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## Student from Lithuania Attending King's College

by Florence Eckert

Shortly after his 19th birthday, Lauras Balaisa bid farewell to his parents and friends in Lithuania and boarded a jet headed for the United States of America.

Born and raised in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, this would be his first trip to America and although it was difficult to part, he looked forward to the anticipated excitement of actually spending the next four years in America.

Lauras's father is in business for himself as owner and operator of an American-Lithuania Trade Co. dealing in computers. He foresees his retirement in the near future and would like to see his son take over the business. He is investing in his son's education abroad because a diploma from an American college is very valuable in Lithuania. He also wanted his son to be able to study where he could concentrate on his studies and not fear the criminal situation that is now so prevalent on the streets of Lithuania.

While Lithuania was under Soviet occupation, the Communists did not allow private businesses. At that time Lauras's father was principal of a Sport School.

How does a young man in Lithuania select King's College in Wilkes-Barre as his choice of a school he would like to attend?

Lauras contacted Educational Consultants International (ECI) and was assisted by them in



Lauras stands proudly in front of his American college

choosing King's College as his school. Is he pleased with his selection? Very much so!

King's is a Catholic College with a Chapel where Mass is offered daily. When asked if he attends Mass at the school, Lauras replied he is not religious and does not attend simply because it's not something young people do in Lithuania. "Actually I don't know any man in Lithuania of my age who goes to church."

Lauras said in the three months he's been here he has attended Mass twice. "It's very different then in Lithuania. It's like a concert. You have singing

and all different things going on."

The churches in Lithuania are always open. Lauras was shocked to learn that many Catholic Churches in America are closed during the day due to church property being stolen. Fifty years with no religion and yet this young man had an in-born feeling that this was a despicable crime. "Stealing from church! But this is a very bad crime! It's a crime before God", he said.

(Continued on Page 3)



# 'S.P.L.' Christmas Special Continues

The Single Premium Life (SPL) Christmas special is continued until December 20, 1993. So you still have time to get those applications in to us in time for Christmas giving.

Just mail the request form on the right and an application will be rushed to you. All applica-

tions approved by December 20, 1993 will be immediately processed and your certificate will be sent to you in a gift box with the pretty plush toy we promised.

You can also enroll other family members in the policy of your choice listed on this page.

## Single Premium Life (One Payment Only)

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	106	265	530
5	116	290	580
15	160	400	800
25	220	550	1,100
35	320	800	1,600
45	470	1,175	2,350
60	804	2,010	4,020
70	1,100	2,750	5,500

## Lithuanian student (Continued from page 3)

Questioned about drunken driving laws in Lithuania, he noted you simply pay a fine and that's it.

Lauras is especially happy to be able to enjoy a great sense of security here. He said he feels safe walking the streets and this is a wonderful feeling. He noted he doesn't enjoy this feeling anywhere back home, not even on the street where he lives in Vilnius.

Does Lauras have time as a college student for a social life? He's attended a party or two but isn't a party animal. He left no steady girlfriend behind and has no ties here. However, there was a twinkle in his eye when he spoke of visiting certain cities in America on his summer vacation. An old flame from Lithuania happens to live in

Chicago so you can be sure that will be one of the cities on his summer travel list.

What does a young college age student from Lithuania think of the young girls in America. "Well, I'm only here since August so I'm not able to do much judging yet but I find the American girls shy. In Lithuania you can talk very openly with girls; they shy away from nothing." Regarding looks, "I don't want to insult the American women but I find Lithuanian girls more beautiful." As for the way they dress, he sees little contrast.

When Lauras completes his studies at King's and returns to Lithuania, the one thing he will miss most came as a surprise. "I think the safety," he said. "Because here I'm safe, I know of no robbers, no communists could reach me, I'm safe here. In Vilnius, I'm afraid to walk the streets."

## Christmas S.P.L. Special

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Coverage \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

## Christmas Special Expires 12/20/93

Return form to: 71-73 S. Washington Street  
Lithuanian Catholic Alliance Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

## Life Paid Up at 80 (Annual Premium)\*

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	13.38	25.95	46.90
5	14.28	28.20	51.40
15	17.60	36.50	68.00
25	22.48	48.70	92.40
35	30.94	69.85	134.70
50	56.78	134.45	263.90
60	94.58	228.95	452.90
70	193.88	477.20	949.40

## Twenty Payment Life (Annual Premium)\*

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	17.16	35.40	65.80
5	18.48	38.70	72.40
15	23.30	50.75	96.50
25	29.78	66.95	128.90
35	39.96	92.40	179.80
50	65.46	156.15	307.30
60	94.58	228.95	452.90

## Twenty Year Endowment (Annual Premium)\*

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	74.22	178.05	351.10
10	74.50	178.75	352.50
20	75.08	180.20	355.40
40	78.86	189.65	374.30
50	85.68	206.70	408.40
60	102.50	248.73	492.50

\*All rates quoted are without waiver of premium.

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## Lithuanian Student

(Continued from page 2)

When he left home, he was promised Christmas back in Lithuania with the family and is anxiously awaiting that trip. There will be so much to share with them having personally experienced life in America even though he wouldn't be here to celebrate an American Christmas. "Maybe next year," he said.

**"Actually, I don't know any man in Lithuania of my age who goes to church."**

Christmas in Lithuania is similar to America. The old customs were always there but for over 40 years they were forbidden by the communists. Lauras says now the Market Square is decorated, there's a Christmas tree, Santa, gifts just like in America but not as great an event. "Not very many people go there," he said; "they don't understand the Christmas custom and so they don't think it's useful." Only the old people go to church. The only way the younger generation learns anything about religion is from their grandparents. "You can't learn anything from your mother or father," he said, "because they were raised during the communist rule when everything was forbidden." If you were a member of the Communist Party and anyone saw you going to church, your career was lost forever.

People in Lithuania are beginning to trust and little by little they are attending churches.

"I think it will take about ten years for people to understand the sense of God," he said.

Having mentioned that he was going home for the Christmas Holiday, I asked just how he would celebrate it with his family.

"Actually the only thing we will do is my parents will put a few gifts under the tree for me. There is no big celebration."

Lithuania's stores are beginning to carry more items produced in Lithuania but much of what they carry is of poor quality. Many items are imported from Germany, Poland and other countries and are cheaper than the Lithuanian products.

Lithuania now has her own currency, the Lita. One U.S. dollar is worth about four Litas. To give you an idea of the value of the American dollar in Lithuania; one dollar would get you eight loaves of black bread.

Home heating and hot water are still a problem in Lithuania. Most homes do not have hot water and room temperatures are somewhere around 20 degrees.

The educational system is somewhat different than that in America. There are 12 years of schooling before you graduate but you go from first grade to ninth and then you go to what is known as Professional School. Many are unable to complete 12 years of study and just simply "drop out."

Lauras plans to complete his studies at King's in four years and says he has a goal in life and is working hard to achieve that goal. "My father feels he will only be able to work a few more years and would like to see me take over the business," he says and notes that he would be happy to do this.

When asked if after four years he might like to stay in America and make this his home, there was no hesitation in his reply.

"No, I will go back to Lithuania. It's my motherland, my family is there and I have to help them because they are old people.

Lauras speaks Russian, Lithuanian, English and Polish having learned at an early age. "I graduated from High School where we had English from the First grade with eight classes a week of English including ethnical translations of English literature, American literature and grammar. Russian was also

taught at school but I had a Russian grandmother and a Polish grandfather so I learned mostly from them."

**"I will go back to Lithuania. It's my motherland, my family is there and I have to help them because they are old people."**

What impression do the people of Lithuania have of America and the American people?

According to Lauras, the only information that reaches the people in Lithuania, especially the youth, is through Video and Movies and this is through translators who put the videos and movies into Lithuanian and sell them. Of course, the translations are not always what the original text portrayed and are often changed by the translators.

Except for the scientists and politicians who actually are aware of all that is going on in America, the average person is under the impression Americans are wealthy and this is the land of plenty.

