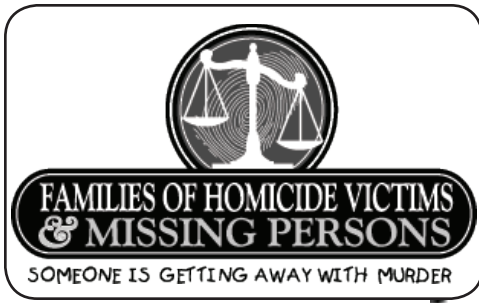


May 2011



Newsletter

Saturday, October 8th

Annual Meeting Returns to Cheyenne Mtn

Keynote and featured speakers coming from groups similar to ours in CA & MA

Our Annual Meeting of Members will, once again, be held at **Cheyenne Mountain Resort** in Colorado Springs. The date is Saturday, October 8th. Mark your calendar for an authentic Colorado experience.

This conference meets on the 10th anniversary of FOHVAMP's 2001 founding when eleven family members sought positive action toward bringing resolution to their loved one's unsolved murders.

Ten years later, our roster has grown to 1,100 family members and friends of these 1,500 cold case Colorado murder victims.

In the beginning, we liked what **Citizens Against Homicide (CAH)**, a California group, was doing. They featured victims on billboards near the scene of unsolved murders and got the Governor to offer a \$50,000 reward.

FOHVAMP's Reichert family raised our first billboard at the scene of Michael Reichert's murder on west Colfax Ave. in Denver. The family paid in the \$50,000 award to be held by Crime Stoppers when our governor declined to post any reward money. But no leads developed.

A grant through the U.S. Attorneys office paid for subsequent billboards with families and Crime Stoppers posting rewards ranging from \$2,000 to \$100,000.

So it seemed just right this year to invite the co-founder of CAH, **Jan Miller**, of San Rafael, CA, to be the featured speaker for our Tenth Annual Meeting of Members. Jan owns a real estate appraisal firm. Her daughter, Veronica Perotti, 19, was murdered June 29, 1984. This crime



Jan Miller

has never been solved. Welcome, Jan.

From 2007 to 2009, our group achieved great visibility as we sought to establish a Cold Case Team of Investigators at CBI (Colorado Bureau of Investigation). At our instance, the Team was to be paid for with money being wasted on our state's seldom-used death penalty. Our effort drew national attention when it came within one vote of approval by our legislature.

While still working toward that CBI team of investigators, we added to our agenda this year a change of the law to make all co-victims of Cold Cases eligible for Victim Compensation. These co-victims suffer secondary victimization when deprived of information needed to make sense of the unsolved murder.



Renee Cushing

This sequence of events led us to invite our keynote speaker for 2011, **Renee Cushing** of New Hampshire. Renee is Executive Director of **Murder Victims Families for Human Rights**, an international organization of such families opposed to the death penalty. Renee's father was murdered in 1988.

As a member of the New Hampshire legislature, Renee introduced successful legislation creating a state-level cold case squad and he also shepherded a bill through the legislature to make cold case families eligible for victim compensation.

We looked at two other venues. But Cheyenne Mountain Resort's exceptional accommodations, room rate concessions and caring personnel made last year's gathering such a memorable event, that our return was inevitable.

[Register now for our Annual Meeting; complete and return the enclosed registration form.]

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

Our website at *unresolvedhomicides.org*, now receives more than 2,000 visitors monthly from CO, WA, CA, NY, AR, AZ, NJ, FL, TX, CT, TN, GA, VA, OH, PA, IL, MI, NV and most other states, as well as China, Japan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Sweden, France & England.

This newsletter is published occasionally. 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



**FAMILIES OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS
& MISSING PERSONS**
SOMEONE IS GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER

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Howard's Notes

It took some doing but we can now register for the Annual Meeting online. Just log in to *www.unresolvedhomicides.org*. It's easy. We can also use this method to reserve a seat on the bus that takes us to the Cheyenne Mountain Resort, buy raffle tickets and make donations. All this can be paid for with our credit cards, thanks to our Treasurer, Vicky Hales, her employer, UMB Bank, and InternetSecure.

