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SOMETHING FOR ALL OF US TO THINK ABOUT . . .

The summer vacation season for all intents and purposes is over with everyone settling back into the usual routine, be it at work or at school throughout the nation. With the coming of the fall season, one cannot but think about a return to "active" participation in Lithuanian affairs — which in some areas remained dormant during the summer months. There were the annual picnics, Lithuanian Days and other such social types of Lithuanian activity during the summer, but now a return to "activism" is necessary, especially of the caliber which was shown recently by the Lithuanian youth of the United States with the complete support of the Lithuanian communities at large. Let us now focus on that important segment of Lithuanian-American society — the youth — and its role in Lithuanian affairs.

It has been said that the youth is the backbone of a nation, in addition to being its future. Without young activists, the nation as a whole is doomed to extinction. This may take less time than most people realize unless the youth become active. The nation we call our own, Lithuania, especially needs its youth to continue being a distinct ethnic entity in the world.

The recently concluded Baltic Human Rights Rally at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. was conceived, planned, organized, and carried to a successful completion by the Lithuanian youth of the United States, to be specific, the Lithuanian American Youth Association, with the support of all Lithuanians throughout the United States. From all accounts, this mass rally has been seen as a significant achievement, in that it unified Lithuanians into a cohesive unit behind youthful leaders, young activists who will in time accept complete responsibility for the leadership of the Lithuanian communities and organizations. It should be noted also that these young activists were given the chance to show their capabilities to lead. Because of this, one can say, without any reservations that the "Lithuanian Idea" will continue outside of Lithuania's borders, something which is very important to us all.

Now to the youth who read BRIDGES and to all the youth in general, I say this mass Baltic Human Rights Rally cemented our unity of purpose. This public manifestation of unity is a very good beginning. Let us all now, today, resolve to continue showing our enthusiasm, our interest, our desire to know about things Lithuanian. The fire of Lithuanian feeling burns within us. We must now continue feeding the fire so that it will burn inside us forever. A sense of Lithuanianism does not all of a sudden fall out of the sky and land inside of a person, nor is it something that you can take off or put on at will like a suit or a dress. Lithuanian national feeling has absolutely no direct relation to the extent of your knowledge of the Lithuanian language because emotions know no language except emotion's own. Our ethnicity was not drummed into us by our parents, but actually made available to us by exposing us to Lithuania, its traditions, its culture, its history, its language. This initial and continuing exposure gave us the tools with which to shape our own sense of Lithuanianism. Therefore, we would show ourselves to be completely ingrateful, if we did not thank our parents for the strong foundation on which they helped us build our lives. It would also be a disservice if we did not accept the

torch being passed down to the youth — the torch of leadership of the Lithuanian community.

We are born Lithuanians — we must remain Lithuanians!

Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr.

THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY

August 23rd marked the anniversary of the infamous "Treaty of Non-aggression" concluded in 1939 by the two dictators, Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin and signed by their foreign ministers. This treaty and the second one, concluded and signed by the same persons only a short time later (September 28, 1939) are historically significant and should not be forgotten. The treaties themselves contain high sounding, but rather innocuous phrases. Their actual significance is in the secret protocols, attached to them. In these protocols the two dictators agreed, cynically and brutally, to annihilate and to divide up the territories of the republic of Poland and also of the three Baltic republics, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. To these four countries the treaties meant their death sentence, since through and by them their independence was extinguished, never to be restored again. The treaties are, however, of much deeper significance since the first one enabled Hitler to attack Poland, thus starting World War II. Without Stalin's cooperation, exemplified in these treaties, Hitler would not have dared to start World War II, and the World would look different now. **Jonas A. Stiklorius**

The U.S. Congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (**Helsinki Commission**) has released its completed document entitled "Report to the U.S. Congress on Implementation of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Findings and Recommendations Two Years After Helsinki," along with a supplement compiling information on the individual cases relating to the Human Contacts provisions of the Helsinki Act. This 227 page report, issued to closely coincide with the adjournment of the preliminary Belgrade Conference meetings, documents the compliance and non-compliance of the signatory nations to the Helsinki Act. The report is broken down into the various provisions and baskets of the Helsinki Act, than to each individual nation's actions in those areas. One point of objection here is that the Baltic States have been included under the Soviet Union. The report makes various references to the Baltic States, citing Soviet repressions against espousals of Baltic nationalism, suppression of religion in the three Baltic countries and giving specific instances of individual cases. The great emphasis on the fact that Communist compliance has been grossly lacking in almost all areas. This report and its supplement was provided to the U.S. delegation at Belgrade for use as background

material. Copies of the report may be requested by writing to: The Hon. Dante B. Fascell, Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; or your local Senator or Congressman. **J. Bolsteins**

