

H A P P Y N E W Y E A R

Hope you all had a Happy and Joyous Christmas and that each of you will have a new year filled with joy, love, and peace.

This issue starts the seventh year of the Almy Family Newsletters. It also is the first issue on the larger size paper. This should give more space for Almy history, genealogy, and family news.

SERIES OF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES ON ALMYS

A few days ago I received a letter from one of our young cousins who wrote that she was doing a family biography on Christopher (12) Almy and would appreciate any information I had about him. As my reply to her would require research, I thought that I might as well start the series of articles on our Almy ancestors, mentioned in the last Newsletter, with Number 12, Christopher Almy. That article is on page three.

MORE ON ALMY, WYOMING

In the October, 1976 issue (No. 8) I wrote about Almy, Wyoming. Recently Mrs. Barton K. Yount (1233-5143-311), a descendant of Thomas Jefferson Almy, the founder of Almy, Wyoming, wrote me the following:

"I think I can throw some light on Almy, Wyoming, which exists on the map. My grandfather, T. J. Almy (Thomas Jefferson Almy), bought the land and ran mines on it quite successfully, but he had great trouble getting his ore as far as the Union Pacific. He tried to buy up land to complete a railroad. In doing so, he borrowed money from his brothers in New Bedford. After several years he was doomed to fail because the Union Pacific had bought up the land he needed. I believe that he was able to sell the mines for enough to clear his indebtedness. At no time had his wife, Mary Elizabeth Richards Almy, joined him at Almy. She remained in Salt Lake City. He had many ventures after that, none of them very successful. Among them was the purchase of salt flats outside of Salt Lake City, which succeeded as a duck shooting club for the local hunters but not as a business venture.

"In Newport, R.I., the family of Benjamin Rathbone Almy spent their summers. When he died, the house (I don't know which one) in Newport and the Lake were sold, I think to the City of Newport. The mansion in New Bedford called 'Greystones' at 93 Spring Street was also sold and the proceeds divided among his large family. When 'Greystones' was torn down for an office building, it built the foundations for eighty houses, I was told. The entrance hall must have been quite impressive, because it was mosaic. I've often wanted to find out what happened to that. Benjamin Rathbone Almy was a very successful banker."

ALBERT B. ALMY (1407-2512-1)

Albert B. Almy, who served as Swansea, Massachusetts, town clerk for 35 years, died on 16 November 1980 at the age of 89. His wife, the former Julia B. Slade, predeceased him. With his wife as his assistant, Albert served as town clerk of Swansea from 1925 until his retirement in 1960. During most of that time, until it was moved to the town hall in 1952, the clerk's office was in the Almy home. He also served as town treasurer from 1931 until 1946.

Albert was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, 31 January 1891 at the home of his mother's parents. He was the son of Peleg and Bella (Boyd) Almy. He lived in Middletown, Rhode Island, and in Somerset, Massachusetts, until 1919, when he settled in Swansea. In 1909 he began working for I. T. Boyd Jewelers of Fall River. He owned and operated the business from 1933 until he sold it in 1951. Albert was a World War I veteran, being a biplane flier in the Army Air Corps. In 1923 he was awarded a Bachelor's Degree from Northeastern University. Albert was a former incorporator of Union Savings Bank, a former trustee of Fall River Savings Bank, and a former director of Fall River Peoples Cooperative Bank.

When Mr. Almy retired as a town clerk, his fellow citizens honored him at an "Albert B. Almy Day" testimonial that paid tribute to him as an outstanding public official. He was also known for his interest in and knowledge of town history. (Marion D. Almy, 1233-5144-75, sent me a copy of an interesting history article written in part by Albert some years ago. I will try to fit into a future issue of the Newsletter.)

Albert did not have children. He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Albert E. (Celia) Lake of New Bedford. His sister-in-law, Mrs. Israel T. Almy, and her son, Thomas B. Almy, are on the Newsletter mailing list. I know that Albert will be greatly missed by his friends and relatives.

Much of the above information was from the obituary in the Fall River, Massachusetts, Herald News, sent to me by Frederick A. Almy, Jr. (1235-5773-81) and Lois B. Almy (1407-1532-3). Thanks for keeping me informed.

