

Destin Attendees Say Thanks

After the Annual Meeting in Destin, FL, AAFA received many wonderful notes congratulating us on a successful meeting and thanking us for our efforts. Everyone who worked to make it a success needs to hear these expressions of appreciation and enthusiasm. Your recognition of the value of the meeting sustains us through the coming twelve months of preparation for 1993's meeting!



It's about time we write to thank you for the wonderful Destin adventure. We loved that beach! And the company and workshop were grand. Again, we appreciate all the hard work put into these events on our behalf. *Jean & Chet Brown AAFA #142*



View of our hotel from water—the Gulf of Mexico.



To sum up the reunion in one word, it was:
SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIXOCIOUS

It just can't get any better!!!! Marian and I are already making plans for next year. If you start the meeting a day early for a workshop, we will be there.

Don, Marian, and I were up past midnight on Saturday night trying to put some pieces of our puzzle together. I should say that Don and Marian were working on the "puzzle" while I was going over the print-outs you sent Don. I did find a Robert, and his father, Robert, that match the time frame. I woke up at 5:15 Sunday morning wondering where Robert's grandfather was located.



Conferring on Saturday morning are AAFA President Benjamin F. Alford, Jr. from Wyomissing, PA, who is also the Pennsylvania State Rep, and Gil Alford, Executive Director from Florissant, MO, wearing his AAFA shirt.



Enclosed are a few photos taken at Destin. We sure had fun. Enjoyed being with all the ALFORDS. *Joe & Jeanne Alford AAFA #88*



Norma and I enjoyed the Annual Meeting in Destin, and the opportunity to meet you and a number of the other Alford. Appreciate all the good efforts of many in the Association. *Lanny Alford AAFA #516*



We were delighted to meet Paul Alford. He offered to help us "track" William H. Alford and also to get the first page of that document that Don showed you.

Again, thanks for a GREAT meeting and GREAT time. I don't think I will ever get used to being around so many Alfords. *Mary Alford Helms AAFA #407*

[This points out the importance of folks working individually on research at home and then working with cousins as a team at the meetings, using the many additional resources provided by AAFA.]



Above: Under the umbrellas on the deck during the Friday reception are Dean (Mrs. John Alford) Echols, AAFA #365 from Macclesfield, NC, and Ray Alford, AAFA Vice President from Kilmarnock, VA.



Jean and Paul Warren Alford, AAFA #455 from Decatur, Alabama, who has accepted the job of AAFA Alabama State Representative.



Above: Vesta Alford Giddings, AAFA #233 from Baytown, TX, who had just won the door prize on Saturday morning for being the most senior member present.



Left: Enjoying the Saturday night dinner are, L to R, Beatrice Alford Parramore, AAFA #158 from Valdosta, GA, her brother Chairman of the Board Lodwick "Wick" Alford from Sea Island, GA, and Wick's daughter Andrea Alford Fantacci, AAFA #319 from Zachary, LA.



Standing to be inducted into the Alford Hall of Fame by Lodwick Alford are Roberta Alford Folds and her husband Milton, AAFA #49 from Atlanta, GA.



Elisabeth McLane, AAFA #76 from Valdosta, GA, won the award for recruiting the most new members!



Boy, did I hate missing the Saturday afternoon meeting in Destin [for some personal reasons]. The meeting was great—well organized, and the displays were great. The young man who did the presentation on photographs was excellent [Victor Alford, AAFA #225]—his display also. I think this should be presented at all of the meetings, as I'm sure there are new folks each time. [Editor's note: Since I missed this year's meeting and plan to attend next year, I agree!]

The reports given during the business meeting were very informative. Wow, did Elizabeth Hazlip [AAFA #358] do a good job with publicity. She must be suffering from the "sore finger."



At lunch: Facing the camera is Julius M. "Pooley" Alford, AAFA #13 and Mississippi State V.P. from McComb, MS. To his left is Evelyn Z. Mistich, AAFA #481 from Belle Chasse, LA. Also at the table are Evelyn's aunt and uncle, non-members Melba and Herbert Wise from Metairie, LA.



The crowd at the Saturday morning session.

This having been my first meeting, I found the displays attractive and inviting.

I have heard from Alicia since the meeting. In fact the very day I had intended to correspond with her, I received a letter, etc. from her. . . . She has really tackled a big job. Alicia will need all the Alford and Alford connections to help her. This census resource will be invaluable to those doing Alford research. Good luck to her.

I have also heard from your cuz, Sally. She sent me some data I wanted (on another line)! I love her first name! But I can see why she uses Sally, ha! *Mildred Richbourg, AAFA #542 Florida.* [See—it pays to attend the meetings. Our state representative for Louisiana, Sally Stoeber's first name is EUPHAMIE. She doesn't care which we call her, but most of us stick with "Sally." You'll hear a lot from her before next October.]



Marian Alford Hodges, AAFA #307, and Mary Alford Helms, AAFA #407, first cousins from Little Rock, share the job as AAFA Arkansas State Representatives. We called them "M&M" at the meeting.



Victor H. Alford, AAFA #225 from Altamonte Springs, FL, prepared an exhibit of old photographs and equipment the meeting and gave a presentation on the subject. Vic, the son of Board Member H. Harold Alford, is a professional photographer although he earns his living in another field.



Left: Seated at the dinner are Mrs. Annie Alford, her son Daniel Alford and his wife Karen, AAFA #522 from Chattahoochee, FL, and their daughter Danella Alford.

Below: John and Janice Smith, AAFA #152 from Plano, TX, enjoying their dinner on Saturday night.



Just wanted to let you know how much George and I enjoyed the meeting in Destin last weekend. We learned a lot and enjoyed the meetings and looking through all the books and information. We met lots of nice people and it was especially nice meeting you (Gil) after writing you all these years—Lodwick too.
Jean M. Holzapfel AAFA #121



I just wanted to write a short note about the ALFORD reunion that was held in Destin, FL. It was a great time and a real chance to meet other ALFORDs from around the country. This was my first meeting, and it was very informative. It would be great to see a lot of other ALFORDs there next year. I think the charts that we saw were great, seeing where you fit in with others. *William M. "Butch" Alford, Sr. AAFA #135 (He wrote to Gil on Prodigy Computer Service)*



I was just reading a note about next year's Alford Reunion and wanted to pass on what a very interesting and informative weekend it was. Any of you Alford's out there who don't belong to AAFA sure ought to think about joining. Or come next year to St. Francisville, LA, and see for yourself. This was my first, but I sure plan on making more of them, if the Good Lord is willing and the creeks don't rise.
Evelyn Z. Mistich, AAFA #481 (on Prodigy) ❖



On the deck enjoying the refreshing night air during the Friday night reception are Wanda and Bob Sterling, AAFA # 320 from Owens Cross Roads, AL, and Ruth McNinch, AAFA 368 from Carrollton, GA.