

# Reno/Reneau Review

Vol 6, Issue 1, Jan/Apr 2008

## John Swick Reno Descendants to meet in Idaho July 2 – 8, 2008

John Swick Reno was born June 15, 1850 in Brown Co., Indiana to John Reno and Elizabeth Barris Reno. His middle name, Swick, came from his paternal grandmother, Catherine Swick, wife of Benjamin Reno.

John became a successful farmer, owning 1965 acres in Wapello County and four houses in Agency, IA. He married Catherine "Kate" McGuire on March 1, 1877, in Wapello Co. John died on Dec 28, 1921 in Agency. Catherine was born Oct 1858 in St. Clair Co., MO, and died in Wapello Co., IA in 1942. Both John and Kate are buried in Agency Cemetery.

The couple had 5 children: Roy Norman Reno (1880-1909), Orpha R. Reno Avery (1884-?), Myrtle Jessie (1887-1902), Clara and Cloya, who both died in infancy about 1878.

John Swick's Reno lineage is John Reno (sp. Elizabeth Barris), Benjamin (sp. Catherine Swick), William (sp. Catherine Patterson), Benjamin (sp. Jane Bell). John (sp. Susanna Thorn), Lewis.



Grandchildren of John Swick Reno

Children of Roy Norman Reno and Grace Ann Gilbert Reno

l-r: Myrtle Jessie (Babe) Reno, Ralph Norman Reno, Ray Reno, and Roy Reno.



Descendants of John Swick Reno  
attending the Reunion in 2007.

For more information about the Reunion, descendants of John Swick Reno should contact Mary Reno Sperring at 208-651-2401.

## We Remember Country Music Legend Don Reno

Kenneth Claborn of The Villages, FL, sent in some photos that he has of Don Reno, a Reno descendant whose music talent is well known.



Don Reno and Red Smiley on stage with Bill Harrell on rt.  
1969



Bill Harrell is on rt with Don Reno with his back to the picture. Don and Red Smiley often played and sang with Bill Harrell's Tennessee Cut Ups Band.

1969

We checked to see if we could find out more about Don's life and found the following article at CMT.com

### Country Music Legend-----Don Reno

Virtually unrivalled among his contemporaries for his mastery of the five-string banjo, Don Reno teamed with Red Smiley to create some of the finest bluegrass recordings of the postwar era -- a superb tenor vocalist and songwriter, Reno also proved crucial to the emergence of the guitar as one of bluegrass' lead instruments, and ranks alongside the likes of Bill Monroe among the genre's true pioneers. Reno



cont page 7

## We are thinking of...

**Sue and Bill Damewood**, Powell, TN, who are nursing some sore bones! In February, Bill took a fall during a genealogy trip looking for an old Damewood Cemetery in Union County. Bill took a spill as they walked down a hill and broke his ankle. Then the day (March 26) that Bill was to go back to the doctor and get his stitches out, Sue fell in the garage trying to get up on a stool to put in a light bulb, hurting her back. We think it is time to send both Bill and Sue a group hug! Sue's Reneau lineage is John Clyde Reneau, Samuel Harris, James H. Hezekiah, John David Reno, John, Lewis Jr. Lewis Sr.



## Congratulations!

to **BG and Delia Reneau**, Farris, TX who celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on February 7, 2008. What could be better than to remember the occasion with a box of chocolates together with a photo of the happy couple!

BG's Reneau line is Benton Reneau, Barton Warren

Stone, Isaac Tipton, John, Charles Reno/Reneau, John Reno, Lewis Jr., Lewis Sr.

## Reneau Book of Memories

We have recently reprinted the 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.

If you would like to 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

## Thank you!

Many thanks to the following Reno/Reneau descendants for contributions supporting this newsletter. **It is by your contributions that we are able to send the Reno/Reneau Review to so many Reno/Reneau descendants!** Thanks to **Frances Kemp**, Henderson KY; **Carroll Reneau**, Irving, TX; **Roger Reneau**, Round Rock, TX; and **Charles & Linda Reneau**, Russell, KY. Your contributions are much appreciated.

## We Salute You Series:

In the *Reno/Reneau Review*, it has become a tradition to honor our Reno/Reneau Ancestors and Descendants who have served or who are serving our country.

