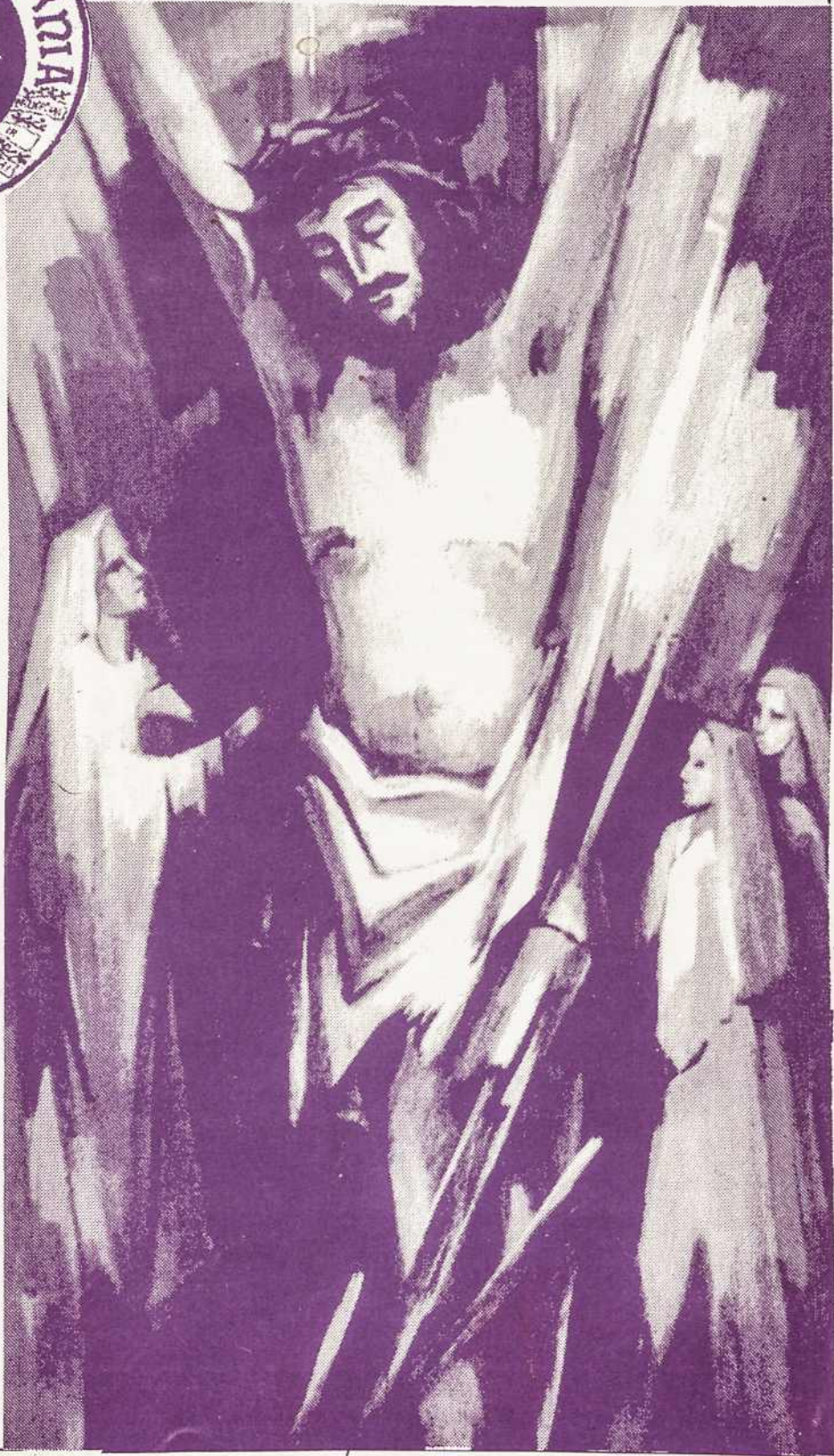


VYTIS ~ THE KNIGHT



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**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. Lituanica 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
(412) 885-1965
Rita.johnson@attbi.com

2nd Vice President

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

3rd Vice President

Maryte Bizinkauskas
424 N Cary ST
Brockton, MA 02402
(508) 586-0650
Marytebiz@aol.com

Recording Secretary

Bernice Aviza
8 Tremont ST
Albany, NY 12205
(518) 459-5256
Blaviza@worldnet.att.net

Treasurer

Ellie Nakrosis
10 Park Avenue
Kearny, NJ 07032
(201) 998-9641
Fax (201) 997-9866
Mociute@aol.com

Financial Secretary

June V. Grenier
159 Coppermill RD
Wethersfield, CT 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

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
(773) 778-8211
Fax (773) 925-8885
Sesjoana33@hotmail.com

Archives Chair.

Nancy A. Pawasauskas
133 Elm ST #5
West Haven, CT 06516
(203) 937-5705
Npowers@cardmodylaw.com
m

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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
Business Manager: Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC
Layout/Design/Typing: Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas
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



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

**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, HM
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
(814) 765-0820

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
elinorsluzas@aol.com

K of L Foundation

President
Loretta Stukas, HM
234 Sunlit DR
Watchung, NJ 07060
(908) 753-5636
Fax (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

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
John Sakal
P.O. Box 103
Nesconset, NY 11767
(631) 724-6998
sakal@peoplepc.com

Mid-Central District

President
Michael F. Petkus
38 Woodsdale RD
Dayton, OH 45404
(937) 235-0341

New England District

President
Vivian M. Rodgers
53 Houghton Street
Worcester, MA 01604-3821
(508) 799-5286
Mociuteviv@aol.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.



This is the day the Lord
has made; let us be glad
and rejoice in it. Psalm 117:24

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Art Credits: To Sister M. Mercedes, SSC

Front Cover - "On the Cross" 1981; Oil 30x18

Back Cover - "Last Supper" 1970; Acrylic 28x38

To My Fellow Knights

At the time of this writing the threat of war looms. Both sides sense the danger from retaliation and reprisals. Expressions of hate and holy vengeance abound.

One remembers our Nijolė Sadunaitė who suffered the interrogations and tortures of the Communist regime as she conspired to smuggle the information about abuses and injustices across the Iron Curtain to the free world. When she came to the United States on a speaking engagement, this writer was astounded by her forgiving and loving attitude. "Why of course we forgive them," she said. "They are the children of God and God loves them. We are all the children of God."

One yearns for a peaceful resolution of the serious issues. At the restoration of Lithuania's independence just thirteen years ago innocent blood was spilled at the television tower in Vilnius and the masses gathered at the Parliament to protect their government from being taken over. There was nonviolent resistance. Government officials used all means of astute diplomacy and skill to prevent the takeover of the country while the people guarded and prayed in defense of their freedom. The knowledge and the support of the outside world made possible the eventual freedom of Lithuania.

If we want peace, we must work for justice, but faith must be our foundation. We Knights know, for our motto guides us: *For God and country.*

Sister M. Janine



Editor's Note

Report changes of address to your financial secretary **as soon as possible**. It is the responsibility of the council financial secretary to forward these changes of address as well as death notices of members to the National Financial Secretary.

VYTIS Correspondents

Deadline for Council News for the May-June Vytis is April 15.

Deadline for Council News for the July -Aug. Vytis is JUNE 1.

Please send one copy of your Council News to the VYTIS Office by mail, email or fax.



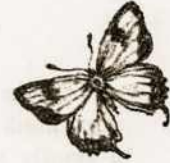
Special Request: The Lithuanian Research and Studies Center is searching for the following copies of the *Vytis* in order to complete their collection: 1919 No.7; 1925 No.9-11; 1929 No.7, 14; 1930 No. 12-13, 23-24; 1931 No. 8; 1932 No. 15; 1933 No. 2,4,6,8,11,15; 1934 No. 12; 1942 from No.9; 1943 No.6; 1944 No. 7,10; 1969 No. 1,3,7-9; 1970 No. 6,8; 1971 No. 3; 1987 No. 7; 1991 No.9; 1998 No.9,10; 2001 No. 9.

Please send to: **Lithuanian Research and Studies Center, c/o Jonas A. Rackauskas, 5600 South Claremont Ave., Chicago, IL 60636-1039**



Congratulations to the newly re-established Council - 71 of Milwaukee, Wisconsin!
Welcome aboard and God bless you! ~ Vytiškai, from all your fellow Councils!

March – April 2003



Dear Fellow Member,

Where has the time gone? Once again the Lenten season is upon us and soon we will welcome spring with all its wonder especially, the glory that is Easter. May this Easter be a new beginning for us all as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. On behalf of the entire Supreme Council I wish everyone a most Blest, Holy and Happy Easter. Linksmy Vėlykų!

I'm sure everyone joins me in expressing our deepest thanks and gratitude to Honorary Member, Valdas Adamkus, as he completes his term of office as President of the Republic of Lithuania. President Adamkus leaves behind a legacy that will forever define the history of Lithuania and her people. Ačiu, Mr. President.

We also send our best wishes and prayers for successful leadership to Lithuania's new President, Rolandas Paksas. President Paksas took office on February 23rd in a ceremony in Vilnius. I was honored as your president to be invited to Vilnius to attend part of the celebration. Unable to attend, I sent the President our best wishes.

So many great things have been happening in our organization since last I wrote. First off, I am pleased to announce the re-establishment of Milwaukee, Wisconsin Council 71. Our 2nd Vice President, Becky Pataki and I had the privilege to travel to Milwaukee on February 1st along with Anne Marie Kassel and Terry Strolia from the Mid-America District. While there, we attended the organizational meeting of our newest council. Under the leadership of Joel Diges, I'm sure we can expect to see great things from Milwaukee in the future. I'm sure all Knights everywhere join me in welcoming this new beginning in Wisconsin.

I also wish to congratulate the Mid-America District on their Annual Memories Banquet. This year, in the spirit of ecumenism, the MAMD paid much overdue honor to His Excellency Bishop Hansas G. Dumpys of the Lithuanian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Diaspora with their "Award of Distinction". The decision of the district was praised by Chicago's Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I. who commended the MAMD on their selection of this year's recipient. I was honored to represent the national board at the award presentation.

Continuing with more good news, I wish to congratulate our Lithuanian Affairs Chair, John Mankus, and our Legal Advisor, Saulius Kuprys on receiving the "NATO Star" from the Lithuanian Government during a meeting in Washington, DC. in recognition of their work for NATO enlargement here in the United States. Saulius has also been honored with the "Order of Gediminas". The presentation was made in Chicago by Former Lithuanian President and Honorary K of L Member, Valdas Adamkus. I am also humbled and honored to say that President Adamkus honored the work of all the Knights when on the same day he presented me with the Order "Už Nuopelnus Lietuvai". It is truly an honor to see members of our organization recognized.

Looking ahead, our 90th National Convention is just around the corner. The members of Brockton, MA Council 1 look forward to seeing you from August 14th-17th. Please check for more convention information in this issue of Vytis. The entire Supreme Council and I are hoping to see everyone in Brockton for the convention.

Again best wishes for a happy Easter season.

Vytiškai,

Robert A. Martin, Jr.



Special Notice to our Members

With our 90th National Convention just around the corner, please take a moment to read through the officers and committee roster below. As we do every year we will be looking for candidates for the upcoming election. Names printed in bold have fulfilled their maximum number of terms and are ineligible to run again. If you are interested in running please contact your district rep. on the Nominations Committee. Also, if you would like to run for the convention presidium, please let them know that as well.

Officers

Spiritual Advisor – Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD, HM – Appointed by Lithuanian RC Priests League

President – Robert A. Martin, Jr. – 3rd Term

1st Vice-President – Brian Johnson – 1st Term

2nd Vice-President – Becky Pataki – 1st Term

3rd Vice-President – Maryte Bizinkauskas – 1st Term

Recording Secretary – Bernice Aviza – 1st Term

Treasurer – Elena Nakrosis – 1st Term

Financial Secretary – June Grenier – 1st Term

Trustee – Agnes Mickunas, HM – 3rd Term

Trustee – Rita Sussko, HM – 3rd Term



Honorary Membership Committee (Each member is elected to a 5-year term)

Frank Petrauskas, HM, Amber District Rep. & Chair – Elected in 1999 – Current Term expires in 2004

Algerd Brazis, HM, Mid America District Rep. – Elected in 1999 – Current Term expires in 2004

Loretta Stukas, HM, Mid-Atlantic District Rep. – Elected in 1991 – Current Term expires in 2003

Elinor Sluzas, HM*, Mid-Central District Rep. – Elected in 2002 – Current Term expires in 2007

*With the resignation of Frances R. Petkus, Elinor was appointed to fulfill her term.

Bertha Stoskus, HM, New England District Rep. – Elected in 1998 – Current Term expires in 2003

Scholarship Committee (Each member is elected to a 3-year term)

Irena Gečas-McCarthy, Mid-Central District Rep & Chair–Elected in 2000–Current Term expires in 2003

Karen Domalakes, Amber District Rep. – Elected in 2001 – Current Term expires in 2004

Wanda Pliskaitis, Mid America District Rep. – Elected in 2002 – Current Term expires in 2005

Antionette Sakal, Mid-Atlantic District Rep. – Elected in 2002 – Current Term expires in 2005

Veronica Bizinkauskas-Kote, New England District Rep. – Elected in 2001 – Current Term expires in 2004

Ritual Committee (Each member is elected to a 3-year term)

Lee Moore, Mid Central District Rep. & Chair – Elected in 2001 – Current Term expires in 2004

Elsie Kosmisky, HM, Amber District Rep. – Elected in 2002 – Current Term expires in 2005

Georgie Macke, Mid America District Rep. – Elected in 2000 – Current Term expires in 2003

Rita Sussko, HM, Mid Atlantic District Rep. – Elected in 2001 – Current Term expires in 2004

Clem Miller, HM, New England District Rep. – Elected in 2002 – Current Term expires in 2005

Other Committees (These committees, by our constitution have no term limitation set upon them.)

