



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

Of Milwaukee/Waukesha County

The vision of TCF "Those that need us will find us. Those that find us will be helped."

MILWAUKEE COUNTY CHAPTER

115 East Fitzsimmons Road
Oak Creek, WI 53154

Chapter Leader:

Rosemary Albrecht - 414-764-5668

Meetings are held the
3rd Tuesday of each month
6:30pm - 8:00pm

At the Oak Creek Community Center
8580 S. Howell Ave. - Oak Creek, WI

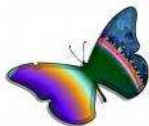
For more information contact
Rosemary
at the above number.

Web Site: www.tcfmilwaukee.com

Love gifts and letters for Milwaukee County can be
sent to:

The Compassionate Friends
at the above address.

E-mail address
tcfmilwaukee@yahoo.com



Chapter Newsletter September, October 2008

Watch for New Look to National TCF Website

In order to serve the public and TCF leadership better, this
National TCF website

~ www.compassionatefriends.org ~

has undergone major redesign. The redesigned site offers a
number of expanded services. For visitors, it includes a
Spanish language page, an area for friends, relatives and
co-workers to learn about the impact on a family when a
child dies, and they also list more in-depth information
about local chapters

You can also link onto the national Website through our
Chapter Site.

Check out our NEW Chapter Website

In order to use our newsletters for Chapter news and to aid
in the bereavement of families who are grieving, we would
like to refer you to our great local website listed. The
Chapter is full of thankfulness, to our webmaster, Shirl
Furgel who has put together an awesome website for us.
Here you will find additional information not noted in our
newsletters and great links to the most helpful resources
included the National Compassionate Friends.

www.tcfmilwaukee.com

WAUKESHA COUNTY CHAPTER

Co-leaders:

Karen Staker - 262-363-3091
W295 S7760 High Coss Dr
Mukwonago WI 53149

Peggy Yttre - 262-782-4777
13915 W. Wilbur Dr.
New Berlin, WI 53151

Meetings are held the
4th Monday of each month
7:00pm
Salem United Methodist Church
541 Hwy 59
Waukesha, WI

Phone a Friend: Sylvia @ 262-628-2604

Love gifts and letters for Waukesha County can be
sent
to:

The Compassionate Friends
at either address above



Thank you to the following businesses and professionals who have generously assisted us in our mission to offer hope to bereaved families.

Midland Video, *Joe Lieratore* – Studio Gear, *Bob Weise* – Melody Cookies – Black Bear Soda – Oak Creek Kiwanis – Oak Creek Lions/Leionettes – Oak Creek Community Center – Waterstone Bank – BalloonToonz – Krause Funeral Home, *Mark Krause & Lisa Turner* – Sam’s Club – Waukesha Memorial Hospital, - Quad Graphics, *Jenny Trad*

AND... all the volunteers who give of their time and talents to make this all come true

♥ Gifts of Love ♥

Your donations help spread the message of hope and healing. TCF is a 501c3 organization and funded only by donations. Monetary gifts in any amount are deeply appreciated and we gratefully accept these gifts knowing our children are warmly remembered. Chapter expenses include some printing, postage, memorial garden, balloon launch and candle lighting programs.

- ♥ In loving memory of daughter, **Lynette Fox-Bathe** on her angel date, October 14th by Verna and Leonard Fox.
- ♥ In loving memory of daughter **Sandra**, on her birthday, June 29th. Sandra has been missing for 30 years, by Mr & Mrs Bertalas
- ♥ In loving memory of son, **Timothy Gorenc** by Althea Gorenc
- ♥ In loving memory of son, **James Gyuro** by Anna Gyuro
- ♥ In loving memory of son, **Ron Schwerm** by Charles and Virginia Schwerm
- ♥ In loving memory of son **Mark Hershon** by Barbara Burger
- ♥ In loving memory of grandson **James Allan** Czarnecki by Rosemary Czarnecki
- ♥ In loving memory of daughter **Cheryl Haas** on her birthday, October 6th by Beverly Fischer
- ♥ In loving memory of dear friend, **Cheryl A. Haas**, on her birthday, October 6th by friends Dawn Engler and Bob Stimac
- ♥ In loving memory of sister **Teressa E. Schaefer** by Chrs Oritz
- ♥ In loving memory of son **Barndon Giuli** by Mom and Dad Giuli
- ♥ In loving memory of granddaughter, **Angelina Gunderson** by Auria E. Roso
- ♥ In loving memory of daughter **Cynthia “Tia” Chybowski** on her angel date, December 24th by Anita Chybowski
- ♥ In loving memory of grandson, **Jason Chybowski** by Anita Chybowski
- ♥ In loving memory of **Alicia Zalar** by Cory Kiliponen
- ♥ In loving memory of brother **Howard Bressler** on his angel date, August 12th by Faye Hantsche and family
- ♥ In loving memory of son **Ricky** by Donald and Lillian Grundy and family
- ♥ In loving memory of sister, **Alyssa Narloch** and brother, **Ricky Rivera** on their angel date, July 6th by Raymond and Taylor Rivera
- ♥ In loving memory of son **Howard Bressler** on his angel date, August 12th by Steve and Sue Bressler
- ♥ In loving memory of son **Peter** on his angel date, August 11th by Mildred Sobota
- ♥ In loving memory of son **Derrick Christmas-Lewis** on his angel date, November 5th by Gloria Dupor



