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Vytis - The Knight

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Special Note: To our readers – please be advised that while we are always happy to include any photos that you send us in issues of Vytis we are not able

to send them back to you after

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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In Memoriam

Please join us in praying for eternal rest for our fellow Knights who have left us for their eternal reward. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

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Council 144 John Coons Joseph Dancho Joseph Martunas

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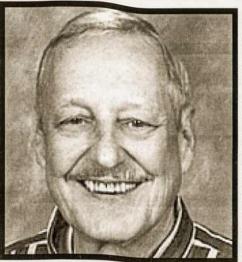
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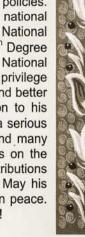


With all our graditude and deepest sympathies



Richard Niedvares 1935 - 2006 Former Vytis Business Manager

It is with great sadness and our deepest respect and admiration that we announce the passing of Richard Niedvares, Council 16 - Chicago, Illinois. Richard was a former Vytis Business Manager and was the driving force behind setting up our current Vytis procedures and policies. In addition he served on the council, district and national levels of our organization including serving as a National Treasurer and National Trustee. He received his 4th Degree in the Knights of Lithuania last year at the 92nd National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. All of us who had the privilege to work with Richard are better for the opportunity and better to have shared his friendship. Richard passed on to his eternal reward on Sunday, August 13, 2006, after a serious illness. Richard is survived by his sister, Anne, and many other close family members and friends. All of us on the Vytis Staff are thankful to Richard for his many contributions to the magazine and the organization in general. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Richard, we are all going to miss you! Amzinai Atilsi!



A note from your Vytis Staff

Hello,

Hope this issue finds you doing well and enjoying the fall and its changing foliage. It won't be long before the sounds of carols will be filling the air and we'll be preparing for the Christmas Holiday Season. With that in mind we would like to take this time to remind our members to make a point of using the Christmas Religious Stamps when mailing your Christmas cards and mail in general during this Christmas Holiday Season. Far too often these days there seems to be a drive by some government officials, big business and so called "Do Gooders" a.k.a. "Busy Bodies" to take CHRIST out of CHRISTmas. As Roman Catholics let's use this Christmas mailing season to remind them that if it wasn't for Christ there wouldn't be a Christmas Season. Be sure to insist on the Religious Stamps for all your mailing needs.

We hope you are enjoying each issue of Vytis - The Knight as much as we enjoy preparing it for you. Please keep your news, articles and photos coming. We're continuing to work to make the magazine something all of us can be proud of.

Vytiškai,

Sr. Johanna Marie

Sr. Johanna Marie Editor

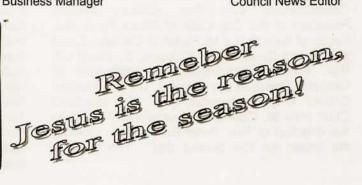
Rob

Rob **Business Manager**

Mildred

Mildred **Council News Editor**





Gur Lady of Siluva Chapel at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC marks 40^{*} Anniversary



Our Lady of Siluva Altar at the Basilica of the Immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Washington, DC.

Great Upper Church of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for an inspiring Anniversary Mass, commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Shrine's Our Lady of Siluva Chapel. It was equally wonderful for all of us there to be a part of it. What an added treat to see K of Ler's and friends participate in this special day for our Lady on America's Shores. Dedicated in 1966 the Our Lady of Siluva Chapel is a beautiful faceted gem in the Shrine's shining crown of numerous international chapels all paying homage to Our Blessed Mother.

The Mass was celebrated by Msgr. Putrimas, Special Vicar for all Lithuanian's outside Lithuania. Concelebrants were Rev. Anthony Markus, President of the Our Lady of Siluva Fund, Inc., Pastor of Nativity B.V.M. Parish in Chicago, IL and member of Council 112, Chicago, IL, along with Rev. Tomas Karanauskas, Associate from St. Casimir's Parish in Los Angeles, CA and Member Council 133, Los Angeles, CA. The wonderful Choir from St. Casimir's, Philadelphia, PA, under the direction of Rev. Peter Barkauskas, provided the music for this special day. The beautiful

On Sunday. October 8th, a beautiful, warm, sunny day, the Knights of Lithuania members. quests. and Lithuanians from across the country gathered in Washington, DC to pay tribute to our **Blessed Mother** through her title of Our Lady of Siluva. It was wonderful to see that Our Blessed Mother called to three hundred who pilgrims gathered in the

Lithuanian and English melodies that the Choir sang were truly a perfect complement to the Mass.

The homily was given by Rev. Anthony Markus, aka Fr. Tony. In his homily Father stressed the importance of Our Lady's appearance at Siluva and likened it to modern times. He stressed how her message of love and a need to return to the teachings of her son are just as important today as they were when she appeared in 1608. Father remarked how he remembered being a teenager at the time of the 1966 dedication and how he had traveled with his Mother to Washington, DC, for the ceremonies then. He recalled the great pride everyone had then at the Chapel's dedication and how that same pride could be felt today forty years later.

During the Mass the readings were given by Vilija Bizinkauskas, in Lithuanian, and Bernice Aviza, HM, in English. The offertory gifts were presented by our National President, Elena Nakrosis, National Lithuanian Language and Culture Chair, Julia Schroder, National 3rd Vice President. Andreja Deksnis and member, Christopher As the Mass concluded, Msgr. Schroder. Putrimas spoke to all those gathered. He thanked all those for coming and especially the Knights for coordinating the Mass. At the conclusion of Mass everyone was invited to gather at the Siluva Chapel for its rededication ceremony. Following the rededication all were invited for refreshments in the Main Hall.

At the reception a slide show of the original dedication Mass was given by Bernice Aviza, HM. Greetings from the Lithuanian Charge d-affair, Dr. Kornelija Jurgaitiene, were then given along with her thanks for this wonderful Anniversary Celebration for the Chapel. All too soon it seemed the time had flown and members were quickly boarding buses for their return to their hotels or homes. A special thank you to Julia Schroder for chairing this wonderful day for our Lady. Our thanks go out to all those who worked with Julia to make this day possible especially, Bernice Aviza, HM, Andreja Deksnis, Frances Bumila, Msgr. Rossi, Msgr. Putrimas, Fr. Anthony Markus, Fr. Tomas Karanauskas, Fr. Peter Barkauskas and the St. Casimir Choir from Philadelphia and the Lietuviu Bendruomene of the Washington, DC area.

Gur Lady of Siluva Chapel at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC marks 40^{*} Anniversary



Ruta Lee Gets her Star!

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Ruta Lee, Member of Council 133 – Los Angeles, CA, poses with the newest star on the *Hollywood Walk Of Fame*, hers!

What more can we say about our favorite movie star WOW! but On Tuesday, October 10th in front of a crowd of five hundred relatives. friends. guests and

press our very own Ruta Lee, member Council 133, Los Angeles, Ca, received her Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. It was truly an honor to be part of this special day in Ruta's life and mere words can not express my gratitude to her.

The day started off on Hollywood Boulevard right in front of Grauman's Chinese Theater. Ruta's star was placed right in front of the Theater's box office. As we awaited Ruta's arrival people continued to gather to celebrate with her on a perfect day for star gazing. The day started off with the Hollywood High School Marching Band which led Ruta down Hollywood Boulevard. Always the lady who knows how to make the perfect entrance, Ruta arrived, in style, in a vintage 1930's Cadillac Limousine accompanied by her long time friends, Debbie Reynolds and Alec Trebek. As she stepped out of her car the crowds cheered and welcomed her in true Tinseltown style. After a welcome by Hollywood's Honorary Mayor, Johnny Grant, Ms. Reynolds and Mr. Trebek spoke about their friend Ruta, much to the delight of all those gathered. Each of them shared some special memories about their friend and what knowing her has meant to them. It was then time for the presentation of the Proclamation and star to Ruta. As she knelt before the star, covered with a larger star Cut-out, the excitement grew. As the cover was lifted, Ruta's Star became the newest addition to Hollywood's sites to be seen. She looked as though she had just been placed on Cloud 9 and rightfully so. As the photographers flashed their photos Ruta joyously posed with her "Pot of Gold at the end of the Hollywood Rainbow". During the photo session that followed Ruta was joined for photos by her #1 fan, husband Webb Lowe, her family and friends including stars Debbie Reynolds, Mitzie Gaynor, Anne Jefferys, Jayne Meadows to name a few. It was great to see Ruta stop the photographers and interviews as Fr. Anuzis of St. Casimir's Church, Los Angeles, CA, came forward to bless the star. As the festivities on the boulevard concluded we walked across the street to the famed Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel for a luncheon in Ruta's Honor.

Ruta and Webb welcomed three hundred and fifty guests to a wonderful brunch in the famous "Blossom Room", site of the first Academy Awards. A star studded guest list left many of us truly "star struck". Following our meal Ruta's good friend, Joanne Worley, served as Mistress of Ceremonies for an afternoon of much deserved tributes to our dear Ruta. The toasting got underway when the Love of her life, Webb, gave a moving musical speech about his wonderful wife. Webb was followed by Lithuanian Honorary Consul Vytautas Čekanauskas, who gave a great tribute to Ruta that ended in his announcing that Ruta is to receive the Award "For Merit to Lithuania" from President Valdas Adamkus, HM, this December in Vilnius. This announcement was cause for all the Lithuanian's in the room to join in the singing of Ilgiausiy Mety. Others paying tribute to her were Julie Newmar, Dick Van Patton, Stephanie Powers, Mitzie Gaynor, Joey Macintyre, Mary Anne Mobley and husband Gary Collins, Eric Estrada and many others. It was humbling to see the deep admiration that Ruta's friends and colleagues have for her, especially her work with the Thealians at Cedars Sinai Hospital.

