

# THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

The Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County, Florida

June 1, 2012

## GSOC Calendar

June 9, 2012



The June 9th program will be a report on the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida which will be presented by the Museum docent, Gina Marini.

## GSOC Meeting Minutes May 12, 2012

The monthly meeting of the Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County was held at the Heritage Museum in Valparaiso, Florida on 12 May 2012. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President, Donna Elliott. She welcomed members and guests.

Bob Basch made a motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting as written and published in the latest issue of the newsletter. A second was given by Ken Elliott and motion passed.

Ken Elliott, Vice-President and Programs Chairman reported on upcoming programs for future meetings. As previously reported, the June meeting to be held at the Baker Museum has been postponed due to a conflict in activities at the Museum. To replace the scheduled June program, a report on the Heritage Museum will be presented by the Museum docent, Gina Marini.

Sue Basch, Membership Chairman reported, as of this date, there are twenty life memberships, seventeen single memberships, and twenty family memberships. The twenty family memberships consist of at least two family members. One new member was reported. Membership cards had been prepared and were available for each paid member to pick up.

Bob Basch, Society Treasurer, gave a detailed report of the finances of the Society. He reported on the past year's

total activities to include all income and expenditures. He made available charts of all finances for the members in attendance to view. He also passed around the "Blue Box" for collections to purchase books for local libraries.

Due to the absence of the newsletter editor, Jim Young, no report was available but it was noted that the Society is especially indebted to Jim for the tremendous work he does in publishing the monthly edition.

It was announced that member Margaret Harris' husband, who had been quite ill for some time had passed away on Friday. Margaret serves as genealogist for the Society.

Mrs. Elliott announced the passing of Life Member, Walt Ruckel. Mr. Ruckel was in attendance at the Society meeting in April and enjoyed a dutch lunch afterwards with some of the fellow members. He was in attendance at "Saturday In The Park", the following Saturday, visiting the GSOC booth and assisting with other activities. Later in the day he had returned to his office and passed away while on the phone with his son. He will surely be missed as a faithful member of our Society.

Mrs. Elliott thanked other members of the Society who assisted in the booth during "Saturday In The Park".

The position of Historian is vacant and Mrs. Elliott asked for any member who would like to fill this office to contact her. The responsibility is primarily to keep the scrapbooks of the Society's activities during the year.

There was no old business or new business brought before the meeting.

Following the business meeting, Ken Elliott, Program Chairman introduced Tony Menillo who presented a most interesting program on Destin, Florida, that was named for Leonard Destin, an early settler. He showed early films of fishing in the area. He told of many adventures of early Destin families, including his own father and grandfather. He has published several books on this area of the Panhandle and had the latest issue available for purchase. A future book is in progress.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Mary Ellen Ahlstrom, Recording Secretary

<b>In Memory of Edgar Joseph Harris</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Civil War Highlights for June 1862</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>It Shows What One or Two Can Do</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Robert E. Lee McCaskill</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>John Jette McCaskill</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>The Time-Life Civil War Series</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Events and Sites of GSOC Interest</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>GSOC Information</b>	<b>9</b>

*"To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child. For what is the worth of a human life unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors."*

Cicero, 104-43 B.C.

## In Memory

### Edgar Joseph Harris 1939 – 2012

Edgar Joseph Harris, 73, passed from this mortal existence on Friday, May 11, 2012, at the Destin Healthcare facility in Destin, Florida. Ed had been a resident of Fort Walton Beach, Florida., for the past 38 years.



Ed was born on April 19, 1939, in Indianapolis, Indiana, the first of four children to be born to Edgar L. Harris and Louanna Mae Holding Harris.

After graduating from high school, Ed initially considered entering the priesthood, but instead chose to pursue a career in the U.S. Air Force. After completing a tour in Japan, he was stationed at Hill Air Force Base in Ogden, Utah, where he met and married LaRae Coleman in August 1961. At that time Ed joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Ed's loving nature and a desire to serve found a home in his newfound faith. His membership was magnified by many years of selfless devotion and service to others, extending from his family to his community. He held many leadership positions in the Fort Walton Beach First Ward congregation, worked as a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America, and is remembered for his generosity and consistent charitable acts of love.

In the Air Force, Ed progressed to the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. He attended the NCO Academy and received many awards and commendations throughout his military career.



