

# VYTIS - THE KNIGHT

Vol. 87 No. 4 balandis/April



**Vytis-The  
Knight  
Knights of  
Lithuania  
Supreme  
Council Officers  
2001-2002**

**Spiritual Advisor**  
Rev. Msgr. Joseph  
Anderlonis, STD, HM  
St. George Rectory  
3580 Salmon Street  
Phila., PA19134  
(215)739-3102

**President**  
Robert A. Martin, Jr.  
133 Lake Street  
Michigan City, IN  
46360  
(219)861-0731

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President**  
Bernice Aviza  
8 Tremont Street  
Albany, NY 12205  
(518)459-5256  
BLAviza@worldnet.  
att.net

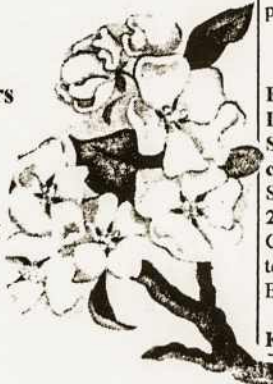
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President**  
Elena Nakrosis  
10 Park Avenue  
Keamy, NJ 07032

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President**  
Annamarie Sluzas-  
Berger  
4431 Rainbrook Way  
Dayton, OH 45424  
mberger@glasscity.net

**Recording Secretary**  
Sister Johanna M.  
Shainauskas, SSC  
6804 S. Washtenaw  
Chicago, IL 60629-  
1826  
(773)476-5135  
fax 773 925-8885

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

**Financial Secretary**  
Mark H. Bell  
1224 A 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. North  
Nashville, TN 37208-  
2606  
(615)256-3790  
Mhvarpas@aol.com



**Balandis/April 2001 Volume 87: No. 4**

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

**VYTIS - The Knight - STAFF**

**Editor:** Sister M. Janine Golubickis, SSC  
**Layout /Design/Typesetting:** Sr. Johanna Marie  
**Send all editorial and district council news correspondence to:**  
Sister M. Janine Golubickis, SSC  
2601 W. Marquette Road  
Chicago, Illinois 60629-1817  
tel: fax: (773)778-9231  
E-mail: vytis@core.com

**Council News Editor:** Mildred Jagiella

**Business Manager:** Mary Kincius  
**Send all changes of addresses, subscriptions, notices, greetings payments to:** VYTIS-The Knight  
Business Manager - M. Kincius  
2601 W. Marquette Road  
Chicago, IL 60629-1826  
**Business Mgr. Tel:** (773)927-4990

**Knights of Lithuania Web page:** <http://www.geocities.com/heartland/prairie/3802>

**Trustee**  
Agnes Mickunas, HM  
333 Davis Street  
Mt. Ephraim, NJ  
08059

(856)931-3306  
E-mail:  
agutjohn@erols.com

**Trustee**  
Rita Sussko  
1254 Grandview Ave.  
Union, NJ  
07083-3729  
(908) 686-4226

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

**VYTIS EDITOR**  
Sr. M. Janine  
Golubickis, SSC  
12375 McCarthy Rd.  
Lemont, IL  
60439-9157  
(630) 257-2291  
fax (630) 257-2334

**VYTIS BUS. MGR.**  
Mary F. Kincius  
2461 W. 45<sup>th</sup> Place  
Chicago, IL 60632  
(773) 927-4990

**Archives Chair.**  
William Piacentini  
133 Alto Street  
Cranston, RI 02920  
(401) 943-3495

**Lith. Lang. & Culture**  
Faustas Strolia, HM  
15325 Sequoia St.  
Oak Forest, IL 60452  
(708) 687-1430

**Honorary Memb.**  
Frances Petkus, HM  
800 Haldeman Ave.  
Dayton, OH 45404  
(937) 236-0395  
*Rev. A.J. Contons*  
*Algird Brazis*  
*Frank Petrauskas*  
*Frances Petkus*  
*Anna Klizas-Wargo*  
*Bertha Stoskus*

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

**Public Relations**  
Regina Juska-Svoba  
1594 Beaupre  
Madison Heights, MI  
48071  
(248) 547-2859  
**Ritual Chair.**  
Clemencine  
Miller, HM  
80 Cottage Street  
Trumbull, CT 06611-  
2830  
(203)268-2350  
*Georgianna Macke*  
*Irene Yanek*  
*Elsie Kosmisky*  
*Rita Sussko*

**Scholarship Chair.**  
Irena Gecas-McCarthy  
30 Clinton Road  
Garden City, NY  
11530  
(516) 746-0820  
macegas@msn.com

**(Scholarship  
cont'd.)**

*Karen Damalakes*  
*Antoinette Sakal*  
*Wanda Pliskaitis*  
*Veronica*  
*Bizinkauskas Cote*

**K of L Foundation**  
Loretta Stukas, HM  
234 Sunlit Drive  
Watchung, NJ 07060  
(908) 753-5636  
stukiene@worldnet.  
att.net

**Aid to Lithuania**

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

**St. Casimir Guild**

Anna  
Klizas Wargo, HM  
125 So. Morris St.  
St. Clair, PA 17970  
(570) 429-0132

**AMBER DISTRICT**

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

**MID-AMERICA  
DISTRICT**

Glenn Perutis  
3233 S. Green Street  
Chicago, IL 60608  
(312)949-1082

**MID-ATLANTIC  
DISTRICT**

Edward Barkowski  
1226 Palma Ave.  
Schenectady, NY  
12306-2828  
(518) 355-7483

**MID-CENTRAL  
DISTRICT**

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

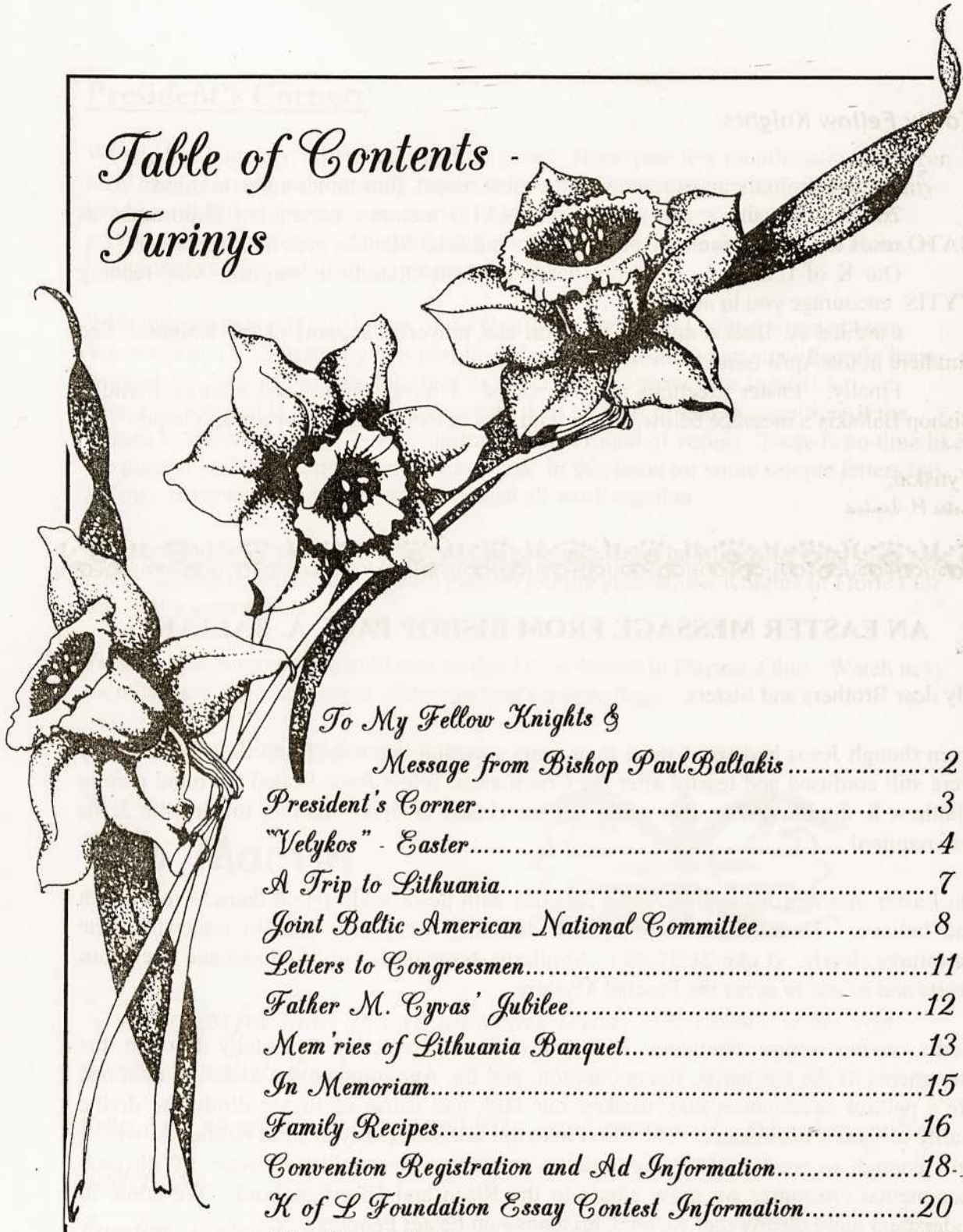
**NEW ENGLAND  
DISTRICT**

Joseph Stiklius  
50 Oak Hollow Drive  
Waterbury, CT  
(203) 574-2046

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



# Table of Contents - Turinys



## *To My Fellow Knights &*

<i>Message from Bishop Paul Baltakis .....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>President's Corner.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>"Velykos" - Easter.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>A Trip to Lithuania.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Joint Baltic American National Committee.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Letters to Congressmen.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Father M. Cyvas' Jubilee.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Mem'ries of Lithuania Banquet.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>In Memoriam.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Family Recipes.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Convention Registration and Ad Information.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>K of L Foundation Essay Contest Information.....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Knights in Action.....</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Food for Thought.....</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Council News.....</i>	<i>29</i>

### **To My Fellow Knights**

Moving from the most remote to the most recent, four topics come to mind.

2002! Lithuania's integration into NATO assumes paramount importance as NATO nears its 2002 Summit. Robert Martin and John Mankus give their report.

Our K of L annual convention takes place in Orlando in August. May reading VYTIS encourage you to attend.

Cardinal A. Backis enjoys the warm and prayerful support of the Knights. See him here in the April issue.

Finally, Easter greetings and blessings! I have summarized another friend's, Bishop Baltakis's message below. I join with him in extending Easter joy and hope.

Vytiškai,  
Sister M. Janine



### **AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM BISHOP PAUL A. BALTAKIS**

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

Even though Jesus had spent three long years revealing his mission to the apostles, they were still confused and fearful after the Crucifixion. When Jesus healed the blind man in Matthew 8, the blind man also could not see clearly at first. Another touch from Jesus was required.

On Easter morning Jesus greeted the apostles with peace and invited them to touch him and believe. Their minds were opened and they were then able to understand the Scriptures clearly. (Luke 24:37-46.) Similarly, Jesus heals our blindness and opens our hearts and minds to savor the Paschal Mystery.

God's saving action continues in word and actions today especially through the sacraments of the Eucharist, Reconciliation, and the Anointing of the Sick. But sin and life's painful experiences may weaken our faith and cause us to see dimly the divine reality of God's Providence. The blind man did not see clearly at first; neither do we. It isn't enough to receive Holy Communion or receive Reconciliation once. With each sacramental encounter we draw closer to the Risen and Glorified Lord. We come to understand more clearly that we are Christians - an Easter People.

To all of you, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I wish you joy at the Resurrection of the historical Christ and the hope of our own future resurrection.

*Bishop Paul A Baltakis, O.F.M.*

## President's Corner:

Wow!, April already, where has the time gone? These past few months sure have been busy ones. Having only recently returned from the Consistory of Cardinal Backis my head is still full of the many memories of a wonderful experience that I have been privileged to experience. An article and photos from the multi day events in Rome is being prepared for publication, please watch for it.

With regards to NATO inclusion of the Baltic Nations, Having just returned from Washington, DC, I'm happy to report that plans for their inclusion are diligently being worked on. Now is the time for all of us to act. Please write your local U.S. Congressmen and U.S. Senators requesting their support of U.S. recognition of the Baltics as full members of NATO during the next round of voting. There is no time like the present to drop them a letter. Please look in this issue for some sample letters to follow. If we are going to succeed we must all work together.

Convention plans are well underway. The committee met on March 10<sup>th</sup> and things are really starting to take shape. Please plan on joining your fellow Knights in Florida for this year's convention.

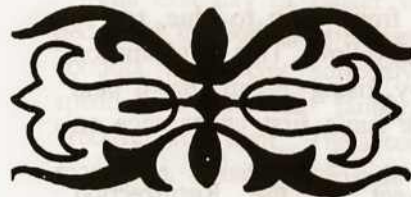
Finally, your Supreme Council met on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March in Dayton, Ohio. Watch next months issue for a full report of the meeting's proceedings.

