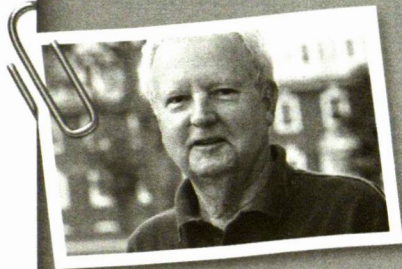


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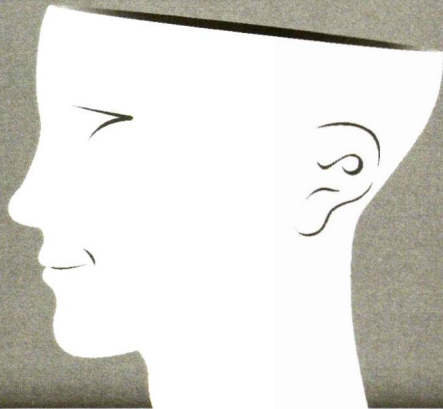


Topics will include *New Threats to the Baltic Sea*  
chaired by Dr. Vic Klemas

Lithuanian World Center  
November 27-30, 2008  
Lemont, IL

XIV  
Arts & Science

SYMPOSIUM  
CHICAGO 2008



october 2008

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN NEWS JOURNAL



*Letter from the Editor*

*Since I wrote the last letter several events have taken place. We finished the September issue a little earlier because both Gema and I were on vacation at different times so we were pressed for time. The Olympics have come and gone and still sends a shiver down my spine to see Lithuanians marching and participating under their own flag. On a sadder note were the events in Georgia. My husband and I participated in a protest in Philadelphia. The event was quickly organized by the Ukrainian Community and although it was rather small because of the time that it was held, there were other ethnic groups including Lithuanians. My surprise was the number of passing cars that blew their cars and showed "thumbs up" in agreement as we marched past the Liberty Bell. Lithuania and the Baltic States have done a tremendous job in supporting Georgia. My memories kept flooding back to 1990-91 and the protest marches in Philadelphia, New York, and Washington, DC which became our home away from home almost every weekend.*

*Congratulations to St. George Church in Rochester on their 100th year anniversary. We wish them good luck and God's blessings.*

*I really must thank the Washington, DC chapter of the Lithuanian American Community for the fantastic job they did with updates during the Georgian Crisis and the Olympics. Congratulations on a job well done. I would be remiss if I did not thank two other chapters-Cape Cod and Kansas City. You both make it a pleasure to work with your chapters.*

*It's not too early to think about Christmas. We have "no hassle" Christmas shopping for you. How about a subscription of Bridges for someone you care about? We all know someone who "has everything" and whatever you buy them, it won't be the right gift. You won't have to drive to the mall and get a nervous stomach in the process. Instead, your gift will keep on giving and giving throughout the year.*

*Thank you for sharing your home with us this month.*

*Jeanne Shalna Dorr*  
Jeanne Shalna Dorr



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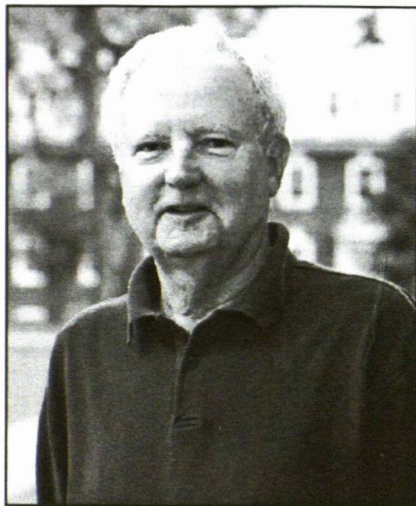
\*Cover: Vytas Ciuplinskas is the designer of the Symposium poster on the cover.

*Vytas lives in the Chicago area and is currently working as Creative Director at Viewpoints Network. His previous design work includes the visual identity for the 8th Lithuanian Song Festival.*



# A NEW THREAT TO THE BALTIC SEA

*A renowned academician  
foresees a threat*



Dr. Vytautas Klemas, Professor Emeritus of Delaware University, College of Marine and Earth Studies, on May 22, 2008 became one of the few foreign members to be elected to Lithuania's National Academy of Sciences.

Prof. Klemas was born in Klaipėda, Lithuania; received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from MIT and his PhD from the University of Braunschweig. His area of expertise is Satellite Oceanography with special emphasis on the study of the coastal zone, including wetlands, estuaries and coastal waters, which contain some of the most productive ecosystems on Earth. He is the leader in the application of remote sensing to coastal management. He uses extensively satellite technology, including radar, infrared and multispectral sensors, to feed models for studying

coastal ecosystems, estuarine processes and coastal dynamics.

In 2006 Prof. Klemas received a Fulbright Grant to teach his specialty at the University of Klaipėda, that is, to teach them the latest satellite technology and analysis methods for mapping ocean currents and waves, and detecting pollutants affecting coastal ecosystems. His ideas of establishing an Oceanography Program at the University are now very close to becoming a reality.

In 2004, 2006 and 2008 Prof. Klemas helped organize the US-EU Baltic Symposia whose primary focus was the Baltic Sea. He is currently assisting in organizing the 14th World Lithuanian Symposium on Arts and Science which will take place in Chicago on November 26th through November 30th. The Lithuanian Symposium on Arts and Sciences, just as the "Šokių Šventė" (Dance Festival), the "Dainų Šventė" (Song Festival) has become part of the Lithuanian tradition. It was started in 1969 by the Lithuanian American Community's National Executive Committee with the help of several scientists and has since then been held every three years, alternating between Chicago and Vilnius.

This year's symposium will have 19 plenary sessions, each dealing with a specific area of interest; such and economics, literature, natural sciences, physical sciences, medicine, law, environment, psychology, communication, just to mention a few. Prof. Klemas will chair the session relating to ecosystem studies and environmental protection. His session will focus specifically on two dangers



*Prof. V. Klemas presenting papers*

which now threaten the ecosystem of the Baltic Sea. The dangers come from the Nord-Stream Gas Pipeline and the Oil Drilling Platform known as D-6.

The Nord Stream Pipeline is a Russian undertaking. Two pipelines, each 1.2 m in diameter, will be laid underneath the bottom of the Baltic Sea. It will extend 1,200 km from Vyborg, Russia to Greifswald, Germany. This venture has not been approved by all the countries surrounding the Baltic Sea. Both Russia and Germany are ignoring the ESPOO Convention which states that all the countries surrounding the Baltic Sea have the right to participate in assessing potential environmental impacts.

The Baltic Sea has been designated as "Especially Sensitive Sea Area". This being the case, the Baltic states have committed themselves to limiting the commercial exploitation of its seabed in order to preserve this unique but exhausted sea. Now, the Baltic Sea has come under direct attack.

By going the Baltic Sea route instead of the overland route, Russia is avoiding transiting other Eastern European countries. This will cause those countries to lose the transit traffic and the opportunity to influence the gas prices. Many also state that it is cheaper and safer to use the overland route than the sea route.



However, the issue that is really causing most concern in the Baltics is that during the dredging process, many pollutants and toxic gases, such as mustard gas, and many other chemical wastes that have been buried after World War II, will be released, harming the fragile Baltic Sea's ecosystem, including its flora and fauna. Also, there are nearly 80,000 tons of munitions buried in the seabed, which could be triggered to explode during the dredging and construction process.

The second threat endangering the Baltic Sea comes from the Russian-built Oil Drilling Platform -- known as D-6. The platform was built in 2004, in 30 m in depth and 22 km from the shore of the Curonian Spit. Russia built this platform in clear violation of the principles of sustainable development of the Baltic Sea as stipulated



Prof. V. Klemas at his induction dinner

in various international agreements, such as the Baltic Agenda 21, the Helsinki Convention and the ESPOO Convention.

It is clear that in building this platform, very little consideration was given to the damage that an oil spill may cause to the ecosystem of the Baltic Sea and on the Curonian Spit -- both of which have exceptionally sensitive ecosystems.

Should an oil spill occur, it could damage 5 to 75 km of coastline. The oil slick will take anywhere

from 2 to 9 hours to drift to the Curonian Spit and the likelihood that this will happen is 33-67%. It is planned that the drilling operation will last for 30 years.

The Curonian Spit is such a valuable natural site that UNESCO has put it under its protective wing. Besides doing considerable damage to the area's ecosystem, destroying its flora and fauna, the oil spill will also create an economical blow to the region. Lithuania's Kuršių Nerija is one of the Baltic Sea's best known tourist attractions. An oil spill of any magnitude will pollute its beach and, in turn, will impact the tourism in the great beach resort. It would take a long time to clean up the spill and would take even a longer time to revive the all important tourist visits to the area.

*Rimas Gedeika*

*Rimas Gedeika lives in New Jersey. He is a member of the National Executive Committee of the Lithuanian American Community serving as Vice- President for Special Projects. He is also active in the Lithuanian Sports Community and is the administrator of Bridges.*

## TRIVIA QUESTION

(No.24)

Lithuania's current administrative division was established in 1994 and modified in 2000 to meet the requirements of the European Union. Lithuania has a three-tier administrative division: the country is divided into Counties (Apskritis) that are further subdivided into Municipalities (Savivaldybės) which consist of Elderates (Senivnijas).

Question:

Lithuania has how many Counties ?

- (a) 10      (b) 6      (c) 500

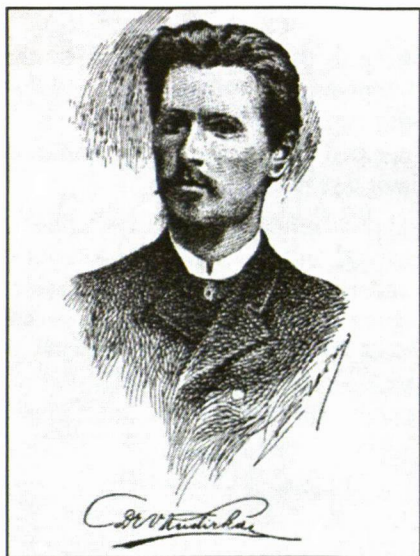
*Edward Shakalis is a retired Electrical Engineer and a ham radio operator. He and his son Rick run "The Lithuanian Open" golf tournament.*

- Edward Shakalis
1. Alytus County
  2. Kaunas County
  3. Klaipėda County
  4. Marijampole County
  5. Panevėžys County
  6. Šiauliai County
  7. Taurage County
  8. Telšiai County
  9. Utena County
  10. Vilnius County

Lithuania are divided into 10 Counties. national laws, programs and policies. seas local governments and their implementation of the Lithuania and the constitution. County government over-ensure that the municipalities adhere to the laws of Viršinkas) appointed by the central government. They The Counties are ruled by County Governors (Apskritis Source-Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

## ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUESTION





**Vincas Kudirka**  
(1858 – 1899)

*Editor's Note:* This year marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Vincas Kudirka.

