

Part Five of J. Alford's Alford Family Notes

THE ALFORDS OF SUSSEX, LONDON, AND HERTFORDSHIRE.

The connection of the Alford family with the county of Sussex is of very early date, Richard, lord of Aldford in Cheshire, in 1200, having "held the Manor of Newton in the county of Sussex"; while the *Sussex Archaeological Collections* mention Adam Alford among the "armigeri" of that county who fought at Agincourt in 1415; but the line now to be traced came into the county at a later date, being descended from the second of Thomas Alford and Jane Salisbury his wife, of Holt. See Table I.

We therefore commence with:

1. Robert Alford, of London, and of Erbistock in Flintshire, not far from Holt and Aldford (which property he purchased from his uncle Richard Alford), was the stockfather of the Sussex and Hertfordshire families. He married Anne, daughter of Edmund Brydges of Sudeley, Gloucestershire, thus forming a connection between the Alfords and that well-known and distinguished family of Brydges of Gloucester and Somerset. (A pedigree of "Brydges, with descents of Alforde" is given in the British Museum MS, Harl., 1160, 101b, and in 1156, 49 and 49b; and it may be observed that the living of Weston Zoyland, in Somersetshire was in the gift of Brydges family, and was afterwards held by the Somerset Alfords, who also had a connection with Brydges through the Somerset and Gloucestershire family of Symes.)

Robert Alford had four sons:

- i. Roger, through whom this branch continued, and of whom next (2).
- ii. Francis [information follows later].

- iii. Edward [information follows later].
- iv. Launcelot [information follows later].

Robert Alford died in 1546, leaving his lands in Flintshire to Anne his wife. His will in abstract follows:

Robert Alforde of London, 1546, January 14. "Hole of mynde but sicke of bodie thanks be unto Almightye God. . . . To be buried in the Parishe Church of St. Swithyne in London. . . . Goodes and Cattalls" to be divided into three equal portions, one portion to his wife Anne, sole executrix. "My landes and tenements, meadows and pastures in the parishes of Norton Madok and Tyrby Stoke [i.e. Erbistock], in Flintshire, bought of Richard Alford, to Anne my wife." . . . "My brother William Sumner." . . . "Brother William Dummer, overseer."
—P.C.C., 26 Alen.

In the "examination of William Seth before the Lord Great Master, the Lord Privy Seal", etc., mention is made several times of "Anne Alford of London, widow of Robert Alford, and daughter of Edmund Brydges of the Chandos family". —Cecil MSS., Part I, p. 83, etc.

2. Roger Alford, of London, and of Hitcham, Buckinghamshire, was the oldest son of Robert Alford and Anne Brydges. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Ramsey, esquire, and widow of John Clarke, esquire, of Hitcham, Buckinghamshire. By this marriage he had two surviving children:

- i. Edward, of whom hereafter (3).
- ii. Anne, who married Sir Edmund Fettyplace, the head of a prominent Berkshire family. She had no less than twelve sons and seven daughters.

Roger Alford entered into political life as Secretary to Sir William Cecil, afterwards Lord Burleigh, who was made Secretary of State by Queen Elizabeth immediately after accession in 1558, being added, with others, to the former Catholic Ministry of Queen Mary, as "known to be inclined to the Protestant Communion," and was actually called "a heretic" by his Roman Catholic opponents. We may therefore conclude that Roger Alford was of similar views, and his career must have been one of deep interest.

The Cecil MSS., Part I, p. 485, refer to a letter from Roger Alford to Sir William Cecil, afterwards Lord Burleigh, respecting Lady Jane Grey. Dated 13 Nov. 1573.

Letter from Roger Alford to the Lord Treasurer. (Lansd. MSS., xvii, 26):-

My Verie good Lorde,

You maye see I am here still to trouble you for the consideration of my brother's [Launcelot Alford, who was "Clerk of the Hanaper" in Dublin, and now became "Teller" in accordance with the request of this letter] cause in his absence. His suit is to have the Office of the Tellership of Ireland granted to him by My Lord Deputy, in consideration of his long service there, these 25 yeares past, etc., etc.

Your Lordship's ever to command,



Roger Alford's signature appears also in the State Papers, 102, Foreign, Eliz., 1564 to 1565, no. 791, p. 243.

Letter (Cecil MSS., II, 124) from

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*Roger Alford to Lord Burghley:
Mr. Redeman, the bringer of
this, married my cousin on my
mother's side. The gentleman is
thought in this Shire of as good
fame as any of his calling in it. He
is desirous that, by your
Lordship's favour, he may try out
the practise, wherein I pray you to
let him have your aid.
Hitcham, DEC. 14, 1575.*

Roger Alford's connection with Hitcham, near Maidenhead in Buckinghamshire, was evidently through his marriage. He retired thither, and at his death in 1580 was buried there. His monumental inscription in Hitcham Church reads thus:

Arms:—Gules, six pears, three and three.

“Here lieth buried

Roger Alford of London,
and late of Hitcham, Esquire,
who married Elizabeth Clark, widow,
and daughter of Thomas Ramsay,
Esquire.

He died the 16th of July, 1580.”

The British Mus. Addit. MSS., 22,583, f.52b, contains the following Latin Verses in memory of Roger Alford, 16th century, by William Cager, Student of Christ Church, Oxford:

“In obitu Rogeri Alfordi

“Rogerus tumulo Alfordus sepelitur in isto:

Quid? tantam cohibet tantula terra virum!

Non jacet hic totus, passim bona fama vagatur

Libers, nec modica contineatur humo.
Altera para meliorque sui jam vivit in astris,

Sic tantum corpus jam brevis urna capit.”

Roger Alford was a member of parliament for Bletchingley in 1558, and for Preston in 1559.

