

THE GSOC NEWSLETTER



THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

OCTOBER 1, 2015

Next GSOC Meeting October 10, 2015 10:00 am

Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida

Our October 10th meeting will be presented by GSOC member Hilma Jenus. She is a skilled researcher and also teaches genealogy classes at the Center for Lifelong Learning.

In this issue:

Why Have Place Names Changed?	2
2015 Issue of <i>A Journal of Northwest Florida</i>	3
Santa Rosa Lost More Land than did Walton	3
Tales of Shalimar	4
Camp Pinchot Historic District	5
Mrs. Evelyn Kelley	7
Events, Groups, and Sites of GSOC Interest	8
GSOC Information	9
Nostalgia: Happy 108 th Birthday, Uncle Bill	9

September 12th GSOC Meeting Minutes

Pat Pruett, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President Jim Young. He welcomed members and guests with nineteen people in attendance. He then announced that the minutes from the August have been posted in the September Newsletter and unless there are any objections from those present, he will consider the minutes approved as posted. There were no objections offered.

President's report: President Young said time is approaching for the election of GSOC officers for the year 2016. Therefore, he has appointed a nominating committee consisting of Donna Elliott, Del Lessard and Bob Basch. They will develop a list of candidates and present it at the October meeting. Voting will take place at the November meeting, and the installation of the new officers will then be held at the annual meeting which is also the Christmas luncheon. He suggested that anyone interesting in running for office to contact a member of the committee. Donna said that all positions are open at the present time.

President Jim said that he has been invited to speak to the Friends of the Crestview Library at their November meeting. He will be talking about the GSOC and its history and other interesting facts and stories about the formation of Okaloosa County. Jim commented that the

Librarian at the Crestview Library has been very helpful to him in his research and keeps him informed about new materials, etc.

Jim remarked that the Heritage Museum has requested a digital copy of our newsletters. He has created a disk containing all of the newsletters that have been published since 2009 and has also included an index. He presented a copy of this disc to Gina, the Director, this morning. All of the newsletters are also available on our website and he has also posted an index there as well.

President Young, who is also editor of the *Journal* this year, said that it is time to start the editing of the articles that have been submitted. These articles reflect our theme this year, the centennial of the county's organization. He said we can still use a few more articles.

The last item on the president's report concerned the problems that the Heritage Museum is suffering due to lack of funds. Several of our members suggested that the GSOC make a donation to the museum. Our GSOC organization is already a member of the Museum and several individual members are also museum members. Jim suggested we think about what we as a group would like to do and discuss this at our October meeting.

1st Vice President, Programs: Del Lessard said the programs are as follows:
October will be a presentation by Hilma Jenus.
November will be a presentation by Beverly Gross
December will be our annual meeting with installation of officers. It will be a Christmas luncheon with location yet to be selected.

He announced that the Milton Library will be holding a "Genealogy and Local History Fair" on the 9th of Oct. at 10 AM. Our GSOC is welcome to set up a table to pass out pamphlets if interested.

Del then asked for a show of hands of those who wish to attend lunch today. Twelve members will go and it will be at the Boathouse restaurant

2nd Vice President, Membership: Charlene Grafton is out of town and Bob and Sue Basch are filling in for her with registration and taking care of the door prize. The tickets were drawn and Marsha Cox was winner.

Treasurer: Bob Basch reported that our checking account now has a balance of \$2191.54 and we are in good shape. Our next large expense will be the printing and mailing of

the 2015 Journal. Bob then passed the Blue Box for donations for purchasing books for the local libraries and helping with the expense of the Journal.

Recording Secretary: Pat Pruett had nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary: Carl Laws was not present

Publicity Chairman: Val Moreland asked that everyone be sure that she has your current e-mail address.

Jim remarked that Charlene also needs everyone to keep their e-mail address current with her since she is the official keeper of the membership list.

Kathie Sheperd asked if anyone knows the proper way to store old tintypes. It was suggested that she try Google for this info.

