

# THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 1, 2014

## Next GSOC Meeting

February 8, 2014, 10:00 AM  
Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida



The speaker for our February meeting will be Libbi Crowe. Come join us to hear about ***Murder, Mayhem and Many Mrs.'s*** and learn what can be accomplished with online resources in family history research.

Elizabeth Powell Crowe has been writing for 30 years and pursuing genealogy since she learned it at her mother's knee. As a freelance writer, she has written for national magazines and websites, as well as many local organizations and publications. She is the author of ***Genealogy Online*** and is now working on the 10<sup>th</sup> edition. You can read samples of her work at [www.portfolio.epcrowe.com](http://www.portfolio.epcrowe.com). Elizabeth lives and works in Navarre, Florida. She and her husband Mark have two children.

Using genealogy, history, and online resources, She will paint a lively picture of Colonel Guy Wyman, the founder of Navarre. There's never a dull moment in the story of Wyman and his family: It's a story of murder, mayhem, madness and four wives. He was about the same age as Albert Einstein and Pancho Villa; he served in Pershing's calvary unit in WWI, and lived to see the space age!

Libbi Crowe has been involved with computers since the early days. Her family got involved in genealogy after discovering an old Bible with family records going back to 1812.

**Happy Birthday to Us!** February is also the birthday month for the GSOC. Cake and coffee will be served at the meeting during a time of fellowship following the presentation. We will be celebrating GSOC's 38th birthday (1976 - 2014).

We extend a special invitation to our longtime and life members to join us for this meeting. As usual, we will meet at 10:00 AM at the Heritage Museum in Valparaiso.

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## GSOC January Meeting

January 11, 2014

Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida  
Pat Pruett, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President Jim Young. Other officers present were: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Del Lessard; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Sue Basch; Treasurer, Bob Basch; Recording Secretary, Pat Pruett; and Corresponding Secretary, Carl Laws. Jim welcomed visitors and members.

Bob Basch explained that a collection to support giving genealogy books to three area libraries, as well as supplementing the expenses of our yearly Journal, is taken up at each meeting, by the use of our "Little Blue Box". No one is under any obligation to donate.

Beverly Gross made a motion to accept the minutes from the December meeting as published on our website. Motion was seconded by Robin Stiles and passed unanimously.

### Officers' Reports:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Program Chairman Del Lessard was introduced and he said that the February speaker will be Mrs Libbi Crowe, whose topic is "Mayor of Navarre". February is the birthday month for our GSOC and we will have a cake to celebrate. He also said that for the May meeting, we will have Carl Rova speaking on "Finding Female Ancestors".

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Membership Sue Basch was introduced and suggested all members should fill out a membership form in order to receive the newsletter and to receive the monthly meeting notices electronically. Also, give family names you are researching and indicate areas of the organization that interest you. Individual dues are \$24.00 and family membership \$35.00.

Treasurer Bob Basch was introduced and reported that we have a checkbook balance of \$1433.60. He will have a complete financial statement available in February. He asked members to be thinking about how we can encourage new membership.

Recording Secretary Pat Pruett was introduced. She had nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary Carl Laws was introduced and Jim explained that Carl is responsible for all incoming and outgoing correspondence. He picks up the mail from our box at the Ft. Walton Beach Post Office. He brings the Journals we receive from other organizations and displays them at our meetings for the members peruse. He then gives them to the designated person to take to the Ft. Walton Beach Library. No report from Carl.

## Committee Reports:

Publicity Chairman Val Moreland was introduced and she requested that everyone be sure that their e-mail address is correct, so that she can get the monthly meeting notices to them.

Genealogist Margaret Harris was not present.

Library Representatives: Fort Walton Beach, Hilma Jenus was not present; the Valparaiso Library Representative, Beverly Gross, said she is ready to turn this position over to another person this year.

Journal Editor Malcolm Flanagan was not present. President Jim Young said that Malcolm did a great job on our 2013 Journal and is ready to turn it over to someone one else this year.

