

MARRIAGE OF STEVEN THOMAS ALMY (1407-2512-211)

Steven Thomas Almy and Susan L. Weaver were married on Saturday, September 2, 1995, in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Susan is the daughter of Charles L. and Louise S. Weaver of Lebanon. She is a graduate of Cedar Crest High School. She received a bachelor's degree from Carnegie Mellon University and a master's degree from the University of Michigan. She is employed by the New England Research Institute, Watertown, Massachusetts.



Mr. and Mrs. Steven Almy

Steven is the son of Thomas and Kathryn Almy of Somerset, Massachusetts. He is a graduate of Somerset High School and

received a bachelor's degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a master's degree from the University of Michigan. He is employed by the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Newport, Rhode Island.

Bridal attendants were Kathryn Conrad, matron of honor; and Susan Almy, bridesmaid. Attending the groom were Thomas Proulx, best man, and Stephen Wong, usher. A reception was held at the Lantern Lodge,

Myerstown, Pennsylvania. The couple spent their honeymoon in Aspen, Colorado, and now reside in North Easton, Massachusetts.

HAROLD V. ALMY (1407-2D23-6)

Harold V. Almy, 84, of Walnut Creek, California,, died September 29, 1995. Harold was born in Nevada in 1911, the son of John and Lillian E. (Nicholas) Almy. Harold was a career employee of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of San Francisco. He was an Army veteran of World War II. His wife Marie survives him.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Veda and I received many beautiful Christmas cards from you all, the Almy Family, this year. We really enjoy your greetings and the letters and notes that are enclosed. We are unable to send cards to you in return, so the Newsletters will have to serve as our greetings to you. We thank you very much.

PURITAN GALS WERE ROMANTIC — NOT DOMINATED BY THEIR HUBBIES

This is a newspaper article sent to me by Kenneth G. Fuller (1239-2127-561). I do not know the date or name of the newspaper from which it came. I thought it was interesting because William Almy (our immigrant ancestor) and his family were puritans in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

"American women in the 17th century were NOT sexually repressed and totally dominated by their strict Puritan husbands as is commonly believed — they were surprisingly romantic and had plenty of legal rights," says a historian. "Puritans, in fact, were a fairly earthy people!" declared Roger Thompson, who has written three books about Colonial America.

"Courtship and marriage, love and affection played a vital role in their lives. Puritan women expected their husbands to satisfy their emotional and sexual needs."

"It's also not true that men were all-powerful tyrants at home," added Thompson, who teaches at England's University of East Anglia and has researched old New England county court records. "Puritan society just didn't tolerate wife beating or child abuse — and the man who committed such an offense was punished," he said.

"I found that the stereotype of the Puritan father imposing his will by beating the devil out of his children was simply not supported by the records. Parents often let teenagers have their own way. Some teenagers even went on drinking sprees with buddies. They also engaged in sex despite strict rules of courtship that forbade it," the historian revealed.

"If an unmarried woman got pregnant, under the law she merely had to name the father to condemn him to a lifetime of child support payments," Thompson said. "Sometime the hapless man also was fined and publicly whipped. As a result, the father usually either married the woman accusing him, or else made private arrangements to support her and their child," the historian said.

"It's a myth that Colonial women were subordinated and powerless. The law gave women important powers — and they didn't hesitate to use them."

Summing up, Thompson said: "The traditional image of Puritans as a severe and repressive people is absolutely false!"

— Robert G. Smith

SURGERY FOR MERWIN ALMY

In the Fall of this year, I learned that I had prostate cancer. It had been hard to locate, so it was not extensive. Starting in October, I began numerous tests and the donation of my blood for the operation. Then on November 27 I had the major prostate surgery.

While writing this Newsletter, I have been in the recovery process. It is long and difficult but the recent report from the doctor indicates that the results of the operation could not be better. I thank everyone that knew about the operation and sent their prayers and encouraging thoughts.

MORE ON RHODE ISLAND REDS

Comments by an English Cousin

Brian Almey of Saffron Walden, Essex, England, wrote the following in his very interesting letter that he writes to me at Christmas time each year.

I too was interested in the account of Frederick Almy and RI R's and the two articles which you printed rolled back the years to the 1920's. Poultry keeping was very much the Cinderella of the general farmer who had no interest in them at all except to curse them for scratching out his newly sown grain in the field next to the farm yard.

The hens of the breed were very popular as they produced a nice brown egg with a rich dark yolk but the cockerels which had to be fattened for the table had a yellowish skin and the English customer liked a white-skinned bird on the table. It was just a fad because they tasted just the same.

But a solution was soon discovered. Our best breed was the Light Sussex, mainly white with speckled tail and neck feathers. The eggs were a tinted white which were not so popular as RI Reds but the flesh had a nice white skin which satisfied the flesheater.

The solution to these opposites was to mate a RI R cockerel with a LS hen and the resulting chicks averaged 50/50 male/female on hatching, but more important, the male chicks inherited identical characteristics of the dam and the female likewise of the sire and the characteristics were absolutely fixed.

So, the male chicks hatched out covered in yellow down. The females buff coloured and instead of as in the case of both breeds bred pure, having to wait for the onset of puberty

at 8 to 10 weeks old before the sexes could be separated, the sex-linkage of the first cross breeding between the two pure breeds enabled the separating to take place at day-old.

The RIRxLS sex-linked poultry producer was thus able to satisfy his egg customers and his table-bird customers from a single hatching. These were the only two pure breeds able to produce this cross breeding phenomenon.

