



# Vigil Family Chatter



Volume 2

September 2006

## Vigil Foundation Board of Directors 2006-2007

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John H. Vigil, President  
JoAnn Phillips, Vice President  
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Carolyn M. Romero, Treasurer  
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**“Educación es la luz del mundo”**

The Juan de Jesus Vigil Family Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2005 by the descendants of Juan de Jesus Vigil dedicated to maintaining opportunities for scholarship and grants to qualified descendants of Juan de Jesus Vigil.

[www.juandejesusvigil.com](http://www.juandejesusvigil.com)

## President's Report

By: John H. Vigil

On September 1, 2006, the Juan de Jesus Vigil Family Foundation celebrated its first anniversary. The Foundation honors the name of Juan de Jesus Vigil and promotes our Vigil family legacy into perpetuity. The **Mission** for our Foundation is to promote educational scholarships, grants, and to provide support to charitable causes that will benefit the descendants of Juan De Jesus and Maria Bustos Vigil.

The Board of Directors has been busy developing grant and scholarship criteria and working with other foundations to increase potential scholarships and grants.

We had set a goal of raising \$5,000 before making our first grant or scholarship. Unfortunately, the donations have been slower than anticipated so we have had to delay making our first grants. To help raise funds, the Board is investigating various fundraising activities such as a golf tournament and a Gala dinner program to be held in the Denver area in the summer of 2007. We have also submitted grant applications.

We need your help. Our goal is to provide scholarships and grants for the Fall Semester 2007. Please consider making a donation of \$500 - \$1,000 and name a scholarship in honor of a loved one or yourself. All donations qualify as charitable deduction. Of course,

any donation amount will help. Please return the enclosed donation form with your contribution.



L-R Carl Salazar, Mimi Vigil, Rosemary Salazar, JoAnn Phillips, Carolyn Romero, John Fransua, John Vigil

**Thank you** for your continued support.

## **New Beginnings**

Dear Family & Friends,

I wish to announce to you that on August 8, 2006 at 1:51 a.m., Stephanie delivered a baby girl. Her name is Malaya-Mai Marcelo Vigil. She weighed 7 pounds and 12.3 ounces and measured 20.5 inches. We just returned home from the hospital. There were some minor complications because of Stephanie's high blood pressure. Malaya-Mai had some difficulty breathing, but she is healthy now and Steph's blood pressure is normal, Thank God!

The whole experience and addition to our family is a true blessing! I just wanted to share the good news with you!!! Thank you for your support over the last nine months! Please keep my wife and child in prayer.

Love,

Marcus (Vigil), Stephanie and Malaya-Mai!!!  
*(Editor's Note: Welcome to the newest addition to the Celedon line)*

## **Be Part of the Future**

The Foundation is searching for five new board members who are willing to make a difference in the lives of the descendants of Juan de Jesus Vigil through the gift of education. We need people with expertise in website technology, finance or banking, and fundraising as well a people ho are willing to just get involved. If you are interested, please call Carl Salazar at (303) 429-4105. Note: All members of the Foundation Board of Directors must be descendants of Juan De Jesus Vigil.

## **Applications Now Being Accepted**

Descendant of Juan De Jesus Vigil who are planning to attend college or a trade school during the 2007/2008 year and who have a financial need may qualify for a scholarship or grant from our foundation. Individuals may request a scholarship or grant application in writing by contacting The Juan De Jesus Vigil Family Foundation Scholarship/Grant Screening Committee; 3072

East 136<sup>th</sup> Place, Thornton, Colorado 80602. The deadline for accepting applications will be February 1, 2007.

## **Sad Good Byes**

Note from Jan Lindgren: Attached are Felix's comments over the phone one evening shortly before he passed--I asked him a couple of things and thankfully I went in my office and typed it up right then, so at least we have that much.

