



# *Vytis - The Knight*

Vol. 90 No. 7 - lapkritis/gruodis - November/December, 2004



*Peace on Earth*





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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.**





*"This is the irrational season  
When love blossoms bright and  
wild.*

*Had Mary been filled with reason  
There'd have been no room for  
the child."*

(Madeleine L'Engle)

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*To My Fellow Knights*

*Glory to God*



*And PEACE to God's People on Earth:*

***Lithuania, United States, Israel, Palestine, Iran, Iraq.....***

There is peace and joy in the Bethlehem stable in spite of the Roman conquest, the frustrating search for refuge, and the menial, humdrum tasks of the shepherds.

There is a peace and joy peculiar to the Kučios celebration and the Christmas Liturgy in the midst of hectic schedules, financial burdens, and interpersonal misunderstandings that sometimes color everyday family action and interaction.

There is inner peace and internal steadfastness amidst the turmoil of closing parishes, changing pastors, and political vicissitudes in American and Lithuanian governance. What grants stability is faith and hope in a caring God even in the midst of darkness.

On Christmas Eve, 1968, nearly 240,000 miles from home, Astronaut Frank Borman recited this prayer:

*"Give us, O God, the vision which can see thy love  
in the world, in spite of human failure.  
Give us the faith to trust the goodness in spite of  
our ignorance and weakness.  
Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray  
with understanding hearts,  
And show us what each one of us can do to set forth the  
coming of the day of universal peace.  
Amen."*

**This sacred season I wish each of you and the world – *Peace.***

*Sister M. Janine*







We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Dear Members:

It's that very special time of year again. Christmas – a time for remembering past celebrations and happy family gatherings - and taking the opportunity now to make new and unique memories with our family and friends who are so important in our lives today.

The members of the Supreme Council join me in wishing all of the Knights of Lithuania a happy and joyous holiday season. We pray that everyone will experience the true spirit of Christmas – a season of peace and joy

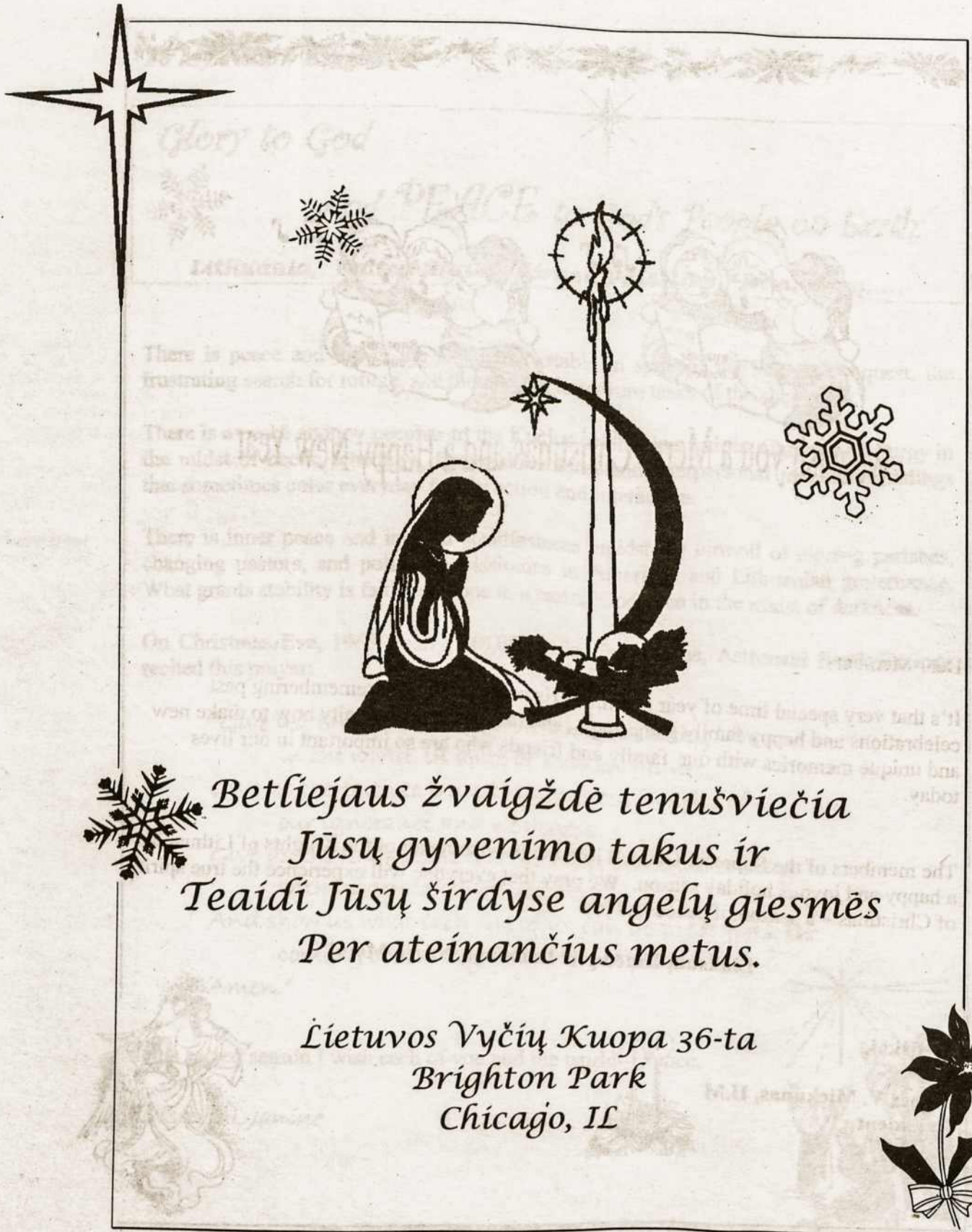
**Linksmų Kalėdų ir Laimingų Naujų Metų!**

Vytiškai,

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







Betliejaus žvaigždė tenušviečia  
 Jūsų gyvenimo takus ir  
 Teaidi Jūsų širdyse angelų giesmės  
 Per ateinančius metus.

Lietuvos Vyčių Kuopa 36-ta  
 Brighton Park  
 Chicago, IL

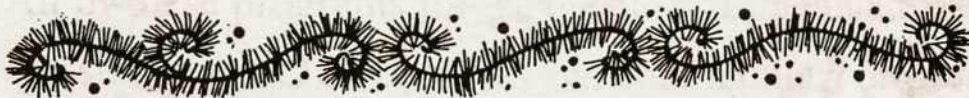




*Linksmų Šv. Kalėdų ir  
Laimingų Naujų Metų  
Visiems Lietuvos Vyčiams*



*May the Prince of Peace and  
His Blessed Mother bestow on  
all our fellow Knights  
both near and far  
Health, Happiness and a  
Prosperous New Year!*



We would like to thank all who attended this year's Convention. It was our pleasure to be your hosts and we hope you truly enjoyed it.

**Council 90 - Kearny, New Jersey**





**Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year  
from the  
Mid-America District**





Linkime Visiems Linksmų Šv Kalėdų ir Laimingų  
2005 Metų!



**AČIŪ**  
**Congratulations**  
**You Made It Happen!**

As of June 2004, medicines and supplies worth over  
\$71 Million Dollars  
sent to Lithuania in 92 containers

At St. Joseph's Provincial Seminary in Vilnius

87 Donations toward Seminarian Studies

6 Priests have been ordained

4 Deacons have been ordained

A trade school to benefit Lithuania has been established in Vilnius  
Mother Teresa's Shelter Program is in operation

All of these programs for the people of Lithuania made  
possible by **YOUR** prayers and contributions of over  
One Million Dollars to date.

Please send your contribution today to:

**Aid to Lithuania**  
**1594 Beaupre**  
**Madison Heights, MI 48071**

phone: (248)547-2859

fax: (248)547-0982

email: [Rjuskasvoba@cs.com](mailto:Rjuskasvoba@cs.com)





Joyfully Celebrating  
Our Centennial of  
St. Peter Church

Knights of C-17 So. Boston  
Wish all a Blessed,  
Happy Christmas  
Vytiškai!



