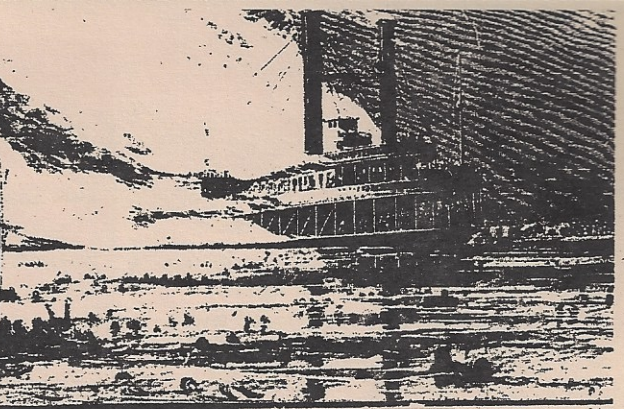


the SULTANA REMEMBERED



Newsletter of the Association of Sultana Descendants and Friends

April 27, 1865

WINTER 2010

If you thought Knoxville was great, don't miss Chattanooga!

-by Norman Shaw

HELLO ALL!

I have been working hard this week to finalize plans for our Sultana Reunion April 23rd and 24th in Chattanooga, TN, which I am pleased to announce are now in place.

As you probably know, there was extensive CW fighting in and around Chattanooga. Just over the state boundary line, a large battle was fought at Chickamauga, GA, during November 18th-20th, 1863. General James Longstreet's Confederate troops from the Eastern Theater played an important role in breaking through the Union lines on Sept. 20th resulting in a much needed victory for the South. It was in this battle that several hundred Union men (some of your ancestors) were captured who eventually ended up on the Sultana.

FRIDAY EVENING TALKS

The same in prior years, we will have several talks Friday evening covering various topics. I am pleased that we will have our own Richard Troup with us once again who is very familiar with the CW action in the area and will give us a overview of what happened.

Also, Gene Salecker will give us a talk on Sultana reunions, both in the North and South. Since Gene is driving down this year, he will be able to bring more artifacts and other items of interest to show.

Expect another presentation or two that I am considering.

THE SATURDAY TOUR

We are extremely fortunate to have as our Saturday tour guide the Chief Historian at the Chickamauga/Chattanooga (Chick/Chatt) Battlefield, Jim Ogden. Jim has been at this location for over 20 years and knows the territory and the battle events like the back of his hand! Thanks to Pam Newhouse for snagging Jim who gave a talk to her CW Roundtable a couple of months ago.

Even though it's impossible to visit all the CW sites in the area in a one day tour, we will take in enough places to keep you well satisfied. We will start at the Chick/Chatt Visitor's Center at 8 a.m. to see its 30 minute movie to give an overall understanding about the CW fighting in the area. From there we will spend the morning touring the Chickamauga Battlefield to see not only the critical points of battle, but also sites where some of your Union ancestors were captured. Jim has already started researching that topic.

As you probably know, I favor eating at local, family owned restaurants which specialize in home style cooking (I think most of you do also). I found such a place for lunch, Park Place Restaurant, in Ft. Oglethorpe, a small town that abuts the Chickamauga Battlefield. A separate space has been reserved for us and, as

we have done before, all can order off the menu (and pay individually) so that everyone should be able find something satisfying to eat

After lunch, we will travel to the top of Lookout Mountain to experience its great view of Chattanooga; see the impressive, huge painting of the battle there; and visit Civil War sites.

The next stop is the National Park site at Orchard Knob, a somewhat hidden treasure. Located only a couple of miles from Missionary Ridge, we will get the same view Gen. Grant had as he witnessed the unauthorized, but successful, charge of the Army of the Cumberland to the top of the Ridge. What should have been a slaughter for the Union forces turned into a stunning victory forcing the Confederate Army to evacuate Chattanooga.

Since school buses have worked for us in the past due to their moderate cost and ability to fit in tight spots (remember the cemetery stop last year), we will use them again this year.

The cost is the same as last year at \$10.00 per person which needs to be mailed to me at address shown below.

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET

I located a great restaurant only about a mile from our motel where we can meet comfortably in a separate room while enjoying a tasty, buffet style meal. The meal will consist of a choice of two meats, 3 vegetables, choice of dessert, drink and tip for only \$13.95 each plus tax for a total of \$15.00! Again, we be dining at a popular, family owned restaurant.

(Information regarding prepayment for the Saturday Bus Tour and Banquet are on the following page.)