Robin Stiles had a couple of pamphlets to give to anyone who might be interested in them. One concerned a guided trip to Salt Lake City for researchers.

Jim mentioned that the local travel agency, "Tammy's Journeys", offers guided trips to all the museums in Okaloosa County: north county on one trip and the south county on the other.

Del Lessard introduced Margret Harris, the speaker for the program today. He noted that she is our GSOC Genealogist and teaches classes on the subject as well as giving presentations to groups such as ours.

Margaret's subject was "Tapping the Resources". She said we must first establish the Who, What, When and Where of the person we are researching. From there, she took us to Family Search website and Cindy's List and pulled up topics that would be of interest and showed us all of the resources they have available to us. As usually, Margaret herself is "a wealth of resource information".

Why Have Place Names Changed from Time to Time?

Ever wonder why the names of some places, rivers, or other geographic entities have changed slightly over time? You can probably blame the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

The **United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN)** is a federal body within the United States Geological Survey which is an agency of the Department of the Interior.

The purpose of the board is to establish and maintain uniform usage of geographic names throughout the federal government.

The Board was created in 1890; its present form derives from a law of 1947. President Benjamin Harrison signed an

Executive Order on September 4, 1890, establishing the United States Board on Geographic Names. The Board was given authority to resolve all unsettled questions concerning geographic names. Decisions of the Board were accepted as binding by all departments and agencies of the Federal Government, including the Post Office Department.

The original program of names standardization addressed the complex issues of domestic geographic feature names during the surge of exploration, mining, and settlement of western territories after the American Civil War.

Inconsistencies and contradictions among many names, spellings, and applications became a serious problem to surveyors, map makers, and scientists who required uniform, non-conflicting geographic nomenclature.

The Board gradually expanded its interests to include foreign names and other areas of interest to the United States, a process that accelerated during World War II.

In 1947, the Board was recreated by Congress in Public Law 80-242. The usefulness of standardizing (not regulating) geographic names has been proven time and again, and today more than 50 nations have some type of national names authority.

One major effort of the BGN was to standardize the spelling of geographic features (rivers, streams, mountains, etc.) with native American names or French or Spanish names. Some of the decisions it made are confusing and don't make sense: why Laporte, PA, but La Porte, IA? Why Lagrange, IN, but La Grange, KY?

Another of the efforts of the BGN was to simplify American nomenclature and it used several techniques to do this. It deleted suffixes such as town, city, and courthouse whenever it could without causing confusion.

It removed the apostrophe and often the "s" from such names as St. Mary's (becoming St. Mary).

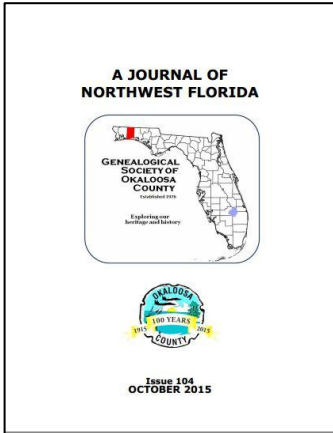
It shortened burgh to burg and borough to boro; and it combined separate and often highly discrete words creating such oddities as Newberlin, Boxelder, Fallentimber, Bluemountain, Westtown, Three-pines, and Missionhill.

Note that these simplified names were only binding on federal organizations; but when a post office in a town, being one of these, changed its name from, say, Pittsborough to Pittsboro, then the town usually followed suit.

To date, the BGN has made more than 25,000 name decisions.



A Journal of Northwest Florida, 2015 Issue



The GSOC's premier publication, the annual **A Journal of Northwest Florida**, will be distributed around the middle of this month by USPS "snail" mail. This year's issue is dedicated to honoring the centennial of the creation of Okaloosa county. Copies will be mailed to all GSOC members. If you are a member in good standing and don't receive your copy by the end of October, please contact me at youngimy@cox.net.

This is the table of contents of the 2015 issue.