But Lauras notes that when he arrived in America he found many dissimilarities. "Actually," he said, "life is quite the same here in some ways. It can be difficult at times. It is even more difficult to get a job and an education in America than in Lithuania."

He notes that in America honesty prevails and all policies are working making it difficult to cheat. Whereas in Lithuania, the whole economy stands on cheating. "You buy something on one corner and sell it on another."

Turning to politics, we questioned Lauras as to why the Lithuanian voters after 50 years of forced rule under Communism did an about face and voted for a former Communist official.

He noted that when Brazauskas and Landsbergis were competing for the votes, Landsbergis was going about constantly preaching to the peo-



**Lauras visits the Home Office**

ple to vote for him noting he would do everything for the people. Brazauskas in the meantime kept a low profile. The people were tired of the rising prices, and poor economic situation and questioned all the promises Landsbergis was making. Brazauskas was silent, and knowing he held a high position in the Communist Party at one time, they felt he had many influential friends and could possibly do more for them than Landsbergis.

When Brazauskas was up against Lozoraitis, students who had the right didn't bother to vote. "Students aren't interested in politics," he said. Actually, they're not interested in anything except parties, good times and drink."

Street fighters and robbers are found everywhere you go. Stores are open 24 hours a day. They are very small stores and sell alcohol and cigarettes and there is no strict observance of any drinking practices.

"Actually, the law states 18 as the age to purchase alcohol and 21 the age to drink in public. Laughingly Lauras says, "So you buy it and wait three years, then drink it."

(Continued on page 2)



## Old-Time Lithuanian Christmas

Christmas, the ancient festival of the return of the Sun, was known in most pre-Christian European nations. It celebrates victory over the winter's darkness, the virtual start of the New Year. Beginning with Christmas, the days begin to lengthen in Lithuania. The dark gloomy days of November and December (and the even darker nights), begin to end. When the festival of the sun's return was changed to the feast of Christ's Nativity, Lithuanians adopted it with the same enthusiasm and celebrated it with equal solemnity. Yet, in today's Christmas we still find many old customs, especially charms and predictions.

In earlier times, Christmas was celebrated for three days. This was quite feasible in a farming nation for work decreases in the middle of winter, only the household and livestock need care. All other labor can easily be postponed. The first day of Christmas was so sacred that only the most necessary work was allowed. There was no visiting, no cooking; only food prepared in advance was served. On Christmas morning, even before breakfast, the family sang holy Christmas hymns, then exchanged Christmas greetings and finally ate breakfast.

In the country, early on Christmas morning the hay was removed from the Christmas Eve table and taken to the livestock. The person removing the hay examined whether many seeds -- grain -- had fallen from the hay. Many seeds signified a good harvest the following year. The hay from the supper table was fed to the cows, oxen and sheep. Horses were excluded because the Bible does not mention the presence of a horse in the stable at Jesus' birth.

After going outdoors, people closely examined the Christmas weather. If Christmas was white, Easter would be green. If it happened that the snow had not yet covered the ground at Christmas, it would certainly snow at Easter. People also tried to remember if they owed anyone anything. All debts had to be repaid by Christmas, otherwise much debt would be incurred all year long.

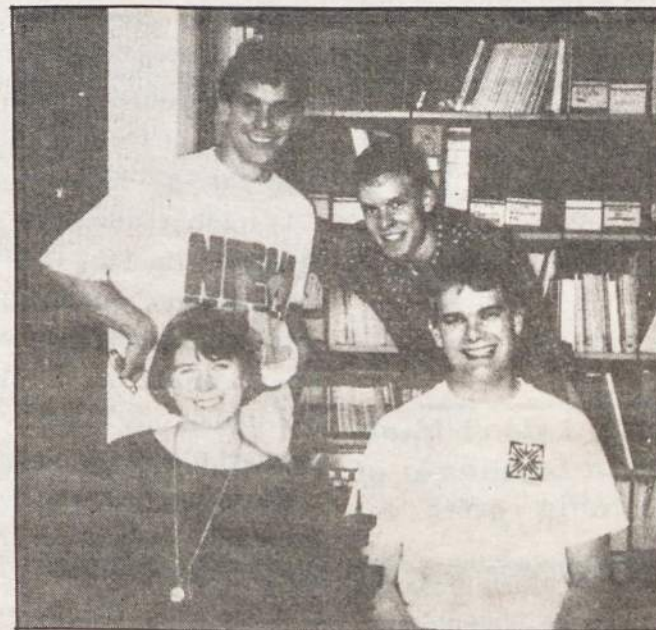
In more recent times, people stirred from their homes even on the first day of Christmas though they never forgot this was the feast of Christ's nativity. Neighbors assembled at the home of a larger landowner, sang Christmas carols and other hymns, prayed together and only then did the musicians make their appearance.

The homeowners were the first to dance thus launching the festivities. This signaled the official end of Advent, for entertainment during Advent was shunned or even forbidden.

The Christmas season lasts until the Feast of the Epiphany. During this period, every evening is considered a time for recreation. It was a perfect opportunity to go visiting, take refreshments, make merry because heavy toil was not required, the season was too holy for that.

In Lithuania, it became accepted to decorate Christmas trees only during the period of independence (especially the second decade). The custom and most of the tree decorations came from Germany. The decorations were mostly made of glass: angels, various figures, soldiers, balls, etc. Candy in shiny colored wrappings, red apples and pretty cookies were also hung on the tree. After Christmas, the children were allowed to "pick" the goodies off the tree, while the decorations

## U.S. Volunteers to Serve in Lithuania's Catholic Schools



**Standing:** Kurtis Weiting, Edward Peterson; **seated:** Heather Coates and J. David Cotter

On September 5, a group of four volunteers left New York for a one-year period of service as teachers of English in Lithuania's Catholic schools. This is the first team of volunteers to travel to Lithuania under the auspices of Faith in Action, a U.S. program of Catholic voluntary service for Eastern Europe. Faith in Action, having established a successful program in the Czech Republic, has undertaken an expansion to Lithuania in close cooperation with Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. The volunteers will be serving in two schools, in the towns of Utena and Panevezys. They are expected not only to teach English, but to become active members of the local Catholic community so that, by their example, they might encourage local youth to bear witness to their faith in an

active way and to undertake voluntary service to others.

The four recent college graduates: Heather Coates of Topeka, KS; J. David Cotter of Broken Arrow, OK; Edward Peterson of Emerson, N.J.; and Kurtis Weiting of Green Bay, WI spent four days at the offices of LCRA prior to their departure, where they participated in an orientation program designed to familiarize them with Lithuanian history, culture, political and religious life, and give them a brief introduction to the Lithuanian language. The orientation program was conducted by Rebecca Martin, representative of LCRA and Faith in Action in Lithuania and included informational briefings by representatives of organizations actively involved in work in Lithuania. Please remember these dedicated young people in your prayers!

**LCRA**

were put away for next year. Because the trees were lit with real candles, these were lighted only once, after dinner on Christmas Eve. Later the tree's branches were already too dry and people were afraid the candle flames could cause a fire. In Germany, it was customary to decorate the tree for Christmas

Eve, then remove the decorations and discard the tree on the first day of Christmas. Lithuanians did not adopt this custom and the tree remained in the home until the Epiphany (the official conclusion of the Christmas season).

(Taken from "Lithuanian Customs and Traditions" by Danute Brazyte-Bindokiene)



# Christmas Recipes

Treat your Christmas guests to a special Lithuanian Cider. Although Viryta is the best known of Lithuanian Christmas drinks, it is not too easy for the amateur cook to tackle this special treat. Many varied spices are required that aren't normally in the average kitchen and one must be very careful in adding the 190-proof alcohol to the mixture. So for the average cook the following cider treats will be something very special and very different to serve your Holiday guests.

