

# **USS Frank Knox DDR-742 Reunion Association**

## **Annual Business Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

Virtual Call – 10:00 am

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Harry Chandler at 10:03 am. Board members present were Bill Atkinson, Steve Cross, Don Greer, Vaughan Kruger, Mike Watson, Margaret Watson. Committee members present were Tom Soltis, Joy Chandler, Jim Healy and Sue Healy. Members present were Joe Dempsey, Don Landers, Jim Lasswell, Richard Swaney and Don Yegge.

### 2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Harry Chandler, followed by the President's Message.

Harry thanked the Board and Committee Members for their hard work during this difficult year. A heartfelt thank you went out to all members for their support and contributions to the reunion association.

### 3. Election/Confirmation of Officers 2021 Reunion Year

The deadline for board nominations was December 18, 2020. Don Yegge made a motion to nominate and confirm all current-year board members. No other nominations were received. The motion was passed unanimously by the members present.

### 4. Financial Report – Margaret Watson

Margaret reported the association is in good shape financially and thanked members for their support through dues and donations throughout the year. The current bank balance is slightly higher than at the beginning of the year. Deposits with the hotel and tour companies were made for the reunion year 2020 and have been carried forward to 2021. Results for the on-line auction and individual donations in lieu of the auction were in excess of \$2,300. Our major operating costs are website maintenance and mail costs. In addition, special projects, such as the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin, are paid from funds available.

### 5. 2020 Recap – Projects and Accomplishments – Steve Cross

- Website - vastly improved under Tom Soltis - 5 years bracket to ease crew member search, 20-year newsletters archived, dozens of new crew and ship pictures.
- 39th Anniversary Coin - minted and distributed to 2020 and Life Members, 30th Anniversary Video 15 minutes on-line.
- Newsletters three, all mailed and emailed on time despite closures of printshop.
- Reunion activities on-line include crew gatherings on-line social, successful on-line auction.
- Publications - Stranded, stories and official records of the July -August Salvage of Frank Knox in 1965 - third edit complete, pictures loading. Had to make a shift to self-publishing due to printer shutdown. A second photo book is in preparation: The First Gearing Class ship commissioned and sent to Pacific theater 1944-45.
- PLEASE keep those pictures and stories coming - YOU ARE THE STORY! Don't let your story be lost!

6. The location for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Reunion was formally approved for Albuquerque, NM. Dates are confirmed September 22-26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

7. Discussion – Possible sites for 2022 – East Coast

There are currently two sites for consideration:

- Charleston, South Carolina
- Pensacola, Florida – suggested by Joe Dempsy. Joe made a “pitch” and provided information to the membership for review. Please see attached.

The association is encouraging members to submit other East Coast sites for consideration. Vote will be taken by the members attending the 2021 Business meeting in Albuquerque.

8. New Business

9. Adjournment: 10:35am

10. Social – Members stayed on to socialize. The association is planning video/phone conference calls throughout the coming year. Members will be notified by email of upcoming events.



### Knox Reunion 2022 Pensacola Florida Area 12/16/2020

Harry Chandler <hchandler64@gmail.com>  
Draft

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#### Knox Reunion 2022

I would like present to the Knox Board & Members consideration for making "Pensacola Florida Area" the place for the Knox Reunion 2022.

By our Roster there are 8 active member living in Florida: Melvin Clark (Pensacola), Jim Pearson (Jacksonville), Lional Price (Panama City), Jarr (Homosassa), Frank Gattone (Brookville), Leonard Gillian (Palm Harbor), Robert Lowery (Umatilla, & Suzanne McClanahan (Pompano).

By our Roster there are 7 or 8 inactive Knox members living in the State of Florida.

Although I have never been to Pensacola myself, I have taken the liberty to copy most of the information provided from Wikipedia about Pensacola Florida Area so that the Board & Members can get an idea of what the Greater Pensacola Area has to offer.

Merry Christmas & Hoppy New Year 2021. Take care & keep dah Health.

