

# THE GSOC NEWSLETTER



THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

APRIL 3, 2015

## Next GSOC Meeting Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida April 11, 2015, 10:00 AM

The GSOC program speaker for our April meeting will be Margaret Chatraw, the Library Coordinator for Youth Services and Genealogy Services for the Santa Rosa County Library System. She will discuss how we can use city directories for genealogical research and will also give us a brief overview of the genealogical resources available at the Milton Public Library, which we plan to visit for our June GSOC meeting.



Margaret and her husband Darrell live in Milton. He is the Senior Pastor of the Bay Area Vineyard Church and is a former Air Force pilot. After leaving the Air Force, Margaret and her family eventually settled in Orangeburg, SC, where they served for 13 years before moving to Americus, GA, for 7 years. In August 2004, she and Darrell moved to Milton to plant a new Vineyard Church in the Milton/Pace area.

Margaret and Darrell have three children and several grandchildren. Their oldest son, Jason, is President of a Christian publishing company; Aaron, their middle child, recently separated from the USAF after more than nine years of service; and their daughter, Malinda is a former AF Captain and now stay at home mom.

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## March GSOC Meeting Minutes Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida March 14, 2015

Frances Hoge, Assistant Recording Secretary

President Jim Young called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM by welcoming members and visitors.

He announced that the February meeting minutes were printed in the March GSOC Newsletter and asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written therein. A motion was made by Del Lessard and seconded by Linda Manis and the motion passed.

President Young said that the March Newsletter was distributed on March 5<sup>th</sup> by e-mail and asked if there was

anyone who didn't receive it. There was one yes and they will get their new e-mail to Jim. The comments about the newsletter were that it was wonderful and very interesting. Jim also announced that the GSOC Journal for 2015 will be published in the fall. The theme will be Okaloosa County Centennial. The kickoff meeting for the Journal committee will be in April. Volunteers will be needed to write articles, mainly about families who made up the county (early Walton, Santa Rosa which then became Okaloosa), please consider helping with the project.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Membership) Charlene Grafton passed out door prize tickets. She reminded members to renew their membership if they have not done so in order to receive their updated membership tags, don't hesitate to e-mail her with any questions. Please keep her updated on your e-mail address. Door prize tickets produced two winners.

Treasurer Bob Basch reported that we have a bank balance of \$1896.49. Bob passed the "Blue Box" for donations to help finance the yearly journal and to buy genealogy books for the local libraries upon their request.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Programs Del Lessard, announced that Margret Chatraw, Santa Rosa County library coordinator will be the speaker at the April meeting. Her presentation will be on how city directories can help with research. Del is considering a trip to Baker Block or Pensacola for the May meeting. A show of hands was taken for the Dutch Treat Lunch at Ruby Tuesday's after the meeting. Twelve people will attend.

Corresponding Secretary, Carl Laws announced that there are publications received from other societies on display at the meeting, they will then be taken to the Fort Walton Library.

Publicity Chair, Val Moreland discussed Heritage Quest at the FWB Library. Heritage Quest has been updated with access to more records and now includes the complete US census 1790-1940, over 40,000 books and city directories are included. Access is available with a Fort Walton Beach Library card. If you do not have a library card, a temporary password can be issued. She said that the Librarian is very helpful.

The following announcements were made by President Young:

- (1) The Heritage Museum sent a letter thanking us for renewing as a sustaining member of the museum.
- (2) March 21, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogical Conference, Orange Park, Florida, 8:45AM to 4PM (\$30, lunch included)
- (3) April 29, 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Saturday In The Park and the Heritage Kids Run

Following the announcements President Jim turned the meeting over to Del for the program. Del introduced historian, researcher and creator of the Niceville Florida Online History Center, Elisa Mitchiner, who presented a very interesting program about Niceville's Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp. The camp, established in 1933, was on the grounds of Niceville High School (today Edge Elementary) and contributed greatly to enhance the local economy. Her presentation was interesting and provided a wealth of information.

President Young thanked our speaker and those in attendance for their outstanding turnout. The meeting was closed at 11:46 AM.

# The Genealogy Industry Today

## 2015 State of the Genealogy Industry

### Top Genealogy Sites

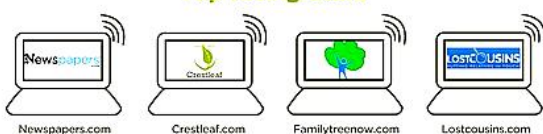
#### Top Free Sites



#### Top Paid Sites



#### Top Rising Stars



#### Top Forums/Community Sites

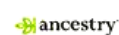


### Genealogy Web Traffic

The Top 10 Genealogy Websites receive about 42% of traffic to ALL genealogy websites



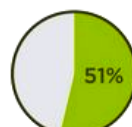
15% overall traffic



35% market place

Ancestry gets 15% of all Internet Traffic Related to Genealogy & Controls 35% of the Genealogy Marketplace

### Genealogy Market Share



The Top 3 Firms (Ancestry.com, MyHeritage, FindMyPast (Brightsolid) control 51% of the genealogy marketplace.