PROLOGUE: BEFORE THERE WAS OKALOOSA
Coming of the Railroad & the Crestview Station
Laurel Hill
Milligan
Baker

FAMILIES AND INTERESTING PERSONS
The Burlisons of Rocky Bayou
Cutts Cousins
Edge Kinfolk
Davis-McCullough
The Mooneys of Mooney Road
Sarah Frances Brooks Pryor
The Chambless Family
Charles Walter Ruckel, Sr. and Jr.
Bob Sikes – A Power in Congress for Decades
Ray Gibson, Memories of Camp Walton
Three Hangings in Okaloosa County
100 Years of Okaloosa County Sheriffs
Early Residents and Families in Okaloosa
Okaloosa County Post Offices
Thoughts on Researching Okaloosa Connections

GSOC Information
GSOC Publications
GSOC Programs: October 2014 – September 2015
Index of Names in This Issue

FORMATION OF OKALOOSA COUNTY

William Henry Mapoles
The Territory that Became Okaloosa
The Milligan Flood of 1916
Crestview – Permanent County Seat

OKALOOSA NORTH AND OKALOOSA SOUTH

Turpentine in Holt Florida
Logging in Svea
Boggy, Niceville, and Valparaiso
Camp Walton, Ft. Walton, and Ft. Walton Beach
Destin, Lucky Fishing Village to Vacation Resort
Shalimar – "By the Beautiful Water"

Santa Rosa Lost Slightly More Land Than Did Walton



When the state legislature approved the bill that created Okaloosa county in 1915, it took approximately half the new county from the old Walton County and approximately half from the old Santa Rosa County.

Actually, slightly more than half came from Santa Rosa County. The line between the Santa Rosa and Walton counties ran northwards, but not all the way to the Alabama state line. It ran north from the Gulf of Mexico up to where it met the Yellow River, about eleven miles south of the Alabama line. At that point, the boundary between Santa Rosa and Walton followed the Yellow river up to the Alabama line. On the map at the left, that's the small area left of the dotted red line where "man" in the word "Blackman" is printed.

It's interesting to note that only a tiny part of the area that was called Camp Walton (and later Fort Walton and then Fort Walton Beach) was in Walton county. Most of it was in Santa Rosa county.

When Okaloosa was formed, the boundary between Santa Rosa and Okaloosa county was established as the range line dividing Ranges 25 and 26 west. This line extends northward from the Gulf to the Alabama state line. The boundary between Walton county and Okaloosa county was set as the range line dividing Ranges 21 and 22 west. This line also extends from the Gulf to Alabama.

Okaloosa county thus extends east-west across four ranges. Each range is six miles, so the county is 24 miles wide.

Tales of Shalimar

Shalimar was originally an area called Port Dixie. The beginning of the town sprang up in 1943-1944 as a community of 160 houses to be used as housing for military officers by developer Clifford H. Meigs.

According to the October 6, 1955 *Playground News*, during World War I, 130 Germans operated a "dye" plant at Port Dixie which was actually an explosives factory and probably a submarine base as well; and that costly machinery was smashed when they fled and the records were thrown into Garnier's Bayou.

An ambitious project had been envisioned in 1927. The Choctawhatchee & Northern Railroad was chartered to "construct, acquire, maintain, lease, or operate a line of railroad or railroads from a point between Galliver and Crestview on the L&N Railroad in Okaloosa County, to a point in said county on Choctawhatchee Bay, a distance of approximately twenty-eight miles." On Garnier's Bayou near the present day Shalimar, a \$29,000,000 Port Dixie Harbor and Terminal Company project was planned to build wharves for liners, operate a rail line north, and a build city of one square mile, with streets 100 feet wide." This plan required that the east pass at Destin be deeply dredged to allow the liners to get into the bay. This dredging permit was never approved and none of this plan came to be.

Shalimar was incorporated in June 1947 with Clifford Meigs serving as its first mayor. The incorporation was directly related to a state law that prohibited clubs in unincorporated areas from staying open from midnight Saturday until Monday morning. This would have very negatively impacted the gambling operations at the casino of the Shalimar Club, the opening of which "was the social event of 1947."

