible recipients for fourth degree are: C-7 Waterbury, CT: Rev. Francis Karvelis, Ann Kundrotas and Joan Shukaitis; C-12 New York, NY: Rev. Eugene Sawicki and Irene Senken; C-17 Boston, MA: Joseph J. Balaconis; C-36 Chicago, IL: Salomeja Daulys and Raymond Wertelka; C-109 Great Neck, NY: Joseph Zukas; C-110 Maspeth, NY: Amylia Girdauskas, Ann Ackalaitis, Bruno Rutkunas, Jean Rutkunas, Brian



*Eight C-110 members receive Fourth Degrees*

Rutkunas, Joseph Stelmokas and Roman Wensek; C-112 Chicago, IL: Aldona Brazis; C-141 Bridgeport, CT: Barbara Wilchinskas Schmidt; C-144 Anthracite, PA: John Koons, Mary Labadis, Anna Helen McDonald, Helen Matunis, Mary Narcavage and Victor Prep; C-152 Eastern L.I., NY: Agnes Marma .

**IN MEMORIAM***Rest in Peace***George Tumasonis**C-41, Brooklyn, NY  
August 10, 1996**John M. Lucas**C-17, So. Boston, MA  
June 28, 1996**Connie Siastis**C-12, New York, NY  
June 4, 1996**Eugenia Gecas**C-96, Dayton, OH  
May 21, 1996**Anna Jonaitis Sabonis**C-30, Westfield, MA  
August 19, 1996**Sophie Maculaitis**C-110, Maspeth, NY  
July 19, 1996**Emily Greiner**C-110, Maspeth, NY  
August 22, 1996**Albin Planchunas**C-5, Chicago, IL  
Dec. 30, 1995**Stanley Rasimas**C-5, Chicago, IL  
Jan 1, 1996**Eleanor Kassick**C-118, Hazelton, PA  
May 11, 1995**Della Katrishin**

C-118, Hazelton

**Josephine Kilkus**

C-36, Chicago, IL

**THREE RECEIVE  
SPECIAL AWARDS**

Three members of the Knights of Lithuania received special awards from the Lithuanian Minister of Health, Dr. Antanas Vinkus, on July 6, 1996. They received the awards while ending a tour of the Baltics, sponsored by Aid to Lithuania, Inc.

Aid to Lithuania, Inc. President, Robert S. Boris, along with Frank Petrauskas (C-140) and Ona Šadeikiene (C-102), were personally presented these awards in Lithuania. Dr. Vinkus presented this highest recognition by the Ministry - A Certificate of Thanks - (Padekos Raštas) in gratitude for the outstanding work being done for the sick and needy in Lithuania.

Mr. Petrauskas of Syracuse, NY, has collected medicines worth millions that are sent to Lithuania through Aid to Lithuania. Mrs. Šadeikiene of Detroit, MI, has been a volunteer at World Medical Relief in Detroit for many years. All three are members of the Knights of Lithuania, which Aid to Lithuania, Inc. (ATL) is affiliated.

Catholic Medical Mission Board, NY, provides the medicine while ATL covers transportation charges and arranges distribution in Lithuania.

"This partnership of CMMB and ATL has provided more urgently needed medicine for charitable distribution throughout Lithuania than any other group so far," said Mr. Boris.



*Award recipients (l to r) Frank Petrauskas, Minister of Health Dr. Antanas Vinkus, Robert Boris and Ona Šadeikiene.*

"We are sincerely grateful for the support the Knight of Lithuania and others have rendered in the past. The recent \$7,034.00 donated during our past convention in Brockton, MA, in August will cover the cost of shipping one and one-half containers to Lithuania," he added.

Since some medicines have a shelf life, and the Lithuanian Ministry of Health cannot accept past dated medicines, Mr. Boris emphasized that monetary help is still needed. "It would be a sin to turn down medicine being offered, simply because we lack funds to provide transportation," he said.

Aid to Lithuania, Inc. thanks those who donated to this most worthwhile project during the year and at the Brockton Convention.

# RESOLUTIONS - NUTARIMAI

## Constitutional Change:

### **ADDITION OF VYTIS BUSINESS MANAGER TO SUPREME COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS** the Supreme Council has previously established the position of VYTIS business manager; and,

**WHEREAS** the business matters of VYTIS are of importance to the deliberations of the Supreme Council; and,

**WHEREAS** the presence of the VYTIS business manager has been essential at Supreme Council meetings,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by this 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania that the Knights of Lithuania Constitution be amended as follows:

1. Article X, Section 1, which now reads, in part: "The Supreme Council shall consist of... district presidents; VYTIS editor; legal advisor, will read: "The Supreme Council shall consist of... district presidents; VYTIS editor; VYTIS business manager; legal advisor.

2. Article X, Section 2, which now reads, in part: " ... editor and the legal advisor are appointed by the Supreme Council and are nonvoting members of the Supreme Council." will read: " ... VYTIS editor, VYTIS business manager, and the legal advisor are appointed by the Supreme Council and are nonvoting members of the Supreme Council. "

3. Article XI, Section 8, which now reads, in part: "The appointed members of the Supreme Council are the VYTIS editor and the legal advisor." will read: "The appointed members of the Supreme Council are the VYTIS editor, VYTIS business manager, and the legal advisor."

4. Article XI, Section 8, will have an added subsection c. to read; c. The VYTIS business manager handles the mailing, subscriptions, advertisements and other business matters of VYTIS.

Passed: August 9, 1996

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### **ALLOWING INVESTMENT OF RESERVE FUNDS**

**WHEREAS** the Knights of Lithuania within the last year has placed part of its assets with Smith

Barney, Inc. through Lynx Investment Advisors, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the part of ARTICLE XVI, SECTION 2 of the Constitution of the Knights of Lithuania reading:

"These assets are kept in the Knights of Lithuania name in federally insured banking institutions."

be changed to read:

"The Supreme Council may select a corporate institution to handle, invest and maintain the Organization's funds; provided, however, that such institutions must be regulated by the Federal Reserve Board or Securities and Exchange Commission or must provide adequate and sufficient insurance, as determined by the Supreme Council, for all accounts maintained by the Organization with such institutions."

Approved: August 9, 1996

Submitted by: Supreme Council

## Honorary Membership

### **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP FOR ARCHBISHOP PAUL MARCINKUS**

**WHEREAS** the 82nd Annual Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi MI, on August 11, 1996, approved the candidacy of His Excellency Archbishop Paul Marcinkus for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and,

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

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this 83rd National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon His Excellency Archbishop Paul Marcinkus.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that due to his inability to attend the presentation ceremonies at this convention, the medal and certificate will be presented at some future appropriate function at the discretion of the Honorary Membership Committee Chair.

