

FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL



# The Innkeeper

November 2011

Newsletter of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel, Cary, NC

*The mission of the Friends of the Page Walker Hotel is to enrich the community by serving 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.*

## Favorite Programs Continue...

### From the President

#### ...Plus Two New Projects!

By Ed Yerha



Thank you, "Friends", for taking the time to read this edition of *The Innkeeper*. You'll read about our ongoing activities and programs such as our entertaining **WINTER CONCERT SERIES** and our educational **HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM SERIES** (our most recent program had record attendance). We're very excited about our Third Annual **HERBFEST** next May. It will be bigger and better than ever. And watch for news about our upcoming 2012 edition of the **ANTIQUES APPRAISAL FAIR**.

In addition, we're happy to announce two new projects. Beginning in 2012, we plan to establish the Friends of the Page-Walker **SCHOLARSHIP** to be awarded to a deserving student each year. Also, a committee has begun work on a **PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF CARY BOOK**. By the way, if you have any old photos to share, please let us know! We would be happy to scan them; if they are selected for the book, we'll give you credit for providing them. More on both of these projects coming soon!

*(continued; see "President's Message" p. 2)*

## The Celebration!

### Remembrance Day at the White Plains Cemetery

By Anne Kratzer

Town representatives, Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel, Cary Historical Society members, Maynard Oaks residents and Daughters of the American Revolution are just some of those who joined Jones family descendants at the celebration, *Remembrance Day at the White Plains Cemetery*. The cemetery was formally welcomed as one of Cary's most historic sites on Oct. 22, 2011.

As documented in Tom Byrd's book, *Around and About Cary*, the cemetery dates to 1780. Nathaniel Jones (1749-1815) served, among other roles, as a Wake County Commissioner, Justice of the Peace, Sheriff, Clerk of Court, member of the General Assembly and delegate to the Constitutional

Convention in Hillsborough in 1788. The 10,000+ acres he owned comprise much of eastern present-day Cary. He named his plantation White Plains for its fields of cotton to distinguish his land from that of Nathaniel Jones of Crabtree who owned the land that forms western Cary.



*(continued; see "Remembrance Day" p. 3)*

## President's Message *(continued from p. 1)*

We're also happy to welcome **Leesa Brinkley** and **Augusta Dell'Omo** to the Friends' Board of Directors and we welcome back **Kirk Fuller** and **Bob Myers**. If YOU would like to serve the Friends in any way (on the Board or helping with any of our specific activities or programs) please let us know! And if you are not yet a member of the Friends, [please take a look at the membership form on page 17 of this newsletter and consider joining](#). I can assure you that you won't regret it.

You may be aware that the Town's **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** is moving along. The Friends are very happy to see this re-vitalization of such an important part of Cary finally happening. We look forward to seeing new, quality buildings springing up because these buildings themselves will be the historic buildings of tomorrow. At the same time, we do not want to see the older buildings that exist today sacrificed at the expense of newer development. We believe there can be a balance of old and new downtown. If these older buildings (both residential and commercial, inside and outside the formal boundaries of the Historic District) are not allowed to remain as they are, Downtown Cary could become no different than any other neighborhood. It's the mix of older buildings and the history they contain, along with the new planned destination venues, that make Downtown a really special place to visit. The Friends are eager to be involved as the plans for Downtown move forward.

Finally, have a wonderful holiday season! Hope to see you around the Page-Walker!

## Remembrance Day *(continued from p. 1)*

In 1792, Nathaniel offered his land to the state for the future capital of North Carolina, but land owned by Joel Lane was ultimately selected.

Nathaniel Jones is most noted for his last will and testament, in which he requested that his slaves be set free. In his words, "...every humane person, be his colour what it may, is entitled to Freedom...". This was 50 years before Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

The effort to save the cemetery spanned 35 years. During Cary's Centennial Celebration in 1971, four of Jones's great, great, great granddaughters visited the cemetery in the dense forest and found it in disrepair. The 15-foot obelisk was leaning precariously, the vault containing the remains of Nathaniel's second wife was destroyed, and graffiti covered the few remaining markers. At that time, there was no preservation-minded group in Cary.



