

# The Innkeeper



OCTOBER 2014

*preserving the past, enriching the future*

**EDUCATION** The mission of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel is to enrich the community by serving  
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION** as guardian for the Page-Walker Arts & History Center, by advocating preservation of Cary historic  
**CULTURAL ARTS** sites, by archiving history and facilitating history education, and by promoting the cultural arts.

## FRIENDS AWARD SCHOLARSHIP

CARY HIGH'S KALY SMITH TO ATTEND OLE MISS

*By Brent Miller & Mercedes Auger*

At our June meeting, the Friends awarded our annual history scholarship to Kaly Alexandra Smith, a senior at Cary High School. Kaly has been a five-year volunteer at the Dorcas Thrift Shop and a volunteer with the 5K Heart Race at her church. Kaly's interest for local history stems from her desire to become a social worker. She believes it is important to have a working knowledge of the history of an area to better prepare herself to promote a progressive trend in the local community. She plans to attend the University of Mississippi.

In her application, Kaly stated, "As a seven year Cary resident, I can proudly say that my community does an outstanding job uniting its residents. No matter age, race, or background, Cary's activities provide an opportunity for all residents to be involved. Despite the innovation and many upcoming architectural and technological advances, the Town of Cary never forgets our culture and the history that has brought us to where we are today."

*continued page 2*



# ANTIQUES APPRAISAL Fair



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 9 AM TO 4 PM**

**FEATURING KEN FARMER FROM  
PBS ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW**

The Friends of the Page-Walker are excited to host our second Antiques Appraisal Fair, featuring Ken Farmer of Quinn and Farmer Auctions of Charlottesville, Virginia – as seen on the popular PBS series Antiques Road Show.



Our 2010 fair was a tremendous success – selling out all available tickets and uncovering some very interesting items. For \$10, you can have one item appraised (maximum of three items per person, please). Tickets, which are purchased for 1-hour time slots, are on sale through [etix.com](http://etix.com).

Ken and his team will examine your items and provide a verbal assessment. Bring your art, books, knickknacks, curios, jewelry and other items (for large furniture, bring a piece such as a drawer, along with a photograph) to learn more about the items and their value. Please note that coins, stamps and firearms will not be appraised.

Join us for a special reception Friday night. See all the details on page 4.



## Friends Momentum Continues

It is hard to believe that it has been six years since I last served as President of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel. In that time, wonderful things have been accomplished under the leadership of Peggy Van Scoyoc, Ed Yerha and Brent Miller. We benefit from the service of a dedicated group of directors, volunteers and town staff, without whom we would accomplish nothing.

I would like to welcome our newest additions to the board of directors – Mary Derrick, Aimee Kepler, Saskia Leary, Carla Michaels and Cary Teen Council liaison Sarah Welsch. They bring talents and energy to the organization that will serve us well.

We have some 20 standing committees to address our operational and programatic endeavors and we welcome anyone with interest to participate. We were sorry to see our founder, Anne Kratzer step down as long-time chair of our White Plains Cemetery and Page Educational Garden Committees, but she left them in the very capable hands of Barb Wetmore and Kay Struffolino, respectively.

This small group of dedicated people have a lot of activity planned for the upcoming months, not the least of which is our second Antiques Appraisal Fair! Also, our Preservation Speaker Series continues with two programs this fall and two more in the spring. And of course, the most affordable high-quality performing arts experience in Cary returns with our Winter Concert Series.

None of this can happen without the financial support of our members. The Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel is a federal 501(c)3 non-profit, tax-exempt organization and your membership fee and/or donations are tax-deductible.

Please consider joining today!

It's going to be an exciting year and I hope to see you at the Page-Walker!



### Cary Teen Amazement Awards Scholarship Funds

In more scholarship news, our first Cary Teen Amazement Show (see Innkeeper Spring 2014) was not only an entertainment success, it was also a financial success. With support from our sponsors – the Friends board of directors, Town of Cary, LRC Testing and Research, leesa brinkley graphic design inc., Mayton Inn, Mercedes Auger, Ralph & Daphne Ashworth, CaryCitizen, WestStar Precision Inc. and the Matthews House – the event netted \$2,078. The proceeds were split between the Town of Cary Relief for Recreation Fund (which provides funding for individuals for town-sponsored camps and programs) and the Friends History Scholarship (see cover story). Above, Teen council member Aaron Reza presents the check to Sonya Snyder, Town of Cary Recreation Projects Coordinator.

*continued from cover*

The Friends History Scholarship is awarded annually to a high school senior who is a Cary resident and exhibits an aptitude and interest in the study of history and the humanities. The \$750 award may be used for any education-related expenses. In addition, the recipient's name is displayed on a permanent plaque at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center.

*Thanks to the scholarship committee, Mercedes Auger, Cathy Richmond, Pat Fish and Kris Carmichael, for their diligent work to select an award recipient from among the strong applications received. Thanks to proceeds from last year's Cary Teen Amazement Show, the Friends intend to offer our History Scholarship again in 2015.*



# WINTER Concert SERIES

By Trish Kirkpatrick

**Y**ou've been telling us and we are listening. It has become apparent that the combination of the talented artists who enjoy playing in the series and the unexpectedly high quality acoustics in the Page-Walker's main gallery have created a unique musical experience for our community. If you haven't already, please consider attending a Sunday afternoon concert this season.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

**Bill Leslie**

The Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel are pleased to kickoff their 2014-15 series with Bill Leslie, a New Age composer and recording artist who performs traditional as well as Celtic fusion music. In addition, Bill has written music featured on two albums by Bragh Adair. He is also known as an Emmy award-winning journalist who anchors the morning and noon newscasts for WRAL-TV in Raleigh, North Carolina.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

**Raleigh Boychoir's Millennium Chorus**

What better way to get in the holiday spirit than to listen to heavenly voices performing holiday classics? Choir members, aged 7 to 14, have performed at the White House, Carnegie Hall and the National Cathedral. The Millennium Chorus is composed of select members of the choir who will bring an afternoon of wonderful choral music to the Page-Walker.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

**Tony Williamson**

"Mandolin virtuoso sure can play, and what he doesn't know about mandolins, nobody does!" *Acoustic Musician* magazine summed up Tony Williamson, whose concerts have delighted audiences for over 40 years. He's performed in France, Ireland, Japan, Taiwan, Brazil and most recently, Peru. He brings to the concert stage a deep connection to his Carolina roots and a wonderful knowledge of musical instruments and their history.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

**Brian Reagin  
Carole J. Wright  
Memorial Concert\***

Brian Reagin, violinist and Concertmaster of the North Carolina Symphony, returns as a favorite to the Friends Concert Series. Reagin, who captivates audiences with his brilliant performances, will treat concert-goers to a classical repertoire on his Lorenzo and Tomasso Carcassi violin made in Florence, Italy in 1763. Don't miss this one, it sells out every year.

