

# THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

Happy  
New  
Year!

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF OKALOOSA COUNTY,  
FLORIDA

JANUARY 4, 2013

## Next GSOC Meeting

January 12, 2012

The first GSOC meeting of 2013 will be held at 10:00 A.M. at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, FL. Our speaker, H. C. "Hank" Klein, has done extensive research into the settlers and early residents of Destin, FL.



His program will be based on the article, *Leonard Destin - A Yankee in the Wrong Place During the Civil War*, which was published in the December 2012 issue of this newsletter.

Mr Klein has long been interested in the history of Destin, Florida and the genealogy of his father-in-law's and mother-in-law's families (Marler and Shirah) who both came from pioneer Destin Families. Klein has written books documenting that family research. He also contributed historical research for Tony Mennillo's book *Salty Memories along the Coastal Highway – Historic Stories of Destin and the Emerald Coast* which included this story and many others about Leonard Destin and the early settlers of Destin, Florida.

Klein lived for many years in both Okaloosa and Bay Counties. He is now retired from his Credit Union management career, and he and his wife (the former Muriel Marler of Destin, Florida) live in Arkansas. He can be contacted at [klein@aristotle.net](mailto:klein@aristotle.net) or at 501.256-7474.

Mr. Klein was the guest speaker at the February 2012 meeting of the GSOC where he discussed the *1st Settlers of Destin*.

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## GSOC Journal for 2012 Has Been Published

A *Journal of Northwest Florida*, Volume XXXIV, September 2012, Issue 101, has been published and was distributed in November. All GSOC members should have received a copy. If you did not get yours, please let us know.

## GSOC Meeting Minutes December 8, 2012

Frances Hoge, Acting Recording Secretary

The Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County met for the annual Christmas meeting on 8 December at the Coach-N-Four Steakhouse, in Crestview, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by President, Donna Elliott. Donna welcomed 20 members and 2 guests. She thanked members, Martha and Phil Trau for arranging the meeting and their great Christmas music, "which makes this meeting special." She also thanked the members for the canned and boxed goods to be donated to Sharing & Caring in Niceville.

Donna announced that she would forgo the usual order of business.

In the absence of Ken Elliott, who had a prior commitment, Donna announced that the guest speaker for the January meeting, would be Hank Klein speaking on Leonard Destin's Civil War Captivity. She recommended that the GSOC December newsletter has a good preview of the program.

Donna asked for comments from the other officers in attendance. Sue Basch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Membership), wished everyone a "Happy Holiday." Jim Young, Corresponding Secretary, congratulated Beverly Gross for her good job on the Journal. Beverly Gross, Journal Editor, thanked all of the people who had helped her.

Malcolm Flanagan, immediate past-president, was asked to come forward for the installation of the 2013 slate of officers. He in turn asked all nominated officers present and Backup Recording Secretary, Frances Hoge (to stand-in for Pat Pruett, Recording Secretary for 2013) to come forward. He then introduced the nominated officers: Donna Elliott, President; Ken Elliott, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Programs); Sue Basch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Membership); Bob Basch, Treasurer; Jim Young, Corresponding Secretary; Pat Pruett, Recording Secretary. He thanked everyone who had helped throughout the year and proceeded to formally install the slate of officers.

Donna asked if there was any other business or announcements. She then proceeded to close the meeting by thanking all who had served and those who had helped this past year. She wished every one a Merry Christmas and then adjourned the business part of the meeting so that those present could enjoy the meal, music, and fellowship.

## 2012 GSOC Holiday Party



### Around the Internet:

#### Items of Genealogical Interest

The excellent Bay County Genealogy Gateway Website is at:

<http://www.northwestfloridagenealogy.com/gengate/index.htm>

Here is a list of Ancestry.com rated sites, heavily slanted to their site and sister sites, but with other sites listed; it also has a list of popular former sites, now "dead"

<http://genealogy-websites.no1reviews.com/>

Occasionally you'll find a truly useful website with a search feature that accesses real data. "makeuseof.com" provides a list of the top 10 free genealogy websites that would be valuable to anyone first entering into the hobby. These sites provide valuable tools, guides and access to databases that are overflowing with historic data.