MOTEL

We will be staying at the Residence Inn, not over a year old, located about 8 miles north of Chattanooga, at Exit 5 (Shallowford Road), near a large mall called Hamilton Place surrounded with numerous motels, restaurants, and retail stores. This motel has all the amenities that you could imagine including an indoor pool and a hot breakfast bar at no extra cost!

The Residence Inn is a "suites style" motel that most of you probably know about. Their Studio Suite is practically the same as a regular motel room, only it also includes a kitchenette complete with stove, dishes, and eating utensils. The One Bedroom Suite includes a wall separating the bedroom from the TV room.

Another important aspect is that every suite contains a sofa that makes into a bed so that up to four people can stay in one room at no extra charge.

The cost of the Studio Suite is \$99.00 plus tax while the One Bedroom Suite is \$119.00 plus tax. As we have done at previous reunions, you will book your own room under your own name although the rooms will be set aside under the name of The Sultana Association. To book your room, call the Marriott Reservations line at 1-800-331-3131 (ask for the Sultana Association) or go on-line at www.marriott.com/chadt The code you need to mention is: **suln**.

Couple more comments. A total of 25 rooms are blocked off for us at the Residence Inn but we can't get their spacious meeting room for Friday evening unless we rent at least 15 rooms. Also, the reduced rate is only good through April 2nd so book early. They have a generous cancellation policy in that you can cancel your room up to 4:00 p.m. on the day of arrival.

Lastly, even though I got a very good rate at the Residence Inn, if that's more than you care to pay there are some lesser priced motels in the area.

SUMMARY

Bus Tour: \$10.00 each person

Saturday Evening Meal: \$15.00 each person

Motel: Reserve your own suite at 1-800-331-3131 (ask for the Sultana Association) (if you have a problem call the motel direct at 423/468-7700) or go on-line at www.marriott.com/chadt and enter the code: **suln**.) Book either a Studio Suite for \$99.00 plus tax, or a One BR Suite for \$119.00 plus tax.

Motel's local address is 2340 Center Street, Chattanooga, TN. Center Street comes off Shallowford Rd. and is about 100 yards from I-75. After turning onto Center Street, go about another 100 yards to find the motel on the right. Again, the motel's local phone is 423/468-7700.

IMPORTANT: Mail a check to me for a total of \$25.00 (\$10.00 for the bus plus \$15.00 for the Saturday evening meal) to P. O. Box 30372, Knoxville, TN, 37930. Be sure to include your contact information (address, phone, and E-mail and your ancestor's name and unit)

Note that as an alternative, it's OK if some want to: 1) take the bus tour but not dine Saturday evening or 2) not take the bus tour but want to dine with the group Saturday evening. Simply mail me the correct payment.

Contact me if you have any questions. See you soon in Chattanooga. Expect another Sultana Reunion adventure!

Norman Shaw



Sultana Family Histories to be Archived

One of the saddest things about the passage of time is that previous events/people are ultimately forgotten. With planning, this doesn't have to be. The most important thing about preserving history is that there be a written and/or electronic record archived in one place that is accessible to future generations. As Sultana descendants and friends we have an incredible opportunity to do just that. Many reunion attendees know that Professor Louis Intres is archiving all related Sultana material at his college, Arkansas State University, and we certainly want him to do that. So, for those of you who are coming to Chattanooga and have not yet been interviewed by Louis, please bring duplicate copies of any documents regarding your ancestors and be prepared to talk with him about your ancestor. He should be able to get some interviews in on Friday and Saturday night after the reunion events finish and on Sunday morning before we all leave. **Remember: It is most important that all who participate bring a copied set of their family histories if they want them to be saved in the University archives.**

From Louis: "It is my hope to establish one location that future historians, family members and the general public could come to in order to research the Sultana and its passengers, as well as the families they left behind, or started after the war.

I am also hoping that public information about the two principal prisons would also be shared."

For those of you who are not coming to the reunion, please gather your material and sent it to Louis. If you want to talk to him his phone number and E-mail is below. *(Please. This is important. Even if you think you don't have much to share, send what you have. - Ed)*

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Heritage Studies Department
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State University, Arkansas 72467
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Obituary for Robert C. Warner

Robert Charles Warner, 92, died Monday, December 7, 2009 in Derby Kansas. He was born August 15, 1917 as the son of William Carter Warner and Jessie M. Barnes Warner in Wellington, Kansas. He graduated from Wellington High School in 1935 and later moved to Wichita where he married Marjorie M. Stephens. He moved his family to San Angelo in 1950 to join his brother in the construction business. In the early 1960s he bought Caldwell Keyes Frame and Art which later became Warner's Frame and Art.

