

# Wyllis

The Knight  
volume 83: no. 9



Lapkritis / November 1997

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**-THE KNIGHT-**  
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1997 - 1998

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*The Knights of Lithuania endeavors to instill in its members an attachment to Lithuania, the land of our ancestors, and a knowledge, appreciation and love of the Lithuanian language, customs and culture.*



On the Cover: Farmgirl picking apples - art by Kazys Šimonis from *Gyvenimo Nuotrupos*, Vilnius ©1966

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### **Dedication to Mother Teresa**

*Born August 26, 1910*

*Entered into Eternal Rest: September 5, 1997*

God, our loving Father, you have given us a beautiful example of Love in Action through your daughter, Mother Teresa.

In her life she showed us how to follow Jesus by loving and serving others.

She joyfully fed the hungry, rallied for the poor and unwanted, cared for the sick and the dying, and sheltered the homeless.

May we imitate her love and generosity by reaching out to your needy ones. Thank you for the gift of Mother Teresa.

May she now rest in Your arms eternally. Amen.

*(Submitted by C-74 and Marie Laske, Scranton, PA)*

**Editorial****TO MY FELLOW KNIGHTS:**

It is a season to reflect on those who have gone before us and to try and put into perspective what we have learned from them. The solemn feastday of All Souls or *Vėlinės* in Lithuania on November 2, where everyone makes an effort to visit a church or pray at a cemetery, dates back to the 14th century where documents state that Lithuanians celebrated a major feast in honor of their dead. We are grateful to those knights who have left their mark on our organization as a whole and influenced each of us in many ways as individuals, not afraid to share their God-given talents.

Many newly arrived Lithuanian immigrants view America's Halloween almost as a mocking of *Vėlinės*, and have a difficult time relating to it's Mardi Gras revelry.

As Americans, we also celebrate Thanksgiving, when we reflect on the bounty of blessings given to us in this fine country. For no matter what negative things others may say about America, most people would rather be living here than anywhere else.

**Letters to the Editor:**

***Future Leaders through  
Scholarships  
Brangus Vyčiai  
Širdingai Ačiū!***

Dear K of L Members:

I would like to thank you for choosing me for a Knights of Lithuania Scholarship. I am honored and deeply grateful. I will be attending Lewis University in Romeoville, IL. I will be working on a double major in Aviation Flight and Aviation Administration, a five year program. My future ambition is to become a commercial /international airline pilot and this scholarship will help me in reaching this goal.

Special thanks goes to Mrs. Gečas of the Scholarship Committee, but I'd also like to thank past president, Evelyn Oželis for all her love, support and encouragement. She has been a wonderful influence on me and a role model for us all. It was her enthusiasm and hard work that made me want to help with C-36 activities.

I would also like to thank my grandparents, Violet and Paul Jocius, for keeping the Lithuanian culture alive and strong within me and for teaching me all they know about our

Lithuanian heritage. Thanks also go to my pastor at Immaculate Conception, Fr. Anthony Puchenski, to the Srs. of St. Casimir, and most of all, to my Mom, Denise Hornick, for her guidance, wisdom, encouragement, faith and never-ending love. She inspires me to follow my dreams and overcome all obstacles. She is indeed, my hero and a wonderful role model.

**- Jennifer Lynn Hornik, C-36,  
Chicago**



**Jennifer Lynn Hornik**

Dear Knights:

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to thank the K of L and all those who made donations, for granting me a scholarship. I understand the selection was a tough one and I am honored that the academic and social skills I represented have been so generously recognized.

Throughout my next semester at Butler University in Indianapolis, I will continue to make the Knights of Lithuania proud by upholding my academic status and remaining loyal to the organization by sharing my Lithuanian heritage with the friends that I will make in my years at school.

**- Lisa Marie Boese, C-16,  
Chicago**



**Lisa Marie Boese**

(Turn to pg. 6 for more letters.)

**THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON**

July 29, 1997

**Ms. Maryte Abbott  
Editor in Chief  
VYTIS - The Knight  
Post Office Box 1934  
Grand Central Station  
New York, New York 10163-1934**

Dear Maryte:

Thank you for sharing your views with me regarding NATO enlargement. One of the central objectives of my foreign policy is the expansion of the world's free community of market democracies. Nowhere is this expansion taking place with more promise than in Central and Eastern Europe. I am proud of America's efforts since 1989 to support the emerging democracies of the region, and I intend to deepen our engagement. Our overall goal is a Europe united and at peace. The recent agreement between NATO and Russia to establish a broad consultative relationship is a key step in this process and will strongly aid our efforts to build a stable and secure Europe free from division.

The July 8-9 NATO Summit was another historic step in this process. At that meeting, the Alliance issued invitations to Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to begin accession talks. We also reaffirmed our intention to keep the Alliance open to other aspiring members among Europe's democracies.

Enlarging NATO will greatly strengthen democratic and market economic reforms in the region and help complete a process of European integration cut short by the Cold War. While taking decisive steps to enlarge the NATO Alliance, we are also continuing to expand and enhance the Partnership for Peace, through creation of a Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council as part of our long-term efforts to reach out to all the emerging democracies in the region.

I appreciate your interest in this important issue.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

# The in-Vinceable Vincent B. Boris



## Tribute to VYTIS "Associate Editor", mentor, activist & friend

**A** great writer never really dies, since his work lives on. Vince had this passion about writing on the lives of Lithuanian saints. He had completed a story of the first three martyrs of Lithuania in early June and wanted it published in VYTIS as one installment. Since he had always been such a help and inspiration for me on VYTIS, I decided to publish the whole story in the July/August issue. This issue also was to have a cover relating to the story. Although I usually never let anyone see a cover before publication as a rule, I did fax this one down to Vince since I was pleased with the way it turned out. Now, of course, I wish he would've lived to see the printed issue. Vince Boris died of a sudden heart attack on June 22, 1997 at his Maryland home. He had battled with Macro-degeneration (gradual blindness) and diabetes, but to him, his work for the Lithuanian cause always came first.

In one of his last conversations with me, Vince suggested working on a resolution regarding the direction of the K. of L. as we approach the millennium. He suggested reflection and meditation on what the K of L is about, then a year of open discussions and then making changes. In his honor, at the 84th National Convention in Dayton, the millennium resolution was passed. (See Sept/Oct issue, Resolutions, p. 21)

Of course, unaware of God's plans for Vince, I was gung-ho in nominating him for SC president from the floor, along with Josephine Zukas of C-109. Around Vince's birthday in May, he received a card from Joe and Jo saying they were "behind him 100% in supporting him for president." Vince later asked me if I was becoming his campaign manager!

Around the same time, I had prepared the *top ten reasons* why the K of L needed a guy like Vince to lead the organization into the next century which I was planning to read at the convention. These best describe the man as I knew him...

1. **A doer not a sayer.** Vince was someone who always followed through on any project or assignment. When I first took over VYTIS in November 1994, with little material from anyone, it was Vince who supplied me with story ideas, clip art, names of possible writers to contact, computer tips, etc. Without his help, I would not have lasted very long.
2. **A natural leader with dignity.** When Vince walked into a room and addressed someone, people would listen. He could talk easily to heads of state to mentoring young activists with a little more than a dream in their pockets.

In 1988, he got his the 40 choir members of his parish, St. John the Baptist of Silver Spring, MD to sing a Lithuanian mass. His Choir Director, Webster A. Rogers, Jr. noted, "He did such a good job teaching us to sing in Lithuanian, that the attendees at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in

Washington thought we were a Lithuanian Choir (with a 'black Lithuanian' choir-master)!

3. **An Activist in the true sense of the word.** I'm sure it is partially due to Vince's efforts that our US State Dept. considered Lithuania for NATO membership. Vince even got me to write a letter to Bill Clinton, along with at least 500 other members of the Knights. (See reply on pg. 3.)

4. **Love for "God and Country", the K of L motto.** Traveling with Vince and Bob last year to the Baltics and Lithuania, I've never seen such devotion to our Lord, and our Catholic faith, our Lithuanian heritage and the duties of being citizens of the US. Like my own father, Vince was not one to cry easily, but I did see the tears streaming from his face as we toured the torture chambers at the KGB prison museum in Vilnius.

5. **Talented spokesperson and great writer** possessing vast knowledge of Lithuanian history, politics and religion, Vince was a walking encyclopedia. I only wish I'd hooked up a tape recorder to my phone to remember all he had said.

6. **Welcomed new ideas.** Vince loved to debate various issues such as the role of Jewish Lithuanians, non-Catholic Lithuanians, and youth. Being a mentor and coach to not only this 46 year old, he was also one to a 24 year old Lithuanian activist. Any generation could feel comfortable working with Vince, a perfect one to bridge the generation gap.

7. **An honorable man.** Because his faith meant so much to him, Vince always keeps his relationships honest and aboveboard. One could feel perfectly at ease in a group or alone with Vince, who was the quintessential gentleman.

8. **Hard worker who always pitches in.** Even with failing eyesight, Vince was finding a way to continue to work for the cause of keeping our Lithuanian heritage alive. Through voice recognition computer software, faxes and other pairs of eyes, he kept constantly working on VYTIS articles, new ideas and fresh approaches.

9. **Emphasis on the organization, or the cause,**

**not personal gain.** One of the best things I loved about this man is his *selflessness*. Not wanting to accept praise for a job well done, he was upset with me for putting a resolution at last year's Brockton convention to honor him for all the work he did on Lithuanian Affairs and his newsletter, with much of the expenses paid for by himself.

10. **Attitude** . The man's attitude was upbeat and positive; he was helping us with projects from helping to import Lithuanian beer to working on a Vilnius heritage center, emphasizing our uniqueness as a culture rather than our flaws.

Sure, he was as outspoken as Harry Truman at times and not everyone agreed with him on every issue. But on top of all his qualities, I enjoyed his sense of humor and ability to laugh at himself. On one of the first times I met Vince on a bitter cold March evening in 1995 at a Supreme Council meeting in Worcester, MA, we were leaving a restaurant to walk across the street to the hotel.

"Where's your coat," I asked him. "Aren't you cold?"

"Oh, no," he replied laughing. "I have plenty of natural insulation to keep me warm.!"

And Vince's life's motto, as written in his Christmas letter of 1996:

"Life goes on and I continue to enjoy it doing the things I like and ignoring the rest."

Vincent Boris was a 4th degree Knight (C-102, Detroit) who devoted his life (following his retirement from a high-level position with the National Security Agency in 1987) to Lithuanian causes, representing not only the K of L, but also as a board member of JBANC and the American Lithuanian Council. He did not need special awards or recognition, he himself was the *best* example one could have ever wanted, and a true knight in the service for the Lithuanian cause.

Save a seat for me, at your special table in heaven, until we meet again, Vince. Churches close, people die, but love goes on forever...

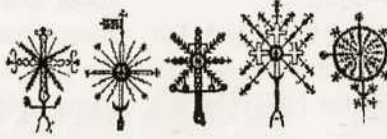
-From *The Last Mentor, Somewhere Inside Here*, by MB Abbott, copyright 1997.

*Vincent Boris was a natural leader with dignity who could talk easily to heads of state or young activists with a little more than a dream in their pockets.*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Mary A. Yanus**  
C-50, New Haven, CT  
July 22, 1997

**Zener A. Tamalis**  
C-50, New Haven, CT  
Aug. 23, 1997



**Anthony Majewskas**  
C-152, Eastern LI, NY  
Aug. 15, 1997

**Sally DeLunas**  
C-29, Newark, NJ  
Aug. 16, 1997

**Anna Daileda**  
C-143, Pittston, PA  
Sept. 13, 1997

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

may the souls of the  
faithful departed rest in  
peace. amen.

(☞ letters continued from page 2.)

Dear K of L and Scholarship  
Committee:

I extend my extreme gratitude to everyone in the Knights for giving me the opportunity to be awarded this scholarship. I take pride in my Lithuanian heritage which I have learned so much about through the Knights. This scholarship is so important because it has given me the opportunity to represent the Knights of Lithuania.

