

Adoption & DNA Genealogy Research

Saturday, October 8, 2016

**Meeting Room 2AB, High Street Level,
Main Library, 60 South High Street, Akron, Ohio**

Adoptee Access to Records – Ohio’s New Law



Betsie Norris

1-2:45 pm

In March of 2015, Ohio became the 12th state to open previously closed birth records to adult adoptees, allowing 400,000 people adopted in Ohio’s formerly “closed” period of 1964-1996 to have access to their original birth certificates. A short film, *An Adoptee ROARed in Ohio: The Betsie Norris Story* by documentary filmmaker Jean Strauss, will be shown and discussed along with the social and historical context of the old and new laws on this topic.

Solving for Unknown Parentage - DNA Basics

Amanda Reno

3-4:45 pm

This session will focus on delivering the basic core knowledge required to identify an unknown parent(s) using genealogical DNA testing and traditional research techniques.



These programs are free and open to the public. To register for either or both sessions, contact the Special Collections Division at 330-643-9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org. Visit us on the web at www.akronlibrary.org under the “Research” tab.

As an adoptee having made the journey to a successful reunion on her own, **Betsie Norris** founded Adoption Network Cleveland in 1988 to provide support and assistance to others who are touched by adoption. She continues to serve as the organization’s Executive Director, is a frequent spokesperson in the media and at conferences, and has assisted in thousands of adoptee-birthparent reunions. She is co-author with Jayne Schooler of *Journeys after Adoption: Understanding the Lifelong Process*. Betsie served as a board member of the national American Adoption Congress from 1997-1999 and currently serves on the board of the Donaldson Adoption Institute in New York City.



Amanda Reno is a Genetic Genealogist and team member for The DNA Detectives, the company founded by CeCe Moore, genetic genealogy consultant for the PBS television series *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* and *Genealogy Roadshow*. Amanda was reunited with her older sister after being separated by adoption for nearly 30 years. The amazing journey that brought them together and their instant connection once reunited inspired her to help others. When she learned DNA was being used to provide answers in some of the most seemingly hopeless cases, she knew she wanted to learn how. Employing her love of data and research, insatiable curiosity, and desire to connect with others, DNA has now become her passion.



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330-643-9030

**Akron-Summit County
Public Library**

**Special Collections Division
60 S. High Street, Akron, OH 44326
www.akronlibrary.org**

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