WALTON RELATIONS & HISTORY

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Walton County Heritage Association

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Why Can't I Find Grandma in the Census?

Submitted By Hank Klein

Genealogical researchers often find themselves searching in vain for family members that "just don't seem to be there." An interesting explanation of census record imperfections was found in the preface of the Georgia Index of the 1850 Federal Census where it stated:

Unfortunately, census records are not perfect; to our knowledge, there does not exist today any census record that can be considered complete. Occasionally, people know of an ancestor who lived in a particular place, but they cannot find his name in the census records. To help understand why a name may not be found, consider the following facts:

- 1. All of the original census manuscript of a particular state may be missing. Examples: Delaware 1790, Washington D.C. 1810, Georgia 1790.
- 2. Parts of a census record may be missing for a particular state or county. For Example: Tennessee 1810, 1820; North Carolina 1790; Ohio 1800, 1810; and Georgia 1800.

(Cont'd on page 2)

Upcoming Reunions

Busbee: 10 AM-2M. Sat. 10 June 2017, Bagdad Community Center, 4591 School St., Milton, FL 32583. Contact Larry Busbee, Lbusbee@yahoo.com for info.

Our Museum E-mail service is currently down making the Reunions page of the WCHA website unavailable. We apologize for any inconvenience and hope to have it back in service in the not too distant future.

http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/genealogy.htm

Featured Article

The featured article this month is titled **Alaqua Pioneer Rev. C. S. V. Jones Honored and Remembered.** A photo montage captures the ceremonial placement of a new stone marker on the grave of Reverend Jones by his descendants at the Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Following the montage is a never before published bio of his life before and during his time in Walton County, all except two years of which he lived before Florida became a state.

Walton County Heritage Museum

Open Tuesday – Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM 1140 Circle Drive, De Funiak Springs, FL 32435 850-951-2127

www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net

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(Cont'd from page 1)

- 3. Sometimes the census taker missed names through neglect laziness or drunkenness. Example: Baltimore Co., Maryland, 1800.'
- 4. Names were omitted if people were not home at the time the census taker came. This is particularly true in the larger cities.
- 5. People who lived in remote rural areas were occasionally not reached and recorded.
- 6. Many census takers spelled names phonetically and not as they were spelled by the family. For example: Fisher instead of Phisher or Pfisher.
- 7. The census taker may not have known how to spell the name at all, and may have guessed.
- 8. People searching for a name are sometimes not aware of all the spelling variations that a name may have. For example: Wyatt, Wiatt, Viatt, Wyett, etc.
- 9. Many enumerators wrote poorly or used their own style of writing which may be impossible to read.
- 10. Names may be blocked out or lost from the original record by ink smears, damaged pages, tape repairs, improper cutting, faulty bindery work, faded ink, or low quality photography.
- 11. Names may have been omitted when the census workers made copies for the state and county governments.
- 12. In the case of the census index, the indexer may not have been able to read or perhaps misread the name due to some of the above reasons. When an error is found of this type the publishers usually takes the necessary steps to correct it.

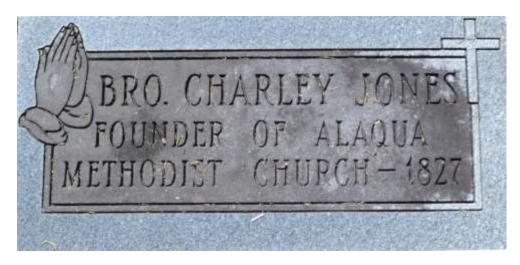
Despite imperfections, censuses remain an important and valuable genealogical tool and the advent of the computer has greatly enhanced their usefulness.

H. C. "Hank" Klein is a Destin historian who visits often and lives in North Little Rock, Arkansas, with his wife (the former Muriel Marler of Destin). Klein recently published historic books about Destin - DESTIN
Pioneer Settlers...A Land History of Destin, Florida from 1819-1940 and DESTIN'S Founding
Father...The Untold Story of Leonard Destin. Both can be obtained from Amazon.com, Tony Mennillo of Arturo Studios at 850/585-2909, Dewey Destin's Restaurants in Destin, the Magnolia Grill in Fort Walton Beach, and Bayou Books in Niceville. Klein can be contacted at klein@aristotle.net.

