

Vyis  **IS** 

The Knight
 volume 83: no. 8

Rugsējis / Spalis - September / October 1997



Changing of the Guard

**Former President Evelyn Ozelis Congratulates
 Newly Elected President John Mankus**

84th National Convention Issue

VYTIS
-THE KNIGHT-
 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
 SUPREME COUNCIL
 OFFICERS
 1997 - 1998



**Rugsėjis / Spalis -
 September / October
 1997**

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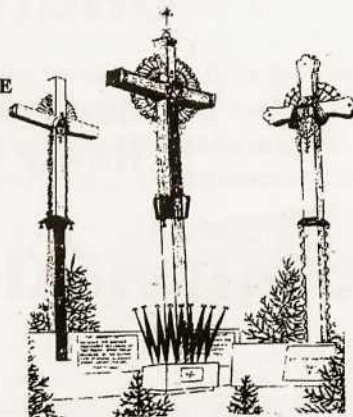


Table of Contents - Turinys
Dayton, Ohio
84th National Convention Issue

Convention Motto:

Tikėjimas - Šeima - Kilmė...Mūsų Stiprybė
Faith - Family - Heritage...Our Strength



To My Fellow Knights	2
Bobų Vasara - Indian Summer - submitted by <i>Dalia Bulvičius</i>	2
Meet the President - John R. Mankus	3
State of the Organization - <i>Evelyn Oželis</i>	4
Convention Delegates - <i>Dorothy Banos</i>	9
Business Sessions	11
Fundraising Panel - <i>John Baltrus</i>	13
1996 Essay Contest Winners - <i>HM Loretta Stukas</i>	14
Honorable Mention Essay - <i>Edward Baranauskas</i>	15
Membership Awards - <i>Robert Martin, Jr.</i>	16
Junior Convention Activities - <i>Maria Deksnis</i>	17
4th Degree Recipients - <i>John Mickunas</i>	18
Scholarship Recipients - <i>Irena Gecas</i>	18
Entertained in Grand Style - <i>Elinor Sluzas</i>	19
Convention Resolutions - compiled by <i>Robert Martin, Jr.</i>	20
Convention Photo and Highlights Centerfold	22
Greetings to the Convention - compiled by <i>HM Loretta Stukas</i>	31
Friend of Lithuania Award Winner and Honorary Member	36
In Memoriam	36
Council News	37



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.

Editorial

To My Fellow Knights:

Wow! What a convention! We could have easily created a 96 page issue for it, since there were just so many interesting aspects (Just kidding, Budget Committee). From the pre-convention tour of Dayton, to the "Las Vegas" ante up for charity that raised \$800 in one night for K of L causes, to the red carpet treatment at the United States Air Force Museum, plus the beautiful banquet night and opening and closing Masses at Holy Cross Church -- we were treated to a fabulous blend of Midwest hospitality and Lithuanian culture. No wonder the Peace Accords were signed in Dayton! Some of us were even lucky enough to taste food as good as grandma's at Elinor's Amber Rose Restaurant. A standing ovation to all those who made it a smashing success including our hosts, C-96, the Juniors, and all the hard working committee members. A special thanks to Fran Petkus and Elinor Sluzas for all the advance stories.

At last year's convention, we decided to present annual awards to noteworthy VYTIS writers. These awards are based on what readers say about their articles. Our Council News writers are included (See page 37 for winners.) The 1996-1997 VYTIS writer's awards were presented to

First: **Vincent Boris**, C-102, for *A Dark Journey into a Painful Past* (Jan. 97) and for the *Barbora Žagaretė* series (Feb-Apr. 1997);

Second: **Edward Baranauskas**, C-100, for his Women in Lithuanian History series;

Third: **Elinor Sluzas**, C-96, for *I Remember a Great Mama* (May 1997)

These awards were determined by Dalia Bulvičius and I in mid June. As many of you know, Vincent Boris passed away on June 22, after having completed his last published story, *The First Three Martyrs of Lithuania* in last month's issue. I cannot begin to tell you the impact this special Knight had on this editor's life in so very many ways. Right from the beginning of my tenure as your editor, 27 issues ago, Vince was there to help, advise, work, give me tips on good writers, and listen to the problems of designing and desk top publishing. I sorely miss his irreplaceable energy and have dedicated this publication in his honor.

Like two other notables, Mother Teresa and Princess Diana, that seemed to dub this a Summer of sorrow, Vincent Boris needed no special titles to do the tasks he did best, and in fact, he was annoyed when one tried to praise him for his excellence and genius in writing for VYTIS, creating numerous Mass and other booklets, and nagging us to write to Congressional leaders to include Lithuania in NATO.

During one of his last lengthy conversations, he had planned to attend the convention and place a resolution to prepare for the upcoming millennium. He was greatly concerned with the future of our Knights and recommended a period of reflection during this coming year, followed by open forum discussions at the council and district levels. (See "Planning for the Millennium" page 21.) I am proud to say this resolution did pass.

All the best wishes to John R. Mankus, of Binghamton, NY, our new Supreme Council President.

BOBŲ VASARA

(Indian Summer)

Laukuose voratinkliai
Šilko siūlais draikos,
O krūtinėj nerimą
Kelia mintys paikos.

Mėlynakės vasaros
Paskutinės viltys
Ar nė šitą rudenėlį
Man neišsipildys?



Kad sužvengtų juodbėris
Po seklyčios langu,
Tai pasveikinčiau kaip brolių
Rudenėlį brangų.

O kad aukso žiedą man
Ant piršto užmautų,
Ar ne šaunią merguželę
Tas bernelis gautų?

Draikosi voratinkliai -
Plonos laimės gijos.
Taip svajoja merguželę



Tikisi ir bijos:

Baigias bobų vasara,
Neramu krūtinėi.
Nušalnojo diemedžiai,
Rūtos ir jurginai.

Liūdi vienos paliktos
Klėties sienos plikos.
Čia ir godos vasarinės
Nušalnoję likos.

1939.IX.27.

Changing of the Guard

Meet New K. of L. President, John R. Mankus



John R. Mankus

When John Mankus realized he was elected to the office of President of the Knights of Lithuania at the convention on Aug. 9, his initial reaction was tears of joy. John, from Binghamton Council 72, will be the K of L president for a three year term, ushering in the new millennium.

John was born on March 9, 1939 in Alytus, Lithuania, the eldest son of a police chief and schoolteacher, and has two younger brothers. His family fled the Communists during WWII and lived in Displaced Persons camps in Germany until arriving in the U.S. in 1949. Settling in the Binghamton, NY area, John completed high school and was accepted by IBM Corp. into the Tool and Die Apprentice Program. Later, he completed college and rejoined IBM in the engineering area.

In 1963, John married Grace Moughan and they later became the proud parents of three sons and one daughter.

His family has always been involved with Lithuanian activities, whether through Saint Joseph's Church or the American Civic Association. He participated in many Lithuanian Independence Day Commemorations, radio and TV interviews and celebrations prior to joining the Knights of Lithuania.

Since the forming of Council 72 in Binghamton NY, John has worked tirelessly to make C-72 a viable member of The K of L. He has held council offices as: President, VP, Vytis correspondent, Cultural Chair and Lithuanian Language chair and chaired numerous committees. In addition, working with Saint Joseph's Parish, he has coordinated aid shipments (420 packages) to convents, hospitals, clinics, orphanages and needy families in Lithuania. As a result, monthly package pickup has been established in Binghamton by Viltis Lithuanian Relief Parcel Service (Boston).

Being fluent in Lithuanian, John served as a translator for letters, numerous articles and manuals and has acted as an interpreter for Lithuanian basketball teams visiting Binghamton.

During the Soviet occupation, John organized demonstration activities against the Russian occupation of Lithuania.

John has been Amber District President and National Cultural Chair, contributing numerous articles on Lithuanian history, culture and language, and council activities for VYTIS.

He has been a lector and Eucharistic minister at Saint Joseph's Church, Binghamton, NY, for over twenty years.

John received six US and International Patents in the Electronic Connector field at IBM and received numerous engineering awards. He has also coached youth baseball, basketball and track teams. In 1995, he was awarded the "Outstanding Official of the Year" Award as VP of Southern Tier N.Y. State Track and Field Association.

When asked why he wanted to take on the Presidency of the K of L, John replied, "I'd like to have a personal hand in strengthening the K. of L."

**Knights of Lithuania
84th National Convention
State of the Organization Report**

*Presented by EVELYN OZELIS
NATIONAL PRESIDENT
August 7, 1997*

In accordance with ARTICLE XI, SECTION 2 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, 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. I urge you to take home a set of these reports, read them thoroughly and share the contents with your council members.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR, Rev. Dr. Joseph J. Anderlonis, S. T. D., attended only two meetings, Philadelphia and Dayton on Wednesday Aug. 6. Father was always here to advise and counsel K of L members and, especially, the Supreme Council. But this year, we were in a state of frenzy due to his severe illness. We are so fortunate today that he is in our midst and has recovered. Our many prayers did not go unanswered. Dėkojame Dievui!

PRESIDENT, Evelyn Ozelis, organized four meetings and presided over all. Meetings were held in Brockton, Philadelphia, Dayton and pre-convention Dayton. The host councils for these meetings were very accommodating and extremely gracious. As usual, there has been much correspondence from various organizations and Knights of Lithuania members as well. All correspondence was acknowledged either by letter, fax or telephone. I reappointed the business manager and the editor for VYTIS with the approval of the Supreme Council. Also requested that Father Anderlonis remain as our Spiritual Advisor and Saulius Kuprys as Legal Advisor.

We were able to accomplish some of the goals, such as Constitution Revision committee, Resolution Revision committee and Revenue committee. Established an Internet Website and

computerized the K of L manual. At the invitation of C-90 Pres., J. Nakrosis, I attended the dedication of the Wayside Cross in Kearny, NJ. I attended the JBANC conference in Washington, D. C. in place of our Lithuanian Affairs Chairman who was assigned to Korea for a month. I wrote to each District president requesting information on the status of each of their councils. The response was very good. We must assist each other, not compete with each other. Met with Ambassador A. Eidintas in Chicago for a special conference and briefing on the situation with Lithuania for NATO and conditions in Lithuania. Also, was briefed by Major Sarapinas, Military attache, while in Chicago. Also, attended a special reception for Prof. V. Landsbergis. While in Lithuania last fall, I attended a commemoration at the Kaunas Medical clinic honoring my deceased father in law and was introduced not only as a family representative, but also as the President of the Knights of Lithuania (visų žinoma garsusis Lietuvos Vyčiai).

I represent the Knights of Lithuania as a director for Margutis Radio II, Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce, as an elected officer of the Lithuanian American Council, at the national and local levels. I have attended all of my District's meetings, am active in my council and also in my parish. This Convention committee has been very cooperative and have extended many kindnesses to me. They are well organized, considerate and enthusiastic! I attended the wake and funeral mass in Detroit for Vincent Boris how do you say good-bye?..... until we meet again.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, Agnes Mickunas, has been a most able assistant to the President. This year her assignment was to check out all the amendments to the K of L constitution that were approved by the delegates since its revision in 1994. As efficient as Agnes was to the Supreme Council as recording Secretary, she carried this onto her new assignment. Every time I

needed assistance in all matters, Agnes was right there. The next president is indeed fortunate to have her as a teammate.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, Robert A. Martin, Jr., attended all Supreme Council meetings. Unfortunately, this past year has not been one of our best with regards to membership. He was not able to sign any new councils nor see an uptrend of membership. Robert is an active member of his district and council. He is also a very active member of the MAMD Choir.

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT, Maria Deksnis completed her first year as Juniors' chair. She has been very active in trying to organize new Junior Councils. A new Junior council was started at C-72 in Binghamton, NY. She has written articles for VYTIS, sent information packets to Junior Councils encouraging them with special projects. Maria is a school teacher and certainly knows how to work with youngsters well. I hope that she will continue to be enthusiastic with this job!

RECORDING SECRETARY, Bernice Aviza attended all of the Supreme Council meetings. This is her first term as Secretary and she is doing an excellent job. There are new routines, new methods of doing things and she has proven herself. Bernice is very active with her District as Vice President for Juniors and active with her own council. She has been a very obliging individual. She has computerized Council Presidents and Supreme Council officers names to be able to generate mailing lists and labels when requested.

TREASURER, John Baltrus has attended all Supreme Council meetings. He has prepared the budget from the Budget Committee which he will present at this convention. He has also organized a Revenue Committee which will present a panel at one of the convention sessions. John keeps close watch on the financial needs of the K of L. He has been in close contact with me and also with our legal adviser. He has proven himself time and again for his dedication to the K of L. John, you are a gem!

FINANCIAL SECRETARY, Dorothy Banos participated at three Supreme Council meetings. She has met the challenge for the second year and has done well. Any changes that

had to be implemented were done quickly. She kept almost daily contact with the Business Manager of VYTIS. She did not hesitate to call me for any discussions that were needed to clarify a point. Her cooperation was extended to all councils and all persons. Good job!

TRUSTEES, Mary Beth Slakis and Mark H. Bell have been a great team. They have worked together to update the K of L Manual. As members of the Revenue committee, they are looking to the financial future of the K of L.

They will be auditing the various books of the ancillary committees. Both Mary Beth and Mark have contributed to the discussions during the Supreme Council meetings. Mary Beth has received one bid for the 1998 National Convention (that's her job) and Mark has worked with Agnes Mickunas to develop an Internet Website. In spite of all their jobs, they manage to keep everyone's spirits up!

AMBER DISTRICT, John Mankus, President of the District, with the cooperation of his councils, has been working with VILTIS LITHUANIAN RELIEF SERVICE and Vilnius Cathedral Religious Center by sending packages to selected needy families. They have established a monthly pick up in Binghamton for Humanitarian Aid to Lithuania. John continues to translate letters from Lithuania and to coordinate Lithuanian cultural presentations and language lessons. His district has been very active in participating at Christmas Festivals, Aid to Lithuania, Ethnic festivals and aid to convents, orphanages and hospitals in Lithuania. Everyone is a noteworthy cause.

MID AMERICA DISTRICT, Peter Paul Zansitis, President of the District, has established the Awards Recognition. Awards were given at the September Assembly in Chicago and at the May assembly in Kansas City, MO. The District sponsors their annual February banquet at which they honor an individual or organization that has done outstanding work for Lithuania and also here in the U.S. This District also supports its Choir and Dance Group. They have many projects forthcoming!

MID ATLANTIC DISTRICT, Edward Barkowski, President of the District, attended all



Convention Presidium:

Chairperson, Evelyn Ozelis (center), with Edward Barkowski (left) and John Mickunas (right), Co- Chairs. *Photo by Brett Morris.*

S.C. meetings except April in Dayton. He and his councils have created a caravan in the Fall and also in the Spring to bring much needed supplies to Lithuanian Children's Relief in Wessley, Massachusetts, where they are merged and shipped to Lithuania. His council had an eyewitness account of the tragic confrontation at the TV Tower in Lithuania on January 1991. A Lithuanian exchange student gave this report at the C-136 Independence Day commemoration. A true representation of patriotism.

MID CENTRAL DISTRICT, Elena Mikalauskas, President of the District, and her councils have kept their Bowling Tournament alive and well. This is very reminiscent of the past Midwest tournaments that brought everyone together. Elena responded to my call for letters to the government and also to my request on how to encourage and further participation in the K of L. Six of the eight councils remain active. The District is well represented on the Supreme Council. Elena offers many fine suggestions.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT, Bertha Stoskus, President of the District, attended all but one of the Supreme Council meetings for 1996-1997. She has taken on the revision of Resolutions for the past 30 years. This will be presented at the sessions. She has actively contacted her councils for my request on their status and activity reports. Her district has sent letters to government agencies regarding admitting the Baltic States to NATO. The district has had their annual Cultural Festival. Bertha is also the chairman of the Supreme Council nominating committee for this convention. And our sincerest

congratulations as you become our newest Honorary Member! Bravo!

