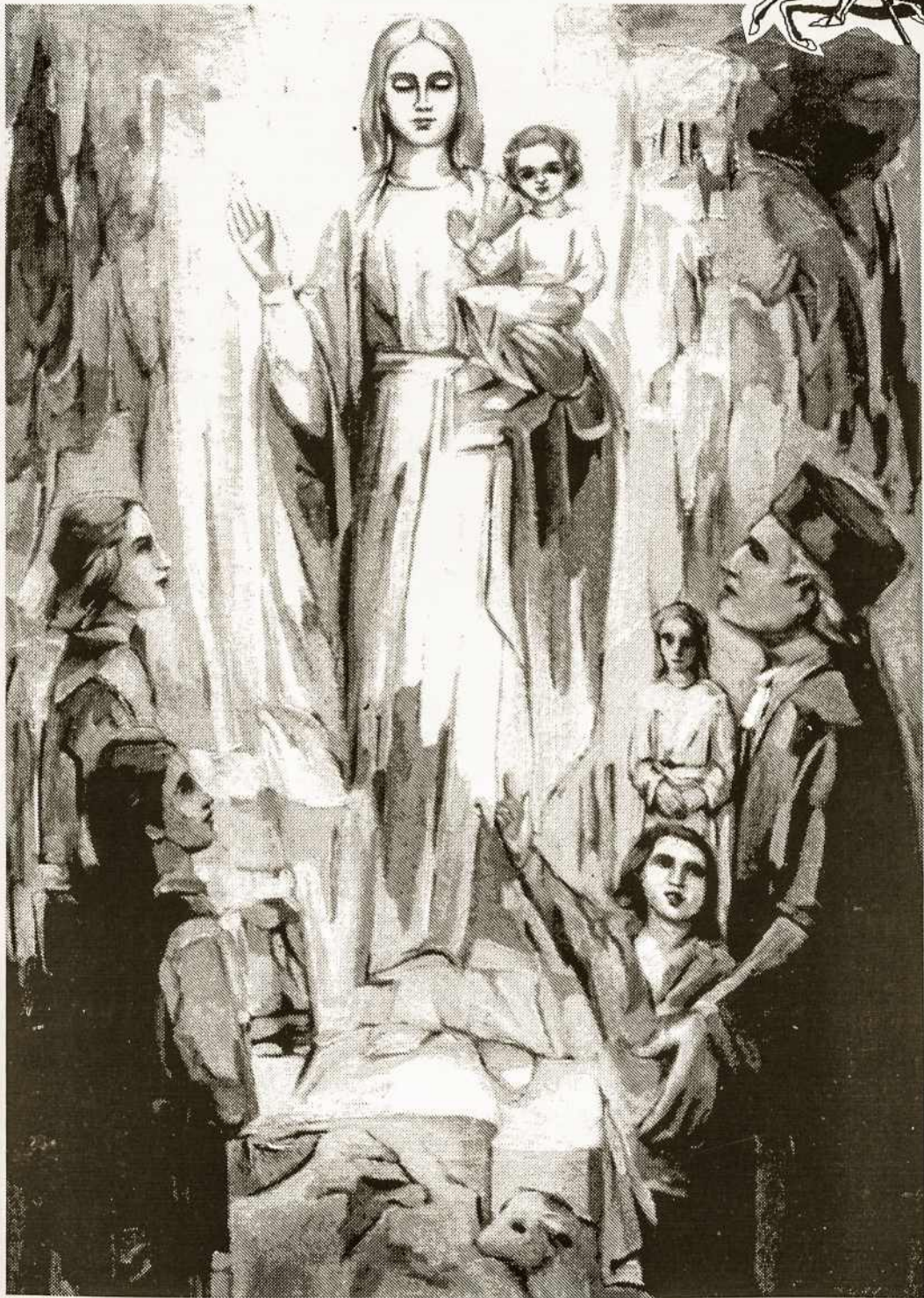


# VYTIS - THE KNIGHT

Vol. 87 No. 1 sausis/January - 2001



Mary, the Mother of God

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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.*

**sausis - January 2001 Volume 87: No. 1**

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**On the Front Cover:  
 "Our Lady of Šiluva"  
 From the "Art of Sister Mercedes"  
 acrylic 40x32 - (1968)  
 Collection Jesuit High School  
 Kaunas, Lithuania  
 Used with permission**

## To My Fellow Knights

Dear Fellow Knights,

**2001!** The Church's Jubilee Year has ended. The blessings, the prayers and pilgrimages which marked the millennium celebrations have come to a close. We are experiencing the evolving events of the twenty-first century and life in this world of the third millennium.

**2001!** The challenge of living Jubilee everyday continues.. The Lord has told us what is good and required of us: "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God." Micah 6:8. That sounds like the Knights of Lithuania to me.

**2001!** In this new year may we continue the spirit of jubilee together as we combine our efforts and prayers "for God and country." This is my prayerful wish.

Vytiškai,

*Sister M. Janine*

### EDITOR'S NOTE

- VYTIS is your magazine. Please continue to send your articles and news.
- Council News are due on the first of the month prior to the month of publication.
- Articles may take longer than Council News depending on circumstances.
- Please notify us as soon as possible concerning changes of address and death notices as specified in Financial Secretary Mark Bell's reminders in this issue.

#### Happy News!

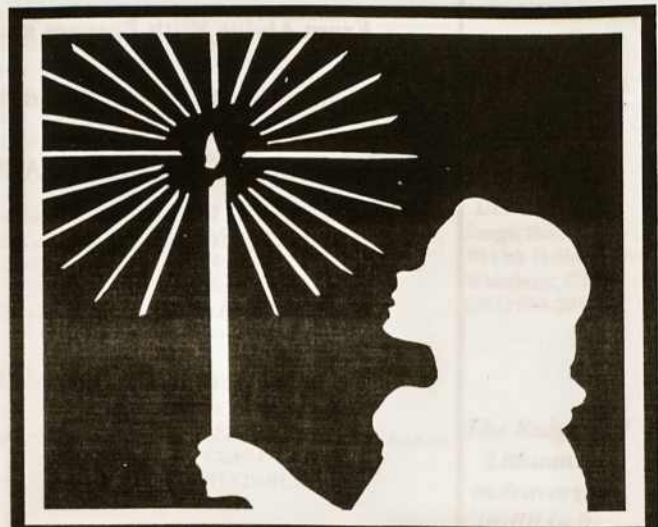
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**as indicated in inside front cover of VYTIS.**



May the blessings of Christmas  
Shine upon you throughout a  
healthy, prosperous New Year!

**2001**

**Council 147, St Petersburg, FL**

## Greetings from the Supreme Council

Dear Fellow Members and Friends,

As you read this we have already celebrated the wonderful Christmas Season and have welcomed in New Year 2001, and are probably putting away the last of the holiday decorations. Where has the time gone? On behalf of the entire Supreme Council, and most especially myself, I wish to offer you our sincerest hopes that your Christmas brought you all the joy your heart could hold and that this New Year, 2001, will be your happiest year yet. I, along with each of the Supreme Council Members, am looking forward to the months ahead as we prepare for meetings, activities and other events while looking ahead to our National Convention in Orlando, Florida. Plans are underway for a wonderful convention and I encourage each of you to not only attend but to bring your family along with you, you won't be disappointed.

Beginning with this issue watch for convention information every month. As you know the Supreme Council met in Orlando this past November to lay the foundation for the convention. At that meeting a completely revamped format for the convention was presented and approved by the Supreme Council. As you will see this new format will not only allow us to continue the important working of our National Conventions but will also afford our members free time to explore on their own or reestablish long time friendships. This coming March our convention committee will gather again to continue building on the foundation set in November. We are grateful to all those who have volunteered to work on this year's convention, with the support and enthusiasm I've seen this could be our greatest convention yet. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Also, during the last several weeks your Vytis Editor, Sr. Janine; Business Manager, Mary Kinks and myself have met with the staff at our Vytis printers. We and the printer's staff are confident that we will rectify any problems you may have been experiencing with receiving Vytis. Together, we will find the solution and work to produce a more timely Vytis that each of us can continue to be proud of. We ask that if you are still having problems to notify us immediately so that each problem can be addressed and rectified as it happens.

In closing, again I wish you the Happiest of New Year's and hope that good health is to you and yours all through the year.

Vytiskai,

**Rob**

Robert A. Martin, Jr.

President

## SOME TIMELY REMINDERS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Just a few reminders about **dues**:

Dues for the year **2001** are now payable to your Council Financial Secretary. If I do not have a record of payment for a member by **March 31, 2001**, they will be dropped from the *Vytis* mailing list. In order for your membership to count for the official delegate determination for the 88<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, I must have your dues by March 31<sup>st</sup>. If I do not receive dues by June 30, 2001, the member will be dropped from the organization.

Any Council having a Junior Council is hereby notified to submit to the National Financial Secretary a listing of Junior members' names and dates of joining.

Lately, there has been much confusion as to which Officer receives changes, dues, questions, etc. Hopefully this following table will help:

\*\*\*\*\*

| Question about                   | Contact                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dues                             | Council Financial Secretary. If not satisfied with answer, then National Financial Secretary, Mark H. Bell.                      |
| Not receiving the <i>Vytis</i>   | <i>Vytis</i> Business Manager, Mary F. Kincius                                                                                   |
| Change of Address                | Council Financial Secretary; they shall then notify Mark Bell, and <i>Vytis</i> Business Manager, Mary Kincius.                  |
| Member's Death                   | Council Financial Secretary; they shall then notify Mark Bell.                                                                   |
| New Member's Application         | Must be approved by Council Financial Secretary; then they shall forward to National 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-Pres., Elena Nakrosis. |
| Re-instated member's Application | Must be approved by Council Financial Secretary; then they shall forward it to Nat'l 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-Pres., Elena Nakrosis. |
| <i>Vytis</i> Ads                 | <i>Vytis</i> Business Manager, Mary Kincius.                                                                                     |
| K of L Constitution Requests     | National 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-Pres., Elena Nakrosis                                                                              |
| K of L Manual Requests           | National Trustees: Agnes Mickunas and Rita Sussko                                                                                |
| Website questions and events     | National Financial Secretary, Mark Bell.                                                                                         |

Addresses and phone no.'s for the above persons can be found on the inside *Vytis* Cover.

\*\*\*\*\*

Your council officers can easily answer many questions. They are a wealth of information. Our K of L Website address is: <http://www.geocities.com/lietuvosvyčiai/>. Check it for current events, officers, recipes, convention information and the guestbook. It has been very helpful, and I look forward to seeing your comments and adding more information to the site.

Thank you for all your help during the past year during which I have been National Financial Secretary. With your continued cooperation, we can insure the best service for you.

Vytiskai,  
Mark H. Bell

**\*\*Correction Notice:** Alice Benedict of Council 152, who was listed as deceased in the last issue, is still with us, and has just changed her address in Hampton Bays, New York. Her name was accidentally included in the deceased list.

# LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS UPDATE

by John R. Mankus, Chairperson, National Lithuanian Affairs Committee

As I did as president of the S.C. of the Knights of Lithuania, I want to continue the good communication between our members and our elected Supreme Council officials. I am sure there are many good avenues to disseminate information on Lithuanian affairs to our members. As I see it, the main object is to get the information to the maximum number of our members and to our local news media in a timely manner.

Since its formation in 1946 to champion the cause of Lithuanian independence, the Lithuanian Affairs Committee has continued to provide advocacy for Lithuania's needs. All of us, as members of the Knights of Lithuania must keep abreast of the political, social and economic situation in Lithuania, and appropriately disperse such information to our fellow Knights, local media, as well as government officials, in order to encourage assistance to Lithuania in achieving stability and prosperity within a democratic system.

It appears that two good ways to inform the maximum number of our members is by articles in the *VYTIS*, and by a news letter in a similar fashion that Vince Boris disseminated to our members. At the present time, I plan to pursue both avenues.

As the updated District and Council officer list becomes available, I will be transmitting my Lithuanian Affairs Newsletter to District Officers for distribution to Council Officers. Only by working closely together can we be assured that all our Council Lithuanian Affairs Officers receive the Newsletter and that the information is passed on to our members. I also hope to attend a number of District meetings for face to face communication with our District and Council officers and members. To date, I have sent out more than two hundred copies of the September and October Newsletter to Supreme Council, District and Council officers and members. I would like to share some of the items from these Newsletters.

## Knights of Lithuania National Convention in Los Angeles.

We thank President Adamkus for his attendance at our National Convention. This was the first time that a President of Lithuania attended our Convention. I want to share a few of his remarks at the Convention. He said, "The Knights of Lithuania stood at the foundations of modern Lithuania. World War I was still in progress

when you voiced the question of Lithuania's independence and brought in innovative measures of political action. We, a later generation of emigrants, followed the trail blazed by the Knights of Lithuania, by filing numerous petitions to the US government, and sending thousands of telegrams. Today, I am greatly honored to become one of you. It is not only because I highly value the Knights' contribution to the cause of the freedom of Lithuania. No less meaningful are your efforts to foster Lithuanian national identity and the principles of ethics and justice. My heartfelt thanks to you for naming me an Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania."

I also want to thank Mrs. Alma Adamkus, Ambassador Stasys Sakalauskas and Honorary Consulate General Vytautas Cekanauskas and their wives for their participation at our National Convention.

**Breaking News.** The Catholic community of TILZE (Sovietsk) town in Russian Kaliningrad region has regained its CHRIST RESURRECTION CHURCH which was restored and consecrated this fall. The church is Neo-Gothic style and dates back to 1851. It was severely damaged during World War Two and during Soviet times. Reinstatement of the church and land to the TILZE Catholic Community in 1992 cleared the way to the restoration of the sanctuary. The reconstruction project received financial support from the LITHUANIAN government and private sources. The TILZE town, currently called "Sovietsk" by Russia, lies on the left bank of the NEMUNAS river in neighboring Kaliningrad, and is closely linked with the history of LITHUANIA. This town and region witnessed publishing of LITHUANIAN newspapers and books, and was home for many prominent culture figures of LITHUANIA. (From ELTA).

