

AAFA ACTION

The Official Publication of the Alford American Family Association

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President's Precept

ATTENTION ALL HANDS! NOW HEAR THIS!

The first annual meeting of the Alford American Family Association held in Atlanta on October 15 was a great success. As you may know, the meeting was called on somewhat short notice and many could not change previous plans in order to attend. But what we lacked in numbers was made up by the enthusiasm, cooperativeness, knowledge, and competence of those who were there. The superb arrangements for the meeting were made by our on-the-spot member, Roberta Alford Folds, assisted by her helpful



*Captain Lodwick H. Alford
U.S. Navy, Retired
AAFA President*

husband, Milton. The arrangements could not have been better. But frosting on the cake was the lovely buffet supper put on by Roberta and Milton at their gracious home Friday evening before the meeting for all attendees. The spirit and camaraderie engendered were amazing. For Roberta and Milton, we all give a rousing and standing ovation!

For our meeting sessions on Saturday, our efficient Executive Assistant, Gil Alford, had prepared a varied, interesting and demanding agenda. While we did not exactly zip through the agenda, we were completed by noon and covered all items. Some decisions were made while other items were discussed without any decisions necessary. These agenda items with action taken or not taken are outlined in this issue of *AAFA ACTION*.

But let me mention a few issues that stand out in my mind. For the coming year, we want to focus our attention on building our membership base and pooling our efforts towards Alford research.

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AAFA Officers

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New Zip Code 63031

We were advised by the United States Post Office on December 5, 1988, that our mail box, which is in a contract station, would be serviced by a different branch post office effective December 7. When addressing mail to the AAFA mail box, use Zip 63031 rather than 63032 as before. If you are using preprinted envelopes, please mark over the "2" with a "1". Because we made a substantial stationery purchase this year, it will take a while before all envelopes and other stationery are changed.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Summary

The following report was presented to the membership at the meeting in October and covers the first three quarters of the year and a few days in October. Both the 1988 and 1989 budgets were revised for the meeting. A complete year-end report will be in the next issue.

	1987 ACTUAL	1988 BUDGET	1988 ACTUAL TO DATE	1989 BUDGET
REVENUE				
REGISTRATION FEE	\$ 420.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 470.00	\$1200.00
INITIAL DUES	336.00	536.00	376.00	750.00
RENEWAL DUES	0.0	288.00	272.00	784.00
DONATIONS	1203.00	600.00	187.57	1000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1959.00	\$2094.00	\$1305.57	\$3734.00
EXPENSES				
POSTAGE & PO BOX	\$ 111.28	\$ 589.00	\$ 472.72	\$1439.00
STATIONERY	112.11	427.00	326.49	0.00
PRINTING	27.91	403.00	282.73	1510.00
VIRGINIA RESEARCH	200.00			
N. CAROLINA RESEARCH			0.00	
RESEARCH OVERALL		200.00		340.00
FAMILY SEAL & RIBBON	59.37			
FAMILY EMBLEM	0.00	200.00	200.00	
MISCELLANEOUS	66.45	275.00	220.00	445.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$577.12	\$2094.00	\$1501.94	\$3734.00
NET WORTH	\$1381.88	\$1381.88	\$1185.51	

CORPORATE STATUS

In the last issue we advised that form 1203 had been submitted to the IRS to obtain AAFA tax exemption. Part of the application was a request for a Employer Identification Number (required even if we have no paid employees). This part of the request was approved and our EIN is 43-1496052. A couple of months after our submission, IRS acknowledged our application informing us that we were required to pay a \$150 user fee (cheaper than taxes) which was sent on October 27. We were advised on October 26 that it would take about 100 days to process our application. We hope this is all completed by the next newsletter.

Julius M. Alford
AAFA Treasurer

AAFA Annual Meeting: Summary of Minutes

Welcome & Opening

The meeting was called to order by AAFA President, Captain Lodwick "Wick" Alford at 9:00 AM on Saturday, October 15, 1988, in a meeting room at the Perimeter Center Guest Quarters Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia.

The opening was preceded by the playing of a tape recording of the "Colonel Bogey March," composed in 1916 by British bandmaster Kenneth J. Alford and famous as marching music for soldiers in World War II. Later it was used as the theme in the popular motion picture "Bridge On the River Kwai."

The president welcomed those present and expressed appreciation for the work done by Roberta and Milton Folds in making all the arrangements for the meeting and for a lovely dinner at their home on Friday evening. The president also recognized and expressed his appreciation for the work done by the officers and by Gil Alford in getting the Association started.

Finances

The president called upon the treasurer, Julius M. Alford, for a financial report. He reported the following for the period Jan 1-Aug 31, 1988:

Receipts	\$1,069.57
Expenses	1,169.03
Cash in Bank	1,147.42

Gil Alford presented the 1988 and 1989 revised budgets which had been recently updated. It was recommended that until we get better established with our annual operations (revenue and expenses), Gil be given some latitude and flexibility in execution of our budget. The budgets

were approved as submitted.

It was pointed out that officers were not asking for reimbursement for their expenses. It is their right to do so, and it is easier to make realistic financial plans if we know what is actually being spent to operate the Association. Gil encouraged members to question or challenge expenditures or other financial data when they had a question about same.

Ray Alford made a very substantial donation and emphasized that we should never fail to perform a task that needed to be done just because funds were not available. He said that when such a situation develops, the officers should make the need known to the membership as there were probably those who would be happy to donate enough to cover the need.

Publications

Pam Alford Thompson, the publications editor, talked about the inter-related roles of the newsletter, *AAFA ACTION*, and Gil Alford's *ABOUT ALFORDS*. It was recognized that the two would be merged at some date in the future when Gil is no longer able to continue his work. Pam indicated that she did not include extensive genealogical data or inquiries in the Association newsletter because *ABOUT ALFORDS* is almost all genealogical data. The president suggested that *AAFA ACTION* continue with coverage similar to the first two editions, gradually adding genealogical data based on projects initiated by AAFA.

Both Julius and Ray Alford suggested including as much as possible in the way of human interest subjects pertaining to Alford's. Gil Alford pointed out that Pam needed input from officers and members of AAFA and emphasized that he would be

happy to assist any of the members in their preparation of articles for use in *AAFA ACTION*.

Family Emblem

President Wick Alford showed our family emblem which was commissioned by AAFA. He mentioned that there was additional work that was supposed to be done by Mr. Haynsworth, the designer, to provide the "Alford" identification on the larger version of the emblem.

Pam Thompson suggested that we do something commercial with the emblem. Afterthought: Do any of our attorney members know if the emblem can be registered as a trademark and protected? As it is, there is nothing to prevent some company from making pins, patches, etc. and selling them.

Membership

In the absence of Nancy T. Alford, AAFA Secretary, Gil passed out an updated membership list. Total membership was 163 in 92 different families. Only two from the first year have failed to renew.

