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Vytis - The Knight

Special Issue - September, 2005 - Vyčių Seimo Leidinys - rugėjo mėn. 2005m.

92nd National Convention Issue

Tikejimas, Laisvė, Brolystė!



Faith, Freedom, Fraternity!

Vytis (The Knight)

Special Issue – September, 2005

Volume 91 No. 5

92nd National Convention Issue - 92 Vyčių Seimo Leidinys

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2005-2006**

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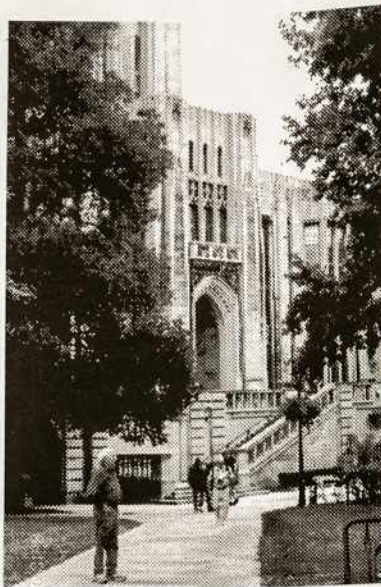
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Mission Statement: The Knights of Lithuania endeavors to instill in its members an attachment to Lithuania, the land of our ancestors, and knowledge, appreciation and love of the Lithuanian language, customs and culture.

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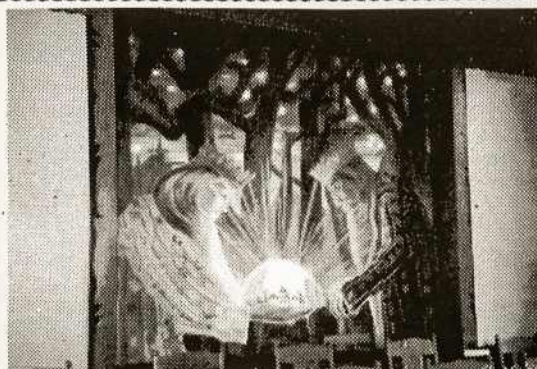
The University of Pittsburgh

MERITAGE GRILL PITTSBURGH TRIVIA

1. Name Pittsburgh's three rivers? (The Ohio, Monongahela, Allegheny)
2. How many super bowls have the Pittsburgh Steelers won? (4)
3. What is Pittsburgh also known as? (The Steel City)
4. How many bridges are in Pittsburgh? (394) What city has more Perhaps? (Venice, Italy)



Entrance to the Lithuanian classroom



Mythical kings with the city of Vilnius.

TO OUR FELLOW KNIGHTS...



"Cruisin' Down the River..." is our Vytis Staff, l. to r. :Sr. Johanna Marie, Sr. Mary Janine, Mildred Jagiella; and on the far right is our captain of the ship, Joanna Radzevicius.

Below: The Johnson Family wishing everyone a warm welcome. Pittsburgh will STEEL your heart away!





BANQUET SPEECH 2005

Rev. Msgr., Honored Guests and Delegates, and Friends of the Knights of Lithuania.

For 92 years, the Knights of Lithuania organization has fostered and promulgated our Catholic religion, our Lithuanian language, our heritage, our culture and traditions. That is quite an accomplishment for which we are very proud.

During this 92nd Convention we have exchanged ideas, formulated plans, discussed issues energetically, and now hopefully will take home with us innovative methods to assist us in our efforts to continue to nurture the mission set forth by our founding fathers way back in 1913.

There are quite a few members here tonight who have faithfully attended at least ½ of our 92 Conventions – somewhere between 40 and 50 Conventions. That is quite a remarkable feat. True, times have changed, the people have changed, the Conventions have changed – but, there remains that special bond – that special Knights of Lithuania cement – that unites us all together – no matter what – and no amount of change can ever break or fracture that bond.

I am certain that everyone here tonight joins me in a heartfelt “thank you” to our hosts – the members of Council 19 – who have graciously invited us to their home and have made us feel welcome in every way.

I am most grateful that you have again entrusted me as your President. I will do my best to represent the Knights of Lithuania in an exemplary and professional manner.

I know that all the newly elected members of the Supreme Council will also demonstrate faithfulness and responsibility to their duties during the coming year. The Supreme Council, under the Chairmanship of Mary Beth Slakis and Joe Stiklius, have a big job ahead of them this year in formulating plans for our 93rd Convention next year in Florida.

My best wishes to all of you for a safe trip back to your homes. We hope to see you all again next year in Florida.

Thank you and God Bless!

Agnes V. Mickunas, H.M.,
President

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - 2005



The Delegates of the 92nd K of L National Convention

Knights of Lithuania 92nd National Convention State of the Organization Report

In accordance with Article XI, Section 2 of the Knights of Lithuania Constitution which states that the President prepares the Annual State of the Organization Report, the following is a summary of all reports that have been submitted. All delegates are urged to take home a set of these reports, read them and share the contents with your Council members.

Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD, HM

- Msgr. Joe hosted the Supreme Council meeting in October in October 2004 with the assistance of Council 3.
- Monsignor also traveled to Pittsburgh, PA to attend the Supreme Council meeting held there in April.
- A monthly Mass is offered by Msgr. Joe for deceased members of the Knights of Lithuania.
- Monsignor has met with the President on several occasions to discuss issues important to the Knights of Lithuania. Monsignor has provided advice and counsel for which we are grateful.
- We are very grateful to Monsignor for his continued friendship and support.

President - Agnes V. Mickunas, HM

- I presided over three meetings – Kearny, NJ; Philadelphia, PA; and Pittsburgh, PA. I represented the K. of L. at the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington, DC on February 16 and also Lithuanian Independence Day ceremonies in Philadelphia and the St. Casimir Day celebration in Gulfport, FL I was privileged to meet with Ambassador Ušackas at these three events.
- It was an honor to be invited to the 45th “Memories of Lithuania” banquet in Chicago on February 5. I was able to address the guests on behalf of the Knights of Lithuania and most importantly, to meet and be in the company of Honorary Consul Vaclovas Kleiza and his spouse. Also, it was good again to meet with Ambassador Ušackas who also attended this occasion.
- The social membership proposal was mailed to 50 active Councils. Because two-thirds did not approve this proposal, no further action is warranted. The trustees will officially verify these results in their report to the Convention.
- In compliance with resolutions approved at last year’s Convention I mailed a congratulatory letter to President Adamkus on his reelection and a thank you letter to President George Bush for his support of Lithuania’s quest to be a member of NATO. During the year, when requested, I prepared and mailed K. of L. greetings to other Lithuanian organizations.

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- Because communication is an integral part of a good organization, I maintained contact by telephone and E-Mail with members of the Supreme Council. In addition, I kept in close contact with the Editor of our Vytis magazine and had many discussions with our Legal Advisor..
-
- Spoke many times with the C-19 Chairpersons of this Convention, and offered assistance, when needed. I prepared and mailed requests for Convention Greetings and when received, forwarded a number of them to Pittsburgh for their Ad Book.

1st Vice President - Brian J. Johnson

- Brian attended the Supreme Council meeting in April.
- He continues to maintain an up-to-date record of the term limits and expiration dates of Officers and Committee Chairs. He prepares this list for publication in the January issue of Vytis.
- At the request of the President, Brian attended and participated at the sessions of the JBANC Conference held in Washington, DC on March 4, 2005. He was the official K. of L. representative at this conference.
- In addition to his Supreme Council duties, Brian is the Co-Chair of this year's Convention.
- Brian has most certainly been an able and cooperative assistant to the President. In addition to all the jobs he has concerning this Convention, he has accepted to help me with some Supreme Council matters that have to be taken care of. I couldn't have asked for a better partner and helper.

2nd Vice President - Becky Pataki

- Becky Pataki attended all Supreme Council meetings
- Becky processes membership applications, prepares "Welcome" packets for new members, which includes the new updated Constitutions.
- She takes the time to answer membership questions from potential and current members.
- In addition, Becky fulfilled requests for updated Knights of Lithuania brochures
- Becky prepared a terrific membership article for the Vytis. It was filled with thought provoking and great suggestions for improving our membership numbers. Thank you, Becky, for all the work it took to produce such a great article.
- Becky kept in contact with the President whenever the need arose.
- This is Becky's last term as 2nd Vice President. We thank her for the time and energy she expended to fulfill her duties so responsibly and professionally.

3rd Vice President - Maryte Bizinkauskas

- Maryte was unable to attend the Supreme Council meetings during the year due to personal commitments.
- She has planned Junior fundraising activities during the National Convention.
- Maryte is scheduled to conduct the Junior's Convention Meeting. A report on their activities will be presented at the Saturday session. The Juniors will learn about Lithuanian folk dancing and will perform their version of the "Suktinis" for the delegates.
- Maryte completes her 3rd term as 3rd Vice-President. We thank her for what she has accomplished during this period.

Recording Secretary - Bernice Aviza

- Bernice Aviza attended all meetings of the Supreme Council.
-
- Bernice handled her duties with her usual efficiency and expertise. She notified all Supreme Council members of upcoming meetings and prepared the minutes of each meeting in a timely manner.
-
- Bernice always made the appropriate number of copies of reports needed for everyone at each meeting.
-
- Bernice does a big job for us before each Convention. She is the one who prepares all the copies of the Annual Reports, Convention Schedule, and other accompanying information that the delegates receive at the Convention.
-
- On her own volition Bernice attended the JBANC Conference and associated activities which were held in Washington, DC the weekend of March 4, 2005.
-
- In addition to all the above, she is active on her own Council and District levels.
- Bernice is completing her third term as National Recording Secretary. We are the fortunate ones indeed to have had her as our National Secretary.

Treasurer - Elena Nakrosis

- Ellie attended all the Supreme Council meetings and participated in all discussions.
- She has kept all financial records and documents in proper order. All bills have been paid in a timely and efficient manner.
- Ellie was most instrumental in arranging the Knights of Lithuania Baltic cruise which successfully took place the end of June 2005.
- Ellie has diligently handled her duties these past three years. We are sincerely appreciative for her dedication to all of the K. of L's interests.

Financial Secretary - June Grenier

- June attended the Supreme Council meeting in Pittsburgh in April.
- Dues renewal forms were mailed to Council Financial Secretaries. She updated the membership database and provided the Council Financial Secretaries with an updated membership list and membership cards.
- June provides Draugas with an updated mailing list for Vytis.
- She prepares and mails out the National Convention Mandate forms to all of the Councils and upon receipt, records the delegates names for the Convention voting cards.
- June is also active on her Council and District levels.
- June is completing her third term as Financial Secretary. We appreciate her efforts in handling all the responsibilities associated with this position.