The clubs in Fort Walton, an incorporated area, were doing a booming business on the weekends and there were rumors that the sheriff might enforce the law in Shalimar and close the place there, Meigs later said that the owner of the Shalimar club came to him and suggested incorporation. Meigs said he didn't think there was much to gain, but he agreed. There were only about three other freeholders in the area and it was a simple matter to get incorporated.

The reprieve on gambling would be only temporary, however. The collapse of Okaloosa gambling came from the glare of outside publicity, reform zeal from within the county, and the direct intervention of Florida Governor

Fuller Warren. In 1949, the *Tampa Tribune* ran an exposé of gambling in Fort Walton and this article led to the governor ousting Okaloosa County Sheriff Isle Enzor and two of his constables in 1950 for failure to enforce the state gambling laws.

The popular Enzor was reelected in 1952 but gambling was on the way out. When Enzor came back on the job, he had seen the light and began cracking down. Soon even the Shalimar Club was turning to more 'legitimate' forms of entertainment. But without gambling, it was just another nightspot and it closed for good in 1956.

By 1948, the town included the Shalimar Store, the Shalimar Service Station, and Roger Clary's Shalimar Club. The 160 residences were rented through Shalimar Homes and Meigs Homes corporations.

In 1950, the 280-car capacity Florida Drive-In Theatre was built at the junction of Ferry Road and State Road 85, later Eglin Parkway, the main road between the Air Force base and Fort Walton. It opened on June 15, with an Esther Williams picture. It was operated by the James Tringas family, that also ran the Tringas Theatre in Fort Walton (which is, ironically, still in business in 2015 as a second-run venue). The drive-in closed in the fall of 1973 and this property is now occupied by the Shalimar United Methodist Church family life center and a furniture store, which property is also owned by the church.

The Louis Woodham Concrete Company, which provided construction materials for the growing Shalimar area, was established at Dixie Point at the end of Ferry Road by 1956, and survived into the late 1970s before being replaced by condominiums. It was regularly supplied by towboats with barges of raw materials which transited across the Bay from the intracoastal waterway on the south edge of the Bay. The end of water deliveries to Ferry Point marked the last gasp of "Port Dixie" as once envisioned.

Clifford Meigs served as mayor until his death in 1960, and was succeeded by his brother Clyde Meigs in November, who had served as a councilman.

The first elected mayor was James P. Tras, in 1965, followed by Sarah Tras for a two to three year term. She had been married to Clifford Meigs at the time of his death, and later became the wife of Jim Tras.

Wikipedia and www.shalimarflorida.org

Camp Pinchot Historic District



Camp Pinchot Building 1559 – Commanding General's Quarters

Establishment of the National Forest and Camp Pinchot

On November 27, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt established the Choctawhatchee National Forest (CNF) as one of the United States' eleven initial national forests. The creation of this forest, stretching across three Florida Panhandle counties, was originally administered from Forest Service District 3 out of Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Forest Service quickly moved to assign a supervisor to the newly created forest. Mr. Inman Eldredge was assigned to CNF and developed four ranger districts headquartered at Mossy Head, Rocky Bayou, East Bay, and Garnier Bayou. Garnier Bayou was the largest of the ranger stations, as it was also the seasonal headquarters for the entire CNF. Looking for a permanent summer headquarters for the CNF, Eldredge and E. R. McKee, a Garnier Bayou district ranger, selected a site on the banks of Garnier Bayou on May 29, 1910.

Almost at once, construction began and continued for three years. Administrative buildings, offices, and a ranger station were all constructed during this period. Most of what is now Camp Pinchot was in place by 1914. Maps from 1914 identify multiple structures, beginning with a dock and boathouse at the property's point. An office is located to the west, followed by four residences (currently, Buildings 1559, 1558, 1557, and 1556) labeled respectively as supervisor's residence, deputy supervisor, clerk's quarters, and ranger's quarters. Ancillary facilities include a smokehouse, stables, and wagon shed. It is believed

that the stables and wagon shed are in fact buildings 1551 and 1552.

