

The Third Annual AAFA Meeting

The meeting in Raleigh was the best yet. There were about the same number of attendees as there were in Houston, but there was a larger percentage of officers, workers, and others more involved with genealogical research present in Raleigh.

Jean Wilson, AAFA North Carolina State Representative, welcomed the membership to Raleigh and turned the meeting over to President Lodwick H. Alford, Captain USN Retired.

Captain Alford recognized various groups and persons present. Vice President Weston Adams, attending his first meeting, was introduced and commented on the family badge and foundation possibilities.

Julius Alford, Treasurer, had been "at sea" for the past several weeks, so Gil



Some of our North Carolina hosts: Back, l. to r.—Bill Mitchiner (AAFA Genealogist) from Raleigh, Susan Herring from Elizabeth City, William Dallas Alford from Durham, Bob Williams from Raleigh; Front, l. to r.—Katy Pridgin Alford from Elm City, Joyce Pierce from Wilmington, Waldo Stone, Susan Herring's mother, from Elizabeth City, and Jean Wilson (AAFA NC State Representative) from Durham.

Alford presented the financial report in Julius' behalf.

Bill Mitchiner, AAFA Genealogist, James Sorrell of the NC Archives, and Edythe Tippet, all of the Raleigh area, made welcoming comments and related some of their experience in Alford research.

Reports and/or short presentations were made by Nancy Dietrich, Librarian; Pamela Thompson, Publications Director; Alicia Houston, AAFA Census project officer; Francine Rees, AAFA Wills and Estates project



Nancy Alford Dietrich, AAFA Librarian from Westport, WA, traveled the furthest to the meeting. Weston Adams, AAFA Vice President from Columbia, SC, is Nancy's distant cousin.



Bill Mitchiner, AAFA Member #10 and our Association Genealogist, lives in Raleigh in part so he can be near the North Carolina State Archives!

officer; Lucy Stevens, AAFA DAR project officer; and Jack Kinabrew on a project he has underway on Louisiana Cemeteries.

The Board of Directors announced the establishment of an AAFA four part awards program. Members may receive cash awards or other items by (1) enlisting new members (2) submitting Alford family group records (3) submitting biographical sketches and (4) submitting articles for the quarterly. [See article on p. 58 in this issue.]

Gil Alford presented information on the various Alford branches related to AAFA members during the Alford Family Forum on Saturday and Sunday. Interesting presentations were made by Christie Alford Baldwin and

Elizabeth Hazlip from Hazlehurst, MS, Liz Williams from Greenville, MS, Marian Houk from Falls Church, VA, and Julius Alford, AAFA Treasurer and uncle of Marian, from McComb, MS—all descendant of James Alford, born circa 1687 in VA.



Louise Fuller on Saturday evening. Many members contributed to a worthwhile discussion during the presentation by Christie and Gil. Louise Fuller's presentation at dinner on Saturday evening was a history of "ole Lodwick" in verse, which you can look forward to reading in the next issue!

Significant matters of business covered in the Raleigh meeting were as follows:

Changes to Constitution

The Articles of Incorporation (constitution) and bylaws were changed to make the abbreviation "AAFA" official; re-

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Our leaders, Gilbert Alford, Jr., AAFA Executive Director from Florissant, Missouri, and Captain Lodwick Alford, AAFA President from Sea Island, Georgia.



Descendants of Hollis Victor and Ethel (McMillan) Alford of Mississippi: Back, l. to r.—Jay and his mother Jan (Jones) Gattis from Colonial Heights, VA; Mike Wilson and his parents Jean (Jones) & Chuck Wilson from Durham, NC; Victor Alford and his fiancée Denise Renton from Altamonte Sprints, FL; Front, l. to r.—Harold Alford and his wife Jo (Lewis) Alford, parents of Victor, from Longwood, FL; Dorothy "Dottie" (Alford) Jones and her husband Leon Jones, parents of Jan Gattis and Jean Wilson, from Colonial Heights, VA. Harold and Dottie are children of Hollis Victor and Ethel Alford.



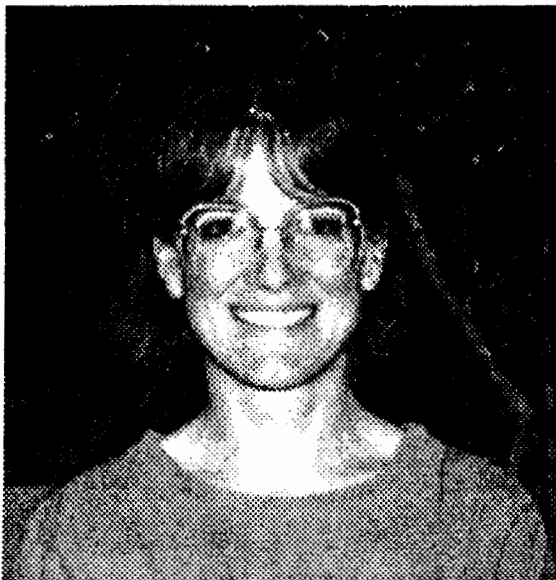
The buffet dinner on Saturday night gave everyone an opportunity to socialize with old and new friends and catch up on news with cousins we don't see very often.



