

The A.P.P.L.E. Seed



(American Professional Partnership

for

Lithuanian Education)

E-Zine

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Greetings!



Message from the President

I hope that all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends and are getting ready to celebrate the magical season of Christmas.

The Call for Proposals for our Summer 2011 in-service programs has been posted on the A.P.P.L.E web page. Our topic for the summer sessions is "The Integration of Technology in the Curriculum." The deadline for applications is December 20,2010. I urge all of you who have expertise in this area

to apply and share your knowledge with our colleagues in Lithuania next summer. The actual site for our seminars have not been determined, but the people at the Ministry are hard at work trying to find an appropriate setting for us. More information will be posted as things are firmed up in Lithuania.

Our Annual meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida, April 30 and May 1,2011. More information will be forthcoming from Vida Anton, who is coordinating the meeting with other A.P.P.L.E. members in the area.

I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year!
Linksmu Kaledu ir Laimingu Nauju Metu!

Dr. Vida R. Gavin
A.P.P.L.E. President

Mission Statement:

"The American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education (A.P.P.L.E.) is a volunteer international non-profit educational organization. With the support of the Lithuanian Ministry of Education and Science, A.P.P.L.E. partners with Lithuanian educators to foster the implementation of innovative educational approaches that contribute to the development of a democratic society."

A.P.P.L.E. Member Profile - Barbara Henriques



Born and raised in Massachusetts of immigrant parents from Portugal

Education: B.A. in Education from University of Massachusetts-Amherst

M.A. from Yale Divinity School

M.A. in Mathematics from Banks St. College-New York City

PhD. Math, Science & Instructional Technologies, University of Mass.-
Amherst

Work Experiences: Several years teaching secondary schools in Connecticut

·Full year Fulbright Teacher exchange in England

Barbara Henriques ·Held teaching positions at both Skidmore and Trinity Colleges

·Currently teaching at St. Joseph College in West Hartford, CT.

How did an educator of Portuguese descent become involved with A.P.P.L.E., and why does she continue to return each summer? The brief answer is that I found a group of people who valued education and knew that it has the power to transform individuals no matter where they live. Given my experience with Teacher Centers in the US, in the fall of 1992, I received a call from my colleague, Corinne Levin, asking me if I would like to consider going to Lithuania in the summer of 1993 to conduct a series of seminars on Teacher Centers. I said "yes," and in 1993, my relationship with A.P.P.L.E. and with the teachers of Lithuania began. It was a magical experience, working with

teachers who were eager to learn about new methods for working in partnership with one another to enhance collaborative professional development models.

Thinking back to that time and to times since then brings a flood of memories and stories that still make me feel that I was making a difference. That first summer, we opened the first Teacher Center in Vilnius. Since then, 59 Teacher Centers have been established in Lithuania. Unfortunately, many of them have faced difficult times over the last two or three years and budget cuts have limited their continued development.

Over the years that I have been with A.P.P.L.E., I have crisscrossed Lithuania. Some of the cities, towns and villages include: Kaunas, Marijampole, Salcininkai, Visagnas, Mazakiai, Klaipeda, Birstonas, and Alitus.

I have fallen in love with **Dieveniskes Regional Park**; I don't consider a trip to Lithuania complete unless I have had the opportunity to visit the forest. I have even treated many of my Lithuanian friends to a special journey to my favorite place. I remember one person telling me that she could not believe that an American came to show her one of Lithuania's treasures and even knew the directions to follow to get there.

My stories could go on and on, but that really would require much more time. If you have some time to spend with me, I would be glad to share some of them.

Some of the things that I am most proud of is my work with Teacher Centers; working on Action Research as a Tool for Professional Development; teaching about Sustainable Development; and the initiation of the Lithuanian Scholars Fund as a tool for teachers and staff members to develop proposals for small projects in their schools and communities that will enhance learning opportunities for their students.

I have had the honor of serving on the A.P.P.L.E. Board and have served as President from 2007-2009. Over the 19 years that I have been involved with A.P.P.L.E. I have continued to be eager to participate in a learning experience that is so well received by our Lithuanian partners and teachers. A.P.P.L.E. has been a significant part of my life and the friendships and learning that we have shared has been transformative for all involved.

If you have the opportunity to engage in A.P.P.L.E. Seminars, as Americans or as Lithuanians, I promise you will benefit from the experience.

The Christmas Story



**A CHRISTMAS GIFT
FROM THE STAFF OF
THE A.P.P.L.E. SEED**



**TO
OUR LITHUANIAN SPEAKING READERS**

“THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS”

**BY
CLEMENT C. MOORE**

LITHUANIAN TRANSLATION

**BY
PAUL KALTAUSKAS**

Naktis pries Kaledas

Tai buvo naktis pries Kaledas. Nei viena gyva butybe tame name neisleido nei garso, net nekrustelejo. Kaledu kojines buvo pakabintis prie zidinio, su viltimi, jog Kaledu Senelis neuzilgo bus cia.

Kol vaikai saldziai miegojo savo lovose, ju galvelese sukosi ivairiausi sapnai.

Staiga tetis isgirdo keistus garsus lauke ir skubiai atsikele is lovos, paziureti kas vyksta. Jis mate kazka zypciojant uz lango, bet negalejo suprasti kas tai, todel atitrauke uzuolaidas.

Didelis ir sviesus menulis ta nakti apsviete viska aplink. Jis galejo matyti netoliese esancius namus , medzius ir net toli esancius kalnus. Ir netiketai priesais save jis isvydo elniu konturus.