<http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/top-10-free-genealogy-websites-to-find-ancestors/>

Here is a list of top-rated genealogy sites from "all-genealogysites.com"

<http://all-genealogysites.com/Ratings/>

Side-by-side comparison and reviews of genealogy search services:

<http://genealogy-search-review.toptenreviews.com/>

Linda Koch's List: Genealogy Websites

<http://www.diigo.com/list/librarianlinda/Genealogy-Websites>

List of War of 1812 soldiers buried in Florida:

<http://flsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=174>

Open access Internet links to websites evaluated by Indiana University Kokomo librarians.

<http://iuk.libguides.com/content.php?pid=86841&sid=657908>

A useful site, which attempts to round up statewide digitization projects:

<http://www.digitalstatearchives.com/>

Learn to use the internet in your genealogy research.

<http://www.genealinks.com/begin.htm>

# The Garretts in Milligan

## by James R. Garrett, III

As I made my way through the tangled thicket of briars and scrub oak, I was trying to recall what I was looking for. I knew the old Garrett Mill was back in these woods somewhere, just off Old River Road in Milligan, FL, but my own recollections of it from childhood were hazy. I seemed to remember a bright sunny day and a small stream with sandy banks. I was buck-naked and the water was cold. Or maybe it was the old black and white photo I was recalling, a picture of me when I was about three years old, standing in water ankle deep, taken at the old millstream.

The mill had been a center of activity for the little community of Milligan, FL. It is unclear how long the gristmill had stood there before "Pa", Alford L. Garrett, bought it around 1935. It was a small operation, built beside the little stream, which had been dammed up. It was said to be "the best swimming hole around" in those days. People would haul their corn by mule or ox drawn wagon and Pa would grind it for them. Another man would bag the ground corn meal. It was all done on a "share" basis or the barter system. In return for grinding the corn, the mill would get, in trade, a percentage of the corn meal. My father, James R. "Rube" Garrett, Jr. (son of James R. Garrett, Sr. who was born to Alford and Olivia in Milligan on 30 Nov 1896), remembers his granddaddy standing in the door way, chewing tobacco and greeting customers. They called him "Uncle Alford". Alford liked his "chaw." At the little Milligan Baptist Church there on Old River Road, just around the corner from the homestead, Pa would always sit next to an open window so he could spit tobacco.

Alford Lafayette Garrett was the twelfth and youngest child of John Sheridan "Jack" Garrett. John S. was born 3 Jan 1831 in Coffee Co., Alabama. He and his wife, Rebecca Jane Fowler, who came from Georgia, born 16 Dec 1832, had migrated from Coffee County with their eight children to the area east of the Yellow River just after the Civil War.

As Garrett family genealogist, Barbara Martin writes, "During or after the Civil War, the call of good water and cheap, rich farm land began to hit the settled Alabama residents. Florida had become a state in 1845 and the Civil War was over. The abundance of unsettled land available for homesteading attracted many settlers to northwest Florida. The Garretts were among their number.

Most newcomers remained in the interior of the county because land along the coast was sandy and not considered suitable for grazing cattle and farming, and was considered worthless. How times have changed.

The family eventually settled on the banks of the Yellow River just south of present day Highway 90 and the railroad trestle that spans the river there. The family operated a ferry at that location for many years till a flood wiped out the house, it is said, back in the 1920s.

Alford was born at the "river house" on 12 Apr 1875. Not much is known about his early years. I reckon he grew up like most kids of that era. Electricity would have been unavailable and transportation was a mule and a wagon. Light was provided by a kerosene lamp or lantern. All the cooking was done on a wood stove or by pots or kettles hung over the fireplace that also was the only source of heat during the long winter months.

