

Open A.R.M.S. Quarterly

CAN WE HELP YOU SEARCH FOR SOMEONE?

VOL. 1, No. 3

NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA

FALL, 1981

New AAC President Greetes Members

Hello to my fellow members, and to our future fellow members, of the AAC. Here we are with our first newsletter. We are hoping it will reach lots of people, who will then have a picture of the American Adoption Congress and will want to join us.

What is the AAC?

- The AAC is a coalition - "coalesce" means "grow together" - of individuals and groups across North America who care about making adoption more open.
- The AAC is an acknowledgement of the many people who, on their own or in groups, are working toward this goal in a great variety of ways.
- The AAC is a means of educating ourselves about this and a channel through which we can educate the rest of the adoption community and the general public.



PENNY CALLAN PARTRIDGE
... AAC Charter President

- The AAC allows groups, large and small, to learn from each other, and for individuals, whether in a group or not, to connect up with the larger network.

A Little History

The AAC really had its conception close to three years ago when organizing began for a meeting which took place in Washington, D.C., in May, 1979. Since then, there has been much behind the scenes work and several regional meetings, including the large Western Regional Meeting at Disneyland in May, 1980, which actually served as a national gathering and kept the momentum going. This last May, a national conference was held in Kansas City.

Besides many of us getting a shot in the arm from trading ideas and experiences with folks from Toronto to Mexico City, from Miami to Seattle, we agreed on by-laws, elected officers, began a membership drive, and became incorporated as a non-profit educational organization.

The Present

The rest is at least partly up to each one of you reading these words. I see this as a "setting up", "trying out" year. How far we get will be determined by the number of people who decide to support the AAC actively, that is by joining and by contributing their own thoughts and efforts.

I see my job as this year's President to set the stage for as many people as possible to feel that they have a part in the AAC and for us to try to take advantage of whatever resources — human, monetary, material, whatever — the AAC may have available to it to build a solid foundation.

We should not be depleting the resources of any group or taking over functions that

separate search/support/advocate groups can do on their own. Instead, we should make things happen through the AAC that cannot be done as well by groups separately.

Dreams

Many people have dreams for the AAC: an office in Washington; a fund that supports research; an efficient referral system; a preventive effort in the area of involuntary relinquishment; a consistent increase, year by year, in the number of states and provinces which allow people to see birth and adoption records pertaining to themselves. A friend of mine in the business world told me about a Princeton study in which she said it was found that eighty-seven per cent of people (presumably adult Americans) do not "have dreams," that is, hopes for the future. Ten per cent HAVE dreams but do not write them down - we could call them "the day dreamers" - and three per cent dream their "dreams" and write them down. According to the study, that three per cent ACHIEVE from thirty to fifty per cent more than the ten per cent who "dream" but do not write down the things they would like to have happen. I am suggesting to Bob O'Dell, who has made his previously begun "OPEN ARMS QUARTERLY" available as the AAC news organ, that there be a column for which all of us can send in our dreams for the AAC. The people who have the same dreams can then perhaps proceed to work on them together. (Please see the annotated list of your Board of Directors so you can know where you can already send information and ideas about specific areas.)

Kinds of Membership

The Board of Directors' biggest dream for this fall is the gathering of a large membership. By midsummer, we had close to one hundred individual members and well over one thousand dollars collected in annual dues. We have set \$10 as the regular individual membership fee, \$20 for "Sustaining Individual Members", and \$150 for "Life Individual Members". We are setting \$25 as the minimum membership fee for "Affiliate Organizations"; and we would like groups which feel they can and would like to give extra support to the AAC to contribute \$100 and be our "Sustaining Affiliate Organization Members". (The AAC is divided into nine regions; the regions receive twenty per cent of all dues coming in from their own region). Do please consider giving us both your dollars and your thoughts. The Board of Directors will do our best to deserve your trust so that at the next annual conference, June 3-6 in San Antonio, we can turn over a thriving AAC to the NEXT Board of Directors.

Thanks and love,
Penny Callan Partridge

Adoptee Survey Being Initiated

Would you like to know how your attitudes, feelings and experiences as an adoptee compare with those of other adoptees across the country? If so, you are invited to participate in the first survey of its kind that we are aware of.

Depending on the number of responses received, the results will be studied, tabulated and published in a future edition of The Open ARMS Quarterly.

We may all be surprised at what we learn about ourselves.

If you would like to be a part of this elite test group, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Sandra Lott - RR #1 - Morton, IL 61550.

Display Advertising In 'Open Arms'

The *Open ARMS Quarterly* is offering comprehensive, low cost advertising to adoptive search and support groups who may wish to let the public know who they are, where they are, and how they can serve in areas of the adoptive community.

Initial advertising rates will be \$12.50 per column inch for each issue. (\$50 per column inch per year). Send your ad indicating size and set-up specifications along with your payment to: Open ARMS Quarterly - P.O. Box 1522 - North Platte, NE 69101.

AAC: Underway and Building

The 1981 conference of the *American Adoption Congress* resulted in the drafting and ratification of a set of by-laws for the new organization and incorporation on a non-profit basis.

Basically, the AAC is designed to work as a *centralized resource agency* for individuals and for over 200 search and support groups involved in the adoptive movement.

Primary objectives of the group are public education regarding philosophies, attitudes and feelings about adoption; advocating the

preservation of public records and access to those records; establishment of a genealogical library; working for favorable legislation and to inform members and the general public of issues and incidents taking place within the adoptive community. In general terms, the AAC hopes to promote the interests of all of us involved in the adoptive movement.

The scope and effectiveness of AAC will be determined only by the support which you and I can offer.

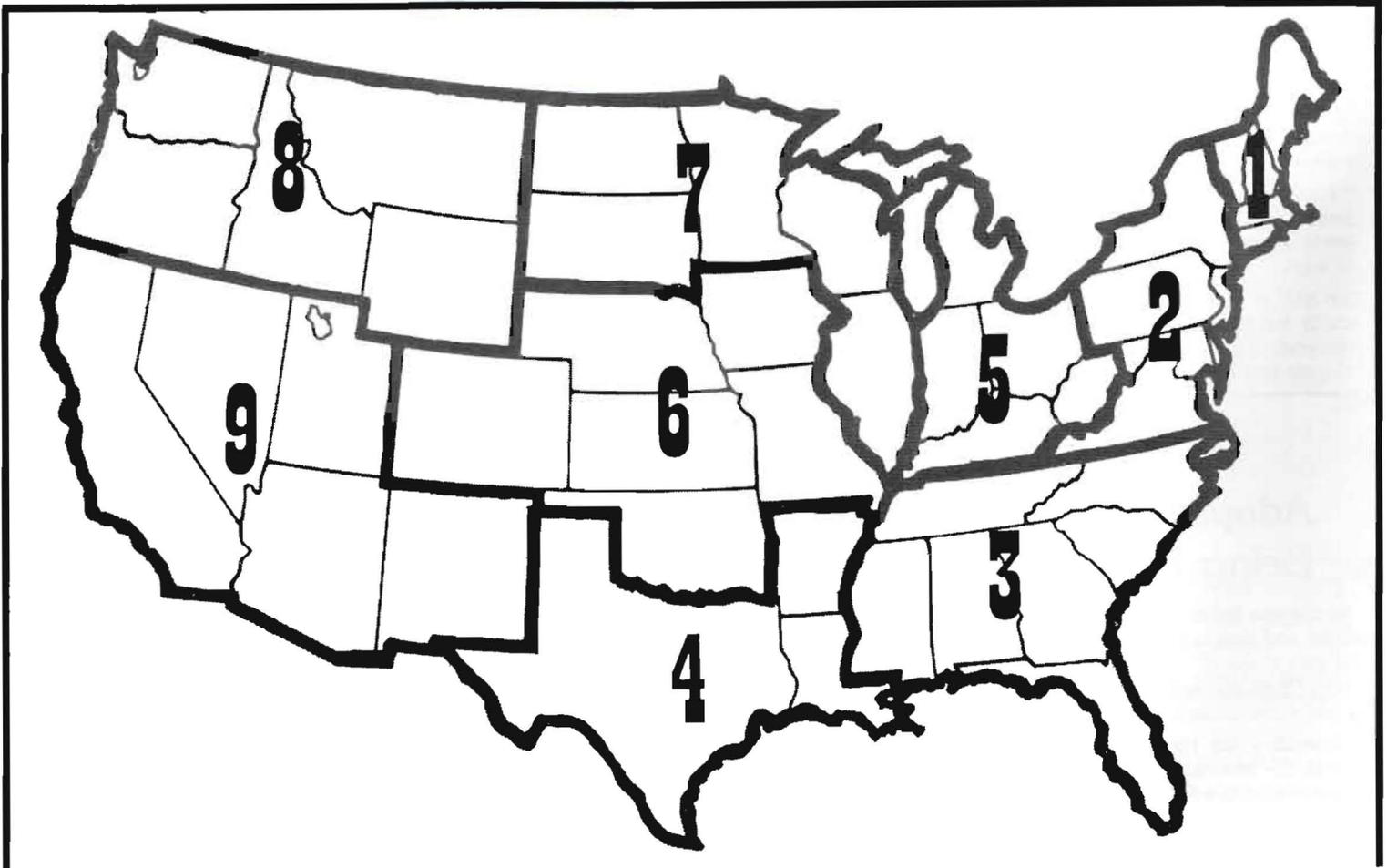
Lofty goals have been set . . . rigid ethical

and moral standards have been established. The cause is just and the time is right. It is the intent of *Open ARMS* to support the American Adoption Congress in a worthy endeavor.

