

VYTIS



The Knight - volume 84 no. 8

WATERBURY, CT



September/October

**BETH NATIONAL
CONVENTION ISSUE**

1998 Rugsejis/Spalis

VYTIS

**-The Knight -
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
SUPREME COUNCIL
OFFICERS
1998 - 1999**

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

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

PRESIDENT

John R. Mankus
1110 Darlene Drive
Endicott, NY 13760
tel/fax (607) 754-2429

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Agnes Mickunas
333 Davis Avenue
Mt. Ephraim, NJ 08059
(609) 931-3306

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Maryte Sepikas
6143 Fulton, #8
Van Nuys, CA 91401
(818) 782-1248

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Maria Deksnis
3330 W. 85th St.
Chicago, IL 60652
(773) 476-5896

RECORDING SECRETARY

Bernice Aviza
8 Tremont Street
Albany, NY 12205
(518) 459-5256

TREASURER

John P. Baltrus
118 Vine Street
Clairton, PA 15025
(412) 233-2764

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Rita S. Sussko
1254 Grandview Ave.
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 686-4226

TRUSTEES

Richard Niedvares
6817 N. Ridge Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60645
(773) 764-3996

William Koliccius

9326 High Meadow Dr.
Allison Park, PA 15101
(412) 364-1622

Rugsejis/Spalis-September/October 1998 Volume 84: No. 8

VYTIS (THE KNIGHT) (ISSN 0042-9384) is published monthly except bi-monthly July-August and September-October by the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA, 2461 West 45th Place, Chicago, Illinois. 60632. Subscription is \$20.00 per year. Single copy \$3.00. Outside USA \$25.00 per year. Periodical Postage paid at Chicago, IL. Postmaster: Send address changes to: VYTIS (The Knight), Business Manager, P.O. Box 32020, Chicago, Illinois 60632-0020.

VYTIS - The Knight - STAFF

Editor: Marytė Abbott

Council News Editor: Dalia Bulvičius

Layout and Design: MBA Designs

Bus. Manager: Mary Kinčius

Business: tel. (773) 927-4990

Webpage: <http://www.geocities.com/heartland/prairie/3802> - **email:** vytiseditor@juno.com

Send all editorial correspondence to:

M. Abbott - VYTIS - The Knight

P.O. Box 1934

Grand Central Sta. NY 10163-1934

Editorial: tel/fax (718) 937-3352

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.

AMBER DIST. President

Dorothy A. Banos
11 Hill Top Road
Pittston, PA 18640
(717) 655-0976

MAMD President

Peter P. Zansitis
6939 So. Crandon Avenue
Chicago, IL 60649
(773) 363-2023

MAD President

Edward Barkowski
1226 Palma Ave.
Schenectady, NY 12306
(518) 355-7483

MCD President

Frances Petkus
800 Haldeman Ave.
Dayton, OH 45404
(937) 236-0395

NED President

William Piacentini
133 Alto St.
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 943-3495

LEGAL ADVISOR

Saulius V. Kuprys
Henehan, Donovan, Issacson
150 S. Wacker Dr. Rm. 1050
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 346-5275

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Longinas Svelnis, Chair
c/o ALKA
37 Mery Crest Drive
P.O. Box 608
Putnam, CT 06260

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Loretta Stukas, Chair
234 Sunlit Drive
Watchung, NJ 07060
(908) 753-5636
Rev. Albert J. Contons
Frances Petkus
Estelle Rogers
Anne Klizas Wargo
Bertha Stoskus

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Regina Juska- Svoba, Chair
1594 Beaupre
Madison Heights, MI 48071
(248) 547-2859

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Irena Gecas, Chair
446 Joan Ct.
West Hempstead, NY 11552
Veronica Bizinkauskas Cote
Richard Schultz
Charles Rupsis
Karen Domalakes

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS

Len Barcoucky
7028 Flaccus Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15202
(412) 766-1499

LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Faustas Strolia
15325 Sequoia St.
Oak Forest, IL 60452
(708) 687-1430

RITUAL COMMITTEE

Clemencine Miller, Chair
80 Cottage St.
Trumbull, CT 06611-2830
(203) 268-2350
Georgianna Macke
Joseph Zukas
Irene Yanek
Elsie Kosmisky

AID TO LITHUANIA

Robert S. Boris, Chair
4557 Fairway Court
Waterford, MI 48328-3483
(248) 682-0098

ST. CASIMIR GUILD

Anna Klizas Wargo, Chair
125 So. Morris Street
St. Clair, PA 17970
(717) 429-0132

K OF L FOUNDATION

Loretta Stukas, Chair
234 Sunlit Drive
Watchung, NJ 07060
(908) 753-5636

85TH ANNUAL CONVENTION ISSUE

LITHUANIA FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

LIETUVA, AMŽINAI MŪSŲ ŠIRDYSE

TABLE OF CONTENTS - TURINYS

To My Fellow Knights	2
Letters to the Editor	2
A Special Greeting From President Adamkus	3
Supreme Council Report - <i>John R. Mankus</i>	4
Delegates - <i>Dorothy Banos</i>	10
Convention Sessions and Activities	12
Membership Awards - <i>Marytė Sepikas</i>	15
Foundation Essay Contest - <i>Loretta Stukas</i>	16
Fourth Degree Candidates - <i>Elsie Kosmisky</i>	17
The 1 st Lith. Book in America- <i>Faustas Strolia</i>	18
K. of L. Scholarships - <i>Irena Gecas McCarthy</i>	22
Friend of Lith. Winner, C. Catena - <i>Len Barcousky</i>	23
Convention Photos	24
Resolutions - <i>Robert Martin, Jr.</i>	26
In Memoriam	32
Through the Eyes of A Junior - <i>Debbie Miller, C-72</i>	33
Convention Greetings - <i>compiled by Loretta Stukas</i>	34
District and Council News	40
Back Page Poetry - <i>Dėkojame Dievui - Domas Anoliuska</i>	



To My Fellow Knights:

This year's 85th National Convention held in Waterbury, CT, and hosted by lucky Council 7, was held at the beautiful Sheraton Four Points Hotel about 10 minutes from the center of the City. The hotel accommodations were grand, the place was so massive many of us got lost on the first day trying to find our rooms, and later got lost at the huge mall.

Conventions are like family reunions of an extended Lithuanian American family where we get together each year, meeting friends, relatives and new folks from councils all around the country. Just like family, we certainly have our differences of opinion, but overall, like a good family, we try to make light of the things that didn't go to our liking and be grateful for all the good memories.

As a second generation Lithuanian-American, I owe a special thank you to Waterbury. I had recently discovered that one of my grandfathers, upon arriving in America, had lived in the town and worked at the Waterbury brass mills in the early portion of this century. So the beautiful K. of L. brass key chain, one of the nice mementos handed out at registration, will have special significance. Thanks to C-7 president, Joseph Sticklius, his wife, Arlene and the whole hard working volunteers that comprised the committee.

For those of you who went, we hope this issue can fill in the details of things missed and bring back fond memories. For those who missed the event this year, consider marking your convention calendars for Philadelphia in 1999 and Los Angeles in 2000.

AUTHOR, AUTHOR...



Letters to the Editor

AN IVY LEAGUER

To the Editor:

I thought Knights and readers might enjoy what I received on behalf of K. of L. Scholarship winner, Bonnie Gulas (See pg. 22)

*Irena Gecas-McCarthy
Scholarship Committee*

"Dear Scholarship Coordinator:

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your scholarship check for the student named below. Your check has been forwarded to the Bursar's Office, where it will be credited to the recipient's account.

The University is truly grateful for the support our students receive from the innumerable organizations that choose to honor them. We know that these contributions represent a tremendous amount of effort on the part of those who raise the funds and administer them, and we salute you for this most worthy endeavor.

Sincerely yours, S. Nelson
Yale University"

Editors:

In reference to the article on Prof. Alexander Alexis in the July/Aug issue of VYTIS, an error was made regarding his second wife. The name should read Marcella Andrikis, not Marcella Laureckas.

*Richard Dubauskas
Wanda LaVasseur, C-7, Waterbury*

MEA CULPAS

In my story "The Journey's of St. Casimir" in the Jul/Aug issue, a reference is made about Casimir IV bringing his son's remains to Vilnius and further states that St. Casimir spent much of his young life in Lithuania. (It should read "Casimir".) As one continues to read the story, a false impression is made that the Saint was crowned Grand Duke of Lithuania when he was only 13 years old and that he later became king of Poland at the age of twenty. This is not so. It was Casimir, not St. Casimir.

Ed. Baranauskas, C-100

The article entitled "Women in Lithuanian History" in VYTIS May issue did not credit Lithuanian Heritage Magazine for much of its content. Editors regret the error.



GARBIEJI LIETUVOS VYČIAI,

REIŠKIU GILIĄ PAGARBĄ IR SIUNČIU
NUOŠIRDŽIAUSIUS LINKĖJIMUS 85-AJAI
JŪSŲ KONVENCIJAI.

LIETUVOS VYČIAI, PRADĖJĘ SAVO
PRASMINGUS DARBUS ANKSČIAU, NEI
BUVO ATKURTA NEPRIKLAUSOMA
LIETUVOS VALSTYBĖ, ŠIANDIEN - LAIKO
PATIKRINTAS IR TAUTOS TRADICIJŲ
SUTVIRTINTAS VEIKLIŲ ŽMONIŲ
SAMBŪRIS. JŪSŲ KILNŪS UŽMOJAI
TĖVYNĖJE VISADA BUVO LAUKIAMAI IR
SUTINKAMI SU PASITIKĖJIMU IR
DĖKINGUMU.

GARBINGO ORGANIZACIJOS JUBILIEJAUS
PROGA NUOŠIRDŽIAI PRISIDEDU PRIE
VISŲ JUMS SKIRIAMŲ PADĖKOS IR
SVEIKINIMO ŽODŽIŲ.

TELYDI JŪSŲ BENDRIJĄ SANTARA BEI
SĖKMĖ, TEIŠSIPILDO JŪSŲ GRAŽIOS VILTYS
IR KILNŪS SIEKIAI.

VALDAS ADAMKUS
LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS PREZIDENTAS

Supreme Council Report

Presented by
JOHN R. MANKUS
 NATIONAL
 PRESIDENT
 August 7, 1998

In accordance with Article XI of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, I submit to the Delegates of the 85th National Convention, the National Executive Board's Annual Report. Wherein all reports have been submitted and combined before the National Convention. Please note that this is but a summary of the work done by your Executive Board. The officers have provided reports of their activities. You are urged to take home a set of these reports, read them and share the contents with your council members.

Spiritual Advisor. Monsignor Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, S.T.D. Father Anderlonis was elevated to Monsignor on June 14th, 1998. I know that every member of the Knights of Lithuania extend to Monsignor Anderlonis their hardest congratulations. Monsignor Anderlonis has been an outstanding spiritual leader and advisor to the Knights of Lithuania for many years. The Knights of Lithuania are most grateful for his counsel and guidance throughout these years. He has enriched us both spiritually and culturally He has continued the monthly policy of offering a mass for all deceased members, in particular, those names submitted by various councils.

President. John R. Mankus, I organized and presided at all Supreme Council Meetings. I sent out letters to Father Albert Contons, President of Lithuanian Roman Catholic Priest League of America for approval of Father Anderlonis as



K. of L. President, John Mankus (center) addresses Waterbury delegates at opening day of convention as Waterbury Mayor, Philip Giordano (left) and C-7 Pres, Joseph Sticklius (right) look on. -Photo by B. Aviza

Spiritual Advisor to Supreme Council to Mr. Saulius V. Kuprys to remain Legal Advisor to the Knights of Lithuania and to Maryte Abbott to remain Vytis Editor. I also sent letters of greeting and congratulations to President Valdas Adamkus, Monsignor Dr. Joseph Anderlonis S.T.D. and to many Lithuanian American Organizations, in Lithuanian and English. At District and Council level, I attended all Amber District meetings and

was invited and attended both Mid-Atlantic District meetings in Maspeth and Brooklyn, NY. Prior to stepping down as Amber District President, I chaired and presided at the Amber District meeting on September 14, 1997. I attended many special events at council level, including Lithuanian Mass at Saint Ann's Basilica, Scranton Pa.

In September 1997, I was added to State University of New York, Binghamton translation board for Lithuanian translations and as an interpreter. During the past year I translated many letters from Lithuania. As president of Supreme Council I received a large number of correspondence from various sources and responded to all, by letter and/or when appropriate by phone. Many of these items I discussed with Supreme Council members and at the Supreme Council meetings.

At the end of last year, the Vytis Editor's computer malfunctioned and could not be repaired, with the approval of Supreme Council new equipment was purchased. The equipment has been received, is on line and is functioning well. I am happy to report that no VYTIS issues were late or

lost because of this problem.

I participated in the trip to Rome on the occasion of the 50th jubilee of the Lithuanian Pontifical College. Wrote letters in Lithuanian of greeting on behalf of the Knights of Lithuania. Participated at the Jubilee Mass, banquet and open house at the Lithuanian Villa. I gave a short congratulation speech, also in Lithuanian, to Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus and guests at the banquet and exchanged greetings with Lithuanian priests and bishops attending the jubilee.

As I reported in the Vytis, I attended the Baltic Charter signing at the White House on January 16th. The following day I met with Republic of Lithuania President Algirdas Brazauskas, Foreign Minister Algirdas Saudargas, senator Richard Durbin, Ambassador Stasys Sakalauskas, United States Ambassador to Lithuania Keith Smith and many other U.S. and Lithuanian state officials. I communicated to District Presidents that Lithuanian Embassy staff would be happy to be invited and participate at District meetings and other K. of L. events.

I conferred with all members of the Supreme Council on a variety of issues, including membership, updating of mailing list, finances, Vytis printing and mailing, our legal obligations. Friend of Lithuania selection, convention preparation and activities at the Lithuanian Embassy. I also communicated on a number of occasions with Draugas administrator Valentinas Krumplis on quality and punctuality of Vytis.

Representing the K. of L., I attended Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration at the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington D.C. and several informational meetings with Embassy staff and leaders of Lithuanian American Organizations. On March 28, all Embassy staff met with presidents of seven leading Lithuanian American Organizations. During the meetings, all discussion was in Lithuanian. Visiting members of the Seimas (Lithuanian Parliament) joined the meeting. Since Lithuania has been isolated from the diplomatic arena for fifty years, one of the main task of these Seimas visits and Embassy meetings is to establish good working relationships between the Lithuanian Embassy, Lithuanian American Organizations, Seimas and US government officials.

First Vice President, Agnes Mickunas, attended all S. C. meetings. Agnes is doing a fine job in

continuing the updating the K. of L. Constitution. Agnes mailed to all District and Council Presidents copies of the amendment passed by the delegates last year which merged Lithuanian Language and Culture Committees into one committee. This amendment was prepared for easy insertion into the Constitution booklets. At the request of the Trustees, she worked to update portions of the K. of L. Manual. Agnes is very active in her Council, she has held every office in Council 3 and she is also Vytis correspondent for the Amber District. Agnes is also a candidate to be awarded Honorary Membership at this years convention. Congratulations to Agnes from all of us.

Second Vice President, Maryte Sepikas. Maryte has been working diligently to promote membership. As a result of her activity, a new council has started in the Washington area and another is in the planning stages in Northern California. Maryte has been active with her council and district. She has contacted many Lithuanian Americans from California to Washington in hopes of generating new councils. Maryte had a booth at Los Angeles Lithuanian Days Celebration where she distributed information about the Knights of Lithuania. She has written articles for the Vytis and the Lithuanian press and has placed adds in Catholic newspapers and magazines. Maryte is also involved in a project to ship a church pipe organ to Our Lady Mary, Star of the Sea Church in Sventoji.

Third Vice President, Maria Deksnis, is a very capable and energetic young lady in her work with and for the Juniors. Maria has written articles in VYTIS for her Juniors. She has communicated with Junior advisors on present and planned Junior activities. She has shown how well she can work with Juniors at every age level. She has been in contact with Joe Stiklius to finalize Junior activities at the convention. She will run the Junior meeting Saturday morning. Maria has done a very good job with the youngsters.

Recording Secretary, Bernice Aviza, has served her position as National Secretary extremely well. She is a great asset to our organization. Her minutes are precise and on time. Bernice has always send out council roster updates and mailing lists whenever other members had made their requests. The president has been extremely fortunate to have Bernice as secretary. She never hesitated to assist

the President or Supreme Council members. With all of her secretarial duties, she also served as MAD Vice President for the Juniors, participated in the K. of L. trip to Rome, participated at the Darius and Girėnas Commemoration in Brooklyn and found time to prepare letters of greetings to the many organizations for our 85th national convention. Bernice has done an outstanding .



Some of your 98-99 Supreme Council Officers at the Banquet include: (front l to r) Maria Deksnis, Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, John Mankus, Agnes Mickunas, Rita Sussko, (back) Irena Gecas-McCarthy, Maryte Sepikas, John Baltrus, Len Barcousky, Anna Wargo, Loretta Stukas and Faustas Strolia.

Treasurer, John Baltrus. In the past ten years, we have been very fortunate to have outstanding people elected as National Treasurers and John is no exception. He attended all Supreme Council meetings. He is extremely knowledgeable and meticulous in his job. John has kept a careful eye on our finances. He has been in constant contact with me and with our legal advisor. He has prepared the budget from the recommendations of the Budget Resolutions Committee and his own findings. John will present a complete report of our financial standing at this convention. He has served us well for the past three years and has been very cooperative S.C. member. John has done a very fine job.

Financial Secretary, Dorothy Banos. She attended and participated in all Supreme Council meetings. This is her third year as Financial Secretary, she has learned the job well. She has been in constant contact with Council Financial Secretaries and with the VYTIS Business Manager so that changes could be updated as soon as possible. She has not hesitated to cooperate and work with the president, all councils and districts. She has kept all lines open for communication. Thank you, Dorothy, for a job well done.

Trustees, Mary Beth Slakis and Mark Bell have done a thorough job in reviewing the financial books of the various committees within the Supreme Council. They are both young and energetic and have accounting backgrounds. They pursued bid requests for the 1999 convention. They successfully completed the audit of the books of St. Casimir Guild and completed the update of the Knights of Lithuania Manual to the point of mass printing and distribution. The inventory of the K. of L. assets has been completed and will be discussed during the trustees presentation at the convention. At the convention they will audit the records of the National Treasurer, Financial Secretary and the ancillary K. of L. organizations. They have attended most Supreme Council meetings and have offered sound suggestions and opinions. Mark and Mary Beth have done a very good job.

Amber District, Dorothy Banos, President. Dorothy organized and presided at District meeting at Shamokin - Coal Township, but, due to surgery, was unable to attend the District meeting in Philadelphia. Frank Petrauskas, District Vice-President conducted the meeting. Seven members of the district will receive their fourth degrees at this years convention. Third District meeting and pilgrimage is planned at the Franciscan Monastery

in Kennebunk Port, Maine in September. Many District councils are participating in shipment of medical and humanitarian goods to convents in Lithuania. Dorothy is a hard working individual and is the Chairperson of the Mandate Committee. She has been a very cooperative member of the Supreme Council.

