



# Reneau Review

Vol 2, Issue 1 January 2004

## 2004 Already!

**Here we go!** It's hard to believe that another year has rolled by. Our very best wishes to each of you as we enter the new year. Since we have all been so busy with holiday plans, we are sending this issue to everyone on our mailing list so that you can keep up with other Reneau Descendants. It costs \$46.00 in postage to send out the *Review*, and we do appreciate the contributions that have been sent in to help cover the cost of postage and printing. We have mulled over setting up a Reneau Website, and think that will be in our future. However, about half of the people on our mailing list do not have an email address, and then I'm not sure if you would like the type of personal information contained in the *Review* to be placed on the web. Let us know what you think, as we continue to publish our *Reneau Review* in this format. Some options would be to have the *Review* available by mail and/or sent as an attachment directly to you by email, or password protected on a website. Let us know your thoughts! Comments may be sent to:

Anita Reneau Daniels email:apdaniels1@msn.com  
17617 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Circle  
Vancouver, WA 98683

## BOOK REPORT

The Reunion Book is beginning to take shape! The general format will be a short review of the ancestors of our common ancestor John Reno, his wife, Elizabeth Thurman Reno, and their issue. There will then be a chapter devoted to each of their children: Berry Jordan Reneau, Isaac Tipton Reneau, and Jonathan Mulkey Reneau. Included in these chapters will be sections devoted to their children and descendants. The descendants will, of course, concentrate on the information of those who attended the 2003 Reunion, along with those who mailed in information. We hope to include photos and oral history stories, as well. Another branch of Reneaus, descendants of Francis Marion Reneau, will have a similar format. The last chapter will

focus on the Reunion, including Reunion Photos.

If you haven't sent in information, now is the time to do so! We want everyone who was at the Reunion to contribute, as well as those who are on our mailing list, who would like to be included in the book!

As you read this, if you see there is a lineage or family group missing, let me know!

Funds for publishing the Reneau Book stand at \$432.00.

## Reneau Review Financials:

Beginning Balance:	\$80.00
Nov. Newsletter expense	
Copywork/paper	18.90
Stamps (126 mailed)	46.32
Nov. Balance	14.78
Nov/Dec Contributions	<u>80.00</u>
Jan 1, 2004 Balance	\$94.78

Anticipated expense for January Review is \$65.22

## CONTACT CORNER!

**The following are more names** of those who would like to correspond with other Reneau Descendants:

Louise Wisener  
1 Propio Way  
Hot Springs Vi  
llage, Arkansas 71909

[Wisener@jpa.net](mailto:Wisener@jpa.net)

Descen of Jonathan Mulkey Reneau, Isabelle A. Reneau  
Compton, Luther Savage Compton, Louie Henry  
Compton

-----  
Merle and Janice Woods  
5420 31<sup>st</sup> ST  
Lubbock, Texas 79407

[jansc@door.net](mailto:jansc@door.net)

Descen of Isaac Tipton Reneau, Joseph Wickliffe  
Reneau, Mariba Ann Reneau Ball

## DID YOU KNOW?

In May of 1952 a Reneau Descendant was named **Texas Mother of the Year!** The lady who earned this distinguished title was **Marion Tipton Rowland Blake**. During this time, Marion, her husband William Black and their seven children were living in Cain, Texas. With all of her responsibilities Marion still found time to compose poetry and songs, and to engage actively in cultural, educational and religious activities. All while bringing up six sons and a daughter!. Mrs. Blake attended a luncheon at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City on May 9 at which all the state nominees were honored.

Marion Tipton Reneau Blake was the daughter of Mary Bitsey Rowland, granddaughter of Mariba Reneau Depp, and great granddaughter of Isaac Tipton Reneau. Marion was born in Glasgow, KY October 5, 1892 and died in Lubbock, Texas December 11, 1964.

Marion's son, Jack Blake and his wife Jody of Midland, Texas attended the 2003 Reneau Reunion in San Antonio, Texas. Joining them at the Reunion was their son Bruce and wife Tina of Liberty, Texas.

Thanks to **Dollye McAlister Elliot** for the following article:

### **Reynaud, Reneau, Reno**

People not acquainted with the many variations of Colonists; names in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries are inclined to feel that the different spellings actually refer to different families. Not so. Researchers on their family lines will find the family name spelled in different ways, often phonetically. These names were usually written by a court official; if a person could not write and sign his name, that was usually the correct spelling.

People in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, here and in Britain, were not overly concerned about spelling anything. It was not until Samuel Johnson published his Dictionary in the 18<sup>th</sup> century that even educated people spelled the same word the same way. One can find, as I have, English legal documents where the same word is spelled several different ways in the same document.

Renaud, Reynaud, Renault, etc., are common names in France and considered branches of the same families. Also, it is very possible that the clerk in the English government office recording Lewis Reynaud's" Denization did not ask Lewis how to

spell his name (and assuming Lewis spoke good English), but spelled it as the clerk pleased.

