



Mediators Beyond Borders™

Partnering for Peace & Reconciliation

Peace & Reconciliation Report

January 14, 2008

Welcome to our bi-monthly membership newsletter. We encourage you to share your reflections, news items, and experiences with others in the MBB community via this newsletter.

To submit information for the next issue, please e-mail batokovambb@gmail.com by the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Mark Your Calendars:

January 13

University of Florida School of Law
Student Chapter Meeting
Gainesville, Florida, USA

January 17

UMD School of Law Organizational
Meeting
University of Maryland, Columbia, MD

January 21

Pathways to Reconciliation
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

January 28

Southern California Regional Meeting
Los Angeles, California, USA

February 15 – 18

MBB Inaugural Congress
St. Malo, Colorado, USA

in this issue

What's New at MBB Page 2

- MBB Receives 501(c)(3)
- MBB Board of Directors Welcomes Anna Spain
- MBB Member Profile Database Launched at www.mbbmembers.org

Project Initiatives News Page 2

- Current Projects
- Potential Projects

In the Field Page 3

- Penelope Bissett's trip to Buduburam Settlement

Student Chapter News Page 4

- Student Chapter Forms at University of Ljubljana

Regional Committee News Page 5

Board Member Profile Page 6

- Anna Spain, Board Director

New Members Page 6

Member Publications Page 6

Donors Page 6

Upcoming Events Page 7

- UMD School of Law Organizational Meeting
- Pathways to Reconciliation
- MBB Founding Congress Reaches Full Capacity

Administration Page 8

In the Field:

The Liberian Initiative

January 9 – 26
Accra & Buduburam, Ghana

Hurricane Katrina Project

March 5 – 8
Biloxi, Mississippi, USA
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

More info at www.MediatorsBeyondBorders.org

MBB Office

1807 Jancey Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15206-1065

Contact

Phone: 412-441-1151
Fax: 412-441-1152

www.MediatorsBeyondBorders.org

Newsletter Questions & Corrections

E-Mail [Barbora Batokova](mailto:Barbora.Batokova@mediatorsbeyondborders.org)
Peace & Reconciliation Report Editor
batokovambb@gmail.com

What's New at MBB

MBB Receives 501(c)(3) Status

MBB has received formal approval from the IRS as a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. The status is retroactive until Oct. 26, 2006, when the formal articles of incorporation were filed with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by the four founders Ken Cloke, Robert A. Creo, Erica Ariel Fox and Joan Goldsmith.

MBB Board of Directors Welcomes Anna Spain

The Board of Directors would like to welcome **Anna Spain**, who is replacing **Joan Goldsmith**, to the Board of Directors. The Board would like to thank Joan Goldsmith, who is retiring from the Board, for her complete dedication and readiness to help in countless unacknowledged ways. "I know that Joan is thrilled that Anna will be replacing her, and that she will continue to assist us as a member and active supporter," **Ken Cloke**, *President, Santa Monica, California*, said.

Please see the Board Member Profile Section for more information about Anna Spain.

MBB Member Profile Database Launched at www.mbbmembers.org

MBB is proud to announce that the long-anticipated project of building a membership database is uploaded for testing at www.mbbmembers.org. This online database profiles Member's educational and professional background, linguistic skills, international and in-country experiences and the project initiatives each Member is associated with. The navigation on the left contains 6 lists, where members are categorized according to a specific category – last and first name, city and state, country, international experience and initiatives. The database will also be searchable through the Google search box. Google is still indexing the pages, therefore it won't turn in any results as of now.

We are in the process of building the database. Each Member will be e-mailed by a staff member to complete a form for their individual profiles. For an example of a profile, click on **Robert A. Creo**, **Sandi DiMola** or **Anna Spain**.

Project Initiatives Updates

The project initiatives chart that was previously in this section will now be available at our sub-page http://www.mbbmembers.org/members_initiatives.shtml. This section will be replaced by brief narratives about any important developments on projects.

