

MERWIN AND VEDA ALMY TOUR ENGLAND AND IRELAND

On 24 April 1989, Veda and Merwin left home on a three-week Pilgrim John Howland Society tour of England and Ireland. It started out as a 14 hour travel time trip to London from Portland, Oregon. We went two days early to partially adjust to the 8 hour time difference between Oregon and England time. Two days after our arrival, the tour members flying from the U.S. East coast arrived at the hotel in London.

After sightseeing in London, the tour went to Fenstanton in Cambridgeshire. It was here at the St. Peter and St. Paul Church that John Howland, one of the Pilgrims of the 1620 trip of the Mayflower to Plymouth, Massachusetts, was baptized in 1594. On arrival at the church we were greeted by about 80 members of the congregation. After coffee and fellowship we were treated to a lovely lunch at the Tudor Inn, followed by a program at church. Here various speeches were made and Merwin, as Treasurer of the Society, presented the church with a special check, a gift from the tour members. High tea was then served in the fellowship hall, after which the tour members were divided up and assigned to members of the congregation who then took them home for a friendly social hour or two (another tea). Needless to say, this was a truly nice way to get acquainted with the English people.

The next day the tour went to St. Mary the Virgin Church in Henlow, Bedfordshire. It was here where John Howland's wife, Elizabeth Tilley, was baptized. The visit to Henlow was the primary reason for the

tour. It was here at the Henlow church that we dedicated a Tilley Memorial Plaque, paid for by the Society. We had a very nice special Sunday church service together with speeches by the Society officers and Church dignitaries. As Society Treasurer, Merwin presented two checks; one representing a gift by the tour members and one representing the contributions by 75 Society members to pay for the plaque, which was of dark gray slate of memorial quality and about 2 1/3 feet by 1 1/3 feet. The plaque was mounted on an inner church wall.

Following the service, church members invited the tour members to lunch at the local restaurant where we had a delicious meal.

Fred and Joyce Almey of Cardiff, Wales and his brother and wife, George and Doris Almey of Holbeach, Lincolnshire, and their son Cyril and daughter-in-law Janet, were there to meet us at the church. It was wonderful seeing them and we wished we could have had more time together. Here again after lunch, the congregation divided the tour members up and took them to their individual homes for a social time.

It was here at Henlow where Fred Almey surprised everyone with his foresight and thoughtfulness. He had a potter in Cardiff, Wales, make exact pottery replicas, 5 1/4"x3", of the Tilley Memorial Plaque for each member of the tour. This was a big hit with the tour members and I must say, a big credit to the Almy/Almey Family.

HISTORICAL NOVEL IN AND OF ENGLAND

When Veda and I flew to London, England, for the above tour, we found that the flight time (non-stop time in the air) from Seattle to London was nine hours. On the trip over I read magazines, tried to sleep, and basically was miserable. I decided then that I would get a good book to read for the return flight to the United States.

On our tour we visited the old hill fort town of Old Sarum (probably founded over 10,000 years ago), nearby Stonehenge, and New Sarum (now called Salisbury). One of the tour members had read a historical novel about Old Sarum, Stonehenge, and Salisbury and said it was excellent reading. I like historical novels if I have first hand knowledge of the area where the novel takes place. I searched for this book and finally found a paperback copy for £4.50 in the London Heathrow airport prior to my flight home.

The book is *Sarum* by Edward Rutherfurd. It is 1,344 pages long, but is exciting throughout. The author used background information in genealogy, archeology, anthropology, history, and many other disciplines to weave the many stories; actually the story of five families through 100 centuries of turmoil, tyranny, passion and prosperity. In the novel, British civilization unfolds through the story of one place, Salisbury, from beyond recorded time to the present day. The landscape, as old as time itself, shapes the destinies of the five families. The Wilsons and the Shockleys, locked in a cycle of revenge and rivalry for more than 400 years. The Masons, who pour their inspired love of stone into the creation of Stonehenge and Salisbury Cathedral. The Porters, descended from a young Roman soldier in exile. And the aristocratic Norman Godefrois, who will fall to the very bottom of the social ladder before their fortunes revive.