As the afternoon was drawing to a close Ruta thanked everyone for coming to share the day with her. She then especially thanked our very own Maryte Sepikas, President Council 133, for all her hard work in making the Star possible. Maryte collected numerous signatures on petitions in favor or Ruta's Star as well as calling "the powers that be" on a regular basis until the star was approved. Maryte received a round of applause from all those gathered.

As if this perfect day couldn't only get better, in the evening, we were able to join Ruta and Webb at the Hollywood premier of "Sadie and the Slot Machines", a short story film she is starring in with Steve Rossi. A truly perfect Hollywood ending to a perfect day in Hollywood.

Congratulations Ruta, you deserve it!

Valio! Valio! Valio!

Ruta fee Gets her Star!

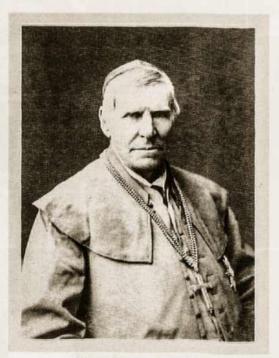
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Awakening Lithuanian Nationalism (1864-1904) by Henry L. Gaidis

Modern Lithuanian nationalism had its birth in the death throes of the Polish Lithuanian Insurrection of 1863-1864. During those years, the educated youth of the Lithuanian nobility and freedom hungry young peasants rose up with those in Poland in a vain attempt to free the country of Czarist Russian occupation and to re-establish the ancient Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth These valiant insurrectionists as those who fought to save the Commonwealth during the 1794 Kosciusko Insurrection, along side the French during the Napoleonic Wars, and Polish Lithuanian 1831 Insurrection took up arms against an unbeatable foe for the honor and glory of Polonia. Though the Poles and Lithuanians made up the major portion of the Commonwealth's population its citizens also include large numbers of **Byelorussians** (Ruthenians), Ukrainians, Prussians, and Livonians. The modern concept of nationality based largely upon ethnic origin or a common language did not then exist in the minds of the average inhabitant living in the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth. Though all where aware that they came from a separate ethnic group all considered themselves to be Poles since they were citizens of the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth.



Bishop Motiejus Valancius 1801 - 1875

In Lithuania the identification of being a Pole even went further in the thinking of its nobility. Since the Grand Duchy of Lithuania had merged with the Kingdom of Poland to form the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth, the Lithuanian noblemen (Bajorai) had become strongly attached to Polish culture. Lithuania had become Catholic through the marriage of Lithuanian Grand Duke Jogaila (Jagiello) to the Polish Queen Jadwiga (Hedwig) and through that marriage the Lithuanian noble received the same rights and privileges held by Polish noblemen. Through the Treaty of Horodle in 1413, Lithuanian noblemen were even granted existing Polish coat-of-arms to closer unit them with the existing Polish nobility. They soon succumbed to the allure of the Polish way of life and gradually came to consider Lithuanian culture to be inferior. Not long after the existing Polish class system was formally introduced into Lithuania the nation's freeman peasant class of citizens ceased to exist. Those not granted the rights of the Polish noblemen became serfs. deprived of their rights of ownership, and tied to the estates of their designated noblemen. With the great wealth, privileges, and power that came with a Polish class society it is not hard to understand why the Lithuanian nobility turned against their people. They without question embraced the proposition 'gente Lituania, natione Poloni" or Lithuanians by origin Poles by nationality. Though noblemen continued to take pride in their Lithuanian ancestry for political reasons, they soon became more Polish than the Not only were the names of Lithuanian Poles. noblemen Polonized, but even the speaking of Lithuanian was abandoned as a way for the nobility to set themselves apart from the peasantry. Polish became the official language of the nation and Lithuanian looked upon as being inferior and archaic.

Though the rights of Lithuania's freeman classes largely ceased to exist during the days of the commonwealth, the peasants staunchly maintained their native language and local customs. The peasants continued to take pride in their ethnic heritage and embraced the Catholic religion that came with the union. For such reasons, the peasants remained loyal to their Polonized noblemen and fought along side them in their vain attempts to liberate the nation from foreign occupation. Although both Lithuanian noblemen and peasants fought valiantly side by side against the Russians 1863-1864 Polish-Lithuanian durina the Insurrection, the rebellion was brutally suppressed with thousands being killed, executed, and deported to Siberia. Due to Lithuania's continued loyalty to Poland, the Russians came to the conclusion that the nation's Catholic tradition and use of the Latin alphabet was hampering their efforts to assimilate the people into Russian As a result, they instituted a policy of society. Russification designed to eradicate that situation. Policies designed to discriminate against Catholics in favor of the members of the Russian Orthodox Church were instituted. Under such policies qualified Lithuanians were excluded from serving in all government positions within the country, Catholic nobles were prohibited from purchasing new estates, confiscated insurrectionist property was given to Russian immigrants, and priests placed under surveillance. All education in Lithuania was to be done in the Russian language and many Catholic schools and churches and monasteries closed. The publication of all books in the Latin script was forbidden and the Russians started publishing all text books in Cyrillic letters. Through such policies, the Russians believed that within а generation Russian cultural consciousness and loyalty would be implanted into the next generation.

The first resistance to the Russification program came from Bishop Motiejus Valancius in Samagitia. A well known Lithuanian preacher and author, Bishop Valancius was an ardent advocate for education. He encouraged the population to boycott Russian language books and took an active part in the establishment of small secret schools where the peasant children were taught to read and write in Lithuanian. Through his efforts, Lithuanian language books were published in nearby East Prussia and organizations formed to smuggle such books into Lithuania. At first the smuggled books were largely religious in nature, but soon covered every topic imaginable. Russian efforts to curtail this perceived nuisance was slow in developing, but eventually became a major preoccupation of this local administration. When arrest, fines and imprisonment did not curtail the activities they soon went to the extreme. When caught, book smugglers were subject to property confiscation and being sent to Siberia. It was not long before the Russian Army was ordered to station large numbers of soldiers along the Prussian boarder with orders to shoot anyone who did not stop on command. In spite of the

ever increasing Russian effort to curtail book smuggling the activity increased. Soon book smuggling spread to periodicals and newspaper with a patriotic and political content.



Ausra 1st Issue 1883

Due to the inherent danger involved in book smuggling the activity was very clandestine in nature. Passwords were used for communication and meetings took place on isolated farmsteads or country inns. Despite the risk a large number of people took part in this secret activity. Books were hidden among vegetable or produce being sent to market and even in false bottomed hay and Though accurate statistics are animal wagons. not available it is estimated that some 30,000 to 40,000 books, periodicals, and newspapers were smuggled into Lithuania on an annual basis. With time the book smugglers became ever more proficient and the problem became more problematic to the Russian government. Rather than eliminating the use of the Lithuanian language literacy became even more prevalent and the book smugglers (Knygnesiai) became legendary folk hero.

Another Russian established program that actually contributed to Lithuanian nationalism was a program designed to further curtail the nation's interest in Polish culture. In their efforts to spread the Russification among the nation's youth, selected Lithuanian students were sent to study at the Moscow University. Though such programs were successful in curtailing their interest in Polish culture, they ignited among these students for all things Lithuanian. Putting the nation's brightest students in one place actually increased their collective interest and fostered a rebirth in glories of ancient Lithuania. Although Russification was designed to curtail Lithuanian fixation with all things Polish it became a catalyst for Lithuanian The ban on the Latin alphabet nationalism. actually made the ever increasing number of intellectuals ashamed of their having abandoned their native tongue and fostered a revival in reading and writing not only about Lithuania, but in their ancestral language. Soon the nation's intellectuals embraced all things Lithuanian with even a stronger passion than they had for Polonia that eventually spearheaded the independence movement.



Dr. Jonas Basanavicius

The patriarch of the Lithuanian nationalist movement was Jonas Basanavicius (1851-1927). Beyond question, he was the most significant

figure in the Lithuanian national revival movement. He founded and was the editor of the first Lithuanian language periodical dedicated to the revival of all things related to Lithuania. Ausra (The Dawn) was clandestinely published in East Prussia, from 1883 to 1886, and greatly contributed to the awakening of the Lithuanian consciousness. This secular publication became a center of an exchange of ideas from among the nation's finest minds. Any article on the Lithuanian national revival would not be complete without a discussion of Ausra.

A clandestined hand written mimeographed newsletter was circulating at the 1880-1881 among Lithuanian students at the University of When the activity was discovered by Moscow. their Russian instructors the newsletter was Jonas Sliupas then one of the prohibited. students suggested that a special committee be formed for continuing such a publication from East Prussia. The task for the actual implementation of such a publication was undertaken by Jonas Basanavicius a physician who had contributed a number of articles to the Lithuanian press from his residences in Bulgaria. With the help of others. Basanavicius was soon acting as the editor of Ausra (The Dawn). The first publication of this Lithuanian periodical was printed in Ragine during March of 1883. Being placed in sealed envelopes the issue was smuggled into Lithuania and enthusiastically received. Hoping that the publication might be favorable received by the Russian government, Basanavicius refrained from any criticizing of the Russians or their anti-Lithuanian measures. Though this policy caused some problems among the publication's more nationalistic members the periodical continued to be published. Though problems continued to plague the publication, largely stemming from printing and financial issues, the periodical continued printing articles concerning nationalist ideas that fostered national pride. Soon other clandestined Lithuanian publications began to circulate the most noted being Varpas (The Bell) published from 1889 to 1905, and Tevynes Sargas (The Guardian of the Homeland) published from 1896 to 1904.

