

# Apple

## REPORT TO THE CORPS

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### **INSPIRATION FOR NEW LIFE AND GROWTH**

Spring is, indeed, a season of radical magic. Seemingly lifeless seeds, buried under heavy black earth, miraculously transform themselves into a myriad of spectacular life forms. What looked dead is now beautifully alive again. Every nation and every culture finds interesting ways to celebrate this compelling mystery. Every family gathers for some springtime occasion—Easter, Passover, maybe a graduation or a wedding—that uniquely celebrates this continuous renewal of life out of death, giving up an old familiar way of being to venture into a new way of being.

I am certain that my family is not unique in sharing numerous family stories when we gather on these occasions. My children never met my maternal grandmother who lived with us when I was young, yet both of them know the story about one of her first rides in an automobile. On a lovely summer evening back in 1955, as my father drove her home in his new Chevy, the first car the family ever owned, my grandmother commented on what she thought was just a happy coincidence. All the cars driving in one direction had hung red lights on their automobiles, and all those driving in the other direction had hung white lights. As the matriarch of a large farming family in Lithuania, she had not had much experience with headlights and taillights. We all tell the story over and over, even if we weren't there that evening, even if we weren't born yet. My children have made her story their story; they have made her struggle to adapt to this strange new way of being in the unfamiliar American world part of their spiritual heritage.

Over the last ten years A.P.P.L.E. has grown very much into a family with its own traditions and its own stories to tell and retell. We have shared many moving experiences, funny situations, satisfying accomplish-

ments. We love to tell about them over and over whenever we get the chance to be together again. Hopefully, many of them will be captured for us in the slide presentation that Romas Sakadolskis is preparing for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration during the 2000 summer seminars in Lithuania. This nostalgic look at the past is sure to renew our energies and commitment for our work together in the years to come.

But we would be remiss if we did not also retell the hard stories to remind us of the losses that we have shared. These past few months, the A.P.P.L.E. family has suffered the passing of two important family members, both of whom were much too young to be taken from us and whom we commemorate in this issue of our newsletter. The first was Rasa Treciokas, who quietly and valiantly struggled with cancer for many years. While she still had the strength, she worked for A.P.P.L.E. behind the scenes, assisting president Vaiva Veibra in a variety of administrative tasks. The second was a highly visible figure in Lithuanian education, Lora Juniaviciute, who died suddenly of a stroke. As head of the Department of In-service and Teacher Training, she was A.P.P.L.E.'s main contact at the Ministry of Education and Science and a staunch supporter of our work.

Painfully, the loss of Rasa and Lora has brought us face to face with death again, but the cycle of rebirth that we experience as spring each year does not allow us to give in to despair. Instead, it reminds us that our friends have passed on to a new way of being. Those of us who knew them will always carry them in our hearts. The telling and retelling of their stories will make them and their work an integral part of our own creative energies. May their passing continue to inspire new life and growth in the work we do together as A.P.P.L.E.

—Gita Kupcinkas

## LORA JUNIAVICIUTE (1954-2000)

On March 29, 2000, A.P.P.L.E. lost a dear friend and colleague when Lora Juniaviciute died at the age of 45, following a massive stroke. Lora had been serving as the head of the Department of In-service and Teacher Training at the Ministry of Education and Science in Lithuania and was our organization's main contact with the Ministry.

Lora was born in Dotnuva, in the Kedainiai region of Lithuania in 1954. Upon graduating from the school in Krakes, she studied Russian language and literature at the Pedagogical Institute in Vilnius. In 1996 she also completed studies in ethics education.

In 1975 Lora began work as a students' work organizer. From 1986-87 she was the assistant principal in the Kedainiai Regional Academy, and from 1987-91 in the Kunoniai school. In 1991-94 Lora was an inspector/methodologist in the Kedainiai region. She began her work as director of the Teacher Center in Kedainiai in 1994 and remained there until she was appointed to her post at the Ministry of Education and Science in 1998. During that time Lora founded the Lithuanian Teacher Center Workers Association and served as its president. Her various job-related experiences in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, Denmark, and Sweden made her an invaluable resource to her colleagues and the teachers of Lithuania. She was also a staunch supporter of A.P.P.L.E. and its mission.

Although notice of Lora's wake in Vilnius was very short, hundreds of people gathered to pay their last respects on Thursday, March 30, 2000, before Lora's body was escorted to Kedainiai where the wake continued on Friday. Lora's funeral from her home village, Krakes, on Saturday April 1, 2000, was attended by over 200 people from all over Lithuania, representing



Lora worked tirelessly for educational reform in Lithuania. She's shown here at an A.P.P.L.E. satellite seminar in Kedainai, winter of 1993. Photo by Walter Serbent.

many of the teacher centers. She is survived by her mother Valerija Juniaviciene. Condolences can be sent in her name to:

Rasos 12-17

Kedainiai, Lithuania.

At Lora's funeral service Vaiva Vebra, former president of A.P.P.L.E. and current Vice Minister of Education in Lithuania, shared the following thoughts about losing Lora Juniaviciute, her friend and colleague.

They say that no one is irreplaceable. But that isn't true. In fact the opposite is true. Every person is irreplaceable because every one is different, and those differences are what energize our world. From those differences arise all our thoughts and decisions from the beginning of time. From those differences arise our desire to know, to understand, to persuade each other of our truths, and in the end to love not just ourselves but the person beside us as well. Those who especially stand out from the crowd, these are the sparks that ignite the energy of the world. They burn from within and, in so doing, not only do they spread warmth and light, but sometimes they burn themselves up. Of course, they are irreplaceable. And when they leave this world, the energy that keeps it revolving flickers, if only for an instant.

When Lora left us so suddenly, we felt that not only our hearts had been broken but also our whole understanding of the world. We walked around in a daze, repeating, "It doesn't make sense." I think that she herself would have laughed at us and said, "If it doesn't make sense, that's your problem." Because Lora was a true believer. I know that she looked on her faith as a spiritual harbor in which she found meaning and solace. She never spoke about it unasked, and when we asked, she would tell us. Her faith was a harbor to her, and she, in turn, was a harbor to us, her friends and colleagues. Sometimes we were agitated and scattered, looking for goodness, for right judgment, for the unwavering voice of our conscience. But Lora worked with clearer principles than most of us. She never hid away the voice of her conscience. She got along very well with that conscience. That is why she became a safe harbor in which many smaller vessels might come for examination, repair, and even rest. Even so, she herself was not a calm person, because she was on fire with ideas, tasks, resolutions, and responsibilities, without any fancy words about her feelings for Lithuania. Although she could never calm down, those of us who were beside her found peace. It was good to be near her.

Even though Lora was a woman of serious purpose—maybe *because* she was such a woman—she was always filled with laughter. I had the opportunity to know her in a variety of jobs in the United States, in Kedainiai, and in Vilnius. Most people adapt themselves to their current situations, modifying the way they interact with people, and even changing their views. But not Lora. She

was an authentic human being. She loved the cinema; she loved the countryside; she loved all kinds of entertainment. She took an interest in everything. She was open to the point of vulnerability. The one thing she couldn't abide was a lie.

