

WASAGA BEACH, ONTARIO

Wasaga Beach is a resort town near Lake Huron's Georgian Bay in the province of Ontario. Because of the similarities to Palanga in Lithuania, Lithuanians living in the cities have spent their summers here for many years. A small group of Lithuanians took up residence here once they reached retirement age.

LCC. The Stayner-Wasaga Beach chapter of the LCC was established about 1981. The chapter was renamed Wasaga-Stayner in 1984 because many members live in the town of Wasaga. Each year, the chapter and the Wasaga Lithuanian Women's Association organize New Year's, Independence Day and Mother's Day events, in addition to welcoming lecturers from Toronto and important visitors from Lithuania. Despite its small numbers, the chapter has made a name for itself with its generous donations: at the 1996 Independence Day ceremonies, for example, \$1,700 were collected.

LCC chapter chairs. S. Bončkus, Juozas Mažeika, Juozas Bataitis and V. Abromavičius.

Organizations. Wasaga Lithuanian Women's Association.

Parish. The Good Shepherd Mission.

Statistics. At the 1981 convention of the LCC National Council, it was reported that there were about 70 Lithuanians in the area, and that about 50 were chapter members. Not all were active, because about 70% of them were between 65 and 75 years of age. According to the chapter's records, there were 48 Lithuanians in the area in 1984. About 72% were active in Lithuanian affairs.