Eventually the Russians realized that they could not stop the large number of books and periodicals being printed in the Lithuanian language that were being smuggled into Lithuania. They saw that a policy of prohibiting the use of the Latin alphabet rather than fostering a favorable opinion among Lithuanian youth was actually turning public opinion against them. Finally in 1904 with the Russian-Japanese war and ever increasing minority problems across the country, the Russians cancelled its prohibition on the Lithuanian press.

Russification which included the prohibition of printing in the Lithuanian language lasted for 40 years (1864-1904) and had been designed to end the nation's fixation with Poland. It was very successful to that extent as only Lithuanian nobles clinging to the hope of preserving their privileged status continued the dream of re-establishing a Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth.



Knygnesiai Monument (The Book Smuggler)

Czesław Miłosz, the Nobel Prize winning literary poet described the Lithuanians as "a people born from philology. The resistance to the policies against the Catholic faith, and the Lithuanian people contributed to the formation of national aspirations and helped to create a sense of national identity among the peasantry which differed from the Polish identity. Polish had been stronger as a cultural medium in Lithuania than in Poland since the 18th century. Unlike the Latinized Polish nobility, the Lithuanian nobility had used Polish to set them selves apart from the peasantry. During Russian imperial times Polish became a general force for unity; it united the nobility with the peasantry, pushing them together towards a common cultural heritage. The Polish language became the essential touchstone of The Lithuanian peasantry Polish nationality. associated Lithuanian not only with the homeland. For them, it was the essential touchstone of the newly formed national identity. In the second half of the 19th century, speaking the language meant identifying oneself as a Lithuanian, as opposed to a Pole. At the end of the 19th century, definition as either a Pole or a Lithuanian became an essential choice in life."

Along with the Lithuanian national revival came a true love in democracy. Proven ideals of religion, language, and ethnic pride prevailed. The old idea of a Polish class society exemplified by the Lithuania's Polonized nobles was totally rejected and a true Republic of Lithuania established after a long bitter struggle. In many ways the birth of the Republic of Lithuania in 1918 can be traced directly to the Lithuanian national revival that stemmed from the book smuggling movement.

"SMILES WITHOUT WRINKLES"

submitted by Leondas J. Galinskas of C-102, Detroit, MI

Why do people who know the least know it the loudest?

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I don't suffer from insanity; I enjoy every minute of it.

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You're just jealous because the voices only talk to me.

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I'm not a complete idiot, some parts are missing.

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You have to work hard; millions on welfare depend on it.

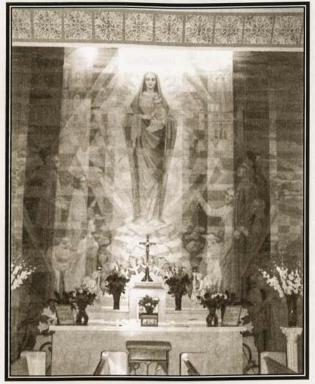
Nativity B.V.M. Parish Honors Cur Lady of Siluva by Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC.

This year, from September 8th to September 16th, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Chicago, Illinois once again celebrated its annual novena and procession in honor of Our Lady of Siluva. The morning Masses and Novena Prayers were directed, in Lithuanian, by Rev. Tomas Karanauskas from St. Casimir's Parish in Los Angeles, California. The evening Masses and Novena Prayers were directed, in English, by the Parish's Pastor, Rev. Anthony Markus (President of the Our Lady of Siluva Fund, Inc.), Parish Associate, Rev. Arvydas Žygas, and various other guest celebrants and homilists, including: Rev. Augustine Kulbis, Servite: Lukas Laniauskas, SJ; and parish liturgist, Mary Ramsden.

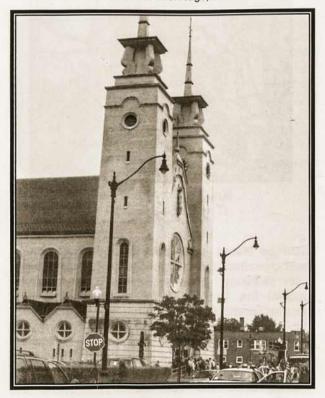
The highlight of these special days was the annual Procession on Sunday, September 10th, after the 10:30a.m. High Mass. Approximately 200 people were in attendance for both the Mass and Procession on this special day for our Lady. There was even a special trolley available for those who could not walk the distance.

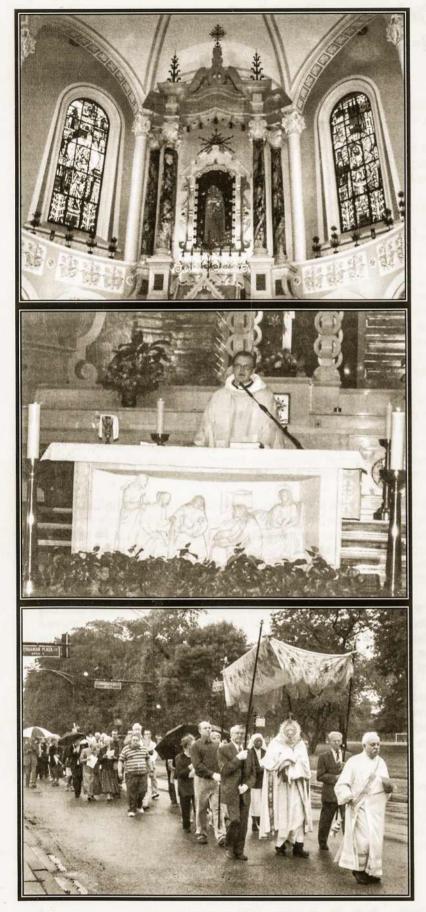
As the Blessed Sacrament was carried in procession, there were five stops made at designated locations throughout the Marquette Park Neighborhood. These special places each erected an outdoor Altar to receive the monstrance and obtain a blessing. The Altars were at Holy Cross Hospital, Maria High School, the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse, Nativity B.V.M. School and St. Adrian's Parish. The ceremony ended back at Nativity B.V.M. Church with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. As usual, we had our "little miracle," for, although it rained during part of the services in church, it stopped while the procession was in progress.

Afterwards, everyone assembled in the parish hall for a delicious Lithuanian lunch, served by various volunteers from the parish. People socialized and recalled this wonderful event, which has been a tradition at Nativity Parish for over fifty years. Some remembered being in the procession way back when they were in grade school, too. Our Blessed Mother certainly must have been pleased with such an outpouring of devotion in her honor, and in response to her special request to pray for all fallen away Catholics, and also for blessings which we all need.



Above: The West Side Altar of Nativity, BVM Parish which is dedicated to Our Lady of Siluva. Below: The exterior of Nativity B.V.M. Church in Chicago, Illinois.







Clockwise from upper left: Nativity B.V.M. Main Altar, Beginning of Our Lady of Siluva Procession, Our Lady of Siluva being processed through the streets of Marquette Park, the Blessed Sacrament being follewed in procession and Rev. Karanauskas celebrating the High Mass.



Knights of Lithuania Jour - Lietuva 2007 June 28th to July 10th 2007

16

June 28th Thursday

June 29th Friday Warsaw, Poland

June 30th Saturday Vilnius, Lithuania

July 1st Sunday Vilnius, Lithuania

July 2nd Monday Vilnius, Lithuania

July 3rd Tuesday Palanga, Lithuania

July 4th Wednesday Palanga, Lithuania

July 5th Thursday Kaunas, Lithuania

July 6th Friday Kaunas, Lithuania Depart from Chicago or Newark on Scandinavian Airlines for Warsaw with a change of planes in Copenhagen.