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE, HM Longinas Svelnis, has attended one Supreme Council meeting. He has done a job beyond the call of duty. Larry feels he should increase his committee. There is much work that has been done, but there is more to do. All materials are sorted, listed, passed onto the recorder, Ruth Krecioch, and then brought to Putnam, CT. Larry has continually requested that all materials sent to the Archives should be sorted. Larry, once again, has made a monetary donation to the Archives. Ačiū.

LEGAL ADVISOR, Saulius C. Kuprys, was unable to attend any of the Supreme Council meetings. All required reports have been filed with the appropriate governmental agencies to which the corporation must report. He has obtained certified copies of the initial Articles of Incorporation and the amendments thereto. An application was presented to the Postal Service for new classification which should alleviate some of the administrative and bureaucratic burdens which our VYTIS magazine was saddled with in the past. He keeps current with the latest tax rulings. He continues to prepare the organizations' taxes and oversees the ancillary organizations. Saulius has made himself available whenever he is needed.

VYTIS EDITOR, Marytė Abbott, was appointed VYTIS editor with the approval of the Supreme Council. She has worked very diligently with the Business Manager in order to get all the details worked out as far as the Postal Service goes. She has had to put up with delays in printing because of the new equipment that hadn't been installed and made operative. Also had to get reacquainted with a new Business Manager at Draugas. These technicalities will eventually work themselves out. She has produced an exceptional

magazine, interesting material, good graphics and a desire to succeed. We wish her continued success.

VYTIS BUSINESS MANAGER, Richard Niedvares was appointed business manager of the VYTIS with the approval of the Supreme Council. He has had to endure many hours with the Postal Service. He has been in constant touch with Saulius Kuprys, our Legal Advisor, and have finalized all requirements by the Postal Service. Richard has worked well with Financial Secretary, Dorothy Banos. He has updated records just as soon as he receives the information. I assure you it is a full time job. One has to keep up with it. He has filed the necessary documents such Statement of Ownership and others. This is Richard's final year; he has resigned and it will be up to the new leadership to fill this post. Thank you for the many hours of work, your complete cooperation with me and others. Enjoy your retirement!

CULTURAL COMMITTEE, John Mankus, chairman has attended all of the Supreme Council meetings. He has written many cultural articles for VYTIS. He has worked with District councils to include more Lithuanian language and culture presentations at District meetings. John has sent cultural information packages to members requesting specific items. He has obtained and subscribed to many books and periodicals for future cultural activities. He also continues to be active with medical and humanitarian aid. He will be making a presentation on the FIRST LITHUANIAN BOOK PRINTED at one of the sessions.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE,

HM Loretta Stukas attended all but one Supreme Council meeting. Honorary Membership will be conferred upon Bertha Stoskus, C-103, at this National Convention in Dayton, 1997.

Archbishop Marcinkus was unable to attend the convention last year to receive his honorary membership award. Loretta and I attended his 50th Anniversary of his priesthood in Cicero, Illinois and it was there that we made the presentation at the closing of the Anniversary Mass. There are currently 31 living Honorary Members, 18 men and 13 women. Members are urged to write to the Honorary Membership Committee for information about presenting a noteworthy candidate in your

council.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,

Len Barcousky, Chairman attended two Supreme Council meetings. His activities have been limited this year. Unfortunately, Len was in contact with Vincent Boris only twice and was not able to get more guidance. Then, too, his job sent him to Korea, but he managed very well to get articles written for VYTIS. I have tried to give him a helping hand, but I do know that he will do well this coming year. He have been very successful in finding a candidate for our annual "FRIEND OF LITHUANIA" award.... with special help from Loretta Stukas.

LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE COMMITTEE,

Dr. Virginia Vaitekoniš Obando did not attend any of the Supreme Council meetings. There were no articles submitted for VYTIS, nor reports nor telephone calls to the President. There was absolutely no activity.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE,

Regina Juska, Chairperson, attended two Supreme Council meetings. She has been a thorough P.R. person! Not an activity was missed. Our Knights of Lithuania were covered with almost an article each week. Regina submitted 102 articles and 13 photographs to Draugas, Dirva, Darbininkas, and local Lithuanian radio programs in Detroit. While in Chicago attending a Draugas spring concert, Regina received an award and a monetary gift for her contributions to the press for her pronounced consistent submission of articles relative to the Knights of Lithuania, ATL, Sauliai, and others. A very responsible and charming young lady.

RITUAL COMMITTEE, John Mickunas,

Chairman, has attended all Supreme Council meetings. This committee will be presenting a Panel at one of the convention sessions. There will be 20 approved members receiving their fourth degrees in 1997. John has earnestly pursued the clarification of points given for degrees. Elsie Kosmisky and Clemencine Miller, the committee members conferred very often with the Chairman. They have worked very carefully so that there will be a complete clarification.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE, Irena

Gecas, Chair, has been working with her

committee to bring forth the young scholarship awardees at this convention. She sent letters to all Council and District Presidents and, in addition, to the Supreme Council members for the Annual Scholarship drive. She received 8 requests for scholarship applications to which she sent the appropriate materials. The finalization of the awards will be made at the Convention closing banquet. Irena is ambitiously working for the best!



Ritual Committee Members:

Elsie Kosmisky, John Mickunas
(Chair) and Clemencine Miller.

Photo by Brett Morris.

AID TO LITHUANIA,

INC., HM Robert Boris, President, did not attend the Supreme Council meetings. Bob once again has successfully shipped out 11

containers of medicine and medical supplies to Lithuania. The fourth annual George Perles Golf Tournament this year netted ATL approximately \$13,000. As of June 30, 1997, Bob has sent out 49 shipments valued at \$45,820,124.00 at a COST of \$248,642.00. He has received numerous donations from other organizations in response to his requests. Bob also received the CATHOLIC HUMANITARIAN Award from the Catholic Federation in Chicago. The monetary award was donated to ATL. Congratulations for a magnificent job.

K. of L. FOUNDATION, INC.,

HM Loretta Stukas, President attended all but one Supreme Council meeting. The finances of the Foundation will be announced at the convention sessions. The Foundation sponsors an essay contest each year. There was a bit of disappointment this year in that so few responded. Each year's topics are always excellent challenges, but are we getting lazy? Gifts to Lithuania included a donation to the Lithuanian Sisters of Eucharistic Christ to purchase a refrigerator; Lithuanian Carmelite Sisters to help update their building. Teachers manuals and "Side by Side" language audio tapes were sent to the Lithuanian

Seminaries per Archbishop Bačkis. All such worthy causes.

ST. CASIMIR GUILD,

INC., Anne Klizas Wargo, President, attended all Supreme Council meetings. A trip is being planned to Rome in March of 1998. All information will be presented at the convention. This is the Golden Jubilee of the Pontifical College. Anne would like to have more councils use the Mass cards. This is income for Priests and Student Priests in Rome since they do not have any other source. We should pledge to support this extreme necessity. For those who have lost their churches or are combined with another Parish, this is a good

means of knowing your Masses will be held. Your generosity is needed!

SUMMARY

This has been just a briefing on what the Supreme Council has accomplished in the past three years They have taken on projects that were difficult but in spite of all odds did the very best!

I do not hold a magic crystal ball in my hands that foresees the future of the Knights of Lithuania.... but it is not as bleak as others would want you to believe!

Our faith has carried this organization through so many changes We are survivors! Just as Lithuania survived 50 years of brutal occupation, we have survived 84 years under entirely different circumstances. Let's work for the future. Let's be great achievers.

Combine your talents, young and old, for a common goal and then share the rewards of a job well done! For our Faith, our Family, our Heritage! It is our strength!

It has been a privilege to share moments of joy, moments of sorrow, with you.... Ilgiausų metų, laimingų metų, džiaugsmingų metų linkių visiems!



**Number of Sessions attended by
Delegates - 84th National Convention
Dayton, OH August 7-10, 1997**

*Submitted by Dorothy Banos,
National Financial Secretary*

HONORARY Members Attending

Msg. Al. Bartkus, Rev. Albin Janiunas, Robert S. Boris, Algerd Brazis, Ann Mitchell Matalavich, Fran Petkus, Frank Petrauskas, Rita Pinkus, Estelle Rogers, Aldona Ryan, Elinor Sluzas, Bertha Stoskus, Faustas Strolia, Loretta Stukas, Longinas Svelnis, and Anna K. Wargo.

SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICERS Attending

Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, Evelyn Ozelis, Agnes Mickunas, Robert A. Martin, Jr., Maria Deksnis, Bernice Aviza, John P. Baltrus, Dorothy A. Banos, Mark H. Bell, Mary Beth Slakis, John R. Mankus, Peter P. Zansitis, Edward Barkowski, Elena Mikalauskas, Bertha Stoskus, Longinas Svelnis, Loretta Stukas, Len Barcoucky, John Mickunas, Irena Gecas, Robert S. Boris, Anne Klizas Wargo, Maryte Abbott and Richard Niedvares.

DISTRICT Delegates

AMBER - John Mankus -5; Dorothy Banos - 5
NED - Rita Pinkus-5; Arlene Stiklius - 5
MAD - Joseph Stelmokas - 5; Joseph Zukas - 5
MCD - Frank Bunikis - 5; Brian Johnson - 5
MAMD - Georgianna Macke - 5; Peter Paul Zansitis - 5

COUNCIL Delegates

C-1, BROCKTON: Anthony Grien-5; Sister Helen Ivanauskas - 5; Francis Bumila-5; George Bumila-2
C-3 PHILADELPHIA: John Mickunas-5; Agnes Mickunas-5; Leonard Kapochus-5; Victor Stepalovitch-5
C-7, WATERBURY: Doris Snirpunas-5; Anna Kundrotas-4; Joseph Stiklius-5; Anthony Alexander-5; Patricia Alexander-5
C-12, NEW YORK: Helen Cuprewich-5; Alice



Mandate Committee: Dorothy Banos, Chair, Agnes Mickunas, Georgianna Macke and Doris Snirpunas. *Photo by Brett Morris.*

Zupko-5; Joseph Kscenaitis, Alt.- 2; John Antanavicius-5; Vincent Cuprewich-3; Catherine Yacavonis-2; Stella Marcinauskis-5; Anthony Yacavonis-2

C-14, CICERO: Aldona Brusokas-5

C-16, CHICAGO: Richard Niedvares-5; Aldona Zajauskas-4

C-17 SOUTH BOSTON: Mary Matachinskas-5; Alice Opanasets-5

C-19 PITTSBURGH: Andrew Rozger-5; Helen Graham-5; Zeno Yoksnas-5; Agatha Bender-5

C-24, CHICAGO: Ausra Padalino-3

C-25, CLEVELAND: Ruth Kuzauskas-4; Richard Marks-5; Dolly Oberaitis-5; Tony Oberaitis-5; Joan Ortman-1; Charles Machutas-5; Jean Marks, Alt. - 4; Frances Pranshevich-1

C-26, WORCESTER: Vivian M. Rodgers-5; Rita Karrytais-5; Alfred J. Rodgers - 5

C-29, NEWARK: Chester Karchefsky-3; Rita S. Sussko-5, Consuella Karchefsky - 4

C-36, CHICAGO: Ann Marie Kassel-5; Evelyn Ozelis-5; Theresa Strolia - 5; Margaret Narvaisis-5; Mary Kincius-5

C-41, BROOKLYN: Bill Kumeta-5
C-50, NEW HAVEN: Isabel Peterson-5
C-52, NEWARK: Annie Mitchell Matalavich-5
C-72, BINGHAMTON: Art Stankevitz-5; Casey Grikenis-5; Irene Grikenis-5
C-79, SOUTHFIELD: Violet R. Panavas-5; Joseph Panavas-5
C-86, DUBOIS: Lee Moore-5; Paul Moore-5
C-96, DAYTON: Robert Pant-5; Elena Mikalauskas-3; Michael Petkus-1; George Mikalauskas-1; Frances Mikalauskas-3; Laurreta Pant-4; Eleanor Mantz-4; Joe Mantz-4
C-100, AMSTERDAM: Mirga Bablin-3
C-102, DETROIT: Donna Bunikis-5; Raymond Medonis-5; Theresa Medonis-5; Joseph Stark-3; Eve Stark-3; John Stanevich-3; Donna Stanevich-3
C-103, PROVIDENCE: Agnes Waitonis-5; Sophia Sakalys-5; William Placentini-3; Ruth Krecoich-4; Anthony Gudezauskas-3
C-109, GREAT NECK: Josephine Zukas-5
C-110, MASPETH: Maryte Abbott-5; John Cummins-5; Francis Jakatt-5; Edward Jakatt-5; Mary Stelmokas-5; Helen Cummins-5; Eleanor Carroll-2
C-112 CHICAGO: Julia Zakarka-4; Philomena Vilutis-5; Dolores Adamenas-5; John Adamenas-5; Anele Pocius-5; Sr. Angela Balchunas-5; Edward

Pocius-5; Eleanore Kasputis-5; Matt Vilutis-5; Dolores Wainauskis-5; Ed Dekenis-4; Aldona Brazis-5; Donna Juraitis-2; Rev. Anthony Markus-1; Al Mockus-4; Rita Zakarka-5
C-133, LOS ANGELES: Maryte Sepikas-5
C-136, HUDSON-MOHAWK: Bernice Aviza-5; Charles Rupsis-2; Edward Barkowski-5
C-140, SYRACUSE: Irene Petrauskas-5
C-141, BRIDGEPORT: Clemencine Miller-5; Alice Wilcinskas-5; Dorothy Degennaro-5; Barbara Schmidt-5
C-143, PITTSTON: Helen Karpovitch-5; Joan Mihalick-5; Ann Soha-5; Steve Soha-5
C-144 ANTHRACITE: Eleanor Vaicaitis-5; Evelyn Prep-5; Gloria Dauchess-1; Helen A. Chesko-5; Elsie Kosmisky-5; Victor Prep-3; Margaret Valinsky-1
C-147, ST.PETERSBURG: John Jonaitis-5; Aldona Kirstuk-5; Dolores Jonaitis-5
C-152, EAST LONG ISLAND: John J. Sakal-5; Antonette Sakal-5
C-153, TREASURE COAST: James Marcinkas-5
 (A širdingas ačiū to all who helped on the Mandate Committee.)



Greetings Committee Members included Isabel Peterson, Lee Moore, Sophia Sakalys, Jean Mahalick, Helen Karpovich and Antonette Sakal. *Photo by Brett Morris.*

84th National Convention Sessions Dayton, Ohio August 7-10, 1997

The motto of the 84th National Convention was *Tikėjimas - Šeima - Kilmė...Mūsų Stiprybė*
Faith - Family - Heritage...Our Strength

Our convention began with a beautiful cool August 7th day and an opening Mass at Holy Cross Church in Dayton. Father Michael Holloran, Spiritual Advisor of C-96, Fr. Joseph Anderlonis, SC Spiritual Advisor and Fr. Tony Markus, C-112, Chicago officiated.

As usual, Father Joe did not disappoint us with his homily. Stressing the convention's motto: Faith, family, heritage our strength, Father said we should be proud of our roots in humble ways. Our links to the world's oldest living language, our blessings and crosses in tears and blood and the promise of a democracy in Lithuania should make us be proud to be Lithuanians.

