

*Vytis ~ The Knight*



Vol. 90 No. 4 - liepa/rugpiūtis - July/August, 2004



*Congratulations, Mr. President, H.M. C-16!*  
*Iveikiname Jo Ekselenciją, Prezidentą Valda Adamką!*

**Knights of Lithuania  
Supreme Council  
Officers  
2003-2004**

**Spiritual Advisor**

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

**President**

Agnes V. Mickunas, HM  
333 Davis Ave.  
Mt. Ephraim, NJ 08059  
(856) 9313306 Fax (509) 757-2696  
[ja.mick@verizon.net](mailto:ja.mick@verizon.net)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Brian J. Johnson, Sr.  
1127 Girard RD  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227  
(412) 885-1965  
[Rita.johnson@attbi.com](mailto:Rita.johnson@attbi.com)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

Becky Pataki  
142 Forest St  
Kearny, NJ 07032  
(201) 955-1122  
[Bxtrp97@yahoo.com](mailto:Bxtrp97@yahoo.com)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President**

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

**Recording Secretary**

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

**Treasurer**

Ellie Nakrosis  
10 Park Avenue  
Kearny, NJ 07032  
Tel (201) 998-9641  
Fax (201) 997-9866  
[Mocuite@aol.com](mailto:Mocuite@aol.com)

**Financial Secretary**

June V. Grenier  
159 Coppermill RD  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
H (860) 563-9009  
[Jvg159@earthlink.net](mailto:Jvg159@earthlink.net)

**Trustees**

Mary Beth Slakis  
18263 Murphy Circle  
Tinley Park, IL 60477-4780  
(708) 342-0193  
[spepper182@msn.com](mailto:spepper182@msn.com)

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

**Legal Advisor**

Saulius V. Kuprys  
Henehan, Donovan & Issacson  
150 S. Wacker Dr. #1050  
Chicago, IL 60606  
W (312) 346-5275

**VYTIS Editor-In-Chief**

Sr. M. Janine Golubickis  
12220 Will Cook Rd.  
Lemont, IL 60439-9157  
(630) 257-2291  
/243-8349  
Fax: (630) 257-2334  
[Maryj9g@hotmail.com](mailto:Maryj9g@hotmail.com)

**VYTIS Business Manager**

Sr. Johanna Marie  
Shainauskas, SSC  
6727 S. California Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60629  
(773) 778-8211  
Fax (773) 925-8885  
[jmshain2@hotmail.com](mailto:jmshain2@hotmail.com)

**Archives Chair.**

Francis Burnila  
161 King Philip ST  
Raynham, MA 02767  
(508) 823-9325

**Lithuanian Language & Cultural Chair.**

Laurynas Misevicius  
218 Pastors Walk  
Monroe, CT 06468-1006  
Tel/fax (203) 452-5208  
[Laurynas.misevicius@ubsw.com](mailto:Laurynas.misevicius@ubsw.com)

**Lithuanian Affairs Chair**

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

**Honorary Memb. Chair.**

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

**Public Relations Chair**

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

**Ritual Chair.**

Lee Moore  
126 High ST  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
(814) 765-8662  
*Elsie Kosmisky, HM*  
*Georgianna Macke*  
*Rita Sussko, HM*  
*Clemencine Miller, HM*

**Scholarship Chair**

John Baltrus  
118 Vine Street  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025  
(412) 233-2764  
[baltrus2@pittcon.org](mailto:baltrus2@pittcon.org)  
*Karen Domalakes*  
*Antoinette Sakal*  
*Wanda Pliskaitis*  
*Ver.Bizinkauskas-Cote*

**Our Lady of Siluva Fund**

Elinor Sluzas, HM  
55 Brandt ST  
Dayton, OH 45404  
(937) 228-8679  
[elinorsluzas@aol.com](mailto:elinorsluzas@aol.com)

**K of L Foundation**

Pres. – Loretta Stukas, HM  
234 Sunlit DR  
Watchung, NJ 07060  
(908) 753-5636  
Fax (908) 753-9492  
[stukiene@worldnet.att.net](mailto:stukiene@worldnet.att.net)

**St. Casimir Guild**

Pres. Anna Klizas-Wargo, HM  
125 S. Morris St.  
St. Clair, PA 17970  
(570) 429-0132  
[akliz1@aol.com](mailto:akliz1@aol.com)

**Aid to Lithuania, Inc.**

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

**Sports Chair**

Linas Balsys  
25 Locust ST  
Naugatuck, CT 06770-3109  
(203) 729-8815  
[lebalsys@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lebalsys@ix.netcom.com)

**Amber District**

Pres. Dianne Drumstas  
131 Federal Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
(215) 271-9005

**Mid-America District**

Pres. – Robert A. Martin, Jr.  
3420 S. Lituania Ave  
Chicago, IL 60608  
Tel/fax: (773) 376-4779  
[Amerlith1@aol.com](mailto:Amerlith1@aol.com)

**Mid-Atlantic District**

Pres. Maryte Abbott  
48-51 43<sup>rd</sup> St, Apt 6A  
Woodside, NY 11377  
(718) 729-8620  
[Mabbott18@juno.com](mailto:Mabbott18@juno.com)

**Mid-Central District**

Pres. Michael F. Petkus  
38 Woodsdale RD  
Dayton, OH 45404  
(937) 235-0341  
[mike.petkus@cityofdayton.org](mailto:mike.petkus@cityofdayton.org)

**New England District**

Pres. Vivian M. Rodgers  
53 Houghton Street  
Worcester, MA 01604-3821  
(508) 799-5286  
[Mociuteviv@aol.com](mailto:Mociuteviv@aol.com)

VYTIS (THE KNIGHT) (ISSN 0042-9384) is published seven times per year: bi-monthly and one extra issue in September by the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA, 2601 W. Marquette Rd., Chicago, IL 60629-1817. Subscription is \$25.00 per year. Single copy \$5.00. Outside USA \$35.00 per year, single copy \$6.00. Periodical postage paid at Chicago, IL.

**Postmaster: Send address changes to VYTIS (THE KNIGHT),  
2601 West Marquette Road Chicago, Illinois 60629-1817**

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

**VYTIS – The Knight – STAFF**

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

Knights of Lithuania Web page: [www.knightsoflithuania.com](http://www.knightsoflithuania.com)

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

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

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

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

## *Turinys ~ Contents*

<i>To My Fellow Knights</i>	2
<i>In Memoriam</i>	2
<i>President's Message</i>	3
<i>Feast of the Assumption</i>	4
<i>"Full Circle"</i>	5
<i>Special Women in the News</i>	6
<i>Some Words of Wisdom</i>	7
<i>"Vasaros lietus" - "Summer Rain"</i>	7
<i>"A Blast from the Past!"</i>	8
<i>A Special Dedication</i>	12
<i>District &amp; Council News</i>	15
<i>Junior Knight Life</i>	17
<i>Our Juniors</i>	21
<i>Congratulations to New Members</i>	25
<i>George, the Carpenter"</i>	27
<i>The Lithuanian Dance Festival</i>	29

### **FUNNY FIGURING**

1. Take Your House Address and DOUBLE IT.
2. ADD 5
3. MULTIPLY it by 50.
4. ADD your age.
5. ADD the number of days in a year (365).
6. SUBTRACT 615.
7. The last TWO FIGURES will be your age.
8. The OTHER NUMBERS will be your house number.

Were you right?

*Hope to*

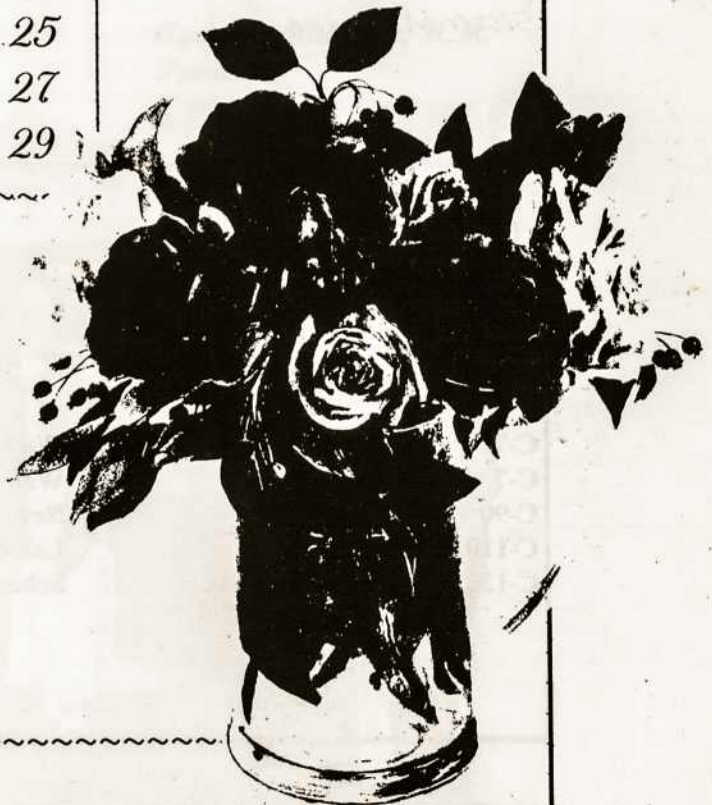
*SEE You*

*at Our*

*91<sup>st</sup> K of L*

*CONVENTION.*

*BE THERE!*



## To My Fellow Knights



It is time for thanksgiving!

Throughout the year, the Council and District Vytis Representatives have quietly gathered data, composed and forwarded informative reports for as many as 6 bi-monthly issues of the Vytis. Their contribution provided the readers with a review of Knight Life across the country. We acknowledge and appreciate their valuable gift to the membership.

Many of you have sent in articles, photos, ideas, and cross-references. The Supreme Council committee chairpersons informed us of relevant events. Thank you.

I am most grateful to Mildred Jagiella, Council News editor and Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas for the typing and the layout.

Behind the scenes, a mailing list had to be maintained for 2,000 plus readers and fees collected. Financial Secretary June Grenier ably performed this important duty.

The staff at *Draugas* published Vytis and expedited its preparation for delivery to our homes. Come and visit *Draugas* if you do not believe this operation is extensive.

It is the 90<sup>th</sup> year of publication for *Vytis* and it is the year of the Reclamation of the Lithuanian Word. It is indeed time for thanksgiving!

*Sister M. Janine*

## In Memoriam...



*Let us remember to pray for our deceased members.*

C-7	Dorothy Alanskas	Watertown, CT	6/19/2004
C-7	Nellie Matulunas	Waterbury, CT	6/16/2004
C-90	Lillian Kulish	New Monmouth, NJ	5/24/2004
C-110	Frances Aboyas	Lakeland, FL	5/20/2004
C-136	Virginia Barkowski	Schenectady, NY	6/29/2004

### President's Message

This has truly been a remarkable year for all of us of Lithuanian heritage. I've already addressed Lithuania's acceptance into NATO. Now, Lithuania has a new President – Valdas Adamkus, Honorary Member of the Knights of Lithuania. Immediately after his election I mailed a congratulatory letter to President Adamkus on behalf of all of our Knights of Lithuania members. This is the first time that a former President of Lithuania has been reelected to this highest of offices. May God bless him and help him in the performance of his duties as the leader of Lithuania – the home of our forefathers.

I want to emphasize that our Knights of Lithuania organization remains stable and strong. It is evident that all of our Councils hold true to the ideals of our organization. The Council News section of our Vytis magazine proves that our Councils strongly adhere to our motto "For God and Country".

As long as we work together and listen attentively to each other our Knights of Lithuania organization will continue a straight and true course and will be recognized as an effective and important facet in the nationwide Lithuanian community.

