



Mediators Beyond Borders™

Partnering for Peace & Reconciliation

Peace & Reconciliation Report

December 3, 2007

Welcome to our weekly 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 end of the day on Friday. The newsletter will be sent out every Monday.

Mark Your Calendars:

December 10

MBB LA Committee Meeting
Santa Monica, California, USA

January 7

Meeting for MD, D.C. & Northern VA
Washington D.C., USA

January 21

Pathways to Reconciliation
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

January 21

The Promise of Nonviolence
Washington, D.C., USA

February 15 – 18

MBB Congress
St. Malo, Colorado, USA

March 27 – 30

EWB-USA International Conference
Seattle, Washington, USA

More info at www.MediatorsBeyondBorders.org

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- Regional Meeting for Maryland, D.C. & Northern Virginia
- MBB Founding Congress – Grant Writing Committee Session
- EWB-USA 2008 International Conference – “Sustainable Engineering and Global Health”

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In the Field:

November 28 – Dec. 10

MBB Ghana-Liberia Initiative
Buduburam Settlement, Ghana, Africa

March 5 – 8

Hurricane Katrina Project
Biloxi, Mississippi, USA
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

More info at www.MediatorsBeyondBorders.org

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Newsletter Questions & Corrections

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Peace & Reconciliation Report Editor
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Current Initiatives Updates

New Project Proposal - Indigenous Connections – First Nation/Native American Project

A new project proposal for a joint MBB project was submitted by *Founding Member Monique McKay, Kettering, Ohio, USA*, who is a First Nation mediator originally from Canada.

Indigenous Connections is a project designed to support the development of strong, harmonious communities by teaching restorative justice and Aboriginal justice theory and conflict resolution skills through a process that integrates:

- community development
- conflict resolution skills, including restorative justice and Aboriginal justice theory and practices; and,
- conflict resolution systems design.

The program is designed to encourage leadership, cultural awareness and skill building in the area of conflict resolution and systems design with a primary focus on Aboriginal youth with an expectation that the program can be adapted and customized to a wider audience to reach additional diverse audiences.

If anyone would be interested in working with her on developing an MBB project with lots of potential or see the proposal, please email us.



E-mail: indigenousconnectionsmbb@gmail.com

Current & Proposed Projects:

This report was compiled by **Ken Cloke**, *MBB President, Santa Monica, California, USA*. If you wish to volunteer with a project, serve on the project assessment panel, e-mail to the e-mail address below each project. All travel is self-funded by volunteers.

• Arab-Israeli Conflict

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: *Rachel Wohl, MBB Director, Annapolis, Maryland, USA*

MBB Members Interested: *Dorit Cypis, Founding Member, Los Angeles, California, USA; Jonathan Reitman, Founding Member, Brunswick, Maine, USA*

Project activities:

Upcoming events:

Supporting Chapter: Maryland and Washington D.C. Chapter (?)



E-mail: arabisraeli.mbb@gmail.com

• Cambodia

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: TBD

MBB Members Involved: **Mneesha Gellman**

Project activities:

Upcoming events: Fall 2008

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: cambodia.mbb@gmail.com

• East Timor/Fiji

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: TBD

Project Assessment Panel: *Susan Mullins, Founding Member, Los Angeles, California, USA, Calum Campbell, Founding Member, Perth, Australia*

Project activities:

Upcoming events:

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: easttimorfiji.mbb@gmail.com

• Ecuador

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: TBD

MBB Members Involved: **Anthony E. Nowak**, *Founding Member, Hernando, Mississippi, USA*, **Tom Fiutak**, *Founding Member, St. Johns, Florida, USA*

Recent project activities: Work in the rainforest with indigenous people, environmental groups, and farmers and ranchers.

Upcoming events:

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: ecuador.mbb@gmail.com

• Ghana-Liberia

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: **Bob Creo**, *MBB Secretary-Treasurer, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA*,

Project Assessment Panel: **Harriett Nettles**, *Founding Member, Mechanicsville, Maryland, USA*, **Ingrid Lundberg**, **Prabha Sankaranarayan**, *Founding Members, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA*

Project Partners: During the assessment trip, meetings will be held with numerous potential collaborators on this initiative.

Project Activities: **Harriett Nettles** will spend several days in Monrovia, Liberia engaged in meetings on this initiative. Mediation training at the Buduburam Settlement. **Bartuah Ninwillay**, *Founding Member, Buduburam Settlement, Ghana* has been working very hard in preparation for the trip. He will assist with the logistics component of the trip and will also be a presenter during the trip. He is also a great local resource for cultural and local issues.

