

HISTORY

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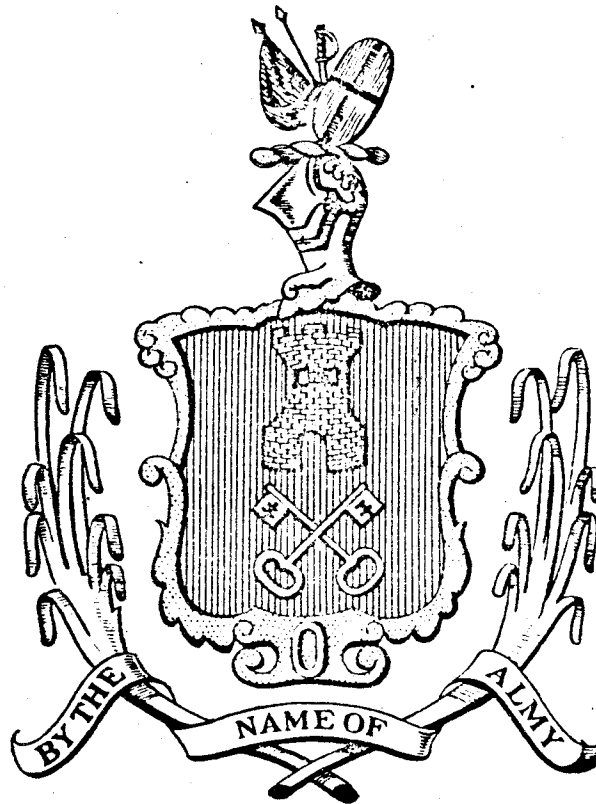
GENEALOGY

ALMY

FAMILY NEWS

FAMILY

NEWSLETTER



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No. 7

JULY 1976

VISIT BY TIMOTHY ALMY (1407-2511-223)

In April, Timothy Almy of Athens, Georgia, his wife Patricia, and their two children Timothy and Christine stopped by our home for a visit. We had a very delightful time going over the Almy charts and talking about Almy family history. I had information about his ancestors that he had not seen or heard about.

We enjoy visiting with our Almy cousins. As my wife has said (she is less prejudiced than I), she has not met an Almy yet she didn't like.

AN ARTICLE FOR FISHERMEN

One day at the office one of my co-workers asked me if I was related to the Almy that wrote a recent article on fishing. I found from further discussion that Gerald Almy (ancestry unknown at present) of Arlington, Virginia had written an article in the March 1976 issue of the Virginia Wildlife magazine titled "Fishing for Rock Bass."

You fishermen may want to read what your cousin has written about this interesting sport in Virginia. I don't know how wide a distribution this magazine has but I would think the larger public libraries would have it.

MERWIN & VEDA ALMY OF SPRINGFIELD, VA. (1408-3311-112)

We have been very busy since the last Newsletter. In May we went on a two weeks tour of England with the Pilgrim John Howland Society. We spent a couple of days in London covering the usual sightseeing spots. This year in Greenwich, near London, they have a "1776 Exposition" which portrays the Revolution from the British viewpoint as well as the American. On the tour we went as far North as York and then down to the Southwest along the Devon and Cornwall coasts. We visited Boston, Cambridge, Lincoln, Gainsborough, Coventry, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Bath, Plymouth, Exeter, Salisbury, Stonehenge, Southampton, Winchester, and many others. We even went within a few miles of Dunton-Basset, the birthplace of William Almy, the immigrant to America. Being on a tour I could not travel to see it. Next visit to England my wife and I plan to rent a car and spend some time there in that area.

Each evening when we stopped I looked for Almy or Almey in the phone books. When in Exeter I called an Almy in the town of Torquay about 25 miles away. Although we didn't have time to see each other, we talked awhile. He was interested in Almy genealogy and I mailed him a set of the Almy Newsletters that I had brought with me. Then in Salisbury I called another Almy. He wasn't home but I talked with his wife. She said her husband would be very sorry that he had missed me as he is interested in Almy genealogy. She said that I should call his brother when we got back to London.