*Although his life was short he had many accomplishments, among them was the writing of the Lithuanian national anthem.*

KUDIRKA, Vincas (1858-1899), physician and writer, who did much to revive Lithuanian national and cultural consciousness at the end of the 19th century, author of Lithuania's national anthem, born in Paežeriai, county of Vilkaviškis, on Dec. 31, 1858. From 1871-76 he studied at Marijampolė High School, showing musical and literary talent. Although he attended Lithuanian language classes at the high school, he preferred Polish literature, especially the works of Adam Mickiewicz and, began to consider himself *gente lituanus, natione polonus* (of Lithuanian birth, of Polish nationality). In 1877 at his father's insistence he entered the Theological Seminary in Seinai, but showed no desire to study there. In 1879 he returned to Marijampolė to complete high school. Here he began to write poetry and to publish a supposedly clandestine student newsletter in Polish; the publication included his poetry and humorous and satirical articles.

In 1881 Kudirka entered the University of Warsaw, studied philology for one year, then transferred to medicine. In 1885 he

## 150th Anniversary of His Birth

was arrested and tried by the Russian police for helping to prepare for copying an abridged translation of Marx's *Das Kapital*. Apart from this technical help to Polish Marxists, Kudirka matured under the influence of liberal positivism. Later in Warsaw he recognized the marked difference between Lithuanians who had adopted Polish culture and native Poles. He became convinced that Lithuanians and Poles had distinct national differences. His final conversion was caused by reading the first truly Lithuanian newspaper *Auszra* (The Dawn) by Jonas Basanavičius (q.v.). During his final year of study in 1888, Kudirka and other Lithuanian students founded a secret society in Warsaw called Lietuva (Lithuania); in 1889 they began to publish the Lithuanian newspaper *Varpas* (The Bell), which played a significant role in the Lithuanian national revival.

Kudirka's work in Lithuanian political and national movements lasted only ten years. When *Varpas* began to be published, it became obvious that Kudirka was suffering from an advanced stage of tuberculosis. However, he completed his studies and began to practice medicine in Šakiai. Šakiai was not far from his birthplace and was close to the Russian-German border, across which *Varpas* was published because of the Russian government's ban on Lithuanian literature. He was that newspaper's editor and most important contributor. As his illness progressed, Kudirka went to Yalta in 1894 for treatment, but returned home due to lack of funds. He moved to Naumiestis, by the German border, and forsook medicine to concentrate on editing, journalism and literature. Here he was arrested by the Russian police, who suspected him of authoring articles in *Varpas*. He was released for lack of evidence. Kudirka then sought treatment in Sevastopol, but in the spring of 1896 returned to Naumiestis. His illness had so advanced that he could only write lying down. He died in Naumiestis on Nov. 16, 1899. The town was later renamed after him Kudirkos Naumiestis.

Kudirka was the first true columnist in Lithuanian journalism, and was a most significant influence on the Lithuanian nation. His column in *Varpas*, called *Tėvynės varpai* (Homeland Bells), is the

backbone of collections of his works. Much of its contents (*mutatis mutandis*) is almost as relevant to the 20th century as it was to the last decade of the 19th. His writings were affected by Adam Mickiewicz and Friedrich von Schiller and their romantic idealization of the combatant spirit of liberty in nations and peoples. Yet Kudirka also sought to solve actual problems and was a practical positivist. Fascinated by Lithuania's heroic past, he popularized its history to protest the subjugation of the Lithuanian people by the Russian tsar. He unmercifully unmasked the injustice of the Russian government's laws as applicable to Lithuania, especially the absurdity of the ban on freedom of the press, and exposed the Russian bureaucrats' inane actions in Lithuania. Yet he did not spare his compatriots, especially the Lithuanian intelligentsia, whom he castigated for their apathy, inferiority complex, acceptance of their lot, political cowardice, not fighting for national rights and for internecine squabbling because of ideological differences. Kudirka saw as heroes the high school students who, while Lithuanian and Catholic, refused to pray in Russian before classes, or the farmers who, even on pain of death, did not fear to resist the Russian administration's attempt to destroy their church.

Kudirka was not inciting revolution or riot. He urged Lithuanians to first enlighten themselves and learn their rights, and then to demand and protect these rights. He urged and taught political, cultural and economic resistance. Considering the attainment of Lithuania's national rights and good as the most important task for the Lithuanian population, Kudirka urged the people to discount religious or social differences and to strive for their goal with a unified front. Although many political parties eventually developed in Lithuania, all excepting the communists accepted Lietuva, *Tėvynė Mūsų* (Lithuania, Our Homeland), written by Kudirka, as the national anthem. The anthem is a fifty-word condensation of his program of political ideals for the Lithuanian nation. The first lines of the hymn describe Lithuania as the homeland of Lithuanians and a land of heroes. He is, of course, speaking about historical heroes and urging Lithuanians to



draw inspiration and spiritual strength from their heroic past. He speaks not of conquest or the reinstatement of a powerful state, but rather wishes that Lithuanians would be people of the highest integrity who work for their homeland's good and for the good of humanity. The hymn further expresses a wish that Lithuania become a source of enlightenment, defeat ignorance, and be a stronghold of truth and justice. Finally, it urges patriotism and national unity. Kudirka also wrote the melody for the anthem; both words and music were published in *Varpas* in Sept., 1898. The second stanza of the hymn, comprised of 23 words, was chiseled on Kudirka's gravestone. By order of the local Russian police chief, the inscription was later obliterated.

In addition to journalism, Kudirka was a pioneer in political satire in Lithuanian literature. He left only 4 stories of this genre: *Lietuvos tilto atsiminimai* (Recollections of a Lithuanian Bridge), *Viršininkai* (The Chiefs), *Cenzūros klausimai* (The Question of Censorship) and *Vilkai* (The Wolves). The satires compromised the Russian administration even more effectively than Kudirka's journalis-

tic writings. After nearly a hundred years they may be read with as much pleasure as if they were directed at current events. As a satirist, Kudirka was a follower of the Russian writers Krylov, Gogol and Saltykov-Shchedrin. In his poetry he taught his countrymen how a good Lithuanian should act in life. Even more than by original work, Kudirka enriched Lithuanian literature by good translations. Characteristically he chose to translate works which were thematically concerned with Lithuanian history or with other nations' struggle for political freedom against foreign domination. The first category includes: *Mindowe* (Mindaugas) by J. Siowacki, *Kiejstut* (Kęstutis) by A. Asnyk, *Narymont* (Narimantas) by T. Werblowska, *Dziady* (All Souls' Day, Part III) and an excerpt from *Konrad Wallenrod* by A. Mickiewicz. The second group includes: *Wilhelm Tell* and *Die Jungfrau von Orleans* by F. von Schiller, *Cain* by G. Byron, and *Dust of the Earth* (in Polish) by M. Radzewiczowna. He also translated the satiric fables of M. Krylov. Furthermore Kudirka, an originator of Lithuanian literary criticism, published a provisional Lithuanian writing manual and an article

on principles of versification; both texts greatly helped to improve the new Lithuanian journalism and literature. He prepared and published *Kanklės* (Lithuanian Zithers), an anthology of Lithuanian folk song (2 parts, 1895 and 1899), and pieces for the violin (which he played) and pianoforte. Herewith Kudirka was an impulse in many branches of Lithuanian cultural activity. His works were the basis for the political ideology of Lithuanian liberal and nationalistic parties which later developed.

Source: "ENCYCLOPEDIA LITUANICA - VOLUME III"

#### LITHUANIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

*Lithuania, my homeland, land of heroes!  
Let your sons draw strength from the past.  
Let your children follow only the path of  
virtue, working for the good of their native  
land and for all mankind.  
Let the sun banish all darkness from  
Lithuania, with light and truth always  
guiding our steps.  
Let the love of Lithuania burn in our hearts  
And for the sake of our country, let unity  
blossom.*

Translation from Vytis, volume 82: no. 2, February 1996.

### Continued from page 21 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 95<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL



*Friend of Lithuania award recipients Mary Ann and Clay Mathile during banquet L. (seated) Elinor Šluzas, Mary Ann Mathile and Mildred Jagiella (Lithuanian Affairs Chair)*

given substantial donations to Cardinal Audrys J. Bačkis, Archbishop of Vilnius, for various projects; Sisters of St. Casimir in Pažaislis, Lithuania, to assist in the renovations of the historic Pažaislis Monastery; Mother Teresa; Homeless Shelter in Vilnius, Lithuania; and to the St. Casimir's Pontifical College and Seminary in Rome, Italy.

The formal portion of the banquet closed with words from K of L president Elena Nakrosis. She thanked the delegates for electing her. Musical entertainment for dancing livened the rest of the evening.

**Sunday, August 3, 2008**

The closing Mass was held at Holy Cross Lithuanian Church.

It was celebrated by Archbishop Daniel Pilareczyk, Archbishop of Cincinnati. Msgr. Dr. J. Anderlonis, Rev. A. Markus, Rev. Johann Roten and deacon Vitas Paškauskas assisted.

Prior to the celebration of the Mass, the organization's members who earned their 4<sup>th</sup> degrees gave the oath and received their medals. The Supreme Council elect gave their oath of office.

The 2008 National Convention and sessions were productive and fruitful. It was good to see and nurture special friendships of members known for many years and establish new acquaintances and contacts. It was a special time of sharing and catching up.

The Dayton convention committee prepared a beautifully bound program book for the convention. A comprehensive history of Dayton, the first Lithuanian settlers, Holy Cross Lithuanian Church, various organizations that functioned and still function within the auspices of the church, sports activities are featured and numerous photographs of historical events, groups and individuals are highlighted. Copies of many of the greetings received are included. Also found are various ads and of course, the standard convention greetings.

The 96<sup>th</sup> National Convention will be hosted by the Council 16 in Chicago, IL on August 6 - 9, 2009.

*Regina Juska-Svoba, K of L Public Relations Chair*

*\*Photos by Regina Juska-Svoba*



# US/EU-BALTIC INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 2008: SUMMARY REPORT

Joseph R. Vadus, Symposium Co-Chairman - Vice President, Oceanic Engineering Society - Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers



*Symposium Co-Chairs: Joseph R. Vadus (USA) and Juri Elken (Estonia)*

The third US/EU-Baltic International Symposium was successfully conducted in Tallinn, Estonia May 27-29, 2008 in the SOKOS Hotel Viru. The first two were successfully held in Klaipėda, Lithuania in 2004 and 2006. The plan is to continue this series and rotate it among the Baltic Nations every 2 years. The symposium was sponsored by: The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; The US Office of Naval Research Global; The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineer's Oceanic Engineering Society; and Tallinn University of Technology. It was supported by the Estonian Environmental Investment Centre and the Estonian Ministry of Environment. The Marine Research Center in Klaipėda, Lithuania was a participating organization. The writer summarizes and edits some highlights of the symposium's 140 papers, but does not necessarily endorse all highlights as reported, and encourages readers to refer to the proceedings.

