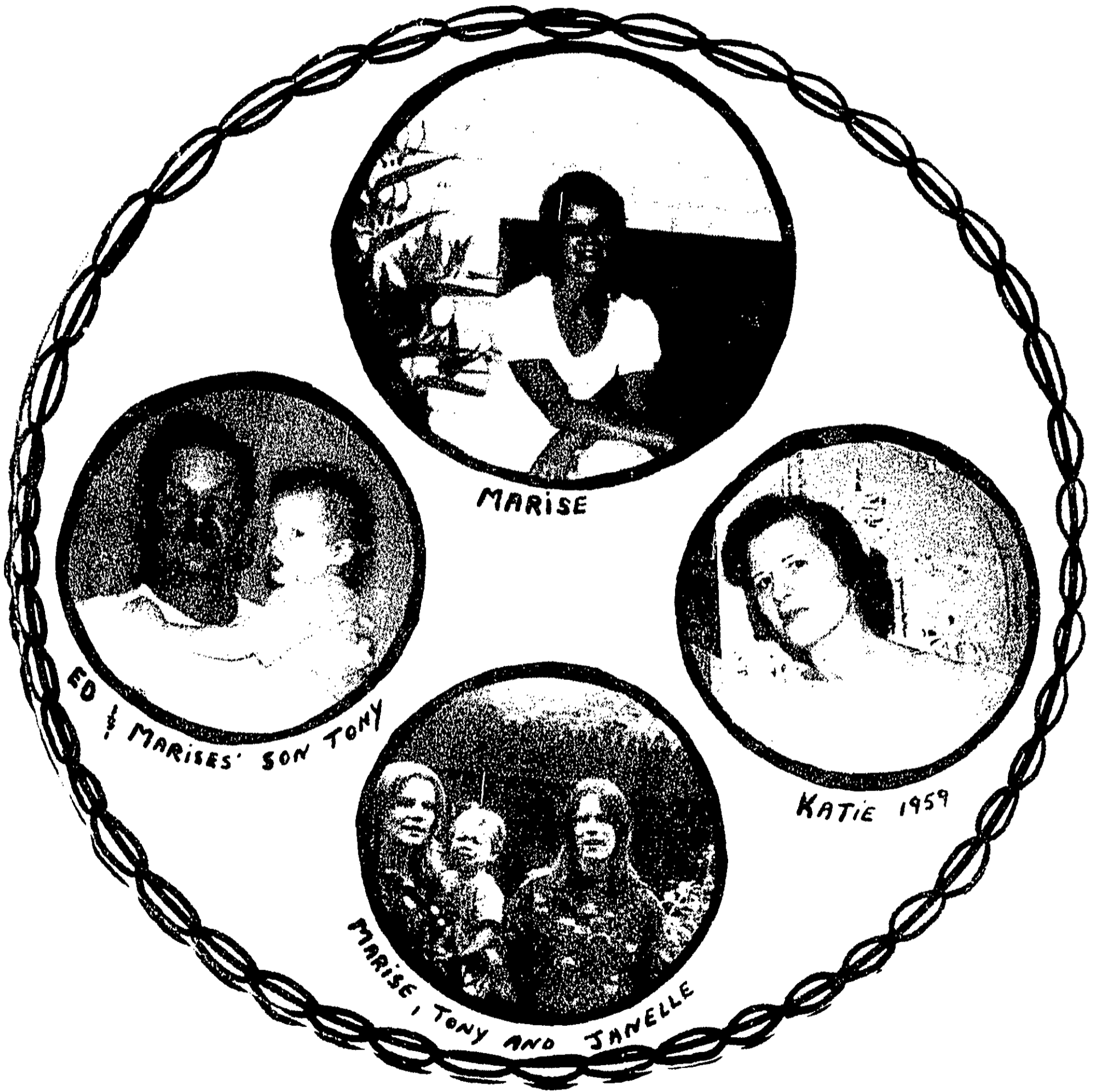


" THE LEAFLET "

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1976

NUMERO II



COVER Story by MARISE GUIZZETTI .....



President - Shirley Bullock Phone: 789-4901  
3510 Architect Ave., Mpls., Mn. 55418

Vice-President - Cheryl Hall Phone: 636-7031  
1400 Centennial Dr.#14A, Roseville, Mn. 55113

Secretary - Jeanie Verkinderin Phone: 776-6031  
1621 Fremont Ave., St. Paul, Mn. 55106

Treasurer - Patty O'Gorman Phone: 433-5211  
23247 Lofton Ct.No., Scandia, Mn. 55073

Dear Members,

THANK YOU for your wonderful reception of "The Leaflet" with your continued support it will have a long and happy life!

