

MIDWEST ADOPTION TRIAD

Nina Mackenzie
President
(402) 551-9497

Judy Vesely
Secretary
(402) 895-1376

Jean Bernth
Treasurer
(402) 331-0582

OCTOBER 1981

IMPORTANT MEETING: This Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00 P.M. at the Millard Library, 4745 S. 132nd St. (North of L Street), Senator Dave Newell will talk to us about how to revise our Nebraska law so that it will be easier for us to get original birth information. Everyone please attend. If you want changes to be made to help yourself and other adoptees and birthparents, you must show your support!

Thank you everyone who volunteered to help with publicity, phone calling, etc. We can still use help addressing newsletters and other tasks! Reneé Racine is our librarian and is in charge of putting our scrapbook together. Let her know if there is a book we should purchase for our library. Also, please send her any newsclippings about reunions, searches, etc. (especially those from other states). Thanks!

Fund raising: Thank you everyone who purchased and sold Tupperware to help pay some of the expenses for 4 of our members to attend the American Adoption Congress in Kansas City last May. Also thank you Barb Thompson who gave us most of her commission from the Tupperware sale. We raised \$131. Should we do this again? What other fund raising ideas do you have? Bring them to our next meeting - we need you to help us!

News from other states and countries:

Montana: Adoptees born in Montana may obtain their original birth certificate if they are legitimate but not if they are illegitimate.

England: Information about adoptions - Assoc. of British Adoption & Fostering Agencies
11 Southwork Street
London, England SE11RQ
Request: Access to Birth Records

Colorado: Hospitality Network was recently started by Jean Paton. If you can provide housing for an out of town adoptee-in-Search, please notify Jean Paton. If your search takes you out of your area (and if you are a member of Orphan Voyage) write to see if there is a member of the Hospitality Network who can host you. Orphan Voyage, c/o Jean Paton, 2141 Road 2300, Cedaredge, Colorado 81413.

Michigan - Although the open records law they were hoping to get did not pass, a "mutual consent" law was! Write to them in care of Adoption Identity Movement of Michigan, P. O. Box 20092, Detroit, Michigan 48220.

Nevada: Emma Vilardi's Medic Alert - There are two birth families, searching for a total of 22 children placed for adoption, who are likely to have inherited Gardner's Syndrome. If anyone knows an adoptee with this, tell the person to contact ISRR immediately. Three adult adoptees in the registry are in need of bone grafts (marrow) from next-of-kin by birth. Life expectancy: 3 1/2 years. To obtain a form to fill out so that you (or someone else) can be in the registry write: Emma May Vilardi, P. O. Box 2312, Carson City, Nev. 89701. A number of adoptive parents are now filling out forms for their children. Emma May accepts forms from adoptees under 18, but she keeps these in an inactive file and only activates them on the adoptee's 18th birthday.

Missouri: Happy 1st Birthday to the Southwest Missouri Adult Adoptees group. They have an excellent newsletter. Excerpts from it:

Legislative Uptake Person: Joseph D. Harrington, 13102 Imperial Court, Laurel, Maryland 20708 is the man you want to contact if you are a new organization in need of periodic national and state-wide legislative updates. He is an adoptee, publishes in this field, and he mails out periodic information keeping us informed on bills pertaining to matters in the adoption field, opening/closing of records, etc.

Progress in Religion: The Presbyterian General Assembly met in Houston, Texas in 1981 and unanimously passed OVERTURE 39: "On Supporting Legislation Regarding the Rights of Adult Adoptees and Their Natural Parents; From the Presbytery of Newton." They have gone on record as supporting the rights of adult adoptees, upon request, to copies of their original birth certificates and court and agency records pertaining to their adoption.

" If I were a convicted murderer, the governor could give me a pardon. Obviously, the crime of illegitimacy is not pardonable in the state of Missouri." James Grant George, leukemia victim living in Florida who came from The Willows in Kansas City.