The following is a brief abstract of his will:

Roger Alford of Hitcham, Bucks, 1580. To be buried at Hitcham. Mr. Bridge my grandfather, brother of Sir John Bridge. My wife Elizabeth. Edward Alford my sonne. My daughter Anne. Estate at Weston, Oxford. Houses in Fleet Street London which descended to me from my father, to Thomas Alford and his son. Launcelot my brother, Francis my brother.
—P.C.C. 38 Arundel.

The Burghley MSS., temp. Elizabeth, 1580, Lansd. 109, 99, p. 217, contain the following in continuance of his will:

The wordes of Mr. Alfordes Wyll conveying his desire to have his sonne Edwarde Alford placed in service with my Lords Treasurer. Item. I wyll that my sonne Edward contynue his studie at Oxforde untill he be 17 or 18 years of age; and then I would have him sitte in Lynncoln's Inne. . . . Also my desire is when he shall growe to twentye yeares of age, that he should seek my Lorde Treasurer, my olde Mr., who I truste wyll accept hym, and notwithstanding permittte hym to contynue his studye at the Lawe.

A letter (Lansd. MSS., lxxx, 209) from Elizabeth Alford, widow of Roger Alford, is preserved concerning a “cause between Matthewe Lowe, plaintiff, and Elizabeth Alford, defendant, about certaine grounde called the Marshes in the Manor and Parish of Hitcham.” June 28, 1596. It bears her autograph.

Eliz alford

Her will follows in abstract:

Elizabeth Alford of Hitcham, Bucks,

widow, 1598. “To be buried near my husband Roger Allford, esq., in the chancel of the parish Church of Hitcham. Lands in Hitcham . . . and Taplow . . . Little Marlow. Sir Wm. Clarke Knt. my eldest Sonne. . . My sonne Edward Alford. My daughter Lady Russell. . . my daughter Fettiplace. . . my cousin John Alford. . . my Godson John Alford.” —P.C.C. 103 Lewyn.

Before continuing the direct line of Robert Alford it will be convenient to deal with the three younger sons in succession.

Francis Alford, the second son, was born about 1530. He passed through the University of Cambridge, taking his B.A. degree, and then migrated, in 1550, to Christ Church, Oxford, “for the study of the law.” Here he took his M.A. in 1552. He was a proctor in the Vice-chancellor's court in 1554, and a “clerk of the market,” which office he resigned in February 1555. He qualified for the D.C.L. in October 1560, but there is no record of his admission to the degree. In 1568 and several succeeding years he had a seat in the House of Commons, sitting in 1585 and 1588 as representative for East Grinstead, co. Sussex. In the Record Office State Papers he is mentioned in 1570 as “of Salisbury Court, Fleet Street.” In 1571 a Bill in Chancery was entered by “Francis Alford of London” concerning the conveyance of the manor of Ashton-sub-Edge, Gloucestershire, and after a long law-suit he was successful. In 1557 there is mention of the “conveyance” from Francis Alford to his brother Roger Alford of this manor of Ashton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire.

In 1581 “some lands at Burton Lazar, forming part of the Manor of Melton Mowbray, were demised to Francis Alforde.” In 1587 he was a Justice of the Peace for York. In 1588, Francis Alford wrote to Lord Burghley. His kinsman John Alford solicits the

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Collectorship of St. Mary's York.

"Deed of sale from Francis and Edward Alford (his brother) to Nicholas Portar, of the mansion house of Ashton-sub-edge." Francis Alford is afterwards described as of Lambourne, Berks, esquire, and was trustee and supervisor of an almshouse at Lambourn in 1589, being succeeded in that office by Henry Alford of Wokingham, doubtless his son. "The hospital or almshouse at Lambourne, Berks, is for ten poor men." In 1589 it was determined that Francis Alford, esq., his heirs and assigns, should have the management of the estates as the representative of the founder. In 1619 Henry Alford of Wokingham conveyed the Supervisorship to Richard Organ.

(The Wokingham Registers unfortunately only go back to 1660.)

The State Papers of 1590, August 12, record the grant of presentation to Francis Alford of the dignity of Preceptor, with the Prebend of Empringham, in Lincoln Cathedral.

Many letters of Francis Alford, from 1573 onwards, are extant, mostly addressed to Lord Burghley.

In the *Reports of the Historical MSS. Commission*, vol. xci, p.126, is given part of a speech in Parliament of "Sir Francis Alford" probably in 1568, with reference to an "Acte concerning Marie, daughter of James V", i.e. Mary Queen of Scots.

"I think of her to be as vile and naughtie a creature as ever the earth bare, yet can I not see howe it can stand with the honor of England either to condemne her unheard, or to towche her in life, for that she never knew of."

Some references in the volume of Parliamentary History may be noted:

3 Eliz., Oct. 30, 1568. A committee of both houses appointed to petition the

Queen (Elizabeth) "That it would please your Majestie to dispose yourself to marry" included Sir William Cecil [Lord Burleigh, whose Secretary was Roger Alford], and Mr. [i.e. Francis] Alford. "Her Majestie commanded the committee to make their appearance before her. . . and gave them a smart reproof." —Vol. I, 709.

April 14, 1571. Debate on a Bill against Licenses and Dispensations. "Mr. Alford spoke against the Bill, and endeavored to prove that Licenses for Marriage in some case might be needful, and that Dispensations for non-residence might upon some occasion be of great necessity", etc. —Vol. I, 747.

April 19, 1571. Debate on a Bill for the Validity of Burgesses not reslant. "Mr. Alford reasoned to this effect, that above all things necessary care ought to be the chusing and having of fit men to supply the place, that there be not imperfection. . . He would that none should be of that house not of 30 years of age at the least. And for the choice of townsmen, he was of his mind that Moses and Aaron should be conjoined together, and that there should be one of their own, or some gent. near them, who had knowledge of the state of the country, and the other man learned and able to utter his mind and opinion; so that he seemed to conclude that the law should be in force for the one Burgess, and at liberty for the other." —Vol. I, 754.