*Linksmų Kalėdų*

*ir*

*Laimingų, Naujų Metų!*

*Sv. Kazimiero Kolegijos Gildija*

*Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector*

*Anna Klizas Wargo, President*







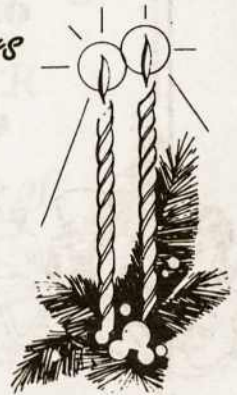
*Christmas Blessings  
and  
Happy New Year Wishes  
From*



*All the Officers and Members  
Of C-112 - Chicago, IL*



**Linksmiausių, Švenčiausių Kalėdų ir  
Laimingiausių Naujų Metų 2005!**



**LINKSMŲ KALĖDŲ  
IR  
LAIMINGŲ NAUJŲ METŲ**



**Member Councils of the Amber District**

Council 3 – Philadelphia, PA  
Council 46 – Forest City, PA  
Council 63 – Lehigh Valley, PA  
Council 72 – Binghamton, NY  
Council 74 – Scranton, PA  
Council 140 – Syracuse, NY  
Council 142 – Washington, DC  
Council 143 – Pittston, PA  
Council 144 – Anthracite, PA  
Council 146 – Harrisburg, PA  
Council 156 – Shamokin, PA





# Greetings of the Season to All -

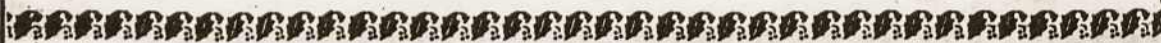


**May the joyful sights and sounds  
of the holidays and the good things  
of Life be yours today and always**

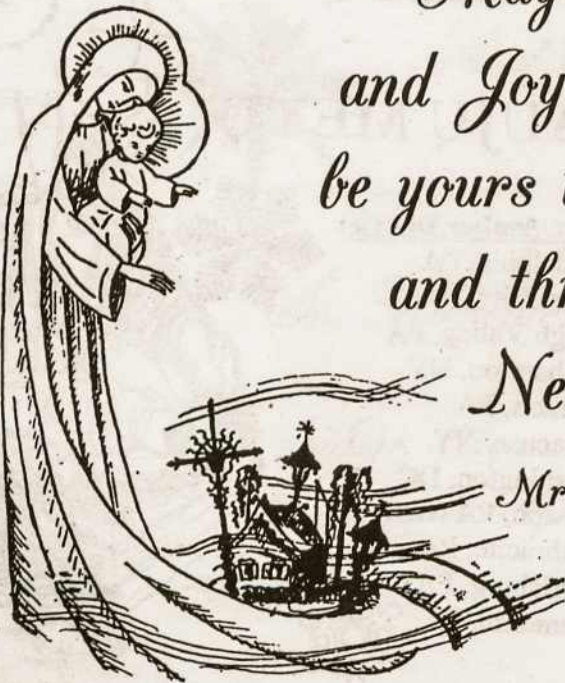


**Council 26**

**Worcester**



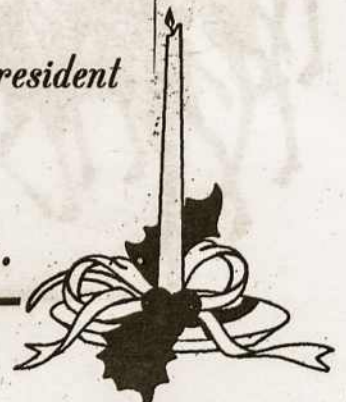
*May the Spirit  
and Joy of the season  
be yours this Christmas  
and throughout the  
New Year!*



*Mrs. Isabel Peterson, President*

*Council 50*

*New Haven, Ct.*







*GOD GRANT YOU*



*BLESSINGS AT CHRISTMAS*

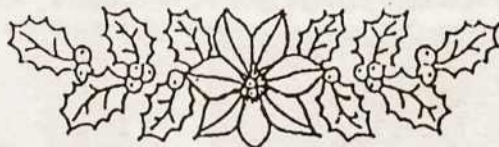
*AND PEACE AND JOY*

*IN THE NEW YEAR*

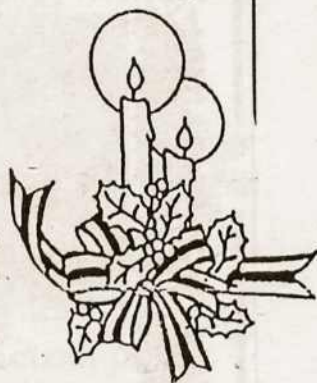
*The Officers and Members of*

*Anthracite Council 144*

*Schuylkill County, PA*



*The Officers and Members of the  
Mid-Atlantic District*



*Wish Everyone*

*A Blessed Christmas*

*Linksmų Šventų Kalėdų*

*and*

*ir*

*Happy New Year*

*Laimingų Naujų Metų*





Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

To all the Knights of Lithuania

May the joy of the Christmas  
Season be with you all through the  
year

**C-3 Philadelphia**





May the Spirit of  
Christmas be in your  
hearts, and may your



New Year  
be happy and  
prosperous!

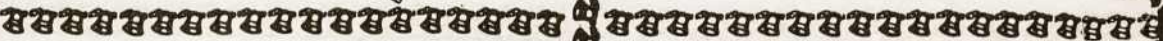
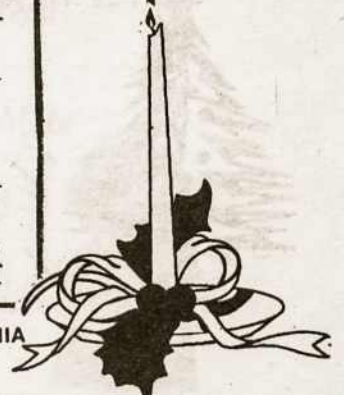
Vytiškai - C-82, Gary IN



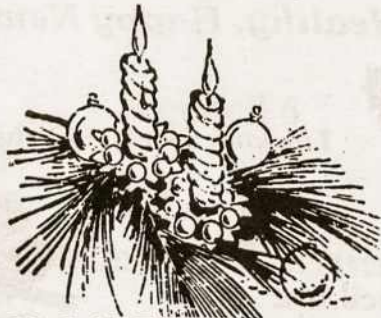
A thousand candles  
light the earth  
— announcing —  
**CHRIST**  
the Savior's birth

A thousand  
universes sing  
the coming of our  
**LORD and KING**

COUNCIL 74  
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA



LINKSMŪ, ŠVENTŲ  
KALĖDŲ IR LAIMINGŲ  
NAUJŲ METŲ  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW  
YEAR



FROM ALBERT & ELAINE  
KNIUPIS -C-17, S. BOSTON

May the Birth of Our



Savior

bring you Joy and  
Blessings for the  
New Year



Frank, HM, and Irene  
Petrauskas  
C-140, Syracuse, NY







*Linskmų Kalėdų*



*ir*

*Laimingų Naujų*

*Metų*



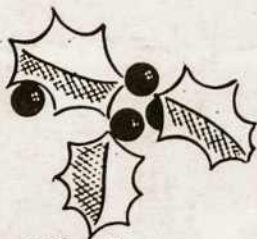
*Council - 100*

*Amsterdam, NY*



*We Wish You the  
Blessings of  
Christmas  
All through the  
year*

*C- 86 Du Bois*



**A Blessed Christmas  
and a  
Healthy New Year  
to All**

**Council - 140, Syracuse**



**Wishing Everyone  
a Blessed Christmas  
and**

**a Healthy, Happy New Year**



*Linskmų Šventų Kalėdų*

**Council 102**

**Detroit, Michigan**







COUNCIL 141

ST. GEORGE CHURCH

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

LINKI VISIEMS VYČIAMS

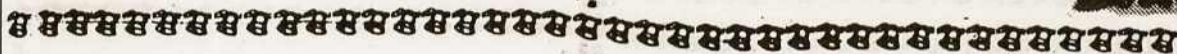
LINKSMŲ KALĖDŲ!



