



NEWSLETTER

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

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

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Editors: Ann L. Milne
Peter C. Salem



AFCC Receives Hewlett Grant

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation has advised AFCC that its request for a three year grant for \$175,000 has been approved.

AFCC's request was for development funds to help the organization develop its ability to expand its administrative capacity and to develop programs, such as professional development and technical assistance. AFCC has taken great pride in being a self-funded organization. However, mem-

bership dues and conference and publication revenue have not provided the necessary extra funding to launch these new efforts. This is the first time that AFCC has sought outside funding for operational expenses.

The three year grant will provide for up to \$85,000 in funding for Year 1, and \$55,000 and \$35,000 in funding for Years 2 and 3. It is anticipated that these financial enhancements will serve as start-up funds

for programs and activities that will become self-funding over the three year period.

AFCC is very excited about this opportunity to provide more services to our members and to strengthen our commitment to courts and services. The Board of Directors would welcome comments and suggestions for new and expanded programming. Future issues of the Newsletter and The President's Message will provide information about grant-funded activities.



President's Message

by Robert Tompkins
Hartford, CT

The future has never looked brighter for the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Thanks to the generosity of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation we are now in a position to assume the challenge that accompanies the opportunity to pursue our long range goals. The Hewlett Grant, totalling \$175,000 over three years, will enable AFCC to enhance its administrative capacity in the first year through the procurement of an Assistant Executive Director and a part-time bookkeeper. Both of these positions will begin in January. In addition the Board of Directors, at its meeting in Toledo, voted to enter into a three year contract with the current Executive Director that increases her hours from three quarter time to full time.

Over the summer a Long Range Planning Committee was appointed to assist us in the grant application process and provide a road map into our future. Armed with the Long Rang Plan, our officers and Board of Directors have begun the process of prioritizing and establishing immediate goals and

developing an implementation plan to ensure that we maximize the benefits of the opportunity that is now ours.

At the head of the list is professional development and technical assistance. Consistent with our mission, AFCC, if for no other reason, exists to promote improved judicial services to families in conflict and change. Thus we plan on focusing much of our time, energy and resources in this area. It is our intent to develop, market and present educational and training programs on a variety of topics. From the ability to respond to a request for training from a local court to the First International Symposium On Child Custody Evaluations scheduled for Tucson next November, the Executive Director's office will be busy implementing the ideas and strategies of the Professional Development and Technical Assistance Committee.

However this is not the only area that will receive increased support and attention from the administrative resources that will be available to us in January. Centralized conference planning, a long standing need of our organization, will finally be achieved. The Publications Committee that has produced so many excellent and profitable pamphlets and manuals can now receive assistance to bring many of their ideas to fruition. Our Regional Directors, a resource of great potential, need our support. The Membership Committee can now develop a membership strategy and campaign and

know they have the administrative capacity to carry it through. And the International Committee with three co-chairs from three different continents, can draw on our administrative resources to bolster our international focus.

Clearly the next three years present a wonderful opportunity for us to expand our positive impact on the constructive resolution of family conflict. On behalf of all our members I would like to publicly thank the Hewlett Foundation for their assistance. And on behalf of the officers and Board of Directors I would like to pledge our commitment to utilize our expanded resources in a thoughtful and energetic manner.



Membership Directory

AFCC is compiling information for the 1993-94 Membership Directory. Please submit any changes in your entry by November 15, 1993. Send changes to AFCC, 329 W. Wilson St., Madison, WI 53703 or fax to (608) 251-2231.



BEYOND MEDIATION: An Integrative Response to Resolving Custody Disputes

*Submitted by Harriet Bing,
Clackamas County Family Court Services,
Oregon City, OR.*

Arbitration is a widely accepted process used to resolve a variety of disputes. However, its use in custody and visitation disputes is rare. The Settlement Project currently being developed by the Clackamas County Family Court Services (FCS) proposes to offer a multi-disciplinary arbitration panel as an alternative to court adjudication to couples for whom mediation has been unsuccessful or deemed inappropriate. Arbitration will be available before, after or during divorce. If it is found to be effective, arbitration will be added to FCS' existing conciliation and mediation services.

The proposed project is an outgrowth of a 1991 exploratory study in which voluntary arbitration was made available to parties for whom mediation was unsuccessful. The primary goal of the project was to ascertain the feasibility of using arbitration to resolve contested custody and visitation issues in place of adjudication.

Arbitration in the 1991 study employed volunteers, three person panels, primarily attorneys, mediators and mental health providers. The volunteers received training in principles of arbitration. The panels were balanced by both gender and profession. The setting was quasi-legal, yet informal. Couples brought witnesses and a written, non-binding decision was mailed to the couple within ten days of the hearing.

The process worked well in many ways. The "user friendly" atmosphere was appreciated by clients who felt they were treated fairly. Arbitrators — particularly attorneys — were pleased with the format. The panel approach was viewed positively because a decision was not based on the judgment of only one person. However, the arbitration decisions did not adequately resolve issues because they were not binding. Arbitrators also reported a need for information beyond what was provided in testimony.