JOE DEMPSKY  
[kakadujoed@sbcblobal.net](mailto:kakadujoed@sbcblobal.net)  
A Salty Dog

## Pensacola, Florida

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Pensacola (/ˌpɛnsəˈkoʊlə/) is the westernmost city in the Florida Panhandle, and the county seat of Escambia County, Florida.<sup>[9]</sup> As of 2019, the population was estimated to be 51,942, the principal city of the Pensacola Metropolitan Area, which had an estimated 502,629 residents as of 2019.<sup>[11]</sup> Pensacola is one of the largest metropolitan areas in the Gulf Coast between New Orleans and Tampa.<sup>[12]</sup>

Pensacola is the site of the first Spanish settlement within the borders of the continental United States in 1559, predating the establishment of St. Augustine by 6 years, although abandoned due to a hurricane and not re-established until 1698. Pensacola is a seaport on Pensacola Bay, which is protected by the barrier island of Santa Rosa and connects to the large United States Naval Air Station, the first in the United States, is located southwest of Pensacola near Warrington; it is the base of the Blue Angels flight demonstration team Aviation Museum. The main campus of the University of West Florida is situated north of the city center.

The area was originally inhabited by Muskogean-speaking peoples. The Pensacola people lived there at the time of European contact, and Creek people frequently visited and traded with the southern Alabama and Mississippi and southeast of Louisiana. Spanish explorer Tristán de Luna founded a short-lived settlement in 1559.<sup>[13]</sup> In 1698 the Spanish established a fort which the modern city gradually developed. The area changed hands several times as European powers competed in North America. During Florida's British rule (1763–1781), the fort was strengthened.

It is nicknamed "The City of Five Flags", due to the five governments that have ruled it during its history: the flags of Spain (Castile), France, Great Britain, the United States of America and the Confederate States of America. Other nicknames include "World's Whitest Beaches" (due to the white sand of Florida panhandle beaches), "Cradle of Naval Aviation", "West State", "America's First Settlement", "Emerald Coast", "Red Snapper Capital of the World", and "P-Cola".

[History](#)<sup>[edit]</sup>

#### Historical affiliations

[Spanish Empire](#) 1559–1719, 1722–1763 and 1781–1821

[French Empire](#) 1719–1722

[British Empire](#) 1763–1781

[Confederate States of America](#) 1861–1865

[United States](#) 1821–1861 and 1865 to present

Pensacola was the site of one of the first European-inhabited settlements in what would later become the United States of America.

Pensacola: Site of 1698 settlement near Fort Barrancas is marked "X" (above left end of Santa Rosa Island).

*Main articles: [History of Pensacola, Florida](#) and [Timeline of Pensacola, Florida](#)*

#### Pre-European<sup>[edit]</sup>

The original inhabitants of the Pensacola Bay area were Native American peoples. At the time of European contact, a Muskogean-speaking tribe known to the Spanish as the Perote people. This name was not recorded until 1677, but the tribe appears to be the source of the name "Pensacola" for the bay and thence the city.<sup>[14]</sup> Creek people, also Muskogean, traded regularly from present-day southern Alabama to trade, so the peoples were part of a broader regional and even continental network of relations.<sup>[15]</sup>

The best-known Pensacola culture site in terms of archeology is the Bottle Creek site, a large site located 59 miles (95 km) west of Pensacola north of Mobile, Alabama. This site contains earthenwork mounds, five of which are arranged around a central plaza. Its main occupation was from 1250 AD to 1550. It was a ceremonial center for the Pensacola people and a center for trade. This site would have had easy access by a dugout canoe, the main mode of transportation used by the Pensacola.<sup>[16]</sup>

#### Spanish<sup>[edit]</sup>

The area's written recorded history begins in the 16th century, with documentation by **Spanish explorers** who were the first Europeans to reach the area. The expeditions of **Pán** and **Hernando de Soto** in 1539 both visited Pensacola Bay, the latter of which documented the name "Bay of Ochuse".<sup>[17]</sup>

In the **age of sailing ships** Pensacola was the busiest port on the Gulf of Mexico, having the deepest harbor on the Gulf.<sup>[18]</sup>

In 1559, **Tristán de Luna y Arellano** landed with some 1,500 people on 11 ships from **Veracruz, Mexico**.<sup>[19][17][20][21]</sup> The expedition was to establish an outpost, ultimately called Ochuse by Luna, as a base for Spanish efforts to colonize **Santa Elena** (present-day **Parris Island, South Carolina**.) But the colony was decimated by a **hurricane** on September 1: killed an unknown number of sailors and colonists, sank six ships, grounded a seventh, and ruined supplies.