**Felix Vigil's Story** (As told to Jan Lindgren on March 30, 2006)



Felix grew up in Trujillo Creek and lived near the schoolhouse and in the back of it for some time. The schoolhouse was where the local dances were held and they could hear the music real well. Some of the local people made moonshine and would bring it to the dance. Some of the boys would take the bottles they hid and sell it back to the people at the dances. Felix's brother and other older boys would ride saddle horses to dances in other areas.

His father was Benito Vigil and grandfather was Isidoro Vigil. If people were misbehaving or being lazy, Isidoro would use a whip on them.

One favorite memory Felix had of his Dad was when he would take a wagon of hay into Aguilar and sometimes Trinidad to sell the hay and buy groceries for several months. The kids would sleep in the wagon on some of the hay as they would leave home about 6 a.m. and return that evening also sleeping in the wagon with all the groceries.

Their family moved to Ft. Collins when Felix was about 9 years of age—They did not live there long as they came back to help with the farming in Trujillo Creek. This took place in the late 30's and early 1940's.

## **News from Rosemary and Carl Salazar Family** *(Hilario)*

Another year has come and gone. A year ago we met some of you cousins that we didn't know. We have had a very busy but Blessed year since we have seen all of you.

We are celebrating our 4th year in our home in Broomfield. We really like the area and have wonderful neighbors.

Our children are doing well. Gary and Ime and their 4 girls live in Louisville and are busy with school and college. Our oldest granddaughter, Tachara, is a junior at CU and her sister, Kalee, just completed a 5 week course at the school of engineering at CU and will be starting her freshmen year their next week. Our 13 year old, Cibonet, just got back from Boston where she spent 5 weeks at an academy preparing her for high school. As for the youngest sister, Masani Rose just started pre-kindergarten and will be going three full days a week. I then will only take care of her Thursdays and Fridays.

I have taken care of her all thru the week since she was 3 months old. She has been a Blessing to me. I can relate to my grandmother raising me from the age of 3 months until I was 13. I wish my grandparents were still alive so that I could thank them and tell them how much they meant to me.

Our youngest son Steve is living in Federal Heights and is doing well.

It was so nice to have many of you visit our Ranch in Trujillo Creek last summer. We are now in the process of getting our own water system there. Hopefully that will be done soon.

Carl is still working at the Denver Newspaper Agency and will soon be working closer to home since they have expanded their company.

Carl and I are serving on the Board for the Vigil Educational foundation. We meet every 3 months so it's nice to see family.

We hope you are all doing well for those of you that live in the Denver area we would love to hear from you and see you once in a while. For those of you far away come and visit sometime.

## **COMING HOME TO MARTINEZ PLAZA**

By John H. Vigil *(Jose Manuel)*

The 2005 Juan De Jesus Vigil Family Reunion was the catalyst for my family's journey back to our property in Martinez Plaza where I was born nearly 65 years ago. The family left the area in 1946. The original log cabin-type home was built by my mother's adopted parents, Pula and Pasqualita Martinez in 1900.



*Cabin at Martinez Plaza where Jose Martinez Vigil lived from 1915-1946. Built by Pula and Pasqualita Martinez.*

Immediately after the family reunion in July of 2005, we visited our property in Martinez Plaza. It was then that my wife, Joyce, and I, decided that we wanted to build a new home that we could occupy during the summer months and throughout the year on special occasions. Frankly, we fell in love with the serenity, the peace, and the special atmosphere of the area at the very foot of Las Huajatollas (The Spanish Peaks).

After returning to Denver, we started inquiring into how we could go about building a new home, as the old log cabin was on the verge of falling

down. Lucky for us, on the recommendation of a dear family member and resident of Trujillo Creek, Anne Lucero, we contacted Mattorano Homes, Inc. in Trinidad. And before you know it, it all started to come together with the foundation being completed in October of 2005. By mid-January of 2006, the modular home was constructed in Waco, Texas. Soon after, the home was brought to Trinidad and ultimately to Martinez Plaza which is located three miles west of Gulnare, Colorado (on the Highway of Legends and the road to Cordova Pass).