In 1984, Ed graduated from Troy University, *summa cum laude*, with a Master's Degree in Human Development and Counseling. Ed retired from the military in 1985 after 28 years of service. He then joined the civilian ranks of Vitro, continuing his previous expertise in warehouse management and supply. Fifteen years later, Ed retired from BAE, the successor of Vitro.

Ed's leisure moments were filled with gardening, landscaping, and performing service for those in need. He played chess and enjoyed customizing his chess set. Ed was a very good tenor and sang with his church choir and the Fort Walton Beach Community Choir, as well as joining several barbershop quartet groups throughout his military and civilian life.

After Ed's first stroke in 1999, he joined the Brain Injury Connection (BIC); he enjoyed associating with this fine group and served as their Vice-President until his debilitating stroke in 2007.

Ed greeted everyone, old friends and new, with "I love you" and a big hug. He left an imprint on the hearts of all who knew him. Right about now, on the other side of the veil, we suspect Ed is mowing Heavenly Father's lawn and looking for other avenues of service.

Ed is survived by his wife, Margaret; by sons, Tony Harris (Wynette) of Clinton, Miss, Mark Harris (Cheryl) of Fort Walton Beach, Earl Harris (Stacey) of Destin, Fla., and Kevin Harris of Fort Walton Beach. He is also survived by his second sons and daughters, Richard F. Caldwell, Gwen Green, Chris Dalton, Benji Dalton and Debbie Berberi. Ed is survived by 21 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. He's also survived by sister, Regina Stene of Queen's Creek, Ariz.; and relatives in Indiana.

Ed was predeceased in death by his parents; his first wife, LaRae Coleman Harris (1984); by his brother, Max Harris (2010); and his sister, Carole Harris (2007).

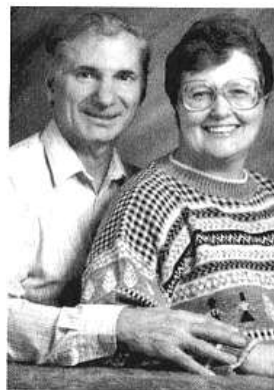
A visitation for friends and family was held on May 16 at the Emerald Coast Funeral Home, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, and a funeral service was held on May 17 in the Chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Fort Walton Beach.

Memorial donations may be made to Covenant Hospice, Covenant Hospice Niceville Team, 101 Hart St., Niceville, FL 32578.

---

"What I like about living in Okaloosa County is the weather here. No snow! I love the spring flowers, especially the beautiful azaleas. Just wish they could stay in bloom longer. I have a warm and welcoming church family in Fort Walton, the First Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I was glad to serve as their ward clerk for several years. ... I also like living here because I love to eat shrimp! And because of the many Oriental restaurants."

"My Life in Okaloosa County",  
by Edgar Joseph Harris, Fort Walton Beach, FL  
in *The Heritage of Okaloosa County, Florida, Vol. I*



Ed and Margaret Harris,  
circa 1989

Editor's Note: Mr. Harris was the husband of Margaret Harris, GSOC Genealogist.

The Society expresses its deepest sympathy to Margaret and to all of Ed's family.



## Civil War Sesquicentennial

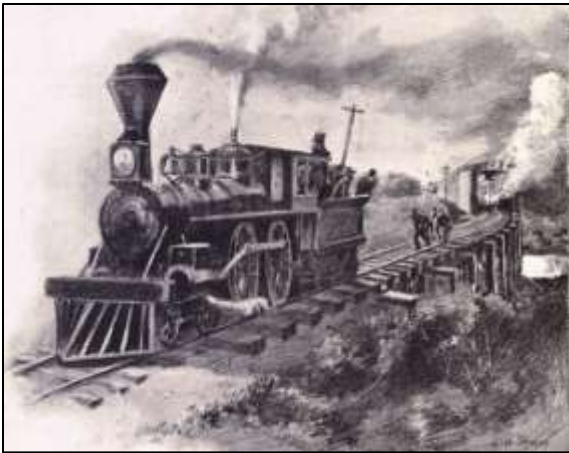
### Selected Highlights of June 1862

<http://blueandgraytrail.com>

**June 1** Jefferson Davis replaces wounded Army of Northern Virginia commander Joseph E. Johnston with Robert E. Lee

**June 1** Robert E. Lee issues the first orders bearing the name Army of Northern Virginia

**June 2** James Andrews escapes jail in Chattanooga. He is recaptured the next day. Andrews was a Kentucky civilian who worked for the Union Army during the early



years of the American Civil War. He led a daring raid behind Confederate lines on the Western and Atlantic Railroad, known famously known as the Great Locomotive Chase. The mission failed and Andrews and seven fellow raiders were executed by the Confederates on the charge of spying.