I can imagine her in *Anapolis*, the world beyond. She was very demanding while she was among us, never accepting the half-baked project, telling us straight out if the emperor had no clothes on. I think she cannot be otherwise in heaven. I think they love her there for her straightforward honesty as much as we loved her here. I believe that, as long as we are in this world, we will feel her standing at our shoulder. We will hear her voice close by, and she won't let us tell a lie because we are concerned with our schools, with our children. This is sacred work, she used to say with a smile. The only thing I don't understand is how we will get along without her. Not a single one of us has thought so deeply as she had about teacher training; not one of us understood teacher-training strategy quite so well as she did. The paths of her knowledge and her searching are a legacy to us—this is a legacy with an obligation. Search. Think. Do what is needed.

The sense of having this person beside you—I wonder if we must understand this as a one-sided experience. That is, if we can feel Lora, maybe she can feel us as well. If her voice still rings in our ears, maybe she can hear us too. Maybe that's how it is. Maybe we can believe that pain is not the only sovereign in our world. Maybe we can cut through pain and loss like a wall; we might do so, if we find in ourselves as much energy and spiritual strength as Lora had. And what can we expect to find on the other side of that wall? The blessing that she lived among us, that we had the courage to love her, and that she responded in kind.

—*Vaiva Vebra*

## IN MEMORY OF RASA TRECIOKAS

I saw a wall hanging once with this inscription: "Some people come into our lives and quietly go. Others stay for a while and leave footprints in our hearts, and we are never the same." So it was with our dear friend and A.P.P.L.E. colleague Rasa Trečiokas, who died December 26, 1999, after a long battle with cancer. Her A.P.P.L.E. friends and her co-workers with the Connecticut Department of Children and Families can truly say that she indeed has left her footprints in our hearts.

I spoke with Rasa two weeks before she died, and she was still upbeat and eager for news about A.P.P.L.E. Her Lithuanian heritage had always been an important component of her life, thus motivating her to volunteer her services to A.P.P.L.E. When her struggle with cancer seemed to give her a bit of a reprieve, Rasa volunteered to be the administrator in Marijampole and



*Rasa's upbeat attitude always shone in her smile. Photo by Katie Hoyle – A.P.P.L.E.'s Closing Dinner in Birstonas, 1993*

Vilnius during the 1993 A.P.P.L.E. summer seminars. Despite concerns for her personal well being, she did her job in her usual efficient, professional manner. Until then she had been working one evening a week, assisting Vaiva Vebra with data entry. She cut back on her involvement only when her illness became a disruptive factor in her life once again.

As a social worker, Rasa's true passion became her adoption work with her agency's children, and in the mid-1980s she joined the staff at the Adoption Resource Exchange. For many years she developed and conducted Life Book Training for DCF social workers and private agencies in Connecticut. Rasa continued her commitment to adoption through her involvement with the Connecticut Council on Adoption (CCA). In June 1999, only six months before she died, Rasa received the Connecticut Council on Adoption Annual Award, and even though very ill, she started a fund through CCA called the "Life Story Education Fund." In accepting her award, Rasa expressed that "adoptive work is difficult, and we need to keep our visions alive in it."

We can surely remember Rasa as a model of tenacity and courage. Though the last few years were extremely difficult for her, she never gave up her zest for life. Rasa will always remain a source of inspiration for me.

Note: At the request of Rasa's family donations can be made to

A.P.P.L.E.

Box 117

Durham, CT 06422

—*Shirley Sabo*

## SPRING MEETING 2000

The spring planning meeting has always been one of my favorite A.P.P.L.E. events. Even in the off years when I couldn't participate in the summer seminars, I always tried to make it to the spring meetings. Especially, once I was elected to the board of trustees, I felt it was a very good way to stay in tune with the pulse of our organization. Besides, it gave me an opportunity to rekindle my A.P.P.L.E. friendships.

Over the years the nature of the meetings has evolved. Our first president, Vaiva Vebra, had originally conceived of this gathering as the perfect opportunity to do final planning for that year's summer seminar as well as to address other pressing issues with the

gether. I could devote all of my energies to the content of the meeting. As I searched to find a happy balance between reports on the present status of A.P.P.L.E. and plans not just for the summer of 2000 but also the summer of 2001, I realized that putting me in charge of the meeting was indeed a very wise decision on Emilija's part. Now with our new administrative structure, which calls for a president-elect, a president, and an immediate-past-president, the person coming up the ranks will have to grow into the full role of president. It is one thing to be in charge of a segment of A.P.P.L.E.'s work; it is another thing altogether to be responsible for *all* of it. I realized that much of the spring meeting would go toward my personal edification as the next president of A.P.P.L.E.

And I was right. Once again, the experience of participating in the spring meeting did not disappoint me. We listened to everyone who gathered from near and far. We rejoiced in the successes of last summer and planned to work on improvements for this summer. We considered ways to celebrate ten years of A.P.P.L.E. accomplishments during the summer of 2000. We weighed the pros and cons of my suggestion to make the latest results of current brain research our focus topic for the summer of 2001. We pondered the economic crisis in Lithuania, which is forcing us to cut back this summer on entire segments of our program that we have come to regard as mainstays: agriculture, elementary education, English as a foreign language, language arts. We wondered how we could include more of our Lithuanian colleagues among the lecturers at the summer seminars so that the *Partnership* of our name might be more fully realized. We asked ourselves the hardest question of all: Do we still belong in Lithuania after ten years of independence? After all, we were founded to provide support for the teachers during Lithuania's period of transition to a democratic society.

Without a doubt the overwhelming consensus was that we still have a clear sense of mission and the teachers of Lithuania still say that they need us. Emilija shared with us the results of a recent survey, conducted by the SOROS Foundation, which evaluated various in-service programs for Lithuanian teachers. A.P.P.L.E. came out on top in all categories and most significantly in two areas: *They bring us new material* and *they make us think*. As always, I came away from our spring meeting yet again enamored of the wonderful people who make up our organization here in the United States. I feel privileged to be serving such dedicated and generous professionals. I am glad I was part of the spring meeting were we collectively renewed our sense of purpose and mission.

—Gita Kupcinskas



*Walter Serbent, one of the Connecticut hosts, addresses the group that gathered for the Spring Planning Meeting, 2000.  
Photo by Phil Taylor*

board and active A.P.P.L.E. members. In 1999 her successor Emilija Sakadolskis used the time in another way by inviting us to participate in a grant-writing seminar. An important piece of that was a reworking of our mission statement. The focus was no longer just the immediate summer but many years down the road.

