



NEWSLETTER

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

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

Volume 8, Number 1
Winter, 1989

Co-editors: Stanley N. Cohen
Ann Milne

AFCC is on the Move

As of January 1, 1989, the offices of AFCC will be located in Madison, Wisconsin. Ann Milne, incoming Executive Director and Stanley Cohen, retiring Executive Director, have been coordinating the move and transferring AFCC's files and records to the new office. All correspondence should be sent to AFCC at the new address listed below. We ask your patience during this time of transition. If you

are having problems receiving AFCC publications or have other concerns, please let us know so that we can effectively and efficiently serve your membership needs.

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
329 W. Wilson Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
(608) 251-0604

Stanley Cohen Retires as AFCC Executive Director

Retiring AFCC Executive Director, Stan Cohen, has been a stalwart supporter of AFCC since it began in 1963. Working for the Los Angeles Conciliation Court at the time, Dr. Cohen has seen AFCC grow from a handful of court employees to an international association of 1,000 members. He has served AFCC as the Director of Research and Technical Assistance, Director of Publications and Film, Co-editor of the *Conciliation Courts Review*, and Executive Director since 1984.

Under Stan's direction, AFCC has produced a number of new pamphlets and the award winning film, *A Family Affair*.

Stan's knack for making things grow is not limited to AFCC. He has a filbert farm outside of Portland.

Stan will continue to consult with the Clackamas County Family Court Services and also continue his active involvement with AFCC as Co-editor, with Hugh McIsaac, of the *Conciliation Courts Review*. He will work with Ann Milne on future grant proposals and AFCC's technical assistance program.

Dorothy Quinn

We would be remiss if we did not also extend our gratitude and appreciation to Dorothy Quinn, Stan Cohen's Administrative Assistant. Dorothy has been with AFCC for the past three years and has been the voice on the other end of the telephone answering callers' questions and requests for AFCC materials. Her cheery disposition was always a welcome note. Dorothy will continue to work at the Oregon Health Sciences University.

Thanks Dorothy!

Ann Milne, ACSW AFCC Executive Director

Ann Milne has been a member of AFCC since 1972. Employed as a family court counselor for 9 years, Ann attended her first AFCC conference in Chicago. For the past 8 years, Ann has had a private practice in Madison, Wisconsin as a family and divorce counselor and a mediator of divorce-related disputes.

She has been an active member of AFCC, having been on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee for the past 11 years and chair of the Mediation Committee for the past 9 years. During this time, the Mediation Committee served as the convenor of three national symposia on Standards of Practice for Family and Divorce Mediators. These Standards are now being used by a number of mediation organizations around the country.

Ann served as Field Secretary for AFCC from 1981-83 and chaired the Williamsburg conference. This conference inaugurated the use of the now popular divorce montage format.

She has also chaired several pre-conference institutes on mediation



for AFCC. From 1981-83, Ann was a Field Consultant for the Divorce Mediation Research Project. Directed by Dr. Jessica Pearson, this project was the first to explore the use of mediation in court settings to resolve custody and visitation disputes.

Ann has been a lecturer at the University of Wisconsin Law School and regularly teaches at the National College of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and National Judicial College in Reno. In her spare time, she co-edited, with Professor of Law Jay Folberg, the recently published book *Divorce Mediation: Theory and Practice*.

Continued on page 8

Regional News



NORTHEAST:

The Virginia Mediation Network and AFCC joined forces to host over 200 individuals at the Northeast conference in October in Arlington, VA.

AFCC President-elect Thomas Bishop moderated a panel discussion by a group of parents who shared their experiences and views of the emotional and legal process of divorce. This was followed by a response panel of Judge Susan Snow, Conciliation Court Director Russell Schoeneman, attorney Ronald Tweel and therapist Patricia Myer high-

lighting the conference theme "Different Sides of Different Coins."

