

July 2007



Newsletter

Tuesday, July 17th

Greeley Forum: Unsolved murders, what to do?

FOHVAMP is presenting several fora in various locales around the state to discuss “What should be done about the growing number of unsolved murders in Colorado?” Funding is provided by the Nathan B. and Florence R. Burt Foundation and donations from family members of victims.

The first forum will be held in Greeley on Tuesday July 17th at 6:30 PM. The venue is the Conference Room of the Ice Haus at 900 8th Ave. Refreshments will be served. Invitations are extended to family members and friends of the victims, legislators, law enforcement, the press and the public.

Subsequent fora are planned for the Aurora Public Library on Thursday August 2nd and then The Woodmoor Community Center, 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument, Colorado, Thursday, August 23rd. Both start at 6:30 PM and provide refreshments. A fourth forum will be held on the Western slope if funding can be arranged.

The meetings’ purpose is three fold: 1] Gather law enforcement, victims families and legislators to address the growing horror of this situation; 2] Raise public awareness of the serious threat to public safety of these unsolved murders and disappearances under suspicious circumstances; 3] Learn the impact on the elderly and upon children related to the victim of an unsolved homicide.

Arrangements for the venues are being made by our Outreach Coordinator, Becky Guerriero, who is also inviting police chiefs and sheriffs as well as legislators. Kelly Fernandez-Kroyer and Melissa Warren are calling our members and mailing flyers. Media relations are in the hands of our Media Pro, Stefanie Clarke. These fora will be moderated by Sue Middleton.

Cold Case bill becomes law

House Bill 1272, which created the Cold Case Oversight Task Force (CCOTF), became law on June 1st with the signature of Gov. Ritter. This bill, introduced by Rep. Joe Rice, also included several of our other goals such as the obligation of local law enforcement agencies to submit data on their “open” homicides to a state-level database. The CCOTF will also take testimony from family members; and HB 1272 specifies the right of a family member to request local law enforcement to call in CBI to help with their case. Rep. Paul Weissman’s HB 1094, which called for the elimination of the death penalty with savings to be applied to cold cases, was defeated but cleared the way for passage of HB 1272.

We believe several FOHVAMP members have been named to the 13-member CCOTF which meets four times per year. These include Paul Blee of Grand Jct., June Menger of Longmont, Linda Gruno of Westminster, Misha Chivers of Greenwood Village and Howard Morton, Pine Jct.

Though funding is barely enough to support the mandated database, we have plans to ask future legislators to fund cold case investigations.

Board of Directors Meets

Our next Board Meeting is July 14th, at 10:30 AM in the Community Room of the Liongate Apartments at 90 Corona Street in Denver. That’s near 1st Avenue & Speer Boulevard. All are welcome.

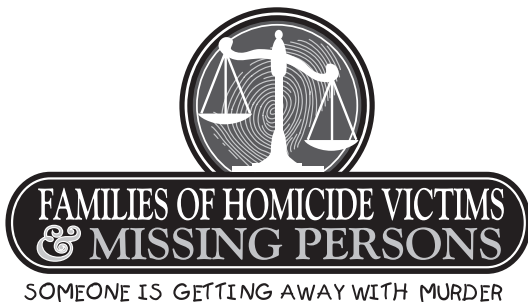
Mission Statement

Families of Homicide Victims and Missing Persons, Inc (FOHVAMP) is a nonprofit organization working in Colorado to find, support and empower families suffering from a loved one's unresolved murder or long-time disappearance.

On The Web

Our website, unresolvedhomicides.org, reached 11,000 visits for the first time in June with more than 17,300 page views.
Tune in and see what's new.

This newsletter is published quarterly. It is the official publication of Families of Homicide Victims and Missing Persons, Inc.
Send letters and comments to:
FOHVAMP, P.O. Box 145, Pine, CO 80470



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Howard's Notes

At our April board meeting Sherry Burt was elected President, Kathy Anderson took on the added duties of Secretary and Ann Aber was added to our Board of Directors. Sherry is a former board member of the Denver Victims' Center, Kathy is serving her second year as Vice-President and Ann is a lawyer who helped us strategize for the recent legislative session and shows great interest in FOHVAMP.