I am currently studying Materials Science at the University of Pennsylvania. This scholarship makes my education here much easier to attain financially. I cannot explain how proud and thankful I am to have received this award!

*-Nicole Kobluskie, C-144, Anthracite, PA*



**Nicole Kobluskie**

on to other seminarians. He was delighted to get them to learn more about our Lithuania and its language. I thought you'd like to know how far your work has spread. Keep up the good work.

*- Alice Laukaitis, C-110*



### **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA ON THE INTERNET**

The Knights of Lithuania currently have a home page on the Internet. Although much of it is still under construction, Web browsers can find a current councils list and current officers list. Thanks to Supreme Council Trustee, Mark Bell, Lithuanians around the world will soon be able to find out about us. For those internet savvy, you can reach the K of L page using the Web address: <http://www.geocities.com/heartland/prairie/3802>. One can e-mail at: [lietuvosvyciai@geocities.com](mailto:lietuvosvyciai@geocities.com)

#### **CORRECTION:**

To the editor:

In the March issue of Lithuanians in the News, you wrote about the seminarians going to Lithuania.

Well, it hit home! My sister, Priscilla Sheahan, lives in Tennessee and is a good friend of Shawn Henderson's mother. He is one of the seminarians going to Klaipeda, Lithuania, as a camp counselor operated by the Center for Spiritual Assistance to Youth. Priscilla belongs to Maspeth, C-110, and gave him three issues of VYTIS to read and pass

Convention Greetings on page 31 of the Sept./Oct. Convention issue incorrectly reported the greetings sent by the President of Lithuania. Algirdas Brazinskas should have been Algirdas Brazauskas. VYTIS editors regret the error.



***Knights of Lithuania Foundation***  
***Essay Contest Winner***

## **ON PARALLEL TRACKS WITH A SAINT**

3rd prize

*Dolores Jucius, C-38*

The Knights of Lithuania run on a parallel with Saint Casimir on the train of Christianity, to establish the empire of divine love.

The train leaves the depot of piety. It travels to the next town to aid them in their misery. Just like Saint Casimir, with a gracious heart, we provide to the people living on a plain lacking the necessities of life. He loved the poor and pledged his worldly goods and that of his father's for their relief.

A Prince of Poland and the third child of thirteen, he lived a devout, chaste, and religious life. He had great charms of personality and character. In a special devotion to the Blessed Virgin, he frequently recited the long Latin hymn, 'Omni die dic Mariae' - "Daily, daily, sing to Mary". At the young age of twenty six, he joined our Lord in his heavenly kingdom. Only thirty eight years later he was canonized as a saint.

The train continues on with a fresh supply of love, devotion and human concern. A city needs us, it is of Lithuanian ancestry and we pull into their station. Taking time to plant knowledge of the homeland, we sprinkle appreciation and love of the Lithuanian language. We leave them with our customs and culture. On a cold day on February, the sixteenth, we celebrate Lithuanian Independence Day and take time out to remember.

Lithuania, the country of beauty that has been conquered and enslaved many times over



a multitude of years. We pull together to retain our birth right. We remain true to our forefathers and continue to follow their teachings and heartfelt goals. Just as Saint Casimir obeyed his father in all requests.

On silver rails, our mission travels onward. Spreading our tidings with a smile, love, and uninterrupted cheerfulness of temper, as our saint once did. Arriving at a village with many young people, we stop to greet them. Following in his footsteps as the patron of young people, we bestow many scholarships to intelligent, active and true young Lithuanians. The Knights of Lithuania continue down the tracks of charity, and undying love for the homeland, teaching the young to follow.

The train pulls off on a spur that temporarily separates the saint from us. We become social and enjoy the food and dancing of our ethnic origin. Saint Casimir was too pious to participate in revelry. He dedicated his time to prayer and good works. He loathed all earthly pomp and delights. We sidetrack to enjoy kopustu, napoleon torte, and kugelis. Our dances, food and language are different from others and spring from the soil of our earliest beginning.

It is a proud thing to be a member of the Knights of Lithuania. To parallel the life of Saint Casimir by helping and keeping our members aware of our precious heritage. In the likeness of him we travel the well worn rut of a constant voyage. For God and Country we ride the rails of our train.



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# OFFICIAL NEWS

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## **K. of L. Archives**

*Longinas Svelnis, Chairman*

I was elected Chairman of Knights of Lithuania Archives during the 62nd National Convention held in New York, August 1975, twenty two years ago. The Committee and I have made the effort to gather and record our organization's history, accomplishments and great efforts of the Lithuanian Affairs Committees work.

The Lithuanian Affairs Committee was originally chaired by HM Rev. Jonas Jutkevicius, better known as Father Jutt, and Honorary Chairman 1967 through 1972. There were many chairpersons some strong others weak, whenever the activity weakened, HM Jakubas Stukas took over the reins during three periods 1974, 1983 and 1987.

Now we have approximately six boxes of material gathered consisting of letters and replies

from U.S. Presidents, Senators, Congressmen, Secretaries of State, Journalists and other notables. I had two committees begin to sort and place this material in some semblance of order. The task is endless, but if not attended to, much material would be lost; newspaper clippings once handled would crumble.

This material handled properly with reliance on modern computer techniques might result in a book highlighting the Knights of Lithuania's efforts in the struggle for Lithuania's Independence.

In correspondence with HM Alexander Wesey, I asked him to come to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Picnic Sunday July 27th but poor health prevented him to travel. I wanted him to see the K. of L. Archives room which is located across the street from the Convent. In lieu of the visit he sent a generous gift of \$50.00 toward the K. of L. Archives working fund. Thank you.

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## **Supreme Council Donations**

Important to note at the Supreme Council meeting on August 10, 1997 are additional donations overlooked at the National Convention in Dayton, OH. The Supreme Council approved an additional \$500 in donations which include the following:

- \$100 to Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid
- \$100 to the Sisters of St. Casimir
- \$100 to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
- \$100 to the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
- \$100 to the Sisters of Jesus Crucified

## ***K. of L. St. Casimir Guild Sponsors Tour to Rome in 1998***

A Knights of Lithuania Tour to Rome is scheduled for February 28 through March 8, 1998. This trip is to coincide with the 50th Anniversary of the Pontifical College in Rome, with a special Mass and Banquet on March 4th, hopefully with our Holy Father. The tour package starts at \$1,549 (from NY, Boston or Philadelphia) and includes round trip airfare, transfers, 7 nights at the Michaelangelo Hotel (located in Vatican City, 5-minutes from downtown) includes continental breakfast, 7 dinners, a nightclub show and much, much more. For more information and registration forms, write to Anne Wargo, 125 S. Morris St. St. Clair, PA 17970 or call her at 717-429-0132.

# A Song-Filled 80th Year

by Irene Macke

If someone in your family were celebrating the eightieth anniversary of their birth, that milestone would stir your heart and you would want to plan an appropriate celebration. Well, there was such a celebration in the K of L family on October 13, 1996. The Mid-America District Knights of Lithuania Choir, Vyčiu Choras, held a banquet in honor of its eightieth birthday at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall in Chicago.

Approximately 130 guests broke bread together, watched a videotape of the choir's history as compiled from photographs by John Strolia (Emmy Award winner) and narrated by Sister Theresa Papsys, and were treated to a selection of well-loved songs by the choir. As they watched the video, even the choir members were a little amazed at their prolific history: their participation in numerous concerts, festivals, fairs, and religious observances. To see again the faces of the choir's many participants, directors, accompanists, and supporters evoked a great nostalgia. The choir members were fortunate to have among their guests several accompanists who had worked with them as well as one of its previous directors and son of its founder, Leonard J. Simutis, Jr.

December and the Christmas season found the choir participating in two events, as they do quite regularly at that time: the Lithuanian program of Christmas Around the World at the Museum of Science and Industry and the senior citizens' Christmas dinner at Holy Cross Hospital. At the former, the choir members delighted in sharing the Lithuanian carols they love with non-Lithuanians who may never have heard them. In the latter, they share the joy of the season with the seniors who are encouraged to sing Christmas songs with them in English at the end of the program.

A special invitation to participate in the St. Casimir's Mass brought the choir to the Lithuanian World Center in Lemont on March 2, 1997.



**The Knights of Lithuania Choir at their 80th Anniversary.** Photo by Jonas Tamulaitis

Attired in Lithuanian costumes, the choir enjoyed a prayerful Lithuanian celebration of the Mass with the community, which, in turn, appreciated the addition of the choir on this special occasion.

On April 27, the choir accepted an invitation to participate in a program sponsored by the Southwest Organizing Project (SOP) at Madame Curie High School in Chicago. The SOP has been formed to sponsor activities that promote multicultural and racial harmony in the southwest side of Chicago, which is home to many diverse social groups. The Sisters of St. Casimir, among the sponsoring organizations, continue their very important presence in this area of the city. The audience received the costumed singers warmly, and many attendees approached the choir members with questions about their culture and costumes. Some of them decided to take a closer look after Director Faustas Strolia said, "They don't look like they're 80 years old, do they?" (in reference to the longevity of the choir).

On each Memorial Day holiday, the Chicago Archdiocese sponsors field masses at the Catholic cemeteries. This year, as in many years past, the choir sang at St. Casimir's Cemetery. Because they assumed that the Mass would be conducted in Lithuanian as had been customary, they prepared their songs in Lithuanian. To their surprise, Mass was offered in English; nonetheless, the songs were sung in Lithuanian. And even before the Mass, for 15 minutes, they sang traditional hymns such as "How Great Thou Art,"

"Beyond the Sunset," and "Amazing Grace" in Lithuanian with the assistance of Algerd Brazis, whose voice continues to be one of God's greatest gifts to our community's celebrations.

The choir's last singing activity was its participation in the 75th Jubilee of the Sisters of St. Francis at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall on June 29, 1997. In spite of dangerously cutting into the choir's summer vacation, its members performed to a full house. The choir ended its program featuring soloist Algerd Brazis singing "Parveski, Viešpatie" written by Juozas Strolia.

Lithuanians on both sides of the Atlantic commemorated this composer's birthday on July 10th of this year.

It hardly seems possible that it has been three years since the choir went to Lithuania to participate in the first Dainu Švente following the nation's regaining its freedom. Plans are already being made for the 1998 festival, and the choir is hoping that God will bless them with continued good health and prosperity so that, particularly K of L members, can travel to Lithuania to participate in another joyful celebration. ❖❖❖



## New Seminary in Vilnius

*Kay Yankoski, C-142*

On July 25, 1997, I met with Auxiliary Bishop Tunaitis to discuss the seminary in Vilnius that has received grants from The Papal Foundation totaling \$450,000 over the past 5 years. Bishop arranged for a car and driver to take us to the monastery and seminary -- a most welcome offer since it was pouring rain and our only alternative was public transportation.

We stopped first at the monastery that is being restored and in 2 days was to have 100 people attending a meeting there. Despite the pouring rain, men worked steadily outside, while women worked inside -- on hands and knees applying a substance to the tile floors. At times, even Archbishop Backis performed manual labor here.

We had the good fortune to enlist Sister Aldona, Secretary at the Curia in Vilnius and a

member of the Jesus Christ the King Order, as our guide. I complimented Sister on her wonderful English and she replied that she was self-taught. Sister's brother was in charge of the seminary building project and while we awaited his arrival, Sister took us on a tour -- top to bottom -- of the monastery, soon to be home to 5 nuns and retreat house to countless others. The restoration was breathtaking in its simplicity -- pristine white arched ceilings and highly polished pine doors, stairs and banisters. One creative nun made

whimsical little room signs; the kitchen was huge and modern, the dorm rooms spacious. All the facilities were sparkling and Spartan. Next, we visited the adjoining church which the 100 seminarians will also use. It too was being renovated and readied for its 100 guests on Sunday, 2 days hence.

Sister told us her brother was now at the seminary construction site, so our driver took us there - perhaps a 15 minute walk through the forest from monastery to seminary -- this area, called Jerusalem -- was surrounded by forests and several little outdoor chapels in these woods. The brick walls were up but the inside was unfinished. We could visualize the chapel with stained glass windows, the library, the courtyard with pond and plants, the tiny individual rooms for the seminarians. The old seminary could only admit 50 students; this new facility will double that number when it is ready next September.