9 of the Top 50 Sites are Owned by Ancestry.com

8 of Top 50 Sites Owned by MyHeritage.com

5 of Top 50 Owned by FindMyPast (Brightsolid)



### International Interest

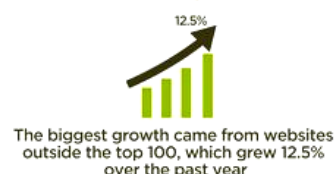
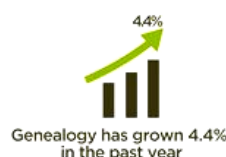
2015

6 USA Websites in the Top 10 and 4 International

2014

8 USA Websites in the Top 10 and 2 International

### State of the Industry



Source: <http://www.nostorytoosmall.com/posts/state-of-the-genealogy-industry-an-infographic/> (Thanks to Chuck Licari)

## The Top 15 Genealogy Websites in 2015 as Ranked by *Genealogy In Time* Magazine

Rank	Website	Category	Free/Pay	2014 Rank	Address
1	Ancestry.com	records	pay	1	<a href="http://www.ancestry.com/">http://www.ancestry.com/</a>
2	FamilySearch	records	free	3	<a href="https://www.familysearch.org/">https://www.familysearch.org/</a>
3	Find A Grave	cemetery	free	2	<a href="http://www.findagrave.com/">http://www.findagrave.com/</a>
4	Ancestry.co.uk	records	pay	6	<a href="http://www.ancestry.co.uk/">http://www.ancestry.co.uk/</a>
5	MyHeritage.com	family tree	pay	4	<a href="http://www.myheritage.com/">http://www.myheritage.com/</a>
6	GeneaNet	family tree	free	7	<a href="http://www.geneanet.org/">http://www.geneanet.org/</a>
7	Geni.com	family tree	pay	5	<a href="http://www.geni.com/">http://www.geni.com/</a>
8	Genealogy.com	records	pay	9	<a href="http://genealogy.com/">http://genealogy.com/</a>
9	Ancestry.com.au	records	pay	17	<a href="http://www.ancestry.com.au/">http://www.ancestry.com.au/</a>
10	FindMyPast UK	records	pay	18	<a href="http://www.findmypast.co.uk/">http://www.findmypast.co.uk/</a>
11	Newspapers.com	newspapers	pay	26	<a href="http://www.newspapers.com/">http://www.newspapers.com/</a>
12	Archives.com	records	pay	8	<a href="http://www.archives.com/">http://www.archives.com/</a>
13	Ancestry.ca	records	pay	15	<a href="http://www.ancestry.ca/">http://www.ancestry.ca/</a>
14	Family Tree DNA	DNA testing	pay	14	<a href="http://www.familytreedna.com/">http://www.familytreedna.com/</a>
15	WikiTree	family tree	free	21	<a href="http://www.wikitree.com/">http://www.wikitree.com/</a>



# ***Baker Block Museum, Reference Library, and Heritage Park***

The Baker Block Museum (BBM) is sponsored by the North Okaloosa Historical Association, and it is located at the intersection of Florida highways 4 and 189 in Baker, FL.

It features museum exhibits, pioneer buildings in the Jeanette and Charles Henderson Heritage Park, and a large research library.

The museum exhibits include artifacts from the turpentine and timber industry of the late 1800s and early 1900s, local mercantile stores, farm tools, native American artifacts, pioneer households, and military uniforms and equipment associated with Okaloosa County.



**Jeanette and Charles Henderson Heritage Park**

Pioneer buildings in the adjacent Heritage Park include log cabins from the late 1800s, a turn of the century post office and general store, and the Jackson veneer mill tool company. A farm wagon and farm tools are also displayed.

Approximately one-fourth of the museum space is used for the extensive research library. The material here was recently increased by the transfer of some of the genealogical material from the Crestview Library.

The library includes area family genealogies; local church, community, and school history; maps; photos; and historical documents. A photocopy machine is available so that copies of items can be made at a nominal cost. Museum staff volunteers are present to help researchers *find documents that may be relevant*.

Computers are also available for internet research.

The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday and the third Saturday of each month. The hours are from 10 AM to 3:30 PM and by appointment. The telephone number is (850) 537-5714.

The major annual event is the Baker Heritage Day which is held on the 1st Saturday in November.

