

Vytis - The Knight



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Knights of Lithuania 89th National Convention



Chicago, Illinois - August 1-4, 2002

**Knights of Lithuania
Supreme Council
Officers
2002-2003**

Spiritual Advisor

Rev. Msgr Joseph Anderlonis, STD, HM
St. George Rectory, 3580 Salmon St.
Philadelphia, PA 19134
(215) 739-3102 Fax (215) 739-7217
Mojoander@aol.com

President

Robert A. Martin, Jr.
3420 S. Lituania Ave.
Chicago, IL 60608-6720
Tel/fax (773) 376-4779
Amerlith1@aol.com

1st Vice President

Brian J. Johnson, Sr.
1127 Gerard RD
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Tel (412) 885-1965
Rita_johnson@attbi.com

2nd Vice President

Becky Pataki
610 Chestnut ST #2
Kearny, NJ 07032
Tel (201) 955-1122
Fax W (201) 393-4814
Bxtrp97@yahoo.com

3rd Vice President

Maryte Bizinkauskas
424 N Cary ST
Brockton MA 02402
H (508) 586-0650
C (617) 365-6699
Marytebiz@aol.com
Recording Secretary
Bernice Aviza
8 Tremont ST
Albany, NY 12205
H (518) 459-5256
F (518) 869-1753
Blaviza@worldnet.att.net

Treasurer

Ellie Nakrosis
10 Park Avenue
Kearny, NJ 07032
H (201) 998-9641
F (201) 991-1681
Mociute@aol.com
Financial Secretary
June V. Grenier
159 Coppermill RD
Wethersfield, CN 06109
H (860) 563-9009
Jvg159@earthlink.net

Trustees

Agnes V. Mickunas, HM
333 Davis Avenue
Mt. Ephraim, NJ 08059
(856) 931-3306
ja.mick@verizon.net

Rita Sussko, HM
48 Liberta Dr
Toms River, NJ 08757
(732) 505-8733

Legal Advisor

Saulius V. Kuprys
Henehan, Donovan & Issac
150 S. Wacker Dr. #1050
Chicago, IL 60606
W (312) 346-5275
F (312) 346-5640
VYTIS Editor-in-Chief
Sr. M. Janine Golubickis
12220 Will Cook Rd.
Lemont, IL 60439-9157
(630) 257-2291
fax: (630) 257-2334
Maryj9g@hotmail.com

VYTIS Business Manager

Sr. Johanna Marie
Shainauskas, SSC
6727 S. California Ave.
Chicago, IL 60629
H (773) 778-8211
F (773) 925-8885
Sesjoana33@hotmail.com

Archives Chair.

Nancy A. Pawasauskas
133 Elm ST #5
West Haven, CT 06516
(203) 937-5705
Npowers17@comcast.net

**Lithuanian Language &
Cultural Chair.**

Laurynas Misevicius
218 Pastors Walk
Monroe, CT 06468-1006
Tel/Fax (203) 452-5208
Laurynas.misevicius@ubs
w.com

Lithuanian Affairs Chair

John R. Mankus
1110 Darlene Dr.
Endicott, NY 13760
Tel/fax: (607) 754-1241
Jmankus@stny.rr.com

Honorary Memb. Chair.

Frank Petrauskas, HM
289 Higgins DR
Baldwinsville, NY 13027
(315) 638-8788
Algird Brazis, HM
Elinor Sluzas
Bertha Stoskus, HM
Loretta Stukas, HM

Public Relations Chair

Joseph Stiklius
50 Oak Hollow Dr.
Waterbury, CT 06708
Tel/Fax (203) 574-2046
jstiklius@msn.com

Ritual Chair.

Lee Moore
126 High ST
Clearfield, PA 16830

Elsie Kosmisky, HM
Georgianna Macke
Rita Sussko, HM
Clemencine Miller, HM

Scholarship Chair

Irena Gečas-McCarthy
30 Clinton Rd.
Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 746-0820
macgecas@msn.com
Karen Domalakes
Antoinette Sakal
Wanda Pliskaitis
Ver.Bizinkauskas-Cote

Lady of Siluva Fund

Elinor Sluzas, HM
55 Brandt ST
Dayton, OH 45404
(937) 228-8679

K of L Foundation

President
Loretta Stukas, HM
234 Sunlit Dr.
Watchung, NJ 07060
H (908) 753-5636
F (908) 753-9492
stukiene@worldnet.att.net

St. Casimir Guild

President
Anna Klizas-Wargo, HM
125 S. Morris St.
St. Clair, PA 17970
(570) 429-0132
akliz1@aol.com

Aid to Lithuania, Inc.

Pres. Regina Juska-Svoba
1594 Beaupre
Madison Hts., MI 48071
Tel/fax (248) 547-2859
rjuskasvoba@cs.com

**Send all Returns, Articles,
District and Council News to:**

VYTIS (THE KNIGHT)
2601 W. Marquette Rd.
Chicago, IL 60629-1817.

Tel/fax:(773)778-9231

Email: vytis@core.com

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Tel/fax: (773) 778-9231 Email: vytis@core.com

VYTIS – The Knight – STAFF

Editor-in-Chief: Sr. M. Janine Golubickis, SSC
Layout/Design/Typesetting, Business Manager
Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC
Council News Editor: Mildred Jagiella, 15104 Hancock,
Hebron, IN 46341, (219) 996-6516, Fax (219) 996-6536
milliern@aol.com

Knights of Lithuania Web page: www.knightsoflithuania.com

Amber District

President
John R. Mankus
1110 Darlene Dr.
Endicott, NY 13760
Tel/fax: (607) 754-2429
JMankus@stny.rr.com

Mid-America District

President
Glenn Perutis
3233 S. Greet Street
Chicago, IL 60608
Tel/fax: (312) 949-1082

Mid-Atlantic District

President
Edward Barkowski
1226 Palma Ave.
Schenectady, NY 12306-2828
(518) 355-7483
ebarkows@NYCAP.rr.com

Mid-Central District

President
Frances Petkus, HM
800 Haldeman Ave.
Dayton, OH 45404
(937) 236-0395
franpet4@aol.com

New England District

President
Joseph Stiklius
50 Oak Hollow Dr.
Waterbury, CT 06708
Tel/Fax (203) 574-2046
jstiklius@msn.com

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

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Convention Motto:
**"Knights of
 Lithuania: United
 for Freedom
 and World
 Peace"**



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 21, 2002

I send greetings to those gathered for the 89th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania.

From every corner of the world, immigrants have come to this great Nation to discover the promise of America. Many fled persecution and tyranny to build better lives in this country of opportunity, where they could worship in freedom and realize their dreams in peace. Through the years, their hard work and determination to succeed have helped to shape our culture and to enhance our prosperity.

I commend the Knights of Lithuania for recognizing the remarkable contributions of Lithuanian Americans to the economic, cultural, and civic development of the United States. I also applaud your members for preserving the rich customs, traditions, and faith of your ancestors. Your efforts improve the quality of life for others in your communities.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes on this special occasion.



GERBIAMIEJI

LIETUVOS VYČIAI,

APGAILESTAUJU, KAD NEGALIU ASMENIŠKAI PASVEIKINTI JŪSŲ ORGANIZACIJOS, TAD SIUNČIU
NUOŠIRDŽIUS SVEIKINIMUS 89-AJAI JŪSŲ KONVENCIJAI
IR PERDUODU ŠIRDINGIAUSIUS LINKĖJIMUS KIEKVIENAM IŠ JŪSŲ.

JŪSŲ ORGANIZACIJOS VEIKLA – TAI TIESIOGINIS LIETUVOS IR LIETUVIŲ ISTORIJS ATSPINDYS.
“LIETUVOS VYČIAI” - VIENA IŠ SENIAUSIŲ IŠEIVIJOS LIETUVIŲ ORGANIZACIJŲ. PER ILGUS SAVO
VEIKLOS DEŠIMTMEČIUS SUKAUPĖTE GILIĄ PATIRTĮ, ATNEŠUSIĄ NAUDOS NE VIENAI TAUTIEČIŲ
UŽSIENYJE KARTAI IR TĖVYNĖJE GYVENANTIEMS LIETUVIAMS. GEOGRAFINIS ATSTUMAS,
FIZINIS BUVIMAS TOLI NUO OKUPTOTOS TĖVYNĖS NETRUKDĖ INTENSYVIAM KULTŪRINIAMI
BENDRAVIMUI, POLITINĖS IR VISUOMENINĖS MINTIES MAINAMS, O BENDRA KOVA UŽ TĖVYNĖS
LAISVĘ DAR LABIAU TELKĖ IR ARTINO. TOKIŲ KAIP JŪSŲ ORGANIZACIJŲ DĖKA TIEK ŠIAPUS,
TIEK IR ANAPUS ATLANTO LIETUVIAI JAUTĖ IR ŽINOJO ESANTYS VIENOS ŽEMĖS, VIENOS
TAUTOS, VIENOS ISTORIJS VAIKAI.

TODĖL “LIETUVOS VYČIAI” IR ŠIANDIEN, LAISVOJE LIETUVOJE TEBĖRA GERBIAMA, VERTINAMA
IR DĖMESINGAI IŠKLAUSOMA ORGANIZACIJA, SAVO DARBAIS IR LAIKYSENA VISIEMS LAIKAMS
IŠSIKOVOJUSI PELNYTĄ AUTORITETĄ.

PAGARBIAI SVEIKINU JŪSŲ 89-AJĄ KONVENCIJĄ. LINKIU AKTYVAUS DARBO, ŠILTO IR ATVIRO
BENDRAVIMO BEI MALONAUS BUVIMO KARTU.

VISOKERIOPOS SĖKMĖS “LIETUVOS VYČIAMS” BEI KUO
GERIAUSIOS KLOTIES KIEKVIENAM IŠ JŪSŲ !

VALDAS ADAMKUS
LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS PREZIDENTAS

VILNIUS, 2002 METŲ RUGPJŪČIO 4 DIENA



Knights of Lithuania *Supreme Council*

Established 1913

"For God and Country"

Dear Fellow Members:

Greetings and welcome to a "New Year" for the Knights of Lithuania. I use the term new year as our year traditionally starts and ends with our National Convention, so this convention issue of VYTIS really is a fresh start for all of us. By the time you read this issue the fall season will be upon us and all our councils and districts will be busy getting back to work after our summer "break". I truly hope your summer was a good one.

This year's convention was truly a memorable one. Whether it was the social events, religious services or meetings, all that attended can come away with a sense of pride and accomplishment and hopefully some nice memories of their stay in Chicago. We can take pride in the fact that our organization has continued for these past eighty-nine years and in that time we have accomplished much that makes us proud. While we may not always agree on the issues and resolutions that are presented to us during our conventions, as members of a religious and democratic organization we hopefully can all agree that we all have the right to disagree and voice our opinions. Then, as is our democratic process, we vote and accept the outcome of the majority in true Christian fashion. As always, I'm sure this will be the case this year as well.

On behalf of the Supreme Council and all our members, I wish to thank the members of this year's host, Council 16, for a job well done. Your hard work and dedication are deeply appreciated. I also wish to congratulate all those who won scholarships and membership drive awards. Your dedication to the organization is one of our greatest assets. To our newest Honorary Members, William Kolicius and Rev. Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas, congratulations on receiving this, our highest honor. Finally to our "Friend of Lithuania", Dr. John P. Lubicky, congratulations and thank you for your assistance to the children of our beloved homeland which made you so deserving of this award. Looking to the future, I see a year full of potential, an organization rich in enthusiasm and the membership to reach that potential.

I now turn to address with you one issue that I am sure won't be met with thunderous applause but it was something that had to be done. During this year's convention the delegates were faced with a dilemma. The economic times and advancing age of some of us has begun to take their toll on our organization. Declining membership, rising costs and few options to combat them with left us with a budget in serious deficit for the coming year. Something had to be done. After careful consideration and weighing every option the delegates were asked to approve a dues increase effective with 2003 dues. Our membership dues hasn't been increased since 1994. During these past eight years we have, as an organization, experienced several postage increases and rising printing costs on VYTIS, declining membership and rising operating expenses due to inflation. We just couldn't continue to function at our current dues rate and bring you the services that you have come to expect and deserve. Therefore the delegates approved an increase

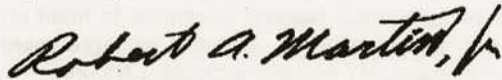
to \$20.00 a year for a member and \$10.00 a year for their spouse or adult family member living in the same house. Lifetime membership was raised to \$200.00 for a member and \$100.00 for a spouse. This is only an increase of \$5.00 per year for a single member and \$2.50 per year for their spouse or adult family member living in the same house. If you break it down, dues was only increased by .44 cents a month and .22 cents a month respectively. We hope you will understand. A positive of this increase will be that this will allow us to print seven issues of VYTIS this year instead of the six we printed last year. As many members were unhappy with last year's downsizing of our VYTIS publication we are certain that this upsizing will meet with everyone's approval.

While we are on the subject of VYTIS I would like to let you know how this change will affect publication. We will continue to publish six bi-monthly issues, Jan.-Feb., Mar.-Apr., May-Jun., Jul.-Aug., Sep.-Oct. and Nov.-Dec., with a seventh issue devoted strictly to covering all our convention information. I am happy to report that Sr. Janine Golubickis will remain on as our Editor. Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, who will function as Business Manager and Typesetter and Mildred Jagiella who will function in the capacity of Council News Editor, will join Sister on our staff. I look forward to seeing the quality issues that Sister Janine and her team will produce for us once again this year.

Well, the New Year is ahead of us and a new national board is eager to serve you. We hope you won't be disappointed. This October we will gather in Washington, DC for our first National Pilgrimage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Watch for news on next summer's tour to Lithuania for the Song and Dance Festival. Finally, don't forget our 90th Jubilee Convention next August, which will be hosted by Brockton, MA's Council 1, where it all began in 1913.

Here's to looking forward to a wonderful new beginning and a great year ahead of us.

Vytiškai,



Robert A. Martin, Jr.
President



To My Fellow Knights

The 89th National Convention is history and the work of this year will lead to the 90th anniversary of the K of L organization. At this time in history, it is especially fitting to keep our mission statement and motto before us.

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

For God and country!

Sister M. Janine

State of the Organization Report

Presented by: **Robert A. Martin, Jr.**

Thursday, August 1, 2002

Pursuant to Article XI of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, I submit to the Delegates of the 89th National Convention, the Annual State of the Organization Report, where in all reports of the Officers, Committee Chairs, District Presidents, Charity Presidents and organization staff have been summarized for presentation. It is important to remember that this report is just a summary of their work and activities. I strongly encourage delegates to pick up a set of their full reports and after reading them share them with your fellow council members. The work that has been accomplished in the past year is truly remarkable and worthy of your time.

Spiritual Advisor

Rev. Msgr. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM

Msgr. Joe has continued to offer a monthly Mass for our deceased members and includes new names of our deceased as he receives them. At this Mass Msgr. also offers prayers for the intentions of our entire organization.

Msgr. attended the fall meeting of the SC in Philadelphia and offered Mass for those attending at St. George Parish.

During the year Msgr. has always made himself available for advice and counsel to the national officers and all members seeking his guidance. His assistance and support as always was a tremendous help to all of us.

