

VYTIS - THE KNIGHT

Vol. 86 No. 9 lapkritis/November - 2000



BLESS US, LORD,
AND ALL THE GIFTS YOU GIVE US.

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS - TURINYS

To My Fellow Knights	2
A Word From Your Supreme Council President	3
A Psalm of Thanks	4
K of L Foundation Essay Winner - First Prize by Jean Valente	5
K of L'ers Put Smiles on the Faces of a Needy Lithuanian Family	6
A Special Tribute to Rev. Dr. Matas Cyvas	8
In Memoriam	10
Aid to Lithuania Donations	12
Catching Up With District and Council News	19
Prayer of a Thousand Years	37
Autumn Pastries	38
National Convention 2001 Information	41



On the Cover: THE ANGELUS
by Jean-Francois Millet
1857-59. Louvre, Paris.

To My Fellow Knights



Dear Fellow Knights,

The month of November finds us reflecting on some of the recent events in Lithuania. In the aftermath of Parliament elections, (and presidential elections here in the USA), President Valdas Adamkus, K of L Honorary Member, continues to face the challenges, problems and issues of this emerging nation now, with a new configuration of leadership. The jubilation and cheers over the success of the Lithuanian athletes in the Olympic games has subsided, but the pride and joy lingers in our hearts. Our efforts continue for our special projects and peoples, and on a smaller note, the Hill of Crosses near Siauliai now has the Franciscan monastery to promote its life and to provide warm welcome.

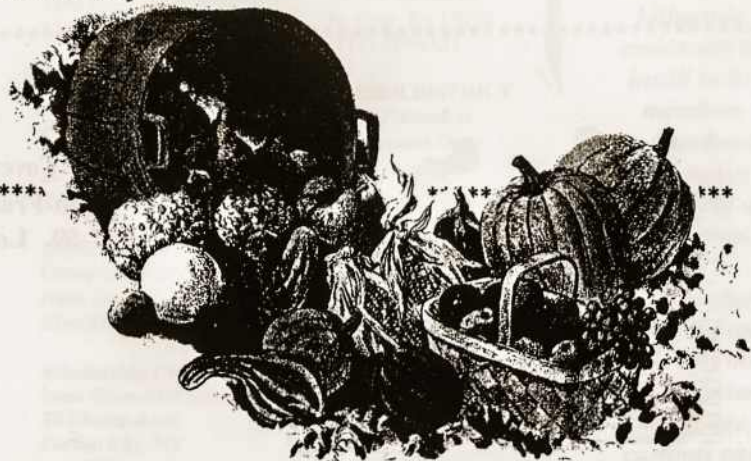
The month of November connotes *Thanksgiving*. First and foremost, thanksgiving goes to God, but reflecting on the Council News received for this issue, the work of the Councils is worthy of appreciation for the many works of charity performed by the various councils and individuals. Edifying, too, is the sense of identity and community spirit that the reports reveal, a family spirit that must have developed from many years of cooperative action. The council reports also reflect the love the members have for those who have preceded them into the Kingdom.

The **VYTIS Office** is now housed at the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse and can be reached at the numbers indicated on the inside cover of the Vytis magazine. Fax and online information will soon be available, also.

Let us remember that we are still in the Millennium mode. In this world recently dedicated to Mary by the Holy Father, may these remaining months of the Millennium be marked by **JUBILEE**, conversion, and renewal. For God and Country!

Vytiskai,

Sister M. Janine



Just a brief word from your Supreme Council President

As November is upon us one can't but wonder where the time has gone. So much has happened this year. On behalf of the entire Supreme Council I wish to extend to you our wishes that your Thanksgiving be filled with family, good health and good cheer. May each of us truly be thankful for all the blessings we have received this year. Enjoy your holiday.

I hope that everyone has received his or her 2000 Convention Issue of Vytis by now. I truly hope you enjoyed reading it. I do wish to apologize for it being received so late. Our new editor, Sr. M. Janine Golubickis, SSC and her staff did a tremendous job of preparing their first issue and getting it to the printer on time. However, due to delays at the printer the issue didn't mail out as timely as she would have liked. I just want to assure each of you that we are aware of this problem and are going to work along with our printer to insure that future issues arrive in a more timely fashion.

Your Supreme Council met on November 4th at the 2001 Convention Site in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Due to printing deadlines I am unable to give you a report from the meeting at this time. Please watch the December issue for more details concerning the meeting.

Once again, enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday.

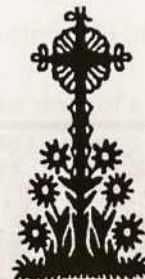
Vytiskai,

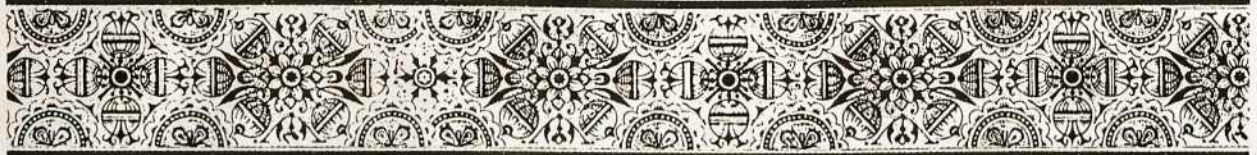
Rob Martin



Memorial Day Wreath presentation.

Each year the Lithuanian Community of the Chicagoland area gathers at the Founders Shrine of St. Casimir Lithuanian Cemetery for Memorial Day Program and Wreath Laying Ceremony. During the ceremony those that have gone before us are remembered for their contributions to the Lithuania and the Lithuanian cause. It is an honor to say that through the hard work of Council 36 Member, Sabina Henson, this year the Knights of Lithuania Mid-America District was asked by the organizing committee to present the Memorial Wreath. Mrs. Henson and Mid-America District President, Robert A. Martin, Jr. made the presentation during the services this past May.





A Psalm of Thanks

O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good:

For his mercy endureth forever.

O give thanks unto the God of gods:

For his mercy endureth forever.

O give thanks to the Lord of lords:

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him who alone doeth great wonders:

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him that by wisdom made the heavens:

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him that stretched out the earth above the waters:

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him that made great lights:

For his mercy endureth forever.

The sun to rule by day:

For his mercy endureth forever.

The moon and stars to rule by night:

For his mercy endureth forever.

O give thanks unto the God of heaven:

For his mercy endureth forever.

Psalm 136



K OF L FOUNDATION ESSAY
WINNER - FIRST PRIZE

"ANGELS COME IN MANY FORMS;
THIS ONE CAME IN UNIFORM"

BY Jean Valente - C-50. Hamden, CT

This is a story of Lithuania.

This is a story of Terese, a girl of sixteen, living in the beautiful country of Lithuania with momyti, tetis, two brothers and little sister. And this is a story of war.

This is the story of Terese's family, forced to abandon their home, fleeing Russian soldiers. Terese escaped into the unknown. Before long, hopeful songs, dreams of the future became overshadowed.

This is the story of Terese and her family, traveling through rough roads in a covered wagon, encountering other refugees. Some were sad, angry, hopeless. Terese soon discovered that all were weary, impoverished, hungry. Hardship prevailed. Terese longed to feed, clothe and comfort Lithuania. Once, when she encountered a baby, scantily clad, she fashioned her warm scarf into a nightshirt for the freezing infant.

Terese came of age in the worst circumstances, caring for others as best she could. Prosperous by contrast, Terese's family shared their provisions. War's ugliness moved closer every day. The families' meager supplies became exhausted. Soon all were in dire straights, nearing *the front*.

This is the story of Terese, running for her life. For days she lost sight of her family, had nothing to eat. Many nights she believed Russian soldiers would kill her before morning.

Low-flying fighter planes strafed the countryside. Terese stumbled and fell, sharp blasts of dirt stinging her face and body as volleys of bullets



blasted the earth around her. The ground shook with the force of exploding bombs.

Through this torment, Terese tried to remain strong. Finally she could endure no more. Overcome by horror, exhausted, she lay down in the mayhem and gave up.

This is the story of a stranger, a German soldier, who, with bullets flying ran to Terese and flung himself over her, covering her body with his. Into the terrified young girl's ear he prayed, speaking soothingly. Even as the battle raged all about them, he admonished her not to forget God, to have faith.

Closing her eyes to the world around her, Terese succumbed to unconsciousness. She awoke to find herself with her family. Somehow they survived.

In this story Terese was never to know the identity of the angel in uniform.

This story is more than a true account of courage and human spirit transcendent. My mind shelters these visions. My heart mimics every shudder, halt and sigh. My blood surges and ebbs with a cadence of days measured before I was.

This story is not mine, yet it is my legacy. It embraces my soul, instructs my character with force and wisdom beyond my being or experience. Because a soldier was there long ago to save the life of young Terese. And because this is the story of Terese, it belongs with me, becomes mine to tell.

This is a story of Lithuania.

This is the story of a brave soldier.

This is the story of Terese.

This is the story of my mother.

K OF L-ERS PUT SMILES ON THE FACES OF A NEEDY LITHUANIAN FAMILY

At the recommendation of Roze Somkaite, member of C-29, Newark, and worker with Containers being sent to Lithuania by LCRA and the Lithuanian National Fund, members were informed by Loretta Stukas, HM, of the special needs of a large family of orphans, the Navickas family, in Krivoniu kaimas, Kaisadoriai, Lithuania.

The mother of this family died of cancer 8 years ago, leaving 10 children of one family, plus a cousin, ranging in age from 6 to 16. Two years later, their father left to marry another woman, leaving the children to fend for themselves. The children have not seen their father since! The government wanted to split the family and place the children into foster homes, but the family asked to stay together, and the government allowed it, placing the younger children on Children's Welfare, and making the oldest child the official guardian. Minimal help was provided for the older children, who, with the younger children, sustained their family, working their land and additional land they rented. They spent their extra energy and minimal saved funds to fix up their little house with paint and other materials they were able to purchase or received from friends. They live in a family spirit, helping one another where they can. The walls of their home were decorated with family photos, showing how much they care for each other.

Over the years, as they grew up, several of the children left the home to start their own families, but continued to help the remaining 7 children as much as possible.

Early this year, another tragedy hit these brave children...an electrical fire broke out and their little home and everything in it burned to a crisp. The children, now mostly teenagers, still chose to stay together on their property. The boys live in a construction trailer, the girls in a lean-to shed that had existed on the property. Ilona and Henry Laucius, who spent the last few years working in Lithuania, visited the family, and found them to be an exemplary family...hard-working, clean, friendly, and caring.

Neighbors and friends joined together to help them build a modest new house to live in. Donations up to \$2,000 have been received, and the house is started, but more money, perhaps \$5,000 or more, is needed to continue the building, hopefully before winter, and added funds are needed to furnish it.

At the K of L Convention, Loretta Stukas told the K of L Foundation members, and later the rest of the delegates about the plight of this family. As always, member immediately came to the family's aid, donating \$420.00 to help them with their building project. Significant in this project was the donation of \$25.00 each from **Robert and Erin Petkus**, Junior K of L-ers from Dayton, the children of Michael and Norma Petkus, who chose to donate their \$25.00 Junior Conventionships to this cause, rather than use the money for their own pleasure.

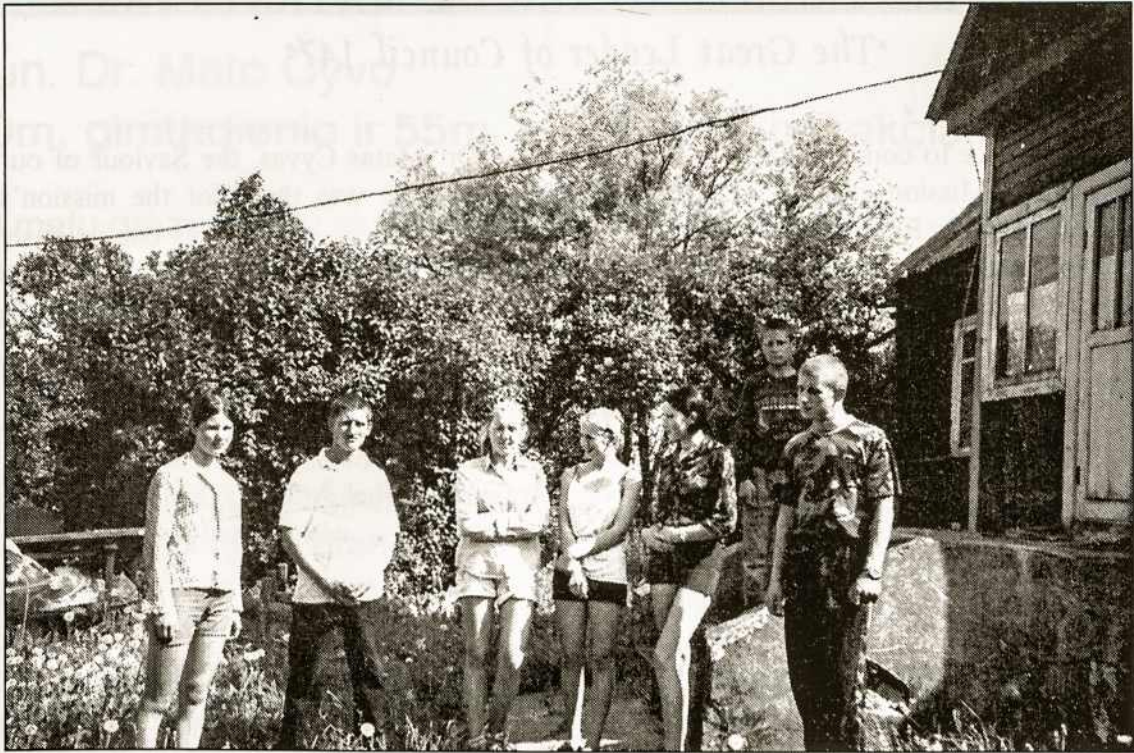
The funds have been sent out in the name of the K of L, to Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, who is coordinating efforts for the Navickas family. If anyone else would like to join in this cause, they may do so by sending their donations to:

**LCRA (for Navickas family)
351 Highland Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11207-1910**

Checks should be made out to "LCRA" and marked for "Navickas Children."

Thank you to all who contributed to this important cause, especially to the Petkus children who set a fine example for all K of L-ers.

(Please see special photos of this family on the opposite page of this article. Thank you.)



The seven children of the Navickas family, before their house burned down.



The new house currently being built, but in need of funds for purchase of remaining building supplies.

--A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. MATAS CYVAS --
 "The Great Leader of Council 147"

We would like to commend our great leader, Rev. Dr. Matas Cyvas, the Saviour of our St. Casimir Mission at St. Petersburg Beach, Florida. He was there for the mission's problems: Father Ropolas', OFM, illness and his passing away, etc. He has continuously pitched in to help with other numerous problems. His health and injuries slowed him down somewhat, but not for long. He picked right up again and is "Up and at'em."

Father Cyvas was born on April 30, 1916, and is now 84 years old. He joined our Council on September 27, 1989, 11 years ago. He is now a Third Degree Knight. His accomplishments are never ending. Rev. Dr. Cyvas has been our Spiritual Advisor for our Council #147, since 1996. However, he was "Acting Spiritual Advisor" for a number of years prior, due to the illness and age of Rev. Jonas Gasiunas, who passed away March 9, 1998.

