



# Reneau Review

Vol 3, Issue 3, May 2005

## As Time Goes By....

Here we are in the month of May already. And in June the year 2005 will be half way over! Before you know it, we will be heading into the year 2006, and that is when the next "All Reneau" Reunion will take place near Albany, Kentucky. If you haven't made your reservations yet, be sure to think about doing it early. If you need to cancel, there is a week grace period, and if canceled at least a week before the arrival date, your deposit is refunded.

The Reunion will be held at the Dale Hollow State Park on June 9 & 10, 2006. Checkout time is 12 noon on June 11, 2006. Feel free to come earlier and stay longer, as there are many activities to enjoy, (golfing, swimming, hiking, boating, scuba diving, etc.) as well as visiting with Reneau Relatives!

Reservations may be made directly with the Lodge at 1-800-325-2282. They will take reservations now with one night deposit. When making reservations, be sure to tell the operator that it is for the Reneau Family Reunion, as they usually do not take reservations this far ahead of time.

We are especially looking forward to "Genealogy Night" when there will be a special room to display photos, exchange information, and learn about our common ancestors. We are expecting several Reneau Branches, starting with our common ancestors, John Reno and Susanna Thorn Reno.

Please contact any member of the 2006 Reunion Team with your questions, comments or suggestions regarding the 2006 Reunion: **Al Mote**, 11307 Destiny Dr. San Antonio, TX 78216, tel: 210-349-2903 [almote@msn.com](mailto:almote@msn.com); **Betty Reneau**, 314 Tennessee Rd, Albany, KY, 42602 tel: 606-387-6260; **Charles Reneau**, 314 Riverside Dr, Russell, KY 41169, tel: 606-833-8233, [charles@reneauagency.com](mailto:charles@reneauagency.com); **Brenda Rose**, 512 Locust St, Staunton, VA 24401, tel: 540-885-9618, [rosebl@adelphia.net](mailto:rosebl@adelphia.net).

## Our Common Ancestors

The Reneau Review is a bi-monthly newsletter that is sent or emailed to primarily descendents of **John Reno and Susanna Thorn(e) Reno**. John and Susanna were the parents of twelve children. One daughter, Margaret, died at birth. The other ten siblings married and had children, establishing the different branches of the Reno/Reneau family of John and Susanna:

1. **William Lewis Reno** was born Feb 9, 1738/39 in Prince William Co., Virginia, and died abt. 1798 in Sevier Co., TN. He married Catherine Butler May 27, 1760 in Winchester, Frederick Co., VA. She was born 1742 in Virginia, and died aft July 1798 in Elizabethton, Carter Co., TN.

2. **Benjamin Reno** was born Feb 3, 1739/40 in Prince William Co., VA, and died bet. May-Jul 1783 in Allegheny

Co., PA. He married Jane Bell November 22, 1766, in Allegheny Co., PA. She was born 1744 in Pattersons Creek, Hampshire Co., VA (now WV) and died aft. 1784 in Washington Co., PA.

3. **Sarah Reno** was born June 15, 1744 in Prince William Co., VA, and died December 11, 1820 in TN. She married William Rogers Jan 28, 1766 in Hampshire Co., VA. He died March 25, 1794.

4. **John David Reno** was born April 16, 1746 in Prince William Co., VA, and died 1839 in Somerville, Morgan Co., AL. He married Elizabeth Debolt October 17, 1768 in Hampshire Co., VA. She was born 1749 in Hampshire Co., VA, and died abt 1810 in Harrison, Hamilton Co., TN.

5. **Mary Susanna Reno** was born Nov 6, 1748 in Prince William Co., VA. She married John Calvin Jan 6, 1765 in Hampshire Co., VA.

6. **George W. Reno** was born Sep 1, 1751 in Prince William Co., VA and died Apr 7, 1834 in Switzerland Co., IN. He married Margaret Duncan abt 1778 in Allegheny Co., PA. She was born 1751 in Allegheny, PA.

7. **Charles Reno** was born Mar 14, 1754 in Prince William Co., VA, and died Aug 4, 1828 in Clinton Co., KY. He married Alice Elizabeth Tipton Aug. 8, 1771 in Frederick Co., VA, which later became Shenandoah Co. She was born 1757 in Frederick Co., VA.

8. **Lewis Reno** was born Jan 30, 1756 in Prince William Co., VA, and died Jul 6, 1782 in Sanduskytown, OH. He married Margaret Evans Mar 29, 1778 in Allegheny Co., PA. She was born 1760.

9. **Francis Reno, Reverend** was born Feb 7, 1757 in Prince William Co., VA and died Aug 12, 1836 in Rochester, PA. He married Lydia Saviers Jun 15, 1784 in Washington Co., PA. She was born Dec 15, 1764 in Patterson Creek, Hampshire Co., VA, and died Mar 23, 1842 in Beaver, PA.

10. **Thomas Means Reneau** was born Apr 4, 1760 in Patterson Creek, Hampshire Co., VA, and died aft Feb 4, 1842 in Blue River Twp., Harrison Co., IN. He married Jane Ramsey 1782 in Prince William Co., VA. She was born abt 1765 in Marsh Creek, Adams Co., PA, and died 1851 in Harrison Co., IN.

