

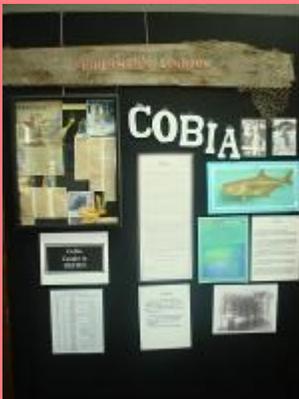


Here's What's Been
Happening At
YOUR Museum!

- **BOARD MEETINGS For 2012** :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 May
4,077 visitors !



Cobia fishing was a feature exhibit for Spring.

Destin History & Fishing Museum

Volume 6 Issue 4

Spring 2012 Newsletter

Director's Corner

"Time flies when you are having fun!" We must be having fun because it is coming up on July 4th, which marks the decent of the Summer Season. All the Museum numbers are up over last year—including admissions, donations, and fundraisers. Locals are not even complaining about the traffic and our Museum visitors think Destin is paradise. Destin's economy is regulated by the number of tourist who visit our City. This year is headed toward our biggest year ever in the seven year history of the Museum. Thank you to all of our supporters and members, especially our contributors, who supply new artifacts to increase our collections and enhance our exhibits.

On June 9th, 2012, the Museum lost one of our biggest supporters, when Mary Birks, a gracious and giving volunteer was taken from us in a tragic automobile accident. We will always miss Mary's quick, beautiful smile and gentle spirit.

Jean

Calendar of Events

March 8

Ben Marler Booksigning
4 PM to 6 PM

March 13

Miss Destin
"Soda" Party
4 PM

April 14

Run 4 Science
Museum table at FWB Landing
Thank you to Tona Newland & Connie Walter for manning the table.

May 5

Founder's Day
Museum Admission Free
108 visitors !

May 10

Museum & Fish Fry
Featured on taped interview with
Kathy Blue & Jerry Melvin WCVCTV

June 9, 2012

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

Thank you to all volunteers, especially Lloyd Taylor!

Primrose in Peril



The Primrose is one of Destin's oldest artifacts and is in great peril! The tin roof structure, supporting poles, and the Primrose are in great need of repair. The Primrose and the land it sits on belongs to the City. May 25, Museum staff, City Manager Maryann Ustick and Captain Rex Chambless met to discuss steps to preserve the Primrose. Costs to replace the roof & poles to code is very expensive and the Primrose would still be in the elements. The best answer is for the Primrose, once repaired, to be placed in an inside facility. Research is being done on an addition to the back of the Museum to house the Primrose. If you would like to help with this project in any way contact the Museum or City Manager.

Miss Destin "Soda" Party Sponsored by Destin Rodeo and Museum

March 13, the Museum was the backdrop for the Miss Destin "Soda" Party. Contestants for the title of Miss Destin met at the museum for an introduction to Destin's history with a museum tour. Each contestant used a high heel shoe decorated with items to tell about themselves. Callie Kaltz was selected Miss Destin at the pageant on April 15th.



Callie follows Peyton LoCicero as Queen—Peyton is a Museum Member

On the Outside



The Celebration Garden, "Footprints in the Sand" along with newly landscaped areas in the front of the museum have added an inviting curb appeal to the museum. Our most recent order of thirty-two engraved pavers are ready to be installed. A new order is in the process now if you would like to purchase an engraved paver to honor family or business.

To balance the "Shark Tank" at the right of the museum doorway, a "Reef Tank" has been constructed at the left of the museum doorway. Bass Pro Shops has partnered with the museum to create painted reef scenery and 3D reef structures to house reef fish mounts. Work is underway on this reef tank project.

On the Inside



THANK YOU TO:

Craig Augustine
Who built the exhibit at little or no cost to the museum!

Mike Long
Who painted and did finishing work on the exhibit!

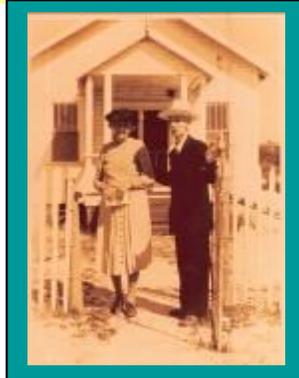
Pioneers of Paradise

The Taylor Family

Written by Jean Melvin



Clement, Louisa, and baby Garfield
traveling on sand trail
which is now Hwy. 98
Circa 1920s