Mid America District, Peter Paul Zansitis, District President. The Mid America District has held four assemblies since our 1997 National Convention. District spiritual advisor celebrated Mass for the deceased on November 13, 1997 at the Marian Fathers Monastery. MAMD recognition awards were presented at the St. Casimir Day celebration on March 21, 1998. Lithuanian Consul General Giedras Apoukas was the guest speaker at the summer MAMD assembly on June 6, 1998. Although Peter was unable to attend the Philadelphia or Waterbury meetings, I have been in contact with him on a number of Supreme Council issues. Peter will be the parliamentarian at this years convention.

Mid Atlantic District, Ed Barkowski, District President. Ed attended all Supreme Council meetings. He organized and chaired district meetings in Maspeth and Brooklyn, guests included Bishop Paul Baltakis, OFM as main celebrant and speaker. Dr. Petras Anusas, Consulate General of Lithuania and other dignitaries. He coordinated the annual joint picnic in August of Amsterdam and Hudson-Mohawk Councils. He has aided Apolonia Ziausys of C-100, Amsterdam, with the shipment of scores of packages of medical and humanitarian supplies to Lithuania. In June the district commemorated the 65th anniversary of Darius and Girenas Transatlantic flight, with a ceremony at the site of the start of the flight at Floyd Bennet Field. Ed has been the chairman of the nominating committee and has worked with all district presidents for viable candidates for national office. Ed has been a very active district president and a very cooperative S.C. member. Due to family illness Ed is unable to attend this years National Convention.

Mid Central District, Frances Petkus, District President, Frances attended the Waterbury Supreme Council meeting. MCD held its fall convention/pilgrimage in September 1997. The district and councils have set goals covering their

annual donations to Aid to Lithuania, St. Casimir Guild, Inc., K. of L. scholarship fund and K. of L. Foundation. MCD Spring convention/bowling tournament was hosted by council 16, Chicago. District councils are busy maintaining the activities of the K. of L. such as holding meetings, St. Casimir's Day Mass Celebrations, participating in local Lithuanian Independence Day celebrations, supporting K. of L. programs financially etc. Frances maintains close contact with all district councils and works with members when approached for help. She has been actively working with other district presidents for viable candidates to the Supreme Council Board and Presidium.

New England District, William Piacentini, District President, attended Both Supreme Council meetings. New England District spring convention hosted by C-78 was held in Lawrence MA. The District Cultural Festival was held at Maironis Park in Schrewsbury, MA. At the festival. Rev William Wolkovich was recognized on the occasion of his being honored by the government of Lithuania. In addition District Scholarship was awarded to Christina Peterson C-50. The district conducted a special meeting in January 1998, with Foreign Minister Algirdas Saudargas and Lithuanian Ambassador Stasys Sakalauskas. Members of the New England District were updated on events in Lithuania. NED received a bequest of \$100,510.73 from the estate of Irene Tamulevich. Bill continues to work closely with his councils to promote ideals and goals of the Knights of Lithuania.

Archives Committee, HM Longinas Svelnis attended Supreme Council meeting at Waterbury CT. Larry has traveled to Putnam five times and had three meetings with his Archives Committee. Three new members were added to the committee, they are Frances Bumila, Sophia Sakalys and Agnes Waitonis. Larry reminds everyone that contributions to the Archives should be addressed to Knights of Lithuania Archives, c/o ALKA, Putnam, CT 06260. Larry and his committee are to be lauded for their dedication in sorting, filing and maintaining the archives.

Honorary Membership, HM Loretta Stukas, chairperson. We mourn the death in June, 1998, of Committee Member Rita Pinkus. During this years National Convention, Agnes Mickunas and Clemencine Miller will be awarded Honorary

Membership. Loretta invites councils and districts to submit names of outstanding members for Honorary Membership.

Legal Advisor, Saulius Kuprys, Mr. Kuprys has filed all required reports with the appropriate government agencies to which the corporation must report. He has filed information return 990 to the Internal Revenue Service as required. Mr. Kuprys maintains contact with the subsidiary corporations of the Knights of Lithuania and has filed all the necessary government forms. He has always responded to various miscellaneous matters and legal questions which have come up from time to time. He has maintained contact with the President and other S.C. members.

VYTIS Editor, Maryte Abbott. Maryte was reappointed VYTIS editor. She has done a good job during a year of transition and changes and is grateful to everyone who has given her assistance, constructive criticism and their time. She has done much to enhance VYTIS readers and to continue to keep VYTIS a viable informative magazine and at the same time attempting to keep the cost minimal. Maryte has set a number of goals for continued improvement of the magazine. Her council news editor is Dalia Bulvicius. Maryte and the business manager, Mary Kincius, keep in constant contact with each other. There are still some problems with the Chicago post office and Draugas, our printer, on mailing, production and other technicalities, they are being addressed. The new VYTIS computer equipment purchased last year should take us well into the new millennium. This equipment allows the editor to store entire issues on an additional drive which in turn can be sent to the Archives, minimizing valuable space.

VYTIS Business Manager, Mary Kincius is completing her first year as VYTIS business manager. She attended both meetings of the Supreme Council. She has kept in contact with Maryte Abbott, VYTIS editor, and Dorothy Banos, the Financial Secretary for a smooth transition of VYTIS activities. Mary works very closely with Dorothy to update dues payments, include new members, deceased members, answer internet inquiries etc. Back up disks are made each month and copies taken to the printer. Mary has attended a number of meetings and made numerous phone calls to the auditor of the U.S. Post Office in Chicago and

Valentinas Krumplis of Draugas to resolve problems as they occur. She constantly updates the VYTIS mailing labels and invoices all advertising. She gathers left over copies and keeps them on hand for special requests.

Language and Cultural Committee, Faustas Strolia, chairperson. Faustas wrote a comprehensive synopsis of the highlights of last years National Convention which was printed in DRAUGAS. Although I have not received his report, I have been assured his report will be available at the convention. Faustas is a very talented individual and will be presenting a cultural presentation to the delegates at this year's convention.

Lithuanian Affairs Committee, Len Barcoucky, chairperson, attended all Supreme Council meetings. Len wrote an essay for the Vytis on the visit of Lithuanian Parliament members to Pittsburgh, which was published in June. Len also wrote an essay for the monthly newsletter published by the Lithuanian Citizens Society of Western Pennsylvania. Len is preparing a panel for the National Convention. The general topic will focus on the interrelations among the three Baltic countries. Len is preparing a small packet of columns and news stories to be distributed to delegates at the convention. Len is a diligent worker and I am confident he will have an outstanding panel for us.

Public Relations, Regina Juska - Svoba, chairperson, Regina is a very dedicated member of the Supreme Council. Her numerous articles on The Knights of Lithuania activities appear regularly in DRAUGAS, DIRVA and DARBININKAS. Regina has translated articles and letters for K. of L. Foundation, Aid to Lithuania and others. At district and council level she participated in a number of meetings and commemorations held by Lithuanian American Organizations, including the welcoming Foreign Minister Algirdas Saudargas and Ambassador Stasys Sakalauskas to the Detroit area. She prepared synopses of these activities, aired on both Lithuanian radio programs - Lithuanian Melodies and American Lithuanian Voice Inc. In spite of personal tragedy, Regina has taken on many responsibilities and has followed through on all of them. Although Regina will not be able to attend our National Convention, she has indicated in writing of her interest to run for Public Relations Chair.

Ritual Committee, Elsie Kosmisky, chairperson attended all Supreme Council meetings. She has fulfilled her duties and has conducted this committee very well. She answered each letter and call from council chairs and individual members. Elsie and committee members Clemencine Miller and Georgianna Macke worked diligently to assure that all qualified members are approved to receive their degrees. There are 41 applications and points approved for the fourth degree in 1998. Elsie has always kept in contact with the President and her committee members for clarification on different issues. She has been working with ritual chairs of various councils in updating points and recording degrees. She continues to offer her assistance whenever needed. She has done an outstanding job as ritual committee chair.

Scholarship Committee, Irena Gecas - McCarthy, chairperson attended all Supreme Council Meetings this term. She has worked very thoroughly with her committee members Richard Schultz, Charles Rupsis, Veronica Bizinkauskas-Cote and Eleanor Vaicaitis. The Scholarship Committee was the beneficiary of a generous gift of approximately \$100,000 from the Tamulevich estate, which stipulated that these proceeds will be used to establish a scholarship fund entitled "Svikias and Tamulevich Memorial Scholarship Fund". She is a very capable chairperson. With the help of the Knights of Lithuania scholarship fund, we are helping qualified persons to farther their education. Irena and her committee are looking into ways to increase applications of qualified persons.

Aid to Lithuania, Inc., HM Robert Boris, chairperson. Bob once again successfully initiated the fourth Annual George Perles Golf Invitational tournament with a profit of over \$15,000. Through July of 1998, 12 containers of medicine and medical supplies have been shipped to Lithuania. Bob's professionalism from the days in private sector proved to be a valuable asset in his activities with the Aid to Lithuania, Inc. No other person could have achieved the degree of accomplishment that Bob has. Bob will present his complete report on Friday, Aug. 7.

K. of L. Foundation Inc., HM Loretta Stukas, chairperson. The finances of the Foundation will be announced at the convention. As usual, the

Foundation sponsors an essay contest. The winners will be announced during the convention. Donations from the general membership are needed on a regular basis to guarantee the tax exempt status of the Foundation. Loretta has contributed articles to VYTIS and is also a member of the Budget Resolutions Committee. Loretta has been a very cooperative member of the S. C.

St. Casimir Guild, Inc., HM Anne Klizas Wargo, chairperson. From July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998, Anne received 562 requests for Mass Intentions at the Pontifical College in Rome. On behalf of the Lithuanian Pontifical College, Anne asks for continued support both financially, with mass requests and spiritually. The mass requests are forward to Rome each month along with the Mass stipends. These masses support the student priests and the Priests at the college, since they do not have any other income. The pilgrimage to Rome in March was a huge success. Msgr. Bartkus met the group at the airport and bussed the group to St. Peters Square for a special Papal blessing in Lithuanian. Lithuanian Bishops and Priests attending the open house at the College spoke very highly of what the Knights have done for the Pontifical Lithuanian College.

SUMMARY

Your elected National Executive Board members have worked diligently in fulfilling their duties of the offices they accepted.

In closing, I would like to leave you with this thought. I attended a number of meetings at the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington with leaders of other Lithuanian American - Organizations. The views and ideas exchanged, I believe, will lead to greater cooperation and understanding between us. We all worked hard to make Lithuania free again, we all want Lithuania to be independent and democratic, we all want Lithuania to be the type of country we all can be proud of. We can take the leadership role in achieving these goals. The Knights of Lithuania are the oldest Lithuanian American organization, we are the largest, we have done more to help Lithuania than any other Organization. We will become stronger, our accomplishments will be greater, we will be working for God and Country.



Number of Sessions Attended by Delegates at the 85th National Convention Waterbury, August 6-9, 1998

*Submitted by Dorothy Banos
National Financial Secretary*

Honorary Members Attending:

Msgr, Al Bartkus, Robert S. Boris, Rev. Al Contons, Eleanor Kasputis, Annie Mitchell Matalavich, Frances Petkus, Frank Petrauskas, Estelle J. Rogers, Kazys Sipaila, Elinor Sluzas, Bertha Stoskus, Faustas Strolia, Loretta Stukas, Longinas Svelnis, Anna Klizas Wargo.

Supreme Council

Officers Attending:

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, John R. Mankus, Agnes Mickunas, Maryte Sepikas, Maria Deksnis, John Baltrus, Dorothy A. Banos, Mark A. Bell, Mary Beth Slakis, Peter Paul Zansitis, Edward Barkowski, HM Longinas Svelnis, HM Loretta Stukas, HM Robert S. Boris, HM Anna Klizas Wargo, Maryte Abbott, HM Frances Petkus, William Piacentini, Len Barcoucky, Irena Gecas-McCarthy, Mary Kincius.

District Delegates

AMBER - Dorothy A. Banos-5;
Eleanor Vaicaitis -5
NED - HM Bertha Stoskus-5;
Maryte Bizinkauskas -4
MAD - Edward Jackatt-5; Bruno Rutkunas - 5
MCD - William Kolicius - 4; Mark Bell - 5
MAMD - Theresa Strolia -5; Peter Paul Zansitis -5

Council Delegates

C-1, Brockton
Anthony Green - 4; Frances Bumila -4; Sr. Helen Ivanauskas -4
C-3, Philadelphia
Leonard Kapochus -5; Irene Svekla -5; Walter Svekla -5; Irena Ozalis -5; Lillian Greynas -5;
Agnes Mickunas -4; Ausra Maknys -5

C-7, Waterbury

Tony Alexander - 5; Pat Alexander -5; Irene Stiklius -1; Anthony Polman -3; Doris Snirpunas - 5; Eleanor Barkauskas -1; Elizabeth Bebrin -2; Edward Bebrin - 2; Anne Vaichus -3; Janina Newarskas -1; Joseph Sticklius - 5

C-12, New York

Irene Senken -3; Helen Cuprevich -4; Stella Marcinauskas -1; John Antanavicius -5; Millie Pietz -5; Tony Yakovonis -5; Edward Senken -2

C-16, Chicago

Richard Niedvares -5; Aldona Zagauskas -5; Diana Martin -5; Robert Martin, Jr. -5

C-17, South Boston

Lillian Vallis -5; Regina Alexander -5; Sr. Eugenia Glineckis -5

C-19, Pittsburgh

Andrew Rozger -5; Agatha Bender -5; Jean Schoentag -4

C-25, Cleveland

Joe Ivaska -2; Ann Ivaska -2; Jean Marks -3; Richard Marks -3; Joan Ortman -3; Ruth Guzauskas -5; Charles Machutas -4

C-26, Worcester

Vivian M. Rogers -5; Rita Karrytais -5; Alfred J. Rogers -5; Anne Bucinskas -5; Arthur Racicot -5; Marion Racicot -5; Lillian Kondrotas -2

C-29, Newark

Helen Radicsh -5; Rita S. Sussko -5

C-30, Westfield

James Rogers -4; Marcia Rogers -4

C-36, Chicago

Glen Perutis - 2; Ann Marie Kassel -5; Mary F. Kincius -5

C-50, New Haven

Isabel Peterson -5; Helen Medley -5; Audrey Toole -5; George Kisielius -3

C-72, Binghamton

Art Stankevitz -5; Casey Grikenis -5; Barbara Miller 5

C-86, DuBois

Lee Moore -5; Paul Moore -5

C-96, Dayton

Joseph Gecas -2

C-100, Amsterdam

Polly Ziausys - 5; Mirga Bablin -3;

Edward Bablin -2

C-103, Providence

Rita Krecioch 5; Sophia Sakalys -5;

Agnes Waitonis -5

C-110, Maspeth

Maryte Abbott -5; John Cummins -5;

Francis Jakatt 5; Helen Matulonis 4;

Brian Rutkunas 2; Jean Rutkunas 1;

Joseph Stelmokas 5; Mary Stelmokas

5; Julia Matulewich 4; Constance

Nehwadowich 5; Walter Klosis 5;

Evelyn Walles 4; Igni Walles 4

C-112, Chicago

Edward Pocius -5; HM Estelle J. Rogers -5; Sr. M

Angela Balchunas -5; Julie Zakarka 5; Dolores

Wainauskas 5; Sr. M. Tarris Stuglis 5; Maria

Deksnis -5; Betty Zibas -5; Donna Juraitis -2

C-133, Los Angeles

Josephine Barzda -5

C-135, Ansonia

Frances Barsevich 3; Lillian Chaplick -2

C-136, Hudson-Mohawk

Charles Rupsis - 1

C-140, Syracuse

Irene Petrauskas -5

C-141, Bridgeport

Clemencine Miller -5; Alice Wilcinskas 5; Nancy

Pawasauskas -1; Barbara Schmidt -5; Lee C.

Marcinka -5; Sylvester Marcavage -5; Stephen

Wilcinskas -5; Aldona Marcavage -5;

Patricia Silk -5

C-143, Pittston

Helen Karpovitch -5; Jean Mihalick -5; Nellie

Bayoras-Romanas -5; Mary Ann Cipolla -5

C-144, Anthracite

Helen A. Chesko -5; Anna Helen McDonald -5;

Thomas McDonald -5; Elsie Kosmisky -5; HM

Anna K. Wargo -5



Mandate Committee: Irene Svekla, Nellie Bayoras-Romanas, Doris Snirpunas, (back row) Agnes Mickunas, Anne Marie Kassel and Dorothy Banos.

C-146, Harrisburg

Joanna Gilbert -5

C-147, St. Petersburg

John Jonaitis -5; Dolores Jonaitis -5; Aldona

Kimstuk -5

C-152, E. Long Island

John J. Sakal -5; Antonette Sakal -5; Angela

Minsavitch -5; Tom Tarmey -4; Beatrice Lucka -5;

Fred Lucka -5; Agnes Dunn -5;

Mary Malinauskas -5

A širdingai ačiū to the Mandate Committee who cooperated and made this task easier.



C-7's Convention Committees and members included --

Meeting Facilities: Ed Adams, Joe Sticklius, and Tony Polman

Cultural Night: Anute Vaichus and Linas Balsys

Mass: Tony and Pat Alexander, Kay Urban

Registration: Janina Newarskas, Tony and Pat Alexander, Frances Januska, Marlene Shea, Agnes Bauza, Adele Klenske and Betty and Ed Bebrin.

Saturday Grand Banquet and Dance: Doris Snirpunas, Arlene Sticklius and Ginny Maciokas.

Thanks to these and all others in C-7 for all their hard work to make the convention a memorable one.

Convention Sessions and Activities

Council 7 chose - Lithuania Forever in Our Hearts or Lietuva, Amžinai Mūsų Širdyse as the motto of the 85th National Convention in Waterbury.

Those who had arrived earlier, had the chance to attend the pre-convention trip on Wednesday to Foxwoods Casino and discuss their winnings at a dinner afterwards.

It was a cooler than usual August morning when our Knights boarded three packed city school busses from the Four Points Hotel (on the outskirts of town) to downtown City Hall in Waterbury. Swarming around the outside of the building, the day warmed up and some of the traditional Lithuanian costumed ladies looked a bit uncomfortable in the heat. But it wasn't long before the Mayor of Waterbury, Philip Giordano, along with our own K of L President, John Mankus, arrived and greeted us. The Mayor spoke of the early Lithuanian immigrants who settled the area in the late 1800's and early 1900's and their work in the brass factories.