XEROX COPIES OF ALMY - RAPPLEYE BOOK

At the Almy Family Reunion last September, one of the items discussed was having copies made of the book: "Historic Families of America; William Almy of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, 1630 / Joris Janssen De Rapalje of Fort Orange (Albany), New Amsterdam and Brooklyn, 1623". This book was published in 1897 by Charles Kingsbury Miller (1233-3118-2). The book mainly covers the history and genealogy of the line from William Almy (Number 1) through Charles K. Miller to his children; one of which, Loris Almy Miller (1233-3118-22) I talked with in 1978 when he was 84 years of age. The combination of Almy and Rappleye in the book is because Samuel Almy (1233-311) married in 1801, Jane Rappleye.

Betsey Miller (1233-5147-234) who has an original copy of the book, offered to make Xerox copies, at cost, for Almy Family members. She took orders at the reunion at \$5.00 each to cover copying and mailing costs. These copies have been mailed and she has informed me that she has additional copies for any others that may wish to have this reference among their genealogical collection. Those wishing a copy (consists of 136 pages of book copied two pages to the front, two pages to the back of 8 1/2 x 11 sheets) may send \$5.00 to Betsey at the following address:

Mrs. Josiah B. Miller
214 E. Upland Road
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

Number 12, CHRISTOPHER ALMY

Christopher Almy was born in 1631 or 1632, probably in Dunton-Basset, County Leicoster, England, the first son and second child of William and Audrey (Barlowe) Almy. Christopher came to America in the ship Abigail in 1635 with his parents and sister Anne. The ship's passenger list gave their ages: William 34, Audrey 32, Anne 8, and Christopher 3. Although Christopher evidently went to Portsmouth, Rhode Island with the rest of the family in 1644 when he was about 12 years old, the first mention we have of him is in 1656 when he was recompensed in part for a vessel seized in Massachusetts. So he was evidently in the shipping business early in his life. It is said that when the Quakers began promulgating their faith about 1657, he joined that sect. In 1658 he was made a freeman of Portsmouth.

On 9 July 1661 Christopher married Elizabeth Cornell, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Briggs) Cornell. They had ten children: Sarah 1662, Elizabeth 1663, William 1665, Ann 1667, Christopher 1669, Rebecca 1671, John 1673, John(2) 1674, Job 1675, and Catherine 1676.

In 1667 Christopher was one of many who finalized the purchase of lands from the Indians at Monmouth, New Jersey. He may have gone to Monmouth to live as early as 1665. During the summer and fall of 1665, many people, nearly all from the Long Island and Rhode Island settlements, had made permanent homes in Monmouth County. Christopher lived in Monmouth for a while, but returned to Rhode Island to live by or before 1678, but occasionally came back on business. Christopher was generally known as Captain from his commanding a vessel that traded among Newport, Monmouth, and other places, taking letters, merchandise, and passengers back and forth.

On 5 March 1680 Christopher and seven others bought Pocasset (Tiverton) lands from Governor Josiah Winslow for 1,100 pounds, he having 4 shares out of 30 in the whole. Other lands in the same locality were bought from the Indians by Job Almy (14). (See page 4 of Newsletter No. 17, January, 1979.) By this time, Christopher had become a political leader in Rhode Island. In 1692 he conceived the idea of getting the above Pocasset area from under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts, through the enforcement of Rhode Island's claim to the territory, under charter of 1663. This caused a controversy, with Massachusetts attempting to arrest Christopher and others in the affair. Although some of the others were arrested and fined, Christopher went to Rhode Island, out of the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts court and was not tried.

It is evident that Christopher was highly esteemed by his townsmen, his signature being the eighth of fourteen attached, 16 July 1686, to a petition to His Majesty James II. On 27 February 1690 he was elected Governor of Rhode Island, but he refused to serve for reasons satisfactory to the assembly. This was the first election for Governor since the deposition of Andros. However, in that year he did serve as assistant to the governor. During this year he was also deputy to the General Assembly. In 1692 he was made captain of the militia.

In 1693 he was appointed agent to England, and on 24 August of that year he represented Rhode Island in a petition to Queen Mary in which he expressed the resentment of the Rhode Island people toward those who believed that persons commissioned by Governor Andros should serve until specific orders to the contrary came from the Crown of England. In October 1696 Christopher was allowed 135 pounds, 10 shillings, 8 pence for expenses in England.

Christopher Almy died 31 January 1713. His will, proved 9 February 1713, names his wife, children, grandchildren, servants, as well as the Pocasset and New Jersey lands that he owned.

THE SILVER ANNIVERSARY BOWL

In the last Newsletter, in the article on the Reunion, I promised to tell you about the Silver Anniversary Bowl that Sylvia Nichols (1233-5147-233) brought to the Reunion and talked about after the dinner. Here is the pertinent information about this most interesting tradition in one of the Almy Family branches.

