



# Reno/Reneau Review

Vol 7, Issue 2, May/Jul 2009

**COMING SOON!**  
**2009 Reno/Reneau Reunion**  
**Staunton, VA**  
**Oct 9-11, 2009**

*Important Notice...*  
*from the 2009 Reunion Team*

## **Deadlines:**

We must receive your order or reservation by the following dates:

Shirts/totes/caps – August 1

Banquet – August 15

Hotel Rooms – September 9

The sooner you get the reservations to us the better we'll feel, as not many people have made the commitment yet. Contact Brenda Rose at (540)885-9618 or e-mail [rosebl@comcast.net](mailto:rosebl@comcast.net) so that we will have an idea of how many to prepare for (seating, favors, activities, etc.). **Even if you can't pay for it all now please let us know if you plan to come.** We hope to see many of our cousins from around the country. Remember, Virginia was the starting point of the Reno/Reneau family in America!

Thanks,

Brenda, Don, and Mary

Your 2009 Reunion Team

**See pages 3 and 4 for Registration forms!**  
**Send to: Brenda Rose, 512 Locust St.**  
**Staunton, VA 24401**

You may make reservations by calling the Holiday Inn Reservation Center: 1-888- HOLIDAY (888-465-4329) or the Staunton Holiday Inn Golf & Conference Center directly at 1-540-248-6020. Mention the Reneau Reunion or REN for the Group Rate.

## **Info for Campers & RV'ers!**

There are three campgrounds near the reunion hotel, each of which has different amenities. The Holiday Inn is located at I-81 Exit 225. Here is the contact information for each one.

Shenandoah Valley Campground – Verona, VA - 5 miles and 10 minutes from the hotel

Formerly a KOA, it is now a Good Sam Park.

Located off of I-81 Exit 227.

(800) 310-2580

[www.campingisfun.com](http://www.campingisfun.com)

Walnut Hills KOA – Staunton, VA – 12 miles and 16 minutes from the hotel

Formerly independent, now a KOA park. Located between I-81 Exits 213 and 217.

(800) 69-WALNUT

[www.walnuthillscampground.com](http://www.walnuthillscampground.com)

Sherando Lake Recreation Area – Lyndhurst, VA – 26 miles and 34 minutes away

Located in the George Washington National Forest.  
(540)291-2188

[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

## *More on the Reunion*

**DATES & Times:** Friday and Saturday, October 9-10, 2009 Friday – registration (opens at 5:00 p.m.), visiting, sharing and copying photos and documents, and possible excursions...

Saturday – the meeting room opens at 9:00 a.m. for registration, visiting, and sharing of “stuff.” We have plans for information tables that you may want to browse. Entertainment, our business meeting, the silent auction, the raffle, and a wonderful 3-entrée buffet luncheon will take much of the day. That afternoon and evening there are many local sites that you might enjoy, as well as an on-site restaurant and Mulligan’s bar, with live entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights. For those who have additional vacation plans, leaving on either Saturday evening or Sunday will give you lots of options.

**COSTS:** Luncheon: \$28.00 per person; children 3-12 half price; children 2 and under free.

## Reno Heritage

submitted by Ronnie & Linda Reno,  
Charlotte Hall, MD



Rollin Ray    Mary    Ed    Effie    Guy

This charming portrait of the **children of Granville Giles Reno and his wife, Ellen Louisa Rhoads**, was taken about 1902 in Macoupin Co., IL. Their Reno ancestry is as follows:

Lewis Reno, the immigrant; Lewis Reno, Jr. – Elizabeth Whitlege; Zela Reno-Mary Chinn; Charles Chinn Reno-Lucy Smith Parker; William Smith Reno-Martha Haycraft; Granville Giles Reno-Louisa Ellen Rhoads.

For this article, we'll begin with Zela Reno born April 3, 1757 in Prince William Co., VA who married Mary Chinn (second cousin of George Washington) on August 3, 1775. He served as a Sergeant during the Revolutionary War. His 1833 pension application described his uniform as "a purple hunting shirt marked in the breast with large letters with the words "Liberty or Death" with a Macarone hat and bucktail." In 1786, he served under Captain Benjamin Logan in the campaign against the Shawnee Indians. His final military service would be during the War of 1812 when he was at least 55 years of age.

In 1784, Zela disposed of his property in Prince William Co., VA and removed his family to what is now Bourbon Co., KY taking with him his nephews Lewis, John, and Jesse. There he was baptized in 1790 at the Cooper's Run Baptist Church, but obviously Zela wasn't a bible totin' type Baptist. In 1792 a fellow parishioner accused him of "being at a Logrolling at an unseasonable time, & with drinking to intoxication & swearing, & differing with a Certain Brothiers, & strikeing a Negro." As a result,

he was admonished and suspended from communion.