Newsletter/Website Editor Jim Young told the guests and new members that our newsletters are distributed electronically and will also be found on the GSOC website.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

## Announcements:

1. Mr. Hank Kline will give a program at the Fort Walton Beach Heritage Center this afternoon.

2. The Center for Lifelong Learning at the UWF-FWB campus is presently registering students. Genealogy classes there will be taught by Hilma Jenus, Margaret Harris and Marc and Linda Strickland. Beverly Gross will be teaching at PrimeTime at the NWFC campus.

3. A seminar will be held by the Bay County Genealogy Society in March, and the Florida State Genealogy Society (FSGS) Annual Conference will be 28-30 March. Further information will be in the February GSOC Newsletter and on the FSGS website.

Fourteen people opted to attend the Dutch Treat lunch at Ruby Tuesdays following the meeting.

Del then introduced our speaker, Mr. Hank Kline whose wife accompanied him today. Mr. Kline presented a program on a most welcome subject of special interest to everyone, entitled "Publishing and Enjoying Your Genealogy Work".

President Jim Young adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.

## **"HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE"**

**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF OKALOOSA COUNTY**

### **Charter Members**

Florence Eulalia Adams, Hughlene August Cole  
Wiley Benjamin Hill, Jr., Eileen O. McCall  
Geraldine Black, Stella Fisher, Sharon Jasper  
Ruth Usrey, Arthur Wagner

## **GSOC Pioneer Brief Frances Roberts** by Margaret Harris

**Frances Roberts** was a key volunteer for many preservation projects during the years that she was active in the Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County.

One of those projects involved doing the legwork for a proposed publication of Okaloosa's funeral home records. The society had been given a nucleus set of records by the estate of the late **Wiley Benjamin Hill**, pages that had been obtained by Mr. Hill from a pile of trash outside the McLaughlin's Mortuary, waiting to be burned. With a caution that the records might contain confidential information, the mortician told Mr. Hill that he could take the records for the purpose of archiving the historical information.

**Fran Roberts**, along with her co-conspirators, **Martha Rogers** and **Jean Grave**, typed and indexed this acquisition and further added to it with records from other funeral homes. Anyone who has put a book together for publication knows that there are many hours of work required.

Fran's association with the Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County began because she needed direction and support in researching her own family. She had gotten bit by the bug after visiting the home-site of her great grandparents. From the genealogical society and its members, she received an offer of support and assistance.

One of the members of the GSOC was **Lala Adams**, who was also the director of a genealogy library at the local "Mormon" Church (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints). Their resources at that time consisted of both paper records and books, plus the microfilm and microfiche resources of the large collection of the Salt Lake Family History Library. Fran spent many hours there.

About 20 years ago, another resource became available and Fran wasted no time in acquiring a computer and utilizing the tools of research on the Internet via message boards and bulletin boards. She proceeded to dive head first into discovering her ancestry and was able to document that her forebears in England, Scotland and Germany, back to the 1600's.

As Fran learned the ropes of doing genealogy, she shared this knowledge with others. She taught classes and wrote a how-to guide that was printed under the auspices of the Genealogical Society.

To this day, Fran Roberts is still interested and involved in family history.

Thanks to a former member of the Genealogical Society (2nd generation), Virginia Trawick, for contacting Fran Roberts and helping me to write this article. —MH—

# The Revenge of Jack Hinson

## Sniper Extraordinaire



Not everyone who fought against the Union did so because they believed in the Confederate cause. For some, the motivation was revenge.

This was the case for Jack Hinson who lived near Dover, TN. At the outbreak of the

Civil War, Hinson, a prosperous plantation-owner of Scotch-Irish descent and the father of ten children, owned a flourishing plantation in Stewart County. He had decided to sit out the war, refusing to choose a side even when one of his sons enlisted in the Confederate Army. He tried his best to stay neutral. During the battle at Fort Donelson he traversed the lines as a neutral and after the battle General Ulysses S. Grant visited the Hinson farm near Dover as a guest.