Trustees - Mary Beth Slakis and Joseph Stiklius

- Both Mary Beth and Joe have attended Supreme Council meetings.
-
- They completed the task of final distribution of the new updated Constitutions after last year's Convention.
-
- During this Convention they plan to give each District President copies of the approved Honorary Membership secret ballot resolution who, in turn, will distribute appropriate copies to their Council Presidents.
-
- They have updated the Knights of Lithuania equipment inventory and report that their records are now current.
- Mary Beth and Joe will finalize their audit of all Knights of Lithuania books and will report their findings at the final Convention session.
-
- Mary Beth and Joe are the Chairs for the upcoming 2006 Convention in Florida. They will report on plans during the final session.
-
- Both Mary Beth and Joe have responsibly performed their duties as Trustees. We are appreciative of all their efforts.

Archives Chair - Frances Bumila

- Frances has done her best to maintain and catalog all materials that have been sent to the Archives.
- She is open to all suggestions and assistance on the best way to handle all materials received.
- We are grateful for Fran's continuing cooperation and dedication to her responsibilities.

Honorary Membership Chair - Elinor Sluzas, HM

- Elinor attended the Supreme Council meeting in Pittsburgh.
- Elinor plans to meet with her Committee at this Convention.
- Elinor submitted to Vytis the biography of the member scheduled to receive Honorary Membership at the Convention.
- Elinor is well qualified to handle this position. We are extremely grateful for her dedication to this challenging position.

Lithuanian Affairs Chair - John R. Mankus

- John continues to forward to our members appropriate news updates, programs on cultural events and notices from the Lithuanian Embassy. He sends Lithuanian Affairs articles and updates to Vytis.
- John contacted the recipient of this year's "Friend of Lithuania" award and made the necessary arrangements. John prepared the biography of this year's recipient for insertion in Vytis and the Convention Program Book. He will make the formal presentation at the closing banquet.
- John attended the Lithuanian Independence Day ceremonies at the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington, DC in February.
- He has attended all Supreme Council meetings and continues his activity on both his Council and District levels.

Lithuanian Language and Cultural Chair - Julia Schroder

- Julia has made arrangements for the Mass which will be held in Washington, DC for the commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the Our Lady of Siluva Chapel. The Mass has been scheduled for 2:00 PM in the Main Basilica on Sunday, October 8, 2006. Detailed plans will be forthcoming at the beginning of the new Knights of Lithuania year.
- Julia has attended all Supreme Council meetings.

Public Relations Chair - Regina Juska-Švoba

- Regina has performed outstandingly as Public Relations Chair. She submits complete and comprehensive articles to the Lithuanian press covering all aspects of the Knights of Lithuania, namely, National Convention reports, synopses of District Conventions, and news about important banquets, concerts, pilgrimages, etc. submitted by individual Councils.
- Regina is the official Knights of Lithuania news reporter. We value her untiring work on behalf of the Knights of Lithuania.
- She maintains contact by telephone and E-mail with various members of the Supreme Council, Editors of the Lithuanian press and producers of local radio programs relative to press coverage of the Knights of Lithuania organization.

- Regina always has her camera ready and submits accompanying photos with her articles.
-
- Regina has been a great help to me personally by assisting and coaching me in preparing greetings and correspondence in the Lithuanian language.
-
- Regina has attended all Supreme Council meetings. She is active on her local Council and District levels.

Ritual Committee Chair - Lee Moore

- Lee attended and participated at all Supreme Council meetings.
- During the past year Lee has efficiently maintained all Ritual records and responded to all correspondence directed to her attention
- Lee has worked together with the members of the Ritual Committee to update the Ritual section of the K. of L. Manual.
- A total of 72 degrees has been processed this year
- While in Florida, Lee attended and participated in the local Council's activities and programs.
- In addition to her National duties, Lee serves as President and Ritual Chair of C-86 and Ritual Chair for the Mid-Central District.
- Lee is an asset to the National Board and we are grateful for the work she does for the Knights of Lithuania.

Scholarship Committee Chair - John P. Baltrus

- Throughout the year John has handled & responded to several inquiries regarding the Knights of Lithuania Scholarship program.
- John, along with his committee, thoroughly review all applications and accompanying documentation. He will announce the scholarship recipients at the Closing Convention Banquet
- It is certainly to our organization's advantage that we have a person of John's caliber to be the Chair of this committee.
- In addition to these duties, John has been actively engaged in the preparations for this year's Convention in Pittsburgh.
- John attended the Supreme Council meeting held in Pittsburgh. He is presently President of his Council and participates actively in his District.

Aid to Lithuania, Inc. - Regina Juska-Švoba, President & Robert Boris, HM, Board Chair

- Regina and Bob continue their able direction and leadership of Aid to Lithuania, Inc.
-
- They both continually monitor the needs of the various funds and projects under the wing of ATL. They respond to requests and are ever vigilant to where assistance and aid is truly needed.
-
- They prepare an annual ATL newsletter which is mailed in December.
-
- Their annual Board of Directors meeting will take place at this Convention.
-
- A full annual report will be presented to the delegates at this Convention. Their detailed report encompassing all the activities of ATL during the past year is included in the delegates packets.
-
- We thank Regina and Bob for their dedication to this important arm of the Knights of Lithuania.

Knights of Lithuania Foundation Inc - Loretta Stukas, HM

- Loretta Stukas continues to oversee efforts and methods to assure continued growth of the Foundation's assets
- The Foundation continues sponsorship of the Karklius Scholarship and the annual Essay Contest
- The Annual Foundation Meeting has been scheduled during this Convention. Important decisions pertinent to the Foundation will be made by attending members.
- Loretta will give a detailed report to the Convention delegates.
- We appreciate all the work Loretta has done and accomplished on behalf of the Knights of Lithuania Foundation.

St. Casimir Guild - Anna Klizas Wargo, HM, President

- Anne Wargo continued the ongoing task of St. Casimir Guild in obtaining donations and aid for the Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome.
-
- Through the generosity of our Councils and members, the TV project has been successfully culminated. Each guest room now boasts a small TV.
-
- A total of 749 Mass requests were forwarded to Rome. The Mass stipends are the main source of support for the student Priests and the Priests at the College.
-
- Anne reports that a total of \$46,000 was forwarded to Rome throughout the year. This includes the money donated for the TV project.
-

- Anne will meet with members of her Committee during this Convention. She will give her report during one of the sessions.
-
- We thank Anne for all she does for the benefit of St. Casimir Guild.

Our Lady of Šiluva Fund - Elinor Služas, HM, Chair

- Elinor has kept in contact throughout the year with committee members and the Supreme Council on all matters pertaining to the Our Lady of Šiluva Fund project
- Elinor received notification that the Our Lady of Šiluva Fund incorporation by the Secretary of the State of Illinois was certified on July 30, 2004.
- She arranged for the lamination of the Our Lady of Šiluva holy cards that all registered delegates have received in their Convention packets
- A separate meeting with all Committee members is scheduled during this Convention.
- Elinor will give a report during her presentation at one of the Convention sessions.

Amber District - Dianne Drumstas, President

- Dianne has worked very diligently to rejuvenate the Amber District to an active and participatory mode.
-
- Meetings were held in Easton, PA and in St. Clair, PA. C-144 sponsored the Annual St. Casimir Day celebration in St. Clair on March 13, 2005. The attendance at meetings has experienced a great increase.
-
- Both Dianne and her District Secretary maintain good communications and personal contact with all the Councils in the District. This effort has spurred renewed interest and participation in District activities.
-
- The Amber District newsletter, mailed to all District Councils, has been very well received.
-
- Dianne attended the Supreme Council meeting in Philadelphia. She maintains a high level of activity in her own Council.

Mid-America District - Robert A. Martin, Jr., President

- Rob reports that quarterly meetings were held on a regular basis. The MAMD Spring Meeting and St. Casimir's Day Mass were hosted by C-133, Los Angeles. A District K. of L. picnic took place on July 17 at the Jagiella Farm in Indiana.
-
- Rob was Chairman of the 45th Annual Memories of Lithuania Banquet on February 6, 2005. This annual event is sponsored by the MAMD District. This year the Annual Award of Distinction was presented to Honorary Consul General Vaclovas Kleiza for his many years of service to the American Lithuanian community in the Chicago area and around the world.

-
- As District President Rob represented the MAMD at the ALTAS Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration on February 13. He also attended the Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration hosted by the Consulate General on February 15.
-
- Rob continues to update the Knights of Lithuania website. He is to be complimented on his diligence and expertise in keeping the information on this website current and up to date.
-
- He has taken the leadership stance, together with the remaining District Presidents, in preparing the proposed slate of officers for the coming term as well as the slate for the Convention Presidium.
-
- Rob is a definite asset to the organization. His cooperation knows no bounds.

Mid-Atlantic District - Cathy Nakrosis, President

- Cathy presided over the Spring Mid-Atlantic District meeting.
-
- Cathy worked on the Nominating Committee to complete the proposed election slate for the 92nd National Convention.
-
- The District Fall meeting is scheduled for October 16.
- Cathy attended and participated at all Supreme Council meetings. She is aggressively pursuing avenues to keep the District Councils in good communication with each other.
-
- Cathy attended the Supreme Council meetings in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.
-
- Cathy has proven to be an important asset to the Knights of Lithuania organization.

Mid-Central District - Michael Petkus, President

- The Mid-Central District conducted their Spring Convention/Bowling Tournament on May 20 – 22, 2005 in Port Clinton, Ohio. Council 96 Dayton, Ohio hosted this meeting.
-
- Michael represented the District at the Supreme Council meeting held in Pittsburgh, PA.
-
- Michael continues to lead the District and encourages participation from all the Councils.

New England District - Vivian Rodgers, President

- Vivian coordinated the NED Annual Cultural Festival held in Maironis Park in Shrewsbury, MA..
-
- She presided over the NED Board Meetings held in Worcester, MA and Putnam, CT.

- Vivian represented the District at local St. Casimir Day and Lithuanian Independence Day commemorations.
- In addition to District duties, Vivian served on the Presidium at the National Convention last year in Secaucus, NJ.
- Vivian attended the Supreme Council meeting in Pittsburgh, PA.
- Vivian has done her best to lead and nurture the New England District.

Legal Advisor - Saulius V. Kuprys, Esq.

