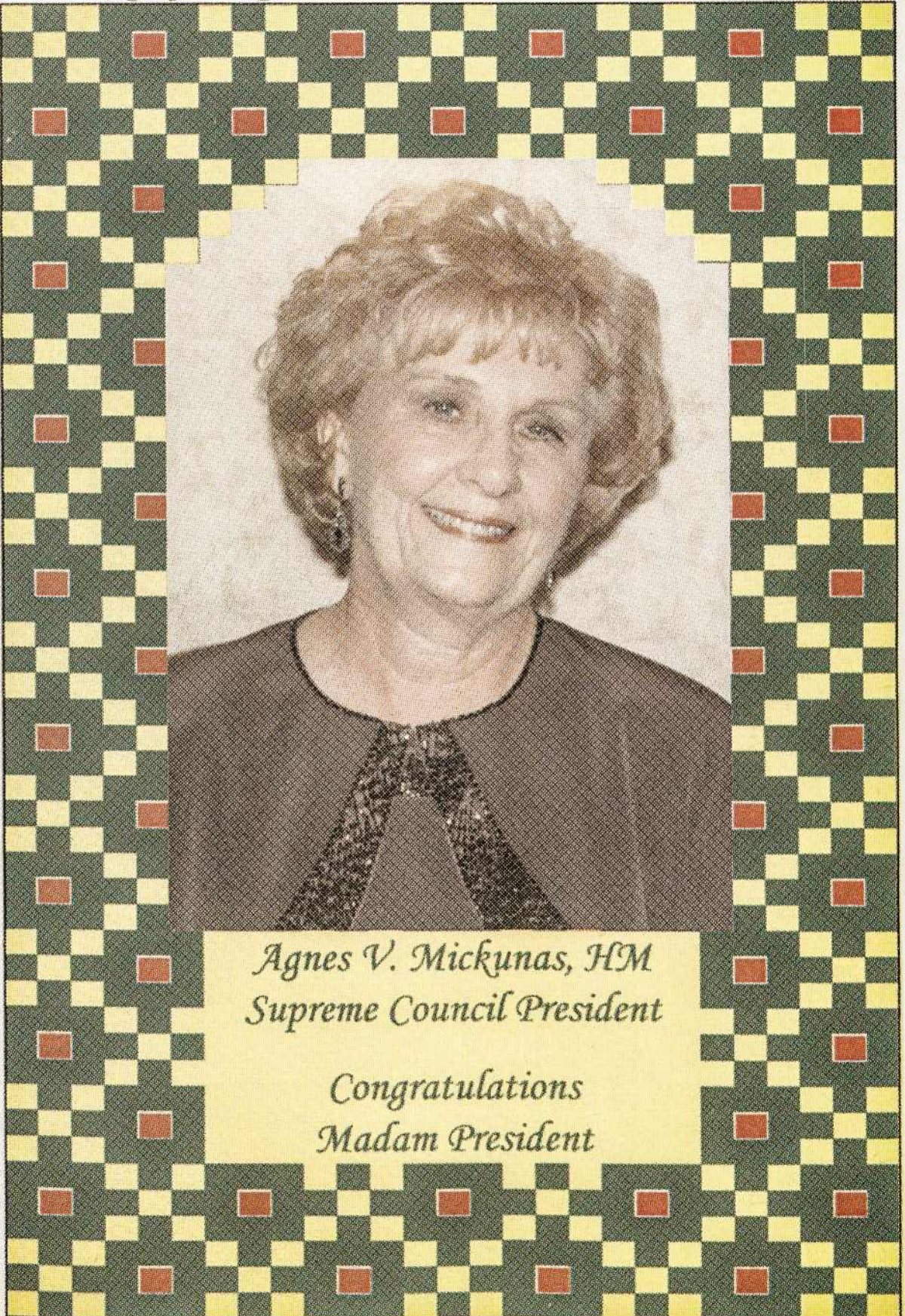


# Vytis - The Knight

Rugsejis/September 2003 - Volume 89 - Issue 5



90th  
National  
Congress



*Agnes V. Mickunas, HM  
Supreme Council President*

*Congratulations  
Madam President*



Vytis (The Knight)

90<sup>th</sup> National Convention Issue  
September / Rugsejis, 2003

Volume 89 No. 5

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

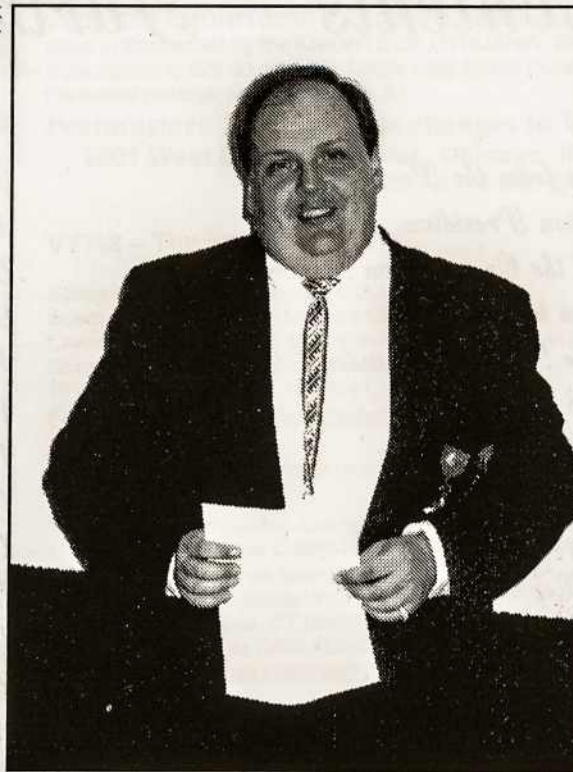


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Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, H.M., know that you were greatly missed at this year's Convention! Sorry you couldn't be with us.





*Thank you, Robert Martin, Jr.,*

*for your expert leadership these past three years...*

*God bless you!*

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**NOTICE from the OFFICE OF THE EDITOR:**

**We are still in need the following back issues of the Vytis:**

**COMPLETESET (All issues) OF 1994  
COPIES OF JANUARY, 2000  
COPIES OF AUGUST, 2000**

**Please contact Sister M. Janine at Vytis Office. Thank you.**





*A Message from the President:*

**Dear Members:**

**I am truly pleased and honored that you have given me the opportunity to serve as the President of our great Knights of Lithuania organization. I have my work cut out for me following in the footsteps of Robert Martin who has served the Knights of Lithuania so well for the past three years. Thank you, Robbie, for the time, effort and dedication you expended on behalf of the Knights of Lithuania.**

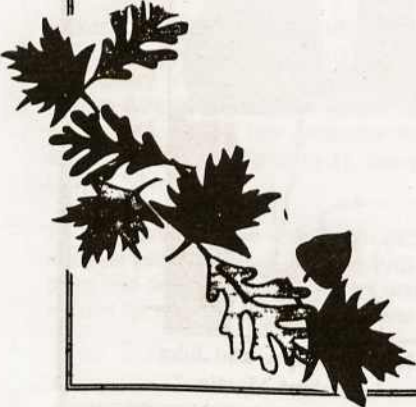
**The Knights of Lithuania is a well and viable organization. We can truly be proud of all that has been accomplished for the past 90 years. We can continue to promote our ideals and Lithuanianism for many, many years to come.**

**We must continue to work on expanding our membership. We need to be flexible in our ways and willing to implement new ideas for the betterment of the Knights of Lithuania. I am confident that our organization can and will flourish if we listen and respect each other. We have young members – we have older members – together we can create and maintain a vibrant and exciting organization noted for its leadership qualities by encouraging the young and respecting the older generation.**

**Thank you for your support. I look forward to this coming year. God bless the Knights of Lithuania today, tomorrow and always.**

**Vytiškai,**

**Agnes V. Mickunas  
President  
Knights of Lithuania**





## Convention Presidium

Position			Council
CHAIR		John R. Mankus	C-72
CO-CHAIRS		Michael Petkus	C-96
		Vivian Rodgers	C-26
SECRETARIES		Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas	C-112
		Irene Svekla	C-3
SERGEANT AT ARMS	-	Nellie Bayoras Romanas	C143
		Felix Zorskis	C110
	Amber	Diana Martin	C-16
	MAD	Paul Moore	C-86
	MAMD	Larry Misevicius	C-141
	MCD	Bernice Aviza	C-136
	NED	Elinor Sluzas	C-96
RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE		Theresa Strolia	C-157
		Thomas Grein	C-1
GREETINGS/DONATIONS COMMITTEE		Robert A. Martin, Jr.	C-16
		Sophia Sakalys	C-103
		Lillian Graymus	C-3
		Irene Macke	C-157
FINANCE COMMITTEE	-	Robert Damasauskas	C-36
		Irene Ozalis	C-3
	AMBER	Elena Nakrosis	C-90
	MAD	Mary Beth Slakis	C-16
	MAMD	Lee Moore	C-86
	MCD	Frances Bumila	C-1
	NED	Peter Zansitis	C-16
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE MANDATE COMMITTEE		June Grenier	C-6
		Becky Patacki	C-90
		Cathy Nakrosis	C-90
		Georgianne Macke	C-157
		Toni Sakal	C-152
2002 CONVENTION MINUTES REVIEW COMMITTEE		John R. Mankus	C-72
		Frank Petrauskas	C-140
		Elena Nakrosis	C-90



Presidium members, l to r: Vivian Rodgers, Bernice Aviza, Michael Petkus, and John R. Mankus, listen to the State of the Organization Report given by Robert Martin.





## 2003 State of the Organization Report

Pursuant to Article XI of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution, I submit to the Delegates of the 90th National Convention, the Annual State of the Organization Report, wherein all reports of the Officers, Committee Chairs, District Presidents, Charity Presidents and organization staff have been summarized for presentation. It is important to remember that this report is just a summary of their work and activities. I strongly encourage each delegate to read each member's full report and after reading them share them with your fellow council members. The work that has been accomplished during this past year is truly worthy of your time and recognition.

Spiritual Advisor – Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD, HM  
Msgr. Joe continues to offer a monthly Mass for our deceased members; the names of our newly departed members are included as they are received.

Msgr. attended the Supreme Council Meeting in Washington, DC but was unable to be with us for our meeting in Dedham, MA.

Msgr. served as co-chair for our 1st National Pilgrimage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where he concelebrated the Mass and led our prayer service in the Chapel of Our Lady of Šiluva.

Msgr. has always made himself available to offer his guidance and counsel when asked. Msgr. remains active in the activities of Council 3.

Due to his parish schedule, Monsignor is unable to be with us for this convention.

President – Robert A. Martin, Jr.

In addition to attending all meetings of the SC this past year I have been honored to represent our organization at many banquets, receptions, meeting and memorials. Some of these include the Capital Hill reception to celebrate the NATO invitee Nations, JBANC Conference and the ALTAS Convention, I sent condolences to the family of HM Archbishop Charles Salatkka, attended the wake service for HM Rev. Msgr. Joseph Prunskis, ALTAS's Chicago area Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration and the Chicago Lithuanian Consulate's commemoration of the 750th anniversary of Lithuanian statehood. During this banquet I was honored as your president to receive the *Ordinas "Už Nuopelnus Lietuvai" Komandoro Kryžiumi* from K of L Honorary Member and former Lithuanian President, Valdas Adamkus.

Earlier this summer I was privileged to lead the Official K of L Tour of Lithuania during which time we dedicated a 90th Anniversary K of L Cross at the Hill of Crosses blessed by Bishop Bartulis. We then joined Rev. Steven Zukas of Boston, MA and his tour group for Mass celebrated by the Bishop and concelebrated by Fr. Steve in the Shrine of Our Lady of Šiluva.

I was honored to have visited with each district of the K of L this past year. I worked with the Vytis staff as requested by them and provided articles, letters and special advisories as needed for each issue of VYTIS. I was happy to recommend

our Legal Advisor, Vytis Editor-in-Chief and Business Manager, and ALTAS Reps. to the SC for approval.

I also served on all charity boards and committees as required by the constitution and attended their annual meetings.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Brian J. Johnson

Brian marked his first year on the Supreme Council by keeping himself busy. During the past year he attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

Brian compiled the listing of national officers and committee member's terms for Vytis publication.

Brian has continued work on updating our national constitution to incorporate changes since its last printing.

This past month Brian, along with Washington, DC Council President, Joseph Chaplick, represented the Knights of Lithuania at the Swearing in Ceremonies of the new U.S. Ambassador to Lithuania, held at the State Department.

Brian has always made himself available when called upon.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Becky Pataki

Becky has been very busy during the past year and is happy to report that since taking office she has worked continuously at increasing our membership. This year we added 111 new members all of whom received welcome packets. In February of this year she was present at the formation of a new council in Milwaukee, WI, Council 71.

She also updated and reprinted our organization's brochure and assisted with the drafting copy of a brochure on Our Lady of Šiluva. She was also responsible for preparing our current membership survey, and encourages everyone to take participate in filling one out.

She remains active on all levels of the organization and has made herself available whenever called upon to assist with projects or requests.

She attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – Marytė Bizinkauskas

In addition to chairing this year's convention committee, Marytė also accepted the responsibility of the 3rd Vice-Presidency. During the past year she attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

Under her direction the organization has initiated the following: a survey on our Juniors, a junior fundraiser to raise money for toys for Lithuania's orphanages, a "Friend of Junior K of L" project with a school in Kedainiai, Lithuania and a successful sponsor of a junior program.

Maryte will be presenting her findings of the Junior Survey during this convention.

She remains active in her council and district.



**Recording Secretary – Bernice Aviza**

During the past year Bernice has been a great asset to the national board. She attended all meetings of the Supreme Council where she took, prepared and distributed the minutes of all Supreme Council Meetings.

Bernice updated the Council President's listing, chaired the Lithuanian Display at the Albany International Festival, assisted with her council's Lithuanian Independence Day, attended the JBANC Conference in Washington and assisted with the 70th Anniversary Commemoration of Darius & Girenas in Brooklyn, NY.

She remains active in her council and district.

**Financial Secretary – June Greiner**

June attended all meetings of the Supreme Council during this past year. She maintained our mailing list and was responsible for making all updates. In addition, June worked with the Ritual committee to begin the computerization and integration of the national records.

During the year June also submitted articles to Vytis. You will all have the opportunity to work with June as she is chair of the Convention Mandate Committee.

June remains active in her council and district as well.

**Treasurer – Elena Nakrosis**

Since her election Ellie has worked to insure a smooth transition from her predecessor. She arranged for the updating of all national accounts to reflect the current officers' listing as required by law. She reports that all expenses received have been processed for payment.

She remains active on all levels of the organization and has attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

She has prepared the national budget for the coming year as well as the annual Treasurer's report which will be presented during the convention.

**Trustees – Agnes V. Mickunas, HM & Rita Sussko, HM**

As they each complete their third term, Agnes and Rita report that they have completed their duties to the best of their ability. During the past year they have answered all requests for manuals, updated a listing of K of L owned office equipment and worked to secure a bid for next year's national convention.