All performances are held on Sunday afternoons at 4 pm at The Page-Walker Arts and History Center. Season tickets are \$60, and tickets to individual performances are \$15 each. Tickets may be purchased at the Cary Arts Center box office (919-462-2055) Monday - Friday from 10 am to 8 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm; online at [etix.com](http://etix.com) or by phone at 1-800-514-3849. Tickets for all performances may also be purchased at the door, subject to availability.

With the remarkable performances lined up this season, the Friends anticipate that they will sell out quickly. Concert patrons are encouraged to purchase their season tickets as early as possible to ensure their seat at each of these events.

\* Named for long-time supporter of the concert series and benefactor to The Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel.



UPCOMING EVENT

# ANTIQUES APPRAISAL Fair

Page-Walker Arts & History Center  
119 Ambassador Loop, Downtown Cary

**Saturday, November 8**

9 am to 4 pm | \$10 per item

Tickets purchased in one hour time slots



Noted *Antiques Roadshow* expert, Ken Farmer and his team of experts from Quinn & Farmer Auctions of Charlottesville, VA, will examine your item and give verbal assessment.

*Proceeds benefit the Friends' ongoing historic preservation and archival efforts.*

**SPECIAL FRIDAY NIGHT PRESENTATION & VIP RECEPTION**

**Tales from the Road and New Discoveries by Ken Farmer**

**Friday, November 7 | 7 pm | \$30 per person**



In what promises to be an enlightening and entertaining evening, Ken Farmer will share some of the interesting adventures he's encountered working with the *Antiques Roadshow* as well as at other appraisal fairs. Tickets are \$30 per person and include a wine, cheese and dessert reception. Seating is limited.

Get tickets today through [etix.com](https://www.etix.com)



FRIENDS OF THE  
PAGE-WALKER HOTEL

TOWN of CARY  
PARKS, RECREATION &  
CULTURAL RESOURCES



## New Town Commission Established

In 2010, Cary became the first community in North Carolina to adopt a stand-alone Historic Preservation Master Plan. This plan provides guidance for historic preservation in Cary and includes many actions intended to be carried out over several years.

One of those actions was the creation of a Cary Historic Preservation Commission. Until now, Cary has delegated the duties of a preservation commission to the Wake County Preservation Commission, which acted on Cary's behalf under an inter-local agreement. After a great deal of work by Town Staff, the Cary Town Council approved the creation of Cary's own commission.

The Cary commission will be responsible for the administration of Cary local landmarks and for future National Register and landmark designations. We anticipate that town ordinances will be updated to incorporate the commission into existing processes and procedures.

At their September 23 meeting, the Town Council appointed the initial members of the seven-member body. They include Friends board members Bob Myers, Charles McDarris and Brent Miller, who will chair the commission; Sheila Ogle, a long-time Friends member and historic preservationist; architects Chris Johnson and Jennifer Sisak and historic preservation Master's student Jennifer Rossi.

This is a positive thing for the Friends of the Page-Walker, for the town's citizens, for historic property owners and for historic preservation in Cary. The Friends of Page-Walker remain your independent, grassroots preservation advocates – promoting historic preservation, history education, and cultural arts.

## Historic Structure Update

We continue to monitor historic resources that are threatened by development or neglect, including:

- The Sears house on Green Hope School Road may be saved by relocation on the property.
- The Baucom house on High House Road is likely to be saved through relocation.
- The Franklin house on Holly Springs Road is in the process of being relocated to a farm in Apex; the barn on the same property is likely to be saved by incorporating it into the new development that will be built there.

- The Barbee house on Davis Drive is likely to be lost to development.
- The Yates Farm on White Oak Church Road has been lost to development.

## Preservation Speaker Series

Our popular Preservation Speaker Series continues. Jerry Miller presented his story of the history of Cary in words and drawings on September 30. On October 28, we will present the next installment of "Mysteries and Secrets: Exploring Cary Cemeteries". Then in January, we will hear the story of the rejuvenation of "The Cary". In April, Ernest Dollar will describe the last days of the Civil War and the role that Cary played.

We have a great group of dedicated individuals on our preservation committee but we can always use fresh ideas. If you are interested in the preservation of Cary buildings, neighborhoods and artifacts, please contact Bob Myers

[bob.myers.cary@gmail.com](mailto:bob.myers.cary@gmail.com).



A huge victory is the Jones House at the corner of Dry Avenue and Academy Street. The Jones House is one of the five "LDIFOB" (Lie down in front of bulldozers) properties in Cary. Long neglected, the building was purchased by the Town of Cary and the exterior was faithfully restored. Belle at Jones House Restaurant is now open for business at the site. The Jones House has just received Capital Area Preservation's prestigious Anthemion Award for historic preservation.

# PEGGY VAN SCOYOC RECEIVES DAR AWARD

## Local Chapter Recognizes History Contributions

by Brent Miller



Peggy in a 2008 parade.

This past May, longtime Friends board member Peggy Van Scoyoc received the Historic Preservation award from the local Yates Mill chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

This award recognizes the significant contributions that Peggy has made in preserving the history of Cary, including:

- Recording more than 50 oral history interviews, which are now part of the Southern Oral History Program, a scholarly collection hosted by the University of North Carolina;
- Authoring two books, *Just a Horse Stopping Place* and *Desegregating Cary*, which are collections of many of the oral histories Peggy has collected;
- Writing a popular column in the Cary News that distills important aspects of Cary's history for the public;
- Conducting many community outreach efforts, presenting to many civic groups and organizations about Cary's history and hosting book signings that include history presentations; and
- Contributing to the recently published *Cary Through the Years* historical milestone booklet.

Congratulations to Peggy Van Scoyoc for this well deserved award!