(In fact one of nicest bit of memorabilia we received in our welcome kit from Council 7 was the beautiful and functional brass key chain adorned with the VYTIS (knight) and the 85th convention date.)

The Lithuanian flag was raised and a special proclamation was read by the Mayor emphasizing the City of Waterbury's warm welcome. City Hall workers had prepared a special cake and coffee for us, and afterwards we again boarded the busses for our opening Mass.

Opening Mass at St. Joseph's in Waterbury began with a procession of flags from all districts, followed by Supreme Council officers and officiating priests which included St. Joseph's pastor, Fr. Francis Karvelis, Msgr. Anderlonis and Msgr. Contons.

As usual, Msgr. Joe left us thinking with a beautiful homily where he emphasized the convention theme Lithuania Forever in Our Hearts (Lietuva, Amžinai Mūsų Širdyse) and asked us to take it one step further, so that Lithuanian would not just be in our hearts but in our hands as well. He

stressed this is a time for renewal and to review the ideals of the organization asking for God's blessing in the future. He also left with us a simple but effective prayer, "Speak, Lord your servants are listening."

Besides the beautiful church, stained glass windows and packed crowd, most notable was the choir which boasts new Lithuanian immigrant members. They sang Lithuanian hymns with such heavenly voices many of us in other choirs wished we had them with us. The unique long history of this choir included performances at the 1939 and 1964 World's Fairs in NYC and the dedication of the Lithuanian Our Lady of Šiluva Shrine in Washington, DC in 1966. It was once led by Alexander Aleksis (1924-1974) who had composed the hymn for the Knights of Lithuania and an operetta, I Teyne (To the Fatherland).

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

Supreme Council President, John R. Mankus called the convention to order and the presentation of colors followed with Supreme Council Officers. The opening prayer was said by Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, National Spiritual Advisor and delegates sang American and Lithuanian national anthems.

C-7 President and Convention Chair, Joseph Sticklius gave conventioners a warm welcome to Waterbury and noted that the last time C-7 hosted a national convention was 1926 or 72 years ago. Mayor Philip Giordano also welcomed the group, welcoming those he did not see at City Hall in the morning.

Nominations for the 85th National K. of L. Convention's Presidium were made and officers were voted on. Presidium members were: Chairperson, William Piacentini (C-103, Providence); Co-Chairs, Loretta Stukas (C-29, Newark) and Frank Petrauskas (C-140, Syracuse); Recording Secretaries, Bernice Aviza (C-136, Hudson Mohawk) and later in the second session Anthony Grein (C-1, Brockton); Mandate Committee, Dorothy Banos-Chair (C-143, Pittston) with Agnes Mickunas (C-3, Phila.) Anne Marie Kassel (C-36, Chicago), Doris Snirpunas (C-7, Waterbury), Nellie Bayoras Romanas (C-143, Pittston) and Irene Svekla (C-3).

Resolutions Committee included: Robert Martin, Jr. (C-16, Chicago), Elinor Sluzas (C-96, Dayton), Jean Kapochus Mihalek (C-143, Pittston), and Theresa Strolia (C-36, Chicago).

On the Greetings Committee were: Leonard Kapochus, Chair (C-3, Phila.), Helen Karpovich (C-143, Pittston), Lee Moore (C-86, Dubois), Antoinette Sakal (C-152, E. Long Island), and Sophie Sakalys (C-103, Providence).

Minutes of last year's convention had been reviewed by Evelyn Ozelis (C-36, Chicago), Ed Barkowski (C-136, Hudson Mohawk), and John Mickunas (C-3, Philadelphia).

Parliamentary Procedure was reviewed by Peter Paul Zansitis (C-16, Chicago).

And the Sergeants-at-Arms representing their Districts were: Maryann Cipolla (Amber), Joseph Stelmokas (MAD), Glenn Perutis (MAMD), Paul Moore (MCD) and Kathryn Urban (NED).

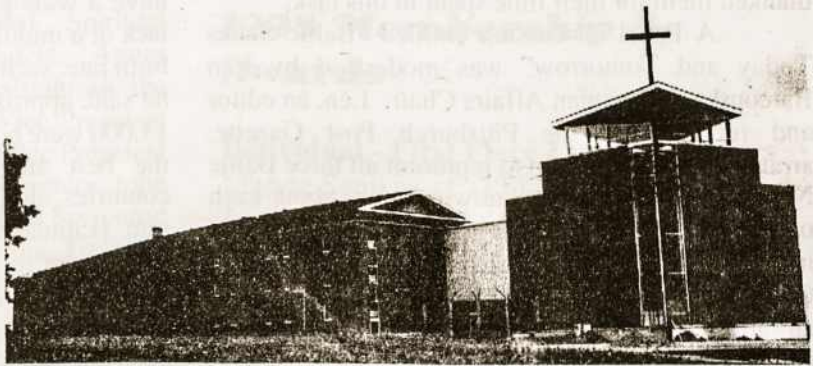
A brief list of convention rules was adopted to keep things orderly followed by verbal and written greetings from various organizations (See page 34).

President John Mankus gave his State of the Organization Report (See page 4), followed by National K. of L. Treasurer, John Baltrus report of our fiscal status. The largest increase from our budget last year, was the increase in the cost of printing VYTIS issues. A Treasurer's Budget Proposal for the coming year (1998-1999) was presented and approved by the delegates.

Additional monetary greetings were read along with a mandate report and announcements. The meeting was closed with a prayer.

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

Following the opening prayer, and acceptance by the delegates of the minutes of last year's 84th Convention through the Committee, Frank Petrauskas spoke on behalf of Aid to Lithuania, Inc. ("ATL") the K. of L.'s largest ancillary organization. Frank spoke of all the work that has been done and thanked donors. He then introduced Robert S. Boris, President of ATL, who



Vilnius Seminary, originally established in 1582, and is under the Archbishop of Vilnius. A new seminary is being planned that will house 100 seminarians. Aid To Lithuania, Inc. will support the cause to help finance seminarians.

gave his annual report.

Bob spoke of a possible change of direction for Aid to Lithuania which would include the financial support of young seminarians studying in Vilnius. It is these seminarians, he added, that go out to the poor in the country and attend to the needs of those most destitute, such as orphans, homeless, unemployed and pensioners. These seminarians are the ones "in the trenches" helping to address the worst needs of the country. He advocated the support of the seminary (more details to be published in next month's issue) and asked people to mark their ATL financial greetings with "Seminarium Fund" (See p. 34-35).

ATL has shipped 61 full containers of goods and medical supplies to Lithuania since its inception in 1991, at a total value of over \$51 million dollars. The cost for shipping is \$283,290, according to ATL records, that sum having been donated by the Knights and others.

Faustas Strolia, National Cultural Chairman gave a most interesting presentation on the first Lithuanian book in America. (See story on pg. 18)

The session ended near noon, when Aid to Lithuania and K. of L. Foundation had separate luncheons, while delegates enjoyed a luncheon in the ballroom.

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

Outgoing Supreme Council Trustees, Mark Bell and Mary Beth Slakis, gave their report and wished their replacements well. Many in the group

thanked them for their time spent in this task.

A Panel Discussion entitled "Baltic States Today and Tomorrow" was moderated by Len Barcousky, Lithuanian Affairs Chair. Len, an editor and reporter for the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, arranged a special group to represent all three Baltic Nations, as he feels that knowing more about each other and working together will help all the newly independent countries maintain their democracies. On the panel was Latvian-American, Valdis Vinkls, an attorney from Hartford who served as vice president for public information for the American Latvian Association. Mr. Vinkls said that although both Lithuania and Latvia share a similar language, we know little else about each other. 40% of the population in Latvia is Russian or another ethnic minority, compared to much less in Lithuania, so the problems of integrating these groups into Latvian society also are greater than Lithuania's. He further stated that from his view, 15% of Latvians are doing well, while the other 85% are not. This is similar in Lithuania, along with too small sums allotted to pensioners.

Estonian, Enn Koiva, a retired school teacher living near Hartford, the second panelist, received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to study and write about medieval Estonia. As a member of the Estonian World Council, he stressed the linguistic differences between Estonia and the other two Baltic countries. Estonian is similar to Finnish, which in turn, is the country the Estonians model themselves after.

Although a deeply religious people, as evidenced by the magnificence and magnitude of many churches, the predominant religion is Lutheranism, introduced by both the Germans and the Swedes, who introduced religious grammar schools.

He further noted that Estonians are very private with their beliefs, and only 30% were active church goers.

K. of L. Pres., John Mankus was the panelist to represent the Lithuanians. He stressed the changes in land mass, and emphasized that Lithuania's Golden Age was between 1236 to 1430, when the country stretched from the Baltic to the Black Seas.

All three agreed that Baltic countries had experienced an economic "revolution of rising expectations", a quote from Adlai Stevenson remarked by Mr. Koiva. All three countries also

have a wide gap between rich and poor, leaving a lack of a middle class. Another similarity is the low birth rate, such as the Estonian pointed out. In 1997, he said, approximately 23,000 people died and only 13,000 were born. A massive "brain drain" meaning the best and brightest scholars move to other countries, along with a high crime rate, high suicide rate (Lithuania's is the highest in Europe) and alcoholism remain severe problems which must be addressed in the years to come.

After each panelist had a discussion, the delegate were given a question and answer period. It was overall an extremely enlightening session, and to those of us who traveled to the other two Baltic Countries, it helped fill in the gaps and reassure us we must work together.

Nominations for Supreme Council Officers, were followed by greetings and a mandate report. A closing prayer was led by Msgr. Anderlonis.

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

Maryte Sepikas, 2nd VP, Membership distributed special awards for those individuals and councils who made efforts to increase membership. She also gave special acknowledgments to Dorothy Banos and Mark Bell for helping to make her job easier. (See 1998 Membership Awards elsewhere in this issue).

Forty One Fourth Degree candidates were read by Elsie Kosmisky, Ritual Chair. Many were present to receive their awards that were presented to them by the Archbishop of Hartford at the Sunday closing Mass. (See page 17.)

Loretta Stukas, Chairman of the Knights of Lithuania Foundation announced the Foundation's Annual Essay winners. She emphasized the need for more entries into this special contest, designed initially by Msgr. Juozas Prunskis to keep writers promoting the Knights of Lithuania and our heritage. (See winners in "K. of L. Foundation Essay Contest" elsewhere in this issue.)

A new Director, Mary Beth Slakis was announced. She will replace the recently deceased, Rita Pinkus.

In her annual report to the delegates, Mrs. Stukas thanked those who have donated to the K. of L. Foundation, and added that she's like to reach a \$100,000 goal for the Foundation in the upcoming millennium.

Elections were held for Supreme Council

officers for 1998-1999. Elected by the delegates are: Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, National Spiritual Advisor; John R. Mankus, President; Agnes Mickunas, First Vice President (assistant to the President); Maryte Sepikas, Second Vice President (membership); Maria Deksnis, Third Vice President (Juniors); Bernice Aviza, Recording Secretary; John Baltrus, Treasurer; Rita Sussko, Financial Secretary; Richard Niedvares and William Kolcius, Trustees; Joseph Zukas and Irene Yanick, Ritual Committee (replacements for those whose term expired); Len Barcoucky, Lithuanian Affairs Chair; Faustas Strolia, Lith. Culture-Language; Karen Domalakes, Scholarship Committee; Regina Juska-Svoba, Public Relations and Longinas Svelnis, Archives Committee.

Following greetings, resolutions and announcements, the session ended with a prayer. A special luncheon meeting of the St. Casimir Guild was held.

FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

The St. Casimir Guild report was made to the delegates by Anna Klizas Wargo, its Chairwoman. She stated that the pilgrimage to Rome in March for the 50th Anniversary of the Pontifical Lithuanian College had 45 members attending, receiving special blessings from the Holy Father. Anna stated that from July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998, 562 requests for Mass intentions were forwarded to the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome. (The Mass offerings are \$10 each, payable to St. Casimir Guild and sent to Ms. Wargo - see address on front inside cover).

Additional donations to the Pontifical College for the printing of the commemorative program book, amounted to \$21,500. Books were distributed to those who contributed \$50.00 or more. The K. of L. was praised highly on all occasions during the trip. During the Jubilee Mass, John Mankus, K. of L. National President did the Lithuanian readings and Guild President, Anna Wargo did the prayers of the faithful. Vestments used for the Mass were those donated by us, and being used for the first time. Inside each vestment is inscribed "donated by Americos Vyčiai".

Msgr. Al Bartkus of Rome spoke about the College and how most of the students are returning to Lithuania to teach in their various diocese. He added that Lithuania never had so many seminarians

1998 Membership Awards

Individual - First Place 23 new members

Maryte Sepikas - C-133, Los Angeles

Individual - Second Place - 4 new members each

- a) Kathryn Urban, C-7 Waterbury
- b) Jovita Sleder, C-12, New York
- c) Mickey Petrosius, C-112, Chicago
- d) Joseph Chaplick, C-142, Washington
- e) Marian Wydra, C-144, Anthracite

Individual - Third Place - 3 new members each

- a) Doris Snirpunas, C-7, Waterbury
- b) Joseph Stiklius, C-7, Waterbury
- c) Genevieve Pladis, C-29, Newark

Councils

Council (1-75 members)

1. Council 12, New York and Council 16, Chicago
2. Council 142, Washington, DC
3. Council 156, Shamokin, PA

Council (76-150 members)

1. Council 7, Waterbury
2. Council 141, Bridgeport
3. Council 29, Newark

Council (151 or over members)

1. Council 133, Los Angeles
2. Council 112, Chicago
3. Council 144, Anthracite

*- Presented by Maryte Sepikas,
SC 2nd VP, Membership*

studying abroad. He also spoke about "Villa Lituania" the guest house, which has 65 guest rooms for those visiting Rome and the College. It is run by seven nuns from Brazil, Germany and Poland, who keep it maintained and serve meals. Although the cost per night at the guest house is approximately \$25 to \$30 USD, the facility is in need of 100 new beds at the cost of \$100 each and a general sprucing up. (☞ cont. on pg. 16)

A Successful Completion to the Knights of Lithuania Foundation 1998 Essay Contest

This year's Knights of Lithuania Foundation Essay Contest provided members an opportunity to share personal activities relating to Lithuanian culture. The topic of the 1998 Foundation Contest was:

What special aspect of Lithuanian culture do you find important and how do you keep it alive in your family or extended family (e.g., your council)?

Essays were judged on the basis of content, style, grammar, creativity, general appearance, and adherence to the stated topic. Judging was anonymous — judges did not know the identity of any of the entrants until the judging was over.

Convention Sessions

(☞ cont. from pg. 15) Later on, Knights donated to this cause and began the "Villa Lituania" bed drive.

It must be noted that the Pontifical College in Rome differs from the Vilnius Seminary in that classes are for graduate students, while Vilnius teaches undergraduates.

K. of L. Juniors, led by 3rd VP, Maria Deksnis, gave their presentation which consisted of singing and flag waiving (the children constructed crepe paper Lithuanian flags). Each of the seven Juniors were awarded their \$25 stipend and each of them gave us a brief story they had written on the convention.

Two sites were selected by the delegates for the next two years of K. of L. Conventions. 1999 convention will be hosted by C-3, Philadelphia; and the Y2K (2000) convention will be hosted by C-133, Los Angeles.

The business portion of the convention ended with additional greetings, resolutions and the singing of the Vyčiu Hymnas.

Judges, who represented all District, included:

Adolf Klova (AMD)
Clemencine Miller (NED)
Evelyn Ozelis (MAMD)
Aldona Ryan (MCD)
Loretta Stukas (MAD)
Bonnie Gulas (Last year's winner)

While the number of entries was disappointing, the quality of the essays entered was heartening, showing that these entrants truly had a respect for Lithuanian culture and fostered it in their immediate circles.

Winners were announced at the 85th National Convention in Waterbury, CT. The winning entries will be published in upcoming VYTIS issues.

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

1st (\$300.00) Matthew Anderson,
C-141, Bridgeport, CT
2nd (\$200.00) Bruno Rutkunas,
C-110, Maspeth, NY
3rd (\$100.00) Julia Malinauskas Lott,
C-152, E. Long Island, NY

The Knights of Lithuania is most grateful to Msgr. Juozas Prunskis for his generosity in donating a special grant of \$10,500.00 to the Foundation, with the specification that the interest from the grant be used for an Essay Contest, encouraging members to think about and write about Lithuania, her needs, and the Knights of Lithuania.

We encourage all members to enter the next contest!

Loretta I. Stukas, President
Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.

Fourth Degree Candidates 1998

Forty One members were eligible for their fourth degrees, many (but not all) of the following were at the Convention's closing mass to receive their medals. Eligible are:

C-3 Philadelphia

Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis

C-16 Chicago

Robert Martin
Peter Zansitis

C-19 Pittsburgh

Len Barcoucky

C-26 Worcester

Rita Margosian
Ruth Gadilauskas
Vito Gadilauskas
Arthur Racicot
Paul Puris

C-36 Chicago

Glenn Perutis

C-50 New Haven, CT

Helen Case

C-72 Binghamton, NY

John Mankus
Irene Grikenis
Arthur Stankevitz

C-79 Southfield, MI

Margaret Dapkus
Emma Povilaitis

C-86 DuBois, PA

Irene Yanek

C-102 Detroit, MI

Joseph Guerriero
Mary Jane Hofner



Some of C-136 members who received their 4th Degrees with Msgr. Al Bartkus. Photo by B. Aviza

C-110 Maspeth, NY

Mary Stelmokas
Julia Matulevich

C-135 Ansonia, CT

Albert Shorkis
Frances Barsevich
Lillian Norwid

C-136 Hudson-Mohawk, NY

Edward Barkowski
Genevieve Deery
Helen Hayner
Lynn McCafferty
Betty Parker
Joan Parker
Dorothy Richmire
Clara Tulio
Stella White
Frank Zebuda

C-141 Bridgeport, CT

Joseph Januinas

C-143 Pittston, PA

Mary Ann Cipolla
Mary Timek

C-144 Anthracite, PA

Thomas McDonald

C-152 E. Long Island, NY

Beatrice Lucka
Fred Lucka
Thomas Tarmey

C-112 Chicago

Elizabeth Zibas
(approved in 1997)



Yes, the convention phantom did strike! Once at Msgr. Joe's room door, and another time in full costume at cultural night!



