



*The American Legion Lithuanian Post 154*  
*For God and Country*



# Legionnaire

3rd Quarter 2016

## Commander's Message

On May 14 and 15, Post 154 participated in the Lithuanian Festival at the Catonsville Armory. We presented the Colors during the Opening Ceremony and had an information table. Thanks to the Post 154 members who participated.

Howard Koontz, Chaplain of Marine Corps League Baltimore Detachment 565 and a Lithuanian Post 154 member, invited Post 154 to accompany their Detachment to visit the Four Chaplains Chapel at the Naval Base in Philadelphia. They only had a few seats left on the bus so only Vincent Dulys, Gintaras Buivys, John Maskavich and Joe Jankevicius could go. I had visited the Chapel about 8 years ago and was extremely pleased with the contrast. Then, the building was essentially abandoned and in desperate need of painting and cleaning. Now, it is spotless and a fitting monument to the brave chaplains who sacrificed their lives helping others as the troop ship *Dorchester* went down after being torpedoed by a German U boat.

At the May and June Post 154 General Meetings, the Post elected its officers for 2016 - 2017 and delegates to The American Legion Department Convention. Election results are on page 2.

Lithuanian Post 154 will have its Installation of Officers Ceremony on September 18 at Lithuanian Hall at 1 PM. This is the Post's big annual gathering. I urge all Post members to attend and spend a pleasant afternoon with their fellow Legionnaires. Please let Vincent Dulys or me know how many guests you plan to bring.

I wish you a safe and pleasant summer and look forward to seeing you at the Installation.

Joe Jankevicius  
 Commander

## Memorial Day

This year, Lithuanian Post 154 participated in two Memorial Day Services. The first was on May 26 at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School in Arbutus, MD and the second was at the Baltimore National Cemetery on May 30.

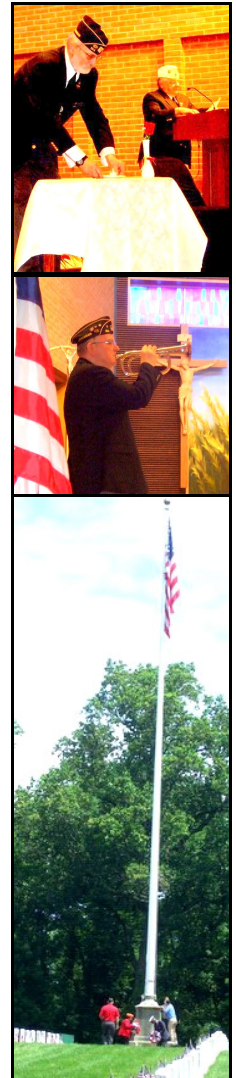
Mrs. Joana Buivys, teacher at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School, invited Post 154 to participate in the school's Memorial Day Service "*In Memory of Those Who Defended our Freedom.*" The program began with presentation of Colors by a Color Guard comprised of Our Lady of Victory Girl and Boy Scouts, followed by the *Pledge of Allegiance*, singing of *America the Beautiful* and an opening prayer.

The American Legion Lithuanian Post 154 conducted a POW/MIA service. Our adjutant, Vincent Dulys, led the service with Gintaras Buivys and Joe Jankevicius participating.

Several students read essays about the history of Memorial Day and others recited poems that they had written for the occasion. The names of parishioners who had served and have departed were solemnly read followed by the playing of *Taps* by Joe Jankevicius. The Service ended with a closing prayer.

It was heartwarming to see our youth honor those who have served and have moved on to Post Everlasting.

On Memorial Day, May 30, The American Legion Baltimore District held its annual Memorial Day Service at the Baltimore National Cemetery. Lithuanian Post Adjutant Vincent Dulys conducted the POW/MIA Service. Post 154 members Gintaras Buivys, John Potts, John Maskavich and Joe Jankevicius participated.



### Membership

Department of Maryland has set next year's Lithuanian Post 154's membership goal at 98.

Fiscal year 2017 membership year is from July 01, 2016 to June 30, 2017. You should be receiving your renewal notice from National this month. Please write a \$30 check made out to The American Legion Lithuanian Post 154 now and mail it to me.