Many of our members wanted a copy of this reading read by Steve Bressler at the Balloon Launch on July 22nd.

Don't grieve for me, for I am free,
I am following the path God has laid, you see.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
Turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I have found the peace at the close of the day.

If parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joys
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Oh yes, these things I too will miss
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
My life's been full.

I savored much, good friends, good times,
A loved one's touch
Perhaps my time seems all too brief
Don't lengthen it now, with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee
God wanted me now, he set me free!

by Joyce & Al Schlosser, in memory of Lynette 1972-2006 TCF Omaha

Why we still go to TCF

by Richard Edler, TCF South Bay CA

Are you still involved with that group? Aren't you over it yet? Why do you go?" these are questions I often heard after it has been more than seven years since Mark died. I suspect you hear them too. There are easy answers. But not everyone understands, unless you have been there. Here are ten I can think of:

1. Because we never want the world to forget our child, so what we do, we do in his or her name.
2. Because when we reach out to help someone else, we also help ourselves.
3. Because someone was there for us when we needed it most, the best way to say "thank you" is to pass it on by being there for others.
4. Because it is the only thing we do that can bring something positive out of tragedy.
5. Because we have found in TCF better friends and closer bonds than we ever thought possible. Here we can cry and hug people even if we don't know their last name or what they do for a living. And it doesn't matter.
6. Because a few people are qualified to walk up to a newly bereaved family and say, "I know how you feel." And because we can, we must.
7. Because sometimes we need to talk, too, and to remember and share. We are further along than many around us, but we never forget.
8. Because many of us believe that one day we will meet our child or brother or sister again, and he or she will ask, "So what did you do with your life after I left?" And we will have an answer.
9. Because our presence might help newly bereaved families understand that they will survive and laugh again.
10. Because we love cold coffee and hard metal chairs.

A note from the Chapter Leaders:

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Coming to your first meeting is the hardest thing to do. Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not TCF will work for you. The second, third, or fourth meeting might be the time you will find the right person or just the right words that will help you in your grief or comfort you. Remember we all have been there and even though circumstances may be different we really do understand. You are not alone.

TO OUR SEASONED MEMBERS

We need your encouragement and support. You are the string that ties our group together. Each meeting that we have new parents, think back...remember hearing from others farther along than you..."your pain will not always be this bad, it really does get better" Come to meetings and share your encouragement and strength. Show others that there is hope from someone who has found it.



2008 Annual Balloon Launch

Was held on July 22nd at our Memorial Garden. Another huge success with 27 of our children's names were added to the Memorial Wall. Over 200 parents and family members helped celebrate by launching balloons into the air with their messages to the children attached.

Don't miss next year.



2008 Worldwide Candle Lighting

December 14th

Mark your Calendar

6:00pm

Oak Creek Community Center

8580 South Howell Avenue

Oak Creek, Wi



10th Anniversary Celebration September 16th at the Radisson Hotel

Our chapter is honored to have Alan Pedersen join us in his "Celebrate the Children Tour" for our 10th Anniversary. Visit our website for all the details in reserving your seat for our Anniversary Meeting. www.tcfmilwaukee.com You can see Alan's story and purchase his CD's at: www.everashley.com

We are also grateful to Rosemary Albrecht for starting an active chapter 10 years ago. Now we will never walk alone!

Thank you Rosie

The Milwaukee County Chapter is a recipient of the WE CARE Program through Pick & Save Food Stores.

