

Membership

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The total number of member families now belonging to the Alford American Family Association is 1,396 with members in the U.S., Canada, England, Spain, and Australia. The Association has completed its 25th year of existence having taken its first breath of life in January of 1987. Gosh, that seems a long time ago but when I think about it, it seems like only yesterday that I attended my first meeting in 1991 in Jackson, Mississippi.

We have come a long way since then. Unfortunately, it appears we now must take a step backward. If you read the "President's Corner," you know that the Board has decided to cease publication of the quarterly. This was not an easy decision to make. The Board of Directors, however, felt that there was no other course of action available.

As you know, the bulk of the dues went toward paying for the quarterly. Since the quarterly will no longer be, the Board decided to do away with the dues. Henceforth, new members will pay a one-time registration fee of \$5.00. Any member whose current dues expire with an issue number greater than 98 will have two options available to them. The first option is to receive a refund for each quarterly paid for beyond issue 98. Although the exact amount of the refund has not

been voted on by the Board, it appears the refund will be somewhere in the \$5.00 per quarterly range. In other words, if your dues were paid up through issue #101 of the quarterly, a refund of \$15.00 would be due.

The second option (and the one we hope you will give serious consideration) is to simply donate any refund due to the Association. Even though there will be no more dues as such and the expenses incurred by the Association will be greatly reduced, there will still be some expenses such as paying for the hosting of the AAFA web site (www.alfordassociation.org). The donations would be a great help in the transition to the new "no-dues" format.

Of course, all this would be unnecessary if only someone would volunteer to become editor of the quarterly. That would be the best solution of all. If you are looking for something to help you pass the time, this would be a great project. You would have all kinds of help until you were comfortable in the position of editor. If you think you might be the answer to our prayers, contact us at alford_staff@alfordassociation.org (there is an "_" between the alford and the staff). We will fill you in on all the details of the job.

Until next time!