# WOMEN IN LITHUANIAN HISTORY

by Edward Baranauskas

## Anne Grand Princess of Lithuania

Anne was the first wife of Vytautas the Great. Not much is known about her, where or when she was born, or even her pagan name. She was of Lithuanian origin, and was baptized Anne about 1370 when she was already married to Vytautas.

She was prominently mentioned in historical sources when she helped Vytautas escape from the prison at Kriavas Castle in 1382, the same place where his father Kestutis was murdered. Together, they fled to Prussia where the Teutonic Knights gave them refuge.

In 1390, they gave their daughter Sophia in marriage to Prince Vasili of Moscow. The following year, Anne visited Lithuania and played a vital role in negotiating a peace agreement between her husband and his cousin, Jogaila, who was then the King of Poland. This brought to an end thirteen years of bitterness and sporadic fighting between forces loyal to Vytautas and those loyal to Jogaila. Vytautas and Jogaila, the sons of brothers, in 1392 signed an agreement which became known as "The Treaty of Astravas". It was a historic document as Vytautas eventually became the sole and unchallenged ruler of Lithuania.

More about this agreement will be a subject in another story.

Anne continued taking an active part in her husband's policies. Her brother, Sudimantas, was the commander of Vytautas' army.

In 1417, she gave a wedding party for her granddaughter Anastasia. She was last mentioned in 1418 when she died at Trakai Castle, and was buried at the altar of St. Michael in Vilnius Cathedral.

The part she played in the history of Lithuania cannot be underestimated, for she was one of the more prominent women on the throne of Lithuania.



## Two Danutes

Danute is an old Lithuanian name, going as far back as the 14th century, at least. Two princesses by that name were mentioned in early chronicles, and both were daughters of famous Grand Dukes. Very little is known about them, not even their date of birth. They were

raised as pagans, but accepted the Roman Catholic faith when they married Polish princes.

Danute, one of five daughters of Gediminas, was born in the 14th century. She married, probably before 1323, Prince Vaclav of Masuria, a principality at that time, but today a part of Poland. She took the name of Elizabeth when she was baptized. Her brother was Kestutis, the Prince of Trakai. He was captured by the Teutonic Knights in 1361, made prisoner, but escaped from Marienburg, their stronghold in Prussia. He stayed with his sister temporarily before returning to Lithuania to fight again. Danute was widowed at that time. She died in 1364.

Danute, the daughter of Kestutis, was born in the 15th century. She married Prince Janusz I of Masuria sometime between 1371 and 1376. At the time of her baptism, she took the name of Anne. Her father was imprisoned by cousin Jogaila in 1382, and died in prison under mysterious circumstances. Vytautas, her brother, was also put in prison by Jogaila, but managed to escape. He went to his sister, and sought military help from his brother-in-law to fight Jogaila, but with no success. He had to seek refuge with the Teutonic Knights in Prussia. Some historians state she died in 1429, shortly after her husband. Other historians claim she died in Warsaw on May 25, 1448 more than the age of eighty. She had no children.

Danute became a popular name for many generations, as there are many families today with a daughter by that name.



# LITHUANIANS IN THE NEWS



## One of our own honored

On August 20th, 1997, at the Lithuanian embassy in Washington, DC, Rev. Vincas Valkavičius, by a decree of Lithuania's President Algirdas Brazauskas, was awarded the 5th Degree medal of the order of Gediminas.

Father Valkavičius "boss", the Bishop of Boston, John B. McCormack, D.D. was in attendance and had kind words for Father Vincas. During the ceremonies, the ambassador of Lithuania to the United States, Dr. Alfonsas Eidintas, thanked Father Valkavičius for his many years of proclaiming the name of Lithuania in his many publications.

Father Valkavicius has many talents - priest, musician, critic, historian, writer and activist. He is also a tireless patron of the spiritual life of Lithuanian youth and editor of many publications.

Participants had the opportunity to get acquainted with Father's many writings, books, musical activities, reviews and posters, including the history book he wrote on the Knights of Lithuania.

The program ended with Father Vincas performing Maironis' "Lietuva Brangi" on the violin. *(Photo above shows Ambassador Eidintas (r) applauding Father Valkavičius.)*

Congratulations Father Vincas from all of us!

## *Friend of Lithuania Award Winner Noted in Catholic Press*

James A. Simone, this past year's Friend of Lithuania award winner was written up in *Catholic New York*, in an article by Julia Martin.

Simone, who accepted the award at the Dayton, OH convention on August 9, is the associate superintendent of schools for special education. Present with him in Dayton as he accepted the award was Dr. Catherine Hickey, New York's archdioceses superintendent of schools.

In 1993 he visited Russia and Lithuania with a group of Catholic educators in the Federal Citizenship Ambassador Program.

After Lithuania was freed from Soviet control, the need for educational reform was recognized in 1991 by the formation of the American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education (APPLE). The organization began sending American lecturers to Lithuania and, with 81% of its population Catholic, an interest developed in starting some Catholic Schools.

Simone's summer assignment began when the Brooklyn based Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid asked him to coordinate a component of APPLE.

Since 1993, Simone has coordinated a team of Catholic educators who spend July in Lithuania helping teachers and administrators of the Catholic schools being established. His team works mostly on the practical, such as helping second graders prepare for First Communion. The Lithuanians have also begun to translate other information in the team's lectures - on building a faith community, helping teachers infuse Gospel values in their lessons, celebrating the liturgy within a school community, Scripture and Vatican II documents.

The team, which has grown over the past five years from three to seven educators, presents a four week program to administrators and teachers in different regional locations. The number of Catholic schools in Lithuania has grown from two in 1993 to 20 this summer.

On his initial visit to Lithuania, Simone noted a negativity in Lithuanians where two and a half generations have lived under communism. He said he now sees more spontaneity and smiles and adds that one can see the optimism in their eyes.

Simone said of the Friend of Lithuania Award, "To be recognized for something that I love and

believe in, for work that has totally enriched my life, is like receiving a gift."

### Former Underground Priest is Consecrated Bishop

On June 21, at the Archcathedral Basilica in Vilnius, the Jesuit provincial for Lithuania and Latvia, Jonas Boruta, was consecrated Bishop.

Jonas Boruta was born in Kaunas in 1944 into a family of a professor of the University of Kaunas and a doctor. When in 1948, his father was deported by communists to Siberia, the mother with her son had to hide away in Lithuania. In 1957, his father returned from exile and the family settled in Pajiesis, in the house of writer, Kazys Boruta, Jonas' uncle.

Entrance into the Kaunas Priest Seminary was very limited at the time, only one or two young men were admitted to it. Therefore, upon completing a secondary school in 1962, Jonas Boruta began studying physics at the University of Vilnius. After graduation, he was working at the Physics Institute of the Academy of Sciences and became a doctor of natural sciences. Jonas Boruta published more than 30 articles on atomic physics and atomic spectroscopy in native and foreign magazines.

At the same time, Boruta lead a secret life: between 1975 and 1982, he studied at an underground priest seminary and in 1982 was secretly consecrated priest by Bishop Julijonas Steponavičius. After his working days at the Institute of Physics, he spent all his weekends by visiting parishes, giving recollections and teaching children catechism. He was also engaged in an occupation which was especially dangerous for the time: between 1982 and 1989 he was an editor of the underground "Lithuanian Chronicle of the Catholic Church". Jonas Boruta has become the seventh bishop in Lithuania.

*-submitted by Ed Baranauskas, from the  
Lithuanian Weekly*



*Two Lithuanian journalists, cameraman, Oleg Putilov (left) and Audrius Stonys (right) of Kaunas TV station LNK-TV, are greeted by Pat Michalski, (center) assistant to the Governor of Illinois during a recent tour.*

*The Kaunas station is filming a documentary called "The New Wave of Immigration" into the US from Lithuania, focusing on immigrants in America since 1990, which will be aired in Lithuania.*

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### Lithuanian WWII Heroes Honored

The participants of a drama of 1943 meet in New York on August 26th, at Kennedy Airport in New York, together with a crowd of tourists as two retirees arrived from Lithuania. Upon disembarking, they were surrounded by reporters and TV cameras.

The journey to New York of Albinas Žilevičius and his sister, Stasė Brazauskienė began way back in November of 1943 in their farm in the district of Telšiai. It was then that their parents decided to hide seven Lithuanian Jews from the Nazis.

A few days before, Nathan and Sima Kacal, with five of their relatives had escaped the ghetto in Šiauliai. Antanas Žilevičius brought them to the farm and hid them in a prepared bunker. There, they remained until 1944 when the Soviet army occupied the region.

After 53 years, Žilevičius and Brazauskienė were greeted in New York with flowers, hugs and kisses by the remaining relatives of the seven original members of the Kacų family - daughters and granddaughters. Upon arriving from Lithuania, the Kacai started a real estate business in New York. Their Lithuanian is still not bad.

"Not a day goes by that I do not think about our fortunate survival. Vytautas Landsbergis, the president of the Lithuanian parliament helped me to locate this brave Lithuanian family" stated Nathan Kacas.

"What prompted your Father to help these people?" the arrivals were asked by one reporter.

"Father always said that people in need must be helped. And that has been our motto all our lives."

On September 7, at the Pierre Hotel, in Manhattan, Žilevičius and Brazasuskienė were awarded the International Rights Medal by the Consul General of Israel.

### **800 Meter Winner**

Catherine A. Sadosky, "CAS", the granddaughter of Edward Budelis of C-3, won the 1997 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association's Girl's track and field championship. In the finals of the 400-meter run at the PIAA Class AAA Championships, Ms. Sadosky put on a great kick to win the gold medal in the 400 meter run with a time of 2:12.68.

At the District 1 Class AAA Championships at Coatsville high stadium, Sadosky picked up the bronze medal in the 800 meter run with a clocking of 2:18.94. One week earlier, she won four gold medals at the Ches-Mont League Championships in the 400 at 57.6, the 800 at 2:27.2 and as part of the Henderson's victorious 4x400 and 4x800 relays.

"After the trials, I was confident enough I could do it," said Catherine following her gold medal win.

*-from the Westchester, PA, News, submitted by E. Budelis, C-3.*



**Proud Parents:** Robert Klucens recently received a law degree from U. of D. Mercy in May 1997. Shown here with his parents, K of L'ers Edna and Bill Klucens.

### **Bernard Dulke Profiled**

New York's Newsday recently honored Bernard Dulke, the former organist from Transfiguration Church in Maspeth. Mr. Dulke, who resides in Richmond Hill, moved to Queens after WWII, obtained a master's degree in music, and had been the parish's organist for many years. At 72, he is still active as the organist at St. Robert Bellarmine RC Church in Bayside, the Elks and the Lion's Club.

### **Lithuanian Basketball Players on American College Teams**

Four Lithuanians will be on the basketball courts in American colleges this year. They are: **Andrius Jurkunas**, a 6'9" junior playing forward for the Clemson Tigers; **Sarunas Jasikevicius**, a 6'4" senior playing guard for the Maryland Terrapins; **Rimas Kaukenas**, a 6'4" sophomore, playing guard for the Seton Hall Pirates; and **Marius Janulis**, a 6'5" senior, plying forward/guard for the Syracuse Orangemen.

*-submitted by Bernice Aviza, C-136*





## THE DEVIL YOU SAY!

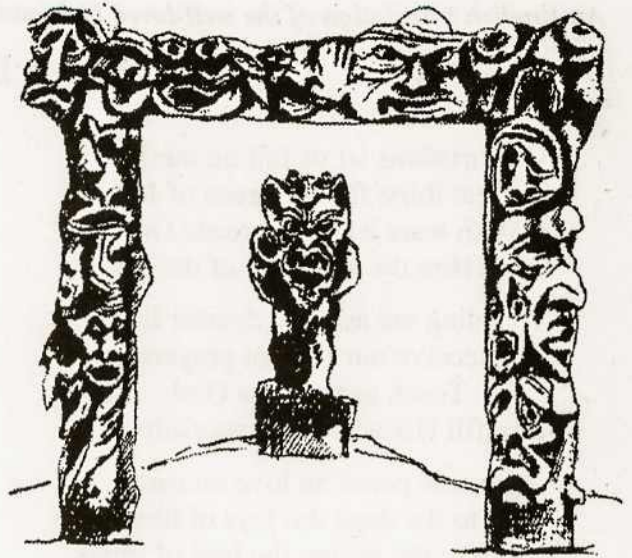
Professor Antanas Žmuidzinavičius (1876-1966) was widely known in Lithuania and far beyond its borders as a great collector. But it was his collection of devils that he began in his Kaunas home that proves to be among the most interesting.

