



The Compassionate Friends Newsletter
c/o Anne Rinaldi-Nonamaker
168 Lake Point Lane
Naples, Florida 34112

Compassionate Friends Web Address: www.compassionatefriends.org
Regional coordinator: Sally Migliaccio (561)747-2691

Dear Friends: To receive this newsletter by email, which will help us save on the cost of printing and postage, please send an email to me at: anne.rinaldi@comcast.net. On the subject line insert "TCF Email"

TCF meets every first Monday of the month unless otherwise noted

Upcoming Meetings: February 5, 2007

March 5, 2007, April 2, 2007, May 7, 2007, June 4, 2007

Welcome and Sharing Begins @ 7:00 PM

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

(in the PLC building behind the church)

625 111th Ave. North, North Naples, FL 34108

At the Immokalee and 41 intersection turn on 111th Ave. (travel toward the beach)

TRAVEL ABOUT 1 MILE AND THE CHURCH IS ON THE RIGHT

**If we have inadvertently missed your child's Birthday or Anniversary Date or made any other errors, please accept our deepest apologies. Do call us at 287-5968 or email anne.rinaldi@comcast.net to make an immediate correction.

February 2007



The Compassionate Friends

The Compassionate Friends, Inc. National Headquarters: P.O. Box 3696, Oak Brook, IL 60622
Phone (877) 969-0010 Fax: (630)990-0246. Email: nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org
Web site: www.compassionatefriends.org
Siblings chat: Wednesdays, 9 p.m. EST: www.compassionatefriends.org/Chat/chatentrance.html



There's a Valentine Waiting for You
by: Mary Cleckley, Lawrenceville, GA

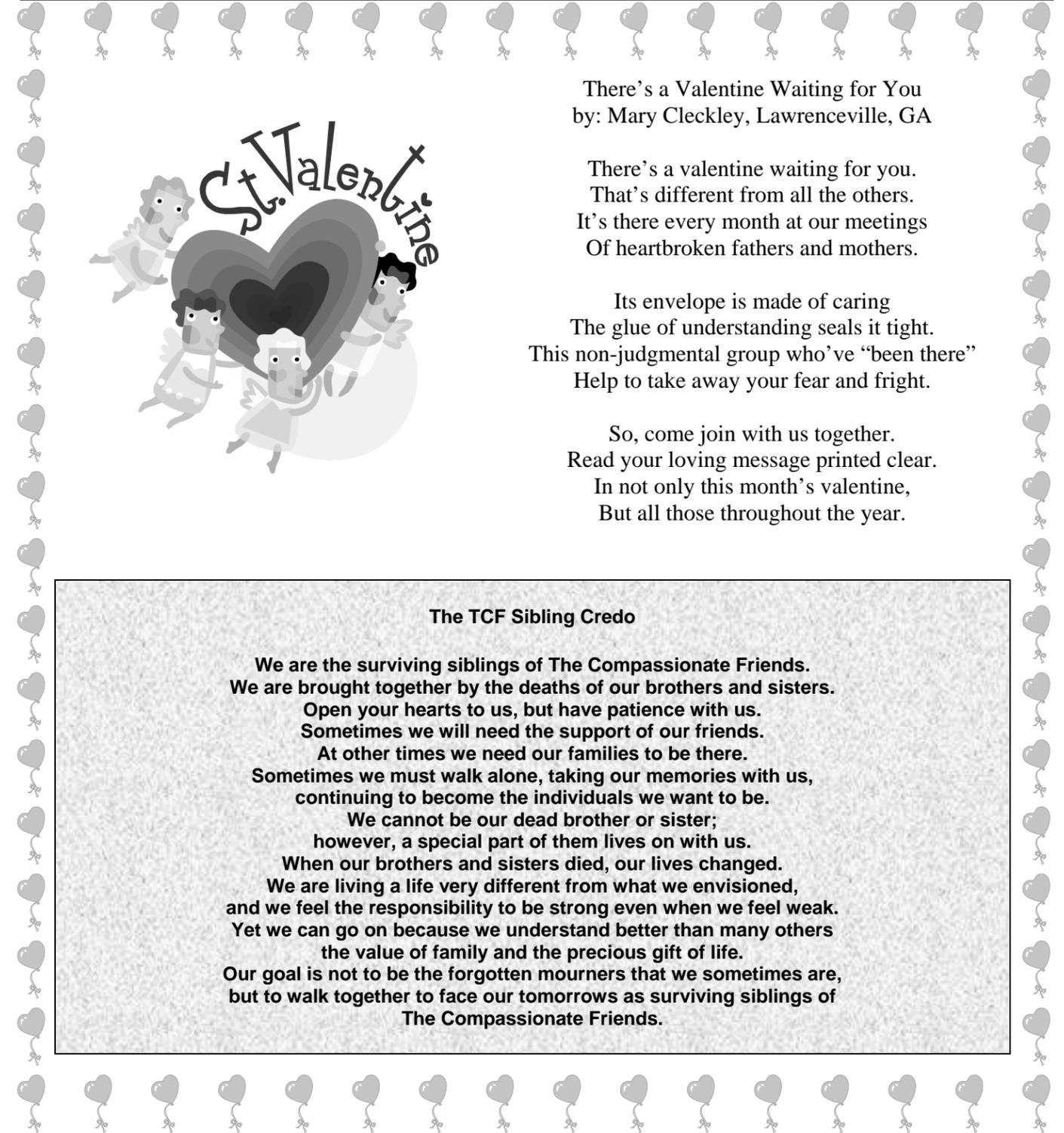
There's a valentine waiting for you.
That's different from all the others.
It's there every month at our meetings
Of heartbroken fathers and mothers.

