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october 2010

L I T H U A N I A N A M E R I C A N N E W S J O U R N A L

Letter from the Editor

This morning I bought four pots of magnificent mums for the front steps. They really are Mother Nature at her finest. Of course, I'm not quite so happy with the leaves coming down. Yes, they are beautiful but it's also back breaking work to drag them out to the front curb for pick up. Those leaves are also a reminder that we are moving toward winter. Since many organizations take a well deserved break during the summer so that members could relax, please look at the Bridges calendar in this issue. I'm sure you can find something happening in your area such as a concert, a fair or even a Christmas party in December.

Speaking of Christmas parties, it's not too soon to think about Christmas shopping. I tried to buy a new rake this morning and I thought the clerk would fall over laughing. After she caught her breath she motioned with her hand to all the Christmas decorations. So much for buying a rake in October. If you want to save yourself a trip to the mall, how about a gift subscription to Bridges? It's a gift that keeps giving for ten months. Please take a look at the Market Place page. I'm sure you can find the right gift for that special someone.

We are so proud of the Lithuanian basketball team for winning a bronze medal last month in the world championship that was held in Turkey. Speaking of basketball, the young lady I wrote about last month, Greta Lukšytė, signed to play with a team in Spain. We wish Greta all the best.

As always, thank you to our wonderful and talented volunteer writers who contributed to this month's issue. Please keep in mind that if you send us a newspaper article I must obtain permission from the paper to reprint the article. If you don't see your article in Bridges I was unable to receive permission to use it. But I do appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending it.

Thank you for sharing your homes with us this month.

Jeanne Shalna Dorr
 Jeanne Shalna Dorr



LITHUANIAN MUSHROOMS

One of the prides of Lithuanian cuisine is its wide use of wild mushrooms.

Mushrooming is a popular pastime from mid-summer to autumn. As a staple, mushrooms are usually harvested in the forest; occasionally they are purchased at roadside markets, especially on the road in the Dzūkija region from Druskininkai to Vilnius; the purchasing of mushrooms in shops is rare. Despite its status as a delicacy, mushrooms are thought of by many Lithuanians as hard to digest. A number of mushroom species are harvested from the wild, including:

* Baravykas the "King of Mushrooms" (*Boletus edulis*);

* Voveraitė or Voveruška (literally, "little squirrel"), *Lepšėka* (in Dzūkija region) - Yellow chanterelle (*Cantharellus cibarius*)

* Gudukas, Vokietukas, Kalpokas - (*Cortinarius caperatus*).

Baravykas is the most valued and sought-after species; the primary usages are drying and marinating. Dried Baravykas has a strong pleasant scent and is used as seasoning in soups and sauces. Voveraitė is often used fresh as a seasoning in soups or sauteed. An example of a Voveraitė dish is Voveraitė sauteed with chopped bulb onions and potatoes. Gudukas, arguably the most locally abundant of edible mushrooms due to its lower popularity, is usually marinated. Other edible mushrooms, such as *Lepšė* (*Leccinum scabrum*), *Raudonviršis*, *raudonikis* (literally, "red-top") (*Leccinum aurantiacum*), *Makavykas*, *Šilbaravykis* (*Xerocomus badius*), are more rare, but are also gathered and may be used in the same ways as Baravykas.

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**Cover photos: Front Cover and Photo Album by*

Joanne Antanavage, Philadelphia, PA

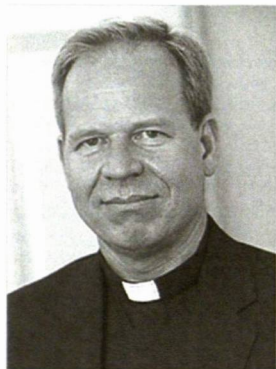
Back Cover by Eugenija Misevičius, Edison, NJ

The photo on the front cover is of Lynne Cox, an accordionist from Philadelphia and her two grandsons, Tomas Krakauskas on her left and brother Erik next to him playing the accordion. The talented family is shown leading a sing-a long at the 96th Annual Lithuanian Days, Frackville, PA

This year's theme was Lithuanian Language Song and Dance and was sponsored by the Knights of Lithuania, Council 144.

Photo by Joanne Antanavage of Philadelphia, PA.

Ms Antanavage's photos have been shown in galleries in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.



Multicultural, business background come in handy for bishop-designate

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service
 Bishop-designate Gintaras Grusas, a U.S.-born priest and secretary general of the Lithuanian Bishops' Conference, has been appointed by the pope to head the Lithuanian diocese for military services. (CNS/Paul Haring)

ROME (CNS) -- A stint as a technical consultant for marketing at a major international corporation has come in handy for U.S.-born Lithuanian Bishop-designate Gintaras Grusas.

"I'm not sure if the marketing world took it from Jesus," he said, "but there are some basic principles that apply like: People buy from people they like."

"When you evangelize, you don't want to come around with a stick and beat it into people. It just doesn't work," he told Catholic News

Service during a visit to Rome and the Vatican in late July in preparation for his new assignment.

Bishop-designate Grusas said everything he has done in his past "is preparing me for what's coming next." And what's coming next is being ordained the new military bishop of Lithuania Sept. 4 in Vilnius.

The 48-year-old bishop-designate has a wide and varied background. He was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in the Los Angeles area.

His parents were separated by World War II and, after 16 years of being caught behind the Iron Curtain, his mother and 17-year-old sister were among just 200 families allowed to leave the Soviet Union to be reunited with family in the United States. His mom and sister joined his father in 1960, and in 1961, the blond, blue-eyed bishop-designate was born.

He grew up in the tight-knit Lithuanian community and was very active in church life.

He received a degree in mathematics and computer science at the University of California at Los Angeles and spent five years working as a technical consultant of marketing for IBM, which, he said, helped prepare him for the management and project-planning skills that are necessary as a pastor.

When, at the age of 28, he told people he was going to leave IBM and pursue the priesthood, "half of my friends said, 'Of course, we always knew it,' and the other half said, 'You? A priest!'"

While he was at IBM, Bishop-designate Grusas spent four years as president of the Lithuanian World Youth Association and, when he entered the seminary, he studied to serve the Lithuanian diaspora.

He studied at the Franciscan

University of Steubenville, Ohio; then moved to Rome, where he studied at the Pontifical Beda College, the Pontifical Lithuanian College and the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. He was ordained and incardinated for the Archdiocese of Vilnius, Lithuania, in 1994 when he was 32.

As a seminarian, he went to Lithuania in 1992 for what was to have been a brief summer pastoral program.

Instead, Cardinal Audrys Backis of Vilnius asked him to interrupt his studies and stay on to help them prepare for Pope John Paul II's historic visit in September 1993. It was the first time a pope ever visited the country, and Bishop-designate Grusas' experience organizing major events with the world youth association was an asset.

After the seminarian returned to Rome for a brief time, Cardinal Backis wanted him back in Lithuania to help organize the transfer of the bishops' conference headquarters from Kaunas to Vilnius. His first job after ordination was as general secretary of the Lithuanian bishops' conference -- a position he still holds.

"God's got stuff planned, things you could never plan or expect," he said. But every event and experience is God reminding people "that it's not you doing this. Just say, 'Yes,' and let him do it."

Some people may call them coincidences, but Bishop-designate Grusas knows God is leaving him signs along the path he has been called to follow.

For example, when he first came to Rome as a student, it was a scorching hot summer day at the end of June 1990. Personal items had been stolen from his luggage at the airport in New York, and Rome was in chaos

as Italy hosted the World Cup soccer tournament that year.

He went straight to the Lithuanian college, which was also in a mild panic since Pope John Paul had just announced he was going to visit the college that Sunday. The college was nearly empty of students because of the summer break, so Bishop-designate Grusas got to serve Mass with the pope in the college's very small chapel. The pope also stayed and had breakfast with the men.

"That was my first weekend when I arrived in Rome for my studies as a seminarian," he said with a hearty laugh. "You can't plan that."

His varied life is part of what he calls "The Great Adventure," that is, "just seeing what God is going to do with you next."