Archives Chair - Nancy Powers – 1st Term

Lith. Affairs Chair – John R. Mankus – 3rd Term

Lith. Lang. & Culture Chair – Larry Masevicius – 1st Term

Public Relations Chair – Joseph Stiklius – 1st Term

Lady of Šiluva – Elinor Sluzas – 1st Term

National Nominations Committee Members

(Address info is located on the inside cover of Vytis)

John R. Mankus, Chair and Amber District Rep.

Glenn Perutis, Mid-America District Rep.

John Sakal Mid-Atlantic District Rep.

Michael Petkus Mid-Central District Rep.

Vivian Rodgers New England District Rep.





LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS UPDATE

Political News.

Lithuania's new president sworn into office on Feb. 26th.

Rolandas Paksas was sworn in as Lithuania's third president since reestablishment of independence in 1990, and the seventh president of Lithuania since 1918. He vowed to keep the country firmly on the road to the European Union and NATO. Paksas, who defeated outgoing President Valdas Adamkus last month, raised the specter of world terrorism in his inaugural speech saying, Lithuania wanted to play its part in fighting modern-day threats. **Paksas, age 46**, was inaugurated in a ceremony with a solemn session of the Seimas where he was sworn into office. Later, the inauguration was continued at the **Nepriklausomybes Square**, with the armed forces parade and a flight of military jets over Vilnius. A solemn Mass was celebrated at the Vilnius Cathedral Basilica. He told dignitaries after taking the oath of office, **"Lithuania will not only hide under the NATO umbrella, but will together with other nations defend the security of Europe and that of the whole world."** He also quoted U.S. President John F. Kennedy, saying, **"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country;"** Paksas said Lithuanians also had to commit themselves to building up their own country. **"Time has not lessened the value of (Kennedy's) words and they have a special meaning today: they urge us to return to our ideals,"** he said. Later that day, **Rolandas Paksas and his wife, Laima Paksiene**, hosted a reception at the **President's Palace**. The inauguration ceremony was concluded with a concert at the foot of **Gediminas Hill**.

NATO Secretary General visits Vilnius.

NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson, arrived in Lithuania Thursday, Feb. 27th, on the start of a two-day visit. **He discussed scheduled Baltic entry into the alliance next year and the situation in Iraq in his talks with Lithuanian Prime Minister, Algirdas Brazauskas and the newly sworn-in President Rolandas Paksas.** Lithuania has backed Washington's policy on Iraq and recently granted fly-over rights to U.S.

war planes. Robertson will travel to neighboring Latvia Friday for a similar round of discussions. **NATO has praised modernization efforts of the Baltic armies**, which combined, number under 20,000 soldiers, but has also said they must continue raising military standards. In his inaugural address, **President Paksas** said Lithuania was eager to play an active role within the alliance. **Paksas also said he will fly to Afghanistan to visit some 40 Lithuanian soldiers working with U.S. led coalition troops.**

Lithuanian PM visits United States.

Lithuanian Prime Minister Algirdas Brazauskas started a three-day visit to the United States on Feb. 5th. During his stay in Washington, D.C., **Brazauskas met with U.S. Vice-President Richard Cheney**, U.S. Senate Foreign Affairs Committee chairman, Republican Senator **Richard Lugar**, Democrat Senator, **Richard Durbin** and other members of the Congress. The meeting with Cheney addressed NATO enlargement, prospects of strengthening bilateral Lithuanian-U.S. ties, international efforts against terrorism, the possible military operation in Iraq and other issues of international politics. On Thursday, **Brazauskas participated in the annual National Prayer Breakfast, which was also attended by U.S. President George W. Bush, Cheney**, U.S. congressmen and top-ranking officials from around the world.

President-elect concerned over crimes by Nazi and Soviet regimes.

President-elect Rolandas Paksas would like the International Commission for Assessment of Crimes by Nazi and Soviet Regimes in Lithuania to continue its work, ELTA reported. The newly elected country leader raised the issue during his meeting on Feb. 4 with the public institution's chairperson, **Emanuelis Zingeris**. **Alvydas Medallinskas**, a representative of the president-elect, says president's wish is to preserve the same people in the commission, who have worked very successfully until today. To the opinion of Mr. Paksas, cultural and intellectual legacy of Jews must be represented in Lithuania, and various forms must be used to perpetuate the memories of these people. **"We have reached understanding with global Jewish community and they believe we are on the right way with**

our investigation. The confidence in Lithuanian history specialists has been restored," Zingeris told the journalists after his meeting with Paksas.

President, MPs urge USA to keep funding for Radio Free Europe.

President Valdas Adamkus and almost one-third of the Seimas (Parliament) MPs have appealed to the US administration and Congress with a request not to suspend funding for the Lithuanian service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. The draft 2004 budget being drawn up in the White House does not include any funding for this radio service. The letter to US officials emphasizes that this radio station has not only played a significant role in re-establishing Lithuania's independence, but still remains an important source of comprehensive and unbiased information.

Lithuania may take three roles - Ambassador Usackas.

After joining the European Union and NATO, Lithuania could be a partner of the United States of America, leader of the Baltic Sea region, and the one that would attract American investors and tourists, Lithuania's Ambassador in US, Vygaudas Usackas said on Feb. 12 during his speech at the city club of Springfield, capital of Illinois. First, after it becomes a member of EU and NATO, Lithuania can be a reliable partner of US in combating the new threats for a democratic society. Moreover, Lithuania should undertake the leading role in the Baltic Sea region, by promoting cooperation, stability and democracy within and beyond the limits of the region.

Economic News.

Lithuania to emerge as fastest-growing economy in Baltics.

The Lithuanian economy has defied the global slowdown and is now poised to emerge from the shadows of the neighboring Latvia and Estonia as the fastest-growing economy, said the Economist Intelligence (EIU) of the Economist International media group. According to the statement, quoted by BNS, despite that demand

growth in Lithuania's main exports markets is slowing, the country's exports soared by 14.6 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2002 and its current account deficit fell to 4.4 per cent. Retail sales rose 13.5 per cent year-on-year in January to November 2002, gross fixed investment rose 20.7 per cent year-on-year in January to September 2002, while unemployment fell to 10.9 per cent at the end of 2002.

Lithuania may replace litas with euro in 2006—central bank governor.

The bank of Lithuania governor, Reinoldijus Sarkinas, said on Jan. 20 he saw no obstacles to Lithuania adopting the euro as its national currency in 2006 or early 2007. "It is very possible that this (replacement) will occur in 2006 or in January 2007 at the latest," Sarkinas told BNS after a meeting with the Lithuanian parliament speaker, Arturas Paulauskas.

Standard & Poor's upgraded Lithuania's rating.

Standard & Poor's upgraded Lithuania's rating for long-term borrowing in foreign currency from BBB to BBB+, and revised short term rating from A-3 to A-2, whereas the rating for borrowing in national currency was increased from BBB+ to A-. "The said ratings showed once again the increase of international markets' confidence in our financial system, Finance Minister Dalia Grybauskaite said from London, where she arrived on Feb. 18 for participation in meetings with potential investors. Standard & Poor's statement said the decision was taken after the agency's mission visit to Vilnius early this year.

Russian investment in Lithuania has soared over the past year.

Vilnius based Versio Zinios reported that investment from Russia increased almost five-fold last year, largely as a result of purchases of huge chunks of Lithuania's energy sector, Russian companies, which have seen their profits rise in recent years and which have cash to spend, apparently want to position themselves strategically important Baltic industries before even more EU investors move in. Russia is now the seventh largest investor in Lithuania, where only a year ago it was the 18th largest, according to Lithuania's statistics department; it

said Russian money was by far the fastest growing source of new investment in the southern most Baltic state.

IMF Calls Lithuanian Economy "Remarkable"

The International Monetary Fund Thursday praised Lithuania's government for its economic policies. "Macroeconomic performance in 2002 was remarkable, with a rapid pace of real GDP growth and the rate of inflation falling close to zero, a lower than programmed general government fiscal deficit, and falling employment, IMF Deputy Managing Director, Shigemitsu Sugisaki, said in a statement on Feb. 27. Lithuania has enacted reforms covering the tax system, municipal finances, the health insurance fund, and the energy sector, Sugisaki said. The outlook for 2002 is positive, with real GDP growth expected to remain strong, although the external current account deficit could widen in response to higher oil prices, he said. Priorities going forward include strengthening capacity to administer European Union financial aid, and shoring up the financial position of local governments and the Health Insurance Fund, he said.

Masterfoods Lithuania is the Best Mars Inc. Factory in the World.

Masterfoods Lietuva (Masterfoods Lithuania) has been selected as the best Mars Inc. factory in the world according to production output, productivity and production costs. According to the report, posted at the Lithuania Development Agency's website, EUR, 44million were invested in Masterfoods Lithuania, a pet food factory in Gargzdai, the western part of Lithuania, since it was opened in 1993, and further investments to upgrade production technologies are planned.

Miscellaneous News.

Lithuanian and Jewish experts to compile a list of property due to be restored to Jews

The representatives of Lithuanian and Israeli institutions are to form a joint working team shortly to deal with identification of property due to be restored to its former Jewish owners. According to ELTA report, the issue figured on

the agenda of a meeting between Justice Minister Vytautas Markevicius and Rabbi Andrew Baker, coordinator of the international committee for Jewish property issues in Lithuania, which was held in Vilnius on Jan 22. Both men said they welcomed the ongoing goodwill cooperation and progress in the aforesaid process, though admitted existing hurdles, partly because of missing property documents, a spokesman of the justice ministry reported. Markevicius and Baker reportedly agreed on compiling a preliminary list of property to be restored to the Jewish community.

Rural Tourism in Lithuania Boasts an 84% Growth in 2002

In the first 11 months of 2002, rural tourism in Lithuania attracted nearly twice as many holiday makers as in the same period of the previous year according to the data of the Lithuanian Rural Tourism Association. Reservation of country farms for the celebration for Christmas and the New Year started as early as the beginning of November. At present, there are about 670 farmsteads offering rural tourism services in Lithuania's four ethnic regions of Aukstaitija (central and eastern Lithuania), Zemaitija (western Lithuania), Dzūkija (southern Lithuania) and Suvalkija (southwestern Lithuania).

Submitted by John R. Mankus, Chairman, National Lithuanian Affairs Committee.

Smiles Without Wrinkles



What did mama and papa buffalo say to their son as he went off to college? "Bison"

If money grew on trees, it might not be such a problem getting someone to rake the leaves.

Egotist = Someone usually me-deep in conversation.

Dust = Mud with all the juice squeezed out.

Tomorrow = Greatest labor-saving device of today.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.

2003 ESSAY CONTEST

Each year, the Knights of Lithuania Foundation asks K of L members to research a selected topic and write an essay on the topic. This project enables three lucky members to earn some prize money and all to share ideas with other members. This year, the Essay Committee decided to ask members to write about their K of L Councils or members. In short, we invite each interested member to write an essay describing something good about your council, its history, or its members, for example:

How was your council started? or

What outstanding things have they done? or

What important things are they involved with now? or

Describe some outstanding member or members and their work for the Church, our Lithuanian heritage or the K of L.

We'd like members to think about and investigate their own council's history, to become better K of L-ers, we hope. They may expand on what special K of L Memories they hold dear, why they belong, who or what they admire in their own council. This will also help advertise their council's name and accomplishments. Enter the Contest and share your thoughts. Rules are listed below.

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

DEADLINE: July 1, 2003. Essays received after this date will not be considered.

ELIGIBILITY: A contestant must be a Knights of Lithuania member (Honorary, Regular or Associate) in GOOD STANDING.

Because Junior members cannot be expected to meet the standards of adult members, there will be a separate prize category for Juniors, who are members of a Junior Council which is duly registered with the Supreme Council.

CRITERIA: Essays will be judged on content and originality! Correct grammar and neatness will also be considered in judging.

MANUSCRIPT: Must be typed or written legibly, double spaced. The FIRST PAGE should contain ONLY your name, address, council number, and the essay title. Succeeding pages should contain the essay contents but NOT your name. This is to assure anonymity in judging. Junior entries should be identified as such, giving the name and Junior Council number.

PRIZES: 1st Prize - \$300, 2nd Prize - \$200, 3rd Prize - \$100.

Monetary gifts will also be given to prize winning Junior member entries.

JUDGES: One member of each K of L District, plus 2002 Contest Winner.

MAIL TO: Bernice Aviza, 8 Tremont Street, Albany, New York 11205

WINNERS: Will be announced August, 2003, during the 89th National Convention in Brockton, MA. Winning entries will be published in VYTIS.

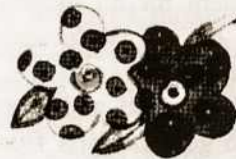
SPONSOR: KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC., via a grant from Msgr. Juozas Prunskis.

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

The Foundation has been in existence for 17 years. You can help keep it in existence by joining the Foundation to increase its capital and provide more funds to help Lithuania and Lithuanian projects. A donation of \$100 entitles you to membership in the Foundation, and supports the Knights' future. Are YOU a member of the Foundation? If not, why not join today? If you are a member, consider making an additional donation.