When the Reneaus and other French Huguenots arrived in the English colony of Virginia, the colonists spelled their names as they sounded to English ears. Most of the English colonists would have had trouble with the spelling "Reneau" or "Reyanud" and anglicized the spelling and name to Reno – pronounced Ren-NO', as it can be found spelled Renno and Rennoe in the contemporary county records.

There had become something of a stigma in England on being a Huguenot, as the refugees flooded into London, so Huguenots tended to anglicize their names to assimilate into the populace.

Since Reno, Nevada, was named for Union General Jesse Lee Reno, who was fatally wounded in the Civil War, the pronunciation of Reno popularly become pronounced RE'-no. (The name of my brother Reneau, whom we called REN'-o, was mispronounced by friends and acquaintances alike as REE'-no, and occasionally Bruno!)

A rule of thumb in the spellings "Reneau" and "Reno" appears to be that those of the family who stayed in the environs of Tennessee and Kentucky and those who went farther South changed the spelling from Reno (?back) to Reneau about the time of the American Revolution and the popularity of the Marquis de la Fayette; those of the same family who went North and West retained the Reno spelling.

### **A HAPPY CORRECTION!**

In our first issue of the *Reneau Review* we noted our oldest attendee at the San Antonio Reneau Reunion was Mary Dean Reneau Johnson who would be 91 years old this January. We sure do want to **wish Mary a Very Happy Birthday, who will be 94 years old on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January!** Mary is the great granddaughter of Isaac Tipton Reneau, granddaughter of John Mulkey Reneau, and daughter of William Elbert Reneau. Mary's sister, Lou Reneau Matson, niece, Ellen Matson, and son, Tom Johnson, also were at the Reunion.

### **Kudos!**

**Happy Birthday wishes go out to Walter Park** who is 90 years old this month! Also, he and his wife, Rosalee, celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Oct. 21, 2003! Congratulations to you both! Walter is the son of Mary Compton Park, grandson of Isabelle Reneau Compton, and ggrandson of Jonathan Mulkey Reneau. Walter and Rosalee Park live in Bonham, Texas.

### **A SNEAK PEAK!**

**The 2004 Reunion Team of Anna Chandler, Joyce Mann, Linda Moore and Terrell Perkins** are meeting this month to plan for the Reunion this year in Austin. We are sure to hear more about it in future *Reviews*. **Linda** did let us know that the event will have a Silent Auction, and the **Chateau Lafayette Reneau Winery in upstate New York** will provide some of their wine for the auction. The Team is also contemplating a 2004 **Reneau Reunion Cookbook** of delicious recipes from Reneau kin. The cookbook would be for sale at the 2004 Reunion in Austin, and would help pay for Reunion expense. **The Team would like to know if** the group would support this idea, so please email or write to the *Reneau Review* at the address on the first page.

### **We have heard....**

Word has come to us from San Antonio that **Isaac Alexander Reneau Rodriquez** was involved in an automobile accident last month. We are thankful that he is okay. Isaac Alexander is the son of Julienne Reneau Rodriquez, and grandson of William and Maria Reneau, all of San Antonio, TX. Isaac Alexander's namesakes (through his ggrandfather, Meredith Thurman Reneau,) include his gggrandfather, Isaac Tipton Alexander Reneau and ggggrandfather, Isaac Tipton Reneau.

### **We extend our sympathy...**

**Our condolences to Erma Thomson and family** on the passing of her mother, Mada Campbell Robertson. Mada was the granddaughter of Barton Warren Stone Reneau, and great granddaughter of Isaac Tipton Reneau. She was born February 28, 1904 in Munday, TX and passed away peacefully December 20, 2003 at the age of 99 in Lexington Place Assisted Living Home where she resided for the past year and a half. She was preceded in death by her parents, Laura Reneau Campbell and James E. Campbell; her husband William Pat Robertson; her brother Marvin Campbell and sister, Ila Dobbs. She is survived by daughter, Erma Doris Thomson; granddaughter, Tricia Stammberger and her husband Eric; grandson, Jim Thomson and his wife Susan; great grandson, Dane Thomson and his wife Christy, all of Dallas; great granddaughter, Samantha Thomson of Los Angeles, CA; great great grandchildren, Reagan, Haylie, Jakson, Jordon,

Jaycob Thomson all of Dallas; nieces and nephews in Ohio, Florida and PA, and many cousins in Texas, Washington and Oregon. Mada was a member of the Highland Park United Methodist Church for 37 years. She enjoyed being active in many clubs, including the garden club, antique club, and the Friday Morning Book Club. Mada held offices in The Dallas Woman's Forum, the Woman's Lecture Club of Dallas, and was the chairman and volunteer buyer for the Wadley Institute of Molecular Medicine for many years. She also enjoyed going to the Dallas Symphony Pops series, musicals and art exhibits. Her interests were many and she had a love of life, friends and family. Services were held Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at Restland Wildwood Chapel.

