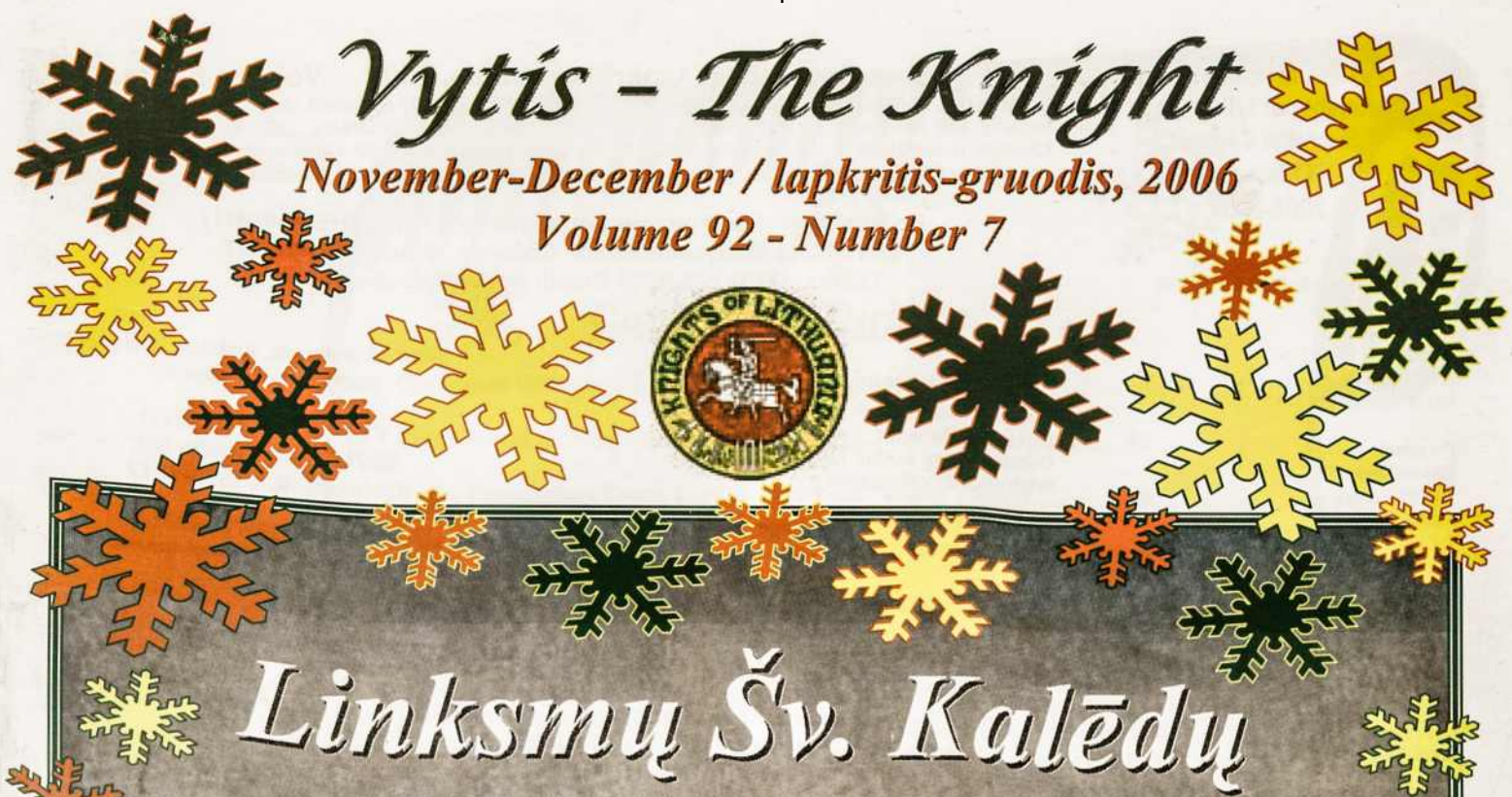


# Vytis - The Knight

November-December / lapkritis-gruodis, 2006

Volume 92 - Number 7



## Linksmų Šv. Kalėdų



**Vytis (The Knight)  
Knights of Lithuania  
Supreme Council  
Officers  
2006-2007**

**Spiritual Advisor**

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis, STD, HM  
St. George Rectory  
3580 Salmon St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19134  
(215) 739-3102  
Fax (215) 739-7217

**President**

Ellie Nakrosis  
10 Park Avenue  
Kearny, NJ 07032  
Tel: (201) 998-9641  
Cell: (201) 294-4250  
mocuete@verizon.net

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

Becky Pataki  
142 Forest St  
Kearny, NJ 07032  
(201) 955-1122  
bxtrp97@yahoo.com

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

Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC  
6727 S. California Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60629  
Tel (773) 778-8211  
Fax (773)925-8885  
jmshain3@yahoo.com

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

Andreja Deksnis  
810 David Ross Road  
West Lafayette, IN 47906  
(773) 780-5565  
adeksnis@purdue.edu

**Recording Secretary**

Dolores Herbert  
5985 Jeannette St  
Philadelphia, PA 19128-1616  
(H) (215) 483-6460  
(C) (267) 971-8856  
doloresherbert@verizon.net

**Treasurer**

Bernice Aviza, HM  
8 Tremont ST  
Albany, NY 12205  
(518) 459-5256  
blaviza@worldnet.att.net

**Financial Secretary**

Aldona Zajauskas  
27859 W Lake Shore Dr  
Spring Grove, IL 60081  
Tel (847) 587-1419  
years1001@aol.com

**November-December / lapkritis-gruodis, 2006 Volume 92 No. 7**

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2601 West Marquette Road Chicago, Illinois 60629-1817  
Tel/fax: (773) 778-9231 Email: koflvytis@sbcglobal.net**

**VYTIS – The Knight – STAFF**

**Editor:** Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC  
**Business Manager:** Robert A. Martin, Jr.  
**Council News Editor:** Mildred Jagiella  
mildred36j@yahoo.com

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

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

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

**Tel/fax:(773)778-9231  
Email: koflvytis@sbcglobal.net**

**Trustees**

Joanna Rudzevicius  
426 W 53<sup>rd</sup> Pl  
Merrillville, IN 46410-1424  
(219) 884-2220  
rudzevjo@netzero.net

Rita Sussko, HM

48 Liberta Dr  
Toms River, NJ 08757  
(732) 505-8733

**Legal Advisor**

Saulius V. Kuprys, Esq.  
Henehan, Donovan & Issacson  
150 S. Wicker Dr. #1050  
Chicago, IL 60606  
W (312) 346-5275  
viskas@aol.com

**VYTIS Editor**

Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, SSC  
6727 S. California Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60629  
Tel (773) 778-8211  
Fax (773)925-8885  
jmshain3@yahoo.com

**VYTIS Business Manager**

Robert A. Martin, Jr.  
3420 S. Lituania Ave  
Chicago, IL 60608  
Tel/fax: (773) 376-4779  
amerlith1@aol.com

**Archives Chair.**

Francis Bumila  
161 King Philip St.  
Raynham, MA 02767  
(508) 823-9325

**Lithuanian Language &  
Cultural Chair.**

Julia Schroder  
107 Stanley Drive  
Centereach, NY 11720  
Tel/Fax (631) 467-3747  
jaschr1950@aol.com

**Lithuanian Affairs Chair**

Mildred Jagiella  
15104 Hancock  
Hebron, IN 46341  
(219) 996-6516,  
mildred36j@yahoo.com

**Honorary Memb. Chair.**

Elinor Sluzas, HM  
4618 Cobblestone Drive  
Tipp City, OH 45371  
(937) 667.4568

*Anna Klizas Wargo, HM*

*Estelle Rogers, HM*

*Bertha Stoskus, HM*

*Rita Sussko, HM*

**Public Relations Chair**

Regina Juska-Svoba  
1594 Beaupre  
Madison Hts., MI 48071  
Tel (248) 547-2859  
Fax (248) 547-0982  
rjuskasvoba@cs.com

**Ritual Chair.**

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

**Scholarship Chair**

Barbara Miller  
2914 Holly Lane  
Endwell, NY 13760  
(607) 754-3513  
miller2914@juno.com  
*Antoinette Sakal*  
*Robert Damasauskas*  
*Ver. Bizinkauskas-Cofe*  
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**Our Lady of Siluva Fund, Inc.**

Pres. – Rev. Anthony Markus  
Nativity B.V.M. Rectory  
6812 S Washtenaw Ave  
Chicago, IL 60629  
Tel (773) 776-4600  
Fax (773) 776-0677  
Website:  
[www.ourladyofsiluva.com](http://www.ourladyofsiluva.com)

**K of L Foundation, Inc.**

Pres. – Irene Ozalis  
2557 E Ontario ST  
Philadelphia, PA 19134  
(215) 426-6762  
ozalisgreymas@msn.com

**St. Casimir Guild, Inc.**

Pres. – Anna Klizas-Wargo, HM  
125 S. Morris St.  
St. Clair, PA 17970  
(570) 429-0132  
akliz1@ptd.net

**Aid to Lithuania, Inc.**

Pres. – Regina Juska-Svoba  
1594 Beaupre  
Madison Hts., MI 48071  
Tel (248) 547-2859  
Fax (248) 547-0982  
rjuskasvoba@cs.com

**Amber District**

Pres. – Dolores Herbert  
5985 Jeannette St  
Philadelphia, PA 19128-1616  
(H) (215) 483-6460  
(C) (267) 971-8856  
doloresherbert@verizon.net

**Mid-America District**

Pres. – Mildred Jagiella  
15104 Hancock  
Hebron, IN 46341  
(219) 996-6516,  
mildred36j@yahoo.com

**Mid-Atlantic District**

Pres. – Cathy Nakrosis  
747 Schuyler Ave.  
Kearny, NJ 07032  
(201) 997-3445  
smathyn@yahoo.com

**Mid-Central District**

Pres. – Michael F. Petkus  
38 Woodsdale Rd.  
Dayton, OH 45404  
(937) 235-0341  
franpet4@sbcglobal.net

**New England District**

Pres. – June V. Greiner  
159 Coppermill Rd.  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
(860) 563-9009  
jvg159@earthlink.net

**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.**

**Publication Deadlines and Reminders**

Please note the following publication deadlines for each issue of Vytis-The Knight. Jan-Feb Issue – Jan. 1st / Mar-Apr Issue – Mar. 1st / May-Jun Issue – May 1st / Jul-Aug Issue – Jul. 1st / Convention Issue – Sep. 1st / Sep-Oct Issue – Sep. 15th / Nov-Dec Issue – Nov. 1st. Also, 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 publication.