This year, as president-elect, I had an entirely different perspective on the spring meeting. For the first time, I was in charge of the agenda. At first I thought this wasn't such a good idea. Emilija is, after all, still the president. Why did it have to be up to me to organize this meeting? She has everything at the tips of her fingers, while I am just getting acquainted with my new role. Thank heaven, the other officers, Shirley Sabo, Jane Serbent, and Walter Serbent had agreed to take care of the arrangements for a conference room and lodgings in beautiful rural Connecticut. They chose the weekend of March 24-25, 2000, for us to get to-

**THANK YOU, AMERICA CENTER!**  
**THEY CALLED IT “THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME”**

Being President lets you pursue pet projects and agendas; and my unabashed agenda is convincing educators that the arts are core subjects in the school curriculum. The arts should not be for the select few who are perceived to be talented. In his book *Strong Arts, Strong Schools* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996), Charles Fowler states:

*The arts in the schools do not, cannot, and should not exist in isolation. They necessarily must operate in the framework of general education. When they are part of the curriculum of American schools . . . inevitably they are there because they give students an indispensable educational dimension. Indeed, the relationship of the arts to general education is crucial to establishing their educational value and legitimacy and developing a vital and essential curriculum.*

When we look at the arts in Lithuanian schools, we see that financial and human resources are funneled into specialized schools, but not into general education. Training for teachers who will teach the arts in general schools is often inferior and traditional, and those who wind up teaching the arts in general schools are often viewed as being incapable of doing anything else—otherwise they would be performers or teachers at the specialized schools.

The economic recession in Lithuania has forced the Ministry of Education and Science to look more closely at this situation. The Ministry created a task force that presented its findings in December 1999. The findings reveal that the arts in general education are underfunded and are not allotted a “prestigious” place in the curriculum. On the other hand, conservatories, music schools and similar institutions command an impressive part of the education budget, but provide services for only a small part of Lithuania’s children and young people.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the Lithuanian educational establishment will have to make major, but unpopular decisions regarding the allocation of funds, especially in music education. However, these changes need not be viewed as destructive. It is possible to create new and innovative models that would not neces-

sarily cut jobs and important arts initiatives. A.P.P.L.E. wanted to assist in this process by giving Lithuanian music educators the opportunity to see a variety of American models in arts education.

In 1999 we approached Lisa Helling, the U.S. Embassy’s Press and Cultural Attaché at the America Center in Vilnius with a proposal to bring a group of Lithuanian educators to the United States on the occasion of the 57<sup>th</sup> Biennial Music Educators’ Conference, which was to be held in Washington, D.C. Her successor, Michael Boyle, brought the project to fruition. Funding for eight music educators was received under the State Department’s Voluntary Visitors Program. The participants paid their own airfare, and the Program did not fund any costs incurred during the Conference. However, the extension of their trip was fully financed with your tax dollars! The participants received a generous daily allowance to cover hotels, meals and other expenses for 12 days, the services of two interpreters, and two rental vans. All told, a package of



*The group of Lithuanian music teachers visits the “Big Apple.” Shown here (left to right) are Dr. Stanislava Jareckaite, Algirdas Šumskis and Ruta Girdzijauskiene—all from the University of Klaipeda*

about \$25,000. Thanks to the generosity of many A.P.P.L.E. members and friends, the participants were hosted in private homes during the days not covered by the program.

On March 6, 2000, eight enthusiastic musicians landed at Dulles International Airport outside of Washington, D.C. The delegation consisted of Dr. Eduardas Balcytis (Dean of the Department of Music at the University of Siauliai), Ms. Ruta Girdzijauskiene (a frequent in-service lecturer for Lithuanian music teachers and a doctoral student at the University of Klaipeda),

Dr. Stanislava Jareckaite (head of the Music Education Department at the University of Klaipeda), Dr. Ramune Kryzauskiene (faculty member of the Education Division, Lithuanian Academy of Music), Ms. Violeta Kundrotiene (Assistant Director of the Panevezys Conservatory), Ms. Laimute Ligeikaite-Grubeviciene (editor of the music education journal *Gama*, published by the Music Education Center in Vilnius), Ms. Laima Sirutiene (in charge of curriculum development at the Music Education Center in Vilnius and an A.P.P.L.E. lecturer), Mr. Algirdas Sumskis (Assistant Dean of the Arts Department at the University of Klaipeda and president of the Lithuanian Music Teachers Association). Our long-time friend and associate Ms. Anele Biliunaite from the Lithuanian Educators' Professional Development Center in Vilnius was not an official participant, but the dates of her private trip to the United States coincided with that of the Voluntary Visitors program, so she was able to join participants for several events.

After touring Washington, D.C., Mount Vernon, Old Town Alexandria and Arlington Cemetery (courtesy of A.P.P.L.E.), our guests immersed themselves in the impressive music educators' conference (March 8-11). They thought the sheer numbers of attendees (ca. 5,000) to be astounding and found a wide array of presentations, concerts, symposia, materials and publications to suit every need and taste. All said they had never encountered anything like it in their professional development experiences in Lithuania or anywhere else in Europe.

The trip coincided with the tenth anniversary celebration of the restoration of Lithuania's independence (March 11, 1990), so the participants had the opportunity to participate in those events as well: a reception at the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania (March 7<sup>th</sup>), an art exhibition at the Gallery of the Arts Society of the International Monetary Fund (March 9<sup>th</sup>), and a liturgy at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (March 12<sup>th</sup>). Coincidentally, the Washington Wizards hosted the Portland Trailblazers (including Lithuanian basketball star Arvydas Sabonis) on March 12<sup>th</sup>, and the participants were able to attend the game at the MCI Center.

On the morning of March 13<sup>th</sup> the participants had their first opportunity to see theory in action. After a week of lectures, seminars and presentations, they were eager to see how things worked in schools. The day's events were planned by Dr. Roger Folstrom, Music Education Division Chair at the University of Maryland College Park. Wilde Lake High School in Columbia, Maryland, was a good initial choice. Large instrumental ensembles are very rare in Lithuanian public schools, and most instrumental instruction takes place in extracurricular music schools. The participants were amazed that such good results could be attained through group instruction.

Band and Orchestra rehearsals were followed by a meeting with Barbara King, Howard County's Superintendent of Music. The meeting also left the participants bemused. Counterparts in Lithuania (called "inspectors") are more known for their draconian criticism and lack of professionalism than the mentoring and caring practices described by this Superintendent. Many extended invitations for her to come to Lithuania to aid in the professional development of Lithuanian inspectors.

The visit to Briggs Chaney Middle School, a public school in Montgomery County, was an attempt to show a general music class, not atypical of setting and instruction around the country. It was only when the class was over that the participants were told that pupils with severe emotional disabilities were mainstreamed into the class that they had observed. This was not at all apparent during the class.

The afternoon was spent at the University of Mary-



*Dr. Beth Bolton (left) includes Lithuanian music teacher Ruta Girdzijauskiene (right) in her class for Philadelphia mothers and their babies.*

land College Park (UMCP). The participants met with key leaders at the College of Education, where we were joined by Rita Kazragiene, First Secretary for Culture and Education at the Embassy of Lithuania. The main topic of discussion was a possible partnership between the UMCP College of Education and the Lithuanian Institute of Pedagogy. (A Memorandum of Agreement was subsequently signed at the end of March at the Embassy of Lithuania.) In the meeting with the UMCP School of Music Education Division faculty, the area of greatest interest was undergraduate and graduate curricula in music education. The guests were also very impressed with the UMCP Performing Arts Library and the Special Collections (director Dr. Bruce Wilson)

which house the historical archives of many national and international music education organizations. No such music or music education resources are available in any Lithuanian library. The wine and cheese reception actually turned out to be a rather moving experience, as participants thanked Dr. Folstrom not only for hosting them that day, but also for his three professional visits to Lithuania (in 1992, 1994 and 1997). He was also instrumental in the founding of the Music Educators' Association, of which participant Mr. Sumskis is now president. Dr. Marie McCarthy, who taught in Lithuania in 1993 was also toasted and warmly remembered. There was not a dry eye in the house, as the Lithuanians made their exit in song.