Send your tax-deductible donation to:

Ann Marie Kassel, Treasurer
8200 Anchor Dr., 801
Woodridge, IL 60517



Calendar of Events:

April 5, 2003 - Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council Meeting at Hilton Dedham Place Hotel in Dedham, MA

April 27, 2003 - New England District Spring Convention at C - 135 in Ansonia, CT

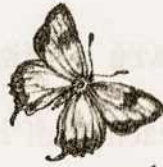
June 20 - 22, 2003 - New England District Retreat at the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, Maine

August 14 - 17, 2003 - Knights of Lithuania 90th National Convention hosted by Council 1 of Brockton, MA



The First K of L National Golf Tournament

(Honorable Mention Essay Winner)



During the 1953 Boston National Convention, at one of the room parties, a few young fellows were talking about the game of golf. They were all relatively new to the game, but they enjoyed it very much. Later, one suggested, "Wouldn't it be nice if the K of L sponsored a national golf tournament?" It was decided to bring the question to the full body of the convention. Surprisingly, it was passed by the convention, and the first tournament was to be held at the 1954 National Convention in Pittsburgh. President Joseph Lola appointed a chairman for the tournament.

Much work had to be done prior to the tournament. We had to reserve a Country Club, determine what type of scoring and handicap system to use, since players would be coming from all over the United States, and how to group the players. We chose the Stanton Heights Country Club and the Calliway System of scoring, which at that time was the fairest system for all players. The tournament would be on Wednesday, before the start of the Convention.

The big day finally arrived, and about 35 players were rarin' to go. The girls from Chicago and Cicero, who were to serve as caddies, gave the boys a shock. They got up late, so they rushed right out to the Country Club without any breakfast. They intended to eat at the Country Club. However, the cafeteria was closed, so they went downtown to eat, and the boys had to carry their own bags for the first nine holes.

The day went off without any major problems. The golfers enjoyed a good day, and, after all of the golfers returned to the clubhouse and their scores were tabulated, we determined the winners.

In the evening was the Golf Banquet and Presentation Ceremony. There were 54 people in attendance to partake in a delicious

roast beef dinner. It was a casual, but yet an impressive affair, because the tournament was a first for the K of L.

The winners were: Class A - Alex Pietrazak, C-96 Dayton; Class B - Bernie Labuskes, C-19 Pittsburgh, and Class C - Johnny Dauginas C-8 Chicago.

The Class C trophy had a figure of a woman golfer, because we figured that would be the women's class. Johnny Dauginas had to accept that trophy, as he was the only golfer in that class. At first, he blushed, but after, he grew fond of the trophy. He said she was the first girl that never talked back or gave him a hard time.

The Stanton Heights Course is a very hilly course. Big John Tratulis, C-113, Linden, tells this one about the sixth green which is located atop a mountain. After he reached the green and sank his putt, he pulled out his score card to record his score. Just then he heard a voice say, "I'll mark down your score." He looked up, and there stood St. Peter, with a pencil in his hand.

*By Frank Petrauskas, H.M.
C. 140 - Syracuse, New York*



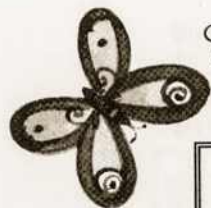
Smile a While

On a Plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."

At a tire shop in Milwaukee: "Invite us to your next blowout."

At a car dealership: "The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."

In the front yard of a funeral home: "Drive carefully. We'll wait."



Candidate for Honorary Membership



Nellie Bayoras Romanas has been nominated for Honorary Membership by Council 143, Pittston, PA, and the Amber District.

Nellie was born and raised in the Wyoming Valley area of Pennsylvania, the daughter of Lithuanian immigrants. She attended local schools. That time period was the Great Depression years, so she had to cut her education short and go to work to support her family.

Nellie was always interested in her Lithuanian heritage. She became involved in Lithuanian activities as a youngster and has continued non-stop even to today. Her score card is very full, with a lot of activity.

She joined the Knights of Lithuania in November, 1976, when Council 143, Pittston, was organized. She immediately became Financial Secretary, and chairperson of the Cultural and Lithuanian Affairs committees. Next, she served the council as Ritual Chair for seven years. Nellie continued to hold office in the council, and her next office was, Treasurer. Upon completing her term of office, she was then elected President of the council, an office she held a number of times. Presently, she is President of C-143.

On the District level, Nellie served as Vice-President of the Mid-Atlantic District. When

the Amber District was organized, she served as a Trustee and later, as Treasurer. Presently, she is still serving as Treasurer.

The Supreme Council has benefited from Nellie's service and labors. She served on the Ritual Committee for a number of years, and as Ritual Chair for one term. She also has served on the Mandate and Greetings Committees at National Conventions.

Along with C-74, Scranton, C-143 participates in a Rosary Rally in St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton each year. Other nations participate also. Nellie serves as chairperson each year.

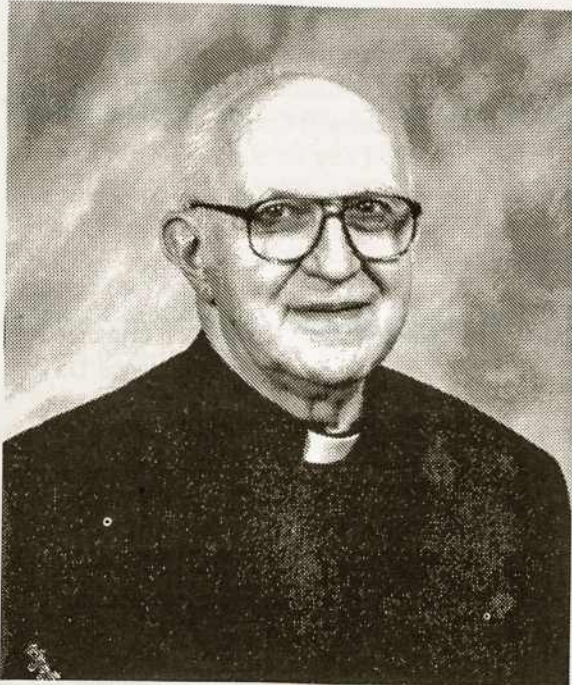
Each year since 1973, Nellie has organized flag raising for Lithuanian Independence Day at Pittston City Hall and Luzerne County Court House, Wilkes Barre. There is always a good turnout, and the politicians all look forward to participating each year.

Nellie organized and served as coordinator of the Wyoming Valley Lithuanian Combined Church Choir. They participated in many events throughout the area. Nellie spoke about Lithuania at a seminar at Kings College in Wilkes Barre and also at Wilkes College on the local radio station. Nellie possesses a large amount of Lithuanian items which she has exhibited throughout the area over the years. She even exhibited at the Syracuse Festival of Nations one year. She received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Heritage Affairs Commission for her outstanding organizing of Lithuanian Cultural Programs. Likewise, she received the Mayor's Award from Pittston Mayor, Thomas A. Walsh, for her contributions to the community.

In 1994, Nellie was recognized for her dedication and untiring efforts with the Knights of Lithuania, in promoting Lithuanian culture, by being selected as a distinguished citizen of Pittston, and was honored at the 11th Annual Pittston Tomato Festival.

Because of her many accomplishments over the years, Nellie Bayoras Romanas is indeed a worthy candidate for receiving Honorary Membership in 2003.

Candidate for Honorary Membership



Rev. William L. Wokovich-Valkavicius

Father Vincas Valkavicius has been nominated for Honorary Membership by Council 27, Norwood, MA and the New England District.

Father Bill, as he is commonly called, was born in Hudson, MA, the son of Liudvikas and Elena Zukauskaite Valkavicius. His early schooling was at St. Michael's Grammar School, and his upper schooling was at Hudson High School.

His strong desire to become a priest saw him studying at St. John's Seminary in Boston. He was ordained in 1953 and his first assignment was Lynn, MA. Later he studied for an advanced degree in American Studies at Boston College. His duty assignments took him to a number of parishes in the Boston Archdiocese, and presently, he is Pastor of St. George's Lithuanian church in Norwood.

Father Bill joined the K of L in 1967, while on duty at St. Casimir's church in Brockton. He developed a deep love for the K of L, and even when he was assigned to non-Lithuanian

parishes, he always promoted Lithuania and Lithuanians through public lectures.

From 1966 to 1993, Father Bill gave 24 public lectures to various clubs, societies, Public libraries, colleges, and twice in the Massachusetts State House.

From an early age, Father Bill developed a love for writing and a love for history. He was particularly interested in immigration, not only Lithuanian, but other European countries as well. As of 2002, he has written 13 books, 57 articles, 25 convention papers, 31 book reviews and 10 encyclopedia entries.

Father Bill's top writing accomplishment as far as the K of L is concerned, is the book, "Lithuanian Fraternalism, 75 Years of U.S. Knights of Lithuania," which was published in 1988. Father Bill did a lot of research on the book, going through all of the material in the archives and every other source which was available. All of this effort resulted in a book of which we Knights can be very proud.

Another great accomplishment is, the three volume set entitled, "Lithuanian Religious Life in America." Here he writes about all of the Lithuanian parishes in America that once existed, and those that are still in existence. Very interesting reading!

Father Bill has written historical articles and books on other nationalities, particularly the Poles, the Albanians and the Finns. For his major Polonia study, "A Half-Century Polish Imprint on West Rutland, Vermont," he received the "Amicus Poloniae" award from the American Polish Historical Association.

Father Bill received the "Order of Gediminas" award from the Republic of Lithuania in 1997. For most of the month of April, 1999, he was a visiting Lecturer at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. He gave an Elective History course, which included a lesson on the K of L and the singing of the K of L hymn.

Over the years, Father Bill has written a number of articles and book reviews for the Vytis and other Lithuanian publications. He also gave talks at three K of L National Conventions.

Another of his talents is, the violin. He plays a beautiful violin. Wouldn't it be nice if he brought his violin to the Convention?

Because of his many accomplishments, Father Vincas William L. Wolkovich Valkavicius is indeed a worthy candidate for receiving Honorary Membership in 2003.

Candidate for Honorary Membership



Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas

Father Anthony Zakarauskas has been nominated for Honorary Membership by Council-112, Chicago, IL, and the Mid-America District.

"Father Zak," as he is commonly called, was born and raised in the Chicago area. He attended local schools, and, at an early age he had a strong desire to become a priest. As a teenager, he entered the Seminary to fulfill that strong desire. Upon his ordination to the priesthood, in his early twenties, an article in the Chicago Tribune stated, that Father Zak was the youngest priest to be ordained in the United States.

Father Zak's first duty assignment was as an assistant at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary church, Chicago. There he joined Council-112 in 1941. He enjoyed working with young people, and he did a lot of organizing. Father Zak organized a discussion club for C-112 members. On Sunday afternoons they would meet and discuss topics of interest. Many members looked forward to those Sunday sessions.

Father Zak organized a Girls' Orchestra and a Girls' Choir, which, at that time was unusual

because that type of activity was mainly all boys or mixed. He worked with them and they became quite successful. He also was their Spiritual Advisor. He attended all council functions to give his support to the Council and to demonstrate his interest in, and encouragement for, Lithuanian causes.

Father Zak's next duty assignment was as an instructor at St. Casimir Academy, still working with young people. He also was asked to be a chaplain at Holy Cross Hospital. He performed both duties well for a number of years while still being involved with the Knights of Lithuania.

He later was given the Pastorate of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary church, where he served for many years. This parish is the largest Lithuanian parish in the Chicago area. Father Zak climbed the ladder of degrees, and today is a Fourth Degree Knight. He has been Mid-American District Spiritual Advisor for many years. He attends all District Board meetings and all Business meetings. Since 1967, he has celebrated all District Masses.

The Mem'ries of Lithuania Banquet, which is The Social event of the year in Chicago, has asked Father Zak many times to be Master of Ceremonies. He has a clear and powerful voice and keeps the flow of speakers moving while doing an outstanding job. He also was Master of Ceremonies at some of the K of L National Conventions held in Chicago.

Some of the other Lithuanian organizations which Father Zak is Associated with are: ALTAS; besides being a member, he celebrated the Mass and was Master of Ceremonies at their convention. DON VARNAS AMERICAN LEGION POST; He was the Chaplain of the Post for many years. BALFAS; He was a member of the Board of Directors. ALHAMBRA; Which is equated to the Catholic Shriners, he was the Chaplain.

As we have seen, Father Anthony Zakarauskas has been very active with the Knights of Lithuania and other Lithuanian organizations, and because of his many accomplishments, he is indeed a worthy candidate for receiving Honorary Membership in 2003.



A Sacra Cantata To Honor a Lithuanian Parish

In 2002, St. George's in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania celebrated its centennial as a Lithuanian parish. To mark this milestone in a special and distinct manner, Pastor Msgr. Joseph J. Anderlonis, HM, STD, asked his Choir Director, Joseph F. M. Pokorny, to write lyrics and music for a Cantata about Lithuania and have it performed in the church during its anniversary year.

Composition of the cantata was a labor of love, lasting approximately five years. Pokorny utilized a wide range of written and oral resources, including conversations and verbal descriptions of Lithuanian geographic features for his songs.

Sacra Cantata 100 - Lithuania is more a mosaic than a monochrome in that a variety of artistic forms - song, ballet, poetry, musical interlude, and synchronous gestures - contribute to its substance.

Rehearsals for the twenty singers in the cast began in July, 2002, and the cantata premiered on Saturday, September 14, with an additional performance on Sunday, September 15.

