



NEWSLETTER

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

An international association of judges, counselors, court evaluators, mediators, and lawyers

Volume 3, Number 1 and 2
July, 1984

Co-Editors, Stanley N. Cohen
Liz Hoffman

AFCC CENTRALIZES OFFICES IN SUNNY OREGON

TRANSITION

During the December 1983 Williamsburg Conference, the Board moved to centralize our offices in Oregon. The transition, which included transferring AFCC records, was completed March 31, 1984.

As one could expect, the transition has been slow, at times confusing, and frustrating. We continue to sort matters out. Consolidating and integrating the records into a central office has also been delayed because an assistant was not hired until the end of March. Fortunately, a staff person is on board and her name is Liz Hoffman. We are now focused on systematically organizing the administration of the office, and both Liz and I ask for your patience. We realize there may have been delays in responsiveness to your requests. We hope the next several weeks after the Denver Conference provide a consistent and responsive service to our membership.

AFCC offices are located at the Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU). The address is OHSU, Dept. of Psychiatry, Gaines Hall, Room 149, 3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, OR 97201. I can

generally be reached all day Monday and Tuesday and Friday afternoons. Liz is available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The phone number is (503)-220-5651. Please leave a message if you don't reach us. We will get back to you as soon as possible, and once again, thank you for your understanding during this year of transition.

Stan Cohen, Ph.D.
Executive Director, AFCC.

AHA, FINALLY A MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

By now you should have received your membership directory if you were listed in our membership roster 2-1-84. Please take a look at your listing to see if the information is accurate, particularly the phone number. Several members have not listed their phone numbers and we will be pleased to include them in an addendum. If you do not find your name in the directory, it is because we only included those persons who joined the Association or were 1983 members at the time of printing. Please be advised that an addendum to the directory will be completed by August 1, and it will be mailed to you. The membership directory will be sent on an annual basis starting with this one. Any suggestions

for its format and other improvements would be greatly appreciated.

AND SPEAKING OF MEMBERSHIP

I am pleased to report that our membership is over the 900 mark. Thus far, about 120 new members have joined AFCC. We get requests about our organization on an almost daily basis. At the same time, I regret to say that a large proportion of our members have not paid their current dues. You all know the importance of maintaining active members - you are the lifeblood of AFCC.

We will be sending another statement requesting remittance of 1984 dues. If you have forgotten to remit your dues, or inadvertently did not receive a 1984 dues statement, please send in your remittance to our office. Thank you in advance.

To those of you who are new members, the membership packets are on the way if you haven't already received one.

CONFERENCES

Williamsburg- December 1983

Over 240 individuals attended AFCC's December conference in Williamsburg, Virginia which the Marriage and Divorce newsletter

called our "best conference ever". The conference theme, "Windows on Rights - Mirrors on Roles," set the stage for the unique conference format as participants reflected on the ethical and professional dilemmas that they face when working with families in conflict.

Discussion groups focused on the development and enhancement of principles of practice for each discipline and setting and a "divorce montage" provided an opportunity for members from various disciplines to present their approach to family conflict and to observe the roles other intervenors play. Didactic workshops presented information on the organization of a court-connected service, interviewing skills, communication skills, the role and rights of children in the decision-making process, the basis of decision making and the professional's responsibility to the family.

Keynote speakers, Professors Morton Deutsch and Frank Furstenberg, provided theoretical and empirical models for the assessment of divorce and family conflict.

Audio tapes of the keynote presentations and workshops are available from Visual Aids Electronics Corp. - 2831 15th Street NW, Washington, D.C., 20009.

Denver- May, 1984

The 22nd annual AFCC Conference, recently held in Denver, was a great success. Approximately 250 registrants from the United States, Canada and as far

away as Australia and New Zealand were in attendance. In addition, many new members were enrolled in the AFCC during the conference.

The meeting opened with keynote speaker, Constance Ahrons, Ph.D., of Madison, Wisconsin, who attempted to redefine the family, reflecting the various combinations of persons which are currently replacing the the traditional nuclear family. The Conference closed with U.S. Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder, Democrat from Colorado, who discussed current legislation affecting families and examined some of the history which preceded that legislation. The theme, Beyond the Nuclear Family, was addressed from different perspectives by mental health, judicial and legal professionals from several states and countries.