They have audited the financial records of the national treasurer, K of L Charities and all others as required. They will present their report during this convention.

They have attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and remain active on the local and district levels as well.

**Archives Chair - Nancy A. Pawasauskas**

Since her election Nancy has been a true blessing to our Archives. During the past year she has worked to continue the cataloging of all materials received. She is happy to report that all items have been sorted and the preservation process has been started. She arranged for additional

storage equipment for our archives, including acid free boxes to insure that the archival materials are preserved for years to come.

Due to her work schedule and extreme weather conditions she was only able to attend our Supreme Council meeting in Washington, DC. She has traveled to Putnam as often as possible.

She has been a great asset to our organization's history.

**Honorary Membership Chair – Frank Petrauskas, HM**

Frank has attended all meetings of the SC and has been very busy in his first year as committee chair. During the past year he directed the committee's review of new Honorary Membership Candidates and the purchase of additional medals. Frank prepared a Vytis article on the process for submitting a member for honorary membership consideration, the list of proposed candidates' names and the biographical information about approved candidates for publication in the *Vytis* magazine.

This year the committee will present the names of three members for final approval as well as names of approved candidates for the coming year.

The committee mourns the lose of HM Members, Archbishop Charles Salatka and Rev. Msgr. Joseph Prunskis. May their souls rest in peace.

**Lithuanian Affairs Chair – John R. Mankus**

John continues to keep us abreast of what's going on concerning Lithuania through the monthly Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin. He continues to compile information received and distributes it as needed.

He has attended conferences and receptions in Washington and his local area when possible. He continues to maintain an open dialog with the staff at the Lithuanian Embassy.

This Spring he was presented with the NATO Star from Ambassador Ušackas.

He headed up the selection process for this year's Friend of Lithuania recipient and will be making the presentation during the banquet.

He attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and remains active on the local and district levels.

**Lithuanian Language & Culture Chair - Laurynas Misevicius**  
During the year Larry has worked to assist the Supreme Council and the organization when ever possible.

He made himself available to the officers for Lithuanian to English translations as requested. In addition, Larry wrote several articles for Lithuanian publications.

He remains very active with the Lithuanian Sports Teams in his local area and will be presenting some ideas on sports and the K of L during this convention.

He attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and remains active on the council and district level. He has



worked on and attended as many Lithuanian events and festivals as possible.

**Our Lady of Siluva Fund Chair – Elinor Sluzas, HM**

Elinor has worked diligently over the past year to insure that the K of L sponsored website in honor of Our Lady is up and running. Though unable to attend the Supreme Council meetings in Washington, DC and Dedham, MA, she remained in contact with the members of her committee and the Supreme Council throughout the entire process. The site has been live since this spring and is not only an honor to Our Lady but also a credit to our organization.

Elinor will be making a presentation on the site during the sessions of the convention.

**Public Relations Chair – Joseph Stiklius**

During the past year, Joe has compiled an address listing of Lithuanian Radio/TV Stations and Newspapers here in the United States. He has sent out various press releases throughout the year.

In addition he has had various K of L advertising items printed and distributed to further the name of the Knights of Lithuania, these items were donated so no cost was incurred by the K of L for them. He attended many local functions where he was happy to speak on the K of L when asked and distributed our brochures to prospective members.

He attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and remains active on the local and district level. In addition he is serving as one of the convention photographers for this convention.

**Ritual Committee Chair – Lee Moore**

As Chair of the committee, Lee has made certain that our Ritual System remains current and up to date. During the year the Ritual Committee requested input from all council concerning our current system as directed by the 89th National Convention. These findings will be presented during the ritual report of this convention.

Currently, committee members are in the process of working with our Financial Secretary to computerize all ritual records. In addition they are in the process of updating the ritual section of the K of L Manual.

Lee Moore is happy to report that 163 approved degrees have been processed this year.

She attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and remains active on the local and district level.

**Scholarship Committee Chair – Irena Gecas-McCarthy**

Irena is please to inform us that once again this year, through the generosity of our members, we are able to present scholarships to worthy applicants.

All applications received were reviewed by the committee and processed. The recipients will be announced during the convention banquet. The committee will continue to review our scholarship program to insure that it is current and best serving the needs of the organization.

Irena continues to be as active as possible in the Knights of Lithuania despite the distance from her home council. I wish to congratulate Irena and her husband, Mike, on the arrival of their new baby daughter.

Irena attended the Supreme Council Meeting in Washington, DC.

**Aid to Lithuania, Inc. – Regina Juska-Svoba, President / Robert Boris, HM, Board Chair**

The work being done by our Aid to Lithuania, Inc. continues to amaze and surpass all of our expectations. Under the leadership of Regina and Bob, ATL has continued to lead the way with donations of medical aid, humanitarian aid, seminary and homeless shelter assistance as well as trade school assistance in Lithuania. ATL accomplishments are too lengthy to list here; so I encourage everyone to read the annual report.

Of special mention, Regina was honored for her outstanding dedication by His Eminence Audrys Cardinal Backis during her recent visit to Lithuania. Congratulations Regina and ATL.

The full annual report will be presented at the convention.

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

Under Loretta's leadership the K of L Foundation has continued to grow. The foundation's assets currently total over \$110,000.00 and are still growing.

The Foundation once again will be sponsoring the Karklius Scholarship and the Annual Essay Contest.

Loretta will preside over the Foundation Meeting here at the convention and will be presenting the annual report at a later session.

She attended all meetings of the Supreme Council and remains active on the council and district levels.

**St. Casimir Guild – Anna Klizas Wargo, HM, President**

The work of our St. Casimir Guild continues to be a tremendous aid to the Pontifical College. Ann has continued to once again coordinate our efforts and the work speaks for itself.

During the past year Mass requests for the college have averaged 455 Masses a month. The income from these stipends is most important to the student priests, as for the majority of them, this is their only source of income while studying.

Our assistance to the college for the past year totals approximately \$40,000.00. Our continued financial support of the college is needed to maintain this institution of higher learning for Lithuania's religious.

On behalf of the Msgr. Bartkus, the priests, students, staff of the college and the guild members, Anne wishes to thank you for your continued generosity.



Amber District – John R. Mankus, President

John is happy to report that the Amber District remains active and has had a truly great year.

The District and its member councils have made contributions to the K of L Charities and other charities as well.

Amber District councils have continued to write letters on Lithuania's behalf to political figures as needed. Additionally, many councils are participating in shipping text books, medical supplies and humanitarian shipments to Lithuania's schools, convents and orphanages.

The district was represented at all meetings of the Supreme Council.

Mid-America District – Glenn E. Perutis, President

Glenn reports that the Mid-America District continues to be active.

The District held quarterly meetings throughout the year. In addition, they sponsored their annual Memories of Lithuania Banquet to commemorate February 16th, this year honoring Bishop Dumpys of the Lutheran Church. The presentation earned the Knights written congratulations and encouragement from Chicago's Francis Cardinal George.

The district and its member councils continue to make contributions to the K of L Charities when possible.

The district was represented at all meetings of the Supreme Council.

Mid-Atlantic District – John Sakal, President

John is happy to report that the Mid-Atlantic District has had a truly great year.

The District and its member councils have made contributions to the K of L Charities and other charities as well.

Members continue to write letters as needed. In addition, several members attended the JBANC Conference in the spring.

The district was represented at all meetings of the Supreme Council.

Mid-Central District – Michael Petkus, President

Michael is happy to report that the Mid-Central District continues to keep busy.

The District and its member councils continue to make contributions to the K of L Charities as well as other charities.

Mid-Central District councils have continued to work hard in the name of the K of L through many local events. During the past year the district conducted its annual pilgrimage, their fall and spring meetings and their annual Bowling Tournament.

The district was represented at all but one meeting of the Supreme Council.

New England District – Vivian Rodgers

Vivian is glad to report that the New England District remains active and has been having a truly great year.

The District and its member councils have made contributions to the K of L Charities as well as other charities.

The District sponsored the annual Cultural Festival and District Retreat in addition to the regular meetings.

Member councils continue to be active on all fronts as needed.

The district was represented at all but one meeting of the Supreme Council.

Legal Advisor – Saulius V. Kuprys, Esq.

Saulius continues to represent our interests on the legal front and has been a great advisor to the organization.

During the past year he prepared our annual filings with the IRS and continues to monitor all changes and requests from them. He continues to work on various legal projects as requested.

This past spring, he was honored by Former Lithuanian President, Valdas Adamkus, with the Lithuanian Government's Order of Gediminas.

He remains active not only in K of L activities but other Lithuanian Organizations as well, including serving as President of ALTAS.

Vytis – Sr. M. Janine Golubickis, SSC, Editor-in-Chief / Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC, Business Manager  
Sr. Janine continues to lead our Vytis staff in the publication of our bi-monthly magazine. She is happy to report that all issues have been sent to our printer in a timely manner. She is grateful for all the assistance and articles that she has received during the year.

She remains active in her council and district. Sr. attended all but one Supreme Council meeting.

Sr. Johanna has assisted Sr. Janine with the layout and typing of each issue. She has worked to make sure that all expenses of the Vytis have been processed to the Treasurer.

She remains active in her council and district. Sr. attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.

In Conclusion

As you can see from this report our organization continues to maintain its high level of excellence, its great team work. None of us can do it alone, it takes all of us. As we continue to work together we can only improve on our solid foundation.



The coming year will see new challenges for the Knights, new experiences and new courses to plot. Our past has shown that together we can achieve any task that comes before us in the future.

With this report I bring to a close my tenure as your National President. I wish to thank each and every one of you for your trust, support and encouragement over the past three years. It is my hope that our future history will show that these past three years were of value to the organization.

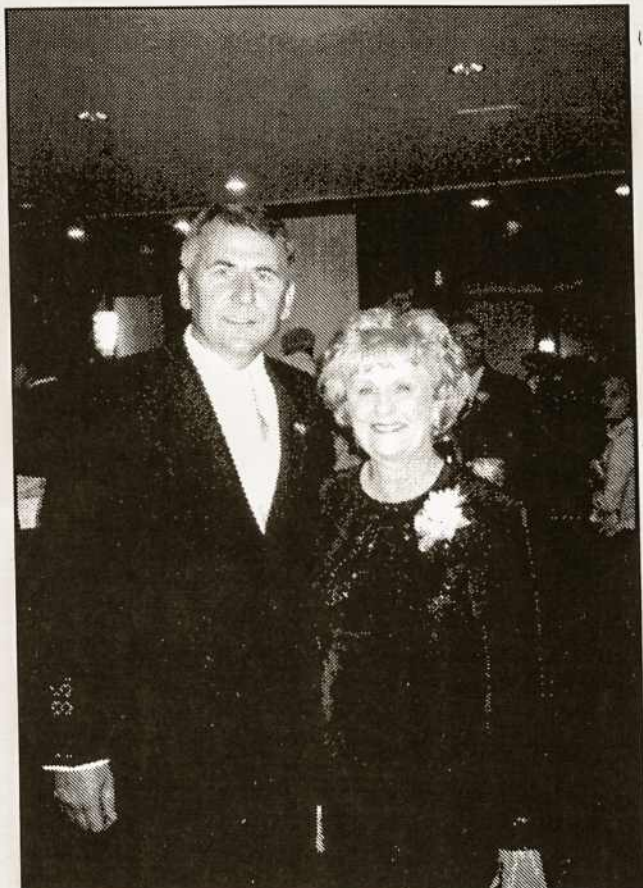
I leave office with mixed emotions. There is the expected sigh of relief that, as we elect a new leader, someone gets to sit in the hot seat. But more than that, the excitement, honor and privilege of serving as President will be an opportunity that will truly be missed.

I especially wish to thank the members of the Supreme Council for taking the journey with me. I couldn't have made it through it without you.

The experiences and memories I take with me are some of the most remarkable I've had the privilege to experience. The friendships I have made along the way will always be a part of me and the Knights of Lithuania will always be near and dear to my heart.

Thank You!

*Robert Martin, Jr.*



**Ambassador Vygaudas Ušackas poses with newly elected Supreme Council Pres., Agnes Mickunas, HM.**

### Greetings in Writing

President George W. Bush  
United States of America

President Rolandas Paksas  
Republic of Lithuania

Ambassador Vygaudas Ušackas  
Republic of Lithuania

Dr. Gediminas Šerkšnys  
Ambassador to the United Nations  
Republic of Lithuania

Mindaugas Butkus  
Consul General  
Republic of Lithuania

Vaclovas Kleiza  
Honorary Consul  
Republic of Lithuania

His Holiness Pope John Paul II

Leonardo Sandri  
Vatican Secretariat of State

Audrys J. Cardinal Backis  
Archbishop of Vilnius

Bishop Paul A. Baltakis, OFM  
Titular Bishop of Egara

Algimantas Gecys, President  
JAV Lietuviu Bendruomenės Krašto Valdyba

Vida Jankauskas, Administrator  
Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid

Dale Vaikutis Murray, President  
Lithuanian American Roman Catholic Women's  
Alliance

T. Placidus Burius, OFM, Provincial  
St. Casimir Province  
Lithuanian Franciscans

Rev. Donald S. Petraitis, MIC, Provincial  
American Province of St. Casimir  
Marians of the Immaculate Conception

Juozas Rygelis, President  
American Lithuanian Cultural Archives



*Knights in<sup>12</sup> Action...*



A Knight of Lithuania (Mr. Rodgers) and Ladies, meet at the entrance of the Dedham Hilton Hotel.



Knights of Lithuania "Banqueteers" socialize in the Ballroom on Saturday evening.



**REPORT OF ATTENDEES AT THE 90<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**Held at the Dedham Place Hotel, Dedham MA**  
**August 14-17, 2003**

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

**Supreme Council in attendance:** Robert A. Martin, Jr., Brian J. Johnson, Sr., Becky Pataki, Maryte Bizinkauskas, Bernice Aviza, Ellie Nakrosis, June V. Grenier, Agnes V. Mickunas HM, Rita Sussko HM, Sr. M. Janine Golubickis SSC, Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas SSC, Nancy Pawasauskas, Laurynas Misevicius, John R. Mankus, Frank Petrauskas HM, Joseph Stiklius, Lee Moore, Elinor Sluzas HM, Loretta Stukas HM, Anna K. Wargo HM, Regina Juska-Svoba, Glenn Perutis, Michael Petkus, Vivian M. Rodgers and John Sakal.

**Honorary Members in attendance:** Msgr. Albert Contons, Rev. Albin Janiunas, Rev. Peter Shakalis, Agnes Mickunas, Frances Petkus, Frank Petrauskas, Estelle Rogers, Elinor Sluzas, Bertha Stoskus, Faustas Strolia, Loretta Stukas, Rita Sussko, Longinas Svelnis and Anna K. Wargo.

**Council Rosters and sessions attended:**

**C-1 Brockton:** Veronica Bizinkauskas-3, Frances Bumila-4, Thomas Grein-4, Rev. Peter Shaklis HM-1.

**C-3 Philadelphia:** Lillian Greymas-4, Agnes Mickunas HM-4, John Mickunas-4, Irene Ozalis-4, Irene Svekla-4, Walter Svekla-4.