The proposed project attempts to implement the successful components of the

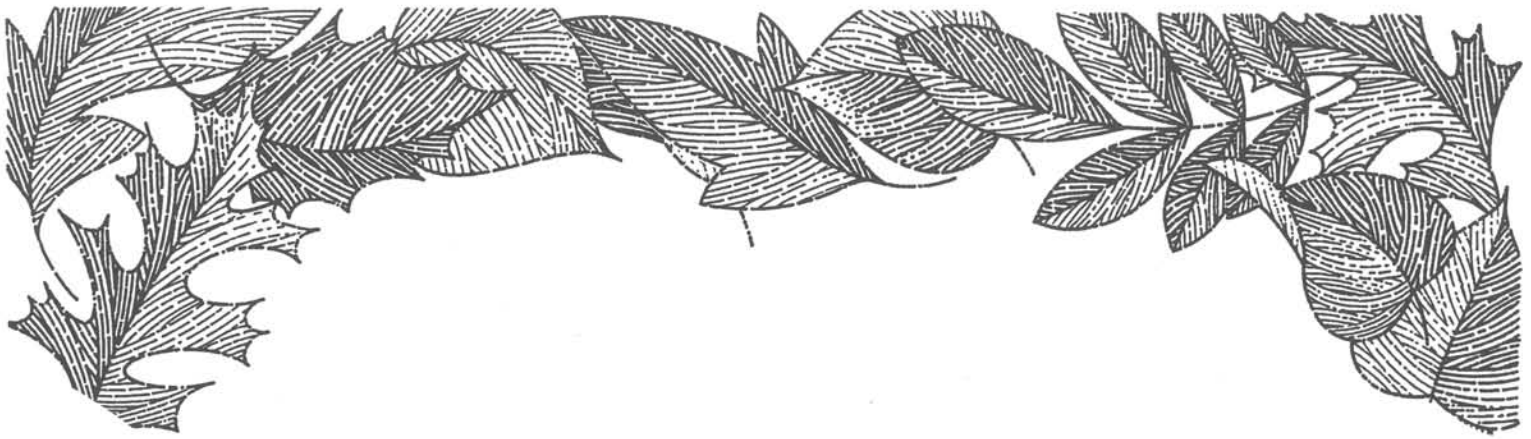
1991 project while addressing the concerns that were raised. Attorneys on the FCS Advisory Committee are reviewing the statutes regarding binding arbitration in voluntary hearings. It is expected that future arbitration decisions will be binding.

A custody evaluation component has been added to the proposed project. The evaluations will be comprehensive and provide arbitrators with information which was not available to them in the 1991 project. In addition, the evaluation will provide information that may be used to develop parenting plans if parties choose not to use arbitration. The option to refuse arbitration and use other means of resolution will always be available.

The custody evaluation report will not offer recommendations. Rather, it will highlight various dimensions of family functioning, including parental cooperation. The report will complement information that the parties bring to the arbitration panel.

The arbitration project proposes to integrate dispute resolution processes in a way that may help to resolve difficult parental disputes without litigation. FCS will evaluate the project with an eye toward incorporating arbitration as another way that parents can settle their differences.

FCS welcomes any comments on this proposal. Please direct them to Harriet Bing, Family Court Service, 740 Main St., Suite 2000, Oregon City, OR. (503) 655-8415



Using Mediation-Arbitration: It's Time to Settle the Differences

*Submitted by Christine A. Coates, J.D.,
Attorney, Mediator and Arbitrator,
Boulder, CO*

Joan and Evan Smith came to mediation a year after their divorce with extreme difficulty reaching agreements about time sharing. They were distrustful and unable to communicate effectively about their preschool child Johnny, of whom they had joint legal custody. Johnny was in the middle of the conflict, decisions were not made, and the uncertainty and conflict was having a detrimental effect on him. Joan filed a motion for sole custody. Evan believed this would shut him out of Johnny's life. They were referred to mediation.

In mediation the mutual distrust remained, the modification issue went unresolved and the motion was pursued with lawyers. The custody evaluation stated both were basically good parents, but that their anger and distrust interfered with their ability to make decisions together. The evaluation recommended joint custody, but that a mediator be selected who would have authority to arbitrate if the parents were unable to reach an agreement. The parties chose the mediator that they had been working with prior to the custody evaluation, and the mediation-arbitration process was adopted as their dispute resolution mechanism.

The Smiths' situation is not unusual. Many parents are unable to resolve their divorce issues and continue the conflict past the entry of the decree. Mediation is not always successful in high conflict situations and some parents have a particularly difficult time making it work. Chemical dependency, chronic hostility and distrust between parents, uncompromising beliefs and allegations of misconduct or poor parenting may set a difficult stage for collaborative decision-making about children. For highly conflictual parents, a combination of mediation and arbitration may be an effective alternative.

