

Abolition**A**lert

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7th Annual Day of Faith in Action Against the Death Penalty

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19th ■ 2:00 p.m.

Park Strip Veterans Memorial (9th & I Street)

Please join us from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. for remembrance of death row inmates. Everyone is welcome.

Immediately following this event, we will meet at the Holy Family Education Center in the St. Albert Room for coffee, cookies and a brief film called *Interview with the Executioner*.

A gathering to honor Rachel King will be held following the event. See page 3 for details.

Grant Awarded to AADP

AADP received grant money from The TIDES organization to assist with the campaign to prevent bringing the death penalty to Alaska. More details will be forthcoming about our educational plans and events, so check in on our Website: aadp.info/ for further details.



***Fish Fry Event
Another Huge
Success — see page 3.***



Rachel King Passes Away

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Rachel Carol King, 45, the first executive director of Alaskans Against the Death Penalty, and an ardent and lifelong abolitionist. Rachel died on August 25th of breast cancer at her summer home in Wayne, Maine. She lived in Washington and was employed as a lawyer for the U.S. House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime and Homeland Security.

Rachel was born in Enid, Okla., and moved to Wayne as a child. She graduated from Smith College in Massachusetts and then worked for the Girl Scouts of America in Massachusetts while volunteering in the Sanctuary movement, a religious and political movement that sheltered Central American refugees. She received a law degree in 1990 from Northeastern University in Boston. Rachel worked as a lawyer in Alaska from 1990 until 1996, at the Public Defender offices in Ketchikan, Kodiak, and Anchorage. She was also executive director of the Alaska Civil Liberties Union and was active in the state's Green Party.

Rachel moved from Alaska to Philadelphia in 1996, and then to Washington in 1998. She was a legislative counsel and lobbyist for the American Civil Liberties Union, where she worked on limiting the scope of the USA Patriot Act. Rachel was also a founding member of Takoma Village Cohousing in Northwest Washington, where she lived, and

■ *Continued on page 3 ...*

AADP Website

Thanks to **Rushi Tan**, our new Webmaster, for keeping our Website up-to-date.

Check it out at

www.AADP.info/

AADP Board of Directors

Hugh Fleischer

Kathy Harris

Cara McNamara

Jamie McGrady

Blanche Crandall

Bill Pelke

Rich Curtner

Erika Kahill

Sue C. Johnson

Welcome to new Board member **Erika Kahill** — we are happy to have you! We are sad that **Averil** has decided to leave the board, but we know she is nearby if we need her. We are always looking for new board members. Let Sue Johnson know if you are interested:

scjohnson@gci.net.

E-mail Reminder

Please make sure we have your e-mail address, so that we are able to keep you updated about AADP issues. **Send your e-mail address to scjohnson@gci.net.**

Coming Up . . .

Monthly NCADP Teleconferences Being Held

Teleconferences are being held on a monthly basis with NCADP and all the affiliates are welcome to tune in. The next one is scheduled for **October 21st at 3:30 EST**. This one will provide a sneak preview of the agenda for NCADP's 2009 Annual Conference, "Training for the Long Run!" in Harrisburg, PA. Pennsylvanians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (PADP), our host state, has put in place a plan to bring at least 150 key members to the conference by setting target goals from each region of the state, each chapter and organizing hub, and among the new folks they are bringing in over the coming months via their ongoing organizing efforts, with the hook of encouraging new people to come for training and inspiration. <http://www.ncadp.org/index.cfm?content=59>

December Art Sale at Side Street Espresso — *Just in Time for Holiday Shopping!*

Please go by and view the art collection, which includes a collection donated by Kim Edwards (AADP Friend) and Abolitionist photos by Kathy Harris and Barb Hood.



Pastor Carroll Pickett to Come to Alaska in January

AADP hosted the first Alaska screening of the new documentary, *At the Death House Door*, at the Bear Tooth Theatre on June 15, 2008. The documentary is a personal inquiry into the Texas death penalty through the eyes of Carroll Pickett, who served 15 years as the chaplain at the death row in Huntsville, Texas, over the course of 95 executions, each of which Pastor Pickett documented.

AADP has invited Pastor Pickett to Alaska in January. We plan to show the film again and follow with a discussion with Pastor Pickett. Details: TBA.

Annual NCADP Conference will be Held in Harrisbury, PA, January 22-25

Rachael King will be honored at the event. Please let the Board know if you are planning to attend.

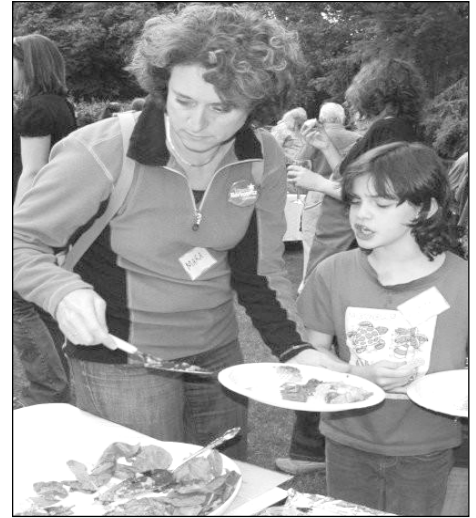
Fish Fry Once Again a Success!

Well, we did it again and broke yet another attendance record! The Fish Fry was bigger than last year's. Fun was had by all with our usual salmon, salad, side dishes, beverages, door prizes and silent auction. Thanks to all the chefs, judges and attendees for making this event another success!