Have a Happy, Holy and Blessed Easter.

Vytiškai,

**Rob Martin**

Robert A. Martin, Jr.



*"A successful man is one who has tried, not cried; who has worked, not dodged; who has shouldered responsibility, not evaded it; who has gotten under the burden instead of standing off, looking on and giving advice."*  
*G. Hubbard.*

## VELYKOS (EASTER)

(An excerpt taken from the book, "Lietuviu Papročiai ir Tradicijos Iseivijoje," Lithuanian Customs and Traditions," by Danute Brazyte Bindokiene)

The word for Easter, *Velykos*, has been borrowed from Belyorussian and means "important day." The word is very accurate because Easter was the year's most solemn feast in Lithuania. Easter is not only the feast of Christ's Resurrection, but also nature's awakening from winter's sleep.

The early Easter morn, just before dawn, abounds with magical power. Much of this magic is concentrated in flowing water. Bathing in such water before sunrise prevents all boils, sores, rashes and other skin ailments. If it rains on Easter morning, it is necessary to stand bareheaded in the rain to ensure good growth. Small children who wanted to grow quickly were reminded of this.

As the sun rises on Easter morning, it "dances," swaying from side to side and changing color: from green to blue, to red and then golden yellow. This phenomenon can be seen by rising before dawn and watching for the sun's first appearance on the horizon.

Everyone went to the Resurrection services. If on the way you passed a woman, you'll have an accident. To avoid calamity, it was necessary to turn around, return home and then take another road to church.

In Lithuania the Easter morning procession was usually conducted around the church. It was very solemn: church flags were held high, girls strewed flowers, the choir and all the people sang, alternating with a brass band, and the church bells pealed loudly. Three turns were made while singing the Lithuanians' favorite Easter Hymn, "*Linksma diena mums prasvito, (A Happy Day Has Dawned for Us)*. After the services, a blessing was made over the Easter food which was arranged in baskets decorated with greens and placed on the altar-rails.

At the conclusion of the liturgy in church, the people hurried home. In fact, all large and small roads, every path was the scene of races: whoever arrived home first would be successful all year and would complete work on time. Even persons walking tried to pass those ahead and reach home first. It is not surprising that accidents happened during such races. Perhaps that is why it was said that a women met on the road brings disaster, (someone had to be blamed!).

At home, Easter breakfast was eaten. The meal began when the homemaker peeled a blest Easter egg, cut it and gave a piece to every member of the family. This was done so that peace and love would always reign within the family and everyone would live in harmony. Afterward, a variety of other dishes was consumed: meat, sausages, cakes. On Easter, it was necessary to eat well and to satiety, to "recover from Lent" because of the fast all through Lent. If the area had poor families with no Easter food, their neighbors shared what they had and brought the disadvantaged families everything they needed to be satisfied and happy.

Children hunted for hidden Easter eggs left them by the "*Velyku Senele (Easter Granny) or Velyke*. Bunnies who painted Easter eggs were also a familiar fixture, but they were only helpers for the "*Velyku Senele*". Very early Easter morning they loaded Easter eggs into a beautiful little cart pulled by a tiny swift horse. The "*Velyku Senele*" used a sunbeam as a whip. Sometimes the bunnies themselves pulled the cart laden with Easter eggs.

The *Easter Granny* travels around the country, stopping in every child's yard to leave eggs in baskets placed or hung for that purpose. When they awake, good children find beautifully decorated eggs (and in more recent times, even sweets). Bad children only find a single, plain, completely white egg. If this happens, the child is disgraced. His friends and family laugh at him. Sometimes bunnies accompany the Granny and help her distribute the Easter eggs. They are kept busy not only before Easter and on Easter

day, but all year round, baking cookies for children. When parents leave their children behind, they promise to bring them a gift, bunny cookies. Upon their return, they tell them the following tale:

"I'm walking through the woods (or orchard or past the bushes), and I see a bunny wearing an apron and hat, his sleeves rolled back, taking sweet-smelling cookies from an oven. I say to him: 'May the Lord help you!' He answers, 'Thank you, thank you. Would you like a taste? They're still hot.' Of course, I do! They smell so good, they look so good..."

In the meantime, the child can hardly control himself: "What kind of oven was it?" "Tiny, pretty." "Did you get to taste any cookies?" "Yes, of course." "Did you bring me any?"

At this point, the father, mother or other family members pull out the goodies and distribute them to the children who are extremely impressed by the bunny cookies... How wonderful that mom or dad just happened to be passing at the very time the cookies were done!

Bunny cookies are famous throughout Lithuania. It would be good to remember them outside Lithuania as well.

A variety of games were played with Easter eggs. The simplest is an egg-breaking contest. Two players face off, each holding an Easter egg, and hit each other's egg. The one whose egg remains intact is the winner. The egg is held in the fist so that only its tip protrudes. The other player hits it with the tip of his egg. If the egg breaks on the side, the impact was wrong and the owner of the broken egg is not considered the loser. The winner claims the broken egg. After the game the number of eggs won was tallied. It was of paramount importance to have a hard-shelled egg that withstands breaking. In selecting a strong egg, the contestant taps an unboiled egg against his teeth. If the sound is clear and sharp the shell is hard: if dull and muffled, the egg will break quickly, it's not even worth boiling.

Some smart alecks devised an "unbreakable" egg. It was made this way: a raw egg's shell is pricked at both ends. A thin straw is inserted into one end and used to blow out the contents through the opposite end. Another straw with one end shaped as a funnel is then placed into the hole and melted pine or fir sap is poured until the egg is full. If the sap does not flow smoothly, a helper inserts a straw into the opposite hole and draws the air out of the egg. After the egg is filled with sap, the holes are carefully concealed and the egg is then tinted along with others. It weighs about the same as a real boiled egg. Sometimes the empty shell was filled with melted sugar, but it was much heavier and the sugar hardened unevenly, making it more difficult to play. Of course, if caught, the cheat was punished. The direst penalty was to eat the "Easter egg."

If guests arrive on Easter, they are given Easter eggs as gifts. The guests also bring an Easter egg for each family member (or at least the hosts, and sweets for the children).

The first day of Easter was said to be dedicated to God; people were expected to conduct themselves seriously and quietly, spend time with their family, eat well and "recover from Lent." The second day was for recreation, visiting friends and having company. The third day was devoted to relaxation. People slept late, recovered from all the merrymaking because work was waiting in the wings.

For Easter, homemakers set out Easter dishes which remained on the table all day. When guests arrived, the women could then spend time with the company and did not need to work. The table was covered with a white cloth and decorated with greens or fruit tree branches, (mostly cherry), which were cut and set in water several weeks earlier so they would bloom for Easter. (Easter lilies were unknown). Greens were also attached to the tablecloth hem which hung down from the table. The table was laden with cold Easter dishes: baked ham, goose, suckling pig, a basket or plate full of Easter eggs,

sweet cheese, bread, cakes, etc. Beer (mostly homemade), liqueurs and cider were served as beverages.

Everyone who arrives to extend Easter greetings must be served. It was considered very impolite for the guest to refuse refreshment. Everything had to be at least sampled and the cook praised, else she would feel insulted.

The young who behaved with such solemnity all during Lent wanted to have fun on Easter. They assembled at a larger house to sing and dance. This usually was done in late afternoon or evening. During the day, it was popular to swing in swings and sing. If the Easter weather was warm and fair, the swings were hung from a tall tree so the young could swing higher. Given inclement weather, the swing ropes were tied from barn rafters. People swung not only for the fun of it, but to ensure a good harvest next summer, just as on Shrove Tuesday. While swinging, the girls and young men sang special songs.

A group of young men assembled to practice singing *Linksma diena mums prasvito* (a popular Easter hymn), some other songs, and make the rounds. These are the so-called "lalauninkai" (from "lalauti - to talk loudly and much). In many other countries, such as the United States or England, carolers make the rounds before Christmas singing Christmas carols and songs. They may be compared to Lithuania's Easter "lalauninkai." It is not necessary for the "lalauninkai" to sing the customary ditties, other songs may be selected.

\*\*\*\*\*



When you can't remove an obstacle, plow around it. (A. Lincoln)

The greatest hope of future society is individual character now. (W. E. Channing.)

Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you. (Anon.)

"Christ the Lord is risen today."  
Sons of men and angels say.  
Raise your joys and triumphs high;  
Sing, the heavens and earth reply.  
(C. Wesley)



I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet he shall live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

John 11: 25, 26

The promise of resurrection is written on every leaf that grows.

(Author unknown)

This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:24

Rain that falls in springtime is like the handclasp of a friend.

(Author unknown)

So then the year is repeating its old story again. We are come once more, thank God, to its most charming chapter. The violets and the Mayflowers are as its inscriptions or vignettes. It always makes a pleasant impression on us, when we open again at these pages of the book of life.

Goethe

The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

Psalms 145:9

If instead of a gem, or even a flower, we could cast the gift of a lovely thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels give. (G. McDonald)



**JOIN YOUR "AID TO LITHUANIA"  
FRIENDS FOR ANOTHER  
UNFORGETTABLE TOUR OF  
LITHUANIA IN AUGUST, 2001**



Aid to Lithuania, Inc., in cooperation with the travel experts at GT International, invite you to join us for yet another memorable and fun-filled **11 day tour** of Lithuania. The tour program has been arranged from **August 22 - September 1, 2001**.

The "**Lithuanian encore**" is the fifth tour cosponsored by GT International and Aid to Lithuania. The last four tours have been successful, and many new friendships have blossomed as a result of the tours.

Many of the hotels are new or refurbished, and new restaurants have opened their doors. Good and positive changes are always occurring.

One of the highlights of the tour will be the attendance at the closing of the "**Pazaislio Festivalis**" at the Pazaislis Monastery. The renowned **Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra** and the **Kaunas Choir** will perform.

We will visit a **linen manufacturing** facility, workshop of **amber artisans**, pharmacy museum, local micro brewery, and the homestead of local **woodcarvers**. We will also have the opportunity to pick mushrooms and cranberries. We will visit a rock museum and **Ordyvu Sodyba**, sometimes known as the "Museum of Absurdities."

We will overnight in Vilnius, Kaunas and Palanga. Everything cannot be disclosed, but rest assured, there are many pleasant surprises and performances in store for the tour participants

The tour is **limited to 35 participants**. Please register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment, as the excursion will fill quickly. The total land program is \$1,542.00, with a portion of the tour proceeds slated for ATL projects. For the lowest airfare costs, please contact **GT International**.

For detailed information, complete tour itineraries and registrations, please contact:

ATL president:  
Regina Juska-Svoba  
**(313) 396-0389 work**  
**(248) 547-2859 residence**  
**(249) 0982 facsimile OR**

e-mail: Rjuskasvoba@cs.com

You may also contact the staff at GT International during business hours at:

1-800-462-2584

Please join us for a fantastic tour and also support ATL's projects and works. You will not be disappointed!

**ATTENTION, PLEASE!**

Here is a translation of my letter-to-the-editor that "Tēviškės Žiburiai" just published in its Feb. 13, 2001 issue:

"Not True" [caption]

"TZ" Jan. 16, 2001 printed an article called "Lithuania and Her People Abroad in America," Therein the author writes: 'Gradually the older generation fell away [from its Lithuanian spirit], whereas their children were scarcely distinguishable from residents of other American nationalities.' Not true! From 1913 the Knights of Lithuania have been vigorously active and are so today for the good of Lithuanianism. The {Catholic} Women's Alliance from 1915 has been similarly active, as have been the Catholic Alliance and other organizations of children and grandchildren of the old wave of immigrants. Really, is such a glorious past entirely unknown today? There is more than a little literature that gives testimony. Readers, please take note of this material so that your eyes may be opened. Since there are more such articles [like that of Jan. 16, 2001] being planned, I respectfully suggest that the available writings be widely read.

Fr.. Vincas Valkavicius, Norwood, MA, USA

## Information for you about JBANC

**JOINT BALTIC AMERICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE, INC.****Representing:****ESTONIAN AMERICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL, INC.****AMERICAN LATVIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.****LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL, INC.****JBANC STATEMENT OF POLICY 2001- 2002**

The Joint Baltic American National Committee, Inc., representing more than a million Americans of Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian descent, emphasizes that its top priority is to help Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania achieve membership in the NATO alliance in 2002. It is as essential to the security and independence of the three Baltic countries as it is in the vital interest of the United States.

The security of the United States is indivisible from the security of Europe. A viable Euro-Atlantic community of democratic states and a Europe that is undivided and free should not exclude any European democracy. Therefore, NATO enlargement must continue expeditiously, with all applicants eligible to join

NATO's "open door" policy must not remain declaratory. Since the first round of enlargement in 1998, expectations of a new round have been created that cannot be ignored. In fact, leaving the Baltic countries out of a new round will send a wrong and dangerous message to both the peoples of the three countries as well as Russia. It will create a power vacuum, a "gray zone," that will be an invitation to Russia to fill.