*Nathaniel and Rachel Jones graves in former state of disrepair (courtesy NC Department of Archives & History, via Anne Kratzer)*



*Nathaniel Jones's descendants at Remembrance Day. Front row, right to left: John Brooks, Lib Jones, Jessica Carmichael, Kevin Carmichael (twin boys Lucas and Bryson Carmichael), Hannah Harris, Laura Jeffries, Andrew Howell, Jenny Harris and Sarah Harris (half hidden). Photo by Suzanne Kratzer Alexander*

In 1974, the Cary Historical Society was formed, and although restoration of the cemetery was one of its goals, work did not begin until the mid-1980s when SunSouth Homes acquired the land to develop Maynard Oaks subdivision. In 1989, the developer deeded the cemetery to the Town. The Cary Historical Society, with support from the Town of Cary, proceeded to straighten and stabilize the obelisk, reassemble Rachel's box tomb with a temporary cover and install a new fence to replace the original that had been stolen *(continued next page)*.



In 2006, the Cary Historical Society (from which the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel was formed) terminated its organization and donated the cemetery preservation funds to the Friends. In 2010, the Friends contracted with Parker Monuments to complete the site. A newly engraved slab was placed on Rachel Perry Jones's box tomb and marble markers were placed behind the fragments of the original stone markers. The Town's Public Works staff spread bark mulch to create an attractive path within the cemetery, provided periwinkle that was planted by the Friends and SPRUCE volunteers and completed major landscaping. In summer 2011, an interpretative sign, a collaboration of Town staff and Friends, was installed to complete the restoration.



*New slab for Rachel Jones's box tomb, with Remembrance Day wreath. Photo by Laurie Miller*



*New marble companion marker for original stone marker. Photo by Suzanne Kratzer Alexander*

"It took a village" to organize the celebratory program for *Remembrance Day*. Thanks to our presenters: **Ed Yerha, Peggy Van Scoyoc, Brent Miller and Bob Myers** of the Friends; **Irene Kittinger and Mayor Harold Weinbrecht**; and **John Brooks**, who represented the Jones family. They effectively communicated the importance of Nathaniel Jones and the site. **Elaine and John Loyack**, who reside next to the cemetery, have been invaluable during the restoration process, and we thank all the Maynard Oaks residents. Our graphics were phenomenal, thanks to **Leesa Brinkley** who designed the invitations, programs and support materials; and **Lisa Englert** did a fantastic job working with the media. Thanks to **Lib Jones and the Jones family** for their participation in the decoration of the graves, and to **Christine Nam and Elliot You**, students of **Pam Pandolfi** at the Cary School of Music, for the inspiring violin duets. The bouquets were lovely, thanks to **Lois Nixon, Olene Ogles, Pat Fish, Peggy Van Scoyoc, and Mercedes Auger**. **Kris Carmichael** designed the informative panel that depicts the cemetery throughout the preservation process, and she worked with the efficient Town staff to provide the staging. Delicious refreshments were

provided by **Pat Fish and the Friends' best chefs**, accented by the beautiful flowers arranged by **Barb Wetmore and Leesa Brinkley**. Our set-up and take-down crew, along with **Kirk Fuller** and the parking attendants, were phenomenal. We also had support from the **Cary Teen Council, SPRUCE volunteers, Pack 202 Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts Olivia Loyack and Sarah Flexman from Cadet Troup 300**. Thanks to **Bob Myers and Nelson Wetmore**, the event is captured on video and a slide show!

We couldn't have a better partner than the Town of Cary. **Lyman Collins**, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, is most supportive and a preservation leader. **Kris Carmichael**, Supervisor of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center, is the "wind beneath our wings." Special thanks to **Larry Dempsey**, Public Works Facilities Division Manager; **Kevin Steed**, Landscape Technician; the **Public Works crew** for their site support; and the **Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources staff** for the design and installation of the interpretative sign.

Remembrance Day was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our heritage and to introduce the 18<sup>th</sup>-century White Plains Cemetery to its 21<sup>st</sup>-century community. Thanks to all who made this event a success!



*(L-R) Peggy Van Scoyoc, Kris Carmichael, Pat Fish and Anne Kratzer unveil new interpretive sign. Photo by Suzanne Kratzer Alexander*



## Winter Concerts

*From Trish Kirkpatrick and Lisa Englert*

The Friends are pleased to announce the schedule of performances for the 2011-12 **WINTER CONCERT SERIES**. The series kicks off on Sunday, November 20 and promises yet another season of eclectic, outstanding programs.

All performances are held on **Sunday afternoons at 4:00 PM at The Page-Walker**, 119 Ambassador Loop—in the Heart of Cary. The Main Gallery of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center is the perfect intimate setting to showcase all of the uniquely talented and diverse artists who will perform this year.