*Joe and Tina (Vigil) Romero*

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006, after numerous trips back and forth to monitor the final stages of the home development process, we moved in and were back home where I was born. There was a very happy and special feeling, not only does this bring back many important memories, but the true realization that I was back home. This new home places me and my family right in the middle of my ancestors, most of them resting (Vigil's) resting in the Trujillo Creek Cemetery and my maternal ancestors (Lave's) resting in the Jaroso Cemetery right over the hill from our new home. Somehow it seems I feel more connected than ever to be able to dwell in the area of our forefather's.

Aside from the serenity and scenic blessings of the area, throughout the spring and summer, we were extremely fortunate to have an almost daily elk and deer show. They would come down from the canyons and hills to forage for food and drink water from the Apishipa River that runs approximately 50 feet from the end of our property.

In closing, I want to share an interesting fact with you that both of my great grandfathers, Juan De Jesus Vigil and Miquel Lave, fought in the Union Army as Mounted Scouts at the same time in the same nit. This important fact was brought to my attention by Anne Lucero who is also a Lave descendant and who is also connected to the Juan De Jesus Vigil family. Please feel free to drop by our home. You can't miss it – I had a sign constructed: "Vigil's at Martinez Plaza". My cell phone #: 720-327-0580. You may also contact me by e-mail: [jhvigil1440@msn.com](mailto:jhvigil1440@msn.com).



*Pula and Pasqualita Martinez*



*Isidoro Vigil's hay barn*



*Juan de Jesus Vigil homestead near trees on right*



*Trujillo Creek Schoolhouse – School District #15*

## **News from Duane Vigil** (Hilario)

I really enjoyed reading the family chatter and hope there are more to come.

I was surprised to not see anything about the Fred Vigil SR. Family ranch which was visited by the same groups led by Mimi to the Cemetery.



*This picture is of part of the Original Vigil Home Stead which was passed down from Juan De Jesus to Hilario Vigil then to Fernando Vigil SR. Than to Fernando Vigil Jr. The Vigil Property runs all the way across the valley and three quarters the way up the hill.*

My Father (FredVigil Jr.) and I worked really hard to clean up the ranch and my Great grandfather Hilario Vigil's Home Which was built in the late 1800' and is also part of the orig inal homestead handed down from Juan De Jesus. This home is still in its original form except for the missing wood burning stove and the bathroom which was added in the 60's for my great grandmother.

We also, with the help of my brother David Vigil and my wife Sharon, rebuilt the roof of the barn which caved in from a snowstorm in March 2004. My dad at the time had fluid in his chest cavity which he had surgery on in December. (No Cancer thank God!) This barn was built in 1945 when my uncle Seferino Vigil got back from the war. We are working very hard to preserve this property and history to share with all of the family.

*Daniel Garcia his Wife Marie and myself in front of the barn my Grandfather Fred SR and my uncle Seferino built in 1945*



People really seemed to enjoy the tours we gave of the ranch. Cousin Rosemary and Carl went as far as to provide snacks and beverages to all the guests that visited her part of the property which included my Grandfather Fred Vigil SR's home. Cousin Al Vigil sat in cousin Rosemary's home (home of Fred Vigil Sr.) and shared stories about the family which was incredible for me.

Again thanks for all of your hard work. I really enjoyed the book you put together. It made even more proud to call myself a Vigil.

When the next reunion comes around, please contact me I am interested in participating. My contribution this year was our ranch which was not included in any of the meetings because I wasn't quite on the ball with that. But I would like to see my Father Fred Vigil Jr. Who is 71 and worked very hard with me to rebuild the porch in front of my Great grandfather Hilario's home and clear the growth and trees which had taken over and rebuild the fence in the front yard get credit for his hard work.

**Editor's Note:**

I regret the oversight regarding Hilario's Homestead. Thank you for bringing this to my attention and sending me the photos.