If school visits on the previous day were meant to show typical music education settings in American public schools, the goal of visiting the Key School in Annapolis, Maryland (music director Dr. Rick Layton) was quite the reverse. In this affluent, private, coeducational school, students receive music instruction five times per week according to the methodology of German composer and educator Karl Orff. The participants had the opportunity to observe the music classes (grades 1-8) of five very different music teachers, each imparting his or her own personality to the method. The freedom displayed by both teachers and students was very foreign to the observers from Lithuania. Students composed, improvised, performed and danced in cooperative groups and individually with little self-consciousness and great concentration.

The next day the participants visited another affluent, private school: The Holton-Arms School for girls in Bethesda, Maryland, where we were hosted by Ms. Gerri Wilson. Our guests encountered a model that was very different from the previous day. The atmosphere of the school was much more restrained and intellectual, although no less stimulating. Here the music instructors' main objective is music literacy and vocal development. The participants were also impressed by the strong commitment to foster the aptitudes of young women so that they would make choices that may not be traditional for women. The afternoon was spent at the Washington Conservatory, also in Bethesda, Maryland, which was the closest model to the Lithuanian government-funded Music School.

Music education for toddlers is a relatively new phenomenon in Lithuania. Music instruction for infants and their caregivers is not practiced at all. Temple University in Philadelphia is a center for the work and research of Edwin Gordon, who has done a great deal of work in early childhood music education. His former student, Temple faculty member Dr. Beth Bolton, has been to Lithuania to present his work and hosted us during our time in Philadelphia. Her classes with infants and toddlers were a joy to watch, and the participants were enchanted by the degree of attention and response commanded by the instructors.

The next visit was to the High School for the Creative and Performing Arts. The school is in a solidly "urban" environment (a euphemism for a rather unsafe and deteriorated section of Philadelphia, complete with metal detectors and police officers at the entrances). The rather surprised visitors encountered minority students performing Puccini arias, Bach string quartets, painting, sculpting, and dancing in classical style—with great mastery and facility. The rehearsal of a Bruckner choral piece left the participants speechless. What baffled them most was the information that a majority of the pupils would not go on to careers in the arts, and the faculty in no way considered this to be a shortcoming on their part. The theme of "broadening a child's perspective" was echoed again, restating the idea that pushing a child into a career path too early could be detrimental.

On the campus of Temple University, the participants observed two undergraduate music education classes, were introduced to various types of computer instruction, and had a chance to speak to the Music Education faculty of the Esther Boyer College of Music over lunch. This was their first opportunity to observe classes at the university level, and they were quite surprised at the amount of "hands-on" activities and active participation required of the students. Most Lithuanian teacher preparation is still delivered in the lecture format, with few peer teaching opportunities.

March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> were spent taking in the sights of New York: the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the Twin Towers, Times Square, a performance of *Cats*, Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral and walks down Broadway and through Central Park. Participants were very observant of the multicultural and multifaceted nature of the city, and they were very grateful for the opportunity to get a glimpse of this strange, new world.

Connecticut has the highest paid teachers in the United States and the most stringent requirements for becoming a tenured teacher, and consequently, has some of the most innovative and high-achieving schools in the nation. The B.E.S.T. (Beginning Educator Support and Training) program helps beginning teachers who are required to compile portfolios and pass several assessments before they can achieve certification after the initial three years. Dr. Gail Tomala, who was in Lithuania several years ago to teach on the subject of assessment and evaluation, provided an excellent presentation with her colleague Dr. Scott Shuler.

The H.O.T. (Higher Order Thinking) Schools are another Connecticut initiative in the public schools. They are mentored by the Connecticut Commission on the Arts to foster the integration of the arts across the curriculum. Dr. Susan Snyder, who taught in Lithuania in 1997, is a consultant and in-service provider for the faculties of these schools. The theories of educators Bloom (taxonomy of thinking skills) and Gardner (multiple intelligences) are

an integral part of the philosophy of H.O.T. schools. The two H.O.T. Schools we visited were excellent examples of teacher, student and parent empowerment, leading to excitement about learning and a rise in achievement scores across the curriculum.

Dr. T. Clark Saunders, who taught in Lithuania in 1997, hosted the visit to The Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford. Participants were particularly pleased to have a chance to observe the class of renowned early childhood music and Kodaly method specialist, Dr. John Feierabend, whom most had seen on video in Lithuania. Again the participants were impressed by the active involvement of the students in this teacher-training class, together with the meticulous mentoring and nurturing by the instructor.

None of the participants had ever been to the United States. Without exception, each admitted to having a very stereotypical view of America before coming here; one that was molded by television, film and American businessmen. They expected crime, overcrowding, skyscrapers, cheap pop culture, big business, and a lack of interest in the arts, intellectual endeavors or matters of the soul and spirit. Instead, they found professional colleagues who care about the same things and who were eager to share their ideas, theories and solutions. They saw a great concern on the part of art educators that the arts be available to all school-age children.

Laimute Ligeikaite wrote of her impressions upon returning to Lithuania: "The American teachers always stressed that their main goal is not to prepare professional musicians, but consumers of music, who participate in music-making. I am hoping that this idea will find its way to Lithuania. We also encountered several 'incomprehensible' ideas, like local arts councils providing funding for the arts in schools, or school administrators who actively promote the arts. We saw Connecticut H.O.T. schools, where the process is more important than the product, so that children would feel safe and free to express themselves. I was also amazed at the great amount of attention paid to teachers and teacher preparation, mentoring and professional development."

Ruta Girdzijauskiene wrote: "Only upon returning to Lithuania could I appreciate our itinerary: an ideal balance of tourism and professional experiences, an awesome opportunity to see my work in theory and practice in another country; a chance to hear wonderful concerts, to see so many models of music education in such a wide geographic area. All of it was truly impressive. But behind all of these things — I see the people: competent and hospitable music educators, as well as very warm Lithuanian-Americans."

There are so many of you who made the program such a resounding success. In addition to those already named, I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to Rasa

Baukuviene at the America Center, Irvin Hicks, Jr., our program director at the State Department, our in-country liaison Vytis Buivydavičius, fellow interpreter Raimundas Kavaliauskas, Vida Anton, Ilona Laucius, Peter Cheney, Dr. Cherie Stellaccio, Jurate Krokys, Raimonda Ruksys, Shirley Sabo, Laura Laucius, Dale and Algis Lukas, Neringa Mockute, Mark and Grazina Narkus-Kramer, Clare and Maryanne Sophonis, Rima Silenas, Jura Vizbaras, Ginny and Steve Bergen, Susan Saccomando, Gabe Kajeckas, and many others.