## CRANBERRY CIDER

2 gallons water  
2 lbs. cranberries (fresh or frozen with no additives or preservatives)  
1 lb. sugar  
2 tsp. fresh yeast  
10 - 20 raisins

Cover cranberries with water and simmer until berries burst. Crust and strain to remove skins and seeds, add sugar. Cream yeast with 2 tbs. sugar and add to berry liquid after it is completely cooled, mix well. Allow to ferment 24 hours in open container or covered with cheesecloth. Remove foam from top and strain cider. Pour into bottles, adding several raisins to each. Place in a cool spot, like the cellar. Ready to drink in 3 days; then keep refrigerated.

Note: Prepared frozen or bottled cranberry juice is not suitable for cranberry cider because the juice contains preservatives which prevent fermentation. Cider cannot be made without fermentation.

## CARAWAY CIDER

2 gallons water  
3/4 - 1 cup caraway seeds  
1 lb. sugar (honey may also be used)  
2 tbsps. fresh yeast  
1 lemon

Rinse caraway seeds, add water, cover and simmer 30 minutes (to produce a very strong fragrant caraway tea). Strain to

remove seeds, add sugar. Cut lemon into slices, cream yeast with several (at least two) tbsps. sugar and add to liquid, only after it has cooled. If honey is used instead of sugar, the yeast must still be creamed with two tbsps. sugar.

Cover container with cloth or cheesecloth. Ferment 2-3 days at room temperature. Remove foam which forms on top, strain, pour into bottles and cork. Keep in cool place like a cellar. Ready to drink in 2-3 days (then keep refrigerated).

**General note about ciders:** When cider is poured into bottles, at least 1 to 1 1/2 inches must be left at top because the fermentation process continues and the cider sometimes pops the cork (occasionally, the bottle itself may explode, especially if the cider is kept in a warm place. Glass bottles are the most suitable for cider.

## PENUCHE NUT ICEBOX COOKIES

1 cup shortening  
1 cup light brown sugar  
1 large egg  
1/2 tsp. vanilla  
3 cups flour  
1/4 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. baking powder  
1/3 tsp. salt  
1/2 cup chopped nut meats

Stir the shortening until smooth and creamy. Add the brown sugar, which should be sifted. Beat the egg and add to the first mixture. Add vanilla, then sift together the dry ingredients and stir in. Shape this dough into a roll about 2 inches in diameter, wrap in waxed paper, and chill in the refrigerator a few hours. When the dough is firm, slice paper-thin with a very sharp knife. Place on a large oiled pan and sprinkle with the chopped nuts. Bake in a moderate oven, 375 degrees F., for 10 minutes.

**Icebox Hermits:** To icebox

cookie dough, add 1/2 tsp. cinnamon, 1/2 tsp. ground clove, 1/4 tsp. nutmeg and 3/4 cup finely chopped raisins instead of nuts.

**Icebox Brownies:** Add to icebox cookie dough, 2 squares melted cooking chocolate.

## ORIGINAL CHRISTMAS CUT-OUTS

1 cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
2 tbsps. milk  
2 tbsps. anise oil to taste  
4 tsp. baking powder  
4 to 5 cups flour

Cream the butter and sugar together until very light. Beat the eggs and add slowly to the butter and sugar. Add the milk, one teaspoon at a time beating constantly. Add anise oil.

Sift four cups of flour with the baking powder and add one cup at a time until all have been added. Use as little flour as possible of the remaining cup. Flour table or board and take 1/4 of the mixture and roll it out 1/4 inch thick. Cut in shapes with cookie cutters. Place on floured baking sheets and bake in moderate 350° oven for about 10 minutes.

Decorate with colored icing and sprinkles as desired. Powdered sugar mixed with milk or water will suffice for an icing.

## WHITE FRUIT CAKE

12 oz. cream cheese  
3/4 lb. butter or margarine  
6 eggs  
2 1/4 cups sugar  
3 tsp. vanilla  
3 3/4 cups flour (sifted)  
3 tsp. baking powder  
3/4 cup glazed cherries  
3/4 cup glazed pineapple  
1/2 cup pecan nuts  
1 1/2 cups golden raisins

Cream together cheese, margarine and sugar adding eggs one at a time. Add baking powder to flour, fruit and nuts and blend this mixture into batter.

Grease two loaf pans.

Sprinkle some chopped nuts on bottom of pans. Pour in batter and bake at 325° for one hour and twenty minutes.

## CHRISTMAS BUTTONS

2/3 cup Planters Peanut Oil  
1/2 tsp. peppermint flavoring  
1/2 cup confectioners sugar  
2 cups sifted flour  
1 cup chopped Planters Cocktail Peanuts  
Green Coloring

Beat together peanut oil, flavoring and sugar until smooth. Add flour and peanuts. Add coloring to make a light green. Mixture should be very stiff. Form in long roll 1" in diameter. Chill and cut in 1/4" slices.

Bake on un-oiled cookie sheet 5 to 7 minutes (400°F). While still warm, dip outside edges in confectioners sugar.

Variation: Add red coloring to make light pink cookies and vary size by forming 2" rolls before chilling.

## BISCOTTI ITALIAN COOKIES

6 cups flour  
6 eggs  
2 cups sugar  
1/4 lb. butter  
2 tsp. vanilla  
3 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 lb. walnuts  
pinch salt  
1/2 jar or 1/2 box anise seeds  
Milk as needed

Sift together all dry ingredients

Add 3 beaten eggs to above  
Add 3 remaining eggs with butter and vanilla

Add enough milk to make cookie dough consistency. Add 1/2 lb. chopped nuts.

Roll dough pencil thin. Form into desired shapes (pretzel, balls, figure 8, figure 0, etc. Bake at 350° for 10 to 12 minutes.

Make a frosting of powdered sugar and water adding coloring as desired.



## Monsignor Pakutka Celebrates

### Golden Jubilee of Ordination



**Msgr. William Pakutka**

Monsignor William Pakutka, pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Lynwood, was honored by the parish on Sunday, Nov. 21, with a Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving in the presence of Bishop James C. Timlin. Monsignor Pakutka observed the golden jubilee of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood, having completed 50 years of active academic and pastoral ministry.

Born on January 15, 1918, the jubilarian is a native of Duryea, the son of the late Anthony Pakutka and Agnes Kulokas. After graduation from Duryea schools, he attended St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and was ordained to the priesthood on November 20, 1943, by the late Bishop William J. Hafey.

Msgr. Pakutka's first assignment was at St. Patrick's Church in Wilkes-Barre than at Immaculate Conception also in Wilkes-Barre.

In 1947, he was appointed chaplain to the Little Sisters of the Poor of Maloney Home in Scranton, and professor of philosophy at Marywood College.

This latter position he held for the following 21 years. By special appointment in 1949, Father Pakutka served as contributing editor of *The Catholic Light*, a post which he filled for fifteen years. Beginning in 1962, in addition to his teaching duties, he served as chaplain of Marywood College.

On September 8, 1967, after 20 years of faithful service at Marywood College, Father Pakutka was inducted into the order of *Cor Mariae Pro Fide et Cultura*. In 1968, he was named Chaplain to His Holiness, Pope Paul VI and given the title of Very Reverend Monsignor. In the same year he was asked to serve as pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church, Honesdale.

In September, 1972, in the wake of the devastating Agnes flood of that summer, he became pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Wilkes-Barre, which suffered extensive damage and needed much restoration. In recognition of service and devotion to the people of St. Casimir's, Msgr. Pakutka was elevated to the rank of Prelate of Honor by the Holy See on March 17, 1983.

Following the Mass of Thanksgiving, a testimonial dinner was held at Convention Hall, Pittston, PA.

## Brazauskas Visits China

On November 15, Algirdas Brazauskas held a press conference, broadcast live by Radio Lithuania, on his recently completed week-long visit to China. He held talks in Beijing with President Jiang Zemin on November 8 and with Prime Minister Li Peng on November 9. The talks primarily focused on

economic questions, especially Chinese trade to Europe through the Lithuanian port of Klaipeda. Li Peng also discussed Chinese reforms in agriculture and its efforts to gain foreign investments and inquired about Brazauskas's views on the future of the CIS. Lithuanian Transportation Minister Jonas Birziskis and

## Bishop Paul A. Baltakis Reports on the Visit of the Holy Father

As a result of the re-establishment of national independence and religious freedom, Pope John Paul II was able to visit Lithuania for the first time, from September 4-8. Despite bad weather and difficult economic conditions throughout the country, approximately one million people turned out to greet the Holy Father in person.