On August 24th Soviet authorities arrested three more human rights activists, bringing to 12 the members of the **Helsinki monitoring group** and its close supporters seized since early this year. The arrests of **Felix Serebrov** in Moscow and **Viktoras Petkus** and **Antanas Terleckas** in Vilnius were reported to Western correspondents at a news conference. Former Red Army general Piotr Grigorenko, a leading dissident, told Western newsmen that Serebrov was arrested when he obeyed a subpoena to appear for questioning at a militia station. Word that Petkus and Terleckas had been arrested was relayed by telephone during the news conference at Grigorenko's apartment. "This is very serious. Both are arrested for the second time," said **Andrei D. Sakharov**, Nobel Peace Prize-winning physicist who attended the news conference along with his wife. Petkus is a member of the Lithuanian branch of the unofficial Organization to Monitor Soviet Compliance with the Helsinki Accords on Human Rights. Terleckas worked with the group.

POLITICAL ACTION

In his AP story entitled "Half-Diplomats Hopings for Better Days", **Arthur L. Gavshon** had the following to say about the Lithuanian diplomat in Washington: "Bačkis of Lithuania is blunt without being cynical. There are about 1 million Lithuanians in the United States, he says. Maybe one-third speak their mother tongue. They retain links with the 3.4 million or so Lithuanians still under Soviet rule. Cases of divided families, jailed dissidents in a country striving to regain its freedom, oppression of the Roman Catholics, are brought to the attention of the U.S. State department. They do what they can, pragmatically using the offices of the U.S. consul in Leningrad to negotiate with Soviet authorities."

According to Washington columnist Jack Anderson, the U.S. Justice Department is quietly trying to deport **Lithuanian freedom fighter Pranas Brazinskas** and his son **Algirdas** back to Russia, where they face almost certain execution. Father and son are fighting U.S.

deportation on the grounds that they would face "political persecution" in the Soviet Union. Rep. Robert Dornan (D-Calif.) is trying to win immigration rights for them. According to Anderson, the Justice Department regards the father and son as ordinary criminals and already has ordered the son's deportation. Informed sources have told us that an order for the father's deportation is imminent."

According to the ethnic newsletter, EMPAC!, complaints came in January from the **Ethnic Cultural Inaugural Committee**, representing Polish, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Armenian, and Hispanic groups, when the televised Kennedy Center, pre-Inaugural gala ignored ethnic representation. Much less visible, but probably closer to the action is **Marcie Kaptur**, Associate Director of the White House Domestic Council. She is an urban planner who has worked with neighborhood groups in Chicago and Toledo as well as with **Msgr. Geno Baroni's** Center. A Polish American, Ms. Kaptur is developing "urban policies sensitive to neighborhoods." While program initiatives are to come from the departments (i.e., Harris and Baroni at HUD, Califano at HEW), she and three other White House staffers under domestic policy chief Stuart Bizenstat will play a coordinating role. While Carter's people are still unpacking, President Ford's Special Assistant for Ethnic Affairs, **Myron B. Kuropas**, has moved over to Capitol Hill. He reports he is alive and well, and working for Senator Robert Dole (R-Kansas). At the moment, he's focusing on hearings on enforcement of the Helsinki Accords' human rights provisions and on legislation to create a two-year study of the impact of federal policies on neighborhoods.