Emily Brown, Director of the Divorce and Marital Stress Clinic presented on "The Effects of Affairs and New Relationships on Family Mediation" and Ann Milne presented on "Taking a Look at Conflict—The Story Behind the Story." Mavis Heatherington, Professor of Psychology at the University of Virginia, was honored for her contributions toward the understanding of the effects of divorce on children.

SOUTHWEST:

Approximately 125 registrants took part in AFCC's southwest regional conference Dec. 1-3, 1988 at the Doubletree Inn in Scottsdale. Co-sponsored with the Arizona Chapter of AFCC, participants enjoyed the warm hospitality and Arizona weather.

Dr. Thomas Grisso, Director of Forensic Training and Research at the Univ. of Massachusetts Medical Center provided a stimulating beginning to the conference with his address on "Standards of Practice for Divorce/Custody Evaluations". Chief Justice Frank X. Gordon, Jr. of the Arizona Supreme Court reviewed

the role of the Arizona Commission on the Courts, an expansive task force established to evaluate court organization, dispute resolution, children and families in the courts and juvenile offender programs.

Conference workshops included sessions on the role of child advocates, open vs closed mediation, child support and shared legal custody, statistics, sexual abuse, dysfunctional parents and parent education seminars.

It is anticipated that the next Southwest regional conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

NORTHWEST:

The 125 attendees at AFCC's Northwest regional conference in Seattle, co-sponsored by the Washington State Bar Association Family Law Section, took the theme "Northwest Families: Taking on the Challenge" seriously. Conference workshops challenged our thinking and practices.

AFCC Executive Director, Ann Milne, provided the opening address on "Interprofessional Cooperation: Is It An Oxymoron?" Workshops on Asian families, substance abuse, child

sexual abuse, supervised visitation, legislation and new roles for fathers rounded out the offerings. William Hodges, Ph.D., author of *Intervention for Children of Divorce* presented the luncheon address on "Myths and Mysteries of Divorce" and author and former *Mediation Quarterly* editor John Lemmon closed the conference with his entertaining presentation on "Mediating, Evaluating and advocating: Sorting Out the Roles in Working With Complex Family Conflicts."

SASKATOON, SASK.:

Approximately 25 members of the Queen's Bench Judges of Saskatchewan and other court related individuals participated in a three day mediation training program conducted by AFCC Past Presidents John Van Duzer, Jay Folberg and AFCC Executive Director Ann Milne.

Judges in Saskatchewan are encouraged to attempt to mediate divorce related disputes by meeting with the parties and their attorneys previous to trial. If mediation is unsuccessful in resolving the issues the matter is assigned to another judge for trial.

The training included lecture, demonstration and role plays and viewing a tape of an actual mediation conducted by Judge James Milliken of Prince Albert.

CALIFORNIA:

Family Court Services/Administrative Office of the Courts, under the direction of Statewide Coordinator Isolina Ricci, has inaugurated a statewide study to identify and describe existing family court practices and procedures and to develop training and resource manuals on mediation, evaluation, parent education, family law, and management and supervision.

A Spanish language orientation video on mediation will soon be available from FCS/AOC. A counselor exchange program between counties in California will help with mediator burnout and provide exposure to other court programs and procedures. There's a lot going on in California!

Annual Meeting Preview - May 25-27, 1989, Chicago

AFCC's 1989 Annual Conference will be held May 25-27 at the Drake Hotel in Chicago. Chicago's "Magnificent Mile" will be the perfect setting as conference attendees examine **The Role of the Court in the Future.**

Topics will span the universe—

- premarriage counseling
- joint parenting agreements
- domestic violence
- supervised visitation services
- non-support

- chemical dependency
- sexual abuse allegations
- ethics

Conference participants are invited to bring their families and guests to Chicago. The Drake Hotel is within easy walking distance of excellent shopping, sightseeing, good Chicago jazz and sporting events.

Combine your conferencing activities with a vacation over this Memorial holiday weekend and travel with us to...