Vic Fisher & Katie Hurley — Special fish judges who helped write our Constitution and are celebrating Alaska's 50 years of statehood!

Mara Kimmel
& Hanna —
Great food!



Hostess
Nancy
Groszek
watching
over chefs?
and Dirk
Sisson



Rachel King *continued . . .*

received a master's degree in law in 1998 from Temple University in Philadelphia. She also taught law classes at Howard University.

At the time of her death, Rachel was in a master's degree program in creative writing at Johns Hopkins University. She wrote Don't Kill in Our Names: Families of Murder Victims Speak Out Against the Death Penalty (2003) and Capital Consequences: Families of the Condemned Tell Their Stories (2005). She published a novel, Tales of the District, last year.

Rachel, a Quaker, had been the chairwoman of the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty. NACDP announced in July that it planned to give her its lifetime achievement award. Rachel was a photographer and a long-distance runner, and she competed in more than a dozen marathons, including the Boston Marathon.

Survivors include her husband of three years, Richard G. McAlee of Washington; three stepdaughters, Lauren McAlee of Washington, Julia McAlee of Olympia, Wash., and Livia McAlee of Crofton; her

October 19 **Gathering Scheduled**

A gathering to honor Rachel will be held at the home of Barb Hood and Dirk Sisson on October 19th at 5 p.m.

For directions, please RSVP either to Barb Hood (bhood@acsalaska.net or 770-4920) or to Barb Brink (barb_brink@fd.org or 258-4666).

mother and stepfather, Jill Howes and David Rogers of Wayne; her father, Charles H. King of Wayne; and two brothers.

Rachel requested that those wishing to send a memorial make a donation to the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (www.NCADP.org). More information about Rachel, her publications, and her extraordinary abolition efforts is available at www.rachelkingbooks.com.

Alaskans Against the Death Penalty

**P.O. Box 202296
Anchorage, Alaska 99520**

Sue C. Johnson, Coordinator
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Website: www.aadp.info/

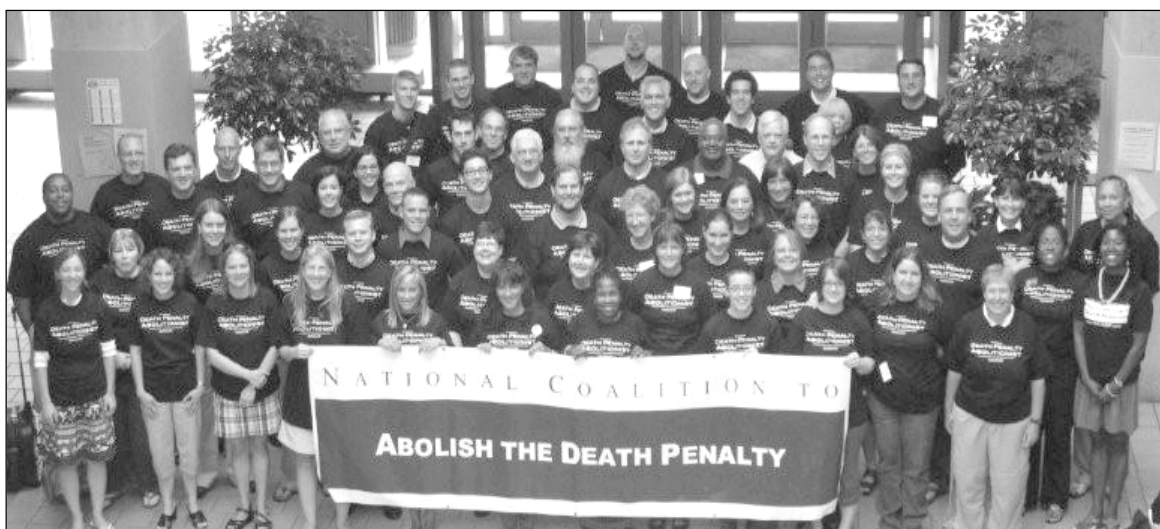
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New T-Shirts Are In!

*To order your new AADP T-shirt,
contact Sue Johnson.*

NCADP Leadership Conference Held in Washington, D.C.

The First Annual NCADP Leadership Conference was held in Washington, D.C. in August. **Bill Pelke** and **Sue Johnson** attended and brought back lots of good ideas for future implementation in Alaska.



Troy Davis Given a Stay Less Than 2 Hours Before His Execution!



Troy Davis was scheduled to be executed on September 23, 2008, for the murder of Police Officer Mark MacPhail in Georgia, but the U.S.

Supreme Court granted a stay of execution less than two hours before it was to be carried out. The court's nine justices then met in conference on Sept. 29 to decide whether to accept the appeal. Now, they will meet once more to discuss the case. The court did not say when it will issue a decision. Serious doubts of his guilt remain and compelling evidence of his innocence has not been heard in court.

For those not familiar with Troy's case, please visit <http://www.amnestyusa.org/troydavis> for more info.

See Scott Langley's photo documentary. 51 photos from the day:

[http://www.langleycreations.com/
photo/deathpenalty/troydavis/](http://www.langleycreations.com/photo/deathpenalty/troydavis/)

Feel free to forward the photo link above to others, and if you are with an organization that would like to use any images for Web or print purposes, all are welcome. Please just contact Sue Johnson, so usage can be tracked.