We have enjoyed sending these first two issues of our newsletter to prospective members and all interested parties as a complimentary gesture; if you wish to become a member or have placement on our mailing list....see page 13.

Each issue will carry a cover story....if you wish to share your experience as an adopted adult, birth parent, adoptive parent, social worker or concerned citizen, please, send a summary of YOUR feelings regarding adoption from your standpoint. (photo is desired)

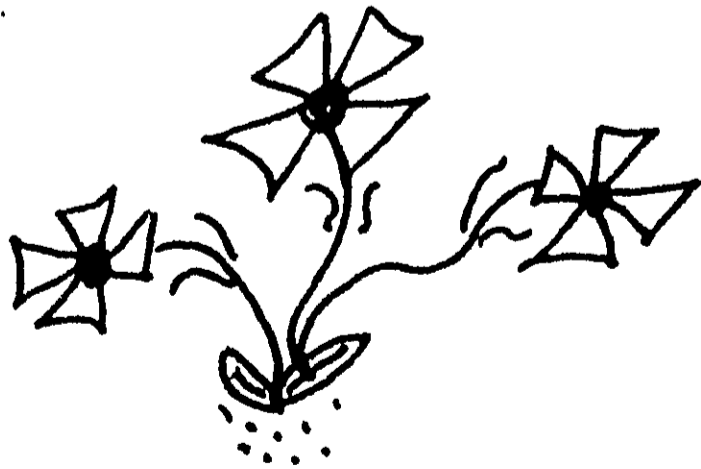
We welcome all letters, ideas and articles on the subject of adoption; send them to the editor please.

The Leaflet Published Bimonthly  
Editor: Patty O'Gorman

P.S. If your name is circled on the front of this Leaflet your \$5 is due, please, forward a.s.a.p..... Thank You !

# Contents:

President's Page .....	III
From the Cover .....	IV
Legislative News .....	VII
Tuit .....	VIII
The Library .....	VIII
Minutes .....	IX
Calendar .....	IX
Adoption Research Proj. ....	XI



- PRESIDENTS' PAGE -

Dear Friends,

In two months you will elect a new President and Officers for L.E.A.F.. This is an exciting prospect for the future of our organization, if you care about L.E.A.F. you will come to the January meeting and participate in the election.

Between now and then you all have the opportunity to volunteer for office or to nominate someone you consider capable for office. We will be mailing out ballots in December for those unable to attend the January meeting; each paid LEAF member has one vote.

As of November 1st, 1976 Cheryl Hall will be the acting-president, she has advised that she will run for this office in January and so LEAF will be in good hands.

Exciting things can and will happen if YOU become involved, but we can't do it with out YOUR help !!

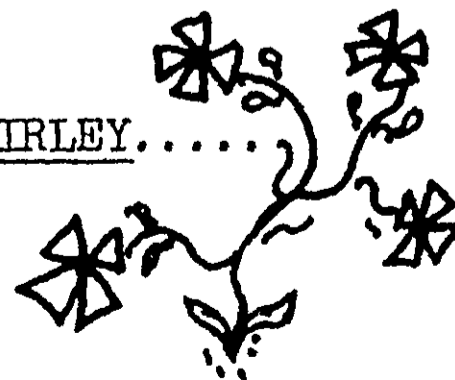
I'm looking forward to a great new year as Publicity Chairman for LEAF so you will be hearing from me through the newsletter.

Your past president,  
Shirley Bullock

\*\*\*\*\*

And how do you thank a person who has given her all and who's heart says, " I am not a teacher, only a fellow traveller of whom you have asked the way....go now dear friend with courage and the knowledge that you are not alone..."

Inadequate though it may be..... THANK YOU SHIRLEY.....  
for all that you have done for L.E.A.F. !!



FROM THE COVER :

.....It all started 8:00 PM June 30th, 1951 when I was born "June Lee" to Katie and Ed.....Ed drove truck and Katie had no money or place of her own except with a few relatives, she was one of 13 children, her parents died when she was 5 yrs. old.

Ed's family (My grandparents !) took care of me the majority of the time, this went on for 4 years. Born during this time were my brother Howie(now 24) and my sister Janelle (now 22). I was 4 yrs. old when Katie gave me up for adoption along with Howie and Janelle.

