



**Honoring of Sharon Pickett** by Cindy Cook



Sharon Pickett worked as Director of Communications for several national nonprofit organizations before starting her own communications consulting business in 1997. Over the past 10 years, she focused a lot of her effort on helping environmental NGOs -- editing their publications, organizing special events, training their speakers and arranging media interviews with print and broadcast media. Her clients have included the Center for International Environmental Law, Sierra Club, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Union of Concerned Scientists, Ozone Action, Clean Air Task Force, Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning, Northeast Sustainable Energy Association and others.

In 1998, Sharon added mediation to her work in communications. She has co-mediated and co-trained with Carl Schneider and Mediation Matters for the last decade. (Carl and Sharon have also enjoyed a ten-year personal partnership. They celebrated their marriage on December 27, 2007.) Sharon is a member of ACR's Family Section and has presented numerous workshops at ACR annual meetings. She is also a certified mediator by the Maryland Council on Dispute Resolution and has served for seven years on MCDR's Certification Committee.

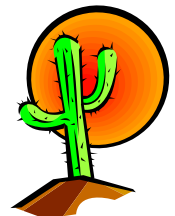
Sharon was hired by ACR's first executive director, Daniel Bowling, to work with staff on a wide range of projects before and after the merger. She helped create ACResolution magazine and has edited the past 25 issues. She continued to serve as a consultant to the organization until September 2007 when she stepped down after learning that her breast cancer had metastasized widely.

The ACR Board of Directors has honored Sharon's contribution to ACR by creating the Sharon M. Pickett Award. When asked about her preferences for the purpose of the award, Sharon decided to honor an ACR member who has advanced the cause of environmental protection through the effective use of alternative dispute resolution.

**The Sharon Pickett Award**

*The Sharon Pickett Award will be presented each year at the ACR annual meeting. For more information about this award, and to submit nominations, please contact ACR Awards Committee Chair Terry Wheeler: TWheeler@ADLLP.COM.*

**2008 EPP Conference, May 19 in Tucson, Arizona:  
Nurturing Conflict Resolution Skills, Practices, and Programs  
amid Constitutional Change**



The 2008 EPP Section Conference addresses the opportunities and challenges facing practitioners and government programs in applying and teaching conflict resolution skills in the changing institutional environment of collaborative planning and problem solving. Sessions explore the interplay between conflict resolution practice and social, cultural, political, and organizational aspects of institutional change.

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## CONFERENCE continued from page 1

The Conference is held in collaboration with the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution and in conjunction with USIECR's National Environmental Conflict Resolution (ECR)

Conference on May 20-22. The Conference draws on the extensive experience of collaborative leaders from government agencies as well as environmental and public policy practitioners who partner with different institutions.

### Location

The EPP conference is at the same location as the USIECR conference, the Doubletree Tucson Reid Park in Tucson. The hotel is located ten minutes from downtown Tucson and Tucson International Airport.

### Conference Website

The conference website contains registration forms, the full conference program and other support materials at:

<http://www.mediate.com/acrepp/pg26.cfm>



### Registration

Registration forms are located on the website.

Registration fees are as follows:

- \$140 ACR Member Conference Rate
- \$155 Non-Member Conference Rate
- \$80 Student Conference Rate

\* Register early! After April 30, conference rates will increase by \$25.

### Accommodations

Hotel rooms at the Doubletree Tucson Reid Park are available for \$104 per night (contracted under USIECR's Environmental Conflict Resolution Conference (ECR 2008 Conference)). Rooms for the EPP Conference as well as the ECR conference can be reserved through the website at:

<http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/TUSBTDT-ECR-20080518/index.jhtml> or by calling the hotel at 520-881-4200. The availability of rooms for Sunday night at the conference rate may be limited. If you are unable to reserve a room at the conference rate for Sunday night through the website, please call the hotel directly.