Mediation is a confidential process in which parties attempt to resolve their dis-

putes with the aid of a neutral third party. The mediator may offer suggestions, but the parties make the final decisions. The goal of mediation is settlement by the parties themselves, which is empowering and promotes communication.

Arbitration is the submission of a dispute to an impartial person or panel for a final decision. The parties agree on the issues to be resolved, the scope of the relief to be awarded, and many of the procedural aspects of the process. Arbitration is less formal than a court trial. In most instances the hearing is private. Few awards are reviewed by the courts because the parties agree to accept the arbitrator's decision. In some cases, the parties agree that the award is advisory. The goal of arbitration is a decision. The decision maker is the arbitrator.

Mediation-Arbitration ("med-arb") combines the two processes. It can be an effective method of resolving disputes between parents when traditional mediation is not successful. When parents are unable to make decisions together, yet they do not want to litigate because of the cost or the destructive effects upon their relationship and their child, med-arb may be the answer. Med-arb involves selecting a neutral party to serve as both mediator and arbitrator in a dispute. The parties begin in mediation and if they reach an impasse, the same neutral third party acts as arbitrator of the remaining issues. Med-arb combines the voluntariness of assisted negotiations with the authority of a binding decision.

Med-arb offers parents several advantages:

- Med-arb is generally less costly and speedier than litigation.
- The med-arbiter is selected by the family and can remain a fixed "helper" who knows the parties and their children.

- Med-arb offers flexibility. It can be an informal or formal process, depending on the needs and preferences of the parties.
- Med-arb offers self-determinism. The parties may choose their process based upon the parents' styles of relating to each other and by the conditions of their communication.
- Med-arb results in a decision. Sometimes any decision is preferable to the conflict that exists when decisions are not made. When parents cannot agree as to which school a child will attend, for example, a reasoned but expedited decision helps relieve the uncertainty and instability a child feels when parents fight.

A caveat is in order here: even med-arb may not be effective if one parent is highly dysfunctional and repeatedly violates court orders. Med-arb in post-divorce conflicts between parents is most likely to succeed when the parents jointly select a professional who is, first and foremost, a trained and competent mediator and who also has knowledge and understanding of child development and the legal and emotional divorce process.

How did med-arb work for the Smiths? It took some time, but through med-arb they learned to communicate more effectively and developed a small level of trust in the other's parenting skills. After several arbitrated decisions, they began to try harder in the mediation sessions to resolve their disputes. Now the Smiths rarely require their med-arbiter to make decisions for them. Although not best friends by any means, they have learned to successfully negotiate day-to-day issues between themselves.

MEMBER PROFILE



MARILYN M. FOX



JOHN R. FOX

This Law Firm is All in the Family

Phoenix, Arizona members Marilyn and John Fox might just be the quintessential AFCC couple. Partners in marriage and legal practice, John and Marilyn have managed to blend their families and work into successful partnerships, both at home and at the office. Of course these challenges should be met with ease by a couple who actually met while divorcing one another (more on that later).

The partners of Fox & Fox have a great deal in common beyond the practice of law. Both have teenaged children. John's daughter, Kristina, is 15 and a sophomore in high school; Marilyn's daughter Carrie is 18 and a freshman at Miami University of Ohio. Marilyn also has a 24 year old son, Patrick, a writer, living in San Francisco.

Neither John nor Marilyn started out as a lawyer and neither is from Arizona. In fact, John started out on the other side of the country, growing up in Wheeling, West Virginia. After majoring in German and Philosophy at the University of West Virginia, he attended seminary in Boston, served as assistant pastor at Lowell (Mass.) University and went on to further study at the University of Geneva in Switzerland. John also interned with the World Council of Churches in Northern Ireland and in Rome.

Returning to the United States, John attended Harvard Divinity and Law schools, ultimately receiving an M.A. from Harvard and a J.D. from New England School of Law. In 1978 John accepted an offer to join a Phoenix law firm.

Marilyn, too, has an extensive education with a degree in history from the University of Kansas, a Master's of Library Science from Kansas State University-Emporia, and a J.D. from the University of Missouri-

Kansas City. Marilyn has taught at every level of education from grade school through college. Prior to her move West, Marilyn practiced law and mediation in Kansas City where she was chair of the Mid-American Family Mediation Association.

Marilyn and John met one another as divorcing wife and husband in a role play at a mediation training at Harvard University in 1985. "John left the role play to make a phone call," Marilyn recalls, "and I set it up with the others involved to give him a hard time when he came back. When he returned I just started harping on him and he didn't know what to do. He was such a nice guy about it that I felt guilty, so I took him out for lunch." John also remembered their first encounter. "She deviated from the instructions in the role play," he said.

After a brief long distance romance, Marilyn took a leave from her job to spend some time in Phoenix to see if things would work out with John. She never returned to Kansas City.

