

October 2007



**FAMILIES OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS
& MISSING PERSONS**

SOMEONE IS GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER

Newsletter

“Positively Humor” is Annual Meeting Closer

You’ve read about the great workshops that fill the morning of October 13th and you anticipate gathering information relating to your loved one’s unsolved murder or long-time disappearance.

Did your mouth water when you read about the Italian Buffet with Chicken Cacciatore on the menu for the Annual Meeting luncheon?

You may have heard about, or participated in, the successful forums we conducted in three Colorado cities and towns to discuss “What should be done about the growing number of unsolved murders in Colorado?” and now you’re interested to take part in the Forum that follows our luncheon.

But—until now—you didn’t know that FOHVAMP has landed the nationally known and celebrated motivational speaker and humorist, **Craig Zablocki**, to wind up our 6th Annual Meeting with his message of humor, hope and healing and send us on our way feeling like we can handle whatever life has in store. You’ll be glad you came just to see this!

Denver-based Craig Zablocki was the first outside speaker to address the student body of Columbine High School after its 1999 tragedy. He has spoken to over 600,000 people internationally and in all 50 states and performed for Disney, Continental Airlines, Hewlett Packard as well as the National State Legislators Association and Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA), among others.

Positively Humor is the name of Craig’s business (www.positivelyhumor.com). His mother, Carole, is a FOHVAMP member. His older sister, Christine, is on the third to last victims’ page on our website, the 1986 victim of an unsolved murder on Maui!



† See back page of newsletter for location and layout of workshops †

Craft Sale

FOHVAMP President Sherry Burt will display some beautiful crafts for sale at the Annual Meeting as a FOHVAMP fund raiser. Items include knitted lap robes, baby blankets, scarves, fleece blankets and other original creations. This hand-made collection is being produced for us and donated by Sherry’s friends whom she refers to as the “not-just-another-pretty-face club.” Think ‘Gifts for the Holidays.’

Registration

Registration for our Annual Meeting begins at 7:45 AM and closes 12:30 PM at tables in the lobby of the hotel. Workshops begin at 8:30 AM and repeat at 9:45 and 11:00 so you can attend several (See July newsletter for details). Early birds may benefit from uncrowded rooms and fresh presenters.

ASK-A-COP

For general questions regarding your case, its jurisdiction or other law enforcement queries, three investigators are staffing tables in front of the fireplace in the lobby all morning. Thanks to Cheryl Moore, Dixie Grimes & Bruce Isaacson for volunteering to help us **ASK-A-COP**.

Board of Directors Meets

Our next Board Meeting is Oct. 27th, 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*, averages 9,000 visits per month with more than 16,000 page views and more than 128,000 hits.

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

We gave our "Annual FOHVAMP Lecture" to Dr. Radelet's Criminology class on the stunning C.U. campus at Boulder on a gorgeous September day.

Thanks to Parker member "Trish" Cutlip who was accorded rapt attention by nearly 100 students as she told the story of her daughter, Nanette Liden.

Nanette had graduated C.U. in 1995. Her degree was in Criminology. Nanette was shot to death at her Kansas City, MO home December 5, 2000.

Trish, comforted by her husband, Ray, looked into all the young faces, "Like you, Nanette was unafraid, enjoying her life to the fullest."

We were rewarded with sustained applause, hugs and nearly a dozen students who volunteered to help FOHVAMP. They met with our Coordinators Melissa Warren and Kelly Fernandez-Kroyer right after class.

Denver's TV Channel 4 was present to make a video of the session. They have been working with our Media Pro, Stefanie Clarke, to put together a story about students who have helped our cause.

Windsor members Mary Ellen and Mike Tournai are planning talks to Criminal Justice classes at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley (UNC) soon. Their daughter, Kristina, received her degree in nursing from UNC. The Tournai's came to Boulder a few years ago to do the Annual FOHVAMP lecture there. The picture and story of Kristina Tournai-Sandoval are on our website.

Our Berthoud member, Julie Towers, gave a talk at Colorado State University last Spring. One of the students from that Criminology class is now a volunteer for FOHVAMP as is CSU's Professor of Sociology, Prabha Unnithan who is working on a committee of the Cold Case Task Force.

Another friend of FOHVAMP working on that Task Force Committee is Derek Regensburger, a Criminal Law instructor at Everest College in Thornton. And so is our member, Linda Gruno.