*Wishes for a Joyful  
Christmas  
and a  
Peaceful New Year*

*Linksmų Šv. Kalėdų  
ir  
Laimingų Naujų Metų*

*Council # 147  
St. Petersburg, Florida*



Linksmų Šv. Kalėdų

ir



Laimingų Naujų Metų

Council 6

Hartford, Connecticut

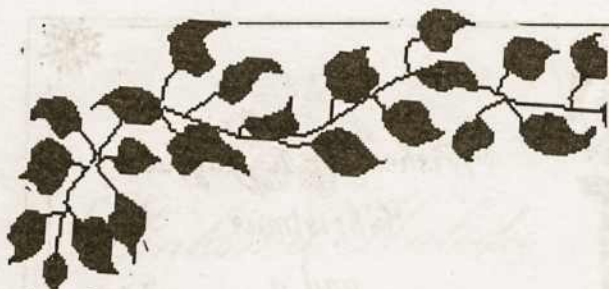


*Happy Holidays  
Council – 30*

*St. Peter's and St. Casimir  
Parish  
Westfield, MA*







# Linksmų Kalėdų!

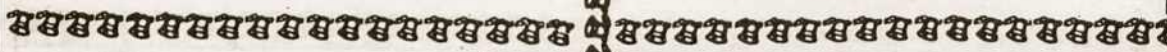


May the Prince of Peace  
Reign in our Councils,  
In our County, and  
Throughout the world !

Your friends from Dayton, Ohio  
Council #96



Merry Christmas  
and a  
Healthy New Year  
Linksmų Šv. Kalėdų  
Ir  
Laimingų Naujų Metų  
from  
All Members of  
Council 12 – New York, NY



# Linksmų, Šventų Kalėdų

*Of all the many  
memories  
So happy to recall,  
The times we've shared  
Together are the  
nicest ones of all...*

*Merry Christmas  
Mid-Central District*



**Lehigh Valley  
Council 63**





*Peace & Joy at Christmas & the New Year*



*Council #46, Forest City, PA*

*Blessed Christmas and a Healthy New Year*

*C- 116 So. Worcester, MA*



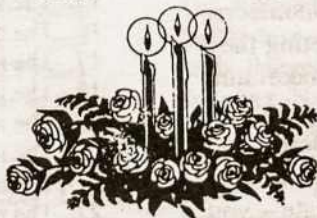
*Best Wishes for a Blessed Christmas & A  
Happy New Year! Paul & Lee Moore C-86*



**In Memoriam**



Council	Name	City	State	Date of Death
26	Joan	Wojciak Worcester	MA	10/1/2004
26	Rita	Sokol Paxton	MA	10/1/2004
141	Peter J.	Peters Stratford	CT	11/1/2004
144	Joseph	Yezulinas Shenandoah	PA	9/23/2004
7	Ralph	Baril Oakville	CT	10/29/2004



**Rest In Peace**



## *K of L Foundation* *2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Winning Essay*

### *What Should Councils Do to Get New Members?*

I'm hearing so often that Knights of Lithuania Councils are closing because they cannot recruit new members – "Everyone is getting older!!!" When was the last time YOU asked ANYONE to join? Are you too timid to ask? In questioning people who might be interested in joining, the answer is, "Nobody has asked me."

Some worry about cliques... Now is the time to have a different approach to inviting new members. First, ask if they have ever been a K of L member. I contacted a person who belonged to the K of L 50 years ago. He came to a meeting and rejoined because he liked what he observed... We don't want to hear that no one is interested in joining. Keep applications and brochures on your person to give to the candidate. There are many Lithuanians (or married to Lithuanians) looking for an organization to search for their roots and a desire to belong to a Lithuanian organization. Explain to the candidate that the K of L has contributed to USA and Lithuanian charities and offers Scholarships for all ages. We are encouraging Seminarians to become priests by offering a scholarship. We are instrumental in signing petitions for the entry of Lithuania to NATO and the European Union, etc.

Now, invite a prospective member as your guest to your next meeting to observe. Be there, welcome them with a big hug and thank you for coming. Notify the President to announce their name. Ask if they read the brochure. Introduce them to other members, so when they come to the next meeting they will know someone to talk to. Make sure they know of the next meeting. Some don't belong to the church to receive bulletins and are not yet on the telephone list. Don't rely on the sponsor to accept the candidate – you as a member should approach the candidate,

introduce yourself and be friendly. During the social time, see that the prospective member is not alone. Strike up a conversation with them. When installed, present the candidate with a decal shield of the Vytis to put on their car. It identifies a Vycius.

Now, where do you find the candidates? At church, at the supermarket, church suppers, funeral receptions – just about everywhere. Ask if they are interested in the Knights of Lithuania.

Bringing in a new candidate is more than signing an application:: it is the entire council's job to nurture and guide and make him want to come to the next meeting.

**ASK** – You will be surprised how your Council will grow just by being nice!!

*~ Catherine Urban ~*

**Council 6 – Hartford, CT**

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### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

1. The most destructive habit... Worry
2. The greatest joy... Giving
3. The greatest loss... Loss of self-respect
4. The most satisfying work... Helping others
5. The ugliest personality trait... Selfishness
6. The most endangered species... Dedicated leaders
7. Our greatest natural resource... Our youth
8. The greatest "shot in the arm"... Encouragement
9. The greatest problem to overcome... Fear
10. The most effective sleeping pill... Peace of mind
11. The most crippling force in life... Excuses
12. The most powerful force in life... Love
13. The most dangerous pariah... A gossiper
14. The world's most incredible computer... The brain
15. The worst thing to be without... Hope
16. The deadliest weapon... The tongue
17. The most power-filled words... "I can"
18. The greatest asset... Faith
19. The most worthless emotion... Self-pity
20. The most beautiful attire... A smile
21. The most prized possession... Integrity
22. The most contagious spirit... Enthusiasm
23. The most powerful communication... Prayer



## **Lithuanian Affairs Update**

### **Political News.**

(excerpts from Information and Culture Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, CITY PAPER, (BALTICS Worldwide) and various Lithuanian new agencies.)

### **2004, A UNIQUE YEAR IN LITHUANIAN POLITICS**

Lithuania became a member of NATO and the EUROPEAN UNION. The problems of the Presidency of Rolandas Paksas ended with his impeachment, and on July 12, 2004, **Valdas Adamkus**, the fourth President since the re-establishment of independence, took office for the second time. This ended the term of the acting President, **Arturas Paulauskas**. This also ended a political crisis that has faced Lithuania since October, 2003. Most Lithuanians saw his first term as relatively successful. One of the major challenges will be to integrate Lithuania into new political and economic structures that will make a significant improvement in the standard of living. In his inauguration speech, **Adamkus** said that his administration will play a more active role than he or previous presidents played before, while focusing more on domestic policy.

### **MOST LITHUANIAN PEOPLE FAVOR PRESIDENT - POLL**

Lithuanian President, **Valdas Adamkus**, remains the best representative of people's interests and most favored politician in the country, several polls suggest. According to a survey conducted by the public opinion and market research center, **Vilmorus**, On September 9-12. 21.6 percent of the respondents see **Adamkus** as best representative of their interests. He is followed by the founder and leader of the populist **Labor Party**, **Viktoras Uspakich (15.3%)**, **Prime Minister**, **Algirdas Brazauskas (14.4%)**, ousted **ex-president**, **Rolandas Paksas (10%)** and **MP Kazimira Prunskiene(9.3%)**, the poll shows. Among the best representatives of the people's interests are also **Social Security and Labor Minister**, **Vilija Blinkeviciute (8.5%)**, **Parliamentary Chairman**, **Arturas Paulauskas (7%)**, **MP's Andrius Kubilius (6.8%)** and **Ceslovas Juršenas (6.6%)** and **Police Chief Vytautas Grigaravicius (3.7%)**. In another poll by **Vilmorus**, most respondents - 65.9% - indicated **Grigaravicius** as the most favored public figure.