When we got back to London I called the brother -- Norman Almy who lives in Weybridge -- and arranged to visit with him and his wife. So on the next afternoon, Veda and I took the underground (subway) to Waterloo Station and took the train to Weybridge which is about a 30 minute pleasant ride southwest from London. We had a very enjoyable afternoon and evening visiting with Norman and his wife Olive. We talked about Almy genealogy as well as such other subjects as the financial state of the British pound. Now we are looking forward to our next opportunity to see them.

We were very disappointed in not being able to visit with Mr. and Mrs. James Almey of Derby, whom we met on our 1970 trip to England. Because our evening stops were not near Derby we just didn't have the time available in our schedule to arrange a meeting. We plan to get together with them on our next trip to England when we will have time to visit the people and places we most want to see.

Then on June 15-17, Veda and I had another unique experience. We attended a three day Dalton Reunion (one of Veda's ancestral lines) in Charlottesville, Virginia. There were about 20 Dalton researchers there from all over the United States. We had workshops during the day and interesting speakers on genealogical subjects in the evening. During the reunion I thought of how lucky we Almys are in determining our ancestral lines. Only one Dalton knew his ancestry back past the immigrant. Further, there must be about 20 Dalton immigrants, but the researchers have been unable to connect their lines to any of them. There has been only one Almy immigrant identified and I believe that it is possible to tie all Almys together in one family tree back to the immigrant; and of course, that immigrant's ancestors are known back to the year 1500.

JOSEPH ALMY (1822-1901) OF MARIN COUNTY CALIFORNIA IDENTIFIED

Miss Azalea Almy of Oakland, California sent the following newspaper notice about her grandfather;

"January 17, 1901 -- Judge Joseph Almy, one of the first American settlers to Marin County, died in his home in San Rafael, Monday, January 14, aged 78 years, 3 months and 23 days. A summary of his life: Born at Tiverton, Rhode Island 1822, went to sea at sixteen and sailed for eight years; kept hotel at Lahaina, Maui, Hawaiian Island, three years; visited his home in 1847; in 1849 formed company and purchased bark Mallory, taking cargo of lumber to California which sold for \$250 per thousand feet; opened public house, New England Home on Jackson Street; house destroyed by fire; spent few months in Bolinas and then went to mines for two years, returned to Bolinas and was elected Justice of Peace in 1852 serving for eight years; built and launched schooner H. C. Almy in 1855 and made regular trips until 1864 when he sold his interest and went East; returning to Marin County he was appointed Judge of Marin County February 1867 and held office until January 1880 when new constitution was adopted and office abolished. His widow, Lucinda Miller Almy survives him as do five children, Thomas, Hattie, Amanda, Nellie and Charles."

Azalea did not know who Judge Almy's parents were, and I could find no record of his birth in Tiverton, R.I. Then one day in looking at a reference to the Almy family in the Biographical Record of Bristol County, Mass. I found the following written about Thomas Almy (No. 1239-2126): "failing health caused him to seek recuperation in California, where he arrived in 1882 and died on May 7 at residence of his brother Judge Joseph Almy of San Rafael."

Another ancestry puzzle is solved. This is the Joseph of unknown ancestry listed in the last Newsletter.

COMMENTS ON MY NUMBERING SYSTEM

Miss Millié Almy (no Almy No. yet) of California sent me the notes on Almy families compiled by her first cousin. He had identified many years ago two or three hundred descendants of William Almy. What was interesting to me was that he used the same numbering system I use and most of the numbers were identical to mine. Differences were due to later information available to me that was not available when he did his work.

Gerald Almy (1407-1C74-2) of Illinois wrote:

"I have enjoyed the Almy Newsletter very much. One of the pleasures is to read news and comments of rather near relatives -- second cousins and closer (whose numbers in your excellent system begin 1407-1C7, which identifies Horace Manchester Almy)."