The museum website contains a tremendous amount of information. It is located at:

<http://bakerblockmuseum.org/clouds/inthecLOUDS/index-a.html>

These are some of the links to parts of the BBM website. For a detailed index of the website content, click on "Sitemap" below

- [Exhibits](#)
- [Collections](#)
- [Events and Programs](#)
- [Library Holdings Index](#)
- [Educational Services](#)
- [Bulletin Board](#)
- [Book Store, Gifts](#)
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**Reference Library**



## Okaloosa Centennial Early Residents and Families in Okaloosa County

For information about these communities and towns and to see the maps showing their location, please visit <http://www.bakerblockmuseum.org/oldtowns.html>

**Note:** The names and families listed here are not necessarily all of the people who were early settlers or residents of these areas

Town/Community	Names and Families
<b>Arbor Vitae</b>	Mrs. E.T. Hart, McCallum, Bolton, Powell, Hinote, Brown, Jones, Nichols, Miller, Hart, Williams, McSwain
<b>Austin(ville)</b>	Austin Nichols, Powell, Trammell, Nichols.
<b>Baker</b>	Newton, Baker, Barrows
<b>Barrow's Ferry</b>	Barrow, Jeremiah Seville, Robert McKennon & Jesse Bryant
<b>Beaver Creek</b>	Boyette, Martin, Russell
<b>Beech Branch</b>	Cadenhead. Barks. Habbard. Mason, McGraw
<b>Bethel</b>	Bulger, Hollon, King, Steel, Stewart, Turner, Campbell, Clary, Cutts, Davidson, Davis, Howell, Thompson, Tucker.
<b>Blackman</b>	Taylor Blackman, Baggett, Blackman, Kennedy, Steele, Cook and Brown
<b>Black Point</b>	Edge, McKnight, Walton, Gibson, Spenser
<b>Boggy</b>	Donaldson, Anchors, Armstrong, Burleson, Edge, Meigs, Nathey, Parish, Reynolds, Spence, Walton.
<b>Bolton</b>	James T. Bolton
<b>Brick</b>	Julius M. King was postmaster
<b>Bryant</b>	Postmaster J. A. Bryant, later J. B. Sutton
<b>Campton</b>	Moore, Senterfitt
<b>Camp Walton</b>	John T. Brooks, Garniers, Pryor, Gerlach, Staff, Buck, Beal, Harbeson, Newton, Davis, Lewis, Eccles, Condon, Harrie, Hall, Taylor
<b>Chaffin</b>	Brown, Bush, Milligan, and Noyse, Seigler.
<b>Cinco Bayou</b>	Cocke homestead
<b>Claroy</b>	Harbeson, Long, Nathey
<b>Clear Springs</b>	Adams, Busbee, Cawthon, Fountain, George, Lundy
<b>Cobb</b>	Peadon
<b>Corbet</b>	Postmaster J.C. Corbit followed by Hilliard O. Martin and Charles D. Bass
<b>Delaco</b>	James Henry Long
<b>Destin</b>	Captain Leonard Destin, William T. Marler, Melvin, Maltezo
<b>Dixon</b>	Postmaster was Aram B. Dixon, later John Baggett, Jr.
<b>Dorcas</b>	Boothe, McSwain, Powell, Griner, Halford, Hart, Hinote, McCallum, McCellan, Miller, Spoon, Williams
<b>Florosa</b>	Krause Harris. James Buchanan Sutton
<b>Franklin</b>	W.J. Franklin was Postmaster
<b>Galliver</b>	Henderson, Livingston, Tullis, Reeves, Paulk, Carnley, Moore, Kirkland, Ashburn, Kimbro, Brunson, Merritt, Borrow, Locke, Williamson, Anderson, Gillis, Grice, Griffith, Summerlin, Atkins, Adkison, Stanley,