Upcoming events: November 2007 – training and needs assessment trip to Ghana and Liberia
January 2008 – follow-up trip

Supporting Student Chapter: University of Pittsburgh

Penelope Bissett – Coordinator of Child Soldier Restorative Initiative



<http://www.mediatorsbeyondborders.org/pg83.cfm>



E-mail: ghana.mbb@gmail.com

• Hurricane Katrina Project – Mississippi/New Orleans

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: **Nan Waller Burnett**, *MBB Director, Golden, Colorado, USA*

Project Team: **Ken Cloke**, *MBB President, &*, **Joan Goldsmith**, *MBB Director, Santa Monica, California, USA*, **Louise Phipps Senft**, *Founding Member, Baltimore, Maryland, USA*, **Marvin Johnson**, *Founding Member, Greenbelt, Maryland, USA*, **Linda Hughes**, **Tony Nowak**, *Founding Member, Hernando, Mississippi, USA*, **Patricia Porter**, *San Antonio, Texas, USA*,

MBB Members Interested: **Robin Doyle**, *Naples, Florida, USA*

Project Partner: Mississippi Mediation Project – Laurel Kaufer; Mediation Program at the Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court – Director Sharon Norwood, Coordinator for the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Upcoming events: Compiled by Kenneth Cloke:

1. We arrive in Biloxi Mississippi on Tuesday, March 4 and proceed to the Isle of Capri Hotel (at a rate close to \$50/night) in time to have dinner together and finalize our plans.
2. On Wednesday March 5 we meet together at the Beau Rivage or Imperial Palace hotel at 9:00 AM when Laurel will open our joint session. We will all introduce ourselves and create a context for our work together.
3. We will start the morning off with a needs assessment in the form of a “charette.” For those unfamiliar with the term, this is a facilitated process used in architectural design that offers people opportunities to put forward tentative plans and collectively critique and modify them. This process may be facilitated by Linda Baron, who is quite skillful.
4. Based on the feedback we receive, the MBB team will meet over lunch with Laurel and decide on a series of short presentations to make in the early afternoon.
5. The Mississippi mediation group will then choose which sessions to attend and get a sampling of what we have to offer.
6. We will then meet again in the large group in the late afternoon to assess what was most useful for them, and what needs and resources we are able to provide. We then will make plans for smaller teams to return later in the spring and again in the fall to conduct longer workshops on selected topics of their choice.
7. We will have dinner in Biloxi or thereabouts, spend another night there, and meet as an MBB team in the morning to discuss how we did, and how best to work together in the future.
8. After breakfast on Thursday, we will proceed (somehow) to New Orleans, where we will meet Susan Norwood and her team in the afternoon, and learn more about what is needed there. We stay in people’s homes in New Orleans.

9. On Friday morning around 9 AM, we will meet with Susan's mediators, introduce ourselves, conduct a brief additional needs assessment with the group, which is likely to have more trained and experienced mediators than the one in Mississippi.
10. Also in the morning, after the break, I will lead a session in which we all discuss how to be effective in an organizational setting as a mediator/facilitator/change agent. Afterwards, we will have lunch, with MBB team members sitting at different tables and continuing the morning conversation.
11. We will then break up into small groups and one MBB team will conduct 1-3 hour trainings in the afternoon for Susan Norwood's mediators.
12. Our group may then subdivide, allowing a second team to meet with Common Ground Legal Clinic, a hurricane relief organization that provides legal, medical and community organizing services and could use some help resolving ongoing organizational conflicts.
13. A third team may meet with the Office of Recovery Management to help them figure out how to get the word out that mediation is available in various forms to meet various needs.
14. Each sub-team will meet toward the end of the day with each of their groups to assess what we can contribute on our next trips.
15. Our separate teams will then proceed to the airport, as many of us need to be back and working on Saturday AM the next day.
16. We will debrief New Orleans by email or on the way to the airport, if possible.

Supporting Chapter: Regis University (?)



<http://www.mediatorsbeyondborders.org/pg85.cfm>



E-mail: neworleans.mbb@gmail.com

• Kosovo

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: Lynn Cole, *MBB Director, Tampa, Florida, USA*

Project Assessment Panel: TBD

Project activities:

Upcoming events: Fall 2008

Supporting Chapter: University of Ljubljana, Slovenia



E-mail: kosovo.mbb@gmail.com

• Lebanon

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: Lynn Cole, *MBB Director, Tampa, Florida, USA*

Project Assessment Panel: TBD

MBB Members Involved:

Project activities:

Upcoming events:

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: lebanon.mbb@gmail.com

• Morocco, Uganda, Sri Lanka

If interested in volunteering in these areas, please e-mail us.