Msgr. remains active in the activities and projects of Council 3. In addition Msgr. is busy this year with the centennial celebrations of his home parish of St. George in Philadelphia, PA.

President

Robert A. Martin, Jr.

In my capacity as Supreme Council President I attended all meetings of the SC. I was honored to lead a delegation of K of Lers at a Sept. 10th Capital Hill reception for President and Mrs. Adamkus celebrating the 10th Anniversary of renewed Formal ties between our two great nations. During this same Washington, DC visit I, along with our 1st VP, Bernice Aviza, were privileged to attend a meeting with top White House Staff Members at which the petitions in support of NATO inclusion of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia were presented to the Bush Administration. I also held a meeting with staff members of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception concerning the restoration work that will be

done to the Siluva Chapel there, more on this during the convention panel. An additional trip to Washington was made in the spring with our 1st VP at the invitation of the Lithuanian Embassy. At this meeting, held in the Slovakian Embassy, organizations for all countries in the Vilnius 10 were present. A follow up meeting was made to the National Shrine to continue discussions on the restoration work.

I was honored to attend a private dinner in Chicago with President Adamkus and Senator Durbin, hosted by the Lithuanian Embassy during the President's Chicago visit. In addition I attended NED, MAMD and MCD meetings. I also served as co-chair of this year's convention committee and attend all meetings, Council celebrations and Banquets, District Celebrations and Banquets, and meetings with SC members as needed. I worked with the Vytis staff as requested by them and wrote bi-monthly articles and special advisories as needed for each VYTIS issue.

This year I was happy to recommend our Legal Advisor, Vytis Editor-in-Chief and ALTAS Reps to the SC for approval. I also served on all charity boards and committees as required by the constitution and attended their annual meetings.

1st Vice President Bernice Aviza

Bernice has been an outstanding member of the Supreme Council. While unable to attend the Fall Meeting of the SC she has attended all other meetings. Through the wonders of the Internet she has remained in constant contact with all officers as needed. She remains active in her district and serves as their Junior Vice President. On the local level she has been active in council activities and the packaging of materials and equipment for Lithuania. Bernice continues to head up the planning for creating a Sister City agreement between Amsterdam, NY and Marijampole, Lithuania.

Bernice was part of the K of L contingent to the Presidents Reception in Washington as well as the Spring Meeting at the Slovakian Embassy. She continues to work with the committee on Social Membership and will be holding a meeting during this convention.

Bernice has always made herself available when called upon and had been a true asset to the SC.

2nd Vice President Elena Nakrosis

This year Ellie continued her work to try and recruit new members. She worked with the Financial Secretary verifying all new members of the organization. She has kept the new membership records current and will be presenting the membership awards during this convention. She continued to contact former K of L Councils in an effort to revitalize them. She sent copies

of Vytis to numerous people to introduce them to the K of L and encourage them to join. She answered all requests for copies of the constitution for new and old members alike.

Unable to attend the SC Meeting in Chicago this spring she attended all other meetings of the SC.

**3rd Vice President
Annamarie Šluzas-Berger**

Annamarie wasn't able to attend the fall meeting of the SC in Philadelphia but attended all other meetings of the Supreme Council and has continued work updating our junior information. She has responded to all correspondence received.

She has planned this year's Junior Convention Session and will be leading their presentation during this convention and was in contact with the convention committee concerning the junior's social activities.

**Recording Secretary
Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC**

Sr. Johanna Marie has attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and has once again been one of our greatest assets. During the past year she has collected the updated rosters of council and district officers, kept all minutes of the SC and handled the mailing of minutes to all officers and honorary members. She has continued to work with our VYTIS Editor and manages the typesetting and layout of "Vytis".

Sister remains active in her district where she currently serves as Choir President and participates in the meetings and activities of her home, Council 112.

**Treasurer
Richard Niedvares**

Richard has worked hard this past year to keep our bills paid and our books balanced. He headed up this year's budget committee and will be presenting the annual financial report during this convention. He has been an outstanding member of the Supreme Council and has kept us well informed of our finances.

**Financial Secretary
Mark H. Bell**

Once again Mark had a busy year. During the past year he has continued to work to keep our national address lists updated. In addition he has processed all the membership renewals, additions and deletions.

Unable to attend the fall meeting of the SC Mark attended all other meetings of the Supreme Council and was in constant contact with the Supreme Council on all tasks as needed.

**Trustee
Agnes Mickunas, HM**

Trustee, Agnes Mickunas, attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and was an asset to our national team. Agnes' main responsibilities this past year continued to be the maintenance of the listing of all K of L owned equipment and materials.

During the convention she and her co-trustee will meet to review the books of the national treasurer, Aid to Lithuania, Inc., K of L Foundation and St. Casimir Guild. A detailed report will be given to the delegates at a later session.

**Trustee
Rita Sussko, HM**

Rita attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and was an asset to our national team. Along with Agnes, she has worked on maintaining an updated list of all K of L owned equipment and materials. Rita is also responsible for maintaining the K of L Manuals for distribution as requested.

During the convention she and her co-trustee will meet to review the books of the national treasurer, Aid to Lithuania, Inc., K of L Foundation and St. Casimir Guild. A detailed report will be given to the delegates at a later session.

**Amber District
President - John Mankus**

John continues to wear more than one hat on our national board. As President of the Amber District he has arranged and presided over all meetings of the district. The district continues to thrive and through their careful budgeting of funds has made annual donations to ATL, St. Casimir Guild, and K of L Foundation and K of L Scholarship. In addition the Amber district has aided both financially and spiritually when ever and wherever able. As Amber District President John serves as a member of the National Nominations Committee both for Convention Presidium and Supreme Council. John has written letters to the President, local Senators and Congressman asking for support of Lithuania's NATO bid. John continues to participate at functions whenever he can and was part of the K of L Delegation at the Sept. 10th reception in Washington, DC. He attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

**Mid-America District
President - Glenn E. Perutis**

Once again the MAMD kept its President busy. Glenn attended all board and regular meetings of the district as well as attending its functions and those of its member councils. In addition, Glenn and many of his district members participated at the functions and banquets of other Lithuanian organizations throughout the

Chicagoland area during the year. He was honored to represent the District at the Lithuanian Consul's Feb. 16th reception in Chicago. Unable to attend the spring meeting of the SC he attended all other meetings currently is a member of this year's national nominations committee both for Convention Presidium and SC.

Glenn is happy to report that the district sponsored a pilgrimage to the Holy Hill - National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians. This fall they plan on traveling to Washington for the National Pilgrimage. As always the district once again sponsored its "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet to commemorate Lithuanian Independence Day.

The MAMD continues to be active and its members continue to promote Lithuania whenever the chance arises.

Mid-Atlantic District President - Edward Barkowski

President, Ed Barkowski, reports that this past year the Mid-Atlantic District held two bi-annual meetings, their fall meeting in Amsterdam, NY on Sept. 9th and the spring meeting in St. Petersburg, FL on April 14th. During their first meeting district they were treated to a visit to St. Casimir Church which was recently reopened after renovations. During this meeting the district voted to nominate Bernice Aviza for Honorary Membership. At the spring meeting they discussed the possibility of hosting the 2004 National Convention in St. Petersburg. A committee was set up to investigate.

Ed continues to work with our '01 Friend of Lithuania in preparing containers for Lithuania. Through the unceasing work of Ed and Polly Ziausys unending sources of supplies have been obtained from Amsterdam Hospital. Ed continues to work with our 1st VP to set up the previously mentioned Sister-City program.

Though unable to attend any of the SC meeting this year due to family issues, Ed currently serves on the National Nominations Committee for Convention Presidium and National Board. Ed continues to always offer his support and assistance.

Mid-Central District President - Frances R. Petkus, HM

The Mid-Central District is pleased to report that during the past year their members have gathered twice, once for their Fall Convention/Pilgrimage in Detroit, MI in October and once for their Spring Convention/Bowling Tournament in Cleveland, OH in May. Delegates to their fall meeting elected their officers for the coming year. During the weekend pilgrimage they were able to visit historic St. Anne's Church in Detroit. During their spring meeting the delegates approved their new by-laws and held their annual charity raffle benefiting the K of L Charities.

District President, Frances Petkus, HM, has once again led this dedicated group of K of L'ers to a successful year. Fran attended all meetings of the Supreme Council. As Mid-Central District President, Fran is a member of the National Nominations Committee both for Convention Presidium and SC, serving as Chair.

New England District President - Joseph V. Stiklius

Joe continues to be a hard working member of the Supreme Council in his position of NED President. Joe attended all meetings of the SC. Joe attended both meetings of his district's board and both general sessions. The district member councils continue to be energetic and active responding to all requests.

As NED President Joe serves as a member of the National Nominations Committee both for Convention Presidium and SC. In addition, Joe is a member of this year's convention committee serving as convention photographer.

Archives Chair - William Piacentini, Jr.

This year Bill and his committee have continued the difficult task of organizing and cataloging the collection of materials in our national archives. Currently the committee consists of five members, Bill, Alexander Akule, Frances Bumila, Sophia Sakalys and Longinas Svelnis. In addition each district has one representative on the archives committee.

I was saddened to receive Bills resignation from the committee but am happy to report that his reason was excellent. Bill has decided to return to Lithuania to teach again this year. I wish him well in this exciting venture in this life and look forward to hearing all about his time there, hopefully through a few articles for VYTIS.

Honorary Membership Chair - Frances R. Petkus, HM

The Honorary Membership Committee consists of six members representing all districts. The current members of the committee include: Fran Petkus, Rev. Albert Contons, Al Brazis, Frank Petrauskas, Bertha Stoskus and Loretta Stukas.

Chair, Fran Petkus, reports that this year the Honorary Membership Committee has completed all steps needed with regards to their resolutions made last year to bestow Honorary Membership upon, Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas of C-82 and William Kolicus of C-19. Pending final approval by this year's convention delegates the presentation of medals will be made at the convention banquet.

The committee continues to review candidates submitted. Their recommendation, in this regard, will be

made during the convention. They invite all councils and districts to submit the names of outstanding members for future consideration. Also, the committee has completed work reviewing the Constitution with regards to Honorary Membership.

As reported, Fran attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

Lithuanian Affairs Chair - John Mankus

John continues to be a hardworking member of the Supreme Council. During the past year John has represented the Knights at official functions when able including the Washington reception for President Adamkus last fall. In addition John has traveled to various districts to make presentations on current situations in Lithuania and what the Knights can do to help. John continues to mail out the Lithuanian Affairs Newsletters as well as published articles in Vytis. He has been instrumental in securing this year's "Friend of Lithuania" recipient. He attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

Lithuanian Culture and Language Chair - Faustas Strolia, HM

Honorary member, Faustas Strolia, continues to promote our Language and Culture at every opportunity. During this past year he has been a valuable member of the SC, especially to me, with regards to translations of incoming and outgoing letters and documents. Faustas attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

During the year Faustas retired as Choir Director for the K of L Choir. I congratulate him on over 40 years of service in this capacity. After three years as committee chair Faustas looks forward to working with the new Lith. Lang. & Culture Chair on a smooth transition. I thank him for his continued support of our organization.

Public Relations Chair - Regina Juska-Svoba

Regina has continued to be a committed member of the Supreme Council. During the past year she has written and/or submitted countless articles for publication in Draugas, Dirva and Darbininkas. Articles on Knights of Lithuania activities were also submitted to Radio programs when available. Regina has continued to translate articles into English and Lithuanian as requested. Regina has attended the Supreme Council Meetings and has remained in close contact with the members of the Supreme Council.

Ritual Chair - Clemencine Miller, HM

Clemencine has once again led our Ritual team with precision. Clem answered all questions she received

regarding ritual and was in continual contact with the other members of the Supreme Council as needed. This past year saw her attend the Supreme Council meeting in Orlando and publish an article in Vytis entitled, "Ritual degree ceremonies for First and Second Degree presentation". Clem recommends that the committee look into the computerization of the ritual records in conjunction with our national records. She has been a valuable asset to our national board.

Scholarship Chair - Irena Gecas-McCarthy

Irena continues to lead the Scholarship Committee with professionalism and expertise. We are truly lucky to have her. During the past year she has answered all correspondence received and led her fellow committee members in making the decisions on this year's scholarship recipients.

She is happy to report that the committee is looking into revising the format of the scholarship application, development of an instruction/to-do list and publishing articles to raise awareness for the continued needs of scholarships to maintain the level of giving. Unable to attend this year's convention she will have a member of the committee present the scholarships for this year during the convention banquet.

Aid to Lithuania, Inc. Chairman of the Board - Robert S. Boris, HM President - Regina Juska-Svoba

Regina and Bob continue to do an outstanding job heading up our Aid to Lithuania, Inc. project. During the past year they are please to announce that donations to ATL, since its inception, topped 1 million dollars. These funds have been used on many projects including medical aid shipments, Lithuanian Seminary Funding, Soup Kitchen funding, and Emergency Shelter Funding.

Regina continues overseeing the daily goings on of the running of ATL from Detroit and was instrumental in acquiring additional aid and assistance as available. As stated, Regina attended all SC meeting.

K of L Foundation, Inc. Loretta Stukas, HM, President

Foundation President, Loretta Stukas is happy to report that this to date the foundation has capital of over \$100,000. The foundation has continued to make donations to aid deserving projects in Lithuania.

During their meeting at this convention the foundation members will be replacing two of their district representatives on the board who have asked to step down.

The foundation continues to sponsor the Karklius Scholarship, Essay Contest and maintains a K of L

Archives Fund. In addition they are now able to accept donations via credit card. Scholarship and essay award recipients will be announced during this convention.

St. Casimir Guild

President - Anna Klizas Wargo, HM

Ann continues to be a true inspiration to her fellow Knights on all levels of the organization. Ann kept in constant contact with the Supreme Council and was always available to offer her words of wisdom. Through her work and the work of her committee this past year the Guild was able to send \$3,780.00 for the College's Library fund, almost double what was needed. The Guild, thanks to the generosity of our members, is one of the primary sources of income for the College. Ann will be making a complete report to the convention later during our sessions. The Guild asks for your continued prayers and support for the college and its students who are truly the future of Lithuania's Church.

Legal Advisor

Saulius Kuprys

Legal advisor, Saulius Kuprys, continues to represent the interests of the Knights of Lithuania when requested. Saulius has been in constant contact with the members of the Supreme Council as needed. In addition he maintains the reports of all legal filings. He is constantly aware of any legal changes and is quick to respond to them when warranted. He has truly been a remarkable Knight.

Vytis

Editor in Chief

Sr. M. Janine Golubickis, SSC

Sister continues to lead the VYTIS staff with energy and professionalism. During this past year she published six bi-monthly issues. Sister has responded to all requests and suggestions always keeping the best interest of the organization and publication in mind. For the coming year she is proposing adding a seventh issue of the magazine to further aid in keeping our members informed. She remains open to new ideas and suggestions and is always approachable. Sister attended all meetings of the SC.

What we've accomplished

As you can see our officers, district presidents, committee chairs and staff have done their best to lead our organization into the future. Some additional points I wish to call to your attention are as follows:

We continue to look into ways of making the organization run better for all its members. Work continues on:

Social Membership - the committee will meet again during this convention to continue their work on this possibility.