BIRTH OF REBECCA JEAN MATHISON (1232-4151-3822-1)

Rebecca Jean Mathison was born July 4, 1995 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to Douglas and Deborah (Sullivan) Mathison. The proud grandparents, Don and Jean, wrote they had a grand visit with them this past summer.

USE OF INTERNET

Katherine Almy (1407-1C74-314) of Arcata, California, contacted my son Thomas (1408-3312-1122), who lives across the street from me, on the Internet. She wanted to be put on the mailing list to receive the Almy Family Newsletters. This I have done.

My son reports that a number of Almy's have found him on the Internet, because of its rising popularity. He can be contacted at tom.almy@tek.com for those of you who also have access to the Internet.

JOURNAL OF BILLINGS GRINNELL ALMY (1407-1C74)

Billings Grinnell Almy was born 16 February 1874 in Centralia, Illinois, the son of Horace Manchester Almy and Abbie Colburn (Grinnell) Almy. He married in Ashland, Nebraska, 18 April 1901, Ada Marks. In July 1898, at the age of 24, he and his brother John, about 23 years of age, spent two years in Europe studying.

Remember, at that time there were no airplanes or even automobiles, and they traveled by train, boat, bicycle, and on foot. This journal was among Mignon Almy's things (See her obituary in the October 1995 issue of the Almy Family Newsletter.), and was transcribed by Louise Almy (1407-1C74-31W).

The abbreviations used in the journal are: FFA is his brother Frank Fayette Almy; ACA is his mother Abbie Colburn Almy; and JEA is his brother John Edwin Almy. Others mentioned: Ada is his fiancée Ada Marks, and Eva is brother Frank's wife.

The journal will be printed in the Newsletters, in serial form, as space permits. Here is the first installment. Enjoy!

Monday, July 25, 1898

"Good-bye." Left home about 10 a.m.. Took dinner at Flora's. Spent afternoon in Ashland. Supper at Mr. Marks. Ada carried me to the train. Left Ashland at 11:04 p.m. Sleepy and tired, but not very lonesome.

Tuesday, July 26, 1898

Passed night well. Awoke at Ottumwa, Iowa with sun rising in the N.E. Hot, windy, very dusty day. Changed from B&M to B&O in Chicago. Fared well, very warm and dusty. Passed through level country most of time. Crops hardly as good as at home. Still feeling well, rested by long sleep.

Wednesday, July 27, 1898

Awoke at Akron, O., about 1 a.m., seemed to be going west. Trains run irregular. Thro' some cities, small towns, etc. Pittsburgh, the Smoky City, most surely! Very beautiful run from P. To Washington. Hilly, wooded, curves, bridges, tunnels, R.R. follows river bed. Felt well, cloudy and cooler. In Washington

saw Capitol, but rain kept me at depot most of time till 12 p.m.. Wrote from Washington to ACA, Eva and Ada.

Thursday, July 28, 1898

To NY, very sleepy. Slept sound. NY at 7 a.m.. Went to residence, then office of Henry Wilbur. Received letter from JEA. Covered some of the city in p.m.. Called on Steamer Line Office, bought my bicycle. Left on 6:00 steamer for Fall River and RI. The day I ate two suppers in one night, 25 cents each. Rather lonely, largely due to cloudy and rainy weather.

Friday, July 29, 1898

Little Compton reached at 8 a.m.. Breakfast at Aunt Emmeline's. Visited until 4 p.m.. Stopped at Uncle Thos. for supper. Inspected hogs and garden. On to "The Common" at 8 p.m.. Stayed with Aunt Hannah. Bed early, first time since Sunday(24). Quite lonesome early but less so after I got among relatives. RI sea fog nearly all day.

Saturday, July 30, 1898

After breakfast went to Uncle Dan's. Sat on Sunset Rock and viewed the country. After dinner we drove down to Sakonnet and Warren Points. Clear day. Enjoyed my self first-rate. After supper rode back to The Common. Stayed again at Aunt Hannah's.

Sunday, July 31, 1898

Arose feeling fairly well, but at breakfast time had fever and was quite sick. Lay down until 9:00. Felt much better and started to make my farewell calls. Rode down to Uncle Dan's, then to Uncle Thos. where I took dinner. At 3:00 was at

Aunt Emmeline's and at 4:00 with Elmer Wilcox at Four Corners. About 5:00 started for Fall River racing a dark cloud. Rode fast and reached destination just ahead of heavy rain. Bound to New York. Ada.

Monday, August 1, 1898

Saw SS Southwark as I landed at NY. Rode round until stores opened, then left wheel to be crated. Made several purchases and did some sightseeing. Gloomy early in morning, but towards noon brightened up and cheerful.

[to be continued]

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.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Almy Number</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Frances Almy Culler	1232-1218-411	Ohio
Marian Bower	1233-4668-123	North Dakota
Harold D. Almy	1233-4668-132	Washington
Constance M. Price	1235-4131-1111	Ohio
Phyllis Stearns	1235-4131-1114	Massachusetts
Larry W. Turner	1252-9137-1132	Virginia
Frank Knowlton	1252-9773-32	Florida
Rosemary Barile	1407-1426-123	South Carolina
Gene H. Almy	1407-1C73-41	Texas
Mrs. Raymond G. Johnson	1408-3822-11W	Arizona
Brian Almey	English Cousin	England

Your Cousin (1408-3312-112),

Merwin

Merwin F. Almy
17835 SW Shasta Trail
Tualatin, OR 97062-9408

My wife and I wish you all a very
Happy New Year, filled with Love and Joy.