The survivors struggled to survive, most moving inland to what is now central Alabama for several months in 1560 before returning to the coast; but in 1561, the effort was abandoned as the survivors eventually sailed to Santa Elena, but another storm struck there. Survivors made their way to **Cuba** and finally returned to Pensacola, where the remaining fifty returned back to **Veracruz**. The Viceroy's advisers later concluded that northwest Florida was too dangerous to settle. They ignored it for 137 years.<sup>[19][21]</sup>

In the late 17th century, the **French** began exploring the lower **Mississippi River** with the intention of colonizing the region as part of **La Louisiane** or New France in North America. When the territory would be threatened, the Spanish founded a new settlement in western Florida. In 1698 they established a fortified town near what is now **Fort Barrancas**, laying the foundation for the European-dominated settlement of the modern city of Pensacola.<sup>[22]</sup> The Spanish built three presidios in Pensacola.<sup>[23]</sup>

- **Presidio Santa Maria de Galve** (1698–1719): the presidio included fort *San Carlos de Austria* (east of present **Fort Barrancas**) and a village with church;<sup>[23]</sup>
- **Presidio Isla de Santa Rosa** (1722–1752): this next presidio was on western **Santa Rosa Island** near the site of present **Fort Pickens**, but hurricanes battered the island. The garrison was moved to the mainland;<sup>[23]</sup>
- **Presidio San Miguel de Panzacola** (1754–1763): the final presidio was built about 5 miles (8 km) east of the first presidio; the present-day historic district of downtown "Panzacola", developed around the fort.<sup>[23]</sup>

During the early years of settlement, a tri-racial **creole** society developed. As a fortified trading post, the Spanish had mostly men stationed here. Some married or had unions with or **African** women, both slave and free, and their descendants created a mixed-race population of **mestizos** and **mulattos**. The Spanish encouraged slaves from the southern British Florida as a refuge, promising freedom in exchange for conversion to **Catholicism**. King **Charles II of Spain** issued a royal proclamation freeing all slaves who fled to Spanish Florida for conversion and baptism. Most went to the area around **St. Augustine**, but escaped slaves also reached Pensacola. St. Augustine had mustered an all-black militia unit defending

## British<sup>[edit]</sup>

After years of settlement, the Spanish ceded Florida to the British in 1763 as a result of an exchange following British victory over both France and Spain in the **French and Indian War**, and French cession of its territories in North America. The British designated Pensacola as the capital of their new colony of **West Florida**. British strengthened defenses around the mainland area of fort **San Carlos de Barrancas**, building the Royal Navy Redoubt. **George Johnstone** was appointed as the first British **governor** and a **colonial assembly** was established.<sup>[25][26]</sup> The structure of the colony was modeled after the existing **British colonies in America**, as opposed to **French Canada**, which was based on a different structure. West Florida was invited to send delegates to the **First Continental Congress** which was convened to present colonial grievances against the British Parliament to **George III**. Several other colonies, including East Florida, they declined the invitation. Once the **American War of Independence** had broken out, the colonists remained overwhelmingly loyal to the British. The **Willing Expedition** proceeded with a small force down the Mississippi, ransacking estates and plantations, until they were eventually defeated by a local militia. In the wake of the war, a small number of British reinforcements.

British military resources were limited and Pensacola ranked fairly low on their list of priorities. For this reason only small token amounts of British military forces were ever sent. This was in contrast to colonies such as South Carolina, where large numbers of British soldiers were sent.<sup>[27]</sup> After Spain joined the **American Revolution** in 1779 on the side of the rebels, British forces captured the city in the 1781 **Battle of Pensacola**, gaining control of West Florida.<sup>[20]</sup> After the war, the British officially ceded both West Florida and **East Florida** to Spain under the **Treaty of Paris**.

In 1785 many Creek from southern Alabama and **Georgia** came to trade and Pensacola developed as a major trade center. It was a garrison town, predominantly males in the militia.<sup>[15]</sup> Americans made raids into the area, and settlers pressured the federal government to gain control of this territory.