Folks in those days raised their money crops of cotton, corn, peanuts, velvet beans, etc. to provide them home, shelter and cash income. They kept a seasonal garden for all their vegetables, which were preserved by canning or storage in what was called "Tater beds" or ground cellars. They had a smoke house for curing meats and fish and would have gathered and burned hickory wood to smoke the meats. They hunted wild game to supplement their meat supply for the table and raised chickens and other poultry for both the meat and the eggs.

Cows were kept to provide milk to drink or to use in cooking. Daily leftover milk was poured into a large churn to clabber at room temperature. This clabbered milk was then churned into buttermilk for family use after the large chunks of butter had been removed.

Corn was another crop that was harvested and stored in the barn for livestock feed. Some was hand-shucked and shelled off the cobs to be carried by wagon to the gristmill. The shelled corn was then ground with the great water-powered millstones into a cornmeal and then bagged for storage in their larder. This meal was used in making "Corn Pone" or "Cracklin'" bread or for "mealing" fish for frying.

It is probable that Alford helped with all the chores and when he was old enough, helped run the ferry; Alford married Olivia Anne Wilkinson on New Years Day, 1894, at Milligan, which was a part of Santa Rosa County in those days. She was from Milligan, so it is likely they were childhood sweethearts. He was 19 years old at the time; she would have been 17.



Alford and Olivia Garrett with children, circa 1900

An old grainy black and white photo shows the Garretts gathered in front of the old river house. Young Alford and Olivia are shown with two little boys, John W. and James R. (my grandfather), she, holding baby Sheridan and appearing to be pregnant. Alford is holding a straw hat. Twins Claude and Clyde would be born on 4 December 1900.



After the death of Grandma Rebecca in 1905, Alford would move the family to a house west of the river near the road that ran to Crestview. He reportedly bought the property from a black man and added onto the house



*The Garrett Family at the "Old River House", circa 1900*

that was there to make room for his growing family. In later years, two big oak trees grew in the front yard; which became a favorite shade spot for the local cows that roamed freely. They would often gather under the big trees. This meant you had to be very careful when walking or playing in the front yard, or you might step in something you wish you hadn't.

As I struggled through the underbrush, suddenly old weathered boards blocked the path -- it was the old millhouse. Though the day was hot and muggy, inside the ramshackle structure was shady and cool. The rough wood walls were high with sunlight peeping through the cracks between the boards, the ancient metal roof rusted



*Crouching, I entered beneath the shady entrance to the old building*

through in many places. Strewn about the floor were discarded white paper sacks, each imprinted with the logo "Garrett's Old Fashioned White Corn Meal - Unbolted Water Ground" and a picture of three ears of corn inside a bright red circle. Each bag proudly proclaimed the contents had been "Sifted". Everything was scattered

about as if the place had been recently abandoned, though the mill ceased operations almost 40 years ago, in the 1960s.

Out the back of the falling-down structure, I could see the millpond and the dam, fallen into disrepair and retaining little water these days. Nearby were the giant millstones, as big as wagon wheels, which were used to grind corn. Up on the second level was the wooden hopper, accessible only by a rickety catwalk. One could easily imagine the daily bustle of activity that took place there.

"Uncle Alford" must have been an enterprising young man. Family tradition has it that despite having only a fifth grade education - not unusual for those times - he was a school teacher, could "write a legal document as well as any in the county" and played the fiddle. I grew up with an old hand-held school bell, tarnished and black with a wooden handle, which I was told "Pa" Garrett used in his teaching days. And there was an old fiddle too. Barbara Martin's history states he was a Justice of the Peace in the early 1900s.

My father, Rube Garrett, recalls "Pa" fondly and the many days they spent at the little house in Milligan. "When I was a kid, Pa would drive model As and model Ts and he always had chickens. Seems like to me, he would come in with chicken coops tied to both sides of the model T. He had a route that he made - he swapped and traded in chickens. I don't know what all else he traded in (chuckles), but he was a "wheeler dealer"."