### **LABOR PARTY LEADS ALL PARTIES IN PARLIAMENTARY VOTE**

On Sunday, October 10, 20 political parties and 1,253 candidates vied for places in the 141 seat **Lithuanian Parliament**. The **Labor Party**, a year-old party organized by **Russian-born businessman, Viktoras Uspaskich**, did not succeed in winning an overwhelming majority in a new Lithuanian parliament. Results from 90 percent of 2,301 constituencies indicate that **Labor** received 29.44 % of the vote. **Zenonas Vaigauskas**, Lithuania's chief election officer, believes this may bring the party one-third of the parliamentary seats. In second place with 20.68 % of the votes, was the coalition of ruling **Social Democrats and Social Liberals**, "We work for Lithuania." Next was the **Homeland's Union (Conservatives)** with 13.89 percent of the vote. A new coalition, "For Order and Justice," founded by the dismissed president, **Rolandas Paksas**, followed with 11.66 percent.

### **LITHUANIAN PARLIAMENT PANELS APPROVE BID TO EXTEND PRESENCE OF TROOPS IN MISSIONS**

The Lithuanian Parliament's committees of National Security and Defense, and Foreign Affairs have approved the proposal from **President Valdas Adamkus**, to extend the participation of Lithuanian troops in international peace-keeping missions until the end of 2005. The draft resolution, which is yet to receive a go-ahead from the Parliament, stipulates sending up to 140 troops and civilians to the **Balkan region**, up to 120 to **Persian Gulf region**, and up to 70 to **Central and Southern Asia**. The Parliament had returned the draft for revision earlier, as it had stipulated an overall number of troops to be dispatched to missions. About 200 Lithuanian troops currently serve in international peace-keeping missions in **Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Kosovo province (Serbia and Montenegro) and Georgia**. The proposed resolution suggests that Lithuania's military units currently taking part in foreign missions can be transferred to the control of the **UN, NATO or EU** members without a separate approval.

### **SAFETY LICENSE OF INGNALINA'S UNIT 2 EXTENDED**

On September 15, the Lithuanian State Nuclear Safety Inspection (**VATESI**) decided to issue a long-term operating license to power unit two of the **Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (INPP)**. **VATESI** said in a statement that this decision followed a comprehensive assessment of safety at the reactor block in line with international practice and traditions, and was taken in consideration of the opinion from the **Environment Ministry** and the **Radi**



ation Protection Center. VATESI said the assessment had verified that the plant's power unit two, was complying with the established nuclear safety requirements. "The long-term license authorizes (the plant) to operate the reactor block for several years," said Diana Medeliene, VATESI public relations officer. Ignalina's power unit one obtained a long-term operating license from VATESI on July 22, but Lithuania intends to shut down this reactor block at the end of this year, in compliance with its commitments to the EU. The entire plant is due to be closed down in 2009 if the EU provides adequate funding for the decommissioning process.

#### LITHUANIA AND ESTONIA TO RUSSIA:

It's you who owe us. "It is unfair from Russia to submit such claims. I think it is a political propaganda," said Estonian President Arnold Ruutel about the debt Russia claims Estonia owes, during a new conference in Vilnius on Monday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>. Lithuanian President, Valdas Adamkus emphasized that the Baltic states could make claims that Russia owed them considerably bigger sums for damage done during the years of the Soviet occupation. "If someone was to make a claim over paying the debts, it would be Lithuania, without any doubt, since it might ask to pay the bill for the entire occupation period," Adamkus said. Last week the Russian Account Chamber issued a statement saying that Baltic states' share of the USSR's liabilities that the Russian Federation assumed as external debt stands at USD 3.06 billion. This sum is estimated by the Bank of Russia.

#### II. ECONOMIC NEWS

##### LITHUANIAN INDUSTRIAL SALES INDUSTRY GROWS 13%

Lithuanian industry grew by 13.1% in the first eight months of 2004, compared with the same period in 2003, the country's Statistics Department has reported. Industrial production, measured by sales, edged up by 0.3% in August from July. The year-on-year growth rate was 4.3% last month. Excluding oil products, overall industrial sales increased by 8.2 % in the eight months, compared with the same period a year ago. In August, sales were up by 4.7% year-on-year and 1.2% month-on-month.

##### LITHUANIAN MUSHROOMS DEMANDED AT WESTERN MARKET

Mushrooms picked in the forests of Lithuania are on sale in German supermarkets, French open markets, Russian and American restaurants and even

Mongolia. Fourteen companies in Lithuania are engaged in the mushroom export and import business, giving jobs to several thousand people. Lithuanians, who are sometimes called the Lords of Mushrooms, are facing strong competition from rivals in Poland, Russia, Turkey and Romania. "It is our reputation for quality and reliability that gives us an advantage in the fierce competition. Buyers in the West have such confidence in Lithuanian mushroom processors, that they buy our production without checking it," said Algimantas Brazionis, Director of Melynoji Uoga, a forest berry and mushroom exporter. The export of fresh, frozen, salted and dried mushrooms has doubled this year and could grow even faster. Experts estimate, that around 16,000 tons of mushrooms can be harvested in the forests of Lithuania annually. According to the data from the Customs Department, Lithuania exported about 2,500 tons of mushrooms and mushroom products worth a total of 30m litas last year.

#### AGING LITHUANIAN FARMERS

Statistics Lithuania reported that more than half of the 520,000 Lithuanians engaged in agriculture are people over 50 years of age. Most (58%) are small farmers, working small farms of up to five hectares. One-third of the country's farmers have farms of 5 to 20 hectares. Women comprise 53 percent of farmers and farm-related workers.

#### III. MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

##### LITHUANIAN ATHLETES' FINAL RESULTS OF ATHENS 2004 OLYMPICS

Gold – Men's discus throw, ALEKNA, Virgilijus; Silver – Women's heptathlon, SKUJYTE, Austra; Modern pentathlon – Men, ZADNEPROVSKIS, Andrejus.

##### EARTHQUAKE IN THE BALTICS

On Sept. 21, at 4:39 p.m., two earthquake tremors originating from the epicenter of Kaliningrad were felt in every Baltic state. The tremors registered 5.3 on the Richter scale in Kaliningrad and closer to 3 in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

##### VILNIUS UNIVERSITY COMMEMORATES 425TH ANNIVERSARY

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, Foreign Minister, Antanas Valionis congratulated Vilnius University community on the 425<sup>th</sup> anniversary. According to the Minister, 425 years is a long and significant period not only in the University's, but also in the Lithuanian state's life. "It is symbolic that you celebrate this jubilee in the first year of Lithuania



as a full fledged member of the EU. For many years, members of your University's academic community were actively building bridges from Lithuania to the EU," said the Minister in the letter of greetings. According to Antanas Valionis, by the efforts of Vilnius University Europe also was brought closer to Lithuanian science, culture, history and politics.

#### NAZI HUNTERS RECOGNIZE LITHUANIA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

The Nazi-hunting Simon Wiesenthal Center has ranked Lithuania in a small group of countries which have achieved good results in the solving of Nazi war crimes and punishing those guilty. In the center's annual report that divides countries into six categories, Lithuania is grouped in the third category (C) together with Austria, Italy, Latvia and Poland. This category includes states which have made an advance in the investigation of the cases or have launched new investigations.

~John R. Mankus, Chairman  
National Lith. Affairs Committee

#### SMILES WITHOUT WRINKLES...

There is a great man who makes every man feel small, but the really great man is the man who makes every man feel great!

For every minute you are angry, you lose sixty seconds of happiness!

A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel of brains.

Nobody gets to live life backwards. Look ahead. That is where your future lies.

It's not the distance, but the direction you travel that counts.