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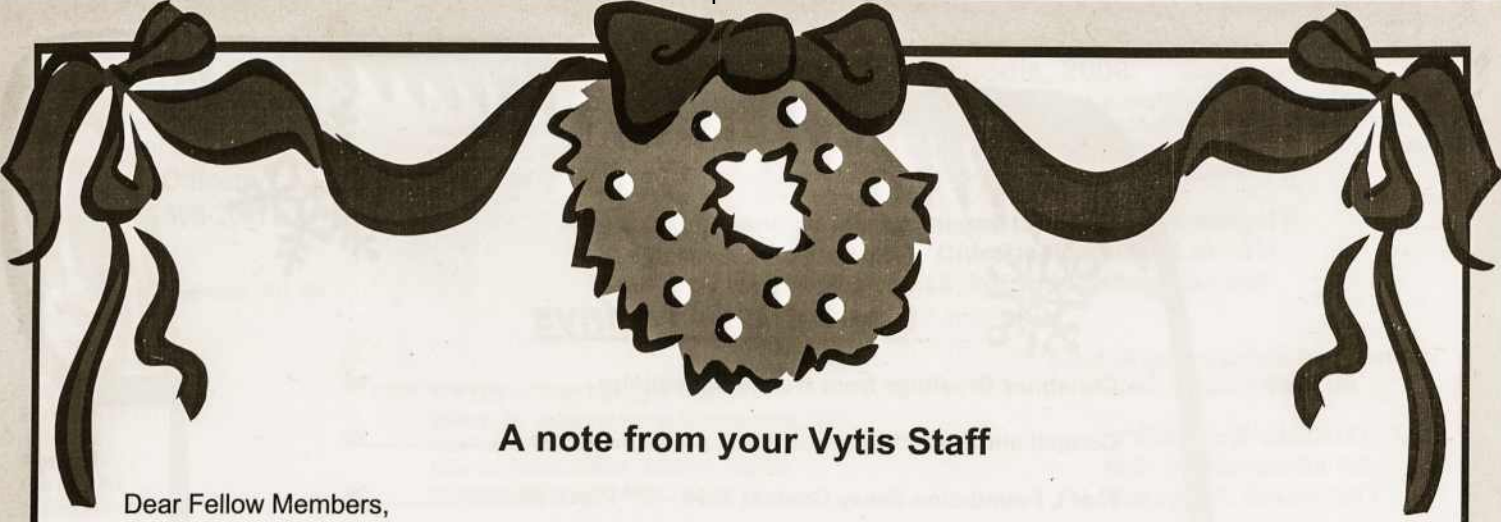
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Front Cover Photo: Your Supreme Council



## A note from your Vytis Staff

Dear Fellow Members,

As the Christmas Season is upon us, may this last issue of 2006 find you enjoying all the special gifts that this wonderful season brings each of us. It's hard to believe that another year has passed so quickly. We do hope that it was a good one for you. As we look to 2007 may we enjoy a new year filled with good health, prosperity and peace for all.

This past year has seen us make some slight changes to Vytis, we hope everyone has enjoyed this year's issues. We're looking forward to bringing you another year's worth of great activities and information to report on. Keep that information coming. Please note that for everyone's convenience we've made our printing deadlines a permanent part of our inside front cover.

In closing we wish to thank everyone who has supported the Vytis this year and always. Your support and encouragement has made our labor of love all the more enjoyable.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2007.

Vytiškai,

*Sr. Johanna Marie*

Sr. Johanna Marie

*Rob*

Rob

*Mildred*

Mildred



## A note from your Supreme Council Ritual Committee

The Supreme Council Ritual Committee requests that all Council Ritual Chairs, or whoever fills out degree application forms, use the new revised point system and degree application forms.

Members cannot be given points for the present year until the end of the year.

All Fourth Degree Applications must be submitted by May 1, 2007 to be included in 2007.

If there are any questions during January 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>, I can be reached at: Lee Moore, 18 Easthampton A, West Palm Beach, FL 33417. The telephone is 1.561.242.0133. I can be reached at the address and phone published on the inside front cover at any other time.

Ačiū,

*Lee*

Lee Moore, Chair  
Supreme Council Ritual Committee

*Lithuanian Affairs: News you should know!*  
*United States and Lithuania sign historic agreement*

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN CULTURAL PROPERTIES**

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (hereafter referred to as Parties) –

Desirous of successful mutual cooperation in the fields of culture and cultural heritage of either state,

Convinced that such an agreement will contribute to the strengthening of numerous contacts between the two states,

Bearing in mind the respect due to fundamental human rights, and seeking to promote understanding tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial and religious groups.

Convinced that each culture has a dignity and a value which must be respected and preserved, and that all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all mankind,

Desiring to enhance the protection of cultural heritage and provide access to the treasures of national and world culture without discrimination,

Considering that deterioration or disappearance of items of the cultural heritage constitutes a harmful impoverishment of the heritage of all the nations of the world,

Considering that the-protection of cultural heritage can be effective only if organized both nationally and internationally among states working in close cooperation,

Considering the principles of the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and

Desirous of elaborating concrete steps in furtherance of the principles and purposes of the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage with respect to certain items of cultural heritage of the victims of genocide during the Second World War.

Have agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE 1**

Each Party will take appropriate steps to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of all national, religious or ethnic groups (hereafter referred to as "groups") that reside or resided in its territory, including victims of genocide during the Second World War

The term "cultural heritage" for the purposes of this Agreement means places of worship, sites of historical significance, monuments, cemeteries, and memorials to the dead, as well as archival and other authentic and documentary materials relating thereto.

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania shall be the Executive Agent for implementing this Agreement on the Lithuanian side. The United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad shall be the Executive Agent for implementing this Agreement on the American side. Either Party may, by diplomatic note to the other, change its Executive Agent.

**ARTICLE 2**

The Parties shall cooperate in identifying lists of appropriate items falling within the scope of Article I particularly those, which are in danger of deterioration or destruction. Either Party may publish such lists

**ARTICLE 3**

Each Party will ensure that there is no discrimination, in form or in fact, against the cultural heritage of any group referred to in Article I or against the nationals of the other Party in the scope and application of its laws and regulations concerning

- (a) the protection and preservation of their cultural heritage;
- (b) the right to contribute to the protection and – preservation of the cultural heritage; and
- (c) public access thereto.

#### ARTICLE 4

In cases where the group concerned, referred to in Article 1, is unable, on its own, to ensure adequate protection and preservation of its cultural heritage, each Party shall take special steps to ensure such protection and preservation of cultural heritage within its territory and shall invite the cooperation of the other Party and its nationals where assistance is required for this purpose.

#### ARTICLE 5

Properties of cultural heritage, referred to in Article 4, that are of special significance shall be designated in the lists of items of cultural heritage. Such lists shall be publicly announced and communicated to competent federal, state and local authorities.

All properties of cultural heritage so designated shall be protected, preserved, and marked in the manner stipulated by valid legal internal regulations of either Party. Public access thereto shall be ensured.

Such lists of items of cultural heritage shall be designated by the Commission referred to in Article 6 hereof. The Commission may also designate properties for inclusion in the list at any time.

#### ARTICLE 6

A Joint Cultural Heritage Commission is hereby established to oversee the operations of the lists referred to in Articles 2 and 5, and to perform such other functions as are delegated to it by the Parties. Each Party shall appoint 3 members of the Commission, who may be assisted by alternates and advisers. Decisions of the Commission shall require the assent of all members. The Parties shall cooperate in supplying the Commission with access to the items of cultural heritage and information necessary for the execution of its responsibilities.

Each Party through its representative on the Joint Cultural Heritage Commission (JCHC) referred to in the first paragraph hereof may request that special arrangements, as appropriate, be worked out under the procedures of the JCHC to protect and preserve the cultural heritage in the territory of the other Party of groups not covered under Article 1, in cases where such cultural heritage is associated with the cultural heritage abroad of citizens of the requesting Party and is in need for

any reason of protection and preservation. The other Party will consider steps, within the scope of its laws and regulations; to respond to the request.

#### ARTICLE 7

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to relieve either Party of its obligations under the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage or any other agreement, for the protection of cultural heritage.

#### ARTICLE 8

This Agreement shall be implemented in accordance with the laws and regulations of both countries and the availability of funds.

#### ARTICLE 9

Disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be submitted to the Agents referred to in the third paragraph of Article 1.

#### ARTICLE 10

This Agreement shall enter into force upon an exchange of notes by which the Parties inform each other about the fulfillment of their respective constitutional requirements for entry into force. It may be amended by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

This Agreement shall remain in three until terminated by either Party giving written notice to the other Party through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate this Agreement, which notice shall be effective six months from the date of delivery.

#### **"Smiles without Wrinkles"**

from Leondas J. Galinskas - C-102

Budget: A method for slowly going broke.



If certain items were worth buying, people wouldn't sell them door to door.



Consciousness: That annoying time between naps.

## He Made A Difference by Theresa Strolia, HM



Rev. John C. Jutt-Jutkevicius, HM  
1914-1971

Sometimes it does us good to look into the past to see what those who went before us were able to accomplish.

A true Knight who springs to mind is Honorary Member Father John C. Jutt-Jutkevicius

(1914-1971). In the years after World War II attention among American-Lithuanians was focused on the Soviet takeover of the Baltic States. The absorption of these independent countries by the Soviets caused much distress among the Knights. Father Jutt of Worcester, Mass. was one who acted upon his convictions, rather than just wringing his hands over the situation. While he was National Spiritual Advisor (1946-1951) he used his abilities in Public Relations to galvanize the Knights into a letter writing campaign in an intense effort to inform the public of the great injustice being done to Lithuania and all the Captive Nations.

At the 1947 national convention the Lithuanian Affairs committee was formed and the letter writing campaign began. Over the years, based on convention reports, there were over two hundred thousand letters sent out to petition, correct, or thank editors, journalists, and government office holders about Lithuania's situation. This campaign had great ramifications in raising awareness of Lithuania's plight throughout our nation. Sadly, Father Jutt passed away in August of 1971 following a trip to Africa. Although it is 35 years since his death we should remember him in our prayers as a great Knights of Lithuania Hero who led Americans of Lithuanian descent, not only K of L'ers, to speak up for the nation of Lithuania and to keep the cause of justice in the eyes of our country.

## A Member You Should Know Theresa Balciunas-DiCello

Theresa Balciunas DiCello is the President of Knights of Lithuania Council 38, Kenosha, Wisconsin. For many years now she has been very active in her local area keeping our Lithuanian culture and customs



Theresa Balciunas DiCello  
President, K of L Council 38, Kenosha,

alive. She has taught and continues to teach numerous classes on Lithuanian craft items including "The Art of Lithuanian Christmas Ornaments" and "How to Weave Juosta". In addition, Theresa has in the past run the Lithuanian Culture Booth at Milwaukee's Annual Holiday Folk Spectacular. Recently, she was a special guest on HGTV's "The Carol Duvall Show" where she demonstrated live on a national broadcast how to make a Lithuanian Christmas Ornament. Theresa has also written and published a book on making our beloved straw ornaments as well. For further information on Theresa's book, "Fun with Straw", please contact her directly at: 4050 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Kenosha, WI 53144-1344. In the spirit of the Christmas Season and with Theresa's permission, we've included a few of her instructions in this issue of Vytis. Now, get out those white straws, scissors, needle and string and happy ornament making.

Theresa we're all proud of your accomplishments. Keep up the good work!



# Knights of Lithuania Tour – Lietuva 2007

June 28<sup>th</sup> to July 10<sup>th</sup> 2007



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>June 28<sup>th</sup><br/>Thursday</p>                        | <p>Depart from Chicago or Newark on Scandinavian Airlines for Warsaw with a change of planes in Copenhagen.</p>  |
| <p>June 29<sup>th</sup><br/>Friday<br/>Warsaw, Poland</p>       | <p>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</p>  |
| <p>June 30<sup>th</sup><br/>Saturday<br/>Vilnius, Lithuania</p> | <p>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 &amp; Lunch</p>   |
| <p>July 1<sup>st</sup><br/>Sunday<br/>Vilnius, Lithuania</p>    | <p>Holy Mass will be at the new Holy Trinity Church – Švenciausios Trejybės 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 &amp; Lunch</p> |
| <p>July 2<sup>nd</sup><br/>Monday<br/>Vilnius, Lithuania</p>    | <p>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 &amp; Lunch</p>   |
| <p>July 3<sup>rd</sup><br/>Tuesday<br/>Palanga, Lithuania</p>   | <p>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 &amp; Lunch</p>  |
| <p>July 4<sup>th</sup><br/>Wednesday<br/>Palanga, Lithuania</p> | <p>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 &amp; Lunch</p>  |
| <p>July 5<sup>th</sup><br/>Thursday<br/>Kaunas, Lithuania</p>   | <p>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 &amp; Lunch</p>   |
| <p>July 6<sup>th</sup><br/>Friday<br/>Kaunas, Lithuania</p>     | <p>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 Vakarai 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 &amp; Lunch</p>   |



July 7 <sup>th</sup> Saturday Kaunas, Lithuania	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
July 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Vilnius, Lithuania	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
July 9 <sup>th</sup> Monday Vilnius, Lithuania	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
July 10 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	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



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

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing Room with: \_\_\_\_\_

Need connecting flights to Chicago or Newark: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Tour Price: Newark \$3,520.00 Chicago \$3,695.00 per person, double occupancy, payment made by check

Paying by credit card, please add an additional \$100.00/pp

Single supplement: \$485.00

Deposit \$200.00/pp by check upon registration or no later than by February 1, 2007. Checks to be made out to Vytis Tours.