Passed: August 9, 1996

### **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP FOR**



**ALEXANDER AKULE**

**WHEREAS** the 82nd Annual Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi, MI on August 11, 1995, approved the candidacy of Alexander Akule for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and,

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

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this 83rd National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon Alexander Akule, member of Council 17, New England District.

Passed: August 9, 1995

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**CANDIDACY OF BERTHA STOSKUS FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**

**BE IT RESOLVED** at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, that the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Holiday Inn, in Brockton, MA, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership - Bertha Stoskus, Member of Council 103, New England District, and allow her history, outlining her services as a worthy and dedicated Knight to be published in VYTIS.

Passed: August 9, 1996

**General****NATO MEMBERSHIP FOR LITHUANIA**

**WHEREAS** the United States has historically taken the lead role in establishing policy, guiding and expanding NATO, United States' support for the acceptance of a candidate nation into NATO is essential; and,

**WHEREAS** the US Congress has established several criteria for potential NATO membership and these criteria would have to be met in order to qualify for support by the US for a specific NATO candidate; and,

**WHEREAS** the Republic of Lithuania has seriously and urgently requested acceptance into NATO and was among the first of the East/Central European nations to eagerly join the Partnership for Peace; and,

**WHEREAS** Lithuania has taken all due measures to qualify for membership under criteria established by the U.S. as well as

indicated its readiness to assume the responsibilities and sacrifices of participating in multinational military and peacekeeping efforts through its willing participation in IFOR,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we delegates to the 83rd annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania on behalf of ourselves, our membership, family and friends herewith petition the Government of the United States to sponsor the candidacy of the Republic of Lithuania for immediate NATO membership at the next (December 1996) NATO ministerial meeting when expansion of NATO is scheduled to be discussed.

Approved: August 9, 1996

Submitted by: Lithuanian Affairs Chair

\* \* \*

**CAUSE OF MOTHER MARIA KAUPAS**

**WHEREAS** the Sisters of St. Casimir are a congregation of Lithuanian religious; and,

**WHEREAS** the Sisters of St. Casimir have worked together with the Knights of Lithuania for many years with the common objectives for God and Country; and,

**WHEREAS** the Sisters of St. Casimir have now undertaken propagation of the cause of the Beatification of their Foundress, Mother Maria Kaupas and would greatly appreciate supportive efforts by the Knights of Lithuania,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Knights of Lithuania cooperate and support this most significant effort in every way possible.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Resolutions Committee

**1996-1997 Budget****BUDGET REVISION**

**WHEREAS** the originally proposed budget for the 1996 to 1997 fiscal year of the Knights of Lithuania made no allocations for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee; and,

**WHEREAS** the Lithuanian Affairs Committee has been a vital part of the Knights of Lithuania,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the proposed budget for the Knights of Lithuania 1996-1997 fiscal year be amended to include \$300.00 for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Bernice Aviza

\* \* \*

**STIPEND TO JUNIORS**

**WHEREAS** the future of this organization will largely depend on the support of the Junior Knights of Lithuania; and,

**WHEREAS** it is in enlightened self-interest of the Knights of Lithuania to financially, as well as morally, support the Juniors,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the \$25.00 stipend to each Junior who attends and participates in the National Convention be restored for those attending this convention; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the FY1996-1997 Budget be amended to include this expenditure.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Veronica Cote

Amended by Finance Committee

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**BUDGET DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS** a Budget Committee was appointed by the Supreme Council President in accordance with the Budget Resolution passed at the 82nd National Convention; and,

**WHEREAS** this committee was directed to find ways to cut costs and decrease expenditures so as to arrive at a balanced budget; and,

**WHEREAS** the need for a balanced budget is ongoing while expenditures inevitably continue to rise,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that a new budget committee be appointed by the National President and confirmed by the Supreme Council to look for ways to increase our income so that our important work and essential charitable contributions in support of the goals of the Knights of Lithuania can be continued.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Resolutions Committee

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**THE REV. JOHN JUTT MEMORIAL FUND**

**WHEREAS** This is the 25th Anniversary Year of the death of the Reverend John C. Jutt; and,

**WHEREAS** the need to continue our efforts on behalf of Lithuania's struggle to achieve a stable independence and democracy is greater than ever; and,

**WHEREAS** the Lithuanian Affairs Committee should be funded from a solid and reliable basis;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rev. John C. Jutt Memorial Fund for maintaining the Lithuanian

Affairs Committee be established as a means of collecting donations to support this important organizational activity.

Passed: August 9, 1996

Submitted by: Resolution Committee

**IN MEMORIAM: STANLY VAITKUS  
THOMAS BRUZGA**

**WHEREAS** during this past year, the Knights of Lithuania lost two very prominent and active members: one a highly respected and beloved Honorary Member, Stanley Vaitkus, Chair of the Honorary Member Committee, the other our sitting 1st Vice-president, Thomas Bruzga.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that in grateful appreciation and recognition of their work, we, delegates to the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered here at the Holiday Inn, Brockton, MA on this 9th day of August, 1996, pay tribute to these worthy and outstanding Knights with a moment of silence.

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

**Donations****ST. CASIMIR'S GUILD**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates to this 83rd Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled in Brockton, MA, continue to show our support to the Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome, Italy, with a donation of \$1,000 (One Thousand dollars) through the St. Casimir's Guild.

Passed: August 10, 1996

**AID TO LITHUANIA, INC**

**WHEREAS** the Knights of Lithuania have underwritten the administrative expenses of Aid to Lithuanian, Inc., during its first four years;

and,  
**WHEREAS** the Supreme Council at their March 1994 meeting in Worcester voted to terminate this practice; and,  
**WHEREAS** the delegates to the 82nd National Convention voted to make a sizeable donation to financially support this most significant Knights of Lithuania sponsored effort, particularly since Aid to Lithuania has gained unprecedented respect and publicity through this humanitarian aid and reflected great credit upon the Knights of Lithuania with which Aid to Lithuania, Inc., is so closely identified,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we delegates to the 83rd annual National Convention, here assembled, again set an appropriate example by making a monetary grant of \$500. to Aid to Lithuania for FY 96-97.

Passed: August 10, 1996  
 Submitted by: Resolutions Committee  
 Amended by Financial Review Comm.

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#### DONATION TO LCRA

**WHEREAS** Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid continues to provide spiritual and humanitarian assistance to Lithuania,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Knights of Lithuania assembled at the 83rd National Convention send a \$100. donation to Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid to support their ongoing work.  
 Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Resolutions Committee  
 Approved by Financial Review Comm.