When he celebrated his 80th birthday and 55 years of Ordination to the priesthood in 1996, our member, Valeria Lescinskiene, composed a special poem in Lithuanian, as a tribute to Rev. Dr. Matas Cyvas. She read it and presented it to him at our meeting. By special request, it has been published in this issue of the Vytis, exactly as composed, on the opposite page. "Ilgiausiu Metu, Father Cyvas!



Thanksgiving

Beautiful faces are they that wear
 The light of a pleasant spirit there;

Beautiful hands are they that do
 Deeds that are noble, good, and true;

Beautiful feet are they that go
 Swiftly to lighten another's woe.

McGuffey's Second Reader *A candle loses nothing of its light by lighting
 another candle.*

Let us be thankful that there still is sunshine,
 that we still can glimpse the blue of the sky and
 in our onward way, continue to look up. Let us
 be thankful for friends with kindly smile and
 cheerful words. This is a time for grateful
 thanksgiving!

Author Unknown

Author Unknown

Kun. Dr. Mato Čyvo
80m. gimtadienio ir 55m. kunigystės sukakčiai

80 metų gražus metų skaičius,
Bėgo tartum upė į galias mares,
Nešdama pasaulį išmargintą dalia,
Toli nuo Tėvynės tolimų krantų.

55 metai ilgesį Tėvynės,
Nuolatos kartojai nuoširdžioj maldoj,
Neveltui jos plaukė į brangią Tėvynę
I kurią atkėlė į laisvę vartus.

Nevisi tie metai buvo rožėm kloti,
Nerinkai gyvenime, kurs tik laime neš,
Viešpaties palaima tiktai kelią rodė
Laimėj ar varge, su juo tik keliavai.

Ir išaušo rytas po tamsios nakties
Ir džiaugsmo ašara veržias iš širdies,
Skristi į Tėvynę aplankyti savus
Ir susitikti mokslo draugus.

Ir praėjo metų penkeri,
Ilgesį Tėvynės užmiršt negali,
Rengtis važiuoti širdis džiaugsmo kupina,
Dar pabuvoti Tėvynės gražume.

Viešpatie! globojai ilgo gyvenimo kelius,
Laimink ir ši kartą šiuos pasiryžimus
Dieve duok dar laimės ilgų metų pynę
Gyventi ir džiaugtis Viešpaties glėbį.

Valeria Leščinskiene. Florida.
1996m.

...AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT
SHINE UPON HIM.
MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

We are mourning the loss of our Spiritual Advisor and friend, **Msgr. Francis John Prancus**, the retired pastor of St. George Church. After serving God for 55 years, he was called home by our heavenly Father on **September 6, 2000**.

He was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts on March 3, 1919, grew up in New Britain, studied at Marianapolis College in Thompson, CT, Marian Hills Seminary in Hinsdale, IL, St. Procopius Seminary in Lisle, IL, and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. He was ordained in St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford on Dec. 22, 1945.

He served in St. Joseph Parish in Waterbury, Holy Trinity Parish in Hartford, and St. Ambrose Parish in Bridgeport. He came to St. George Lithuanian Parish in Bridgeport as assistant to Rev. M. Kazlauskas. In 1964, he became pastor of St. George Church. In 1965, Sacred Heart Church merged with us when that church was demolished to make way for Interstate 95.

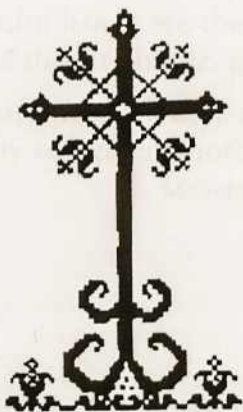
In 1983, Pope John Paul II appointed him Prelate of Honor, with the title of Monsignor.

On August 20th, Msgr. made his last, brave attempt to celebrate the Mass prior to our picnic, but was too weak and had to be taken home. Monsignor put up a valiant battle with cancer.

His body lay in state Sunday, Sept. 10, 2000, at St. George Church. Monday morning was the Mass of Christian burial, with 16 priests and prelates in attendance, and a filled church.

Msgr. was a humble, but active Lithuanian. Good-bye, Monsignor. You will be missed, but our memories of you live on!

Council - 141 Bridgeport, CT



AMZINAJI ATILSI
DUOK MIRUSIAM
VIESPATIE!



Tevas **Steponas (Alfonsas) Ropolas** gime 1922 metais, Palonu baznytkaimyje, Kedainiu apskrityje.

Jis lanke Palonu pradžios mokykla ir Seduvos keturmete mokykla.

Gal del to, kad jis turejo giminiu Palangoje ir Kretingoje, o gal ir del to, kad jam patiko ten gimnazijai vadovaujantieji Tevai Pranciskonai, jis istojo I Kretingos Pranciskonu Gimnazija. Ja baiges, nutare tapti Pranciskonu ir Kretingoje atliko vienu metu naujokyna. Duodamas pirmuosius izadus jis gavo vienuoliska Stepono varda. Studijuoti teologija isvyko i Vokietija - Munchen'a. Cia 1946 m. rugsejo 29d., buvo isventintas kunigu.

Po to dar tese studijas ir dirbo vokieciu pastoracijoj iki 1949 metu. Tais paciais metais jis atvyko i Sv. Kotrynos parapija, Kanadoje. Kanadoje isbuves apie metus laiko, isvyko i Kennebunkport, Maine. Is cia jis buvo paskirtas i Pranciskonu namus Geen, Maine, ir isbuvo 6-ta metu. Po to 3 metus dirbo lietuviskoj Prisikelimo parapijoj, Toronte, Kanadoje. Po to vel buvo paskirtas i Kennebunkport, Maine, kur buvo provincijos sekretorium, izdininku ir provinjcijolo vairuotoju. 1988 metais buvo paskirtas i Brooklyn, NY. Is ten po poros metu laikiniam darbui buvo paskirtas i St. Petersburg'a, Floridoje iki atvyko tevas Vytautas Balciunas. Siam mirus, 1991 metais rudeni, 1992 metu pradžioje Tevas Steponas pastoviam darbui buvo paskirtas Lietuviu Sv. Kazimiero misijos dvasiniu vadu.

Po dveju sunkios ligos metu mire 2000m., birzelio 26 d.

IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Jurgelaitis, HM. - Former National Spiritual Advisor

C-7	Nellie Matulunas	7-23-2000
C-7	Mary Undraitis	8-17-2000
C-10	Blanche Genaitis	9-17-2000
C-17	Adam Druzdis	7 - 2000
C-17	Ann Narkavich	6-23- 2000
C-25	Alfred Dumchus	8-29- 2000
C-26	Josephine Pranckevicius	6-24- 2000
C-26	Kathryn A. Kasczmarek	9-17 -2000
C-26	John Ridick, Jr.	7- 2000
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C-30	Mary A. Minkuks	6-15- 2000
C-50	Frank Zaica	9-28- 2000
C-79	John Kolinske	2-15- 2000
C-79	Leonard Salas	6-20- 2000
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C-110	Anna Kokoszka	7-25- 2000
C-110	Casimir Sypowicz	6-21-2000
C-110	Mary Volin	9-14- 2000
C-112	Karolius Lazinskas	9-2- 1999
C-112	Albertas Matulis	12.10 1999
C-112	Bruno Shotas	2000
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C-112	Jack Abramite	2-28-2000
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C-112	Albert Jundul	4-11-2000
C-112	John Vaikutis	8-30-2000
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C-141	Victor J. Miller	6-14- 2000
C-144	Catherine Bernatonis	8-21- 2000
C-147	Julia Rodowk	5-16- 2000
C-147	Rev. Steponas Ropolas	6-26- 2000
C-152	Adalaide Flynn	6-13- 2000
C-152	Joseph Latinis	7-22- 2000
C-152	Alice Benedict	9-22- 2000
C-152	Anna Baksys	8-30- 2000
C-156	Emma Miller	2000
C-156	George Kinder	9-14- 2000



AID TO LITHUANIA

Donations for the period January 1, 2000 to June 30, 2000

Over \$1,000.00

Mr. B Karklius IMO Akvile Karklius (Sem Fund \$2,000, Gen. Fund \$3,000) Clev. OH
Lithuanian Citizen's Society of Western PA, Pittsburgh, PA \$3,000.00
Ms Patricia Kamar IMO Rev. Vincent Kamarauskas (Sem Fund) Brookfield, IL \$2,000.
Lithuanian Citizen's Society of Western PA, Pittsburgh, PA \$1,000.00
St. Michael's K of L Council 145 (Seminary Fund) Shamokin, PA \$1,000.00
Ms. Helen Simanis, K of L C-141 Trumble, CT \$1,000.00
Beverly Ann Thewes (IMO Joseph Lazeunick & Lucille Jokubaitis) Bloomfield Hills, MI

\$500.00

Mr & Mrs M Vilutis Frankfort, IL * K of L C-63 Lehigh Valley Linfield, PA
Mr. J Baltrusunas IMO Mr & Mrs Paul Baltrusunas (Sem Fund) Onset. MA

\$300.00 to \$350.00

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Bagdon Livonia, MI * Mr D Chivas/R Rice IHO Bob Boris Center Line, MI

\$100.00 to \$299.00

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* Mrs N Pandza (IMO deceased family members) (Sem Fund) Holmes, PA * Mr & Mrs
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Robinson Egg Harbor Twp. NJ * Mr & Mrs J Abbott (IMO Vince Boris) Sunnyside
Gardens, NY * Mr & Mrs V Gestautas (Sem & Genl. Fund) Chicago, IL * Ms Mary
Oberfield (IHO Ruta Fienstine) Los Angeles, CA * Ms Phyllis Pelletier (IMO Gailute
Valiuliene) Chicago, IL * Mrs Evelyn Ribon (IMO Joseph Ribon) Milford, CT * Ms
Mary Semel (Sem Fund) Washington, DC * Mr & Mrs A Vilimavicius Dolton, IL *
Mr W Zager (Sem Fund) Ann Arbor, MI * Anonymous Donation * Mr R Kurpowic
Detroit, MI * Ms R Barisas (IMO Vaclovas & Cecilia Barisas) (Sem & Genl. Fund)
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\$50.00 to \$99.00

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\$25.00 to \$49.00

Mr & Mrs F Bunikis Royal Oak, MI * Mr Len Kapochus & Family (IMO Dorothy Banos) Milmay, NJ * Mr K Rozanskas (IMO Knights of Lithuania) Chicago, IL * Ms D Kudirka Canton, MI * Ms M Ratches (IMO Joseph & Margaret Bansavich) Hartford, CT * Mr J Roland (IMO Michael Roland) Drums, PA * Mr M Tonilas (IMO Michael Tunilas & Mr & Mrs George Brazitis) Dearborn, MI * K of L C-118 (IHO K of L C-118) Hazelton, PA * Mr & Mrs J Dancho Hazelton, PA * Mr L Galinskas (Sem Fund) Roseville, MI * Mr L Garity (IMO Vincent Garity) Livonia, MI * Mr & Mrs J Geiger Englewood, OH * Ms G Gobis (IMO Francis & Stella Gobis) Amsterdam, NY * Thomas & Gayle Kapochus (IMO Marilyn Kapochus) Pittston, PA * Ms A Kepalaite New York, NY * Mrs Elsie Kosmisky (Sem Fund) (IMO Parents) Frackville, PA * Mr & Mrs C DiNatale Grosse Pt Farms, MI * Mr A Osteika (IMO Valentina Osteika) Warren, MI * Dr Laimutis Paskevicius Vilnius, Lithuania * A Richard Banules (IMO Richard Banules) Katy, TX * Ms A Gibbs (IMO Peter Gibbs) East Newark, NJ * Mr & Mrs J Stark (Sem Fund) (IMO Family Members) Orchard Lake, MI * Ms D Andryauskas (Sem Fund) (IMO Julia Pashkus) Patchogue, NY * Rev V Palubinskas Brooklyn, NY * Ms P Petkus (IMO Peter Petkus) Owensboro, KY * Mr & Mrs E Sventickas Livonia, MI * Mr A Osteika Warren, MI * Mr S Garliauskas Livonia, MI * Mr & Mrs Brizgys Farmington Hills, MI * Mr & Mrs N Udrys Farmington Hills, MI * Mr & Mrs K Razauskas Dearborn Heights, MI * Mr J Orentas Novi, MI * Dr & Mrs K Karvelis Northville, MI * Mr & Mrs A Rudis Livonia, MI * Mr & Mrs J Mikulionis Sterling Heights, MI * Mrs Stella Hotra (IMO Walter Hotra) Redford, MI * Mr & Mrs J Pikunas Northville, MI * Mr & Mrs E Skorupskas Farmington Hills, MI * Mr & Mrs J Jurgutis West Bloomfield, MI * Ms Irene Piscopo (IMO Justin & Helen Piscopo) Seminole, FL * Dr P Zemaitis (IMO Grazina Petrulis) Plymouth, MI * Ms M Spelman (Sem Fund) (IMO Petrone Petchkis) Milford, CT * Ms E Kosmisky (Sem Fund) (IMO Parents) Frackville, PA * Mr & Mrs A Augunas (IMO Grazina Petrliene) Jupiter, FL * Mr J Bartkus Dearborn Heights, MI * Mrs C Carroll (Sem Fund) (IMO Petrone Petchkis) Mrs E Wildman (Sem Fund) (IMO Petrone Petchkis) * Mr & Mrs Radzevilius Norwalk, CT * Mr & Mrs J Balcius Bridgeport, CT * Mr & Mrs S Wilcinskas Milford, CT * Mr J Wenckelium Smithfield, RI * K of L C-136 (IMO Clara Tulio) Hudson-Mohawk Valley, NY * Regina Juska-Svoba (IMO Isabel Reedick) Madison Heights, MI * Ms Mary & Mr J S Lapinsky Hazelton, PA * Mr A Pastore (Sem Fund) Maple Glen, PA * Mr J Roland (IMO Adele Roland) Drums, PA * Mr & Mrs G Mikalauskas (IMO Isabel

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 * Mrs A Gibbas (IMO C Bakunas Sr. & C Bakunas, Jr) East Newark, NJ * Mr T Straub
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 & Zaliagiris Families) Fenton, MI * Mr L Bogart (IMO Bogachunas Family)
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 Sprow (IMO Eva Yanovitch) (IHO Anthony Yanovitch) King of Prussia, PA * Mr &
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 Mr J Medgensis Trumbull, CT * Mr & Mrs G Radzwillas Bridgeport, CT *
 Rev Francis Pranckus Stratford, CT * Ms A Ross Trumbull, CT * Mr & Mrs R Silk
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 Mr & Mrs E Skiotys Livonia, MI * Mr A Andriusaitis Detroit, MI * P Barkus (IMO
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 Anna & Vincent Lukas) Toms River, NJ * Mrs V Stoick Orchard Lake, MI * Ms F
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Under \$24.00

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 CT * Mr J Kisielius New Haven, CT * Mr & Mrs R Buzak Seymour, CT * Ms A M
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 Maciumen New Haven, CT * Ms M Spellman Milford, CT * Ms I Sulensky
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 OH * Mr & Mrs A Dysas Kettering, OH * Dr & Mrs E Lenkauskas Cincinatti, OH *
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 Dayton, OH * Mr & Mrs R Liaugminas Beavercreek, OH * Ms D Renner Lebanon,
 OH * Ms S Rastikis Kettering, OH Mr & Mrs I Bucmys Dayton, OH * Mr & Mrs G
 Zelinskas Vandalia, OH * Dr & Mrs Z Prusas Chilicothe, OH * Mr V Williamitis
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 Staknis Kearny, NJ * Mrs F Petkus (IMO Isabel Reedick) Dayton, OH * Mr L Matejka
 (IMO Dorothy Matejka) Stratford, CT * Mrs A Radzavage (IMO Domicelle Misunas)
 Shenandoah, PA * Ms H Karpovi h (IMO Dorothy Banos) Wilkes-Barre, PA * Ms J
 Kapochus Mihalick (IMO Dorothy Banos) Larksville, PA * Mr L Svelnis Neddham,
 MA * Mr A Pesys (IMO Algirdas Pesys) Dearborn Heights, MI * Ms J Mihalick (IMO
 John Majeski) Larksville, PA * Mr A Wallis (IMO Isabel Reedick) Willoughby, OH *
 Mrs S Staknis (IMO Clement A Staknis) Kearney, NJ * Mr J Botyrius (IMO Konstancia
 Botyriene) Ridgewood, NY * Mr A Andriusaitis Detroit, MI * Mrs E Bulota Detroit,
 MI * Mrs S Juska Detroit, MI * Mrs I Laurus Redford, MI * Mr S Sautils St Clair
 Shores, MI * Mr V Slusnys Detroit, MI * Mrs B Janus (IMO Mother Maria Kaupas
 Sterling Heights, MI * Ms C Otto Sterling Heights, MI * Mr J Suopys Detroit, MI *
 Mrs M Thomas (IMO Al Thomas) W Bloomfield, MI * Mr V Andriusaitis Detroit, MI *
 Mr A Gumbrys Detroit, MI * Ms K Slate (IMO Rev Casimir Butkus) Detroit, MI *
 Mr T Apke (IMO Hzarriette Apke) Laguna Niguel, CA * Mr & Mrs J Shurna Orland
 Park, IL * Mrs J Kilmanas (IMO Edward Kilmanas) Detroit, MI * Mr & Mrs G
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 kuopa Dearborn, MI * Ms A Schoendorf (IMO Gerard Stemkowski) (IHO Helen

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Giving Thanks!