*Carolyn*

Carolyn.romero@comcast.net

## **Request for More Oral Histories**

Since July 2005, we have obtained the oral histories for more than 25 people. If you are willing to participate in this project, please contact Jan Lindgren at [jan@kidviewsz.com](mailto:jan@kidviewsz.com). Or at (303) 980-0432. Preference will be given to those over 50 years old or who are seriously ill **of any age.**

Jan is planning a trip through Albuquerque, Taos and Mora, NM in November and would like to complete more oral histories during her trip. Call Jan to schedule your story.



*Stone face in Trujillo Creek on Fred Vigil's property*

## **News from Floyd Vigil**

My name is Floyd Vigil; you spoke to my father the Rev.L. Vigil, who forwarded your name to my attention.

I have researched the Vigil name for some time and this is some of the information I have traced. The family name comes from a region northwest Spain, called Asturias. The Vigil name is a working name and specifically meant to watch over. The original Vigil family was responsible to watch over the Spanish Armada, responsible for all supplies. Most Spanish working surnames were taken by Jewish families the names given to the families after the biblical exodus of Israelites tribes from Egypt. I have yet to find the proper Jewish name, before the Vigil name was given. (My father cringes when I say this!) As the new world became populated the name first appears in

North America. I understand that the family name is first found in the four corners, known today as New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Utah. You know the rest of the story, better than I do.

On a personal level, I am sure my father updated you on his brothers and sisters. My father's dad was named Jesus Vigil he was killed July 1945 at the age of 49 (I will give you my theory on his death at a different time) when my dad was only 5 years old. His grandfather was Ambrosio Vigil and we understand that he was born in New Mexico and they traveled back and forth to Saltillo Mexico. I am still in search for facts about our family. My mother's family is from Monterrey Mexico; my mother's maiden name is Flores Pacheco. Her grandfather was Pacheco and was a freemason Grand Dragon in Monterrey. This is just a brief note of our family, my search continues.

### **News from Pat Maes** **Manalo** *(Juan Bautista Montes Vigil)*

Thought that I would drop you a note to tell you I am enjoying the book enormously. Very well put together. Love it. I haven't found much of my immediate family but a lot on the extended family. The place where I tie into this family is with the first Juan Felipe de Jesus Vigil. His dad is Juan Bautista Montes Vigil. I descend from that family. My direct ancestor is Julian Montes Vigil, Juan Bautista's brother.

Also, I talked to Aggie this morning and she said that Flavio Vigil is her uncle, her dad Juan de Jesus' brother. When the mother Ygnacita Archuleta died, Flavio was given to a "Duran" family to raise him as he was a baby. He then took the "Duran" name. So Ygnacita must have died sometime after 1909, or maybe in childbirth. Aggie didn't know. Do you have any info on Ygnacita? Like her parents?

Well keep in touch and tell your mom about Flavio. Take care, and thanks for the two books. I love them.

### **NEWS FROM** **CAROLYN ROMERO**

*(Celedon)*

Has it really been a year since we wrote the last Vigil newsletter? It's amazing how time flies by.

There have been many significant events in our lives over the past twelve months. In December, I left the safety net of public accounting to find a new career in corporate America. I had owned a business for 14 years and this turned to be an interesting culture shock, but one I am really enjoying.

In May, we traveled to Chicago to celebrate my parent's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Don and Chris Hattan did a wonderful job of pulling things together. We just had to show up.



*Joe and Lillian Hattan dancing at their 50<sup>th</sup>*



*The Hattan Family Celebrates Joe and Lill's  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

The following day, we celebrated our niece's (Michele Hattan) graduation from high school

and our daughter Andrea's graduation from 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

June was a busy month. I introduced our Cadette troop to the world of white water rafting.



What an experience. The conditions were perfect. The girls can hardly wait to do it again.

In July, we celebrated Eloy Vigil's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was King of his party. It was wonderful to see so many friends and family celebrate his milestone.



*4 generations for Eloy Vigil*

*Ted, Eileen, Dennis  
Richard and Michele Hattan*

## **News from Dennis Hattan** *(Celedon)*

Ted and Michelle are away at college and have not communicated too much. Ted burned up his motor on his car just before college started so he can not run back and forth as he did last year. Michelle is coming home Friday for an evening of home-coming fun at Joliet Central High and then back to school as she has said she can not study when around friends. Neither has said they are having any problems, so no news is good news there.