**Introduction:** The theme of the Symposium was, "Ocean Observations, Ecosystem-Based Management and Forecasting". Over 140 papers were presented by authors from over 22 nations, and provided an excellent forum for exchange of research information and promotion of international cooperation. Many papers discussed the problems of natural and man-induced hazards, including oil pollution and the many hazards caused by the thousands of tons of munitions of all kinds that were

dumped after World War II. These include chemical weapons that are slowly deteriorating and exposing highly toxic chemicals such as arsenic and mustard gas to Baltic fisheries resources and endangering environmental health. Oil pollution from tankers and drilling platforms is a major concern in accidental spills. There were papers and environmental concerns about the controversial planned 1200 km Nord Stream natural gas pipeline on the Baltic Seafloor between Russia and Germany. Pollution transported by run off and river outflow into the sea is another topic of great concern. Baltic Nations are aware and their Research Centers continue monitoring to detect, control and mitigate risks.

The Symposium included an excursion to the Dominican Monastery founded in 1246, including a reception in the old courtyard. This was followed by an excursion to the Tallinn Seaport and a visit to the US Navy Oceanographic Ship USNS PATHFINDER, on duty in the region.

**The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS):** The IOOS is a major approach to ocean observing, drawing together the vast network of federal and non-federal observing systems to produce a cohesive suite of data and information. Current efforts only scratch the surface of what we need to know about our oceans and coasts to fully assess their impact on commerce and transportation, weather and climate, and ecosystems. Seventeen U.S. Federal agencies and eleven Regional Coastal Ocean Observing Systems share responsibility for the design, implementation, and operation. There are two components of the US IOOS: (1) global ocean component and (2) coastal component. The latter includes the national set of observations for the Great Lakes and the Coastal Ocean. (Z. Willis, U.S.A.)

**Historic Dives Under the North Pole:** Anatoly Sagalevitch, Director of the Deep Submersible Program of the P. P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology, Russian Academy of Sciences, present-

ed his experiences on the historic dives of the MIRS-1 and MIRS -2 submersibles to 4300 m depth under the ice dome at the Geographical North Pole. The nuclear icebreaker "Rossia" broke up the ice to pave the way for the support vessel, "Akademik Fedorov" which carried the MIRS submersibles. The submersibles were launched through a 50 x 100 meter hole in the 2.5 meter thick ice. After exploring the sea bottom at 4300 m for 1.5 hours they took some samples, planted the Russian flag, and then had to find the small launch hole and return. Sagalevitch was the pilot, and has much previous experience making 57 dives on the TITANIC and 7 on the battleship "Bismarck".

**Nord Stream Pipeline Construction:** This topic was of high interest to attendees who expressed concerns on the environmental aspects to neighboring countries.

The Nord Stream gas pipeline is a more than 1200-km long gas pipeline linking Russia to Europe via the Baltic Sea from Vyborg, Russia to Greifswald, Germany to carry 55 billion m<sup>3</sup> of natural gas each year. The first pipe line is scheduled to be completed in 2010, and the second parallel pipeline in 2012. The construction of the pipeline may cause environmental impact: (i) oil pollution due to the operation of ships, pipe laying vessel, dredge ships; (ii) increase of suspended matter due to dumping of sand and gravel, and dredging operations; (iii) local algal bloom due to vertical mixing resulted from dumping and dredging. In many parts of the Baltic Sea the pipeline coincides with the main ship route crossing the sea from the Gulf of Finland to the southwestern part of the Baltic Sea, where there has been yearly oil spills discharged from ships; concentrations of suspended matter; and areas of intense algal bloom. Oil spills must be distinguished between "own" pollution and "alien" pollution of transient ships. Satellite monitoring and the interactive numerical model Seatrack



Web SMHI will be used for forecasting of the drift of detected oil spills in the vicinity of the pipeline construction for assessment of ecological risks related to potential oil pollution of the neighboring coasts and marine protected areas in the Baltic Sea. (A. Kostianoy, P. Ermakov, D. Solov, Russia)

### **Ocean Observation Summaries\***

The MARCOAST Project, provides consolidated water quality services across all European waters. This project requires large amounts of observations and data management done to certain standards. Most data providers are national agencies that will need to support an operational system in the future.

The Estonian component of the Baltic Ocean Observation System (BOOS) consists of 6 coastal stations, ferry box lines in real and delayed time from cruises and CTD transects. Remote sensing is provided from both US and European satellites. Ferry boxes are ocean measurement systems located on ships of opportunity (such as ferries) plying the Baltic Sea. The ferry box system has been in operation since 1979 and collects data on temperature, salinity, turbidity and chlorophyll. Water samples are taken once a week and used to calibrate the system.

A number of designated regional centers in the Baltic will provide certain measurements: Denmark - water level; Sweden - currents; Finland - sea state, waves; Germany - temperature and salinity. Data is integrated under the cognizance of the BOOS organization Rutgers University (S. Glenn, O. Schofield, J. Kohut, U.S.A.) reported that their Coastal Ocean Observation Lab maintained a research-oriented coastal ocean observatory on the New Jersey continental shelf for over 15 years. In 2007, successful formation of the



*L to R: Vedim Paka and Anatoly Sagalevitch (Russia), Andrew Clark and Joseph R. Vadus*

Mid Atlantic Regional Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARCOOS), a consortium of nearly 20 independent ocean observing efforts led by Rutgers and organized as a Regional component of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System. It enables the coordinated regional operation of (a) coastal weather stations, (b) satellite receiving stations, (c) HF Radars, and (d) autonomous underwater gliders to support weather and ocean forecasting efforts focused mainly on Maritime Safety, Search and Rescue and Ecosystem Decision Support.

*\*(Z. Willis, U.S.A.)*

### **Ocean Measurements\***

V. Paka (Russia) indicated that mixing in the bottom boundary layer of Bornholm Deep (one of the major weapon dumping sites) is significant, but the total mixing will take 7 years. However, ventilation of the deep areas by inflows occurs typically every 3 years, so the weapons contaminated water will probably wash out before it diffuses into the surface layers.

Super Sea Cat IV, a 100 ft. catamaran, going 38 knots generates long wavelengths and large energy waves that impact Tallinn beaches about 22 times a day. The waves are like tsunami waves as they interact with the bottom. A. Erm (Estonia) indicated that the fast ferries re-suspended sediments near the coast of Tallinn, and they are

carried further away with currents. It was estimated that about 10,000 kg of sediments per meter of coastline per year were carried away from the coast by wakes of fast ferries.

The Rutgers Group (O. Schofield, C. Jones) uses the Webb Glider to make continuous cyclic (surface to preset depth) profile measurements and transmit this data when penetrating the surface,

while crossing the Atlantic autonomously. A fleet of Slocum Webb gliders have proven to be scientifically mature tools "flying" over 35,000 km during 1758 days flying in the ocean. Deployments have spanned from the Sargasso Sea, northeast United States, Europe, Gulf of Mexico, Hawaii, and Antarctica.

*\*(A. Williams, U.S.A.)*

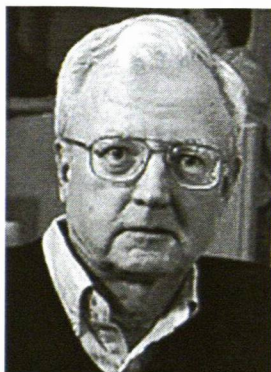
**Hazardous Material:** Hazards in the Baltic Sea were discussed in particular, in reference to the dumped chemical weapons in the Baltic

E. Emelyanov (Russia) studied the geo-ecological environments of two important dumpsites, where thousands tons of chemical munitions (CM) are lying on the bottom; namely, the Bornholm Deep and Southern Gotland Deep. The main findings were: (1) Arsenic is released during hydrolysis of CM and disperses in the mud to 10-30 ppm (2) shells and bombs may be deep on the hard bottom or in the mud, but none were found (3) cable lines and pipelines are not expected to stimulate the hydrolysis of CM (4) The Bornholm Basin is connected with the Gotland Basin by the Slupsk Channel (underwater river) that discharges suspended matter into the southern part of the Gotland Basin.

Marine Environmental Risks of Chemical Weapons (MERCW) focuses



on the study of risks posed by chemical munitions dump sites in the Baltic Sea and Skagerrak area. The main objectives of the MERCW project are: To evaluate and model the release, migration and degradation of toxic compounds and their degradation products in the environment



V. Klemas, U.S.A

Magnetometer measurements have revealed a disperse distribution of hundreds of ferromagnetic objects in an area of a few km<sup>2</sup> in the central dumpsite area, with a typical estimated mass of 100-250 kg. Concentrations of chemical weapon (CW) agents and their degradation products have been found in samples from the dumpster area. A new food web modeling tool is being developed, that will allow the modeling of accumulation of CW-like agents in the food web. (T. Stipa, Finland; V. Paka, A. Hirvonen, Russia)

G. Garnaga and Z. Shtukova (Lithuania) had analysed the concentrations of polyaromatic hydrocarbons in the Lithuanian part of the Baltic Sea. The chemical analysis and the presence of oil-oxidizing bacteria indicated that the Klaipėda strait and Curonian Lagoon are contaminated with oil products.

**Oil Spill Detection and Tracking:** An increase of marine transport in the Gulf of Finland enhances the risk for ship accidents and possible oil pollution are a great concern in the north-eastern Baltic Sea. Remote sensing the sea surface improves detection of oil spills and enables taking countermeasures in time. It is important to determine the type and amount of spilled oil, because the oil weathering processes depend on the oil type. Early detection of illegal oil spills by Synthetic Aperture Radar; determination of type and amount of spilled oil by Lidar technology; and forecasting

of oil spill drift and intensity of oil weathering processes by numerical modeling; will enable appropriate countermeasures to be taken. The type and amount of oil spill is based on a Lidar spectral (signature) database that consists of spectra of 28 oil products which

are the most transported in the Gulf of Finland. Numerical modeling is used for the forecast of the detected oil spill drift. Applying an oil drift model with a ship tracking system enables identification of potential polluters. (U. Raudsepp, Estonia)

**Ocean and Coastal Remote Sensing\*:**

Land cover in coastal watersheds can now be accurately mapped for hydrologic models to predict run-off pollutant impacts on water quality. This includes determining the effectiveness of buffers (60-100m wide) for the protection of rivers and bays from run-off and modeling to predict the expansion of invasive species. Remote sensing techniques are also helping to get a better understanding of stress and dieback in coastal wetlands.

Remote sensors are also being used to assess the potential impact of the Nord Stream gas pipeline with regards to oil spills, increased eutrophication, and suspended sediment concentrations. Good correlation has been obtained between ASAR radar data and dumped oily ballast water down to very low concentrations of oil (0.01 to 2.0 ppm). M. Migliaccio (Italy) presented a unique method for detecting ships with Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) using radar return speckle statistics to highlight the presence of ships in the SAR images. \*(V. Klemas, U.S.A.)

**Coastal Ecosystem Management\*:**

The management of coastal resources has become more adaptive and ecosystem-based. Decision assessment models account not only for biodiversity

risks of eutrophication, but also the disappearance of species. Operational forecasting of algae blooms performed by the SMHI is based on coupling hydrodynamic and biochemical models, producing high quality daily algae forecasts.

