

# Panhandle Preservation Press

Panhandle Historic  
Preservation Alliance

## Santa Rosa Beach is 100!

The Panhandle Historic Preservation Alliance (PHPA) will help Santa Rosa Beach celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in September. We will have our banner on display at the Santa Rosa Beach Centennial Celebration event at Gulf Place on Scenic Highway 30A in Santa Rosa Beach (Walton County) on Saturday, September 11, from 10:00 AM until 9:00 PM, and on Sunday, September 12, from noon until 6:00 PM.

In addition to “flying our colors,” we will be distributing the always popular, highly coveted PHPA bookmarks. If you would like us to distribute your organization’s flyers or brochures, please contact [Diane Merkel](#) so we can arrange to get your materials prior to that weekend. Better yet, plan to join us at the PHPA table!

Several people have offered to assist at the PHPA table to spread the word about our mission, but we need more volunteers. We could also use some more light-weight tables. If you would be willing to help for a couple of hours on one of those days, please contact Diane. For more information about the centennial and a schedule of events, visit [srb100.com](http://srb100.com).

Thanks to the Crestview  
L&N Depot Committee  
for hosting our July meeting!



**Working Together  
to Preserve Our  
Historic Treasures**

### Still Cooking!

We are still accepting contributions to our cookbook. Send recipes, photos, and stories to:

Don Sales  
Alger-Sullivan Historical Society  
PO Box 1002  
Century, FL 32535  
(850) 256-0473

OR

Carol Visalpatara  
[visalcarol@msn.com](mailto:visalcarol@msn.com)

August 2010  
Volume 3, Issue 3

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### Next Meeting

Monday, October 18  
1:00 Eastern, 2:00 Central

Veterans Memorial  
Railroad  
Bristol (Liberty County)

## August 2010 Member Events

**Friday, August 13**

**12:00 Noon**

Lecture: "Women Sailors: Pirates, Soldiers and Saviors"

Fort Walton Beach

**Sunday, August 15**

**11:00 AM Eastern**

Archaeology Lab Tour

Tallahassee

**Saturday, August 21**

T.O.U.R. Guides

Tallahassee

**Saturday, June 26**

**10:00 AM Eastern**

Native American and Spanish Gardening

Tallahassee

**Thursday, August 26**

Ronnie McDowell Concert

DeFuniak Springs

**Friday, August 27**

**6:30 PM**

Family "Chill Out" Night

Blountstown

**Saturday, August 28**

**10:00 AM Eastern**

Native American and Spanish Gardening

Tallahassee

## September 2010 Member Events

**Thursday through Sunday**

**September 9, 10, 11, and 12 (matinee)**

Grit & Grace: The Official Folk Life Production

of Walton County, Florida

DeFuniak Springs

**Saturday and Sunday, September 11 and 12**

**10:00 AM – 9:00 PM Sat; Noon – 6:00 PM Sun.**

Centennial Celebration

Santa Rosa Beach

**Saturday, September 18**

**8:00 AM**

Blacksmith Class

Blountstown

**Saturday, September 25**

**1:00 – 5:00 PM**

Local History Ingathering

Tumble Creek

**Saturday, September 25**

**5:00 PM**

Peanut Boil

Blountstown

## October 2010 Member Events

**Friday and Saturday, October 15 and 16**

Legends in the Fall

Chipley

Check the PHPA Calendar of Events for more information!

<http://my.calendars.net/phpa>

## New Exhibit in Destin

The Shark Tank Exhibit at the Destin History and Fishing Museum is visible from the road and houses three shark mounts and other seafloor life. The three shark mounts featured in the shark tank are a small hammerhead shark, an 8½ foot hammerhead, and a Florida Smooth Hound, which is the IGFA winner caught in April 1992 on the charter boat *Shooting Star* with Capt. David Rojas. The Destin History and Fishing Museum is located at 108 Stahlman Avenue in Destin.

## Special Exhibit in Valparaiso

"Hot & Bothered," an exhibit of vintage collections, will be at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida from August 21 through October 30. The exhibit features a 1930s era kitchen with a rare Universal Electric Stove, one of the first General Electric Monitor Round-Top refrigerators, and collections of household items and advertising from days gone by. Vintage photographs from the museum's collection and the Florida State Archives are included as well as an extensive collection of electric fans dating from 1906.