In past issues we have recognized Victor Atlee Reno, Meredith Thurman Reneau, Jesse Lee Reno, John Dale Mote, Isaac Alexander Reneau Rodriguez, John Bryant Reneau, Luther Ozell Reneau, James Horace Talbott, Joe Morris Talbott, Earle B. Reneau, James Fulton Reneau, Edward Lee Brandle, Gerald Wilbert Reneau, Lorenzo Day Jr., Clyde Wickliffe Day, James Reneau Day, Charles Reno, Isaac Denton Cole, Thomas Wood Reneau, Isaac Oren Reneau, Reneau S. McAlister, James Lanier McAlister Jr., Raymond Borhing Reneau, Robert Maurice Reneau, Benton G. Reneau, Virgil I. Elliott, Jr., James McAlister Elliott, Matthew E. Matula, Dustin Blake Reneau Robert M. Simmons.

**Please continue to send in photos and information of your ancestors or descendants who have served in the military. IF THERE IS ENOUGH INTEREST, a Reno/Reneau Book of Those Who Serve, may be in the making! It would be a fitting tribute to our kin to be sure their duty to country and sacrifice is never forgotten.**

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## The Ten Commandments For Names (Plus a Few Extra)

contributed by Louise Wisener, Hot Springs Village, AR

1. Thou shalt name your male children: James, John, Joseph, Josiah, Abel, Richard, Thomas, William.
2. Thou shalt name your female children: Elizabeth, Mary, Martha, Maria, Sarah, Ida, Virginia, May.
3. Thou shalt leave NO trace of your female children.
4. Thou shalt, after naming your children from the above lists, call them by strange nicknames such as: Ike, Eli, Polly, Dolly, Sukey,--making them difficult to trace.
5. Thou shalt NOT use any middle names on any legal documents or census reports, and only where necessary, you may use only initials on legal documents.
6. Thou shalt learn to sign all documents illegible so that your surname can be spelled, or misspelled, in various ways: Hicks, Hieks, Hix, Hixe, Hucks, Kicks.
7. Thou shalt, after no more than 3 generations make sure that all family records are lost, misplaced, burned in a courthouse fire, or buried so that NO future trace of them can be found.
8. Thou shalt propagate misleading legends, rumors, & vague innuendo regarding your place of origination: A. You may have come from: England, Scotland, Wales ...or Iran. B. You may have American Indian ancestry of the \_\_\_\_ tribe...C. You may have descended from one of three brothers that came over from \_\_\_\_.
9. Thou shalt leave NO cemetery records, or headstones with legible names.
10. Thou shalt leave NO family Bible with records of birth, marriages or deaths.
11. Thou shalt ALWAYS flip they name around. If born James Albert, thou must make all the rest of thy records in the name of Albert, AJ, JA, AL, Bert, Bart, or Alfred.
12. Thou must also flip thy parent's names when making reference to them, although "Unknown" or blank line is an acceptable alternative.
13. Thou shalt name at least 5 generations of males, and dozens of their cousins with identical names in order to totally confuse researchers.
14. Thou shalt always have need of the US 1890 Census on your hardest line to research.

## Two Reno Girls Celebrate 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

submitted by Ottie Reno



Mabel & Ruth

**Mabel Annabel Reno Cannon**, born 9-8-1917, and **Monica Ruth Reno Kirk**, born 11-26-1917, got together at the home of Ottie Reno in Lucasville, OH on 9-10-2007 to celebrate their 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays.

Mabel and Monica are first cousins; Mabel's father, Rodney Wilke Reno and Ruth's father,

Eli Enos Reno, are brothers. Their Reno lineage after their father is William Henry, Thomas, Thomas, Thomas, Lewis. Both Mabel and Ruth live alone in their own homes, are active, and are healthy for their age. They have a lot of descendants with Reno blood in their veins, 85 counting Mabel, Ruth, children, grandchildren, husbands and wives.

**Monica Ruth Reno** married James Walter Groves (deceased) 8-14-1934 and they had five children:

1. **Juanita Ruth Groves Ogden** (husband Robert Ogden) have three children: Sherry Rae Ogden Thompson (husband Richard Orley Thompson), Stephen Ray Ogden (wife Rebecca Sue Methvin Ogden) and Sharla Renee Ogden Larsson (husband Erik Leif Larsson). Sherry Thompson has two sons, Richard Robert Stephen Thompson, and Michael Paul Thompson. Michael has a son, Lane Michael Dakota Thompson. Stephen Ray Ogden has four children, Phillip Edward Garrott (born to Lynn Louise Grundset) and three born to wife Rebecca, Stephen Ray Ogden II, Bobbi Jean Ogden and Adam Lake Ogden. Sharla has two children, Tyler Blake Larsson and Tiara Brooke Larsson.