Originally named "Garnier's Ranger Station," the site officially was renamed "Camp Pinchot" in honor of the first chief forester of the Forest Service, Mr. Gifford Pinchot. The architectural styles at Camp Pinchot were typical of the time period and of Forest Service construction. The Craftsmen and bungalow-style elements are present throughout Camp Pinchot. During this time period, building plans were left to the individual supervisors or rangers.

The Forest Service and Camp Pinchot

During the early years of Camp Pinchot, Eldredge and McKee supervised the activities that occurred within the CNF. The majority of their time was spent developing and overseeing the practice of leasing government timber for turpentine extraction at numerous operating stills within the CNF. At the time, the CNF was the only national forest that contained naval stores in commercial quantities.

At the time, twenty-six turpentine stills were operating within the CNF, and Eldredge's tasks included leasing turpentine lands to private operators and then enforcing the contracts. The greatest challenge for the rangers was restricting the depth of chipping that occurred when the operators removed the resin from trees; traditional practices generally destroyed the trees, but operators resisted pressure to adopt new methods of extraction.

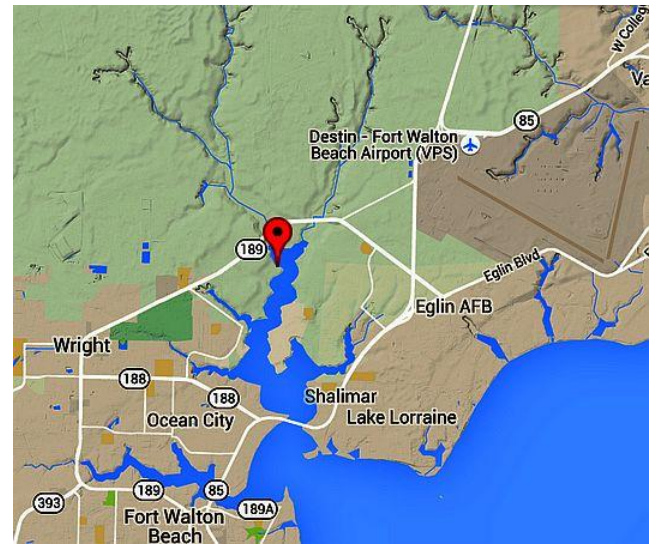
The outbreak of World War I proved to be a significant problem for the Forest Service, as the need for lumber and fuel forced the production of turpentine to virtually shut down. In addition to the naval stores, CNF also studied artificial forest regeneration of longleaf pines after natural regeneration resulted in high mortality rates of the pines. Direct seeding of various pines and oaks occurred throughout the CNF and even at Camp Pinchot. Direct seeding was important as much of the "virgin forest" had been used by the mid-1920s and there was an increasing dependence on second-growth forests.

Throughout the 1920s, McKee continued to work on improving resin production while conserving forest resources. It was soon discovered that turpentine was not a sustainable industry in this part of Florida and research began to shift toward concern about the forest itself.

During the 1930s, poor economic times and the growing conflict in Europe led military planners to begin looking for potential military bases throughout the United States. The large and relatively uninhabited expanse of CNF land caught their attention. In 1933, the government leased land near Valparaiso and constructed an airport. Additional land donations were used by the Army Air Corps for a bombing and gunnery range. In 1937, this area was renamed "Eglin Field."

By 1939, the forest contained only one turpentine still. Over-production, low prices, and the gradual exhaustion of producing trees led to diminished production of naval stores in the national forest. Other activities, including grazing of cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, and other animals, also declined through the years. The economies of the towns surrounding the national forest, in turn, declined, and were worsened by the Great Depression.

The Army Air Corps soon expressed interest in acquiring more land from the CNF, and soon discussions ensued about a complete take-over of the CNF. 11 Public Law 668, dated June 27, 1940, formally transferred the CNF from the Department of Agriculture to the War Department. Camp Pinchot was a part of the 383,744 acres involved in the forest transfer.



