



# Newsletter

Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>

## October 2009 Annual Meeting Plans

Please plan to be in Denver for our Annual Meeting in less than three months. On the 10th day of October at 7:30 AM, FOHVAMP will convene its 8th Annual Meeting in the Red Lion Hotel at 4040 Quebec Street.

There is plenty of excitement: A new venue with new speakers, new workshops and a chance to talk with both law enforcement and media about your cold case.

Our opener features Dr. Dorothy J. Edwards, Director of the Violence Intervention and Prevention Center at the University of Kentucky.



**Dr. Dorothy J. Edwards**  
Keynote Speaker

Edwards has emerged as a passionate voice committed to the right of every person to live free from violence and fear of violence.

We met Dr. Edwards after her performance at National Center for Victims of Crime's National Conference in Washington, D.C. We found her presentation about culture change fascinating and we believe you will too.

A continental breakfast will be available for this opener. Workshops will begin at 8:45 AM.

The new workshop titled *My Sister/My Brother* will explore the impact of an unsolved murder on siblings of the victim, an area deserving more attention. Panel: Jan Clark of Nashville, Ramon Burt of Colorado Springs, Jacqueline Romito of Crowley, TX and Samuel Wells of Boulder.

Also new is *Media Attention for Your Case*. This subject drew quite a few questions from our members at last year's Forum. The panel will include The Denver Post's Kirk Mitchell, Rachel Welte of KXRM TV Fox 21 in Colorado Springs and Stefanie Clarke, our Media Pro for the past six years. Mitchell writes the Post's ongoing cold

case blog, If you want to learn how cold cases get media attention, you'll be sure to attend this important workshop and learn from these pros.

The popular *Denver Cold Case Investigations* will return as Denver P.D.'s Captain Joe Montoya will bring investigators and victim service people who work old murders to discuss cases with the families of those victims. Please let us know you are attending so they can prepare to talk about your case. No media allowed in this workshop.

For those members whose loved ones were not murdered in Denver, there will again be *Colorado Cold Case Investigations*. This workshop will be led by a panel including Steve Johnson, Director of the Criminal Investigations Section of the Colorado Bureau of Investigations. Officers from Colorado Springs, Aurora, and other jurisdictions are being invited to participate on this workshop's panel.

Following lunch and a brief business meeting, Vito R. Spano, our featured speaker, will make a



**Vito R. Spano**  
Featured Speaker  
Deputy Inspector (Ret)  
New York City P.D.

presentation detailing the work of New York City's successful Cold Murder Case Squad which Spano commanded near the end of his 30-year law enforcement career there.

Spano had risen through ranks to become Commander of Detectives. In 2001, Vito Spano was assigned as the Commanding Officer of the Cold Case and Apprehension Squad. That unit took on 2,136 Cold Murder Cases,

arresting 1,332 people in connection with those cases. Spano's leadership has been chronicled by author Stacy Horn in the book *The Restless Sleep: Inside New York City's Cold Case Squad*.

[Continued on page 3]

## Mission Statement

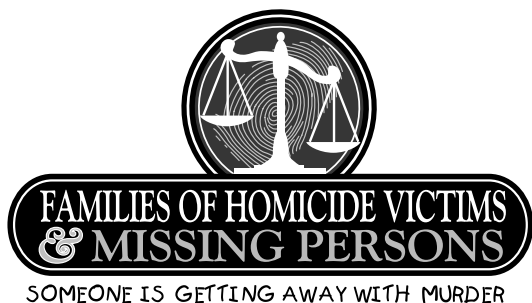
Families of Homicide Victims and Missing Persons, Inc is a Colorado nonprofit working to find, support and empower family members and friends suffering from a loved one's unresolved murder or long-time, suspicious disappearance.

## On The Web

The *Victim Database* at [unresolvedhomicides.org](http://unresolvedhomicides.org), now receives several thousand monthly visits. Find us on the web, visit our home page and click on the images there to keep up with FOHVAMP news and activities.

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

What is the common thread that binds us to each other? I believe it is our undying hope for **justice** for our murdered loved ones.

We have a common goal: ***The prosecution of their killers.***

One objective of that goal is a **cold case team** at the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

...An **effective** Cold case Team at CBI.

...A **successful** Cold Case Team at CBI.