Season tickets are \$60; tickets for individual performances are \$15. **Tickets may be purchased at the Cary Arts Center box office Monday - Friday from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM and Saturday 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM; online at <http://www.eTix.com>; or by phone at 1-800-514-3849.** A season ticket purchase includes one additional free ticket to any performance as well as preferred seating. Tickets for all performances may also be purchased at the door, subject to availability.

### 2011- 2012 Performance Schedule

**Sunday, November 20: Classical Interlude**, featuring **Erik Dyke**, NC Symphony Double Bass Player, joined by soprano **Erin O'Hara**, flute soloist **Anne Dyke**, horn soloist **Andrew McAfee**, and piano soloist & collaborator **Nancy Whelan**.

**Sunday, December 18: King's Tavern Madrigal**  
Outfitted in period Renaissance costumes, featuring festive seasonal music and their unique humor.

**Sunday, January 15: Brazilian Soul**, with Brazilian guitarist/vocalist **Paulo Lopes**, bassist **Ricardo Granillo** and percussionist **Beverly Botsford**.

**Sunday, February 12: Brian Reagin** (*Carole J. Wright Memorial Concert*, named for long-time concert series supporter and Friends benefactor). Brian Reagin, noted violinist and Concertmaster of the NC Symphony, returns as a crowd favorite.

## Cary Arts Center Wins Anthemion Award

*By Kris Carmichael*

On September 19, 2010, Capital Area Preservation presented the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Anthemion Awards to a full crowd at Irregardless Cafe in Raleigh. Award winners and local preservation advocates mingled prior to the award presentation. Flanking the stage at the Cafe were large display boards providing full color photographs of each project and honoring the award winners, including the **CARY ARTS CENTER**, which was recognized for its adaptive reuse with one of this year's awards.

## Watercolor Society of NC at Page-Walker 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition Debut

*By Kris Carmichael*

The prestigious WSNC show opened on October 9, 2011 to rave reviews, with Paul Jackson, AWS, NWS, jurist, in attendance. Don't miss this wonderful exhibition that features a wide variety of styles and watercolor techniques. After closing on November 27, 2011, a portion of the show will travel across North Carolina.

The Friends are pleased to go to other community organizations to tell our story. Our **Speakers Bureau**, a group of members who present our message, is happy to come to your event. If you would like us to speak to your organization, contact us at [info@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:info@friendsofpagewalker.org)





## Is Coming! Save the Date!

*From Lisa Englert*

The Friends invite and encourage you to save the date of Saturday, May 5, 2012 (rain or shine) for the third annual Herbfest. This popular, free springtime event, held **from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM on the beautiful grounds of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center**, promises something for everyone – from the most seasoned garden enthusiasts to anyone looking to turn their thumbs green. **Cary Teen Council** volunteers will return to provide hands-on activities for the kids, and the **Butterfly Lady** will join us once again for live butterfly releases (a highlight of the 2011 Herbfest).

In addition to touring the **Page Educational Garden**, including a close-up look at the historic **1850s Page smokehouse**, festival-goers can watch **herb cooking demonstrations** and stroll through booths selling a wide variety of **herbs, crafts and garden products**. Vendors will offer items related to gardening, herbs, native plants, perennials, nature and cooking. Lunch will be available for purchase from some vendors. New to the 2012 Herbfest will be a **folk music concert** starting at 2:00 PM, featuring the **Charles Pettee Duo**.

To kick off next year's Herbfest, the Friends also invite you to join us **Friday, May 4 at 7:00 PM** for a very special evening, as we welcome **Terry and Joe Graedon** of *The People's Pharmacy®* for a lively discussion on herbal remedies. Guests



will have an opportunity to meet the Graedons at a **reception and book-signing** following the program. A limited number of tickets will be available to this event. Given the Graedons' renowned expertise on the topic, an early sellout is anticipated.

Be sure to check the Friends' website at [www.friendsofpagewalker.org](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org) as more details unfold about both Herbfest events.

Herbfest is co-sponsored by the **Town of Cary** and **The Friends of the Page-Walker**.

**Herbfest Saturday, May 5, 2012 is free and open to the public.**



# Saying Goodbye to Two Very Special Friends: David R. Grant and Sharon R. Hendricks

By Anne Kratzer

In the past five months, the Friends have lost three individuals who were passionate about saving the Page-Walker Hotel for use as a community arts and history center. In the last *Innkeeper*, we described the contributions of **Dave Fischetti**, the structural engineer for the restoration and enthusiastic supporter who died on March 21, 2011. On July 8, our friend **Dave Grant** passed away, and just more than a month later on August 21, we lost our friend **Sharon Hendricks**. Both were enthusiastic members of the original Board of Directors, elected in 1986, as was Dave Fischetti.