Attracting new and younger members - we continue to investigate ways to encourage non-members to join. This is an ongoing process.

Dues increase - This year the delegates will be asked to make the difficult decision on whether or not to raise our membership dues. We haven't had a dues increase in eight years and during that time postage has gone up four times, Printing costs for VYTIS have increased and membership has declined at a rate of 4% for the last several years. A proposed increase will be presented during this convention to raise dues to \$20 from its current \$15. Likewise spouses or family members in the same household would increase to \$10.00 from the current \$7.50.

Looking ahead

As always our organization's future remains in our hands, and what we make of it is up to each of us.

As always our charities, Aid to Lithuania, Inc., St. Casimir Guild, K of L Foundation and Scholarship will need our continued financial support, let us not disappoint them. However, let us also consider the following as well. The coming year will see very important decisions being made for Lithuania's future and her becoming part of NATO, in particular. We must all work to insure that our Representatives and Senators in Washington support Lithuania's inclusion this fall. This year, as in years gone by, letter writing is of utmost importance, together we can help to make a difference. Along those lines, I ask you to consider making donations to the Fr. Jutt Fund for Lithuanian Affairs. This fund is the sole source of income for our Lithuanian Affairs Committee. Let us insure that the funds needed for mailings and news bulletins are readily available.

Last year's delegates asked us to look into the creation of a Website to aid further devotion to Our Lady of Siluva. A report on the committee's finding will be given during the convention. We must all consider what the committee presents for this worthwhile project for our future.

As always, our junior members remain the key to our future. Assistance we offer their cultivation today will work to insure our continued success tomorrow.

Please consider joining your fellow members this fall as we travel to Washington, DC for our first National Pilgrimage in October. Next summer we will offer a tour of Lithuania. The tour is scheduled so that as Lithuanians from all over the world gather once again for the Song and Dance Festival in Vilnius, we can be part of it. This was postponed due to a change in the schedule in Lithuania regarding the festival. Your Supreme Council is pleased to be sponsoring the "Official Knights of Lithuania Tour".

In conclusion

Now, as I bring this year's annual report to a close I would be remiss if I didn't take time to offer a few words of thanks. First, to you, our delegates, all my thanks for intrusting me with the honor of leading our organization this part year and for having the foresight to elect such a dynamic group of people to serve on your Supreme Council. It has truly been a pleasure to serve with them this past year. To the members of this year's Supreme Council I offer my thanks. Your support and willingness to work together is truly appreciated and a great asset to our organization.

It is my hope, that after having listened to all that has been happening during the past year we will all be motivated to use this convention to re-dedicate ourselves to working "For God and Country" as we remain United for Freedom and World Peace.

Now, let us continue with this year's meetings and deliberations in friendship and understanding. May our deliberations over the next four days be fruitful and always be in the best interest of the Knights of Lithuania.

Thank you.



Supreme Council President, Robert Martin, Jr., addresses the delegates and guests gathered at the Convention Saturday Night Banquet.



89th K of L National Convention Presidium members, John Mankus, co-chair, Sister Johanna Marie, Mary F. Kincius, Elena Nakrosis, co-chair, and Frank Petrauskas, HM., chair, so happy to be of service! Many, many thanks to Mary F. Kincius and Sister Johanna Marie who volunteered to serve as Convention Secretaries. God bless you!



REPORT OF ATTENDEES AT THE 89th NATIONAL CONVENTION
Held at the Congress Plaza Hotel, Chicago IL
August 1-4, 2002



Please be advised that this year's convention consisted of 4 sessions.

Supreme Council in attendance: Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis HM, Robert A. Martin Jr., Bernice Aviza, Elena Nakrosis, Annamarie Sluzas-Berger, Sr. Johanna Shainauskas SSC, Richard Niedvares, Mark H. Bell, Agnes Mickunas HM, Rita Sussko HM, Sr. M. Janine Golubickis SSC, Saulius Kuprys, Faustas Strolia HM, John Mankus, Frances Petkus HM, Glenn Perutis, Joseph Stiklius, Loretta Stukas HM, Anna K. Wargo HM and Robert Boris HM.

Honorary Members in attendance: Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Robert Boris, Algerd Brazis, Elsie Kosmisky, Agnes Mickunas, Frances Petkus, Frank Petrauskas, Estelle Rogers, Elinor Sluzas, Bertha Stoskus, Faustas Strolia, Loretta Stukas, Rita Sussko and Anna K. Wargo.

Council Rosters and sessions attended:

C-1 Brockton: Veronica Bizinkauskas-4, Frances Bumila-4, George Bumila-4.

C-3 Philadelphia: Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis HM-3, Lillian Greymas-4, Len Kapochus-4, Agnes Mickunas HM-4, John Mickunas-4, Irene Ozalis-4.

C-6 Hartford: June Grenier-4, Arlene Stiklius-4, Joseph Stiklius-4.

C-12 New York: John Antanavicius-4, Helen Cuprewich-4, Vincent Cuprewich-4.

C-16 Chicago Bridgeport: Diann Martin-3, Robert Martin Jr-4, Richard Niedvares-4, Wanda Pliskaitis-4, Meghan Rudmin-4, Aldona Zajauskas-3, Francesca Zajauskas-3.

C-19 Pittsburgh: Len Barcousky-4, Brian Johnson-4, William Kolicius-3, Anne Kolicius (Alternate)-2.

C-25 Cleveland: Jean Marks-4, Joan Ortman-1, Frances Pranskevich-2.

C-29 Newark: Loretta Stukas HM-4, Rita Sussko HM-4.

C-36 Chicago Brighton Park: Robert Damasauskas-4, Mary Kincius-4, Lillian Micka-1, Evelyn Ozelis-2.

C-50 New Haven: Isabel Peterson-4.

C-82 Gary: Casimir Balt-2, Sr. Janine Golubickis SSC-3, Msgr. Ignas Urbonas-3.

C-86 DuBois: Lee Moore-4, Paul Moore-4.

C-90 Kearny: Cathy Nakrosis-4, Elena Nakrosis-4, John Nakrosis, Rita Ochs-4, Becky Pataki-3.

C-96 Dayton: Annamarie Berger-4, Henry Pant-1, Laretta Pant-1, Robert Pant-1, Frances Petkus HM-4, Elinor Sluzas HM-4.

C-102 Detroit: Robert Boris HM-3, Eve Stark-4, Joe Stark-4.

C-103 Providence: Sophia Sakalys-4, Bertha Stoskus HM-4.

C-110 Maspeth: Edward Jakatt-4, Frances Jakatt-4.

C-112 Chicago Marquette Park: Paul Binkis-2, Susan Binkis-1, Aldona Brazis-2, Algird Brazis-2, Maria Deksnis-4, Eleanor Kasputis-4, Saulius Kuprys-2, Al Mockus-3, Sr. Theresa Papsis SSC-4, Anele Pocius-4, Edward Pocius-4, Estelle Rogers HM-4, Sr. Johanna Shainauskas SSC-4, Sr. M. Tarcisia Stuglis SSC-3, Dolores Wainauskis-4, Julie Zakarka-4.

C-116 Worcester: Ann Kokernak-4.

C-133 Los Angeles: Josephine Barzda-4.

C-136 Hudson-Mohawk: Bernice Aviza-3.

C-140 Schenectady: Irene Petrauskas-4.

C-143 Pittston: Helen Karpovich-4, Jean Mihalick-4.

C-144 Anthracite: Eleanor Balsis-4, Esther Bartashus-4, Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus-2, Anna Coffey-3, Elsie Kosmisky HM-4, Eleanor Vaicaitis-4, Anna K. Wargo HM-4, Marion Wydra-2.

C-147 St. Petersburg: Aldona Kirstuk-4.

C-152 Eastern Long Island: Antoinette Sakal-4, John Sakal-4.

C-157 Lemont: Charles Macke (Alternate)-3, Georgianna Macke-4, Irene Macke-4, Faustas Strolia HM-4, Theresa Strolia-4.

Amber District: John R. Mankus-4, Frank Petrauskas HM-4.

Mid America District: Ann Marie Kassel-4, Glenn Perutis-3.



Mid Atlantic District: Rasa Petraityte-4, Julia Schroder-4.

Mid Central District: Mark H. Bell-4, Richard Marks-4.

New England District: Maryte Bizinkauskas-4, Laurynas Misevicius-4.

Guests: Laimute Alvarado-1, Consul General Giedrius Apuokas-1, Todd M. Craig-1, Joel Diges (C-38)-2, Rimas Griskelis-1, Lilija Josas-1, Lucille Kilkus (C-36)-1, Consul General Vaclovas Kleiza (C-112)-1, Tadas Kulbis-1, Fr. Larry McNally-1, Juozas Polikaitis-1, Fr. Antanas Saulaitis SJ-1, Jean Schoentag (C-19)-1, Maryte Sepikas (C-133)-1, Mary Beth Slakis (C-16)-2, Peter P. Zansitis (C-16)-3.

Juniors: Vilija Bizinkauskas C-1, Kamila Ivanauskas C-1, Lexie Rudmin C-16, Peter Barcousky C-19, Sarah Barcousky C-19, Brian Johnson Jr C-19, Justin Johnson C-19, Lauren Peterson C-50, Joe Berger C-96, Erin Petkus C-96, Robert Petkus C-96, Alex Deksnis C-112, Andrea Deksnis C-112, Aukse Kronas C-147, Liza Macke C-157.

Respectfully submitted,



Convention Mandate Committee
Mark H. Bell C-96, National Financial Secretary, Chairman
June V. Grenier C-6
Georgianna Macke C-157
Cathy Nakrosis C-90.



Wearing the biggest smiles at the K of L's 89th Convention were; Deborah Martin Rudmin, member of the Convention Committee, Mark H. Bell, Supreme Council Financial Secretary, and Maryte Bizinkauskas, who will co-chair the upcoming K of L 90th Convention in Brockton, MA in 2003.

Chairman's Report - Aid to Lithuania, Inc.

(August 2, 2002)

The past twelve months marked two major milestones in the 12- year history of Aid to Lithuania.

First, in January of this year, the first two seminarians in our adoption program were elevated to the Priesthood; **ALGIS SIMKUS**, who was sponsored by Adele Bagdon of Livonia, MI and Olympia Zelinski of Danville, PA, and **TADEUS JASINSKI**, sponsored by H.M. Fr. Peter Shakalis of Plymouth, PA. Two additional seminarians were ordained deacons, the final step before ordination to the priesthood next year. **VAIDAS VAISVILAS**, sponsored by Ben Karklius of Cleveland, OH, and **JANUS ANDRIUSKEVIC**, sponsored by Nellie Stodolski of Kearny, NJ.

Second, on the Feast of St. Casimir, our venerable patron, donations to Aid to Lithuania reached **ONE MILLION DOLLARS**. In our wildest of dreams, no one would have imagined twelve years ago, that ATL would reach this astounding sum. Thanks to the generosity of both, K of L members and non-members who made this possible. A special thanks to Regina Juska-Svoba, President, and the officers of ATL whose efforts resulted in a very successful year. It proves, that with dedication to God and Country, any goal can be achieved.

Total Expenses 1990 - 2002:

Cost of containers	\$348, 635.28
Humanitarian projects	\$457, 283.42
Operating costs	\$189, 482.50
Cash on Hand	10, 222. 85
TOTAL	\$1,005, 624.05

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Total value of medicine \$67,676,760.00 - Cost \$348,634.00 = \$194.00 worth of medicine for each dollar spent.

Only one container received from CMMB during the last twelve months:

- Lithuanian law will not allow any medicine with less than 12 months dating to enter the country.
- US pharmaceutical companies have drastically reduced the amount of medicine donated, due to the downturn in the US economy.
- Container #90 was shipped last week. It is valued at \$1,241,745. It contained mostly an anti-biotic called CECLOR CD along with PEPCID, IMODIUM, PSEUDOEPHEDRINE HCL, MOTRIN FOR MIGRAINE PAIN, SIMETHICONE, SELSUN BLUE SHAMPOO, plus misc. supplies, syringes, catheters, etc.

HUMANITARIAN AID

The homeless shelter being run by Mother Theresa's Sisters was fully funded during the past twelve months by ATL, covering the annual budget of \$20,000.

The Trade School set up by Cardinal Backis was gifted with 200 shares of IBM from Pat and Tony Alexander - Council 7, Torrington, CT.

A request was received from Fr. Arvydas Ramonas, who recently completed his Doctorate in Rome. The Bishop of Kauneckas of Telsiai appointed him to organize a Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Klaipeda. He desperately needs books on religious topics to be used by catechists attending courses. We were successful in raising \$4,000.00 for this project. Still needed are, funds for a copying machine.

ST. JOSEPH SEMINARY - VILNIUS

During the past 12 months, 15 seminarians have been supported by our "adoption program." More sponsors are needed, as there will be 75 students enrolled

in the 2002-2003 semester. We encourage Councils and individuals to consider adopting a seminarian for at least one year or more, according to their ability. To date, \$311,788.74 have been sent to Cardinal Backis.

Fr. Gintaras Grusas, our good friend, has been appointed Rector of St. Joseph's Seminary in Vilnius. He sends his sincerest greeting to the Convention, and has provided a supply of new CD's of religious music by the Vilnius Seminary Choir. The CD - "TU GIMEI IS MERGELES," - "YOU WERE BORN OF THE VIRGIN," - features the very first recording of a 7th century Byzantine chant, AKATIST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF BVM, translated from Greek to Lithuanian, a very ancient and hauntingly beautiful Lithuanian hymn, taken from the Kantickos, "MARIJA, MOTINA BRANGI" - MARY, PRECIOUS MOTHER," and other magnificent choral hymns. The price is only \$15.00 per CD, and will go totally to support the Seminary. We have only 50 CD's to distribute here at the Convention, however, more can be ordered from ATL.

Joe Stark, Past President of C-102, Detroit, has been selling CD's of music by his orchestra and has netted over \$700.00 for the Seminary Fund.

ATL WEBSITE

Maryte Abbott, a member of our Board of Directors, has produced an outstanding ATL website, which is now in its final stages and will be up and running, awaiting approval of the ATL officers. The cost of preparing the Website is Maryte's donation to ATL.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Boris, HM

PHOTO AT RIGHT: The Historic Holy Cross Roman Catholic Lithuanian Church in 'Town of Lake' in Chicago IL. This was one of the many stops on the Pre-Convention Tour on Wednesday.

AID TO LITHUANIA, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Robert S. Boris, HM, Chair
 Regina Juska-Svoba, Co-chair
 Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM, Ex-officio
 Maryte Abbott, Financial Analyst
 Anthony Alexander, Retired
 Anne T. Baronas, Retired
 Leonard Kapochus, Retired
 Robert A. Martin, K of L National Pres.-Ex-officio
 Frank Petrauskas, HM, Retired
 Michael Shea, Retired

OFFICERS:

Rev. Walter Stanievich, Spiritual Advisor
 Regina Juska-Svoba, President
 Robert S. Boris, HM, President Emeritus
 Valentina Bulota, Trustee
 Stella Hotra, Trustee, Retired
 Saulius Kuprys, Attorney, Vice-Pres. Legal Affairs
 Michael Shea, Vice-president, Retired
 Theresa Shea, Secretary-Treasurer
 William J. Zager, Corresponding Secretary
 Patricia Zyren, Sgt.-at-Arms



**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC. ACTIVITIES
AS REPORTED TO THE 89th NATIONAL CONVENTION,
BY PRESIDENT, LORETTA I. STUKAS**



The Knights of Lithuania Foundation met for its Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 1, 2002, immediately following the First Session of the 89th National Convention. The meeting was well attended by Foundation members, and many ideas were enthusiastically discussed.