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#### CONTRIBUTION TO LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF

**WHEREAS** Lithuanian Children's Relief, Inc. has heard the challenge to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty and clothe the naked children of Lithuania; and,  
**WHEREAS** many K of L'ers are involved in gathering, packing and shipping clothes and food to Lithuania,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that this convention grant \$500. to help further this worthwhile work.

Passed: Aug 10, 1996  
 Submitted by: Res. Comm.  
 Amended by Financial Review Comm.

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#### DONATION TO SISTERS

**WHEREAS** The Sisters of Jesus Crucified, Sisters of St. Casimir, Sisters of St. Francis of

the Providence of God and the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have all strived to introduce new ways of serving the religious in Lithuania; and,

**WHEREAS** the Knights of Lithuania also strive to make known the needs of Lithuania's religious communities and support them in various ways as best it can,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this convention acknowledge the Sisters' works with a donation of \$100.00 to each of the [four] communities and ask its members to continue to offer support to the Sisters' efforts in as many ways as possible.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by the Finance Committee

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#### APPRECIATION OF DARBININKAS

**WHEREAS** the Lithuanian Catholic Weekly, DARBININKAS, has generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its appreciation to the DARBININKAS and its staff for their cooperation and generosity.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a donation of \$100.00 be sent to DARBININKAS with an expression of gratitude.

Passed. August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Resolution Committee  
 Amended by Financial Review Committee.

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#### APPRECIATION OF DIRVA

**WHEREAS** Lithuanian Weekly "DIRVA" has generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the 82nd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its sincerest gratitude to "Dirva" and its staff for their generosity and cooperation;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a \$100.00 donation be sent with this expression of gratitude.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Public Relations  
 Amended by Financial Review Committee.

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#### APPRECIATION OF DRAUGAS

**WHEREAS** the Lithuanian Catholic Daily "DRAUGAS" has consistently and generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania in the "Vyčių Veikla" column and other parts of their publication; and,

**WHEREAS** Draugas is now considering the

publication of a weekly English-language edition,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express its sincerest gratitude to "Draugas" and its staff for their generosity and cooperation in publicizing Knights of Lithuania activity and congratulate the managers and editors of Draugas for moving in the direction of serving the broader spectrum of Americans of Lithuanian heritage who no longer have a sufficient command of the Lithuanian language but remain interested in news of Lithuania and on the activity of Lithuanians living in this country,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in consideration of their efforts a one-quarter page notice advertizing their English-language edition will be placed in four subsequent issues of VYTIS

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Resolution Committee

Amended by Vytis Editor.

### Thanks

#### **THANKS TO WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF**

**WHEREAS** the World Medical Relief Organization, established as a non-profit organization to send medical supplies to needy countries, has continued to make available much needed medicines, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment for shipment to Lithuania. In the six years of collaborative effort with the Knights of Lithuania, 20 containers for Aid to Lithuania have already been dispatched; and, **WHEREAS** the total estimated value of the medical aid for Lithuania donated through the auspices of World Medical Relief is now over ELEVEN MILLION DOLLARS,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates to this 83rd Annual National Convention that the Knights of Lithuania acknowledge this most valuable contribution and express our heartfelt thanks to World Medical Relief for its outstanding work.

Passed: August 9, 1996

Submitted by: ATL

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#### **THANKS TO CATHOLIC MEDICAL MISSION BOARD**

**WHEREAS** Catholic Medical Mission Board has been most generous in supplying much needed medicines for shipment to Lithuania and have now contributed to 11 shipments with donated

medicines worth almost NINETEEN MILLION DOLLARS.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates gathered at the 83rd National Convention, that the Knights of Lithuania express our appreciation for their continuing most valuable support.

Passed: August 09, 1996

Submitted by: ATL

\* \* \*

#### **THANK YOU TO MR. STEVE LIVANAVAGE**

**WHEREAS** Mr. Steve Livanavage, a Lithuanian businessman resident in Hackettstown, NJ, has most generously obtained a significant amount of bio-med equipment and consumable supplies required in hemo-dialysis therapy and made it available for shipment to Lithuania; and, **WHEREAS** in cooperation with the Knights of Lithuania subsidiary, Aid to Lithuania, Inc., he has responded to urgent calls for specific supplies critically needed at the Antakalnis Hospital Nephrological Center; and, **WHEREAS**, the aggregate value of materials and equipments donated by or through Mr. Livanavage and contained in five shipments under the auspices of Aid to Lithuania, Inc., now totals almost ONE and A HALF MILLION DOLLARS.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we delegates to the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, on behalf of our membership at large acknowledge this most significant humanitarian aid effort and express our sincere appreciation for his efforts.

PASSED: August 09, 1996

Submitted by: ATL

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#### **THANK YOU TO H.E. ADAM CARDINAL MAIDA**

**WHEREAS** His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida, Archbishop of Detroit has demonstrated a true Christian love for Lithuania and her beleaguered people; and, **WHEREAS** he donated \$10,000 to Bishop Paul Baltakis to be used toward expenses during his pastoral visit to Lithuanians still living in Siberian exile and in other remote areas of Russia; and,

**WHEREAS** he donated another \$10,000 to the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God, whose motherhouse is in Pittsburgh, to aid them in re-establishing a Franciscan presence in Lithuania and develop their Mission in Utena, Lithuania; and,

**WHEREAS** Cardinal Maida has also donated

\$5,000. to help defray costs of shipping a container of furnishings to the Cathedral at Vilkaviskis, currently being reconstructed,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates at the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled on this 10th day of August 1996, that the Knights of Lithuania extend our warmest greetings and sincere felicitations acknowledging his singular generosity.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: ATL

\* \* \*

#### **THANK YOU - AMSTERDAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

**WHEREAS** Amsterdam Memorial Hospital in Amsterdam, N.Y. has continuously supplied medical supplies and equipment to Lithuanian hospitals since 1991; and,

**WHEREAS** Knights of Lithuania Council 100 members, Edward and Apolonija Žiausys have been instrumental in obtaining these medicines and medical supplies now valued at over one-half million dollars and arranging for the shipment to Lithuania,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates to the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania express their gratitude to Edward and Apolonija Žiausys; and that the Knights of Lithuania express their appreciation with a letter of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Žiausys and to the Amsterdam Memorial Hospital.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Bernice Aviza

\* \* \*

#### **THANKS TO OUTGOING SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICERS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates of the 83rd Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered here at the Holiday Inn, Brockton, MA, express on behalf of themselves and the general membership, that they represent, their deepest gratitude to the 1995-1996 Supreme Council for its dedicated service to the organization and support of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

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#### **THANKS TO VINCENT BORIS**

**WHEREAS** Vincent Boris has served faithfully as chairman of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee since 1989; and,