## United States<sup>[edit]</sup>

In the final stages of the **War of 1812**, American troops launched an **offensive on Pensacola** against the Spanish and British garrisons protecting the city, which surrendered after 1819. Spain and the United States negotiated the **Adams–Onís Treaty**, by which Spain sold the Floridas to the United States for US\$5 million.<sup>[20]</sup> A Spanish census of 1820 indicated the town, with a third of **mixed-blood**. The people were predominantly French and Spanish Creole. Indians in the area were noted through records, travelers' accounts, and paintings by George Washington Sully and **George Catlin**. Creek women were also recorded in marriages to Spanish men, in court records or deeds.<sup>[15]</sup>

In 1821, with **Andrew Jackson** as provisional governor, Pensacola became part of the United States.<sup>[20]</sup> The Creek continued to interact with European Americans and African American dominant whites increasingly imposed their binary racial classifications: white and black ("colored", within which were included **free people of color**, including Indians). However, mestizos were identified separately in court and Catholic church records, and as Indians in censuses up until 1840, attesting to their presence in the society. After that, the Creoles identified as Indian, but the people did not disappear. Even after **removal** of many **Seminole** to Indian Territory, Indians, often of mixed-race but culturally identifying as Muskogean, remained in Florida.<sup>[15]</sup>

St. Michael's Cemetery was established in the 18th century at a location in a south central part of the city, which developed as the Downtown area. Initially owned by the Church of England and managed by St. Michael's Cemetery Foundation of Pensacola, Inc.<sup>[28]</sup> Preliminary studies indicate that there are over 3,200 marked burials as well as a large number of unmarked graves. Tensions between the white community and Indians tended to increase during the Removal era. In addition, an increasing proportion of Anglo-Americans, who constituted the majority of the population in 1840, led to a hardening of racial discrimination in the area.<sup>[15]</sup> There was disapproval of white men living with women of color, which had previously been accepted. In 1853 the state prohibited Indians from living in the state, and provided for capture and removal to Indian Territory.<sup>[15]</sup>

While the bill excluded half-bloods and Indians already living in white communities, they went "underground" to escape persecution. No Indians were listed in late 19th and early 20th century censuses for Escambia County. People of Indian descent were forced into the white or black communities by appearance, and officially, in terms of records, "disappeared". It was a pattern of Southern settlements. Children of white fathers and Indian mothers were not designated as Indian in the late 19th century, whereas children of blacks or mulattos were classified as black, related to laws during the slavery years.<sup>[15]</sup>

In 1907–1908 there were 116 Creek in Pensacola who applied for the **Eastern Cherokee** enrollment, thinking that all Indians were eligible to enroll. Based on Alabama census records, individuals have been found to be descendants of Creek who had migrated to the Pensacola area from southern Alabama after Indian removal of the 1830s.<sup>[15]</sup>

## Topography<sup>[edit]</sup>

Pensacola is located at 30°26′13″N 87°12′33″W﻿ / ﻿30.436988, −87.209277﻿ / 30.436988; -87.209277<sup>[29]</sup> on the north side of **Pensacola Bay**. It is 59 miles (95 km) east of **Mobile, Alabama**, and 196 miles (315 km) west of the capital of **Florida**. According to the **United States Census Bureau**, Pensacola has a total area of 40.7 square miles (105.4 km<sup>2</sup>), consisting of 22.5 square miles (58.4 km<sup>2</sup>) of land and 18.2 square miles (47.0 km<sup>2</sup>), 44.62%, water.<sup>[30]</sup>

The land is sloping to the north from Pensacola Bay with most of the area having elevations above hurricane storm surge.<sup>[31]</sup>

Pensacola does not have a prominent skyline, but has several low-rise buildings. The tallest is the 15-floor Crowne Plaza Grand Hotel, which stands at 146 feet (45 m). Other tall buildings include the Scenic Apartments (98 feet, 30 m), SunTrust Tower (96 feet, 29 m), **Seville Tower** (88 feet, 27 m), and the AT&T Building (76 feet, 23 m).

Historic buildings in Pensacola include the **First National Bank Building**.

## Climate<sup>[edit]</sup>

Weather statistics since the late 20th century have been recorded at the airport. The city has seen single digit temperatures (below −12 °C) on three occasions: 5 °F (−15 °C) on **January 13, 1899** and 8 °F (−13 °C) on **January 11, 1982**.<sup>[32]</sup> According to the **Köppen Climate Classification** system, Pensacola has a **humid subtropical climate**,<sup>[33]</sup> (Cfa) with mild winters and hot, humid summers. Typical summer conditions have highs in the lower 90s °F (32–34 °C) and lows in the mid 70s °F (23–24 °C).<sup>[34]</sup> Afternoon or evening thunderstorms are common during the summer months. Due partly to the coastal location, temperatures above 100 °F (38 °C) are relatively rare, and last occurred in June 2011, when two of the first four day highs reaching the century mark.<sup>[35]</sup> The highest temperature ever recorded in the city was 106 °F (41 °C) on July 14, 1980.<sup>[34]</sup> The daily average temperature in January is 51.4 °F (10.8 °C).