For the hay and the corn and wheat that is reaped,
For the labor well done, and the barns that are heaped,

For the sun and the dew and the sweet honeycomb,

For the rose and the song, and the harvest brought home —

Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

For the trade and the skill and the wealth in our land,

For the cunning and strength of the working-man's hand,

For the good that our artists and poets have taught,

For the friendship that hope and affection have brought —

Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

For the homes that with purest affection are blest,

For the season of plenty and well deserved rest,

For our country extending from sea to sea,

The land that is known as the "Land of the Free" —

Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

Author Unknown

CATCHING UP WITH DISTRICT AND COUNCIL NEWS

MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

Valeria Stanaitis

The meeting was held on June 10, 2000, hosted by C-157, in Bociu Hall, at the Lithuanian World Center, Lemont, IL. President, Ben Nauseda, extended a cordial welcome to all. Resident at the LWC, Rev. Msgr. Ignas Urbonas, led us in prayer prior to the delicious buffet luncheon, served promptly at 11:30 A.M., before the meeting.

District President, Robert Martin, Jr. started the meeting an hour later, after lunch was finished. The meeting proceeded very smoothly because all now had a *full tummy*.

Ritual chairperson, Georgianna Macke, presented the 3rd Degree to Msgr. Ignas Urbonas, who was most appreciative of this honor.



An award of recognition was also presented to Janeen Perutis for many years of editing and mailing the District *TRUMPET*.



Sr. Johanna Marie reported, that the K of L Choir sang at the Memorial Day Field Mass on May 29th, at St Casimir Cemetery. Participating in special roles were, choir director, Faustas Strolija; organist, Robert Mockus; and soloist, Algerd Brazis. The celebrant of the Mass was the Most Rev. Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, who was assisted by concelebrant Rev. John Kuzinskas. After the Mass, Archbishop Marcinkus blessed the *Sacred Heart of Jesus Garden* crypts, now under construction. Previously the choir entertained patients at Holy Cross Hospital, and the Seniors at Holy Family Villa in Lemont.

On June 24th, a Mass was held at Soldier Field for the Catholic Feast of Corpus Christi, (the Body of Christ). It was a huge success despite the rain...rain....rain. The torches used in the procession were left over from the 1926 International Eucharistic Congress, an event that brought hundreds of thousands of Catholics to Soldier Field for four days, and was a model for the "Field of Faith" celebration. The field was decorated with banners from every parish and major church institutions in the archdiocese. The event was marked by the solemn pomp of the Church's highest liturgies. "Field of Faith" was still at heart, a simple Mass. For those in attendance, it was a spiritual gathering unlike any they had seen. The weather kept attendance much lower than expected, but many of the thousands who braved the rain said that this Jubilee Year Celebration was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. C-112 member, Vitas Paskauskas, our deacon at Nativity BVM Church, Marquette Park, coordinated two buses of

parishioners. Not an easy task when some got lost. God bless you, Vitas, for your patience!

Frank Zapolis, director of the *Vytis Dancers*, reported that his dancers are practicing for the Lithuanian XI folk dance festival - 2000, to be held in Toronto, Canada, from June 30-July 2. They will travel by bus to their destination. There will be at least 1600 dancers in attendance. Mr. Zapolis also encouraged parents to have some Lithuanian literature in their homes, even if it is one book. This cultural aspect is very important. He said, "**Palaikykite Lietuviybę!**"

Edward Pocius reported that \$500.00 plus, donations, were approved for the following charities: Aid to Lithuania, St. Casimir Guild, and the K of L Foundation.

About 150 District members will be attending the Convention in Los Angeles, California.

Ellie Kasputis reported that the by-laws were reviewed and updated. Council Presidents will be receiving copies for approval.

A Catholic Millennium Pilgrimage, being arranged by the District, will be taking place at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine, in Belleville, Illinois, during the weekend of October 28th and 29th.

The Mid-America District Mass for its deceased members will be celebrated on Sunday, November 19th, at Immaculate Conception Church in Brighton Park. The celebrant is to be Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas. Council 36 will be hosting. "Iki pasimatymo!"

C-3, Philadelphia, PA

Stephany Gutauskas and Victor Stepalovitch

The following Masses, requested by the Supreme Council for deceased members of the Knights of Lithuania, were held during June at St. George Church: June 8 (8:30 A.M.) - Lillian Greymas and Stephany Gutauskas took up the offertory gifts, and June 18 (8:00 A.M.) - Philip

Bomblauskas and Stephany Gutauskas took up the offertory gifts.

On June 17, the Council combined its monthly meeting with a picnic at the County Picnic Grounds in Cape May, New Jersey. A total of 16 Council members and guests were present for the outing. John Mickunas was the master griller, using his own barbecue sauce for cooking chicken breasts for lunch, and hamburgers and hot dogs for dinner. Also served were, spiral baked ham, cole slaw, and homemade pickled beets with onions. Fruit juice, soda, decaffeinated iced tea, and water were put to good use during the hot and humid day. During a free period lasting about 2 hours, Council members had the opportunity to visit the world-class Cape May Zoo located next to their picnic pavilion. This zoo is one which attempts to make each of its exhibits as environmentally naturalistic as possible. Council members enjoyed seeing a variety of mammals as well as the animals in the crocodile pond, the water fowl pond, the aviary, and the reptile house. Council members all had a good time during the outing.

Condolences go to Daiva Bennington and Ausra Maknys whose brother, Saulius Rutkunas, passed away on June 17. Besides Daiva and Ausra, other Council members present at the viewing and /or funeral Mass on June 22, were, Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM, who celebrated the Mass, Dianne and Joseph Drumstas, Lillian Greymas, Stephany Gutauskas, Julie Kowrak, Stanley Petraitis, organist, and Victor Stepalovitch. During the Mass, the choir sang the Lithuanian Hymns, *Marija, Marija, and Kaip ddingas tu esi*, and in a duet, Julie and Stanley performed an exquisitely beautiful rendition of the hymn, *Patrauk prie kryziaus*. Saulius was buried in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM, hosted the annual St. George Bazaar on June 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, and 24. Council 3 co-sponsored the housewares booth. Draft birch beer at the beer and

soda refreshment stand was available, courtesy of Ausra Maknys and Victor Stepalovitch. Stephany Gutauskas contributed two dozen homemade corn muffins to the baked goods booth. Ann Marie Jaskel contributed items on several nights to the groceries booth. Irene Ozalis contributed homemade ambrosia (fruit dessert) to food sales from the kitchen. On various nights, Ausra helped man the groceries booth, the soda, beer, and spirits booth, and the small stuffed animal/Ty Beanie Babies table, as well as the dunk tank. Every night, Victor, great chef that he is, fried delicious blynai in the blyni house. Anne and Stanley Petraitis were the official bean counters who tallied up the profits on each night of the bazaar. Other Council members attending the bazaar besides those already mentioned were, Dianne and Joseph Drumstas, with granddaughter Katie, Lillian Greymas, Julie Kowrak, Stella Panaccio, Margaret Petronis, Elizabeth Sprow, and Irene and Walter Svekla. "Lucky" Victor kept his annual winning streak alive by collecting a total of \$100 in prize money from two 50-50 chances hits. Lady Luck also smiled on Lillian, who won a basket of groceries.

On June 18, the Lithuanian Churches of St. Andrew and St. Casimir both held separate Masses to commemorate the Sorrowful Days of Deportation of Lithuanians to Siberia on June 14, 1941. Father Peter Burkauskas celebrated Mass at 12:30 P.M. at St. Andrew's; Father Dennis Gill at 10:15 A.M. at St. Casimir's. Both celebrants outlined a history of the deportation in their homilies. Margaret Petronis wore a Lithuanian national costume to the Mass at St. Casimir's, where her husband, Charles, wearing a *juosta*, was lector. After Mass at St. Casimir's, a memorial wreath was placed at the Lithuanian wayside shrine on Wharton Street. After Mass at St. Andrew's, a memorial wreath was placed at an oil painting, inside the church, which depicts the railroad tracks which took

deported Lithuanians to Siberia, where they gave up their lives in martyrdom nearly 60 years ago.

On June 25, Leonard Kapocius attended the Amber District meeting in Shamokin, Pa.

Our prayers and get-well wishes go to Nellie Pandza who underwent surgery on June 26.

Masses requested by the Supreme Council for deceased members of the Knights of Lithuania were held at St. George's Church, July 9th and August 6th. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM, celebrated the Mass on August 6th. Stephany Gutauskas took up the Offertory Gifts at both Masses.

Our get-well wishes and prayers go to Alice Bacon, Nellie Pandza and Charles Petronis.

Lillian Greymas, Leonard Kapocius, Agnes, HM, John and Barbara Mickunas, Irene Ozalis, and Irene, Walter, Andrew, and Walter Svekla, Jr., attended this year's K of L Convention in L.A. The happy conventioners were particularly delighted with the get-together at Ruta Lee's, and thank her for her generous hospitality to all the Vyciai.

Congratulations to Walter Svekla, whose work earned Honorable Mention in this year's K of L Foundation, Inc., essay contest.

Vacationing in July, Irene and Walter Svekla toured California before attending the K of L Convention.

On July 30th, Daiva Bennington, Stephany Gutauskas, Bronius Krokys and Ausra Maknys attended a Lithuanian picnic sponsored by the Lithuanian Music Hall Association, at Smith Memorial Playground in Fairmount Park. A variety of playground equipment and a swimming pool were available for the amusement of the children. Ausra and Stephany became spring chickens again and took a turn down the large wooden slide. A live band entertained the crowd. Blynai and other ethnic foods were available for purchase. The picnickers had many favorable

comments about the new location, which was most conducive for a family-oriented gathering.

Also in July, Margaret and Charles Petronis spent 10 days in Hawaii, 7 of which were aboard a cruise ship on a tour of the islands. They enjoyed the beautiful flowers, the *volcano* craters, and even some flowing lava.

After the K of L Convention, Lillian Greymas and Irene Ozalis toured Hawaii for 8 days. Good weather enhanced their visit. Diamond Head and Waikiki were their particular favorites.

From August 6th to 13th, Ausra Maknys attended Camp Dainava in Manchester, MI, near Detroit. The camp is an annual gathering, at which Lithuanian language lessons for adults are provided concurrently with seminars for language instructors who teach at Saturday Lithuanian schools. Having missed camp for 3 years, Ausra considered this year's meeting as a great homecoming.

On Augusts 12th and 13th, Victor Stepalovich helped serve food to guests attending Lithuanian Days in Frackville, PA. Ethnic food available at Days included, kugelis, desros and virtiniai. A live band was on hand to entertain the visitors.

Jean Dorr once again was able to go to Lithuania this summer.

Msgr. J. Anderlonis, HM, held a clam bake and crab feast fund-raiser in St. George's school yard on Saturday, August 26th. Lillian Greymas, Julie Kowrak, Irene Ozalis and Victor Stepalovich attended the affair and enjoyed clams, crabs, corn on the cob, roast beef sandwiches, hot dogs, beer and soda. DJ, Father Avery was on hand to entertain the guests.

Long-time Council member, Jewel Ushka, died on September 5th. Her stepson, Robert Ushka, came north from Florida to make all the funeral arrangements. In addition to Robert, Lillian Greymas, Ausra Maknys, Irene Ozalis, and Victor Stepalovich were present to perform the Christian Wake

Ritual, and attend Jewel's funeral Mass at St. Margaret Church in Narberth, PA, on Saturday, September 9th. Jewel was interred in St. Denis Cemetery.

Monsignor J. Anderlonis, HM, held a Mass for deceased members of the Knights of Lithuania, requested by the Supreme Council, at 8 A.M on Sunday, September 10th. Stephany Gutauskas took up a chalice as Offertory Gift at this Mass.

At the Sunday, September 10th meeting of the Council, Lillian Greymas, Agnes Mickunas, HM, Irene Svekla, John Mickunas, and Walter Svekla gave reports on the plenary sessions of the Knights of Lithuania National Convention held in Los Angeles in late July. Congratulations go to Walter Svekla, who won a Lithuanian afghan as a door prize at the Thursday night get-together and the Convention.

Nominations for executive officers and committee chairpersons were made for the coming year. Elections will take place in October.

The Lithuanian community of Philadelphia had an auditory treat on Sunday, September 17th, when "*TRYS TIGRIUKAI*," the THREE LITTLE TIGERS, a trio of one pre-teen and two teen-age boys from Vilnius, sang a medley of about twenty modern Lithuanian songs at the Lithuanian Music Hall in Port Richmond. Stephany Gutauskas, Julie Kowrak, Bronius Krokys, and Ausra Maknys were among the attendees at the concert.

On Saturday, Sept. 23rd, and on Sunday, Sept. 24th, St. Andrew's Lithuanian Catholic Church, (Father Peter Burkauskas, Pastor), collected clothing, shoes, and other humanitarian aid items for shipment to former political prisoners, orphans, and schools in Vilnius, Lithuania. Aid packages are expected to arrive in Lithuania in mid-November.

C-6, Hartford
Leona Sawka

A Board Meeting/Luncheon was held at the home of President Alex Yusinas, on Thursday, August 17, to discuss programs and meetings for 2000-2001. Our calendar for the year will be a full and exciting one.