Its envelope is made of caring
The glue of understanding seals it tight.
This non-judgmental group who've "been there"
Help to take away your fear and fright.

So, come join with us together.
Read your loving message printed clear.
In not only this month's valentine,
But all those throughout the year.

The TCF Sibling Credo

We are the surviving siblings of The Compassionate Friends.
We are brought together by the deaths of our brothers and sisters.
Open your hearts to us, but have patience with us.
Sometimes we will need the support of our friends.
At other times we need our families to be there.
Sometimes we must walk alone, taking our memories with us,
continuing to become the individuals we want to be.
We cannot be our dead brother or sister;
however, a special part of them lives on with us.
When our brothers and sisters died, our lives changed.
We are living a life very different from what we envisioned,
and we feel the responsibility to be strong even when we feel weak.
Yet we can go on because we understand better than many others
the value of family and the precious gift of life.
Our goal is not to be the forgotten mourners that we sometimes are,
but to walk together to face our tomorrows as surviving siblings of
The Compassionate Friends.





Our Children, Loved and Remembered



<i>Birthdates</i>		<i>Anniversary Dates</i>	
Bill Bishop Son of JoAnn Bishop	2/1/1962	Andrew Morello Son of Andrea & Joe Morello	2/1/1992
Brad L. Corder Son of Mark & Pam Corder	2/11/1981	Ziven Dabrowski Son of Sharon Bruckman	2/3/2004
Leah Rose McCarrick Daughter of Pat & Fred Bifulco	2/15/1994	Manny Gonzalez Son of Manuel & Rose Gonzalez	2/11/1997
Rebecca Ann Wagoner Daughter of Don & Joyce Cameron	2/21/1956	Robert Neinas Son of Pam (Arsenault) & Jim Craig	2/18/1986
Daniel Patrick Jacoby Son of Carol L. Jacoby	2/28/1967	Ryan H.G. Chieffi Son of Merry Smith	2/20/2001
		Daniel Patrick Jacoby Son of Carol L. Jacoby	2/22/1987
		Jason Zitzke Son of Marilyn Maggio-Zitzke	2/07/2005

Loving Listeners:

For those times when you need to speak to someone who will listen with understanding and who can offer hope and support from their own process of healing in grief please call us:

Annette Carruli 250-4071
Teresa Walker 353-3215
Anne Kithcart 775-5640

Why Butterflies?

Since early times, the butterfly has symbolized renewed life. The caterpillar signifies life here on earth; the cocoon, death; and the butterfly, the emergence of the dead into a new, beautiful and freer existence. Frequently, the butterfly is seen with the word "Nika" which means victory. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross movingly tells of seeing butterflies drawn all over the walls of the children's dormitories in the World War II concentration camps. Since Elisabeth believes in the innate intuitiveness of children, she concludes that these children knew their fate and were leaving us a message. Many members of The Compassionate Friends embrace the butterfly, a symbol—a sign of hope to them, that their children are living in another dimension with greater beauty and freedom—a comforting thought to many.

Thank you for your Gifts of Love

Patricia Moran "donation"
Lloyd and Judy Williams in remembrance of their son, **GREG WILLIAMS**
Ken and Bern Burks—Christmas remembrance of their son, **MATTHEW BURKS**
Robert and Kris Doyle—in remembrance of their son, **GENE DOYLE**
Sue Bernier—in loving memory of her son, **BARRY ALAN BELYEA**, and her grandson **RICHARD EARL MARQUIS**
Ron and Jan Chapman—in honor of their daughter, **NICOLE CHAPMAN**
Bill and Chris Barnett—in honor of their Angel, **STEPHANIE BARNETT**, at holiday time and always.
Ron and Judy Davis—in memory of their son, **CHRISTOPHER DAVIS**

All donations are gratefully accepted and assist the chapter in its mission to help bereaved families following the loss of a child.
Please mail to: Teresa Mitchell 11081 Longshore Way West, Naples, FL 34119

Members Area: Southwest Florida Compassionate Friends:

These are two poems submitted by our member, Connie. They are written by her son, Brian Pease, in memory of his brothers, David and Casey

Endless

What were once blue skies are now just clouds and rain.
What was once happiness is now only pain.
Sometimes I'd expect you to come walking through the door,
but you never came.
You lunged the dagger deep,
and it remains.

Only The Beginning

Time only makes the pain grow stronger.
Days barely pass while my life withers in front of my eyes.
There's nothing left inside.
Just the void that is large enough to swallow every potential bit of happiness I can find
I hear the screams.
Where are they coming from?
The screams, louder than standing next to a jet engine, reach the highest decibels.
Piercing my soul.

For those of you who would like to share your ideas, growth, insight, stories or poems, please submit your material for the newsletter by the 20th of the month. You may email it or, if you prefer, mail it to my address: 168 Lake Point Lane, Naples,



We are pleased to have partnered with *Basket of Kindness* as our fundraising website. We receive 15% of every gift basket purchased in the name of The Compassionate Friends Naples.

Our Mission: 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.

The Compassionate Friends is a national nonprofit, self-help support organization that offers friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, grandparents, and siblings. There is no religious affiliation and there are no membership dues or fees.

The secret of TCF's success is simple: As seasoned griever reach out to the newly bereaved, energy that has been directed inward begins to flow outward and both are helped to heal. Please come, bring your hope and energy, and be a Compassionate Friend to another.