Montreal and Newfoundland - May 28-June 4, 1989

The International Committee of AFCC has planned a post-conference trip to Magnificent Montreal and the Maritime province of Newfoundland.

Travelers will leave Chicago on Monday, May 28th and fly to Montreal for a two day visit hosted by staff of the Family Court and domestic relations practitioners. Montreal is a city rich in culture - museums, art galleries, music and dance concerts - not to mention the cosmopolitan cuisine.

From Montreal, the group will fly to St. John's, Newfoundland to meet with the Unified Family Court and experience the allure of this coastal community.

Culturally, this island keeps one foot firmly planted in the past: Newfoundland prides itself in having been christened New Found Land in 1497. St. John's, the province's capital,



reminds one of the hilly Victorian ambiance of San Francisco. A trip along the coast passes through the outports, as Newfoundland calls its sea-clinging villages.

The rocky coastline produces breathtaking views and scenic bays. These coastal villages are still wholly dependent on fishing and provide the visitor with a view of life in the Maritimes.

Orlando Welcomes SE Regional

March 2-4, 1989

Under the Looking Glass - Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in a Court Setting will be the theme for AFCC's first SE Regional Conference at the Harley Hotel in Orlando, Florida. In cooperation with the Florida Dispute Resolution Center, this regional conference will feature a full array of court programs and services.

The "looking glass" theme will highlight various views and perspectives including the use of mediation and arbitration in a court setting, mediation of support and financial issues, certification and training of mediators, custody evaluations, interventions with difficult cases, and how to establish a court program. Presenters will include Madame Justice Jean Graham Hall from the United Kingdom; James Alfini, Professor of Law, Florida State College of Law; Sharon Press, Assistant Director of the Florida State Dispute Resolution Center; Attorney Rene Goldenberg; Mary Cadwell, former Director of the Palm Beach Family Mediation Program; Mike Bridenback, Judicial Management Coordinator for the Florida State Court Administrator's Office; Frank Laney, Dispute Resolution Coordinator for the North Carolina Bar Foundation; Judge Frank Orlando, member of the Florida Supreme Court Mediation and Arbitration Training Committee; Ailene Hubert, Director of Court Services, Ft. Lauderdale; and Ann Milne, AFCC Executive Director.

A special orientation reception for new and prospective AFCC members will be held immediately preceding the Thursday night opening session. Room rates at the Harley are \$60/night. Conference Registration is \$125. For further information contact:

Ailene Hubert,
Conference Coordinator
Family Mediation/Conciliation
Program
507 SE 6th, 2nd Floor
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
(305) 765-4012

For information about the Annual Conference, Contact:

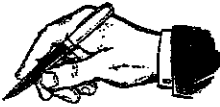
Judge Susan Snow
Circuit Court of Cook County
1802 Daley Center
Chicago, IL 60602
(312) 443-5546

For information about Montreal and Newfoundland, Contact:

Leonore Levit, Ph.D.
Circuit Court,
Domestic Relations Division
32 W. Randolph, #1050
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 609-8750

Final Notice— Meyer Elkin Essay Contest

The Meyer Elkin Essay Award in the amount of \$250



will be presented to the author of an original article for the *Conciliation Courts Review*. Review articles may be directed to either of the two following subjects: 1) the mental health professional as a witness in court; 2) shared parenting, is it working? Articles must be received by March 15, 1989. Forward to Hon. Irwin Cantor, Superior Court, Maricopa County, 201 W. Jefferson St. Phoenix, AZ 85003 (602) 262-3855.

Trip to Australia and New Zealand Follows Family Mediation Canada Conference

Judith Ryan, Past President of Family Mediation Canada and Ted Andrews, Chief Judge Provincial Court of Ontario (Family Division) will lead a group of judges, lawyers, mediators and arbitrators on a lecture/study tour of the South Pacific following the annual Family Mediation Canada conference in Vancouver, BC. Oct. 28-Nov. 20, 1989.

