

# VYTIS - THE KNIGHT

Vol. 87 No. 2 vasaris/February - 2001



## LIETUVA BRANGI

Juozo NAUJALIO muzika

MAIRONIO žodžiai

Andante

S.  
A.

1. Lie - tu - va bran - gi, ma - no tē - vy - ne,  
2. Kaip pui - kūs slė - niai srau - nios Du - by - sos,  
3. Ten su - si - mas - tės tam - sus Ne - vė - žis  
4. Gra - ži tu, ma - no bran - gi Tē - vy - ne,

T.  
B.

S.  
A.

1. Lie - tu - va bran - gi, ma - no tē - vy - ne,  
2. Kaip pui - kūs slė - niai srau - nios Du - by - sos,  
3. Ten su - si - mas - tės tam - sus Ne - vė - žis  
4. Gra - ži tu, ma - no bran - gi Tē - vy - ne,

T.  
B.

ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai:  
miš - kais lyg rū - ta kal - nai ža - liuo - ja;  
kaip juos - ta juo - sia ža - lią - sias pie - vas;  
ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai!

ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai:  
miš - kais lyg rū - ta kal - nai ža - liuo - ja;  
kaip juos - ta juo - sia ža - lią - sias pie - vas;  
ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai!



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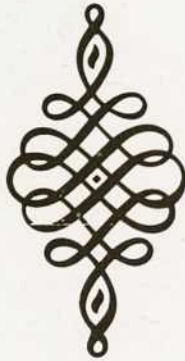
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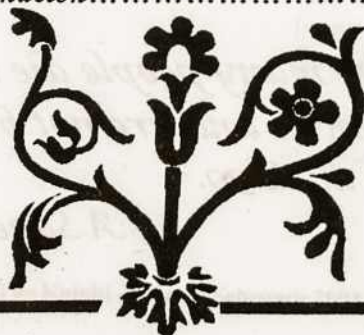
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*The Knights of  
Lithuania  
endeavors to  
instill in its  
members  
an attachment to  
Lithuania,  
the land of our  
ancestors,  
and a  
knowledge,  
appreciation and  
love of the  
Lithuanian  
language,  
customs and  
culture.*

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## To My Fellow Knights

Dear Fellow Knights,


First and foremost, CONGRATULATIONS to the **Junior Knights of Lithuania, Council 74, of Scranton, Pennsylvania** for sending a report about their Kučios. The youth are our future. One of the reasons for having our convention in Orlando is to highlight them. Let us hear from our other Juniors and generate some new thoughts and ideas.

Most of us are in the midst of celebrating our traditional Lithuanian Independence Day commemorations. In the era of 1918 - 1940 Lithuanian Americans blissfully celebrated that reality and contributed to the development and progress of this fledgling nation. Growing up in the beginning of the next era (1940 - 1991), I saw heroic and untiring efforts made materially, spiritually and politically to once again realize independence though I often doubted that this would ever be. With what exuberant joy did we experience the re-declaration of Lithuania's independence and the miracle of its ensuing actuality in 1991! These last ten years have been particularly trying and challenging and once again our efforts are put forth collectively to surmount the problems of the present day. It is in this context that we gather to commemorate the past, celebrate our identity, and pray God's blessings and continued protection over Lithuania.

As we find ourselves inundated by varied opinions and values regarding the direction for Lithuania, kudos and thanks are in order for **John Mankus**, Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, for synthesizing the news and reporting salient items in summary form. John will be sending a report to the VYTIS in a timely manner. Congratulations, John, for not only your reporting but also for your accomplishments in deeds.

Vytiškai,

Sister M. Janine



*“Too many people die at  
50 or 60 and are not bur-  
ied until 90.”*

- A Sage



## President's Corner:

February is upon us. Where has January gone? As the 16th approaches, may we all remember to celebrate Lithuanian Independence Day. This day is not only important to us as Lithuanians, but also as Americans. We celebrate Lithuania's Independence as Lithuanians, and we honor and support their independence as Americans. We must always remember that it wasn't all that long ago that our Great Country fought a similar fight against tyranny, and look at what our nation has become. May we all wish the same for our beloved ancestral homeland.

Convention plans are underway, and I encourage you to watch this, and all future issues of *Vytis* for information. The Convention Committee is working really hard to make this a great convention for everyone. Some really great events are being planned for all of us kids of all ages.

On behalf of the Supreme Council, I wish you a **HAPPY VALENTINE'S** and **LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAYS.**

Vytiskai,

## Rob Martin

Rob A. Martin, Jr.

"LIVE ON AS THOUGH YOU  
HAVE CENTURIES TO LIVE  
AND THEN YOU WILL LIVE  
RIGHTLY."

(C. G. JUNG)

## Sacred Ground

Lithuania!  
Green grow your meadows.  
Redbird songs trill in the breeze.  
Gold blossoms twine among the leaves  
Of my Motherland,  
Motherland, Lithuania!

Sun radiant reign.  
Abundantly turn seed to amber grain.  
Beard the land!

Lithuania!  
Swift flow your rivers.  
Rooster shrilling welcomes day.  
Wolves rend the air with howl and bay  
In my Motherland.  
Motherland, Lithuania!

Forest choirs raise  
Limbs heavenward.  
Chant ceaseless hymns of praise.  
Touch the sky!

Lithuania!  
Shrines guide your pathways.  
On Siauliai's hill, crosses stand,  
Affirm that faith will not be banned  
From my Motherland,  
Motherland, Lithuania!

Blood fevered stream.  
Young patriots cherish a common dream.  
Fulfill it!

Lithuania!  
Hope springs eternal.  
Staunch hearts beat in harmony,  
Pray freedom will forever be  
In my Motherland,  
Motherland, Lithuania!

by Stephany Gutauskas  
C-3 Philadelphia, PA.





*Signing of Declaration of Independence February 16, 1918 in Vilnius.*

## THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE February 16, 1918

The Council of Lithuania in its meeting of February 16, 1918, voted unanimously to address the governments of Russia, Germany and other states with the following declaration:

The Council of Lithuania, sole representative of the Lithuanian people, in conformity with the recognized right to national self-determination and in accordance with the resolution of the Lithuanian Conference held in Vilnius from September 18 to 23, 1917 hereby proclaims the restitution of the independent State of Lithuania, founded on democratic principles, with Vilnius as its capital, and declares the severance of all ties which formerly bound this State to other nations.

The Council of Lithuania also declares that the foundation of the Lithuanian State and relations with other countries will be finally normalized by a Seimas (parliament), elected in a democratic way by the people of Lithuania.

The Council of Lithuania in informing (the nations addressed) to this effect, kindly requests recognition of the independent State of Lithuania.

Vilnius, February 16, 1918.

Signed:

L. Banaitis  
Dr. J. Basanavicius  
M. Birziska  
K. Bizauskas  
P. Dovydaitis

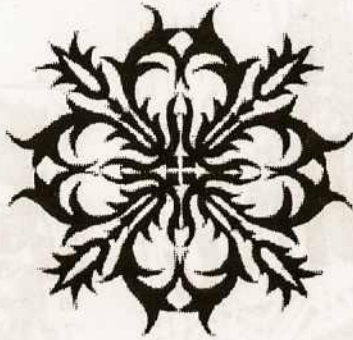
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Translation from the original Lithuanian by Anicetas Simutis.





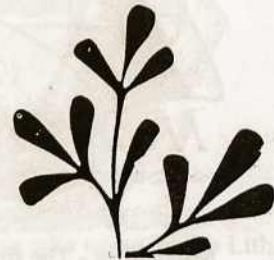
### Lietuviais esame mes Gimę.....

Lietuviais esame mes gimę  
 Lietuviais norime ir būt  
 Tą garbę gavome užgimę  
 Jai ir neturim leist pražūt.

Kad debesiai ir susitraukia  
 Ir vėtros nor mūs išardyt  
 Kad ir kelintas pykdamas šaukia  
 Ir kalbą mūs nor išvartyt.

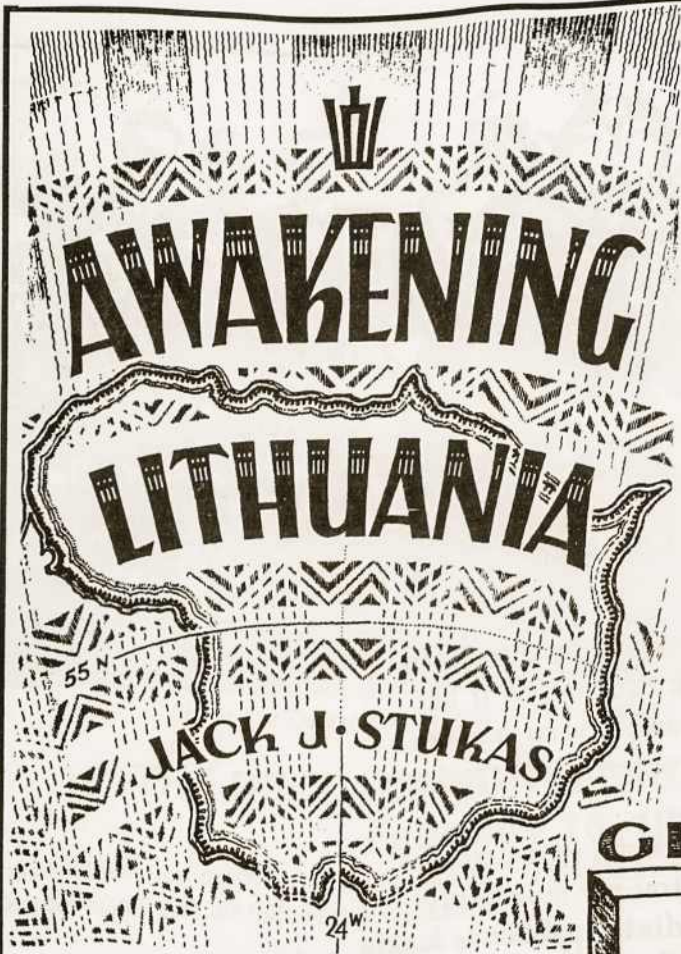
Kaip ažuolas drūtas prie Nemunėlio  
 Lietuvis nieko neatbos  
 Kaip eglė ten prie Šešupės  
 Ir vėtroj ir žiema žaliuos.

Lietuviais esame mes gimę  
 Lietuviais norime ir būt  
 Tą garbę gavome užgimę  
 Jai ir neturim leist pražūt.