During 2001, Holy Trinity church will be celebrating Jubilee Year which will be highlighted by many events church-wide. Council 6 is formulating plans for a Christmas dinner to be held on Sunday, December 10th. More on that, later.

President Alex Yusinas and his wife, Dianne, attended the 86th Annual Lithuanian Days which was held at the Schuylkill Mall in Frackville, PA, on August 12th and 13th. The two-day interesting and fun event included Lithuanian dancers, displays, a sing-a-long, and crafts, to name a few. This year, Council 6 will be involved in the project, "Save a Stamp - Save a Child" by saving foreign and domestic stamps. They will be collected and sent to SISTER HELEN, CJC, 261 Thatcher Street, Brockton, MA 02402. Please note that some paper must be left around the stamp. The program has been a great success thus far. Let it continue!

At the September meeting, the Nominating Committee will be selected, the calendar for 2000-2001 will be reviewed, and we will continue learning Lithuanian hymns. This meeting will feature "bring your favorite dessert."

We were very excited for June Grenier, our Financial Secretary, when she told us she would be attending Camp Dainava in Michigan from August 6-13 for a Lithuanian language study course. June said the instruction was good and the food was excellent. The day began with exercise, Mass, breakfast and class, with more classes after lunch. Television was not available, but there were evening activities - a very worthwhile and eventful week!

Well, here we are, beginning our second year of the reactivated Council 6. At our meeting on Sept. 5th,

Julie Naunchek volunteered to be our new Sergeant-at-Arms, as Elvyra Rimsa has moved to South Carolina.

Joe Krancunas, who is an active member of Holy Trinity Church, as well as a Council 6 member, is home and recovering from heart surgery. We all wish him the best, and look forward to his return.

While researching the archives, June Grenier, our Ritual Chairperson, (accompanied by two members of her committee, Alex Yusias and Lillian Joseph, who were researching for info on Council 6), discovered that the following reinstated members earned degrees back in the 1950's as follows: Frances Ambrose, 3rd degree; Wandie Kruk, 3rd degree; Dottie Krancunas, 2nd degree; Michael Kripas, 2nd degree; Ed Mazotas, 2nd degree; Irene Petkaitis, 2nd degree; Alyce Gegesky 1st degree (rec'd from New Haven); Neil Knusto, 1st degree; and Vincent Morkus, 1st degree (rec'd from New Haven).

Sunday, September 10, Holy Trinity Church began the Centennial Jubilee celebration with a Mass, followed by brunch in the church hall. This was a very successful event.

Council 6 announced and is proud to present a scholarship to Peter Petkaitis. Peter is doing evangelistic work in Vilnius, Lithuania, and lives there with his wife, Ruth, and son, Gabriel. Peter is the son of this Council's members, Jurgis and Irene Petkaitis. Jurgis is also the organist and vocalist for Holy Trinity Church, and Irene is the cantor.

I have taken order from the membership for Varskeciai (cheese dumplings). The sale of this favorite food should enhance the Council's budget by a nice tidy sum.

Recently, while attending a "Trip Seminar" at a local restaurant, looking to plan a suitable trip for this Council, Irene Petkaitis had her name drawn and won a trip for 5 days to Biloxi, MS. Irene's husband, Jurgis, won a carry-on bag. Way to go, Jurgis and Irene!

Lillian Joseph and June Grenier attended the 87th National Convention in Los Angeles, CA, on July 27-30, which they found quite interesting and informative.

Six members are planning on attending the New England District Convention on September 17 in Worcester, MA. The attendees are Kaye Urban, Lillian Joseph, June Grenier, Alyce Gegesky, Judy Landers and Julie Naunchuk.



Cruising on the Connecticut River, Council 6, Hartford. Some members friends and spouses ended the year with a fun social on June 28, aboard the Mark Twain. Front, L to R: Bill Sawka, Teresita Petravicius, Kristina Sreksnas, Irene Petkaitis, Leona Sawka, Melvina Klebauskas. Rear, L to R: Wandie Kruk, Alex Yusias, Fran Ambrose, Florence Grigas, Eleanor Radziunas.

C-7, Waterbury, CT Adele Klenske

Our last meeting for the summer was held on June 16th. We wrapped it up with a really great pot luck supper, thanks to all our ladies and their exceptional culinary skills! Plenty of good food - some authentic Lithuanian dishes and all most pleasing to the palate.

After our regular business meeting, our Spiritual Advisor, Father Kevin Forsythe, spoke to us about the changes which have occurred in Lithuanian parishes. We obtained permission from Father to print a synopsis of his remarks. He began by saying that there has been an enormous amount of concern because of the dwindling of members in our clubs and

in our parishes, and he has noted a deflated spirit as a result. He mentioned that Lithuanian parishes were originally established for one purpose, and that was to assimilate the Lithuanian immigrants to their new home in America. This job was accomplished at that time, and we should all be proud of the fact, and not be concerned with the many changes that have taken place. Father mentioned that there will be many more changes in the future, and we must be ready to accept these changes. There are no longer so-called "ethnic" parishes. We have a mixture of all nationalities - our American melting pot.

Sunday, June 25th, the Lithuanian Club at 48 Green Street Hall hosted a dinner which honored the "old-timers." Several of our K of L members were presented with certificates for their 20-plus years as members, and now enjoy a lifetime membership - which means no more dues to pay. "Lefty" Adams was the first one called, followed by Paul Matalunas, Edmund Shukaitis, and, finally, Bill Shukaitis. Congratulations, gentlemen! You all deserved the recognition after all the many years of faithful support.

As members and delegates of Council 7, our group was privileged to witness the conferring of the Fourth Degree to Eddie and Betty Bebrin, and to Doris Snirpunas. This took place at the closing Mass of the 87th National Convention in California. It was a long and arduous road, and we offer our sincere thanks and congratulations for your faithful service and support to the K of L. Theresa Shukaitis, who was unable to attend, was also to receive this prestigious honor, and it will be presented to her in the near future.

One of our younger members - of which there are too few - Erik Karpavich, danced with the *Vetra* Lithuanian dancers of New Haven at the eleventh Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival held in Toronto, Canada, June 30th to July 2nd, 2000. Erik mentioned

that, "Viskas buvo nuostabu," (everything was wonderful). He also attended DAINAVA STOVYKLA, the Lithuanian language camp in Manchester, MI, Aug 6th - 13th. VALIO! (hooray!) He said, "Viskas buvo smagu Kanadoje ir Michigane," (everything was pleasant in Canada and in Michigan). His advice: "Kalbekite Lietuviskai!" (Speak Lithuanian).

Don't forget our start-up meeting for the coming year on September 15th, at our clubrooms. In fact, don't forget all our meetings which are held on the 3rd Friday of every month.

C- 10, Athol Gardner *Vincukas*

Remembering Charles Genaitis: Charles, of happy memory, died on March 6, 1988, as our local K of L were celebrating the feast of St. Casimir, our patron, and his also, as he was baptized "Kazimieras" in Brooklyn, NY., on June 9, 1906

Charles was our recording secretary for many years, and attended all our local functions, national and district conventions. He and his wife, Blanche, were in charge of our district scholarship raffle for years. Each year, he also would procure a proclamation from the Mayor of Gardner, for our annual Lithuanian Independence Day program.

He was ever so proud of his Lithuanian ancestry and language, and always showed his colors. A respected retired school teacher who was an inspiration to his many students whom he taught through the years, he also had an excellent voice and sang in the parish choir and in two local Lithuanian choruses. He truly lived our motto, "For God and country! He was a friend to all, a devoted husband to Brone, caring father to Lil and Dick, and grandfather to five. He was a 100% K of L family member, as well as a 100% local Lithuanian Club family member. We are all proud of his K of L

and parish efforts. Charles, rest in peace. We all miss you!

A didelis "Aciu" to Al Akule for his efforts in coordinating the annual K of L District retreat at the Franciscan Monastery. It was great, and the weather cooperated. The grounds of the Lithuanian Outing Association were beautiful this season - the efforts and expertise of Howie Beaudette.

Brone Wisniauskas was elected hostess of the Greater Gardner Art Club.

A contingent of Gardnerites attended the Sisters' picnic in Putnam. It was good to meet so many K of L'ers.

Condolences are extended to Clem Miller on the recent death of her husband.

Henry and Brone Gailunas spent two summer months in Lithuania.

Bruno Savulis of Greenfield, who is a Council member, is recuperating from a knee replacement. We all wish you well.

Walter Mikas has joined the local Perpetual Adoration group in Gardner. He joins Clara Zetkowsky, Howie Beaudette, Bill and Brone Wisniauskas, and Betty and Ann Penney.

The Fall season is a great time for gathering mushrooms in our area. But, I caution would-be pickers to be extremely careful. If not sure, leave them.

Let us say an extra prayer on behalf of Blessed Archbishop Jurgis Matulaitis, and Mother Marija Kaupas, that their canonization and beatification can be hastened.

C-12, New York, NY *Irene Senken*

It has been a lengthy hiatus since my last presentation of C-12 news. I will try to enlighten our readers as to what has been happening.

This past winter, while at our winter retreat in Fla., we attended

Mass. Upon leaving the church, to our surprise, we saw a car with a Knights of Lithuania bumper sticker. We waited for the person to exit the church, but to no avail. However, on another day, we were successful and met Lee and Paul Moore, members of C-86, DuBois council, PA.

Lee is the sister of HM Frank Petrauskas, and she and her husband have a condo in Century Village, a short distance from our condo. We had dinners at one another's homes, and exchanged notes as to the happenings in the K of L. It was a pleasant surprise.

Father Sawicki had two knee replacements and is doing well. He is expected to return to Our Lady of Vilnius around August 15th. Get well soon, Father, we miss you!

Joe Kacenaits had to wait a considerable length of time for a bed at the VA hospital in NY to have his heart by-pass operation, and is doing fine. Joe is gifted with a type of humor we all enjoy. Plaudits of praise are in order for John Antanavich for visiting Joe at the VA every day.

Our former Vice-President, Alma Karengo, has returned to PA, after many years of residence in NY. We will miss her and we wish her well.

Helen Yurkus, a hard-working member and treasurer, has become a grandmother to a baby girl. Congratulations!

President, Jovita Sleder, and her husband, are happy to announce that their granddaughter graduated Nursing School with high honors. Congratulations are in order!

We had the pleasure of meeting Tony Yacavonis and daughter, Cathy, and Eleanor Paulin at the 50th Anniversary of Fr. Al Sledzaus' priesthood, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Paatchouque, NY. Ad Multos Annos!

John Antanavichus had the honor of representing the Lithuanian parishes in NY to welcome Archbishop Edward Egan as our new Shepherd. John was televised shaking Bishop

Egan's hand at the altar. Bless you, John!

In conclusion, we wish a Happy Birthday to all members for July and August. "Ilgiausiu Metu!" Su Diev.

C-17, South Boston

Regina Alexander

We welcomed back the tired, but happy travelers from the Lithuanian Eucharistic Congress: Msgr. Albert Contons, Phyllis Gendreau, and Florence Zaleskas. Their trip was spiritually uplifting. The trip was so successful, that there is even talk about returning to the Dance Festival in two years.

The annual N.E. District retreat held at the Franciscan Monastery, Kennebunkport, Maine was again fully booked. The retreat directors were Father Dennis Arimbasick, and Father John Basavicius. Coincidentally, the "Blessing of the Fleet" on the Kennebunk River was held that weekend. A large decorated boat with a Scottish Bagpiper led the way, with its music filling the air.

A great big thank you to our hard-working Sunshine Committee: Ann Norinkevich and Mary Mickevich. They are on duty winter, spring, summer and fall, to help stay in touch with our council members.

Msgr. Albert Contons is substituting at St. Peter's Church while Pastor, Father Steve Zukas is studying and vacationing this summer in Lithuania.

Best wishes for her good health to long time member, Anne Neviera, who is convalescing at home.

Condolences to the family and friends of Helen Tarushka Zemaitis and Ann Narkevich who recently passed away.

Our busy fourth degree member, Adele Martus, is to be congratulated. She has been both, recording secretary and/or corresponding secretary for C-17 for

over 20 years. She commutes 50 miles from Chelmsford to South Boston, St. Peter's Church, twice a month.

Iki pasimatymo---Viso gero!

C-25, Cleveland, Ohio

Ursula Kunsitis

OMay was not a healthy month for our Council! Bill Jakuba, one of our "Snowbirds," had unexpected quadruple by-pass surgery upon his return home, and Stella Sankal, the best coffee maker lady, fell and required hip surgery. Not to let well enough alone, Fran Pranskevich had spinal surgery. We are pleased to report that all three members are on the road to recovery!

At our June meeting, our last until September, our President presented our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Gediminas Kijauskas, with a check for \$600.00 for the Jesuit Baltic Project in Vilnius and Kaunas. Members made personal, individual donations for this worthwhile cause. This must have been Father's lucky day - he picked the winning number for our 50/50 raffle, and the winner was, FATHER! Members, you make us proud!

The world may have its 3 Tenors, but we Lithuanians have the Three Choirs - Dainava (Chicago); Exultate (Cleveland) and Volunge (Toronto) - 200 voices in all. Their performance on June 10th at The Cleveland Institute of Music - Kulis Hall - was breathtaking! The addition of the Brass Section of The Cleveland Orchestra was the perfect touch for the performance of the GLORIA and the ALLELUIA, which was directed by our own, Rita Kilorys, just about brought the House down with many standing ovations. There was nothing but praise and kudos from the K of L's attending; Paul and Irene Chaldo, Ben Karklius, Gene and Ursula Kunsitis, Dick and Jean Marks, Joan Ortman and Nellie Samas. It was a grand evening which even the "bus fiasco" could not dampen!

Sunday, June 18th, was a very special triple celebration for our spiritual Advisor, Fr. Gediminas Kijauskas. It was his 40th anniversary as a priest; 25 years as Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, and his 70th birthday. After the 10:00 A.M. Mass of Thanksgiving, Parishioners, Council Members and friends enjoyed coffee and refreshments in the cafeteria where many gifts and praises and gratitude were expressed from both, the young and not-so-young!



C-25 Pres. Richard Marks and Rec. Secy. Jean Marks celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 25, 2000.

CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES to our President, Dick Marks and his little Bohemian Girl, Jean Marks, who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 25th, with an Anniversary Mass at OLPH Church, where they received a special Blessing by our Spiritual Advisor. An afternoon reception followed at the Manor Party Center, where K of L members, friends and family dined, wined and danced the afternoon away. It was a grand party, and we all wish the happy couple many more years of health and happiness. Dick and Jean are now enjoying a Montana vacation,

visiting their daughter, Mary Beth and son-in-law, Randy.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences go out to Edvardas Pranskevicius and his daughter, Christine, whose wife and member, Josephine, passed away on June 23rd, after a long illness. K of L services were held at the Jakuba Funeral Home on Sunday.

Congratulations to Water Colorist, Gene Kunsitis, ("Lil Rembrandt"), who was one of the Contributing Artists at the 25th Annual Russell Juried Art Show at the Fairmount Fine Arts Center in June!

Just received word that we have another ailing member, Joe Ivoska, who is recovering from pneumonia at home. Please remember him, and all our ill and recovering members in your prayers.

Long-time K of L member, Mary Trainy, sends her best wishes to all her many K of L Friends. Mary is at the Waltaon Manor, Rm.308, 19859 Alexander Rd., Walton Hills, OH 44146. She would enjoy hearing from her many long-time friends, far and near.