Alaqua Pioneer Rev. C. S. V. Jones Honored and Remembered

By Sam Carnley and Bruce Cosson

On Saturday, April 8, 2017, descendants of Charles Shepherd (Vinson) Vincent Jones honored his memory with the laying of a new stone marker on his grave at Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery as depicted in the following photographs:



Original C. S.V. Jones headstone at Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

(Photo by Sam Carnley)



New stone marker placed on grave naming C. S. V. Jones children.

(Photo by Sam Carnley)



Descendants carry new stone marker to grave site. (Photo by Sam Carnley)



(L to R) Josh Jones of Enterprise, Alabama and Jim Martin of Scott, Louisiana, 5th and 4th generation descendants respectively of C. S. V. Jones. Martin served as spokesman for the marker laying ceremony.

(Photo by Sam Carnley)



Guests and descendants at C. S. V. Jones marker laying ceremony. Many of the attendees were 5th generation descendants except for the baby in the center of the photo, who was of the 6th generation. Standing on the left in blue coat and tie is Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church Pastor, Rev. John B. Erthein.

(Photo by Sam Carnley)



Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church sign with cemetery in background.

(Photo by Sam Carnley)

CHARLES SHEPHERD VINSON JONES, ALAQUA'S FIRST PREACHER

The ALAQUA METHODIST CHURCH was founded in April 1827 with the Reverend Charles Shepherd Vinson Jones as its first pastor. The original building was a one-room log structure and the present church was the last of four successors built over the years, all within the immediate location.

The settlement at ALAQUA was located in a fertile land near the head of the Alaqua Creek. A traveler along the Pensacola - St. Augustine military trail in 1827 described the land at Alaqua as "Shaded with full grown trees so closely crowded as to afford shelter from the fierce heat of the sun." The towering trees were identified as Magnolias, Laurel, and Cypress. This same traveler arrived at the Alaqua Settlement and was welcomed by a settler described as a "Scotch Methodist" who explained the absence of his household by saying "they all are at a meeting being held by a new preacher," (who was possibly our C. S.V. Jones).

The traveler as identified in the footnote was Catholic Bishop Michael Portier. He departed Pensacola on horseback Tuesday, June 12, 1827 in the company of a mail carrier and a farmer. The farmer left them on the 13th. Continuing on with the mail carrier and after his attempts to converse with him yielded only terse responses, Portier first concluded that talkativeness was not the man's natural inclination. "I was mistaken," he wrote. "A few days later all was very clear. He was the son of a Methodist Minister, and had lost none of the austerity professed by the Protestant Pharisees." Pharisee, from the Bible, implies hypocrisy and sanctimony and is demeaning to those accused of it. It was at that point that the Bishop's narrative took on an anti-protestant bias. The mail carrier was probably Thomas, the son of Reverend Jones, and his possible equally low opinion of the Bishop's beliefs may have inhibited any desire for conversation or to reveal his identity to him. On the morning of Friday, the 15th the Bishop parted company with the mail carrier, apparently without having learned his name.

Two days later he arrived at the home of the "Scotch Methodist" mentioned above and it might have been there that he learned the mail carrier's identity. In quoting the Bishop's words on that occasion the author of this bio characterized them more kindly than he actually wrote them. His only reason for stopping at the Settler's home was for a meal. His irritation on finally realizing that was not forthcoming (not to mention his obvious anti-Protestant bias) motivated the continuing sarcasm in his account of the event. He did not write it on the spot, but he thought it, and as a consequence an empty stomach and the misery the elements heaped on him after leaving the shelter and hospitality of the poor man's home were "peradventure" poetic justice. The date was Sunday, June 17, 1827 and he told it as follows:

... My path led me along a clear winding stream, and brought me beneath the shade of magnolias, laurel and cypress trees to the dwelling of a man who proved to be a Scotch Methodist. The old man that received me announced that the rest of the household had gone to "meeting," and that he could not procure me anything to eat. I had to be resigned and await the dinner-hour. Patiently I waited until three o'clock; yet at that hour the family had not returned. A new preacher was to try his powers that day, and by dint of lung force and length of sermon prove beyond peradventure that he was a chosen apostle. How long he did hold forth I do not know, nor how many spirits he moved; but the delay was long enough to drive me to go in quest of a meal five leagues further ahead.