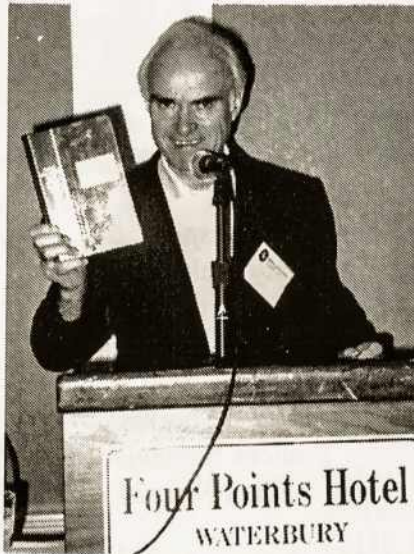
The First Lithuanian Book In America

by *HM Faustas Strolia*

At the 85th National Convention in Waterbury, Connecticut, I had the privilege of introducing the First Lithuanian Book printed in America: TLUMOCZIUS ARBA SLOWNIKAS -"Interpreter or Dictionary". (Notice that both words in this title are of Polish origin, but they surely have Lithuanian endings, just the way many of us in America would say: "graži dressė", "atnešk man šūšius", "boifrentas ant raidos pavadino", "nais karas", etc.) It was written and printed by Mykolas Tvarauskas in 1875. Today we might want to give more significance to this dictionary's 123rd "birthday" when we remind ourselves that Lithuania was under the Russian czar's rule for 123 consecutive years. In 1863, this 19 year old school teacher, Tvarauskas, was even involved in the uprising against the Russian government, was wounded and had to flee his homeland. This uprising caused a massive emigration from Užnemunė, the region on the left of the river Nemunas.

Tvarauskas arrived in 1867 at Shenandoah, PA, (as Lithuanians called it "Šenadorius") where he worked for 7 years in the coal mines. Here he learned quite fluent English. He then moved to another Lithuanian settlement in Shamokin (Lithuanians called it Šamukai). In this little Pennsylvania city the first Polish-Lithuanian parish in America had its start. And although many of the migrants had little formal education, as time passed, it became evident that one needed a book from which they could learn English and learn it quickly.

It is remarkable that Tvarauskas in his eighth year in America was able to become not only the owner of a printing shop but also the author and publisher of the first Lithuanian book in America. Until 1930, it was believed that a fire at the print shop had destroyed all these books. However, a copy accidentally was found in Lithuania. The author's friendly, unpretentious address to the readers "miely brolej" "slobnas ir swiatymas", "asz pyrmas atejnu pas jus", in a way, reminds us of Mažvydas, who opened his first Lithuanian book several centuries earlier with the simplicity of "prastus



Faustas Strolia holds copy of Tvarauskas' dictionary

szadzius...broliai, seserys, imkit mane ir skaitykit!"

One will find many "Lithuanian-ized" Polish and some German words, but this was a reflection of the social and cultural state of the Lithuanian people at that time. The Lithuanian language became anemic and forgotten by quite a few Lithuanians. We know that before his conversion, even Vincas

Kudirka, the author of the Lithuanian National Anthem, considered himself of Lithuanian birth, but of Polish Nationality. So it should not surprise us, when in his conversations Tvarauskas teaches his buddies from Užnemunė to say "I come from Poland" - "asz atejnu iz Lanku".

This book promised his "dear brothers" to replace the need for an interpreter, because it contained ready expressions for a conversation - "susiszneket su koznu angliku". The book contained 159 numbered pages, and was divided into 5 sections, which he named "padeimas" - "placement", "step". He started out his first section with 26 English letters, continued with numerals, then introduced the pronouns and auxiliary verbs. The

fourth section is missing because of torn out pages. Then came the fifth section which was almost 50 pages long. He was quite consistent throughout and displayed good knowledge (or intuition) in setting up dictionaries of the most important words around the house and people: food, clothing, city and village, months, seasons and time, dinner, weather, renting, buying and selling, and a trip away from home by train or ship. Later, he used these words for conversational phrases.

More than half of the pages (82) contained alphabetical dictionaries: 46 for English-to-Lithuanian (1200 words), and 36 for Lithuanian-to-English (1000 words). Tvarauskas showed a scholarly attitude in pointing out how English words could have several meanings: "wood" - miadzej; malkos; "man" - žmogus, viras; "ride" - "jot", "važiuot", etc.

It was definitely a book that attempted to teach correct pronunciation, a very ambitious undertaking. Can we imagine what Tvarauskas went through when he tried to "translate" the phonetics of English words into "Lithuanian spelling? There were no spelling rules for the Lithuanian words which they all knew how to pronounce! And he put so much heart into correct pronunciation of the English language, even suggesting that his readers should memorize the whole book, chapter by chapter.

As we know, in 1864 the Russians imposed a press ban in Lithuania. For forty years they prohibited the printing (or importing from abroad) of Lithuanian books in Latin characters, so the young entrepreneur was on his own, with no spelling dictionaries, not even a standard Lithuanian language!

Tvarauskas used "w" instead of "v"; "sc" and "cz" instead of "š" and "č"; every time he wanted to make a distinction between the short "i" sound (like in English "sin") and a long "y" sound (like in English "seen"), Tvarauskas very consistently reversed our modern Lithuanian spelling practice: he spells "dvilyka", "ira", "zidy" instead of "dvylika", "yra", and "žydi". Such spellings are common to the Polish language, and were used for Lithuanian at that time. Some of us might remember that even our Lithuanian American newspaper "Saulė" in Mahanoy City used such Polish spelling until its closing in 1959. (There were no "nosines" - "ą, ę, į, ū" nor long "ū" and "ė" until

the turn of the century, with the arrival of Jonas Jablonskis when the Standard Lithuanian was established.)

Since there was no Standard Lithuanian, Tvarauskas used his own dialect from Užnemunė. Many times he added an "ie" sound: "eitie", "jotie", "suprastie" to the verb-infinitives: or he would cut the second syllable completely off- "eit, jot, suprast". This dialect would also like to start certain words with a "w". like "wuodega", "wuoga" (uodega - tail, uoga - berry), etc.

One has to admit that this young teacher from Lithuania, who learned his English not at Yale, but at a Pennsylvanian coal mine, was quite ambitious. It appears that he was interested with the printing of this dictionary and other Lithuanian books in America in keeping the Lithuanian consciousness alive, or as the scholar Bronius Raguotis put it, "through books to enhance the prestige of Lithuanians living in America..."

Although Tvarauskas did not create and publish any time transcending works, his name has gone down in the history of Lithuanian culture for all time. (☞ cont. with Excerpt on page 20)



(For my presentation I have used the materials from the essays of Domas Kaunas, Bronius Raguotis and Dr. Lioginas Pazusis which are contained in the 1997 reprinted edition. F.S.)

*Anyone interested in this excellent edition of the reprint of the **First Lithuanian Book in America** by **M. Tvarauskas** can receive it by sending \$15.00 (which includes shipping) to: Faustas Strolia, 15325 Sequoia St., Oak Forest, IL 60452. The sale of the book will help finance another important publication - **a catalogue of rare Lithuanian books that are in the Newberry Library in Chicago.***



Did you know?

On August 19, 1955 Waterbury was hit with one of the most disastrous floods in its history. The rectory of St. Joseph Lithuanian Catholic Church became a depot, the classrooms at the school became grocery storage rooms, clothing rooms and a first aid room for evacuees. The school continued to house people until September 1 of that year. Thirty people died in that flood, many were parishioners.

An Excerpt from Tvarauskas' 1875 Interpreter - Dictionary

Ape szniaka Angielska (About English Language) Apie Anglų kalbą

<u>English</u>	<u>Pronunciation</u>	<u>Lithuanian</u>	<u>Modern Lithuanian</u>
Do you learn the English language?	<i>Du ju lern di ynglisz lenguydž?</i>	<i>Ar mokiniesy Angielskos sznektos?</i>	<i>Ar mokiniesi anglų kalbos?</i>
I think it is difficult.	<i>Aj tynk yt ys diffikelt.</i>	<i>Asz mysliju kad ira sunki</i>	<i>Aš manau, kad tai yra sunki (kalba).</i>
The beginning is always so.	<i>Di begining ys aluajs so.</i>	<i>Pradžia wysa dos sunki</i>	<i>Pradžia visados sunki.</i>
The pronunciation of it is difficult enough.	<i>Di prononcieszn of yt ys dyfikolt ynof.</i>	<i>Tas isztarimas patsaj per sa we ira gana sunkus</i>	<i>Pats ištarimas yra gana sunkus.</i>
That is true.	<i>Dat ys tru</i>	<i>Taj tejsibe</i>	<i>Tai teisybė.</i>
What do you think of it?	<i>Uat du yu tynk of yt?</i>	<i>Ka myslyi ant to?</i>	<i>Ką apie tai manai? (Ką apie tai galvoji?)</i>
You have a good capacity for pronouncing the English language perfectly well.	<i>Ju hew e gud kiapesyty for pronaunsyng di ynglysz lengwydž perfektly wel.</i>	<i>Tu turi giara spasabnasti prie Angiel skos sznektos.</i>	<i>Tu esi (labai) imlus anglų kalbai.</i>
Do you speak English?	<i>Du yu spik ynglysz?</i>	<i>Ar szneki Angielskaj?</i>	<i>Ar šneki angliškai? (Ar kalbi angliškai?) (Ar moki angliškai?)</i>
I speak it a little.	<i>Aj spik yt e litl.</i>	<i>Szneku po byski</i>	<i>Šiek tiek (truputį) šneku/moku.</i>
I understand it better than I can speak it.	<i>Aj enderstend yt beter den aj kien spik yt.</i>	<i>Asz suprantu geriau nekajp sznekiet galu.</i>	<i>Aš suprantu geriau negu galiu šnekėt (kalbėt).</i>
Let us speak English.	<i>Let os spik ynglysz</i>	<i>Sznekiesyme Angielskaj</i>	<i>Šnekėkime (kalbėkime) angliškai!</i>
That is a good way to learn it.	<i>Dat ys e gud uej to lern yt.</i>	<i>taj ira wiena tynys spasabas iszsimokit to</i>	<i>Tai yra vienintelis būdas išmoki.</i>
What is your(s) Teacher's name?	<i>Uat ys jurs ticzers neem?</i>	<i>Kaip wadynasy tawo daraktorius</i>	<i>Kaip vadinasi tavo mokytojas?</i>

<u>Lithuanian</u>	<u>Pronunciation</u>	<u>Lithuanian</u>	<u>Modern Lithuanian</u>
Do you know him?	Du ju no him?	Ar pažisty ji	Ar pažįsti jį?
I know him, he is a good teacher.	Aj no him, hi is e gud ticzer	Asz pažistu, isaj ira giaras daraktorius	Aš pažįstu jį, jis yra geras mokytojas.
I know many Englishmen who pronounce Polish perfectly well.	Aj no meny yngliszmen hu pronauns polysz perfekly uel	Asz pažistu dauguma Anglyku kurie Lankiskaj labaj gieraj szniaka	Aš pažįstu daugelį anglų (o gal turėjo amerikiečius minty? F.S.) Kurie labai gerai šneka (kalba) lenkiškai.
and I know some Polders who pronounce English almost as well as Englishmen themselves.	End aj no som polanders hu pronauns ynglisz almost as uel as yngliszmen demselws	Žynau ir ne kuriuos Lankus katrie drutaj ir gieraj szniaka Angielskaj kaip prygimtas Anglykas	Pažįstu kai kuriuos lenkus, kurie stipriai ir gerai kalba angliškai, lyg būtų gimę anglai.
Don't you understand English?	Dont ju enderstend ynglisz?	Ar ne supranty Angielskaj?	Ar nesupranti angliškai?
I understand you, but you don't understand me.	Aj enderstend ju, bot ju dont enderstend mi	Asz tave suprantu, ale tu manias ne supranty	Aš tave tai suprantu, bet tu manęs nesupranti.
It is a mistake	Yt ys e mystek	Taj ira pamilkas	Tai yra klaida.
I forgot to ask you if you have much improved in the English language.	Aj forgat tu esk ju if ju hew mucz ymproued yn di ynglysz lenguydž	Asz uszymirszau klaust taviaš as jau daug pramo kaj scnektos angielskos	Aš užmiršau Tavęs pasiklausti, ar jau daug pramokai anglų kalbos.
You hear that I begin to speak it.	Ju hir dat aj begin tu spik yt.	Tu girdy kad aš pradedu tiktaj sznekiet	Tu girdi, kaip aš jau pradedu šnekėti (kalbėti).
You pronounce it pretty well.	Ju pronauns yt prety uel	Tawo szneka ira wydutynyszkaj giera	Tu ištari visai gerai (arba- neblogai).
It is but two years since I began to learn it.	Yt ys bot tu jers syns aj began to lern yt	Da tyktaj du miataj kajp pradėjau mokitys	Dar tiktai dveji metai, kai pradėjau mokytis.



Four Receive K. of L. Scholarships

by Irena Gecas-McCarthy, Scholarship Chair

Four Scholarship awards were presented by Irena Gecas-McCarthy at the Convention banquet night to candidates decided upon by the Scholarship Committee.

Thanks to the generosity of the K. of L., we have been able to offer these scholarships to help alleviate the financial burden of higher education to deserving young adults of our group. This past year, the Scholarship Committee was a benefactor of a very generous donation in accordance with the Will of Irene R. Tamulevich to be used to set up a scholarship fund, entitled Sviklas and Tamulevich Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Scholarship amounts and recipients included:

1. \$1,000 from the Irene Sankus Memorial Scholarship Fund, awarded each year to a seminarian to be selected by Msgr. Al Bartkus at the Lithuanian Pontifical College-Seminary in Rome. Msgr. Bartkus selects the candidate through the St. Casimir's Guild president, Anna Klizas Wargo. Although Msgr. Bartkus had not yet selected the candidate this year, he will inform us soon on the name of the winner.

2. \$2,600 from the Alice Karklius Memorial Scholarship (provided through the K. of L. Foundation) went to Bonnie Gulas of C-141, Bridgeport, CT. Bonnie is enrolling in Yale University in the fall to enter a program for a BS double major in biology and geophysics. Her ultimate goal is to receive a Doctorate in Paleontology. Upon completion of her studies, she hopes to become a museum curator, a professor and to participate in paleontology digs.



Bonnie Gulas



Victoria Domalakes



Jeffrey K. Balesh

Bonnie has been an active Junior since 1989, attends St. Agnes Church, and has won a number of K. of L. national essay contests. She has received many academic awards including Yale Book Award, Bausch and Lomb Science Award and is a National Merit Scholar. As quoted from Bonnie's winning essay in 1995, A New Generation's Viewpoint, "My family's past is the base on which all my present day accomplishments are built...I would not be in existence today without my ancestors, for what becomes of a tree without its roots."

Bonnie was present at the banquet to receive her award.

3. \$2,000 from the Sviklas and Tamulevich Memorial Scholarship went to Victoria Domalakes, a member of C-144, Anthracite. Victoria will begin her third year at Washington and Jefferson College in PA studying history and biology. Upon graduation, she hopes to become a teacher in middle or high school. Victoria graduated with honors from Cardinal Brennan High School in Fountain Springs, PA, and is a member of Annunciation Parish in Frackville. To support her Lithuanian and K. of L. heritage, she has participated as a volunteer for Lithuanian Days, performed in a dance group at the Allentown National Convention in 1992, volunteered for Lithuanian women's Clubs and served as a counselor at

Camp Ausra.

4. \$1,000 scholarship went to Jeffrey Balesh, a member of C-133, Los Angeles. Mr. Balesh is a second year graduate student at Claremont Graduate University in CA. His decision to study Organizational Behavior stems from his (☞ to page 23)

Friend of Lithuania Award

**Cornelio Richard Catena
President and CEO, Amsterdam
Memorial Hospital Memorial
Health Care System**

*by Len Barcoucky,
Lithuanian Affairs Chairman*



***K. of L. Lith. Affairs Chair, Len Barcoucky with
1998 Friend of Lithuania Award winner, Cornelio
Richard Catena, and K. of L. Pres. John Mankus***

Mr. Cornelio Richard Catena President and CEO, Amsterdam Memorial Hospital Memorial Health Care System, remarked, "I am very honored to be the recipient of the "Friend of Lithuania" Award and truly feel a bond has been formed between Amsterdam Memorial Hospital and the Lithuanian community."

Since 1991, the Hospital has donated supplies and equipment valued at over two million dollars.

"To the best of our ability, we at AMH fully intend to continue supplying medical supplies and equipment to Lithuanian hospitals in the hope these donations will improve the quality of health care offered to all Lithuanian people."

Mr. Catena is a native of the city of Amsterdam, NY. He has spent nineteen years in the field of hospital management, the last ten as a CEO. He has worked in hospitals in several other states as well as in Europe. So far, during his career, he has favorably directed negotiations with numerous managed care companies, developed a new pediatric service, a fast track emergency room service, and an industrial medicine program.

Under his direction at Amsterdam Memorial, new projects such as a remodeled Pediatrics Unit, a Hyperbaric Oxygen Problem Wound Care Center, an Inpatient Rehab Unit

and many, many others.

Active in community affairs, Mr. Catena is a Board member of the local Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Rotary Club and St. Michael's Holy Name Society. He resides in Amsterdam with his wife, Lauri and their three children, Gabriella, Gino and Cecilia, who were also on hand at the Banquet to see him receive the award.



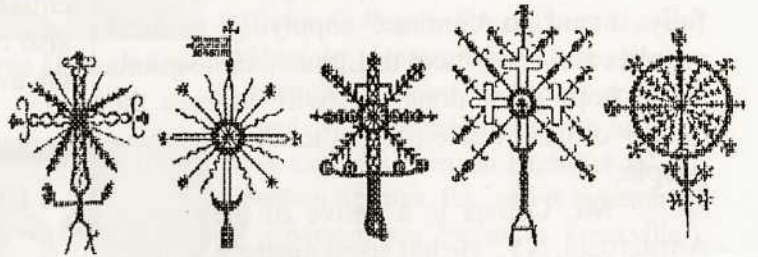
4 Receive K of L Scholarships

(☞ from page 22)

interest in leadership and its impact on employee morale and productivity. Jeff learned the meaning of leadership firsthand during his active tour of duty for four years with the U.S. Navy. Upon receiving his doctorate, Jeff plans to pursue a career in business consulting, where his primary goal will be to assist corporations evaluating management leadership styles. He attended the University of Notre Dame prior to his enlistment in the Navy. Although his K. of L. achievements have been limited due to service in the military, when Jeff has been home, he participated in as many events as possible.



**THE 85TH
NATIONAL
KNIGHTS OF
LITHUANIA
CONVENTION
WATERBURY, CT
AUGUST 6-9, '98**





Sunday, August 9 had some of us praying before we even arrived at church, as one of our busses lost its drive shaft and a bus load of us waited for a replacement!

St. Joseph's Church in downtown Waterbury is truly a treasure as its the oldest Lithuanian Catholic Church in New England dating from 1894. It now has a beautiful Lithuanian Wayside Cross perched near its entrance. The wayside cross made it difficult to photograph the crowd, so some got into more than one picture. The Closing Mass was concelebrated by Archbishop of Hartford, Daniel A. Cronin, Bishop Baltakis, Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis and Msgr. Al Bartkus. Many of the forty one who were eligible for their Fourth Degrees received theirs, including Msgr. Joe who was thrilled to have the Archbishop place his medal on him. Many other Supreme Council members also received Fourth Degrees at the Mass including John Mankus, Rob Martin, Peter Zansitis, Len Barcoucky and Ed Barcowski. The choir members were superb, and the inside of St. Joseph's was adorned with the most exquisite stained glass windows.