Thank you for all your support and encouragement during the past year. God bless all the members of the Knights of Lithuania!



Vytiškai,

*Agnes V. Mickunas, H.M.  
President*



K of L'ers attending the program, "Kanklės" concert and exhibit at the Lake County, Indiana Visitors' Bureau, June 26, 2004. Birute Vilutis, C-82, organized the event.

## *Feast of the Assumption...*

In Lithuania, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, commemorated on August 15<sup>th</sup>, was popularly called "Žolinė." The feast was named after the field grasses (žolės), flowers and plants which were blessed in churches. The custom comes from the legend of Mary's burial. Since God's Mother was taken into heaven body and soul, only the flowers placed on her body remained in her coffin. The people of Lithuania also covered the coffins of their loved ones with mounds of flowers and they fully understood and accepted the presence of flowers at the burial of God's Mother.

The feast of the Assumption occurs in the summer, at a point when all nature is in bloom, green and ripening. Although the people lived amid nature and annually witnessed her miracle of growth, this miracle still appeared fresh and astonishing every year.

If ordinary plants seen around daily are capable of achieving such amazing renewal every summer and granting humans such bounty, what miraculous properties must have had the flowers heaped into the casket of the Mother of God! Indeed, the country folk of distant Lithuania could not even imagine the places where the Virgin Mary lived and died. But they could gather flowers, grasses and other plants from their gardens, fields and orchards and take them to church where the priest blessed and sprinkled them with holy water at the conclusion of the Assumption services. These grasses were thus transformed into plants taken right from Mary's casket and acquired many miraculous properties. On the morning of August 15<sup>th</sup>, people streamed along roads and paths to churches, the women and girls carrying armfuls of fragrant field and garden flowers: cornflowers, daisies, red clover, poppies, buttercups, thyme, rue, flax, phlox, dahlias and many others. The women carefully dried the blessed flowers. They protected the home from storms, lightning, fire, and evil spirits. Flowers blessed on the Assumption could not be discarded because great calamity would descend upon that home. If for some reason the flowers became moldy or spoiled (improperly dried and stored), they must be burned and their ashes scattered in the garden or fields, thus averting infestation by grubs and insects.

Many nations (i.e. the United States) do not know this wonderful tradition of blessing

flowers, but some Lithuanian parishes in North America bless flowers during the Lithuanian Mass on Assumption morning. This custom could probably even be introduced in a local parish with few Lithuanian parishioners after consulting the pastor. The tradition has its roots in Christian faith and not pagan antiquity, therefore local priests should have no objections. If it is not possible to have a flower blessing ceremony in the parish church, we should then decorate our homes with mounds of summer flowers for the feast of the Assumption and within our family remember this lovely Lithuanian tradition.

Taken with permission of the author from: "Lietuvių papročiai ir tradicijos išsivijoje" ~ "Lithuanian Customs and Traditions," by Danute Brazytė Bindokiene, who is at present the Editor-in-Chief of the daily Lithuanian Newspaper, "Draugas."

## *Thank You*

When you receive a gift  
From a neighbor or a friend,  
You do the proper thing -  
A thank-you note you send.  
When you need some assistance  
For a task that you must do  
And someone lends a hand,  
You gladly say, "Thank you."  
If ever you're rejected,  
If there's sadness you must bear,  
To those who ease your burden,  
Just say, "Thank you" for their care.  
And when your trials are over  
And devotedly you pray,  
Don't ask for many other things,  
Just say, "Thank you" for this day.  
Each blessing is a gift  
That comes from up above.  
God knows exactly what you need,  
Just say, "Thank you, Lord," with love.  
And don't forget the greatest gift -  
On the cross you've been forgiven.  
Just say, "Thank You, Lord, for Jesus,  
Thy Son sent here from Heaven."

- Edna Massimilla -

## Full Circle...

Events from the past years, 1964-66, have recently reached full circle for me. Joining the Knights of Lithuania Council - 110, Maspeth, NY., has helped me reach some of these goals.

At the New York World's Fair, 1964-65, I participated by singing in the choir at Lithuanian Day at the New York State Pavilion and Lithuanian Day at Singer Bowl. I wore a costume that was made by my mother. This costume was made from American cotton, but made with love. When I saw the traditional costumes that the other singers and dancers wore, I said that someday I would have one, too. I could not believe that there could be so many Lithuanians at Singer Bowl. The choir was made up of choirs from all over the United States, Canada and other countries. I remember the opening when we sang the American Anthem and then the Lithuanian anthem. I remember thinking, that here we are in the United States, being able to sing these anthems, but the people in Lithuania could not sing theirs. The dancers were awesome. I could not believe how many people were dancing the same dance at the same time, in the heat, wearing those heavy costumes. I was glad then, that I had a lighter weight costume.

I went on the Knights of Lithuania sponsored trip to Lithuania this past summer, (2003). I had a costume made for me. With my little bit of knowledge of Lithuanian, and her little bit of English, the seamstress took my measurements on a Friday and delivered by costume to the hotel on Sunday. The cost was 200 "litai," but to me, priceless. After 38 years, I finally got my costume. My mother asked me when I would wear it. So far, I wore it in September as I carried the 4<sup>th</sup> degree medal into Transfiguration Church, to be given to Kazimieras Vainius who was too ill to attend the National Convention. I wore it in December for our Council's "Kūčios." I wore it in February for the Lithuanian Independence Day celebration. I wore it in March for our Council's Mass in honor of St. Casimir as I carried the Lithuanian flag into church. This was also the Mid-Atlantic District convention Mass. I will also be wearing it in the Memorial Day Parade in Maspeth, on May 30. I was 14 years old at Lithuanian Day at Singer Bowl. I could not believe the size of the choir or the numbers of dancers that were there. It was

amazing, but it was nothing in comparison to "Dainų Šventė" in Lithuania last summer - three days of festivities. The first night, singers, dancers, and "kanklės" players. The second night, dancers, too many to count. The third day, the choirs, 10,000 strong, standing in the pouring rain. We all stood and sang the Lithuanian anthem. My wish for Lithuania to be able to sing it once again had been granted. I sang with tears in my eyes. I remembered Singer Bowl so many years before.

November 13, 1965, New York City. The Rally at Madison Square Garden, and the march to the United Nations Building to commemorate 25 years of Soviet oppression in the Baltic countries was to let the world know that they wanted to be free. I took part in the commemorations of that day. Wishing for Lithuania's freedom. On Sept. 17, 1991, Lithuania became a member of the United Nations.

October, 1966, Washington, DC, at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, the dedication of the Shrine of Our Lady of Šiluva took place. I was there, and I learned about the story of Our Lady of Šiluva. I decided, that some day I would go there, to Šiluva in Lithuania. On Oct. 13, 1991, I returned to the Shrine in Washington, DC, with my three children, for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Again, I said that one day I would go to Šiluva. On October 14, 2002, I again visited the Shrine. This time, Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD, HM, explained the murals and the pictures of the 4 Madonnas that were on the ceiling; "Žemaičių Kalvarija, Trakai, Pažaislis, and Vilnius, Aušros Vartai." We were lucky, or blessed, to have Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas with us this summer on our Lithuanian trip. She belongs to the Sisters of St. Casimir. She asked if we could make a stop at Pažaislis Monastery to see her sisters. We all agreed and were given a tour of the monastery, to which even our tour guide had never been. Mother Superior even took us to the sacristy. We were not allowed to take pictures, but everything was very slowly being restored. She explained, that when Napoleon was there, he had bedded his horses in the sacristy. The church was full of scaffolding, but hung at the main altar was the beautiful picture of the Madonna. I remembered the picture from the ceiling at the shrine in Washington. It was so beautiful. In Vilnius, we climbed the worn marble stairs to the picture of "Aušros Vartai," the Gates of Dawn. This Madonna overlooks the city from the old city



wall. The painting had a gold crown and clothing. It was a beautiful sight. I had never seen anything like it before.

We then went to Šiluva. It was raining when we arrived at the chapel, which contained the rock on which Our Lady stood when she appeared to the children. I could not believe it. I was here! I knelt before the rock and kissed it. I wondered, if any of my ancestors had been here. Mass was said for us by Archbishop Bartulis. I was able to realize a dream. I went to see Our Lady of Šiluva.

After the New York World's Fair ended, vandals started to attack the Lithuanian Wayside Cross. Msgr. Balkunas offered to have the cross put on the property of Transfiguration Church in Maspeth. The cross was restored and dedicated in 1981. I had been told that crosses dotted the Lithuanian countryside. I saw this as the bus traveled through Lithuania. I was told about the famous "Hill of Crosses," but talk did no justice to seeing the place in person. The Soviets tried to destroy this place, but every time they bulldozed it down, the people brought crosses back. They say that Lithuania is a land of graves without crosses, and that the Hill has the crosses with no graves.

My trip to Lithuania included meeting a Knights of Lithuania member, Ed Baranauskas, who now resides in Vilnius. I found out that Ed grew up in Jersey City with fellow Knights, my father, uncle, and aunt, Charles, Joe and Josephine Sable. My son, Christopher, went on the trip with me. He continues the line of Knights from my family.

If you get the chance to go to Lithuania - GO! You will enjoy it. If you can attend the National Convention - GO! You will enjoy it.

~ Julia Schroder ~

Pres. Council 110, Maspeth, N.Y.

*Bits and Pieces...*

Did you know that *Vytas Danelius*, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, ACC men's basketball, forward, who contributed 15 points in a nationally televised thrilling close game (79-75) win over North Carolina, Sunday, February 3..."attempted to teach head coach, Skip Prosser, a different Lithuanian word each day in practice last season?"

*Special Women in the News...*

\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*

**PICTURED:** Cecilia Matul (right) of Council - 36, newly elected president of the Chicago Lithuanian Women's Club, and Irene Buchbinder, outgoing president, enjoying an Odyssey Cruise, celebrating the Club's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Club is currently formulating plans to present eight Lithuanian-American young women at it's 37<sup>th</sup> *Amber Ball* in August, at the Hilton Oak Lawn Hotel.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Some Word of Wisdom...

1. The best way to get even is to forget.
2. Feed your faith and your doubts will starve to death.
3. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
4. Some folks wear their halos much too tight.
5. Some marriages are made in heaven, but they ALL have to be maintained on earth.
6. Unless you can create the WHOLE universe in 5 days, then perhaps giving "advice" to God isn't such a good idea!
7. Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, and faith looks up.
8. Standing in the middle of the road is dangerous. You will get knocked down by the traffic from both ways.
9. Words are windows to the heart.
10. A skeptic is a person who, when he sees the handwriting on the wall, claims it's a forgery.
11. It isn't difficult to make a mountain out of a molehill, just add a little dirt.
12. A successful marriage isn't finding the right person; it's being the right person.
13. The mighty oak tree was once a little nut that held its ground.
14. Too many people offer God prayers with claw marks all over them.
15. The tongue must be heavy, indeed, because so few people can hold it.
16. To forgive is to set the prisoner free and then discover the prisoner was you.
17. You have to wonder about humans; they think God is dead and Elvis is alive!
18. It's all right to sit on your pity pot every now and again. Just be sure to flush when you are done.
19. You'll notice that a turtle only makes progress when it sticks out its neck.
20. If the grass is greener on the other side of the fence, you can bet the water bill is higher.