If you don't learn anything from your mistakes, there's no sense making them.

The perfect host is the one who gives the party you are the life of.

~Leon Galinskas - C 102~

*Thanksgiving...*



*"To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything He has given us - and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a gift of grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him."*

(Thomas Merton)





# VAIKAS IR KALĖDŲ EGLUTĖ

A. Giedraitis

(ed. by A. M. Kassel)



Vaikas:

Tu eglute, tu žalioji,  
Kur taip puikiai išbujojai?  
Savo rūbo puošnumu  
Mane užkreti džiaugsmu!

Eglutė:

Labas vakaras, vaikyti!  
Malonu tave matyti  
Ar tai tavo džiaugsmui čia  
Šitaip išpuošė mane?

Vaikas:

Na, ir gera gi tau čia:  
Žaislai, kaspiniai, šviesa!..  
Girioj vėtros būtų lankstę,  
Čia tu pāpuošta per šventę.

Eglutė:

Taip. Bet liūdi manęs miškas  
Voveraitė, pilkas kiškis,  
Nes nuo lapių ir vilkų  
Aš juos slėpdavau abu...

Vaikas:

Ką sakai? — pilkas kiškytis?  
Kur galėčiau jį matyti?  
Supažindint jį turiu  
Su Kalėdų Seneliu.

Eglutė:

Kiškis dovanų nenori  
Jį vilioja laisvės toliai  
Ten, kur medžiai apšarmoję,  
Vėjas pasakas jam groja...

Vaikas:

Ak, ta Laisvė! Taip ji toli...  
Dėl jos kenčia manc broliai  
Miškuose pavergto krašto,  
Kur sniegai su vėjais laksto...

Eglutė:

Tavo pavergtojų tėvynėj  
Laisvėn jie takus pramynė  
Ir išauš nauja aušra —  
Vėl laisva bus Lietuva!

Vaikas:

Dėkui tau už gerą žodį  
Tiek vilties jis mums parodė.  
Šviesią ateitį mūs krašto  
Nusakei tu, kaip iš rašto.

Eglės, kaip beržai ir uosiai,  
Mūsų kraštą irgi puošia.  
O dabar skubu kiek galint  
Pasitikt Kalėdų Senio.

The above article is a "memory from the past," an excerpt taken from the 1977 Christmas Issue of the Vytis, the Juniors' Corner. Enjoy!





## District & Council News

### Amber District



#### C-3 Philadelphia, PA Victor Stepalovitch

Congratulations, Charles Petronis, on your recent marriage. Charles is the son of C-3's Marge Petronis and her husband, Charles.

8 members of C-3 attended the Amber District Meeting which was held in Easton, PA, on Oct 10. 13 members of C-3 also attended the National Convention in Secausus, NJ.

Our prayers go out to Irene Svekla and Margaret Allen who had undergone surgery. Get well soon and back to Good Health.

Welcome home, John and Agnes Mickunas, from a wonderful and enjoyable trip to CanCun.

Msgr. Anderlonis, Supreme Council Advisor and Council 3 were Host at the Supreme Council Meeting held at St. George Church Hall. C-3 members prepared a delicious lunch and all attended a catered dinner after the 5 PM Mass.

On Dec 11, 2004, C-3 held its 20th "Kucios" after the 5PM Mass at St. George's Hall. As usual, all had a wonderful time and look forward to next year's Kucios.

C-3 hopes that all councils of the K of L have a Happy, Joyous Christmas and that all of you can look forward to a prosperous and Happy New Year.

#### C-46 Forest City, PA Betty Kwader



Our regular meeting was held on Oct 3, 2004. Pres. Frank Kwader conducted the meeting and then we had election of

officers for the 2004-2005 year. Congratulations to the new officers. May they have a prosperous year.

Our annual Christmas Party is set for Sunday, Dec 5 at Crystal Pines. Chairman John Morris is to be commended for his help in planning. In lieu of a gift exchange, members will each contribute \$5 to defray the cost of sending gifts to our Sponsor-child, Victoria. A box of school supplies, food items, and personal gifts will be sent. Josephine O'Peka has offered to be in charge- which is greatly appreciated. Packages will be picked up in Scranton on Nov 6 to be delivered in time for Christmas.

Kucios at St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church in Scranton is Dec 12. Marie Laske of Scranton K of L has invited all to attend. We are hoping for a good turnout of members and guests for the Christmas Party and also for the Kucios at St. Joseph's in Scranton.

Amy and John Morris and Frank and Betty Kwader will attend the Amber District meeting in Easton, PA, on Oct 10.

A Happy Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are wished to all. May God Bless and keep you all healthy and happy.

#### C-144 Anthracite Ona



C-144 is saddened at the loss of Joseph Yezulinas after a long illness. Joe was past President and worked hard for the Council til his illness stopped him. He was instrumental in establishing the Cultural Center and Museum and did much work there in making it presentable for the Museum. He was active for many years in Lithuanian Days. Amzina Atsilsi, Juozai.

Newly elected officers are Pres-Larry Domalakes; VP-Ann WargoHM; Sec.-Teri Rautzahn; Treas-Peter Teresavage;

Fin Sec-Elsie KosmiskyHM; Evelyn Prep is Ritual Chairman; Meredith Domalakes, Cultural Chairman; Joseph Martunas-Lithuanian Affairs. Installation of officers will take place during the Mass preceding the Kucios, Dec 13.

Attending the Amber District meeting were Pres. Larry Domalakes, Elsie Kosmisky HM, Evelyn Prep, Ann Wargo HM, Dolores Tichy and Anna Snoich. Thanks to Host Council C-63 Lehigh Valley. Larry Domalakes was elected District Treas; Evelyn Prep and Elsie Kosmisky, Trustees. Congratulations to Pres Diane Drumstas who has served the District well and continues as President.

C-144 donated to the St. Casimir Guild TV Fund for the Pontifical Lithuanian College. We also continue to support our Humanitarian Aid Committee who do such a tremendous job in sending packages to the poorest village schools and elderly, etc. in Lithuania. Thanks to successful Lithuanian Days we are able to continue this good work.

Our best wishes to all of our Vyciai for a Happy Thanksgiving.

### MidCentral District



#### MCD Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage Regina Juska-Svoba

On the weekend of Sept 25-26, 2004, autumn was in the air and all roads led to Cleveland, OH, for the MCD's Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage which was hosted by C-25.

Saturday, September 25, 2004, the delegates converged at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church facilities for the district fall meeting. President Michael Petkus presided over the meeting. The Spiritual Advisor for the district, Rev. Gediminas Kijauskas, led the delegates and guests in the opening prayer. Theresa Capuria, C-25 Pres, greeted the members, guests, and delegates and



wished everyone a wonderful and enjoyable stay in the Cleveland area. The district president, officers, and council presidents reported on their biannual activities. The organization's ancillary committees gave their presentations.

It was announced that the Spring Meeting and Bowling Tournament will be held on May 20-22, 2005, in Port Clinton, OH. C-96 of Dayton will host. The Cammandor Perry Hotel facilities will be used for the meeting. There will be an opportunity for an optional excursion/dinner aboard a yacht. The members and delegates were encouraged to actively participate in the meeting and make a special effort to extend their stay to view the beauty of the surrounding area.

The next Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage will be hosted by C-102, Detroit, MI in Sept/Oct, 2005. The exact dates will be announced during the upcoming months.

In the absence of the district ritual chair, recording secretary Frances Petkus HM announced that Patricia Zyren, C-102 Pres, Detroit, MI, would receive her 3rd degree prior to Mass on 9/26/04.

The 92nd National Convention will be hosted by C-19, Pittsburgh, PA, on Aug 11-14 at the Wyndham Pittsburgh Airport Hotel.

The 93rd National Convention will be held on Aug 3-6, 2006, in Orlando, FL, and will be hosted by the Supreme Council-the Grosvenor Resort Hotel (the same hotel which was used during the 2002 convention).