Strype's *Annals*. VOL iii, pp. 465 and 625, speak of Francis Alford, who in 1587 was J. P. for York, and is presumably to be identified with this Francis Alford. His mother was, in 1580, summoned before the Recorder of London for having mass performed in her house in Salisbury Square.

[This chapter will be continued in the next issue of AAFA ACTION.]

The International Genealogical Index

By Kenneth M. Alford
IGI Project Officer

One of the most convenient and most used sources of genealogical data is the LDS (Mormon Church) International Genealogical Index or IGI.

AAFA has just arranged to obtain a hard copy, for the cost of reproduction, of all the "Alford" pages in the current (1988) version of the index. To the extent that space will permit, a printout from a different state will be in each issue of this newsletter. This month we are publishing the Alabama IGI for Alford—see the following two pages. Action is under way to obtain a similar list for the British Isles.

The index contains information on adult christening, birth, death or burial, marriage, census, wills, etc. The majority of the data pertains to marriage and birth records. The sheets currently on hand cover the "Al" spellings, but not the "Ol" variations. If there are any, they will be covered later.

For marriage entries, the birth date has been estimated to be 20 years prior to the marriage to give an order of magnitude entry for the birth. It has been assumed that the birth was in the same state as the marriage but the "???" cautions the reader that the state may not be correct.

If you would like to have a xerox copy of the nearly 150 sheets we acquired from the LDS library, they may be had for \$13 to cover the cost of reproduction, packaging and mailing. Make the check to AAFA and send it to the Missouri post office box. The cost for separate states will vary depending on the number of pages. For the cost for a given state, write the Missouri office and specify the state.

Alabama Alford's in the IGI

The list below includes all Alford's/Alfred's extracted from the 1988 LDS International Genealogical Index. When parents were included in the IGI record, they are listed below the indexed person.

NAME (ALFORD UNLESS SPECIFIED)	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE	SPOUSE	DATE MARRIED	PLACE MARRIED
JESSE ALFRED	1861E	AL ????	DAVIS, ANDREW	18811024	AL TALP
LEVINIA ALFRED	1799E	AL ????	RHYNUS, JOHN	18190210	AL MADI
LOUISA J. ALFRED	1830E	AL ????	CRYER, ALFRED	18500801	AL MORG
MARTHA ALFRED	18630815	AL STCL			
MARTHA ALFRED	1861E	AL ????	BEESON, JOHN WALTON	18810223	AL STCL
ADELINE C.	1827E	AL ????	BRYANT, JOSEPH H.	18470112	AL GREE
AMY	1846E	AL ????	RAINY, HENRY	18661005	AL TALP
C. F.	1819E	AL ????	SNOW, MARY ANN	18391107	AL JEFF
CHARLES CARROLL	18830907	AL HOUS			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, JAMES BADGER and ROBINSON, SARAH ELIZ</i>					
COLUMBUS W.	1851E	AL ????	GLOVER, MARY A. D.	18710917	AL TALP
CORNELIA FRANCES	18440715	AL BALD	ALFORD,		
ELIZABETH	1823E	AL ????	WEBB, WILLIAM H.	18430709	AL MADI
FRANCES	1839E	AL ????	NICKOLS, DANIEL D.	18590811	AL TALP
FRANCES J.	18450320	AL MONT			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, LEVEN E. and DERRICK, CHARLOTTE</i>					
GEORGE C.	1845E	AL ????	CLAYTON, LUCINDA	18650710	AL TALP
GEORGIANNA	18500127	AL MONR			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, WILLIAM B. and SNOWDEN, SARAH ANN</i>					
HARRIS E.	18450427	AL MONR			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, WILLIAM B. and SNOWDEN, SARAH ANN</i>					
HENDERSON H.	1828E	AL ????	WHITEHEAD, CATHERINE	18481122	AL GREE
HILLIARD JUDGE	18371230	AL MONT			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, LEVEN E. and DERRICK, CHARLOTTE</i>					
JACOB WESLEY	18470201	AL MONT			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, LEVEN E. and DERRICK, CHARLOTTE</i>					
JAMES BADGER	18780511	AL HOUS			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, JAMES BADGER and ROBINSON, SARAH ELIZ</i>					
JAMES BRINK	18900812	AL COVI			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, HENRY and _____, GRACE</i>					
JAMES BRINK	19080812	AL COVI			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, HENRY and _____, MARTHA</i>					
JAMES E.	1858E	AL TALP	SMITH, MARGARET R.		AL TALP
JAMES J.	1849E	AL ????	THOMPSON, CINTHIA M.	18690503	AL TALP
JAMES J.	1840E	AL ????	CHRISTIAN, MARTHA C.	18701206	AL TALP
JAMES Z.	1847E	AL ????	REEL, MARY A.	18671124	AL TALP
JANY	1791E	AL ????	CLAUND, BARNETT	18110413	AL MADI
JANY	1791E	AL ????	BARNETT, CLAUSSIDE	18110413	AL MADI
JOHN B.	1797E	AL ????	BAILEY, TEMPERANCE	18171021	AL MADI
JOHN H.	1811E	AL ????	LAWRENCE, MALINDA	18310825	AL MORG
JOHN H.	1819E	AL ????	BARNES, MARY E.	18390725	AL GREE
JOHN H.	1832E	AL ????	WILLIAMS, MARGARET	18520809	AL GREE
JOHN P.	1845E	AL ????	SOLOMN, MARTHA A.	18650404	AL MONR
JOHN WILLIAM	18350910	AL MONT			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, LEVEN E. and DERRICK, CHARLOTTE</i>					