NATO, and an American presence in NATO, is as essential to the Baltic countries as it is essential to all of Europe. It is also essential to the security of the United States.

NATO and U.S. officials have reiterated that history and geography have no bearing on NATO membership and that each country has the right to decide its own security arrangements. Therefore, the process of integrating Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into the West's most important and effective security arrangement must continue at full speed.

JBANC stresses that there is no turning back. Any backtracking from promises real or implied will inflict irreparable harm to the credibility of NATO AS WELL AS THE United States. Exclusion of the Baltic countries from the world's most viable security structure will create dangers that we may seriously regret.

The Baltic region and central and eastern Europe have seen the dynamic growth of increasingly prosperous market economies. Most importantly, it is a community of states committed to democratic values, stability and security. Of those, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania stand out.

The inclusion of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic has already demonstrated a stronger NATO and strengthened the political, economic, military and social structures of the new members. The Baltic countries derive strength from that and are as able to show their willingness and ability to enhance NATO's military capabilities, as they have in numerous Partnership for Peace activities and keeping peace in Bosnia and Kosovo. They share the values of NATO members, defining their interests in a manner consistent with the North Atlantic Charter.

JBANC believes that any slowdown of Baltic membership in NATO will encourage Russia's still-prevalent imperial inclinations and vindicate its claims to a "red line" that includes former Soviet conquered territory. JBANC warns against any secret agreements that evoke memories of Yalta or any "oral understandings" that would harm Estonia's, Latvia's and Lithuania's independence in any way. JBANC believes that the inclusion of the Baltic countries in NATO will actually enhance Russia's security of its Western borders. NATO, as a defensive alliance, does not threaten Russia.

## Calling all Members and Friends of the Baltics

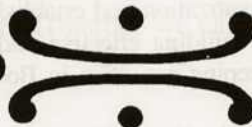
With the collapse of the USSR, the line dividing Eastern and Western Europe has disappeared. We must avoid a new line: that of NATO members and non-members. This will create new dangers, rather than solutions.

Both recent and long-term history shows that uncertainties and divisions in Europe can be dangerously destabilizing. Indeed, the divisions have drawn the U.S. into two World Wars and seriously contributed to the Cold War. It is historically accurate to state that countries excluded from a collective security arrangement create power vacuums that destabilize security and therefore, will be inherently dangerous to the national interest of the U.S.

It is in America's political and economic interest to be firmly committed to the goal of promoting Europe that is undivided, free and secure. This arrangement will actually prevent American soldiers from dying in Europe again. It can only be achieved through United States involvement in Europe and collective security through NATO.

JBANC firmly believes that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania must be invited to become NATO members expeditiously, during the next NATO Summit in Prague in 2002. It will guarantee a Europe whole and free, as it will guarantee a peaceful democratic Euro-Atlantic Community that includes the United States.

-----  
**400 Hurley Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850-3121**  
**tel. 301.340.1954 fax 301.309.1406**  
**e-mail: [jbanc@jbanc.org](mailto:jbanc@jbanc.org) Internet: <http://www.jbanc.org>**



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Hon. \_\_\_\_\_  
 U.S. Senate  
 Washington, DC 205\_\_

Dear Sen. \_\_\_\_\_:

As a fellow American citizen from our great state, I ask your full support regarding the addition of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia into NATO during its next round of inclusions in 2002. The Baltic nations have long been friends of the United States and indeed all peace loving nations. They have worked hard to meet the standards of membership set by NATO and deserve our support. The United States will benefit greatly by supporting their membership, as it will create a stronger, safer and more unified Europe for the future.

I wish to thank you in advance, and look forward to your assistance and support.

Sincerely,

Signature  
 Name  
 Address

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Sample letter)  
 Hon. \_\_\_\_\_  
 U.S. House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman or Congresswoman \_\_\_\_\_,

An important security objective of the Baltic republics is to achieve membership in NATO. Following the NATO summit in 1999, each of the Baltic States submitted their nation's individual Membership Action Plan. These plans define how the aspirant countries will meet eligibility criteria for membership in NATO. The plans were reviewed by NATO members and implemented. This spring, NATO members and advisors will conduct appraisals of the readiness of the nine countries aspiring to become NATO members.

It is expected that the next NATO heads of state summit meeting will occur in the fall of 2002 in Prague. The nine aspiring countries and any other aspirant hope to be invited to become a member and to start final membership negotiations.

Although there are many topics on the current US administrations agenda, it is important that support of Baltic membership in NATO be included.

A Europe "whole and free" is in the national security and economic interests of the United States and the West; a divided Europe, and unstable Europe, is not. Baltic membership in NATO does not threaten stability, but will improve that stability.

The accomplishments of the Baltic countries in the past ten years - maintaining strong and stable democratic governments, bringing about privatization and establishing free market economies, observing human and civil rights of all their people, building effective and democratic armed forces and being active participants in international peacekeeping activities in Bosnia, proves they are qualified to join NATO.

There are historical and legal foundations for the United States to support Baltic membership in NATO.

- Lithuania and the United States began official diplomatic relations in 1922.
- The United States never recognized Lithuania's incorporation to the Soviet Union.
- The US quickly established relations with the newly independent government of Lithuania in September of 1991.
- Since that time a number of bilateral agreements, defense and working groups have been established.
- The signing of the Charter of Partnership in January, 1998 between the United States and the Baltic republics unequivocally confirmed the common goal of the United States and the Baltic republics to work together as partners in enhancing the security of all states through the integration of Baltic countries into the European and transatlantic security, political and economic institutions.

The Baltic countries are loyal friends of America and deserve America's friendship and support. Let us fulfill the goals of the United States and the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in Prague. We urge you to encourage President Bush and your colleagues to support Baltic membership in NATO.

If you are not already a member of the Baltic Caucus, we urge you to join this bipartisan institution. The Baltic Caucus was formed in 1998 by your colleagues, John Shimkus and Dennis Kucinich. The purpose of the Baltic Caucus is to keep Congress informed on issues of concern to the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian American communities in your district. Joining the Baltic Caucus does not obligate you to endorse any specific legislation, program or course of action. To become a member of the Baltic Caucus, please contact Morna Gibbons/Rep. Shimkus at 5-5271 or Jill Johnson/Rep. Kucinich at 5-5871.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name

Address

# Calling all Members and Friends of the Baltics

## Now Is The Time For The Baltics To Become Part Of NATO

This past month along with our National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Bernice Aviza, Lithuanian Affairs Chair, John Mankus, Legal Advisor, Saulius Kuprys, and Grace Mankus, I was fortunate enough to be in Washington, DC for part of the JBANC Conference. This meeting proved to be both informative and educational for all. Whether it was the briefing at our Nation's Capital Building, meeting with the staff of Senators from various states or a meeting at the State Department, one theme rang throughout the day's events, NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT FOR THE BALTIC'S NATO MEMBERSHIP. The coming months will be critical if the Baltic Nations are to be invited into NATO during its next round of inclusions in 2002. Along with our National Officers present at the meetings in Washington, I call upon you, our members, once again to begin writing letters to your National Congressional Representatives and Senators. Once again, our beloved homeland and her Sister Baltics need our help, let's not disappoint them.

A few sample letters have been provided in this issue. Please feel free to copy them or write up an original of your own. Together we can make a difference, Together we can help Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia succeed.

Thank you,

Robert A. Martin, Jr.  
Supreme Council President

*The Mid-America District Knights of Lithuania Choir, under the direction of Mr. Faustas Strolia, H.M., announces the Performance of :*

*"The Seven Last Words of Christ"*

*by Theodore DuBois*

*Also featuring the works of Bach, Mozart and Schubert*

*Presented by*

*St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, by the combined choirs of*

*St. Andrew's Adult and Children's Choir, Knights of Lithuania Choir,*

*and the Blessed George-Matulaitis Choir*

*with accompanying orchestra*



**Location: St. Andrew the Apostle Church**  
768 Lincoln Ave.  
Calumet City, Illinois 60409

**Date: April 1, 2001 - 3:30 P.M.**

**-Free will offering-**

Kun. dr. Mato Čyvo



Šeimantinis Jubiliejus

#### Keletas atodūsiu iš Jubilato gyvenimo

, 1916 metų balandžio 30 dieną, per Atvelykį, Liliūnų kaime, pasiturinčio ūkininko šeimoje gimė trečiasis sūnus. Tėvas Matas Čyvas tvirtas, darbštus ir pareižingas Aukštaitijos sūnus, žymiai vyresnis už savo jaunutę žmoną, labai apsidžiaugė naujagimiu. Tikėdamasis išauginti jį tikru Tėvynės azuolu, jį pakrikštijo Mato vardu. Vėliau dar gimė keturi vaikai; du berniukai ir dvi mergaitės, tačiau Matas jam visad buvo arčiau prie širdies, gal todėl, kad jo švelnus būdas, paslaugumas, neprieštaravimas ir gera nuotaika buvo panaši į žmonos charakterį. Baigęs vietas mokyklą įstojo į keturių klasių progimnaziją Šėtoje. Budamas vienas Matas stengėsi laikytis motinos pamokymų ir nurodymų: būti nuolankiu, paslaugiu neišdykauti ir napeisti bažnyčios. Gražioji Šėtos bažnyčia su aukštais skliautais, šventųjų skulptūromis jam darė dideli išpūdi. Lankydamasis bažnyčioje jausdavosi ne vienišu, galėdavo ramiai susikaupti, apmąstyti dienos įvykius, išlieti savo vargus ir rasti paguodą. Dar su pora draugų pradėjo tarnauti Šv. Mišioms. Skaitydavo iš kunigų gautas religines knygutes. Vėliau įsirašė į tuo laiku draudžiamus ateitininkus, net buvo išrinktas į kuopelės valdybą. Baigiant ketvirtąją klasę, ateitininkų

kuopa nutarė pašventinti savąją vėliavą. Gimnazijos direktorius sužinojęs apie vėliavos šventinimą, visą kuopelės Valdybą pašalina iš gimnazijos. Tėvai Matui nepareiškė jokie priekaištai, dargi rėmė jo kreipimąsi į švietimo Ministeriją, kad leistų testuoti mokslą kitoje gimnazijoje. Matas išvyksta į Ramygalą. Čia jis galutinai apsisprendžia stoti į Kunigų seminariją ir pašvesti savo gyvenimą rupinantis žmonių sielovada. Baigusi gimnaziją 1934 m. vasaros pradžioje, tėvas išveža aštuoniolikmetį Matą į geležinkelio stotį ir atsisveikinęs išleidžia jį į Kunigų seminariją egzaminams. Tai buvo savotiškai graudus, bet vyriškas atsisveikinimas - tvirtas rankos paspaudimas, linkėjimas sėkmės ir išvermės. Išlaikęs egzaminus, Matas grįžta į namus, tačiau dar prieš mokslų pradžią tėvas staiga miršta, nematęs sūnaus išvandinimo į kunigus. Lieka mama su septyniais ivairaus amžiaus vaikais. Kaip prisimena Matas: "mama buvo apsikri, darbšti, išmintinga, nuoširdžiai maloni ir per savo pašventimą, darbą ir kantrybę, užaugino visus vaikus dorais, savo kraštą mylinčiais žmonėmis.

1941 m. sausio 26 d. dėl sovietinės okupacijos ir persekiojimo pavojų, devyni diakonai gauna kunigystės šventimus, o studijas užbaigia jau gyvėdami už seminarijos ribų. 1941 m. birželio 15 d. užbaigiamos studijos ir kun. Matas paskiriamas į Šv. Kryžiaus (Karmelitų) parapiją, Kaune, vikaru ir Vinco Kudirkos vardo mokykloje tikybos dėstytoju.

1944 m. sausio mėn. Paskiriamas arkivyskupo Juozo Skvirecko asmeniniu sekretorium ir kapelionu. O jau liepos mėnesi kartu su arkivyskupu teko pasitraukti į vakarus, dėl artejančio fronto. Vienerius metus praleidę Austrijoje, 1945 m. rugsėjo mėnesi lydi arkivyskupa į Romą. Čia arkivyskupo rekomenduotas įstoja į Gregorianum'o universitetą ir tesia Lietuvoje pradėtas Bažnytinės Teisės studijas. 1947m. apgina disertaciją gaudamas Bažnytinės Teisės daktaro laipsnį. Tais pačiais metais paskiriamas Šv. Kazimiero Kolegijos klieriku prefektu.

1949 m. atvyksta į JAV. 1951 m. lapkričio mėn. Atsikelia gyventi ir dirbti į Albany, NY vyskupiją. 1963 m. paskiriamas Šv. Jurgio, Albany, NY parapijos klebonu. O 1988 metais užtarnautam poilsiui persikelia gyventi į Saint Pete Beach, nes čia jau anksčiau buvo apsigyvenęs brolis Juozas.

## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA MID-AMERICA DISTRICT'S 41<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" BANQUET- 2001

This year, on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2001, at the Martinique Restaurant, North Ballroom, (Chicago), the Knights of Lithuania Mid-America District presented its annual Award of Distinction to Stase Vanagaite Petersoniene. She has been working with the Lithuanian Institute of Education (Lithuanian Pedagogical Institute) for the last thirty years. This spring, she will have been director of this institution for fifteen years.

The Institute has produced over 600 graduates, including Lithuanian teachers, editors of the Lithuanian daily newspaper, "Draugas," activists and leaders of the Lithuanian community in Chicago, and the former president of the Lithuanian-American Council of the United States.

Mrs. Petersonas is the author of four books published in Chicago. She is also co-author of Lithuanian Education in North America, a fifty year history of the Lithuanian School ("Lituanistine Mokykla"), published by the Lithuanian Institute of Education.

Recently, she was elected president of the Association of Lithuanian Writers in America.

Mrs. Petersonas is an active member of the Lithuanian Catholic youth organization, "Ateitis," and has edited their journal, "Ateitis," for three years.

In 1940, she was jailed by the Soviets for her activities as a patriot and partisan during the Soviets' invasion and subsequent occupation of Lithuania. In 1997, the government of Israel honored her for helping Lithuanian Jews during World War II.

The government of Lithuania has honored her with the "Zuvanciuju Gelbejimo Kryzius," in recognition of her aid to the wounded and dying during Lithuania's fight for independence during World War II.



Faustas Strolia escorts Stase Petersoniene in the Grand March.

After receiving the Award of Distinction, Mrs. Petersonas delivered a most inspiring speech to all present. She was so grateful and honored by this special award, that later, she herself became a member of the Knights of Lithuania.

This year's "Memories of Lithuania" banquet was chaired by Evelyn Ozelis, and co-chaired by Mr. Algerd Brazis, HM. Their committee members were as follows: Aldona Brazis, Robert Damasauskas, Mildred Jagiella, Ellie Kasputis, Mary F. Kincius, Diann A. Martin, Richard Niedvares, Ausra Padalino, Estelle Rogers, Lorraine Svelnis, Dolores Wainauskas, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, (Mid-America District's spiritual advisor), Peter P. Zansitis, and Sophia Zukas. They did a superb job, and as a result, about 275 people enjoyed a very elegant evening.

The program began with a Grand March and Introductions announced by Robert Damasauskas, C-36, followed by the presentation of Colors, and the American and Lithuanian National Anthems led by Algerd Brazis, HM. Welcoming remarks were then given by Evelyn Ozelis, banquet chair, and

Glenn Perutis, Mid-America District president. Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas graciously served as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Rev. Anthony Pucenski of C-36 then led the Invocation.

After a delicious dinner, various greetings were read, and the Award of Distinction was presented by Glenn Perutis. The musical program, performed by soprano Nijole Penikaite, followed the presentation. The closing remarks were then given by Algerd Brazis and Evelyn Ozelis.

Rev. Michael Yakaitis, C-112, pastor of Nativity B.V.M. church, was called upon to give the benediction. All present were then invited to dance the night away to the music of Algimantas Barniskis.

Everyone left very pleased with the evening's events, and looking forward to the 42<sup>nd</sup> banquet next year, anxious to continue this beautiful tradition.

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^



We have received a list of suggested immigration-Specialty Attorneys in the Chicago area which we pass on to you:

- Robert Ahigren (312) 782-1804
- Royal Berg (312) 855-1118
- Douglas Bristol (312) 663-4466
- Mark Davidson (312) 499-9000
- Robert Gard (312) 832-9200
- Martin Keller (312) 341-9730
- Scott Pollock (312) 444-1940



This Lithuanian stamp and label marks the 10th anniversary of the events of Jan. 13, 1991, when 14 people died trying to protect the Vilnius television tower from Soviet troops.

(Info. Submitted by Leondas J. Galinskas of Roseville, Michigan).

**LITHUANIA**

Lithuania lists the 14 people who died 10 years ago trying to protect the Vilnius television tower from Soviet armed forces on a label attached to a commemorative stamp issued Jan. 13.

Soviet forces entered Lithuania in January 1991 to crack down on the republic's independence movement.

The new issue announcement from Lietuvos Pastas describes the events of Jan. 13, 1991: "In the early morning of Jan. 13, Soviet forces attacked the Vilnius tower, which was protected by about 1,000 unarmed people. The attack was led by several tanks firing blanks from their cannons and driving straight into the crowd in front of the building.

After a few people including a young woman were crushed under the tanks' tracks and others were killed or injured by bullets, the crowd scattered, realizing that they could not stop tanks with their bodies.

"In that encounter, 14 people died, and close to 300 were injured."

The 1 lita stamp pictures Lithuania's yellow, green and red flag flying above the television tower.

H. Ratkevicius designed the stamp. A security printer in Budapest, Hungary, printed 500,000 stamps by offset in panes of 25 each. Each pane includes 25 labels.

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



## IN MEMORIAM...



Mr. Pakalnis

Waterbury -Romas Pakalnis, C-7, whose deep devotion to the Boy Scouting tradition stretched back across continents and over 60 years of his lifetime, died Thursday, Feb. 15, at the Health Care Center of Greater Waterbury. He was 76 years old.

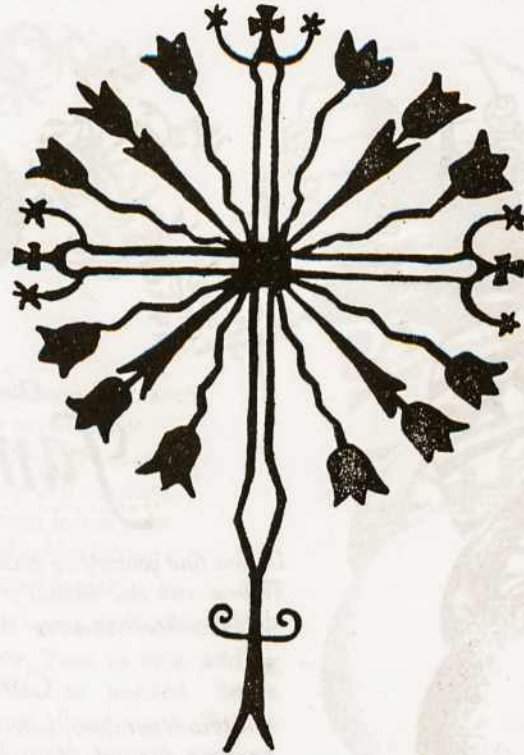
Romas Pakalnis merited a special recognition in the local "Republican American" for his contributions to the community in small, but lasting ways.

In a 1990 Republican-American article, he summed up his love of Scouting: "To me, Scouting is like taking a seed and throwing it in the ground. You water that seed, and develop that seed, and then you have a beautiful flower. That's what the Boy Scouts do for a boy, help him develop and live a good life."

Mr. Pakalnis was born Feb. 2, 1925, in Siauliai, Lithuania, son of the late Vladas and Elena (Tupyte) Pakalnis. He was educated in Lithuania and Germany, and had worked as a field secretary for the YMCA/YWCA in Germany, after World War II. He was a communicant of St. Joseph Church and a member of the Knights of Lithuania, C-7 of Waterbury.

He leaves his wife, Ona (Kulbis) Pakalnis, two sons, Linas and Darius Pakalnis, and a daughter, Rasa Briggs, all of the Waterbury area, and five grandchildren.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace!*



**OUR OTHER BELOVED DECEASED  
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA MEMBERS:**

**February, 2001**

**C-10 Athol-Gardner**  
Stanislava Kulisansky

**C-17 So. Boston**  
A. Reina

**C-26 Worcester, MA**  
Francis Roland

**C-110 Maspeth, NY**  
Sr. Jean Therese Yuska, OP



.....Ideals:.....  
*Family Recipes*  
 .....

*Do you find yourself on Easter Sunday with dozens of left-over hard-boiled eggs? To help with this annual problem, here are some creative solutions provided by Ideals readers from across the country.*

### *Confetti Potato Salad*

*4 medium potatoes, halved  
 4 green onions, thinly sliced  
 ½ cup chopped green pepper  
 1 stalk celery, thinly sliced  
 1 small carrot, grated  
 2 to 5 pimiento-stuffed olives*

Place the potatoes in a large saucepan; add water to cover. Bring water to a boil; continue boiling 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Drain. Allow potatoes to cool; cut into cubes.

In a large bowl, combine potatoes, green onions, green pepper, celery, carrot, olives, and eggs. Set aside. In a small

*2 hard-boiled eggs, chopped  
 ½ cup sour cream  
 1 tablespoon lemon juice  
 1 teaspoon dillweed  
 Lettuce leaves  
 Paprika*

bowl, combine sour cream, lemon juice, and dillweed. Stir well. Add dressing to potato mixture and toss gently. Salt to taste. Serve on lettuce leaves; sprinkle with paprika. Makes 5 to 6 servings.

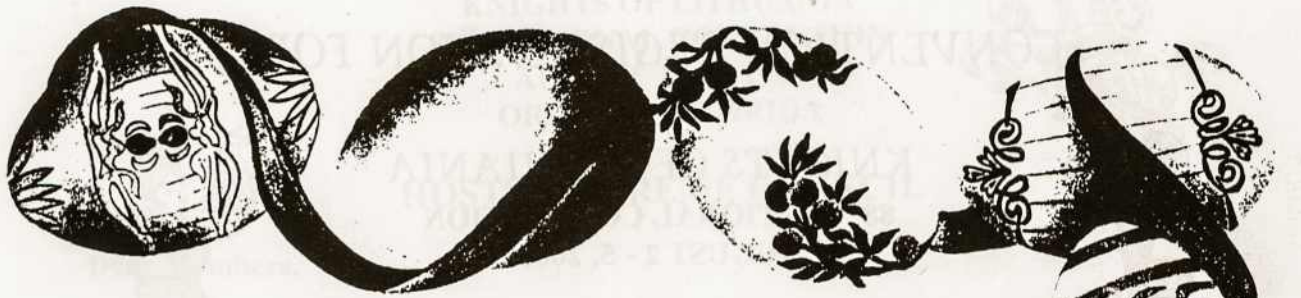
### *Curried Egg Salad Spread*

*¼ cup mayonnaise  
 ½ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce  
 1 teaspoon curry powder  
 ¼ teaspoon salt*

In a large bowl, combine mayonnaise, Worcestershire sauce, curry powder, salt, and pepper. Stir well. Add water chest-

*¼ teaspoon pepper  
 8 water chestnuts, chopped  
 6 hard-boiled eggs, chopped  
 2 green onions, chopped*

nuts, eggs, and green onions; stir well. Cover and chill until ready to serve. Makes about 2 cups.



### *Festive Main Dish Salad*

*2 cups chopped, cooked chicken*

*1 cup diced, cooked ham*

*¼ cup diced Swiss cheese*

*2 hard-boiled eggs, chopped*

*1 cup finely diced celery*

*6 green onions, chopped*

*1 tablespoon chopped green pepper*

*1 tablespoon chopped pimiento*

*⅔ cup mayonnaise*

*¼ teaspoon poultry seasoning*

*¼ teaspoon dry mustard*

*1 tablespoon lemon juice*

*3 cups shredded lettuce*

*Lettuce leaves*

In a large bowl, combine chicken, ham, cheese, eggs, celery, green onions, green pepper, and pimiento. Set aside.

In a small bowl, combine mayonnaise, poultry seasoning, dry mustard, and lemon juice. Mix well. Add dressing to chicken mixture and toss. Cover

and refrigerate several hours. Add shredded lettuce. Toss to mix, adding more mayonnaise as needed. Serve salad in a bowl lined with lettuce leaves. Garnish with tomato wedges, grapes, or sliced hard-boiled eggs. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

### *Macaroni-Egg Salad*

*8 ounces elbow macaroni*

*6 green onions, thinly sliced*

*2 hard-boiled eggs, chopped*

*½ cup thinly sliced celery*

*6 slices crisp bacon, crumbled*

*2 ounces sliced pimientos, drained*

*½ cup chopped dill pickle*

*¾ cup mayonnaise*

*½ tablespoon prepared horseradish*

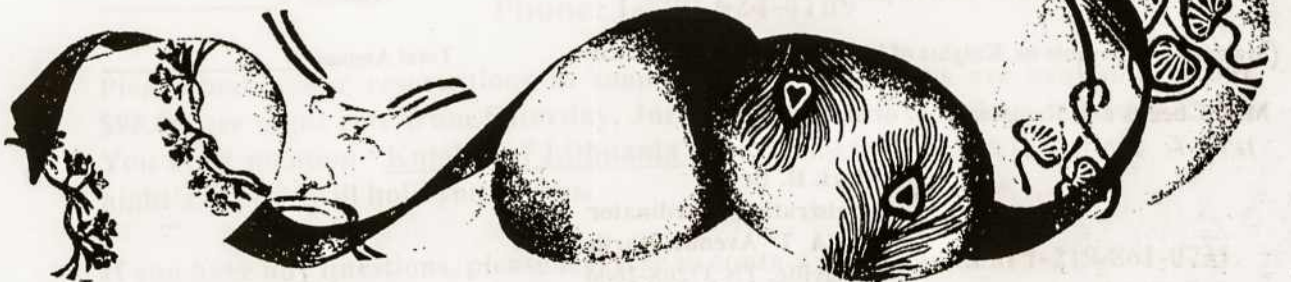
*1 teaspoon prepared mustard*

*½ tablespoon dill pickle juice*

*Salt and pepper to taste*

Cook macaroni according to package directions. Drain well, rinse with cold water, and drain again. Turn into a large serving bowl. Add green onions, eggs, celery, bacon, pimientos, and dill pickle. Set aside. In a small bowl, combine may-

onnaise, horseradish, mustard, and dill pickle juice. Stir well. Add dressing to macaroni mixture and toss. Season with salt and pepper and garnish with additional chopped green onions. Cover and chill 4 to 6 hours. Makes 5 to 6 servings.



# CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM



## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 88<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION AUGUST 2 - 5, 2001



Convention Site: Grosvenor Resort  
1850 Hotel Plaza Blvd.  
Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830

Host: KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SUPREME COUNCIL

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

All Bus Service as required; Thursday Night Get-Together at a local amusement park;  
Coffee after morning Mass in Hotel on Friday and Saturday; Saturday Night Banquet and  
Dance; and Sunday Brunch in Hotel before the Closing Mass.

Council No. \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please do not mail any registration after July 5, 2001; bring them with you to the hotel).

Early Registration - \$175.00 per person (Prior to June 1) Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Late Registration - \$185.00 per person (After June 1) Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Registration: \$90.00

(includes all adult activities plus Friday trip to local amusement park)

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Age of Child \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITY:

Wednesday, August 1, 2001 - Day Bus Trip to Kennedy Space Center

ADULT COST - \$45.00 per person Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD COST - \$30.00 per person Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to: Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council) Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Checks and Registration Forms to:

Mark H. Bell  
Registration Coordinator  
1224A 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, North  
Nashville, TN 37208-2606

Phone: (615)256-3790

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA  
88<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION  
AUGUST 2 - 5, 2001  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA



**HOSTS: SUPREME COUNCIL**

Dear Members,

Greet your fellow Knights with an ad in the Convention Program Book.

Ad sizes and costs are as follows:

_____ \$100.00 Full Page 4" x 7"	_____ \$ 10.00 Patron Greeting (Use 3 Lines below)
_____ \$ 50.00 Half Page 4" x 3 1/2"	First Line _____
_____ \$ 25.00 Quarter Page 4" x 1 3/4"	Second Line _____
	Third Line _____
	_____ \$ 5.00 Well Wisher (Name Only)

You may submit your ad on a separate piece of paper. Camera ready copy is welcome.

Also available: Outside Back Cover at \$150.00

Inside Back Cover at \$125.00

**DEADLINE FOR ADS: JUNE 10, 2001**

Make Checks Payable to: Knights of Lithuania - - - - - Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Ads with Checks to: Agnes Mickunas, Chair - Program Book  
333 Davis Avenue  
Mt. Ephraim, NJ 08059-1618

**Information for Hotel Reservations**

Grosvenor Resort Hotel  
1850 Hotel Plaza Blvd.  
Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830  
Phone: 1-800-624-4109

Please make your reservations as soon as possible. Rooms are available at our \$95.00 per night rate from Saturday, July 28, 2001 until Monday, August 6, 2001. You must mention "Knights of Lithuania" when making your reservation. A first night's deposit will hold your room.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rob Martin at 1-219-861-0731.

## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.

### 2001 ESSAY CONTEST

Each year, the Knights of Lithuania Foundation asks K of L members to research a selected topic and write an essay on the topic. This project enables three lucky members to earn some prize money and all to share ideas with other members. This year, a contest is again being sponsored, but the actual topic is again up to each entrant! Last year, we asked members to use their creativity and write about some K of L activity close to his/her heart, to share some thoughts about the organization or their Lithuanian heritage or Lithuania itself. This "topic" was so successful the last two years, we decided to repeat it again this year...and again ask members to write about what is close to their hearts, regarding Lithuania, their Lithuanian Heritage, or their Knights of Lithuania Membership.

For example, the essay may be a description of some special K of L or Lithuanian activity, or ideas of how to improve the organization, or impressions of what is going on in Lithuania, or thoughts of what your Lithuanian heritage means to you, or ... whatever your creative mind conjures up.

In short, we invite you to write an essay about:

something related to either **the Knights of Lithuania, your Lithuanian heritage, or Lithuania itself**, that is especially close to your heart.

Enter the Contest and share your thoughts. Rules are listed below.

**LENGTH:** 450 to 500 words (count all words).

**DEADLINE:** July 2, 2001. Essays received after this date will not be considered.

**ELIGIBILITY:** A contestant must be a Knights of Lithuania member (Honorary, Regular or Associate) in GOOD STANDING, OR a member of a Junior Council which is duly registered with the Supreme Council.

**CRITERIA:** Essays will be judged on content, originality, and ATTENTION TO CONTEST TOPIC. Correct grammar and neatness will also be considered in judging.

**MANUSCRIPT:** Must be typed or written legibly, double spaced. The FIRST PAGE should contain ONLY your name, address, council number, and the essay title. Succeeding pages should contain

the essay contents but NOT your name. This is to assure anonymity in judging.

- PRIZES:** 1st Prize - \$300, 2nd Prize - \$200, 3rd Prize - \$100.
- JUDGES:** One from each District plus last year's First Place Winner.
- MAIL TO:** Mrs. Elena Nakrosis, 10 Park Ave., Kearny, NJ 07032
- WINNERS:** Will be announced August, 2001, during the 88th National Convention in Orlando, FL. Winning entries will be published in VYTIS.
- SPONSOR:** KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC., via a grant from Msgr. Juozas Prunskis.



The **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.** is a tax-exempt endowment fund which uses interest from its investments to finance cultural and religious projects, helping the K of L AND Lithuania. This contest is just one of its projects.

The Foundation has been in existence for 16 years. You can help keep it in existence by joining the Foundation to increase its capital and provide more funds to help Lithuania and Lithuanian projects. A donation of \$100 entitles you to membership in the Foundation, and supports the Knights' future. Are YOU a member of the Foundation? If not, why not join today? If you are a member, consider making an additional donation.

Send your tax-deductible donation to:

Mary Beth Slakis, Treasurer  
 11113 Wisconsin Ct., 2C  
 Orland Park, IL 60462

## KNIGHTS IN ACTION



**Officers of the Knights of Lithuania Amber District:  
President; Barbara Miller, Vice-Pres. Anna H. McDonald**



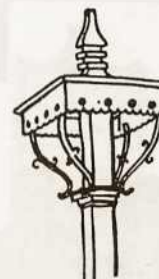
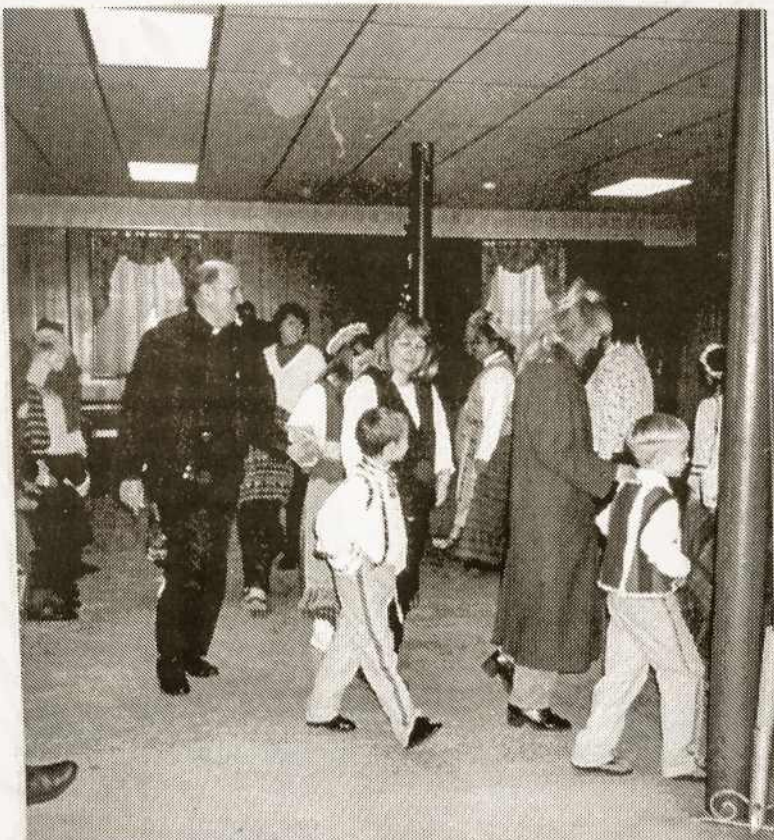
Thomas and Anna Helen celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary June 19<sup>th</sup> by renewing their wedding vows at Christ Ascension into Heaven Church, Utena, Lithuania. Mass was celebrated by Father Petras Adomonis, and music was provided by the Utena Church choir. Pranas and Ona Aleknaviciv were the directors. During Mass, rings were exchanged, and Thomas was presented with a hand-carved staff, and Anna Helen with a bouquet of flowers and ruta. A surprise reception followed in the church hall, and a traditional meal and Lithuanian wedding cake were served to 40 guests.



**Thomas and Anna Helen McDonald Kaska, renewed wedding vows in Lithuania for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**



# K of L JUNIOR KNIGHTS IN ACTION C-144



Msgr. Wassel and the K of L Juniors C-144 dancing the "Klumpakojis"



Mrs. Anna Helen McDonald, Vice-President of Junior Knights C-144, with her group of Juniors and "Santa Claus."



## KNIGHTS IN ACTION



The Amber District K of L Officers for 2001. L to R: Jean Karpovich Michalick, Len Kapochus, Nellie B. Romanas-Treasurer; Martha Winigaris-Secretary; John Mankus - President; Elsie Kosmisky & Eleanor Vaicaitis-Trustees; Anna Helen McDonald and Thomas McDonald



Council 6 visit to Archives (ALKA) on January 30, 2001. L to R: Rev. Albin Gurklis, Jozas Rygelis, Mrs. Rygelis, Dr. Jozas Kriauciunas, Kathryn Urban, (right rear) K of L member Irene Petkaitis. Council 6 presented Mr. Rygelis with a check for ALKA.

### KNIGHTS IN ACTION



**C-25 Fourth Degree Recipient,  
Al Wallis, Cleveland, Ohio.**



**Ethnic Rosary at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, PA. L to R:  
Leona Bozenko, Marie Laske, Martha Wagner, Nell Romanas,  
Martha Wanagiris. K of L members in background. C-74 and C-143.**



## KNIGHTS IN ACTION



66 yrs. Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood of Rev. Matas Cyvas, (on left in photo), January 26, 2001. Bishop Paulius Baltakis, OFM is picture here with him. St. Petersburg, Florida - St. Casimir's Lithuanian Mission. C-147.




Council 6 members enjoyed a "Beach Party" on February 6, 2001.




*Ring, Easter Bells  
Ring, Easter bells, ring merrily  
a welcome to the Spring,  
And let your joyful cadence  
a peaceful halo bring.*

*Fill the wild woods with music,  
let the bluebird gaily trill,  
And the robin with his silver notes  
vie with the thrush at will.*



*Ring, Easter bells, ring cheerily  
a welcome to the flowers,  
That peep their heads so shyly  
beneath the woodland bowers.  
Call forth the sleeping petals  
where winter's snows have lain,  
Ring, Easter bells, ring cheerily,  
For Spring has come again.*



*Ring, Easter bells, ring joyfully  
the message soft and clear,  
Tell that the earth is born anew  
and filled with hope and cheer;  
That faith bids all the world  
take up her song of victory.  
Ring, Easter bells, from far and near,  
ring out exultingly.*



## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

Fr. Dan's

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

(Formerly Lithuanian Chefs)  
by Fr. Daniel Yenkevich

### CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE

4 lb (or more) corned beef brisket  
2 or 3 onions, whole  
6 whole cloves, stick two in each onion  
2 cloves garlic  
2 bay leaves  
6 carrots, pared  
1 medium head cabbage, cut in 6 wedges

Place corned beef in a Dutch oven or large heavy pot; barely cover the corned beef with hot water. Add onions, garlic and all seasonings. Cover and simmer for about 1 hour per pound of corned beef, until tender. Remove meat from the liquid, and add carrots and potatoes to the liquid. Bring to gentle boil for 10 minutes. Then add cabbage and cook an additional 20 minutes. When ready to serve, slice the beef across the grain in thin slices. Serve with mustard and horseradish.