Many thanks are due the Denver Committee which worked hard to present a quality conference in a comfortable and attractive setting. The gracious hospitality of the Committee and of the staff of the Denver Marriott City Center was appreciated and enjoyed by all.

Brynece Gluctstern, R.S.W.
Coordinator, Denver
Conference Committee

Phoenix- December, 1984

Our midwinter conference is to be held in Scottsdale, Arizona, December 6-8, 1984. This conference promises to be in the tradition of previous AFCC conferences - chock full of substance, wonderful hospitality and all around fun and games. The Conference is hosted by the Arizona chapter of AFCC.

The theme is "Legal and Therapeutic Support of the Restructured Family". For further information contact Phil Bushard, Chairperson, c/o The Conciliation Court of Maricopa County, 201 W. Jefferson St., Phoenix, AZ 85003, (602) 262-3296.

Vancouver- May, 1985

Vancouver, British Columbia is the site for our 23rd Annual Conference. Don Moir chairs the conference committee, and he and his associates are busy at work planning a dynamic program, the focus of which is transcultural family issues and conflicts. The conference will be held at the Bayshore Hotel. For more information, contact Don Moir, Chairperson, P.O. Box 10051 Pacific Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia, V7Y 1B6 Canada (604) 687-0038.

A post Vancouver Conference program is in the planning stages. Lenore Levit, our International Committee Chairperson reports the following information.

Post Vancouver Conference
in New Zealand
May 28-June 9, 1985

The AFCC is co-sponsoring a conference with the New Zealand Family Courts Association in Auckland, Rotorua and Queenstown, New Zealand in 1985.

Purpose - To become acquainted with another court system. How family law and dispute resolution is dealt with in a legal setting with a similar basic background but a different history from that in the US and Canada.

Topics - Areas covered will include: Problems in Visitation- the latest research, The New Zealand Family Court- structure and procedures, Court Connected Counseling- conciliation and mediation, Working with intercultural marriages, Resolution of Family Disputes in Polynesia- mediation 'au naturel', and others.

Cost - Pre-Registration U.S. \$35.00. Airfare - Although final cost cannot be set at this time the current estimate is \$1200. US funds - Vancouver (via Fiji)-Auckland (via Tahiti) Los Angeles. Land cost - (hotels, transfers, transportation within New Zealand and sight seeing)-this has not been set as yet but in view of the strong position of the US dollar and the low New Zealand cost of living, this should be much below what the equivalent would be in the US.

Logistics - Our plan is to leave Vancouver in a group at the conclusion of the annual meeting and return separately to Los Angeles about June 10th. Some of the participants may want to take advantage of being in that part of the world and add on a brief visit to Australia at very little additional airfare.

FINAL SYMPOSIUM ON STANDARDS AND ETHICS FOR DIVORCE MEDIATORS

The third and final symposium on Divorce Mediation Standards and Ethics was held May 22-23, 1984 at the Denver Marriott Hotel, immediately preceding AFCC's annual meeting. Invited delegates from or-

ganizations having evidenced an interest in divorce mediation finalized a Model of Standards and Practice for Family and Divorce Mediators.

This third symposium was the culmination of work begun during the two previous symposiums held in San Diego in December, 1982 and in Toronto in May, 1983. Over 40 delegates representing approximately 30 professional organizations have participated in each symposium.

The Model represents a collection of principles of practice dedicated to the resolution of divorce related issues. Following the Symposium, the Model of Standards and Practice will be available for organizations to submit to their membership for subscription, endorsement or to be used as a foundation for developing specific standards of practice.

Further information regarding distribution and implementation of the standards may be obtained by contacting the AFCC Mediation Committee chairperson, Ann L. Milne, 314 E. Mifflin Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703 (608) 251-0604.

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT

A Northwest chapter (Alaska, British Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon and Washington) is being organized. A two day conference co-sponsored by the AFCC and the University of Victoria Law School was held in Victoria, B.C. in February. A committee to form a Northwest chapter was established, and is chaired by Alice Thomas of

Seattle. In addition, both the California and Arizona chapters have held meetings this spring.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

AFCC has presented two workshops in 1984. A three day program was given in Charlotte, North Carolina at the request of Judge James Lanning. Tim Salius and Pat Phear provided the training for this workshop. It was very well received, and a follow up workshop is in the works.

More recently, Tom Bishop was asked to conduct a one day workshop on negotiation for attorneys in Toronto, Canada. As with the workshop conducted in Charlotte, the evaluation of the workshop was excellent.