Dad says Pa was a heavyset fellow and when he climbed into his black 1932 panel truck, the truck would tilt heavily to one side. All the kids would pile in the back for the trip into town each Saturday.

"Uncle Alford used to go to Crestview every Saturday night. He would get a shave every Saturday and a haircut every other Saturday. He would take a bag of meal with him. He would pay the barber with a bag of corn meal. Pa was a gentle soul; he took us kids everywhere with him. He was a slow driver though, never went faster than about 30 mph. All us kids would holler, "Speed it up, Pa!"

One of the "kids", Dad's sister Aunt Gloria says: "I do remember that all the king's horses and all the king's men couldn't make Pa go one mile faster on Highway 90 driving to Crestview. Cars traveling that main highway would be backed up because they couldn't pass, but Pa drove with that arm up on the open window and spit his "backer" all the way to town and back."

One time, when the boys had driven Ma to exasperation, she warned them, "Pa is gonna' speak to you when he gets home". When Pa walked in the door, Ma said, "Alford, I want you to speak to these boys". "Hello, boys", responded Pa.



***Ma and Pa Garrett (Olivia and Alford) in front of their home in Milligan, circa 1910***

"Ma" Garrett -- folks in those parts called her "Aunt 'Leevy" - always had a wonderful garden. They grew everything at home. They butchered their own livestock. Everything had to be smoked ... that was before refrigeration."

Aunt Gloria recalls, "I remember awaking to the noise of the old coffee grinder on the wall in Ma Garrett's kitchen and the smell of the wood fire in the stove. We knew that there would be an abundance of 'vittles' on that Breakfast table when we all ran out to feast ... there would be pork, rabbit, deer, or steak in abundance sometimes all. But always a choice of at least two meats -- yes, for breakfast."

Uncle Alford and Aunt 'Leevy had the first and only telephone in the area. Folks would call for somebody who lived nearby and ask Alford if he could deliver a message, or have them at the house at a certain hour. Often times in the evening, people would be out on the front porch at the appointed hour, waiting for relatives to call. Aunt 'Leevy would step out on the porch and say, "Ya'll come on in, have something to eat." . .

Crestview, Florida, Thursday, January 6, 1944



*Jan 1944* Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Garrett  
**Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Garrett Celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversary at Milligan**

Every night after supper everyone would sit and rock on the front porch, lit only by the kerosene lanterns from inside the house. Someone approaching would be seen by their cigarette glowing in the dark. Folks would walk down the lane and call out in the darkness, "How you tonight Uncle Alford, Aunt 'Leevy?"

In those days, the train carrying the mail would come by every night, leaving a big bag of mail

swinging on the arm of the mail catcher, which stood down by the tracks. People would gather at the little post office there after dark, talking and visiting, "watching the mail box", waiting for the postmaster to sort it and put it in the post office boxes. It was a nightly social event.

Pa Garrett passed away in 1950, at age 75, just three years after I was born. Ma lived on till 1954. I remember visiting her at the little country store her sons, the twins Claude and Clyde, built near the old house at the intersection of Highway 90 and County Road 4, which runs up to Baker. By that time, she was a wizened little old lady, spending most of her time in the rocker by the big storefront window. I recall the musty sweet aroma of Garrett's Snuff (no relation) - there was always a Maxwell House coffee can nearby - and the sweet, loving smile she always had for me whenever we visited.

Gazing at the huge millstones and remembering the old stories, I thought about those lives, lived out so many years ago. Those images are treasured in my memory: the old wooden house with its big front



***Underneath the building  
I found one of the old millstones***

porch, folks enjoying the cool of the evening by the dim light of kerosene lanterns; neighbors coming down the lane, cigarettes glowing in the dark, on their way down to the post office to pick up the evening mail. "Evenin' Uncle Alford, Aunt 'Leevy ... "



***Watercolor Rendition of the Milligan House***



Was there ever such a time and place? The image fades; the curtain falls on a simpler time, a gentle people with a simple faith in hard work and their own ingenuity, who made a life for themselves -- and us -- on the banks of the Yellow River. We owe them much.