NAME (ALFORD UNLESS SPECIFIED)	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE	SPOUSE	DATE MARRIED	PLACE MARRIED
LEVEN E.	1814E	AL ????	DERRICK, CHARLOTTE	18341011	AL MONT
LUCRETIA	1856E	AL ????	JOHNSON, HENRY M.	18760815	AL TALP
LULA	1864E	AL ????	TUCKER, JEFFERSON	18841231	AL TALP
MARTHA	1799E	AL ????	BROOKS, JEREMIAH	18190113	AL MADI
MARTHA K.	1844E	AL ????	RUDDER, WILLIAM H.	18640120	AL MONT
MARY ANN	18400428	AL MONT			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, LEVEN E. and DERRICK, CHARLOTTE</i>					
MINNIE SAVANNAH	18880214	AL ESCA			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, ROBERT L. and GRIFFIN, LULU</i>					
NANCY	1791E	AL ????	ROBERTSON, JAMES	18110518	AL MADI
NANCY [LUCY] ANN	1810E	AL ????	RHODES, JACOB	18301005	AL MORG
NANCY C.	18460402	AL COFF			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, TURNER and MOORE, ELIZABETH C.</i>					
NANIE CLARK	1870E	AL ????	GOODE, JOHN EDW. M.	18900420	AL STCL
TOMMY	1870E	AL ????	GOODE, JOHN EDW. M.	18900420	AL STCL
NATHANIEL JEFF.	18610814	AL MOBI			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, REDDING and HARRISON, NANCY</i>					
PEACHMAN J.	18410912	AL MONR			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, WILLIAM B. and SNOWDEN, SARAH ANN</i>					
REBECCA E.	1818E	AL ????	COLEMAN, ROBERT E.	18380220	AL GREE
REBECCA T.	18510108	AL COFF			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, TURNER and MOORE, ELIZABETH C.</i>					
ROBERT L.	1860E	AL ????	GRIFFEN, LULA P.	18801107	AL ESCA
SARAH	18430707	AL MONR			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, WILLIAM B. and SNOWDEN, SARAH ANN</i>					
SILL WALKER	18721224	AL MONT	ALFORD, SYLVANUS W.		
SILL WALKER	1872E	AL ????	RUDDER, SARAH JANE	18921227	AL MONT
SYLVANUS/SILLVANI	18961109	AL MONT			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, SILL WALKER and RUDDER, SARAH JANE</i>					
SUSAN	1855E	AL ????	SANDERS, BENJAMIN G.	18751223	AL STCL
SYLVANUS WALKER	18421014	AL MONT			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, LEVEN E. and DERRICK, CHARLOTTE</i>					
SYLVANUS WALKER	1841E	AL ????	BLACKBURN, MARTHA	18611001	AL PIKE
SYLVANUS WALKER	1850E	AL ????	REYNOLDS, ELIZA	18700808	AL MONT
SYLVANUS WALKER	1854E	AL MONT	DAVIS, MARY	18740507	AL MONT
THOMAS ROBINSON	18711109	AL HOUS			
<i>Parents: ALFORD, JAMES BADGER and ROBINSON, SARAH ELIZ</i>					
WILLIAM	1837E	AL ????	CHAPMAN, JANE	18571204	AL RUSS
WILLIAM B.	1820E	AL ????	THAMES, SARAH ANN	18401110	AL MONR

Coming in the March Issue

- Alfords in the 1860 Federal Census of North Carolina
- Report on Wills and Estates of North Carolina, by Franceine Rees
- How to Qualify for the DAR, by Lucy Shull Stevens, Member #94
- Many biographies, Alfords in the News, and obituaries
- Words and music by Burns Alford, father of Robert Alford, Member #207
- Much more!

Reports from the States

State organizations are beginning to be formed, and a few are quite active. We'll try to cover the states in each issue as activity in them seems to merit mention. Every state mentioned will not necessarily have a state organization or state representative.

Most of the following reports were prepared by the AAFA ACTION staff. Most future reports will come from the state representatives and officers.

Where there are state organizations or representatives, they have been supplied an AAFA notebook for that state. It will be obvious that some of

the "notebooks" will soon grow to a library of several volumes. The notebooks contain, or have space provided for, such things as membership, officers, prospects, all kinds of genealogical records and data, "Alford" publications, state member ancestor tables, family group records & biographies, lineages, research resources, publicity outlets, cemetery records, court records, corporate papers, etc. These notebooks will serve as the focal point for state work- being used to: encourage membership, assist persons with their Alford ancestry, determine what research is needed, etc. When the Association meets annually, it is hoped

the state representative or an associate will be present with the book, and during a period provided for that purpose will be available for consultation with members interested in Alford's of their state.

ALABAMA

We do not have a state representative designated for Alabama yet although it will probably eventually be one of the more active states. Alabama ranks eighth nationally in Alford population, but as of the end of October there were only four members in Alabama, and two of those are new members. We do have one active participant in Montgomery, Ron Head, who is not a member but has contributed significantly with Alabama Alford information. A new member, added just this month, is attorney Ben Spratling III, who has offered to write an article for publication.

ARIZONA

Mrs. Jean H. Brown of Tucson is the AAFA representative for Arizona. She and her husband, Dr. Chester J. Brown, attended the meeting in Houston. Although Arizona ranks about 28th with an estimated Alford population of 150 persons, Jean plans to put Arizona on the Alford map. We won't find many early Alford ancestors in Arizona, but as one of the nation's retirement communities, there should be many candidates for membership—Jean has been working on those. George G. Miller of Phoenix is a recent addition to our membership, and he is anxious to get his computer system busy working on Alford data. You'll be hearing more about him in the months to come.

COLORADO

Colorado is another state with rela-

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tively little Alford "history," ranking 25th with about 200 Alford. Joe B. Alford and his wife, George Marie, were at the meeting in Houston, and Joe agreed to be the Colorado state representative. His Colorado outreach effort was mentioned in the previous newsletter. In addition to Joe and George Marie, our Colorado membership at this time consists only of Dr. and Mrs. C. Wylie Alford and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Holmes.