The Division of Youth and Family Services, Box 510, #1 South Montgomery St., Trenton, N.J. 08625, has a state registry for adult adoptees and birthparents.

Do you have a full sibling who was reared apart from you since infancy? Contact Virginia Keller-Wolf, 5677 Florence Terrace, Oakland, Calif. 94611. She will be conducting a study next year at the Univ. of California. You will be given all findings pertaining to you and your sibling, plus the final project report. (Adoption Forum of Philadelphia).

Open A.R.M.S. Quarterly: For regular and systematic search advertising on a continuing basis we recommend Bob O'Dell's newsletter (4 issues, published Jan., Apr., June and Sept.). \$10 for 4 issues including your ad or \$6 for a subscription alone. Bob is "set up" to run your search ad and welcomes all he can get. This is the official publication of the American Adoption Congress but will remain separately funded. Contact: OPEN A.R.M.S. QUARTERLY, Box 1522, North Platte, NE 69102. Editor, Publisher: Bob O'Dell.

REUNION: A new monthly newsletter "dedicated to helping families find each other." Will have classified ads for people searching and also articles highlighting organizations, agencies and individuals that may be contacted for further assistance. For more information write: Ring Ring Publications, P. O. Box 1122, Salida, Colorado 81201, or call Valerie Bergman (303) 539-7433. We have sent for a complimentary copy of the first issue to be mailed this month.

New Addresses: Search Finders of Texas
c/o Ann D. Conner
150 Terrell Plaza, #49
San Antonio, TX 78208

Adoption Connection
c/o Harold Bauer
P.O. Box 554
Springfield, IL. 62704

Wichita Adult Adoptees Group
c/o Susan R. Lovett
5402 Lamsdale
Wichita, KS 67208
(316) 681-3457 (after 6)

Adoption Connection
c/o Harold Bauer
P.O. Box 554
Springfield, IL 62704

"Adoptees Identity Doorway"
c/o Betty Heide
51537 Myrtle Ave.
South Bend, IN 46637

The Adoptees Search Rights Association
P. O. Box 8713
Toledo, OH 43623

KATHERINE BRADY, the 34-year-old authoress of the book about her life, Father's Day, (a story of a girl who was a victim of incest for 10 years) at the end of her book, in experiencing a tremendous sense of guilt said: "There are 2 things nobody ever said to me: (1) You are not alone; (2) You are not to blame.

This could also be said of our movement.
(From Southwest Missouri Adult Adoptees)

Anyone born at the Veil, in W. Chester, PA or who has questions or information contact Jay Smith at 482-6843 (home).

Anyone who was at the Brewster Home in Tucson, Arizona between 1962-1967 contact Claudia Caiden Shipley, 1087 Westchester Drive East, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

If you are searching for someone who has moved in the last year, send \$1, your name and address and the name and address of who you are looking for to the Postmaster of that city's post office and they will send you the new address.