## A Gift to the Page-Walker

SMOKEHOUSE PAINTING DONATION

by Anne Kratzer

Thanks to the generosity and thoughtfulness of Nancy Blunt, the Page-Walker acquired a stunning painting of the Page Smokehouse and its gardens by Mary Bohn. Bohn, a local artist, used water media and collage to capture the



ambience of the treasures on the north lawn. The artwork, donated by Nancy and Fuller Blunt, is beautifully exhibited on the second floor of the Page-Walker in what was

commonly called the "wet room" but which has now been aptly and thankfully renamed "the Smokehouse Garden room". This room is a perfect setting for the painting as the view from the window shows an aerial perspective of the smokehouse and herb gardens.

Nancy and Fuller became active in the Friends in the late '80s. Fuller served as President of the Friends (1995-96) and as a member of the executive committee through 2000. He chaired the 1996-97 Winter Concert Series and worked with a local model train club to showcase their collection at the Page-Walker during the holidays. Fuller helped establish the Concert Singers of Cary, served on Cary's Cultural Arts Committee and was a Theatre in the Park board member, among other volunteer activities. Fuller passed away in September 2001.

This beautiful painting is a wonderful tribute to invaluable Friends, Nancy and Fuller Blunt. Do stop by and enjoy it!



## Mayton Inn Breaks Ground

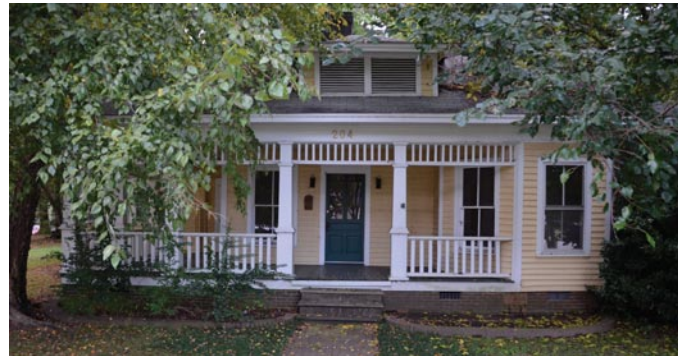
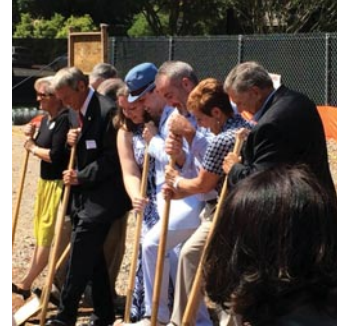
DOWNTOWN CARY HOTEL TO PRESERVE  
TWO HISTORIC HOUSES

By Brent Miller

Two of Cary's important downtown historic houses, the Waldo house and the Mayton house, will be preserved as part of the Mayton Inn, a new downtown hotel that is being developed on South Academy Street.

The groundbreaking ceremony was held on August 13 and was attended by more than 50 people, including members of the Mayton family and Cary dignitaries. Owners Colin and Deanna Crossman joined Cary's Mayor and Town Council members in the ceremonial groundbreaking and a champagne toast.

The Waldo house, which was preserved through the combined efforts of the Town of Cary, First United Methodist Church, Capital Area Preservation and the Friends, will serve as a bridal suite available for rental as part of the Mayton Inn. The Crossmans will renovate and live in the Mayton House, which will be moved from its current location just north of the Mayton Inn site.



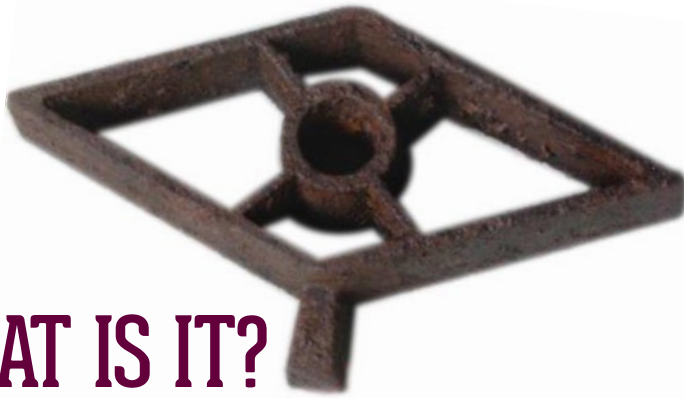
Top: The Mayor and Cary Town Council members along with the Crossman's break ground on the new Mayton Inn.

Above: The Mayton house will be moved from its current site on Academy Street and serve as the main residence for the Crossmans.

Below: The Waldo house sits at the construction site, awaiting renovation.







## WHAT IS IT?

### LAZY DAZE CONTEST SPARKS INTEREST

by Brent Miller

As we have every year, the Friends participated in *Lazy Daze* with our booth as part of Cultural Arts Row. In addition to selling crafts and shirts, we acquainted many festival goers with the Friends, the Page-Walker Arts & History Center and Cary's history.

A new feature at our booth this year was the "Guess the object" contest, a brainchild of board member Wil Trower. The historical artifact pictured here was on display for visitors to take a stab at what they thought it might be. Do you know what it is?

Guesses included:

*a brick marker for handmade bricks?*

**part of a stained glass window?**

**is it a compass?**

**A BOOT SCRAPER?**

*surveying equipment?*

**I know, a cleat for tying up a horse?**



Those all were good guesses, but in fact this item is a **fencepost finial**, and Mark Fountain guessed it exactly.

The finial was found by volunteers at the White Plains cemetery and is believed to have come from the original fence that once stood there.

Jerred Copeland demonstrates how the fence finial might have once appeared.



Henry Adams in Adams Drug Store (now Ashworth Drugs) ca. 1935.

## We Need Your Historic Cary Photos!

The Friends of Page-Walker are conducting research for a book project. We are specifically looking for photographs that help tell our community's story, including the areas of commerce, education, transportation, community celebrations, local landmarks past & present and so on.

We are not asking for donations, but rather we are looking for images to scan into the computer that might be used in the book. Even if your photos are not published, they will become part of our documentation of Cary's history.

We can arrange to visit you and scan onsite, or we can schedule a time for you to bring your photos to the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. The book, if published, will credit the source for each image used.

If you have relevant photos to lend to this project, please contact the Friends at [info@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:info@friendsofpagewalker.org).

This is a long-term project, so we would be in touch within a few weeks to review and scan your photos.

— Friends Cary Photographic History Book committee





# Herbfest

FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER

In 2009, the seeds of an idea that became Herbfest were planted, and the first annual event was held in May 2010. This festival, sponsored by the Friends and the Town of Cary, has grown each year and on May 3rd, the fifth annual Herbfest took place under a beautiful spring sky. A good 'thyme' was had by all!