- An interdepartmental official commission appointed by the government has announced that **20 billion dollars** is the damage Lithuania incurred under Soviet occupation. This is a combined figure, which covers deaths, citizens deported to Siberia, prosecuted resistance fighters, Soviet nationalized Lithuanian assets, damage to property, lost GDP, and many other issues. The government, after receiving the figure, is expected to initiate negotiations with the Russian Federation about compensation. Prospects for compensation are unclear, after a strongly negative Russian reaction. The sum also includes environmental damage caused by hundreds of Red Army bases established across Lithuania, as well as compensation for the destruction of dozens of Catholic churches and church property.

- **Action Item.** Ask you Senators to support Senate Resolution 2, and your Congressmen to support House Resolution 21 - both of these resolutions recommend integrating Lithuania into NATO. When writing or calling, please be sure to also ask them to join the congressional Baltic Caucus - the goal of the Baltic Caucus is to keep legislators informed of issues related to the Baltic nations. The Baltic Caucus is chaired by Congressmen John Shimkus and Dennis Kucinich, in the House of Representatives, and by Senators Richard Durbin and Slade Gorton in the Senate.

The extension of NATO membership to Lithuania would contribute to stability, freedom and peace in Europe. This principle is inherent in the United States-Baltic Charter, signed on January 16, 1998, which expresses the support of the United States for Lithuania's membership in NATO. Urge your Congressmen and Senators to support Lithuania's entry into NATO.

I would like to share a few lines from Ambassador Sakalauskas' recent letter addressed to me and to all our Vyciu members: "Pries dvi dienas mus pasieke labai maloni zinia is Senato. Senatoriai, didele balsu persvara, patvirtino uzsienio operaciju istatyma (Foreign Operations Bill). Sis Lietuvai labai svarbus istatymas, numato kad 2001 m. Lietuvos krasto apsaugai butu skirta parama uz 9 milijonu JAV doleriu, t.y. beveik dvigubai daugiau nei gauname siais metais. Taip pat Senatas pritare skirti visoms trim Baltijos valstybems 5 milijonu JAV doleriu finansuoti teisesaugos pareigunu apmokymus. Sia dziaugsminga proga noreciau nuosirdziai padekoti asmeniskai Jums, kitiems organizacijos nariams uz nuveikta dideli darba siekiant, kad butu priimtas sis istatymas. Lietuvos Vyciu, kitu lietuvisku organizaciju aktyvumas bei gerai koordinuota veikla, labar daug prisidejo prie sio svarbaus pasiekimo. Perduokite, prasau, mano padeka visiems prie sio reikalo prisidejusiems Jusu organizacijos nariams."

**Lithuanian Election Update.** The Social Democratic, led by former President Algirdas Brazauskas, won the most seats, taking 51 of 141. A coalition government is being formed by the following parties: the Liberal Union (34 seats), New Alliance (New Union) (29 seats), the Center Union (three), and the Modern Christian Democrats (one), have a loose pre-election coalition deal. The new Prime Minister will be Vilnius Mayor, and former Prime Minister Rolandas Paksas (Liberal Union), while Arturas Paulauskas (New Union), will seek the post of Seimas chairman. At this printing, Arturas Paulauskas, 47, was elected Seimas (PARLIAMENT) chairman for 2000 - 2004.

Top vote recipients by Party, Percentage of Popular Vote and Seats Won:

— Social Democrats - 31 %, 51 seats  
 New Union - 20%, 29 seats  
 Liberal Union - 17%, 34 seats  
 Conservatives - 9%, 9 seats  
 Christian Democratic Union - 4%, 1 seat  
 Center Union - 3%, 2 seats

**\*NATO and European Union (EU) membership update.** President Adamkus stated at our Convention, "I would like to specifically draw your attention to the year 2002. Only in NATO will Lithuania be secure. During the fifty years of occupation, we accumulated a lot of valuable experience, which we successfully consulted a decade ago, in the process of the re-establishment of Lithuania's independence. Now, too, I wholeheartedly invite you all to collective work in the name of our motherland."

Lithuanian Foreign Vice-Minister, Vygaudas Usackas, maintains that Lithuania should proceed with the ongoing economic reforms and the reinforcement of its armed forces, if it wants speedy membership in the (EU) and NATO.

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**\*Olympic Update.** Lithuania won 2 gold and 3 bronze medals. Daina Gudzineviciute won first gold medal in women's trap shooting, and discus thrower, Virgilijus Alekna, won Lithuania's second gold medal. The bronze medals were won by Women's Double Sculls Rowing, by Diana Zilliute in Women's Cycling Road Race, and by Men's Basketball Team. The Lithuanian Basketball team came within inches of one of the biggest upsets in sports history, losing in the final seconds of a semifinal match against the US by just two points. The 85-83 final score was the closest that any team had ever come to beating the Americans since the fielding of Olympic teams made up of NBA stars. Said one American newspaper headline



the next day: "Lithuania Nearly Turns Dream into a Nightmare." The feat was even more amazing because the Lithuanians were without their two top players, Portland Trailblazer, Arvydas Sabonis, and Cleveland Cavalier, Zydrunas Ilgauskas, both centers who missed the Olympics because of injuries. No one who was on the young Lithuanian squad plays in the NBA. As an added bonus, Lithuania will pay 100,000, 50,000, and 37,500 dollars for gold, silver and bronze medal winners.

**\*Economic/Business News.** Lithuania's constitutional court struck down parts of the law that last year allowed Williams International to take a 33% stake and operating control in the Mazeikiiai Nafta oil concern. Lawyers said the ruling was unlikely to undermine the whole deal, but may lead to the contract, giving Williams 10 years of tax breaks and leaving the government with unspecified liabilities, being amended. "Parliament's decision to recognize Williams International as strategic investor does not contradict the Constitution," Chairman of the Constitution Court, Vladas Pavilionis said in a statement released after the session. The judgment did rule unconstitutional Parliament (Seimas), delegating its right to the government to offer the 10 years of tax relief to Williams International. Lithuania also provided some \$350 million in long-term loans to Williams.

As I stated in my initial two newsletters, I will not only champion the cause of the Republic of Lithuania, but will also attempt to keep our members abreast on the political, social and economic situation in Lithuania. The final goal being the appropriate dispersal of as much of this information to our fellow Knights, local media, as well as government officials, in order to encourage assistance to Lithuania in achieving stability and prosperity within a democratic system.

Initial response to my newsletters has been very positive. I do appreciate our members feedback, encouragement and suggestions. At the present time, I plan to keep the newsletter to four pages, and my articles in the VYTIS to two pages. I would also be happy to receive any timely information from our council and district Lithuanian Affairs Chairpersons, and from our members.

**John R. Mankus**  
Lithuanian Affairs Chairperson

## **LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS UPDATE CONT'D.**

(12/8/2000)

Lithuanian elections are over. A new coalition government has been approved and is in control. In this update I will concentrate on the newly elected government of the Republic of Lithuania, the leadership, the ministers and the governments policies and priorities.

The leadership of the new Lithuanian government is young. Both, Prime Minister **Rolandas Paksas** and Chairman of the Seimas (Parliament) **Arturas Paulauskas** are in their forties. Many of the ministers are in the same age group. I would like to review how the Government of the Republic of Lithuania functions. It is composed of the Prime Minister and Ministers. The Prime Minister is appointed or dismissed by the President of the Republic, with the approval of the Seimas. Ministers are appointed and dismissed by the President of the Republic upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister. Within certain limits, the Government controls the affairs of the country, guards the territory of the Republic, ensures state and civilian security, carries out laws, resolutions of the Seimas on the enforcement of laws and decrees of the President of the Republic. The government enters into diplomatic relations and maintains them with foreign countries and performs the duties specified in the Constitution and other laws. The Government is headed by **Rolandas Paksas**. On October 30, at the recommendation of Prime Minister Rolandas Paksas, President **Valdas Adamkus** approved by decree, the new government of the Republic of Lithuania. The new ministers are:

Gintautas Bartkus - Minister of Justice  
Vilija Blinkeviciute - Minister of Social Security and Labor  
Vincas Janusonis - Minister of Health  
Gintautas Kevisas - Minister of Culture  
Kestutis Kristinaitis - Minister of Agriculture  
Linas Linkevicius - Minister of National Defense  
Jonas Lionginas - Minister of Finance  
Eugenijus Maldeikis - Minister of National Economy  
Vytautas Markevicius - Minister of the Interior  
Algirdas Monkevicius - Minister of Education & Science  
Gintaras Striaukas - Minister of Transport  
Antanas Valionis - Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Seimas (Parliament) is the supreme body of state power of the Republic of Lithuania. It comprises 141 deputies elected for a period of 4 years. The Seimas has the power to adopt the Constitution and amend it, to adopt laws, to consider drafts on the programs produced by the Government and to approve it, to control the activities of the Government, to approve the budget of the Government, to establish the state institutions provided by the law, to appoint and dismiss chairpersons of the state institutions, to settle other issues pertaining to state power. During the past election, all 141 deputies were elected to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania. **Arturas PAULAUSKAS** was elected the Chairman of the Seimas.

The President of the Republic of Lithuania is the highest official of the state. The President is elected by

citizens of the Republic of Lithuania for a term of 5 years on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage. The President of the Republic considers major political problems of foreign and home affairs, appoints and dismisses state officials provided by the Constitution and other laws, proclaims state of emergency, approves and publishes the laws adopted by the Seimas, or returns them with remarks for consideration, performs other duties specified in the Constitution. Valdas ADAMKUS was elected the President of Lithuania and took the oath of office on February 26, 1998.

Since both Paksas and Paulauskas are the two new leaders of the Government of Lithuania, and their backgrounds may not be too familiar to our members, I am including a brief biography of the Prime Minister and the Chairman of the Seimas:

**ROLANDAS PAKSAS - PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA** - He was born on June 10, 1956, in Telsiai, graduated from Vilnius Institute of Civil Engineering (now Vilnius Gediminas Technical University) in 1979, with an industrial and civil engineering degree. In 1984, he graduated from Leningrad (St. Petersburg) Institute of Civil Aviation and worked as a flight instructor until 1984. From 1985-1992, he was Chairman of the Vilnius Darius and Girenas Aero Club and Chief of the Aviation Department of the Voluntary National Defense Service. From 1992-1997, he was president of the "Restako" Construction Company. In 1997, he was elected to the Vilnius City Council, Mayor of Vilnius. During May - October of 1999, he was appointed the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania, afterwards resigning and becoming Advisor to the President for Special Tasks. In the 2000 municipal elections, he was again elected to the Vilnius City Council, becoming Mayor of Vilnius. Later elected to the Seimas and on October 27<sup>th</sup> was appointed Prime Minister by President's Decree. He is the Chairman of the Lithuanian Liberal Union. He is married and has two children.

**ARTURAS PAULASKAS - CHAIRMAN OF THE SEIMAS**. He was born on August 23, 1953. He graduated from Vilnius University Law School in 1976. After graduation he worked as Kaisiadorys District Investigator (1976-1979), and as Varena District Prosecutor (1979 - 1987). He became the Deputy Prosecutor General of the Republic of Lithuania from 1987-1990, and again during 1995-1997. Between 1990-1995 he served as the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Lithuania. He entered into private practice in 1997-2000. He is married to wife Jolania. They have two children. He also has two sons from a previous marriage. He is the founder and Chairman of the New Alliance (Social Liberal) Party and was an independent candidate

for President of Lithuania in the 1997 election, narrowly losing to President Valdas Adamkus. On October 19, 2000, he was elected Chairman of the Seimas.

Paksas and Paulauskas are in agreement that the priorities of Lithuania's foreign policy would remain unchanged in key areas: membership in NATO and the European Union, as well as good relations with all neighbors, including Russia. At the same time, Paksas said that his government would negotiate with Russia about compensations for the Soviet occupation. Presenting the new Government's program to the Parliament, Paksas singled out three priorities: 1. Education and the setting up information society. 2. Restructuring the system and structure of the state administration and economy. 3. Aspirations for European integration. Education topped off the list because, as Paksas explained, "the greatest resource of the country should be intelligent people." Thousands of talented young Lithuanians have been fleeing the country in recent years in search of employment abroad, a trend Paksas hopes to stop by promising 1.5% of GDP to universities and science. He also promised to make every Lithuanian student computer literate. The coalition Government is going to liberalize the country's economy and finance policy. Lithuania is working its way out of a deep recession. Paksas pledged to keep the budget deficit at "no more than 2% or 3%. The Government's budget and finance policy will seek to maintain the 2-3 percent budget deficit and to reduce it every year, until the budget is balanced. It would keep the currency unit pegged to the US dollar, (4 litai to 1 dollar). The Government also intends to gradually reduce personal income tax from 33 percent to 24 percent, and to raise the nontaxable minimum from 214 litai to 320 litai.

**NATO/EUROPEAN UNION UPDATE**. Nato member states applauded Lithuania's national NATO integration program, the NATO Membership Action Plan (MAP) as "convincing and realistic" at the November meeting. For the first time, Lithuania has been mentioned as a true candidate to be accepted into NATO in 2002.

\*The newly selected Seimas adopted a resolution on continuation of the country's foreign policy. Resolution reads as follows: "International policy will be continued according to the priorities corresponding to Lithuanian Constitution and laws, and defined by the President, in order to achieve invitation by 2002 to the North Atlantic Alliance - NATO - and EU membership in 2004, as well as developing good relations with all neighboring states." **NEWS in brief**. Prime Minister Rolandas Paksas in a speech to Parliament suggesting nuclear power was still an option for the future, said, "I would like to believe that Lithuania's future lies in a third, modern, nuclear reactor." Lithuania's Soviet-built *Ignalina* power plant

provides over 80 percent of the nation's energy. The EU (European Union) has urged that *Ignalina* power plant be closed and replaced with other alternatives.

**President Valdas Adamkus** in a recent interview with the Chicago Tribune, comparing his job as regional administrator for the US Environmental Protection Agency with his job as Lithuanian President, "I was successful cutting the red tape of the American bureaucracy, but now I recognize it is more difficult, maybe 10 times more difficult here than it was back in the States."

Ambassador **Stasys Sakalauskas** wishes to thank all our members for their support in getting the Foreign Operations Bill passed, and the elimination of the Jeff Bingaman negative amendment for Baltic States entry into NATO. Lithuania will receive nine million dollars in direct aid and an additional five million dollars to be shared by the Baltic States. Please continue to contact your Congressmen and Senators to thank them for their support in assisting Lithuania to rebuild from fifty years of Soviet occupation.



