



Svea, FL. 1918

Baker Block Museum

North Okaloosa Historical Association

Newsletter



Near Laurel Hill, ca 1908



Canoe Community, Church, ca 1920



Pyron Chapel Community, 1915

Bakerblockmuseum.org

Corner Rt 189 & SR 4

(850) 537-5714

bakermuseum@aol.com

Winter

Spring

Summer

Fall

Website Stats:

Week beginning	Number of requests	Number of page requests
April 8, 2012	10,903	2,000
April 15, 2012	10,447	2,149
April 22, 2012	21,338	2,787



Archaeology Month Lecture:

"No Man's Land: The Civil War Across Florida's Panhandle"



Contents:

- ◆ Archaeology Month Lecture
- ◆ SPRING FLING Baker Lion's Club
- ◆ PAPERMAKING, Class
- ◆ Trade Tokens in Our Area
- ◆ "As I Remember It" Series
Lakewood, FL.
- ◆ **NEW LIMITED EDITION Publication**
- ◆ **Mothers Day / Father's Day Hurry !!**



There was a full house in the Baker Block Museum's library for an archaeology month lecture entitled, "No Man's Land: The Civil War Across Florida's Panhandle".

Tara Giuliano, who is an assistant with the Florida Public Archaeology Network and a graduate student at the University of West Florida, presented the lecture.

*Florida Public Archaeology Network
&
University of West Florida*



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The Baker Lion's Club

SPRING FLING

We were pleased that the Baker Lion's Club chose to hold their April Spring Fling event on our grounds here at the museum. It was the perfect setting for homemade food and good fun.



Casey Kearney, who is from Holt, was a crowd favorite as she and the **Jackson Blue Band** entertained during the Spring Fling.



These young ladies enjoyed a variety of music and food and fun during the Baker Lion's Club's Spring Fling. At the Baker Block Museum.



Danny Hall is the official ice cream maker on the museum's Amish ice cream machine.



These museum volunteers made strawberry pies to sell during the Baker Lion's Club Spring Fling. The delicious strawberries were donated to the museum by Akers of Strawberries.

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PAPERMAKING



Arts and Crafts Classes are offered regularly, stop into the museum and see the bulletin board in the library area. See what is being offered, sign-up for what interests you. You can also check with Mary at:

maryj19mr46@embarquemail.com



It was such a beautiful day in March that the Arts n Crafts Class, conducted by Mary Richardson, worked outdoors in the heritage park. Here, Jasmine Maugen and her mother, Christie, enjoy the paper-making class together.



Maugen is a senior at Crestview High School.



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AS I REMEMBER IT...

LAKWOOD, FL

Lakewood is a small community located only a short distance from the Alabama line. Today there are no more than a dozen buildings which include a church built in the early 1900s which is now a museum filled with pictures and artifacts that relate to by-gone days. There is also an old depot, lumber company office and old houses shaded by large live oak trees. And there is Hazel Britton Park which is a memorial to Donald McNeill, her grandson who was accidentally killed many years ago.

A description of Lakewood, printed in the 1914 issue of the *Floral News* gives a very different picture of the little town: Lakewood was a busy place where 350—400 people were employed. There were 101 buildings in the community— a sawmill, planning mill, shingle mill and a dry kiln, two stock sheds, an office building, commissary, the depot, post office, doctor's office, two churches, a hotel and dwellings for the mill owners and employees.

The town grew up at the turn of the 20th century when a group— lured here by the thousands of acres of timber and naval stores industries— came from the Cape Fear river region of North Carolina. The fact that this area already had railroads made them all the more interested in creating businesses here. Surnames among those who came were: McDuffie, McNeill, Elliott, Patterson, McLaughlin, McRae, McLean, McPhail, Mills and Britton.