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 Midwestern welcome to Dayton was given by Robert Pant, President of C-96. He noted that at Dayton's last national convention 21 years ago, he was only a 5 year old. "It took a village to raise this child," he quipped.

Nominees for the Convention Presidium Officers were: Presidium Chair, Evelyn Ozelis; Co-Chairs, John Mickunas and Edward Barkowski; Secretaries, Barbara Schmidt and Ann Marie Kassel; Sgts. at Arms, Steve Soha (Amber), Richard Niedvares (MAMD), John Sakal (MAD), Brian Johnson (MCD) and Larry Svelnis (NED). Resolutions Committee, Robert Martin, Jr. (Chair), Teresa Strolia, Mary Kincius, Bertha Stoskus and Clemencine Miller; Mandate Committee, Dorothy Banos (Chair), Georgianna Macke, Agnes



Father Mike Holloran, Spiritual Advisor of C-96 and Fr. Tony Markus lead opening Mass procession. *Photo by Barbara Miller, C-72*

Mickunas and Doris Snirpunas; Greetings Committee, Isabel Peterson, Lee Moore, Sophia Sakalys, Jean Mihalick and Helen Karpovich. John Mickunas, Frances Petkus and Robert Martin reviewed the minutes from the previous convention; Peter Zansitis reviewed parliamentary procedure.

President Evelyn Ozelis gave her report on the State of the Organization. The Treasurer's report and budget proposal followed. A budget proposal for 1997-1998 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. Helen Ivanauskas, CJC, spoke on behalf of Lithuanian Children's Relief (LCR) and thanked the Knights for helping to support this cause. LCR helps orphanages, institutions and poor families in need of food, clothing and medicines in Lithuania.

John Mankus, National Cultural Chair gave an insightful report on the first Lithuanian Book by Martynas Mažvydas *Vaikunas* in 1547, as a part of the 650th anniversary which proclaimed 1997 as the "year of the book".

The Ritual Committee gave their report as a special panel led by John Mickunas, Ritual Chair. John handed out a 15 page report of the point system used by the K of L and answered questions from delegates on degree points.

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 4th Annual George Perles Golf Tournament raised nearly \$15,000.00 for ATL in July and continues to be a successful endeavor. To date, ATL has shipped \$45 million dollars worth of medicines to Lithuanian hospitals, including donations to soup kitchens helping the poorest. He thanked the Knights for continued support.

The Trustees report was given followed by a special panel discussion by the Revenue Committee on ways the Supreme Council can raise funds. (See pg. 13) Bertha Stoskus then gave a report from the Resolutions Revision Committee (See pg. 24)

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

Robert Martin, Jr., 2nd VP, gave awards to councils and individuals who helped to increase membership. (See page 16 for listing.)

Eligible fourth degree candidates were presented by John Mickunas. (See page 18 for list).

HM Loretta Stukas gave her report on the K. of L. Foundation and named the essay contest winners. There were only 4 entrants this year and the response was disappointing, but those who did enter wrote very good essays. (See pages 14 -15.)

Mrs. Stukas spoke of reaching \$100,000. in the Foundation as a goal for the Millennium.

Elections were held for Supreme Council officers for 1997-1998. Our new K of L president, elected for a three year term is John R. Mankus from C-72, Binghamton, NY. See page 3 for more

about John and inside cover for full listings of elected SC officers names and addresses.

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

FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

The St. Casimir Guild Report was given by Anna Klizas Wargo, president of the Guild.

Anna reported that donations received from July 1, 1996 to June 29, 1997 amounted to \$10,941. and during that same time period, 347 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 past year, plus regular priests, attending the college.

The St. Casimir Guild is sponsoring a pilgrimage to Rome in March 1998 for the 50th anniversary celebration of the Pontifical Lithuanian College. (See back inside cover for more details.) Anna Wargo thanked all who donated to the St. Casimir Guild financially and through their prayers.

Msgr. A. Bartkus of Rome addressed delegates stating that next year most of the priests attending the Lithuanian Pontifical College will be returning to Lithuania. He added that three seminaries are now operating in Lithuania, with a fourth to follow soon. He invited K of L'ers to Rome for the 50th Jubilee and thanked them for support.

The Juniors gave their report and entertained delegates with a comedy skit. They were awarded their convention stipends of \$25.00 each by Maria Deksnis, 3rd VP, Juniors. (See pg. 17.)

Next year's convention site was selected as Waterbury, CT with C-7 as our hosts. Council 7 representative, Joe Stiklius, added that dates would be August 6-9, 1997 and it would be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury. The pre-convention tour would be to the newly built Foxwoods Casino and Juniors would enjoy a visit to Mystic Seaport. Mark your calendars.

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



Wise men talk because they have something to say,
fools talk because they have to say something. - Plato

REVENUE PANEL

by John Baltrus

A panel held on Friday afternoon presented the results of the Revenue Committee's efforts to provide viable suggestions for ways the Supreme Council can raise additional revenue in the coming years. The revenue would be used to continue funding current projects or in order to take on new projects. The committee's mandate was provided at the previous National Convention after several years of deficit spending resulting in severe cuts to a number of K of L expenditures.

The panel consisted of chairman and Supreme Council Treasurer, John Baltrus; the two Trustees, Mary Beth Slakis and Mark Bell; and member, Rita Sussko. The committee included these panelists plus Robert Martin, Richard Niedvares, Marion Hobitz and John Mankus. Most members met at the Philadelphia and Dayton Supreme Council meetings and there was extensive correspondence by mail. Suggestions for raising revenue were generated by the committee members and also solicited from all members through *VYTIS*. All suggestions were considered and voted upon by the members. The top four suggestions were presented by the panel.

Mary Beth Slakis discussed the sale of Christmas Cards by K of L members. Several options were presented including the quality of cards and whether artwork could be done by members or districts. The logistics of distributing and selling the cards were also discussed. Profit margin would depend on the quality of the cards and the amount of customization. There was concern that the cost of the cards might discourage purchase and focusing on a single occasion may limit sales. Delegates suggested broadening the scope to include all-occasion cards or changing the concept to selling note cards with a K of L cover design. The best we could do with this project is raise approximately \$2,000.

Mark Bell discussed raising funds by having a national raffle. Prizes could be cash or a trip to Lithuania. The profit margin would depend on the number of tickets sold and the value of the prizes. Tickets would be assigned to the districts to

distribute to members. Assigning two tickets at \$1 each per member would gross approximately \$8,000. The legality of such a concept was questioned and would have to be researched. Other Lithuanian organizations have taken this route.

Rita Sussko discussed the option of charging dues for spouses. Currently spouses pay no dues while two non-married members living in the same household pay \$7.50 over the base dues charge of \$15. per single. If spouses were to pay the \$7.50 charge, dues revenue would increase by approximately \$7,500. provided there would be no loss of membership.

John Baltrus discussed setting up a special fund prior to the National Convention. Members could make donations from \$1. to \$10. to the fund, the contents of which would be used to supplement annual donations approved by the National Convention. Those donations were severely cut back in 1996 and then rose approximately \$1,000. this year. All donations would be anonymous and it would be a way for those who normally can not attend the convention or afford to make large donations to support these worthy causes.

Many excellent comments were received from the delegates once all four ideas were presented. The delegates were then polled on the suggestions by a non binding show of hands. The supplemental dues for spouses idea received by far the most support. The greeting card and raffle ideas were next best received and had about the same support while the idea of small donations received the least support. It was emphasized that this was just an *exercise* to determine what avenues to pursue should additional revenue become necessary. Given the fact that the past fiscal year had a positive balance in revenue, there was no immediate need to implement any of the ideas. However, they will be presented to the Supreme Council for their action, should a financial crises arise in the near or distant future.

The Revenue Committee thanks all members who had taken the time to make suggestions, especially those who responded to the earlier article in *VYTIS*. ❖❖❖

A Successful Completion to the

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION 1997 ESSAY CONTEST

This year's Knights of Lithuania Foundation Essay Contest provided members an opportunity to think about and research facts about our patron saint, St. Casimir and how his life serves as an example to us, what about him makes him a true role model for the Knights of Lithuania.

The topic of the 1997 Foundation Contest was:

"What in the life of St. Casimir makes him an appropriate Patron Saint for the Knights of Lithuania?"

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. Judges, who represented all Districts, included:

Adolf Klova (AMD)
 Clemencine Miller (NED)
 Evelyn Ozelis (MAMD)
 Aldona Ryan (MCD)
 Loretta Stukas (MAD)
 Becky Nakrosis (Last Year's Winner)

This year's contest provided members an opportunity to learn more about St. Casimir, and get to know him better. When printed, the essays should provide interest to other members as well.

While the number of entries was disappointing, the quality of the essays entered was heartening, showing that these entrants truly had a respect for St. Casimir, and researched and thought about the topic intensely. The most heartening aspect was

that the top two prizes went to Junior Members. The Knights indeed have a future with leaders and thinkers like these.

Winners were announced at the 84th National Convention in Dayton, Ohio. The winning entries will be published in this and subsequent issues.

We thank all the members who entered the contest, and congratulate those in the "winning circle", namely:

- 1st (\$300.00) Bonnie Electra Gulas**
 C-141 Juniors, Bridgeport, CT
- 2nd (\$200.00) Andrea Deksnis**
 C-112 Juniors, Chicago, IL
- 3rd (\$100.00) Dolores Jucius**
 C-38, Kenosha, WI
- Hon. Men. Edward W. Baranauskas**
 C-100, Amsterdam, NY

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.

Essay Contest Winner

ST. CASIMIR... AN APPROPRIATE SAINT FOR THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

Edward Baranauskas, C-100
Hon. Mention

St. Casimir was of Lithuanian origin. This should be one of the reasons for considering him to be the appropriate Patron Saint of the Knights of Lithuania.

Historical facts show that not one of his ancestors was a descendant of Poland. Genealogical records prove that.

Grand Duke Gediminas was his great, great-grandfather. He was the Grand Duke of Lithuania, and also the ruler of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.

When Gediminas died, Algirdas, one of his six sons, succeeded him, Algirdas was the great-grandfather of St. Casimir.

It was the wish of Algirdas that Jogaila, his son, take his place when he passed away. Algirdas was married twice, His first child, with his second wife, was Jogaila. He was the grandfather of St. Casimir.

When Jogaila, the Grand Duke of Lithuania, married Queen Jadvyga of Poland, he became the King of Poland. She died shortly after giving birth, and their daughter lived for only a few days.

Jogaila married twice more, and was widowed twice. His daughter, by his second wife, passed away at a young age.

Jogaila was married, for the fourth time, to Sophie, the daughter of Lithuanian Prince Andrew, ruler of the principality of Kiev. Her mother came from Ukrainian royalty, but Polish historians called Sophie a Lithuanian princess.

They had three sons, but their second child died as an infant. When Jogaila died at the age of



*St. Casimir painting at
Transfiguration Church in
Maspeth, NY*

*Like the recently departed
Mother Teresa, St. Casimir
rejected all riches, remained
celebrate, wore meager clothing
and devoted himself to the sick
and poor.*

84, his first son succeeded him and was crowned King Ladislas III at the age of 10. He died in battle against the Turks.

Casimir, their sole surviving son, was crowned Grand Duke of Lithuania at the age of 13, and six years later became King Casimir IV of Poland.

King Casimir IV married Princess Elizabeth of Austria. They had eleven children.

Their third child, and second son, was named Casimir. He was born in Cracow, the capital of Poland. He died on March 4, 1484. He was canonized by Pope Leo X, but the exact date is not known. Casimir became the Patron Saint of Lithuania.

In 1518, a large Moscovite army threatened to occupy the Lithuanian fortress of Polotsk. A small group of Lithuanians came to defend the city and the castle, but were unable to cross the swollen Daugava River. Suddenly, a rider on a white horse appeared, wearing a white cloak with his sword held high. He led the charge across the river, and the tide of battle was turned.

Those who fought were convinced that they had seen the apparition of St. Casimir. The nuncio accepted this as well founded.

St. Casimir defended the Lithuanians in their hour of crisis. His example should encourage all of us to help Lithuania, politically as well as economically.

This is the second reason why St. Casimir is an appropriate Patron Saint for the Knights of Lithuania. ❖❖❖

Dayton '97 Membership Drive Awards

*Submitted by Robert A. Martin, Jr.
Second Vice President*

Individuals Category

- 1st Place - **Maryte Sepikas** - Council 133 - Los Angeles
 2nd Place - Tie - **Roberta S. Landry** - Council 10 - Athol / Gardner
Alex Akule - Council 17 - South Boston
Anne Leseman - Council 26 - Worcester
Mirga Bablin - Council 100 - Amsterdam
Lynn McCafferly - Council 136 - Hudson / Mohawk



Under 75 Members Category

- 1st Place - Tie - **Council 19** - Pittsburgh
Council 82 - Gary
 2nd Place - Tie - **Council 10** - Anthol / Gardner
Council 12 - New York
Council 136 - Hudson / Mohawk
Council 146 - Harrisburg
 3rd Place - Tie - **Council 27** - Norwood
Council 102 - Detroit
Council 116 - Worcester

76 to 150 Members Category

- 1st Place - **Council 133** - Los Angeles
 2nd Place - **Council 17** - South Boston
 3rd Place - Tie - **Council 26** - Worcester
Council 100 - Amsterdam



151+ Members Category

- 1st Place - **Council 50** - New Haven
 2nd Place - Tie - **Council 36** - Chicago (Brighton Park)
Council 112 - Chicago (Marquette Park)

Photos at left (Top) Revenue Committee: Mary Beth Slakis, John Baltrus, Rita Sussko and Mark Bell (Bottom) Minutes Committee: John Mickunas, Fran Petkus and Robert Martin, Jr. *Photos by Brett Morris.*



Juniors Relate Dayton Convention Experiences

Compiled by Maria Deksnis

A dozen Juniors representing five councils attended the 84th National Convention enjoying Dayton area hospitality, going horseback riding, touring the Air Force Museum and Ohio Caverns and relating their experiences to delegates during the final session.

Included were Nina, Natalija and Ron Padalino of C-24, Chicago; Deborah Miller of C-72, Binghamton; Alex and Andrea Deksnis of C-112, Chicago; Sean Miller of C-141, Bridgeport, plus Dayton C-96 natives Andrew Berczelly, Joe Berger, Alex Fletcher, & Erin and Robert Petkus.



The Next Generation of K. of L.'ers at Banquet Night in Dayton with Convention Junior Chair Michael F. Petkus (top far right) and Norma Petkus (top far left). *Photo by Brett Morris.*

Some juniors expressed their experiences.

"Friday Morning we met bright and early and went to the Ohio Caverns. There we took a tour underground and saw the beautiful crystals mother nature had made. Some of them were two hundred thousand years old!

After lunch, we were driven to go horseback riding. We each got on our own horse and rode on a trail through the woods. At the stables, they had a lot of other animals like puppies, rabbits, cats and deer we could pet.

At night we were able to go to the Air Force Museum. There were lots of old planes and other stuff about planes. We also saw the Lithuanian folk dancers. I liked it a lot and can't wait to see what will happen at the next convention." *- Andy Berczelly, C-96*

"This morning we had our first meeting where Rob Pant talked to us about the Knights of Lithuania and the convention. We made flower pot pens and were shown a slide show

presentation by Father Tony Mankus. The slides were from Lithuania and were pictures of many beautiful landscapes, houses and statues. Father Tony explained all of them and really knew a lot!

After the show, we talked and then went to lunch. We joined you here and here we are! I think the convention is great and can't wait to see what else we get to do."