The Foundation was established in 1983, as an endowment fund of the Knights. It is meant to be a back-up for the Knights, providing funds to support various activities of the Knights and helping Lithuania and Lithuanian projects in the name of the Knights of Lithuania. According to its by-laws, all donations are invested as capital, which cannot be spent. Only interest and dividends earned on the investments may be spent for donations, expenses, etc. Thus, it is to the K of L advantage to raise funds for the Foundation, for the larger the base, the more interest is available for use for special projects. Currently, Foundation Capital is over \$100,000. Funds are invested in banks in Kearny, NJ and Chicago, IL, that are operated primarily by Lithuanian Americans, and in Smith Barney Investment Co.

Anyone donating at least \$100.00 is considered a voting member and has a voice in Foundation decisions. Anyone donating \$5,000 or more may designate how the interest from that investment is to be spent, within the confines of the Knights of Lithuania goals. Such special donations have been made thus far by **Ben Karklius** -- \$25,000, for use for a special annual scholarship, by **Msgr. J. Prunskis, HM**, -- \$10,500, for use in conducting an annual Essay Contest for members, and by **Larry Svelnis, HM**, -- \$5,500 for use in special needs of the K of L Archives Committee.

Last year, besides the Karklius Scholarship, the Essay Contest, and Archives equipment, and other expenses, \$500 was donated to help the TRAKU ONUSKIO VIDURINE MOKYKLA (Trakai Middle School), via the Lithuanian National Foundation (Tautos Fundas), which matched our donation with \$250 added in our name to the same school. We also donated \$100 to help rebuild the VAZGIRO Church in Lithuania's Juobarku District in the Kaunas Diocese. This year, the Foundatin members decided to donate \$250 toward subscriptions to "Bitute", a Catholic Children's periodical, to go to schools, \$250 to help pay for religious texts for Lithuanian Schools, and \$250 to help a new Nursing/Old Folks Home in Rumsiskis, Lithuania.

The Foundation is led by 11 directors, made up of two directors from each district, plus the National K of L President. This year, election of Directors yielded the following results:

ARLENE STIKLIUS elected to finish the term of Anthony Miner, representing the New England District. Mr. Miner had to resign because of personal commitments.

ANN MARIE KASSEL was elected to replace Mary Beth Slakis, representing the Mid America District. Mary Beth's term was up and she stepped down. Ann Marie was also elected Foundation Treasurer.

LEE MOORE was reelected to another term, to represent the Mid Central District.

IRENE OZALIS was elected to replace Ed Adolph Klova who term had expired, to represent the Amber District.

The Current Board consists of:

MAD: Loretta Stukas – President
 Bernice Aviza – Secretary
 MAMD: Saulius Kuprys, - Legal Advisor
 Ann Marie Kassel, Treasurer
 MCD: Elinor Sluzas, Vice-President
 Lee Moore
 NED: Clemencine Miller
 Arlene Stiklius
 AMD: Anna Wargo
 Irene Ozalis



A new brochure describing the work of the Foundation has been completed and distributed to councils and members, as a self-mailer. Also, thanks to a supporter in Dayton, donations can now be made to the Foundation via Credit Card, with minimum cost and work for the Foundation. Printing of the first batch brochures ..was also being donated. Copies of the brochure are available from Loretta Stukas.

This year, \$1,500 is available for the Karklius Scholarship, which will be awarded under the auspices of the K of L Scholarship Committee.

The Essay Contest this year yielded not very many essays, but all were interesting and well-written. The winners are as follows:

First Prize (\$300.00)	Stefany Gutauskas, C-3, Philadelphia, PA
Second Prize (\$200.00)	Mary Abbott, C-110, Maspeth, NY
Third Prize (\$100.00)	Emilija Sadonis, C-29, Newark, NJ
Hon. Mention	Frank Petrauskas
Junior Prize (\$25.00)	Erin Petkus, C-96, Dayton

All winning Essays will be printed in VYTIS during the year.

Members are urged to be generous with the K of L Foundation, keeping in mind that an investment in the Foundation is an investment in the K of L Future. Capital will always be available to invest – and proceeds of these investments will always be used to enhance the name and goals of the K of L.

St. Casimir Guild Report

Due to the busy schedule on Saturday, Msgr. Al Bartkus spoke at the beginning of the morning session. He reported that the students for this year are now arriving. All are the brightest of the young priests who are sent to Rome for advanced studies. Those who were in Rome are all doing well in Lithuania.

All Lithuanian dignitaries who come to Rome, Bishops, President Adamkus, etc., come to the College. After they eat, they often ask to see the kitchen, and Msgr. Bartkus says he is ashamed to show it to them. Nothing has been changed since the college opened over 50 years ago. The nuns who do the cooking are using battered pots and pans. The stove only has one oven working, and they have to make do with this. They never complain, but it is difficult. He asked if the Knights could help in modernizing the kitchen for the good Lithuanian nuns. He thanked all the members for their help and encouraged requesting Masses. The priests who come to study in Rome come without funds, and the Mass Stipends are given to them. It means a great deal to these student priests.

He closed with another, "aciu," and asked for God's blessings on all.

Saturday afternoon, Anna K. Wargo give the yearly report. Since it was late in the afternoon due to the debate on some resolutions, and since Msgr. Bartkus already spoke, she gave a brief financial report, and asked members to support the Mass Stipend Program, and to continue supporting the College.

~Anna Klizas Wargo~

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 "Knights of Lithuania:

*United for Freedom and World Peace"*

## National Convention

*Thursay Night*

*Get-Together*

At the end of the first session of the national convention, one saw delegates and guests scurrying to their rooms to freshen up for the Thursday night get-together boat ride. With the threat of showers, prayers were said asking the Good Lord to hold off the rain until later.

The prayers were answered as Mother Nature gave us a beautiful night to enjoy our evening sailing down, first, on the Chicago River. We took in the wonderful skyline of Chicago close up. The variations of the buildings and their structure were most interesting. From this close range, one could realize how really tall many of the buildings were. Did you know that the river flows into shore instead of out? I tried to find the reason for this, but was unable. Maybe someone knows the answer. Heading out to Lake Michigan was a treat - watching the locks open to make this happen was fun to see. Those who had never been on a Chicago boat ride before enjoyed seeing this in progress, especially our younger members.

From the lake, one could see the skyline of Chicago at a distance. As night came upon us, the lights from the buildings and the Navy Pier added to the beauty of the ride. Delegates and guests had the pleasure of enjoying special hors d'oeuvres and liquid refreshments abound.

The trip took about two hours, with everyone getting into the swing of a fun evening with music that was pleasant to our ears. The showers did come later that night. By that time, everyone was back safely in their rooms, or visiting.

~Frances Petkus~

*Council 96, Dayton, OH*

Knights of Lithuania 89<sup>th</sup> Convention  
**OPENING MASS**

Thursday, August 1, 2002

Basquing in the heat and history of Chicago's near south side, the Knights of Lithuania, gathered for their 89<sup>th</sup> Convention in downtown Chicago, celebrated their Opening Mass in Holy Family Church. As one of the city's oldest churches, it predates the Chicago Fire.

Arriving in buses and by car, the delegates passed by and under scaffolding outside the church which is presently still under renovation. As the delegates gathered inside, they could not but admire the high cathedral ceilings and the old majestic walls. The great church contains numerous statues and pictures of saints many of which reflect the Jesuit influence of its founders and pastors. The church was dark and air conditioning was not yet available due to the size of the structure.

The majestic procession began with the national and district flags concluding with the celebrant national spiritual advisor Monsignor Joseph Anderlonis HM and the other concelebrants. The Knights of Lithuania Choir provided the music.

In an effort to encourage devotion to the Lady of Siluva among the English speaking people, the Supreme Council had recommended the composition of an appropriate English hymn to Our Lady of Siluva. Faustas Strolia, HM did just that and this hymn was first sung in public at this Opening Mass for the 89<sup>th</sup> Convention at Holy Family Church.

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**PHOTO AT RIGHT:** Flagbearers, Edward Pocius and Robert Petkus, lead the Procession into Holy Family Church at the Opening Mass.

**WHAT IS THE "TASTE OF CHICAGO?"**

Those who attended the "Mini-Taste of Chicago Luncheon" following the Opening Mass could tell you. Every summer in Grant Park on Lake Michigan vendors bring their foods from the many restaurants and delis of the city for all to experience the many tastes of ethnic and international cuisine. The K of L delegates enjoyed a "Mini-Taste" from the luncheon menu of Chicago style hot dogs, Chinese fare, pizza, and Italian beef sandwiches. Dessert included Italian Ice and Eli's Chicago cheesecakes of many flavors.

The Mini-Taste took place in the newly renovated Dining Hall of Jesuit-operated St. Ignatius College Prep that is situated immediately adjacent to Holy Family Church. The delegates were among the first to use this beautiful room still being finished in a classical style and overlooking the beautiful grounds of this fine urban educational complex within the heart of the city. (Robert Martin, national president and alumnus of St. Ignatius, was instrumental in making this site possible for the convention.)

Council 16, hosts for the 89<sup>th</sup> Convention, worked very hard to provide this variety and diversity. To them we give grateful thanks.



## *Friday and Saturday Masses at the Hotel...*

Monsignor Joseph Anderlonis celebrated both Masses at the Congress Plaza Hotel and Convention Center. Monsignor Ignatius Urbonas was the concelebrant. I was pleased to meet and speak with Monsignor Urbonas and to find out that we both were born just a few miles apart in the Dzukija region of Lithuania, I in Alytus, and Monsignor a few miles from there. Sister Johanna Marie Shainauskas was the lector at the Friday Mass, and Bernice Aviza was the lector at the Saturday Mass. Faustas Strolia was the accompanist. Among a number of Hymns sung by the congregation was a new Hymn to Our Lady of Siluva, (Lyrics and music by Faustas Strolia). The Offertory Gifts were presented by Joe Stiklius. Monsignor Anderlonis' homilies were most meaningful. In his Friday homily, Monsignor spoke about change in the World and how we cope with it. He spoke of changes of the Lithuanian immigrants pre-World War I, post World War II, and post 1991, after re-establishment of Lithuania's independence from Soviet occupation. He also spoke of the change in the lives of all of us after September 11, 2001; how the oceans today are only lakes and how our Catholic faith gives us strength to cope with these changes.

Saturday, Monsignor's homily dealt with cowardice and courage, risk and reputation; how King Herod did not have the courage not to behead John the Baptist, and how Vytautas Landsbergis and the Lithuanian Seimas had the courage to risk all, including their lives, for the freedom of Lithuania. Monsignor's homilies were most inspirational, giving us all a great start for our convention activities.

*~ John R. Mankus ~*

## *Saturday Night Banquet*

The banquet began with the Supreme Council and honored guests marching into the Ballroom. After all were seated, Dinner Chairman, Kenneth Rudmin, welcomed all and presented Maryte Bizinkauskas, who entertained the members and guests with several beautiful Opera Arias. She concluded, with much applause, and was presented with a beautiful bouquet of roses.

Toastmaster, Kenneth Rudmin, introduced the Supreme Council and the Guests. The invocation was given by National Spiritual Advisor, Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis. After a delicious meal, the evening's program began. Scholarships were presented by Scholarship Committee member, Antoinette Sakal. This was followed by the presentation of the Honorary Degrees. Chair of the Honorary Membership Committee, Frances Petkus, presented Honorary Memberships to Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas, a member of 50 years, and although retired, he continues to serve Councils 82 and 157 as spiritual advisor. Frances then presented to William Kolicus, Jr., of Council 19, Pittsburgh, who has also served in the Knights of Lithuania for over fifty years.

Lithuanian Affairs Chair, John Mankus, then presented the "Friend of Lithuania Award" to Dr. John P. Lubicky, Chief of Staff at Shriners' Hospital for Children. He has devoted, since 1993, nine days of his vacation time each year, to bring the best in Orthopedic care to the children in Lithuania. Ever since then, every February, he and a team of surgeons, nurses and residents have been visiting the Vilnius University Hospital for Children to perform surgeries on Lithuanian children, and more importantly, to teach young physicians the newest and best orthopedic procedures. Dr. Lubicky graciously accepted the award and spoke with great passion of the work done in Lithuania for children.



### *Lady of Siluva Panel*

This panel, which discussed the history, importance and activities surrounding the apparition of Our Blessed Mother at Siluva, Lithuania, was conducted by Elinor Sluzas, Loretta Stukas and Robert Martin.

Elinor Sluzas opened the panel with the story of Our Lady of Siluva and her appearance in 1608, to shepherd children in Siluva. This was 200 years before Lourdes and Fatima, yet most of the world does not know her. Slides were shown of various points of interest from the Siluva Shrine.

Elinor also discussed the need for all of us to give financial support to the Our Lady of Siluva Fund. We have undertaken this project to promote devotion to Our Lady of Siluva. We are preparing a Web Site, mailings will be sent to all Catholic Papers, Magazines, and Tour Planners, telling them our story of Our Lady of Siluva, and encouraging them to visit Lithuania. We have not forgotten our own, because we have promised continued financial help for the Our Lady of Siluva Chapel in Washington, D.C., at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Loretta Stukas looked at devotion to Our Lady of Siluva in Lithuania – past, present and future. In the past, perhaps one of the chief reasons that the Apparition was not recognized by the rest of the world, was the suppression of devotion to Our Lady in Siluva by Czarist Russia and the Soviet Union, during the occupation of Lithuania. Specifically, the Soviets dramatically discouraged visits to the shrine or even mention of it in the press. When special devotions were held at the site, cars were not allowed within 4 miles of the shrine, and the border was patrolled by the militia. But, one way or another, the faithful still manage to attend, risking much.

After independence, interest in Siluva grew, as Lithuanians became aware of this first appearance of the Blessed Mother in Europe. Word is spreading, as more and more local residents and visiting friends and relatives take time to visit the Shrine.

Archbishop Sigitas Tamkevičius, Head of Lithuanian Bishops and Bishop of Kaunas, is now in charge of events there, and plans for improvement of conditions surrounding the Shrine. He expressed great joy in the knowledge that the K of L plans to publicize this sacred shrine, and agreed to keep in touch with the Knights, telling of developments and needs at Siluva. He stated that, it was Our Lady of Siluva who protected Lithuania during the Soviet occupation.

Current plans at Siluva include construction of a House of Prayer in the vicinity. During the school year, it will provide a place for seminary candidates to study religion and be screened before entering the Seminary. Summers, it will be available as a guest house or hotel, and a retreat house, a first step in providing accommodations for visitors to Siluva. Building has been started, and donations are needed for its completion.



National President, Robert Martin, spoke about devotion to Our Lady of Siluva in the United States, with specific emphasis on the Chapel of Our Lady of Siluva at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.. Specifically, he spoke on the restoration work that needs to be done on the Chapel. Since the Chapel 's dedication in the late 1960's, no major work has been done to it, although K of L members have contributed regularly to its minor upkeep.