Unfortunately, circumstances would choose a side for Hinson. In 1862 a Union Army patrol picked up his sons, George and John, who, like their father, were not affiliated with either side, while they were out hunting for game. The Union soldiers from the 5th Iowa Cavalry assumed the two Hinson boys were rebel guerillas despite their pleas of innocence. Without benefit of trial, they tied them to a tree and then shot them. As a further outrage, a lieutenant with the company used his sword to decapitate the two and he ordered their heads to be taken to the Hinson farm and placed on the gate posts. Jack Hinson swore revenge.

Hinson was a God-fearing man who believed in vengeance. He quietly commissioned a special sniper rifle, a .50 caliber Kentucky rifle that had a 41" barrel and weighed a whopping 18 pounds. This rifle—in the hands of Hinson—could hit targets at about half a mile away, making it far more powerful than most firearms to see service during the Civil War. He targeted officers because he believed that they were responsible for his sons' deaths rather than the soldiers who merely carried out orders. The rifle was never meant for firing from the shoulder. It was always mounted on an iron tripod or rested on the limb of a tree for long-range firing. It had two triggers, one for cocking, and a delicate hair-trigger for pinpoint long-distance accuracy.

When a friend warned him that the Union troops were going to arrest him, he bundled up his wife and younger children and sent them to safety with relatives in West Tennessee. Hinson stayed behind to continue his sniping. When the Union troops arrived at the farm to arrest Hinson, they were met by defiant slaves. The Union soldiers burned the farm.

Hinson lived in a cave on a bluff high above the Tennessee River. At that time the rivers were the superhighways that transported troops and supplies to the Union army. From his vantage point overlooking the river, he shot Union officers and river pilots on the riverboats that passed

below him. Hinson managed to disrupt traffic on the river and terrorize the crews and passengers on the riverboats. Jack moved from time to time and carefully protected the local citizens who helped him. When he ventured across the river to visit his family, he learned that two of his younger children, who were sick with measles at the time of their escape, had died. To Hinson, the Union had caused their deaths. He continued his one-man campaign against the Union. Later his son in the Confederate Army died in battle and his other grown son died in a guerrilla raid.

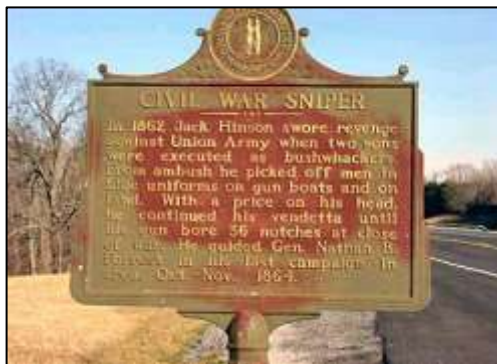
Jack Hinson never officially joined the Confederate Army, but he did aid them. Before the Battle of Johnsonville, Jack acted as scout and guide for General Nathan B. Forrest, and he was with the Confederate troops during the battle.

Although intensely hunted, Jack was never captured. After the war he settled what was left of his family on White Oak Creek. That sparsely populated area provided a safe haven where Jack lived his remaining years. Some historians place the number of Union officers and pilots that fell to Jack Hinson's Kentucky rifle at around one hundred.

The *Clarksville Weekly Chronicle* for May 16, 1874, reported that, **Capt. Jack Hinson died at his residence on White Oak Creek Tuesday the 28th of April. His death was very sudden. On the morning of the day he died, he complained of a severe pain between the shoulders, remedies were applied, but no relief came until death had ended his sufferings, six hours after being taken. The attack was supposed to be meningitis. The remains were interred Thursday at Mr. Joel Boyd's on Bear Creek.** His grave site is documented on the Find-A-Grave website as being in Boyd #1 Cemetery, Tharpe, Stewart County, TN.