Richie is doing well in the 8th grade. He is 1st chair in the "All City Band" and is in a tottering program to help him with his grades. He is looking to be on the basketball team at school this year as well. He will be able to go hunting with me if he wants this season, so I am looking forward to him wanting to go with me.

Eileen has been dieting with "Weight Watchers" and has lost 50 pounds! She is looking "Pretty" thin and is almost embarrassing me to diet myself. I am doing well and am not dieting yet but have been giving it some serious thought.



## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The Foundation committee had set a goal of raising \$5,000 within one year so we could begin providing grants and scholarships beginning with the fall of 2006. Unfortunately, we have had to postpone this target date since fundraising has lagged behind expectations. The Juan de Jesus Vigil Family Foundation was established so that the FAMILY could help raise the living conditions of it members. We currently have \$2,700 in our account. Won't you help us reach our goal by making a gift today?



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**Yes, I want to make a gift now** that reflects my personal commitment to strengthening the lives of the descendants Juan de Jesus Vigil.

\$25 - \$149     \$150 - \$249     \$250 - \$499     \$500 +  
*Friend*                      *Financier*                      *Torchbearer - Gold*                      *Torchbearer - Platinum*

### **Tributes/Memorials** (complete all that apply)

This gift is  in memory of (deceased) or  in honor of Name \_\_\_\_\_

\* *Acknowledgment of gifts may take up to 60 days.*

Please tell this person or family that a gift was made in honor/memory. (minimum \$25 gift)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

### **Donor Information**

Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

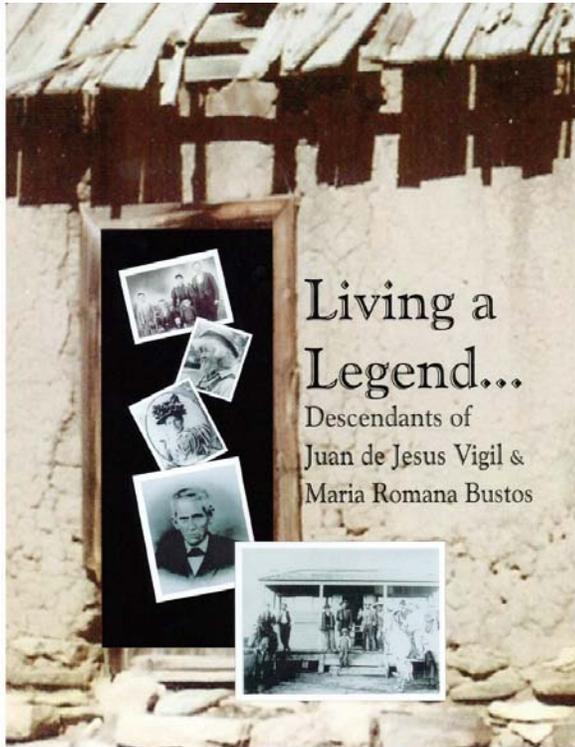
Email \_\_\_\_\_

The Juan de Jesus Family Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation and your contribution may be considered tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please mail your gift today to:  
Juan de Jesus Family Foundation  
4745 Coffeetree Drive  
Loveland, CO 80538

***Thank You.***

**Order Your Copy of the Vigil Books while Copies Last**



*Living a Legacy...Descendants of Juan de Jesus Vigil and Maria Romana Bustos,*  
by Carolyn M. Romero  
(Note – There are 7 left)

\$40 + \$5 shipping = \$45.00

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*Vigil Legacy,* by Anne Lucero

\$6 + \$1.50 Shipping = \$7.50

Send your check payable to the **Juan de Jesus Vigil Family Foundation** to:

Carolyn M. Romero  
4745 Coffeetree Dr.  
Loveland, CO 80538



**Juan de Jesus Family Foundation**  
**4745 Coffeetree Drive**  
**Loveland, CO 80538**