Resolutions - Nutarimai

Compiled
by Robert Martin, Jr.
Res. Committee Chair



Rita Pinkus, HM

**In
Memoriam:
Honorary Member,
Rita Pinkus**

WHEREAS.... during this past year, the Knights of Lithuania lost a very prominent and active member, Honorary Member, Rita Pinkus.

BE IT RESOLVED that in grateful appreciation and recognition of her work and dedication to the Knights of Lithuania organization, we, delegates to the 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Waterbury, CT, on this 7th day of August, 1998, pay tribute to this worthy and outstanding Knight with a moment of silence.

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

Constitutional Amendments

Constitutional Amendment - Supreme Council Ritual Committee

WHEREAS in the past the Supreme Council Ritual Committee has been comprised of three people and at times those three people have been from the only one or two districts, and

Whereas, this has not been a true representation of the entire organization, nor does it provide an ability to understand the organizational involvement of members in each individual district, and

Whereas, at times this results in difficulty to properly award the Fourth Degree to deserving members;

Therefore, be it resolved that Article XII, Item

Number 2 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution relating to the Supreme Council, be changed to read as Follows:

The Supreme Council Ritual Committee shall consist of one Fourth Degree member from each district. They are elected at a National Convention for a three year term on a rotating basis of not less than two per year but no more than three. The committee elects its own Chair, Secretary and Treasurer annually.

Be it further resolved that the Supreme Council Ritual Committee determines the form and the rules for all degrees and the ceremony, after consultation with the Supreme Council, and approval of the National Convention. All decisions within the committee must be unanimous for presentation of change of rules from the committee. All other decisions of the committee will require a majority vote of the committee members. In the event of a deadlock the Supreme Council President shall break all ties.

Constitutional Amendment - Yearly Dues - Spouse

WHEREAS In order to eliminate any reference in the Knights of Lithuania Constitution to the specific amount of dues to be paid by spouse of member, the following changes are proposed. Spouse dues will then be set at the 1998 National Convention according to Article VI, Section 1.

Be it resolved that Article VI, Section 4d of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution be eliminated. Section 4e will become 4d.

Be it further resolved that Article VI, Section 5 and all its subsections be eliminated. Section 6, 7 and 8 will become 5, 6 and 7, respectively.

National Nominating Committee

WHEREAS Current practice with regards to the Nominations Committee for the Convention Presidium and Supreme Council has been for each of the District Presidents to serve on the committee,

and

Whereas this has been practice and not policy,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Knights of Lithuania 85th National Convention formally make this practice, policy, and,

Be it further resolved that the committee members shall elect a Chair from amongst their ranks.



Newest Honorary Members, Clemencine Miller and Agnes Mickunas at Convention Banquet

Vacancy on the Honorary Membership Committee

Whereas... during the past year the Honorary Membership Committee lost a valued member with the passing of Rita Pinkus, H.M., Council 26 Worcester and her passing leaves a vacancy on the committee from the New England District, therefore

Be it resolved that Bertha Stoskus, H.M.; of Council 103 of the New England District be appointed to the Honorary Membership Committee.

Annual Dues Changes

Be it resolved that the following annual dues be set:
Spouse of member - \$7.50
Each additional family member living at the same address with a "full dues paid" member or in the house of an Honorary or Lifetime Member - \$7.50

Be it further resolved that this change takes effect January 1, 1999.

Honorary Membership Candidacy for Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD

BE IT RESOLVED that the 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered in Waterbury, CT, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership Rev. Msgr.

Joseph Anderlonis, STD. Member of Council 3, Amber District, and National Spiritual Advisor of the Knights of Lithuania, and allow his history, outlining his services as a worthy and dedicated Knight to be published in VYTIS.

Prayers for the Beatification of Mother Maria Kaupas, S.S.C.

WHEREAS Mother Maria Kaupas, SSC, founded the Sisters of St.

Casimir, and with much love and generosity dedicated herself to the apostolic work of the church. Whether it was educating and forming the youth in faith, caring for the sick or furthering the faith in mission areas, she saw it as God's work.

And whereas the Chicago Archdiocesan Process for her Beatification was concluded in 1995 and the ongoing cause continues in Rome. Now therefore,

Be it resolved that the 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered in Waterbury, CT, dedicate themselves in prayer for her beatification and ultimate canonization.

Honorary Membership for CLEMENCINE MILLER

WHEREAS the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at Dayton, Ohio, in August 1997, approved the candidacy of CLEMENCINE MILLER for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania, and

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Honorary Membership be conferred upon CLEMENCINE MILLER, member of Council 141 and the New England District, at this 85th Convention.

Honorary Membership for AGNES MICKUNAS

WHEREAS the 84th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at Dayton, Ohio, in August 1997, approved the candidacy of AGNES MICKUNAS for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania, and

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Honorary Membership be conferred upon AGNES MICKUNAS, member of Council 3 and the Amber District, at this 85th Convention.

Extension of term of National Treasurer

Whereas the office of Treasurer of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania, according to the Constitution, may be held for no more than three consecutive one-year terms by an individual, and

Whereas the Nominating Committee is unable to find any candidate for the position other than the incumbent John Baltrus,

Be it resolved that the Constitution, Article X, section 4, be temporarily suspended where related to the Supreme Council Treasurer, and that the term of John Baltrus be extended for a period of one year, from August, 1998 to August, 1999.

Donations

AID TO LITHUANIA, INC.

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, express their support of this worthy project with a donation of \$1,000.00.

ST. CASIMIR GUILD

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to this 85th

Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, here assembled in Waterbury, CT, continue to show our support to the Lithuanian Pontifical College of St. Casimir in Rome, Italy, with a donation of \$1,000.00 through the St. Casimir's Guild.

Lithuanian Children's Relief, Inc.

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

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National Convention donate \$1,000.00 to Lithuanian Children's Relief, Inc.

Appreciation of DARBININKAS

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, express its appreciation of DARBININKAS and its staff for their cooperation and generosity.

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

Appreciation of DIRVA.

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, express its appreciation to the DIRVA and its staff for their cooperation and generosity.

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

Appreciation of DRAUGAS

WHEREAS The Lithuanian Catholic Daily, "Draugas", has consistently and generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania in the "Vyciu Veikla" column and other parts of their publication,

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, express its sincerest gratitude to "Draugas" and its staff for their cooperation and generosity in publicizing Knights of Lithuania activity.

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

Donation to Sisters

Resolution: WHEREAS The Sisters of Jesus Crucified, Sisters of St. Casimir, Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God and the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception strive to introduce new ways of serving the religious in Lithuania; and,

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

BE IT RESOLVED That this 85th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, acknowledge the Sisters' works with a donation of \$100.00 to each of the four communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That we ask and encourage each of our members to continue to offer support to the Sisters' efforts.

Donation to Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid (LCRA)

Whereas Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid (L.C.R.A.) was established to promote and foster the practice of Catholicism among Lithuanians throughout the world, and

Whereas the Knights of Lithuania has it's basic goal to foster Catholicism amongst the Lithuanian people, and

Whereas the Knights of Lithuania has an ongoing relationship with LCRA, therefore

Be it resolved that the Knights of Lithuania assembled at the 85th National Convention in Waterbury, CT donate \$100.00 to LCRA to assist their efforts to support Catholic Schools in Lithuania.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rev. Msgr. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD

Whereas this past spring saw Fr. Joseph Anderlonis blessed with the title of Msgr.,

Be it resolved that the delegates and guests of the 85th National Convention express their pride and congratulations to someone we dearly love.

Congratulations to Rev. Msgr. Albert J. Contons, HM

Whereas this past spring saw Fr. Albert J. Contons, H.M. blessed with the title of Msgr.,

Be it resolved that the delegates and guests of the 85th National Convention express their pride and congratulations to someone we dearly love.

Congratulations to St. Casimir's Church, Brockton, MA

Whereas 1998 marks the 100th anniversary of St. Casimir's Church in Brockton, MA and

Whereas St. Casimir's Church is home to Knights of Lithuania Council 1, therefore

Be it resolved that the 85th National Convention express their congratulations to the Parish Staff and members of St. Casimir's Church, and

Be it further resolved that the Supreme Council President dispatch a letter of congratulations to the Parish.

Rev. John Prusaitis, Pastor



K. of L'ers Loretta Stukas and John Mankus, greet Waterbury Mayor, Philip Giordano (2nd from left) and Lithuanian Ambassador Stasys Sakalauskas (far right) at Saturday's banquet.

**Special Greetings to Honorary Member,
Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P.**

Whereas Honorary Member, Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., past National Spiritual Advisor is ill and confined to a nursing home,

Be it resolved that the entire body attending the Knights of Lithuania 85th National Convention send heartfelt greetings and prayers for peace and contentment to our beloved Honorary Member, Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P.

Be it further resolved that the Supreme Council convey this message to Fr. Jurgelaitis.
Fr. Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P.
Scalabrini Villa
860 N. Quidnessett Road
North Kingstown, RI 02852

Congratulations to Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church, Maspeth, NY

Whereas 1998 marks the 90th anniversary of Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church in Maspeth, NY and

Whereas Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church is home to Knights of Lithuania Council 110, therefore

Be it resolved that the 85th National Convention express their congratulations to the Parish Staff and

members of Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church, and

Be it further resolved that the Supreme Council President dispatch a letter of congratulations to the Parish.

Congratulations to St. Francis Church, Lawrence, MA

Whereas 1998 marks the 95th anniversary of St. Francis Church in Lawrence, MA and

Whereas St. Francis Church is home to Knights of Lithuania Council 78, therefore

Be it resolved that the 85th National Convention express their congratulations to the Parish Staff and members of St. Francis Church, and

Be it further resolved that the Supreme Council President dispatch a letter of congratulations to the Parish.

Congratulations to Rev. Albin Janiunas, HM

Whereas 1998 marks the 50th anniversary of the ordination to the holy priesthood of Rev. Albin Janiunas, HM

Be it resolved that the 85th National Convention extend their heartfelt congratulations to Fr. Janiunas on this momentous occasion.

Be it further resolved that the Supreme Council President dispatch a letter of congratulations to Father.

Congratulations to Valdas Adamkus, President, Republic of Lithuania

Whereas the 1998 Presidential elections in Lithuania resulted in the election of Valdas Adamkus as President of the Republic of Lithuania, and

Whereas Valdas Adamkus called the United States home for many years and as a proud citizen served this country well as regional director of the Environmental Protection Agency, and

Whereas he has always been a great supporter of democracy and a true friend to the Knights of

Lithuania, therefore

Be it resolved that we, the Knights of Lithuania, assembled in session this August 8, 1998, in Waterbury, CT send our greetings to President Adamkus and extend our continued support to him in his efforts towards furthering the development of democracy in Lithuania during his tenure in office as president.

Be it further resolved that President Adamkus be sent a copy of these heartfelt sentiments.

THANK YOU - AČIŪ

Thanks to Lithuanian Mercy Lift

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National Convention thank LITHUANIAN MERCY LIFT for its spirit of brotherly support and cooperation.

Thanks to World Medical Relief

WHEREAS The World Medical Relief Organization established as a Non-profit organization to send medical supplies to needy countries has provided many containers of supplies for Aid to Lithuania, and

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th Convention of the Knights of Lithuania send a thank you note to World Medical Relief for it's outstanding work.

Thanks to Lietuviu Balsas

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National



Greetings Committee members: (l to r front) Lee Moore, Helen Karpovich (back) Leonard Kapochus, Antoinette Sakal and Sophia Sakalys

Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, express its appreciation of Lietuviu Balsas and its staff for their cooperation and generosity.

Thanks to Pharmaciens Sans Frontieres

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED That the 85th National Convention thank Pharmaciens Sans Frontieres for its concern for the people of Lithuania and the spirit of cooperation.

Thanks to Catholic Medical Mission Board

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

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

Thank you to 85th National Convention Committee

BE IT RESOLVED That the delegates to the 85th Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to the members of Council 7 and their entire 85th National Convention Committee for their hard work, diligence and professionalism in their preparation and presentation this convention.

Thank you to outgoing Supreme Council Officers

BE IT RESOLVED That the delegates to the 85th Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, express on behalf of themselves and the general membership, that they represent, their deepest gratitude to the 1997-1998 Supreme Council for its dedicated service to the organization and support of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

Thank you to 85th National Convention Presidium

BE IT RESOLVED That the delegates to the 85th Annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Waterbury, CT, extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to the Presidium and its committees for their hard work, diligence and professionalism in the conduct of the business of this convention.

Thank you Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Waterbury, CT.

WHEREAS The management and the staff of the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Waterbury, CT demonstrated an uncommon level of hospitality, courtesy, and cooperation during our 85th annual



Some of C-7's Registration Committee: Janina Nawarskas, Arlene Sticklius and Vera P. (Not pictured committee members included Tony and Pat Alexander, Frances Januska, Marlene Shea, Agnes Bauza and Adele Klenske)

National Convention: and

WHEREAS The accommodations were most comfortable and pleasing,

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

1999 and 2000 National Conventions

Be it resolved that the Knights of Lithuania hold their 86th National Convention in **Philadelphia, PA** in the year 1999, and

Be it further resolved that the Knights of Lithuania hold their 87th National Convention in **Los Angeles, CA** in the year 2000.

In Memoriam



Igni Walles
C-110, Maspeth, NY, August '98

Helen Zabelskas
C-7, Waterbury, CT, May 20, '98

Arthur Lord,
C-30, Westfield, MA, August 12

Adele Povilauskas
C-152, E. Long Island, NY, Aug. 10, 1998

Sophie Aleksieyus
C-110, Maspeth, NY, June 19, 1998

John Prishwalko
C-50, New Haven, CT, June 20, 1998

Helen C. Konczyniw, C-110, August 3, 1998

Through the Eyes of a K. of L. Junior

by Debbie Miller (Age 7)
C-72 Binghamton

Waterbury 1998

I was hoping my friend from last year's Dayton convention would be coming this year. When we got to the Hotel, I just loved it there; it had a stone path and gardens on the inside.

When I saw the swimming pool, I just couldn't wait to go in. On Thursday morning, we went on the bus to the flag raising and church. I met a new friend and saw 3 Juniors I met last year. The Juniors went on the trolley to the mall but my Daddy let me go swimming. The other kids joined me later.

We went to the club for dinner. The food was good but I had the most fun talking with my new friend when we went outside to cool off. On Friday we went to the amusement park which had lots of rides.

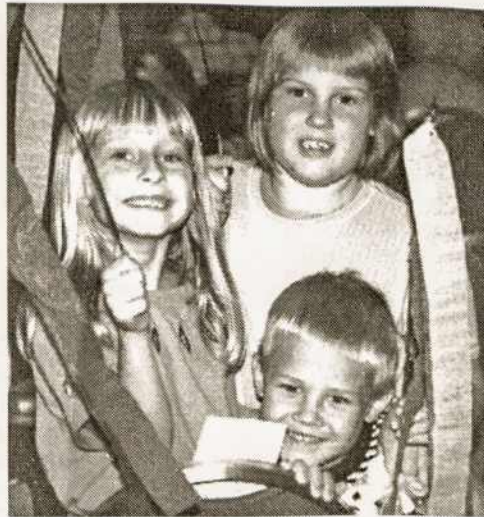
We learned a new song in Lithuanian. We met Eric, who drove us, and then we saw him again that night when he was one of the dancers. The songs, cello music and dancing was nice. I learned a clapping dance from one of the ladies. I went to a special room to say 'Hi' to Tommy and his family.

On Saturday morning, Mrs. Deksnis had us meet to make Lithuanian flags and color Lithuanian designs to use as decorations. We watched a slide show of last year and I saw my Morn and me. We practiced for the afternoon meeting with the adults. I was scared



Juniors Chair, Maria Deksnis hands Debbie Miller the mike at Junior's Session

"I was scared but I told them about a couple of things we did."



"We sang, marched and waved our flags"

but I told them about a couple of things we did. We sang, marched and waved our flags. Then we went swimming and later Mommy came in the pool too. We even tried the hot tub.

At the dinner, the Juniors had our own table and Tommy sat with us. My new friend and I played while people talked and danced. On Sunday we had a big breakfast and then started to pack our suitcases. We went on the bus to go to church but it broke down so we went in our car.

At the Mass I saw the bishops and asked one to bless my new silver cross necklace. We went to the bakery before we went to the hotel to finish packing. During the ride home, I asked my Mom and Dad if I can go every year. But most of the time I was asleep because we had such a busy convention!



Smiles without Wrinkles

* On a lawn in Connecticut:

"For Sale - Complete Set of Encyclopedias. Never Used. Teenager knows everything."

* The difference between politics and baseball is that in baseball, when you get caught stealing, you're out.



