



# Reneau Review

Vol 1, Issue 1, Nov 2003

## First Issue of "Reneau Review"

We are sending this first issue of the Reneau Newsletter to everyone on our mailing list. **IMPORTANT:** If you wish to continue receiving the newsletter, you must contact us. We are asking for a \$5.00 donation to cover costs of the newsletter. Also, we are asking for your input into the newsletter so it will really become a source of interest to all Reneau descendants. So don't forget to send a note with your contribution to receive future issues. (Send to: **Reneau Review c/o Anita Reneau Daniels, 17617 SE 34th Circle, Vancouver, WA 98683**) Thank you! We look forward to a newsletter that is informative, and fun to receive!

## Reunion Report

**A Great Time** was had by all at the Reneau Reunion held in San Antonio, Texas on October 25th. Nine States were represented: AR, CA, FL, KY, OK, OR, TX, VA, and WA! We had 84 participants, who ate heartily, bid aggressively at the auction, identified ancestors in photos that were previously listed as "unknown" (We promise to always write the names on back of pictures!), and got to know one another -- feeling that same common bond -- our Reneau Ancestors.

**The youngest attendee** was Miss Elissa Winsett, three years old, from Crowley, TX. She would be the 7th great granddaughter of Charles Reneau (John, Isaac Tipton, Barton Warren Stone, Eugene, Rex, Dorothy Mote, Johnny Mote, Michelle Winsett)

**Our oldest attendee** was Mary Dean Reneau Johnson, from Midland, TX, who will be 91 years young this January! She was definitely the hit of the party, as she had known so many grandparents of those who attended, There was always several people sitting near Mary, enjoying her talking about their kin. Mary is the great-granddaughter of Isaac Tipton. Her line goes from Isaac Tipton, to John Mulkey, to William Elbert.

**Auction is a Success!** From handmade bird houses to Smokey the Bear Coffee Mugs to a large framed picture showing individual photos of Isaac Tipton and Mary Gipson Wood Reneau and their children--You name it, there was something to please everyone! There was some spirited bidding going on, and the

results were \$732.00!

### Financial Recap for Reunion:

Total	Auction	Proceed
		732.00
Net Proceeds from T-Shirt Sales		245.00
Total Expense to date (park rental, security, postage, drinks, copier, copy work, paper, etc.)		544.25
Donations & Orders for Newsletter & Reunion		

Book	432.00
Balance left over	593.00

The balance of \$593.00 will be deposited in an escrow account for the next Reunion, or other expense that may arise between now and the next Reunion.

**Lost & Found:** Found 3 tablespoons left at the Reunion potluck. Lost a group 8x10 copy of photo of Tipton M Reneau & Benton Reneau families. Attached was a page listing the names. Just need to get the names for the original photo. So, if the paper got mixed in with yours, just send in a list of those in photo!

**Guest of Honor** at the Reunion was Betty Reneau from Albany, Kentucky. Betty was instrumental in sharing information about our ancestors, and still lives in the area where Isaac Tipton Reneau began his ministry. He was one of the organizers of the Church of Christ (Disciples of Christ). Betty is the great-granddaughter of Isaac Tipton, and has followed his footsteps in the ministry. It was wonderful for so many people to have the opportunity to meet Betty at the Reunion!

## We Love Pictures!

**Did you take snapshots or digital photos at the Reunion?** Al Mote has generously offered to put all photos on a CD for everyone to have! So if you would like to participate, send or email photos and he will work his magic. Cost for you to order a CD will be the cost of the CD, packaging and postage (\$3.50). Please have your photos emailed or sent to Al Mote by Nov 30th to be included in the project! (Address for Al is in the "Contact Corner," page 2.)

**Here is a "We forgot"** and a "Don't forget" for the next Reunion....it's, "We should have had a GROUP PICTURE!!" Next time maybe we could even get a photographer just to take all the pictures. More time

for Reneau visiting and fun!



**The Next Reunion** was voted to be in Austin, Texas. Hosts will be Linda Moore, Jackie Mann, Anna Chandler, and Terrell Perkins. Thank you for volunteering for this important occasion! We are excited to share more information with the whole group as we get it.

