

ABOUT ALFORDS

PUBLISHED OCCASIONALLY
FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN ALFORD GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

By Mary and G. K. Alford, Jr.
1403 Kingsford Drive Florissant, MO 63031

Number 1

November 1, 1982

YOU ASKED FOR IT

The positive and enthusiastic response to our proposal to make some attempt to establish a genealogical exchange or network on ALFORD has prompted this initial journalistic effort.

Notice in the section above that we say it will be published occasionally. The dictionary says that means "occurring from time to time." To us that means when we have something that may be of interest to you, when we feel like it, and when we can afford it. We will number the issues consecutively so all of us can keep up with them. We will date each publication as of the date we plan to take it to the post office.

CENTRAL SURNAME INDEX

Several have written asking if we could tell them of someone else working on their surnames other than ALFORD. Although we know many of your ancestral surnames, we do not know what you are researching. We think it would be helpful to all ALFS if we maintained a central surname index. We will publish a surname list from time to time and you can ask for the names and addresses of those working on surnames as you wish.

One person suggested that we also include dates, spouses, children, and places of origin. If you wish you may send some additional information along. Our file can accommodate up to 100 characters (letters, numbers and the spaces between) for this additional data. There is ample room over and above this for the surname and your name and address.

Send us the surnames you are working on. There is no charge for this service.

ALFORD EXCHANGE

The heart of our operation is the computer data base of Alford Genealogical Information. It along with this newsletter will be the vehicle used in the ALFORD EXCHANGE. Each issue after this one will include a list of Alford's for which our ALFS need information. We will depend on you to give us the names of the Alford's you want to know more about. We would expect you to give us birth, marriage, death, and place information to the extent that you have it to assist others in helping you. Information submitted as part of this effort will also be loaded in our basic data file.

We will use the data file in attempts to answer your query and we will create queries from gaps that we have in the data file.

Although we are telling you we want all and everything you have on ALFORD, you need to be more specific when you ask for ALFORD information. It is just not practical, and surely not economical, for us to give you all we have. You should restrict your requests for information to those areas where you have a genuine interest. If you are involved with all ALFORDS as we are and you sincerely want all we have, then we will have to negotiate something wherein you will share most of the expense involved in providing such information.

DATA FILE IS NOT COMPLETELY LOADED

You would think, from the comments elsewhere on this page, that the data was all loaded and just waiting for your questions. Unfortunately that is not the case. We have received an enormous amount of data and it is going to take time to sort it all out and get it loaded. We are trying to keep up with what we have so that we can use it whether it is in the computer or not. If we continue to collect information at the rate we have over the past several months, it will take months or years to ever get the file complete. Don't let this comment discourage your asking for information or your sending us information. We want all that everyone has on Alford, and we encourage any and all questions that you may have.

DEDICATION

This Newsletter is dedicated to my father, Gilbert K. Alford, Sr., who will be celebrating his 81st birthday this month. His moral support, when it was needed as we embarked on the family history idea, has meant a great deal to us. As this Newsletter is winding it's way to you through the mails he is scheduled for some tests, and possibly surgery in Baton Rouge, LA. Our prayers and best wishes go out to him.

WHATS MY LINE?

Several of you have asked about my lineage. I have provided some of you with some kind of an answer either in narrative or chart form. The best answer right now is "I don't know." Until I started hearing from you and doing research on my own, I thought I had a handle on my lineage.

Shown below is the original idea of my lineage. In 1955 Mrs. Duncan Murphey (nee Pearl ALFORD) of Oakdale, La., had the ALFORD line accepted in the Colonial Dames of the XVIII Century. Although she was a second cousin, once removed, I do not know the lady.

The family sketch from which this was taken runs some eleven pages and was published in *SOURCE RECORDS FROM PIKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI* by Luke Ward Conerly and E. Russ Williams, Jr; 1978, Easley SC, Southern Historical Press.

There are several "holes" in this lineage, but I will not mention them here and now. They will be the basis for some analysis in future issues (see *Lodwick* on next page. We would appreciate any comments or questions that you may have on this lineage however.

VA WILLIAM ALFORD

VA JOHN ALFORD, SR. & FRANCES

VANC LODWICK ALFORD & ALICE

NCLA JACOB ALFORD (b 1761) & FRANKIE SEABORN

LA JOHN SEABORN ALFORD & MARGARET BRUMFIELD

LA JEPHTHA M. ALFORD & LAURA WARNER

LA GILBERT K. ALFORD, SR. & INEZ NEWSON

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

We are doing this entirely for you. Most of you have been at genealogy longer than we have. We solicit your suggestions and ideas as to what we might do to enhance the ALFORD research capability.

*** CAVEAT! CAVEAT! ***

We need to get several things straight up front.