JOHN ALMY, THE SECOND ALMY IMMIGRANT

In response to my initial questionnaire, Paul Almy of Illinois sent me the following write-up (source not given) about his Almy ancestry.

"One John Almy, wild and uncontrollable, the son of a member of the House of Lords, England, had an appointment obtained by his father for the crown and became governor of Manhattan. He also had some connection with Block Island.

"John Almy married Phebe Thomas, daughter of a Governor of Rhode Island; (Alexander Thomas by name, who had five brothers that served in the Continental Army.)

"Christopher Almy was the son of John & Phebe and his son John was the father of Alexander Almy who had a brother Thomas and sisters Sarah and Rhoda." The write-up followed with information on the descendants of these two brothers who lived in Schoharie County, New York.

I did a lot of research looking for this Alexander Thomas whose daughter married John Almy, the immigrant. Books on Governors and genealogies on Thomas families failed to disclose any information that remotely resembled the above story. Then I read again an Almy genealogy book on a William Almy in Schoharie County, N.Y. This book stated that William had a half brother Christopher that married a Rhoda Thomas and that this Christopher had a son John who settled in Middleburgh, Schoharie County, N.Y., "where in September 1924 we met his grandsons Alonzo and Ellsworth."

The above William and Christopher's father was John Almy (b. 1732) who married first Mary Wanton and second Sarah Sherman. Not only does the John-Christopher-John sequence tie in, as well as the geographic location, but the later John having grandsons Alonzo and Ellsworth ties in with the descendants information that Paul Almy sent. The confusion on the Thomas maiden names of the wives is understandable when information is recorded from memory covering an extended period of time. The above also ties in with information contained in the U.S. censuses. As I had the half brother William Almy on my charts, the above tie-in clearly indicates that this John Almy was a descendant of the immigrant William Almy.

So, the above John Almy is not a second Almy immigrant to America. However, the above tie-in of information solves one of the ancestry problems. Over 150 names will be added to my charts and four Almy correspondents will get Almy Nos. as soon as I can assemble all the related data.

CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

|                      |       |               |
|----------------------|-------|---------------|
| Mrs. Raymond Johnson | Ariz. | 1408-3822-11  |
| Miss Azalea Almy     | Cal.  | 1239-2127-61  |
| Mr. Timothy Almy     | Ga.   | 1407-2511-223 |
| Mr. Gerald Almy      | Ill.  | 1407-1C74-2   |
| Mr. Adrian Almy      | N.M.  | Unknown       |
| Mrs. Irvin Danielson | N.Y.  | Unknown       |
| Mrs. Lindley Kent    | N.Y.  | 1233-5147-234 |
| Mr. Glenn F. Almy    | Ohio  | Unknown       |
| Mrs. Harold J. Quick | Ariz. | 1252-7555-731 |

I thank all of the above for their help in defraying my expenses of printing and mailing the Newsletter.

STEPHEN ALMY OF STONE MTN., GA. (1252-7941-211)

Steve, did I tell you that I now have your ancestry figured out? I don't know whether I wrote you about it as I think I was busy getting ready for my England trip when I came across the information that tied your great-great-grandfather Gideon into my charts. Gideon Almy (b. 1806) was the son of a Cranston and Elizabeth, not the son of a Samuel as you suspected.

FUTURE ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER

This Newsletter does not contain many of the articles that I originally planned for it. I have been very busy and have not been able to do the research for the items that I wanted to write. Subjects such as Almy coat-of-arms, towns named Almy, and businesses with the name Almy, will have to wait till future issues.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let me know when your address changes.

The last Newsletter I sent to Miss Elizabeth Almy in New York City was returned by the Postal Service and I do not have a new address for her. I would appreciate her father, Robert L. Almy, sending me her new address.

I have been asked to include my address at the end of the Newsletter for the convenience of those wishing to write.

Your cousin,



Merwin F. Almy  
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Springfield, Va. 22151