GREETINGS TO THE 85TH NATIONAL CONVENTION, 1998

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

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

PRESIDENT VALDAS ADAMKUS
President of Lithuania
Vilnius, Lithuania

HIS EXCELLENCY STASYS SAKALAUSKAS
Ambassador of Lithuania to the USA
Washington, DC

JAMES MALONEY
Member of Congress
Washington, DC & Waterbury, CT

LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS'
LEAGUE OF AMERICA
by Msgr. Albert Contons, President
South Boston, MA

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

LITHUANIAN WORLD COMMUNITY
(PASAULIO LIETUVIU BENDRUOMENĖ)
Vytautas Kamantas, President
Grand Rapids, MI

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

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

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

LITHUANIAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION,
INC. (Tautos Fondas)
Brooklyn, NY
by Jonas Vilgalis

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, INC.
Great Neck Chapter
Great Neck, LI, NY
by ~ ~ Vilgalis

LIETUVIU SKAUTU SAJUNGA
Birute Banaitiene, President
Abington, MA

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF
SCIENCE, ALKA
Dr. Juozas Kriauciuinas, Director
Putnam, CT

LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF, INC.
Daiva Vistas Neidharst
So. Boston, MA
by Sister Eugenia Glivickas

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

DARBININKAS - LITHUANIAN WEEKLY
Julius Keleris, Editor-in-Chief
Brooklyn, NY

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

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

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

SISTERS OF LITHUANIAN DESCENT
Religious Support of Religious in Lithuania (RSRL)
by Sister Eugenia, SJC

GREETINGS WITH DONATIONS

K OF L GENERAL FUND:

Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	\$25.00
(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Aušra Maknys, C-3	22.00
(IMO William Bacon)	
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	15.00
Elizabeth Zibas, C-112	10.00
Helen Medley, C-50	5.00
TOTAL:	\$102.00

VYTIS FUND:

Estate of Vincent Boris	\$5,000.00
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	50.00
Edward & Anele Pocius, C-112	50.00
Jean (Walkauskas) Schoentag, C-19	50.00
(IMO Barbara Walkauskas)	
K of L Council 133	25.00
(IMO Sylvia Shepherd)	
Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	25.00
(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	25.00
Aušra Maknys, C-3	22.00
(IMO Edmund Binkis)	
Frank & Irene Petrauskas, HM, C-140	20.00
(IMO Rita Pinkus)	
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	20.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12 & 141	15.00
(IMO Mitch Marcinauskis)	
K of L Council 72, Binghamton	10.00
Dorothy Lapelis DeGennaro, C-141	10.00
(IMO Deceased Relatives)	
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	10.00
Sophia Sakalys, C-103	10.00
Helen Medley, C-50	5.00
TOTAL:	\$5,372.00

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

Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	\$25.00
(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	25.00
Kazys Sipaila, HM, C-29	25.00
Aušra Maknys, C-3	22.00
(IMO Rev. Geo. Degutis)	
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	20.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas)	
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	10.00
(IMO Vincent Boris)	
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)	
Elizabeth Zibas, C-112	10.00
TOTAL	\$147.00

K OF L JUNIORS ACTIVITIES:

Bernice Aviza, C-136	\$50.00
Mary Labadis, C-144	50.00
(IMO Bell & Helen Labadis)	
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	50.00
Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	25.00
(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	25.00
Clemencine Miller, HM, C-141	25.00
Aušra Maknys, C-3	22.00
(IMO John Drumstas)	
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	15.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00
Helen Medley, C-50	5.00
TOTAL:	\$277.00

CONVENTION COMMITTEE:

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

AID TO LITHUANIA:**General:**

Estate of Vincent Boris C-102	\$15,000.00
K of L Council 110, Maspeth	1,000.00
Anonymous	500.00
K of L Amber District	300.00
Marcella Bartoli	205.00
Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	200.00
Juliann D. Majeski	200.00
(IMO Frank A. Kapochus)	
Aušra Maknys, C-3	101.00
(IMO Helen Shields)	
K of L Mid-Atlantic District	100.00
K of L Council 3, Philadelphia	100.00
(IMO Deceased Members)	
K of L Council 152, Eastern L.I.	100.00
Grace B. Austin	100.00
Algerd & Aldona Brazis, HM, C-112	100.00
Hedwig Gedeika	100.00
(IMO Husband & Parents)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	100.00
Anna M. Kapochus	100.00
(IMO Frank A. Kapochus)	
Len Kapochus, C-3	100.00
(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)	
Rita Karrytais, C-26	100.00
Julie Kowrak	100.00
Mary Labadis, C-144	100.00
(IMO Bell & Helen Labadis)	
Joseph Machonis	100.00
(IMO wife Constance)	
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Marro	100.00
(IMO Deceased Parents)	
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Machonis	100.00
(IMO Parents & Family)	
Jean Kapochus Mihalick	100.00
(IMO Kapochus, Petrauskas, Mihalick families)	

Ray & Nellie Pandza	100.00	Clemencine Miller, HM, C-141	25.00
Anthony Polmon, C-7	100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Monkaitis	25.00
(IMO Lascadia Polmon)		(Deceased family members)	
Sister Margaret Rupsis	100.00	Joan Susin Ortman, C-25	25.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	100.00	(IMO Mary Susin & Bill Smith)	
Anastasia Stanley	100.00	Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
(IMO John Stanley)		(IMO Rimgaudas Svoba)	
Josephine & Joseph J. Zukas, C-109	100.00	Estelle J. Rogers, HM, C-112	25.00
Rev. Joseph Callahan	75.00	Ed & Irene Senken, C-12	25.00
Charles & Donna Sulmar	60.00	Albert J. Shurkis, C-135	25.00
K of L Council 25, Cleveland	50.00	Kazys Sipaila, HM, C-29	25.00
K of L Council 86, DuBois	50.00	Mary Beth Slakis, C-16	25.00
K of L Council 143, Pittston	50.00	Ruth & Jack Tyson, C-135	25.00
K of L Council 156, Shamokin	50.00	Ruth A. Wallash	25.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	50.00	Charles & Alberta Weigand	25.00
Alphonse J. Balsis	50.00	Stephen & Alice Wilcinskas, C-141	25.00
(IMO deceased relatives)		Alice Zupko, C-147	25.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	50.00	Anna Brennan	20.00
(IMO Chesko Family)		(IMO Fred M. Brennan)	
Helen Karpovich	50.00	Kenneth & Agnes Dunn, C-152	20.00
(IMO Karpovich, Kapochus & Petrauskas families)		(IMO Barbara Buchanon & Ignas Mailinauskas Family)	
Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	50.00	William Kolicius, C-19	20.00
(IMO James Kasputis)		Connie Nehwadowich, C-110	20.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	50.00	(IMO Yudiskas Family)	
Fred & Beatrice Lučka, C-152	50.00	Frank & Irene Petrauskas, HM, C-140	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Al Navitt	50.00	(IMO Rita Pinkus)	
Arthur Stankevitz, C-72	50.00	Sophia Sakalys, C-103	20.00
Walter & Irene Svekla, C-3	50.00	Elaine M. Elko	15.00
(In Honor of HM Agnes Mickunas)		(IMO Della Lamson McGale)	
Julie Zakarka, C-112	50.00	Anonymous	10.00
(IMO Albert Zakarka)		Margaret Allen	10.00
K of L Council 72, Binghamton	25.00	Catherine Applegate	10.00
Lillian R. & Samuel J. Adams	25.00	Anne Marie Jaskel	10.00
(IMO John & Marh Kapochus)		Joseph & Mary Majauskas	10.00
Dorothy Banos, C-143	25.00	Anna Radzavage	10.00
Mark Bell, C-96	25.00	(IMO Domicelle Misunas)	
Frances Banevich, C-135	25.00	Regina Petronko	10.00
John S. & Eleanor Bogdon	25.00	Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144	10.00
Peter Cekaitis	25.00	Anthony Yacavonis, C-12	10.00
(IMO deceased family members)		(IMO Wife Kazimiera)	
Mary Ann Cipolla	25.00	Polly Ziausys, C-100	10.00
John Cummins, C-110	25.00	Elizabeth Zibas, C-112	10.00
(IMO Helen Cummins)			
Ursula Damoski	25.00	Subtotal (General):	\$21,736.00
Dorothy Lapelis DeGennaro, C-141	25.00		
(IMO Deceased relatives)		Seminary Fund:	
Florence M. Fraser	25.00	Pat & Tony Alexander, C-7	\$2000.00
(IMO deceased parents)		Anonymous	500.00
John C. Iwasko	25.00	Vytis Editors	200.00
Flavius Jankauskas	25.00	(IMO Vincent Boris)	
(IMO Mother Vincenta)		K of L Council 29, Newark	125.00
John & Dolored Jonaitis, C-147	25.00	Richard Niedvares, C-16	100.00
Aniele Kendrick	25.00	Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	50.00
(IMO deceased family members)		(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	25.00	Casey & Irene Grikenis, C-72	50.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12 & 141	25.00	Edward & Frances Jakatt, C-110	50.00
(IMO Mitch Marcinauskas)		Rita Karrytais, C-26	50.00
Lee C. Marcinka, C-141	25.00	Dorothy A. Banos, C-143	25.00
(IMO John P. Marcinka)		Ruth Kriecioch, C-103	25.00
Ruth T. Margis	25.00	Lee C. Marcinka, C-141	25.00
(IMO Husband & Parents)		(IMO John P. Marcinka)	
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	25.00	Jean & Richard Marks, C-25	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00		

Julia Matulewich, C-110	25.00
(IMO Patricia Tevichuk)	
Helen Matulonis, C-110	25.00
(IMO Alexandra & Anthony Matulonis)	
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	25.00
Rita S. Sussko, C-29	25.00
(IMO Michael Sussko)	
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
Dolores Wainauskis, C-112	25.00
Eleanor Wisniewski, C-141	25.00
Joseph & Irene Yanek, C-86	25.00
(IMO John & Twila Novitskas)	
Faustas & Theresa Strolia, HM, C-36	20.00
Evelyn & Iggy Walles, C-110	20.00
(IMO Margaret Papeika, C-19)	

Subtotal (Seminary): **\$3,465.00**

PLEDGES:

K of L Mid-America District	\$250.00
K of L Council 16, Chicago (Bridgeport)	100.00
(On the occasion of Council's 10th Anniversary)	
K of L Council 36, Chicago (Brighton)	25.00

Subtotal (Pledges): **\$375.00**

TOTAL **\$25,576.00**

ST. CASIMIR GUILD:

General:

K of L, Amber District	\$200.00
Arthur Stankevitz, C-72	150.00
K of L Council 152, Eastern L.I.	100.00
Pat & Tony Alexander, C-7	100.00
John Antanavicius, C-12	100.00
(IMO Antanavicius Family)	
Algerd & Aldona Brazis, C-112	100.00
Helen C. Chesko, C-144	100.00
(IMO Atty. John Stoke)	
Mary Labadis, C-144	100.00
(IMO Bill & Helen Labadis)	
K of L, Mid-Atlantic District	50.00
K of L, Council 3, Philadelphia	50.00
K of L, Council 25, Cleveland	50.00
K of L, Council 26, Worcester	50.00
(IMO HM Rita Pinkus)	
K of L, Council 86, DuBois	50.00
K of L, Council 109, Great Neck	50.00
K of L, Council 143, Pittston	50.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	50.00
Mark Bell, C-96	50.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	50.00
Rita Karrytais, C-26	50.00
Fred & Beatrice Lucka, C-152	50.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	50.00
K of L Council 72, Binghamton	35.00
K of L Council 133, Los Angeles	25.00
(IMO Rita Pinkus)	
K of L Council 146, Harrisburg	25.00
Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	25.00
(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Len Kapochus, C-3	25.00

(IMO Marilyn Kapochus)	
Eleanor Kasputis, C-112	25.00
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Jean & Richard Marks, C-25	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, HM, C-3	25.00
Jean Mihalick, C-143	25.00
Clemencine Miller, HM, C-141	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Charles & Marge Petronis, C-3	25.00
(IMO Helen Conroy)	
Sophia Sakalys, C-103	25.00
Barbara Wilcinskas-Schmidt, C-141	25.00
Albert J. Shurkis, C-135	25.00
Kazys Sipaila, HM, C-29	25.00
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	25.00
Rita Sussko, C-29	25.00
(IMO Michael Sussko)	
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	25.00
(IMO Father Jenkus)	
Ruth & Jack Tyson, C-135	25.00
Josephine & Joseph J. Zukas, C-109	25.00
Dolores Wainauskis, C-112	25.00
Auŕa Maknys, C-3	22.00
(IMO Joseph & Dorothy Burke)	
Diane Drumstas, C-3	20.00
(IMO Helen Conroy & Rita Pinkus)	
Faustas & Theresa Strolia, HM, C-36	20.00
Kenneth & Agnes Dunn, C-152	10.00
(IMO John Dunn Family)	
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO Tom McDonald 3rd)	
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO Father Matthew Jarasunas)	
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	10.00
Polly Ziausys, C-100	10.00
Elizabeth Zibas, C-112	10.00

Subtotal (General): **\$2,357.00**

Beds for Guest House:

George & Frances Bumila, C-1	\$100.00
(IMOL Michael & Eva Balukonis & Family)	
Casey & Irene Grikenis, C-72	100.00
Dawn Maknys, C-3	100.00
(IMO Benediktas Rutkunas)	
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	100.00
(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas)	

Subtotal (Beds): **\$400.00**

PLEDGES:

Agnes Waitonis, C-103	\$500.00
(IMO Joseph A. Waitonis)	
K of L Mid-America District	250.00
K of L Council 16, Chicago (Bridgeport)	100.00
K of L Council 36, Chicago (Brighton)	25.00

Subtotal (Pledges): **\$875.00**

TOTAL **\$3,632.00**

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION:

K of L Council 3, Philadelphia	\$100.00
K of L Council 144, Anthracite	100.00
VYTIS Editors	100.00
(IMO Vince Boris & Jack Stukas)	
Anonymous	100.00
John Antanavicius, C-12	100.00
(IMO Deceased Members of C-12)	
George & Frances Bumila, C-1	100.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	100.00
(IMO Vlade Kassel)	
Gene Gobis, C-100	100.00
Lillian Greymas, C-3	100.00
Aušra Maknys, C-3	100.00
(IMO Marilyn Kapochus)	
James Marcinkus, C-153	100.00
John & Agnes Mickunas, C-3	100.00
Irene Ozalis, C-3	100.00
Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96	100.00
(IMO Vlade Kassel)	
Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29	100.00
(IMO Vlade Kassel)	
Anna Supernavage, C-144	100.00
Frank Yonika, C-17	100.00
K of L Council 26, Worcester	50.00
(IMO HM Rita Pinkus)	
K of L Council 86, DuBois	50.00
K of L Council 143, Pittston	50.00
Bernice Aviza, C-136	50.00
Mary Labadis, C-144	50.00
(IMO Bill & Helen Labadis)	
Arthur Stankevitz, C-72	50.00
Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103	50.00
Polly Ziausys, C-100	40.00
(IMO Fr. Balčys)	
Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	\$25.00
(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Dorothy Banos, C-143	25.00
Mark Bell, C-96	25.00
Len Kapochus, C-3	25.00
(IMO Marilyn Kapochus)	
Mary F. Kincius, C-36	25.00
Elsie Kosmisky, C-144	25.00
Helen Medley, C-50	25.00
Jean Mihalick, C-143	25.00
Clemencine Miller, HM, C-141	25.00
Lee & Paul Moore, C-86	25.00
Vyto & Ann Morkunas, C-26	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Millie J. Pietz, C-12	25.00
(IMO Peter & Anna Garbinčius)	
Sophia Sakalys, C-103	25.00
Ed & Irene Senken, C-12	25.00
Albert J. Shurkis, C-135	25.00
Rita S. Sussko, C-29	25.00
(IMO Michael Sussko)	
Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17	25.00
(IMO Joseph Boley)	
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
(IMO Stanley Vaicaitis)	
Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144	25.00
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12 & 141	20.00

(IMO Mitch Marcinauskis)	
Frank & Irene Petrauskas, HM, C-140	20.00
(IMO Rita Pinkus)	
Faustas & Theresa Strolia, HM, C-36	20.00
Evelyn & Iggy Walles, C-110	20.00
(IMO Margaret Papeika)	
K of L Council 72, Binghamton	10.00
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO Thomas McDonald, Sr.)	
Anthony Yacavonis, C-12	10.00
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00
(IMO Eleanore Laurin)	

Subtotal (General): \$2,710.00

PLEDGES:

K of L Mid-America District	\$250.00
K of L Council 16, Chicago (Bridgeport)	100.00
K of L Council 36, Chicago (Brighton)	25.00

Subtotal (Pledges): \$375.00

TOTAL \$3,085.00

K OF L SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

K of L Amber District	\$100.00
K of L Council 144, Anthracite	100.00
Algerd & Aldona Brazis, HM, C-112	100.00
Mary Labadis, C-144	100.00
(IMO Bill & Helen Labadis)	
K of L Council 25, Cleveland	50.00
K of L Council 86, DuBois	50.00
K of L Council 143, Pittston	50.00
Gene Gobis, C-100	50.00
Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100	25.00
(IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis, Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)	
Dorothy Banos, C-143	25.00
Helen A. Chesko, C-144	25.00
(IMO Helen Labadis)	
Irena Gecas-McCarthy, C-96	25.00
(IMO Eugenija Gecas)	
Clemencine Miller, HM, C-141	25.00
Frances Petkus, HM, C-96	25.00
Millie Pietz, C-12	25.00
Ed & Irene Senken, C-12	25.00
Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144	25.00
(IMO Stanley Vaicaitis)	
Stephen & Alice Wilcinskas, C-141	25.00
Aušra Maknys, C-3	22.00
(IMO Rev. Ber. Shimkus)	
Stella Marcinauskis, C-12 & 141	20.00
(IMO Mitch Marcinauskis)	
Faustas & Theresa Strolia, HM, C-36	20.00
K of L Council 72, Binghamton	10.00
Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144	10.00
(IMO "Mike" McDonald)	
Julie Zakarka, C-112	10.00
(IMO Eleanore Laurin)	
Helen Medley, C-50	5.00

Subtotal (General) \$947.00

PLEDGES:

K of L Mid-America District \$250.00
 K of L Council 16, Chicago, Bridgeport 100.00
 K of L Council 36, Chicago, Brighton 25.00

Subtotal (Pledges): \$375.00

TOTAL \$1,312.00

SILUVA SHRINE (WASHINGTON, DC) FUND:

K of L, Mid-Atlantic District \$50.00
 K of L, Council 3, Philadelphia 50.00
 Fred & Beatrice Lučka, C-152 50.00
 Mirga & Ed Bablin, C-100 25.00
 (IMO Deceased members of Bablinskas, Kerbelis,
 Matulaitis & Strikolis Families)
 Helen A. Chesko, C-141 25.00
 (IMO Vincent Boris)
 Elsie Kosmisky, C-144 25.00
 Julia Matulewich, C-110 25.00
 (IMO John & Petronelle Vaitiekus)
 Irena Gecas McCarthy, C-96 25.00
 (IMO Eugenija Gecas)
 Kazys Sipaila, HM, C-29 25.00
 Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103 25.00
 Josephine & Joseph J. Zukas, C-109 25.00
 Aušra Maknys, C-3 22.00
 (IMO Rev. K. Sakalauskas)
 Mary Labadis, C-144 20.00
 (IMO Bill & Helen Labadis)
 Stella Marcinauskis, C-12 & 141 20.00
 (IMO Mitch Marcinauskis)
 K of L Council 72, Binghamton 10.00
 Anonymous 10.00
 Tom & Anna Helen McDonald, C-144 10.00
 (IMO Tom McDonald II, Ed & Blanche Bubel)
 Sophia Sakalys, C-103 10.00
 Ruth Tyson, C-135 10.00
 (IMO Olga Gray)
 Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144 10.00
 Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144 10.00
 Polly Ziausys, C-100 10.00
 Elizabeth Zibas, C-112 10.00
 Helen Medley, C-50 5.00

TOTAL: \$507.00

LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF:

Amber District \$100.00
 Rita Karrytais, C-26 100.00

TOTAL DONATIONS AND PLEDGES RECEIVED \$41,039.00

Pat & Tony Alexander, C-7 100.00
 Len Kapochus, C-3 100.00
 (IMO Marilyn Kapochus)
 K of L Council 86, DuBois 50.00
 K of L Council 143, Pittston 50.00
 Casey & Irene Grikenis, C-72 50.00
 Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144 50.00
 K of L, Council 1, Brockton 25.00
 (IMO Sylvia Shukis)
 Dorothy A. Banos, C-143 25.00
 (In Honor of Director Sister Helen)
 Elsie Kosmisky, C-144 25.00
 Ruth Krecioch, C-103 25.00
 Jean Mihalick, C-143 25.00
 Helen A. Chesko, C-144 25.00
 (IMO Rita Pinkus)
 John & Dolores Jonaitis, C-147 25.00
 Lee & Paul Moore, C-86 25.00
 Ed & Irene Senken, C-12 25.00
 Albert J. Shurkis, C-135 25.00
 Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103 25.00
 Longinas Svelnis, HM, C-17 25.00
 (IMO HM Tevas Mykolas Norkunas)
 Joseph & Irene Yanek, C-86 25.00
 Aušra Maknys, C-3 22.00
 (IMO Frank Andrews)
 Mary Labadis, C-144 20.00
 (IMO Bill & Helen Labadis)
 Faustas & Theresa Strolia, HM, C-36 20.00
 Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144 20.00
 Lillian & Millie, C-135 10.00
 (IMO Olga Gray)

TOTAL \$1,017.00

SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR:

Aušra Maknys, C-3 \$22.00
 Mary Labadis, C-144 10.00
 Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144 10.00

TOTAL \$42.00

SISTERS HELPING SISTERS IN LITHUANIA:

Rita Savickaite Krecioch, C-103 \$25.00
 Sophia Sakalys, C-103 10.00

TOTAL \$35.00

The Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council and all its Committees and Funds express sincerest thanks to all Districts, Councils, members and guests for their very generous donations, to keep our organization and its many activities thriving. Please note that donations made to these and other charities by the Supreme Council are listed with the Resolutions, elsewhere in this issue.