**C-6 Hartford:** June Grenier-4, Arlene Stiklius-4, Joseph Stiklius-4, Eugene Ziurys Jr-4.

**C-7 Waterbury:** Anthony Alexander-4, Petronella Alexander-4, Adele Klenske-4, Ann Kundrotas-4, Mary Pultinas-4, Doris Snirpunas-4, Anne Vaichus-4.

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

**C-16 Chicago Bridgeport:** Loretta Gestautas-3, Diann Martin-4, Robert Martin, Jr.-4, Mary Beth Slakis-4, Peter Zansitis-4.

**C-17 So. Boston:** Regina Alexander-4, Msgr. Albert Contons HM-3, Sr. Eugenia Glineckis SJC-4, Aldona Keaney-3, Francis Markuns-4, Virginia Markuns-4, William Olevitz-1, Longinas Svelnis HM-4, Barbra Trybe-1, Florence Zaleskas-4.

**C-19 Pittsburgh:** Brian Johnson, Sr.-3, Rita Johnson-1.



C-26 Worcester: Victoria Augustine-4, Rita Karrytais-4, Lillian Kondrotas-4, Arthur Racicot-4, Marion Racicot-4, Alfred Rodgers-4, Vivian Rodgers-4, Casimir Sarafinas-3, Ruth Sarafinas-3.

C-27 Norwood: Carol Treciokas-3, Charles Treciokas-4, Betty Skricki-4.

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

C-30 Westfield: James A. Rogers-4, Marcia Rogers-4.

C-36 Chicago Brighton Park: Robert Damasauskas-4, Mary Kincius-4.

C-50 New Haven: Isabel Peterson-4.

C-72 Binghamton: Barbara Miller-4.

C-78 Lawrence: Marion Hobitz-4, Rev. Albin Janiunas HM-2.

C-82 Gary: Sr. Janine Golubickis SSC-4.

C-86 DuBois: Paul Moore-4.

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

C-96 Dayton: Frances Petkus HM-4, Michael Petkus-4, Elinor Sluzas HM-4.

C-100 Amsterdam: Mirga Bablin-3, Polly Ziausys-4.

C-103 Providence: Sophia Sakalys-4, Ruta Krecioch-4.

C-110 Maspeth: Maryte Abbott-2, Helen Matulonis-4, Ann Morrissey-4, Julia Schroder-4.

C-112 Chicago Marquette Park: Mary Anna Gercius-4, Anele Pocius-4, Edward Pocius-4, Estelle Rogers HM-4, Sr. Johanna Shainauskas SSC-4, Dolores Wainauskis-4, Julie Zakarka-4, Betty Zibas-4.

C-116 Worcester: Dorothy Sinkavitch-4.

C-133 Los Angeles: Josephine Barzda-4.

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

C-140 Schenectady: Frank Petrauskas HM-4, Irene Petrauskas-4.



C-141 Bridgeport: Dorothy DeGennaro-4, Laurynas Misevicius-4, Nancy Pawasauskas-1, Barbara Schmidt-1.

C-144 Anthracite: Anna K. Wargo HM-4.

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

C-153 Treasure Coast: Florence V. Miskinis-4.

C-157 Lemont: Charles Macke-4, Georgianna Macke-4, Irene Macke-4, Faustas Strolia HM-2, Theresa Strolia-2.

Amber District: Nellie Bayoras-Romanas-4, John R. Mankus-4.

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

Mid Atlantic District: Becky Pataki-4, Christopher Schroder-3.

Mid Central District: Regina Juska-Svoba-4, Lee Moore-4.

New England District: Linas Balsys-3, Bertha Stoskus HM-4.

Guests: Joyce Collins (C-26)-3, Albie Jarvis (C-27)-2, Leonora Jarvis (C-27)-2, Joyce Kasetta (C-27)-2, Diane Krach (C17)-2, Albina Mulhern C17)-2, Donna Toncavage-1.

Juniors: Vilija Bizinkauskas C-1, Alexandra Cote C-1, Monika Girnus C-1, Kamila Ivanauskas C-1, Heather King C-1, Siga Pachanavicius C-1, Makaylah Peterson C-1, Caitie Peterson C-1, Greta Zukeuskaite C-1, Lauren Peterson C-50, Debbie Miller C-72, , Erin Petkus C-96, Robert Petkus C-96, Liza Macke C-157.

Junior coordinators: Jurate Bizinkauskas C-1, Maryte Bizinkauskas C-1, Donna Gustafson C-1, Sr. Helen Ivanauskas SJC C-1.

Respectfully submitted,

Convention Mandate Committee  
June V. Grenier C-6, National Financial Secretary, Chairperson  
Georgianna Macke C-157  
Cathy Nakrosis C-90  
Antoinette Sakal C-152.

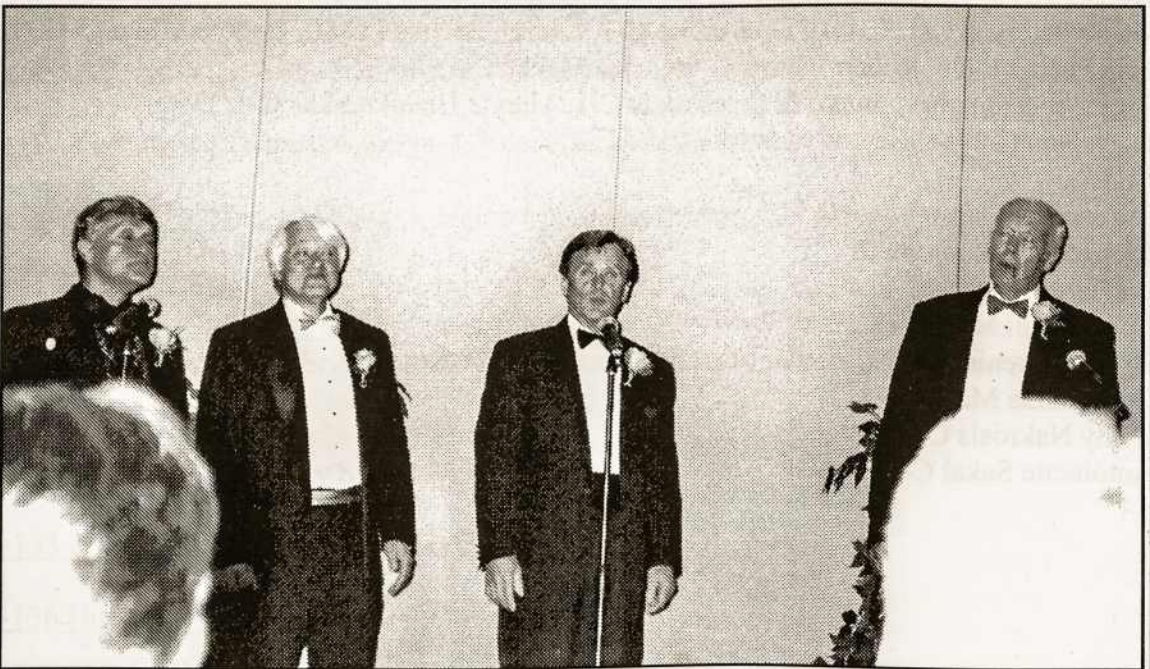




*Knights in Action...*



**A Viennese Evening in Vilnius ~ Maryte Bizinkauskas and Opera company. Truly a Cultural Extravaganza!**



**Our very own four tenors entertain the crowd! Luciano Pavarotti better look out!**



## Pre-Convention Day ~ Wednesday, Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>

Late in the afternoon, a bus full of early arrivals to the 90<sup>th</sup> National K of L Convention left the Dedham Hilton Hotel for a visit to Our Lady of Sorrows Convent in Brockton, Mass. This is the residence of the Poor Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the Sorrowful Mother.

Upon arrival, we were met at the side entrance by a smiling Sister Gvazdauskas, who showed us the direction to the chapel. Here, we were greeted by Sister Eugenia Glineckis, who was to be our narrator. Sister explained that the chapel altar is made of two colors of marble. The black bottom is rounded and shaped like a bassinet, and the top is white marble in the shape of a casket, thus commemorating the life and death of Christ. The beautiful stained glass windows portray the mysteries of the Rosary. Up above, in back of the organ, the large window with brilliant colors depicts the apparition of Our Lady of Siluva. The large, white, hanging light fixtures are encircled, each with a crown of thorns. The side altar is dedicated to the Blessed Mother, and on the other side is an alcove for the Blessed Sacrament. The chapel is a bright, beautiful, serene place for prayer and meditation.

Since we were behind schedule, there was no time to recite the rosary as planned.

Sister invited us to continue our tour to see the auditorium and eating facilities. Here we were treated with delicious home-baked cookies and a beverage as we walked around admiring the rooms and noticing how lovingly the Sisters add their personal touches to the pleasant decor.

Since time was of the essence, we had to shorten our visit and hasten to our next scheduled event, which was to Christo's Restaurant for our evening meal.

~Vivian M. Rodgers~

## Friday - August 15<sup>th</sup>



### Delegate Reception - 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

As one arrived at the Ballroom Foyer, trays of various hors d'ouvres could be seen. Centerpieces of colorful flowers were artfully arranged on the table. Available were, various meats, cheeses, crackers and a good assortment of fresh fruits. Close by were two bars, with offerings of cool liquid refreshments. After a hard day of attending the meetings with various discussions and voting, the attendees were ready for some fun. It was difficult to make a choice of where to go first - good or liquid refreshments. Judging from the lines, the food won out.

The reception gave the attendees an opportunity to finally visit with friends they had not seen for a long time, and to make new acquaintances. The room was filled with sounds of laughter and a gentle blending of voices. As the reception was drawing to a close, everyone was wondering what the entertainment for the evening would be like.

### Cultural Extravaganza - 7:45 p.m. - A Viennese Evening in Vilnius.

At 7:45 p.m. sharp, the doors to the main Ballroom were opened, and the happy group of delegates and guests filtered in. On the billboard by the door, there was a list of the scheduled performers: **Singers:** our own Maryte Bizinkauskas, Soprano; Mary Bernardo, Soprano; Danute Mileika, Mezzo-Soprano; Maxwell Li, Tenor; John Sullivan, Tenor; and the Boston Vyru Sekstetas - Helmutas Lingeraitis, Tenor; Norbertas Lingeraitis, Tenor; Bronius Banastis, Baritone; and Gintas Simonaitis, Bass; **Concert Pianist:** Nikolai Lomov and **Pianist:** Daiva Navikas. They were dressed in tuxedos and gowns, which set the evening tone for us to imagine that we were attending a concert in Vilnius, of Viennese music.

The performers began with excerpts from the "Student Prince." There was the



Prince, who was looking for fun and excitement. He was entertained by various performers, singing and tantalizing him. Then they went on to other favorite Viennese renditions. Once the singer started, the audience was captivated by the exceptionally well-trained voices. The songs were presented with gaiety and warmth. A feeling of exhilaration was felt throughout the audience. There were solos, duets, and group singing. The "Sekstetas" sang mostly in Lithuanian, with ease and confidence. We were also treated with renditions on the grand piano, with some of Chopin's waltzes and the Polonaise. Three of the Tenors sang together as a group, imitating the three famous tenors. Our "Three Tenors" sounded just as good. The original three better watch out!

Standing ovations, with cheering and applause, were heard constantly throughout the performances, encouraging encores. Those that were not able to attend the Convention and this concert, really missed out on an EXCEPTIONAL EVENING, one that may never be heard again. The talent. The music. The performances. Everything was so wonderful, that one did not want the evening to end. With the last song, champagne was brought in on special trays, with a glass for everyone present, and everyone toasted each other in song.

When it was over, the performers were surrounded by well-wishers, congratulating them for such a fantastic evening. Exclamations could be heard, such as; "Wonderful; the best cultural evening we ever attended!: As people left the ballroom, some were humming the songs they had just heard.

~Ruth Sarafinas~

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*Knights of Lithuania 2003*  
*Assumption Day Mass*

God blessed the Knights of Lithuania on the feast day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with beautiful weather

as they arrived at St. George's Church in Norwood, Massachusetts. The processional hymn was "Pulkim ant Keliu," followed by "Immaculate Mary," (sung in English and Lithuanian), as the celebrants, Rev. William Wolkovich, Rev. Albinas Janiunas, Rev. Msgr. Albert Contons, and Rev. Thomas Corcoran entered the church.

Rev. Wolkovich greeted and welcomed the Knights to St. George's Church. The two readers were Marcia Rogers and Vivian Rodgers. The sermon was given by Rev. Msgr. Contons, ending with the phrase, "We are the people of hope, the resurrection and tomorrow." "Sveika Marija, Motina Dievo" was sung as the offertory gifts were presented by Sister Mary Janine Golubickis and Regina Juska-Svoba. The Communion hymn was, "Jezau, pas mane ateiki," followed by the English hymn, "Our Lady of Siluva," (words and music by Faustas Strolia, HM). The Mass concluded with the singing of, "Marija, Marija."

As we were exiting the church, the Junior K of L'ers were gathering on the stairs for pictures before leaving on their outing to Canobie Lake Park. The Knights then boarded the buses for the trip back to the hotel and the second convention session.

~Julia Schroder~





# *Knights in Action...*



Rev. Albin Janiunas, Rev. Peter Shakalis, Rev. John Prusaitis, Pastor, and Rev. Steven Zukas, concelebrating the Opening Mass of the K of L 90<sup>th</sup> Convention at St. Casimir Church in Brockton, Massachusetts.



Donna Gustafson, Rose Dooley, Mary Carleton, Doris Fralick, Thomas Grein and Marilyn Yuskaitis were the smiling "Kitchen Krew" for the m-m-m-good "Kugelis, Kielbasa and Kopustai" luncheon. Not pictured were; Diane Dubois and Florence Carnilla.



## *Membership Awards...*

We had 29 Councils bring in new members over the past year. Additionally, we had one council that was reorganized.

For Council Awards, the following won:

Less than 50 members  
Council 90, Kearny, NJ  
14 new and rejoined members

50 to 100 members  
Council 6, Hartford, CT  
13 new and rejoined members

101+ members  
Council 17, South Boston  
8 new and rejoined members

For individual awards:

Cathy Nakrosis  
Council 90, Kearny, NJ  
5 members

Kathryn Urban  
Council 6, Hartford, CT  
6 members

Vivian Rodgers  
Council 26, Worcester, MA  
3 members

Estelle Rogers  
Council 112, Chicago, IL  
3 members

Sister M. Janine Golubickis  
Council 82, Gary, IN  
3 members

Report submitted by:  
Becky Pataki  
Supreme Council 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

## *Holy Mass on Saturday...*

At 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, August 16, 2003, holy Mass was concelebrated by Rev. Msgr.

Albert Contons and Rev. Albinas Janiunas, for Convention attendees at the Hilton Dedham Hotel. In his homily, Msgr. Contons exhorted the assembled delegates to pray for the safety of our armed forces and for the repose of the soul of **Herkulis Strolia**, brother of our Honorary member, Faustas Strolia, who passed away on June 14, 2003.