TABLE 1
1979-1980 LEGISLATION CONCERNING ADOPTION RECORDS

State	Year	Bill/ Resolution #	Major Provision	Disposition
Arizona	1979	SB 1291	Registry	defeated
California	1979/80	AB 1426	Release of identifying information upon consent	defeated
Delaware	1979	H 539	Greater agency flexibility in releasing nonidentifying information	vetoed
Delaware	1980	H 1115	Same provisions as 1979's H 539	enacted (Chapter 420)
District of Columbia	1979	3-19	Access to birth certificate upon birthparents' consent	defeated
Florida	1980	S 966	Release of names of any party to an adoption upon consent	enacted (Chapter 80-296)
Illinois	1979/80	SB 263	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	died in committee
Indiana	1979	SB 274	Access to original birth certificate upon demand	defeated
Iowa	1979	HF 68	Access by adoptee to nonidentifying medical and social history upon demand	withdrawn
Iowa	1980	SE 2114	Similar to 1979's HF 68- retroactive	enacted
Kentucky	1980	S 282	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	died in committee
Louisiana	1979	SB 868	Descendants of adopter granted same rights of access as adoptee, i.e., "compelling necessity" only	enacted (Act #776)
Louisiana	1980	H 1018	Access to original birth certificate through court upon demand	died in committee
Louisiana	1980	HCR #266	Study committee	approved
Maine	1979	HP 1190	Registry	enacted (Chapter 384)
Maryland	1979	(3 bills)	(Various provisions)	all defeated or withdrawn
Maryland	1979	SJR 42	Governor's study commission	approved
Maryland	1980	HB 1915	Access to original birth certificate unless compelling grounds for confidentiality shown	defeated in committee
Massachusetts	1979	(11 bills)	(Various provisions)	all defeated
Massachusetts	1980	S 893	Adult adoptee access to nonidentifying information in agency records, including court appeal procedure	defeated
Michigan	1979/80	H 4164	Access to court records upon birth parents' consent	enacted (Public Act #116)
Mississippi	1980	SB 2561, HB 704	Sealing of revised birth certificate	died in committee
Missouri	1979	SB 103	Access to court records upon application	died in committee
Missouri	1980	SB 723	Same provisions as 1979's SB 103	died in committee
Montana	1979	SB 137	Access restricted to original birth certificate	enacted (Chapter 118)
Nebraska	1979	LB 483	Access to names of blood relatives and birthparents upon consent	vetoed
Nebraska	1980	LB 992	Access to names of blood relatives and birthparents upon consent	enacted
Nevada	1979	SB 294	Registry	enacted (Chapter 599)
New Mexico	1979	SB 343	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	died in committee
New York	1979/80	A 2399	Access to court records upon application	died in committee
North Carolina	1979	H 1180	Access to nonidentifying medical information upon demand	enacted (Chapter 739)
North Carolina	1979	HHR 1313	Study committee	enacted (Resolution #68)
North Dakota	1979	HB 1309	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	enacted (Chapter 199)
Ohio	1980	HB 1191	Registry	defeated
Oklahoma	1979	SB 268, HB 1249	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	defeated
Oregon	1979	HB 2167	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	defeated
Pennsylvania	1980	H 1663	Access restricted to original birth certificate	defeated in committee
Rhode Island	1980	S 2845	Family court may make rules governing confidentiality of adoption records	died in committee
South Carolina	1979	S 1	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	defeated
Tennessee	1979/80	SB 588	Access to original birth certificate upon birthparents' consent	defeated
Tennessee	1979	SB 1215	Access to preadoptive siblings' names upon consent of that sibling	enacted (Chapter 360)
Utah	1979	HB 193	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	defeated
Virginia	1979	S 532	Designation of court through which application for access may be filed	enacted (Chapter 43)
Washington	1979	HB 318	Access to birthparents' names upon consent	defeated
Washington	1980	S 3221	Similar to 1979's HB 318	defeated
U.S. Congress	1980	S 2561	National registry	died in committee

TABLE 2
STATES PERMITTING ADULT ADOPTIVES TO OBTAIN IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR BIRTH FAMILIES

State	Governing Statute
INTERMEDIARY SYSTEM	
Connecticut	Connecticut General Statutes Annotated, Section 45-68 a n (Supplement 1980)
Minnesota	Minnesota Statutes Annotated, Section 144 1261 (Supplement 1980)
North Dakota	North Dakota Century Code, Section 14 15 16 (1979)
Tennessee	Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36 140 (Supplement 1979) (Allows adult adoptee to obtain information about birth siblings only)
Nebraska	Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Section 43 113 (1980)
REGISTRY SYSTEM	
Florida	Florida Statutes Annotated, Section 63.162 (West 1980) (Legislative authority given; no registry system yet established)
Maine	Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, Section 2706 A (Supplement 1979)
Michigan	Michigan Compiled Laws Annotated, Section 710 67 (1980) (No central state registry established; consent letters kept in closed files)
Nevada	Nevada Revised Statutes, Section 127 007 (1980)
ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE RELEASED ON DEMAND	
Alabama	Alabama Code, Title 26, Section 10 4 (1975)
Alaska	Alaska Statutes, Section 18.50 220 (1974) (open by regulation, see 7 AAC 05 730)
Kansas	Kansas Statutes Annotated, Section 65 2423 (Vernon 1978)
Montana	Montana Revised Code Annotated, Section 50 15 304 (1979); however, Section 50 15 206, amended in 1979, limits access on demand to legitimately born persons only
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Statutes Annotated, Title 35, Section 450 603(c) (Purdon 1979)
COURT RECORDS OPENED ON DEMAND	
South Dakota	South Dakota Compiled Laws Annotated, Section 25 6 15 (1976)
Joseph D. Harrington, M.S., is the legislative information coordinator of Adoptees in Search and a member of the Adoptees Liberty Movement Association. He has written articles on the legislative and judicial aspects of adoption for PUBLIC WELFARE.	
PUBLIC WELFARE - SPRING 1981	

