

# MADRP Bulletin

## February 2006



Maine Association of Dispute Resolution Professionals

Volume XI, Issue I

February 2006

### Message from our Brand New President

This is my first opportunity to introduce myself as President of MADRP. I had almost become the new Vice President, when I was informed that I had become the President while on Christmas vacation in Pennsylvania, because Marc Sevigny resigned unexpectedly as our almost new President to take a mediation position in Massachusetts. I wish him the best of luck.

I am a commercial and labor mediator and arbitrator in solo practice since 1983. Additionally, I am a partner in Hunt Alfano Mediators, PA, with Jack Hunt an attorney and MADRP member from Kennebunk. Formerly, I was a field representative for Maine Education Association from 1971 to 1983, and a science teacher before. In both positions, I learned the value of in-service education and training to personal and professional growth and success. During my term as president, MADRP will offer training programs which meet your needs so that you may be better and successful at your craft.

In addition, I plan to implement the restructuring plan initiated by former President Susanna Liller, and to have it completed by January 2007, so that MADRP will operate more efficiently to better serve you. We have re-established the committee to determine how MADRP can hire a staff

person to administrate and manage the day-to-day operation. MADRP is ready to move the profession to its next level which cannot be done without restructuring and staff.

I want to improve attendance at the member meetings by offering programs that are interesting, relevant and educational, and provide continuing education credits for attorneys and CADRES mediators.

Finally, since MADRP is the only professional organization of ADR specialists in the State, it has been invited to have a representative on *The Task Force on Confidentiality and Alternative Dispute Resolution*, established by Chief Justice Saufley. The Task Force will make recommendations regarding the degree to which communications associated with court-sponsored and court-related mediation and other forms of ADR should be deemed confidential or otherwise in-admissible in judicial proceedings. This should prove to be interesting.

Contact me if you have any suggestions for programs [or would like to be on a program], ideas or complaints. Without your suggestions, your needs may not be met. I can be reached by email at [bitr8tr@yahoo.com](mailto:bitr8tr@yahoo.com); by phone at 282.3992. I want to hear from you!

### MARCH MEETING ANNOUNCED!

**Networking and Continuing Education Meeting for All Members**  
**WEDNESDAY, March 1st**  
**UMA's Student Center, Room 218,**  
**from 10 to 12**

Jack Kartez, a professor in the Community Planning and Development program at the USM Muskie School of Public Service, will present a new documentary, "Growing Together: Consensus Building, Smart Growth and Community Change," dealing with consensus building around public policy issues, specifically community growth and redevelopment. Following the 52-minute documentary, Professor Kartez will lead a discussion of how what we know about ADR applies to community growth and development issues. The documentary was commissioned by the New England Environmental Finance Center at the USM Muskie School with support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

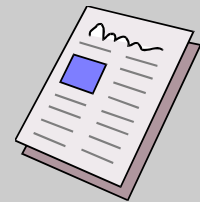
Professor Jack Kartez teaches Planning Theory & History, Land Use Modeling with GIS, Citizen Involvement & Dispute Resolution, and Local Environmental Planning. He came to the University as implementing director of the new undergraduate Environmental

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**Want to see your words published, your ideas expressed?**

**Send us an article for these pages!**

Send to Anita Jones at [abjones@maine.rr.com](mailto:abjones@maine.rr.com)



**IT'S TIME**  
To renew your membership

See page 3 for details

Watch for a summary of the February Networking and Continuing Education Meeting  
And . . .

Members' ideas about Bernard Mayer's *Beyond Neutrality*

In the next issue of **The MADRP Bulletin**



Continued from page 1

Science and Policy (ESP) Program, an interdisciplinary, collaborative curriculum combining science and public policy. Extensively published, he has served two terms each on the editorial boards of the Journal of the American Planning Association and the Journal of Planning Literature.

Kartez works on environmental issues such as mitigating natural and technological hazards and balancing rural resource land uses with community growth. He takes a special interest in incorporating principles of dispute resolution as alternatives to nonproductive conflict in community planning and environmental issues. He provides training in consensus building and leadership to many of the Muskie School's external constituencies through programs such as the joint Muskie/Maine Municipal Association Leadership Program and the Smart Growth Education Initiative of the New England Environmental Finance Center, in which he is Associate Director.