The *second* objective is a prosecutor willing to take our case. Having heard "We know who did it, we just can't prove it," some of us think of these prosecutors as taking only those cases they are sure they can win.

However, the role of a prosecutor is not to win a case to achieve professional and media acclaim, but to behave in a fair and lawful manner to promote the cause of justice.\*

So we applaud 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney Ken Buck and Greeley Police Investigators for the arrest and pending prosecution of suspect John Sandoval for the 1995 murder of his estranged wife, **Kristina Marie Tournai-Sandoval**. Kristina is the daughter of FOHVAMP members Mike and Mary Ellen Tournai.

Though Kristina's body has never been found, the D.A. believes there may be enough evidence to convince a jury that Sandoval, a convicted felon, murdered her. The previous D.A. would not bring these charges.

New Boulder D.A. Stan Garnett tells June Menger he is willing to take a look at the August 1, 1983 murder of her son, **Sid Wells**. Deputy Police Chief David Hayes, a rookie cop when Sid was shot in the head execution style, will present the case in September. Previous D.A.s declined to prosecute.

Term limits bring the promise of a new set of eyes as well as new hope for victims' families.

There appears to be new life in the 10-year-old murder of **Cindy Stewart**, daughter of our Board Member, Jim Stewart. Stabbed while walking her dog in Observatory Park, Cindy staggered to the porch of a nearby home, described her attacker, then died.

Michael Muniz pled guilty July 18<sup>th</sup> to the 1996 Wheat Ridge stabbing death of Kay Bodway. He has been named a suspect in the Stewart murder. The basis for this is a diary Muniz kept in his cell chronicling the killing of four or five other women.

\* *Prosecutorial Ethics and Victims' Rights*,  
Gershman, Pace Law Faculty Publications

## ***Remembering...***

Joe & Agnes Arredondo in loving memory of their daughter, **Jessica Ann**, 21, November 25, 1988

Michael & Lisa Radelet remembering **all** our murdered loved ones

Diane Riechert in fond memory of her best friend **Connie Marie Paris**, 18, March 31, 1968

Alice and Steve Gansfield remembering all our murdered loved ones

Carol & John Newkirk in loving memory of their son, **Jeffrey Burt Newkirk**, 20, Sept 11, 1979

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

Virginia & Howard Morton in loving memory of their son, **Guy Oliver Morton**, 18, June 00, 1975

Evelyn Wardlow fondly remembering her great aunt, **Orma B. Smith**, 94, July 10, 1982

Lieurance & Shirley Sullivan lovingly remembering their daughter, **Polly Sullivan**, 44, Dec 25, 1998

Jim & Mary Lou Paris in loving memory of their daughter, **Connie Marie Paris**, 18, March 31, 1968

Eleanora Ciari remembering her beloved daughter, **Ellyn Leslie Hoge**, 36, April 7, 1992

Jerri & Don Reichert fondly remembering their son, **Michael Reichert**, 36, October 10, 2000

Vincent Vigil in fond memory of his brother, **Amadeo Vigil**, 29, July 11, 1985

Bob & Nancy Kegresse, lovingly remembering their daughter, **Pamela Edwards**, 38, Nov 23, 2003

Wm & Esther Loughrey in loving memory of their son, **Michael Loughrey**, 29, October 17, 1983

Bill & Lorrie Copper fondly remembering their friend, **Guy Oliver Morton**, 18, June 00, 1975

Jim Stewart fondly remembering his daughter, **Cindy Stewart**, 43. July 6, 1999

Christine Clark lovingly remembering her son, **Russell Stephen Clark**, 25, December 15, 1983

Vincent Vigil in fond memory of his brother, **Amadeo Vigil**, 29, July 11, 1985

Penny & Ken Hoff fondly remembering their nephew, **Michael Reichert**, 36, October 10, 2000

Dr. Prabha Unnithan remembering all of our murdered loved ones

Vivian Bogdanowicz in fond memory of her nephew, **James Springer**, 29, January 27, 2002

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

Rae & Jim Shuford in loving memory of their son **Jordan Shuford**, 21, January 1, 2002

Shirley Rodriguez lovingly remembering her son, **Joseph W. McGee**, 35, June 5, 1996

Greg Baylis marking the arrest of John Sandoval

*To have your loved one remembered in the next edition of the newsletter, please send a donation to FOHVAMP, P.O. Box 145, Pine, CO 80470*

### ***[Annual Meeting—continued from page 1]***

Members may purchase a copy of the book from FOHVAMP for \$10 plus \$2 shipping and handling.