In what was described on the invitations as an emergency conference, the **Democratic Nationalities Council of the Democratic National Committee** held a one day meeting in Washington on August 2nd for ethnic and foreign language groups. The conference was meant to focus on the significance of human rights and freedom issues and the Democratic Party's endeavors in advancing the struggle for these rights and freedoms. Among the questions discussed were those which dealt with human rights and whether the Administration was retreating from its earlier strong stand and if East Europe and the Soviet Union were being neglected on this point. Representing the **Joint Baltic American National Committee**, Dr. **Jonas B. Genys**, pointed out that ethnic groups need greater access to the White House. The present ethnic representative, Ms. Jan Peterson, has many other responsibilities as well and can provide only a limited response to ethnic considerations. This issue was brought out by other ethnic leaders as well, resulting in the promise that this matter would be brought to the President's attention. Another vital request was that a senior level ethnic representative be appointed to the State Department to serve as a consultant for the Belgrade Conference; one who would be inherently responsive to the ethnic viewpoints. **J. Bolsteins**

Representative **Daniel Rostenkowski** introduced a resolution in Congress calling for methods to improve the collection of information relating to **Americans of Balto-Slavic origin**. The joint resolution also recommends that in census collections, Slavic language questionnaires be available, and that the U.S. Bureau of Census take steps to employ personnel of Balto-Slavic origin or descent.

In Lansing, Michigan, hometown ethnic groups, athletic teams, local dignitaries, Big Labor and Big Business and private citizens by the hundreds win the hearts and tributes of the state legislators these days. Since January alone the House and Senate have adopted more than 1,000 resolutions honoring individuals and organizations, according to the **Saginaw News**. Resolutions and tributes are a way to recognize the good deeds of a lawmaker's constituents — and they can pay important political dividends, suggests Senator **Anthony A. Derezinski** (D-Muskegon). Derezinski has introduced his share of tributes since he came to Lansing two and a half years ago. In June Derezinski paid tribute to all Estonian-Americans, Lithuanian Americans and Latvian-Americans on the 37th anniversary of the occupation of their nations by the Soviet Union. "Resolutions don't take a lot of time, and they don't impede work. It's a part of the ceremonial job we have. It's a low-cost item," he said.

Rev. Casimir Pugevičius, Lithuanian Catholic civic leader and activist, responded to John Hodgson's journalistic praise in the **Catholic Standard** (Washington) of Young Communists in Leningrad "giving their time" to carry handicapped American pilgrims around for two days — "even at church on Sunday when we all prayed for peace in the world." Rev. Pugevičius observed: "I would be delighted to participate in Mr. Hodgson's proposed 'people to people' program, if the Soviet hosts would let us meet people, and not specially assigned Party activists or severely intimidated puppets; if they allowed me more than the mandatory five days in the land of my forebears, Lithuania, forcibly held by the U.S.S.R. since 1940; if they allowed me to take a half-dozen Bibles to religious believers, starved for religious literature; to say nothing about being a little more realistic about the dollar-ruble exchange rate." Rev. Pugevičius in his poignant letter concluded: "I do not believe the handicapped should ever be used — to promote personal or business interests, or the interests of the militant atheists in control of the U.S.S.R. or for any other reason."

In Washington, to those in command of the vast U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), **Al Louis Ripskis** is an unholy terror. By day, former Chicagoan Ripskis is a \$29,000-a-year Hud employee who analyzes the department's programs. But for the last five years, the 40-year-old Lithuanian-American has spent most of his off-hours and some \$13,000 of his own money kicking his bosses in the shins. Ripskis' weapon is a monthly journal called

Impact, which he contributes to, edits, publishes and sells — for 50 cents a copy or \$5 a year — mostly to other HUD employees, housing specialists and journalists. The August issue, for instance, banners an article headed "Why HUD Fails," which is a blistering indictment of departmental operations. In past issues, Ripskis has exposed expense-account cheating, the frivolous purchase of an expensive paper shredder to replace an older model and a crisis in the department's New Communities program. He fought for automatic doors to give handicapped persons access to HUD headquarters. Ripskis and his journal are a force to reckon with. On occasion, he said, "high HUD officials" have slipped him anonymous articles attacking top policy decisions. Employees in the department's field offices have mailed in allegations and outraged rhetorics. Ripskis came to his self-styled ombudsman role after years of frustration as an employee of HUD and one of its predecessor agencies. A native of Lithuania, where his father was a prosperous farmer and teacher, Ripskis became a war refugee, and his family emigrated to the United States in 1949. Ripskis lived in Chicago Heights and later in Chicago's Brighton Park. Ripskis took a job at the old Public Housing Administration in 1961, and joined HUD in Washington when the department was created in the mid-60s.

