



AAFA ACTION

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The President's Corner

Max Ray Alford, President, AAFA #0230

The 25th year of the Alford American Family Association is over and it exited very quietly. Year 26 began in a rather tumultuous way. In early January, the Association was faced with a copyright infringement ordeal. If you subscribe to the AAFA OnLine Newsletter, you are familiar with the material that usually fills the last few lines of the newsletter. In 2003, a poem was given to the editor of the newsletter. There was no mention of an author of the piece so it was naturally assumed that the piece was by an anonymous author. No one caught the error until the newsletter was posted on the AAFA website in 2009. The matter was finally settled after much correspondence with the author's company and much discussion between members of the Board.

Another item that has created much discussion among members of the Board is the AAFA Action quarterly. In the beginning, Pam Thompson was the editor of the quarterly. She served for many years in that capacity. When she decided that she would rather branch out and work in another area, a committee edited the quarterly for a short while. The publishing of the quarterly fell behind schedule for one reason or another. Finally, Jim and Sue Adams came to our rescue and agreed to be co-editors of the quarterly. They got the quarterly back on schedule and for ten years or so, did a magnificent job. But after ten years, Jim and Sue decided it was time to let someone else have a go at it. For the last year or so, we have been looking for a volunteer to take over as editor. In the meantime a committee has been serving again as interim editor. Most of those on the committee have more important AAFA work to do.

We have been searching for an editor for two or so years. A few have come forward but for one reason or another was never able to fully assume the role of editor. In lieu of our failure to find a replacement editor, the Board of Directors, after almost 25 years of publishing a quarterly, has decided to cease publication of the AAFA ACTION Quarterly. As plans now stand, issue #98 will be the last published quarterly. Over the last few years, the number of members who pay dues have dwindled so much so that today only 257 out of 1,396 members pay dues and receive the quarterly.

It is something that we wish we didn't have to do but we see no other alternative. Unless, of course, someone would care to step forward and volunteer to become the editor. It is not a time consuming (night and day) job. If you think you might be interested, please send a message to alford_staff@alfordassociation.org (there is an "_" between alford and staff). You would have a chance to become an AAFA hero, rushing in and saving the quarterly and earning the gratitude of the dues-paying members of the Association.

I cannot emphasize enough that time is running out as there are only three issues left after this one. Any super heroes left out there?

Please see the Membership Report for additional information concerning this topic.