Vincent Dulys  
Membership  
Chairman

### Happy Birthday

#### July

Raymond W. Beares  
Gintaras Buivys  
Terrence Chesson  
Joseph Gaila

#### August

Algimantas Grintelis  
Victor A. Kareiva  
Thomas A. Keane  
Roy W. Kemmer  
Joseph Keydash  
Joseph Lazaravich  
Hugh H. Mills Jr.  
Mark Nauyalis  
Toivo Tagamets  
Algirdas M. Veliuona

#### September

Vincent Dulys  
Robert Liupaeter  
Dena Norton  
Joseph Saurusaitis  
Vitas Siaurusaitis

### XV Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival

XV Šokių Šventė 2016, the Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival, is being held at Royal Farms Arena in Baltimore on July 3, 2016 at 1 PM. The Lithuanian Dance Festival is held every 4 years in a different city. This year, Baltimore has that honor.

Over 1,800 Lithuanian dancers from all corners of the world will come to Baltimore. With their families and friends, it is estimated that over 8,000 Lithuanians will throng Baltimore. From June 30 to the main performance at the Royal Farms Arena on July 3, attendees will be practicing dancing together and enjoying Baltimore. The organizers have arranged entertainment and events at the Hilton, Lithuanian Hall and other Baltimore locations. Go to the event website <http://sokiusvente2016.org/en/schedule-of-events/> to see what is scheduled.

Tickets to the main dance performance on July 3 at 1 PM can be purchased at the Royal Farms box office before the event. Ticket cost is \$55 and \$60.

Lithuanian Hall is anticipating many Lithuanian visitors during the XV Šokių Šventė 2016 dates and has arranged for entertainment during the period. Look at enclosed Lithuanian Hall flier for dates and times of events at the Lithuanian Hall.

### Monsignor Bastress's Anniversary

Reverend Monsignor Arthur Bastress, pastor of St. Alphonsus Church, celebrated the 65th anniversary of his ordination to priesthood. He is the oldest working parish priest in the Baltimore diocese.



Monsignor Bastress has been an enthusiastic supporter of The American Legion and Baltimore's Lithuanian Community. During the past 16 years as pastor of St. Alphonsus, he has worked tirelessly to maintain and restore the church. Thanks to his efforts, St. Alphonsus Church was designated a National Shrine.

Congratulations Monsignor Bastress!

### Post Elections

Election of Lithuanian Post 154 Officers took place at the May Post General Meeting. The elected officers are:

Commander	Joe Jankevicius
Vice Commander	Joe Astasauskas
Adjutant	Vincent Dulys
Finance Officer	Gintaras Buivys
Service Officer	Augustinas Uleckas
Chaplain	John Maskavich
Judge Advocate	Ray Beares
Historian	Henry Gaidis
Sergeant At Arms	Toivo Tagamets
Executive Committee	John Potts
	Vitas Siaurusaitis

At the June Post General Meeting, Gintaras Buivys, Vincent Dulys, John Maskavich and Augustinas Uleckas were elected Lithuanian Post 154 delegates to the Department of Maryland American Legion Convention.

### Lithuanian Festival a Big Success



The Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United States, Rolandas Kriščiūnas, posed for a photo with American Legion Lithuanian Post 154 members at the Lithuanian Festival. From left are Balys Brasauskas, Walter Cooper, John Maskavich, Henry Gaidis, Toivo Tagamets, John Potts, Ambassador Rolandas Kriščiūnas, Gintaras Buivyis and Joe Jankevicius.



Attendees enjoying the dance performances.



The American Legion Lithuanian Post 154 Color Guard

Maryland's Lithuanian Community had its Lithuanian Festival during the May 14th weekend at the Catonsville Armory. More than 1,200 people enjoyed continuous entertainment by senior, junior and children's Lithuanian Folk Dance Groups. There was plenty of delicious Lithuanian food and drink for all to enjoy.

Lithuanian Post 154 participated by presenting Colors during the formal Lithuanian Festival Opening Ceremony. The Post had an information table where we distributed information about The American Legion and US military services. Several attendees took Lithuanian Post 154 applications. Hopefully they will decide to join our Post.

A big THANK YOU to the Lithuanian Post 154 Color Guard and members who helped man the table, especially Toivo Tagamets for setting it up.

### Lithuanian Post 154 Installation of Officers

All Lithuanian Post 154 Members and their guests are invited to the Lithuanian Post 154 Installation of Officers Ceremony on September 18, 2016 at Lithuanian Hall. Admission is free, but reservations are required.

Schedule:

- 1 PM Camaraderie, refreshments
- 2 PM Presentation of Awards
- Installation of Officers
- Memorial Service
- Buffet Dinner

RSVP to Vincent Dulys or Joe Jankevicius by September 6, 2016 using email, letter or phone.