Highlights included our largest silent auction ever, with dozens of items ranging from gift baskets to decorative chairs; old and new vendors with plants, soaps, garden decorations and more; two butterfly releases; food, drink and kids activities including face painting; and tours of the Page Educational Gardens that included a close-up look at the smokehouse, the last remaining structure from the original Frank and Kate Page homestead.



The popularity and success of Herbfest is a result of the efforts of

many people. The Friends especially thank the Town of Cary staff, including Kris Carmichael, Lyman Collins, Jennifer Koach and the fantastic public works staff who set up and take down all of the tents and tables; Lois Nixon, one of our "butterfly ladies" who shares her knowledge and photos of butterflies; the Cary Teen Council, who helps with everything from face painting to loading and unloading; Peggy Van Scoyoc, who oversees the silent auction; our Garden Committee, who offer tours and share their knowledge of the plants in the Page Educational Gardens; and our Events committee chaired by Pat Fish, who manage all of the planning and operations for this significant event.



PHOTOS BY LEEESA BRINKLEY





# AN EXCITING SUMMER AT THE *Page-Walker*

by Kris Carmichael

**M**ay was a busy month, with three big events: **Herbfest** (story on previous page) on May 3rd with our biggest turn out ever. Popular activities this year included the silent auction, face painting and the butterfly release – and of course lots of vendors with plants, plants, plants!



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAPITAL AREA PRESERVATION, INC.

The **Annual Wake County Preservation Celebration** on May 4th was hosted by Capital Area Preservation and the Wake County Preservation Commission. Plaques were presented to four new Wake County historic landmarks, including Cary's Hillcrest cemetery and two Morrisville properties, the Rev. Robert E. Atkins house and the Pugh house. We were honored to be selected to host the Wake County Historic Preservation annual meeting and we received many accolades for our facility and staff.

**National Train Day** on May 10 saw more than 625 visitors to the Page-Walker. The Heart of Cary Association, in partnership with Amtrak and the Town of Cary, hosted National Train Day. Visitors toured the 1868 Page-Walker



Arts & History Center and learned about its history as a 19th century railroad hotel and saw model train displays. A trackless train took folks over to the depot and back. National Train Day is a holiday begun by Amtrak in 2008 as a way of sharing information about the advantages of rail travel and the history of railroading in the United States.



June saw summer camps kicked off for the **biggest camp season** ever at the Page-Walker with the number of registrants at an all-time high. Camps covered a wide range of

topics, from bluegrass music to photography to how to design your own model train layout. June's **Starlight Concerts** featured bluegrass musicians and campers. The **International Society of Scratchboard Artists** brought their big annual exhibition to the Page-Walker, which showcased amazingly detailed work from around the world.

In August and September, our **Cary Youth Video Project** (a teen summer camp on documentary video) premiered their videos at The Cary Theater during *Lazy Daze*. We were selected again this year as the site of the annual **Cary Scavenger Hunt** put on by CaryCitizen on September 13.

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PHOTO BY LEESA BRINKLEY



## A Facelift for our Historic Gem

Restoration work at the Page-Walker is ongoing, but you can easily see some of the results on our front porch: it has new appropriately sized decking and the badly weathered balustrade has been carefully replaced so that it looks the same as it did in the early 1900s (based on photos of the

original porch details). Restoration carpenter Jeff Bergman (pictured above) worked on the balustrade and has also repaired a number of our windows and dormers. Kris Carmichael, Page-Walker supervisor, notes that “Many think that once you restore a building that you are done, but that is just the start of an ongoing effort to maintain the historic fiber of the structure”.

## Upcoming Events at the Page-Walker

### PAQA-South presents ARTQUILTS: Connections

Wednesday, October 22 – Saturday, November 15  
Artist Reception: Friday, October 24, 6-8 p.m.

The Professional Art Quilters Alliance - South (PAQA-South) presents its annual members' exhibition ARTQUILTS: connections. Selected textile artists will present their innovative art quilts interpreting how things in life are connected. For more, [www.paqa-south.org](http://www.paqa-south.org).

### Haunted Twilight Tour of Downtown Cary

Saturday, October 25  
Showtimes: 6, 6:20, 6:40, 7 p.m.

Discover the haunted past of Cary with this walking tour of downtown. Guests ages 13 and up will board a bus at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center and travel to Hillcrest Cemetery. Hear stories of hauntings and meet some of Cary's ghostly apparitions. Presented in conjunction with the Cary Players, tickets are \$15 and are available at the Cary Arts Center and through [Etix](http://Etix.com). Space is limited to 20 people each show. This event is held rain or shine.

### 2014 Fine Arts League of Cary's Annual Member Exhibition

Thursday, November 20, 2014 – Saturday January 3, 2015  
Artists Reception & Awards Ceremony:  
Sunday, December 7, 2-4 p.m.

Celebrate the visual arts in Cary at FALC's Annual Member showcase. Over 75 different artists' works, representing a range of styles, techniques and media are on display. For more visit [www.fineartsleagueofcary.org](http://www.fineartsleagueofcary.org) or call (919) 460-4963.

### Page-Walker Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 6 | 4-6 p.m. FREE

Get into the holiday spirit with old-fashioned Christmas fun! Learn about Victorian holiday traditions while touring the 1868 historic hotel. Listen to Victorian Carolers and take a horse-drawn carriage ride. Kids can participate in a hands-on holiday craft. Taste holiday treats and view historic rooms decorated for the season by the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel.

For more information, contact the Page-Walker, (919) 460-4963 or [click here](#).

See more upcoming events on page 21.

## NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

In addition to being a partner organization of the Town of Cary, the Friends also collaborate with the Heart of Cary Association and the Cary Chamber of Commerce, where we are organizational members. Thanks to Kay Struffolino for serving as liaison to both organizations.

*by Kay Struffolino*

### Heart of Cary Association

- Downtown Harvest Festival: October 18, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m., along Chatham Street
- Annual “Share the Season” Toy Drive: November & December, collection bins will be at many downtown shops and restaurants to collect toys to be distributed by the Dorcas Shop
- Ole Time Winter Festival: December 6, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., along Chatham Street

Check [www.heartofcary.org](http://www.heartofcary.org) for details and other news.