- Nina Padalino, C-24

"On Thursday morning we helped with the Opening Mass. During the service, we brought up the gifts that were symbolic of Lithuania, the bread, water and wine. Later in the afternoon, we went to the Dayton Museum of Natural History. There we looked at displays about the planets of our Solar System, our environment and finally saw a laser show.

In the evening, we met at the get together, but this time we decorated wooden boxes and had a scavenger hunt. I think it was a lot of fun!"

-Erin Petkus, C-96



Saturday's Banquet Night Head Table included (l-r) Irena Gecas, Scholarship Chair; Loretta Stukas, SC Honorary Mem. Chair; Bertha Stoskus, newest Honorary Member; Connie Geiger, wife of Jim Geiger, C-96 Convention Chairman; John Mankus, SC President and Fr. Mike Holloran, Spiritual Advisor for C-96, Dayton. Your editor observes.

Fourth Degree Awards and Approvals

by John Mickunas, Ritual Chair

Fourth Degrees were awarded to the following five members at the closing Mass on August 10, 1997 at Holy Cross Church in Dayton. They included: **John P. Baltrus**, C-19, Pittsburgh; **Joyce Berczely**, C-96, Dayton; **Georgianna Macke**, C-36, Chicago; **Mary Matachinskis**, C-17, Boston and **Anthony Oberaitis**, C-25, Cleveland.

The following candidates have been approved by the Ritual Committee to receive their Fourth Degrees, but were not present at the National Convention:

Martha Brack, C-74, Scranton; Susan Binkis, C-112, Chicago; John Budris, C-110, Maspeth; Vytautas Dijokas, C-36, Chicago; Alice Lewellen, C-19, Pittsburgh; Stella Marcinauskis, C-12, New York; Ann Patelonas, C-74, Scranton; Pranas Shimkus, C-74, Scranton; Stella Stripeikis, C-110, Maspeth; John Stundza, C-78, Lawrence; Matilda Stundza, C-78, Lawrence; Sophie Wensek, C-110,

Maspeth; Leo Zewicki, C-74, Scranton; Elizabeth Zibas, C-112, Chicago and Della Zvirblis, C-74, Scranton.

Six Scholarships Awarded

by Irena Gecas, Scholarship Chair

The *Irene Sankas Memorial Scholarship* for \$1,000 was awarded to **Visvaldas Kulbokas**, a seminarian attending the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome. He was selected by Msgr. Bartkus through St. Casimir Guild President, Anne Klizas Wargo.

The *Alice Karklius Memorial Scholarship* for \$2,500 went to **Jennifer Hornik**, C-36 Chicago, who will attend Lewis University to become an airline pilot.

A \$2,000 scholarship was awarded to **Nina Padalino** of C-24, Chicago, who is president of her Junior Council and plans to attend Marquette University.

\$1,500 scholarships were also awarded to **Jessica Jasewicz** of C-100, Amsterdam, NY; **Nicole Kobulski**, C-144, Anthracite, PA and **Lisa Boese**, C-16, Chicago, IL.



(l-r) Anna Marie Berger, Mistress of Ceremonies; Fr. Joseph Anderlonis, SC Spiritual Advisor; Evelyn Ozelis, past SC President; James Simone, Friend of Lithuania recipient; Len Barcousky, Lith. Affairs Chair; Linda Pant, wife of Robert Pant, C-96 President. *Photos by Brett Morris.*

Entertained in Grand Style

by HM Elinor Sluzas

It was cool, that Friday evening August 8, when we gathered in the lobby of The Holiday Inn. There was much excitement and anticipation ... we were going to the world renowned **UNITED STATES AIR FORCE MUSEUM** at Wright Patterson Air Force Base for our night celebrating our Lithuanian heritage and culture.

We arrived at this magnificent facility and since we were guests from all over these United States, arrangements were made for this to be an evening exclusive to the **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA**. (Gates to the public close at 5:30). This is the oldest and largest aviation museum in the world. It includes nearly 500 aircraft, major missiles, space craft and aeronautical items from all eras. Aircraft from many nations are included as are United States presidential planes. There is also a research library and an IMAX theater. We toured in awe and with much pride in what we were privileged to see.

We later gathered in the elegant **CARNEY AUDITORIUM**, where we were greeted by **USAF General Charles D.**

Metcalf. He talked about Lithuania and freedom in the world today. **Elinor Sluzas** and **Rita Gecas** served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening. The **Dayton Vejeliai Dancers** (photo at bottom) performed many popular folk dances to the delight of the audience. After the program, everyone was given a replica souvenir of a United States Airplane and a button commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the United States Air Force.

What an honor it was to have use of this grand complex where we celebrated our Lithuanian Heritage..... **WHERE ELSE BUT IN THESE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. VALO!**



Dayton '97
RESOLUTIONS - Nutarimai



Resolutions Committee: (l to r) Robert A. Martin, Jr., Chairman with Mary Kincius, Bertha Stoskus, Clemencine Miller and (standing) Theresa Strolia. *Photo by Brett Morris.*

with translations into and from Lithuanian, and in general provide information about the Lithuanian language.”

and,

Section 9, Article XII be deleted in its entirety.

Submitted by: Mark Bell, Supreme Council Trustee

Passed: August 7, 1997

§§§

Donations from The National Treasury

WHEREAS each year the financial outlook of the national treasury can fluctuate causing either a financial shortfall or financial surplus,

BE IT RESOLVED that all resolutions concerning a financial stipend be made on a yearly basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any previous resolutions adopted at previous convention to the contrary not withstanding.

Submitted by: Peter Paul Robert Zansitis

Passed: August 8, 1997

§§§

Hard copy of Annual Report of the Supreme Council Treasurer

IN THE INTEREST of allowing our membership to better understand the financial status of the organization and reach intelligent decisions regarding financial matters;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Annual Report of the Supreme Council Treasurer, in written format, be made available to each delegate in the same manner as all the other officer and committee reports. This report should include 1) a summary statement of profit or loss showing all income and expenses during the fiscal year, 2) a balance sheet indicating

Constitutional Amendment:

Merger of Lithuanian Culture with Lith. Language Chair

WHEREAS The preservation and propagation of Lithuanian culture includes the learning of the Lithuanian language:

BE IT RESOLVED That the description of the Lithuanian Culture Committee, Section 5, Article XII of the current Knights of Lithuania Constitution be amended to read:

“The Lithuanian Culture Committee works to preserve and propagate Lithuanian Culture by providing brochures, articles, recordings and other appropriate means and cooperates with other groups which are concerned with Lithuanian culture. The Committee will also promote the Lithuanian language through instructional articles in VYTIS and other means, assist the Supreme Council and the membership

the total assets of the organization, and 3) proposed budget for the following fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said report is not for publication.

Submitted by: Council presidents: Richard Marks, C-25; Margaret Dapkus, C-79; Robert H. Pant, C-96; Laurence Hofner, C-102 and Elena Mikalauskas, Pres., Mid Central District.

Passed Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Planning for the Millenium - Section 1

BE IT RESOLVED Upon the request of the late Vincent Boris that with the approaching millenium, in accordance with the directive of the Holy Father, the Knights of Lithuania pray and meditate for the proper direction that should be taken by our organization.

This would be implemented by means of the offering of at least one mass for the "Future of the Knights of Lithuania" at each council. Consideration should be given to either holding the mass at the affiliated church or at the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome through the St. Casimir Guild, Inc.

These masses should be said before the ending of 1998.

Planning for the Millenium - Section 2

WHEREAS It is our will and desire to promote the advancement and enhancing of the Knights of Lithuania organization and,

WHEREAS Many valid ideas are generated in councils, but never are forwarded to the leadership of the organization,

BE IT RESOLVED That open discussions be held at the council level and that all ideas be given consideration and that at least two discussions be held at the district level, where the best ideas shall be collected and forwarded to the body at the 1999 National Convention, where a discussion will further our goals for renewal.

*Submitted by: Maryte Abbott, VYTIS editor
Revised and passed: Aug. 9, 1997*

In Memoriam: Vincent Boris

WHEREAS during this past year, the Knights of Lithuania lost a very prominent and active member, former Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chair, Vincent Boris.

BE IT RESOLVED that in grateful appreciation and recognition of his work, we, delegates to the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio on this 8th day of August, 1997, pay tribute to this worthy and outstanding Knight with a moment of silence.

In Memoriam: Alphonse Trainis

WHEREAS during this past year, the Knights of Lithuania lost a very prominent and active member, former Supreme Council Treasurer, Alphonse Trainis.

BE IT RESOLVED that in grateful appreciation and recognition of his work, we, delegates to the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio on this 8th day of August, 1997, pay tribute to this worthy and outstanding Knight with a moment of silence.

"May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace."

§§§

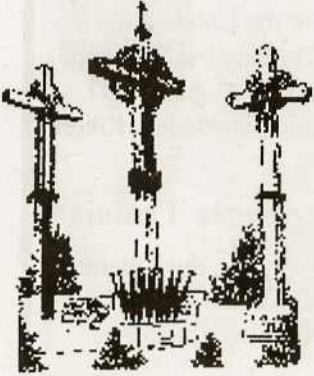
Pre-Appointment of Presidium Resolutions Committee Chair

WHEREAS in an effort to have the proceedings of the convention sessions running smoothly, with regards to convention resolutions, the chair of the resolutions committee has been appointed by the Supreme Council prior to the convention so that standing resolutions can be prepared in advance to save time, and

WHEREAS this has been the unofficial practice in recent years and has worked well, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at

The 84th National Knights Dayton, Ohio



(top) The Shrine of Three Crosses, from a drawing by Connie Geiger, C-96, Dayton, Erected in June 1965 by Holy Cross Church members of Dayton, Ohio, it is dedicated to the Lithuanian martyrs of the Communist Era.

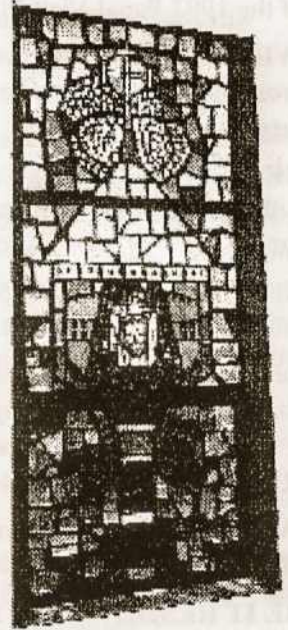


ON THE LAST DAY... Sunday, August 10, 1997, following the closing Mass of the 84th National Convention. The Mass was offered at Holy Cross Church, celebrated by the Most Reverend Daniel E. Pilarczyk, Archbishop of Cincinnati. Concelebrants were: Rt. Rev. Msrg. Algimantas Bartkus, Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD, and Rev. Michael Holloran.



of Lithuania Convention

O August 6-10, 1997



*Stained Glass
window at Holy
Cross Church*

The church was a blaze of colors filtering through the stained glass windows. Choir and congregation raised voices in praise and thanksgiving, and Fr. Anderlonis delivered an inspiring message. The Archbishop was presented with a beautiful wood-carving by George Mikalauskas of C-96. After the group photo, we greeted the Archbishop in the undercroft of the church.

- Elinor Sluzas

☞ *from page 21*

authorize the Supreme Council to officially appoint the Resolutions Committee Chair prior to national conventions.

Submitted by: Evelyn Ozelis, President

Passed: Aug. 8, 1997

☞☞☞

Upkeep of the Knights of Lithuania (Hill of Crosses, Lithuania)

WHEREAS An official Knights of Lithuania Cross was placed and financed by the participants of the 1993 Papal Visit Pilgrimage, and

WHEREAS Four years have passed and the cross needs upkeep and care to prevent its deterioration, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That the Knights of Lithuania provide adequate funds to properly care for the cross as soon as possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That funds are not to exceed \$500.00.

Submitted by: John Mickunas, C-3

Amended and passed: Aug. 8, 1997

☞☞☞

Rescinding of Non-resolved Resolutions

WHEREAS the following resolutions were proposed and never resolved.

BE IT RESOLVED the Supreme Council has reviewed them and suggested these be rescinded.

1966

Resolution to honor the memory of one of our organizations greatest organizers by dedicating our scholarship fund to his memory. Therefore - voted to Honor Canon Fabijonas Kemezis. 1968 - Also in this regard a suggestion from the Supreme Council that donations to the Scholarship Fund be made in his name in Lieu of Flowers.

1970

Resolution that the Supreme Council look into publishing a record commemorating the ceremonies of the dedication of the Our Lady of Vilnius Chapel in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

1971

Resolution that the K of L appoint a committee to look into the possibility of erecting a plaque on the

site of the school in downtown Manhattan where Dr. Karolis Kursius (Curtis), a Lithuanian, was the first teacher in 1657, in what was then Nieuw Amsterdam.

1972 and 1978

Resolution that the Lithuanian Affairs Committee be empowered to draw up to \$1,000.00 annually for necessary expenses, using the \$1,000.00 donation received from the estate of Rev. John Jutt to start a revolving fund for this purpose. The fund to be called the Rev. John Jutt L.A. Fund. 1978 additional Lithuanian Affairs resolution, Whereas the postage for the Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin has tripled since the amount of \$1,000.00 annually was established. Be it resolved that the annual funding be raised to \$2,000.00.

1974 - 1976 - 1977 - 1978

A resolution regarding the printing of a Lithuanian Cultural Handbook. It was determined that this was a costly project. 1976 resolution regarding the Lithuanian Cultural Fund established at the 60th convention be allocated \$1,000.00. Resolved that \$1,000.00 be allocated per district for the purpose of placing books in public or university libraries. 1977 and 1978 resolutions are duplications of the above 1976 resolution and recommend they be rescinded.

1974

Resolution in regard to Archives, authorizing the Supreme Council to visit Kent State University to study how Lithuanian material is being cataloged and how it would benefit K of L archives. Supreme Council determined this would be a one time thing and it should not be carried over.

Resolution that the Supreme Council appoint a resolutions committee at least three months before the national convention, that the committee member's names and addresses be published in VYTIS, and members, councils, and districts submit resolutions to these members, in advance, thus less time would be consumed over wording in a resolution. The Supreme Council discussed this issue and further clarifications would be necessary.

1979

Resolved to recruit young adult members in target colleges and university communities around the country.

Resolved that a biography of our founder Mykolas Norkunas be written.

1991

Resolved that Knights of Lithuania councils prepare packages annually at Christmas for Lithuanian children.

1993

Resolved that a yearly donation of \$200.00 be given to A.L.K.A. for general upkeep of the Archives.

Submitted by: Bertha Stoskus, Supreme Council Resolutions Revision Committee
Passed: Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Convention Minutes

WHEREAS In reviewing minutes of a previous convention; after a lapse of one year it is very difficult to remember all business and official proceedings of the prior convention, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That all minutes be completed and distributed to the Minutes Review Committee, which will be comprised of the previous chairman and co-chairman of the Presidium in time for corrections and amendments to be included by the Fall Supreme Council Meeting.

Submitted by: John Mickunas, Ritual Chair
Passed: Aug. 9, 1997

§§§

Mother Maria Kaupas

WHEREAS The cause for Mother Maria Kaupas' Beatification is an ongoing goal,

BE IT RESOLVED That the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the 84th National Convention in Dayton, Ohio ... Continue to pray for and support her Beatification.

Submitted by: Faustas Strolia, HM
Passed: Aug. 9, 1997

§§§



Honorary Members in Dayton: Newest Recipient HM, Bertha Stoskus, seated second from left.