The seventy-eight communicants were led in song by Faustas Strolia, Ann Marie Kassel, both of Council 157 in Lemont, IL, and were joined in song by members of the K of L MAD District Choir and delegates and guests that were present. The room was overflowing with participants.

~ Irene Macke ~

## *The Closing Mass...*

Sunday morning, we once again boarded buses to go to St. Casimir's Church for the closing Mass. The procession entered the Church to the triumphant music of "The Ode to Joy." The flags were followed by the new Fourth Degree members, the Honorary Members and the Supreme Council Officers, then the Altar Servers, the Bishop and Priests.

Preceding the Mass, the Fourth Degree was conferred on Members by the Pastor. He was assisted by Ritual Chairperson, Lee Moore, and Rita Sussko, HM. When they were seated, the newly elected Supreme Council was installed.

The concelebrants were; His Excellency Bishop Richard Malone, Auxiliary Bishop of the diocese of Boston, Rev. Peter Shakalis, Rev. John Petrauskas, Rev. Albin Janiunas, HM, and Rev. John Prusaitis, Pastor. The readings were proclaimed by the Junior Knights, who read excellently. The singing was led by Maryte Bizinkauskas, It was most beautiful and very uplifting. Bishop Malone gave the homily, and was very gracious in his praise of the Knights of Lithuania. St. Casimir's Church is a beautiful church, and a credit to the early Lithuanians who built it. The Mass was closed with the singing of the "Vyciu Himnas."

Following the Mass, the Convention Photo was taken. Afterwards, everyone went down to the hall for a delicious breakfast. The buses then returned the members to the hotel. Thanks to Council 1 for a superb job!



## *Ritual Report...*

At the closing Mass of the 90<sup>th</sup> National K of L Convention, the Fourth Degree candidates were preceded in the entrance procession by Lee Moore, Ritual chair, carrying the medals on a silver tray, and the candidates were escorted by Rita Sussko, HM, and Georgianna Macke, ritual committee members. Each candidate carried a red carnation enhanced with ribbons of the Lithuanian colors.

After taking the oath, the medals were blessed and presented to the candidates. Certificates and cards were presented at the luncheon.

Members of this year's class are:

**C-17, South Boston** - Regina Alexander, Mildred Daniels, Albert Kniupis and Elaine Kniupis; **C-26, Worcester** - Lillian Kondrotas, Rev. John Petrauskas and Vivian Rodgers; **C-86, Di Bois** - Twila Allen and Alda Waylonis; **C-90, Kearny** - Elena Nakrosis, John Nakrosis and Nellie Stodolski; **C-96, Dayton** - Irena Gecas/McCarthy; **C-103, Providence** - Sophie Sakalys; **C-110, Maspeth** - Ann Morrissey and Kazimieras Vainius; **C-141, Bridgeport, CT** - Gintara Ivaska, Helen Janiunas, Aldana Peters and Peter Peters; **C-147, St. Petersburg**, Irena Diktanas; **C-152 - Eastern Long Island**, Felix Zorksis.

From previous years: **C-178 - Lawrence, MA**, David Boucher; **C-110 - Maspeth**, Zina Budris; **C-135 - Ansonia**, John Sabulis, and **C-141 - Bridgeport, CT**, Patricia Ross Silk.

~Lee Moore~

## *Scholarship Awards...*

Given at the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention at Brockton, MA, August, 2003.

Greetings from the Scholarship Committee. This year the Committee has awarded a total of \$6,250.00.

Following are the recipients of the various scholarships:

**The Irene Sankus Memorial Scholarship--\$1,000** is awarded each year to a seminarian attending the Pontifical Lithuanian College Seminary in Rome. Monsignor Bartkus selects the recipient who is from a diocese in Lietuva. We do not have the seminarian's name at this time.

**The Sviklas and Tamulevich Memorial Scholarship -- \$2,000** is awarded to Aline Meile, a member of Council - 112, Chicago, IL. Alina will be pursuing a Baccalaureate Degree in Pharmacy.

**Alice-Karklius Memorial Scholarship (provided largely through the K of L Foundation) - \$1200** is awarded to Michael Pant, a member of Council 96, Dayton, Ohio. Michael is pursuing an Associate's degree in the field of Physical Therapy.

**Two general fund scholarships of \$1,000 each has been awarded to:**

Povilas Mecys, a member of Council 103 - Providence, RI. He will be pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Design or International Business.

Meghan Rudmin, a member of Council 16, Chicago, IL. She will be pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Design.

We wish the best to all our winners. The Committee also wishes to thank all of you. K of L members, for your continued support of the scholarship program.

~Antoinette Sakat~





## Honorary Membership

At the Brockton Convention, three recipients were given final approval by the convention body. They were: Nellie Bayoras-Romanas, Father Vincas Valkavicius, and Father Anthony Zakarauskas. When the presentation ceremony was held at the closing banquet, only one recipient was present, and that was, Nellie Bayoras-Romanas, C-143, Pittston. Both Father Valkavicius and Father Zakarauskas were too ill to attend.

Mrs. Romanas was seated at the head table with Honorary Chairman, Frank Petrauskas, who would present her with the Honorary Award. After receiving the award, she asked Chairman Petrauskas if she could say a few words. Petrauskas said, "Yes, I guess so—sure, go ahead." Once she got the mike she was in her glory. She told much of her life's history which was quite interesting. Lithuanian Ambassador Usackas was so impressed with her presentation, that he later took her aside and questioned her at length.

Nellie invited a few people to her room for a drink to celebrate this happy occasion. Soon the word got out, and in a short while her room became packed with people. The overflow had to stand in the hallway. It was a good party, Nellie. Congratulations again, and good luck in the future!

Chairman Petrauskas, HM, told the Banquet assembly that since Father Valkavicius could not attend the banquet, Petrauskas would drive to Norwood, which is only 5 miles from the Hilton Hotel, on Sunday afternoon and present the award to the good Father. Accompanying him were, new National President, Agnes Mickunas, HM, New England District President, Vivian Rodgers, and official Vytis photographer, Joe Stiklius, who recorded the ceremony. Also present were, Al Rodgers and Irene Petrauskas.

Father Valkavicius met us at the front door of the rectory, dressed in pajamas and a bath robe. He apologized for his

appearance, but we told him there was no need to apologize. We understood his situation. He invited us in and we visited for a while. Then chairman Petrauskas gave his introduction and presented the award to him. We all posed for pictures with a very happy and a pleasantly surprised Father Valkavicius. We then turned the floor over to Father Bill, and he told us some of the experiences he had in writing some of his books; how he would travel on his free time and vacation time to gather material and do research; how he would awake at 3:00 in the morning and write until Mass time; how he enjoyed going to Lithuania and teaching a History course. He had to cancel his latest trip to Lithuania because of illness.

Our visit with Father Bill was a very happy occasion for all of us. May he regain his health and continue to serve the Lord and His people.

Our third recipient, Father Antanas Zakarauskas, could not leave Chicago because of his illness. The Mid-America District is in the process of arranging a banquet some time in October in Father Zak's honor. At that time, chairman Petrauskas will travel to Chicago to present the Honorary Award to him.

Three recipients received their initial approval from the convention to be honored in the coming year. They are; Bernice Aviza, Veronica Bizinkauskas and Ann Marie Kassel. Their biographies will be published in the Vytis in the Spring of 2004.

*~Frank Petrauskas~*





**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC. ACTIVITIES  
AS REPORTED TO THE 90<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION,  
BY PRESIDENT, LORETTA I. STUKAS**

The Knights of Lithuania Foundation met for its Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 14, 2003, immediately following the First Session of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention. The meeting was well attended by Foundation members, and many ideas were enthusiastically discussed.

The Foundation was established in 1983, as an endowment fund of the Knights. It is meant to be a back-up for the Knights, providing funds to support various activities of the Knights and helping Lithuania and Lithuanian projects in the name of the Knights of Lithuania. According to its by-laws, all donations are invested as capital, which cannot be spent. Only interest and dividends earned on the investments may be spent for donations, expenses, etc. Thus, it is to the K of L advantage to raise funds for the Foundation, for the larger the base, the more interest is available for use for special projects. Currently, Foundation Capital is over \$110,000. Funds are invested in banks in Kearny, NJ and Chicago, IL, that are operated primarily by Lithuanian Americans, and in Smith Barney Investment Co.

Anyone donating at least \$100.00 is considered a voting member and has a voice in Foundation decisions. Anyone donating \$1,000 or more is considered an Honored Member of the Foundation. Anyone donating \$5,000 or more may designate how the interest from that investment is to be spent, within the confines of the Knights of Lithuania goals. Such special donations have been made thus far by **Ben Karklius** -- \$25,000, for use for a special annual scholarship, by **Msgr. J. Prunskis, HM**, -- \$10,500, for use in conducting an annual Essay Contest for members, and by **Larry Svelnis, HM**, -- \$5,500 for use in special needs of the K of L Archives Committee.

The Foundation is led by a Board made up of two members from each District, plus the National President. Board members need not have donated to the Foundation, and are selected at the recommendation of the District President and are elected, for a three year term, at the Annual Foundation Meeting. They may be reelected at the Annual Meeting when their terms are up. Currently, Board Members include:

MAD – Loretta Stukas (President) and Bernice Aviza (Secretary)  
MAMD – Ann Marie Kassel (Treasurer) and Saulius Kuprys (Legal Advisor)  
NED – Clemincine Miller and Arlene Stiklius  
MCD – Elinor Sluzas (Vice-President) and Lee Moore  
AMD – Irene Ozalis and Anna Wargo  
National President – Agnes Mickunas

This year, Board Members Ann Marie Kassel and Clemincine Miller were reelected .

Last year, besides the Karklius Scholarship, the Essay Contest, and Archives equipment, and other expenses, Foundation funds were sent to Lithuania via the Lithuanian National Foundation to support the Lithuanian. Children's magazine "Bitute", and to purchase



Religious Texts for the schools, and to the Rumsiskes Nursing Home to help in renovation.

This year, it was decided to allocate the \$1,500 available to spend on charities as follows: \$1,000 to an Old Folks and Orphans Home in Alytus, Lithuania, operated by the Immaculate Conception Sisters of Putnam. Several K of L members who visited there this past summer reported that the institution is in great need of repair and updates.

\$500 will be donated to adopt 5 schools in Lithuania (\$100 each), that are in need of help. This will be done via the Lithuanian National Foundation (Tautos Fundas), who will match the donations to each school by 50% (\$50.00 each). Because the names of 6 schools were given as in need, and the Foundation had only \$500 available for this project, Mary Beth Slakis, former Foundation Treasurer, donated another \$100, to accommodate the 6<sup>th</sup> school. We are very grateful to her for her generosity.

A brochure describing the work of the Foundation, completed last year and distributed to councils and members, as a self-mailer is being updated and will be available shortly to members.. Copies of the brochure will be available from Loretta Stukas or Elinor Sluzas.

This year, \$1,200 will be given for the Karklius Scholarship, which will be awarded under the auspices of the K of L Scholarship Committee.

The Essay Contest this year yielded not very many essays, but all were interesting and well-written. A report on this year's contest is found elsewhere in this issue.

For next year's and future contests, it was decided that writers be asked to write between 450 and 600 words. Entries not meeting this requirement will be returned to the writers with a request that the essay be modified to fit the rules. For the 2004 Essay Contest, it was decided to allow members to write on any topic of their choice, relating to Lithuania, their travel there, their Lithuanian Heritage, or their membership in the Knights of Lithuania.

Currently, there are 107 members in the Foundation (who have donated \$100 or more). This includes also 18 Councils and all 4 District. Members are thanked for their past generosity and are urged to continue to be generous with the K of L Foundation, keeping in mind that an investment in the Foundation is an investment in the K of L Future. Capital will always be available to invest – and proceeds of these investments will always be used to enhance the name and goals of the K of L.





**A Successful Completion to the**  
**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION 2002 ESSAY CONTEST**

This year's Knights of Lithuania Foundation Essay Contest again provided members an opportunity to share personal thoughts relating to the Knights. This year, members were asked to:

**"Describe something good about your council, its history, or its members"**

Essays were judged on the basis of content, style, grammar, creativity, general appearance, and adherence to the stated topic. Judging was anonymous -- judges did not know the identity of any of the entrants until the judging was over. Judges, who represented all Districts, included:

Stefany Gutasukas (2002 Winner)  
 Irene Ozalis (AMD)  
 Arlene Stiklius (NED)  
 Lee Moore (MCD)  
 Ann Marie Kassel (MAMD)  
 Loretta Stukas (MAD)

Entries this year were few, but the quality was good. In spite of the small number of entries, all five Districts and five councils were represented.

Winners were announced at the 90th National Convention in Brockton, MA. The winning entries will be published in subsequent issues.

We thank all the members who entered the

contest, and congratulate those in the "winner's circle", namely:

- 1st (\$300.00) Michael B. Shea,**  
 C-102, Detroit, MI
- 2nd (\$200.00) Lynn Hayner**  
 C-136, Albany, NY
- 3rd (\$100.00) Walter D. Svekla**  
 C-3, Philadelphia, PA
- Hon. Mention Laurynas Misevicius**  
 C-141, Bridgeport, CT
- Elaine Mastrianna**  
 C-7, Waterbury, CT

The Knights of Lithuania is most grateful to the late Rev. Msgr. Juozas Prunskis for his generosity in donating a special grant of \$10,500 to the Foundation, with the specification that the interest from the grant be used for an Essay Contest, encouraging members to think about and write about Lithuania, her needs, and the Knights of Lithuania. Msgr. Prunskis died this year, so we ask all members to remember him in their prayers.

We encourage all members to enter the next contest, which will include a separate section for Juniors also!

Loretta I. Stukas, President  
 Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.

**The world's greatest whale-watchers:**  
**Elinor, Fran and Regina**





## Junior Knights<sup>26</sup> in Action...



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We are all so very proud of our K of L Juniors! Under the capable leadership of Maryte Bizinkauskas, Supreme Council 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President in Charge of Juniors, and her wonderful assistants, the Juniors accomplished many marvelous things at this year's 90<sup>th</sup> Convention. Their special activity was, to have a fund raiser whose profit would benefit the poor children of Lithuania. So they began! Everywhere one turned around at the Convention, there was a K of L Junior with a supply of delicious chocolate bars for sale! They realized a total of \$300. To add to this, a Junior from Bridgeport Council in Chicago, Alexis Rudmin, collected money at the Council's Dumpling Dinner this past summer. Because she could not attend the Convention this year, she did her part at home. As a result, she sent in another sum of \$300, thus making the Juniors' final total \$600. The Juniors then went shopping and purchased various toys which would be packed and sent to the children in Lithuania. They displayed some of these toys during their report to the delegates at one of the sessions.

Having done this good deed for others, the Juniors then had lots of fun themselves, especially touring the city of Boston, whale-watching, visiting the museums and the Aquarium, and having a day at the park with swimming at the beach. Way to go Juniors! Congratulations once again! And Thanks to their chaperones who worked so diligently with them. God bless you all!



