

MERWIN AND VEDA ALMY TRAVEL TO OREGON

Veda and I just recently returned from a quick 4½ week car trip to our new (to us) house in Tualatin, Oregon. Veda attended a conference in Kansas City and we decided we would continue on to the West coast and fix up the house for our upcoming move. I worked 15 straight days, applying 8 gallons of paint to interior walls, washing woodwork, laying vinyl tile in a bath, kitchen, and laundry room. Our son and daughter-in-law, Tom and Joan, who live directly across the street helped tremendously. Tom prepared the floor, laid tile, put in plumbing and light fixtures, and advised us on the places to purchase needed new items.

We arrived home in time for me to get this Newsletter in the mail on time. I looked forward to this issue, telling of the 1988 Almy Family Reunion. However, I was saddened, when among the mountain of mail awaiting my return, was news of the deaths of six Almy Family members. A number of these were planning to attend the Reunion -- I hope those who were planning to come with them will still come. I have every reason to expect this to be the best Almy Reunion ever, but I am saddened that our departed cousins will not be with us.

LAWRENCE ATHERTON THURSTON (1408-3833-22)

Lawrence A. Thurston, 77, of Portsmouth, RI, died 16 January 1988 at Newport Hospital, Newport, RI. Lawrence was born 27 September 1910 in Portsmouth, son of Edward W. Thurston and Gertrude Almy. He was a potato farmer and owner of the Thurston Farms on East Main Road in Portsmouth. I visited with Lawrence at his residence in Portsmouth a few years ago and obtained the genealogical information that he knew on the Almys in his line. Lawrence leaves no immediate survivors.

ALISON RUTH ALMY KENWORTHY (1407-1C74-32)

Alison Kenworthy, 53, of Simsbury, CT, died 2 March 1988. Alison was born 22 November 1934 in Pottsville, PA, daughter of Ernest Grinnell Almy and Ruth Simmons Bobbitt. She married Robert James Kenworthy, Jr. on 13 October 1956 in Wilmington, DE. They had three children: Holly, Steven, and Pamela. This death is a shock to all of us who knew Alison.

I reported her father Grin's death in the last Newsletter, so this is a double shock to her mother Ruth and the rest of her family. Our prayers go out to each of them.

GEORGE LEONARD BURGESS (1232-4013-421)

George L. Burgess, 64, of Hemlock, NC, died 7 March 1988 at his home. George was born 20 February 1924 in New Bedford, MA, the son of William Bourgeois and Grace Almy. He married Annette Henry on 11 May 1946 in New Bedford and they had three children: Timothy, Thomas, and Sharlene. George attended the last Almy Family Reunion and was planning to attend again this year. He was dearly loved and was a favorite of all his relatives. He will leave a big void in all their lives.

1988 ALMY FAMILY REUNION

The 1988 Almy Family Reunion will be held on Saturday and Sunday, 20 and 21 August 1988 in Seekonk, MA, and Tiverton and Little Compton, RI. The Saturday activities will be at Eileen Darlings' Restaurant, 1105 Fall River Ave., Seekonk, MA 02771. This location is about 5 miles East of Providence, RI, and is the same location as the 1982, 1984, and 1986 Almy Family Reunions. The Sunday activities will be at the "Old Stone Church" in Tiverton, Country Harvest Restaurant in Little Compton, and the Chase-Cory House in Tiverton. Patricia Almy Forte has helped tremendously with the arrangements this year; she has planned all the Sunday activities.

This should be the best Reunion ever. We will have 3 Almeys from the United Kingdom attending. Fred and Joyce Almey from Cardiff, Wales, and Stephen Almey from Kings Lynn, Norfolk, England. The three of them will be Veda's and my house guests from 8 August until they return home on 1 September. Veda and I have visited Fred and Joyce in Cardiff in different years and I know the reunion attendees will enjoy talking with them. Stephen Almey is his 17 year old grandnephew who has many interests. He is the one I wrote about on page 4 of the January 1986 (No. 45) Newsletter who wanted Almy pen pals in the States.

Details of the arrangements and activities follow.

Motel Rooms - Following are the room rates for the three motels located in Seekonk. These are AAA motels operated by the Darling Family.

	<u>1 Person</u>	<u>2 Persons 1 Bed</u>	<u>2 Persons 2 Beds</u>
Town 'N Country Motel 1105 Fall River Ave. Seekonk, MA 02771 Phone (617) 336-8300	\$ 37.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 40.00
Esquire Motel Route 6, Seekonk, MA 02771 Phone (617) 336-9000	38.00	38.00	41.00
Ramada Inn 940 Fall River Ave. Seekonk, MA 02771 Phone (617) 336-7300	75.00	80.00	85.00

(Ramada Inn offers a discount for AARP and AAA - the rates being \$60.00, \$65.00, and \$70.00 respectively.)

The Town 'N Country Motel and Eileen Darling's Restaurant are adjacent to each other. I suggest early reservation to assure obtaining desired accommodations. Send your room request and payment for the first nights lodging direct to the motel. Mention that you are attending the Almy Family Reunion. Some suites and rooms for the handicapped are available at the Ramada Inn. The Esquire Motel is across the street from the Town 'N Country Motel and has a campground.