**WHEREAS** this service has brought acclaim, righteous action and accurate information to our members and other readers of the Lithuanian Affairs Newsletter,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Knights of Lithuania assembled in this 83rd National Convention formally thank him for his services and wish him all the best in the future.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Maryte Abbott and Peter Zansitis

#### **Congratulations**

##### **TO FR. J. WALTER STANIEVICH**

**WHEREAS** Father J. Walter Stanievich is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood which took place on October 27, 1946, and;

**WHEREAS** Father Stanievich, has served as the Spiritual Advisor of Council 102 since 1959 and was also the National Spiritual Advisor during the period 1961 through 1964, he has shown himself to be a strong supporter of the Knights of Lithuania.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates at the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled on this 10th day of August 1996, extend our warmest greetings, sincere felicitations and heartiest congratulations to Father Stanievich.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: C-102, Detroit

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##### **TO FR. PETER SHAKELIS**

**WHEREAS** Father Peter Shakelis will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in May 1997; and,

**WHEREAS** Father Peter faithfully served the parishioners of St. Casimir's Church, Brockton, MA, and has been a strong supporter of the Knights of Lithuania,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates at the 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled on this 10th day of August 1995, extend our warmest greetings, sincere felicitations and heartiest congratulations to Father Shakelis.

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Council 1, Brockton

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##### **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA CHOIR**

**WHEREAS** the Knights of Lithuanian Choir of the Mid-America District was formed in 1916 to promote Lithuanian culture through song; and,

**WHEREAS** the official celebration of this 80th

anniversary will be observed on October 13, 1996.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates to the 83rd annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania assembled on this 10th day of August 1996 extend our heartiest congratulations and best wishes for their continuing success to the members of the Choir, their director Faustas Strolia and their president Sabina Henson.

**VALIO! VALIO! VALIO!**

Passed: August 10, 1996

Submitted by: Resolution Committee

### Thanks to our hosts

**THANK YOU, BISHOP JOHN MCCORMACK**  
**WHEREAS** His Excellency Bishop John B. McCormack, Vicar General and Regional Bishop of the Southern Region, Archdiocese of Boston has repeatedly demonstrated a most affectionate and abiding support of his flock and has specifically lent his personal as well as official time, talents, and effort to support those of Lithuanian heritage.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we delegates to the 83rd National Convention hereby extend on behalf of all our membership a most heartfelt thanks to Bishop McCormack, wishing him a long and prosperous life with much success in his episcopacy. We pray that God grant him all he needs or wants and more.

\* \* \*

**AČIŪ, 1-A KUOPA**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates of the 83rd Annual National Convention of the

Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Brockton, MA, extend our sincerest congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Host Council 1 and in particular the entire convention committee for having planned and provided excellent programs and facilities for this convention.

**NUTARTA:** 83-čias Lietuvos Vyčių seimas dėkoja vietinei Broktono 1-ajai kuopai už tėvišką šeimynišką ir labai nuoširdžią seimo globą. Ačiū, Ačiū, Ačiū!

\* \* \*

**THANK YOU HOLIDAY INN, BROCKTON**  
**WHEREAS** the management and the staff of the Brockton Holiday Inn demonstrated an uncommon level of hospitality, courtesy and cooperativeness during our 83rd annual National Convention; and,  
**WHEREAS** the accommodations were most comfortable and pleasing; most specifically appreciated was the use of a separate room for our religious services,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that Supreme Council President send a note of appreciation and thanks on behalf of all the delegates.

\* \* \*

### **THANKS TO PRESIDIU**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates to the 83rd Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Holiday Inn, Brockton, MA, extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to the Presidium and its committees for their hard work, diligence and professionalism in the conduct of the business of this convention.

\* \* \*

### **Move Over, Boston, here's a rival bean**

**recipe...**Here's some yummy convention foods some of us enjoyed during one of our lunch breaks in Brockton. Thanks to Lithuanian chef, Lee Moore of C-86, DuBois, PA

#### Calico Beans

Cook in Frying pan:  
1/2 lb. cut up bacon  
1/2 lb. hamburger  
1 cup chopped onions

In roaster, add:  
1/2 cup ketchup  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 tsp. salt; 1 tsp dry mustard  
2 Tbsp. vinegar  
1 can pork and beans  
1 can kidney beans  
1 can green beans (drained)  
1 can butter beans (drained)  
Bake at 350-degree oven for 40 minutes. This transports well and was warmed on a hot plate.

#### Convention Snack Mix

Combine in a large bowl:  
1 10 oz. pkg. of mini pretzels  
5 cups Cheerios  
5 cups Chex  
2 cups peanuts  
1 bag M & M's  
Melt 2 pks. of Nestle's vanilla chips and 3 Tbsp. vegetable oil in microwave. Pour over ingredients and after coated, place on waxed paper to cool. Store in covered container. (Apple cinnamon Cheerios, cashews & peanut butter M&M's also good to use.)

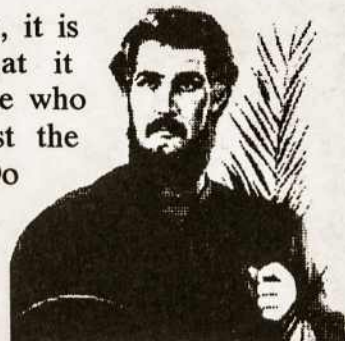
## When there's little hope... there is always St. Jude!

In early September, if you live in or near Baltimore, you begin to see ads in the Newspapers and hear spots on radio; all advertising the start of the Solemn Novena in honor of St. Jude, whose feast day is observed on October 28. The Solemn Novena begins nine weeks earlier. This devotion to the Patron Saint of hopeless causes or impossible situations continues one of the oldest and yet strongly enduring religious traditions of the Universal Church. How St. Jude became recognized as the prime intercessor for hopeless causes seems to be lost in antiquity. Yet, it is an ancient tradition which has endured possibly because St. Jude has proven to be a most powerful and effective advocate.

Little is known about St. Jude. He was one of the original twelve selected by Jesus as His disciples. Yet, while three of the four Gospels include him in an enumeration of the Apostles, there is no recorded information on when or how he was chosen. He has been identified as one of the "brethren" of Jesus suggesting a blood relationship.

The name, Jude, by which we know him is an anglicized version of Judas; it was adopted very early to avoid confusion with Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Jesus into the hands of the soldiers in the Garden of Gethsemane. In the Gospels, he is also referred to as Thaddeus and as the brother of James, the Lesser.

By tradition, it is believed that it was St. Jude who asked Christ the question, "Do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?"



In response, Jesus answered, "If anyone loves me, he will hold to my words, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our home with him."