### LITHUANIAN KUGELIS

6 or 7 large potatoes  
1/4 lb fat back or ham fat  
2 large onion, chopped  
2 eggs slightly beaten  
1 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp pepper  
1/2 cup milk  
1/4 cup flour

First dice the fat back of ham fat into small pieces and lightly fry until browned and crisp, then add the chopped onion to it and fry until soft and golden. Grate the potatoes and add the fried fat back or ham fat with the onions while hot to the potatoes. Add the eggs, milk, flour and seasoning and mix well. Taste and adjust salt and pepper. Pour into a 8x8x2 (or larger) baking pan that has been slightly greased. Bake in a

pre-heated oven at 400 degrees for about an hour. Top should be golden brown. Enjoy with sour cream.

### GRAPEFRUIT & CHICKEN SALAD

2 grapefruit (medium)  
1/2 cup plain yogurt  
1/4 cup mayonnaise  
1 Tbsp minced fresh dill or 1 tsp. dried dill weed  
1 1/4 lbs chicken breast, cooked and cut in 1/2" pieces  
1/2 cup chopped celery  
2 scallions, chopped  
2 Tbsp chopped pimiento (optional)  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Sprigs of fresh dill for garnish

First cut grapefruit in half crosswise. With grapefruit knife separate each section from the membrane. Cut removed sections into bite-size pieces and set aside. Remove all membrane from shells and discard, set shells aside.

Next, in a bowl combine mayonnaise, yogurt, dill and salt and pepper to taste. Blend well, then add grapefruit, chicken, celery, scallions and pimiento. Blend lightly. Cover and refrigerate until serving time. Wrap grapefruit shells and refrigerate separately. At serving time, scoop about 2/3 cup of chicken salad into each grapefruit shell. Garnish with dill sprig.

### CHICKEN MARSALA WITH MUSHROOMS

3 Tbsp flour  
1/2 tsp. ground pepper (fresh)  
4 skinless boneless chicken breasts, halved and pounded to 1/4" thick  
4 Tbsp butter or margarine  
1 Tbsp vegetable oil  
1/2 cup chopped onion  
2 garlic cloves, chopped  
1/2 lb mushrooms, sliced  
3 Tbsp dry Marsala  
2/3 cup beef stock

Salt to taste

First, mix flour and pepper together in dish; dredge chicken pieces in flour mixture to coat; shake off excess. Secondly, heat 2 Tbsp butter in a large frying pan with the vegetable oil over medium heat. Cook the chicken until lightly brown, about 3 minutes on each side. Remove and keep warm. Add onions and garlic and saute for about 3 minutes until tender. Add mushrooms and cook until they are lightly browned, 3 to 5 minutes. Next return the chicken to pan, stir in Marsala and beef stock. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer until liquid is reduced by one third. Whisk in the remaining butter. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve over buttered, parsleyed noodles.

### LITHUANIAN - JEWISH COFFEE CAKE

2 cups sugar  
1/2 lb of butter  
3 cups flour  
2 tsp baking soda  
3 tsp baking powder  
1 pint sour cream  
4 eggs  
2 tsp vanilla  
1 cup sugar  
1 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 cup chopped nuts

Cream butter with sugar. Blend flour, baking soda and baking powder together and mix well. Add sour cream, and eggs one at a time and then the vanilla. Pour the batter into an ungreased pan. Make a mixture of 1 cup sugar, cinnamon and chopped nuts. Add most of this mixture to the batter in the pan, mix it in well. Sprinkle the rest of the mixture over the top of the batter. Bake at 350 deg. for 45 minutes to an hour.



## District and Council News

### C-6 Hartford, CT Leona Sawka

What? We're having a Beach Party in February? Yes, Council 6 decided to have a "Beach Party" prior to the meeting on Feb 6th, but it was indoors in the church hall where it was nice and warm. Despite the fact that we had 22 more inches of snow from a storm the day before, we had good attendance. To get on with the "beach" theme, many came wearing straw hats and sunglasses, flashy summer attire and someone even wore a sarong. Tables were decorated with beach towels. Hotdogs and hamburgers were grilled, accompanied by potato salad, fried peppers, sauerkraut and many condiments. What a great idea and what fun!

Trivia question: Do you know at least three individuals who were involved in the original organization of the Knights of Lithuania? (look for answer)

Isvardink nors tris ypatais kur daug prisidejo prie su organizavimo L. Vyciu.

June Grenier, Financial Secretary, ran the meeting. A prayer was said for Alex Yusias, our former president, who passed away January 8th. Two new members, Pat Shaler and Barbara Cianci, were inducted, as well as Stephanie Muszynski (a former K of L'er). Madeline Ratches, another former K of L'er, was reinducted at the November meeting. Brother Juan Dielinikaitis of the Holy Apostles Seminary was

inducted at the Lithuanian Day of Prayer.

We were honored to have Eric Karpavich attend our meeting. Eric is from Waterbury, C-7, and wrote a children's story entitled "Pasaka Apie Topa Kaime" (See page 16-17 of the Vytis, January issue).

On Sunday, Feb 11, we will be celebrating Independence Day for Lithuania at Holy Trinity Church, Hartford, after our 10:00 Mass. A Continental Breakfast will be served in the church hall, compliments of C-6. Dianne Yusias and Leona Sawka are in charge of this event.

June Grenier announced the names of those who have reached 1st degree status. They are as follows: Ed Balskus, Valerie Bancroft, Al Dzikas, Lillian Joseph, Dottie Krancunas, Gertrude Kruzinauskas, Judy Landers, Jurgis Petkaitis, Elvyra Rimsa, Leona Sawka, Anne Stanulis, Donata Virkutis, and Gene Ziurys.

2nd degree are Monsignor Conte and Alyce Gegesky. Previous recipients of 2nd degree are Nell Knusto, Mike Kripas, Stephanie Muszynski, and Irene Petkaitis.

Previous 3rd degree status are Francie Ambrose and Wandie Kruk.

Congratulations to all!

Judy Landers, Lithuanian Affairs, reported on a recent news bulletin wherein Pope John Paul II has elevated to Cardinal the Archbishop of Vilnius, Audrius Juozas Backis. Selected from a list of 4,000 Bishops, the Pope announced 37 new Cardinals, on Sunday, January

21st.



On becoming a Cardinal, Audrius Backis (for the next 17 years until he reaches the age of 80) will have the right to participate in all the Catholic churches governing decisions and will participate in the selection of the next Pope. His name could also appear on the list of candidates at the time of the election of a new Pope.

The investiture of new Cardinals into the College of Cardinals will take place in Rome on Feb 21. Cardinal Backis is the son of Diplomat Stasys and teacher Ona Backis. Cardinal Backis took his priestly vows 40 years ago and attended high school and the seminary in Paris. He continued his studies at the St. Casimir Lithuanian College and Grigaulius University in Rome. He received his doctorate from Laterano University in Rome. When Lithuania regained its independence, Bishop Backis was appointed the Archbishop of Vilnius.

Judy also reported on the twin boys who recently had the much needed eye surgery here in the States. In the Jan 22nd issue of the Lithuanian daily, Draugas, a letter of thanks appeared from the parents of Vytukas and Pauliukas. They expressed their gratitude to those here in the US who donated funds so that the twins could have the operations. Their letter read, "We are very thankful to all who assisted and donated funds to pay for the operations. Thanks to all of you both boys had very complicated eye operations whose results will become clear after a couple of months".

Any 3 of the following:  
1. Rev. Dr. Navickas

2. Professor Pakstis
3. Mr. Morkunas
4. Mr. Aleksis
5. Dr. Rackus
6. Rev. Kaupas
7. Rev. Kemesis
8. Mr. Simutis
9. Mr. Sakalas
10. Mr. Zujus
11. Mr. Bagdonas



At. Kun Dr. Navickas, Prof. Pakstis, Morkunas, Aleksis, Dr. Rackus, Kun. Kaupas, Kun. Kemesis, Simutis, Sakalas, Zujus, Bagdonas.

### C-10 Athol-Gardner "Vincukas"

We are elated about Pope John Paul II elevation of Vilnius Archbishop, Audrius Backis, to one of 37 new Cardinals. He became the second new church era Lithuanian named Cardinal. Cardinal Vincentas Sladkevicius died last summer. Sekmes!

Robert Gatautis, son of member Ann Gatautis of Athol, was recognized at the US Postal Service's Central Massachusetts Processing and Distribution Center for his mechanical innovation developed here in Shrewsbury and adopted nationally. As a reward he was awarded 10,000 by the US Postal Service. The new machine widened the input system to accept heavier, thicker mail such as coupon packages, church mailings and small catalogues. The new machine sorts hundreds of items by address in seconds instead of the hours it took by hand. It will save millions of dollars in labor and capital costs. The press gave it a lot of publicity. Bravo, Bob Gatautis!

Our Council celebrated the Feast

of St. Casimir, our Patron, on Feb 25 by attending Mass at St. Francis and having brunch in a local restaurant.

We were deeply saddened by the death of member Stanislava Kulisansky of Athol on Feb 3. She attended local functions as long as her health allowed. She was a quiet, unassuming, generous member to her parish of St. Francis and to the K of L. She was born in the Vabalninkas area. She and her late husband owned the popular "Bill's Market", famous for their "desros and kopustai". 20 years ago, he was murdered by a would-be robber at the store. The K of L conducted their ritual and attended the funeral mass. Dinner was served in the parish hall. Condolences are extended to children - son, Vince and family and daughter, Kristina. Sudiev, Stacy!

Daniel Budwick, grand-nephew of Bill Wisniauskas, rolled the highest game and the highest series ever by a Junior Bowler at Gardner Ten Pins. Danny rolled a 296 game and a 732 series. His brother, Michael, age 17, rolled a perfect 300 game at the Shrewsbury Lanes in a recent Junior Tournament. Both received great publicity and pictures in the local press.

This correspondent wishes all the Vytis staff and readers, fellow K of L er's a joyous and blessed Easter and good health and the choicest of blessings.

### C-17 South Boston, MA Regina

Sunday, March 4th is the C-17 annual Communion Breakfast. The guest speaker, our own St Peter pastor, Fr. Steve Zukas,

has recently returned from Lithuania. His recent visit coincided with the very meaningful activities of the January 13th memories of the SLAUGHTER OF LITHUANIANS AT THE TV TOWER. Fr then visited their graves at Antakalnis Cemetery where 9 of the 14 victims are buried. The one woman who died has a white cross while the men have black crosses. Flowers and candles decorated their graves. It was a very meaningful experience for Lithuania who remember the significant sacrifice of 10 years ago.

Our retired National Archives Chairman, Larry Svelnis, had a pleasant meeting with newly-elected Archives Chairman, Bill Piacentini, and several K of L members from Hartford, CT. Despite the icy winter day and bad soaking rainstorm, it did not stop them. They had a friendly meeting and tour of ALKA at Putnam, CT.

Our Sunshine Committee, Ann Norinkevich and Mary Mickevich are kept busy these days. They report: Kastas Yonika is recuperating after a fall. Also, Lillian Vallis is back in the hospital after an accidental fall. Donna Pechulis, Adele Martus, Ann Noren are on the mend. Bea Stakutis will have her surgery upon their return from Florida.

Condolences to the family of K of L member Mr. A. Reina who passed away.

Fr. Anthony Baltrashunas, a resident of Marion Manor, sends his best wishes and asks to be remembered to all.

Iki pasimatymo... Viso Gero!



**C-26 Worcester, MA**

Ruta

At Worcester's New Year's "First Night" Celebration in the opening ethnic culture parade, our Council President, Vivian Rodgers, carried the K of L council flag; Irene Markevicius carried the Lithuanian Girl Scouts' flag. There was also a representative of the Lithuanian community carrying the Lithuanian flag and another carried the Lithuanian Boy Scouts' banner. We were all very proud to have our fatherland represented on the stage with the other countries.

Some of our council's "world travelers" have recently returned from trips. John Putis had an enjoyable visit with his son, John, in Walnut Creek, California. Kazys and Teresa Adomavicius are tan and healthy after their yearly sojourn to Aruba. While there they met another Lithuanian. They happened to be talking Lithuanian to each other when a gentleman happened to ask them what language they were speaking. When they told him, "Lithuanian", he said, "I thought so." He then explained that he was Lithuanian but did not speak the language and that he came from New Jersey. This was the first time that they met another Lithuanian there. Ruth Miller was snorkeling with the stingrays in the Cayman Islands. Stephen Walinsky, Jr., his wife, Ellie, and Olga Kersis had an "unforgettable" trip visiting Steve and Ellie's son, Mark, (who is a member of C-26) and his wife in Vail, Colorado. Carol Grigas visited her brother in Florida. Charlie and Emily Witkus do their share of travelling to Europe and points west. Ruth and Vity

Gadilauskas make monthly trips to Maine to "bond" with their grandchild and visit their daughters. Lillian Kondrotas and Aldona Waska are getting ready for their annual Florida trip.