Note - Michel Portier was born in Montbrison, France, in 1795. Entering the priest-hood, he came to the United States in 1817, and in 1826 was made first Vicar Apostolic of the newly created vicariate of Alabama and the Floridas in which there were but three parishes: Mobile, Pensacola and St. Augustine. It was Bishop Portier who in 1830 established Spring Hill College at Mobile, the influence of which on education in the South has been felt for more than a century.

This account of his journey across Florida was written in French and published in *Annales de Ia Propagation de Ia Foi* (XIX Jan. 1830). It was translated by John E. Cahalan and published in Historical Records and Studies of The United States Catholic Historical Society (II, no. 2 Aug. 1901,) to whom grateful acknowledgment is made for permission to reprint the translation. The rarity of such a narrative of the Florida of that period and its interest more than warrant its republication.

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¹ Rt. Rev. Michael Portier, *From Pensacola to St. Augustine in 1827:*

² M. Portier, 138

So at five o'clock I set out, encountering a shower so copious and sudden that before I had time to don my cloak I was thoroughly drenched. While the storm lasted darkness set in and I had to pilot myself by the notches that had been made on the pine trees at stated distances. I succeeded at last in entering a marsh, and after considerable exertion reached the Dead Creek, a stream connecting with the Choctawhatchee a short distance above the ferry-landing. It was already a quarter past six. I at once gave the usual shout, a kind of savage yell which my first fellow-traveller had taught me. Loud and long I shouted, and at first I believed I was heard. I uttered the most imploring screams to secure the notice of the people I supposed to be on the other bank.

Painful mistake! The neighboring echo, taking up my cry, had deluded me and encouraged me to expect a prompt release from this fearful place. Two hours passed by in this cruel deception. I was compelled to pass the night in a swamp, facing a creek broad and deep, with only dirty water to drink, surrounded by all kinds of wild animals and all the insects in creation. Ten feet away were alligators sporting in the middle of the channel, and I had gathered from the newspapers that the region was infested by bears, wolves and panthers.

There were *lougres* (rattlesnakes, moccasins) to be dreaded. The mosquitoes; too, gave warning of an unwelcome call. Add to this sum of human woe the fact that during the past twenty-four hours I had eaten but two small corn biscuits; that I was so exhausted as not to have energy enough to change my wet clothes, and that my horse, subjected to the same privation as myself, was breaking down under the terrible strain. How was I to sleep in this horrible jungle? The dull lowing of the alligators; the shrill cries resounding through the woods, now grown appalling in gloom and solitude; the sudden leaping bodily above the waters and splashing back there into of some monster fish-here was enough in itself to cause trepidation.³ (Added by Sam Carnley)

A few miles east of Alaqua the traveler passed on through the Uchee Valley where, beginning in 1820, Scottish Highland Presbyterians leaving North Carolina were welcomed by a peaceful band of Uchee Indians.

The Reverend C. S. V. Jones (as he usually so signed himself) was more fondly known as "Brother Charley Jones". He was born about 1766 in Abbeville District, South Carolina. He and his wife Martha were married before 1802. They had five children born in South Carolina; namely, JOHN EDMOND (born January 6, 1802)., ELIXOUS THOHAS (b. July 25, 1803), NANCY (b. about 1805), WELDON (b. about 1807), and JABS CAPERS (b. about 1814). By 1819 our C. S. V. Jones was teaching school in Pulaski County, Georgia, where RANSOM DAVID JONES was born on October 14, 1819, and where his wife MARTHA apparently died.

In a note written by himself in a leather bound book on Methodism, entitled Preachers Excellence, still in the possession of a descendent, C. S. V. JONES recorded "Chas. S. V. Jones, his book April 1813" in the inside front cover. On the inside back cover he recorded 1833 date of writing and underneath 1821 left Georgia, then 12 years since I left Georgia. He also inscribed "State of Georgia from Pulaski County, August 5, 1821". "1807, Taught school here awhile. A few days ago (there are two names of people who are no(t) legible)" and I moved on to Henry County state of Alabama."

One of the names appears to be McKinnon. He apparently had learned of the new lands being opened in now Walton County, Florida, and Geneva County, Alabama (then Dale county), and moved himself and his children there in 1821. His children established families in South Alabama and. West Florida, where many of their descendants still live. Soon after C. S. V. Jones arrived in Walton County he married a Miss Nancy McCaskill (1799-1835), daughter of Alexander McCaskill, one of the pioneer Scottish Presbyterians who settled in the Euchee Valley.