*Junior Knights<sup>27</sup> in Action...*



**Knights of Lithuania Juniors enjoying the Trolley Ride around the city of Boston.**



**K of L Juniors and their chaperones after their presentation to the Convention Delegates.**



*Knights in Action...*



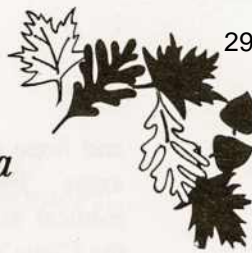
**Dr. Kenneth M. Leavitt, "Friend of Lithuania Award" recipient with John Mankus, Lith. Affairs chairman**



**Honorary Members Row, with newest member, Nellie Bayoras Romanas (front row with medal).**



## *Friend of Lithuania Award*



### **Recipient: Dr. Kenneth M. Leavitt**

"I am deeply honored to be the recipient of *The Knights of Lithuania Friend of Lithuania Award*," remarked Dr. Kenneth M. Leavitt, during the award presentation. I was very pleased and delighted to present Dr. Leavitt with our Friend of Lithuania Award for his tremendous contributions to the people of Lithuania. Since the re-establishment of Lithuania's independence, his work for Lithuania has been nothing short of monumental.

I would like to share some of his comments and remarks to the delegates at our National Convention and review a few highlights of Dr. Leavitt's activities and achievements. He addressed the delegates, "Fellow citizens of this beloved United States and fellow citizens of our beloved Lithuania. In 1992, I began a journey that took me to the place that you call land of your heritage, and a land that I now call my second home. It was during the evening news in 1991, as the Soviet tanks made their attacks upon the TV production studio, the TV tower and the Parliament in Vilnius, that I first began to take an interest in the country of Lithuania. Lithuania's successful, though costly fight for Independence, were the seminal events and the foundation for the many important decisions I would be taking over the next years."

\*In 1992, Dr. Leavitt invested in and developed The Baltic-American Medical and Surgical Clinic in Vilnius, Lithuania. To this date, it is the first and only private inpatient hospital in Central and Eastern Europe granted a hospital license.

- He received a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine from Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine, Chicago, Illinois in 1983, and started a Private Medical Practice for Foot Surgery in Wilmington,

Massachusetts. In 1996, he became the General Director of the Baltic-American Medical and Surgical Clinic in Vilnius, and also maintained a private practice. Since 2001, he has been associated with the Boston Arthritis and Spinal Surgery, Chestnut Hill, MA.

- Dr. Leavitt's work in Podiatric Medicine (foot and ankle surgery) consists of dozens of publications, lectures and training presentations throughout the world, including numerous lectures in Vilnius University Emergency Hospital, Klaipeda City Hospital, Siauliai City Hospital, Pasvalys Regional Hospital, Grodno (Gardinas) Orthopedic Hospital, Belarus, and training programs at the Baltic-American Clinic. He has received numerous professional awards, including the Award for Outstanding Academic and Clinical Contributions, Residency Training Program, Cambridge Hospital (Harvard Teaching Hospital), Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- In 1992, while performing surgery, he met Dr. Manvilis Kocius, who at that time was the chief of Orthopedic Surgery of the Republic of Lithuania. Dr. Kocius was a member of an exchange program organized by Attorney Timothy Jaroch of Belmont, between Winchester Hospital and Vilnius University Emergency Hospital. With the acquaintance of Dr. Kocius and after the exchange of several letters, a formal invitation was extended to Dr. Leavitt to visit and teach in Lithuania.
- Throughout 1993, Attorney Jaroch, Dr. Leavitt and a close friend, Bob Hawking, grappled with the idea of creating what would become the first such endeavor in eastern Europe, the legal framework for the Baltic-American Medical and Surgical Clinic. Throughout the summer, Dr. Leavitt and Mr. Jaroch shipped supplies of medical equipment and made several visits to Vilnius to participate in the construction of the Clinic. By the end



of 1993, the Clinic was legally chartered. On Sept. 28, 1994, the Clinic officially opened.

- The goals of the Clinic were plain and straightforward: 1) It would be run honestly. 2) It would provide health care to U.S. standards. 3) It would serve as an alternative example to socialized medical system. 4) It would host visiting lecturers and teachers for the benefit of all physicians in Lithuania. 5) From money not used to run the Clinic, free care would be given to those who could not afford to pay.
- Unfortunately, the sacrifices that Dr. Leavitt would be called to make would be much greater than first anticipated. In 1996, Dr. Leavitt made the decision to move to Lithuania to insure that the Clinic would not be destroyed by evil forces. By the end of 1998, Dr. Leavitt lost his home and medical practice to service debts incurred to establish the Clinic. By the end of 2000, attorney Jaroch had made over 15 visits to Lithuania at his own expense, and donated over 7000 hours of legal time to deal with the corrupt behavior of a few, Soviet era Lithuanian doctors, who tried for years to close down the Clinic.
- From July, 1996 to June, 2001, Dr. Leavitt, his wife, and daughter lived, worked, fought and succeeded in Lithuania. In the face of many hardships, the Clinic prevailed and succeeded. It hosted over sixteen visiting U.S. Nurse and Physician volunteers and has provided free care for over one thousand people of which more than 80% were disabled and suffering children.
- Mr. Andrew Silski, U.S. State Dept. Country Officer for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania Office of Nordic and Baltic Affairs, wrote to Dr. Leavitt: "I want to thank you for the extraordinary health care that the Clinic brings to that country. The facility you helped create remains an island of quality medical care

and hope in Lithuania and surrounding areas. That is a testimony to your medical skills and your commitment to the Clinic's mission."

Although I spoke with Dr. Leavitt by phone numerous times, I was honored to meet and speak with him and his daughter, Rebecca, in person at the Convention. From our conversations, I am certain that we could not have chosen a more dedicated and deserving individual for the Friend of Lithuania Award.

I wish to thank Maryte Bizinkauskas for her assistance in choosing such a worthy recipient for this Friend of Lithuania Award.

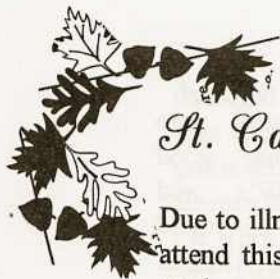
*~ John R. Mankus*

*Lithuanian Affairs Chairman ~*



Frank Petrauskas, HM, & Nellie Bayoras Romanas pose with Father Wolkovich after his panel presentation.





## *St. Casimir Guild Report...*

Due to illness, Msgr. Bartkus was unable to attend this year's convention. Anne Wargo read greetings from Rome to members attending the Convention. Msgr. Bartkus thanked all who supported the College, both financially and spiritually. Although the College is endorsed by the Lithuanian bishops, they are still unable to support the College financially. They are pleased with the students they send to Rome and those that have completed their studies are doing well in Lithuania. This year there will be a full enrollment of Lithuanian Priests in Rome for advanced studies.

With the money changed to Euro Dollars, expenses have multiplied a great deal. Taxes are high and there are many needs at the College. At one time, the Guest House aided the College, but now with expenses so high, there is very little profit. To keep the College going, they need help from outside. The kitchen is still in bad shape. A new stove has been ordered at a cost of ten thousand American dollars. He thanks all who helped in the past, and asked the Knights to continue their support and help in maintaining the College.

Anne also thanked members who have supported with donations and Masses. Mass stipends are \$10.00, and the student priests rely on these stipends for their living expenses, as they come to Rome with nothing. Mass Cards can be obtained from her, for the deceased, the ill and special intentions. She asked members to support the Mass intentions. Many churches have closed or been combined and Masses are hard to obtain. By supporting the Masses at the College, you are assured you loved ones will be remembered and you are helping a Lithuanian priest. The Knights officially adopted the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, and she asked members to remember the Knights Godchild. It is important to the Lithuanian Church, as it is the Lithuanian gateway to the Vatican. By helping the

Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome, you are helping the Lithuanian Church.

*~ Anne Wargo ~*

## *K of L Convention Farewell Breakfast... Sunday, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>*

When the closing Mass of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention was completed, clergy, delegates and friends assembled on the steps of St. Casimir Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church, Brockton, MA. Under the direction of Maryte Bizinkauskas, the group unified and the convention photos were taken.

The people then reassembled downstairs in the spacious church hall and took seats for breakfast.

Pastor, Rev. John Prusaitis, led the Grace before Meals. Most Rev. Bishop Richard J. Malone, Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, greeted the people informally at their tables.

The newly elected Supreme Council members and the clergy were first to be invited to the abundant buffet tables. The tasty food had been prepared by Bickford's Restaurant. Council 1 members were available for hostessing and assisting.

Lee Moore of the Ritual Committee distributed individual certificates to those who had received the 4<sup>th</sup> degree in church. After a lengthy search among the honorees, each new 4<sup>th</sup> degree member wore with pride the special medal having his/her own initials on the back..

Having been strengthened both by the food of the morning and by the friendships at the breakfast tables, the participants adjourned with smiles on their faces. Buses went back to the hotel, automobiles went back to homes, and thus, the Knights and Ladies concluded the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention. Viskas Dievui ant garbes!

*~ Sister Eugenia*

*Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the  
Sorrowful Mother~*





## *Aid to Lithuania Report...*

Fellow Knights,

On behalf of Robert S. Boris, founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Aid to Lithuania, Inc., I express and extend his and the Officers' greetings to all the delegates and guests of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention gathered here in Dedham, MA.

By now, most of you had the opportunity to see, or even to read, my detailed annual report. 2002-2003 was a good year for Aid to Lithuania. Since the 1990 National Convention in Pittsburgh, ATL has continued to help our less fortunate brothers and sisters in Lithuania. With the ongoing publicity about the Knights of Lithuania's ancillary arm of ATL in the Lithuanian press, particularly in DRAUGAS, a worldwide daily newspaper, donations continue to flow in. The Lithuanian public around the world is aware of the Knights of Lithuania's activities and assistance.

The summer of 2003 marked two significant events in Lithuania - the International Song and Dance Festival and the 750<sup>th</sup> anniversary of King Mindaugas' coronation as Lithuania's first and only king. Spectators from all four corners of the world converged in Lithuania to witness the events and participate in the celebrations. Many people took excursions to visit their parents', grandparents' or great-grandparents; homeland. For some travelers, it was a first visit to the motherland, while for others it may have been the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> trip.

While touring the famous historical treasures of Lithuania, dining in fine restaurants, staying in 4 star hotels with all the amenities one could imagine, it may be assumed by tourists, and even some of our own members, that the current living situation in Lithuania appears to be looking good and has vastly improved over the last several years, and that poverty does not exist. People are becoming more prosperous, jewelry and art galleries abound, shops are busy, boutiques carry

designer merchandise, restaurants are jammed, casinos are promoting good business, people drive BMW's and Mercedes. Walking along Gedimino Prospektas in Vilnius and Laisves Aleja in Kaunas, people are well-dressed and exude a certain confidence about themselves. With what the average tourist is shown on an excursion, a false conclusion may be drawn about Lithuania as a country and her people. One only has to seek out and look a few blocks from the main streets, places tourists and perhaps some of our members seldom or never see, to visualize and experience the true needs of the Lithuanian people. For the last 13 years of ATL's existence, and with the ongoing and committed support of many members' financial donations, we have been able to assist and promote many of the requested projects in Lithuania. We were able to send 92 containers of medications, medical supplies, equipment, church pews, statuary, etc., whose value exceeds 71.5 million dollars!

During my trip to Lithuania last month, I was able to witness first hand the day-to-day activities of the various projects that ATL supports.

ATL's in-country representative, deacon Balys Stankus, provided an intensive 4-day program. We visited Mother Teresa's Homeless and Emergency Shelter. During the summer months, approximately 60 people reside in the shelter on an ongoing basis. Upon entering the shelter, each resident is required to sign a contract indicating that he will abide by the rules and regulations. The average length of stay is 30 days. Residents are encouraged to seek employment. The residents prepare their own meals. Those who cannot may go to the soup kitchen where the Mother Teresa's sisters and two male volunteers serve up a meal. A volunteer physician treat residents with minor medical problems. During the winter months, the third floor attic area is used to provide warmth and shelter from the cold elements. Last summer, Vilnius was doused with torrential rains, and the shelter was severely



damaged. A plea for emergency assistance was made. ATL, generous donors and particularly "angels" from Dayton, helped finance the repairs. A significant amount of the work has been completed.

We visited the CARITAS pharmacy and spoke with Sister Onute, pharmacist who sorts and categorizes all medical supplies and medications received from CMMB from New York. She supervises the distribution of the medications/supplies to the nearby hospitals, clinics, shelters and smaller pharmacies. During 2002-2003, three 40-foot long containers, whose total value is \$3,837,120, were shipped. Much needed antibiotics, aspirin, vitamins, beta-blockers, motrin, immodium, shampoo, syringes, bandages and orthopedic supplies were received and distributed.

The Vilnius Handicraft Center or Trade School is progressing since it first opened its doors in 2001. Currently, 18 students from large families, some adults, and those who have minor physical/emotional challenges study and live at the facility. The living quarters are located on the third floor. The Trade School has established the following programs: culinary arts, wood carving, art and furniture restoration, sewing, knitting, crocheting, metal work, printing, electrical repairs, auto mechanics and jewelry repair. In the near future, a computer program will be established. The most popular program is the culinary arts. The practical work is done next door at the Betanija Soup Kitchen. Local masters of each of the programs teach the students. For truly effective training, only 3 students are assigned to each master instructor. The average training program lasts 2 years.

The Betanija Soup Kitchen is opened daily and feeds nearly 600 people daily. A volunteer physician visits weekly to examine and treat patients who have medical ailments. During holidays, Cardinal Backis visits, dines and interacts with the people.

The Mother and Children's Home was also visited. Presently, 10 mothers and 18 children and three pregnant girls reside in the

home. The youngest girl is 15, while the oldest is 29. There was an opportunity to speak with the mothers. It is evident that the mothers love and have a special bond with their children. They are concerned about them and their future. The mothers prepare their own meals for themselves and their children. There are classes where they learn to cook, sew and care for their children, and learn independent life skills. The Mother and Children's Home employs one staff psychologist and four social workers. Two physicians and several university medical and social students volunteer their services. The psychologist works closely with the mother to determine her and her child's problems and crises. She assists in document preparation for financial assistance and helps rebuild relationships with family and friends. The physician treats the mothers' and children's medical problems, gives lectures on health, hygiene, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and AIDS. It is interesting to note that most of the children's fathers are from Germany, and it is difficult, if not impossible to obtain any financial assistance from them for their children (there is no Friend of the Court of Child Support system in place yet). Fifty percent of the mothers are Lithuanian born, and 50 percent are Lithuanian citizens from Germany and Poland.