<b>Galliver (Cont.)</b>	Shofner, Gordon, Mainor, Ingram, Melvin, Austin, Carr, Yow, Pilant, Campbell, Savage
<b>Garden City</b>	Record, Henry and Charley Clary
<b>Gattis</b>	Thomas C. Gattis was Postmaster
<b>Givens Junction</b>	Thompson, Steele, Hinley, Kennedy, Hobbs, Reed, Foster
<b>Hilton</b>	Ray
<b>Holt</b>	Jim Black, David Holt Mrs. Mabel Ates, Adams, Baldwin, Bois, Cadenhead, Chestnut, Christian, Cooper, Dollar, Edenfield, Fisher, Hart, Rowland, Sanders, Steele, Pippins, Livingston
<b>Howell</b>	Aaron A. Howell, Postmasters were J.S. Howell and later, Annie Weekley
<b>Kellys Mill</b>	Kelly and Cutts family
<b>Laurel Hill</b>	Chestnut, Cadenhead, Hart, Finlayson, Axelson, Campbell, Mapoles, Tyner
<b>Magnolia (Budville, Budtown)</b>	Baggett, Carter, Fowler, Gaskin, Harrison, Holley, Lott, Moore, Morrison, Richbourg, Steele, and Stewart.
<b>Mary Esther</b>	Jesse Rogers, John Newton, Thomas Jefferson Pryor
<b>Metts</b>	D.P. Powell, John W. Sellars, Henry Williams and William Holleman and Simon
<b>Milligan</b>	Bush, Brown, Noysc/Noyes?, Chaffin, Milligan, Wilkinson, Kelly, Rice, Fleming
<b>Niceville</b>	Lewis, Carr, Brabham, Harris, Spence, Walton, Edge, Friewald, Meigs, Padgett, Nathey
<b>Newell</b>	Davidson
<b>Nubbin Ridge</b>	Stewart, Austin, Kilcrease, Bush, McVickers, Holloway, Johnson, Cosson, Langley, Peacock, Brunson
<b>Oak Grove</b>	Thomas, King, Dixon, Hart, Baggett, Franklin, Law, Lewis, Barrow, Peaden and Davidson
<b>Otahite(s)</b>	Wilkinson, Cotton and Peaden Mashburn, Turvin, Snowden
<b>Poverty Creek</b>	Cadenhead, Mason, Brown, Habbard
<b>Rock Creek</b>	Laurence A. Fleming was Postmaster
<b>Shoffner City</b>	Col. A.R. Shoffner
<b>Silver Springs</b>	Davis, Edge, Sapp, Sorrells, Carver, Cody Locke
<b>Sugartown</b>	Henry Griffith, Tom Hinote, Gordon, Hinote, Harris, Hart, Turner, Ingram, Livingston
<b>Valparaiso</b>	Allen Brown, Jr., James E. Plew, C. W. Ruckel
<b>Wardville</b>	Elijah Ward

# Typhoid Mary

**Typhoid fever — also known simply as typhoid — is a common worldwide bacterial disease transmitted by the ingestion of food or water contaminated with the feces of an infected person, which contain the bacterium *Salmonella Typhi*. The disease has received various names, such as gastric fever, enteric fever, abdominal typhus, infantile remittant fever, slow fever, nervous fever, and pythogenic fever. Deaths from typhoid were common throughout history. The occurrence of this disease fell sharply in the developed world with the rise of 20th-century sanitation techniques and antibiotics. In 2013 it resulted in about 161,000 deaths – down from 181,000 in 1990.**

One March day in 1907, a man appeared at the Park Avenue brownstone where a 37-year-old woman named Mary worked as a cook. He demanded a little bit of her blood, urine, and feces. "It did not take Mary long to react to this suggestion," the man later wrote of the encounter. "She seized a carving fork and advanced in my direction."

The man with the strange request was George Soper, a sanitary engineer investigating a typhoid outbreak at a house in Oyster Bay, Long Island, where Mary had worked. Soper believed that she was a healthy carrier of the disease, a relatively new idea at the time. Later he returned and, after a five hour search, Mary was betrayed by a scrap of her dress caught in the door of her hiding place.

**Mary Mallon** (1869 – 1938) who became better known as **Typhoid Mary**, was the first person in the United States identified as an asymptomatic carrier of the bacteria associated with typhoid fever. Mary Mallon was born in 1869 in Cookstown, County Tyrone, Ireland. She emigrated from Ireland to the United States in 1883 at the age of 15 where she lived with her aunt and uncle for a time and later found work as a cook for affluent families.

From 1900 to 1907 Mallon worked as a cook in the New York City area for seven different families. In 1900, she worked in Mamaroneck, New York, where, within two weeks of her employment, residents developed typhoid fever. In 1901 she moved to Manhattan, where members of the family for whom she worked developed fevers and diarrhea, and the laundress died. Mallon then went to work for a lawyer; she left after seven of the eight people in that household became ill.

In 1906, she took a position in Oyster Bay, Long Island, and within two weeks ten of eleven family members were hospitalized with typhoid. She changed jobs again, and similar occurrences happened in three more households. She worked as a cook for the family of a wealthy New York banker, Charles Henry Warren. When the Warrens rented a house in Oyster Bay for the summer of 1906, Mallon went along too. From August 27 to September 3, six of the eleven people in the family came down with typhoid fever. The disease at that time was "unusual" in Oyster Bay, according to three medical doctors who practiced

there. Mallon was subsequently hired by other families, and outbreaks followed her.

In late 1906, one family hired a typhoid researcher named George Soper to investigate. He wrote: "It was found that



the family changed cooks on August 4. This was about three weeks before the typhoid epidemic broke out. She remained in the family only a short time, leaving about three weeks after the outbreak occurred. The cook was described as an Irish woman about 40 years of age, tall, heavy, single. She seemed to be in perfect health."

