

SOUTHERN OREGON ADOPTIVE RIGHTS

953 N.E. 10th St.
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526



OFFICERS:

Jeanne Macomber (503) 479-7081
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Volume I - Number 1.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1984

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE:

Hi! Our very first newsletter! We hope you will all use it and contribute to it. Remember, you can make a difference! Please use these pages to share your reunion, search tips or opinions. You can turn in your articles, ideas, cartoons, etc. at a SOAR meeting or you can mail it. This newsletter will be mailed to all SOAR members as well as adoption professionals and other search groups across the nation, so this is your opportunity to help put SOAR on the map! Thanks, Bobbie and Jeanne.

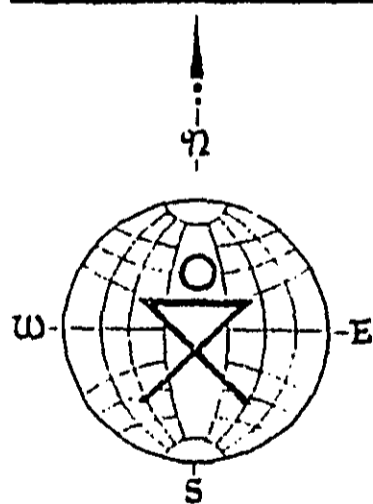
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mark your calendar now! Our next SOAR meeting will be Monday, November 26th at 7pm. We meet at the Family Bank of Commerce, 7th and Midland, Grants Pass. Public is invited.

NETWORKING:

One of our BIG goals for the coming year is to establish a working national network. We will use other search groups of course, but surprise, surprise, the thing that will really make it work is YOU! Do you have a friend in Kalamazoo? A cousin in DeBuque? A crazy uncle in Timbuktu? Would they be willing to help someone search by checking simple things out in their library or court house? Have you asked them? If you know of someone who would help, please tell us!! Turn in your name and the places you can get help - then when we get a searcher who needs help we will match them with your name. We will keep a running card file, so when you get new names or places we can add to it. Remember foreign countries count too! Networking really works. Be a part of it!!

MEET: Emma May Vilardi



UNITED TODAY
FOR THE REUNIONS
OF TOMORROW

The International Soundex Reunion Registry (ISRR) was conceived by and is managed and supported by one extremely dedicated woman, Emma May Vilardi. She established it in 1975 as a non-profit service to provide a centralized registry open to anyone over 18 years of age desiring and seeking reunion with next of kin by birth. Emma gives her service voluntarily without pay, and it is free to the user. Through her tireless efforts, ISRR has become the most successful registry in the world. She receives 200 to 500 pieces of mail daily, puts out about 400 pieces daily, and still has a back log of approx. 2,000 pieces. All this she has been doing by hand. She's happy to report that a new IBM computer is being installed. She's going to computer school, then will transfer all that mail and the many boxes (her files) of ISRR info into the computer. ** ISRR works! It's a good first step for all searchers. Emma has personally helped several SOAR members. You are not just another statistic to her.

She takes a sincere personal interest in every individual case. She deserves our support. We can help by sending her stamps, envelopes, or cash donations. All donations are given a receipt, and are tax deductible. ** New applications are available at our meetings or by request. We'll be happy to help you fill it out. ** Emma passes along several tips: 1. Get help filling out applications. Include all known info. You may attach a separate sheet if needed. 2. Birth mothers be sure to include maiden name, age at time of giving birth, and any other info at that time. 3. Send any updated info at any time. 4. Always include a (or several) self-addressed stamped envelope. 5. ISRR does not perform search help. SOAR will help. ** Many THANKS to Emma and her devoted family, and to the ISRR advisors and representatives for their hard work, caring, and for opening the doors to the world-wide adoption community.

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Volume I - Number 2.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1984



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE:

Thanks for your positive response to the newsletter! Some of you have already come up with good ideas we'll be using. Keep those contributions rolling in; cartoons, books, articles, opinions, etc. *** Wishing all of you a very Joyous Holiday Season.