I visited St. Joseph's Seminary. Rev. Robertas Salasevicius is the newly appointed rector of the seminary. During my visit, he was out of the country, and I spoke with his assistant, Rev. Albertas. Presently there are 56 seminarians; from Vilnius (23), Kasiadorys (14), and Panevezys (14) dioceses studying at the seminary. All are Lithuanian citizens. ATL supporters have "adopted" 17 seminarians for six years, by committing to finance their room and board care and educational expenses in the amount of \$2,000 per year. It gives great pleasure to announce that 4 priests have been ordained in 2002-2003! And, two seminarians were ordained deacons. Algis Simkus, whose sponsors are Adele Bagdon and Olympia



Zielinski. and Tadeus Jasinski, whose sponsor is Rev. Peter Shakalis, were ordained in 2002. In 2003, Vaidas Vaisvilas, whose sponsor is Mr. and Mrs. Bednediktas Karklius, and Janus Andriuskevici, whose sponsor is Mrs. Nellie Stodolski, were ordained priests. Andrius Sukys, whose sponsor is Bob Boris ( in memory of Vincent Boris), and Liudvikas Liutkevicius, whose sponsor is Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Motiejunas (in honor of the Motiejunas family), were ordained deacons. The youngest seminarian is 19 years old, and the oldest is 35 years old. During their free time, the seminarians engage in sports activities, act as pilgrims and visit parishes, serve as spiritual advisors and counselors at schools and social settings. During their summer vacations, they spend time at youth camps serving as spiritual advisors, return to their families, and others visit churches and lead pilgrimages.

Holy Cross parish was visited. One of the buildings is used as a warehouse to store the medications and medical supplies received from CMMB. The building is old and in need of repairs. The leaking roof, gaping cement floors, broken windows and beams were minimally repaired. No further repairs could be completed due to lack of funding. As the parish is not located in the best of areas, three German Shepherds serve as guards to monitor the building from theft.

As of May, 2003, the All Saints parish program, located in the highly trafficked poor area near the train station, was assigned to CARITAS by Cardinal Backis. It consists of a day center and residential facility for teens aged 14-18. Presently there are 12 residents, (6 boys and 6 girls). The youths come from families with chemical substance abuse problems, neglected/abused home environment, and the youths themselves have a chemical dependency problem. Glue-sniffing is prevalent, as it is an inexpensive habit. The youngsters attend a local school. While at the facility, the youths learn independent living skills: clean and maintain their immediate surrounding living area, meal preparation, and care for their clothing and

themselves. The director and social worker make valiant attempts to reunite the families, but oftentimes are unsuccessful, and the youths reside in the shelter for up to three years. Various activities, groups, sports are encouraged. The day center program includes tutoring, catechism, games and sports. The residence and day center employs one director and three social workers. A volunteer cook helps with meal preparations. The physical appearance of the outside and inside of the day center is at utmost, disturbing. Black mold (pelesai) is prevalent everywhere - on walls, ceilings and floor. There is a strong, profuse, musty odor throughout the center, which poses a danger to the staff and youth. Emergency financial assistance is needed to alleviate the danger.

On July 5, 2003, Cardinal Backis hosted a conference, "Karalius Mindaugas-krikscionis (King Mindaugas-Christian). Over 100 dignitaries and guests attended. Among them, LR President R. Paksas and wife, Laima, prof. Vytautas Landsbergis and his wife, Grazina, LB(LAC) president, Vytautas Kamantas and wife, Theresa, bishop Paulius Baltakis, correspondents from Veidas and Elta. After the conference, in commemoration of King Mindaugas' 750<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his coronation, Cardinal Backis presented awards of gratitude in aiding Lithuania. Among the 14 recipients - Bishop Boruta, Bishop Baltakis, prof. Vytautas Landsbergis, ATL founder and Chairman of the Board, Robert S. Boris, and ATL president, Regina Juska-Svoba.

The CARITAS program activities would be virtually impossible to continue without the active and ongoing support of various organizations, individuals and private donors.

Visiting the various ATL supported programs, it is evident that all the financial donations received from K of L members, councils, districts and individuals, are well utilized to aid Lithuania's less fortunate. Financial assistance from the local government is ever decreasing, while the ongoing maintenance of the programs and the





expenses are always increasing. Due to the current situation, financial support is extremely necessary to continue the much needed and required programs. ATL's primary focus continues to be that our brothers and sisters in Lithuania are at least a bit more comfortable, healthier, a bit more satiated, formally educated and spiritually renewed today and in the future. The Knights have always been supportive, generous and have come through whenever the call for assistance was made. Only with your support of the CARITAS programs, Vilnius Handicraft Center and St. Joseph's Seminary adopt a seminarian program, will the services continue uninterrupted and bring a brighter hope for tomorrow's future today!

Please reach out and continue to support the ATL programs.

Thank you for your attention.