Final payment is due March 30, 2007.

*Travel insurance is available through Vytis Tours and is strongly recommended.  
 For information and application please call Rimas at Vytis Tours 800-778-9847*

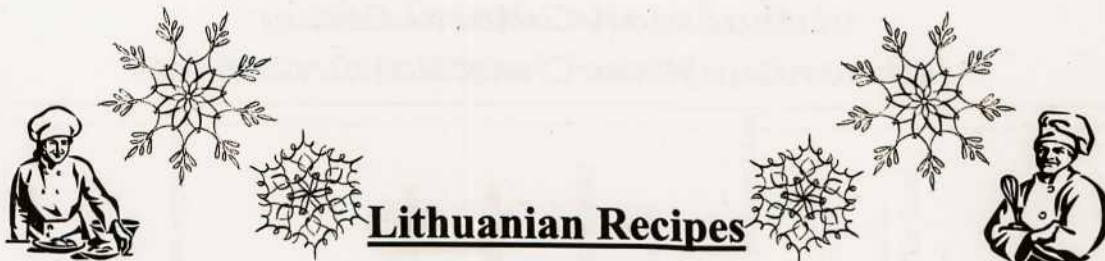
Please mail checks and registration form to: Rita Pencyla  
 12617 So. 73<sup>rd</sup> Court  
 Palos Heights IL 60463  
 708-923-0280

*Note: As soon as we receive your registration form, we will book your seat on SAS. The earlier the registration, the better seat available.*

Seating preference: window \_\_\_\_\_ aisle \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Tickets to the Song and Dance Festival are not included in the price. As soon as they will be available, the people that are registered for the tour, will be notified and will be able to buy them individually.*



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

### **Christmas Bread (Kalėdų Pyragas)**

From Mrs. Petras Dauzvardis

#### **Ingredients**

1 yeast cake or 1 pkg. dry yeast  
 1 ½ tsp. salt  
 ¼ c. cold water  
 1 ½ c. white raisins  
 3 c. all-purpose flour (sifted)  
 ¼ c. butter  
 ¼ c. sugar  
 ½ c. milk (scalded)  
 1 egg  
 ¼ c. poppy seeds  
 Warmed honey

#### **Directions**

Dissolve yeast in ¼ c. lukewarm water. Combine butter, sugar, salt, milk, and then add egg, raisins, and poppy seeds together with dissolved yeast. Add sifted flour and mix well till blended thoroughly. Grease a pan (9x5x3) and pour mixture into it. Cover with clean dish towel and let rise in a warm place 85° for about 1 ½ hours until light. Bake in a moderate oven 50-60 minutes. The last 5 minutes of baking, remove from oven, brush with honey that has been warmed slightly, and sprinkle with poppy seeds. Be careful not to let the honey get too dark. It is recommended that you watch last 5 minutes.

### **Christmas Eve Biscuits (Šližikai)**

From Mrs. Anne Nordine

#### **Ingredients**

1 c. milk (warm)  
 1 oz. yeast  
 1 T. sugar  
 ½ tsp. salt  
 1 ½ c. flour  
 ¼ c. poppy seeds

#### **Directions**

Into creamed yeast with sugar blend in slowly milk and salt. Gradually add flour and poppy seeds stirring thoroughly. Put in warm place to rise a little. Add flour if needed. Roll out on floured board, cut into finger-width strips, 1.2 in. high. Cut strips into 1.2 in. pieces. Bake in 350° oven till golden color. Serve with poppy seed milk.

### **Poppy seeds with Milk (Aguonos Su Pienu)**

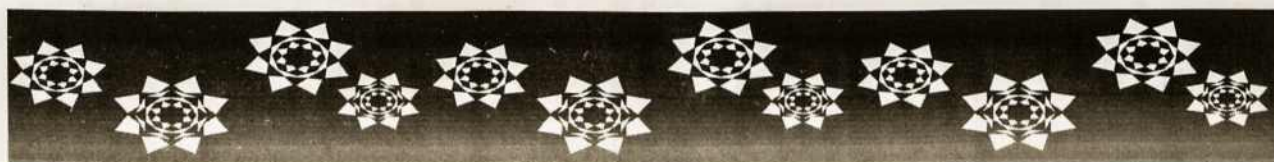
From Mrs. Cassie Sloger

#### **Ingredients**

½ lb. ground poppy seeds  
 1 or 2 c. boiling water  
 2 T. almonds (chopped)  
 2 c. milk  
 Sugar to taste

#### **Directions**

Cover poppy seeds with boiling water. Add chopped almonds, sugar to taste. When cool, pour in the milk. Just before serving, pour over Christmas Eve Biscuits.



## Lithuanian Cultural Corner





### Lithuanian Straw Christmas Ornaments

#### PYRAMID

##### Materials

- 3 plastic straws
- cotton thread
- scissors
- needle

##### Directions

- 1) Cut six pieces of straw two inches long.
  - 2) Thread the needle with cotton thread
  - 3) Using the threaded needle, string three pieces of straw onto the string
- 
- 4) Tie the string, the straw pieces will form a triangle. Leave ends long and equal.
  - 5) Push one end of the string through a piece of straw
  - 6) Insert a straw piece on each string and tie to form a triangle
  - 7) Put both strings together and insert the remaining straw over the strings
  - 8) Separate the two strings and tie the straw into the corner straight across
- 
- 
- 

##### Tip

A pyramid has been formed, now you can twirl it ☺  
With the use of larger diameter straw, string can be put through the straw without the needle.

#### SMALL SNOWFLAKE

##### Materials

- Cotton thread
- Scissors
- 1 straw
- sharp needle

##### Directions

Cut the straw into 10—1/2 inch pieces. Angle each end 45 degrees in the same direction.



Thread the needle with cotton thread. Using the threaded needle, string the pieces of straw by one end—threading from the inside of the point to the outside.



Tie the threaded straws tightly together and flatten.

##### Tip

Cut the straw ends in the opposite direction and string together as above.  
Make small snowflake into earrings by attaching earring wire.

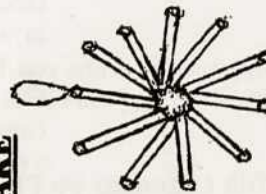
#### LARGE SNOWFLAKE

##### Materials

- 4 straws
- cotton thread
- spangle or star 1/2 inch in diameter
- glue
- scissors
- sharp needle

##### Directions

Cut straw into 11 one inch pieces with 45 degree angled ends in the same direction.  
Thread the needle with cotton thread. Using the threaded needle, string the pieces of straw by one end—threading from the inside of the point to the outside. Tie the threaded straws tightly together and flatten. Glue the spangle or star in the center of the snowflake. Using the threaded needle, puncture one of the ends of the straw pieces and tie the ends of the string together to form a loop to hang the ornament.



# Lithuanian Cultural Corner

## Lithuanian Straw Christmas Ornaments

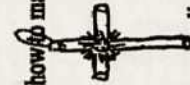
### CROSS

**Materials**

- 5 plastic straws
- cotton thread
- sharp needle
- 2 spangles
- scissors
- glue

**Directions**

- 1) Cut one straw piece 4 inches long.
- 2) Cut second straw piece 2-1/2 inches long
- 3) Cut 20 pieces of straw, 1/2 inch long with 45 degree angled ends going in the same direction
- 4) Cut one piece of eight inch cotton thread
- 5) Place the 2-1/2 inch straw piece on top of the 4 inch straw piece crosswise
- 6) Compress the straws. Using the cotton thread, tie the 2 pieces of straw together tightly, wrapping the string in an "X" fashion.
- 7) Make 2 small snowflakes. See previous directions on how to make a small snowflake.
- 8) Glue a spangle to the center of each snowflake
- 9) Using the cotton thread from the small snowflake, tie one small snowflake to the center of the cross in the front and the other to the back.
- 10) Thread the sharp needle with the cotton thread. Using the threaded needle, puncture the tip of the straw at the top of the cross and tie the ends of the thread tightly. This will form a loop for hanging the cross.



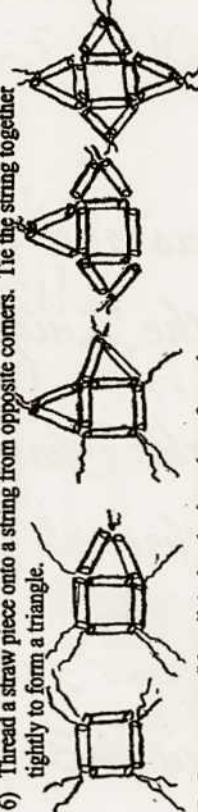
### CUBE

**Materials**

- 4 plastic straws
- cotton thread
- scissors

**Directions**

- 1) Cut 12 pieces of straw, 2 inches long.
- 2) Cut one piece of cotton thread, 17 inches long.
- 3) Cut three pieces of cotton thread, 9 inches long.
- 4) Using the 17 inch piece of cotton thread, thread 4 pieces of 2 inch straw. Tie the ends together, forming a square with the straw. Be sure to leave the ends of the thread, long and equal.
- 5) Tie each piece of 9 inch cotton thread to the corners of the square, leaving the ends long and equal so that each corner has two thread pieces.
- 6) Thread a straw piece onto a string from opposite corners. Tie the string together tightly to form a triangle.
- 7) Repeat step #6 until 4 triangles have been formed.
- 8) Tie two triangles from the opposite side to the top and the last two triangles to the bottom. A cube has been formed.



## TEST YOUR LITHUANIAN KNOWLEDGE CONTEST

### The answers to the last issue's questions. (10 points were 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? **A: The Council of Lithuania.**
2. In 1991 what country was the first to recognize Lithuania's independence? On what day of that year? **A: Iceland. February 11<sup>th</sup>.**
3. On what day did Russia officially recognize Lithuania's independence? **A: September 6, 1991.**
4. On what day did the last Russian soldier leave Lithuanian territory? **A: August 31, 1992.**
5. Beginning under whose rule did the throne of Grand Dukes in Lithuania become hereditary? What years did he rule? **A: Grand Duke Gediminas. From 1316-1341.**

Due to some difficulties with the mailing the scores for our contestants will be posted in the first issue of 2007. We apologize for the inconvenience.

### This issues' questions. (10 points possible)

1. What building project is currently underway in Vilnius that when completed will pay tribute to Lithuania's former royalty?
2. In which part of Vilnius would you find "The Gates of Dawn"?
3. Who is the current Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church in Lithuania?
4. What is the name of the main shopping thoroughfare in Kaunas?
5. Which three saints adorn the roof of Vilnius Cathedral overlooking Cathedral Square?

