



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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AN ADVOCATE OF MEDIATION

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The death of Ron Powers was a shock to the legal community as well as to the world of mediation. Although Ron was an excellent attorney, he was also a champion of mediation. He believed in the process because it was a gentler means of resolving conflicts than going through the adversarial approach of litigation.

In a handout at his memorial gathering, three of Ron's famous sayings were cited. "Chance favors the prepared mind...", "See, what you got to do is...", and "We are leaving now, not in five minutes, NOW!"

NCM extends its condolences to Ron's wife Patty, his children, grandchildren, and to his assistant of 21 years Cindy.

BOARD RETREAT

On Thursday, February 9, NCM will hold its annual board retreat at the Weathervane Inn in Charlevoix. The session will begin with a panel presentation from The Honorable Richard May from 90th District Court, The Honorable Frederick Mulhauser from 7th Probate Court, and The Honorable Richard Pajtas from the 33rd Circuit Court. They will explain what types of cases come before them and the legal process as it pertains to their courts. This will be followed by a question and answer period.

Following the presentation, the Board will have an open dialog relating to fees charged for services, as well as other pertinent issues.

MEDIATOR ROUNDTABLES

Remember to put Tuesday, March 27 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm on your calendars for the Mediator Roundtable when we will focus on the new confidentiality and disclosure guidelines, as well as the new standards of conduct.

THAT'S A NO-NO

Please, refrain from saying "That's a good deal" or something similar to one of the parties when an offer is made by the other party.

THEATRE PARTY

It is hard to believe that Monday, March 12 will mark the eighth annual Theatre Party for NCM. In those eight years, we have never raised our prices, and that includes this year as well.

Ticket prices are still \$25.00 per person, and that includes your enjoying appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages between 5:30 pm and 7:00pm, a chance to win one of many door prizes, a chance to win a 50/50 raffle, and go to the movie of your choice at 7:00pm.

As we have done in the past, sponsorships are available to help defray the costs of the Theatre Party, and it is not too late to become a sponsor.

- \$25 Your name will be listed in the program.
- \$100 You will receive 2 tickets and an 1/8 page ad in the program.
- \$250 You will receive 4 tickets and a 1/4 page ad in the program.
- \$500 You will receive 6 tickets and a 1/2 page ad in the program.
- \$1,000 You will receive 10 tickets and a full-page ad in the program.

If you represent a non-profit organization, consider being a sponsor. Special non-profit rates apply. For details, contact Jane at NCM at 487.1771.

Most importantly. Remember to purchase your Theatre Party tickets, and your help in selling tickets would be greatly appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER

In last month's newsletter there was a long list of dates relating to upcoming events throughout the year. Below are those dates that are of the greatest importance to the mediators:

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| Monday, March 12 | Theatre Party |
| Wednesday, March 21 | Project Connect |
| Tuesday, March 27 | Mediator Roundtable |
| Monday, May 21 | Appreciation Luncheon |
| Tuesday, July 17 | Mediator Roundtable |
| Tuesday, October 9 | Advanced Training |
| Tuesday, December 4 | Breakfast for Champions |
| Tuesday, December 11 | Holiday Party |