Bobbie and Jeanne

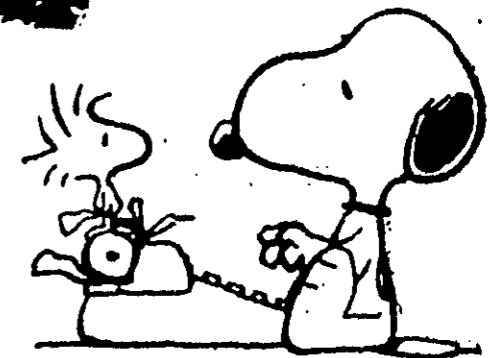


ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A PARTY!! Our next meeting will be one week early because of Christmas. We'll meet Dec. 17th, at 7 pm at the Family Bank of Commerce, 7th/Midland, Grants Pass. Everyone invited! Bring a friend, spouse, reunion pictures, and cookies to share. Let's take time to get to know each other.

NETWORKING:

The networking file is on its way! We have received more helpers in Washington state, and in Oregon, Calif., Arizona, Nevada, Penn., New York, and Wash. D.C.. Keep them coming in! Put your thinking caps on! Check with your friends and relatives who might help us search in their town when our need arises. It's fun and very interesting.



1985 MEETING IDEAS:

We are looking forward to a great new year thanks to your input. One idea is to have a joint meeting with the Medford chapter of SOAR with a special speaker and a panel discussion. Great! We will work on it! Let us know what subjects and speakers you'd like. Keep those ideas coming in!

MEET: Joy Briggs:

We often say adoption forms a triangle consisting of the adoptive parents, the birth parents and the adoptee. Who stands in the middle of our triangle? JOY BRIGGS, social worker with Childrens Services Division for Jackson and Josephine Counties. Joy has been a social worker for 22 years. She has been doing placements in Southern Oregon for 8½ years. She joined SOAR in 1979 shortly after it was formed. We're very grateful for the perspective and expertise that Joy has so willingly brought to our group. As far as we know SOAR is the only search group in the nation to have an adoption professional to work so closely with. Joy represented SOAR at the American Adoption Congress in Texas in 1981, and says that experience was invaluable to her as an adoption worker. We're grateful for Joy's continued association with SOAR, helping us feel that we're a small part of helping to change the system from the inside out. We're proud that her contribution helps make SOAR unique! Thanks, Joy.



1/04/85

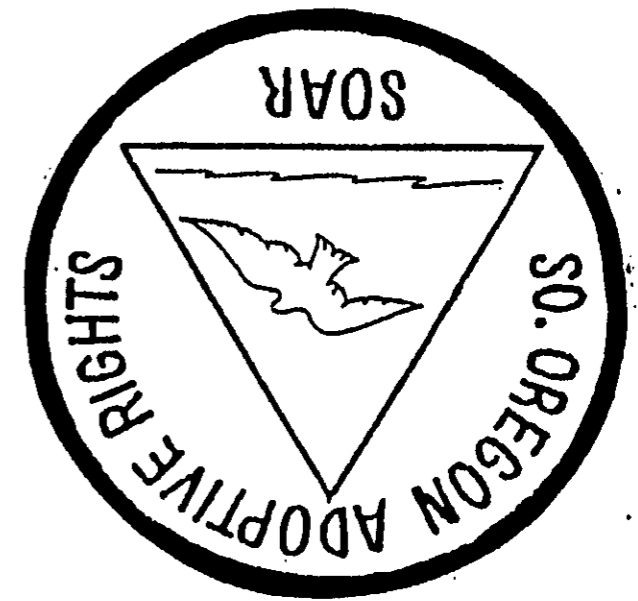
92646

HUNTINGTON Beach, CA

PO Box 5218

The Triadoption Library

953 N.E. 10th St.
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526



WHAT IS SOAR?

SOAR, Southern Oregon Adoptive Rights, is an adoption search and support group. It extends an invitation to all those interested in the adoption triangle consisting of the Adoptee, the Adoptive parent, and the Birthparent.

PURPOSE

SOAR has a three-fold purpose:

1. Introduce and encourage legislation for open records for adult adoptees. Educate the public.
2. Provide search assistance and training, and reunion assistance.
3. Provide emotional support and counseling.

MEMBERSHIP

We charge no dues or membership fees. If you have an interest and concern for the adoption triad, you are most welcome. Your faithful attendance and support proves your membership.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All SOAR records are private and confidential. Confidentiality is stressed in the meetings.

SOAR MEETINGS

SOAR meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at Family Bank of Commerce, N.E. 7th and Midland, Grants Pass, Oregon.

WHY OPEN RECORDS?