Registration Fees & Dues

There was considerable discussion concerning the \$10 registration fee and whether it should be reduced to something lower, like maybe \$5. Gil stated that at the present rate a member could not be serviced on even \$15 per year, and that we were dependent upon donations to supplement registration fees and dues. The members voted to continue, for the present time, the registration fee of \$10 and annual dues of \$8.

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(AAFA Minutes, cont. from p. 3)

Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws

The articles of incorporation (constitution) and bylaws were presented and discussed. The bylaws were approved with the stipulation that the amounts of fees and dues were to be deleted so that the board of directors could establish them. It was agreed that at the 1989 meeting a committee will be named which will review the articles of incorporation and bylaws and make recommendations for changes in the 1990 meeting. In the meantime, if members feel there is a need for change at the 1989 meeting, notice must be given to the membership 4 weeks in advance of the meeting.

Corporate Status

The state of Missouri, in which the Association is incorporated, has given it exempt status, which means it need not pay taxes. Application has been made to IRS for a federal exemption, and that is still in process. If approved it will mean the Association does not have to pay income taxes, although an annual report will be required. **IMPORTANT:** It does not mean that the Association is considered a charitable organization and that donations to it are deductible on tax returns.

Donations

There has been no request for donations since the request for sent out with the initial membership solicitation. Gil pointed out that the budget and planning for the Association assumed some revenue by donation. It was agreed that there should be an annual solicitation of donations for research and operations made in the newsletter as determined by the board of directors.

Research

Research and research projects were discussed extensively. Nancy Dietrich, who could not attend the meeting, sent the recommendation that the Association back off the research in Virginia based on our experience with the professional research and from the report made by Henry Alford after a visit to Virginia. She recommends that we concentrate more on North Carolina.

It was further recommended that we do all possible to encourage members to do research using local archives, LDS facilities, libraries, etc., and that we use paid researchers only as a last alternative. It was pointed out that as a group of non-professionals, we had already gathered an awesome collection of Alford information. Wick Alford stressed the point that if it is necessary to employ professional researchers, they are to be given a very well defined and specific task.

There was some discussion of the needs for census information, and Gil pointed out that he, with the help of others, had collected much of the census information for the censuses before 1860 and from the 1880, 1900 and 1910 soundex. He also commented on the need to purchase as much data as possible that has already been compiled and is available, such as marriage lists, therefore not requiring any research expense.

Pam Thompson recommended that Nancy Dietrich develop a research plan with specific tasks and that we then go about getting someone to do them. The tasks would be designed to gather data which AAFA does not already have. Gil reported that Nancy had considered this, but until he can convey to her information on all he has, or doesn't have, it is difficult for her to develop such a plan. Ray Alford said that, acting as a director

of research, Nancy should serve as a control point to coordinate all research activity and to advise members what research is needed, what is under way, and to make requests and assignments. There was considerable discussion about reimbursing members for expenses incurred in doing research for the Association. While this may be done, it will be necessary for the person doing the research to obtain prior approval from Nancy Dietrich if they expect to receive any reimbursement for expenses other than making copies and postage. Afterthought: But what an easy way to make a valuable donation to your Association!

It was emphasized that when any research assignment is being given, it should be very clear and specific.

Alford Cemeteries

Julius Alford led a discussion on Alford cemeteries. Gil mentioned that D. L. Alford, Jr. had requested that the membership consider the subject of Alford cemeteries or burial sites. He had related an experience where he found a couple of ancestors' graves in a cow lot in Georgia. The owner of the property was willing to give the burial plots to an interested person or the Association. Other similar situations were mentioned. There was considerable discussion as to the Association taking on ownership of Alford cemeteries. It was decided that the president would appoint a cemetery committee. [See "Alford Cemeteries," p. 11, in this issue.]

Records & Library

In the absence of Nancy Dietrich, Gil Alford provided information on AAFA records and the library. He described how copies of much of his information were being made and sent

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(AAFA Minutes, cont. from p. 4)
to Nancy for the library. There was a lively discussion concerning books which mention Alford's. The consensus was that AAFA needs a plan which will provide for the review of as many sources as possible. [See "The Alford Library," p. 7, describing the plan which was later formulated.]

Annual Meeting

Gil Alford recommended that it be the policy of AAFA to hold the annual meeting in the state that had the greatest number of members as of the day 30 days before the meeting in the previous year, and that we not repeat in a state

for at least ten years. According to a survey of the membership, about September 15 there were more members in Texas than in any other state. Therefore, after much discussion, it was agreed that the meeting would be in east Texas in the fall of 1989. [See "Texas Here We Come," p. 6, in this issue.]

Ray Alford suggested that our long range (ten year) plan ought to be to have our own building which housed all our Alford records and that we have our meetings there. [See "Building Plans," p. 6, in this issue.]

Association Purposes

AAFA Articles of Incorporation contain nine purposes, of which eight are well defined. While they are well defined purposes, they do not state specifically what work will be done to achieve the purposes.

To really serve our purposes we must describe specifically what work or tasks are required for each purpose, how and when it should be accomplished, who will be responsible and what it will cost. For instance, our genealogical effort thus far has been

rather happenstance as we have been, more or less, just doing what came naturally.

If we cannot provide such a work statement, or set of work statements, for a purpose, then we should consider deleting the purpose or revising it so that it can be dealt with.

We plan to establish planning groups to deal with the above during the next year, and we need suggestions and recommendations from you and your support in both the planning and execution.

Officers for 1989

The plan to continue with the same officers for the next year was discussed. At their request, comments from Weston Adams, Vice-President, and Nancy Dietrich, Genealogist-Historian, concerning their inability to make the meeting(s) was passed to the membership. Notwithstanding their situation, the members present voted to continue all the officers through to the 1989 meeting.

Further Organization

Gil presented brief plans for further organization of the Association. The articles of incorporation provide for various divisions within the Association. As membership increases and there are enough members in one branch of the family, then it is planned that a family division will be formed. For example, all the descendants of James Alford born about 1687 in Virginia would constitute a division. It would be headed by an Association division vice-president with a division secretary, reporter, and researcher-historian, who will be the "keeper" of the division lineage and the "expert" on the history of that branch of the family.

When membership in any state is

large enough to justify a state division, a geographic division will be set up with the same type officers and functions, except the researcher-historian would be the "expert" on the Alford's of the particular state.

Expansion Efforts

Expansion success stories as well as some disappointing results were discussed. New ideas for more aggressive promotion of AAFA were introduced. It was also determined that the 1989 expansion effort be coordinated with the annual meeting in Texas. [See "Expansion Efforts," p. 12, in this issue.]

The meeting was adjourned by Capt. Lodwick Alford at 12:00 noon.

Alford Family Reunions

The importance of reunions within the various divisions and branches of the family cannot be stressed enough. All groups are encouraged to establish a plan for regular meetings. If you are meeting or planning meetings, please keep AAFA advised so your reunion can be announced in the newsletter. The Association will also provide support to the reunion if practical.