Photo by Brett Morris

Posthumous Honorary Membership

WHEREAS Honorary Membership, the highest award the Knights of Lithuania organization can bestow on a member, is intended not only to honor a member but also to encourage the member to continue his/her outstanding leadership in the organization, and

WHEREAS Many outstanding member have died before they were considered for Honorary Membership, and

WHEREAS A fair selection of some and not others of these members for Posthumous Honorary Membership is difficult or impossible,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania adopt as a policy the following recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee - That Honorary Membership "NOT" be conferred posthumously unless the candidate was already approved by a national convention before his / her death.

Submitted by: Loretta Stukas, HM, Chair, Honorary Membership Committee
Passed: August 8, 1997

§§§

Honorary Membership for Bertha Stoskus

WHEREAS..... The 83rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, in Brockton, MA, August 9, 1996, approved

the candidacy of BERTHA STOSKUS for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania, and

WHEREAS all constitutional requirement and considerations have been met for this award,

BE IT RESOLVED That the Knights of Lithuania 84th National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon BERTHA STOSKUS, member of Council 103, Providence, RI, and the New England District.

Passed: Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Candidacy of Clemencine Miller for Honorary Membership

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn/Dayton, Ohio, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership CLEMENCINE MILLER, Member of Council 141, New England District, and allow her history, outlining her services as a worthy and dedicated Knight, to be published in VYTIS.

Passed: August 7, 1997

Candidacy of Agnes Mickunas for Honorary Membership

BE IT RESOLVED that the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn/Dayton, Ohio, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership AGNES MICKUNAS, Member of Council 3, Amber District, and allow her history, outlining her services as a worthy and dedicated Knight, to be published in VYTIS.

Passed: August 7, 1997

§§§

Donations

AID TO LITHUANIA, INC.

WHEREAS The work of AID TO LITHUANIA, INC. has contributed much for Lithuania and her people through the provision of much medical and humanitarian aid,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at Dayton, Ohio, express their support of this worthy project with a donation of \$1,000.00.

Submitted by: Rita Zakarka, C-112

Passed: Aug. 9, 1997

§§§

St. Casimir's Guild

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to this 84th Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled in Fairborn/Dayton, Ohio, continue to show our support to the Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome, Italy, with a donation of \$1,000.00 through the St. Casimir's Guild.

Submitted by: Robert A. Martin, Jr.

Passed: Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Thanks to Lietuviu Balsas

WHEREAS Lietuviu Balsas has generously publicized news about the Knights of Lithuania,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express its appreciation of Lietuviu Balsas and its staff for their cooperation and generosity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a donation of \$100.00 be sent to Lietuviu Balsas with an expression of gratitude.

Submitted by: Evelyn Ozelis, President

Passed: Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Appreciation of DARBININKAS

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express its appreciation of 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.

Submitted by: Robert A. Martin, Jr.

Passed: Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Lithuanian Children's Relief, Inc.

WHEREAS The children orphaned and institutionalized and poor families are in dire need of food, clothes, medicines and other basic needs, and

WHEREAS Many members are actively involved in helping to tether, pack and ship these needed items, and

WHEREAS Lithuanian Children's Relief, Inc. has successfully shipped and distributed fifty-eight 40' containers,

BE IT RESOLVED That the National Convention donate \$1,000.00 to Lithuanian Children's Relief, Inc.

Submitted by: Sr. Helen Ivanauskas, C-1

Passed: Aug. 8, 1997

§§§

Appreciation of DIRVA

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express its appreciation to the DIRVA and its staff for their cooperation and generosity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a donation of \$100.00 be sent to DIRVA with an expression of gratitude.

Submitted by: Robert Martin, Jr.

Passed: Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Appreciation of DRAUGAS

WHEREAS The Lithuanian Catholic Daily, "Draugas", has consistently and generously printed

news of the Knights of Lithuania in the "Vyciu Veikla" column and other parts of their publication,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express its sincerest gratitude to "Draugas" and its staff for their cooperation and generosity in publicizing Knights of Lithuania activity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a donation of \$100.00 be sent to "Draugas" with an expression of gratitude.

Submitted by: Robert Martin, Jr.

Passed: Aug. 7, 1997

§§§

Donation to the Lithuanian American Youth Organization

WHEREAS The Lithuanian American Youth Organization represents the (under 35) young people of Lithuanian heritage,

WHEREAS The Lithuanian Youth Organization are working towards the goal of keeping the Lithuanian language alive by means of various projects including an Internet Web site and interactive Lithuanian language courses,

BE IT RESOLVED That the delegates of the 84th Knights of Lithuania National Convention assembled in Dayton, Ohio, aid its continuation to spread Lithuanian culture and ideals to our youth,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a donation of \$200.00 be sent to the Lithuanian American Youth Organization to help to further its continuance in the future.

Submitted by: Maryte Abbott for Pranas Ciziunas, C-142, and Michael Mikolaitis, C-100

Passed: Aug. 8, 1997

§§§

Congratulations

Monsignor Juozas Prunskis

WHEREAS Monsignor Juozas Prunskis, an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania, this year celebrates his 90th Birthday and the 65th anniversary of his priesthood, and

WHEREAS Msgr. Prunskis has been a staunch supporter of the Knights and their various projects for many years, and has initiated and sponsored the Knights of Lithuania Foundation Essay Contest with a grant of \$10,500.00,

BE IT RESOLVED That the Knights of Lithuania, gathered for their 84th National Convention, Aug. 7 -10, in Dayton, Ohio, congratulate Msgr. Juozas Prunskis, and our gratitude for his support and pray that God grant him health and success in his work "For God and Country".

§§§

Faustas Strolia, HM

WHEREAS Siaures Amerikos Lietuviu Muzikos Sajunga recently held their elections of officers at which time Knights of Lithuania Honorary Member, Faustas Strolia, was elected President.

BE IT RESOLVED that the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, extend their heartiest congratulations to Faustas on his new appointment.

§§§

Rev. Stasys Raila, H.M.

WHEREAS Rev. Stasys Raila, an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania, a director of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, a regular at National Conventions in now celebrating his 90th birthday,

BE IT RESOLVED That the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the 84th National Convention, August 7-10, in Dayton, Ohio, congratulate Rev. Stasys Raila, H.M. and pray that God grant him continued health and success.

§§§

Joseph G. Chaplick, C-142

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express their heartiest congratulations to Joseph G. Chaplick, C-142, as he assumes the Chair of the



HM Faustas Strolia at home at the piano.

Photo by Barbara Miller, C-72

Fundraising drive for the Our Lady of Siluva Chapel in Washington, DC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a note expressing these sentiments be sent to him.

§§§

Thanks - Ačiū

Julia Burlen, C-142

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express their heartfelt thanks to Julia Burlen, C-142, as she retires from her many years as Chair of the Fundraising drive for the Our Lady of Siluva Chapel in Washington, DC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a note expressing these sentiments be sent to her.

§§§

Thanks to U.S. Congressman, Gerald Solomon

WHEREAS U.S. Congressman, Gerald Solomon, of the NYS was responsible for the introduction of legislation regarding the expansion of NATO in include the Baltic States, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

BE IT RESOLVED That the Knights of Lithuania send Congressman Solomon a letter of thanks for his support of Lithuania.

§§§

**Thank You to Richard Niedvaras,
Vytis Business Manager**

WHEREAS This convention marks the retirement of Vytis Business Manager, Richard Niedvaras,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention delegates express their thanks to Richard for his three years of service in this very demanding position.

§§§

Thanks to Lithuanian Mercy Lift

WHEREAS LITHUANIAN MERCY LIFT has provided transportation for several containers shipped by AID TO LITHUANIA, INC. the most recent being in November of 1996, and

WHEREAS The cost savings for AID TO LITHUANIAN, INC. amounts to over \$10,000.00,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention thank LITHUANIAN MERCY LIFT for its spirit of brotherly support and cooperation.

§§§

**Thanks to U.S. Senators supporting NATO
inclusion of the Baltics**

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express heartfelt thanks to Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL), Mitch McConnell (R-KY), and Slade Gorton (R-WA) for their support on NATO expansion to include the Baltic Nations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a note expressing these sentiments be sent, by letter or fax, to each of these Senators.

§§§

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 provided many containers of supplies for **Aid to Lithuania**, and

WHEREAS The total estimated value of all donated goods for Lithuania is now nearly \$13,206,000.00,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th Convention of the Knights of Lithuania send a thank you note to World Medical Relief for its outstanding work.

§§§

Thanks to Pharmaciens Sans Frontieres

WHEREAS Pharmaciens Sans Frontieres has provided Lithuania with three truckloads of badly needed medicine valued at \$2,492,000.00, and

WHEREAS Pharmaciens Sans Frontieres has requested assistance from **Aid to Lithuania** to provide funds for transportation of these three shipments,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 84th National Convention thank Pharmaciens Sans Frontieres for its concern for the people of Lithuania and the spirit of cooperation.

§§§

Thanks to Catholic Medical Mission Board

WHEREAS Catholic Medical Mission Board has been generous in supplying much needed medicines to Lithuania and have supplied medicines to Lithuania with a value of \$28,497,000.00,

BE IT RESOLVED That the Knights of Lithuania 84th National Convention send a thank you to them for their continuing support.

§§§

Thanks to Newberry Library in Chicago, IL

WHEREAS The Newberry Library in Chicago, IL, will present an exhibit of early Lithuanian books, including a copy of the first Lithuanian book, and

WHEREAS The Knights of Lithuania Choir will participate in these festivities, and

WHEREAS This is the anniversary year of Lithuania's first printed Lithuanian language book, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That a letter of thank you and congratulations be sent to the library from the Knights of Lithuania meeting in session at the 84th National Convention in Dayton, Ohio, August 7-10, 1997.

**Thank you Holiday Inn,
Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio**

WHEREAS The management and the staff of the Fairborn / Dayton Holiday Inn demonstrated an uncommon level of hospitality, courtesy, and cooperation during our 84th annual National Convention: and

WHEREAS The accommodations were most comfortable and pleasing,

BE IT RESOLVED That the Supreme Council President send a note of appreciation and thanks on behalf of all the delegates.

**Thank you to 84th National Convention
Committee**

BE IT RESOLVED That the delegates to the 84th Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to the members of Council 96 and their entire 84th National Convention Committee for their hard work,

diligence and professionalism in their preparation and presentation this convention.

**Thanks to outgoing Supreme Council
Officers**

BE IT RESOLVED That the delegates to the 84th Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, express on behalf of themselves and the general membership, that they represent, their deepest gratitude to the 1996-1997 Supreme Council for its dedicated service to the organization and support of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

**Thank you to 84th National Convention
Presidium**

BE IT RESOLVED That the delegates to the 84th Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Holiday Inn, Fairborn / Dayton, Ohio, 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.

◆◆◆◆◆

Do the difficult immediately, the impossible takes a little longer. - Bill Gates

Genius is just great patience.

Convention Winners: (left) Bingo games and other gambling fun at "Las Vegas Get Acquainted Friday Night" at Dayton's Lithuanian Club brought \$800 to the K. of L. charities. (right) New K. of L. President, John Mankus (left) shares a smile with HM Frank Petrauskas and his wife, Irene, at the Saturday Night Banquet. Photos by Barbara Miller, C-72.



GREETINGS TO THE 84TH NATIONAL CONVENTION, 1997

MOST REV. AUDRYS JUOZAS BAČKIS
Archbishop of Vilnius
Vilnius, Lithuania

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 ALGIRDAS BRAZINSKAS
President of Lithuania
Vilnius, Lithuania

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

GEDIMINAS LEVICKAS
Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania
New York, NY

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL (ALTAS)
Mr. Jonas Raškauskas, President
Chicago, IL

**LITHUANIAN WORLD COMMUNITY
(PASAULIO LIETUVIŲ BENDRUOMENĖ)**
Bronius Nainys, President
Chicago, IL

LITHUANIAN WORLD CENTER
(Pasaulio Lietuvių Centras)
Rimantas Griškėlis, President
Lemont, IL

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

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

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

LITHUANIAN ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
Vytautas Dargis, President
Westchester, IL

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

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID
Vida Jankauskas, Administrator
Brooklyn, NY

**LITHUANIAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION,
INC. (Tautos Fondas)**
Algis Vedeckas, President
Brooklyn, NY

LIETUVIŲ SKAUTŲ SAJUNGA
Birute Banaitiene, President
Abington, MA

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

AMERICAN TRAVEL SERVICE
Evergreen Park, IL
by Rita Pincyba

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

FRANCISCAN FATHERS
St. Casimir Province
T. Placidus Barius, OFM, Provincial
Kennebunkport, ME

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

SISTERS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED
Sister Mary Valliere, CJC,
Superior General
Brockton, MA

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

GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

K OF L GENERAL FUND:

Gene Gobis, C-100	\$25.00
Frank (HM) & Irene Petrauskas (IMO Anthony Petrosky)	20.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36 (IMO Justin J. Kincius)	10.00
Panavas, C-79	10.00
TOTAL:	\$65.00

VYTIS FUND:

Edward & Francis Jakatt, C-110	\$50.00
Edward & Anele Pocius	50.00
Dorothy DeGennaro, C-141 (IMO deceased Lithuanians)	25.00
K of L C-133, Los Angeles (IMO Anthony Kober)	25.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1 (IMO Michael & Eva Balukonis)	25.00
Frank (HM) & Irene Petrauskas, C-140 (IMO Anthony Petrosky)	20.00
Panavas, C-79	15.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36 (IMO Justin J. Kincius)	10.00
Sophia Sakalys, C-103	10.00
TOTAL:	\$255.00

REV. JOHN C. JUTT FUND (LITH. AFFAIRS):

Bernice Aviza, C-136 (IMO Vince Boris)	\$50.00
Anonymous	25.00
Dorothy DeGennaro, C-141 (IMO Deceased Lithuanian family & friends)	25.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29 (IMO Vincent Boris)	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Vilitis, C-112	25.00
Josephine & Joseph Zukas, C-109 (IMO Vincent Boris)	25.00
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17 (IMO Dr. Jack Stukas)	20.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112	20.00
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103 (IMO Vince Boris)	15.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36 (IMO Justin J. Kincius)	10.00
Panavas, C-79	10.00
TOTAL	\$275.00

K OF L JUNIORS ACTIVITIES:

Helen & Mary Labadis, C-144 (IMO William J. Labadis)	\$50.00
Anonymous	25.00
Clemencine Miller, C-141	25.00
Frank (HM) & Irene Petrauskas, C-140 (IMO Anthony Petrosky)	20.00
Panavas, C-79	15.00

Mary F. Kincius, C-36 (IMO Justin J. Kincius)	10.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00
Rita Zakarka, C-112	10.00

TOTAL: **\$165.00**

CONVENTION COMMITTEE:

Gene Gobis, C-100	\$25.00
TOTAL:	\$25.00

AID TO LITHUANIA:

Anonymous	\$1,000.00
K of L, C-110, Maspeth	1,000.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Alexander, C-7	1,000.00
K of L Amber District	300.00
K of L Mid-America District	250.00
K of L C-112, Chicago	200.00
1/4 Proceeds of Conv. Thurs. Social	200.00
Julian D. Majeski, (IMO Frank A. Kapochus)	200.00
Marcella Bartoli, C-143	149.50
Len & Daina Kapochus, C-3	101.00
Dawn Maknys, C-3	101.00
K of L New England District	100.00
K of L C-3, Philadelphia	100.00
K of L C-86, DuBois	100.00
K of L C-118, Hazleton	100.00
VYTIS Editors (IMO Vincent B. Boris)	100.00
Anonymous	100.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136 (IMO Vincent Boris)	100.00
Al (HM) & Aldona Brazis (IMO Vincent Boris)	100.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	100.00
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	100.00
Anna M. Kapochus	100.00
Rita Karrytais, C-26	100.00
Helen & Mary Labadis, C-144 (IMO Anna & Adella Chesnalavach)	100.00
Joseph L. Machonis (IMO Wife Constance)	100.00
Jean Kapochus Mihalik, C-143 (IMO Dorothy Petrauskas, John Kapochus, and the Petrauskas Family)	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Pandza, C-3 (IMO Deceased Family)	100.00
Charles & Margaret Petronis, C-3 (IMO John Petronis & Anna Lasky)	100.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96 (IMO Vince Boris)	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Vilitis, C-112	100.00
Rita Zakarka, C-112	100.00
Josephine & Joseph Zukas, C-109	100.00
Alice S. Zupko, C-147 (IMO Peter Zupko)	75.00
Helen Karpovich, C-143 (IMO Anthony Karpovich, Karpovich Family, and the Kapochus Family)	55.00

K of L C-16, Chicago	50.00	Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
K of L C-25, Cleveland	50.00	Victor & Evelyn Prep, C-144	25.00
K of L C-156, Shamokin	50.00	John A. Ramoska, C-74	25.00
Barnoski Family Reunion #1 (IMO Kajton & Sophie Barnoski)	50.00	Estelle Rogers, HM, C-112 (IMO Vince Boris)	25.00
Alphonse J. Balsis	50.00	Mary Beth Slakis, C-16 (IMO Al Slakis)	25.00
Hedwig Gedeika (IMO Husband & Parents)	50.00	Carol A. J. Stanley, C-3	25.00
Lillian M. Greymas, C-3	50.00	Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144 (IMO Vince Boris)	50.00	Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	25.00
Philip & Dorothy Machonis, C-3 (IMO Deceased Family)	50.00	Rita S. Sussko, C-29 (IMO Michael Sussko)	25.00
Joe & Eleanor Mantz, C-96	50.00	Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
(On behalf of a good friend who goes out of her way for family & friends - Elinor Sluzas)		Catherine Jusaitis Applegate	20.00
James A. Marcinkus, C-153	50.00	Agatha Bender, C-19 (IMO Family of Agatha Bender)	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Al Navitt (IMO Deceased Parents)	50.00	Sophie Colesar (IMO Deceased Family)	20.00
Josephine O'Peka, C-46	50.00	Rev. Albin Janiunas, HM, C-17	20.00
Irene Ozalis, C-3	50.00	Flavius Jankauskas	20.00
Charles & Donna Sulmar, C-3	50.00	(IMO Mother Vincenta)	
Dolores Wainauskis, C-112	50.00	Mary F. Kincius, C-36 (IMO Justin J. Kincius)	20.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112 (IMO Al Zakarka)	50.00	Mr. & Mrs. Ray Medonis, C-102 (IMO Vito & Ed Zaliagiris)	20.00
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00	Frank (HM) & Irene Petrauskas, C-140 (IMO Anthony Petrosky)	20.00
K of L C-133, Los Angeles (IMO Vince Boris)	25.00	Sophia Sakalys, C-103	20.00
Dorothy Banos, C-143 (IMO Vince Boris)	25.00	Elizabeth A. (Dolly) Sprow, C-3	20.00
Mark H. Bell, C-96	25.00	Constance C. Powell (IMO Husband & Parents)	10.00
John & Eleanor Bogdon, C-3	25.00	Anna Radzavage, C-144	10.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1 (IMO Vince Boris)	25.00	Josephine Remaize (IMO Husband & Parents)	10.00
Helen Chesko, C-144	25.00	Charlotte Rice (IMO Husband Anthony)	10.00
Alice K. Chiorra	25.00	Tony Yacavonis, C-12 (IMO Kazimiera Yacavonis)	10.00
Jeanne & Tim Dorr	25.00	Elena Pestenis	5.00
Joan C. Iwasko, C-3	25.00	PLEDGES:	
John & Dolores Jonaitis, C-147	25.00	Rita Gecas, C-96	25.00
Karen Vyte Kapochus (IMO Marilyn Kapochus)	25.00	(IMO Eugenija Gecas)	
Karl A. Kapochus (IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	25.00	TOTAL	\$8,736.50
Leonard & Daina Kapochus, C-3 (IMO Vincent Boris)	25.00	ST. CASIMIR GUILD:	
Aniele Kendrick, C-3 (IMO Deceased Family)	25.00	Agnes F. Waitonis, C-103 (IMO Joseph Waitonis)	\$300.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12 (IMO Mitchell Marcinauskis)	25.00	K of L Mid-America District	250.00
Ruth Margis (IMO Husband Charles)	25.00	K of L Amber District	200.00
Jean & Richard Marks, C-25	25.00	1/4 Proceeds of Conv. Thurs. Social	200.00
Thomas & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144 (IMO Thomas E. McDonald III & his grandparents Thomas McDonald, Sr. & Edward & Blanche Bubel)	25.00	K of L New England District	100.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00	K of L C-3, Philadelphia	100.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	25.00	K of L C-86, DuBois	100.00
Clemine Miller, C-141	25.00	Anonymous	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Monkaitis (IMO Deceased Family)	25.00	John Antanavicius, C-12 (IMO Antanavicius Family)	100.00
Lee & Paul Moore, C-86 (IMO Anthony Petrosky)	25.00	Bernice Aviza, C-136 (IMO Vincent Boris)	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Oberaitis	25.00	Al (HM) & Aldona Brazis, C-112 (IMO Anthony Kober)	100.00
		Helen A. Chesko, C-144	100.00

K of L C-16, Chicago	50.00
K of L C-25, Cleveland	50.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	50.00
Casey & Irene Grikenis, C-72	50.00
Rita Karrytais, C-26	50.00
Helen & Mary Labadis, C-144 (IMO William J. Labadis)	50.00
Joe & Eleanor Mantz, C-96	50.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96 (IMO Joan & Al Shigo)	50.00
Ann & Steve Soha, C-143	50.00
Arthur Stankevitz, C-72	50.00
Joseph & Arlene Stiklius, C-7 (IMO all deceased members of C-7)	50.00
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	50.00
Len & Daina Kapochus, C-3	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Vilutis, C-112	50.00
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00
K of L C-133, Los Angeles (IMO Juozas Sepikas)	25.00
Mark Bell, C-96 (IMO Vince Boris)	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1 (IMO Ed & Irene Tamulevich)	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Ruth Krecioch, C-103	25.00
Jean & Richard Marks, C-25	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00
Jean Kapochus Mihalick, C-143 (IMO Dorothy, John, Frank, Al Kapochus & Mary Urban)	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Oberaitis, C-25	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96 (IMO Barbara Klevinsky)	25.00
Estelle Rogers, HM, C-112 (IMO Anthony Kober)	25.00
Sophia Sakalys, C-103	25.00
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	25.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	25.00
Rita S. Sussko, C-29 (IMO Michael Sussko)	25.00
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
Josephine & Joseph Zukas, C-109	25.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36 (IMO Justin J. Kincius)	20.00
Mary Zutant, C-140	20.00
Panavas, C-79	15.00
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144 (IMO McDonald & Bubel Familys)	10.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00

TOTAL **\$2,975.00**

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION:

K of L Mid-America District	\$250.00
1/4 Proceeds of Conv. Thurs. Social	200.00
K of L New England District	100.00
K of L C-86, DuBois	100.00
K of L C-144, Anthracite	100.00
John Antanavicius, C-12 (IMO Bertha Stanwick)	100.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	100.00

(IMO Alphonse Trainis)	
Helen Chesko, C-144	100.00
(IMO J. William Chesko, Brother)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	100.00
Casey & Irene Grikenis, C-72	100.00
Dr. Liudas Jagminas, C-103	100.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	100.00
Arthur Stankevitz, C-72	100.00
Frank Yonika, C-17	100.00
Peter Paul Zansitis, C-16	100.00
K of L C-16, Chicago	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136 (IMO Alphonse Trainis)	50.00
Mark H. Bell, C-96	50.00
Johanna Johnson, C-36	50.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	50.00
James A. Marcinkus, C-153	50.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96 (IMO Stanley Vaitkus)	50.00
Ann & Steve Soha, C-143	50.00
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	50.00
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	50.00
Rita S. Sussko, C-29	50.00
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	50.00
Eleanor K. Vaicaitis, C-144 (IMO Stanley Vaicaitis)	50.00
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00
Dorothy A. Banos, C-143	25.00
Leonard Kapochus, C-3 (IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	25.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36 (IMO Justin J. Kincius)	25.00
Helen & Mary Labadis, C-144 (IMO William J. Labadis)	25.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00
Jean Kapochus Mihalick, C-143 (IMO Marilyn Kapochus)	25.00
Clemine Miller, C-141	25.00
Lee & Paul Moore, C-86 (IMO Anthony Petrosky)	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Sophia Sakalys, C-103	25.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	25.00
Josephine & Joseph Zukas, C-109	25.00
Alice S. Zupko, C-147	25.00
Frank (HM) & Irene Petrauskas, C-140 (IMO Anthony Petrosky)	20.00
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144 (IMO Thomas J. McDonald, Sr.)	10.00

TOTAL **\$2,855.00**

K OF L SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

K of L Mid-America District	\$250.00
1/4 Proceeds of Conv. Thurs. Social	200.00
K of L C-29, Newark, NJ	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
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	100.00

Bernice Aviza, C-136	50.00
(IMO Vincent Boris)	
K of L C-16, Chicago	50.00
K of L C-25, Cleveland	50.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	50.00
Helen & Mary Labadis, C-144	50.00
(IMO William J. Labadis)	
James A. Marcinkus, C-153	50.00
Eleanor K. Vaicaitis, C-144	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Wilcinskas, C-141	50.00
K of L C-36, Chicago	25.00
K of L C-133, Los Angeles	25.00
(IMO Alexander Balesh)	
Anonymous	25.00
Dorothy A. Banos, C-143	25.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	25.00
(IMO Joseph & Birute Balukonis)	
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
Leonard & Daina Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Kapochus)	
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12	25.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	25.00
Clemencie Miller, C-141	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Barbara Wilcinskas Schmidt, C-141	25.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	25.00
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	25.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	25.00
(IMO Justin J. Kincius)	
Helen Medley, C-50	15.00
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO Thomas J. McDonald, Sr.)	
Panavas, C-79	10.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00
Rita Zakarka, C-112	10.00
TOTAL	\$1,825.00

SILUVA SHRINE FUND:

James A. Marcinkus, C-153	\$50.00
Joseph & Arlene Stiklius, C-7	50.00
(IMO Beloved Friend & K of L Member Olga Gray)	
Anonymous	25.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Oberaitis, C-25	25.00
Panavas, C-79	25.00

(IMO Mary Margaret Panavas)	
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Vilutis, C-112	25.00
Josephine & Joseph Zukas, C-109	25.00
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	20.00
Sophia Sakalys, C-103	20.00
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	20.00
(IMO Vince Boris)	
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	10.00
(IMO Justin J. Kincius)	
Helen Medley, C-50	10.00
TOTAL:	\$380.00

LCRA CHILDREN'S LUNCH FUND:

Al (HM) & Aldona Brazis, C-112	\$50.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	10.00
TOTAL	\$85.00

LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF:

K of L C-86, DuBois	\$100.00
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	100.00
(IMO Margie Senk)	
Rita Karrytais, C-26	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Vilutis, C-112	100.00
K of L C-16	50.00
Al (HM) & Aldona Brazis, C-112	50.00
Casey & Irene Grikenis, C-72	50.00
Faustas (HM) & Theresa Strolia, C-36	30.00
Dorothy A. Banos, C-143	25.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
John & Dolores Jonaitis, C-147	25.00
Len & Daina Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Kapochus)	
Helen & Mary Labadis, C-144	25.00
(IMO William J. Labadis)	
Jean Kapochus Mihalick, C-143	25.00
(IMO Alice Kapochus & Petrauskas Children)	
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	10.00
(IMO Stanley Vaitkus)	
Eleanor K. Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
Tony Yacavonis, C-12	5.00
TOTAL	\$770.00

TOTAL DONATIONS AND PLEDGES RECEIVED **\$18,411.50**

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.

Banquet Night Features Newest Honorary Member and Friend of Lithuania Award Winner



Saturday night's gala banquet featured guest speaker, **Bertha Stoskus** (photo left) of C-103, Providence, RI as our newest Honorary Member. Bertha, current NED President, did not want a new medal but instead accepted the medal awarded her late husband, John in 1981.



photos by Brett Morris

Len Barcoucky, Lith. Affairs Chair (photo right) presented Friend of Lithuania Award to **James A. Simone**, who has been working with the APPLE Catholic education program in Lithuania since 1993. Simone gave an inspirational speech on education in Lithuania.

In Memoriam

*Amžina atilsiduok mirusiems
Viešpatie ir amžinoji šviesa
tegel jiems šviečia, Amen.*

Vincent B. Boris
C-102, Detroit, MI
June 22, 1997

Alphonse Trainis
C-141, Bridgeport, CT
June 21, 1997

Nellie Perrelli
C-50, New Haven, CT
June 20, 1997

Mary Yanus
C-50, New Haven, CT
July 23, 1997

Marion Kilonsky
C-46, Forest City, PA
May 28, 1997

Joseph Walcavage
C-144, Anthracite, PA
July 2, 1997

Stella McLeod
C-149, Saginaw, MI
July 25, 1997

Helen Kazimeraitis
C-30, Westfield, MA
June 14, 1997

Albert Kokus
C-144, Anthracite, PA
July 19, 1997

Albert Shigo
C-25, Cleveland, OH
July 15, 1997

William Ward
C-110, Maspeth, NY
June 26, 1997

Ann Galas
C-29, Newark, NJ
May 31, 1997

Mary Caplan
C-152, E. Long Island, NY
March 18, 1997

Barbara Buchanon
C-152, E. Long Island, NY
June 3, 1997

Alice Cekanor
C-112, Chicago, IL
June 1997

Anna Garbincius
C-12, New York, NY
June 14, 1997

Bernard Dulke
C-110, Maspeth, NY
June 5, 1997

Frances Petrikis
C-17, S. Boston, MA



District & Council News

Editors' Note: Congrats to council news correspondents: **Aldona Marcavage**, C-141; **Gerrie Chaplin**, C-112 and **Dolores Jonaitis**, C-147. You're the winners of this year's writers awards. To all of you, thanks and keep up the good work. -*Dalia ir Marytė*



MAMM

"Watch for Richard Niedvares!" Wanda Pliskaitis exclaimed as she drove off to the second pickup point. The bus arrived promptly and so did Richard in the nick-of-time. As the bus began, Sr. Tarcisia led us in prayer for a safe trip and invoked Our Lady of the Highways for our protection. This was succeeded by "Marija Marija" sung by the passengers and accompanied by Faustas Strolia on the accordion. Evelyn Ozelis and Wanda Pliskaitis, our "stewardesses" dispensed various edibles. To keep us entertained we saw movies and were led once again by Faustas and his accordion to "Dainuojame su Lietuvos Vyčiais" (sing-along with the K of L). We had a 30 min. "gourmet" luncheon stop in Collinsville, IL where the group split up with some going to taste the delicacies featured at White Castles, Arby's or Shoney's. After lunch, Mary Beth Slakis broke out the bingo cards and 5 exciting games ensued. Winners included Frank Jurgaitis, Peter Zansitis and Edward Pocius. Only men won in spite of the fact that there were many more

ladies on board. Twenty two slightly tired but still eager K of L members arrived at the beautiful Marriott Hotel in downtown Kansas City at 6:10 pm. The group went their separate ways after checking in but a majority chose to eat at a local restaurant where the specialty was ribs.