In each of us there is a need to know our heritage...Alex Haley called it "Roots". "Without this enriching knowledge there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainments in life, there is a vacuum, an emptiness, and a most disquieting loneliness."

Oregon law states, "It shall be as if the child had never been born to the biological parents." We must make people aware of the inequalities and inhumanities in our current sealed record states. We must work to alleviate fear and secrecy within all members of the triad. Seals and secrecy must be lifted!

WHY REUNION ASSISTANCE?

Many well-meaning searchers have completed an exhaustive search for missing relatives, only to come to that moment of reunion with the desire that a neutral person with some experience make the initial contact. This has proven to be a wise way to handle a sometimes sensitive situation.

WHEN IS A SEARCH SUCCESSFUL?

A search is successful when information has been received regarding birth origin and family medical history have been received. A reunion, of course, is most satisfying.

HOW LARGE IS THE ADOPTION MOVEMENT?

There are over 250 groups like SOAR in the United States alone, with new groups forming every day.

The American Adoption Congress (AAC), which meets in conference yearly, is designed to work as a centralized resource agency for the many groups and individuals in the movement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bobbie Hudson
1212 S.E. N. Street
Grants Pass, OR 97526 479-8073

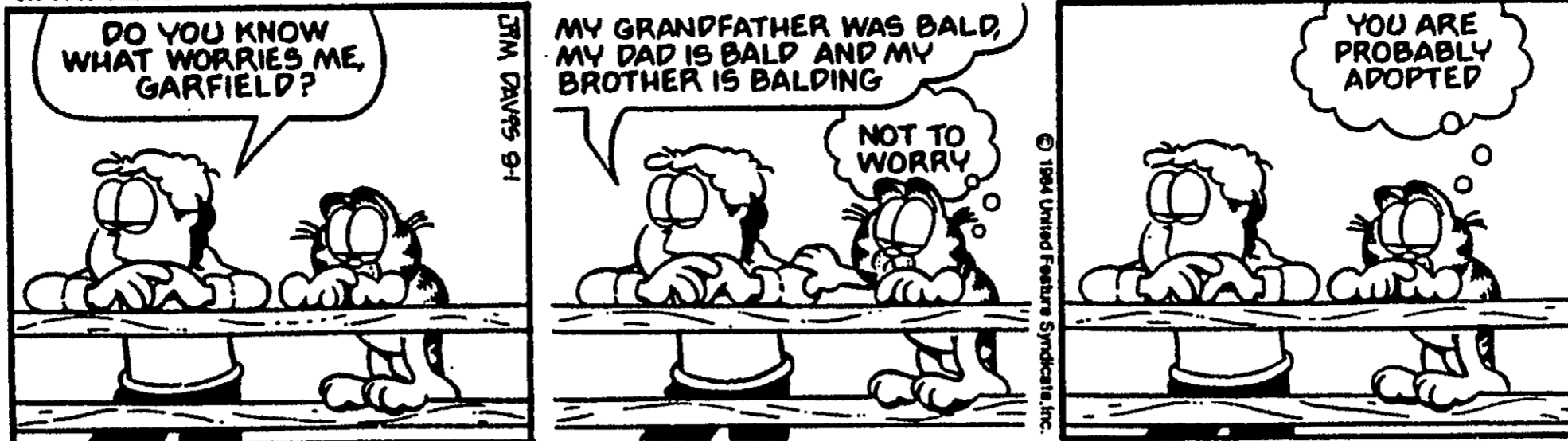
Jeanne Macomber
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Grants Pass, OR 97526 479-7081

Medford-Ashland Chapter
Gretchen Arnold 779-7274

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR GROUP AND
HELP US GROW!

1047

GARFIELD



MEMBERSHIP DUES:

For the first time SOAR will be having yearly dues. It is strictly voluntary. No one will be turned away from SOAR if they are unable to pay. We have grown so big that the costs of postage, printing and running SOAR have really skyrocketed. We hope that you will take this opportunity to contribute to SOAR's continued growth in the coming year.

Your membership will cover:

- * Monthly Newsletters
- * Current Legislation
- * Monthly Meetings with group discussions, special speakers, refreshments
- * Individual Assistance
- * Search Help
- * Research Material
- * Reunions

Dues will be \$15.00 a year, or \$5.00 a quarter (3 months). We think you will agree that's a real bargain! If we don't receive your membership by Dec. 31, 1984, we will assume that you no longer need our services, and will remove your name from our membership list. Remember, you can be reinstated at any time.