A delicious Valentine potluck supper preceded our February meeting. Members brought their special creations. There was a variety of meats, including kielbasa and meatballs, salads, cheese, vegetables, a unique sweet and sour cabbage dish, etc. There were 2 Lithuanian specialties present - kugelis and koseliena. There was also a wonderful array of desserts with a red velvet cake as the centerpiece. It certainly was a feast for all the attendees.

Plans were discussed for a Mass to be held at St. Casimir's Church to commemorate Lithuanian Independence. After Mass, there was to be a program held in the church hall followed by a reception hosted by our council.

Everyone was asked to pray for the health of our sick members: Joe Brazauskas, Adele Creaska, Anne Holm, Bill Karas, Charlie Kulakusky, Gad Troupes, Adele Ulevich, Ellie Walinsky, Marcie Shea, Mary Lovett, Angela Busky, and Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Sharkus. Teresa Adomavicius will be going in for knee surgery at the end of February. We also mourn the passing of Francis (Frank) Roland who was a long-time member of our council. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his wife, Sue, and family. Joe Sipas passed away. He was a former member and very active in our council until he married and moved to Norwood. Condolences are extended to his wife, Alice, and family, and to

his sister, Helen Dallalis who was a former member of our council until she married and also moved to Norwood. She now lives in Falmouth on Cape Cod. Our sympathy also goes out to Bill and Anne Leseman on the loss of his stepmother who passed away just weeks short of celebrating her 103rd birthday.

It was discussed that it would be nice if we had a Lithuanian dance group to represent the Lithuanians at various functions. At "First Night" many of the other ethnic groups had this type of representation. If anyone knows of children who would be interested in forming a dance group, they should get in touch with Irene Markevicius.

In closing the February meeting, two heart boxes of chocolates were awarded. All the women had to write their names on pink slips of paper and the men had blue ones. Each color had its own separate container. One slip was drawn from each. The winners were Ruth and Chuck Sarafinas. Everyone laughed and could not believe that a husband and wife could be drawn. The odds of this happening are great!

**C-3 Philadelphia, PA**

Stephany Gutauskas



We're so pleased that Nellie Pandza was able to attend one of our social functions recently. We hope that her health continues to improve.

Lithuanian language classes are progressing under Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM. Monsignor's students all give him a gold star for his efforts.

Our thanks go to Alice Bacon, Dorothy Machonis, and Toni

Petrone for the delicious social they presented after the February meeting. Special thanks also go to Julie Kowrak and Stephany Gutauskas for the delectable home-made cookies we all enjoyed.

We are elated that Toni Petrone's two granddaughters attended our February meeting. Maybe we can start up our Juniors again. On Friday, February 16th, several C-3 members proudly attended morning Mass celebrated in honor of Lithuanian Independence Day, at St. George's Church where "Lietuva Brangi" and the Lithuanian National Anthem were reverently sung as part of the service.

On Saturday, February 17, other C-3 members - wearing ethnic costume - attended the 5:00 P.M. Mass which was offered with Special Intention for Lithuania, at St. George's Church. Lillian Greymas and Irene Ozalis were our Knights who carried up the Offertory Gifts at the Mass. Many Vyciai who are parishoners of St. George's admired the portraits of the apparition of Our Lady at Siluva and the Ausros Vartu Madonna, after they were hung in the vestibule of the church that Saturday. The portraits, commissioned by Msgr. Anderlonis, HM, and donated to the church by Victor Stepalovitch, were painted in Alytus, Lithuania.

On Sunday, February 18th, C-3 members also participated in a Lithuanian Independence Day celebration beginning in the morning with a procession into St. Andrew's Church. In the afternoon, our members attended a civic celebration at the Lithuanian Music Hall. Victor Stepalovitch did an admirable job

of carrying C-3's flag during both the religious and the civic ceremonies.

A group of Knights was seen dancing and having a great time at St. George's Pre-Lenten Banquet on Saturday, February 24th.

On Sunday, March 4th, the council met at Dianne and Joe Drumsta's newly renovated home. Then, at 4:00 P.M., they attended a Renewal Celebration Mass, officiated by Bishop Joseph F. Martino, at St. Casimir's Church. A banquet at the Waterfall Room followed the Mass.

Several C-3 delegates attended the Amber District meeting on Sunday, March 18, in Pittston, PA. We hope that John Chernoski enjoyed his first Amber District event.

On Saturday, March 24th, C-3 members went on a Lenten Pilgrimage to the Shrines of St. Rita, St. John Neumann, and St. Katharine Drexel, with a stopover for lunch at Fisher's Tudor House.

Marge and Charlie Petronis visited Fr. Eugene Wassel at St. Francis Country House and presented him with a fruit basket from his fellow-Knights for his long-time spiritual leadership of our council.

Victor Stepalovitch and his sister flew off recently to Clearwater, FL to spend a few weeks with their nephew.

Congratulations to new homeowners Jim and Barbara Currie! May the Lord bless your comings and goings. Good Luck to Jim who started a new job in April.

For the next 4 months, Walt Svekla, Jr. will reside in Flories, Guatemala, where he has accepted a position with the Pro-Pepen Organization. During his stay, Walt will be involved with environmental conservation. We wish him the best of luck in what promises to be the start of an adventurous career.

Andrew Svekla has relocated to Fairfax, VA, where - for the past year - he has worked on the technical staff of AOL based in Manassas, VA. We enjoy seeing Andrew every time he comes home to visit.

C-3 members are already making plans for the 88th National K of L Convention in Orlando, FL and are so pleased that 4 of our members are on the Convention Committee. Agnes, HM, and John Mickunas are working on the ad book; Lillian Greymas and Irene Ozalis will be taking care of hospitality and banquet seating. Good luck to all!



**C-74 Scranton, PA**  
Mrs. Marie Laske

My daughter, Susan Stebbins, and son, Nathan, represented St. Joseph's Church on the Pro-Life March to Washington, D.C. Msgr. Peter Madus, Sr. Elizabeth Zemaitis, Elizabeth Kaminskas, my daughters Sandra Georgia and Susan Stebbins, along with her son, Nathan, and I attended the 17th Annual Respect for Life Prayer Breakfast. Jean Garton, founder of Lutherans for Life, was principal speaker. She praised President Bush for being a Pro-Life President.

Some of us went to St. Paul's Church for the 2001 Week of

Prayer for Christian Unity. We also went to an Ecumenical Celebration of God's Word at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton. The Most Reverend John Dougherty of Scranton gave the greeting and introduction to worship; we were truly honored. We also had several guest clergy, religious, lay representatives of local Christian communities and ecumenical agencies. This was a wonderful gathering of Christian Fellowship.

Richard and I attended the Luzerne Flag Raising. Nell Bayoras Romanas was Chairperson and again did a great job. She had many politicians and many people representing many organizations.

C-74, Scranton, had their annual flag raising.. Richard and Marie Laske were Chairpersons; Marie greeted everyone. Msgr. Peter Madus blessed the flag. Richard Laske read the Proclamation. Nellie Romanas spoke on the living conditions in Lithuania today. Mary Twardzik served the refreshments. Regina Petrauskas spoke about the Lithuanian community. Mayor James Connor attended. Due to the inclement weather, many members were unable to attend.

May the Heart of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament be praised, adored, loved with grateful affection, in every moment, in every tabernacle of the world, even till the end of time. Amen!

### **C-25 Cleveland, O** Ursula Kunsitis



Officers for C-25 2001 (Where, o where did 2000 go?) are Dick Marks - president; Joe Ivoska - Vice President; Jean Marks -

Recording Secretary; Kathy Kaczmarek - Financial Secretary; Jim Thompson - Treasurer; Ed Prancus - Cultural Chairman; Joan Susis Ortman - Ritual Chairman; Ursula Kunsitis - Vytis Correspondent and Bulletin Secretary; and Steve and Lillian Yourkovic - Coffee Hour Chairmen. If these names sound familiar, most of these Knights are the same officers we have had for a number of years! Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your enthusiastic dedication!

Our sympathy goes out to Joe and Ann Ivoska on the death of Joe's sister, Helen Miholick, in DuBois, PA. May Helen and all the faithful departed Rest in Peace.

Gene Kunsitis not only underwent triple by-pass surgery in November, but ask him to tell you about his midnight ride in EMS on December 31st. Gene is doing very well and is looking forward to a healthy, busy, active year!

Our annual Christmas Party was once again held at the Croatian Lodge where approximately 30 members enjoyed the Happy Holidays Christmas Show on December 7th, featuring Florence Henderson. We are sorry that Al and Eleanor Bendokas had to miss the show due to inclement weather conditions and the Kunsitis's due to illness! Hope we can all make it this year.

Congratulations are in order to Albert Wallis who was presented with his 4th Degree on December 5th by our Council President, Dick Marks. This special event was witnessed by members Jean Marks and Joe and Ann Ivoska. Al has been confined to his home

due to illness. Our entire council extends their best wishes to him!

On January 17, 2001, our council lost a "good friend" when the Reverend Msgr. Alexander Goldikovskis (Msgr, "Goldie") died at 94 - missing his 95th birthday by 4 weeks. He was born in Riga, Latvia. Msgr. "Goldie" truly loved the K of L and its members and attended many of our functions. Msgr. "Goldie" worked with the Cleveland Lithuanians and Latvian community and also worked with other ethnic communities in the U.S. and Canada. In recognition for these services and at the request of His Eminence Julijans Cardinal Vaivods of Latvia, His Holiness Pope John Paul II appointed Fr. Goldikovskis a Chaplain of His Holiness with the title of Monsignor on May 12, 1987. Msgr. "Goldie" was a delight to be with, a cheerful, effervescent man who always had a good word for everybody. Many people whose lives he touched remember him with fond affection. Rest in Peace, Msgr. "Goldie"!

Council Travelers: Dick and Jean Marks spending their Christmas holidays in Red Lodge, Montana, visiting with daughter, Mary Beth, and Randy. Joe and Ann Ivoska flying down to Ft. Lauderdale to their daughter's condo for a very interesting New Year's Eve Party at her neighbor's!

Theresa Capuria, foregoing our Feb meeting for a trip to Las Vegas with her family. Jim and Joan Thompson, along with Fran Pranskevich, spending 4 lovely weeks in Ft. Myers. Jim and Joan spent another week cruising in the Keys and Western

Caribbean with the Scottish Bagpipers. We can just imagine what great parties were aboard ship with the Scots, Irish and Liths! The Marks' enjoying a week in Feb at an ocean front condo at Treasure Island, FL. Oh well, I guess the rest of us will just have to settle for a little more snow, wearing parkas and below normal temperatures!

Snowbirds Bill and Helen Jakubs enjoying the Arizona sunshine and paying a visit to Charlie and Nelda Machutas while waiting to pick up their new Travel Van. Have a safe trip home in April. 'Can't wait to see your "New Bus"!

Happy Spring - Happy Easter to All!

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



February is the month Lithuanian communities throughout the world celebrate the commemoration of Lithuania's Independence. The Dayton community did just that on February 18th. We began with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 10:30 A.M. at Holy Cross Church.

This was followed with a brunch in the Church Hall. The program began with a prayer by Rev. Michael Halloran. MC was Elinor Sluzas and Eloise A. Berczelly volunteered to collect the donations that went to Aid to Lithuania, Inc. and the Vejeliai Dancers. The Vejeliai Dancers continue to share and keep alive Lithuanian folk dances for the area. Their performance was well-received. Guest speaker was Mr. Horace Zibas of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Zibas had recently returned from Lithuania where he spent four months as

Consultant to President Adamkus on Privatization. Mr. Zibas and his wife, Aldona, have made many trips to Lithuania under the auspices of the IESC (International Executive Service Corp.) Mr. Zibas has served as consultant to various businesses, industries, and SODRA (the Lithuanian Social Services Administration). He has lectured at Kaunas University and Vilnius Technical University. Mrs. Zibas, while in Lithuania, spent time teaching English wherever she was needed. Mr. Zibas brought us up to date on conditions in Lithuania and the importance that we now work hard to assure Lithuania's admittance to NATO.

Thanks must go to Sarysis President Elaine Pacovsky for preparing the brunch and program. Also, thanks must go to Judy Petrokas for all the detailed work she did putting the program together. Thanks must go to the Holy Cross' Altar Society for the beautiful flowers for the Mass. Thanks must go to the Knights of Lithuania and the Lithuanian Social Club who made financial donations to Sarysis for the event.

Special thanks go to Elaine Pacovsky for the wonderful lunches she prepared for the membership prior to the January and February meetings.

Eleanor Sluzas rounded up a good group to head to Rising Sun, Indiana, for a day of fun at the Victoria Boat Casino. Among those who went were Ann Scott, August Blum, Helen Vaitkus, and Fran Petkus. We did not come home as big winners but we weren't losers, either.

Blessed Easter to one and all!!!

**C-110 Maspeth, NY**  
Bruno Rutkunas

Another month has passed and our area had more snow and bad weather than the previous 4 years. Walking is dangerous, especially for those of us still recuperating from surgery; but even with the rain on this Sunday, Feb 25th, we enjoyed another fruitful Knights of Lithuania meeting and brunch. At our 11:30 A.M. Lithuanian Mass at the Transfiguration Church in Maspeth, we all had the pleasure and the thrill of witnessing a Baptism for a newborn Lithuanian baby, Daniel. It is amazing how an event like this can make one feel so good and warm inside.

