

[destinhistoryandfishingmuseum.org](http://destinhistoryandfishingmuseum.org)

PLEASE MAIL  
YOUR DONATION  
TO:  
DESTIN HISTORY &  
FISHING MUSEUM

108 STAHLMAN AVE.  
DESTIN, FL 32541

Phone: 850.837.6611  
Fax: 850.837.6609

E-mail:  
[destinhistory@embarqmail.com](mailto:destinhistory@embarqmail.com)  
[kathydestinhistory@embarqmail.com](mailto:kathydestinhistory@embarqmail.com)

Recycle Ink  
cartridges  
and cell  
phones at the  
Museum

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

Hours of Operation  
Tuesday - Saturday  
10am to 4pm

Admission:  
Adults: \$5  
Seniors (age 55) & Military:  
\$4  
Students: \$3

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Cultural Affairs

## Destin History & Fishing Museum

Museum Board of Directors      Honorary Lifetime President Reddin Brunson

Executive Board    President: Rick Lowry    President Elect: Sarah "Sam" Seevers

Vice President: Mike Long    Secretary: Monica Autrey    Treasurer: Helen Donaldson

General Board    Jack Baker, Rick Derek, Dan Empson, David Gates, Norm Hall, John Lefler,  
Frances Thomas-Montalvo, Dave Steele, and Lloyd Taylor

Executive Director    Jean Melvin    Associate Director    Kathy Marler Blue

Museum Associate    Joanie Simpson

Weekly Volunteers    Dotty Bingham, Joyce LaFountain, Georgina Powell, Lucienne Reed

Newsletter Writer and Editor      Kathy Marler Blue

Check out our page on MySpace  
<http://www.myspace.com/destinhistory>

Visit our MYSACE page at . . . <http://www.myspace.com/destinhistory>

### 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.



#### Here's What's Happening at Your Museum

- **December 13, 2009: Holiday on the Harbor Lighted Boat Parade**
- **January 23, 2010: Gumbo Contest at the Community Center**
- **January 26, 2010: Tim Weeks, Children's Book Author**
- **February 27, 2010: Fish Fry at the Museum**

#### MEMBERSHIP

#### CURRENT ?

Please take a moment and renew your membership. Form is on the back of this newsletter. We appreciate your support!

#### Community Outreach

The Museum staff is available to give presentations and brief talks on the history of Destin at your community event or gathering. Tours for all ages and groups can be set up. The Museum would make a special backdrop for your business executive board or committee meeting any evening.

#### MUSEUM VISITORS

5,038 Visitors have toured the Museum from January to October 2009 !

DESTIN AND FLORIDA AND THE USA NEED YOU !!!

#### Be a part of the upcoming

#### CENSUS 2010 !

# Destin History & Fishing Museum

Volume 4, Issue 2

Fall 2009 Newsletter

## Director's Corner--Jean Melvin

We hear much talk today about our economy. Many of us are experiencing a change in our economic status which affects the way we conduct our everyday lives. This is happening all over the United States. With the downturn of the economy, the Museum budget has been trimmed by most of our largest supporters. What is amazing to witness, is the continued support from our local members, our City and County. Destin has always taken care of its own and this is once again evident as we start into this Holiday Season and New Year with wonderful new exhibits in place and others on the drawing board. All because of the generosity of the residents of Destin. Thank you for your continued support and please know that the Museum could not exist without it. The Museum Staff wishes you a wonderful Holiday Season and invites you to visit often and bring your family and friends.

The Destin Charter Boat Association made a donation of \$2,000 to sponsor the Destin Captain's Wall of Fame exhibit. The display unit was ordered and recently received. This exhibit will house 50 poster size biographies including photos and fishing history about the early captains of Destin. The Destin fishing industry began with the seine boat Captains who founded Destin's World renowned charter fleet. Those early seine boats evolved to the modern party and charter boats of today. The Museum appreciates the support of this local organization to further its mission of the preservation of Destin's history. The DCBA also became a Lifetime Member in their support of the Museum.

## Destin Captain's Wall of Fame

Isabel Graef, treasurer of the DCBA presented Museum Director, Jean Melvin with the donation check for the exhibit







Volunteer Dottie Bingham Treating Museum Visitors



The Holiday on the Harbor Boat Parade will be Sunday, December 13 at 6 PM and judged from Harry T's Restaurant. It may be viewed from docks and restaurants all along the Harbor.

## Curb Appeal Landscape Project

The Destin Garden Club has accepted the project of creating a landscape design to give the Museum grounds some "curb appeal". The Museum will work with community project partners to sponsor sections of the grounds to fund and fulfill the project design.