1. We do not profess to be amateur genealogists, much less professional or experienced genealogists.

2. We have no journalistic experience, training or ability. We are not beginning this to satisfy any journalistic cravings, but rather as a vehicle to communicate with you, and for you to communicate with each other.

3. We do not consider ourselves to be accomplished writers so don't look for any literary gems in our pages. We didn't flunk English in school, but then again we didn't get any scholarships on it either.

4. We are not independently wealthy or operating from some funded foundation. We are doing this entirely on our retirement pension. So, if it sometimes looks like we are being skippy, you will know the reason why.

5. Notwithstanding the comments in 4 above, we do not want to charge for any of our services and have no plans for any profit making operation. What we do is entirely free, however if you want to send postage stamps occasionally to offset printing and mailing costs it would be appreciated. (It costs just about a dime to print and mail a sheet of information) We will be grateful for what ever you send and we won't cut you off for not sending stamps.

6. You can expect us to make some mistakes. We will do our best to prevent them and we apologize now for those we make. If you will bring them to our attention, we will include corrections in a subsequent issue.

The accuracy of the information that we publish is only as good as our source. We make no special effort to authenticate or validate data that has been sent to us. To the extent possible we will always cite the source and you can take it for what it is worth.

7. Speaking of sources....We will not knowingly reprint information from a copyrighted source, unless we have permission. If you should send us copies or extracts of copyrighted material, please bring it to our attention so that we will not violate the copyright.

QUICKLY
PROVED
WRONG!

YOU ARE AN ALF

We have been looking for a broad generic term that would describe all of us who have some interest in ALFORD genealogy and family history. We have used terms like "correspondent", "contact" and "those with whom we correspond" in our letters, but they are awkward and we really don't like to use them regularly. We can't just say "Alfords" for about two thirds of those involved are not named Alford. We think ALF is as good as anything else, so by our definition you are an ALF. When you see that word in our newsletter or correspondence you will know it means those who have some historical/genealogical interest in the ALFORD surname. If you have any better ideas for a name we would be glad to hear about them.

A LOOK AT LODOWICK [LODWICK]

From the relatively little that I have learned about ALFORDS in the short time we have been involved with family history and genealogy, I have concluded that one of our most confusing and controversial ancestral given names is LODOWICK or LODWICK.

In a future issue we would like to do a feature called A LOOK AT LODOWICK in which we would present all the data that is available to us on this name. We already have several pages and several views, but there must be much more.

If you have data and information on Lodowick/Lodwick, or if you have some opinions or conclusions from what you have studied, or if you have any questions about LODWICK, please send it along to us. The thoroughness of our LOOK will depend on how much we have to present to you.

To make our publication plans you ought to have your information to us by the end of December.

DO YOU HAVE A JOHN?

It seems that one of the most prevalent first names for ALFORDS is JOHN. Two of the seven progenitors in my line were Johns. In reviewing the data all of you have sent and that we have collected otherwise, we find that we have some record, many very brief, on over 250 John Alfords. We intend to publish a table of all of them in a future issue. If you think you may have one that we do not have, send us the following information on him and we will include it. Use the following form if you wish, or just send any of the appropriate data on plain paper. Submit as many as you wish, but remember that we have taken them from data you have previously sent us. Unless you say otherwise we will consider that all of the entries are JOHN ALFORD therefore we are not asking for first and last names:

To make our publication plans you ought to have your information to us by the end of this month (November).

JOHN ALFORD

Middle Name:

Spouse's Name:

Date Born:

Where Born:

Date Married:

Where Married:

Date Died:

Where Buried:

(Cemetery Name and County & State)

County & State: (Use for resided, will,
or for location of any other events)

Parents:

Source:

PEDIGREE POTPOURRI

In letters to some of you we mentioned the possibility of printing your letters and distributing them to the other Alf's. That has proved to be too involved and expensive. As an alternative we are going to print extracts of your letters in this column in each issue.

The comments in italics are ours. In some cases they may even serve as the answer to your letter..

There is no system or order to how we select extracts. We are showing the source of most of the comments. If you should have something that can help the source contact them direct or provide us with the information. If direct contact is made, we would appreciate a copy of what ever is provided for our file. We also need to know when the column satisfies a need to help in our evaluation of the column.