Known Alford reunions are:

Descendants of William L. H. Alford (1863-1931)
Sylvester, GA, annually in April

Descendants of Jephtha Martin Alford (1862-1948)
Percy Quin State Park, MS, annually in April

Descendants of Julius C. Alford (1808-1899)
Gallman, MS, every other year (August 5, 1989)

Texas Here We Come

AAFA will hold its next annual meeting in east Texas in the fall of 1989. The exact date and place has not been determined but is expected to be in the vicinity of Houston or Dallas-Fort Worth. The preference is for a meeting in a small town away from a large metropolitan area, yet close enough so that those who want to may combine a research trip with the annual meeting trip. Both Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth have outstanding research facilities. We are meeting in the fall to take advantage of the better weather, cheaper off-season motel/hotel rates, and less vacation traffic.

The meeting will be well worth the time, effort, and expense involved—so plan now to attend!

In connection with the meeting there will be an extensive effort to reach all Alford families in Texas in advance of the meeting. The Association has already acquired most of the information on Alford families in the censuses of Texas up

through 1910. When we contact each of the 1200+ Alford families, we will ask them to assist with the Texas Alford data collection by providing family group record information on their family and the family of their father. AAFA will offer its services in assisting Texas Alford families to learn more about their Alford ancestors, and they will be extended an invitation to attend the meeting and/or join the Association.



The in-state leadership for the meeting is being handled by D.L. Alford, Jr., P. O. Box 118, Caldwell TX 77836 (409) 567-3296. He is being assisted in his leadership role by Landon Alford. Other Texans who have offered to assist in any way they can are Lucille Mehrkam, Pat Fite, and Andy Leath.

A big THANKS to these gracious volunteers! Others are needed—can YOU help? Write to D.L. Alford if you'd like to get involved.

Building Plans

While the idea of having our own building in which all our Alford material is housed may seem a little far out to some folks now, it is not unreasonable. There are over 20,000 potential members in the country!

The library, which is the subject of a separate article in this newsletter, will someday require space outside a member's home. It also will soon reach a size to make its movement from one officer to another after elections impractical. In addition to the library, Gil Alford has a computer system, microfilm reader with

considerable microfilms, and about 30 feet of notebooks and other references which will require storage and operating space when he is no longer able to carry on his work.

No action is required at this time, but members should keep it in the backs of their minds. If any would like to make a donation to a future building program, funds will be accepted as such. Those who might have an appropriate property, land and/or building, which they would be willing to deed to the Association, we would appreciate knowing about that.

Donations

AAFA budget and financial plans call for member donations over and above fees and dues. We know that some can better afford to give than others, and we do not want to deny membership to those who might not be able to pay higher fees or dues. It was agreed at the annual meeting that AAFA would make one annual request for donations in the newsletter. Therefore, forms and envelopes will be provided in this issue!

The 1988 budget, for which current donations apply, projected that 29% of the annual revenue would come by donation. Raymond Alford of Woodbridge, VA, very generously kicked this off with a \$500 donation at the annual meeting. However, receipts are still not adequate to meet the budget target. All members are encouraged to give what they can afford. No gift is too small—or too large!

When the board of directors approved the design of the Alford family emblem, it was recognized that it was not a budgeted item, but the board felt that members would be willing to donate to cover the \$200 involved.

Elsewhere in the newsletter is an article about the Alford library and another about a long range plan for an Alford building. Part of your donations will be for the library. At a later time a special fund for the building will be considered, and if practical some funds may be transferred from the general fund to a building fund. Unless you specify otherwise, any funds donated hereafter will be used for general research and operations.

**Welcome to 24
New Members
This Quarter!**

The Alford Library

While we are currently using the term "library" rather loosely, we expect that someday there will be a substantial collection worthy of the name. Until we need a separate librarian to manage the collection, it is being done by our Genealogist-Historian, Nancy Alford Dietrich.

Working with all members, AAFA hopes to review references that might contain Alford information. Where practical and possible, the Association will purchase the book, provided its content is significant for the research of Alford families and related families. When purchasing the entire book is not feasible or appropriate, consideration will be given to having a copy made (within copyright laws) or extracting the pertinent Alford data.

Arrangements will be made for members to access the contents of the library. The details of this have not been worked out, but a small fee to cover the cost of shipping the publications both ways or of making copies will probably be involved.

The general plan is that three lists of references will be printed in each issue of *AAFA ACTION*:

WISH LIST: Books which have potential for use in Alford research.

HOLDINGS LIST: Partial list of the references (extracts or books) already in the Library. This list will be updated in each issue.

NO DATA LIST: Books whose title suggests the possibility of Alford data, but which were found to contain nothing after research. This list should provide members an idea of the books they need not look for or at. *AAFA ACTION* will publish this list as the information is reported.

Members will be asked to participate in this project as follows:

1. Check the books on the Wish List in libraries and archives available to you. Members who belong to local societies, the National Genealogical Society or the New England Historical Genealogical Society may be able to access the books through these organizations.
2. If the amount of Alford data is minimal, copy it along with the title page and the index. Also copy keys to abbreviations, introductory remarks that explain limitations, sources, etc. Xerox copies are best, but handwritten or typed extractions are acceptable if extra care is taken in proofreading! Send the copies to Nancy Dietrich.
3. If the amount of Alford data is extensive, inform the librarian of Alford content so the Association can determine whether the book is worth purchasing. The library will of course welcome donated books or funds earmarked for the purchase of books!
4. **IMPORTANT:** If no Alford data is found, inform the librarian. An easy way is to xerox the title page and send it with a note saying "No Alford data."

If you are doing non-Alford genealogical research, check the index of every reference you use for "Alford" and follow Steps 2 to 4 above. Who knows—an Alford buried in an obscure family history may be YOUR lost ancestor! And don't forget that Gil Alford can add all of this "found" data to his database of Alford families, helping us all to find our ancestors.

Copyright Law, In Brief

We encourage you to follow both the letter and spirit of copyright law. The following is from G.A. Jentz, K.W. Clarkson, and R.L. Miller, *West's Business Law* (St. Paul, MN: West Publishing Co., 1984), pp. 231-232.

The copyright law in use from 1909-1977 gave copyright protection for 28 years from the date of first publication, renewable for an additional 47 years. Therefore, the copyright has expired on all books published prior to 1914 (75 years ago).

In general, works written after January 1, 1978, are protected by copyright for the life of the author plus fifty years. The fair use doctrine "allows reproduction of copyrighted material without permission if the use of the material is 'reasonable' and not harmful to the rights of the copyright owner. Section 107 of the new copyright law mentions permissible purposes such as . . . scholarship, or research. Four criteria are used in considering whether a particular use is reasonable:

1. The purpose and character of the use, including whether it is of a nonprofit, educational nature or of a commercial nature.
2. The amount and importance of the material used in relation to the work as a whole.
3. The nature of the copyrighted work.
4. The effect of the use on the potential market or value of the copyrighted work.