The Silver Anniversary Bowl was originally part of a silver service set which belonged to Robert and Sarah Cornelia (Russell) Almy (1233-5147), who were married 11 December 1841. The old sugar bowl, now dignified into a flower vase, is passed on to that married couple of the family reaching their 25th wedding anniversary. A little book goes with the bowl and as each member of the family is married, the temporary possessor adds the names and dates of marriage to the list. Each recipient has engraved at some suitable place the names of the next possessor of the vase and presents it to the next possessor at the time of his or her 25th wedding anniversary. The writing on the bowl gives the wife's initials and last name; husband's initials and last name; wedding date; anniversary year. Following is a list of the past, present, and future recipients showing their Almy number.

Almy Number	Almy Descendent and Spouse	Married	25th
1233-5147-23	Florence E. Almy & Cecil W. Littlehales	17 Jun 1902	1927
1233-5147-24	Helen Marion Almy & Howard O. Winslow	5 Jun 1906	1931
1233-5147-22	Maud E. Almy & William L. Rumsey	2 Jun 1909	1934
1233-5147-61	Marie Almy & Frank W. Atwood	1 Oct 1914	1939
1233-5147-42	Robert Almy Cory & Elizabeth C. Haskins	30 Jun 1919	1944
1233-5147-51	Harold E. Almy & Helen M. McLean	25 Jun 1921	1946
1233-5147-53	Robert T. Almy, Jr. & Mildred Thielscher	17 May 1925	1950
1233-5147-233	Sylvia A. Littlehales & George Nichols	17 Jun 1929	1954
1233-5147-241	Helen Almy Winslow & Roger B. Ray	1 Oct 1932	1957
1233-5147-232	Walter T. Littlehales & Elizabeth S. Clark	22 Oct 1934	1959
1233-5147-234	Elizabeth Littlehales & Lindley C. Kent	9 Nov 1935	1960
1233-5147-235	Edward F. Littlehales & Edna Moore	1 Aug 1942	1967
1233-5147-221	William L. Rumsey, Jr. & Elizabeth M. Kolb	29 Aug 1942	1967
1233-5147-222	John Almy Rumsey & B. Virginia Hoagland	12 Dec 1942	1967
1233-5147-611	Martha Atwood & Franklin Hayes Ward	21 Apr 1944	1969
1233-5147-511	Harold Almy & Barbara Louise Hofstra	28 Aug 1948	1973
1233-5147-2331	Lucia Almy Nichols & Robert E. Stannard	11 Apr 1953	1978
1233-5147-531	Ernestine Almy & Edwin Walter Bensen, Jr.	10 Oct 1953	1978
1233-5147-2332	Edward M. Nichols & Barbara Louise Hawley	7 Jun 1958	1983
1233-5147-2341	Susan Elizabeth Kent & Robert S. Niemiller	7 Sep 1959	1984
1233-5147-2321	Marcia Clark Littlehales & Donald Doehner	26 Jul 1963	1988
1233-5147-2322	Beverly Ann Littlehales & David Stamm	17 Aug 1963	1988
1233-5147-2411	Daniel Winslow Ray & Sandra Bumpus	31 Jul 1965	1990
1233-5147-2412	Benjamin W. Ray & Maruta Lientjens	25 Jun 1966	1991
1233-5147-2342	Robert Almy Kent & Barbara Ruth Horning	24 Jun 1967	1992
1233-5147-2351	Wm. Thomas Littlehales & Susanne Mallory	15 Jun 1968	1993
1233-5147-2352	Barbara M. Littlehales & Kenneth C. Hearst	23 Mar 1971	1996

A lovely tradition. Keep it up.

ALMY REUNION PICTURES

Those persons in the reunion pictures on the next page, left to right, are:

Top: Kenneth L. Wickett 1233-5143-421, his wife Crystelle; Kenneth A. Wickett 1233-5143-4213, his wife Kristine.

Center: Lois B. Almy 1407-1532-3; Dorothy Almy, wife of Philip W. Almy 1407-1532-1.

Bottom: Mildred Yount 1233-5143-311; Barton K. Yount 1233-5143-3111-1, his wife Henrietta; George Nichols, his wife Sylvia 1233-5147-233; Betsey Miller 1233-5147-234.