In addition to John and Susanna's descendents, there are Reneau Review readers who are descendents of **John's brother, Lewis Reno**. John and Lewis had three additional siblings: **Thomas, Judith, and Francis**. To include Lewis Reno's descendents we go back one more generation. Our common ancestor is then **Lewis Reno**.

**Louis Reno**, son of Louis Reynaud, was born bet. 1666 – 1678 in Province of Angoumois, Western France, and died November 1754 in Prince William Co., VA. We do not have a record of Lewis Reno's wife.

(The above information is from **Genealogy of the Reno/Reneau Family in America, 1600 – 1920** by Steven G. Fancy and Sue Reneau Damewood.)

## Welcome New Readers....

John David Reno Descendents: **Dale and Marcia Weishaar**, Argonia, KS; **Robert Earl Reneau**, Alva OK; **Shirley Meadows**, Anderson, MO; **Caroll Reneau**, Irving, TX; **Bonnie Cox**, Fairview, TX; **Curtis and Sally Slaton**, Ashland, KS; **Donald and Bettie Moore**, Maryville, TN; **Max Reneau**, Warrensburg, MO; **Roger and Cindi Reneau**, Round Rock, TX; **Fran Kemp**, Henderson, KY; **Joe and Mary Reneau**, Prague, OK; **Ruth Perry**, Anthony, KS; **Pam Ferguson**, Eastview, KY.

Charles Reno Descendents: **Karen Slatton**, Hemet CA; **Violet Telford**, Hemet CA; **May "Toots" Comfort**, Carlsbad, CA; **Marion Shipley**, Barstow, CA; **Marcia Joan Smith**, Lancaster, CA; **Mary Reneau Smith**, Elkins, WV.

## WHO KNOWS???

Do you have a research question, comment, or information to share on Reneau Family History? We will post your message here....

1. **Dorothy Reneau Mote** of San Antonio, TX is looking for descendents of Thomas Wood Reneau and Ella Blanche Martin Reneau. She has Thomas and Ella's original marriage license and a photo of them that she would like to give to direct descendents of Thomas and Ella. Please contact Dorothy by email at [almote@msn.com](mailto:almote@msn.com) or tel: 210-349-2903.

2. From **Bettie Jo Moore**, Marysville, TN comes this question: Does anyone have a record of Michael Reneau being named William Michael Reneau? (John David Reno line) In researching her husband Don's Reneau ancestors in Jefferson Co., TN (George Senter Moore, son of Samuel Russell Moore and Mary Martha Jane Reneau, daughter of Samuel Russell Reneau, son of Michael Reneau, son of John Reneau, son of John David Reneau, son of John (1715), all the references to Michael Reneau were to Michael Reneau and not to William Michael Reneau. The only William Michael Reneau in the records I have was born Jan 1829, son of Isaac Reneau and Melissa Neuman, son of John and Narcissus Reneau. Please contact Bettie by email [bjmoore@msn.com](mailto:bjmoore@msn.com) or tel: 865-980-9413.

3. **Bette (Reneau) Harp** emails to inquire about George and Julia Reneau, her great grandparents. George Reneau died while Julia was pregnant with her grandfather, George Alonzo Reneau. Julia remarried a man whose last name was Wilhite, and we have simply not been able to learn anything about George and ancestors.

Bette is the daughter of Marshall Reneau and Lorena Hodges. Her grandparents, Alonzo and Mandy Reneau moved to Ohio from New Market TN after 1918, when Marshall was born.

Upon additional research we have found that on the 1880 Federal Census Jefferson Co., TN there is a George Reneau, wife Julia, and son James (age 6). In the 1900 Federal Census Knox Co., TN, there is a Julia Wilhite (widow) and sons, James and George L (Lon). The 1880 Census information is the source used in the Reno/Reneau Family in

America. (George W. Reneau is listed as the son of James Reneau and Mary Moseley.) With the 1900 Census we can conclude that George and Julia Reneau had two sons, James and George. Does anyone have additional information about the ancestors and descendents of George and James? Please contact Bette at [bette.r.harp@Vanderbilt.Edu](mailto:bette.r.harp@Vanderbilt.Edu).

Note: Please also let the *Reneau Review* know should you have answers to the above questions, and we will let the rest of the group know the answers. (address info on pg 8). Thanks!

## In Front of the Camera!

Last April we learned that two Reneau descendents were chosen as extras in a football movie being filmed at **Michael Moad's** high school and at the stadium in Lubbock, TX. We contacted **Chuck Moad** to see if he and his son, Michael, had made the cut and would be seen in the movie, *Friday Night Lights*. The movie is now available in DVD. It is about the 1988 Permian Panthers High School Team of Odessa. This is the same school that Michael attended. Both Michael and his dad, Chuck played extras in the film. Michael was part of the football team "extras" and wore #32. Chuck was a part of the group of fans in the stadium, and sat next to Tim McGraw, who plays the father of one of the boys on the football team.



**Michael Moad**



**Chuck Moad**

Chuck Moad is a Lieutenant on the Odessa Police Force. Michael and Chuck's Reneau lineages are: Koleta Bauman Moad, Esther LeeJeanne Reneau Bauman, Eugene LaRue Reneau, Barton

Warren Stone, Isaac Tipton, John Reno,

Charles, John, Lewis, Louis Reynaud.