Library Reproduction Libraries and archives can reproduce single copies of certain copyrighted items for noncommercial purposes without violating the copyright law. Notice of copyright on the library or archive reproduction is necessary, however."

Book Holdings — NC & SC

NORTH CAROLINA

ABSTRACTS OF WAKE COUNTY DEEDS 1785-1802
(Title not certain and other bibliographical data unknown)
[pp. 31, 46, 119 & 177 (it appears)]

BUTE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, MINUTES 1775-1776. [pp. 1-5, 14, 15, 18-21, 24-31, 56, 57, 60 & 61]

WAKE, CAPITAL COUNTY OF NORTH CAROLINA. [pp. 24, 25, 62-71, 90-93, 98, 99, 102, 103, 116, 117, 194, 195, 276, 277, 418, 419, 472, 473-475, 498, 499, 526, 527, 574, 575, 650, 651, Appendix B, C, D, E. and Index]

THE ROBESON COUNTY REGISTER, VOL I. [pp. 5, 15, 20, 23, 32, 55, 72, 78, 108, 117, 135 & 136]

THE ROBESON COUNTY REGISTER, VOL II. [pp. 8, 29, 32, 38, 51, 52, 69, 70, 71, 73, 78, 88, 92, 94, 133 & 134]

THE ROBESON COUNTY REGISTER, VOL III No 1 & 2. [pp. 7, 13, 41 & 42]

Belvin, Lynne & Harriett Riggs. *THE HERITAGE OF WAKE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA.* Winston-Salem, NC: Wake County Genealogical Society & Hunter Publishing Co., 1983. [pp. 90-92, 163, 164]

Clemens, William Montgomery. *NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA MARRIAGE RECORDS, From the Earliest Colonial Days to the Civil War.* Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1981. [pp. 12 & 13; info on M.A.E. Alford and W. A. McLeod, 24 February 1848, Marlboro Co. SC.]

Freeman, Mrs. Eloise Averette. *OUR PAST, HISTORY OF GREATER ROLESVILLE AREA.* Wendell, NC: Broadfoot Bookmark, n.d. [pp. 3, 4, 6, 15, 18, 32, 59, 76]

Fulmore, Judge Zachary Taylor. *ANNALS OF THE ASHPOLE COMMUNITY 1750-1814.* Austin, TX: N. pub., ca 1920.

Hamann, Allen G. *THE DESCENDANTS OF BYTHON B. ALFORD with special emphasis on son Charles S. Alford.* 1985

Holcomb, Brent H. *BLADEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA ABSTRACTS OF EARLY DEEDS 1738-1804.*

Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979 [pp. 2, 3, 10, 11, 48, 49, 54 & 55]

Holcomb, Brent H. *MARRIAGES OF JOHNSTON CO. N.C. 1762-1868.* [pp. 2, 3, 42, 68, 69, 73, 112, 113, 124, 125, 134, 135 (index)]

Holcomb, Brent H. *MARRIAGES OF WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA 1770-1868.* Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1983. [p. 4 & 5; Christie Baldwin provide a typed "extract" from this reference which listed many more Alford's than shown on pages listed above.]

Holcomb, Brent, *BUTE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA LAND GRANT PLATS AND LAND ENTRIES.* Chapel Hill, NC: N. pub., 1974. [pp. 1, 2, 77-89, 98-112 (some pages missing apparently with no Alford's) Index]

Lucas, Rev. Silas E. *MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM RALEIGH, N.C. NEWSPAPERS 1796-1826.* Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1977. [pp. 50, 51, 74 & 75; 2 Alford's mentioned]

North Carolina Genealogical Society. *INDEX OF NORTH CAROLINA ANCESTORS.* Raleigh, NC: NCGS, 1981. [pp. 3 & 358; Kiser Alford b 1813 ca ancestor of Mrs. Carsey L. (Edythe) Tippett, AAFA Member #46]

Parker, Mattie Erma Edwards. *NORTH CAROLINA HIGHER-COURT RECORDS 1670-1696.* Raleigh, NC: State Dept of Archives & History, 1968. [pp. 392, 393 & 459]

Ross, Elizabeth E. *FAMILY BIBLE RECORDS OF JOHNSTON COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA.* Clayton, NC: N. pub., 1978. [Vol I p. 3, Vol II p. 1]

Townsend, Peggy T. *VANISHING ANCESTORS, Cemetery Records of Robeson County, North Carolina.* Red Springs, NC: N. pub., 1975 [Contents, preface, map foldout, [pp. 2, 23, 24, 25, 135 and index]

Watson, Joseph W. *ABSTRACTS OF EARLY LAND DEEDS OF NASH CO. NC BOOKS 1-6 1777-1868.* No publication data. [pp. 37, 118, 189, 258, 259, 267, 288]

Watson, Joseph W. *KINFOLKS OF NASH COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA 1778- 1854.* Rocky Mount, NC: Joseph W. Watson, 1979. [pp. 18, 46, 47, 57, 59, 62, 63, 69, ??, 170 and index]

(Continued on p. 9)

(Book Holdings, cont. from p. 8)

Watson, Joseph W. *KINFOLKS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA 1793-1844*. Rocky Mount, NC:

Joseph W. Watson, 1985. [Contents, Introduction, 1, 30, 31, 40-43, 48, 49, 54, 55, 108, 109-111, 120, 121, 134, 135-137, 142, 143, 238, 239, Index]

Watson, Joseph W. *ABSTRACTS OF THE EARLY DEEDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA 1779-1797*. Rocky Mount, NC: Joseph W. Watson, 1984.

[Contents, introduction, foreword, 1, 8, 9, 14, 15, 18-23, 30-37, 40, 41, 50-55, 58-61, 64-67, 70-73, 90-95, 98, 99, 102, 103, 110, 111, 114, 115, 122, 123, 132-135, 138, 139, 142-147, 168, 169, 174-179, 184-189, 192-199, 202-205, index]

SOUTH CAROLINA

Bratcher, R. Wayne. *ANDERSON COUNTY CEMETERIES, VOL TWO*. Greenville, SC: A Press, 1986. [p. 50]

Clemens, (SEE NORTH CAROLINA)

DAR, *SOUTH CAROLINA DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BIBLE RECORDS*. Greenville, SC: A Press, 1981. [pp. 34-37]

Elliot, Colleen M. *THE KEOWEE COURIER 1849-1851; 1857-1861 and 1865-1868*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979. [pp. 50 & 51; Joshua Alford was shot and instantly killed October 26, 1858 by Zion Odom.]