Both John and Marilyn are active AFCC members (she is president-elect and he is secretary/treasurer of the Arizona Chapter) and have managed to combine their love of travel with their professional interests. They have attended AFCC conferences in London, York and Stockholm. They have travelled extensively, even when AFCC isn't holding a conference. John's favorite spots are Greece and Egypt, "because there is so much history," he says. Marilyn loves England, and formerly worked as a guide for attorney-oriented tours called "Legal London." They also frequently travel to Hawaii and are making plans to attend AFCC's conference in Maui next May.

On working together, John and Marilyn agree that it is beneficial, but challenging. "The hardest part is extracting ourselves from the office and getting away from our work when we are not there," John notes. "The house needs to be for our family," Marilyn agrees, "but it's great to have someone you trust and respect to be there as a sounding board."

ABA Creates Associate Status for ADR Practitioners

The American Bar Association House of Delegates created a new Associates category called Dispute Resolution Associates. Associate members need not be lawyers.

Dispute Resolution Associates are: "Persons who, although not members of the legal profession, (1) perform as Third Party Neutrals, Arbitrators, Mediators, Negotiators, Conciliators, Neutral Fact Finders, or Ombudspersons who have completed a training course or have equivalent experience, through local, state or national dispute resolution programs, or who are (2) employed by a public or private agency where professional duties directly relate to dispute resolution, or who are (3) employed by, or consultants to a "for profit" dispute resolution organization where professional duties directly relate to dispute resolution, or who are (4) volunteers with a dispute resolution center."

Contact:

Mark Donberger
Section of Dispute Resolution
American Bar Association
1800 M Street, N.W., Suite 290-N
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 331-2662



The AFCC Newsletter is published four times a year in January, April, July and October. News items should be sent by the 15th of the month preceding publication to Newsletter Editor, Ann L. Milne, 329 W. Wilson St. Madison, WI 53703, (608) 251-4001.

From the Treasurer

Submitted by Phil Bushard,
AFCC Treasurer

I am pleased to submit the following Treasurer's report for the 1992-93 fiscal year ending June 30, 1993. Our financial picture is very positive due primarily to the unprecedented success of the New Orleans conference. Our balance sheet shows a substantial increase in year-end fund balance compared to prior years.

INCOME

AFCC's budget is built on three primary revenue sources: dues, conferences and publications. We finished the 92-93 year achieving our targeted level of revenue for member and chapter dues (100.2% or \$121,000). Sales of AFCC publications/products reached \$55,000, surpassing our

budgeted revenue by 44 percent. **Gross** conference revenue was \$167,000, far surpassing the budget of \$157,000. These three sources of revenue produce 96 percent of AFCC's income.

EXPENSES

Under the extraordinary conditions of this budget year, operating expenses have increased to reflect the efforts of the executive office in preparation for the New Orleans conference. The year-end statement includes New Orleans conference expenses of \$66,000, with accounts payable in fiscal year 1993-94 of approximately \$60,000. Other expense items of note include \$3,300 for an Executive Committee meeting in January.

Budgeted Income:	\$342,587
Budgeted Expenses:	\$329,498
Actual Income:	\$358,788
Actual Expenses:	\$248,256

IMPLICATIONS FOR 1993-94

While our current cash position is very strong, our present budget year must attend to our basic revenue sources—membership, conferences and publications. We reached 100 percent of dues income with just under 300 **new** members in 1993; membership retention and growth will be imperative to our financial well being. Publication sales must maintain continued growth. And conferences remain the centerpiece for the Association as well as a key revenue source. Membership support is needed in these areas.



AFCC Committee News

The AFCC Newsletter announces a new feature: **AFCC Committee News**. This column will be dedicated to disseminating information regarding AFCC committees. **Committee News** will provide information for AFCC members on opportunities for committee involvement and will provide updates on what committee activity is taking place.

Committee Coordinator Appointed

AFCC President Bob Tompkins has appointed a familiar face to the new position of **Committee Coordinator**. Phil Bushard, AFCC Treasurer and Publications Committee Chair, will help with the further development of committee efforts. Phil's first assignment is to conduct a needs assessment of the committee chairs, develop procedures for committee funding and expense reimbursement, and evaluate how to enhance committee work during limited conference meeting time. Phil will also be taking an active role in providing information for **Committee News**, so feel free to contact him with any committee activity updates.

Committee Update

There are currently 19 AFCC committees. Committee charges cover a broad spectrum serving the internal administrative functions and growth of AFCC to programming goals, public policy objectives and professional education for AFCC members and the community. Committees and their chairs are:

Academic and Research—Mary Duryee and Jennifer Mastrofski; **Awards**—Hugh McIsaac; **By-Laws**—Mary Davidson; **Chapter**—Clarence Cramer; **Child Support**—Hon. Frances Rothchild and Joel Bankes; **Conference Planning**—Robert Tompkins; **Custody Evaluation**—Dorothy Howard; **Domestic Abuse**—Hon. Doug McNish; **International**—Byrnece Gluckstern, Tony Wells and Carole Brown; **Judiciary**—Hon. Ken Rohrs; **Lawyers**—Joel Shawn and David Woodbury; **Mediation**—Diane Bryner; **Membership**—Hon. James Beasley; **Nominations**—Russell Schoeneman; **Private Practice**—Jean Ames, Gerry McNeilly, Phil Stahl and Robert McWhinney; **Public Policy**—John Kydd; **Publications**—Phil Bushard; **Regional Directors**—Linda Hahn; **Video**—Peter Salem.