Council 16 hopes that everyone's Christmas Holidays were full of all the joy the season brings, and we wish all our fellow Knights a Happy, Healthy, Holy and Prosperous New Year 2001!

## A PSALM OF LIFE

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,  
Life is but an empty dream!--  
For the soul is dead that slumbers,  
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!  
And the grave is not its goal;  
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,  
Is our destined end or way;  
But to act, that each tomorrow  
Find us farther than today.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,  
And our hearts, though stout and brave,  
Still, like muffled drums, are beating  
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world's broad field of battle,  
In the bivouac of life,  
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!  
Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant!  
Let the dead Past bury its dead!  
Act, --act in the living Present!  
Heart within, and God o'erhead!

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us then be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labor and to wait.

K of L FOUNDATION 2000  
 ESSAY CONTEST WINNER  
 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE - TIE

**‘WHAT I LIKE ABOUT BEING  
 LITHUANIAN’**

by Vilija Bizinkauskas  
 Council 1 - Brockton, MA

I am a young teen who is all-American, but comes from a Lithuanian family. My great-grandparents came from Lithuania. I speak fluent Lithuanian, just like my mother, who was taught by her mother before her. On Saturdays I attend Lithuanian school, where I learn to read and write this ancient language. Most of the time, I must give up my friends for Lithuanian school, but it is worth it.

Along with the grammar studies, we sing folk songs and learn dances. I am looking forward to performing some of these dances in the upcoming Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival in Toronto, Canada. It will be fun to dance in the same festival with my mother and know my grandmother, who will be watching, participated in this event before.

In Vermont there is a camp for children of Lithuanian heritage called, "Neringa." Lithuanian speaking youth from all over the United States and Canada come for a fun-filled two weeks. There are bonfires, night games, swim time, sport days, reading and learning about important Lithuanian people, our own original plays based on these individuals and so much more. It's a great place to make friends and pen-pals.

Later in the summer, I attend Lithuanian Scout camp. Scouts from the area meet to learn skills you can use in life, and have fun for a week. You wear navy blue all of the time and for special events, you wear your uniform. You sleep in regular tents in the woods. In spite of the mosquitoes, it's a lot of fun. Every ten years there is a "Jubiliejine Stovykla." Scouts from all over the United States and Canada meet for this. There were a couple hundred scouts that attended last year. It was awesome!

The summer activity I look forward to the most is, the Knights of Lithuania Convention. I have been to the last five and I love it. I can hardly wait to see my friends and make new ones.

There are many Lithuanian traditions, but I have two I enjoy the most. On the night before Christmas, we have



a special dinner with our family called, "Kucios." There are often extra "family" members who celebrate with us. After dinner, we all attend "Berneliu Misios." We also have an American Christmas with presents from Santa on Christmas morning.

At Easter time, we make real Lithuanian decorated eggs. We melt the wax, and with the head of a pin draw decorations and then dip them in dyes. It feels good to give an egg as a gift to someone and see their happy face.

Through all of these activities, I learned to appreciate my heritage and have fun with all of our traditions. I hope to pass these on to my children one day.



Today is the day I've been looking for.  
 All my life has been spent in preparation  
 for it. Yesterday and tomorrow are far away  
 nothings - the one a faint memory, the other  
 a vague promise. But this is my day.  
 It offers all that God has to give, and I'm a  
 laggard or a coward if I fail to make the  
 most of it. (Anonymous)

K of L FOUNDATION 2000 ESSAY  
CONTEST WINNER  
3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE - TIE

**“JOINING THE KNIGHTS OF  
LITHUANIA AND WHAT IT HAS MEANT  
TO ME”**

by Patrice Genchauskas  
Council 1 - Lakeville, MA

One Night, a little more than two years ago, I was sitting in my living room talking with my husband and telling him that we needed to find something that we could do together at least once a month, to get out and socialize. We were always busy with work and doing things with our children, that we just never found time to do things for ourselves.

Well, my husband suggested that we join the Knights of Lithuania, where his mother has been an active member for a long time. At first, I was not too excited when he mentioned it. All I could think about was sitting in a meeting with a bunch of people older than us, and that we would have nothing in common. But, I did agree to go to one meeting and see what it was all about. I am very happy that I decided to go to that first meeting and learned not to judge things before I tried them.

At the first meeting, there were people of all ages, and they made us feel like a part of a big family. We were so overwhelmed by how everyone made us feel welcomed, that we decided to join the local Council of the Knights of Lithuania that night. I have been an active member for two years now, and look forward to going to every meeting. The meetings are not all fun and games; there is always business to attend to, but we always manage to have a few laughs with our coffee break.

My first activity with our council was the planning of a 100<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Anniversary for the church. I was very impressed with all the preparations that had already been made. The Cardinal had attended the festivities, and I had the pleasure of meeting many Lithuanian people dressed in beautiful and colorful costumes. I was also chosen to participate in many Lithuanian dances.



**For God and Country”**

One activity that I enjoy very much is crafting Easter Eggs at our council's annual Easter Egg demonstration after Mass on Palm Sunday.

My most memorable event was the planning of the Lithuanian “Kucios.” I have learned the meaning of Christmas through another culture. I helped prepare and cook the meal for about one hundred and twenty people. After serving the meal, I participated in all the festivities of the day. The most memorable event of the day was, how everyone stood up from their chair to give each other a kiss on the cheek with a hug, and then start to break and share their wafer. We were not one hundred and twenty strangers in the room: we were on, big Lithuanian Family. That experience will always be in my heart.

Not only have I made many new friends, but also, I am learning about my husband's heritage and will continue to learn much more. Now, together, we can teach our children and our grandchildren about their culture and their heritage.



## LITHUANIANS...



## IN THE NEWS

Sister Carol Taylor, C.S.F.N.

As director of the Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University Medical Center, in Washington, D.C., Carol Taylor, C.S.F.N., R.N., Ph.D., forty-eight, brings an unusual perspective to her work. She is both, a nurse and a nun. "It was a match made in heaven," says Taylor, with a trace of a smile. She entered a Philadelphia convent after high school in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, and shortly thereafter earned her nursing degree. "I love helping people, and nursing involves you in the edges of life - the beginning and end."

Early in her career, she was fascinated by the decisions being made by the medical staff, the patients and their families at the Philadelphia hospitals where she worked. Her interest led to a Ph.D. in philosophy with a concentration in bioethics. In 1999, she was appointed director of the center.

Taylor sees her role as bioethicist, nurse, teacher and nun as compatible. Her Catholic theology usually supports her philosopher's reasoning on cases. Her training as a nurse, she believes, makes her especially sensitive to clinicians, as well as to patient and family needs. In fact, many ethicists view nurses as a hospital's first line of defense against unethical treatment. Patients reveal their feelings to R.N.'s more often than to doctors, and nurses are frequently the ones who call in ethicists when there is a conflict over what is to be done. Sometimes, patients make Taylor think twice about her own beliefs.

Recently she consulted on a case in which a father and one daughter sought to have another daughter, an adult with Down's syndrome, sterilized. The woman had already miscarried once. The mother, however, did not want to have the woman sterilized. The family was Catholic, and a priest had told her that the Church forbade sterilization.

Whatever decision was to be made, Taylor wanted the entire family to be at peace with it. She contacted Catholic theologians who supported each side of the issue and presented their arguments to the family.

Taylor has no idea what decision they made. In some cases, she does learn the outcome, but not always. She sees her role as helping others clarify their thoughts and feelings, and then withdrawing to let them make the

choice with the help of their physician. Taylor says, "I help people form conscience. But then the decision is theirs to make."

Sister Carol is the daughter of Mildred Taylor, who is an active member of Council 144. Sister Carol went to the Sacred Heart School in New Philadelphia.



Simonetta Pacek (C-112), attended the First Catholic Music Awards Show in Washington, D.C., on November 18, 2000, at the Hartke Theatre, on the campus of The Catholic University of America, sponsored by the new **United Catholic Music and Video Association**, where she was a nominee for having written the Best Song, "*Keep Your Eyes on the Beloved*," and, also, for Best Spoken Word, which is an audio tape recording of the book, "*King of the Golden City*." Simonetta read the book while portraying each character in the story, changing her voice accordingly.

In all, 44 awards were handed out for individual achievements in music and video. Although Simonetta did not receive any awards, she said it was a thrill just to hear her name being called as they announced the nominees—"and the nominees are"—she said it was just like being at the Oscars.

Simonetta presented two awards. One for Best Choral Group, and the other for Best Youth Video. In addition, **Gloria de Haven**, in a special appearance during the awards, presented three inspirational awards.


Among other winners was EWTN for Best Special Event Video, ("The Holy Father's Visit to Israel 2000"), and Best Religious TV Program, ("Life on the Rock"). The awards show will be broadcast worldwide in **January**, via EWTN.

Simonetta is the daughter of **Alvina Giedraitis**, active member of Council 112. Congratulations to Mother and Daughter!

## DEVOTION HELPS LEAD PRINCIPAL

Nativity's new leader has focus  
on the future

(This article, written by Joni R. Edmondson, staff writer for the Pottsville (PA.) Republican & Evening Herald, appeared in the July 12, 1999 issue). (It was sent to us by Anna K. Wargo, C-144, to be included in a Vytis issue.)

| Rev. Ronald V. Jankaitis                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>■ <b>RESIDENCE:</b> St. Casimir's rectory, Saint Clair, native of Shenandoah.</p>                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| <p>■ <b>AGE:</b> 47</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                    |
| <p>■ <b>FAMILY:</b> Parents, Stanley and the late Delores Jankaitis, Shenandoah; brothers, Stanley, Shenandoah and Gerard, Frackville.</p>                                                                                                   |                                                                                    |
| <p>■ <b>EDUCATION:</b> Shenandoah Valley High School graduate, 1970; Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales and Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, graduate 1975; Mary Immaculate Seminary, ordained as a Roman Catholic priest, 1979.</p> |                                                                                    |
| <p>■ <b>OCCUPATION:</b> Newly named principal at Nativity BVM High School, Pottsville, and parish pastor at St. Casimir's Church, Saint Clair.</p>                                                                                           |                                                                                    |
| <p>■ <b>HOBBIES:</b> Collecting sports memorabilia, walking and reading.</p>                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                    |

He's as American as baseball, hot dogs and apple pie. Well, two out of three isn't bad.

The Rev. Ronald V. Jankaitis, 47, loves baseball and he'll have the occasional slice of apple pie - like he did for celebrating his appointment as principal at Nativity BVM High School, Pottsville, last month. But, keep the hot dogs away. Since he lost 120 pounds, Father Jankaitis won't touch them.

Nor will he indulge in the pierogies his devoted St. Casimir's parishioners whip up for a monthly sale at the Saint Clair Church. "I haven't had a pierogie in five years," he said.

It's been that long since he committed himself to cooking low-fat meals from a variety of cookbooks and walking religiously --no pun intended--up to 30 miles a week.

"I just made the commitment to lose the weight," Father Jankaitis said, his bright eyes twinkling, "and once I make a commitment, I follow through."

Once a tall, pudgy-faced, dark-haired man, Father Jankaitis now has silver hair, drawn cheeks and a thin neck that barely fills the stiff white collar around the top of his black priest's shirt.

The kind of devotion he's shown to shedding pounds also spills over into the rest of his life, Father Jankaitis said.

He was appointed Nativity principal in June by a panel at the Allentown Diocese - a move he hopes to make permanent.

"I could stay here for the rest of my priesthood," Father Jankaitis said during an interview Friday at the now-quiet high school.

Plans for the school include completion of a new computer lab, which should be done by fall, and revising the school's advisory board to play a more active role.

"I want to continue the long academic, spiritual and athletic tradition we have here," he said.

As the first principal to serve in the new millennium, Father Jankaitis said he wants to move the school ahead by modernizing the library, updating the science lab and making the building more handicapped-accessible.

He knows the halls of the school on Lawton Hill well.

For 13 years, Father Jankaitis has been teaching theology there and was the department chairman before being selected to replace Monsignor Ronald C. Bocian as principal.

Growing up on Chestnut Street in Shenandoah with his parents, Stanley and Delores, and brothers, Stan and Gerard, Father Jankaitis worked at several odd jobs, including mopping floors and stocking shelves the former Steif's Drug Store.

"My parents were very influential in our lives," he said. "They instilled within us a sense of compassion."

In high school, Father Jankaitis had an interest in broadcasting and nearly attended a Philadelphia school run by a radio disc jockey after graduating from Shenandoah Valley in 1970.

But an assistant pastor at the church his family attended - St. George in Shenandoah - was his inspiration to follow the priesthood.

Ironically, that priest - who Father Jankaitis declined to identify - is no longer a clergyman.

Nonetheless, Father Jankaitis had found his calling.

He majored in English at Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales, Center Valley, then studied with the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, graduating in 1975.

After studying at Mary Immaculate Seminary in Northampton, Father Jankaitis was ordained in 1979 and spent his first year in the priesthood as an assistant pastor at St. Peter's Church in Reading.

The next year, Father Jankaitis was transferred to St. Mary's Church in St. Clair and got his first taste of teaching

at Nativity.

