

## Virginia Research Project

Gil Alford has prepared a tabulation of the Alford ancestors of the 1987 members of AAFA, which appears on the back page of this issue. Counting both lines for those who have two Alford ancestral lines, there are 49 different ancestral lines on the chart. Almost half of these terminate with James Alford, who was born about 1687, probably in New Kent County, Virginia.

At the suggestion of one of the members and because of the number of members with Alford lines terminating in Virginia, AAFA sought donations from members and others to finance research in that state by a professional genealogist. The Association received \$816 in 1987 for that purpose.

A careful effort was made to select a genealogist who would produce the desired results. Approximately 25 genealogists were contacted; only about six were interested in doing the research. The qualifications of these

were reviewed by a committee consisting of those who contributed \$50 or more to the fund. Tabulation of



the results of these reviews lead to the selection of Mrs. June W. Johnson of Fairfax, Virginia, on June 30, 1987.

Mrs. Johnson was directed to concentrate in southeastern Virginia around New Kent County for the period up to 1750, about the time that many of the Alford's moved from there to North Carolina.

During the balance of the year, AAFA paid her \$200 in two \$100 increments. The data provided by her research was much less than expected, and it was the recommendation of the officers of the Association that we no longer employ Mrs. Johnson.

The leadership for the Virginia

research was passed to Nancy Dietrich, the AAFA Genealogist-Historian, from Gil Alford in January, 1988. June Johnson's services were terminated in February of this year. Copies of all the information received from Mrs. Johnson may be obtained from Nancy Dietrich.

It is expected that the selection of another researcher to continue the work in Virginia will be made later this year. There are about seven other lines that terminate there; however, they are not in the same part of the state and they are for a later period. This would suggest that the 1988 research work in Virginia be expanded to cover other periods and other parts of the state.

It is to be noted that there has been no compilation of data for the later period such as the one published by Gil Alford in the January 1987 issue of *About Alford's*. It is also unlikely he would be able to prepare such a compilation in time for work in 1988.