3-D models are being used successfully to predict wastewater spreading and to study Baltic Sea ecosystems under different land loads. Beach sand replenishment models consider not only engineering and economic factors, but also environmental impact issues

Fuzzy cognitive maps (FCM) proposed by R. Jasinevičius, V. Petrauskas, (Lithuania) has become an important tool for decision makers in various practical fields. The possibility of FCM involvement in regional oceanic modeling system was presented during the US/EU Baltic International Symposium in Klaipėda in May 2006. Today's experience extends this concept including additional fuzzy expert knowledge and a systematic approach into rule-based fuzzy expert maps (FEM), and presents a simplified FEM for use in e.g., Klaipėda Port security system. \*(V. Klemas, U.S.A.)

**Coastal Zone Management:** Two issues are of great importance for Lithuania's Baltic Sea coastal zone: First, the growing marine industry and the only non-freezing Klaipėda sea port and Butingė oil import/export terminal; and, second, the socio-economic impact in the densely populated maritime region, from tourism, sailing, recreation etc. Ongoing climate changes seriously affect these naturally weak protected coasts by, frequent cyclones, storms and hurricane activity leading to coastal zone erosion and beach deterioration. Anthropogenic factors, such as increasing seaport activity, growing man-made developments seriously raise great concern on the entire Lithuanian coastal belt. (A. Grigelis, L. Gelumbauskaitė, Lithuania) European experience of coastal replenishment shows that the



main measure protecting sandy beaches from erosion is beach nourishment. This is very important for Lithuanian coasts, because the length of eroded coastline is increasing due to global climate change and anthropogenic impact. Estimated sand deficit that have to be restored is about 1 million m<sup>3</sup>. Common sources of sand for beach replenishment has been dredged sediment from Klaipėda harbor entrance channel maintenance. The composition of the material is changing, it can be polluted or have a higher amount of silt. Another potential source are sand deposits in front of Curonian Spit and close to the Lithuanian-Latvian border. Total amount of sand in these areas may be more than 15 million m<sup>3</sup>. (S. Gulbinskas, R. Milerienė, Lithuania)

Due to intensive tanker traffic; cargo shipment in the Butingė oil terminal and Klaipėda seaport; and recently started offshore oil extraction close to Lithuania's marine border has increased the risk of accidental marine oil spills. Therefore, it is important to strengthen the national marine oil spill response and costal cleanup capability. The objective of environmental sensitivity mapping is to provide a useful tool for planning response strategies, setting protection priorities and increasing damage prevention in case of an oil spill. The existing information on geographical distribution of Lithuania's coastal resources was taken from the "Environmental Atlas of Environmental Areas Sensitive to Oil Pollution" (Lazauskienė et al., 1994). Data about fisheries and socioeconomic resources was included into the model in order to show the overall sensitivity of a particular coastal cell. (N. Blažauskas, D. Depellegrin, Lithuania)

Sea level rise of northern Baltic coastline is of critical importance to seaside communities. There is clear indication of temperature rise and decrease of ice days. Wind patterns have also changed and peak storms have increased wind speed leading to more erosion from waves. Salinity has also increased, at least in the Curonian Lagoon in Lithuania, mostly in the north. This may be from winds, less river flow, dredging, and sea-level rise.

**Observing and Forecasting:** The forecasts, working on-line with operational observations (automatic coastal stations and Ferry Box measurements), proved very useful in numerous cases, especially during storm surges and broadcasting relevant warnings well in advance of critical flooding. For services that require resolving of detailed patterns of mesoscale and coastal circulation, installation and application of 0.5-mile resolution HIROMB is integrated with the Baltic-wide HIROMB and is driven by sub-regional weather data forecasted and delivered by the Estonian Meteorological and Hydrological Institute. (J. Elken et al, Estonia)

E. Buch (Denmark) proposes to consolidate, integrate and further develop existing European coastal and regional seas

operational observing and forecasting systems into an integrated pan-European system for detecting environmental and climate changes, predicting their evolution, producing timely and quality assured forecasts, providing marine information services (including data, information products, and scientific advice) and facilitating decision support needs

**Acknowledgement:** The writer's Co-Chairman, Dr. Juri Elken, Tallinn University of Technology; Session Track Chairs and Authors quoted are acknowledged herein. The Fourth US/Baltic International Symposium is planned for June 2010 in Riga, Latvia.

Joseph R. Vadus

Joseph R. Vadus is Vice President, Oceanic Engineering Society, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE Life-Fellow). Senior Technology Advisor (ret.), National Ocean Service, US Dept. of Commerce (1972-1996); Senior Staff Associate, National Science Foundation (1988-91); Engineering Management, Sperry Rand Corp. (1962-72); Chairman Emeritus, Marine Technology with the U.S.-Japan Cooperation in Natural Resources (1980-1995); Chairman Emeritus for Marine Technology with the U.S.-France Cooperation in Oceanography One project in 1985 resulted in finding the RMS "TITANIC", and in 1999, the President of France awarded, "The French Order of Merit." He has received many awards and has 11 patents (6 awarded, 5 pending).

NOVEMBER 1-2, 2008

SATURDAY NOON TO 6 pm & SUNDAY NOON TO 6 pm

LITHUANIAN  
 “ MUGĖ ”  
 FESTIVAL

Entertainment  
 on both days will  
 be Folk dancing,  
 Kaimo Kapela,  
 Charlie the clown  
 for the kids.

There will be  
 plenty of  
 Lithuanian food  
 Beer  
 Including the  
 world's greatest  
 Bulviniai Blynai  
 (Potato pancakes)

Plenty of  
 arts and crafts  
 beautiful amber  
 Lithuanian  
 sashes, ties,  
 t-shirts, selection  
 of Lithuanian  
 Books & CD.

Lithuanian Music Hall  
 is celebrating its  
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LITHUANIAN MUSIC HALL  
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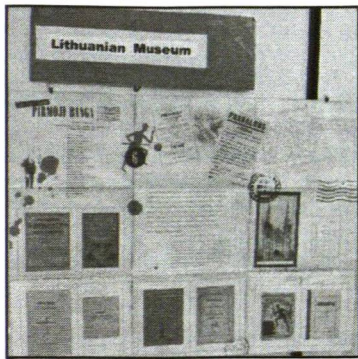


# Frackville. PA

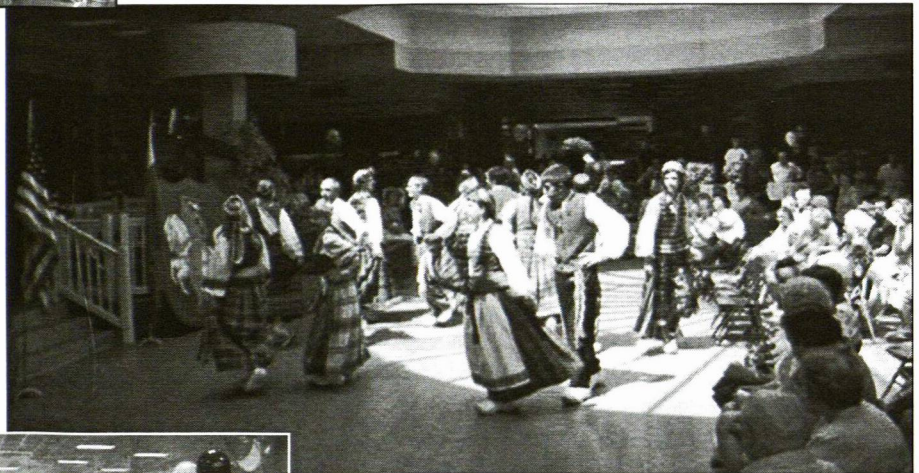
At the end of the 19th century the first sizable surge of Lithuanian immigrants came across the Atlantic to start a new prosperous life, ignited by an apparently held belief of a much better economical and political opportunity in America. They also appeared to have had a significant impact on the culture and economical life in the homeland while at the same time here, across the ocean, they established churches, schools and organizations. In addition they also engaged in public and cultural events, founded newspapers and published books. The Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania gathered documents, letters, photos, books and periodicals from that era to depict the dreams and hopes of the first intensive surge of Lithuanians, who settled overseas and subsequently named the special exhibition the "First Surge".



Everyone gets into the act



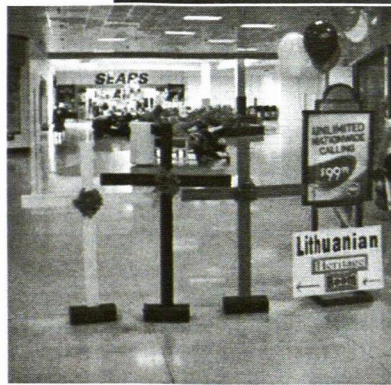
Lithuanian Museum showing exhibits from the "The First Surge"



Aušrinė dancers from Philadelphia, PA



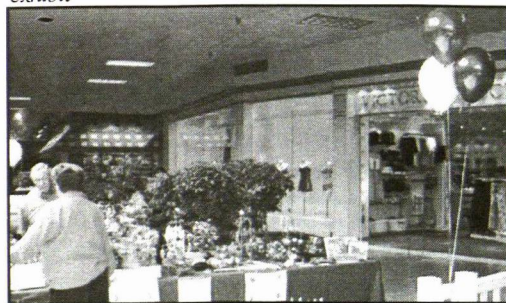
Lithuanian Foundation exhibit



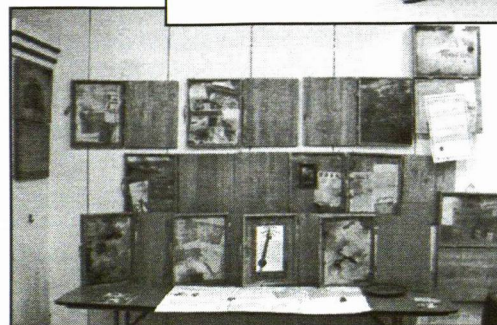
Lithuania, the Land of Crosses



Lithuanian partisan reenactment



Many exhibits were enjoyed during the festival



"First Surge" exhibit, sponsored by the Lithuanian Foundation and brought to Frackville, PA by the Lithuanian Embassy staff.

Photos by  
Eugenija Misevičienė



## Frackville, PA

Earlier this year the exhibits were sent to the U.S. and displayed at Lithuanian Consulates in Chicago, New York and at the interim Lithuanian Embassy offices in Arlington, VA. Most of the first surge immigrants settled in the coal mining regions of Pennsylvania, where the first Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church in America was built (St. George's, Shenandoah, PA).

One of the few events started by the first influx of immigrants which is still celebrated today is the annual Lithuanian Days celebration. This event is only a few years away from celebrating its centennial anniversary in Frackville, PA. This summer marked the 94th Lithuanian Days and was organized at the Schuylkill Mall. The celebration takes place in August, the third weekend of the month and is sponsored by the Knights of Lithuania Council 144 (Anthracite) with the help of local politicians: U.S. Congressman Tim Holden (D. Pennsylvania), and Schuylkill County Commissioner Frank Mc Andrew. "The First Surge" exhibit was sponsored in partnership with the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and the Lithuanian Foundation. The exhibit, prepared by the M. Mažvydas library, was shown at the Lithuanian Museum during the Lithuanian Days. Schuylkill County Judge John E. Domalakes, who is also a member of Council-144 of the Knights of Lithuania, presented "thank you gifts" to Lithuanian Ambassador J. E. Audrius Brūzga.