The rifle survived the decades and is now in the hands of prominent Murfreesboro TN Judge Ben Hall McFarlin.

Jack Hinson's story is told in the book "Jack Hinson's One-Man War, A Civil War Sniper" by Tom McKenney (hardcover, 400 pages, Pelican Publishing, 2009). This



biographical account by author/retired military Col. Tom C. McKenney is a history of the North-South conflict in Tennessee that's remained largely untold. The author's

meticulous in-depth research shares view-points from above and below the Mason-Dixon Line. Some reviewers, however, contend that parts of this book are largely historical fiction.





## Civil War Sesquicentennial

### Selected Highlights of February 1864

<http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/february-1864-civil-war.htm>

**February 1864** saw the start of what was to become one of the most controversial acts of the American Civil War. General Sherman started what was to eventually be known as his 'March Through Georgia' - though in this case it was a march on a major railway but with the intention of destroying anything that could be of use to the South once his army had moved on.

**February 1<sup>st</sup>:** President Lincoln ordered another 500,000 men to be drafted to serve for three years or for the duration of the war.

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Sherman started his march in Mississippi to destroy the Mobile/Ohio railway. His army consisted of 20,000 men. Sherman had by now decided to destroy as much Southern property as he could. When the war started, any deliberate attack on civilians was all but unheard of. Now it was to form a specific part of Sherman's tactics in the South. He believed that by inducing fear and terror, he could bring the war to a swift end. Confronting Sherman's army was a Confederate force that also numbered 20,000. But they were demoralised, poorly equipped and poorly fed.

**February 14<sup>th</sup>:** Sherman's army entered Meridian and started to systematically destroy it. Hotels, hospitals and storehouses (once what was in them was removed) were set alight.

**February 16<sup>th</sup>:** The Confederates under General Polk made a half-hearted attempt to confront Sherman. However, Sherman was so confident of success that he left half his men – 10,000 – in Meridian to complete their destructive work.

**February 17<sup>th</sup>:** Conscription in the South is extended to all white 17 to 50 year olds. Opposition to this was widespread and included the Confederacy's Vice-President!

**February 20<sup>th</sup>:** In the largest Civil War battle in Florida, a Union force of 5,500 men confronted a similar number of Southern troops at Olustee, Florida. The Confederates were successful as the Union troops (many of whom were 'substitutes') turned and fled. Many of the Union troops were armed with the new Spencer rifle and nearly 1,600 of these were left behind.

*In February 1864, Union Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore launched an expedition into Florida to secure Union enclaves, sever Rebel supply routes, and recruit black soldiers. Brig. Gen. Truman Seymour moved deep into the state, occupying,*

*destroying, and liberating, meeting little resistance. However, on February 20, he approached Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan's 5,000 Confederates entrenched near Olustee. One infantry brigade pushed out to meet Seymour's advance units. The Union forces attacked but were repulsed. The battle raged, and as Finegan committed the last of his reserves, the Union line broke and began to retreat. Finegan did not exploit the retreat, allowing most of the fleeing Union forces to reach Jacksonville.*

**February 24<sup>th</sup>:** Congress agreed to reinstate the rank of lieutenant general. Grant is given this rank and became the supreme military commander of the army, though still answering to the commander-in-chief – Lincoln. The president also agreed to a plan to compensate farmers to the tune of \$300 for every slave they allowed to go free and who enlisted in the Union Army.

**February 28<sup>th</sup>:** The North launched a cavalry attack against Richmond. The idea was to free Union prisoners held at Belle Isle and race back to Union lines. Lincoln considered that such a raid would have enormous propaganda value if it succeeded. It was to go wrong from the start.

## Graphics on VA Headstones and Markers

The number of allowable graphics on Government-furnished headstones or markers, such as those supplied by the Veterans' Administration, has expanded considerably in recent years. However, no graphics (logos, symbols, etc.) are permitted on Government-furnished headstones or markers other than the available emblems of belief, the Civil War Union Shield, the Civil War Confederate Southern Cross of Honor, and the Medal of Honor insignias.