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 January 5<sup>th</sup> to: Vytis – The Knight, Lithuanian Knowledge Contest, 2601 West Marquette Road, Chicago, IL 60629. Please be sure to include your name and council number.



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Wishes  
To all the Knights of Lithuania*

*May the Joy of the Christmas Season be with you  
all through the year!!!!*

*Your Friends from  
Council 3 Philadelphia*



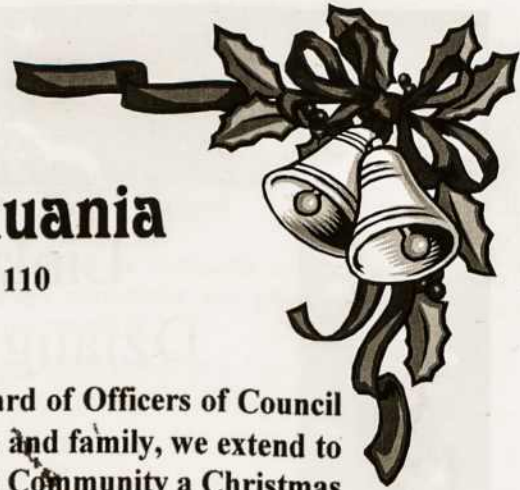
Linksmų Šventų Kalėdų  
Džiaugsmingų Naujų Metų!!!

We send you glad tidings,  
best wishes and cheers

We look forward to seeing you in  
Brockton next year!!!!

August 1-5, 2007

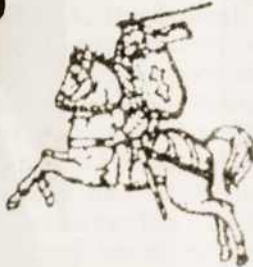
Vytiškai  
Council 1  
Brockton, MA



# Knights of Lithuania

MASPETH COUNCIL 110

Founded 1924



Spiritual Advisor  
Fr. Vytautas Volertas

President  
Dr. Paul-Michael Kazas

First Vice President  
Dr. Giedre Kumpikas

Second Vice President  
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Financial Secretary  
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Public Relations  
Hon. Joe Thomas

Sergeants-At-Arms  
John Girdauskas  
Brian Rutkunas

Trustees:  
Amylia Girdauskas  
Vincent Stripeikis

In Memoriam:  
Msgr. Francis Bulovas

{O}n behalf of the newly elected Board of Officers of Council 110, the membership and our friends and family, we extend to the Vyciai and the greater Lithuanian Community a Christmas enriched with God's love, continued health to you and your family and continued fortitude to the Republic of Lithuania and the Lithuanian people.

{W}e congratulate our newly elected President of the Supreme Council the Hon. Elena Nakrosis and all of the members of the Board of Directors. Your dedication and wisdom will further enrich the Knights, the Republic, our culture and history.

{W}e extend our love and appreciation to Bishop Paulius Baltakis, Father Paul Wood Pastor and Father Vytautas Volertas of Transfiguration Church for their years of support, guidance and blessings to the Republic, the Vyciai, and to all who come in God's name.

{W}e are reminded during this holiest of seasons, the birth of our savior Jesus Christ, that life is truly a gift from God. That all life has special meaning and all life has a special purpose.

**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS**

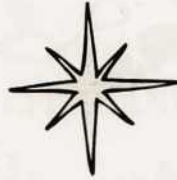
**AND**

**A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

**GOD BLESS AMERICA AND LITHUANIA  
AND MAY GOD BLESS AND PROTECT OUR TROOPS**

**GOD, COUNTRY**





The Officers and Members  
of the  
Mid-America District  
send all our best for a  
Happy and Holy Christmas Season  
and a  
Healthy and Prosperous  
New Year 2007!

Member Councils

Council 5 – Chicago, IL

Council 16 – Chicago, IL

Council 36 – Chicago, IL

Council 38 – Kenosha, WI

Council 71 – Milwaukee, WI

Council 82 – Gary, IN

Council 112 – Chicago, IL

Council 133 – Los Angeles, CA

Council 157 – Lemont, IL



# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**May the blessings of the  
Holy Family be with you  
and your family through  
the coming year.**

**Council 26  
Worcester, MA**

*The*  
**REASON**  
*for the*  
**SEASON**



Linksmų Šventų Kalėdų  
ir  
Laimingųjų Naujųjų Metų  
Jums ir Jūsų Šeimai  
nuo  
Kuopos 17-tos  
South Boston



**THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.**

**WISHES EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND  
A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!**

The Foundation is an Endowment Fund, established to:

- finance projects to enhance K. of L. aims and goals,
- help our members learn & speak out about their Lithuanian heritage
- send needed help; books, medications, fabrics and support to suffering people of Lithuania, especially her youth.
- ensure the financial future of the Knights of Lithuania.

You can help support the Knights through the K. of L. Foundation, by joining the Foundation or adding to your previous donation. A \$100.00 donation will make you a Foundation Member, A \$1000.00 donation will make you an Honored Member. Donations are invested – only interest is spent for K. of L. related projects. Please remember the Foundation with your tax-deductible donation to:

**Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.  
2557 E. Ontario St., Phila, PA 19134**



*The Saint Casimir Guild, Inc.*

*of the*

*Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome*

*šv. Kazimiero Kolegijos Gildija*

*Wishing all our fellow members and friends  
a Blessed and Merry Christmas  
and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year 2007.*



**The Saint Casimir Guild is a 501(C)(3) Charity  
Anne Klizas-Wargo, HM - President**



The members and councils of the Mid-Atlantic District wish our fellow Knights a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with Happiness and Health.



C-12 - New York  
 C-29 - Newark  
 C-52 - Elizabeth  
 C-90 - Kearny  
 C-100 - Amsterdam  
 C-110 - Masspeth  
 C-136 - Hudson-Mohawk  
 C-147 - St. Petersburg  
 C-152 - Eastern Long Island  
 C-153 - Treasure Coast

*Peace,  
 Joy  
 and Happiness  
 be with you this  
 Christmas  
 and throughout  
 the year!*

*Council 90*





*All of us in  
Council 36, Chicago, IL  
wish to send you our  
sincerest best wishes for  
the Merriest of Christmases  
and the  
Happiest and Healthiest  
of New Years!*

**A Very Merry  
Christmas and a  
Happy New Year to all  
our fellow Knights!**

**Wishing everyone all  
the joys that Christmas  
brings.**

**Council 16  
Chicago, IL**



**A Blessed Christmas  
and a Happy Healthy  
New Year to all!**

**From your fellow  
Knights in Council 29  
– Newark, NJ**

**Marie Guoba  
President**



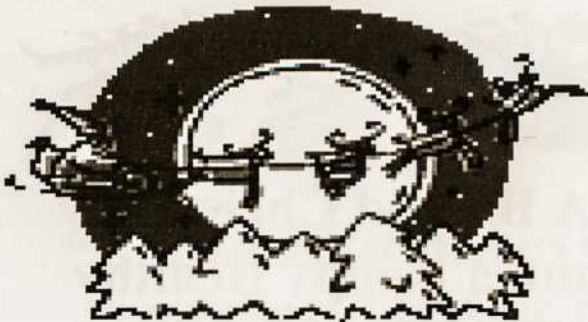
***Linksmų Šventų  
Kaledų ir  
Laimingiausių Naujų  
Mėtų.***

***Council 86  
Du Bois, PA***



***Sending all the best for  
a happy and joyous  
Christmas to all our  
fellow members.***

***Council 157  
Lemont, IL***



***A Merry Christmas  
to all and a Happy  
New Year too!***

***Council 82  
Gary, IN***



***Linksmų Kaledų ir  
Laimingų Naujų  
Mėtų.***

***Lehigh Valley  
Council 63***



**Merry  
Christmas  
and a Healthy  
New Year**

**Linksmų Šv. Kalėdų  
ir  
Laimingų Naujų Metų  
from**

**All Members of  
Council 12  
New York, NY**

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



**Council 25  
Cleveland, OH**

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

**Linksmų  
Kalėdų ir  
Laimingų  
Naujų Metų.**



**Council 147  
St. Petersburg, Florida**

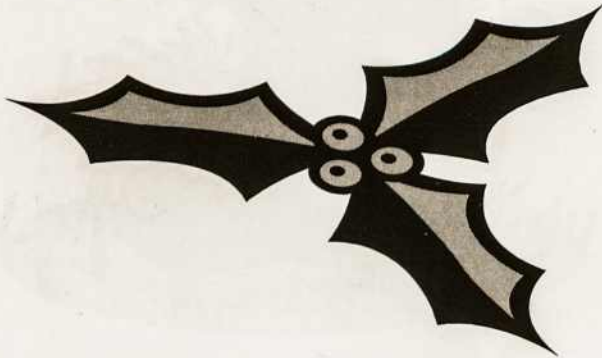


**Linksmų Kalėdų ir  
Laimingų Naujų Metų.**

**Christmas Blessings to  
you all!**

**Council 103  
Providence, RI**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND NEW YEAR**

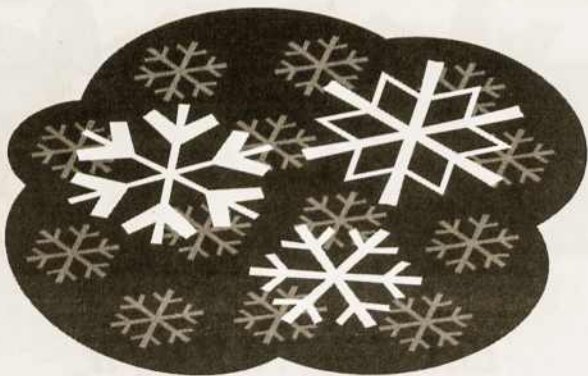


**FROM ALL THE MEMBERS  
OF COUNCIL 30  
WESTFIELD, MASS.**

**Wishing all good health and  
happiness for the holidays!**



**Council 50  
New Haven, CT**



**Council 141  
St. George Church  
Bridgeport, Connecticut**

**Linki visiems Vyčiams**

**Linksmų Kalėdų**

**Season's Greetings  
Lee & Paul Moore – Council 86**

**All good wishes for a Blessed Christmas and New Year  
Council 116, South Worcester, MA**

**Linksmų Kalėdų  
Council 10 – Athol-Gardner**



**Mary Jane Nauseda – Council 5  
Anne & Leon Pauksta – Council 112**



# Councils and Districts remember those who have gone before us.

## Sounds of Lithuanian prayers mark All Souls Day event

By Len Barcoucky



Taking part in the All Souls commemoration were, from left, John Baltrus, John Kuncas, Kathie Skalka, Al Lesutis, Rita Johnson, Justin Johnson, Ann Zusinas, Brian Johnson Jr., Brian Johnson Sr. and Tony Zusinas. (Photo by Len Barcoucky)

Thanks to language help from Ann Zusinas and Al Lesutis, this year's All Souls Day commemoration at St. Casimir's Cemetery in Whitehall included the recitation of several prayers in Lithuanian.

About a dozen people from Pittsburgh Council 19 of the Knights of Lithuania and from the Lithuanian Citizens Society gathered in front of the memorial to the Blessed Virgin Mary at the entrance to the cemetery. Council 19 President John Baltrus led the short service, with Kathie Skalka, Rita Johnson and Len Barcoucky sharing the readings in English.

As is customary at the annual commemoration, the names of all deceased Knights were read aloud. Sadly, the names of Andy Rozger, Marion Bartkus and Agatha Bender were added to the list this year. Participants then added the names of deceased family members and friends.