Unfortunately some members felt ill the next day from their dining experience but soon recovered to enjoy the rest of the events. At 8:30 am Wanda Pliskaitis marched some signed-up members onto the bus for a trip to Independence, MO to visit the Truman Library. From the eternal flame that marked the resting place of the President and his wife to the replica of the Oval Office in Truman's day, we were inspired by this great President and the life he led. Rushing back to the hotel to greet our K of L contingent, the group was full of anticipation. The district meeting began late but dealt with all its business quickly thanks to the leadership of Mid-America District president, Peter Paul Zansitis. Afterwards, the group relished a delicious chicken dinner provided by the hotel.

Later, members attended an afternoon mass at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral. We were impressed by the beautiful homily and the excellent congregational singing, the accomplished talents of the cantor, organist and pianist which blended together to make for a very moving and

memorable service.

Rolling, rolling on the river boat "Queen", Wanda Pliskaitis gathered 19 K of L members on a delightful cruise down the Missouri River. Entertainment was lively as a four piece band performed a number of crowd pleasing favorites playing "Chicago" especially for the group. We enjoyed a plentiful buffet of salads, mashed potatoes and succulent prime rib. Strolling on the deck of the old-fashioned paddlewheel boat on such a pleasantly warm night was a must as one returned to the days of belles, beaux and riverboat dandies.

The next morning, groggy but anxious to get home, we boarded the bus at 8:00 am. Sr. Tarcisia again led us in prayer for a safe journey. We played yet another round of bingo led by Mary Beth Slakis. This time a few women did win so everyone was happy, especially the winners. During the ride, Mrs. Rachel Jurgaitis discovered that she had left her purse at the "Wendy's" restaurant where we had stopped for lunch. We stopped at the next available "Wendy's" so she could call the restaurant where she left her purse. We were all glad to hear that it was turned in intact and would be sent to her by Federal Express. Relieved, we continued onto our final destination as we viewed a video of the exciting final Olympic, game for the bronze medal featuring the Lithuanian team starring basketball greats Arvydas Sabonis and Šarūnas

Marčiulionis versus the Australian team. Of course, the final outcome was in favor of team Lietuva as we watched them receive their medals.

Sr. Tarsicia again led us in a prayer of thanksgiving for a safe trip and the return of Rachel's purse. We were all grateful for such a relaxing trip, excellent accommodations, a wonderfully clean city known for its many beautiful fountains and pleasant warm weather. Kudos to Wanda Pliskaitis for planning it.

N E D

Aldona Marcavage

We have closed the book on one more page of beautiful memories. On June 20, 1997, eighty-four people from seven councils in New England met on the lovely estate grounds of the Franciscan Monastery, St. Anthony Shrine and comfortable guest rooms. How fortunate we are to have such peaceful surroundings enabling us to meditate and refresh. Father Robert's inspirational talks gave us food for thought and his command of the Lithuanian language was a pleasant surprise.

Nourishment for our bodies was prepared by six excellent imported chefs from Lithuania. We appreciated and enjoyed their gourmet presentations. In our free moments, we discovered the best lobsters and the freshest seafood in the area. Combine all that with idyllic weather and you have an unbeatable combination. Good reason for desiring that special weekend to nourish our bodies and our spirits in the company of dear friends. So until next June, stay healthy and happy!

C-10, Athol - Gardner, MA ***Vincukas***

Jane O'Hearn, daughter of our late members, Barbara and James Eacmen was reelected for a second term as a State Representative of New Hampshire in the Nashua district. Jane deserves this great honor and we extend her our warmest congratulations. Jane is a 100% 3rd generation Lithuanian.

Congratulations are extended to Helen and Bill Alexik, members of Westfield, on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. It was recently observed at a large gathering held in St. Casimir's hall.

Suzanne Genaitis graduated from Harvard University with honors. Suzanne has enlisted in the Peace Corps for a year before she returns to Law school. She is the daughter of Dick and Donna. They are all a 100% K. of L. family.

A group from Gardner attended the K. of L. retreat in Kennebunkport, Maine. It was a big success - weather wise and spiritually. A big thank you to Al Akule, who coordinates this annual much looked forward to event each year. Also a Lithuanian ačiū labai to the great staff at the Franciscan monastery.

Our June meeting was held at the home of Armand and Pam Bouthillier. Armand, Pam and daughter, Shirley, were excellent hosts and also in preparing the Lithuanian style dinner. At the meeting we prayerfully remembered her mom, Paula Shatas, who passed away two years ago. She hosted many a

party with her delicious sauerkraut. Thanks to all!

Tony Miner of 116 Worcester, was recently elected President of the Lithuanian Outing Association in Gardner. He donated a loudspeaker system to the club. Thanks Tony! Also club officers and K. of L. members are: Peter Molis, Bill Wišniuskas, Howie Beaudette, David Lucas, Ed Paliliunas, Brone Wišniauskas and Gloria O'Malley.

Member Walter Mikas donated a large framed picture of the Lithuanian Statue of Liberty to our Lithuanian Club in Gardner. Thanks Walt!

C-12 New York, NY

Irene Senken

Thank you Jean Janonis and Dalia Bulvičius for filling in for me during my absence. Širdingai ačiū!

On July 12, in Shelton, Conn. a very festive occasion took place. Stella Marcinauskas son, John, got married. He is the last of the four sons to marry. Congratulations are in order for John and his wonderfully proud mother. This affair was well represented by many K. of L. councils. Music was provided by Joe Thomas and a DJ. Congratulations also go to Stella for receiving her 4th degree at the convention in Dayton, Ohio.

The Senkens became grand-parents for the fifth time. A very special baby James Arthur arrived on July 21st. This is the second addition to Matthew and Tracy's family. We thank God for His blessings.

On a sad note, we wish to offer our heartfelt condolences to our spiritual advisor, Fr. Eugene

Sawicki, on the loss of his dear mother, Julia. It was so sudden that I did not have a chance to give her the rūta she had requested. May she rest in peace.

We are also mourning the sudden death of former Supreme Council Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Vincent Boris. What a loss to our organization! We will not say *Su Dievu*, dear Vince, since you are with God already, we will say *iki pasimatymo!* (till we meet again). *Amžina atils!*

C - 24, CHICAGO, IL

BITE

Council 24's officers are:

President - Vince Neberieza; 1st V. President - Frank Jurgaitis; 2nd V. President - Bruce Neberieza; 3rd V. President - Aušra Padalino; Recording Secretary - Loretta Simon; Treasurer - Bernice Neberieza; Sgt. at Arms - Stanley Mankus; Trustees - Ron Padalino - Ray Kepetis - Helen Baltutis - Connie Baltutis; Spiritual Advisor - Father Victoras Rimšelis

Our Juniors: Ronald Padalino has graduated and will be entering Brother Rice High. Nina Padalino has left the hallowed halls of St. Ignatius High and will be at the campus of Marquette University where she will be studying to be a dentist. Andrew Neberieza, a graduate of Brother Rice with high honors, has been accepted at Ball University in Muncie, IN, studying to become a pathologist. Sarah Neberieza will be a Junior at Illinois State University and her brother, David will be a senior at Brother Rice High. Our juniors are growing and spreading their

wings.

May 4, '97, "A Day at the Races" for C-24 was a huge success with the help of members of K of L councils and friends. The choices of the winning horses was a mystery to most of us but a few were lucky and it was fun.

Loretta and Joe Simon celebrated 50 years of that great sacrament of matrimony. Their son, Jack with wife, Diane, and daughter, Janice, hosted a lovely party at their new home. Congrats to you love birds and many more.

Frank and Rachael Jurgaitis went to the Mid Central District Conference on May 18th in Kansas City, hosted by Council 102. It was a long ride by bus, but with entertainment, friendship and food the two days with Council 102 and their guests were a blast. Frank presented the president, Tim Baibek, a K of L windsock. A non-Lithuanian dance group learned Lithuanian dances from a video which was quite impressive. They were also presented with a windsock from Frank.

On Sunday, October 4th, Council 24 hosted the Mid America District meeting at the Marian Fathers. Hostesses were Ausra Padalino with daughters Nina and Natalia. Yours truly, Bernice and Vince Neberieza, enjoyed their 55th Anniversary at Niagara Falls in September.

Good health to all our Vyčiai.

C-26, Worcester, MA

Stephen V. Walinsky, Sr.

The meetings of Council 26 for the first half of 1997 included

something for everyone. Entertainment for our pleasure, information for our intellect, a variety of dinner menus, creations of our pot luck chefs, and an assortment of delicacies for our tummies. Above all, GOOD FELLOWSHIP.

At our June meeting an antique entrepreneur visited us to appraise and estimate the origin and the monetary value of some of our treasures.

Pictures, Pitchers, Pocket Watches too, Things mom and dad had 100 years ago were new. China, Toys and Fancy Dishes reckon value. Years passed by, their worth just grew and grew.

Possessing such a handed down or an acquired item, arouses one's curiosity and also one's high hopes that maybe, there is something of great value. The only way to know that of its true worth, is to seek a professional opinion.

Anxiety was evident on the facial expressions of those waiting for comments about their goods. After the expertise scrutiny, regardless of the results, we retrieved our belongings and headed for home, satisfied.

On July 11th, council 26 was granted the privilege and pleasure to entertain and present in concert, Jūratė Karosas, a gifted pianist, (cousin of K of L'er, Ron Spakauskas) and in gratitude she entertained us with her masterly talent.

The Saint Casimir Church hall seating was arranged in concert style, the grand piano surrounded with adornments, and when Jūratė took stage, it was just beautiful.

Jūratė is from Lithuania,

daughter of Anthony Karosas and Marytė Rataiskytė. She was educated at the Lith. Music Academy, and is now a member of the music department at the Univ. of Klaipėda. Three years ago, Jūratė came to the USA to study, as a music scholar, at UCLA. She has since returned to Lithuania, to recommence her position at the university in Klaipėda.

An outstanding pianist is she, her renditions were superb. Believe me, her music sent chills up and down my spine, favoring us with *Preludes* of M. K. Čiurlionis, *Nocturnes* of Chopin, *Consolation* of Liszt and *L'Isle Jo Yeuse* of Debussy.

For the reception which followed, the ladies of C-26 came through once again with their baking talents.

C-50, New Haven, CT

Audrey Toole

Council 50 began the summer season with a pancake breakfast which was a social success with a fully satisfying meal. Cooks and helpers were: Magdalen Cronin, Mary Geipel, Marion Meshako, Isabel Peterson, Tony and Anne Kordorsky, Ed and Audrey Toole.

Members later enjoyed the council outing and cookout held at the hall and yard of St. Casimir's Church. Unfortunately, this was the last outing at the church since it has been announced that the church will be closing in the near future. Another Lithuanian Catholic church will join those which have already been closed in these United States.

We thank our president, Isabel Peterson, who was our

only delegate at the National Convention this year.

Our sympathy is extended to the families of deceased members Nellie Perrelli and Mary Yanus. We pray for their eternal rest.

We also pray for the health of many recuperating members.

C-74, Scranton, PA

Marie Laske

Our Lithuanian Mass at St. Ann's Basilica was the biggest and best ever. We had people from Scranton, Wilkes Barre, Forest City, New York and a bus from our faithful Frackville.

Father Clement Kasenskis was celebrant and did a great job as usual, along with concelebrants, Father Peter Alisaukas, Msgr. Michael Ozalas and a priest from New Philadelphia.

We were deeply honored to have for the first time, Father Kenneth Strawhand from the Providence of Lithuanian National Catholic Church (with the permission of Bishop James Timlin, D. D. in accord with the latest permission granted by the Holy See). Father Kenneth blessed the people with the Relic of St. Ann. Indeed, this was a special blessing!

Nell Bayoras Romanas explained the gifts as the K. of L. members walked down the aisle wearing their beautiful Lithuanian attire. Amber District President, John R. Mankus, was the lector. Sister Elizabeth Žemaitis was the organist and it was wonderful to sing all the beautiful Lithuanian hymns. A huge ačiū labai to all who came and participated in any way.

The first solemn novena at St.

Ann's in West Scranton was conducted in 1924 and it has grown larger with each year.

Our condolences go out to Msgr. Peter Madus on the death of his beloved father. Amžina atilsj.

Only one life, it will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last.

C-100, Amsterdam, NY

Smile and Sparkle

We extend our deepest sympathies to our member, Judy Nikstenas Abeling on the recent loss of her uncle William Nikstenas, who resided in Cleveland, Ohio.

Get well wishes to our treasurer, Sophie Olbie, who underwent surgery in July.

Happy birthday to member Nancy Yakas, who celebrate her 90th birthday in July. She is the mother of our past president, Irene Tice.

Albert and Edna Luzinas celebrated their 47th anniversary on June 18 and Charles and Sadie Karbocius their 45th. Įlgiausių Metų!

We are very proud of our president, Mirga Kerbelis Bablin and Polly Žiausys. A new weekly newspaper, *The Free Press of the Mohawk Valley* carries a Heritage page. Mirga writes articles for this column. Polly translates the material into Lithuanian. Both the English and Lithuanian articles are printed. Congratulations girls! Keep up the good work.

Our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Joseph Grabys had surgery recently. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Our meetings are now held at the church's rectory. We have

been fortunate to have E. Barkowski, the district president, at most of the gatherings.

Member, Ed Baranauskas has been busy writing letters to the editors of various newspapers regarding the future of our St. Casimir's Church.

Lithuanian Day at the Auriesville Shrine of the Martyrs was held on Sunday, August 24th.

C-109, GREAT NECK, NY

Summer came up so suddenly it found us totally unprepared. We've had a sad year, some in sickness, and others in mourning.

Our president, Mary Kober, was hospitalized for an extended period of time. She thanks all for their phone calls, cards, and warm thoughts. Jack Malis, upon returning from a short trip to Florida, was also hospitalized. Anne Martens, our charter member residing in Sparks, Nevada, advises she is now getting around in a wheelchair, but knowing our lovable Annie, this doesn't keep her down. Some of our local members have had aches and pains which required visits to their favorite doctors. Therefore, we were unable often times to gather a quorum to call a meeting.

The loss of three of our members in such quick succession had us in deep mourning. We laid to rest Tony Kober who died Feb. 9th, Walter Mordes on April 29, and most recently, John Petraitis who died May 17th in Florida. We shall miss those three men. They were a source of strength for all of us. Our deepest condolences go to Jean Mordes and to Sadye

Petraitis and their families. Sadye has returned to her N.Y. residence, and we welcome her back, as Secretary, to the council's roster.

We were pleasantly surprised to view on television and to hear the discourse of Cardiologist Dr. Judith C. Monteferrante of No. White Plains, N.Y., daughter of Monica and Stanley Sosaris. In her talk, she explained it is very important to be aware of the medical history of your parents which can be hereditary to your own health problems. It was good to see someone we knew as a youngster growing up in Maspeth, N.Y. now achieving such great goals.

Our Kings Point Park picnic on July 20th was something our members look forward to. We have a deep-seated need to gather as a group for this special summer event.

We have lost vital members. In our area, we don't see younger Lithuanian Americans joining our organization. We have to wonder what the destiny of our council will be.

It was with extreme sadness we learned of the death of the former Nat'l. Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Vincent Boris. We always enjoyed receiving his very informative, complete bulletins and acting upon them. He truly must have enjoyed his K. of L. mission to be that thorough. We know Father John Jutt must have welcomed him into the Lord's kingdom with a very broad smile, "Well done, Vince!" We echo those sentiments.