Soper discovered that a female Irish cook, who fit the physical description he was given, was involved in all of the outbreaks. He was unable to locate her because she generally left after an outbreak began, without giving a forwarding address. Soper learned of an active outbreak in a penthouse on Park Avenue, and discovered Mallon was the cook. Two of the household's servants were hospitalized, and the daughter of the family died of typhoid.

After Mallon adamantly rejected his request for urine and stool samples, Soper decided to compile a five-year history of Mallon's employment. He found that of the eight families that hired Mallon as a cook, members of seven claimed to have contracted typhoid fever. On his next visit, he brought another doctor with him but again was turned away. The New York City Health Department finally sent Dr. Sara Josephine Baker to talk to Mallon. Baker stated "by that time she was convinced that the law was only persecuting her when she had done nothing wrong." A few days later, Baker arrived at Mallon's workplace with several police officers, who took her into custody.

Mary attracted so much media attention that in a 1908 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association she was called "typhoid Mary". Mallon admitted poor hygiene, saying she did not understand the purpose of hand-washing because she did not pose a risk. In prison, she was forced to give stool and urine samples. Doctors found a significant natural reservoir of typhoid bacteria in her gallbladder. Authorities suggested removing her gallbladder, but she refused as she did not believe she carried the disease. She was also unwilling to cease working as a cook.

The New York City Health Inspector determined her to be a carrier. Under sections 1169 and 1170 of the Greater New York Charter, Mallon was held in isolation for three years at a clinic located on North Brother Island. Eventually, the New York State Commissioner of Health decided that disease carriers should no longer be kept in



isolation and that Mallon could be freed if she agreed to stop working as a cook and take reasonable steps to prevent transmitting typhoid to others. On February 19, 1910, Mallon agreed to change her occupation, and would give assurance by affidavit that she would upon her release take such hygienic precautions as would protect those with whom she came in contact, from infection. She was released from quarantine and returned to the mainland.

Upon her release, Mallon was given a job as a laundress, which paid less than cooking. She soon changed her name to "Mary Brown", and returned to her old occupation. For the next five years, she worked in a number of kitchens; wherever she worked, there were outbreaks of typhoid. However, she changed jobs frequently, and Soper was unable to find her.

In 1915, Mallon started another major outbreak, this time at Sloane Hospital for Women in New York City. Twenty-five people were infected and two died. She again left, but the police were able to find and arrest her when she brought food to a friend on Long Island. After arresting her, public health authorities returned her to quarantine on North Brother Island on March 27, 1915. She was still unwilling to have her gallbladder removed. Mallon remained confined for the remainder of her life. She became a minor celebrity, and was occasionally interviewed by the media. They were told not to accept even water from her. Later, she was allowed to work as a technician in the island's laboratory, washing bottles.



Mallon spent the rest of her life in quarantine at the Riverside Hospital. Six years before her death, she was paralyzed by a stroke. On November 11, 1938, she died of pneumonia at age 69. An autopsy found evidence of live typhoid bacteria in her gallbladder. Mallon's body was cremated, and her ashes were buried at Saint Raymond's Cemetery in the Bronx.

Among the 51 infections Mallon is presumed to have caused, at least three deaths were attributed to her. However, due to her use of aliases and refusal to cooperate, the exact number is not known. Some have estimated that she may have caused 50 fatalities.

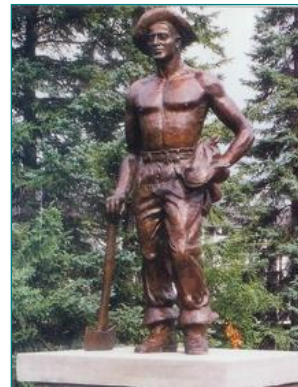
Mallon was the first asymptomatic typhoid carrier to be identified by medical science, and there was no policy providing guidelines for handling the situation. Some difficulties surrounding her case stemmed from Mallon's vehement denial of her possible role, as she refused to acknowledge any connection between her working as a cook and the

typhoid cases. Mallon maintained that she was perfectly healthy, had never had typhoid fever, and could not be the source. Other healthy typhoid carriers identified in the first quarter of the 20th century include Tony Labella, an Italian immigrant, presumed to have caused over 100 cases (with five deaths); an Adirondack guide dubbed "Typhoid John", presumed to have infected 36 people (with two deaths); and Alphonse Cotils, a restaurateur and bakery owner. Today, "Typhoid Mary" is a colloquial term for anyone who, knowingly or not, spreads something undesirable.

