

803 Roxboro Road
Rockville, Maryland 20850
September 20, 1984

Dear Gil:

Since Mother is hospitalized at present and worried because she owed you a letter, I shall attempt to answer her concerns and your questions outlined in yours of Aug. 11, 1984. I am also enclosing a xerox of the letter I preciously mailed to all the family and really meant to send you one, but didn't have your address with me down in the country. It is a bit lengthy and personal, but it does give the details of Mother's problems.

We have been running back and forth between here and our place down in Va. gardening, canning, etc. and when we returned on Monday of this week, I thought I'd have a day to rest up (HA!) catch up on the laundry, etc. I called and told Mother I was home and would see her later in the day. Thirty minutes later she called me back and said the doctor's office had called for her to come on in immediately, that they would operate the next morning (Tuesday, rather than Wed.). Well of course, I buzzed a bit but left poor Bob to finish the laundry and took off to get her in.

The surgeon came out and spoke with me immediately after they finished and said it was malignant, but did not seem to have spread further, although they couldn't tell for sure, however, she will need either radiation or chemotherapy. This upset me because I have seen so much chemo and the horrible sickness one experiences and I thought to myself, why should Mother have to endure this at age 85? Well, yesterday I went to the weekly clinic at NIH and talked with one of my docotors there for whom I have great respect, and asked him what he thought after describing what the surgeon had told me. He thought radiation would be best, plus the fact that it would not rule out the use of Chemo later on if necessary. However, it will be the decision of both the surgeon and her family doctor and will probably not be started until she is all healed up. Last night she had a little heart flare-up, so they have ordered an EKG today. Running back and forth to the hospital daily is quite tiring, but I am surviving!

About the dates for Jacob Alford you mentionned in your 8/16 letter. I have the stuff from Marie Greer, but unfortunately, I had been rearrangin things in the "genealogical junk room" as my husband calls it, because I put in some new book shelves, etc to take care of the books and quarterlies I get now, so I can't exactly lay my hands on anything. In fact, I sometimes think if my hands weren't attached to the ends of my arms, I would be unable to find them. I shall search though and try to find the information she sent, and send it on to you. I am doubtful that she had any definite source for her statement, but when I check I'll find out. I have wondered what happened to all of her material. I am sorry I didn't try to contact her brother or sister when I was in La. last fall.

One of the papers I subscribe to is a weekly publication called THE SABINE INDEX. I have taken it off and on for several years, then drop it awhile, but there are many ALFORD descendants living in that area today. Hardly an issue goes out that doesn't have one or more Alford's named therein. I'll try and collect some and send them to you.

On the second page of your letter re the pedigrees on ALVORD, she has a note written beside that para. Note 1, pedigree chart mine, also used Alford/Alvord. You can maybe figure that one out, I can't.

She had approx. 40+ subscribers to her AFB. If I can get it xeroxed today, I will enclose a new subscriber for you and some information sent by a Mr. Robert S. Barrows, another prospective subscriber. I am also going to send your name in to the INDEX as

the publisher of the current ALL ABOUT ALFORDS, which has replaced the ALFORD FAMILY BULLETIN. I don't suppose you would mind a little "free" advertising. There is a Genealogical column in the INDEX, but it seems to lack material, and since I have a lot of material on the Sabine Parish area, I just may type it up and spark them to publishing some of it, along with a query or two. Some of these Southern country people (and I claim them as mine, because if I still lived there, I might be as small and narrow-minded as some of them are today) get my goat!

I gave a program on Genealogical Research before I DAR Chapter this month, and it was well received. Of course, there again some of the old ladies could care less about doing any research, just as long as someone prepared their papers to get into the DAR, but other young ones showed great interest, and of course, I am the type ~~who gets wound up in it and never know when to stop.~~ NUT I do love it so, just wish I could pick up and go to other areas to do research on my family. SOMEDAY/SOMEWHERE/SOMETIME!

Well, I guess I have rattled on long enough. Surely your patience will be strained after reading this epistle. Do keep Mother in you thoughts and prayers and I'll try to keep you informed.

Oh I see a folder that looks like some of the Greer stuff. I'll hold this up and search a bit for it.

Your umpteenth cousin,

Lucy
Lucy