

Here's What's Been
Happening At
YOUR Museum!

- **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:** For 2012 the meetings will be: **January 11, February 8, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12.**

Museum Visitors

2006: 2,095
2007: 3,527
2008: 4,561
2009: 5,804
2010: 6,368
2011: 7,131
2012: January to February
1,492 visitors !

MEMBERSHIP

RENEWAL TIME

Membership or renewal information is on the back page of this newsletter. We welcome your membership or donation to help us meet our goals.

Destin History & Fishing Museum

Volume 6 Issue 3

Winter 2011-2012 Newsletter

Director's Corner

At this writing, it is the last day of February. Low and behold! The sun is finally shining after 29 days of fog and mist and rain. It makes us all realize why February only has 28/29 days, we couldn't take anymore.

In spite of, or because of the weather, Museum attendance has been great. Mayflower Tour Company has added us to their offerings, as has Denoure Tours. The tours have averaged about 40 persons per visit, quite a shot in the arm during the winter months.

Visiting snowbirds have found the Museum and seem to really enjoy their visits.

Our yearly membership drive is underway. Please check and see if it is time for you to renew. The Museum members are our backbone, each one means a lot.

Jean



Buy-A-Brick Program Underway
Our 2nd order is being shipped March 12! Come by and see the patio. You may purchase an engraved paver to honor family or business!

Calendar of Events

January 16, 2012

Panhandle Historic Preservation Association
Tour & Monthly meeting at Museum

January 21, 2012

Gumbo Contest & Silent Auction
Destin Community Center
Advance Tickets \$10 At the Door \$12

February 8, 2012

General Membership Meeting
6 PM at the Museum

February 17, 2012

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon
AJ's Restaurant

March 8, 2012

Ben Marler Book Signing
4 PM

March 13, 2012

Rodeo Miss Destin
Soda Party 3 PM

**February is Membership
Renewal Time !**

June 9, 2012

Annual Old Fashioned Fish Fry
Community Center
11 AM—2PM

June 14-16, 2012

Swordfish Shootout
Benefitting Museum

September 16, 2012

AJ's Tin Cup Golf Classic
Benefitting Museum

**Museum Donations are
Tax Deductible !!**



Holiday on the Harbor Boat Parade December 4, 2011

Sponsors for the event were: AJ's Seafood & Oyster Bar, Dewey Destin Seafood, Fisherman's Wharf, Harbor Docks, HarborWalk Marina, Harry T's, HD Action Photography, HelenBack Restaurant, MeLasers, and Pelican Beach Resorts. The beautiful fireworks display was donated by Pyro Shows.

Mayor Sam SeEVERS was the Master of Ceremonies for the event with judging from Harry T's Restaurant. Judges for the event were: Mark Bellinger (TDC Director), Colonel Sal Nodjoman (Commander, 96th Air Base Wing, Eglin AFB), and Maryann Ustick (City of Destin Manager). Twenty-two Christmas Spirited boaters registered for the lighted boat parade which was viewed all along Destin Harbor.

The Parade Committee Mike & Terry Long, Dave Steele, John Lefler, Greg Featherston, and Dan Empson and Museum Staff thank everyone that participated in helping to light up the Harbor with holiday spirit and everyone that came out to join in the beautiful display. Special thanks to the Destin Coast Guard Station, City of Destin, Destin Fire Control District, HarborWalk Village, and Judges for helping to make the parade a wonderful Destin Holiday Tradition. Funds raised from the event go to the creation of new exhibits for the museum.

WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY WERE:

- Private 30 ft. & Under: SAND DOLLAR-Captained by Josh Hale
- Private 31 ft. & Over: LYNNE MARIE-Captained by Tommy Graves
- Charter/Commercial 31 ft. & Over-SWOOP II-Captained by Matt Wheeler
- Tour Boat/Motorized: HANNAH MARIE-Captained by Jackie Branch
- Sailboat 30 ft. & Under: MIAMI MERGER-Captained by Greg Buchanan
- Sailboat 31 ft. & Over: GOVERNOR STONE-Captained by Dick Gercak
- Overall Best Entry: C LADY-Captained by Norm & Carolyn Leonpacher

Check out these YouTube Videos of the Boat Parade

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jy-bPggU5VE>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6hZKOaWf3A&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZpf8sFXj-E&feature=related>

Northwest Florida Marine Industries Association NWFMI Boat Raffle to Benefit Museum



The NWFMI worked in conjunction with Bluewater Bay Marina, DC Brown Custom Boat Works and Gulf Marine from Panama City to sponsor a raffle for a 14.5 D.C.Brown Custom fishing skiff, a new 15 HP 4-stroke Honda and new boat trailer. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the NWFMI and Destin History and Fishing Museum. The raffle winner was drawn on Christmas Eve with the help of Ryan Hinely from the NWFMI and Kathy Blue from the Museum. Ticket #400 Al Adams won the raffle.