Hope you all enjoy what is left of summer. Stay well and be happy!

C-26, Worcester, MA

Stephen V. Walinsky, Sr.

June was just a joyous month for C-26. Our picnic was, without a doubt, one of the best, the reason being, the leadership. Who can deny that President, Rodgers didn't inject enthusiasm into her committee by her example of excitement? She, with the help of her devoted spouse, Al, did all of the buying of supplies, made arrangements for, and then set up services in the hall at Maironis Park. Her K of L spirit was transmitted to all involved, and of course, the results were satisfying.

The June meeting was just jumping with joviality, starting with a great pot luck supper, and then came the announcement of the profit that we

made at the picnic. We all but jumped out of our seats.

The Jubilee Indulgences Pilgrimage to the Marianapolis Prep School, was another delightful experience in June. I counted 32 who prayed and ate and toured, despite a rainy afternoon. Fr. John Petrauskas explained the purpose of the pilgrimage, and of the reward of indulgences gained by participation.

The month of May was not so joyous. We worried about the health of four of our very active members. Adele Degutis had serious surgery, and Chuck Serafinas had a hip replaced. Regina Barisas suffered through another knee job, and Josephine Ambrose had surgery. C-26 needs these people. Pray for their complete recovery.

July was a slow month for us. To keep active and productive, most of our bounteous executives and other of C-26 helped the Putnam Conn. Sisters before, during and after their annual picnic. They, plus a number of the St. Casimir parishioners, contributed many of their hours and much of their energy for the benefits of the cause. K of L member, Terry Adomavicius, also, being the President of the Sisters' guild, recruited a number of ladies to manufacture a big bunch of AUSUKIES for the picnic. Good work, 26-ers, and God bless all of you!

Because of no meetings in July and August, I don't get to see or hear about too many of our members, other than those who attend Masses at St. Casimir Church on weekends, or with whom I bowl on Tuesdays. For that reason, I know who did not go to the convention, and also who did go to California.

Charles Kulakusky, as of this writing, is confined in a rest home, resting and reaching for recovery.

On July 29, we lost a long-time member, John Ridick. He will be remembered for his contributions to society, and his devotion to his wife, Anne, whom he cared for through her many years with Alzheimer's. May you

rest now, John, and enjoy eternal life with her.

President, Vivian Rodgers, is anxiously awaiting the September meeting. She has so many interesting items on the agenda for the coming year of C-26 business. Dieve padek.

C-27, Norwood, MA.

Louise Zukas

We all give thanks for the amazing recovery of our Pastor and Spiritual Advisor, Father Bill Wolkovich, who recently had undergone surgery on both knees. Being in the hospital wouldn't keep him down; while a patient, he concelebrated Mass at the hospital for patients and staff, as well as anointing patients when no other priest was available. Father Bill would like to thank everyone for their spiritual bouquets, prayers, cards and support.

This summer provided much activity for our members. We commemorated the Tragic Days of June with an observance, starting with Mass, followed by a talk by Gita Kupcinkas, remembering the 25th anniversary of Simas Kudrika's freedom from a Soviet prison. Simas jumped on board a U.S. Coast Guard ship, only to be returned to the Soviets, and thrown into a Siberian prison. His spirit exemplified that of the victims of Soviet deportations, which helped many survive their ordeal. After the observance, participants made donations to sponsor several A.P.P.L.E. participants to travel to Lithuania, to share their various areas of expertise with those who attend their seminars.

We were 14 strong at the annual District Retreat in Kennebunkport. We were blessed with an inspiring retreat master and perfect weather. Along with the spiritual guidance, many old friendships were renewed, and we all look forward to attending again, next year.

In July, many members attended the annual fund-raiser held by

the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM, on their convent grounds. After a beautiful Mass concelebrated by Bishop Hart of the Diocese of Hartford, Father Peter Shakaitis and several other priests, we enjoyed a variety of Lithuanian foods, crafts, and music, as well as a lively dance program by the Neringa campers, including a re-enactment of the wedding of Vytautas' daughter, Sophia, to her Russian prince. Once again, we were blessed by perfect picnic weather, and it was good to see friends from all over the New England-New York area.

Members took time to travel. Paul Zukas took time from his tour group in Lithuania to spend a few days with relatives, and Albie and Lenore Jarvis visited several New England states. Betty and John Skricki represented us at the National Convention in L.A., and will be traveling to Sydney, Australia, to watch their daughter, Carol, take part in the double sculls rowing competition. Carol has an impressive record in singles, doubles, and quadruple sculls, winning many gold, silver, and bronze medals, as well as national competitions. Her accomplishments include coming in first with her partner in the Women's Double Sculls at the U.S. Olympic Trials in June, and then it was off to Vienna to the World Cup Regatta, where they received a bronze medal; then to Lake Lucerne, Switzerland, to win a Silver Medal and a place on the Olympic Team. Congratulations! Everyone in Norwood joins Council 27 in wishing Carol the best of luck. We will be watching, Carol! Have a safe trip and bring home the gold!

C-74, Scranton, PA

Marie Laske

St. Joseph's Church had its first family picnic at McDade Park. We had 2 roasted pigs, along with dressing, chicken, and all the rest. It was a huge success, and all want to have another

picnic next year. Many took a tour down to the coal mines. Monsignor Peter Madus was down so long, that Margaret Clegg said that he should be eligible for "black lung."

After a week of confusion as to when we would have our Mass at St. Ann's Basilica, Superior, Father Yukas, decided that it should be on Sunday, 23rd, instead of St. Ann's day, July 26th. Some people went on the 23rd, and others went on the 26th. I must say that the fault wasn't mine.

Our faithful Rev. Clement Kasinskas, CP, was celebrant, and we thank him so much. Lector was, Helen Cravath, who reads Lithuanian beautifully. Sister Elizabeth Zemaitis was music director. Marie Laske and Nell Bayoras were program directors. Nell was ill and couldn't make the Mass.

Remember Della Zvirblis, Jerry Costello, Ann Dudwicz, Michael Labas, Thomas Alyta, and Kathy Perry, daughter of Liz Kaminskas, who are homebound and need your prayers for recovery.

Many packages were sent to Lithuania by *Viltis*, who stops in Scranton every 3 months. The people in Lithuania receive the packages in 6 to 8 weeks. Anyone who wants to can send clothing or money to the priests, orphanages, Etc. "Better to limp all the way to heaven than not to get there at all!" God will not look over your medals, degrees, or diplomas, but will look for scars." Lithuania 2000: taxes increasing; teachers' pay decreasing; students pay for books and supplies; worst now for the needy.

C-79, Southfield, MI

Bertha Janus

Our Council held its annual Family Day Picnic Saturday, July 15, in the lovely grove of Divine Providence Church. It was an almost cool summer day, with a stiff breeze and the temperature hovering around the 75 degree mark.

A sumptuous lunch was put together by all attendants, with Pres. Marge Dapkus supervising. Barbecued hot dogs and fried chicken were starters, with a variety of salads for accompaniment. The meal was topped off with Lithuanian "gruzdu" and many fruits.

Some bemoaned the fact that a card game was unfeasible because of the wind - so we chatted and caught up on our various families' activities. A story about "A Dog Named Sex" was read to everyone's amusement. When the time came, the majority trooped to church for Mass, after another get-together enjoyed by members.

In other news, we lost two members in the last few months; John Kolinske passed away February 15, and Leonard Salas went to his reward on June 20. They were long-time members. Let us remember them in our prayers.

By the time this is published, our "Senior" member will have celebrated her 96th birthday, on August 17. Happy Birthday, Jadze Rukstele, and may the good Lord grant you many more! (She makes the best "Saltu Barsciu," we all agreed at the last monthly meeting!)

Our next meeting after vacations is the first Wednesday of September, and each first Wednesday after that - in case some have forgotten.

C-82, Gary, IL

Mildred H. Jagiella

On September 17th, C-82 hosted the 3rd annual reunion outdoor Mass and picnic for "Friends of St. Casimir Church" - our beloved little church which closed May 17, 1998. The overflowing crowd responded to bonds of faith and of friendship and prayed in a body, again. Our Pastor, Monsignor I. Urbonas - who celebrates his 90th birthday this year, as well as his 65th year as a priest - celebrated the Mass. He still answers our requests to journey back for us from Lemont. The inspiring music of guest-organist,

Faustas Strolia, accompanied St. Casimir choir. ("Lietuvis turi pagelbeti Lietuvi," he said). Guest Ann Marie Kassel's rich soprano resounded through our Indiana fields.

Sister M. Janine Golubickis, SSC, our Gary native, along with Mildred Jagiella, organized all the necessary details of the Mass, and were joined by Joellen Carabin, Janet Petrites - intentions - and Mass servers, Nicholas Jagiella and Matthew Smederovac.

Parishioners - the Lewis Zooks - attended from as far away as Florida, and in spite of health problems. Glen and Janeen Perutis, MAMD *Trumpet* editors, and Peter Paul Zansitis were also in attendance. Lithuanian spirit triumphs!

The picnic followed the Mass, and all enjoyed the VFW's catering, as well as KUGELIS provided by Ursula Tavaras' always dependable Kugelis Committee. Bronius Muras played extraordinary music and there was singing and dancing. Such quality music is for Music Halls, but Bronius' generosity of spirit extended even to picnics. Aciu.

So many thanks are in order - Casey Balt, president; Vince Gumulauskis, publicity; Elizabeth Starewicz, printing and mailing - and MANY more. Know that you're appreciated!

We continue to deal with issues of health and mortality, and ask for comfort and strength; we join our K of L councils, nationwide, in this universal need.

A council focus will be to reach more of our youth of Lithuanian heritage. Accelerated schedules sometimes form a barrier to membership and, "paraphrasing," "This wall needs to come down!"

C-96, Dayton, OH Frances R. Petkus

C #96's July meeting was more than that. It was our Annual Summer Meeting/Family Picnic. The

Tucker Family took care of all the food, games and entertainment. Cooks for the day were, Ron and Junior Knight, Danny! There was plenty to eat and munch on. During the word games there was silence as everyone put on their thinking caps. Winner was Anne Baker! Winners in the M&M count was a tie with Sister Regina Welza and Frances Mikalauskas. Anne Louise, Chr., and Danny had another surprise...everyone was a winner as they had enough door prizes for everybody! Good time had by all, Junior and regular Knights!!!

Members returned from the 87th K of L National Convention in Los Angeles safe and sound, in spite of some air travel problems. All shared their various stories from fun at Disney World, Universal Studios, Universal CityWalk, the various beaches and other tourist spots in the area. The convention sessions went well, especially the session that Irena Gecas-McCarthy and Robert Martin put together, covering the results of the K of L National Survey Report. We did have the pleasure of President Adamkus and Ambassador Sakalauskas sitting in for a few minutes at one session. This gave them a taste, in part, of how our sessions are run. Overall, things went very well. The food Maryte Sepikas and her mother prepared for the pre-convention tour, food at the Thursday night get-together and the banquet on Saturday were all excellent. At the banquet, President Adamkus had some wonderful thoughts to share with us. It was encouraging to hear, that with patience and persistence, Lithuania will see much growth in the near future. The biggest job the K of L has now is, to write to our Congressmen and Senators, encouraging them to get Lithuania under the NATO umbrella.

From C #96, HM Elinor Sluzas worked on the Resolutions Committee; Irena Gecas-McCarthy was not only on the panel, but chairing the Scholarship Awards and remains on the SC Scholarship Committee for

another term; Annamarie Sluzas-Berger, SC 3rd VP in charge of Juniors (remaining in that position), along with her husband, Mark, Norma Petkus and several other of our young Knights, had a very busy program for the Juniors: Mark Bell, SC Financial Secretary (remaining in that position), was busy with the Mandate Committee; Michael Petkus was on the Finance/Budget Committee for the MCD; HM Fran Petkus chaired the Nominating Committee for the District Presidents; C #96 Juniors were, Joseph Berger, and Robert and Erin Petkus.

It was wonderful meeting the members of C-133. They were very friendly and certainly made one feel at home. It was a special time, getting to meet and know President Adamkus and his wife, Alma.

A warm welcome to Kenneth M. Sabath of Missouri City, Texas, our newest member and third from the state of Texas!

Get well wishes to Joan Kavalauskas, Annamarie Sluzas-Berger, Elena Mikalauskas, Helen Kieval and Ida Davy.

Congratulations to Gary and JoAnn Thiele on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations on the birth of their first granddaughter, Camellia Jo.

Just back from Lithuania, the Mikalauskas' George, Frances, Mary Agnes and Elena. More after they recover from jet lag!

Each year, on the second Sunday of September, we pay tribute to our deceased members. This year was no exception. On September 10th, with our Council's cross leading us into church for 10:30 A.M. Mass, and members sitting in a body, the cross was then placed at the St. Casimir's altar. Our Junior Knights were the Offertory Bearers.

After Mass, Chair JoAnn Thiele shared these thoughts, "Good morning...welcome to the Holy Cross Knights of Lithuania's traditional cemetery visit. HM Michael P. Petkus, deceased, started this tradition over 50

years ago. C#96 continues this memorial tradition. However, when we look further back in our Judeo-Christian traditions, we find that in Israel today they honor not only their own family ancestors' grave sites, but they honor the traditional grave sites of Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Rachel, Leah, Ezekiel, Joseph, Mary and Jesus, to name a few. They do this not always with flowers in arid Israel, but by placing a small stone on the headstone and saying a prayer. We also know that in Lithuania visiting the deceased is practiced.

Prayers were then said in church for members who are buried out of town. The names of these 15 members and city of burial were read by Council president, Michael F. Petkus. From church, we headed to Calvary Cemetery. At each grave site flowers were placed, stories shared of the deceased and prayers said. Midway through, we took a "snack break." In all, we visited 45 graves. It was a great day, and thanks must go to JoAnn and Gary Thiele who put this day together.

We had another special day on September 17th. It was Holy Cross' Annual Feast Day celebration. Co-chairing were, Ken and Cindy Keivel, with the whole Keivel family. It was a super brunch held after our 10:30 Mass. Turnout was great. Admission was, "bring a dessert." You can imagine how much there was, and each one was delicious. The children of the parish had fun with all the games and treats geared to them. The adults had a good time getting caught up with "stuff" and enjoying the pictures of the Mikalauskas'. George and Frances, had from their recent trip to Lithuania.

Christ the King Sisters of Vilnius is the order of nuns C #96 has adopted. George and Frances Mikalauskas have chaired the annual fund drive for the council. Each year, arrangements have been made to have Lithuanian Sisters here in the US to take the donations to Vilnius. But, this year the Milauskas family decided to go to Lithuania and deliver the donations

in person. It was a great visit getting to meet the nuns the Council has been sponsoring these past few years. The Sisters were so happy to meet George and his family. Sr. Aldona Dalgedaite, CR, General Superior, made arrangements for the family to have dinner with Archbishop Backis! Sister Dalgedaitis writes: "Every donation is precious and obliges us, but especially precious are the offerings given with such love and cordiality. All the Sisters were very touched by your attempts to help us, Lithuanian Sisters, whom you didn't know before. We pray every day for these people."

There is a saying - "One is never too young or too old to learn or make changes in one's life. Judy Petrokas did just that. After being out of school for quite a few years, Judy went on to graduate from Capital University with a BA in Business/Finance, summa cum laude! Congratulations!

May all of you and your families have a very blessed Thanksgiving Day!!!