~Regina Juska Svoba,  
ATL President~

~~~~~  
~Thursday night's report by  
Larry Misevicius ~

## Thursday Night Entertainment

After the first official convention day, our delegates and their family members as well as guests, gathered back into the hotel ballroom for a Boston-based Lithuanian folklore ensemble, "Sodauto" concert. Before the program, we were generously treated to a variety of delicious cakes, fruit, and iced tea, and one could get a drink of his or her choice in a cash bar right around the corner. Then the program began, and let me tell you this, Maryte Bizinkauskas was so smart to ask everyone to put on their dancing shoes since there were not too many of us who were able to sit still!... The longtime leader of the dance and song group, Gita Kupcinskiene really did a fabulous job together with her colleagues, involving the whole 100% audience. "Sodauto" did a lot of beautiful ethnic singing and dancing. Everyone loved "Kleckai" ("The Dumpling Dance). We were definitely fascinated by their games - true entertainment for all, regardless of age. Almost everybody participated in "Saule Sviesi, Saule Brangi," in which there were formed several circles of dancers and the audience, resembling children's, mothers' and fathers' circles. They went round and round, holding each other by hands, then hair, then knees, even ears... what a night of fun it was!



The "Sodauto" Folkloric group entertaining the delegates with their songs and dances Thursday evening.



# Donors to the K of L 90<sup>th</sup> Convention...

## Aid to Lithuania, Inc.

**Abbott, Maryte** - \$100.00 - IMO Vincent Boris & Ed Bablinskas / **Alexander, Pat & Tony** - \$2,000.00 - For Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund / **Amber District** - \$100.00 - IMO Deceased Amber District Members / **Aviza, Bernice** - \$25.00 / **Baron, Anthony** - \$2,000.00 - For Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund / **Baronas, Anne** - \$2,000.00 - For Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund / **Barzda, Josephine** - \$100.00 - IMO John & Agatha Barzda / **Brazis, Algird, HM & Aldona** - \$100.00 / **Bunikis, Donna** - \$100.00 - IMO Frank Bunikis for medical relief / **Contons, HM, Rev. Msgr. Albert** - \$100.00 / Council 3 - \$100.00 - IMO Daina Kapochus / **Council 16** - \$100.00 - IMO Deceased C-16 Members / **Council 29** - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased C-29 Members / **Council 86** - \$125.00 / **Council 90** - \$25.00 / Council 112 - \$100.00 / **Council 143** - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased C-143 Members / **Cupervich, Helen & Vinnie** - \$25.00 / **Dapkus, Eleanor** - \$25.00 - IMO Charles Zaremsky / **Dapkus, Eleanor** - \$25.00 - IMO Mary & John Dapkus / **Grenier, June V.** - \$25.00 - IMO Justina Grenier / **Juska-Svoba, Regina** - \$100.00 - IMO Rimgaudas Svoba for the Vilnius Trade School / **Karrytais, Rita** - \$100.00 / **Keaney, Aldonna** - \$25.00 / **Kincius, Mary** - \$25.00 / **Krizanauskas, Major Anne** - \$2,000.00 - For Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund (Valdemaras Lisovski) / **Labadis, Mary** - \$50.00 - IMO Helen & Bill Labadis / **Macke, Chuck & Irene** - \$25.00 - IMO Frances & Kazys Macke for Vilnius Trade School / **Markuns, Francis & Virginia** - \$25.00 / **Medley, Helen** - \$25.00 / **Mickunas, John & Agnes, HM** - \$25.00 / **Mid-America District** - \$500.00 / **Mid-Atlantic District** - \$50.00 / **Moore, Lee & Paul** - \$25.00 / **Nakrosis, John & Elena** - \$25.00 / **Petkus, HM, Frances** - \$25.00 - IMO Michael Petkus / **Petrauskas, Frank, HM & Irene** - \$20.00 / **Rogers, HM, Estelle** - \$25.00 / **Sakalys, Sophia** - \$25.00 / **Slakis, Mary Beth** - \$25.00 - IMO Albert Slakis / **Stoskus, HM, Bertha** - \$50.00 / **Strolija, Faustas, HM & Theresa** - \$20.00 - IMO Herkulis Strolija / **Sussko, HM, Rita S.** - \$10.00 - IMO Deceased family members / **Svekla, Irene & Walter** - \$25.00 - IMO Alice Bacon / **Zakarka, Julie** - \$35.00 - IMO Albert Zakarka / **Zaleskas, Florence** - \$25.00 / **Ziurys, Gene** - \$5.00 / **Total Donations Received** - \$10,515.00

**Pledge - Baronas, Anne** - \$2,000.00 - For the Seminarians in Telsiai / **Pledge - Boris, HM, Bob** - \$2,000.00 - For the Seminarians in Telsiai / **Pledge - Council 110** - \$300.00 / **Pledge - Sepikas, Maryte** - \$100.00 - IMO Elena Sepikas / **Pledge - Wainauskas, Dolores** - \$50.00 - IMO Frank Svelnis / **Total Pledges Received** - \$4,450.00

**Grand Total of Donations** - \$14,965.00

## K of L Foundation, Inc.

**Amber District** - \$50.00 - IMO Deceased Amber District Members / **Antanavicius, John** - \$100.00 - IMO Deceased C-12 Members / **Aviza, Bernice** - \$25.00 / **Bablin, Mirga** - \$20.00 / **Brazis, Algird, HM & Aldona** - \$100.00 / **Contons, HM, Rev. Msgr. Albert** - \$100.00 / **Council 3** - \$100.00 - IMO Julie Kowrak / **Council 16** - \$50.00 - IMO Deceased C-16 Members / **Council 29** - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased C-29 Members / **Council 86** - \$125.00 / **Council 144** - \$100.00 - IMO Deceased C-144 Members / **Greymas, Lillian** - \$25.00 / **Kincius, Mary** - \$25.00 / **Krecioch, Ruta** - \$50.00 - IMO Marcele Savickiene / **Labadis, Mary** - \$50.00 - IMO Helen & Bill Labadis / **Markuns, Francis & Virginia** - \$25.00 / **Medley, Helen** - \$25.00 / **Mickunas, John & Agnes, HM** - \$25.00 / **Mid-America District** - \$500.00 / **Mid-Atlantic District** - \$50.00 / **Miller, Barbara, Tom & Debbie** - \$25.00 - IMO Richard M. Miller / **Moore, Lee & Paul** - \$25.00 / **Ozelis, Irene** - \$25.00 / **Petkus, HM, Frances** - \$25.00 - IMO Michael Petkus / **Petrauskas, Frank & Irene** - \$20.00 / **Sakalys, Sophia** - \$25.00 / **Stiklius, Arlene & Joe** - \$100.00 - IMO Edmund Shukaitis / **Stoskus, HM, Bertha** - \$50.00 / **Strolija, Faustas, HM & Theresa** - \$20.00 - IMO Herkulis Strolija / **Stukas, HM, Loretta** - \$100.00 - IMO Dr. Jack Stukas / **Sussko, HM, Rita S.** - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased family members / **Svekla, Irene & Walter** - \$25.00 - IMO Julie Kowrak / **Wargo, HM, Anna** - \$25.00 - IMO Helen Chesko / **Zaleskas, Florence** - \$25.00 / **Total Donations Received** - \$2,085.00

**Pledge - Sepikas, Maryte** - \$100.00 - IMO Elena Sepikas / **Total Pledges Received** - \$100.00

**Grand Total of Donations** - \$2,185.00





**St. Casimir Guild, Inc.**

Amber District - \$100.00 - IMO Deceased Amber District Members / **Antanavicius, John** - \$100.00 - IMO Mrs. Helen A. Jamboa / **Aviza, Bernice** - \$25.00 / **Brazis, Algird, HM & Aldona** - \$100.00 / **Council 3** - \$100.00 - IMO Alice Bacon & Mary Bigenis / **Council 16** - \$100.00 - IMO Deceased C-16 Members / **Council 29** - \$50.00 - IMO Deceased C-29 Members / **Council 36** - \$50.00 / **Council 86** - \$125.00 / **Council 90** - \$25.00 / **Council 143** - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased C-143 Members / **Cupervich, Helen & Vinnie** - \$25.00 / **Grenier, June V.** - \$25.00 - IMO Justina Grenier / **Greymas, Lillian** - \$25.00 / **Karrytais, Rita** - \$50.00 / **Kincius, Mary** - \$25.00 / **Kosmisky, Elsie** - \$50.00 / **Labadis, Mary** - \$50.00 - IMO Helen & Bill Labadis / **Markuns, Francis & Virginia** - \$25.00 - IMO Alexander Akule, HM / **Medley, Helen** - \$25.00 / **Mickunas, John & Agnes, HM** - \$25.00 / **Mid-America District** - \$500.00 / **Mid-Atlantic District** - \$50.00 / **Miller, Barbara, Tom, & Debbie** - \$25.00 - IMO Elisabeth Kunce & Deceased Friends & Family of Barbara Miller / **Nakrosis, Cathy** - \$50.00 / **Nakrosis, John & Elena** - \$25.00 / **New England District** - \$100.00 / **Ochs, Rita** - \$100.00 / **Ozelis, Irene** - \$25.00 / **Petkus, HM, Frances** - \$25.00 - IMO Michael Petkus / **Petrauskas, Frank & Irene** - \$20.00 / **Robert Damasauskas** - \$100.00 / **Rogers, Estelle** - \$25.00 / **Sakalys, Sophia** - \$50.00 / **Slakis, Mary Beth** - \$25.00 - IMO Albert Slakis / **Stiklius, Arlene & Joe** - \$100.00 - IMO Natalie Velickas / **Strolija, Faustas, HM & Theresa** - \$20.00 - IMO Herkulis Strolija / **Stukas, HM, Loretta** - \$50.00 - IMO Dr. Jack Stukas / **Sussko, HM, Rita S.** - \$50.00 - IMO Deceased family members / **Wargo, HM, Anna** - \$50.00 - IMO Helen Chesko / **Zakarka, Julie** - \$20.00 - IMO Albert Zakarka / **Zaleskas, Florence** - \$25.00 / **Ziurys, Gene** - \$5.00 / **Total Donations Received** - \$2,565.00

**Pledge - Sepikas, Maryte** - \$300.00 - IMO Elena Sepikas / **Pledge - Wainauskas, Dolores** - \$50.00 - IMO Eleanor Laurin / **Total Pledges Received** - \$350.00

**Grand Total of Donations** - \$2,915.00

**Our Lady of Šiluva Fund (Website)**

**Alexander, Pat & Tony** - \$350.00 / **Alexander, Regina** - \$25.00 / **Aviza, Bernice** - \$25.00 / **Bumila, Frances** - \$100.00 / **Council 36** - \$50.00 / **Council 90** - \$25.00 / **Glineckis, Sr. Eugenia** - \$25.00 - IMO John & Sophie Glineckis / **Kassel, Ann Marie** - \$100.00 - IMO Albert Kassel - 30th Anniversary / **Kincius, Mary** - \$25.00 / **Krecioch, Ruta** - \$25.00 / **Macke, Chuck & Irene** - \$25.00 - IMO Alice & Anthony Shillim / **Mickunas, John & Agnes, HM** - \$25.00 / **Nakrosis, Cathy** - \$25.00 / **Nakrosis, John & Elena** - \$25.00 / **Petkus, HM, Frances** - \$25.00 - IMO Michael Petkus / **Petrauskas, Frank & Irene** - \$20.00 / **Rogers, Estelle** - \$20.00 / **Sakalys, Sophia** - \$10.00 / **Sarafinas, Casimir & Ruth** - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased members of the Sarafinas & Patinskas Families / **Stoskus, HM, Bertha** - \$100.00 / **Strolija, Faustas, HM & Theresa** - \$20.00 - IMO Herkulis Strolija / **Stukas, HM, Loretta** - \$25.00 / **Sussko, HM, Rita S.** - \$10.00 - IMO Deceased family members / **Wargo, HM, Anna** - \$25.00 - IMO Helen Chesko / **Zaleskas, Florence** - \$25.00 / **Total Donations Received** - \$1,155.00

**Grand Total of Donations** - \$1,155.00

**Fr. Jutt Fund (For Lithuanian Affairs Committee)**

**Aviza, Bernice** - \$25.00 / **Bumila, Frances** - \$25.00 / **Council 29** - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased C-29 Members / **Krecioch, Ruta** - \$25.00 / **Petkus, HM, Frances** - \$25.00 - IMO Michael Petkus / **Petrauskas, Frank & Irene** - \$20.00 / **Stoskus, HM, Bertha** - \$25.00 / **Total Donations Received** - \$170.00

**Grand Total of Donations** - \$170.00

**Convention Committee**

**Sakalys, Sophia** - \$10.00 / **Total Donations Received** - \$10.00

**Grand Total of Donations** - \$10.00



**K of L Juniors Fund**

Bumila, Frances - \$25.00 / Ziurys, Gene - \$5.00 / Total Donations Received - \$30.00

Grand Total of Donations - \$30.00

**National Scholarship Fund**

Amber District - \$50.00 - IMO Deceased Amber District Members / Aviza, Bernice - \$25.00 / Bumila, Frances - \$50.00 / Keaney, Aldonna - \$25.00 / Zakarka, Julie - \$20.00 - IMO Albert Zakarka / Total Donations Received - \$170.00

Grand Total of Donations - \$170.00

**Our Lady of Šiluva Shrine – Washington, DC**

Alexander, Pat & Tony - \$150.00 / Council 16 - \$50.00 - IMO Deceased C-16 Members / Council 29 - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased C-29 Members / Council 90 - \$25.00 / Markuns, Francis & Virginia - \$25.00 / Mid-Atlantic District - \$50.00 / Nakrosis, Cathy - \$25.00 / Nakrosis, John & Elena - \$25.00 / New England District - \$100.00 / Petkus, HM, Frances - \$25.00 - IMO Michael Petkus / Sakalys, Sophia - \$15.00 / Sakalys, Sophia - \$20.00 - IMO Fr. John Waitiekunas / Slakis, Mary Beth - \$25.00 - IMO Albert Slakis / Stiklius, Joe & Arlene - 100.00 - IMO Vincent Stiklius / Stoskus, HM, Bertha - \$100.00 / Zaleskas, Florence - \$25.00 / Ziurys, Gene - \$5.00 / Total Donations Received - \$790.00

Grand Total of Donations - \$790.00

**Vytis Magazine**

Pocius, Edward & Anele - \$50.00 / Sakalys, Sophia - \$15.00 / Stiklius, Joe & Arlene - \$50.00 - IMO Walter Maknis / Sussko, HM, Rita S. - \$5.00 - IMO Deceased family members / Total Donations Received - \$120.00

Pledge - Sepikas, Maryte - \$100.00 - IMO Elena Sepikas / Total Pledges Received - \$100.00

Grand Total of Donations - \$220.00

**Lithuanian Children's Relief**

Amber District - \$50.00 - IMO Deceased Amber District Members / Bumila, Frances - \$100.00 / Council 86 - \$125.00 / Council 143 - \$25.00 - IMO Deceased C-143 Members / Karrytais, Rita - \$100.00 / Labadis, Mary - \$50.00 - IMO Helen & Bill Labadis / Macke, Chuck & Irene - \$25.00 / Markuns, Francis & Virginia - \$25.00 / Medley, Helen - \$25.00 / New England District - \$100.00 / Stoskus, HM, Bertha - \$25.00 / Strolia, Faustas, HM & Theresa - \$20.00 - IMO Herkulis Strolia / Total Donations Received - \$670.00

Grand Total of Donations - \$670.00

**Sisters of St. Casimir**

Krecioch, Ruta - \$50.00 - IMO Marcele Savickiene / Total Donations Received - \$50.00

Grand Total of Donations - \$50.00

**Grand Total of Donations to All Charities - \$23,330.00**





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**Subject: Constitution Revision, Article VI, Section 7**

Whereas Article VI, Section 7 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution currently reads:

Dues are payable in January of each year. A member whose dues are not paid by March 31 shall cease to receive Vytis. A member whose dues are not paid by June 30 shall cease to be member

Be it resolved that Article VI, Section 7 be amended to read:

Dues are payable in January of each year. A member whose dues are not paid by February 15 shall cease to receive Vytis. A member whose dues are not paid by April 1 shall cease to be member

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Constitution Revision, Article IX Section 8**

Whereas Article IX, Section 8 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution currently reads:

The number of National Convention delegates allowed a council depends on the number of fully paid members in the council, as determined by the financial secretary of the Supreme Council. Each council shall be allowed one delegate for the first five members, and one delegate for each additional ten members.

Be it resolved that Article IX, Section 8 be amended to read:

The number of National Convention delegates allowed a council depends on the number of fully paid members in the council, as determined by the financial secretary of the Supreme Council on April 1. Each council shall be allowed one delegate for the first five members, and one delegate for each additional ten members.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Constitution Revision, Article XI Section 5**

Whereas Article XI, Section 5 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution currently reads:

The financial secretary receives and records all membership dues; transmits all money received to the Supreme Council Treasurer; through VYTIS and by letters, reminds the councils and members of their financial standing; notifies each council of the number of National Convention delegates to which they are entitled; prepares a summary report of the membership standing for the National Convention.

Be it resolved that Article XI Section 5 be amended to read:

The financial secretary receives and records all membership dues; transmits all money received to the Supreme Council Treasurer; through VYTIS and by letters, reminds the councils and members of their financial standing; notifies each council of the number of National Convention delegates to which they are entitled; prepares a summary report of the membership standing for the National Convention. The Financial Secretary must have knowledge of using a computer and access to one, as the organization membership records are computerized.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Sports Committee Re-establishment**

Whereas a lot of the younger generation are eager to be involved in sports and athletic activities; and

Whereas Lithuanians and Lithuanian-Americans have always been active in basketball and other sports; and

Whereas, Article III of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution calls for encouraging sports activities in its councils and districts through out the United States;

Be it resolved that at sports committee be re-established in the Supreme Council of Knights of Lithuania in order to promote sports and athletic activity.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Support Legislation to Make English the Official Language of the United States**

Whereas, English is currently the national language of the United States only by custom, not by law; and

Whereas, the United States is comprised of individuals from many ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds, and continues to benefit from this rich diversity; and

Whereas, these individuals, although keeping their ethnic background alive, were urged to take advantage of the educational system that taught them the English language and American history; and

Whereas, throughout history of the United States, the common thread binding individuals of differing backgrounds has been the English language; and

Whereas, command of the English language is necessary to participate in, and take full advantage of the opportunities afforded by American life; now, therefore,

Be it resolved, by the 2003 Knights of Lithuania National Convention assembled August 14-16, 2003 in Dedham, Massachusetts that the Knights of Lithuania urge Congress to pass legislation, HR 997, "The English Language Unity Act of 2003," which would establish English as the official language of the United States.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donation to "Darbininkas"**

Whereas, the Lithuanian publication, "Darbininkas" has generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the delegates of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Knights of Lithuania Convention express their gratitude by a donation of \$100.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donation to Lithuanian Children's Relief Fund**

Be it resolved that the amount of \$400 be donated to Lithuanian Children's Relief Fund.



**Subject: Donation to "Dirva"**

Whereas, the Lithuanian weekly, "Dirva" has generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the delegates of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Knights of Lithuania Convention express their gratitude by a donation of \$100.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Ildefonsas Bucmys**

Whereas, Ildefonsas Bucmys a member of C-96, Dayton, OH will face a trial in December 2003, and

Whereas, Ildefonsas Bucmys, a young boy in 1943, witnessed the murder of his mother, father, brothers and sister; was forcibly taken into a Nazi battalion with other young Lithuanian boys to serve as guards; unknowingly for a death camp in Poland, from which he deserted and hid;

Whereas, the U.S. Justice Department has accused him of falsifying his citizenship application by stating that "I did not serve a foreign military power against the United States".

Whereas this 83-year old Catholic man, a member of the Knights of Lithuania, for over 40 years has served this country faithfully;

Be it resolved, by the 2003 Knights of Lithuania National Convention assembled August 14-16, 2003 in Dedham, Massachusetts that the Knights of Lithuania offer our prayers and encouragement to him and his family; and that our heavenly Father protect them through this crisis.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Ildefonsas Bucmys.

Resolution Passed

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

Whereas, "Lietuviu Balsas" has generously publicized news about the Knights of Lithuania

Therefore, be it resolved, that the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention, Dedham, MA expresses its appreciation of Lietuviu Balsas and its staff, for their cooperation and generosity.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Congratulations St. Casimir's Church, Amsterdam, NY**

Whereas, Saint Casimir's Church in Amsterdam, NY will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2004

Therefore, be it resolved, that the 90<sup>th</sup> National Knights of Lithuania Convention, offer our sincerest congratulations to St. Casimir's on this memorable occasion; and

Be it further resolved that we instruct the Supreme Council President to send a letter to Saint Casimir's expressing our joyous sentiments.

St. Casimir's Church, 269 East Main St., Amsterdam, NY 12010

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Honorary Membership Candidates**

Be it resolved that when a person's name is presented to his/her local council for consideration for Honorary Membership the vote should be by secret ballot. If the vote is favorable and the name goes on to the district for consideration, then the vote there should be by secret ballot also;

Be it further resolved that this rule should go into the Knights of Lithuania manual of procedures and policies.

Presented by: Frank Petrauskas, HM, Honorary Membership Committee Chair

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donation to "Amerikos Lietuvis"**

Whereas, the Lithuanian weekly, "Amerikos Lietuvis" has generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the delegates of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Knights of Lithuania Convention express their gratitude by a donation of \$100.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donation Lithuanian Catholic Daily – "Draugas"**

