

SPRING / SUMMER 2012

ALASKANS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

Journey of Hope

Bill Pelke and Kathy Harris continue to take the Journey of Hope around the country and around the world sharing the message of "Violence to Healing."



David Kaczynski, Linda Patrik, and Bill Babbitt in Anchorage

In March Alaskans Against the Death Penalty hosted David Kaczynski, brother of the so-called "Unabomber," and his wife, philosophy professor, Dr. Linda Patrik, who spoke about how they came to the realization that David's brother, Ted, might be the "Unabomber," their ultimate decision to talk to the FBI, and their struggle to ensure that Ted would not receive the death penalty.

Bill Babbitt, also turned in his brother, Manny Babbitt—a decorated Vietnam Vet—and spoke about his ethical and emotional journey. Unfortunately, his brother was executed by the State of California.

The Kaczynski and Babbitt families have a lot in common, but also share the biases in the justice system when it comes to race, socioeconomic status, and mental illness. Their Alaskan Adventure is chronicled throughout this newsletter.

Save the Date!

2012 Annual Fish Fry

July 27th, 2012



AT THE HOME OF NANCY GROSZEK
SEE OUR WEB PAGE AADP.INFO

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**THE ANNUAL FISH FRY at the home of
NANCY GROSZEK- 2512 ST. ELIAS DRIVE
JULY 27TH, 2012 – DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM**

**ALASKANS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY
IS HONORED TO WELCOME
RAIS BHUIYAN – JOURNEY OF HOPE - TO ANCHORAGE**

Rais Bhuiyan, a Muslim immigrant from Bangladesh, worked as a cashier at a convenience store and was the victim of a post 9/11 shooting spree. Mark Stroman was his attacker. Mr. Stroman, an avowed white supremacist and methamphetamine addict, was caught and confessed to the shooting as well as two others. The other men died. Although Rais, survived he was blinded in one eye and still carries 35 shotgun pellets embedded in his face. Mr. Stroman died on death row July 2011.

Mr. Bhuiyan advocated to spare his attacker's life. He mounted an aggressive campaign to convince Texas authorities to commute Stroman's sentence to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Mr. Bhuiyan in an interview with the HuffPost, said his efforts on behalf of Stroman were motivated by his Muslim faith. Mr. Bhuiyan's message of forgiveness changed Mr. Stroman's life and it can change yours. Please join us in welcoming Mr. Bhuiyan to Alaska.

AADP'S NEWEST ABOLISHIST!

Violet Serra Kelley – joined our organization on April 11th, 2012 weighing in at 6 lbs. 6 oz. and 19 inches long. Our newest member is the beautiful daughter of board member Cara McNamara and her husband Brendan Kelley.

CONGRATULATIONS!





David Kaczynski, brother of the "Unabomber," spoke to students at UAA for the National Criminal Justice Month kickoff event March 1

David Kaczynski, brother of the so-called "Unabomber," spoke to about 80 students and members of the public at the kickoff event for National Criminal Justice Month on March 1 on campus. Mr. Kaczynski and his wife, philosophy professor, Dr. Linda Patrik, talked about how they came to the realization that David's brother, Ted, might be the "Unabomber," their ultimate decision to talk to the FBI, and their struggle to ensure that Ted would not receive the death penalty.

While sharing his personal story of growing up with his brother, Ted, Mr. Kaczynski described how his involvement in his brother's trial led him to his work as Executive Director for New Yorkers for Alternatives to the Death Penalty and his efforts to improve rehabilitation and reentry services for prisoners.

Article and photographs provided by Barbara Armstrong -UAA



Susan, Lanie Fleischer, and Hugh Fleischer hosted this years annual Chili Feed

Great Chili from the Chili Feed

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of Alaskans
Against the Death Penalty Chili Feed.

ENJOY!

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 [onion](#), chopped
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can stewed tomatoes
- 1 (15 ounce) can [tomato](#) sauce
- 1 (15 ounce) can kidney beans
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 pinch chili powder
- 1 pinch [garlic](#) powder
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine the beef and onion and sauté until meat is browned and onion is tender. Add the stewed tomatoes with juice, tomato sauce, beans and water.
2. Season with the chili powder, garlic powder, salt and ground black pepper to taste. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low, cover and let simmer for 15 minutes.

**IMPORTANT CAUSE, GOOD PEOPLE,
GREAT FOOD, WHAT DO YOU HAVE?
CHILI FEED 2012!**

Hugh and Lanie Fleischer opened up their beautiful home to a wonderful crowd of AADP supporters. With generous contributions of chili, side dishes, beverages and Bill Pelke's special stuffed eggs everyone was truly blessed!



**RICH CURTNER INTRODUCES DAVID,
LINDA AND BILL BABBITT TO THE
CROWD AT THE 2012 CHILI FEED**

It was truly an honor and a pleasure to have David Kaczynski, his lovely wife Linda Patrik, and Bill Babbitt in Alaska for: the Iditarod, Rony, AADP Annual Chili Feed, National Criminal Justice Month-UAA Kick Off Event, and The Performing Arts Center.



David, Linda and Bill at the Iditarod
Photo by: Art Peck



**BILL PELKE AND LINDA PATRIK LEAD
THE JOURNEY – JOURNEY OF HOPE
JOURNEY OF CHANGE,
JOURNEY OF FORGIVENESS, and
JOURNEY OF RESTORATION!**

Journey of Hope with Bill Pelke was recently in Roanoke, Virginia spreading the message of forgiveness. See Journey of Hope website for more information. Bill, David, Linda and Bill Babbitt will be traveling to California to spread the abolition message as California voters decide the fate of the death penalty for their state. Stay tuned for more information.



AADP'S NEWEST BOARD MEMBER PLEASE WELCOME NOA OREN

Noa attended the University of California, Berkeley, where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Classical Languages and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. A few years later Noa moved to Washington, D.C. where she attended a Masters in Public Policy at Georgetown and then worked for the Teamsters union. After working on shareholder initiatives for the Teamsters, Noa went to law school at the University of California, Berkeley where she shifted focus to criminal law and trial practice.

She participated in the Worker's Rights Clinic, clinics at the East Bay Community Law Center and clerked at the San Francisco Public Defender, Alameda County Public Defender, and the District of Columbia Public Defender Service.

Since graduation from law school, Noa has worked for the Alaska Public Defender Agency as a criminal trial attorney in several communities.

Noa has been a member of the Alaska Bar Association since 2010. She is a member of the [Alaska Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers](#).

ALASKANS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

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