C -100, Amsterdam, NY

Gene Gobis

On May 29th, our Council lost a dedicated member - Edward Bablin. We extend our deepest sympathies to his wife, our president, Mirga Bablin, his children, which include the Vytis Editor, his sisters, Aldona Abeling, Beatrice Jasewicz, and Irene Damphier.

Ed attended our monthly meetings. We enjoyed listening to many stories which he told us, especially of the ones when he was in the service. "Amzina atilsi duok mirusiam, Viespatie, ir amzinoji sviesa tegul jam sviecia."

Council members and choir members, (Ed was a member), attended the funeral Mass. In addition to the granddaughter's solo, the choir members sang a number of hymns.

Our members, Ann Czrew and Helen Radzevich received word that

their brother, John Rogers, died, in June, in California. We extend our deepest sympathies to his sisters.

Amsterdam c-100 was represented at the K of L National Convention in Los Angeles, California by Regina Kot, Ruth Ralys, and Polly Ziausys. We will be anxiously awaiting their reports at our fall meeting.

SMILE & SPARKLE!

C-102, Detroit, MI

Teresele

We've a lot of catching up. Our April meeting had a good turnout, at which time birthday greetings were extended to our Cultural Chairlady, Donna Stanievich, who was born in Panevezys, Lithuania, wishing her many healthy, happy years.

Della Zyren has been dubbed "Lucky," winning the 50/50 raffle two months in a row. She had undergone another surgical procedure recently, and is recovering nicely.

Congratulations to Della and John on the birth of their 12th grandchild. They are also proud that their granddaughter, Rebecca Verdun, was Salutatorian at her graduation ceremony at Truman High in Taylor, MI.

Our president, Richard Straksys, is a real asset to Spiritual Advisor, Father Babonis. He not only is the lector at the 9:00 Mass, but also serves as altar server, and occasionally ushers.

Regina Juska-Svoba, ATL President, reported that the 80th container will soon be shipped, and appeal letters were mailed requesting donations to cover the cost of shipping. We are elated to report that this appeal produced a good response, and ATL continues to ask for your support.

A remarkable 149 years of wedded bliss have been accumulated by three of our Council couples, namely, the Sheas, who celebrated their 40th in May; the Bunikis' their 49th in June, along with the Starks, their 60th!!! Mes

visi linkime Jums Laimingu, Sveiku, Ilgiausiu Metu!

Incidentally, Theresa Shea broke Della's lucky streak, winning the 50/50 May drawing, and Regina Juska-Svoba came away the June winner.

We missed the Snowbirds, Donna and Frank Bunikis at our May meeting. Frank wound up in the hospital that day, undergoing tests and observation for a lung condition, which he is presently being treated for. Let us prayerfully remember him, along with several of our Council members who are combating illnesses.

Maryanne and Jo Guerriero, Ruth Wagster, Bill Zager and Joe and Eve Stark represented 102 at the MCD Meeting and Bowling Tournament in Pittsburgh. Even tho Joe and Ruth's teams placed 2nd and 3rd respectively, they all had a most enjoyable weekend, especially enjoying the Tamburitzin Concert. Congratulations to the Pittsburgh team, taking 1st place and the trophy!



The Guerrieros had a very pleasant visit with lifelong family friend, Sister Mary Assisi (Yurgelaitis) who joined them while breakfasting in the St. Francis cafeteria.

Our deepest sympathies to Ruth Wagster upon the recent death of her son-in-law, Larry Southwell, and to 79's Ann Salas, whose brother-in-law, Leonard, passed away recently. May they rest peacefully in God's heavenly kingdom.

How nice to see Bill Juodwalkis, Katherine Kurpowic, Vic

and Marie Yokin, our Pt. Charlotte members, at the June meeting. Twenty-five of us attended St. Anthony's Bazaar following the meeting, at which time we chatted with Ona Sadeikiene and Jo Jonulate, whom we haven't seen in a while; feasting on "Labai Skanus" Lithuanian cuisine. We miss seeing members such as, the Klucens clan, Ruth Wagster, Lou Bogart, Tim Baibak, just to mention a few, at our meetings. Please keep in touch!

We wish Joe and Eve Stark a safe and most enjoyable stay as they head for the National Convention in California, at which time, they will be receiving their Fourth Degree! Congratulations to two well-deserving members! Su Diev!

C-112, Chicago, IL

Sr. Johanna Marie

August 26th found the Board members enjoying the warm and joyful hospitality at the home of our terrific hostess, our president, Mickey Petrosius. Assisting her with food, drinks and other delicious refreshments were her loving husband Vince, and daughter, Carol. In the background, while the delicious dinner was served, (at poolside!), the music of many beautiful Lithuanian folk songs could be heard. What a wonderful and memorable afternoon was had by all!

The main topic of the agenda was, the nomination of new officers for the coming year. Estelle Rogers, HM. presented the names of the nominees.

Al Mockus, who presided at this meeting, reported on the Annual Cemetery walk that took place on May 29th. Although the day was rainy, a nice group of members came to pray at the graves of those who died during the past year. Special prayers were said at each of the graves, and additional thoughts and comments were offered by those who wished to do so. Thanks to Al Mockus, who spent much time in locating the graves and preparing the prayers in advance. Thank you very much Al!

Members who attended the 87th national convention gave glowing reports of their experiences, the highlights of which were, the opportunity to meet the President of the Republic of Lithuania, Valdas Adamkus, and his wife, Alma, and the visit to the home of Ruta Lee and her husband, Webb Lowe. Members were informed that President Valdas Adamkus would be visiting Chicago on September 17th, to give an address on Environmental Preservation.

The annual procession of Our Lady of Siluva was announced as taking place on September 10th, at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish. Members were encouraged to participate.

The need to work on new membership was underlined by the membership chairperson, Ellie Kasputis.

October 7th was announced as the date when the Mid-America District Meeting would take place, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir. Council members, Sisters Johanna Marie, Theresa, and Tarcisia would serve as the hostesses. Members would participate in the Mass, praying for the beatification of Mother Maria Kaupas. At 9:30 A.M. The meeting would take place afterwards.

The date for the regular meeting of C-112 was set for Sept. 19th. Estelle Rogers, Ellie Kasputis, and Anele Pocius would serve as hostesses.

The Sept. 19th meeting was opened with a special prayer led by our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Rimas Gudelis.

Election of Officers for the 2000-2001 year then took place, and the results were as follows: President, Leon Pauksta; 1st V.P., Alexander Mockus; 2nd V.P., Ellie Kasputis; 3rd V.P., Maria Deksnis; Regular Mtg. Sec., Gerri Chaplin; Board Mtg. Sec., Maryanne Gercius; Corresponding Sec., Alvina Giedraitis; Treasurer, Dolores Wainauskis; Trustees, Lorraine Svelnis and Mary Banky; Sergeants-at-Arms, Edward Pocius, Peter Jadvirsis, Louis C. Rogers; Lith. Affairs and Aid

to Lithuania. Sr. Theresa Papsis; Publicity, Mickey Petrosius; Lith. Publicity, Antanas Pauzuolis; Vytis Correspondent, Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas; Ritual, Julie Zakarka; Courtesy & Wake, Estelle Rogers, H.M.; Social, Anele Pocius and Dolores Maldunas; and Council Photographer, Sister M. Tarcisia Stuglis.

Some K of L regular and Junior members proudly carried C-112's banner during the procession.

C-112 welcomed back its former member, Roger Chernosky. Sympathies were also extended to him on the recent death of his mother. A new member, Martha, was also welcomed into our Council.

C-135, Ansonia, CT

J. P. Sabulis

Well, the roads were all jammed up recently, down near the water out New London and Mystic Way. Any road leading out that way was crowded by people who wanted to see the Tall Ships and were part of "OP SAIL 2000 CT." That was some sight, and others traveled to Boston to get a better look. The bus companies were really busy.

A trip that others should see is Providence, RI. A guided tour of the State Capitol Building is a must. Considered one of the most beautiful capitol buildings in America, and modeled after the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., this magnificent white marble structure boasts the second largest self-supported dome in the world, second only to St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. On display is the original Rhode Island Charter of 1663, and Gilbert Stuart's portrait of George Washington, which is the image printed on our dollar bills. The tour guides were very nice and helpful. We hated to leave them, but time was just so.

Lunch was at Cassarino's Restaurant in the Historic Federal Hill section (Atwells Avenue), where we saw the M&M Raisins in colors on various corners of the street. Providence has really changed since I was there last.

After lunch, I had a one and a half hour narrated sightseeing cruise of the historic Providence harbor. The guide on board provided us with information about Rhode Island's famous lighthouses, the history &

heritage of Providence, also known as the Renaissance City. It was a lot to absorb. This new and fully enclosed luxury vessel provides you with a unique way to see Providence's waterfront. Highlights included Ponham Rock's Lighthouse, Squantum Club, Brown University boathouse, as well as sights along the Providence River. You can see the skeleton framework of sunken sailing ships from days past.

After the cruise, we went to the new Providence Place Mall. There are lots of things to do and see here. They even have an I-Max theatre with the latest show. Providence is undergoing a transformation. I could not find where the Lithuanian church was, or how to get there. I'll have to ask some K of L members who live there and get a map. It was quite a trip.

Just a note...Father Paul Sabulis is now at St. Mary's Home in West Hartford, CT. He is the only living priest that was our parish priest years ago. For those who don't remember him, his picture is on the wall in our church hall. He was the first local boy to be ordained from our parish. All the priests after Father Ray are non-Lithuanian.

St. Anthony's church is having a one-day Fair on Saturday, September 16th, and a Raffle on Saturday, October 14th. We are happy to let you know that our hard-working Jack Tyson will be the one in charge of the Raffle. Jack says that his job will go easier if everyone helps sell the tickets. Jack is looking for people to help sell the raffle tickets at each one of the stores shown on the tickets. Please contact Jack Tyson as soon as possible, and get on the list. We need your help badly. We have to make it a success. Don't forget the Fair, too. Lots of good things to eat, and many good prizes to win. So come on down and help us out. We need your help.

Well, our roaming group, (Lil Chaplick, Millie Driznus and Ruth Tyson), paid a visit to our smiling member, Sister Arline. Every one was



C-112 Officers: Front row, ltoR: Ellie Kasputis, Dolores Wainauskis, Estelle Rogers. 2nd row, Ed Pocius, Gerri Chaplin, Mary Banky, Maryanne Gercius, Alvina Giedraitis, Rev. Rimantas Gudelis; Back row: Al Mockus, Maria Deksnis and Lorraine Wainauskis.

The traditional annual procession in honor of our Lady of Siluva was, as always, a huge success. Many K of L members from several Councils were in attendance. The day began with rain, but stopped just before the procession began.



glad to see her. After a long and pleasant visit, they went to see Father Paul Sabulis, who was also glad to see them. A visit there was also a time well spent.

Well, here we are again. Our one-day "fair" went over like a charm. All the work that went into the great day was seen in our effort. The fair was from 10 AM to 7 PM. It took the help of a lot to make it a success, and everyone worked to make it a go. It looked like a K of L fair, as most of the workers were K of L members. Kugelis, Kielbass and Sauerkraut, was the order of the day. Every one was eating it, and the workers were kept busy making it. The Grocery Wheel, The Chinese Auction, Crafts and Jewelry booths were all busy. A popular spot was the Baked Goods where Danute Koltko and her helpers were selling the goodies. Ann Winkis and Millie Driznus handled the crafts and other specialties. Lil Chaplick had quite a bit of help at the Jewelry booth. Anne Sabulis and Mille Stachowicz, from Florida, were also busy with the shoppers. Johnny Yudis was helping Sister Rosemary sell her tomatoes. This was also when he wasn't working with Tony Varsh on the Grocery Wheel. Lil Norwid and Lil Twerian were busy with the Chinese Auction. Ruth Tyson and Fran Barsevich were handling the Food Tickets and Raffle booths. Ann Malonis was busy helping Jack Tyson sell some last minute tickets of the big Raffle at a later date. Of course, we were thanking our other members who were trying to win a prize, but no luck, like Al Shurkis, Johnny Sabulis, Walt Stachowicz, Paul and Jenny Loda, and Lil Poehailos. Of course, J.P. Sabulis, who was working on the tent and removal of the same. Too heavy for us folks. We would also like to thank our big director of the whole affair, Don Poehailos. He did an outstanding job. We would also like to thank Jack Tyson who worked so hard to get more tickets sold than last year. Did you folks know that Jack was cooking the French fries

at the fair? He is a man of many talents.

We would like to thank our guests from New Haven and Bridgeport, Isobel Peterson and Stella Marcinauskis for their help and coming to our fair. Thanks, ladies.

While the fair was going on, some K of L members went to Mass. While Mass was going on, Congressman Jim Maloney and his members also attended. Father Pat Berkery met him after Mass and welcomed him to St. Anthony's parish, and invited him to the Fair.

At the Fair, the Congressman was introduced to the crowd. He was pleased to meet Johnny Sabulis, (whom he had known for quite a while because of his politics), and others. Don Poehailos did a fine job introducing him to all. The crowd outside, eating Philly Steak sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Fried Dough and other goodies, took a break to greet Congressman Maloney.

We were saddened to hear about our good friend, Monsignor Francis Pranckus, who retired from the priesthood in Bridgeport, and was very active in the K of L. Monsignor Pranckus was an outstanding person, and helped everyone the best he could. He will be missed. This year, he celebrated the 55th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. He was appointed prelate of honor, carrying the title of Monsignor, by Pope John Paul II, in 1983.

Look again, folks! It's election time. Every time we go along happy, this happens. Oh, well, here is the latest in the voting: Spritual Advisor, Father Patrick Berkery; President, Frances Barsevich; Vice-Pres., John A. Sabulis; Secretary, Mildred Driznus; Treasurer, Ruth Tyson; Financial Secretary, Lillian Chaplick; Sgt.-at-Arms, Donald Poehailos; Trustees, 1 yr., Eleanor Marganski; 2 yrs., Thomas Koshis; 3 yrs., Mildred Stachowicz; Cultural/histori- Albert Shurkis; Vytis Corresponden John P. Sabulis; Ritual, Ann Winkis Lots of

luck to all, and we hope the new year, 2001, is a good one!

We are happy to welcome Millie and Walt Stachowicz up North here. They do a great many things here and never complain. True K of L spirit. Nice to have you folks around. The weather here is nice, but in Florida, it is nicer in the winter.

Glad to see Floyd Trapkauskas doing so well. As long as Gloria is around, he will get better. Keep it up, Floyd.

C-136, Hudson-Mohawk Dorothy Richmire

Member attending the Convention in Los Angeles included Bernice Aviza, Ed and Virginia Barkowski. High points of their trip included meeting with the President of Lithuania and his wife. They found them to be very friendly.

The three convention attendees were also among the 2 busloads of K of L members and guests attending the home of Ruta Lee. She was very outgoing, greeting everyone as they arrived, and encouraging her guests to tour the 25-room mansion which was the former home of Rita Hayworth and Orson Welles. She was glamorous, fluent in Lithuanian, and very generous.

Lithuanian Day at Auriesville on Sunday, August 20th, was a success, in that the weather was beautiful, and a good number of people attended from Amsterdam, New York City area, and the Schenectady area.

The priest who offered the Mass is now serving his parish in Binghamton, and he offered us the custom many of us grew up with, that of receiving Communion on our knees at the altar railing. It seemed like we were children, once again. Somehow, it seemed more meaningful then, or perhaps it was because we were so young. For me, personally, it was a happy trip down memory lane.