*Dave Grant in the "official" apron of the Friends, working at our Lazy Daze booth. Photo courtesy Gail Grant*

**Dave Grant** was invaluable as Treasurer of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel (1986-1997) during the restoration of the building. During that decade, we were raising hundreds of thousands of dollars as part of the Capital Campaign, holding monthly fundraisers, gathering pledges, establishing our membership and working with the Cary Town Council on a matching gifts partnership. Dave also obtained the Friends' first computer through IBM's non-profit organization grants program. In addition, as seen in the photo from his wife, Gail, he enthusiastically volunteered for any opportunity that promoted the goals of the Friends. A plaque on the east lawn of the Page-Walker recognizes Dave for his eleven years of service as Treasurer. Dave's integrity, wisdom, dependability and support were crucial to the Page-Walker effort.

**Sharon Hendricks** was also an invaluable, irreplaceable member of the first Board of Directors, and remained active throughout the years in promoting the Friends' goals. As a



*Sharon Hendricks making Victorian decorations for the Page-Walker tree. Photo from Cary News, 1989*

two-term member of the original board, she served in many roles. She was a contributing member of a focus committee charged with identifying needs in the community that could be addressed in the restored Page-Walker. The work of this committee helped define the Page-Walker as an arts and history center. Sharon also chaired the Membership Committee and Brick Committee and was deeply involved in the Capital Campaign. She was extremely effective in publicizing the activities of the Friends from 1986 to the present, as she was business manager for WKIX for 33 years. Christmas was one of her favorite times of the year, and Sharon was a faithful elf at the Page-Walker from the time we purchased our first tree. Sharon was a kind, dependable, artistic, and enthusiastic friend.

Our thoughts and prayers go to spouses Gail Grant and J.R. Hendricks, who were also very involved in the Page-Walker restoration. Please know that the love of the Friends is with you and your families.

*[The names of all of the Friends who worked passionately during the restoration phase of the Page-Walker (1986-1994) are listed on a plaque in the Annex of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center]*

**IN MEMORY AND APPRECIATION OF DEAR FRIENDS  
SHARON HENDRICKS AND DAVE GRANT**



## Oral History

By Peggy Van Scoyoc

Two more oral history interviews have been completed since the previous edition of *The Innkeeper*. In August, **Kris Carmichael** and I interviewed **Isobel Stephens**. She was a science teacher at Cary High School for twenty years, from 1968 to 1988. When she started teaching there, she was the first full-time chemistry teacher at the school. She also taught biology and physics. Prior to teaching in Cary, Ms. Stephens taught at Cleveland School in Franklinton County. Shortly after that school was desegregated, one day members of the Ku Klux Klan stormed the school with guns drawn. The principal hid in the AV closet, while Ms. Stephens hid in the chemical closet in her lab. Nobody was hurt, but they were scared out of their wits. Fortunately, it was a teacher work day so there were no students on campus at the time.

Next, Kris and I interviewed **Randy Chandler** and his sister, **Fay Chandler Honeycutt**. Their father, **Paul Chandler**, built Cary's first movie theater on East Chatham Street. This building recently was purchased by the Town of Cary and is being converted back into a theater. The Chandlers told us that their theater showed first-run movies for about ten years, beginning in 1946. They believe the first movie shown there was *The Voice of the Turtle* starring Ronald Reagan (that film was released for television in the 1950s with the new name *One for the Books*). The Chandlers' insights will be invaluable to town planners as they move forward with the renovations to the building.

I have recently discovered that the voice recordings of eight of our oral histories submitted to the Wilson Library at UNC-CH

have been digitized and posted online, along with the typed transcripts of the remaining 51 interviews we have submitted to the library. The interviews can be found on **THE SOUTHERN ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM** website, [www.sohp.org](http://www.sohp.org).