FLORIDA

Willie M. Alford of Bradenton is the Florida state representative. He has been very busy doing all types of work in Florida, which ranks second or third (almost a tie with California) with an estimated Alford population of 1625. There is some Alford "history" in Florida—particularly in the northern counties. The earliest known Alford in Florida was Fort Alford enumerated in Leon County in 1830.

At the end of October there were 16 Florida members, and one has been added since. Willie's son, William M. Alford, Sr. of N. Ft. Myers and new member Eubie Alford are willing to help with our Florida work. Rev. Charles H. Alford, who recently retired from the ministry, also wants to help with AAFA work.

Florida members attending the meeting in Houston were H. Harold Alford and his son Victor Alford. Much work remains to be done in Florida before the Association meets there in 1992.

GEORGIA

Georgia has its first AAFA representative. Delores Thrash of Rutledge has consented to take on the job. Georgia ranks about seventh with an estimated Alford population of 960. We have fifteen members in Georgia, including our President and Secretary. Others in Georgia who have offered to help are Dr. James M. Edwards and another

Houston attendee, Eleanor P. Alford. Even though we met in Georgia in 1988, much work remains to be done there. There was an Alford presence in Georgia in the late 18th century and there has been a strong Alford influence there ever since.

LOUISIANA

Sally Stoewer of Baton Rouge was AAFA's first state representative. The state ranks fifth with an estimated Alford population of 1350. At the end of October Louisiana had 33 member families. Sally and her husband, Dick, were present at the Houston meeting, as were several other members from Louisiana. They included Murray L. Alford, Jr., his wife Mary (and son Gregory W. Alford with wife Sharon of Houston); LTC Walter W. Alford (and his brother Milton of Pearland, TX); Oliver S. Robinson III; Judge Steve A. Alford, Jr. and his wife Kate; and Oscar Alford, wife Dorothy and daughter Shelly Alford Close. Member Jack Kinabrew of New Orleans has undertaken what has to be the most progressive cemetery effort thus far. (See separate cemetery report). Jack and his wife Eileen could not make it to the meeting in Houston because of a previous commitment in Ireland.

At the meeting Judge Steve Alford promised to help Sally in the effort to make Louisiana one of the leading AAFA states. Oliver Robinson has also agreed to do some Louisiana work when he can.

MARYLAND

The most recent appointment of an AAFA state representative is in Maryland, where Henry G. Alford of Baltimore has agreed to take the job. Maryland ranks 22nd with an estimated Alford population of 225. Membership there at this time consists only of Henry, DAR project officer Lucy Shull Stevens, and her mother, honorary lifetime member Mrs. Lewis O.

(Tressie) Bowman. We do have some Alford "history" in Maryland. There is a record of several Alford's being "transported" to Maryland in the mid 1600's.

MISSISSIPPI

Who better for a Mississippi state representative than Ruby Alford Heard?! She consented last month to take on this job although she has been "acting" in something like that capacity for years. There is little doubt that she knows more about Mississippi Alford's, and many other Alford's as well, than anyone. At the present time Ruby and her husband, Bob, manage an apartment complex, and their ability to leave home for any time is restricted, but that should not hamper her work as the state rep. Mississippi ranks sixth with an Alford population of about 1350. We currently have 19 family members in Mississippi including AAFA treasurer Julius M. Alford. Julius and his cousin, Elizabeth Alford Williams, were Mississippi members present in Houston in October. Dr. David A. Schultz of Lucedale, MS, has offered to help with Alford research. A recent new member in Mississippi is Earsel K. Alford Bender and her husband Don.

Mississippi should be ready for us when the Association meets there in 1991.

NORTH CAROLINA

Although our plans are to meet in North Carolina next year, we do not have a state representative there yet. Our AAFA Genealogist, Bill Mitchiner, and Wills & Estates Records project officer, Franceine Rees, live in North Carolina and have their handsful with those jobs. Although North Carolina ranks fourth with an estimated Alford population of 1400, we have only eight member families there. About half of the present AAFA members had North

(States, cont. from p. 29)

Carolina ancestors. Maybe they should be trying to enlist some of their distant cousins still residing in North Carolina!

Much work must be done quickly if we are to have a successful meeting in North Carolina in 1990.

TEXAS

What a welcome we had in Houston!—thanks to the Texas delegation. Leading the nation with an estimated population of 3125 Alford's, it also leads in membership with 77 member families at the end of October. It is the only state with a full AAFA organization. D. L. Alford, Jr. is the Vice President for Texas, Pat Fite is the Texas Secretary, Lucille Mehrkam is the Texas Genealogist, and J. Posey Alford is the Texas Publicist. The Alford presence in Texas goes back to the early 1800's, and General George G. Alford, Quartermaster General in Sam Houston's Army, served in the battle for Texas independence. Other Texas members who have volunteered to help with Alford research or recruitment are Andrew Leath, Betty Wagstaff, Bryant J. Alford, Janice Smith, Kenneth M. Alford, Geraldine Graves, and Rev. Dr. T. Wayne Robinson.

D. L. is working on a January planning meeting for his Texas Officers. With much Texas work now behind them, they are looking forward to learning still more about Texas Alford's, making the Association's Texas presence better known, involving more Texas members in AAFA work, and recruiting more Texas members.