Upcoming events: The joint picnic with members of the National

Thought for today: "The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything."

C-141, Bridgeport, CT

Aldona Marcavage

Holy Mass, celebrated by Msgr. Francis J. Prancus was dedicated to all deceased members of our Council. All the names and dates were read by Barbara Schmidt. May they rest in peace!

In the absence of HM Clemencine Miller, Nancy Pawasauskas presided at our June meeting on Father's Day. A delicious family style dinner was prepared by Marie Brilvitch and served with the help of Stella Marcinauskis, Alice Wilcinkas, Barbara Schmidt and Nancy Pawasauskas. We were honored to have a very special guest speaker—Elona Vaisys, who recently returned from Lithuania on June 7th, and what a pleasant surprise to see Sr. Igne with her. Elona had much to tell us about her visit to Lithuania, but her time frame was much too short. She said that in March she talked to 30 groups in 11 locations. She visited "Maxima," a super market in Kaunas – truly superior to any in the USA. The fragrance of the meat section and the bakery was overwhelming.

Lithuania is struggling to get on her feet. She is in dire straits economically. Russia is eager to by her goods, but doesn't pay for them. Neither does Belarus. West Europe products are cheaper, so Lithuania cannot sell them anything, and the government can't get any tax revenue. Because workers aren't getting paid, many people are becoming migrants. Ignalina is the largest power plant in the world, but may have to shut down. We wonder what Lithuania will do for electricity. On the plus side, many Americans are relocating, buying apartments, and then remodeling and redecorating them, creating jobs for carpenters and others. A senior citizen

home has been created by American seniors. It provides good food and a pleasant home for seniors.

What can Vyciai do to help? Orphanages need rubber pants for the little ones, and the caregivers need hand lotion for their rough, raw hands. The nuns need bed linens. Washing machines for convents and orphanages would be a blessing. Another way the Vyciai might help –to assist them in developing their exports on a regular basis, like linen cloth, or their excellent beer—if you have any connections.

K of L can make sure our politicians are aware of their needs. Everyone can write to their Senators and Congressmen, asking them to support the BALTIC CAUCUS, and ask them to please reply. Also, keep asking them to help get Lithuania and the Baltic states accepted into NATO soon.



Our Sister Igne has worked more than a year helping to establish their Kaunas Convent, and has been elected Sister Superior of Lithuania's convents. Her sister, Elona, quipped, "I'm her superior sister—I'm older." But, her pride was showing. We congratulate Sister Igne. We are proud of her, too, and wish her many blessings with the difficult job ahead. Sr. Igne returned to Lithuania right after our meeting that Sunday.

We were saddened by the passing of our friend and fellow Knight, Victor Miller, on June 14th,

due to a massive stroke. He was the devoted husband of HM Clemencine Miller, president of C-141. He leaves son Wayne and his wife Laura, and son Ronald, his wife Allison, and his adoring grandchildren, Ryan, Sarah, Sean and Zachary—also a brother, Peter, his wife, Ann, and Ella, his sister-in-law. Council members exemplified the Wake Ritual, attended by almost the entire membership, plus friends and relatives. "Marija, Marija" never sounded better. The eulogies read by his grandchildren during holy Mass touched many a heart. It was a beautiful sendoff, with a church full of Knights, friends and neighbors saying their farewells in prayer. May he nearness to God bring him everlasting peace and joy. 'Til we meet again!

The first Mass of the new season was in memory of former member, Regina Wright, attended by her husband, daughter and grandchildren. Happy eternity in Paradise, Regina!

Opening prayers were led by Helen Janiunas in Lithuanian. Hostesses Lee Marcinka, Stelle Witkavich, Eleanor Wisniesky, and Helen Janiunas, prepared a delicious luncheon. Bill Brilvitch announced that we now have 92 members. Next month, he will be accepting 2000/2001 dues. Two checks have already been received by him. Regina Wright's will left \$2,000 to our K of L. It was decided to donate the money to support one seminarian in Lithuania for one year. Two of Regina's children became K of L members in California this summer. Wonderful!

Lithuanian classes will again resume on October 24th, at the Miller home, with Gintare Ivaska as instructor.

Peter Radzwillas has been unable to attend our meetings for a long time, due to health problems. Due to his daughter, Ruth's good care, he is doing quite well, and would enjoy some company, at least cards and notes.

Gary Anderson invited all to the Synagogue in Stratford, where his

band would be one of three performing there on Sundays.

Sept. 21, 2000, was a special day of joy for Stella Marcinauskis. John and Laura Marcinauskis presented proud grandma with her 7th grandchild, beautiful Emily Rose. May God's blessings surround the newly enlarged family.

Antonio Schiarappa, (handsome 11 week old), brought his mom and dad - Ilona and Frank, to our September meeting. Smart kid! Congratulations and best wishes to you all.

Was it suspicious, or just plain good luck? The first three 50/50 raffle tickets were won by Barbara Schmidt, her mother, Alice, and then her father, Stephen Wilcinkas...

Kathi Balcius is helping her mother celebrate her 90th birthday in England. Please add out best wishes, too.

On behalf of VETRA folk dancers, Barbara Schmidt invited all friends to an afternoon of dance and music at the German Hall in West Haven, familiar to us all. Music by JOE THOMAS. Come and have fun on Nov. 5, 2000. Benefit - VETRA dancers.

The fastest election of officers on record took place. All incumbents agreed to work one more year for God and country. Congratulations! We are happy to have the best.

Another letter-writing campaign if in full swing. We are petitioning our Senators and Congressmen to replace the \$20 million to aid Lithuania and the Baltic armed forces. Many thanks to Nancy Pawasauskas for preparing the letters.

Don't forget to support the NED annual cultural festival in October, in Shrewsbury, and meet with friends.

Please remember in your prayers all our ill members, and those who have passed away.

C-143, Pittston, PA

Mary Ann Connor

The city of Pittston was decorated with 20 extra Lithuanian flags in February, thanks to some donations. The day of the official Flag Raising Ceremony was glorious, with members wearing their costumes for the event. A luncheon followed in St. Casimir's Hall. The following day, Wilkes-Barre held its Flag Ceremony. Nellie B. Ramonas was the chairperson, and a social was celebrated after the event.

The annual St. Casimir's Day Breakfast was held following the 11:00 Mass at St. Casimir's in Pittston. Monsignor Bendik and Father Alisaukas celebrated the event, and Carol Kizis was Lector. The three flags were marched in before Mass: the American flag by Steve Soha; the Lithuanian flag by Frank Joga, and the Council Flag by Casimir Kizis, Jr. Frank Joga also narrated the Offertory Procession. The picture of St. Casimir was carried by Rosalie Kizis, and the Vytis, the Knight picture was carried by Anastasia Stanley. Anna Walatka carried a lily, and Helen Karpovich, the Wayside Cross. The wine and hosts were presented by Rosemary Durling and Jean Kapochus Mihalick. All joined in singing the favorite hymn of St. Casimir, "Daily, Daily, Sing to Mary."

Nellie B. Ramonas was the speaker for the breakfast. Chairman was Mary Ann Cipolla, and co-chairman was Genevieve Dajnowski. The 58 people in attendance all received a packet containing a prayer to St. Casimir, a healing prayer to St. George, and a poem, "Time to Think."

Three members were eligible for their First Degree this year: Christine Moczydloski, Mary Ann Connor and Frank Joga, who received his at the St. Casimir's Day breakfast, from Father Alisaukas. Two members qualified for their Third Degree: Rosemary Durling and Marian Joga, who received hers at the Amber District meeting, from Diane Drumstas. Genevieve Dajnowski and Anastasia Stanley both received their Fourth

Degrees at the Amber District Meeting. Congratulations to everyone on all your success.

All members are looking forward to attending the St. Ann's Day Mass at the Basilica in Scranton, PA.

C-144, Anthracite, PA

Ona

"Simtas aciul!" to our very hard-working chairpersons, Eleanor Balsis and Victoria Caldwell, of our 86th annual Lithuanian Days. Along with Joe Ames, Kitchen Chairman, who made the delicious bulvines desros, and the wonderful Committee, too numerous to mention. The Days were socially and financially successful. We are grateful to all who worked. Special thanks go to Victor Stepulovich of C-3, Philadelphia, who came with his nephew, and worked both days. Victor also contributed his much sought-after "Lapiene Soup." Also, thanks to Clare Saponis and her sister, Mary Ann, from C-143, Washington, D.C., who graced the cake stand.

Because of the continued good work of all our members, we are able to send \$1,000 to the St. Casimir Guild, continue the work of our Humanitarian Aid Committee in sending books and school supplies to small village schools, to send needed items to the elderly, orphans, and a hospice in the poor villages of Lithuania. Members of the Humanitarian Committee are; Bernice Mikatavage, chairperson; Anne Panchari, Annie Morgalis, Anne Sikora, Eleanor Vaicaitis, and Tom and Helen McDonald, along with president, Marian Wydra. Many lovely letters have been received from the recipients of these items.

Through the efforts of President, Marian Wydra, we have also established a Christmas Club for the Carmelite Nuns in Pastuva, Lithuania. Each meeting, members donate toward this, and the amount collected will be sent to Pastuva to help with their soup kitchen for the poor. Marian also signed up 5 new members in August.

Once again, we have lost one of our good members. Kitty Bernatonis very seldom missed a meeting. She always worked or baked when asked to do so. Her smile and pleasant personality will be sadly missed. "Amzina atilsi," Kitty. You have joined our other members in Heaven.

Congratulations to Elsie Kominsky, who was elected to receive the Honorary Membership at the 88th Annual Convention in 2001. Elsie, Eleanor Vaicaitis, Marian Wydra and Anne Coffee attended the Convention in Los Angeles.

We wish to thank the many members of other Councils who attended our Lithuanian Days, and we pray that we will all be here for the 87th celebration.

C-147, St. Petersburg, FL
Dolores Jonaitis

With deep regret, on a sadder note, we have lost 2 of our members. Julia Rodowk passed away on May 16th, 2000. She was 92 years old, and was in our Council for 21 years. She is survived by a son, Henry A. Petraitis.

Our Rev. Steponas Ropolas, OFM, passed away June 26, 2000. He was a member of our Council for 6 years. Our sympathy is with both families. May their souls rest in peace.

Get well wishes are in order for Adele Aciene, who had knee surgery recently. We miss you for dinner on Sundays, at the Lithuanian Club. She also made a monetary donation to C-147 recently. Bronis Bakas was a patient at Gulf View Nursing Home for a short time. He is now back home. He would love to receive some cheerful notes. Brone Urbonas has also been ill. Hurry and get better. We all miss you!

A thank you note to C-147 was received from Regina Juska, for the group collection made at the last meeting - for AID TO LITHUANIA. We again thank all members who donated for this cause.

The 87th National Convention was held in Hollywood Hills, CA, at the Sheraton Universal. John Jonaitis, Dolores Jonaitis, Aldona Kirstuk, Rasa Petraitis, Aukse Kronas, Laimute Alvarado, and Janina Lauras were the 7 members that attended. Some disappointments were in order, but all turned out OK. As for John and myself, we combined our convention with a cross-country trip that puts us on the road from July 5th to Aug. 6th. We visited our children in Richardson, TX, Superior, Co, and Newbury Pk, CA.

Mr. and Mrs. Jancauskas, of Gulfport, just returned from Lithuania. They sponsored a Seminarian, and they were anxious to see him.

Petre Kasperaviciute is still ill, but now she has a guest from Lithuania visiting her. Many happy returns of the day!

Victor and Lucy Sanders recently celebrated their 56th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations, and many happy returns!

Our September meeting was opened by our President, John Jonaitis. The opening prayer was said by our Spiritual Advisor, Father Matas Cyvas. Irene Diktanas, our Recording Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting. No details were missed. Very well done, Irene. Thank you. We truly appreciate you. We all thank you.

Two guests were present. Saule Mikalauskas and Laimute Alvarado, who is working hard on ticket sales for our Concert in October. She does outstanding work in all she does.

After Maria Gelazius' Treasury Report, always to perfection, and other reports, John Jonaitis gave a report on the Convention in Los Angeles. Dissatisfaction was expressed with arrangements and detail at the Convention, in comparison with the highly praised articles in the "Draugas" and the "Darbininkas." Also discussed was the change in the "Vyciu Himnas."

Irene read the thank you note from Regina Juska-Svoba for our group

collection for Aid to Lithuania, collected at the previous meeting.

After closing, and the prayer, all were invited to refreshments donated by the following: Veronica Pleskus, Dolores Jonaitis, Ona Semolaviciene, Elenite Jurkynas, Irene Diktanas, Genyte Osinskiene, Adele Aciene, Lucy and Vic Sanders, Stase Jancauskas, Valeria Lescinskas, aldona Oliene and dElena Bacevicius.

Sorry that we did not acknowledge our members who donated money to our Council at the May meeting. They were: Vladas Gelazius, Stase Jancauskiene, Aldona Oliene, Janina Lauras, Elena Baceviciene and Adele Aciene. We thank you again.

A trip to Cape Canaveral, on the "Ambassador" boat was a delightful day. John and Dolores Jonaitis, Anthony Gudonis, Regina Usvaltas, and Laiamutae Alvarado, (who arranged the trip), enjoyed themselves. It was just like Las Vegas.

We were most delighted to have Maryte Abbott, her mother, Mrs. Mirga Bablin, (President of C-100), and brother, John, visit us on Sunday. We had dinner at the Lithuanian Club. We also attended Holy Mass, (all Lithuanian), celebrated by Rev. Matas Cyvas and Brother Antanas. Memories of yester-years were rekindled.

C-152, E. Long Island, NY
Julie M. Lott

Here it is, September already. Where did the summer go? Seems to me I was just preparing my report for the June issue, telling everyone to have a great summer. Now, here I am, asking - how did your summer go? We don't hold meetings in July and August, so our last meeting was back in June. At that time, Pres. Muriel Lofmark, proceeded to address issues on the agenda that needed a vote from the members. It was voted and agreed to make donations to the following: Aid to Lithuania, St. Casimir's Guild, the Scholarship Fund, and Our Lady of

Siluva Shrine at the Basilica in Washington, D.C. These donations were presented to the National Convention held in California this year. Our two delegates, John and Antoinette Sakal, representing Council 152, did the honors.

We also set our Christmas Party date for the second Sunday in December, which is Dec. 10th. It will again be held at the Birchwood Hall in Riverhead. Time: 12 noon to 4 P.M. The cost is, \$20.00 per person. Choice of beef, chicken, or fish. Music provided by Joe Thomas, and, I might add, it is not too soon to plan for this event. So, mark your calendars, and bring a friend.

Our Council's annual picnic at Orient State Park on July 17th was just great. The day started a little overcast, but our prayers were answered, and the "Dear Lord" gave us a beautiful sunny day after all. It was a gathering of 27, which included Council 110 members. Bruno Rutkunas, Frances and Ed Jakatt, Helen and Al Bagdonas, and Gen and Joe Thomas. Thank you so much for joining us. It's always nice to see you all. I can't overlook Alice Malinauskas, (my sister-in-law), who always accepts my invitations to join in our festivities. I'm hoping to recruit her to join the K of L. She is well known in our Council already, and will make a great Knight.