In his welcoming address, Lithuania's President A. Brazauskas thanked Pope John Paul II for his moral support "during the years of struggle for independence" and expressed the hope that this visit would, "bear witness to the strength of the Christian spirit, which will aid us in overcoming the many hardships of the transition period...and help to heal the wounds inflicted on the Church and believers in the recent past."

The Holy Father, pleased that he was finally able to fulfill his strong desire to visit Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, gave thanks to God for the opportunity to learn first hand about these nations' religious, moral, and socio-economic problems. He in-

vited all to bear witness to Christ in all aspects of their lives and encouraged prayer to Mary, the Mother of Nations so that, "peace and brotherhood might prevail in the Baltic states."

LCRA was represented in Lithuania on this momentous occasion by six Board members (Bishop Paul Baltakis, OM; Msgr. V. Balciunas; Rev. A. Contons; Rev. J. Pakalniskis; and Mr. Robert Boris), former Board member Rev. J. Rikteraitis, President of the Canadian Lithuanian Catholic Center, Mr. V. Taseckas, and over 150 LCRA benefactors participating in pilgrimages.

Following the departure of the Holy Father, I continued my stay in Lithuania, meeting with the bishops and with leaders of "Caritas" to discuss the needs of the Catholic Church. All with whom I met asked that I convey their most sincere gratitude to all of LCRA's contributors for years of support!

**-Bishop Paul A. Baltakis,  
OFM**

**Chairman of the Board LCRA**

We are happy to welcome Kaitlin E. Ostrowski as a new member of Lodge 171.

Kaitlin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Ostrowski of Michigan. She celebrated her third birthday this past February. Kaitlin's mother is also a member of Lodge 171.

the Chinese railroad minister signed an agreement regulating mutual settlements for cargo and passenger transportation by rail.

On November 10-11, he held talks with officials and businessmen on the island of Hainan and visited various establishments in its free economic zone.

**Extracted from: RFE/RL  
Daily report. Saulius Girnius**

## New Member



**KAITLIN E. OSTROWSKI**





## Franciscan Nuns Stationed in Lithuania

The sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God have undertaken a new mission. Three of their order are serving the Catholic church in Lithuania which after decades of Communist suppression, is being given new life for the people of Lithuania.

It was no easy decision for the good sisters, but serving the Lithuanian people was part of their early tradition.

In 1936, the community sent two sisters to Lithuania to take University courses while surveying the possibility of helping the church there. Soon they were managing a girl's vocational school in Kaunas. The two sisters were later joined by three more, but the rumblings of World War II soon began. On orders from the U.S. consul, the sisters were forced to leave Lithuania in 1941.

Lithuania's long struggle for independence ended on March 11, 1990 when this nation declared its freedom. However, this was only the beginning of the long struggle facing these people to rebuild their country's faith and identity.

The underground church kept Catholicism alive through the years and many of the religious took their vows or were ordained by this church.

At the invitation of Sister Albina Pajarskaite, general secretary of the Lithuanian Caritas federation, Sister Michele Garas and Sister Dolorita Butkus journeyed to Utena, Lithuania in October of 1992 to begin their ministry.

In September of 1993, Sister Dolorita's ministry moved to Kretinga where she was joined by Sister Marianne Walters.

After decades of persecution, the Church cannot be transformed overnight. So much work needs to be done, especially in the area of education. The people of Lithuania are in need

of help, both physically and spiritually.

The sisters are there for the people, offering support and guidance. Most importantly, the people need to feel and experience the presence of religious men and women in their daily lives. Catholicism must once again become a part of life in Lithuania.

The educational process for Franciscan religious is underway in Lithuania with plans for a novitiate in Kretinga, a postulancy in Vilnius and a formation house for seminarians in Kaunas.

Evangelization centers are being organized in Kaunas and Vilnius. A Catholic college has been established in Kretinga. Originally a women's college, it is now co-educational. The college has a course that prepares young people to assist pastors in their work. The evangelization center of Kretinga is housed in the same building as the college, a former city government building being given back to the Franciscans.

Seminarians are able to be educated in Rome for the first time in 50 years.

Sister Margaret Carney, OSF, General Superior of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God, notes the success of our shared mission depends on your help and, most of all, your prayers.

Please join us with your prayers and help for the Lithuanian people  
Send contributions to:  
**The Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God**  
Grove and McRoberts Roads  
Pittsburgh, PA 15234  
412-882-9911



## Lodge 48 Secretary Resigns

Due to failing health, Lodge 48 Secretary, Antanas Zailskas notified the Home Office of his resignation.

Born in Lithuania, September 26, 1911, he completed his studies at Kauno High School with a degree in engineering.

During the Soviet invasion, he was forced to leave Lithuania and arrived in America in 1950, settling in Cicero, ILL.

The parish priest of St. Anthony's in Cicero organized the Lithuanians who were already settled to help the new arrivals find jobs and housing. Mr. Zailskas and his wife Teodora raised a son and daughter.

From the date of his arrival, he became a member of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance and also signed up the entire family.

He was a very active member of the community and when Lodge 48 was in need of a new secre-



ANTANAS ZAILSKAS

tary, he offered to serve and served well for more than 20 years..

During that time, he signed up many new members and notified the home office of their needs.

The dedication Mr. Zailskas showed during his tenure as secretary of Lodge 48 is an example of true fraternalism at its best.

### Advent and Christmas

In Advent we can contemplate what the coming of Jesus Christ means to our lives. Symbols like Advent wreaths and calendars can be starting points for reflection, discussion and prayer. Still, the joyful expectation of Christmas that is the spirit of Advent is often lost getting ready for December 25th. Decide how you want to celebrate the birth of Christ and involve the whole family.

We should talk about the Nativity and the Virgin Birth with our children. Today they hear more about Santa Claus than the Baby Jesus so it's no wonder that Santa takes first place in their hearts and in their minds.

The spirit of Christmas seems to fade with the wrapping paper and tinsel when it should just be beginning to come to life after the birth is announced.

The old time Christmas celebration lasted as the song goes,

for 12 days with people visiting homes of friends and relatives and sharing Christmas joy.

Extend the Christmas celebration into the New Year giving thanks for 1993 and looking forward to a Healthy, Happy and Holy 1994.

## Msgr. Yashkas settled at Little Flower Manor

Our Spiritual Director Msgr. Frank Yashkas is settled in his new residence at Little Flower Manor in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

On our last visit we were happy to see Msgr. concelebrating Mass in the Manor's lovely Chapel.

For those who wish to drop him a Christmas card, his address is:

Msgr. Frank L. Yashkas  
Little Flower Manor  
200 S. Washington Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702



## AMBASADORIUS ST. LOZORAITIS IŠVYKO Į ROMA

Lapkričio 11 d. ambasadorius Stasys Lozoraitis su žmona Daniela išvyko iš Washingtono į Romą, kur p. Lozoraitis eis Lietuvos Respublikos ambasadoriaus Italijoje pareigas.

Antradienį, lapkričio 9 d., JAV Valstybės departamente įvyko Ambasadoriui Lozoraičiui skirtas pagerbimas. Jame dalyvavo aukšti JAV Valstybės departamento pareigūnai ir, šalia S. Lozoraičio, trys ambasadoriai - Estijos ir Latvijos ambasadoriai JAV-oms ir JAV ambasadorius Lietuvai. Atsisveikinimo žodį tarė Valstybės departamento sekretoriaus pavaduotojas Europos ir Kanados reikalams Alexander Vershbow. Jis S. Lozoraičiui įteikė padėkos raštą, pasirašytą Valstybės Sekretoriaus Warren Christopher (teksto vertimas pateikiamas dešinėje).