- Saulius prepares the Knights of Lithuania annual filings with the IRS and handles all issues relating to such filings.
- Saulius handled all the legal documentation necessary for the incorporation of the Our Lady of Šiluva Fund.
- I am pleased to report that Saulius keeps in close telephone contact with me and keeps me up to date on numerous issues involving the Knights of Lithuania. It is through his knowledge and expertise that I have become more adept and knowledgeable about many legal matters pertaining to the Knights of Lithuania. I am so grateful for his willingness to share his expertise and advice with me.

**Vytis - Sister M. Janine Golubickis, SSC, Editor-in-Chief/
Sister Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC, Business Manager**

- Sister Janine is truly dedicated to producing a first class magazine – our Vytis. Besides organizing and editing the Vytis publication, editorial duties have included answering the mails and expediting various correspondence.
- Sister Johanna prepares layout, design, typing and handling of various clerical duties of the Business Manager.
- Both Sister Janine and Sister Johanna make a great team. The publication of the Vytis is probably the most difficult job in the framework of the Knights of Lithuania organization. We are truly appreciative of all their efforts and dedication on the K. of L's behalf. They are certainly deserving of all the thanks we can muster.
- Sister Janine and Sister Johanna are active in their respective Councils and District. They are certainly a credit to their religious order and to our Knights of Lithuania organization.

In Conclusion

- The main focus of our organization this year has been the supportive role we must play regarding the closing of our Lithuanian churches. Our members need their Churches to be able to continue all those valued traditions that were such an important part of our growing up years
- True, we have suffered a decline in membership. The change in the values of our society has been a central cause. However, if we continue to work together and support each other, we can change the tide. Nothing is impossible. We must keep that good old-fashioned Lithuanian "stick-to-it-iveness_ - the glue - that makes nothing impossible.
- I thank all the K. of L. members who have served on the Supreme Council this year. They have performed their tasks with dedication and responsibility. I am so honored to have worked with all of them this year.
- And I thank you, the delegates of this 92nd National Convention, for your continued support and encouragement.
- Thank you.
- *Agnes V. Mickunas, HM.*

THANKYOU to the outgoing officers for a job well done! You made us proud! And thank you to the Presidium chairs for leading us throughout the Convention.

NEW Supreme Council

Newly elected members of the Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council are the following:

1st Vice President - Becky Pataki, C-90 Kearny
 2nd Vice President - Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC, C-112 Chicago
 3rd Vice President - Andreja Deksnis, C 112 Chicago
 Recording Secretary - Dolores Herbert, C-3 Philadelphia
 Treasurer- Bernice Aviza, HM, C-136 Hudson-Mohawk
 Financial Secretary -Ellie Nakrosis, C-90 Kearny
 Lithuanian Affairs Chair - Mildred Jagiella, C-82 Gary
 K of L Foundation - Pres. – Irene Ozalis, C-3 Philadelphia

We congratulate them and bid them a fruitful and fulfilling ministry for the organization, God and country.

The complete membership is listed on the inside front cover of Vytis magazine.

Presidium secretaries, Midred Jagiella and Sister Johanna Marie, SSC. Overworked and underpaid!



Presidium chairs, glad their job is over! l. to r.: Michael Petkus, ; Ellie Nakrosis, and Robert Martin, Jr.



REPORT OF ATTENDEES AT THE 92th NATIONAL CONVENTION
Held at the Wyndham Pittsburgh Airport Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA
August 11-14, 2005

Please be advised that this year's convention consisted of 3 sessions.

Supreme Council in attendance: Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis HM, Agnes V. Mickunas HM, Brian J. Johnson, Sr., Becky Pataki, Maryte Bizinkauskas, Bernice Aviza HM, Ellie Nakrosis, June V. Grenier, Mary Beth Slakis, Joseph Stiklius, Sr. M. Janine Golubickis SSC, Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas SSC, Frances Bumila, John R. Mankus, Elinor Sluzas HM, Lee Moore, Loretta Stukas HM, Anna K. Wargo HM, Regina Juska-Svoba, John Baltrus, Julia Schroder, Robert A. Martin, Jr, Michael Petkus, Catherine Nakrosis, Vivian M. Rodgers and Dianne Drumstas.

Honorary Members in attendance: Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, Msgr. Algis Bartkus, Veronica Bizinkauskas, Ann Marie Kassel, Agnes Mickunas, Frances Petkus, Frank Petrauskas, Estelle Rogers, Elinor Sluzas, Faustas Strolia, Loretta Stukas, Rita Sussko, and Anna K. Wargo.

Council Rosters and sessions attended:

C-1 Brockton: Maryte Bizinkauskas-1, Veronica Bizinkauskas HM-3, Frances Bumila-3, Blanche Goodstein-3.

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

C-6 Hartford: June V. Grenier-3, Arlene Stiklius-3, Joseph Stiklius-3.

C-12 New York: Helen Cuprewich-3, Vincent Cuprewich-3.

C-16 Chicago Bridgeport: Richard Niedvares-3, Mary Beth Slakis-3, Peter Paul Zansitis-3.

C-19 Pittsburgh: John Baltrus-2, Brian Johnson, Sr.-2, Eric Grabowsky-2, John Kuncas-1, Alice Lewellen-1, Kathleen Skalka-3.

C-26 Worcester: Victoria Augustine-3, Rita Karrytais-2, Alfred Rodgers-3, Vivian Rodgers-3.

C-27 Norwood: Sonia Skriki-3, Charles Treciokas-3.

C-29 Newark: Loretta Stukas HM-3, Rita Sussko HM-3.

- C-36 Chicago Brighton Park: Robert Damasauskas-2 , Glen Perutis-1.
- C-50 New Haven: Magdaline Cronin-3, Mary Geipel-3, Isabel Peterson-3.
- C-72 Binghamton: John R. Mankus-3, Barbara Miller-2, Tom Miller-2.
- C-82 Gary: Sr. Janine Golubickis SSC-3. Joanna Rudzevicius-2.
- C-86 DuBois: Paul Moore-3.
- C-90 Kearny: Catherine Nakrosis-3, Elena Nakrosis-3, John Nakrosis-1, Becky Pataki-3.
- C-96 Dayton: Fran Petkus, HM-3, Michael F. Petkus-3, Robert Petkus-2, Elinor Sluzas, HM-3.
- C-100 Amsterdam: Polly Ziausys-3.
- C-103 Providence: Sophia Sakalys-3.
- C-110 Maspeth: Julie Schroder-3, Christopher Schroder-1.
- C-112 Chicago Marquette Park: Andrea Deksnis-2, Maria Deksnis-3, Mary Anna Gercius-3, Regina Juskaitis-3, Rev. Anthony Markus-1, Anele Pocius-3, Edward Pocius-3, Estelle Rogers HM-3, Sr. Johanna Shainauskas SSC-3, Diane Svehla-1, Robert Svehla-3, Lorraine Svehla-3, Dolores Wainauskis-3, Julie Zakarka-3.
- C-133 Los Angeles: Josephine Barzda-3, Joan Manisalchi-2, Maryte Sepikas-2.
- C-135 Ansonia: Susan Cheponis-Ewen-3.
- C-136 Hudson-Mohawk: Bernice Aviza, HM-3.
- C-140 Syracuse: Frank Petrauskas HM-3, Irene Petrauskas-3.
- C-144 Anthracite: Anna K. Wargo HM-3.
- C-147 St. Petersburg: John Jonaitis-2.
- C-152 Eastern Long Island: Antoinette Sakal-3, John Sakal-3.
- C-157 Lemont: Ann Marie Juraitis-3, Donna Juraitis-3, Ann Marie Kassel HM-3, Georgianna Macke-3, Faustas Strolia HM-3, Theresa Strolia-3.
- Amber District: Diane Drumstas-3, Dolores Herbert-3.

Mid America District: Mildred Jagiella-3, Robert A. Martin, Jr.-3.

Mid Atlantic District: Roland Buccholz-3, Audrey Przybylski-3.

Mid Central District: Regina Juska-Svoba-3, Lee Moore-3.

New England District: Carol Treciokas-3, Larry Misevicius-2.

Guests: Joyce Collins C26-2, Irene Svekla C3-3, George Zilinskas C19-1, Karl Altau-1, Sigita Balzekas-1, Rima Diedoniene-1, Carole Lundin-2.

Juniors: Vilija Bizinkauskas C-1, Katie Drumstas C-3, Lauren Peterson C-50, Debbie Miller C-72, Audrey Przyleylski C-90, Loretta Przyleylski C-90, Leah Gaffney C-96, Erin Petkus C-96, Alex Deksnis C112, Liza Macke C-157.

Respectfully submitted,

Convention Mandate Committee

June V. Grenier C-6, National Financial Secretary, Chairperson

Georgianna Macke C-157

Lee Moore C-86

Cathy Nakrosis C-90

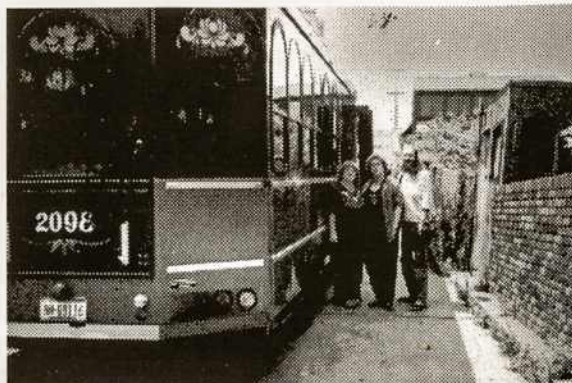
Vivian Rodgers C-26

Antoinette Sakal C-152

Theresa Strolia C-157.



Show and tell. Look What I just bought!



Ready to board one of "Molly's Trolleys!"

92ND NATIONAL CONVENTION "GET TOGETHER" NIGHT

The Convention Schedule simply stated: **Gateway Clipper – Dinner, Dance and Cruise – Buses depart hotel 6:00 P.M.** But what a wonderful evening that introduced! The buses brought us promptly to the Station Square Dock where the *River Belle* of the Gateway Clipper Fleet and its friendly crew awaited us. The Fleet flag was hoisted up the riverboat flagpole followed by - the Lithuanian flag! Someone began the Lithuanian National Anthem and the dock resounded with the Knights' proud participation in the hymn.

Inside the double-decker vessel with a rooftop observation area, everyone was guided to seats at table in preparation for a delicious and copious meal. Drinks abounded for those who wished, and conversations and reminiscences united friends and warmed hearts.

After the scrumptious repast, passengers could dance the night away (and a few did), or listen to the happy old-time music of Bob Jezewski's accordion and continue chatting and laughing. The familiar tunes were both entertaining and enjoyable.