In the Field

Penelope Bissett Travels to Buduburam

Penelope Bissett is currently at the Buduburam Settlement until Jan. 29. She is the principal of the Child Soldier Reintegration Fund (CSRF) and a coordinator of the MBB Child Soldier Restorative Initiative. Her trip to Buduburam Settlement is being funded by the CSRF. In addition to following up on the MBB Team's trip in December, she is focusing on continuing her assessment of the 140 former child soldiers that she surveyed and worked with during the summer of 2007. She is also giving lectures on community-based volunteering initiatives at the Ashesi University (<http://www.ashesi.org>). Project Assessment Panel Team met with the founder and president of Ashesi University Patrick Awuah in December. MBB is exploring collaboration and assessment of a formal initiative. For updated information, please follow the Child Soldier Reintegration Fund's website at www.childsoldiers.org

Student Chapter News

Student Chapter Forms at University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

The Republic of Slovenia lies at the heart of Europe, where the Alps and the Mediterranean meet the Pannonian plains and the mysterious Karst. To the north is Austria; to the east, Hungary; to the south, Croatia; and to the west, Italy. Slovenia became an independent state in 1991 and a member of the EU on May 1, 2004. A rich cultural life and far-reaching institutions, organizations, and cultural societies are comparable to the most developed European countries. With its 280,000 inhabitants, Slovenia's capital, Ljubljana, most certainly ranks among the smaller European capitals, but it has culture comparable to the finest of Europe's capitals. Ljubljana became the capital for all Slovenians in 1918, when the Austro-Hungarian monarchy collapsed. A year later, in 1919, it acquired a university, in 1938 the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, a radio station as early as 1926 and TV in 1957. It had its own Philharmonic in 1701 and its opera exactly one hundred years ago, not to speak of its theaters.

At the beginning of the 20th century the demands for a university in Ljubljana led to the creation of the first institutional organization. In July 1919 the national consciousness and a longstanding desire for the affirmation of the Slovenian language were fulfilled with the establishment of the University of Ljubljana. The faculties, academies of art, university schools and colleges of higher education together make up the University of Ljubljana, which covers all basic fields of study, including the College of Law. In October, Board Member Lynn Cole traveled to Ljubljana to teach judges and mediators Advanced Commercial Mediation. Judge Gordana Ristin, the founder and leader of mediation in Slovenia, organized the event for the Association of Slovenian Mediators and invited some law students. These students attended and were enthralled with mediation. Ms. Cole and Judge Risten met and attended a meeting of students interested in

Mediators Beyond Borders, a meeting organized by Metka Potocnik, a university instructor. Thus, the student chapter was born amidst great enthusiasm and excitement.

Introduction by **Lynn Cole**, Tampa, Florida, USA



Maja Marinšek, President

"I was born on May 19, 1984 and I am still student at the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Law in Slovenia. When I was just a little girl I decided I wanted to help people when I grew up. But there are lots of professions which are meant to help people. What I really wanted was to help people by bringing them justice, so I decided to become a lawyer and do what is right. But as I was growing up, I started to realize that being a lawyer does not always mean bringing justice to people. However, I am still determined to work in favor of honesty and justice. I think that one of the instruments to work towards these goals is mediation, because it is a very civilized and respectful way to resolve disputes between people, bringing justice to both sides. I first heard about mediation when I was in high school, because I come from a "lawyer family" and I encountered mediation as a peaceful way of resolving disputes. Later on, I learned about it the Faculty of Law and then I met Mrs. Lynn Cole and members of the Society of Mediators Slovenia (Društvo mediatorjev Slovenije: www.slo-med.si) and I was overwhelmed when I saw how mediation can be used in so many areas and what mediation can do. Now I am a proud president of SC MBB in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and I am proud to be a part of this 'big thing' we are doing.

Besides studies and mediation, my main occupation is oriental dance and Bollywood. In our dance society, I also take care of public relations.

I am also active in our Society of Mediators Slovenia where I am helping members with public relations.