**June 4** Confederates evacuate Fort Pillow, now a lone garrison on the Mississippi in northern Tennessee

**June 5** Abraham Lincoln is authorized by Congress to establish diplomatic relationships with the "Negro nations" of Haiti and Liberia

**June 6** Following a naval battle where Union rams and gunboats easily defeated a makeshift Confederate navy, Federal forces occupy Memphis, Tennessee

**June 7** Benjamin Butler has William Mumford executed for tearing down the U. S. flag from the Mint in New Orleans.

**June 7** Union forces shell Chattanooga from the north side of the Tennessee River.

**June 7** James Andrews is hanged in Atlanta

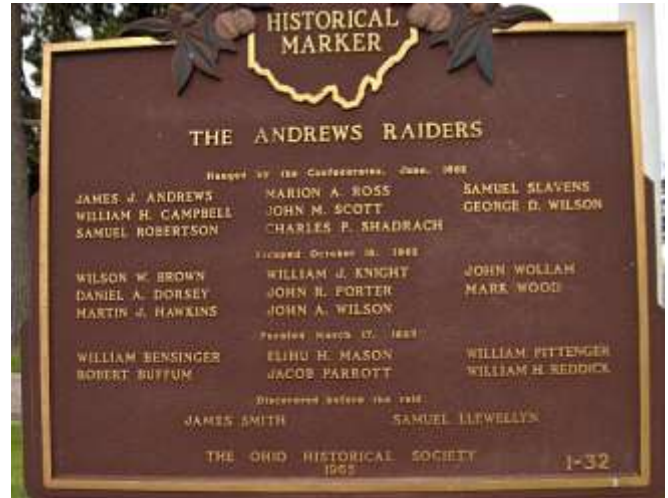
**June 10** General Henry Halleck assigns Ulysses S. Grant, Don Carlos Buell, and John Pope to corps commanders

**June 17** Congress frees all slaves in territories of the United States

**June 17** The commands of John C. Fremont [US] and Nathanael Banks [US] are consolidated under John Pope [US]. Fremont resigns.

**June 17** Braxton Bragg assumes command of the Army of Mississippi, relieving P. G. T. Beauregard

**June 18** Six members of Andrews Raiders are hanged in Atlanta



**June 19** Lincoln signs the bill forbidding slavery in U. S. Territories

**June 21** Ulysses S. Grant ordered to Memphis to become district commander

**June 23** Robert E. Lee plans a counterattack against Union forces preparing to lay siege to Richmond at the Dabbs House

**June 25** Battle of Oak Grove, Joseph Hooker [US] tries to push forward to gain ground for better positioning of McClellan's siege guns

**June 25 - July 1** A series of closely linked battles known as The Seven Days Battle or The Seven Day Retreat start near Mechanicsville as the Army of the Potomac begins its advance to Richmond.

**June 26** Major General John Pope assumes command of all Union forces in the state of Virginia with the exception of the Army of the Potomac. This is simply called the Army of Virginia

**June 29** Battle of Peach Orchard. Confederate Brigadier General Richard Griffith is killed by an artillery blast



## IT GOES TO SHOW WHAT ONE OR TWO CAN DO!

by Hilma Jenus

Amazing what a dedicated person can accomplish in genealogy research! Riverside Cemetery in Denver, Colorado, has a Potters Field where indigent people are buried. Thousands of sometimes unknown babies are in the Baby Lot part of Block 12. Most have no gravestones for identification.

But before I heard of Block 12, I "met" Vickie Smejkal, a fourth cousin of my husband, on the internet. We connected because she had pulled together lots of data on the Grover family and Joe's great-grandfather was part of that family. So naturally I was fascinated by her interesting project which tells so much about the group sometimes called the Gruber-Gruber-Groover-Grover Family. Vickie eventually published her book in 1999 ("The GROVERS of Sussex County, NJ and some of their neighbors") and I bought a thick copy of it. It's impressive to think that everyone so carefully listed and documented in her book is a relative of my husband. Incidentally, even before publication, author Vickie was very generous with sharing information about specific lines and individuals.