Holcomb, Brent H. & Elmer O. Parker. *CHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA MINUTES OF THE COUNTY COURT 1785-1799*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979. [pp. 58, 59, 86, 87, 114 & 115]

Holcomb, Brent H. *INDEX TO THE 1800 CENSUS OF SOUTH CAROLINA*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1980. [pp. 4 & 5]

Holcomb, Brent H. *MARRIAGE, DEATH, AND ESTATE NOTICES FROM CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA, NEWSPAPERS 1816-1865*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1978. [pp. 14, 15, 16 & 17; 3 Alford families mentioned]

Holcomb, Brent H. *MARRIAGE, DEATH, AND ESTATE NOTICES FROM GEORGETOWN, S.C. NEWSPAPERS 1791-1861*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979. [pp. 204 & 205; Mr. H. H. D. Alford married Miss M. G. Jayroe January 21 on Santee by Rev. Mr. Craps. Both were from Georgetown District]

Holcomb, Brent H. *MARRIAGE, DEATH, AND ESTATE NOTICES FROM SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE. VOL I 1837-1860*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979. [pp. 163, 164, 241, 242, 472, 473, 476 & 477; Alford mentioned 4 times]

Holcomb, Brent H. *MARRIAGE, DEATH, AND ESTATE NOTICES FROM SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE. VOL II 1861-1867*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1980. [pp. 6, 7, 56 & 57; 2 Alford families mentioned]

Holcomb, Brent H. *PROBATE RECORDS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, VOL 3, Journal of the Court of Ordinary 1764-1771*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979. [pp. 68 & 69]

Holcomb, Brent H. *SAINT DAVID'S PARISH, SOUTH CAROLINA MINUTES OF THE VESTRY 1768-1832 PARISH REGISTER 1819-1924*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979. [pp. 62, 63, 108 & 109.

Revill, Janie, *SOME SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGICAL RECORDS*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1986. [pp. 36 & 37; Jacob Alfred, Exor of will of William Adams whose daughter Susanna married Jacob. Will was recorded in Barnwell Co about 1803.]

Young, Willie Pauline, *ABSTRACTS OF OLD NINETY SIX and Abbeville District Wills and Bonds as on file in the Abbeville, South Carolina, Courthouse*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1950, second printing 1977. [pp. 240 & 241; Peachman Alford, along with others, bound to Moses Taggart Jan 22 1838]

Wilson, Teresa E. & Janice L. Grimes. *MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM THE SOUTHERN PATRIOT, 1815-1830, VOL 1*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1982. [pp. 80 & 81; Benjamin Alford, son of Mrs. Alford, died September 20th at Camden SC]

Wooley, James E. *A COLLECTION OF UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGICAL AND FAMILY RECORDS, VOL II*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1981. [pp. 62 & 63; Land of James Alford mentioned in deed for David Criswell in Wilkes Co, GA.]

Wooley, James E. *A COLLECTION OF UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGICAL AND FAMILY RECORDS, VOL III*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1982. [pp. 212 & 213; Etheldred Alford witnessed will dated Aug 3 1816 in Camden SC; mentioned in deed for David Criswell in Wilkes Co, GA.]

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE

Book Wish List

The following is a partial list of the books we believe might contain Alford information. NOTICE: If you plan to do anything about these books, let Nancy Dietrich know immediately so that an Association-wide effort can be coordinated. Do not buy a book without checking first to see if someone already bought it or extracted from it.

Please read the comments on copyright laws in "The Alford Library" in this issue. If you have suggestions for additions to this list, let us know.

Coldham, Peter Wilson, *THE BRISTOL REGISTERS OF SERVANTS SENT TO FOREIGN PLANTATIONS*. Hard cover 491 pages indexed by servant, master, place of origin and ship. (LHA) \$30 plus \$2.50 postage and handling (MD 5% or MI 4% tax) from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Coldham, Peter Wilson, *THE COMPLETE BOOK OF EMIGRANTS IN BONDAGE, 1644-1775*. Hard cover 920 pages indexed. (LHA) \$60 plus \$2.50 postage and handling (MD 5% or MI 4% tax) from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Hoffman, Margaret M. *THE GRANVILLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA 1748-1763, ABSTRACTS OF LAND GRANTS, VOL. 1*. Hard cover 209 pages name and place index. (NAD) \$24 (plus 4.5% tax for NC residents) from author, P. O. Box 446, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

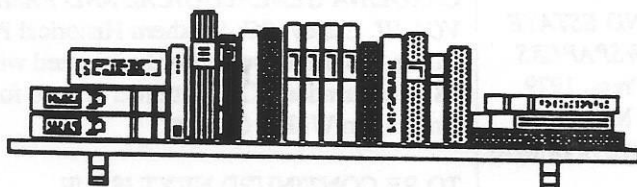
Hoffman, Margaret M. *THE GRANVILLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA 1748-1763 ABSTRACTS OF LAND GRANTS, VOL. 2*. Hard cover 415 pages name and place index. (NAD) \$36 from same address as above.

Hoffman, Margaret M. *PROVINCE OF NORTH CAROLINA 1663-1729 ABSTRACTS OF LAND PATENTS*. (NAD)

Hoffman, Margaret M. *COLONY OF NORTH CAROLINA 1753-1764 ABSTRACTS OF LAND PATENTS VOL. 1*. (NAD)

Hoffman, Margaret M. *COLONY OF NORTH CAROLINA 1765-1775 ABSTRACTS OF LAND PATENTS VOL. 2*. (NAD)

National Society of the Colonial Dames, *THE PARISH REGISTER OF ST. PETER'S PARISH, NEW KENT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, 1680-1787*. Soft back reprint (1904) 206 pages indexed. (GKA) #N050 \$12.50 plus \$2.50 postage and handling from Heritage Books, Inc., 1504E Pointer Ridge Place, Suite 106, Bowie, MD 20716.



Two Big Breakthroughs— Thanks, AAFA!

In the last issue of *AAFA Action*, a reminder was inserted to remember to check under the "O's" in indexes because Alford's are sometimes indexed under "Olford." This advice from our Genealogist, Nancy Dietrich, was the first and most important step in solving one of my oldest genealogy problems!

For ten years I had failed to find my John P. Alford in any record. I now checked the 1860 Georgia Census Index, and sure enough, there was an "Olford" in the right county, Upson, but it was P.L., not John. I read the census anyway, ecstatic to find the right wife and children!

The next breakthrough came as a direct result of my participation in AAFA and Gil's dedication to helping Alford's find their ancestors. Discussing the upcoming annual meeting with Gil on the phone, I mentioned that it appeared that P.L., not John P., was my ancestor. That same week, Tom Queen of Austell, GA, read about the AAFA meeting in the newspaper and called Gil to see if he had anything on a P.L. Alford! Gil made the connection and Tom went to the meeting in Atlanta, where we met and shared information—apparently the only two P.L. descendants researching that line! Tom had some valuable documentation leading us to Alabama that I would probably have never found.

Gil says that similar connections are made regularly through the Association files. To this member, it was a miracle!

Pamela Thompson
Publications Editor

(President's Precept, cont. from p. 1)

One decision we made was to hold our next annual meeting in East Texas, probably in October. A committee is already working on the arrangements, and don't be surprised if the location turns out to be the western part of East Texas, namely Central Texas. Gil will concentrate publicity in Texas for the next meeting, and we believe this will be a great help in building our membership since that state has by far the largest number of Alford's in the population, about twice as many as the next two runner-up states, California and Florida.