I think most of us share a keen curiosity about what goes on inside homicide investigations and, more specifically, what (if anything) occurs in old murder investigations. The best answer I have found is a book titled "The Restless Sleep: Inside New York City's Cold Case Squad" by Stacy Horn. I got my used paperback through one of Amazon.com's affiliates for 99¢ plus shipping. Very well written - in fact gripping - it tells the pressures the detectives work under, the politics around the cold case squad and how a case finds its way to this unit. The author immerses herself in four unsolved murder cases investigated by three indefatigable Cold Case Detectives. **True stories.**

Remembering...

We accept with deep gratitude, the very generous and substantial donation of Bob & Noelle Marcum remembering their precious daughter, **Jennifer Marcum**, 25, who disappeared from Denver in February 2003.

Janis Lewis, a friend of Sherry Burt's, has made a significant gift in memory of all our murdered loved ones. We appreciate her kind gesture.

Mark Reichert makes a recurring, monthly gift to FOHVAMP in fond memory of his brother & best friend, **Michael Reichert**, 36, October 10, 2000.

Harry & Patricia Neal sent a contribution in loving memory of their daughter, **Pamela Lynne Neal**, 22 who disappeared from Englewood March 31, 1983.

Celestina Terry sent a donation remembering her beloved brother, **Troy Leyba**, 38, January 31, 1999.

Michael Radelet makes a recurring monthly gift to us in memory of all our murdered loved ones.

Howard & Virginia Morton make a monthly donation to FOHVAMP in loving memory of their son whose birthday is September 19th, **Guy Oliver Morton**, 18.

Gilbert & Beatrice Martinez honored the memory of her son, **Troy Leyba**, 38, January 31, 1999 with a gift; and now her brother, **Robert Lee Leyba**, 61, murdered in Commerce City on September 8th.

Sue Middleton made a gift in memory of all our murdered loved ones.

Judith Hemschemeyer fondly remembering husband **Morton Rosenfeld**, 43, May 19, 1979 with a gift.

We want to make special mention of the financial support we are receiving from the Bingo efforts of the Reichert family (Don, Jerri & Mark), the Tournai family (Mary Ellen, Mike & Theresa), the Robert Anderson family, Mona Martinez, volunteers Sosten Benavides, Tom Quintana & others who show up **every Friday** evening in Greeley to operate this game for the benefit of FOHVAMP.

If you would like to have your loved one remembered in this way, please send a gift to FOHVAMP, P.O. Box 145, Pine, CO 80470

Learning from the Forums

Three forums have been held to date in Greeley, Aurora and Monument. This allowed us to take our mission to families and law enforcement who may not have been familiar with FOHVAMP.

Law enforcement turnout was consistently good. They respond well to us when we go as an organization, whereas we have less impact when we approach them as an individual. Several of our families got answers at these forums that they were unable to get before.

We also received more media attention for our cause. This fulfilled the public awareness function.

A good turnout in Greeley saw three generations of the family of 1982 Larimer County victim Gay Lynn Dixon. The Larimer Sheriff, Jim Alderden, was there.

At Monument, the family of 1991 victim James Hamm drove in from Cañon City and Pueblo. At the forum they spent time with Pueblo Police Chief James Billings & Deputy Chief John Ercul clarifying the facts about their father's case in a meeting that probably would not have happened otherwise.

Thanks to Melissa Warren & Kelly Fernandez for contacting family members for these forums; to our Outreach Coordinator, Becky Guerriero, for rounding up law enforcement and legislators; to Jennifer Havercroft for volunteering to do interviews; and to the Burt Foundation for supporting this unique effort.

Cold Case Task Force Begins

The Cold Case Task Force (CCTF), which grew out of Rep. Joe Rice's bill, passed in the spring session of our legislature, had its first meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 15. Our family members were present in abundance and so was law enforcement.

The Task Force asked for FOHVAMP'S database of Colorado's unsolved murders which was put together with the help of the student-volunteers cited on page 2 *Howard's Notes*. We asked in return for updates to the data which would be received by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI). We are currently in negotiation to accomplish this goal.

The Task Force also set up a committee to come up with "best practises" for addressing our cold cases in accordance with the above-cited law.

We need family members and friends of victims to show up and testify about practices used in their cases at the next meeting of the CCTF on the 18th of Oct. at 690 Kipling Street in Denver in the first floor Conference Room from 10 AM to noon.

Family members appointed to the Task Force by legislative leaders are Linda Gruno, Westminster; Paul Blee, Grand Junction; Misha Chivers, Greenwood Village; and June Menger, Longmont. One of the Governor's appointments went to our President, Sherry Burt, Denver.

Annual Meeting October 13th in Denver
Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, I-25 & Hampden

Questions?? ASK-A-COP
A new feature at this year's Annual Meeting

Address Service Requested

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



Annual Meeting Workshops Set-Up
Workshops begin at 8:30 AM; repeat at 9:45 & 11:00