It's a lesson for everyone, he said, "just keeping your eyes open to see the little signs that God gives you along the way."

His new role as head of the Lithuanian diocese for military services will mean overseeing the small and relatively young ordinariate. Because military service is no longer compulsory for men and it is reorganizing the way it works, the military ordinariate will be adapting, too, and will need to change its statutes, rules and how it functions, he said.

He expects to be visiting troops stationed in Afghanistan and also, possibly, Iraq.

Bishop-designate Grusas will be ordained at the Cathedral of Sts. Stanislaus and Vladislaus in Vilnius Sept. 4, a date chosen in part to mark the day Pope John Paul first stepped foot in Lithuania and prayed with clergy at the cathedral.

His father, 92, and mother, 91, unfortunately will not be able to make the ceremony, he said, but he hopes they will be able to watch it broadcast over the Internet from their home in Fairfax, Va.

Reprinted with permission of CNS (Catholic News Service).



LISS Heritage Internship Program Part II

Luke Murphy

Labas draugai! This is my second update from Kaunas, Lithuania, where six of my peers and I are participating in LISS' new Heritage Internship Program. Over the past week we worked in professions that coincide with our

home university studies, while spending our free time exploring beautiful Kaunas. We also had the opportunity to spend our first weekend in Panevėžys where we took part in Lithuania's national youth conference, Lietuvos Jaunimo Dienos. The motto of the weekend conference was "Kelkis ir eik!"—"Get up and go!"—which was the mindset in which we started our summer in Lithuania.

The triennial youth conference, inspired by Pope John Paul II's World Youth Day, was founded in 1997 by a group of committed Lithuanian students and clergy. This year, the conference welcomed over six thousand participants, including LISS' Heritage Program and LISS' original Internship Program for Lithuanian speakers. Due to the generosity of the people of Panevėžys, all of the LISS interns stayed with families around the city. Linas Vaitkus, a student in the LISS Internship Program noted, "Lithuanians are extremely hospitable." When asked about his home stay family he laughed, saying, "[She] kept asking me how my day was when I came home – just like my mother!"

While the weekend's schedule was busy with concerts and lectures, LISS arranged for us to visit the Hill of Crosses in Šiauliai. Upon my first look at the mount, I was overwhelmed by the faith and dedication that this monument represents. After our walk through the hill, a monk told us the history of the site and the resilience of the Lithuanian people. The history we learned during this excursion will prove useful during our classes at Vytautas Magnus University starting next week.

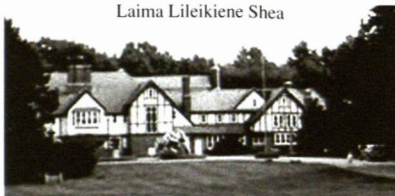
Before we left Panevėžys, we were also lucky enough to have breakfast with the mayor. This was an honor and, like our host families, he was hospitable and welcoming to us. When I asked Gabriele Rociunas-Englert to sum up her thoughts on the weekend, she stated, "Like the motto says, it really got me up and going!"

A scene from the Lithuanian youth national conference held in Panevėžys.



2010 Ateitis Week at the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunkport, Maine

Laima Lileikiene Shea



In 1948 the Lithuanian Franciscan Fathers purchased 64 acres on the Kennebunk River in Kennebunkport, Maine from the Campbell estate. The grounds included a mansion and auxiliary buildings. The mansion was converted into a monastery and chapel. The auxiliary buildings were used by guests. In the 1950's the Franciscans built a boys' high school, which included dormitories. During the summer they also had a camp for Lithuanian boys. After the high school was closed the building was converted to the Franciscan Guest House. They also added an outdoor salt water pool.

The Guest House is a short walk to the beach to the Town of Kennebunkport, which has restaurants, art galleries and shops. From the marina, in town, you can take lobster boat sightseeing trips, whale watching trips and fishing trips. You can also rent canoes and kayaks. Portland is about 30 miles away and Ogunquit is a short drive. For those who like to shop there are a number of outlet stores and LL Bean not far away. There are a number of excellent golf courses in the vicinity. The summer weather is usually perfect - warm sunny days and cool nights.

Ateitininkai, a Lithuanian Catholic organization, has Ateitis week during the 1st week of August. During that week there are concerts, seminars and various activities for all ages. It is a great place to vacation and spend some time with Lithuanians at a beautiful place in driving distance of Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Hartford and Boston.

The weather was perfect and about

100 people, from ages 3-93, gathered at the Franciscan Guest House from various directions. On Saturday, we started Ateitis week with Dr. Frances Covalesky's piano concert. On Wednesday evening Darius Shubertas and Kristupas Staknys, two teenagers, entertained us with their well prepared piano concert. Kristopas is not only an accomplished pianist, but he has been composing his own music since the age of 8. Friday evening was our grand finale. Dana Mileikiene, a mezzosoprano, and Antanas Meilius, a tenor, were accompanied by Tanya Shrago.

On Sunday, Laima Lileika Shea spoke about the 100 year Ateitininku history and she prepared a CD with pictures from past Ateitis weeks in Maine, Ateitininku camps and meetings in NY & Lithuania. On Monday Loreta Vainiene, a nutritionist, gave a demonstration of 100 years of healthy eating. Aleksas Lileika organized Sports Day and there were prizes for everyone. The younger generation participated and the older generation supervised games, races, wiffle ball and soccer. That evening Dalia Dzikas directed a simulated Radio Program - Ateitis. A trophy was presented to the winning team, the youngest children danced a Lithuanian Dance with spoons, Ana and Sophia Dzikas played a Japanese



Franciscan Monastery-sight of "ATEITIS Week." Happy vacationers take time out for a group photograph



THE LITHUANIAN'S HOME

Part II

Author: *Angelė Vyšniauskaitė* - English translation and adaptation by *Gloria O'Brien*

The Sodyba - Homestead

Each family's sodyba (homestead - also called *namas, daiktas*) comprised not only buildings, but orchards and gardens, corrals and ponds as well. Generally, Lithuanians tried to maintain the integrity of their property, and it was not the custom to distribute their wealth amongst their children. Properties passed intact from father to a son, usually the eldest, but possibly a younger son. Other sons received a cash payment, daughters were *išleistos į marčias* (sent to be daughters-in-law), and other sons - *į žentus* (as sons-in-law).

windows and more convenient layout, as well as several of each kind of outbuildings: the *klėtis* (granary), *tvartas* (cattle barn), *jauja* (drying barn), *maltūve* (handmill room), and *pirtis* (sauna). The entrance to the sodyba was enhanced by leafy trees, both fruitful and ornamental. Lithuanian folk-songs celebrate the sodyba, referring to it as *ūkininko dvaras* (the farmer's estate).

Gloria Kivytaitė O'Brien is a frequent contributor to Bridges. She grew up in Brooklyn, Annunciation Parish. Gloria can be contacted at Senaboba@aol.com.

**Art work from the book "LITHUANIA My Heritage"*



The children's faces say it all!

song on the flute, *Dalia Dzikas* and *Saulius Dzikas* reported on the 100 year jubilee conference that was taking place in Lithuania the same weekend and also news about our guests. On Tuesday our guest speaker was *Rev. Grycius*. He is a dynamic speaker and he led us in prayer and hymns in the candlelit procession to the Shrine of Lourdes. Thursday we celebrated the 65th wedding anniversary

of *Vladas* and *Roze Barius*, 60th wedding anniversary of *Mecys* and *Jadvyga Palunas* and 40th wedding anniversary of *Edvardas* and *Angela Barius*. *Rev. Placidus Barius* is *Vladas Barius*' brother and he married them in Germany 65 years ago. The Mass was concelebrated by 9 priests and *Bishop Baltakis*. Thursday, *Dr. Stasys Gostautas* spoke about Lithuania's famous artist and composer, *Ciurlionis*. Friday afternoon, *Dr. Gedriemienė*, a cardiologist led a lively discussion on 100 years of healthy living.

