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AUG. 9 1984

Mrs. Christine Alford Baldwin:

Dear Potential ALFORD cousin:

We have been told that you are interested in Alford family history and genealogy. If we have any information that you can use we would like to share it with you. We also would be most interested in receiving any Alford information that you might have.

We became interested in our families histories in the summer of 1982. As we began to contact persons whose name and address we received from the "Roots" file of THE GENEALOGICAL HELPER magazine we found many who had a wealth of Alford information. They were very anxious to share their information with us and others with a Alford connection.

We learned very early in our effort that we are descendants of the Alford's who came to Virginia in the 1600's. Some say they came by way of Boston, MA in the very early 1600's and others say they came from England directly to Virginia. The earliest ancestor in which we have reasonable confidence of accuracy is James born around 1680. His son, our ancestor was Julius born 1717. Julius had a brother Lodwick who had three wives and over 20 children. Our line from Julius is through Jacob born 1761, John Seaborn, twin to Seaborn John, born in 1807 in Louisiana, and Jephtha M., my grandfather. Our effort has NOT been restricted to our own line.

As we began to collect the information we saw a need for our little used home computer. Since that beginning we have accumulated data on thousands of Alford's and loaded it into several computer files. While it is neither practical nor economical to offer you our entire Alford file, we can offer you the bits and pieces that you might need. We will do that without charge in exchange for whatever information you are able to give us. From time to time we may publish an extensive segment of our computer file in which case we will ask those who are interested to reimburse us for the cost of preparing it.

We had not been corresponding with our Alford contacts long until we found that we could not maintain communications with only the occasional letters. We began a little newsletter with just a few pages which we distributed to each of our contacts on a free basis. The number of our contacts grew and so did the number of pages needed to send out Alford information. We are now printing, quarterly 24-26 pages and printing 150 copies. We could not undertake that cost alone. Those who wish to receive the newsletter now pay an annual subscription fee. In 1983, \$10.00; and effective January 1984, \$12.00. Increased coverage will compensate for the increased price. If you are interested in the newsletter please make your check payable to "Gilbert K. Alford." Back issues are available and if you are interested ask, and we will provide additional information. If you would like just a single issue on a trial basis, we will send the latest issue for \$3.00.

Enough of that, we didn't contact you to sell the newsletter. On the reverse side of this sheet is a blank pedigree worksheet. We would appreciate it very much if you would complete as much of it as you can, particularly for your Alford line. (If you already have a pedigree chart a copy of it will do just fine) If you choose to start the worksheet with your most recent Alford ancestor in position number 1, rather than putting yourself there, please annotate the form to show your relationship with that person. If you cannot get all of your Alford ancestry on the sheet we would appreciate it if you would continue that line on a blank page.

If you have family group sheets on your Alford's we certainly want a copy. If you do not have sheets prepared, but would be willing to fill out the forms, tell us and we will send you some blanks.

If you know of any others who are interested in their Alford ancestry, we would appreciate it if you would tell them about us. Better yet, just give us their name and address and we will send them an inquiry similar to this one. We thank you very much for your kind attention to this request and have enclosed a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your convenience in responding. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

RECEIVED  
MAIL ROOM  
AUG 14 1984  
*Mary*

Sincerely,  
*Gil*  
Mary & Gil Alford

Enclosure: Stamped, self-addressed envelope

(HBS) DAG

*Need more information  
Bachly Alford  
Have his children's names only*

*will have to do that later*

*it might help you*