After I retired and began to delve into our family history I had the impression that my cousin Thelma Smith Uhlman was probably the best place to start.

For about the past quarter century she had, apparent to me at least, been doing more about family heritage and history than anyone else. I had attended one of our annual family reunions about 20 years before. I probably met Pat Brock Smith at that reunion but I honestly don't remember.

I wrote to Thelma and a copy of her response is included elsewhere on this page of letters. She passed me to Pat Brock Smith and what a blessing that was.

Within a week I had a "letter" from Pat as seen on the left of these notes. Pat never let the absence of stationery get in the way of corresponding. The "note" on the left was written on 3 ½ strips that she had obviously cut from something else. She, and her husband Fay, ran a store in Progress, MS. Once I got a "letter" she had written on a brown paper bag. Perhaps it will be added to this collection later.

The page numbers are mine, and please forgive the holes punched in the paper so that it could be saved.

On her 2nd page she mentions Mrs. Duncan Murphy who was Pearl Steveanna Alford a first cousin once removed who I never met. I don't have the enclosure that Pat sent handy but I am familiar with the document because AAFA member E. Russ Williams, who was a professor of history an NE La University in those days, had used it in a book he published. When I questioned him on he said it was the result of research she had done to get her in The Colonial Dames. It contained several mistakes especially as pertains to Julius H. Alford b. 1819 in MS of St. Helena Parish who was NOT the son of our

Jacob Alford. His Julius or "our" Julius was b. 1797 in GA and was of Natchitoches and Sabine Parish.

The Anne Alford who she mentions is a member of AAFA and has attended at least one meeting. Her father, the late Dr. Charles Alford is also a member and I have visited with him in person in Hammond.

By the way. My family always called me G. K. or G. K. Jr. (or worse) and I never really cared for it. After getting into genealogy and finding out what a problem initials could be I liked it even less. In the army and my civilian work I was usually just known as "Alford" or "Al." So don't you call me G.K. My wife still gets away with it.

quien to me last meel by a anne afford whose father Dr. charles aford of Hommond ta. a descendant of need from afaid. are trying to prove that Muchan was also son of Jacoh, a may be ly first wife. I do not believe the Edwin alforethis is my kushands ancestar was son of Elizabeth, all other information ... show that he was ken

Howhie Backsdalo Seakorn. Hus m whole mane was Backsdale of hove been to his grave and the date of with & death are corrector Rama as in her material dim porcy that my weitting is so had. and worse since Im try ing to get this & Bin Today, mail will wit more dater. Patricia Brook Smin

S.K. mary you a copy of will by pulies about mext week I also hove 128 pages af a book weitherly Hugh Edwin aford very good, Information