Rev. Grycius was our chaplain and he said Lithuanian Mass every day. *Alidona*, from Lithuania and her Lithuanian staff prepared wonderful

dinner every night, which included Lithuanian food: *Kugelis*, potato pancakes, *kuldnai*, *saltibarčiai* etc. They also prepared lavish refreshments after the evening program.

Monika Sabalis and *Laima Lileika Shea* are already preparing the 2011 *Ateitis Week Program*. So please mark your calendar - August 6 - August 13, 2011. We will update you with further details in future months.

Laima Lileikiene Shea was born of Lithuanian parents in Germany and came to the US as a young child. She grew up in Brooklyn and Queens and spent most of her married life in Long Island. She and her husband Frank, as well their family, look forward to going to Maine during the summer. Laima and Frank live in Florida where she is a tax accountant and enjoys reading, traveling and taking photographs.

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA 97th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

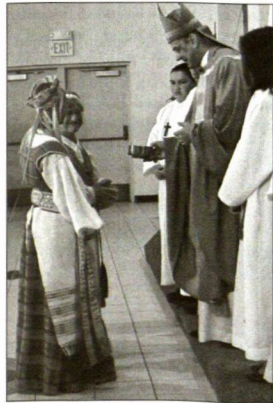
"Knights of Lithuania - A Bridge of Two Nations"

Regina Juska-Svoba



Knights of Lithuania after the closing Mass at Church of the Holy Family. Clergy from L-R: Rev. Antanas Markus, Rev. Clarence Rumble -pastor of Church of the Holy Family; Archbishop Robert Cunningham of the archdiocese of Syracuse, NY. Msgr. dr. Joseph Anderlonis and Msgr. Petras Siurys. Photo by Daina Puteris.

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



C- 72 members present offertory gifts.

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 Siluva Fund. Aid to Lithuania, Inc. functioned from 1991 until it was suppressed in December 2007.

The Knights of Lithuania organization was founded by Mykolas Norkunas 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 72, Binghamton, NY, hosted the

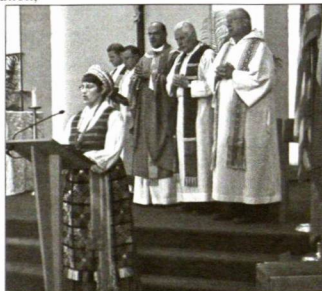
2010 convention from August 04-08, 2010. Approximately 100 delegates, clergy, guests and youth converged to participate in the 4 day long meetings, cultural activities and banquet celebration. Prior to each day's sessions and meetings, Mass was celebrated.



Newly elected Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council giving their oath of office; the oath is administered by Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis. Photo by Daina Puteris

Pre-Convention Trip - Wednesday, August 04, 2010

For the delegates who arrive early to the conventions, a pre-convention tour is held. This year, the participants traveled to Corning, NY, to visit the Corning Museum of Glass (CMOG), the world's largest glass museum.



Barbara Miller, C-72 President, reads a liturgical reading during Mass



Honorary Members who participated in the closing banquet. (Several did not attend)

After touring the Corning Museum of Glass, the forty-eight eager participants briskly boarded the bus for a drive to the Watkins Glen Harbor, situated on the south end of the Seneca Lake, for lunch.

The next segment of our excursion led us to a visit to two of the thirty five wineries, located in the heart of New York's Finger Lakes Region.

August 05, 2010, Thursday

The opening 97th National Convention Mass was celebrated at the Binghamton Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Binghamton, NY.

The opening Mass was concelebrated by the Knights of Lithuania's Supreme Council spiritual advisor Monsignor Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis, Msgr. Petras Siurys, current rector of the St. Casimir Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome, Italy and Rev. Anthony Markus, and pastor of St. Pius X in Stickney, IL.

The theme for this year's convention- "Knights of Lithuania- A Bridge of Two Nations."

K of National President and Honorary Member Bernice Aviza officially opened the convention and gave a comprehensive state of the organization report. National treasurer and Deborah Martin-Rudmin gave the financial report of the organizations. Thirty-one greetings from various honorary counsels, religious orders,

American Lithuanian organizations and publications were received and read.

Dale Lukas, Lithuanian-America Community, Inc., Cultural Affairs Council - special projects chair greeted the convention delegates and presented Supreme Council President Bernice Aviza and Council 72 President Barbara Miller with posters depicting the 600 anniversary of the Žalgirio mūšis (Battle of Tannenburg). Algis Lukas, of the Lithuanian-American Community Inc., Cultural Affairs Council gave a presentation of the recently published book "Lithuanian Cultural Legacy in America." He gifted a book to Bernice Aviza and to Msgr. Petras Siurys.

For the evening get-together, we drove to the Mountain Top View for a traditional buffet picnic. The location was beautiful.



K of L juniors giving their presentation to the convention delegates. Photo by Daina Puteris

August 06, 2010, Friday

Mark H. Bell, President of the ancillary program, St. Casimir's Guild, gave a thorough annual report about the Guild's past year's activities and the support to the St. Casimir's Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome, Italy. Msgr. Petras Siurys, current rector of the St. Casimir Pontifical Lithuanian College was introduced to the delegates. Msgr. Petras Siurys extended his, the College's staff, former rector Msgr. Bartkus and newly elevated Bishop Gintaras Grusas' greetings and warm wishes to the delegates and guests. Irene Ozalis, President of the Knights of Lithuania Foun-



K of L members chatting during a break

ation, an ancillary arm of the K of L reported about the last fiscal year. A resolution was passed in order to use the principal funds of the Foundation's assets to distribute for various worthy causes. Ms. Ozalis announced that during the 2010-2011 fiscal year, donations will be made to the following: St. Clare Hospice in Utena, Lithuania, Lithuanian Children's Relief, National Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for Our Lady of Siluva Chapel in Washington, D.C., A.P.P.L.E. organization, Christmas gifts for Orphan Care, "Saulutė," to sponsor an orphan for one year, increased stipend amount for K of L juniors, start up funds for a K of L council, who agrees to host a



The 2010-2011 K of L Supreme Council

National Convention, funds for the 100th Anniversary Convention, the K of L official magazine - VYTIS- The Knight, the Lithuanian Opera Co. in Chicago, IL, and St. Peter's Church in S. Boston, MA- to assist in renovations due to fire damage. Further, Ms. Ozalis announced the three winners of the annual essay contest: First place Sister Helen Ivanauskas, C.I.C.; second place- Vilija Bizinkauskas; and third place - William Wisniauskas. A new Junior category was established for the young K of L members. Liza Macke was announced as the category's first recipient of the monetary prize.

Robert A. Martin, Jr. and Phyllis Gendreau, 100th Anniversary Committee co-chairs presented an update of the plans for the 100th K of L convention. The convention will be held on 07/25/2013 through 07/28/2013 at the Marriott Hotel in Quincy, MA. It was suggested that since the K of L organization was established on 04/27/1913, that each district celebrate the 100th anniversary in a special and meaningful way. Also, there will be a motto contest for the centennial anniversary.

For the cultural program, the delegates were transported to

the First Presbyterian Church for a special afternoon of music, singing and poetry. K of L member and opera singer Maryte Bizinkauskas delighted the audience with her powerful voice. Pianist and Adjunct Piano Professor at the College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ, Frances Covalesky, played the piano. K of L member John Mankus recited poetry.

August 07, 2010, Saturday

Rev. Anthony Markus, pastor of St. Pius X Catholic Church in Stikney, IL, and the president of Our Lady of Siluva Fund, Inc., one of the K of L's



Tired but happy attendees join Msgr. Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderlonis of Philadelphia before boarding the bus after the convention

ancillary organizations, gave a comprehensive presentation.

The history of Our Lady of Siluva continues to be promoted on the official website www.ourladyofsiluva.com. The history has been translated in the Polish and Spanish languages to promote further dissemination about Our Lady of Siluva.

The third presentation was given by Paulius Vertelka, a member of the ALT-as (Lithuanian American Council) and sophomore at the University of IL. Paulius gave a power point presentation of the

history of the LAC, which was originally founded in 1915 and later reorganized in 1940. The purpose of LAC is to provide information about Lithuania and its people and represents the interests of the Lithuanian-American organizational community. LAC is a national umbrella organization that encompasses approximately one million Americans and 18 organizations. Among them is the K of L organization. LAC has a long-standing history of actively pursuing matters of significant importance to Lithuanian Americans and their respective organizations.

