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[Home](#) > AUTHOR OF SLAVE GENEALOGY OF THE ROULHAC FAMILY TO SPEAK AT THE FRANK E. MERRIWEATHER LIBRARY

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AUTHOR OF SLAVE GENEALOGY OF THE ROULHAC FAMILY TO SPEAK AT THE FRANK E. MERRIWEATHER LIBRARY

The Buffalo Genealogy Society of the African Diaspora and the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library present *Slave Genealogy of the Roulhac Family: French Masters and the Africans They Enslaved*, Saturday April 13 from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the Frank E. Merriweather Library, 1324 Jefferson Avenue in Buffalo.

The program will feature Roy L. Roulhac, a fifth-generation descendant of colonial North Carolina and territorial Jackson County, Florida slaves. Roulhac is the author of the recently released book - *Slave Genealogy of the Roulhac Family*. The author will share his journey through 18th and 19th century wills, probate records, bills of sales and other primary and secondary sources of his ancestors' enslavers to find and connect missing pieces of not only his family's past, but also the history of all African descended- Roulhacs.

Roy uses primary and secondary sources to annotate Helen Prescott's 1894 *Genealogical Memoir of the Roulhac Family in America* by adding the slave and Civil War histories of three French Roulhac brothers and four generations of their descendants. An important aspect of the book is the vigilance and selfdetermination of enslaved Roulhacs who did not idly accept what most during their time concluded as their fate of oppression, but played a significant role in their own liberation. Inspired by the Gabriel Prosser revolt in nearby Virginia, some were implicated in the 1802 Bertie County North Carolina slave conspiracy and others escaped to fight and die for their own freedom and that of 4 million other oppressed Africans during the Civil War. Readers, whether Roulhacs, African Americans, or any other ethnicity can easily reflect on their own heritage in this documentation of despair and triumph.

A Marianna, Florida native, Roulhac is an Administrative Law Judge, a past president of the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society and editor of *Jackson County Florida*, the story of African Americans from slavery through the often violent Reconstruction and Jim Crow eras to the increasing tolerance of the 20th century.

For more information, contact the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library at 883-4418. Facebook users can "friend" the Library and the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System website is www.BuffaloLib.org.

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