MADRP Bulletin

Maine Association of Dispute Resolution Professionals



Message from the President

Dear MADRP Members,

Here we are, at the end of 2004, and as usual, I'm wondering how the year could have passed so quickly? And what I really wonder is how am I ever going to get everything done by December 25th? I look back over the MADRP year and rather than seeing it in a linear way, I see a painting or a bouquet, - a collection of events, highlights, great people, - all framed within, or gathered into, what I would call, one great year.

I see our membership meetings and programs: Albie Davis, Rick Barton, Tracy and The Silver Bullet; our conferences: Peacemaking and our Practice and Difficult Conversations. I see the Public Information Committee delivering our new logo and by-line and John Selser reporting on our progress with the Maine Residential Real Estate Program. I see our new website up and running after many technical challenges and now delivering our practitioner list. Thank you, Dan! I see book groups and brown bag lunches and new members and the beginning of our new facilitator section. I see activity continuing to grow in the far northern reaches of our state and an expanded and improved Bulletin. It's quite a bouquet of images. Mostly I see faces, though, the faces of all of you who continue to put your energy into this organization and make it what it is. We are all very busy people who believe in the importance of our work and mission- to educate people about ADR and its benefits. It's such a joy and honor to serve as President of MADRP. Happy Holidays to all of you. I wish you all a peace-filled and happy New Year in 2005. And I hope to see you all at our meeting on January 5th. -Susanna -



December, 2004

January Membership Meeting and Program

Our January 5th our membership program will feature Stephen Wessler, Director of the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence (CPHV) at the University of Southern Maine. He will be presenting on topic of "Responding to and Preventing Bias, Harassment Violence in Schools and Communities".

In 1996 while at the Attorney General's office Stephen developed a hate violence prevention program that is now in over 200 Maine elementary, middle and high schools. He has conducted scores of workshops, lectures and keynote addresses on preventing hate violence for educators, students, police officers, correctional staff, health care professionals and community members throughout the nation.

The meeting will be held in Portland at USM's Glickman Library.

Directions to the Glickman Library: Take 295 to exit 6B (Forest Ave North). Once on Forest Ave, turn left at the first traffic light onto Bedford Street, (you'll be right in front of the USM Glickman Library. Parking is available in the new parking garage on Bedford Street or in the open parking lot. There should be lots of open parking since classes are not in session.

9:30 to 10:00 Coffee and Network

10:00 to 12:00 Program

Coming together is a start; Keeping together is progress; Working together is success. Author Unknown

MADRP UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION: Accommodating Differences for Resolution

Workplace Training, Sponsored by DisputEd, Presenter: PATRICIA "Pattie" PORTER on THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 pm Suffolk University Law School, Boston, Massachusetts

Disability awareness is essential for mediators and others whose professions involve assisting others to resolve conflict. This interactive workshop introduces the ADA Mediation Guidelines, addressing the special needs of people with all types of disabilities including cognitive, physical, and psychiatric. Further enhancing disability awareness and etiquette for those who manage conflict, this workshop also addresses how to accommodate people's special needs in a dispute resolution setting and how the pre-planning or convening stage can affect the mediation process. CEUs available

ABOUT THE PRESENTER: Patricia "Pattie" Porter, LCSW, is a conflict management specialist, trainer and mentor. As President of Conflict Connections, Inc., Ms. Porter has worked extensively in the dispute resolution field for the last ten years. She has achieved her Advanced Practitioner Designation (APD) as a Workplace Mediator for the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) and is Co-Chair of the ACR Workplace Section. Ms. Porter wrote "Maximizing Effective Participation" (June 2003), Alternatives to the High Cost of Litigation; co-authored "Building a Partnership to Support Schools, Families, and Students with Special Needs" (Winter 1998, Fourth R News Journal); and co-edited a special collection of workplace mediation articles on the ADA Mediation Section of Mediate.com. She currently serves as the Moderator for the ADA Mediation On-Line Forum that serves several hundred of subscribers internationally.

TUITION AND REGISTRATION: Space is limited to 28 so please register early. Register by midnight 12/31/04 to receive the early registration fee of \$145 and after for \$170. If using a credit card, please register on-line at <u>www.disputed.com</u>. Or, you may email <u>egray@disputed.com</u> or mail your registration information to DisputEd, 26 Berkeley Street, Arlington, MA 02474. Phone 800-981-3577 for more information.

Just bringing people together can produce almost magical results.

New ideas are born, new opportunities are seen, and a new belief in possibilities takes hold.

Mark Homan

Sponsor a bulletin for the new year. For **only** \$50 (note the reduced rate) you can help defray costs and educate others about your practice. Send an article describing your practice– with your picture- electronically in jpeg format or by mail to: jafano1@maine.rr.com or John Alfano, 5 Libby Drive, Biddeford 04005 with your check payable to MADRP. Use this as a deductible advertising business expense and thanks in advance for your support.

MADRP's Reading Group

A couple of people showed up for the reading group. I'm hopeful that I will get a review of their meeting and more updates from Bernie Mayer's book, <u>Beyond Neutrality</u>.

Stay tuned for the date of the next meeting and contact Questions or to RSVP contact: Diane Kenty at <u>dkenty@maine.rr.com</u>

"Fear of the Misses"

I carry tension in my back

Like the rest of the world.

I first noticed it in a class

Where the teacher had plagiarized my work

Then in unwelcome public speak

Now when I have the world to communicate and no time

It is fear of the misses:

Misunderstanding, missed opportunity, miscalculation

Stretching helps

And breathing

But loving acceptance is the only cure

And like the rest of the world

I am just learning how.

By Brad Smith (one of our very own Mediators)

As the rain falls on the just and unjust alike, let your heart be untroubled by judgments, and let your kindness rain down on all.

-- Buddha

Coming together is a start; Keeping together is progress; Working together is success. Author Unknown

MADRP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Membership Meetings are: 9:30 to 10:00 for Coffee and Networking followed by a program from 10:00 to 12:00. The MADRP Board meets for a mini meeting 8:30 to 9:30 before the membership meeting.

Stay tuned to this calendar for upcoming events

January 5th with Stephan Wessler

University of Southern Maine's Glickman Library, Portland

March 2nd—Membership meeting in Augusta

May 17 Spring Conference in Portland

July 6— Membership meeting in Augusta

Sept. 7— Membership meeting in Bangor

Nov. 9 Fall Conference

Dec. 6 &7 Board Retreat @ Camp Kieve



Give in to the urge to write: send responses, opinions, poems, interviews, inspirational thoughts to nmark@usm.maine.edu

MAINE ASSOCIATION OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROFESSIONALS (MADRP)

P.O. Box 8187 Portland, ME 04104

Phone: (877) 265– 9712 Website: www.madrp.org

"Speech is civilization itself. The word, even the most contradictory word, preserves contact- it is silence which isolates." --Thomas Mann



MADRP MISSION

MADRP is a non-profit organization of diverse professional interests seeking to broaden public understanding and acceptance of alternative forms of dispute resolution. MADRP strives to enhance professional skills and qualifications of mediators, arbitrators, and other neutrals through training, educational development and promotion of standards of professional conduct.