Many conventioners chose to enjoy the view of the cruise outdoors on the rooftop or the front of the *River Belle*. Amid the gentle waves we passed the many double-decker bridges bustling with trucks and other vehicles. We traversed the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio Rivers which flow past Pittsburgh influencing its progress, and, at this time, adding to its appeal.

We saw it all: by land during the pre-convention tour and via the waters during the cruise. There was Carnegie Science Center, Heinz Field, PNC Park, the Duquesne and Monongahela Inclines, Point State Park and so much more.

The Gateway Clipper Fleet, the number one attraction in the City of Pittsburgh, presented an unforgettable Pittsburgh Riverboat Cruise Experience. This happy occasion truly captured the personality of this great river city – Pittsburgh, but even more so, it bonded members from around the country in a joyous "Get-Together" night.

Kudos to our wonderful hosts, Council-19 of beautiful Pittsburgh, PA!



The K of L River Boat



You're on Candid Camera!



We could have danced all night! (We did!)



Fun for the whole family!

Second Vice-President Membership Report

Twenty-seven Councils were involved in bringing in 103 new members to our organization this year.

The Council Awards were presented to:

- Hudson-Mohawk, C-136, for Councils with 1 – 50 members.
- Los Angeles, C-133, for Councils with 50-100 members.
- Waterbury, CT, C-7, for Councils with 101+ members.

Individual Awards were presented to:

- Mildred Jagiella (Gary, IN, C-82) for Councils with 1 – 50 members
- Maryte Sepikas (Los Angeles, C-133) for Councils with 50-100 members
- Marlene Shea (Waterbury, CT, C-7) for Councils with 101+ members.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Pataki

2nd Vice-President
Membership

ST. CASIMIR GUILD REPORT

Saturday morning's session began with the St. Casimir Guild report. President, Anna Klizas Wargo, thanked all who supported the Lithuanian Pontifical College. The TV project was successful and the Guest House now has a TV in each room.

There was one change in the Board of Directors. Betty Tumas of Council 144, Amber District, resigned as Secretary-Treasurer. Lillian Greymas, Council 3, Philadelphia, Amber District, was appointed and accepted.

Anna again stressed the importance of requesting Masses at the College. The Student Priests depend on the Mass Stipends to help them with their personal needs. Mass cards can be obtained from her. There are Masses for the deceased, healing and special intentions. Many members have supported the Masses. Some of our churches have been closed or combined. Since it is no longer possible to obtain Masses in some of these places, she suggested members use the

Pontifical College through the St. Casimir's Guild. Specific dates can be obtained, if required.

Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of the Pontifical Lithuanian College, then spoke. There will be ten new Student Priests at the College this year. He stated that many renovations have to be done. Thanks to the Vyciai, he had started an endowment fund many years ago and much of the expenses will be covered from this fund. His project for this year is to improve the rooms of the students. Nothing has been done in the rooms for a long time. New desks are needed to accommodate computers and to freshen the rooms for the students. He asked for help in this project. There are ten rooms, and the goal is \$1,000.00 for each room. He again thanked the Vyciai for adopting the college and for all the good we have done through the years. Ours is the only Lithuanian organization that has done so. He expressed the importance of keeping the College alive and well, because it is Lithuania's entrance to the Vatican.

THE OUR LADY OF ŠILUVA FUND COMMITTEE REPORT

The annual meeting of the Our Lady of Siluva Fund Committee was opened by Elinor Sluzas at 12 noon in the Wyndham Pittsburgh Hotel on August 12, 2005.

Elinor stated that we received incorporation papers from the Secretary of State of Illinois on July 29, 2004.

Members of the Board included the following:

Amber District Representative – Anna K. Wargo
Mid-America District – Theresa Strolia
Mid-Atlantic District – Loretta Stukas
Mid-Central District – Fran Petkus
New England District – Frances Bumila
Supreme Council Pres. – Agnes Mickunas
Spiritual Advisor – Msgr. J. Anderlonis
Evelyn Ozelis, C-36, agreed to be a signatory on the bank account.

Joe Chaplick, C-142, Washington, agreed to be a special representative for us at the National Shrine in Washington.

Rev. Tony Markus, Spiritual Advisor, C-112 Chicago, also agreed to be a special representative for the Siluva project.

The election of officers for the year 2005-2006 were held, with the following results:

President – Elinor Sluzas, HM, C-90, Dayton, OH

Secretary – Theresa Strolia, C-157, Lemont, IL

Treasurer – Richard Niedvares, C-16, Chicago, IL

Plus District and SC reps listed above.

Elinor stated, that all who wish to be members of the OSFC are eligible to be on the committee, rather than limiting membership to donors.

Financial reports up to this date are not complete, pending receipt of the account book by the Trustees. Terry Strolia reported that we currently have a balance of \$4,317.33 at 1st Personal Bank in Chicago.

A letter was received by Agnes Mickunas, HM, SC Pres. From Rev. Jordi Rivero, pastor of St. Raymond parish in Miami Florida, expressing interest in the website and requesting permission to use the material on a Spanish website. Ellinor S. spoke to him and also responded with a letter giving him the permission he requested. Father Rivero is the webmaster of the largest Catholic Spanish internet portal which is faithful to the megisterium (www.corazon.org)

Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Siluva shrine in Washington is in the planning stages. Julia Schroder spoke to the basilica clergy, reserving a date of October 8, 2006, with a 2p.m. Mass for this celebration. The Knights have been asked to take the lead in this celebration by the Shrine officials. Julia and Rob Martin are co-chairs of this celebration.

Terry Strolia suggested we form a Lithuanian publicity committee to be sure and get the anniversary information to the Lithuanian community. Faustas Strolia, HM, could assist Regina with this activity. Also, the co-chairs are thinking about having a banquet after the Mass. More information will be forthcoming as plans are completed. Msgr. Anderlonis suggested that we provide the stipend to the National Shrine from our committee funds. It was moved (Msgr. Joe) and seconded (Fran Bumila) to adopt this suggestion.

A discussion of the lack of materials to be found regarding the Siluva chapel at the National shrine followed. The committee voted to fund the printing and laminating of one thousand prayer cards and to present them to the Shrine gift shop gratis with the understanding that they are to be sold at the shrine shop. Monies accrued from their sale are to be kept by the Basilica for use in the upkeep of the Siluva Shrine. Julia Schroder will find out how we can get these cards into the gift shop. Msgr. Joe also suggested that she find

out how to get a post card of the Siluva Chapel into the shop, as is done for all the other chapels. This may be an expense handled by the Shrine directly. Terry Strolia reported that the Mid-America Institute is donating \$1,000 to the fund for the printing of the prayer cards or other material at the Shrine by this committee. Terry also suggested that plans for the anniversary be added to both the Siluva and the K of L website.

Rob Martin suggested, looking to the future, we should try to get a lapel pin of Our Lady of Siluva to give to our donors. Also, Elinor announced that for each \$10 a donor gives, a prayer card will be given in response. So, if a donor gives \$50, that person will receive five prayer cards, etc. Information regarding this will be added to the website.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made (J. Stiklius) and seconded (Mary Beth Slakis) to adjourn the meeting. Msgr. Anderlonis led us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Strolia – C-157

Secretary



Elinor Sluzas, HM, giving the Our Lady of Siluva report.



Some delegates enjoying the Cultural evening.



OPENING MASS

On Thursday, August 11, 2005, the opening Mass of the 92nd annual K of L Convention took place in the Three Rivers Ballroom at the Wyndham Hotel in Pittsburgh. The entrance procession was led by the flag bearers, followed by the Supreme Council and the concelebrants of the Mass, Rev. Msgr. J. Anderlonis, HM,; and Rev. Anthony Markus, pastor of Nativity BVM church in Chicago. The organist was our own Faustas Strolia, HM, and the very strong singing of the congregation was led by Ann Marie Kassel, HM.

A table with beautiful visuals was set up to help all present focus on the sacred event about to take place. The inspiring sermon given by Msgr. Anderlonis emphasized the Convention motto of "Faith, Freedom and Fraternity." After the Mass, everyone proceeded to breakfast, followed by the First Session of the Convention.



MASS ON FRIDAY was also concelebrated by Father Anderlonis and Father Anthony Markus, but this time they were joined by Msgr. A. Barkus, Rector of the Pontifical College, who came in from Rome to join the Convention delegates.

And during yet another most inspiring homily, Msgr. J. Anderlonis stressed the fact that, "Jesus calls us to always be better!"

Thanks to organist Faustas Strolia, HM, and Ann Marie Kassel HM, the leader of song, the congregation again raised its beautiful voices in praise and thanksgiving to God! Everyone left uplifted in spirit and ready to begin the work of the Convention for that day.



Becky Pataki, 2nd V.P., giving out membership awards. And the winners are...!



Mr. Karl Altau and Agnes Mickunas, HM

A GUEST SPEAKER from JBANC, Mr. Karl Altau, who is also its managing director, was introduced by SC president, Mrs. Agnes Mickunas, HM. These are some of the highlights from his presentation:

In order to remain politically active, JBANC will focus on the following goals:

1. the legacy of Communism and its effects
2. the expansion of Democracy beyond the Baltic borders
3. keeping an eye on Russia
4. strengthening the Atlantic and the Baltics
5. cooperating more with other like-minded organizations; power can be found in numbers.

A recent success, he mentioned, due to the efforts of Congressmen Shimkus and Durkin, was the passing of the proposal to make Russia apologize for its occupation and illegal annexation of the Baltic countries. Working with Poland on some of these issues is critical. He then added, that we have a collective responsibility to keep this issue (of apology) active. Many other European nations are also concerned about this matter.

Mr. Altau reminded the delegates of the project of the construction of a special memorial in Washington, DC, which will be dedicated to the victims of Communism. There is a committee seeking to raise funds for this purpose. Added to this project is also that of erecting a special museum. The memorial is expected to be completed some time next year. The design of

the memorial is based on the figure of the goddess of Democracy, since this is a nationally recognized symbol.

JBANC really depends on the funds of 3 organizations who give quarterly contributions. If anyone wishes to help with the Memorial, they can send contributions to ALTAS.

Mr. Altau ended by saying, that he would gladly accept any of our ideas and suggestions. Also, if anyone would like to see a Congressman, he can set this up.



Mr. Altau addresses the delegates.



The three Amigos having coffee and ...?



Sigita Balzekas greeting the Delegates.

Scholarship Awards 2005 National Convention

The Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Committee consists of 5 members: one representing each district. The committee members review and rank each application. Scoring is based on a numerical voting system that takes into account the following attributes: K of L involvement (minimum 2 year membership requirement); Financial Need, Character Reference, Academic Record, and Community Service. This year two applicants were chosen to receive awards.