# A BRIEF PICTORIAL REVIEW OF OUR LITHUANIAN ROOTS



The following beautiful lithographs are taken from the excellent study, "Awakening Lithuania," published by our former Honorary Member, Professor Jack J. Stukas, Ph.D., back in 1966. His dedication page reads: "To: THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA, for their dedication TO GOD AND COUNTRY, also to THE LITHUANIAN SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS for helping instill in me a great love for the land of my forefathers and its people." (Used with permission).



## GEDIMINAS



1251 1263  
**MINDAUGAS**

Mindaugas - The first Lithuanian King



Credited with the foundation of Vilnius in 1323.

**LITHUANIA'S SOVEREIGN**  
 + + + + + 1316 1341 + + + + +  
 "REX LITHUANORUM ET MLIETORUM RUTHENORUM"



The "Golden Age" in Lithuanian History



**VYTAUTAS** *The* **GREAT**  
DIED 1430



**ADOMAS MICKEVIČIUS**  
**MICKIEWICZ**  
**1798 - 1855**  
World famous Polish-Lithuanian bard.



**MOTIEJUS VALANČIUS**

Considered a patriarch of Lith. Independence.  
Organized an extensive system of Lith. schools



**IMANAS DŽURANTAS**  
**1795-1867**  
First Lith. historian who wrote for the Lith. peasantry in their native language.





Literary activist & renowned scholar;  
His famous poem, "Anyksciu Silelis"

ANTANAS BARANAUSKAS

1835-1902



Renowned satirist; founded the publication  
"Varpas" - acknowledged leader of the  
Lithuanian National Movement

DR. VINCAS KUDIRKA

1858 - 1899



Political leader and publisher; one of the  
editors of "Ausra"; patriarch of Lith. Minor

MARTYNAS JANKUS

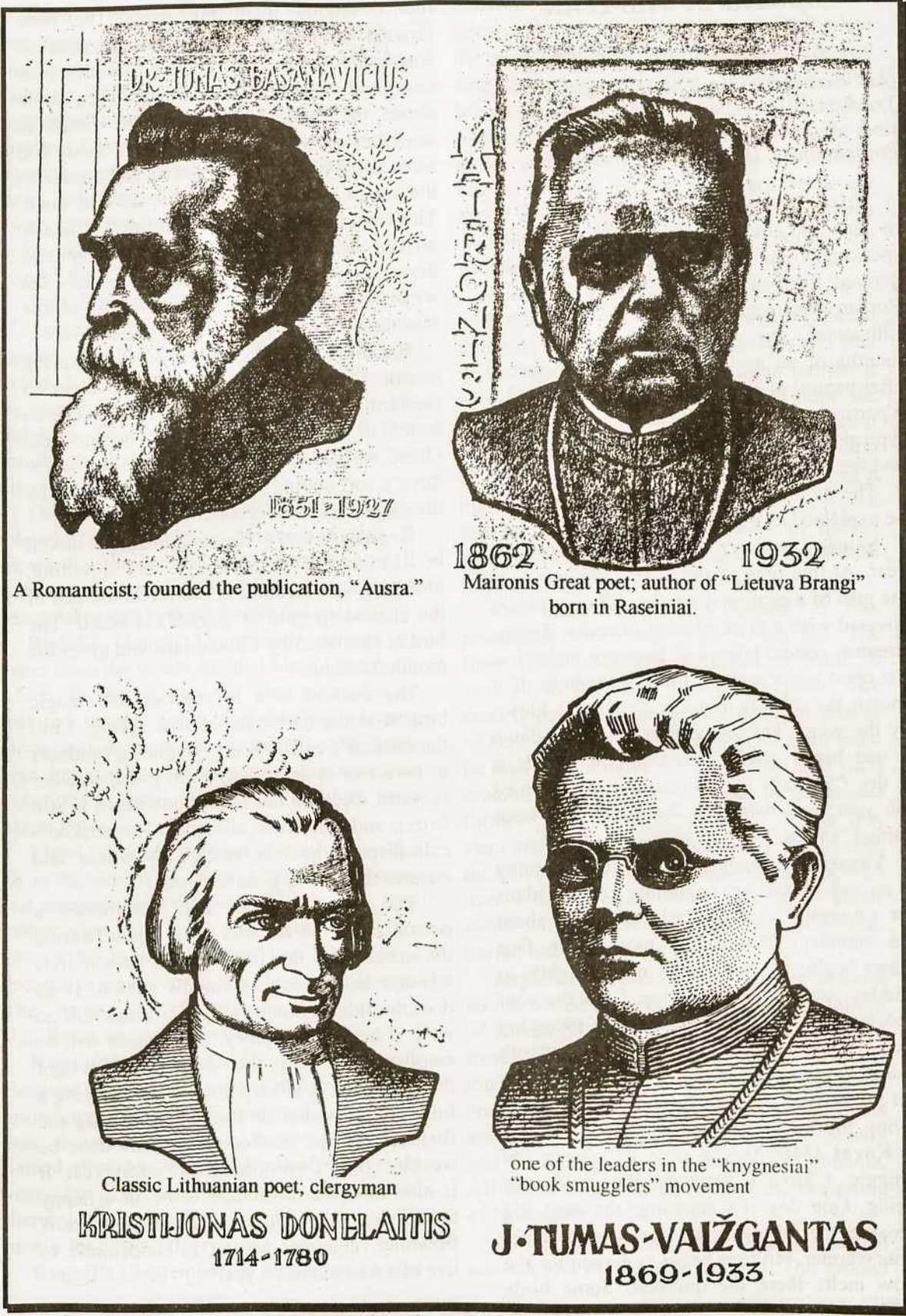
1858 - 1946



President of Lithuania- leader of the  
Nationalist Movement.

ANTANAS SMETONA





DR. JONAS BASANAVICIUS



1851-1927

A Romanticist; founded the publication, "Ausra."



1862

1932

Maironis Great poet; author of "Lietuva Brangi" born in Raseiniai.



Classic Lithuanian poet; clergyman

**KRISTIJONAS DONELAITIS**  
1714-1780



one of the leaders in the "knygnesiai" "book smugglers" movement

**J. TUMAS-VAIŽGANTAS**  
1869-1933



## MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN LITHUANIAN

*(An excerpt from: "Lietuvių Papročiai ir Tradicijos Įšėivijoje" - "Lithuanian Customs and Traditions" ~ by Danutė Brazytė Bindokiene~) Used with permission.*

Upon closer examination, the names given to the months of the year by English-speaking, Germanic or some other nations are derived from the names of ancient gods or Roman emperors. The names of the months in Lithuanian are unique and original. The months of an agricultural nation are named after natural phenomena or tasks performed at a particular time of the year. These names are typical of the Lithuanian nation, her nature and the Lithuanian way of life.

The months of the year in Lithuanian can be explained as follows.

**Sausis** (January) - the first month of the year. At this time of the year, Lithuania is in the grip of a profound winter. All of nature is covered with a thick blanket of snow. Rivers, streams, ponds, lakes and bogs are under ice. No open water can be found anywhere. If it snows, the snow is fine, dry ("sausas"), blown by the wind. The snow does not come down in wet, heavy, slushy flakes. In other words, it is dry ("sausas") in Lithuania at this time of the year, and therefore the month has been named "sausis."

**Vasaris** (February). The winter is coming to an end. People are beginning to make plans for summer ("vasara") tasks, to think about the summer. During this month, the first thaws begin: the sun shines more brightly at midday, water begins to drip from the roof and toward evening stretches into gleaming "ice candles" - icicles. Sled tracks rut smooth roads. Everyone feels that though spring has not yet arrived the weather is turning toward spring, toward summer.

**Kovas** (March) - a time of change, of struggle ("kova") between the cold and spring. One day it's snowing, the next it's freezing, the following day the weather again turns warmer. Hilltops begin to darken for the snow melts there the quickest. Some birds

return, among them the rook. The rook (kovas) belongs to the crow family (*Corvus frugilegus*). It is a large black bird with a blue and purple sheen to the plumage. They circle above the treetops, settle on the fields in scores to march about in search of food. The air is filled by a chorus of caws and croaks as the rooks court, build their nests and mate. The cawing proclaims that spring has nearly arrived. It can thus be said that the month derives its name from two sources: the winter's battle (kova) with spring, and the returning of the rook (kovas).

**Balandis** (April) is already a spring month. Doves ("balandis") coo and mate on the farm and the cooing of wild doves can be heard in the slowly greening countryside. Other songbirds have yet to return, so the dove's soft cooing is not yet drowned out by the magnificent songbirds.

**Gegužis** (May) is the most beautiful month in Lithuania. Everything is sprouting, blooming and verdant. In the forest the call of the cuckoo (gegutė or gegužė) is heard. The bird is cherished by Lithuanians and gives the month its name.

The cuckoo is a mysterious and magic bird. It is the harbinger of true spring. Until the cuckoo's call is heard, venturing outdoors in bare feet is dangerous even if the weather is warm, because the earth underneath is still frozen and can cause ailments. The cuckoo's call dispels the last vestige of winter and ensures the cold is gone for good.

The cuckoo's first call determines a person's fortune for that year. Upon hearing the cuckoo for the first time, a person frets whether he has money on his person. If he does, he'll have money all year, things will go well; if he has no money, his pockets will be empty all year long, the wind will blow right through them. It is very good to be carrying a full bucket, basket or bag when hearing the first call of the cuckoo. You will then be wealthy (full of everything) the entire year. It is also to one's advantage to be in a happy mood when the cuckoo's first call is heard. A frowning, unhappy person is condemned to live in a foul mood all year



When a person first hears the cuckoo's first "coo-coo" he or she may ask: "How many years will I live? In how many years (months) will I wed? The answer is the number of times the cuckoo calls after the question. Upon hearing the cuckoo's first call, a young woman walks backwards until she backs into a tree. She must then break a small bough from the tree and pluck it clean until it looks like a hook. With this hook she can "catch" the young man she prefers.

If the first cuckoo is heard in the company of a large group, the year will be happy, many dances, weddings and parties will be attended. If the cuckoo happens to call from the tree under which a person is seated, it is a bad sign. The year will be difficult. If this befalls an unmarried girl, she will bear an illegitimate child.

This is but a small sampling of the beliefs related to the cuckoo's return and call. It shows that the cuckoo was a favorite bird. It is thus not surprising that the spring's most beautiful month is named after the cuckoo.