Mr. Warner was active in the First United Methodist Church, singing in the choir, teaching Sunday school, and was on one of the longtime members of the Friendship Bible Class. He was also active with the Concho Valley Boy Scout Council, both as a troop leader and as head of the Order of the Arrow. He took special pride in the accomplishments and development of "his" young men.

Mr. Warner was one of the very few surviving sons/daughters of Civil War Veterans. His father served in the 9th Indiana Cavalry, Company B and spent time in the Cahaba POW camp and was a survivor of the 1865 steamship Sultana explosion which remains the worst U.S. maritime disaster to this day. He was an active member of the Association of Sultana Descendants and Friends.

During his retirement years he remained an active citizen. He taught Defensive Driving Lessons to senior citizens and did volunteer work in the Respond Program. He was a member of several dance groups, and led singing while living at Rio Concho Manor. He often said, "I'm not ready for the rocking chair yet."

He is survived by his children and their spouses: Mary Beth and Church Mason of Silver Spring, Maryland; Craig Warner of Austin, Texas; and Gail and Ken Keen of Derby, Kansas; five grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church, Concho Valley Boy Scout Council, or the Association of Sultana Descendants and Friends.

From the Editor: Goodbye, Bob Warner

This is becoming a sad tradition; putting an obituary in the newsletter for one of our dear members. Bob was a faithful and enthusiastic Annual Reunion attendee for years, and I remember spending many happy moments in conversation with him. He was a special person; one of those individuals that you thank God for bringing into your life.

As a happy consequence of his presence among us we also got to get to know his son, Craig and daughter, Gail. After his death, Gail wrote the following about her dad, and I think it is well worth including here, as it captures the essence of this man that so many of us loved so well:

"Thank you for so much for your cards and sweet thoughts during this time. It is hard to lose a daddy. In reflecting on what his life has meant to me, I realize I have a lot to be grateful to him for. He was the person who instilled in me the importance of being in church every Sunday morning. Through his example, he taught me that it was important to be honest, caring, and compassionate to others. He taught me to always try to do what was right, and when I messed up, I had to do what I could to fix it. Like when the time I gleefully painted the cement planter at my elementary school with a concoction made from dirt and water - mud, that is. When Daddy got home from work and saw what I had done, I got to take a hose and scrub brush to it. He taught me to take up for the underdog. And being the committed Scout leader that he was, I was always to "leave a place better than I found it." Doing my best in school and in life was a good way to live. When my husband David died, Daddy and I became an unlikely team - we were both leftovers. I will cherish those years we had together - just the two of us. He supported me in all that I did and was my biggest cheerleader. He was the 'wind beneath my wings.' I will miss him."

So will we all, Gail, so will we all.

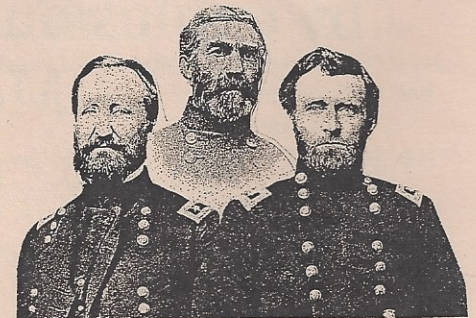
The Nation's First National Military Park

Between 1890 and 1899 Congress authorized the first four national military parks: Chickamauga and Chattanooga, Shiloh, Gettysburg, and Vicksburg. First and largest - and the model for most national military and historical parks to come - was Chickamauga and Chattanooga. Its chief advocates were Generals H.V. Boynton and Ferdinand Van Derveer, Army of the Cumberland veterans. Visiting there in 1888 they saw the need for a national park to preserve and commemorate these battlefields.

Working through the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, a veterans organization, and Chickamauga Memorial Association, Generals Boynton and Van Derveer promoted the park idea with Union and Confederate veterans. In 1890 a park bill was introduced in Congress and was signed by President (and Civil War/Army of the Cumberland veteran) Benjamin Harrison.

It was noted that probably no field in the world presented more formidable natural obstacles to large scale military operations than the slopes of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. Also, it was remarkable how little changed were the roads, fields, and houses at Chickamauga since the battle. It seemed that no battlefield park of this quality and magnitude could be found in all the world.

The Park was dedicated in September of 1895 and was administered by the War Department until it was transferred to the National Park Service in 1933.



The Generals at Chickamauga/Chattanooga:
L-R, Wm. S. Rosecrans, Braxton Bragg,
Ulysses S. Grant