***Forgotten Victims: What Cold Case Families Want from Law Enforcement*** is another new workshop that will interest law enforcement and victims assistants as well as our members. Dr. Paul Stretesky & Dr. Prabha Unnithan will share information acquired for this pilot project which involved interviews with forty family members of cold case victims murdered in 12 different Colorado jurisdictions. The research examines the experience of family members with victim assistance, police and prosecutors as well as recommendations growing out of that research. This information set was presented in June at the National Conference of the National Center for Victims of Crime. It was conducted under the auspices of the Center for the Study of Crime and Justice, Sociology Department, Colorado State University, Fort Collins.

There will also be workshops about ***Victim Rights, Coroner's Duties, and The Crime Lab*** at this Annual Meeting. Please register now.

# ***The argument for funding the CBI Cold Case Team***

There is a law on the books of the state of Colorado (24-33.5-425) entitled “**Cold Case Homicide Team.**” It creates a Cold Case Team in the CBI (Colorado Bureau of Investigation).

This law provides that “**A family member of a homicide victim may request that the local law enforcement agency investigating the homicide ask the team for assistance in investigating the homicide.**”

In the 2007 legislature, 99 of 100 members voted for this law. Governor Ritter signed it. But the legislature has only appropriated enough money to hire one person for the “team”—a very competent Crime Analyst.

No money has been appropriated to hire the team of detectives needed to investigate these cases. No money for a team leader or support staff; no money for facilities in which these detectives could work; no money for travel to facilitate investigations; no money for the lab to speed up the processing of evidence.

FOHVAMP estimates it will require between \$1.5 and 3.0 million to properly fund this team. We assert that these killers-on-the-loose pose a threat to public safety. They have never been prosecuted for murdering **1,487** Colorado victims.

We have made proposals as to where to get this money to fund the team. We have promoted our suggestions with educational forums across our state, public opinion polls showing voter support and legislation.

Our proposal is to abolish Colorado’s little-used death penalty, which costs \$4 million per year to maintain, and use a portion of those wasted moneys (one person executed in 40 years) to fund CBI’s Cold Case Team.

Our proposal has been resisted by an array of prosecutors: the Colorado District Attorneys Council, two former prosecutors who lead the Department of Public Safety, Colorado’s Attorney General and COVA (Colorado Organization for Victim Assistants) whose Board is dominated by District Attorneys’ employees.

Politicians are fond of saying “Government’s first obligation is the protection of its citizens.” They appropriate hundreds of millions of our tax dollars to protect us from foreign threats. But there is no apparaent outrage about these unsolved homicides and the killers living among us who have gotten away with murder. The politicians seem completely

unconcerned about this threat to public safety!

It takes a long time for government to digest negative information; even longer to decide what to do about a problem. This is particularly true, it seems, when a change is called for in “the way we have always done things.” Therein, we believe, lies the dilemma.

Those who oppose our solution have a stake in the status quo. Even though murders go unsolved, witnesses are intimidated and whole neighborhoods are threatened, “those who oppose” fear change. This particular change means giving up some of their power. And they simply cannot countenance that.

For our part, we will continue to seek the change that will bring justice for our loved ones. Anything less would be an abrogation of our duty to them and to those additional victims whose cases grow cold every year.

## **FOHVAMP roster continues to grow: now 700+ members**

Our advocacy on behalf of cold case murder victims continues to attract more family members and friends of these victims. Our roster shows 702 family members and friends at June 16th. Membership almost doubled since June 2007!

Much of the credit for this growth must go to our Outreach Program and the members of our staff (paid and volunteer) who make it happen.

Here we salute Coordinator Kelly Fernandez-Kroyer; our Database Manager & Researcher Brandon Rodriguez; Outreach Coordinator Rebecca Guerriero; volunteer callers, Stephanie Cummins, Donna Zuniga and Diane Riechert; several student volunteers who help with research.

## **2008 Annual Mtg Highlights on DVD**

Please take a few minutes to watch the video on the enclosed DVD disc. If you have never been to one of our Annual Meetings, it will give you the flavor of what they are like. If you attended our last Annual Meeting, it will remind you of the value of getting together with others who share the experience of unsolved murders.

