

Tracing **PASTS**

Vol. II of The Heritage of Bay County, Florida, available at library

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In 2005 the Bay County Heritage Book Committee published Volume I of The Heritage of Bay County, Florida. We had worked on the book for several years, collecting family stories from those with connections to Bay County. We were gratified by the response we received. Our contributors loved the book, and we heard from many people who wished they had given us stories. There also were a lot of contributors who had more stories to share. Our committee decided that a second volume was needed. Once again we asked people to share their family stories. And once again, folks were very generous. Volume II of The Heritage of Bay County, Florida, is now finished.

This volume does not repeat any stories from the first volume. It features about 600 new stories from those who live in, have lived in or have ancestors from Bay County. All are a great read, and the book is a great addition to the library of anyone who loves Bay County.

Not a lot of these books were printed and there is no guarantee of a reprint so those of you interested in owning this book might want to purchase one soon. The cost if purchased at the Bay County Public Library is \$64.50. You also can call the publisher at 1-800-568-1511 and purchase with a credit card and have your book mailed to you. There will be a small postage charge. If you also would like to get a copy of Volume I, there is a sale

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until Thursday. If you buy Volume II at \$64.50, you can buy Volume I for half price at \$32.25.

Part of the proceeds from the sale of the heritage books goes to the Bay County Public Library.

Copies of Volume II are available for checkout at the library. There also will be copies for In Library Use Only so you can visit the library and see the book for yourself. Volume I is also available for checkout and In Library Use. The library also offers many other books on local history and genealogy.

I was still living in Florida when this project started, and I really missed working closely on Volume II after my move to Maryland. But I know that the rest of the Bay County Heritage Book Committee devoted hours of time to story collection, proofreading and meetings. Members of the committee are Ann Robbins, family coordinator; Rebecca Saunders, topical coordinator; Anita Lucas, treasurer; Jane Becker; Angela Lewis and Rebecca Miller. All of these women are dedicated to preserving Bay County's rich heritage. Bay County is fortunate to have them.