

## John Baltrus

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**From:** A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education) [gail@appleamericanprofessionalpartnershipforlithuanianeducation.ccsend.com] on behalf of A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education) [jonaspb@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2013 6:03 AM  
**To:** jonaspb@verizon.net  
**Subject:** News from A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education)

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May 2013

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

(American Professional Partnership  
for  
Lithuanian Education)

## E-Zine

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**Dear John,**



Karl Janowitz

## Message from the President

After returning from a wonderful, productive trip to Lithuania it is time to finalize plans for A.P.P.L.E. '13. The theme "Real World Applications of What We Teach", to encourage teachers, administrators, families, and others involved in the educational process to ensure that what we teach has relevance beyond the classroom seems more and more pertinent in light of current changes in education and the the larger society. I have discussed this in the United States as well as in Lithuania and people have many varied opinions.

We had an interesting Board of Directors meeting in Baltimore the weekend of April 12th where details pertaining to A.P.P.L.E. Summer 2013 were discussed and finalized. A visit to Baltimore's Lithuanian Hall and the fascinating Lithuanian Museum therein followed by a delicious traditional Lithuanian dinner added to the experience.

I wish everyone a wonderful May.

As always,

*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."

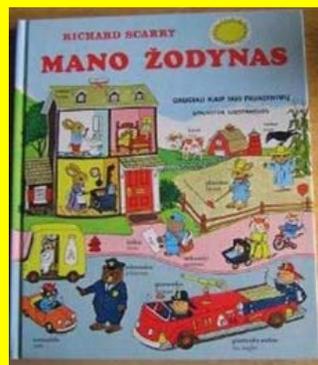
**A.P.P.L.E.'s Amanda Mulioliene Receives Award**



*Awardee Amanda Mulioliene (center) with Sigita Simkuvienė-Rosen (left), U.S. Lithuanian Community Executive Committee President and Liepa Boberienė (right), Vice-President for Youth Affairs*

On April 20<sup>th</sup> board member and longtime key contributor to A.P.P.L.E. programs, Amanda Mulioliene was the recipient of the 2012 Award from the U.S. Lithuanian Community (*JAVLietuviu Bendruomene*) recognizing her contribution to Lithuanian Schools in the U.S. The award is given annually by the Educational Affairs Council to an educator who has demonstrated significant commitment to Lithuanian schools in the U.S. Amanda worked with first graders for 13 years in the Cleveland Saturday school. She was responsible for overseeing the translation of Richard Scarry's classic children's dictionary. The Lithuanian version "*Mano Žodynas*" was donated by A.P.P.L.E. for use in schools in Lithuania and is used in all U.S. Saturday schools. She also collaborated in creating a Lithuanian language workbook for first grade. Amanda created DVD's of stories, songs and basic lessons used in teaching Lithuanian language to children. Though the award is not based on her work in Lithuania, her outstanding contribution to Lithuanian educational programs, via her work with A.P.P.L.E. was acknowledged.

The award was presented at a celebration held in Cleveland. The Cleveland dance group Svyturys hosted a mini-dance festival "Juventus". In the afternoon dance groups from Long Beach FL, Toronto and two from Chicago, joined the Cleveland Svyturys group in a two and half hour session of dancing. The banquet recognized the 10 year anniversary of the Svyturys dance group. At the banquet Amanda was presented the award by Lithuanian Community President Sigi ta Simkuviene-Rosen. Also representing the Lithuanian Community was Liepa Boberienė, daughter of the late Vaiva Vebraite who over 23 years ago founded A.P.P.L.E.



## A.P.P.L.E. Holds Annual Meeting



*Vida Anton, Howell NJ; Audre Ruzga, Point Pleasant NJ; Dr. John Baltrus, Jefferson Hills PA; Dr. Leslie Young, La Verne CA; Dr. Karl Janowitz, Philadelphia PA; Dr. Anita Yuskauskas, Lincoln University PA; Dr. Anita Scarborough, Chapel Hill NC; Amanda Muliolis, Euclid OH. Jack Vellis, Nancy Hanssen and Jim Brousseau participated via Skype.*

The meeting, held the weekend of April 14<sup>th</sup>, focused on plans for the summer sessions which will be held in Prienai June 25<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>. Lecturers will be accommodated in facilities located in nearby Birstonas. Lecturers are: Elementary Education, Marilyn Edwards with Ed Jakubauskas; Primary Education, Carol Ramsey; Secondary Education, Sandra Dollinger; Educational Administration, Linda Brenneman and Ed Topar; and for one week, Special Education, Marjorie Pett. Marjorie will spend one week in Prienai and the previous week in Kaunas. Anita Yuskauskas, Leslie Young, and Nancy Hanssen will be in Kaunas at various kindergartens.