Zela is believed to have been the father of James Reno who settled in Jackson Co., IN. James Reno's son was Wilkinson Reno, father of the notorious Reno Gang who committed the first train robbery in the U.S. and who were indirectly responsible for the creation of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Zela's son, Charles Chinn Reno (named for his grandfather, Charles Chinn) led a much more sedate life. On April 1, 1804 he married Lucy Smith Parker. He and his family lived first in Bourbon Co, then Hardin Co. and finally in Trimble County, KY where he died in 1857.

William Smith Reno, son of Charles Chinn Reno and Lucy Parker Smith, married Martha Haycraft in Bourbon Co., KY on February 21, 1833. About 1843 the family moved to Macoupin Co., IL where their son, Granville Giles Reno was born on February 3, 1855. Granville and his brother James bought their father's farm, containing 194 acres gradually increasing their holdings to 440 acres. The brothers engaged in cooperative farming until 1892 when they equally divided the property, each taking a portion of the old homestead as a part of their respective share.

Granville Giles Reno married Ellen Louisa Rhoads on December 16, 1877. Their children, seen in the picture were: Effie May, born September 30, 1878; Edward, born February 27, 1881; Rollin Ray, born May 29, 1884; Mary, born September 1893; and Guy, born in 1896.

On January 18, 1905, Rollin Ray "Jack" Reno married Nellie Alatheia Loper. In 1911, Rollin was offered and accepted a job heading up the correspondence unit of the Civil Service Commission in Washington, D.C. The family settled in nearby Prince George's County, Maryland. Their first three children, all born in Macoupin County, were Wendell Giles, born October 24, 1906 (married Marie Tillie Kasulke); Carl Andrew, born November 22, 1907 (married Thelma Orrison); and George Loper, born September 29, 1910 (married Mary Theresa Cissell). Their last child and only daughter, Dorothy Lou Ellen was born June 3, 1914 and is the last of the siblings still living. Dorothy married William Henry Cox, Jr. All had children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren who now live primarily in Maryland and Virginia--all who are very proud of their Reno heritage.

**RENO/RENEAU REUNION REGISTRATION**

October 9-11, 2009 Holiday Inn and Conference Center – Staunton, Virginia

Luncheon Reservation for Saturday, October 10, 2009  
**Buffet Menu**

*Mixed Green Salad with Dressings, Assorted Rolls & Butter  
Grilled Ham Steak, Baked Chicken, Vegetarian Lasagna  
Country Style Green Beans, Whipped Potatoes  
Coffee and Iced Tea Chef's Dessert Assortment*

\$28.00 per person; children ages 3-12 half price; children 2 and under free.

Number of adult meals @ \$28.00 - \_\_\_\_\_ x \$28.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of child meals @ \$14.00 - \_\_\_\_\_ x \$14.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Luncheon Total** \_\_\_\_\_

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**COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS, HATS, AND TOTE BAGS**

This year we will honor the 1688 arrival in Virginia of Louis and Benjamin Reynaud. The design is by Gary Rose, who gave us the sailing ship logo on previous items. All items this year will be Reno/Reneau Red!!

Cost per item is \$10.00 (plus \$2.00 per item for 3X and 4X)

**Shirts:** Put the number ordered in the blank before the size! \_\_\_\_YS \_\_\_\_YM \_\_\_\_YL \_\_\_\_YXL

\_\_\_\_AS \_\_\_\_AM \_\_\_\_AL \_\_\_\_AXL \_\_\_\_2X \_\_\_\_3X \_\_\_\_4X

Number of **Totebags**: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of **Hats** (baseball-style): \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of items ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = **Item Total** \_\_\_\_\_

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**RAFFLE – Several Items being raffled this year = More Chances to WIN!**

1 ticket for \$1.00 or 6 tickets for \$5.00

Drawing will be at the Business Meeting on October 10, 2009. Do not need to be present to win.