Arrive in Warsaw and be transported to Hotel Sofita Victoria. After hotel check-in there will be enough time to explore Warsaw Old Town on your own. (The full tour is described at the bottom of the Itinerary.) Meal(s) included: Dinner

After hotel check-out enjoy a bus tour of Warsaw and the Vistula River. Visit Lazienki Park to view the neoclassical "Palace on the Water" and Chopin's Monument. You will have some free time in Warsaw before evening departure for Vilnius. Check-in into City Park hotel. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch

Holy Mass will be at the new Holy Trinity Church – Švenciausios Trejybes where the famous Divine Mercy picture is displayed. After Mass the tour will take you to Trakai, the fully restored castle in the middle of Galve's Lake. After a lunch you will visit Kernave, the ancient site in the Neris valley, the government seat of King Mindaugas 750 years ago. One still can admire and climb the many mounts where hundreds of years ago great castles stood. Upon return to Vilnius the rest of the day is free. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch

This morning your tour will take you to the most beautiful area, Anyksciai. There you will visit Baranauskas museum, Biliunas homestead, and the famous Puntukas located in beautiful Anyksciu Silelis, immortalized in Baranauskas poem. Short visits can be made to Vorutos castle mount and Vetygalos rock exposures as well as admire the beautiful Lithuanian countryside. Return to Vilnius will be in the early evening. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch

After breakfast the tour continues to Palanga, the beautiful resort by the Baltic Sea. The hotel in Palanga is Vanagupe hotel. After lunch there will be enough time to visit the Amber Museum located in the magnificent Count Tiskevicius mansion, surrounded by the Botanical Garden. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon and evening on your own listening to music from the many outdoor cafes or looking at the sunset from the famous Palanga bridge. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch

This morning the tour will make a short stop in Klaipeda, Lithuania's only port city and continue by ferry to Neringa, the Coronial Spit. There you will have a chance to climb the Witches Mountain, admire the fishing villages Juodkrante and Nida as well as visit the highest dunes in the area. A picnic lunch will be in commemoration of USA Independence Day. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch

Today we will visit two of the most revered places in Lithuania – The Hill of Crosses and Siluva. In Siluva, there will be an opportunity to participate at Holy Mass either offered by a priest traveling with the tour or a local priest. After arriving in Kaunas and check-in into Kaunas Hotel, the rest of the day is free to enjoy Kaunas on your own. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch

After breakfast and a visit to the famous Pažaislis church and convent complex, the tour will continue to Vilnius. After arrival, there will be enough time to visit the Song Festival fair and do some shopping. In the evening all may enjoy the Ansambliu Vakaras that will start the Dance and Song Festival activities. Arrival back at your Kaunas hotel will be late in the evening, Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch

Morning tour of Kaunas will take you to Old Town, Kaunas Castle, the Cathedral and Kaunas famous square, Rotuse. After lunch a short visit to the renowned Ciurlionis Museum and on to the long awaited Dance Festival. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch
After Holy Mass, the tour will take you to Vilnius. After check-in into City Park hotel there will be time to enjoy Vilnius on your own and prepare for the Song Festival. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Lunch
This morning we will have a last look at Vilnius with its beautiful churches, Vilnius University complex, and the Cathedral and its catacombs. This afternoon we will try to arrange a tour of the Presidential Palace. In the evening there will be a Farewell Dinner to say goodbye to old and new friends. Meal(s) included: Breakfast & Dinner
After breakfast and hotel check-out you will be transported to Vilnius airport and the flight home. Meal(s) included: Breakfast

Full Tour Price: Newark \$3,520.00 Chicago \$3,695.00 Single supplement \$485.00

Above tour includes:

- Round trip airfare from Chicago or Newark;
- > First class air-conditioned hotels with private bath or shower;
- Meals as indicated in itinerary;
- Sightseeing tours by bus with English speaking guide;
- > Entrance fees to museums as indicated in the itinerary;
- Baggage handling in hotels;

Warsaw Tour Itinerary:

- Accommodation at the hotel 5* Sofitel Victoria Warsaw [1 nt]
- FB (1 breakfasts + 1 lunch + 1 dinner; 3 course + water + tea/coffee+ glass of wine /beer)
- English speaking tour escort throughout
- Obligatory local guide at the Warsaw Royal Castle
- Entrance fee for the Warsaw: Royal Castle, St John Cathedral: free entrance, Lazienki Royal Park: free entrance, Palace on the Water [outside visit]
- Coach as per program



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KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA – LIETUVA 2007 June 28 – July 10, 2007

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Deposit \$200.00/pp by check upon registration made out to Vytis Tours.	on or no later than by February 1, 2007. Checks to b
Final payment is due March 30, 2007.	and a section of second 2 interview of a second second 21
	gh Vytis Tours and is strongly recommended. lease call Rimas at Vytis Tours 800-778-9847
Please mail checks and registration form to:	
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	Palos Heights IL 60463 708-923-0280
Note: As soon as we receive your registration registration, the better seat available.	n form, we will book your seat on SAS. The earlier th
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District and Council News

New England District C. Treciokas

On June 23-25, 2006, about 50 from Hartford, KofL'ers Providence, So. Boston, Worcester, Westfield and Norwood attended a weekend retreat at the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, Maine, with Msgr. Contons. He gave us many inspiring We thoughts to ponder. thoroughly enjoyed each others' company and the Kugelis, balandeliai and pyragai.

South Boston has graciously offered to help Council 27 of Norwood with the semi-annual New England District Convention. The convention will be held at St. Peter's church on Sept 17, 2006.

On Aug 26, 2006, Pres Vivian Rodgers opened our KofL NED Meeting Board at the Lithuanian Club in Gardner, Brone and Bill MA Wisniauskas made a delicious kugelis, kopustu, pork, and chicken dinner with homemade Vilija Bizinkauskas pickles. received a scholarship and will Framingham attend State College.

Many attended the NED Spring Convention in New Haven, CT, and enjoyed lots of camaraderie.

Thirty-nine people attended the Retreat under the direction of Monsignor Contons.

Eleven delegates from NED attended the National KofL Convention in Florida in August. Msgr. Bartkus' project is a library in the Seminary in Rome. Our Pres, Vivian Rodgers was honored to be a lector at the Opening Mass at the National Convention. The Hartford council is organizing a bus trip to go to the Basilica National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, on the weekend of Oct 8 to honor Our Lady of Siluva.

C-26 of Worcester is hosting their annual Cultural Fest on Oct 15, 2006, at Maironis Park in Shrewsbury. All the councils are selling raffle tickets to help make this affair a huge success.

C-1 Brockton, MA Daisy Ruta

Somebody please explain to me how this could possibly be September of '06? Our C-1 has been so preoccupied with many events we haven't been able to put everything on paper. Soooooo, finally, here we are.

We, members of C-1, and St. Casimir's church stood proudly to honor St. Casimir, our Patron. The day started with Mass, followed by breakfast prepared by our C-1 "chefs", the "BEST" in town, headed by Anthony Grein.

Not only do we have "chefs", but also "artists" - yes, Easter egg decorating classes. Our fearless leader, Madam President Ronnie spent weeks preparing the colors, dyes, equipment and gathering those "white" eggs for the egg decorating on Sunday. It has become a tradition for over 20 years in which the younger ones participate.

Let me continue with our talented Vyciai. Yes, our Fourth Annual Concert of "Wine, Music, and Song" was held in May to benefit Lithuanian Children's Relief. It was a huge success. Maryte Bizinkauskas and her friends outdid themselves. Close to \$20,000 was raised to pay for the shipment of ten 40' containers containing 1,100 countless desks. student teachers' desks, filing cabinets, blackboards, etc. Our famous "chefs" prepared the treats and our waiters and waitresses 300 quests. served over Reservations are already coming in for next year.

Congratulations to our member Sister Helen Ivanauskas, S.J.C., on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee. Our council will honor her at her celebration by preparing the dinner and serving her, her community, family and friends at Our Lady of Sorrows Convent.

Congratulations to the Grein family at the birth of their new grandson, nephew, etc. - Henry.

Congratulations, also, to Vilija Bizinkauskas and Thomas Grein, winners of scholarship awards. God bless them as they head off to college.

As we look back on these precious moments, yes, we were busy but we have also been blessed - blessed with memories, friends, laughter, and God's love. Aciu Dievui for His blessings.

C-6 Hartford, CT Florence Morkus

On June 24, 2006, the Holy Trinity Church family of Hartford celebrated the 20th Anniversary of Father Charles Jacobs' Ordination with a Grand Pot Luck Dinner in the Church Hall, following the 4:00 Mass.

C-7 Waterbury, CT Adele Klenske

Well, how about that? We have a Lithuanian trivia buff in our midst! Richard Lukimas is at the head of the pack in points in the Lithuanian Knowledge Contest that has appeared in the Vytis. Congratulations, Richard, keep up the good work and hopefully you will turn out to be the end-all winner and give our council a little notoriety.

Marion Pelletier, true to her word, managed to get the right hand side of our club's yard planted with donated The team of pachysandra. Marion, her mother, Adele Marcelynas and Gary McGuire worked on the project for several days Peter Verseckas pitched in by helping to water the plants. After they planted, they were blessed with many days of rain and so it saved having to continue watering. Plans for the completion of the project will be made in the near future. Thanks to these good people, our yard already shows signs of improvement!

Greetings and best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Ed Bebrin. Ed has been a major help for all our club activities and someone we could count on for whatever needed to be done. We especially miss our champion coffee maker! For our last meeting on June 23, instead of our usual potluck Doris supper, Blinstrubas suggested that we have a Pizza Party. Members enjoyed the event. Should we make it a tradition?

Because we need to build up our treasury for the coming winter months when we have to pay our HIGH gas and light bills, we are considering fundraisers such as pancake breakfasts and possibly even another casino trip in the Fall. If anyone has any other suggestions, please feel free to voice them.

That's it for now. Stay well.

C-17 South Boston Regina

Pastor Stephen Zukas celebrated the 4PM Mass following the Eucharistic Adoration and the Rosary at St. Peter Lithuanian Church. Then C-17 had its meeting in the downstairs hall. VP Florence Zaleskas presided.

President Frank Markuns is home recovering nicely, according to his two daughters (both nurses).

Also, Adele Martus is now home and Alice Opanasets is recovering. We send best wishes for a speedy recovery to all.

Family members and friends gathered together to celebrate the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Alice and Bob Ruseckas. Alice made her own beautiful (and delicious) rose-decorated, threetiered wedding cake. Bob presented his loving partner with 50 red roses, one for each year. Ilgiausiu metu!

Congratulations to C-17 Recording Secretary Billy Olevitz. Billy is now engaged to Karen Leahy. Best wishes to Karen and Billy.