2. **Angeline Hope Groves**, born and died 3-31-1936.

3. **Wanda Maxine Groves Arnott Easter Pitzer** and first husband Scott Arnott had two sons and a daughter: Dale Arnott who had one son Scott Arnott; Jim Arnott who had two daughters and a son—Amber Arnott, Lindsay Arnott who had a son Gavin Susany—and Adam Arnott. Wanda Jo Arnott Tolbert who had two daughters, Karen Tolbert Carper who had two sons, Tyson Carper; and Chase Carper; and Bethany Tolbert.

4. **James Wayne Groves** born 12-23-1940 and died 11-25-1960.

5. **Shirley Louise Groves Musser Wright** married Ronald Lee Musser 11-18-1960 and they had two children; Rhonda Leigh Musser who married Ernest Lee Carey and had one son—Lucas Lee Carey, and Ricky Allen Musser (wife Tamara Rose Brown) who had three children—Gerraint Wayne Musser, Sara Renee Musser and Ricky Lee Musser.

Ruth has five children, eight grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild.

**Mabel Annabel Reno** married John Urban Cannon 2-25-1938. They had three girls and one boy.

1. Nancy Joyce Cannon (first husband Wayne Earl Hidy and then married Jozsef Andreas Fodi). Nancy Joyce had three children: Julie Ann Hidy Miller Litteral first marriage was to Matthew Miller, and second marriage to Dwayne Edward Litteral. Julie had three children: Malcomb Tyler Miller, Ivan Andrew Hidy (wife Cheri Ann Gulfo, and Aaron Matthew Hidy (who married Penny (?) and then Mary Kathleen Johnson. Aaron had two children Abigail Rene Hidy and Scott Matthew Hidy.

2. Patricia Grace Cannon Willingham (husband Frank Mallary Willingham, Jr.). Patricia had two children, Mary Michelle Willingham Leonard (husband Charles Patrick Leonard) who had two children, Andrew Charles Leonard and Elizabeth Grace Leonard.

3. Jonna Faye Cannon Smith (husband Sterling Dwayne Smith). Jonna had two children, Brian Duane Smith (wife Angela Marie Martin) and Caleb Cannon Smith (wife Kristie Laine Ballard. Brian had two children, Reagan Mary Smith and Jonah Abram Smith.

4. John Cockerill Cannon (first wife, Sally Reuther and then married Lynda Kay Heiselman.) John Cockerill Cannon had two children, John Nathan Cannon and Jennifer Ann Cannon (husband Eric Kane Damron). Jennifer had one child, Aryssa Cannon.

Mabel has a total of four children, nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Anyone who is interested in information about these "Reno Girls," or would like to correspond with them, please contact Mabel's daughter Joyce Fodi, 11800 Pleasant Ridge Road, Little Rock Arkansas 72223 or Ruth's daughter, Makine Pitzer, 12325 Centerfield Road, Greenfield, Ohio 45123.



A photo of Mabel Reno Cannon family who gathered to honor her on her birthday.

Front row l-r: Ottie Reno, Mabel Cannon, Nancy Joyce Fodi, Abigail Hidy, Jonah Smith and Reagan Smith.

Second row l-r: Scott Hidy, Steve Cannon, Patricia Willingham, John Cannon, Brian Smith, and Jonna Smith.

Third row l-r: Janet Cash, Ann Cannon, Bob Cannon, and Ivy Hidy.

Fourth row l-r: Aaron Hidy, Julia Litteral, Charlie Bissell, Jennifer Cannon, Aryssa Cannon, and Caleb Cannon.

# RUTH MAE RENEAU Perry CELEBRATES 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY



Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

On Sunday, January 27, 2008, 96 family members and friends gathered at the Anthony Community Care Center in Anthony, KS to celebrate Ruth M. Perry's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. The event was hosted by Frances Ruth Perry, who was assisted by Dennis Perry and Doug Perry.