Erin Petkus, the organization's third vice-president (working with the junior/youth members), gave a power point presentation about the junior K of L member's activities.

Elections of the new 2010-11, Supreme Council were held. Bernice Aviza, Council 136 Hudson-Mohawk, NY, was unanimously elected as president to lead the K of L organization. The formal sessions were concluded with the singing of the Vyčiu hymn.



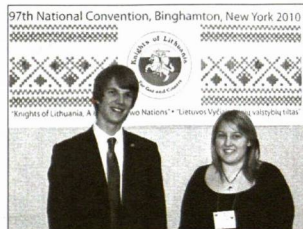
Pamela Rikerl, C-72 member and convention committee member presents bouquets of flowers to John Mankus, Frances Covalesky and Maryte Bizinkauskas

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 97th National Convention celebrated with a formal banquet. Approximately 120 delegates, guests and family participated. The host for the evening was Thomas Miller, banquet convention chair.

Rita Johnson, representing the K of L Scholarship committee, presented this year's scholarship monetary awards to thirteen members:

Amanda Distin, C-72
Binghamton, NY;
Lauren Peterson, C-50
New Haven, CT;



Paulius Vertelka of ALT-us (Lithuanian American Council) and Debbie Miller, C-72.

Thenessa Savitsky, C-144
Anthractic, PA;
David Gatautis, C-10
Athol Gardner, MA;
Paulina Noreikaite, C-157
Lemont, IL;
James Distin, C-72
Binghamton, NY;
Debbie Miller, C-72
Binghamton, NY;
Becky Pataki, C-90
Kearny, NJ;
Stephanie Couitt, C-103
Providence, RI;
Alex Fletcher, C-96
Dayton, OH;
Beatrice Constanzo, C-136
Schenectady, NY;

Zachary Miller, C-141
Bridgeport, CT; and
Annie Domalakes, C-144,
Anthractic, PA.

Rita Sussko, Honorary Membership committee chair announced the 2010 honorary member- Rev. Anthony Markus with the Honorary Membership for his contributions to the K of L organization. He has been an active member for at least 15 years.

The "Friend of Lithuania" award is a distinction award presented to non-Lithuanians for their ongoing contributions to Lithuania and her people. This year's award was presented by John Mankus, Lithuanian Affairs chair to Norma Petkus, C-96 member and wife to Michael F. Petkus, MCD President.

For the last 28 years, Norma has immersed herself in all things Lithuanian. She is currently the director for the dance troupe "Vejeliai". Norma has sewn and woven many of the national costumes that the dancers wear during their performances. Norma sings in the Lithuanian choir at Holy Cross Church. She is currently serving as the parish representative on the Archdiocesan



Bernice Aviza and ALTto representative Paulius Vertelka at convention

Commission on Catholic Education; she is the only non-Catholic to ever be appointed to that position.

The formal portion the banquet closed with words from K of L president Bernice Aviza, who thanked C-72 for hosting a wonderful convention. She thanked the delegates for their attendance and participation at the convention. Musical entertainment for dancing livened the rest of the evening.

August 08, 2010, Sunday

The closing Mass was held at the Church of the Holy Family. It was celebrated by Most Rev. Robert J. Cunningham, Bishop, Diocese of Syracuse, Msgr. Dr. J. Anderlonis, Msgr. Petras Siurus, Rev. A. Markus, Rev. C. Rumble, Pastor of the Church of the Holy Family and Rev. J. Scardella, Director of Ministerial Formation and Liturgy of the Diocese of Syracuse.

The 2010 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 official convention photograph was taken and the closing lunch followed in the church hall.

The 98th National Convention will be hosted by Council 158, Lakeshore, IN, July 27-31, 2011.

*Regina Juska-Svoba
Honorary Member and K of L Public Relations Chair*

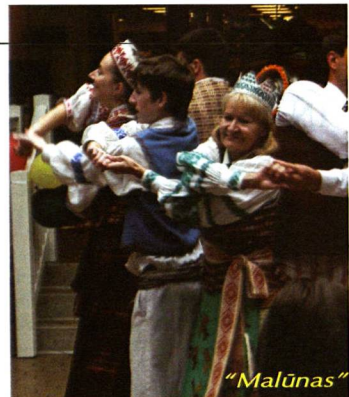
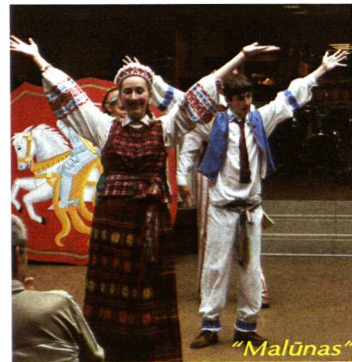
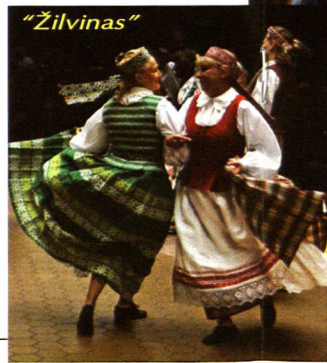


PHOTO ALBUM
of 96th Annual
Lithuanian Days
Frackville, PA



The Baltimore, MD
Lithuanian Dance Group
"Malūnas"
Rytis Grybauskas is the
"Vadovas"/Teacher
and
Philadelphia, PA
Lithuanian Dance Group
"Žilvinas"
Estera Bendziūtė-Washofsky
is the "Vadovė"/Teacher
Photos by
Joanne Antanavage

Part IV

IN THE DEATH-CAMPS AND BANISHMENT REMINISCENCES

By JONAS KREIVENAS
CHICAGO, IL - 1981

Editor Note: In part 3 Mr. Kreivenas shared the terrible living and working conditions of the prisoners. Lack of food and sanitation, as well as disease and frigid weather were taking their tolls on many of the prisoners.

In September of 1943 I contracted the dreadful water disease. My belly was filled with water. Trying to reduce the pressure on my lungs, I pierced my belly below the navel with a sharpened nail and tried to drain the water. My clothes were soaked but the swelling of my body stopped.

One day a true miracle happened. Dr. Garelis, a physician, came to visit out camp. He was also a Lithuanian political prisoner. After examining me, he promised to help me in any way he could. After receiving permission, he took me with him to a prisoner's hospital. We travelled on a platform car, using the very same railroad tracks I had helped to build a year ago.

Dr. Garelis was the chief physician of the hospital. The hospital building was similar to a standard barrack, but had electrical light, was somewhat warmer, and had beds with straw mattresses and pillows.

The first day Dr. Garelis installed metal tubing into the left side of my torso and drained several quarts of yellowish water. On the following days he utilized a syringe, and squirted out several cups of that liquid each time.

My diet was strictly dry, without any water or moisture. The thirst was almost unbearable and my memory started to fail. I could not walk without a cane. All objects and even the air itself seemed to be yellow, like a yolk of an egg.

I followed the doctor's orders and slowly started to recuperate. Other victims of water sickness, who did not possess strong will power and drank some water, all passed away.

Dr. Garelis kept me in the hospital for 19 months. He saved my life, and for this I will remain thankful to him for as long as I live. He was a shining example of an

outstanding Lithuanian patriot and a great physician.

When I fully recovered my health, with my consent Dr. Garelis put me on the list of criminal prisoners, which were to be transferred to the Panenska KZ camp near the Volga River for agricultural work. This was in May of 1945.

* * * * *

The Panenska camp had approximately 3,000 criminal prisoners.

One half of the camp was for males, the other for females. The two halves were separated by a barbed wire fence. The whole camp was enclosed with a solid wood fence, with electrified wires and booths for guards on top. As usual, on the inside of the fence there was a three-foot wide "death zone", and on the other side were trained dogs. The barracks were very crowded, but had some "luxuries": electrical light, beds with straw mattresses and pillows, and blankets. The food situation was almost as bad as in the Northern camps.