Written by James R. Garrett, III, Fort Walton Beach, FL. Published in *The Heritage of Okaloosa County, Florida*, Volume I, Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc., and The Okaloosa County Heritage Book Committee, 2004. Also on line at: [www.nettally.com/jrube/family/Garrett%20History.htm](http://www.nettally.com/jrube/family/Garrett%20History.htm) with additional pictures of the old mill site as it is today.

## Alfred and Olivia Garrett

These are fond recollections of visiting my grandparents: Alfred L. Garrett and Olivia W. Garrett (Pa and Ma Garrett) in Milligan, Florida in early 1930s.

As a child I remember awaking to the noise of the old coffee grinder on the wall in Ma Garrett's kitchen and the smell of the wood fire in the stove. We knew that there would be an abundance of "vittles" on that breakfast table when we all ran out to feast. When I sat down this morning I could taste the same wonderful flavors I knew then. There would be pork, rabbit, deer, or steak in abundance - sometimes all but always a choice of at least two meats - yes, for breakfast.

And then memories poured in of the old sand roads we ran down kicking up sand and clay while playing around those big oak trees out in front in the drive-around. The snuff box cars could travel through "miles" among the huge roots as roads. That squeaky gate even came to me this very morning as I could hear it clang so clearly. What a special ride it was to get to sit in the back of the pickup truck (not sure if it was Uncle Clydes or Uncle Claudes. Can't remember Pa having anything but the panel truck with our feet dangling to head for the old mill pond and a swim to escape the heat of summer. You couldn't do that today but we sure didn't have to worry about cars running over us on those roads. And the smell of the pine trees on the two-lane trail was a great adventure.

When we heard the train whistle blow we knew the mail would be in so we would walk down to the Post Office (which was about 15 feet by 15 feet) to pick up their mail. It was so exciting to get the Sears-Roebuck or Montgomery Ward catalogue. That made such good reading material when anyone made the trip out back to the privy.

One Sunday after church all the congregation took to that sandy road and began walking down to Highway 90 and crossed over to a spot on Yellow River for a Baptismal service. All the way we were singing hymns and I vividly recall "Shall We Gather At the River" because it was our destination. It had a special meaning in a small child's mind. Many times I think of how fortunate I am to have been born in this generation with the wonderful home and grandparents that I enjoyed. I know that my husband never had that privilege and freedom in his grandparents home. He was impressed the first time I brought him to

Milligan and we went in to raid Ma's "safe" where she kept all the left-overs from the previous meals. His remark to me was "This is what I always thought Grandma's house should be." There isn't the freedom with others that we felt so warmly and I am aware that I have been blessed

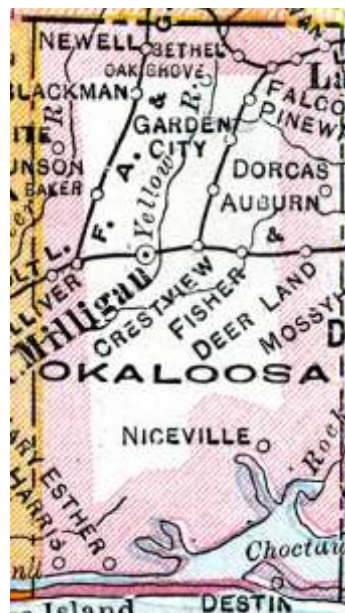
Written by Gloria G. Houchin, Tuscaloosa, AL. Published in *The Heritage of Okaloosa County, Florida*, Volume I, Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc., and The Okaloosa County Heritage Book Committee, 2004.

**Editor's Note: Apparently Mr. Garrett's first name was variously spelled "Alford" and "Alfred". His and Olivia's tombstones in the Milligan Cemetery are listed in the GSOC Cemeteries book (Volume II) as:**

**A. L. GARRETT, Apr 12 1875 - Mar 26 1950  
and  
Olivia A. GARRETT, May 29 1876 - Mar 21 1954**

## Milligan, Florida

The first settlers came to this area around 1840. It was a logging camp known at the time as Chaffin's Station because the Chaffins had built a turpentine still there.