Louisa, & Clement
Willie Mae & Garfield
And baby Kenneth
Circa 1932

Clement Edward Taylor was born in London, England on Sept. 28, 1866. He was educated in various schools of higher learning, obtaining several degrees, including a professorship from Oxford University. He acquired licenses to teach in England, Canada and the United States. Though not an ordained minister he was a Certified Lay Reader in the Protestant Episcopal Church in England and later in America. So that he would be prepared in this field beside studying church doctrine and the Bible, he also trained at the Tonic-Sol-Fa College of Music in England. Clement married Louisa Knowsley in 1904. She was born March 31, 1870 in Dexter, England. During her early years, Louisa trained for missionary work as a religious instructor, a music teacher and in caring for the needy. This training also helped prepare her for her move to the unsettled area known as Santa Rosa, in Northwest Florida. Clement and Louisa were blessed with their only child, Garfield, in January of 1908. A short time after this, they agreed to relocate to a new continent. Trying to decide between Australia and Canada, a twist of fate made the decision for them. Unable to obtain passage to Australia, they were able to obtain passage on the SS Ottawa sailing from Liverpool to Canada. While living and teaching in New Brunswick, Canada the couple heard about a new dream town being developed in Santa Rosa, Florida. As a sales promotion, for one purchase price, the deal included title to a town lot and a tract of land for farming. The Taylors arrived in Santa Rosa, Florida in 1912. The town of Santa Rosa grew. Homes were built, businesses were constructed and farms cultivated. Money was invested in citrus trees, and many acres of the farm land were planted in groves. In 1924, disease struck the groves in the form of "canker". The trees were uprooted and burned. Unable to pay their debts, most of the residents left as quickly as they had come. The Taylor family did not make a permanent move to Destin until 1924. This was after their homestead rights and titles had been confirmed in 1922 by Warren Harding and in 1923 by Calvin Coolidge. Clement was hired by William T. Marler to be the first paid school teacher in Destin. The first classes were held in the Community Church on Calhoun Avenue. Clement's teaching fervor was exceeded only by his religious zeal. He taught the Destin children until the population of Destin grew large enough for the County to hire a teacher in 1926. The Taylors built a mission adjacent to their home on Calhoun Avenue. This was used as a weekly retreat. Many visitors to the mission returned to Destin to become permanent residents. During the early 1930s, Clement wrote articles that were published in the nearest newspaper, "The DeFuniak Breeze". Usually they began with a social section and ended with his religious lesson. People learned about Destin thru these articles and were enticed to move to this beautiful area. The Taylors were very involved in getting several of Destin's first churches built.

Special Visitors



670 Special Tour Guests !!

Mayflower Tours from Illinois: March 5,12,19,20,26,27, April 16,17,23,30, May 7 & 14

Denoure Tours from Pelican Beach Resort: March 13 & 27

Grace Wanderers Tours from Colorado: April 17 & May 1

Okaloosa County Leadership Team Tour: May 9

Destin Elementary School First Grades: May 30

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Recent Donated Acquisitions

- ◆ Rex Chambless family history & photos
- ◆ Homer Jones family photos
- ◆ 1926 Masonic Edition Holy Bible owned by Aquilla Marler from Ben Marler, Jr.
- ◆ John Destin framed painting from the estate of Jack and Ricky Cooper
- ◆ Turpentine Exhibit Collection —17 various styles of turpentine cups, circa early 1900s, provided by Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida
- ◆ Terra cotta turpentine pot (herty pot) given by John Fogarty
- ◆ Terra cotta turpentine pot (herty pot) given by Conrad Phillippi
- ◆ Navy issue Observer compass flashlight, emergency roadside kit, Penn reel, Johnson Messenger 223 Radio & microphone, & wood plane of William T. Marler given from estate of Genie Marler
- ◆ Small smoking pipe belonged to "Indian Joe" , John Destin framed painting, and 47 inch swordfish bill donated by Butch Cheek
- ◆ Tommy Browning family photos from early 1940s to present & Captain's License
- ◆ Catface tree trunk used for turpentine given by Russell Burdge

Destin Chamber of Commerce - Destin Forward Project



Members of the Destin Chamber of Commerce-Destin Forward class chose as their project the Old Post Office. They received research from the Museum on the history of the Post Office. Sponsors were secured, plans designed to create a focal point with commemorative signage and building completed by the group. A beautiful feature now highlights the front of the Old Post Office for visitors. The Museum maintains the exhibits inside the Old Post Office. Historical exhibits include: Destin's Postal History, the Old Post Office Museum history, Destin Library, Destin Community Center, Incorporation of Destin, Marler Cemetery, Early Homes of Destin, some of Destin's men in the military, Destin's Christmas Eve Celebration, and early leaders of Destin. The Old Post Office can be toured during Museum operational hours Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 AM to 4 PM. Come by and take a look at the Destin Forward project and tour the inside of the Old Post Office.

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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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.