**Birželis** (June). The month derives its name from the newly budded birch ("beržas") which is the symbol of the miraculously restored nature, youth and fertility. Homes, farms and animals are decorated with birch branches not only at Pentecost, but for other occasions as well. The custom survives from pagan times.

**Liepa** (July). In the heat of the summer the air is redolent with linden ("liepa") blossoms and resounds with the buzzing of bees as they gather clear golden honey. Lithuanians are known as beekeepers and the linden is a decorative tree favored in villages and forests. The name of this month is thus very significant and appropriate.

**Rugpjūtis** (August) is a time of toil. Because rye ("rugiai") was Lithuania's major grain crop and life without daily rye bread was inconceivable, the harvest month is named after the cutting (pjauti) of the rye. (In years gone by, rye was cut with sickles), thereby the name of the month "rugpjūtis" - month for cutting the rye.

**Rugsėjis** (September) is also related to the

cultivation of rye. Because rye is a winter grain, the fields are prepared in the fall when the seeds are sown. The rye germinates and sprouts before the first frost and then hibernates under a thick blanket of snow. Early in the spring it revives and begins to grow vigorously. Lithuania is a northern country where the summers are relatively short, therefore certain cultivated plants cannot be grown to maturity during the summer and must be sown in the fall.

**Spalis** (October). This name is difficult to understand for those who have distanced themselves from farm work. Besides rye, flax was a vital crop for the Lithuanian farmer. It was used not only to make the cloth the family needed, but was also sold as a cash crop to buy the necessary articles the land could not produce. Lithuania's flax was of a high quality. During the years of independence flax was exported to distant foreign lands, thus producing income for both farmers and the state.

The name "spalis" is related to flax processing which was done in the fall. The fiber from which linen thread is made is encased in the stem of the flax plant. The stem is covered with a hard material similar to bent-grass or wheat straw. The stem must be broken to remove the fiber. The hard shell crumbles and the fiber can then be processed further. The crumbled particles of the flax stem are called shives ("spaliai"). Sometimes the shives were used as insulation and poured over the ceilings of houses under construction, but mostly they were dispersed, buried into the ground to rot.

**Lapkritis** (November) is the late autumn month whose name is derived from the falling of leaves ("lapu kritimas") and the onset of frost. November is usually cold, wet and muddy. The sun makes only rare appearances and the days are mostly gloomy. The nights are especially dark, suited for get-togethers and the telling of horror stories. In Lithuania, All Souls' Day is celebrated at the beginning of November.

**Gruodis** (December). The rains of autumn and the mud finally end. The ground



freezes with the cold, it becomes hard and coarse. Every clod of soil hardens, ice covers the puddles. Country roads, a mire of mud in the fall, are now bumpy and lumpy. Wheels shake and jump as they turn unevenly. Soil that has frozen into such lumps is called "gruodas." Hence the month's name.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

A MEDITATION/REFLECTION ROOM  
HAS BEEN OPENED AT THE "SEIMAS"  
IN VILNIUS?

From an article that appeared in the "Draugas" daily Lithuanian Newspaper in Chicago this past December, readers were informed that from now on the members of the "Seimas" will have a place where they can reflect and meditate, not only about legislative projects, but also about "eternal values."

Saturday, the last day of the fall session, a special Meditation/Reflection Room was opened. This idea was proposed by Conservative leader, **Vytautas Landsbergis**. Participating in the opening day ceremonies were; president of the "Seimas," **Arturas Paulauskas** and several other members.

Up to now, there are no religious articles or symbols in the room. Vytautas Landsbergis says that this was purposely done so that people of different religions can make use of the room.

The only object now, that will help members reflect on things of eternity, is a black marble plaque mounted on one wall.

The Social Democratic Coalition member, **Nikolajus Medvedevas**, suggested that a sound system be set up in the room, so that sacred music may be played. Christian Democrat, **Petras Graziulis**, suggested that a cross be placed in the room.

This Meditation/Reflection Room - under the supervision of the "Seimas" Council - was erected at a cost of 100,000 "litai." The authors of the project are, architects **Vytautas Nasvytis** and **Juras Balkevicius**.



## ŠILUVOS MARIJA

Šiluvos Marija  
Stebuklais garsi.  
Daugel nelaimingų  
Jau pagydė Ji.

Ten, kur apsireiškė  
Vaikams ant akmens -  
Dabar minios plaukia  
Garbint Ją, ko melst.

Ir brangiausia vieta  
Visiems tas akmuo,  
Nes čia pasirodė  
Seniai mūs laukuos.

Graži, su karūna,  
Motina Brangi -  
Keliais aplink eina  
Dideli, maži.

Pėsti ar važiuoti  
Iš visų kraštų,  
O ypač, kai dienos  
Didžių atlaidų.

Jos kiekvienas žodis  
Mums yra brangus:  
Visada globoja  
Ir pagydo mus.

Niekad neužmirškim:  
Europoj pirma  
Jos pasirinktoji  
Žemė LIETUVA!

1994.ix.15

Baltijos Žuvėdra



## K of L FOUNDATION 2000 ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

"For God and Country"



Honorable Mention

### "40 Conventions and Counting"

by Walter D. Svekla  
Council 3 - Philadelphia, PA.

As my wife and I are preparing to attend the 2000 K of L Convention in Los Angeles, I realize that this may be the 40th National Convention that I will be attending. Time has really flown! I remember, like it was yesterday, that after I joined the K of L in 1957, Council 3 hosted the 1958 Convention. C-3 also hosted the 1983 and the 1999 Conventions. All our Council members had their "baptism of fire" running these conventions - a great amount of work, and a lot of enjoyment and satisfaction at what we hoped was "a job well done."

At the early conventions I attended, I was in awe of the Supreme Council, the Convention Presidium, and the Honorary Members in attendance. These were the names I had only read about in the *Vytis*. Meeting them and interacting socially with them proved to be a true inspiration to me to continue my activities with the *Vyciai*. As I look back at the people I met in the late fifties and sixties, I realize that I may not have met the founding fathers of the Knights of Lithuania, but I did meet many of their contemporaries, and I feel much richer for these experiences.

At these 40 conventions, I have met many wonderful people and truly devoted K of L members. These Knights have remained my friends over the years. We have kept in touch and visited one another whenever the opportunity presented itself.

Conventions have provided the "fuel"

that invigorated the Convention delegates when they returned to their Councils to report who was elected and what transpired at the sessions, and the religious and social events. I have been fortunate to have been a delegate to most of the conventions that I attended. I remember vividly some of the controversies and heated discussions that arose over these many years - especially where the 50th National Convention should be held. After passionate presentations made in alphabetical order, a second ballot was cast, and "South" Boston won out over Chicago. Chicago was a gracious "loser" and promptly offered to host the 51st Convention, which also was fantastic! Over the years, many topics were debated, and not all the delegates were happy with the voting outcome, but everyone forgot their differences during the convention, enjoying themselves, and left as friends - vowing to see each other at the next convention.

Over the years, the Knights of Lithuania National Convention, wherever it has been held, has been a unifying force that many Knights have taken advantage of.

Although many of the faces and issues and projects have changed, the love and integrity in our Lithuanian hearts has not changed, and continues to do and make wonderful things happen at each convention!



## About the Song, "Lietuva brangi," (Dear Lithuania)

This poem, "Lietuva brangi," was written by Jonas Maciulis, 1862-1932, a Catholic priest, later monsignor, 1894-1909, professor of moral theology and inspector (assistant to the principal) at the Theological Academy of Petersburg, and from 1909 until his death, rector (principal) of the Theological Seminary in Kaunas. His first poem, "Lietuvos Vargas," (Lithuania's Sorrow), was published in 1885 in Tilsit, in the underground newspaper, "Ausra," (The Dawn). Tilsit was then under German administration, while Lithuania, for forty years, was suffering the Press Ban (1864-1904). The Russian Czar's administration forbade printing of publications in Latin letters. The intention was the ruthless Russification of Lithuanians. In 1888, in the year Maciulis was graduating from the seminary in Kaunas, he dedicated the "poemele" ("little" poem), "Lietuva" (85 pages long) to Bishop Antanas Baranuskas, the author of a great literary work, "Anyksciu silelis," (The Forest of Anyksciai). This "poemele" was never printed, but it contained many fragments and hints to one of his most famous poems, "Lietuva brangi" (Dear Lithuania). Maciulis' first collection of 45 poems appeared by the name "Pavasario balsai," (Voices of Spring), in 1895, by the pen name, Maironis. During his lifetime there were altogether six editions of this collection, four of them during the Press Ban. Each edition was revised and expanded. The poem, "Lietuva brangi," appeared in the fifth edition of 1920 with the opening lines: "**Grazi tu, mano brangi tevyne,**" (How beautiful you are, my dear homeland!)

The composer Juozas Naujalis (1869-1934) was the organist at the Cathedral of Kaunas from 1892 until his death. He became especially popular when he wrote the music for Maironis' patriotic poems. As early as 1892 Naujalis wrote his first song for men's choir to Maironis' poem, "Jau slaviskos salys is miego sukilo," (The Slavs Already Rose from Their Sleep), which was performed in the same year by the choir of the Theological Academy of Petersburg. By 1905, he had published a collection of "Astuonios lietuviskos tautines dainos," (Eight Lithuanian National Songs), one of them being, "Lietuva brangi," but with a different title: "Lietuvos grozybe," (The

Beauty of Lithuania.") Here the song opened with, "**Lietuva brangi, mano tevyne!**" (Lithuania, my dear homeland!). When, fifteen years later, this would be printed as a poem by Maironis in the fifth edition of "Pavasario Balsai" for the first time, using his title and his opening lines, people were already used to hearing the Naujalis version which had, by then, made this song-poem popular. The Naujalis compositions were printed in 1908, "Is tautisku dainu," (Fifteen National Songs), in 1917, "Musu muzika," (Our Music), containing many lyrics of Maironis.

Since the first Soviet occupation in June of 1940, the Lithuanian national anthem, "Lietuva, tevyne musu," (Lithuania, Our Homeland), by Vincas Kudirka, was strictly forbidden. At first, the Soviet regime did not allow anything of Maironis to be printed, recited or sung, either, but in 1947, his works were permitted to commemorate the 15th anniversary of Maironis' death. After this, several editions of "Pavasario balsai" were printed, one in 1958 by VALSTYBINE GROZINES LITERATUROS LEIDYKLA" in Vilnius, another in 1976 by "VAGA." (There might be other publishers who printed this collection during the occupation years, but unknown to me). Maironis' poems were again recognized as irreplaceable part of Lithuania's cultural heritage. With the awakening to a new dawn of independence, Lithuanians chose to express their nationalistic feelings at their gatherings, by singing, (very quietly at first), the highly patriotic Maironis-Naujalis song, "LIETUVA BRANGI," as the less dangerous one, in place of the Lithuanian National Anthem.