The activities of St. Jude after the ascension of Christ are also little known. It is believed that he embarked on the evangelization of the East and spent much time preaching in Persia. According to ancient texts, he was joined in this mission by St. Simon, another of the twelve and with whom he shares this feast day in the Roman calendar. Both were martyred in Persia. It is believed that St. Jude was crucified in the territory of present day Armenia which, at that time, was part of the Persian Empire.

St. Jude's significance for us today rests largely in his advocacy for the resolution of impossible causes. It should be noted that it was through his question, that Jesus provided affirmation of that most consoling truth: that the Trinity dwells in the souls of the just.

## Convention Banquet features Friend of Lithuania Award Winner and New Honorary Member



Sr. Margaret John Kelly, D.C. accepted the 1996 Friend of Lithuania, presented by retiring Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Vincent Boris award at the convention banquet on Saturday, August 10. Sr. Kelly is the Board liaison at St. John's University and noted modestly that the University itself should have been given the award along with other members of her committee.

The major achievement which led to the award is Sr. Kelly's coordination of the Bernadine Complex, an extensive 4.2 million dollar project which will renovate a centuries-old complex located in Old Town Vilnius. The complex includes the former Church of St. Michael, the old convent and workshop of the Bernadine Sisters, who occupied it since the mid fifteenth century. The restoration plans will create a Lithuanian heritage center which will include classrooms, cultural and commercial activities. Sr. Kelly is supervising the business proposal, the project timetable, managing the architects, and the fundraising activities. She is also working closely with the Peace and Justice Commission at the Vatican, the United Nations and trustees of St. John's University to make this project a reality. Present timetables indicate. The Bernadine Complex to be completed in 1999.

Sr. Kelly also recommended a program for St. John's University of NYC to send professors to Vilnius University and have them teach business and ethics to Lithuanian students. Sr. coordinated the program in 1992 and it is ongoing today. Each college semester two St. John's professors teach at the University of Vilnius. Recently, one of the professors received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach in Lithuania.



Although Knights were disappointed that Archbishop Paul C. Marcinkus did not attend the banquet to accept his Honorary Membership award, Alexander Akule, the other candidate, from Council 17, South Boston, was on hand along with his family to receive this special degree.

Mr. Akule tearfully gave an acceptance speech thanking the Knights for this great honor. He thanked his wife, Pat, for encouraging him to join the Knights in 1947. He has been an active member of the K. of L., participating in council activities as well as parish activities at St. Peter's Lithuanian parish in South Boston. Mr. Akule has held many council, and New England District offices, including NED president for three consecutive terms.



## GREETINGS TO THE 83RD NATIONAL CONVENTION, 1996

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

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

**PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON**  
 President of the United States  
 The White House  
 Washington, DC

**HIS EXCELLENCY ALGIMANTAS EIDINTAS**  
 Ambassador of Lithuania to the USA  
 Washington, DC

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

**HON. VYTAUTAS CEKANAUŠKAS**  
 Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania  
 Los Angeles, CA

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

**LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL (ALTAS)**  
 Mr. Grozvydas Lazauskas, President  
 Chicago, IL

**LITHUANIAN WORLD COMMUNITY  
 (PASAUOLIO LIETUVIŲ BENDRUOMENĖ)**  
 Bronius Nainys, President  
 Chicago, IL  
 by Česlovas Mickunas

**LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC  
 FEDERATION OF AMERICA**  
 Saulius Kuprys, President  
 Chicago, IL

**LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC ALLIANCE**  
 Thomas E. Mack, President  
 Wilkes-Barre, PA

**LITHUANIAN ALLIANCE OF AMERICA**  
 Vytautas Dargis, President  
 Westchester, IL  
 by Nellie Bayoras-Romanas

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

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

**LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID**  
 Vida Jankauskas, Administrator  
 Brooklyn, NY

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

**LITHUANIAN FOUNDATION, INC.  
 (LIETUVIŲ FONDAS)**  
 Povilas Kilius, President  
 Lemont, IL

**DARBININKAS**  
 Julius Kelevas, Editor  
 Brooklyn, NY

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

**LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC  
 CHARITIES, INC.**  
 Linas Sidrys, MD, President  
 Chicago, IL

**LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF, INC.**  
 Daiva Vistas Neidharst  
 So. Boston, MA

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

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

**SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE  
 CONCEPTION**  
 Sister M. Paule, Superior  
 Putnam, CT

**SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED**  
 Sister Celestine Stakutis, CJC,  
 Superior General  
 Brockton, MA  
 by Sister Eugenia Slavickas, CJC

**SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR**  
 Sister Marilyn Kuzmickas, SSC  
 General Superior  
 Chicago, IL  
 by Sister Margaret Petcavage, SSC

### GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

#### VYTIS FUND:

Joseph & Arlene Stiklius, C-7	100.00
(IMO Walter Maknis & Victor Viatkus)	
Brian Rutkunas, C-110	75.00
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	50.00
K of L Mid-Atlantic District	25.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Loretta Stukas, HM, C-29	25.00
Lee Marcinka, C-141	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	25.00
Algerd (HM) & Aldona Brazis, C-112	25.00
Anna Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Helen Ambrose)	
Helen Matulonis, C-110	20.00
Helen Medley, C-50	10.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	10.00
Polly Ziausys, C-100	10.00
Anna Helen & Tom McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO Son Tom & Grandparents Bubel)	
Sophia Sakalys	10.00

#### PLEDGES:

Genevieve Rutkunas, C-110	25.00
(IMO Eidukas Family)	
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00

**TOTAL: \$520.00**

#### K OF L GENERAL FUND:

Anna Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Helen Shields)	

**TOTAL: \$25.00**

#### AID TO LITHUANIA:

K of L C-110, Maspeth	\$1,000.00
Aldona J. Kirstuk, C-147	500.00
K of L Amber District	200.00
Angela Minsavitch	200.00
(IMO Mr. & Mrs. John Miklasevicius)	
Juliann D. Majeski	200.00
(IMO Frank Kapochus)	
Ray & Nellie Pandza, C-3	125.00
(IMO Dec. Fam. Members)	
K of L Mid-Atlantic District	100.00
K of L C-86, DuBois	100.00
(IMO Tom Bruzga)	
K of L C-3, Philadelphia	100.00
James A. Marcinkus, C-153	100.00
Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. M. Vilutis, C-112	100.00
K of L New England District	100.00
Anthony Miner, C-116	100.00