Kol naujasis Lietuvos ambasadorius JAV-oms Alfonsas Eidintas atvyks į Washingtoną, ambasados reikalus nuo lapkričio 12 d. tvarkys laikinasis reikalų patikėtinis Jonas Paslauskas.



Lietuvos Respublikos Ambasadorius Stasys Lozoraitis. Liudo Tamošaičio nuotrauka.

Jungtinių Amerikos Valstijų Valstybės Departamentas

### PADĖKOS RAŠTAS

#### Lietuvos Respublikos Ambasadoriui STASIUI LOZORAIČIUI

Ambasadoriui Stasiui Lozoraičiui su dideliu susižavėjimu bei gilia padėka už pasiaukojantį darbą puoselėjant demokratiją bei tarptautinę pagarbą laisvei per daugiau nei pusę amžiaus išskirtinės tarnybos tiek esant humanistu, tiek ir vyresniuoju Lietuvos diplomatų korpuso nariu. Remdamas laisvą, nepriklausomą Lietuvą per tamsiausius Sovietų okupacijos metus, o taip pat per triumfuojantį Lietuvos grįžimą į demokratinių tautų šeimą, Jūs su užsidegimu diegėte tai Amerikos ir

### IŠ LIETUVOS IR APIE LIETUVĄ

-- **Sąjūdžio ketvirtasis** suvažiavimas įvyks gruodžio 18 d. Pagrindinis klausimas, kurį numatoma suvažiavime aptarti - Sąjūdžio ateitis.

-- **Lietuvos prezidento A. Brazausko** dekretais naujuoju socialinės apsaugomos ministru (vietoj atsistatydinusio T. Medaiskio) paskirtas Laurynas Mindaugas Stankevičius, o krašto apsaugos ministru paskirtas Linas Antanas Linkevičius (vietoj atsistatydinusio Audriaus Butkevičiaus). Naujojo krašto apsaugos ministro biografijoje yra ir šios eilutės: dirbo komjaunimo Centro Komitete, buvo TSKP narys, dabar - LDDP narys.

-- **Lietuvos specialiosios** tarnybos imasi tam tikrų priemonių Aukščiausiojo Teismo pirmininko M. Lošio saugumui užtikrinti po anonimino grasinimo susprogdinti jo namą.

-- **Baltijos jūros valstybių** posėdis vyko Karaliaučiuje spalio 27-29 d. Jame aptartas Baltijos šalių ekonominis integravimas.

-- **Ginklų ir karinės** technikos perteklius iš Čekijos Respublikos arsenalų, kurių vertė 2 mln. kronų, bus perduotas kaip pagalba Lietuvos kariuomenei. Tokį nutarimą priėmė Čekijos vyriausybė.

-- **Lietuvos bankų biržos** oficialus atidarymas įvyko spalio 26 d. Biržoje dabar galima pirkti

ir parduoti tik konvertuojamą valiutą. Vėliau numatoma prekiauti ir nekonvertuojama, NVS šalių valiuta, kreditais depozitais, atlikti kitas bankų operacijas. Sumokėję tūkstančio litų stojamąjį mokesť biržoje galės prekiauti Lietuvos bankas bei jame įregistruoti bankai ir kredito įstaigos.

-- **Lietuvos Seimo** posėdyje pranešta, kad bankų vadovų mėnesio atlyginimai yra apie 2,500, tai yra vos ne trigubai didesni už Lietuvos Prezidento ir 50 kartų didesni už vidutinį žemdirbių atlyginimą.

-- **Į apyvartą** nuo lapkričio pradžios, pertvarkant komercinių bankų rezervus, turėtų patekti apie 20 mln. litų. Komercinių bankų privalomi 12% įstatinio kapitalo rezervai iki lapkričio 1 d. buvo formuojami taip: 25% litais, 75% valiuta. Dabar šie rezervai sudaromi vien valiuta.

-- **Finansų ministras E. Vilkelis** spalio 28 d. vyriausybės vardu pateikė Seimui įstatymo projektą dėl brangių turta įsigyjančių Lietuvos gyventojų pajamų deklaravimo. Pagal jį, brangių laikytinas iš karto ar dalimis įsigyjamas turtas, kurio kaina didesnė kaip 25,000. Vyriausybė siūlo, kad šis įstatymas pradėtų galioti nuo kitų metų sausio 1 d.

-- **Kandidatai į Lietuvos banko** valdybos pirmininko postą jau minimi Seimo ir vyriausybės užkulisiuose. Manoma, kad realiausia yra Žemės ūkio banko valdybos pirmininko Prano Vilūno kandidatūra. Minimos taip pat Lietuvos Taupomojo banko valdybos pirmininko Vyganto Bubnio ir Valsybinio Komercinio banko valdybos pirmininko pavaduotojo Kazio Ratkevičiaus pavardės.

-- **Lietuvos Vyriausybė** savo atstovu Šiaulių miestui ir rajonui, Joniškio, Pakruojo ir Radviliškio rajonams paskyrė LDDP Šiaulių miesto tarybos pirmininką Alvydą Šedžių. Šedžius nemažai metų dirbo komjaunimo darbu, buvo paskutiniu kompartijos sekretoriumi Šiauliuose.

tarptautinės visuomenės sąmonėje. Mes didžiai įvertiname Jūsų profesionalumą garbingoje visuomenės tarnyboje, turinčioje tradicijas Jūsų šeimoje. Mes taip pat pagerbiame Jūsų nenugalimą pasiaukojimą žmogaus teisių sampratai, kuomet rizikavote savo asmeniniu gyvenimu ir laisve. Jūsų drąsa ir puikus darbas yra tikro patrioto ir pasaulio piliečio pavyzdžiai.

**Warren Christopher**  
Valstybės Sekretorius

1993 metų birželis



## Baltijos šauksmas

Baltijos jūra visada turėjo milžinišką reikšmę Lietuvai ne tik kaip patogus susisiekimo ir prekybos su kaimynais kelias, bet kaip ir neatskiriama lietuvių charakterio formavimo sąlyga. Baltijos jūros ošimas ir jos horizontai neleido lietuviams pamiršti laisvės siekio.

Dar ne taip seniai lietuviai atvykdavo prie Baltijos jūros, kad, susikibę rankomis kartu su latviais, estais, lenkais, apkabintų Baltiją ir pasakytų: mes Tave išsaugosim.

Lietuva galvojo, kad Baltijos jūra sunkiai serga, kad reikalinga valymo įrenginius pastatyti Kaune, Klaipėdoje. Visa tai svarbu, tačiau šiandien iškilo apie pusę šimtmečio slėpta tiesa, kuri lyg ilgo veikimo bomba sudrebino visas apie Baltijos jūrą išsidėsčiusias valstybes.

Pasirodė, kad Baltijos jūros dugne yra nuo 6,5 iki 10 tūkst. tonų palaidotų cheminių medžiagų. Didžiausia jų dalis buvo nuskandinta po karo sąjungininkų įsakymu. Pagrindiniai šių operacijų dalyviai - Sovietų Sąjunga, Rytų Vokietija, Didžioji Britanija. Pavyzdžiui, 1947 m. Gotlando salos rajone buvo paskandinta apie 2 tūkst. tonų nežinomos kilmės cheminių medžiagų.

Liudininkai sako, kad 1946 m. apie 15 tūkst. tonų cheminių medžiagų buvo paskandinta į pietus nuo Bornholmo salos, priklausančios Danijai. O į rytus nuo Bornholmo salos 1947-1948 m. sovietų karinės vadovybės Vokietijoje įsakymu buvo paskandinta 35 tūkst. tonų bombų ir sviedinių su iprito dujomis.

Apie 200 tonų nuodingųjų medžiagų buvo dar nuskandinta Rytų Vokietijos vadovybės įsakymu tarp 1952 m. ir 1965 m.

