

MADRP Bulletin July 2005



Maine Association of Dispute Resolution Professionals

Volume X, Issue VII July 2005

Message from the President

Summer is officially here. Yahoo! Many of you know that my office at Barton & Gingold overlooks Brian Boru, the Irish pub. On Friday afternoons people begin to congregate midafternoon as they celebrate the arrival of the weekend. On warm summer days, such as this one, they move out onto the enclosed patio of the pub and I have a perfect view of their convivial interactions. They're out in force as I write this. I'm sure none of them are thinking about a conflict they might be involved in, or perhaps they're there to try to forget about one? I see them there across the street and wonder how many of those people could use the services we provide? How many of them know people who could use the services we provide? How many of those people even know about mediation or facilitation?

Our membership meeting this past Wednesday was organized by Diane Kenty, who assembled a panel to discuss the current and possible future

state of our field and MADRP. We heard from Gene Coughlin, Jack Erler, Jacqui Clark, Karen Tucker and Jonathan Reitman. What a great review of where we've been and where we are – and interesting responses from all of them as to where we might be in 2015. Everyone on the panel mentioned the benefits of early intervention; getting to the conflict early before it got out of hand or fell into litigation. This seems to be one of our biggest challenges – educating people about the availability of ADR and getting them to use it (and us!) early on.

Back to the pub across the street...no, I'm not going to walk across the street and pitch the benefits of mediation. But, how do you reach people? October 20th is National Conflict Resolution Day. MADRP is planning on doing something to raise awareness. If you're interested in participating, please contact me.

Happy Summer!

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A MADRP Membership Benefit...

In the interest of marketing and as a service to MADRP members – We are pleased to announce the opportunity to promote your practice/firm on Maine radio stations.

MADRP is making the commercial along with radio marketing expertise available to the member base. To hear the produced commercial, please visit the website: madrp.org

The following is an outline of the services and associated fee:

- ?? Written and produced 60-second radio commercial including 15-second tag specifically mentioning your firm/ practice stats.
- ?? Six month unlimited use of commercial to air at your discretion on any Maine radio stations.

- ?? Consultation with radio marketing veteran, Lucy Weiss of Mediation Matters, to assist in radio station selection, scheduling, budgeting and devising 15-second tag copy.
- ?? Investment: \$200.00* Only available to MADRP members
 - * Due to MADRP for cost of program including production...Commercial time to be purchased separately.



Estimated Range for Commercial-time Investment: \$600 -\$1200 a month (northern Maine, lower -end of range; southern Maine higher-end of range)

Submissions Wanted!

Have an opinion you want to express? An insight? A musing?

Share your perspective and inspiration with everyone in MADRP.

Send your work to tobey@bartongingold.com





Deborah M. Belanger M.Ed., LCPC

SAVE THE DATE!

The 10-hour FAMILY LAW FOR MEDIATORS COURSE will be offered on October 27th and 28th in Augusta. Registration materials will be available later this summer. If you have questions or would like to be on the mailing list, contact June Zellers at 582-9007 or jzellers@prexar.com.

Taking a new step, uttering a new word is what most people fear most.

— Fyodor Dostoyevski

July Bulletin Sponsor: Deborah Belanger

Deborah is a mediator and facilitator who consults with schools, non-profits, businesses and community groups. She mediates for the Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Service as well as in her private practice. She facilitates in a variety of workplace and community settings. Deborah does training for CLE, University of Southern Maine School of Law in both mediation and bullying prevention. She also has a private counseling practice specializing in relationship issues and enjoys the challenge of the high conflict couples.

Prior experience includes work as a director of a family mediation program and school guidance counselor. She has worked as a facilitator at the International Seeds of Peace camp and currently is coordinator of the facilitation program in both the summer sessions and the Maine Seeds program.

Deborah is a member of the American Counseling Association, Association for Conflict Resolution and an ombudsman for Maine Association of Dispute Resolution Professionals.

New Mediation Program: Parentworks Step 2

Parentworks is pleased to announce a new mediation program serving the people of midcoast Maine. Step 2 is designed to help parents create a positive, co-parenting relationship AFTER a separation or divorce.

After a separation or divorce, families need to establish new patterns of communication even more urgently as they work to implement court orders and provide stability for their children.

Step 2 Mediation can help families-

• Change the quality of interaction between parents from negative and destructive to positive and constructive.

- Stay focused on the developmental needs and best interests of the minor children as they work through the divorce or separation.
- Make decisions in light of the many changes in the family structure.
- Create a positive, co-parenting relationship.

Interested Mediators Needed!

If you are interested in working as a mediator with Step 2, fill out the enclosed application. Additional applications can be obtained from Will Galloway by calling (207) 542-1169 or by email at wgmediat@midcoast.com

Proposed Amendments to Rule 408, Maine Rules of Evidence

The Supreme Judicial Court is considering **Proposed Amendments to Maine Rules of** Evidence, Rule 408, concerning Compromise and Offers to Compromise, which would make statements and conduct by parties during court-sponsored mediation sessions inadmissible in evidence. A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005, at 3:00 P.M. in the Cumberland County Courthouse (Courtroom 12) in Portland, Maine. Written comments on the proposed change may be sent to the Executive Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court in Portland, but must be received on or before Wednesday, August 31, 2005.