Saturday meetings - As presently planned, all our Saturday activities will be in the Runnin Board Room of Eileen Darling's Restaurant. Our meetings will start as soon as two people are gathered together shortly after breakfast. Our morning activity will consist of getting acquainted or reacquainted with cousins, "show and tell" of Almy history items, pictures of Almeys, scrap books, genealogical charts, and any other activities that attendees may think of or want to do. This type activity has been the most popular at the three previous reunions. So bring whatever you may have to share -- also questions about Almy history and genealogy you would like to discuss.

When you arrive at the meeting room on Saturday, please check in, pick up your name tag(s), and obtain other information about the reunion.

Saturday lunch - Nothing is planned for Saturday lunch. Everyone will be on their own, but at the last Reunion, about 25-30 of us ate together on one side of one of the dining rooms of the restaurant. Other eating establishments are also nearby.

Saturday afternoon - We will continue with our getting acquainted with cousins, and sharing of information. During this time I would also like to have the Biography Exchange papers put out on our tables. In this regard, I would like everyone (or each family) to bring a one page biography of any Almy (an ancestor, parent, etc.). It can be a personal account or based on research. (Biographical sketches from the Almy Family Newsletters should not be used.) Each person should bring 25 copies and we will exchange biographies. Those unable to make 25 copies may send the biography to me and I will make the copies and deliver them to the Reunion.

Saturday Dinner - 6:30 p.m. - We will have our own private dinner in our meeting room at approximately 6:30 p.m. There is a choice of three entrees. The meals include choice of potato and two vegetables served family style, chef's salad with French dressing, and choice of some delicious deserts. Please indicate on the registration form the number of meals of each entree.

Following dinner, the meeting will be open for all Almy cousins, and friends, to ask questions about or discuss Almy history and genealogy. I will also tell what I know about our English ancestry and the Almy/Almeys in England. At the prior Reunions we have had these informal discussion periods and they have been tremendously successful.

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a.m. - Church service at the historic First Baptist Old Stone Church, Stone Church Road, Tiverton, RI. This church is situated on land left to the church by Job Almy (No. 140) in his will. Following the service we will view memorabilia that honors the 300 year history of the church.

Sunday Buffet Brunch - 12:30 p.m. - A buffet brunch has been arranged for us at the Country Harvest Restaurant, 67 West Main Road, Little Compton, RI. The price is \$8.50 per person, which includes tax and gratuity. This price may seem expensive, but the food and service are excellent. The restaurant is on the former John Edwin Almy (1407-1C) farm and overlooks Almy Marsh. Be sure to include this on your registration form.

Sunday Self-Guided Tour and Almy Exhibit - 2:00 p.m. - At the Chase-Cory House, Headquarters of the Tiverton Historical Society, Main Road at Four Corners, Tiverton, RI. This self-guided tour will include a display of genealogical and historical information concerning the Almy Family. This will include the items left by Alice Bateman Almy to the Society.

Early arrivals - Those arriving on Friday afternoon or evening should look me up (I will be staying at the Town 'N Country Motel) or find other Almys at the motels. There will be informal get togethers for Friday dinner and evening socializing.

Registration - The registration fee will be \$5.00 per adult to cover costs such as name tags, coffee, reunion arrangements, and other incidentals. The last page of this newsletter mailing is the registration form. Please return this form to me as soon as you can. We need to know the number attending the two days to be sure we have adequate facilities, the meals desired so that the restaurants can be informed, and the name tag information so that they can be made up ahead of time. Please do not wait until the last minute as many plans have to be made. If you find on short notice that you can attend, but haven't made a reservation, come anyway; some kind of accomodation can always be made.

DAVID OLNEY ALMY (1235-5792-114) HONORED

Gordon M. Connelly (1222-3763-243) of Garrett Park, MD, sent me a copy of the scroll shown to the right.

The scroll was on legal size paper which I had to reduce to fit the space available in this Newsletter.

Gordon in his letter stated "I'm pleased to write to announce to you the honors paid by our town to our fellow citizen, David Olney Almy, successful architect and neighbor -- and my and your cousin. Enclosed is a copy of the original certificate embellished for Dave, and formally presented at a party in our local Town Hall on January 30, 1988. About 95% of the active citizens attended."

The scroll tells a lot about our cousin, David Olney Almy.

