



## Knights of Lithuania Council 7 Waterbury

### March 2023 Newsletter

Hello, Labas, and Welcome, Dear Members and Friends,

In like a lion, out like a lamb? So here we are, most of the way through March and with weather that's been all over the map, no pun intended! Other than a relatively inconvenient snowstorm for most of us, perhaps we shall all come out of this winter relatively unscathed. I've seen daffodils blooming, and other vegetation greening up. April is just around the corner, and with that, it's full steam ahead into spring and all the activities and events that are upcoming.

Our meeting this month is a bit later than it would usually be. **St. Casimir's Day** fell too soon after our February meeting, and with the desire of several of our members to attend the fair in Hartford last Sunday, an executive decision was made to move our meeting. Speaking of St. Casimir, we had a nice turnout at Mass on Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup>, that was offered in remembrance of our deceased members, had a reading in Lithuanian, recited the Litany to St. Casimir, and followed up with an amazing feast at the coffee and afterwards. Many thanks to all who brought food items and goodies for everyone to partake of. Speaking of St. Casimir, last Sunday the **Lithuanian Scouts of Hartford** held their annual fair, "**Kaziuko Muge**" at Holy Trinity Church hall, where there were numerous Lithuanian items available for purchase, along with a delicious Lithuanian dinner of kugelis and sausage, along with the camaraderie of friends and acquaintances to round out the picture. It comes as no surprise that the event was well attended, including a group of Council 7 members, who even managed to sit still for a minute and get a picture taken. Do you want to see the picture? Well, one must visit the Facebook page of the **Knights of Lithuania**, which apparently continues to expand in it's reach and number of members and visitors. If you're on FB, please find it and join in the fun. There continues to be very interesting subject matter uploaded almost daily. Our council seems to be taking the lead as to posting our activities and pictures.

Our **Membership Magic Incentive** plan got off to a great start last meeting. We welcome **Matthew Lerner**, who was referred by **Christian Allyn**. We look forward to more new members coming aboard this meeting and in the months to follow.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, and it bears repeating, we have a website, **[knightsoflithuaniawaterbury.org](http://knightsoflithuaniawaterbury.org)**, that is for our council. We're reminding everyone to visit it regularly and if you find pictures from days past or even current ones, feel free to contact one of us and we can upload it to enhance the website. All pictures will be considered, so nothing is out of the question. Summarizing what was mentioned in the last newsletter, **Bob Orintas** is monitoring the email for the webpage, **Bill Stokes**, **Marlene Shea**, and **Al Ulozas** are heading up marketing and advertising. Al gave us figures at the last meeting as to costs of placing advertising in the greater Woodbury newspaper. **Joe Karmuza**, who with the the assistance of **Violeta Stasonis'** daughter Kristina, printed and place flyers in the church bulletins last week. They donated their time, printer and ink to do so. Plans are to get them in other parish bulletins also Hopefully, a membership application will be placed on our website soon, or perhaps a link of some sort.

Membership dues are being collected presently, and we hope most of you have already renewed. If you havent, please take a moment to do so. Our Financial Secretary, **Linas Venclauskas**, will report on the Family to family donation, along with other matters. We'd like to set a date to do a cleanout of usable items from our former clubrooms to donate to a good cause. Perhaps the first weekend of May?

With brevity, here are some upcoming dates and events to keep in mind and on your calendars so that you can take part in as many as possible, and to make sure nothing else preempts your plans:

**Palm Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**, a special Lithuanian Mass in Lithuanian at **Holy Trinity Church**, Hartord. The Mass will be held at 3 PM by a Lithuanian priest who has been assigned to parishes in New York and who hails from Lithuania. This will be

his first visit to our state. Singing during the Mass will be Lithuanian professor and opera performer **Jurate Svedaite**. We hope to see you there.

**Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**, the **NED Spring Convention** at the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Convent in Putnam. We hope that members from our council can attend and represent us. Registration is between 11 and 11:30 AM.

**Spring Fling**: do we have a coordinator? One is needed to chair this event. Then a date and a place can be set.

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>**: Annual traditional "Jonines" hosted by member Erik Bartkus. Any and all help is appreciated!

**Lithuanian Mayor for the Day** and Statehood Day will be held on **July 8<sup>th</sup>**, which is a Saturday. With that in mind no excuse that one cannot attend! Soon, we face the arduous (haha) process of selecting candidates and choosing who will represent us.

**The K of L National Convention** in Indiana on the weekend of **September 14<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>**. Please let us know if you are interested or can attend. Points are earned towards degrees by attending any K of L meeting or convention.

**The Gathering**, a multicultural event is planned for later in September here in Waterbury. Dates to be posted soon.

Speaking of FaceBook, please follow **Lithuanians in Connecticut** for updates regarding any Lithuanian events statewide, since we don't have room here to list all that is going on. You need to be a member of the group, so if you aren't, put in a request and we'll bring you on board. I am one of three administrators so I'll see the request.

There are three Lithuanian radio programs that originate here in the states that one can listen to. I'm sure there's others, but in condensed fashion here's the list of which we are aware: Hartford's program is on **Sundays from 5 till 6 PM** on **WWUH, 91.3 FM**. I have finally from time to time been recording some spoken segments for them. The second is Cleveland's program Sunday mornings over **WJCU**, from **8 till 10 AM**. Thirdly, greater New York's program is on **Tuesday** evenings from **9 till 10 PM** over **WPAT, 930 AM**. **Alexa** or other streaming media carry these stations. Give them a try!

The **Brooklyn Neighborhood Association** is now meeting in person again. The meetings are on the second **Thursday** of every month, **6:30 PM, Duggan School**. Contact **Jerry Covino** or myself for further information. All are welcome to attend and join as members. Dues are \$10 per year. Also, please follow **Riverside Cemetery** on Facebook or other sources, as they continue their work maintaining the cemetery, and all the restoration work that needs to be done. The **Lithuanian Club of Waterbury** meets via Zoom every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at 7 PM. Please contact me for details.

**Birthdays for March: Elise Mauriello, Gary McGuire, Phil Stiklus, Bill Stokes. Happy Birthday!! Many Happy Returns! Ilgiausią Metų !!** I will do my best to keep everyone mentioned in the newsletters as we go along. If I missed someone or erred, please let me know!

Please pray for the souls of our deceased members. Pray for all members who are sick or infirm for a speedy recovery. Pray to Blessed George Matulaitis for an end to this Covid pandemic and for peace in the world. Pray for the people of Ukraine and for the people of Russia. Pray for the end of the insanity that seems to have overtaken the entire planet. Pray for the soul of Father Izidorius Sadauskas, who recently passed unexpectedly and was the chaplain of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Convent.

If there is anything you would like to see in our newsletter or know of anything we missed or erred on **please let us know!** **Follow your email for updates on all matters! Ačiū Labai !** Our next meeting will be on Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>, after the Mass and coffee at 10:30 AM

Vytiškai,

*Linas Balsys*

Linas Balsys  
President  
Council 7, Waterbury, CT

"Overcome evil with good" Blessed Archbishop George Matulaitis

**P.S. We are in our 108th season!! Let's keep a good thing going!!**