The camp had approximately 12,000 acres of land, taken away from German nationals who had been deported to Siberia during World War II. The camp's main line was farming and growing vegetables and cattle. Produce was delivered to the nearby cities of Kuibyschew and Saratow. Cattle and the grain harvest were transported by trains to places farther away.

I was assigned to an auxiliary brigade, consisting mainly of professional criminals and thieves, all lazy and not afraid of any punishments. For this reason the camp's commandant treated our brigade exceptionally rough.

One day two young men from our brigade were locked up in solitary cells for punishment. With some kind of chemicals they tried to burn out each other's eyes, so they would not have to work any more. One fellow got completely blind, but the other, named Volkow, had one eye saved. One evening during the roll-count, Volkow approached the commandant from behind and killed him with a hammer, which he had secretly hidden in his clothes.

On one windy day a cap of a new prisoner was blown away. Not knowing the grim rules of KZ camp, he started to chase after his cap and stepped into the "death zone". The guard shot and killed him right on the spot.

* * * * *

While working in the fields, under one of the trees our brigade found a dead dog, hanging by a wire, with its

skin already removed. The hungry prisoners behaved like wild animals, pushing each other away, each trying with teeth to get a larger bite of raw dog's meat. In a matter of minutes, only the dog's skeleton and head remained. During this "feast" many prisoners got hurt, and only a few had enough self-control to stay away.

In the autumn of 1945, a large group of new female prisoners was brought in. As they later told us, they were arrested while picking ears of wheat from the fields of collective farms at night after the harvest. Being either too old or too young, they could not get jobs, and therefore did not get food ration cards. Stores would not sell food without cards. These women were sentenced from two to five years. When in the camp they received 400 g of daily bread, they cried from joy and, before eating, blessed their bread with the sign of the cross.

After World War II the veterans of the Red army returned to civilian life, many invalids, without legs or arms, received only very small pensions, which were insufficient to support their families. On the street corners they sold tobacco or other little items. These invalids were apprehended and sentenced for "speculation" from two to five years. When they were brought into our camp, they still wore their army uniforms. They loudly protested against the injustices being done to them by the Soviet government. Having lost their health for the sake of their country, they demanded better treatment.

After the protest, all these invalids were confined in a separate barrack and isolated from the other prisoners. Unnoticeably, they were shipped, a few at a time, to other prisons and KZ camps.

While celebrating the October revolution, forest keeper Morozov had too many drinks and got involved in a fight with a cop. For this he was sentenced for one year in a camp. After serving six months, he was permitted to work in a bakery outside the camp limits. Being very kind-hearted, he scraped empty tubs and from the dough he baked little buns for his hungry comrades in the camp.

One evening, while returning from the bakery, Morozov was searched at the gate and four little buns were found in his pockets. For "show" purposes, five military court officials arrived, and the judge sen-

tenced Morozov to another ten years in the KZ camp. Morozov could not stand this injustice and hung himself. He left a young wife and a son behind.

Shortly after my arrival to this camp, the administration announced that veterinary and agricultural courses were being organized for criminal inmates. I applied and was accepted for veterinarian courses.

The founder and lecturer of the courses was Mr. Katchenko, a doctor of veterinary science and a high official of the camp's administration.

The courses lasted one year. I was happy to get more food, learn a new profession, and have a better chance of survival. In fact, I was the best student in my class. On several occasions Mr. Katchenko mentioned that I would be his assistant.

After completion of the courses and an examination, which I passed with best grades, the camp administration found out that I was a political, and not a criminal prisoner, and for this offense I was thrown into a solitary cell for seven days, without any food.

In 1946 we had a tremendous harvest of cabbages. Cabbage heads were allotted to the city dwellers and temporarily put into high piles and left in the field. For the consumption of the inmates we picked up dirty leaves, shredded and dumped them into concrete silos. In the meantime, a rainy season came, the roads from the fields became impassable, and all the cabbage heads were left in the field unprotected. The next spring the piles of prize cabbage were a stinking mess, and the whole harvest was lost.

On one hot summer day in 1946, our brigade of 500 prisoners walked down the road which divided tomato and cucumber fields. One prisoner in the front row jumped into the field and picked a tomato. The chief of the guards, a very cruel and vengeful person, fired one shot, missed his target, and killed four other innocent prisoners. After this incident he disappeared and we thought that he was punished, but two weeks later he came back, even more cruel and vengeful. As we learned later, for this killing he was promoted and awarded an extra vacation.

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Lithuanian Basketball Fairy Tale Goes On

Laurynas (Larry) R. Misevičius



Appointed a head coach of Lithuania after its men's basketball team fiasco in Poland last year, K. Kemzūra had only a month and a half to prepare for the Worlds. As we see here, the end result was unbelievable even for the craziest optimists as Lithuania won the first ever medal in the World championship, which was held in Turkey September, 2010.

Photo by www.fiba.com

The year 2010 marked yet another big victory for Lithuanian basketball, September 12th dedicated as a historical date when our countrymen won the 3rd place in the World championship held in Turkey. While Lithuanians were far from favourites at the start of the tournament, they finished with an 8-1 record including victories over European champions Spain, France, Serbia, as well as New Zealand and Argentina. The only team the Baltic giants lost against happened to be United States, who became World Cup winners after 16 years interruption.

Starting with the first medal after Lithuania's independence in the 1992 Olympics (Barcelona, Spain), our nation had every right to be proud of their basketball reign over the last couple of decades with only a few minor slumps like Eurobasket-2009.

Still, qualifying for participation in the afore-mentioned World Cup tournament by a direct invitation from FIBA (international federation of basketball), i.e. picking up the "wild card" in this game's terms no one thought of Lithuanians as serious contenders in the run for medals in Turkey. With the only player, currently in the

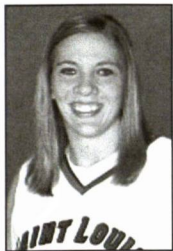
NBA (Linas Kleiza from Toronto "Raptors" in its squad, the Baltic country fielded the youngest team in the history of our nation... however, that proved to be the winning strategy as those immature players everyone named Lithuanians this year were hungry for success, determined from the very first minutes on the court and proved that head coach Kęstutis Kemzūra gathered them for a reason. "I have no words to describe what I am feeling right now. It is impossible to measure this because a lot of players were injured and came ready for this. This championship was not for the tactics we chose to use, it was thanks to our mental preparation, that is why we were so ready, united, focused to win. We won against the greatest teams in the world" – says the Lithuanian team strategist. "Words cannot describe what I am feeling right now, everyone on the team is celebrating and we are extremely happy for this bronze medal" – reveals guard Mantas Kalnietis.

So there's a fairy tale beginning for this young group of already famous players, however, we all want it to go on... especially when Lithuania will host the next Eurobasket in one year. I'm sure there are people in my native town of Kaunas as well as overseas who remember that unprecedented victory back in 1939 when the Lithuanian men took the European basketball crown the second time in a row. Lithuanians had to organize the next championship again due to winning that, but World War II broke out and soon the entire country disappeared from our planet for 50 years. Yet, the Baltic giants rose like a phoenix from the ashes once again and all Lithuanians believe in basketball just like they did 7 decades ago. Will 2011 mark another historical triumph for this small nation with a big heart? Let us all believe it will.

Laurynas R. Misevičius is Chairman of the Board of LAUNA, a member of the Board of Directors of the Lithuanian Foundation and Chair of the Elizabeth, NJ LAC Chapter. Mr. Misevičius is also a member of the Lithuanian Journalists Association Board, Vice-President of membership. He is a resident of Edison, NJ.

Belleville East grad follows her dream -- and her ancestry -- to play pro basketball in Lithuania

BY STEVE KORTE - News-Democrat



Amanda Kemezyz is going to play basketball in the country of her ancestors.

The former St. Louis University and Belleville East High School standout has signed a professional contract with the VICI Kaunas women's team in Lithuania.

"That's where my roots are, and I've kind of grown up a little bit around that," Kemezyz said. "Its

pretty cool. There were some other teams in the running -- a team in Spain and a team in Romania -- but when it came down to it, the team that made the best offer was the one where my family background is. That made it an even sweeter deal."