Howie and I were given through an agency and Janelle was given to Sam and Florence the people who Katie cleaned house for. Florence new me as "little Junie" back then. I remember how hard it was to understand why I had to have a different name when my adoptive parents changed my name to Marise. I, also, remember how scared I was in that office..... a desk, a few chairs and two strangers looking at me as I hid under the desk crying until I was pulled out and had to actually talk to the two strangers! Minutes later...off I went with a new name, new parents to a new house where my new brother Gary was waiting for us! He was 4 yrs. older than me, we each had our own rooms. Slowly my new life seemed to put itself together again....there were dolls, toys, pets, birthday parties, trips in the summer time and parents who loved and cared for me. But....I was always unsure of it all. I never questioned anything, I think I was too scared to.

It wasn't until I had children of my own that I wanted to know the facts surrounding my sdoption and why I didn't have my blood relatives. The first attempt in finding my 4 year old genetic past was in October 1972 when I contacted Ruth Wiedell at the State Adoption Dept., she gave me some information which seemed to be enough for then.

As the months and years went on, I began to wonder more and more, "who do I look like, is my birth mother pretty, what is she like, who did I inherit my good and bad qualities from, was there something I did when I was little that I was given away..." ???

The 1st of June 1976 I began finding the answers to some of my questions with the background information from Catholic Social Service and the search help of Cheryl Hall from LEAF.

(cont'd.)

I called the newspaper in the small town where I was born and asked if there was a record of a baby girl being born on June 30th, 1951 by the name of June Lee \_\_\_\_\_ I didn't know the last name and that's what I needed. The clerk came back to the phone and said YES a baby girl was born to Ed Ruddle, Jr. on that day !! I felt cold and happy and very excited, at last I had the name!

Relieved , I sat down and went through the Minneapolis phone book..... there it was "ED RUDDLE"....again I felt cold and happy and still more relieved as I began to dial the number. It was my Grandfather who answered, he remembered me and was certainly very surprised. I asked where his son Ed Ruddle, Jr. was ? He explained that Sonny (my birth father) works on various farms in North Dakota, that he calls about once a month, comes to visit when he feels like it and that he didn't have a number where he could be reached, but he gave me phone numbers so I could talk to my Aunts. So I took a deep breath and called my Aunts, they too were very surprised to hear from me. They told me that I had been very close to my Grandmother who had died 3 yrs. earlier of cancer. They were hoping back then that I would remember the last name of Ruddle and come to the funeral, but no chance I couldn't remember anything. Grama had saved some of my dresses, locks of my hair and pictures of me when I was small, but after her death they got rid of all these things. (I'm 25 yrs. old and I've never seen a picture of myself as a baby.)

Well, the day came when my birth father called his father and was told about me.....half an hour later he called...he was so happy and excited to hear me again after all those years. He had nothing good to say about Katie (my birth mother). They were not legally married, he was driving truck over the road when she decided to give us up for adoption, she took me from my Grandparents home one day and none of them ever saw or heard from me again....until that wonderful day in June! My birth father told me he had gone to the County and told them what had happened and they said there was nothing he could do because they were not married. He said he thought of me often through the years and so did Grama, but he gave up and felt there was no use... to this day he has never married.

I have found my brother Howie and my sister Janelle we write to each other and Ed (my birth father) calls twice a month to see that everything's alright. I've talked to Katie (my birth mother) over the phone, but she had nothing to say, I did all the talking and felt very uneasy and out of place, but she took it alright. I'm glad I know a little of what she's like, but she seems like she couldn't care less about me, but then I know she has a lot of problems, (cont'd.)

she did tell me I had a half sister Debra Anne who's in California some place, I haven't been able to find her yet.

I explained all the news to my adoptive parents, my Dad took it very well, but my Mom did not. I know they feel hurt inside, but I just wish they could feel the happiness I feel in knowing, if they could they would understand that I do love and appreciate them more than ever before.

And so, after all those years and all the questions in my mind I found my genetic relatives who knew that 4 year old girl called "little Junie" .....it all adds up to a happier and more secure Marise Guizzetti.

Good luck to all of you LEAF Members out there searching, even if you get discouraged don't give up....I can tell you it's worth it !

Marise Guizzetti



THINKING OF YOU .....

..... LEAF thanks you very much MARISE for sharing your very special story with us !

..... JEANIE VERKINDERIN, our secretary, we're so happy you're feeling better and look forward to seeing you soon.

..... Our prayers and special thoughts go to SHARON HARRINGTON for her Nov. 4th surgery.























































































