It is to be noted that Maironis himself used "Lietuva brangi" only for the title. The poem's first and last verses start with, "Grazi tu, mano brangi tevyne." Any time we start singing, by using the words of the title -- "Lietuva brangi..." - we misplace the accents to the wrong syllables, distorting the correct sound of our Lithuanian language. However, people, during the occupation, learned this song by rote, as only a few had access to the printed publications. When we gathered for the First World Lithuanian Song Festival in Vilnius, 1994, the choir editions started with, "Lietuva brangi, mano tevyne." This is the way we sang it, and nobody seemed to care.

~Faustas Strolia~







## 9. LIETUVA BRANGI.

Graži tu, mano brangi tėvynė,  
 Šalis, kur miega kapuos didvyriai;  
 Graži tu savo dangaus mėlyne,  
 Brangi, nes daugel vargų prityrei.

    Kaip puikūs slėniai sraunos Dubysos!  
 Miškais lyg ruta kalnai žaliuoja;  
 O po tuos kalnus sesutės visos  
 Gaudžiai malonias dainas ringuoja.

Ten užsimąstęs tamsūs Nevėžis  
 Kaip juosta juosia žaliasias pievas;  
 Banguoja vagą giliai išrėžęs,  
 Jo gilią dumą težino Dievas.

    Kaip puikūs tavo dvarai, tėvynė,  
 Baltai iš sodnų žalių sau kyšą!..  
 Tik brangią kalbą tėvų pamynę,  
 Jie mūsų širdis mažai jau riša.

Kaip linksma sodžiuos, kad vyturėlis  
 Linksmi pragysta, augštai iškilęs!  
 Ar saulė leidžias, ir vakarėlis  
 Ramumą neša, saldžiai nutilęs.

    Bažnyčios tavo ne tiek gražybe,  
 Ne dailės turtais, ne auksu žiba;  
 Bet dega meile, maldos galybe,  
 Senųjų amžių gyvą tikyba.

Kada prieš sumą visi kaip vienas  
 Graudingai šaukia: „Pulkim ant kelių“, —  
 Bedievis verkti turi kiekvienas,  
 Tikėt išmoksti nuo tų vaikelių.

Graži tu mano, brangi tėvynė,  
 Šalis, kur miega kapuos didvyriai.  
 Ne veltui bočiai tavė taip gynė,  
 Ne veltui dainiai plačiai išgyrė.





Maironis - Mačiulis.



# Pavasario Balsai

Penktą kartą atspausuta ir žymiai padauginta.



TILŽĖ 1920

Jagomasto spaustuvė „Lituania“, Aukštoji gat. 78.

—o—



MAIRONIO RANKRASTIS


Lietuva Brangi.

Graži tu mani, brangi tėvynei,  
 Šalis, kur miega kapus didvyriai;  
 Graži tu savo dangaus mėlėms,  
 Brangi, nes dangel vargų prityrei.  
 Kaip pūtkus šliniai saunos Dubyros!  
 Miskais lyg outa kalnai žalioja;  
 O po tuos kalnus sesutės visos  
 Graudžiai malonias dainas ringuoja.  
 Ten visimastėi tamsūs Nevežis  
 Kaip juosta juosia žaliosias pievas;  
 Banguoja vėgų giliai išrėžę;  
 Jo gilia duma, tėvino Dievas.

*M. J. Mikšas*  
*Mūsų dainos N 2*

*J. J. Aleksandravicius*

**8 Lietuviškos**



**Tautiškos Dainos.**

Vyriškam ir mišram chorui sutaikė

**J. Naujalis.**

op. 12.

Kaina 60 kop.

(ANTRŪJI LAIDA).

CENTRALINĖ SANKROVA PAS AUTORIŲ KAUNĖ.



## LIETUVA BRANGI

Juozo NAUJALIO muzika

MAIRONIO žodžiai

Andante

S.  
A.

1. Lie - tu - va bran - gi, ma - no tē - vy - ne,  
2. Kaip pui - kū s slė - niai srau - nios Du - by - sos,  
3. Ten su - si - mas - tēs tam - sus Ne - vė - žis  
4. Gra - ži tu, ma - no bran - gi Tē - vy - ne,

T.  
B.

S.  
A.

1. Lie - tu - va bran - gi, ma - no tē - vy - ne,  
2. Kaip pui - kū s slė - niai srau - nios Du - by - sos,  
3. Ten su - si - mas - tēs tam - sus. Ne - vė - žis  
4. Gra - ži tu, ma - no bran - gi Tē - vy - ne,

T.  
B.

ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai:  
miš - kais lyg rū - ta kal - nai ža - liuo - ja;  
kaip juos - ta juo - sia ža - lią - sias pie - vas;  
ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai!

ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai:  
miš - kais lyg rū - ta kal - nai ža - liuo - ja;  
kaip juos - ta juo - sia ža - lią - sias pie - vas;  
ša - lis, kur mie - ga ka - puos did - vy - riai!



gra - ži tu sa - vo dan - gaus mė - ly - ne!  
 o po tuos kal - nus se - su - tės vi - sos  
 ban - guo - ja, va - gą gi - liai iš - rė - žės;  
 Ne vel - tui bo - čiai ta - ve taip gy - nė,

Bran gi: tiek var - go, kan - čių pri - ty - rei.  
 griau - džiai ma - lo - nias dai - nas dai - nuo - ja.  
 jo gi - lią min - tį te - ži - no Die - vas.  
 ne vel - tui dai - niai pla - čiai iš - gy - rė!

Bran gi: tiek var - go, kan - čių pri - ty - rei.  
 griau - džiai ma - lo - nias dai - nas dai - nuo - ja.  
 jo gi - lią min - tį te - ži - no Die - vas.  
 ne vel - tui dai - niai pla - čiai iš - gy - rė!



## Lietuvos grožybės.

*Allegretto*

4 m. b.

*p*

Lie - tu - va bran - - - gi, ma - no tē - vy - nē, Ša - lis did -

*p*

vy - rių, kur ka - puos gu - li. Gra - ži kaip dan - gaus e - si mė -

*f*

*p*

ly - nē, Ta - ve kaip li - kra my - liu ma - - tu - - - lę.



## SIMPLE STEPS FOR RITUAL DEGREES



### RECORDS

The most important action is keeping accurate records on each council member. Other valuable records are the Secretary's Report and Financial Secretary's attendance records. Individual records should begin at the time the membership begins, and the date of the membership oath. The ritual Committee should maintain records of work done and points to be awarded on each individual member's record. Keep in mind, the ideal time to apply for ritual degrees is at the beginning of each year.

### PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENT FOR DEGREES

#### I FIRST DEGREE

1. The Council Ritual Committee is responsible for compiling, applying and installing candidates for the First Degree.
2. Member may be enrolled in the First Degree after one year in the organization and has accumulated at least (3) points.
3. Three copies of the application should be made out - one for the council - one sent to the District Ritual Committee, and one sent to the Supreme Ritual Chairperson. You must include the date of the installation. The Supreme Ritual Chairman will send out the First Degree membership card.

#### II SECOND DEGREE

1. The Council Ritual Committee is responsible for compiling, applying and installing members for the Second Degree.
2. Members may be enrolled in the Second Degree after two years as a First Degree Knight and has accumulated at least (10) points.
3. Three copies of the application should be made out - one for the council - one sent to the District Ritual Committee, and one sent to the Supreme Ritual Chairperson. You must include the date of the installation. The Supreme Ritual Chairperson will send out the Second Degree membership card.



### III THIRD DEGREE

1. The Council Ritual Committee makes out three copies of the Third Degree application.
2. A member is eligible after three years as a Second Degree Knight and has accumulated at least (40) points.
3. Triple copies of the application and fee of \$6.00 is sent to the District Ritual Committee. The District Ritual Committee is responsible for processing and the installation of members for the Third Degree.
4. The District Ritual Committee sends one copy and fee to the Supreme Council chairperson who will sign the certificate. The signed certificate along with the metal are sent to the District Ritual chairperson. The Supreme Ritual chairperson will send out the Third Degree membership card upon receiving the date of installation. The District Ritual Committee will send one copy of the Third Degree application to the Council for their records.

### IV FOURTH DEGREE

1. Council Ritual Committee prepares three (3) copies of the Fourth Degree application.
2. A member is eligible after four years as a Third Degree Knight. Each applicant must have accumulated at least one hundred (100) points.
3. The three copies of the Fourth Degree applications and fee of \$8.00 are sent directly to the Supreme Ritual Chair.
4. The Supreme Ritual Committee reviews all the applications. The council is notified when the application has been accepted, along with the date and place of the next Convention Mass for the installation of the Fourth Degree members.
5. Upon the decision of the National Ritual Committee, a candidate's inability to attend a National Convention, the National Ritual Committee may permit the Fourth Degree candidate to be awarded at a District Convention Mass. Under extenuating circumstances, the Fourth Degree may be awarded to a candidate other than at a National or District Mass only with the expressed permission of the National Supreme Council President who will determine if the circumstances are justified.
6. It is recommended that the Council Ritual Chairperson write to the Supreme Ritual Chairperson requesting permission to award this Fourth Degree other than at the National Convention Mass.



## V GENERAL INFORMATION

1. All these applications for ritual degrees can be started early in the year.
2. All pages of applications should include applicant's name, date, and degree applied for.
3. All Council Ritual Chairpersons should include their telephone and fax numbers.
4. Begin a degree application with previous degree, date and points. Do not include previous activities.

All of this information was taken from the "Knights of Lithuania Manual-Updated August 1997."

The District and Supreme Ritual Committee members are there to help. Do not hesitate to ask.

Clemincine Miller  
Supreme Ritual Chairperson  
January 2001

## Did You Know That...

THESE ARE PRESENTLY THE BISHOPS  
OF LITHUANIA?