### The Summer Rain

The night outside the window  
 Seems like an endless sea,  
 Inundating the stars and the distant rooftops,  
 Flooding the orchard and man's weary breast,  
 The summer rain roars like the ocean,

And in the roaring you hear how the crops rise,  
 How the wilting grass drinks in the blessing,  
 And how the branch, rejuvenated within the earth,  
 Rises up toward the heavens... And the dusty wayside



## In Tribute to Our Great Lithuanian Poet,

*Bernardas Brazdžionis,*

on the third anniversary of his death, we include the following, one of his many beloved poems:

### *Vasaros Lietus*

*(The Summer Rain)*

Nakčia už lango, tartum jūra begalinė,  
 Apsėmusi žvaigždes ir tolimus skliautus,  
 Apsėmęs sodą ir žmogaus išvargintą krutinę,  
 Kaip okeanas, ošia vasaros lietus.

Ir ošime jo tu girdi, kaip kyla javas,  
 Kaip geria palaimą nuvytusi žolė,  
 Ir kaip šaknelė, po velėna atsigavus,  
 Į dangų stiebias... Ir dulkėta pakele

Vėl pasitiesia žalia kilimą, ir medžių  
 Dainuoja lapai vėl gyvybės kupini,  
 Ir tu, kaip tėviškės pakluonej kadai kadžių,  
 Vėl pirmą potvynį širdy išgyveni...

Ir žingsnių vėl klausai įpykusio perkūno,  
 Kai naktį perskelia žaibų žara šviesi,  
 Ir vėl nueina šiurpuliai šalti per kūną,  
 Ir vėl toks mažas tu, toks vaikas tu esi...

Ten už lango, tartum jūra begalinė,  
 Apsėmusi žvaigždes ir tolimus skliautus,  
 Apsėmęs sodą, siela, naktį ir krutinę,  
 Kaip jūra - ošia, ošia vasaros lietus.

Again spreads out its green carpet, and  
 The leaves of the trees sing, filled with life again,  
 And you, like the threshing floors of the Fatherland  
 Are, since so long ago, experiencing the first flood in  
 your heart.

And again you're listening for the footsteps of the  
 thunder  
 That splits the night with its glowing lightning streak,  
 And again, cold chills run through your body,  
 And again, you are so small, you're such a child.

O, there, outside the window it seems like an endless  
 sea.  
 Inundating the stars and the distant rooftops,  
 Flooding the orchard, the soul, the night, the breast,  
 Like the sea - it roars, it roars, the summer rain.

## *A Blast from the Past!*

## LANGUAGE LORE

The next 4 pages are taken from a 1983 issue of the *Vytis*. We thought you would enjoy re-reading it. This is how we used to speak Lithuanian, remember?

The Lithuanian language is copious. Although Lithuanian is an Archaic Indo-European language, it has the ability to assimilate foreign words and transmute them into Lithuanophonic terms. A Vulgate Lithuanian vocabulary or patois has been developed by the Lithuanian immigrants in this country. The process began in the 1880's and has continued to this very day, witness: *hipiai* (hippies); *busingas* (busing); *Džetas* (jet) and *Velferininkas* (welfare recipient).

A close scrutiny of Lithuanian American newspapers, books, local notices and church bulletins will disclose that a peculiar speech was and is developing among immigrants. The everyday Lithuanian language has undergone some special changes in vocabulary. Thus, the English phrase: The sandwich might have spoiled, is rendered: "Senvičius gal jau susispoilinęs." Or, "The boarder likes beer is expressed: "Burdingierius laikina byrą." Algirdas Margeris assembled a 366-page study of such loanwords, entitled *Amerikos lietuviai ir angliškujų skolonijų žodynas, 1872-1949*, (Chicago, 1956).

The Vulgate Lithuanian vocabulary is quite varied. Many of the words are nothing more than transliteration of English words: *anest* (honest); *ard laif* (hard life); *bizi* (busy); *fani* (funny). (Jis ne tik fani, bet ir kreizi — He is not only funny, crazy as well.); *flet* (flat); *gudtaimas* (good time), etc. But many loanwards are somewhat Lithuanianized: *aibolis* (highball); *alperis* or *elperis* (helper); *baketas* (bucket); *begidžius* (baggage); *čencius* (chance); *dypas* (depot); *džela* (jail); *fornisas* (furnace); *garbičius* (garbage); *grainderis* (grinder); *poizonas* (poison); *singelis* (a single person); *strytas* (street); *trokas* (truck); *karas* (car); *vačyti* (to watch); *vuordas* (ward) and many, many others.

A study of such terms will disclose certain linguistic tendencies. Thus, the many English nouns with the ending "y" will receive an "e" in Lithuanian: baby will become *beibe*; battery will become *betre*; *blaine* is blind; ball becomes *bole*; brandy is *brande* or *brende*; dolly is *dole*; daisy is *deize*. Other English words ending in "y" also become transformed: foundry (fandre); candy (kende); laundry (lendre even pay (peide). Certain English words ending in a consonant also take an "e": dish (dišė); dress (dresė); gang (genge); rails (reles); ham (ame).

Some English nouns ending in vowels, take a Lithuanian "-sas" instead of customary "-as" in the nominative case. Thus: *boisas* (boy); *drinksas* (drink); *liumpsas* (lump); *tinksas* (thing); *tricksas* (trick), etc.

### Vulgate Lithuanian Algirdas Budreckis

Certain English words are transformed in a peculiar manner. For example, the words *bekernė* (bakery); *bučėruė* (butchershop); *pikčėrnė* (phonograph); *grosernė* (grocery) are formed by taking English phonetic root and adding the Slavic (Polish) suffix *-erne*. On the other hand, *bresinė* (brass factory) is formed with the Lithuanian suffix *ine*. There are other words with Slavic suffixes: *Biznierius* (businessman); *tyčėrka* (Lay teacher); *politikierius* (politician).

Vulgate Lithuanian should be avoided because it is a bastardized form of the language; aesthetically it sounds bad; and there are enough standard Lithuanian or dialect terms to compensate for its avoidance. A list of the most commonly used and abused Vulgate Lithuanian terms follows.

Vulgate Lithuanian	English	Standard Lithuanian
airišis	Irishman	airis
ašbaksas	icebox	ledainė
aiskrymas	ice cream	ledai
aismonas	iceman	ledininkas
aive	highway	vieškėlis
aleveiteris	elevator	keltuvas
alio!	hello!	labas!
ame	ham	kumpis
angelskai	in English	angliškai
animunas	honeymoon	medaus mėnuo
apdortinti	to dirty	apteršti
apsetyti	to upset	apversti
ardverstoras	hardware store	metalinų prekių krautuvė
armobilis	automobili	automobilis
atikas	attic	palėpė
auncas	ounce	uncija
baderis	bother	varginimas
baderiuoti	to bother	irukdyti
badermilkas	buttermilk	pasukos
badymas	bottom	dugnas
baisikelis	bicycle	dviratis
baketas	bucket	kibiras
baksas	box	dėžė
balione	baloney	stora dešra
bondsas	bond	bonas
barberis	barber	kirpėjas
bare	crowbar	dalba
bargenas	bargain	geras pirkinys
barkyperis	barkeeper	smuklininkas
bartenderis	bartender	padavėjas
basas	bus	autobusas
betyti	to bet	lažytis

Vulgate Lithuanian	English	Standard Lithuanian	Vulgate Lithuanian	English	Standard Lithuanian
beclerys	bachelor	viengungis	cimentuoti	to cement	cementuoti
bedruimis	bedroom	miegamasis	šainys	Chinese	kinietis
bedsprede	bedspread	užtiesalas	šardžyti	to charge	užsakyti
begidžius	baggage	bagazas	šekiuoti	to check	patikrinti
beibe	baby	kūdikis	šencius	chance	šansas
beibi-siterka	baby sitter	kūdikio prižiūrėtoja	šencius	change	grąža
beikeris	baker	kepėjas	šyfas	chief	viršininkas
beikinas	bacon	lašiniai	šikinas	chicken	viščiukas
beikyti	to bake	kepti	šyteris	cheater	apgavikas
beilifas	bailiff	anstolis	šytyti	to cheat	apgauinėti
beismentas	basement	rūsų	šiungumas	chewing gum	kramtomoji guma
bekauzė	backhouse	išvietė	šizelis	chisel	kaltas
bekerenė	bakery	kepykla	šizleris	chiseler	sukčius
bekiuoto	to back up	trauktis atgal	daimukas	dime	dešimtukas
benčius	bench	suolas	daiperiai	diapers	vystyklai
bendičius	bandage	raištis	draivyti	to drive	vairuotojas
beske	basket	krepsys	draiveris	driver	vairuotojas
besketbolis	basketball	krepsinis	dale	doll	lėlė
betabas	bath tub	vonija	dedis	daddy	tėtė, tėtis
betre	battery	baterija	deitas	date	pasimatymas
byčius	beach	paplūdimys	demičius	damaga	žala, nuostolis
bigšatas	big shot	mandrapkis	deparatmenstoris	department store	didžiulių krautuvė
bila	bill	sąskaita	deska	desk	rašomasis stalas
bildingas	building	pastatas	dičė	ditch	griovys
bildyti	to build	statyti	dylėris	dealer	verteiva
bymas	beam	rastas	disemberis	December	gruodis
byncai	beans	pupelės	diskauntas	discount	nuolaida
byras	beer	alus	dišė	dish	indų plovėjas
bybyti	to beat	mušti	dišvašeris	dish washer	dešimtukų krautuvė
blondė	blonde	šviesaplaukė	dešimtstoris	dimestore	purvas, nešvarumas
blanketas	blanket	antklodė	dortas	dirt	suterštas, nešvarus
blauzė	blouse	palaidinė	dortinas	dirty	teršti
blekberes	blackberries	gervuogės	dortyti	to dirty	džiovin tuvas
blemyti	to blame	kaltinti	drajeris	drier	lašai
blendyta			drapsai	drops	suknelė
viskė	blended whiskey	degtinės mišinys	dresė	dress	spinta, komodė
blyčyti	to bleach	baltinti	dreserka	dresser	gėralas
bliokas	block	kvartalas	drinksas	drink	vaistinė
bliuberės	blueberries	mėlynės	drugštoris	drugstore	vaistininkas
bloveris	blower	vėdėklis	drugštornykas	druggist	šiukšlynas
boileris	boiler	garinis katilas	dumpas	dump	švarkas
boisas,			džeketas	jacket	kalėjimas
boisiukas	boy, lad	vaikinas, berniukas	džėla	jail	pečkury
bolė	ball	sviedinys	dženitorius	janitor	sausis
bomas	bum	valkata	dženvarius	January	stiklainė
bomynas	skid row	valkatynas	džiaras	jar	imbirinė
breisletas	bracelet	apyrankė	džindžerelė	ginger ale	teisėjas
brekes	brakes	stabdžiai	džiodžius	judge	liepa
brendė	brandy	konjakas	džiulajus	July	brangenybių, krautuvė
bresas	brass	skaistvaris	džiulstoris	jewelry store	šlamštas
bridzius	bridge	tiltas	džionkas	junk	sunka, sultys
briklejeris	bricklayer	mūrininkas	džiusas	juice	akras
briure	brewery	bravoras	ekeris	acre	išlaidos
brušius	brush	šepetys	ekspencai	expenses	ypatingai didelis numeris
bučėris	butcher	mėsininkas	ekstrasaizas	extra size	elektrikas
bučėrnė	butchershop	mėsinė			kumpis
bukyperis	bookkeeper	buhalteris			plaktukas
bunčius	bunch	būrys, krūva	elektrišinas	electrician	lėktuvas
burdas	board	inamių laikymas	emė	ham	
burdingierius	boarder	įnamys	emeris	hammer	
busteris	booster	rėmėjas	erplenas	airplane	



# LANGUAGE LORE

## ESCHEW VULGATE LITHUANIAN

Algirdas Budreckis

Language Lore: III

Vulgate Lithuanian or "Kitchen Luga" should be avoided and replaced by the more sonorous and melodic standard Lithuanian.