*Many thanks to John Stephens for chairing the Conference Program Committee, to Raphael Montalvo for co-chairing in John's absence, Cindy Cook, Harry Manasewich, Juliana Birkhoff and Lucy Moore for their hard work in pulling the program together.*

### ECR2008: May 20-22, Tucson, AZ

*The ECR2008 Conference will focus on examining various ways to enhance the success of ECR processes through better understanding of emerging and innovative uses of new technology and communication tools; what we are learning from the latest research and evaluation of ECR and other collaborative processes; and how to navigate process choices to make informed decisions that will lead to improved outcomes for all stakeholders.*

*ECR2008 will provide a forum for exchange of ideas and mutual learning about the field of environmental conflict resolution among government representatives, non-governmental organizations, tribal nations and members, community based groups, environmental advocates, corporate entities, resource managers and users, private individuals, and professionals in the conflict resolution, mediation and consensus building fields.*

## Of a Mediator's Egg: Carolyn Penny, EPP Co-Chair by Cindy Cook



Carolyn Penny grew up in Durham, North Carolina. She had the opportunity to hone her conflict resolution skills from an early age with her three brothers. She was first exposed to mediation in a course at the University of San Diego Law School. "I had the sense

this is for me. I was born of the mediator's egg."

Carolyn began working with the San Diego Mediation Center. She also worked as a judicial attorney at the California Third District Court of Appeal for 5 years, and ran a private ADR practice for about ten years. In 2001, Carolyn took on the directorship of Common Ground: the Center for Cooperative Solutions at UC Davis. The Center works in three arenas:

it provides public policy ADR services, it offers courses on ADR and a Certificate in Conflict resolution, and it conducts research in conjunction with other UC Davis faculty. All this with a staff of 2.5! Carolyn jokes that she sometimes feels that she's operating a large sailing vessel—sometimes needing to climb up into the rigging, then down to the main deck, then needing to dash below decks, then back up into the rigging....

When I asked Carolyn about particularly satisfying moments in her practice, she mentioned two things. One was organizational capacity building in general. The other was being present when parties shift. As

an example of the latter, she described the shift that occurred with parties in the Scott-Shasta Coho Salmon Recovery Team. Parties began discussions with the premise that the central issue was "agriculture OR fish". After deep discussion, they came to see their work as how to accommodate "agriculture AND fish". It was delightful, she reports, to hear the environmentalists speak to how they see the future of farming and fish as inexorably linked, and to hear farmers speak to how

their commitment to a healthy fishery.

Before Carolyn arrives at work, she has usually spent a bunch of time in the 10-stall horse barn that she and her husband Greg built in 2005. She loves being outside, working with animals, learning to ride dressage. She speaks about magical moments returning from the barn, listening to owls hooting and geese honking overhead.

When she isn't mediating or riding, you may find her reading a good "airplane book."

Carolyn began a two-year term as EPP Co-Chair this fall. We're lucky to have her. She joins Co-Chair Michael Elliott. You can reach Carolyn at [clpenny@ucdavis.edu](mailto:clpenny@ucdavis.edu).

*Cindy is the outgoing EPP Co-Chair. The EPP Section Leadership Council thanks Cindy for her commitment to the advancement of the field and the EPP section.*



## Conferences and Dates of Interest by Catherine McCracken

*\*Note: Information correct as of December 2007 – be sure to confirm via organization websites.*

### **International Association of Facilitators**

July 23-24, 2008 (Africa Conference, Pilanesburg, South Africa)  
August 27-28, 2008 (Asia Conference, Sarawak, Malaysia)  
October 2-5, 2008 (Europe Conference, Groningen, The Netherlands)  
November 26-28, 2008 (Australia/New Zealand Conference, Bathurst, New South Wales)  
For more information: [www.iaf-world.org](http://www.iaf-world.org)

### **Earth Day**

April 22, 2008  
For more information: [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org)

### **3rd National Training Institute of Minority Professionals in Dispute Resolution**

Registration Deadline: April 25, 2008  
(for June 2-6, 2008 Institute)  
Columbus, Ohio  
For more information: [www.law.capital.edu/adr](http://www.law.capital.edu/adr)

### **American Planning Association's 100th National Planning Conference**

April 27-May 1, 2008  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
For more information: [www.planning.org/2008conference](http://www.planning.org/2008conference)

### **The University of British Columbia-Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions Conference**

"When Citizens Decide: The

Challenge of Large Scale Public Involvement"  
May 1-2, 2008  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
For more information: <http://democracy.ubc.ca>

### **The National Brownfields Conference**

"Brownfields 2008: Roadmap to Revitalization"  
May 5-7, 2008  
Detroit, Michigan  
For more information: [www.brownfields2008.org](http://www.brownfields2008.org)