If you don’t have a DVD player or computer so that you can view this disc, go to your local library and use their computer. Ask the librarian to help you watch this important video.

# Quilt of Hope to return for our Annual Meeting, October 10<sup>th</sup>

Those who attended the 2008 Annual Meeting will remember the Quilt of Hope sponsored by our keynote speaker, Jan Smolinski. Each square on the quilt honors a cold case victim, some missing, some murdered. The quilt can also be seen on the enclosed DVD video of last year's meeting.

Well, Jan is sending it back to Denver for this Annual Meeting! Since last October the quilt has been shown in New York, Texas (2), Maryland, Massachusetts, Florida and Connecticut. Many TV stations have shown it. Since some more of our members would like to see their loved one on the quilt, we are repeating the instructions here:

To make a block for The Quilt of Hope start with 10 inch square of fabric. You can use an item of your loved one's clothing or any suitable piece of fabric appropriate for a quilt.

Now draw a half inch line (in light pencil) on all 4 sides of the square. You have now created a 9 inch surface on which to design your block. It is important to make the square larger than 9 inches so there is extra cloth to sew the squares together.

In your design, include a photo, age at time of disappearance or death, date when missing or

murdered and state where it occurred.

The photo and text can be applied in several ways. Fabric and quilt stores carry special paper backed cloth that can be put through an ink jet printer. These sheets measure 8.5 by 11 inches.

The problem here is that you need a square that measures 10". There are a number of ways to solve this problem. One way would be to sew on border strips to make the block 10 inches. This solution gives you an opportunity to incorporate special fabric from a well loved item of clothing; a dress or shirt; a special color; or anything else meaningful. Stores like Michaels or Hobby Lobby will help you find just the right materials and may even help you with the design of your block.

Scan the photo, then print on the special cloth mentioned above.

If you don't have a scanner, go to a copy shop and ask them to do it for you. Customize any way you would like within the 9 inches.

Any questions please contact Jan. She will guide you through: 202-272-3516; wjs7@aol.com

To be included in the quilt, mail your square to Jan by **September 11<sup>th</sup>**. For Jan's address, email her or call Becky at 303-661-0125.



## Registration Form

*Please complete this form so we know you want to attend the 2009 Annual Meeting. Send one copy of the form in the enclosed envelope for each person who plans to attend. Or contact our registrar, Becky Guerriero, with this information: 303-661-0125; Rebecca.Guerriero@Colorado.EDU. This helps us plan and it helps law enforcement prepare to discuss your case with you.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victim's name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your town or city

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place victim died or disappeared from

Are you coming to Annual Meeting in  your vehicle,  airplane,  bus,  other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to stay in the Red Lion Hotel?  Yes,  No;  One night,  Two nights

If you plan to stay in the hotel, make your own reservation now: 303-321-6666, 800-733-5466.