Prior to the Civil War, Simeon Noyes built a gristmill nearby. The gristmill was later owned by James R. Miller and later still by Alfred Garrett.

Rufus Milligan is said to have brought the first sawmill to the area (1870s). By 1876 there was a sawmill, mercantile store, barbership, blacksmith, livery stable, saloon and a ferry, known as Brown's Ferry.

The town grew quickly between 1881 - 83 when the railroad came through. In 1886 the population was 200 with two hotels, two churches, post office, and a gristmill with lumber the principal shipment.

The town's name was changed in 1889 to Milligan. When Okaloosa county was created in 1915, Milligan became the temporary county seat until an election could be held to determine the permanent county seat location. The courthouse was in the Scotch Manufacturing Co. In 1917 an election was held and the county seat was moved to Crestview, partly due to the flood-prone area around Milligan. The above 1921 map incorrectly still shows Milligan as the Okaloosa county seat.

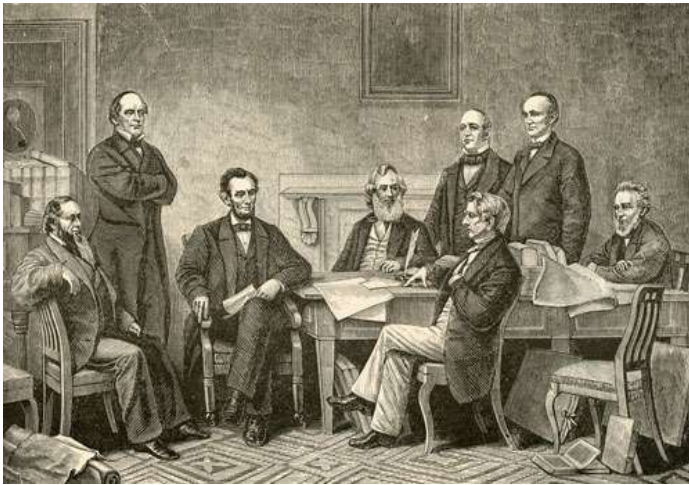


## Civil War Sesquicentennial

### Selected Highlights of January 1863

<http://blueandgraytrail.com>

**January 1** The Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect



President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, as the nation approached its third year of bloody civil war. The proclamation declared "that all persons held as slaves" within the rebellious states "are, and henceforward shall be free."

Despite this expansive wording, the Emancipation Proclamation was limited in many ways. It applied only to states that had seceded from the Union, leaving slavery untouched in the loyal border states. It also expressly exempted parts of the Confederacy that had already come under Northern control. Most important, the freedom it promised depended upon Union military victory.

**January 1** Battle of Galveston, General John B. Magruder [CS] captures the city after a 4 hour battle. Confederate troops seize a federal ship and blow up another, but most of the ships escape.

**January 2** General Sherman abandons his attempt to take Vicksburg

**January 4** Major General McClelland begins to move up the Arkansas River towards Arkansas Post. He orders General Sherman to accompany him, but he has not received authorization for such a movement.

**January 4** Lincoln and Halleck order Ulysses S. Grant to rescind Special Order 11

**January 4** *USS Quaker City* along with *USS Memphis* seize the *Mercury*, a Confederate blockade runner from Charleston on its way to Nassau, Bahamas with turpentine and mail.

**January 5** Following two days of off and on skirmishing around Jonesville, Confederates surround the Union force and take 200 prisoners after a pitched battle.

**January 10-11** Battle of Arkansas Post, General John McClelland [US] defeats Brigadier General T. J. Churchill [CS] at Fort Hindman or Arkansas Post. Defending the outpost on the Arkansas River, 5,000 Confederates are surrounded by a force of 50,000 Union troops, and a U. S. Naval squadron under the command of Admiral David Porter. The Navy silenced the Confederate artillery and McClelland attacked, gaining the outer walls. The Confederates then surrendered.

