Dear Julius M.,

A brief introduction is in order. I am James P. Alford, son of Paul Julius (Ft. Worth, Tex.), who is the son of Julius S. (Marshall, Tex.), who is the son of Erasmus L. (Marshall, Tex.), who is the son of Lodwick P. (Jefferson, Tex.), who is the son of Lodwick (Troup Co., GA) who is the son of Julius C. (Franklin Co., NC), who is the son of Lodowick Sr. (Franklin Co., NC).

That introduction will only thrill a died-in-the-wool Alford genealogist, which apparently you are.

I first noticed the letter from your great-grandfather, Julius Caesar, that was published by the Wake County Genealogical Society in 1983 and then later, ran across your address in the Dallas Morning News 'Family Tree' column.

Our branch of the family has been isolated for over a century from the other Southern Alfords and I'm working to fill in our history and meet the rest of the family.

Your great-grandfather mentioned William Sion from the north of Wales and then a Sion William. Do you have any more information on them? What do you know about the English Alfords?

Do you have any Alford genealogies that you would share? I hope to publish a book on the descendants of William Sion but, it's a long way from complete.

Where can I contact the authors of the publications Alford Family Notes, Alford Family Bulletin, and About Alfords? I wrote to Mrs. Bowman in Gaithersburg, Maryland and the letter was returned. Bobby Alford is totally unknown to me.

Have a good holiday season!

Your distant cousin,

James P. Alford 14106 Pinerock

Houston, Texas 77079