

The Compassionate Friends Of Northeast Arkansas Healing Hearts Newsletter

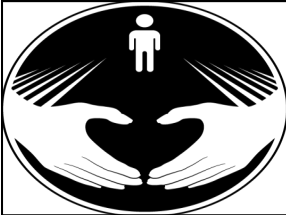
2211 Jones Road, Paragould, AR.

Up on the hill at Southside Community Church, in the Conference Room.

Email: tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com Webpage: tcfofnortheastarkansas.weebly.com

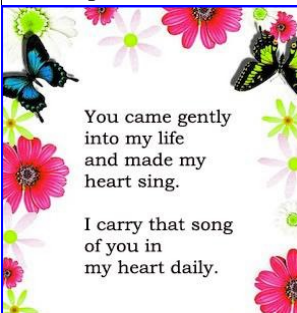
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tcfofnea/>

Our next meeting is May 8th, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. — 9:00 P.M.



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You came gently into my life and made my heart sing.

I carry that song of you in my heart daily.

The Compassionate Friends
State of Arkansas
Regional Coordinators
David and Dana Penn
870-759-1299
www.djdp32@hotmail.com



Mothers Day

By Linda Lenox

It will soon be Mother's Day, once again. One of the most lonesome days of the year for mothers who have lost a child. I still have other children, and they do their best to make it a good day for me, and it is. Still...you can't help thinking about the one who can never be there. I have a gift that Melissa made for me 2 years before she died. It's a calendar of 1983 with her picture on it. She was taking a photography class at school, and she took the picture herself and developed it. I treasure this gift. I have it in a clear, plastic frame so that her message on the back shows: Happy Mother's Day, Mom. Love, Melissa. How can it be 26 years since she wrote those words? I've loved and missed her every single day since she's been gone, and I know that will never change.

I have her pictures, and memories of her, but I never get a phone call, and we can't chat on Facebook. When she was here, we didn't have cell phones, or home computers, camcorders or digital cameras. CD's hadn't even been invented, and I can't help thinking how she would have loved all those things. She did have love, and parents who adored her, and younger sisters that she ruled over, and watched over. In the end, those things will have to be enough.



1983



Advisory Board Members

Associate Pastor Pat Graham, LMSW
Melissa Phillips, Owner of Bren's Flowers
Crystal Baldwin, MSNFP-BC
Mariah Bryson, General manager of Zaxby's

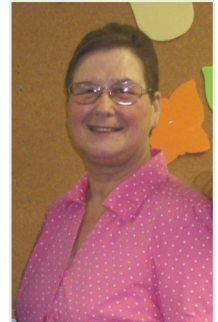
Thank you all for being on our board!

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Web address: www.compassionatefriends.org. Facebook: Compassionate Friends/USA



Healing Hearts Newsletter of The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

Note from our Chapter Leader, Toni Baker



Spring is finally here and soon the beautiful flowers will be blooming. Our hearts bloom with the love of our child(ren) and memories can never be taken away. Mother's Day is tough for mothers who have lost a child and we tend to think of the day they were born and any memories we have of them – we are their mother and always will be. I hope your Mother's Day will bloom with much love for your child(ren) – Happy Mother's Day – you are special!!

This month we will have our 2nd Annual Balloon Release at the Arts/Loose Caboose Event on Saturday, May 17th. We need volunteers to help in the booth – if you are willing to donate some time to be there it would be very much appreciated!! The Balloon Release will be at 4pm and we will start handing balloons out about 2:30pm and there is no charge for this event. We send messages of love to “Our Loved Ones Gone Too Soon” in the balloons and what a beautiful sky our children make.

Get ready to sell Boston Butts in June for our Annual Fundraiser. Appreciate you!!

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 8th at 7pm. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Love and Hugs, Toni Baker, Chapter Leader

Join Us on the Web!
tcfofnortheastarkansas.weebly.com

Join Us on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/tcfofnea/>

We'd love to have your feedback!

The Compassionate Friends does not espouse any religious ideologies. Southside Community Church has graciously offered the use of it's conference room as a meeting place for our chapter.
Thank You Southside Community Church!

If you wish to stop receiving this newsletter, or if you would like to contribute to the newsletter with an original poem or story you wrote, please contact me at:

linda@thelnoxfamily.com

Our next 3 Meetings!

May 8, 2014
June 12, 2014
July 10, 2014

Mark Your Calendars!





Healing Hearts Newsletter of The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas



Telephone or email Friends

Toni Baker, 870-476-6025 or baker2205@msn.com

Toni's son Jayson died in a motorcycle accident.

Linda Lenox, 870-573-6920 or linda@thelenoxfamily.com

Linda's daughter Melissa died in a flooded creek.

Jo Cook, 870-249-1290

Jo's daughter, Jennifer died in an accident with a train.

Upcoming Events:

May ↓

Join us for The Compassionate Friends, 2nd annual Balloon Release, at the Loose Caboose Festival which is held in Paragould. We don't know yet where the Loose Caboose will be held this year, but we will let you know when we find out! We need volunteers to help at our table. This is a fun event, and the Balloon Release is a beautiful tribute to

Our Children Gone Too Soon

June →

During June, we will have our 3rd annual fund raiser selling Boston Butts, and Ribs from Payne's Meat. The meats will be ready for 4 of July Celebrations! We really need volunteers to help us sell these wonderful meats and raise money for our chapter!