**January 11** *CSS Alabama* sinks the *USS Hatteras* off Galveston.



The *CSS Alabama* notched up a notable first by becoming the only Confederate commerce raider to defeat a Union warship in open combat. Cruising off Galveston on January 11, 1863 while disguised as a British man-o-war, she fell in with the *USS Hatteras* and surprised her with a couple of well-timed broadsides. After a brief but ferocious engagement, the Yankee steamer sank; Yankee pride was stung painfully. Painting © by Patrick O'Brien.

**January 25** Abraham Lincoln relieves General Ambrose Burnside [US] from command of the Army of the Potomac, replacing him with General Joseph "Fighting Joe" Hooker.

**January 25** Union forces withdraw from Corinth.

**January 28** General Hooker was told that desertions in the Army of the Potomac were at 200 men a day, nearly 1500 a week or 6000 a month. Hooker had to stem this but it was a serious problem. He was also not popular with senior officers, as he had played a major part in undermining General McClelland's position when McClelland was commander of the Army of the Potomac.

**January 31** Under cover of fog Confederate ironclads *Chicora* and *Palmetto State* raid the federal blockade in Charleston. While some Union ships were damaged, the attack failed to disrupt the blockade.

# Events, Groups, and Sites of GSOC Interest

**Saturday, January 5, 2013, 10:00 AM**

**West Florida Genealogical Society, Pensacola FL**  
WFGS Regular Meeting at Cokesbury Methodist  
Church's Asbury Place, 5725 North Ninth Ave.

"Who's That Lady!?" presented by WFGS member Bruce Rova. In it, he will address a topic that some of our members have requested help with – that is, what are some good strategies and resources that can help identify maiden surnames, parents, and other information for women in our family trees where we only know a married name. He will share practical examples of a myriad of means he has used successfully in his research – reviewing both finding direct sources and, especially, gathering and using clues from indirect sources to reveal new information and resolve such problems.

**Directions to Asbury Place:** headed north on 9th Avenue, turn left at the stoplight at the 9th Avenue/College Boulevard intersection. The meeting place is about a hundred yards on the right.

**Friday, January 11, 2013, 12:00 PM**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida**  
115 Westview Ave., Valparaiso



**"Civil War Blockade of East Pass – USS Water Witch Log", free lunchtime lecture at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, FRIDAY, Jan. 11, 12:00 PM.** Historian, H.C. "Hank" Klein has new information regarding the

blockading of the Destin East Pass in July of 1861, and will share his research discoveries from the National Archives in Washington, DC during *History Sandwiched-In*, "Civil War Blockade of East Pass – USS Water Witch Log", a free lunchtime lecture at the **Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida**, Valparaiso, on Friday, January 11, 2013 at 12:00 PM.

Klein, who contributed historic research for author Tony Mennillo's book, "Salty Memories along the Coastal Highway", has invited Mennillo to join him during his presentation to answer questions and for a book signing.

Bring a sandwich and take your lunch break at the **Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida** for *History Sandwiched-In*, an informal lunchtime education program. This lecture is free and open to the public. SPACE IS LIMITED. Seating is on a first come - first serve basis.

**Saturday, January 19, 2013, 10:30 AM**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida**  
115 Westview Ave., Valparaiso

"Vote Okaloosa", a local history exhibit at the *Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida* will have a Closing Reception and Gallery Talk by Supervisor of Elections, Paul Lux on Saturday, January 19, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.

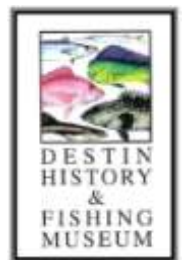
The exhibit, featuring interactive voting equipment and documents from the archives of the Okaloosa County Elections office, contains items dating back as early as 1917. Bring your family and friends for this unique exhibit and presentation. There will be refreshments, door prizes and special giveaways for children. This gallery talk is free and open to the public.