temperatures occur on an average 13.7 nights per season, with the average window for freezing conditions being from December 13 to February 20.<sup>[36]</sup> Temperatures below 20 °F and last occurred on January 8, 2015,<sup>[37]</sup> when a low of 19 °F (−7 °C) was seen.<sup>[38]</sup> The lowest temperature ever recorded in the city was 5 °F (−15 °C) on **January 21, 1985**.<sup>[34]</sup>

hideClimate data for Pensacola, Florida ( <b>Pensacola Int'l</b> ), 1981–2010 normals, extremes 1879–present											
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Record high °F (°C)	81 (27)	82 (28)	90 (32)	96 (36)	102 (39)	102 (39)	106 (41)	104 (40)	102 (39)	97 (36)	89 (32)
Mean maximum °F (°C)	74.4 (23.6)	76.3 (24.6)	81.3 (27.4)	85.4 (29.7)	91.8 (33.2)	95.5 (35.3)	96.8 (36.0)	96.3 (35.7)	94.4 (34.7)	88.4 (31.3)	81.7 (27.6)
Average high °F (°C)	60.5 (15.8)	63.8 (17.7)	69.6 (20.9)	75.7 (24.3)	83.2 (28.4)	88.5 (31.4)	89.9 (32.2)	89.4 (31.9)	86.5 (30.3)	78.9 (26.1)	70.3 (21.3)
Average low °F (°C)	42.2 (5.7)	45.5 (7.5)	51.2 (10.7)	57.6 (14.2)	66.0 (18.9)	72.5 (22.5)	74.5 (23.6)	74.2 (23.4)	70.3 (21.3)	60.3 (15.7)	51.2 (10.7)
Mean minimum °F (°C)	24.5 (−4.2)	28.4 (−2.0)	33.9 (1.1)	42.8 (6.0)	54.2 (12.3)	65.5 (18.6)	69.8 (21.0)	68.8 (20.4)	58.2 (14.6)	43.6 (6.4)	34.7 (1.5)
Record low °F (°C)	5 (−15)	7 (−14)	22 (−6)	33 (1)	44 (7)	55 (13)	61 (16)	60 (16)	43 (6)	32 (0)	22 (−6)
Average precipitation inches (mm)	4.63 (118)	5.06 (129)	5.81 (148)	4.32 (110)	4.18 (106)	6.60 (168)	7.41 (188)	6.76 (172)	5.98 (152)	5.24 (133)	4.73 (120)
Average precipitation days (≥ 0.01 in)	8.9	8.6	8.1	6.5	6.7	11.1	14.0	13.6	8.8	6.1	7.2

Source: NOAA<sup>[36]</sup><sup>[43]</sup>

**Hurricanes**<sup>[edit]</sup>

Pensacola's location on the **Florida Panhandle** makes it vulnerable to hurricanes. Hurricanes which have made landfall at or near Pensacola since the late 20th century include **Eric** (1979), **Juan** (1985), **Erin** (1995), **Opal** (1995), **Georges** (1998), **Ivan** (2004), **Dennis** (2005), and **Sally** (2020). In July 2005, Hurricane Dennis made landfall just east of the city, spari received from Ivan the year before. However, hurricane and near-hurricane-force winds were recorded in downtown, causing moderate damage.

**Demographics**<sup>[edit]</sup>

See also: *Escambia County, Florida Demographics*

As of the census<sup>[7]</sup> of 2010, there were 51,923 people, 23,600 households, and 14,665 families residing in the city, and 402,000 people in the **Pensacola MSA**. The **population dens** per square mile (956.8/km<sup>2</sup>). There were 26,848 housing units at an average density of 1,189.4 per square mile (459.2/km<sup>2</sup>). The racial makeup of the city is 66.3% **White**, 28.0% **Af** 2.0% **Asian**, 0.6% **Native American**, 0.1% **Pacific Islander**, 2.3% from two or more races. 3.3% are **Hispanic** or **Latino** of any race.

There were 24,524 households, out of which 24.6% had children living with them, 39.7% were married couples living together, 16.7% had a female householder with no husband | non-families. 32.9% of all households were made up of individuals, and 11.7% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.27 | size was 2.92.