NEW EXHIBIT UNDERWAY

A new dry aquarium is being added to the front of the museum to house a white sand "Gulf floor" with reef and species of Gulf of Mexico fish. These fish mounts will be suspended in the tank. This is the second such exhibit. The first exhibit has four sharks including an 8 1/2 ft. Hammerhead Shark.



Pioneers of Paradise

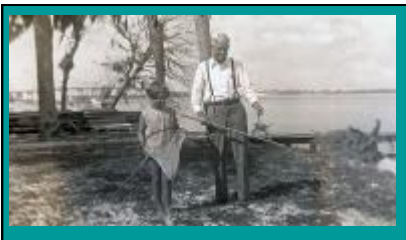
The Calhoun Family

Written by Jean Melvin

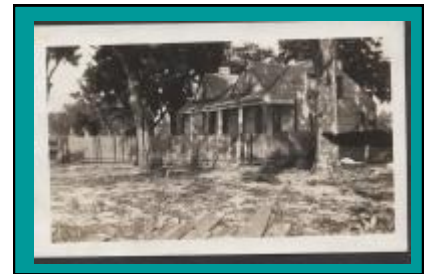
Tyler and Ida Reid Calhoun moved to Destin in 1931 in the midst of the Great Depression—Destin's first retirees. Life was simple and happy. Home and family always the main focus. Tyler and Ida were parents of eight children, all of whom were on their own by the time their parents moved to Destin. After a long trip from their home in Nashville, the Calhouns arrived in Boggy Bayou. From there they came by boat to Destin. Boat transportation was the only way to get here.

The Calhouns were 65 years old. After arriving in Destin, they promptly bought an interesting old house that had been built by Captain Leonard Destin in 1866. The two-story house had long been unoccupied and some basic repairs were of the first order. Theirs was no idle retirement. Scraping together every penny he could, Taylor purchased 500 acres of land recently released by the Federal Government. With his background in civil engineering, he proceeded to subdivide his land into building lots and to map out streets. Tyler set about promoting Destin's snow white sand beaches, turquoise waters, and abundant fishing. Confidant in Destin's future Tyler donated four acres of land for a Community Center, two acres for an athletic field, and tracts of land for both the First Presbyterian and the First Baptist Churches. Tyler, every year as long as he lived, gave a building lot as a grand prize in the Destin Fishing Rodeo.

Ida Reid Calhoun died quietly in 1944 praying for the safe return of her "boys" from active military duty. Her prayers were answered and all returned safely at the end of World War II. Tyler lived until 1953. At one time or another, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have lived in or owned vacation places in Destin, still regarding it as "home".



Tyler & Chinky
Crabbing on the Bay



Destin Family Home Built in 1866
Becomes Calhoun Home in 1932



1942 50th Anniversary



Tyler & Ida 1940



Tyler in 1947

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon A.J.'s Restaurant February 17

AJ's Seafood and Oyster Bar hosted a Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at the restaurant on February 17. The Destin History and Fishing Museum volunteers were treated to a wonderful lunch overlooking the picturesque Harbor. Mayor ProTem Sandy Trammell presented award certificates to volunteers in attendance. Volunteers with 500 + hours included: Dave Fraser and John Lefler. These volunteers received the Museum Volunteer Recognition Award and The Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award. Volunteers with 100+ hours included: A.J.'s Restaurant/Alan Laird, Harry T's Restaurant/Dan Empson, Scotie Griffith, Norm Hall, Denise Ingram, Judy Lefler, Terry Long, Tona Newland and Connie Walter. These volunteers received the Museum Volunteer Recognition Award and The Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award. The Presidential Awards included a letter from the Presidential Volunteer Service, a letter from the President, and a lapel pin. Additional awards were presented to Avon Longo and Mary Birks for their volunteer service under 100 hours and to Mike Long and Dave Steele for their tremendous volunteer service beyond 500+ volunteer hours. The Museum appreciates the many volunteers that make a difference in their support and work .