If you wish to learn more about the AAC, write to the REGIONAL DIRECTOR in your area.

Regions are outlined below with the names of the Regional Directors. (Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope, PLEASE).

They are working for us. Let's do our part for them.



REGION 1 — Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island.

Director —
Jackie Gill
10 Forest Street
Dexter, Maine 04930

REGION 2 — Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, District of Columbia.

Director —
Gretchen Fitzgerald
605 Malen Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

REGION 3 — Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee.

Director —
Holly Hill
Route 1 Box 30B5
Climax, North Carolina 27233

REGION 4 — Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas.

Director —
No Director as of this issue.
Please direct correspondence to
Director of Region 3 or 5.

REGION 5 — Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia.

Director —
Linda Cecil
5214 Firewood Lane
Louisville, Kentucky 40291
or —
Martha Barrow
P.O. Box 441
New Haven, Indiana 46774

REGION 6 — Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma.

Director —
Joyce Grube
Route 1 Box 14
Preston, Missouri 65732

REGION 7 — Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

Director —
LaVerne McCurdy
Route 1 Box 158
Clinton, Wisconsin 53525

REGION 8 — Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming.

Director —
Nancy Carton
13208 68th Pl. NE
Kirkland, Washington 98033

REGION 9 — Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Hawaii.

Director —
Karen Tinkham
P.O. Box 1432
Litchfield Park, Arizona 85340

Agony in Triumph for Searcher

Names aren't really that important . . . we'll just call her Lisa. Born at "The Willows" in Kansas City, MO in 1957. Lisa recalls a lifelong curiosity about her birth parents, but admits, ". . . I was too scared to really search". After the death of her adoptive mother in 1978, Lisa experienced a new resolve. In March of 1980, she initiated her "search".

With the assistance of a search consultant associated with the Kansas City Adult Adoptees Organization, Lisa's search resulted in identifying her birth mother. "I learned that my mother was alive, was happy that I had found her, and plans were made for our reunion on September 16, 1980. I didn't understand the delay. We found out about each other on August 13. She didn't wish to talk to me on the phone, but wanted to save everything for the reunion. We corresponded by special delivery. Why wait? I was told that she wanted me to know she was a victim of terminal cancer.

"A week before the reunion was to take place, I was told that my mother had once again been hospitalized. The reunion was still on, but

would have to be postponed. I wanted to be with her, but she didn't want our meeting to take place in a hospital. Fear haunted my thoughts. The adoptive mother whom I had loved so dearly had died in a hospital just two hours before I could reach her side; and now . . ."

"On September 20, I saw my mother for the first time. Even after her struggle to the death, she was beautiful. I talked to her though she no longer heard, nor could she return my tearful gaze."

At the funeral, Lisa met her other family.

"Her sisters and her parents had always known about me. She had told her children of me just two days before her death. I was so confused. I was happy to see them, but part of me wanted to run, and then seeing all of those people who looked like me in so many ways. The unbearable grief which I felt at the loss of a mother whom I had never known was tempered by the acceptance, kindness and understanding of my newly found family. Now I am whole."



Marilyn George (left) poses with June Tanner of the Kansas City Adult Adoptees Organization. Marilyn's husband, Jim, is fighting a legal battle to open his records of adoption in Missouri. Jim is a cancer victim, in his early 30's. His life is literally at stake. At center is "Suzie Willows". More about Suzie in upcoming issues.



Taking time out from the work sessions at the May 1981 AAC Conference are (left to right) Jay Swearingen, Linda Cecil, Jackie Gill, Barbara Overstreet and Kermit Karns. The result of their combined efforts . . . the AAC By-Laws. Congratulations to each for a job well done.

A Labor of Love for Searchers

If you are somehow involved in the adoption community and are either searching or have considered beginning a search, there is a new book which you should place on your "required reading" list: *The Adoption Searchbook*, by Mary Jo Rillera. It is more than evident that the work was a labor of love by Mary Jo, and covers the entire spectrum from questions and emotions to sophisticated search techniques and rules for the reunion.

For details, write: *Triadoption Publications* - P.O. Box 5218 - Huntington Beach, CA 92646. (Self-addressed stamped envelope, PLEASE).

Read it! You'll like it! And what's more you'll learn from it.

We Get . . . LETTERS

Open ARMS Quarterly
Box 1522
North Platte, NE 69101
Attention: Bob O'Dell

Dear Mr. O'Dell,

Good news and bad news! First the bad - Please withdraw my advertisement for the subsequent issues. The good news - My son has been found!

Through the ad in your column, a beautiful chain of events occurred. In amongst the usual mail, bills and junk advertising etc. an envelope addressed to me with nothing except a business card. The card - identifying a searcher specializing in helping birth parents locate their surrendered children.

There were many feelings - was I going to be naive and allow myself to be duped into an extortion of sorts? Getting caught in a web of escalating charges that at first seem minimal and promises that all sounded too good to be true? Also, how could a woman in this small central state "hick" town help me - after all my own leads and information fell way short of even coming close. My last feeling was that at last a person who specializes in finding surrendered children. Just what I needed.

After waiting out the 18 year commitment of surrender and learning that everyone had vanished. The following two years were worse than the previous 18 if that were possible.

I decided to take a chance.

I wrote to Mary asking many questions - How, How much, How long, Why? The response was immediate. My questions answered. The mail would be too slow. I telephoned immediately and ask Mary to go ahead. With a few questions about what I knew surrounding the adoption she assured me she would let me

know as soon as she knew anything. Within a week she wrote with the first lead and practically an entire history of the family. They had moved from Wisconsin to Florida to California back to the East Coast.

She was very supportive at this time and assured me she would not give up. Another week past, and she notified me again with the best news that I had had in my life. She had located Jeff. It was almost too good to be true.

I wanted to scream it to the world.

It has since been an emotional roller coaster. Unsure of what to do. Telephone, write, liason, complications, rejection - the other children. Before I had to think about these things now I had to make decisions and act.

I have acted, to date I am still awaiting a response to the contact. Which I hope will be another story with a happy ending.

But now I want to spread the word of this wonderful, supportive birthmother who extended her hand and with her knowledge of how to proceed and follow through. Her tenacity produced an end to my nightmare. I would like to applaud her publicly. Certainly I will sing her praises loudly. I wish there was a "Mary" for everyone of you that are searching. For sure those in Wisconsin certainly should not over look the possibility of ending their search by beginning with contacting Mary.

I hope I can up-date this with a happy reunion in the following issue.

Name withheld by request
Wisconsin

Pending Legislation

AAC Committee Chairman on Legislative Affairs, Joe Harrington has provided *Open ARMS* with several pieces of legislation which should be of deep interest to those of us involved in the adoption movement. Space does not permit the printing of each individual article, but it is suggested that interested parties write their legislators for details on how to obtain copies of this legislation.

S. 989 - A bill in the U. S. Senate which proposes the establishment of a government registry for adoptees and birth parents who wish to be re-united. (For information, write your Senator). For recent testimony concerning this Bill, see: **S. 989 PROS and CONS** in this issue of *Open ARMS Quarterly*.

Oversight Hearing on Model State Adoption Act - Testimony presented before the Sub committee on Select Education of the Committee on Education and Labor House of Representatives. (For information, write your Representative).

Oversight on Adoption Reform Act (Public Law 95-266) - Testimony presented before the Subcommittee on Child and Human Development of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources United States Senate. (For information, write your Senator).

Suggested State Legislation: Adoptive Information Act - Developed by The Committee on Suggested State Legislation. This draft legislation is based on a North Dakota Statute governing information available to adoptees and birth parents. (For information write - The Council of State Governments - P.O. Box 11910 - Lexington, KY 40578)

Sale of Children in Interstate and Foreign Commerce - Testimony heard before the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice of the Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives. (For information, write your Representative). This is an oldie (1977) but a real eye-opener. It is easy to understand why many of the "powers that be" oppose open adoption records.

S. 1090 - A bill in the U. S. Senate to amend the Public Health Service Act to support services and research relating to adolescent pregnancy and parenthood. (For information, write your Senator).

H. RES. 36 - A Resolution in the House of Representatives AGAINST approval of certain portions of the proposed Model State Adoption Legislation. (For information, write your Representative).

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BUSINESS ADDRESS —

Open A.R.M.S.
Box 1522
North Platte, Nebraska 69101

Defeat of S989 is Urged

RE: S.989 - Creation of a National Computerized Adoption Identification Center.

TO: The Honorable Members of the United State Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

FROM: Suzanne C. Richardson, President
Massachusetts Adoptive Family Association
P.O. Box 1542 - Westfield, Massachusetts
01086 P.O. Box 3152 - Brockton, Massachusetts 02403

My name is Suzanne C. Richardson. I am an adult adoptee and an adoptive parent with biological and adopted children. Adoption has been a positive experience in my life. I am currently the president of *Family*, a voluntary organization existing statewide in Massachusetts, with a sister branch of *Family* in Illinois. *Family* consists of adoptive parents, adoptees and other persons from various fields who are interested in preserving the role of adoption in our society. Our organization strongly opposes the S.989 for the reasons now discussed.