District delegates to the 91st convention - Frances Petkus and Elinor Sluzas-both C-96- gave a comprehensive report about the national convention in Secaucus, NJ.

The delegates voted unanimously to donate \$100 to each of the ancillary charities-Aid to Lithuania, Inc., St. Casimir's Guild, K of L Foundation, and the Our Lady of Siluva project. A further motion was made and passed that an additional \$50 donation be given to the St. Casimir's Guild so

that in the total sum of \$150, a television (the Guild's new project) would be purchased from the MCD to Villa Lithuania.

Elections were conducted. The new slate of officers are: Spiritual Advisor Rev. Gediminas Kijauskas, C-25; Pres Michael Petkus, C-96; VP Jean Marks, C-96; Treas Richard Marks, C-25; Sec Frances Petkus HM, C-96; Sgt-at-arms Paul Moore, C-86; Cultural/Lith affairs John Baltrus, C-19; Ritual committee Lee Moore, C-86; Trustees Dolly Oberaitis and Jean Marks C-25; PR/Vytis corresp/Vytis ads Regina Juska Svoba C-102 and Elinor Sluzas HM C-96; ATL Regina Juska-Svoba C-102; St. Casimir's Guild Mark H. Bell C-96; K of L Foundation Elinor Sluzas HM C-96; Our Lady of Siluva Fund Elinor Sluzas HM C-96; Scholarship John Baltrus C-19; Special Recognition award George Mikalauskas C-96.

The meeting concluded with a prayer and the Vyciu hymn.

After the meeting, and lunch the delegates gathered at Our Lady of Perpetual Help where Rev. G. Kijauskas and MCD Pres Michael Petkus led in the annual remembrance of the district's deceased members. Each council's representative lit a candle while another member read the names of the deceased. After the prayers, Rev. Kijauskas presented M. Petkus with 2 books about the Madonna, mementos of the weekend.

Later in the evening, the delegates, friends and guests met at the church's lower hall for a delicious dinner. Afterwards-a lesson in Lithuanian history. Rev. Kijauskas presented 2 interesting and informative videos: Antanas Smetona, Lithuania's president and current inaugural ceremonies of President Valdas Adamkus.

Sunday, Sept 26, prior to Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, the third degree medal was awarded to Patricia Zyren, C-102 Pres, Detroit, MI. The newly elected officers gave their oath. Congratulations to all!

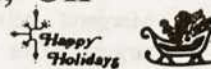
Mass was celebrated by Rev. Gediminas

Kijauskas. During his sermon, Rev. Kijauskas informed the congregation of all the wonderful and good works the K of L organization has performed assisting our brothers and sisters in Lithuania over the past 92 years.

A special thanks to C-25 for hosting a well-organized, wonderful and memorable weekend. Coming to Cleveland is always a warm and comfortable feeling of returning home to kinship family and friends. It was a special time of sharing and remembering.

After a successful and productive meeting and pilgrimage, the delegates bid their farewells to one another, wished each other a safe return home - and until the next meeting!

## C-25 Cleveland, OH Ursula Kunsitis



Sunday, Sept 19, our council sponsored another successful Coffee Hour at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. New member, Frank Joga and wife, pitched right in and provided a beautiful platter of stuffed small tomatoes- not only was it a great centerpiece but delicious, too. We'd like to thank all the members who worked, donated, and baked.... we couldn't do it without you!

Our council would like to take this opportunity to personally thank John Baltrus, Mark Bell, George and Fritz Mikalauskas, Fran Petkus, Mike Petkus, Elinor Sluzas, Margaret Dapkus, Sylvia Jarosz, Regina Juska-Svoba, Patricia Zyren, Theresa Capuria, Todd Craig, Frank Joga, Ben Karklius, Fr. Gediminas Kijauskas, Gene and Ursula Kunsitis, Dick and Jean Marks, Dolly Oberaitis, Joan Ortman, Nellie Samas, Vic Staskus and Ray Vanagas; guests Nijole Kersnauskas and Tom and Nancy Rogers for attending our MCD convention. We truly appreciated your support.

We would like to thank Fr. Kijauskas, our Spiritual Advisor, for his warm hospitality at the meeting, the church services and especially for providing



Saturday night's entertainment after dinner. The first video was on the life of Antanas Smetona, the first president of Lithuania - his term in Lithuania and his life in the U.S. after the Soviet occupation and his tragic death by fire in Cleveland. There is an amazing story as to how this film was put together. Since everyone enjoyed the video, Nijole Kersnauskas, our church secretary, thought we would also enjoy the recent inauguration of the new president of Lithuania, Valdas Adamkus. Father produced the video and we greatly enjoyed the pomp and ceremony of this special occasion. Thank you, Father, for a great evening!

Congratulations to Pat Zyren C-102 on receiving her third degree!

We wish C-19 every success in hosting the 92nd National Convention and Dayton C-96 on hosting the Spring MCD Meeting at Port Clinton, OH May 21-22, 2005!

Winner of the 50/50 raffle at the MCD meeting was Jean Marks; the winner of the Lithuanian beverage donated by Dick Marks was Mike Petkus. Winner of the 50/50 raffle at the dinner was Nellie Samas. Thank you all for participating.

After the reading of the deceased members of MCD on Sat, Fr. Kijauskas presented 2 books to Mike Petkus.

Al Bendokas is home again after his 4th trip to the hospital. Stay well, Al, you are in our prayers.

Rose Rew is now recovering and in rehab.

A big "hello" to housebound members Agnes Bartkus, Stella Sankal and Adelle Tanner.

Fr. Gediminas, we all love the new cover page of the weekly church bulletin. Father risked life and limb to take the photograph of the Blessed Mother and Jesus above the main altar. He said, "My angels watched over me!"

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

## C-96 Dayton, OH Frances Petkus HM



We pray that all our members who have been affected by the multiple pounding from the hurricanes that hit our country are doing as well as can be under the circumstances.

Our council delegates Michael and Robert Petkus, Junior Knight Erin Petkus, Norma Petkus and MCD delegates Elinor Sluzas and Fran Petkus returned home with nothing but praise for a well-run national convention in Secaucus, NJ. Visiting Ellis Island was heart-warming when thinking our families came through there. The dinner at Tony DaCaneca's, a Portugese restaurant, was wonderful, especially when all 73 participants were able to order from the menu. We had fun at Meadowlands Racetrack; many of us came home winners! The sessions went very well and extra free time gave delegates time to visit the NY/NJ area and their many relatives and friends in the area. The Lithuanian Catholic Community Center not only served good food but the facilities were very impressive.

At the convention, Michael Petkus, C-96, served as Presidium Chair and Elinor Sluzas was on the Resolutions Committee and Our Lady of Siluva, Inc., ancillary. Congratulations must go to Irene Gecas-McCarthy and Michael Petkus having been presented with the Fourth Degree Medal at the Convention's Closing Mass.

On Sept 12, C-96 held its Annual Mass for the living and deceased members of C-96 and Cemetery Visit. We began the day with Mass at Holy Cross Catholic Lithuanian Church. Offertory bearers for the Mass were our Junior Knights Adam and Nathan Fletcher and Erin Petkus. At the end of Mass, names of our members who are buried out of town were read. We thank our parish's organist and choir for staying as we ended this part of our services singing Vyciu Hymnas.

After Mass, with Holy Cross

celebrating their annual Feast Day, we went to the church hall for a special Koffee Klatch. Our own Elaine Pacovsky and Judy Petrokas prepared the goodies for this special occasion. Thank you!

From the hall, we headed to Calvary Cemetery where members broke up into clusters as we have 52 gravesites to visit. A white carnation, prayers and stories took place at each grave. The weather was great and thank heavens the Mikalauskas's- George and Frances-had plenty of water, etc. for everyone. Fran Petkus took care of the flowers for church and cemetery. JoAnn and Gary Thiele must be thanked for putting together this day!

After the cemetery visit we headed back to the church hall for our regular monthly meeting. In spite of being tired from an active day, we had a busy meeting.

