

Minutes of the MMW Meeting
Held Saturday, April 2, 2011,
at the Congo Church, Rockland, Maine

Business Meeting:

President Carol Jaeger welcomed the 20 members and 6 guests in attendance, and provided a brief description of MMW. Other points of interest:

- Treasurer's Report was made available (see end of Minutes for summary).
- The Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, May 7th, at the 1812 Farm in Bristol Mills, the same location as the past two years. Carol is looking into venues in the Rockland area for next year.
- Carol has received a request for a \$50.00 donation from a young man serving in the Peace Corps in Moldavia. The funds would be used to buy books for his area, which has no libraries. This will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.
- We will have to find a new Rockland-area meeting location, as the church is increasing its fee to \$100.00. Suggestions are welcome.

Around-the-Circle Introductions were made, and Ria Biley announced that a memorial service for **Marilis Hornidge** will be held on Saturday, May 14th [at 11:00] at Hall's Funeral Home in Waldoboro. Marilis's husband, Hank, is encouraging MMW members to speak during the service, as the organization held great importance for her.

Important: If you plan to speak at the memorial, please let Ria know, as she needs to pass the information on to Hank and the funeral home so they can plan the event. Ria's e-mail: ria.biley@gmail.com; phone: 596-5650.

Program: Intellectual Property Law

Genie Dailey introduced Chelsea Fournier, a lawyer with Furman, Gregory, and Deptula of Biddeford, Maine. Chelsea specializes in helping individuals and small businesses that rely on proper protection of intellectual property for success. Her clients include writers, artists, and designers, and she serves on the Board of Maine Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts. This group provides referrals, and – take note! – clients with incomes below \$30,000 may obtain legal help at no cost.

Chelsea's presentation and handouts covered in detail the basics of copyright law, and also touched briefly on trademarks, patents, trade secrets, "undeveloped ideas," and rights of privacy and publicity. This report focuses on points regarding copyrights only.

- Copyright covers "original works of authorship [including works of art] fixed in any tangible medium," and lasts for the life of the author + 70 years.
- Your copyright protection is immediate and automatic upon creation of the work. Additional protection against infringement is afforded by *registering* your

copyright with the U.S. Copyright Office (www.copyright.gov); the fee to file for registration online is \$35.00.

- Copyright can apply to artistic and literary works, musical and dramatic works, audiovisual works and sound recordings, and architectural works.
- Copyright cannot apply to ideas or concepts; titles, names, or slogans; familiar symbols, shapes, colors, or lettering; subject matter of a photograph; “useful articles”; or discoveries, methods, or processes. NOTE: Some of these, such as slogans, can be protected in other ways (such as by trademark).
- The suggested format for a basic copyright statement is: © 2011 [Your Name].

Examples of several copyright situations/questions were provided, and a Q & A session followed. It was a very informative program (and we were all relieved that the April Fool’s Day snowstorm had not led to a cancellation!).

To contact Chelsea Fournier: e-mail chelsea@fgd-law.com; or call her at Furman, Gregory, & Deptula: 207-571-9365.

To contact Maine Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts: www.mainevla.org.

Treasurer’s Report as of April 1, 2011:

Checking account:	\$ 7,695.19
KVA Scholarship:	\$ 2,180.12
MMW Scholarship:	<u>\$ 2,237.73</u>
TOTAL:	\$12,113.04

Respectfully submitted,
Genie Dailey
Secretary