Msgr. Al Contons was Retreat Master at Kennebunkport this year. In attendance from C-17 were VP Florence Zaleskas, Phyllis Gendreau, and Aldona Keaney.

The National Convention in Florida was enjoyed by Pres.

Frank Markuns, Sec. Barbara Trybe, and Phyllis Gendreau. The temperature was hot; the convention motto was TEAM-Together Everyone Achieves More. Next year the convention will be much closer to us. Once again, C-1 Brockton will be hosts. We already are looking forward to attending.

C-27 Pres Charles Treciokas and wife, Carol, attended the meeting. They spoke of their council hosting the Sept NED convention. It will be held at St. Peter's because their church is closed. C-17 members volunteered to help.

Sincere sympathy to family and friends of longtime member Amelia (Milly) Vallis. She was always a willing worker in the activities of the church and council.

Happy Birthday to Senior Vytis, Larry Svelnis. Glad to see you active with the council.

C-116 Worcester, MA Ann Kokernak

We are saddened to report the passing of Antonia Wackell, C-116's oldest member and a contributor to Vytis. She was born in Worcester in 1905, graduated from Classical High School and had been named class artist. She studied art in Boston and received many awards. Many of her paintings includina Lithuanian landscapes - are found in Knights' homes. Also, many of her poems and writings appeared in numerous newspapers and the Vytis. Sincere condolences are extended to her family.

Amber District Dee Herbert

Victor Stepalovitch, our regular correspondent, is under the weather, and so I thought I'd bring everyone up to speed on his recovery and any C-3 news that's fit to print.

First, Victor is doing OK now, feels good and is well on the road to recovery. He will have to take it easy for awhile.

missed He was at the convention. as was Len Kapochus and Dianne Drumstas. The Supreme Council did a great job running the convention. Mary Beth Slakis and Joe Stiklius are to be commended.

Walter Svekla received his Honorary Membership and gave a nice acceptance speech, in which he thanked his family and friends for all their support during his 50-plus years as a Knight.

Agnes Mickunas, HM, stepped down as President of the Supreme Council after serving her term limit of 3 years. John Mickunas was happy to get his wife back and not have to share her with all the work involved in being National President.

Our monthly meetings will begin again in September after taking off July and August. Several members are planning on driving to Washington, DC, for the 40th Anniversary of Our Lady of Siluva Mass on Sunday, October 8, 2006, 2:00 PM.

On Sat, November 11, C-3 will host the Supreme Council Fall Meeting and on Sunday, November 12, we will host the Amber District meeting when the 2006-2007 elections will be held. Busy weekend for the council members. Both meetings will take place at St. George's church in Philadelphia, PA.

Knights of Lithuania Foundation President, Irene Ozalis, and her committee gave a generous grant to the Friends of St. George Church in Shenandoah, PA, in support of their efforts to keep their church from a hostile closing.

C-74 Scranton Marie Laske

Due to the severe flooding of much of Scranton, Marie Benckine - who is caretaker of her 90 year old mother -, Della Zirblis - who is in a wheelchair, had to be evacuated to a nursing home. All furniture, rugs, everything on the first floor were ruined. Della will return when the house is livable. Our sympathy goes out to these KofL'ers.

Dick and I became Greatgrandparents on July 4th when our granddaughter, Rebecca Georgia and husband, Mario Emiliani had a beautiful, healthy baby girl named Celia. God bless this wonderful family.

We had our Lithuanian Mass and St. Ann's Novena at St. Ann's Basilica on St. Ann's Dav celebrated by Rev. Clement Kasinskas from West Hartford, CT. He is always reliable and a terrific speaker. Helen Moran, Director of Music, played "Pulkim ant Keliu" as we carried the gifts in a procession. Marie Laske explained the gifts. Richard Laske carried the American and Lithuanian flags; Margaret Clegg carried the Verba; John Morris carried the Wayside Cross; Jean Kavalines carried the Ruta: Monica Kashuba carried the Juosta; Lillian Vorzilchak carried the Rupintojelis statue. We sang many of the Lithuanian songs which we love to hear. It reminds all Lithuanians of years ago when we sang them in our churches every Sunday. We were very happy to see Mr. and Mrs. John Morris from Forest come to St. Ann's. After the service, we all went out to eat and had a great visit. Pray for the KofL members, both living and deceased.

C-143 Pittston Jean Kapochus Mihalick

We were once again saddened by the death of one of our members, Anna Davala. A Fourth degree Knight and a member of C-143, Pittston, for 30 years. Amzina Atsilsi, Anna.

Many of our members are sick or in nursing homes. Clem Jasonis, our public relations chair, is still confined to a nursing home. Lonatime members Anna Marie Sewatski, Anna Walatka. Marcella Bartoli, and Frances Evans and one of our newer members - Marion Perks are also in nursing homes. Nellie Β. Romanas, Genevieve Dajnowski, Steve Soha, and Eleanor Bellanco are recovering at home.

Our special meeting that was scheduled for July 2nd had to be postponed to July 16th because of the threat of flooding. A few of our members had to evacuate their homes.

On Sunday afternoon, July 16, following the 11:00 Mass, we had a fantastic brunch. M.Pam Smith was in charge of preparing the food and what a magnificent job she did. The delicious aroma of the food could be smelled throughout the whole church. The food tasted great, as well as the

coffee which was made by our master chef, Steve Soha. The other members on Pam's committee were Anastasia Stanley and Martha Warnagiris.

The purpose of the brunch was to try to recruit new members. The members of our council were asked to bring a guest to the meeting, a relative or a friend. The social was attended by 3 members of the clergy - Rev. Peter Alisauskas, Rev. Navy Kumar, and Rev. Hugh McGroarty.

Birthday congratulations to our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Peter Alisauskas, who will be celebrating his 90th birthday on November 1st. Fr. Pete resides in White Haven, PA.

C-144 Anthracite Ona

August was a busy month. On August 6 we hosted four Lithuanians who were visiting Indiantown Gap Military Reservation. The Pennsylvania National Guard has been assisting the Lithuanian National Guard for Major Chris many years. Ferraro who heads the Lithuanian Partnership Program brought them. They attended Mass at St. Casimir's Church in St. Clair, Pastor Rev. Ronald Jankaitis, Spiritual Advisor of C-144. They then had luncheon with members of the council at Grannie's Restaurant in Frackville. President Larry Domalakes welcomed the guests. After luncheon, they were taken to the Lithuanian Museum and Cultural Center and were very impressed. They viewed the old Lithuanian cemetery in Shenandoah and were taken to view the closed and fenced St.

George's Church. They were taken to Mt. Carmel where the Mayor raised the American and Lithuanian flags. They returned to Indiantown Gap with good memories of the Lithuanians in Pennsylvania. The program of the Lithuanian Partnership Program is to select a town in Pennsylvania with a town in Lithuania.

Honorary Member Anne Wargo represented the council at the 93rd Annual Convention in She came back with Florida. good news; the council received prizes for membership and Marian Wydra for the most new memberships. Cultural Chairman Meredith Domalakes received a \$2,000 scholarship. Joann Antanavage won her first Essay Prize and the Foundation voted a generous sum to the Friends of St. George's to help fight the closing of the oldest Lithuanian Parish in the USA. Anne is still President of the St. Casimir Guild of the Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome.

August 12 and 13 - with Larry Domalakes heading our 92nd Annual Lithuanian Days: The affair was culturally and socially a huge success. Entertainment was provided the Malunas by Lithuanian Folk Dancers of Ausrine and Baltimore. the Zilvinas Dancers from Philadelphia. Lithuanian singers. by Lynne led Cox, sang Lithuanian Folk Songs throughout the Mall, all day. Honored this year were All Lithuanian Women. Catholic elementary students were presented scholarships for the 2006-07 term. Music for dancing was provided by the Sensations. Our Junior group. Gintaras, once again delighted the audience. Straw decorations and Marguciai were demonstrated. The mini-Museum was a great success. Yellow, green and red

decorated the Mall and the Lithuanian spirit lived again.

Our thanks to all our workers and to all who attended this wonderful weekend. We pray God will keep us going so we will be able to celebrate the 100th, one day.

C-156 Shamokin Bob Wislock

The council members hosted the Amber District Meeting on Sunday, June 4, at Our Lady of Hope Church and parish hall. Father Paul Marut, O.F.M. Conv. and parochial vicar celebrated the Mass and offered the invocation at the Council President dinner. Robert Wislock welcomed the council members and guests. Dianne Drumstas, Amber District President, facilitated the district meeting. Rose Paczkoski, Veronica Venesky, Marianne Kinder, Ann Kinder, Kathy Wislock and Jessica Huber prepared the delicious dinner and after-meeting buffet.

For the seventh year, the council continues to participate in the PennDOT Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up Program. On Saturday, June 17, council members which included the Kinder, Mack, and Wislock family members, picked up litter along four miles of Route 901 in near-by Ranshaw. Council members conduct four highway clean-ups per year. This initiative is part of the council's community stewardship program.

The council, in May, awarded a scholarship to Lauren Rumberger, a senior student at Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School, Coal Township, during the awards ceremony. The award is given annually by the council to an individual who demonstrates an exemplary character, pursues a degree at an institution of higher education, and has Lithuanian ancestry.