Kemezyz's grandparents, Vita and Peter Kemezyz, emigrated from Lithuania to the United States at the end of World War II.

"Ever since I was a kid, it has always been a dream of mine to visit there, and now I'm going to live there and play for their basketball team," Kemezyz said. "It's a dream come true for sure."

Kemezyz's grandfather is deceased, but her grandmother has been giving her lessons in the Lithuanian language and customs. She is also putting together a list of relatives still living in Lithuania.

"I've kind of grown up around it," Kemezyz said. "We sing Lithuanian birthday songs every birthday we have. My dad's side of the family, some of the customs they have are Lithuanian. My dad and his brother, they've always spoken Lithuanian to each other around all of us."

"I have no idea of what they're saying, but every now and then I hear my name dropped in there." The 6-foot-4 Kemezyz concluded her college career with the Billikens last spring. She was a second team All-Atlantic Conference selection as a senior, averaging 13.1 points and nine rebounds per game.

Kemezyz sent a tape that SLU coach Shimmy Gray-Miller put together to her agent, Vasilis Giapalakis, in Athens, Greece.

Giapalakis is married to former Purdue star Katie Douglas. Kemezyz signed with VICI Kaunas -- Kaunas is the second

biggest city in Lithuania with a population of 350,000 -- last week. She is expecting to leave for the northern European country this week.

It'll be Kemezyz's first time venturing out of the United States.

"I'm not even that big of a traveler, other than our basketball trips," Kemezyz said. "This is definitely going to be a culture shock for me. I'm really excited. I know people who have done it in the past, people at SLU."

Kemezyz said she has talked with former Billikens players Tyler Mellwraith, who continued her basketball career in Holland, and Theresa Lisch, who continued her basketball career in Australia.

"They say it's the most homesick you'll ever be and it's really hard. But at the same time, Tyler said she wouldn't trade her experience for the world," Kemezyz said. "You really grow

from it. That's what I'm looking to get out of it. I'm so close to my family, and I'm going to miss them like crazy, but at the same time, I'm excited to go see the world and get paid for playing basketball."

Kemezyz said VICI Kaunas' season starts in September and runs to the end March, and the playoffs can run into May.

Kemezyz said she gets to come home for a minimum of seven days at Christmas.

Kemezyz said she wants to play professionally as long as she enjoy its and stays healthy. She battled several injuries, including stress fractures in her feet, during her SLU career.

"Our trainer at SLU, Teresa Hummel, one our (physical therapy) people, Tricia Austin, kind of think I'm crazy," Kemezyz said. "They're a little worried how my body is going to hold up. Any issues that occur, I'm going to work through them just like I did before. I just hope I have a lot of tape to hold me together, and I'll go out and play as hard as I can."

VICI Kaunas plays in a Lithuanian league and against the top European teams. Many WNBA players -- such Diana Taurasi, Lauren Jackson and Sue Bird -- have played in the FIBA's EuroLeague when their seasons are on break.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and I couldn't pass it up," Kemezyz said. "I just feel very blessed to have the opportunity. I'm anxious and excited and nervous all at the same time."

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Amanda Kemezyz and her grandmother Vita Kemezyz. Vita has been giving Amanda pointers on her native Lithuanian language and culture Amanda leaves this week to play professional basketball in Lithuania. - Derik Holtmann/BND

Ups and Downs of Navy Life

Gilbert Stanley Girdauskas

Editor of Bridges: The following is in keeping with our coverage of the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II and Lithuanian American participation. This article appeared in Gilbert Stanley Girdauskas' ship's newsletter.

(Gil forgot to cover his early years. What is briefly provided here is based on follow-up telephone conversations. — Editor of Gil's first ship's newsletter)

Gil's parents emigrated from Lithuania around 1900. His father, George Girdauskas, about 16 or 18, found work in the steel mills in Homestead, PA, just across the Monongahela River from Pittsburgh. The steel industry was booming; strong young men from Europe seeking a better life made it go, and Andrew Carnegie was the boss. Ten and twelve hour workdays, six days a week, were the norm in the latter part of the 1800's and early 1900's. Unions were organized in many major industries, including the coal mines and the railroads on which steel depended. Strikes were called to obtain better working conditions and shorter hours. They were bitter, violent, bloody and frequently deadly. A few years before his father arrived, in 1892, a strike at the steel mills in Homestead became one of the most violent in U.S. history.

Part of the family folklore includes the story of Gil's parents' trip to the altar. George Girdauskas left a friend in Lithuania when he emigrated, with a promise that he would send for her. When George saved enough money, he bought her a ticket with a condition. If she would marry him, he would not ask for his money back. Not so fast,



Gil in 1944

George! Mary held out for two years before deciding a suitable courtship had transpired.

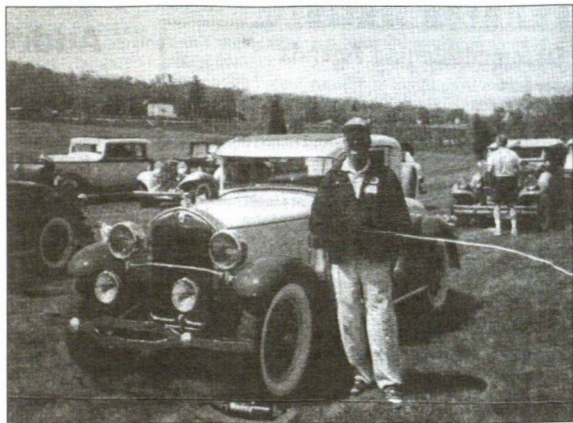
George did well at the mill, rising to supervisor and living comparatively well in the company town. The family grew, but Mary became disenchanted with the persistent soot for which the Pittsburgh area was noted until fairly recently. Bitter strikes in the coal mines and railroads forced closings at the mill. On one of those occasions, the family decided to join other family in Sheboygan, Wisconsin where there was work at the Kohler plant. Here they lived in a Lithuanian community and here Gil joined the family on June 22, 1926.

Gil grew up with lots of older brothers and sisters around. He played hockey on the rivers at night, lit by tar barrels. He played center on the high school basketball team and still vividly recalls the 21-20 championship game that his team won in the days when Gil's 10 points in one game was a high personal score.

His dad died in 1938. Gil was 12. He and everyone else in the family, including his mother, took jobs to keep the family together. His three brothers were already in the service, by the time Gil was old enough to enlist. Continuing in Gil's own words-----

I joined the REID at Pearl in 1944, as a F1/C after boots at Great Lakes (I was just 17). We went on to Wake with I believe the Salt Lake City (Cruiser) and a carrier (maybe the Montpelier). We had a major engine problem and we were dead in the water.... some of the other gang can give the details as to why (maybe water in the fuel?). At any rate it was most disappointing for the Captain and Crew and many a butt was chewed out for the problem. My biggest problem during this first engagement was getting my sea legs. My Wisconsin buddy could eat the cold pork sandwiches and wave them in front of my face and never was phased by even rough water. Eventually, I got my legs. On our way to Alethea I got a very bad case of pneumonia and Rufus Porter had me transferred to the hospital quarters of the tender Dixie I was one sick pup, they gave me penicillin every four hours and took x-rays every day. Needless to say I survived. After recuperation on board, I went to see the exec to find out when I could rejoin the REID (all my gear and personal belongings were on her and it was assumed I would return to her after I was well enough). He told me to sit down.... then he related the terrible fate of the REID. He asked me point blank if I wanted to serve on another Destroyer or go back to Pearl or the States for new construction. I said I wanted to serve on another can.

Only in the Navy would the following



Gil and his award winning 1928 Pierce Arrow

procedure have been carried out: He pulled out a desk copy of all ships that were coming into Alethea and the Destroyers that may be tying along side Dixie. He made the following comment: "You've come off of one of the best Destroyers in the fleet, let's find you another vessel that you will be proud to serve on". With that he called off the names of ships (as I looked over his shoulder) and he'd make comments like: "This is a bad luck ship.... always in trouble", "this one has a dreary Captain" etc. I couldn't believe the situation.... a Commander telling a First Class what ship I should join!