## Captain O.T. Melvin, Jr.

## Brass Wheelhouse Exhibit

Opening on August 19, 2009

Born in Destin March 15, 1915 to OT, Sr. and Ellen Destin Melvin, he began his career working with his father, fishing on all types of boats, from seine boats to snapper chings. At 19 he worked for the American Bridge Co. building the first Destin bridge. He became a tugboat captain for the company and his career continued in Louisiana. During the 1930s he utilized his knowledge of boats and the sea to operate tugboats in the Louisiana oil fields. As a pioneer in this new industry, he built a fleet of 8 workboats and a shipyard. He remained active in this business until 1974, when he sold his last tugboat, named for his father, the "O.T. Melvin". Donated by his family, the brass pieces include a Magnetic Compass with Azimuth Circle, Compensation Binnacle Type MBF, Steering Station, and Engine Order Telegraph.



Melvin Family & Friends Enjoying the Exhibit Open House

## THANK YOU to our VOLUNTEERS !!!!!

### During the Holiday We Send Special Thanks

Volunteers are the Heart of the Destin History & Fishing Museum and without these very important people we could not exist. Thank you sincerely to all of you who support the mission either monetarily and/or with a helping hand.

If you would like to volunteer in any capacity please contact us. We are always grateful for your support!

- |                  |                  |                 |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Monica Autrey    | Emmy Baggett     | Dotty Bingham   |
| Janet Chapman    | Steve Chapman    | Cris Chester    |
| Jessica Coker    | Connie Congleton | Cathy Darling   |
| Faye Culbertson  | Judy Denard      | Carlton Denard  |
| Jeff Echmann     | Doreen Echmann   | James Fenoff    |
| Ozzie Girard     | Irene Girard     | Sharon Gardner  |
| Norm Hall        | Lena Hall        | Larry Hughes-   |
| Denise Ingram    | Terry Long       | Mike Long       |
| Joyce LaFountain | John Lefler      | Loraine Sample  |
| Jeff McFarland   | Jean Melvin      | Gail Miller     |
| Gabrielle Mims   | Lucienne Reed    | Georgina Powell |
| Kari Moll        | Frances Montalvo | Paul Montalvo   |
| Al Morton        | Tona Newland     | Darren McDaniel |
| Keith Najarian   | Jerry Najarian   | Rose Najarian   |
| Wendy Parker     | Maggie Roberts   | Don Rogers      |
| Nancy Slighter   | Joni Simpson     | Dave Steele     |
| Juliette Thomas  | Lynn Treadway    | Russell Wamble  |
| Jamie Ward       | Pam Whitehead    | Mary Wilkinson  |

## You can help The Destin History & Fishing Museum when shopping your favorite Internet sites.

Shopformuseums.com was specifically established and designed to help museums raise money at no extra charge to them or the customers. The Destin History & Fishing Museum has taken advantage of this fundraising opportunity and is now officially able to receive donations.

The way it works is simple: a customer registers with [www.shopformuseums.com](http://www.shopformuseums.com) for free, chooses Destin History & Fishing Museum as the museum partner they wish to raise money for, selects a store, and starts shopping.

As long as the shopper starts at [shopformuseums.com](http://www.shopformuseums.com), a certain percentage of the shopper's purchase is donated to the Destin History & Fishing Museum. The percentage donated to the museum varies depending on the store, but it ranges from 1 percent to 20 percent. Gift purchases for any occasion can save money on the gifts you like and support your Museum too. Start your shopping online at either of these web sites and pick The Destin History & Fishing Museum as your partner to support. Thank you and have a wonderful holiday!

<http://www.shopformuseum.com>

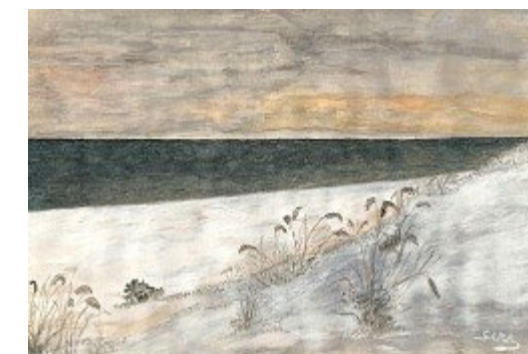
<http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop>

## Reddin "Salty" Brunson



Buddy Runnels is one of the guests at Salty's 96th Birthday Party on Sunday, November 1. The museum hosted the party at the Legion on Main Street in Destin. Many thanks to all the family, friends, and those who donated for this special event.

## New to Collections

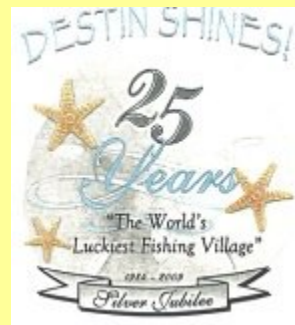


Original painting by Sara Dorn Melvin, wife of Millard Raymond Melvin. Painting was given to Ross Clinton Marler, manager of the Gateway Restaurant and Grocery Store in 1950.