I speak Slovenian, English, Croatian and I have a passive knowledge of French.

I am a very optimistic person and I have big dreams for mediation and I hope together we can make them come true."



Bara Gradišar, Vice President

"My name is Bara Gradišar. I am 25 years old and I am a student the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Law (4th year). Ever since I came to the Faculty of Law, I've been trying to make the best of my spare time. I am a member of a team of students who give legal advice to students of other Faculties. I also joined the European Law Students' Association (ELSA Ljubljana), an organization run by (and for) students, who are interested in law and have demonstrated commitment to international issues. We try to contribute to legal education, foster mutual understanding and promote social responsibility of law students and young lawyers. I like learning about other cultures and legal systems in a spirit of critical dialogue and scientific co-operation, meeting interesting people and forming new friendships."



Jure Dolinar, Treasurer

"The first time I came across mediation was in our Faculty of Law in family law class and in English law terminology class.

As a participant of Lynn Cole's seminar in Ljubljana, regarding advanced business mediation, I was immediately drowned in this magnificent idea of mediation. Unfortunately, mediation is not a well-known dispute-resolving technique, but is a very needed one. The demand for it was created since the very beginning of mankind. But a new way of social consciousness was needed, which is now emerging. I am honored to be a part of this mission, helping people come together and make the world a better place.

Besides that, I am very interested in alternative psychology and meditation. It all goes hand in hand with mediation. I also love all kinds of sports, mind games, photography and meeting many different people.

P.S. If you think you are too small to be effective, picture yourself with a mosquito in the dark."



Irena Tomažin, *Publication Chair*

Irena Tomažin was born on June 17, 1982. After graduation in law in 2006 from Ljubljana Faculty of Law, she began a Master's degree in corporate law at Maribor Law School. She prefers peace to arguing and therefore finds mediation (beside other ADRs) as a very appropriate and intelligent way of resolving conflicts. Beside interest in law and mediation, she loves traveling and is eager to learn about other cultures and languages. She speaks fluently English, German and Croatian. She also has a passive knowledge of French.



Ana Grabnar, *Coordinator*

"I am a student at the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Law, currently working on my final thesis about dispute resolution system in the WTO. My fields of interest are International Trade and European Law. I started to like arbitration by participating in 14th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. The moot has led me to mediation and MBB. I joined MBB, because I believe in solving disputes in a way which promotes dialogue and tolerance. Besides law I like sports, traveling and learning foreign languages. I am also working as a volunteer at AEGEE (European Students' Forum) which strives for open society and intercultural cooperation."



Mojca Vrh, *Events Chair*

"My name is Mojca Vrh and I am currently in my last year at the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Law. In 2007 I was a team member of our Faculty at the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot – the most prestigious worldwide competition in international commercial and arbitration law, where our team got the Werner Melis Award for the Respondent's Memorandum. To further prepare for my future career, I started gaining valuable experience at the legal department at the Ministry of Agriculture of Slovenia in 2006. After that I started working at the attorney at law office in Ljubljana and later also at the Arbitration Court of the Students' Organization of the University of Ljubljana. In addition to my Slovenian native language, I speak fluently English, German and some Italian. I have been introduced to mediation this year, got really enthusiastic about it and am proud to be elected as the Events Chair of the MBB Student Chapter."

Regional Committee News

Board Member Profile

Anna Spain, *Los Angeles, California*



Anna Spain is an attorney and consultant specializing in international and cross-cultural dispute resolution. Ms. Spain is also a senior consultant at Leading Negotiations, LLC, in Beijing, China. An Alternative Dispute Resolution practitioner with over 12 years of experience, Ms. Spain has successfully mediated over 40 disputes in the public, private and academic sectors. She has also trained and advised clients in mediation, negotiation and international law. Her former clients include the U.S. Department of State, the United Nations Compensation Commission, lawyers, and students at several colleges and universities throughout the U.S.