E-mail: mediatorsbeyondborders@gmail.com

• Nepal

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: C.J. Larkin, *MBB Director, St. Louis, Missouri, USA*

Project Assessment Panel: TBD

MBB Members Involved: *Alan Gross, Founding Members, Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania, USA, Caryn Espo, Los Angeles, California, USA*

Project activities:

Upcoming events: 2008 – A fact-finding and training trip is being considered.

Supporting Student Chapter: Washington University in St. Louis (?)



E-mail: nepal.mbb@gmail.com

• **Nicaragua/Central America**

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: TBD

Project Assessment Panel: Richard DeWitt, MBB Director, Coral Gables, Florida, USA

Project activities:

Upcoming events:

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: nicaragua.mbb@gmail.com

• **Nigeria**

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: TBD

Project Assessment Panel: TBD

Potential Project Partner: Community Mediation Council (CMC) – Ben Kpae, President of CMC

MBB Members Involved:

Project activities: TBD

Upcoming events: TBD

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: nigeria.mbb@gmail.com

• **Pittsburgh Somali Refugee Project:**

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: Sandi DiMola, MBB Director, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Project Assessment Panel: Prabha Sankaranarayan & Martha Harty Founding Members, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

MBB Members Involved:

Project activities: Facilitating meetings and dialogue between Somali Bantu refugees and public schools in Pittsburgh.

Upcoming events: Facilitating meetings and dialogue.

Supporting Student Chapter: University of Pittsburgh (?)



E-mail: somaliproject.mbb@gmail.com

• **Zimbabwe**

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: Ken Cloke MBB President, & Joan Goldsmith, MBB Director Santa Monica, California, USA

Project Assessment Panel: David Bristow, Founding Member, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Sharon Maier, Founding Member, Mill Valley, California, USA, Anna Spain, Founding Member, Washington, D.C., USA

Project activities: Sharon Maier has made numerous trips in 2007 to the location.

Upcoming events: TBD

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: zimbabwe.mbb@gmail.com

• **Sister Organization Support**

PROJECT BOARD LIASION: Richard DeWitt, MBB Director, Coral Gables, Florida, USA

MBB Members Interested:

Project activities: Identifying a list of organizations working in other countries, such as Doctors Without Borders, Choice, and Engineers Without Borders, and offering mediation assistance and training their members to resolve conflicts on their trips.

Upcoming events:

Supporting Chapter: TBD



E-mail: sisterorganization.mbb@gmail.com

Student Chapter News

Regional Committee News

Board Member Profile

Nan Waller Burnett, *Golden, Colorado, USA*



Nan Waller Burnett, MA is a high conflict mediator and has served in over 1,300 cases. She is a partner in Dispute Resolution Professionals, Inc. in Denver, Co. She is an Advanced Practitioner in the Association for Conflict Resolution's Family, Training and Workplace sections. She co-chairs the ACR Spirituality Section. She is an experiential psychotherapist, specializing in marital therapy, divorce mediation, crisis management, PTSD, and critical incident debriefings. For the last eight years she has served as an adjunct professor in Regis University conflict resolution programs. She also serves on the Advisory Council of the Program on Negotiation Insight Initiative at the Harvard Law School.

In 1997, she went to Russia and Poland as a Citizens' Ambassador for Mediation. In 2005, she developed the Rocky Mountain Retreat, teaching Holistic and Reflective Practice to Conflict Practitioners and Peace-builders. She designed the curricula for co-parenting divorce education programs and authored *Calm in the Face of the Storm* (2007).

New Members

MBB Welcomes new Founding Mediator Members

Jonathan W. Reitman, *Brunswick, Maine, USA*

Member Presentations & Media Presence

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

Member Publications

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

Donors

In the Field

Harriet Nettles meets with Liberian Minister of Internal Affairs Ambulai Johnson

Harriet Nettles, *Founding Member, Mechanicsville, Maryland, USA* and Adamah met with the No. 2 Liberian official - Minister of Internal Affairs Johnson, brother of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, during their trip to Liberia. They also met with Pearl Brown Bull, Commissioner of Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission; Superintendent Ranney Jackson, Governor of Bong County; Rev. Korboi M. Weegie, from the Liberia United Lutheran Church of Liberia, Peace and Reconciliation Unit; Associate Chief Justice Jamisetta Wollokoli; and Alvin Poure, Country Director of the African Child Peace Initiative funded by UN Millennium.