### Cary Chamber of Commerce

- Hosted the 50th anniversary celebration of Rotary in Cary with the unveiling of a granite sculpture placed in the courtyard of the Cary Chamber of Commerce
- 52nd annual banquet was held September 3, 2013 with the NC Department of Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker as keynote speaker to a sold-out crowd
- The Economic Development committee has discussed the idea and possibility of a college in Cary
- The annual Business EXPO will be held November 5, 9 am to 5 pm at Prestonwood
- Annual golf tournament will be held September 29 at MacGregor Downs Country Club
- Bill Fletcher, Wake County School Board member, will be at the Cary Chamber of Commerce monthly to meet with parents having issues regarding their kids in the public schools
- The Chamber will host several candidate forums prior to the fall elections

Check [www.carychamber.com](http://www.carychamber.com) for details and much more news.

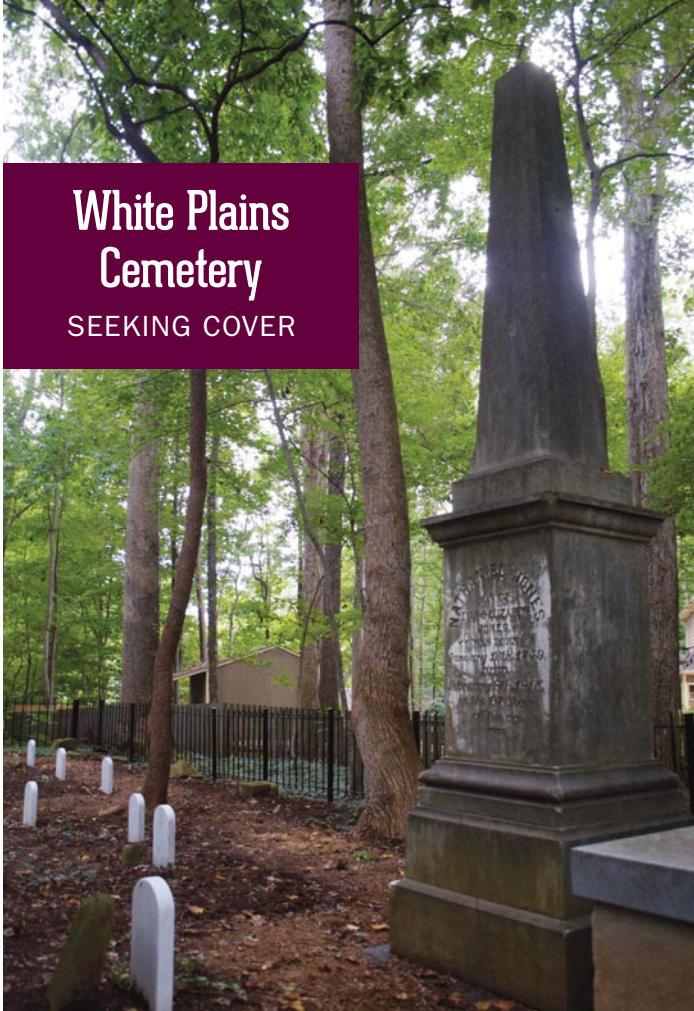




# White Plains Cemetery

SEEKING COVER

VOLUNTEER PHOTOS BY NELSON WETMORE



Andrew and Matt! If our samples thrive, we will plant more early this winter or next spring.

Welcome to our newest volunteer from the Friends, Saskia Leary! Saskia is an excellent photographer and we're sure the cemetery will inspire some wonderful photographs from her artistic eye.



Next year marks the 200th anniversary of Nathaniel Jones's death and all of the volunteers are honored to care for the resting place of one of our earliest citizens. Thank you to John, Elaine, Olivia and Charlie Loyack; Barb and Nelson Wetmore; Jerod and Anne Kratzer; Matt, Jennifer and Andrew Leitzke; Jerred, Marci and Perry Copeland; Kay Hawkins; Carla McKinney; and Saskia Leary. And thank you, as always, to the Town of Cary staff: Lyman Collins, Kris Carmichael, Larry Dempsey, Lenny Lloyd, Kevin Steed, Carolyn Lewis and the Public Works crew for their invaluable support.



Story and photos by Barb Wetmore

Many thanks to Anne Kratzer for her years of dedication to the White Plains Cemetery on Tolliver Court as leader of the group of Maynard Oaks subdivision residents and Friends of the Page-Walker volunteers who keep the cemetery in good condition. Anne has passed the torch to Barb Wetmore, who is gladly stepping up to the task of this important work. Thankfully, Anne is staying on board as a volunteer. Thank you Anne for overseeing the work of the volunteers and for your contributions to the special events held at the cemetery during your tenure.

Our challenge this year has been finding a ground cover that will take root and thrive in the deep shade of the cemetery. The periwinkle, which grows just fine outside the cemetery gates, just doesn't seem to want to grow inside. So we are experimenting with some ajuga from Barb's yard. And thanks to Renate Thompson, we are also experimenting with some yellow archangel lamium from her yard. Little Andrew Leitzke helped his Dad Matt Leitzke plant our new ground cover samples. Thank you



Helpful volunteers: (top to bottom: Barb Wetmore, Nelson Wetmore, Barb, Anne Kratzer, Elaine Loyack, Jerred Copeland, Andrew and Matt Leitzke.

### Maintenance days

Join us for upcoming maintenance days: December 6, 2014 and March 7, 2015 at 9:30 am. Contact Barb Wetmore [wetmorebarb@gmail.com](mailto:wetmorebarb@gmail.com) for more information.





# Oral HISTORY

By Peggy Van Scoyoc

On August 1, 2014, the Barbee Sisters, **Clabron Powell** and **Carolyn Allen**, were interviewed to talk about their family farm and the close-knit community where they grew up on Davis Drive. They gave us lots of family histories of the local farming families in and around Morrisville and what is now Cary, including Carpenter and Green Level. Since that side of town has been changing and developing so much in recent years, it is fascinating to hear about what farm life was like, and going to school and church in that once fairly isolated, rural community. Then on August 12, 2014, **Jimmy Gibbs** was interviewed. He is the great grandson of the late Rev. Meadows who was a minister and the principal and teacher at the Cary Colored School from 1900 to 1935. He retired just one year before that school burned down. Jimmy told us so much about his great grandfather and other relatives who lived in Cary most or all of their lives. The Friends are so grateful to learn this new knowledge about Rev. Meadows, who was one of the most prominent citizens of his time.