Be kind to each other, love one another, pray for guidance ...

C-110, MASPETH, NY

Helen Yakaitis

Our last meeting of the season took place on June 29th. Before the meeting, Msgr. F. Bulovas blessed the food and we all had a most delicious meal.

Father Stasys Raila, HM, a member of our council had an operation. We all prayed for a speedy recovery.

Our council donated \$150.00 to Ann Morrissey, who traveled to Lithuania in August. The money was used for Erica, our adopted child and other orphans in need. Ann also sent eight cartons of clothing to Lithuania. Our thanks to all of those who helped with the sorting and packing.

By the time this is read, our MAD convention on September 28th will be a pleasant memory. A special Mass was held at our Transfiguration parish where Bishop Paulius A. Baltakis, OFM attended. Much planning and preparation went into this event.

Plans for future events coming up must be finalized: the 75th anniversary of Council 110 and the 90th anniversary of Transfiguration parish in 1998.

C-133, Los Angeles, CA

Marytė Sepikas

Our last meeting was on June 28, 1997 at the home of Danutė and John Scola. There was a Lithuanian Luau and a pool for a refreshing swim.

The opening of Lithuanian Saturday school was in September. All ages are welcome to learn about their heritage, culture and language. Please contact Marytė Newsome at

(310) 553-2836.

Our Lithuanian Days in Los Angeles were on October 4-5, 1997.

Happy 90th Birthday to Antanas Brazas!

Our deepest sympathy: to Vincas Stokas (our council's photographer) and his mother Laima, on the passing of husband and father, Alfonsas Stokas and to Helen Morrow on the passing of her beloved husband, Fred.

Congratulations to Msgr. Jonas Kučingis on the 60th anniversary of his priesthood. Father Kučingis is the founder of St. Casimir's parish.

Welcome new members: Danguolė and Algis Varnas (Danguolė is Los Angeles premier Lithuanian folk dancing instructor), Leslie and Arūnas Banionis (of Oklahoma), and Jūratė Stage.

The Lithuanian Radio Program (Saturday at 12 noon on KTYM - 1460 AM) thanks all the Knights for their generous support. Your continued support and suggestions are appreciated.

And if you're surfing the Internet, stop in at C-133's web page at <http://www.smartlink.net/vytas/lavyciai.htm>

C-141, Bridgeport, CT

Aldona Marcavage

At our June meeting, President Clemencine Miller brought our attention to the name and address on the blackboard. Please send cards to Edmund Stumbris, who is very seriously ill. Masses for our recently departed members marked our calendars: July 20th--Joseph Simanis, August 17th--Deacon John Rigely.

Msgr. Pranckus suggested we remember Lithuania's "Terrible June Days" with an annual Mass around June 14th. The motion was readily accepted.

Father Jose is preparing a photo album of individual St. George parishioners, so June 15th was a busy day. All day, photos were being taken in the church basement--our Mass was being celebrated upstairs in the church, followed by our monthly meeting in the club room.

Our chosen Sunshine Ladies were Pat Silk and Helen Simanis. Lithuanian classes that had been conducted at the Miller's all year came to an end with a luncheon party at Barbara Schmidt's home. Classes resume in September.

Financial secretary Bill Brilvitch announced we now have 97 members. So good to know our council is growing. It must be due in part to good leadership under Pres. Clemencine Miller.

Vice President, Armundas Zakarauskas, shared his problems with us. "Life has very sharp twists and turns for us," he said. He has lived in the USA almost long enough to be eligible of US citizenship--but now he has to return to Lithuania for an indefinite period of time. His mom is on chemo. His dad is very emotional about her illness and their son (an M.D.) is needed at home. He thanks all for his election to 1st. V. P. and he hopes to return to rejoin us again soon. Our good wishes go with you, doc.

On our return from the retreat in Kennebunkport the sad news of the death of Alphonse Trainis

awaited us. He was a co-founder of our council and a respected member of C-141. He was predeceased by his wife, Teresa. He was an architect, engineer and an active K of L'er.

He served for many years as the president and treasurer of C-141 and also Supreme Council treasurer. He served his church, too, as a Trustee, a Eucharistic Minister and lector at St. George. He also served as schoolboard member and treasurer of Sacred Heart/St. Anthony School. He is survived by his sister, Anna, of Arlington, MA. and several Godchildren. The K of L. wake ritual was performed June 24, 1997, led by Msgr. Pranckus and Clemencine Miller. We were privileged to have Walt Barius, back from Florida, to sing at the wake and funeral Mass with us. You will be missed, Al. May God grant you eternal joys.

Sincere sympathy also, to Marie Brilvitch, whose brother in PA. recently passed away.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Vince Boris. We will miss his informative articles on Lithuania, and his vital personality. Our sympathies to his family.

C-146, Harrisburg, PA

Eduardas Žemaitis

With the heat spell broken and the summer season coming to an end, a joyful time was had by our members at the annual picnic held at the home of Helen and Vity Grabauskas. An in-ground swimming pool was available, however, no water sports took place, because every one seemed content catching up

with conversation concerning activities since the last meeting.

Members attending brought a covered dish, which included kielbasa, frankfurters, home made baked beans, Lithuanian sauerkraut, several kinds of pasta salads, deviled eggs, chips, dips, desserts and refreshments. Needless to say, no one went away hungry. Viskas Buvo Žavinga!! -- Labai Skanu!! Lithuanian folk music kept the spirits high all afternoon. Ed Žemaitis was there with his camera to record the merriment.

Our council was fortunate to have two past members visiting us from Florida. Clara and Joe Gudolonis refreshed our memories when they were officers of our Council many years ago. We really miss their dedication and devoted spirit.

The festivities was followed by a short meeting. President Joanna Gilbert conducted and closed the meeting, thanking all who participated in making our annual picnic a great success.

C-102, Detroit, MI **DVYNUKES**

Council activity has calmed down after the flurry of the Mid Central District meeting and bowling tournament. Hopefully a good time was had by all even though the DuBoise group was sorely missed. We hope to see them next time.

A number of our members attended the annual George Perles Golf Invitational at Fox Hills Country Club, a benefit for Aid to Lithuania. Everyone who worked wants Ray Medonis' job next year, scooting around on the refreshment cart. The always busy Zyren Ladies, Della and

Pat, sold all of their 50/50 tickets, while Mike and Theresa Shea manned the Silent Auction. Mike was also great as the live auctioneer. Our strolling musicians, Joe and John, once more added to the dinner ambiance and even played a special "Anniversary Waltz" for Frank and Donna Bunikis who managed a few dance steps to celebrate their 46th year of togetherness. The dinner was attended by an additional 30 K of L'ers who anticipate returning next year. It was an elegant affair and a nice profit was realized for Aid to Lithuania.

Two days later Bob Boris took off for Rome with hardly enough time to catch his breath. Our best wishes are extended to Tony Balsys leaving shortly for Lietuva to be our ATL liaison there. His hard work is much appreciated.

A pleasant Sunday afternoon was spent by our members in the shade of Česys and Ona Šadeikas' lovely garden that could grace the pages of *Better Homes and Gardens* with countless varieties of flowers. The food was delicious and a donation to ATL was made by raffling off items the guests had brought.

We welcome newly rejoined members, Vic and Marie Yokin of Port Charlotte, Fla., who are summering at his cousins, Merri and Lorry Hofner's home.

At our June meeting, Richard Straksys was initiated into the second degree. Obtaining the first degrees were: Mike and Theresa Shea, Pat and Della Zyren and our sunshine lady, Irene Vizgirda.

Congratulations are in order

for the following members:

Richard Straksys on his forthcoming nuptials, and Bill and Edna Klucens who celebrated their fiftieth Anniversary in May a few days after son Robert passed the bar and was sworn in as a lawyer. Our best to all of you.

Ray and Theresa Medonis are planning God daughter Kimberly Plutos wedding. Wedding bells will also be ringing this summer for Lorry and Merri Hofner's son, Lance. Belated congratulations are in order to Gerry Baibak who became the bride of Joe McIntyre this spring. She is the daughter of long time members, the late Gena and Gus Baibak.

Maryann Guerriero continues to improve although not as fast as she would like. Also on the recovery list are Al and Naiole Čerekas after a long bout of illness. The World Medical group of volunteers miss their lively banter.

Welcome to new members, Antanina Leparskas and Birutė Batsevičius, who look forward to getting their own copies of VYTIS.

Reminder: Our monthly meetings are the third Sunday of the month at St. Anthony's following the nine o'clock Mass. You will only receive a postcard when there is a change... see you in church!

We were saddened by the untimely sudden death of our long time member Vince Boris. He will be greatly missed by his many friends here. His monthly Lithuanian Affairs newsletter was enjoyed by many of us. Although, for many years he lived far from his boyhood



Spiritual Satisfaction: *President of Aid to Lithuania, and C-102 member, Robert S. Boris was welcomed at the Vatican in a special audience by Pope John Paul II in June.*

Later, in July, the Pope said a special Mass for 1 million youth in Paris, France.

Of note were the words of his homily, "The world is wonderful and rich. It sets before us countless treasures. It attracts both our reason and our will, but in the end it does not satisfy our spirit."

home, sometimes even in foreign lands, he always returned for Kučios with us, preparing the Mass booklets and the music. Kučios will not be the same without Vincent Boris. Išėkis Ramybėje, brangus Vinciai!

C-156, Shamokin, PA
Bob Wislock

Thirty two members and friends of our council made a bus trip to New York City on Saturday, June 28. It was a day of shopping, Broadway shows, museums and restaurants in the Big Apple. One interesting site that we visited was the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. The museum depicts immigrants' lives as they departed Ellis Island and settled in New York City temporarily or permanently. The museum shows what life was like from the 1870's through the early 1900's.

On July 15, forty eight members and friends of our council participated in our annual picnic and liturgy service at Knoebel's Grove, Elysburg.

Our liturgy service emphasized service to both Our Lord and fellow human beings. Bob Wislock, president and Dave Kinder, vice president, awarded First degrees to the following individuals: Robert Barsh, Edward Brown, Loretta Brown, John C. Charnosky, Mary Ann Charnosky, John P. Charnosky, Walter Kalokitus, Anna Kinder, George Kinder, Lawrence Kinder Sr., David Kinder, Mary Ann Pacocha, Rose Paczkoski, Isabel Remetta, Bertha Ringes, Sally Skoskie, Kathy Wislock, Robert Wislock, and Mary Ann Yonkoskie. Special recognition awards were given to Martha Charnosky, Jessie Hubler, Jane Mack, Joe Remetta, and Andrew Wislock for their contributions to the council. A delicious covered-dish dinner was served. Special thanks to Rose Paczkoski and Kathy Wislock for coordinating the meal. The children in the council were treated with ride tickets and a bingo was held after the dinner. A good will donation was

collected and the proceeds were donated to Aid To Lithuania.

Our council sponsored two antique cars in the annual Heritage Parade in Shamokin on August 23. We were warmly greeted by the large crowd along the parade route. Our theme was to emphasize charitable work we do with the American Red Cross, The Shamokin-Coal Township Library, churches and scholarships. Participating members included: Bob Barsh, George Kinder, Larry Kinder, Bertha Kohan, Rose Paczkoski, Maryann Pacocha, Bertha Ringes, Paul and Bob Wislock.

Plans are being made by our council to hold the **first annual Lithuanian Craft and Food Festival at Our Lady of Hope Church Hall on Saturday and Sunday, October 18 and 19.** Councils in the Amber District and individual members of the councils are invited to educate, display, and sell Lithuanian crafts at the festival.

Our council welcomes new member, Dorothy Rejevich.

St. Casimir Guild

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA TOUR TO ROME

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 8, 1998

From:

New York/Boston/Philadelphia	\$1,549.00
Chicago/Detroit	\$1,599.00
Cleveland	\$1,619.00
Los Angeles	\$1,699.00

(single supplement \$250.00)



TOUR INCLUDES:

- * Round trip airfare on US AIR
- * Round trip transfers airport/hotel
- * 7 nights superior tourist class hotel including continental breakfast
- * 1 full day sightseeing tour of ancient and monumental Rome
- * 2 days bus service for 8 hrs/day
- * 7 dinners at the hotel or restaurant
- * 1 nightclub show in the evening
- * All service charges and taxes;
- * Services of American Travel Service representative
- * All prices are per person sharing a twin bedded room

Optional sightseeing tours:

	<u>Min. 20 pax</u>	<u>Min. 30 pax</u>	<u>Min. 40 pax</u>
Full day in Florence w/lunch	\$109.00	\$97.00	\$85.00
Full day in Assisi w/lunch	\$ 90.00	\$82.00	\$75.00
Full day in Pompei w/lunch	\$100.00	\$95.00	\$82.00
Full day in Capri w/lunch	\$138.00	\$128.00	\$115.00

Optional Spain extension:**

Day 1 Transfer from Italy into Madrid; dinner and overnight
 Day 2 Half day tour of Madrid; dinner and overnight
 Day 3 Transfer to Seville w/visit in Cordoba; arrival in Seville and overnight
 Day 4 Morning guided tour of Seville; dinner and overnight
 Day 5 Transfer to Granada with visit; overnight in Granada
 Day 6 Transfer from Granada to Madrid; dinner and overnight
 Day 7 Transfer to Madrid; flight back to USA



<u>min. 20 pax/dbl occ.</u>	<u>min.30 pax/dbl occ.</u>	<u>min. 35 pax/dbl occ.</u>
\$929.00	\$910.00	\$890.00

**Note: Passengers electing to take the Spain extension, will fly Alitalia Airlines and have to add \$100.00 to Rome tour price. All prices are based on current exchange rate of lire 1650/USD.

**For registration forms, contact Anne Wargo, 125 S. Morris St. St. Clair, Pa. 17970
 telephone 717- 429 - 0132**

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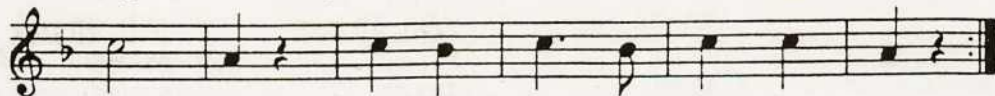
original words by F. Kirša, music by K.V. Banaitis



- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Vė-lia-vos iš-kel-tos plakas, | ren-kas |
| 2. Ir su-stos prie vy-čio vy-tis, | sei-mą |
| 3. Kils iš dulkių Ge-di-mi-nas, | ži-las |
| 4. Vė-lia-va nuskaidrins vei-dus, | kils ir |



vy-čiai, sei-mas bus.	Už kal-ny	ka-ra-lių
prie-sai-ka pa-rems.	Su-dre-bės	po ko-jom
kal-nas su-dre-bės,	Kad pulkai	jo kaulus
ry-mos ant pi-lies,	Ir skar-dės	pa-sau-ly



ta - kas.	Day - ton	vėl	pri- glaus	pul- kus.
žvy - ras	— Už- tva- ry	ne- bus	ke- liams.	
gi - na	lį deši- nės	ir iš	kai- rės.	
ai - das	lį deši- nės	ir iš	kai- rės.	

Marching to Dayton

(a free improvisation of the first 2 verses)

From shoulder to shoulder stretches our frontline
"For God and Country" we swear and sign
The ground trembles and rumbles, so it seems
As we marched toward our impossible dream.

The flags on the towers flutter their greeting
For the 84th time to the Knights and their meeting
Beyond the Atlantic our heroes lie in glory
While their spirits her in Dayton inspire our story.

-Courtesy of C-36, Chicago