THE HOMELAND

On April 5th **The Financial Times** (London, England) carried an article entitled "The Ghost in the Machine" noting the difficulty in Lithuania that not all aspects of Lithuanian national culture fit easily into the socialist framework. The teaching of the Catholic Church are opposed to Marxism, and it is this ideological conflict which gives nationalism in Lithuania its unusual tenacity.

The 50th anniversary of the death of **Archbishop Jurgis Matulevičius-Matulaitis** was commemorated in Mariampolė on January 27, 1977. The large assembly included Bishop V. Sladkevičius, now living in compulsory exile, who celebrated the High Mass. In his sermon, he urged everybody to "take the path of sacrifice". This anniversary is very much different from the 100th anniversary since Archbishop Matulaitis' birth. In 1971, the organizers of the anniversary would not have even dared to ask an exiled bishop to say a sermon. This change in mood is an obvious testimonial that the sacrifices in the struggle for religious freedom have not been in vain. Archbishop Matulaitis' candidacy for sainthood has been progressing slowly in the Vatican.

According to the Moscow Bureau of UPI Soviet psychiatrists have developed what they hope is a tonic for the drudgery of work on the assembly line — "rooms of good cheer," shorter and more entertaining than coffee breaks. The program is being tested

in one of the biggest furniture factories in Lithuania, the Vilnius Association Shops. "Such rooms of good cheer which raise the production tone are represented by film showrooms where workers during two special breaks a shift watch short films," the Soviet press agency TASS reported. "Without leaving the factory the furniture makers may admire a view of the Baltic, travel to the picturesque lakes of the Republic or on the Kuršių Marios (a scenic coastal area)" TASS said. **V. J.**

On July 23rd the Jesuit publication, **America**, carried an article by Janice A. Broun, entitled "Soviet Cure for Religion." The article detailed the tragic story of the young engineer **Mindaugas Tamonis**, a victim of Soviet psychiatric hospitals. Tamonis was "hospitalized" for refusing to restore a Red Army monument. After a series of tortures, still "unrehabilitated," Tamonis' body was discovered on a railway, struck by a passing train.

According to the sixth issue of **Aušra**, the Lithuanian dissident publication, several Lithuanians and a number of other Soviet citizens are being held in the Chernyakhovsk psychiatric hospital and subjected to drug treatments for their political beliefs. One of the prisoners, a 17-year-old Lithuanian medical student, **Arvydas Čechanavičius**, was arrested in April, 1973, when the Soviet KGB found tapes of the Voice of America and the Vatican Radio as well as the youth's own writings in his apartment. For possessing this material, **Čechanavičius** was charged with "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda," but instead of being tried, he was declared a schizophrenic psychopath and sent to a psychiatric hospital. In December, 1975, according to **Aušra**, the student was moved to a special hospital in Chernyakhovsk. Besides **Čechanavičius**, the samizdat journal mentions two other Lithuanians and 25 other persons as being held in the mental hospital for alleged political crimes. **Petras Cidzikas** landed in Chernyakhovsk in July of 1973 and again this past January. He was accused of disseminating "anti-Soviet literature." Another Lithuanian, **Voldemaras Karaliūnas**, was thrown into the special hospital for treatment in 1975 because he wanted to renounce his Soviet citizenship and had urged some workers to strike. Besides insulin, **Aušra** claims that patients in Chernyakhovsk are forcibly treated with aminazin, sulfazin, and tizertsin, subjected to persecution, and forced to work despite their official illness. The journal asserts that the "notoriously cruel" behavior of the psychiatric staff has led to the complete mental collapse or suicide of some patients in the hospital.