Duncan McPhail and his brother had a small sawmill on the shores of Lake Jackson (Lake Lumber Co.) and Mr. William H. Britton, from North Carolina, purchased the mill and 600 acres; moved to that site in 1902 and named it Lakewood. In 1904 he organized the Britton Lumber Company. Britton also owned two other mills—in Paxton, FL. and Lockhart, AL. At its zenith his businesses shipped products all over the world. Britton died following an operation for appendicitis while attending the Kentucky Derby. Mr. E.P. Rodwell, his brother-in-law, became President of the company. The mills continued to operate at capacity until the 1920s when the dwindling supply of lumber compounded by the looming Great Depression forced operations to begin cutting back. In the 1930s a mill and some houses burned; workers left seeking employment elsewhere. Descendants of the Brittons remain in the area: Mr. & Mrs. A.M. McNeill (Martha Britton); Mr. and Mrs. Denva Richbourg (Margaret Britton) and Thomas J. Britton.



The information on Lakewood, FL. was taken, primarily, from writings by Audrey Miller Pittman, 1983. The complete work is in the museum's research library. And, we also recommend Dora Wilkes Cobb's, "Memories of Lakewood Community", also in the library.



The highest point in Florida is Britton Hill, Lakewood Park in Walton County and is only 345 feet above sea level.

The hill is located in northern Walton County near the town of Lakewood, Florida, just off County Road 285 about 2 miles southeast of Floral, Alabama.



The Britton Lumber Company is a lengthy story in itself. We hope to have an article on the company in future issues.



TRADE TOKENS

Tokens, coin-like objects used instead of coins, were used by lumber and turpentine companies in our area. They have a denomination shown or the amount is implied by size, color or shape. Tokens were often made of cheaper metals: copper, pewter, aluminum, brass and tin were commonly used. The key point of difference between a token and a coin is that a coin is issued by a governmental, local or national authority and is freely exchangeable for goods or other coins. But, a token has a more limited use and it often issued by a private company, group, association or individual.

The details of the history and use of tokens is best left to the collectors and experts. Our purpose is to identify a few of the tokens used in our local area. Perhaps you have one you would like to donate to the museum collection?

Thomas M. McNeill, grandson of Thomas Jones Britton, has an article in TOKENEWS (Aug.2001. VOL XXVI. NO.111. Page 19) in which he discusses tokens used by the Britton Lumber Company. He recommends two expert sources - the C.R. Clark 1980 catalog, Florida Trade Tokens, and E.P. Rodwell, Jr. (Dec 1992/Mar 1993 SETS News articles).

McNeill's great grandfather, Moses Britton, used the first know Britton tokens in his mercantile, hotel and livery businesses in North Carolina. After the family moved to Lakewood, FL. and set up businesses the Britton Lumber Company prospered. In 1909 during a reorganization, the company issued two sets of coins. One set was round, aluminum and the other was oval brass tokens. The oval had 5 denominations (5, 10, 25, and 50 and a dollar). The tokens were used in the Britton commissary, hotel and other of their businesses in Lakewood, Freeport & Paxton, in Florida and Falco, Red Level, Opp, Andalusia, River Falls in Alabama. (See Table 1 on the next page)

Learn more about Tokens - how to collect them and how to determine their value !



See also, "Treasures of the Longleaf Pine— Naval Stores"

by Carroll Butler, Shalimar, FL. 1998.



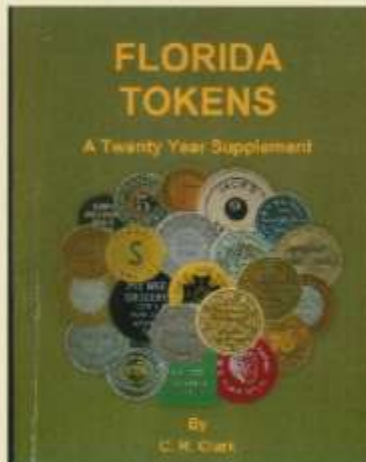
The Florida Token Society, founded 12/04/1976, publishes the TOKENEWS Newsletter. The society meets 4 times per year in various part of the State to buy and talk about tokens with other collectors. You are invited to become a member and receive the newsletter.