**LIETUVOS VYSKUPAI**  
(Bishops and Archbishops of Lithuania)

Vilniaus arkivyskupija: (Archdiocese of Vilnius)  
Arkivysk. Audrys Bačkis - ordinaras  
Vysk. Juozas Tunaitis - augziliaras  
Vysk. Jonas Boruta, SJ - augziliaras

Kauno arkivyskupija: (Archdiocese of Kaunas)  
Arkivysk. Sigitas Tamkevičius, SJ - ordinaras  
Vysk. Rimantas Norvila - augziliaras  
Vysk. Vladas Michelevicius - augziliaras  
emeritas

Panevežio vyskupija: (Diocese of Panevežys)  
Vysk. Juozas Preikšas - ordinaras  
Vysk. Romualdas Krikščiūnas - emeritas

Telšių vyskupija: (Diocese of Telšiai)  
Vysk. Antanas Valčius - ordinaras  
Vysk. Jonas Kauneckas - augziliaras

Šiaulių vyskupija: (Diocese of Šiauliai)  
Vysk. Eugenijus Bartulis - ordinaras

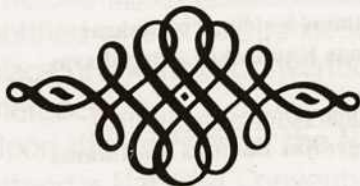
Kaišiadorių vyskupija: (Diocese of Kaišiadoriai)  
Vysk. Juozas Matulaitis - ordinaras

Vilkaviškio vyskupija: (Diocese of Vilkaviškis)  
Vysk. Juozas Žemaitis, MIC - ordinaras



## EIGHTY TODAY

Dear Lord,  
 I am 80, and there's much I haven't done.  
 I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm  
 81.  
 But, I haven't finished all I want to do.  
 Would you please let me stay awhile, until  
 I'm 82?  
 So many places I want to go to, so much I  
 want to see...  
 Do you think you could manage to make it  
 83?  
 Many things I may have done, but there's so  
 much left in store,  
 I'd like it very much to live to 84.  
 And if by then, I'm still alive,  
 Then, I'd like to stay to 85.  
 The world is changing very fast, so I'd really  
 like to stick  
 And see what happens to the world when I am  
 86.  
 I know, dear Lord, it's a lot to ask, and it will  
 be nice in Heaven,  
 But I'd really like to stay around until I'm 87.  
 I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes  
 I'll be late,  
 But it would be oh-so-pleasant to be around at  
 88.  
 I will have seen so many things and have a  
 wonderful time,  
 So I'm sure that I'll be willing to leave at 89.  
 (Well...maybe.)



For the New Year  
 Remember this: My years are like roses placed  
 in a jar. The greater the number the sweeter they are.

Sign outside a North Side Church:  
 Parking for churchgoers only. VIOLATORS  
 WILL BE BAPTIZED.

**FAVORITE RECIPES  
 FROM THE VYTIS KITCHEN**

(Recipes sent in by :  
 Mr. Joseph R. Chepega, Sr.  
 26 Malaga Drive, Trenton, NJ 08638-1327)

**Jewish Apple Cake**

3 cups flour  
 2 cups sugar  
 1/2 cup orange juice  
 1 cup oil  
 3 tsp. baking powder  
 1/2 tsp. salt  
 4 eggs  
 1 tsp. vanilla

*Mix together:*

3 or 4 sliced apples, lengthwise  
 4 tsps. sugar  
 2 tsps. cinnamon

Cream sugar, shortening, eggs well. Add  
 baking powder, salt, orange juice and vanilla.  
 Beat with wooden spoon until flour is blended  
 in well, so flour will not fly all over the place,  
 then beat well until well mixed.

Grease and flour 10 inch tube pan. Add 1/3  
 batter and layer of apples, then another 1/3  
 batter and layer of apples, then the final 1/3  
 batter. If any apples left, apply this on top.  
 Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hr. to 1 1/4 hr. till  
 done. Place knife through top. If done it will  
 come out clean.

**Seven Up Cake**

3/4 lb. oleo or butter  
 3 cups sugar  
 5 eggs  
 3 cups flour  
 2 tsp. lemon extract  
 3/4 cup Seven Up

Cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Add eggs,  
 one at a time, beating well each time - add  
 lemon extract - Add flour, alternating with 7-  
 up.

Grease and flour 10" tube pan - pre-heat oven.  
 Bake 325 degrees for 1 1/4 hrs.



## FOR JUNIORS, BY JUNIORS

FROM: Junior Knights of Lithuania, C-74  
Scranton, Pennsylvania



L. to R.; Autumn Laske, Nathan Stebbins, Rachel Georgia and Alexandra Laske, grandchildren of Marie and Dick Laske, who served at Kucios

We had a wonderful turnout for our Kucios. We hoped for at least 50 people, and ended up with nearly 90 people. Sister Elizabeth Zimaitis offered grace and said it was great that we remembered our heritage with this traditional meal. We broke bread and began our delicious meal. Jean Karvelines and my daughter, Sandi Georgia, were our greatest kitchen helpers. The servers of the meal were, Sandi's husband, Charles, my grandchildren, Att. Rebecca Georgia, her younger sister, Rachel, my daughter Susan and her son, Nathan, grandchildren, Autumn and Alexandra Laske, and my husband, Dick. Martha

Wagner also served.

Lee Bazenko, along with Nathan Stebbins, decorated our Lithuanian Tree. Margaret Clegg and Mary Twardzik decorated the tables with red candles and red ribbon. After the meal, we sang Christmas Carols in both, Lithuanian and English. A good time was had by all, and if God spares us, we will have a Kucios again next year. We thank all the K of L members who gave a donation to help defray the cost of the Kucios.

"Life is God's gift to us. What we do with our life is our gift to God!"  
A Holy and Healthy New Year to all our K of L members!

~Marie Laske~

C-74, Scranton, PA.

P.S. On television it was announced that an Ice Sculpture Contest was held in Vilnius, Lithuania.



## THOUGHTS IN SOLITUDE

by Thomas Merton

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

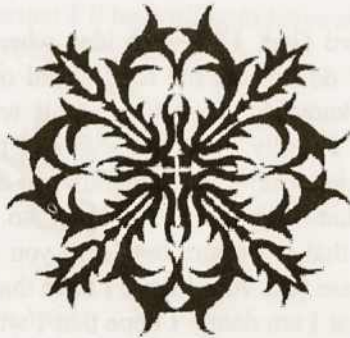


## KNIGHTS IN ACTION



**ANTANAS GIEDRAITIS,**

*„Muzikos žinių“ administratorius ir Šiaurės Amerikos Lietuvių Muzikos Sąjungos valdybos išdininikas, šiemet mini savo muzikinės ir visuomeninės veiklos 65 metų sukaktį.*



**John R. Mankus meeting with Ambassador Stasys Sakalauskas and Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, Former National Advisor to the President of the U.S., in Washington, DC**



**MR. ANTHONY GIEDRAITIS**

Administrator of the “Music News” magazine and treasurer of the North American Lithuanian Music Association Board, celebrates his 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the field of Music and Social Action. Anthony is an active member of C-112, together with his wife, Alvina. Congratulations!



## MORE KNIGHTS IN ACTION



**Giedrius Apuokas, Consul General of Lithuania in Chicago, John R. Mankus, K of L Lithuanian Affairs Chair, and Darius Degutis, Lithuanian Embassy, Minister-Councilor, Relations with US Congress at Lithuanian American Council 60th Convention, Balzekas Museum, Chicago.**



**Genute (Jean) Strimaitis Valente - 1st place K of L Foundation 2000 Essay Contest winner - and her mother, Terese Strimaitis, the valiant subject of her essay.**



## MORE KNIGHTS IN ACTION



**Darius Degutis, Lithuanian Embassy, Minister-Counselor, Relations with US Congress, Saulius Kuprys, President of Lithuanian American Council, Evelyn Ozelis, Lithuanian American Council, Chicago District President, Giedrius Apuokas, Consul General of Lithuania in Chicago, John R. Mankus, K of L Lithuanian Affairs Chair at Lithuanian American Council 60th Convention, Balzekas Museum.**



**Frances, Elena and George Mikalauskas at the C-96 Christmas Party, Dayton, Ohio.**



### MORE KNIGHTS IN ACTION



**Robert Pant, Elaine Pacovsky and Michael Pant, Dayton, OH.,  
at C-96 Christmas Dinner.**



**Winter of 2000. Lee and Paul Moore, C-86, with Irene  
Senken, C-12, in West Palm Beach, Fla.**



MORE KNIGHTS IN ACTION



**The New C-110 Maspeth Executive Board Members, L.toR., Dorothy Sakal, Treasurer; John Klimas, President; Maryte Abbott, Vice-President.**



**At Transfiguration Church, Sophie Zuyus, of C-110, left her sick bed to receive her treasured 4<sup>th</sup> Degree honors. Husband, Peter, by her side, next to him, Bruno Rutkunas, and ritual chairpeson, Edward Jakatt; administered by Father Vytis Volertas: Nov. 2000**



## District & Council News

### C-3 Philadelphia, PA Stephany Gutauskas

Our prayers and get-well wishes go to Leonard Kapochus who is recuperating from surgery.

Our deepest sympathy and prayers go to Birute Wallash who lost her grandson in early December.

Congratulations go to Walter Svekla, Jr. who successfully defended his thesis for a Master's Degree in Geography at the University of Washington, Seattle.

The Council held its 16th annual Kucios at St. George Parish Hall on Saturday, Dec 9. Approximately 150 attended the affair and ate a traditional Christmas Eve dinner. A Kucios Chorale comprised of 3 female and 2 male vocalists and a pianist led the diners in singing of Christmas carols. The awarding of raffle prizes and door prizes concluded the evening. Joseph and Dianne Drumstas' granddaughter, Katie, won a cut crystal serving bowl as one of the raffle prizes.

All C-3 members express their heartfelt gratitude to the person who anonymously donated a Baby Jesus statue and manger to the Council. Jesus's light will now continue to shine on our Kucios for many years to come. *Aciu labai!*

Irene Ozalis, head of the Kucios committee, did an outstanding job of organizing the many, many people who made our 16th annual Kucios a success.

At 8:30 A.M. on Sat., Dec. 23, Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM, held a Mass at St. George's church for deceased members of the Knights of Lithuania, requested by the Supreme Council. Stephany Gutauskas, wearing a juosta, took up sacramental wine as the Offertory Gift and Stanley Petrites served as organist and vocalist at this Mass.