## Suggested Reading....

The Means Family of America printed in 1972 by Elizabeth Fogleson would be an interesting book for Reneau Desendents of John Mulkey Reneau and Elenor "Nellie" Ann Means (Charles Reno, Isaac Tipton Reneau line). John and Nellie's daughter, Susan Mary Reneau married Samuel Claborn. Their union produced eleven children. Information about these children is included in the book. While the book itself is out of print, Dennis Means of Gilmer, TX obtained permission to copy the book on a CD. You can check his website at [www.meansweb.com](http://www.meansweb.com). You may download the book for free, or Dennis will send you a CD of the book for \$15.00.

## Happy Birthday Wishes to...

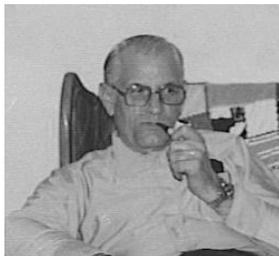


**Bob Reneau**

**Robert "Bob" Earl Reneau** was born on a farm in Grant County, OK. His Reneau lineage is Jesse Robert Reneau, Samuel E Russel, William Michael, John Reno, John David, Lewis, Louis Reynaud. Bob now lives in Alva, OK where he has been active in business and community affairs. He is a graduate of the Gemological Institute of America, and had been in the Jewelry business most of his working life. Bob is also a certified Lay Speaker for the Methodist Church. Additionally, he does public speaking engagements for various organizations. One of his favorite topics is the subject of Automobile evolution. Bob's wife, Maurine Smith Reneau passed away in 1987. Their daughter, Robin, is also deceased, and leaves two children, Julianne King of Liberal, KS, and Jeff King of Lordsburg, NM. Jeff and his wife, Amie, have two children, Rylee and Ryan. Bob and Maurine's son Jimmy Dale is a fireman and EMT in Dodge City, KS. Our very best Birthday wishes to Bob on his 87<sup>th</sup> Birthday last Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>!



**Bob Reneau and the Auto**



**Robert Maurice Reneau**

Congrats to **Robert Maurice Reneau** who celebrated his 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Robert lives in Albany, KY. He served four terms, seven years each, as the Clinton County Clerk. Robert's wife, Lorene Choate Reneau, passed away in 2001. Their daughter, Jeannie lives at home. Their son, Robert Jr. is married to Nannie Grider Reneau, presenting Robert Sr. with four granddaughters: Debora Elaine, Amy Michelle, Bobbie Carol, and Billie Ann. Robert also has ten great-grandchildren: Sarah, Amanda, Melanie, Matthew, Megan, Beverly, Egan, Elijah, William, and Emily. Robert's Reneau lineage is Ulysses Simpson Grant Reneau, Berry Jordan, John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis, Louis Reynaud. Happy Birthday wishes, Robert!



**Robert, Lorene, Jeannie, Robert Jr**



**Wilma Graham**

**Wilma Reneau Graham** is a resident of Dallas, TX. Her Reneau lineage is: Benton G. Reneau, Barton Warren Stone, Isaac Tipton, John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis, Louis Reynaud. She was born in Floyd, Texas on June 27, 1918, and married Glen Graham in

1942. He was a farmer. Glen passed away in 1986. Glen and Wilma have two children: Maurice Glen and Edna Orlena Graham Coplin. She has 3 grandchildren, Christi Coplin Lesikar, Amy Coplin, and John Graham, and 2 great granddaughters, Mercedes Monk and Alexis Monk. Wilma worked 34 years as a teacher assistant and assistant director for a pre-school in Dallas, Texas. She said that being around children kept her young. Since retiring, she enjoys reading, jigsaw puzzles with her great granddaughter, and cheering on the Texas Rangers Baseball. Wilma has been a blessing to everyone she has encountered in her 87 years of life. We all wish her a very happy birthday, and many more!!



**Wilma 1989**

**Rachel Pressly Day**, wife of Clyde Wickliffe Day, celebrated her 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday on April 19, 2005. Rachel and Clyde live in Kerrville, TX. They brought many Reneau photos to the 2003 and 2004 Reunion, and helped others learn about Clyde Day's Reneau line: Mary Elizabeth Reneau Day, Joseph Wickliffe Reneau, Isaac Tipton, John Reno, Charles, John,



**Rachel Pressly Day Reneau Reunion**



**Rachel & Clyde**

Lewis, Louis Reynaud. Rachel married Clyde in 1943, which was during the time Clyde was in the US Navy. Rachel earned her Master's Degree from Prairie View A&M, along with bilingual (Spanish) certification. Both Clyde and Rachel now spend time enjoying their four children: Neil, Margaret, Henry, and Elizabeth, and seven grandchildren: Rachel Jennifer, Rebecca, Lars, May, Sam and Geoffrey. A Very Happy Birthday, Rachel!