Out of the total population in Pensacola, 45.9% identify with a religion, slightly lower than the national average of 48.3%.<sup>[49]</sup> Over 48% of Pensacolians who practice a religion id of all city residents).<sup>[49]</sup> Other Christian denominations include Roman Catholics (9.2% of city residents), Pentecostal (3.8%), Methodist (3.8%), Episcopal (1.1%), Presbyterian (1. (0.3%).<sup>[49]</sup>

Pensacola is home to a small (0.2% of city residents)<sup>[49]</sup> but significant **Jewish** community, whose roots date mostly to German Jewish immigrants of the mid-to-late 19th centur; Sephardic Jewish migrants from other areas of the South, and immigrants from other areas of Europe. The first Florida chapter of **B'nai Brith** was founded downtown in 1874, as first temple, **Beth-El**, in 1876. Apart from the **Reform** Beth-El, Pensacola is also served by the **Conservative** B'nai Israel Synagogue.<sup>[50]</sup> **Paula Ackerman**, the first woman who per functions in the United States, was a Pensacola native and led services at Beth-El.

**Economy**<sup>[edit]</sup>

**Personal income**<sup>[edit]</sup>

The median income for a household in the city was \$34,779, and the median income for a family was \$42,868. Males had a median income of \$32,258 versus \$23,582 for females. **income** for the city was \$30,556 in 2011. About 12.7% of families and 16.3%<sup>[51]</sup> of the population were below the **poverty line**, including 26.2% of those under age 18 and 9.2% of t

**Military**<sup>[edit]</sup>

*The city has been referred to as "The Cradle of Naval Aviation".<sup>[52]</sup> Naval Air Station Pensacola (NASP) was the first Naval Air Station commissioned by the U.S. Navy in 1914. Te aviators have received their training there, including John H. Glenn, USMC, who became the first American to orbit the earth in 1962, and Neil Armstrong, who became the first n moon in 1969.<sup>[53]</sup> The Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, is stationed there.*

*The National Museum of Naval Aviation is located on the Naval Air Station and is free to the public. The museum cares for and exhibits hundreds of vintage Naval Aviation aircraft history of Naval Aviation through displays, symposiums, IMAX movies and tours.*

*Corry Station Naval Technical Training Center serves as an annex for the main base and the Center for Information Dominance. CWO3 Gary R. Schuetz Memorial Health Clinic is Hospital Pensacola, as is the main Navy Exchange and Defense Commissary Agency commissary complex for both Corry Station and NAS Pensacola. The Army National Guard Bravo Company 146th Expeditionary Signal Battalion is stationed in Pensacola.*

## Hospitals<sup>[edit]</sup>

- Sacred Heart Health System<sup>[54]</sup>
- West Florida Hospital
- Baptist Hospital
- Gulf Breeze Hospital *(located in nearby Gulf Breeze)*
- The Andrews Institute *(located in nearby Gulf Breeze)*
- Santa Rosa Medical Center *(located in nearby Milton)*
- Naval Hospital Pensacola *(restricted to military personnel/dependents/authorized persons)*
- Select Specialty Hospital<sup>[55]</sup>

## Tourism<sup>[edit]</sup>

*Pensacola is home to a number of annual festivals, events, historic tours, and landmarks. The Pensacola Seafood Festival and the Pensacola Crawfish Festival have been held in the city's historic downtown. The Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival is held annually in November in Seville Square, and often draws more than 200 regional and international artists. The festival also held in Seville Square, displays art by local schoolchildren. Pensacon is a comic convention held each February, with nearly 25,000 attendees from around the world.*

*There are several walking tours of restored 18th-century-era neighborhoods in Pensacola.*

*Pensacola is the site of the Vietnam Veterans' Wall South. There are a number of historical military installations from the Civil War, including Fort Barrancas. Fort Pickens served for Geronimo. Other military landmarks include the National Naval Aviation Museum and Pensacola Lighthouse at NAS Pensacola.*

*The city's convention and visitors' bureau, Visit Pensacola,<sup>[56]</sup> is overseen by the Greater Pensacola Chamber.<sup>[57][58]</sup>*

## Culture<sup>[edit]</sup>

### The arts and theatre<sup>[edit]</sup>

There are a number of performance venues in the Pensacola area, including the Pensacola Bay Center (formerly the Pensacola Civic Center), often used for big-ticket events, and used for performances and mid-level events. Other theatres used for live performances, plays, and musicals include the Pensacola Little Theatre, Pensacola State College, Unive Vinyl Music Hall, and Loblolly Theatre. Pensacola is also home to the Pensacola Opera, Pensacola Children's Chorus, Pensacola Symphony Orchestra, Pensacola Civic Band, Pe Band, and the Choral Society of Pensacola, as well as Ballet Pensacola. There is also the Palafox Place entertainment district.