Ericka Fryburg

Will begin her second year at Quinnipiac University this fall. She is currently enrolled in a rigorous double major program. She will graduate in 2008 with a degree in Athletic Training and a minor in biology. She then plans to remain at Quinnipiac University to receive her Doctorate in Physical Therapy. This year she was one of 20 students to receive the Outstanding Freshman Award at Quinnipiac.

Ericka has been a Junior member of the Knights of Lithuania in 2001 and has been a regular member since 2005. She has participated in the limited K of L and parish activities at St. Casimir's Church in Providence, RI including St. Casimir's Day mass and breakfast, Palm Sunday Easter Egg Workshop, Parish Dinner and February 16th Commemoration.

Ericka's activities include being a member of the Quinnipiac University Branches Catholic Fellowship, the Gospel Choir, and Christian Fellowship. She is helping to organize a Sailing Club at the university and belongs to their Physical Therapy and Athletic Training Clubs. She was awarded the Sister Silvia Rice Award at St. Mary Academy Bay View and was named Outstanding Physics Student of the Year. She has been a ski instructor for disabled students. She participated in World Youth Day in Toronto and this summer traveled to Poland and Germany for this year's World Youth Day. She is highly recommended by her teachers and peers. One letter of recommendation contained this quote, "Ericka Fryburg is an excellent candidate to receive the Knights of Lithuania Scholarship. She has proven herself to be a very strong student academically, and also one who is extraordinarily committed to volunteerism and community action." Another letter stated, "she devotes much of her time to religious activities such as prayer groups and choir for mass as well as religious outreach programs like her recently formed pro-life awareness group." It is my pleasure to present Ericka with the Sviklas-Tamulevich Memorial Scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year in the amount of \$2,500.

Adam Westerling

Will begin his second year at Siena College while majoring in Political Science. Adam was the recipient of the Alice Karklius Memorial Scholarship last year.

Adam has been a member of Council 136, Hudson-Mohawk, since 1995, beginning his participation as a junior knight. He was president of his junior K of L council for the past 3 years.

Our Juniors, Our Future!



Ericka Fryburg



Adam Westerling

He was instrumental in creation of his local Lithuanian dance group and an active participant as well. He has traveled to Washington, DC, to participate in the most recent JBANC Conference. He has volunteered his time to pack containers of school and medical supplies plus clothing for Lithuania. He assists with the annual Lithuanian Day of Prayer held in Auriesville, the local international festival, and Lithuanian Independence Day. He has participated in World Youth Day as a representative of St. Casimir's Church in Amsterdam, NY and attended the National Catholic Youth Conference in Texas as a representative of St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church in Gloversville, NY, where he is a lector. He is an Eagle Scout in Ventru of the Boy Scouts of America. He has attended the Christian Institute where he was instructed on how to be a peer leadership mentor. He has participated in a youth ministry team, the diocesan pastoral council, and other various community and volunteer groups. Based on his qualifications and outstanding community involvement, the Scholarship committee has once again decided to award Adam the Allice Karklius Memorial Scholarship, which is overseen by the Knights of Lithuania Foundation. The scholarship award for the 2005- 2006 academic year will be \$1200.



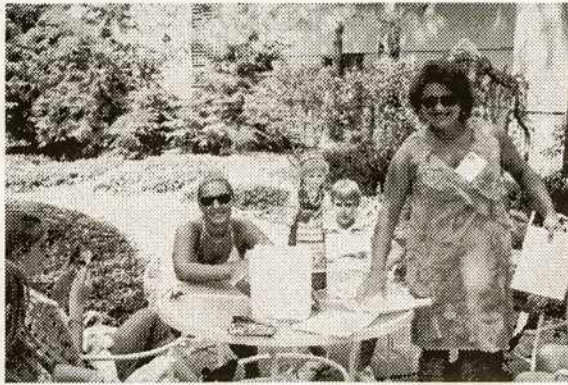
K of L Juniors in Action!



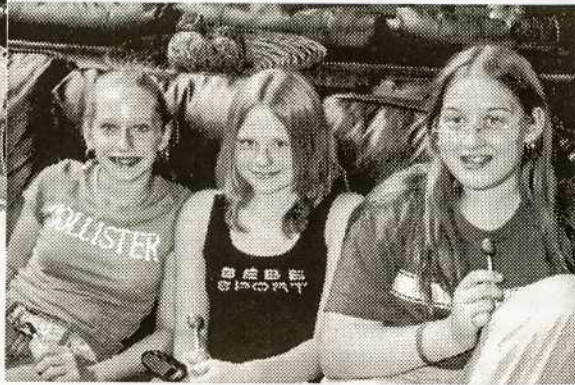
On the Road Again!



Thinking hard about our projects.



Pool party! Cool!



Resting after another great day!



Learning about our Lithuanian Heritage through folkdancing.

CULTURAL NIGHT
An Evening of Poetry, Dance and Song

WHERE? Three Rivers Ballroom in Wyndham
Pittsburgh Hotel, Coraopolis, PA

WHEN? Friday, 8/12/2005 at 8:00 p.m.

Council 19, hosts of the 92nd National Convention, prepared a memorable, traditional "Cultural Night" reminiscent of earlier past conventions. The program intertwined music, poetry, and dance with informative historical information included. Len Barcoucky was the master of ceremonies and William Kolicius III arranged the sound mixing. Various members of the Pittsburgh community participated in the program which respected the needs of the audience by providing bi-lingual renditions of both contemporary and classical poetry selections.

The song leader for the group singing was Maryte Bizinkauskas, Faustas Strolia was the accompanist. One of the concluding melodies was the beloved K of L Hymn to Our Lady of Šiluva written by Faustas Strolia.

The Neris Dancers under the direction of Janet Ruperto offered a lovely selection of traditional dances. Not only did they dance, but they invited the audience to participate with them - beginning with our national president Agnes Mickunas. Dalia Yucius, president of the Lithuanian Citizens Society of Western PA and host of "Echoes of Lithuania" radio program, attended this event in conjunction with the Neris dance group.

Convention delegates sang the popular traditional Lithuanian songs which filled the booklet of songs "Skambėkite Dainos." The historically significant cover was a copy of that used by the 1954 national convention in Pittsburgh. The songs were taken mostly from "Lietuvos Vyčių Dainorėlis;" the booklet itself was based on song books used at national conventions dating back to 1952. Robert Boris, Edward Meilius Jr, and Terry and Faustas Strolia provided guidance, advice and source material.

Thank you, Council 19. Cultural Night was historically, traditionally cultural and enjoyable.



Poet readers of the Cultural evening



One of the Juniors' raffle prizes.



Meet the Neris Dancers!



Msgr. Mickey! In a culture all his own.

FRIEND of LITHUANIA AWARD Recipient - Sr. Margaret Carney, OSF, STD

"I am truly honored to be the recipient of the Knights of Lithuania Friend of Lithuania Award," spoke Sr. Margaret Carney, OSF, STD, President of St. Bonaventure University. During her acceptance remarks she said "I am deeply touched by the faithful pursuit of my participation in the ceremony on the part of the Knights of Lithuania." Sister Margaret's academic achievements and her Lithuanian assistance activities have been nothing short of monumental.

Sr. Margaret most recently served as senior vice president for the Franciscan charism as well as director of the University's world-renowned Franciscan Institute, and previously as dean of Franciscan Studies. She has taught around the world at the Franciscan Institute of Asia in the Philippines, at the Antonianum in Rome, and has lectured extensively in the U.S., Africa, and Europe.

Sr. Margaret was the first woman to have earned a doctoral degree from Franciscan University in Rome. This degree, a doctorate in sacred theology (S.T.D.), is the unique degree given by Pontifical universities and promotes a particular recognition by the church. In addition to her doctoral degree, Sr. Margaret holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Duquesne University, a master's degree from the Franciscan Institute, and honorary doctorates from the Franciscan University of Steubenville (Ohio), and Madonna University of Livonia, Mich.

From 1995 to 1997, Sr. Margaret chaired a task force on leadership roles for women in the Catholic Church. She is a member of the International Commission on the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition, as well as a member of the International Society of Franciscan Studies. An internationally known speaker on Franciscan life, she has presented numerous lectures at national and international conferences.

Prior to becoming a member of the Franciscan Institute faculty in 1997, she served eight years (1988-1996) as general superior for her community, the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God, in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sister's Lithuanian activities began when she was a student at St. Francis Academy. For two years she sang in the Lithuanian choir that performed at the annual Christmas pageant in Pittsburgh. She can still sing these carols. In 1959 she joined the Sisters of St. Francis of Whitehall, Pa. As a young teacher, she served in a number of Lithuanian parishes and

became acquainted with many Lithuanian priests in Pittsburgh and beyond.

As

Lithuania reestablished its independence, she responded to a call from Bishop Paul Baltakis to attend a special meeting for religious and church personnel with connections in Lithuania. Initially, two sisters volunteered to go to Lithuania to begin a small mission in Utena. Since the initial beginning, the sisters have collaborated with Caritas of Lithuania and with religious women working there.

During these years, US sisters have given various amounts of time in mission service. The sisters have worked in catechetics, lay formation, pastoral activities and the establishment of St. Clare Hospice in Utena. Also, for two years the sisters have worked with the Franciscan Friars (Kennebunkport) at their college in Kretinga.

Sister Margaret visited Lithuania in 1995 for a first hand understanding of the activities of the sisters and the opportunities for assistance to the Lithuanian people. This experience left a "profound impression and insight into the plight of a suffering nation trying to rebuild its economic, social, spiritual and international existence".

In 2004, St. Margaret became the President of St. Bonaventure University. Sister said she would like nothing better than to find a way to recruit students from Lithuania to the Franciscan university. This year, Lithuanian student and basketball player, Saulius Dumbliuskas, have graduated from the University.

I am very pleased and honored that we have presented this year's Friend of Lithuania award to such a worthy recipient as Sr. Margaret Carney.

