



Adoption Connections of Oregon

Winter Pool Party!

Tamarack Wellness Center

January 29, 2011

3:00 – 5:00 pm

3575 Donald Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405

Come enjoy the warm waters of Tamarack pool with other adoptive families. All communities members who are touched by, or are in support of, adoption are welcome to participate in our winter get together.

Please RSVP to Shula 541-844-5057

Suggested donation (covers pool rental and snacks) - \$5 per family

Parent Salon

Thursday, January 13, 2011

7 to 9 pm

at the home of Lynne Lucas in Eugene

Call for directions 541-686-0172

Join us to view and discuss the DVD,

Struggle for Identity: Issues in Transracial Adoption

Produced in collaboration with the New York State Citizens' Coalition for Children. A starkly realistic account of the transracial adoption experience. Narrated by young adults who were adopted as children, this documentary examines the effects of trans-racial adoption on individuals, families, and society.

If time permits a follow up to the first part will be shown and discussed:

Struggle for Identity: A Conversation 10 Years Later

A captivating follow-up to the original Struggle. John and Michelle return to reflect on their experiences participating a decade ago in the first film, and why they have made transracial adoption their life's work.

Hope you can join us.

**ACO Newsletter
Adoption Connections
of Oregon**

Board of Directors

President

Elise Crum

Treasurer

Michelle Cottrell

Secretary / Newsletter

Wendy Nastiuk

Board Members

Sue Barnhart

Marlene Drescher

Shula Jaron

Marjean Yates

ACO Committees

Education

Fundraising

Outreach

Scholarship

ACO is a non-profit organization of families and individuals, offering support, education, multicultural activities, and friendship for anyone touched by or interested in adoption.

Educational Training



Please join us in a discussion about
Adoption and Race

January 31, 2011
4:30pm
4J Ed Center
200 N. Monroe St.
Eugene, OR 97402

Adoption professionals and local educators will present information about how adoption impacts children and what educators can do to foster positive interactions. A video, *Struggle for Identity*, will be shown.

The event is scheduled for two hours in order to accommodate time for questions and discussion.

Sponsored by Adoption
Connections of Oregon and
School District 4J

Please contact Lynne Lucas if you
have questions:
lynne.lucas@gmail.com

Volunteers needed

ACO is a volunteer based organization and we are looking for volunteers to help keep us successful. We are in need of volunteers for our committees: education, fundraising, outreach and scholarship. Your special skills and talents can help make a difference in the adoption community. It is a rewarding and fun experience!

Contact Elise for details
541-554-1201

Book Reviews

The Indigo Notebook by Laura Resau

My daughter and I loved this book and could barely put it down. It is the story of a 15 year old girl named Zeeta who moves to a different country every year with her mom who teaches English as a second language. She longs for a normal life like the one she sees in magazines. She meets a 16 year old boy named Wendell in Ecuador who was adopted at birth from Ecuador and is looking for his birth family. He doesn't speak Spanish very well and she is fluent and begins to translate for him. Every year Wendell wrote a letter to his birth parents on his birthday which he has brought with him. Zeeta translates them for him. They are very poignant. They meet some wonderful people, have some exciting adventures and learn some things about themselves. I don't want to give away anymore of the plot, but would suggest it to teens and parents. Really an excellent read. I read about it first in Adoptive Families Magazine.

Baby, We Were Meant for Each Other In Praise of Adoption by Scott Simon

I have always loved Scott Simon of NPR fame so I was excited to pick up his book. He and his wife adopted their two daughters from China. I laughed and cried and really enjoyed it. At times I did not agree with him, I think he downplayed the trauma and racism that many adoptees face. I loved the way he writes about parenting his daughters. His interviews with other folks who had been adopted and their parents were also very interesting. Overall it was a wonderful book well written and touching. I wonder if he will do a sequel when his daughters are older and perhaps more rebellious.

Both of these books are available at the Eugene Public Library.

by Sue Barnhart



Eugene Asian Celebration

26th Oregon Asian Celebration
Saturday, February 19th and Sunday,
February 20th, 2011 at the Lane Events
Center Fairgrounds, Eugene, OR

www.aeforegon.com/asiancelebration



Thank you Gary and Sally Crum
For hosting the ACO fall event!



February Salon

Steve Kalb from Holt International will discuss Holt's Cultural Camps. The date, time and place will be sent by email, or contact ACO for details.

Adoption Connections of Oregon
P.O. Box 10581
Eugene, OR 97440
Email: aco@peak.org
www.adoptionconnectionsoforegon.org
For information about ACO please contact
Elise Crum at (541) 554-1201

- * Submit an article or advertise in this newsletter, please write Wendy Nastiuk at ACO's address or email her at aco@peak.org or call (541)741-3336.
- * A business card sized ad requested from "for profit" organizations costs \$25 for one newsletter.
- * Advertising for non-profit organizations is free.
- * ACO retains the right to reject advertising or any component of any advertisement submitted for publication.
- * ACO does not endorse and does not accept any responsibility for any advertisers.
- * The ideas and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect those of other ACO members.
- * Reproduction of this newsletter in whole or part without written permission is prohibited.

ACO Calendar

Dates at a Glance

January 13th - Parent Salon

January 29th - Pool Party

January 31st – Educational Training

February– Parent Salon



Adoption Connections of Oregon
P.O. Box 10581
Eugene, Oregon 97440