Thank you to our three recent oral history participants: Jimmy Gibbs, Carolyn Allen and Clabron Powell.





## OVERCOMING WEATHER CHALLENGES

*by Kay Struffolino*

**S**UMMER GARDENING offers a multitude of challenges and beauty in the Page Educational Gardens. We certainly found both the past few months! There have been unusual temperature spikes, heavy rains, lots of windy conditions and summertime temperatures that lasted into fall. After an especially long, hard winter (from a garden perspective) we had a lot of damage to overcome and we lost some years-old plants. Thanks to our hard-working, dedicated gardeners and a couple fellows from the Public Works grounds crew who helped with heavy pruning, the gardens came alive with an abundance of new growth and color.

With two-week maintenance “shifts” throughout the growing season, a huge thanks goes to Lynn McKenzie, Barb Wetmore, Bev Samuelson, Kerry Mead, Cheryl McLean, Lois Nixon, Lori Josam, Paul & Lynn Wasylkevych, Anne & Jerod Kratzer, Marla Dorrel, Pat Fish and Jimi Lagattuta for weeding, dead-heading, hand-watering and lots of TLC that help the gardens flourish. Weather permitting, this committee will gather on Saturday morning, November 1 and prepare the gardens for another winter. During the dormant months, several of us each take a month to just watch over the beds and do whatever is necessary to keep them healthy until we schedule the spring planting day and start the whole process all over again!

*continued next page*





PHOTO BY KAY STRUFFOLINO



Town of Cary staff as well as citizens are always welcome when they stop by with praise, questions and impromptu tours. It's especially fun for me when there are kids who show interest in the plants and their various uses as well as actually recognizing some as being "in Mom's garden at home" or "in our kitchen." There's an old saying "Gardening is Cheaper than Therapy" and I firmly believe it!

In the spring, we enjoyed a day of fourth graders from Cary Elementary who visited the gardens and we hope to have more such events to help promote healthy eating habits for our community. Having added a new annual event, Herbfest, to the town's calendar several years ago in the spring has also stirred up a lot of interest in growing your own herbs and resulted in more visitors to our educational herb garden.

We are most grateful to the Town of Cary for the support they provide: to Jeff Privette for his diligent attention to the irrigation system; Christian Carfano and his crew for taking care of the really heavy-duty pruning and providing us with our mulch; Carolyn Lewis for her expert guidance to details identifying weeds, labeling corrections and seeing problems before they get out of control; Kris Carmichael, Larry Dempsey, Lenny Lloyd and Lyman Collins who make the gardens possible; and to our friends John & Sandy Duncan for the attractive plant labels.





## We Need to Talk

*From the Friends Speakers Bureau*

Need a speaker for monthly meetings, luncheon programs or special gatherings? The Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel offer educational and entertaining talks on a host of topics.

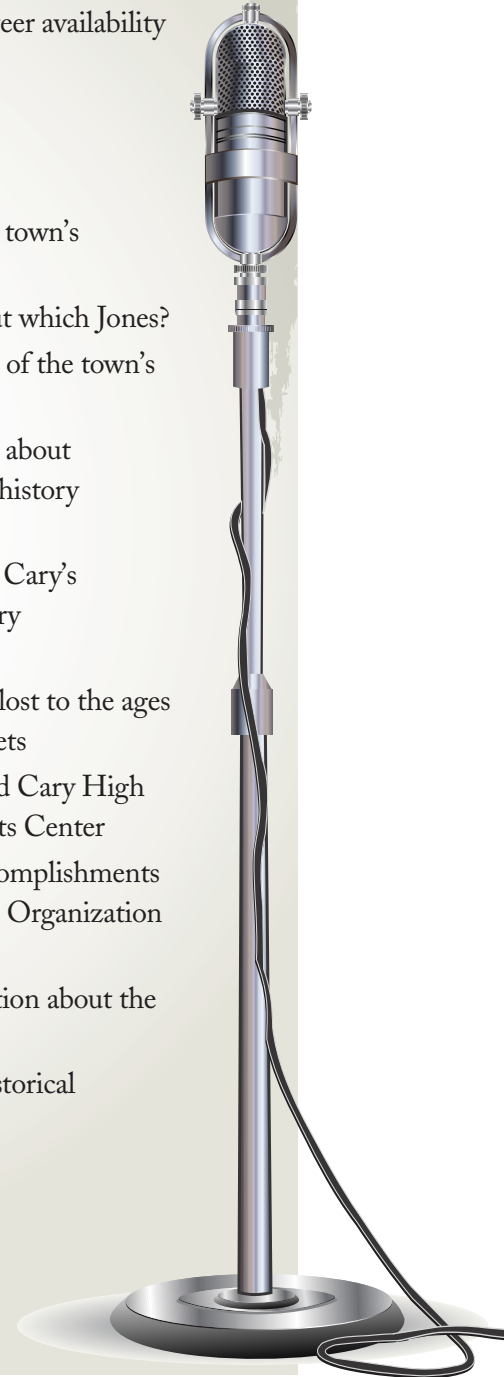
Presentations can range from 20 minutes to an hour and can be tailored to fit the interests of your group. Although we always attempt to meet the needs of your group, volunteer availability may affect scheduling.

### Popular Topics

- **Cary Before it was Cary:** how our town came to be, and who started it
- **How Cary got its Name:** founder Frank Page looks beyond our borders for our town's namesake
- **Keeping up with the Joneses:** odds are that your house sits on "Jones land" – but which Jones?
- **Cary's Most Famous Native Son:** the life and times of Walter Hines Page, son of the town's founder
- **Just A Horse-Stopping Place:** Peggy Van Scoyoc discusses the amazing stories about businesses, schools, families, ghosts and more, from her first book of Cary oral history compilations
- **Desegregating Cary:** Peggy Van Scoyoc discusses early African-American life, Cary's leadership in desegregation and more, from her second book of Cary oral history compilations
- **The Page-Walker Hotel,** a local historical landmark: how this gem was nearly lost to the ages and how "it took a village" to save it to become one of Cary's most valuable assets
- **The School for the Arts:** the history of schools, including Cary Elementary and Cary High School, at the end of Academy Street and how the school became the Cary Arts Center
- **The Friends of the Page-Walker,** a Town of Cary partner: the mission and accomplishments of our non-profit organization, the recipient of the 2011 Town of Cary Partner Organization of the Year
- **Mysteries and Secrets of Local Cemeteries:** excerpts from our annual presentation about the history and mystery of selected local cemeteries
- **What Have We Got to Lose?:** excerpts from our annual presentation about historical structures in and around Cary

### Schedule a talk

To learn more about other topics or to schedule a speaker, contact The Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel at [speakers@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:speakers@friendsofpagewalker.org) or (919) 460-4963.