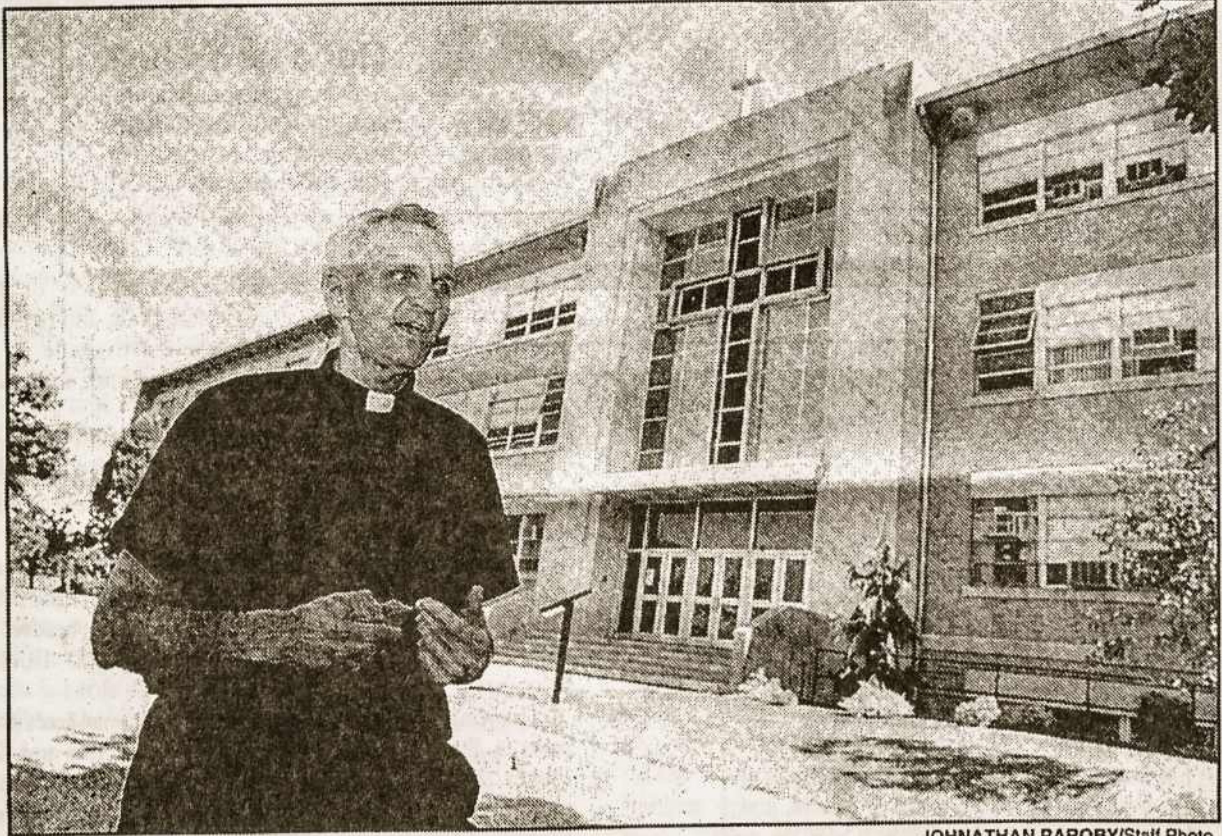
He spent four years at that assignment before taking the post as secretary to the then-Bishop Thomas J. Welsh in Allentown.

Two years later, he was named pastor at St. Casimir's in

"adjust and adapt" if need be.

"Whatever God wants," Father Jankaitis said, "that's what I'll do."

(Father Jankaitis is C-144's Spiritual Advisor).



JOHNATHAN PAROBY/Staff Photo

St. Clair and theology teacher at Nativity.

In the 13 years since, Father Jankaitis said, he's been asked by any number of colleagues why he chose to stay in a small parish in Schuylkill County when he could surely serve larger, metropolitan churches.

"I love Schuylkill County," he said. "I know it very well. My roots are here."

The "great faith" of the county people makes his job as priest "so much easier," Father Jankaitis said, that he couldn't imagine going anywhere else.

When not walking around the Schuylkill Mall to stay fit, Father Jankaitis has - since he was a child - enjoyed collecting sport memorabilia, including one of Mario Andretti's racing uniforms.

An avid baseball fan, he loves the Philadelphia Phillies and sometimes attends games at Veterans' Stadium.

Father Jankaitis is content here, but he's also willing to

I'd rather see a sermon  
Than to hear one any day.  
I'd rather one should walk with me  
Than merely show the way.  
The eye's a better pupil  
And more willing than the ear.  
Fine counsel is confusing,  
But example's always clear.  
And best of all the preachers  
Are the men who live their creeds.  
For to see good put in action  
Is what everybody needs.



## Lithuania Honors 10th Anniversary of Stamps

(This article, written by Denise McCarty, taken from Linn's Stamp News, Nov. 20, 2000, was sent in by Leon Galinskas -C-79).



Lithuania issued this 1-lita commemorative Oct. 7 to mark the 10th anniversary of the first stamps issued after Lithuania proclaimed its independence from the Soviets in 1990.

Violeta Skabeikiene designed Lithuania's first post-independence stamps released Oct. 7, 1990, and she designed the new commemorative marking the 10th anniversary of the 1990 issues. The anniversary stamp also is part of a multiyear series honoring the history of the posts in Lithuania.

Lithuania declared its independence from the Soviet Union March 11, 1990, and shortly thereafter started issuing postal stationery with imprinted stamps.

The imprinted stamps on the first envelopes show an angel bearing light, a Lithuanian cross in a folk motif and a map of Lithuania. This same design by Skabeikiene also was reproduced on four new Lithuanian stamps released Oct. 7, 1990. The 1990 stamps were valid for postage only with Lithuania.

The Lithuanian Post Office (Lietuvos Pastas) reports that a contest was conducted to decide the designs for the 1990 stamps, and that Skabeikiene's design was selected from among 64 submitted.

The new 1 lita commemorative was released Oct. 7, 2000, on the 10th anniversary.

The stamp includes the Lithuanian cross from the 1990 issues; part of a Lithuanian oak tree, the country's national symbol; and the outline of two stamps.

The Hungarian State Printing Office produced 500,000 stamps by offset in sheets of 50.

In addition to the 1990 stamps and stationery and the 10th Anniversary commemorative, Skabeikiene also has

designed Lithuanian stamps showing endangered animal and plant species; a set featuring national sights; definitives picturing the knight, Vytis; and commemoratives marking the reestablishment of national independence, the first anniversary of independence, and the 50th anniversary of the German invasion of June 14, 1941.

(The address of the Lithuanian bureau is: Publishing Centre, Pasto Zenklas, Giedraiciu Str., 60a, 2042 Vilnius, Lithuania.)

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### Smiles Without Wrinkles

(Leon J. Galinskas, contributor)

Never knock on death's door.  
Ring the bell and run.  
He hates that!

5 out of 4 people have a problem  
with fractions.

Of course I don't look busy--  
I did it right the first time.

I can only please one person per  
day. Today is not your day: tomorrow  
doesn't look good either.

Some days you are the PIGEON,  
and some days you are the STATUE.

When I was a young boy, the Board of  
Education was a shingle.

The generation gap is the distance  
between the palm of the hand and the  
rear of the pants.

When I go on a vacation, I don't  
make any decisions. The boss tells  
me when, the wife tells me where, and  
the bank tells me how long.

The secret of aging gracefully is,  
getting long in the tooth without  
showing your fangs.

## SPECIAL FEATURE STORY

By Eric D. Karpavich

Dear Editor,

I would like to submit for publication in the VYTIS the following children's story I wrote in Lithuanian while at Dainava Lithuanian Language Stovykla in Michigan this past summer.

A little about myself: I started studying Lithuanian in 1991 as a second generation American-Lithuanian adult student at "Atgimimo Mokykla" (School of Rebirth) on Saturday mornings, conducted in St. Andrew Parish in New Britain, CT. I understood no Lithuanian prior to that point. As a supplement to my language studies, I became a member of K of L Council - 7, the St. Joseph Church Lithuanian Choir, and the Lithuanian Club of Waterbury - all located in Waterbury, Connecticut. After three years of mokykla, I attended a summer course in Lithuanian linguistics at Vilnius University in 1994. In 1998, I performed in the Soku Svente in Vilnius with "Samburis" of Boston. This year, I performed with "Vetra" of New Haven in the Toronto Soku Svente.

Studying Lithuanian (my heritage) is a nice hobby, which has also led to good friendships. During the summer of 1999, I sponsored a friend for his baptism in Vilnius, and became his godfather. He is 24 years old, and was married this past July at St. Theresa's Church, near Ausros Vartu (the Gates of Dawn), in Vilnius. This year I will be celebrating Christmas and greeting the New Year with my godson and his wife in Vilnius. "Kalbėkite Lietuviškai!"



**Pasaka apie Topą Kaime**

## Pasaka Apie Topą Kaime

Seniai, seniai Lietuvoje...O netikrai seniai, be maždaug prieš šešis metus gyveno Vilniaus mieste ypatingas šuo. Jis vadinosi "Topa." Topa buvo labai mažiukas šuniukas, ir jisai neatrodė kaip šuo. Topa buvo mažesnis už kitus šunis. Topa mažesnis už katę. Topa mažesnis už žiurkę. Tikriausia, Topa atrodė kaip pelė. Tai blogai. Topa toks mažas gyvulys, kad šunims atrodė jog Topa buvo katė. Katėms atrodė kad topa buvo žiurkė. Žiurkėms atrodė jog Topa buvo pelė. Tiktai pelėms vistiek. O Topa visada buvo nervingas ir be apetito, todėl kad jisai visuomet bijodavo. Taigi Topa buvo ploniukas. O toliau - Topa gyveno su čigonais. Oho! Čigonai grojo akordeonais ir šoko ir dainavo, "Tra-lia-lia!" garsiai per naktis. Kiekvieną naktį būdavo tikras cirkas.

Viena diena visi čigonai iš Vilniaus atvažiavo į Čigonų Šventę, kažkur, turbūt Dzūkijoje. Čigonų Šventė tęsėsi tris dienas ir tris naktis. Šoko! Dainavo! "Tra-lia-lia!" Per daug triukšmo. Oi! Pagaliau Topa sau tarė, "Gana. Man užtenka!" Kada Čigonų Šventė užsibaigė, ir visi čigonai sugrįžo į Vilnių, Topa nesugrįžo. Jis pasislepė ąžuolo kamieno viduje. (Truputį liūdna, ar ne)?

Po trumpos valandos, Topa galvojo kad jisai tiktai vienas liko kaime. Visur ramu. Visur tylu. Paukščiai čirškė gražiai. Kaip buvo labai smagu kaime! Topa išgirdo dainą iš kitos pusės lauko - skambėjo senos bobos balsas. Taip. Per lauko matant, ten gyveno, "...Sena boba be dantų - nesukramto riešutų..." Tačiau Bobutė buvo draugiška, ir Bobutei labai patiko Topa. O Topa buvo laimingas! Jis ėmė godžiai ėsti ir užaugo ir pastorėjo. Topa ėdė ir ėdė ir ėdė, nes nebijojo. Topa buvo kaip storulis ir jisai atrodė kaip kiaulė - laimingas nors storas. Viskas nuo to laiko "puiku ir nuostabu" kaime.

Šiandien Topa miega ramiai prie ąžuolo kaime prie "saldžių sapnų, ramių blusų.

Tai va. Pasaka baigta...

*Autorius - Eriks Dovydas Karpavičius iš Litchfieldo, Connecticute, JAV.*

*(Lietuvos Vyčių narys - kuopa num. 7 - Vaterburyje, Connecticute, JAV).*

*Dainavos Lietuvių Kalbos Stovyklos suaugęs mokinys - Mančester, Mišigane, JAV. rugpiūčio, 2000.*

**Translation:** A long, long time ago in Lithuania...Oh, not really a long time ago, but more or less, about six years ago, there lived in the city of Vilnius, a particular dog. He was called, "Topa." Topa was a very small doggy and he did not look like a dog. Topa was smaller than other dogs. Topa was smaller than a cat. Topa was smaller than a rat. Most likely, Topa looked like a mouse. That was bad. Topa was such a small animal, that to the dogs it appeared that Topa was a cat. To the cats it appeared that Topa was a rat. To the rats it appeared that Topa was a mouse. Only to the mice it didn't matter. Oh, Topa was always nervous and without appetite, because he always used to be afraid. So, Topa was a very thin doggy. And further, Topa lived with gypsies. Ah, the gypsies played accordions and danced and sang loudly, "Tra-la-la!" through the night, every night. It used to be a real circus.

One day, all the gypsies from Vilnius went to a Gypsy Festival, probably somewhere in Dzukija. The Festival of Gypsies lasted three days and three nights. Dancing! Singing! "Tra-la-la!" Too much noise. Oi! Finally, Topa uttered to himself, "Enough!" That will suffice for me." When the Gypsy Festival came to an end, and all the gypsies returned to Vilnius, Topa did not return. He stayed and hid himself inside a hollow oak tree. (A little sad, isn't it?)

After a few hours, Topa thought that only he alone remained in the countryside. Everywhere was peaceful. Everywhere was quiet. Birds chirped beautifully. How it was so pleasant in the countryside! Topa heard a song from the other side of a field. There resounded the voice of an old crone. Yes. Seen across the field, there lived, "...I am a toothless old crone - not able to chew walnuts..." However, the little old crone was friendly, and she liked Topa very much. Oh, Topa was happy! He ate greedily and grew. He grew plump. Topa ate and ate and ate because he was no longer afraid. Topa was like a "fatty." He looked like a pig - fat and happy. Everything since that time is fine and wonderful in the countryside. Today Topa sleeps peacefully at the oak tree in the countryside by "sweet dreams and peaceful bugs. So the story ends...

*(Written by K of L Council # 7 member, Eric D. Karpavich of Litchfield, CT., while a pupil at Dainava Lithuanian Language Camp in Manchester, Michigan. (August, 2000).*

## FROM ALYTUS WITH PRAYERS AND THANKS

This article is about a young priest from Alytus, Lithuania, named Father Leonas Jakimavicius, how we met, how he became acquainted with the K of L., what the K of L did for him, and his appreciation for all that has been done.

In 1993-94, I first met Father Leonas while he was visiting our city of Philadelphia, and participating at a Pre-Lenten banquet held at St. George's Church.

The following year, I was to visit Lithuania on a tour. I wrote to Father, telling him of my intended trip, and asked him if there was anything I could bring him from America. To my surprise, he said he would like to have a Dental X-Ray machine, since he had a woman dentist who came and took care of his parishioners' teeth.

I said to myself, "How could I possibly bring an item such as this on a plane?" So I did the next best thing. When I arrived at the Hotel in Vilnius, Father Jakimavicius was waiting for me. It just happened that Bob Boris, who was with Aid to Lithuania, had been on this trip with me. It was then that I introduced him to Bob Boris and informed him of Father's desire.

Five months later, I met Bob in Philadelphia at a Supreme Council meeting where he told me that a dental X-Ray machine had been sent to Father, along with other dental equipment.