L. R. Misevičius

*\*Editor's Note:* Three Lithuanian dance groups participated in the Frackville Festival. They included *Aušrinė* from Philadelphia and *Malūnas* from Baltimore. The rising stars on the horizon were the young *Gintaras* dancers from Frackville.

# Commemoration Through Music

The desire to remember or commemorate a significant person or event, often takes the form of creative art – whether it is through the use of stone, tapestry, metal or carvings in wood. Significant historical events and personages are given new "life" through commemorative statues, creative sculptures or plaques marking the person or event. People significant to us in our personal lives are commemorated through engraved headstones in our cemeteries. Take a walk through a cemetery and you will find many expressions showing tenderness, honour and desire to prolong the memory of the person through art – in the sculptures and engraved the words. These headstones serve to remind future generations that this person lived, this event happened and they were significant to someone at this point in time. These headstones tell a story to future researchers of a life lived, an event that happened – through the commemoration, the person and event live on. If you have ever had the experience of tracing the steps of post World War II Lithuanian émigrés through Germany, you will have found a vivid history preserved in stone in German cemeteries in their neatly categorized "auslander" (foreigner) sections of the cemeteries. Here, in a foreign land, you will come upon a very dear and treasured "piece of Lithuania" – a corner of the cemetery that houses characteristically Lithuanian crosses and engravings that recall the "home" these people left. This preservation in stone, although meaningful and important is, nevertheless, static.

We would like to propose for the reader's consideration, another worthwhile way to consider commemorating loved ones or special events – a more dynamic and "living" form that continues to remember and continues to "give" through its use. *That is – commemoration through music!*

Many of us to this day enjoy the great classic works of Handel, Bach, Mozart, etc. Many of these works came to see the light of day as a result of the generosity of patrons who financially supported the creative process by commissioning their works. In other words, through their financial support the patrons created the conditions by which these creative geniuses were free of daily concerns that allowed them to fully immerse themselves into the creative process. They were given the freedom to create. Some of their works were commissioned in order to mark a special occasion, to honour a person or event. This active creator/patron inter-relationship has, over time, resulted in the wealth of works that bring pleasure to audiences to this day.

The fostering of the creator/patron relationship is critical to the continuing creative process that enables us to further develop our Lithuanian cultural heritage – in this case, specifically, through music. No one (with a few exceptions), other than Lithuanians are likely to support Lithuanian artists, writers, composers. Major festivals held in Lithuania or in the diaspora, provide incentive and the opportunity for new creations to come to light, make their debut, receive the critical acclaim that is an essential element of creation and to become part of our "living" cultural heritage. This cultural heritage becomes the testament of our time that we pass on to the next generation for them to use, foster, enjoy and pass on yet again to the next generation that will come after them. How we rejoiced during the 8th Song Festival, held during the summer of 2006 in Chicago, IL, when we had the pleasure to sing and hear for the first time, newly created songs by composers like Rita Kliorys, Giedrius Svilainis and others! The debut of the works of the lyricists and the composers gave witness to the fact that we are culturally alive, that we are engaged in the creative process that is continuing to build on our legacy for future generations. It gives witness to the fact that we are culturally very much alive and able to create no matter where we live – our Lithuanian culture is very much ALIVE!!! The songs created for the 2006 Song Festival continue to be sung to this day.

*Continued on page 15*





Dear Letters to the Editor:

In my opinion, when the Berlin Wall came down this was not such a big event behind the "Iron Curtain"; the tyrants still ruled.

But when President Reagan's reference to the Soviet Union as the "Evil Empire" was endorsed by England's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Pope John Paul, the Baltic people were emboldened. On March 11, 1990, the Lithuanian Parliament voted 124-0 to declare independence, even though the Soviets had executed millions for a lot less. Most of the "Soviet Republics" followed suit and America's mortal enemy, the Soviet Union, was dead.

John Jagiella

## Readers are saying...

"Keep up the good work!"

Fr. Peter Burkauskas

"Wishing Bridges a long future!

We welcome each issue."

Albert Snyder

Diversity of articles shared in the  
Bridges, creates interesting reading.

Angele Puodziunas

Dear Mrs. Dorr,

I really enjoyed reading the July/August issue of Bridges. Interesting articles and beautiful pictures of Lithuanian landscapes.

Reading the piece about Lithuanian nobility made me think of the American Founding Fathers like Washington and Jefferson, who are now condemned in certain leftist circles for having owned slaves. Similarly, this article condemns the nobility for the existence of serfs in Lithuania. In both cases we must view it in historical perspective and not apply today's morality to those times. The author seems to draw on sources published in Soviet occupied Lithuania, as this is exactly the kind of attitude and even language which was preached then. While he holds it against the bajorai that Gabriel Narutowicz (misspelled in the article) was the first President of Poland, he neglects to say that his brother was a signatory of the Act of Independence. There are a few bajorai among the Signatories, including Jonas Basanavičius and Donatas Malinauskas. Malinauskas founded Bajorų Sąjunga, but was also the person who brought about the first use of Lithuanian language in church in 1901 at Sv. Mikalojaus in Vilnius. The petition to the Pope asking for permission to use the Lithuanian language, on the copy which I have, has these signatures: "Dr. J. Bassanowicz, Donat de Malinowski, Xsiadz Ambrozewicz and M. de Dowojno-Sylwestrowicz", all bajorai.

Without belaboring the point, literacy was brought to Lithuania by Polish clergy with Christianization and as bajorai became educated, they also adopted Polish. Lithuanian writing, until the 20th century, was phonetic Polish and while the bajorai and clergy were guilty of a lot of the polonization, they were also the ones who recognized the decline of Lithuanian language and culture and stepped up to do something about it.

Lithuanian nobility also dominated Poland. From Jogaila (by the way, Jadvyga was not a widow, she was around 14 yrs old) to Pilsudski, great many political leaders were from the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, as well as most famous writers, poets, artists and composers. Almost all magnates in the Commonwealth of Two Nations were Lithuanian, Vilnius became the cultural center and that is why "polonized Lithuanian nobles can be found in the ranks of the Polish government". This is, by no means, detrimental to Lithuania. The alliance saved Lithuania from going the way of the Prussians, as the Teutonic Knights, Muscovites, Tartars and Swedes all had designs on her. On the other hand, the demise of the Commonwealth can also be partially blamed on Lithuanian nobles, who in many ways controlled its politics. By the way, the serfs in Lithuania were "freed" by a decree of the



*Tsar years before the Civil War, so there was no “centuries’ old (class) struggle of the Lithuanian people that eventually led (them) to establish free and democratic society”. Also, the bajorai can not be blamed for Lithuanians coming to America. Besides economic reasons, the main reason was conscription into the Tsar’s army, which was for 25 years and these are the same reasons for which many Poles came to America (hardly driven to emigrate by polonized Lithuanian nobles). In today’s Poland quite a few in government and among the educated are of Lithuanian ancestry. Many are descendants of Lithuanians who moved to Poland in 1946 (it was better than being in the Soviet Union proper). They influence Poland’s politics and support Lithuania in matters like NATO membership, EU and so on. Poles in general are very pro-Lithuanian, which is reciprocated by the Lithuanian government, but not necessarily by the general population.*

*Pride in one’s country or sub-group should not be motivated by the demeaning of others. Mr. Gaidis can be proud of his proletarian roots and I can be proud of my ancestors who fought (and died) for Lithuania, of ancestors’ contribution in establishing a Lithuanian state, of churches I visit, which were built with my family’s funding, of people I meet, who tell me that they were named after one of my ancestors, because of the kindness my family showed their family, and of relatives who were in the Supreme Council Building on January 13, 1991.*

*I am always moved reading your pieces about the Lithuanian orphans. My personal preference is the support of several old people and widows, who have a very difficult time adjusting to the explosion in prices. I also am concerned with righting history after 50 yrs of revision to suit the Communist regime and try to support two publications and a museum. However, I could not resist your Christmas appeal and have sent a contribution to LOC in Chicago.*

Sincerely,  
Tadas Stomma

*Continued from page 13*

### Commemoration Through Music

This is a huge gift from the lyricists and the composers to all of us of Lithuanian heritage and continues to give anew every time we sing their creations.

We have other examples of the continuity of giving that music allows us. What joy when on Sunday mornings we are able to remember another composer who left us at a much too early an age – Jonas Govedas from Toronto, Canada through his compositions for Mass. In singing his hymns, we feel that Jonas is still here with us – what a very close and fond memory of him through song! Several of Jonas’ creations are a result of the financial support of patrons and commissioning of works for special events. Without this kind of support we most likely would not have his works available to us now. Leonidas Abarius from Lithuania, created a special Mass in memory of Jonas Govedas by commission. Every time a commissioned work is performed, the patrons’ names are noted and remembered. Jonas Govedas was commissioned by the Skriniskas/Viskontas family to create a hymn in memory of their deceased father, Mr. V. Skriniskas. This resulted in the composition by Jonas of the beautiful hymn: “Jezau Tu Dar Pasilik su Mumis” (“Jesus, stay with us a while longer”). There is a whole host of hymns commissioned and composed in memory of the choirmaster Vaclovas Verikaitis. In 2010-11 we can expect to enjoy another successful con-

cert series brought to us by “The Three Choirs” – Toronto’s VOLUNGE, Chicago’s DAINAVA and Cleveland’s EXULTATE. In 2010, Toronto, Canada will host the 9th Lithuanian Song Festival. These two major events will require new musical creations. It is the ideal opportunity to support the creative process by considering commemorating a person or event significant to your life by becoming a patron or commissioning a special work. What a unique and productive way to provide a “living memory” of your loved one, of commemorating a graduation, an anniversary, a significant birthday, a birth, etc.

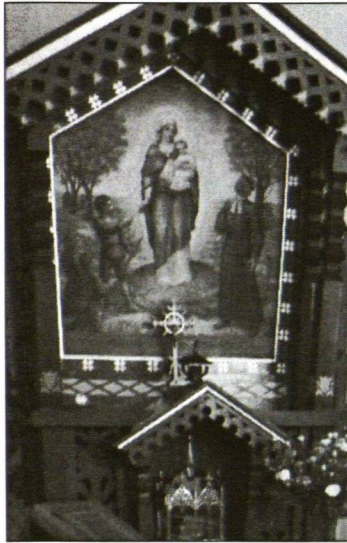
We invite the readers to consider the opportunity that is available to all of us to support the ongoing and continuing creative process that ensures our Lithuanian heritage continues to be vibrant and strong and to personally contribute the our cultural legacy. For more information, suggestions, more detailed explanations of opportunities available and tax deduction possibilities, please contact:

Dalia Viskontas, Choirmaster of VOLUNGE and  
2010 Lithuanian Song Festival,  
c/o Resurrection Parish, 1 Resurrection Road,  
Toronto, ON, Canada M9A 5G1.

All enquiries will be gladly considered and responded to promptly.