All you will need to do is take your Pick & Save discount card to the Front Desk. With a quick sweep, you will be helping support The Compassionate Friends every time you shop Pick & Save
Our number is 831625

♥♥ We do remember our children who have had birthdays in the past few months. However with apology, our data base is also getting updated and our dates are not available for this printing.

Again, we apologize and will get back on track as soon as we can. ♥♥



A Glimpse of our Chapter Leader, Rosemary Albrecht



We all know Rosemary Albrecht. She is the one that scoots around in that motorized wheelchair. Most of us have had that comforting conversation with her as we desperately dialed her telephone number, having no where else to turn in our grief. We always feel so good after talking to Rosemary. Others have seen her around town at benefits, and in and out of TCF functions

Yep, that is her, our Chapter Leader who bravely took the courage to start what is now Milwaukee County Chapter of TCF. As the editor of this Newsletter edition, and in our 10th year as an active chapter...I think it appropriate to expose more of Rosemary at what she does best. A mom, with her husband Bob, son Scott and granddaughter Abbie, took the tragic fall of having a daughter, sister and young mother whose name is Susie; die on May 3, 1997 from

breast cancer at the too young age of 27.

Rosemary wanted someone to just listen to her as a bereaved mom and move on as best she could. After receiving a card from a stranger who has heard about Susie, she joined a few others at the Salvation Army where they talked about their children who had died..

Ready to disband, Rosemary saw a need for such a group and hence, TCF of Milwaukee County

was started. When I asked Rosemary what being a Chapter Leader all these years meant to her, her answer was not a surprise. "We must help other families who are grieving the death of a child. Only our strength, experience and hope can assist bereaved parents in what we now call our "new normal."

She keeps Susie's memory alive by helping other families through the Susie Albrecht-Mole Memorial Benefit which is going on its 10th year. She was instrumental in getting the Children's Memorial Garden constructed in 2004 where Susie's name is inscribed along with over 300 other children.

Susie loved children and when hearing of a child neglected or abused, she was heartbroken. In her memory, Rosemary and Bob have been CASA (court appointed special advocates) volunteers since 1999, assigned by the court to visit children who have abused.

"I feel Susie's arm around me when I'm feeling sad and lonely. She gives me the strength to go forward," said Rosemary.

Still in her own grief, because we never get over our own loss, Rosemary puts herself out there for you, with all the compassion and understanding you would expect.

We would like to receive stories and/or poems from you to put in our newsletter.

*Please send to: **Karen Matulis, 3872 S. Lake Drive, Unit 104, St Francis, WI 53235** or e-mail to **tcfmilwaukee@yahoo.com***

MEMORIAL GARDEN

is in need of a regrouping. In October we will be adding ground and replanting our flowers. The ground the way it is has turned unhealthy in the past few years where some of our plantings have not survived.

Soooooo.....

We are looking for donations of dirt. We figure we will need a total of 2 yards to get things going. We will also need strong people to help remove plants, pour in the dirt and help replant the plantings. No experience necessary

If your interested or know where we can get some good dirt. -call. Rosemary Albrecht. A date is pending, depending on the weather.



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Milwaukee County Chapter
115 East Fitzsimmons Road
Oak Creek, WI 53154

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The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive.

**On The Wings Of Hope
As an ancient legend goes;**

If anyone desires a wish to come true,
they must capture a butterfly and whisper that wish to it.

Since butterflies make no sound,
They can't tell that wish to anyone but the Great Spirit,
So by making the wish and releasing the butterfly,
It will be taken to the heavens and be granted.

Although this legend implies that we should keep our wishes silent,
there are some wishes that need to be expressed out loud.

To those that have been touched by the disease we are helping to fight today,
We wish the caregivers strength and tranquility,
and thank them for their gifted labor of love.

We wish the survivors a long and happy life,
and thank them for showing us how to fight with courage and determination.

We wish those currently fighting the battle energy and hope,
and thank them for showing us what true bravery is all about.

And finally, we wish the victims peace and love,
and thank them for the joy and happiness they brought to us.

With this symbolic gesture, we honor those that have left us and encourage
those left behind to continue the fight "On the Wings of Hope".

Legend

As you release this butterfly in honor of me,
know that I'm with you and will always be.

Hold a hand, say a prayer,
close your eyes and see me there.

Although you may feel a bit torn apart,
please know that I'll be forever in your heart.
Now fly away butterfly as high as you can go

I'm right there with you more than you know

By Jill Haley