There is a reason for the development of Vulgate Lithuanian in the United States. Generally speaking, the Lithuanian immigrants, of peasant stock for the most part, without proper schooling or the rudiments in the niceties of their own native tongue, quickly succumbed to the influences of American English. They eventually became more and more careless in distinguishing between the grammar and vocabularies of the two languages. Furthermore, they were exposed to concepts not encountered in the homeland. They were unable to find or remember Lithuanian equivalents for these terms. Thus, they absorbed many special English terms picked up in the factory, at school, in the army and at work. They mingled English with their native Lithuanian dialects. It was no longer necessary to communicate in a literate Lithuanian language which served no useful function in the new world. As a result, there is a large everyday Vulgate vocabulary which has replaced Lithuanian equivalents.

We will continue with our listing of the more common Vulgate Lithuanian terms.

### Vulgate

Lithuanian	English	Standard Lithuanian
garadžius	garage	garažas
garbičius	garbage	šiukšlės
garbičmenas	garbageman	šiukšlininkas
gemblerius	gambler	azartininkas
gemblite	to gamble	lošti azartus, kortuoti
gengė	gang	gauja
gesas	gas	benzinas
gesalynas	gasoline	benzinas
gesrenčius	gas range	dujinė krosnelė
glencai	glands	liaukos
golblederis	gall bladder	tulžies pūslė
golstonai	gall stones	tulžies akmenėliai
governmentas	government	valdžia
gredžiueišinas	graduation	mokyklos baigtuvės
greidas	grade	skyrius; laipsnus
grenma	grandma	senelė
grepsai	grapes	vynuogės
grynauze	greenhouse	šiltnamis
grinorius	greenhorn	atėjūnas
gryzas	grease	tepalas

groseres	groceries	daržovės
grosernykas	grocer	daržovinė
gutaimas	good time	pasilinksminimas
hamburgeris	hamburger	kotletas
hauzas, auzė,		
haužė	house	namas
hatdogas	hot dog	dešrelė
imbalmeris	embalmer	balzamuotojas
imbalmi	to embalm	balzamuoti
impruvmentas	improvement	pagerinimas
impruvyti	to improve	pagerinti
inčius	inch	colis
indijonas	Indian	indėnas
indžinas	engine	variklis
infleisinis	inflation	infliacija
inkamtaksai	income taxes	pajamų mokesčiai
inšiurinas	insurance	draudimas
inšiuryti,		
yšiuryti	to insure	drausti, apdrausti
investyti	to invest	investuoti
investmentas	investment	investicija
išboilyti	to boil up	išvirinti
išfajeruoti	to dismiss, fire	atleisti iš darbo
iškikyti	to kick out	išvaryti
jardas	yard	kiemas
kaitas	kite	aitvaras
kakročius	cockroach	kakšlė, tarakonas
kankrytas	concrete	betonas
karas	car	automobilis
karferis	car fare	kelpinigiai
karpenderis	carpenter	dailidė, stalius
karpetas	carpet	kilimas, patiesalas
kateris	cutter	sukirpėjas
katoninė	of cotton	medvilninė
kaučius	couch	sofa
kazinas	cousin	pusbrolis
kazinė	cousin	pusseserė
kečėpas	catsup	pamidorų padažas
keikas,		
keikas	cake	tortas
kempė	camp	stovykla
kenas	can	skardinė
kendė	candy	saldainis
kenuoti	to can	konservuoti
kerinimas	taking care	globojimas
keryti	to take care	rūpintis
kešeris	cashier	kasininkas
kešyti	to cash	iškeisti čekį
kičinas	kitchen	virtuvė

Vulgate Lithuanian	English	Standard Lithuanian	milkmonas	milkman	pienininkas
kidigardinas	kindergarten	vaikų darželis	mynti	to mean	reikšti
kypyti	to keep	laikyti; sergėti	misteikas	mistake	klaida
kiukamberis	cucumber	agurkas	monkė	monkey	beždžionė
klačius	clutch	sankaba	monaii biznis	monkey business	uščias dainymas
klazetas	closet	drabužinė	monkytis	to fool around	maivytis'
klemsas	clam	kriauklė	murderis	murderer	žmogžudys
klynyti	to clean	valyti	muvis	movie	filmas
korka	cork	kamštis	nefrentauti	not to be friends	nedraugauti
korkuoti	to cork up	kimšti	niursė, noirše	nurse	gailastingoji sesuo
kornai	corn	kimšti	ofisas	office	raštinė
kornas		kukurūzai	opereitorka	operator	operatorė
(on foot)	corn	trynė	orderis	order	užsakymas
kortinos	curtains	trynė	orderiuoti	to order	užsakyti
kostumeris	customer	užuolaidos	orinčius	orange	apelsinas
kotas	coat	nuolatinis pirkejas	orindžiūsas	orange juice	apelsinų sunka
kreizauzė	crazy house	paltas	ospitolis	hospital	ligoninė
kortas	court	beprotnamis	overkotas	overcoat	paltas
kreizevojimas	going crazy	teismas	overtaimas	overtime	antvalandžiai
kreizevoti	to act crazy	kvailiojimas	paipa	pipe	vamzdis
krekės,		kvailioti	paliokas	Polack	lenkas
krekeriai	crackers		pamkinas	pumpkin	moliūgas
kremberės	cranberries	sausainiai, džioviniai	parė	party	balius
kremsai	cramps	spalgnos	parkyti	to park	pastatyti automobilį
krymas	cream	mėšlungis	pėdė	pay	alga
krosyti	to cross	mėšlungis	pedleris	peddler	prekiautojas
kuchne	kitchen	grietinė	peimentas	payment	užmokestis
kukas, ku-		pereiti per gatvę	pencelis	pencil	pieštukas
keris, kuke	cook	virtuvė	penšinas	pension	pensija
kukiai	cookies	virėjas, virėja	pentas	paint	dažai
kukyti	to cook	sausainiai	penteris	painter	dažytojas
kuleris	cooler	virtė	pentuoti	to paint	dažyti
kvityti	to quit	šaldykla	pentre	pantry	indauja
labsteris	lobster	mesti darbą	pikčėris	picture	paveikslas
laikyti	to like	vėžys	pimpelis	pimple	spuogas
lainė	line	mėgti	pleisas	place	vieta
laisnes	license	eilė	pleisteris,	plaster	tinkas
lajeris	liar	leidimas	plumeris,		
lakeris	locker	melagis	plameris	plumber	vamzdininkas
lančius	lunch	spintelė	poizinas	poison	nuodai
lancruimis	lunchroom	priešpiečiai	porčius	porch	prieangis
landrė	laundry	užkandinė	policemonas	policeman	policininkas
leberis	laborer	skalbykla	presmonas,		
leidė, leidukė	lady, little lady	diendirbys	preseris	pressman	presuotojas
lendlordas	landlord	ponia, poniutė	pryčėris	preacher	pamokslininkas
lykyti	to leak	savininkas	raberis	robber	plėšikas
liodas	load	varvėti	rabavoti	to rob	apiplėšti
lioduoti	to load	krūvinys	radijušas	radio	radijas
lojeris	lawyer	pakrauti	renda	rent	nuoma
lotas	lot	advokatas	randaunykas	tenant	nuomininkas
luzeris	loser	sklypas	refridžereiteris	refrigerator	šaldytuvas
majoras	mayor	sklypas	reisas	race	lenktynės
mapa	map	pralaimėtojas	reksas	rag	skuduras
mapa	dust mop	burmistras	reksmonas	ragman	skudurminkas
mapuoti	to mop	žemėlapis	rėlės	rails	bėgiai
		šiuoruoklė, dulkešluostis	renčius	range	virykla, dujinė krosnis
		su šiuoruokle grindis	renčius	wrench	veržlinis raktas
marketas	market	plauti	republikonas	republican	republikonas
maskydas	mosquito	turgavietė	resleris	wrestler	ristikas
mašinšapė	machine shop	uodas	restauranas,		
		mašinių taisymo	restaurantas	restaurant	restoranas
		dirbtuvė	roleris	roller	velėnas, ridinis,
mečius	match	degtukas	ruimas	room	kočėlas
meksikonas	Mexican	meksikietis			kambarys
miksyti	to mix	maišyti			

## A Special Dedication



**C-17 members, Elaine and Albert Kniupis, with mayor of Boston, Thomas Menino, at memorial square, for their daughter, Lt. Heidi Kniupis**

Albert and Elaine Kniupis, C-17, 4<sup>th</sup> degree members, are the proud parents of heroine, Lt. Heidi Kniupis. Heidi was a former active member, the secretary of C-17 Junior Knights of Lithuania. In the month of May, 2004, the Mayor of Boston, Thomas Menino, other city officials, family and friends, gathered together to memorialize Lt. Heidi Kniupis. A black street sign includes her name and a gold star. The Lt. Heidi Kniupis memorial square is located at Robin and Park Streets, West Roxbury, near her parents' home.

Lt. Heidi Kniupis was a flight instructor with the 96<sup>th</sup> Flying Training Squadron in 1982. When the accident happened, she was flying a navigational training mission with a student pilot, when their 1957 model jet crashed near a housing area shortly after takeoff. At the risk of her own life, Heidi elected to save the homes directly under the flight path.

Lt. Heidi Kniupis, Council-17 will always love and remember your courage proudly!

## In Memoriam...



Our own Lithuanian heroine, aviatrix, Lt. Heidi Kniupis, who risked her own life to save the lives of others, is memorialized by the dedication of a special town square to her, near her parents' home.

*Into the Wide, Blue Yonder..*



**Lt. Heidi Kniupis, pictured in the middle in her plane, during formation flying.**



## District & Council News

### Amber District

#### C-46 Forest City Betty A. Kwader

Our regular meeting was held June 13. Three members had attended the Amber District meeting on June 6 which was held in Shamokin. Delegates were Josephine O'Peka, President Frank Kwader and Betty Kwader. Frank reported to the members. It is always nice to see friends made at District. We had the pleasure of meeting Mindaugas Maciulis from Kaunas, Lithuania, who came to Harrisburg as an exchange student, then stayed to attend the Harrisburg Area Community College. He was chosen as Student of the Year for Pennsylvania Community Colleges along with many other accolades. Because of his hard work, Mindaugas has earned a full scholarship to Millersville State University. He is truly a remarkable young man.

Lithuanian Days will be held in Frackville on Aug 14 and 15. The Fall Amber District meeting will be held in Lehigh Valley on Oct 10. Members were urged to attend both.

It was time to renew our sponsorship for Lithuanian Orphan Care. Since our sponsor child had reached 18 years of age, we decided to continue, but to sponsor a younger boy.

Plans are being made for our annual council picnic to be held on either Aug 22 OR 29.

Planning is also starting for packages to be sent to Lithuania for Christmas, both to our sponsor child, to a school, and also to the Kwader's sponsor family. Get well wishes were sent to Helen Kurosky.

Best wishes to all for a happy and safe summer.

#### C-63 Lehigh Valley Evelyn Harryn

C-63 has been very active, in spite of the brutal cold winter that we encountered. On Feb 16 our members and friends gathered on the Circle in Easton, in sunny, clear, 0-degree weather to hold our flag-raising ceremony. Mayor Mitman and State Representative Robert Freeman were there to read and present the proclamations. The attendance was surprisingly large. We then went to St. Michael's Church and enjoyed a delicious breakfast brunch.