Number of Raffle Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$1.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of 6-ticket sets: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Raffle Total** \_\_\_\_\_

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Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name of spouse attending \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Names of children attending \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ **Your Reno/Reneau lineage on the back → →**

Mail this completed form and one check (made to Reno/Reneau Reunion) to: Brenda Rose 512 Locust St. Staunton, VA 24401

# *My Reno/Reneau Ancestors*

*My Reno/Reneau line of descent, completing as much information as available...  
(Use the left column for Reno/Reneau ancestors and always enter the woman's maiden name)*

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My Name

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My Birthdate

---

My Father/or Mother

---

Name of his (or her) Spouse

---

Grandfather/or Grandmother

---

Name of his (or her) Spouse

---

Great-grandfather/or mother

---

Name of his (or her) Spouse

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2<sup>nd</sup> Great-grandfather/ or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

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3<sup>rd</sup> Great-grandfather/ or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

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4<sup>th</sup> Great-grandfather/or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

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5<sup>th</sup> Great-grandfather/ or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

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6<sup>th</sup> Great-grandfather/or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

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7<sup>th</sup> Great-grandfather/or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

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8<sup>th</sup> Great-grandfather/or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

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9<sup>th</sup> Great-grandfather/or mother

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Name of his (or her) Spouse

*We Remember....*  
*Walter Derling Park*  
*Jan 3, 1914 – Feb 8, 2009*



Graveside service for Walter Derling Park, age 95, of Bonham was held at 3 PM Monday, February 9, 2009 in the Willow Wild Cemetery under the direction of Wise Funeral Home. Reverend Adam Barker officiated. Mr. Park passed away on Sunday, February 8, 2009 at the Seven Oaks Nursing and

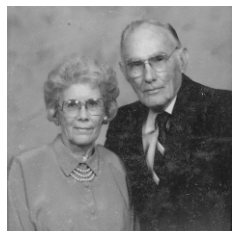
Rehabilitation Center in Bonham.

Walter was born on January 31, 1914 in Gober, TX, the son of Robert Park and Mary Compton Park. He spent his life living in Fannin and Grayson counties and he joined the Calvary Baptist Church at age 19. He retired from the Southwest Pump Company after 35 years of work.

He loved working many years with his sons in Little League and Boy Scouts.

Walter, in 2003, at age 89, contributed an article about his family in the Reneau Book of Memories through the Years. Walter wrote: "I am a grandson of Belle Reneau...My mother, Mary Compton, married Robert Lee Park in 1899 at Franklin, Kentucky. They came to Texas in 1903 and settled in Fannin County. In 1914, I was born. I have four siblings, 2 brothers and 2 sisters. Only my sister Dorothy and myself survive. I am

married to Rosalee Victory, for 70 years on October 21, 2003." Walter went on to say that he wished he could have attended the Reneau Reunion, but due to health was unable to travel. He loved hearing from Reneau cousins.



Walter & Rosalee

Walter leaves his wife, Rosalee, and two sons, Jerry Ray Park and wife Sara of Pottsboro and Dennis Darrell Park of Bonham. Granddaughters, Paige Park Green and husband Cannon of Southlake; Ashley Park Lamont and husband Dr. Jeff Lamont of Dallas and 4 great grand children, Avery and Chase Green and Claudia and Allison Lamont. Sister Dorothy Mae Taylor of Dallas. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Bill and Sidney Park and one sister, Annie Rogers.

Walter's Reneau ancestry is: Mary Compton Park, Isabel A. Reneau Compton, Jonathan Mulkey, John Reno, Charles Reno/Reneau, John Reno, Lewis Jr., Lewis Sr.

*We Remember....*  
*Delia Kathleen Reneau*  
*Oct. 23, 1923 – May 10, 2009*



Delia Kathleen Wade Reneau, of Ferris, Texas, beloved wife of Benton G. Reneau, departed this life on May 10, 2009. Delia was born on October 23, 1923 in Dallas, Texas to Floyd and Clara Wade. Delia had two siblings: Bruce and George.

Delia married Benton G. Reneau on Feb 7, 1948. She and BG spent many years managing motels in Alpine, Temple, and Louisiana. Two sons, Russell and Randall, were born to this marriage. After retiring from the motel business, Delia could be found greeting customers at the Reneau Mobil in Lancaster, Texas.

Delia was a member of New Beginnings Bible Church in Ferris, Texas. Mama DD, as she was known to those close to her, was loved by all. Having been stricken by polio as a small child, Delia never let that condition diminish her joy of life. She was an inspiration to all who knew her.

Delia is survived by her loving husband of 60 years, Benton, son Russell Reneau; son Randall and wife Carolyn; grandchildren, Jennifer, Kathleen (KC), Brad and Kevin; brother, Bruce Wade. The photo of BG and Delia on the right was taken in 2004. The couple enjoyed get-togethers with Reneau cousins throughout the Dallas area.



BG & Delia

The years after Benton and Delia retired were filled with being part of their children and grandchildren's lives, and watching their growth and development.

Funeral service was held at Laurel Land Funeral Home Chapel in Dallas on May 12, 2009 at 2 PM with, Dr. Bobby Adams officiating. Interment was in Laurel Land Memorial Park in Dallas.