Special mention was made of the passing of Ray Palkot, a long-time member of the Citizens Society and a friend to the Knights.

Both before and after the commemoration, participants made personal visits to gravesites. St. Casimir's is the final resting place for members of the Sisters of St. Francis, for well

known Lithuanian-American priests and for multiple generations of many Pittsburgh families. Council 19 commemorates All Souls Day, Nov. 2, on the Sunday closest to the feast day.

## Annual Memorial Mass for Deceased Members held by MAMD

The members of the Mid-America District held their annual Memorial on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Council 38, Kenosha, WI



hosted this year's Mass at St. Peter's Church. As Mass got underway flowers were placed on the Altar for each member of the district that has left us for their eternal reward in the past year. As their names were read a member from each council placed the flowers in their memory.



Mass was held by Rev. Peter Cibulskis, MIC, who is the pastor of St. Peter's Church and Spiritual Advisor for Council 38. Over forty members from all over the district, led by District President, Mildred Jagiella, made the trip to

Wisconsin for the services. A bus from the Chicago land area was provided for those wishing to go but unable to drive the distance.

Following the Mass the members gathered at "The Fireside" Restaurant



for a memorial luncheon. Council 38 President, Theresa Balciunas-DeCello and all the members of Council 38 did a wonderful job preparing the day's events. We are grateful to them for undertaking this annual Mass this year.

## Council 16 holds Memorial Service for Deceased Members.



Some of the C-16 members at St. Casimir's for the Memorial Service. Pictured L to R: Joanne Rogers, Marybeth Slakis, Wanda Pliskaitis and Aldona Zajauskas.

The members of Council 16, Chicago, IL held their Memorial Cemetery Service for all deceased members of the council on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. On a chilly afternoon members of the council gathered at St. Casimir Cemetery to remember their members who have passed on. Starting at the Shrine to St. Casimir members began their cemetery visit, remembering our first Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Richard Dodaro. Fr. Rich is the only member of the council not buried at St. Casimir's. At each of the fourteen gravesites prayers were recited by the members and a floral remembrance was placed on the graves by our Junior Members, Alexandra Rudmin and Kortnee Zajauskas. We are grateful to all who braved the cold day to remember our deceased friends and family.

## Knight Life



1. Council 26: Ann Leseman and Rev. Richard Jakubauskas discussing some points at the Cultural Fair.
2. Council 96: New Officers – L to R Front: Frances Mikalauskas, Fran Petkusm Elaine Pacovsky, Laurreta Pant, Kristine Dambrauskas & Helen Vaitkus. Rear: George Mikalauskas, Robert Petkus, Michael Petkus, Anne Louise Tucker and Robert Pant
3. Council 26: Barbara Thompson and Ruth Gadilauskas at the Bakery Table at the Cultural Fair.



*National Scholarship Committee  
shares Thank You Notes they received  
from this year's recipients.*

Dear Knights of Lithuania,

I would like to thank you for selecting me for the generous Knights of Lithuania Scholarship. This is a great honor for me, because I have always felt privileged to be part of the K of L during my youth. It has taught me, so much about, my Lithuanian Heritage. Being a member of the Junior Knights of Lithuania has formed me into the person I have become today. It has shown me pride in my heritage, honor, importance of tradition and community. This scholarship will be helping toward my future career in computer science and technology. When I learn these new skills I hope to continue in helping people in some way. I also plan to be an active member in the Knights of Lithuania helping to spark interest for future generations of Knights of Lithuanians. Again, thank you for helping me to continue on my path of life.

Respectfully,  
**Keith Victor Westerling**

Dear Members of the Knights of Lithuania National Scholarship Committee and all members of the Knights of Lithuania,

Please accept my sincerest thanks for choosing me to be the recipient of such a large \$1,750 scholarship. It was so exciting to hear my name called during the presentation at the final banquet in Florida and I felt nearly speechless when I received my award.

I have always been active in the K of L and plan to continue my activities even as I attend college. Fortunately, Framingham State is less than an hour from Brockton and will afford me the opportunity to participate in the many activities of our Council 1, especially now that we will be hosting the upcoming 94th National Convention!

In this spirit, allow me to thank-you once again and I look forward to greeting all of you here next August 1!!

Vytiškai Jusu,  
**Vilija Bizinkauskas**

Dear Knights of Lithuania,

I am extremely honored that the Scholarship Committee has selected me as a recipient of a Sviklas-Tamulevich Memorial Scholarship. I appreciate the faith that the K of L has placed in me and will endeavor to earn your continued trust.

I am currently attending the College of Wooster, in northeastern Ohio. This is a small liberal arts college with a focus on the natural sciences. I am studying bio-chemistry and am currently planning on a medical career. I have a natural tendency to want to help others and function well under

pressure. These two qualities lead me to pursue a career as an emergency room physician.

The College of Wooster is very diverse in both its student body and teaching staff. We are challenged to interact with many different cultures and ideas. My personal Lithuanian culture provides me with a great background to understand and enjoy cultural differences. My participation in the K of L has created a pride in my heritage and life-long friends. Wherever I go, I know that I can always look to a Knight for support and guidance.

Thank you for considering me a worthy applicant for this scholarship. I look forward to a challenging educational experience and many more active years as a K of L member.

Sincerely yours,  
**Erin Petkus**

Dear Scholarship Committee Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous scholarship. The K of L award has truly been a blessing in my life as I enter the realm of college to attain my goal of becoming a physician.

Even now, I think about how lucky I was to be a "little" Lithuanian, growing up in Binghamton, NY where I participated with my family in all the various activities of Council 72. Representing our culture as I walked in the Heritage Masses with my sash, a gift from Simas Kudirka entrusted to me by my grandfather, assisting the less fortunate by helping to distribute the Thanksgiving Baskets and representing the Juniors at local meetings are just a few of the activities that have drawn me to this extraordinary organization. Receiving this award is just one more sign of how the K of L has become such an essential part of my life, helping me to fulfill my life long dream of becoming a doctor.

I am currently enrolled in the Liberal Arts curriculum at Broome Community College where I will receive an Applied Science Degree. My goal however, is to transfer to Binghamton University where I will pursue my bachelor's degree in biology, and then continue on to medical school.

Once again, I would like to express my appreciation for your scholarship. It is through your generous financial support of my college education that I am able to focus on my schoolwork and still have time to participate in Council 72 activities, volunteer with the local ambulance squad and work on a part-time basis

Respectfully yours,  
**James L. Distin**

28  
*Knights of Lithuania Foundation*

*2006 Essay Contest*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Essay**

**My First National Convention**

by Sr. Helen Ivanauskas, CJC  
Council 1 – Brockton, MA

It was the summer of 1990, the 77<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Pittsburg, PA, when I attended my 1<sup>st</sup> Convention. My heart was beating rapidly as I boarded the plane. Yes, although, an adult, I felt like a "kid", anxious and awed at what would be.

After the preliminaries were addressed the meeting began. At this point our K of L meeting began. Honorary member and C-102 member, Robert Boris introduced the idea of sending medicine and medical supplies to Lithuania. A new concept – a new idea. Now that she is free of Russia's suppression, Lithuania is open and welcoming to the most needed supplies. With great delight and enthusiasm the idea was accepted and put to the vote of acceptance. Yes! With enthusiasm, it was voted, within a day \$10,000.00 was collected.

I was stunned. The K of L was larger, bigger than our local council. It extended even to Lithuania in her time of need. Wow!

As if this moment was not enough, that evening we enjoyed a boat ride along the river. Sister Nyjole Sodunaite, our guest, noted author and freedom fighter joined us. What an honor. We gathered around her to hear her stories of courage to stand up and outwit the Soviet soldiers.

Sister spoke of how she was being followed, realized it, and slipped into a church where a service was in process. Only the elderly were offered a place to sit. Suddenly one woman stood up to leave and Sister sat down quickly in her place, covered her head with a shawl and bent down as if praying. The soldiers walked up and down the aisle – could not find her and left.

Another incident Sister related was the time the soldiers entered her apartment, where three other nuns lived. Sister Nyjole began to recite the rosary while one of the other nuns began flushing and important "information" down the toilet. Names, phone numbers, meeting places and times, just to mention a few. This was done to protect anyone they knew or had contact with.

Can you possibly imagine the courage, the stamina of these women, of these our people? Sister's sharing of her trials was beyond comprehension – and I born in America????

As the sun was setting the strains of "Lietuva Brangi" echoes in my ears, "My Dear Lithuania, the land where our heroes sleep, you are precious for your blue skies, precious because you suffered so much". And I born in America??? So as the sun rested for the night, so I, too, rested in the awe of this day.

Our final triumph our Closing Mass. How do I thank God for the wonder of this convention? How do I thank God for these wonderful people? How do I thank God for my heritage?

I will sing a "New Song" unto the Lord – Proclaim His praises to all the nation, (psalm 96 1:3) "Tave Dieve Garbinam" – "Holy God we praise your name."



## *Council and District News*

### **Mid Atlantic District C-110 Maspeth Dr. Paul-Michael Kazas**

As the year comes to an end since C-110's last election, we are reminded that the Vyciai in Maspeth are not only alive and well, but continue to grow meeting new heights and through events, historic achievements have been made. Some 17 new members have joined and/or rejoined C-110. They are: Anthony M. Cancellieri, Chief of Staff to the Nassau County Executive, and his beautiful wife - who is Lithuanian - Mary Lou Cancellieri; Dr. Giedre Kumpikas, Pres of the Lithuanian National Foundation and host of the Lithuanian Radio Program; Ramute Zukus, Pres of Lithuanian American Community; Romas Kezys, CEO of Vytis Travel; my sister, Eleanor Kazas Constanniou, her husband Sertiris and their children Stephanie, Christina, and Tommy. My other sister Loretta Kazas Villanueva and her husband Phillip are also new members as well as my brother, Richard Kazas. Joining them are Pauline Wolyniec, Jackie and Joseph Abramaitis of O'Kane Realty, and Susan Yakstis.

C-110 has been reaching new heights in supporting Saint Casimir Guild through its \$1,000 donation and some \$3,000 throughout the past year in donations to Transfiguration Church. Additional donations have been made to our Lithuanian church which includes new 5'x8' American and Lithuanian flags for the front of the church, ten 4'x6' American and Lithuanian flags for the parish hall along with a 40' red carpet. C-110

expresses our profound gratitude to Bishop Paulius Baltakis, Fr. Paul Wood, Pastor, and our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Vytautas Volteras, for providing C-110 with such a beautiful home and all of whom are members of the Vyciai. Aciu, Aciu, Aciu.

In November, 2006, we held a memorable Installation of Officers and also honored true legends Hon. Mindaugas Butkus, Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania and a true icon, the Hon. Joe Thomas. Some 150 members and guests attended this beautiful event, starting with a special Mass and followed by a reception. Special appreciation to Cathy Nakrosis, Pres of the Mid Atlantic District and to Becky Pataki, First VP of the Supreme Council, for joining C-110 for this memorable event.

Special appreciation is awarded to the numerous members for their unique and special contributions to C-110.

In May, some 60 members took part in the annual Memorial Day Parade which included NYC Police Dept Drum Line who later performed for the Vyciai at the reception. During the March meeting, long-time friend of the Knights, NY State Sen. Serphin R. Maltese presented information on senior citizen benefits to our members. As a result of promoting the Vyciai in Maspeth, a significant sum was added to its account.

On June 25, 2006, C-110 hosted a truly historic event in honor of departing Lithuanian Ambassador Hon. Vygaudas Ušackas, his wife, Loretta, and his two beautiful children. A special Mass was followed by a memorable reception in which some 190 took part in this tribute to the

Ambassador. A warm letter of appreciation was received from the Ambassador.

