

## In Memoriam: Anne Rose-Pierce 1950-2005

Volunteer activists are the heart and soul of many organizations dedicated to social issues. One of those people was Anne Rose-Pierce.

Anne was a long-time resident of Oregon. After she graduated from Eastern Oregon University with a teaching degree, she taught school in several eastern Oregon towns before moving to Portland in the late 1980s.

In 1994 she met Greg Pierce, who had been in and out of trouble with the law for many years. They fell in love and planned to marry. Nineteen months later Greg died after being hospitalized while in the Multnomah County Jail (Portland). After Greg died in 1996 Anne legally changed her last name from Rose to Rose-Pierce.

During a conversation with Greg's probation officer, he commented to Anne about Greg's repeated run-ins with the law, "After 17 years, what made you think he could change?" Appalled at that attitude, the lack of care Greg had received while sick, and that he was chained to his hospital bed when on death's door, Anne decided to start a grass-roots organization to raise awareness about prisoner related issues. Remembering what the probation officer said, she named it "... after 17 years ...". Her organizations by-laws barred charging for any services it provided, although she did accept donations.

In between working at her day job of managing apartments for adults with disabilities, Anne published a quarterly newsletter with prisoner oriented information that she named "... after 17 years..." In addition to the newsletter that she distributed at no charge to prisoners, she visited prisoners, she gave a helping hand as she was able to release prisoners, she contacted and was interviewed by the media about prisoner issues, and in the

late 1990s she founded a weekly thirty-minute radio program devoted to prisoner oriented topics. That program, Prison Pipeline, was broadcast Tuesday nights on Portland's KBOO 90.7 FM. Prison Pipeline reached the five state and federal prison complexes in the Portland-Salem area, and Anne reported on a wide variety of topics, such as proposed laws that affected prisoners, and she interviewed many people. *Justice: Denied's* publisher Hans Sherrer was a guest on Prison Pipeline a number of times. Anne said about her program, "The Prison Pipeline is my way of shortening the distance between prisoners and our community. It's two way communication, so the prisoners know what's going on outside, and the community knows what goes on inside." <sup>1</sup>

Over a period of years Anne paid many thousands of dollars out of her pocket for printing and mailing "... after 17 years ...", and she volunteered thousands of hours of her time to writing the newsletter, maintaining the mailing database, and answering mail. In 2004, after the mailing list neared 2,000, she made the difficult decision to suspend publication until should could find a donor or grant to cover the newsletter's expense.

Beginning in 2004 when Oregon was one of the two states that had not yet criminalized the rape of prisoners by staff members, Anne helped with the effort that resulted in Oregon's passage of a custodial sexual misconduct bill that became effective on July 13, 2005.

Anne was afflicted with Sleep Apnea, and she died in her sleep at her home in Portland on November 30, 2005. She was 55 years old.

Anne would be pleased that Prison Pipeline lives on at KBOO with two new co-hosts. It can be listened to from 6:30-7pm on Tuesdays at 90.7 FM in the Portland metro area, or it can be listened to over the Internet from KBOO's website at, <http://kboo.org>.

<sup>1</sup> Take No Prisoners: Women Activists Making a Change, by Brigette Sarabi, *Justice Matters* (Western Prison Project), Summer 2001 issue.

### Compensation Awarded To The Wrongly Convicted In 2005

Name	Compensation	Paid By	State	Convicted	Released	Exonerated	Yrs jailed	Avg. Yearly	Compensated	Exonerated By	Crime	Sentence
Wilton Dudge	\$2,000,000	State of FL	FL	1982	2004	2004	22	\$90,909	2005	DNA	Rape	Life
Ed Heinrich	\$660,000	City of Houston	TX	1994	1994	1999	.4	\$1,650,000	2005	Conv. reversed	Theft	4 yrs
Ray Krone	\$1,400,000	Maricopa County	AZ	1992	2002	2002	10.5	\$133,333	2005	DNA	Murder	Death, then resentenced to Life
Ray Krone	\$3,000,000	City of Phoenix	AZ	1992	2002	2002	10.5	\$285,714	2005	DNA	Murder	Death, then resentenced to Life
Milton Lantigua	\$1,000,000	New York City	NY	1992	1996	1996	6	\$166,667	2005	Conv. reversed	Murder	20 yrs
Nathaniel Lewis	\$662,000	State of OH	OH	1997	2002	2002	5	\$132,400	2005	Proof of innocence	Rape	8 yrs
Dennis Maher	\$550,000	State of MA	MA	1984	2003	2003	19	\$28,947	2005	DNA	Rape	Life
Eric Sarsfield	\$550,000	State of MA	MA	1987	1999	2000	9.5	\$52,632	2005	DNA	Rape	10-15 yrs
Joseph Smith	\$120,000	Oneida County	NY	2001	2001	2001	1	\$120,000	2005	Perpetrator found	Murder	Exonerated prior to sentencing
Josiah Sutton	\$118,000	State of TX	TX	1998	2002	2002	4.5	\$26,222	2005	DNA	Rape	25 yrs
Eduardo Velazquez	\$500,000	State of MA	MA	1988	2001	2001	14	\$35,714	2005	DNA	Rape	12-18 yrs
Eduardo Velazquez	\$2,450,000	City of Chicopee	MA	1988	2001	2001	14	\$175,000	2005	DNA	Rape	12-18 yrs
Kenneth Wymienko	\$3,900,000	Clinton Township	MI	1994	2003	2003	9	\$433,333	2005	DNA	Rape	40-60 yrs
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$16,860,000</b>						<b>125</b>	<b>\$134,450</b>				