Kartez is a senior consultant with the Consensus Building Institute, Inc. Middlebury College, B.A., 1974; University of Oregon, Masters of Urban Planning, 1976; University of North Carolina, Ph.D., 1990.

**Don't miss a  
single issue  
of the**

**MADRP  
Bulletin**

**Renew NOW!**

## MADRP TO RESTRUCTURE

MADRP will restructure into three regions before the end of the year. Restructuring is needed to serve the members at the grassroots level.

The three regions are: **Northern** - Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington Counties; **Central** - Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Somerset and Waldo Counties, and: **Southern** - York and Cumberland Counties.

Each region will have a coordinator who will be responsible for the activities of the region. Programs will be offered at the regional level so that members may attend closer to their work places. The current structure with meetings in Augusta is inconvenient to everyone and does not serve MADRP's members very well. With the new structure, quality training programs and networking meetings will be offered conveniently closer to members' places of business.

The new structure will make MADRP more appealing to more people, in all sections of the state. The three regions will bring MADRP closer

to the members. MADRP will be more able to deliver high quality programs and training to more people conveniently. Coordinators can offer as many training programs as needed to satisfy the needs of members in their region.

The newly structured Board of Governors, will be made up of the four Executive Committee members (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer), the three coordinators (1 from each Region) and three representatives, one each from CADRES, from the Maine Bar ADR and from the Community mediation sectors, for a total of ten (10) Board of Governors members. The new executive director will attend and participate in those meetings, but will not be a voting member.

The restructuring will require a change in the By-laws, which will be discussed and presented to MADRP later this year. Any questions or suggestions concerning restructuring, contact John Alfano at [rbitr8tr@yahoo.com](mailto:rbitr8tr@yahoo.com). More information will follow.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Committee at its second Strategic Planning Meeting on February 6, 2006, approved the hiring of a part time Executive Director to handle the day-to-day responsibilities of MADRP. Funding for the position will come out of the existing budget.

The new position will be the "face" of MADRP by marketing MADRP, sending out press releases, recruiting members, fund raising, managing projects, attending MADRP meetings and answering general inquiries. The position will be part time, averaging up to 12 hours per week.

The idea of hiring an Executive Director was initiated three years ago by former President Susanna Liller, and remained on everyone's 'back burner' until now. With increasing interest from Board members, the Executive Committee reviewed the proposal and decided the time has come. The salary for the position will come out of the existing budget.

More information to come in future editions of the *Bulletin*. Any questions or suggestions, contact John Alfano at [rbitr8tr@yahoo.com](mailto:rbitr8tr@yahoo.com).

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

You should have received your renewal letter and the 2006 membership form in the mail by now. ***If you did not, please let me know and I'll send you one.*** You can also download the 2006 membership form from the MADRP website, [www.madrp.org](http://www.madrp.org).

**This year, you can choose to be listed on our web site with unlimited practice areas for \$100, or join as a practitioner member without a web site listing for \$75.**

If you are renewing your membership and want to be web listed, please review your current listing on the MADRP

website and make any changes on page 2 of your new membership form. If you are joining as a practitioner without a web listing, a volunteer member or an organization, you do not have to fill out page 2 of the membership renewal form.

This year we are sending all members in good standing a personalized certificate of membership that is suitable for framing.

Please contact me with any questions you might have. I look forward to hearing from you and sending you your membership certificate.

Lisa Levinson

[LisaL595@adelphia.net](mailto:LisaL595@adelphia.net)

## FROM THE CHAIR of CONFERENCES

Save the date for  
MADRP's  
Spring Conference!

**Wednesday  
May 17**

**Central Maine  
TBA**

How about Carpooling? Are today's gas prices telling us something? What about sharing a ride to the conference, with a chance for a good chat with another professional on the way. You know the trip would go faster--call someone now!