C-110 expresses our profound congratulations and thanks to Elena Nakrosis, SC President, Becky Pataki, Pres of Kearny's KofL, and Cathy Nakrosis, Pres of MAD KofL. We also thank Agnes Mickunas for her years of dedication as SC President.

We must remember that life is truly a gift from God, that every person has special meaning and special purpose. With profound sadness, we pray for our loved ones who left us during this past year: Dr. Al Bagdonas, John Kazas, Kazimieras Vainius, Kaze Pavilonis, Frances Migliore and Mary Shalins.

God Bless America and our troops, God Bless Lithuania.

### **C-147 St. Petersburg Marilyn Kraujalis Lenihan**

On Oct 17, 2006, C-147 held a meeting at the Lithuanian Club in St. Petersburg. President Marilyn Lenihan gave an excellent summation of her visit to the 93rd annual convention in Orlando in August. Also giving a talk on his impressions of the convention was John Jonaitis. There was discussion about the different meetings of the councils and also the sightseeing tours.

Sadly, we must report that we have lost 2 members of our council. Member Joseph Dana died July 27, 2006 and member Dolores Jonaitis died August 12, 2006. May they Rest in the Peace of the Lord.

This meeting called for the election of officers for the year 2007. After discussion and

voting, the Officers Roster for C-147 for the year 2007 is: Rev. Matas Cyvas, Spiritual Advisor; Marilyn Kraujalis Lenihan, Pres; Anthony Gudonis, 1st VP; Marilyn Kraujalis Lenihan, Rec. Sec. and Vytis Corresp; Birute Cierniak, Treas; Violet Kraujalis, Fin. Sec; John Jonaitis, Sgt-at-Arms. The meeting was closed with a prayer by Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Matas Cyvas and refreshments provided by members were enjoyed by all.

Looking forward to a rewarding and blessed 2007, we wish all councils a Happy New Year!

**Mid Central District  
C-25 Cleveland  
Ursula Kunsitis**

A big "Thank You" to Eleanor Bendokas, Joe and Ann Ivoska, Dolly Oberaitis, Nellie Samas and Adelle Tanner for agreeing to be our Council's "Membership Telephone Calling Committee". Your efforts are very much appreciated.

Ray Vanagas has joined Kathy Kaczmarek in attending the Lithuanian language classes for adults at OLPH Church. If anyone else would like to attend, the class starts at 11:15 AM on Sundays.

On September 16, our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Gediminas Kajauskas, Jean and Dick Marks and Ursula and Gene Kunsitis attended the Annual Lithuanian Cultural Garden Society's Gala Benefit at the beautiful Gwinn Estate on the shores of Lake Erie. We were entertained with old-time Lithuanian musical folk melodies by "Dzindze" (Dovydas and Violeta Pivoriunas). Jean Marks was the First Prize Winner of the raffle - a mammoth Cymbidium Orchid!

Congratulations to Angela and Vyto Staskus who celebrated their 57th Wedding Anniversary on Sept 24 with a Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. September wasn't exactly the greatest month for Vyto. While on his way to Mass at OLPH he was involved in an automobile accident while waiting for a light to change. A week or so later, his business computer "crashed". We're glad to tell you that Vyto is fine, the computer is again under control and that he and Angela are looking forward to their 60th Wedding Anniversary!

Congratulations to our President, Theresa Capuria, who was the lucky winner of our October 50/50 Raffle!

Helen and Bill Jakubs are "On the Road Again" leaving snowy, cold Cleveland for warm, sunny Florida. Enjoy yourselves!

Congratulations to Gene Kunsitis on the 5 Winning Ribbons for his Art and Ceramic Orchids at the October Greater Cleveland Orchid Society Show and Sale!!

Happy 2007 Everyone - May it be a Happy, Healthy Year for All!!

**C-96 Dayton, OH  
Frances Petkus, HM**

Mother Nature once again brought us good weather for our council's annual Mass and cemetery visit for the living and deceased members which was held on Sept 17, 2006 at 10:30 AM at Holy Cross Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church. Following Mass, C-96 Religious Chair, Elinor Sluzas, HM, read the names of those members buried out of town. At Calvary Cemetery a mum plant was placed at each grave of our six new deceased members while a single carnation was placed at

the other gravesites. Prayers and stories of our deceased members were shared at each stop. We have 62 members to visit at Calvary while 15 members are buried out of town. Thanks go to George and Frances Mikalauskas for bringing the much needed water. Fran Petkus and Judy Petrokas over saw flowers for church and the cemetery. From the cemetery members returned to the church hall for a welcomed supper arranged by Anne Louise and Daniel Tucker followed by our council's monthly meeting.

September 24th saw members enjoying themselves at the Fourth Annual Four Parish Picnic held at the Dayton Firefighters. Activity Center. Once again, George Mikalauskas was "master salesman" in pushing raffle tickets for the various donated gift baskets. The Petkus' Fran, Michael, Norma, Robert, Erin, and Mary, along with Elinor Sluzas, HM, were busy with all the chores needed to make the picnic another success. Fr. Mike helped with the mopping up of the hall! Many members brought covered dishes to share. A good time was had by all!

We can't thank C-86, DuBois, enough for a wonderful weekend they hosted for the MCD Fall Convention/Pilgrimage the weekend of Sept 29-30, 2006! The warm supper they prepared was excellent with no one going away hungry. The Pilgrimage was held at St. Joseph's Church with Msgr. Richard Siefert sharing thoughts on the Life of St. Casimir. Candles for each council were lit, followed by the reading of the names of each

deceased member in the district.

Results from the MCD Election of Officers saw the following elected from our council - MCD President is Michael Petkus; Fran Petkus, HM - Rec Sec; Elinor Sluzas, HM, - Public Relations-Ad; George Mikalauskas, MCD Recognition Chair. Other delegates from Dayton were Frances and Elena Mikalauskas and Anne Louise Tucker.

One of the main items on the agenda for our meeting of Oct 8, 2006 was election of officers and committee chair: Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Michael Holloran; Pres, Anne Louise Tucker; 1st VP, Robert H. Pant; 3rd Vp (Jrs), Christine Fletcher/Michael F. Petkus; Rec Sec, Mary Agnes Mikalauskas; Fin Sec, Frances Mikalauskas; Treas, Helen Vaitkus; Trustees, George Mikalauskas, Andrew Berczely; Sgt-at-Arms, Robert D. Petkus. Committee chairs: Religious, JoAnn Thiele, Fran Petkus; Lithuanian Affairs, George Mikalauskas; Cultural, Kristine Dambrauskas; Ritual/Vytis/Bulletin Ed, Fran Petkus; Historian/Archives, Elena Mikalauskas; Social, Anne Louise Tucker; Photographer, Loretta Pant, Kristine Dambrauskas; Condolence, Elaine Pacovsky; By-Laws, Robert H. and Linda Pant/Fran Petkus; Telephone Squad, Joyce Berczely; Parish Council/Sarysis, Elaine Pacovsky; Public Relations, Mary Agnes Mikalauskas; Recognition Award, George Mikalauskas. We wish our Board of 2006-07 a most productive and successful term and to our out-going Board, we thank them for their time and dedication to the council this past year.

Get well wishes go to JoAnn Thiele for a speedy recovery.

To our dear friend in C-102, Detroit, Theresa Medonis, we send our deepest sympathies on the loss of your husband Raymond. Ray and Theresa have had a very special friendship with many of the members in the Dayton council. We have known each other as far back as pre-married days - this is going back to the late 1940's-early '50's. Our deepest sympathies go to Robert and Susan Keivel and the Keivel family on the loss of their mother, Helen. Sympathies also go to council member Ann Gitzinger who was Helen's sister. Helen was a Second Degree Knight and a longtime member. With her passing, she joins her beloved husband, Karl. May all the souls of our faithfully departed friends rest in the peace of the Good Lord.

Like to plan ahead? The 95th KofL National Convention being hosted by C-96, Dayton, Ohio, will be held from July 31st-August 3rd, 2008!

**Amber District  
C-46 Forest City  
Betty Kwader**

The highlight of our summer was our Sept 10th picnic at Kennedy Park in Forest City with about 20 members and guests present. Thanks to our members for their hard work in planning and furnishing food and beverages. A wonderful time was had by all. In the midst of our celebrating, one of our Scranton guests had the misfortune to fall. As he progresses, we send good luck and best wishes.

At our Oct 1st meeting, it was decided to send a package for Christmas to our sponsor-child, Gintas. Members will furnish

items such as clothing, school supplies and food items. Thanks to Josephine O'Peka for coordinating this activity. It was also decided to send a monetary gift for his 11th birthday on Dec 7th.

Fourteen boxes of clothing and personal items had been donated by the family of our deceased member, Stasia Wallace. They wished to have the items sent to Lithuania because of Stasia's love of the KofL and Lithuania. Money for shipment will be donated by members attending our annual Christmas party. Plans are underway for our annual Christmas dinner at the Crystal Pines. Thanks to John Morris for planning.

Our best to all for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**C-74 Scranton  
Marie Laske**

Forest City hosted a wonderful Lithuanian gathering attended by the Laskie's and Margaret Clegg. Forest City greeted us and we had some great Lithuanian food with many delicious desserts. All went well until Richard Laske had a serious fall, but was well-cared for and is now doing well. Thanks to all for the concern and all the cards he received. Acui.

Della Zvirblis is in a nursing home until her home is renovated from flood damage. Her faithful caretaker, daughter Marie Benkine is anxious to bring her mother back home.

Jim and Romaine O'Neil became grandparent to a new granddaughter.

Jean Kavelines, a wonderful cook, had a graduation party for granddaughter, Barbara, who graduated from college. Best of Luck, Barbara.

I picked a brown grocery bag of kalmuti- mushrooms three doors down the street from my home. I passed them out to my children and friends. I even went to Pittston to give some to my wonderful Lithuanian friend, Nellie Bayoras. Of course, everyone appreciated them.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Betty Tamociatis and her family on the death of her husband, Edward, who was President of the Taurus Club.

#### **New England District Charles Treciokas**

On September 17, 2006, C-27 of Norwood hosted the Fall NED KofL Convention at St. Peter's Church in So. Boston, thanks to the generosity of Fr. Zukas and C-17 members. Sixty one attended; 11 councils were represented. Opening Mass was offered by Rev. Stanley Azaro with concelebrants Msgr. Contons, Fr. Zukas, and Fr. Janunas. Fr. Zukas said the opening prayer. Charles Treciokas, as President of C-27 of Norwood, greeted the people to the convention. President Vivian Rodgers presented the agenda which was adopted. The Ritual Committee Report was given by Sophie Shakalis. Jim Rogers said eleven Sviklas Tamulevich scholarships were granted. The NED Scholarship was awarded to Vilija Bizinkauskas of C-1, Brockton, to study nutrition at Framingham State College.

Kay Urban organized the trip from Hartford, CT, to Washington, DC, to celebrate

the 40th anniversary of the Shrine to Our Lady of Siluva.

NED donated to the renovation of the seminarians rooms at the College in Rome.

Eleven members from NED attended the KofL National convention in Buena Vista, FL. In behalf of C-1, Maryte Bizinkauskas volunteered to host the Aug 1-5, 2007 National Convention.

NED Cultural Festival took place at Maironis Park on Oct 15.

The 2007 Spring Convention will be hosted by C-141, Bridgeport, CT. The 2007 Fall Convention will be hosted by C-103, Providence, RI.