An emblem of belief for inscription on a Government headstone or marker is an emblem or symbol that represents the sincerely held belief of the decedent that constituted a religion or the functional equivalent of religion and was believed and/or accepted as true by that individual during his or her life. The belief represented by an emblem need not be associated with or endorsed by a group or organization. There are strict rules, however, concerning the decorum of these emblems and any emblem not already approved must go through a vetting process by the VA. This web site shows the approved ones:

<http://www.cem.va.gov/hmm/emblems.asp>



These are just four of the over 50 approved emblems. Do you recognize which faiths they represent?

(Answers and more tombstone information on page 9)

# Navarre and Navarre Beach, Florida

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Navarre** is an unincorporated community in Santa Rosa County which provides refuge to U.S. military, defense contractors, nature enthusiasts, beach guests, and folks who operate the businesses that support these folks. It is built on mostly sandy soil and is bounded in the north by the **East River** and on the south by the Santa Rosa Sound. The Navarre area features miles of pristine white shorelines.

Navarre is about 25 miles east of Pensacola and about 15 miles west of Mary Esther and Fort Walton Beach. The community is roughly centered on the junction of **U.S. Highway 98**, the primary east-west route between Pensacola and the Fort Walton Beach area, and State Road 87. It is located near several large military facilities: Naval Air Station Pensacola to the west and Hurlburt Field and Eglin Air Force Base to the east. It is known for the untarnished natural beauty, leading the community to declare itself "Florida's Best Kept Secret."

**Navarre Beach** is the part of this unincorporated community that is on Santa Rosa Island, a barrier island, connected by a bridge across the Santa Rosa Sound to Navarre. Immediately to its east on the island is Navarre Beach County Park, and on east beyond the park is Air Force property that stretches all the way to Fort Walton Beach. Immediately to its west is a portion of the Gulf Islands National Seashore, and further west is the city of Pensacola Beach.



**History.** The founder of Navarre was Guy Wyman, a colonel in the United States Army. Wyman was in World War I where he met a French nurse named Noel. At the time, immigration policies would not allow him to bring her to the United States as a fiancé or even as a wife, but he *could* bring her back as his legal child. So he adopted her, and brought her back to the Florida panhandle, where he purchased a large amount of land. Noel named their holdings *Navarre*, after the province in Spain near France. Wyman platted the town in 1925, but made no steps towards development. However, during the Great Depression, the Wymans couldn't pay the taxes on it, and were forced to begin selling it off. Part of that property is where the Navarre Park is today. While protecting and enhancing the natural beauty of

the area; several steps have been taken to develop luxury accommodations, water activities, boutique shopping, scenic trails, top rated schools and nature/educational opportunities.

**Hurricanes.** As a low-elevation community, approximately 10 feet, near the Gulf of Mexico, Navarre and Navarre Beach are often threatened by hurricanes. Significant damage was incurred as a result of Hurricanes Erin, Opal, Ivan, and Dennis. Many homes and businesses immediately along Santa Rosa Sound (generally south of U.S. Highway 98) suffered storm surge damage as a result of those storms. Other hurricanes that affected the area were Katrina, Gustav, and Isaac.

**Movie.** Much of the 1978 film *Jaws 2* was filmed at Navarre Beach because of the warm weather and the



water's depth being appropriate for the shark platform. The company was at this location from August until late December 1977. Navarre's Holiday Inn (destroyed later by a hurricane) was used as the film's headquarters, with the ground floor converted into production offices, and some of the Gulf-front suites remodelled for David Brown and Roy Scheider. Universal rented 100 of the hotel's 200 rooms, spending \$1 million. Boats and

parts for their maintenance were purchased from local businesses. One proprietor said that he sold "Universal approximately \$400,000 worth of boats and equipment."