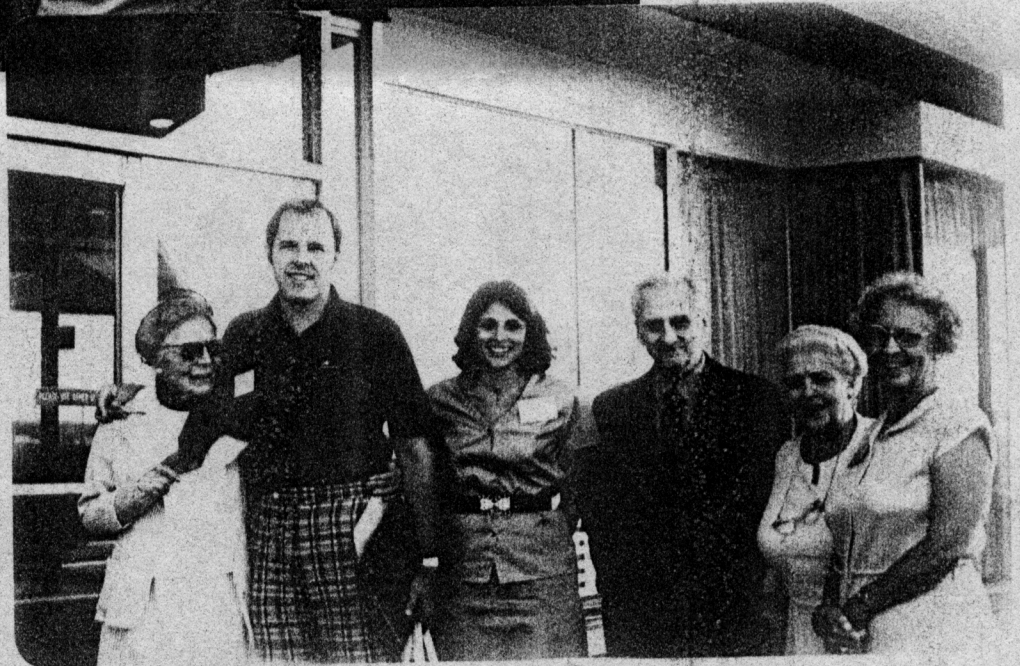
I plan to have it in next issue. Picture of bowl received too late for this issue.

ALMY
FAMILY
REUNION



SEPTEMBER

5-7, 1980



CONTRIBUTIONS

The following cousins have sent in contributions since the last Newsletter went to press to help defray printing and mailing costs. I appreciate much this help. Many Thanks.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Almy Number</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Gordon Connelly	1222-3763-243	Maryland
Mrs. William F. Almy	1235-4131-122	Virginia
Floyd C. Almy	1233-4668-15	Washington
Richard J. Almy	1252-9532-744	New York
Kenneth G. Fuller	1239-2127-361	California

PLEASE -- I NEED CURRENT ADDRESSES

Newsletters sent to the following have been returned by the Postal Service because the addressee has moved. If you know anything about the current whereabouts, would you please let me know.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Almy Number</u>	<u>Last Address</u>
John D. Almy	1407-1194-11	Fallbrook, California
Thomas M. Almy	Unknown	Stamford, Connecticut
Andrew A. Almy	Unknown	Georgetown, Kentucky
Emma B. Almy	1232-1272-43W	Wyoming, Michigan
Richard A. Almy	Unknown	Salem, Missouri
James W. Almy, Jr.	1232-1272-4111-1	Midland, Michigan
James R. Almy	1233-5183-4112	Atlanta, Georgia
Mrs. William Almy, Jr.	1233-8618-11W	S. Westport, Massachusetts
Mrs. Francis C. Hall	1407-1712-5	Brookline, Massachusetts

ALMYS IN DENMARK

On my recent trip to Europe, I had a few minutes free time in Kobenhavn, Denmark, to look in the telephone book. To my surprise, there were four Almys listed. Three were women and the fourth was Almy, Ing. (engineer). I called the engineer number (with some difficulty with their telephone system) and a person answered who spoke only Danish. I asked that they put someone on who could speak English. Shortly, a woman got on the telephone that could manage a little English. I think the Almy I called was there by the telephone and that she was a woman engineer named Hennie. About all the information I was able to obtain was that her father was a painter and that her Almy ancestry was in Denmark as far back as she knew. I will try writing to these Almys when I get time by having my letters translated into Danish.

Best Wishes for 1981.

Love and Blessings from

Your cousin (1408-3311-112)

Merwin

Merwin F. Almy
7703 Elgar Street
Springfield, Virginia 22151