We are reinstating our Technical Assistance Committee, and I would appreciate resumes from members who would be interested in serving as Technical Assistant consultants when AFCC is asked to provide such workshops.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING May 25, 1984

The annual business meeting was held during the Denver Conference. Reports were made by the Treasurer, Mediation, Chapter Development, Custody Evaluation, Research, and Nominating Chairpersons.

The 1984-1985 officers were nominated and accepted. The officers include A.J. "Tim" Salius, President; Don Moir, President Elect; Hugh McIsaac, First Vice President and June Rose Galvin, Second Vice President. Ann Milne and Tom Bishop were re-

elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

The new Board Members elected for a three year term are: Ms. Jocelyn Gifford, Vancouver, British Columbia; Dr. Lee Parker, Tucson, Arizona; Judge Anthony Joseph, San Diego, California; Judge Peter Trapski, New Zealand; Ms. Karen Raiford, Los Angeles, California; Mr. Paul Casperson, Minneapolis, Minnesota and Assoc. Chief Justice A.C. Hamilton, Winnepeg, Manitoba.

Retiring from the Board are the following: Mr. Ed Staniec, Detroit, Michigan; Ms. Elizabeth O'Neill, Oakland, California; Justice Don King, San Francisco, California and Mr. Frank Carney, San Mateo, California.

Awards of Merit were received by Ann Milne, Bea Monahan and Tom Bishop for

their creative work on the Williamsburg Conference. Brynece Gluckstern, Mike DiManna, Bob Hinds, Mary Mutter and Jessica Pearson also were acknowledged for their efforts in making the Denver Conference so successful. Jay Folberg received the President's Award for this long term work for the AFCC as well as his outstanding stewardship as the 1983-84 President.

VIDEO TAPES

"Custody Resolution Counseling"

Designed for training counselors in medication techniques for family disputes concerning child custody and visitation. 3/4" video tape cassette, 45 minutes. Rental - \$40/5 days. \$150. purchase.

"A Family Affair"

Designed to inform judges and other professionals of the legal remedies and implications regarding domestic abuse. "A Family Affair" is AFCC's production, under a \$100,000 LEAA grant. It was the Gold Medal winner in its category in the fall New York International Film and Television Festival. It also was a winner in the Motion Pictures Seminar of the Northwest. Available in 16mm film or 3/4" video tape cassette through VISUCOM Productions, Inc., P.O. 5472, 1255 Veterans Blvd, Red Wood City, CA 94063. Rental - \$60/3 days. \$450. purchase.

"You're Still Mom and Dad"

A sensitive portrayal of the issues of joint custody. Designed for parents and others who wish to understand and implement this post-divorce parenting plan. 38 minutes, color, 3/4" video cassette tape. Rental - \$40/5 days. \$95. purchase.

PUBLICATIONS

The Joint Custody Handbook, completely revised and edited by Jay Folberg is available for immediate ordering. Please note that AFCC members receive a 20% discount if they order this most meaningful and important book by August 1, 1984. Not only has Jay worked hard at producing this Volume, but he graciously has donated his royalties to the AFCC. So order now and not only receive an important book, but support our association by its purchase.

IN MEMORIA

In recent months, two important members of AFCC have died - Judge Paul C. Kokobun of the Hawaii Family Court and Betty Van Duzer, the beloved wife of our past president, Judge John Van Duzer.

Judge Paul Kokobun was an AFCC Board of Directors member for several years. He brought with him the searching intelligence of a creative mind. His personality reflected the grace, the warmth and the beauty of Hawaii. He was a gentle and compassionate man whose humanity touched others in a caring, nurturing way. We are saddened by Paul's

death and wish him eternal peace.

Betty Van Duzer was a beloved and greatly respected member of AFCC. We honor her with our love as her love for others honored them. Betty was a person of great sensitivity, dignity and courage. How fortunate were those who knew her well and were therefore aware of all the brilliant colors within her.

Death. The final rest. We will miss you both and in our memories we will continue to cherish you.

-Meyer Elkin-

NEW

Joint Custody and Shared Parenting

Edited by Jay Folberg

President, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts,
and Professor of Law, Lewis and Clark College

July 1984/350pp. Softcover/ISBN 0-87179-449-7/\$25.00

Recent passage of state joint custody legislation, innumerable appellate decisions, and a marked increase in empirical research in the field have all helped to bring joint custody to the forefront of public attention. The amount of law and literature on this controversial subject has become profuse, yet the writing has often been too limited in perspective to prove valuable.