Conference Topics: We're planning a multi-faceted day with topics that touch on the challenges that we all experience as conflict resolution professionals. With the leadership of President John Alfano, we have a goal of focusing on practical subjects, with greater focus on elements of our practice and skills building

Have ideas for topics or speakers or formats? Feeling like a vital subject needs further exploration? Hear a good speaker or presentation that others should hear also? Your association wants to hear from you! Please, email me at [willvan@suscom-maine.net](mailto:willvan@suscom-maine.net)  
Will Van Twisk

## Maine Residential Real Estate Mediation Program (MRREMP) An On-Going Success Story

by Bambi Magaw

In January, 2005 I began as the program administrator of MRREMP. The past year has been a learning experience for all those involved in the program - mediators, buyers and sellers, real estate brokers, and attorneys, as well myself. Lately I have been approached by MADRP members inquiring about the program and its progress. I would like to share with you how successful MRREMP has been this year .

Here are the MRREMP statistics for 2005 as submitted to Maine Association of Realtors in the year-end report. Sixty-eight (68) inquiries were made to MRREMP. Fifty-two (52) cases involved administrator contact with the participants. Of those, 21 mediations were completed, 20 resolved, only one did not settle. Nine cases resolved through discussion between parties without mediation after contact with MRREMP; and 16 were inquiries only. It has been great business for the rostered mediators, but more importantly, it has been excellent exposure for MADRP and our membership.

The initial contact generally is a call from a real estate broker. Most brokers know little about mediation and the MRREMP process. My first duty is to educate the broker about our service and the MADRP roster. Participants say how happy they are that we provide this service. A sure sign of MRREMP's success is that I continue to get referrals from these same brokers and attorneys after their initial case. Business continues to grow each month.

MADRP mediators on the MRREMP roster are a fine group of highly skilled professionals. Evaluations filled out by participants contain such comments as: the mediator understood the issues, the mediator was sincerely interested, the mediator was well prepared, the mediator was 'no-nonsense' honest with both parties, the mediator was fair during the mediation, and the over-all experience with MRREMP was a good one. These participants are likely to choose mediation over litigation in the future.

MADRP has recently renewed its contract with Maine Association of Realtors to continue the services of MRREMP for another year. To inquire about becoming rostered contact Bambi Magaw.



**MAINE ASSOCIATION OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION  
PROFESSIONALS (MADRPP)**

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MADRPP *Bulletin*  
February 2006 Issue



**MAINE ASSOCIATION OF DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION PROFESSIONALS**

**2006 MADRP Officers**

**John Alfano, President**  
**Tracy Quadro, Vice President**  
**Carol Corwin, Treasurer**  
**Wendy Whiting, Secretary**  
**Susanna Liller,**  
**Immediate Past President**

**2006 Committee Chairs**

**Events - Conference and Annual Meeting:**  
Bill Van Twisk  
**Practice Quality:** Paul Charbonneau  
**Public Policy:** Doug Lotane  
**Public Information:** TBD  
**Membership Meetings and Professional  
Development**  
*Portland:* TBD  
*Augusta:* TBD  
*Bangor:* Bambi Magaw  
**Membership:** Lisa Levinson  
**Advertising:** John Alfano

**Facilitator Section:** Pam Plumb and  
Tobey Williamson  
**ME Residential Real Estate Mediation  
Program (MRREMP):** John Alfano  
**Bulletin:** Anita Jones  
**Nominating Committee Chair:** To be  
appointed by President in March 2006  
**At-large Board members:**  
Kim Vogel, Jane Clayton  
**Program Liaisons:** Diane Kenty  
(CADRES), Community Mediation Center  
TBD

**MADRPP MISSION**

MADRPP 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.

**MADRPP Calendar of Events**

- March 1** Networking and Continuing Education - 10-12 UMA Student Center #218
- April 5** BOG meeting
- May 17** MADRP Spring Conference - details to be announced
- June 7** BOG meeting
- July 12** Networking and Continuing Education - Speaker and topic TBA
- August 2** BOG meeting
- September 6** Networking and Continuing Education O- Speaker and Topic TBA
- October 4** BOG meeting
- November** MADRP Fall Conference - details TBA
- December** BOG Planning Retreat

\* Membership Meetings will now be called Networking and Continuing Education Opportunities.