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lucka, C-152	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Alexander, C-7	100.00
Rev. Joseph P. Callahan, CSC	100.00
Joseph L. Machonis	100.00
(IMO Constance Machonis)	
Anna M. Kapochus	100.00
(IMO Frank Kapochus)	
Algerd (HM) & Aldona Brazis, C-112	100.00
Daina Kapochus, C-3	100.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Jo & Joe Zukas, C-109	100.00
Jean Mihalick, C-143	100.00
(IMO Marcinkevicius & Petrauskas Families)	
Philip & Dorothy Machonis, C-3	100.00
(IMO Stella Kaires)	
Julie Kowrak, C-3	100.00
Len Kapochus, C-3	100.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Daiva Rutkunas Bennington & Alex Pulinka, C-3	70.00
(IMO Birute Rutkunas)	
Dawn (Aušra) Maknys, C-3	66.00
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	50.00
Charles & Donna Sulmar, C-3	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	50.00
Anthony Pulmon, C-7	50.00
(IMO Lascadia Pulman)	
Brian Rutkunas, C-110	50.00
Al & Ann Navitt	50.00
(IMO Parents)	
Alphonse J. Balsis	50.00
(IMO Deceased Family Members)	
Muriel Lekstutis, C-152	50.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12	50.00
(IMO Mitch Marcinauskis)	
Mr. & Mrs. Ignatius Hobitz	50.00
Rita Karrytais, C-26	50.00
Leonora Jarvis	50.00
Josephine O'Peka, C-46	50.00
Helen Karpovich, C-143	50.00
(IMO Husband Anthony & Karpovich & Kapochus families)	
Thomas & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	35.00
(IMO T. McDonald III, Edward & Blanche Bubel)	
Walter & Irene Svekla, C-3	30.00
(IMO Helen Shields)	
Mary Beth Slakis, C-16	25.00
Angela Busky, C-26	25.00
Clemencine Miller, C-141	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00
Annamarie Sewatsky, C-143	25.00
Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	25.00

(IMO Mary Stanionis)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Victor & Evelyn Prep, C-144	25.00
Joseph J. Gudonis, C-3	25.00
Aldona Keaney	25.00
Dorothy Banos, C-143	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	25.00
Aniele Kendrick, C-3	25.00
(Special Intention)	
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	25.00
Ruth T. Margis	25.00
(IMO Charles Margis)	
Adele J. Mehlman	25.00
(IMO Parents)	
Peter & Constance Z. Cekaitis	25.00
(IMO Family)	
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	25.00
John & Dolores Jonaitis, C-147	25.00
Fran Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Anna Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Debbie Dutcavich)	
Robert & Carol Ushka, C-3	25.00
John W. Ramoska, C-74	25.00
Ed & Irene Senken, C-12	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Lithuanian Social Club, Dayton	22.00
K of L Amber District (sales)	21.00
Ruth A. Wallash, C-3	20.00
Carol A. J. Stanley, C-3	20.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	20.00
Charlotte Rice	20.00
(IMO Anthony Rice)	
Julie Zakarka, C-112	20.00
Helen Matulonis, C-110	20.00
Joan C. Iwasko, C-3	15.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	15.00
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Markuns, C-17	15.00
Nellie Bayoras Romanas, C-143	10.00
Catherine D'Amico	10.00
Constance Powell, C-3	10.00
(IMO Dec. family members)	
Anthony Yacavonis, C-12	10.00
(IMO wife Casimiera)	
Ed & Maria Deksnis, C-112	10.00
Joseph & Diane Drumstas, C-3	5.00

**PLEDGES:**

K of L, Mid-America Dist.	\$500.00
Members, K of L C-143, Pittston	370.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	100.00
(IMO Eugenia Gecas)	

**TOTAL** ..... **\$7,034.00****ST. CASIMIR GUILD:**

Aldona J. Kirstuk, C-147	500.00
K of L Amber District	200.00
K of L New England District	100.00
K of L C-86, DuBois	100.00
(IMO Tom Bruzga)	
James A. Marcinkus, C-153	100.00
John Antanavicius, C-12	100.00
(IMO Mother, Father, Brothers)	

Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	100.00
Agnes Waitonis, C-103	100.00
(IMO Joseph Waitonis)	
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	100.00
Anthony Miner, C-116	100.00
K of L Mid-Atlantic District	50.00
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. M. Vilitis, C-112	50.00
E. Ruth Krecioch, C-103	50.00
(IMO Stanley Vaitkus)	
Bernice Aviza, C-136	50.00
(IMO Rev. V. Cukaras)	
Anonymous	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Alexander, C-7	50.00
Algerd (HM) & Aldona Brazis, C-112	50.00
Rita Karrytais, C-26	50.00
Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	25.00
(IMO Mary Stanionis)	
Aldonna Keaney	25.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	25.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	25.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	25.00
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	25.00
Casey & Irene Grikenas, C-72	25.00
Fran Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Anna Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Wm. Labadis)	
Sophia Sakalys	25.00
Jo & Joe Zukas, C-109	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Alice Opanasets, C-17	20.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	20.00
Helen Kiuber, C-100	20.00
(IMO Mary & Anthony Kiuber)	
Helen Medley, C-50	10.00
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	10.00
(IMO Stanley Vaitkus)	
Anna Helen & Tom McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO son Tommy)	

**PLEDGES:**

K of L, Mid America Dist.	\$500.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	100.00
(IMO Stanley Vaitkus)	
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00

**TOTAL** ..... **\$2,990.00****KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION:**

Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	500.00
Anna Supernavage, C-144	225.00
(IMO Jack Stukas)	
K of L New England District	100.00
K of L C-86, DuBois	100.00
(IMO Tom Bruzga)	
K of L C-144, Anthracite	100.00
Frank Yonika	100.00
Sophia Zukas, C-36	100.00
(IMO Alphonse Zukas)	
Peter Zansitis, C-16	100.00
James A. Marcinkas, C-153	100.00
John Antanavicius, C-12	100.00

(IMO Connie Siatsis)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	100.00
Rita M. Ochs, C-90	100.00
Elena M. Nakrosis, C-90	100.00
Frances Bumila, C-1	100.00
(IMO Jos. & Birute Balukonis)	
Rev. Albert Contons, HM, C-17	100.00
Anthony Miner, C-116	100.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	100.00
Richard Niedvares, C-16	100.00
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	50.00
Ann & Steve Soha, C-143	50.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	50.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	50.00
(IMO Stanley Vaitkus)	
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12	50.00
(IMO Mitch Marcinauskis)	
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	50.00
Anonymous	25.00
Clemencine Miller, C-141	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00
Annamarie Sewatsky, C-143	25.00
Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	25.00
(IMO Mary Stanionis)	
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	25.00
Lillian Klinsky, C-63	25.00
Dorothy A. Banos, C-143	25.00
Rita S. Sussko, C-29	25.00
Len Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Daina Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Ed & Irene Senken, C-12	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	20.00
Alice Wilcinskis, C-141	20.00
Tadas Kulbis	10.00
Sophia Sakalys	10.00