Currently, Ms. Spain is the Assistant Director of the UCLA Burkle Center for International Relations, where she oversees a research initiative on international dispute resolution. She is also a Lecturer at the UCLA School of Public Affairs where she will be teaching mediation and negotiation. Her scholarship focuses on the intersection of international law and alternative dispute resolution, international and cross-cultural dispute resolution and conflict assessment.

A former Attorney-Adviser at the U.S. Department of State, Ms. Spain has experience in multilateral negotiations at the United Nations in Geneva and in international arbitration at the Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal in The Hague where she represented the United States in three cases. Ms. Spain also served as the State Department's primary legal adviser international investment disputes in Asia and the Pacific. Prior to legal practice, Ms. Spain clerked for the Honorable Judge Raymond Finch in the U.S. District Court in St.

Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. She also has a background in international trade negotiations and climate change having participated in negotiating the U.S. – Chile Free Trade Agreement and the Kyoto Protocol during her tenure at the U.S. Trade Representative's Office and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ms. Spain holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Economics from Denison University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School where she trained under negotiation experts Professor Lawrence Susskind and Professor Robert Mnookin. In addition, Ms. Spain has trained under and worked with renowned mediator and author Kenneth Cloke. She is a certified mediator in California, Washington D.C. and Ohio. Ms. Spain is a member of the American Bar Association, the American Society of International Law, the Pennsylvania Bar Association and is a founding member of Mediators Beyond Borders.

New Members

Founding Member status is extended until January 31, 2008.

As of now, MBB has 187 founding mediator members, 8 citizen supporters and 22 student members.

MBB Welcomes new Founding Mediator Members

Tina Monberg, Hellerup, Denmark; **Anna Orner**, Birmingham, United Kingdom; **Kathryn Snyder**, Rochester, Minnesota; **Pamela Donison**, Scottsdale, Arizona; **Matt Kramer**, Cotati, California; **Mary Valentine**, Los Angeles, California; **Lee Scharf**, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA; **Eileen Coen**, Chevy Chase, Maryland, USA

MBB Welcomes new Citizen Supporters

Evan Rosser, Washington, D.C.

MBB Welcomes new Student Members

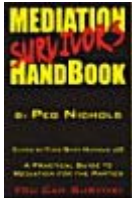
Marie-Therese Kaindl, Los Angeles, California

Member Presentations & Media Presence

Please e-mail us about your activities. E-mail batokovambb@gmail.com.

Member Publications

Mediation Survivor's Handbook by Peg Nichols



Peg Nichols, Citizen Supporter, Olathe, Kansas; has just published a new book that the critics has called "a primer on mediation for the public." The book is a finalist in the Arizona Authors Association 2007 competition for published non-fiction.

The book can be ordered from **Weir Box Press, P.O. Box 382, Olathe, KS 66061-4317** or at www.mediationsurvivorshandbook.com.

'Understanding Conflict in Nonprofit Organizations' by Jill Sarah Moskowitz

Jill Sarah Moskowitz, Founding Member, Jersey City, New Jersey, USA published an article in *ACResolution Fall/Winter 2007- Volume 6, Issue 4* titled "Understanding Conflict in Nonprofit Organizations."

'You're Letting 'em Choose the Mediator? Your Case Isn't That Good! Getting to Settlement Demands Mutual Participation in Selection' by Jeff Kichaven

Jeff Kichaven, Founding Member, Los Angeles, California, USA, published an article in *Alternatives July/August 2007 – Volume 25, No. 7* titled "You're Letting 'em Choose the Mediator? Your Case Isn't That Good! Getting to Settlement Demands Mutual Participation in Selection."

'When the Neutral's Dilemma Hits: Routine Problems, and the Not-So-Routine Repercussions of Common Arbitration Conflicts' by Judith P. Meyer.

Judith P. Meyer, Founding Member, Haverford, Pennsylvania, USA, published an article in *Alternatives May 2007 – Vol. 25, No. 5* titled "When the Neutral's Dilemma Hits: Routine Problems, and the Not-So-Routine Repercussions of Common Arbitration Conflicts."