**Loyce Commons Mangrum** of Dallas, TX celebrated her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Loyce is the youngest daughter of AJ and Hettie Commons. Her Reneau heritage is: Hettie Reneau Commons, Barton Warren. Stone Reneau, Isaac Tipton, John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis, Louis Reynaud. Loyce married JC Mangrum. A



**Loyce Commons**

daughter, Barbara was born to the couple.. Barbara Mangrum Summers is married to Steve Summers. Steve is a minister of the Church of Christ located in Bokchito, OK. Loyce is proud of her two granddaughters: Bobbie Summers Gambill and Christie Summers Moses, as well as her great-grandchildren: Julie Gambill, John Calab Gambill, and Joshua Moses. Loyce's family loves to visit her in Dallas. They even keep a computer there for all to use!



**Loyce & JC**

Loyce's husband, J C Mangrum is deceased. He was a minister for the Church of Christ. The couple spent many years sharing the Christian message. We wish you a very Happy Birthday, Loyce!

## Happy Birthday Wishes to...

Belated Happy 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday wishes on Jan 18, 2005 to **Eartle Reneau** of Albany, KY. Eartle and his wife, Dorothy Spears Reneau, have a son Danny, and daughter Janice Reneau Vaughn. Eartle and his family farmed near Albany, and now live in town.



**Eartle Reneau - 1968**

They are the proud grand-parents of Tracy, Andy, Tabitha, and Germaine. One grandson, Tony, is deceased. Eartle's Reneau lineage is Granville Artie Reneau, Evans Alexander, William T. John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis, Louis



**Dorothy, Danny, Janice & Eartle**

Reynaud. Happy Belated Birthday, Eartle!



**Stanley Reneau**

**Stanley Reneau** is busy managing the day to day activities on his farm in Barren County, KY. The farm is located near Eighty Eight; this is the farm where he was born. to Isaac Smith Reneau and Neva Ray Moore Reneau. in 1918. He joined siblings William, Lance, and Arnettie. There were three additional siblings joining the

family after Stanley: Margaret, George, and Myrtie Eldene. The photo at the right was taken when Stanley was a baby. His mother, Neva, is holding him. Lawrence is standing in back, and William is sitting in front. Isaac is holding their daughter, Arnettie.



**Isaac Smith Reneau Family**

Neva Ray Moore Reneau passed away on October 9, 1926 in Barren County, KY. She left her husband, Isaac, and her children raging in age from fifteen to two years old. Stanley's Reneau line is: Isaac Smith Reneau, Joseph Wickliffe, Isaac Tipton, John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis, Louis Reynaud.

Stanley has fond memories of his childhood. Recently he and his family discussed a delicious "hard chocolate pie" that he enjoyed at Aunt Maggie Miller's house on Sundays when he went to visit his baby sister, Eldean, who Aunt Maggie raised.

Stanley married Edna Bailey in Glasgow, KY. They had a wonderful marriage that lasted over sixty years. Edna Bailey Reneau passed away in 2003. They are the parents



**Isaac Smith Reneau and children**

l-r front: Stanley, Eldean, Isaac, Garland, Margaret  
l-r back: Arnettie, Lawrence, Lance

of three sons, Billy, Fred, and Larry. They have eight grandchildren, Jennifer Cardwell, Robin Reneau, Chase Reneau, Jason Reneau, Toby Reneau, Julie Miller, Dustin Reneau, and Jonathan Reneau. Seven great-grandchildren (so far) have been born to this family: Desire Combs, BJ and Bailey Reneau, Olivia Grace Reneau, and Kaylee, Alec, and Isaac Reneau. The Reneau family has been blessed with three babies in the last six months.

Stanley Reneau and his family look forward to the reunion in Albany, KY in 2006. They hope to meet many family members there!

Happy 87<sup>th</sup> birthday to Stanley Reneau on June 3, 2005!

### Mary Kay Ash Charitable Foundation Volunteers



l-r Mary Dean, Clea Lichtenwald, Erma Thomson

Even though **Erma Robertson Thomson** of Dallas, TX is retired from Mary Kay Company, she and other retirees volunteered their time to coordinate and process many hundreds of applications that poured into Dallas at The Mary Kay Building for Cancer Research Grants. Erma, who started with the Company in 1966 and was Mary Kay's right-hand aid, felt it's just one small way to give back to the community.

Erma's Reneau lineage is: Mada Campbell Robertson, Laura Alice Reneau Campbell, Barton Warren Stone Reneau, Isaac Tipton Reneau, John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis, Louis Reno/Reynaud.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE RENEAU REVIEW!** Feb/Mar/Apr: Benton Reneau, Joe Reneau, Bonnie Cox, Bill Reneau, Carroll Reneau, Roger Reneau, Dale Weishaar. Bettie Moore, Gerald Reneau, Curtis Slaton, Karen Slatter, Violet Telford, Frances Kemp, Evelyn Cross, John Crawford, Terry Harden, Max Reneau, Carolyn Shepler, Mary Walker, Bob E. Reneau, Betty Reneau, Louise Weisner, Anna Reneau, Shirley Meadows.

# Welcome Little One!



Karsten Reneau Chambers  
Bradley and Melissa Chambers

Children are a gift from God Psalm 127:3

News comes from John Bryant Reneau III and Jean Reneau of College Station, TX, of the birth of their grandson Karsten Reneau Chambers. Great-Grandmother is Alice Reneau of Munday, TX. Karsten was born on January 8, 2005, weighing 10 pounds, 5.8 ounces and measuring 22 inches long. Proud parents are Bradley and Missy Chambers of Cypress, TX. Karsten's Reneau lineage is John Bryant Reneau III, John Bryant Reneau Jr., John Bryant Reneau Sr., John Mulkey Reneau, Isaac Tipton Reneau, John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis, Louis Reynaud.