This article would not be complete without an account of the most memorable event during the entire trip. It was the day that everyone checked into the hotel in Silver Spring, Maryland. All of them left the hotel for the short walk to the Metro stop, when one of them decided he needed a sweater. The remaining seven told him to go get it while they went on ahead. The man in need of a sweater was worried he would not find his way, but his colleagues assured him that all he had to do was look for the large letter "M" on the Metro post. All seven were waiting on the above-street Metro platform when they caught sight of their sweated friend making a beeline for the big letter "M"—the one at the McDonald's across the street... The sweated one was not allowed to live this one down during the entire trip, and a reunion is being planned in one of the McDonald's establishments in Vilnius, Lithuania.

—*Emilija Sakadolskis*

## **“DONATIONS FOR DUMMIES!” – PART 2**

In June 1999 the A.P.P.L.E. Newsletter ran a small blip titled, "Donations for Dummies!" In this article we announced Tom Poland's plan to start CPR training in Lithuania with equipment (Actar Mannikins) purchased by a couple of Rotary Clubs in Connecticut. Now, we are very glad to announce that Tom's idea caught on like wildfire and has been very successful.

Tom's "dummy" adventure started at the Vilnius airport last summer as he took 6–8 boxes of training equipment through customs. His Lithuanian language skills for explaining "humanitarian aid donation" almost fell short, but in the end he paid no duty and was able to take in the equipment that would make CPR training possible. As you may know, CPR skills cannot be taught on live humans; mannequins must be used.

During the 1999 A.P.P.L.E. summer seminars, Tom started the CPR training. Then before leaving Lithuania on August 2, 1999, Tom met with officials of the Lithuanian Red Cross and the Health Emergency Situations Center (ESSC) as well as beginning communication with police officials concerning future training and training for trainers. He trained 15 additional people

including 11 medical doctors from the ESSC staff. A complete set of CPR mannequins consisting of ten adults and ten infants were left with Dr. Burbienne and Dr. Vironis, deputies of ESSC. They were extremely enthusiastic about training more instructors soon.

After returning to America, Tom heard of more interest that had been sparked throughout Lithuania. There were requests from several hospital pediatric physicians from Vilnius, Panevezys and Klaipeda. Also, Dr. Vladas Mireckas, senior physician of the Lithuanian Internal Affairs, Fire Department Division, requested help in his efforts to keep his fire and rescue squads throughout the country qualified with updated training in Basic Life Support (BLS) skills. In addition, Police Commissar Lanciskas expressed hopes to have every policeman trained with first aid and BLS skills.

Obviously, a very large task was only beginning.

In December of 1999, Tom spent two weeks at the police and fire academies in Vilnius. During this time 60 Lithuania National Police and Fire Department Instructors were certified to start a nationwide program of CPR and BLS. The program marked the beginning of a national effort to bring CPR instruction to all of Lithuania as the new instructors were from a variety of cities and towns across Lithuania.

Organized through the Vice Minister of Health and Education, Dr. Grazina Peliociene, the program was highly welcomed by the national chief commissars of the Police and Fire Departments. Tom also worked with Dr. Vladas Mireckas.

As the whole concept has snowballed, Rotary International has become more involved. A matching grant program with the cooperation of the Vilnius Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Naugatuck, Connecticut, has covered the cost of the program. The bulk of the money was spent on purchasing and shipping CPR training mannequins for teaching and practicing the first-aid techniques. Further efforts are now being made to have courses in Advanced Life Support and training for emergency medical technicians (EMT). Before the summer of 2000, a shipment of almost 300 CPR mannequins will be sent to the new instructors.

On the home front, Tom isn't sitting quietly by. In addition to his "dummy" work, he's keeping his community updated by giving programs in which he informs civic groups about his work with A.P.P.L.E. The Ridgefield Woman's Club gives a yearly scholarship donation for a Lithuanian teacher to attend A.P.P.L.E., and after Tom's presentation in February, an additional scholarship was donated.

About his work in Lithuania, Tom simply says, "We have had great success."

—Katie Hoyle

**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:**

## **"PARTNERSHIP" IS OUR MIDDLE NAME**

It's been a year of multiplying partnerships. Last year we began a year-long Action Research Project. The America Center sponsored six lecturers for the project, and we hope to receive a similar level of funding this year through their Academic Specialist Program.

The Jordan Institute for Families at The School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is funding a third of our Children at Risk Seminar lecturers as part of its ongoing outreach to Lithuania.

Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid has sponsored some of our lecturers for many years, but this year they are funding lecturers in our Children at Risk program and the Special Education camp.

Lithuanian Mercy Lift is looking for ways to promote health issues in Lithuanian schools and is funding a program that will be presented in Salcininkai.

The U.S. Department of State Voluntary Visitors Division provided us with a tremendous opportunity to show Lithuanian educators a slice of American education in action. (See article on pp. 5-8).

The Lithuanian National Foundation in New York, the Lithuanian Foundation in Chicago, the Soros Foundation—Open Lithuania Fund, the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh and other grant givers have supported our efforts and allowed us to bring very creative people to Lithuania. Many universities have supported their faculty members who have shared their professional expertise with us.

We have also broadened our partnerships in Lithuania. In addition to working with the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Educators' Professional Development Center, and numerous Teacher Centers around the country, we are now working with doctoral students from the University of Klaipeda, the University of Siauliai, Vilnius University, the Vilnius Pedagogical University and Kaunas University of Technology in our Action Research project.

We are continuing last year's partnership with the Viltis Association, an organization that lobbies for the rights of persons with mental, emotional and multiple disabilities. This is the second year that we will be working at their family camp on the Baltic sea.

Yet it is you, our A.P.P.L.E. members, on whom we continuously rely for spiritual, moral and financial support. It is you who send the donations that pay for the supplies, equipment, phone bills and gas. It is you who help us collect scholarships for Lithuanian teachers, who otherwise could not afford the room and board at the summer in-services. It is you who tell your colleagues about our programs and recruit new faculty members.

This past year has not been a very good one for the Lithuanian economy. The Ministry of Education and Science has barely enough money to cover school heating bills and staff salaries. Many teachers have had to take pay reductions, and the teachers in Rokiskis recently warned they will strike because they have not been paid since March. In-service programs were completely abolished for the first half of this year. There is very little money for supplies, textbooks, maintenance or the other staples of education. Your support is needed more than ever!

Webster's Dictionary gives us a good description of the word **partner**: "one who is associated with one or more persons in the same business and shares with them its profits and risks." Thank you for being in the same business with us. We hope this newsletter reveals some of the joys we've experienced, so that we can share in the profits with you. And we ask that you continue "risking" your investment on us.

—*Emilija Sakadolskis*

## MILLENNIUM LAND

*Millennium Land* was written by Galina Vasenko, a Lithuanian student from Salcininkai. Monita Leavitt met Galina last summer, when her parents were in the A.P.P.L.E. physics classes taught by Monita's husband, Larry. Monita edited the article, which was printed in the March/April 2000 edition of *New Moon*, an international magazine for every girl who wants her voice heard and her dreams taken seriously.

I live in Salcininkai, a town in southeastern Lithuania near the Belarus border. Salcininkai is unique because only about 500 of the 40,000 people who live here are Lithuanian. Other people who live here are Belarus, Russian, and Polish. It all started back in 1569 when Lithuania became part of Poland. Then in 1759 Prussia, Austria-Hungary, and Russia divided up Lithuania. The country stayed divided up like that until after World War I, when part of it gained independence from Russia. But then in 1920, Poland conquered the area where I live and took it over for 19 years. That's why today most people in Salcininkai are Polish.

