

Indiana Association of Mediators

Advancing the Practice of Mediation in Indiana

As you can see from the lists below, 2010 has produced a mini-explosion in new and returning IAM members! Not only are there members in most Indiana counties, we also have members in 3 other states! A special welcome to the following new members: Pia Shrontz (Indianapolis); Angela Swenson (Carmel); Peter Sacopulos (Terre Haute); Kay Wise (Fort Wayne); Cassie Smeltzer (Grabill); Stacey Langenbahn (Colleyville, TX); Joel Wesch (Covington); Elisabeth Edwards (Indianapolis); John Capper & Robert Reimondo (Crawfordsville); Norman Snow (Fort Wayne); Amanda Blystone (Indianapolis); Michael Singer (Avon); David Hammelman (Newburgh); Ginger Shanks (Anderson); Brian Weiss & Cheri Harris (Indianapolis); Nikki Greller (Greenwood); Gwendolyn Wilkerson (Merrillville) and Lisa Tokarz-Gutierrez (Fishers).



Welcome!



Amanda Blystone



Eileen Maguire



Brian Weiss



Elisabeth Edwards

And a special "thank you" to the following returning members for their continued support of the IAM in its mission to be the premiere Association for Indiana mediators:

Marc Matheny (Indianapolis); **Todd Etzler** (Valparaiso); **Sarah Carter** (Bloomington); **Diana Mercer** (Playa Del Rey, CA); **William Andrews** (Bloomington); **Janet Mitchell** (Fort Wayne); **Kim Van Valer** (Greenwood); **Angela Swenson** (Carmel); **Rich Payne, Mary Hoeller & Robert Bruner** (Indianapolis); **David Copenhaver** (New Castle); **Charles Tavel** (Brownsburg); **Joseph Bumbleburg** (Lafayette); **Charles David Deep** (Henderson, KY); **Susan Umpleby** (Paoli); **Suanne Milligan** (Crawfordsville); **Jon C. Owen** (Kendallville); **Richard Norris & Vanessa Villegas Lopez** (Indianapolis); **James McEntarfer** (Evansville); **Max Howard** (Anderson); **Eileen Maguire** (Noblesville); **Allen Platt III** (New Albany); **Thomas Smith** (Angola); **Dan Gioia** (Valparaiso); **John Milford** (Fort Wayne); **Elizabeth Andrews** (Indianapolis); **Leon Kaminski** (La Porte); **Marvin Pavlov** (Columbus); **Josephine Hughes & Ron Brodey** (Indianapolis); **Karen Pulliam** (Gary); **Michael Thomasson & Shari Long** (Columbus); and **Johanna Campbell** (Fort Wayne).



Diana Mercer at Marketing Conference



Conference Participants soaking it up!

2010 Marketing Conference

The 2010 Marketing Conference was held at the NASWIN offices in Indianapolis on February 27, 2010. Those in attendance received valuable marketing tips from IAM member Diana Mercer, President and founder of Peace Talks Mediation Services of Los Angeles, CA. Diana's presentation was an extended version of the presentation she will make at the Dispute Resolution Section in San Francisco in April.

For those unable to attend the Conference, a copy of the materials presented at the Conference can be purchased for \$95.00. Included is a digital audio recording that can be played on your computer in the comfort of your own office or home. It's the next best thing to having been there! Only 3 copies available. For further information or to order the materials, contact [Rick Wacker](#).

March 2010

2010 Indiana Legislative Session

The 'short' session of the Indiana General Assembly is winding down and although several measures involving mediation were introduced, the press of other business may make passage uncertain.

SB 59 - Family Law - Grandparent right of visitation - allows Courts to order a grandparent or great-grandparent party seeking visitation rights to pay a reasonable amount to the other party for the costs of attorney fees and mediation to the other party incurred to maintain or defend the action.

SB 159 - Technical corrections bill - similar to SB 222 below.

SB 222 - Technical corrections bill - Education - children of certain members of the military - requires the Interstate Commission to adopt a rule providing for both mediation and binding arbitration to settle disputes subject to the compact which arise among member states.

HB 1055 - Companion bill to SB 59 filed in the House of Representatives.

HB 1074 - Insurance - allows mediation to be used to resolve a dispute between an insurance company and a company that provides dialysis on a contracted basis if the contract contains a dispute resolution provision.

HB 1121 - State Contracting with Disabled Veterans - the bill provides a 3% price preference for a service-disabled veteran small business for purposes of state public works contracts, state purchasing of goods and services, and state highway contracts. The IDOA is allowed to settle grievances between contractors and state agencies and mediation is permitted to be used to settle disputes between state agencies and contracting authorities.

HB 1240 - Insurance - allows an independent public accountant to enter into an agreement with an insurer to have disputes relating to an audit resolved by mediation or arbitration.

HB 1351 - Limited partnerships and liability companies - enacts the Uniform Limited Partnership Act and the Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act governing LLC's. Allows mediation and arbitration to be used in the settling of disputes while winding up the affairs of a Limited Partnership or an LLC following dissolution.

For more detailed information about any of these measures, more information can be obtained on the Legislative [website](#).

Passing of an IAM Member

After sending out dues invoices in January, it was learned that former IAM member **John F. Lyons** (Fort Wayne) passed away in March 2009. Our condolences to his family and friends...

Request for Information on Mediation Malpractice Insurance

IAM member [Jayne Barstow](#) is trying to get information on mediation malpractice insurance. If you can share, please contact her. She is particularly interested in finding a "deal" if there is such a thing out there.

ICLEF to Offer Unusual Civil to Domestic Relations Crossover Training

Although DR to Civil crossover training is offered annually, it is much more unusual for Civil mediators to be able to take 'crossover' training to become DR mediators. In fact, this is the first such opportunity since 2006. The training will be offered May 12-14, 2010. For more information, contact [Steven Spence](#) or call (317) 571-1101.

IN AG's Consumer Protection Division to Offer Pro Bono Mediation Opportunity

On March 27, 2010, the Indiana Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division will be hosting its first annual "Mediation Day". During the program, staff mediators and volunteers mediators from across the state will work alongside law school students trained in mediation. The goal is not only to provide 'hands on education' and facilitation of dispute resolution to assist both consumers and businesses in working out differences in consumer complaints filed with the Attorney General. The effort is being headed up by Abigail Kuzma, Chief Counsel of the Consumer Protection Division. Cases involving complaints and respondents have been chosen primarily in the area of car and home improvement issues. Two sessions will be held - the first from 10:00 am - Noon and the second from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Sessions will be held at the Indiana Government Center South - 200 West Washington Street. The RSVP deadline was March 1, but if sufficient response has not been received, they may be willing to include last minute participants. For more information contact Jennifer Thuma, Education Coordinator at (317) 232-6334.

Have a funny mediation story? Want to share an announcement about your practice, speaking engagement, a good book on mediation or other item of interest? Have you run into a situation you weren't sure how to handle? Your item can be distributed to the membership and insights shared! Contact [Rick Wacker](#).

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