### **Interaction 2008 - Conflict Resolution Network Canada Biennial Conference**

May 7-9, 2008  
Ottawa, Ontario  
For more information: [www.cnetwork.ca](http://www.cnetwork.ca)

### **American Water Resources Association 2008 Annual Conference**

Call for Abstracts Deadline: May 12, 2008  
(for November 17-20, 2008 Conference)  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
For more information: [www.awra.org](http://www.awra.org)

### **2008 ACR Environment & Public Policy Section Conference**

May 19, 2008  
Tucson, Arizona  
For more information: [www.mediate.com/acrepp](http://www.mediate.com/acrepp)

### **5th National Environmental Conflict Resolution Conference**

U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution of the Morris K. Udall Foundation  
May 20-22, 2008

Tucson, Arizona  
For more information: [www.ecr.gov](http://www.ecr.gov)

### **Creating Cultures of Engagement in Health Care – International Conference & Dialogue**

The Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution  
June 3-5, 2008  
Omaha, Nebraska  
For more information: <http://law.creighton.edu/wernerinstitute/>

### **International Conference on Chaos, Complexity & Conflict**

The Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution  
June 5-7, 2008  
Omaha, Nebraska  
For more information: <http://law.creighton.edu/wernerinstitute>

### **United National Environment Programme World Environment Day**

June 5, 2008  
For more information: [www.unep.org/wed](http://www.unep.org/wed)

### **Everyday Democracy's 2008 National Conference**

"Making Every Voice Matter"  
June 12-14, 2008  
Denver, Colorado  
For more information: [www.everyday-democracy.org](http://www.everyday-democracy.org)

### **Tools for Participation – Collaboration, Deliberation and Decision Support**

Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility & UC Berkeley School of Information  
June 26-29, 2008  
Berkeley, California  
For more information: <http://www.publicsphereproject.org/events/diac08>

**2008 National Association of Counties Annual Conference**  
July 11-15, 2008  
Kansas City, Missouri  
For more information: [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)

**93rd Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting**  
August 3-8, 2008  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
For more information: [www.esa.org/meetings](http://www.esa.org/meetings)

**138th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting**  
August 17-21, 2008  
Ottawa, Ontario  
For more information: [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org)

**International Association for Public Participation International Conference**  
"Public Participation and Corporate Social Responsibility: from why to

how"  
August 27-29, 2008  
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland  
For more information: [www.iap2.org](http://www.iap2.org)

**2008 International City/County Management Association Annual Conference**  
September 21-24, 2008  
Richmond, Virginia  
For more information: [www.icma.org](http://www.icma.org)

**8th Annual Association for Conflict Resolution Conference**  
"Aspirations, Possibilities, and Realities: Expanding Principles, Practice, and Research in a Changing World"  
September 24-27, 2008  
Austin, Texas  
For more information: [www.acrnet.org/conferences](http://www.acrnet.org/conferences)

**4th National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation Conference**  
October 3-5, 2008  
Austin, Texas  
For more information: [www.thataway.org](http://www.thataway.org)

**Association for Conflict Resolution - Conflict Resolution Day**  
October 16, 2008  
For more information: [www.acrnet.org/crday](http://www.acrnet.org/crday)

**136th American Public Health Association Annual Meeting**  
"Public Health Without Borders"  
October 25-29, 2008  
San Diego, California  
For more information: [www.apha.org/meetings](http://www.apha.org/meetings)

**National League of Cities 2008 Congress of Cities**  
November 11-15, 2008  
Orlando, Florida

**Environment and Public Policy Leadership Council Members**

*Michael Elliott, Co-Chair 2006-2008*  
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*Carolyn Penny, Co-Chair 2008-2009*  
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*Cindy Cook, Immediate Past Co-Chair*  
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*Dan Adams, Elected Member*  
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*Harry Manasewich, Chair, Advanced Practitioner Committee*  
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*John Stephens, Conference Committee Chair*  
[stephens@sog.unc.edu](mailto:stephens@sog.unc.edu)

The ACR EPP Section is always looking for articles and story ideas for the newsletter. Contact the Communications Committee Chair, Bryant Kuechle at (208) 739-3048 or [bkuechle@langdongroupinc.com](mailto:bkuechle@langdongroupinc.com).