## East River

The **East Bay River** (also called the **East River**) which bounds Navarre on the north is a 15-mile-long river located in Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties. It flows from east to west, forming near Hurlburt Field and empties into the eastern portion of Pensacola Bay near the communities of Holley and Navarre. The river forms part of the southern boundary of Eglin Air Force Base.

## US 98 in Florida



Navarre is roughly centered on the junction of US Highway 98 and Florida State Route 87. When it was originally signed in 1934, US 98 ran from Apalachicola to McNeils, Port St. Joe, Panama City, Westbay, Ebro, Freeport, Portland, Niceville, Camp Walton Mary Esther, then west to Navarre and on to Pensacola (across a toll bridge). By 1946, US 98 had been rerouted south of Choctawhatchee Bay along the coast though Destin. US 98 was extended west into Alabama in 1955. Its original State road number along the Panhandle Gulf coast was 53.

# Getting and Preserving Tombstone Information

Based on articles from Ancestry.com  
and other Internet sources

Tombstone rubbing, which has been popular for centuries, is actually harmful to tombstones and is currently being banned and outlawed in many different areas. Even gentle rubbings cause decay. With photography what it is today, there is no reason to do a rubbing for recording a tombstone. Photographs can provide a much greater and more artistic visual remembrance of any stone.

Chalking is also a method still being promoted as being a safe way to read hard to read tombstones. However, chalk is abrasive and can damage and stain stones. There are instances of chalk-stains which are still visible years after the fact.

Neither flour or shaving cream are safe methods for making stones more readable. Flour can penetrate into small pores of the stone, and when wet, can swell and can cause flaking of the stone. Also, it is food for micro-organisms that can then live and grow in the stone, causing expansion and cracking. Shaving cream is dangerous because of the chemicals it is made up of which will deteriorate the stones, much like acid rain.

Photography is the best and safest choice. Here are some tips accumulated from various sources.

When you go out to photograph a tombstone:

1. Bring your digital camera, extra batteries and extra memory cards. Through experimentation and evaluation of size and quality considerations, it has been determined that the \*.JPG file format is the best, with image size set to 1024 x 768 pixels, and "quality" set to "fine/best". This should generate picture files that average just a little larger than 300 KB in size.

2. Make yourself a "graveyard photo kit" containing:

a. Shovel or small hoe; garden shears or heavy duty scissors (to trim away weeds and grass)

b. Whisk broom (to brush off the grave)

c. Cheap paint brushes with soft bristles (several different sizes) for removing dust and debris from the crevasses of the etchings

d. A spray bottle of ONLY water (makes tombstones more readable) **Don't enhance the inscription with anything other than pure clean water.** Many gravestones such as granite, marble, sandstone, and slate have surfaces which are porous and fragile, so be extremely careful when attempting to clean or brighten them. It's fine to spritz a little water onto the inscription to bring it out more clearly or to clean it. Wipe off the surface of the stone with cotton cloth, natural sponge,

or a kitchen towel and leave the engraving damp. Allow the surface to dry a bit, and the damp engraving will appear slightly darker.

e. Roll of paper towels and/or a box of wipes; gloves (keeps your hands cleaner)

f. Notebook and pens or pencils or iPad (or equivalent) (always copy down the inscription)

g. Mirror (8x10 minimum but bigger is better) or aluminum foil (shiny side out) wrapped around cardboard. Reflectors simply reflect light back onto the subject. If you use ambient light, the light reflected back on the subject (like a tombstone) is natural and soft - no harsh shadows.



To make a homemade reflector, get a piece of cardboard that's about 12 x 12. Apply glue to one side of the cardboard, and then glue on a piece of aluminum foil, shiny side out. Now you're ready to shoot in a backlit situation. All you have to do is position yourself (and your reflector) on the front side of the tombstone, then tilt the reflector until it catches the sun's light and reflects it back onto the tombstone. At this point you can take your photo because the front of the stone will have good lighting and you won't have to fire a flash. If you're in a cemetery and don't have a small reflector handy, pull out the big sunshade from your car. It makes a great reflector!

h. Gardener's knee pads, sunscreen; insect repellent, first aid kit, shotgun (for snakes) [just kidding]

Pictures to take:

1. Photos showing views of the entire cemetery from different angles, including the front gates of the cemetery.

2. For the headstone(s) of interest: one or more up close; one or more from a distance to show context; and any surrounding family stones.