Member News

Hon. Betty Barteau was named the 1993 recipient of The National Judicial College's Erwin N. Griswold Award for Excellence in Teaching. Judge Barteau is on the Court of Appeals of Indiana and is a Past President of AFCC.

Dorothy Howard's husband, Larry, is recovering from a heart attack and subsequent bypass surgery. Dorothy is a mediator/evaluator with the Las Vegas Child Custody Division and Chair of AFCC's Child Custody Evaluation Committee. Larry has attended many AFCC conferences. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Joan Kelly, Ph.D., Corte Madera, CA was elected President of the Northern California Mediation Association and First Vice-President of the AFCC California Chapter. Dr. Kelly was presented with the Distinguished Mediator Award by the Academy of Family Mediators "in recognition of distinguished contributions to the field of mediation".

Charles L. Pelton, MD, JD, Aberdeen, SD has been accepted as a Fellow in the American College of Legal Medicine.

Phil and Ruth Stahl demonstrated their devotion to AFCC by returning to the site of their meeting at AFCC's 1992 Baltimore conference (and Ruth's family home) for an August wedding. Congratulations to you both and we look forward to any other AFCC related events in your life.

Conversation Corner:

A Brief Chat with Nancy Rogers

Nancy Rogers, Associate Dean at The Ohio State University College of Law, was the keynote speaker at AFCC's recent Northcentral Regional Conference in Toledo. Dean Rogers graduated from Yale Law School in 1972, and after clerking for a Federal District Court Judge and working as a Legal Services Lawyer in Cleveland, accepted a teaching position at Ohio State where she taught evidence, civil procedure, trial practice, and pre-trial litigation. Dean Rogers began teaching in the area of dispute resolution in 1982. She is co-author of *A Student's Guide to Mediation and the Law* and *Mediation: Law, Policy, Practice and Dispute Resolution: Negotiation, Mediation and Other Processes*. Dean Rogers has been honored twice by the Center for Public Representation and by the American Arbitration Association for her scholarly work and contributions to the dispute resolution field. She resides in Columbus, OH with her husband Doug, and three teen-aged daughters, Lynne, Jill, and Kim.

AFCC: What do you believe to be the greatest impact of alternative dispute resolution?

Nancy Rogers: The greatest impact, as I would value it, is in the resolution of disputes that we as a society have the greatest stake in having settled well. Community-wide disputes such as those involving a variety of interest groups, family cases involving divorce and custody, and juvenile and truancy matters all fit into this category. If these cases are resolved well, the benefit goes beyond the parties. Other family members and society at large will benefit from a wise settlement in these types of cases. The results matter to more people. I think there is also an important impact in those cases that involve only the parties. Mediation provides a more hospitable, expeditious and

less expensive way to resolve disputes, and that's important.

AFCC: What has been the impact of mediation on the family court?

NR: I think that the impact has been modest, but beneficial. It's tempting for those of us in dispute resolution to exaggerate the benefits of change and sometimes we begin to believe our own rhetoric. If people expected mediation to bring about major changes in the divorce process then they may be disappointed. But if they expected it to improve things a bit then they should be heartened because it has. It's been a slight change, but a good change and those who have worked to make it happen should feel very good about it.

AFCC: As the dispute resolution field has grown, there has been significant discussion around regulation, oversight, and standards. What do you see as the benefits and concerns stemming from these discussions?

NR: One positive factor is that in almost every area people are concerned about the quality of their program. My concern is that some people have unwittingly translated their concerns about quality into fairly heavy regulation. This is certainly the case in family mediation. Some of my current research is looking at state regulation of divorce mediation. We are finding that some states with mandatory mediation have a great deal of regulation, not only in the area of mediator qualifications, but in the duties of the mediator, limitations on issues, and the role of lawyers, for example. The purpose of these restrictions is to improve quality, and this is laudatory. When you look at the statutes, however, it doesn't appear as though the effect on quality will be very great. The effects may be to limit the process and perhaps make it more costly.

A second concern that I have, which has been addressed by the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution (SPIDR) and others, is the trend to view it as the public's responsibility to fund the litigation process, but the parties' obligation to pay for mediation. If we require parties to pay for mediation then programs can be created and implemented faster, and I can see the temptation to do this. However I think that it is as important for courts to provide — and to fund — the opportunity to mediate as well as the opportunity to litigate.

AFCC: You have been teaching law students for almost fifteen years. How has it changed?

NR: The students remain as bright and hard working as always, but they are more worried about jobs than they were in the mid 1980s for obvious reasons. They continue to have a desire to be of service and I think many are particularly drawn to dispute resolution because they see it as a way to help people heal their differences. One change has been that nearly all law schools offer courses in dispute resolution, at least as electives. A few have begun to see dispute resolution as part of their core curriculum.

