

Birthparents In Oregon

Newsletter



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JANUARY 1982

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JOIN US!

Birthparents In Oregon has been formed in order to direct our full attention to the needs of the birth parent .

Throughout the coming year we have planned to invite several guest speakers to our meetings in order to answer many of the questions that the birth parent have concerning their emotional feelings, the agency policies, laws concerning records, etc.

We are in hopes of someday being a help in changing the present laws involving adoption; so that all persons in the adoption triad will be satisfied, but in order to do this; we must encourage birth parents to come out of the closet and be heard. We must let it be known that the old myth that birth parents don't care to be located, is exactly that... a myth!

Statistics indicate that atleast 90% of birth parents continue to wonder about their child that they relinquished .. that they want to hear from them ..

Let's write letters .. Let's have this be known!

Nancie Woolford

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"Hold fast to dreams  
For if dreams die  
Life is a broken winged bird  
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams  
For when dreams go  
Life is a barren field  
Frozen with snow."

.....Laughton Hughes

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Anyone wishing to know who their Search Advisor is, or needing quick advise, please contact Naomi Swett ..231-2474.

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PAGE #2  
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A SPECIAL REUNION

On November 25, 1981, I flew to New York City's La Guardia airport, boarded a limousine for Long Island and the reunion with my daughter, Martha, and her adoptive family. Their wonderful hospitality made me feel right at home immediately and for the next four days. This was the culmination of the search I initiated with the assistance of my search advisor and intermediary, Nancie Woolford, just three months previously.

What an exciting experience, a twenty-six year dream come true. No more fantasies or unanswered questions. This was the reality I needed to bridge the gap of the past with the present and future.

Even though there were awkward moments and some situations that required patience and understanding, I returned home with a feeling of peace and optimism. My first born is a lovely person, very similar to her natural family in personality, character and medical history. Our lives have been enriched by meeting and sharing our heritage.

Martha plans to come to Portland next summer to meet the other family she didn't know she had until three months ago.

Vida Vaughn

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ALL IN DUE TIME

It has nearly been a year now since I saw my daughter at the Agency where she was relinquished. Our reunion went well even though both of us felt nervous. Still, I knew that day when we said goodbye that it would be some length of time before I'd see my daughter again.

Up to date I haven't seen her, but I feel certain that someday I will.

Nevertheless, I am thankful that I got the one meeting. I don't look at every girl twenty-three and wonder if it's her. I know she's well, and I know a little about her life.

I waited twenty-two years to see her, now, I feel that I can wait until she's ready to have a relationship with me.

Nancie Woolford

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Anyone wishing to write something for the newsletter, please sent your articles to: P.O. Box 17521 .. Portland, Oregon 97217. Our next newsletter to be published the first week in April.

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"Our doubts are traitors,  
And make us lose the good we oft might win  
By fearing to attempt."

.....Shakespeare

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We would like to give special thanks to Vida Vaughn for the quotes contained in our newsletter. Vidas works and concerns have been of a great value to all of us. Keep up the great work Vida! All of us need you.

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PASS THE WORD

All Birthparent In Oregon meetings will be held at Mannings Cafeteria .. 949 Lloyd Center .. Portland, Oregon ... 7:00-9:00 pm. the first Thursday of every month. These meetings are for birth parents only and closed to the general public with the exception of our guest speakers.

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GUEST SPEAKERS

We are pleased to announce that we have a guest speaker planned for our January 7th. meeting.

Allan Neubauer, a long time employee of Boys & Girls Aid Society has agreed to come and talk with us. Let's give him a warm welcome!

Also; Herb Hanson of Albertina Kerr has agreed to be our guest speaker in March .. Let's also give him a warm welcome!

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BOARD MEMBERS INCLUDE

- Nancie Woolford: President
- Bonnie Taubert: Vice President
- Naomi Swett: Excutive Search Advisor
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