Gabija Petrauskas  
on behalf of Music Committee of the  
2010 Lithuanian Song Festival in Toronto, Canada





Our Lady of Šiluva is depicted in Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Elizabeth, NJ where the funeral Mass was celebrated

*Photo by Rimas Gedeika*

## Will There Be Anyone To Meet My Soul?

*Don't step down from this  
rock O' Marija,*

*By Šiluva's emerald pines  
embraced,*

*This land upon which blood  
and tears rain, Don't for-  
get, don't  
forsake Lietuva*

This is the opening stanza of one of the most beloved Lithuanian hymns to Šiluvos Marija (Šiluva was the place of a miraculous apparition of the Virgin Mary in 1608). It was written in 1956 by a Lithuanian American poet asking Marija to help all Lithuanians being persecuted by the communists in Lithuania. Alfonsas Mikulskis, one of the best-known Lithuanian choir directors, was so moved by the poem's words that he proceeded to compose music for it. He incorporated this powerful hymn into his "The National Mass for Suffering Lithuanians" which was sung by the Lithuanian National Art Ensemble, "Čiurlionis" at the World Eucharistic Congress held in Philadelphia in 1976. All present at the Mass were greatly moved and inspired by the new hymn. Shortly thereafter, the hymn was sung at all Masses honoring Our Lady of Šiluva.

Soon after Lithuania gained her independence from the Soviet Union (1990), the hymn also became very popular in Lithuania and could be heard being sung in churches throughout the country. Laima Lapauskaitė, a popular singer at that time, heard the words, liked them so much that she adapted them to her music. Her recorded version was played over the radio waves and became very popular to all the Lithuanians.

The author of this beautiful, spiritually moving poem, Kotryna Grigaitytė Graudis died on August 15, 2008. She was 98 years old.

Kotryna Grigaitytė was born in 1910 in Budežeriuos, Lithuania. When the Soviets started to march into Lithuania, Kotryna and her family, like thousands of other families, fled Lithuania in 1944 and settled in a Displaced Persons camp in Germany. In 1949, she,

together with her husband Fredas and their son Raimondas, and daughter Rūta, immigrated to America where she lived until her death.

During her literary career Kotryna Grigaitytė wrote ten books: Eight of which were poems, one, a book of short stories and her last book, a novel, entitled "Auksinukai."

Kotryna was deeply religious and very thankful to God for the many talents that He had bestowed upon her. She often agonized over the plight of Lithuania and her people who for 50 years were under the tyrannical rule of the Soviet Union. She constantly beseeched Marija to help ease the pain of the people suffering in Lithuania, imploring her to ask her Son to break the Soviet chains and free Lithuania.

During the last years of her life Kotryna Grigaitytė, realizing that her health was getting weaker and weaker, wrote the following words - her last words - to her children, friends and acquaintances.

*Will there be anyone to meet my soul, Dear Lord, at the end of its vast celestial journey?*

*Will I see your cross, like a heavenly pillar, pointing the way to your promised reward?*

*Am I worthy dear Lord?*

*I ask for your prayers, all those of you dear to me, my children, my loved ones, my friends and acquaintances.*

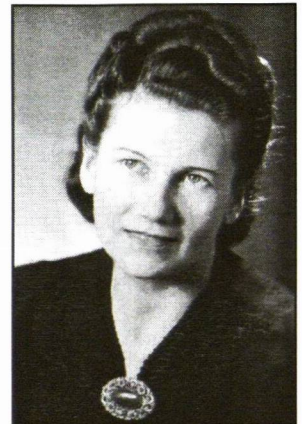
*With all my heart, I ask for your prayers, and long our sweet reunion in God's exalted new realm.*

*Life is amazing! It is full of twists and turns, and unexpected surprises!*

Kotryna Grigaitytė to whom Marija was such an important part of her life, left this world during the year when her beloved Lithuania was celebrating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Marija apparition at Šiluva, - on Thursday, August 15, 2008 - the day when Marija ascended into heaven.

*Rimas Gedeika*

*Rimas Gedeika lives in New Jersey. He is a member of the National Executive Committee of the Lithuanian American Community serving as Vice-President for Special Projects. He is also active in the Lithuanian Sports Community and is the administrator of Bridges.*



Kotryna Grigaitytė-Graudis  
1910-2008

*Photo from Personal Album*



## “Red Terror on the Amber Coast”

*Courtesy of the Lithuanian Embassy Nida Dalmantaitė, First Secretary Soviet Occupation-Lithuanian Resistance 1939-1993*

*A documentary by Ken Gumbert and David O'Rourke, 2008, DVD, 60:00 min*

“Red Terror on the Amber Coast” documents the fifty-year-long struggle between the people of Lithuania and the Soviet KGB and their predecessors to impose Soviet control on a free and democratic, Western republic. Using filmed interviews, archival photos and newsreel footage, it describes Stalin’s use of state-sponsored terror to destroy opposition, collectivize agriculture and industry, and create a single social class all under party control. Some interviews record the long-term, armed resistance by organized partisans to the KGB and its troops. Others describe their experiences, as adults and children, of arrest, imprisonment, deportation to Siberia and the Arctic coast, and years as slave laborers in the mines and forests of the far East. For more information please visit:

[www.domediaproductions.org](http://www.domediaproductions.org)

### Red Terror on the Amber Coast

#### Completion and Release of Documentary

Film-maker Ken Gumbert and producer David O'Rourke have announced that their documentary film, Red Terror on the Amber Coast, has been completed and released for distribution, and has been accepted for broadcast on Rhode Island Public Television, at a time yet to be set. The film, in the works for five years, describes the Soviet occupation of the Baltics following the Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939, the fifty year reign of terror the Soviets imposed on the once free and democratic republics, and the resistance to the illegal takeover. The film’s focus is principally on Lithuania. But the film-makers know that the story they present is the story of all three countries.

Almost by accident in 2001, the team of editor and writer David O'Rourke and documentary film-maker Ken Gumbert came upon photographs of prison and torture abandoned by the KGB when they fled their headquarters in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius. Startled by the blunt cruelty of what they saw, they decided that the terrible story the pictures revealed had to be told.

In June of 2006 they were able to film interviews with a cross section of people, from President Adamkus and Vytautas Landsbergis to the wives of captured *partizanai* who had to fight just to survive while their husbands were in Soviet prisons. And with the full support of the National Genocide and Resistance Center in Vilnius and the Occupation Museum and Film Archives in Riga they have been able to illustrate the personal narratives with rare archival films and photographs.

At present the film-makers, both Dominican priests, are working with Lithuanian-American groups and others to promote the scheduling of the film on public television, in film festivals, and in local communities. They may be contacted directly by interested people.

[kgumbert@providence.edu](mailto:kgumbert@providence.edu) [dkorop@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dkorop@sbcglobal.net)

### Red Terror on the Amber Coast

#### Background Information on Film-makers

Film-maker Ken Gumbert, the director of Red Terror, has had two films describing the Ute struggle for religious and cultural survival broadcast on Utah Public Television. Saving Grace, about the repression of civil and religious rights in Czechoslovakia after the Communist putsch of 1948, first broadcast on Rhode Island Public Television, was given the Gabriel Award in 2005. He directs the film and video program at Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island, where he is an Associate Professor. [kgumbert@providence.edu](mailto:kgumbert@providence.edu)

David O'Rourke, an award winning editor, is the writer and producer of the Red Terror on the Amber Coast, and has published extensively in the area of cultural history. His articles have appeared widely, including in Commonweal, news day, and The San Jose Mercury News. His most recent books, each on different aspects of the destructive power of social idealism, have been published in the series 'Berkeley Insights in Linguistics and Semiotics'. He is Director of The Tatra Project, a California non-profit supporting education about life in the former Soviet Union. He lives in California.

[www.tatraproject.org](http://www.tatraproject.org)

[dkorop@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dkorop@sbcglobal.net)

#### Background Information on Film

For over fifty years, from 1940 until the fall of the Soviet Empire, Stalin and the Soviet KGB imposed a regime of police terror, prison, slave labor, Siberian exile, on millions of men, women and children in Eastern Europe.

Just before the start of World War II Hitler and Stalin divided Eastern Europe between them. Hitler got Poland, and Stalin occupied the Baltic Republics – Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Red Terror on the Amber Coast focuses principally on the Soviet occupation in Lithuania.

### “Red Terror on the Amber Coast”

During their rule the Soviets raised state sponsored terror and fear of the secret police to a cruel fact of daily. Arbitrary arrests, seizure of all private property, forced labor in collective industry and agriculture, mock trials, deportations, torture, summary executions, slave labor in the Gulag, cold and hunger in Siberia and along the Arctic Sea became facts of life for millions of people.

The team was able to film interviews with former prisoners, slave-laborers, and deportees who managed to live, surand with family members and ordinary people who faced the deprivations and fear of daily life under Stalin. Interviews with national leaders and historians of the Soviet years place the individual stories in context. And the film footage and photographs provided by the national archives provides a graphic visual background to illustrate the personal stories. Given Stalin’s iron control of all film resources as well as the press, the effort of the archivists to preserve film accounts of their national stories merits great praise.

**Editor’s Note: The December 2007 issue published an article by Eugenija Misevicius about the film and the work of the film makers.**

*Ken Gumbert, film-maker, David O'Rourke, producer*  
[www.domediaproductions.org](http://www.domediaproductions.org)



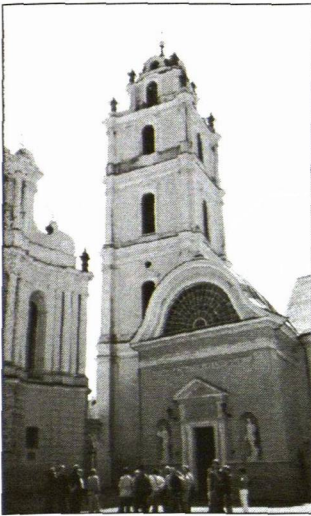


Photo by Julie Skurdenis

## The CELLARS of STs. JOHNS' CHURCH

From "Vilniaus Gatvių  
Istorija"

By Antanas Rimvydas  
Caplinskas

English Translation by  
Gloria O'Brien

The Lithuanians love a spooky ghost story -- the scarier the better. The following tells a legend about the goings-on one night in the Church of Saints Johns, located at the edge of Vilnius University.

### Šv. JONU BAŽNYČIOS RŪSIAI

"Šv. Jonu bažnyčios rūšiai kaip ir daugelis senojo Vilniaus rūšių yra apgaubti paslapties šydu ....."

The cellars of Sts. Johns' Church, like many others in Old Vilnius, lie shrouded in a veil of mystery. Very little is currently known about the cellars' contents, but this legend tells a story about the brotherhood of the damned.

In 1600, a wealthy Vilnius resident, known for his debauched way of life, died, and his remains were brought to the Annunciation Chapel of Sts. Johns' Church. The chapel was hung with the customary black mourning cloths, and the body was laid out on an impressive catafalque. According to the custom of the time, the corpse was laid in a silk-lined coffin, having been dressed in the finest clothing, fitted with costly sables, fingers covered with expensive golden rings. Those rings, with their gold and precious stones glittering on the hands of the deceased, drew the attention of some thieves loafing about the church, and they resolved to acquire them. They seized a young man employed as a sexton, and, under threats of death, commanded him to enter the church that night, remove the rings from the corpse, and pass them to the thieves through an open window.