Spėliojama, po kiek laiko metaliniai sviedinių ir bombų korpusai

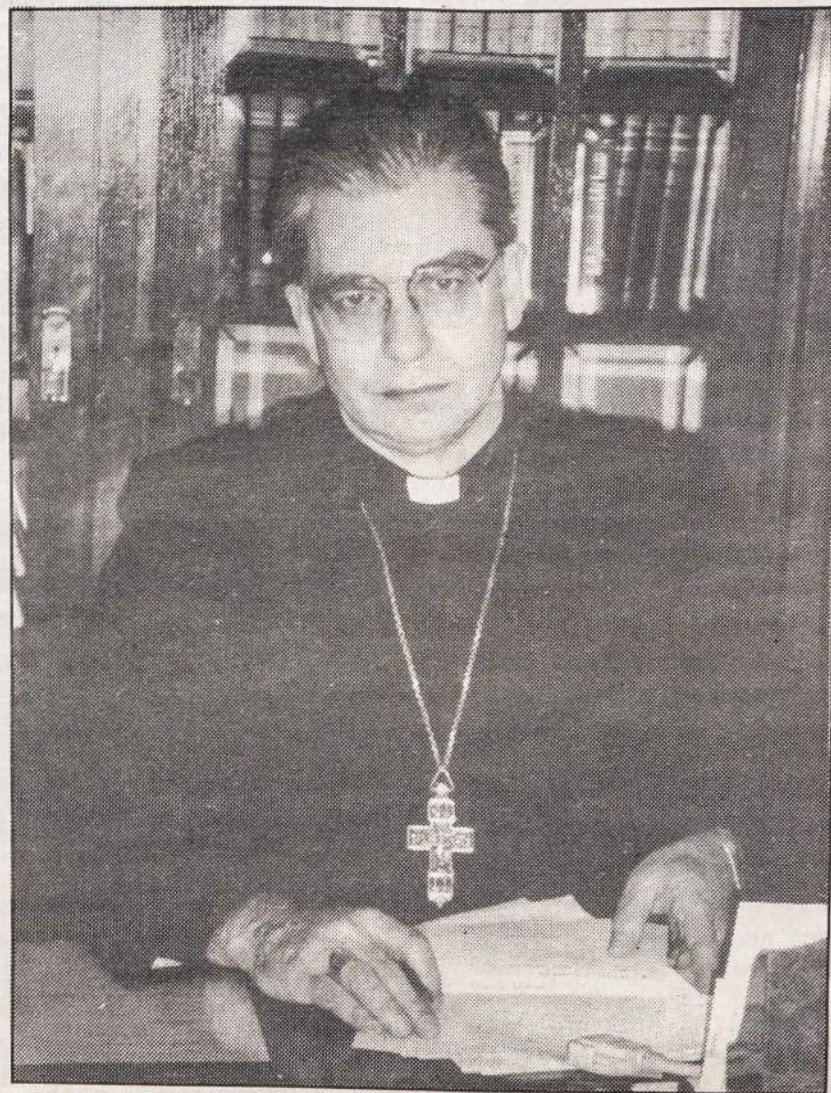
surudys ir dujos pateks į vandenį? Pasirodo tai gali trukti nuo 10 iki 400 metų. Cheminės medžiagos, kuriose yra arseniko, taip pat iprito dujos dėl jų cheminės sudėties gali užnuodyti vandenį. Neatmeta galimybė, kad bangos gali išplauti chemines medžiagas į krantą, nors dar nėra užregistruota tokio atvejo.

Rusija pateikia informaciją apie medžiagų skandinimą tik iki 1947 m. Kai kurie pranešimai teigia, kad rusai skandino cheminį ginklą ir vėliau, net iki 1956 m.

Ateinančių metų sausio mėnesį Kopenhagoje įvyks Baltijos jūros aplinkos apsaugos komisijos darbo grupės susitikimas, o kovo mėn. ši grupė pateiks savo rekomendacijas Helsinkio komisijai bei Baltijos šalių aplinkos apsaugos ministrų susitikimui. Į šią grupę įeina visų aplink Baltijos jūrą esančių šalių atstovai. Ji turi nustatyti tiksliai Antrojo pasaulinio karo metais Baltijos jūroje nuskandintų cheminių medžiagų vietą ir pasiūlyti Baltijos šalių vyriausybėms, kaip išvengti užteršimo pavojaus. Lietuva šiems tyrimams kol kas neišleido nė cento.

Gal Lietuvos vyriausybės nedomina Baltijos jūros likimas? Baltijos jūra dabar Lietuvoje prisimenama, tik kai reikia aptarti naftos terminalo statybos klausimus arba jūros prekybos kelius ir uosto problemas. Kada Lietuvos vadovai supras, kad visos šios problemos vieną dieną gali išnykti, nes laiku nebuvo prisidėta prie pagrindinės - Baltijos jūros užteršimo - problemos sprendimo.

Kaip mes vaikams paiškinsime: kur šioje Žemėje yra Lietuva, jei nebebus švarios ir saugios Baltijos jūros. Kokia bus Lietuva, jei Baltija nebeišplaus gintaro? O Baltija juk buvo ir dar yra gintarinė...



Arkivysk. Audrys Bačkis

Spalio 15 d. naujuoju Lietuvos vyskupų konferencijos pirmininku išrinktas Vilniaus metropolitas arkivyskupas Audrys Juozas Bačkis.

73 metų kardinolas Vincentas Sladkevičius, beveik pusšimtų metų buvęs aukščiausiu Lietuvos Katalikų Bažnyčios hierarchu, iš šio posto atsistatydino prieš kelias savaites, lankydamasis Vatikane.

Kardinolo atsistatydinimą priėmė popiežius Jonas Paulius II. Arkivyskupas A. J. Bačkis išrinktas Kaune įvykusioje Lietuvos vyskupų konferencijoje slaptu balsavimu pagal Vyskupų konferencijos statutą.

A. J. Bačkis gimė 1937 m. vasario 11 d. Kaune. 1954 m. baigė

vidurinį mokslą Paryžiuje ir įstojo į St. Sulpice kunigų seminariją. 1961 m. išventintas kunigu. 1962-1964 m. studijavo Pontificia Academia Ecclesiastica,

1964 m. Laterano universitete apgynė bažnytinės teisės doktoratą. Dirbo įvairių darbų apaštališkose nunciatūrose Filipinuo-

se, Kosta Rikoje, Turkijoje, Nigerijoje, o nuo 1973 m. - perkeltas į Vatikaną. Iki paskyrimo Vilniaus arkivyskupu 1991 m. gruodžio 24 d. buvo Vatikano pronuncijus Olandijoje.

A. J. Bačkis dalyvavo lietuvių tautiniame judėjime - ateitininkų, skautų, Lietuvių Bendruomenėje.

Sveikiname naują Lietuvos vyskupų konferencijos pirmininką!

## Naujasis Lietuvos vyskupų konferencijos pirmininkas

*Džiugių*

*šv. Kalėdų*

*ir laimingų*

*naujų metų*





## ALTO 53-ojo metinio suvažiavimo, įvykusio 1993 m. spalio 30 d. Chicagoje, REZOLIUCIJOS

1. Suvažiavimas ragina JAV lietuvių visuomenę aktyviai tęsti 1940 m. pradėtą veiklą. Ta veikla dabar yra taip pat reikalinga kaip ir prieš 53 metus.

Kol JAV-jose gyvens sąmoningi lietuviai, tol čia bus reikalinga ALT — juos vienijanti ir jų reikalus atstovaujanti organizacija.

2. Dabartiniai ALTO tikslai yra:

A. Tęsti ir stiprinti JAV vyriausybės įtaigojimą šiais atžvilgiais: nepriklausomos Lietuvos saugumo, ekonominio gerbūvio Lietuvoje kėlimo, etnografinių Lietuvos sienų apjungimo.

B. Teikti Lietuvai visokeriopą paramą jai demokratėjant, vykdam ekonomines reformas, apsilvalant nuo bolševikinio palikimo.