In March, we held a combined Lithuanian Independence Day and St. Casimir's Day celebration. We enjoyed a social hour with warm "boilo" prepared by none other than Steve Tichy. A most delicious meal was served, including Valeria Smickle's "kapusti". Many desserts included a cake with whipped cream icing and canola filling donated by Wegman's. Tom McDonald provided some lovely dinner music. We then had a Lithuanian Sing-a-long directed by Ben Apanavicius. We had a raffle and 2 door prizes. The lucky winners were Ed Klova and Bill Fleming. We also had the opportunity to meet Samantha, the lovely granddaughter of Lillian and Joseph Russell. Samantha came in from upper NY to chauffeur the Russells to our affair. Aciu, Samantha!

On April 1st, we began our Spring Flea Market. The weather was rainy and gloomy all 3 days of the sale. We didn't think we would see many people. When the doors opened at 8AM, the people came flowing in! Our treasury was endowed with a good sum. Valeria Smickle made "bleenies" for the workers on Friday. That always gets the workers to come to work. Helene Shaulis cut pussy-willows from her garden, tied them in bunches and sold them. They were all sold out!

8 of our members attended the Amber District meeting in Philadelphia. It was a very lovely and informative event

C-3 went all out for their guests. There was even a touch of Irish by the big St. Patrick's Day parade. C-63 will host the Amber District meeting in October. Our council is now planning our 3rd annual picnic. It will be held Sunday, Aug 22. The picnic will take place at Penn Pump Park in Palmer Township (near Easton). All Lithuanians, their families and friends are invited to come. We held a council meeting on April 18 and gained another new member, Stanley Juknevic. Stanley isn't so new to us as he has been singing with the St. Michael's Lithuanian Choir for quite some time. Welcome to the Knights!

Pray that the elections in Lithuania will bring the right person in as president - someone that will keep Lithuania Christianized, independent, and prospering.

May God bless all of the Mothers and Grandmothers of the world. Pray to our Blessed Mother every day, not only in the beautiful month of May.

SuDievu.

#### C-74 Scranton, PA Marie Laske

With a heavy heart I write that Msgr. William J. Pakutka, Pastor Emeritus of St. Casimir's Church, Pittston, and a resident of St. Joseph Villa, has died. I called him to attend our Kucios and he was overjoyed to come. When seated, he stood up and introduced himself and spelled his name like a cheerleader. He then proceeded to each table and greeted each person. When he finished greetings, he said a beautiful grace. We were so lucky to have him at our Kucios. He was not only a Monsignor, he was a showman. He will be missed. Go with God, Msgr. Pakutka!

#### C-144 Anthracite, PA Ona

Plans are being made to make a great 90th Lithuanian Days Aug 14 and 15. A special parade will open the festivities at 11AM at the Schuylkill

Mall in Fracksville's Center Court. There will be folk dance groups, Joseph Kasinskas and Brigitta Kasinskas from New Jersey with a delightful program of Lithuanian music and comedy. Lynn Cox, roving accordionist with her singing troupe, a Lithuanian quiz show and the Sensations Orchestra playing Lithuanian dance music.

Plans are being made to have a Mass on Sunday at St. George's Church in Shenandoah. St. George's Church is beautiful - this is the oldest Lithuanian parish in the US.

Lithuanian food, artifacts, demonstrations of marguciai, straw ornaments and mushroom art. Head chairman is Peter Teresavage; Raffle chairman, Betty Tumas; Publicity, Bernice Mikatavage and Ann Wargo; Displays, Bernice Mikatavage and Ann Morgalis; Sales, Karen Domalakes.

At our June meeting, Al and Anna Yokachonas were recognized for celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary; Jack and Leona Joseph, their 53rd; and Marian and Peter 11 Teresavage, their 52nd.

Ann Wargo will be representing the Council at the National Convention.

Congratulations to Rev. Francis Baransky who celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination, along with Fr. Jankaitis and the 40th for Father Potts.

We look forward to seeing many of our Vyciu friends at Schuylkill Mall on Aug 14-15.

## Mid Central District

### MCD Spring Meeting Regina Juska Svoba

On the weekend of May 14-16, 2004, all the roads led to DuBois, PA for the MCD's Spring Meeting and Bowling Tournament which was hosted by C-86. Friday evening, approximately 50 delegates, local K of L members and guests converged at the Best Western Hotel for a welcome back to DuBois get-together. Pres Lee Moore and her

energetic and enthusiastic committee greeted the guests with a variety of home-cooked soups, sandwiches, salads and decadent sweets. So that no one would become ill from the cool spring weather, medicinal libations" warmed everyone. It was good to see and "catch up" with many of members whom we have not seen in the last 6 months.

The District meeting was held on Sat, May 15. The opening prayer and meeting was conducted by the MCD President, Michael Petkus, C-96. Copies of the meeting minutes from the Fall 2003 meeting were prepared and readily available to all the delegates thanks to the ever efficient district recording secretary HM Frances Petkus, C-96. The district officers, council presidents, committee chairs and ancillary charities' representatives reported on their biannual activities.

District delegates to the 91st convention were selected (HM Frances R. Petkus and HM Elinor Sluzas, both of C-96, Dayton, OH). The convention will be held in Secaucus, NJ on 8-5 to 8. The upcoming Fall meeting and Pilgrimage will be conducted on 9/25-26, 04 and will be hosted by C-25, Cleveland. The 2005 Spring meeting/ Bowling Tournament date and host council site will be announced in the upcoming months. The mandate committee reported that in total there were 20 participants (15 delegates, 2 HM's and 3 guests) who represented 4 councils (Cleveland, Dubois, Dayton, Detroit) and attended the meeting.

Ritual Chair Lee Moore, C-86, reported that she received and approved 7 Third Degree applications from C-102, Detroit. Unfortunately, none of the applicants were available to attend the meeting or participate in receiving the degrees.

The meeting concluded with a prayer led by Michael F. Petkus and the singing of the Vyciu hymn.

All energies were in high gear for the bowling tournament afternoon. Five bowling teams of 4 bowlers each

participated in the heated competitions at the DuBois lanes.

In the evening the delegates and the local C-86 Knights and friends gathered at St. Joseph's Church for the closing Mass. The closing dinner and bowling award announcements took place at the hotel's facilities. Sam Perritino, C-102, stated that 5 teams participated in the bowling tournament. He thanked the members for their active participation and then announced the bowling awards. Congratulations to all the following: Geri Wojczynski, C-102, ladies actual high series - 503, and there was a tie for the men Sam Perritino, C-102, and Robert Petkus, C-96, both bowled 581. For team event and the traveling trophy was won by Sam Perritino's team #1, C-102, Detroit, with a score of 2283 points. In 2nd place with 2279 points was Richard Marks' team from C-25, Cleveland, team #5. And 3rd place was won by team #3, C-102, Detroit George's team with 2157 points. The winners were satisfied and happy with their prizes. A special prize was awarded to Heather Bowman, C-102, for her efforts in obtaining the lowest score with 59 points.

The winners of the MCD raffle were announced: Ben Karkliius, C-25, won the 1st prize of \$200; and Max Webster, C-86, won the 2nd prize of \$100. Congratulations to the lucky winners!

On behalf of the district, Pres.M. Petkus expressed a heartfelt thanks to all delegates and guests who attended, participated and supported the district's weekend activities! Thanks to C-86 for hosting a well-organized and fun filled. It was a wonderful and memorable weekend and a special time of sharing and remembering. After a successful and productive meeting and bowling tournament, delegates bid their farewells to one another, wished each other a safe return home, and until we gather once again in Sept in Cleveland for the Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage!

# Junior Knight Life...



**K of L Junior - Erin Petkus, C-96, Dayton**

Congratulations to Junior Knight, Erin Petkus, representing Scotland this year (her maternal heritage), who was voted "Miss World A' Fair 2004," for Dayton's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual World A' Fair.

*"Here she comes,*

*our own*

*Miss*

*World A' "*

*(will the next step be  
Miss America or  
Miss Lithuania?)*

\*\*\*\*\*



**Andrew Berczelly - C-96, Dayton**

Congratulations to Second Degree Knight, **Andrew Berczelly**, on his graduation from High School. Andrew will be continuing his studies at the University of Dayton.

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

We certainly enjoyed having our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Gediminas Kijauskas, join us at our May meeting, even though there were only 12 members present. Father said that we were just like the 12 Apostles! Congratulations to Steve Yorkovic who was the winner of our 50/50 Raffle!

Our faithful bowlers Theresa Capuria, Dick and Jean Marks, Todd Craig, Dolly Oberaitis and Joan Ortman and son, Chris, and his friend, John, attended the MCD meeting and Bowling Tournament in DuBois, PA, in May. Congratulations to the Cleveland team who came in 2nd place and to Dick and Dolly who were rewarded financially for their "good" bowling. The group brought back good news to Ben Karklius who was one of the lucky winners in the MCD Raffle. Congratulations, Ben, and thank you for sharing your winnings with our council!! Labai Aciu!

Rose Rew is home from the hospital. Rose, you are in our prayers and we all wish you well!

A big "HELLO" to Nellie Arunski, Betty August, Agnes Bartkus, Helen Garnis, Stella Sankal, Adelle Tanner, Jack and Helen Valley, Vince and Marion Gray and, of course, John Andrusis!

## **C-96 Dayton, Ohio** **Frances Petkus HM**

Our Mothers' Day Mass for the living and deceased mothers of the members and the Crowning of Our Blessed Mother by our Junior Knights was opened with the congregation singing the beautiful hymn "Our Lady of Siluva". The music and lyrics by the Knights of Lithuania Honorary Member Faustas Strolia set the tone for this special day. Having the honor of placing the crown on our Blessed Mother was Junior Knight Nathan Fletcher. Readings and offertory bearers

were Joseph Berger, Alex and Nathan Fletcher and Danny Tucker taking part. It was a beautiful Mass and the songs dedicated to our Blessed Mother, including "Sveika Marija", added to the occasion.

Following Mass our Juniors and their Advisor, Christine Fletcher, along with the help of Annamarie Berger, Barbara and Julia Goecke, Michael, Norma and Robert Petkus, the mothers and guests were treated to a "French Cafe Brunch". Our Juniors must be thanked for a wonderful Mothers' Day celebration!!!

Our delegates George, Frances, Elena Mikalauskas, Fran, Michael, Robert Petkus and Elinor Sluzas returned from the MCD Spring Convention Bowling Tournament with nothing but praise for DuBois C-86 for hosting a great weekend May 14-15. It was filled with new and renewed friendships. One item on the agenda was approval for Elinor Sluzas and Fran Petkus to represent the MCD as delegates to the 91st National Convention. Frances Mikalauskas was the meeting's 50/50 winner! As to the bowling, Robert came home winning prize money for high game with HC and high series with HC. Fran came in the money, also, by being on the 3rd place team and game score pulled for the first game. Congratulations to one and all. Once again, thanks to the DuBois members for hosting a great weekend!!!

Get well wishes to Catherine Prasantas.

Congratulations to Second Degree Knight Andrew Berczelly on his graduation from high school. Andrew will be continuing his studies at the University of Dayton.

Congratulations to Junior Knight Erin Petkus, representing Scotland this year (her maternal heritage), was voted "Miss World A'Fair 2004, for Dayton's Annual World A'Fair.

An inter-council romance that is still going strong is George Mikalauskas, C-96, and Frances (Fritzie) Machutas Mikalauskas, C-25. June 20th saw them celebrating their 45th Wedding Anniversary. In from out of town to

share this occasion, along with local family (children Mary Agnes, George 11 and Elena) and friends, were Frances' brother and sister-in-law, Charles and Nelda Machutas now living in Arizona but members of C-25, Joan (who was a bride's maid) and Chris Ortman, also of C-25. Congratulations with many more ahead to George and Frances!!! Looking forward to seeing everyone in Secaucus!! 'Safe trip out!!!