**PLEDGES:**

K of L, Mid-America Dist.	\$500.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	50.00
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00

**TOTAL** ..... **\$3,585.00****K OF L SCHOLARSHIP FUND:**

K of L C-96, Dayton	200.00
K of L C-29, Newark	125.00
K of L Amber District	100.00
K of L New England District	100.00
K of L C-86, DuBois	100.00
(IMO Tom Bruzga)	
K of L C-144, Anthracite	100.00
K of L C-7, Waterbury	100.00
Arthur Stankevitz, C-72	100.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	75.00
Annamarie Sewatsky, C-143	50.00
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	50.00
Dr. Liudas Jagminas, C-103	50.00
Clemencine Miller, C-141	25.00
Aldonna Keaney	25.00
Dorothy Banos, C-143	25.00

George & Frances Bumila, C-1	25.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	25.00
Anonymous	25.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	25.00
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	25.00
(IMO Ted Pinkus)	
Casey & Irene Grikenas, C-72	25.00
Fran Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Anna Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO John Dutcavich)	
Walter & Irene Svekla, C-3	25.00
Daina Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
Ed & Irene Senken, C-12	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	20.00
Polly Ziausys, C-100	20.00
(IMO Father Baltch)	
Barbara Wilcinskis Schmidt, C-141	20.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	15.00
Helen Medley, C-50	10.00
Mary Matachinskis, C-17	10.00
(IMO Joe Matachinskis)	
Mikatavage Family, C-144	10.00
Anna Helen & Tom McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO Mom & Dad Bubel)	
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Markuns, C-17	10.00

**PLEDGES:**

K of L, Mid-America Dist.	\$500.00
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00

**TOTAL** ..... **\$2,260.00****LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE****(REV. JOHN C. JUTT MEMORIAL FUND):**

Mr. & Mrs. M. Vilutis, C-112	100.00
James A. Marcinkus, C-153	100.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	75.00
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Alexander, C-7	50.00
Brian Rutkunas, C-110	50.00
Algerd (HM) & Aldona Brazis, C-112	50.00
Leonora Jarvis	50.00
Anonymous	40.00
Mary Matachinskis, C-17	30.00
(IMO Joe Matachinskis)	
K of L Mid-Atlantic District	25.00
Clemencine Miller, C-141	25.00
(IMO Mitchel Marcinauskas)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	25.00
Lee Marcinka, C-141	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	25.00
Rita E. Pinkus, HM, C-26	25.00
Casey & Irene Grikenas, C-72	25.00
Fran Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Anna Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Eleanor Yancofsky)	

Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Regina Alexander, C-17	25.00
Jo & Joe Zukas, C-109	25.00
Polly Ziausys, C-100	20.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	20.00
Bertha Stoskus, C-103	15.00
Mikatavage Family, C-144	10.00
Anna Helen & Tom McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO Brother Michael)	

**PLEDGES:**

Dorothy Lapedis DeGennaro	25.00
K of L C-14, Cicero	25.00

**TOTAL** ..... **\$1,070.00**

**K OF L JUNIORS ACTIVITIES:**

Clemencine Miller, C-141, Bridgeport	25.00
Anna Supernavage, C-144	25.00
(IMO Msg. J. Karalius)	
Helen Chesko, C-144	25.00
(IMO Bill Labadis)	
Alice Wilcinskas, C-141	20.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112	20.00
Helen Medley, C-50	10.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	10.00
Ed & Maria Deksnis, C-112	10.00
Sophia Sakalys	5.00

**PLEDGES:**

Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	50.00
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**TOTAL:** ..... **\$200.00**

**SILUVA SHRINE FUND:**

Bertha Stoskus, C-103	50.00
Elizabeth Kuzmich, C-100	25.00
(IMO Mary Stanionis)	
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	10.00
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	10.00
(IMO Jack Stukas)	
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	10.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	10.00
Angela Busky, C-26	10.00

**PLEDGES:**

Genevieve Rutkunas, C-110	25.00
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**TOTAL:** ..... **\$175.00**

**TOTAL DONATIONS AND PLEDGES RECEIVED** ..... **\$18,759.00**

**LCRA CHILDREN'S LUNCH FUND:**

Junior K of L, Mid-America District	80.00
Ed & Irene Senken, C-12	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
John Ramuda, C-73	25.00
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	10.00

**TOTAL** ..... **\$165.00**

**LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF:**

Rita Karrytais, C-26	100.00
K of L C-86, DuBois	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ignatius J. Hobitz	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Markuns, C-17	50.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	25.00
Angela Busky, C-26	25.00
Casey & Irene Grikenas, C-72	25.00
John & Dolores Jonaitis, C-147	25.00
Jean Mihalick, C-143	25.00
Daina Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Len Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Alice Opinasets, C-17	20.00
Mary Matachinskas, C-17	20.00
(IMO Joe Matachinskas)	
Joan P. Wojciak, C-26	20.00
(IMO Walter & Robert Wojciak)	
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	10.00
(IMO Joseph Boley)	
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	10.00

**TOTAL** ..... **\$530.00**

**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA ARCHIVES:**

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

**SISTERS OF EUCHARISTIC JESUS FUND:**

Anna Supernavage, C-144	\$100.00
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**TOTAL** ..... **\$100.00**

**SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR:**

Brian Rutkunas, C-110	75.00
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**PLEDGES:**

Genevieve Rutkunas, C-110	25.00
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**TOTAL:** ..... **\$100.00**

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

## Lithuanians in the News



*First Lady is greeted by Vincent Boris*

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### First Lady Visits East and Central Europe

On August 22, 1996, the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, met with a number of East and Central European representatives and East/Central European-American activists for a one-hour slide show with personal commentary by Mrs. Clinton and featuring scenes from her recent visit to several Central and East European Countries. Mrs. Clinton stated that the trip had been planned to further demonstrate United States solidarity with, and concern for, all the emerging democracies in the area, even though not all the countries could be visited. Her itinerary included Romania, Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Estonia. Each stop featured a traditional welcoming presentation of bread and salt by children in national dress; a protocol visit with governmental leaders and

in some cases with the leadership of women's activist groups. Each segment ended with a tour of a local hospital or orphanage. Hospitals in each of the visited countries are benefiting from a "sister hospital" program being conducted under the aegis of USAID. In each case, a hospital is paired with a comparable American health facility and involves an exchange of personnel (doctors, nurses, technicians, administrators). The scope and intensity of the exchange is mutually agreed upon by the two participating "sisters." Following the slide presentation, the group moved to the White House for a reception which allowed individuals to meet personally with the first Lady.