Smithsonian Magazine, March 2015; Wikipedia; Google Images

## Niceville CCC Camp Worker Statue Project Envisioned

Elisa Mitchiner, historian, researcher, and creator of The [Niceville Florida Online History Center](#), was the GSOC



program speaker at our March 2015 meeting. She is heading an effort to purchase and erect a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Worker Statue at the site of the CCC camp which was located in Niceville. The camp was established May 19, 1933 on the grounds of Niceville High School (today's Edge Elementary), while the permanent camp was built adjacent to Jackson Guard.

This statue will be part of the effort to recognize the contributions of the CCC to Niceville, Okaloosa County, Eglin AFB, and the state of Florida. The Niceville camp greatly enhanced the total economy during the years of the Great Depression and was the only camp in Okaloosa County and the first in the state of Florida.

Currently, the cost for the CCC Worker Statue is \$22,600. Shipping charges are additional. The Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce Foundation, a 501c3 organization, will serve as the fiscal agent on behalf of the CCC Monument Fundraising Effort.

Donations may be made payable and mailed to: Niceville Valparaiso Chamber Foundation, 1055 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville, FL 32578. Please note in the memo section that it is a CCC Fund donation.

The Niceville camp was one of the first in the nation; and the CCC and it are both commemorating their 83rd anniversary this year. As is typical of many of the CCC camps, some of the young men who were assigned there from other parts of Florida and other states met and married local girls and became Niceville residents. Mrs. Mitchiner has posted a comprehensive [article about the camp](#) at Niceville at the Niceville Online History Center.



## Civil War Sesquicentennial

### Selected Highlights of April 1865

<http://blueandgraytrail.com/year/186504>

Petersburg, Virginia, is taken by Union forces. Confederate government evacuates Richmond and the city surrenders. Union forces occupy Richmond and President Lincoln visits there. Lee surrenders to Grant at Appomattox. Confederate government withdraws to North Carolina.

President Lincoln assassinated on Good Friday in Ford's Theatre by John Wilkes Booth. Booth killed 11 days later while fleeing burning tobacco shed.

**April 1, 1865** Battle of Five Forks, George Pickett [CS] could not withstand the federal envelopment move around Petersburg that began here.

**April 2, 1865** With the Petersburg line crumbling, Lee informs Davis he will abandon his position that evening. The Confederate government evacuates Richmond and Mayor Joseph Mayo surrenders the city to General Godfrey Weitzel.

**April 3, 1865** Union troops occupy Petersburg and Richmond

**April 4, 1865** President Lincoln visits Richmond, walking to the Confederate White House among cheering crowds, mostly freed slaves. A detachment of 10 men protected him.

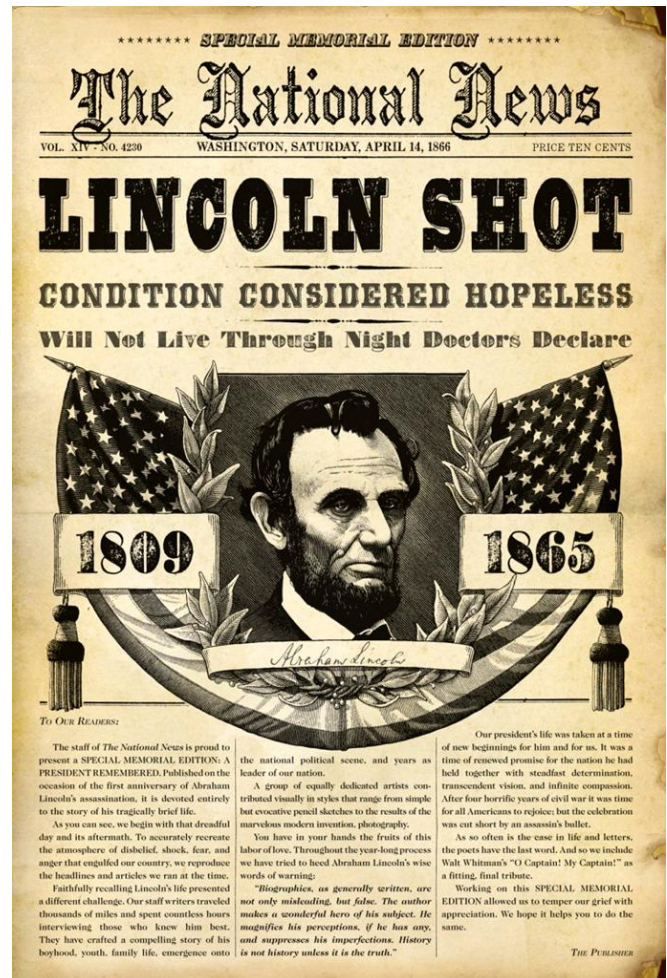
**April 7, 1865** Grant begins communication with Lee known as the "Surrender Letters."