## Reno/Reneaus of the Past John Reno & Susanna Thorne Part 3

From the Reneau Book of Memories  
Submitted by **Sue Reneau Damewood**

**LEWIS RENO.** He was born January 30, 1756, in Frederick County, Virginia, and died July 6, 1782, in Sanduskytown, Ohio, when he was killed by Wyandotte Indians during an expedition in Ohio while serving under Col. William Crawford. He married Margaret Evans on March 29, 1778 in Pennsylvania. The estate settlement in Washington County, North Carolina lists only a daughter Mary who chose Charles Reno as her guardian at her father's death, but it is believed he had a son Lewis who may have died young.

**REV. FRANCIS RENO.** He was born February 7, 1757 in Frederick County, Virginia, and died August 12, 1836, in Rochester, Pennsylvania. He married Lydia Saviers on June 15, 1784 in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. He and his brother Thomas attended the McMillan Latin School. He was ordained to the ministry in Christ Church in Philadelphia on October 28, 1792, by Bishop William White. Rev. Francis Reno conducted the first religious services by regular appointment in Sewickley Valley. He was an Episcopal minister at the church at Woodville, Chartiers Chapel, from 1792 to 1811. He was often referred to as the first Protestant minister west of the Alleghenies. In

1799 he set out with his wife and children and all their household goods in an ox cart and blazed a trail to a spot near present-day Rochester, Pennsylvania. They were the first recorded settlers at Rochester. They had 11 children: John, Elizabeth, Charles Saviers, Lewis, William, Nancy, Eliza Jane, Thomas Thornton, Francis J., Susannah, and Jesse.

**THOMAS RENEAU.** He was born April 4, 1760, in Frederick County, Virginia, and died after February 4, 1842, in Blue River Township, Harrison County, Indiana. He married Jane Ramsey before 1782 in Prince William County, Virginia.

He said in his Revolutionary War pension file that he served in the Revolutionary War near Pittsburg in 1778, then spent 4 years in Virginia, then lived 40 years in Tennessee, and had lived in Indiana 5 years (as of 1833). About 1828 Thomas moved from Jefferson County, Tennessee, to New Albany (Floyd County), Indiana and then to Blue River Township in Harrison County, Indiana. He and Jane had 7 children: Narcissa "Cessie", Lewis, Meredith C., Celia, John Fleming, Jesse, and Aaron.

**MARGARET RENO.** She was born September 21, 1762, in Frederick County, Virginia, and died October 16, 1850, in McDonough County, Illinois. She married James Vance on January 28, 1782. They had 13 children: Mary "Polly", Elizabeth, Nancy Agnes, Sarah, Sarah II, Lewis Reno, John Alma, Agnes Penquite, William, Margaret, William Reno, Martha Ramsey, and James.

## VERY IMPORTANT PLEASE READ!!

The next issue (July 2005) of the Reneau Review will honor Reneau Ancestors and Descendants who are serving or who have served in the United States Armed Forces from the Revolutionary War Era up until the present time. **Please send a photo of your Reneau Ancestor or Descendent in his/her uniform along with short biographical information.** We will pay tribute to these fine people in our next issue. **Deadline to submit information is June 20, 2005!** Thank you.

## Mystery Photo



This photo was submitted by Terry Swindell Hardin of Murchison, TX. Terry's Reneau line is James Swindell Jr., Selina Olive Reneau Swindell, John Mulkey Reneau, Isaac Tipton, John Reno, Charles, John, Lewis Reno/Reynaud, Louis. Written on the back of the photo is "Edith Reneau." The photographer is Stanton, Springfield, O. If you know about Edith and her family please contact the *Reneau Review*.

## **RENEAU in the SPOTLIGHT!**

Lorenzo Dow Day Jr. was born in Hunt County, TX, 92 years ago on February 16<sup>th</sup> to L D Day Sr and Mary Elizabeth Reneau Day. He joined siblings Clara, James, William, and Emmett. Later, a younger brother, Clyde, would complete the family. The family had a farm, and everyone pitched in the work the crops and tend the animals.



**Young Lorenzo Day Jr**

“LD” attended Floyd School, in addition to helping with the family chores.

Later, LD attended Wesley College in Greenville, TX, and The University of Austin, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in June, 1935. When Lorenzo was a student at the University of Texas, he met May Bell Lehman. She was attending Seton Nursing School, and Lorenzo was a patient in the hospital. They were

married in 1933.

LD and May Bell had two children: William Howard and Mary Ellen. LD served in the Navy from 1942 to 1946. He spent this time on a ship during the war. May Bell was a homemaker, but worked outside the home at the A & P when Lorenzo was in the service. He was discharged as a Lieutenant (jg) in the U S Naval Reserve.

LD’s professional life, with the exception of one year teaching at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX, and the time spent in the military service, was spent in the design, fabrication and erection of structural steel.