Make your check payable to SOAR (Southern Oregon Adoptive Rights).

TEAR OFF AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK:



S.O.A.R.
953 N.E. 10th St.
Grants Pass
Oregon 97526

M E M B E R S H I P A P P L I C A T I O N

Jan. 1985 thru Dec. 1985

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

city _____

state _____

zip _____

I AM: Adoptee Birth Parent Adoptive Parent Other

Suggestions for future newsletters or meetings: _____

____ Yes! I want to join SOAR and support the search movement! Enclosed is my check for \$15.00 for one full year membership.

____ I prefer a quarterly membership (three months) at this time. Enclosed is my check for \$5.00 to cover the months of _____, _____, and _____.

____ I'm sorry I'm unable to join SOAR at this time, however enclosed is my one time contribution of \$ _____ (any amount) to help support this worthwhile cause.

SIGNED _____

DATE _____

SOAR THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

104B

DID YOU KNOW.....



....there is over 5 million adult adoptees in the country?
....adoption touches 1 out of every 4 people in some way?
....we've only had sealed records for 50 years?
....because of tribal rights, most Indian adoption records are not sealed?

GOOD BOOKS:

"LOST AND FOUND" by Betty Jean Lifton. It is filled with personal interviews and insights into the adoptive experience.

"SEARCH" by Jane Askins. A good handbook for adoptees and birthparents.



MEMBERSHIP DUES:



A big THANK YOU to all who sent your dues in so promptly! We were able to do a great deal of printing because of it, and will have a lot more material available for you at our next meeting.

By the year, or by the quarter, your paid membership will cover:

- * Monthly Newsletters
- * Current Legislation
- * Monthly Meetings with group discussions, special speakers, refreshments
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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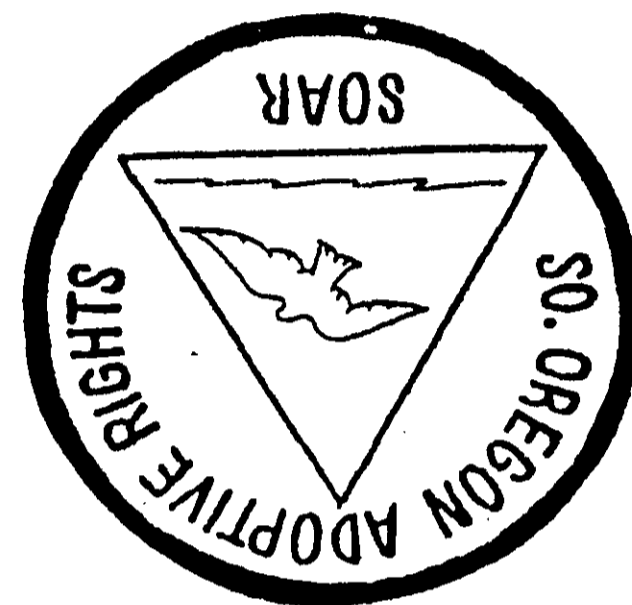
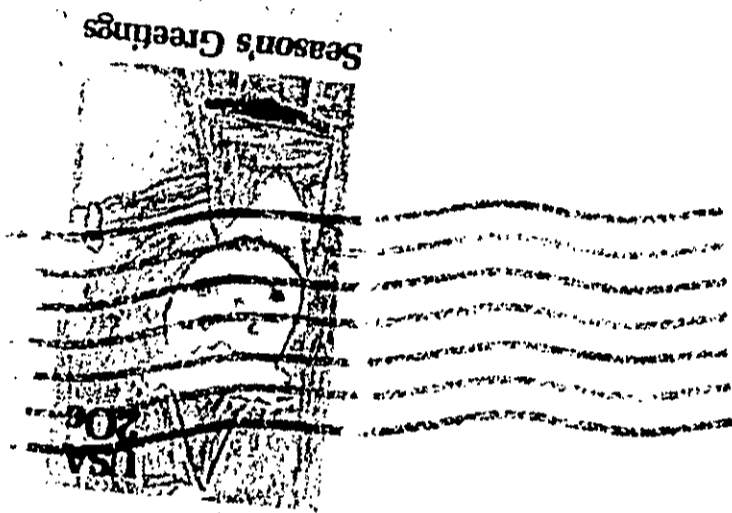
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DATE _____

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