Vickie and I have kept in touch with annual Christmas letters, so I've learned that she has intentions of placing a copy of her big Grover book in the Family History Center Library in Salt Lake City.

The documentation behind entries in Vickie's book seems thorough and helpful. What a great resource for many families! But she didn't stop there! A recent Christmas letter tells of her new interest out in Denver, Colorado:

"I've been working on a special cemetery project {Riverside Cemetery, Block 12}.... A friend and I discovered the pauper's field has lots of babies buried there, many before vital records were maintained. So I've been pounding the pavement looking at interment records, sexton records, cemetery index cards, undertaker records, and obits. We found (recorded) over 4200 babies. We then decided to record all the folks in that lot. I have over 7500 people recorded. We also recorded the headstone and markers (or what is left of them) - 173 altogether."

Vickie's letter continues: "I'm constantly updating the information and from time to time I hear from folks who have relations buried in Block 12. A few have even shared with me their stories....stories that I post on my 'Story of the Month'."

Several websites tell the tale of the search by Vickie Smejkal and friend Diane Nygaard. You can read about the cemetery project at [www.block12riverside.com](http://www.block12riverside.com) and about the Grover book at [genforum.genealogy.com/groover/messages/283.html](http://genforum.genealogy.com/groover/messages/283.html). The latter website shows the Grover part of GenForum. The many queries may connect genealogists with some of their relatives/ancestors.

I wrote to Vickie with a question about cemeteries and markers. My husband Joe's cousin was searching in a cemetery in New Jersey for the grave of their grandparents. She found what she thought was a small gravestone marked only with the letter "C." Not knowing what it meant, we started guessing. Perhaps the "C"

stands for "Child" and maybe their grandparents had a baby who was born and died before being named. But we had never heard anything of that possibility. So we figured Vickie would know what it meant! And this is what she told us:

"I have found at Riverside Cemetery that if I find a small marker (about 4 inch by 4 inch) that it indicates a section number. If I find a slightly larger marker with a letter on it, it indicates a lot location. For many of my babies buried at Riverside, the numbered markers is all they have marking their location, for the ones that have remained. Many of the parents were too poor to bury their babies let alone purchase a headstone. Sad, of the over 7600 people buried in Block 12, only 123 headstones or markers of any kind exist, many broken and/or worn with time. I have on occasion, at other cemeteries, seen small markers that simply say 'baby', with no names or dates. I would say the letter 'C' marker may be just that....a marker for a lot and/or section....depending on how the curators mark their sites."



Riverside Cemetery, Denver, Colorado

Mission accomplished for us (probably not a grave but simply a marker denoting land boundaries in the cemetery). But then there are still all those illegible gravestones. And all those unmarked graves. However, I'm sure Vickie is spending a lot of time at Riverside Cemetery and at the Denver Library seeking information on the many unknown persons buried in Block 12.

Vickie offered further explanation of the project: "I've been working on Block 12 alone now for 3 years....It was nice having the needed help {from Diane} to find the headstones, map them out, get the pictures, document them all, and most of all, get the database started for the documentation of all these babies and children. Without her initial assistance, I wouldn't be this far along in the work.)."

Vickie continues: "I hope your folks will enjoy looking at my website, of which by-the-way, was created by an older gentleman in my church. He was excited about our project and wanted to do something -- like create a webpage so that all this information we collected could be put out there for others to find....all in the name of genealogy and family research.

"I continue to update the database. In fact, I have hopes of visiting the Denver Library again sometime this month to look for more obits and stories. (I usually download about 120+ items per each visit, not bad for a 5-6 hour day). :-) It's too bad I work for a living, or I'd get a whole lot more accomplished. :-)"

It goes to show what a dedicated person can do!

## **Robert E. Lee McCaskill "Baron of Northwest Florida"**

Robert E. Lee McCaskill was born on June 4, 1871, near Eucheeanna, Florida. He was the oldest son of John Jette and Sara Elizabeth McCaskill, and was educated in the old West Florida Seminary. His future wife Florence Adele Griffin was born on June 2, 1876, in Chautauqua County, New York. She was the daughter of A. Judson Griffin and Angeline Eades Griffin, and received her education in Sherman, New York and Jacksonville, Florida.