Location of Camp Pinchot

Eglin Air Force Base and Camp Pinchot

After the transfer, Camp Pinchot was used as enlisted housing because of the overall shortage of military housing. During the first ten years of military proprietorship, which encompassed the war years, the buildings were occupied by enlisted personnel. At one point, German prisoners held at Eglin Field were used for clean up, removing waste that had been dumped in the area, trimming trees, and cutting back undergrowth.

In 1950, Major General William E. Kepner designated Camp Pinchot, and specifically Building 1559, as the official residence of the base's commanding general. Commanding generals have subsequently inhabited the quarters. The remaining three residential buildings were renovated for officer housing. Foundations were in-filled, porches enclosed, and additions placed on the original facilities. These renovations and repairs continue today as the residences are maintained for Air Force Base personnel.

The Camp Pinchot Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the development of a national forest system and for its association with the establishment of Eglin Air Force Base, a major military component in the American effort during World War II and the Cold War.

Adapted from the official USAF report at:
http://adminpress.jllpress.com/Continental_Group/documents/CampPinchotAdaptiveReuse.pdf

Mrs. Evelyn Kelley

Evelyn Kelley was born September 23, 1900 in Dothan, AL. Her parents were Adam and Roxie Hull, and her brothers were Osker, Orther, Ernest, and Fred. She had five sisters: Minie L, Ida, Trudy, Maggie, and Essie. While she was still young, the family moved to Okaloosa County and she married John Kelley. They lived first in Munson, moved down state for a while, and then moved back and made Crestview their home.

To help earn a living she worked in many homes, cooking, cleaning and keeping children. At one time she made \$9.00 a week. She cleaned the Woman's Club; made dinner for the Wiseburgs, and cleaned Huck's Cabins on East Old Spanish Trail (now Hwy 90). Her employers picked her up and took her home from work. She was the first maid to work at the Alatex* shirt factory (it closed in 1986.)



*Mrs. Evelyn Hull Kelley and
Mr. Bob Sikes*

Mrs. Kelley was active in community service. When she heard that Mrs. Brenda McTear, a local heart transplant patient, had a huge hospital bill, Evelyn decided to donate her crocheted capes as a fundraiser to help the McTear family. The project raised a good bit of money and is just one example of how Evelyn responded to the community over the years, regardless of race.

An active member of the Church of Christ on Griffith Avenue, she taught Bible lessons for a while. She made her own visual aids to help explain the lessons. She was involved in the Good Neighbor Club. When Mr. Cooter Douglas sponsored a picnic for the white senior citizens, she wanted to sponsor something similar for the black community. She also helped the Council on Aging and helped establish Council on Aging communities in Baker, Rock Hill and Blackmon.

She operated a USO center for fourteen years in the JRL Conyers Masonic Hall and served two terms as a representative from the area on the Silver Haired Legislators. The group dealt with more than thirty-six bills of interest to the whole community.

Of the old days she remembers Jess Cason's taxi - it was a Model T. She remembered when you had to go around by way of Mary Esther, or go

across the bay on the Ferry to get to Camp Walton.

Submitted by HBG. Sources: *Crestview of the Forklands*; Baker Block Museum. Heritage of Okaloosa County, Volume II. Editor's Note: I've not been able to locate Mrs. Kelley's death date or place of burial in Find-A-Grave.

*** Alatex**

In the 1930's, several community leaders convinced the Crestview City Council to float bonds for around \$25,000 to build a 40,000 square foot mixed use building, to serve as both an industrial site and City Hall. In July 1937, the Crestview City Council approved the building inspector's report and accepted a joint shirt factory and town hall combination. Riverside Underwear corporation (Smith Johnson) of Floral, Alabama leased the majority of the building. Later Alabama Textile, or Alatex as it was known locally, moved in. There are residents and businesses in Crestview now that would not be there had someone in their family not moved there for a job at that factory. **Main Street Crestview Association**

Events, Groups, and Sites of GSOC Interest

West Florida Genealogical Society

October 3, 2015

West Florida Genealogy Library

5740 N. 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL

10 AM 850-494-7373

Topic: DNA: Which Test Should I Use and Why?