Two acts comprise the Cantata. Four scenes are in the initial act, and one scene and a finale are in the second act.

Lithuanian mythology dominates the first scene. In "Viena Lietuva" (song), four major geographic regions unite to form one Lithuania. "Jurate's Tears" (music/dance) provides a ballet interpretation of the origin of amber.

Conversion to Christianity is the theme of the second scene. In "The People Who Lived in Darkness" (song), Lithuanians discovered Jesus, the great light, who guided them out of the darkness of paganism. Lithuanians' staunch belief in Jesus, as epitomized on the Hill of Crosses, is further emphasized in "Sacred Ground," a poem composed by Stephany Gutauskas (see *Vytis, February 2001, Volume 87, No. 2, page 2*) and read by Joseph Pokorny. In "Lituania" (song), freedom from iniquity is won through faith in God's Son, Jesus Christ. In "Kaledos Dance" (song/dance), Lithuanians joyfully remember and celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus.

Dedication to Mary, the Blessed Mother, is the theme of scene three, which features songs, "Our

Lady of Siluva," "Ave Maria" (in Latin), and "Ausros Vartu Madonna." The highlight of this scene occurs when Casey Zettlemoyer, age 10 and the youngest member of the cast, carries a red rose across the stage and places her bloom at the foot of the statue of Our Lady of Siluva - a simple, yet eloquent act of devotion to the Mother of God.

Lithuanian life under Communist repression is the theme of scene four. The songs, "With This Candle," "The Right to Live Life," "The Healing Prayer," and "The Hill of Crosses," all emphasize Lithuanians' reliance on God during the dark times under Communist rule. The climax of this scene occurs during the performance of "The Hill of Crosses," when cast members, each carrying a wooden cross entwined with rosaries, climb onto the stage and visually recreate a miniature version of "Kryziu Kalnas."

After intermission, the audience sat silent, enraptured by the beauty of a synthesized transcription of "Lietuva Brangi."

Lithuania's freedom and independence, the theme of the final scene, were celebrated in the songs, "All Who Eat This Bread," "Saint George," "With Him in Your Heart," "Those Who Walk With God," and "We're All Family."

The finale featured the Lithuanian National Anthem, "Lietuvos Himnas," by Dr. Vincas Kudirka and a Lithuanian, as well as English and signed (American Sign Language) versions of Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" ("Laimink Amerika").

Audience members gave the performances enthusiastic, favorable reviews. One woman exclaimed it was the best musical show she had ever seen. Another, in rapture, cooed that the Cantata was inspirational and just what she needed at that moment to enhance her spiritual life. Many said they would have liked an even longer program. They just didn't want the joy to end.

Sacra Cantata 100 - Lithuania required neither a multi-million-dollar bank roll nor elaborate stage sets to come to fruition. With a group of dedicated volunteers and a dynamic composer/director who rehearsed together for nearly two months, the Cantata honored the Lithuanian roots of St. George Parish, successfully entertained its audiences, and indeed left them begging for more.

Submitted by Stephany Gutauskas - Council 3



Performers of the "Sacra Cantata - 100" sing, "The Hill of Crosses"



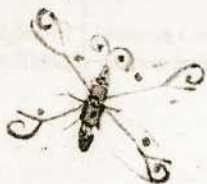
Performers sing: "It's Written in Our Hearts by God," from "The Right to Live Life."



"Sacra Cantata - 100" - Performers - St. George's parishioners in choir



Ballet - "Jurate's Tears" - Dancer - Lynn Jaje



Someone You Should Know



Michael F. Petkus receiving the Iwo Jima Memorial Flag at his retirement ceremony on January 11, 2003, from the Battalion Executive Officer.

The flag at the Iwo Jima Memorial is changed each and every day with a new flag. These flags are reserved for presentation to a Marine when they retire and have gone above and beyond the regular call to duty. To receive this flag, one's unit sergeant major must place a request to the Marine headquarters in Washington, D.C. For his outstanding dedication to the Marines, Gunnery Sergeant Michael was presented with this very special flag. The regiment's colonel has the authority to bestow the Navy Marine Corp Achievement Medal to a Marine who has super performed his duties. Michael was presented with this award, also. Michael, having served for twenty-two years, was recipient of many other awards for his outstanding performance as a United States Marine!

Michael Petkus is a member of C-96, Dayton, Ohio. Congratulations, Michael!

Someone Else You Should Know



Michael Grabauskas and 2002 "Miss America," Katie Harman

2002 Volunteer Award Recipient Michael Grabauskas

The Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition's Volunteer Award showcases those "behind the scenes" people who deserve special thanks and recognition from the organization. **Michael Grabauskas** is no exception.

Mike's "Anything -You-Need" attitude and tireless work ethic are a tremendous asset to the PBCC team of staff and volunteers who are grateful for his hard work at the conference and throughout the year. Michael is a special volunteer who makes everyone's work load a little lighter.

Michael received the Volunteer Award at the "Legacy of Love" Evening Reception on October 9, 2002. It was presented by the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition. The PBCC, founded in 1993, is the only statewide grassroots organization that speaks to and for breast cancer survivors. The keynote speaker was **Katie Harman, 2002 "Miss America, and champion for women battling breast cancer.** Congratulations Michael!

Musu Jubiliejus! Our Jubilee Year!
Dievui ir Tevynei For God and Country

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 90TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Council 1 Brockton, Massachusetts

(Where it all began!!)

August 14-17, 2003

Chairpersons

Maryte Bizinkauskas
 Veronica T. Cote

424 N. Cary Street
 Brockton, MA 02302
 508.586.0650

MaryteBiz@aol.com
 Cell: 617.365.6699

Co-ordinator of
 Juniors' Activities
 Vilija Bizinkauskas

Council 1 Officers

President
 Veronica Bizinkauskas

Vice President
 Maryte Bizinkauskas

Spiritual Advisor
 Sr. Helen Ivanauskas CJC
 Fr. John Prusaitis

Secretary
 Diane Dubois

Treasurer
 Doris Fralick

Convention Location

Hilton Dedham Place
 25 Allied Drive
 Dedham, MA 02026
 781.329.7900

National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania. From August 13-17, 2003, Knights from every part of the United States will gather for this special 90th Jubilee Convention. The Knights are committed to providing nearly \$20,000 in scholarships nationally and locally, sending tens of millions of dollars in aid to hospitals and orphanages in Lithuania and supporting their local parishes and communities by helping new immigrants find work and lodging.

Your generous support for our hosting efforts in 1996 brought your message to 260 delegates and 450 guests, who shared this booklet with their own councils. We will again publish a Souvenir Program Booklet for this 90th Jubilee Convention, which promises to bring the most delegates ever to celebrate. We know that you will want to express your greetings to the delegates and guests by placing an ad in the booklet. Donations of company promotional items are also greatly appreciated. Please call Mary Carleton at 508 586-8680 to discuss the quantities needed. Your participation in the booklet will ensure a financially successful convention and support our local Council 1 scholarship fund.

Suggested donation:

- Full page \$100.00 Half page \$ 60.00
 Quarter page \$ 30.00 Patron (Name and Council # only) \$ 10.00

Please print your message in the space provided below. If you will be using a logo, please include camera-ready black-and-white artwork.

(Faint mirrored text from the reverse side of the page is visible through the paper.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Please make checks payable to: **Knight of Lithuania Council 1.**

Mail to: Maryte Bizinkauskas, 424 No. Cary St. Brockton, MA 02302-1832.

Deadline is June 10, 2003.

Dear Friends:

Knights of Lithuania Council 1 was
 unanimously chosen to host the 90th

*Musu Jubiliejus Our Jubilee Year
Pakelkime balsus! Lift our voices!*

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 90TH NATIONAL CONVENTION
Council 1 Brockton, Massachusetts
(Where it all began!)
August 13-17, 2003

Registration Form

Name: _____

Council number and city: _____

Address: _____

City and State: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____

Delegate: _____ Alternate _____ Guest: _____ Junior _____

Delegate/Guest *Early* Registration Fee (by June 1, 2003) **\$195**Delegate/Guest Late Registration Fee (after June 10) **\$225**Junior *Early* Registration Fee (by June 1, 2003) **\$75**Junior Late Registration Fee (after June 10, 2003) **\$95**Pre-convention Trip (Choose One: whale ____, trolley ____, Imax ____) **\$45**C-1 Scholarship Raffle Ticket (double your chance to win) **\$ 5**

Total enclosed: _____

Please make check payable to: Knights of Lithuania C-1

Mail registration form to: Maryte Bizinkauskas, Chair
424 No. Cary Street, Brockton, MA 02302-1832

Any Questions? Call Maryte mornings at (508) 586-0650.

N.B. Please allow 2-3 days for mail delivery. Registration forms received after June 10 will be considered late registrations.

*Musu Jubiliejus Our Jubilee Year
Pakelkime balsus! Lift our voices!*

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 90TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Council 1 Brockton, Massachusetts

(Where it all began!)

August 13-17, 2003

Registration Information for Delegates and Guests

Early Registration (by June 1).....	\$195.00
Late Registration (after June 10).....	\$225.00
Junior/Youth (under 18)* Early registration only \$75.00.....	Late registration...\$95.00
Pre-convention Trip to Boston.....	\$45.00

Convention Registration includes:

Bus service to all convention events. **One Ticket** for Scholarship Raffle Prizes.

Thursday: **"Special K" lunch reception** after Opening Mass, evening get-together with **delectable dessert table** and **Sodauto Ensemble show**.

Friday: **Hot plated luncheon**, Cultural Night Musicale Extravaganza **concert** with **Open Bar** and **International cheese and fruit display**.

Saturday: Late morning **refreshment** break, closing **banquet** and **dancing** to **"Taste of Dixie"** during cocktail hour and to the sounds of **"Joe Thomas"** after formal presentations.

Sunday morning: **Deluxe Country Buffet Breakfast** catered by **Bickford's Family Restaurant**.

* Junior/youth registration includes all Junior activities, programs and special closing banquet meal.

Convention Hotel:

Hilton Dedham Place: The room rate is **\$109 per night**. There are smoking or non-smoking rooms and single (king size bed) or double (two full size bed) rooms available at this rate. A small number of larger suites are obtainable for an additional charge. **Free parking**. Walking distance to commuter trains. Come and spend an extra day in this wonderful part of the country. Reservations must be made by **June 30**. Please call **1-800 HILTONS** or Hilton Dedham Place directly at **781 329-7900 x 6611** and tell them you are with the Knights of Lithuania Convention.

Pre-Convention Activity

There is early registration and a pre-convention trip to historic **Boston, Massachusetts**.

Your choice of a four hour **Beantown Whale Watch** in the Boston Harbor, or a fully narrated **Beantown Trolley Tour** with free unlimited reboarding at 16 stops all over Boston, or a day at the **New England Aquarium** and tickets for two showings at the **Simons Imax Theatre**.

Lunch is available at many fine restaurants and casual eateries throughout the city.

Plan to enjoy your own perfect pre-convention tour. Tickets are \$45.00 per person.

Reservations must be made to guarantee space on some of the tours, so register by June 10.

N. B. Please arrange your flight schedule to accommodate for a 1:30 p.m. departure from the Hilton hotel for transportation to the Braintree Logan Express Bus Terminal or to Green Airport in Providence.

*Musu Jubiliejus! Our Jubilee Year!
Dievui ir Tevynei! For God and Country!*

Knights of Lithuania 90th National Convention

Council 1-Brockton, MA

(Where it all began!)

August 14-17, 2003

Tentative Calendar of Events

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13:

There is early registration and a pre-convention trip to historic **Boston, Massachusetts**.

Your choice of a four hour Beantown Whale Watch in the Boston Harbor, or a fully narrated **Beantown Trolley Tour** with free unlimited reboarding at 16 stops all over Boston, or a day at the **New England Aquarium** and tickets for two showings at the **Simons Imax Theatre**. Lunch is available at many fine restaurants and casual eateries throughout the city. Plan to enjoy your own perfect pre-convention tour. Tickets are \$45.00 per person. **Reservations must be made to guarantee space on some of the tours, so confirm your space by the June 10 early registration deadline.**

Those who wish to take a trip to the **K of L Archives at the Immaculate Conception Convent** can plan a car trip. We will provide you with directions and let the Sisters know that you will be visiting them. **The Foxwoods Casino** in Connecticut is nearby, should you like to indulge and try your luck.

In the late afternoon buses leave for **Our Lady of Sorrows Convent** in Brockton. There will be a brief tour of the grounds and nursing home and we will conclude with the praying of the rosary for our deceased K of L members. Buses will take us for the 5 minute ride to the famous Brockton landmark, **Christo's Restaurant**, one of the top 100 independently owned restaurants in the United States, where dinner will be served *ala carte*. They serve Greek and American food, delicious pizza and salads. Buses will return us to the hotel after dinner.