This, however, was not the end of what Father was to receive from the K of L. The following year, St. Peter's Church in Detroit was to close, and the parishioners wanted everything in the parish to go to a church in Lithuania. It so happened that Bob Boris knew that Father Jakimavicius was building a new parish, and suggested that it would be nice to send everything there. And so all the belongings of St. Peter's church were sent to Alytus.

While visiting Father Leonas in Alytus and watching his church being built, he told me there would be a basement chapel built, and that everything from St. Peter's except the organ, would be placed there. The basement chapel would be called "SAINT PETER'S CHAPEL." A plaque, with an image of St. Peter's church, would be placed in this chapel, dedicating it to the people in Detroit. The organ would be placed in the Main Church.

The basement chapel is now complete, and Mass is being celebrated there. This summer, a friend of mine, Vincent Kreder, who is teaching in Lithuania, and a friend of Father Leonas' delivered to me a picture of the plaque Father had placed on the wall of the basement chapel. I am sending it for all to see. On the back of this picture is a message from Father to me, which he wishes to share with all of you. He expresses his gratitude to all of you and keeps all of you in his prayers. The plaque also shows the original church in Detroit.



**Translation on the plaque reads:** "May the spiritual strength of our forefathers also fill this St. Peter's Chapel." "In remembrance of St. Peter's American-Lithuanian Church of Detroit."

**The letter on the back of the plaque reads:** "Ispildziau savo pazada del Detroito uzdarytos baznycios iamzinimo. Si lenta yra musu zemutineje koplycioje kur vyksta dabar Misios. Dekoju Jums, Viktorai, Vyciams, ypac R. Boris, su kuriuo Jus mane suvedete Vilniaus viesbutyje. Amzina padeka Jums, Vyciams. K. Leonas. 2000.08.08."

**Translation of the back of the plaque reads:** "I have fulfilled my promise to memorialize St. Peter's closed church in Detroit. This plaque adorns the wall of our lower chapel, where Mass is being offered. I thank you, Victor, the VYCIAI, and especially R. Boris to whom you introduced me at the Vilnius hotel. My eternal thanks to you, Knights of Lithuania. Praying for you, Father Leonas."

## CONVENTION NEWS

Dear Members:

You asked for it and we heard you. Below and on the following pages is the tentative schedule for our 88th National Convention. At this time, the convention is just starting to take shape and some locations and times still need to be finalized. As things become more complete, we will publish them in future issues of VYTIS. Please note the times for the Opening Convention Mass and especially the Closing Convention Masses as these are finalized. When you're making your Convention plans, please take these times into consideration. All of us on the convention committee look forward to seeing you there. A great convention is being planned for members of all ages.

Vytiskai,

Your Supreme Council and the 88th National Convention Committee

**Tentative 88th National Convention Schedule  
August 2-5, 2001  
Grosvenor Resort in the Walt Disney World Resort**

**Host: Your Supreme Council**

**Wednesday: August 1, 2001**

**Pre-Convention Tour  
Convention Registration  
Supreme Council Meeting**

**Thursday: August 2, 2001**

**Convention Registration  
Opening Mass - *Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine* - 10:00 A.M.  
First Plenary Session - 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

Presentation of Colors and Supreme Council Members

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Anthems - American

- Lithuanian

- Knights of Lithuania

Roll Call of the S.C. members

Welcome from the Convention Committee

Election of the Presidium

Adoption of "Rules of the Convention"

State of the Organization Report

Treasurer's Report

Greetings

- In Person

- In Writing

Mandate Report Resolutions

Announcements and Instructions

Closing Prayer

(cont'd. on next page)

(Convention schedule cont'd.)

**Knights of Lithuania Foundation Meeting - 4:45p.m - 5:45 p.m.**

**Convention Get-Together - 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.**

**Friday: August 3, 2001**

**Convention Registration**

**Mass - 8:30 a.m.**

**Second Plenary Session - 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Opening Prayer  
 Membership Report  
 Nominations Committee Report  
 Panel Presentation  
*15 minute Break*  
 Mandate Report  
 Knights of Lithuania Foundation Report  
 Honorary Membership Committee Report  
 Donations Committee Report  
 Resolutions  
 Announcements and Instructions  
 Closing Prayer

**Aid to Lithuania, Inc. Meeting - 2:00p.m. - 3:30p.m.**

**Saturday: August 4, 2001**

**Mass - 8:30 a.m.**

**Third Plenary Session - 9:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.**

Opening Prayer  
 Donations Committee Report  
 Trustees' Report  
 Aid to Lithuania, Inc. Report  
 Mandate Report  
 Election of Supreme Council Officers for the 2001-2002 Term  
 Resolutions  
 Announcements and Instructions  
 Closing Prayer

**St. Casimir Guild Meeting - 12:15p.m. - 1:15p.m.**

**Fourth Plenary Session - 1:30p.m. - 4:30p.m.**

Opening Prayer  
 Donations Committee Report  
 St. Casimir Guild Report  
 Juniors Report  
 Mandate Report  
 Resolutions  
 Announcements and Instructions  
 Closing Prayer  
 Knights of Lithuania Anthem

**Supreme Council Elect Cocktail Party - 6:30p.m. - 7:30p.m. (cont'd. on next page)**

(Convention schedule cont'd.)

Convention Banquet - 7:00p.m. - 12:00a.m.

Sunday: August 5, 2001

Supreme Council Elect Meeting - 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Farewell Buffet Breakfast - 10:00 am. - 12:00p.m.

Closing Mass - *Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine* - 1:30p.m.

Convention Photo - Immediately after Mass



**General Douglas MacArthur Describes Youth  
in His 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Speech**

Youth is not entirely a time of life - it is a state of mind. It is not wholly a matter of ripe cheeks, red lips or supple knees. It is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigor of the emotions, a freshness of the deep springs of life. It means a temperamental predominance of courage over timidity, of an appetite for adventure over love of ease.

Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up interest wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair - these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust. Whatever your years, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing child-like appetite for what next, and the joy and the game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair. In the central place of every heart there is a recording chamber; so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer and courage, so long are you young. When the wires are all down and your heart is covered with the snow of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then, and then only are you grown old.



**Father Peter Uhde, Lisa and Michele Cito, Holy  
Trinity Church - Council 29**

If we work on marble, it will perish.  
If we work upon brass, time will efface it.  
If we rear temples, they will crumble into dust.  
But, if we work upon immortal souls,  
If we imbue them with principles, with the just fear of  
the Creator and love of fellow men,  
We engrave on those tablets something which will  
Brighten all eternity.

(Daniel Webster)

**“Žypsnį to ir Žypsnį to” / A Pinch of this and a Pinch of That**

(Recipes by MLapinskas)

### **Bacon Buns**

**2 doz/13x17 pan or 2 med. loaves bread**

**Meat filling:** (May prepare night ahead; per refrig. Can make “ball” filling easier.) If ALL bacon...2lbs. 2doz. Through meat grinder and “crisped,” then refrigerate. IF bacon and ham...1/2 and 1/2 approx... to preference.

**Pyragas - (bread) dough:**

Can make plain dough, without filling, for rolls or loaves. Dough should be very pliable, NOT stiff. It's better to use a little less flour and add more after rising #1, if necessary.

**LIQUID** - Scald 3 cups milk and let cool after adding 1/2 stick margarine and 1/2 stick of unsalted butter. (Don't scald milk AND margarine).

After cooled, add 2 beaten eggs.

And can use (add) 1/4 cup honey, if prefer to sugar (See DRY ingredients..omit sugar if using honey).

For bacon buns, salt is omitted or per preference.

**MIX** one yeast cake with tsp sugar and mix in after cooled.

**DRY ingredients:**

In large mixing bowl, put approx 6 cups flour and 1/2 cup or less of sugar (if not using honey).

Make “well” in flour. Pour cooled milk mixture into “well.”

Beat center with rotary beater, briefly, mixing in most of dry ingredients

“Hand wipe” most of flour on “edge” into center's mixed-up area.

Let rise (?til double). Knead. DETERMINE TEXTURE AT THIS POINT.

May add flour, if necessary, by 1/2 cupfuls.

Let rise again in bowl (?til double). DON'T PUNCH DOWN

Greasepan, if not already.



**Make buns. (Flatten a "ball"; fill with meat; "seal." Arrange in a shallow pan so will touch when raised.**

**Let rise. BAKE 350 for 30-45 min...til light brown or medium brown TO SHINE TOPS, brush with egg/water mixture (Beat egg and add small amount water) WHILE HOT (Don't re-bake; shine is just a thin coating).**

**MEASUREMENTS ARE APPROXIMATE**

\*\*\*\*\*

**KUGELIS**

**10 big potatoes**

**¼ lb. Bacon - crisped, then add**

**¼ lb. Margarine**

**Hot milk over grated potatoes**

**Cr rice or rice 1/8 c, (or farina)**

**4 or 5 eggs**

**3T pancake flour mix**

**Bake**

\*\*\*\*\*

**CEPELINAI (dough)**

**4 cooked potatoes \*w/jackets (of which 8#?) or Squeeze off juice if grated**

**2 eggs**

**3T flour**

**Fill with ham mixture, or preference**

**\*Can make dough from boiled potatoes. (Remove jackets).**

\*\*\*\*\*

**AUSUKĖS**

**1 cup flour per 2 (separated) eggs**

**1/8 t baking powder and 1/8 t baking soda per 6 eggs**

**Mix whites w/yellows. Add flour. Knead.**

**Refrigerate slightly for crispness.**

**Roll super-thin. Cut in strips diagonally. Slit "center" approx 1 inch.**

**Loop one end through. Drop in HOT (not "burning" oil. Sufficiently hot to fry. Overcooking leaves a "bad taste" in the oil. Use fresh oil.**

**Working in 2's is more efficient.**

## District & Council News

### Mid-Central District J & A Baltrus

As always, the Mid-Central District packed a lot of work and fun into two busy weekends, one each shortly before and after the summer season. On the weekend of May 5-7 approximately 50 members gathered in Pittsburgh, PA where Council 19 hosted the District's Spring meeting and Bowling Tournament. Brian Johnson served as chairman and was assisted by his wife Rita and other C-19 members.

The weekend included a trip to see the Duquesne University Tamburitzans, an internationally acclaimed folk ensemble based in Pittsburgh. The performance was magnificent, especially the portion featuring Lithuanian songs and music played on the kankles. Our group was fortunate to see that part of the performance, as it is no longer included. Other activities were the usual business meeting on Saturday morning followed by bowling in the afternoon and a buffet dinner that night. On Sunday, the closing mass was celebrated at the Sisters of St. Francis Convent where we were graciously welcomed and provided lunch as well. Our members always enjoy visiting their many friends at the convent.

Congratulations to Brian Johnson and his team from Council 19 who came away with the first place trophy for the bowling tournament. It is getting more difficult to field enough teams to continue the bowling activities, but for those who participate always have a fun time.

In what seemed only a few short months later, the District members gathered again. This time it was in DuBois, PA where Council 86 hosted the District's Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage on October 6-8. That weekend was sharply colder and a few snow flurries were in the air. A welcoming reception was held on

Friday evening to greet the approximately 30 members who attended.

The District meeting was held on Saturday morning. The councils reported on their many activities over the summer and extensive reports were given on the happenings at the National Convention. A report showed that the District's 50/50 raffle, while profitable, did not yield the profits normally generated in past years. Therefore, a rather austere spending policy was adopted til next year when it is hoped that participation in the raffle will increase. Elections for District Officers were conducted and despite her reluctance, Fran Petkus of C-96, Dayton, again agreed to serve as President. Most of the other officers remained the same as well, with Cultural and Lithuanian Affairs positions being combined into one and the position of second Vice-President remained vacant. The meeting closed with the singing of the newly revised Vyciu Himnas. The new version met the approval of the delegates and was sung quite nicely.

The pilgrimage portion of the weekend occurred Saturday afternoon when members traveled to St. Francis church in near-by Clearfield for a prayer service. The church is the oldest in the Erie Diocese and was designated as a Millennium Church for this year. The pastor of St. Francis, Father Dennis Hadberg, led the inspiring service.

That evening members and local guests enjoyed a delicious meal at a near-by restaurant. Following the meal, a few games of chance were held for the benefit of Aid to Lithuania. In a very short time, \$415 was raised.

On Sunday, the closing mass was held at St. Joseph's Parish. Council 86 members Joseph Yanek, Alda Waylonis, Helen Ivoska, James Allen, Frances Bruzga, and John and Gertrude Amalkavich received the Third Degrees. Ben Bruzga and Benedict Radzavich of C-86 and Joe Ivoska of C-25 were presented the Fourth Degree. A special

presentation of the District's Special Recognition Award was made to Irene Yanek of C-86. Congratulations are extended to all the above. Following mass was the annual remembrance of the District's deceased members, led by Fran Petkus. Before departing, the group enjoyed another delicious meal in the church hall.

Special thanks to Lee and Paul Moore and their committee from C-86 for putting together a wonderful weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone again after the spring thaw when we gather in Southfield, MI for another meeting and bowling tournament.

### C-19 Pittsburgh Len Barcoucky

Bright sunshine, blue skies and occasional breezes greeted about 20 members of the Council 19 and friends who gathered in St. Casimir's Cemetery for an All Souls Day Commemoration.

The event was held Nov. 5 and it restarts an old tradition of remembering the dead with a cemetery visit. St. Casimir's in Whitehall is the largest ethnic graveyard in and around Pittsburgh serving Lithuanian-Americans.

Members of the group said prayers in Lithuanian and English, read bible verses and placed flowers at seven graves. The event was organized and led by Knights' President, John Baltrus, and Sam Aleliunas recited the prayers in Lithuanian. Members plan to return each year for similar commemorations, making stops at different graves.

About half the people taking part in the program at St. Casimir's were members of the Knights and many of the rest were members of the Lithuanian Citizens Society of Pittsburgh. The program at St. Casimir's was part of Council 19's year-long effort to offer traditional and new kinds of activities at Knights' meetings.

The attempt to "offer more meat" and

(C-19 continued)

reduce the number of purely business meetings was spearheaded by Robert Medonis. Rob had been an active member and officer of C-19 for many years. This fall - just as activities were getting underway - he relocated to California where he has become a member of Los Angeles C-133.