**April 8, 1865** Battle of Appomattox Station, Cavalry under Phillip Sheridan strikes the rail depot south of the Appomattox Court House, driving Rebels back and capturing essential supplies

**April 9, 1865** After attempting to break-out of the Union envelopment, Robert E. Lee surrenders the Army of Northern Virginia to Ulysess S. Grant at the home of Wilmer McLean in Appomattox Court House

**April 11, 1865** Confederate government withdraws to North Carolina

**April 14, 1865** United States President Abraham Lincoln is assassinated on Good Friday by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre, Washington, D. C.



**April 15, 1865** Abraham Lincoln dies in a boardinghouse opposite Ford's Theater. Andrew Johnson takes the oath of office.

**April 18, 1865** Sherman and Johnston reach agreement on the surrender of all remaining armies in the Confederacy.

**April 19, 1865** The nation mourns U. S. President Abraham Lincoln at his funeral in Washington, D. C.

**April 26, 1865** P. G. T. Beauregard [CS] surrenders, Durham Station, North Carolina.

**April 26, 1865** Joe Johnston surrenders to William Tecumseh Sherman

**April 26, 1865** John Wilkes Booth is shot while fleeing a burning tobacco shed. Virginia

**April 27, 1865** Carrying former prisoners-of-war the Sultana explodes on the Mississippi River near Memphis.

**April 29, 1865** Commercial shipping restrictions lifted from most Confederate ports



# The Lincoln Funeral Train

After the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, his body was carried by an honor guard to the White House on Saturday April 16, 1865. During the Civil War, American doctors began embalming casualties on battlefields for shipment to distant family burial grounds using a technique patented by Dr. Charles Brown, and Dr. Brown was called to the White House to embalm Lincoln's body.

He lay in state in the East Room of the White House which was open to the public on Tuesday, April 18. On the 19th, a funeral service was held and then the coffin, attended by large crowds, was transported in a procession down Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol Rotunda. On Friday, April 21, the coffin was taken by honor guard to the depot to the funeral train. At least 10,000 people witnessed the train's departure from Washington.

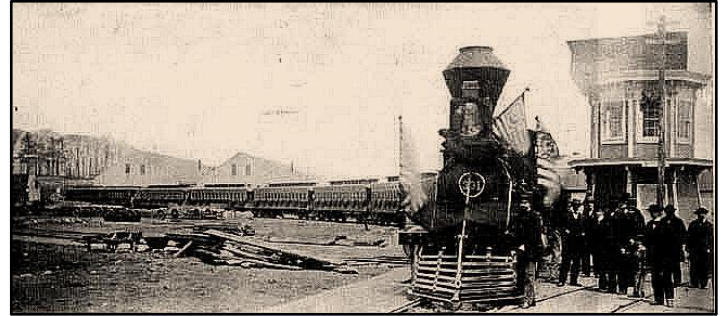
Dr. Brown and undertaker Frank Sands accompanied the body on the long train journey to Springfield, re-embalming the body several times en route.

The funeral train consisted of nine cars, including a baggage and hearse car. Eight of the cars were provided by the chief railways over which the remains were transported; the ninth was the President's car, which had been built for use by the president and other officials, contained a parlor, sitting room, and sleeping apartment, and had been draped in mourning and contained the coffins of Lincoln and his son who had died three years earlier. Different locomotives were used on different stretches of the trip.

The Department of War designated the route and declared railroads over which the remains passed as military roads under the control of the director and superintendent of United States Military Railroads. No person was allowed to be transported on the train except those authorized by the War Department, and the train

never moved at speeds of more than 20 miles an hour to avoid any accidents.

Lincoln's funeral train was the first national commemoration by rail of a president's death. Lincoln was observed, mourned, and honored by the citizens of Washington, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.



Chicago's memorial services were among the most elaborate in the nation. The president lay in state in Chicago's courthouse, where 125,000 viewed the remains at a rate of 7,000 an hour.

The President's car was so wide that every depot and tunnel between Chicago and Springfield had to be modified.

Abraham Lincoln was buried in Springfield, Illinois on May 4, 1865. His remains were subsequently moved seventeen times, including an attempted grave robbery in 1876. Robert Lincoln, the president's eldest son, finally ordered his father reburied under four thousand pounds of cement in 1901.

## Events, Groups, and Sites of GSOC Interest

**West Florida Genealogical Society**  
**Saturday, April 4, 2015 – 10:00 AM**

5740 N. 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL

**What Is a Reasonably Exhaustive Search?**  
**Speaker: Michael Hait, via recorded webinar**

The first step of the Genealogical Proof Standard is to complete a reasonably exhaustive search for all relevant records related to your research objective.