From ancient times the devil has been deeply rooted in Lithuanian folklore and ethnography. The devil is usually portrayed as a ridiculous, unsuccessful, not very cunning creature of tales and legends always surmounted by man's intellect and cleverness.

The devil of Lithuanian folklore is not wicked, he is quickly appeased, understands and sympathizes with the poor people, is on friendly terms with them, agrees to help them, of course, on certain conditions. However, man, being more witted than the devil, knows how to agree with him, makes the devil serve him and wins the bet.

Antanas Žmuidzinavičius being a man of merry character liked Lithuanian folk humor, tales and songs, was interested in it and collected samples of folk art. Once the Lithuanian classic writer Tumas-Vaižgantas, a good friend of the painter, knowing the weakness of Žmuidzinavičius for collections, gave him as a present a trampled down devil (on June 13, 1906). Handing this strange present to the artist, he paraphrased an old Lithuanian curse: "Let it happen so that you, Antanas, will collect devils all of your life."

The artist Žmuidzinavičius tells that an old Samogitian devil was another main initiator of the collection. He twisted his smart hemp tail and offered the artist long age, good health and treasures if only the devil had some "abode" and that he could show himself to the people. Tempted by the devil, the artist intended to collect 13 devils - "the devils dozen", but it happened so that the Samogitian devil was very obstinate and said, "Collect twenty dozens



of devils and you will be the happiest one in the Land of Amber".

Later on, being already old, the artist said jokingly, "I've collected twenty dozens of devils, and have been healthy and happy all my life. So it seems that the devil had fulfilled its promise."

It seems that no collection is so steeped in legends as this one. It is interesting that all the devils were given as presents. Everyone who wanted to please the artist brought him a devil. In this way devils even from the most remote corners of Lithuania gathered under one roof - in the house of Antanas Žmuidzinavičius.

In 1966 the M. K. Čiurlionis Art Museum was opened in Kaunas Old Town. Across the street, is the home of Antanas Žmuidzinavičius which is now known as the Devil's Museum because of his collection, and has become a popular tourist attraction.

After the artist's death, the collection constantly increased. Visitors to the museum, after acquainting themselves with the collection of devils, usually send a devil of their native country to the home of the Lithuanian devil.

*From Velniai, by Antras Ieidmas, © 1971 Vilnius. English translation by P. Porutis*

*An English translation of the well-loved Lithuanian Hymn by Antanas Strazdas (1763-1833).*

## Pulkim ant Kelių

All Christians let us fall on our knees  
in great thirst for the grace of Jesus!  
With tears let us intercede God,  
Offer Him the Sacrifice of the Mass.

Kneeling we ask you dearest Jesus,  
Receive our fervent prayers.  
Teach us to know God.  
To fulfill His will - And worship Him.

Bestow peace and love on earth.  
Give to the dead the joys of heaven,  
Health to the living, the best of times,  
Grant through the most holy Sacrifice of the  
Mass.

We fall at your feet, most loving Jesus,  
Be merciful, disregard our sins.  
In your sacrifice we place our hope.  
Clasp us close to your Heart.

Fill us with your grace.  
Do not allow anyone to die in sin  
Help us Jesus to love you intensely  
And then in heaven behold you forever.  
Amen.

Pulkim ant kelių, visi krikščionis,  
Didžiai ištroškę Jėzaus malonės!  
Su ašaromis Dievą maldaukim,  
Tą mišių auką Jam atnašaukim.

Suklaupę meldžiam, Jėzau saldžiausias,  
Maldas priimki mūsų karščiausias,  
Mus išmokyki Dievą pažinti,  
Pildyt Jo valią ir Jį garbinti.

Vykdinki žemėj meilę, ramybę,  
Mirusiems teiki dangaus linksmybę,  
Gyviems sveikatą, metą geriausią  
Duok per tą auką Mišių švenčiausią.

Puolam po kojų, Jėzau meilingas,  
Nepaisyk kalčių, būk gailestingas,  
Viltį padėjom aukoje Tavo,  
Glauski visus mus prie Širdies Savo.

Tavo malonės duok mums patirti,  
Neleiski niekam nuodėmėj mirti,  
Duok Tave, Jėzau, karštai mylėti,  
Paskui per amžius danguj regėti.  
Amen.

*Translated by: Father Clement Kasinskas, C. P.,  
Cambridge, MA*



### HERE'S A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT

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Thanks to Anne Wargo and Irena Zelaitis for these delicious Lithuanian recipes from a Lithuanian cookbook called *Kviečiu prie stalo* ©1997 Vilnius. Please note the following when converting grams to ounces:

10 grams = approx. .3527 oz.  
100 grams = approx. 3.5 oz.  
1,000 grams = 2.2 lbs.

This month we decided to use both Lithuanian and English translations. Enjoy!

### Kiaulienos kotletai tešloje

500 g. kiaulienos  
kotletinės mėsos  
2 kiaušiniai  
1 ropinis svogūnas  
3 riekelės batono,  
stiklinė pieno,  
pipirai, druska,  
trapi tešla

Paruošiamė kotletinę masę, suformuojame kotletus, paviliojame kiaušinio plakinyje ir džiovėsėliuose. Kiekvieną suvyniojame į plonai iškočiotą sluoksniuotą tešlą, aptepame sviestu ir kepame orkaitėje apie pusę valandos. Galima valgyti su grietinės padažu.

Trapi tešla:

200 g. sviesto ištriname iki baltumo, įdedame truputį druskos, 2 trynius, gerai ištrintus su šaukštu cukraus. Viską gerai

išmaišome, pridedame 1 stiklinę miltų ir truputį pieno.

### Pork burgers in dough

1 1/2 lb. ground pork or beef  
2 eggs  
1 onion  
3 slices of French bread  
1 cup of milk  
pepper, salt to taste  
light dough

Prepare hamburgers from the meat, Roll them in beaten egg mixture and bread crumbs. Wrap each in a blanket of rolled dough, baste with butter and bake in the oven for a half hour. May be served with sour cream sauce.

Light dough:

Blend 7 oz. butter until white, add a pinch of salt, 2 eggs very well mixed with a tablespoon of sugar. When all is blended, add a glass of milk.

### Blynelių pyragas

Tešlai: 2 kiaušinių tryniai  
truputis druskos,  
cukraus  
1 šaukštas margarino  
3 stiklinės pieno,  
2 stiklinės miltų  
2 kiaušinių baltymai.

Kiaušinių trynius išsukame su druska, cukrumi ir sviestu. Praskiedžiame pienu, po truputį

suberiame miltus, gerai išmaišome ir įdedame suplaktus kiaušinių baltymus. Blynelius kepame, keptuvę ištrynę lašinių gabaliuku.

Iškeptus blynelius dedame į indą, išteptą sviestu. Kiekvieną blynėlį perklojame virtais obuoliais, pabarstytai cinamonu ir sviesto gabaliukais.

Taip susluoksniuotą pyragą laikome karštoje orkaitėje 20 min. Valgome su cukrumi.

### Pancake cake

Dough:

2 egg yolks  
salt to taste  
sugar to taste  
1 Tbsp. virgin olive oil  
3 cups milk  
2 cups flour  
2 egg whites

Beat the egg yolks with salt, sugar and butter. Dilute the mixture by slowly blending in the milk, blend well. Blend in the well beaten egg whites.

The pancakes are fried in a frying pan greased with a bit of bacon. Stack the fried pancakes in a dish greased with butter. Between the pancakes, put a layer of cooked apples, sprinkled with cinnamon and small bits of butter. Place the cake in a hot oven for 20 minutes. Serve with sugar.

### Apelsinų desertas

1 apelsinas,  
50 g cukraus

Tešlai:

1,5 stiklinės miltų  
5 kiaušinio baltymai,  
1 šaukštas alyvų aliejaus  
1 stiklinių karšto virinto vandens  
truputis druskos.

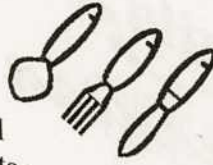
Į miltus įberiamė truputį druskos, įpilame šaukštą aliejaus, stiklinę karšto vandens ir gerai išplakame. Tada sudedame standžiai išplaktus kiaušinių baltymus. Įdą su šia tešla įstatome į šaltą vandenį. Apelsiną supjaustome griežinėliais, pabarstome cukrumi, pamirkome tešloje ir įkaitintuose riabaluose.

### Orange dessert

1 orange  
1 1/2 oz. sugar.

#### Dough:

1 1/2 cups flour  
5 egg whites  
1 Tbsp. olive oil  
1 cup boiled water  
salt to taste



Mix the salt with the flour, a Tbsp. of oil and a cup of boiled water and mix it thoroughly. Add stiffly beaten egg whites; place the mixture in bowl of cold water. Separate the peeled orange, sprinkle the sugar over it, roll it in the dough and boil it in boiling fat. ❖❖❖

**Dining on the River Queen...** Mid America District held their district meeting in Kansas City on May 31, hosted by C-150. After the meeting, members were treated to a dinner cruise on the Missouri River Queen. *Photo by Mary Kincius.*



### K of L, The New Generation...

## A PRAISEWORTHY JUNIOR

Bonnie Gulas, grand daughter of Alice and Stephen Wilcinskas, is a member of Junior Council 141-Bridgeport CT. In her Junior year at Laurelton High School, a Catholic school for girls, she has received many awards. She is a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. Awards for her Junior year were Yale Book Award, Bausch and Lomb Science award, Spanish Excellence award, Pre Calculus Excellence award and the Eastern Civil Excellence Award. Two years in a row she has taken first prize in the annual K of L essay contest. She has attended the Junior Science & Humanities



Symposium at University of Conn., plus the Yale Science and Engineering lectures. She has traveled to England, Australia and New Zealand with the People to People group as student ambassador. She also traveled to Spain and is planning a trip to Montana for Paleontological Field Work. In her spare time she works as a volunteer at Pond Point Nursing Home, and a local

nature camp.

She most certainly is our Junior "young Lady of Substance". Looking ahead - may the best be yet to come. God Bless!!!