My mother's name is Ana. She is a Physics, Astronomy, and Mathematics teacher at my school. She's a very good teacher. My father's name is Sergej. He teaches computer lessons at my school. I don't have any sisters or brothers. I always wanted to have a sister, especially a twin because I think it would be very interesting to have a sister. Only a mother or a sister can be a girl's best friend.

I like growing flowers. I grow them in our garden, which is a short walk from our apartment. I hang cut flowers upside down in my room to dry. I like to create arrangements with the dried flowers. I don't know what

I will do when I get older, but I think I will always enjoy flowers.

Each morning I get up at 7:00 a.m. and have my breakfast of bread, butter, and cheese with tea. I wash and dress for school. I go to school at 8:00 a.m. It only takes me about five minutes to walk there.

My school was built two years ago and is called "School of the Lithuanian Millennium." In 2009 it will be 1,000 years ago that the name Lithuania was first mentioned in documents. Our school is very big and has more than 700 students and almost 60 teachers. In 2009 the first students will graduate from grade 12.

Our school is diverse because we have Polish, Russian, and Lithuanian students. Everyone tries to speak Lithuanian in school. I have been in the same class for



*Galina (on the far right) poses with the other girls in her Lithuanian folkdance ensemble.*

my whole life. There are 25 students in my class, and only eight are boys. We have the same teachers every year.

Our classes are 45 minutes long, and then we have a ten-minute period for rest. We have five, six, or seven lessons each day. We sit in the same classroom most of the time but go to other rooms for Physics, Music, and Sports.

We have lunch at our school. Some children eat lunch at home and only eat a roll and tea or juice at school. One or two children from each class go to the cafeteria after the second lesson to find out what the cafeteria meal is for the day. Then we order what we want to eat and pay for it. Dinner costs about two or three litas. Many kids like goulash, which is beef, cabbage salad, and porridge. Some children eat only potato porridge and salad,

which costs only 30 centas. Then they have money to buy something else, since their parents give them two litas. Some girls like to buy cosmetics with their extra money.

I used to go to music school after school. But I'm not taking lessons anymore. We must learn to play the piano or violin for eight years. I played piano. I played in a concert in May. I played "In Spring" by Edvard Grieg. I think my parents are happy because I finished my music school. Now I can play piano and that will help me to get a job when I start looking for one.

Last year I was in a new Lithuanian dance group. Lithuanian people want to learn national traditions like dancing and singing. I think that Lithuanian songs sound very melodious. In my dance group, there are nine girls and one boy. We sing cultural songs of Lithuania, such as "Siu Nakteli," meaning "Tonight." It's a song about a young girl who grows an apple tree with her brother and gives the apples to her boyfriend. The girls wear a white blouse with embroidery on the wrists and on the collars. The skirt goes down to our ankles and is deep green and embroidered. It is made of wool, so in the summer it's very hot. We tie a long white or deep-colored striped apron around our waist. We also wear a vest of different colors. A white, embroidered sash, called a *juostas*, is then tied at one side or the middle. We wear a headdress of pleated material sewn on paper with strands of colorful ribbon hanging down. We wear our hair in two long braids.

I want to live in Lithuania forever because my grandparents, my parents, and I were all born here. I like the old towns and the old buildings. I like Lithuania very much.

—Galina Vaschenko

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## A.P.P.L.E. DISTINCTIONS

*The purpose of this column is to showcase the creative output of our lecturers. If you would like to be included in this column for a publication or milestone in your profession, please send the information to Katie Hoyle, 1264 Locust Creek Road, Sylva, NC 28779, or e-mail to [pasaka@aol.com](mailto:pasaka@aol.com).*

This newsletter features eight of our lecturers and other lecturers, have projects in the works that will be featured later. Our lecturers have been busy indeed.

**Phil Taylor.** This spring, at the annual Honors Convocation, Phil was recognized for 30 years of teaching at the University of Central Florida. He says, "Check with me in 20 years!!"

**Barbara Henriques.** Barbara has recently accepted a position at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, in the Educational Studies Program. Barbara says, "I'm looking forward to relocating back in Connecticut in late August."

**Sue Snyder.** Sue Snyder, who presented workshops in Lithuania on integrated curriculum and the arts, has been working for several years on a literacy program for emergent readers that integrates music, movement, visual art, and language arts. The program, which has had very exciting success, is now available through workshops and two new publications. *Total Literacy* is the course text for training teams of teachers to understand and develop skills in each other's disciplines. *Interactive Arts for Total Literacy* is a set of nine thematic units on literacy themes, including a CD of newly composed music, and fine art prints.

The program will hold its first Total Literacy institute in Jacksonville, Florida, during the last week of July, where 200 teachers of emergent readers will begin their training as Total Literacy teachers.

Sue continues to develop the next steps in this program, which will be a transition program from "learning to read" to "reading to learn," Grades 2-4. Then there will be a third volume for Grades 4-6. This program provides models for teachers looking for ways to truly integrate the arts without abandoning their integrity.

You can find out more about Sue and the exciting, new Total Literacy program at [www.aeIDEAS.com](http://www.aeIDEAS.com).

**Vivian E. Williams.** Vivian has published three books for Catholic School teachers and catechists.

*When Children Gather: 20 Eucharistic Liturgies for the School Year* and *When Children Gather: 20 Prayer Services for the Liturgical Year* are available from GIA Publications, 800-442-1358. These books have introductory material on processions and ministry roles for children, an order of worship for each liturgy, and prayers adapted for children from the Sacramentary. Both books have music cassettes and CDs, songbooks and accompaniment books.

*Classroom Prayer Basics* is from Oregon Catholic Press, 800-548-8749. It introduces the elements of liturgy and has several examples of prayer services suitable for the classroom or catechetical session.

**Lisa Frankes.** Lisa has recently received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education that came from the Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program. This program provides grants to consortia that are helping future teachers become proficient in the use of modern learning technologies. Lisa's project is *The Faculty Course Revision Project of the In time (Integrating New Technologies into Methods of Education)*. She says, "I am looking forward to designing courses in teacher preparation using the latest technological innovations."

**Tony Doerr.** Tony has accepted a position as Visiting Assistant Professor at Bowling Green State University for 2000-2001. In just two years Tony's been awarded the prestigious University of Wisconsin at Madison Fellowship in Creative Writing; a Summer Writer's Residency at the Poetry Center, University of Arizona; placed third nationally in the *Atlantic Monthly's* National Writing Competition; and had stories published in top literary journals, *Sycamore Review* (Purdue U), *HMS Beagle* (on-line), *Fly Rod & Reel*, *Story Quarterly*, *Doubletake* (Duke U), *Sewanee Review* (U of South), *North American Review* (the oldest literary magazine in North America—Thomas Jefferson had a subscription), and *Atlantic Unbound* (the *Atlantic Monthly's* online journal).

Tony now has a New York agent representing his new novel!