C-1 Scholarship Raffle begins. The Grand Prize is Hilton Hotel "Free Get-away Night " with dinner and breakfast for two! Other great prizes too! Registered Delegates and Guests automatically entered!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14:

Registration continues all day in the hotel. Buses will take delegates to **Opening Mass** at Saint Casimir Church, Brockton. Following the Mass, there will be a **hearty luncheon buffet** served in the church hall featuring the famous **"Special K Dinner "** the "breakfast" of Lithuanian Champions. After lunch we return to the Hilton Hotel for the **First Plenary Session**. *Supper is on your own.*

The evening will conclude with the “**Get-Acquainted Night**” featuring a “**Delectable Dessert Table**” completed with delicious coffees and teas and a cash bar. Put on your dance shoes and prepare yourself for a fun evening singing and dancing to Lithuanian ethnic music presented by the *Sodauto Ensemble*. **Junior Hilliards Candy Bar Fundraiser begins. C-1 Grand Prize Scholarship Raffle ticket sale continues.**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15:

Registration continues all day in the hotel. Busses will take us for a short trip to Mass in honor of the Feast of the Assumption at *St. George Lithuanian Church*, home of Council 27 in Norwood. We will return to the hotel for **General Sessions II** in the Grand Ballroom. A **hot, plated luncheon will be served** following the sessions. The afternoon will conclude with **General Sessions III**.

The “**Cultural Night Musicale**” festivities will be preceded with a **Cocktail Hour Open Bar** and **International cheese and fruit display**. A dynamic and diverse program of musical entertainment featuring *Maryte Bizinkauskas* and several other talented singers will end this superb evening. **Junior Hilliards Candy Bar Fundraiser finishes after the show. C-1 Raffle ticket sale continues.**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16:

The day will begin with Mass in the hotel. An extended **Closing General Session** will be held in the Grand Ballroom. A late **morning break** featuring **assorted muffins, mini bagels and gourmet coffee** will be served during this long session.

The evening will feature our **Closing Banquet with plenty of dancing!** During the social hour, purchase a cocktail and dance to the strains of “**A Taste of Dixie Band**”. After dinner and the formal presentations, dance the rest of the night away. There will be a separate dining room for the **Juniors’ banquet featuring a special meal and music with D-J entertainment**. Everyone is invited to the Grand Ballroom to continue the dancing following the official presentations. **C-1 Grand Prize Scholarship Raffle Winners will be drawn at the banquet.**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17:

Busses will leave early for the 9:00 am **Closing Mass at St. Casimir Church** in Brockton. Immediately following the Mass, there will a brief ceremony honoring those who died for Lithuania’s freedom and then the convention photograph will be taken on the church steps. A **Deluxe Country Breakfast** catered by **Bickford’s Family Restaurant** will be served in the Church hall.

Busses depart by **1:00 PM** for return to the Hilton Hotel.

Please note that coffee and soft drinks will be available as a courtesy to our delegates and friends in the registration room during the convention. The Hilton Hotel provides a *Starbucks* and full dining room for your convenience, as well as room service. Please take advantage of these features.

The **delegate and guest** early registration fee of **\$195** for this exciting **Jubilee Convention** will cover all meals and activities as outlined. **All guests must also register** and will be included in **all** of the delegate meals, activities and transportation.

BONUS! BONUS! Pre-registered delegates and guests will automatically be entered in a raffle for the **Grand Prize** of a **FREE GET AWAY NIGHT** at the Hilton Hotel including dinner and breakfast for two!

This raffle directly supports the **K of L C-1 Scholarship Fund**.

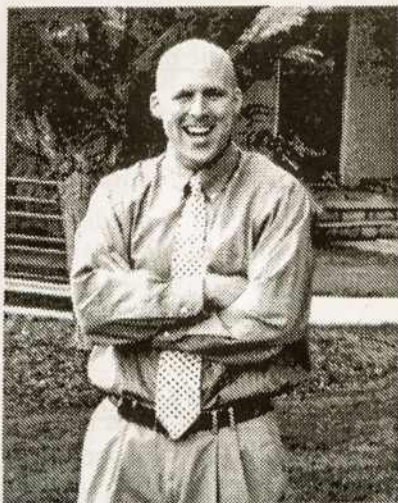
Extra tickets can be purchased for Just \$5.00! Buy one extra and double your chance of winning these great prizes

Don't miss this spectacular event. Be a part of history! **You and the 90th Jubilee Convention** of the Knights of Lithuania! Looking forward to seeing you here!

SPECIAL NOTES REGARDING THE HILTON DEDHAM PLACE HOTEL:

The hotel is conveniently located on **Exit 14 on Route 128**. It is accessible from the **Mass Pike** and **Route 95** and is less than 30 minutes from downtown Boston. There is **free parking** at the hotel and commuter rail transportation within walking distance that will whisk you into Boston safely and quickly. The hotel will also provide **Shuttle Bus** service to and from the **Braintree Logan Express Bus Terminal**. This will allow those flying into **Logan Airport in Boston** a very easy ride and suitable access to the Hilton Hotel. The hotel is 45 minutes from the **Green Airport** in Providence R. I.

The room rate is **\$109 per night**. There are smoking or non-smoking rooms and single (king size bed) or double (two full size bed) rooms available at this rate. A small number of larger suites are obtainable for an additional charge. Come and spend an extra day or two in this wonderful part of the country. Reservations must be made in advance. Please call **1-800 HILTONS** or directly at **781 329-7900 x 6611 or 6612** and tell them you are with the K of L Convention.

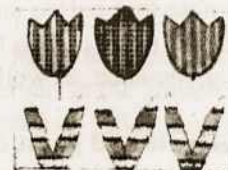


Dear Knights of Lithuania:

I wish to thank the Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Committee and the Knights of Lithuania for awarding me the Alice Karklius Scholarship at the 89th National Convention. This generous award will allow me to enroll in Vilnius University's Lithuanian language program so that I may improve my Lithuanian language skills. This is the second year that I have been awarded a scholarship, and for the second year I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to the Knights of Lithuania for their assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert Medonis
Council 133 – Los Angeles



Musu Jubiliejus! Our Jubilee Year!
Dievui ir Tevynei For God and Country
Knights of Lithuania 90th National Convention

Council 1 Brockton, Massachusetts

(Where it all began!!)

August 14-17, 2003

Chairpersons

Maryte Bizinkauskas
 Veronica T. Cote

424 N. Cary Street
 Brockton, MA 02302
 508.586.0650

MaryteBiz@aol.com
 Cell: 617.365.6699

Co-ordinator of Juniors'
 Activities
 Vilija Bizinkauskas

Council 1 Officers

President
 Veronica Bizinkauskas

Vice President
 Maryte Bizinkauskas

Spiritual Advisor
 Sr. Helen Ivanauskas CJC
 Fr. John Prusaitis

Secretary
 Diane Dubois

Treasurer
 Doris Fralick

Convention Location

Hilton Dedham Place
 25 Allied Drive
 Dedham, MA 02026
 781.329.7900

February 16, 2003
 Happy Lithuania
 Independence Day!

Dear Fellow Knights,

As National Vice President of Juniors and Chairperson of the upcoming 90th National Convention, I think it appropriate to help our Juniors better understand the Knights of Lithuania and learn about this old and valuable organization so they will be prepared to take the reigns in the future years.

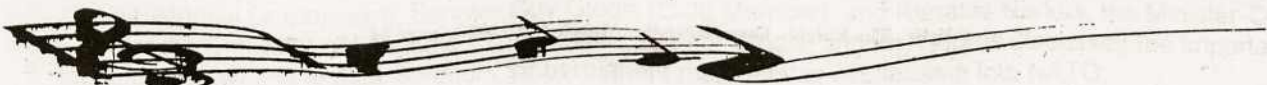
To that end, I have asked Fr. William Wolkovich to provide a brief, but complete history of the K of L and its founder Mykolas Norkunas. This will give them an historical understanding of Knights and the part of our motto that refers to "Tevynei."

To cover our work for "Dievui," I ask each council with Junior members to work with them in a small fund raising effort. This could be in the form of a bake sale, raffle held during a regular K of L activity or other similar effort to obtain a few dollars to purchase a new toy, game or other fun item to be sent to an orphanage in Lithuania. I also ask that the parents of Juniors and all members of the council to comb through their closets to find toys, puzzles, children's book, balls, bats, gloves and other toys and clothing that are no longer used, but could be a source of joy to the children in Lithuania. **I ask that the Juniors bring these no longer used, but beloved toys to the National Convention in August.** There they will write letters and pack these toys for shipment on the next container sent by Sr. Helen and Lithuanian Children's' Relief. Our Juniors will learn the value of sharing with those less fortunate and will have the experience of earning money to buy something new and special for a child whom they don't personally know. This is clearly doing works of charity, thus fulfilling the admonition towards "Dievui."

I also am asking that each regular council allot **\$10 per delegate at the convention for the sole purpose of purchasing Hilliards Chocolate Bars as a Junior Fundraising event.** The Juniors at the convention will then go on a shopping spree (of sorts) to purchase new items for the children in Lithuania.

I sincerely hope all members of the K of L will lend their full support to this effort.

I thank-you for all of your help in these efforts! Let's make this **Junior Fundraiser Event** a tremendous success and a highlight of this 90th Convention!





COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
 STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

SENATOR GUY W. GLODIS
 SECOND WORCESTER DISTRICT
 ROOM 413B, STATE HOUSE
 TEL. 617-722-1485
 FAX 617-722-1066
 GGlodis@senate.state.ma.us

COMMITTEES:
 PUBLIC SAFETY (CHAIRMAN)
 ENERGY (VICE CHAIRMAN)
 STEERING AND POLICY
 STATE ADMINISTRATION

February 19, 2003

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy, United States Senator
 United States Senate
 317 Russell Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510

Honorable John F. Kerry, United States Senator
 United States Senate
 304 Russell Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Sirs:

As a proud Lithuanian-American, and as the only member of the Massachusetts Great and General Court of Lithuania descent, I write seeking your support of full membership for the Baltic States (Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia) into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Having suffered the indignity of some 50 years of oppression under domination from the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), the Baltic peoples understand both the need for common security and defense as well as the importance of such essential concepts as freedom and liberty. These peoples, starved for freedom for so many decades, now stand ready take their rightful place in the effort to ensure the common defense of all members of NATO.

While the threats confronted by the alliance have changed considerably since the collapse of the USSR and the Warsaw Pact, the threats remain and, in some cases, are of more concern than those of old. These threats have led a large number of nations to seek membership in NATO. A prime example for your consideration is the former Soviet Republic of Belarus. Bordering the peaceful people of Lithuania, Belarus is dominated by a despotic and potentially menacing regime. Regrettably, the people of Belarus still chafe under the domination and tyranny of a dictatorial government and do not yet know what it means to live as a free people. Membership in NATO will provide the free people of Lithuania security against this possible threat.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy
 Senator John F. Kerry
 February 19, 2003
 Page 2

As the people of Lithuania prepare to celebrate the crowning of their first king, Mindaugas, on July 6, 2003, I believe that the people and government of the United States of America should join their celebration by supporting full membership in NATO of the Baltic States.

Thank you, in advance, for your assistance and support, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Guy W. Glodis, State Senator
 Second Worcester District

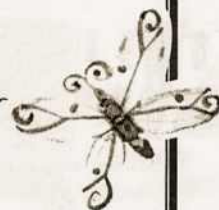


From L to R: Gintaras Cepas, Senior Vice President of Meredith & Grew Inc., Jonas Stundza, City of Lawrence Historical Commission; Senator Guy Glodis (C-26 Member); and Renatas Norkus, the Minister-Counselor of the Embassy of Lithuania. They visited Senator Glodis, and Mr. Norkus discussed the importance of people writing to their Senators for permanent membership of Lithuania into NATO.



In Memoriam...

C - 26 Anton, Beatrice	Worcester, MA	1/ /03
C - 26 Sokol, Greg	Bourne, MA	12/20/02
C - 36 Kodis, Lillian	Chicago, IL	1/15/03
C - 36 Narvaisis, Margaret	Bridgeview, IL	1/23/03
C - 46 Yavorsky, Anthony	Simpson, PA	10/ /02
C - 74 Yanish, Casimir	Clarks Summit, PA	12/01/02
C - 79 Panavas, Violet	Southfield, MI	1/ /03
C - 82 Petrites, Elaine	Crown Point, IN	1/17/03
C - 96 Scott, Anne	Dayton, OH	1/21/03
C - 103 Sister Apolinara	Putnam, CT	1/09/03
C - 110 Bannon, Vincent	Bellerose, NY	2/02/03
C 112 Jokubauskas, Stasys	Palos Park, IL	12/02/02
C - 112 Jonusys, Irene	Oak Lawn, IL	6/15/02
C - 112 Kaminskas, Florence	Scottsdale, AZ	5/25/02
C - 112 Nieminski, Sophie	Oak Lawn, IL	12/22/02
C - 156 Ringes, Leo M.	Northumberland, PA	10/25/02
C - 157 Shukis, Eleanor	Indian Head Park, IL	1/ /03
C - 250 Repshys, Antanina	Chicago, IL	1/01/03



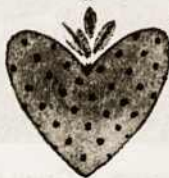
MALDA

Mane melstis išmokyki,
Angele dangaus brangus,
Savo lūpom ištirpdyki
Surambėjusius jausmus.

Te širdies kampus tamsiausius
Nušvies saulės spinduliai,
O krūtinėj tesuskamba
Džiaugsmo ašarų varpai.

Duok sparnus tu mano maldai,
Leisk pakilt aukštai, aukštai,
Dėkui tau, kad mane saugai,
Dievą leisk mylėt karštai.

(Rita Dmukauskienė - C-12)



MARIJOS ŽODŽIAI - TAI DIEVO MALONĖ

Brangūs vaikai, ir šiandien aš kviečiu jus
melstis ir pasninkauti už taiką.

Kaip jau esu jums sakiusi
ir dabar pakartoju,
tik malda ir pasninku ir karai gali būti
sustabdyti.