We want to thank Vivian Rodgers for 3 OUTSTANDING terms as NED President. As for elections, the new President is June Grenier of Hartford, CT. The new VP is Kay Urban, Hartford; Treas is Vivian Rodgers. The rest of the officers are the same. Corresp Sec is Phyllis Gendreau. Publicity Chair is Carol Treciokas. Ritual Committee is Alice Gegesky, Marcia Rogers, and Sophie Shakalis.

#### **C-6 Hartford, CT Florence Morkus**

After a restful, relaxing summer, the following officers were installed and - ready to go: Pres, Frank Kadis; VP, Madelyn Ratches; 2nd VP, Kathryn Urban; Treas, Catherine Salka; Rec Sec, Marilyn Galek; Fin Sec, Jonas Kasputis.

Dale Dzikas, Cultural, reported on All Souls' Day as observed in Lithuania.

Betty Ann Liudzius, Lithuanian Affairs reported recent events and statistics.

Happy Birthdays in October: Flo Norkus, Kay Urban, Irene Petkaitis, Stan Jakubaitis, and Frannie Ambrose.

Congratulations Caryl Ann and Edward Balskus on your 46th Wedding Anniversary. They have been blessed with 6 children, 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Many good wishes for health and happiness.

Kay Urban planned a great weekend bus tour to Our Lady of Siluva Pilgrimage in Washington, DC. There were 45 pilgrims. With a fine tour guide Bob, they visited many historical monuments and memorials. Fr. Markus preached a wonderful homily asking us to go home and display a picture of Our Lady of Siluva for veneration in our homes and spread the word as to how she was the First Apparition in Europe - 1608.

Kay Urban reported 7 members attended the NED Fall Convention Sept 17, 2006, in So. Boston, Host C-27 of Norwood.

Elected Pres June Grenier, VP Kathryn Urban, and Ritual Alice Gegesky. Congratulations!

Brian Daigle already is signing up workers for the famous "Friendship" Pancake Breakfast held Nov 12 at Holy Trinity Church Hall.

#### **C-10 Athol-Gardner Vincukas**

At our October meeting the following slate of officers was elected: Spiritual Advisor, Rev.



Joseph Jurgelonis; Pres, Henry Gailunas; VP, William Wisniauskas; Treas, Nellie Melaika; Rec Sec, Pamela Bouthillier; Fin Sec, Marie Colo; Marshal, Richard Gatautis; Ritual, Maryann Langlois; Cultural, Brone Wisniauskas.

Our annual Kucios is to be held on Dec 17, 4PM, St. Francis. Lithuanian Independence is planned for March.

Our council was founded in 1914 and recently observed its 92nd anniversary of uninterrupted years dedicated "For God and Country". We are trying for 100.

Thank you Norwood Council for the great Fall Convention held at St. Peter's in So. Boston.

A big lietuviska aci is extended to Vivian Rodgers on the outstanding job as President of NED.

Congratulations to June Grenier, elected as NED president to replace Vivian.

Sophie Fiorentino and daughter returned from a first and great trip to Lithuania. Their riverboat trip from St. Petersburg to Moscow was canceled because of Sophia's sickness that placed her in a Vilnius hospital for a week. While in Nida, she met Tony Simkunas and fiancée Denise from Gardner. It sure is a small world!

Cousin Kay Urban is to be congratulated for the great bus trip that she organized from Hartford to the Our Lady of Siluva chapel at the Basilica in Washington. All 45 pilgrims were well-pleased and the weather, food and accommodations were great, plus the price!

Fall was a great mushroom season in the Gardner area.

Condolences to the Colo family on two family deaths in a short time.

Armand Bouthillier again this year received many ribbons for his canned veggies at the Franklin County Fair in Greenfield.

#### **C-17 South Boston Regina**

St. Peter Lithuanian Parish Bazaar was held on Oct 21-22, 2006. Pastor Steve Zukas was very thankful to the many parishoners, including C-17 members, who supported it and helped make it a success. The traditional Kilbasi luncheon was a big hit. There were many prizes, silent auction, etc. From the screams and giggles at the Haunted House, the young children were both frightened and delighted.

The NED Fall Convention, hosted by C-27, was held September 17, 2006. Because C-27's former parish, St. George Lithuanian Church of Norwood, is closed and now sold, the Fall Convention was held at St. Peter Lithuanian Church and parish hall in So. Boston. C-17 delegates included: Pres Frank Markuns, VP Florence Zaleskas and other members. Also in attendance: Pastor Steve Zukas, Msgr. Albert Contons, Fr. Al Janunas. Fr. Stanley Azaro, OP, Dominican Friar, was the main celebrant at the morning Mass.

The annual New England KofL Retreat will be held June 22-24, 2007, at Kennebunkport, Maine, once again.

Maryte Bizinkauskas of Council 1 spoke enthusiastically of the upcoming 2007 National Convention. It will be held August

1-5, 2007. The preparations have already begun and are in full swing with their committee.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to C-17 member Mildred Daniels. She is now convalescing at home. The longtime Sunshine Committee person, Ann Norinkevich, has retired. Thank you, Ann. Now member Ann Jocas will continue on. Also, Eleanora Mikalonis is now transferred to Taunton Nursing Home.

The dedicated Friends of St. Peter Lithuanian Parish, Gloria Adomkaitis, President, continue to work toward increasing the number of registered parishoners and also to increase attendance at weekend Masses. The status of our Parish still remains cloudy and unclear. The Archdiocesan website that announces the suppression dates of parishes still lists St. Peter Lithuanian Parish as a parish to be closed, with the date of closing as "delayed". It is sad to learn of the closing of other Lithuanian churches - St. George, Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, the oldest Lithuanian parish in the United States. Also at risk is Our Lady of Vilnius, Manhattan, New York.

Our Lady of Siluva, pray for us. St. Casimir, pray for us.

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

The beginning of the new fiscal year for our council started with a Pizza Party, sort of an Italian night. Al Bulejcik had made the suggestion at the last meeting that maybe we should have something different instead of the usual potluck supper. The pizza was excellent and more than enough for everyone plus

some great desserts topped off the meal. Good idea, Al!

Elaine Salkaus had fallen. At the time of the meeting, her mother and father, Nell and Joe, were both in nursing homes. However, unfortunately, Joe passed away shortly thereafter. We shall miss him. He was always there to pitch in if we needed help. He was a Third Degree member of the KofL. We wish Elaine a speedy recovery.

Joe Sakaitis is very sick and is at St. Vincent's hospital. Dorothy Zalieckas was in the hospital as well as Rita Brazauskas. Bill Leseman was also in the hospital for 10 days. George Sopczak was ill and is now recovering. Ruth Gadilauskas is recovering and is now back among us, as is Peter Chunis and Rita Margosian. It seems many of our members have been ill, lately. We wish them all health and good recoveries.

John Putis passed away in California where he was living with his son. John was a Second Degree member. When he lived in Worcester, he was very active in our council. His burial will be in Notre Dame Cemetery, Worcester. Lenny Matulis's sister, Eugenia Nelson, passed away. We offer our prayers for all of our deceased members and their families.

Well, it's that time of year when our two Florida travelers are packing their suitcases. Lillian Kondrotas and Aldona Waska are off again to visit friends in Fort Pierce, FL. It seems as soon as it starts getting cold, they are off for some fun in the sun.

Barbara Thompson is excited. She is going to meet her cousins and some grandchildren of her grandparents. She has never met them in person. Some of them live in Torrington, CT. She is planning a wonderful reunion with a lot of talking and catching up. Ruth and Vitty Gadilauskas's daughter, Joan and John Voyer, are in France. He is teaching there for 8 weeks. Many of their friends are planning to visit them in France.

Our usual excellent kitchen help worked hard in getting the food ready for the recent Cultural Festival at Maironis Park. We also had 3 tables selling baked goods, chances on some very lovely prizes, and a fish pond. We wish to thank them for volunteering for this worthwhile cause.

At our next meeting, our annual Penny Sale was held. The proceeds go to the Orphanage in Lithuania. Everyone was asked to bring unwrapped gifts. Everyone had a great time and it was for a very worthwhile cause.

At a recent state convention at Cape Cod for the Daughters of Isabella, our own Ruth Sarafinas was selected as one of the two Daughters who were named "Daughters of the Year" for the Worcester Diocese. Congratulations!!

Chuck and Ruth Sarafinas were highlighted in an article in the Retired Men's Club of Greendale's Newspaper. It was about how they work together in the church, in various organizations plus doing projects jointly such as: woodcarving, oil painting, stained glass, baking, photography, etc. It was called "The Sarafinas Partnership".

Ray Jakubauskas, Lithuanian Affairs, gave a talk about Jogaila, Grand Duke of Lithuania and King of Poland and his heirs. Bringing us back in Lithuania's history was very enlightening.

### **C-27 Norwood/Walpole Zaibas**

At our October meeting, Marcia Perednia gave a most interesting account of her visit to the Nation's Capital, Washington, DC. Pat Adukonis introduced her sister, Carol Richards, who joined C-27 to become our newest member.

Many members went to the NED Cultural Picnic held at Maironis Park. Charles and Carol Treciokas brought his mother and aunt. Terry and Stan Wasil, Louise and Paul Zukas caught up on the news with their many Worcester friends. Nice to see that Louise is continuing to heal from her accident. Adele Macys was the lucky winner twice and came home from the Westfield table with lovely prizes. Albie Jarvis managed to win a prize from the Providence table. S.Betty Skricki and Leonora Jarvis were attentive listeners as George Barton told of his progress in plans to move from Norwood to Lithuania, permanently. We all enjoyed and applauded our C-27 high steppers Paul Zukas, Carol and Charles Treciokas, and Stan Wasil as they joined in dancing with the Lithuanian Dance group from Hartford. Valio!!

That which was not likely to happen, an improbability, not only did happen but was exceedingly successful beyond all expectations. C-27 - with only a local church rectory for a meeting place at St. Mary's of

East Walpole held the September 2006 NED Convention. With the gracious and generous invitation from the Rev. Steve Zukas, Pastor, and KofL C-17 Pres Frank Markuns to use the St. Peter Lithuanian RC Church of So. Boston facilities, C-27 was able to host the NED Fall Convention. From the opening Celebration of the Mass to the catered luncheon, mid-afternoon wine and cheese tasting, to the bountiful sandwich and dessert supper, the day was an overwhelming success.

The kitchen angels, led by Carol Treciokas, include Pat Adukonis, Dorothy Ausevich (whose chocolate candy hearts enhanced the tables), Sandy Melish, Ramona Gonski, S. Betty Skricki, and Terry Wasil. Not only did they bake and make all the supper items but they cheerfully served and cleaned up, ably assisted by Frances Zaleskas of C-17.

On the dais with the NED officers was our hard-working C-27 Pres Charles treciokas who is also District Secretary. The mandate, raffle, and welcoming committee, chaired by George Barton (whose wife, Birute, once again donated her delicious piragy) was assisted by Albie and Leonora Jarvis. Also participating were C-27 members Adele Macys, Stan Wasil, Louise and Paul Zukas. Successful, wonderful day. Aciu visiems. Prelatai, Vyciai, C-17, Sveciai, Darbininkai!!! Lai gyvoja Lietuva! SuDiev. Likit sveiki. Laimingus Naujus Metus 2007

#### **Mid America District Mary Beth Slakis**

The Mid-America District meeting was held on 9/17/06, hosted by C-82, at the VFW Hall

in Merrillville, IN. We were greeted with coffee and goodies. The meeting was held and 35 members were in attendance. Our election of officers was held and the newly elected are: Pres, Mildred Jagiella - C-82; 1st VP, Ann Marie Juraitis - C-157; 2nd VP, Joanna Rudzevicius - C-82; 3rd VP, Andreja Deksnis - C-112; Rec Sec, Rob Martin, Jr - C-16; Treas, Robert Damasauskas - C-36; Corresp Sec, Ann Marie Kassel, HM,- C-157; Trustees, Evelyn Ozelis-C-36, Glenn Perutis - C-36, Ed Pocius -C-112; Sgts-at-Arms, Donna Juraitis C-157, Francesca and Aldona Zajauskas-C-16.