By John R. Mankus



Greetings Received – 2005**President Valdas Adamkus****President George W. Bush****Juozas Cardinal Bačkis****Bishop Paulius Baltakis****Ambassador Vygaudas Ušackas****Governor Edward G. Rendell,
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania****Arvydas Daunoravičius
Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania
In Chicago****Mindaugas Butkus, Consul General of the
Republic of Lithuania in New York****Dr. Gediminas Šerkšnys, Ambassador
Permanent Mission of Lithuania to the United
Nations in New York****Vaclovas Kleiza
LR Honorary Consul in Chicago, IL****Eugene R. Rainis
Honorary Consul in New Jersey****Randy Miller
Honorary Consul in Oregon****Rimas Chesonis
Honorary Consul in Upstate New York****Sister H. Bernadette, Provincial Superior
The Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary****Jeanne Dorr
Editor "Bridges"****Very Rev. Donald S. Petraitis, MIC,
Provincial – American Province of St.
Casimir, Marians of the Immaculate
Conception****T. Placidus Barius, O.F.M.
Provincijos Delegatas – The Franciscans
Kennebunkport, Maine****Val Ramonis – Publisher/Editor
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American Lithuanian Cultural Archives****Algirdas V. Matulionis, President
Viltis Inc. Publishers of Dirva****Sister Janet Gardner
Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
(Sister sent greetings in writing and also
greeted us in person at the 1st session)****Dale Vaikutis Murray, National President
Lithuanian American Roman Catholic
Women's Alliance****Sister M. Immacula Wendt, General Superior
Sisters of St. Casimir
(Sister sent written greetings, and Sr. Johanna
M. Shainauskas greeted us in person on
behalf of the Sisters of St. Casimir at the 1st
session)****Rev. Msgr. Albert J. Contons, H.M.,
President
Lithuanian R.C. Priests' League of America****Saulius V. Kuprys, President
Lithuanian American Council****Sigita Balzekas
Lithuanian Foundation, Inc.
(Sigita greeted us personally at the 1st session)****Our Five District Presidents: l. to r.: Michael Petkus,
Vivian Rodgers; Kathy Nakrosis; Diana Drumstis and
Robert Martin, Jr.**

92nd National Convention Donations Committee Report

Aid to Lithuania, Inc.

Leonard Kapochus - \$2,520.00 (IMO Vytautas Sakalys 10 - General Fund, 10 - IMO Rosalie Kizis [C-143] for General Fund, IMO Adolfina Sarcewicz 10 - General Fund, IMO Hugh Guthrie 25 - Caritas Marijampole, IMO Leo, John & Anthony Kay - 25 for Children and 25 for Seniors, in honor of Emilija Montviliene and Caritas Savonoriai 100 - Caritas - Marijampole, IMO Mary Ann Mihalick Connor 100 - Caritas - Marijampole, IMO Anna & Frank Kapochus 200 - General Fund and in honor of Emilija Montviliene and Caritas Savonoriai 2,000 - Telsiai Seminary) / Anne Baronas - \$2,000.00 (Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Anthony Baronas - \$2,000.00 (Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Pat & Tony Alexander - \$2,000.00 (Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / K of L Mid-America District - \$1,000.00 / K of L Council 110 - \$350.00 (100 - Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School, 100 - General Fund, 100 - Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter & 50 - Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Friends of Sts. Peter & Paul R.C. Church - \$300.00 (IMO Rev. Al Zemeikis for Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / K of L Council 112 - \$275.00 / Jean Kapochus Mihalick - \$235.00 (100 - IMO Mary Ann Mihalick Connor, 100 - IMO Mihalick, Kapochus & Petrauskas Families, 25 - IMO Anna Mae Kapochus for Caritas - Marijampole and 10 - IMO Rosalie Kizis [C-143]) / Juliann Majeski - \$200.00 (IMO Frank & Anna Kapochus) / K of L Amber District - \$200.00 / Rev. Msgr. Albert Contons - \$150.00 / K of L Council 86 - \$125.00 / Aldona Bunikis - \$100.00 (IMO Frank Bunikis & Anna Azuis - \$50 for General Fund & \$50.00 Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Charles & Margaret Petronis - \$100.00 (IMO John & Vera Gestite for Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / Dorothy Machonis - \$100.00 (IMO Phil Machonis) / Frances Bumila - \$100.00 (IMO George Bumila - 25 - Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School / 25 - Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter / 25 - General Fund / 25 - Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Joe & Arlene Stiklius - \$100.00 (50 - Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School & 50 - Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Joseph Berger - \$100.00 (Mother & Children's Home) / Josephine Barzda - \$100.00 / June V. Grenier - \$100.00 (IMO Justina Grenier for Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / K of L Council 153 - \$100.00 / K of L Council 3 - \$100.00 (50 - Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School & 50 - Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / K of L New England District - \$100.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Karen Vyte Kapochus - \$100.00 (IMO Marilyn, Daina & Karl Kapochus for Caritas - Marijampole) / Mark & Annamarie Berger - \$100.00 (Mother & Children's Home) / Milda Walters - \$100.00 (IMO Rimgaudas Svoba - Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / Regina Juska-Svoba - \$100.00 (IMO Rimgaudas Svoba - Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / Rita Karrytais - \$100.00 / Walter Mameniskis - \$100.00 (IMO Violet Mamenskis for Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / K of L Council 90 - \$75.00 / Helen Karpovich - \$70.00 (IMO Karpovich & Kapochus Families - 50, IMO Mary Ann Mihalick Connor - 10 and IMO Rosalie Kizis [C-143] - 10) / Alberta Weigand - \$50.00 (IMO Deceased Members of C-3) / Anthony & Mary Pacesa - \$50.00 (IMO Anna & Stanley Kweder) / Dolores Wainauskas - \$50.00 / Dorothy Wilson & Elizabeth Wilson Byrnes - \$50.00 / Edmund Cook - \$50.00 / Eleanor Dapkus - \$50.00 (IMO John & Mary Dapkus and Charles Zaremsky) / Anonymous - \$50.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Estelle Rogers, HM - \$50.00 / Frances Skurzynski - \$50.00 (IMO Andres Skurzynski for Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / John & Ellie Nakrosis - \$50.00 / John Antanavicius - \$50.00 / John Jonaitis - \$50.00 / Joseph Kscenaitis - \$50.00 / Josephine O'Peka - \$50.00 (IMO Anthony & Anna Swedersky) / Julie Zakarka - \$50.00 (IMO Albert Zakarka - 25 for Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School & 25 for Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / K of L Council 26 - \$50.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / K of L Mid-Atlantic District - \$50.00 / Mary Labadis - \$50.00 (For Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter IMO Bill & Helen Labadis) / Michael Petkus - \$50.00 (25 - General Fund & 25 - Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Millie Pietz - \$50.00 / Sonia Skricki - \$50.00 (25 - Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School & 25 - Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Dawn Maknys - \$35.00 (IMO Marilyn & Daina Kapochus for Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Anna Radzavage - \$30.00 (IMO Domicelle Misunas) / Al & Vivian Rodgers - \$25.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Anthony & Barbara Pastore - \$25.00 (Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / Charles & Donna Sulmar - \$25.00 / Charles Applegate - \$25.00 / Dolores & Miles Lederder - \$25.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Edward Budelis - \$25.00 (IMO Juozas & Magdalena Budelis for Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Elsie Kosmisky, HM - \$25.00 (Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Frances R. Petkus, HM - \$25.00 (IMO Sabina Henson) / Helen Medley - \$25.00 / Irene & Walter Svekla - \$25.00 (Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / Irene Ozalis - \$25.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Jeanne & Tim Dorr - \$25.00 / Joan Iwasko - \$25.00 (IMO S&C Kibauskas for Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / John & Agnes, HM Mickunas - \$25.00 / John & Eleanor Bogdon - \$25.00 (IMO John & Paul Bogdon) / John Sudaitis - \$25.00 / K of L Council 16 - \$25.00 / K of L Council 29 - \$25.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / K of L Council 72 - \$25.00 / Lee & Paul Moore - \$25.00 / Lillian Greymas - \$25.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Mary Beth Slakis - \$25.00 (IMO Albert Slakis) / Mary Kincius - \$25.00 / Mary Labadis - \$25.00 (IMO Marcella & Joseph Labadis) / Ruth Lacek - \$25.00 (IMO M/M Jonas

Bogdziunas) / Ruth Margis - \$25.00 (IMO Charles Margis for Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Samuel & Lillian Adams - \$25.00 (IMO Mary & John Kapochus and Peter Kairnkstis) / Sophia Sakalys - \$25.00 (IMO Vytautas Sakalys) / Vincent & Helen Cuprewich - \$25.00 / Elizabeth Sprow - \$20.00 (IMO Anthony Yanovitch for Cardinal Backis' Vilnius Trade School) / Faustas, HM & Terry Strolia - \$20.00 (IMO Herkulis Strolia - Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Frank, HM & Irene Petrauskas - \$20.00 / Mary Anna Gercius - \$20.00 / Maria Deksnis - \$15.00 / Leonard Kapochus, Jr. - \$11.00 (IMO John Kaposich) / Albert Gustaff - \$10.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / Joan Maniscalchi - \$10.00 (IMO Phillip Maniscalchi for Vilnius Seminarian Scholarship Fund) / Paul Wislock - \$10.00 / Ruth Wallash - \$10.00 / Stephany Gutasukas - \$10.00 (IMO Stephany & Victor Gutasukas) / Bronius Krokys - \$7.00 (Mother Theresa's Homeless Shelter) / **Grand Total: \$15,203.00**

St. Casimir Guild, Inc.

Frances Bumila - \$1,000.00 (IMO George Bumila) / K of L Mid-America District - \$1,000.00 / K of L Amber District - \$200.00 / Rev. Msgr. Albert Contons - \$150.00 / K of L Council 86 - \$125.00 / Catherine Nakrosis - \$100.00 / Joe & Arlene Stiklius - \$100.00 (IMO Walter Maknis) / John & Ellie Nakrosis - \$100.00 / K of L Council 110 - \$100.00 / K of L Council 153 - \$100.00 / K of L Council 29 - \$100.00 / K of L Council 3 - \$100.00 (Renovation Fund) / K of L New England District - \$100.00 / Mary Labadis - \$100.00 (IMO Bill & Helen Labadis) / Robert Damasauskas - \$100.00 (IMO Ambrozaitis Family) / Faustas Strolia, HM - \$88.00 / Anna K. Wargo, HM - \$75.00 / K of L Council 90 - \$75.00 / Bernice Aviza, HM - \$50.00 / Dolores Wainauskas - \$50.00 / Anonymous - \$50.00 / Estelle Rogers, HM - \$50.00 / John & Agnes HM Mickunas - \$50.00 / K of L Mid-Atlantic District - \$50.00 / Rita Karrytais - \$50.00 / Sophia Sakalys - \$50.00 (IMO Vytautas Sakalys) / Dawn Maknys - \$35.00 (IMO Nellie & Ray Panoza and Alice Bacon) / Frances R. Petkus, HM - \$25.00 (IMO Michael Petkus) / Helen Medley - \$25.00 / Irene & Walter Svekla - \$25.00 (Renovation Fund) / Irene Ozalis - \$25.00 / Julie Zakarka - \$25.00 / K of L Council 16 - \$25.00 (Renovation Fund) / K of L Council 72 - \$25.00 / Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Philip Machonis) / Lillian Greymas - \$25.00 / Mary Kincius - \$25.00 / Michael Petkus - \$25.00 / Vincent & Helen Cuprewich - \$25.00 / Faustas Strolia, HM - \$24.00 / Dianne Drumstas - \$20.00 (IMO Joe Drumstas) / Faustas, HM & Terry Strolia - \$20.00 / Frank, HM & Irene Petrauskas - \$20.00 / Georgianna & Elizabeth Macke - \$20.00 / Joan Maniscalchi - \$10.00 (IMO Phillip Maniscalchi) / Maryte Sepikas - \$10.00 (IMO Elena Sepikiene) / The Miller Family - \$10.00 (Renovation Fund) / Total Collected: \$4,582.00 / Pledges: K of L Council 90 - \$1,000.00 (Renovation Fund) / Becky Pataki - \$50.00 (Renovation Fund) / Total Pledges: \$1,050.00 / **Grand Total: \$5,632.00**

Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.