*Submitted by Aldona Marcavage, C-141*

## AID TO LITHUANIA

Donations for the period 1/1/97 - 6/30/97

### Over \$1,000.00

Estate of Tom Bruzga - Brockway, PA \$7,051.90  
 Lithuanian Citizen's Society of Western Pennsylvania - Pittsburgh, PA \$ 6,500.00  
 Golf Day (Misc. income) - \$4,176.00  
 Intraco Corporation - Troy, MI \$2,600.00  
 J S Alberici Construction Corp. - Livonia, MI \$2,000.00  
 Free Lithuania Committee - Baltimore, MD \$1,458.29  
 Dayton Walther Corp. - Dayton, OH \$1,400.00  
 Magna Interior Systems - Farmington Hills, MI \$1,200.00

### \$500.00 to \$999.00

Ambrose International, Frank Ambrose, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Richard P. Baks, IMO Vincent Boris, Grosse Pointe, MI • Gediminas Balanda, Warren, MI • Pam Rietsch (Consv. for Mary Bartashunas), Howell, MI • Computer Methods Corp. Livonia, MI • Joe DiGiovanni, Southfield, MI • Exhibit Productions Inc. Troy, MI • K of L Council # 100, Amsterdam, NY • Miskinis & Associates, Oak Park, MI • Nyloncraft Inc., South Bend, IN • Algis Petrulis, Brighton, MI • Stanley Geldys & Vitas Rugienius, Belleville, MI • Mrs Joseph Sims, Blairstown, NJ • Charles Step Funeral Home, Redford Twp, MI • Honorable William J. Szlinis, Belleville, MI • USA Federal Credit Union, Troy, MI • John F. Uznis, Dearborn, MI

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Michael Abarius, Southfield, MI • Casey & Irene Ambrose, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Mr & Mrs Robert Blinstrubas, Wheaton, IL • Robert S. Boris, Waterford, MI • Mr & Mrs Frank Bunikis, Royal Oak, MI • Joseph D Carruthers, Ashland, OH • Constance Carruthers, Farmington Hills, MI • Robert D Carruthers, Farmington Hills, MI • Donald J. Carruthers, Whitmore Lake, MI • Michael Coughlin, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Joe Curran, Everett, WA • Mr & Mrs William Dapkus, Farmington Hills, MI • Gregory W Dauer, Birmingham, MI • Dr. Dale Davis, Hartland, MI • Benjamin F Dirgins, Fairfield, CT • Al Duoba, Clarkston, MI • Dr Raymond Dysas, IMO Dr J Masilionis, Fairborn, OH • Mr & Mrs A Grantham, Stockdale, TX • Joe Guerriero, Ann Arbor, MI • Jeff Hodges, Pentwater, MI • Mrs. Stella Hotra, Redford MI • Paulius & Alma Jankus, Sterling Heights, MI • Robert Janukaitis, Redford, MI • Reimont Janukaitis, Milford, MI • David Johnson, Detroit, MI • K of L Council # 100, Amsterdam, NY • K of L Council # 112, Marquette Park, IL • K of L Council # 152, Mattituck, NY • K of L Council # 156, Coal Township, PA • K of L Council # 17, So Boston, MA • K of L Council # 29, Newark, NJ • K of L Council # 41, Brooklyn, NY • K of L Council # 52, Elizabeth, NJ • K of L Mid-Atlantic Dist. • Dr Kastytis Karvelis, Northville, MI • Frank J Kelley, Lansing, MI • R A Korsakas, West Bloomfield, MI • Lou Kulikauskas, Troy, MI • Richard C. Kurpowic, Detroit, MI • Helen & Mary Labadis IMO William Labadis, Gilberton, PA • Daniel Laurinavicius, Toronto Ontario Canada • Lithuanian Cultural Council - Dayton, OH • Michael Lodish, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Rev Robert B McGrath,

Highland Park, MI • Jeff McQuade, Charlotte, MI • Charles H McSwigan III, Birmingham, MI • Victor Memenas, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Mr & Mrs Andrew Miknis, Dayton, OH • Mr & Mrs Al Mikutis, Philadelphia, PA • Dr Stephanie Miskinis, Oak Park, MI • Dr Martyna Miskinis, Oak Park, MI • Kestutis Miskinis, Oak Park, MI • Mr & Mrs J. Panavas, Southfield, MI • Mrs Barbara Pantos, West Boylston, MA • John Perles, Kentwood, MI • George Perles, East Lansing, MI • Mr & Mrs Joseph Petroski, Northville, MI • Mrs. Helen Piscopo IMO Justin Piscopo, Harrison, NY • C A Pokriefka, Jr., IMO Vincent Boris, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Anthony Racka, Farmington Hills, MI • Joseph & Evelyn Ribon, Milford, CT • Algis Rugienius, Sr., Bloomfield Hills, MI • Mr & Mrs Michael Shea, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Roy Simkus, Toronto Ontario Canada • Kazys Sipaila, Hillside, NY • Mr & Mrs J Stanievich, Redford MI • Edward Sventickas, Livonia, MI • Miss Mary Trambush, IMO Vincent Boris, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Fred Woolley, Troy, MI • Dave Yarema, Brighton, MI • Mr & Mrs John Zyren, Melvindale, MI • Pat Zyren, Melvindale, MI

**\$50. to \$99.**

Tom Alter, Eastpointe, MI • Peter M. Andrews, Sterling Heights, MI • Anonymous, Springfield, MA • Rev Alfonsas Babonas, IMO Adele Poderiene, Detroit, MI • Gediminas Balanda, Warren, MI • Alfred & Joyce Baran, Stratford, CT • V Bieliauskas, PhD., IMO Juozas Masilionis, Cincinnati, OH • Ms Jennie Blanchet, Esmond, RI • Irene Blinstrubas, Darien, IL • Edward & Kathryn Carter, IMO Vincent Boris, Somerset, PA • Anthony Chepulis Funeral Home, Seymour, CT • David Chivas, IMO Vincent Boris, St. Clair, MI • Christmas Celebration, Ann Arbor, MI • Mr & Mrs Donald Cowles, IMO Ignas Anuzis, Troy, MI • Joann Doyle, Oxford, MI • Mr & Mrs Milton Drain, Sacramento, CA • Joe Farrell, E. Lansing, MI • Helen L. Garby, Clark, NJ • HQ AFMC/DO c/o Major Gen F Gideon, IMO V Omlor, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH • Dr and Mrs R Gineitis, Dayton, OH • Glubaskas Family, IMO Vincent Boris, Canton, MI • Liudas Grunavas, Detroit, MI • Mr & Mrs J Guerriero, Dearborn Heights, MI • Mr & Mrs T Guest, Dayton, OH • Mr & Mrs John Holt, Dayton OH • Robert Jansauskas, Dearborn Heights, MI • William J Juodawlkis, Livonia MI • Danguole & Jurgis Jurgutis, Farmington Hills, MI • Regina Juska IMO Vincent Boris, Detroit, MI • K of L Council # 16, Chicago, IL • Kastytis Karvelis, Northville, MI • Helen Kinzel, Cherry Hill, NJ • Mr & Mrs Stanley Klimas, IMO Ignas Anuzis, Lake Mary, FL • Joe Kratage, Waterford MI • Mr & Mrs Sigitas Liaukus, Huntington, CT • Stella M Marcinauskas, Shelton, CT • Ray Medonis, Fenton, MI • Vita Memenas, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Mary Moran, IMO Anna Skudalski, Plymouth PA • Diane & Rita Neverouck - IMO Vincent Boris, Applegate, MI • Vida Orentas, Novi, MI • Linas Orentas, Novi, MI • Mr. Clem Patocki, Dearborn, MI • Joe & Irene Petroski, Northville, MI • Bob Popp, Haslett, MI • Mr & Mrs A Raubiskis, Chicago, IL • Mr Vitas Rugienius, Livonia, MI • Daiva Rugienius, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Liuda Rugienius, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Ona Sadeika, IMO Vincent Boris, Farmington, MI • Mr & Mrs Louis Senunas, Ann Arbor, MI • Helen Simanis, Bridgeport, CT • Mr & Mrs S Smalinskas, Livonia, MI • St Casimir's Lithuanian Women's Auxiliary, Poquonock, CT • St Peter & Paul's Holy Name Society, Hazleton, PA • John & Birute Svera, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Mr & Mrs W Tenclinger, IMO Vincent Boris, Downers Grove, IL • Al Trainis, Cheshire, CT • Dr & Mrs O Vaitas, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Marianne E Valan, IMO Ignas Anuzis, Port St. Lucie, FL • Elizabeth Zelinskas, Huber Heights, OH

**\$25.00 to \$49.00**

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Mrs J Gilvydis, Franklin, MI • Mrs. Milly Grigaras, Warren, MI • Mr & Mrs Joseph Janiunas, Stratford CT • Vaclova Janukaitis, Detroit, MI • A & Z Janusis, Livonia, MI • Ipolitas & Gina Janusis, Troy, MI • K of L Council # 112, Marquette Park, IL • K of L Council # 46, Forest City, PA • Juozas Karmuza, East Haven, CT • Rita Karrytais, Worcester, MA • Joann & Richard Kavalauskas, IMO Sophie Feters, Dayton, OH • Mr & Mrs J Kavalauskas, IMO Sophie Feters, Tipp City, OH • Raimund A. Kirstein, Rochester, NY • Nellie F Klimaytis, Bridgeport, CT • Antanina Klimkaitis, Livonia, MI • Mr & Mrs William Klucens, Warren, MI • Ann I Kopkernak, IMO Joseph & Nellie Matachinskis, Jefferson, MA • Agnes Lazdauskas, Bridgeport, CT • Mrs Julianna Liana, Elizabeth NJ • John Markus, Livonia, MI • Masilionis Family, IMO Dr. J. Masilionis, Dayton, OH • Mary B Mazauskas, Cranford, NJ • Mr & Mrs J McQuiston, IMO Dr J Masilionis, Dayton, OH • Mr & Mrs J Medgensis, Trumbull, CT • Mr & Mrs Victor Memenas, Bloomfield Hills, MI • Jean Mihalick/Len Kapochus, IMO Anna Skudalski, Larksville, PA • Mikalauskas Family, IMO Veronica Omlor, Dayton, OH • Mr & Mrs J Mikulionis, Sterling Heights, MI • Ella Miller, IMO Frank Miller, Trumbull CT • Dr. Edward Missavage, Jr., Birmingham, MI • Emmett G Munger, IMO Sophia Feters, Dayton, OH • Joan M Ortman, IMO Mary Susin, Painesville, OH • Mr & Mrs. Robert H. Pant, IMO Veronica Omlor, Dayton, OH • Mr & Mrs. Henry W. Pant, IMO Veronica Omlor, Fairborn, OH • Mr & Mrs Peter Peters, Stratford, CT • Dr & Mrs J Pikunas, Northville, MI • Emma Povilaitis, Troy, MI • Msgr Francis Pranckus, Stratford, CT • Kazys & Roza Razauskas, Dearborn Heights, MI • Kazys & Roza Razauskas, IMO Vincet Boris, Dearborn Heights, MI • Charles & Joan Rimas, Methuen, MA • Mr & Mrs Victor Ross, Trumbull, CT • Mr & Mrs Algis Rudis, Livonia, MI • Ona Rukstele, Farmington Hills, MI • Mr E Skiotys, Livonia MI • Elinor Sluzas, IMO Veronica Omlor, Dayton, OH • Bertha Stoskus, Providence, RI • Ted Straub, Kingston, PA • Loretta Stukas, Watchung, NJ • Loretta Stukas, IMO Vincent Boris, Watchung, NJ • Mr & Mrs R. Suziedelis, IMO Vincent Boris, Spring Grove, IL • Mr Narimantas Udrys, Birmingham, MI • Mr & Mrs Ed Vance, IMO Vincent Boris, Livonia, MI • Mr & Mrs Stephen Wilcinskis, Milford, CT • Barbara Wilcinskis Schmidt, Milford CT • Ms Emilie C Winsky, Great Neck, NY • Mr & Mrs A Zaparackas, IMO Vincent Boris, Farmington Hills, MI • The Zyren Family, IMO Vincent Boris, Melvindale, MI

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# District & Council News

## On the Calendar...

**Echoes of the Opera and Musicals** Concert featuring the Summit Orchestra and Singers, American Lithuanian Club, 4880 46th Ave. North, St. Petersburg, FL - Nov. 22, 3 PM. Sponsored by C-147

### 1998 District Conventions:

**March 15** - Amber District's St. Casimir's Day Celebration in Philadelphia

**April 19** - MAD spring conv. following the 11:00 a.m. Lithuanian Mass, Annunciation Church, Brooklyn, NY - C-41.

**April 26** - NED spring convention in Lawrence, MA. Contact: NED Pres.

### Other Events

**Dec. 14, 1997** - C-110 Maspeth Annual Kučios, following 11:15 Mass at Transfiguration. -

**April 19, 1998** - Fr. A. Janiunas' 50th anniv. of priesthood. Celebration at St. Francis Church, Lawrence, MA.

**May 31, 1998** - 90th anniv. of St. Francis Church, Lawrence, MA.

*Send in your council's upcoming events along with council news for the calendar.*

Conventioners look forward to.