### Where is it?

**Steven Fancy and Sue Reneau Damewood**, who have compiled the Genealogy of the Reno/Reneau Family in America, 1600-1920 have asked us to spread the word to see if we can find out what happened to the "Old Family Bible" of John Reno and Susannah Thorne. Steve has a copy of a letter dated Dec. 9, 1937 from I. A. Reneau (Isaac Tipton Alexander Reneau, born Mar. 11, 1859, son of Isaac Tipton Reneau and Mary Gipton Wood) of Broken Bow, NE, to Mrs. Luther Davis of Chatterfield, AR. In this letter, he says that Charles Reno, (b. 1743, son of John and Susanna Reno) moved to French Broad River above Knoxville in 1799, "carrying with him the original family Bible belonging to John and Susanna, in which was written the names of all the members of the original family and many names of the succeeding families of whom this Charles and his family was a part."

He goes on to say that "in some stowaway place I have a copy of the names taken from the old Bible described and sent me by an uncle of mine which whom the Bible was passed down from Charles to John and by him to his youngest son Berry to be given to my father, but this transfer was never made. However, the book was accessible at all times to members of our immediate family, all of whom examined it with great curiosity as well as veneration."

Thus, the original Reno family Bible still existed in the 1930s. Steve has searched various archives, but has not been able to find out where the "old Bible" is.

Does anyone have any leads to follow? Let us know and we will forward the information to Steve. We'll also post any developments in the "Reneau Review."

### CONTACT CORNER!

**Some have asked** for the mailing list of those we contacted about the Reneau Reunion. Since everyone did not respond we thought it best to share only those names of the group who specifically request that we do so. It is a great way to share genealogy info and to get to know other branches of Reneaus. Please let us know if you would like your name and email or address in the next issue!

Mary & Wilford Walker

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### RENEAU BOOK

**We are still gathering** information to make up a 2003 Reneau Reunion Book which will have photos, information, and family trees of the participants at the Reunion. We also will have articles about those who sent us information, but could not attend. Send your info in if you want to be included in the book. In the meantime we will get to work on it here. Additional copies of the Reunion Book will be for sale.

### IT'S UP TO YOU!

**In order to make** the "Reneau Review" interesting for everyone, we do ask your input. Please actively participate by sending in information about your family, and anything you would think interesting to other Reneaus.

Please send in reports of genealogy research Successes and/or Brickwalls. We hope that we can help each other in learning more about the family history and the times they lived.

## In Memory

Our condolences, love, and prayers go to the family of **Kyle Edward Brandle**, age 16, who was killed in an automobile accident on October 28, 2003 in Salem, Oregon. Kyle was a junior at McKay High School in Salem. He loved to play baseball and soccer and was always an eager and willing participant on his teams. He leaves his family Ken and Lori Brandle, sister Stacey, and grandmother, Vi Brandle. Kyle was the grandson of Edward Brandle, who was the son of Gladys Reneau Brandle, great granddaughter of Isaac Tipton Reneau.

## We are Thinking of...

**Mada Campbell Robertson**, daughter of James Campbell and Laura Reneau Campbell, is in failing health. Mada, age 99 years old, enjoys the company of her daughter, Erma, grandchildren and great grandchildren and the great great grandchildren. Until this last year, Mada lived at home, but now is in an Assisted Living Home. Mada still loves to get out and about, so Erma takes her on Sunday drives, pulling into the driveways of friends and family, and each time enjoying a short visit there. Mada gets to get out and visit without getting out of the car!

## Congratulations!

**Amber Lenee Dixon** and Victor Manuel Gonzales were married at 6 o'clock p.m. on Saturday, November 8, 2003 at the Oakleaf Hall in San Antonio, Texas with the reception following. Jannetta Lynn Lambert and Robert Stephen Dixon are parents of the Bride. The Groom's parents are Teresa Cota and Victor Gonzales. The bride was attended by her sister, Kathryn Jewell Lambert, Maid of Honor and friend, Melissa Stucker, Bridesmaid. The groom's Best Man was friend, Joey Vidal. Groomsman was the bride's brother, Charles Edward Lambert. The couple will be honeymooning in Cancun, Mexico.