AFCC: There seems to have been an increase in lawyer-bashing in recent years. To what do you attribute this?

NR: I suspect that some segment of the population is dissatisfied with lawyers and another part is dissatisfied with our legal system. I think that we should pay attention. Dispute resolution seems to be one way of doing that. People seem to react positively to using dispute resolution processes. Even if it's not a major overhaul in the system, I think we need to look for as many improvements as we can and this is certainly one of them.

New Video



Contact: AFCC
329 W. Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 251-4001
FAX (608) 251-2231

The Economic Impact of Divorce— It's More Than Dollars & Cents

The economic impact of divorce is more than child support, spousal maintenance and aid to families with dependent children. It's people ... children ... the court system ... society. This 10 minute professionally produced video graphically presents the BIG PICTURE economic consequences of divorce.

This video will be of special interest to:

- Judges
- Judicial Educators
- Lawyers
- Mediators
- Court Personnel
- Divorce Counselors
- CLE Program Providers
- Mediation Trainers

Copies of AFCC's video will be provided to anyone making a donation of \$100 or more (plus shipping and handling) to AFCC's Anniversary Fund. The Anniversary Fund was established by the Executive Committee to commemorate AFCC's 30 years of service to families and individuals. Donations will be used for the development of AFCC pamphlets, publications and videos. *Donations to the fund are tax deductible.*

First International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations

presented by

The Association of Family & Conciliation Courts and
 The Family Law Section of the American Bar Association

November 5-7, 1994 • Tucson, Arizona

Preliminary Topics will include:

Assessing Parental Capacity & Parent-Child Bonding ☐ Interviewing Children
☐ Integrating the Evaluation into the ADR Process ☐ Report Writing ☐ Testifying
 & Depositions ☐ Psychological Testing: Pros & Cons ☐ Ethical Considerations ☐
 Qualifications & Standards for Evaluators ☐ Family Violence: Process & Assessment
 Considerations ☐ Alternative Lifestyle Issues ☐ The Lawyer-Evaluator
 Relationship ☐ The Custody Evaluation From the Judge's Perspective ☐
 Techniques for Examining & Cross-Examining the Evaluator

Attendance will be limited to the first 250 registrants.

Call for Presenters: If you are interested in participating in this Symposium, please send a one page description/outline of your proposed presentation; include length of presentation and a resume.



Send to:

Tim Salius
 Family Division
 Administration
 225 Spring St.
 Wethersfield, CT 06109
 (203) 529-9655
 FAX (203) 529-9828

CALIFORNIA DREAMING . . .

Searching for a way to beat the midwinter blues that seem to creep up just after the holiday season? AFCC's California Chapter has the answer: sunny Newport Beach, California. There, the California Chapter will be hosting its 1994 conference, **Building Bridges**, January 21-23, 1994. The conference will feature an in-depth look at the difficulties and frustrations associated with the Juvenile and Family Courts, both for families and professionals.

The conference will take place at the Newport Beach Marriott, located midway between Los Angeles and San Diego near Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm and just minutes from the Pacific Ocean. Golf, tennis, museums, galleries and a host of other activities will be available.

If it sounds like too much to do in too little time, consider extending your stay. Organizers have secured conference room rates of \$99.00 (single or double occupancy) for two days before and after the conference.

For further conference information, contact Jan Shaw, Conference Chair, California Chapter, Mediation and Investigative Services, P.O. Box 14169, Orange, CA 92613-1569. Telephone: (714) 935-6459 Fax: (714) 935-6454.

Federal Funding for Supervised Visitation

Legislation has been introduced in Congress to fund one hundred supervised visitation centers across the United States. Senator Paul Wellstone (D-Minnesota) has sponsored S. 870, "The Child Safety Act." A companion bill was introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative Martin Sabo (D-Minnesota).

The Child Safety Act seeks to appropriate \$30 million to fund the pilot programs along with commensurate research into each programs' effectiveness. Hearings on the legislation will take place in Washington, D.C. at the end of October.

You can participate in the creation or support of supervised visitation services in your community by writing and/or calling your Senators and Representatives in support of S. 870 and its companion bill HR 2573. For more information or a copy of the proposed legislation, please contact:

Tim Ballew
Family Connection Center
222 South Downey Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46219
(317) 351-2761

Massachusetts Chapter on the Move

The growth of AFCC continues with the possible addition of a Massachusetts Chapter. Thanks to the efforts of AFCC Board Member Hon. Sheila McGovern and Hon. Arline Rotman, what began as a small monthly informal breakfast discussion group has mushroomed into serious interest in forming an AFCC Chapter. In September, AFCC President Bob Tompkins, Tim Salius and Diana Preice travelled to Massachusetts to speak to more than forty interested participants in the first organizational and informational meeting. The group plans to

meet again in November. For additional information contact:

Paige Dunmire Firment, Esq.
7 State Street
Worcester, MA 01609
(508) 754-9242

Robert G. Lian, Esq.
34 Mechanic Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 799-4461

First International Congress on Parent Education Programs

AFCC would like to convene the First International Congress on Parent Education Programs in the Fall of 1994. Mandatory and voluntary parent education programs for divorcing parents are springing up across the country. This Congress would provide an opportunity for program directors and staff to meet and share information on the development and adminis-

tration of these programs. We would like to begin to develop a data base of these programs. Please send us any information about your parent education program or contact information about any program that you are aware of: AFCC, 329 W. Wilson St., Madison, WI 53703 (608) 251-4001 FAX (608) 251-2231.