## [MEET THE BOARD]

Our board of directors serves as the governing body of the Friends of the Page-Walker, a non-profit corporation and partner of the Town of Cary. We are continuing a series in which we'll feature our board members to help you get to know them. And if you'd like to get to know these folks better, consider volunteering with the Friends. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities. Contact us at [info@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:info@friendsofpagewalker.org) to learn more or volunteer.

### Charles McDarris

- Joined the board in 2013 and he recently led our efforts to update our bylaws.
- Born in Waynesville, NC
- Married with two children, son Joe, 14 and daughter Anne, 16
- Earned a B.S in Business Administration with concentration in Economics from Presbyterian College 1985; earned J.D from Wake Forest University 1990
- Practices law with Bailey & Dixon, Raleigh
- Previously served as Associate Attorney General with the North Carolina Department of Justice
- Recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award in Trial Practice
- Grew up in downtown Waynesville in a 1920s home. Charles's mother purchased another historic home next door. Charles inherited both buildings and completed full renovations. Last year, both buildings were granted historical designations by the Haywood County Historical Commission.
- Won an architecture award in high school and hoped to become an architect, but made a last minute decision to follow in father's law footsteps
- Lived in Cary since 1990, loves the Town's history and wants to help preserve it



### Delaney Burns

- Serving in her second year as one of our Cary Teen Council liaisons
- Served on the committee for the 2014 Cary Teen Amazement Show
- Born 1996 in Raleigh
- Lived in Cary her whole life
- Senior at Green Hope High School
- On the Sports Medicine team at school; assists with football, tennis, lacrosse and wrestling teams
- Ambassador of Green Hope school, meaning that Delaney works with new students and parents
- Has been on the Cary Teen Council since eighth grade
- Hopes to go to college next year and major in biomedical engineering
- Favorite food: Sushi
- Scuba certified
- Has traveled to four different countries

### Mary Derrick

- A new member of our board, joining in June of this year.
- Born in Charleston, SC
- Mary and her husband Paul moved to Cary in 2005 from Greer, South Carolina.
- Hobbies include reading, sewing, golf and antiques. Mary used to have a booth at an antiques mall in Raleigh and she loves the patina and history that you get from old things.
- Mary met her husband at the Police Academy – he's an attorney now (they worked at the same Sheriff's Department)
- Mary is working on the coursework to become a flower show judge. Courses in horticulture and floral design are given across the country by instructors accredited by the National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Mary has a degree in Education. She officially retired from substitute teaching a few years ago.
- She has been involved with the General Federation of Women's Clubs of North Carolina for the past several years, and now holds a position at the District and State levels.





**B**eing a member has its benefits! The Friends accomplish our mission of preserving the Page Walker Arts & History Center and other Cary historic sites, history archival and education and promoting cultural arts through member participation.

Thank you for your continued support, and please begin or renew your membership. If you haven't renewed for 2014 – 2015, please do so today.

We have migrated our membership management to our web site. You will receive an email notification when your membership is due for renewal. You can check, begin and renew your membership online through our web site, <http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org/>. Our new membership management system now sends annual renewal reminders.

Alternatively, you can renew by mail. A membership form (for new memberships and renewals) appears on page 20. Please print, complete and return it today!

### **THANKS TO OUR LIFETIME, COMMUNITY PARTNER, SUSTAINING & SILVER SUSTAINING MEMBERS**

Carla Michaels  
Peggy Van Scoyoc  
Bob Myers  
Leesa Brinkley  
Pat Fish  
Brent Miller  
Wil Trower

## *Kudos to...*

The Friends thank and recognize many people who make great things happen with their hard work:

Kay Struffolino, Barbara Wetmore and Leesa Brinkley for assuming the chairmanships of the Page Educational Gardens, White Plains Cemetery and Holiday Decorating committees, respectively. No one can fill Anne Kratzer's shoes, but these folks are doing an outstanding job to keep these important initiatives going and growing!

Pat Fish for leading the Friends' involvement in Lazy Daze, including putting up and tearing down our booth there.

Kris Carmichael for all she does, especially for overseeing the many renovations to the Page-Walker Arts and History Center, which must be done in a historically accurate manner. Stop by and see the new windows, porch and balcony railing, among other updates!

Leesa Brinkley for contributing her design talents to this newsletter as well as to our many posters, publications and other materials.

Kay Struffolino for taking care of our organizational memberships in the Heart of Cary Association and Cary Chamber of Commerce and for serving as liaison to both organizations.



## 'EGG'CEPTIONALLY CONNECTED

The Friends have joined the growing popularity of social networking sites and we are pleased to remind you of our presence on Facebook and Twitter – and we now have our own YouTube channel also!

We invite you to visit our web page, join our fan page at Facebook and follow us on Twitter. You can quickly and efficiently receive updates about important initiatives, our upcoming programs and events, ticket information and so on (note that because of inactivity, we discontinued our LinkedIn presence, but we remain active on Facebook and Twitter).

We also post many of our videos on our YouTube channel, including ceremonies at White Plains cemetery and the Desegregating Cary panel discussion.

Find us online today!

[www.friendsofpagewalker.org](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org)  
[www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel](https://www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel)  
[www.twitter.com/FriendsofPW](https://www.twitter.com/FriendsofPW)  
<http://www.youtube.com/caryhistory>

**EDUCATION** The mission of the Friends of the Page-Walker  
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION** Hotel is to enrich the community by serving  
**CULTURAL ARTS** as guardian for the Page-Walker Arts & History  
Center, by advocating preservation of Cary  
historic sites, by archiving history and  
facilitating history education, and by promoting  
the cultural arts.

### ABOUT THE INNKEEPER

*The Innkeeper* is the newsletter of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel. First published in 1985, and restarted in 2003 after a hiatus, the newsletter offers member and community outreach communication. *The Innkeeper* is a team effort of the Friends. Brent Miller edits and Leesa Brinkley designs the newsletter. We welcome your contributions to *The Innkeeper*. If you have articles, suggestions or ideas to share, please send them to Brent at [brent@posmoroda.com](mailto:brent@posmoroda.com).