Taika yra brangi dovana iš Dievo.

Ieškokite, melskite

ir jūs ją gausite.

Kalbėkite apie taiką ir neškite taiką
savo širdyse.

Maitinkite ją kaip gėlę,

kuriai reikia vandens, švelnumo ir
šviesos.

Būkite taikos nešėjai kitiems.

Aš esu su jumis, ir užtariu jus.

Dėkoju jums, kad atsiliepėte mano kviečiami.

(Medjugorje, 2003.02.25)

District & Council News

New England District

C-6 Hartford, CT **Bette Ann Liudzius**



The first executive board meeting of C-6 was canceled due to the anticipated arrival of a "northeaster". Our new president, Gene Ziurys, graciously invited the board to a business luncheon, Jan 6, at his Wethersfield home. Amid "snow flurries", most members were able to attend and enjoyed celebrating "Little Christmas" while planning new projects for 2003. In good spirits, the committee hoped all would be inspired to continue the council's upward growth not only in membership but enthusiasm and dedication to our cause "...God and Country."

Given "the keys of the kingdom" on Jan 7, Alfonsas Dzikas presided over the meeting, in the absence of Gene Ziurys who was vacationing in England and Okinawa. Dalia Dzikas presented the informative report, "Midus, a Honey of a Drink". More than a few members wished Dalia had brought samples on this very chilly evening.

This year the membership plans to learn a new word, phrase, or the meanings of favorite songs, etc., at each meeting. The Lithuanian word of the day was medus - honey. In Feb, "į sveikata".

Juozas Giedraitis commented, in Lithuanian, on the election results of Valdas Adamkus's loss to Rolandas Paksas. Alfonsas Dzikas was the interpreter.

Since some members of C-6 were planning to attend the Icon exhibit at K of C Museum, Alfonsas Dzikas

and Kay Urban provided us with many interesting facts. With our new knowledge, the council can better appreciate the gift of the icon of Christ in glory, the San Damiano Crucifix, which the Sisters of St. Francis gave on the occasion of Holy Trinity's 100th anniversary.

No meeting would be complete without the inspirational words of our Chaplain, Rev. John Rikteraitis. Father's words must have been blessed, for after searching his multitude of pockets, he found the winning ticket to the evening's raffle.

As C-6 members arrived for the Feb meeting, they were greeted by the pleasant sight of Alyce Gegesky, Dianne Grajauskas and Louise Pivoski dressing the tables with festive tablecloths to create a Valentine atmosphere. Sounds from the kitchen assured them that committee members Leona Sawka, Lillian Joseph and Victor Kogelis were busily putting finishing touches on the buffet menu. A 20-Questions Valentine Quiz was played and Brian Daigle won the prize of a decorative candle.

Gene Ziurys thanked all past presidents, Kathryn Urban, Wanda Kruk and Alex Yusias for laying the groundwork for our council; he hoped to continue their good work.

Lillian Joseph reported on the Icon Exhibit and Dalia Dzikas on the "Marija Gelbėk Mus" prayerbook by Adelė Dirsytė - a Siberian Exile.

Joseph Stiklius brought the Lithuanian Affairs Newsletter and spoke on Lithuania's being asked to join NATO.

Fr. John Rikteraitis instructed us to fulfill the law of Jesus as taught by the Catholic Church.

C-17 South Boston, MA **Regina Alexander**

Former pastor of St. Peter Lithuanian Church in So. Boston, Father Anthony Baltrashunas, passed away in Marion Manor Nursing Home on March 1, 2003. Fr. Anthony was long-time Spiritual Director and an enthusiastic supporter of C-17. The K of L wake ritual was held. The funeral Mass was at St. Peter's with many priests - Fr. Zukas, Msgr. Contons, Fr. Svirskas, Fr. Saulenas, Fr. Janunas, Fr. Valkevicius, Fr. Latoza - many Sisters, K of L members, family, friends, and parishoners attending and offering up their prayers. Father is sorely missed.

The annual C-17 Communion Breakfast followed a Mass for the intention of all the deceased Knights of Lithuania. Fr. Stephen Zukas, Pastor and Spiritual Director was the celebrant, assisted by Fr. Kestutis Latoza. Msgr. Al Contons was able to join with us at the breakfast which followed. Also attending were Sr. Loretta and Sr. Geraldine of our parish. The breakfast was prepared and served by Gerard's Restaurant. The committee was VP Frank Markuns, chairman, Virginia Markuns, tickets, and Ann. Norinkavitch, Ann Kleponis, Vera Yuskavitch, Barbara Trybe, and new member Sonia Verrochi. Thank you all !

Fr. Stephen not only was MC, but the guest speaker at the breakfast. He spoke of his journeys to Lithuania. This is helping him with a better understanding of the language, the culture, and the beautiful land of Lithuania. Fr. Kestutis Latoza is Fr. Stephen's hospitable Lithuanian host, and is pastor of the Finding of the Holy Cross in Vilnius.

C-17 member, Vytautas Ivanauskas,

and his able committee are cooking up the 3 k's - kapustj, kilbasj, and kugelj - for the annual Parish Pensioniku Balius. The Sacrament of Anointing will be given during the preceding 10:30 Mass. The parish Confirmation students are the servers at the Senior Citizen Party.

Harborside Healthcare of North Shore, Saugus, MA is the new residence for HM Pres. Alexander Akule and his wife, Patricia. Needless to say, we all miss them very, very much. Our love and prayers are with you All! VP Frank Markuns has been very busy as Acting President.

The Bostonian Nursing Home had 3 C-17 members at once: Milly Vallis Bronis Kontrim and Emily Lehman. Brenda's dad, Al Wachack now resides in a nursing home.

Get well soon list: Joseph Januskevich, Louis Bazzinotti, Larry Svelnis, Betty Balaconis, and Aldona Zirolis.

June is the month of the annual NE Retreat at Kennebunkport and Phyllis Gendreau is busy working out the details for C-17 members. It is hoped that many C-17 members will be able to attend.

Thursday mornings at the Morrisey Blvd. Bowling Alleys finds many C-17 members enjoying the sport. Nice to see Fr. Steve and Msgr. Al Contons joining as active participants! Way to go!

C-26 Worcester, MA **Rūta**

The February Meeting had a "kick-off" Valentine Potluck supper. The theme was hearts and flowers. The food was absolutely delicious. One wonders how each of these suppers seems to get better and better. Our members certainly know how to cook and please the

participants. 2 heart boxes of chocolates were given as door prizes. The winners were Lillian Kondrotas and a guest, Joseph Rice.

Fr. Richard Jakubauskas, our Spiritual Advisor, read a beautiful prayer to the Blessed Mother written by Pope John Paul II after he was shot. He entrusted his health into her hands. Father discussed the importance of prayer and how we should get involved.

Barbara Thompson was welcomed as a new member to our council in Feb. She was made to feel at home and we all were quite happy that she ventured out on a very cold night to join us. She is related to Sharon Gouin.

Lithuania's Independence was celebrated with a Mass at St. Casimir's Church, followed was Giedre Razvadauskaitė. C-26 was in charge of refreshments. Many people attended this annual commemoration.

Our State Senator, Guy Glodis, who represents a Worcester District in Boston and is a member of C-26 had a very productive meeting with Renata Norkus, Administer-Counselor of the Embassy of Lithuania. Also present was Jonas Stundza, City of Lawrence-Historical Commission, and Gintara Cepas, Senior VP from Meredith & Grew, Inc. They were responsible to show Mr. Norkus the points of interest in Boston. Sen. Glodis took them on a tour of the State House and then had a meeting where they discussed how important it is for Lithuania and the other Baltic States to have full membership in NATO. Mr. Norkus stressed that everyone should write their Senators seeking this membership. Sen. Glodis has written to the Mass. senators in Washington. We, as Lithuanians,

should follow his example as soon as possible.

We have members who have recently needed medical attention: Dorothy Zaliekas, Bill Leseman, and Lillian Kondrotas.

Our sympathy is extended to Joe Ivaska and Adele Degutis of our council. Their brother, Francis Ivaska, recently died. He is in our prayers.

Victoria Augustine, who does volunteer work at the Worcester Senior Center, directed their Senior Choir at their Christmas party. They sang the various popular Christmas carols and received a large ovation. About 300 people attended.

Sharon and Louis Gouin are making plans to go to Las Vegas with 8 other couples. They will be staying an entire week gambling and having fun. We wish them all lots of luck and big winnings.

The Feast of St. Casimir will be celebrated with a Mass in Lithuanian at St. Casimir's Church. The parish dinner will follow at Maironis Park.

C-27 Norwood, MA **Zaibas**



The year started out with a festive brunch at a local restaurant, attended by members and guests. Frances and Stan Medveski came up from Rhode Island and sat and chatted with Terry and Stan Wasil and Dorothy Ausevich and her sisters. Dorothy's driveway was snow-bound and her sisters came to her rescue.

Betty and John Skricki brought us up to date on their daughter Carol's doings; she is the olympic sculler. George Barton talked of the latest happenings in Lithuania and his relatives there. Carol and Charles

Treciokas, Lenore and Albie Jarvis were their table companions.

Louise and Paul Zukas, Ted and Lillian Callahan, Mr. and Mrs. Gorski shared a table with Sandra Melish and her guest, Helen. Sandra had just returned from Atlantic City.

In Feb, our council met on yet another stormy, snowy Sunday morning. We found that we had royalty in our midst. Carol Treciokas had just been told by her cousin, who is a genealogical researcher that she was a descendant of a princess from the Žemaitis area. Congratulations.

The Lithuanian Independence Memorial program was rescheduled for Feb 8. John Skricki, Sgt at Arms and George Barton will participate in the service by processing to the altar with the flags. Rev. W. Wolkavich will celebrate the Mass. Ramona Gonski and Betty Skricki will be the hostesses for the program.

Greetings to all. Likit Sveiki.

C-141 Bridgeport, CT Florence Zikaras

Our faithful Vytis Correspondent, Aldona Marcavage, underwent major surgery and has not been able to continue reporting. We are glad that she is making a remarkable recovery. Now, she is taking care of her seriously ill husband, Bob. Both are sorely missed at our meetings. Bob, we miss your dill pickles and rūta seedlings. Aldona, I'll try my best to follow in your footsteps in reporting.

In Aug. we held our annual picnic at the home of our President, HM Clemencine Miller. Those who braved the 90 degree plus heat had a great time with plenty of food and friendship. Surprise guests were

some members and their families of a Lithuanian Youth Basketball Team from Philadelphia. We were glad to greet new arrivals from Lithuania, Romaldus and Dailya Orlivis, their daughter, and Dailya's parents. They are making their home in Bridgeport.

At our Oct. meeting it was with great sorrow that we learned that Fr. Jose Rebaque, our parish administrator, was being transferred to another parish. Fr. Jose, as he is affectionately called, announced that the Bishop had appointed 2 priests from Argentina, Rev. Julio Lopresti as Pastor and Rev. Jorge Montagna as Vicar. Fr. Jose left a lasting legacy at St. George's Church. The cupola atop the church was rebuilt; the entire church was refurbished with major renovations to the altar, stations and windows. Through his efforts we were able to donate money for restoration of one of the stained glass windows. It now bears the signature of 'KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA-VYČIUS'. Father made sure that there would always be a reminder that St. George's was founded by the Lithuanian community by placing the statue of St. George and the Lithuanian flag along side of the altar. The congregation is now predominantly Spanish.

Fr. Jose was honored at several events and the Knights were well-represented. At our Nov. meeting we presented Father with a monetary gift and "Rupintojėlis". Pres. Miller presented Father with a meaning of the statue. There were many tear-filled eyes at the meeting.

In Nov, members Helen Simanis, Patti Silk, Barbara Schmidt, Alice Wilcinskis, Nancy Pawasauskas, and Marie Brilvitch met at Pres. Miller's home to make Lithuanian Christmas ornaments.

On Dec 1, the Most Rev. William E. Lori, Bishop of Bridgeport and Most Rev. Gustavo J. Neto, IVE Provincial of Argentina presided at the Installation Mass for our new Pastor and Vicar. The Knights participated at the Mass and the reception that followed.

Kūčios were done true to Lithuanian traditions.

The entire slate of officers was re-elected for 2003 - Pres. HM Clemencine Miller, 1st VP - Marie Brilvitch, 2nd VP- Nancy Pawasauskas, Sec- Barbara Schmidt Treas-Pat Silk, Sin Sec-Bill Brilvitch.

At the Jan Mass, Helen Janius read the readings in Lithuanian and led us in the singing of our hymns.

Sophie Putremas has moved to California to live with her daughter. She and her late husband, Peter, were very active members.

It was great to have Pete Peters back at the last meeting after a long convalescence. On the sick list are: Peter Radzwillas, Lillian Argust, Peter and Rose Januska, and Ann Geceвич. You are all in our prayers.

Our Feb meeting held a special significance because it fell on Sunday, Feb 16th, the actual 85th anniversary of Lithuania's Independence. We started the day with Mass at St. George Church with Pastor Julio Lopresti presiding with Vicar Jorge Montagna assisting.

All sojourned to the church hall for a day of food and celebration. MC, Barbara Schmidt, opened the meeting with the singing of the anthems. Pastor Julio welcomed all and congratulated our Independence with a "Viva Lithuania".

We were honored to have the Aušrinė Dancers from Philadelphia, under the direction of Jurgita Matuliene, perform several folk dances. They invited the members to dance with them, including Frs. Julio and Jorge.