C-72 Binghamton hosted the Amber District meeting on September 14. The newly elected Amber District President is Dorothy Banos. We wish Dorothy all the best as she begins her term of office and pledge our support. Further election results are: Frank Petrauskas, Vice-president; Anna Helen McDonald, Recording Secretary; Eleanor Vaicaitis, Treasurer; Trustees - Nellie B. Romanas (1 year); Joseph Chaplick (2 years); John Mankus, Cultural Chair; Leonard Kapochus, Lithuanian Affairs; Thomas McDonald, Public Relations; Ritual Committee - Dianne Drumstas, Chair; Helen Chesko (2 years); Anne Challan (3 years); Agnes Mickunas, Vytis Correspondent.

John Mickunas, Chairman for this year's raffle, urges all the Councils to participate to the greatest extent possible to insure that this year's raffle will be a success. This fund raiser is the only means of raising revenue for the District Treasury. The drawing will take place at the Amber District's St. Casimir's Day Celebration in Philadelphia, on Sunday, March 15. Please give it your 100% support!

Well, before we know it, we will be well into the Holiday Season - Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. Many of our Councils will be hosting their annual Kučios dinners and accompanying festivities. The Amber District wishes the very best to all the Knights of

## Amber District Agute

The Amber District sincerely congratulates John Mankus on his election as National president. We wish God's choicest blessings on John as he begins this most important undertaking.

Our District is well represented on the Supreme Council. Also serving on the Supreme Council are: Rev. Joseph Anderlonis, National Spiritual Advisor; Agnes Mickunas, 1st Vice-President; Dorothy Banos, Financial Secretary; Elsie Kosmisky, Ritual Chair; Ann Wargo, St. Casimir's Guild Chair; Eleanor Vaicaitis, Scholarship Committee. Our best wishes to all of these dedicated K. of L'ers in

fulfilling their duties this coming year.

The Amber District thanks and congratulates Dayton C-96 for their untiring work in hosting a most successful Convention this past August. They are truly the hosts and hostesses with the mostest!!! We all had a wonderful time! We are looking forward to gathering together again in Waterbury, CT next year. Thanks and *ačiū labai* to John Mankus and his assorted helpers for providing all the essentials for the Amber District's annual Friday night Convention gathering. Even though we were a bit too noisy for some of the tenants of the 6th floor, we still managed to have an evening of fun and sociability. This is an evening that all the Amber District



**MCD Spring meeting:** C-102 Ritual, Donna Bunikus awards 3rd Degree recipients Larry Hofner and Regina Juska of C-102 along with MCD Ritual Fran Petkus and C-102 Spiritual advisor, Fr. Babonas.

Lithuania and their families.  
GOD LUV YA ALL!!!

### **Mid-Atlantic District** **Mary R. Kober**

On Sunday, September 28th, the Mid-Atlantic District held their biannual meeting. Lithuanian mass at Transfiguration Church in Maspeth, NY was concelebrated by Bishop Paulius Baltakis with Msgr. Bulovas, Revs. Mooney and Raila assisting. Mass was offered by the District for Anthony Kober of C-109, who was recently deceased. During Mass, Joseph Zukas, Ritual Chair, presented Fourth Degree medals to members Sophie Wensek, Stella Stripeikis and posthumously to William Budris, all of C-110 Maspeth assisted by Bishop Baltakis and National President, John Mankus. At the Luncheon, Bishop Baltakis gave the invocation and guest speakers included: Dr. Petras Anusas,

Consulate General of Lithuania and John Mankus, National K of L President.

Immediately following the buffet luncheon, the meeting was opened with prayer by Msgr. Bulovas. Pres. Bruno Rutkunas of host C-110 greeted all members and guests to the meeting. District President, Ed Barkowski reported on a few highlights held at the National Convention in Dayton in August. 1st Vice President (Membership) Mary Abbott spoke about encouraging new members to join the organization. 2nd Vice Pres. (Juniors) Bernice Aviza spoke about the junior activities in the District, in particular Juniors in C-100 and C-136. Cultural Chair, Anthony Yacavonis played a few Lithuanian songs on his mandolin. Joseph Zukas, Ritual Chair, advised that MAD is only responsible for the Third Degree; all other degree applications are to be forwarded to the National

Ritual Chair. Rita Sussko, Mandate Committee Chair, reported there were 4 clergy, 3 honorary members, 58 delegates and 39 guests in attendance with 8 councils represented.

A thank-you note was received from Eddy Skarnarakas who received a donation from this District. Eddy was diagnosed with Down Syndrome and even with this handicap he was able to receive two gold medals at the Special Olympics in track and field, power lifting, bowling and basketball.

A half-page ad was donated for the VYTIS Christmas issue; a yearly donation of \$40.00 was approved for Lithuanian World Review Radio and \$100 donated to the Pontificio Collegio Lituano in Rome on their 50th anniversary to be held in 1998. St. Casimir Guild is sponsoring a trip to Rome for this occasion and anyone interested should contact Anna Wargo, Chair of the Guild.

Resolutions were unanimously accepted thanking Bishop Baltakis for being with us on this date, to Rev. Rooney, pastor of Transfiguration for his graciousness extended to permit this meeting to take place in Transfiguration Church and also thanking Maspeth C-110 for the gracious hospitality extended to guests and delegates. Ačiū labai to all.

Results of elections were as follows: Msgr. F. Bulovas, Spiritual Advisor; Ed Barkowski, President; Mary Abbott, 1st V.P.; Bernice Aviza, 2nd V.P.; Muriel Lekstutis, Sec.; Josephine Zukas, Treas.; Anne O'Neill, Mirga Bablin and Frances Jakatt, Trustees; Ed.

Baranauskas, Lithuanian Affairs; Mary Kober, Public Relations and VYTIS Correspondent; Anthony Yakavonis, Cultural; Joseph Zukas, Ritual Chair assisted by Connie Nehwado-wich and Joseph Stelmokas; John Sakal and Gerard Drenzek, Sgts. at Arms.

The next Mid Atlantic District meeting will be held on April 19, 1998 following the 11:00 a.m. Lithuanian Mass at Annunciation Church, Brooklyn, NY hosted by C-41.

### **Mid Central District**

#### ***Andrea Baltrus***

The Mid-Central District's annual Spring meeting and Bowling Tournament was hosted by Detroit C-102 from May 16-18 in nearby Dearborn. The weekend's chairman, Tim Baibak, and his committee should be commended for their arrangements.

The weekend started with a boisterous welcoming celebration at the hotel on Friday evening. There was plenty of good food and good cheer. The evening included music and singing, the exuberance of which was measured by the number of times we were asked to quiet down by the hotel staff. A good time was had by all.

Saturday morning began with our District meeting, with President Elena Mikalauskas moving business right along. It seems that our councils tried to outdo each other with their reports of their winter activities. However, there was concern expressed about the inactivity and dwindling active membership in a few of the councils.



**NED Fall Convention on Sept 21, 1997 (l to r) new HM Bertha Stoskus is presented a bouquet of flowers by Veronica Bizenkauskas as Fr. Shakalis looks on.**

The bowling fun began later that afternoon. A good turnout from the Detroit area councils helped boost participation. The winning team comprised of George Cramblet, John Cramblet, Sam Perritino, Jr., Sue Franklin and Denise Murawski was from host Council 102. Many other prizes were distributed among the bowlers including Rob Martin, who traveled the whole way from Chicago to take home the trophy for low men's score!

That evening we were free to relax and spend our time at any of a number of local restaurants and attractions. Some members gathered in their hotel rooms to carry on their own mini-celebrations. On Sunday morning, we attended Lithuanian mass at St. Anthony Church, the home base for C-102. It gave us all a chance to brush up on our Lithuanian. Before mass, 3rd degrees were presented to C-102 members, Regina Juska and Lawrence Hofner. The festivities continued afterward at the closing banquet at the City Tavern. There the drawing for our District's annual raffle was held. Prizes of \$250, \$150 and

\$100 went to Lynn Brownick, Bea Cramblet and Aldona Zajauskas, respectively. The raffle was a great success in raising funds for our District.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next May as we revive an old tradition and travel to Chicago for a combined Midwest Bowling Tournament.

### **New England District** ***Aldona Marcavage***

Brockton C-1 hosted the NED Fall Convention on Sept. 21. 85 members and 12 councils were present. Holy Mass was concelebrated by St. Casimir's pastor, Fr. John Prusaitis and Fr. Albin Janiunas (C-78). 4th degrees were bestowed upon Stella Marcinauskis (C-141) and Matilda Stunza (C-78). Assisting Father was Clemencine Miller representing the National Ritual Committee.

After a delicious brunch, the business session began with NED president Bertha Stoskus, conducting. Host president, Veronica Bizinkauskas greeted guests. Father Shakalis and Father Janiunas gave brief but interesting talks. Bertha Stoskus was congratulated on her

elevation to Honorary Membership and was presented with flowers by Marytė Bizinkauskas. She then was serenaded with "Ilgiausių metų darbingų metų" We all wish her many healthy, productive years with K of L.

Sister Helen Ivanauskas announced that the 60th container was shipped September 22nd. She is still asking for donations of food, vitamins, toys, clothing and medicines for a Christmas package. Sister commented: "You can't count apples from one seed. You'll never know how much good you have done until you reach Heaven" Please continue collecting canceled postage stamps.

A resolution was made and approved to submit Fr. Shakalis' name for Honorary Membership.

Anne Wargo's letter informed us of K of L plans for a trip to Rome Feb. 28th. to March 8, 1998 for the 50th anniversary of the Pontifical College. For details contact Anne.

Make your reservations early, as always, for the next retreat in Kennebunkport on June 26-28 1998.

Remember in your prayers our ill member, Ignatius Hobitz. Cards may be sent to his home. Marion will deliver them.

Congratulations and best wishes to new NED president, William Piacentini, and all the newly-elected officers and committees.

**NED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES 1997-1998**  
Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Peter Shakalis; President - William Piacentini, C-103; First Vice

Pres. - Paul Zukas, C-27; Second Vice Pres. - Marytė Bizinkauskas, C-1; Third Vice Pres. - Clemencine Miller, C-141; Recording Secretary - Bertha Stoskus, C-103; Corres. Sec. - Marcia Rogers, C-30; Treasurer - Joseph Stiklius, C-7; Trustees - William Wisnauskas, C-10; Marion Hobitz, C 78; Public Relations, Aldona Marcavage, C-141; Scholarship, Anthony Grein, C-1; Regina Alexander, C-27; Anthony Miner, C-17; Lithuanian Culture, Brone Wisnauskas, C-10; Lithuanian Affairs, Clemencine Miller, C-141; Archives - Larry Svelnys, C-17; NED Ritual - Marion Racicot, Jim Rogers, Rita Pinkus.

### **C- 26, Worcester, MA** ***Stephen V. Walinsky, Sr.***

Even though C-26 activities are on hold for the summer months, some of us members continue to enjoy one another's' company by meeting at a candle pin bowling alley to socialize and exercise and have fun together. Amongst the group there are champs, and also, some who would like to be champs. Many work hard to improve their scores, enjoying themselves while doing it.

Back to business again for C-26. The summer gone, the National Convention business recorded for posterity, only those members having late vacations missed the first meeting of the new season.

Tan and trim are our board of officers, looking forward anxiously to resume their K of L purposeful duties, hoping that

the respite had produced some new thoughts and worthy ideas to enliven all, and create a stimulus for involvement and participation by the entire enrolled membership.

The September meeting included one of our famous pot luck suppers. We who can't and won't and don't prepare a dish at home, always contribute something from the markets to add a great big plus to the kitchen cuisine. Everybody brings and gives, everybody tastes.

During the month of August, illness befell two of our diligent K of L'ers: Rita Margosian and Dan Shimkus, But I'm pleased to report that they are now doing well, and are defeating the doldrums of confinement.

As in the past, C-26 cooperatively enlisted its services at the New England District Lithuanian Festival which transpired on October 19 at Maironis Park. Proceeds from this affair are allotted to help deserving scholars to further their education, by offering them financial assistance with scholarships.

### **C - 46, Forest City, PA** ***Blanche Motsko***

We had our annual picnic at "The Little Red School House" with 20 members in attendance. A most enjoyable day for all. We were delighted to see Charles Cyzeski, Stasia Wallace, John Gudaitis, Al Kazakevich at the picnic. All are looking good.

