



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



No, they were not celebrating on New Year's Eve. It may be hard to believe, but they were at a conference to learn about innovative mediation techniques, to hone their mediation skills and to find out about the latest legislation impacting mediation. The stress must have been too great for Kendal Taylor, Wayne Tri, Bert Rousseau and Jeff Higgs.

2011

The NCM website has been updated to reflect the 2011 calendar of events. For a complete list, go to <http://www.northernmediation.org/upcoming-events-for-2011-59/>

Some of the dates that would be of particular interest to you are as follows:

Monday, March 24	Theatre Party
Tuesday, March 22	Mediator Roundtable
Monday, May 16	Mediator/Board Luncheon
Tuesday, June 14	Mediator Roundtable
Tuesday, September 13	Mediator Roundtable
Tuesday, October 11	Advanced Training
Tuesday, December 13	Holiday Party

COURT SUBMISSIONS

If a case is NOT referred or ordered by the Court, any agreement that is reached is NOT to be submitted to the Court. There have been some incidents where mediators have told the parties that NCM would take care of sending a copy of the agreement to the Court. That is not the case. NCM sends a copy of the agreement to the Court only when a case has been ordered or referred by the Court.

CELEBRITY BARTENDER

Throughout the winter months from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Thursday evenings, Stafford's Hospitality is sponsoring a Celebrity Bartender in the Noggin Room. This service offered by Stafford's is to help raise money for local charities and organizations. Northern Community Mediation is one of the organizations chosen as a recipient of this opportunity.

What this means is that on Thursday, March 24, non-other than your Executive Director will be the celebrity bartender. All tips given at the bar between 6:00 and 8:00 that evening will go to NCM.

So, plan to come down to the Noggin Room on Thursday, March 24, have a few drinks and some dinner. When you leave the tip for your waitress, do not forget to come up to the bar and leave a tip for NCM. What a fun way to raise some money for the cause.

STAFF RETREAT

On Friday, December 17, the staff of NCM held an all-day, staff retreat. We met at The Twisted Olive, a new restaurant in Petoskey. They served us breakfast, kept us going on coffee, served us lunch, and kept us going on coffee in the afternoon. We accomplished a great deal, such as setting the 2011 calendar. A task that has needed attention for a long time has been revising and updating the various templates and forms that we use. We are delighted to say that the mission has been accomplished.

So that no one gets confused, we will continue to use our present forms until the Mediator Roundtable scheduled for Tuesday, March 22. At the Roundtable, we will go over all of the new templates and replace the old forms with the new ones. This will include what is on the laptop. Once we begin using the new forms, it will be important to discard of the old ones.

MEDIATOR ROUNDTABLES

As mentioned above, the first Mediator Roundtable of the year will take place on Tuesday, March 22. The topic will be the new templates. If there is time, we will also talk about the use of certain types of technology in relationship to the templates, i.e. drop downs. The second and third Roundtables are scheduled for Tuesday, June 14 and Tuesday, September 13. Your ideas for subject matter would be appreciated.

GROAN

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.