John Jodwalkis and his older sister, **Lorraine**, were small children when they accompanied their mother on a visit to her native Lithuania in 1930. They are still there, virtual prisoners of the Soviet state, even though both were born in Chicago and are American citizens

under United States law. They have applied every year for the last twenty years, but the Soviet government so far has rejected every attempt. Efforts by the Jodwalkis family in Chicago and by the State Department to return them to the U.S. go back to 1945, but these efforts have likewise been frustrated by the often cruelly capricious Soviet bureaucracy. Secretary of State Vance's personal appeal does not appear to have had any effect. Visiting her brother and sister in Lithuania in August, Sister Bertha Jodwalkis, a Roman Catholic nun who is a nurse at Chicago's Loretto Hospital, said they still have not received a favorable response from the authorities. **J. D.**

The July 23rd edition of "Irish Echo" carried a story that Catholics of Soviet-occupied Lithuania sent a message of thanks to the Catholics of Ireland for attempting to intercede with the Soviet Ambassador in Dublin and for attempting to send a statue of Our Lady to the people of Lithuania. **K. of L. Lithuanian Affairs Bulletin.**

COMMUNITY WITH A CAPITAL "C"

The sixth annual **Lithuanian Day**, sponsored by the Boston District and the Worcester Chapter of the Lithuanian American Community (**Bendruomenė**) was held on Sunday, September 18th in Maironis Park, Shrewsbury, near Worcester, Mass. Guests from throughout New England attended this truly family get-together. Lithuanian foods abounded. A display of art work by Gema Duobaitė-Phillips of Boston decorated the lower hall at Maironis Park. The cultural program was held in the main ballroom and included choral works as sung by the St. Casimir's Lithuanian Choir of Brockton, Mass., conducted by Julius Gaidelis. A variety of folk dances was performed by Mrs. Ona Ivaška's Boston Lithuanian folk dance troupe and by the Worcester folk dance ensemble Žaibas whose sponsor is the Worcester Chapter of Bendruomenė. The instructors are Irene Markevičius and Nijolė Prancėvičius. Accordionist for both groups was Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr. For the sports-minded, there was a hotly contested match of volleyball played between the Lithuanian volleyball club and students from MIT. The current District president of the Boston District of Bendruomenė is Mr. Povilas Jančauskas of Brockton. **EVM**

In August and early September, Gintaras Karosas and Gytis Žiaugra undertook a four-week, 10,000 mile trip across the U.S., plugging the good causes of BRIDGES and the BALTIC HUMAN RIGHTS RALLY. The two Bostonians, covering all major Lithuanian colonies in the East, Midwest, West and South, visited Lithuanian editorial offices, appeared on radio shows, spoke at Lithuanian functions and camps, and talked with hundreds of people individually.

In addition, Mr. Karosas, a director of **Baltic Enterprises**, searched out new contacts for the budding nation-wide distribution center. He met with publishers, craftsmen, artists, designers, etc., obtaining ideas and commitments on every conceivable type of Lithuanian item. At this time Baltic Enterprises is still doing intensive research and is soliciting input from everyone designing or manufacturing any type of product pertaining to our Baltic heritage. A preliminary brochure describing their operation may be obtained by sending them a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Moreover, a luxurious 24-page color catalog will be available upon request (and \$1.00 to cover mailing and handling charges) in November. The address is **BALTIC ENTERPRISES, Box 8241, Boston, MA 02114. M. Dr.**

EVENTS

The Worcester Area Council of Lithuanian Organizations (WACLO) coordinated the Lithuanian contribution to the celebration of the 250th anniversary of Shrewsbury, Mass., on Saturday, September 17th. The Lithuanian folk dance ensemble Žaibas of Worcester provided Lithuanian folk songs and folk dances which delighted the crowds filling spacious Dean Park to overflowing. Throughout the day Lithuanian food was available, being prepared, served and sold at cost by Maironis Park Lithuanian Charitable Society. Informational leaflets about Lithuania in English were distributed by girls clad in Lithuanian folk costumes. **EVM.**

Lithuanian Day during the popular "Christmas Around the World Festival" at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry is scheduled for December 17th. Lithuanians have participated in the festival every year since its inception 36 years ago. The Lithuanian Christmas tree with its original straw ornaments will be on display the entire month of December. The Knights of Lithuania Juniors will present a program on December 17th at 7:30 p.m. **J. D.**

Students and alumni of the **Collegiate Division** of the **Lithuanian Scouts** (Akademikai Skautai) attended a weekend conference and camp-out on September 3-5th at Gintaras Resort, Union Pier, Michigan.

