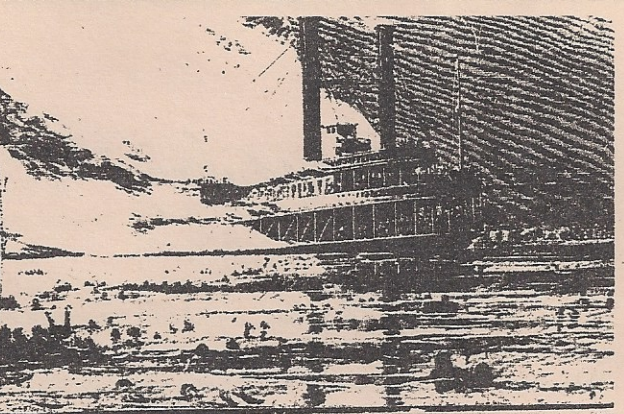


the SULTANA REMEMBERED



Newsletter of the Association of Sultana Descendants and Friends

April 27, 1865

SPRING/SUMMER 2010

After-Action Report: 2010 Reunion at Chattanooga, TN

- by Norman Shaw

Although I was initially hesitant about holding a reunion in Chattanooga, since I was unaware at the time of any connection to the story of the Sultana, I'm very glad that we did meet there this year and that the events went so well!

One very important reason for this success was having the participation of Jim Ogden, Historian for the Chickamauga/Chattanooga National Military Park. Pam Newhouse gets all the credit for this as she asked Jim if he could be our tour guide after Jim spoke to her Civil War roundtable (Jefferson County CWRT) early this year in Madison, Indiana.

I thought that all our Friday evening speakers did a good job. First, we heard Jim Ogden's popular "Map Talk" during which he explained by use of his large map spread on the floor the preliminary troop movements that brought about the Battle of Chickamauga. Kevin Frye, who I invited at the suggestion of Carol Lundquist, gave a very interesting PowerPoint tour of Andersonville. Next, Gene Salecker detailed his amazing collection of authentic Sultana related relics and flags. The evening was rounded out with Richard Troup explaining some of the new technology that came out of the CW and the strengths and weaknesses of the contending generals in the Chattanooga battles.

Jim Ogden's skill as a tour guide of Chick/Chatt was impressive. He has studied the battles in this area for twenty years or so and it is evident.

Our tour started at the Chickamauga Battlefield, continued to Lookout Mt., and concluded at Orchard Knob. I thought two stops were particularly meaningful. The first was at an area on the Union line during the second day of fighting where Ogden's research verified that several men were captured who later found themselves on the Sultana. The second was walking through the dense fog on top of Lookout Mt. due to complete cloud cover. Even though the usual great view of Chattanooga was obscured, we all had a feel of what the soldiers experienced during the "Battle Above the Clouds" (actually, in the clouds!).

The home cooked food was good at our Saturday evening banquet. As usual, we had one representative of each family stand and tell a little about his/her Sultana ancestor. We again concluded with a ceremony to recognize whether each family's ancestor survived the Sultana disaster or perished. Thanks also goes to Bill and Ann Gray for bringing Bill's impressive, hand made working model of the Sultana.

We were glad to have Louis Intres with us for his second reunion. I know he greatly appreciated everyone's willingness to share their ancestor's story and copies of pertinent documents. I can't wait to hear the details of Louis' Middle East desert adventure which occurred shortly after the reunion.

We were all happy to see once again 90 year old Real Daughter Glenna Green and several members of her family. One

new addition from last year was her great grandson which represented four generations of the Green family. Sadly, a few weeks after the reunion Glenna passed away from an unexpected stroke. Glenna was the last of the Real Daughters of the Sultana men. Last year we lost Real Son Bob Warner. Both will be sorely missed. E



GLENNA'S OBITUARY:

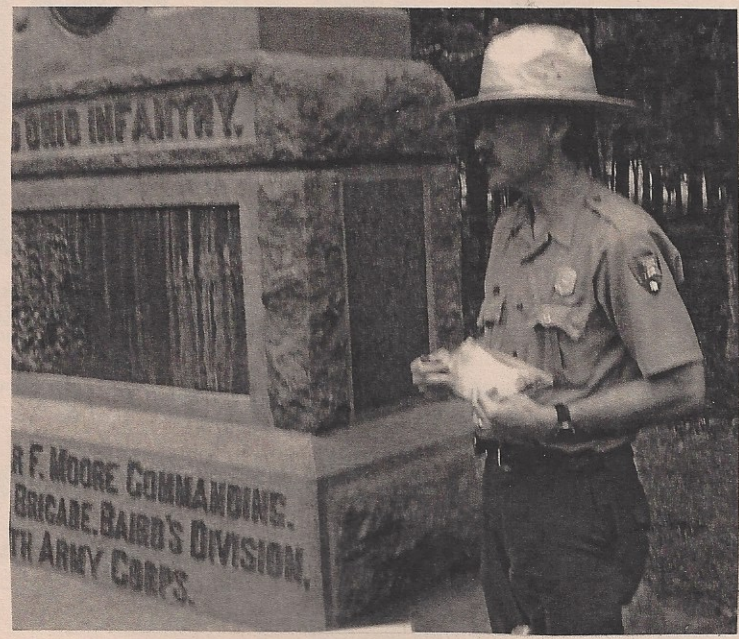
Glenna J. Green, 90, of Bakewell, Tenn., passed away Tuesday, June 1, 2010. She was a member of Bakewell Bible Church. Ms. Green was a Licensed Practical Nurse at Rhea County Hospital and Memorial Hospital and she served as the School Nurse at Soddy-Daisy Middle School. Her husband, Carl Green, preceded her in death. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Maxie and Zoe Green, of Soddy-Daisy; daughter, Carolyn Stracner, of Soddy Daisy; daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Bill Vaughn, of Powell, Tenn.; 10 grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

“Remembering Glenna” - by Pam Newhouse

I will miss Glenna. I will miss her sparking eyes and smiling face at our reunions. I will miss her gentle, elegant spirit, and the way she talked about her dad. There can be no replacement for her and for what she brought to our annual Sultana get-togethers.

I remember sitting with her at a previous reunion, listening to someone who was speaking overlong. Glenna smiled, leaned over and said to me (not too quietly), “Is he a politician?” We both giggled.

She was one of a kind and we will all miss her a lot. I am just thankful that I had the chance to know her.



Jim Ogden, Historian at Chickamauga/ Chattanooga National Military Park, leading our excellent Saturday tour.

Reunion Accounting

Balance after Franklin reunion (2008) - \$185.14

Knoxville Reunion- (2009)

Deposits	\$1,655.96
Expenses	
Gentry Bus Lines	\$250.00
Courtyard Motel (Sat. banquet)	917.05
Friday evening soft drinks	22.09
Lunch for 3 reenactors	59.16
Bus driver tip	47.00
Mt. Olive Baptist Church donation	100.00
Total	<u>\$1,395.30</u>
Difference	+\$260.66
New Balance	<u>\$445.80</u>

Chattanooga Reunion- (2010)

Deposits	\$965.00
Expenses	
Knoxville Ribbons	\$ 68.80
Bus refund	30.00
Bus Service	200.00
Bus driver tip	50.00
Country Place Rest. (Sat. banquet)	579.13
NPS Library (Jim Ogden)	40.00
Lunch for Jim Ogden and Kevin Frye	17.31
N. Shaw, gas to pre visit Chatt.	<u>20.00</u>
Total	<u>\$1,005.24</u>
Difference	(\$40.24)
 New Balance	 <u>\$405.56</u>

*(Editor's note:
- Thanks to Norman who keeps all of this straight. We has never been our intention to make money off of the reunion. In fact, some years we have lost money, other times, broke even, but once in a while ended up with a positive balance. When this happens we apply it to the next reunion's expenses.)*

Our Grand Old Flag!

“You’re a Grand Old Flag,” a spirited march written by George M. Cohan, is a tribute to the U.S. flag. In addition to obvious references to the flag, it incorporates snippets of other popular songs, including one of his own. Cohan wrote it in 1906 for *George Washington, Jr.*, his stage musical. The song was first publicly performed on February 6, the plays’ opening night, at Herald Square Theater in New York City. “You’re a Grand Old Flag” quickly became the first song from a musical to sell over a million copies of sheet music. The title and first lyrics come from someone Cohan once met. The Library of Congress website notes:

“The original lyric for this perennial George M. Cohan favorite came, as Cohan later explained, from an encounter he had with a Civil War veteran who fought at Gettysburg. The two men found themselves next to each other and Cohan noticed that the vet held a carefully folded but ragged old flag. The man reportedly then turned to Cohan and said, ‘She’s a grand old rag.’ Cohan thought it was a great line and originally named his tune, ‘You’re a Grand Old Rag.’ So many groups and individuals objected to calling the flag a ‘rag,’ however, that he “gave ’em what they wanted” and switched words, renaming the song, ‘You’re a Grand Old Flag.’ “



Our (non)view from Lookout Mountain because of dense fog was much the same the soldiers had in Nov. 23, 1863, the "Battle Above the Clouds."



Gene Salecker (right) telling everyone what a great job Bill Gray did in building a working scale model of the Sultana.



The southern-style meal at our banquet was delicious!