MidAtlantic District

C-110 Maspeth Julia Schroder

On Sunday, June 25, C-110 Maspeth honored the outgoing Lithuanian Ambassador to the U.S. and Mexico, Vygaudas Usackas. At the 11:30 AM Lithuanian Mass. the Ambassador, his wife and children were escorted into Transfiguration Church by Rear Admiral Anthony Pace and the Coastal Patrol Cadet Corps, followed by the women of C-110 in national costumes, Bishop Paulius Baltakis and Fr. Vytautas Volertas. At Mass. Transfiguration Choir was ioined by members of **Brooklyn's Annunciation Parish** Choir with Asta Barkauskas at the organ. The Ave Maria was by soloist Theresa sung Mazzilli. The Vyciu Himnas was sung at the end of the Mass. The Ambassador was escorted out of church to be met by Lieutenant Patrick Flynn and the New York Dept of Sanitation Emerald Society Brigade, playing the bagpipes.

The reception was held in the church hall, following the Mass. Again, the Cadets escorted the Ambassador to his place and the honor guard carried the American and Lithuanian flags. The anthems of the U.S. and Lithuania were sung. Bishop Baltakis said а prayer in Lithuanian and Fr. Volertas said a praver in Enslish. Taps were played for the fallen Lithuanians. Council President. Dr. Paul Michael Kazas was the Master of Ceremonies. Soloist Theresa Mazzilli performed an aria from Madam Butterfly in honor of the Ambassador. The Ambassador with was presented many proclamations and gifts by political and community leaders and members of the Lithuanian Pastor Rev. Paul community. Wood ended the ceremony with a prayer.

Joe Thomas and Tom Luebke provided the music while everyone enjoyed the buffet luncheon. The Ambassador was greatly impressed by the day in his honor, hosted by C-110.

MidCentral District

C-25 Cleveland Ursula Kunsitis

August was a sad month for C-25. Longtime member Helen Garnis passed away on Aug 6th. Our deepest sympathy to her children Barbara, Theresa and Ronald and their families.

On August 12th, Senior and C-25 member Ed Pranckevicius also died. Our heartfelt sympathy to daughter Christine. KofL services were held for both Helen and Ed. On August 27th, Vyto Balas died. Vyto had been C-25's President quite a few years back. Our condolences his sincere to daughter, Jurate and sons Michael and Rimas and their families.

On a happier note, seen at the August 13th Lithuanian Club Picnic were our Spiritual Advisor Fr. Gediminas. Theresa Capuria, Joe and Ann Ivoska, Gene and Ursula Kunsitis, Richard and Jean Marks and Dolly Oberaitis. It was a most enjoyable day and authentic Lithuanian-style food was enjoyed by all. Ann especially loved the kugelis! While dining, Ann announced that she and Joe are now Great Grandparents of a baby boy, Sean Patrick Tobin. Congratulations to all!

On Friday, September 1st, we resumed our council meetings. Hope we can double the attendance at the October meeting. Come and enjoy the afternoon with us! The lucky winner of the 50-50 Raffle was Yours Truly! Thank you all!

President Theresa Capuria is enjoying a September vacation with family and friends exploring the Grand Canyon, while Richard and Jean Marks are checking out the Montana fires near their daughter's home in Red Lodge. Don't get too close, folks!

A big "hello" to our ailing and house-bound members Vince and Marion Gray, Joan Ortman, Fran Pranskevich, Rose Rew, Stella Sankal, Cliff and Catherine Schneider, Adelle Tanner, Helen Valley and Lillian Yorkovic.

Happy Fall and Happy Thanksgiving to All!





Lithuanian Recipes



We hope you enjoy these great recipes compliments of the Sisters of St. Casimir's "Jubilee Gems". Enjoy!

Butter Cream Cheese Spread (Kastinis) From Mrs. Anne Nordine

Ingredients

(3 oz.) Cream Cheese
 14 lb. Butter (soft)
 1 Small Clove Garlic (crushed)
 14 tsp. Black Pepper (Coarsely ground)
 14 tsp. Salt

Nut Torte (Riesutinis Tortas) From Mrs. Genevieve Pleinys

Ingredients

Dough: 12 Eggs (seperated) 1 c. sugar 6 T. Flour ½ lb. Walnuts (ground fine)

Filling: ¹/₂ lb. Walnuts (ground fine) ¹/₂ c. Sweet Cream ¹ c. Sugar

Frosting: 1 Egg Yolk 1 T. Butter (heaping) 3 T. Brandy Powdered sugar (to thicken)

Nut Bread (Riešutų Ragaišis) From Mrs. Petras Dauzvardis

Ingredients

c. Fresh Nuts (chopped)
 c. Poppy Seed
 c. Cooking Oil
 Cakes Yeast
 T. Sugar
 c. Flour (may need to add)
 T. Salt
 c. Lukewarn Water

Directions

Beat cheese and soft butter with an electric mixer until smooth. Add garlic, pepper, salt and beat again. Delicious with hot boiled potatoes or hot homemade bread.

Directions

Dough:

Beat egg yolks until thick and lemon colored. Add sugar gradually. Add the walnuts and flour and mix thoroughly. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Bake in two layer cake pans for 25 minutes in 350° oven.

Filling: Mix well and spread between layers of cake.

Frosting:

Mix and spread on top and sides of cake. Set cake in low oven for 10 minutes.

Directions

Rinse poppy seeds in hot water. Dissolve yeast in 1 c. of the lukewarm water, stir into 1 c. sifted flour. Set in warm place to rise. Mix in nuts, poppyseeds, sugar, salt and oil. Alternately and gradually, add remaining sifted flour and water. Knead until smooth. Form into loaves. Place in loaf pans, let rise again. Bake at 375° for about an hour.

Knights of Lithuania Foundation 2006 Lessay Contest 1st Place Winning Essay

My Grandfather's Coat by Joanne Antanavage Shea Council 144 – Anthracite, PA

In the old picture, oval and fading in a metal frame, I first saw my grandfather's coat. There was my smiling grandmother and somber grandfather with the kind, long, oval face and pensive light eyes. The coat was formal, accompanied by a necktie and a vest that was crossed with a gold watch chain. He looked like a gentleman in his frock coat, but his big rough hands gave away the fact that he trudged miles to the mines each day and worked in backbreaking labor digging coal. He looked gentle, strong, knowing, with a twinkle, and also sad.

I discovered the coat that my father has saved, hidden, perhaps forgotten, under clothing in an outside entry way in my grandfather's house. At the time. I didn't understand the meaning of saving a special piece of clothing from someone that you love, when they died. The coat was black and long, and well tailored and still ready to go to a special gathering. Was he married in it? When I excitedly tried it on. I felt that I was a continuation of my grandfather, who had haunted me through his picture and the round topped trunk that he brought from Lithuania. I felt an energetic tug to the picture and the trunk ever since I was a child. Even though he had died before I was born, I felt this magical pull to another time and world. Was it the stories that my mother had told me of how kind he was and how everyone loved him? Was he pulling me for a reason, to love and search my Lithuanian origins, perhaps nudging, because, in seeing where I came from, I would know who I am. Even though I am American, my genes emerged from centuries of Lithuanians.

My grandfather Joseph had a farmers' connection to the land. He knew how to tell the weather and stayed up nights in December to foretell the weather for the following year. He cut tall grass with a sickle for livestock, in the company of friends who gathered under our old apple tree to sing Lithuanian songs. My father remembers that people always helped one another in this small community. If I could meet one person in my life right now it would be my grandfather. I would ask him so many questions about the life he led before he came to America: about his forced time in the Russian army, what he thought of his life here, working in the mines, being part of the Lithuanian community in Shenandoah, helping build St. George Church, marrying a miner's widow with children. Did he miss Lithuania? Was it better here? What was life like in his village? Whom did he leave there?

I search genealogy records like a detective for clues of this man who radiates so much warmth in my heart and I treasure and preserve the things that he left behind.



An Volate from the Friend's of St. George Parish - Shenandoah, PA



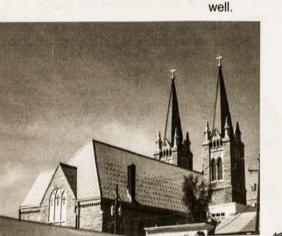
Supporters turn out to pray and add to the growing "Hill of Crosses" outside the shuttered Church.



As was common in our beloved Lithuania when ruthless dictators oppressed our religion, parishioners and friends of St. George's Parish in Shenandoah, PA, have begun to create their own "Hill of Crosses" in front of the shuttered Church. Lithuanians are free now from the tyranny that prohibited them from practicing their religion, where they wanted, let us all pray that the same will soon be true for this Family of St. George as well.



A supporter of the reopening of St. George Parish in Shenandoah, PA adds to their "Hill of Crosses" in front of the shuttered Church.



A rear view of the church building shows an inpressive structure with what looks to be a very sound roof over its head.



Dearest Lady of Šiluva, We pray for they intercession. We beseech thy aid to allow your Son to once again be worshiped in this Church



Supporters in the above and below photos are seen as they gather peacefully across the street from the church to pray the Rosary. May their prayers be answered soon.



A view of St. George's impressive twin steeples.



Shenandoah, PA

Looking for a way to show your support for the preservation of this historic church and help our friends in Shenandoah, PA, with making an effort to save it, the oldest Lithuanian Parish in the U.S.A.? Consider acquiring one or more of their Brass Christmas Ornaments or Historic Postcards. These items will make great keepsakes and Christmas gifts and help with a very worthy cause in the process. We have a limited supply available if you contact us at the Vytis Office.