About the year 1893 the Griffin family moved to DeFuniak Springs, Florida, Mr. Griffin being affiliated with the Florida Chautauqua Society. It was during their first winter in Florida that their daughter Florence came to DeFuniak Springs to spend Christmas Holidays with her parents at the Chautauqua Hotel. Robert McCaskill had come to DeFuniak from Freeport to attend a Chautauqua performance. He stayed at the Chautauqua Hotel and it was there that he met Florence Griffin. On September 18, 1895, Robert E. Lee McCaskill and Florence Griffin were married in the First Methodist Church, DeFuniak Springs. Following the wedding, a reception was held at the Chautauqua Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Griffin decided to remain in Florida and they purchased and lived in the Chautauqua Hotel.

The Robert McCaskills made their home in Freeport, Florida, for many years, during which time their four children were born - Harold Judson, Margaret Elizabeth, Angeline Lucille and Evelyn Juanita.

"Bob" McCaskill was associated with his father in the lumber and turpentine business. They owned and operated the "commissary", commonly known as a "Mercantile Store." Their holdings included ample land for sale for raising poultry, as well as growing fruits, vegetables and pecan trees. For the sportsman, there was waterfront property available. They later moved to DeFuniak Springs, where there were more advantages for a growing family, particularly, that of their schooling. "Bob" McCaskill continued in his business operations. They lived in DeFuniak Springs most of their lives, with brief resident sojourns in Pensacola and Chicago. DeFuniak Springs, however, was always home and headquarters.

Mr. "R. E. L.", as he was sometimes called by his friends, became one of the leading developers and landowners in West Florida, placing on sale land holdings accumulated by him and his father. An opportunist by nature, and his zest for living, made for him many warm friends from all walks of life. His charitable deeds were unpublished; the loyalty to his friends was a tradition. He loved his family, his community, and was always very generous in assisting and contributing to the needs of the people in Walton County. He supported his church, helped "Palmer College" survive when the church school could not support itself with just tuition as its source of income.

Following are a few of the highlights of Mr. McCaskill's colorful and successful business career:

Mr. Robert E. Lee McCaskill began developing acreage on Choctawhatchee Bay, the Bayous, and the Gulf of Mexico waterfronts. He owned and controlled some 200,000 acres of land in Walton, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Escambia Counties.



**R. E. L. McCaskill**

Mr. McCaskill "started" the town of Valparaiso with John B. Perrine as Advertising Manager. Mr. Perrine came originally from Valparaiso, Indiana and suggested the new town on the West Florida coast be named Valparaiso. Thus it was. Mr. James E. Plew purchased Valparaiso, continued its growth; and his sons-in-law, Mr. Chuck Ruckle and Mr. Merryman continued its successful development through many, many years.

The first landing field which is known now as "Eglin Field" was given to the government for such a field

by Mr. "Bob" McCaskill. A flourishing Health Club, "Postl's Health Club" (patterned after a health club in Chicago by the same name) was built and later sold by Mr. McCaskill to the U. S. Government, to be used as Eglin Field's first Officers Club.

From about 1925 - 1930 Mr. McCaskill had real estate offices in Chicago, Illinois, in the Tribune Building. From there he operated a chauffeur-driven automobile (seven passenger), offering round trip excursions to DeFuniak, with accommodations at the Walton Hotel, paid for by the McCaskill Co., bringing persons interested in visiting West Florida, "land of health, happiness and prosperity."

Mr. McCaskill referred to the beautiful Lake DeFuniak as, "the dimple of West Florida." He was sometimes referred to as the "Baron of Northwest Florida." But, over and beyond his well deserved recognition as a distinguished citizen of significant civic and philanthropic accomplishments, he was a kindly man.

There are many tales of compassion that characterize Robert E. Lee McCaskill as a human being made beautiful by the concern he always showed for his fellow men. For example, selling a plot of land to a buyer was never the end of a deal for him. Rather, it was an opportunity to form a friendship. Once he sold a small farm to a family and visited them several times during the next few months. He noticed one day that the little daughter was drinking milk from a can of Pet Milk and asked why this was so; the farmer, who owned some hogs and chickens, replied that he could not afford a cow and that was the only milk they could get, since he lived too far from town to have milk delivered. The next day, Mr. McCaskill sent one of his employees to an auction in Dothan and brought

back a thoroughbred Holstein cow which was a very good milk producer. This cow was a gift to the farmer. Truly, the milk of human kindness flowed through Bob McCaskill's veins.

On September 18, 1945, Mr. and Mrs. McCaskill celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary with a large number of friends attending a reception at the "Walton Hotel" - the original wedding reception having been in that famous hotel of Chautauqua days!