Harriet Nettles meets with NEPI

While in Liberia, **Harriet Nettles**, *Founding Member, Mechanicsville, Maryland, USA* also met with the National Ex-Combatant Peacebuilding Initiative (NEPI), located in Monrovia, Liberia, an organization with the focus of a transformed, non-violent, armed-free society in Liberia. The organization has 18 staff members in rural areas and has trained over 1,000 volunteers doing restorative justice. NEPI offers a 5-day Capacity-Building program and a 3-day Peacebuilding training for volunteers.

MBB Project Assessment Panel for Ghana/Liberia Project begins training in Buduburam Settlement

Ghana/Liberia Project Assessment Panel of **Robert A. Creo**, *MBB Secretary-Treasurer, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA*; and *Founding Members Harriett Nettles, Mechanicsville, Maryland, USA*; **Prabha Sankaranarayan** and **Ingrid Lundberg** from *Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA*; met with the President of Asheshi University, Patrick Awuah, and the Dean of Students, Suzanne Buchele.

Bob, Prabha, Ingrid and Harriett also met with Settlement Manager of Buduburam Camp and with other officials at the camp and NGO service providers. On Friday the Panel held a 2-hour introductory session, which was attended by 50 people, including one former child soldier. The introductory session commenced the 30-hour mediation training for 50 Liberian residents. Originally, the session was planned for 40, but the Panel decided to let everyone participate. On Saturday the Panel conducted a 6-hour training session.

Please note that no MBB money is supporting this trip. The participants are self-funded or funded by private donations. Anyone who is interested in volunteering on this project and is willing to self-fund, should e-mail to ghanambb@gmail.com.



E-mail: ghanambb@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Exploring Possibilities for Global Peace: Regional Meeting for Maryland, Washington D.C. and Northern Virginia

When: Monday, January 7, 2008
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

All Interested people are welcome. Come learn about MBB, and opportunities to volunteer your conflict resolution skills to help build global peacemaking capacity.

Where: Seekers Church (*no affiliation with MBB, which is a secular nonprofit*)
276 Carroll Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012



Call: Rachel Wohl – 410-841-2260



E-mail: Rachel Wohl - rachel.wohl@mdcourts.gov

MBB to hold its First Annual Congress in St. Malo, Colorado on Feb 15-18, 2008

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.

Speakers include: **Kenneth Cloke**, JD, LL.M., Ph.D., *President of Mediators Beyond Borders*
Daniel Bowling, Esq. Co-Author “Bringing Peace into the Room”
John Paul Lederach, Ph.D. & **Herman Weaver**, Ph.D. “Peacebuilding: Songs from the Road”

Costs: \$695.00, double/ \$895.00 single *Price includes lodging, all meals, supplies, retreat and MBB Congress.



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



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

EWB-USA 2008 International Conference – “Sustainable Engineering and Global Health”

Engineers Without Borders EWB-USA's 2008 Annual International Conference examines the connections between Global Health, Community Needs and Sustainable Engineering Practices, while including opportunities for members to ask questions, offer insights and gain deeper understanding of the broad impact of EWB-USA projects.

The event will highlight the uniqueness of EWB-USA partnerships by talking about these connections, their affect on each other, and what it takes to successfully improve global health through sustainable engineering practices. We will hear and share first-hand experiences about on-going projects to answer such questions as:

- What exactly is Global Health? Are we talking clean water, eradication of disease, access to health care, or elimination of poverty? Or, all of the above?
- What exactly is the responsibility of an EWB-USA project to global health?
- How does sustainable engineering affect the health of the community?
- Why are EWB-USA projects unique in their approach? What have we learned that worked, or that didn't?
- How do we incorporate a vision of global health into the relationship we build with the host community and therefore, into the EWB-USA projects?

When: March 27-30, 2008

Where: University of Washington, Seattle

Registration: You can register online at the EWB-USA website, <http://www.ewb-usa.org/events.php>, or print out the registration form and mail or fax it in.



Address: Engineers Without Borders – USA
1811 Lefthand Circle, Suite A-1
Longmont, CO 80501

Phone: 303-772-2723

Fax: 303-772-2699



More Info: <http://www.ewb-usa.org/ConferenceInfo.php>
MBB Website: <http://www.mediatorswithoutborders.org/pg87.cfm>

Administration

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 or directors receive any reimbursement for travel.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues statements are mailed once each quarter, with quarterly payment option or annually, with \$ 1 per day minimum.

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 **Kimberly A. Cox**.

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.

CONTACT INFO

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Marie Aurand, *Administrative Assistant* – maurandmbb@gmail.com

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