The group will travel to Australia and New Zealand, via Fiji and return via Tahiti. Meetings will be held with colleagues in alternative dispute resolution.



Participants will see the scenic wonders of the world "down under," including the thermal reserves at Rotorua and spectacular Milford Sound and Ayers Rock and the Australian outback, the Great Barrier Reef and the rain forest near Cairns.

Passage can be booked for all or any segment of the trip. Contact: Judith Ryan (416) 928-1154 or Transun Travel (416) 968-2455



Mediation: For Your Children's Sake is a 20 minute video on the use of mediation to resolve custody and visitation disputes. Produced through the cooperative efforts of the Domestic Relations Division, the Family Center of the Conciliation Court, the Judicial Education Department of the Superior Court and the Tucson Community Cable Corporation, this

video can be used in court settings across the country and by mediators with other agencies and in private practice to demonstrate the effects of litigation and the advantages of the mediation process.

The responses of parents who have viewed the video have been very favorable and some mediators have found that parents who have viewed the tape prior to mediation have been more accepting of the mediation process and more cooperative with one another.

The film is available at cost from:

The Family Center of the Conciliation Court
Transamerica Building
177 N. Church, Suite 400
Tucson, AZ 85701
(602) 792-6344.

Dues Are Due!

Membership dues are due for 1989. AFCC's 1989 budget of \$122,650 is largely dependent upon revenue from membership. This money is then used for printing and distribution of the *Conciliation Courts Review*, the Newsletter, pamphlets, support of committees, Executive Director's and secretary's salaries and office expenses. Send check or money order in US funds to:

AFCC
329 W. Wilson St.
Madison, Wisconsin
53703

Individual: \$70/yr
Institutional: \$150/yr
Student: \$20/yr
Life*: \$600

*may be paid in two installments

CA Chapter Dues:

Individual: \$15/yr
Institutional: \$50/yr

AZ Chapter Dues:

Individual: \$20/yr
Institutional: \$40/yr
Student: \$5/yr

KS Chapter Dues:

Individual: \$25/yr
Institutional: \$45/yr

Member News

Judge Betty Barteau will return for another term on the Faculty Council of the National Judicial College. The Council reviews the NJC curriculum and confirms the membership of the faculty pursuant to the NJC Faculty Charter.

Judge Solie Ringold, Seattle, WA, former AFCC President, retired

from the Washington State Judiciary after serving on the bench for more than 25 years. He was recently honored by the Seattle-King County Bar Association as Outstanding Judge of the Year and has been named the Harold Shefelman Distinguished Visitor by the University of Washington Law Faculty.



Association of Family and Conciliation Courts • Publication Order Form

FILMS/VIDEO TAPES

Custody Resolution Counseling: Designed for training counselors in mediation techniques for family disputes concerning custody and visitation. Color, 45 minutes. Rental-\$40/5 days; Purchase-\$130.

A Family Affair: Designed to inform judges and other professionals of the legal remedies and implications regarding child abuse. This film is a gold medal winner. New York International Film and Television Festival (1982), First Prize winner, American Film Festival (1982) in its category. Gold medal, National Council Family Relations (1983). Available in 16 mm or video cassette through VISUCOM Productions, Inc., 1255 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City, CA 94063. Rental-\$60/3 days; Purchase -\$450.

You're Still Mom and Dad: A sensitive portrayal of the issues of Joint Custody. Designed for parents, professionals, and others who wish to understand and implement this post-divorce parenting plan. Color, 38 minutes. Video Cassette: Rental-\$40/5 days; Purchase-\$100.