AFCC Newsletter Advertising Rates

Advertising copy must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Send your camera-ready advertising copy and payment in US funds to:

AFCC
329 W. Wilson St.
Madison, WI 53703

Full page	\$350
Half page	\$250
Third page	\$125
Sixth page	\$ 75

Autumn Delights!

International News from IUFO: The Year of the Family

The International Union of Family Organizations (IUFO) Commission on Marriage and Interpersonal Relations held its 40th annual conference in Baden, Austria last May. Members of family organizations from 21 countries spanning five continents attended. The conference addressed the changes in the structuring of society, family relationships and interactive effects resulting from these changes. A report of the meeting has been compiled by the Commission Chairman, Christopher Clulow. The report is entitled, *New Families? Changes in Societies and Family Relationships*. Copies of the report and of keynote conference papers are available from the Commission Secretary, Gerlind Richards at the address below.

The next conference of the Commission on Marriage and Interpersonal Relations will take place in Helsinki, Finland, May 15-18,

1994. It is part of the program for the International Year of the Family of the IUFO and the Finnish Population and Welfare Board. Entitled, *Who Cares?* the conference will address the caring functions in families and societies and how they are to be managed in the future.

For further information contact:
Byrnece Gluckstern
Chair, AFCC International Committee
1050 S. Monaco #16
Denver, CO 80224
(303) 730-7227

or

Gerlind Richards
Commission Hon. Sec.
4 Barnfield Wood Close
Beckham, Kent BR3 2SY
England

Children & Divorce

Written for parents by The Family Center of the Conciliation Court located in Tucson, Arizona, this 26-page booklet provides information about the needs of children going through divorce. Practical information is offered about children's developmental needs at different ages and stages and how to help children adjust to divorce. A list of further suggested readings for parents and children is also included. Available from AFCC, \$3.00 each plus shipping and handling.



TRAINING IN THE MEDIATION OF FAMILY, BUSINESS AND DIVORCE CONFLICTS AND CIVIL, COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS CONFLICTS

Basic and Advanced Courses Presently Planned:

St. Louis, MO (fam/bus - 40hrs)	Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 1,2,3, 1993	Aurora, NE (fam/bus - 40hrs)	Nov. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 1993
Oberlin, OH (fam/bus - 40hrs)	Oct. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 1993	San Francisco, CA (civ/com - 24hrs)	Dec. 10, 11, 12, 1993
Knoxville, TN (civ/com - 24 hrs)	Oct. 15, 16, 17, 1993	Pittsburgh, PA (adv. 8hr.)	Feb. 4, 1994
Portland, OR (civ/com - 24hrs)	Oct. 22, 23, 24, 1993	Pittsburgh, PA (fam/bus - 40hrs)	Feb. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 1994
Indianapolis, IN (fam/bus - 40hrs)	Oct. 28, 29, 30, 31, 1993	Knoxville, TN (civ/com - 24 hrs)	Feb. 18, 19, 20, 1994
Indianapolis, IN (adv 8 hrs)	Nov. 1, 1993		

- 40 hour family and business mediation courses are approved by the Academy of Family Mediators -
- Continuing Education Credit Available -
- Courses can be designated to the specifications and needs of your area -

ROBERT D. BENJAMIN, M.S.W., J.D.

for further information and other programs, call or write:

Mediation & Conflict Management Services • 8000 Bonhomme Avenue, Suite 201 • St. Louis, Missouri 63105
(314) 721-4333



MAUI, HAWAII

AFCC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 11-14, 1994

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL

Wailea Beach • \$119 single/double

The Family Court system witnesses the sum of all human pain: physical and emotional. The 1994 Maui conference will showcase court and community programs and people who have made a difference. Don't miss this opportunity.