Or you can mail in the registration form, which is included in this newsletter, with your check.

The \$40 registration fee covers Continental Breakfast, Lunch and all the workshops. That we are able to keep the registration fee so low is due to the support of our sponsors and funders like UMB Bank, VALE (Victim Assistance Law Enforcement) Boards in the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 17th, 18th & 19th Judicial Districts; Nathan B. & Florence R. Burt Foundation; Denver Police Foundation, Havercroft Family Foundation. Our scholarships are provided by Office for Victims of Crime, Justice Department, Washington, D.C.

Those needing financial assistance can apply for a scholarship to help with registration, bus and lodging. See the enclosed scholarship form.

FOHVAMP needs some adult volunteers. Here is an opportunity for those who have wanted to take a more active part in our work and who have the time to devote to it.

We need a person with leadership experience to head up our effort to win Victim Compensation eligibility for Cold Case families regardless of the date of the murder. Successful candidate will organize family members as well as contact and explain their need for help to legislators.

We also need a Volunteer Coordinator to work with and train our research volunteers who are mostly college students. This person will be trained to be proficient in FOHVAMP research techniques. Successful applicant should be detail oriented, an experienced trainer or mentor and enjoy young people. Contact me or Kelly Fernandez-Kroyer, our Victim/Family Coordinator at 720-937-8905.

Finally, we need another volunteer caller. This person must be a family member of a victim and be good on the telephone. Callers contact newly found family members of victims who have not yet been contacted. Then follow with a packet of material containing a letter written and mailed by the caller. I will train this person.

If you have questions, call me at 303-838-1337.

Remembering...

Havercroft Foundation in support of our advocacy for co-victims of unsolved murders

Michael Radelet in honor of **Stehanie Hart**, 16, February 14, 2000

Vicky Hales and UMB Bank honoring our efforts in behalf of **all** our murdered loved ones

Diane Riechert fondly remembering her high school friend, **Connie Paris**, 18, March 31, 1968

Rocky Mountain Clothing Company on behalf of Donna Zuniga in memory of her beloved sister, **Bobbie Neville**, 43, July 3, 2007

Jerri and Don Reichert in loving memory of their son, **Michael Scott Reichert**, 36, October 9, 2000

James Stewart remembering with love his daughter, **Cindy Louise Stewart**, 43, July 6, 1999

Sherry Burt with undying love of her daughter **Marilee Ruth Burt**, 15, February 26, 1970

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

Jean Bullington in loving memory of her daughter, **Amber Naomi Bullington**, 18, February 6, 2000

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

Mark Reichert in fond memory of beloved brother, **Michael Scott Reichert**, 36, October 9, 2000

John Greene in memory of his beloved daughter, **Kimberly Greene-Medina**, 19, October 29, 1996

Mike and Cathy Sample remembering with love cousins **Bruce Bennett**, 27, **Debra Bennett**, 26, & **Melissa Bennett**, 7, January 16, 1984

Judith Hemschemeyer in fond remembrance of husband **Morton Rosenfeld**, 43, May 19, 1979

Thanks to the above concerned persons for their generosity. 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

Cold Case Review Team of experts needs more cases to review!

Would you like to have your loved one's case looked at by a team of experts other than the agency that is handling the case? Then ask the head of your agency's investigative team to prepare your case for review by the Colorado Cold Case Review Team.

A number of our members have already contacted their investigators, Sheriffs and Police Chiefs with this request since we informed them by email.

FOHVAMP petitioned the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to seek funding for CBI's Cold Case Team of investigators as called for in the law passed by the 2007 legislature. But DPS declined.

Instead they invited experts from several law enforcement disciplines to volunteer for a Cold Case Review Team (CCRT) that formed a year ago.

This group consists of 26 experts including a medical examiner, crime lab analyst, numerous investigators, prosecutors and a FBI behavioural analyst among others.

They take time away from day jobs to meet several times a year in different Colorado locations and go over difficult (but solvable) cold cases that are presented to these experts by the investigating agency.

The CCRT started out to meet for two days each time they got together, but since only one or two cases were presented each time, they cut it to one day.

The handful of agencies who have made these very detailed presentations have praise for CCRT's experts for giving them new angles to look at.