Robert E. Lee McCaskill died on January 29, 1946. The funeral services were held in the First Presbyterian Church, DeFuniak Springs, and his burial was in the Magnolia Cemetery.



**Florence McCaskill and Children**

Mrs. McCaskill and three daughters survived, their only son, Harold McCaskill, having died from injuries received in an automobile accident September 23, 1943. The daughters were Mrs. Margaret Paulson, Mrs. Angeline Levey, and Miss Evelyn McCaskill. He also left three granddaughters, Suzanne and Angeline McCaskill and Charlene Levey; and a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Harold McCaskill. His surviving siblings were Mrs. D. W. Burke, Mrs. W. O. Campbell, Mrs. W. I. Stinson, and Mr. J. J. McCaskill.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. McCaskill continued to direct her late husband's widespread business. She continued the basic structures of many of the interests, church and social, as well as community life of DeFuniak Springs. During Mr. McCaskill's lifetime, Mrs. McCaskill was a constant associate of her husband in his real estate business. Mrs. McCaskill never forced payment from any debtors. "Foreclose? My goodness no!" - "I could never do that" said Mrs. McCaskill in an interview.

Mrs. McCaskill had many interests in addition to her responsibilities in business. She was one of the founders and was the first President of the Valparaiso Women's Club. She was an Honorary member of the Pilot Club of DeFuniak Springs. She was presented with a Certificate of Life Membership in the women of the Presbyterian Church.

Florence Griffin McCaskill died in Pensacola, Florida, on November 23, 1975, at the age of 99 years.

## **John Jette McCaskill**

John Jette McCaskill, R. E. L. McCaskill's father, was born on his family's farm in the old Scotch settlement near Knox Hill, Walton County, on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1846.

When the War Between the States came, Mr. McCaskill had to put aside his books and take up a larger share of the farm work since his older brothers had gone to be in the army. His father, then an old man, had to be on duty as a home guard in the Knox Hill settlement.

In 1865, his family, like most others in the South, was in dire straits and he set himself to work on the farm with grim determination to make a living for the family. He remained there until he was twenty-four.

After marrying Elizabeth Flournoy, he rented a farm near the little town of Summerville where they lived for a few years. He was a natural leader of men; ambitious and aggressive. The timber industries of the country were then coming to the front and he first tried logging. Later he established a mercantile business in Argyle. Following this he moved to Freeport on Choctawhatchee Bay putting his all into a saw mill and mercantile business at that place. This business prospered. He lacked capital, but he put into his business an energy and courage that few men ever equal.

He kept in intimate touch with even the smallest details of his affairs. He knew all his employees by name; knew their qualifications and limitations, and when they were sick or in trouble of any kind, he was always there at the right time with the helping hand and purse, and the words that cheered and comforted.

Mr. McCaskill invested his earning and profits principally in lands and real estate in Pensacola, and DeFuniak. He was President of the first National Bank of DeFuniak; President of the J. J. McCaskill company; Vice President of the West Florida Naval Stores Co., and besides his holdings in these enterprises, his personal estate at the time of his death was estimated at four hundred thousand dollars. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and belonged to the Order of Elks, Knights of Pythias, and Woodmen of the World. The friends of his early struggles in boyhood and young manhood were still his friends at the end of his journey.

He was buried in the Magnolia Cemetery at DeFuniak and friends and relatives came from hundreds of miles to attend his funeral. His grave was covered with handsome flowers. It is a splendid tribute to his worth and standing that, though he died suddenly away from home, ten of Pensacola's most prominent citizens put aside all their business cares to escort his remains to his home.

These articles are based on information and extracts from the website <http://boggyflorida.com/Niceville/McCaskill.html> which was researched, compiled, and created by Elisa Nathey Mitchiner ([rbst2u@yahoo.com](mailto:rbst2u@yahoo.com)).

Mrs. Mitchiner's web site is the best on-line source of information I've found for the history of Boggy, Niceville, and Valparaiso. It contains a wealth of data and historic photographs.



# The *Time-Life* Civil War Series



Between 1981 and 1987 *Time-Life* researchers scoured hundreds of American archives looking for materials to include in their Civil War series set which was published between 1983 and 1987. *Time-Life* deliberately did not number the volumes in their set (I believe they were published as completed so they may not have had an initial number in mind). Our library cataloged each volume as an individual monograph. By the 1990s, *Time-Life* began selling this as a set and arranged them in order chronologically.