About a year ago Rob proposed an almost monthly schedule of activities. Members voted on each one, adopting some and rejecting others. As a result, Pittsburgh Knights, joined by other Lithuanian-Americans, have visited St. Anthony's Chapel in Troy Hill, gone to a baseball game at Three Rivers Stadium and attended a talk on Baltic genealogy given by Frank Ziaukas.

The events have drawn both large and small crowds, but all have succeeded in several important ways. They have emphasized efforts to keep alive Lithuanian culture and the Catholic faith. They have encouraged people who are not members of the Knights to attend activities and find out what the organization is about. Finally, they have given long-time members new reasons to come to meetings. Plans for next year include an excursion to PNC Park, the new home of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and a Lithuanian video night.

## C-102 Detroit Teresele

We did not have our usual corn-roast-meeting at the Starks this summer due to a conflict of dates but Eve and Joe have once again graciously offered to host the annual Kucios-Mass at their home on Dec. 17th - the highlight of the year - one we all look forward to.

The Starks returned from the National Convention at which time they both received the Fourth Degree, so well-deserved. Outside of a mix-up in their hotel reservation they had nothing but good things to say about the Convention itself and the great job the host Council 133 did. While there they had the opportunity to chat with

former 102 member, Isabel Peterson, a C-50 member.

Kudos to HM Robert Boris upon receiving the "Order of Gediminas" Award, bestowed on him by Lithuania's President, Valdas Adamkus. Your 102 members and friends are mighty proud of you, Bob, and do miss having you in our midst but happy that you are doing so well living on Marco Island.

A "Nuosirdingai Aciu" to Maryte Abbott who did an outstanding job as Vytis Editor for these past six years and our sincere prayers and wishes go with her. We also commend Sr. Janine Golubickis for taking over and wish her the very best as the new Vytis Editor. The Election of Officers went so smoothly that some people didn't realize they were elected. Our new slate is as follows: President - Patricia Zyren, Vice-Pres - Joseph Stark, Secretary - Treas Michael Shae, Corresponding Sec - Merri Hofner, Financial Secretary - Theresa Shae, Public Relations - Regina Juska Svoba, Lithuanian and Cultural Affairs - Donna Stanievich, Vytis Corresp. - Theresa Medonis, Sgt-at-Arms - John Stanievich, Ritual - still open, Sunshine Committee - Joseph Guerriero and Lorry Hofner. Rev. Alphonse Babonas remains as our Spiritual Advisor.

Father Walter Stanievich (Fr. Stan to us all) is still struggling with knee problems and will, undoubtedly, be undergoing knee replacement surgery in the near future. Our prayers are with him for a successful outcome. Frank Bunikis continues to remain on our prayer list and is quite confined to home being on oxygen around the clock. Why not send an occasional cheery message to lift their spirits?

Congratulations to Richard Straksys and his wife, Rose, who were recently blessed with a healthy baby girl, Patricia Rose. Our sincerest gratitude to Richard, President of 102 for two years. We've appreciated the time and effort given to us, especially with a young family in need of attention.

The October meeting was changed to the 29th in order to combine attending the meeting and the 20th Anniversary of St. Anthony's Choir, under the direction of Stasys Slizys. Mr. Slizys received his degree from Wayne State University, has sung in the Michigan Opera Chorus, and is also an accomplished composer of hymns. We are very fortunate and grateful to have such a talented and dedicated man at St. Anthony's. 102 had a good turnout and we joined in the festivities, partaking of delicious traditional Lithuanian foods.

Congratulations to Ray and Theresa Medonis who celebrated 50 years of togetherness on Oct. 21st. It was an exact replica of their wedding day - beautiful weather, Sweetest Day, and on Saturday. Their five children - Raymond, Kenneth, Kathleen, Michael, Robert, and their spouses and all fifteen grandchildren were in attendance at Mass honoring their parents, with a dinner reception following in the Activity Center of St. John the Evangelist Church in Fenton. May they be blessed with many, many years in love, peace, and good health.

50/50 raffle winner for October was John Stanievich and Lorry Hofner was the November recipient.

The Hofners and an entourage of ten family members returned from a 5-day sight-seeing and shopping trip to China where they were all in awe of the famous defensive wall of China. Merri was sporting a sweatshirt, proof-positive that they made the 1,250 mile trek. We wish our fellow Council members and their families a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous, Healthy 2001! Su Diev!

## C-6 Hartford Leona E. Sawka

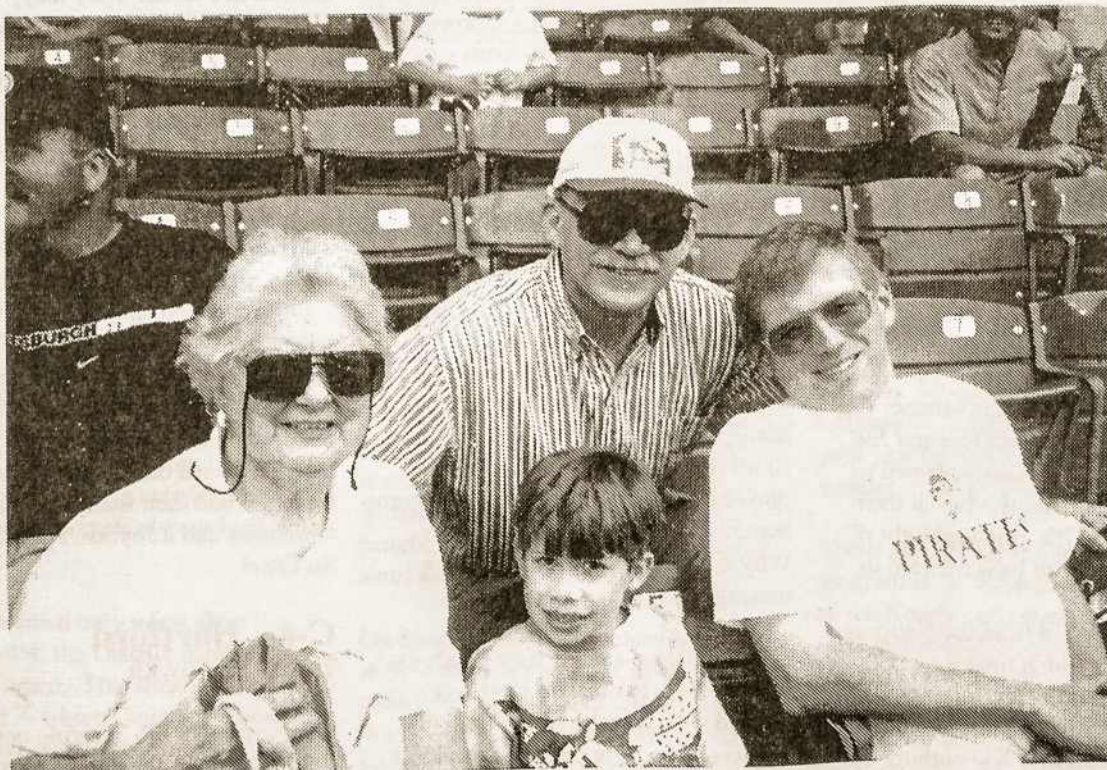
Our November 9th meeting opened at 7:30 P.M. with President, Alex Yusias, presiding.

The sale of "Leona's" dumplings (31 dozen) grossed \$186. A special thanks

# KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Rita Sussko, Rev. Gintaras Grusas, Elinor Sluzas



John Baltrus, Len Barcoucky, Peter Barcoucky and Jean Schoentag finally saw the sun come out during a C-19 sponsored outing to a Pirates game at Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium.

## KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Long time member Brian Johnson, center, got a birthday surprise at a recent C-19 K of L meeting. Brian's birthday was in Sept.. Flanking Brian are his wife, Rita and infant son, Brian Jr.



Recent photo of some charter members of C-6 at a Lithuanian Day of Prayer.

(C-6 continued)

goes to Anne Stanulis, Nell Knusto, Wandie Kruk, and Francie Ambrose for their industrious help.

Revisions resulting from a by-laws meeting held recently were made and copies passed out to each member for review prior to the next meeting when they will come up for vote.

Regarding the Dec. 10 fundraiser - Christmas dinner which is open to all parishoners, families, and friends - Alex Yusias announced that the pointsiettas will be sold for \$15 each at this time. Also, a Fish and Pool game will be available and members were asked to bring prizes to be used for this purpose.

In the future, trivia questions regarding the K of L will be incorporated with this council's news items. Look within this column for answers.

It was announced that Lillian Joseph will handle Archives information.

The Cultural festival in Shrewsbury, MA was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. Our bank account benefited by a tidy sum.

Ten tablecloths were donated by Agnes Gagnon and Louise Piwoski. How nice it will be to use these cotton/polyester tablecloths at all our church functions.

Our 50/50 Cheer fund drawing was a success. First prize went to Anne Stanulis, second prize to Leona Sawka, and third prize to Nell Knusto.

Anne Stanulis and Wandie Kruk will be our official greeters of new members/guests and will apprise them of Council information.

Great News! It has been announced that our pastor and Spiritual Advisor of C-6, Fr. John Conte, is going to be invested as Monsignor at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford on Dec. 16. Everyone is delighted by this news! Our heartfelt congratulations, Fr. Conte

## C-7 Waterbury, CT

Adele Klenske

Another Fall, another Election of Officers and, gratefully, no changes. At our Oct. 20th meeting, by unanimous decisions and the acceptance of each officer elected, yet again - Joe Stiklius, President - Linas Balcys, Vice President - Doris Snirpunas, Financial Secretary Arlene Stiklius, Treasurer - and Agnes Bauza, Recording Secretary. Thanks to all these dependable and faithful K of L'ers.

On October 8th Tony and Pat Alexander celebrated 25 years of wedded bliss with a lovely party hosted by Tony's nieces, Ann and Barbara Kenausis. God brought these two very nice, delightful people together and our fondest wishes are that they have many more years of happiness!

Because of Tony and Pat Alexander, our truly dedicated and charitable Agnes Bauza has become very involved in the needs and creature comforts of an orphanage in Ukmerge, Lithuania. This, apparently, is but one of many such orphanages in Lithuania, but one that has touched the hearts of Tony, Pat, and Agnes. Thus far, 3 boxes of clothing and toys have been sent off, each weighing 40 pounds and each at a cost of \$25 each. This facility houses children from ages 3 to 16 - some with special needs, some with disabilities and all in need of caring and help. On Dec. 2nd our Council will hold a tag sale in our clubrooms with one table devoted entirely for the benefit of this orphanage. Plans for the future include sending a box of foodstuffs which the children would especially enjoy. If any member cares to participate in any way, please contact Agnes Bauza.

Our Council hosted another Pancake Breakfast on Nov. 5th. The best yet! We served 150 people and were able to boost our treasury very nicely. Thanks to one and all - workers and supporters.

On December 10th, thankfully, the ladies of the Lithuanian Community

will again prepare a Kucios at St. Joseph's auditorium. Every year we all look forward to this very special tradition and certainly do appreciate the efforts of the ladies involved.

On December 16th our Council will have its annual potluck supper, Christmas party and monthly meeting. This will provide us with the opportunity for good fellowship, good food and a good time to wish one another HAPPY, HOLY HOLIDAY!

Weather permitting, we will all be meeting at our monthly meeting on January 19th - til then, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## C-10 Athol-Gardner

William Wisniauskas

The following slate of officers was elected at the Nov. meeting. Spiritual Advisor-Rev. Joseph Jurgelonis, President-Dr. Henry Gailiunas, Vice-President-William Wisniauskas, Treas-Nellie Melaika, Recording-Sec- Pamela Bouthillier, Financial Sec- Marie Colo, Ritual Ch-Maryann Langlois, Cultural Ch - Brone Wisniauskas, Marshal-David Lucas, Vytis Corresp - William Wisniauskas.

A Lithuanian-style dinner was recently held at the church hall with Co-Chairs Dr. Henry Gailiunas, Sophie Fiorentino and Armand Bouthillier who was the Chief Chef with the local group, all pitching in. Aciu labai visiems.

Get well wishes are being sent to Roberta Landry who underwent surgery and Ed Lepkowski who became ill on their return trip from Australia and New Zealand.

Nellie Melaika recently returned from a trip to California and Las Vegas.

Congratulations to the Lithuanian Olympic Team that won 2 gold and 2 bronze medals. The Lithuanian basketball team nearly handed the professional "Dream Team" a nightmare. The TV announcer should

(C-10, continued)

be complimented with the correct pronunciation of our not-so-easy names K of L members of our Council - Richard Genaitis and Lillian and Philiip Erickson attended the Olympics and will probably never forget the game nor will anyone who witnessed it. Bravo Lietuva!... a quote from a local newspaper: "Because of what they nearly pulled off, the Lithuanians should get some sort of special medal for the way the world will view basketball."

Condolences are extended to the Buduick and Wisniauskas families on the loss of John Buduick, co-owner of the popular Ten Pins Bowling Alleys in Gardner where State Tourneys were held. John is brother-in-law to Bill and Brone Wisniauskas.

Condolences are extended to the Dapkevich and Burba families on the death of John. He was the first Gardner area bowler at the Gardner Ten Pins to bowl a perfect score of 300.

## C-26 Worcester Ruta

At the November meeting, Rev. John Petrauskas, our Spiritual Advisor, installed the new slate of officers. Everyone is eager to start the new fiscal year and we are looking forward to an exciting year. Good news - Ann Holm is now home from the Christopher House and is doing nicely. With great sadness we have to report that Albin Nockunas has passed away. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to him and his family. Albin was a Second Degree member. President Vivian Rodgers thanked all the members of C-26 who attended the special K of L service that was performed at the funeral parlor.

Drew Cummings from the Bancroft School in Worcester attended one of our Spring meetings. He was exploring Worcester and its various ethnic cultures. At the meeting he attended, we happened to be having a potluck

supper along with our meeting. He was able to experience some Lithuanian food, find out a little about Lithuania, its people and our Council. He enjoyed himself and we certainly appreciated to hear about some of what he learned in his travels. We received a copy of their school paper in which he tells about his visit. He spoke about immigrants from Lithuania to Worcester, the food, etc. He especially mentioned that he had eaten "pigeons" that evening.. balandeliai.