Members attending the 1989 meeting in Houston from Texas were Nancy E. Alford and children; Janice S. Smith and husband John; Frances A. Spicer; Harold Glen Alford and wife Freda; Landon Alford and wife Phyllis; Bess Rayford and friend Ruth Green; Mariwynn Watson and husband

Russell; Bryant J. Alford and wife Mary; Hollis W. Alford and wife Arliene; Lynette Jester; Kenneth M. Alford and wife Darlene; Dr. Mary Lee Alford Hodnett, Gerald T. Alford; Rev. Douglas L. Alford and wife Shirley; Robert B. Alford and wife Maxine; Betty Alford Davis; Richard Wayne Alford and wife Ruby; William J. Alford and wife Jeweleen; Lucille Mehrkam and husband W. B.; Louise Alford and Kerry; Pat Fite; Harold Alford; Jann Alford Harper; Robert L. Alford Jr. and wife Mary; Dovie Jean Alford; Mary Alford Mischer, husband Walter M. and their granddaughter; Patsy Alford Stratton and husband Richard; James P. Alford and wife Nina; Gerald Alford and wife Margie; Carroll Alford and wife Shirley; Katherine Black; Robert A. Alford Jr. and wife Marian; Ernestine L. Jackson; Roy L. Alford and wife Susan & infant; Rose Alford Shelton, husband Steve, infant daughter Molly Beth and sister Twila Gibson; Robert P. Coyner Jr.; Vesta Alford Giddings; Paul C. Murphy and wife Lillian; Jim Alford, wife Kathryn and children; Lee Alford III and wife Mary; D. L. Alford Jr. and wife Catherine; J. P. Alford; Dr. Mark Alford and wife Patricia; Jim Alford wife Glenda and children; J. Posey Alford and wife Mary Elliot; John R. Alford Jr.; Lee Alford IV; and Robert D. Alford.

VIRGINIA

The first known Alford in this country was Richard Alford who was in James City, Virginia, in 1624. The AAFA state representative, W. Joseph Alford, lives just down the river in Hampton, VA. Virginia ranks 18th with an Alford population estimated at 425. There were six AAFA member families in Virginia at the end of October, and one holds the distinction of having contributed substantially more financially than any other member. A new member from Virginia is Capt. J. M. Pearigen, USN Ret. Dr. M. E. Alford has offered to help with Alford research.

Computer Fund Established

One of the subjects discussed extensively at the annual meeting in Houston was AAFA's computer operation. Many members have computers and are willing to assist in Association data management. The majority of these computers are MS-DOS or IBM compatible systems; however, the main Association computer is the one used by Gil Alford in Missouri, which he donated to AAFA. Unfortunately, it is not an MS-DOS or IBM compatible system and is considered obsolete in most computer circles. While it operates well at the present time, it is likely to expire well before the Association does. Furthermore, computer disks used on the Association computer are not compatible with those of other members and vice versa.

Robert L. Alford of Houston made a motion, which received a second and passed, that the Association establish a separate computer fund to which members may make donations. This fund is maintained outside the regular budget. Our goal is \$2500; as of the end of November, the fund contained \$235. Donations so far have come from Eleanor Alford, Gerald T. Alford, Landon Alford, and Sally Stoewer. Many thanks!

Jim Alford of Houston, our computer guru, is providing the specifications for the new system. When it's time for selection, the final decision will be made by the Board of Directors.

Needless to say, your donation to the computer fund will be greatly appreciated.

[Editor's note: This newsletter is produced on a Macintosh computer using PageMaker, a page layout program. It is printed on a Laser-Writer.]

Success Strikes Again!

Many of you know how the work underway by AAFA results in making family connections. Here's a story that points out the importance of each of you sending every bit of Alford data you have. It shows how if members are patient, they can expect to eventually learn more about their Alford ancestors.

Part One

In 1984, well before AAFA was started, Alicia Houston and Gil Alford were working on a project dealing with Alford families in Washington and Oregon. In the process they wrote to most of the Alford families in those states. One of the responses was from Thomas C. Alford of Althena, OR. He returned a worksheet showing his Alford ancestry to be Aaron Leon Alford, born 1913 TX, son of Thomas Alford TX, son of Zacharie from the "Southern States." The content of a letter Thomas C. wrote is pertinent so it is quoted below:

We just received your letter and are very interested in our roots. As a matter of fact, we just returned from Phoenix, Ariz. where my daughter lives. While there I came into contact with a Lee Alford. It was quite a surprise to me & my wife. We are in the cattle business in Ore. and I was looking for a ranch in Ariz. Looking in the Phoenix phone book I saw Alford Land & Livestock. This is the name of our company in Ore.

I had no idea who this person was, so I went by his office to talk to him (Lee). After talking about 15 minutes we came to realize that Lee was my dad's (Aaron) 1st cousin. His dad was named Walter.

I talked to Lee and told him about your letter & he is very interested in the Alford family. I am sending him a copy of what you sent me, so you will hear from Lee also. I have lived in Ore. for the last 20 years. but I was born and raised in

the Imperial Valley of California. If you have any more information please let us hear from you.

Part Two

In January 1989 Julius M. Alford, AAFA Treasurer, of McComb, MS, sent Gil a newspaper clipping from a local Mississippi paper. Part of the article follows:

ALFORD SETS UP SCHOLARSHIP FLAGSTAFF, Ariz—Lee Alford, the vice president and general manager of the Cavenham Forest Industries plant at Fernwood (MS), has established a scholarship at his alma mater for forestry students.

Julius sent Gil Lee Alford's local address in Bogalusa, LA. Most of the Bogalusa Alford families are Gil's closer cousins, but he had no contact there so he was anxious to get an active participant in the Alford work. He wrote a letter to Lee Alford explaining the association, offering help and asking for information on his family. After verifying with Julius that the AAFA was not another rip-off outfit, Lee joined the association in June. His worksheet showed his Alford ancestry to be Elmer Lee Alford 1905 TX, Walter Lee Alford 1879 TX, Zachary Taylor Alford 1850 AL.

It was apparent that the Lee Alford in Phoenix was none other than the Lee whom Thomas Alford had visited in 1984. The Zachary Taylor Alford on Lee's worksheet was the same as the Zacharie on Tom's.

Part Three

By April of this year so many descendants of Julius Alford were joining AAFA that it was difficult to keep track of them. It became apparent that a listing of the Alford descendants of

Julius, born 1747 in North Carolina, was needed. With the help of several members, particularly Jim Alford of Houston and D. L. Alford, Jr., a listing was prepared identifying over 400 Alford families. The family of James A. J. Alford who was born in Greene County, GA, and died in Titus County, TX, included a Zachariah Alford born about 1851 in Georgia. Efforts to learn more about his descendants, if any, had been fruitless.