Joint Custody and Shared Parenting provides the reader with a compilation of writings that cut across disciplines of law, social work, and psychology, and present a balanced debate on a difficult, and often explosive, topic. Editor Jay Folberg has brought together the best theoretical and research writings; combined, they present a spectrum of views, analyses, and information on the subject of joint custody.

The book's multidisciplinary approach enables lawyers, judges, social workers and family therapists to

benefit from its coverage, which includes:

- Numerous annotated cases and a practical state-by-state chart of joint custody statutes with judicial interpretations
- A summary of judicial decisions from states with no joint custody statutes
- Examinations of often neglected sociological issues, such as remarriage and the economics of shared parenting
- Examples of situations in which joint custody is most likely to work successfully and how it can realistically be implemented
- An extensive bibliography containing citations to all major writings

Joint Custody and Shared Parenting is a vital sourcebook for anyone involved in making custody decisions or helping parents consider custody options.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"Divorce Mediation - Theory and Practice"

The reading materials for AFCC's December, 1981 Conference in Fort Lauderdale comprise some 250 pages, soft bound. This is an excellent collection of new articles about mediation.

"Guidelines for Establishing A Court Connected Counseling Service"

A manual written for courts and individuals with helpful information regarding how to establish a court connected counseling service.

"My Mom and Dad Are Getting A Divorce"

Written by Florence Bienefeld, an AFCC member and conciliation court counselor in Los Angeles, this colorfully illustrated book appeals to children whose parents are going through divorce and assists parents in understanding their children's feelings.

Available for \$3.95 plus \$1.25 postage and handling from Changing Times Education Service, Division of EMC Publishing, 180 E. 6th Street, St. Paul, MN 55101 (800) 328-1452.

"Parents Are Forever"

Internationally acclaimed pamphlet used by Conciliation Court staff, family courts, lawyers, counselors and mediators to assist families in the divorce process. Pamphlet addresses custody and visitation issues and assists parents in using

ORDER FORM

BNA Books
Distribution and Customer Service Center
9435 Key West Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850-3397

10-Day Approval Offer

Please send the title(s) indicated below. I understand that I may return the book(s) within 10 days of receipt for full cancellation of charges.

Payment enclosed, including applicable state sales tax. (BNA pays shipping charges.)

Bill later, plus shipping charges and applicable state sales tax.

Please send the 1984 BNA Books Catalog.

Quantity

_____ Joint Custody and Shared Parenting

Price

.....\$25.00

AFCC DISCOUNT

20%

(IF ORDERED BY 8-1-84)

(Signed) _____

Date _____

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please send me information on BNA's *The Family Law Reporter*.

FAML164

the divorce experience as an opportunity for growth.

"An Important Message to Step Parents"

This pamphlet provides guidelines that will assist the blended family in working together.

"Joint Custody - A New Way of Being Related"

This pamphlet provides guidelines for parents considering joint custody of their children and suggestions for what to include in a joint custody agreement.

"Twenty Questions Divorcing Parents Ask About Their Children"

This pamphlet answers 20 of the most commonly asked questions about how to help children adjust to divorce, such as "How can parents prepare children for divorce?" and "What kinds of things are especially damaging to children?"

Total
No. Price

"You're Still Mom and Dad" (videotape)
\$40/5 days

"Custody Resolution Counseling" (videotape)
\$40/5 days

"Divorce Mediation- Theory and Practice"
\$12 each

"Guidelines for Establishing A Court
Connected Counseling Service"
Revision available August/84

"Parents Are Forever"
20¢ each

"An Important Message to Step Parents"
20¢ each

"Joint Custody - A New Way of
Being Related" 20¢ each

"Twenty Questions Divorcing Parents
Ask About Their Children" 20¢ each

Pamphlet orders over 1,000 - 15¢ each

Total Remittance (US funds)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Payable to the:

AFCC

OHSU, Dept. of Psychiatry

Gaines Hall, Room 149

3181 SW Sam Jackson Pk Rd

Portland, OR 97201

(503)220-5651

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
The Oregon Health Sciences University
Department of Psychiatry
Gaines Hall, Room 149
3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road
Portland, Oregon 97201

Non-Profit Organ.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 722
Portland, Oregon