The change to the rule will take the reference to mediation out of subparagraph (a) and subparagraph (b) will apply to *any* court-sponsored mediation session (not only to domestic relations mediation sessions) and will read as follows:

(b) Evidence of conduct or statements by any party or mediator at a courtsponsored mediation session is not admissible for any purpose.

For more information, go to the State of Maine Judicial Branch web site and click on the "News and Announcements" button.

NOT GETTING IMPORTANT MADRP

MESSAGES? To join the MADRP email list, contact John Alfano, email: <u>jalfano1@maine.rr.com</u>.

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Mediation in the Workplace -- Seeking Training Collaborators

I am the author of the book "Mediation in the Work-place: A Guide for Training Practice and Administration." The book was published in 2000 by a highly respected academic press and remains one of the primary texts on in-house workplace mediation. It has been featured in HR Magazine and reviewed by numerous notable publications.

I wrote this book with the

idea of incorporating it into a live training program. But the circumstances of my professional life have been such that I have not had that opportunity. I am interested in partnering with the right person, persons, or group to create a training program. My current idea is to offer "exclusive rights" to a collaborator to create and run the "official" training program around this book. I am not interested in or able

to create a program or provide training myself, but I believe the rights to this text could provide a collaborator with a very useful tool to create an important program, as well as provide us both with a business opportunity.

If you would like to discuss this with me, please email Rebecca Weinstein: rjw@maine.rr.com



Fun at the MADRP Spring Conference on Appreciative Inquiry

MADRP Hosts Seeds of Peace Potluck

Please come to an informal gathering of MADRP members the afternoon of July 29th, 4:30 to 6:30 at the beautiful waterfront home of Merle Nelson in Falmouth. We will meet this year's Seeds of Peace facilitators from Israel and Palestine, hear a bit about their backgrounds and what brought them to the SOP camp, and of course, get the chance to mix and mingle with our MADRP colleagues. Please bring an appetizer to share. Liquid refreshments will be provided. Please R.S.V.P. to Susanna Liller by July 22 (susanna@bartongingold.com or 774-2458, ext 112) so we can plan. Friends and spouses are welcome. See you there!

Directions:

From the South: 295 north to Falmouth Foreside exit. Bear right onto Route 1. Go straight for approximately one mile, bear right onto Rt. 88. Go straight, passing the Portland Country Club and a cemetery, and at grey stone church (St. Mary's) take right onto Waites Landing Road. Approximately 6/10 mi. down Waites Landing Road take a left onto Menikoe Point Road. Take the first left on Menikoe – this driveway leads to the Nelson home.

From the North: Rt. 95 south to Bucknam Road exit (Falmouth Foreside). At exit stop sign turn left onto Bucknam road. Take right at first light onto Rt. 1. At next light take left onto Depot Rd. At end of Depot Rd. take right onto Rt. 88 (Foreside Rd.), then second left onto Waites Landing Road. Approximately 6/10 mi. down Waites Landing Road take a left onto Menikoe Point Road. Take the first left on Menikoe – this driveway leads to the Nelson home.

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.

July 29, 2005	Seeds of Peace Potluck	Falmouth
August 3, 2005	MADRP Board of Governors	Augusta
September 7, 2005	Membership Meeting	Bangor
October 5, 2005	MADRP Board of Governors	Augusta
November 9, 2005	Annual Meeting and Program	Augusta

Training for Community Resolution Team Facilitators

A training will be offered in late July (date to be announced) for Community Resolution Team (CRT) facilitators. CRT's require trained facilitators for conferences that allow offenders, victims, and members of the community who have been affected by a juvenile offender's actions to express feelings and concerns and repair the harm through restorative justice. For more information about CRT's in general, the Portland Community Resolution Team and the upcoming training date, time, and location please contact Alex Rheault cmcalex@maine.rr.com or 772-4070.

If you would you like to sponsor an issue of the Bulletin, Contact John Alfano at jalfano1@maine.rr.com



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MAINE ASSOCIATION OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROFESSIONALS

2005 Committee Chairs

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2005 MADRP Officers

Susanna Liller, President Marc Sevigny, Vice President Carol Corwin, Treasurer Tracy Quadro, Secretary Expansion: Bambi Magaw/ Marc Sevigny

Events: Jeff Croft

Practice Quality: Paul Charbonneau Public Policy: Doug Lotane Public Info: John Alfano

Meetings: OPEN ME Residential Real Estate Mediation Program

(MRREMP): Sharon McHold Membership: Lisa Levinson Professional Development: Kathy Leen

Advertising: John Alfano

Facilitator Section: Paul Boticello Bulletin: Tobey Williamson

Nominating Committee: Nancy Markowitz

Program Liaison: Diane Kenty

At-large Board members: Sheila Mayberry,

Kathleen Roberts

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.