A blind auction was held after the meeting. It was an evening of riotous fun and bidding. Everyone was asked to bring a wrapped gift. Ann Lesemann, our experienced auctioneer, spirited the bidding up higher and higher. There were beautifully wrapped packages.. some small and others quite large. Once a person was successful with their bid, you could hear, "What did you win?" "Hurry up and open it." Then, either "Oo's" or "Ahh's" or laughter followed. Sometimes one would purchase a joke gift. A very enjoyable evening was had by everyone. The money that was realized from the auction will be sent to Lithuania for the Lithuanian orphans. It was a winning evening for all concerned.

Do you like to bowl candlepins? If you are in the Worcester vicinity around 9:00 A.M. on a Tuesday, why don't you stop at the Thunderbird Bowling Alley at 38 Southbridge St, Auburn, MA. Our Council has a get-together bowling morning there for fun and exercise. Recently, Steve Walinsky hit a 120. He certainly was the happiest person there that morning.

Bill Leseman is a man that cannot just sit still. He is always willing to help where extra hands are needed. Recently, while visiting family in Rhode Island, he was out helping to unload a truckload of toys that was donated by a Narragansett toy company for the Johnnycake Center in PeaceDale. While working with other volunteers a picture was taken for the newspaper and guess-who we saw standing at the top of the pile of toys..but our Bill.

Congratulations and Best Wishes are extended to our members who recently celebrated anniversaries and birthdays. First the anniversaries: Rita (Cepulonis) and Tony Collins celebrated 50 years and Nellie and Joseph Salkus, 59 years. It is wonderful to have couples together for this length of time. We have 3 "young" ladies who celebrated their birthdays recently. Angela Busky was surprised on her 75th birthday by a party given by her son. There were 65 family members from both branches of the family in attendance. It was held at her son's farm in Berlin. Festivities were held outside. In addition to food and games, the children could not stay away from the 6 alpaca's.

Marian March, a Third Degree member of the K of L for 29 years turned 90 years young. She had 5 children, 16 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren. An 11:30 Mass at St. Casimir's was held in her honor. After Mass, 63 of her immediate family members went to the church hall for a party honoring her. It was certainly a memorable and joyous day.

Mary Lovett also turned 90. Her family gave her a surprise party at a local restaurant. There was lobster, balloons, flowers and special decorations. Family members wrote and read poems and "this is your life" stories. She was presented with a Memory Album with pictures and articles from her early life to the present. (Thank goodness for the computer.) It was a great day filled with much happiness.

In closing, a thank you was extended to Steve Walinsky for a job well done as the Vytis correspondent. He is now the Sargent-at-Arms for our Council.

## C-29 Newark Rita Sussko

Labas from C-29. We have returned with great anticipation for the new season.

In July HM Loretta Stukas and Rita S.

(C-29, continued)

Sussko attended the National Convention in L.A. It was different in many ways from what we had experienced at previous conventions. The main highlight was the attendance of Lithuania's President Valdas Adamkus and his wife, Alma (at the invitation of Supreme Council members) along with Ambassador Stasys Sakalauskas and his wife, Jurate. They are all truly beautiful Lithuanians and a delight to become acquainted with.

At the banquet, HM Loretta Stukas presented Honorary Membership to President Adamkus and also to Rev. Peter Shakalis.

Rita served on the Budget Committee and was elected along with HM Agnes Mickunas as National Trustees.

Our faithful member Nellie Krynicki who has relocated to Florida has undergone hip replacement surgery. We not only miss Nellie as a dear friend but she also volunteered to serve on every committee while residing in N.J. We wish her good health and a speedy recovery. Sadly, our member Alphonso Dougard died, suddenly, on Aug. 22. May he rest in peace.

Our Nominating Committee, Nijole Micknevicus and Marie Guoba, held elections at our October meeting. Those elected to the Executive Board were: Harold Kaminskas, Pres., Marie Guoba, Vice Pres. (Welcome to the Board, Marie.) Helen Radisch, Recording Secretary, Rita S. Sussko, Financial Secretary, Paula Paskas, Treasurer, and Elizabeth Luciw, Correspondence. Our Spiritual Advisor is still our dear Fr. Peter Uhde.

Our Annual Dinner and Dance was held on Oct. 15th. Chairperson was Rita Sussko. We enjoyed a Cocktail Hour chaired by Ann O'Neill. The dessert table was the responsibility of Marie Guoba. Needless to say both ladies did an excellent job. A delicious buffet was served, with open bar, covered by Vytautas Micknevicus and John Sisak.

Our raffle included a huge basket of Cheer, beautiful hand-made afghans, handcrafted Lithuanian artifacts, and many other beautiful gifts. A sincere thank you to all who donated to the raffle, desserts, and miscellaneous for the Dinner Dance.

An affair is only as good as the committee and Newark has the best, hardest workers. Namely: Fr. Peter Uhde, Domas and Ada Andruska, Emmy and Anthony Grazulis, Marie Guoba, Mary Honeyman, Harold and Virginia Kaminskas, Jennie Miklasavice, Vytautas and Nijole Micknevicus, Nellie Nechiporuk, Ann O'Neill, Helen Radisch, Ed Rimelis, John and Helen Sisak and Lorraine Stramara. A heartfelt THANKS to all. Music was furnished by Joe Thomas. We feel a GOOD time was enjoyed by all.

Rozalia Somkaite and HM Loretta Stukas were honored by being recipients of an award by the Republic of Lithuania, the "Order of Gediminas" medal. Rozalia also received the "Lithuanian Independence" award for very special work toward assisting Lithuanian in regaining her Independence.

November found HM Loretta Stukas and Rita S. Sussko, National Trustee, journeying to Florida to attend the Supreme Council meeting. The National Convention 2001 will be hosted by the Supreme Council in Florida. We hope to see some of our members in attendance.

A compliment must be paid to 3 members of C-29 who go to Kearny and help Rozalia Somkaite in her efforts to pack and ship well-needed items to Lithuania; they are Harold Kaminskas, Marie Guoba, and Lorraine Stramara.

Until we meet again in Vytis,  
HAPPY, HEALTHY HOLIDAYS.

## C-110 Maspeth

Bruno Rutkunas

At our October 22 Knights of Lithuania meeting after the 11:30 Mass, Frances and Edward Jakatt sponsored our monthly brunch to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Our monthly Atlantic City trips are customized and ably handled by Helen Matulonis; some people do win on occasion. Whatever the \$profit remains (the bus must be almost full) the \$ is donated to the church.

Our very active "Help for Lithuania" Ann Morrissey continues to ship needed items to the orphanages, with one getting there in time for the holidays.

I guess like many other Councils, we are trying to stay alive and well, hoping for some new young American-Lithuanian citizens to revive the Knights' spirits and activities.

Plans are being made at our November meeting and brunch (no turkey served), for our Dec 17 KUCIOS where 12 meatless dishes are served with apple cider and wine to wet down our appetites.

I believe our Kucios remembrance was C-110.... 26th celebration at the Transfiguration Church hall.

## C-136 Hudson-Mohawk

Dorothy Richmire

It is beginning to feel a lot like winter. Traces of snow (just flurries, so far) but anyway now we will see that white blanket covering us.

Potatoes, potatoes, everywhere potatoes, but we were so very organized that in no time at all several panfulls of Kugelis were in the oven for the prime purpose of offering our specialty, along with kapustas, desros, the traditional tree cake, apple and honey cake to visitors at our booth. The Festival of Nations, occurring on Sunday, Oct 29 ,



(C-136 continued)  
 kept us very busy both preparing and selling. Preparing in the kitchen at Holy Cross Church were Bernice Aviza, Ed Barkowski, Gen Deery, Dot Richmire, Chick Rupsis, Jo Sasinowski and Richard Fuerst. The Craft Booth was staffed by Chick and Diane. Regina Kot from Amsterdam and her granddaughter helped out also. We had 16 children dancing and they did a fabulous job. Jessica Vuzgda served as Miss Lithuania.

A report was given on the preparations for packing and loading the container to Lithuania. It was "packed" on Sat., Nov. 4 and "loaded" in the container, Sat. Nov. 11. This work was done at the DePaul Provincial House in Menands. June Stankus, Sue Freer, Richard Fuerst, Bernice Aviza, Ed Barkowski, Helen Hayner, Rob Hayner and Lynn Hayner all volunteered. From all reports - in spite of the soaking from the relentless rain - they had a jolly good time.

Looking forward to our annual Christmas party on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 2:00 P.M. Hope to see all of you there.

Jane Prendergast, the technician from St. Peter's Hospital, whose trip to Lithuania was partly sponsored by our Council, has returned from her trip. She will attend the party and tell us about her experience in Lithuania.

Thought for the day: A pessimist makes difficulties of his opportunities; an optimist makes opportunities of his difficulties.

A Blessed Holiday to All.

### C-3 Philadelphia Stephany Gutauskas

Lillian Greymas, Julie Kowrak, Ausra Maknys, Irene Ozalis, and Anne Petraitis attended the 18th Annual Women and Girls Community Communion Mass and Breakfast held on Sunday, Oct 29 at St. George Parish

Also on Sunday, October 29, Bronius Krokys attended a concert of the American-Lithuanian Chamber Ensemble featuring Algirdas Budrys on clarinet and Rosetta Senkus Bacon on piano at the Lithuanian Music Hall. The concert was held in honor of the 125th Anniversary of Mikalojus Konstantinas Ciurlonis, Lithuanian painter and composer.

Monsignor Joseph Anderlonis, HM, held a special Mass at 9:00 A.M. at St. George's Church on Wed., Nov. 1st to honor Julie Kowrak on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Victor Stepalovitch was also present at this Mass. Well-wishers sang "Ilgiausiu Metu" to Julie as well as "Happy Birthday" to her in English, Lithuanian, and Polish.

On Friday, Nov 3, Monsignor Joseph Anderlonis, Lillian Greymas, Ausra Maknys, Irene Ozalis, and Victor Stepalovitch attended a dinner at King George II Inn in Bristol, PA to fete Julie Kowrak again in birthday celebration.

Many Council members attended the Muge (Lithuanian Fair) held at the Lithuanian Music Hall on Sat, Nov 4 and Sun Nov 5. This year's Muge featured crafts, Lithuanian food, cultural shows (music ensembles/dance troupes), videos, books, and T-shirts. Stephany Gutauskas won a door prize at the drawing held on Sat. and Jeanne Dorr won the grand prize at the drawing held on Sunday.

Condolences go to Charles Petronis whose brother-in-law, Dan Hogan, passed away on Tuesday, November 7.

Monsignor Anderlonis, HM, held a Mass at St. George's Church for deceased members of the K of L, requested by the Supreme Council, at 8:30 A.M. on Wed, Nov 8. Stephany Gutauskas, wearing a juosta, took up the Offertory Gifts at this Mass.

Monsignor Anderlonis coached a one-hour Lithuanian language lesson before the Council's meeting on Nov 12. After the meeting members of the

Kucios Committee held an organizational session and members of the Kucios Chorale practiced Christmas carols. The Council sang "Happy Birthday" to Julie Kowrak and celebrated the occasion with marble cake and coffee.

Congratulations go to Bronius and Juzė Krokys on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The Council wishes both many more years of wedded bliss.

Several Council members attended St. George's annual Christmas Bazaar held in the parish hall on Sat, Nov 18 and Sunday, Nov 19.

With sadness, we report the passing early in the morning of Sun, Nov 12, of Mrs. Stephany Gutauskas, mother of Miss Stephany Gutauskas, the Council's Recording Secretary and Vytis correspondent. Monsignor Anderlonis, HM, celebrated the funeral Mass on Mon, Nov 20 with Stanley Petraitis serving as organist and vocalist. Stephany placed a grey juosta with a quotation from "Lietuva Brangi" on it atop her mother's coffin before the Mass began. Both Stephany and her cousin, Edward Bairunas, wore juostas during the Mass to honor the ethnic heritage of Mrs. Gutauskas. Monsignor Anderlonis read a short quotation by Margaret Craven and Ausra Maknys read a poem by J.R.R. Tolkien during the services. Lillian Greymas was another member who attended the funeral Mass. Mrs. Gutauskas was interred in Resurrection Cemetery.

On Sat, Dec. 3, about 2 dozen Council members attended a Christmas Party with Pollyanna held at the Coastline Restaurant in Cherry Hill, NJ. Members had a choice of prime rib, veal marsala, or stuffed flounder as entree. All merrily celebrated the holiday season while enjoying one another's fellowship.

## C-142 Washington, DC

Joseph G. Chaplick

Our Council received its charter on Nov 22, 1975. The late Eva Migonis organized the Council and Phil and Marian Skabeikis came down from New York with the charter.

We had planned a celebration but instead combine it with a Christmas Party to be held at the home of Beverly Meder in Springfield, VA.

Cynthia Meder and Michael Crehan were wed in Gloucester, MA on Oct 15th. After the ceremony, the couple was greeted with the traditional Lithuanian bread and salt. The newlyweds honeymooned in Portugal and Spain.

Loretta Ratkus spent a lot of time out of the country and enjoyed it. She went to Japan and China in June. July through Oct were spent traveling throughout Europe. No Lithuania this time.

Kestutis and Milda Ciziunas, parents of Knight Pranas, recently returned from a trip to Rome. Milda's brother, Father Gintaras Grusas, showed them the sights. Father Grusas participated at services at the L.A. Convention.

The slate of Officers for the new term is as follows: Pres - Joseph Chaplick, Vice-Pres - John Waylonis, Secretary - Regina Ratway, Treasurer and Financial Sec - Jean Lutwin

## C-144 Anthracite

Ona

Members of C-144 were saddened to hear of the death of Father Anthony Jurgelaitis. He was a great help to us when we first organized. We use his Wake Service and his St. Casimir prayers. Our loss is heaven's gain.

