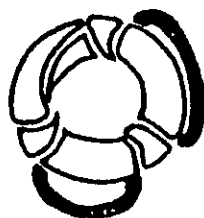


PITTSBURGH
ADOPTION LIFELINE

P.A.L.
P.O. Box 52
Gibsonia, Pa. 15044-0052



February 1983
Co-founders
Barbara Santa-Jean Vincent
Co-ordinator Jean Vincent
443-3370

Meetings

The monthly meetings are held in the downstairs meeting room of the Parkvale Savings Bank, the 2nd. Sunday of every month. Time: 1:30 P.M. (Check list below for any changes.)

If you are coming to the meeting on the turnpike, get off at Exit # 7, Irwin. Go West on Rt. 30 almost 4 miles to the Norwin Shopping Center. Turn left at the traffic light at the far end of center. The bank is on the right.

Coming from Pittsburgh on Rt. 30, go East until you get to the Norwin Center and turn right immediately before it.

Please feel free to bring someone for moral support. Bring information useful during our workshop. Please bring a FOLDING CHAIR to each meeting if possible. We may need it.

February 13, 1983

May No meeting! Mother's Day

March 13th

June 12th

April 10th

July 10th

**Job
Burnout!**

I am suffering from job burnout! Too much stress and too little reward. Do you have any idea how much time it takes to get a newsletter out to over 400 people, almost completely alone? Pal receives approximately live calls a day. Some are from people wanting to adopt and some are from birth parents but the majority are from adoptees, needing help. This takes a lot of time out of each day.

Several of our members, from all over the Pittsburgh area, spend the second Sunday of every month at our meeting. These are members that finished searching long ago but continue to come out to help you! All are volunteers...

What can you do to help?

1. When you complete your search, no matter what outcome, come to a meeting and share with us. What is one Sunday out of your life if you can help others?
2. If you can't get out to a meeting, call and drop us a line to use in the newsletter. We will use first names only unless otherwise stated.
3. Contribute financially. Pay dues or even part of your dues. The last phone bill was \$62.00 due to J.V. program on Dec. 2nd. (more later) After this newsletter we are out of funds again.
4. Contribute time... One day every other month to help me in the office or in your county. We need someone in Butler Co., Beaver Co., Westmoreland Co., Washington Co. and Allegheny Co.. It would mean a trip to the library and county bldg.. Except in Allegheny this might only happen twice a year. Call or drop a line if you will help.

I am only kidding about Job Burnout!!! I love this work! We have many people that do contribute... We couldn't have come this far in 6 years without you. Thank you and God bless, PALS.

On October 3rd., 1982, I was fortunate to be asked to go on Barbara Trehan's radio show, KDKA, from midnight till 3 A.M.. It was great! My husband had to sit through three long hours, hearing the story he's heard a million times. We will be married 35 years in July and for the past seven my mouth has been going non-stop about adoption. Now that's what "Love Is". Met Elaine Janitor through Barb's show.

Elaine learned over the years that her mother had twin girls on December 22, 1924, before she married. The girls were separated and were put into foster homes. That is the last time she saw them. One of the twins, Ruth, was reunited with her birth family on Mother's Day, 1982. The family would give anything to find Ruth's twin. The girls were born in the Uniontown area.

On December 2nd, A.M. Pittsburgh had Elaine, Ruth, their mother and myself on the show with Lyn Hines. Everyone on the staff was absolutely wonderful to them. We had 40 calls but so far we haven't found Ruby May. Her name was probably changed but she was not adopted as far as we know. Lyn Hines wanted to be there with the cameras for the re-union.

Risk from Living, Loving & Learning
by Leo Buscaglia, Ph.D.

"To laugh is to risk appearing the fool." Well, so what? Fools have a lot of fun.

"To weep is to risk being called sentimental." Of course I'm sentimental. I love it!
Tears can help.

"To reach out to another is to risk involvement." Who's risking involvement? I want to be involved.

"To expose feelings is to risk showing your true self." What else do I have to show.

"To place your ideas and your dreams before the crowd is to risk being called naive." Oh, I'm called worse things than that.

"To love is to risk not being loved in return." I don't love to be loved in return.

"To live is to risk dying." I'm ready for it. Don't you dare shed one tear if you hear that Buscaglia blew up in the air or dropped dead. He did it with enthusiasm.

"To hope is to risk despair, and to try is to risk failure." But risks must be taken, because the greatest risk in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing, does nothing, has nothing, is nothing, and becomes nothing. He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but he simply cannot learn and feel and change and grow and love and live. Chained by his certitudes, he's a slave. He's forfeited his freedom. Only the person who risks is truly free. Try it and see what happens.

Recently, Robert Klark Graham, the man who started a Nobel sperm bank was on Pittsburgh 2 Day. All donors will have complete anonymity. As an after thought he mentioned that each donor could father up to one hundred babies. If all sperm banks operate this way, we may have a generation of geniuses but what will happen to the second generation? (Can you imagine having 100 brothers and sisters and not even being aware that you were an ASD baby? (Artificial insemination donor) Something has to be done! I feel that each donor should have an identification number and it should appear on the birth certificate of every ASD baby. How do you feel about this?

We have 277 searches complete! Lets have 300 by June... Don't pay your dues and sit back and wait for your search to happen because it won't. Come out to a meeting, call, get out there and work. The people that work are the ones that make it.

Have you seen the new billboards or read the article in the Press about Family Health Council? Private adoptions. The couples get the baby right from the hospital. Penna. has already shortened the birthmother's rights to 43 days. What next?

Billboard →

confused?
Consider adoption
a loving couple is waiting
call 531-BABY

Next newsletter should be out in May!

Please remember this number and use it when you write or call. It will really help!!!