A consensus developed at the meeting that we can accomplish much more in Alford research if we proceed on a broad front in a concerted effort by all or nearly all of our members. Our Genealogist-Historian, Nancy Alford Dietrich, is working on a research plan for the Association, which she will present to the members. We request your participation and cooperation with Nancy as she develops plans for this most important effort of AAFA.

Finally, while many of us have laughed at and ridiculed claims that Alford's have similar physical characteristics, I was astounded at the meeting to see some of the attendees with the same peculiar upper eyelid skin folds as is common in my line of Alford's! Maybe this, like beauty, is in the eyes of the beholder. But what was not simply my imagination was the spirit and chemistry which prevailed among us who, except for spouses, had never seen each other before. In my six hour drive back to my home on the coast of Georgia, I was full of euphoria about the meeting and prospects for AAFA.

In that spirit, let me send best wishes for all in the Holiday Season, and I look forward to working with you and serving as your President in 1989.

Lodwick H. Alford, AAFA President

Alford Cemeteries

An extensive discussion of Alford cemeteries at the Annual Meeting led those present to recommend that the Association undertake aggressive action to gain cognizance over Alford burial places, if necessary acquiring ownership of some sites.

President Lodwick Alford will be appointing an AAFA Cemetery Committee to look into the subject and make recommendations to the Association. The general plan is to:

1. Compile, with the help of AAFA members, a list of all Alford burial locations and cemeteries.
2. List all the Alford's buried in these sites.
3. Determine how best to maintain and preserve Alford burial sites, particularly those isolated.
4. Determine if it is practical and/or necessary for the Association to

acquire ownership of any Alford burial sites.

Considerable information has already been compiled on Alford burial sites. Future issues of *AAFA ACTION* will contain cemetery listings as the information becomes available. Those who have Alford burial data should send it to the Association if it has not already been sent to Gil Alford.

If you would like to serve on the cemetery committee, send your name with an indication of your interest either to the AAFA mail box or directly to Captain Lodwick Alford, P. O. Box 742, Sea Island, GA 31561. The information this committee gathers and makes available is extremely important and will be very much appreciated by all Alford researchers!

In
Memory of
Mr. Alford
1770-1870

AAFA at Work

No member is able to see, hear, or otherwise be aware of all that is taking place within the Association, but much is working and with success.

The most apparent item is the newsletter, and through it members will be kept abreast of much of the Association work. Most members have been involved to some extent with Nancy Dietrich and Gil Alford's effort to prepare ancestor tables on each of the members. Those at the annual meeting gained first-hand information about much of the Association work.

One of the success stories is the

regularity with which the Association is able to help members, and even some who are not members, by providing additional information on their family lines and/or by making connections with heretofore unknown cousins. It is unusual when the Association hears from a new Alford or Alford descendant but is unable to connect those Alford's to a known line.

Be sure to read *AAFA ACTION* to keep informed of the many areas in which the Association is operating successfully. If you find a topic that interests you, volunteer your help. Get involved!

Expansion Efforts

Free Inquiries

As Wick said in his comments in the September newsletter, we want "MORE! MORE! MORE!" Alford. A nationwide source just begging to be tapped is the 100+ genealogical columnists in the country. Practically all of these will publish free inquiries.

There are also thousands of genealogical and/or historical societies which allow members to publish free inquiries (usually a limit and some geographical restrictions).

We need information on thousands of Alford; we also need to get our surname, and AAFA, mentioned in print as often as we can—the publicity will generate more Alford data and new members. Even when inquiries do not produce the requested information requested, they frequently cause general "Alford" responses.

We will be asking all members for information about their (1) membership in local societies, (2) local newspapers, especially those with genealogical columns and (3) desires for an inquiry to be published. Those who have access to inquiry publishing who have no need for inquiries will be fed inquiries to submit for publication.

Individual Effort

While we're on the subject, here's a great success story—and the best news is that you can duplicate it!

Walter W. Alford of Laguna Hills, CA, sent the following letter to 33 Alford whose names appeared in the Orange County, CA, telephone book:

Dear Mr/Mrs ALFORD:

Perhaps you have already become a

member of "ABOUT ALFORDS", or have at least received material about it. Mr. Gilbert K. Alford, a distant cousin, is engaged in a massive genealogical search of the family, its history, and its origins. I, for instance, am a ninth generation American, and Gilbert and I share a common great grandfather, John Seaborn ALFORD, who was the twin of Seaborn John ALFORD. No, they were not born at sea—Seaborn was their mother's maiden name. Gilbert needs all the information he can get to flesh out the family history, so we would appreciate it if you would fill out the enclosed form and mail it to:

*Gilbert K. Alford,
1403 Kingsford Drive, Florissant,
Missouri 63031-2422
For further info, I can be reached at
(714) 830-6696.*

*Walter W. Alford
23465 Caminito Salado
Laguna Hills CA 92653*

Walter enclosed a blank family group record with his letter. Gil has already received three responses, two containing extensive Alford information!

Walter also plans to call the 11 Alford in the phone book without an address, but there has not been time for a report from him on that.

If all AAFA members would follow Walter Alford's lead, we could expect a significant informational response as well as an increase in membership.

The only change we would recommend is that the first sentence in the letter mention becoming a member of the Alford American Family Association instead of *ABOUT ALFORDS* since the only real membership involved is with AAFA.

As a member of AAFA, you are

encouraged to do all possible to reach the Alford in your geographic area. As you can see, the personal touch is sometimes more appealing than an organized effort on a larger scale by the Association office. The cousin you find could be your own, so let's get the word out. Thanks for the idea and the work, Walter!

State Expansion Projects

Our effort to reach Missouri Alford was less successful than expected. Our president signed letters that were addressed to about 200 Missouri Alford families. As expected, about 25% of those were returned because of bad addresses. We expected to get responses from about 20 of the families in the state. Thus far there has been one response, and no new Missouri members.

In addition to the letters to specific Alford, news releases were sent to 230 Missouri newspapers, and as part of our meeting promotion another 280 were sent to Georgia newspapers and genealogical columnists nationwide. The releases to the genealogical columnists seem to be the most effective and have resulted in 13 (probably more) new members.

Because of the expense and problems with the Missouri effort, the Mississippi expansion has been temporarily suspended. However, we are still receiving responses to our effort, so it is much too early to judge.

For expansion coordinated with our 1989 meeting in Texas, we plan to concentrate on media releases in Texas. We also plan to contact every Texas Alford soliciting their help to add to the voluminous Texas data already in our file. As an aside they will be invited to attend our meeting and/or join AAFA.

Biography: John Rogers Alford, Senior

John Rogers, son of Egbert Benson and Ella A. (Overton) Alford, was born 1 February 1885 at Overton, Rusk Co., TX. Five years later his family moved to Henderson, TX, where he lived the rest of his life, dying there 8 March 1960. He died unexpectedly about 1:30 PM on a Tuesday in Henderson Memorial Hospital. He had been at his office earlier in the day but went home complaining of feeling ill. He later collapsed and was taken to the hospital.