Isvydes sena, taciau labai gyvybinga ir greita vyra, jis suprato, jog tai Kaledu Senelis. Kaledu Senelis vis spartino elnius, sauke juos vardais, o roges skriejo tarsi ereliu burys.

Pirmyn Dasher, dabar tu Dancer, o dabar jus Prancer ir Vixen! Pirmyn Comet, Cupid, Donder ir Blitzen! Skrendam prie verandos, prie pat sienos! Mes jau cia! Skriskite , skriskite!!

Staiga tetis isgirdo, jog kazkas vaiksto ant stogo. Tuomet jis pasuko savo galva kamino link, Kaledu Senelis jau cia!!

Jis vilkejo raudonus kailinius, kurie buvo istepti su pelenais ir suodziais. Kaledu Senelis turejo didziuli maisa su dovanomis, todel atrode tarsi prekeivis.

Jo akys zybejo, jo veide galejai matyti didziule sypsena. Kaledu Senelio nosis buvo raudona tarsi vysnia, o barzda balta lyg pirmasis sniegas.

Savo burnoje jis turejo pypke, dumai nuo jos sklido link jo galvos ir atrode, jog virs jo galvos yra vainikas. Jis turejo platu veida ir dideli apvalu pilva.

Jis buvo issiputes ir apkunus. Tetis pradejo juoktis pamates ji.

Kaledu Senelis neistare ne zodzio, pripilde Kaledu kojines dovanu ir islipo pro langa.

Jis pustelejo svilpuka ir jo elniai atskrodo pas ji! Tuomet tetis isgirdo zodzius: Laimingu Sventu Kaledu ir geros nakties!

BONUS

[Enjoy the embedded Christmas music video from a concert held in Saint Peter and Paul Cathedral in Sialuiai by clicking here.](#)

"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."

Heard in Lithuania

According to Lithuania's Prime Minister Kubilius....The final bids are being reviewed to replace the nuclear power plant in Ignalina that was shut down last December in compliance with an EU ruling. The new plant destined to replace the old Soviet structure is scheduled to be erected in Visaginas with an estimated completion date in the 2018-2020 time frame. The importance of the project is easily understood when it is recognized that currently, Lithuania gets 50% of its electricity from Russia.

It is expected that the new plant will cost as much as 5 billion Euros. Iberola, Spain's largest electricity supplier is quoted as saying it is one of the finalists in the bid process, according to the *Baltic Times*.

Looking for an apartment in Lithuania? Better hurry.....According to Pan Baltic real estate firm Ober-Haus, prices in Vilnius hit bottom in the the 2nd quarter of this year. Prices are down 40% from their high of December 2007; however, prices have been rising for the past four (4) consecutive months. Year to date, the prices for apartments are down 4.9%, but the trend is clearly headed upward recently. Ober-Haus has been tracking apartment prices since 2004.

ARTICLES

Additionally, we want to remind you that **you are encouraged to send articles** to us that you feel would be of interest to our readers. They can be items that you have authored or articles from others, including photos, from whom you have received permission to duplicate and to publish.

Quotables and Quizzes

QUIZ

For

DECEMBER

(Answers are found following the REMINDERS section)

1. **What was Lithuania's religion before the introduction of Christianity?**
2. **Who is Kaledu Senelis?**
3. **In what city can you visit the Devil's Museum?**
4. **How many kings have there been in Lithuania's history?**
5. **How many different dishes are served at the Christmas Eve dinner?**

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I don't know if there is one key to success, but I do know that the key to failure is trying to please everyone."

- Bill Cosby

Have you been considering being personally active in a volunteer organization? We have been looking for you! A.P.P.L.E. is actively recruiting volunteer members who feel their need to contribute to a cause larger than themselves. We have been an integral part of the positive development of the educational system of Lithuania for the past twenty (20) years, as it emerged from fifty (50) years of

Soviet rule. There is much more work to be done.

We would welcome greater participation on the part of our members and friends in the support we provide to the educational and social needs of Lithuania. If you have thought about it....contact us.

.Reminders

The Request for Proposals has been published on our website, www.applequest.org. Our Summer Program strands for this July will focus on Utilizing Technology in the Classroom as the main theme, and will, hopefully, provide our Lithuanian constituents with some new faces as well as innovative facilities and practices for their classrooms. Consider sending in your proposal and joining us this summer. You are guaranteed to receive at least as much as you give.

REMINDER: One of the easiest ways to support A.P.P.L.E. is through using the website iGive.com when you purchase items on-line. It doesn't take any time to get your account opened: go to the iGive website and identify your charity as the American Professional Partnership for Lithuania Education. Once you do that, you can shop at over 700 stores and a percentage of your purchase goes to A.P.P.L.E. without you having to pay any extra. The variety of stores participating in iGive increases each day--Amazon, Borders Books, QVC, HCN, LLBean, Lands End, and the list goes on. Try it out, I think you will find it easy to use.

Answers to Quiz for December:

1. **"Romuva"**
2. **Father Christmas or The Old Man of Christmas**
3. **Kaunas**
4. **Only one....King Mindaugas**
5. **12....one for each Apostle**

This electronic newsletter is designed for quick delivery of A.P.P.L.E.-related news to an audience that includes current A.P.P.L.E. members, friends of A.P.P.L.E. and interested potential members both within the United States and Lithuania.

Increasing communication and the exchange of ideas among our members increases the strength of our organization and our ability to be relevant to our Lithuanian constituents. Exciting and pertinent events occur all year round, and we want to keep all of you abreast of what is happening, when it's happening.

Editing for grammar, punctuation, and spelling of submitted materials is the responsibility of the authors.

Organizational Development Committee

A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education)

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