Only law enforcement agencies can present cases to CCRT. And those agencies must carefully prepare for the presentation ahead of time. Though we asked, family members are not allowed at these presentations.

The next CCRT meeting is slated for June 29, 2011 at Denver Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, 950 17th Street, Suite 1700, Denver, Colorado 80202.

Why not ask the head of investigations for your loved one's case to present it to this team of experts? Make a written request. Follow it with a phone call.

Then report your results to Howard Morton, P.O. Box 145, Pine, CO 80470, 303-838-1337, or FOHVAMP's Law Enforcement Outreach Coordinator, Mark Reichert, 2204 5th St., Greeley, CO 80631, 970-599-2775.

It's very important! See this Denver Post news article. www.denverpost.com/search/ci_18023336

Buy FOHVAMP Raffle Tickets on line or through the mail. First Prize \$1,000.⁰⁰

[See details page 4 and enclosed coupon]

LE/Cold Case Communication Seminar planned at FOHVAMP Annual Meeting

Officers and victim service people from west slope and southern CO law enforcement agencies with cold cases are being invited to a 2 hour seminar titled "Successful Communication With Cold Case Families."

The session, which will be conducted by Dr. Paul Stretesky, will be held after lunch during our 10th Annual Meeting October 8th in Colorado Springs at Cheyenne Mountain Resort (CMR).

Mark Reichert, FOHVAMP's Law Enforcement Outreach Coordinator, is in charge of contacting those agencies and inviting their personnel.

FOHVAMPers whose loved one's cases took place on the west slope or in southern Colorado are encouraged to urge their agencies to attend.

Dr. Stretesky is the author of a recent article published in the Journal of Criminal Justice titled *Sense-making and secondary victimization among unsolved homicide co-victims*. This article was based on Stretesky's in-depth interviews with 37 family members whose loved ones' unsolved murders occurred in ten Colorado law enforcement jurisdictions.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office has provided scholarships so that those attending may have lunch and lodging at CMR.

A previous session of this seminar was held at Denver Police Headquarters in January 2010 for Front Range and Northern CO agencies. About 100 people attended.

Bring your victim's case to FOHVAMP's 10th anniversary Annual Meeting; register now!

Take advantage of this opportunity to meet with some of the top sleuths in Colorado at our October 8th meeting. Here you will find the cream of the crop among law enforcement professionals. This is your chance to ask questions and learn how the criminal justice system works—or why it hasn't worked for your loved one's case.

Fill out and return the registration form enclosed with this newsletter. If you need help with the bus fare, registration fee or lodging cost, just complete the Scholarship Application. Use the return address envelope that is provided. But hurry! **Scholarships are limited and resort hotel rooms are going fast.**

And buy some raffle tickets. Raffle proceeds help pay for this Annual Meeting.

Buy FOHVAMP raffle tickets and win \$1,000 CASH!

Buy Tickets on line or by mail



The 2011 FOHVAMP raffle offers three great prizes and very affordable tickets. **You** can win! Just buy raffle tickets to play.

First prize is \$1,000 cash. *Could you use the extra money?* **Second Prize** is one night's lodging at scenic Cheyenne Mtn. Resort.

Would you enjoy some rest and relaxation?

Third prize is a \$100 Visa Gift Card.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. Purchase by mail with check or money order or on line at www.unresolvedhomicides.org/ with your credit card.

Your odds of winning FOHVAMP's raffle are much greater than they are at any lottery.



The drawing will take place at our Annual Meeting on October 8th about 5 PM. You need not be present to win.

Video highlights of 2010 Annual Meeting enclosed: Watch it!!

Last year's Annual Meeting was the first one held at Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs. You can experience some of the beauty and warm atmosphere of this special place by watching video highlights on the enclosed disc.

The video contains 15 minutes of highlights of the 2010 Annual Meeting as well as the keynote speech by Dorothy Moxley which captivated our audience following the continental breakfast.

If your computer or TV doesn't have a DVD player, go to your public library and ask them to help you play it on their computers. Guaranteed to be worth the trip and your time.

Then plan to attend this year's Annual Meeting of Members at Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs. You'll be glad you did.