On a sad note, our council lost two long-standing members. Adalaide Flynn passed away on June 13th. A Lithuanian Ritual Wake was held on the 14th, with an exceptionally large number of Knights in attendance. Our condolences go to her sister, Helen Verity, and brother, Mike Zukas, who are also members of Council 152. On July 22nd, our dedicated Knight, Joseph Latinis, passed away after a long illness. A Ritual Wake for him was held on July 24th. May they rest in peace!

And let us not forget all our members who are ill or in recovery, and can no longer attend meetings, especially Anna Baksys, who for so many years

provided us with news from Lithuania, by tuning in to the Lithuanian radio stations. You are not forgotten.

And so I just want to say, "A great pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do."

C-156. Shamokin, PA Olympia M. Zelinski

We opened our fall meeting at Our Lady of Hope Parish Center. President, Bob Wislock, announced that two members were sick. Genevieve Martino led us in two decades of the Rosary for good health for George Kinder, and Mrs. Debbie Losiewicz. This was then followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our guests at the meeting were, Thomas and Ann Helen McDonald. They shared some thoughts about their recent trip to Lithuania, and spoke about the hospital for the elderly people, and a school for retarded children.

Our Council made a motion to buy a washer and dryer for the hospital, and also to collect clothes for the children and elderly. These will be shipped in October.

We viewed a video on Vilnius. It was enjoyed by all.

Some members will be joining Council-144, to go to Binghamton for the Amber District Meeting on October 1st.

Our upcoming activities will be: Bingo, Adopt-a-Highway, Spaghetti Dinner, more Bingo, Christmas Eve Supper, and the sale of Kielbasa and Horseradish. These are the fundraisers that help us with all our donations.

We cannot do anything on our own. We need the support of our members, and the good people who participate.

Gratitude takes three forms:
a feeling in the heart,
an expression in words,
and a giving in return.

Author Unknown



Council 156 President, Bob Wislock and speaker, Father O'Brien, at the Heritage Mass.

The church is planning another Ethnic Day at Our Lady of Hope. It includes all ethnic groups. We will also be included. The theme this year is dedicated to Our Lady. There will be displays, and food from each country to sample.

Since this meeting, we lost another member, George Kinder. May he rest in peace.

The meeting was then adjourned, and refreshments were served. Many stayed to look through Ann Helen's albums, and to hear about her trip.

The warm, summer months have finally arrived, with many storms to remind us, there is a God.

We had the privilege of having an Ethnic Heritage Day here in Shamokin. Many ethnic groups participated. The Lithuanians again showed that we they are alive here.

During the Lenten Season, many good works and sacrifices were made by the voluntary work of our Council.

We were able to collect a large box filled with children's Tylenol, peanut butter, and coffee for the children and staff in an orphanage in Lithuania.

A donation was made to the Shamokin Public Library, in honor of Emma Miller, who recently passed away. A second donation was made to the Mt. Carmel Public Library, on behalf of Alberta Bartash, who also was a member, since we honor all deceased members with a donation to the Library located where they lived.

A second donation of \$1,000 from Council 156 went to aid the "Adopt a Seminarian Program." A member backed that with another

\$1,000, to make a total of \$2,000 for the year 2,000, to help the seminarians. That makes a total of \$4,000 from our Council. Our goal is to make it \$10,000 in six years.

For Easter, we had our annual Easter Kielbasa and Bread sale.

The Council awarded a \$125 scholarship to Sarah Loslewicz, who was a senior at Our Lady of Lourdes High School. Sarah will be attending Millersville University.

In June, our great team of members, John and Mary Ann Charnosky, Kathy, Jessie and Andre, collected 28 bags of debris along Route 901, as part of our "Adopt-a-Highway" campaign. The next cleanup will be in October. We are very fortunate to have some young and strong members to do the hard work.

The Council hosted the Amber District Meeting Sunday, June 25, 2000. Mass was held at Our Lady of Hope Church, followed by dinner and meeting in the church hall. The women did a great job preparing the meal.

The meeting was very productive. Candidates for office for 2000-2001 were nominated, to be elected at the fall meeting. Delegates were also nominated for the National Convention.



Council 156 members attending the annual picnic at Knoebel's Grove.

Now we can relax for a month, before our fall schedule begins.

We will come together for our annual picnic at Knoebel's Grove, Tuesday, July 11, at 5:30 P.M.

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Bruno Rutkunas



On September 17th the 11:00 Sunday Mass was held at the quaint Holy Cross Church by Rev. John Provost, who is also the pastor of St. Mary's Church, where lunch was to be served in their basement hall after Mass.



Before the Liturgy, Vincent Strepeikis, of Council 110, was awarded the fourth degree medal for dedicated service to the Knights.

After enjoying the salad, roast pork, chicken, cabbage, potatoes and home-made stuffing, 58 members and guests were ready to start the meeting.

Welcoming statements were made by active President of Council 136, Charles Rupsis, and introductions by MAD President, Edward Barkowski. Colonel Ginger Houghton, RN, and Lieutenant Colonel Robert Duda, both of the National Guard Retired, exhibited vivid slides showing the obsolete equipment and the lack of

modern techniques in many hospitals in Kaunas and other cities of Lithuania. Both volunteered medical help, and also adopted some patients for treatments in the USA. They were very much impressed with the polite and kind nature of the Lithuanian people, as well as the beautiful scenery.

John Mankus, past president of the Supreme Council, spoke of his appointment as Chairperson of Lithuanian Affairs. His introductory newsletter featured a review of the happenings at the LA National Convention, news items, and future K of L events. As always, John recited from memory, a touching Lithuanian poem.

President, Ed Barkowski then gave his activity report and spoke also about the LA conventions, and was impressed with the beautiful, but very overcrowded countryside compared to New York. **Maryte Abbott**, 1st Vice-President, appealed to all to try to obtain new members. Our total K of L membership is falling again by 10%, to approximately 3500 members. Then, **Bernice Aviza**, 2nd Vice-president, reported that her group of Junior K of L members were still active, and all applauded her for her continued dedicated work with the Juniors! A very detailed and complete secretary's report was given by **Frances Jakatt**, covering our last MAD meeting. Treasurer, **Cathy Nakrosis**, stated that the expenses and donations had totaled \$401.00 since the spring meeting, still leaving a healthy balance: a half-page ad for the Christmas Vytis issue was approved. An enjoyable, as well as humorous presentation was made by **Edward Jakatt**, about his impressions of the National Convention. Highlighting the generosity and support given by Ruta Lee and her husband for opening her home to 2 busloads of guests, and treating everyone to a grand buffet and beverages. Ed thought that Lithuanian President Adamkus was extremely thankful to the Knights for their Aid to

Lithuania; his gracious wife, who possessed a charming and warm personality, impressed many guests with her pleasing smile.

The following changes to the executive board were approved: Mirga Bablin, replacing Ann O'Neil as trustee; Brian and Bruno Rutkunas for Lithuanian Affairs and Vytis; Regina Kot as cultural rep., and Captain Phyllis Barkus for ritual, (Joe Zukas giving some help).

Approved resolutions included thanks to Father John Provost, the Host Council #136, to Colonel Ginger Houghton and Lt. Colonel Robert Duda of the National Guard Retired, and to all others who helped. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM. Sandwiches and cake were available for those who wanted them for the trips home. Candidates for next spring's meeting were, Elizabeth, NJ - Council 52, and Amsterdam, NY, Council-100.

Gratitude is the fairest blossom
Which springs from the soul,
And the heart of man
Knoweth none more fragrant.

Hosea Ballou

Let us give thanks to God
on Thanksgiving Day.
Nature is beautiful
and fellowmen are dear
and duty is close beside us
and God is over us
and in us.

Autumn ... the year's last,
loveliest smile.

Bryant



PRAYER OF A THOUSAND YEARS

Praise to you, God of all creation,
throughout this tiny sphere of yours,
this home of ours called earth,
spinning to make days and nights,
tilted and circling the sun to make seasons.

Praise to you for our notion of numbers;
We count the days for earth to circle its sun
and call it a year.

We bundle years into decades
decades into centuries,
centuries into millennia,
each a thousand circling years.

And so, God without beginning,
we are done with a millennium—
the second since you sent Jesus,
the word made flesh,
who lived and died and conquered death.
And we begin to count again.
Looking back, looking forward we hesitate.

We have much to mourn—
slavery, war, poverty, the Holocaust.
Give us tears to lament.
We have great reason to rejoice—
arts and sciences, human rights and holy people.
Give us dance to exult.

God, who one day will be all in all,
for you a thousand years is like a single day:
God night! Good morning!
Hold this planet and its people dear
as we spin and circle into new times.
Send into your church the very Spirit of Jesus
that we may be prophets,
that we may be servants,
for you so loved the world
and so would we love it now
and love it day by day
till all earth's years are bundled
and all its people at home.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the beginning and the end,
Lord forever and ever. Amen.

Et cetera.....



Ed Jakatt, C-110 Ritual Chair; Vincent Streipeikis receiving Fourth Degree at St. Mary's Church; Rita Sussko, Supreme Ritual Chair. Schenectady, NY.



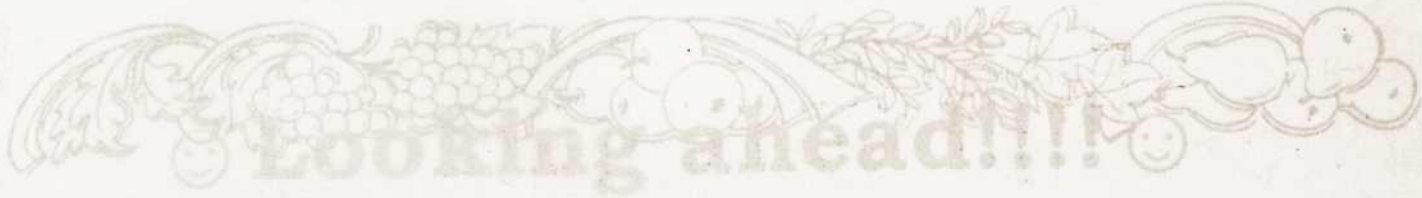
Anastasia Stanley and Genevieve Dajnauski receive their Fourth Degrees



Celebrating the Presidency at Rob's place. L to R, 1st row: Brian Johnson, SC Pres. Rob Martin, Jr., Andrew Yuknis, Alex Deksnis, Rita Johnson & baby Brian Johnson. 2nd row: Andrea Deksnis, Julie Zakarka, Dutchie & John Adamenas. 3rd row: Estelle Rogers, Denise Deksnis. Back: Michael Yuknis, Maria Deksnis.



Marian Joga receives Fourth Degree from Diane Drumstas



OUR HERITAGE

A NATIONAL PRAYER

Thomas Jefferson

Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage, we humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners.

Save us from violence, discord and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people that multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues.

Endow with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in Thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth.

In time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and, in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, AMEN.

In every thing give thanks.

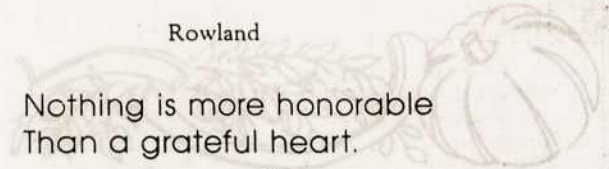
1 Thessalonians 5:18

Every life we touch is a field; everything we do and all the words we speak are seed. What will the harvest be?

Rowland

Nothing is more honorable
Than a grateful heart.

Seneca





Autumn Pastries

Cranberry-Pineapple Pie

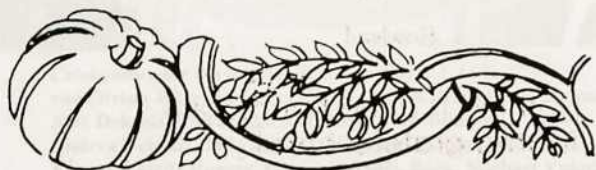
- 1 pound fresh cranberries
- 1 can (6½ ounces) pineapple chunks, drained
- 1 cup pineapple juice
- 2 cups sugar
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 2 tablespoons unflavored gelatin
- 1 9-inch pie shell, baked
- Whipped cream

Bring cranberries, pineapple, pineapple juice, sugar, lemon juice, and gelatin to a boil. Boil 10 minutes. Cool. Pour into pie shell and chill. Garnish with whipped cream.

Plantation Pecan Pie

- 3 eggs
- 1 cup light corn syrup
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ cup butter *or* margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup pecan halves
- 1 9-inch pieshell, unbaked

Preheat oven to 350° F. In a medium bowl, beat eggs thoroughly with a wire whisk or hand beater. Beat in corn syrup, sugar, butter, and vanilla until well blended. Arrange pecan halves in a single layer in bottom of piecrust. Pour egg mixture carefully over the pecans. Bake 1 hour or until knife inserted about 1 inch from the edge comes out clean. Cool.



Coconut-Pumpkin Pie

- 1 can (3½ ounces) flaked coconut, divided
- ¼ cup crushed graham cracker crumbs
- ⅓ cup butter *or* margarine, melted
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 envelope unflavored gelatin
- ¾ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup sugar, divided
- 3 eggs, separated
- ½ cup milk
- 1¼ cups canned pumpkin
- Whipped cream

Preheat oven to 375° F. Spread coconut on a cookie sheet; bake 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Reserve two tablespoons for garnish. In a 9-inch pie plate, mix remaining coconut, crumbs, butter, and 2 tablespoons sugar. Press firmly to bottom and side of pie plate. Bake for 7 minutes or until golden. Set aside to cool. In the top of a double boiler, blend gelatin, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, salt, and ½ cup sugar. In a small bowl, beat egg yolks with milk until blended. Stir into gelatin mixture. Blend in pumpkin. Cook over boiling water, stirring often, for 20 minutes or until thickened. Refrigerate until cool but not set. In a large bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Continue to beat at high speed while sprinkling in remaining ¼ cup sugar. Gently fold pumpkin mixture into beaten egg whites. Pour into crust; refrigerate until set. Serve topped with whipped cream and a sprinkling of toasted coconut.

☺ **Looking ahead!!!!** ☺

National Convention 2001

Mark your calendars now and get the FAMILY ready.

August 2-5, 2001 are the dates for our next National Convention.

Your Supreme Council invites you to join us for our
88th National Convention in lovely Orlando, Florida.

GROSVENOR

Resort

IN THE WALT DISNEY WORLD® RESORT

has been selected as our convention home for 2001. Its location as a Downtown Disney Resort Area Hotel makes it perfectly suited for all Knights of Lithuania members. So plan to attend with your whole family. A block of rooms is already reserved for us at a rate of \$95.00 per night, up to four adults. This great low rate is available not only during the convention but, depending on availability, for three nights before and three nights after the convention. You can already make your reservations by calling 1-800-624-4109. Just mention "Knights of Lithuania" and a first night's deposit will hold your room for you.

Please watch future issues of *Vytis* for more information. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Rob Martin at 219-861-0731 and he'll be happy to answer them for you.

Plans are underway for a great convention for members of all ages. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Vytiskai,

Your Supreme Council

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a. Total (Sum of 15b, 15c, 15d, 15e, and 15f)		2949		3024	
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation	(1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	2772		2888	
	(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	--0--		--0--	
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g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)		2840		2956	
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16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Will be printed in the NOVEMBER 2000 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.					
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Mary F. Kincius</i> BUSINESS MANAGER				Date OCTOBER 1, 2000	

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