The Rochester chapter of the **Association of Young Lithuanian Americans** has been diligently transforming the vacant convent of St. George's into a youth center. Under the direction of Juozapas Laukaitis, the project is beginning to take shape. The center is projected to include a small hall, a kitchen, a library, lounge, and the offices of the various youth organizations. The archives of other parish organizations are also to be located in the center. **Lawrence Wizman.**

Every so often the American press carries stories about the contributions of Lithuanians to America, but never with illustrations. In August The Scrantonian of Scranton, Pennsylvania carried an illustrated capsule about Lithuanians. It was part of Patrick M. Reynolds' awardwinning series "Pennsylvania Profiles." BRIDGES carries a reproduction of the Lithuanian segment below.

The Rochester Lithuanian Dinner took place on October 2nd. All area Lithuanians were invited to attend. A large Lithuanian menu was prepared by the women of St. George's parish. L. W.

THE SCRANTONIAN
Scranton, Pa. 5-49,000

Pennsylvania Profiles
by Patrick M. Reynolds

Recipient of the George Washington Honor Medal Award

THE LITHUANIANS

ONE GROUP OF IMMIGRANTS THAT CAME TO AMERICA AND WORKED HARD TO IMPROVE THEMSELVES AND PENNSYLVANIA WERE THE PEOPLE FROM A SMALL COUNTRY IN NORTHEAST EUROPE.



IN 1795 DEMETRIUS AUGUSTINE GALLITZIN A LITHUANIAN NOBLEMAN GAVE UP HIS INHERITANCE, CAME TO THE UNITED STATES, & BECAME THE FIRST CATHOLIC PRIEST TO HAVE COMPLETED HIS STUDIES AND TAKEN HIS HOLY ORDERS IN THE COUNTRY. HE ESTABLISHED A CHRISTIAN COLONY OF OVER 20,000 ACRES IN CAMBRIA COUNTY, AND FOUNDED THE TOWN OF LORETTO.



PRINCE GALLITZIN IN STATE PARK NEAR PATTON, PENNSYLVANIA IS NAMED IN HIS HONOR.



MOST OF THE LITHUANIANS WHO SETTLED IN THE KEYSTONE STATE CAME HERE AFTER THE 1863 REVOLT AGAINST OPPRESSION BY THE CZAR OF RUSSIA.



THE MOST FAMOUS OF THESE REBELS WAS AN ARMY CHAPLAIN NAMED FATHER ANDRIUS STRUPINSKAS



HE FLED TO THE U.S. IN 1866 AND WAS APPOINTED THE FIRST PASTOR OF LITHUANIANS IN PENNSYLVANIA, SERVING FROM MAHANAY CITY TO MT. CARMEL.

THE LARGEST SETTLEMENT OF LITHUANIANS IN THE COUNTRY IS IN THE ANTHRACITE COAL REGION OF PENNSYLVANIA BETWEEN MINERSVILLE & FOREST CITY WITH COURAGE, DETERMINATION AND HARD WORK THEY OVERCAME LANGUAGE BARRIERS AND MINING HAZARDS AND ROSE TO POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY IN LAW, MEDICINE, BUSINESS, POLITICS, EDUCATION, SPORTS, MILITARY, AND THE ARTS.



SOME NOTED LITHUANIAN DESCENDANTS INCLUDE



ALEXANDER BIALASKI
1ST DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 1912 TO 1919



JOHNNY UNITAS OF BLOOMFIELD-ALL-TIME GREAT QUARTERBACK-BALTIMORE COLTS



CASIMIR BUSINSKIS OF EHRENFIELD-MILLIONAIRE-MOVIE STAR BETTER KNOWN AS CHARLES BRONSON

THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY HAS THE LARGEST COLLECTION OF LITHUANIAN STUDIES IN AMERICA.