There is no question that adoption has long held a valued place in our society. The adoption of children brings together parents who desire to share their love and home, and children who, except for the existence of adoption, would be left to be reared in foster homes or in institutions with no permanency. The result is a union conceived in love and sanctioned in law which contributes to the well-being of society by creating a close knit family with ties every bit as strong as the ties that exist between biological parents and their siblings.

At the core of adoption are the beliefs that it is private and permanent. Adoptive parents have made a life-long, bonding commitment to their children. I sincerely feel, in my heart, that it would not have been possible for my wonderful parents to have made the kind of commitment that they made to me if there had been a registry hanging over our heads. No one enters into the adoption process with the idea that some day the child or children that they take to be their own will be exposed to extraneous disturbing contacts which would tend to disrupt the family unit. The existing laws of the individual states have universally recognized these principles and zealously protected them. By insuring that adoption records will remain privileged, the states have sought to guarantee, as a matter of fundamental policy, the values and interests of the family. Time and time again, in the past decade, Massachusetts and other leading industrial states, have rejected any efforts aimed directly or indirectly at penetrating the adoptive family unit by disclosing the identity of the adoptee or the adopting parents.

Family respectfully submits that it would be a grave error of judgment for this committee to recommend creation of a national registry for adoption identification. The existence of such registry might cause many individuals who are contemplating adoption to abandon the idea out of fear that someday someone will come across their names in a computer and use the information to shatter a relationship built

after years of love and affection. To the extent that adoptive homes might become unavailable, adoption as an important social device will suffer. The right to be free in intimate personal life choices should remain a concept vigorously protected by the law. The idea of computer stored information of a sort described in this bill is opposed to this fundamental right and the right of people to make their own life choices.

We also can see no pressing need for any federal action on a matter of such grave sensitivity. The Legislatures of the states have given conscientious attention to the interest of all parties involved in the adoption process. Indeed, most of them have been especially discreet in dealing with bills designed to open adoption records and they have shown a commendable reluctance to make any change in practices and principles that have shown long standing social utility. We think it would be unwise for the federal government to intrude on an area that is so socially sensitive by taking the first step towards unsealing records. We think it is particularly unwise for such benign federalism to override the rights of states which have exhibited serious concerns about the negative effects of such an effort.

The proponents of the legislation may point to the fact that participation in the registration system is voluntary and that no one can be forced to reveal his or her identity unless they choose to do so. While this aspect of the bill is praise-worthy, it does not alleviate the legislation's basic flaw - a start toward unsealing records which are considered privileged and a step toward federal involvement in questions which have traditionally been reserved for state consideration. People are not like automobiles to be stereo-typed and catalogued, nor should they be specially marked just because they are adopted. I never was. Those who find it necessary to petition the courts for pertinent information have that avenue open to them.

We believe that our view on the legislation is shared by the overwhelming majority of adoptive parents in this country and by numerous religious, social and political groups. In recommending rejection of this bill, we are urging the preservation of the adoptive family from outside forces which seek to erode its foundation. We would hope that you stand on record with us in this goal.

Thank you

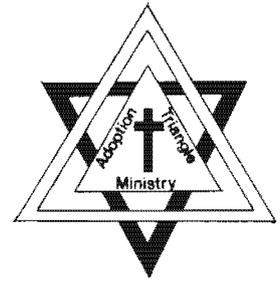
Suzanne C. Richardson

WISH TO ASSIST BIRTH PARENTS

in search of adult adoptees born and adopted in the state of WISCONSIN. 38 out of 38 searches have been successful to date. Write to Adoption Consultant: Route 3 - Box 313, Mauston, WI 53948.

Testimony for S989 Passage

PROFILE!



*Where God and the Triangle Meet
— There is the Fullness of Love*

The Triangle Adoption Ministry founded by Sandra Musser, headquartered in Oaklyn, NJ. Sandy, an attractive and vivacious birth-mother explains the purpose and function of the "ministry" as follows:

"ATM's Main goals are to unite believers within the movement and then to share our adoption issues and concerns with believers outside the movement. We need to educate those who are still dedicated to keeping the records closed . . ."

Faith plays an important part in each of our lives. As we bring our spiritual experience and our adoption experience together, we can begin to reach out in a new and hopefully non-threatening way."

Sandy's account of her search is beautifully done in her book, *I Would Have Searched Forever*, a publication which should be in the personal library of everyone involved in any way in the adoptive movement.

For more information about this issue's "PROFILE" group, write:

Adoption Triangle Ministry
Box 156
Oaklyn, NJ 08107

will. One national registry with a well publicized mailing address will allow more people to know it exists and how they can become registered if they so choose.

Most individuals and groups affiliated with the AAC have had experience with the use of the International Soundex Reunion Registry run by Emma Vilardi; and we know that Ms. Vilardi's system and expertise would be available in the setting up of a federally funded registry. The ISRR has been maintained with undisputable skill and integrity.

If a federally funded registry required that a birthparent find the other birthparent of the adoptee sought, and obtain that person's permission to be part of the registry - and S.989 does not make such a requirement, but opponents of the bill have suggested that it should - it is difficult to imagine either adoptees or birthparents choosing to use the registry. One parent of a "child" should not be able to block access between that "child" and his or her other parent. And even if the other parent had no objection to such access, she or he might be extremely difficult to find.

A registry such as S.989 proposes does not serve the needs of all adoptees or birth relatives of adoptees. For instance, an adoptee could register, not knowing that a birthparent had died before such a registry was available. Should a birthparent's death prevent the possibility of an adoptee ever knowing that birthparent's name? On the other hand, this kind of nationally recognized and supported registry gives people an important option as a way of finding each other, knowing that there is mutual desire and readiness to identify themselves to each other. As this is the ideal way for an adoptee and a birth relative to meet, it would be truly sad if the opportunity for this way did not exist.

New Search Tool Now Available

A new search tool has been acquired by Orphan Voyage of Florida/Tampa-St. Petersburg; computer run surname listings from telephone books of all 50 states including Washington, D.C.

The project will be operated as a non-profit service by the OVF group as a service to birthparents, adoptees and others seeking family members.

A large computer company based in New York with offices in other states continually updates its computer tape and serves large corporations by providing current and complete mailing lists, primarily for sales purposes.

All U. S. telephone directories are on tape and a single computer run costs several thousand dollars. To make the service reasonably available to all serious searchers by bringing the cost down to an acceptable level, agreement has been reached with the company to have each computer run search out 60 surnames. OVF will collect requests, submit a consolidated list to the company, obtain the run, print copies for all requestors and sort and mail out the final product. Cost is expected to average about \$150 per surname.

Experience has shown that many adult adoptees can find either or both parents' names but there is often no community to concentrate upon for that search, or the family has long since left the area and no trace can be found.

Many birthmothers have gone to a large city, usually many miles away, to have the baby and relinquish that child to adoption. Either records are incomplete or the mother's permanent home are sealed with the adoption file.

Adoptive parents also have frequently gone many miles to adopt a child and return home. Their residence is also hidden from a searching birthparent.

In still other cases, families separated for many reasons find it nearly impossible to re-establish contact. All of these cases may benefit from this new service.

For an information sheet and form to request a surname check, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Orphan Voyage of Florida - 13906 Pepperrell Drive - Tampa, FL 33624.

Testimony of Penny Callan Partridge, M.S.W. on S.989: Adoption Identification Act of 1981 to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Aging, Family and Human Services.

My name is Penny Callan Partridge. I am an adoptee, an adoptive parent and a clinical social worker. I am a founder of the Adoption Forum of Philadelphia and am currently the President of the American Adoption Congress.

The AAC is an umbrella group for individuals and organizations that have, as common ground, the belief that all members of the adoption community would be better served if there were less secrecy in adoption. Our members include adoptees, adoptive parents, birthparents of adoptees and adoption professionals. Although we are still in the process of setting up formal group membership, we represent an informal network of over two hundred small and large groups across the United States and Canada.

Most of us have come to know, through personal experiences as well as through contact with hundreds of people with similar experience, that in traditional extrafamilial infant adoption, some major mistakes have been made:

- It was a mistake for anyone to suggest or anyone to believe that a birthparent **should** or **could** be guaranteed permanent anonymity from a daughter or son relinquished for adoption.

- It was a mistake to believe - and to institutionalize the belief - that adoptive families are so weak that they can at no time tolerate any access of their sons or daughters to their genetic relatives, who are potentially a **critical resource** for the physical and emotional health of the adoptee.

- It was a mistake to place adoptees in the position of going through their entire lives with altered and censored life histories, to expect them to do without certain basic and intimate information **about themselves** so that the presumed needs of both sets of their parents might be served instead. In fact, we have found that their experiences of being deprived of part of their life histories has often had a detrimental effect on their relationships with their adoptive families as well as on their relationships with the families they make as adults.

I offer the following comments in support of S.989:

The Adoption Identification Act of 1981 would serve as the Federal Government's recognition of the needs and desires of many biological relatives separated through adoption to locate each other.

It would grant no access to any records considered sealed by the state or county in which they are kept; but in spite of any state legislation that may exist now or in the future, it would allow for those relatives who wish to be accessible to each other to be so.