Delia's Reneau heritage is through her husband, Benton G. Reneau: Benton G. Reneau, Sr., Barton Warren Stone Reneau, Isaac Tipton, John, Charles Reno/Reneau, John Reno, Lewis Jr., Lewis Sr.

*Today in History*  
*May 22, 2009*

Ken Claborn, The Villages, FL shares a piece from his local newspaper: On this date in history:

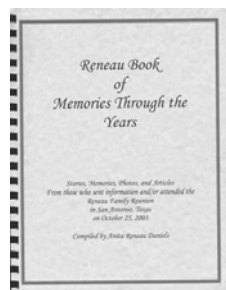
In 1868, a major train robbery took place near Marshfield, Ind., as members of the Reno gang made off with \$96,000 in loot.

Ken writes that he and his wife, Lorraine are doing the "best we can with a few health problems." The couple is planning a trip to Thomasville, GA in August to visit with nieces and nephews, Karen, Yvonne and Dale (Ken's sister Margaret's children).

Ken's Reneau lineage is: Leonard Azel Claborn, Susan Mary Reneau Claborn, John Mulkey Reneau, Isaac Tipton, John, Charles Reno/Reneau, John Reno, Lewis Jr., Lewis Sr.

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*Reneau Book of Memories Through the Years.*



We have reprinted Reneau Book of Memories Through the Years. The book contains stories, memories, photos and articles from those who sent information and/or attended the Reneau Family Reunion in San Antonio, TX on Oct. 25, 2003. (This Reunion was the beginning of the "National Reno/Reneau Family

Reunions," as there were several branches of Reneau families attending (or sending information). The 251 page soft cover book contains information on Hezekiah, Samuel Russell, William Tipton, Charles Frances, Isaac Tipton, John Pleasant Thurman (Reno), Nathaniel Smith, Jonathan Mulkey, William T, and Berry Jordan, and their descendants.

Reneau Book of Memories

Will be Available at the  
 All Reno/Reneau Reunion  
 for a

Special Reunion Price: \$20.00!

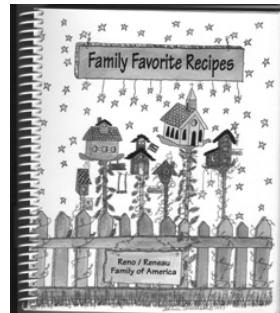
Or you may still purchase a copy of the book, please complete the form below:

**Reneau Book of Memories**  
 \$25.00 per book, including postage  
 Enclose \$25.00 per copy \_\_\_ books @ \$25.00 ea. = \_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check payable to: Anita Daniels, Reno/Reneau Family Acct  
 Anita Reneau Daniels. 17617 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Cir. Vancouver, WA  
 986833

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**Reno/Reneau Cookbook**  
**A Great Gift!**

We have copies of the Reno/Reneau Cookbook available! A color photo of the Reno/Reneau Family Favorite Recipe Cookbook would really show how colorful and bright this cookbook is! There are 232 pages of delicious recipes from Reno/Reneau descendants across the United States. The deluxe wire binding allows you to easily open the book to lay flat.



Each recipe shows the city and state where the contributor lives, and the relationship to his or her nearest ancestor who has the Reno or Reneau surname.

To order, please use order form below:

**Nationwide Reno/Reneau Cookbook**  
 \$18.00 per book, including postage  
 # \_\_\_\_\_ Books @ \$18.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check to: Anita Reneau Daniels, Reno/Reneau Family Acct  
 Mail to:  
 Anita Daniels 17617 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Cir Vancouver WA 98683

Nationwide Reno/Reneau Cookbook

Will be Available at the  
 Oct 09 All Reno/Reneau Reunion  
 for a  
 Special Reunion Price: \$15.00!

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***Thank you!***

Many thanks to you for supporting this newsletter: It is by your contributions that we are able to send the Reno/Reneau Review to so many Reno/Reneau descendants!

Did you know that we send out 220 newsletters by mail, and 90 by email? The cost of printing a newsletter—8 to 10 pages—is about \$125.00, and the cost to mail is close to \$100.00 as well! We can only do this through your support

Many thanks to the following Reno/Reneau Descendants for the support in recent months: **Benton G. Reneau**, Ferris, TX; **Carroll Reneau**, Irving, TX; **Roger Reneau**, Round Rock, TX; **Curtis and Sally Slayton**, Ashland, KS; **Willie and Cindy Reneau**, Tomball, TX; **Bill Reneau**, Wolfe City, TX; **Frances Kemp**, Henderson, KY.