## **New England District**

### **NED News** **Birželis**

On Sunday, April 25, the NED Spring Convention was held in Athol, MA, hosted by C-10. Athol sits on the edge of Mohawk Trail in northern MA, away from the interstate highways. As one convention-goer said: We passed through towns that we didn't know existed.

The convention started with holy Mass in the beautiful church of St. Francis, presided by Fr. Stephen Johnson who has 3 other churches in the area under his care. Ten members received the Third Degree. They are: C-6: Alyce Gegecky; C-10: Pamela Bouthiller, Joanna Chastney, Marie Colo, Sophia Fiorestino, Mary Ann Langlois, David Lucas and Rev. Joseph Jurgelonis; C-26: Christine Delonis and Genevieve Puris.

After a delicious lunch, Fr. Albin Janiunas opened the meeting with a prayer and C-10 President, Dr. Henry Gailunas, greeted us. NED President Vivian Rodgers presided over the business meeting and, as always, did a fine job. Much was accomplished. Charles Treciokas (C27) and Phyllis Gendreau (C17) were nominated as delegates to the National Convention. Appointees for the various convention committees were made. Donations for the district were approved for Aid to Lithuania, St. Casimir Guild, Lithuanian Children's Relief and for Our Lady of Siluva chapel and website.

There was much discussion about the upcoming NED Cultural Fair on Oct 17, 2004 at Maironis Park. All were encouraged to support it.

Vivian Rodgers gave a "State of the NED" report which was a summary of the survey that she had mailed to the district presidents. It was well received by the membership.

We had a short break mid-way for the Holy Hour and refreshments.

The next NED board meeting is at St. Casimir in Worcester, MA on Aug 28 and the Fall Convention is in Brockton, MA, hosted by C-1 on Sept 19, 2004

The annual K of L NED retreat was held June 25-27, 2004 at the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, ME. Fr. John presided at the opening and closing sessions and at a healing service on Saturday. Br. Antanas gave the morning and evening sessions on Sat. His sermons were in Lithuanian and very expressive. One needed only a slight understanding of Lithuanian to get his meaning. He even sang a hymn to Mary for us. The guesthouse is under different management but the summer help is still from Lithuania. The cook is Lithuanian and so the food was "labai skanus". The weather cooperated with showers only on Sat. Many familiar faces were missing due to preparing for trips to Lithuania or visiting relatives. New faces were there. There was a contingent from C-17 (So. Boston) and C-27 (Norwood) whose churches are being closed by the Boston Archdiocese, so much conversation was on that subject. On Sunday, Mass was held in the Monastery, presided by Fr. Gabriel, who always gives an inspiring homily. The weather was beautiful for our Sunday departure. -

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

C-6 ended the season with a bang up pot luck supper and our new season in September will resound with the sound

of our Pres Gene Ziurys' new gavel presented to him by Frank Kadis.

The potluck supper organized and served by Gertrude Kruzinauskas, Berute Pellerin and Leona Sawka featured not only Lithuanian dishes but also Italian and many members' favorite specialty dishes. Thanks to all for a superior five star event.

3 simultaneous cell phone calls went out to pledge 3 new members. We definitely have entered the cyber space age. Irene Petkaitis quipped "Can you hear me now?" Perhaps she will audition for that TV ad.

Members are planning excursions to Ellis Island, Lithuania and the Dance Festival. Although everyone is looking forward to the respite from organizational meetings, we hope to return in the fall with fresh spirits and ideas. A safe and healthy summer is wished to all by our President Gene.

Tegul Dievas duoda jums daug sauletu dienu.

### **C-17 So. Boston, MA** **Regina Alexander**

The first meeting of the year was led by VP Florence Zaleskas. Thanks to the refreshment committee for the enjoyable ice cream treat. Phyllis Gendreau reported on her attendance at the April NED Convention held in Athol.

Spiritual Director Fr. Steve Zukas updated the council on the political actions going on in Lithuania at the present time. Fr. Steve asked us to pray for the land of ancestral birth during this time of upheaval.

Mildred Daniels reported on attending the public gathering to honor former C-17 Junior K of L member, LT. Heidi Kniupis. A black street sign with her name and a gold star was erected in a memorial square located near her parents' home. Heidi's parents, Albert and Elaine Kniupis are active 4th degree C-17 members. Lt. Heidi will always be remembered for her courage.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to

both President Frank Markuns and Virginia Markuns during this difficult time.

On May 27, 2004 Pastor Steve Zukas received the shattering letter stating that St. Peter Lithuanian Church and School were among 65 Archdiocesan Churches designated for closure. A week later, a Parish Community Meeting was held. It was Standing Room Only in the hall filled with emotional parishoners. An Action Committee was formed, "Friends of St. Peter Lithuanian Parish" Many K of L members are working with the group. Let us pray their efforts will succeed. St. Peter Lithuanian Parish Centennial Celebration is Sunday, September 12, 2004. Fr. Steve received permission for an extension at least to that date.

(CN Ed.: [www.savestpeter.org](http://www.savestpeter.org))

Upcoming K of L events are the annual Kennebunkport Maine NE Retreat in June and the National Convention in NJ in Aug.

Iki pasimatymo.

### **C-26 Worcester, MA** **Ruta**

There was a good representation of C-26 members at the NED Convention. We were very proud of 2 of our members who received their 3rd degrees at this time. Our honored recipients were Genevieve Puris and Christine Delonis. They have been dedicated members for years - always willing to help with various events and projects.

As we were coming to the end of our scheduled meetings, it was decided that our last 2 meetings should have a special touch. At the May meeting, a Kugeli Supper was served, followed by a Social with homemade pastries and other goodies. As usual, our talented cooks outdid themselves. All the attendees savored every morsel. At the June meeting, an Ice Cream Social was held... make your own sundaes along with various toppings... plus some

appetizing baked goods. No one worried about calories this evening. It was felt this event should hold everyone over until September.

We were pleased to welcome three new members into our council: Mary Jane Bade, Dorothy A. Lalone and Albert Grudzinskas. Al has a very impressive title. He is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry-in-Law at the UMass Medical School in Worcester.

Our Annual Indoor Picnic was held at Maironis Park. It was a fun afternoon to meet our friends and other members of the K of L. Some of the things available were many homemade baked goods, the main raffle where wonderful prizes were waiting for some lucky people to win, the "exciting" fish pond (where many prizes were awarded) and the delicious Lithuanian dinner of kielbasi, kugeli and sauerkraut; touches of horseradish and mustard were added for a little emphasis. Pres. Vivian Rodgers thanked all the workers, those that contributed prizes, and all the attendees who helped make this event a huge success.

Rita Sokol, a Third Degree member, died. There was a good representation of our members performing the Ritual ceremony at the funeral parlor and attending the Mass at the church. Marion and Arthur Racicot recently lost their son-in-law, Walter Kuras, who lived in Grafton. Our prayers and sympathy go out to the deceased and their families.

Congratulations were extended to Ruth and Chuck (Casimir) Sarafinas who recently celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They renewed their vows in church and are getting ready for another 50. A celebration took place at O'Connor's Restaurant with family and friends. They have not decided where they will go for their "second" honeymoon, sometime in Fall. The Grabauskas's are very proud of their son, Scott, who is graduating UMass in Dartmouth. He is getting a degree in electrical engineering. Wanda

Ramonas's grandson, Derek Troiano, is graduating from 8th grade at Peter-Marian Central. In fall, he will enter Bishop Hendrickson High School in Warwick, R.I. Bill and Ann Leseman celebrated their birthdays in June, within a few days of each other. They were honored at the June meeting with everyone singing "Happy Birthday". Marion and Arthur Racicot are excitedly looking forward to their tour of the National Parks. We hope they will take many pictures and show them to us in September.

### **C-50 New Haven, CT Robert Peterson**

Since the closing of St. Casimir, C-50 seems to be staying together. Father Casey of St. Boniface Church in New Haven lets the council use the hall and church. We are grateful to him but we still miss St. Casimir.

This year we celebrated St. Casimir's Day at Brazes Restaurant on Long Wharf in New Haven. We had a nice turn-out and everyone enjoyed themselves. It was nice to see Edith Kazlauskas as we haven't seen her in awhile.

Sad news also hit C-50 this year. Our Financial Secretary, Helen Klimazewski, suddenly passed away on New Year's eve. We are also mourning the passing of members Frank Radziunas and Frank Antin. All will be greatly missed.

Audry Toole will be leaving the council and the Connecticut winters and moving to Florida. We will miss her and wish her luck.

Summer weather is settling in. We hope to see old friends this summer at the K of L convention in NJ.

### **C-141 Bridgeport, CT Florence Zikaras**

Our May meeting preceded a Mass honoring deceased members of our council thanks to Pat Silk and Bill

Brilvitch who spent his going back to 1974 and compiled a list of 44 deceased members. Pat read the list during Mass that was well-attended. Lunch followed and President Barbara Schmitt chaired the meeting that followed. Plans were made for our Annual Summer picnic to be held at the home of Clemencine Miller HM. Members were requested to bring favorite dishes for lunch. We will also have our usual fund-raising raffle of gifts donated by members.

We were pleased to see Pete and Algana Peters at the meeting. Both are recovering from major surgeries. Stella Martinauskis has been having a few setbacks after recent knee surgery. We miss her presence and humor at the meetings.

June was our last meeting til Sept but for the monthly Masses in July and August.

We were pleasantly surprised and pleased to see the small green in front of the church cleaned up and planted with beautiful flowers and foliage. Thanks to Helen Simanis who initiated the process, did all the "green thumb" work and donated the flowers and shrubberies. She told us that while digging, a man came by and offered to help which she gratefully accepted. None of the people passing by recognized him. He was not a parishoner. The Lord does come to us in many ways!!

## **MidAmerica District**

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

Meetings are underway to prepare for the Annual Outdoor Mass and Picnic Sept 19 at which we will host the MAMD meeting. President Joanna Rudzevicius is Chair for the event. Since the closing of St. Casimir's, the parishoners pray in a body again, with organ provided by Faustas Strolia HM of C-157, renew friendships, enjoy a homemade Lithuanian meal and

mesmerizing Lithuanian music and vocals by our own member, Bronius Muras, accordion virtuoso. 'Such talent graces our Indiana fields!

Birute Vilutis prepared the beautiful Lithuanian Exhibit and arranged the Kankles program by Gabija at the Visitors' Center of Indiana for the "Cultural Diversity" events. The kankles and other Lithuanian instruments provided excellent knowledge of our ancestral land as well as sheer enjoyment. Thank you for all the effort!

Loreta Vician migrated to Illinois for the Jonines festivities and several members attended the Sokuu Svente in July. Our rich heritage and traditions inspire the will to preserve this wealth.

Reports are that a high-ranking American praised the troops provided by Lithuania to the MidEast as admirable; he was unaware of the "Lithuanian connection" of the listener.

Fr. Stephen Snoich OSB has been guided to the perimeter of our area by way of becoming Pastor at St. Augusta's. Although the church is in the "next Diocese", it is on the border nearest us. The significance of all this can only be wonderfully demonstrated in the days to come. We all welcome Fr. Stephen and are delighted at his new assignment.

We look forward to seeing friends at the National Convention and pray that Lithuania's "personnel changes" provide sound progress and preservation of our Church.