The Washington Chapel is slated for a much-needed \$75,000.00 renovation, and the Chapel overseers are looking to Lithuanian organizations for financial help. The renovation will include stone cleaning and restoration, re-gilding of the Chapel's hand-cut letters and crosses, grinding and re-polishing of the floor and improved lighting. A slide show of the proposed work was shown.

Mr. Martin added, that this renovation is not expensive compared to work being done on other chapels within the Basilica, which have also sustained damage through the years, due to age and deterioration. He closed by reminding the delegates that this is a project that the K of L had pledged to support years ago, and that we need to re-emphasize this to all. We will also look into approaching other Lithuanian organizations to help with the financing of this renewal, as it is our American answer to devotion to Our Lady of Siluva.

This Siluva Project, in Lithuania and the US, represents everything the K of L stands for, "Dievui ir Tėvynei!" If successful, we will increase and enhance devotion to the Virgin Mother throughout the world by encouraging visits to Siluva. It will bring about and improved economy in Lithuania, with an increase in tourism, advertise Lithuania's name throughout the world, and correct a major omission in history.

Anyone visiting Lithuania should visit Siluva, and we all should begin daily devotion to Our Lady of Siluva, asking to her to continue to help Lithuania and to help our organization.

For more information contact:

Evelyn Ozalis  
2533 West 45<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60632-1334

Report submitted by ~Elinor Sluzas~



## Projektas ŠILUVOS DVASINIS CENTRAS

Bažnyčios gyvenime prioritetinę vietą užima pašaukimų į kunigiškąją tarnystę ugdymas ir būsimųjų kunigų rengimas. Kauno arkivyskupijoje veikia Tarpdiecezinė kunigų seminarija. Joje šiuo metu mokosi apie 60 Šiaulių vyskupijos ir Kauno arkivyskupijos klierikų. Atsižvelgiant į Bažnyčios patirtį ir siekiant geriau parengti klierikus kunigiškajai tarnystei, 1997 m. buvo įsteigtas propedeutinis (parengiamasis) kursas. Jame seminaristai gilina religines žinias, visapusiškai ugdo savo dvasinį gyvenimą ir tiria pašaukimą. Tokia mokymo programa visiškai pasiteisino, tačiau penkerių metų praktika įtikino, kad parengiamojo kurso veiklos rezultatai būtų dar geresni, jeigu būsimųjų klierikų rengimas vyktų ne pačioje Kunigų seminarijoje. Arkivyskupijos Kunigų taryba palaikė arkivyskupo sumanymą parengiamąjį kursą iškelti į Šiluvą, garsią Švč. Mergelės Marijos apsireiškimu 1608 metais. 2002-ųjų metų vasarą pradėdamas statyti ir 2003-ųjų vasarą planuojamas baigti Šiluvos dvasinis centras. Jame galės mokytis ir ugdytis apie 30 klierikų.

Šiluvos dvasinis centras klierikų ugdymui tarnaus 8 mokslo metų mėnesius, o likusius 4 vasaros mėnesius jame bus rengiami kunigų ir pasauliečių dvasiniai susitelkimai-rekolekcijos bei konferencijos. Vasaros metu čia galės apsigyventi ir piligrimai iš Lietuvos bei užsienio šalių.

Projekto įgyvendinimui reikės per tris milijonus litų. Pati arkivyskupija nėra pajėgi pilnutinai finansuoti šį projektą, todėl dalį lėšų tikisi gauti iš įvairių paramos fondų, o kitas – iš privačių rėmėjų. Tikimės, kad Šiluvos dvasinio centro projektą parems dvasinio Lietuvos prisikėlimo laukiantys mūsų draugai ir rėmėjai tėvynėje bei užsienyje. Šį projektą ir viltis užsiauginti nuoširdžiai Bažnyčiai tarnaujančių kunigų kartą pavedame Šiluvos Švenčiausiajai Mergelei Marijai, nes Ji geriausiai žino, ko reikia šiandienei Lietuvos Bažnyčiai.

Už rėmėjus bus nuolatos meldžiamasi Šiluvos Dievo Motinos Apsireiškimo bazilikoje. Žymesni rėmėjai bus pagerbti, įamžinant jų pavardes Šiluvos dvasiniame centre.



Scale model of the Siluva Spiritual Center project in Lithuania.



Dr. John P. Lubicky accepting the "Friend of Lithuania Award," being presented by Lithuanian Affairs chairperson, John R. Mankus.



### MALDA MARIJAI, APSIREIŠKUSIAI ŠILUVOJE

Švenčiausioji Mergele Marija, kuri Šiluvos laukuose pasirodei piemenėliams, kuri skausmo ašaromis laistei akmenį, išlikusį altoriaus vietoje, ir skundo balsu kalbėjai: „Čia kitados buvo garbinamas mano Sūnus, o dabar ariama ir sėjama!“, duok, kad Tavo ašarų sugraudinti mes, kaip kitados mūsų protėviai, keltume Tavo Sūnaus garbę apleistoje mūsų širdžių dirvoje, atstatytume griūvančias mūsų širdžių šventoves, permaldautume Viešpatį už visos mūsų tautos apsileidimus ir nuodėmes.

O Dievo Motina, mes trokštame iškelti iš užmaršties griuvusių Tavo apsireiškimo garbę, dar labiau pagerbti Tave apsireiškimo garbėje, mūsų žemės Globėja, ir Tavo padedami išmelsti mūsų kraštui gyvo tikėjimo dvasią. Per Kristų, mūsų Viešpatį. Amen.



Another happy group at the Saturday Night Banquet. That is our Photographer, Joe Stiklius on the right, front row.

K of L president, Robert Martin, Jr., thanked all members and encouraged them to work harder the coming year.

The dinner was closed with a benediction by Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of the Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome.

The evening concluded with dancing and fun.

*~Anna Klizas Wargo~*

### *Sunday Mass...*

Sunday morning we once again boarded the school buses to go to the closing Mass at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir. We arrived with great joy to see the beautiful grounds of the Convent, and entered to go to the Chapel for Mass. What a beautiful sight to see when we entered the Chapel - the Mosaic of Mother Maria Kaupas on the right in the back, and all of us prayed for her beatification.

The honor guard, with all the District and American and Lithuanian flags, led the procession, followed by new 4<sup>th</sup> Degree members, new Supreme Council, Honorary Members, and the altar servers and clergy.

The five members who received their 4<sup>th</sup> Degrees approached the altar with members of the Ritual Committee. Msgr. Anderlonis did the honors, blessed the medals, and, after the prayers, placed them on each member. Supreme Council members then approached the altar, to be installed for the year 2002-2003.

Concelebrating were, Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, HM, Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, HM, Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas, HM, Rev. Anthony Saulaitis, SJ, and Rev. Anthony Mockus. Music was provided by the K of L choir, and it was indeed heavenly. Maryte Bizinkauskas was the Cantor. Sister Johanna Marie Shainauskas and Agnes Mickunas, HM, served as lectors. Msgr. Anderlonis preached his usual inspiring homily. The closing Mass is the official ending of the Convention - this ending was truly inspiring.

Members left, visiting the tomb of Mother Maria and feeling very blessed.

*~Anna Klizas Wargo~*



### FAREWELL LUNCHEON

Sunday, August 4, 2002

Following the moving, joyful Closing Liturgy and after getting everyone together for the official convention photo, the delegates made their way into the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse Auditorium where a hearty, Lithuanian soul food experience awaited them.

The delicious meal was prepared by Chicago's famous Racine Bakery and served buffet style by the members of Council 16's Farewell Luncheon Committee. Deborah Rudmin, Luncheon Chairwoman, worked long and hard to see that all the details were in place.

Amidst the excitement of good-byes and anxious concerns for getting to the airport on time, guests enjoyed sausage, chicken, KUGELIS, sauerkraut, vegetables, salad, and an array of homemade cakes.

Thanks to the Sisters of St. Casimir for the use of the spacious, air-conditioned auditorium.

For many this was the time and place for final farewells before dispersing. Others returned to the hotel for later departures.

## Friend of Lithuania Award ~ Recipient - Dr. John P. Lubicky

*"I am deeply honored to be the recipient of the Knights of Lithuania 'Friend of Lithuania Award,' "* remarked Dr. John P. Lubicky, Chief of Staff at Shriners' Hospital for Children in Chicago, during the Award presentation. I was very proud and delighted to present Dr. Lubicky with our "Friend of Lithuania Award" for his tremendous contributions to the people of Lithuania. Each year, Dr. Lubicky travels to Lithuania to perform surgeries on Lithuanian children, and to teach young physicians modern orthopedic procedures at Vilnius University Children's Hospital. In addition to praising his qualified teams of surgeons, nurses and residents who travel with him, Dr. Lubicky also commended the ability of Lithuanian surgeons to grasp the latest surgical techniques. Dr. Lubicky recognizes the importance of sharing the most recent medical advances with physicians in Lithuania. He mentioned the following adage in his speech; *"If you give a person a fish, he will have a meal for the day. If you teach a person how to fish, he will have food for a lifetime."* Dr. Lubicky left no doubt that his goal is, to teach Lithuanian physicians the newest and best orthopedic procedures.

As I indicated in the July/August edition of *Vytis*, Dr. Lubicky's work for Lithuania has been nothing short of monumental. Following are only a few highlights of Dr. Lubicky's activities and achievements.

\*Since 1993, Dr. Lubicky has devoted nine days of his vacation time each year to bring the best in orthopedic care to the children of Lithuania.

\*Dr. Lubicky began visiting Vilnius University Children's Hospital just two years after Lithuania's re-establishment of independence from Soviet occupation. At that time, imaging instrumentation, surgical

implants and specialized surgical equipment in hospitals in Vilnius were woefully deficient.

\*Dr. Lubicky, working with Norene Jamieson of Shriners' and the Silver Service Foundation, and Lithuanian Children's Hope worked together to acquire and ship necessary supplies such as imaging instrumentation, braces and many types of surgical equipment to hospitals in Vilnius. Dr. Lubicky was determined to provide the appropriate instrumentation so that surgeries done in Vilnius could be done just as they are done under the best of conditions in the United States.

\*In the past ten years, Dr. Lubicky and his staff, working with Lithuanian Children's Hope, have brought over 200 children with special needs to the United States for operations.

\*Dr. Lubicky had received various awards for his work on behalf of Lithuania, including "The Excellence Award" from the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in 1993 and in 2002, and "The Order of Gediminas" presented by President Valdas Adamkus.

Although I spoke with Dr. Lubicky by phone numerous times, I was honored to meet and speak with him in person at the Convention. From our conversations, I am certain that we could not have chosen a more dedicated and humble individual for the Friend of Lithuania Award. I was also pleased to meet a number of Dr. Lubicky's friends and associates who joined us in honoring him at the Awards Banquet.

I wish to thank Mary Krauchunas and Estelle Rogers for their assistance in choosing such a worthy recipient for the Friend of Lithuania Award.

-John R. Mankus,  
Lithuanian Affairs Chairman

*"Knights of Lithuania:*

*United for Freedom and World Peace"!*



89<sup>th</sup> Knights of Lithuania  
National Convention Presidium

**CHAIR/2CO-CHAIRS:**

John R. Mankus C-72  
Frank Petrauskas, HM C-140  
Elena M. Nakrosis C-90

**SECRETARIES:**

Sr. Johanna M. Shainauskas, SSC - C-112  
Mary F. Kincius C-36

**SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS:**

Amber District Leonard Kapochus C-3  
Mid-Atlantic Distr. John Sakal C-152  
Mid-America Distr. Edward Pocius C-112  
Mid-Central Distr. Paul Moore C-86  
New Eng. D. Laurynas Misevicius C141

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE****(Chair appointed by SC)**

Theresa Strolia, , Chair C-157  
Isabel Peterson C-50  
Elinor Sluzas C-96  
Bernice Aviza C-136

**DONATIONS COMMITTEE**

Antoinette Sakal C-152  
Helen Karpovich C-143  
Sophia Sakalys C-102

**REVIEW MINUTES PREVIOUS  
NATIONAL CONVENTION, PRESIDING****CO-CHAIRS**

John R. Mankus C-72  
John Mickunas C-3  
Elena M. Nakrosis C-90

**PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

Peter Paul Zansitis C-16

**CONVENTION FINANCE COMMITTEE**

(One from each District)

MAMD Richard Niedvares, Chair, C-16  
Amber Irene Ozalis C-3  
MAD Elizabeth (Becky) Pataki C-1  
MCD Lee Moore C-86  
NED Frances Bumila C-1

**MANDATE COMMITTEE**

(SC Financial Secretary sets up this committee)

Mark H. Bell, Chair C-96  
June Grenier C-6  
Georgianna Macke C-157  
Cathy Nakrosis C-90

*Degrees Processed to Date:***FIRST DEGREES:** 70**SECOND DEGREES:** 44**THIRD DEGREES:** 21**FOURTH DEGREES:** 14**Approved candidates for 4<sup>th</sup> Degree are:**

Wanda Pliskaitis C-16, Chicago  
Irene Meizies C-50, New Haven  
Michael Meizies C-50, New Haven  
David Boucher C-78, Lawrence  
Paul Moore C-86, DuBois  
Robert Pant C-96, Dayton  
Zina Budris C-110, Maspeth  
John Sabulis C-135, Ansonia  
Helen M. Karpovich C-143, Pittston  
Jean Kapochus Mihalick C-143, Pittston  
John Joseph C-144, Anthracite  
Marcella Kaselonis C-144, Anthracite  
Tessie Balulis C-144, Anthracite  
Rev. Matas Cyvas C-147, St. Petersburg

**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA MEMBERSHIP  
AWARDS****Council Awards: Under 50 Members**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place C-63 Lehigh Valley, Pa 6members  
1<sup>st</sup> Place C-78 Lawrence, Ma 13members

**Councils 50-100 Members**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place C-141 Bridgeport, CT 8members  
1<sup>st</sup> Place C-6 Hartford, CT 16members

**Councils 100+Members**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place C-144 St. Clair, PA 11members  
1<sup>st</sup> Place C-112 Chicago, IL 21members

**Awards to Individuals**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place C-6 Kristina Serksnas, Hartford,  
CT 5members  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place C-112 Anele Pocius, Chicago, IL  
5members  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place C-112 Estelle Rogers, Chicago, IL  
11members  
1<sup>st</sup> Place C-78 Marion Hobbitz, Lawrence, MA  
13 members



## RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Whereas, the 88<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Grosvenor Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida, on August 4, 2001...

approved the candidacy of William Kolicius, member of C-19, Pittsburgh, PA, to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania, and whereas, all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this award, therefore, be it resolved, that the Knights of Lithuania 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon William Kolicius. Submitted by the Honorary Membership Committee.

approved the candidacy of Rev. Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas, member of C-82, Gary, Indiana for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania, and whereas, all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this award, therefore, be it resolved that the Knights of Lithuania 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention confer Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania upon Rev. Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas.