As I read the book I thought about our English ancestors down through the history of England and what they had to go through for our being here in the world today. Quite humbling. A most interesting and fascinating book!

LATE ISSUANCE OF THIS NEWSLETTER

Veda and I went on a four-week automobile trip in June covering about 6,000 miles. On this trip we went to a church conference in Missouri; did genealogical research in Vincennes, Indiana; visited with Veda's first cousins in Cincinnati, Ohio; did genealogical research in Springfield, Ohio; went to Merwin's 50th high school class reunion in Lakewood (west side of Cleveland), Ohio; visited our nephew as well as various Almys and Almy descendants in Michigan; and then Veda got to visit her cousins in Billings, Montana, who descend from her grandmother's half brother. This was a super wonderful trip — the scenery was beautiful and we got to visit with many new friends and relatives.

Because June 30 was the end of a calendar quarter and the end of the fiscal year for the Pilgrim John Howland Society, for which I am Treasurer; I have had a lot of reports to file (with IRS and others) and bills to pay, as well as getting the financial records ready for the annual audit and report. All this work prevented me from getting to writing this Newsletter. Also, it has prevented me from getting to the genealogical information I gathered on the trip and writing the information I promised certain individuals. I may have some interesting genealogical stories to tell from the leads I obtained. This information will be in the next Newsletter.

CHARLOTTE P. (SISSON) WORDELL
(1407-1422-11)

Charlotte Peckham (Sisson) Wordell, 86, of South of the Commons, Little Compton, Rhode Island, died 16 May 1989. She was born 21 June 1902 in Little Compton, the daughter of William Northrupp and Lydora Louise (Peckham) Sisson. She married Sidney Mayo Wordell in Little Compton on 26 September 1923 and they had three children.

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

I received the following invitation to a United States Navy Change of Command Ceremony from Captain John H. Almy, II (1408-6612-121)

This is the third invitation my wife and I have received from John to attend Change of Command Ceremonies. The prior two times the date of the ceremonies conflicted with prior commitments we had. But this time we plan to attend. I might add that the prior two ceremonies were on the East coast when we lived in Virginia. Now that we are on the West coast we were very pleasantly surprised to receive this invitation to a West coast ceremony.



The Commanding Officer, USS GEORGIA SSBN 729 (BLUE)
requests the pleasure of your company at the
Change of Command Ceremony at which
Captain Robert H. English, United States Navy
will be relieved by
Captain John H. Almy II, United States Navy
on Tuesday, the First of August
at ten-thirty o'clock
Assembly area, Off Crew Administration Building
at Naval Submarine Base, Bangor

R.S.V.P.
Card Enclosed

Participants: Full Dress White
Military Guests: Summer White
Civilian: Appropriate Attire

LOUIS ALMY (1233-4692-78)

Louis Almy, 68, of Rensselaer, New York, died 5 January 1989, after a long bout with cancer. Louis was born 8 October 1920 in Greenwich, New York, the son of Louis and Rose (Welch) Almy. He served in the Army during World War II, and resided most of his life in the Rensselaer area, having worked for the Rensselaer Post Office for 28 years. He married on 10 December 1949 in Guilderland, New York, Sarah Elizabeth Connell, daughter of William and Sophia (Lentz) Connell. They had three sons: Louis William Almy and Mark Richard Almy, both of Rensselaer, and Gary Robert Almy of Albany, New York.

BLANCHE FERN (ALMY) FISHER (1232-4149-18)

Blanche Fern (Almy) Fisher, 71, of Joplin, Missouri, died in January 1989. Blanche was born 31 May 1917 in Keystone, Oklahoma, the daughter of Frank Hayden and Mary Magdalene (Cochran) Almy. She married Albert L. Fisher on 22 April 1939 in Joplin, Missouri and they had two children.