## Our Juniors...



Lydia Martis

Lydia Martis is a 2004 graduate of Amos Alonzo Stagg High School. As an honor student and a member of the National Honor Society, she was a varsity swimmer for four years, played varsity water polo for two years, and was on the track team for two years.

Lydia is also an Illinois State Scholar, on the High Honor Roll, is a President's Scholar, and received the President's community service award.

As a junior member of the Knights of Lithuania Council-112 for over five years, Lydia participated in many junior activities. Lydia is also a member of the American Legion Auxiliary because her grandfather is a WWII veteran, and she has worked on junior auxiliary projects and visited veterans at the Veteran's Hospital.

In 2000, Lydia and her sister, Lucia, visited Lithuania with grandparents, Edward and Anele Pocius. That three week trip will keep Lithuania in her heart forever.

Lydia will attend Drake University in the fall, and will pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy and a BMA.

Proud parents are, Mary Ellen and Linas Martis. Proud grandparents are Edward and Anele Pocius, and Val and Aldona Martis.

## *Mid-Central District*

### *Pilgrimage...*

The fall meeting and pilgrimage of the Mid-Central District of the Knights of Lithuania was hosted by Pittsburgh Council - 19, on October 17-19. It proved to be a beautiful, but cool fall weekend. The weekend began with a reception at the home of C-19 president, John Baltrus and his wife, Andrea, on Friday evening. There the guests from out of town had a chance to relax and share some food and drink with a few of the members of C-19. John was able to show some of his finds from his trip to Lithuania this past summer, which included the Lithuanian version of the game, Monopoly. Some lively discussion on the future of our district meetings and activities also took place.

On Saturday morning, the District held its business meeting at the Lithuanian Country Club, which is located in the South suburbs of Pittsburgh. The meeting was led by District president, Michael Petkus of C-96, Dayton. The meeting included reports on recent activities by the district's councils and officers that were in attendance. The discussions then moved on to reports by the district's delegates to the National Convention. Some extended discussions took place on subjects from the National Convention, including the subject of Social Membership for the organization. The District also approved donations to St. Casimir Guild and Aid to Lithuania. To help raise funds for the coming year, the annual district raffle was approved with a slight modification in the prize structure. Election of officers for 2004 closed out the meeting. Michael Petkus was elected president; Jean Marks (C-25), vice-president; Richard Marks (C-25), treasurer; and Fran Petkus (C-96), secretary. Most of the other officers remained the same. John Baltrus is the district's new representative to the Scholarship Committee, and Lee Moore (C-86) is the district's Ritual Chair.

The religious portion of the Pilgrimage was held on Saturday afternoon at St. Casimir's Cemetery. The church associated with the cemetery has long closed, but the cemetery contains many of its former parishioners, as well as deceased C-19 members. The annual reading of deceased members' names of the councils that make up the MCD took place within the context of a prayer service the C-19 usually conducts

around All Souls Day. A series of prayers and readings were said, focusing on remembering the deceased and looking forward to eternal life in the hereafter. All those in attendance were able to take part in some part of the ceremony. The service ended with a visitation to the graves of deceased religious of C-19, including Sisters Alverna, Francesca and Valeria, along with former Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Walter Karaveckas. Finally, a prayer was said for David Scoentag, a young member of C-19, who was laid to rest that very morning.

On Saturday evening, a delicious authentic Lithuanian meal was served to those attending the pilgrimage. The meal was prepared by Erika Maciuliene, a relative of John Baltrus from Lithuania, and was served at the Lithuanian Country Club. Everyone was able to eat as much as they could, and there was still plenty left over. It was a relaxing evening of eating and conversation.

The traditional closing Mass for the Pilgrimage was celebrated by the Sisters' chaplain, Father Bernie. Traditional Lithuanian hymns were sung and played, with the assistance of the Sisters. Members were kindly greeted by the Sisters' General Superior, Sister Lora Dambroski. Sister Marian Blodis was responsible for the arrangements, with help from many of her energetic associates. Sister Janet Gardner was also able to say a few words about the Sisters' current work in Lithuania. Following Mass, a delicious brunch was hosted by the Sisters. The meal included some prized bacon buns that are only served to the Sisters on special occasions. After some parting words by Mike Petkus, the district's members were on their way until meeting again for the Spring Meeting and bowling tournament, which will be hosted by C-86, DuBois, next May.

*~ John Baltrus ~*

*C. 19, Pittsburgh, P.A.*

### *More Bits and Pieces...*

Did you know that Vilnius, **Frank Zappa's** root city, is building a marble statue to him?

(This info sent by Robert Peterson of Hubbardsville, New York. He thought it would be of interest to you to hear about another famous Lithuanian.)



## MID-AMERICA SPRING DISTRICT MEETING

J.M.Shain

Saturday, June 12, 2004, found 30 people from various Councils on their way, via bus to Kenosha, Wisconsin for the spring District meeting. It was to take place at the Greyhound Race Track in Kenosha. It was a perfect day for the trip. Mary F. Kincius, C-36, did a great job in coordinating the bus ride.

Upon arrival, members were met by president, Theresa DiCello, who welcomed everyone, and gave each a handmade novelty pin, with the yellow, green and red colors. Robert Martin, Jr., District president, called the meeting to order, and Sister Johanna Marie led the opening prayer. Reports from the various officers of the Councils followed.

A report from Maria Deksnis, District Junior K of L coordinator, announced that many Juniors attended both, the egg decorating session and the palm weaving get together organized by Rev. A. Markus and Loretta.

Faustas Strolia, HM, C-157, reminded everyone of the upcoming events, i.e., the "Jonines" on June 19, and the "Šokių Šventė, the Folk Dance Festival, taking place in Chicago from June 30 to July 4, 2004.

The District Recognition Award was then presented to Sister Johanna Marie, by Ritual Chair, Georgianna

Macke and Robert Martin, Jr.

Anna Marie Kassel encouraged everyone to send Mass stipends to St. Casimir Guild. Evelyn Ozelis, C-36, announced that their "Dinner is Served" event will take place on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Joanna Radzevicius, C-82, informed members that their Council's Annual Mass and Picnic will be held in Merrillville, Indiana on September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 noon. Council 112 gave everyone the good news, that Nativity BVM parish has been assigned a new pastor, Rev. Anthony Markus. The former pastor, Rev. John Kuzinskas is continuing his duties as chaplain of the Holy Family Villa for the Aging.

The new pastor is due to arrive on July 20, 2004. Council 157 reported that they will be hosting the annual Mass for the deceased K of L members in November at Holy Family Villa. Theresa Strolia then announced that the District is sponsoring a Pilgrimage to the Miraculous Medal Shrine in Perryville, Missouri, on the weekend of October 23-24. We will leave on Saturday and return home on Sunday. Rob Martin then reminded everyone, that the closing Mass at the Convention will begin at 10:30 on Sunday, and to please keep this in mind when making plane reservations for the trip home. He also stated that Friday during the Convention would be a special movie night, and reiterated that the pre-Convention trip will be to Ellis Island and Liberty Island. Robert then

announced that this year's Convention Presidium Secretary would be, Irene Macke, (C-157), from the MAMD. All applauded this wonderful choice.

Three members appointed to the District nominating committee are; Peter Zansitis, C-16; Sister Johanna Marie, (C-112); and Ann Marie Kassel, (C-157). Other members are; Glenn Perutis, (C-36); Ed Pocius, (C-112), and Robert Damasauskas, (C-36).

Announcements of other upcoming events were:

The "Mini Summer-Fest" at the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse on July 11<sup>th</sup>; the K of L 91<sup>st</sup> National Convention in Secaucus, NJ Aug. 5 - 8<sup>th</sup>; the CLWC "Amber Ball" at the Oak Lawn Hilton on August 15<sup>th</sup>; the MAMD Choir Concert and Luncheon on November 7, 2004 at the Polonia; and the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Memories of Lithuania Banquet at the Chateau Bouché on February 6, 2005.

The next MAMD meeting will take place on Sunday, September 19, 2004, in Gary, hosted by Council - 82, at the American Legion Hall.

The meeting was then closed with a prayer, and followed with a delicious dinner. Some "big spenders" were also able to bet on the dog races, and some were really lucky.

After a truly enjoyable day, all were on their way back to Chicago.

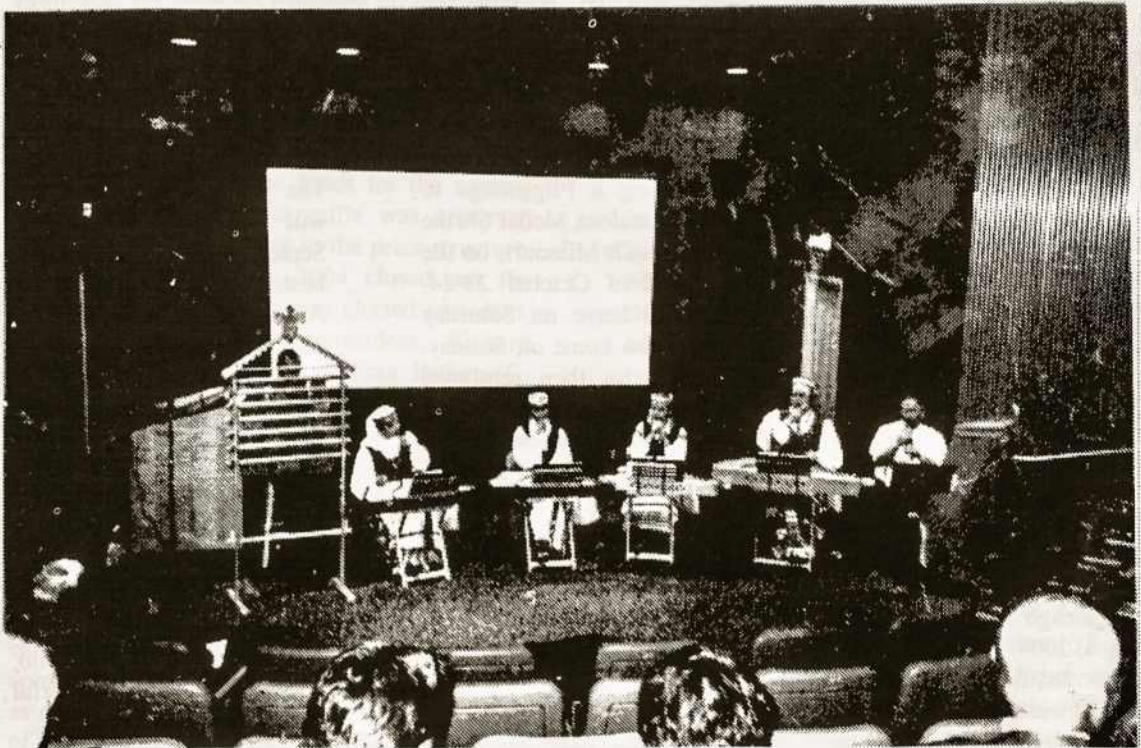
Thank you, Theresa DiCello, for hosting this wonderful meeting and luncheon!

Iki pasimatymo!

# Knights Life



Some of Council - 63's hard-working "Flea Market Crew," at an appreciation luncheon. L. to R. are: Helene Shaulis, Evelyn Harryn, Christina Merlo, Valeria Smickle, Blanche Rinkunas, Dick Piatt, Ben Aponavicius and Norma Lipsen.



Mrs. Razumiene's "Kankles" group on stage in concert in Lake County, Indiana, on June 26, 2004.

