

## JOE PATTI MEMORIAL REEF

Location: 1.7 miles south of Santa Rosa Island, just east of Pensacola Pass N30°17'330" W087°13'755" Water Depth is 50 ft.

A 175' Patti work barge becomes a memorial reef to honor the Patti Family. In addition, many other significant Pensacola families and landmarks synonymous with our area are honored, including past and present businesses. In all, 120 stainless steel images are on display.

This project is a gift to the Pensacola community, donated by the Patti Family. There are many others who donated to the cause to have their interests displayed, as well as those who helped with their time and efforts to make this project a reality.

















## PENSACOLA LANDMARKS & REFLECTIONS OF ITS CULTURE ARE ALL DISPLAYED ON THE JOE PATTI REEF







Frank Patti Jr. and Father John Lacari

Thanks to: Sava Varazo of Emerald Coast Keepers, who helped spearhead the project with organizing additional interest in donations and media coverage; Kevin Marchetti, The Renaissance Man, who's skill and talent created and cut all the images and plaques displayed on the barge; Robert Turpin, Escambia County Marine Resources Manager, who was instrumental in the complete process of working out the issues with Escambia County, Department of Environmental Protection, the Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard, Florida Fish & Wildlife, with Keith Johnson of Wetland Sciences, all to insure this project remained in Pensacola. Also, thanks to the County Commissioners, especially Gene Valentino, whose enthusiasm in the project kept the dream focused to become a reality.

In all, the community can be proud of it's heritage displayed in this most unique manner. From the long history starting with the Spanish attempt to colonize the "most beautiful natural deep harbor in all the Gulf", to "The Battle of Pensacola", which was instrumental in the American Revolution. The more recent history of the fishing and lumber booms which helped shape our marine port. The military, especially the Navy, whose presence here made aircraft history, along with the Blue Angels, which showcase our nation's best! To all the Pensacola families, whose hard work and determination and love for the area helped create the most unique and historic city in the nation.