We know from US Postal Service records that C. S. V. Jones was the Postmaster in Alaqua. From those records, it appears the post office was active from 31 May 1826 to 30 November 1901. C. S. V. Jones was identified as post master on the earliest date above, indicating he was the first to hold that distinction at Alaqua. After being discontinued on 14 May 1827, the post office was re-established the following November 5th with C. S.V. Jones as post master, which he remained to 31 March 1829.⁴ His son Thomas carried the mail by horseback to and from Pensacola. In 1827 he was the victim of an attempted murder and robbery, an account of which is included in this article.

³ M. Portier, 143-144

⁴ Florida Stampless Postal History 1763-1861, First Edition, 1999, p. 73. Copy provided by Bruce Cosson. See also the Pensacola Gazette and West Florida Advertiser, Friday, November 16th, 1827, "The Post Office at Alaqua, (F.), which was sometime since discontinued, has been re-established; C. S. V. Jones, Post Master." Copy provided by Bruce Cosson.

Although already a lay preacher in the Methodist Connection, Brother Charles Jones later formalized his status as a minister in the new Methodist Protestant Church. In the early days when there was no preacher of their own denomination at the Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church, Brother Jones frequently filled the pulpit there. The Church still stands today at what was then Euchee Anna, beside the ancient Valley Cemetery.

For many years there was a dim trail leading between the Alaqua Settlement and Euchee Anna, fondly known as the "Old Brother Charley Jones trail."

C. S. V. Jones and Nancy McCaskill Jones had four young children: DANIEL (1824-1834), SARAH (1826-1834), MARY (1829-1834) and Nancy (1830-1834), each of whom died under then mysterious circumstances now seen to be evidently sudden-onset fatal fevers that took them rapidly from perfect health to sudden death. Nancy McCaskill Jones followed her children in death in 1835.⁵ Brother Charley Jones honored their graves with stones and inscriptions.

As of December 1846, C. S. V. Jones was listed as a licensed minister in the Alabama District, Methodist Protestant Church. He died in 1847 at the age of 80 years. He is buried in the Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery with Nancy and their children. For many years Brother Charley Jones' grave was not marked but in recent years the membership of the ALAQUA METHODIST CHURCH honored him with a granite headstone inscribed "Bro Charley Jones, Founder of Alaqua Methodist Church--1827"

This Guest Book and Stand was presented to the ALAQUA METHODIST CHURCH in memory of The Reverend CHARLES SHEPHERD VINSON JONES by his third generation granddaughter, Mrs. Vallie Jones McGowan, Geneva, Alabama, and his fourth generation granddaughters, Mrs. JoAnn McGowan Futrell, Montgomery, Alabama, and Mrs. Linda McGowan Bowdoin, Dothan, Alabama.

Their descent line is as follows:

Charles Shepherd Vinson Jones

Ransom David Jones (son of C. S. V. Jones) Charles Shepherd Vinson Jones II (son of Ransom)

Henry Ransom Jones (son of Vinson Jones II)
Vallie Jones McGowan
Jo Ann McGowan Futrell (daughter of Vallie)
Linda McGowan Bowdoin (daughter of Vallie)⁶

The earliest reference to C. S. V. Jones found in research for this article comes from a list of letters remaining in the Post Office at Pensacola on 30 June 1825 published by Post Master, Robert Mitchell. The announcement, which identified Chas. S. V. Jones as among the addressees, stated ". . . (letters) which, if not taken out within three months, will be forwarded to the General Post Office as dead letters."

In mid-July 1827, two men accosted and attempted to rob and murder Jones' son Thomas while riding on his mail route. Martin Hutto, identified and arrested as one of the perpetrators, proved adept as an escape artist and after breaking out of jail several times, disappeared without a trace. William Hassel Hunt, the post master of Pensacola at the time, and editor of the Pensacola Gazette and West Florida Advertiser, wrote a piece in the July 27th edition of the paper which stated:

⁵ There were four children. See John L. McKinnon, *History of Walton County*, (Palmetto Books, Gainesville, Fl. 1968), 259-260, and Nancy Jones, Find A Grave Memorial, https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=33328045, downloaded 5-12-2017.