District & Council News

New England District

Aldona Marcavage

What a pleasure to meet old friends at the retreat in Kennebunkport, Maine. Even a soggy (off an on) weather could not dampen our spirits. Missing and very much missed this year were Sylvia Shuk and Rita Pinkus who have been called to their eternal rest. They were remembered at Holy Mass by the 85 retreatants.

At midday, the hunt for the best lobsters began. The evening meals as usual, were unsurpassed. Just like mother used to make. They treated us like family. Many thanks to the kitchen personnel and to Sophie - "the boss".

In the evening, the recreation rooms drew people there to play cards and games. Much laughter and more fun than TV, I assure you. I hope we all will meet there again next June.

C-10, Athol-Gardner, MA

Vincukas

This article about member Martha Aleson made the news 50 years ago in the "Gardner News":

"Martha Aleson, New York concert singer who introduced the song, "United Nations" two years ago spent the week in Gardner visiting her mother. Miss Aleson, who appeared on radio, in light opera and musical comedy roles and on Broadway in such stage hits as "Naughty Marietta" and "On the Town" leaves shortly on a concert trip to South America. She introduced the United Nations song to an audience of more than 20,000 in New York. It has since been translated into nine languages. - Bravo, Martha!"



Our lady of the cactus? Greetings from Anna Balsis a member of C-110, Maspeth who relocated to Sun City, Arizona

Nellie Malaika and Maryann Langlois vacationed on the Isle of Capri and Rome; Bill and Brone Wisniauskas toured the United Kingdom and Ireland and later visited Lithuania in the Kaunas and Kedainai area. Dr. Henry Gailiunas again spent a month in Lithuania. Doc, what's the attraction?

Congratulations to Fr. Al Contons on his 50th and his elevation to domestic prelate.

Howie Beaudette has done an excellent job as grounds keeper at the Lithuanian Club on the lake in Gardner.

A group of our members attended the Holy Trinity parish picnic in Hartford and many attended the Sisters annual picnic in Putnam.

Congratulations to Bronius and Brone Savulis of Greenfield on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Wishing the couple many more and better health.

St. Francis is raising funds to install an elevator at church for the handicapped. Several dinner have already taken place.

Sacred Heart Parish in Gardner, where the majority of Gardner's Catholic Lithuanians worship is celebrating its 125th anniversary of its founding. Three Lithuanian curates served the Lithuanians through the years.

Sincere condolences are extended to the families of Rita Pinkus, Dwight Cummings and Mary Duggan families, all of Worcester, on their recent deaths. Rest in peace.

Eleanor Baltakis has had several health problems, but is back to normal again. Keep Sophie Beauregard, who recently underwent an operation, in your prayers.

Congratulations to Nellie Melaika on

retirement. Nell, enjoy!

C-12, New York, NY

Dalia Bulvičius

We were all happy to see each other after a busy summer. All tanned and rested, ready for work. Our annual elections will be held in October. On October Sunday 18th will be our annual parish dinner. Father Eugene and the parishioners invite all to attend. It is always a most enjoyable event.

Stasė Aleliūnienė, our talented weaver, represented the K. of L. and C-12 at the Smithsonian Inst. Museum Folk Festival at the arts and crafts demonstration in Washington, DC. Congratulations Stasė!

Eleven members from C-12 attended the convention in Waterbury, Conn. Even our spiritual advisor Father Eugene Sawicki made a brief appearance to check us out. It was a well run and successful convention. Congratulations to C-7, the hosts. Next year we travel to Philadelphia.

Best wishes to Ed and Irene Senken on the addition of two new grandsons to their ever expanding family.

Get well wishes to Vinnie Cuprewich who is still recuperating from hip surgery and to Joe Sleder who is on the mend from knee surgery.

Traveling were: Millie Pietz, John Antanavičius, Vida and Vincent Gendvilas who went to Lithuania. We look forward to hear all about their trips. Alma Korengo spent a good part of the summer with her family in Pennsylvania and Julia Gomes was with her daughter in North Carolina.

C-26, Worcester, MA

Stephen V. Walinsky, Sr.

The summer months for C-26 had a bad start with the passing into eternity of one of our longevity members, Beatrice Tamalevich, "Betty" as she was known to all. Betty was not very active in the council, not because of unconcern, but because of health and residential location. We hate to see them go, but go we must, sometime. She died on June 22, 1998.

Also, the illnesses of two of the more active brothers of C-26, and in fact, brothers-in-law, Vitty Ivaska and Francis Degutis were made to sit on the sidelines watching time go by while recovering from

the miseries of being sick.

One glorious event of national and local importance occurred in July on the days of the 23rd to the 26th in Boston. That was the celebration of the birthday of Old Ironsides, the USS Constitution. The occasion brought in sailing vessels and naval ships from other parts of the world, including the ship VETRA from Lithuania. Invitations were extended to individuals and organizations throughout New England, to tour the ship and to meet the sailors from Lithuania.

I went, I saw, I enjoyed. I was accompanied by my wife, Anne, Steve Jr. and Ellie Walinsky. I don't know what I would have done if they were not with me, I would still be trying to find my way around and out of Boston.

Peter Molis, member of C-116, was on the reception organizing committee and also, of C-116, Anthony Miner who was a selected representative of the Naturalization and Social Club. Tony visited and enjoyed a reception aboard the ship. This was arranged to receive and entertain the celebrities and sponsors who contributed to the success of their voyage to the U.S.A.

C-27 Norwood, MA

Lenore Jarvis

A memorial Mass by Rev. William Wolkovich, and a reception sponsored by our council was held in the parish of St. George to honor the memory of the victims of the tragic days of June.

Later that month, the New England District held its annual weekend retreat at the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, Maine. About 85 members participated in this joyous event. They came early and stayed extra days to continue the good fellowship and camaraderie and spiritual benefits of the beautiful surroundings. Council 27 participants included: Lillian and Ted Callahan, Lenore and Albie Jarvis, Ramona and Ed. Gonski, Stan and Frances Medveski, Mr. and Mrs Macys, Stan and Terry Wasil, Louise and Paul Zukas. For many years our long time fellow member, Mrs Helen Dallalis worked hard in the planning of this retreat.

The first week in July we were saddened to learn the sudden passing of our dear friend and good

council member, Stanley Dallalis. Our love and heartfelt sympathy goes out to his wife, Helen Dallalis and family.

Council 27 looks forward to the coming season to continue to support true K. of L. customs, culture and traditions - for God and Country.

C-29, Newark, NJ

Rita Sussko

Council 29 held its annual cake sale and luncheon on Palm Sunday with all proceeds being donated to Holy Trinity Lithuanian church. Our regular monthly meeting followed.

On April 19th, HM Kazys Šipaila, Ann O'Neill, Rita Sussko and Paula Paskas attended the MAD meeting in Brooklyn, where Paula received her third degree. Two other members of C-29 were to receive their degrees, but circumstances did not permit them to attend. Therefore, they received this honor on the council level at our May meeting.

On April 26th, HM Loretta Stukas journeyed to Waterbury, CT to attend the Supreme Council pre-convention meeting. Rita Sussko was her traveling companion.

Our May meeting began with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Peter Uhde and crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The honor, this year, going to Michele and Lisa Coti, granddaughters of our vice president, Harold Kaminskas. This was also a special occasion for Joseph and Lillian Russell, who are celebrating their 56th wedding anniversary this month. Our other special member, Kotryna Stanavičiūtė celebrated her 91st birthday. Happy Birthday and many more Kotryna!

June 7th was our final meeting for the summer, we will meet again in September. We usually closed with a social for council members, but this year we deviated from the usual. Prior to the meeting, a luncheon was served with all proceeds going to Holy



May Crowning at Holy Trinity Church. Pictured are Fr. Peter Uhde -C-29, Newark Spiritual Advisor with Michele, Lisa and Mrs. Coti.

Trinity Lithuanian Church. Who else would chair this event, but our ever efficient lady, Marie Guoba, assisted by her ever faithful committee: Ada Anruska, Nijole Audėnas, Virginia Kaminskas, Nellie Krynicki, Elizabeth Luciw, Jennie Miklasavige, Nijole and Vytautas Miknevičius, Nellie Nechiporuk, Ann O'Neill, Helen Radicsh, HM Kazys Šipaila, Helen and John Sisak, and Rita Sussko.

C-50, New Haven, CT

Audrey Toole

Congratulations to Mary Bachinski, who received her 3rd degree at the New England District Spring convention in Lawrence.

Other members who attended the meeting were Bill Bachinski, Helen Medley, Al Papeika, Leo Tamulis and Ed and Audrey Toole.

Helen Klimaszewski and Mary Ann Cappelli were presented their 3rd degree medals at a council meeting. Helen Case was presented her 4th degree at the National Convention.

Our condolences are extended to the families of recently deceased members Charles Dekas, Robert Taragowski and John Prishwalko as well as Father Edward Gradeck.

Since St. Casimir's Church is not to be closed in the near future, Council 50 looks forward to hosting the Fall New England District meeting.

C-63 Lehigh Valley, PA

Evelyn Harryn

Council-63 closed the first half of 1998 with a feeling of achievement. Our donations to the Lithuanian Aid Program were generous. Many thanks to all of our members for their hard work and generosity. We especially wish to thank the "faithful ones" that attend the meetings and form the core of our council. They are our foundation and our strength.

At this point, we must thank Adele and Andy Keraga for the great job that they did collecting stamps for Sister Helen's Lithuanian Children's Aid Program. They cut, clip, package and then mail them to her by the shoe boxes full! Ačiū Labai!

Our Council also owes many "Ačiūs" to our dear members, Blanche and Joe Kohanski. We voted to donate \$100.00 to the Children's School Lunch Program. Caringly, the Kohanski's matched this with another \$100.00. What a beautiful deed this was! Širdingai Ačiū!

At our May meeting, we celebrated the 56th Anniversary of our dear Lithuanian friends, Lillian and Joseph Russell. They provided the toast of "Bermuda Gold", which they brought back from one of their cruises. Lillian also provided many lovely door prizes. This makes our raffle ticket sales soar - and it sure boosts our treasury! The meal and desserts were enjoyed by all and much fun was included.

At our June meeting, we confirmed dates for some of our upcoming events and fund-raisers. The Flea Market will be held on October 1st, 2nd and 3rd. A "Bleenie and Sausage" Dinner will be held on October 18th, with a short meeting afterward. This affair will be open to the public. November will be the Annual Covered Dish. Our Kučios will be held on December 6th.

Council members were saddened with the news of our member, Jack Lushis. He had been hospitalized for eight weeks with multiple problems. He is now at home. One by one, he is recovering from his surgery and other problems. Jack, we want you to know that you are in our prayers. He has been an active member and worker for a long time.

Our very active worker and past President (more than once), Joe Ogint, is recuperating after some serious surgery. He attributes much of his recovery to his private nurse, wife Valentyna, and his daughter, Grace. We are all rooting for you, Joe. Hope to see you back at our meetings...SOON!

In April, we were delighted to have the presence of our member, Connie Duha of Taylor, Michigan, at our meeting.

Many thanks to the Shamokin Council for hosting the Amber District Meeting in June. This was held at the great Knoebles Park. Bob Wislock and his group always provide a wonderful affair. Too bad the weather didn't cooperate! Evelyn and

Paul Harryn along with Adele and Andy Keraga represented C-63.

In September, we hope to resume our normal schedule. Our next meeting will be held on September 20th. The luncheon will be served "Old World Style" and Bleenies are on the menu!

Let's remember all of our sick and ailing members in our prayers each day.

C-96, Dayton, OH

Fran Petkus

In spite of the constant heat, we are still maintaining all activities. July saw us hold our monthly meeting/family picnic on the church grounds. The attendance may have been small, but all had a good time. The council supplied the meat and liquid refreshments, while members brought covered dishes to share. I you want to learn how to play "no peek bridge" see Pat Anthony!

Members of C-96 attended the 85th National Convention in Waterbury, CT with honorary members, Elinor Sluzas and Fran Petkus. Mark Bell of Nashville, TN, attended the convention as a delegate for the Mid-Central District. Mark was also busy with duties as SC Trustee and on the National Convention Budget Committee. Elinor was a member of the Convention's Resolutions Committee, while Fran participated in duties required of district presidents. Joe Gecas, our Florida member, was a delegate for the council.

Irena Gecas-McCarthy was in attendance as SC Chair of the K. of L. Scholarship Committee. Reports cam back that they had a great time and that the sessions went very well. Knowing the work that goes into putting a national convention together, C-7 members must be thanked for a job well done!

Chris and Joe Fletcher hosted the council's Junior Knights to a weekend at St. Mary's Lake. The Dayton Lithuanian Anglers have a cottage at the lake. With Joe being a member of the Anglers, also, the cottage was an ideal place to treat the Juniors. They had fun swimming, fishing, hiking, playing games with lots to eat and munch on.

The Greene County Sheriff's Department lost a very special member with the retirement of Henry Pant. Enjoy! Get well wishes go out to recent eye surgery member, Rita Ambrose and Sally Miller. Also on the get well list is HM Aldona Ryan, Veronica Heitkamp, Charlie Vangas, (our

Florida member), Bob Keivel and Stefanija Rastikis.

Deepest Sympathies to Jimmy and Joan Kavalauskas on the recent loss of Jimmy's brother, Tony. Sympathies go out to C-79, Southfield, MI, president Margaret Dapkus on the loss of her husband, William. May their souls rest in the peace of the Lord.

C-102, Detroit, MI

Dvynuke

Phew! The hot, humid weather did not deter 22 faithful K. of L'ers from attending the July corporate Mass and meeting that followed. Even our Secretary, Patricia Zyren, came sporting a leg cast, as a result of a knee injury.

We have our own "frequent flyer", namely HM Bob Boris, venturing off to Lithuania on another ATL fact-finding mission. ATL working with Pharmacies Without Borders in France, has shipped 57 containers as of May. Commendable! Others who were Lithuania bound were our spiritual advisor, Father Alphonse Babonas, visiting with family and taking in the Dainu ir Šokiu Švente and concelebrating Mass with Bishop Sigitas Tamkevičius. One of our new members, Antanina Leparškiene, while in Lithuania visited her birthplace.

Father Babonas was feted with an anniversary dinner at St. Anthony's commemorating his 35th year in the priesthood. Įgiausiu, laimingu metu Teveli!

Our 102 members extend their deepest sympathies to social member, Norm Hein, whose brother Richard died recently. Though Richard never bowled, he was known amongst the MCD bowlers. Richard accompanied Norm and rooted on his teammates. Condolences are also extended to SM Sam Perritino, upon the death of his father, and to C-79's Helen Usoris upon the death of her husband, Joseph. May the souls of the faithful departed rest peacefully in God's heavenly kingdom.

Get well wishes and prayers go out to long-standing member and bowler, Josephine Jonulate, who was recently hospitalized. Also to Fay Cislo, who underwent surgery. May you both heal well and quickly. We miss seeing you at St. Anthony's, Jo. You, too, Tim Baibak!

They will soon be off again - Recently retirees Michael and Theresa Shea are heading for

New York to attend two separate family reunions - the Stasulaitis and Shea families - then on to a cruise of the Greek Islands and a visit to the Holy Land. Sounds exciting! Laimingos kėlionės! The Hofner's son, Eric, wife Jane and their three daughters just returned from a trip to Germany visiting their family. The Zyrens sojourned to the beautiful state of Colorado to attend their granddaughters HS graduation. Vic and Marie Yokins granddaughter, Rebecca Watkins, is presently employed at Yellowstone National Park, and loving it. Ruth Wagster missed the meeting because she was in Oscodo attending grandson Larry's wedding. Nomads are we! You can sure tell what John Stanievich's favorite pastime is - his musical notes suspenders tell all!

A goodly number of our 102 members attended the Memorial Day Mass services dedicated to the deceased veterans. A luncheon at Divine Providence church followed. We extend a "nuoširdus ačiū" to the Vets, some of them 102 members. Sisters Miriam (Racas), Marietta (Žvirblis) and Augusta (Skulis) were visiting from the Convent of St. Francis, did an excellent job of showing slides of the improvements and new construction at the convent, along with a display of pictures and illustrations of past and present history of both the convent and St. George's. There the sisters and many K. of L'ers were classmates.

Proud grandparents, Ray and Theresa Medonis, gratefully welcomed their 15th grandchild. Son Robb and his wife Sandie adopted a one-day old baby - Faith Karita. Raymond and Mariella Klucens are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Mariella's sister from Peru, who is to be baby Kevin's godmother at his christening. We were elated to see our president's Richard Straksys and his wife, Denise's ten week old son, Richard Peter, Jr. Congratulations to all!

The "frequent flyer" arrived home safely, reporting he spent the day with C-19's Rob Medonis, and 102 members Antanas Balsys and Paul Bindokas, who are doing excellent humanitarian work! Su Diev!

C-110, Waspeth, NY

Helen Matulionis

"Gosh, the summer with its haziness, hot, humid days" simply whizzed by and we're now back

in full force to start another season of meetings, luncheons, dinners and events.

The National Convention was well attended by many but our Council, sad to say, had only a few delegates participating. However, we were delighted that our two dedicated members of long standing, Julia Matulewich and Mary Stelmokas earned their 4th Degree this year. Both were ecstatic since not only Bishop Paulius A. Baltakis, OFM was present at the Mass but the Archbishop of Hartford, his excellency Daniel A. Cronin also graced the premises along with Msgr. Al Bartkus from Rome.