PERSONALITIES

The 64th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania conferred its **honorary membership** upon **Lawrence (Larry) Janonis**. Mr. Janonis has an outstanding 40 year record of energetic and selfless service in almost all phases of Knights of Lithuania activity. He joined the organization in 1937. His excellent record lead him to his selection as New York - New Jersey District Sports Chairman in 1949. His experience and talents singled him out for district council office. He was elected second vice president in 1951 and, the following year, was elected president of the New York - New Jersey District, which is now known

as the Mid-Atlantic District, and served with some interruptions for a total of 19 years. In 1969 Larry Janonis assumed the chairmanship of the 56th National Convention Preparation Committee. On the Supreme Council level Larry Janonis has faithfully exercised office as 2nd Vice President. He served on the Golden Jubilee Committee, the Constitutional Revisions Committee and was trustee for three years. There is one office for which Larry seems to be a natural: Convention Presidium Chairman. With skill, fairness and frequent humor, he has "wielded the gavel" at nine National Conventions. Among Lithuanian Americans, together with Paul P. Dargis of the SLA, he is considered to be an authority on the Roberts Rules of Order and master parliamentarian. **Isabelle McKinley**

Two former refugees, **Audrey Butvay** and **Virginia Sirusas**, helped a Lithuanian sculptor, **Vladas Vildžiūnas**. Although Audrey Butvay, 35, the director of advertising and sales promotion for Elizabeth Arden, and Virginia Sirusas, 33, the first woman to be named vice president of the trust department of the Bankers Trust Co., had left Lithuania with their families when they were very young, they reacted instantly upon meeting sculptor Vildžiūnas. Using their own funds and donating their free time, the women arranged a show of the sculptor's work at the Tower Gallery, Southampton, Long Island. Mrs. Sirusas met Vildžiūnas when she visited Lithuania two years ago. She liked his work and gave him her Manhattan address in the hopes of "exchanging Christmas cards," she recalled. "At the beginning of May," said Mrs. Sirusas, "I received a telegram from Vildžiūnas informing me that he had gotten a visa and was coming to New York." After the sculptor arrived with a stack of photos showing his art works, Mrs. Sirusas contacted Miss Butvay and the women went with the photos to a Manhattan art museum to get an opinion of the curator on the sculptures. "Once he told us that Vildžiūnas' work is strong and powerful," said Miss Butvay, "we decided to put up the money so that he could cast some models in bronze." Not only did the women put \$15,000 of their savings into their project, but they contacted a foundry, arranged for posters and publicity for the show. The work on the exhibition had to be squeezed into a round of 12-hour working days for both women. But it was worth it, they contended. "We feel that through this exhibit," said Miss Butvay, "the artistic accomplishments and heritage of Lithuania will become better known to the American public." Vildžiūnas, the women asserted, is a man whose artistic expression has developed in a veritable cultural vacuum. Until he was 30, they said, the artist had never even seen the work of major Western sculptors. Inspired by folk art and stories as well as Lithuanian national heroes, Vildžiūnas works in the mediums of both abstract and realistic expression. **Vytautas Širvydas**.

Anthony Novasitis, Jr. was elected to the Executive Board of the National Republican Heritage Groups Council for two years. Mr. Novasitis, who will serve as Board General Counsel, is also a national vice-president of the Lithuanian American Community, Inc.

Joseph Bakshis is the newest member of the District 64 Board of Education, North Chicago, Ill. A third generation Lithuanian-American, he was born and educated in North Chicago. Mr. Bakshis is a graduate of Illinois State University and is currently employed by the North Chicago Police Department.

Lithuanian-American Virginia Daugvydas-Dean has been appointed Director of the Commercial Services Bureau, a subdivision of the Michigan Licensing and Regulation Department. Born in Regensburg, Germany, Mrs. Dean is an attorney and holds a master's degree

in foreign languages from Purdue University. In 1974 she was a candidate for District Judge in East Lansing.

Although the main purpose of the executive board of the Republican Heritage Groups is to define areas of responsibility, recent developments in Foreign policy and the delay in the Presidential Proclamation on Captive Nations had aroused deep concern in the minds of Republican Heritage leaders. A special **Human Rights Committee** was created under Mrs. Anna Faltus (Czech). Mr. **Algimantas S. Gečys** was nominated and elected by the (Nationalities) Council for the position of Co-Chairman of the Human Rights Committee.