### BOARD MEMBERS

Your Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel board members are these volunteers:

Bob Myers (president)

Brent Miller (immediate past president)

Leesa Brinkley (vice president)

Cathy Richmond (co-secretary)

Mercedes Auger (co-secretary)

Pat Fish (treasurer, life member)

Delaney Burns (Teen Council liaison)

Mary Derrick

Michael Edwards

Don Frantz (Cary Town Council liaison)

Kirk Fuller

Aimee Kepler

Trish Kirkpatrick

Anne Kratzer (life member)

Saskia Leary

Charles McDarris

Carla Michaels

Olene Ogles

John Shaw

Kay Struffolino

Pat Sweeney

Renate Thompson

Wil Trower

Peggy Van Scoyoc

Sarah Welsh (Teen Council liaison)

Barbara Wetmore

Ed Yerha

The board is also fortunate to have the participation of Town of Cary staff members Lyman Collins, Kris Carmichael and Jennifer Koach. If you are interested in serving on the Friends board in the future (or if you have served in the past and would like to contribute again), please contact any board member or see the "Contact the Friends" information on page 21.



# calendar

Join us at the Page-Walker. See articles in this newsletter or our website for details.  
All events at the Page-Walker unless otherwise noted.

[www.friendsofpagewalker.org/concerts\\_and\\_programs](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org/concerts_and_programs)

## Historic Preservation Program Series – Mysteries and Secrets: Exploring Cary Cemeteries

Tuesday October 28, 7:30 p.m.

## Ken Farmer presents “Tales from the Road and New Discoveries”

Friday November 7, 7:00 p.m.

Reception included; tickets are required –  
see page 4 for details.

## Antiques Appraisal Fair

Saturday November 8, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tickets for a 1-hour time slot are required;  
see page 4 for details.

## Winter Concert Series – Bill Leslie

Sunday, November 16, 4:00 p.m.

## White Plains Cemetery – Maintenance day

Saturday, December 6, 9:30 a.m.

## Winter Concert Series – Raleigh Boychoir’s Millennium Chorus

Sunday December 14, 4:00 p.m.

## Winter Concert Series – Tony Williamson

Sunday, January 25, 4:00 p.m.

## Historic Preservation Program Series – “Rejuvenation of The Cary Theater”

Tuesday January 27, 7:30 p.m.

## Winter Concert Series – Brian Reagin (Carole J. Wright Memorial Concert)

Sunday, February 15 4:00 p.m.,

## Historic Preservation Program Series – Civil War in and around Cary by Ernest Dollar

Tuesday April 28, 7:30 p.m.

## White Plains Cemetery – Maintenance day

Saturday, March 7, 9:30 a.m. at



## FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL

### CONTACT THE FRIENDS

Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel  
Box 4234, Cary, NC 27519  
(919) 460-4963 program information  
email: [info@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:info@friendsofpagewalker.org)  
[www.friendsofpagewalker.org](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org)

### Information about the Friends

President Bob Myers (919) 656-6316

### Plan a Visit

Page-Walker Hotel is located at 119 Ambassador Loop  
Directions: Located on Ambassador Loop on Town Hall Campus. The campus is off North  
Academy Street, between Chapel Hill Road and Chatham Street in downtown Cary.

### Hours of Operation

Monday – Thursday: 10 am – 9:30 pm

Friday: 10 am – 5 pm

Saturday: 10 am – 1 pm

Friday Evening – Sunday by reservation

*The Page-Walker Arts & History Center is closed on all official Town holidays.*

Please visit the updated Friends' Web site. It's a great way to learn about the history and mission of the organization and to find out about and register for upcoming events. If you aren't receiving email notifications from us, register on the site and join the hundreds who already do.

It's also an easy way to become a member! You can join the Friends, make a donation and purchase tickets, all online using your favorite credit card. We greatly appreciate the support of our loyal membership. We couldn't continue to provide the variety of services that we do without you!

And you can also connect with us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

*Please share this issue of The Innkeeper with a friend!*

# Begin or Renew Your *Membership* Today!

To join the Friends, or renew your existing membership, visit [www.friendsofpagewalker.org](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org) or fill out the form below and bring it to the Page-Walker or mail it with your contribution to:

**Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel**  
Box 4234  
Cary, NC 27519

All members receive a complimentary copy of *The Innkeeper* newsletter and discounts for many Town-sponsored Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources department programs held at the Page-Walker Hotel. Non-business donations of \$100 or more and business donations of \$500 or more will be recognized in the newsletter.

## Individual, family, and civic group memberships:

- Individual \$30
- Family \$50
- Community Partner \$100
- Sustaining Member \$150 (Includes your choice of *Around and About Cary* or *Just a Horse-Stopping Place* book)
- Silver Sustaining Member \$250 or more (Includes 2 winter concert series season tickets)
- My employer, \_\_\_\_\_ has a matching gift program.

## Business memberships:

- Business Member \$250 (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)
- Business Partner \$500 or more (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)

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**NAME/ORGANIZATION**

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**ADDRESS**

---

**CITY/STATE/ZIP**

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**TELEPHONE**

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**E-MAIL ADDRESS**



# COMMEMORATIVE BRICK ORDER FORM

## Be A Part Of History And Make Your Mark

You have the opportunity to leave your mark on history by having your name inscribed on a brick that will be placed in the courtyard or walkway at the Page-Walker Arts and History Center. You may also choose to honor a family member, friend or a business. Not only will you be making a mark on history, you will also contribute to the future of your community by playing an important role in the preservation of the Page-Walker Arts and History Center.

Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Page-Walker and mail along with this form to:

**Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel**

**Box 4234**

**Cary, NC 27519**

- I wish to order (\_\_\_) (Quantity) of Bricks at \$50 per brick. Enclosed is the total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I do not wish to have a brick inscribed but enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help in your effort.

Please print the name or message to be inscribed with a limit of 2 lines and 15 spaces per line.

### Brick 1:

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### Brick 2:

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Please call Pat Fish at 919-467-5696 if you have any questions.  
Please note that brick orders are placed when a cumulative total of 10 brick orders have been received.



\_\_\_\_\_  
**YOUR NAME**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY/STATE/ZIP**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**TELEPHONE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**E-MAIL ADDRESS**