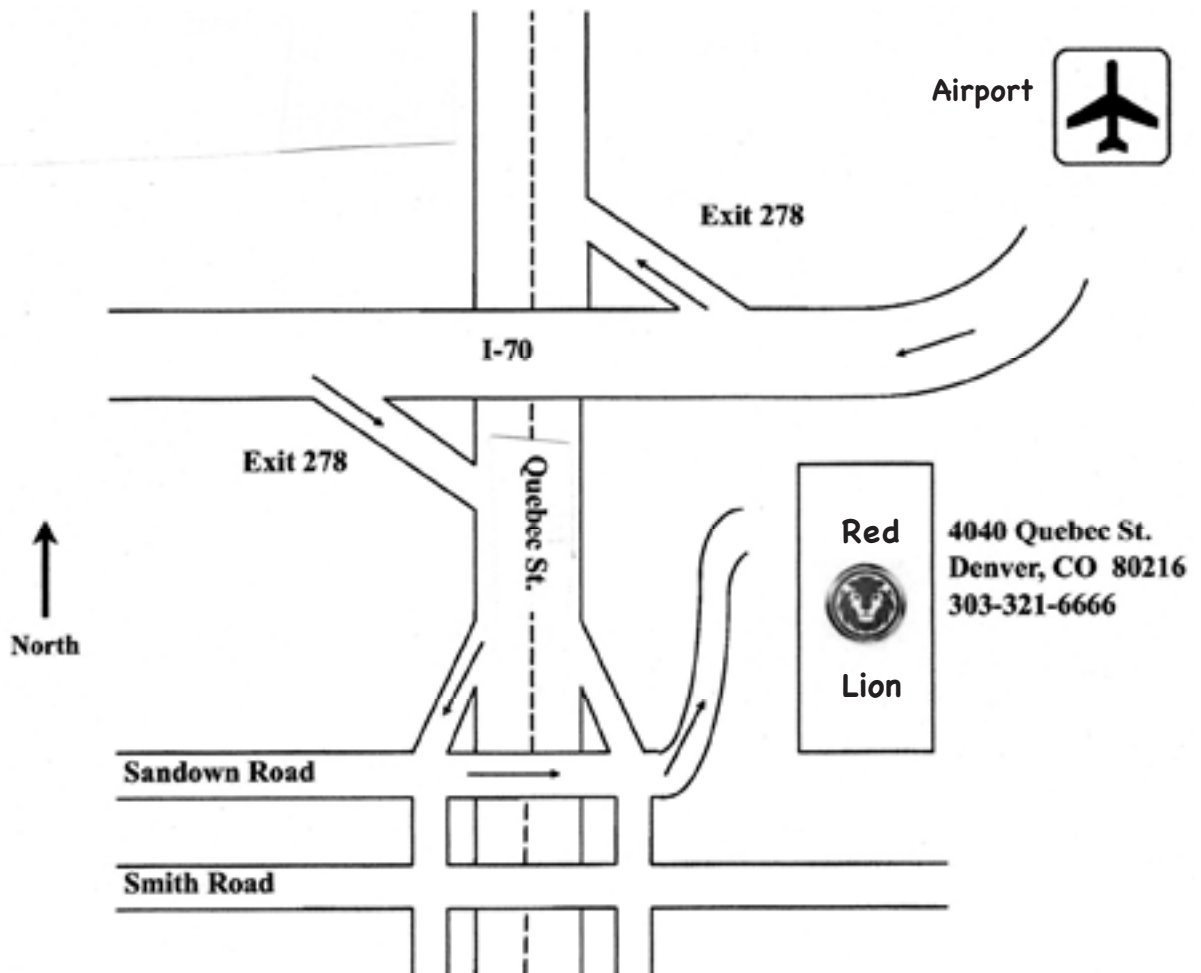
There is a special room rate of \$79 per night plus tax but you must ask for FOHVAMP rate. The Annual Meeting is October 10<sup>th</sup>. The Red Lion Hotel is at 4040 Quebec St. in Denver, CO 80216.

The Office for Victims of Crime may provide a limited number of scholarships for distant members who need financial assistance with transportation or hotel. If you need help check here:  *Please tell us now!*



## Reserve your room for the Annual Meeting at the Red Lion Hotel

If you're from out of town (or out of state) and if you plan to stay in the hotel, please make your own reservation now: 303-321-6666, 800-733-5466. There is a special room rate of \$79 per night plus tax but you must ask for the FOHVAMP rate. The Annual Meeting begins early on the morning of October 10<sup>th</sup>.



### FROM DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

Take Pena Blvd. to Interstate 70W. Take Interstate 70W to Quebec Street (exit 278) and make a left on Quebec Street, get in the far right lane toward Smith Road and make a left on Sandown (just before railroad tracks). At the top stop sign, go through the intersection and we are right next to the Eagle Legacy Credit Union.

### FROM INTERSTATE 70 EAST BOUND:

Take Exit 278 Quebec Street, stay right for Smith Road. After exiting, move to the left lane and take the first left onto Sandown Road (just before the railroad tracks). Cross over the Quebec Street upper level (Stop Sign) and go through the intersection onto the frontage road in front of Eagle Legacy Credit Union. The hotel entrance is on the right hand side.

### FROM INTERSTATE 270 SOUTHEAST BOUND:

Take the Quebec Street Exit and turn left and get in the far right lane and pass under the Interstate. Stay right for Smith Road, after exiting move to the left lane. Take the first left on to Sandown Road (Just before the railroad tracks) and crossover the Quebec Street upper level (Stop Sign) and go through the intersection onto the frontage road in front of Eagle Legacy Credit Union. The hotel entrance is on the right hand side.