Lithuanian Video (LIVE) of Chicago collects, produces and disseminates audiovisual materials on the Lithuanian community and the city of Chicago. LIVE produced an hour long videotape of the Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival, the only documentary on this form of folk art. Another program focused on the lives of Lithuanian coal miners in Pennsylvania, and a multimedia show presented the work of the celebrated Lithuanian artist, M. K. Čiurlionis, in Harmony with the Heavenly Spheres. Public television in Chicago has shown their program "Marquette Park: A Personal Perspective", and LIVE is preparing an experimental show called "Chicago by Night." Information about these productions and future projects may be obtained from Teresa Boguta, LIVE, 6721 South Rockwell, Chicago, Ill. 60629 (telephone 312-737-3294). **INTER-COMMUNITY Arts**

GERA GASPADINĖ RAŠO: For the up and coming fall months, warm soup is a welcome remedy for any type of chill. The following are two favorite Lithuanian soup recipes.

Barščiai — Beet Soup: 2 - 3 quarts of beef stock; 4-6 medium beets; one onion; 1 tablespoon butter; 1 tsp. flour; 1 cup of sour cream. Make the soup stock from beef bone or beef bouillon. Cook whole beets separately; peel, grate coarsely or cut into Julienne strips. Add to hot soup stock. Chop the onion and fry lightly in butter, stir in flour and 1/4 cup of soup stock. Add to soup. Ladle out one cup of soup and allow to cool slightly. Add to sour cream. Pour the cream mixture into the soup which has been removed from the heat. (Cream will curdle if the soup is too hot!) One or two tablespoons of vinegar may be added for tartness.

Grybų Sriuba — Mushroom Soup: 12 - 15 dried mushrooms or one pint of canned mushrooms; six cups of water; salt; one onion; one potatoe; one carrot; 2 bay leaves; 1 cup of sour cream. Soak, wash, and pre-cook dried mushrooms. (Canned mushrooms must be drained and rinsed in cold water.) Slice mushrooms, dice vegetables. Simmer in water with bay leaves and salt until the vegetables are done. Remove from heat. Stir 1/4 cup of soup into cream, blend thoroughly, and pour back into soup. Keep hot when serving. **M.O.B.**

Dr. **Bronis Kaslas** recently published a volume entitled "The Baltic Nations — The Quest for Regional Integration and Political Liberty." This book of 332 pages and two maps consists of three parts. The first is a survey of the history and political structure of the Baltic States, the second is a detailed account of the search for security through regional integration, and the third is an analysis of the impact of the Second World War on their national life and international status. This book is a detailed study of regional integration in the Baltic area. It should be of interest to historians, diplomats, political scientists, and all those who follow the course of European locate new material for their research. The college-university and public libraries will have in this book a valuable addition to their meager possessions on the subject of the Baltic region. Copies may be obtained for \$12 by writing to: Euramerica Press, 381 N. Main St., Pittston, Pa. 18640.

The Berkeley Putnam Publishers have released a science fiction novel by **Algis Budrys**, entitled **Michaelmass**, describing life in the United States in the year 1999. An accomplished Sci-Fi writer, Mr. Budrys is the son of the former Consul General of Lithuania in New York, the late Jonas Budrys. **Newsweek** in its July 14th issue declared the book to be a wonderful work. The weekly **New Republic** has published Mr. Budrys article on the Politics of Deoxyribonuclear Acid, a theme handled by Adrienne Jucius for **Time Magazine** some time ago. **V. Š.**

Prof. Jack J. Stukas is pre of his historical work "Awake is based on his dissertation anian National Renaissance War.

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The editors and workers of BRIDGES take this opportunity to express their sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks to **Dr. A. B. Gleveckas** of Chicago for his donation of fifty dollars and wishes for the success of our newsletter.

DEAR READERS, WE WANT ALL OF YOU TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE BRIDGES, THE LITHUANIAN-AMERICAN NEWSLETTER. However, rising costs are forcing us to drop the large bloc of free subscriptions. Some of our readers have been receiving BRIDGES gratis for the past five-six issues. Others have moved without notifying us and thus have contributed to the many costs. THEREFORE, THIS OCTOBER EDITION WILL BE THE VERY LAST ONE DISTRIBUTED FREE. We request all who have not subscribed to write and tell us that they wish to continue receiving BRIDGES. This information must reach us no later than November 1, 1977. Enclose your address and check in the amount of three dollars for one year to: BRIDGES, Post Office Box 9061, Boston, Mass. 02114. Thank you. **THE EDITORS**

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