After dinner we had our annual Sultana soldier remembrance ceremony. Here is a photo of some of those taking part: Standing, far right, Jerry Potter. Next, Pam Newhouse, Tommy Coleman, Virgil Davis, Paul Kassan, Judy Vaughn, Richard Troup.

24th Annual Sultana Reunion: Mansfield Ohio

Hello All!

I would like everyone to mark your calendars for the 2011 Sultana Reunion.

It will be held Friday and Saturday, May 6th and 7th, in Mansfield, Ohio, the home of member Richard Troup who is taking care of organizing the reunion thereby giving me a "planning year" off. The May dates were chosen to correspond with one of the largest Civil War relic shows in the country held each year in Mansfield (see Pam's article below). Also, the city has both a monument and a plaque in separate locations to remember the Sultana disaster and the Ohio men involved.

More details about the 2011 reunion will be coming in the next issues of this newsletter.

I'm already thinking about the 2012 reunion. It may be in Cincinnati which puts us back on a river, the Ohio River. Cincinnati has some good features for a reunion--for one, the Sultana was built there--and I will investigate that more fully during the upcoming year.

Hope everyone is enjoying the summer.

- NORMAN SHAW

Ohio Civil War Collectors Show

This yearly show held on the first weekend of May at the Richland County Fairgrounds in Mansfield, Ohio is one of the largest and oldest shows in the country. Last year's show involved 380 dealers and exhibitors from 38 states with 750 tables of military memorabilia for sale to the public. In 2009 World War I and II military items were also available at this show for the first time. Besides the artifacts for sale, the 17th annual artillery show featured 30 full scale cannons, limbers,

caissons, gatling guns, and mortars. Living history encampments, a sutlers village, and artillery firing demonstrations were conducted twice a day during the show. There is a lot to see and do besides browsing relics. There is authentic period music played by Union fife and drum musicians throughout the show. Many reenactors, with their regiments, march, demonstrate camp life, and fire their Civil War era guns.

Our own Gene Salecker has had a booth at this show for years where he sells his books and other Civil War items he has collected. He is always on the lookout for Sultana-related items, which exist, and can be found, but rarely!

Sultana descendant and Mansfield area resident Richard Troup has many things already planned for our 2011 reunion, and I understand that there is already a fair amount of interest there in our group and the Sultana.

Our reunions have always been held in southern states (that's where the action was), but there are many descendants who live "up north." This is a wonderful opportunity to meet in a northern state that was heavily represented on the Sultana.

I was at one of the first reunions which were organized by Norman Shaw in the late 80s. Even though he had no ancestor on the Sultana, his abiding interest in the disaster and the descendants of those who were on board led him to put together the reunions for all these years. Richard Troup is now giving Norman a well-deserved planning break next year, and in doing so, is also giving him a big "thank you" for planning all the previous reunions. I would like to thank both Norman and Richard, because it takes a great deal of time and organizational skills to pull one of these meetings off.

I want to see everybody come to Mansfield next May 6th and 7th. The Civil War show itself will run the 7th and 8th, so if anyone has a Civil War, Rev War or even World War II item you would like to have appraised, this is your chance! And *maybe* one of us will find a Sultana item for sale. But we will have to get to it before Gene does :-)

- Pam Newhouse

From the Editor:

Should You Stand Up for What You Believe?

At one point, at Andersonville Prison during the Civil War, Union prisoners were offered freedom if they would join the 10th Tennessee Infantry (Confederate). About one hundred did and fought with this unit against Union troops. Many, however, were captured and sent north to Union prisons.

When I read that I thought about it a lot. And decided that however much we declare that we simply would never do such a thing - go over the other side - no one can say with certainty what he really would do in dire circumstances.

I have been reading a lot lately about the life of Deitrich Bonhoeffer, the German clergyman who stood up against Hitler and forfeited his life because of it. For me, he is a real inspiration. He had many opportunities to change his viewpoint (or just pretend to change his viewpoint) and thus save his life. He wrote a lot of things in prison, and one theme he repeated was, "Don't give up your principles to save your life. It may not work out the way you thought it would anyway." And then I thought of those Andersonville men.

Life is precious, but is it worth throwing away what you believe in order to keep it?

Something else that comes to mind are the concentration camps of the Holocaust that were used to implement "the Jewish final solution." Some of these Jews arrived at the camps, took a look at what seemed to be inevitable death and died within weeks, as they gave up their will to live. Others were determined to survive at all costs, which sometimes meant working with their captors. What was right and what was wrong?

Our Sultana ancestors also faced tough choices, in prison and on the boat. I can't judge them for the choices they made. But I keep hearing Bonhoeffer saying, "Don't give up your principles....."

Pam