Tips:

1. Use a mirror or aluminum foil to bounce light off the stone instead of using the camera flash if the stone is reflective (polished) to avoid bright spots from the flash.



2. Smooth and shiny granite gravestones will need to be photographed at an angle to avoid a reflection of yourself.

3. You may need to take several shots of some headstones to get all of an inscription. In this case, the panoramic feature of a camera capable of such an operation or phone such as an iPhone can come in handy. If you have an iPhone, carry it with you.

4. Sidelighting works best to create shadows in the inscription and make it easier to read, try early or late in the day; use your mirror or aluminum foil to help create the sidelight if possible.



**The photo on the right was made using an off-camera flash but a reflector could have given much the same result.**

3. Point of view is very important. Don't shoot while standing. Get down at "eye level" with the tombstone. If you shoot a tombstone from above (standing) you run the risk of getting a distorted view - not only of the stone but of the inscription. If you're able, kneel down so the photo is taken at eye level. If you're able to read the inscription through your view finder (or LCD screen) then you're assured that the inscription will be readable on the digital image.

4. It seems there are so many "don'ts" when it comes to tombstones, that you might fear there is no hope for reading the information on that all important but weathered stone. Don't worry; there are still some innovative methods that provide outstanding results. Probably the greatest and easiest of these methods is the aluminum foil method. With this, one begins by simply placing a thin sheet of aluminum foil against the stone, or wrapping it around the stone. The cheaper and thinner foil works best for this method. Then with a lightweight brush, such as a clean makeup brush, you gently press the foil into the carvings of the stone. Remember, if securing the foil with tape, only tape foil to foil, never put tape on the actual stone.

Do you need permission?

Read the discussion by the Legal Genealogist at <http://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog/2012/10/22/cemetery-photos-permission-required/>

5. Be respectful. This is a cemetery, not a genealogy workshop. Be respectful of mourners; walk on paths and around graves, not over them

6. Don't assume you'll be back. Take multiples and check what you have before you leave. Write down what you did and the order and location.

### **What are the problems with this photo?**



**The face of this stone is distorted because the camera was positioned above and to the right of the stone. When the camera is high, the text at the bottom of the picture is farther from the camera than the text at the top thus increasing the likelihood some of it being out of focus.**

There is a bit too much greenery showing, too -- picture space that would be better used for the stone. The photographer flattened the weeds in front of the stone with his foot instead of snipping them away, but missed a few on the left side. This probably contributed to his off-center positioning of the camera.

# Events, Groups, and Sites of GSOC Interest

## Advance Notices:

**Spring Seminar with Dick Eastman**  
**Sat., March 22, 2014, Panama City, Florida**  
**Presented by Bay Co. Genealogical Society**



Richard "Dick" Eastman is an internationally known lecturer and author of Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter which is read by more than 75,000 genealogists all over the world.

PreRegister Before March 15<sup>th</sup>: Members \$40.00 and Non-members \$45.00. After March 15<sup>th</sup> and at the door: \$50.00 (lunch not guaranteed unless pre-registered).

For more information:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flbcgs/index.html>



## 2014 Florida State Genealogical Society Annual Conference

The three-day conference will be held at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center in Gainesville, Florida on 28 – 30 March 2014. Reserve your room now to get the special hotel rates!

**Online Conference Registration and complete details concerning the special hotel rates and the lectures that you can select are available at the FSGS web site: <http://flsgs.org/aem.php?eid=3>**

**Lisa Louise Cooke, the Keynote Speaker** is the owner of Genealogy Gems, a genealogy and family history multi-media company. She is Producer and Host of the Genealogy Gems Podcast, the popular online genealogy audio show available at [www.GenealogyGems.com](http://www.GenealogyGems.com), in iTunes, and through the Genealogy Gems app, and free toolbar.

