Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

May 17, 2018

For more information contact Jane Millar at 231 487 1771

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

On Tuesday, May 15, Northern Community Mediation (NCM) held its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary party from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at City Park Grill in Petoskey. Approximately 75 people, including attorneys, court personnel, board members and mediators, joined in the celebration.

There was no formal program. The whole purpose of the gathering was to have a party. People enjoyed sharing stories with one another about "the good old days" when a few pioneers envisioned the value of having mediation services in Charlevoix and Emmet counties.

Murray Kilgour, one of the original board members, was unable to attend the party because he now lives in Hawaii. In his regret correspondence, he stated, "One of my proudest accomplishments in life is not just that I was part of the start of mediation activities in Emmet and Charlevoix Counties but that groundwork laid by myself and numerous others (David Fershee, Tina DeMoore, Judge Johnson, Judge May, Kathy Lame, Judge Mulhauser - just to name a few) has allowed the organization to continue to provide a needed service to the communities it serves. The organization has over the years focused on its mission and avoided the pitfalls of getting mired in politics. It has been and I hope will always be a group not associated with any small cadre of people but a true community service 'owned' by the community at large and dedicated to their needs."

Murray continued, "I commend all who have been involved over the past 25 years....(Dennis Halverson, Mary Beth Kur, Frank Ronan, Celia Partida Kelly, Nancy Golan, Maartje Nolan, Joe Kanine,...again just to name a few that come to mind) for their part in making this day a reality and wish blessings upon the, to me unknown, group who will lead Northern Community Mediation on into the next 25 years of existence."

Northern Community Mediation is a non-profit organization that provides an alternative means of resolving conflict. Trained mediators, who meet with the parties involved in a dispute, facilitate so that the individuals themselves can resolve the conflict

Anyone interested in learning more about Northern Community Mediation should contact Dr. Jane Millar at 231.487.1771.

Pictured from left to right are names of individuals and what they are doing. Wendy Viles and Dean Viles