We learned that one of our sister members had left us; Sister Jean Therese, O.P. (Yuska) passed away last week while residing in Rosary Hall in Amityville, NY. She had served many years in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

Zina Budris reported that she still needs about 65 more members to renew their membership to break the 200 barrier; we need all the help that we can get. Also, we received membership applications for 2 new members this past Sunday.

Lithuanian Independence Day was celebrated jointly by Transfiguration and Annunciation Church Choir members on February 18 at the Annunciation Church followed by a reception and program at the Lithuanian Cultural Center (Zidiny's).

To help the Transfiguration attain their monetary goal for the Stewardship Bishop's Drive, members approved a \$200

donation to this drive.

Our president, John Klimas, reported that plans are being formulated for a gala September Dinner Dance with live band music, continuous dancing, DJ, OPEN BAR, complete dinner and more; more detailed information at a later date.

Atlantic City bus trips resumed this past month with everyone glad to get away from their "cabins".

**C-136 Hudson-Mohawk**  
Dorothy Richmire

Although we are being pelted with sleet and snow, periodically, the sun - when it is shining - feels much warmer... a sure sign that Spring is right around the corner.

Our council celebrated Lithuanian Independence Day on February 18th by attending Mass at Holy Cross Church with Rev. Anthony Curran as celebrant. Fr. Curran who is a native of Ireland gave us a heart-warming homily. Thank you, Father Tony.

We also remembered Fr. Bernard Gustas our former spiritual advisor and pastor of Holy Cross Church. Also Fr. Joseph Biondino who - although he had Italian roots - had a close relationship with the Lithuanian community because of his long friendship with Fr. Gustas, his trips to Lithuania and his ability to speak fluently the Lithuanian language. We miss both priests and pray that their souls may Rest in Peace.

After Mass, we hosted a feast of traditional treats for all who attended Mass. Comments were

very favorable, thanks to the efforts of all who worked so hard to make it a very memorable occasion. A special thanks to Sue Freer who gracefully and efficiently chaired the event.

Thought for today: Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck. Happy Spring.

**C-147 St Petersburg FL**  
Dolores Jonaitis

January 26, 2001 was the 60th Anniversary of the Ordination of Rev. Dr. Matas Cyvas into the Priesthood. Fr. Cyvas is Spiritual Advisor of our council. A committee for the "Presidents" of All the Lithuanian Organizations in our Community was formed to arrange a banquet in his honor. Angele Karnius followed through with all presentations.

The Lithuanian-American Hall was beautifully decorated and the tables looked especially beautiful in pink and white, all blending in, matching the pink window treatments and the new stage curtain. Over 250 guests attended. Various committee members escorted guests to their tables.

Our honored guests, Rev. Matas Cyvas and Bishop Paul A. Baltakis O.F.M., were greeted at the door upon entrance, by Loretta Kyniene, President of the Lithuanian Club. and Frank Petraitis, President of St. Casimir Mission Committee, and escorted to their seats at the Head Table. While all the guests were standing for this joyous event, Angela Karnius introduced Brother Antanas Grabnickas OFM, to say the opening prayer (Invokacija). While standing,

Angela proposed a Champagne toast to Father's Jubilee.

After introducing Father's family, they presented him with a beautiful "LIETUVOJE ISAUSTA JUOSTA". Also a specially designed album from Lithuania filled with pictures of his earlier years in Lithuania.

Greetings were received from Bishop Howard Hubbard from the Albany Diocese and Bishop Lynch from the St. Petersburg Diocese, who were unable to attend.

Bernice Aviza, 1st Vice-President of Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council, read greetings from President Rob Martin. Also received were congratulations from our Supreme National Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis from Philadelphia, PA. Many more letters of congratulations were received from his former parish in Albany, NY. Later, Mr. Karnius presented Fr. Cyvas with an album that contained all written Greetings and Congratulations. Also included were pictures taken during the banquet and guest signatures.

A catered dinner of prime rib was then served. Delicious tortes and hand-made "zagareliai" were enjoyed by all, with some left for Father to take home.

Mecys Silkaitis did a biography on Father's life-time and years before his ordination and after. All presidents of our various organizations presented their specific Greetings and Congratulations, individually.

The Men's Choir "Aides" sang 4 Lithuanian songs. A request was made for a 5th song and it was

granted.

Then a word or two from Father Cyvas. He wholeheartedly thanked all who contributed to the success of this occasion. At this point "Ilgiausiu Metu" and Valio Valio" greeted him LOUD AND CLEAR. A receiving line was formed to enable Father Cyvas to greet his guests, individually. Many pictures were taken.

Father celebrated his Jubilee Mass on Sunday, January 28, 2001, at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Gulfport, FL. Concelebrants were Bishop Paul Baltakis OFM, Brother Antanas Grabnickas OFM, Father Rafaelis Sakalys OFM, and Evangeliku Reformatu Dr. Eugenijus Gerulis. A beautiful Homily by Bishop Baltakis OFM, Special for the occasion, and Readings by Dr. Eugenijus Gerulis and Mecys Silkaitis. The Men's Choir "AIDAS" sang in church.

After Mass, dinner was served in the Lithuanian-American Club. Also honored was Father Mykolas Kirkilas who is also celebrating his 65th Jubilee Ordination to the Priesthood.

### C-112 Chicago, IL. Johanna M. Shainauskas

On March 18, a beautiful, sunny Sunday afternoon, the K of L C-112 Champagne Luncheon was held at Nativity B.V.M. Parish Hall. Everyone was invited to attend the 12:15 Mass at the Church and then proceed to the hall where the festivities would take place, beginning at 1:00 P.M. About 160 people were in attendance. The hall was decorated in a spring theme, pink and white, and fresh mixed flowers were placed on the tables. People who came early got a special treat--- Faustas (on piano) and Hercules (on violin) Strolia were rehearsing their program. A large Vytis adorned each side of the hall, and there were a bottle of wine and one of champagne on each table. Free soda could be obtained upon request. Mickey Petrosius and Mary Banky made the kugelis, and the sausage and sauerkraut were also cooked by Mickey. Baked chicken and tossed salad

came from the Deli. Jello molds and desserts were donated by the committee members.

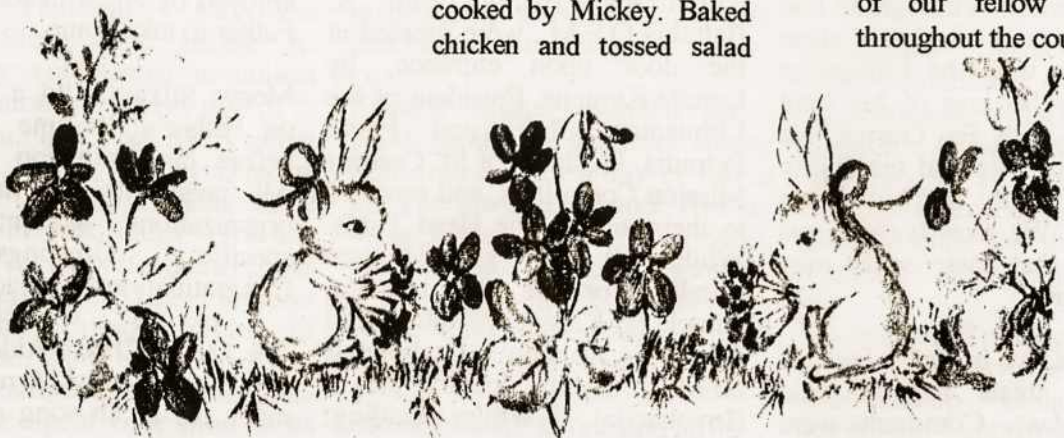
The K of L Juniors took part in this event, too. They helped wherever they could and also took care of the wardrobe. The wardrobe tips will go to the K of L C-112's Jrs. fund.

The musical program, (by the Strolia brothers), was absolutely beautiful, about one hour of continuous Strauss and Opera selections.

The raffle also did exceptionally well. Unbelievable as it seems, 4 of our own committee members won \$100 each. The clean-up crew, including the Jrs., did a great job of putting the hall back in shape.

Thank you, Julie Zakarka, chairperson, and all of the committee members, for taking on this challenge, and thanks to all who attended and helped to make this event the great success that it was.

God bless! And a holy and happy Easter to you and all of our fellow Councils throughout the country!



YOUR  
TICKET  
TO  
**Disney**  
MAGIC!

Multi-day Meeting/Convention tickets are absolutely the best way for you to experience all that our World has to offer. With advance purchase, you will enjoy the following benefits at an extraordinary value:

- Convenient *Park Hopper*® privileges to all four Theme Parks with full day, multi-day tickets.
- Complimentary visit(s) to either *Downtown Disney*® Pleasure Island or *DisneyQuest*® Indoor Interactive Theme Park.
- Disney's Delegate Deals™ booklet with every ticket ordered - over \$75 in savings.
- Disney's FASTPASS™. Receive a free voucher with a designated attraction boarding time, then enjoy the privilege of usually waiting no more than ten minutes in line.

Check your Park Guidemaps for details.

Want to see the World? We have just the ticket! Call (407) 566-5625. **Walt Disney World® Resort**

**ADVANCE PURCHASE TICKETS FORM**

Unlimited admission and PARK HOPPER® Privileges for the number of days on your ticket to all four Disney Theme Parks.

PARK HOPPER® TICKETS	<b>5</b>	DAY MEETING/CONVENTION TICKET (Includes FIVE visits to Pleasure Island or DisneyQuest® during valid dates.)	# _____ Adult Tickets @ \$230.00 = \$ _____
			# _____ Child Tickets (3-9 years) @ \$182.00 = \$ _____
	<b>4</b>	DAY MEETING/CONVENTION TICKET (Includes FOUR visits to Pleasure Island or DisneyQuest® during valid dates.)	# _____ Adult Tickets @ \$202.00 = \$ _____
			# _____ Child Tickets (3-9 years) @ \$161.00 = \$ _____
	<b>3</b>	DAY MEETING/CONVENTION TICKET (Includes ONE visit to Pleasure Island or DisneyQuest® during valid dates.)	# _____ Adult Tickets @ \$152.00 = \$ _____
			# _____ Child Tickets (3-9 years) @ \$121.00 = \$ _____
	<b>2</b>	DAY MEETING/CONVENTION TICKET (Includes ONE visit to Pleasure Island or DisneyQuest® during valid dates.)	# _____ Adult Tickets @ \$102.00 = \$ _____
			# _____ Child Tickets (3-9 years) @ \$ 81.00 = \$ _____

**AFTER 3 PM TICKETS**

Admission to one Theme Park each day after 3:00 p.m. for the number of days on your ticket. Ticket is valid during convention dates only. (Disney's Delegate Deals™ not applicable).

PARK HOPPER® TICKETS	<b>3</b>	DAY MEETING/CONVENTION TICKET	# _____ Adult / Child Tickets @ \$ 83.74 = \$ _____
	<b>2</b>	DAY MEETING/CONVENTION TICKET	# _____ Adult / Child Tickets @ \$ 62.54 = \$ _____

(Regular Mail \$3.00 / Federal Express \$10.00) Handling Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Price Includes Tax) Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Knights of Lithuania**

Tickets Valid July 27 - August 11, 2001

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Method Of Payment Price listed includes tax.  
Please include shipping & handling fee.

Check  Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Check Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Checks made payable to: Walt Disney World Co.)

American Express  MasterCard  Visa  
 Discover  Diners Club

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Specially priced tickets are available only by returning this order form to WALT DISNEY WORLD Ticket Mail Order/ P.O. Box 10140 / Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830 or via fax to (407) 827-6964. To order via telephone please call (407) 566-5625 with complete credit card information. Orders placed on or before JULY 6, 2001 will be sent via regular mail with handling fee of \$3.00 (allow 2 weeks for delivery). Orders placed after JULY 6, 2001 will be sent via Federal Express with a handling fee of \$10.00. Orders will only be accepted until JULY 20, 2001.

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED:**

VYTIS (The Knight)  
2601 West Marquette Road  
Chicago, IL 60629-1817

S41 P6 444  
THE LITHUANIAN INFORMATION CENTER  
EDITOR'S EXCHANGE COPY  
5620 S Claremont Ave  
Chicago IL 60636-1039

Periodical  
Postage Paid



*The Joyful Day Has Dawned for Us!*

(Linskma diena nusvito jau! Traditional Lithuanian Easter Hymn)

*Joyful the day that dawned for us,  
The day for which we longed and prayed:  
Death died when Christ arose this morn.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*He broke the reign of death and sin,  
Redeemed our souls from Satan's might  
And overcame the gates of hell.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*All of us now in love He sends,  
To give the message to His friends;  
The Lord is Risen, Jesus lives!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*