**BE IT RESOLVED...**that we, the delegates to the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered at the Congress Hotel and Convention Center in Chicago, Illinois...

at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership, Nellie Bayoras-Romanas, member of C#143, Pittston, PA, and be it further resolved that the history, outlining her services as a worthy and dedicated Knight be published in *Vytis*. Submitted by the Honorary Membership Committee.

at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership, Rev. William L. Wolkovich, member of C#27, Norwood, MA, and be it further resolved that the history, outlining his services as a worthy and dedicated Knight be published in *Vytis*. Submitted by the Honorary Membership Committee.

at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, member of C#112, Chicago, IL, and be it further resolved, that the history, outlining his services as a worthy and dedicated Knight be published in *Vytis*. Submitted by the Honorary Membership Committee.

**Subject: Required publication of Honorary Membership candidates on file**

Whereas, when a candidate for Honorary Membership is presented to the Honorary Membership Committee for approval/disapproval, their name/candidacy is kept in a secret file by the committee, and whereas this practice, on many occasions, has seen a candidate sit in that file for many years, causing many members to forget that the candidate was recommended in the first place, and whereas, this extreme secrecy is not necessary, therefore, be it resolved that the delegates to the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, gathered in Chicago, IL form Aug. 1-4, instruct the Chair of the Honorary Membership Committee to publish an annual list in the January/February issue of *Vytis* of all candidates submitted, but not yet approved by the committee, and be it further resolved that, if approved by the delegates, this change would take effect beginning with the January/February 2003 issue of *Vytis*. Submitted by Council 16.

**Subject: Changing our ritual point system to a time system**

Council 1 proposes a complete elimination of the point system as it now exists, and replacement with a more general system, such as, for example:

**First Degree:** requires a two year active membership in the council, letters of recommendation, and a majority vote.

**Second Degree:** requires a total of at least FIVE years active membership in the council, two letters of recommendation and rules as required for the First Degree.

**Third Degree:** A total of at least TEN years active membership, plus having received the First and Second Degrees. Two letters of recommendation and rules as required for the First and Second Degrees.

**Fourth Degree:** At least FIFTEEN years active participation in the council and letters as required for other degrees. The recommendation for the candidate will then be presented to the District representatives at either the Fall or Spring convention. A vote will be taken at the convention to approve/deny the recommendation for the candidate. If the majority of the District Representatives votes that the candidate has not participated fully, the recommendation for the candidate can be brought to a District convention at a later date. A candidate can be recommended as often as needed until the general district membership votes to confer this degree.

These rules should be applied retroactively to cover our current membership, and allow for Councils that have failed to elect and keep track of the points in the previous system to confer degrees upon the members that duly deserve them. Submitted by Council #1, Brockton, MA.

**Subject: Support of NATO**

that we encourage our members to work to urge President George Bush, members of the US Senate and members of Congress to support and approve the admission of the Republic of Lithuania into NATO during NATO's 2002 meeting in Prague this fall. Submitted by John R. Mankus, on behalf of the Supreme Council Lithuanian Affairs Committee.

**Subject: Our Lady of Siluva Project Establishment**

...the delegates at the 88<sup>th</sup> K of L Convention in Orlando, FL, approved the research into promoting devotion to Our Lady of Siluva, and whereas, the research was completed and the facts presented to the delegates at the 89<sup>th</sup> K of L Convention in Chicago, IL, be it resolved, that we, on this second day of August, 2002, approve and financially support this project. All monies donated will be carefully monitored by Theresa Strolia and Evelyn Ozalis. Submitted by the Siluva Committee.

**Subject: Lithuania - Congratulations on the 750<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lithuanian Statehood**

Whereas, there were 123 years of Russian czarist oppression of Lithuania, and the Russians carried out a press ban for 40 years, and this was followed by 50 years of Communist rule with cruel persecutions, tortures and

deportations of the Lithuanian people through their devious efforts, be it resolved that the Knights of Lithuania assembled here at the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Chicago, IL, congratulate the leadership of Lithuania who chose the year 1253, the year when Mindaugas was Christianized and crowned King of Lithuania, to be the official beginning of the Lithuanian statehood, and congratulate the free and independent Lithuania as it prepares for the 750<sup>th</sup> celebration of Lithuania's Statehood. Submitted by Faustas Strolia, HM.

**Subject: Mother Maria Kaupas Process for Canonization**

...whereas a canonization process has been started for Mother Maria Kaupas, the foundress of the Sisters of St. Casimir, and whereas, more knowledge is needed by all Americans about Mother Maria, and we must make every effort to inform people of her influence in various communities in the US, whereas, in Northumberland County in the city of Mt. Carmel, PA, the first Lithuanian school in the US was established by Mother Maria Kaupas, be it resolved that, the Knights of Lithuania do all that they can do to aid in the beatification cause of Mother Maria Kaupas, and inform others of all her accomplishments. Submitted by Marion Wydia, C-144.

**Subject: The Svikla-Tamulevich Fund Research**

Whereas the Svikla-Tamulevich Fund was given to the Knights of Lithuania to promote education, and the Svikla-Tamulevich family were staunch supporters of projects which promote the education of the general populace about Lithuania, be it resolved to immediately have the K of L Supreme Council, and Legal Advisor research the conditions upon which the Svikla-Tamulevich donation was given to the K of L, and to determine, if it be possible that \$10,000 can be taken from the Svikla-Tamulevich fund to help fund the Our Lady of Siluva website, an educational project. Submitted by Maryte Bizinkauskas, C-1.

**Subject: Thank You to Outgoing Supreme Council**

Be it resolved that the delegates to the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention of the K of L, gathered at the Congress Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Chicago, IL, express on

behalf of themselves and the general membership, their deepest gratitude to the 2001-2002 Supreme Council for its dedicated service to the organization and support of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

**Subject: Thank You Convention Hosts**

Whereas **Council 16** served as the hosts of the 89<sup>th</sup> annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, and in so doing accepted and fulfilled the demands and challenges of this task, be it resolved that the delegates to the 89<sup>th</sup> annual National Convention of the K of L assembled at the Congress Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Chicago, IL, extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to Council 16 and the entire committee for their hard work, diligence, and professionalism in their preparation and presentation of this convention.

**Subject: Thank You Convention Presidium**

Be it resolved, that the delegates to the 89<sup>th</sup> annual National Convention, Chicago IL, extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to the Presidium, and its committees for their hard work, diligence and professionalism in the conduct of the business of this convention.

**Subject: Thank You Hotel**

Whereas, the management and the staff of the Congress Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Chicago, IL demonstrated an extraordinary level of hospitality, courtesy, and cooperation during our 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention, be it resolved that the Supreme Council President send a letter of appreciation and thanks on behalf of all the delegated.

**Subject: K of L Membership Dues**

Whereas the current dues of \$15.00 has been in place since 1994, and during this time we have experienced three postal increases on *Vytis* mailings, steady increases in printing costs, and a steady decrease in membership, therefore, be it resolved that the delegates of the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention approve a dues increase to cover these rising costs, and that dues be raised to \$20.00 per year for a member, \$10.00 per year for a spouse or single family member living in the same house, and Lifetime dues be raised to \$200.00 per person and \$100.00 for a spouse, and be it further resolved that this increase be put into effect starting with the year 2003 dues.

Submitted by the Supreme Council.

**Subject: Thank You "Lietuviu Balsas"**

Whereas "Lietuviu Balsas" has generously publicized news about the Knights of Lithuania, therefore be it resolved that the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention, Chicago, IL, express its appreciation of "Lietuviu Balsas" and its staff, for their cooperation and generosity.

**Subject: Donation to "Dirva"**

Whereas the Lithuanian Weekly, "Dirva," has generously printed news of the K of L, therefore, be it resolved that the delegates of the National Convention express their gratitude by a donation of \$100.

**Subject: Anniversary Holy Cross Parish, Schenectady, NY**

Whereas 2002 marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Holy Cross Parish in Schenectady, NY, which was originally established as a Lithuanian parish and serves as the home of the Hudson-Mohawk Council, be it resolved that the delegates of the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the K of L, gathered in Chicago, IL, offer our sincerest congratulations. Be it further resolved that the Supreme Council be instructed to send a letter or congratulations to the parish, to Fr. Richard Carlino, Holy Cross Parish, 19 North College St., Schenectady, NY.

**Subject: Lithuanian Catholic Daily, "Draugas"**

Whereas the Lithuanian Catholic Daily, *Draugas*, has consistently and generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania in the "Vyciu Veikla" column and other parts of their publication, the delegates of the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention, Chicago, IL, express their sincerest gratitude to "Draugas" and its staff for their cooperation and generosity in publicizing the Knights of Lithuania activities, and be it further resolved that a donation of \$100 be sent to "Draugas," with an expression of gratitude.

**Subject: Approval for Donations to the following:**

The amount of \$100 each to the Communities of the following Sisters:

- Sisters of Jesus Crucified
- Sisters of St. Casimir
- Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
- Sisters of the Immaculate Conception



The amount of \$200 to Lithuanian Children's Relief Fund

**Subject: Our Lady of Siluva Project**

A recommendation that the amount of \$7,000 , by cashing in two CD's, be donated for the Our Lady of Siluva Project, to be given to the Our Lady of Siluva Committee.

**Subject: Svikla-Tamulevich Fund Use for Our Lady of Siluva**

Whereas, if the Svikla-Tamulevich Fund, after research by the Supreme Council and its Legal Advisor, it is determined that monies can be used, be it resolved that \$10,000 of the Svikla-Tamulevich Fund be transferred to the Lady of Siluva website educational project.

Submitted by the Supreme Council

**Subject: Thank You Catholic Medical Mission Board**

Whereas, the Catholic Medical Mission Board has been generous in supplying much needed medicines to Lithuania valued in millions of dollars, be it resolved that the K of L 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention send a thank you to them for their continued support: CMMB, Attn: John F. Galbraith, President/ CEO, 10 West 17<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10011-5765

**Subject: Term Record Keeping**

Whereas in the past there has been no one charged with the responsibility of keeping an official record of the term and number of years served by each Supreme Council officer, committee chair member, and whereas at times this has caused some confusion and allowed insufficient time for District presidents and especially local councils to recommend candidates, be it resolved that the Supreme Council appoint the first vice-president, or another officer of the Supreme Council's choice, to keep an official record of the number of years served by each Supreme Council officer, committee chair and committee member. Be it further resolved that this officer notify the District presidents and local councils by means of submission for publication in the January issue, of the names and positions of each officer who can no longer succeed himself, all committee members who are completing their terms, the number of years their terms are for, and the Districts they represent.

Submitted by: Council 3 - Philadelphia, PA.

**Subject: Term Limits for Chair of Supreme Council Standing Committees**

Whereas, Article X, Section 4, places term liits on Supreme Council officers, allowing a member to only hold a given office for three consecutive terms, and whereas, these limitations do not extend to Supreme Council Standing committee chairs, and whereas, allowing standing committees to have the same chair for an indefinite amount of time, while other officers are limited, creates an unfair situation; therefore, the delegates of the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention , Chicago, IL, change Article XII, Section 1 to the following:

1. The Supreme Council standing committee chairs are elected at the National Convention for a one year term, and can succeed themselves for only two additional successive years, except as noted elsewhere in Article XII. Be it further resolved, that if approved by the delegates, this change would take effect with this year's elections.

Submitted by Supreme Council.



Resolutions Committee members, l.tor., front row, Terry Strolia, Isabel Petersen; back row, Bernice Aviza and Elinor Sluzas.

## GREETINGS TO THE 89TH NATIONAL CONVENTION, 2002

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH  
President of the United States  
Washington, DC

GOVERNOR GEORGE H. RYAN  
Governor of Illinois  
Chicago, IL

HONORABLE RICHARD J. DURBIN  
United States Senator from IL  
Washington, DC

HONORABLE PETER G. FITZGERALD  
United States Senator from IL  
Washington, DC

HONORABLE RICHARD M. DALEY  
Mayor of Chicago, IL  
Chicago, IL

PRESIDENT VALDAS ADAMKUS  
President of Lithuania  
Vilnius, Lithuania

HIS EXCELLENCY VYGAUDAS UŠACKAS  
Ambassador of Lithuania to the USA  
Washington, DC

DR. GEDIMINAS ŠERKŠNYS  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of  
Lithuania to the United Nations  
New York, NY

GIEDRIUS APOKAS  
Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania  
Chicago, IL

VACLOVAS KLEIZA  
Honorary Consul General of the Republic of  
Lithuania  
Chicago, IL

HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II  
The Vatican  
Rome, Italy

MSGR. PEDRO LOPEZ QUINTANA, Assessor  
Secretariat of State  
The Vatican  
Rome, Italy

AUDRYS CARDINAL JUOZAS BAČKIS  
Archbishop of Vilnius  
Vilnius, Lithuania

FRANCIS CARDINAL GEORGE, OMI  
Archbishop of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

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

REV. ANTHONY SAULAITIS  
Lithuanian Jesuit Fathers  
Chicago, IL

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

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

SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR  
Sister Immacula Wendt, SSC  
General Superior  
Chicago, IL  
by Sister Janine Golubickis, SSC

LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF, INC.  
Daiva Vistas Neidharst  
So. Boston, MA  
by Maryte Bizinkauskas

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL (ALTAS)  
Mr. Saulius Kuprys, President  
Chicago, IL

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

LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AID  
Vida Jankauskas, Administrator  
Brooklyn, NY

LITHUANIAN WORLD COMMUNITY  
Vytautas Kamantas, President  
Grand Rapids, MI

LITHUANIAN SCOUTS ASSOCIATION  
Birute Banaitiene, President  
Abington, MA



LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCE, ALKA  
Juozas Rygelis, President  
Putnam, CT

LITHUANIAN WORLD CENTER  
Rimantas Griškelis, Chairman of the Board  
Lemont, IL



A happy group of delegates around the table enjoying a luncheon after the farewell Mass at the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse.



Our group of Honorary Members, to which this year were added the Rev. Ignatius Urbonas, and Mr. William Kolicius.

ATEITIS  
North American Foundation  
by Juozas Polikaitis



All who were generous received a beautiful smile and thank you from our Donations' committee, Irene Macke, Helen Karpovich, Antoinette Sakal and Sophie Sakalys.

### *Honorary Membership Awards*

At the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention Banquet on August 3, 2002, the presentation of the Honorary Membership Awards were conferred upon Rev. Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas, Spiritual Advisor to Council #82 of Gary, Indiana, and to William Kolicius, Jr., of Council #19, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Approved at the third session of the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention for presentation at the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Brockton, Massachusetts, Honorary Membership will be awarded to Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, MAMD Spiritual Advisor and member of Council #112, Chicago, Illinois; Rev. William Wolkowich, member of Council #27, Norwood, Massachusetts; and Nellie Bayoris-Romanas, member of Council #143, Pittston, Pennsylvania.