Please send your order and check made payable to Knights of Lithuania to:

Vytis, The Knight Helping the Friends of St. George 2601 West Marquette Road Chicago, Illinois 60629

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Ordering Information

Item Available	# requested	Requested Offering	Total
Postcard — Exterior of St. George		\$ 1.00	\$
Postcard — Interior of St. George		\$ 1.00	\$
Christmas Ornament		\$ 10.00	\$
4		Total enclosed	\$

This page, and the items available on it, is being provided as a public service to our members who may wish to help with the preservation of St. George Parish in Shenandoah, PA.

Mid-Central District Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage

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Left to Right:

The MCD Meeting was conducted by Richard Marks (C-25 President & MCD Treasurer) as Frances R. Petkus, HM (MCD Secretary) keeps everyone in line during the meeting.

New friends, new members as Joan Tillman (C-102) met and recruited former Michiganian, Marilyn (who now resides in DuBois since '93) into the K of L Family. Welcome and good job Joanie!

Left to Right:

- The MCD members socialing and play a friendly game of cards.
- The delegates and friends are all smiles at Hoss' for the Closing Dinner.





Left to Right:

Greeting Committee, Paul and Lee Moore, hosts of the MCD Meeting/Pilgrimage meet and greet attendees with Appelinis. MMM Good!

The "Michigan Marauders" with newly recruited C-86/C-102 K of L Member, Marilyn

Left to Right:

More delegates and friends at Hoss' for the Closing Dinner.

Elinor Sluzas, HM and Frances R. Petkus, HM admire the woodcarvings created by George Mikalauskas.





Mid-Central District Fall Meeting and Filgrimage by Regina Juska-Svoba



MCD Delegates and Officers at the Pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Lithuanian Catholic Church.

On the second weekend of autumn, September 29-30, 2006, the explosion of a fiery blaze of fall colors led all roads to DuBois, Pennsylvania for the Mid Central District's Fall Meeting and Pilgrimage, hosted by C-86. Friday, September 29, 2006, delegates and friends converged at the Best Western Motor Inn and Conference Center for a cozy get together of good food, drink, an impressive Chinese auction, and of course, the inevitable card game. There was a 50/50 raffle, which was won by Elena Mikalauskas, C-96, Dayton. Congratulations to you!

On Saturday morning, September 30, 2006, delegates and friends gathered at St. Joseph's Church for the Pilgrimage and Memorial service where Msgr. Rev. Richard Siefer, pastor, led the various prayers and scripture readings. He gave an informative and historical biography about the life of Lithuania's and the K of L's patron saint. St. Casimir. Msgr. Siefer disclosed that just a week prior, he celebrated the 58th anniversary of his birth. Elinor Sluzas led the group in singing "Ilgiausiu metu" and "Happy Birthday." George Mikalauskas, the District special recognition chair, awarded Paul Moore, C-86, DuBois, with district's recognition medal. Due to health reasons, the second recipient, Alda Waylonis, also of C-86, was unable to attend the weekend's meeting and activities and she will be presented with the medal in the near future.

Afterwards, Richard Marks, C-25, Cleveland, OH, 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 and a prayer was said.

The meeting was held in the afternoon. In the absence of the District President, Michael F. Petkus (due to prior work commitments), the district's treasurer, Richard Marks, presided over the district meeting. George Mikalauskas led the delegates and guests in the opening prayer. Lee Moore, C-86 president greeted the members, guests and delegates and wished everyone a wonderful and enjoyable stay

in the DuBois area. The district 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 18-20, 2007, in Pittsburgh, PA. C-19, of Pittsburgh, PA will host. Details will be announced in the upcoming months. And the 2007 Fall meeting and pilgrimage will be hosted by C-96, Dayton, with specific dates and details to follow.

District ritual chair, Lee Moore, announced that Mildred Radzavich, C-86, DuBois would receive her third degree prior to Mass. Msgr. Rev. R. Siefer

was unable to participate, and his three degree will be bestowed upon him in the near future.

The 94th National Convention will be hosted by C-1, Brockton, MA on August 2-5, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Hotel. The 95th National Convention will be held on August 1-4, 2008, in Dayton, OH and will be hosted by C-96, Dayton, OH. The Holiday Inn hotel will serve as the home base for the various meetings and activities. Anna Louise Tucker and Michael F. Petkus will serve as the co-chairs of the convention.



District delegates to the 93rd convention Anna Louise Tucker. C-96, Dayton, and Paul C-Moore. 86, DuBois, gave both comprehens ive reports about the National Convention in Lake Buena Vista, FL.

Happy 58th Bithday Rev. Msgr. R. Siefer! "Ilgiausiu metu"

The delegates voted to donate to the

ancillary charities- Aid to Lithuania, Inc., St. Casimir's Guild and the Siluva project.

Lee Moore conducted the district elections. The new slate of officers are: Spiritual Advisor – Rev. Gediminas Kijauskas (C-25); President – Michael F. Petkus (C-96); Vice-president – Jean Marks (C-25); Treasurer – Richard Marks (C-25); Secretary – Frances R. 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 (C-25) and Jean Marks (C-25); PR/Vytis Correspondent – Regina Juska-Svoba (C-102); Vytis Ads – Elinor Sluzas, HM (C-96); ATL – Regina Juska-Svoba (C-102); St. Casimir's Guild – Frances R. Petkus, HM (C-96); K of L Foundation – Lee Moore (C-86); Our Lady of Siluva Fund – Elinor Sluzas, HM (C-96); Scholarship – Rita Johnson (C-19); and Special Recognition Award – George Mikalauskas (C-96).

The 50-50 raffle was won by Frances Mikalauskas, C-96, Dayton. Good luck runs in the family congratulations to you! The meeting concluded with a prayer and the singing of the Vyciu hymn. Prior to Mass at St. Joseph's Church, the third degree medal was awarded to Mildred Radzavich, C-86 DuBois. The newly elected officers gave their oath. Congratulations to all!

After Mass the delegates and friends dined at Hoss' Steak and Seafood Restaurant. Thereafter, the members reconvened at the Best Western Motor Inn and Conference Center for unofficial business socializing and card playing.

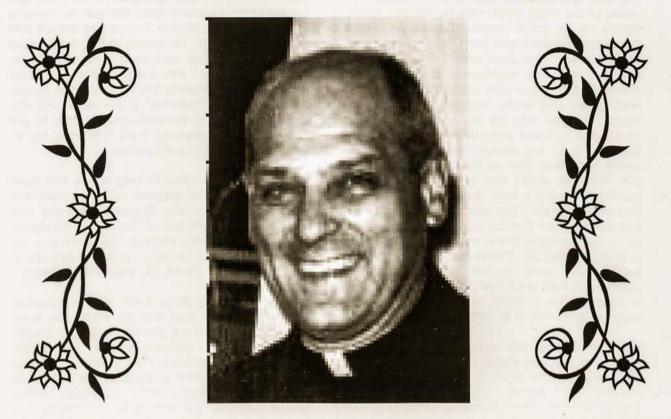
A special thanks to C-86, for hosting a wellorganized, wonderful and memorable weekend. Coming to DuBois is always a warm and comfortable feeling of returning home to kinship family and friends. It was a special time of sharing and remembering.



George Mikalauskas presented MCD Special Recognition Medal to Paul Moore, C-86 – DuBois, while his wife, Lee, MCD Ritual Chair, looks on.

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 district meeting in the Spring of 2007. See you in Pittsburgh!

In Memoriam Most Reverend Paul C. Marcinkus, HM



It is with our deepest sympathies that we announce the passing of one of our Honorary Members, Most Reverend Paul C. Marcinkus, HM, member Council 112. Bishop Marcinkus was elevated in 1995 to Honorary Membership during the 88th National Convention in Waterbury, MA. Below is a reprinting of the Homily from his Funeral Mass at Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral on Thursday, March 2, 2006. The homily was delivered by Most Reverend Robert N. Lynch, Bishop of St. Petersburg. We are thankful to Rev. John Kuzinskas (C-112) for obtaining this copy for us so that it could be shared with all of our members.

On Monday, February 20, 2006, Paul Casimir Marcinkus, began his final path to the only judgment which ever mattered to him and for which he lived his entire extraordinary life. On that day his soul began its journey to the Father and his earthly remains began their journey back to his beloved Church of Chicago of which he was so proud and which he loved so intensely. On That day his long labors and awesome burdens were replaced by eternal rest.

In the days since being notified of his death, I have spent considerable time in prayer attempting to discern what I should and what I might say on this occasion. It is important for you to know that I admired this man deeply and like many in this great Cathedral, experienced countless acts of kindness since first coming to know him in 1979. There is a part of me that would like to initiate the process of exoneration of his name, but this is not the place and there is neither the time nor do I have sufficient information to do this. I hope that will happen.

Instead, in order to avoid a loud bellow for the casket to "get on with it or get over with it", I would like to share with you in the context of these readings the priestly heart of this man, a heart into which he granted me unaccustomed access.