Frances Yavorski is still in the Forest City, Personal Care home. Friends of Frances please drop her a get well note.

We had a short hot summer. Now it feels like an early fall.

Nominations of officers were held in October. We also have a new pastor and spiritual advisor. Father Cirba allows us to have our monthly meetings in the Sacret Heart basement. It is heated and a very nice place to meet.

Congratulations to Alice and Bill Punter on their new grand daughter, Jamie.

Once again we have lost a devoted member. Dona Slick passed away in July.

**C-96, Dayton, OH**  
**Fran Petkus**

To one and all who made the 84th National Convention the success it was, we, the members of C - 96, can't thank you enough for your support. It was your presence and our supplying the means that made it work! It was wonderful seeing the Juniors taking part in all the activities especially at the Masses and their Thursday night scavenger hunt. The *Anti-up For Charity* proved successful for the organization's four standard charities. It was good to see two of C-96 members remaining on the national board. Congratulations to Mark Bell, Trustee and Irena Gečas, K of L Scholarship Committee!

Convention Chair, Jim Geiger, also chaired the Dayton Lithuanian Community's annual participation in Dayton's Annual World A'Fair. Jim's wife, Connie, chaired the display of which the theme this year was "Legends and Myths". The



The 1997 Dayton Convention may be gone but certainly not forgotten. Pictured is Dayton's Holy Cross Church. Photo by Barbara Miller, C-72

German community liked the backdrop and asked to borrow it for a program they were having this Fall. The Lithuanians, once again, were rewarded with a Ribbon of Excellence. Dayton's Vejeliai Dancers performed during the weekend activities. It was good to see so many C-96 members participating.

Council members, Karl, Helen, Bob and Susan Keivel were on the committee that put together our Annual Holy Cross Parish Feast Day. Mother Nature cooperated in giving us a beautiful day.

Our MCD's Fall Convention /Pilgrimage was held the weekend of 9/26-28 with C-79, Southfield, our hosts. The meeting went very well under the capable hands of our District President, Elena Mikalauskas. Among other items on the agenda, we voted on our annual contributions to the four standard K of L Charities.

Results of the district election saw the following from C-96 on the Board: Fran Petkus - President; Annamarie Sluzas Berger - 3rd Vice-President; Elena Mikalauskas - Treasurer; Rob Pant - Sgt-at-Arms; Lauretta Pant, Fran Petkus - Ritual; Michael F. Petkus - Aid to Lithuania; George Mikalauskas - MCD Recognition Award.

The Pilgrimage took place at the St. Bonaventure Monastery where a film on the life of Capuchin Fr. Solanus Casey was shown. There is a Fr. Solanus Guild dedicated to his Canonization.

At the closing Mass on Sunday, we met Divine Providence Lithuanian Parish's new Administrator, Fr. Aloyzas Volskis. Fr. Volskis had been there less than a month and was very receptive to blessing our Fourth and Third Degree Medals and the swearing in of the new officers. Members from C-96 who received their Third Degree Medals were: Annamarie Sluzas Berger, Rob Pant and Michael F. Petkus. Congrats! Following Mass, one candle was lit by each council as the names of their deceased were read. The closing dinner was excellent! Thank you one and all C-79.

Congratulations to Regina Juska, C-102, Detroit and Rimgaudas Svoba as they exchanged wedding vows on Sept. 26th. Several Daytonians were there to celebrate this special occasion!!

Deepest sympathies go to Ida, Tina and family on the recent loss of husband, father, Stanley

Kavy. Stan, a Fourth Degree Knight, was a long time Knight!

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

A "Nuošgirdingai Ačiū" to Jim Geiger, his committee and C-96 members for a very interesting and smoothly run National Convention. The accommodations were great, variety of events most enjoyable, especially the performance by the Lithuanian dance group. Valio!

The nine delegates in attendance - Joe and Eve Stark, John and Donna Stanievich, HM Bob Boris, Frank and Donna Bunikis and Ray and Theresa Medonis can attest to that. This same group enjoyed a Lithuanian repast at "Elinor's Amber Rose" - "Labai Skanu". It's always a pleasure to renew old friendships along with meeting new K. of L'ers at these events, and we look forward to next year's NC in Waterbury, CT.

"Congratulations" to John Mankus, as newly elected Supreme Council President, his staff and various committee heads. It goes without saying, and bears repeating, "You did an excellent job as SC President, Evelyn Ozelis, and we "Thank you" for your diligent efforts, as well as to your outgoing staff. The presentation John Mankus gave on Lithuanian writers, poets and the transitions in the Lithuanian language was most informative and interesting. Good job!

Our deepest sympathies to Irene Vizgirda and family upon the recent death of her stepfather, Anthony Rašytinis. May he rest



**Sadly missed at Detroit's MCD Bowling tournament are: Betty Petroske, C-79, and Tom Bruzga, C-86. May their souls rest in Peace.**

*Sent by Maryann Guerriero*

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in peace.

Our annual combo corn roast meeting was held at the home of the Starks on Sunday, August 17, with 28 members in attendance. Nice to see Father Stan, who is busier than ever since his retirement; also newly rejoined members, Vic and Marie Yokin, who are heading south to their Florida home shortly. Even though the weather was a wee bit gloomy, it didn't dampen our spirits or appetites. "Ačiū Labai" to Joe and Eve, who always extend themselves so graciously. Donna Bunikis conferred First Degrees to Raymond and Mariella Klucens, Robert Klucens, Vic and Marie Yokin and Bill Zager while the meeting was in progress. "Congratulations!"

Another couple joining the ranks of "Retirees" are our Financial Secretary, Theresa Shea and hubby, Michael, who celebrated with a much deserved trip to France and neighboring

countries. Enjoy your "Golden Years".

A filled to capacity church hall feted our Spiritual Advisor, Father Alphonse Babonis, at his 70th birthday dinner on Sunday, August 31. Who else but Regina Juskaite was at the forefront in arranging this gala affair. "Ilgiausų, Laimiūgu, Sveikų Metų, Tėveli"

Wedding bells tolled recently for both Hofners son, Lance and his bride, Joanne and our Vice President, Richard Straksys and his bride, Denise. May the newlyweds be blessed with a lifetime of joy, peace and love.

Su Diev!

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

At our August 24, 1997 meeting, luncheon was served after a blessing by Msgr. Frank Bulovas.

Our meeting was started with reports from our secretary and treasurer. Also, Marytė Abbott, member and "Vytis" Editor, filled us in on happenings at the National Convention held in Dayton, Ohio. The hospitality of C-96 hosts was praised very highly.

Ann Morrissey spoke about her trip to Lithuania. She was happy that she was able to visit many of our adopted orphanages, where she left money from our council and also visited our adopted child, Erika.

Marytė Abbott read a moving poem she composed to Vincent Boris - a dear friend and mentor, who passed away recently.

Condolences to Stella Elliot and Peggy Lasis on the death of Joseph Sarmuksnis.

### **C-112, Marquette Park, IL** **Gerrie**

After adjourning for the summer months, C-112 began their fall session in September with 55 members in attendance. It was a long meeting with a lot of business to be transacted. Those who attended the National Convention in Dayton came forward with glowing reports. Second V.P., Ellie Kasputis informed the membership that our council was awarded second prize in the membership drive and we are currently the largest council in the organization. Thanks, Ellie, for your never-tiring efforts on our behalf. (Ellie was recently feted by her friends upon her "retirement" as a hair stylist from Saks Fifth Avenue. She will be missed by many ladies whose hairdos will never be the same without Ellie's care.) Our Junior's V.P., Maria Deksnis, continues as 3rd V.P. on the Supreme Council and we are extremely proud of her very fine work with our Junior councils.

The meeting continued with the election of new officers. Out-going president, Julie Zakarka, who kept us on course last year, turned over the gavel to new president, Mickey Petrosius. The rest of the board retained the offices they held last year: 1st V.P. Al Mockus; 2nd V.P. Ellie Kasputis, 3rd V.P. Maria Deksnis; Recording Secretary Gerrie Chaplin; Corresponding Secretary, Alvina Giedraitis; Financial Secretary, Terri Vaitkus; Treasurer, Dolores Wainauskis; Trustees, Lorraine Svelnis and Philomena Vilutis; and Sgts. at Arms, Vince

Petrosius, Matt Vilutis, Al Dagis, Ed Deksnis, Louis Rogers and Ed Pocius.

The appointed committee chairs are: Lithuanian Affairs /Aid to Lithuania, Rita Zakarka; Ritual, Julie Zakarka; Wake /Courtesy, Estelle Rogers; Cultural, Aldona Brazis; and the publicity team of Aldona Brazis, Anthony Pauzolis and Gerrie Chaplin.

Since our meetings are now held quarterly, we will need to pay close attention to the council newsletters so we don't miss any of the activities planned such as our next meeting in December followed by the Christmas Party.

The procession for Our Lady of Šiluva, was held on a warm Sunday afternoon and was well attended by the Nativity B.V.M. parish organizations. We thank Ed Deksnis and Louis Rogers for carrying the flags for our council.

Sophie Nieminski's family seems to have a Lucky 7 running through it. Sophie, her two daughters, and new great-grand daughter all share birthdays on the 7th day of different months. Could this be a good Lotto number?

### **C-136, Hudson-Mohawk, NY** **Dorothy Richmire**

We extend our deepest sympathy to the wonderful family of member, Nell Freer who left this world recently. She was a faithful member who served as Treasurer for many years, in addition to other committees. She will be missed by her ten children, grandchildren and by members of our council. Rest in peace, Nell.

Our annual picnic, a joint effort on the part of C-100, Amsterdam and our council, was enjoyed by all who attended in August. Excellent food, plenty of fresh air, an appreciation of nature's beauty and good fellowship contributed to a successful undertaking. Somehow, gazing out from the picnic area to the river flowing just some feet away, always has a calming effect. It was a fine day.

On September 14 we were fortunate to be part of a double celebration. Holy Cross Church in Schenectady, which is the parish of many of our members and where we hold our meetings, celebrated it's 75th anniversary of it's founding. The day began with mass concelebrated by our pastor, Rev. John Provost and Rev. Joseph Grabys of Amsterdam. The church was filled and Mayor Albert Jurczynski presented an official proclamation to the parish. Father Grabys offered a short talk in Lithuanian and it brought memories back to many of us who in our youth listened to Lithuanian homilies on a regular basis. Following mass, parish members and guests were treated to a delicious brunch. Bernice Aviza, Betty Parker and myself, in honor of the occasion, wore our native Lithuanian garb and after enjoying brunch, we traveled on to the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, New York. At this beautiful site, a second celebration observing the 150th anniversary of the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany was enjoyed by as many as 7,000 people participating in the once

in a lifetime event.

Guests included: Cardinal John O'Connor, Archbishop of New York City and the homilist, Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan, Vatican ambassador to the U.S., who brought greetings from Pope John Paul II; and 16 other bishops from New York, Minnesota and Pennsylvania. There were a line of priests that stretched as far as the eye could see, women in colorful African robes and headdresses, women representing Vietnam, in their native dress, Knights of Columbus, Knights of Malta and the three of us in our Lithuanian attire. We are proud to say that we received many compliments and questions as to what country we represented and we were thrilled to be able to participate in this significant liturgy. It was an occasion we shall always remember.

At our September meeting, election of officers was held and fortunately most serving as officers or on committees were willing to continue to serve for another year, with the exception of two new committee chairmen. Ardis Pikun-Daury will head up the Public Relations committee and Chick Rupsis will be Sgt. of Arms. Congratulations to all.

An update on the 4 Lithuanian boys who came to the USA in hopes of pursuing basketball careers. *Marijus* and *Mantus* graduated from Watkinson's Prep School in Hartford, Conn. *Marijus* gave a three minute speech in English to his classmates, school officials, family and friends. His host parents helped pay for his mom to come see him graduate.

*Vaidas* plans to go to basketball summer camp and then attend a Prep School in Conn. *Arvydas* is earning money as a gardener this summer so that he can attend college in N.Carolina majoring in Business and Computer Science. All the boys extend their sincere ačiū's for all for the love and support given to them.