**Lorenzo Dow Day Jr**



**May Bell Lehman Day**



**Mary and Howard Day**

Lorenzo enjoyed working in his wood shop that was built on the back lot of their home. May Bell had a sign made, “Pappy’s Doghouse.” The name Pappy seemed to stick and there are many people who call him, “Pappy!” Lorenzo also

enjoyed hunting and fishing. He loved to read as well, and is still an avid reader.

The children grew up and both married. Howard married Delilah Birk in 1958. They had two children: Daniel and Diane. Mary was married to Wilford Walker in 1959. Mary and Wilford have a daughter, Valerie.



**May Bell and Lorenzo Day  
At General Steel Company Party**

Lorenzo retired in 1975 from General Steel Company of Fort Worth, TX. The couple then moved to Telephone, TX, where Lorenzo raised cattle and cut wood. It was just a year later that their son, Howard, passed away.

Lorenzo built this playhouse – complete with electric lights and door bell -- in 1962 in Fort Worth, TX in his driveway. Valerie was about three years old, and the house was a real hit with the kids in the neighborhood. It is no small feat that the house has been moved several times, since it is 8 ft by 8 ft! Lorenzo also built a play house for his other grandchildren, Dan and Diane. What a special play place to have!



**Valerie Walker at her  
house that Pappy built!**

May Bell Day passed away in 1996. Lorenzo continued to live in Telephone, TX. In 1998 he married Mattie Docia Hawkins. Lorenzo and Mattie attended the 2004 Reneau Reunion in Austin, TX.



**Mattie & LD at 2004  
Reneau Reunion**

LD is a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, as well as membership in several professional and Service Societies. He was active in bringing a new fire truck to the Telephone Community, as well.

With his grandchildren all married, Pappy Day enjoys his family. Valarie is married to John Ralston. Dan’s wife is Virginia Sullivan Day—they have two children, Nora and Thomas. Diane is married to Mark Henke. Diane and Mark have a daughter, Mariah. So, LD is a great-grandpa to Nora, Thomas, and Mariah! Enjoy the spotlight, LD!



**"Pappy" Day  
New Fire Truck**

Thanks to **Max Reneau** of Warrensburg, MO for sharing “1893 Musings” written by his grandfather, **John Eagleton Reneau**.

Max’s Reneau line is Perry Bates Reneau, John Eagleton, Samuel E. Russel, William Michael, John Reno, John David, John, Lewis, Louis Reynaud/Reno, Louis.

Max’s grandfather, **John Eagleton Reneau** was 14 years old when his father, **Samuel Russel Reneau** moved his family from TN to KS. When the Cherokee Strip (a narrow piece of land—6 million acres-- in Northern OK) was opened to settlers, Samuel was among those who staked a land claim. It was here that Samuel, his wife, Barbara, homesteaded, and where their children grew up. John Eagleton later wrote his observations.

1893 Musings By John Eagleton Reneau 31 May 1878 – 23 Oct 1959

In eighteen hundred and ninety three  
The traffic on the road was a sight to see.  
Covered wagons were a rolling on  
From sun up until dawn.  
People were coming from all parts of our nation  
To get a home was their determination.  
There were many people who had made a long trip  
In view of a home in the Cherokee Strip.

They were gathering in great crowds together  
To sit on the state line in the hottest kind of weather.  
North of Cameron which was on the state line,  
Was a city of wagons and tents, its streets were hard to find.  
In Cameron was a cabin where people registered for the race.  
For days people stood in a hot line marching slowly up to the place.  
They stood between two ropes, it was awful dusty and dry  
The sun and wind was scorching, not a cloud to be seen in the sky.

Yes, it was awfully dusty and dry and water was scarce.  
The people that stood in the hot line declared it something fierce.  
All up and down the state line from east to west  
Sat crowds of people with not much to invest.  
But they all seemed happy as they could be  
They were looking out over a land that was free.  
Wells were scarce and very far between  
The fields were all dried up, not much of anything green.  
It seemed like the weather was never hotter  
People on the ground selling water.

On the sixteenth day of September  
Was a scene that I will always remember  
It was in the year of eighteen and ninety three  
The greatest race that I ever did see.  
At twelve o’clock the time had come  
For people to throw away their guns.  
Soldiers were standing across the line with a gun.  
They shot three times for a signal, then everybody run.

Many chuck wagons followed along behind,  
But some of their people were hard to find.  
It was wagons, buggies and horsebackers that mostly ran in the race,  
But some fell on school land and did not get a place.  
My father rode a mule as he was in the race  
He rode four miles in ten minutes then stopped and staked his place.  
Then it was dad and his mule a holding down a claim,  
A sitting out on the dry prairie a wishing for rain.

Along late in the evening just before night,  
Dad was looking for the chuck wagon that never came in sight.  
In the west the blue sky had changed to red.  
Just then Billy Watkins came along and gave a loaf of bread.  
He had a keg of water, father thought that was keen.  
He gave him enough water to fill his canteen.

The shadows of night had finally come on  
And the noise of the great roll was all gone.  
Everything had suddenly become quiet,  
And the moon and stars were shining bright.  
It was a new experience for many that ran in the race  
Sleeping alone on the brad prairie, no roof to hide their face.