1-1 My line as I know it starts with Islam Alford in AL. This family came to Shelby Co., TX before 1860. Since I am not sure just what info you want I will just send a brief sketch. I will be happy to share what I have and would love to hear from anyone who can give me more information. My info comes from census records, cemetery records, pension applications and death notices. I also have some info on other Alford families from the same area but do not know how the different families tie in. *We want anything and everything that anyone and everyone has on Alford's..* Islam Alford born about 1815 in GA. Wife Anna ____, born about 1825. Six children including ALLEN JOSIAH ALFORD born Feb 2, 1844 in AL (St. Clair Co???) Died Jul 23, 1923, married Nancy A. Land (?) born Aug 24 1851, died Sep 4, 1926. Pvt. 11 Texas Infantry CSA. Eight children including Bertha Mae Alford born in Texas, Died June 4 1956. Married Eugene Anderson Doggett born Jan 19 1874, died Oct 5 1914. Six known children including Gary Sidney Doggett who was Gloria's grandfather. Also have a line on the Richard Alford family from St. Clair AL. to Shelby Co. TX. *by Mrs. Larry L. (Gloria) Clark.*

1-2 I have done a lot of research on my branch of the Alford "tree", and have a good bit of information. I have information back to the first Alford who came to America in 1634, and of each generation pertaining to my particular line to the present. A brief summary of the line: John Alford II, John Alford III, William Alford, Benjamin Alford, Wm Zion Alford, Lodwick Alford Sr, Lodwick Alford, Jr, Bailey Alford, Isaac W. Alford, Robert Newton Alford, Bobby Joe Alford, Roy Bob Alford, Bobby Pace Alford. *by Bobby Alford.*

1-3 I have a copy of our family record which I will mail to you next week when I get some stamps. I would like for you to return this copy. The old copy was worn so bad scotch tape had to be put on to hold the chart together and the tape has turned dark so the names can't be seen under the tape. Starts with Lodwick Alford Franklin Co. NC and ends with N. T. Alford who married Dian McCullum in 1867 and resided in Rowland NC. Lists 10 children of N. T.. *She also sent about seven pages of handwritten data which will be typed and loaded into computer. by Miss Reva McGoogan.*

1-4 I am interested in exchanging info. What I have received from the various sources I have written up into a chapter for my book, soon to be published..... Are we talking about the same Alfords? *Yes, I think so, see my line on page 2 Her line starts the same as Bobby's in 1-2 above but after Bailey Alford goes: Chirena Alford, Carson Andrews, Orlando C. Andrews. by Elizabeth A. Duncan.*

PEDIGREE POTPOURRI

Continued from previous page.

1-5 I am very excited about your letter. When you start your newsletter please let me know because I would enjoy an Alford Newsletter. I guess you already know that there was a "Alford Family Bulletin" put out by Mrs. Lewis Bowman from Maryland. She had to let it go because of health reasons. I think there is a need for a Alford Newsletter. Well here it is, your first newsletter. Yes we knew about Mrs Bowman and her AFB (See summary elsewhere in this newsletter). She is 83 years young and just could not keep the pace necessary to publish the bulletin. My husband's father was O. C. Alford born in Anderson Co. TX in 1915. Grandfather was James Edward Alford born in Sabine Co. TX in 1881. Sr Grandfather was Redin Alford born in AL or GA in 1859. Sr Sr Grandfather was Richard Alford born in AL or GA. by Mrs Shirley Alford.

1-6 Sorry I haven't answered more promptly, because I am interested in what you are doing. Have been out doing research on other "branches" of the family tree. Am sending my husband's chart, and as you can see, I haven't been too successful in finding his ancestors. As far as I know, I'm the only one working on this line of Alford's. Her husband's line is George W. Alford born ca 1825 GA, Towns Alford born ca 1848 Troup Co. GA died ca 1893 Yalobusha Co. MS, George Towns Alford born Sep 19, 1888 Coffeetown, MS, died Oct 16, 1962 in KS, Martin George Alford, her husband. by Mrs. Martin (Delores) Alford.

1-7 I was delighted to receive your letter and learn of your willingness to help us amateur genealogists. I frankly can't afford much in the way of research and I'm sure there are others who have the same problem. Yours is absolutely the only response I have received from my "Roots" listings so I am doubly glad for your letter and your willingness to help.

1-8 I have completed the pedigree chart to the best of my ability and have also enclosed a copy of another one I had previously filled in because it carries the lineage back a little further. Summarized it looks like this: Little B. (Berry) Alford born 1811 in NC, Thomas Alford, born 1840 in AL, Ellen Ethaline Alford born Aug 8, 1882 either West Point MS or Starkville MS, William Samuel Herring born Jan 27 1911 Hardeman Co. TX, Ranelle Herring Foster. She sent about 50 pages of data. by Ranelle Foster.

1-9 Am enclosing a "job" of data for you to wade thru - have fun!! I just haven't had time to ferret it all out and you may get further info from the ones who wrote to me. When you get thru with the papers, I would like to have them back as I have not recorded the info elsewhere - so I trust you, OK? Now my Alford's: She starts with the William, Benedictine, and Alexander Alford's who came from London to Boston in 1635 then thru William, Benjamin, James, Capt James, Wm Sion, Wm Sion Jr, William, Sarah Minerva Alford, Alphonso M. Ledbetter, Emma Jane Ledbetter, Myra Ozier Hunt. She did send a job which we copied and returned. by Myra O. Hunt.