<http://www.floridatokensociety.com>

Or, contact:

Steve Ratliff
1717 Saint Marys Bay Drive
Milton, FL 32483-7343

Florida Tokens is a 532-page catalog with pictures, rarity, maverick list, etc. Book is hardback with enameled paper, top quality binding and complete descriptions of about 6,150 tokens.



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TRADE TOKENS

Continued. . .

This table is taken from Mr. Thomas M. McNeill's publication, Florida Turpentine Tokens, which appeared in the February 2002, TOKENEWS Newsletter.

You, or someone in your family, may have some of these old tokens. This could be the start of a new hobby – finding and collecting, trading, or even selling them.

Not only are they a vignette into our local history and culture, they may also be helpful tools for genealogists – possession of a token by an ancestor may help establish their work or location at a given time.

TABLE 1
FLORIDA TURPENTINE BUSINESSES WITH TOKENS

TOWN	COUNTY	COMPANY NAME	DATES
Bear Head	Walton	J. J. McDaniel	1902-1915
Bear Head	Walton	J. J. McCaskill Company Commissary	1904-1917
Boggy	Okaloosa	Boggy Mill Company	1908-1912
Crestview	Okaloosa	Claroy Manufacturing Company	???? -1913
Crestview	Okaloosa	Crestview Turpentine Company	1908-1916
Freeport	Walton	Freeport Mercantile	1904-????
Freeport	Walton	Johnson & Bro.	1900-1904
Freeport	Walton	J. J. McCaskill Company, Jolly Bay Mill	1908-1931
Harold	Santa Rosa	W. W. Harrison, Commissary	1920-1931
Harold	Santa Rosa	Paul L. Watts, Naval Stores	1925-1929
Holt	Okaloosa	Ewing Bros. Store	1900-1924
Lakewood	Walton	Britton Lumber Co.	1904-1931
Milligan	Okaloosa	Scotch Manufacturing Co.	1904-1920
Paxton	Walton	Adams & McNeal / Hughes Adams & Co.	1912-????

NOTE: As Okaloosa County was formed from parts of Walton and Santa Rosa Counties in 1915; there could be some disagreement on County location of certain companies.

LIMITED EDITION

Publication available in June 2012

This is the first of an annual publication of nominees inducted into the Family Heritage Wall of Honor. The North Okaloosa Historical Association, Inc. sponsors this event held at the Baker Block Museum.

The Wall honors individuals of Okaloosa County who have been recognized by their grateful family and friends – and for their contribution to the history, formation, and positive stories of our community.

Who is eligible? Individuals who have lived or worked in Okaloosa County – one person or a married couple – persons may be nominated posthumously.

In time, these annual issues will be a valuable resource for Genealogists and historians.

We are grateful to Phyllis Enzor, the 2012 Committee Chair and members Tracey Bethea, Julia Cadenhead, and Ann Spann.



Since there is a limited number available, you may wish to call now and reserve a copy – (850) 537-5714. Speak with Ann.

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FAMILY HERITAGE

2 June 2012
at the museum
Hwy 189 & SR 4
Baker, FL 32531



★ If we don't preserve the history and culture of our families and community heroes, who will? We need your help.

At the Induction Ceremony in June, nominees will be introduced and an engraved name plaque will be placed on the large wall board being hung in the museum's display area. Their photo and BIO will not only appear in the Commemorative Program but also in a permanent binder in the museum's reference library. Anytime you are at the museum, view the wall and read through the binder.

MOTHER'S DAY / FATHER'S DAY

What Mother (or Father) wouldn't be pleased to receive an invitation to the Family Heritage Wall of Honor Induction - to see their name placed on the Wall! And, to learn that their children had nominated them.

"...mother made up for all of that with her strong maternal love. How she managed to be so loving and good to all us 12 children in those hard and meager times is a wonderful miracle to me. I loved her then; I love her still though she's been in heaven these past almost forty years."

Quote from Family Heritage Wall of Honor
BIO in the 2012 Commemorative Program
(available in June)

You'll need to hurry, though, there is only a five-day grace period to get it in—it needs to be on the Executive Director's desk by 11 May!