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PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTES • May 11, 1994 • 9am-4pm

1. Advanced Mediation Issues and Techniques
Peter Adler, JD; Robert Benjamin, MSW, JD; & Isolina Ricci, Ph.D.
2. Re-examining Best Interest of the Child:
Are There More Interests to Consider?
Constance Ahrons, Ph.D. Author, The Good Divorce
3. Interviewing Children in Cases of Sexual Abuse
Beverly James, Author, Treating Traumatized Children
4. Dispute Resolution for Judges
5. Parental Kidnapping and Inter-Jurisdictional Custody Disputes
Sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Wednesday, May 11, 1994 (7:00pm)—Saturday, May 14, 1994 (Noon)

Special Guest: *Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder*

WORKSHOP TOPICS: A Preliminary Announcement

Family Court Services—What Lies Ahead
Beyond Mediation—Comprehensive Dispute Resolution Models
Children Divorcing Parents—Psychological & Legal Implications for the Future
Supervised Visitation Centers
Risk Factors for Parental Abduction
Innovative Guardian ad Litem Programs
Domestic Violence & Mediation:
After Screening What?
A Medley of Divorce Education Programs:
Big and Small

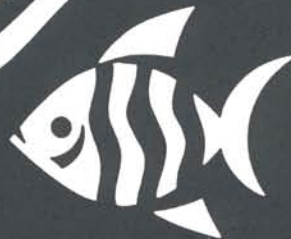
Parental Alienation—What Can and Cannot Be Done About It
Quality Control for Court-based Programs
Compelling Issues Confronting the Court System
How to Remain Sane While Practicing Family Law
Children's Advocacy Centers
Family Dispute Resolution Methods:
Beyond Western Culture
The Agony and the Ecstasy:
Decision Making for the Decision-Makers

For more information contact:

Hon. Douglas McNish
2145 Main Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
(808) 244-2700

or

AFCC
329 W. Wilson Street
(608) 251-4001
FAX (608) 251-2231





MAUI, HAWAII

AFCC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 11-14, 1994

POST-CONFERENCE TRIP TO AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

What to do after beautiful Maui? Instead of heading home how about an exciting post-conference trip to lovely New Zealand and fascinating Australia?

In Australia you will explore Cairns and Brisbane with side trips to the Great Barrier Reef and a tropical rain forest. In New Zealand, you will travel to Auckland, Rotorua, Christchurch and Queenstown.

Join Hon. Alastair Nicholson from Australia and Hon. Patrick Mahony from New Zealand in this interdisciplinary exchange with judges, attorneys, mediators, and mental health experts from each country.

The post conference tour will depart from Maui. The 14-day tour package will include all air, hotel, some meals and ground transportation costs. You may arrange to increase or decrease the length of your stay. Preliminary package cost: \$2,435 prior to December 30, 1993.

For more information contact:

Pat Dixon, 358 19th St. NE, Suite 1704, Salem, OR 97301, (503) 363-8075

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Prior to December 31, 1993

- ☐ **Pre-Conference Institute: May 11. \$95** (Select One) ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4
- ☐ **Pre-Conference Institute: May 11. ☐ 5 \$125** (includes lunch)
- ☐ **AFCC Member: Full Conference. \$200** (includes all food functions)
- ☐ **Non-member: Full Conference. \$225**
- ☐ **New Member Special: 1994 Membership & Pre-Conference Institute & Full Conference. \$375**
(Applied to new 1994 memberships only. AFCC membership regularly \$95)
- ☐ **New Member Special: 1994 Membership & Full Conference. \$275**
- ☐ **Spouses & Guests. \$125** (includes all food functions)
- ☐ **Students. \$100** (Student ID must accompany Registration)
(Conference attendance only, does not include food functions)

Amount Enclosed

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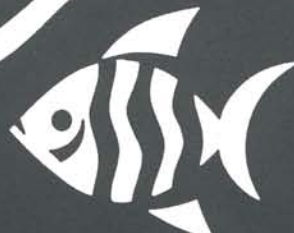
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Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

Please send me information on the Australia/New Zealand trip ☐



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 15-19, 1993

December 3-7, 1993

Divorce Mediation Training
Contact: Carl Schneider, Ph.D.
& Zena Zumeta, JD
1-800-852-1432

November 11-14, 1993

December 15-19, 1993

Family Mediation Training
Gary Kirkpatrick
Contact: (214) 528-2830
or 1-800-888-8609

December 2-4, 1993

January 26-30, 1994

March 24-26, 1994

Mediation Training
Contact: Northern California
Mediation Center
100 Tamal Plaza, Suite 175
Corte Madera, CA 94925
(415) 927-1422

November 11-14, 1993

December 16-19, 1993

January 20-13, 1993

Mediation Training
Contact: Lemmon Mediation Institute
5248 Boyd Ave.
Oakland, CA 94618
(510) 547-8089

February 2-7, 1994

Education Forum and International
Men's Day Celebration
Kansas City, Missouri
Contact: Tom Oaster, Ph.D.
P.O. Box 10033
Kansas City, MO 64111

May, 11-14, 1994

AFCC Annual Conference
Maui, Hawaii
Contact: Hon. Douglas McNish
2145 Main Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
(808) 244-2700

November 4-8, 1994

AFCC South West Regional Conference
Arizona Chapter Meeting &
AFCC Board Meeting
First International Child Custody
Evaluation Institute
Tucson, AZ
Contact: Frances Bernfeld
Conciliation Court
Great American Twr.
32 N. Stone, Suite 1704
Tucson, AZ 85701
(602) 740-5590

May, 1995

AFCC Annual Conference
Montreal, Canada

October 1995

NW Regional Conference
Portland, OR



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