An opening reception for Heritage Museum members is planned for Saturday, September 4, from 10 AM – 12 PM. A free Gallery Talk with exhibit curator Cynthia Tomerlin is scheduled for Saturday, September 4, at 11 AM.

## Are You an Author in Search of a Publisher?

Jessica Berzon is the Florida Commissioning Editor for The History Press, a publisher of local and regional history books. She is interested in discussing potential books with local authors and historians.

The History Press is a traditional publisher, which means there is no fee for publishing with them, and they handle all aspects of the publishing process, including editing, production, publicity, and sales. Most of their books are paperback, around 35,000 words, with a collection of great vintage images. They range from the lighthearted and quirky to the more serious general histories, but all are important to preserving valuable and quickly disappearing local history. Visit their website at [www.historypress.net](http://www.historypress.net) for more information and to see their catalog of titles. Feel free to contact Jessica with an ideas or questions you may have.

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## PHPA Museum News



### Camp Walton Schoolhouse Museum

City of Fort Walton Beach Heritage Park and Cultural Center  
127 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548  
850-833-9595

[www.fwb.org/index.php/museums/581.html](http://www.fwb.org/index.php/museums/581.html)

The City of Fort Walton Beach Heritage Park and Cultural Center is pleased to announce that the Camp Walton Schoolhouse Museum has been awarded placement in the Country School Association of America's (CSAA) National Schoolhouse Registry. The CSAA recognizes school buildings that contribute in positive ways to the appreciation and understanding of the country school experience and its unique architectural and historical heritage. Registry is awarded to school buildings that are at least 50 years old, have been restored, renovated or reconstructed to retain the integrity of their original design, and are well maintained. Through inclusion on the registry, the Camp Walton School is nationally identified as having historical significance, and recognition is given to the preservation achievements of the local community.

The Camp Walton School was built in 1911 and opened to the public in 1912 for community children in grades first through eighth. The Camp Walton Schoolhouse Museum, the Indian Temple Mound Museum, and the Garnier Post Office Museum form the City of Fort Walton Beach Heritage Park and Cultural Center.

Heritage Park will hold a dedication ceremony for the presentation of the CSAA Award and its historical marker during the Camp Walton School Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 4th. The public will be invited to attend.

**Mike Thomin**  
Museum Program Coordinator

"Panhandle Preservation Press" is published quarterly  
by the Panhandle Historic Preservation Alliance.  
Distribution is encouraged! For more information or to submit an article,  
email its editor, Diane Merkel, at [DDMerkel@cox.net](mailto:DDMerkel@cox.net) or call 850-897-4505.

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## Future Preservation Projects

By Diane Merkel

*PHPA first met in April 2006 and shortly thereafter adopted its objective; however, is there more we can do as a group to preserve our region's history?*

Since our first meeting in April 2006, I have had conversations with various PHPA members regarding our role as an organization in historic preservation. Should we be politically active and vocal regarding endangered buildings and sites, or should we just be a support group for our members? I have been thinking of a way we – collectively, as a group – can make a lasting contribution to our region, and I would like to share that idea with you. Perhaps we can discuss it at our next meeting.

I fully appreciate that we are all busy with our own museums and projects and do not have time to work collaboratively in person. I have tried to think of lists that we can pull together so that certain types of historic sites are recorded as important to the history of the Panhandle. Each could be given a page on our website except one, which is noted below, and evolve as more information becomes available. These inventories may already be available online elsewhere; the purpose would be to have accessible lists and maps in one place for the Panhandle region.

**Cemeteries** – Most genealogy societies have lists, but it would be nice to have a comprehensive list for the region.

**Churches, Fraternal Organization Lodges** – Many have been transformed for other uses.

**Convict Camps** – These mini-prisons provided the workforce for construction of roads.

**Dip Vats** – These are ones that I would not put online because doing so may have environmental ramifications for the current property owners, but they were an important part of agriculture.

**Docks, Ferries, Landings** – All inactive sites connected with our waterways.

**Ice Houses** – Ice houses are vanishing rapidly. Locate where they were.

**Indian Mounds** – Many are under federal or state protection. There are others we should identify.

**Lumber Yards and Rails** – Locate and identify lumber yards and their track locations.

**One Room Schoolhouses** – Few are as lucky as Camp Walton Schoolhouse.

**Theaters** – Drive-ins, old-time movie houses, opera houses.

I hope you will agree we should identify some or all of these locations while there are still people around who remember them. I welcome your comments, ideas, and lists!