Ruth M. Reneau was born January 28, 1908 near Gibbon. Her parents were John and Jennie Reneau. She had two brothers, Sam and Perry, and one sister, Helen Holden. She graduated from Wakita High School in 1925, attended Phillips University, Enid; and BarClay College, Haviland, KS. She taught 18.5 years in one-room rural schools.



Ruth Mae Reneau  
1926

Ruth married John Bower Perry in 1940. They farmed and lived near Wakita, southwest of Anthony, and then retired to Anthony in 1973. Ruth and John were married 56 years when he passed away in 1996.



Ruth Mae Reneau Perry  
2008

Paul Snow, a nephew, Austin, TX, moderated the program. Entertainment was provided by Corwin Snow, Harley and Sydney Downing, and group singing. Most of the afternoon was spent visiting and taking family pictures with Ruth.

Ruth thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated all those attending this celebration.

Congratulatory messages were received from President George and Laura Bush; Governor Brad Henry, Oklahoma; and Willard Scott, the NBC TODAY Show.

Attendees from Anthony were: Frances Ruth Perry, Dennis Perry, Doug Perry, Opal Pryor, David and Evon Hoopes and Blanden, Frank Hammond, Elmer and Nellie Rhodes, Paul and Jana Bollman, Judy Brummer, Gladys Major, June Hadsall, Verla Armstrong, Vitha Coates, Betty Todd, Randy and Linda Perry, Benjean Browning, Linda McClellan, Mary Hatley, Jolene Brannon, Cindy Ash, Gary Henderson, Claudine Gering, Tracy Reneau, Pastor Teddy and Dianne Cook, Bill and Betty Rae Starks, Pete Bowen, Cassie Taylor, Sharon Taylor, Danielle Seyb, Hope Crow, L.D. and Mary Lear, Linda Hill, Judy Coffee, Warren and Marcy Meador, Bruce Irwin and Lee Cooperrider.

Others attending from Kansas included: Rose Leisman, Leotie; Curtis Slaton, Ashland; Marion Struble, Bluff City; Alfred and Ruth Miller, South Hutchinson; Tuddy Eslinger, Harper; and Pearl Hibbard, Harper.

Attending from Manchester were: Velma and Darrel Miller; Brenda Parks and Lois Happ.

Attending from Wakita were: Steve Reneau, Joan and David Myers, and Junior and Virginia Nachtigall.

Other Oklahomans attending: Joe and Mary Reneau, Prague; Bob Reneau and Lorraine Malzahn, Alva; Bertha Downing, Kevin and Mary Downing, Harley, Sydney, and Hayden, all from Medfore; Cleda Wells and Ruth Reneau, Enid; Lawanda Allison, Oklahoma City; John and Debra Holden, Braman; and David and Amy Reneau, Kerstin, Katlyn and Kimberlyn, Tulsa.

Those coming from Texas were; Elaine Snow and Sarah Jorden, Tyler; Bonnie Cox, Fairview; Corwin Snow, Flower Mound; Paul and Linda Snow, Austin; Darrell and Janice Clendennen, Justin; and Merlin and Louise Reneau, Grand Prairie.

Other attendees were: Paul Reneau, Great Falls, VA; Denis and Marlene Michael, Robards, KY; and Frances Kemp, Henderson, KY.

Ruth's Reneau lineage is: John Eagleton Reneau, Samuel Russel, William Michael, John Reno, John David, John, Lewis.

## The History of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Albany, Kentucky

contributed by Betty Hadus Reneau

Rebecca Reno Talbot (13 Oct 1783 – 01 Sept 1845) and her nephew, Isaac Tipton Reneau (09 Dec 1805 – 09 Aug 1885) were among the charter members of the church.

### Part 2

continued from previous issue (Vol 5, Issue 6, Nov/Dec 2007)



Sunday School Class  
First Christian Church, Albany, KY  
Fall 1915

The church building burned to the ground in March, 1926  
Great Grandchildren of Isaac Tipton Reneau and Mary Wood  
Reneau are: Elise Cole, and on left back row; Lillian Cole, 4<sup>th</sup> on  
left center row.