It is necessary that such a registry not exist simply state by state, because people can be born in one state, adopted in another, and live in many states during their lives. Likewise, people can relinquish children for adoption in a state in which they have never lived and never

Guest Editorial . . .

I am hearing rumblings among "the ranks" . . .

The A.A.C. has expressed courage and well-founded foresightedness in choosing a national news organ to represent us, the members of the American Adoption Congress. It stands to reason a national organization would feel there should be a developing newsletter. We applaud this idea — though there are those who feel it may be entirely premature. We also understand their concern.

**OPEN ARMS QUARTERLY
P. O. BOX 1522
NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA 69101**

For what it is worth, we wish this endeavor all the success in the world and hope to see it achieve a long and compatible union.

The two will be financially independent of one another, and as a member of A.A.C., we must urge all present and future member participants to subscribe to this newsletter, published in January, April, June and September. It must have your \$\$\$ support to survive.

We were in the booth next to Bob O'Dell (editor/publisher of *Open A.R.M.S. Quarterly*) and his wife at the National. I can say, after talking at length with Bob, that he is a sincere, dedicated and hard-working member of the movement. He does understand the responsibility entailed in such an undertaking as a National Newsletter.

His first written proposal (6-21-81) projections show great thought and organization. What he has been asked to do will be tremendously complicated, time-consuming and (hopefully) gratifying.

We must throw our support behind him and show our appreciation and interest in what he is going to endeavor to provide for ALL of us.

Too, you must take the time to recognize and support our local organization wherever you live.

Let's not overlook the value and impact of the current system of newsletters as they exist and continually endeavor to improve. There are now 250 local organizations nationwide and that number is growing daily . . . so fast at present that the Tri-Adoption Library in California is revising, almost daily, its complete list, and has given up the practice of compiling a yearly list for mailing. We are growing too fast for *any* list to remain current for long.

Of all those groups, only about 10 now try to mail a local newsletter. They are scattered throughout the U.S. Where these newsletters exist it is due to a few dedicated people who are the real spine and backbone of our current movement. *Never* discount the strength of those who are "married to the movement". They are valuable — and all too often told too infrequently how much their volunteer time is really appreciated "in service to others". Without these folks our movement is without a spine and would never walk again.

BOTH newsletters (local and national) have their place, and can contribute a part to the whole picture.

One will never replace the other — but will contribute each to the other for the future of the Adoption Liberation Movement and American Adoption Congress.

by ELIZABETH A. WARD
SMAAA Newsletter - October/November

The Search Ad Section

The advertisements appearing in this section of the *Open Arms Quarterly* have been submitted by adoptees, birth parents, friends relatives and other interested parties. The *Open Arms Quarterly* will not be held responsible for authenticity or misrepresentation.

How to use the "Search Ads"

Each of the ads in this section is listed under *The month of birth of the adoptee*. Other information such as race, sex, exact (or approximate) date of birth, place of birth, etc., is included within each individual ad. The identifying data is sufficient in most cases to assist the reader in determining whether or not the possibility of relationship exists between the advertiser and the reader.

The Name Search Section

Open Arms has received a number of requests to publish ads which may involve neither adoptees nor birth parents. These ads have been listed in the "**Name Search**" section. Ads which appear in this section have been submitted by individuals or organizations who are in search of a person whose name is known, but not enough other information is available to locate that person. Typical ads in this section have been placed by genealogical groups, parents of run-a-way children or someone in search of a lost relative or friend.

To Reply to an Ad

1. Simply address your correspondence to the address listed in the ad, or follow any given instructions in the ad regarding telephone contact.

2. Where only an *Identification number* is given, address your correspondence to:

OPEN ARMS
P. O. Box 1522
North Platte, NE 69101

Include the identification number given in the ad on the back of your envelope. *Open Arms* will forward your *unopened* letter to the advertiser.

- SEARCH ADS -

JANUARY

(01/05) Birth mother wishes contact with adoptive parents of white female born Jan. 5, 1965 at Lennox Hill Hosp. Manhattan, NY. Placed for adoption through Spence-Chapin. Anonymous correspondence provided. Reply: Dept. "C" #2042010565.

(01/08) White male, born Jan. 8, 1956 Bethesda Hospital - St. Louis, MO. Adopted through Family and Children's Service of St. Louis. Seeking birth mother. Reply: Douglas Carter Murphy - 4431 Travis, #105 - Dallas, TX 75205.

(01/09) Birth mother wishes contact with adoptive parents of white male born Jan. 9, 1968 at General Hospital - Minneapolis, MN. Anonymous correspondence provided. Reply: *Open A.R.M.S.* Dept. "C" P.O. Box 1522 - North Platte, NE 69101 #2020010968.

(01/14) White male, born Jan. 14, 1917 San Leandro Hospital - Oakland, CA. Birth name: Sammel Louis Walters. Seeking contact with brother or sisters. Reply: #1001011417.

(01/16) Birth mother seeking contact with white male born Jan. 16, 1944 - Georgia University Hospital - Augusta, GA. Birth name: Walter P. Thomas II. Please reply: Jeanne Mellis - 10166 118th Ave. N - Largo, FL 33540. Telephone: 813/398-1116.

(01/16) White female, born Jan. 16, 1961 Memorial Hospital - Casper, WY. Seeks birth mother, brother, other relative or friends. *PLEASE!* Reply: Becky Eaton - No. 2 Hutton Heights Trailer Ct. - Green River, WY 82935.

(01/22) White female born Jan. 22, 1945 - Fairmont Hospital - Kansas City, MO (12:30 a.m.) Birth name: Doris Davison. Seeking birth mother, relatives or anyone having info. Reply: Susan Lovett - 5402 Lamsdale - Wichita, KS 67208.

(01/24) Birth mother seeking white female, born Jan. 24, 1960 at St. Mary's Hospital (5:55 p.m.) Green Bay, WI. Birth name Jean Ann. Adopted in August 1961 also in Wisconsin. Reply: Audrey Besaw - Box 3604 - Green Bay, WI 54303.

(01/26) White female born Jan. 26, 1912 in Cleveland, OH, seeking birth parents, relatives or anyone having information. Birth name: Verna Carle or Craw or Givings. Birth parents believed living in the Corry, PA area prior to birth of adoptee. Reply: P.O. Box 424 - Perrysburg, OH 43551.

NAME SEARCH

Artificially inseminated female seeking sperm-donor birth father. Father thought to have made sperm donation in Spring of 1948 and later returned to donate to new sperm bank in 1949. Thought to have been a married father and college student from Texas. Donation occurred at Dr. A.R. **Abarbanel's** Clinic. Los Angeles, CA. Anyone with info. please reply: #1048000048.

Wish to contact Sheridan Lee (Sherri) Venners **Allan** or James **Allen**. Both were entertainers (singer and dancer). Last known address 255 W. 92nd Street - New York, NY. Known to have been in the New Orleans, LA area in spring and early summer of 1943. Please check local telephone directories and notify if sur-name of **Venners** appears in your directory. Please reply: #1028040543.

Seeking to contact Robert W. **Atherton**. Age: 39-41. Attended college in Georgia in 1961 or 62. Anyone with information reply: #2019000000.

Birth mother, Hazel Karr Barber wishes to contact Dennis Ross **Barber**, born Jan. 15, 1941, and Vivian Nadine **Barber**, born June 17, 1942. Anyone with info. please reply: Judy Wallace 8589 Fairlawn Court - Sacramento, CA 95828.

Desire contact with Mrs. Augustine **Battin**. Last known to be in Iowa City, IA in 1946. Reply: #1006051546.

Wish to contact Stephen Franklin **Buck**, born 1908 to Frank and Mary Zurn at Harrisburg, PA. Relatives or anyone having info. please reply: #1040000032.

Wish any information about Joan Hinchliffe nee **Burrs**, Prescott, WA or Keith **Lutje**, Spokane, WA. Reply: #2046000030.

Searching for children of Ernest Perry **Campbell** of Michigan and Alice Morris **Campbell** of Kansas. All children born prior to 1930 in Spokane, WA. All left Washington. Names: Ernest Russell, Cecil Perry, Dorothy and Viola. Please reply by telephone: 206/282-9039.

Wish to contact John **Comer**, age approx. 60. Was employed as a roofer in California or Washington. Anyone having information please reply: #1030050345.

Adoptee whose birth name was Helen Doering, born July 1, 1925 at the Willows Maternity Home, Kansas City, MO. Seeks contact with Henrietta **Doering**. Anyone with info. please reply: #1052070125.

Wish to contact Belton **Dunnigan**, black male born Aug. 7, 1920 in Mobile, AL. Now probably retired from the USAF. Last known address: Randolph AFB, Texas. Anyone with info. please reply: Earline Irby - 937 E. 50th Street - Tacoma, WA 98404.



Wish to locate for **medical reasons**: Richard Alan **Eggleston**. White male born Feb. 20, 1946 to Gleen Sr. and Margaret Eggleston of Washington, MN. Anyone with info. please reply: #2049022046.

Wish to contact Maurie **Eller**. Last known address was Casper, WY about 1961. Reply: #10020111661.

Wish to contact Geraldine **Fezell**. Last known to be in Shreveport, LA area in middle 1950's. Reply: #1044032154.