### Parks and recreation<sup>[edit]</sup>

- Big Lagoon State Park
- Perdido Key State Park
- Tarkiln Bayou Preserve State Park
- Pensacola Bayfront Stadium
- Plaza Ferdinand VII
- Bayview Park

## Education<sup>[edit]</sup>

The main campus of Pensacola State College is in the City of Pensacola. The University of West Florida (UWF) operates a campus in downtown Pensacola. Its main campus, located the largest library in the region, the John C. Pace Library. UWF is the largest post-secondary institution in the area.

Public primary and secondary schools in Pensacola are administered by the Escambia County School District. The district operates two high schools (Booker T. Washington and City of Pensacola. District-run high schools near the city include Escambia, J. M. Tate, and Pine Forest. Other public schools in the city include A.K. Suter Elementary, Cordova F Workman Middle, N.B. Cook Elementary, O.J. Semmes Elementary, and Scenic Heights Elementary. The district also operates one magnet high school (West Florida High School Technology) near the city.

Several private schools operate within or near the city: East Hill Academy, East Hill Christian School, Episcopal Day School of Christ Church, Pensacola Catholic High School, P Academy, Sacred Heart Cathedral School, Saint John the Evangelist Catholic School, Saint Paul Catholic School, Little Flower Catholic School, and Seville Bayside Montessori. of Pensacola Christian College is near the city.

## Media<sup>[edit]</sup>

*Main article: Escambia County, Florida media*

The largest daily newspaper in the area is the Pensacola News Journal, with offices on Romana Street in downtown; the News Journal is owned by the Gannett Company. There newspaper, *Inweekly*.

Pensacola is home to WEAR-TV, the ABC affiliate for Pensacola, Navarre, Fort Walton Beach, and Mobile, Alabama, and WSRE-TV, the local PBS member station, which is operated College. Other television stations in the market include WALA-TV, the Fox affiliate; WKRG, the CBS affiliate; and WPMI, the NBC affiliate, which are all located in Mobile. Cable service is provided by Cox Communications and AT&T U-Verse. WUWF is the area's NPR affiliate and is based at the University of West Florida. WPCS (FM) is broadcast from the Pensacola College campus, where the nationwide Rejoice Radio Network maintains its studio.<sup>[62]</sup>

Pensacola Magazine, the city's monthly glossy magazine, and Northwest Florida's Business Climate, the only business magazine devoted to the region, are published locally. They publish Home & Garden Weekly magazine as well as the monthly Bella, devoted to women.

## Transportation<sup>[edit]</sup>

### Aviation<sup>[edit]</sup>

Major air traffic in the Pensacola and greater northwest Florida area is handled by **Pensacola International Airport**. Pensacola International is the largest airport in Northwest Florida and is the second busiest in all of **North Florida**, just behind **Jacksonville**.<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup> As of November 2019, airlines serving Pensacola International Airport are **American Airlines**, **Frontier Airlines**, **Silver Airways**, **Southwest Airlines** and **United Airlines**.<sup>[63]</sup>

### Major highways<sup>[edit]</sup>

- **Interstate 10**
- **Interstate 110**
- **U.S. Route 29**
- **U.S. Route 90 & U.S. Route 90 Alternate**
- **U.S. Route 98 & U.S. Route 98 Business**
- **State Road 289** Ninth Avenue
- **State Road 290** Olive Road
- **State Road 291** Davis Highway
- **State Road 292** Pace Boulevard
- **State Road 295** New Warrington Road, Farfield Drive
- **State Road 296** Michigan Avenue, Beverly Parkway, Brent Lane, Bayou Boulevard, Perry Street
- **State Road 742** Creighton Road, Burgess Road
- **State Road 750** Airport Boulevard

### Mass transit<sup>[edit]</sup>

The local bus service is the Escambia County Area Transit.<sup>[70]</sup> In December 2007, ECAT announced that it would cut many of its routes citing poor rider frequency. However, in January 2008, ECAT announced that it would expand service to neighboring **Gulf Breeze** and change existing routes to more convenient locations.<sup>[71]</sup>

### Intercity bus<sup>[edit]</sup>

**Greyhound** bus service is also available.



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