

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education). We added several new email addresses in the last month. If you do not wish to receive further EZines please unsubscribe. Otherwise, don't forget to add jonaspb@verizon.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

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**Vol. 3, Issue 8**



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

(American Professional Partnership

for

Lithuanian Education)

## E-Zine

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### Greetings!



**Karl Janowitz**

### Message from the President

As we enter the holiday season, we review all the things we accomplished this past year, and consider all the things we hope to do in the next year. At this most special time of the year, I hope

you will find the time to surround yourself with all the people who are important in your life.

I have been thinking alot about A.P.P.L.E. and its future as we enter 2012. As an organization, we have been steadfast in our dedication to Lithuanian education and have accomplished much of which to be proud; I want to thank each and every one of you for all you have done for A.P.P.L.E., for we could not do this without your efforts. Many people contribute to our mission, in many diffierent ways.

Please feel free to contact me to share YOUR thoughts and reflections!

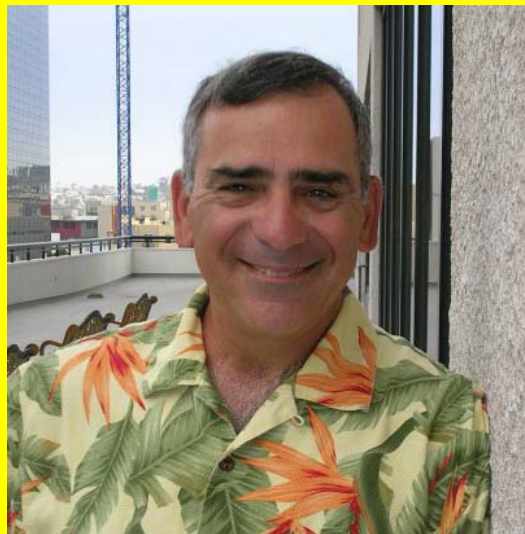
May you have a wonderful Christmas season and a new year full of happiness and health.

Dr. Karl P. Janowitz  
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 - Jack Vellis**



**Jack Vellis**

I have had the wonderful opportunity to travel most of my life.

Born the son of a career US Naval Officer, I lived in California, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Virginia while growing up. After graduating from high school in Hawaii, I headed east to Annapolis, Maryland and the US Naval Academy. I graduated in 1968 and started my own Navy career. In 26 years, I served on four ships - two on the east coast with deployments to South America and Europe, and two on the west coast and Hawaii with deployments to the Western Pacific

Ocean. I also served as an advisor in South Vietnam. One interesting shipboard assignment occurred in 1969 when my ship, USS Carpenter, was designated the secondary recovery ship for the Apollo 10 and 11 missions. In both missions, the satellite recovery was accomplished by the primary recovery ship, but it was quite exciting seeing our returning Moon explorers in Pearl Harbor on our return to port.

Along the way, I raised two sons and coached them in youth soccer and youth baseball. I continued in baseball after they grew up as an umpire, and continue to umpire youth baseball today. While in the Navy, I became interested in long distance running, and developed a 40-mile/week training regimen. I ran four marathons, best time 3:07, and two mini triathlons. According to my personal records, I have run over 17,000 miles in my adult years.

My wife, Nancy Hanssen, an A.P.P.L.E. Board Member, encouraged me to volunteer for the role of A.P.P.L.E. Treasurer in August 2006, upon the resignation of Jane Serbent, who had held the position for seven years. I accepted the challenge and was elected Treasurer by the board at the next board meeting. I truly appreciate this role in which I get to know our members in a small way by receiving their donations and responding to them with our thank you letters. I have traveled to Lithuania on three occasions and have experienced the beauty of the country and its people. From Lithuania, further travels have taken Nancy and me to Riga, Berlin, Prague, and Budapest, places along with Lithuania that I never thought I would ever see as a young naval officer as my career spanned the Cold War when these places were behind the Iron Curtain. What a better world we enjoy today!

I continue to work as a Contract Manager for Tetra Tech EC, Inc., an environmental remediation company. In addition to my volunteer duties at A.P.P.L.E., I serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of the San Diego Baseball Umpires Association, board member on the San Diego Chapter of the US Naval Academy Alumni Association, and as a volunteer at USO.

I live in San Diego with Nancy and our four dogs and one cat, and we enjoy the temperate weather and local cuisine. As the only current husband-wife team on the A.P.P.L.E. board, we enjoy working together to bring Western teaching ideas every summer to our friends in Lithuania. We hope we can continue serving A.P.P.L.E. in the future, and enjoy sharing life experiences with our fellow Lithuanian educators.

### **University of San Diego Graduate Students Assist A.P.P.L.E.**

Last summer, the third group of graduate students from the University of San Diego traveled to Lithuania to work with children with disabilities at the Social Group Home - Vilijampole. The required course, Healthy Environments and Inclusive Education, is offered every other summer in Lithuania as part of the masters and credential programs. USD students collaborated with the staff at Vilijampole in order to support their incredible work and learn ways to accommodate and modify activities to meet the learning needs and strengths of the children. USD students worked together with students from

Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, who volunteered as translators. This partnership has developed into life-long friendships that cross languages and cultures. The USD group made a trip to Nida to touch the Baltic Sea and scour for amber. They spent evenings with their Lithuanian friends enjoying and appreciating the architecture, food and music in old town, Kaunas. All six USD students wrote that their experience in Lithuania was "life-changing".

by Nancy Hanssen, Director of Programs



USD Graduate Students at Vilijampole

### Message from The Director of Programs



The theme for the 2012 Summer Program is Building an Educational Community in our Schools. Dr. Karl Janowitz worked closely with the Ministry of Education in Vilnius so our summer program will meet the requests of Lithuanian Educators. The strands we hope to provide are in the areas of administration, technology, elementary and secondary science, preschool and kindergarten, education through the arts, special education, and English as a Foreign Language. We are also working with Vytautas Magnus in Kaunas to provide a University component in the areas of psychology and/or social work. The summer program will run from June 25th through July 5th.

Our committee has worked diligently to recruit experienced educators to be part of the summer program. We have many exceptional returning lecturers as well as some new to A.P.P.L.E.. Several strands are co-taught by both American and Lithuanian educators. If you are interested in becoming an A.P.P.L.E. lecturer and have expertise in the above areas, please contact me at: [nancyhanssen@mail.com](mailto:nancyhanssen@mail.com) or call 858-345-0932.

### Fundraising Corner

Perhaps you are considering a donation to A.P.P.L.E. as the tax year comes to a close? Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. When making a donation to A.P.P.L.E., check with your company's Human Resources

office to see if they offer gift matching. If your employer does offer this program, your Human Resources department should provide you with a matching gift form to send to A.P.P.L.E. along with your donation.

The impact of your gift to A.P.P.L.E. may be doubled or possibly tripled! Some companies match gifts made by retirees and/or spouses.

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.

Consider passing this email along to a friend who you think might be interested in hearing about us.

#### Quick Links

<http://www.applequest.org>