On Sept 19, many members participated in the Four Parish Second Annual Harvest Celebration at the Dayton Firefighters' Activity Center. On the committee for Holy Cross were Fran and Michael Petkus and Elinor Sluzas. With the meats and drinks on the menu, people were asked to bring covered dishes and many of our council members came through with food and helping out wherever they were needed. Known for his "expertise" in moving raffle tickets, George Mikalauskas came through - big time- as usual. Thanks must go to the Michael J. Petkus Realty Company for sponsoring the Frank Moravcik Polka Band from Cleveland for the day. Feet were really keeping beat to the music. Mother Nature gave us a beautiful day-sunshine, no humidity! If one misses this function, they miss out on meeting the parishoners of the four parishes that our own Fr Holloran has in his care!

Once again C-96 members went on the road, heading to Cleveland for the MCD Fall Convention/Pilgrimage..... Mark Bell, George and Frances Mikalauskas, Fran and Michael Petkus and Elinor Sluzas. MCD Spiritual Advisor Rev. Gediminas Kijauskas, SJ, opened and



closed our meeting with a prayer and led us with prayers and remembrances for all deceased members in the district. Hearing the names of all these members who were the builders of our district triggered many memories! A special thanks goes to C-25's Pres. Theresa Capuria's granddaughter, Sara Royce, who hosted us during the meeting.

Congratulations to Andrew Berczelly for being a recipient of a Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council Scholarship Award. Andrew will continue his studies at the University of Dayton!

A very warm welcome to our 2 new members, Josef A. Cernevicius of Toledo OH and Kuddy Scott Thomas of Ft. Thomas, KY. Many active years ahead!!

Get well wishes are sent to Rita Ambrose, Kristine Dambrauskas, Joan Kavalauskas, Ida Kavy, Elaine Pacovsky, Mildred Steinbrunner, JoAnn Thiele and Connie Zilinskas.

Officers for the term 2004-2005: Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Michael Holloran; Pres, Anne Louise Tucker; 1st VP, Robert Pant; 3rd VP, Christine Mantz Fletcher, Michael Petkus; Rec Sec, Mary Agnes Mikalauskas; Trustees, George Mikalauskas, Andrew Berczelly; Sgt-at-arms, Robert Petkus. Committees: Religious, JoAnn and Gary Thiele; Lithuanian Affairs/Cultural/Historian, Elena Mikalauskas; Ritual, Frances Petkus, EloiseBerczelly; Vytis/Bulletin, Frances Petkus; Social Chair/Condolences, Elaine Pacovsky; C-96 By-Laws, Robert and Linda Pant; PR, Mary Agnes Mikalauskas; Photographer, Laurreta Pant, Gary Thiele; Recognition award, George Mikalauskas. We thank our past Board for the fine job they did keeping us busy this past term... To the new Board nothing but a most successful year!

A Blessed Christmas to one and all with a healthy, happy year in 2005!!

## MidAtlantic District

### C-29 Newark, NJ Rita Sussko HM



Greetings from C-29 to all our Fellow Knights. We resumed our regular monthly meetings Sept 5.

In Aug, we were represented at the 91st National Convention by Emilia Sadonis, Loretta Stukas HM, and Rita Sussko HM. Our dear neighbors, C-90 of Kearny were hosts. You could not find more hospitable hosts than the Nakrosis family and committee. They made the convention a pleasant and unforgettable time for all.

We were represented at the Farewell Mass and breakfast by 23 members who were all very proud to extend congratulations to our Pres, Harold Kaminskas. He received his Fourth Degree along with 3 other recipients. The degree and medal was presented to them by our National Spiritual Adv, Msgr. J. Anderlonis and National Ritual Chair, Lee Moore. Best wishes, Harold. Wear your medal proudly and in good health. You worked hard to earn it.

On Sept 19 our "Lithuanian Cowboy", Ed Rimelis, sponsored a "Country Music Festival" for the benefit of Holy Trinity/Epiphany Church. His committee was comprised of C-29 members and the affair was a huge success.

We were saddened by the loss of our beloved Mary Honeyman. She volunteered to serve on every committee and also chaired the Annual Palm Sunday Cake Sale for many years. She is missed. Rest in Peace, Mary.

On a very happy note, Ada and Domas Andruska and Bernard and Viola Skripata celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversaries. Harold and Virginia Kaminskas celebrated their 60th Anniversary. Ilgiausiu Metu/Happy Anniversary and many more.

Our annual Dinner Dance was held Oct 10. It included a cocktail hour chaired

by Ann O'Neill, Dinner and Dance. Chairperson for the affair was Emilia Sadonis and music was furnished by the very talented Stasys Telsinskas. The hard working committee: Harold and Jean Kaminskas, Ada and Domas Andruskas, Frank and Ann Pokol, John and Helen Sisak, Vytautas Micknevicus, Ed Rimelis, Loretta Stukas HM, Marie Guoba, Helen Radisch and Rita Sussko HM.

We wish to welcome back as a member Eva Richkus and also our new member, Susan Reardon.

We hope all our fellow Knights and friends had a happy, healthy summer and enjoy your fall and winter. Stay healthy, happy, and active!

### C-136 Hudson-Mohawk Dorothy Richmire



Our recent meeting was attended by 12 faithful members. All in attendance received copies of the updated K of L constitution. Members voted on placing our annual ad in the Vytis and Michael Sargalis suggested a group photo for the ad. He had his digital camera on board so with Mike directing our positions, we posed for the camera. Mike tried to join us for the photo; however, the click of the camera was too speedy for Mike.

Plans were firm up for the Festival of Nations, Oct 31.

Bob Duda reported on the recent trip he and Ginger Houghton made to Lithuania. They took 2 suitcases full of medical supplies and filled them for the return trip with assorted items to be sold at the Festival.

Our council participated in the annual Stockade Walkabout in Sept. Kathy Lisson chaired the event with help from Bernice Aviza, Ed Barkowski, Gen Deery, Dot Richmire and Jo Sasinowski. They made a variety of foods and the continuous flow of visitors welcomed the treats. We had people from as far as Utica.

K of L MAD meeting was held Sept 25 at Holy Cross Church hall. Approx 22



members of 5 councils were in attendance. Elections were held and results were: Pres, Cathy Nakrosis, C-90; VP Bernice Aviza, C-136; Sec Julia Schroeder C-110; Treas, Becky Patacki C-90; Trustees John Nakrosis C-90, Chris Schroeder C-110; Lithuanian Affairs, Ed Barkowski C136 PR Becki Patacki C-90; Lithuanian Culture Polly Aizusys C-100; Ritual Lynn McDonald C-136. Next meeting will be in Kearny, April 23, 2005, hosted by the district.

Annual Lithuanian Day at Auriesville was Sept 26. Rev. Richard Carlino, Pastor of Holy Cross Church, celebrated the Mass, assisted by co-celebrant Rev. Stanley Swierzowski, Pastor of St. Casimir Church. Father Carlino, in his homily, touched on his first learning of Lithuania's battle to regain independence. The Mass was preceded by the Stations of the Cross and followed by a potluck picnic at the outside pavilion.

On the sick list: Bea Jasewocz. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

## New England District

### C-10 Athol-Gardner Vincukas



The following slate of officers was elected at the Oct meeting: Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Joseph Jurgelonis; Pres Henry Gailiunas; VP William Wisniauskas; Treas Nellie Melaika; Rec Sec Pamela Bouthilier; Fin Sec Marie Colo; Sgt-at-arms Richard Gatautis; Ritual chair Maryann Langlois; Cultural chair Brone Wisniauskas; Friendship Marie Colo. The annual Kucios will be Dec 19 at St. Francis, Athol. The council is celebrating its 90th anniversary. Kiley Kraskauskas and Matthew Rice were married at a beautiful wedding on June 27 at Falmouth on the Cape. Kiley is the daughter of K of L members James Kraskauskas and AstaK. Con-celebrant was Rev Julius Sasnauskas from the Bernadian church in

Vilnius, friend of the family.