In the third quarter of 1989 a large number of news releases were sent to local Texas papers. Articles for each county were unique to that county with some mention of the early Alford families of that county. Such an article went to *THE MART HERALD* in Mart, McLennan County, TX, a weekly paper with a circulation of 2,200.

D. L. Alford, Jr. received a letter on August 27, 1989, from Mildred Dulaney. The letter was as follows:

This week our local paper, the Mart Herald, had an article about the Alford Family gathering in which Zachary Taylor Alford who married Josephine Thornton was specifically mentioned. This family being a collateral line of mine, I thought you might be interested in the little I have.

The first item is a letter written by Zach's mother. The letter was written to my great grand parents. Enclosed is a photostatic copy of the original letter, a typed copy of it and a sheet identifying the persons named.

There are also three letters written by William Claudius (Claude) Morgan, a first cousin of Zack's. When the Morgans moved to Texas in the late 1860s, Claude wrote quite a number of letters to his friend Henry Johnson still back in

(Continued on p. 32)

Success Story, cont. from p. 31)

Alabama. The letters to Henry were saved and on a trip back to Alabama were shown to us. We were allowed to type copies of the letters, this being before the days of copying machines.

A brief outline of the Morgan-Alford connection is enclosed in hopes that it will make the relationships clear. The Alford children are listed as well as I have been able to determine them but I am sure they are not completely accurate, having only the mother's letter and census records to go by. Could you furnish me with an accurate list and a bit about them.? I would be very grateful if you can.

This James A. Alford family were in Troup County, Georgia in the 1840 and 1850 censuses, in 1860 in Ouachita County, Arkansas and in 1870 in Titus County, Texas. Zach Alford was listed twice in the 1860 census, with his family in Arkansas and with his Morgan grandparents in Chambers County, Alabama. Zach is buried in the Patrick Cemetery in McLennan County.

I hope this information will be of help to you and that you have a very successful meeting in Houston.

You should have figured by now that Zacharie, Zachary, Zachariah, and Zach are all the same person. Ms. Dulaney's letter permitted us to add to the 400+ list of descendants of Julius Alford a substantial fork headed by Zach Alford of Waco, Texas. Ms. Dulaney was sent a letter thanking her for her outstanding and generous contribution of information and providing her the information she requested. A copy of the package she sent was sent to Lee Alford in Bogalusa and to Tom Alford in Oregon.

So—you can see that it pays to send information, to publicize with specifics in local areas, and to be patient!

Membership Report

Membership Growth

D. L. Alford, Jr., AAFA Vice President for Texas, has been appointed to the AAFA Board of Directors. His primary role as a Director will be membership growth. This quarter we have added 58 new members!! The membership has doubled every year since the Association began—a fantastic record.

However, it is not time to relax and enjoy it. In a recent discussion with him on this subject, D.L. pointed out that he sees grass roots growth in two areas: family and city.

He is asking that each member family enlist at least one other member of their larger family during the next year. This can be done by giving them a gift membership or persuading them to join. He has set an example in this regard—18 of his family members (cousins, nephews, nieces, children and grandchildren) are current members! D. L. is quick to recognize that many others have also made significant strides in local family membership.

The other natural area of growth is within the community, town, or city. If members believe that the Association is worthwhile, and most of those present in the meeting in Houston certainly thought it was, then it is worth sharing with other Alford in your area. Most of your "neighbors" have not joined the Association simply because they do not know about it. Why don't you tell them? Show them this issue of the newsletter or purchase an extra copy just for them.

To double again in 1990 we must add new members at a rate of about 22 members per month. If every current member succeeds in recruiting a new member or giving a gift membership in 1990, then our numbers will double "easily."

If you need literature explaining the Association or application blanks, request them on a postcard sent to the AAFA mail box. Before handing these applications out, you might want to make an annotation on the application that you were the "recruiter."

If you would like to have a list of all members arranged by "Family," one is available for \$1.00 to cover the cost of copying and mailing. The list does not contain member addresses, so if you need a current membership list, that is also available for an additional \$1.00. In each future issue there will be a family report or biographical sketch on one of the ancestors identifying a family branch. If you request one of the lists from the Missouri office please specify the list you want.

Membership Graphs

Each newsletter will include a graph on membership, by state or family branch. (See the family branch graph in this issue on page 46.) These depict membership on a national scale. Family branches are described by identifying an early progenitor (not always the ultimate ancestor). As the Association continues to grow, there will be some splitting and combining of branches. This early progenitor is identified on the graph with his Family Branch Code, which is composed of the first three letters of his given name, the last three digits in the year of birth or supposed year of birth, plus an abbreviation of the state of birth. For example the most well-represented branch is that of Julius Alford, born 1717 in New Kent Co., VA. His Family Branch Code is JUL717VA. You will see "family" designations in other AAFA products, and it is this code that is used. In many cases a similar code is used to identify the specific Alford or Alford ancestor, and these are usually labeled just "reference."

Inquiries

With this issue of AAFA ACTION, we will begin publishing inquiries from members on their Alford ancestors or collateral lines (such as wives). Members may have an unlimited number of inquiries published. Those of you who have been members for a long time should consider asking for help on some of your troublesome problems again because we have so many new members that one of them may be able to help.

The format for the inquiries is as follows:
PERSON BEING RESEARCHED
 Newsletter #-Question # / Requestor Code and Member #
 Name and address of requestor

ESPY E. ALFORD
 7-1 / RRH#137
 Mrs. Ruby Alford Heard, Post Office Box 10144, Jackson MS 39286

"If anyone has information on Epsy E. Alford listed in the 1860 census of Walton Co., FL, I'd like to here from them. She was my grandfather's aunt, and we never knew if she had any children or not. She was Espy E.