I believe to this day that he knew the REID well.... I only wish I could remember his name. Anyway, we chose the Bronson (00668), a Fletcher class and in about two weeks I joined her with a completely new sea bag of gear including ditty bag. She was a bit larger than the REID at 2150 tons. We went through hell and back with her but she proved to be a good ship with a good crew. We did

the Iowa Invasion, then the Jan. '45 air strikes on Tokyo. We were one of the closest ships to Tokyo when we launched over 900 planes from 20 carriers. (The weather was foggy and that prevented the Japanese from finding us, I guess.) Then with the same group (58.3) we went on to the China Sea to hit Hong Kong and French Indo-China. We recorded record sinking of Japanese shipping in the China Sea as they moved equipment from Japan to China in anticipation of a near-future American invasion of Japan. We and other "small boys" almost capsized in the China Sea in the Typhoon of 1945, when the Spence, Monahan and Hull went down and most of the ships including carriers had some damage; we did some very fierce rolls and only God knows how we righted each time. After that we joined up for picket duty during the Kamikaze runs during the Okinawa invasion.... that's where I got banged up and literally ended my short naval career. *(Gil had volunteered to go ashore with a landing party and*

man 50 caliber machine guns. They were blown out of the water and never got ashore. He was in the water for 18 hours before being rescued. Fortunately there were no sharks in the area. Gil was awarded the Army Navy Medal for saving one of the others on the landing craft. -- Ed.)

After a stay at Hawaii Hospital, then a great cruise back to States on the USS Hope, hospital train to Great Lakes, recuperation and finally discharged from Great Lakes Hospital. After that I recuperated in my hometown of Sheboygan, WI with my three brothers who also survived the war (one as a Ranger in Europe, one as an Engineer in the Pacific and one in the Air Corps.... Mom always said she was the luckiest Mom in the world). Then I finished my schooling, I got into advertising (owned my own Agency for a while but always restored antique cars like your Model A on the side)

The love of my life, Terry and I were married in 1950, we now have five grown (and wonderful) children and seven grandees (last count). My sons run our nationally recognized antique and classic car restoration business, Vintage Vehicles, Inc., in Wautoma Wisconsin. Terry and I live six months in Wautoma, Wisconsin and six months at Edisto Island, South Carolina: (guess which six months?) We're retired, although we help the boys during the summer months (fun working and driving those old Packards, Pierce Arrows, Locomobiles, Cords etc.) We have a collection of cars too and if any Raider is in our area during the summer months they can visit and take a cruise in one of our old machines.

Lithuanian Culture

The culture of a nation, according to Algirdas Julius Greimas, a world famous semiotician and researcher of Lithuanian mythology. "is her imagination, her consciousness, her memory." The deep roots in history and comparable long history of pagan culture made a unique influence on the folk culture of Christian Lithuania and on the evolving professional art of the last century.

Lithuania has inherited a multitude of unique songs called "dainos" from its folk culture. The songs are linked to the various activities of human life and have a lasting tradition. Part of their uniqueness comes from the Lithuanian language itself, that is, from the musical intonations of Lithuanian. Normally, the texts of European folk songs are usually based on rhyme and are sung according to a dance-rhythm melody. It is rare to find older types of songs, the best example of which is the Lithuanian song.

Although the pagan beliefs, ever so closely linked to ancient folk culture, only gradually made room for the new religion-Christianity. Lithuania, nevertheless, became famous as a country of crosses. At one time travelers were astonished to find multitudes of crosses and chapels in cemeteries, at road sides, and farmsteads from which the wooden sculptures of saints gazed on. The non canonical portrayal of the saints, the stylization of form and the primitive interpretation show these were original creations. The sculptures of saints had a very clear purpose in

the lives of peasants: to tame the hostile surroundings and to get as many favors from those in heaven as possible.

The most colorful element of folk art is cloth. Traditionally, cloths were woven from flax and wool, and the fibers were colored by natural vegetable dyes. Cloth patterns are not overloaded with detail and have clear rhythm. Their value is not as much in technical perfection, as in the subtle combination of pattern and color.

The first professional artists in Lithuania were foreigners. Only in the second half of the 18th century did Lithuanian painters begin to express themselves. The most significant event in the history of professional art was the first art exhibition held in 1907, where 23 artists exhibited their works alongside the folk art display. It was a huge cultural event. Another aspect of its historic importance is that it was the first time painter and composer

Mikalajus Konstantinas Čiurlionis (1875-1911), the most internationally famous Lithuanian artist, presented his work to Lithuania's educated classes. His were original and intuitive visions: the visual painting of [musical] sonatas, which turn to music in the perceiver's consciousness, and his music to color. The creations of this ingenious artist were also nourished by national artistic sources.

Source: *Lithuania Nature, History, Culture, Cities*

R. Paknio leidykla 1996

Text: Audra Kairienė

Translator: Mirga Dvarionienė

Editor Note: The Government of Lithuania has approved proposals to prepare for the centennial of the death of M.K. Čiurlionis in 2011. There will many events in Lithuania and abroad. The anniversary concert will be held in April at the Lithuanian National Philharmonic Hall.

The program is under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania.

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7. Annual Circulation Mailed in the United States: 2012-2013		8. Total Paid and Unpaid Circulation Outside the United States: 0	
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Calendar of Events for October, November & December 2010

Please verify all events as place 20 times are subject to change.

OCTOBER

Oct. 3, 2010 - Annual Fall Picnic,
Wyandotte County Park,
Sheller J. Bonner Springs, KS

Lithuanian Community's Fall Picnic is a tradition that was started many years ago by our community's first families. Gather at **Wyandotte County Park** to play games, eat & meet new & old friends.

Oct. 3, 2010 - VAIRAS Concert 4 pm

631 N 126th St Bonner Springs, KS
4 Cross St & Veterans Hwy
Jackson, N.J.
Sponsor:
Central N.J Chapter of the LAC

Oct. 8-10, 2010

Neringa Walk-a-Thon
www.neringa.org

Oct. 10, 2010

Holy Trinity parish Celebrates 110 years! 9:00 am
Msgr. Edmund Putrimas will be the celebrant
Holy Trinity Church
53 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT
Let us gather from far & wide to pay our respects to the thousands of Lithuanians who have drawn spiritual sustenance & nurtured their Lithuanian heritage in the Holy Trinity parish for 110 years.
Sponsor: LAC of Hartford
Contact: Danus Grajuskienė
Danuteg@juno.com

Oct. 10, 2010 - VAIRAS Concert & Dance Maironis Park 3 pm
52 So. Guinsgamond Ave.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
Everyone is welcome!

Info. & Reservations IRENA
508-799-5469 - irena.mark@aol.com
Coffee & snacks will be served

Oct. 16, 2010 - 8 pm
Concert by ZILVINAS ZVIGULIS & IRENA STAROSAITĖ, duo singing sensation from Lithuania
Polish Cultural Center Hall
177 Broadway, Clark NJ 07066
For info: 732-713-5108

Oct. 17, 2010 - CONCERT:
Evening with Steponas Januska
3:00 pm Location: RSVP: For info:
Romas 970-310-3170
Location: Little Europe Restaurant
1842 South Parker Rd,
Denver, CO 80231

Sponsor: Colorado Chapter of the LAC

Oct. 19, 2010 - Tuesday 7-9 pm
The Philadelphia Lithuanian Heritage Club, Amber Roots
Lithuanian Music Hall
2715 E. Allegheny Ave., Phila., PA
Please use the left side entrance & proceed downstairs. After the program, refreshments will be served. All are invited to attend.
For info: call Millie 610-497-5469
milliemarks@aol.com

Oct. 20, 2010 - DEADLINE

VENDOR TABLE RESERVATION for
Lithuanian Festival & Craft Fair
"MUGS" in Philadelphia, PA
Contact Virgus Voluntas
volletas@verizon.net
tel. 610-664-9425.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 6-7, 2010
Lithuanian Festival (Mugs)
Noon to 6 pm

Lithuanian Music Hall
2715 E. Allegheny Ave., Phila., PA
Lithuanian food, music, vendors & much

Nov. 12-13, 2010

Nov. Christmas Craft Sale
Friday, Nov. 12, 2010
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
*Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Inexpensive & handmade gifts & holiday decorations. Join our senior Sisters for this annual holiday event for some great deals, as well as a mini-bake sale featuring pumpkin pies, brownies & cookies from our kitchen.