*~Fran Petkus~*

*Council #96, Dayton, OH*



## DONATIONS

### K OF L GENERAL FUND:

|                                                       |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1<br>(IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba) | \$25.00        |
| Mary F. Kincius, C-36                                 | 10.00          |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                         | <b>\$35.00</b> |

### VYTIS FUND:

|                                                       |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Edward & Anele Pocius, C-112                          | \$50.00         |
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1<br>(IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba) | 25.00           |
| Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144                              | 25.00           |
| Becky & Paul Pataki, C-90                             | 20.00           |
| Sophia Sakalys, C-103                                 | 15.00           |
| Mary F. Kincius, C-36                                 | 10.00           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                          | <b>\$145.00</b> |

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

|                                                             |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Arlene & Joseph Stiklius, NED<br>(IMO Victor Vaitkus, C-7)  | \$50.00         |
| Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103                                | 50.00           |
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1<br>(IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba)       | 25.00           |
| Richard Niedvares, C-16                                     | 25.00           |
| Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29<br>(IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM) | 25.00           |
| Mary F. Kincius, C-36                                       | 10.00           |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                               | <b>\$185.00</b> |

### K OF L JUNIORS ACTIVITIES:

|                                                                |                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Arlene & Joseph Stiklius, NED<br>(IMO Sally Luke Bizinkauskas) | 50.00           |
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1<br>(IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba)          | 25.00           |
| Mary Beth Slakis, C-16                                         | 25.00           |
| Ed & Maria Deksnis, C-112<br>(IMO Albert Zakarka)              | 15.00           |
| Mary F. Kincius, C-36                                          | 10.00           |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                                  | <b>\$125.00</b> |

### AID TO LITHUANIA:

#### General (Medical/Humanitarian Aid):

|                                                                     |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| K of L Mid-America District                                         | \$500.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Jakatt, C-110                                  | 250.00   |
| K of L Council 112, Chicago                                         | 200.00   |
| John J. and Juliann O. Majeski, C-3<br>(IMO Frank A. Kapochus)      | 200.00   |
| K of L Council 86, DuBois, PA                                       | 125.00   |
| K of L Amber District                                               | 100.00   |
| K of L New England District                                         | 100.00   |
| K of L Council 3, Philadelphia, PA<br>(IMO Deceased Members of C-3) | 100.00   |

|                                                                    |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Dr. Grace B. Austin<br>(IMO Dr. Anna Galunas)                      | 100.00 |
| Aldona & Algerd Brazis, HM, C-112<br>(IMO Matt Vilutis)            | 100.00 |
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1<br>(IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba)              | 100.00 |
| Robert Damašauskas, C-36<br>(IMO Msgr. Damasus Mozeris)            | 100.00 |
| Anna M. Kapochus, C-3                                              | 100.00 |
| Daina M. Kapochus, C-3<br>(IMO Marilyn Eley Kapochus)              | 100.00 |
| Len Kapochus, C-3<br>(IMO Karl Antanas Kapochus)                   | 100.00 |
| Philip & Dorothy Machonis, C-3<br>(IMO Deceased Family)            | 100.00 |
| Joseph A. & Anna M. Marro, C-3                                     | 100.00 |
| Jean Mihalick<br>(IMO Kapochus, Mihalick &<br>Petrauskas Families) | 100.00 |
| Rittenhouse Plastic Surgery (c/o A. Mameniškis)                    | 100.00 |
| Arlene & Joseph Stiklius, C-5                                      | 100.00 |
| Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103                                       | 100.00 |
| Regina Juska Svoba, C-102                                          | 100.00 |
| K of L Mid-Atlantic District                                       | 50.00  |
| K of L Council 29, Newark, NJ                                      | 50.00  |
| Edward M. Budelis, C-3<br>(IMO Juozas & Magdalena Budelis)         | 50.00  |
| Helen Karpovich, C-143<br>(IMO Kapochus & Karpovich Families)      | 50.00  |
| Mary Labadis, C-144<br>(IMO Bill & Mary Labadis)                   | 50.00  |
| Jean & Richard Marks, C-25                                         | 50.00  |
| Christine C. Merlo, C-63<br>(IMO Merlo & Horan Families)           | 50.00  |
| Josephine O'Peka, C-46                                             | 50.00  |
| Dolores Wainauskas, C-112<br>(IMO Frank Svelnis)                   | 50.00  |
| Julie Zakarka, C-112<br>(IMO Albert Zakarka)                       | 50.00  |
| K of L Council 25, Cleveland, OH                                   | 25.00  |
| K of L Council 143, Pittston, PA                                   | 25.00  |
| Margaret R. Allen, C-3<br>(IMO Warren Allen, Jr.)                  | 25.00  |
| Alice Bacon, C-3<br>(IMO Nellie Pandza)                            | 25.00  |
| Mark H. Bell, C-96                                                 | 25.00  |
| Mary B. Bigenis<br>(IMO Michael J. Bigenis)                        | 25.00  |
| Tom & Lynn Bonavich<br>(IMO Kenneth Bardauskas)                    | 25.00  |
| Helen & Vinnie Cuprewich, C-12                                     | 25.00  |
| Eleanor M. Dapkus, C-50                                            | 25.00  |
| Jeanne & Timothy Dorr, C-3                                         | 25.00  |
| Helen Medley, C-50                                                 | 25.00  |
| Jean Susin Ortman, C-25<br>(IMO Mary Susin & Bill Smith)           | 25.00  |
| June V. Grenier, C-6<br>(IMO Justina Grenier)                      | 25.00  |
| Len Kapochus, C-3<br>(IMO Nellie Pandza)                           | 25.00  |
| Mary F. Kincius, C-36                                              | 25.00  |

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Elsie Kosmisky, HM, C-144             | 25.00 |
| (IMO Parents)                         |       |
| Ruth B. Lacek                         | 25.00 |
| (IMO Marta & John Bagdzinkas)         |       |
| Ruth T. Margis                        | 25.00 |
| (IMO Charles Margis, Sr.)             |       |
| Lee & Paul Moore, C-86, DuBois        | 25.00 |
| Richard Niedvares, C-16               | 25.00 |
| Henry & Laretta Pant, C-96            | 25.00 |
| (IMO Ernest & Veronica Omlor)         |       |
| Frances R. Petkus, HM, C-96           | 25.00 |
| (IMO Michael Petkus)                  |       |
| Irene Piscopo                         | 25.00 |
| (IMO Gzik Family & A.H. & T.McDonald) |       |
| Victor & Evelyn Prep, C-144           | 25.00 |
| (IMO Petrona Savaitas)                |       |
| Estelle Rogers, HM, C-112             | 25.00 |
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)                    |       |
| Sophia Sakalys, C-103                 | 25.00 |
| Mary Beth Slakis, C-16                | 25.00 |
| (IMO Al Slakis)                       |       |
| Theresa & Faustas Strolia, HM, C-157  | 25.00 |
| Rita S. Sussko, HM, C-29              | 25.00 |
| (IMO Michael Sussko)                  |       |
| Walter & Irene Svekla, C-3            | 25.00 |
| Alberta A. Weigand, C-3               | 25.00 |
| (IMO Bekeris & Daunoras Families)     |       |
| Robert & Linda Pant, C-96             | 20.00 |
| (IMO Mary Lucas)                      |       |
| Ed & Maria Deksnis, C-112             | 15.00 |
| (IMO Albert Zakarka)                  |       |
| K of L Council 3, Philadelphia, PA    | 12.00 |
| Stephany Gutauskas, C-3               | 10.00 |
| Mary M. Taulane                       | 10.00 |

**Subtotal (General): \$4,317.00**

#### Seminary Fund:

|                                             |            |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|
| Anthony & Patricia Alexander, C-7           | \$2,000.00 |
| Robert S. Boris, C-102                      | 2,000.00   |
| (IMO Vincent Boris)                         |            |
| Mary Gudelis, C-96                          | 2,000.00   |
| (IMO Frank Gudelis)                         |            |
| Aušra Dawn Maknys, C-3                      | 101.00     |
| (IMO Benediktas, Birute & Saulius Rutkunas) |            |
| Msgr. Albert Contons, HM, C-17              | 100.00     |
| Philomene Vilutis, C-112                    | 100.00     |
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)                          |            |
| Elsie Kosmisky, HM, C-144                   | 25.00      |
| (IMO Parents)                               |            |

**Subtotal (Seminary): \$6,326.00**

#### Trade School Fund:

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Margaret & Charles Petronis, C-3 | \$100.00 |
| (IMO Vera Gestite)               |          |
| David C. Schoentag, C-19         | 100.00   |
| Jean Schoentag, C-19             | 100.00   |
| Philomena Vilutis, C-112         | 100.00   |

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)        |       |
| Lillian Greymas, C-3      | 25.00 |
| Joan C. Iwasko, C-3       | 25.00 |
| Flavius Jankauskas, C-3   | 25.00 |
| Elsie Kosmisky, HM, C-144 | 25.00 |
| (IMO Parents)             |       |
| Irene Ozalis, C-3         | 25.00 |
| Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144  | 25.00 |

**Subtotal (Trade School Fund) \$550.00**

#### Mother Theresa Homeless Shelter:

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Philomene Vilutis, C-112  | \$100.00 |
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)        |          |
| Josephine O'Peka, C-46    | 50.00    |
| Elsie Kosmisky, HM, C-144 | 25.00    |
| (IMO Parents)             |          |

**Subtotal (Homeless Shelter) \$175.00**

#### PLEDGES:

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| K of L Council 110, Maspeth, NY | \$300.00 |
| (General Fund)                  |          |
| Ann Kokernak, C-116             | 25.00    |
| (IMO Matachinskas Family)       |          |
| Irene & Charles Macke, C-157    | 25.00    |
| (IMO Frances & Kazys Macke)     |          |
| (Trade School)                  |          |

**Subtotal (Pledges) \$350.00**

**TOTAL: \$11,718.00**

#### ST. CASIMIR GUILD:

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| K of L Mid-America District        | \$500.00 |
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1       | 500.00   |
| (IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba)              |          |
| Robert Damašauskas, C-36           | 500.00   |
| K of L Council 86, DuBois, PA      | 125.00   |
| K of L Amber District              | 100.00   |
| K of L New England District        | 100.00   |
| K of L Council 3, Philadelphia, PA | 100.00   |
| John Antanavicius                  | 100.00   |
| Mark H. Bell, C-96                 | 100.00   |
| (IMO Antanavicius Family)          |          |
| Aldona & Algerd Brazis, HM, C-112  | 100.00   |
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)                 |          |
| Cathy Nakrosis, C-90               | 100.00   |
| Rita Ochs, C-90                    | 100.00   |
| Arlene & Joseph Stiklius, NED      | 100.00   |
| (IMO Vincent & Joe Stiklius)       |          |
| Philomene Vilutis, C-112           | 100.00   |
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)                 |          |
| K of L Mid-America District        | 50.00    |
| K of L Council 29, Newark, NJ      | 50.00    |
| K of L Council 36, Chicago, IL     | 50.00    |
| Mary Labadis, C-144                | 50.00    |
| (IMO Bill and Mary Labadis)        |          |
| Jean & Richard Marks, C-25         | 50.00    |
| John & Elena Nakrosis, C-90        | 50.00    |

|                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sophie Sakalys, C-103                | 50.00             |
| (IMO Joseph & R. Maironis)           |                   |
| Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103         | 50.00             |
| Rita Sussko, C-29                    | 50.00             |
| (IMO Michael Sussko)                 |                   |
| Dolores Wainauskas, C-112            | 50.00             |
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)                   |                   |
| Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144             | 50.00             |
| K of L Council 36, Chicago           | 25.00             |
| Helen & Vinnie Cuprewich, C-12       | 25.00             |
| June V. Grenier, C-6                 | 25.00             |
| (IMO Justina Grenier)                |                   |
| Lillian Greymas, C-3                 | 25.00             |
| Mary F. Kincius, C-36                | 25.00             |
| Elsie Kosmisky, HM, C-144            | 25.00             |
| Helen Medley, C-50                   | 25.00             |
| John & Agnes Mickunas, HM, C-3       | 25.00             |
| (IMO Helen Shields, HM)              |                   |
| Richard Niedvares, C-16              | 25.00             |
| Irene S. Ozalis, C-3                 | 25.00             |
| (IMO Helen Shields, HM)              |                   |
| Frances R. Petkus, HM, C-96          | 25.00             |
| Estelle Rogers, HM, C-112            | 25.00             |
| Theresa & Faustas Strolia, HM, C-157 | 25.00             |
| Mary Beth Slakis, C-16               | 25.00             |
| Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29          | 25.00             |
| (IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)         |                   |
| Julie Zakarka, C-112                 | 25.00             |
| (IMO Albert Zakarka)                 |                   |
| Becky & Paul Pataki, C-90            | 20.00             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>\$3,595.00</b> |

#### KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION:

##### Pre-Convention Donations:

(Asked to be included in Conv. Donations)

|                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------|----------|
| Anonymous (name on file)               | \$200.00 |
| K of L Council 152, Treasure Coast, FL | 100.00   |
| James Marcinkus, C-152                 | 100.00   |
| Frank Yudickas, C-17                   | 100.00   |
| Vacys Kiukys, C-29                     | 25.00    |
| Annie Mitchell Matulevich, HM, C-52    | 25.00    |

**Sub-Total (Pre-Convention) . . . . . \$550.00**

##### Convention Donations:

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| K of L Mid-America District        | \$500.00 |
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1       | 200.00   |
| (IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba)              |          |
| K of L Council 86, DuBois, PA      | 125.00   |
| K of L Council 3, Philadelphia, PA | 100.00   |
| John Antanavicius, C-12            | 100.00   |
| (IMO C-12 Deceased Members)        |          |
| Msgr. Albert Contons, HM, C-17     | 100.00   |
| Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29        | 100.00   |
| (IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)       |          |
| K of L Amber District              | 50.00    |
| K of L Council 36, Chicago, IL     | 50.00    |
| Aldona & Algerd Brazis, HM, C-112  | 50.00    |
| (IMO Matt Vilutis)                 |          |

|                                                               |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Mary Labadis, C-144                                           | 50.00 |
| (IMO Bill & Mary Labadis)                                     |       |
| Sophia Sakalys, C-103                                         | 50.00 |
| Arlene & Joseph Stiklius, NED                                 | 50.00 |
| (IMO Vincent Stiklius)                                        |       |
| Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144                                      | 50.00 |
| (IMO Stanley Vaicaitis)                                       |       |
| K of L Council 29, Newark, NJ                                 | 25.00 |
| Mark H. Bell, C-96                                            | 25.00 |
| Lillian Greymas, C-3                                          | 25.00 |
| Len Kapochus, C-3                                             | 25.00 |
| (IMO All Souls in Purgatory)                                  |       |
| Mary F. Kincius, C-36                                         | 25.00 |
| Elsie Kosmisky, HM, C-144                                     | 25.00 |
| Helen Medley, C-50                                            | 25.00 |
| Jean Kapochus Mihalick, C-143                                 | 25.00 |
| (IMO Mihalick, Kapocus, Stelnick,<br>Petrauskas Families)     |       |
| Clemencine Miller, HM, C-141                                  | 25.00 |
| Lee & Paul Moore, C-86                                        | 25.00 |
| Richard Niedvares, C-16                                       | 25.00 |
| Irene Ozalis, C-3                                             | 25.00 |
| Mary Beth Slakis, C-16                                        | 25.00 |
| Theresa & Faustas Strolia, HM, C-157                          | 25.00 |
| Rita S. Sussko, HM, C-29                                      | 25.00 |
| (IMO Michael Sussko)                                          |       |
| Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144                                      | 25.00 |
| <b>Sub-Total (Convention Donations): . . . . . \$1,975.00</b> |       |

