

## *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!

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