Another highlight for our council was, once again, Pres. Rutkūnas being awarded \$200 for 2nd prize in the essay contest. Hidden talent rests deep within us. Shouldn't we all come out of the closet and do our utmost to bring in some new ideas and new members to augment and strengthen the K of L?

Our attendance at the Convention truly revealed the numbers missing, with no replacements. First, second, third generations do not let our heritage die! We need all bodies who are interested in prolonging Lithuanianism.

We are endeavoring to strengthen our Lithuanianism further with the recent entrance of Rev. Vytas Volertas into our parish. We welcome Father Vytas and warmly accept his attendance, ideas and assistance in our midst. Sveikinam naują vytuį!

Wishes of good health are extended to Helen Venis and Catherine Ward after their recent operations. Both are convalescing at their children's homes.

Our deepest condolences are extended to the families of Igni Walles, Helen Kenczyn and Anna Walonis. May they rest in peace.

"Onward to our 75th Anniversary"

Lai gyvuoja Vyčiai!

C-135, Ansonia, CT

J. A. Sabulis

Well, it's about time that we wrote and told you all about what's going on in Ansonia. It has been a long time and I will not keep you in suspense any longer.

We wish to congratulate the following persons: Fran Barsevich, Lil Norwid and Al Shurkis on receiving their fourth degrees at the National Convention in Waterbury. I was a hard job, but we

made it at last. Lots of luck and we will keep it in mind when we need that extra job done. Congratulations once again.

While we're at it, we wish to extend best wishes to our young member, John P. Sabulis. Our best wishes on getting the Third Degree, too. Lawrence, MA is a long way to go, but it was worth it. Good luck, John! We hope you get the Fourth when it comes time.

We would like to express our condolences to the families of HM Rita Pinkus, who died on June 3rd, and Anne E. Miller of Council 116, who passed on April 30. Rita did so much for the K. of L. locally, on the district and national levels was fantastic. Anne was a great help in any way she could. We can't say enough about these two, they will be missed.

It has been a rather long time since we had a communion breakfast on our own, as our members would rather go to someone else's. The food always tastes better and they don't have to do the work. The last time the gang went out, was down Bridgeport way. That was Millie Driznus, Fran Barsevich, Ruth Tyson and Lil Chaplick. They said they had a grand time and would go again.

We would like to extend our best wishes to our great pastor, Fr. Patrick J. Berkery. It is nice to have a priest who can give an interesting homily and make you feel great and glad you went to church. If you haven't heard Fr. Berkery, come to St. Anthony's and give a listen.

While we're still at it, we'd like to also thank our hard working Sister Rosemary Spodik for the fine job she is doing. Everyone is remarking about the newsletter she put out recently listing who is sick and where they were. Keep up the good work!

How about our church organ? It had been years since we heard it last. Our new Music Director, Lorraine Zuba, and a few others have corrected that problem. The new church choir is also a big help. Special thanks to Al Kacergius, Jr. who did a great job at his own expense. It is not the first time in doing this.

Also, a big thanks to the Men's Club for the fine job they did at the Club BBQ. It was great!

C-136 Hudson - Mohawk, NY

Dorothy Richmire

Our annual participation in the Festival of Nations on May 30 was a huge success. As usual, we offered delicious foods including kugelis, virtiniai, kopūstai, ruginė duona, Lithuanian apple juice and for dessert, we offered Gen Deery's famous mushroom cookies, Gen Baranauskas famous walnut cookies, poppy seed muffins and coffee cake plus the traditional tree cake.

Ed Baranauskas successfully lured visitors into sampling his cucumbers and honey. He sold them all! Way to go, Ed!

My brother, Ed Barkowski and I have an on-going battle as to whose recipe for kopūstai is more popular. His is HOT and mine is NOT. Who ever heard of including Jalapeño peppers in a Lithuanian dish? Actually, we offered both and they both appealed to our visitors. Go figure!

It was a beautiful day and we will have fun working at our booth and at the same time we were able to donate a portion of our profits to the Schenectady museum and some to our council. All in all a good day.

Our June meeting consisted of dinner at a local restaurant and all who attended agreed the food was terrific and besides it was an opportunity to enjoy each others' company.

We wished Bon Voyage to Lynn McCafferty and her mom, Helen Hayner, who visited their relatives in Lithuania this summer. We look forward to hearing all about their trip at our next meeting.

C-141, Bridgeport, CT

Aldona Marcavage

Our pride and joy is having a new honorary member - Clemencine Miller as president. May the good Lord bless her with a long, healthy and happy life plus many more active years in the Knights of Lithuania.

No meetings during July and August gave me a chance to catch up on some of the local news and stuff.

Prior to the June meeting, our dear friend, Stella Marcinauskis, created quite a stir by locking herself out of her car with many of the goodies for the council lunch inside. After a myriad of ideas from unqualified "door openers", a good Samaritan came out of church and deftly opened the door. Everyone cheered!

The Alfred Baran family, who lives on the shores of Long Island Sound, invited C-141 members to their lovely homesight for the annual summer picnic.

Clemencine Miller announced that Pat Silk and Barbara Schmidt will be on our Ritual committee.

Congratulations to Joseph Janiunas who received his 4th degree medal at the National Convention in August.

We were pleased to meet Asta, Stella Marcinauskis' niece visiting from Lithuania. Vacationing in Lithuania this summer were Gintarė Ivaška, Rose and Walt Barius. Larry Misevičius and his fiancée, Irene flew to Lithuania to finalize their wedding plans. Both their families live there, so they plan to wed in the cathedral in Vilnius, then return here to live. More news later.

Our treasury was enriched by \$33.00 from the sale of the new catechisms by Aldona Marcavage.

President Miller said there was a very interesting article in the July issue of the "Down East" magazine about the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, ME. Eight of our members attended their retreat this year.

Joseph Janiunas spoke briefly of the tragic days of June - 58 years ago - the "Lithuanian Holocaust" when countless numbers of families were separated and shipped to Siberia - many to perish. Joe asked us to observe a minute of silence for the victims.

The Milford Historical Society invited our council to take part in "The Immigrants Christmas in July", through the Society's active member, Jean Rigely. Many creative ladies were busy making beautiful straw ornaments. Bob Marcavage once more recreated a small scale Hill of Crosses. Leaflets explaining the Hill of Crosses were available.

Aldona Peters suggested we collect religious articles for Lithuania, as well as stamps.

Larry Misevičius gave a talk on an old Lithuanian custom - the festivities on the evening of June 24th - St. John's feast day. It was the night for the search of "paparčio žiedas" (fern blossom) in the forest. Bonfires blazed and songs were sung. It was a night of fun.

Former dance instructor for "Vėtra" and a

tireless worker for "APPLE, Vaiva Vėbraitė Gust was chosen as deputy minister of education in Lithuania. It will mean living in Lithuania for a half a year and in the USA for the other half. She is a NED Knight. We wish you well, Vaiva, in your new endeavor. Let us know more about the education in Lithuania.

Get well greetings to Eleanor Jakutis still on our sick list.

NED fall convention will be held September 20th in New Haven and C-50 will be hosting.

C-142, Washington, DC

by Clare Soponis

LIETUVA COMES TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

The three Baltic nations were featured this year in the annual outdoor Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the Mall held June 24-28 and July 1-5. The Philippines and the State of Wisconsin also participated.

The summer's heat didn't deter the K. of L.'ers from enjoying the festivities. The first day visitors included Council 142's Jean and John Ratway, Irene and Len Redecke, Jean and Al Cizauskas, Jean Lutwin, Clare Soponis, John Waylonis and Joe Chaplick.

Incidentally, Joe Chaplick's niece from San Francisco was unexpectedly in town on business and failed to reach him at home. However, when she heard about the Baltic Nations at the Festival, she was confident she'd find him among the Lithuanians - and she did!

First on the agenda was the Pavilion Entertainment Tent, where there was a program of Lithuanian music, including songs by Trys Keturiuose Insula Sutaras. They were dressed in medieval costumes, and presented old folk music sung in ancient times in Lithuania.

A group of K. of L. members from Pennsylvania joined us that afternoon, including Ann Wargo, Helen Chesko, Elsie Kosmisky, Dot Banos, Eleanor Vaičaitis, and Martha Warnagiris. After the performances, it was off to the Baltic Nations Food area, to enjoy Lithuanian pancakes and Estonian beer.

The evening of June 24 saw the lighting of the traditional St. John's bonfire. The Lithuanian

longest-day-of-the-year celebration "Joninės" was celebrated this year in Washington as well as Lithuania! There was much dancing and singing on the green and Latvian musicians and folk singers joined with the Lithuanians to make the event even more spectacular! Young girls in costume with floral wreaths on their heads danced and sang. Then each girl turned her back toward a spiked branched tree and tossed her wreath. If the wreath clung to a branch, she would marry this year. After this ritual, each young man in the group danced with the only girl to make a perfect toss.

During the festival, a total of fifty performers and craftspeople from Lithuania were on hand to demonstrate important national traditions such as weaving linens, wood carving, amber artistry, telling folk tales, and dancing in national costume. The participants spoke only Lithuanian.

A band of masked revelers entertained in scary costumes that are worn on Shrove Tuesday night, the Lithuanian Mardi Gras. Their wild, imaginative outfits provoked shrieks and hilarity in the crowd.

A widely renowned ensemble from the village of Marcinkonys in southern Lithuania, comprised of older men and women, presented a variety of music. They were outstanding! After the festival closed for the day on Saturday, they participated in a private concert that evening for the local Lithuanian community, with guests from New York and Baltimore.

Lithuania's treasure, Veronika Povilionienė, a folk singer who has seven hundred folk songs in her memory, captivated young and old alike with her songs. She particularly charmed the children with her presentations and personality, and they were quick to gather round her.

The festival this year was a prominent tribute to Lithuania and the other Baltic States, and attending Council 142 members relish their once-in-a-lifetime experience. The wonderful and jubilant air will be long remembered!

C-144, Anthracite, PA

Ona

Attending the National Convention in Waterbury, CT, were HM Anne Wargo, Helen Chesko, Tom and Helen McDonald, Eleanor Vaicaitis and Elsie Kosmisky. Congratulations to



C-147, St. Petersburg, FL

(far left) Anthony Gudonis, C-147 Pres. Pins 3rd Degree medal on Rev. Mathew Cyvas, Spiritual Advisor in March- and Kazimiera Arlauskas and Elena Jurkynas receive their 2nd Degrees in May.

Tom, who received his Fourth Degree. We were also pleased that one of our brightest young members, Attorney Karen Domalakes, was elected as Amber District member of the Scholarship Committee.

After the Convention, all our members were busy preparing for the 84th annual Lithuanian Days. Chairpeople this year were: Overall, Eleanor Vaicaitis; Food, Evelyn Prep and Anna Brennan; Display, Bernice Mikatavage and Annie Morgalis; Raffle, Betty Tumas.

All members donated food and time to make this effort such a great success. Our special thanks go to Victor Stepulovitch of C-3, Philadelphia, who comes every year to help with the food and makes his delicious "Rukstiene".

Entertainment was provided by the Zilvinas Dancers of Philadelphia and Lynne Cox at the Accordion and the Musical McDonald Orchestra. President Marian Wydra was busy trying to get new members and Mary Labadis and Anna Radzavage chaired the sales. It was a success both socially and financially.

Because of Lithuanian Days, we donated \$1,000 to St. Casimir's Guild and purchased two beds for the Pontifical College Guesthouse. We also will be able to continue with our packages to the orphans and poor people of Lithuania. Seventeen packages were shipped in August. The committee of this project worked very hard and much good has been done this past year because of this.

We have also adopted the Carmelite Nuns in Pastuva - because of our Lithuanian Days, we have been able to do much good for Lithuania in the past years. We do not keep any of the profits for our own

council's use. We also maintain the Lithuanian Museum and Cultural Center in Frackville. Eleanor Vaicaitis is curator of the museum and we invite anyone visiting our area to visit the museum. Since many of the early Lithuanians came to the Coal Regions, we are very proud of our museum and beautiful Lithuanian churches.

C-152 Eastern, I.J.

Muriel Lekstutis

On August 23 we had a meeting. Our agenda was the Mid-Atlantic District meeting. It will be held on Sunday September 13th. Mass at 10:30 at the Church of Our Lady of Ostrabrama on Depot Lane in Cutchague. Luncheon following Mass at our meeting hall. Coffee and home made cake will be served to the early arrivals. A farewell snack before leaving. Looking forward to seeing all the Mid Atlantic District members.

Eight members attended the National Convention in Waterbury. We had 4 members receiving the 4th degree: Fred Lučka, Bernice Lučka, Agnes Marma, and Thomas Tarmey. Our new ritual chairperson, Felix Zorski, is doing a terrific job. We also have a celebrity - Julie Lott won the 3rd prize in the K. of L. essay contest. Congratulations!

John Sakal reported to the membership all that went on at the convention. As always he gave a good report.

Mary Malinauskas and her husband are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. Įlgiausiū metų to both of you.

We are saddened to report that one of our

faithful members, Agnes Pavilauskas, has passed away in August.

Our Christmas luncheon and dance will be December 6, 1998 at the Polish National Hall in Riverhead. All are invited. Tickets are \$20.00. Joe Thomas will be playing all the good polkas for us. For information please contact: Thomas Tarmey 516-298-3219 or Muriel Lekstutis 516-744-5986. A good time will be had by all. The food at the hall is excellent.

C-153, Treasure Coast, FL

Florence Miskinis

We were saddened to hear that our 90 year old member, Paul Miksys had passed away. Amžina atilšj duok mirusiems Viešpatie!

At our November election the following were elected: president and financial secretary - Frances Daniels, vice president - Connie Scheibelhut, treasurer - Josephine Lubinski, recording secretary and Sgt. of arms - Michael Pant, Lithuanian affairs and historian - Aldona Biliunas, "Vytis" correspondent - Florence Miskinis.

We ended 1997 with our traditional Christmas party. It featured ethnic foods and Italian shells and sauce by Vera Patrick. The raffle was a huge success. Joe Miskinis cousin from Lithuania was a guest and brought Utenos beer from Lithuania as a raffle gift. It was won by Mrs. Staknys.

In March, even though we had many tornado warnings, we managed to have a St. Casimir's day celebration. At Mass the offerings procession consisted of the following: cross bearer - Victor Malakas. American flag - Michael Pant, Lithuanian flag - James Marcinkus, book of scriptures and lector - Aldona Biliunas, St. Casimir's picture - Ursula Malakas, crown of thorns - Josie Lubinski, royal crown - Florence Miskinis, Lillies Stella Miskinis, Offertory gifts - Connie Scheibelhut and Victor Malakas. Celebrant was Rev. Vytautas Pikturna. (Father Pikturna is at present at the Jurgis Matulaitis nursing home at Putnam, CT).

Prayers were recited for all the deceased members of C-153. The organist was Liudas Stukas. Irena Manomaitienė conducted the Dainos Choras. The music was outstanding! We are so grateful to Irena and the chorus for the many years of good music!

Due to changes in plans, the annual St.

Not Getting Your VYTIS? Wrong Name or Address? Want to put a special Greeting in our Christmas '98 Issue? Or just want to send a gift subscription to a friend or relative? Call Mary Kincius, VYTIS Business Manager at 773-927-4990. Or write to: M. Kincius, Vytis Business Mngr. P.O. Box 32020, Chicago, IL 60632-0020

Casimir's day banquet was canceled. Following the Mass members and guests were invited to the Kafehaus for refreshments.

The raffle consisted of many beautiful gifts donated by the members. A painting by Aldona Biliunas of the wayside cross was won by Victor Malakas, a lovely afghan made by Ursula Malakas was won by Brian Lubinski, Josie's grandson. He surprised his grandmother by presenting her with the gift. Josie's pyragas was a treat, as were the krustai by Ursula Malakas and the sūrys by Florence Miskinis, all of which disappeared quickly. It was such a pleasant surprise to see Pat Alexander and her husband and their guests.

On May 4th, Aldona and Vytautas Biliunas graciously invited all members of C-153 to their lovely home for the last meeting. After a short meeting, Aldona served her delicious kugelis, dešros and kopūstai. All the members admired the beautiful oil paintings done by our talented hostess. Veto Patrick won the "Lithuanian Knight" board painted by Florence Miskinis. It was a lovely ending to our season.

Before Father Vytautas Pikturna left for Putnam, CT, he was visited at the Manor Care Rehab center by Frances Daniels and Florence Miskinis. A farewell gift was presented to him in deep gratitude for all his kindness and help throughout the past 10 years as spiritual advisor to C-153. God bless you Father. We will certainly miss you!



On the Calendar... Summit Orchestra Concert - Nov. 21, 1998 - Hosts C-147 to benefit for K. of L. causes, Am. Lith. Hall, St. Petersburg, FL. Call (727) 360-1064 for tickets.

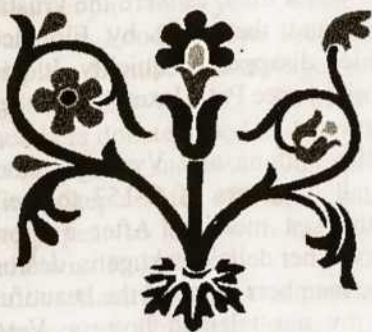
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED:**VYTIS (The Knight)****P.O. Box 32020****Chicago, IL 60632-0020**

\$50 P5 444
 THE LITHUANIAN INFORMATION CENTER
 EDITOR'S EXCHANGE COPY
 5620 SOUTH CLAREMONT
 CHICAGO IL 60636

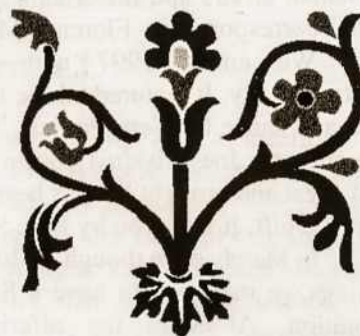
**Periodical
 Postage Paid**

DĖKOJAME DIEVUI

**Dieve leidai čia gyventi
 Duodi valgyt apsiręngti
 Tu esi visos galybės
 Sutvėriai žmonėms grožybes**



**Kalnai, girios ir šilojai
 Laukuos plaukia vasarojai
 Marios, upės, ežerėliai
 Žuvys, paukščiai, gyvulėliai**



**Gėlės žydi, skleidžia kvapą
 Visur pilna ir prie tako
 Rytai mauosi rasa
 Į mus žvelgė šypsena**

**Paukščių giesmės begalinės
 Jos gaivina mums krūtines
 Saulės spinduliai auksiniai
 Medžiai puošias sidabriniai**

**Sniegas užkloja laukus
 Gamta miega pataluos
 Dieve, viską mums davei
 O kitiems ar negerai**

**Kurie Tau nepadėkos
 Leisk dėkoti mums už juos**

Domas Anoliuska C-29 Newark, NJ