Wish to contact anyone having info. about Marie **Ferrigno/Ferringio**. Known to be in New York City in early 1930's. Possibly acquainted in the Bronx. Reply: #1045022731.

Wish to contact William Adam **Fulton**. Reportedly born in Richmond, IN. Age, approx. 50. Last known to be with U. S. Navy - Jacksonville, FL. Reply: #1021121750.

Wish to contact David Malcolm **Gorman**. Born Mar. 12, 1944 in Denver, CO. Reply: #2004031244.

Hope to contact relatives, friends or anyone having info. regarding Teresa Mary **Griffen-Ward**, born about 1912 and left at the New York Foundling Hospital at birth. Now deceased. Reply: #1040000032.

Wish to contact Aline **Hall**. Last known address - Kansas City, MO in 1938. Approx. 60 years-of-age now. Reply: #1023022538.

Adoptee whose birth name was Mary Delora **Hill**. Born May 1, 1946 in Mt. Clemens, MI. Seeks to contact birth parents or anyone having info.. Reply: #1005050146.

Wish to contact Barbara LaVerne **Howell**. Married name thought to be **Green**. Reply: #1024010856.

Hope to contact David Cordell **Keenum**. Born July 22, 1959 in Gadsden, AL. Reply: #2016072259.

Wish to contact Jessie **Kittrell**. Born in Missouri, known to have been in Los Angeles, CA area in spring of 1925. Anyone having info. please reply: #1026042325.

Wish to hear from anyone with info. about Clifford **Labar**, born July 16, 1916 in Sheridan, WY. Please reply: Mabel Thompson - Gen. Del. - Lake Park, MN 56554 or Tel. 218/238-5552.

Wish to obtain names of parents, grandparents and other heritage info. about Harold C. **Leathers**. Born April 20, 1921. From Missouri. Anyone with info. please reply: #1061042021.

Seeking half-brother born approx. 1930 in Wyoming or Nebraska. Father's last name **Lovercheck**. Reply: #2046000030.

Would like to contact Joseph "Pete" **Marci**, approx. 50 years-of-age. Last known living in New York. Reply: #1017090254.

Want to contact Joanne **McPherson**. Born Jan. 19, 1936 in Martinez, CA. Present first name is Marilyn. Reply: #2002011936.

Would like to hear from Marilyn **Milligan** who left home on June 17, 1977. Was born on May 19, 1966 in Richmond, MO. Reply #2010051966.

Daughter, born Nov. 7, 1947. Searching for Roy L. **Morgan**, birth father. Birth mother, Shirley Claire Rushlau (now deceased) possibly resided in Nebraska, Chicago or Columbus, OH in early 1947. Anyone with info. please reply: Jean Bernth 6211 S. 73rd Ave. Ralston, NE 68127.

Wish to contact Buster **Patterson**, age approx. 54, last known whereabouts was the Galesburg, IL area. Anyone having info. please reply: #1029102449.

Searching for Grace Fuller **Prince**. Last known to be living in Colorado. Born approx. 1912 in Nebraska. Reply: #2003031212.

Desire info. from anyone knowing of Margaret Anna **Roberts - O'Shea**. Born Oct. 10, 1910 in Lancaster, MO. Resident of Missouri until 1930. Lived in Sacramento, CA from 1935 to 1940. Please reply: #1055030834.

Wish to contact Dorothy **Simms-Reed**, (Mrs. Vernon). Relatives, friends or anyone having info. please reply: #1041102344.

Wilma Chole **Stuller**, born Sept. 30, 1932, Kirksville, MO, seeks birth mother, May **Stuller** born Nov. 10, 1906 to Charles and Sophia Koehler Stuller of Bloomington, IL. Anyone having info. please reply: Roberta M. Baty - 1244 East Seminole, Springfield, MO 65804.

Adoptee named Virginia Katherine **Tubbs** at birth, born Nov. 8, 1924 in Dallas, TX, wishes to contact brother, sister or relatives. Reply: #1018110824.

Wish to contact Jesse Arvel **Waldrop** who is originally from Missouri. Known to have been in California in late 1940's. Reply: #1004042947.

Searching for mother, Lillian **Wells**, born in California in 1895. Taught school in South Dakota. Gave birth to Grace Wells April 15, 1917 in Kansas City, MO. Anyone with info. please reply: Dorothy J. Johnson - 8622 E. 84th Street - Raytown, MO. 64138. Tel. 816/356-4676

Wish to contact three **Whittaker** children: David Everett, born Oct. 9, 1956 (Mac Dill) AFB; Martin Vincent, born Feb. 26, 1958 (Mac Dill) AFB; and Belinda Elizabeth, born in Tampa General Hospital, Tampa, FL. Anyone with info. please reply: Mrs. Doris E. Whittaker - P.O. Box 7003 - St. Petersburg, FL 33734.

Wish to contact Robert Lee **Wilson**, 39 to 41 years of age, thought to be living in Nebraska in 1959. Visited in Yakima, WA with friend, William Van Cleave in 1959. Anyone with info. please reply: Roger Parke - 5750 So. Gazelle Street - Seattle, WA 98118.



*OPEN A.R.M.S. ADVERTISING SECTION

This symbol appearing within an ad indicates that the advertiser is requesting medical information or that the advertiser wishes to divulge medical information.

SEARCH ADS

(01/1968) Birth father seeking white male born Jan. 1968 in San Francisco, CA. Unwed mother's assumed name: "Shy". Birth unknown to me until years later. Child placed for adoption at birth or soon afterward. Reply: #2031010068.

FEBRUARY

(02/01) White female born Feb. 1, 1932 - Fairmont Home - Kansas City, MO. Birth name: Martha Wright, seeking birth parent(s), relatives or anyone having info. please reply: Pat Pavlovsky - 1205 Hampshire Court - Roseville, CA 95678.

(02/02) White female born Feb. 2, 1950 in Omaha, NE placed through an Omaha children's home. Wish to contact birth mother. Anyone having info. please reply: #1025020250.

(02/03) White female born Feb. 3, 1960 - Los Angeles, CA - seeking birth mother (born Aug. 3, 1941 in Santa Monica, CA); Sister: Katherine Lorraine (believed to be in Ohio, born Mar. 1961). Brother: Christopher (born Mar. 1964). All children given up for adoption in El Paso, TX. Birth mother's name believed to be Judy Patricia. Please reply: #1042020360.

(02/25) White male, born Feb. 25, 1938 - Fairmont Home - Kansas City, MO. Birth name: Donald Hall. Seeking birth parent(s), relatives or anyone having info. Reply: #1023022538.

(02/26) White female born Feb. 26, 1957 searching for birth father. First name "Jack". Thought to have been a salesman who lived in Cedar Rapids, IA in 1956-57. Birth mother was then from Minnesota. Anyone with info. please reply: Elizabeth Bomgardner - 702 N. Jefferson - Plainville, KS 67663.

(02/27) White female, born Feb. 27, 1931 in New York, NY. Abandoned in Bronx on May 3, 1932 with Catherine D'Alessandro on 155th Street. Searching for birth mother, relatives or anyone having info. Reply: 1114 Modesto Avenue - Camarillo, CA 93010.

MARCH

(03/01) White female born Mar. 1, 1951 at Greenpoint Hospital - Brooklyn, NY seeks contact with birth father and half-sister. Half-sister also thought to have been born in Brooklyn area in 1940's. Birth mother's name: Emily Marino. Anyone having info. please reply: #2032000040.

(03/02) Birth mother of white female born Mar. 2, 1966 in Philadelphia, PA wants to let it be known that she is available to daughter and adoptive parents. Daughter's birth name: Lisa Linke. Place of birth, Booth Salvation Army Home for Unwed Mothers. Adoption through Lutheran Family Services. Actual birth date may have been Mar. 2, 3 or 4. Reply Robin Linke Wilson - 11 Sweetbriar Lane - Chapel Hill, NC 27514 or #2036030366.

(03/08) White female born Mar. 8, 1934 Roseburg, OR desires info. about birth mother, Margaret Anna Roberts - O'Shea, born Oct. 9, 1910 Lancaster, MO. Resident of Missouri until 1930. Resided in Sacramento, CA. 1935-1940. Anyone with info. please reply: #1055030834.

(03/12) Birth Mother seeks white male born Mar. 12, 1944 - Denver, CO. Immediate reply requested as mother is in poor health. Anyone having info. please reply: Mrs. D. L. Garcia - 686 S. Patton Court - Denver, CO 80219.

(03/14) Birth mother seeking white male born Mar. 14, 1963 in West Hartford, CT. St. Anges Home for unwed mothers, (4:16 a.m.) Birth name: James Michael Vicente. Adopted through Catholic Family Services. Please reply: #2048031463.

(03/17) White female born Mar. 17, 1958 - Peoria, IL. Seeks birth parents or relatives. Please reply: Caron Chelmen - 10550 Lyndale Ave. S - Bloomington, MN 55420.

(03/21) White female, born Mar. 21, 1954 - Shreveport, LA. Birth name: Rebecca Ann Feazell. Adopted through Catholic Charities - St. Ann's Infant Home. Seeking birth mother or relative. Please reply: Angela R. Propst - 1621 12th Street - Lake Charles, LA 70601 or #1044032154.