Suzanne Genaitis was united in marriage to Robert Howard, Jr. on July 17 in Wakefield, with reception held at the World Trade Center in Boston. Suzanne is a former K of L and daughter of members Richard and Donna Geraitis. Congratulations to both couples on a long and happy marriage.

Our council is deeply saddened on the death of David Lucas, longtime member of C-10, on July 15. He held membership in the Lithuanian Gardner Club, Maironis Park, and the Railroad Club. The K of L Ritual was largely attended and a large group acted as honor bearers. Cousin Jim Kraskauskas and wife, Asta, placed the juosta on the casket and Jim gave an excellent eulogy. He is sadly missed by us all. SuDiev, Dave!

Recovering from illness is Brone Wisniauskas and Natalie Brighenti.

Henry and Brone Gailiunas are spending 5 weeks in Lithuania.

Gloria O'Malley's father, George Debesaitis, received the medal of honor after 50 years, at a ceremony held recently in Springfield.

With the closing of St. Casimir's in Westfield, Jim and Marcia gave Brone Wisniauskas many vestments, chalices, monstrance, etc. that were sent to Brone's cousin, Rev Erastas Murauskas, Pastor of the Basilica of Siluva. Along with a curate, he takes care of the Apparition Chapel and 2 parishes in the area. To this date, the miraculous painting and crowns have not been recovered.

Julia Kalanta Meehan recently celebrated her 90th birthday held at St. Francis Parish Hall.

Armand Bouthilier won 27 ribbons at the Franklin Fair in Greenfield for his fresh and canned veggies. Bravo!

Lillian Genaitis Erickson of Seattle spent 6 weeks in Gardner at which time she sold the family homestead.

Condolences are extended to Frank Markuns on the loss of his wife.

Congratulations to Vivian Rodgers for being selected to receive the Ministry Award from St. Casimir's, Worcester, from Bishop McManus on Oct 15. Vivian has been involved in many church affairs all of her adult life. Valio, Vivian!

Bronius Savulis spent 4 months on Long Island with relatives.

### C-26 Worcester, MA Ruta



Our new K of L season started off with a great potluck supper. The members outdid themselves with tasty creations. What an assortment of food! There was a good deal of catch-up conversation going on while members were eating. It was an opportunity of finding out what people did during the summer.

Pres Vivian Rodgers gave an excellent informative report on the National Convention so that those who were unable to attend could know what was discussed and voted upon. It was good to see Aldona Waska back and also Chuck Sarafinas. Keep sending cards to Ann Walinsky; she enjoys receiving them.

Vivian and Al Rodgers recently celebrated their 55th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations and best wishes for many more happy years together.

Fr. Volungis who has been living in the rectory with Fr Jakubauskas has moved to Southgate Assisted Living in Shrewsbury. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. Joe and Antoinette Ivaska reside in a nursing home now; it was good to see Joe at a recent Maironis Park annual dinner.

We are very fortunate to have 4 cantors from our K of L - Anne Leseman, Irene Markevicius, Vivian Rodgers and Barbara Thompson.

New members welcomed into our council are Al Grudzinskas, Dorothy Lalone and Dana Marcinkevicius.

We are sorry to report that Joan Wojciak passed away. Joan was a third



degree member and secretary of our council. She was a very active member and we shall miss her. Members conducted the K of L ritual at her wake. It is so special and appreciated by the family. Ruth and Vitty Gadilauskas recently lost their son, Donald. He lived in NH with his family. Please remember them in your prayers. During the fun Penny Sale at the Oct meeting over 50 great prizes were won; the money that was earned is to be sent to the orphanage in Lithuania that we help to support.

Anthony Anton has sent a letter that he's joining family in Claremont, Fl. Nell and Joe Salkaus were out sick and we wish them a speedy recovery.

At the Fall NED convention, the following were reelected to their previous positions: Pres, Vivian Rodgers; Treas, Marion Racicot; Ritual, Ann Leseman. Congratulations to them all.

Copies of the new K of L constitution were distributed.

The new officers for the coming year: Pres Vivian Rodgers; VP Ann Leseman; Treas Ruth Gadilauskas; Sec Olga Kersis; Fin Sec Marion Racicot; Trustee Bill Leseman; Vytis correspondent Ruth Sarafinas; Lithuanian Affairs Victoria Augustine; Publicity Dorothy Lalone; Sgt-at-arms Teresa Adomavicius; Sunshine Ann Bucinkas. We look forward to another great year.

Irene Markevicius is looking forward to the arrival of her friends from Kaunas, Lithuania. Jurate Juozaitiene is in the Liberal Party. When they ran for the recent election, their party lost. Her husband, Virgoc, an architect, will be accompanying her to America. They will spend 2 weeks with Irene.

Congratulations are extended to Vivian Rodgers for being selected to receive the Ministry Award from St. Casimir's Parish. Bishop Robert McManus will make the presentation. She is a great asset to our church and is involved in many activities such as record keeping, Finance Committee, Parish Council, Lector, Choir and cantor, Coffee Hour,

Visiting the Sick, the Parish Dinner, Chairperson for the Harvest Fair, and President of our Council 26.

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

A Social was held at our May meeting for Audrey Toole (our secretary) and Edward Toole (Ritual committee) who moved to Florida. We wish them good luck.

Edward Dickus just returned from a tour in Italy which he enjoyed very much. Welcome back, Ed!

A group of K of L ladies get together once a month for lunch at various restaurants and try to speak Lithuanian. We enjoy this as it keeps us in touch with the language.

Our summer outing was held Aug 14 at Savin Rock in West Haven. There was a good turn-out and everybody enjoyed themselves!



### ATTENTION, PLEASE!

Membership dues are due by **February 15, 2005** in order to continue receiving the Vytis. Please pay your dues to your Council Financial Secretary in time for the National, to receive it by that date.

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Deadline for Council News to the VYTIS office is **December 28, 2004.**

### VYTIS Correspondents

We sincerely thank you for your loving dedication in preparing the Council News for the Vytis. Have a joy-filled and Blessed Christmas

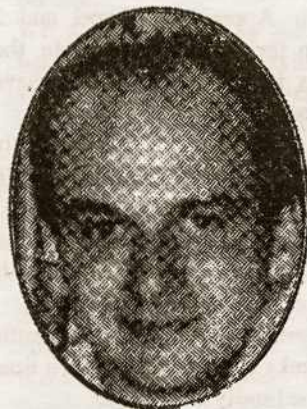
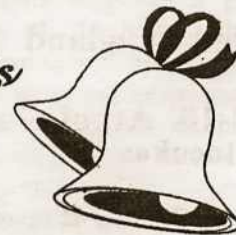
~The Vytis Staff~

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*May the Lord continue His  
Blessings on You!*

*Ann & Leon Pauksta C-112*

~~~~~



*In memory of  
Gregory P. Laske*





# REJOICE



*Christ the Savior  
is born again!  
As you celebrate,  
May all your  
prayers and hopes be  
fulfilled  
Bringing you  
peace and  
Contentment*

*Linksmiausių Kalėdų ir  
Laimingiausių Naujų  
Metų*

*From your Vytis Staff:  
Sr. M. Janine Golubickis  
Mrs. Mildred Jagiella  
Sr. Johanna M.  
Shainauskas*



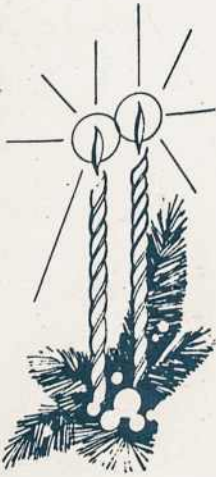


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*We light a thousand candles bright  
 Around the earth today,  
 And all the beams will shine  
 Across the heaven's grand display.  
 Dear brightest star o'er Bethlehem,  
 O let your precious light  
 Shine in with hope and peace toward men  
 In every home tonight.*