Whereas David Olney Almy has, during seventeen years of residence in the Town of Garrett Park, been an active and concerned citizen and rendered sterling service to the community; and, specifically,

Whereas the diligent research and painstaking scholarship, reflected in his descriptions of the varied styles of architecture in Garrett Park, played an important part, in 1974, in the Town's successful application for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (though subsequent events have, unfortunately, turned this national recognition into a local impediment);

Whereas his Presidency of the Garrett Park Citizens Association (1975 to 1980) demonstrated his impressive talent for leadership in community affairs, for planning sold-out Town suppers, for arranging interesting programs for poorly-attended monthly meetings, and, especially, for moving the Town Hall pews,

Whereas his service on the Garrett Park Town Council (1980 to 1984) was noteworthy for his forthright and intelligent approach to Town problems, for his vigorous and effective discharge of the responsibilities assigned to him, and, especially, for his rapport and unstinting cooperation with the Women's Club over the installation of the kitchen which they donated to the Town Hall,

Whereas, during his terms as Councilman, his dogged determination to deny, deflect and derail all suggestions for replacing the Town Hall's missing carpeting, in order to restore its once-excellent acoustics, effectively preserved the pristine visibility of the then newly-sanded, but stubbornly sound-reflecting, wooden floor,

Whereas he has consistently volunteered his artistic skills as a cartographer, poster artist and flyer designer for countless civic functions including the popular house and garden tours that are a happy legacy of the 1973 demisesquicentennial of the Town's incorporation;

Whereas he has devoted much time and energy to coaching sports for young people and is quick to help neighbors whenever he sees a need;

Whereas his unconventional Halloween celebrations have chilled the children, astonished the adults and titillated TV-news audiences thus further reinforcing Garrett Park's reputation as an unusual and distinctive community; and

Whereas his commendable decision to reside in Garrett Park has brought to the community the welcome bonus of his charming wife, Mary Kay, his beautiful daughters, Shannon and Brooke, and his delightful son, Will, each of whom further enhances the ambiance of the Town,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Garrett Park, the Garrett Park Citizens' Association and the Women's Club of Garrett Park do hereby publicly proclaim the community's gratitude and indebtedness to David Olney Almy for his past and continuing contributions to the well-being and jovial spirit of the Town.

This 30th day of January, 1988

William C. Prinz
William C. Prinz, Mayor
Town of Garrett Park

Steven Hillie
Steven Hillie, President
G. P. Citizens' Association

Barbara L. Shidler
Barbara L. Shidler, President
Women's Club of Garrett Park

NANCY V. COLLINS (1407-1C55-1XX)

Nancy V. Collins, 26, of Westport, MA, formerly of Tiverton, RI, died 7 January 1988 while waiting for a heart-lung transplant operation. She had waged a two-year struggle with a rare heart, lung disorder. I put an announcement of her needs in the Newsletter two years ago (page 4, No. 46, April 1986). Nancy is the granddaughter of Grace Almy Seabury, but I do not have the intervening genealogical information for a complete Almy number. Our sincerest sympathy is extended to her family and friends.

Note: "The Simmonsville Saga" will be concluded in the next Newsletter. I ran out of space in this issue.

GEORGE HARRIS NICHOLS (1233-5147-233W)

George H. Nichols, 88, of Charlottesville, VA, husband of Sylvia Almy Littlehales Nichols, died 15 February 1988 in Charlottesville. George was born 4 October 1899 in Greenwich, CT, son of Frederick Harris Nichols and Clarinda H. Myers. George and Sylvia were married 17 June 1929 in Syracuse, NY. They have a daughter, Mrs. Lucia Nichols Clarke of Charlottesville, and a son, Edward Myers Nichols of Riverside, CT. George also leaves six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. George was a graduate of Princeton University, Class of 1922, a member of Tower Club and Princeton University Alumni Association. He served in World War I. He was a member of the Virginia Society of Mayflower Descendants, and a former member of the Virginia Angus Association, Farmington Country Club and Thomas Jefferson Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was a chemical engineer with General Chemicals, treasurer of the Amersil Co., and sales engineer of Nichols Engineering and Research Co.

I have corresponded with the Nichols since early 1972. Both George and I descend from the Mayflower passenger, Richard Warren (his wife Sylvia and I are double cousins, descending from William Almy and John Howland, also a passenger on the Mayflower). Needless to say, George will be missed by his family and many friends.

ELMER OTIS ALMY (1232-1272-431)

Elmer O. Almy, 66, of St. Petersburg, FL, died 9 February 1988. Elmer was born 30 March 1921, the son of Elmer Ellsworth Almy and Emma Bernadette St. Arnold. Elmer married Eunice Louise Nichols on 25 April 1942 at McDill Air Force Base, Tampa, FL. They had four children. Elmer was buried on 11 February with full military honors. He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Following is a listing of those cousins who have sent in contributions, since the last issue of the Almy Family Newsletter, to help defray the costs of printing and mailing these Newsletters. This help is most appreciated. Many thanks to each of you.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Almy Number</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Mrs. Elmer O. Almy	1232-1272-431W	Florida
Iris M. Bachand	1232-4013-462	Rhode Island
Charles C. Almy	1233-3252-4111	North Carolina
Millie Almy	1233-4666-21	California
Marian Bower	1233-4668-123	California
Harold D. Almy	1233-4668-132	Washington
Robert L. Almy	1233-4671-12	New York
Sylvia Nichols	1233-5147-233	Virginia
Katherine Cheatum	1252-9134-1611	New Jersey
Cynthia Ann Almy	1252-9531-5131	Illinois
Mrs. E. Grinnell Almy	1407-1C74-3W	Delaware

Your cousin (1408-3312-112),

Merwin

Merwin F. Almy
7703 Elgar Street
Springfield, VA 22151

Have a Beautiful Spring!