C. Wylie Alford from Denver, CO, his wife Charlotte Alford, and Edythe Tippett from Zebulon, NC.



Gil Alford, AAFA Executive Director, his daughter Mary (Alford) Tedder from Lewisville, TX, and his wife Mary. Gil spent many hours preparing material for the presentations at our 3rd Annual Meeting, and all attendees will no doubt agree that his efforts were definitely worthwhile.



Juanita Alford from Jacksonville, FL, sister-in-law of AAFA President Lodwick Alford, and Beatrice (Alford) Parramore from Valdosta, GA, Lodwick's sister.

Pamela (Alford) Thompson, AAFA Publications Editor from Mountain View, CA.



One of our informative slide-show presentations.

Waldo Stone from Elizabeth City, NC, Tom and Jean Shearin from Wake Forest, NC, James Sorrell from Cary, NC, and Susan Herring, Waldo's daughter, from Elizabeth City. James Sorrell works at the NC Archives and gave a talk encouraging us to visit this great resource.

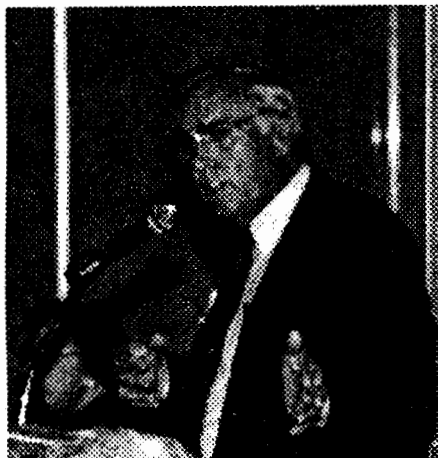


Left: Louisiana attendees: Jack and Eileen Kinabrew from New Orleans and Sally and Dick Stoewer from Baton Rouge. At the meeting, Jack presented the work he's been doing on Louisiana cemeteries at the meeting, which will soon be published in AAFA ACTION. Also attending from LA were Mary Schulz Alford from Cut Off, LA, and her daughter Jill Alford.

Below: Bess Hubbard from Fuquay-Varina, NC, and Barbara Miller Gillis from Fayetteville, NC, both descended from Jacob and Mary (Pace) Alford.



Left: Christie Baldwin, AAFA Member #6, from Oklahoma City, OK, who gave an extremely interesting talk on "Ole Lodwick" at our after-dinner session, and Louise Fuller from Rocky Mount, NC, who read us her amazing "story in verse" on the same Lodwick at dinner.



Jim Alford of Houston, TX, brought his portable computer to the meeting—and used it to check his research files. Jim has written several articles for AAFA ACTION, including "What's in a Name?"



Harold Alford from Longwood, FL, entertained us with some Southern stories and tall ancestor tales at the dinner Saturday night.



Below: Spouses of Alford—Bob Stevens from Rockville, MD, husband of Lucy Shull Stevens; Bill Dietrich from Westport, WA, husband of Nancy Dietrich; and Edward Vorman from Great Barrington, MA, husband of Joyce (Alford) Vorman.



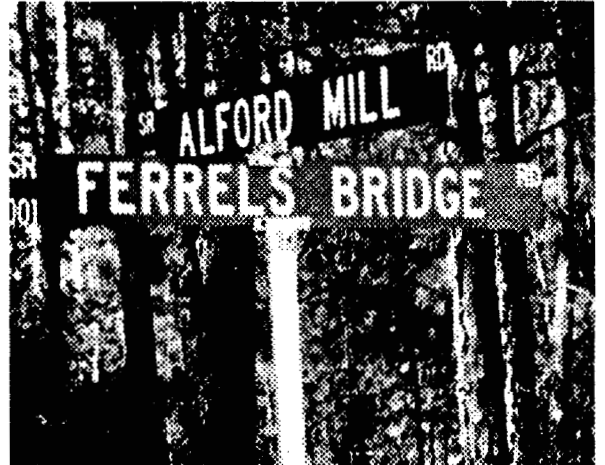
Gil and Mary Alford brought a car full of books and research materials from Florissant—something for everyone!



