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The A.P.P.L.E. Seed
(American Professional Partnership
for
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E-Zine

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Dear John,



Karl Janowitz

Message from the President

Lithuania is great as always. Summer A.P.P.L.E. 2013 has begun. Our two week seminar participants met and stayed at a new location for A.P.P.L.E. in Vilnius, the excellently located Panorama Hotel situated steps from the Old Town. On June 24th we left for our teaching locations - Birstonas/Prienai or Kaunas. All Strands except for Special Education will remain in Birstonas and teach in nearby Prienai for both weeks. The Special Education Strand will teach at two locations in Kaunas for the first week and will join the other strands in Birstonas/Prienai for the second week.

You will hear more about the summer seminars in future editions.

I hope had a wonderful Independence Day, wish you a good State (Mindaugas Coronation) Day, and hope you have an enjoyable summer.

From sunny Lithuania,
Karl

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 - Bee Taylor



Phil & Bee Taylor

SIX SUMMERS OF DISCOVERY AND FRIENDSHIP

by Bee Taylor

My, how everyday life in Lithuania changed over my thirteen-year involvement with A.P.P.L.E. seminars. I enjoyed conducting workshops for mathematics teachers for six summers between 1992 and 2005. My first summer was only the second year of the A.P.P.L.E. corps. Even though Lithuania had achieved its independence from Russia the year before, there were still Russian troops stationed throughout the country. My husband Phil, from the Administration Strand, had arrived earlier in the summer for two different two-week sessions. I joined them in August for a single 5th week in Klaipeda. I arrived from Copenhagen on a Russian Aeroflot airline, an unbelievable experience itself. There was luggage in the aisle, the tray tops all fell out during take-off, and the flight attendants, wearing their own individual blouses, only came out after about an hour to serve Fanta.

Phil and I were able to share in some amazing memories. In those early years, we visiting teachers had to bring almost every type of toiletry or over-the-counter medicine we thought we might need. There were few stores where we could buy anything. We were amazed by the one large department store in downtown Vilnius where we encountered our first escalator lady. This must have been a holdover from the Soviet Union days. When she took a lunch break, she shut down the escalator. I remember taking a photograph of the only toilet bowl for sale. It had no seat, just the bowl. And who can forget the gray, hard, rough toilet paper!

During breaks on Sunday, Phil and I tried to go to a nice looking restaurant for dinner. We looked in the door and saw only two couples eating. The owner asked if we had a reservation. We said "No, but it looks like you have room for us." He said, "Room yes, but no food." We later learned that making a reservation meant that the restaurant would then order enough food to cook. There was no facility for walk-ins back then.

Vilnius had really changed by my last summer in 2005. There were fabulous restaurants and numerous supermarkets where you could buy anything. Designer clothing shops were everywhere with prices to match. And there were several modern shopping malls. One I particularly enjoyed taking the bus to had an indoor skating rink and a movie theater.

I have wonderful memories of all my Lithuanian mathematics teachers. They were so polite and sweet and dutifully took down every word I said in little blue booklets. I always worked hard on my presentations because my teachers seemed so appreciative. In 2005 during my last workshop, I was fortunate to share teaching duties with Lina Stasiunaite, a brilliant young Lithuanian instructor from Vilnius who had been a participant in my workshop the year before. We are still email pen pals.

Looking back on my first year, I am reminded that one of my teachers told me that summer that she enjoyed her week with me so much that she was going to name her first baby girl after me. So my heart warms thinking that perhaps among all the children with lovely Lithuanian names such as Gita, Vaiva, Lina, Birute, and Giedre, there is a little "Beverly" running around! I hope she is very good in mathematics!

Flashback



This photo, supplied by Amanda Muliolis, is from a past A.P.P.L.E. summer program. While the location is obvious, can you name the year the photo was taken? Can you identify anyone in the photo? Can you describe anything about the circumstances leading up to this photo or anything you remember about that year? Perhaps you were part of the program that summer? We would love to hear more about what you remember! Just send your thoughts and guesses to jonaspb@comcast.net and we will make sure to include them in the next E-zine.

Lithuanian Scholars' Fund Winning Proposal

This month we continue to bring you examples of projects that are funded with A.P.P.L.E.'s Lithuanian Scholars' Fund Grants. Our featured project this month received the second highest ranking of all project proposals submitted this year.

The project, "Let's Click the Mouse Together" was submitted by Lina Venskute and Lina Barauskiene of St. Christopher's Middle School in Vilnius. Both participated in the 2012 A.P.P.L.E. summer program in Palanga.

St. Christopher's Middle School has been in existence for only 3 years. Thus, it is still in its formative years. One of their goals is to foster greater interaction between teachers, students and their parents. This project seeks to promote that interaction while introducing computer technology in the classroom. Specifically, they propose to install and use Microsoft Mouse Mischief software in one of their classrooms. Microsoft Mischief is a PowerPoint plug-in that allows teachers to create interactive classroom lessons. It is also a tool to allow students to interact with their lessons by using individual mice and is a way to improve classroom management and overall participation. The instructors hope to use the program for lessons, assemblies and presentations.

"Mouse Mischief" class will bring together teachers so they can work together and share best practices in developing lessons. They will also use the program to develop ways for interacting with parents during parent-teacher's meetings. The teachers at St. Christopher's plan to consult with teachers in other schools already using the software before implementing the project. Results of the project will be shared at teacher conferences in Vilnius.

The amount of support provided by A.P.P.L.E. for this project is 600 LTL (about \$225). The grant will be matched with 300 LTL from another source. The funds will be used to purchase wired computer mice and USB hubs to allow up to 30 students to participate at one time. The project was to be implemented from January to June of this year.

A.P.P.L.E. Bites

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- Not that we want to rush the season, but A.P.P.L.E.'s Board of Directors will conduct their "End of Summer" Board Meeting in Pittsburgh, America's Smartest City ([as determined by Movoto.com](#)), on Saturday, August 24th. Details will be available soon. Contact [Vida Anton](#) for more information.

Fundraising Corner

Would you like to support future projects awarded through the Lithuanian Scholars' Fund? Now is the perfect time to make a gift to A.P.P.L.E.

You may click on the button below to make a donation using PayPal. Make sure to add a note if you wish that your donation be specifically used for a Lithuanian Scholars' Fund grant.

What will different levels of donations accomplish?

- For \$100, you can provide an ink cartridge and paper so that A.P.P.L.E. can distribute lesson notes to teachers.
- For \$200, you can provide a stipend for a translator.
- For \$450, you can underwrite the distribution of our newsletter.
- For \$500, you can sponsor a Scholar's Fund Grant. Lesser amounts will be combined to fund a grant.

A minimum donation of \$25-individual or \$40-family will enroll you as a member of A.P.P.L.E. for one year. Of course, donations are still welcome by mail: A.P.P.L.E., P.O. Box 179017, San Diego, CA 92177.



A.P.P.L.E. is a 501(3)c organization, which means that your gifts are tax-deductible. Our tax-exempt number is 23-2682202. Because of strict IRS regulations, we cannot accept donations intended for specific people. If you would like to support relatives or friends, please do so directly. The A.P.P.L.E. scholar grants are intended for Lithuanian educators who do not have contacts in the United States.

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.

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