The content of the upcoming newsletter, including the availability of space for advertising, was discussed. Results of the elections held on Sunday were: Dr. Anita Yuskauskas, Director of Programs; Jim Brousseau, Director of Communications; Jack Vellis, Treasurer; Dr. Anita Scarborough, Secretary; Dr. Leslie Young, Director At-large, Dr. Kristen Ross, Director At-large, and Dr. John Baltus, Director At-large. The next meeting will be held the weekend of August 24<sup>th</sup> in Pittsburgh PA.

A.P.P.L.E. President Participates in Lithuanian Conference



### **International - Republican pre-school educational conference "Children as a social group: socialization processes and achievements"**

Socialization - the process, which is particularly relevant in childhood, when the child learns basic social skills, language, behavior, performance, and communication methods. Adults, parents and educators have a difficult task - to help children to fit in with the public and at the same time remain self-confident. Socialization can be described as a total environmental impact, which enables a child to participate in society, to understand its culture and perform certain social roles.

Since children spend a greater fraction of their time in preschool educational systems, these educational systems are becoming more significant to them. Therefore, special attention should be given to pre-school socialization education, to seek educational process quality, conforming to the needs of modern society.

Focusing on children's socialization, the International - Republican pre-school conference "Children as a social group: socialization processes and achievements" was held at Lithuania's Kaunas Panemunė nursery - kindergarten, under the leadership of Vilijos Gečienės, on March 26, 2013. Pre-school leaders, teachers, and professionals (social educators, speech therapists, special educators, and others) came from various Lithuanian cities wanting to share their best practices. The purpose of the conference was to reveal underlying trends in the socialization of children in pre-school systems, socialization achievements, and challenges in order to provide further educational perspectives.

Habil. dr. Gediminas Merkys, a professor at Kaunas University of Technology, shared his best practices. The subject of his presentation was, "21st century Lithuania: velvet childhood genocide." The conference was also attended by the Lithuanian Sports University associate professor DSSc. Ilona Tilindienė and lecturer Aida Gaizauskienė, who spoke about children with behavioral problems and socialization methods for pre-schools. Conference participants' attention to the importance of educator personality in socialization education was emphasized by Vytautas Magnus University lecturer DSSc. Loreta Zajančauskaitė - Staskevičienė. Parental reactions to children's negative emotions as a characteristic of different sociodemographic groups was presented by Inga Rusinaitė - Vaitkuvienė, Vytautas, a master's degree student at Vytautas Magnus University, Faculty of Social Sciences.

Enriched by his visit to the International - Republican pre-school educational conference "Children as a social group: socialization processes and achievements" was a guest from Philadelphia, A.P.P.L.E. president, Dr. Karl Janowitz. During the conference, he gave a presentation on "The socialization of children with special needs." He introduced the current American learning system for education of children with special needs children; summing up the special educational needs child learning processes and achievements, in the context of socialization.

In total, the conference was attended by 116 pre-school teachers and specialists (social educators, speech therapists, special education teachers, etc.), with 10 oral presentations and 38 poster presentations.

Translated from an article by Vilija Gečienė

### A.P.P.L.E. Visits Baltimore Lithuanian Hall

On the evening of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 an A.P.P.L.E. delegation visited the Baltimore Lithuanian Hall. The hall has served as the cultural and social center for the Baltimore Lithuanian community since 1921.



*Algirdas & Amanda Muliolis, Audre Ruzga, Vida Anton, Anita Scarborough, Jody McCrory, Karl Janowitz, John Baltrus*

The group enjoyed a tour of the hall provided by Henry Gaidis, author of *A History of the Lithuanian Military Forces in World War II 1939-1945*. His collection of *Lithuanian militaria* is on display at the Lithuanian Museum established in 1978, housed in the hall. Dinner is served on Friday evenings and the tour ended with delicious authentic homemade cepelinai, saltibarsčiai and Lithuanian beer.



*Karl Janowitz, Amanda Muliolis, Anita Scarborough, John Baltrus, Jody McCrory,*

The Lithuanian Festival Committee of Maryland, will be presenting the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Lithuanian Festival of Baltimore 'Bringing the Baltic to the Bay' on May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> at the Catonsville Armory, 130 Mellor Avenue, Catonsville MD. Activities include dancing, food, crafts, and displays of Lithuanian culture and history. Admission is \$5. Information at [www.Lithuanianfestival.org](http://www.Lithuanianfestival.org)

## 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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