**Melissa Fraterrigo.** Melissa has just won the highly competitive Emerging Writer in Residence Fellowship at Penn State University, Altoona. Additionally, her short stories are appearing in top magazines and journals, such as the critically acclaimed *Virgin Fiction* anthology (William Morrow Publisher), *South Dakota Review* (University of South Dakota), *Passages North* (University of Northern Michigan), *Chatahoochee Review*, and *Controlled Burn*.

**Wendell Mayo.** Wendell Mayo received Honorable Recognition as Outstanding Contributor to Graduate Education at Bowling Green State University for the 1999-2000 academic year.

## WHO'S GOING THIS YEAR?

Of the total 66 staff and instructors, six are from Lithuania, and the rest are from the United States. Twelve are administrative and support staff, and 55 are instructors. Sixteen will be first-timers with the A.P.P.L.E. program, 51 are returnees. Thirty-two have Lithuanian backgrounds, and 23 of them speak Lithuanian. Thirty-five have no Lithuanian genes that we know of. Twenty have a Dr. in front of their names. Forty-eight are women, and the rest are men. Four do not have e-mail (and they're not from Lithuania!). Kaunas, Klaipeda, Vilnius, and the states of California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming, and the District of Columbia are represented.

They'll be joined in Lithuania by a staff of interpreters, translators, computer consultants and doctoral students in education, who will act as mentors for the Action Research seminar participants.

Vida Lanys Anton made the big ten. She's the only A.P.P.L.E. member who will have participated in all ten summer in-service programs. Thank You, Vida, for your dedication, your insurmountable spirit, and your continued efforts in the A.P.P.L.E. family.

A fine team!



*Vida Anton (standing) speaks to the group at the A.P.P.L.E. Spring Meeting 2000 as Emilija Sakadolskis looks on. When Vida travels to Lithuania this summer she will become the only A.P.P.L.E. American lecturer to participate in all 10 years of A.P.P.L.E. seminars.*

### VILNIUS (July 3-21)

Program directors Dr. Katie Dunlap, Gita Kupcinskas and Emilija Sakadolskis will work with a staff consisting of Juozas Karmuza, Shirley Sabo, Jane Serbent, Julius Veblaitis, Skirmante Stasenaite, Daiva Karmuziene and Vytautas Kavoliunas.

Amanda Muliolis will head a team of computer instructors consisting of Vilija Tarnaviciute, Vainas Brazdeikis and Algirdas Muliolis, who will teach **assistant principals** how to generate class schedules via computer.

**Children at Risk** is an important topic this year. We hope to reach not only educators but also policymakers, law enforcement officials, municipal officials, psychologists and social workers through a variety of workshops led by Dr. Sarah Rachel Dedmon, Dr. Katie Dunlap, Gabriel Kajeckas, Dr. Judy Kugelmass, Sister Jeanette Lucinio, PhD, William McCullough, Sister Dawn Nothwehr, PhD, Elizabeth Ralston, Dr. Jack Richman, Dr. Dennis Ritchie, Susan Saccomando, Walter Serbent, Dr. Gary Shaffer, Lisa Shaffer, Dr. Cherie Stellaccio, Dr. Deborah Valentine, and Natalie Whisenant.

The returning **Action Research seminar** team who will mentor our ongoing project consists of: Dr. Louise Berman, Dr. Barbara Henriques, Dr. Judy Kugelmass, Dr. Dennis Ritchie, Dr. Jessie Roderick, Dr. Cherie Stellaccio and Dr. Phil Taylor.

Dr. Jo Ann Hammer and others will provide **staff development** for Lithuanian educators who work with pre-service and in-service elementary teachers.

### SALCININKAI (July 19-30)

Program director Giedre Stankunas will be assisted by Chris McGann, Algirdas Muliolis and Steve Bergen.

General Lecturer Mary Beth Blegen from the U.S. Department of Education will speak to the assembled teachers on team building and integrated curriculum.

Neringa Zamani and Marilyn McQueen will work with **homeroom teachers** in their role as counselors and mentors. Sister Loretta Hoag and Joan F. Dowd will teach the first course for **art specialists** in our ten-year history. A strand for **physical education/health teachers** is also a first, to be taught by Peter Cheney, Vilija Maksimaviciene, Tom Poland, Elizabeth Ralston, Fran Slutas, and Dr. Rita Vainauskiene.

Aldona Miskiniene and Beverly Taylor will work with **algebra teachers** while Phil Gorrasi, Sister Jackie Schmitz and Vivian Williams guide administrators and teachers from Lithuanian **Catholic schools**. And finally, an **interdisciplinary strand**, called "Writing Across the Curriculum," will include Mary Beth Blegen and Phil Taylor (administrators), Ginny Bergen (geography), Jim Morgan (civics), Dr. Mary Murray (language arts) and Amanda Muliolis (computer science).

### SPECIAL EDUCATION FAMILY CAMP (July 19-31)

We're very excited to be a part of the "**Viltis**" **Association camp** for special needs children and their families. They have invited us to return for a second year, adding a teaching component to the camp. The staff will work not only with educators but also with children and their families. Program director Gita Kupcinskas will be joined by Peter Cheney, Myra Goodwin, Dr. Mary Parshelunis, Tom Poland, Robin Reale, Christine Richardson and Ritone Rudaitis.

**Regional seminars** will also take place throughout the month of July in many cities across Lithuania. Vida Anton, Dr. Karl Janowitz, Dr. Linda Meloy, Marilyn Deasy, Jurate Krokys and many others will work with teachers from a particular area on a variety of subjects.

We wish them all Godspeed, and may they come back with good experiences and a wealth of memories.

### SOMETHING TO BRAG ABOUT!

Last year the Open Society Fund (Soros) conducted a research study about the state of education in Lithuania. A major section was devoted to teacher in-service programs. A representative sample of Lithuanian teachers was asked to rate the seminars given by the five main in-service program providers in Lithuania: (1) The Teacher In-Service Institute (now renamed the

Educators Professional Development Center), (2) Teacher Centers, (3) the Universities, (4) The Open Society Fund (Soros), and (5) A.P.P.L.E.

On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest rating, A.P.P.L.E. averaged "5." All other teacher in-service providers in Lithuania averaged "4." In the surveys teachers rated A.P.P.L.E. the highest because our seminars inspired critical thinking and new approaches to education.

No further comments needed.

## 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION

*In Lithuania the symbol for education is an owl. In America the symbol is an apple. Emilija thought it would be a good idea to have a mascot for our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that combined these two symbols. She asked Skirmante to find an artist in Lithuania to draw this for us. The owl shown here is just one of the clever sketches that we received.*

As you all know, this summer A.P.P.L.E. will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of summer seminars in Lithuania. As a part of the tribute to ten years of partnership, a multimedia presentation is being prepared.

Romas Sakadolskis graciously agreed to spearhead the project. In February he contacted me along with several other A.P.P.L.E. folks for input and help. Organizational, technical, and creative help has come from Algis Gedris, Gloria Ruttman, Skirmante Stasenaite, Vytautas Kavoliunas, Darius Suziedelis, Emilija Sakadolskis, Gita Kupcinskas, and Phil Taylor. Countless others have sent photos and video and audio tapes. Our thanks to ALL who have helped.