No time was lost in making plans for the future. On April 10, 1926, a committee was appointed to take the necessary action to build a new Church. The committee was composed of Plato Hancock, J.E. Morgan, W.A. Dicken, Dr. E.W. Smith, and C.P. Huff. The property on the corner of Cross and Water Streets was actually given by Plato and Willie Hancock, for the sum of \$450.00, but was returned to the Church by Plato and Willie Hancock as their beginning pledge to get a new Church built. The former property was sold to have some aid in the new building. A large basement was dug and concrete walls were built some seven or eight inches thick. Mr. Jesse C. Ewing, a member and a carpenter, oversaw the project, even though he was unable to do much of the work due to ill health. He liked to tell how he asked anyone in the community who wished, to bring a bag of cement to donate to the Church. He kept pouring it into the walls as long as it was being given. (ed. note: Jesse C. Ewing was a brother in law of Isaac Tipton Reneau's wife, Mary Wood Reneau. Jesse Ewing was married to Mariba Wood.) The Church Record Book shows that occasionally a bag of cement would be bought. A large Sanctuary was built over the basement, the inside being plastered walls, wooden floor, and an inset chimney toward the front. At the front of the Sanctuary was a raised platform for the Chancel area behind which a large archway in the center and two Sunday school rooms on each side. In each of these rooms was put one of the windows saved from frame Church, having the colored glass around the center of the window.

This Chancel area was completed by one step from the floor in the center and rails on each side. The outside of the Church was brick and with a metal roof to cover the Sanctuary. Each side of the building had five windows and two on the side facing Cross Street where the entrance had double doors. A large porch was added to back of the Cross Street entrance with the roof supported by two large round columns on each corner. Several steps led to the street with thick, slanting poured cement sides that were often used as slides by the children of the church.

The bricks for the Church were made by men on the J.O. Cole farm. (ed. note: James Oscar Cole was married to Sarah Elizabeth Beard, who was the daughter of Mary Bayless Reneau Beard, and granddaughter of Isaac Tipton Reneau.) Wooden molds were made, red clay was formed in them and then emptied out. The bricks were then burned at the farm and hauled over to the Church by wagon and mules. The original roof is still on the Church, having been nailed on by an 18 year old boy, Hall Ewing. He was the youngest man who helped to build the Church. He was later Song Leader and Supt. of the Sunday School before moving to Akron, Ohio during World War II. He later returned after retirement. The large round columns supporting the porch roof are made of bricks with the outside ones carefully shaped to fit for the circular shape and concreted around. I discovered this when the recent remodeling was being done. One of the columns had to be scraped a bit due to cracking of the concrete before being re-concreted showing the bricks in it. An entrance to the basement is on the side next to Water Street and goes into the room under the porch with two steps to go down into Fellowship Hall. The stairs that lead from the upstairs to the basement inside are at the back of the Church just North of the double doors. Second-hand pews were bought from a Church in Lawrenceburg and moved to Albany including long ones for the center aisle and shorter ones for the aisles on each side. They had bookracks with beautiful scroll decorations. The Communion Table and the pulpit were brought from storage, along with all else that was needed. The new Church was ready for occupancy, and to become the Beacon Light of the corner of Cross and Water Streets where it has been for these many years.

Many people helped to bring about the building of this Church and in such a short period of Time. Mr. Jess C. Ewing oversaw all the work. Others who helped in the work were Plato Hancock, J.E. Morgan, Dr. E.W. Smith, J.O. Cole, W.A. Dicken, the Talbotts, and lastly, the good women of the Church who took lunch to the men who were working. They gave their time, money, and prayers. Reuben Smith had already mad the Communion Table and pulpit as has been mentioned. Rev. W.L. Smith grandson of Raccoon John Smith, was with them to encourage. He served as Pastor some of the time. Personal all over Clinton County, and elsewhere, gave money regardless of how small or great, form \$0.25 to dollars. The Church borrowed \$10,000.00 from Citizen's Bank of Albany and \$400.00 from G.W. Grider. Unfortunately, the bell from the frame Church disappeared and was unavailable to be placed in the new building to call the people together to worship.

continued next issue



## *We reach out in sympathy...*



Toby Douglas Reneau

to the family of Toby Douglas Reneau who died Saturday, March 15, 2008, as a result of an automobile accident in Barren County, KY. He was born in Glasgow and was a 1996 graduate of Barren County High School. He was an electrician and was employed by Smith Electric. He had attended Temple Hill Baptist Church. He enjoyed boating and raising his cattle.