Mayor ProTem Sandy Trammell Presents Volunteer Appreciation Awards



Dave Fraser & John Lefler



Avon Longo & Mary Birks



Scotie
Griffith



Dave Steele, Mike Long,
& Norm Hall



Connie Walter, Tona Newland,
Judy Lefler, Terry Long,
& Denise Ingram

HarborWalk Village Madi Gras Parade



February 4th the Museum joined in the MadiGras fun with a big blue marlin decorating the roof of the golf cart! Beads & trinkets were flying out to parade visitors.

Mayflower & Denoure Tours



Denoure Tours, working in conjunction with Pelican Beach Resorts, has scheduled their Winter Guests tours to the Museum.

Mayflower Tours out of Illinois have twenty-one 2012 planned tours coming to Destin with the Museum as one of their special stops.



Gumbo Contest & Silent Auction

January 21 the Annual Gumbo Contest & Silent Auction Fundraiser was held at the Destin Community Center. Sixteen restaurants and twenty-six individuals registered to compete with their gumbo for the contest. The event included live music from *Dread Clampitt* and a silent auction of sixty-two packages for bid. Over \$13,000 was made at the fundraiser. Event sponsors were: Emerald Coast Tourist Development Council, Pepsi, and Xerox.



Gumbo Contest Winners:

- ◇ Restaurant Category/1st Place: Bubba Gump
- ◇ Restaurant Category/2nd Place: Pompano Joe's
- ◇ Individual Category/1st Place: L'Rena Anderson
- ◇ Individual Category/2nd Place: Thomas Ogle
- ◇ People's Choice : 790 on the Gulf

Gumbo Contest Judges:

- ◇ Larry Ashley
- ◇ Susan Benton
- ◇ Scott Griffith
- ◇ John Hall
- ◇ Dianne Merkel
- ◇ Steve McLaughlin
- ◇ Brad Shoults



Dread Clampitt Performs for Event



Global Fish Aid / Crab Island Shootout

**Benefits Museum
Kevin & Kyle Ogle present
a \$750 check to
Director Jean Melvin & Museum
Board Member Dave Steele**

destinhistoryandfishingmuseum.org

Destin History & Fishing Museum

Museum Board of Directors

Executive Board President: Mike Long Vice President: Dave Steele

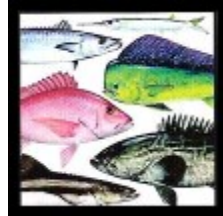
Secretary: Monica Autrey Treasurer: John Lefler

General Board: Richard Derek, Dan Empson, Jim Green, Norm Hall, Dan Martin, Don Rogers, Lloyd Taylor, Russell Wamble

Executive Director Jean Melvin **Associate Director** Kathy Marler Blue

Museum Docent: Dave Fraser **Museum Volunteer:** Carole Marler

Newsletter Writer and Editor Kathy Marler Blue



DHFM
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Destin, FL 32540-

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DESTIN, FL 32541**

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Fax: 850-837-6609

E-mail: destinhistory@gmail.com
kathydestinhistory@gmail.com

Website:
destinhistoryandfishingmuseum.org



RECYCLE INK CARTRIDGES AND CELL PHONES AT THE MUSEUM

Your recycled cell phones earn \$5-10 each for the museum. Keep them coming!!!

Tuesday - Saturday
10am to 4pm

Admission: Adults: \$5
Seniors & Military: \$4
Students: \$3
Kids 6 & Under and Members : Free

Newsletter printed courtesy of Xerox

Join or Renew Your Membership Today

Destin History and Fishing Museum is a non profit organization whose members are dedicated to preserving, documenting, and sharing the complete history of Destin. There are limitless ways you, your friends, and associates can be part of realizing these efforts. Now more than ever we can use your support. **Your donation or membership is tax deductible.** Please fill out the form below and mail it to the museum.

Yes, I Give My Support!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Membership/Amount \$20 _____ \$ 50 _____ \$ 100 _____ \$250 _____ \$ Other _____

Check # _____ If you would like to pay by credit card please call the Museum and have your credit card ready.

Mail to: **Destin History and Fishing Museum P.O. Box 548 Destin, Florida 32540-0548**

Thank you. Without your faithful and generous donations and efforts, the museum would not exist today.