

ALMY

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

No. 1

January 1975

Cousins all ! This is the inaugural issue of what I hope will be a long and fruitful series of newsletters concerning the lives (past and present) of Almy descendants. I don't know how frequently the newsletter will be published, but eventually I would hope it would be at least quarterly. I have not retired as yet and will probably work one to three years more.

SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

I would appreciate any ideas you may have concerning the name, format and content of this publication. Some of my ideas are included in this first issue, but I will welcome any suggestions in this regard. This is my first effort at anything of this nature and I know I have a lot to learn and can use any help others may wish to give me.

ALMY FAMILY TREE

Here is a brief account of my activities so far in contacting Almy descendants. I started looking up the names and addresses of Almys in phone books at the public library and sending out my letters of inquiry. Originally I thought there would be no more than 100 listings of Almy families.

I sent out my first letter in September and by the end of December I had sent out 296 letters. I know there are more Almys because I don't have copies of all phone books and many Almys have unlisted phones. Of the letters sent, 30 have been returned by the postal service, 127 replies have been received, and 139 who received inquiries (with a stamped and addressed return envelope enclosed) failed to reply.

To facilitate recording and filing replies, I sorted them into 4 groups based on the Almy ancestry (the immigrant William¹ had descendants through 2 sons -- Christopher² and Job²). The 4 groups and number of replies were:

Descendants through Christopher ²	20
Descendants through Job ²	29
Unknown ancestry, but through N.Y. State	34
Unknown ancestry, other	44
	<u>127</u>

I am in the process of charting the information received and sending out second letters for additional information for my charts and to tie in and complete the replier's line back to the immigrant. I have been able to complete a number of Almy family lines for our cousins. Some that replied indicated they were going to furnish detailed information as soon as they could get to it. I'm anxiously waiting for this information. In succeeding newsletters I will furnish more information about the Almy Family Tree.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

One of the replies was from an Almy in New Jersey. He said that his father came to America from Sweden and changed his name from Ahlstrom to Almy. He said he knew his father picked a good name and he wished me luck in compiling the Almy Family Tree.

ABOUT MERWIN F. ALMY

A number have asked and I know more are interested in knowing who I am. My Almy line of descent is: William¹, Job², Job³, Job⁴, Holder⁵, Christopher⁶, Joseph⁷, Christopher⁸, Irwin⁹, Arthur¹⁰, Merwin¹¹. I was born in Lakewood, Ohio on July 13, 1920, the son of Arthur Cook and Emma (Holman) Almy. My father, who was born July 21, 1873 in N. Smithfield, R.I. is living with my wife and I. Although approaching 102, he is alert and likes to read and watch TV, keeping up with current events and sports, especially baseball. My mother died last March at 94. I married Veda Myers in 1943 and we have a son Thomas, age 26, who is an electronics engineer and designs computers for Tektronics, Inc. in Beaverton, Oregon. I received a BSc degree in accounting from Ohio State University and I now am an audit manager for the U. S. General Accounting Office, the congressional watchdog agency, in Washington, D. C. I have over 30 years Government service, including military in WWII and the Korean emergency. I am a reserve Lt. Col. in the Air Force.

ALMY ACTIVITIES

I would like to have a section in the newsletter where Almy descendants can tell about their interesting activities or hobbies. Also, the experiences that many of you have had in searching for genealogical information.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Send me any questions you might have about Almy genealogy or genealogy in general. I'll include the question and my answer in the newsletter or else invite answers from your cousins.

PUBLICATION COSTS

When I first started on this venture I thought the number involved would be rather small and therefore the costs minimal. However, I find that more than I anticipated are interested in Almy family genealogy and the costs for duplicating and postage mount up.

One reply included \$5 to help defray the costs of my effort. This contribution was greatly appreciated. I would like to continue on the same basis of using voluntary contributions to help defray costs. However, most family associations I know of have annual dues of \$2 or \$3 for this purpose. Your comments in this regard will be appreciated.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Be sure to let me know of changes in address.

Although a little late, I want to wish each and every one of you a happy and prosperous 1975.

Your cousin,

Merwin