### Department of Maryland Convention

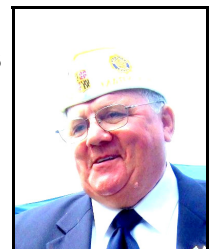
The American Legion Department of Maryland Convention will be held July 12 to 15, 2016 in Ocean City, Maryland. Lithuanian Post 154 members who will be in Ocean City that week are invited to stop by to rest, relax and enjoy the view from the Post's Hospitality Suite in the "Bradley on the Bay" Condominiums located south of the Ocean City Convention Center on Ocean Highway.

It is recommended that Post members call ahead to advise Post Adjutant Vincent Dulys regarding the day and time you would like to stop in. Vince can be reached at (410) 960-7874.

Bradley on the Bay  
 Building A, Unit 304  
 3901 Ocean Highway  
 Ocean City, MD 21842

### Department Executive Committee

On June 23, at the Baltimore District Caucus, Vincent Dulys was reelected to represent the Baltimore District on the Department Executive Committee for another year.



Vincent Dulys

Congratulations Vince!

**Contact Information****COMMANDER**

Joe Jankevicius  
624 Oak Tree Rd  
Westminster, MD 21157  
(410) 795-6906  
JoeJankevicius@gmail.com

**ADJUTANT**

Vincent T. Dulys  
616 Cedarwood Lane  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
(410) 987-5275  
Vincentas@verizon.net

**SERVICE OFFICER**

Augustinas Uleckas  
7733 Lee Drive  
Pasedena, MD 21122  
(410) 437-2546  
avuleckas@gmail.com

**EDITOR**

Joe Jankevicius  
624 Oak Tree Rd  
Westminster, MD 21157  
(410) 795-6906  
JoeJankevicius@gmail.com

**Meetings Information****Post General Meeting**

8 PM on every 2nd  
Wednesday of the month  
except July at  
Lithuanian Hall  
851 Hollins Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

**Exec. Committee Meeting**

Fourth Wednesday of the  
month at 1 PM  
Spirits West Country Club  
2601 Wilkens Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21223

**Calendar & Reminders****July**

Sat 02 US Army Air Corps established (1926)  
Mon 04 Independence Day

**The American Legion Department of Maryland Convention - Ocean City, MD  
Convention Itinerary:**

Mon 11 Golf Tournament - Deer Run Golf Course, Berlin, MD - 8 AM  
Fish Fry behind Convention Center - 4 - 6 PM  
Tue 12 Legion College classes at Convention Center - 8 AM - 12 Noon  
Official Opening of Convention - 8 PM  
Wed 13 Convention meetings - 8 AM  
Memorial Service - 8 PM  
Thu 14 Convention meetings - 8 AM  
Fri 15 Convention meetings - 8 AM

Wed 13

**No Lithuanian Post 154 General Meeting**

Wed 27 Lithuanian Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting -  
Spirits West Country Club - 1 PM

Wed 27 Armistice signed in Korea (1953)

Thu 28 WW I Began (1914)

**August**

Thu 04 United States Coast Guard established (1790)

Sat 06 First atomic bomb dropped, Hiroshima, Japan (1945)

Sun 07 Vietnam War Began (1964)

Wed 10 Lithuanian Post 154 General Meeting - Lithuanian Hall - 8 PM

Sun 14 Japan Surrendered, Ending WW II (1945)

Wed 24 Lithuanian Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting -  
Spirits West Country Club - 1 PM

**September**

Fri 02 V-J Day, Japan Signed Formal Surrender (1945)

Mon 05 Labor Day

Sun 11 Terrorists attacked World Trade Center and Pentagon (2001)

Wed 14 Lithuanian Post 154 General Meeting - Lithuanian Hall - 8 PM

Wed 14 "Star Spangled Banner" Written by Francis Scott Key (1814)

Fri 16 POW/MIA Recognition Day

Sat 17 US Constitution Approved (1787)

Sun 18 US Air Force established (1947)

Sun 18 Lithuanian Post 154 Installation of Officers -  
Lithuanian Hall - 1 PM

Thu 22 First day of autumn

Wed 28 Lithuanian Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting -  
Spirits West Country Club - 1 PM

**October**

Sun 02 Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown

Fri 07 Afghanistan War Began (2001)

Mon 10 Columbus Day (observed)

Tue 11 Yom Kippur Begins

Wed 12 Columbus Day

Wed 12 Lithuanian Post 154 General Meeting - Lithuanian Hall - 8 PM

Thu 13 US Navy Established (1775)

Sun 23 Grenada Campaign Began (1983)

Wed 26 Lithuanian Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting -  
Spirits West Country Club - 1 PM