C. Ginti JAV lietuvių interesus Lietuvoje, ypač dėl pilna teisės pilietybės atstatymo, nuosavybės atgavimo, muitais nevaržomos humanitarinės pagalbos Lietuvai teikimo, JAV lietuvių investicijų Lietuvoje apsaugos.

D. Remti bendros pabaltiečių organizacijos JBANC darbus JAV-jose ir Lietuvoje bei dėti

ypatingas pastangas, kad Rusijos kariuomenė būtų išvesta iš Latvijos ir Estijos.

E. Siekiant Pabaltijo valstybių saugumo ir Rytų Europos stabilizacijos, reikalauti Rusijos kariuomenės išvedimo iš Karaliaučiaus (Kaliningrado) srities ir tos srities pilnos demilitarizacijos.

F. Siekiant tolesnio Lietuvos demokratėjimo ir ūkinių reformų sėkmingesnio įgyvendinimo, raginti Lietuvos vyriausybę remti visų partijų ir sąjūdžių koaliciją.

3. Padėka JAV prezidentui W. Clintonui už jo pagalbą, išvedant Rusijos kariuomenę iš Lietuvos ir pastangas išvesti Rusijos kariuomenę iš Latvijos ir Estijos.

4. Padėka kongresmanui R. Durbin už pagalbą, išvedant Rusijos kariuomenę iš Lietuvos bei jo pastangas patvirtinant pataisą prie ekonominės pagalbos Rusijai įstatymo, siejant jį su Rusijos kariuomenės išvedimu iš visų Pabaltijo valstybių.

5. Suvažiavimas dėkoja ALTO centro ir skyrių valdyboms už jų nenuilstamą darbą ir visiems aukotojams už finansinę paramą Alto tolimesnei veiklai.

## IŠ LIETUVOS IR APIE LIETUVĄ

-- Švedijos firma "Svenska Petroleum Exploration AB" kartu su Gargždų valstybine naftos geologine įmone įkūrė bendrą įmonę "Genčių nafta". Genčių naftos telkinys iki šiol didžiausias ir patogiausias eksploatuoti išžvalgytas naftos telkinys Lietuvoje. Švedijos firma į bendrą įmonę numato investuoti nuo \$15 iki \$30 milijonų. Švedai pirmuosius įrenginius numato pristatyti 1994 m. pradžioje, o tu pačių metų pabaigoje - pradėti pumpuoti naftą.

-- Lietuvos studijų ir mokslo institucijų senatų tarybų pirmininkų konferencija įkurta spalio 14 d. Ji vienija aukštųjų mokyklų ir valstybinių mokslo institutų bendras pastangas spręsti mokslo ateitį Lietuvoje.

-- Naujo tilto į Baltijos jūrą Palangoje statyba turėtų netrukus prasidėti. Pirmuosius polių į smėlio gruntą įkals bendra Lietuvos-Latvijos įmonė "Viaduktas". Naujasis tiltas bus 25 metrais ilgesnis už sugriautą ir 7,7 metrų pločio. Tiltas kainuos apie 7 milijonus

*Rezoliucijų komisija: pirmininkas Kostas Burba, nariai: Vytautas Bildušas, Viktoras Naudžius, dr. Povilas Švarcas, dr. Jonas Valaitis*

litų ir užtruks iki 1995 m. pabaigos.

-- Užmezgti diplomatiniai santykiai tarp Lietuvos ir Singapūro Respublikos. Tai 83 valstybė, su kuria Lietuva atkūrė arba užmezgė diplomatinis santykius.

-- Vilniaus savivaldybės potvarkiu pabrango karštas vanduo. Dabar kubinis metras kainuos nebe 1,86 Lt, kaip buvo, o 2,16 Lt. Įsirengusiems karšto vandens skaitiklius šis tarifas mažesnis - 1,73 Lt.

-- Lietuvos krašto apsaugos ministerijoje akredituota JAV gynybos ministerijos ir karinių oro pajėgų atašė pulkininkė Tiju Kera.

## Kiek Lietuvoje yra užsienio kapitalo?

Lietuvoje nuo 1987 m. iki šių metų spalio 6 d. įregistruota 2,299 bendrų ir 614 užsienio kapitalo įmonių. Bendras jų įstatinis kapitalas - 469 mln. Lt, iš kurių 260 mln. (55,4%) sudaro užsienio investicijos.

Vien šiemet sukurtos 594 bendros ir 208 užsienio kapitalo įmonės, o užsienio investicijos vertinamos 224 mln. Lt.

Lietuvos ekonomikos ministerijos duomenimis, daugiausia bendrų ir užsienio kapitalo įmonių Lietuvoje įsikūrusi Rusija - 843 (šiemet - 160). Antroje vietoje yra Lenkija - 505 įmonės (114), trečioje - Vokietija - 441 (150), ketvirtoje - JAV - 183 (183), penktoje - Ukraina - 161 (47). Estija Lietuvoje turi įkūrusi 35 bendras ir jos kapitalo įmones (17), Latvija - 45 (14), Baltarusija - 123 (42).

Iš viso su Europos Bendrijos šalimis Lietuva sukūrusi 536, su NVS šalimis - 980 bendrų įmonių. Be to, Lietuvoje veikia dar 150 Europos Bendrijos šalių ir 187 NVS šalių kapitalo įmonių.

Pagal jau investuotą kapitalą į Lietuvą pirmauja Didžioji Britanija - 101 mln. Lt, arba 38,8% visų užsienio investicijų. Antrą vietą pagal investicijas užima Rusija - beveik 27 mln. Lt, arba 10,3% visų investicijų.



Amerikos Lietuvių Tarybos valdyba: iš kairės v. p. K. Oksas, v. p. V. Naudžius, pirm. G. J. Lazauskas, Suvažiavimo reng. kom. pirm. M. Marcinkienė, dr. B. Motušienė, v. p. V. Jokubaitis, B. Skorubskienė, antroje eilėje iš kairės — v. p. P. Bučas, v. p. St. Briedis, ALTO Chicago sk. pirm. A. Repšienė, sekr. St. Dubauskas, v. p. V. Bildušas, K. Burba, A. Budreckas vietoj dr. V. Dargio, v. p. St. Balzekas, Jr. Trūksta dr. V. Dargio, adv. S. Kuprio, E. Oželienės, J. Gaižučio, I. Blinstrubienės, J. Tamulaičio nuotrauka.





Vilniuje 1993 m. spalio 29 d. pašventinta nauja Lietuvos kariuomenės vėliava. Viktoro Kapočiaus nuotrauka

## IŠ LIETUVOS IR APIE LIETUVĄ

-- **Lietuvos Prezidentas** spalio 21 d. pasirašė dekretą, kuriuo Alfonsas Eidintas paskirtas Nepaprastuoju ir Įgaliojuoju Ambasadoriumi JAV. Kitu dekretu Stasys Lozoraitis paskirtas Nepaprastuoju ir Įgaliojuoju Ambasadoriumi Italijoje. Dekretai įsigalioja nuo lapkričio 1 d.

-- **Vokietijos prezidentas** Richard von Weizsaecker spalio 21-22 d. su oficialiu vizitu lankėsi Lietuvoje. Buvo aptarti Vokietijos-Lietuvos ryšių plėtojimo perspektyvų, Lietuvos integravimosi į Europą klausimai.

-- **Simono Daukanto** gimtinė - Lenkijai (Skuodo raj.) gražiai paminėjo S. Daukanto 200 metų jubiliejų. Spalio 27 d. įvyko pedagogų ir moksleivių konferencija. Dalyviai aplankė Lenkimų bažnyčios šventoriuje esantį Daukanto motinos kapą, gimtosios sodybos klėtelę Kalviuose. Lenkimų vidurinė mokykla pavadinta S. Daukanto vardu. Jo vardą įamžino ir Lenkimų miestelio pagrindinė gatvė. Spalio 28 d. Lenkimuose buvo atidengtas paminklas S. Daukantui. Tą pačią dieną Lenkimų kultūros namuose buvo surengta mokslinė konferencija,

kurių metu įteikta S. Daukanto literatūrinė premija ir pagerbti žmonės, labiausiai saugantys Daukanto atminimą ir palikimą.