We've kept our scanners humming and the e-mail lines hot. Romas worked so hard that his computer blew up! (Well, the demise might have transpired a bit slower than an explosion, but his computer did give up the ghost.) The good part is that his computer is back and as good as new, just in time for the final push.

The presentation will cover all the years of A.P.P.L.E. in Lithuania as well as the birth of the idea of A.P.P.L.E. and the in-between planning that keeps things going. It will be shown this summer in Lithuania, but we're also working



on a way for those who aren't in Lithuania this summer to still have a chance to see it. We'll be sure to let you know if we can work that out.

In the meantime, you've got a real treat to look forward to!

—Katie Hoyle

## LITHUANIAN VIDEOS

We have received information about some new videos that are available to anyone who may be interested in finding out more about Lithuania before visiting in person. The first, *Lithuania—Into the New Millennium*, is 100 minutes long and visits over 30 sites around Lithuania. The cost is \$34.95. The second, *Vilnius—A World Centre of Culture*, is 62 minutes long and costs \$26.95. The videos can be purchased as a set for \$54.95. Shipping from the U.S. is \$4.75 and Canada is \$6.75US.

For more information you can call 512-244-2464 or fax questions to 512-244-4272. The mailing address is: Central Texas Videography, P.O. Box 5215, Round

Rock, TX 78683. Their e-mail address is [centxvid@texas.net](mailto:centxvid@texas.net), and their website is <http://centxvid.home.texas.net>. These videos have not been reviewed, so let us know what you think about them if you decide to purchase them.

## MORE FUNDS NEEDED!

*The Fundraising Committee for A.P.P.L.E. is now operational. The members are Geidre Stankunas, Ilona Laucius, Vida Lanys-Anton, Phil Gorassi and Peter Cheney. We are looking for new and interesting ways to refill the coffers of A.P.P.L.E. Please direct any and all suggestions to me at [crolit@aol.com](mailto:crolit@aol.com). If anyone has contacts with State or National chairman of any of the service clubs, eg. Kiwanis, Rotary etc. these would be very useful. Thanks in advance.*

—Vida Anton

## WHAT CAN YOU BUY FOR \$30 IN 2000?

### YOU CAN CHANGE THE LIFE OF A LITHUANIAN TEACHER!

Our object with the A.P.P.L.E. Teacher Seminars has been to assist in the reformation of Lithuania's educational infrastructure, as she rejoins the community of nations and is reborn in democracy and freedom. The unfortunate reality is that the cost of transportation and lodging for the Seminar is a real—but unnecessary—obstacle to participation. In the past we have asked our members to sponsor Lithuanian teachers. In return, those who received scholarships wrote personal letters to their sponsors, providing a firsthand account of the influence that the Seminar experience had on their lives and professional development.

These letters confirmed our hopes—and the promise of our headline.

We hope to continue to provide scholarships to participants this year, and we believe that we can cover a good deal of their costs for \$30 each. If you sponsored a teacher last year, you know the value that was received. If you didn't, this is your chance to find out. Consider honoring a friend with this special gift, giving a scholarship in his or her name. You will be making a difference! For \$150.00 you could provide a stipend for a Lithuanian translator or lecturer who works in partnership with colleagues from the United States. *Please send scholarship and stipend donations to: A.P.P.L.E., Box 617, Durham, CT 06422. We can reach so many more people with your help.*

PS. We would like to remind you that because of strict Internal Revenue Service regulations, we cannot accept scholarships intended for specific persons. If you would like to support your relatives or friends, please do so directly. This scholarship fund is for those Lithuanian teachers who have no such friends in the United States. If, however, you would like your scholarship to go to a particular region or town in Lithuania, we will do our best to accommodate your request, if a teacher from the area that you specify registers for a seminar.

**Reminder:** A.P.P.L.E. membership is still \$25 per year. If you haven't sent in your renewal, please include it with your scholarship donation.

# WHO'S IN CHARGE?

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*Recording Secretary:* Julius Veblaitis  
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Money for scholarships and memberships should go to:  
A.P.P.L.E.  
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Durham, CT 06422

Our Internet address is: <http://www.applequest.org/index.html>. Please check it out, sign our guestbook, and offer your comments and suggestions. Please send information that you would like included on the Web site to: [amanda@applequest.org](mailto:amanda@applequest.org) or Amanda Muliolis, 1725 Sherwood Blvd, Euclid, OH 44117

## A.P.P.L.E. SUBJECT AREAS, DIVISION CHAIRMEN (U.S.) AND FOCUS GROUP CHAIRMEN (LITHUANIA)

1. *Elementary:* Carol Smiglin. Alvyra Galkiene.
2. *Special Education:* Myra Goodwin. [focus group chair vacant].
3. *Art:* Sr. Loretta Hoag, D.C. Dalia Siaulytiene.
4. *Math:* Bee Taylor. Vilija Tarnaviciute.
5. *Catholic Schools and Ethics:* Sr. Dr. Jeanette Lucinio and Aldona Zailskas. Edita Sedaraviciute.
6. *Language Arts:* Dr. Wendell Mayo. Zivile Bandoriene.
7. *Administration:* Dr. Joseph Kalla. Rita Dukynaite.
8. *Library Science:* Giedre Stankunas. Angelija Beinoryte.
9. *EFL:* Irena Ross. Vilma Backiute.
10. *Agriculture:* Dr. James Connors. Vida Jonusaityte.
11. *Computer Science:* Amanda Muliolis. Vainas Brazdeikis.
12. *Music:* Emilija Sakadolskis. Laima Sirutiene.
13. *Social Work:* Dr. Katie Dunlap. Loreta Zadeikaite.
14. *Social Studies:* Virginia Bergen. Irena Zaleskiene.
15. *Science:* Monita Leavitt. Laima Dainutiene.
16. *Psychology:* Dr. Carol Toris. Dr. Antanas Valantinas.

## OTHER POSITIONS

*Newsletter Co-editors:* Gita Kupcinskas and Katie Hoyle.

*Proofreader:* Peter J. O'Connell

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*Administrator in Lithuania:* Juozas Karmuza.

**YES! I would like to join in your efforts toward educational reform in Lithuania.**

I would like to make a contribution to:

**The Scholarship Fund.** (\$30 supports one teacher. You will receive a personal letter from the teacher who receives your donation.) \_\_\_\_\_

**The Stipend Fund.** (\$150 supports an interpreter or Lithuanian lecturer.) \_\_\_\_\_

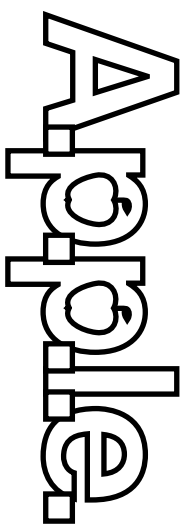
I am enclosing the following amount for annual membership:

- Regular Membership** (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_
- Family Membership** (no duplicate mailings) (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_
- Charter Membership** (\$100) \_\_\_\_\_
- Leadership Group** (\$250) \_\_\_\_\_
- Patron** (\$500) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to add the following amount to help pay for A.P.P.L.E. programs: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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