Election of Officers were held with the following elected: President - Anna K. Wargo, Vice-Pres - Eleanor Vaicaitis, Secretary - David Carroll, Treasurer-

Anna Radzavage, Financial Sec - Elsie Kosmisky, Trustees- Marian Wydra, Anna Helen McDonald, Lithuanian Affairs - Joseph Martunas, Cultural - Mary Koons. Our Spiritual Advisor is Father Ronald Jankaitis. Our thanks to Marian Wydra who served as President the last 3 years. Marian always promoted the K of L and all things Lithuanian. She will also serve as PR person. Aciu sirdingai for all you do, Marian.

Installation of Officers was held during Mass on Dec 3. Fr. Jankaitis installed Officers during Mass; Lithuanian hymns were sung by the Friends of Siluva Choir. We are grateful to them for gracing our services. Following Mass the Annual Kucios was held with Anna Radzavage chairing the event, assisted by the Officers and the Shenandoah members. Father Ron and Brother Joseph had a lovely program and Lithuanian Christmas hymns were sung. This is always a nice affair and it is so nice to see the young families that attend.

We thank God for all we were able to do in 2000. Our Humanitarian Aid Committee worked very hard and we were able to send much-needed funds for books, clothing, needed items, some food to poor schools, orphanages, hospices, for the elderly poor. Over more than 3,000 lbs. We also contributed some funds to the Carmelite Nuns in Pastuva, Lithuania.

In 2000 we also lost some good members through death. Recently, Sister Cordia, SSC, who was active when she taught at St. Francis school in Minersville. She was great in teaching Lithuanian to our youngsters. Amzina Atsilsi, Sister.

We also want to thank Mary Labadis and her assistant, Ginner Kazlauskas for the good job they do in our monthly Hospitality after meetings.

May God bless all our brother and sister Vyciai with a Happy Holiday and may 2001 bring good health and happy days.

## C-156 Shamokin, PA

Olympia M. Zelinski

On June 24 over 40 members attended our annual Council Picnic at Knoebel's Grove, Elysburg. A brief evening prayer service was held. Each family brought a delicious covered-dish which created a spectacular array of foods. After dinner, a bingo social was held.

Although July 3 was a hot and humid day, 17 Council members happily marched in the annual Anthracite Heritage Parade in Shamokin. Our Council Marching Unit consisted of flag-bearers, banner-bearers displaying our new banner, marchers and 2 antique cars. Our efforts were rewarded with a 3rd-place finish.

Father Ted Keating, our Spiritual Advisor, was transferred from Our Lady of Hope Parish, Shamokin, to St. Patrick's Parish, Carlisle, in late June. We want to thank Father Ted for his kindness, support, and spirituality for the 4 wonderful years that he supported our Council. Father Bill Burger, pastor of Our Lady of Hope Church, will become our new Spiritual Advisor. We look forward to his leadership and support.

Our Council became participants in Pennsylvania's Adopt-a-Highway Program this summer. This program seeks to adopt sections of highways in the Commonwealth and periodically clean it by collecting litter. On Aug 21, Council members cleaned a 2-mile section of roadway between Ranshaw and Excelsior. Prior to the clean-up we enjoyed breakfast at a local '50's diner called Palmer's. Andrew Charnosky serves as the Council's Adopt-a-Highway Coordinator.

From C-156 Press Release: Members of the K of L C-156 participated in Our Lady of Hope Church's Heritage Day. Approximately 150 individuals attended the program. The 2nd Annual Heritage Day was a liturgical service and a cultural/food celebration of the parish's various

ethnic and Catholic heritages. Various ethnic groups that were represented in this event included the Irish, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Slovak, Croatian, French, German and Spanish heritages. Sallie Kanaskie coordinated Heritage Day in collaboration with the parish planning committee.

Father Philip Burger, pastor of Our Lady of Hope Church, served as the presider. The church program focused on celebrating the works of the Saints from different countries that were influential in spreading Christianity throughout the world. These saints included St. Stanislaus, St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Therese of Lisieux. A tribute to the Blessed Mother was the second part of this service. As part of Lithuanian tribute to Mary, Olympia Zelinski read intercessions in Lithuanian and Bob Wislock, Council President, explained the apparition of Blessed Mother at Siluva.

People participating in the heritage celebration then visited the parish center where they sampled various ethnic foods and visited the elaborate cultural displays of the different countries. Anna Helen and Tom McDonald of C-144 coordinated the Lithuanian cultural exhibit which displayed many religious and secular items from Lithuania. These items included amber jewelry, woodcarvings, linens, statues of the Blessed Mother, ceramic items and food articles. Individuals were treated to babka, red beet soup and kielbasa. Rose Paczkoski, Anna Kinder and Mary Ann Paccocha prepared and served these foods.

## NAUJUS METUS PRADEDANT

**Dėkoju tau, Viešpatie,**  
ši šventą vakarą,  
kai susilieja senieji ir naujieji metai,  
kai žvelgiam pirmyn  
ir metam žvilgsnį atgalios,  
už viską, viską kas praėjo,  
ir kas yra, kas bus rytoj.

**Dėkoju Tau už Tavo dovanas,**  
tokias gausias, tokias nepaprastas -  
už meilę tų, kuriuos myliu,  
už ašaras ir juoką - jų ir mano...  
už šypseną ir maldą artimųjų  
ir tų, kurių, net napažistu -  
brolių, sesių Kristuje...

**Dėkoju Tau už kasdienybę,**  
jos nuobodulį, vargą, rūpesčius,  
ligas, skausmus ir širdgėlas  
kurios paženkliną kiekvieną naują dieną,  
ir primena, kad esam žmonės,  
žemėje gyvenam...

**Dėkoju Tau už sidabrinių snaigių sukurius**  
ir už kiekvieną nuostabią sukurta snaigę,  
kurios, tarytum angelai balti,  
skrajoję ore, leidžiasi į juodą žemę  
ir tampa ji balta ir nekalta,  
lyg mūsų sielos krikšto vandeniui nuplauta...

**Dėkoju Tau už balta, šalta žiemą,**  
ir už pavasarius margais žiedais nusėdus,  
už vasaras, auksiniais saulės spinduliais pakaustytas  
ir vėjus rudens pageltusius lapus nešiojančius.

**Dėkoju Tau, o Viešpatie,**  
už Tavo laiką duotą mums:  
už valandas, minutes ir sekundes,  
kai žvelgiam į gyvenimą - ir Amžinybę,  
už šią akimirką - tą dovaną,  
kurią ne visada įvertinam  
skubėdami gyvenimo keliais...

**Dėkojame Tau, Viešpatie,**  
už viską ir visus -  
dėkojame čia, dabar,  
kai susilieja metai,  
gyvenimas ir Amžinybė...  
ir kai apgaubia mus - visus, kiekvieną,  
Tavoji meilė, Šiluma, Viltis...

**Dėkojame Tau, Viešpatie**  
už **VISKĄ,**  
žinodami, kad Tavo Rankose  
ir mes, ir mūsų ateitis.

Amen.

**Dalia Staniškienė**

(As appeared in the "Draugas" Chicago Daily Lithuanian Newspaper, last January, 2000). Used with permission.

Children need models more than they  
need critics. (Joseph Joubert (1842))

## ENTHRONEMENT OF THE SACRED HEART

(Sent in by David Wilton, C-140)

*To establish the social reign of Jesus in the world.* This is the object of the enthronement program.

The enthronement idea was conceived in the mind of a Peruvian priest, Fr. Mateo Crawley-Boevey, S.S.C.C., who, while suffering from neurasthenia and on sick leave in Europe in 1907, made a pilgrimage to Paray-le-Monial, the sight of the 17<sup>th</sup> century apparitions of the Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary. He received the inspiration while at the shrine where Jesus appeared.

He proceeded from there to Rome where he was granted an audience with Pope St. Pius X for the purpose of explaining the plan to him. He sought approval of the enthronement idea with the intention of spreading it throughout the world. The saintly Pope responded with: "I do not give you permission, I command you."

Fr. Mateo took his plan "to conquer the whole world for the Heart of Jesus, home after home, family after family" to South America, Europe, Asia and finally to the United States.

In all the countries he visited he trained people, lay and religious, to carry on the work in his absence. In the United States he trained the well-known Fr. Francis Larkin, S.S.C.C., who toured the country for years, carrying out the Enthronement work.

A National Enthronement Center was established in Fairhaven, Massachusetts under priests of Fr. Mateo's and Fr. Larkin's order, the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Fr. Larkin established lay houses, called Men of the Sacred Heart, in several states, to promote the Enthronement work. Then Fr. Larkin trained a lay woman, Mrs. Jack (Gloria) Anson of Camillus, New York, who established the New York State Regional Enthronement Center in Syracuse, New York. My wife and I received our formation training as promoters at this site.

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart means, in the words of Fr. Mateo, "the Official and Social recognition of the loving Kingship of the Heart of Jesus in the Christian family."

Fundamentally, we promote a crusade to restore the rights of Christ the King of Love

over all phases of human society. We promote an apostolate of a new way of life centering around the Sacred Heart. We promote a covenant between the Sacred Heart and families, an invitation to Jesus to abide with each family who enthrones. Because of this covenant, Jesus becomes the Head of the family and is asked to share in all joys, sorrows, decisions and events. He is asked to accompany the mother as she cooks the meals and washes the dishes or shops for the groceries; the father as he goes into the workplace; the children as they go to school or to play. He shares in all things. He becomes our constant companion in the home and outside the home when we are properly disposed.

We enthrone Him through a blessed picture or statue of the Sacred Heart, in a ritual provided by the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts in a most prominent place in the home. The Enthronement is the culmination of a prior Visitation by a promotion team who bring a blessed statue of Mary some ten days before the Enthronement event. The family at this time consecrates their family to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and enshrines her somewhere in the home. The period of time from the Visitation until the Enthronement is then a mission of entreaty to the Blessed Virgin to ask her to send her son to this home. The family gathers together to say the rosary and other prayers that are provided for this period. Other materials are provided for a more complete understanding of the Enthronement. It is not necessary for every family member to be present for all prayers and other activities if work, sickness, age, or some other scheduled event is taking place.

At the end of the Visitation period the Enthronement is made. All preparations are made in advance in accordance with a schedule left by the promoters at the Visitation. An important element, although not essential, is the presence of a priest to say the Mass of the Sacred Heart, during which the family enthrones the Sacred Heart. With the presence of the priest, the home is also blessed, as well as is the image used for the Enthronement. The promoter team is always on-site to guide. Everything always goes smoothly, and everything is always spiritually beautiful.

In a letter dated April 15, 1915, Pope Benedict XV defines the enthronement as "The installation of the image of the Sacred Heart in the place of honor in the home as on a throne, in such a way that Our divine Savior Jesus Christ

is seen to reign in each Catholic home." In the same letter he continues: "You will do well then, dear son, to take up the cause of human society...we encourage you persevere...continue your efforts to enkindle in Catholic homes the flame of love in the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Nothing, as a matter of fact, is more suitable to the needs of the present day than your enterprise." Pope Benedict then granted special indulgences to every family who enthrone the Sacred Heart in their home.

The Enthronement is best summed up in the words of Bishop Raymond L. Burke of the Diocese of La Crosse, Wisconsin: "The Enthronement is bound essentially to the Holy Eucharist, for it aims to bring Christ, truly present on the altars of sacrifice and in the tabernacles of our parish churches, into our homes. It aims to link the altar and tabernacle of the parish church with the altar and tabernacle of devotion in the home. The whole meaning of the devotion is to extend the grace of the Eucharist into the Christian home and for the Christian home to all the world.

"The image of the Sacred Heart expresses the true Kingship of Christ who rules over us by giving up His life for us. It daily reminds each member of the family to follow in Christ's royal way by making reparation for sins committed and by striving to serve more lovingly God and neighbor.

"The image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is enthroned to signify that Christ is He Who gives inspiration and direction to each member of the household. The Enthronement is a single act, but it represents a way of life by which each member of the household is transformed in Christ each day."

Our Apostolate is here to help guide families to enthrone Jesus in their homes. Should any reader wish to enthrone or learn more about the Enthronement, we welcome their calls or letters relating to same. Contact the Sacred Heart Enthronement Center, 4791 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215 by letter, or call (315)492-6308.

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Editor's note: Author David Wilton and his wife, Mary, are deeply involved in the

Enthronement movement. **Cardinal Francis George** of Chicago has recently contacted Gloria Anson of the NYS Enthronement Center to plan a mission in the Chicago Archdiocese. The editor's earliest recollections include the presence of a picture of the Sacred Heart hanging in the family home. Under the picture were the words of the consecration of the family to the Sacred Heart in Lithuanian.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Rev. Justin Steponaitis Council-10**

**Albin Norkunas C-26 Nov. 2000**

**Jean Rigley C-141 Nov. 25, 2000**

## Some Food for Thought

The reflections of a day well spent furnish us with joys more pleasing than ten thousand triumphs.

Thomas A. Kempis

Not life, but a good life, is to be chiefly valued.

Socrates

Kind words are jewels that live in the heart and soul and remain as blessed memories years after they have been spoken.

The heritage of the past is the seed that brings forth the harvest of the future.  
 (Archives Building Washington)

If you have knowledge, let others light their candles by it.

Thomas Fuller

The tide of life is sometimes very rough,  
 But each storm ridden through makes us  
 a better captain of our soul.



**Council -112's Spiritual Leaders & Guests participating in the "Our Lady of Siluva " procession this year; Rev. Paliokas, Rev. Gudelis, 2 visiting clergy from Lithuania, Rev. M. Yakaitis, pastor of Nativity BVM parish, Deacon V.Paskauskas, and seminarians, Gediminas and Patrikas.**



**Mid-America District's New Officers for 2001: Front Row-LtoR-Sr. Janine Golubickis, Terry Strolia, Pres. Glenn Perutis, Mildred Jagiella, Janeen Perutis. Back Row - Casimir Balt, Ellie Kasputis, Diann Martin, Edward Pocius, Georgianna Macke and Maria Deksnis**

# IF

Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you  
And make allowance for their doubting, too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies;  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating;  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream, and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think, and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster,  
And treat these two imposters just the same;

If you can bear to hear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop, and build them up with worn-out tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings -nor lose the common touch-  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you -but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And, - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

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August 2-5, 2001  
at the  
Grosvenor Resort  
Orlando, Florida*

*Watch The Vytis  
for more information  
in future issues.*

*Sponsored by:  
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