(03/22) White female born Mar. 22, 1943 - New Orleans, LA - Touro Infirmary, adopted through Protestant Home for Babies. Seeking birth mother whose last name was Peterson. Anyone having info. please reply: J. N. Miller - 221 Broadway Street - New Orleans, LA 70118.

(03/22) Birth mother seeks white female born Mar. 22, 1971 - Bartow Memorial Hospital - Bartow, FL. Anyone having info. please reply: Charlene Pruiitt - 4001 E Road 542 - Lakeland, FL 33801.

(03/23) White female born Mar. 23, 1932. Probable place of birth: Gregory Home for unwed mothers - Fort Worth, TX. Seeking birth parent(s). Father's family was in real estate business. Anyone with info. please reply: Barbara F. Drew - 15700 East Freeway - Channelview, TX 77530 or telephone 713/426-2235.

(03/24) White female, born Mar. 24, 1943 in Montgomery, KY seeks birth parents, Rhoda Hicks or relatives. Reply: Jane Shaffer - 620 N 6th Street - Burbank, CA 91501.

(03/26) Birth mother seeking white female born Mar. 26, 1961 - Michael Reese Hospital and adopted through Jewish Family Services - Chicago, IL. Reply: CUB P.O. Box 42587 - Houston, TX 77042.

(03/1912) Half-sister seeking Grace Fuller Prince, born prior to 1912, daughter of Elsie Cumpston Fuller Hager. Last known in Colorado. Reply to: R. L. Krigegeer - Route 1 - Atkinson, NE 68713.

APRIL

(04/05) White female born Apr. 5, 1943 - Charity Hospital - New Orleans, LA. Birth name Linda Lee Allen. Wishes contact with birth parents. Birth mother has been told that adoptee died in infancy. Anyone having info. please reply: Linda Squyres - P.O. Box 10365 - Houston, TX 77206.

(04/07) Birth mother wishes contact with daughter born Apr. 7, 1941 - Omaha, NE. Released for adoption through Christian Home of Council Bluffs, IA a few days after birth. Last name on birth Cert. Fredricks. Real father's name was used later when signed for adoption possibly July, 1941. Anyone with info. please reply #2047040741.

(04/08) White male born Apr. 8, 1937 - Sioux City, IA; adopted through St. Mary's Orphanage. Birth mother's name: Maxine Miller. Wish to contact birth parent(s) or anyone having info. Please reply: #1056040837.

(04/09) White female born Apr. 9, 1951 - Silver Cross Hosp. - Joliet, IL seeks birth parent(s). Reply: Sharon L. Beck - Star Route - Napies, ID 83847.

(04/11) White female born Apr. 11, 1919 - Veil Maternity Hosp. - Kansas City, MO. Birth mother's name: Lela Voss. It is known that there are at least three siblings. I would like to contact anyone having info. about Lela Vass, born - Lawrence County, KS in approx. 1887. Please reply: Maxine Hammond - 1003 N Urban - Tulsa, OK 74115.

(04/12) Grandparents seek white female born Apr. 12, 1959 - Sacramento, CA. Birth Defect has been found. Reply: #2006041259.

(04/14) Birth mother wishes contact with white male, born Apr. 14, 1960 in Yakima Valley Memorial Hosp. - Yakima, WA. Have important genetic info. Reply: L. K. McAleer - 5750 So. Gazelle St. - Seattle, WA 98118.

(04/22) White female born Apr. 22, 1929 - Clarkson Hosp. - Omaha, NE. Dr. Charles Moon. Names of birth parents thought to be Margaret Andrews and Sam Wagner. Wish to contact birth parents or anyone having info. Reply: Mary E. Rowen - 12445 Towner N.E. - Albuquerque, NM 87112.

(04/23) White female born Apr. 23, 1925 - Los Angeles, CA. Birth name: Norma May Kittrell. Seeking birth mother, relatives or friends. Anyone having info. please reply: Juanita Hovis - 4278 Via San Jose - Riverside, CA 92504.

(04/24) Birth mother wishes contact with white male born Apr. 24, 1959 - St. Joseph Hosp. - Flint, MI. Anyone having info. please reply: B. A. Murphy - G-4166 Richfield Road - Flint, MI 48506.

(04/25) Birth mother seeks white female born Apr. 25, 1965 - Southfield, MI - Providence Hosp. Adopted through Catholic Charities in Chicago, IL. First name is known to be Cindy. Info. which I have, indicates that she has left the home of her adoptive parents. Please reply: Joan Arnette - Route 1 - Cameron, WI 54822 telephone 715/458-4883.

(04/29) White/Indian females (twins) seek contact with birth parent(s) or anyone with information. Born Apr. 29, 1947 - Booth Memorial Hosp. - Oakland, CA. Reply: #1004042947.

MAY

(05/01) White female born approx. May 1, 1946 - Mt. Clemens, MI seeks birth parent, relatives or anyone having info. Reply Elaine Vinton - P.O. Box 885 - Troy, MI 48099.

(05/03) White female born May 3, 1945 in Fresno, CA wishes contact with birth father age approx. 60. Thought to be living in either Washington or California. Anyone with info. please reply: Marilyn Mitchell - 2247 W. Dakota #129 - Fresno, CA 93705.

(03/05) Birth mother seeking white female born May 5, 1945 in small hospital in Cambridge or Somerville, MA. Reply: #2034050545.

(05/05) Birth mother seeking white female born May 5, 1968, (8:55 a.m.) - Gottlieb Memorial Hosp. - Melrose Park, IL. Anyone with info. please reply: Judy Key-Dominguez - 16 Ryan Ave. - Mill Valley, CA 94941.

(05/08) Birth parents wish to contact male born May 8, 1961 - Summit, WI. Birth name: Jeffrey G. Denk. Reply: 837 W. Lincoln - Port Washington, WI 52074.

(05/11) Half-sister seeking contact with adoptive parents of white male born May 11, 1970 at Wycoff Heights Hosp. - Brooklyn, NY. Anonymous correspondence provided. Reply: Open A.R.M.S. Dept. "C" P.O. Box 1522 - North Platte, NE 69101 #2033051170.

(05/15) Mexican female, born May 15, 1946 - S.U.I. Hosp. - Iowa City, IA, seeks birth mother. Reply: Rita Villarreal - 1028 Post St., Apt. A - Redlands, CA 92373.

(05/15) White female, born May 15, 1960 in Good Samaritan (Wilcox) Hosp. - Portland, OR. Adopted through Boys and Girls Aid Society. Seeking contact with birth family members. Reply: S. Knight - 4652 SW 141st St. - Beaverton, OR 97005.

(05/16) White male born May 16, 1958 - Omaha, NE. Adopted through St. Joseph's Orphanage in Lincoln, NE, seeks birth parents, relatives or anyone having info. Reply: Steve Bailey - 2105 W. Madison #2 - Sioux Falls, SD 57104.

(05/20) White female, born May 20, 1956 in Houston, TX. Adopted through Depelchain Faith Home. Seeking birth parents and possibly twin brother. Reply: S. M. - 1921 Beaumont St. - Jacksonville, TX 75766.

(05/21) Birth-sister wishes contact with white male, born May 21, 1942 in Blytheville, AR. Birth name: Jerry Lee Fulmer. Reply: #2011052142.

(05/21) Birth mother (age 17) wishes contact with adoptive parents of white baby girl born May 21, 1979 - Swedish Hospital - Seattle, WA. Reply: J. L. P. - 8639 30th SW - Seattle, WA 98126.

(05/29) Birth mother seeking white female born May 29, 1962 - Hinsdale Sanitarium and Hosp. - Hinsdale, IL. Have important medical information. Adoptive parents thought to be Presbyterian. Last known in Ohio. Reply: #2012052962.

(05/24) White female born May 24, 1946 - Chicago, IL seeks birth parents, relatives or anyone with info. Foster parents: Robert and Simone Vanlandingham. Birth name: Patricia Jean (probably). Reply: 2121 Sweetland Street - Oxnard, CA 93033 or #1046052446.

JUNE

(06/08) Birth mother wishes contact with white male born June 8, 1951 - Los Angeles, CA. Birth name: Norman Lee Greenbaum. First name now thought to be "Peter". Anyone with info. please reply: #2039060851.

- SEARCH ADS -

(06/09) Birth mother seeks contact with white female born June 9, 1926 - Salvation Army Home - Portland, OR. Birth name: Virginia June Hill. Adopted through Waverly Baby Home also in Portland. Anyone with info. please reply: #2056060926.

(06/09) Grandparents of white female adoptee born June 9, 1963 at St. Michael's Hospital - Newark, NJ seeks to contact her or anyone having info. Reply: Mr. & Mrs. Martin - 77 Windsor - St. Fall River, MA 02723.

(06/11) White male born June 11, 1940 at 2463 N Albany - Chicago, IL. Birth name: Dennis Henry Cochrane. Seeking birth parents, Maurice and Isabelle Cochrane-Sullivan and brothers and sisters. Please reply: P.O. Box 4134 - Madison, WI 53711.

(06/15) White female, born June 15, 1953 in Dayton, OH, seeking birth parents. Birth name: Deborah Ann Reynolds. Reply: Susan M. Traum Bauer - 5399 Spencer Street - Las Vegas, NV 89119.