Members and guests are welcome to attend.  
Refreshments will be available at 9:45.

Contact Charlotte Schipman at 850-477-7166  
or [cschipman@mac.com](mailto:cschipman@mac.com)

**Mark Your Calendar!**



Opening ceremony begins at 7:45 AM.,  
The GSOC plans to have a booth.



## GSOC INFORMATION

### Officers for 2015

President, James Young  
1st Vice President (Programs), Del Lessard  
2nd Vice President (Membership), Charlene Grafton  
Treasurer, Bob Basch,  
Recording Secretary, Pat Pruett; Asst. Frances Hoge  
Corresponding Secretary, Carl Laws  
Immediate Past President, Donna Elliott  
Journal Editor, TBD; Historian, TBD  
Genealogist, Margaret Harris  
Publicity Chairperson, Val Moreland  
Webmaster & Newsletter Editor, Jim Young

### Addresses

P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175

Email: [gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com](mailto:gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com)

Newsletter Editor: [youngjmy@cox.net](mailto:youngjmy@cox.net)

### Meetings and Membership

Regular meetings of the GSOC are held at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso, FL, at 10 AM on the second Saturday of each month. There is no admission charge and all are welcome. The meetings are usually followed by an optional Dutch treat lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Annual membership dues are \$24 for an individual and \$35 for an individual and spouse at the same address. If you would like to become a member, want to renew your membership, or want to update your membership record, please go to the GSOC web site and get one of the appropriate forms.

### The Newsletter

The GSOC Newsletter is published on or before the first Friday of each month. Suggestions for articles are welcome. The editor, Jim Young, can be contacted by phone at 850 862-8642 or by email at [youngjmy@cox.net](mailto:youngjmy@cox.net). Letters to the editor are welcome and may be published.

### The Journal

The GSOC Journal, *A Journal of Northwest Florida*, is published once each year. The 2014 issue, was published and distributed in September 2014.

### The Web Site

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flocgs>

The site is updated frequently and contains information about future GSOC meetings, minutes of past meetings, copies of the newsletters, articles and items of genealogical and historical interest, and much more.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Those who have not renewed their membership by the close of the April 11, 2015 meeting will no longer receive GSOC Newsletters or Journals.**

### The GSOC Publications Disk

This compact disk (CD) contains all of the books listed below in searchable PDF files. To get a copy, please send your check for \$17.00 (shipping is included) with your order information to **GSOC, P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175**, and mark your envelope "Book Sales"

**Volume I, Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida;** 24 cemeteries east of the Yellow River & north of the Shoal River and I-10

**Volume II, Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida;** 26 cemeteries north and west of the Yellow River

**Volume III, Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida;** 11 cemeteries south of the Shoal River

**Funeral Records of Okaloosa County;** Records from McLaughlin Funeral Home, Crestview, FL, from 1927 - 1984. Over 11,000 entries. Includes the names of the deceased and, when given, the names of parents. Deceased are listed alphabetically, parents names are indexed.

**Santa Rosa County Marriages, 1869-1906**

Over 7,000 names with every-name index, 123 pages.

**Walton County Marriages, 1895-1915**

Over 10,000 names with every-name index, 165 pages.

## Nostalgia: Need a Used Courthouse?

### NOTICE FOR SALE OF OKALOOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, CRESTVIEW, FLORIDA

The Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County, Florida, offer for sale to the highest and best bidder, the existing Okaloosa County Courthouse to be removed from County premises by the purchaser. The purchaser will be required to remove all salvage, debris and fill excavations up to adjoining ground level and furnish performance bond to be approved by County.

Sealed bids for above will be received at the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court for Okaloosa County, at Crestview, Florida, at any time up to 5 o'clock P.M. April 10, 1955.

The County expressly reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1955.

*Okaloosa News-Journal, April 7, 1955*  
Crestview, Florida

### NOTICE FOR SALE OF OKALOOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, CRESTVIEW, FLORIDA

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The County expressly reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Dated this 8th day of March, 1955.

L. Barnes,  
Chairman of Board of County  
Commissioners, Okaloosa  
County, Florida

Attest:  
Cecil L. Anchors  
Clerk



The April GSOC meeting will be on Saturday, April 11, 2015, at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida at 10 AM.

The speaker will be Margaret Chatraw, the Library Coordinator for Youth Services and Genealogy Services for the Santa Rosa County Library System. She will discuss the use of city directories in genealogical research and also provide us an overview of the genealogical resources available at the Milton library which we plan to visit in June.

**Those who have not renewed their membership by the close of the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will not receive future editions of this newsletter or the 2015 *Journal*.**

*"Whatever you know, whatever you learn – Pass it On!"*

**Genealogical Society of  
Okaloosa County (GSOC)  
P.O. Box 1175  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175**