Judith P. Meyer Reviews Robert A. Creo's Book 'Alternative Dispute Resolution: Law, Procedure and Commentary for the Pennsylvania Practitioner' in *The Pennsylvania Lawyer*

Judith Meyer, Founding Member, Haverford, Pennsylvania, USA reviewed **Robert A. Creo's**, Secretary-Treasurer, Pittsburgh,

Pennsylvania, in *The Pennsylvania Lawyer* – November/December 2007. Royalties from the sales of this book go to Mediators Beyond Borders. The review can be downloaded from <http://www.rcreo.com/docs/CREO%20ADR%20BOOK.Review%20by%20Judith%20Meyer.pdf>

Arnie Herz Featured in an ABA Journal Article “Coach Me”

In case you missed it, **Arnie Herz**, *Founding Member, Port Washington, New York, USA* is featured in an ABA Journal article “Coach Me.” The article can be viewed at http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/coach_me/

CPR Alternatives Publishes ‘Who Else Will Step Up? A Mentor Plan Seeks To Spread ADR Diversity’ featuring Robert A. Creo’s Fellowship

An article ran in *CPR Alternatives* - Vol. 26 No. 1 January 2008 about the Dispute Resolution Fellowship that Robert A. Creo created for Cassandra Georges.

‘Cultural Challenges to Mediation’ by Pamela De Voe and C.J. Larkin

Pamela De Voe, *Founding Member*, and **C.J. Larkin**, *Board Director, St. Louis, Missouri, USA* published an article titled “Cultural Challenges to Mediation” in *ACResolution* – Fall/Winter 2007.

Please let us know about your recent publications. E-mail batokovambb@gmail.com.

Members Reflections

Please send us your thoughts to be published in this section. E-mail batokovambb@gmail.com.

Grants & Funding

A group of member will be meeting the day before the MBB Colorado Congress starts to focus on grant funding and writing issues. If you are coming to the Congress and are interested in participating, e-mail **Nan Waller Burnett**.



E-mail: Nan Waller Burnett – disputepro@aol.com

Donors

Ken Cloke Donates \$15,000 Towards Project Expenses

MBB President **Ken Cloke**, *Santa Monica, California*, donated \$15,000 towards project expenses. MBB is very thankful for the generous donation.

Forrest Mosten Donates \$1,000 Towards MBB Conflict Resolution Library Fund

Forrest S. Mosten, *Los Angeles, California*, donated \$1,000 to the MBB Conflict Resolution Library Fund. MBB is very thankful for the generous donation.

Upcoming Events

UMD School of Law Organizational Meeting

The meeting is scheduled for Jan. 17 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 108. Please inform Toby Treem Guerin at tguerin@law.umaryland.edu about your attendance so that the security guards can have names of people needing to enter the building.

The Promise of Nonviolence Postponed

The event **Promise of Nonviolence** scheduled to take place in Washington D.C. on January 21 is postponed until March. Look for further details in this newsletter.

Pathways to Reconciliation: The Shoah in Martin Luther King’s Theory of Justice

Date: Monday, Jan. 21, 2008

Time: 12:30 – 2 p.m.

Place: Chatham University -- assemble in the Quad and walk the "path" to the Chapel

Join us for a “day on” as we embrace reconciliation through the testimonies from civil rights activities, religious leaders, Holocaust survivors, and those working with former Liberian child soldiers

Sponsors: Global Focus: Year of Germany (www.chatham.edu/GlobalFocus) and Center for the Study of Conflict www.studyconflict.org

MBB Inaugural Congress Reaches Full Capacity

We are pleased to announce that the MBB Inaugural Congress in St. Malo has filled up to its full capacity. Currently, there are 111 people signed up. The facility can no longer hold any more people due to fire codes and meal capacity. If anyone has any interest in participating, please let us know and we will put you on the waiting list, as your participation depends on other member's cancellation.