K of L Mid-America District - \$1,000.00 / Frances Bumila - \$200.00 (IMO George Bumila) / Rev. Msgr. Albert Contons - \$150.00 / K of L Council 86 - \$125.00 / Joe & Arlene Stiklius - \$100.00 / K of L Council 153 - \$100.00 / K of L Council 3 - \$100.00 / K of L Council 36 - \$50.00 / Mary Labadis - \$50.00 (IMO Bill & Helen Labadis) / Sonia Skricki - \$50.00 / Frances R. Petkus, HM - \$25.00 (IMO Louis Stukas) / Helen Medley - \$25.00 / Irene Ozalis - \$25.00 / John & Agnes, HM Mickunas - \$25.00 / K of L Council 16 - \$25.00 / K of L Council 72 - \$25.00 / Lee & Paul Moore - \$25.00 / Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Simon Kapochus) / Lillian Greymas - \$25.00 / Mary Kincius - \$25.00 / Sophia Sakalys - \$25.00 / Faustas, HM & Terry Strolia - \$20.00 / Frank, HM & Irene Petrauskas - \$20.00 / The Miller Family - \$10.00 / **Grand Total: \$2,250.00**

Our Lady of Siluva Fund, Inc.

K of L Mid-America District - \$1,000.00 / Frances Bumila - \$200.00 (IMO George Bumila - 100 for general fund and 100 for Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / K of L Council 86 - \$125.00 / Anonymous - \$100.00 (IMO Josephine Zilinkas) / Josephine Barzda - \$100.00 / K of L New England District - \$100.00 / K of L Council 90 - \$75.00 (For Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Bernice Aviza, HM - \$50.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Catherine Nakrosis - \$50.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Joe & Arlene Stiklius - \$50.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / John & Ellie Nakrosis - \$50.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / K of L Council 110 - \$50.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / K of L Council 26 - \$50.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / K of L Council 36 - \$50.00 / K of L Mid-Atlantic District - \$50.00 (For Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Dawn Maknys - \$35.00 (IMO Julie Kowrak & Philip Maknys) / Anna K. Wargo, HM - \$25.00 (For Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Frances R. Petkus, HM - \$25.00 / Helen Medley - \$25.00 (For Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / John & Agnes, HM Mickunas - \$25.00 / K of L Council 16 - \$25.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / K of L Council 29 - \$25.00 (For Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Alice Kapochus) / Mary Kincius - \$25.00 / Faustas, HM & Terry Strolia - \$20.00 / Frank, HM & Irene Petrauskas - \$20.00 / Georgianna & Elizabeth Macke - \$20.00 / Mary Anna Gercius - \$20.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Regina Juskaitis - \$20.00 / Sophia Sakalys - \$20.00 (IMO Deceased members of

C-103) / Sr. Regina Welza - \$20.00 / Julie Zakarka - \$15.00 / Joan Maniscalchi - \$10.00 (IMO Phillip Maniscalchi) / Total Collected: \$2,500.00 / Pledges: Becky Pataki - \$50.00 (For the Siluva Shrine in Washington, DC) / Total Pledges: \$50.00 / **Grand Total: \$2,550.00**

National Scholarship Fund

Frances Bumila - \$100.00 (IMO George Bumila) / Michael Petkus - \$25.00 / **Grand Total: \$125.00**

Fr. Jutt Fund for Lithuanian Affairs

Bernice Aviza, HM - \$50.00 / K of L Council 72 - \$25.00 / Frank, HM & Irene Petrauskas - \$20.00 / **Grand Total: \$95.00**

K of L Juniors

Frances Bumila - \$100.00 (IMO George Bumila) / Anonymous - \$50.00 / Joe & Arlene Stiklius - \$50.00 / K of L Council 29 - \$25.00 / K of L Council 72 - \$25.00 / Maria Deksnis - \$10.00 / The Miller Family - \$10.00 / **Grand Total: \$270.00**

Vytis

Frances Bumila - \$100.00 (IMO George Bumila) / Joe & Arlene Stiklius - \$50.00 / Edward & Anele Pocius - \$25.00 / Frances R. Petkus, HM - \$25.00 / Joan Maniscalchi - \$20.00 (IMO Charles Rusackas) / Maryte Sepikas - \$20.00 (IMO Elena Sepikiene) / Sophia Sakalys - \$20.00 / The Miller Family - \$10.00 / **Grand Total: \$270.00**

Host Council

Frances Bumila - \$100.00 (IMO George Bumila) / K of L Council 29 - \$25.00 / Julie Zakarka - \$10.00 / Sophia Sakalys - \$10.00 / **Grand Total: \$145.00**

Lithuanian Children's Relief

Frances Bumila - \$300.00 (IMO George Bumila) / K of L Council 16 - \$210.00 / Rita Karrytais - \$150.00 / K of L Council 153 - \$100.00 / John Jonaitis - \$50.00 / K of L Council 110 - \$50.00 / Mary Labadis - \$50.00 / Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Frank Mihalick & Anthony Karpovich) / Faustas, HM & Terry Strolia - \$20.00 / **Grand Total: \$955.00**

Sisters of Jesus Crucified

Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Kapochus Family) / **Grand Total: \$25.00**

Sisters of St. Francis

Frances Bumila - \$100.00 / Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Kapochus Family) / **Grand Total: \$125.00**

Sisters of Immaculate Conception

Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Kapochus Family) / **Grand Total: \$25.00**

Sisters of St. Casimir

Leonard Kapochus - \$25.00 (IMO Kapochus Family) / **Grand Total: \$25.00**

Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid

K of L New England District - \$100.00 / **Grand Total: \$100.00**

Total of all donations collected at the convention: \$26,695.00
Total of all donations pledged at the convention: 1,100.00
Grand total of all donations received at the convention: \$27,795.00



We welcome your donations!

SUNDAY FAREWELL BREAKFAST

Sunday morning, members gathered for the final breakfast. A delicious buffet was served and it was time for final farewells for some members, as they had early planes and were unable to attend the closing Mass. Everyone was thankful to the Committee who arranged a beautiful Convention.

Following the breakfast, members again boarded buses to go to the Closing Mass at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis.

The Convention photo was taken prior to the Mass in front of the Church.



CLOSING MASS

The closing Mass was held in the beautiful Chapel at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis. Concelebrating the Mass were, Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, H.M., National Spiritual Advisor; Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, H.M., Rector of the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome, and Rev. Anthony Markus, Pastor of Nativity BVM Church in Chicago, IL. Ann Marie Kassel, H.M., led the singing.

The procession started with the flagbearers, followed by the Fourth Degree recipients, the Honorary Members, Members, Junior Knights and Altar Servers, and the Clergy.

Prior to the Mass, the Fourth Degree members were installed by Msgr. Anderlonis, assisted by the Ritual Chairperson, Lee Moore, and Rita Sussko, HM. They received their medals and congratulations. The members of the Supreme Council were then installed.

Beautiful Lithuanian hymns were sung, and Msgr. Anderlonis again preached one of his very inspiring homilies.

The Offertory gifts were presented by Rita and Brian Johnson, their sons, Brian Jr. and Justin, all in Lithuanian costume! The Junior Knights then each presented a flower to the Blessed Virgin.

At the closing of the Mass, the Mother Superior of the Convent thanked everyone for attending. She stated the Lithuanian custom of not leaving a house before some repast, and since everyone had to get on the buses immediately following the Mass, the good Sisters gave each one a goody bag upon leaving.

As we left the Mass and Pittsburgh, we were thankful for the wonderful hosts and a great Convention.

Anna Klizas Wargo, H.M.





THE FOURTH DEGREE CANDIDATES

The closing Mass of the 92nd National Convention was held at the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God Motherhouse.

The Fourth Degree Candidates; Ann Marie Berger C-96, Mary Stungurys, C-110, Alfred Rodgers, C-26, and Richard Niedvares, C-16, each carrying a red carnation with the K of L colors, were escorted to the altar by Lee Moore, Ritual Chair, carrying the medals, and Rita Sussko, HM, and Georgiann Macke, committee members, carrying the certificates.

Monsignor Joseph Anderlonis, HM, opened the ceremony with a prayer and had the candidates repeat after him the oath in Lithuanian. The medals were blessed and presented to the candidates, along with the certificates and membership cards. After the closing prayer, the new Fourth Degree recipients were presented to the congregation.

The Supreme Council Officers were then given the Oath of Office by Msgr. Anderlonis

Vytiskai,

Lee Moore, Ritual Chair

OUR HONORARY MEMBERS

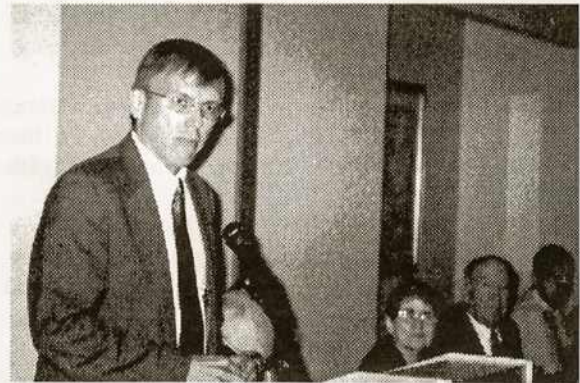


Missing in the photo is Al Mockus, who was to receive his honorary degree at the banquet this

year. Due to serious illness, he was not able to attend the Convention, and so will receive his Fourth Degree in Chicago, Illinois on October 30th, at a special dinner event in his honor, organized by Council 112.