There were women who slept in the big field of grass alone  
They were brave for the sake of a home.  
When the morning came to them with rest from their labors,  
They got up and had breakfast, then went out to see their new neighbors.  
It was a happy greeting all the way around.  
But some with a different language they found.  
The ponds and creeks were still all dry,  
Not a cloud to be seen in the sky.

And water was badly needed for the horse and cow to drink,  
And neighbors got together and wells they began to sink.  
Many neighbors worked together and used the same rope,  
And greased their windlasses with homemade soap.  
We never realize a blessing until we have done without...  
They rejoiced when they struck the stream of water and saw it running out.  
Then we had water for the poor old horse and cow.  
But the ground was still too dry to plow.

Soon people began to build sod houses, something I never saw before,  
Dirt on the roof and dirt for a floor.  
But people were all happy just the same  
They were all looking forward until they could raise a crop of grain.  
And it rained on the twenty third of September.  
It was a big rain that I will always remember,  
That was a breaking up of one of our long dry spells,  
Water in the ponds and creeks and water in the wells.

It was not long until the north winds began to blow  
People began to pick up prairie coal before it got covered with snow.  
One of the great blessings in that early day!  
The fields were clothed with grass and all covered up like hay.  
That was our feed for our horse and cow  
There was plenty for all, no one had ever used a plow.  
In the spring of ninety four they plowed and planted Kafir corn.  
And took of the soil and built them a barn.

They planted gardens and raised some things to eat  
And in the fall they sowed their first crop of wheat.  
Their wheat average was small, it was hard to get seed.  
And the horses had to pick grass, that was their only feed.  
They didn’t raise enough wheat to have any to sell,  
But their spring crops and gardens did fairly well.  
They raised enough Kafir corn for the chickens to eat,  
And enough to feed a pig or two for meat.

In those days the people were all poor, but kind and clever  
They had more time than money, they often got together.  
They did not have to have money to have a good time  
There was no burden of expense to disturb their mind.  
There was not any Big I and Little You.  
Everybody was a common as an old shoe.  
They used parched wheat for coffee and thought it good enough  
But today that would shock our modesty, we would think it plenty tough.

It was about three years before we raised a crop of wheat,  
But somehow we always had something to eat.  
Yes, everybody seemed happy in those days, there was no burden of expense.  
They turned their stock out to live on grass, they had no fence.  
When they wanted to go anywhere they hooked up the old horse  
They didn’t keep to the highway, they went straight across.  
But when we got our first wheat crop, things began to improve.  
It was like playing checkers, things began to move.

And we have been on the move ever since,  
But we keep on the highway and between the fence.  
We have built roads and cities, we have climbed to the top.  
We have come to a crossroad, we may have to stop.  
Many have been played off of the checkerboard.  
He may have to go back and milk his old cow in a gourd (WPA)  
A few men are buying up the ground.  
Some are plowing up the roads and tearing buildings down.

Many landowners making eight or ten farms into one.  
Taking off nine buyers, leaving just one.  
When one gets picked off and has to move away,  
He generally ends up on the WPA.

God’s people were once in Egypt pulling stubble for a living.  
And a man to lead them to plenty was given. (Moses) (It may be Christ next time.)



Moor Green

Thanks to Leigh Reneau Wimberly of Leesville, LA for contributing the article from a 1952 issue of the Journal Messenger Newspaper, Manassas, VA. Leigh writes:

The story on how I got it is almost as amazing as the article itself. - I had been researching the Jeremiah Moore family in an effort to identify the parents of Mary Halley who married John Moore, the son of Lydia Reno and Jeremiah - also the Mollie Reno, who married William French Moore, John's brother. The librarian at Bull Run Regional Library (Don Wilson) had given me the name of a Moore descendent who lived in the Manassas area, an **Edna Campbell** who is 75 years of age. Edna and I had been talking back and forth, exchanging bits of information on the Moores mostly. She told me about the Jeremiah Moore house - Moorefield- in Vienna, a suburb of Washington, DC, that she and some other family members had attended the official beginning of the dismantling of the structure (it was not destroyed, but stored) and how sad she was that the last visible shred of her family history was gone. I realized as we talked that she had really not connected in her own mind that she was a Reno descendent, and I reminded her that it was so terrific to still have the Reno house, which was even older and in such beautiful shape. She asked me how that would be associated with her and I laughed and reminded her that to be a descendant of Jeremiah Moore also made her a descendant of Lydia Reno. Her response was really delightful as she had never really thought of that. Then, in scanning through some old scrapbooks for the Manassas Garden Club, of which she is a member and long time historian, she came across the 1952 article about the house!

# Moor Green, Mr. and Mrs. Cox' Home Believed to Have Been a Block House

Old Homes of Prince William  
Part II

BY MARY ANNE PETERS

The Georgian facade of Moor Green, well-known family home of Mr. and Mrs. John Watson Cox, with its somnulent aura of by-gone times and events, looks westward across softly rolling land that slopes gradually downward to Broad Run. Land that was once dotted with Indians coming and going to their village situated across a field from the big house and at other times with the bitter fruit of war, is now sprinkled with quietly grazing dairy cows that peacefully keep the mowward clipped like a lawn.