Mediators Beyond Borders will hold its first congress titled "**Transforming the World, One Conflict at a Time**" in the St. Malo Retreat Center in Colorado, USA. Topics of discussion include strategies to help save the planet; indigenous/environmental disputes; culture, prejudice and bias reduction; role of VORP and restorative justice and many others.



<http://www.mediatorsbeyondborders.org/pg8.cfm>



E-mail: Nan Waller Burnett – disputepro@aol.com

Administration

New Administrative Model

We are currently creating our new administrative model. Marie Aurand is no longer an employee of MBB, as she has resigned due to family reasons.

Membership Dues

Mediator Member Dues are a minimum of US \$1 per day payable annually or quarterly. Members are encouraged to contribute an additional amount if they have the ability to do so. Excess dues are utilized to sponsor members who otherwise would not be able to participate. A member has the option of designating a specific individual to be sponsored by the excess dues; otherwise MBB allocates additional contributions to those seeking financial support. For example, some of our members in Africa and South America are sponsored in this manner. The ability to sponsor participation is limited to the amount of excess contribution pool.

Each member is assigned a quarterly renewal date based upon the join date. Due statements are e-mailed February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15 with due dates 6 weeks later, with quarterly participants paying each time. For administrative purposes, it has been determined this is the fairest, simplest and efficient manner. Please note that members have the option of paying online via PayPal, which is slightly higher as it includes the processing fee. Fees can also be paid by a check made payable to Mediators Beyond Borders to be mailed to the Pittsburgh headquarters.

Citizen Supporters make a minimum contribution of 10 cents per day – US \$36.50. Citizen renewal date is individual based on the join date of each supporter.

Student membership period renews Oct. 1. The dues are US \$18.25 per year.

Purpose of membership dues

Membership dues do not fund any projects or initiatives. They are solely used to support the administration of the office, and are used for salaries of staff, interns and expenses for website, office supplies and insurance.

Overhead

Currently all administrative expenses and overhead are provided from membership dues and supporter donations. **Robert A. Creo**, *MBB Secretary-Treasurer, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA* and **Sandi DiMola**, *MBB Director, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA*, donate office space for MBB. All directors, officers and mediators serve as volunteers and do not receive any compensation for their administrative or professional services. Directors and members expend their personal funds to participate in conferences and activities on behalf of MBB. Neither the officers nor directors receive any reimbursement for travel or other expenses.

Board of Directors

Financial statements are issued monthly for Board of Directors and distributed annually to membership. If anyone would like a copy of the most recent one, please e-mail **Kim Cox**, *Administrative Assistant*.

MBB Interns

Barbora Batokova and Stephanie Della Camera are interning at the MBB Office in Pittsburgh. Barbora is originally from the Czech Republic and is currently a senior at Chatham University, majoring in Professional Communications. Steff, originally from Philadelphia, is a junior at Chatham University majoring in Accounting and Management. Majier Majuch, a lost boy from Sudan, is recent graduate of Point Park University.

Contact Info

Ken Cloke, *MBB President, Santa Monica, California, USA* - kenclokembb@gmail.com

Robert A. Creo, *Secretary Treasurer, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA* – creombb@gmail.com

Kimberly A. Cox, *Administrative Assistant*, – coxmbb@gmail.com

Barbora Batokova, *MBB Professional Communications Intern* – batokovambb@gmail.com

Stephanie Della Camera, *MBB Administrative Intern* – steffmbb@gmail.com

Majier Majuch, *MBB Intern* – majuchmbb@gmail.com

Disclaimer: Mediators Beyond Borders™ is not in any way affiliated with Doctors Without Borders. Doctors Without Borders is a registered trademark of Bureau International de Médecins Sans Frontières.
Mediators Beyond Borders is not in any way affiliated with the alumni association Mediators without Borders™ of the Institute for Advanced Dispute Resolution Global.
Last revised January 14, 2008