(06/16) Indian male, born June 16, 1940 in Marshfield, WI. Seeking birth parents or anyone with info. Reply: John Christner - 800 Sime Ave. - Tomah, WI 54660.

(06/17) White female born June 17, 1921 - Crittenton Home - Kansas City, MO seeks relatives or anyone having info. Reply: #1036061721.

(06/21) Birth mother seeking white female born June 21, 1965 at Holy Name Hosp. - Teaneck, NJ. Reply: Gail Contey - 822 6th St. - Union Beach, NJ 07735.

(06/22) White female born June 22, 1934 - Indianapolis, IN. Birth name: Marilyn Sue Hutchison, seeking any info. about birth mother, first name: Virginia. Reply: Janet Davis - 53242 Crestview Drive - South Bend IN 46635.

(06/23) White female born June 23, 1946 - St. Mary's Hosp. - Passiac, NJ. Raised in Immaculate Conception Home - Lodi, NJ, wishes contact with birth parents or anyone having info. Please reply: #1057062346.

(06/26) White female, born June 26, 1957 - Virginia Gay Hospital - Vinton, IA. Seeks birth parents or anyone having info. Reply Julie McCraney - 555 So. East Street Apt. 7 - Anaheim, CA 92805.

(06/1959) Birth father seeking white male born June (?), 1959 Doctor's Hospital - San Diego, CA. Birth name: Robert James Thatcher. **Father in failing health.** Please reply: Personal, J. F. Thatcher - 23611 (52) Grove Ave. - San Diego, CA 92154 Telephone 714/424-6591.



JULY

(07/01) White female, born July 1, 1962 in Knoxville, TN, desires contact with maternal parent, brothers or sisters. Reply: Beth Gibson - Rt. 1 Box 7, Ward's Apts. - Russellville, TN 37860.

(07/01) Birth mother seeking white male born July 1, 1963 - Tampa General Hospital - Tampa, FL. Adoption handled through The Children's Home Society of Florida. Anyone having info. please reply: Patricia Adames - 4665-70 Avenue North - Pinellas Park, FL 33565.

(07/03) White male born July 3, 1936 - Bellevue Hosp. - New York, NY. Birth name: Richard Brinkman or Moore. Adoption through Mrs. Taber - Baby's Haven - Groton, CT. Seeking birth parents, relatives or info. Please reply - John R. Heydt - 5 Hampton Court - Neptune, NJ 07753.

(07/03) White male born July 3, 1939 (at) and adopted from Our Lady of Victory Infant's Home (Father Baker's Basilica) - Lackawanna, NY. Birth name: Paul Joseph Smith. Seeking birth parents or anyone having info. Wish to hear from anyone who has been able to obtain pertinent data from New York State. Reply: #1033070339.

(07/05) White female, born July 5, 1946 in New York, NY. Seeking birth mother. Birth name: Catherine Mary Bouchard. Reply: Peggy Aiello - 66 Seaver Ave. - S.I. NY 10306.

(07/07) White female, born July 7, 1924 in Weatherford, TX. Seeking birth father. Mother's name: Thura Hopkins. Reply: L. Hargrove - 6400 Dawn - El Paso, TX 79912.

(07/09) Birth mother seeking Mexican/White female, born July 9, 1969 in Chicago, IL. Please reply: #2015070969.

(07/13) White female born July 13, 1957 - St. Joseph's Hosp. - Kansas City, MO. German and Polish decent. Adopted through Catholic Charities - Kansas City, MO. Birth name: Dorothy Jean Gardner. Seeking contact with biological family. Anyone with info. please reply: #1053071357.

(07/16) Birth mother searching for white female born July 16, 1949 in Tampa, FL. Anyone with info. please reply: #2040071649.

(07/22) Birth mother seeks contact with white male, born July 22, 1959 - Baptist Memorial Hosp. - Gadsden, AL. Reply: #2016072259.

(07/25) Birth mother searching for white female born July 25, 1964 - Mobile, AL. Birth name: Mary Kathleen. Adoption through Catholic Charities. Reply: #2037072564.

AUGUST

(08/02) White female born Aug. 2 or 3, 1945 - West Hartford, CN seeks birth mother or anyone having info. Please reply: L. Mariana - P.O. Box 416 - Mendocino, CA 95460.

(08/15) White male, born Aug. 15, 1935 at Cook County Hosp. - Chicago, IL. Seeks birth parents or other relatives. Birth name: Gene Rains. Reply: A. G. Todriff - P.O. Box 6786 - Chicago, IL 60680.

(08/21) Birth mother searching for white male born Aug. 21, 1972 - Omaha, NE. Adopted through Child Saving Inst. - Omaha. Any information appreciated. Reply: #2054082172.

SEPTEMBER

(09/02) White male, born Sept. 2, 1954 in Miami, FL. Birth name: Barry Joseph Macri Ewell. Searching for birth father or anyone having info. Reply B.J.M. Ewell - P.O. Box 1100, Box 1781 - Avon Park, FL 33825.

(09/06) White German/Czech male, born Sept. 6, 1930 in Nebraska. Birth name: Stanley Eugene Frasch, seeking info. regarding birth parents and relatives. Reply: #1039090630.

(09/19) Birth family desires contact with white male born Sept. 19, 1949 - New York, NY. Birth name: Thomas Butler. Anyone having info. please reply: D.L.B. - 2826 Knox Ave. - Los Angeles, CA 90039.

(09/20) White male born Sept. 20, 1950 - Coral Gables, FL wishes contact with birth parents, relatives or anyone having info. Reply: Attorney Michael F. Ross - 1998 Yale Station - New Haven, CT 06520.

OCTOBER

(10/16) White female born Oct. 16, 1932 - Birmingham, AL. Birth name: Barbara Jean. Seeking contact with birth parents, brother and two sisters. Father's surname believed to be Hart. Brother thought to be residing in northern California area. May have relatives in southern Indiana. Anyone with info. please reply: Marilyn S. Hall - 14315 Ravendale - Humble, TX 77338.

(10/17) White male born Oct. 17, 1953, Wiesbaden, Germany. Adopted by U. S. citizens. Adoptive family seeks to inform biological relatives of **serious medical problems**. Please reply: #1065101753.

(10/17) Birth mother and brother desire info. regarding white male born Oct. 17, 1968 - Tampa General Hosp. - Tampa, FL. Adopted through Children's Home Inc. Adoptive parents thought to be of Baptist religion. Anyone with info. please reply: P. Hausman - 214 Golden Sands Drive - Sarasota, FL 33582.

(10/23) White female, born Oct. 23, 1944 - Yonkers, NY. Birth name: Carol Jean Reed. Seeking birth mother and other relatives. Anyone with info. please reply: C. Kehoe - 55 Woods Grove - Huntington, CT 06484.

(10/24) White female born Oct. 24, 1949 in Fresno, CA searching for birth father. Approx. age: 54. Thought to be from Galesburg, IL area. Birth mother also from that area. Anyone with info. please reply: Judy Jacobsen - 9303 E. Bullard - Clovis, CA 93612.



(10/28) Birth mother seeking white female born Oct. 28, 1957 - Mound Park Hosp. - Pinellas County, FL. Birth name: Rosalynn Scarlett Coleman. Adopted by real grandparents, Stella and Woodrow Coleman. **Medical info. involved.** Reply: #2053102857.

NOVEMBER

(11/07) White female born Nov. 7, 1947 Nebraska Methodist Hosp. - Omaha, NE. Birth name: Pamela. Birth mother's name: Shirley Claire Rushlau. Seeking birth father, Roy L. Morgan. Anyone with info. please reply: Jean Bernth - 6211 S. 73 Ave. - Ralston, NE 68127 or telephone 402/331-0582.

(11/08) White female, born Nov. 8, 1924 in Dallas, TX Seeking birth relatives or anyone having info. Reply: Ruby F. Hearne - 4201 Gilmore - Fort Worth, TX 76111.

(11/10) White female born Nov. 10, 1949 - Lincoln General Hosp. - Lincoln, NE. Private Adoption. Birth mother's name: Dorothy Elaine Hatch (middle name may not be correct). Birth mother attended Univ. of NE at Omaha and had degrees in Chemistry (1950-52). Anyone with info. please reply: Patricia L. Huff - 27 Tower Hill Ave. - Red Bank, NJ 07701, tele. 201/747-9244.

(11/11) Birth mother seeking white female born Nov. 11, 1942 - Infant's Home - Lackawanna, NY adopted through the same home. Birth name: Patricia Ann. Adopted July, 1944 at age 21 months. Anyone having info. please reply: #2017111142.

(11/25) White male born Nov. 25, 1936 in Deaconess Hosp. - Buffalo, NY seeking birth mother. Sur-name at birth thought to be: Burdin, Burden or Burdon. Please reply: Always In Me - P.O. Box 454 - Orchard Park, NY 14127.

(11/25) White female born Nov. 25, 1960 (3:27 p.m.) at St. Elizabeth's Home for Unwed Mothers - San Francisco, CA. Adoption handled through Nevada Catholic Welfare. Seeking birth parent(s) or anyone having info. Please reply: #1019112560.

(11/28) Birth mother seeks white male born Nov. 28, 1961 - United Way-Florence Crittenton Home - Youngstown, OH. Anyone having info. please reply: CUB - P.O. Box 42587 - Houston, TX 77042.