Speaker: Katherine D. Benbow in a pre-recorded national webinar

Choosing the right DNA test depends on the question you are trying to answer about your ancestry. This presentation will provide an overview of the three types of DNA testing for genetic genealogy purposes: YDNA, MtDNA or mitochondrial DNA, and atDNA or autosomal DNA. Information will be given about the major testing companies with examples of their typical displays and costs.

A case study will be presented detailing the search for the biological ancestral line for an ancestor whose results did not match the supposed family of origin. This involved the use of Y-DNA and atDNA testing.

Ms. Benbow will recommend various resources available for further learning, including some for adoptees.

Katherine D. Benbow holds BA and MSW degrees. Katherine has completed eight courses at the Samford Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and the Welsh Research course at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. She is the administrator of seven projects at Family Tree DNA: six surname (Y-DNA) projects and one atDNA project.

Members and guests are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be available at 9:45. Meeting begins at 10:00.

Contact: Charlotte Schipman, 850-477-7166,
cschipman@mac.com

History and Fishing Museum Celebrates 10th Anniversary

The Destin History and Fishing Museum is marking their 10th Anniversary on Thursday, October 1st, 2015 with free admission to the Museum.

Take this opportunity to visit. There are nearly 5,500 sq. ft. of exhibits which feature the history of the early families from the 1830s, the fishing industry from net boats called seine boats to what you see in the Destin Harbor today, and over 75 fish mounts of locally caught

fish, The Rodeo Gallery and many other aspects of Destin's unique history.

While at the museum, visit the last seine boat built in Destin in 1926 and the original post office building with additional exhibits of Destin's history.

Each visitor receives a raffle ticket for door prizes and a limited edition 10th Anniversary sticker.

The Destin History and Fishing Museum is located at: 108 Stahlman Avenue Destin, Florida. The Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM. Call the museum with any questions, 850-837-6611.

Contact: Kathy Marler Blue.

kathydestinhistory@gmail.com

GSOC Events Coming Up

Election of GSOC Officers for 2016

The Nominating Committee which is developing a list of nominees for the 2016 GSOC officer positions will present their recommended list at the October GSOC meeting.

The voting will culminate at the close of the November meeting and the 2016 officers will be installed at the official Annual Meeting in December (which will be our annual party.)

Volunteers for all officer positions are solicited. Please contact the Nominating Committee if you would like to be considered. The committee members are Donna Elliott, Bob Basch, and Del Lessard.

GSOC Table at the Milton Library's Genealogy and Local History Fair

The GSOC has been invited to have a table at this event which will be held on October 9th at 10 AM. If you would like to participate, please contact Del Lessard.

GSOC President to Speak to the Friends of the Crestview Library

The Friends of the Crestview Library have asked the GSOC President to speak at their meeting on November 19th at 10:30 AM. He will be talking about the history and activities of the GSOC as well as recounting some interesting facts about Okaloosa County during its first 100 years.

GSOC INFORMATION

Officers for 2015

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

Addresses

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

Email: gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor: youngimy@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 usually 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 youngimy@cox.net. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be published.

The Journal

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

The Web Site

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

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

The GSOC Publications Disk

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

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

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

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

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

Santa Rosa County Marriages, 1869-1906
Over 7,000 names with every-name index, 123 pages.


Walton County Marriages, 1895-1915
Over 10,000 names with every-name index, 165 pages.

Nostalgia

Crestview News Journal, January 12, 1956

Our
Heartiest
Best Wishes

TO



"Uncle Bill" Lundy

On His

108th Birthday

"May you enjoy many more"

THE BANK OF FLORALA

MEMBER FDIC FLORALA, ALA.

ORGANIZED 22 YEARS AGO - IN 1961



The October GSOC meeting will be on Saturday, October 10th, 2015, at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, at 10 AM.

The program will be presented by the GSOC member and CLL teacher Hilma Jenus."

"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