⁶ This bio is a reprint of a document originally researched and prepared by JoAnn McGowan Futrell of Montgomery, Alabama, May 6, 1991, and made available for this article by C. S. V. Jones descendants. Edits were made and supplemental information was added by Sam Carnley based on the research of Bruce Cosson.

⁷ Pensacola Gazette and West Florida Advertiser, June 30, 1825. Copy provided by Bruce Cosson.

Caution to Mail Riders.-- On the 14th instant the rider, who carries the Tallahassee Mail between Alaqua and Pensacola, Thomas G. Jones, was attacked by two Desperados, about three miles East of Yellow Water Post Office. One of the villains discharged a rifle at him, the ball of which passed through his hat, within an inch of his head; the other immediately made at him with a large Spanish dirk knife, with which he attempted to stab him, but fortunately only cut through his clothes. Mr. Jones made his escape with the Mail. Mail carriers ought always to be well armed, and able to protect the Mail in case of attack. We are happy to state that we have been informed, that one of the above mentioned wretches has been identified, and that suspicion has rested upon another; both of whom will probably be apprehended and committed for trial. If the offenders are not already taken, it is highly desirable that the inhabitants of the country, in the neighborhood of which they have been seen, should promptly turn out and assist in discovering and arresting them.⁸

Hutto's repeated escapes from jail prompted Hunt to offer rewards in the paper for his capture. He offered \$20.00 on October 13, 1827, after Hutto made his first escape. On November 9, the paper reported Hutto's recapture and detention at "Cantonment Clinch" (an Army camp) to await trial. Escaping again on January 23, 1828, Hunt offered another reward for his apprehension in the edition of the paper published two days later. Retaken shortly thereafter, Hutto was tried and convicted on May 7, 1828. The previous April 12, leading up to Hutto's trial, the Postmaster General wrote to Benjamin S. Wright, District Attorney, Pensacola, Florida Territory, who prosecuted Hutto, as follows:

I will thank you to give Special attention to the case of Martin Hutto, who is under charge of attempting to murder the carrier and rob the U. S. Mail, and whose trial is expected to come on at the approaching May term. C. S. V. Jones, who is the P. M. at Aligua (Alaqua), and father of the person whom Hutts (Hutto) attempted to murder, informs me that the witnesses are poor and unable to incur the expense of attending the trial; and that he is unable to defray their expenses. I will thank you to issue the proper processes to Secure their attendance, and let them know the amount and the manner in which they will receive their legal allowance.¹⁰

The outcome of his trial suggests that there was sufficient credible testimony to convict Hutto of the charges against him, whether or not it came from the "poor witnesses" referenced in the letter.

On May 15, while in custody for sentencing, Hutto escaped again and remained at large until recaptured the following October at which time presiding Judge Henry M. Brackenridge gave him two years in jail. Being sentenced and serving it though proved to be two different things, because on March 27, 1829, Hutto escaped for the fourth and last time, never to be heard from again.

He apparently never returned to Alaqua or its environs where he risked identification by members of the Jones family, many of whom lived there long afterwards. As a permanent resident of the area, Reverend Jones acquired 160.37 acres of local property through a cash entry sale on May 15, 1829, for which he received Preemption Patent Certificate number 451, signed by President, Andrew Jackson.¹¹ The tract as described in the patent located it as the North-East quarter of section 29 in township 2, north, range 19, west. In the some 188 years since Reverend Jones acquired the property, it has passed through the hands of many different owners. A current plat of the property downloaded from the Walton County Property Appraiser's website shows it has now been subdivided into fourteen different parcels. The plat and a table of the present-day owners appear on the following page.

During Reverend Jones time on the property, Alaqua along with other communities in the County, came under sporadic attacks during the Florida Indian Wars. To defend against the Indians locals formed militia units in which most able bodied men participated as their unquestioned duty. When his time came, the Reverend did not hesitate to do his part. In 1837, he appeared on the muster roll of Captain Lauchlin L. McKinnon's Company of the Eighth Regiment, First Brigade of the Florida Militia stationed at Eucheeanna.

¹⁰ Territorial Papers of Florida, p. 1062. Copy provided by Bruce Cosson.

⁸ Territorial Papers of Florida, p. 940. Copy provided by Bruce Cosson.