(11/28) Birth mother seeking white male born Nov. 28, 1962 (4:47 p.m.) Doctor's Hosp. - New York, NY. Birth name: John Shaiken. Delivered "C" section by Dr. E. Sivigny. Adoption through Louise Wise Agency of New York City. Reply: #2045112862.

DECEMBER

(12/02) Birth mother seeking white female born Dec. 2, 1960 - Florence Crittenton Home - Denver, CO. Anyone having info. please reply: CUB - P.O. Box 42587 - Houston, TX 77042.

(12/13) Birth mother wishes to contact white child given up for adoption at birth. Sex unknown. Child was born Dec. 13, 1963, Baptist Hospital - Beaumont, TX. Reply: #2018121363.

(12/17) White male, born Dec. 17, 1950 in Boston, MA. Birth name: Douglas G. Werner. Seeks to contact birth father. Reply: #1021121750.

(12/18) Birth mother wishes to find white male born Dec. 18, 1950 - Ohio Valley Hosp. - Wheeling, WV. Adoption through Florence Crittenton Home of Elm Grove, WV. Anyone having info. please reply: #2050121850.

(12/19) Birth mother desires contact with white female born Dec. 19, 1952 (2:53 a.m.) San Francisco University Hosp. - San Francisco, CA. Birth name: Jodi Lynn Threat. **Serious medical history involved.** Anyone having info. please reply: D. I. Allen - 122 Jason Drive - Featherock, FL 33594.

(12/20) Birth mother wishes contact with white male born Dec. 20, 1960 (approx. date of birth) - Fairmont Home - Kansas City, MO. Anyone with info. please reply: #2038122060 or tele. 417/753-3740.

(12/25) White female, born Dec. 25, 1923 in or near Oklahoma City, OK. Seeking birth parents or anyone having info. Reply: #1020122523.



TO OUR READERS —

Our apologies for being late with this issue. We have tried some new things — increased the size and had some problems communicating with several people who were key figures in coordinating the efforts of the AAC and Open ARMS. In the future, we plan to publish On or BEFORE the first date of the following months: MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, and DECEMBER. Thanks for your patience.

ADOPTees AND BIRTH MOTHERS
in search: We can help you find the answers. We are a birth-mother and an adoptee who have FOUND. Write:
Search Seekers
P. O. Box 205
Whitestone, NY 11357

**READ THE ADS
IN THIS ISSUE!**
●
**SEND YOUR AD
FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE!!**

**Anonymous Mailing
Service Available**

If you would like to respond to an ad in *Open A.R.M.S.*, but haven't done so because you don't wish to reveal your identity or address, *Open A.R.M.S.* can help. Place your correspondence in a sealed envelope. On the face of that envelope, write the name and address of the person to whom you wish the letter mailed. (Where only an identification number is given in an ad, write that number on the BACK of the envelope.) Place the required postage stamp on the envelope. Enclose the sealed letter in a second envelope along with \$1 for handling and address the outer envelope to: *Open A.R.M.S.* Dept. "C", P.O. Box 1522 - North Platte, NE 69101. *Open A.R.M.S.* will re-mail the enclosed letter to the address or I.D. number specified and the envelope will not bear your local postmark.

Open A.R.M.S. also makes it possible for two parties to correspond without either revealing their identity or address. This anonymous contact may continue for as long as desired. Details are available by writing to: *Open A.R.M.S.* at the above address.

National Church Group Supports Open Adoption Records

Overture 39 - ON SUPPORTING LEGISLATION REGARDING THE RIGHTS OF ADULT ADOPTees AND THEIR NATURAL PARENTS:

Whereas God our Creator saw fit to use an adult adoptee who was well aware of the truth of his origins to deliver the Israelites from bondage to the Egyptians; and

Whereas the Psalmist acknowledged the Presence of God in the creation of every individual when he said, "You created every part of me; you put me together in my mother's womb . . . when I was growing there in secret, you know that I was there - you saw me before I was born"; and

Whereas Isaiah affirmed the unlikelihood of a mother's ability to erase the memory of a child she birthed when he said, "So the Lord answers, 'Can a woman forget her own baby and not love the child she bore?' Even if a mother should forget her child, I will never forget you"; and

Whereas Jesus said, "You will know the truth and the truth will set you free"; and

Whereas the "sealed records laws" instituted in the last five decades have prevented adopted persons, over whom a contract is made in their infancy when they are helpless to participate in it, from ordinarily knowing the truth of their origins by permanently sealing original birth certificates and agency and court records pertaining to their adoption; and

Whereas although any nonadopted person in the United States has the absolute right to obtain personal vital statistics for a minimal fee, an adoptee must go to court, however expensive and unsuccessful the process, to request a judge to issue a "good cause" order to know the simple truth of who gave birth to him or her; and

Whereas because of permanently sealed records, adoptees have no medical, cultural or religious history and often experience emotional anguish; and

Whereas permanently sealed records have created a mythology about adoption, which is that adopted persons have only one set of parents; the surrender paper in effect becomes a certificate attesting to the death of any relationship at any time between the original parent and child, thus creating for the child a pair of ghost parents who are not in their graves but who may live in the next town, or have hereditary illnesses that do not surface until they are in their middle years (long after any medical history taken at the time of the child's birth), and whose children, born later, may unknowingly risk incest when they attend college or work in the same work places with their half-sisters or brothers; and

Whereas our Lord spoke often of accep-

tance, forgiveness and reconciliation as qualities desirable for believers to experience daily in their human and spiritual growth; and

Whereas the Federal Department of Health and Human Services now has before it the Model State Adoption Act, which includes "Title V. Records", which would grant adult adoptees the right of access to their original records to learn their identity at birth and that of their natural parents and which would grant original parents of adult adoptees the right to ask the agency that handled the adoption to contact the adult adoptee to notify her or him that the original parent desires contact - a section supported in testimony by the National Association of Social Workers. "Not all adoptees will wish to know the birth parent, nor to meet her or him. But surely the option should be there as opposed to a rigid secrecy which can leave adoptees feeling that there is some monstrous secret in their past," and by Dr. Marion Wilson, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Laboratories, New York City Department of Health, "Nothing could be more fundamental to human continuity than an understanding of biologic heritage."

Therefore, the Presbytery of Newton, meeting at Madison, NJ on March 10, 1981, respectfully overtures the 193rd General Assembly (1981), as follows:

To go on record as supporting the rights of adult adoptees to receive, upon request, copies of their original birth certificates and court and agency records pertaining to thier adoption;

To support Title V of the Model State Adoption Act and Procedures, prepared under Section 202 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978, which would grant adult adoptees the aforementioned information and which would grant natural parents a more limited right as explained above;

To act through the General Assembly Mission Council in encouraging and stimulating synods, presbyteries, and local churches to take the following types of action in supporting adoptees who have reached adulthood, in their desire to know the truth of thier origins:

- (1) send letters of support of Title V of the Model State Adoption Act to congressmen and to the President of the United States.
- (2) write letters to the editors of local newspapers and national magazines expressing support of open records.
- (3) work to help all persons involved in the adoption triangle-natural and adoptive parents and adoptees, who comprise 10 percent of our population-face the reality of their situations with honesty, openness and compassion for one another.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR SEARCH AND HELP US GROW

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHOICE BELOW:

- Please send me a one year subscription to *The Open Arms Quarterly* (4 issues) ----- \$6.00
- Please send me a one year subscription to *The Open Arms Quarterly* and publish my "Search Ad" in four consecutive issues ----- \$10.00

(Ads for publication in the winter issue must be received by November 15, 1981)

I wish to publish the following "Search Ad" in four consecutive issues of *The Open Arms Quarterly*:
(Please type or print clearly. Limit your ad to 40 words or less if possible)

If you wish to have *Open Arms* assist you with the wording of your ad, leave the above space blank. Send us all available information and we will compose the ad to your satisfaction.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHOICE BELOW:

- All replies to my ad are to be sent directly to me at the address I have listed.
- All replies to my ad are to be sent to *Open Arms* under an identification number which *Open Arms* will assign and then forwarded to me **unopened**.

May *Open Arms* contact you by telephone **collect** if we have questions concerning your "Search Ad"?

YES Your Telephone Number () _____

NO

- I am enclosing: \$6.00 for a one year subscription.
- \$10.00 for a one year subscription and my "Search Ad". (cash, check or money order. No stamps please).

Name _____

Street _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Detach this page and mail to . . .

OPEN A.R.M.S.
P. O. BOX 1522
NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA 69101

List of Search/Support Groups Available

Many of us don't realize the problems involved in keeping an up-to-date listing of the various support groups throughout the country and the world.

Almost without exception, a newly-compiled mailing list is obsolete before it is completed. The list of Search/Support groups published in the first issue of *The Open Arms Quarterly* contained errors, but not by intention.

The *TriAdoption Library* is presently compiling an up-dated list which is available to readers by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

TRIADOPTION LIBRARY
7571 Westminster Ave.
Westminster, Calif. 92683

IS SOMEONE SEARCHING FOR YOU?
Open A.R.M.S. Quarterly

CAN WE HELP YOU SEARCH FOR SOMEONE?

Open A.R.M.S.
Quarterly

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