He is survived by his wife Amanda Jessie Reneau; a daughter Kayleigh Brook Reneau; two sons Alec Douglas and Isaac Blake Reneau; his parents Larry and Debbie Davidson Reneau of Glasgow; two brothers Chase Reneau (Jessica) of Bowling Green and Dusty Reneau who is serving with the USArmy in Iraq; his grandfather Stanley Reneau of Glasgow; mother-in-law Linda Burkeen (Brian) of Kansas City, MO; father-in-law Marty Jessie (Connie) of Louisiana; brother-in-law Brad Jessie (Kelly) of Louisiana and 4 nieces Olivia and Sophia Reneau and Chloe and Kelsey Jessie. He was preceded in death by grandparents, Edna Reneau and Wallace and Juanita Davidson and a great-great uncle, Edwin Moore.

Funeral services were at 2:00pm Thursday, March 20, 2008 at the A. F. Crow & Son Funeral Home with burial in the Poplar Log Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a trust fund to benefit his children at either the South Central Bank or the Edmonton State Bank in Glasgow.

Toby and his family attended the All Reno/Reneau Reunion at Dale Hollow Lake in Kentucky in 2006. It was such a pleasure to meet him and his wonderful family.

Toby's Reneau lineage is Larry Reneau, Stanley Ewing, Isaac Smith, Joseph Wickliffe, Isaac Tipton John. Charles Reneau/Reno, Lewis Jr. Lewis Sr.

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### **Sharing Ottie Reno's Book**

Many thanks to Ottie Reno for sharing his book, State of Ohio vs Isaac Milton Smith, Murder. It is a difficult book to find, as the demand was far more than copies of the book printed.

Ottie brought the book to the 2007 Reno/Reneau Reunion in Ft. Worth, and those interested in reading it put their name in the basket to decide the order of how the book would be forwarded throughout the group. Corwin Snow's name was drawn first, so he took the book home. When he is done reading it, the book will be sent to the next person on the list:

1. Corwin Snow, Flower Mound, TX.
2. Sheila Reno, Hammond, LA. & Jamene Tolkes, Kingsville, TX
3. Liz Day, Austin, TX
4. Susan Estrada/May Comfort, San Diego, CA.

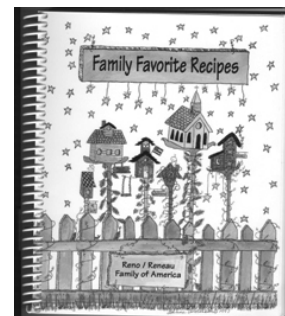
5. Jana Wojenski, Alpharetta, GA.
6. Mike Allen, Capitan, NM.
7. Sally Reno Eastwood, Haslet, TX.
8. Bennett & Margie Wood, North Little Rock, AR.
9. Fred & Louise Wisener, Hot Springs Village, AR.
10. Mary Dennistoun, Allen, TX.
11. Verna Allen, Ruidoso, NM.
12. Glenn C. Reno, Irving, TX.
13. William Reneau, San Antonio, TX.
14. Bob Reneau, El Paso, TX.
15. Anita & Charles Daniels, Vancouver, WA.

We are now at #5 on the list! If you are interested in reading this book, please let me (Anita Daniels, 17617 SE 34th Cir Vancouver, WA 98683 or email apdaniels1@comcast.net) know and I will add your name to the list. PS: I saw this book being sold online for \$244.00 under out of print books!

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

We have copies of the Reno/Reneau Cookbook available. The book makes a great gift. I wish the photo at the right was in color! It 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

A couple cookbook corrections:

Page 50: please add 3 T sour cream to the recipe  
“**Great Grandma Hansen's Banana Nut Bread**”  
sent in by Laurie Cook.

Page 166: please add 1C 3T sugar to the  
“**Chocolate Pie Filling Recipe**” sent in by May Sparks Comfort.

born in Spartanburg, SC, on February 21, 1926, and raised primarily in rural North Carolina; at age five he built his first banjo, and as a teen backed the Morris Brothers and Arthur "Guitar Boogie" Smith. He also recorded with Woody Guthrie and was asked to join Monroe's Blue Grass Boys. Before serving in the military from 1944 to 1946. Upon returning from duty Reno fronted a local South Carolina band before replacing Earl Scruggs in the Blue Grass Boys, where like his predecessor he was key in popularizing the three-finger roll technique of banjo playing.