Our Bingo game is off to a solid start at Bingo Planet in Greeley on Friday nights. Our first game was June 1st, about the same time we received our Bingo and Raffles license. First night attendance was 124 players. Numbers for subsequent Friday nights has been 77, 86, 79, 71 and 82. The Greeley Tribune wrote a nice article about us on Tuesday, June 19th.

The volunteers who make this work include a number of our members in Northern Colorado: Jerri & Don Reichert who are certified Bingo Managers, Mark Reichert, bookkeeper; Mike Tournai, caller, Mary Ellen Tournai, daughters Theresa Tournai & Susan (& Kevin) Kuznik and Mona Martinez, pull tab sellers; Bob Anderson, specials seller. We have benefitted by the generosity of several local volunteers who have helped us: Ben Benevides trained and filled in for our caller; his son Sosthen Benevides helps on Fridays and Adolph Martinez frequently serves as seller of specials; also Joan Bertram, Jeff Moore and Juan Jaramillo.

The Reicherts are appealing for more of our members to volunteer as we cannot continue to operate on other people's generosity. If you cannot volunteer, please come and play. This is an important FOHVAMP fund raiser.

There was a nice article in the Denver Post on June 13 about our attempt to get decent funding for Cold Case Investigations by using the money being wasted on the death penalty. Attorney General John Suthers called that effort "intellectually dishonest" and said "I was offended by it." But he offered no alternative funding nor even acknowledged our need for dedicated cold case investigators. But we will press ahead.

Remembering...

Anonymous for a \$1,000 donation honoring all our lost loved ones; members matched with \$1,450 more

Our thanks to Jane Menken and Richard Jessor for their very generous contribution to FOHVAMP

Phyllis & Jim Tigges in loving memory of their son, **Thad "T.J." Tigges**, 33, January 25, 2001

Lucinda & Kelly Gunderson for their generous gift and support of our nonprofit

Joe Potter for his welcome and benevolent gift to our cause

Paul Aguiar in fond memory of **Rick Van Duyn**, 27, October 19, 1986

James D. Stewart in loving memory of his daughter, **Cindy Stewart**, 43, July 6, 1999

Paul & Ramona Blee remembering their beloved daughter, **Marie Blee**, 15, November 21, 1979

Kathy & Bruce Anderson in loving memory of their son, **Mitch Anderson**, 26, April 11, 2001

Patricia Myers remembering **Rick Van Duyn**, 27, October 19, 1986

Don & Jerri Reichert in memory of their beloved son, **Michael Reichert**, 36, October 10, 2000

Celestina Terry in loving memory of her brother, **Troy Leyba**, 38, January 31, 1999

Harry & Patricia Neal remembering their beloved daughter, **Pamela Neal**, 22, March 31, 1983

Effie Hindson-Siebold in memory of all our loved ones who were murdered

Russ & Mary Van Duyn lovingly remembering their son, **Rick Van Duyn**, 27, October 19, 1986

Melissa Warren remembering our murdered loved ones

Janice Worthem honoring our murdered loved ones
Pat Furman in memory of our murdered love ones

Ramona Martinez lovingly remembering brother, **David John Rivera**, 54, August 30, 1994

Ann Aber remembering all our murdered loved ones.
Leigh & Nick Sabey in fond memory of **Rick Van Duyn**, 27, October 19, 1986

Vivian Bogdanowicz honoring the memory of her nephew, **Jim Springer, Jr.**, 29, January 27, 2002

Chanda Szot honoring the memory of her friend, **Jason Horsley**, May 18, 1999

Frank & Pamela Kinslow lovingly remembering their son, **Tommy Kinslow**, 20, November 22, 2005

Judith Hemschemeyer fondly remembering husband **Morton Rosenfeld**, 43, May 19, 1979

Expressing Gratitude To:

Mike & Lisa Radelet for sponsoring the play, *Dead Man Walking*, in May...and to those who bought play tickets and dinners - Leigh Van Duyn, The Reichert family, Mimi White family, Robert Anderson family, Ruby Lopez family, Mike & Lisa Radelet, Becky Guerriero, Howard & Ginny Morton, Ginny & Marty Wilkinson, Judy Clark, Audrey Pryor & Gordon Moench, Sherry Burt, Stephanie O'Bryan & Leilani Baylogh, Dave Fisher, Kathy & Bruce Anderson, Chris & Rebecca Smith, Hillary Potter & Allison Cotton, Lucinda & Kelly Gunderson, Joe Potter. This evening out netted FOHVAMP almost \$2,500!

The incredible support of family members and friends has enabled FOHVAMP to pursue justice on behalf of all our murdered loved ones since we began this grass-roots organization in 2001. If you would like to honor your loved one's memory in this way, please send a gift to FOHVAMP, P.O. Box 145, Pine, CO 80470

Agenda for Annual Meeting set, includes new workshops

The roles of the crime lab as well as the coroner in the investigation of cold cases will be explored in a new, compelling agenda of workshops at our forthcoming Annual Meeting of Members.

After reading comments of approval concerning last year's venue, the Planning Committee, which includes several members of your Board of Directors as well as Leigh Van Duyn, voted to again hold this yearly event in the Four Points Sheraton Hotel at 1-25 & Hampden in Denver on October 13th, 2007.

The second Saturday in October will get underway with registration at 7:30 AM followed by four workshops which begin at 8:30 AM and repeat twice at 9:45 and 11:00.

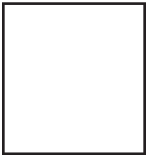
"The Crime Lab and Investigation of Cold Cases" is the title of a new workshop to be led by Gregory S. LaBerge, Director - Crime Laboratory Bureau, Denver Police Department.

Another new workshop this year will be "Duties of the Coroner and Autopsies" conducted by Dr. Michael Dobersen, Arapahoe County Medical Examiner. He is a physician trained and board certified in Forensic

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Address Service Requested

Families of Homicide Victims
and Missing Persons, Inc
P.O. Box 145
Pine, Colorado 80470



...Annual Meeting *[continued from previous page]*

Pathology, which is the branch of medicine concerned with the investigation of sudden and unexpected violent or suspicious deaths.

A favorite from 2006, “Cold Case Investigations” will be repeated this year but with a higher ranking panel. Four investigations leaders will field your questions and comments: Captain John Burbach, Commander of Denver’s Crimes Against Persons Bureau; Captain Richard Cimms, Aurora P.D.; Captain Brice Moomaw, Arapahoe Sheriff’s Office; Commander Sandra “Sam” Washburn, El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, have agreed to be with us.

Another holdover from last year (because so many complained they couldn’t squeeze it in) is the workshop entitled “Victim Assistance for Cold Case Co-Victims” under the able leadership of Scott Snow, Director, Denver P.D.’s Victim Assistance Unit.

Workshops break at 12 noon; then luncheon at 12:30. A brief business meeting follows lunch.

And then a new segment: The Forum. Instead of standing and telling our stories as in the past, we will

participate in a discussion of “What Should Be Done About the Growing Number of Unsolved Murders in Colorado?” The panel to lead off this discussion and respond to your questions and comments will include the Director of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation a Sheriff, two State Representatives and a Police Chief. There will be a moderator.

We are also working to attract a keynote speaker for the first time.

There is no registration fee to co-victims, friends of the victims or law enforcement for this meeting and luncheon. It has been underwritten by generous grants from the Denver Police Foundation and the Victim Assistance Law Enforcement Funds of the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 17th, and 18th Judicial Districts.

Our Media Pro, Stefanie Clarke, says we are “media magnets.” So we expect the usual thorough coverage of this Annual Meeting by press and TV.

Please mark the date on your calendar now: October 13th - all day - will be devoted to the task of finding justice for our murdered loved ones.