Whereas, the Lithuanian Catholic Daily, "Draugas" has consistently and generously printed news of the Knights of Lithuania; in the "Vyciu Veikla" column and other parts of the publication,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the delegates of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Knights of Lithuania Convention express their sincerest gratitude to "Draugas" and its staff for their cooperation and generosity in publicizing the Knights of Lithuania activities, and

Be it further resolved that a donation of \$200 be sent to "Draugas" with this expression of gratitude.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donations to Religious Communities**

Be it resolved that the amount of \$100 be donated to each of the following religious communities:

Sisters of Jesus Crucified, Sisters of Saint Casimir, Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God and the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donation to K of L Charities**

Be it resolved that the amount of \$400 be donated to each of the following Knights of Lithuania charities:

Aid to Lithuania, Knights of Lithuania Foundation and Our Lady of Siluva Fund – Website

Resolution Passed



**Subject: Donation to Father Jutt Fund**

Be it resolved that the amount of \$250 be donated to each of the Knights of Lithuania Father Jutt Fund.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donation to St. Casimir's Guild**

Be it resolved that the delegates to the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania assembled in Dedham, MA continue to show our support to the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, Italy with a donation of \$1,000 through St. Casimir's Guild.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Donation to Mother Maria Kaupas Beatification Cause**

Whereas Mother Maria Kaupas, foundress of the Sisters of Saint Casimir, dedicated her life especially to serve the faith, needs of the Lithuanian people; and

Whereas her beatification cause is presently pending in Rome, and

Whereas the Mother Maria Kaupas Fund serves to promote her beatification cause

Be it resolved that the delegates to the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania assembled in Dedham, MA continue to show our support to beatification cause of Mother Maria Kaupas with a donation of \$250 to the Mother Maria Kaupas Fund.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Our Lady of Siluva Project**

Whereas Our Lady of Siluva project was established with the purpose of promulgating devotion to Mary via the internet and web-site; and

Whereas this web-site is now in existence and it requires funding for continuing maintenance and improvement

Be it resolved that a separate fund be established and incorporated for Our Lady of Siluva which will allow for tax-deductible status for donations; and

Be it further resolved that the fund be administered by the Our Lady of Siluva committee members consistent with procedures used by existing Knights of Lithuania charities.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Appointment to Honorary Membership Committee**

Be it resolved that at the request of the Knights of Lithuania Honorary Membership Committee, the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania approve the appointment of Honorary Member Rita Sussko to the Honorary Membership Committee representing the Mid-Atlantic District. She will be replacing the retiring Honorary Member, Loretta Stukas.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Candidacy of Veronica Bizinkauskas for Honorary Membership**

Be it resolved, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, that the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Hilton Hotel in Dedham, MA approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership Veronica Bizinkauskas, member of Council 1, New England District, and allow her history, outlining her services as worthy and dedicated Knight to be published in Vytis.

Nutarta: Garbės Komisijos pasiulius patvirtinti Veronica Bizinkauskiene kandidatūrą į Garbės Narius, ir atspausdinti jo darbus ir nuopelnus organizacijai Vytie žurnale.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Candidacy of Bernice Aviza for Honorary Membership**

Be it resolved, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, that the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Hilton Hotel in Dedham, MA approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership Bernice Aviza, member of Council 136, Mid-Atlantic District, and allow her history, outlining her services as worthy and dedicated Knight to be published in Vytis.

Nutarta: Garbės Komisijos pasiulius patvirtinti Bernice Avižaitė kandidatūrą į Garbės Narius, ir atspausdinti jo darbus ir nuopelnus organizacijai Vytie žurnale.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Candidacy of Ann Marie Kassel for Honorary Membership**

Be it resolved, at the recommendation of the Honorary Membership Committee, that the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Hilton Hotel in Dedham, MA approve as a candidate for Honorary Membership Ann Marie Kassel, member of Council 157, Mid-America District, and allow her history, outlining her services as worthy and dedicated Knight to be published in Vytis.

Nutarta: Garbės Komisijos pasiulius patvirtinti Ona Maria Kasseliene kandidatūrą į Garbės Narius, ir atspausdinti jo darbus ir nuopelnus organizacijai Vytie žurnale.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Honorary Membership for Nellie-Bayoras-Romanas**

Whereas, the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Congress Hotel and Convention Center in Chicago, IL on August 3, 2002, approved the candidacy of Nellie Bayoras-Romanas for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and

Whereas all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this candidate, and

Be it resolved, that this 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania confer Honorary Membership upon Nellie Bayoras-Romanas, member of Council 143, Amber District.



Nutarta: 90-tos Lietuvos Vyciu Seime priimti į Garbės Narį Nellie Bayoras-Romaniene, Lietuvos Vyčių 143 Kuopos narį, kurio kandidatura buvo patvirtinta 89-tos Lietuvos Vyčių Seime.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Honorary Membership for Rev. William Wolkovich-Valkevicius**

Whereas, the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Congress Hotel and Convention Center in Chicago, IL on August 3, 2002, approved the candidacy of Fr. Vincas Valkavicius for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and

Whereas all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this candidate, and

Be it resolved, that this 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania confer Honorary Membership upon Fr. Vincas Valkevicius, member of Council 27, Norwood, MA.

Nutarta: 90-tos Lietuvos Vyciu Seime priimti į Garbės Narį Kunigas Vincas Valkevicius, Lietuvos Vyčių 27 Kuopos narį, kurio kandidatura buvo patvirtinta 89-tos Lietuvos Vyčių Seime.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Honorary Membership for Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas**

Whereas, the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania gathered at the Congress Hotel and Convention Center in Chicago, IL on August 3, 2002, approved the candidacy of Fr. Anthony Zakarauskas for elevation to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania; and

Whereas all constitutional requirements and considerations have been met for this candidate, and

Be it resolved, that this 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania confer Honorary Membership upon Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, member of Council 112, Mid-America District.

Nutarta: 90-tos Lietuvos Vyciu Seime priimti į Garbės Narį Kunigas Antanas Zakarauskas, Lietuvos Vyčių 112 Kuopos narį, kurio kandidatura buvo patvirtinta 89-tos Lietuvos Vyčių Seime.

Resolution Passed

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

Whereas, the Catholic Medical Mission Board has been generous in supplying much needed medicines to Lithuania valued in millions of dollars;

Be it resolved, that the 90<sup>th</sup> National Knights of Lithuania Convention, send a thank you to them for their continue support.

CMMB, Attn: John F. Galbraith, President/CEO, 10 West 17<sup>th</sup> St, NY, NY 10011-5765.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Mother Maria Kaupas**

Whereas, the Knights of Lithuania are dedicated to the service of God and country, and

Whereas, Mother Maria Kaupas, foundress of the Sisters of St. Casimir, dedicated her life to serve the faith needs of the Lithuanian people, and

Whereas the cause for her beatification is in process,

Be it resolved that each member, local council, district and Supreme Council intensify efforts this year to promote prayer, communication, and financial assistance

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Thank you – Convention Host Council 1**

Whereas, Council 1, Brockton, MA served as the hosts of the 90<sup>th</sup> annual Knights of Lithuania National Convention; and

Whereas, in so doing, Council 1, accepted and fulfilled a very demanding task;

Be it resolved that the delegates to the 90<sup>th</sup> Knights of Lithuania national convention extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to Council 1, and the entire committee for their hard work, diligence and hospitality in their preparation and presentation of this convention.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Thank you – Convention Presidium**

Be it resolved that the delegates to the 90<sup>th</sup> Knights of Lithuania national convention extend their warmest appreciation and gratitude to the presidium and its committees for their hard work, diligence and dedication in the conduct of this convention.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Thank you – Outgoing Supreme Council**

Be it resolved that the delegates to the 90<sup>th</sup> Knights of Lithuania national convention express on behalf of themselves and the general membership, their deepest gratitude for the 2002-2003 Supreme Council for his dedicated service to the organization and support of the ideals of the Knights of Lithuania.

Resolution Passed

**Subject: Thank you – Dedham Hilton Hotel**

Whereas the management and the staff of the Dedham Hilton Hotel, Dedham, MA demonstrated hospitality, courtesy, and cooperation during our 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention;

Be it resolved that the Supreme Council President send a letter of appreciation and thanks on behalf of all the delegates.

Resolution Passed



**Subject: Novena Prayer for Priests**

Whereas our Roman Catholic church continues to experience a crisis and a decrease in vocations; and

Whereas, now more than ever the call to the religious life for strong shepherd of God's people is needed; and

Therefore be it resolved that we the delegates of the 90<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania instruct our Vytis staff to print the Novena Prayer for Priests, as approved by the Most Reverend Daniel K. Jenky, CSC, Bishop of Peoria, IL; and

Be it further resolved that each council be encouraged to ask their pastors that the novena prayer be said in their local parishes for nine consecutive Sundays before each Mass. If that is not feasible, then this may be said before nine consecutive Knights of Lithuania meetings.

Presented by: Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-96

Resolution Passed

### *Friday's Sports Panel*

The first presentation in the morning session on the second day of our convention in Dedham "Hilton," concerned the establishment of the Sports Committee in our organization's Supreme Council. Such a committee existed in the K of L since 1953, when Frank Petrauskas (C-140) was elected the first chairman. He has always been promoting athletic activity and sports among the K of L'ers. Unfortunately, it was closed after one of the recent K of L conventions, due to poor membership participation in its activities. At the Supreme Council meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003, it was decided to propose a resolution for the official convention vote to bring the Sports Committee back to the K of L. Laurinas (Larry) R. Misevicius (C-141), Linas Balsys (C-7) and Joe Stiklius (C-6) spoke at the convention, asking the delegates to vote favorably in support of the Sports Committee addition. The Sports committee could help to attract many more younger members in the K of L. They love

basketball and other sports, and would want to promote sports to the rest of the membership. In turn, the athletes would also participate in other activities of our organization. There were a number of sports tournaments in the Northeast recently, where 250-300 college age Lithuanians played basketball and socialized during those 1 to 2 day events. Joe Stiklius brought a picture of the New England "K of L" team. NED sponsored one of the teams through the region's Sports Committee), which participated in the basketball tourney in Bridgeport, CT on June 7-8<sup>th</sup> weekend. All of the "basketballers" wore the "Knights of Lithuania" T-shirts, presented by Joe

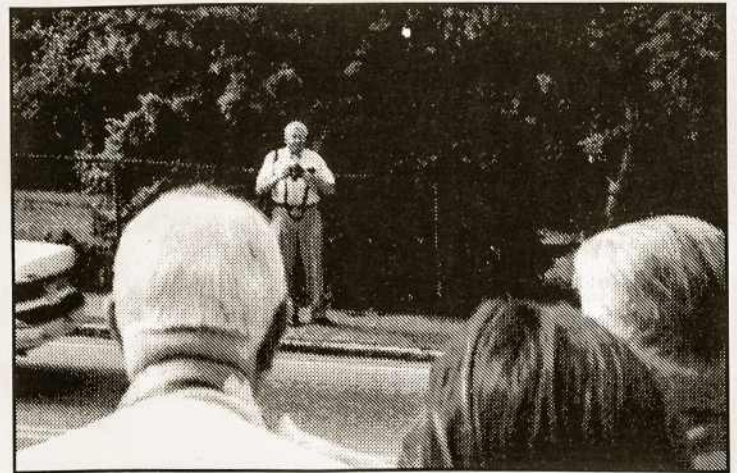
after the games.

The resolution to reestablish was passed unanimously, and Linas Balsys was officially elected as Chair of the new Committee during the Saturday session.

*~ Larry Misevicius ~*



**L to R: Linas Balsys, Joe Stiklius, and Larry Misevicius presenting their proposal for the reinstatement of the Sports Committee.**



**Joe Stiklius, our Convention photographer being photographed. Gotcha, Joe!**





## Summary of Sessions...

Council I of Brockton, host of our 90<sup>th</sup> Convention, chose as its motto, "Pakelkime balsus - Let us lift up our voices," and that the delegates and other participants did, whether by the beautiful liturgies with hymns and songs, during the sessions with reports, the entertainment evenings, by their greetings and resolutions, donations to the various charities as voices for the unfortunate, and ending in voices of Joy and celebration for 90 years of the existence of the Knights of Lithuania.

After the Opening Mass, initial ceremonies and presentation of the Presidium members, Robert Martin, Jr., began with his State of the Organization address. Greetings in person were given next. The Mandate Committee then reported 105 participants attending this First Session. That same evening we were delighted by the entertainment of the "Sodauto" folkloric dance and song group.

August 14<sup>th</sup>, Friday, the Feast of Mary's Assumption and a holy day of obligation found us attending Mass at St. George Parish in Norwood, MA. Rev. W. Wolkovich, pastor, and his parishioners, extended their true hospitality to the K of L'ers. Father then uplifted our spirits by playing on his violin after Communion, the hymn, "Lord, You Have Come to the Seashore."

The second session then began with the distribution of membership awards by Becky Pataki, Supreme Council 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president. She then reported that the K of L added 101 new members to its roster this year. Kathy also informed the Convention participants that the K of L now has approximately 3,000 member nationwide. An important feature of the second session was the revival/reinstatement of the K of L Sports committee as part of the Supreme Council. A presentation/proposal was made by Larry Misevicius, Linas Balys and Joe Stiklius. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the delegates, and Linas Balys was selected as chairman of this committee.

Loretta Stukas, HM, then presented the K of L Foundation Report, and also announced the winners of this year's essay contest. A reading of various resolutions followed. Ninety-four delegates attended this session.

The third session began with an excellent panel presentation by Rev. William Wolkovich, regarding the emigration of Lithuanians to the U.S., and a bit of the history of the Knights of Lithuania. Rev. Wolkovich was also awarded Honorary Membership during this Convention. Frank Petrauskas, HM, presidium chair for this session then repeated the names of this year's candidates for Honorary Membership. The candidates for 2004 are: Bernice Aviza (C-136), Ann Marie Kassel (C-157), and Veronica Bizinkauskas (C-1).

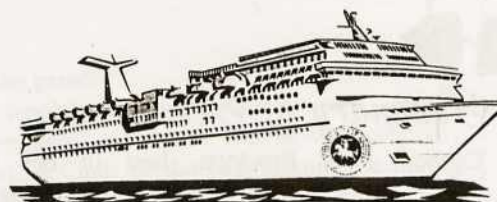
Lee Moore then gave the Ritual Report and announced the names of those members who would be receiving their Fourth Degree this year. Regina Juska/Svoba, ATL president, then proceeded with her annual report to the Convention.

The fourth Plenary Session consisted of the Donations' Committee Report, St. Casimir Guild Report, the Mandate Committee report and the Election of Officers for the Supreme Council for the 2003-2004 term, selection of a Convention site for 2004, the Juniors' Report and Presentation, Resolutions, Final Donations' Report, and announcements and instructions. The session ended with a prayer and the singing of the Vyciu anthem. Everyone then rushed to get ready for the evening banquet. Presentations during the Banquet were: 2003 K of L Scholarship, Honorary Membership presentations, and the "Friend of Lithuania Award" to Dr. Kenneth Leavitt, followed by his acceptance speech. People stayed to dance the night away, and the Juniors had their banquet in the New England Room. They later joined the adults for dancing.

Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, found us boarding the bus for the closing Mass at St. Casimir's Church, with Bishop Richard Malone of the diocese of Boston in attendance. Immediately after the Mass, the convention photo (with people expertly arranged by Maryte Bizinkauskas), was taken on the steps outside the church. All then enjoyed a farewell luncheon in the hall. The new and old Supreme Council members then went to the parish rectory for their first meeting of the year. The buses then took everyone back to the hotel where delegates and friends bid each other farewell, with a promise to meet again in Kearny for the 91<sup>st</sup> Convention. Everyone agreed that C-1 did a superb job! Kudos to them!



**The Knights of Lithuania  
announces  
A Baltic Heritage Tour  
June 18-28, 2004  
presented by Princess Cruise Lines**



After the huge success of this year's K of L Lithuania Tour, the Knights of Lithuania is pleased to be offering a group outing for 2004 on the Baltic Heritage Tour presented by Princess Cruise Lines. It's a great way to take in seven countries, beautiful places, great food and lots of fun without having to change hotel rooms, even once. The tour will depart from the Port of Copenhagen, Denmark on Friday, June 18, 2004 for a ten day voyage aboard one of Princess Cruise Lines premier ships, the **Grand Princess\***. Prices below include Port Charges, Government Charges and Round Trip Transfers from the airport to the dock in Copenhagen. Airfare from the United States to Copenhagen is additional, please contact our tour leader, Ellie Nakrosis at 1.201.998.9641 or 1.201.294.4250 for airfare or additional tour information. Reservations and a \$600.00 deposit per person must be made by Saturday, November 15, 2003. (\*= Princess Cruise Line reserves the right to change ships.)

Please see the itinerary and additional information listed below. Hoping to see you aboard.

Day	Location	Arrival	Departure
1	Friday, Jun 18, 2004	Copenhagen, Denmark	--
2	Saturday, Jun 19, 2004	At Sea	--
3	Sunday, Jun 20, 2004	Stockholm, Sweden	7:00 am
4	Monday, Jun 21, 2004	Helsinki, Finland	8:30 am
5	Tuesday, Jun 22, 2004	St. Petersburg, Russia*	6:30 am
6	Wednesday, Jun 23, 2004	St. Petersburg, Russia	--
7	Thursday, Jun 24, 2004	Tallinn, Estonia	7:00 am
8	Friday, Jun 25, 2004	Gdansk, Poland	9:00 am
9	Saturday, Jun 26, 2004	At Sea	--
10	Sunday, Jun 27, 2004	Oslo, Norway	7:00 am
11	Monday, Jun 28, 2004	Copenhagen, Denmark	5:00 am

\* = An Optional Tour to Moscow is offered on the first day the ship docks in St. Petersburg.

**Price for Standard Inside Cabin** \$2,139.87 per person, double occupancy, cruise only (includes port charges, government charges and round trip transfers from airport to dock.)

\$2,864.00 - Single rate cruise only  
\$899.00 - Third person in room, cruise only (when available)

**Price for Standard Outside Cabin** \$2,240.00 per person, double occupancy, cruise only (includes port charges, government charges and round trip transfers from airport to dock.)

**Airfare** Please contact Ellie Nakrosis for air information

**Reminder** - Your reservation and \$600.00 deposit per person must be received by November 15, 2003.

**Information** - Ellie Nakrosis, 1.201.998.9641 or 1.201.294.4250



*More Knights in Action...*



Sudiev! Good-bye, Council 1 and Brockton! Thank you for a superb job in hosting the 90<sup>th</sup> Convention, 2003. God bless you! We really had a great time in Boston!



Good luck, Council 90 and Kearny, NJ! We'll be seeing you for the 91<sup>st</sup> in 2004.

L to R: front row: Becky Nakrosis/Pataki, Rita Och: Back row: Elena Nakrosis, Kathy Nakrosis. It's all in the family with the Kearny hosting Council. Elena, her sister Rita, and Elena's two lovely daughters.



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*"Pakelkime balsus" ~ "Let Us Lift Our Voices"*