Midway in the program we stopped to have lunch prepared by the members. We collected monies for the Various Lithuanian Aid programs. Andrew Pauga, affiliated with the Lithuanian Consulate in NY gave a short talk on the Independence of Lithuania. Aurelia Grygelnutė and Jieva Vazbutaitė recited some beautiful Lithuanian poetry.

The program closed with more folk dances by the Vėtra Dancers of New Haven, under the direction of our own Nancy Pawasauskas. They invited the members to participate in several of the dances.

At the end of the day, we felt that we truly celebrated Lithuania's hard-fought Independence.

Amber District

C-3 Philadelphia, PA Victor Stepalovitch



Now that winter is just about over and we will no longer have to shovel all that snow, C-3 can now concentrate on Spring and the summer and the heavy schedule ahead of them.

Feb 16 a Mass was held in St. George's church in observance of Lithuanian Independence which members attended, then on Feb 23 members attended a program sponsored by the Lithuanian community where they also celebrated Lithuanian Independence - the old and the new.

C-3 members are very pleased and happy to welcome back Ruth Wallash and Dolores Herbert who had surgery.

Many of our members attended a Pre-Lenten Banquet at St. George's parish. This banquet is held every year on the Sat before Lent begins.

Members of C-3 were hearing wedding bells, lately, and that was because Mark Petronis got married. Mark is the son of members Marge and Charles Petronis. Congratulations to the Bride and Groom.

And how lucky for John and Agnes Mickunas to be spending a warm and wonderful vacation in sunny Florida while we are spending a cold and chilly winter here in the NE.

As part of C-3's Social Activities, many of our members - on April 12- will be attending a dinner show where we will be enjoying a presentation of "South Pacific".

On April 27 our council will be hosting the Amber District meeting and we are looking forward to seeing many of our District friends.

Of course, many of our members are looking forward to the trip to Lithuania, July 17 to 29.

We are very happy to hear that Mrs. Anastasia Binkis who has health problems has decided to move in with her daughter in California.

Members of C-3 send their Easter Greetings to all K of L membe

C-74 Scranton, PA Marie Laske



On behalf of the K of L, I would like to thank each and everyone who

came to the Lithuanian flag-raising celebrating Lithuanian Independence Day We were elated to have our program at Scranton's beautiful City Hall which was newly painted. We had a very good turnout, including people from Clarks Summit, Forest City, Pittston, and surrounding areas. Msgr. Peter Madus from St. Joseph's Church blessed the flag. Mayor Chris Doherty read the proclamation. Nell Bayoras Romanas spoke about Lithuanian Independence. Dr. Romas Dovydaitis spoke about Lithuania's freedom. Richard and Marie Laske, Pres of the K of L C-74 were Chairpersons. It was on Feb 16, 1918 that Lithuania declared its independence from Czarist Russia; it reflects this country's independence from the Soviet Union on March 11, 1991. The Pope said, "Remember your heritage", which we do, but we thank God that we are living in the greatest country in the world, USA. Please, everyone in your own way, pray for peace in the world. We went to Luzerene and Nell Romanas had a great flag-raising once again.

The weather outside is frightful, but come July 26 it will be great. Each year we have a Lithuanian Mass at St. Ann's Basilica. Think about coming. The grounds are beautiful and much food is for sale. Come and make a holy day of prayer. Fr. Clement Kasinskas will be celebrant.

A small group of our K of L received communion and went out for our yearly communion breakfast. We had a lovely time complaining about the snow and are all waiting for Spring.

Our wonderful treasurer is really a lady of leisure; Margaret Clegg is back from 3 great weeks in Florida.

Get well prayers go out to: Della Zvirblis, home from the hospital and

under the care of her daughter, Marie Benckine. Also, Leo Zewicki, Rose Stanches, Dot Sarnowskas, Liz Kaminskas, Helen Cravath, Mary Twardzik.

Ruth Yanish had a visit from her daughter and twin grandsons. She said that they are lively 2-year olds.

Mid Atlantic District

C-100 Amsterdam, NY Reggie

At our Nov meeting, after some encouragement, the same slate of officers remained. They are: Pres - Mirga Diane Bablin; VP- Regina Kot; Sec- Eleanor Olechowski; Treas- Sophie Olbie; Cultural- Irene Tice; Lithuanian Affairs and Language- Polly Ziausys.

Christmas Party plans were made by Sophie Olbie and Regina Kot at BackYard Jacks. It turned out to be a good time for all and the food was good. We collected \$116 for Domeikavos Parish, near Kaunas, to help them build a Lithuanian Martyrs Church.

Regina Kot attended the MAD Fall meeting in Kearny, NJ, hosted by C-90. She gave a full report, announcing that she was again elected to the district cultural chair.

We were very saddened to hear of our members sister's death - Helen Dylong. We extend our deepest sympathy to Fran DiBart and Millie Whelly.

Our yearly Lithuanian Christmas Radio Program was aired again on WCSS. Members from our council - Fran DiBart, Regina Hartvigas and Ruth Ralys put it all together on air. Well done.

Our Pres, Diane Bablin, is enjoying her winter months in sunny, warm St. Pete's Beach, FL. We all miss her and wish we were there, because this year was the coldest and snowiest record-breaking winter.

Regina Kot got to spend most of Jan in Florida, too. Daytona Beach was nice, a little cooler, but better than Amsterdam. Hope Spring will come soon.

We are planning to have St. Casimir's annual dinner at Valentino's Restaurant.

Two of our council members, Polly Ziausys and Mirga Bablin attended a pilgrimage to the Our Lady of Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC in Oct. They gave us full reports on the event. They also informed us that there is a renovation fund going on for the chapel of Siluva at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

C-110 Maspeth Bruno Rutkunas

Our council is swinging into action with renewed energy and dedication.

All members enjoyed the Feb 16th celebration of Lithuanian Independence at the Annunciation Church where Bishop P. Baltakis held Mass. Many members also attended the Feb 23 event at the Transfiguration Church in Maspeth for the Independence and also honoring St. Casimir. A hot brunch was served. Bishop Paulius Baltakis has moved to the Transfiguration Church rectory where he will now be located. His schedule is still one that has him traveling to many churches throughout the US and Europe. He will be having a few religious

ceremonies in April and May at Transfiguration.

March 30, C-110 will be awaiting the arrival of the Mid Atlantic District councils to Maspeth for our Spring mini convention. A terrific hot buffet lunch will be served (mostly home-made) to members and guests.

Our monthly Atlantic City bus trips have resumed but the snow and cold weather has limited a good attendance.

Like the previous 11 years, members of our council will join the Veterans Associations in the Memorial Day Parade on Grand Street on May 25, honoring our veterans and the freedom fighters of Lithuania.

Ann Morrisey has made another caring package of gifts to the needy orphans and monetary donations to the charitable organizations headed by the dedicated sisters. Helen Matuloniis and Virginia Kurylas supplied help with the packing and sorting.

C-136 Hudson-Mohawk Dorothy Richmire

Our Oct meeting was special due to visits by our 2 Lithuanian doctors, Dr. Limas Skikas and Dr. Rimas Gudas. They were accompanied by Ginger Houghton and Bob Duda, our Lithuanian Angels of Mercy. Both doctors are arthroscopic surgeons from Kaunas University Hospital, married to family practice physicians. They have been observing the latest techniques in their field at St. Peter's Hospital, in Albany, besides touring the Northeast with Bob and helping him pick up medical equipment and supplies to be sent to Lithuania. They also helped load the trailer for shipment. Dr. Gudas is a retired pro basketball player and at the loading

site, both Drs. gave an impromptu demonstration of their basketball skills. They left teary-eyed for their trip back home after a 3 week stay, very grateful to Ginger, Bob, and our Council for making their journey here possible. Their baggage was much heavier on their return trip.

We want to make note of the tireless efforts Bob and Ginger offer to Lithuanians. Without their help, none of these miracles would have occurred. They are successful in obtaining donations of medical equipment, computers, etc. that are desperately needed in Lithuania. May God bless them.

Bernice Aviza, who had surgery just 6 days previous to the Nov meeting, reported another successful effort at our booth at the Festival of Nations, in Albany. Our lovely Miss Lithuania was Linna Dzeckioris from Delmar.

Our election of officers resulted in all those presently serving agreeing to serve once again with the exception of our Fin Sec who will now be Lynn Hayner. Congratulations to all.

Our Christmas dinner party was held at the Turf Tavern in Scotia on Dec 8 and was well-attended. We appreciate Virginia Barkowski's efforts in arranging the event and with the help of Dot Richmire, decorating the tables and taking care of the raffles. We were very happy to have Fr. Carlino, pastor of Holy Cross Church join us for the social hour.

A work party for Dec 7 shrink-wrapped and assembled on pallets, articles for shipment at St. Peter's warehouse in Colonie.

Ed Baranauskas, our member in residence in Lithuania, keeps us up to date regarding Lithuanian Affairs.

Our annual Lithuanian Independence Day commemoration was successful in spite of the bitter cold weather that kept some of our usual attendees at home. Mass was celebrated by Fr. Richard A. Carlino, pastor of our Holy Cross Church and members of the choir added to the beauty of the service.

Hearing the beautiful "Marija", the Lithuanian anthem and our National anthem brought tears to my eyes and pride to my heart.

We offered a medley of our traditional treats and everyone left with happy and full tummies.

Members are being asked to write to their congressmen asking that funds for Radio Free Europe be restored.

Get-Well List: Members currently confined are Helen LaPierre, Frank Zebuda and Ed Ziausys of C-100, Amsterdam. Also Polly and Ed Ziausys. They would all appreciate our prayers and perhaps a card of encouragement.

Thought for today: Unless you stick your neck out, you won't get your head above the crowd.

Mid Central District



MCD Fall Meeting, Pilgrimage Regina Juska Svoba

On the weekend of Oct 5-6, 2002, autumn was in the air and all roads led to Dayton, OH for the MCD's Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage which was hosted by C-96.

Sat, the delegates converged at Holy Cross Lithuanian Church for the pilgrimage portion of the weekend. Rev. Michael J, Halloran, pastor, spoke of churches of ethnic

background in the Dayton area. Further, Fr. Mike discussed the history of Holy Cross Church, gave a historical overview of the physical structure and symbolism of the church, brilliant stained glass windows, altar and statuary. The presentation was concluded with prayers.

The delegates and guests conveyed to the lower church level facilities for lunch, further discussion about Fr. Mike's presentation, and sharing and catching up with friends they have not seen since the last MCD meeting.

The District meeting was held in the afternoon. MCD Pres. Frances R. Petkus called the meeting to order. Rev Michael J. Halloran, C-96 Spiritual Advisor, led in the opening prayer. Host C-96 Pres. Robert Pant greeted the meeting delegates and guests. SC President, Robert Martin, attended the meeting and was reintroduced to the attendees. The weekend coordinator, Anne Louise Tucker, was also introduced. The District president, officers, and council presidents reported on their biannual activities.

Aid to Lithuania president, Regina Juska-Svoba, C-102, reported that during the National Convention and thereafter, \$13,478 was received from 90 donors. Europe suffered torrential rains and flooding. The storms also affected Vilnius. Mother Teresa's Homeless Shelter sustained heavy damage and ATL forwarded \$3,000 for repairs, renovations and clean-up of the facility. Upon hearing about the Shelter's plight, a generous benefactor couple from Dayton immediately wired Cardinal Backis \$10,000 for further repairs. A sincere heartfelt aciū to our "angels" in Dayton.

MCD Pres. Frances R. Petkus gave a historical overview of the District.

The meeting concluded with a prayer and the singing of the Vyčiu hymn. Later in the evening, the delegates, friends and guests met at Holy Cross Church lower hall where cocktails and a delicious dinner were served. Noteability, a barbershop quartet, provided lively musical entertainment.

Sunday, prior to Mass, third degree medals were awarded to Henry Pant and Anne Louise Tucker, both C-96 members. Congratulations to both of you!

Mass was celebrated by Rev. Halloran. The church choir and congregation sang beautiful English and Lithuanian Hymns. The readings were read in both Lithuanian and English. The Mass was concluded with the singing of the Vyčiu hymn.

Catherine Prasnaitis, C-96, received the MCD special recognition medal for her contributions to the K of L and District. Congratulations to you on all your work!

President Frances Petkus led in the annual remembrance of the MCD's deceased members. Each council's representative lit a candle, while another member read the names of the deceased. We prayed for them.

The weekend's closing prayer was led by SC Pres Robert A. Martin. A special thanks to C-96 for hosting a well-organized, wonderful, and memorable weekend.

C-25 Cleveland, O Ursula Kunsitis



There are Academy Awards, Golden Globe Awards, etc. but we

have the "NOT ONLY PERFECT, BUT LITHUANIAN TOO!" Award. The 3 surprised and awed recipients who received this Award Shortly after the holidays were Eleanor Bendokas, Yours Truly, and Nellie Samas. Presenter was none other than Paul Chalko. Ačiū Labai, Paul -- you made our day! Question: Is this an Annual Event or is it a once-in-a Life-time Award?

After 42 years of living in the same home, Nellie Samas decided it was time to make some life-style changes -- she sold her home and purchased a lovely, cozy condo in Willoughby. All our members wish you much happiness and good health! Have you unpacked all those boxes yet? OH! The JOYS of MOVING!