Reno left Monroe in 1949 to join Tommy Magness and His Tennessee Buddies; among his band mates was guitarist Smiley, and while cutting a 1951 session with Magness for King Records subsidiary Federal, label owner Syd Nathan was so impressed by Reno and Smiley's interplay that he soon arranged for the duo to record under their own names. A marathon 16-song studio date the following January launched their career as headliners, with the Reno-penned hit "I'm Using My Bible for a Road Map" proving so successful it reportedly pulled King Records back from the brink of bankruptcy. Despite the popularity of their records, the duo proved unable to keep together their touring band, the Tennessee Cut-Ups, so in between sessions for King they worked independently, which allowed Reno to reunite with Smith; together they recorded the classic 1955 instrumental "Feuding Banjos," which was later retitled "Dueling Banjos" for its unauthorized use in the 1972 film Deliverance.

In May of 1955 Reno and Smiley organized the definitive lineup of the Tennessee Cut-Ups, including fiddler Mack Magaha and bassist John Palmer; a regular gig at Richmond, VA, station WRVA's Old Dominion Barn Dance finally afforded the group the opportunity to continue full-time, and over the next nine years they recorded a series of influential sides for King including "I Know You're Married," "Don't Let Your Sweet Love Die," and "Please Remember That I Love You." At the peak of their popularity, the duo also hosted Top of the Morning, a hit daily television show which ran for some seven years. However, in 1964 diabetes forced Smiley to retire from the road, and in late 1966 Reno began a new partnership with singer/multi-instrumentalist Bill Harrell which continued for a decade, a period which coincided with a resurgence in public interest in bluegrass as a result of a growing festival circuit. A much briefer liaison with fiddler Benny Martin also launched the country chart hit "A Soldier's Prayer in Vietnam."

During the early '70s Reno and Harrell recorded a series of LPs for labels including Monument, Dot, and CMH; on occasion Smiley returned to the fold as well, making his final live appearance just months before his death on January 2, 1972. After Reno and Harrell went their separate ways in autumn 1976, the former settled in Lynchburg, VA, where he began performing alongside sons Don, Wayne, Dale, and Ronnie; in 1979, he also again re-teamed with Smith for the album Arthur Smith and Don Reno Feudin' Again. Reno

died October 16, 1984; his sons later recorded as the Reno Brothers. ~ Jason Ankeny, All Music Guide

Editor's note: Donald Reno was the sixth and youngest child of Zebulan C. Reno, and Hattie Jones Reno. Don's older siblings were Fannie, Nancy, Harley, Carry, and Jencie. The 1930 Federal Census shows Zeb and Hattie Reno living in Beaverdam, Haywood Co., North Carolina. Zeb, age 40, is listed as a general farmer. Also on the census is his wife Hattie, age 44; children, Hosley (Harley) age 18; Carrie, 16; Tensie (Jensie) age 12; and Donald, age 4. Don's Reno lineage is: Zebulon C. Reno, William M. Hardin "Harley," John David, John, Lewis Jr., Lewis Sr.

During the 2006 All Reno/Reneau Reunion at Dale Hollow Lake in Kentucky, my husband (Charles) and I traveled further east through Virginia. One of our stops was at the Birthplace of Country Music Museum in Bristol, VA. Below is a photo of a poster signed by Red Smiley and Don Reno. What a wonderful contribution to our Music Heritage!



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### Old letters, Old Photos, Old/NewStories...

Please send to the *Reno/Reneau Review* to share with other Reno/Reneaus. Please feel free to send any information ancestors or family members that we may share with other Renos and Reneaus! It is fun to learn about one another, our ancestors, and our common heritage! We have over 300 Reno/Reneau descendants who receive the Review! Mail your info to Anita Reneau Daniels, 17617 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Circle, Vancouver, WA 98683 or email [apdaniels1@comcast.net](mailto:apdaniels1@comcast.net). Thank You!

Anita Reneau Daniels  
Reno/Reneau Review  
17617 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Circle  
Vancouver, WA 98683



*The Next All RenoReneau Reunion  
will be in October 2009  
in Virginia...  
More info in the next issue!*



Ottie Reno, Charles Reneau, Don Reno  
at the All RenoReneau Reunion 2007  
in Fort Worth, TX