### **Our condolences to...**

**We reach out to Pat Madis** upon hearing of the death of her husband, George. George passed away suddenly on December 22, 2003 from a heart attack. Our sympathy extends to the Madis family. George and Pat have four children, and two of them live close to the Madis home in Brownsboro, Texas. We so enjoyed meeting both Pat and George at the 2003 Reneau Reunion. Pat is a "Reneau" through Jonathan Mulkey Reneau, son of John Reno. Our sympathy goes out to the Madis family from their extended Reneau Family. George was the Henderson Co., TX 4-H Rifle Team coach for 20 years. He was president for the first 2 years and co-founder of the Winchester Arms Collectors Association and member of the National Rifle Association. George had written 7 books on the Antique Winchesters and was working on his 8<sup>th</sup> book at the time of his death. Pat will finish his book since she was working on it with him. He was a world renowned author on Antique Winchesters. George and Pat have lived on their East Texas ranch for 20 years.

### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU...**

Please consider **this your newsletter to share with other Reneau Descendants** events or milestones about your family. Birthday, family in the Armed Forces, new job, Baby, Wedding? We also want to hear about illness and from those we need to keep close to heart who are going through a difficult time. Please send any items of interest to Anita Daniels, at the address or email noted on page 1. **Do you have a Reneau Descendant relative** who would like to receive the *Reneau Review*? Please send name and address and we will include them on the mailing list. Keep up with Reneau and 2004 Reunion news! We appreciate a \$5.00 donation to help pay for copywork and postage.

## Beautiful Wedding...

Tom Johnson shared this article of the wedding of his daughter, Hilary Leigh Johnson to Patrick Cooper Burnett. Hilary is the granddaughter of Mary Dean Reneau Johnson. Hilary traces her ancestry through William Elbert Reneau, John Mulkey Reneau, and then Isaac Tipton Reneau. Congratulations and best wishes to Hilary and Patrick!

\*\*\*\*\*



## A Blessed Event

Congratulations to **Craig and Shelly Field** of Beaverton, OR on the birth of their son. **Chancellor Robert Field** was born at 2:10 AM on November 18, 2003, weighing 6.4 lbs and 19 ½ inches long. Welcoming baby Chance, the newest Reneau Descendant, is Grandmother, Edwyna Brandle and ggrandmother, Vi Brandle. Going back to our first American Reynaud/Reno/Reneau ancestor, here is Chancellor's lineage: Craig Brandle, Edwyna Brandle, Edward Brandle, Gladys Reneau Brandle, Eugene LaRue Reneau, Barton Warren Stone Reneau, Isaac Tipton Reneau, John Reno, Charles Reno, John Reno, Lewis Reno, Louis Reynaud. Wow, that's a long tag for such a little one! Welcome to you!



Stacey Brandle, daughter of Ken Brandle of Salem, Oregon, is shown holding her new cousin, Chance Field. (actually 1<sup>st</sup> cousin once removed!)

From the Midland Reporter-Telegram, Sunday, November 22, 2003:



Mrs. Patrick Cooper Barnett

### JOHNSON-BARNETT

Hilary Leigh Johnson and Patrick Cooper Barnett, both of Arlington, VA, were married at 5 p.m., November 8, at St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Annapolis, Maryland. The Reverend John Price and Mr. William Haley officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom E. Johnson of Midland, TX, and the granddaughter of Mrs. Edwin Johnson of Austin, TX. Ms. Johnson is the granddaughter of the late Edwin Johnson of Austin and the late John Henry Johnson and Ada Cordia Johnson of Crowell, TX.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Barnett of Atlanta, Georgia. He is the grandson of Mrs. Max Milligan and Mrs. Carl Barnett of Atlanta, Georgia. He is the grandson of the late Reverend Max Milligan and the late Carl Burnett.

Hollen Wheeler of Arlington, VA, and Heather Watts of York, England, sisters of the bride, served as the matrons of honor.

The bride was also attended by the groom's sisters, Sally Pickren and Leigh Barnett, both from Atlanta, GA. Also attending the bride were Helana Pedregon of Fredricksburg, TX, and Laura Hoag of Dallas, TX.

Junior bridesmaids were Nicole Dale, Stephanie Gordon, Lakia Hart, Diamond Lee and Keana McDuffie.

John Barnett, father of the groom, and Josh Drexler of Arlington, VA, served as best men. The groom was also attended by the bride's brother, Tom H. Johnson of Los Angeles, CA, Jeff Pickren, brother-in-law of the groom, and Todd Johnston of Atlanta, GA.

Ushers were Brady Birdsong, Rob Forrester, Andrew Kentz, Todd Kice and Geoff Wheeler.

The bride's godchild, LeAnn Dale of Washington, D.C., served as flower girl. Harley Pedregon of Fredricksburg, TX, served as ring bearer.

After a wedding trip to Naples, Florida, the couple will live in Arlington, VA.