John's father, Egbert B. Alford, a prominent and successful merchant, sold plows and other useful articles. He told John, who worked in the store, that he ought to know how to use a plow if he was going to sell them. So John mixed some practical farming with his education in the Henderson High School and made a success as a real dirt farmer at the age of 15.

John held his first job at 14 as inspector and salesman of tomatoes, peaches, and watermelons for the East Texas Fruit & Truck Growers Association at Indianapolis, IN, and Pittsburgh, PA. At 22 he was a bookkeeper in the Farmers and Merchants National Bank and rose to become chairman of the board of the Citizens National Bank, its successor. At 26 he was a traveling salesman for Harris-Lipsitz Dry Goods Company of Dallas. He served as clerk, cotton buyer, and assistant manager of Irion & Alford and salesman for Mayfield-Alford Company. As a young man, he made many trips to New York to buy goods.

He was a captain in the Texas Cavalry in World War I. He was stationed at the army camp in San Antonio, TX, where many people died in the 1918 flu epidemic.

He engaged in the oil business in 1925 and was highly successful, acquiring many valuable oil royalties. He was involved financially with Henderson Cotton Oil Mill, Henderson Clay Products Company, Alford Brothers Motor Company, Boren Oil Company, Maco Oil Company, Texas Finance Company, and Tex-E-Lec Corporation, a manufacturer of wooden toys, and many other enterprises. He was president and chairman of the board of the Citizens National Bank of Henderson.

John married Susan LANDON on 5 September 1927. Susan was born 16 July 1893 and died 2 April 1976.

The following are excerpts, taken from a letter dated 16 May 1927 from J. W. Fitzgerald, Vice-president of The First Citizens National Bank of Tyler, TX, tell the story of how John and Susan met. The letter was addressed to Mr. Alford and Mr. English of Henderson.

Miss Susan Landon, in the Educational Department, Texas Co-Operative Cotton Association, is spending this week in your county, and I am writing to urge that you show her every courtesy that you can conveniently. She is the daughter of a North Carolina farmer, a graduate of the University of North Carolina, and is spending her life in the interest of better farm home life. I met her first at A. & M. College Short Course last summer, and at once "fell in love with her", and later she spent one week in this county at my earnest request, and I have ever since been trying to arrange to get her to go into every school house in the county; and hope I may yet succeed. She has a wonderful message, calculated to inspire to higher and greater things in home life, and it will pay you all to take some interest in getting her a good

crowd and showing her other courtesies.

She is a real student, spent a month or two in Denmark and other European countries studying how farm life was transformed in those countries in just a few years; and, with her pleasing and strong personality, she can give those who hear her a vision of higher and better things, and at least the desire to attain them.

John was a staunch Democrat and Methodist. He was a leader in Boy Scout work, on the advisory board of Southern Methodist University and of the Southwestern Medical College. He was a director of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce, member of the American Jersey Cattle Association, and of the Texas Hereford Association, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World, Lions Club and many other business, civic, and fraternal organizations. He was president of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce in 1946. He was also a long time member of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Texas. He was liberal in his views but believed strongly in the American free enterprise system.

He lent money to East Texas boys and girls to go to college and proudly claimed that he never lost a dollar on one of those loans.

John operated a 400-acre farm and dairy near Henderson. Through his efforts, along with other Rusk County agricultural leaders, a branch test plot of the Texas Research Foundation was established a mile south of Henderson in 1955. He was a director of that Foundation. For many years he was active in promoting soil and water conservation, reforestation, the growing of new crops, development of trench silos, pasture improvement,

(Continued on p. 14)

(John R. Alford, cont. from p. 13) and other farm practices. He planted his first pine trees in Rusk County in 1939, became a tree farmer in 1949 and was a member of the Texas Forestry Association. He was responsible for having the Headquarters, District 2, Texas Forest Service located in Henderson in 1953. In 1945 he was noted for planting crotalaria in strips with peanuts, where it served both to check wind and water erosion and to fertilize the soil it grows in. During the period 1947-49 he spearheaded the promotion of crimson clover as a grazing and soil-building crop. He and a friend underwrote the first carload of crimson clover seed brought to East Texas. In less than 15 years the hills of East Texas were blanketed with a crimson red cover.

At 75 years of age he was as active in

the affairs of his community and his state as he ever was in what men are wont to call the "prime of life." His last official act, less than two hours before he passed away, was typical of the man. He knew that the East Texas Chamber of Commerce was to hold a Tax Study Conference in Henderson, his home town, the following day, and he called the president of one of the service clubs of which he was a member and asked if they would not adjourn their luncheon and join with others in attending this conference.

John Rogers and Susan (Landon) Alford had three children:

- i. John Rogers Alford, Jr., born 1 August 1928 in TX; married (1) on 6 June 1953 Barbara Burke Shaw, who was born 24 November 1931. They divorced

and John married (2) on 10 May 1977 Marjorie Stewart Skloss, who was born 10 October 1936. They have four children; they were divorced in 1988.

- ii. Ella Langdon Alford, born 21 December 1931 in TX; married 18 July 1957 Bill McDonald, who was born 4 October 1929. They are divorced.
- iii. Egbert Landon Alford, born 11 July 1935 in TX; married 18 April 1957 Phyllis Potthast, who was born 29 March 1935. They have three children.

Source: This biography was prepared from various East Texas business and agricultural publications and news articles plus family group records supplied by Landon Alford.

Collecting Alford Biographies

A major purpose of our Association is to document the history of our family. In support of this effort, we would like to preserve the history of present day Alford members and their fathers. You can make a positive and worthwhile contribution to the Association by participating in this exciting project!

If your father's last name is Alford, please write a complete biography on him as well as yourself and send it to the AAFA mailing address as soon as possible. If your father's name was not Alford, please write a biography on your most recent Alford ancestor if you have sufficient information.

Note that these are biographies, not biographical sketches or family group records. There is no limit on length and there is no particular format. Suggested subjects to be included are early childhood interests; education at all levels; hobbies from childhood to

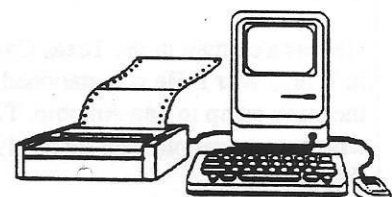
present; participation in various organizations; military service in sufficient detail to identify units served with, assignment stations, duties, etc.; religious affiliation and service performed; vocation, occupations, talents, skills; medical history; physical descriptions; places of residence and property ownership; and anything else that might come to mind.

As the biographies are received, they will be typed into the computer. (If you have an IBM/compatible or Macintosh, you'll make our job easier by sending your bios on disk—which will be returned.) Some of them will be published in *AAFA ACTION*, abridged if necessary, and all the biographies will eventually be published in a series of books or booklets. However, before publication, a typed copy will be returned to you for corrections, with questions and comments about possible

improvements.