OLD MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

To the right is an old marriage certificate I thought some of you would be interested in seeing. It is for the marriage of Lucinda Almy (1235-5772) to John G. Corey (Cory) in Charlestown, Rhode Island, on 17 January 1866. Lucinda was born in Tiverton, Rhode Island, @1839, the daughter of Horace and Hannah (Seabury) Almy.

This item was sent to me by Patricia Almy Forte (1407-1426-122) and came from Edna Cory Snell of Tiverton.

JENNIFER ALMY GRADUATES

Jennifer M. Almy (1408-6612-1211), daughter of Captain John and Mercy (Zwerling) Almy, sent me her very colorful and pretty Ledyard High School graduation announcement. Her commencement exercises were held at the high school on 15 June 1989. Congratulations, Jennifer, and the best of luck on your continuing activities.

NEW ARRIVAL

Johnathan James Kenneth Almy (1408-3833-1125-4) was born 27 April 1989 in Binghamton, New York, to Dana Andrew and Carleen (Hartshorne) Almy. Congratulations.

HULDA FREDA (1233-4668-11)

Hulda Gay (Almy) Freda, 95, of Minot, North Dakota, died in a Minot hospital on Saturday, May 6, 1989. She was born 25 September 1893 in Bowling Green, Ohio; the daughter of Charles Chester and Merta Jane (Waltemyer) Almy. She grew up there and on a farm north of Burlington, North Dakota. She married Mitchel Pete Freda on 20 November 1913 in Burlington. They lived on a farm near Tagus the first winter and then

moved to a farm north of Minot. After a couple of more moves they settled in Minot in 1952. He died 7 July 1968. Hulda was a member of various homemakers clubs in the Minot area, a senior citizen's organization, Farmers Union, the African Violet Society, the Women's Relief Corps and Daughters of the Civil War. Hulda and I have had quite a bit of correspondence for many years and she will be greatly missed.

This Certifies

That *John G Corey*
and *Lucinda Almy*

WERE UNITED IN

HOLY WEDLOCK

at *Charlestown* on

the *seventeenth* day of *January*

A. D. 1866

By me,

J. J. Morse

BISHOP'S CELEBRATE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Harriet Mae (Almy) Bishop sent me these two newspaper clippings that really tell the whole story of their 50th wedding anniversary celebration. I know you all had a great time. Congratulations!

DINING BY RAIL.

EXPERIENCE THE ROMANCE, THE ADVENTURE.

The Texan, with first-class, fully restored golden age club and dining cars, caresses the countryside as you indulge in cocktails and an exquisite 4-course dinner. Departures and arrivals are from San Antonio's historic Southern Pacific Amtrak Station at St. Paul Square. Forty-nine dollars per person. We look forward to providing you with one of the most extraordinary evenings of your life.




THE TEXAN

By reservation only. Call 512/377-2900.







BISHOP

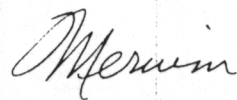
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent P. Bishop celebrated their golden anniversary Nov. 23 with a reception on The Texan. The event was hosted by their children; Janet Johnson and Carol Collins. The couple was married Nov. 26, 1938 in New Bedford, Mass. They have six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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. This help is most appreciated. Many thanks to each and everyone of you.

Name	Almy Number	Residence
Gordon Connelly	1222-3763-243	Maryland
Levi H. Manchester	1235-5773-53	Maryland
Suzanne Prosnier	1453-3734-2312-1	Arizona
Nini Almy	1408-6262-42	Illinois
Mrs. L. Wesley Almy	1408-6524-11W	New Mexico
Harriett May Bishop	1408-6504-31	Texas

Your cousin (1408-3312-112),



Merwin F. Almy
17835 S.W. Shasta Trail
Tualatin, OR 97062

HAVE A BEAUTIFUL AND INTERESTING SUMMER !!!