Frightened, the young fellow agreed, and using his key, entered the church that evening. The chapels and vaults were steeped in the shadows of dusk, as the saints arrayed against the walls cast suspicious glances at him through the flickering candlelight. In the silence of the night, every footstep reverberated from the walls with a sudden clang. Stepping up to the catafalque and uncovering the

coffin, he reached inside with a trembling hand to take the rings. And suddenly the corpse sat up and with a horrible voice called "Accursed brothers, help me!"

Suddenly there was a monstrous knocking, and a rumbling, whistling wind, as the very walls of the church began to tremble. Stone sarcophagi shattered, underground trapdoors blasted open, and window glass shattered. The dead rose from their coffins, howling and moaning, until the church seemed to be filled with them. A few looked as though they had only recently been interred; others were in varying stages of decay; the rest were only skeletons. These had been wealthy dignitaries – nobles, merchants, city-dwellers – who had been interred in the cellars of the church. They all fell to chasing the young man, and he, faint from fright, was just able to run up to the choir loft and bar the door to its stairway. The dead were unable to open the door, repelled by a large cross engraved on it. Howling and cursing, they carried chairs, pews, coffins and stone grave markers from the underground, piling it all up and climbing upon the structure to reach the choir loft. The terrified fellow clung to the tops of the organ pipes, but the macabre heap grew taller and taller, and it seemed that the skeletal hands of the ghastly crew would soon reach and seize him.

But, luckily, day began to break. The first rays of dawn shone through the windows, and the city's roosters woke, crowing. The dead fell back, clattering, to the stone floor of the church, not to rise again.

The faithful arriving at the church that morning were greeted by a dreadful sight: Hundreds of decaying corpses, desiccated skeletons and piles of skulls littered the stone floors. Entrance doors to the cellars stood open, and coffins were empty. Only a few coffins had not been touched by the chaos: In them, the Jesuits rested in their eternal sleep, the only residents of the cellars who had not been accursed.

The young man, barely alive, was helped down from his perch on the organ, but he was so sickened by his terrible experience that he died a few days later.

The church was closed for cleansing. It became clear that the damned were so many, that at least two weeks would be needed to cleanse the sacred precincts. The remains were all gathered and placed in the remaining undamaged coffins, then taken beyond the Rudninkų gates, and buried near St. Stephen's Church. Since that time, there have been no more burials in the cellars of Sts. Johns' Church.

Gloria Kivytaite O'Brien

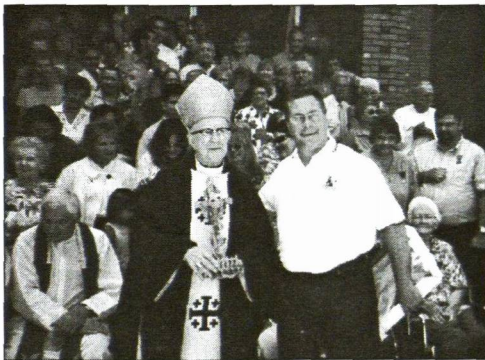
Gloria Kivytaite O'Brien is a frequent contributor to Bridges. She grew up in Brooklyn, Annunciation Parish. Gloria can be contacted at [Senaboba@aol.com](mailto:Senaboba@aol.com).



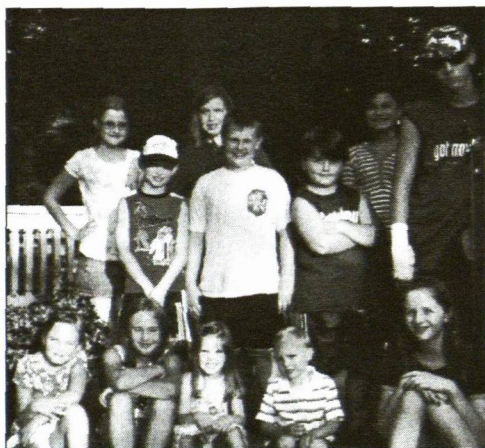
Regina Juska-Svoba

# KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 95<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

*“Proud Lithuanians  
make great Americans”*



*Convention Co-chair Michael F. Petkus presents Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk with a specially hand carved wooden cross by wood carver George Mikalauskas after the convention closing Mass*



*Twelve K of L Juniors participated in the convention with their own daily meetings and activities*

The Knights of Lithuania is a national Roman Catholic organization consisting of men and women of Lithuanian ancestry. Its motto is - “For God and Country.” The Knights of Lithuania’s primary focus is to foster, maintain and nurture an appreciation of the Lithuanian language, customs, traditions and culture among its members. It further stresses the importance of the beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church. The Knights are actively involved in programs to assist their less fortunate brothers and sisters in Lithuania. There are now three charity groups within the organization: K of L Foundation, St. Casimir’s Guild, and Our Lady of Šiluva Fund. Aid to Lithuania, Inc. functioned from 1991 until it was suppressed in December 2007.

The Knights of Lithuania organization was founded by Mykolas Norkūnas in 1913, in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Currently there are 46 councils in the United States with nearly 2,000 active members. A National Convention is held annually at different state sites. The Knights of Lithuania’s Council 96 hosted the 2008 convention.

July 31-August 03, 2008, Council 96 in Dayton, OH, hosted the 95<sup>th</sup> annual convention. Approximately 100 delegates, clergy, guests and youth converged to participate in the four day long meetings, cultural activities and banquet celebration. Prior to each day’s sessions and meetings, Mass was celebrated.

### *Pre-Convention Trip Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

For the delegates who arrive early to the conventions, a pre-convention tour is held. This year, the participants traveled to see the “Sights and Sounds of Dayton.” We visited two areas of the Heritage National Historical Park. First we learned about the history of aviation at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, which became a reality in 1971. It is the largest museum of its kind in the world as it houses over 300 aircraft, missiles and presidential aircraft and displays the B-2 Stealth Bomber. We visited the Presidential Gallery that houses nine aircraft that transported past US presidents.

At our next stop we visited the Carillon Historical Park, located on a 65 acre site where we familiarized ourselves about Dayton’s landmark inventions, aviation and pioneer histories. On the site there are 25 historical buildings and hundreds of artifacts are displayed. We learned about Charles F. Kettering, whose inventions include the refrigerant Freon, safety glasses, automatic transmission and the first electrical starter for automobile.

The trip was completed as we stopped for dinner at Elinor’s Amber Rose restaurant to feast on traditional Lithuanian food.

The day passed quickly and the 31 participants returned with greater knowledge and appreciation of aviation history and historical contributions of various Daytonians.

### *Thursday, July 31, 2008*

The opening 95<sup>th</sup> National Convention Mass was at Holy Cross Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church in Dayton. The church was blessed on March 21, 1915. Holy Cross Church and Shrine are located in the historic North Dayton and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. There are three carved wooden altars in the church. The main altar depicts the Hill of Crosses. On its left is the Gates of Dawn





*Pre-convention participants visit historic Carillion Park*

altar and on the right side is the St. Casimir Altar. There are 14 beautiful faceted slab windows, each depicting the sacraments, stations of the cross and the trinity. Many organizations and societies (Knights of Lithuania, Federation of Lithuanian-American Societies/Sąryšis, Altar/Rosary Society, Lithuanian Anglers Club, Lithuanian Social Club) continue to function at the church.

The opening Mass was concelebrated by the Knights of Lithuania's Supreme Council spiritual advisor Monsignor Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, Rev. Anthony Markus of Chicago, IL and deacon Vitas Paškauskas of Chicago, IL. The opening Mass was for the intention of the Knights of Lithuania.

The first convention session was held at the hotel (as were all subsequent sessions). The Supreme Council Officers processed into the meeting room and introduced. The National, Lithuanian and the K of L Anthems were sung. K of L National President Elena Nakrosis officially opened the convention and gave a comprehensive state of the organization report. Greetings from organizations and individuals were read. Among the numerous (35) greetings received were those from President of the US George W. Bush, Cardinal Audrys J. Bačkis, Archbishop of Vilnius, and Vygaudas Ušackas, former Lithuanian Ambassador to the US and Mexico.

The theme for this year's convention

***"Proud Lithuanians make great Americans."***

The evening get-together was held at the Benham's Grove for a "Good ole' fashioned barbecue." Many of the participants donned their western wear and just relaxed, chatting and catching up with friends. Games and activities were planned for the Junior Knights.

***Friday, August 1, 2008***

During the second plenary session, Rev. Anthony Markus, pastor of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church in Chicago, IL, and the president of Our Lady of Šiluva Fund, Inc., one of the K of L's ancillary organizations, gave a comprehensive presentation on the status of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (1608-2008) of the apparition in Šiluva, Lithuania celebratory and commemoration plans.

There have been many celebrations throughout the Lithuanian community in the US, Canada and Lithuania. Many churches are still planning their celebrations. There are scheduled events throughout the Chicago area for the primary celebration. From Monday, September 8, 2008 to Saturday, September 13, 2008, daily morning novena services will be held at the Nativity B.V.M. Rev. A. Saulatis, SJ will lead the prayer services. Monday, Sept. 8, 2008, Nativity B.V.M. an evening novena service will be held. On Tuesday, September 9, 2008, an evening novena service will be held at All Saints/St. Anthony Parish. Wednesday, September 10, 2008, an evening novena service will be held at Immaculate Conception Church. On Thursday, September 11, 2008, an evening novena service will be held at the Blessed George Matulatis Mission in Lemont, IL. On Friday, September 12, 2008, an evening novena service will be held at St. Anthony Church. On Saturday, September 13, 2008, a morning novena service will be held at the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse. On Sunday, September 14, 2008, a morning Mass of Thanksgiving at the Nativity B.V.M. will be celebrated and the main celebrant will be His Eminence Francis Cardinal George. A procession will follow the Mass. In the afternoon a celebration banquet will be held at The Oak Lawn Hilton.

Commemorative souvenirs have been produced in hopes of spreading the word of Our Lady of Šiluva. These include: shirt patches, window clings, pins, pictures. Šiluva and 14k. gold medals of Our Lady of Šiluva are being produced in Italy and should be available for sale during the celebration.

The history of Our Lady of Šiluva continues to be promoted on the official website [www.ourladyofsiluva.com](http://www.ourladyofsiluva.com). The history has been translated in the Polish and Spanish languages to promote further dissemination about Our Lady of Šiluva.

Rev. Tony Markus encouraged the Knights to participate in this one in our lifetime celebration to honor Our Lady of Šiluva.

A cultural evening was hosted by the convention committee. Council 96 members and "Vėjelis" dancers entertained the delegates by performing several traditional Lithuanian dances (*Lenciugėlis, Našlys, Voveraitė, Klumpakojis, Noriu miego, Gyvataras, Ragučiai*). The musical duet of



Gražvidas and Gražina Supronai traveled from Cleveland to sing engaging songs from the 1980's, 1990's and early 2000 years ("Ar prisimeni Tu," "Jau nuvyto gėlė," "Žalias mūsų kraštas" and "Daug, daug dainelių"). The entertainment was truly enjoyed by the delegates and guests.