**Plus, 19 other speakers for the breakout sessions!**

**For complete details and to download the conference brochure, go to:**  
<http://flsgs.org/aem.php?eid=3>

## Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida Craft Vendors Wanted for

**Annual Saturday in the Park Festival, April 26, 2014**  
The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida seeks Art/Craft/Antique Vendors for the April 26, 2014 - **38<sup>th</sup> Saturday in the Park Heritage Festival**. Craft Vendors must produce quality, hand-crafted, original items only. Contact the Museum for an application. To register, go to [www.heritage-museum.org](http://www.heritage-museum.org) or call (850) 678-2615.

**It is time** for renewal of your GSOC Annual Dues for 2014. Dues are \$24 for an individual and \$35 for an individual and spouse at the same address. Please complete a renewal form when you come to the February meeting or download one from the GSOC web site and mail it to the GSOC post office address.

## Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida Free Lunch-Time Lecture

### *History of Muscogee Creek People*

**Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 Noon**

Presented by Ann Denson Tucker, local artist and Chairwomen for the Muscogee Nation of Florida.



Ann Denson Tucker, Chairwoman  
Muscogee Nation of Florida

Denson will share information about the Muscogee people, their heritage and their tribe's tribulations.

Bring a sandwich and take your lunch break at the *History Sandwiched-In*, an informal lunchtime education program. This

lecture is free and open to the public. SPACE IS LIMITED. Please call to reserve a seat. (850) 678-2615

## Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida "Valentine's Victorian Tea"

**Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 3:30 PM**



Celebrate Valentine's Day in a unique and fun way this year. Men, women and children will enjoy a variety of teas and light refreshments while learning fun Valentine's Day facts, Victorian traditions and tea etiquette. Cost: \$15 or \$12 for Museum Members. Space is limited, and *Reservations are required*. Call: (850) 678-2615

**"The problem with internet quotes is that you can't always depend on their accuracy" - Abraham Lincoln, 1864**



# GSOC INFORMATION

## Officers for 2014

President, James Young  
1st Vice President (Programs), Del Lessard  
2nd Vice President (Membership), Sue Basch  
Treasurer, Bob Basch,  
Recording Secretary, Pat Pruett  
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

(Elected, Appointed, and Ex Officio positions)

## Addresses

P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175  
Web Site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flocgs>  
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 2013 issue, Volume XXXII, Issue 102, was published and distributed in December 2013.

## The Web Site

The GSOC web site is hosted by Rootsweb at:  
<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.



The symbol on the left is the QR code for the address of the GSOC web site. Scanning this symbol with properly equipped mobile devices will connect that device to the GSOC website.

## 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.

Veterans' emblems shown on page 2, L-R:  
Native American Church of North America;  
Messianic Jewish; Mormon;  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

## Stones on the Tombstone



The small stones that were placed on the top of this tombstone reflect the Jewish tradition of honoring the deceased by leaving small stones on their grave when it is visited. Non-Jews have adopted this tradition in many places and it is common now to see small trinkets or other items as well as stones.

This veteran's tombstone in Arlington National Cemetery memorializes Audie Murphy, who became an actor after his wartime service. He was awarded the Medal of Honor and was the most decorated soldier from World War II. The emblem is the Latin Cross which is often selected for those of protestant faiths.



The February GSOC meeting will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014, at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida at 10 AM.

The speaker will be Elizabeth Powell Crowe, author of *Genealogy Online*. She will be talking about ***Murder, Mayhem and Many Mrs.'s***, a lively picture of Colonel Guy Wyman, the founder of Navarre.

GSOC membership dues for 2014 are due!

*"Whatever you know, whatever you learn – Pass it On!"*  
*and*  
***"HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE"***

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