NORRIS from GA; married David S. Alford in Troup Co., GA, and lived in Tallapoosa Co., AL, in 1850. My grandfther lived near them in 1853 but he was three years old at that time, having moved from Troup Co. with his parents. If you are a relative or just know about her, please write to me. I will gladly pay for your postage and any copies you might send to me from a Bible or family notes."

HARVEY ALFORD
 7-2 / WIN#188
 Winston B. Murray, Post Office Box 295, Richland Springs, TX 76871

He needs help with Harvey Alford who died May 20 1880. He and his wife, Mary, were the parents of James K. Alford, who was born 28 November 1845 in Jerseyville, Jersey Co., IL. Harvey's wife died 1 August 1849.

SARAH VIRGINIA ALFORD
 7-3 / JM3#087
 J. Mo. Kinabrew, Jr., 6178 General Haige Street, New Orleans LA 70124

He is looking for information on a

related family, that of his maternal grandfather, Thomas Jefferson POW-ELL. He was born 5 December 1861, probably in MS. He died 13 April 1899 in New Orleans and is buried in **McComb, Pike Co. MS. He married Sarah Virginia Alford on 20 December 1882. The Alford ancestry of Sarah V. Alford is well known.**

THOMAS J. ALFORD
 7-4 / JMP#259
 Jare M. Pearigen, 9603 Tinsmith Lane, Burke VA 22015

He is seeking information on his grandmother Elizabeth Sanders Alford, who was born 21 March 1850 in Gibson Co., TN. She was married first to Henry R. DICKSON and after his death, to Talton Evandrel PEARIGEN. Elizabeth's father was named Thomas J. Alford and her mother was Frances RICHARDSON. Thomas J. Alford was born in TN about 1826. He married second to Martha BRIGHTWELL. Thomas' mother might have been named Sarah and born in VA about 1780. Family group records are available on Talton Evandrel Pearigen / Elizabeth Sanders Alford and Thomas J. Alford / Frances Richardson for those who desire a copy. (Send large SASE and \$1.00 to cover cost of five copies.)

Staci Alford, Star Athlete

AAFA member #005, Col. Truman Alford of Illinois, reports that his brother Willie C. Alford, has a son Charles who lives in Baton Rouge. Charles has a 17 year old daughter, Staci, who is a fabulous athlete. As a pitcher on the Baton Rouge girls soft ball team she won numerous national awards. She graduated from high school this spring third in her class academically and was voted the prettiest girl. Each year Baton Rouge awards \$1,500.00 cash to the best all-around athlete— all sports. Staci won the \$1,500 award. This must have been

a shocker when the city had an all-state quarterback plus a 270-pound lineman who came in second to a 118-pound girl! Staci had schlorship offers from Northwestern (both in Chicago and in Natchitoches), Notre Dame, North Carolina, Texas, LSU and several other universities. Notre Dame made her the best offer, so she accepted theirs. After being there only two weeks she had already pitched three complete games for their team in a tournament. The first game she lost by one run but she won the other two games. She is enrolled in their school of dentistry.

**Happy 50th
 Wedding Anniversary
 to
 D. L. Alford, Jr.
 and
 Catherine (Guynes)
 Alford!**

**Married
 December 26, 1939**

Non-Alford Surname Exchange

In the previous issue we announced a program recommended by member Jack Kinabrew of New Orleans: the Non-Alford Surname Exchange. Since that time, Pam Thompson, Publications Editor, discovered by chance an indication of how this exchange might work. New member Benjamin Spratling wrote to her about publishing an article in *AAFA ACTION*. He also remembered having encountered her name before—they had both been in touch with a third genealogist, Ben recently and Pam a few years ago. All three were researching a James Perdue of Georgia. The third genealogist sent Ben some material Pam had given her on James Perdue!

This was more than a coincidence—since many of us have lines from the same geographical areas, there is a good likelihood that we share lines other than Alford. In addition, some of you may have lots of material on collateral lines that you would be willing to share. This exchange is an opportunity to expand your pedigree charts and fill in the blanks on those family group sheets! Don't forget to limit the names you submit to those on the Alford half of your pedigree chart.

As indicated in the previous issue, the Association does not plan to become involved with these surnames or the exchange of other surname information between members. To evaluate the success of the program, please let us know if this listing is helpful to you.

The AAFA member number of the person submitting the name is in parentheses; the member's name and address is listed below. If you share any of these ancestors, write to the member and offer to exchange data.

(MEMBER #) NAME SPOUSE IF KNOWN	BIRTH	DEATH	MARRIAGE
(181) BULLOCK, MILES GRAHAM, LEMINTHA	1819-GA	1866	1839
(181) BULLOCK, CLARKIE SLOCOMB, ALEX	1813-GA	1860	1832
(181) BULLOCK, CAROLINE WELCH, _____	1815-GA	1870	
(181) BULLOCK, JESSE FOIL, CAROLINE	1817-GA	1838-MS	1833
(181) BULLOCK, JESSE A. ALFORD, MARTHA J.	1841-GA	1893-MS	1864
(30) PRATER, HENRY W. PERDUE, CAROLINE	1824		1845-GA
(30) PRATER, JOHN ALLISON GRIFFITH, MARY ANN	1780-MD	1863-GA	1810
(30) PRATHER, ZACHARIAH ALLISON, RUTH		SC	1778-MD
(30) GRIFFITH, JOSEPH BOULWARE, MARY ANN	1757		
(30) PERDUE, JAMES HORSLEY, ELIZABETH	1783-MD	1862-GA	
(30) VOGEL, WILLIAM JAMES SANDERS, MARY ELIZABETH	1843-MS	1923-LA	1872-LA
(30) SANDERS, OLIVER VIDLER, MARY/MARJANER	1827-AR		1848-LA

#181 David A. Schultz
P. O. Box 547
Lucedale, MS 39452

#30 Pam Thompson
1017 Marilyn Drive
Mountain View, CA 94040

Welcome to
58
New Members
This Quarter!