### C-6 Hartford, CT Leona E. Sawka

The December meeting was held on the 5th. At this meeting we thoroughly discussed our Dec 10 fundraiser (a sit-down dinner) which was a wonderful event. A total of 142 dinners were served. Dinner consisted of pork roast, gravy with mushrooms, applesauce, string beans, carrots, and oven-roasted potatoes followed by dessert of pound cake with peaches and cool whip. Kitchen was chaired by Dianne Yusias. Centerpieces for the tables consisted of straw decorations donated by Aldona Saimininkas and lovely decorations made by Louise Piwoski and Agnes Gagnon. Children present were delighted with the arrival of Santa and his two elves. Pictures were taken and Dalia Dzikas and the children danced a children's dance. Games held were the fishbowl and teacup auction. Poinsettias were also sold. Many, many thanks go to Dottie Krancunas for donating her hand crafted favors which were set at each dinner plate. And many, many thanks go to all of the hard workers who made this event a success.

Dalia Dzikas gave an interesting and enlightening dissertation on "Advent in Lithuania" going back from the pagan days to the present and talked about customs which are still incorporated in today's living.

Judy Landers, Lithuanian Affairs, brought to our attention an article regarding Lithuanian elections and the new Prime Minister, Rolandas Paksas, and his newly formed coalition and what he will have to do to keep it all together. Paksas is also Mayor of the capital, Vilnius, and is in favor of joining the NATO alliance.

Now first and foremost, C-6 would like to wish all K of L'ers everywhere a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. We will start the New Year by including a trivia question in each month's newsletter. These questions will relate to the K of L 3rd degree (1939 series).

Q. How long did the patron saint of the K of L, St. Casimir live and where is he buried?

Q. Pasakyk kokiais metais jis gyveno

ir kur palaidotas?

June Grenier, Financial Sec/Treasurer, reported on the great dollar results of the Christmas dinner held on Dec 10th and everyone agreed the dinner was a very worthwhile endeavor. Once again, a big hand goes to everyone who helped make this such an eventful day.

Wandie Kruk reported on the outcome of all the craft items which she collected and sent to Ukmerge Babilonas (Creative Arts Youth Organization). She received a very appreciative letter and pictures of children showing off completed crafts from Janina Leitiene who elaborated on the needs of the children and her project in assisting Ukmerge Babilonas. Janina Leitiene founded Babilonas 3 years ago and her aim was to stimulate self-expression among young people in her community and help them develop their self-confidence and talents and to also provide a nurturing, structured and safe environment for them. There are few opportunities in Ukmerge for children and young people. Many of the buildings have shabby facades and materials could be used so that children could paint murals to cover the walls. Madeline stated in her letter that the center also needs a computer. For those interested in helping further, Wandie will continue to collect craft items. Contact in Lithuania is: Janina Leitiene, Kestucio a.3, 4120 Ukmerge, Lithuania or email: [Ukmerge@sav.lt](mailto:Ukmerge@sav.lt)

A trip is being planned to visit and view the library and museum at the Alka followed by lunch at the Immaculate Conception Convent in Putnam. There will also be a tour of the Amber Museum as well as a viewing of articles of Blessed George Matulaitis. Further, we will have a tour of the chapel and a history will be given of the stained glass windows. Arrangements for this trip are being made by Kaye Urban.

A commemoration of Lithuanian Independence will be held on Sunday, Feb 16 with a breakfast hosted by the K of L'ers in the Church hall following a 10:00 A.M. Mass. Irene Petkaitis, Cultural, reminded everyone of the grim facts leading up to Jan 13, 1991:



Dec. 1990: Lithuanian leader Vytautas Lansbergis warns that Moscow is preparing to "crush Lithuania".

Dec 30, 1991: Lithuania's Parliament declares that food prices won't be raised. There were fears that any prices would give pro-Soviets a convenient pretext for trying to overthrow the government.

Jan 7, 1991: Lithuanian Premier Kazimiera Prunskiene pushes through the price rise anyway; food prices are slated to rise by 300%.

Jan 8, 1991: Thousands of pro-Soviet demonstrators, mostly Russians and Poles, protest against the price rises. Later in the day, Parliament votes to halt the price hikes; Prime Minister Prunskiene resigns in protest. Fresh Soviet troops begin rolling across Baltic borders from Pskov, Russia, allegedly to deal with Baltic youth who were evading the Soviet draft.

Jan 10, 1991: Lithuanian economist Albertas Simenas is appointed Prime Minister (a position he is to hold for a mere 57 hours) - Soviet President Gorbachev telegrams Lithuania's Parliament urging legislators "to revoke anti-constitutional acts" - namely Lithuania's Declaration of Independence made 10 months earlier. Gorbachev also suggests that presidential rule from Moscow could also be imposed if Lithuanians do not abrogate pro-independence laws. The Lithuanians refuse. The U.S. and Iraq are on the brink of war and Baltic leaders warn that the attempted overthrow of their governments could coincide with the start of the Persian Gulf conflict. "The Kremlin always does its dirty work during times of international crisis."

Jan 11, 1991: Soviet forces take over the Defense Dept. buildings around the country. Vytautas Lansbergis appeals to the Lithuanians to "Defend our homeland with our endurance, our peacefulness, our unity, and our Moral Strength."

Jan 11 - 12 noon: Soviet troops occupy the Vilnius Press Building, firing 5 rounds in the air, injuring 4 people.

Jan 11- 1:00 P.M.: Lansbergis attempts to phone Gorbachev. Lansbergis is told that the Soviet leader is "out to lunch".

Jan 12 -4:00 A.M. Lansbergis repeatedly tries and fails to reach Gorbachev by phone.

Jan 12: Lansbergis puts out an urgent message to his countrymen, "Come to Vilnius and defend your independence." Thousands surround the Parliament and the TV Tower.

Jan 12 - 11:00 P.M. The pro-Soviet National Salvation Commission proclaims that it has taken power.

Jan 13, midnight: Soviet personnel carriers begin moving through Vilnius. Prime Minister Simenas apparently flees the city, fearing for his life. A new Prime Minister is named.

Jan 13 - 2:00 A.M.: The TV Tower is attacked. Soldiers shoot at unarmed demonstrators and tanks crush several people to death. In the end, 13 Lithuanians are killed and hundreds wounded. As the attack begins, loudspeakers blaring throughout the city announce that the Salvation Committee has taken over.

Jan 13 - later in the day: Believing that an attack on Parliament is imminent, barricades are erected around the building. In the coming days, the government is not overthrown but Soviet forces continue to occupy many Vilnius buildings. They occupy the TV Tower for the next 8 months, until Lithuania secures independence following a failed Kremlin coup in August.

In Moscow, following the killings in Vilnius, pro-democracy demonstrators rally in support of Lithuania. One banner reads: "Today Lithuania, Tomorrow Latvia and Estonia, The Day After Russia."

City Paper asked Vytautas Lansbergis: What were some of the consequences of that January crackdown? Lansbergis: "Well, to start with, we received greater support from the West after all these events. But generally, I would say that the crackdown that night is a memory that is very deep in the souls of the Lithuanian people. Everyone remembers that night; they remember that whole period, but especially that night. That's a part of our lives and it will remain so for many generations to come."

Judy Landes, Lithuanian Affairs, gave a heart-warming report on the wonderful works of the First Lady of Lithuania, Alma Adamkiene, who collected donations to be

used towards Christmas gifts as part of a charity drive in support of underprivileged Lithuanian children... She started this fund for children in March of 1999 and her main goal is to help children in impoverished areas. She and her volunteers spent the days of Dec 11 through Dec 13 driving around Vilnius with a caravan of trucks decorated with Christmas lights in order to gather the gifts. The Coca-Cola Company provided the trucks at no charge. TV 3 donated airtime. A Santa and elf were brought about as a result of local businesses, especially young business people. The First Lady's main concern was about the needs of children in villages as children in cities have more opportunities. Sometimes the village children need more warmth than others. 80% of the funds received are geared to improve education in rural areas. Alma Adamkiene is also patron of 2 children's hospitals. Santa, accompanied by musicians on Dec 22 and 23 delivered gifts to villages and hospitals.

Answer to trivia question: St. Casimir was born in 1458, died in 1484 and was buried in Vilnius. 2. Jis gyveno 1458-1484, Palaidotas Vilniuje.

## C-10 Athol-Gardner, MA Vincukas

Keleta ziniu: Our traditional Christmas Kucios supper was held on Dec 17 at St. Francis Church Hall in Athol. The Advent candles were lit by Joanna Chastney and MC Bill Wisniauskas read the names of our deceased members, homebound and sick members. The Christmas Gospel of Luke was read by pastor Rev. Raymond Messier. Elizabeth Penney did the Christmas narration. Father then blessed and broke the plotkeles and each shared with one another.

The menu of meatless specialties symbolizes the 12 apostles - fish chowder, haddock, silkes, kugelis, salads and poppyseed bread.

Old Lithuanian traditions and superstitions were acted under the direction of co-chair Bernice Wisniauskas.

The family holiday incorporates religious



elements. The table is spread with hay, a reminder of the Christ child's manger. Our Kucios could perhaps be described as everything Lithuanians hold dear - family, God, and country. Bill Wisniauskas acted as MC and Sophia Fiorentino was co-chair and Armand Bouthtilier, Kitchen Chef.

Condolences are extended to the Shatas family on the death of Megan Shatas, age 33. The large funeral and funeral dinner were held at St. Francis on Dec 22.

Remembering Valeria Smith: Valeria "Lil" Smith died on Sept. 23, 1995. Born Valeria Brazinskis in Athol, she received all her sacraments at St. Francis. She married John Smith and moved to Gardner where John was owner of an insurance firm. Their 3 sons - John, Peter, and Paul - were born there. John, of Hadley, is a C-10 member and attended this year's Kucios with his wife. After the death of John, Valeria returned to Athol and rejoined our council. She seldom missed meetings and attended all our functions. She is best remembered for her sweet, kind, gentle, and unassuming manner that endeared her to all of us. She was proud of her Lithuanian heritage and language and lived up to our motto - "Dievui ir Tėvynei". Ilsek ramybeje, Valeria!

Get well wishes are extended to Roberta Landry.

Being the month of Feb, let's all try to attend the Lithuanian Independence Day program if held in your local parish, make a donation to Lithuanian Aid or the Orphans' Aid

## C-26 Worcester, MA Ruta

The December meeting was a combination meeting and Christmas party at Maironis Park. Everyone was dressed in their holiday finery and an evening of friendship and comradeship was had by all.