What a thrilling and moving experience was shared by Dick and Jean Marks, Joan Ortman and son, Chris, and friend John on Sat evening, Jan 11. They were privileged to attend Sgt. Mike Petkus's (Dayton) Retirement Ceremony at the Marine Reserve Training Center in Cleveland, followed by dinner at the Radisson. Mike retired after 22 years in the Marine Corps and Marine Reserve. Many Reservists in full-dress uniform, members of Dayton Council and friends attended. Mike received Commendations from President George W. Bush and the Commander General of the Marine Corps. Congratulations to Mike, his wife and family, and mother, Fran Petkus. Your dad would have been proud of you!

Some people just know when to leave town. We are having our coldest winter in several years and Jim and Joan Thompson and Fran Pranskevich have packed their bags and are now in Ft. Meyers area for a hopefully sunny 6 weeks. Following closely behind, but

heading for Palm Desert, CA, are Vic and Angela Staskus, and following close behind are Dick and Jean Marks to Indian Rock, FL where they hope to touch base with Helen and Bill Jakubs. Now for the rest of us, we are going to put on gloves, parkas and boots and enjoy that beautiful, cold white stuff!!!

A special "hello" to our out-of-town members: John Andrulis, Sun City, AZ; Betty August, Canton, GA; Vince and Marion Gray, Lancaster, PA; Charlie and Nelda Machutas, Sun Lakes, AZ; Ruth Reedy, Youngstown, OH; Helen Puhger, San Diego, CA. We miss you all!!

Please remember our sick and house-bound members in your prayers, calls, and cards! Happy Easter to all!



C-96, Dayton, OH Frances R. Petkus, HM

C-96 had a very Special Fund Drive the latter part of 2002. Because of the generosity of our members, we were able to make 3 donations other than the ones we make from our Annual Charity Fund. Recipients from this special drive were: Knights of Lithuania Our Lady of Siluva Website, Knights of Lithuania St. Casimir's Guild, Inc., and Lithuanian Children's Relief Fund of Brockton, MA. Money for our council's Annual Charity Fund is raised from the 50/50 raffle held each meeting and 10% of any money-making project - not included is the Special Fund Drive. The Annual Charity Fund was distributed to the following: Old North Dayton Food Pantry, which takes care of the needy in the area of our parish, Aid to Lithuania, Inc., Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, Inc. out of Brooklyn, NY, and Lithuanian Children's Fund in Brockton, MA.

Special thanks to Elaine Pacovsky

for the warm lunches she prepared for us before our Jan and Feb meetings. Good start to a good meeting.

March 2 saw the members of C-96 assemble and led into church by the council's cross for 10:30 AM Mass honoring the K of L's patron saint, St. Casimir. Fr. Roten, from the University of Dayton, gave a very special Homily on the life of St. Casimir. Following Mass, JoAnn Thiele read an article covering the new president of Lithuania, Rolandas Paksas, and his political and spiritual feelings. Stefanija Rastikis then led us in the Litany to Saint Casimir in Lithuanian. Services for the Knights closed with the singing of Vyčiu himnas. Members headed to the church hall for lunch and regular monthly council meeting. Special thanks go to JoAnn and Gary Thiele for overseeing this council event.

Mother Nature ran interference with our parish's Annual Lithuanian Independence Day Program. Dayton was hit with enough snow most people were unable to participate. The 10:30 Mass at Holy Cross Church was held in commemoration of the 13th year of Lithuania's regained freedom. The Mass closed with the singing of the Lithuanian National Anthem. The special Koffee Klatch was held and those who were able to be there had plenty to eat. With the parish having a full schedule, we were unable to reschedule the planned program. We were most thankful for those who could be part of the day.

Congratulations go to Gunnery Sergeant Michael F. Petkus on his "mustered out" from the United States Marines after 22 years of faithful duty. Michael had been full-time and part-time with the Reserves.

The Internet does work! We are

very happy to have increased our council's membership by extending a very warm welcome to Robert and Robin Usalis! With Cincinnati being in a 60-mile radius from Dayton, we look forward to meeting both of you!

Moving up from the ranks of Junior Knights are Robert Petkus and Andrew Berczelly! Robert took his K of L oath at the March 2, 2003 meeting! This will be a great asset to the council as Robert and Andrew have already been active members within the council whenever Juniors have been asked to help and participate. (They even asked without being asked - just following in the footsteps of their families.)

Belated congratulations to our Glendale, AZ members Joseph and Ann Boeke. They are proud grandparents of 7 of which there are 2 sets of twins!

Deepest sympathies go to Jerry Scott, Terri and the Scott family on the sudden loss of Jerry's mother, Anne. Anne was a Fourth Degree Knight and a member for well over 50 years. Anne will certainly be missed. Among her many talents, Anne was famous for her wonderful raisin bread she made for the council bake sales and Kūcios. May she rest in the peace of our Lord!!

Mid America District

C-82 Gary, IN Daisy Talley

What a glorious celebration of Lithuanian Independence Day on Feb 9, 2003! The Lithuanian-American organizations of NW Indiana - ALTAS, LAC of East Chicago, and K of L C-82 organized the effort. President of LAC of E. Chicago, Birute Vilutis, welcomed everyone and was MC. After the



Pledge of Allegiance, the Anthems - American and Lithuanian were played by Bronius Muras and sung by everyone. Msgr. Ignatius Urbonas offered a prayer for those who died for the cause of freedom.

After a delicious Lithuanian meal prepared by the famous St. Casimir cooks - Loreta Vician, Ursula Tavaras, Joanna Rudzevicius, Birute Ruzga, Maryte Ruzga - our guest speaker, George Riskus (Member Maryte and Vladas's son-in-law) spoke on Lithuania, NATO, and the EU Today.

Sr. Janine presented an appreciation plaque to Mrs. Carol Gumulauskis in honor of her late husband, Vincent's, devotion to the causes of Lithuania.

A resolution of appreciation for the efforts of President George W. Bush, Sen. Richard Lugar, and Congressman Peter Visclosky toward Lithuania's NATO invitation was presented by Mildred Jagiella and was unanimously passed.

Benediction was by Msgr. Urbonas and entertainment by Bronius Muras, accordion virtuoso, followed.

Lithuanians of the region have reason to be proud of their heritage; many braved the bitter, raw cold to attend.



C-157 Lemont, IL Irene Macke

C-157 hosted the Mid America District for its June 8, 2002 business meeting at the Lithuanian World Center in Lemont, Illinois. Among the items for discussion were the proposed Washington Pilgrimage and the 89th National Convention, where Rob Martin would be a candidate for reelection as the Knights of Lithuania's national

president and Monsignor Ignas Urbonas, for Honorary Membership.

Council delegates at the Chicago convention were Terry and Faustas Strolia, Ann Marie Kassel, Georgianna Macke, and Irene and Chuck Macke (alternate). An encouraging sign for the future was the attendance of Elizabeth Macke, daughter of Georgianna and Ken Macke, as a K of L Junior. Hard to believe, but this sweet child actually *loves* to attend meetings. Just ask her! An enjoyable and productive time was had by all. A particular highlight was the evening cruise on the river and the lake which was a treat even for those who live in the Chicago area. The council is particularly proud of the designation of its Spiritual Advisor, Msgr. Urbonas, as Honorary Member.

The Fall elections returned the following members to council office: Charles D. Macke, President; Ben Nauseda, Vice-Pres; Georgianna Macke, Rec/ Corresp Sec; Ann Marie Kassel, Financial Sec; Tom Strolia, Treasurer; Paul Strolia, Trustee; Donna Juraitis, Sergeant at Arms; Ann Marie Kassel, Ritual; Barbara Kotlar, Lithuanian Affairs; Faustas Strolia, Cultural Affairs; Irene Macke, Vytis Correspondent.

The national Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, included a number of our council members: Ann Marie and Donna Juraitis, Joanne and Ben Nauseda, Terry and Faustas Strolia, Ann Marie Kassel, and Irene Macke. It would be hard to pinpoint a highlight of the trip. The Franciscan Monastery is set on a beautiful hillside with a replica of the Lourdes Grotto. It has many awesome features, but of particular interest are the replicas of various Holy Land sites. The Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is, of course, breathtaking with its

numerous chapels devoted to our Blessed Mother. But, perhaps, our most wonderful experiences were attendance at Holy Mass, where our group was publicly recognized, and praying the rosary and singing in the Siluva Chapel. This beautiful example of Lithuanian devotion to Mary is one of which we can be intensely proud and one that we should work to preserve.

On Dec 9, our council held its annual Kūčios, a wonderful feast with tasty contributions by all attendees. We were led in prayer by HM Msgr. Urbonas and Sr. Janine Golubickis explained some of the Lithuanian traditions that we try to maintain each Christmas. HM Faustas Strolia, always ready to lead us in song, provided accompaniment for holiday songs in both Lithuanian and English. For all, it was an evening to share warm memories of the past and to look forward with hope to the Prince of Peace.

With the start of a new year, C-157 welcomes its newest member, Herkulis Strolia, known by all as a very talented member of a very talented family. But we know that his gifts go beyond music and we hope that he will enjoy our camaraderie and be inspired by the K of L spirit.

C-112 Chicago, IL SJM Shainauskas

March 9th found many C-112 members on their way to Merrillville, Indiana to join in the MAD celebration of the Feast of St. Casimir. Mass was offered in the beautiful chapel on the Salvatorian Fathers Monastery grounds. The MAD K of L choir sang the hymns for the Mass.

C-112's regular meeting was held on March 18, in the

Nativity BVM school hall. Our newest member, Regina Biliūniene, was welcomed with hearty applause by all present. Rev. Tony Markus, spiritual advisor, spoke of the presentation regarding Our Lady of Šiluva, given by Loretta Stukas, HM, at St. Xavier University in Chicago on March 11. Loretta commissioned a painting to be done by artist, Sister M. Mercedes, SSC. She then presented this painting, with a special unveiling ceremony, as a gift to the University, her Alma Mater, to be added to its collection of Marian Art. Many K of L members from various Councils attended. This wonderful evening concluded with special sung Vespers in the newly constructed chapel.

3rd Vice-President in charge of Juniors, extended an invitation to all Juniors to attend an Easter egg - "Margučiai," decorating party hosted by Gary Council 82. They are also planning a "Christmas in July" for them, to learn to make Lithuanian straw Christmas ornaments.

Four of our members received their first degrees: Alda Dorcak, Marija Yuknis, Martha Riekis and Adele Lietuvninkas. The short ceremony was presided by Ritual chair, Julie Zakarka, spiritual advisor, Rev. Tony Markus, and VP Al Mockus.

Estelle Rogers, HM, Courtesy and Wake chair, sent get-well wishes to our sick members: Stefanie Mlodzik, Lorraine Svelnis, Emily & Harry Petraitis, Alda Dorcak, Emilia Pauzuolis, Al Sasnauskas, Adele Lietuvninkas and Ellie Kasputis. Sympathy was also extended to our recently deceased members' families.





Scholarship Committee

*Knights of Lithuania National Scholarship Program for 2003
Awards To Be Announced at the 90th National Convention in Chicago, Illinois*

The *Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Program* is intended to help a worthy and deserving Knight obtain a college education. Applicants must be a member of the organization for at least two years in order to be eligible to apply for a scholarship award. (This will be verified with the National Financial Secretary.) The Scholarship Program is intended to be a stimulus for young Lithuanian-Americans to join and be active in our organization. Service to the Knights of Lithuania organization is of prime importance to be considered for this award.

Scholarships are awarded annually as a grant. Applications must be complete (i.e., picture, transcripts, recommendations, etc) to be considered by the Scholarship Committee. Applications must be submitted **NO LATER THAN JUNE 15, 2003. APPLICATION INFORMATION RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR THE 2003 AWARDS FOR CONSIDERATION.** The awards are paid to the recipient in two installments. ******* APPLICANTS MAY NOW APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP MORE THAN ONCE. THIS IS OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION THAT AN APPLICANT MAY WIN MORE THAN ONE YEAR.******* There are various scholarships available with individual amounts decided upon by the Scholarship Committee by vote each year.

Each applicant has the responsibility of completing the application and securing entrance to the college of his/her choice. If the recipient of an award drops out of college, or if his/her scholastic standing becomes unsatisfactory to the college, the unexpended balance of the award may be forfeited at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship awards may be made to a person for undergraduate or graduate work. There is no age limitation. Organizational activity within the Knights of Lithuania is one of the most important criteria for obtaining a scholarship along with the following requirements and stipulations.

An applicant's *qualifications* will be based on recommendations made by his/her 1) *Council President or Council 3rd Vice President*; 2) *Spiritual Advisor or Pastor*; 3) *Former Teacher*; 4) *Character Reference*. Applicants will be evaluated on scholastic records, financial need, and most importantly, K of L involvement. The Scholarship Committee will carefully study the applications and decisions of the committee are final. The recipients of the Scholarship Awards will be announced at the annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania.

For more information, please write to the Scholarship Committee Chairperson:
Irena Gecas-McCarthy
30 Clinton Road
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 746-0820 – home
(212) 492-4700 – work
e-mail: macgecas@msn.com (home) or igecasmccarthy@deloitte.com



Knight Life...



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Supreme Council legal advisor, Saulius Kuprys (on right), receiving the award of "Order of Gediminas" from his excellency, President Valdas Adamkus, at the celebration of the anniversary of 750 years since the coronation of King Mindaugas. The gala event took place at the University Club of Chicago on March 13, 2003.

Algis Liepinaitis, member of C-157, also received a medal award, for Journalism.

(On right below), Supreme Council President, Robert Martin, Jr., receiving the award of "Už nuopelnus Lietuvai," from his excellency, President Valdas Adamkus. This is a medal of merit for all that a person has done for the benefit of Lithuania.



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