1-10 You'll notice from my chart (front and back) I believe I'm back to Jones Alford, possibly Lemuel Alford. If you come across any info on them I would deeply appreciate it! Her line is: Lemuel Alford born 1760/70 married Franklin Co. NC Sep 21 1790, Jones Alford born about 1807 in NC, Tristram Burgess Alford born about 1833 in NC, Mary Dixie Alford Plunk born Mar 7 1867 in AR, Eula Dixie Plunk Sinks born Dec 20 1895, Douglas Wright Sinks born Mar 11 1917 in Johnsville AR and Joy Ann Sinks Laney. This young lady sent 27 pages of single space typing (the originals not copies) that she prepared just for me and it sure was appreciated. by Joy Laney.

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Continued from previous page.

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ALFORD FAMILY BULLETIN

Several of you have written about the *ALFORD FAMILY BULLETIN* published by Mrs. Lewis Bowman. She advised me earlier this year that "Due to circumstances beyond my control, one being my age (83) I ceased publishing the Bulletin with issue number 12, Fall 1979" She had been ill and undergone surgery at least once during the time she published the Bulletin.

She also advised that scattered issues were available at \$4.50 per issue and that all past issues were reprinted as an entire file which is available for \$40.00.

Her address is 4400 East West Highway #1121, Bethesda MD 20814.

In a phone discussion with Grady Alford last month it was decided that an index or summary of the Bulletins might be useful to those of you who are not familiar with them. The following is a very brief index of the twelve issues. To do the bulletins justice we would need more pages than is contained in this newsletter.

ISSUE DATE	PAGES	BRIEF SUMMARY
1 JULY 70	15	Assorted Census and Soundex Data, Pension Data and a preliminary sketch of the Jacob Alford Family
2 DEC 70	15	1880 AL Soundex; Assorted data from GA, LA & MI
3 JUL 71	15	1880 GA Soundex; 1810 CT Census, Assorted records from MD, KY, MS, NC & Others
4 DEC 71	15	Early Alford's & Alvord's; Assorted Census data; Family charts submitted by Mrs Jesse T. Price; updated Family sketch of Jacob Alford
5 JUL 76		First half of Manuscript <i>IN SEARCH OF NY ALFORD ANCESTORS</i> by Hugh Edwin Alford
6 DEC 76		Last half of above cited manuscript.
7 APR 77	17	1880 LA Soundex; Continuation of Mrs Price's family charts from issue 4; TX Census
8 DEC 77	22	1880 MS, TN Soundex; assorted records KY, MS, NJ, NC & others
9 SPRING 78	19	1880 SC, VA, KY, IN Soundex; Index to deeds; Alford's listed in Index of Hall of Records - Annapolis MD
10 FALL 78	12	1880 NC Soundex
11 SPRING 79	16	Early Alford Immigrants to America; Cemetery Records from LA, TX & MS; Assorted records and references to letters; Index TX Confederate pension applications; assorted records; TX deaths 1903-1940
12 FALL 79	7	TX deaths 1903-1940 continued from last issue; Early Alford's in United States.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

We want to keep you constantly aware of what information we have so that you will not waste money for copies and postage. Listed below are the few items that we currently have. We will add to this as appropriate in each future issue. We will also include information on census data we have in the next issue.

Hugh Edwin Alford, *IN SEARCH OF MY ALFORD ANCESTORS* (We have what appears to be a manuscript copy from Progress Community Library, Route 2, McComb MS. It was written ca 1972. We do not know if it was ever actually published or if it is copyrighted. It was reprinted in the *ALFORD FAMILY BULLETIN* volume's 5 & 6 in July 1976 and December 1976. If you know anything about the publication or copyright of this item we would like to hear from you.)

John Bennett Boddie, *HISTORICAL SOUTHERN FAMILIES*,

VOL I We have page 266
VOL XII We have pages 55-64, 196-197
VOL XIV We have pages 192-193

Mrs. Lewis O. Bowman, Editor *ALFORD FAMILY BULLETIN*, Maryland, 1970-1979. (We have all 12 issues)

Luke Ward Conerly & E. Russ Williams, Jr., *RESOURCE RECORDS OF PIKE/WALTHALL COUNTIES MISSISSIPPI, 1798-1910*, Easley SC, 1978, Southern Historical Press

William Curry Harbee *KINFOLKS* 1935

We have section 2 of Vol 2 - FULMORE SECTION - concerning Antecedents and Descendants of ANDREW AND AGNES (CADE) FULMORE and Their Collateral Relatives, pages 1436-1475

Sellers, *A HISTORY OF MARION COUNTY SC*, 1902

We have pages 282-285

ALF DIRECTORY

From time to time we will publish a list of all the ALF's, unless they request that we not publish their name. Each issue will contain names that should be added to the previous directory, ie, new ALF's added during the period since the last newsletter.

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