Amber's family line is from John Reno, Isaac Tipton Reneau, Barton Warren Stone Reneau, Eugene Reneau, Rex Reneau, Dorothy Reneau Mote, Jannetta Lambert.

Our congratulations and best wishes to Amber and Victor on their marriage!

## From Dolley McAllister Elliott

**I would** love to be able to come to San Antonio for the Reneau Reunion, but I am 83 years old and physically handicapped, so I travel no more.

I have written several published articles on the Reneaus, the first needed correcting as to our emigrant ancestor as, at the time, I had ambiguous information; otherwise, the article is correct. Later, I received a photocopy from The Huguenot Society of London of a page from King James II's Bounty Papers, showing our emigrant ancestor to be Lewis "Reynaud" of Angoumois, France, wife Anne (surname unknown, or unproved, to date), and children: Lewis, Francis, Sara, and Mary. I have the line written up in my manuscript from the emigrant ancestors except Anne's surname and the name of Lewis, Jr.'s, first wife, our ancestress, down to and including the children of John and Elizabeth (Thurman).Reneau. Unfortunately, I do

not have our Thurman line.

Incidentally, I had always felt there was a Washington connection, as Elizabeth Thurman named almost all her children Washington-connected names: Nathan Washington, Nathaniel Smith, Elizabeth Wakefield, Joseph Wright, et al. I kept telling interested people that Elizabeth Thurman Reneau was trying to tell her descendants their ancestry; most did not believe me. Years later, I was proved correct when I obtained a photocopy of a letter from Isaac Tipton Reneau's niece in Paducah, KY (her name escapes me at the moment) asking him for a new chart showing their descent from Grandmother Elizabeth Thurman Reneau's Washington line, as her copy was destroyed, or lost, during the Civil War. I have tried unsuccessfully to find someone who might still have such a chart. Could you, or someone at the Reunion, announce and ask who might know of the chart? The letter is in the West Virginia University Library, and I have a copy of it.

The question is not IF we have a Washington line, but which one. Contemporary with Col. John Washington of Westmoreland Co., VA (Pres. George's ancestor) was a John Washington in the southern VA county of Surry. This John was grandfather of a George Washington, born well before the date of the president.

This George married a Mary Wright, probably the daughter Joseph Wright, as, years later, Elizabeth Thurman Reneau named a son Joseph Wright Reneau. **HOWEVER**, the Westmoreland Co. Washingtons also had a Wright connection, and the name Nathaniel Washington appears several times in their direct lineage. Nathan Washington Reneau was undoubtedly named for him; as she had already used "Nathaniel", they named him Nathan. The question is: was Elizabeth aware of the Surry Co., VA, John Washington or, not knowing, jumped to the conclusion she was of the Westmoreland line, or did she know that, in fact, the Westmoreland line was hers? I would love to have the answer to this; perhaps future researchers could pursue this?

When my mother was orphaned at 9 years old, she went to live temporarily with Cousin Mariah Depp, of your (Isaac Tipton Reneau) line.

I would love to have any written material from the Reunion, including the Jonathan Mulkey descendants who attend, and their addresses if I could.

My thoughts will be with you and I know you'll have a very successful and most interesting get-together. Should anyone attend who knows me, as several have corresponded with me over the years and read my articles, please tell them "hello" for me and that I wish I could be with "y'all (sorry, that's my Tennessee hangover). With best regards, your cousin, Dolley McAlister Elliott

(Dolley's articles are in *The Colonial Genealogist* and *The French Genealogist*, also a short article in *The History of Washington County, Tennessee*. Dolley was Associate Editor of *The Colonial Genealogist*, for many years, which was published by The Augustan Society. Issues may be found in most large libraries with genealogical reference departments.

You may reach Dolley at her email, DOLLYEMC@aol.com)

## Thanks For The Memories!

**We hope you enjoyed our first issue** of the "Reneau Review." Let us know what you would like to see in future issues, and don't forget to send in family updates! We appreciate the \$5.00 donation for expenses.