

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



(American Professional Partnership

for

Lithuanian Education)

E-Zine

In This Issue

Organizational Development Message

Heard in Lithuania

Summer Program Activities

Reminders

Quotables and Quizzes

Greetings!



Message from the President

As we, in the United States, are celebrating our nation's birthday next weekend, many of us involved with A.P.P.L.E., are packing our suitcases for our trip to Lithuania for our 20th summer in Lithuania with A.P.P.L.E. We will be celebrating our 20th anniversary there. Upon our return, we will have many stories and pictures to share with our supporters.

There has been one change in our activities in Lithuania. The reception at the United States Embassy has been tentatively rescheduled for Friday, July 23, at 6:30 p.m.

I have been informed that the weather in Lithuania these past two weeks has been "cool" in the 60's,

and rainy!!! I assume that by the time we get there it should improve, but bring a few sweaters and rain gear just in case!

I hope that all of you have a wonderful and restful summer, and a Bon Voyage to my fellow travelers. Happy travels! See you in Lithuania!

Vida R. (Strazdaite) Gavin, Ed.D.
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."

Organizational Development Message

Bylaws Study Team completes their revision activities..... The recommended revisions to the original Bylaws have been distributed to the other members of the leadership team for their review and comments. Their final draft will be reviewed and discussed over the next forty-five (45) days in anticipation of voting approval of this most current edition at our next official meeting in September.

Have you been considering becoming personally active in a worthwhile 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. There is much more work to be done.

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

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.

Heard in Lithuania

Klaipeda

Klaipeda, Lithuania's third-biggest city (population 201,800), is not just any ordinary port; it is the northernmost ice-free port in the Baltic states. With a distinctive architecture that is quite unique in Lithuania, influenced by the styles of its northern neighbours, it offers its visitors a delightful chance to explore a small but very cozy Old Town with quaint, reconstructed merchants' houses and converted warehouses that have kept their original exterior timber beams.

Klaipeda cherishes its marine traditions and on the last weekend of July it holds its annual Sea Fiesta, a tradition that began in 1934 and which has gained huge popularity in recent years.

The most popular tourist attraction for adults and children alike is the Sea Museum with its amazing dolphinarium and fantastic aquariums filled with exotic fish. It stands on the cape of the Curonian peninsula inside the restored 19th century Koggalis Fortress. Dolphins and Californian sealions, penguins and seals swim, jump, dance, sing and even paint for visitors during shows. Anyone who's not afraid of getting splashed is welcome to take the first row.

The Clock Museum, housed in a neoclassical building that once belonged to an English merchant, boasts clocks and watches of every type imaginable. The Post Office Tower nearby turns into a stage for a charming melody of bells every weekend at noon. The Smithery Museum, meanwhile, displays a beautiful collection of pagan and Catholic metal crosses and gates that date back to the 19th century.

Klaipeda is a great place for a holiday. It can offer endless beaches of white sand and dunes for gazing into sea and sky, pine forests for enjoyable walks out of the city and plenty of entertaining clubs, cafes and pubs in the centre. It is full of energy 24 hours a day and you can reach it by ferry or cruise ship as well as by car or bus.

www.klaipedainfo.lt

Summer 2010 Program Activities

Off we go..... This week will see our A.P.P.L.E. visiting lecturers off to Lithuania for the 20th. Anniversary edition of A.P.P.L.E. Summer Programs being held this year in Klaipeda, Kaunas and Camp Viltis. Anticipation, excitement, and pride are just a few of the emotions they are feeling as they finalize the necessary details associated with this very special year. September's issue of The A.P.P.L.E. Seed will feature some of the highlights from this year's historic events.

How much is a Lita worth?.... Here are the monetary values of the Lita, the Euro and the Dollar relative to each other to assist those going to Lithuania with us this summer with their finances. With the Euro in decline over the past few months relative to the dollar, we can expect a significant

increase in buying power this summer.

As of 6/25/10 the relative values for each currency were:

1 EURO = 1.21 DOLLARS; 1 DOLLAR = .825 EUROS; 1 LITA = .358 DOLLARS.

1 EURO = 3.45 LITAS; 1 DOLLAR = 2.89 LITAS; 1 LITA = .289 EUROS.

Reminders

Traveling this summer? Have you taken advantage of this offer?.... As we suggested in our previous issues of The A.P.P.L.E. Seed, you can avoid paying a fee to exchange your Dollars for Litas by contacting Travelex Currency Services at a local branch office or their website at www.travelex.com. If you exchange \$ 500 for Litas or any other currency on your initial exchange with them, they will waive the exchange fee and guarantee to buy back any currency you may bring back with you at the prevailing rate. If \$500 is more than you intended to exchange, buddy up with anyone else and split the amount to \$ 250 each. Still more than you intended to exchange? Add a third party and split the amount to \$166.66 each. Why pay a fee if you can avoid it?

Enjoy the months of July and Aug.... We intend to.... The A.P.P.L.E. Seed e-zine will be on hiatus until September 1st. Gail and I will be busy with A.P.P.L.E. Summer Sessions in Lithuania during July and enjoying some New Jersey beach time in August. We'll look forward to bringing timely commentary, articles, reports, quotes and all things A.P.P.L.E. to you when we resume publishing in September.

Quotables and Quizzes

"Ideas we fail to reinforce will likely perish before they reach maturity."

A. Robbins, adapted

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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