The volumes are not referred to by number on their individual volumes or in the index but by a shorthand letter designation (e.g. AP) which makes it difficult for users. Also the index volume is also cataloged as a separate monograph so does not exist next to the set.

I compiled this listing in 2000 to identify the order of the volumes, their letter designation, and the call numbers (Library of Congress) to help our users make better use of the set.

-- **Dean DeBolt,**  
**University Librarian/University Archivist,**  
**University of West Florida**

- 01 BR Brother against brother: the war begins  
E 459 .D265 1987
- 02 FI First Blood: Fort Sumter to Bull Run.  
E 470 .D37 1983
- 03 BL Blockade: runners and raiders.  
E 591 .B57 1983
- 04 SH Road to Shiloh: early battles in the West.  
E 470.4 .N48 1983
- 05 FO Forward to Richmond: McClellan's Peninsular Campaign  
E 473.6 .B19 1983
- 06 DE Decoying the Yanks: Jackson's Valley Campaign  
E 472.6 .C58 1984
- 07 OR Confederate Ordeal: the Southern Home Front  
E 487 .C48 1984
- 08 LE Lee Takes Command: from seven days to second Bull Run  
E 473.6 .L45 1984

- 09 CO Coastal War: Chesapeake Bay to Rio Grande  
E 591 .C39 1985
- 10 TT Tenting Tonight: the soldiers life  
E 491 .R58 1984
- 11 BD Bloodiest Day: the battle of Antietam  
E 474.65 .B3 1984
- 12 MI War on the Mississippi: Grant's Vicksburg Campaign  
E 475.27 .K67 1985
- 13 RE Rebels Resurgent: Fredericksburg to Chancellorsville  
E 474.85 .G66 1985
- 14 YA Twenty Million Yankees: the Northern home front  
E 456 .J33 1985
- 15 GE Gettysburg: the Confederate high tide  
E 475.51 .C55 1985
- 16 TE Struggle for Tennessee: Tupelo to Stones River.  
E 470.4 .S77 1985
- 17 CH Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge  
E 470.5 .K74 1985
- 18 SP Spies, Scouts and Raiders: irregular operations  
E 608 .S69 1985
- 19 AT Battles for Atlanta: Sherman moves east  
E 476.7 .B26 1985
- 20 KI Killing Ground: Wilderness to Cold Harbor  
E 470.2 .J39 1986
- 21 SM Sherman's March: Atlanta to the sea  
E 476.69 .N48 1986
- 22 TR Death in the Trenches: Grant at Petersburg  
E 476.93 .D38 1986
- 23 FR War on the Frontier: the trans-Mississippi West  
E 470.9 .J67 1986
- 24 FL Shenandoah in Flames: the valley campaign of 1864  
E 476.66 .L49 1987
- 25 AP Pursuit to Appomattox: the last battles  
E 477.7 .K67 1987
- 26 AS Assassination: death of a president  
E 457.5 .C6 1987
- 27 NA Nation Reunited: war's aftermath  
E 668 .M98 1987
- 28 The Civil War: Master Index: an illustrated guide.  
E 468.7 .C5 1987

Used with Mr. DeBolt's permission

The *Time-Life Civil War Series* contains the 28 volumes listed above by Mr. DeBolt. They were published in the 1980s and sold via book club subscription. Each book features a highly detailed hard cover with photo, and on the inside, glossy pages with a wealth of written information plus illustrations, maps, actual Civil War photos and paintings. Volume 28 is a Master Index to the series. They may be researched at the University of West Florida Library.

---

## Events, Groups, and Sites of GSOC Interest

---

**June 9**

**Destin History and Fishing Museum, Destin FL**  
Annual Old Fashioned Fish Fry, Saturday, June 9, 2012, in the Destin Community Center on Stahlman Avenue from 11 AM to 2 PM. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 the day of the event and are available at the Museum. Menu includes local fried fish, hush puppies, cole slaw, baked beans, beverage & good time! Cooked by an "ole Destin native", Lloyd Taylor. Live music provided and raffles for door prizes available. Contact the Museum at 850-837-6611 or email Kathy Marler Blue for more information.  
[kathydestinhistory@gmail.com](mailto:kathydestinhistory@gmail.com)