Msgr. Joe blesses the Fourth Degree medals as Lee Moore, Ritual Chair, looks on.



John Baltrus, President of C-19, and the Scholarship committee, addresses the banquet participants.



Regina Juska-Svoba, Pres. of Aid to Lithuania, poses with Msgr. Bartkus, Rector of the Pontifical College, Rome



Our Aid to Lithuania Board Members

AID TO LITH. REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Since its inception 15 years ago, 92 forty-foot long containers of vitally needed medications, medical supplies and equipment (consisting of bandages, gauze, surgical gloves, scrubs, sutures, antibacterial soaps, walkers, crutches, canes, prosthetic devices and mannequin), X-ray machines, examining tables, hospital beds, night stands, dentist's equipment and chair, computers, clothing, have been shipped to Lithuania. The contents of St. Peter's Church in Detroit were shipped to Rev. Leonas Jakimavicius in Alytus for his new church, Our Lady Help of Christians. The total dollars' worth value of these containers is an incredible and astounding \$72,000,000! Who could have and would have thought at that time that so much could and would be accomplished?!

The contents of the containers were distributed to: Caritas - Kaunas, Vilnius and Marijampole, St. James hospital in Vilnius, the University of Vilnius Hospital in Vilnius, Kaunas Catholic Maternity Hospital in Kaunas, St. Clare's Hospice in Utena, the Children's Day Center - "Angel of Hope" (Angelo Vilties Centras) in Vilnius, the Family Center in Vilnius, Betanija Soup Kitchen in Vilnius.

Another of ATL's sponsored programs is the Seminary Fund. Well-trained priests are able to meet the challenge of Lithuania's greatest need for spiritual renewal. ATL, in cooperation with the archbishop of Vilnius, Cardinal Audrys J. Backis, initiated a program, whereby a seminarian studying at the St. Joseph's Seminary in Vilnius, would be "adopted" by donors willing to provide an annual scholarship of \$2,000/per for 6 years of studies. There are approximately 70 students enrolled in the seminary. Since its inception in 1999 until 5/20/05, there have been 95 adoptions at \$2,000 each, 224 misc. donations (under \$2,000) and the establishment of the Baronas Family Scholarship fund. The total amount received in the last 6 years totals \$338,984.74. Since 2002 to the present, 14 deacons were ordained priests. Of these, 10 were

ordained priests during the 2004-2005 fiscal year. In 2004-5, 3 seminarians were ordained deacons. On 4/10/05, Janus Andiuskevicius, ordained priest in 1/03, was tragically killed in an automobile accident by a drunken driver.

Another ATL sponsored program is Mother Teresa's Homeless and Emergency Shelter, which opened its doors in the Fall of 1999. Mother Teresa' Shelter provides religious and humanitarian aid activities. The Shelter provides room, board and meals to approximately 124 homeless people in Vilnius on an ongoing basis. The sisters render medical, material and spiritual assistance and guidance to the individuals. The shelter provides a safe and warm haven for adult males and females who have little or nothing.

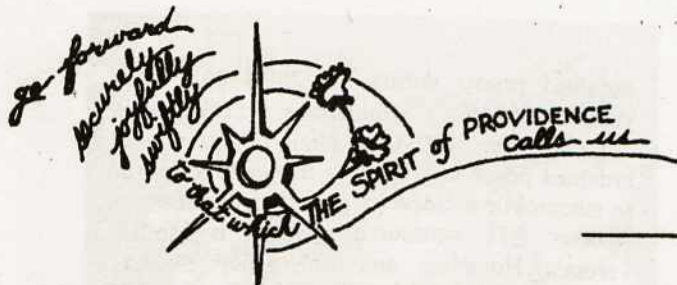
The next program of ATL is the Vilnius Handicraft Centre (Vilnius Trade School.) The Trade School opened in 2001. Currently there are 18 students from large families, those who are somewhat physically or mentally challenged and some adults study and live in the facility. The school established the following curricula: culinary arts, wood carving, art and furniture restoration, sewing, knitting and crocheting, metal work, printing, electrical work, auto mechanics, jewelry repairs and computer programming. The practical work is done next door to the Trade School, where the Betanija Soup Kitchen is located. Local masters in their respective area of expertise, teach the students a skill so that they can become independent and employed. The average training program lasts two years. In November 2001, Prince Charles visited the Trade School and presented the student and staff with gifts.

Aid to Lithuania's most notable achievement in the last 15 years is getting people involved. High level personal involvement and volunteerism from all corners of the United States has sustained its mission. It is individuals' voluntary commitment and participation coupled with donor generosity and the ongoing support of the Knights of Lithuania, that has brought about outstanding success.

If ATL is to continue this great work of Christian charity, we must *all* participate, work together harmoniously and support each other's valiant efforts. No one person can do it all. No one person can do it alone.

We are all members of a great organization, the Knights of Lithuania, that has been in existence for 92 years! What other organization can speak of such longevity?! We must continue to work

cohesively as a team. - *Regina Juska S.*



Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
USA Province

3603 McRoberts Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15234-2398 412-882-9911
412-885-7210 (Fax)

August 19, 2005

Mr. John Baltrus, President
Knights of Lithuania
118 Vine Street
Jefferson Hills PA 15025

Dear John,

What a wonderful celebration and liturgy our community experienced in our Mary Immaculate Chapel on Sunday, August 14th with the presence of our cherished and esteemed friends, the Knights of Lithuania and their families.

Having our own Sister Margaret Carney as the recipient of your "Friend of Lithuania" award was such a moving experience and one that I was so glad that some of our sisters were able to be present and offer our thanks and congratulations both to Sister Margaret and to the Knights of Lithuania organization.

We were so gratified that you were able to celebrate the liturgy in our chapel and we were able to meet with all of you, even though the time frame was somewhat limited.

The presentation of the \$569.00 from the collection that was taken and which was presented to the community was yet another overwhelming example of the love and respect that has always been shown to the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God from our trusted friends and associates, the Knights of Lithuania.

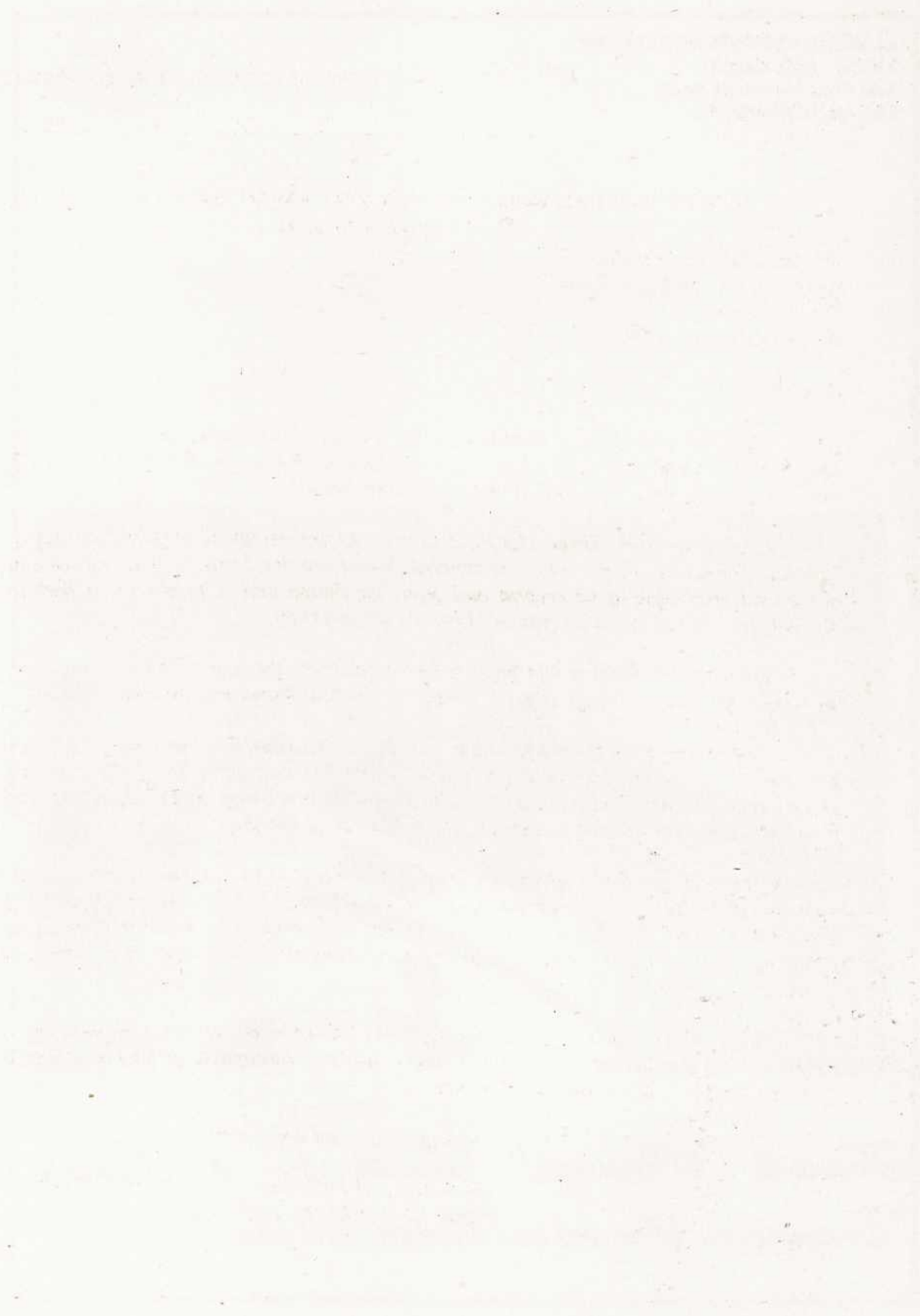
Please be assured that this generosity will allow us to continue to care for the ever increasing and continuing needs of our elderly and infirm sisters. Part of the donation will also be used to assist our sisters in Lithuania in order that they may continue in their ministry of caring for the poor, indigent and ill under their care and guidance.

In closing, please know that the Knights of Lithuania will always remain as much loved and respected members of our community who will continue to be kept in prayerful remembrance now and in the days to come.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Sister Marian Blodis, OSF
Sister Marian Blodis, OSF

SMB/dk



Faint, illegible text or markings, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

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*Farewell, Pittsburgh! Thanks for a Fabulous
 Convention. See you in Florida next year!*