The house of mellow brick stands three stories high, fronted by a terrace outlined in handsome box. Its design of only one room deep, following the traditional medieval architecture found in the oldest English homes, allows maximum sunshine in all the rooms except where the kitchen ell interferes.

A medallion on one of the outer walls establishes a firm date on the age of the house as 1756. However, parts of the house show evidences of an earlier history. The garden front and two end walls are Queen Anne as opposed to the later Georgian style on the front shown above, and are laid in common bond which was not generally used after 1738. It is believed that the place started life as a block house, the present fence marking the site of the stockade, and that when its front wall was damaged it was rebuilt to look as it does now. The interior panelling was installed in 1756.

The wide, hospitable green door opens into a spacious hall which ends in a door opening onto the garden terrace. Off the hall to the left is the parlor; whose most striking feature is a handsome mantel. The mantel, basically Queen Anne in style, is overlaid with geometric designs of Indian origin, probably executed by an Indian on the place at the time the mantel was made. There are fireplaces in every room in the house.

Across the hall and through the dining room to the rear is the kitchen ell, set several feet below the rest of the house, its ivy-washed windows looking out onto the garden terrace. It was once the plantation office and library, and the small between-stories room above it was once the weaving room, now used as a study.

The kitchen in other times was a separate building a few yards from the outside entrance to the dining room. Old flagstones that made up the walk leading to it can still be found sunk deep in the covering grass and overgrown by the roots of a huge oak. This building also sheltered the house slaves, and since it was the Union Army's practice to force the slaves to leave by burning their quarters,

in this case the whole building was demolished.

The charming stair case in the main hall leads to bedrooms on the second floor and finally winds its way up to more on the third. Heavy blood stains on the wide old flooring of the third floor recall the time during the Civil War when the place was used as a hospital, probably by both sides.

Another interesting, but no longer visible, feature of the house is a hidden stairway leading from the floor of the cellar to the water level of an old well, which was evidently used by members of the household to obtain water without exposing themselves to possible attack from Indians by going outside. Access to the stair was sealed off when the present owner in rehabilitating the place had to lay a concrete floor in the cellar to protect it from the inroads of moisture.

Away from the house but within the fence-stockade is the old family cemetery studded with sunken slabs, half-hidden by masses of myrtle, which time and weather have unfortunately rubbed bare of markings. A large rectangular depression marks the place where are buried those who died in the house during its service as a hospital during the Civil War. Over the fence beyond the cemetery is a deep pit which not many years ago still held the ruins of what gave evidence as being an ice house.

The slave burial ground is several slopes away but can be clearly marked from the house by the tops of the dark sentinel cedars, one of which was planted at the head of the grave of each male slave. Slabs of the same material as those in the family cemetery were put next to the cedars, and now several are almost completely enveloped by the base of the trees. It is interesting to note the lapse of time between the deaths of the slaves by the progress of growth or decay of the trees.

There is a touching story of an old slave thought to have been named Raphael, who played the fiddle and organized a small dance band which catered to the balls given in the house and events around Brentsville, then a thriving social center. He must have been beloved by the family, since when he died he was buried apart from the grave of the other slaves, and in the spring his grave still blossoms with narcissus that was supposedly planted by the "white

folks". Myrtle planted by slaves also covers the spot. In place of the usual marker his old fiddle was put at the head of his grave, the top of which was still visible within the personal memory of the present owner.

The old approach to the house was the logging road that went South through the woods toward Manassas and westward across the green toward Brentsville, fording Broad Run. At a vantage spot above the ford the ruins of triangularly-shaped earthworks of a redoubt still remain to mark the place where Confederates guarded the ford. Shells, bayonets and bullets have been found on and about the spot. It was this road which Jeb Stewart took to get to Manassas after Bristow Station.

The story of the land, which is also the story of the general area of Moor Green, seems to date from 1689, when it belonged to the daughter of Lord Culpeper who married Lord Fairfax. Surveyed in 1694 and again in 1699, the land was divided and after passing through several hands was finally bought by Luis Renaut (Reno) in 1711. The land remained in the family until 1900 when it was sold. In 1941 it returned to a branch of the family when Mr. Cox bought it, he being descended on his mother's side from the original owners.

Mrs. Viola D. Proffitt of Manassas recalls that her grandfather, Lucian Alexander Davis, who was a Captain in the Prince William Cavalry during the War Between the States, had a narrow escape at Moor Green.

Captain and Mrs. Davis were stopping momentarily at Moor Green when a slave reported that yankee infantrymen were fast approaching the estate. Thinking the Union men were looking for him, Captain Davis escaped.

Mrs. Davis was resting at the home before journeying to Bowling Green to be attended by an uncle who was a physician there. Believing her to be a Confederate spy, she was captured by the North and taken to Alexandria. She was rescued by a Mrs. Holland who moved under the cloak of British protection and taken to Mrs. Holland's home in Alexandria where a son was born to the Davis'. However, the birth was premature and the son died shortly after birth.

Following the war, Captain Davis was Clerk of the Circuit Court in Prince William for 16 years.

Do you have an article or story you would like to share?  
Contact the *Reneau Review*:  
Anita Reneau Daniels. 17617 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Circle  
Vancouver, WA 98683 By Tel: 360.944.7831  
By Email: apdaniels1@msn.com