3603 McRoberts Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15234
* Sponsored by Senior Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
*Info: 412-885-7232 or
www.ostp.org

Nov. 14, 2010 - 2 pm
BATTLE OF ZALGIRIS
Commemoration & Concert
Lithuanian Music Hall
2715 E. Allegheny Ave.
Phila, PA 19134

Feature - Zalgiris Battle importance & influence in European history.
Concert - DAINAVA
ENSEMBLE of Chicago.
For info: 215-248-3049

Nov. 16, 2010
(Tuesday) 7-9 pm
The Philadelphia Lithuanian Heritage Club, Amber Roots
Lithuanian Music Hall
2715 E. Allegheny Ave., Phila. PA

Please use the left side entrance & proceed downstairs. After the program, refreshments will be served. All are invited to attend.
For info: Call Millie 610-497-5469
email milliemarks@aol.com

Nov. 20, 2010 - LAUNA
(Lithuanian Athletic Union of North American) Meeting Starting time
11 am Lithuanian Club
877 East 185th St
Cleveland, OH 44119
Info: (tel./fax: 732-317-9195

DECEMBER

Dec. 5, 2010

* Crèche Display 10:00am-2:00pm
* Over 200 crèches & nativity scenes will be on display in the lecture hall. The Crèche Display is free for all to attend.

* For info, or directions, call (412) 885-7232.

* The Sisters also invite members of the community to enter their crèches to be displayed at the event. For eligibility, crèches must be received with completed registration forms at the Motherhouse by 5:00 pm on Friday, November 19th. Those interested in entering a crèche or nativity scene should call Sister Mary Ann Lososki at (412) 885-7232.
3603 McRoberts Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15234

Dec. 5, 2010 - 3-6 pm
"Kaledy Vakaros" - Christmas Party
Davis Hall at Wyandotte
County Lake Park
91st & Leavenworth Rd.

Kansas City, KS
(913) 573-8327 www.kcdhf.org
Sponsor: Kansas City LAC

Dec. 10, 2010 (Friday)

Dec. Soup Take Out
* Pickup: * 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
* \$5.00 for a quart of soup, plus 2 dinner rolls.
* To Order Call (412) 885-7232, by Friday, Dec. 3rd at 5 pm
Location: *3603 McRoberts Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15234

Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God

Dec. 14, 2010 - Kūčios 7-9 pm

(Tuesday) Lithuanian Music Hall
2715 E. Allegheny Ave., Phila. PA.
Please bring a meatless dish, Lithuanian if possible. Use the left side entrance and proceed downstairs. All are invited to attend. The Philadelphia Lithuanian Heritage Club, Amber Roots
For info: Millie at 610-497-5469
email milliemarks@aol.com

Dec. 18, 2010

Christmas Social (Kūčios) 7-9 pm
(free) 2:00-4:00 pm Bring a wrapped gift marked with child's name for Santa
Adult Dinner & Dance - attire - coat & tie
6:00 pm doors open 7:00 pm dinner
8:00 pm band playing 9:00 pm dancing
Fraternal Order of Eagles Hall
1151 S Galena Street
(just west of Mississippi & Havana)
Denver, CO 80247
Info:www.coloradolithuanians.org

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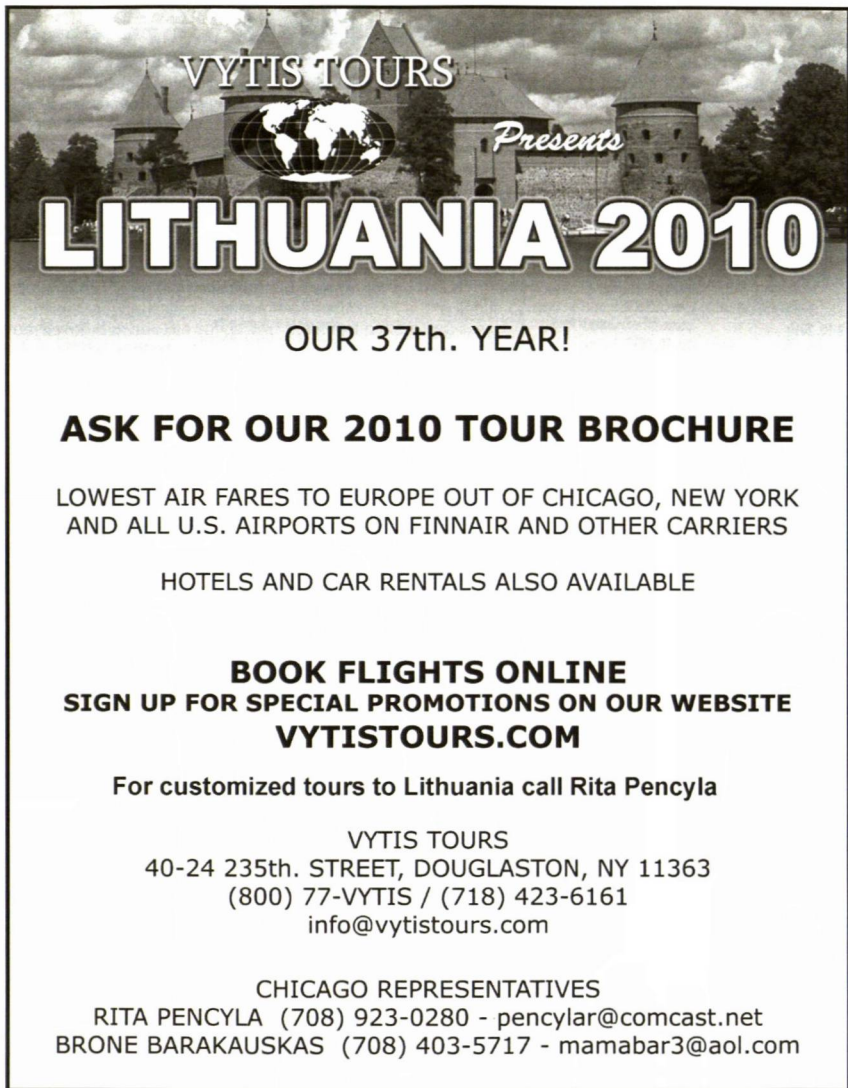
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BRONE BARAKAUSKAS (708) 403-5717 - mamabar3@aol.com

LITHUANIAN MARKET PLACE ONLINE: WWW.LACGIFTS.COM



29 - Baseball hat
\$ 20.00



20 - Amber necklace &
bracelet - \$ 30



27 - CD by Exultate / Rita
Kliorys, director - \$ 15



12 - "LIETUVA" scarf (4" x
52" long) - \$ 25



5 - CD by Jurga
"Instrukcija" - \$ 20



6 - CD by Jurga "Aukso
Pieva" - \$ 20



7 - CD by Vaivora (ethno-
cultural music) - \$ 20



8 - Vytis decal approx (3" x
3") - \$ 3



23 - Exploring Lithuania & Exploring Vilnius (2 set DVD with 3
hour total viewing time) - \$ 45.



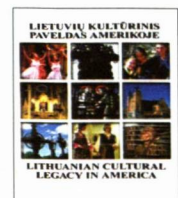
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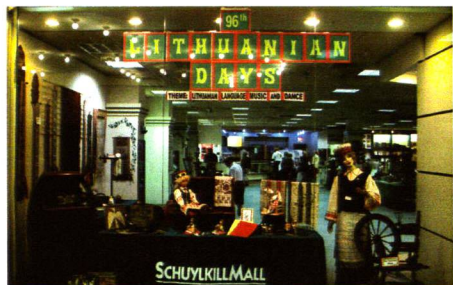
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