[′] Ibid

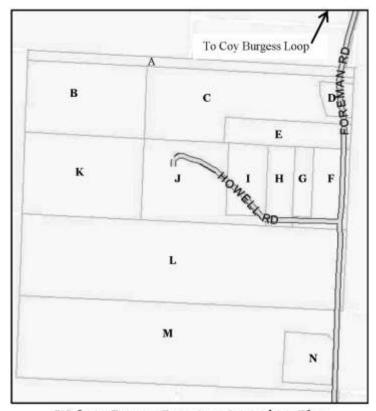
¹¹ C. S. V. Jones Preemption Patent Certificate No. 451. Copy provided by Bruce Cosson.

Under "Privates" the muster roll listed him as Jones, Charles, on foot, 20/20. The first of the two figures indicated the miles traveled from home to the place of rendezvous and the second the miles from the place of discharge to home.¹²

Although it was reported that this Company mustered at Eucheeanna, the distance between there and Alaqua, according to the county map, is only about ten miles, which makes the twenty mile figures suspect. But whether the distance was ten or twenty miles, the Reverend faced a considerable trek along the "Old Brother Charley Jones Trail" on those Sundays he preached to the Euchee Valley Presbyterians.

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walton County Heritage Association, Inc.,

¹² Muster Rolls of the Florida Indian Wars, Vol. 7, pages 29-30. Copy provided by Bruce Cosson.



Walton County Property Appraiser Plat
of the North-East Quarter, section 29, township 2, north, range 19,
west, containing 160 acres, more or less. C. S. V. Jones acquired
this property through a cash sale entry purchase on May 15, 1829
and was issued Preemption Patent Certificate no. 451 for 160.37
acres. Present-day owners are shown in the table below.

Code	Owner	Parcel No.	Acres
A	Jimmy & Deanna T. Foreman	29-2N-19-18000-001-0020	5.00
В	William T. Foreman	29-2N-19-18000-001-0030	13.14
С	Cynthia Diane Lingerfelt	29-2N-19-18000-001-0040	14.73
D	Mark Willard Schofield	29-2N-19-18000-001-0000	1.63
Е	Alexander J. & Alison A. Sutko	29-2N-19-18000-001-0010	5.00
F	Harvey McKay	29-2N-19-18000-003-0000	5.00
G	Carl Wayne Keene	29-2N-19-18000-003-0040	2.00
Н	Carl & Reba Wright	29-2N-19-18000-003-0030	3.00
I	Vanderbilt Mortgage & Finance	29-2N-19-18000-003-0050	4.39
J	James S. & Margaretta Howell	29-2N-19-18000-003-0020	10.61
K	Cecil Sandra Lynn Rev Trust	29-2N-19-18000-003-0060	15.00
L	Cecil Sandra Lynn Rev Trust	29-2N-19-18000-004-0000	40.00
M	Andes Forest, Inc.	29-2N-19-18000-005-0010	36.00
N	Edgar W. Thompson	29-2N-19-18000-005-0000	4.00
		Probable Survey error	0.87
		Total Acreage	160.37

Note: The above plat was downloaded and edited, and the table of owners was compiled by Sam Carnley from public records available on the Walton County Property Appraiser's website at http://www.qpublic.net/fl/walton/.

WALTON COUNTY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Walton County Heritage Association

Membership in the Walton County Heritage Association includes Membership in the Museum and Genealogy Society

2017

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM as we are updating our records

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The Museum Research Center:

Members get free copies of documents and use of the Genealogy Society computer when Museum is open to the public.

The Museum Gift Shop:

Members receive 10% discounts on books, special publications, postcards, photographs, CDs, DVD's Videos and Gift items.

Membership is on a calendar year basis. Those paying in November or December will be members during those months as well as the next calendar year. SPECIAL THIS YEAR, ALL MEMBERSHIPS RECEIVED BY DEC 31 WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING FOR TWO TICKETS TO THE 2017 **GRIT AND GRACE** PERFORMANCE.

Name:

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City:

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I would like to volunteer at the Walton County Heritage Museum

I have genealogy information I would like to share with the Genealogy Society

I would like to talk with someone about how to get started researching my family tree

I have artifacts or photographs I wish to donate or loan to the Museum

Please mail your check and this form to

Please mail your check and this form to Walton County Heritage Association 1140 Circle Drive De Funiak Springs, Fl 32435

Thank You!

All membership dues are tax deductible.

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