#### *Saturday, August 2, 2008*

The organization's ancillary groups - K of L Foundation, St. Casimir's Guild and Our Lady of Šiluva fund, presidents gave updates about the past fiscal year's activities and projects.

Dot and John Setcavage, members of C-144, Anthracite, PA, gave a presentation about Lithuanian church closings. They emphasized their home church, St. George's in Shenandoah, PA. A committee has been set up for appeal letter writing in hopes of re-opening St. George's Church. Much printed material was distributed to the delegates regarding various church closings. Among the printed articles distributed, there was information about the closing of St. Casimir's Church in Worcester, MA.

Andreja Deksnis, the organization's third vice-president (working with the junior/youth members), gave a power point presentation about the junior K of L Members' activities. The junior knights went horseback riding and visited Dayton's caverns. This year 12 junior members participated in the National Convention. Each of them read a poem they wrote about their activities. The youth were busy and active during the convention. After their program, each of the juniors received their conventionship stipend and certificate. The juniors held a fund-raiser by selling raffle tickets to support the "Saulutė" foundation, for its ongoing projects.

Elections of the new 2008-2009, Supreme Council were held. Elena Nakrosis, Council 90, Kearny, NJ, was unanimously re-elected as president to lead the K of L organization for the third term.

The formal sessions were concluded with the singing of the Vyčių hymn.

#### *Banquet*

After every K of L National Convention completes the working sessions and elects a new Supreme Council for the next year, a celebratory banquet is held. So, too, the 95<sup>th</sup> National Convention celebrated with a formal banquet.



*95<sup>th</sup> National Convention delegates after the closing Mass at Holy Cross Church*

Approximately 120 delegates, guests and family participated. The host for the evening was Anne Marie Berger, banquet convention chair.

After a delicious dinner, Rita Johnson, representing the K of L Scholarship committee, presented this year's scholarship monetary awards to: Debbie Miller, C-72, Binghamton, NY - \$2,500.00; Anne Domalakes, C-144, Anthracite, PA - \$2,500.00; Trisha Costanzo, C-136, Hudson-Mohawk, NY - \$2,500. Repeat recipients were Vilija Bizinkauskas, C-1, Brockton and James Ditsin, C-72, Binghamton, NY, were both awarded \$1,000.00 each

Honorary Membership Chair, Elinor Sluzas, HM, announced the 2008 honorary members - Regina Juska-Svoba, C-102, Detroit, MI and Lee Moore, C-86, DuBois, PA. both who have been active members in the organization for at least 15 years.

The "Friend of Lithuania" award was presented by Mildred Jagiella, Lithuanian Affairs chair and Elinor Sluzas, Honorary Member to Clay and Mary Ann Mathile.

The "Friend of Lithuania" is an award that is presented to non-Lithuanians who have given much time, effort, energy and financial support for Lithuanian causes and Lithuania's people. In the past the award was given to congressmen, senators, teachers, doctors and other professionals. Clay and Mary Anne Mathile have been blessed with great wealth that they share locally, nationally and internationally, including Lithuania. The Mathiles have

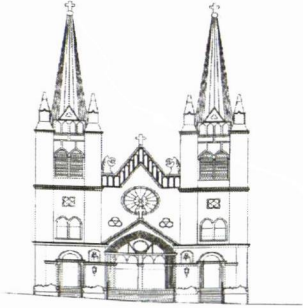
*Continued on page 7*



*Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council President Elena Nakrosis (seated on left)*



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|---|----------|---------|----------|
| DVD— St. George / 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary |          | 15      |          |
| DVD— St. George photos / Rosary                 |          | 15      |          |
| Christmas Ornament                              |          | 10      |          |
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| 3- Postcards - 1991-St. - George (100th)        |          | 3       |          |
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| Special Reports (Free)                          |          | 0       |          |
| Donation (any amount)                           |          |         |          |

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# Calendar of Events for October - November, 2008

Please verify all events as places & times are subject to change.

## OCTOBER

**October 4 - 5, 2008** - 11 am-5 pm

**Los Angeles Lithuanian Fair**  
Admission: Adults - \$8.00  
Seniors - \$6.00  
Children under 12 - Free  
St. Casimir's Parish Grounds  
2718 St. George Street,  
Los Angeles, CA 90027  
Lithuanian artistic, historic & cultural heritage, as expressed through a variety of forms such as Art, Music, Literature, Ethnic Food, Native Folk Dances & other activities. The Lithuanian Fair provides variety & a great time for all guests & participants. Info: <http://www.losangeleslb.com>

**October 4, 2008** - 2:00 pm - ???

**Svente/Fall Fest**  
Bear Creek Pioneers Park  
3535 War Memorial Drive  
Houston TX 77084  
Pavilion # 5, Please bring food & drinks for yourself & enough to share with 4 more people. LACH will provide dishes, utensils & cups There will be a barbeque pit so please bring charcoal & skewers if you plan to use it. Sponsor: Lithuanian American Community-Houston

**October 5, 2008** - 12-4 pm

**KC Lithuanian Community Fall Picnic**  
Wyandotte County Park Shelter "J" 126" & State Avenue  
Bonner Springs, Kansas  
(near Wyandotte County Museum) Please come for food, fun & games with your Lithuanian friends! Meat main dish, soft drinks & beer provided. Please bring a dish to share. Info:<http://www.kclith.org>

**October 8, 2008** (Wednesday) -

**November 5, 2008** (Wednesday)  
Lithuania participates at the KIDS EURO FESTIVAL. Performing arts for children Europe comes to Washington this fall with an arts festival starring the most talented European children's entertainers in more than 100 FREE performances all around the city. Mimes, a virtual orchestra, bubble-blowers & puppeteers are just a few of the exciting acts scheduled to appear during almost four weeks of artistic adventures. Info., full schedule & locations, please visit: [www.kidseurofestival.org](http://www.kidseurofestival.org)

**October 10, 11 & 12, 2008**

**12th Lithuanian Theater Festival**  
Lithuanian Youth Center  
5600 S. Claremont Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60636-1039  
Lithuanian language theater is alive in the U.S. Every four years, the LAC Cultural Council celebrates Lithuanian American theatrical activity by sponsoring a Lithuanian Theater Festival.

**The 12<sup>th</sup> Lithuanian Theater Festival** was scheduled for the capital of American theater, New York, but plans have changed & the 2008 Festival will once again be held in Chicago, capital of the Lithuanian American theater. Six Lithuanian theater groups have registered to participate in the Festival. They are from Chicago, Los Angeles, Florida, Detroit & Toronto. Special event! Saturday

**October 11, 2008**

Saturday, afternoon

**"The Emperor's New Clothes"**

by the Lithuanian children's theater from Toronto.  
Info: Dale Lukas, Chair LAC Cultural Affairs Council  
301598-6657  
dalelukas@verizon.net

**October 11-12, 2008**

**St. George Parish Celebrates Saturday** - reception & banquet

Rochester Convention Center  
**Sunday** - Solemn Mass 12:00 noon  
St. George Church  
545 Hudson Ave.  
Rochester, New York, 14605  
Info: Ms. Birute Litvinas, Chairperson, Steering Committee, 585-342-9468  
janinabirute@aol.com

**October 11, 2008** - 6:00 pm

**Annual Fall Ball**  
Saturday - Marine Corps Air Station Officer's Club, Miramar, San Diego  
<http://www.lithsd.org>

**October 12, 2008** - 10:30 am

**Our Lady of Šiluva 400th Anniversary Mass**  
Principal Celebrant will be His Eminence Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia  
St. Andrew's Lithuanian Church  
1913 Wallace St.  
Phila., PA. 19130

**October 14, 2008**

Lecture 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm  
Lecturer: "A Litmus Test of the Century & its Social & Moral Order: Lithuania in the Twentieth Century" featuring prof. Leonidas DONSKIS,

a philosopher, historian of ideas, political commentator, & critic.  
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center One Woodrow Wilson Plaza 6th Floor Auditorium 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004  
Admission: Free.  
Reservations are not required.

**October 21, 2008** - 7-9 pm

Annual Sing-a-Long Refreshments will be served. A donation is asked to help the Hall with the cost of utilities. Performers will be the Du Briulikai. Lithuanian Music Hall 2715 E. Allegheny Ave. Phila., PA (Use side door on Tilton St.) Lithuanian Heritage Club Info: Millie Helt 610-497-5469

**October 25, 2008** - 6:00 pm

**ST. MARTIN'S EVE**  
Celebration of all three Baltic nations of the Baltic equivalent of Halloween. Proceeds will benefit the Baltic Studies Program at the University of Washington. Come in costume & enjoy a fun-filled family evening of music, entertainment & dancing. Admission will include a dinner of pork, potatoes & sauerkraut. A no-host bar will feature wine & a selection of Baltic beers. Info: <http://seattle.lietuviu-bendruomene.org/events.html>

**October 26, 2008** - 1:00 pm

**FALL PICNIC IN PHOENIX**  
Yavapai Pavilion in North Mountain Park, Phoenix Park  
7th St. at Peoria Ave in Phoenix.  
Lithuanian music, hearty Lithuanian food, cold refreshments, & friendly

people. This is a great opportunity for folks with Lithuanian roots & interests to get together & socialize. For info. about Lithuanian activities in Arizona contact Mark Shoban 480-802-3765, mshoban@yahoo.com Hosted by the Lithuanian American Community of Arizona <http://www.lithaz.org>

## NOVEMBER

**November 1-2, 2008** - Noon to 6pm

**"MUGE"** Lithuanian Festival Entertainment, Lithuanian dancing & music, Lithuanian food, arts, crafts & many vendors  
Lithuanian Music Hall  
2715 E. Allegheny Ave  
Phila., PA. 19134  
Info: 215-739-4831

**November 15, 2008** - 10 am to 4 pm

**Margarita's Muge** Lithuanian Holiday Marketplace Lenexa Community Center 13420 Oak St. 2 blocks north of 95th & Pflumm. Dine in our European cafe or pick up some take out food. Enjoy the Aidas Lithuanian Dancers. Have your photo taken with Father Frost. Lithuanian imports including Baltic amber jewelry, wood carvings & hand-woven linens. Shop for gifts made by a variety of local crafters. Traditional Lithuanian Kitchen, Aidas Dancers, Visits with Father Frost, Lithuanian kitchen - Sponsors: Aidas Dancers, Kansas City <http://www.aidasdancers.org>

**Nov. 27-30, 2008**

**The Fourteenth World Lithuanian Symposium**  
on Arts & Sciences  
will take place over the Thanksgiving Day weekend in Lemont, Illinois

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# 14<sup>th</sup> World Lithuanian Symposium for Art and Sciences

[www.mks14.com](http://www.mks14.com)

Program & exhibitions: November 27-30, 2008  
*Lithuanian World Center, Lemont, Illinois*

Gala Banquet: Saturday, November 29, 2008  
*Marriott Hotel, Burr Ridge, Illinois*

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