July →

The Compassionate Friends is pleased to announce that Chicago, IL will be the site of the 37th TCF National Conference July 11-13, 2014.



"Miles of Compassion through The Winds of Hope" The 2014 conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare right near the airport. We'll keep you updated with details here, on the national website as well as on our [TCF/USA Facebook Page](#) and elsewhere as they become available. Plan to come and be a part of this heartwarming experience!

**The agenda for the conference: www.compassionatefriends.org
[http://www.compassionatefriends.org/Libraries/PDF/37th National Conference Workshops.sflb.ashx](http://www.compassionatefriends.org/Libraries/PDF/37th%20National%20Conference%20Workshops.sflb.ashx)**

Fall 2014 ↓

Chapter Leader, Toni Baker is looking into transportation, conference, and hotel costs. Please let her know if any of are interested in attending. This is one of the closest conferences to us and they are amazing!

This Fall we will be having our 2nd annual family picnic and "Walk to Remember" Last years event was held at Crowley's Ridge State Park in the large, covered pavilion. One of our members grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, and we had a drawing for several door prizes. For our "Walk to Remember," Our group walked around the lake while carrying signs with our lost children, siblings, and other loved ones. This year, date, time and place is still to be determined. We will up-date this information as it becomes available.



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Steve Gillespie



Our Painting!



For our April meeting, we welcomed artist, Steve Gillespie. He spoke about using art therapy as a way to relieve stress, anger, and depression, which are emotions we have all been through after the loss of a loved one.

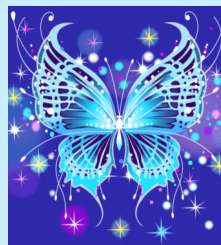
We started slowly, but it didn't take long to get into the paint and create our masterpiece. Steve took our painting and is making the outline of a butterfly on it, after which he will return it to our chapter.

L-R: Bonnie Russo, Toni Baker, Kali Aaron, Linda Lenox and Karin Miller



Chapter member, Kali Aaron shared a wonderful gift made for her by her grandmother. Kali lost her son, Aidyn Isaiah when he was 6 days old. This beautiful quilt was made using Aidyn's blankets for the back, and his tiny clothing sewn onto the front.

What a wonderful way to honor sweet, little Aidyn, and to give Kali a lasting remembrance!



Aidyn Isaiah Queen



Kali Aaron and Karin Miller



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Our Children Remembered

Melissa Wilkinson

Cooper Catharine Porter

Haylee Kidd

Jennifer Cook

Samantha Cook

Jennifer Lee Hancock

Ashlyn Dunn

Annaya Marie Edwards

Tabitha Marsh

Stephanie Sluder

Julie Ellen Amick

Olivia Jurkin

Jayson Baker

Nathan Kidd

Nicholas Zurosky

Timothy Lee Fitzwater

Shane Mathew Fitzwater

Aaron Scott Boyer

Aidyn Isaiah Queen

Shane Palmer

Steven Charles Garland

Timothy House

Carter Smith

Tyler James Tritch

Terry Brown

Jayden Wilkinson

Caiden Billups

Blake Howerton

Andrew Wayne Myers

Jon David Penn

Joseph "Chase" Jackson

Tyler James Troutt

Matthew Russo

*If you would like your child
added to this list, contact me:
linda@thelenoxfamily.com*



In Loving Memory...

There are no dues or fees to belong to The Compassionate Friends. We have all paid the ultimate price; the loss of our loved ones.

Through "Love Gifts," parents and others who wish to help, may provide financial aid to support our chapter.

We appreciate these gifts and use them in our chapter's work to be there to help other people who have lost a precious a child, or grandchild, or brother or sister.

The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

We ask for donations in memory of our children who have died. Our activities support the grief work of families in our area. Our work is also used to educate the community about the grief process and how everyone can help and give emotional support to bereaved families. Please help us help others by making a "love gift"

Tax deductible love gifts may be sent to:

TCF of Northeast Arkansas, c/o Toni Baker, chapter leader
2703 Stonegate Drive, Paragould, AR 72450

Donations can also be made through our web page
or through our online store:

tcfofnortheastarkansas.weebly.com

FOLD IN
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This page can be printed and folded to form an envelope for your love gift. Fold as directed, insert your check, and tape the ends closed

I would like to give a love gift of \$_____ in memory of

From (relationship) _____

If you choose to give a love gift, please add your return address to receive your tax deductible receipt

May we acknowledge your love gift in our newsletter: Please Circle YES NO

If you would like your loved one's name added to our memorial page,

"Our Children Remembered" in our newsletter, Please submit the following information:

Child's full name _____

Your relationship _____

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email: linda@thelenoxfamily.com

CENTER

CENTER



**The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas
2703 Stonegate Drive
Paragould, Arkansas 72450**

Address Service Requested

FOLD BACK
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