Daniel and Alicia Houston from Monroeville, PA. Alicia is AAFA Member #1 and our Census Project Officer.



The microfiche reader that Gil brought was put to good use by members searching old records. On Sunday there was time for small group meetings, "family forums," and other research activities.



Can you believe the wonderful street sign Jim Alford from Houston and Pam Thompson found while driving around the Raleigh area?



A quartet of happy AAFA members: Pat Fite, Texas Secretary, Camille Crouse from Matthews, NC, Lucille Mehrkam, Texas Genealogist, and Lucy Shull Stevens, AAFA DAR Project Officer.



M.E. "Mike" and Eva Alford from Portsmouth, VA. Mike is AAFA Member #4!



John Alford, Jr., from Austin, TX, Landon Alford, AAFA Member #2, Bess Rayford, and Landon's wife Phyllis Alford, all from Henderson, TX.



Georgia attendees: Charles J. Alford from Buford and Elisabeth McLane from Valdosta. Also attending from GA were our president, from Sea Island, and his sister, Beatrice Parramore from Valdosta.

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worded to emphasize historical rather than genealogical purpose; expanded to include many spelling variations; and changed to limit elected officers to President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Genealogist, Librarian, Historian, Legal Advisor, Publications Editor and various assistants and project officers will be appointed. Term of office for the elected officers will be three years instead of one. Appointments of others will be indefinite. The provision for written ballots and proxy votes was eliminated. The Board of Directors may be expanded by the Board itself.

Future Meetings

The 1991 meeting will be in Jackson, MS, the week-end of October 11-13 (see article on this page).

The 1992 meeting will be in Florida at a place to be announced on the same weekend of October.

A query was sent to all Louisiana members to get their reaction on a meeting in Louisiana in 1993. Their reaction was favorable, and the association was "invited" to meet in Louisiana in 1993. The place will be announced later, but the time will be the same October weekend.

AAFA Hall of Fame

At the dinner Saturday evening Captain Lodwick Alford announced the establishment of the AAFA Hall of Fame and proceeded to induct as the first member Tressie Bowman, who used to publish the *Alford Family Bulletin*. Her daughter, Lucy Shull Stevens, accepted in her behalf. Also inducted were Pamela Alford Thompson, AAFA Publications Director, and Gilbert K. Alford, Jr., AAFA Executive Director.

1991 Meeting in Jackson, MS

Plans and work are continuing for our next meeting. Tentative arrangements call for a meeting from October 11-13 (may be extended) at the Holiday Inn, Medical Center, in Jackson, Mississippi. Rates are expected to be \$44/\$50 for single/double accommodations.

At the meeting in Raleigh a number of people commented that we ought to add an additional day for members to socialize and visit. The meeting is filled with wall-to-wall events from Friday evening through Sunday noon, leaving little time to just chat. In Raleigh a number of members arrived on Thursday or before, and some stayed on beyond Sunday. We need to hear your feelings on this suggestion. Do you want the period extended? If so would you have it begin on Friday morning or continue



through Monday? You may indicate your choice on the registration form.

Early Registration Is Important

Use the form included with this issue to register now for the meeting and submit at once with your check for \$25. The registration fee for spouses/guests is \$20.

It is important to the Association that you register as early as possible. A significant deposit will probably be required at the time we sign a contract with the

Holiday Inn. We hope that the deposit and all other expenses of the meeting can be paid from the registration fees rather than using regular funds from the treasury.

NC Alford's 1790-1850

For the meeting in Raleigh, Gil Alford prepared a wonderful series of North Carolina maps showing the Alford heads of household in each county and the number of male Alford's in those households. (In some cases we have been able to determine the names of these children. In many cases we have not.) These maps graphically illustrate the concentrations and movements of Alford's from 1790 to 1850 in the state where so many of our ancestors lived.

Gil then studied and reviewed the 1850 and later censuses of North Carolina and many other states, identifying male Alford's who were born in North Carolina from 1790-1850. This information was summarized and was shown on a list naming those North Carolina-born Alford's who resided in other states in 1850.

Most of these Alford's have not been

connected to those unidentified Alford's of the period 1790-1840. Many of these are "unconnected" ancestors of AAFA members.

The meeting attendees saw these color-coded maps and charts projected on the large screen and heard Gil's explanations and commentary—but even without those benefits, your editor thought that anyone with North Carolina Alford ancestors would appreciate this map series. Therefore it is being printed in this issue for those who didn't attend the meeting as well as for those who did and wished they could get copies!

In working with this material, keep in mind that errors exist in the census data, and census records from some counties in some years has been lost. Copies of the charts used follow.