1982 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - AAC

The next Annual Conference of the American Adoption Congress will be held in San Antonio, Texas, June 3 - 6. For more information or to offer assistance contact:

Kathy Silber
Lutheran Social Service
615 Elm Street
San Antonio, TX 78202

NATIONAL TELEVISION

There are a number of television and radio shows that will be on national television this fall. Contact your local station when they are aired in your area and ask that they run a subtitle with your groups name and address.

- Sept. 14: LEAVE IT TO THE WOMEN - "Natural Parents Searching for their Children". It is a new syndicated show and airs at varying times and dates beginning the 14th. Panel-June Lockhart, Ruth (Mrs Milton) Berle (adoptive mother), Phyllis Newman and Mary Jo Rillera in "Hot seat".
- Oct. 2: TWO ON THE TOWN looks at surrogate parenting and they interviewed Sandee Tuccio of CUB.
- Oct. 13/19: ORDINARY PEOPLE is a christian show. Judy Albert and Barbara Specht each did one show.
- Oct. 14: HOUR MAGAZINE with Gary Collins. Sandy Musser, her daughter Wendy and Mary Jo Rillera were guests. This airs in different cities on any of the following three Wed.

TRIADOPTION REFERRAL SERVICE

For three years now we have maintained all of the adoption movement organizations on our Referral Service. Presently there are 258. It is an on-going and often tedious job to keep this list up-to-date but our volunteers do their best. Each of you can help by sending us corrections and info as it comes to your attention. We have found that unfortunately, the day a list is printed it is already obsolete. Therefore we have decided to utilize the computerized sections of the Referral Service to make current lists available to groups. These are bulky but they will be as current as we have our data. In the future we will ask for \$5 to cover our printing, sorting and mailing costs. for a computer print-out and a SASE for the last printed 1 pg list.

In addition, the following categories have been added and any data that you forward to us will be placed on file. This section will not be on the computer. AAC, Adoption Units, Adoptive Parent Groups, Agencies, Artificial Insemination, Consulate Counseling, DMV, Federal Law, Genetics, Hot Lines, Indian Sources, Infertility, Info-Local/State/Natl, Judges/Courts, Legal Asst, Media/Authors, Medical/Doctors, Military, Pregnancy/Single Parents Help, Private Investigation, Publications, Registries, Research, Resource Libraries, Vital Records and more are being added daily.

There is so much information that can help us grow, effect change and educate us all and a multitude of search data. We are here as a resource to all of you but your input is an important part of keeping data current and available.

TRIADOPTION REFERRAL SERVICE

Triadoption Library
7571 Westminster Av #6
Westminster, CA 92683

Adoptees Search Heritage group in Council Bluffs Iowa no longer exists. We are the new group for the Omaha Council Bluffs area.

Future Newsletters will contain recommended reading list and important information from other groups.

We are going to be sending out our newsletter on a more regular basis now and would appreciate exchanging newsletters with more groups.

Midwest Adoption Triad
5624 Pierce Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68106



Triadoption Library

7571 Westminster Ave.

Westminster,

Calif.

92683

590