[www.heritage-museum.org/](http://www.heritage-museum.org/)

**Saturday, January 26, 2013, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**The Destin History and Fishing Museum, Destin FL**

The Destin History & Fishing Museum announces their Annual Gumbo Contest and Silent Auction Fundraiser. The event will take place Saturday, January 26, 2013 at the Destin Community Center from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Area restaurants and individuals compete for the title of the best gumbo on the panhandle. The event will include live music by local band "Flashflood" and a silent auction of sixty plus packages including artwork, vacation stays, jewelry, and restaurant gift certificates, boating and fishing trips, services, golf, recreational activities and much more. Come sample all the areas' finest gumbo and cast your vote for the People's Choice Award. Advanced tickets are available now at the Museum for \$10 per adult. Admission will be \$12 at the door the day of the event. For more information concerning entering your gumbo in the contest, donating an item for the silent auction or coming to enjoy the event contact the Museum at 850-837-6611 or email [kathydestinhistory@gmail.com](mailto:kathydestinhistory@gmail.com).



<http://www.destinhistoryandfishingmuseum.org/>

## Time to Renew GSOC Memberships

Membership renewals are now due for 2013. The annual GSOC membership is \$24 for an individual and \$35 for an individual and spouse at the same address.



# GSOC INFORMATION

## Officers for 2013

President, Donna Elliott  
 1st Vice President (Programs), Ken Elliott  
 2nd Vice President (Membership), Sue Basch  
 2nd Vice President (Membership) Asst, Carol Lessard  
 Treasurer, Bob Basch,  
 Recording Secretary, Pat Pruett  
 Assistant Recording Secretary, Frances Hoge  
 Corresponding Secretary, Jim Young  
 Immediate Past President, Malcolm Flanagan  
 Journal Editor, Beverly Gross  
 Historian, TBD  
 Genealogist, Margaret Harris  
 Publicity Chairperson, TBD  
 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.rootswest.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 2012 issue, Volume XXXIV, Issue 101, was published and distributed in November 2012.

## The Web Site

The GSOC web site is hosted by Rootswest at:  
<http://www.rootswest.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.

## Meeting Location



Arrow indicates the door to the room used for GSOC meetings at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida

## GSOC Publications

<b>Volume I (out of print), Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida</b> 24 cemeteries east of the Yellow River & north of the Shoal River and I-10	<b>Out of print</b> but available on CD, see below
<b>Volume II (out of print), Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida</b> 26 cemeteries north and west of the Yellow River	<b>Out of print</b> but available on CD, see below
<b>Volume III Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida</b> 11 cemeteries south of the Shoal River	\$5.00 plus \$3.00 postage
<b>Funeral Records of Okaloosa County</b> 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.	\$5.00 plus \$3.00 postage
<b>Santa Rosa County Marriages 1869-1906</b> Over 7,000 names with every-name index, 123 pages.	\$5.00 plus \$3.00 postage
<b>Walton County Marriages (out of print), 1895-1915</b> Over 10,000 names with every-name index, 165 pages.	<b>Out of print</b> but available on CD, see below
<b>The GSOC Publications Disk</b> This compact disk (CD) contains <u>searchable</u> PDF files containing the books listed above: <i>Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Volumes I, II, and III; Funeral Records of Okaloosa County; Santa Rosa County Marriages 1869-1906; and Walton County Marriages 1885-1915</i>	\$15.00 plus \$2.00 postage

Please send your order information with your check to  
**GSOC, P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175**  
 and mark your envelope "Book Sales"



The January GSOC meeting will be on Saturday, January 12, at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, FL, at 10:00 A.M.

Mr. H. C. "Hank" Klein, who had done extensive research on the first settlers of Destin, FL, will present the program ***Leonard Destin - A Yankee in the Wrong Place During the Civil War.***

Membership renewals are now due for 2013. The annual GSOC membership is \$24 for an individual and \$35 for an individual and spouse at the same address.

*"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