**June 14-16**

**Destin History and Fishing Museum, Destin FL**  
Swordfish Shootout, Benefitting Museum  
<http://www.destinhistoryandfishingmuseum.org>

**June 15**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso FL**  
Free Lunch-time Lecture, 12 PM  
*Bucky's Adventures* from Valparaiso to Pensacola, Marjorie Cox Gray, author *Bucky's Adventures*, with special guest, illustrator, Marlin Griffin  
Call (850) 678-2615 to reserve a seat  
[www.heritage-museum.org/wp/](http://www.heritage-museum.org/wp/)

**July 14**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso FL**  
Guided Tour with historic exhibits and Wine and Food Tasting. Saturday, July 14, 7 PM. Live Entertainment, Silent Auction, Raffles, 50/50, Local Restaurants.  
Advanced ticket sales Only \$30 each  
[www.heritage-museum.org/wp/](http://www.heritage-museum.org/wp/)

**July 20**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso FL**  
Free Lunch-time Lecture, 12 PM  
*The Civil War: Straight's Brigade Raid*, Jim K. Baughman and Nelson O. Ottenhausen  
[www.heritage-museum.org/wp/](http://www.heritage-museum.org/wp/)

**August 18**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso FL**  
Free Lunch-time Lecture, *Air Raid Nights and Radio Days*, Don Schroeder, Author, 12 PM  
Call (850) 678-2615 to reserve a seat  
[www.heritage-museum.org/wp/](http://www.heritage-museum.org/wp/)

**August 25**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso FL**  
Annual Yard Sale. Saturday, August 25, at 7 am.  
[www.heritage-museum.org/wp/](http://www.heritage-museum.org/wp/)

**October 13**

**Laurel Hill FL Hobo Festival**  
Begun in 1992, the Laurel Hill Hobo Festival is an annual event scheduled for the second Saturday in October.  
[www.laurelhillnow.com/hobo\\_festival.htm](http://www.laurelhillnow.com/hobo_festival.htm)

**November 3**

**Baker Block Museum, Baker FL**



**Annual Heritage Festival**

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

**November 8, 9, & 10**

**Florida State Genealogical Society 2012 Conference**

The 2012 FSGS Annual Conference, "The Best of Times: Genealogy + Technology" will be held at the Hilton Deerfield/Boca Raton in Deerfield Beach, Florida. The Hilton is located between Ft. Lauderdale and Palm Beach next to the Deerfield Country Club and an 18-hole executive golf course. It's just off I-95 and is convenient to the Amtrak railway station and the Tri-Rail station. The Hilton is also accessible to three major airports in Ft. Lauderdale, Palm Beach and Miami.

The Atlantic Ocean and beaches are less than two miles away with plenty of shopping and cultural venues within minutes from the hotel. If you would like to visit any of the amenities the Deerfield Beach area has to offer, the Hilton is offering the same nightly rate three days before the conference arrival date and three days after the conference departure date.

[www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org)

**November 10**

**Rocky Bayou State Park, Niceville FL**  
**Annual Fall Pioneer Day**

The GSOC will participate in this event by having a booth at the park instead of the usual meeting.  
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flocgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flocgs/)

**December 8**

**Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County**  
Annual Holiday Party and Installation of Officers  
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flocgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flocgs/)

**December 8**

**Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso FL**  
Yule of Yesteryear Holiday Celebration & Victorian Tea  
[www.heritage-museum.org/wp/](http://www.heritage-museum.org/wp/)

**STATE-WIDE EVENTS**

More Florida genealogy events are on the Florida State Genealogical Society website at [www.flsgs.org/events.php](http://www.flsgs.org/events.php)



# GSOC INFORMATION

## Officers for 2012

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, Mary Ellen Ahlstrom  
 Corresponding Secretary, Jim Young  
 Immediate Past President, Malcolm Flanagan  
 Journal Editor, Beverly Gross  
 Historian, Sue Basch  
 Genealogist, Margaret Harris  
 Publicity Chairperson, Pat Pruett  
 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.rootsworld.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 2011 issue, Volume XXXII, Issue 100, was published and distributed in November 2011.

## The Web Site

The GSOC web site is hosted by Rootsworld at:

<http://www.rootsworld.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	<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 east 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 searchable 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 June GSOC meeting will be on June 9, 2012, at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida at 10 A.M.

The program will be a report on the activities and programs of the Heritage Museum and will be presented by the Museum docent, Gina Marini.

*"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