The Destin History & Fishing Museum Celebrates the City's 25th Anniversary



During the City's Silver Jubilee the residents, leaders, volunteers & partners, businesses, beaches, seniors & youth and the Destin Harbor were celebrated. The DHFM had half price admission each day with free admission on Friday, November 6, a day set aside to celebrate the City's seniors and youth. There were 171 visitors to the museum during the celebration week with an attendance of 61 on that free Friday. An exhibit highlighted the tour showcasing 25 notable events in Destin's history and photographs of early times. Museum staff and volunteers attended a wonderful luncheon at the new Life Center of the United Methodist Church on November 3 which celebrated volunteers & partners.

# Fundraisers

## Museum Fundraising Efforts

In these days of decreasing fund avenues, fundraising has become very important in the budget process of 501 C 3 organizations. The Museum Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers have been working diligently to seek methods of fundraising. Your continued support is very much needed for the success of your museum.

- If you have additional ideas for fundraising for the Museum, please let us know.
- We also need friends of the museum to step forward to help chair or co-chair fundraising events.

### Destin Seafood Festival Weekend Fundraisers



Jean Melvin visits with Museum Parking Concession volunteers Kevin Ogle and Scot Griffith as they collect \$5 a car from Festival goers.

The Chamber of Commerce sponsored Destin Seafood Festival offered a great fundraising event for the Museum. Eight museum volunteers manned the Festival gates to receive a \$500 donation from the Chamber which was received at their Monthly Friday Breakfast November 13. The Parking Concession earned \$3,453. We sold bottled water and \$5 parking donations. Cars received one free coupon for admission and \$5 worth of coupons for use at AJ's over the festival weekend. It was a fun and profitable weekend for the Museum.

Volunteers Manning the Festival Gate  
Mary Wilkinson, Sharon Cobb,  
Joyce LaFountain and Dottie Bingham





The museums of the county partner in their services to preserve local & regional history, enhance education and encourage tourism. Each Co-Op partner received \$235.00 from the dining event.



Top Right:  
Joyce LaFountain, Dottie Bingham, & FWB Mayor Mike Anderson

Bottom Left:  
Dave Steele & Jean Melvin

Bottom Right:  
Kathy Blue selling raffle tickets.



"History on the Harbor"  
hosted at Harry T's Restaurant

October 3, 2009 Harry T's sponsored a fundraiser for the Museum. Volunteers manned a table exhibit featuring pictures of early Destin, fishing, and Museum information. Through the generosity and support of Dan Empson and Harry T's Restaurant, the Museum received \$865 to support new exhibit production. The "History on the Harbor" fundraising event is the first of a series planned to support museum projects.



Raffle Ticket Winners  
Harry T's  
Gift Certificates

- \$50--Scot Thompson
- \$100--Kathy Fyock
- \$200--Kelly Hill

Volunteers Dottie Bingham & Joyce LaFountain reel in raffle ticket sales outside of Harry T's Restaurant while telling visitors about Destin and the Museum.

# Fundraisers

Belk Charity Sale  
Saturday, November 7  
6 AM to Noon

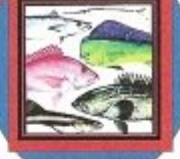


Belk held their annual Charity Sale to benefit 27 local non-profit organizations. Kathy Blue volunteered the day of the event selling tickets for the store on site. Georgine Hillgenberg, the Area Sales Manager presented the Museum \$53.50 for our share of the ticket sales for the day's event. We also made \$95 from the advance ticket sales. The Charity event brought a total of \$148.50.

# Fundraisers

Museum  
Community Yard Sale

The first Museum Community Yard Sale was held Saturday, November 14 with 7 vendors purchasing 9 booth spaces. Yard sale items as well as arts and crafts highlighted the event. The Museum had a sweets & drinks table. Pepsi products and donuts from The Donut Hole were donated to help benefit the fundraiser. Aimee Shaffer from the Qantrum radio stations was on site with the radio's van to provide music. The event made a profit of \$205. Vendors had favorable comments and the event should grow to a twice annual event.

**Find a Bargain**  
**When:** Saturday, November 14, 2009  
**Where:** 108 Stahlman Avenue in the Museum Parking Lot  
**Time:** 7:00 AM to NOON  
**What:** The Destin History and Fishing Museum's Community Sale will offer baked goods, crafts, and yard sale items.

**Make Some Money**  
**VENDOR INFORMATION**

- Booth Spaces Available  
 10X10 for \$25    10X20 for \$50  
 Spaces sold as tax-deductible donation.
- Vendors responsible for setup
- Vendor registration and payment due by Wed. Nov. 4 at 2 PM.
- Contact Kathy Blue at the Museum at 837-6611 or kathydestinhistory@embarqmail.com