PUBLICATIONS

Guidelines for Court-Connected Child Custody Evaluation: A procedural guide for custody evaluators. Developed by AFCC Committee on Custody Evaluation, this booklet provides a much needed practical format that can be used easily by evaluators charged with the responsibility of preparing custody evaluation reports for use by domestic relations courts. (\$4.50)

Guidelines for Establishing a Court Connected Counseling Service: A manual for courts and individuals with helpful information regarding how to establish a court connected counseling service. \$3.50.

My Mom and Dad Are Getting a Divorce: Written by Florence Bienenfeld, an AFCC member and conciliation court counselor in Los Angeles, this colorfully illustrated book appeals to children whose parents are going through divorce and assists parents in understanding their children's feelings. Available for \$3.95 plus \$1.25 postage and handling from Changing Times Education Service, Division of EMC Publishing. 300 York Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55101.

Divorce and Family Mediation: History, Review, Future Considerations: A monograph, published in the December, 1982 issue **Conciliation Courts Review**. This 45 page article presents a well researched history of the development of mediation in the field of divorce. \$2.50 each.

Divorce Mediation Final Report: The findings of the AFCC sponsored project are now available in a bound volume. The project was under the direction of Dr. Jessica Pearson. The findings are presented in eleven extensive reports and is an important contribution to the field. Copies are available for \$25.00 by contacting Dr. Jessica Pearson, 1720 Emerson St., Denver, CO 80218. (303) 837-1555.

PAMPHLETS

Parents Are Forever: Internationally acclaimed pamphlet used by Conciliation Court staff, family courts, lawyers, counselors and mediators to assist families in the divorce process. Pamphlet addresses custody and visitation issues and assists parents in using the divorce experience as an opportunity for growth.

Guide For Stepparents: This pamphlet provides guidelines that will assist the blended family in working together.

Joint Custody: A New Way of Being Related: This brochure provides guidelines for parents considering joint custody of their children and suggestions for what to include in a joint custody agreement.

Twenty Questions Divorcing Parents Ask About Their Children: This brochure answers 20 of the most commonly asked questions about how to help children adjust to divorce such as "How can parents prepare children for divorce?" and "What kinds of things are especially damaging to children?"

Is Mediation for Us?: This brochure has been developed to provide basic information about the use of mediation in resolving family conflict. Presented in a clear and concise manner, this pamphlet describes the mediation process to the potential consumer.

THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE DIRECTLY THROUGH AFCC

VIDEO TAPES	Total Cost @	Number	Price
Custody Resolution Counseling: Rental- \$40/5 days; Purchase - \$130		_____	_____
You're still Mom and Dad: Rental - \$40/5 days; Purchase - \$100		_____	_____
 PUBLICATIONS			
Guidelines for Court-Connected Child Custody Evaluations	\$ 4.50	_____	_____
Guidelines for Establishing Court-Connected Conciliation and Mediation Services	3.50	_____	_____
Divorce and Family Mediation: History, Review and Future/Brown	2.50	_____	_____
1984 AFCC Annual Conference Syllabus (Denver)	8.00	_____	_____
1984 AFCC Mid-Winter Conference Syllabus (Scottsdale)	8.00	_____	_____
 PAMPHLETS			
"Parents are Forever"	.25	_____	_____
"Guide for Stepparents"	.25	_____	_____
"Twenty Questions Divorcing Parents Ask About Their Children"	.25	_____	_____
"Joint Custody: A New way of Being Related"	.25	_____	_____
"Is Mediation for Us?"	.25	_____	_____

(Pamphlet Orders over 1,000 — \$.20 each)

POSTAGE INCLUDED IF ORDERS ARE PREPAID

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Checks payable in U. S. Funds to:
**Association of Family and
 Conciliation Courts**
 c/o Ann Milne
 329 W. Wilson St.
 Madison, WI 53703
 (608) 251-0604

January 1-5, 1989
Mediation Training

Orlando, FL
Florence Kaslow Ph.D. & David
Strawn, J.D.
Contact: David Strawn
100 West Lucerne Circle
Suite 602
Orlando, FL 32853
(407) 849-0544