If you have photographs that you would like printed with the story, please send copies (not originals unless absolutely necessary). All photos will be returned. When the biographies are published, the photographs will be included at the discretion of the editor—based on space and appropriateness. Depending on available funds, you may be asked to contribute a small fee to cover the cost of making the half-tones.

We hope all AAFA members will consider this project a wonderful way to share in the preservation of our Alford heritage for posterity!



Josiah Alford's Alford Family Notes

The most complete published account of the early Alford's of England is undoubtedly Josiah G. Alford's *ALFORD FAMILY NOTES* published 1908 in London. The book, long out of print, is in the Library of Congress and is available from the library photo duplication service on either microfilm or paper. The cost is approximately \$30 for the microfilm and \$60 for the paper. AAFA member Landon Alford purchased a copy on paper and allowed Gil Alford to make a copy for use in making reprints for anyone who would like to own this book. Copies can be made and mailed for \$11, but readers are warned that the print is very small and sometimes very difficult to read. The 220 page book is indexed.

Landon Alford made a trip to Alford, England, and has visited the site of the Castle. He wrote a report which was published in *ABOUT ALFORDS* several quarters ago. He also took photographs, which we might print in a future issue.

The preface, printed here, provides some insight into Mr. Josiah G. Alford and his reason for compiling the book. Future issues will contain further excerpts from the book.

PREFACE to *ALFORD FAMILY NOTES*

It is now over twenty-five years since there fell into my hands, through the death of an octogenarian relative, various Wills, Documents, and Papers affording much accurate information concerning the history of my family.

The possession of these papers naturally aroused interest, and I soon became aware of a desire on the part of one here and another there to learn something more of the family antecedents, and of the details of that record of an honorable ancestry of which there was a traditional knowledge.

Some years previously Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury, had traced out his line of the family for several generations, while others since had put together valuable memoranda of their immediate connections.

There also came to light some manuscript notes by the late Reverend Frederick Browne, a celebrated Somersetshire genealogist of the last century, showing the connection of the families of Alford, Symes and Sydenham, all of that County.

Thus, on the one hand, I found a strong desire and frequent enquiry for information, and on the other, a supply of available sources from which that desire could be gratified. The desire, moreover, appealed to me as an eminently reasonable one, for there is something, surely, in hereditary influence upon character; and though, as far as I knew, we could claim no descent from men of noble birth or of great fame, yet a history of some centuries of educated and cultured family-life seemed, for the sake of those still to come, worthy of record in definite and permanent form.

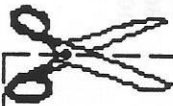
I resolved therefore to make the attempt, and, having once commenced, the work of collection and compilation became a pleasure—hobby (I may as well confess it)—leading naturally to much further research

The result I now offer to my kith and kin in these "Family Notes", the private publication of which is subscribed for by various members of the family

We cannot pretend to produce legal proof of every fact or statement included, but would nevertheless distinctly state that nothing has been passed by Compiler or Editor without good ground for acceptance. Many points, however, are manifestly incomplete, affording ample opportunity for further research and future addition.

Regret must be expressed that it is impossible to include records of some who, though closely connected, are not themselves Alford's. The mass of information concerning the actual family precluded any wider view.

JOSIAH G. ALFORD, Bristol,
December 1908.



SIGN ME UP!

Alford American Family Association.
P.O. Box 1586, Florissant, MO 63031

- \$10 Registration Fee—one time only
 \$ 8 Annual Dues
 Please send me more information and your registration packet.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Welcome New AAFA Members

#	Name	Address	City	State	Ancestor	Event / Date / Place
076	MRS. ELISABETH A. MCLANE	202 WAYNE AVENUE	VALDOSTA	GA 31602	WILLIAM B.	B 1789ca NC WAKE
077	MRS. FAYE A. CANNADY	4056 BLUEBONNET DRIVE	GREENSBORO	NC 27407	HINES BERRY	B 1827 NC
078	MRS. MARJORIE MCDANIEL	ROUTE 5, BOX 5197	ATHENS	TX 75751	ROBERT	B 1760ca ENGLAND
079	MRS. SARAH KAY THORNHILL	3019 WOODLAND RIDGE ROAD	BATON ROUGE	LA 70816	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
080	MRS. DEBORAH A. BELL	4224 HOUMA BLVD. STE 660	METAIRIE	LA 70006	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
081	MR. JOHN E. SKELTON	201 HOLLY STREET	HARTWELL	GA 30643	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
082	MR. IRA ALFORD	1560 3 MILE LAKE AVE	PORT BARRIE	LA 70577	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
083	MRS. ROBERT W. SMITH, JR.	5447 MARCIA AVENUE	NEW ORLEANS	LA 70124	ALBERT	LA TANG
084	MR. ROBERT ALLEN ALFORD	11988 FOREST OAK COURT	BATON ROUGE	LA 70815	WENDELL	
085	MISS EVA FRANCES ALFORD	6851 ROSWELL ROAD	ATLANTA	GA 30328	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
086	MRS. OMER S. ALFORD	374 E. PACES FERRY RD 110	ATLANTA	GA 30305	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
087	MR. J. M. KINABREW, JR.	6178 GENERAL HAIG STREET	NEW ORLEANS	LA 70124	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
088	MR. W. JOSEPH ALFORD, JR.	309 BEECHMOUNT DRIVE	HAMPTON	VA 23669	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
089	MR. W. BILL MC CAIN	P. O. BOX 13320	ALEXANDRIA	LA 71315-3320	FORT	B 1792< GA / NC
090	MR. STANLEY H. JORDAN	100 OLDE OAK DRIVE	JONESBORO	GA 30236	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
091	MRS. FRANK M. SALAMONE	111 VERNON STREET	BELLE CHASSE	LA 70037	JAMES	B 17880418 CT
092	MR. R. D. FEATHERSTONE	67 HOLMES ROAD	RIDGEFIELD	CT 06877	MARY	B 1820ca IRELAND
093	MRS. JANET F. BAUGH	10422 LANDSBURY COURT	BATON ROUGE	LA 70809	EDWARD	B 1687ca VA NEWK
094	MRS. LUCY SHULL STEVENS	803 ROXBORO ROAD	ROCKVILLE	MD 20850	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
095	MRS. FRANCES S. CALLAWAY	1410 DOYAL DRIVE	MORRISTOWN	TN 37814	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
096	MRS. BETTY BUTTS	4104 BLUEFISH	PASCAGOULA	MS 39567	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
097	MRS. ELEANOR P. ALFORD	2499 E. MADDOX ROAD	BUFORD	GA 30518	WILLIAM H.	B 1811ca NC
098	MR. M. THEO WESLEY	BOX 786, 209 S. BROADWAY	NATCHEZ	MS 39120	JAMES	B 1687ca VA NEWK
099	MR. CLIFFORD ALFORD	100 PAR AVENUE	BORGER	TX 79007	ANTHONY	B MS