**TOTAL . . . . . \$2,525.00**

#### K OF L SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1 | \$75.00 |
| (IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba)        |         |
| Janina Dittmar, C-29         | 70.00   |
| K of L Amber District        | 50.00   |

**TOTAL . . . . . \$195.00**

#### ŠILUVA BASILICA SHRINE (WASHINGTON, DC) FUND:

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| K of L Mid-Atlantic District       | \$100.00 |
| K of L Council 144, Anthracite, PA | 100.00   |
| K of L Council 29, Newark, NJ      | 50.00    |
| Elsie Kosmisky, HM, C-144          | 50.00    |
| Bertha Stoskus, HM, C-103          | 50.00    |
| George & Frances Bumila, C-1       | 25.00    |
| (IMO Msgr. Ladas Tulaba)           |          |
| Mary Labadis, C-144                | 25.00    |
| (IMO Bill & Helen Labadis)         |          |
| Frances R. Petkus, HM, C-96        | 25.00    |
| Mary Beth Slakis, C-16             | 25.00    |
| Rita S. Sussko, HM, C-29           | 25.00    |
| (IMO Michael Sussko)               |          |
| Eleanor Vaicaitis, C-144           | 25.00    |
| (IMO Stanley Vaicaitis)            |          |
| Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144           | 25.00    |
| Becky & Paul Pataki, C-90          | 20.00    |
| Sophia Sakalys, C-103              | 15.00    |
| (IMO Brother Izadoras)             |          |

Mary F. Kincius, C-36 . . . . . 10.00  
**TOTAL: . . . . . \$570.00**

**LADY OF ŠILUVA FUND:**

K of L Council 36, Chicago, IL . . . . . 100.00  
 Josephine Barzda, C-133 . . . . . 100.00  
 (IMO Barzda Family)  
 Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103 . . . . . 100.00  
 K of L Council 29, Newark, NJ . . . . . 50.00  
 Evelyn Oželis, C-36 . . . . . 50.00  
 Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29 . . . . . 50.00  
 (IMO Dr. Jack J. Stukas, HM)  
 Irene & Charles Macke, C-157 . . . . . 25.00  
 John & Agnes Mickunas, HM, C-3 . . . . . 25.00  
 (IMO Helen Shields, HM)  
 Frances R. Petkus, HM, C-96 . . . . . 25.00  
 Theresa & Faustas Strolia, HM, C-157 . . . . . 25.00  
 Rita S. Sussko, HM, C-29 . . . . . 25.00  
 (IMO Michael Sussko)  
 Anna K. Wargo, HM, C-144 . . . . . 25.00  
**Sub-Total (Reg. Fund) . . . . . \$600.00**

**PLEDGES:**

Ann Kokernak, C-116 . . . . . \$25.00  
 (IMO Matachinskas Family)  
 Irene & Charles Macke, C-157 . . . . . 25.00  
 (IMO Alice & Anthony Shillon)  
**Sub-Total (Pledges): . . . . . \$50.00**  
**TOTAL: . . . . . \$650.00**

**LITHUANIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF:**

George & Frances Bumila, C-1 . . . . . \$500.00  
 (IMO Msgr. L. Tulaba)  
 K of L Council 86, DuBois . . . . . 125.00  
 K of L New England District . . . . . 100.00  
 K of L Amber District . . . . . 50.00  
 Aldona & Algerd Brazis, HM, C-112 . . . . . 50.00  
 Mary Labadis, C-144 . . . . . 50.00  
 (IMO Bill & Helen Labadis)  
 K of L Council 29, Newark, NJ . . . . . 25.00  
 K of L Council 143, Pittston, PA . . . . . 25.00  
 Len Kapochus, C-3 . . . . . 25.00  
 (IMO Alice Kapochus)  
 Helen Medley, C-50 . . . . . 25.00  
 Jean Mihalick, C-143 . . . . . 25.00  
**TOTAL . . . . . \$1,000.00**

**SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR:**

Len Kapochus, C-3 . . . . . \$101.00  
 Jean Mihalick, C-143 . . . . . 25.00  
 Richard Niedvares, C-16 . . . . . 25.00  
**TOTAL . . . . . \$151.00**

**ALTAS**

Bertha R. Stoskus, HM, C-103 . . . . . \$50.00  
 Loretta I. Stukas, HM, C-29 . . . . . 50.00  
**TOTAL . . . . . \$100.00**

**TOTAL DONATIONS AND PLEDGES RECEIVED . . . . . \$20,994.00**

**The Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council and all its Committees and Funds express sincerest thanks to all Districts, Councils, members and guests for their very generous donations, to keep our organization and its many activities thriving.**



## "Knight Life"



The owner of "Eli's Cheesecake Co." graciously welcomed the tourists and cordially invited us to visit the bakery and help ourselves to coffee and cheesecake.

Cheesecake, cheesecake everywhere...  
Just pick your favorite flavors and come back for seconds, if you like.



No! This is NOT a beauty salon!  
We've just donned our caps and  
are waiting to tour the bakery.



Sr. Johanna Marie and Richard Niedvares, (above) were the brave ones. Everyone else followed suit. Here they all are with their caps! "Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder."







The beautiful, historic interior of Holy Cross Church, Chicago, with all of its 2,500 lights on for us. This was a wonderful stop on the pre-convention tour.

Participants of the pre-convention bus tour, taking a photo in front of the main altar of Holy Cross Church



6 of our new Fourth Degree Recipients stopping to pose for a photo on the Auditorium stage of the Motherhouse after the farewell luncheon.



**"Our Juniors ~ Our Future!"**  
Here are Rev. A. Markus, and Annamarie Sluzas-Berger, with their "happy campers." What a good time they all had!

Here is Georgeanna Macke, with her daughter, Elizabeth, following in her footsteps as a Junior K of L'er.



**"Here I am again, this year! I just love these Conventions."**  
This is our youngest Junior, and soon new baby brother, Justin Johnson will be walking along, too.

# "Knight Life"



Delegates had a chance to enjoy the beautiful skyline in downtown Chicago. Our tour bus driver pointed out many of the highlights of "my kind of town, Chicago!"

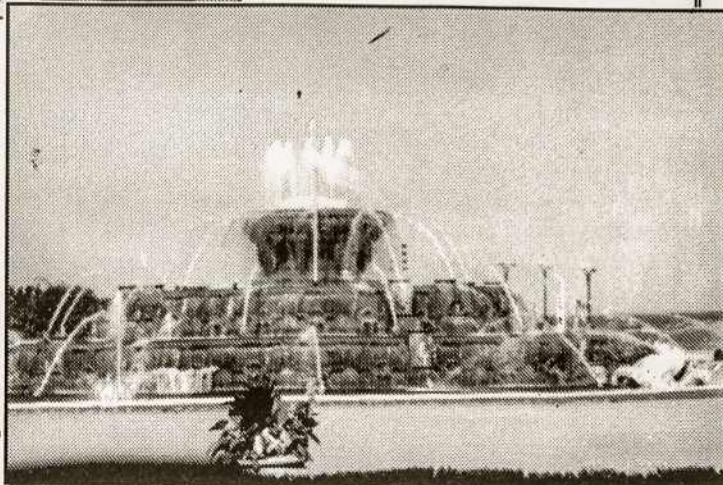


K of L Convention delegates and guests enjoyed the Chicago and Lake Michigan boat cruise on "Chicago's First Lady." This was three hours of sheer fun, music and refreshments. Many "oohs" and "ahs" were heard as the city lights went on.



Left photo: more happy delegates at the luncheon after the farewell Mass and Convention photo were finished.

One of Chicago's great landmarks - the breathtaking "Buckingham Fountain, on Lake Shore Drive.



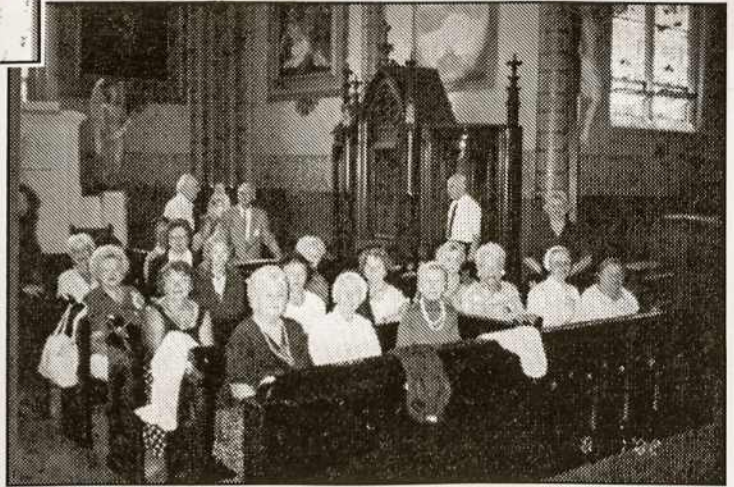
# "Knight Life"



The beautiful, historic Holy Family Church where the Convention's Opening Mass was held. This was the only building to have survived the Great Chicago Fire. It is being renovated once again.



The K of L choir, under the direction of Alma Preisaitiene, gets ready to sing for the opening Mass.



The K of L's THREE TENORS ---oops!-- we mean the three Monsignori; Rev. Ignatius Urbonas, HM, Rev. A. Bartkus, HM, and Rev. Joseph Anderlonis, STD, HM. They really do sing, and very well, we might add!

Sister Immacula, General Superior of the Sisters of St. Casimir, addresses the delegates before the farewell luncheon at the Motherhouse.



# *Knights Life*



The beautiful Motherhouse chapel of the Sisters of St. Casimir. Rev. J. Anderlonis, prepares for the closing Mass.

Rev. A. Saulaitis, SJ, Rev. Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas, HM, Rev. Anthony Markus, and Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis HM, STD, concelebrate the closing Mass. Mrs. Agnes Mickunas, HM, served as one of the lectors.



The recipients of the K of L Fourth Degree, hold their candles and repeat their oath. They received their precious medals and congratulations from Msgr. Anderlonis just before the Mass began.



Many of the delegates are pictured here attending the closing Mass and ceremonies.





## Summary of...

### Convention Sessions...

Welcome to Chicago! The 89<sup>th</sup> K of L Convention began with a tour of the "windy city." After the refreshing pre-convention tour, everyone was ready for some hard work!

The FIRST PLENARY SESSION of the 89<sup>th</sup> National K of L Convention was opened with the presentation of Colors by our flag-bearers, the singing of both anthems, opening prayer by Rev. J. Anderlonis, STD, HM, and the roll call of Supreme Council members by Recording Secretary, Sister Johanna Marie.

Frances Petkus, HM, presented the Presidium members, who then came up to the podium. John R. Mankus, chair, proceeded to read the Rules of Order for the Convention. The rules were then approved. Robert Martin, Jr., SC president, then made an excellent presentation of the State of the Organization report, using a screen and the powerpoint computer program. Each SC member's picture and synopsis of the past year's achievements appeared on screen so delegates could follow along.

SC Treasurer, Richard Niedvares followed with a very brief report at this time.

Greetings in person were then given by the following: Rimantas Griskelis from the Lithuanian World Center; Giedrius Apuokas, Counsel General of Lithuania; Vaclovas Kleiza, past Counsel General; Saulius Kuprys, ALTAS president; Sister M. Janine Golubickis, reading the message for Sister Immacula, Gen. Superior of the Sisters of St. Casimir. Robert Martin then read the greeting from President George Bush, and said that all other greetings will be posted on the bulletin board. These written greetings were from: Sen. Dick Durbin, IL; Peter Fitzgerald, IL; Governor G. Ryan; Mayor R.J. Daley; Dr. Gediminas Siurksnys, Ambassador to Lithuania; a blessing from Pope John Paul II; Cardinal Francis George; Audrius Cardinal Backis; Lithuanian Roman Catholic Priests' League; Marian Fathers and Bendruomene.

The minutes of the 88<sup>th</sup> Convention were approved next. PLENARY SESSION II, which was chaired by Frank Petrauskas, HM, opened with a prayer, followed with an

address by Rev. A. Saulaitis, SJ, who just returned from Vilnius. He thanked the K of L for all of their Aid to Lithuania. A Ritual report and Nominations Committee report followed. The highlight of this session was definitely the Panel Presentation regarding Our Lady of Siluva, by Elinor Sluzas, HM, and Loretta Stukas, HM. (See details in this issue of the *Vytis*).

A new hymn to Our Lady of Siluva, composed by Faustas Strolia, HM, was then introduced. All participated in the singing.

Loretta Stukas, HM, then gave the K of L Foundation report, and also announced this year's Essay Contest winners. (Look in this issue of *Vytis* for the results).

Sophie Sakalys announced the donations' total up to this point, which came to nine thousand four hundred ninety-five dollars.

Then came time for the presentation of the resolutions. Very exciting!

The THIRD PLENARY SESSION, chaired by Elena Nakrosis, opened with a prayer by Rev. Msgr. J. Anderlonis, STD, HM. Then came a greeting and report from Rev. Msgr. A. Bartkus, HM, rector of the college in Rome. He presented the various needs of the college and requested aid.

Mr. Bob Boris, HM, informed the delegates that Aid to Lithuania has now reached its million dollar goal. This milestone was given publicity in the "Draugas" with the headline reading, "With generosity and devotion to God and Country." Then a guest from the North-American Federation, "Ateitis," Juozas Polikaitis, congratulated the K of L. He reminded us that "Ateitininkai" are 3 years older than the K of L, and though their motto is "To renew all things in Christ," our goals are the same. He encouraged the two organizations to unite their efforts.

Elena Nakrosis then gave the General Membership report, and Fran Petkus proceeded with the Honorary Membership information. The Supreme Council Nominations followed. The presentation of more Resolutions continued.

The FOURTH PLENARY SESSION was visited by our Juniors, who delighted delegates by their presentation of their Lady of Siluva mosaic projects. The convention ended that evening with the Saturday night Banquet celebration, with entertainment by Maryte Bizinkauskas, and dancing 'til 12:00!

# HYMN TO OUR LADY OF ŠILUVA

*Larghetto*  
♩ = 60

Lyrics and music by Faustas Strolia

For Congregation:

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time. It features various dynamics such as *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *rit.*, *a tempo*, *cresc.*, *dim.*, and *f*. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The score includes triplets and accents throughout.

One day long a - go, close to a rock child-ren of Ši-lu-va  
 were tending their flock. On the huge rock a wom-an ap-peared,  
 child in her arms, her eyes filled with tears. She told the  
 child-ren the cause of her grief was the cold-ness of so man-y hearts,  
 she wept for the peo-ple who had gone a - stray, she came to re-kin-dle  
 dy-ing em-bers of faith. O Mi-rac-u-lous Vir-gin of Ši-lu-va,  
 you brought back the fal-len ones to their an-ces-tral faith. Re-fuge of  
 sin-ners, be moved by our hum-ble pray'r, bring us to our Fa-ther's house  
 to par-take of the Bread of Life. As God heard your plea cen-tu-ries a-  
 go, pray for our loved ones who wander to-day. Bring them home, we pray,  
 this we ask for the great-er hon-or and glo-ry of God!

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**Knights of Lithuania 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention**  
**Council 1 Brockton, Massachusetts**



**August 14-17, 2003**

**Be there!**