February 2-5, 1989
Mediation Training

John Lemmon, Ph.D.
Dallas, TX
Also: Feb. 16-19 San Francisco
April 6-9 Phoenix
April 20-23 San Francisco
May 11-14 New York
June 15-18 San Francisco
Sept. 14-17 San Francisco
Contact: John Lemmon
5248 Boyd Ave.
Oakland, CA 94618
(415) 547-8089

January 18-21, 1989
Divorce Mediation Training

Carl Schneider, Ph.D. & Zena
Zumeta, J.D.
Chicago, IL
Contact: Carl Schneider, Ph.D.
(312) 696-6023

February 28-March 5, 1989
**National Conference on Peace-
making and Conflict Resolution**

Montreal, Canada
Contact: NCPCR
George Mason University
4400 University Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 764-6115

March 2-4, 1989
AFCC SE Regional Meeting

Harley Hotel, Orlando FL
Contact: T. Ailene Hubert
507 SE 6th, 2nd Floor
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
(305) 765-4012

1989

Upcoming Events

March 10-11, 1989
**12th Annual Family Therapy
Network Symposium**

Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC
Contact: The Family Therapy
Network
7703 13th St. NW
Washington, DC 20012
(202) 829-2452

March 12-15, 1989
**16th National Conference on
Juvenile Justice**

Reno/Lake Tahoe
Contact: National Council of
Juvenile & Family Court
Judges
University of Nevada,
Reno
P.O. Box 8970
Reno, NV 89507

May 24-25, 1989
**Mediation and Domestic Abuse -
A Dialogue**

Drake Hotel, Chicago
Precedes AFCC Annual Meeting
Contact: Ann Milne
329 W. Wilson St.
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 251-0604

May 25-27, 1989
AFCC Annual Conference
Drake Hotel, Chicago
Contact: Hon. Susan Snow
Circuit Court of Cook
County
1802 Daley Center
Chicago, IL 60602
(312) 443-5546

July 19-22, 1989
**Academy of Family Mediators
Conference**

Breckenridge, CO
Contact: AFM
P.O. Box 10501
Eugene, OR 97440
(503) 345-1205

August 3-10, 1989
**American Bar Association
Annual Conference**

Honolulu, Hawaii
Contact: ABA

October 1989
AFCC SC Regional Meeting

Dallas
Contact: Linda Hahn
Old Courthouse
3rd Floor
Dallas, TX 75202
(214) 749-8674

May 1990
AFCC Annual Conference

Winnipeg Canada
Contact: Hon. A.C. Hamilton
Manitoba Court of
Queen's Bench
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0Z8
CANADA
(204) 944-2050

May 1991
AFCC Annual Conference

Pittsburgh, PA
Contact: Hon. Lawrence Kaplan
Family Division
604 City-County Bldg.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 355-7127

Anne Milne

continued...

Although it sounds like much of her life is centered around AFCC (and it is), Ann enjoys spending time with her husband, Supreme Court Justice William Bablitch, at their cabin in northern Wisconsin. The two of them are formidable fisherpersons, catching a 39 lb. 53" musky last year, the largest fish caught in the state. Ann also enjoys downhill skiing and collecting and refinishing antiques.

Ann is very excited about her new position as Executive Director of AFCC. She indicated that she has a number of ideas for new projects and is looking forward to working with the regional coordinators as AFCC extends its horizons to new areas and new members.

Ann hopes that everyone will feel free to contact her with your ideas and that you will let her know if there are any glitches during the executive director transition.



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:

Association of
Family and Conciliation Courts
c/o OHSU, Dept. of Psychiatry
Gaines Hall, Rm. 149
3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road
Portland, OR 97201

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

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, 314 E. Mifflin St., Madison, WI 53703

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
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Gaines Hall, Rm. 149
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Portland, OR 97201

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P. O. BOX 1786
ROTORUA

New Zealand