He would not have chosen as I did the first reading from Lamentations. He would say that he never forgot what happiness is. He found happiness always in helping other people through his priestly ministry. To his friends he was always "Father Paul" and from his brief years at St. Christina's which had a profound effect on his life to his last years in Sun City Center, he offered his presence,

his faith and his time and talent to others. Few knew of his many years offering Sunday Mass in Italian at a small parish Church in Rome's Montemario, unless you were there. Few knew of his regular Thursday/Friday ritual of taking communion to the homebound at St. Clement of Rome Parish in Sun City Center unless you were visiting him and would hear the phone ring early those mornings with the old folks callings to ask him to pick up bread and milk and tea on his way to their home for his weekly communion call. Few would remember how as Governor of the Vatican City State he would stop to compliment a lonely gardener planting a tree. He knew all their names and what they did. The saddest farewell came not last week but on that day in 1990 when they lined up by the hundreds (these workers) within the great building behind St. Peters, spilling outside, and leaving with tears in their eyes after bidding goodbye to their great friend. They loved him and in his presence to them, he never forgot his own roots in Cicero and in St. Anthony parish.

However, I chose this reading because like many bishops today and many priests, the peace and happiness of our lives in often broken in our ministry by forces external to ourselves. Throughout the difficult moments of his final years in Rome, the Archbishop hoped in silence, trusted in the truth one day to be revealed, and waited for and sought the Lord. He knew the great apostle's words to the Romans, "hope does not disappoint..."

There were moments of heart-wrenching sadness. I can not forget during the period of months that he remained mostly inside the Vatican the celebration of his 40th anniversary of priestly ordination. Only a few of us were able to attend, maybe ten people. Throughout the long ordeal of those days and especially at that Mass, he tried as best he could to keep our spirits up, to keep us from becoming disillusioned, angry or cynical. Those emotions were foreign to him. Rather he loyally continued to serve the Church and encouraged, indeed practically ordered us, to look beyond the petty to the significant realities of our ecclesial life. Throughout those years, I often stayed with him in his apartment inside the Vatican and I can truthfully say I never heard him say a bad word about anyone. Exasperated, yes. Angry, never. He lived and died a loyal servant of the Church even though he uniquely found out what it meant to "take up one's cross and follow Him."

And it as time, he appeared "beastly" and "gruff", it was mostly an act. He had an incredibly generous

heart. One time I was visiting him in his office and his long-time assistant, Mavi Marigonda, came in to announce that Mother Teresa had arrived and wished to see him. He looked at me, smiled, and said, "This visit will cost us a minimum of one million dollars, US." And it did. Mother had found a US mattress company that was willing to donate 20,000 mattress "seconds" to her work and she came knocking on the Archbishop's door to get him to pay for shipping them from the US to Calcutta. He always gave into her.

It was the opportunities to help others that gave this Archbishop his greatest joy. He lived the words of Paul to the Romans: "nothing can separate us from the love of Christ?" In his eightyfour years, anguish, distress, persecution – he conquered them all because he lived every day in the love of God in Christ. He was Christ to many.

He lived for eternal life and now he has arrived at heaven's gate. I trust that St. Peter has been forewarned and will not give him too much trouble or the first Pope is certainly in for it. And inside, waiting for him, I envision Paul VI from whom this devoted servant took a knife in his own side intended for the Pope himself. I envision Mother Teresa, probably still looking for something else he can do for her. I envision his life-ling friend and mentor, Bishop Ernest Primeau, saying: "what took you so long, big fellow?" But most of all, I envision the Lord Jesus himself, taking our giant friend by the hand and saying: "well done, good and faithful servant. Leave your burdens and take this gentle yoke, the mantle of peace. Greet your mother, Helen, and your Dad, and your brothers and sister. You are finally home, Paul, and you deserve the rest that is now yours."

Cardinal George, Paul Marcinkus loved this Church of Chicago and he would brook no criticism in his presence of its bishops. Thank you for being here to offer this Mass for him. To his brother bishops who have known him longer than I thanks for being steadfast in your friendship. To his nieces and nephews, we are grateful for the priestly service of your uncle and for his loyalty to the Church and his friendship to all of us. To the priests of Chicago, he never left you - all of you were special to him when you came to Rome and he constantly bragged about you. And finally, to his friends, we have lost a great friend, to be sure, but he has gained the one thing we have all wished and prayed for him for years - peace, eternal rest and perpetual light!

The soil of Chicago now reclaims one of its own, a faithful and faith-filled priest whose life's ministry was relentlessly loyal, steadfastly generous, and modeled after the ministry of the great high priest, Christ himself. Many of us have lost a friend. The Church has lost a servant. Heaven has gained one of the most extraordinary people I have ever known. As promised to those who wait in hope and

trust in God's love, the yoke has been lightened and the burden removed. It is exactly as God has willed it and Archbishop Paul C. Marcinkus; "God's banker" invested his life in it. Rest in peace, Archbishop. You are finally accruing the interest of all those good deeds you deposited for eightyfour years on earth.



Knight fife!



L-R: Julia Poudzukaitis, Sarune Macys, Agnes Bouza, Irene Zemataitis and Janina B. Nawarskas

Members of Council 7, Waterbury, CT, pose for a photo with Irene Zemataitis. Irene was a guest speaker from Lithuania who spoke on Lithuania's Orphanages and the need of winter clothing to be shipped to them. The photo was taken at St. Joseph Parish Center in Waterbury, CT.



TEST YOUR LITHUANIAN KNOWLEDGE CONTEST

The answers to last issue's questions. (12 points were possible)

- 1. Who united the Lithuanian ethnic lands and established the state of Lithuania? In what year did he, after embracing Christianity, accept the crown from the Pope and become Lithuania's King? How many Kings have ruled Lithuania throughout her 2 history?
- A: Mindaugas. The year 1253. One.
- 2. Which ruler of Lithuania brought the greatest military and political prosperity to the country? What was his Title? During which years did he 4. On what day did the last Russian soldier leave rule?
- A: Vytautas. Grand Duke. From 1392 to 1430.
- 3. In what year was the first Lithuanian periodical published? Who organized it? What was it called?
- A. In 1883. Dr. Jonas Basanavicius organized it. The name was Ausra ("The Dawn").
- 4. In what year does the name of Lithuania first apear in written records? In which documents did it appear?
- A. The year was 1009. The name first appeared in The Annals of Quedlinburg.
- 5. What percentage of its population has it been calculated that Lithuania lost during the time period of 1940-1953?
- A: 30%

Out of a possible 12 points:

Leona Sawka (C-6)

Marie Laske (C-74)

3 Points

9 Points

Well Done All!

Cumulative Total So Far

Richard Lukminas (C-7)	25 Points
Leona Sawka (C–6)	28 Points
Marie Laske (C-74)	21 Points

This issues' questions.

(10 points possible)

- 1. As World War I was coming to a close, Lithuanian representatives from all parts of the country assembled in Vilnius in September of 1917 and held a conference. What was the elected group called?
- In 1991 what country was the first to recognize Lithuania's independence? On what day of that vear?
- On what day did Russia officially recognize 3. Lithuania's independence?
- Lithuanian territory?

5. Beginning under whose rule did the throne of Grand Dukes in Lithuania become hereditary?

What years did he rule?

There you have them! Play along and good luck. Remember, if you want to enter the contest you need to send your answers in by November 25th to: Vytis - The Knight, Lithuanian Knowledge Contest, 2601 West Marguette Road, Chicago, IL 60629. Please be sure to include your name and council number.

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Knights of Lithuania Calendar of Events <</p>

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September 2006

- 4th Labor Day
- 16th Mid-America District Bowling
- 17th Mid-America District Fall Meeting Host Council 82, Gary, IN

October 2006

- 8th 40th Anniversary Commemoration Mass of the Our Lady of Siluva Chapel at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.
- 9th Columbus Day
- 15th New England District Cultural Fair at Maironis Park in Worcester, MA
- 21st Mid-America District Bowling
- 28th Mid-America District Annual Hayride at Jagiella's Farm in Hebron, IN. 4:30p.m. till ???

November 2006

- 1st All Saint's Day
- 2nd All Soul's Day

11th Veteran's Day

- SC Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. C-3 and Msgr. Anderlonis will be our hosts. Call Dee Herbert @ 1.215.241.2135 for more info, or e-mail her on doloresherbert@Verizon.Net
- 12th Amber District Meeting & Elections in Philadelphia, PA. C-3 hosting this meeting. Call Dee Herbert @ 1.215.241.2135 for more info, or e-mail her on doloresherbert@Verizon.Net
- 18th Mid-America District Bowling
- 19th Mid-America District Memorial Mass for Deceased Members. Hosted by Council 38, Kenosha, WI
- 23rd Thanksgiving Day

December 2006

24th	Christmas Eve	

- 25th Christmas Day
- 31st New Year's Eve

January 2007

1st	Happy New Year to One and All
20th	Mid-America District Bowling

February 2007

- 4th 47th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet sponsored by the Mid-America District in Chicago, IL
- 14th Valentine's Day
- 16th Lithuanian Independence Day Valio Lietuva!
- 17th Mid-America District Bowling
- 19th President's Day

March 2007

- 4th St. Casimir's Day
- 17th Mid-America District Bowling

April 2007

- 21st Mid-America District Bowling
- 22nd New England District Spring Convention hosted by C-141 in Bridgeport, CT
- 23rd St. George's Day

May 2007

12th Mother's Day

- 19th Mid-America District Bowling
- 28th Memorial Day

June 2007

14th Flag Day	
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 17th Father's Day
 22nd to 24th New England District Retreat at Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, ME
 28th to 30th Knights of Lithuania Tour – Lietuva 2007

July 2007

1st to	10th	Knights of Lithuania Tour -
		Lietuva 2007

4th Independence Day – God Bless America!

August 2007

2nd to 5th

94th National Convention in Brockton, MA, hosted by Council 1

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