(Side note: No! Lithuania does not participate in this AID-sponsored program and will not qualify for participation until "Health Care" is formally established as a National Priority requirement.)

### Fr. Volkovich Completes Book

Fr. William Wolkovich (Valkavičius) Spiritual Advisor of C-27, Norwood, MA has recently completed Vol. 2 of *Lithuanian Religious Life in America*, devoted exclusively to Pennsylvania and its onetime 45 Lithuanian parishes (25 remain at present) and the three women's religious communities begun in the Keystone State. The final volume, covering the Midwest and beyond, is in preparation. For more information, write to the author at St. George's Rectory, 36 St. George Ave., Norwood, MA 02062-4420.

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**SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1996 RUGSĖJIS - SPALIS**

Mary, O Mary, fairest of lilies,  
 You reign now as Queen of heaven!  
 Before the Most High,  
 plead for our dear nation,  
 For with your intercession,  
 there is naught that God will deny.

*Marija, Marija, skaisčiausia lelija,  
 Dangaus Karaliene šviesi!  
 Užstok prieš Aukščiausią  
 Tėvynę brangiausią,  
 nes viską pas Dievą gali!*

(Verse 3, Marija, Marija by Maironis)

**Dates to Remember:**

- Sept 8      Feast of the Nativity of Mary, also called "*ŠILINĖ*" in Lithuania. The feast is closely associated with Our Lady of Šiluva. It marks the beginning of an eight day *atlaida* at Šiluva, which is the major religious festival in Lithuania; it attracts faithful by the tens of thousands.
- Sept. 23      Commemorative day in Lithuania, on which attention is drawn to the Holocaust in Lithuania. Over 90% of the Jewish population of Lithuania (in 1939 they constituted 17% of the overall population) were killed at the hands of the Nazis.
- Oct 2      Feast of the Guardian Angels.
- Oct 14      Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Founder of one of the world's greatest religious Orders, the Friars Minor. Then, with St. Clare, he founded a counterpart Order for women. Lastly, came the "Third Order of Penance" which was to include lay people.
- Oct 9      "Discoverer's Day" - a National Holiday in the US commemorating the valiant explorers that opened up the New World and Continents. Expanded from the simple observance of Columbus Day.

**HAPPY NAME'S DAY TO:**

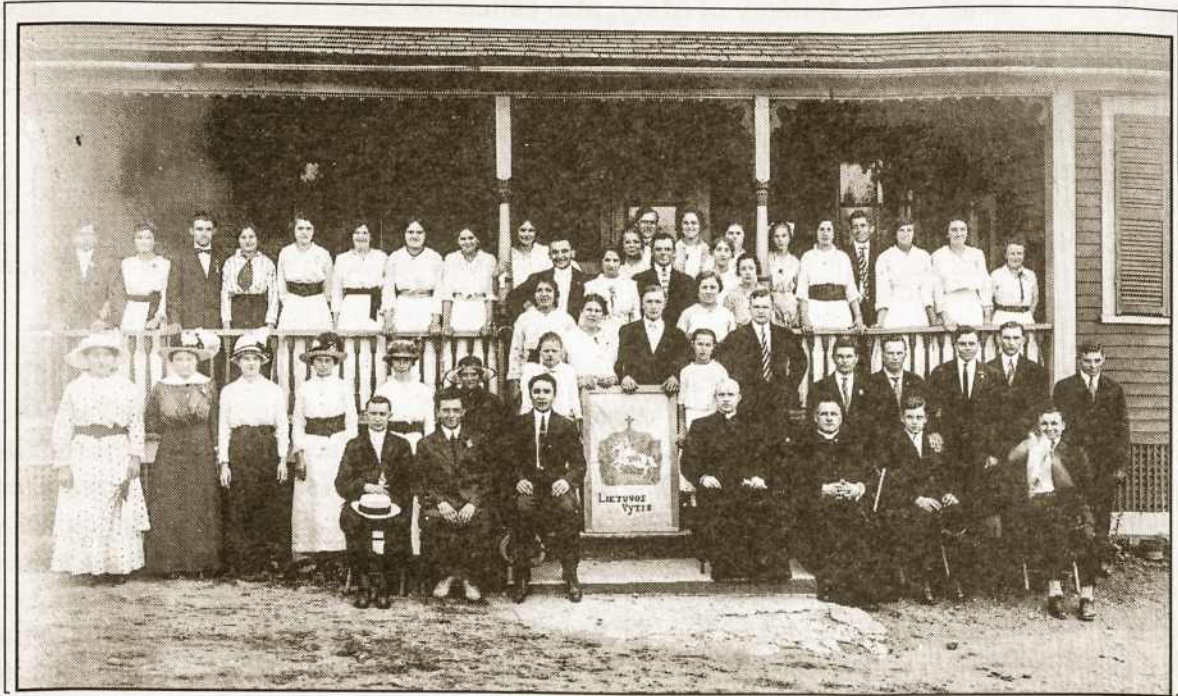
<i>Bronius</i> (Sep 3)	<i>Gediminas</i> (Sep 16)	<i>Liza</i> (Oct 2)	<i>Regina</i> (Sep 7)
<i>Cristina</i> (Oct 3)	Gerard (Sep 24)	Luke (Oct 18)	Robert (Sep 17)
<i>Darius</i> (Sep 9)	<i>Gražina</i> (Sep 8)	Margaret (Oct 17)	Rosalie (Sep 4)
Edward (Oct 13)	Gregory (Sep 3)	Matthew (Sep 21)	Sophia (Sep 30)
Egidijus (Sep 1)	Hedwig (Oct 16)	Nichael (Sep 29)	Stephen (Sep 2)
Faustas (Sep 6)	Irene (Oct 20)	<i>Mindaugas</i> (Oct 14)	Theresa (Oct 1)
Francis (Oct 4)	Jerome (Sep 30)	Nijolė (Sep 21)	Vincent (Sep 27)
Gabriel (Sep 29)	<i>Kęstutis</i> (Sep 4)	<i>Ramūnas</i> (Sep 24)	<i>Vytautas</i> (Sep 8)

**TO:**

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*Then and Now...*



*Pakelkime Balsus! Lift Our Voices!*

**Photos on Covers:**

**Front Cover:** 83rd National Convention photo, Brockton, MA, on August 11, 1996 hosts were Council 1, Brockton, the first council of the Knights of Lithuania.

**Top photo:** Charter Knights of Lithuania members, May 27, 1914. This photo was featured in both the Athol and Gardner, MA daily papers. Note that Tina (Andraliunas) Shatas at age 10 is pictured next to the K. of L. banner on the right. She is still an active member at 92! (Photo courtesy of Vincukas of C-10.)