Many thanks and applauses were given to Rob Martin, Jr. and his Cabinet for the three wonderful years of service they have just completed. Kudos to all!!

A report was given on the convention which told of the 121 in attendance-of which 17 were juniors. Different people mentioned what a nice time they had enjoying all the activities, sessions, Masses and parties which gave them the opportunity to visit with all the friends they have made over the years. The weather was hot and humid in FL but all survived without any incidents - Thank God!

Terry Strolia received her Honorary Medal and Rob Martin, Jr. was approved to receive his at the 94th National Convention in Brockton, MA. We are proud of the two of you as we are of all our Honorary MAMD'ers.

Many things were discussed, such as our annual hayride and bonfire at the Jagiella Farm on 10/28/06 at 4:34PM. Our Memorial Mass will be hosted by C-38, Kenosha, Wisconsin on 11/19/06 - Theresa Balciunas DiCello, chair.

The outdoor Mass was attended by 70 people and celebrated by Msgr. Urbonas. Following was a wonderful luncheon and Chinese raffle. Thanks to all who cooked, donated your time, talents, and prizes.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Dec 16, 2006, by C-36, Chicago-Brighton Park, at Seklycia (watch Trumpet for details).

#### **C-82 Gary, IN Daisy Talley**

The 9th Annual Outdoor Mass and Picnic was held on September 17, 2006 at the VFW in Merrillville, IN. The weather cooperated; it was a beautiful day.

Mass was celebrated by Monsignor Ignas Urbonas, HM, assisted by Sister Janine Golubickis, SSC. Cantor was Ann Marie Kassel, HM, with organ music by Faustas Strolia, HM.

A traditional delicious Lithuanian dinner prepared by Loreta Vician followed and was enjoyed by all.

A raffle was held and the lucky winners went home with some great prizes.

Entertainment was provided by Bronius Muras, accordion virtuoso, and was appreciated by all. Always Superb!

A petition for consideration to keep Lithuanian churches open - as St. George, Shenandoah, PA and Our Lady of Vilnius, NY - was circulated to be sent to the Diocese of Allentown, PA and Archdiocese of New York.

A Knights of Lithuania District meeting was held earlier in the morning. Thanks to all who worked and attended.

## The songs of the Christmas Season

### TYLIAJA NAKTĪ

Tyliji naktī balsas sugaudē,  
Piemenys, kelkit, Dievas użgimē.  
Greitai renkitēs ir bēkit,  
ī Betliejū paskubēkit,  
sveikint Viešpaties. (2X)

Nuējē rado Jēzū ēdžiose,  
Kaip pranašauta Dievo knygoše:  
Jī Dievu jie pripažino,  
Kaip juos angelas mokino,  
ir pasveikino. (2X)

Išganytojau seniai geidžiamas,  
Tukstančius metu žmoniū laukiamas,  
Tavēs pranašai, karaliai  
Lauke, o Tu šią naktelej  
Mums pasirodei. (2X)

In the stillness of the night a voice was heard,  
"Arise, shepherds, God is born! Rise quickly and  
hasten to Bethlehem, hasten to greet your Lord!"  
They went and found Jesus lying in the manger--  
as the prophets foretold long ago. They paid  
homage to God as the angel instructed them to  
do.



### SVEIKAS JĒZAU GIMUSIS

Sveikas, Jēzau gimusis,  
Šventas Dievo Kūdiki!  
Brangią dieną švęsdami.  
Užgimimo Viešpaties.  
Linksminkimēs ir džiauķimēs,  
Dievui garbę duodami giedokime. (2X)

Kanklemis kankliuokime,  
Sutartinę leiskime  
Brangią dieną švęsdami.  
Užgimimo Viešpaties.  
Linksminkimēs ir džiauķimēs,  
Dievui garbę duodami giedokime. (2X)

Dangus mums jau artinas,  
Žemej žmonēs linksminas.  
Brangią dieną švęsdami.  
Užgimimo Viešpaties.  
Linksminkimēs ir džiauķimēs,  
Dievui garbę duodami giedokime. (2X)

Hail Jesus, Holy Infant of God, born to us tonight!  
Celebrating this precious Christmas day let us be  
joyful and happy; let us sing praises to God.



## Reminiscing...Vincuko Kūčios

I remember the cherished memories and the excitement of the upcoming Christmas Season and our special Kūčios evening. Attending our parish school, the good Sisters would march us down to church in a patrol to confession, whether we needed it or not, to be ready for the birth of Christ. Our family was full of anticipation for the semi-annual visit from our "Antanukas", our blind brother whom we loved dearly and missed so, as he grew up in a Blind Institute to age 18 in Farmington, CT. And, by the way, he did well - married and worked all his adult life using the skills that he learned at school to his full potential. We lost him several years ago, never having recovered his sight.



As the youngest and appointed by Father as the guardian of the skies to announce when the first star appeared so our long-awaited Kūčios could begin, and as I recall, I did my job diligently, looking at the sky, often. On cloudy nights, Father would announce when supper would begin - usually at 6PM.

The plotkelės were delivered from St. Francis in Athol by their organist, George Staciokas. Dad began the Kūčios supper with a prayer and the sharing and wishes with each other. As the youngest, I was the last to receive and last to share with the family. Mother used her best china and linens for the supper. Mom outdid herself with the various herring dishes, baked haddock, potato blynais, cheese and sauerkraut virtiniai, beet and dry mushroom soup, dried fruit compote, poppy seed pyragas and to top all, I was allowed a little wine to share with the others.



I recall Mother had an extra place setting for the uninvited guest who was not to be turned away if one came, lest it be Jesus, Himself, in disguise. They also spread some hay under the linen tablecloth as a reminder of Jesus' birth in a stable. We also participated in the various superstitions of the Kūčios tradition. Father would attend Midnight Mass and Mom and we kids in the morning, followed by the opening of gifts that were meager in comparison to the gifts of today. Our live Christmas tree was kept until January 6, Feast of Three Kings - and Sis's birthday.

Years have passed and our extended family still follow the Lithuanian religious tradition full of symbolism, everything we hold dear - God, Family, and Country. Our menu has been somewhat altered, but still follows a meatless Kūčios. We now have scallops, shrimp, lobster salad and wine. Thanks, Mom and Dad, for bestowing these age-old traditions and treasures to us.



## Knights of Lithuania Calendar of Events

### November 2006

- 1st All Saints' Day  
 2nd All Souls' 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

- 10th K of L Dancers perform at Museum of Science and Industry's Christmas Around the World Exhibit, Chicago, IL  
 16th Mid-America District Meeting and Christmas Party. Hosted by Council 36, Chicago, IL  
 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 Presidents' 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  
 17th Father's Day  
 22nd to 24<sup>th</sup> 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

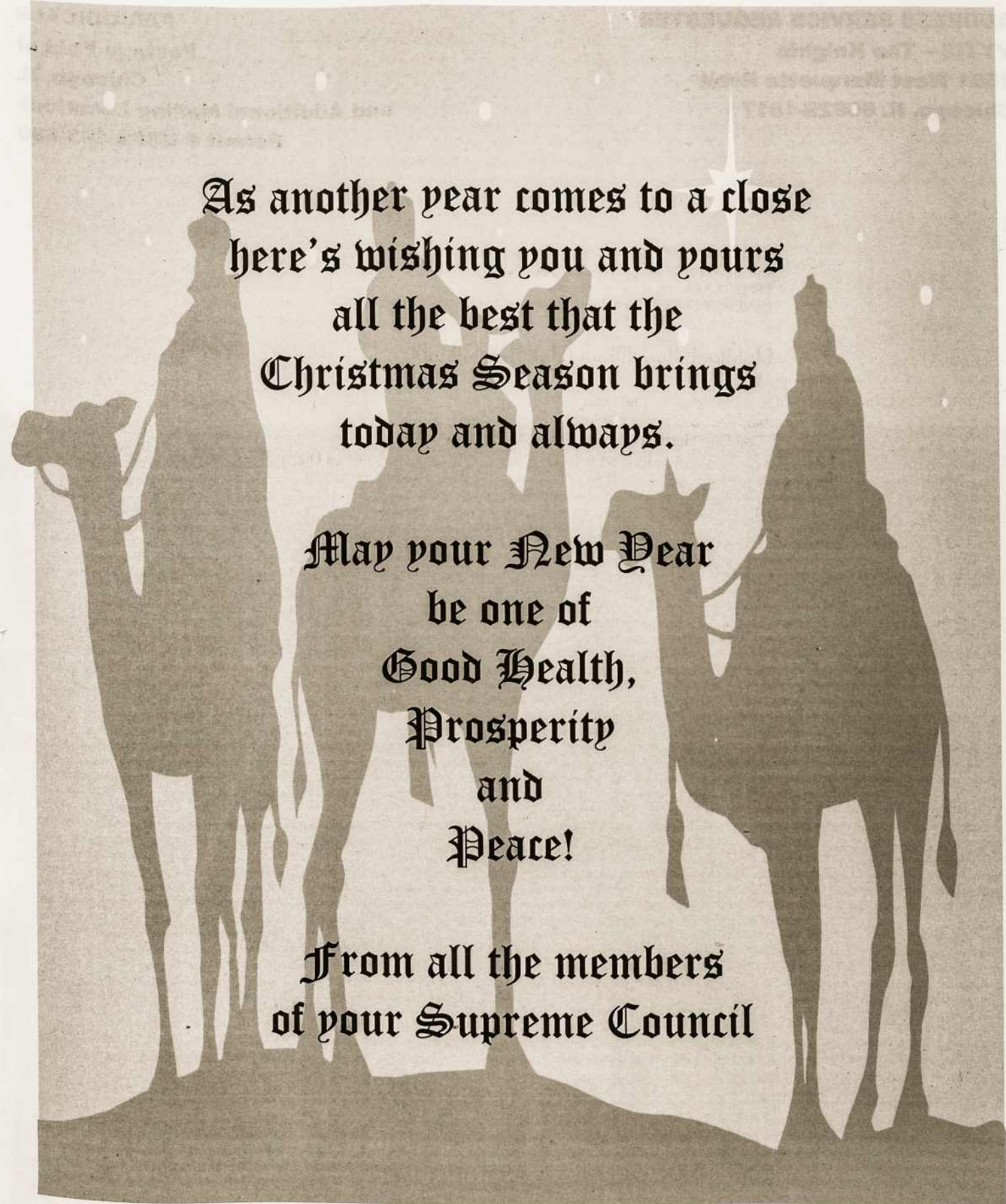
- 2nd to 5<sup>th</sup> 94th National Convention in Brockton, MA, hosted by Council 1

### September 2007

- 3rd Labor Day  
 8th Feast of Our Lady Šiluva  
 15th Mid-America District Bowling

### October 2007

- 20th Mid-America District Bowling



As another year comes to a close  
here's wishing you and yours  
all the best that the  
Christmas Season brings  
today and always.

May your New Year  
be one of  
Good Health,  
Prosperity  
and  
Peace!

From all the members  
of your Supreme Council

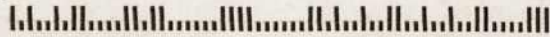
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