### **C-140, Syracuse, NY** ***Pusbrolis***

The highlight of our summer season was the 90th birthday party of our dear Katherine Cravetts. Her birthday really isn't until March 6, but her family decided to have a surprise party in July because most of the relatives could attend. The party was held at grandson, Steve and Joann Brandt's lovely home in Brewerton. We all gathered in the back yard and when daughter Sally brought Katherine into the yard she was very surprised to see us.

Father Tom Kobuszewski, who worked in a factory with Katherine's late husband, Steve, as a young seminarian, celebrated an outdoor Mass with us. This set the tone for a lovely afternoon. There was much delicious food and drink and the pool was in continuous use. Various games were played by those of all ages and of course there was plenty of time to visit with one another. It was good to talk about days past and our various experiences and also about today's events.

Katherine received a number of nice gifts for which she was very grateful. The whole afternoon overwhelmed her with joy and excitement and it took a

few days for her to return back to normal. She still enjoys good health and does her own cooking and housework. She walks to and from Mass with two of her lady friends and also she walks to and from downtown quite often.

We're proud of our Katherine because she's a big inspiration to us and a wonderful example to follow. Many more happy birthdays to you, Katherine Cravetts.

Frank and Irene Petrauskas were our delegates to the National Convention in Dayton. They reported it was a very good, well run convention and they really enjoyed themselves. Frank was happy to be back in Dayton as C-96 was his home council when he joined back in 1952. They gave their report at our September meeting. Convention business took up most of the meeting. They told the members how beautiful the Lithuanian motif is in the interior of Holy Cross Church. It is exceptional.

Frank and Irene were our delegates to the September meeting of the Amber District in beautiful St. Joseph's Church in Binghamton. Father John Mikalajunas, Pastor; Father Peter Alisauskas, Amber Spiritual Advisor; and Father John Brodrick concelebrated a most inspirational Mass for us.

Congratulations to John Mankus who was elected National President. John is unique in that he held 3 presidencies at one time. He is C-72 president, he was Amber District president and now National President. At the Amber meeting, he turned the



**C-141 Members at St. Ann's Shrine with Amber District Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Peter Alisauskas.**



office over to Dorothy Banos who was elected by the delegates. Congratulations to Dorothy who we know will do a good job.

Congratulations are in order for Guy Pagano, C-140, on his retirement from the Coast Guard after 42 years of service. Guy was the recipient of a great party and nice coverage in the paper. Guy and his wife, Ellie (Zutant), joined our council this past year.

Congratulations also to Jack and Catherine Brandt. Jack was elected National Vice President of the Sea Bees and Catherine was elected National President of the Sea Bees Auxiliary.

**C-141 Bridgeport, CT**  
***Aldona Marcavage***

A new Lithuanian family is being established with the union of C-141 member John Marcinauskis and Laura Vitagliano who became Mr. and Mrs. July 12, 1997. In true Lithuanian tradition, the couple was met at the reception by Mother Stella Marcinauskis with bread, salt and wine. Lively music by Joe Thomas added to the happy occasion. As in old style Lithuanian tradition, the

celebration continued for two days at the Marcinauskis' homestead, with feasting, singing and making merry.

Junior member, Sean Miller, attended his first convention in Dayton and had a ball. He was accompanied by Grandma Clem Miller, Alice Wilcinskas, Stella Marcinauskis and Barbara Schmidt. Barbara once more was chosen as secretary at the convention.

On August 24, Clemencine and Victor Miller once again opened their home for the Council's annual picnic. This year a huge tent was erected, a dance platform added and musical entertainment was provided by Joe Thomas. The delicious buffet was second to none. It just happened to be Clemencine's birthday, too. *Ilgiausiy metų* was sung loud and clear to our favorite president and all-around-gal. Kathleen Balcius had fun dancing on the grass, but tripped and fractured her ankle. She had to postpone her visit to her mom in England and caused her to miss Princess Diana's funeral in London.

We heartily congratulate

Stella Marcinauskis on finally receiving her fourth degree. She has been a K of L member since 1939.

We proudly hail hero, Thomas Stumbris, nephew of Edmund Stumbris and Sophie Putrimas, who recently saved a man's life from a fire in the house next door with his quick action. He called 911 and awakened the man just in time.

We are grateful to our friends of Lithuania at the Milford Senior Center who on behalf of C-141 recently sent \$15,000 worth of medical and hospital needs. They also regularly collect used postage stamps for children's relief.

Please - remember in your prayers our members who are ill: Edmund Stumbris, Charles Yokstas, Leon Mateika, Peter Radzwillas, Stefa Armonas, Genevieve Burnett, Jean Rigeley.

We congratulate all the newly-elected officers of the Supreme Council and wish them a very fruitful year. Our best wishes to all the officers and committees of our New England District.

Long live K of L!!

## **C-142, Washington, DC**

### ***Kay Yankoski***

On a balmy Sunday afternoon in June, Council 142 members gathered at the Rockville, MD home of Pat and Bob Carlton for our Annual Picnic. A sudden shower brought us all together on the screened-in porch, but not before the all important grilling of hamburgers and hot dogs was finished. Len and Irene Redecke brought an inventive (3 varieties of) potato salad; Florence Smith and sister Mary brought pasta salad; Helen Szpakowski made her famous lemon poppyseed cake; Beverly Meder insisted that it wouldn't be a true Lithuanian gathering without her *kapustai*; Pat Carlton made a new (lo cal) cole slaw and passed around the recipe; while Kay Yankoski made a banana pudding cake. John Waylonis and Joe Chaplick supplied beverages and a guest brought cookies. It was a fun-filled and food-filled afternoon.

## **C-144, Anthracite, PA**

### ***ONA***

Congratulations to three of our members who were honored this summer. Victor Prep received the *Lion of the Year* award from the Frackville Lions Club. Mary Dereskavich received the *Volunteer of the Year*, Senior Volunteer Program in Mahanoy City and Bob Kaboskie won the *golfing championship* of the Scranton Taurus Club. Many of our members not only work hard for the K of L, but also for many other worthwhile organizations.



***C- 141's Gintare Ivaška awarded 3rd Degree by Clemencine Miller in Bridgeport on Apr. 27, 1997.***

Attending this year's Convention in Dayton were: Anne Wargo, Helen Chesko, Victor and Evelyn Prep, Eleanor Vaicaitis, Elsie Kosmisky, Gloria Dauchess and Marge Valinsky. All came home with nothing but praises for the Dayton Group who hosted a beautiful Convention.

Lithuanian Days were again successful. The Žilvinas Dance Group from Philadelphia presented great entertainment. The accordionist, Lina Cox played both days as a wandering minstrel just like the old days at Lakewood Park. Everyone enjoyed the sing-a-longs. Thanks to Bernice Mikatavage and Annie Morgalis for the beautiful Cultural Displays; Evelyn Prep and Anne Sikora for chairing the food and to all the committees, too numerous to mention. A special thanks to Helen Matunis and her crew for making the delicious bandukes. These are becoming famous. Thanks to Eleanor Vaicaitis, overall Chairman to Sales Chairmen, Mary Labadis and Ann Radzavage and to everyone who helped. A special thanks

also, to Victor Stepalovitch of C-3 who comes every year to help with the food and who makes *Salta Birscoes*. Many K of L'ers from neighboring councils attended and we appreciate their attendance. It was not only financially successful, but culturally and socially as well.

Many of our members are hoping to attend the Pilgrimage to Rome next year for the 50th Anniversary of the Pontifical College in Rome. Msgr. Bartkus was one of the founders of our Council and our first Spiritual Advisor.

We lost two members in July, Joseph Walacavage and Isabelle Leon. Our sympathy to their families.

Some of our members who were active are now ill or in nursing homes. For those we pray always and ask God's blessings for them.

22 members attended the St. Anne Novena at St. Anne's Shrine in Scranton. Our prayers were with all members of the K of L.

A million *ačiūs* to the Minersville members under the supervision of Bernice Mikatavage who collected 82 boxes of good clothes, shoes and boots for Sister Helen's orphans. A special thanks to Anne Panchari who packed all those boxes. Half have already been sent to Sister and the other half will be sent this month. Bernice is also chairing a Christmas project of small gifts for the orphans which will be packed by Anne. Our Council will also send a gift to our adopted orphan.

### **C-147, St. Petersburg, FL** ***Dolores Jonaitis***

Get well wishes are extended to Victoria Jacobson, who is now in Carrollwood Care Center in Tampa Florida. Also, Petre Kasparavičiute, on a visit to Lithuania this July, fell and injured herself. She was hospitalized in Lithuania, and could not return home with her group. She returned 8/24/97, and is recuperating and adjusting very well. We are wishing you a speedy recovery.

Eugenia Šatraitis who was elected Financial Secretary in 1996, and later resigned because of her health, has now re-accepted her position of Financial Secretary. Good luck Eugenia and Thanks again to Violet Kraujalis for helping out.

Anthony Gudonis arranged a trip to Lithuania in July of this year. Nonstop from Tampa to Amsterdam, and then to Vilnius via Lithuanian Airlines. In Lithuania, Anthony Gudonis received an Honorary Medal, from Lietuvos Šauliai Organization, (Bendruomenės) for all his accomplishments and good deeds. It was presented to him by President Brazauskas on 4th of July, in a formal and lavish setting. Congratulations, Anthony. Anthony also donated two Chalices to Skeutistis Lithuanian Parish. I'm sure they were well appreciated. Other K of L'ers who went on this trip were John and Dolores Jonaitis, Alfas and Angele Shulis, Elena Jurkynas, and Petre Kasperavičiute. Most everybody stayed with friends or relatives and didn't meet up again until it was time to go

home at the airport. Dr. Aldona Valis and Valeria Lescinskas also visited Lithuania this summer, but at a different date.

C-147 Delegates to the 84th Convention in Dayton Ohio, were John and Dolores Jonaitis and Aldona Kirstuk. Our guests at Culture night, Banquet and get together night were Laimute Alvarado, Peter and Frank Žiaukas from St. Pete Beach Florida. Joseph Gečas who lives in St. Pete Beach, but is still a member of C-96 Dayton, Ohio, had a happy family reunion with his daughters, Rita from Cincinnati, and Irena who is Chairman of the Scholarship Committee of the Supreme Council.

We had an Officer's Meeting in August, hosted by Victoria Kleiviene. Discussed were plans for a concert on November 22, 1997, featuring the Summit Orchestra and Singers. Resident conductor, Ms. Deidre Reigel, is

a notable music personality and is an exceptionally competent and cordial conductor. A 32-piece orchestra accompanies six to eight artists performing repertoire from the most beloved operas and musicals. It will take place at the American Lithuanian Club on 46th Avenue N. in St. Petersburg, at 3:00 P.M.

Sunday Sept. 7th, was our celebration of Tautos Šventės Minėjimas. It began with Father Ropolas O.F.M. as the Celebrant of the 1:00 P.M. Mass assisted by Father Čyvas as co-celebrant. Our flag bearer was Antanas Grabauskas assisted by Valeria Lesčinskiene and Irena Diktanas. This was highlighted with dinner at the American Lithuanian Club.

We're happy to see Petre Kasparavičiute home and progressing so well after her accident in Lithuania. Our best wishes to you, Petre.




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### ***Lithuanian Poet's Corner***

## ***Sveikinimas***

*(Greetings to the approaching winter)*

Užvers žiema dar vieną metų lapą,  
Pralėkdama nusikvatos pūga.  
Gal ji likimo nuoskaudas išsako,  
Kad nebegrįš jaunystė niekada.

Tegul kvatoja viesulai iššėlė,  
Bet tavo pirkioj židinyš jaukus.  
O metų puokštė, tai gražiausios gėlės.  
Kurios be vargo nugali speigus.

Leisk dar ir dar kantrybės palinkėti.  
Sėkmės, sveikatos, ištvėrmės stiprios.  
Pavasarių bežydičių saulėtų  
Ir šelmiškos ant lūpų šypsenos.

- Antanas Kancevičius



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**Thanksgiving**  
We shall become  
Christians when  
we weep, not  
because we have  
lost something,  
but because we  
have been given  
so much.

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