*Congratulations  
and Welcome to  
Our New K of  
L Members!*

*Brockton, MA – Council 1*

Thomas Grein  
Donna Gustafson  
Pauline Pileski  
Vyatas Mitchell  
Povilas Mitchell

*Hartford, CT – Council 6*

Richard Huck  
Joanne Williamson  
Lorraine Deyette  
Shirley Musumeci  
Tomas Nenortas  
Victor Kogelis, Sr

*Waterbury, CT – Council 7*

Elaine Mastrianni

*New York, NY – Council 12*

Eleanore Paulin

*Chicago, IL – Council 16*

Lilija Jasas

*South Boston, MA – Council 17*

Adele Lichtenberg  
Rolandis Simkevicius  
Edward Anthony Kaunelis

*Worcester, MA – Council 26*

Barbara Thompson  
Paul Jandron  
Teresa Jakubauskas  
Raymond Jakubauskas

*Norwood, MA – Council 27*

Edward Gonski

*Newark, NJ – Council 29*

Frances Stankus

*Kenosha, WI – Council 38*

Donna Naujokas

*Lehigh Valley, PA – Council 63*

Linda Fleming  
William Fleming  
Frances Smith  
Ralph Smith  
Norma Lipsen

*Milwaukee, WI – Council 71*

Liutauras Daubara  
Jason Baltutis  
Algis Astikas  
Maryte Astikiene

*Kearny, NJ – Council 90*

Steven Zamiara

*Dayton, OH – Council 96*

Robert Petkus  
Andrew Berczelly

*Maspeth, NY – Council 110*

Matthew Lombardi  
Vito Valonis

*Chicago-Marquette, IL – Council 112*

Allison Buivid  
Regina Baliuniene

*Hudson-Mohawk, NY – Council 136*

Stanley Rimkunas  
Joan Rimkunas

*Bridgeport, CT – Council 141*

Linias Stasaitis  
Vaiva Gelazauskas  
Algirdas Gelazauskas  
Birute Guedes

*Pittston, PA – Council 143*

Clement Jasonis

*Shamokin/Coal Twp, PA – Council 156*

Rev Frank Karwacki

*Brockton, MA – Council 1*

Jurate Bizinkauskas  
Agnes Benoit  
Sonja Bolmant  
Rima Girnius  
Lisa Grein

*Philadelphia, PA – Council 3*

Stanley John Gapsis  
Julia Janyszek  
Anna Koenig

*Hartford, CT – Council 6*

Mary Jean Litvinskas  
Wanda Klinkevich  
Irene Belanger  
Elizabeth Ellis  
Catherine Phillips  
Suzanna Mayfield  
Melvina Klebauskas  
Helen Fereneck  
Sr. M Joan of Arc Urban  
Sr Mary Irene Pacekonis  
Frank Kadis  
Mary Serksnas Heslin

*Waterbury, CT – Council 7*

Robert Orintas  
Elizabeth Albert  
Richard Lukminas  
Rev Charles Hagearty

*Athol, MA – Council 10*

Frances Burba  
Vincent Kulisanski

*Chicago, IL – Council 16*

Stephen Stankowicz  
Rev. John Parker  
Paul Petraitis  
Bob Murphy  
Patricia Murphy

*South Boston, MA – Council 17*

Martha Gaide  
Frances Zaleskas  
Bertha Gillis

*Worcester, MA – Council 26*

Carol Miskewitz  
Katherine Daunoras

*Dayton, OH – Council 96*

Josef Cernevicius



## More New Members...

\*\*\*\*\*

### *Amsterdam, NY – Council 100*

Kristin Olechowski

### *Providence, RI – Council 103*

Danis Begonis

### *Maspeth, NY – Council 110*

Casimira Genevich

Eleanor Carroll

Anita Walters

Edmundas Adomaitis

Marie Montrillo

### *Chicago-Marquette – Council 112*

Regina Juskaitis

Allyson Ippilito

Andrea Deksnis

Susan Svehla

Diane Svehla

Robert Svehla

Angela Lawler

John Vaitkus, Jr.

Peter Vaitkus

Laura Armalis

Paul Zajac

John Zajac

Algis Barakauskas

Bernice Barakauskas

### *Los Angeles, CA – Council 133*

John Goins

### *Ansonia, CT – Council 135*

Susan Chepulis-Ewen

Anne Chepulis

### *Hudson-Mohawk, NY – Council 136*

Kathleen Lisson

Jerry Grigaitis

Cathleen Westerling

Ted Westerling

### *Washington, DC – Council 142*

Karen Lee

Dorothy Lalone

Mary Jane Bade

### *Westfield, MA – Council 30*

Wanda Sokolowski

James Adamaitis

Barbara Sokolowski

Ann Szymanski

Janet Thyberg

### *Tillman, IL - Council 36*

John Corrado

Mary Corrado

### *Elizabeth, NJ – Council 52*

Regina Beleckas Kelly

### *Lehigh Valley, PA – Council 63*

Henry Kozlusky

Catherine Kozlusky

Laura Olszewski

Thomas Shaulis

Ann Pettit

Stanley Juknevic

Olga Manazer

### *Scranton, PA – Council 74*

James O'Neil

### *Lawrence, MA – Council 78*

Amelia Stundza

Loretta Janus

Lauren Piluelis

John Piluelis

Elise Blake

### *Gary, IN – Council 82*

Dalia Siupienius

### *DuBois, PA – Council 86*

Helen Galinis

### *Kearny, NJ – Council 90*

Helen Grigaliunas

Cheryl Petrula

Matthew Schirm

Lucia Buchholz

Kim Middleton

George Middleton

John Miskewitz

Gertrude Drauchun

Roland Drauchun

Stanly Marcuss

Rosemary Marcuss

### *Anthracite, PA – Council 144*

Marie Clark

Joseph Cukauskas, Jr

Jane Bernitsky Payne

Stanley Rakowsky

Donna Singley

Joan Teno

Joseph Vadus

Mark Waidell

W. Stephen Scott

Joseph Grodis

Peter Teresavage

Diane Rooney

Jennifer Kessler

Meredith Domalakes

Alice O'Donnell

Sandra Chafin

### *Harrisburg, PA – Council 146*

Mindaugas Maciulis

### *Eastern LI, NY – Council 152*

Edward Majeski

Wayne Mortak

Joan Blonski

### *Palm Beach, FL – Council 153*

Loretta Marie Pleskys

David John Pleskys

### *Lemont, IL – Council 157*

Ann Shukis

Elizabeth Huffman

Sr Stella Stanevich

Council 300

Ronald Yancis

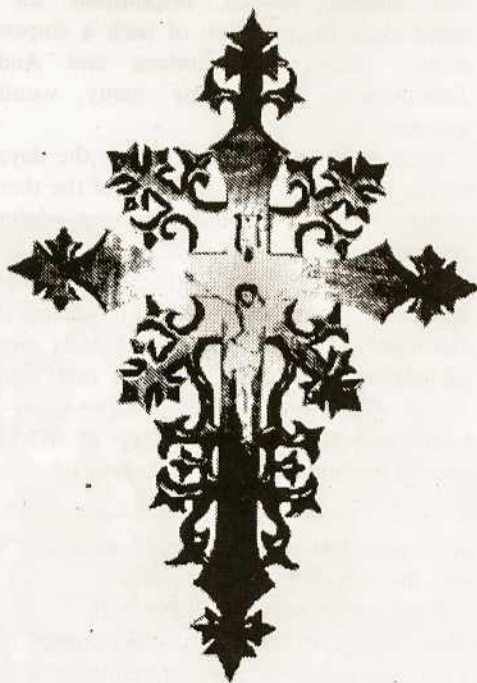
Georgette Keenan

Brian Keenan

Joan Tillman

\*\*\*\*\*

# George, the Carpenter



## *The Art of the Cross*

In the last 51 years, **George A. Mikalauskas**, the retired Delco Moraine employee, has carved hundreds of crosses. His creations adorn homes, churches and cemeteries all over the world, and have been displayed at many local festivals and celebrations, including Dayton's A World Fair. The son of Lithuanian immigrants, he made and sold his first cross when he was 22.

Mikalauskas works in a variety of woods, including oak, mahogany, walnut, hickory, ash, aspen and cherry. Although he sells most of his carvings at prices from \$15 to \$125, he also holds onto more than a few of his creations.

The centerpiece of his collection is a 6 ½-foot lighted wood cross that stands in the side yard of his North Dayton home. It is inscribed "Atminčiai" - the Lithuanian word for "remembrance." He made it as a tribute to his late parents and those of his wife, Frances, who is also of Lithuanian descent. In addition to his

carving of St. John and Jesus, which he made in 1998, he's also proud of a woodcarving of St. Francis, which he created for his wife of 44 years on their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

"The wonderful thing about Lithuanian crosses is, that no two are exactly alike, and that makes carving them an ever-changing adventure," he said. One of the Mikalauskas' proudest moments came in 1993, when they delivered one of his larger works - a 6 ½ -foot cross that had to be broken down into three sections for transport - to the storied Hill of Crosses near Šiauliai, Lithuania. "We were there the same year the Pope visited the site after the last communist soldier left Lithuania," Frances said.

Wood carving remains popular in Lithuania, George says. It is still primarily an agricultural country, and during the winter months, when the men can't go into the fields, they spend a lot of time carving, while the women sit at their spinning wheels turning flax into linen.

The next showing and sale of George's crosses will be Nov. 16-17, at an annual bazaar sponsored by St. Peter Catholic Church in Huber Heights. He'll show up with 30 or 40 crosses.

(An excerpt from the Dayton Daily News).



**MIKALAUSKAS** turns out the delicately carved crosses and other items from the workshop in his garage.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Interesting Thoughts

Happy moments, praise God.  
 Difficult moments, seek God.  
 Quiet moments, worship God.  
 Painful moments, trust God.  
 Every moment, thank God.

## "Lokių Šventė"

### The Dance Festival

The largest, most impressive Lithuanian Cultural Event to take place in America in 2004, was, the XII-th Lithuanian National Folkdance Festival, held on July 3, at the "Allstate Arena," in Chicago. Taking part in this spectacular event were 41 different dance groups consisting of about 1500 individual dancers, their leaders, and teachers, and more than 5,000 guests, spectators and fans of Lithuanian Culture. One could hear the Lithuanian Language resounding everywhere. Dance participants came not only from the United States, but also from Canada, Lithuania and South America.

Among the distinguished guests in attendance were; Interim President of Lithuania, Arturas Paulauskas with his wife, Jolanta; Lithuanian Ambassador to America, Vygaudas Ušackas; and Lithuanian Consul in Chicago, Arvydas Daunoravičius, with their families. Also among these illustrious guests were our own, Senator Richard Durbin, and Congressman John M. Shimkus.

Thunderous applause and the bestowing of bouquets of flowers were given in gratitude to two special women responsible for the tremendous organization of such a stupendous event - Rasa Poskočimienė and Audronė Tamulienė - and their many wonderful assistants.

"Dance, o Youth, a dance of joy ;the days and nights yours! " These are some of the thoughts which rang throughout such a delightful celebration of national pride. The words, "Ačiū už šventę!" - "Thanks for the Festival!" blazed across the headlines of the Lithuanian Daily, "Draugas" the following day. A truly amazing and unforgettable event. Until we meet again!

(All Festival photos Courtesy of "Draugas" special photographer, Jonas Kuprys.)

-Everyone has a photographic memory. Some, like me, just don't have any film.  
 -Dogs have owners. Cats have staff.  
 -Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.  
 -Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.



*Ačiū*



*už*



*Ivante!*



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

Periodicals  
 Postage Paid at  
 Chhicago, IL

543 P1 112  
 Dr. John & Ramune Rackauskas  
 PO BOX 143  
 BEVERLY SHORES IN 46301-0143



*Ludiev! Iki kitų susitikimų!*

*Farewell! Until we meet again!*