At the meeting President Vivian Rodgers read several letters from various organizations that we helped with donations in recent months. One was from Father Pazonis. He extended his Christmas greetings and a thank you for

the money from the proceeds that was raised at the District Cultural Festival from the Vytiš tapestry throw cover. Another thank you letter was read from Jean Door from the Lithuanian Orphan Care. She said that the money that we sent is to be used to support "Lima", a child we have been helping and will cover her needs for at least 2 years.

Teresa and Kazys Adomavicius were preparing to leave for Aruba for some fun in the sun. They have been going there for the past 20 years. They meet the same couples from all over the country and said that it feels like going home and being with close relatives. They will be there for 3 weeks. We will all be envying them as we undoubtedly will be digging ourselves out of snow.

Vyto and Ann Morkunas are proud first-time grandparents. Their son, Vyto, and his wife had a son. Guess what his name is? He is Vyto III. Ann said that he has the most beautiful bluest eyes and she is hoping they will stay that way.

Irene Markevicius is another proud and happy grandmother. Her grandson, Michael Aiello, won a gold medal at Lake Placid, NY. He plays for the Worcester Crusaders, a team sponsored by Holy Cross. He is a goalie. When he gets a little older, he should apply for a position with the Boston Bruins; they certainly could use him.

Everyone decided that the Jan meeting should be skipped because of the poor weather we have at that time. The next meeting will be in Feb.

As usual, Maironis Park had a wonderful buffet which was enjoyed by everyone. The selection was overpowering. President Vivian Rodgers gave everyone a Christmas Scramble to do. She really challenged our minds. It was fun to see how many finished and who was the winner. Can you decipher "oatssnpitei", "tomsletei" and "gontisksc"? We had 30 of these tricky words and only about a little over a minute to solve them. Al Seilius and Ann Walinsky led the group in Christmas carols in English and Lithuanian. Al also selected 12 K of L members to help him sing the Twelve

Days of Christmas. He takes liberties with some of the lyrics to make them entertaining. This was one of the highlights of the evening. There was a lot of kibitzing and laughing by the entire group.

Once the singing was done, we heard a jolly laugh and who should appear but jolly Old Saint Leseman, I mean St. Nick. He skipped into the room with a large bag of gifts. Prior to his arrival numbers were given to the attendees and his elves - Aldona Waska, Lillian Kondrotas, and Charlie Witkus - helped with the drawings and bringing the gifts to the lucky winners. Many of the attendees won something. Everyone was eager to see what was in the packages as they were opened. It was a fun evening and it seemed that it came to a conclusion too soon. As everyone left the warmth of the building and braved the 12 degrees outside, one could hear "Merry Christmas" and "Happy Holiday" wishes.

## C-50 New Haven, CT Genute Strimaitis Valente

Our Christmas bazaar has just recently passed and what a smashing success it was! This is going to seem tedious but I have to thank some people who without them there probably wouldn't have been a bazaar. The chairperson for the bazaar is Marion Meshako. What a job it must be to take on the responsibility of organizing such an event. Everything went smoothly of course! I do want to mention that this bazaar was put on with great hopes to help our church of St. Casimir's financially. Our church is almost ready to close and unless we get some donations it will be our time to say goodbye. Our church has been around for many, many years. I will only ask once but any help anyone can give would be greatly appreciated. Please send any and all donations to St. Casimir, 339 Green St., New Haven, CT 06518, and the phone number for any information is (203)288-7454. Now that I took care of business let's get to the bazaar.

Just before the bazaar began I stood in the entryway and took in the aroma. Let me describe it for you. Much like the snow in



in winter, you can smell it in the air and like the showers in the springtime, you can feel it. Terese Strimaitis has been cooking her famous kielbasa, sauerkraut, balandielis for over 30 years. Every year you can expect great food. Along with Terese were Marge Cronan, Mary Giepel, and Nancy Conlan. The four musketeers as we like to call them. Nancy is the newest member of the kitchen crew. Terese, Marge, and Mary are old friends who have been cooking for many a party.

There were so many wonderful people that helped that I would like to extend a special thank you to all, especially "Old Faithful" Ann Kodorsky for diligently being our guardian angel when it comes to selling tickets. Ann has been working with the K of L for many, many years and always gives her all. There are also 2 more people who always do their best in all kinds of ways. They are Irene Mezies and her husband Mike. Our hats off to both of them. The raffle prizes this year were exceptional thanks to both of them.

Our presiding president of our council, Isabel Peterson, would like to offer her sincere thanks to everyone who made this event possible!

We all give thanks for the wonderful weather and for the company of friends.

There is one more point of interest. I would like to announce that my husband and myself are the newest members of C-50. My husband, Charles Valente is a Vietnam veteran and an adopted member of the Lithuanian community. I am the Human Resources Representative in charge of special projects for Ann Taylor. Not only are both of us very excited our daughter Robyn Irena Valente is also quite an active member attending all the events and someday looking forward to joining herself. I was also honored to be elected the council reporter and I will do my very best.

Our next event is one all our members look forward to.... the annual Christmas Party. I know it will be my first but I can already taste the food, hear the music, and feel the company of good friends.  
GOD BLESS.

## C-12 New York, NY Irene Senken

As I sit here wondering what time the snow will fall because the weatherman made his prediction, I find it appropriate to discuss the Christmas gathering and meeting on Dec 3rd.

This year will be the first Christmas that Santa will not be coming to C-12 in many years. Joe Sledar, Santa, is ailing with eye problems; he's had an operation and he has difficulty walking.

Our meeting following the 11:15 Mass was opened with a prayer by Fr. Eugene Sawicki. The respective reports were submitted and accepted by the members. Due to the brevity of our meeting, several reports were scheduled for a future meeting.

Anthony Yakavonis gave us a detailed interpretation as to what a Lithuanian kitchen consists of and he put his listeners in a hilarious mood. Aciu labai.

It was nice to see our Council cameraman, Vinney Cuprewich, up and around and tending to the liquid refreshments at our Christmas gathering. Welcome back, Vinney!

Helen Yurkus surprised C-12 with a visit from her daughter, Barbara, and handsome husband and baby..... a beautiful baby to be held! Perhaps we can revert back to the title of being the Family Council of many years and bring back Santa?

Jurgis Alunas gave his talk as to how he spent Christmas in Siberia in 1949. After listening to Jurgis we can thank God for our freedom in our wonderful country. We thank Stase, his wife, for the delicious homemade cheese. Aciu, Stase!

Ed Cook, our former president, honored us with his presence and plaudits of praise are due him for his untiring work with an Outreach organization. This organization cares for the homeless veterans and indigents to get on their feet. Ed's photo and other appeared in the DAV magazine in Feb or Jan of 1999. God bless you, Ed.

All the wonderful food was prepared and

donated by the members... a Labai Aciu goes out to them and especially Aldorna Zaunas for the turkey.

A 50/50 was had and the proceeds were donated to Fr. Eugene to offset the financial problems of the church. Lets hope that we can come up with a solution to present to Fr Eugene.

We are saddened to learn of the death of a long time member, Jean Bent. May she rest in eternal peace.

On the brighter side, Congratulations go to Stella Marcinauskas on becoming a Grandma to her 7th grandchild. Congratulations, Stella!

At this festive occasion the following members were given a very Happy Birthday - Jovida Sleder, John Antanavichus, John Lostys, and Aldorna Zaunas. Ilgiausiu Metu Visiems. "Su Diev"

## C-110 Maspeth, NY Bruno Rutkunas

With plenty of help, we successfully sponsored our 27th Kucios on Dec 17th. The weather was not friendly at all, but about 115 guests attended and enjoyed the traditional candle procession, as arranged by Helen Matulonis, blessing and sharing the wafers with each other. The 12 meatless dishes, besides the cold fruit salad, "Andrulis" farmer cheese, beets, herring, etc., included the preparation and heating of pancakes, blintzes and fish. Newly elected president John Klimas summoned his family, mother Helen, father Albert, daughter Loren and wife Anna to help him in the kitchen to set up and do everything else required to accommodate the guests. Virginia Barkauskas, the organist of the Transfiguration Church played Christmas melodies on the piano. As in the past, we paid tribute to Father Stasys Raila (about 95 years old). Father Vitas Volertas and Pastor "Ted Rooney" for their spiritual guidance. As all our brother councils know, many volunteers are needed for this homemade (not catered) affair which includes shopping, setting up, decorating, serving, and cleaning up; and as usual everyone helped!! The seven Lithuanian



costumes worn by our women C-110 and also C-152 members, reminded us all of our valuable and true heritage.

Our council is looking forward to become more meaningful active as to the Knights of Lithuania ideals and principles. Let us hope we will be successful in our endeavors.

Best Wishes... Su Dieva

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

Our Dec meeting was called to order by our President, John Jonaitis. The opening prayer was said by Rev. Matas Cyvas, followed by a minute of silence for our deceased members. After the Rollcall of Officers, the recording secretary's report - Irena Diktanas, the Treasurer's - Maria Gelazius - report, the financial secretary - Dolores Jonaitis - report, we accepted a new member, Irena Punkris, and Joseph Gecas who is a transfer from C-96, Dayton. No Ritual report as our chairman was absent.

Irena Diktanas submitted an article in the "Lietuvos Zinius" about our Concert in October that was a great success. A note of thanks to Angela Karnius who is editor. Very beautifully done. Thank you again.

Plans were discussed for St. Casimir Day celebration. Also attending our meeting was Rev. Benediktas Jurcys, OFM (Provincijolas) from Kaunas, Lithuania. He mentioned that Lithuania would like to start a Knights of Lithuania Council. The youth is greatly in need of guidance and activities, preferably religious.

Prayers were requested for Petre Kasperaviciute and her brother, Felix, who are both ill. Also ill are Dr. Joseph Petrikas, Elena Bacevicius, Kazimiera Arlauskas, Bronius Bakas, Dana Jurenas, and Sally Zupka. Get well wishes are in order for all of you.

Nov 2 was cruise time for John and Dolores Jonaitis, Veronika Pleskus and Laimute Alvarado. A good time was had by all.

There was little change in the election of officers. The following have agreed to remain: Spiritual Advisor Rev. Matas Cyvas, President John Jonaitis, Vice Pres Anthony Gudonis, Recording Sec Irena Diktanas, Treasurer Maria Gelazius, Financial Sec Dolores Jonaitis, Trustees Elena Jurkynas and Janina Lauras, Sgt at Arms Vladas Gelazius, Ritual Dr. Aldona Valis, Irena Diktanas, Dolores Jonaitis, Regina Usvaltas, Lithuanian Affairs Alfas Shukis and Culture Irena Diktanas.