-- **Iš Europos Bendrijos** Lietuvai skirtas kredito Vyriausybės potvarkiu \$5,3 milijono Panevėžio stiklo fabrikui (6 metams), \$200.000 - Valstybinei įmonei "Autoūkis" (7 metams), \$3,3 milijono - Valstybinei spaustuvei "Viltis" (5 metams). Metinių palūkanų norma - 7,12%. Už suteiktą paskolą bus imama vienkartinė rinkliava - 3% paskolos sumos.

-- **Įmonėms ir organizacijoms** nuo spalio 16 d. vidutinė šildymo kaina sezono metu bus \$90 už 1,000 kub. metrų dujų. Nuo lapkričio 1 d. tokia pačia kaina turės atsiskaityti ir gyventojai, kurie dujas naudoja buitiniams reikmėms.

-- **Lietuvos teritorija** bus suskirstyta į 12 regionų, kuriuose bus paskirta 12 Vyriausybės atstovų, kurie prižiūrės savivaldybių veiklos teisėtumą. Atstovų nuolatinė darbo vieta bus regionų centrai. Atstovų kandidatūros turi būti pateiktos ministrui pirmininkui iki lapkričio 1 d.

-- **Lietuvos Respublikos** Vyriausybė patvirtino taikomąjį minimalų gyvenimo lygį - 40 litų per mėnesį vienam Lietuvos Respublikos gyventojui, minimalią mėnesinę algą - 44 litus ir minimalų valandinį atlygį - 0,26 lito, valstybės remiamas pajamas - 36 litus vienam šeimos nariui per mėnesį ir pajamų garantiją - 16 litų per mėnesį.

-- **Lietuvos ir Baltarusijos** vyriausybinių delegacijų susitarė dėl sienos. Nuo šiol Adutiškio geležinkelio stotis ir jos 5,6 hektaro priklausys Lietuvos Respublikai, o Baltarusijai 99 metams išnuomojama "Belorusj" sanatorija Druskininkuose.

-- **Lietuvos Prezidentas A. Brazauskas** lapkričio 4 d. Maskvoje susitiko su Rusijos prezidentu B. Jelcin. Susitikimas truko 40 minučių. Konkrečiai buvo kalbėta apie 20 rengiamų dvišalių sutarčių pasirašymą. Rusijos premjeras Viktor Černomirdyn atvyks lapkričio 14 arba 15 dieną į Vilnių pasirašyti prekybos ir ekonomikos bendradarbiavimo sutartį ir dvišales sutartis aktualiaisiais klausimais.

-- **JAV kultūros centras** Vilniuje bus atidarytas ateinančių

metų pradžioje. Jis įsikurs Vilniaus senamiestyje.

-- **Kauno aviakompanijos** "Lietuva" lėktuvai nuo lapkričio 10 d. tris kartus į savaitę pradėjo skraidyti maršrutu Kaunas-Palanga-Hamburgas. Lietuvos piliečiams bilietas iš Kauno į Hamburgą kainuoja 520 litų, o iš Palangos - 500 litų.

-- **Vytauto Landsbergio** fondas paskyrė \$10 tūkstančių Vilniaus universitetinės vaikų klinikos ortopedinės chirurgijos skyriui ortopedinės chirurgijos įrangai įsigyti.

-- **Pirmasis bedarbių klubas** Lietuvoje įkurtas prie Kauno miesto darbo biržos. Jame jau kelios dešimtys bedarbių.

-- **Vizų režimas** į Ukrainą vykstantiems Lietuvos piliečiams (Lietuvai pageidaujant) atidėtas iki lapkričio 22 d.

-- **Vilniaus operos** ir baletų teatras ateinančių metų rudenį pakvies į Valdo Jakubėno baletą "Vaišos juosta" premjerą. Šiuo spektakliu bus paminėta šio išeivijos kompozitoriaus gimimo sukaktis.

-- **Nustatytas Lietuvos Respublikos Vyriausybės atstovų regionuose atlyginimų koeficientas** - 6,9 minimalios mėnesio algos dydžio.

-- **Vilniaus madų dienos** "In vogue" vyksta Lietuvos operos ir baletų teatre lapkričio 16-20 dienomis. Dienose pateikta 10 lietuviškų kolekcijų.

-- **Populiariausios duonos** rūšys nuo lapkričio 10 d. vėl pabrango Vilniuje. Už "Bočių" kepalėlį dabar reikės mokėti 1,20 Lt, "Dzūkų" - 1,10 Lt, "Palangos" - 70 centų. Kol kas pabrango tik ruginių miltų kepiniai. Tačiau kvietinių miltų produkcija po 10% per mėnesį brangsta net du kartus.

-- **Lietuvos vyriausybė** aprobavo Lietuvos Plėtros Banko statuto projektą ir pateikė jį svarstyti Seimui. Pagal jį, banko steigėjai bus Europos Rekonstrukcijos ir Plėtros Bankas ir Lietuvos finansų ministerija.

-- **Lietuvos vyriausybės** posėdyje patikslintas 1994 m. biudžeto projektas. Pagal jį, pajamos būtų 2410,877 tūkst. Lt, o išlaidos - 2545,499 tūkst. Lt. Išlaidos viršija pajamas 134,622 tūkst. Lt. Praėjus svarstymui, buvo gautas Saugumo tarnybos prašymas papildomai skirti jos išlaidoms 4,2 mln. Lt.



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Make all checks payable to:  
Lithuanian Catholic Alliance and mail to:  
L.C.A., 71-73 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

# Obituaries

- JULIUS, Joseph.....Lodge 5  
803 Susquehanna St.  
Forest City, PA 18421  
Died: 11/17/93  
Buried: 11/19/93  
St. Agnes Cemetery  
Forest City, PA
- CHAPONIS, Casimir.....Lodge 3  
1131 S. Wood Ave.  
Linden, NJ 07036  
Died: 11/18/93  
Buried: 11/20/93  
Mt. Calvary Cemetery  
Newark, NJ
- KIBIRSKY, Peter.....Lodge 133  
210 Sherman Ave.  
Vandergrift, PA 15690  
Died: 11/4/93  
Fox Crematory  
Saxenburg, PA
- ROGALLA, Frances.....Lodge 7  
80 Schulde Lane  
Wyoming, PA 18644  
Died: 11/22/93  
Crematory, Mt.View  
Memorial Mass Dec. 4, 1993  
Holy Rosary Church, Duryea
- JENULAITIS, John J.  
.....Lodge 7  
224 Damon St.  
West Pittston, PA 18643  
Died: 7/26/93  
Buried: 7/29/93  
Mt. View Burial Park  
Harding, Exeter Twp., PA

**Former LCA Employee Helen Mennen Dies**

Helen Mennens, of Avery Street, Tunkhannock, formerly of Sheridan Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA died Saturday, Nov. 27 at her home.

Miss Mennens was born in Wilkes-Barre and lived there most of her life before recently moving to Tunkhannock.

She was the daughter of the late Ignatius and Mary Klimavicius Mennens.

She was employed as a secretary for the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance for over 44 years. She was a member of Holy Trinity Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Nov. 30 with a Mass of Christian Burial at Holy Trinity Church. Interment was at Holy Trinity Cemetery, Bear Creek.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the relatives of Frances Rogalla who are also members of Lodge 7: Sisters, Ursula Danoski and Anna Nojunas; Aunt, Mrs. Mary Katkowski; Cousin, Marion Perks

**HELP WANTED**  
**The Home Office is in need of help.**  
*We are seeking someone with experience in Bookkeeping and Accounts Receivable. Computer knowledge is a plus.*  
**This is a Part-time, five day week position for someone residing in the Wilkes-Barre area.**  
Send your resume to: Mr. Charles A. Liscosky  
Lithuanian Catholic Alliance  
71-73 S. Washington St.  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-3033

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Name	Lodge	LABANAUSKAS,
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