Our meeting came to a close with prayers by Rev. Matas Cyvas. We were treated to wonderful refreshments baked and donated by the following members: Elena Jurkynas, Janina Lauras, Irena Diktanas, Dolores Jonaitis, Veronika Pleskus, Ona Semaleviciene, Stase Jancauskiene, Brone Urbonas, Valeria Lescinskas, Laimute Alvarado, Lucy and Vic Sanders, Angele Shukis, and Aldona Olis.

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

It's "Happy New Year" and time to get on with the agenda for the new year. The council has been quite busy during the Oct and Nov meetings. It was election time again and many issues had to be addressed. Nominations, electing new officers, and preparing for our annual Christmas party. Fortunately the present slate has agreed to stay on for another year. The only change to note is that Beatrice Lucka, our financial sec has given up her position after so many years to Cam Dykovitz, another very dedicated member who will keep the records well updated. Cam, like Beatrice, puts her heart and soul into her work for the council. Welcome, "Cam" and good luck! Now it is up to all of us to pay our dues and keep our council alive and active. We need everyone's cooperation.

These next few months find the attendance at the meetings below par, mostly due to the fact that our "snowbirds" have made their way south again. They are missed but we all wish them a happy, warm, and enjoyable vacation. So those of us who are left here to carry on have our work cut out for us too. We have to proceed with our yearly St. Casimir celebration and luncheon which is in March. It has been

our custom to have it a covered-dish affair which the Knights tend to out-do themselves in the food preparations. More on this in a later issue of the Vytis. If anyone has any ideas about special events or fund raisers, please speak up at the meetings and let the council take your ideas further.

Easter this year is April 15th. Time to think about the Lithuanian preparations, decorating eggs and preparing our ethnic foods. I'll try to recruit my granddaughter to try her hand at it again. Last year she showed great potential and I do want to pass on this ethnic tradition.

C-152 extends their best wishes to all councils for a very Happy New Year. May all our goals materialize in this year of 2001.

We ended the year with our Christmas party which was held at the Birchwood restaurant in Riverhead. The attendance this year was exceptional with members and friends making it a gala party. There was a lively group of native Lithuanians who entertained us with their renditions of true Lithuanian singing accompanied by the one and only Joe Thomas and his accordion. These memorable songs brought back fond memories of our childhood Christmas.

Our master of ceremonies, Fred Lucka, must be congratulated for the outstanding job he did. Thank you so much, Fred, for stepping in to make the day run so smoothly. Thank you also to Beatrice Lucka for taking care of the seating arrangements which takes lots of planning to keep everyone happy. Also many thanks to Tom Tarmey, Pres Muriel Lofmark, Angels Minsavitch and Agnes Marma for all their help in putting this event together.

It was nice to see Joe Allen and the Evanes at the party and also the nice group from the Maspeth council. That's what keeps the Knights of Lithuania going: the participation of other councils and I'm sure our council will reciprocate.

Our get-well wishes and prayers to all those on the sick list. And may all our dear and beloved ones who have passed



away not be forgotten. Let us not forget Anna Baksys, Joe Latinis and Adelaide Flynn. Our condolences go to Barney and Olga Evans on the loss of their son, Barney. May they all rest in peace.

Here is an appropriate Life's Recipe I found: 1 cup good thoughts, 1 cup kind deeds, 1 cup consideration of others, 2 cups of sacrifice for others, 3 cups of forgiveness, 3 cups of well-beaten faults. Mix above ingredients thoroughly. Add tears of joy, sorrow, and sympathy for others. Flavor with bits of love. Fold in 4 cups of prayer and faith. Pour into daily life and bake well with the heat of human kindness. Serve with a smile.

### **C-96 Dayton, O** Frances R. Petkus

December 10th proved to be a very ambitious day for the council. Following 10:30 AM Mass, our Junior Knights, under the guidance of their advisors, Christine Fletcher and Julia Goecke, held a Christmas Koffee Klatch and Raffle Fund-raiser! There was plenty to choose from and all very tasty. The Junior's raffle had an abundance of donated prizes with a long list of winners. Congratulations to our young people for a very successful venture.

Following the Koffec Klatch Juniors and regular members gathered in the church hall heading out for our Annual Christmas Caroling. We visited five nursing homes and several homes delivering poinsettias along with caroling! This project encompasses visiting shut-ins and those over 80 in the parish. With Mary Agnes leading us with her guitar, our voices 'rang on high'. Thanks must go to Frances and Mary Agnes Mikalauskas for putting this wonderful program together once again.

After caroling we returned to the church hall for a warm supper prepared by our Social Chair Elaine Pacovsky and her committee of Laretta and Henry Pant. The warm food helped to end a well spent day!

Thanks must go to Laretta and Linda Pant for chairing our Annual Christmas Dinner Dinner was held at Franco's Restuarante

on Dec. 12th. In spite of the cold turnout was good. Food was great and all had a good time. In place of a gift exchange, an envelope was passed around with donations going to Aid to Lithuania, Inc. Our Palm Beach, FL member Michael Pant was in town sharing these two special gatherings with us.

In November Elinor Sluzas chaired a 'No Bake Bake Sale' with all the proceeds going to charity. Our membership out did themselves in their generosity and this was greatly appreciated. By adding some money from our council's Charity Fund we distributed the money with donations to Old North Dayton Food Pantry, Aid to Lithuania, Inc., Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, Inc (Brooklyn), A.P.P.L.E. and Holy Cross Parish's Sarysis Committee!

On Dec. 17th Holy Cross Parish Lithuanian Cultural Committee hosted our parish's Annual Kucios. With Elinor Sluzas chairing and Judy Petrokas organizing, K of L members and some parishoners helping, as in the past, turnout was excellent. With the lighting of the candle Fr. Michael Holloran read from the scripture. All shared their plotkeles with love and forgiveness for past transgressions. The traditional apple was then cut and eaten. After everyone consumed the food prepared for the occasion, we relaxed as Aaron Geiger led us in song followed by a 'holiday musical game'. With five teams, just by one note at a time, the first team to guess the song was the winner. No prizes just fun. Jim, Eric and Aaron Geiger were also our 'fortune tellers'. A very sharing evening.

On Dec. 15th people of Old North Dayton, which began as a community of Germans, Hungarians, Polish, Irish, Czech and Lithuanians, held an evening of 'Lighting the Way'. People of the area gathered together with a candle ceremony and singing Christmas Carols as they traveled through the neighborhood. The evening ended at Holy Cross Church hall with refreshments and reminiscing of this 'first' for the community. One felt the spirit of the season permeate through those participating.

Good to see former C-96 member, now

with C-7-Waterbury, CT, Pat Zelinskas Alexander and her husband, Tony.

You won't be seeing a Special Blue Van on the highways of the USA any more. It saw many miles of K of L traveling including hauling C-96 members to many MCD Pilgrimages, Bowling Tournaments, conventions, delivering hand crafted Lithuanian motif shrines and crosses. It was laid 'to rest' for a new Red Van! Many happy, safe miles ahead for George and Frances Mikalauskas and all their passengers!!!

### **C-82 Gary, IN** Mildred Jagiella

Our Nov 5 meeting at Casey and Barbara Balt's provided occasion to bring many of us together again to update local and global Lithuanian events and to plan future activities. Ursula Tavaras attended although barely out of the operating room - a shining example of "Nepasiduok!" Also, plans were made and we did attend Monsignor Urbonas's dinner which marked his 90th birthday and 65th year of priesthood. 50 of his former parishoners at St. Casimir Church in Gary trekked to Lemont, Illinois to participate in honoring our dear pastor. Monsignor has been rejuvenated in his relocation and we all thank Fr. Paliokas for inviting Monsignor to his new mission. We are happy that he is happy, much as we miss our church.

Birute Vilutis put up a Lithuanian Christmas tree at the (NW Indiana) Interstate Visitors Center and helped publicize Lithuania and its traditions; she is untiring in this. Bronius Muras is researching tapes of Lithuanian Church hymns and located Kaledu Hymnai by the Kaunas Chorus. Lithuanian hymns always cue the best of memories.

Our January meeting took place in spite of weathermen's warnings. Plans were finalized for our council's part in the Lithuanian Independence Day celebration on Feb 11 at VFW on 6880 Hendricks in Merrillville. Msgr. Urbonas, Sr. Janine, Congressman Peter Visclosky and guest speaker Grazina Ragalaviciene are part of the features. More to follow.



*88<sup>th</sup> National Convention News*  
*August 2-5, 2001*

*Our Hotel*

**GROSVENOR**

—Resort—

IN THE WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort  
 1850 Hotel Plaza Boulevard  
 Lake Buena Vista, Florida

**About the hotel**

The staff of the beautiful Grosvenor Resort is ready to welcome you to the 88<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania from August 2-5, 2001. A block of rooms has been reserved for us at the great rate of \$95.00 per night per room [up to 4 adults]. You can book your room now by contacting the hotel directly at 1-800-624-4109. A first nights deposit is due within 7 days of booking or you can guarantee with your credit card, this will be billed to your card at that time. **This rate is available to the Knights of Lithuania from Saturday, July 28, 2001 until Monday, August 6, 2001. To guarantee this rate, reservations must be made by July 2, 2001.**

The hotel was selected because of its close proximity to local attractions, dining and family entertainment. The 13-acre site of the hotel is beautifully landscaped and offers wonderful lakeside views. Grosvenor Resort features 2 heated swimming pools, a hot tub, lighted tennis, basket and volleyball courts, shuffle board, an electronic game room and a professional fitness center. In addition to complimentary fresh-brewed coffee and tea, each room offers in-room movies, radio alarm clock, in-room safe and compact refrigerator.

If food and beverage is a concern, take your pick from **Crickets Lounge**, featuring big screen television for your viewing pleasure as you enjoy your favorite beverage or specialty coffee. If meeting friends for a cold drink or a game of pool is what you are looking for, we will be looking for you in **Moriarty's Pub**. Don't want to venture out of the hotel for dinner? Stop in at **Baskervilles** for full service dining. Of course, if your just looking for a light snack, **Crumpets Café**, in the hotel lobby offers a wide variety of self service food and beverage options to satisfy every appetite. Snacks and drinks are also available during the day poolside from the pool bar.

With a hotel this great you might be tempted to never venture outside but we strongly recommend that you due so. The hotel offers complimentary "air-conditioned" transportation to local sites so getting around is never a problem.

For further information, please contact Rob Martin at 1-219-861-0731.



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