## Recent Donations to Our Collection

By Kris Carmichael

**Mary Lib Trent**, retired Cary Elementary School teacher, donated several items for the archives including:

- Copy of 1859 minutes from meeting establishing local Masonic lodge
- 1908 Cary Public High School catalog
- 1909 Cary Public High School catalog
- 1917 Cary Public High School and Farm Life School catalog
- 1926 Cary High School catalog
- 1938 issue of *The Courier-Journal*, Wake County School Edition
- 1962 map of Cary published by Cary Chamber of Commerce
- 1966 issue of *The Echo*, Cary High School newspaper
- 1971 Centennial Souvenir Program "An Unbeatable Century"
- 1971 Centennial Cary license plate
- 1971 issue of *Western Wake Herald*
- 1971 advertisements for Cary Centennial in *The News and Observer*
- 1971 issue of *Cary News*, Centennial Issue
- Painting of Cary High School by Mary Lib Trent (*shown below*)





**The Banks family** gave a special memorial donation: a 1937 Declamation Award (*pictured below*) from Cary High School awarded to **Thaddeus Banks**.



Declamation, a recitation delivered as an exercise in rhetoric or elocution, was one of the highest recognitions given to graduating seniors at CHS. Thaddeus Banks served in WWII and was lost in action.

## Holiday Open House Page-Walker Arts & History Center

*By Kris Carmichael*

**Page-Walker Arts & History Center  
Holiday Open House  
Saturday, December 3, 4-6 p.m.**

Get into the holiday spirit with an old-fashioned Victorian Christmas experience at the Page-Walker's Annual Holiday Open House.

Learn about century-old holiday traditions while touring Cary's own 1868 historic hotel. Enjoy Victorian Carolers, sing Christmas carols around the piano or enjoy a free horse-drawn carriage ride. Enjoy holiday refreshments and view historic rooms decorated for the season by the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel. Fun for the whole family.



*Horse-drawn carriage at last year's Holiday Open House at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Photo by Laurie Miller*





# Savoring a Spectacular Growing Season: Page Educational Gardens

By Anne Kratzer

Despite the heat, earthquake and hurricane that accompanied the lazy days of summer, the Page Educational Gardens were a sight to behold. The herbs began the growing season in earnest and were a focal point during the second annual **HERBFEST** in May, and one of the main attractions during the **STARLIGHT CONCERT SERIES** held on the lawn of the Page-Walker.

"One visitor stated that the grounds of the Page-Walker and the herb garden were Cary's secret treasure"

Thanks to **Barb Wetmore, Bev Samuelson, Lynn McKenzie, Kay Struffolino** and **Pat Fish** for volunteering as garden guides during Herbfest. We were excited to enlist additional volunteers for our gardening group from Herbfest. Welcome to **Susan Quint, Marilyn Butler, Kerry Mead, Susan Hawthorne, Christine Barone** and **Michele Brandow**.

Word of the scents and sights of the gardens has spread, and **Kay Struffolino** and **Anne Kratzer** hosted the **CARY GARDEN CLUB** for a tour of the garden Oct. 6. It was a gorgeous morning and the herbs were at their best. One visitor stated that the grounds of the Page-Walker and the herb garden were Cary's secret treasure. We gained two more volunteers from the experience, and the Cary Garden Club presented a generous check to the Friends for the purchase of herbs. We wrapped up the 2011 growing season with our traditional "Put the Garden to Bed" party on Nov. 5. Thanks so much to the

enthusiastic volunteers who worked with me during the early morning hours braving 30° temperatures: **Kerry Mead, Paul Wasylkevych, Kay Struffolino, Susan Quint, Michele Brandow, Marilyn Butler, Barbara Wetmore, Lois Nixon, Lynn McKenzie, Alice Delahanty** and **Marla Dorrel**. **Kris Carmichael** graciously warmed our hearts with a pot of hot cider! As always, it was a great time to visit with gardening enthusiasts as we prepared the garden for winter.

Thanks so much to our invaluable volunteers: **Barb Wetmore, Bev Samuelson, Cheryl McLean, Jimi Lagattuta, Kay Struffolino, Kerry Mead, Laura Dorton, Lois Nixon, Lou and Lea Hovis, Lynn McKenzie, Marilyn Butler, Mercedes Auger, Pat Fish, Marla Dorrel, Paul and Lynn Wasylkevych, Renate Thompson, Susan Hawthorne, Susan Quint, Sharon Wood, Michele Brandow** and **Christine Barone**. Additional thanks to **Layne Snelling**, our good friend at **Campbell Road Nursery** (do frequent this nursery!), **Kay** for controlling the Vitex and roly polies, **Laura** for her donation of marigolds, **Lois** for donating dill and Syrian oregano plants as well as the life cycle of a butterfly, dye swatches and photos, **John Duncan** for producing our plant labels, **Kevin Steed** of the Town for testing our soil, **Carolyn Lewis** for sharing her knowledge about herbs, and the **Town of Cary** for providing support materials and expertise.

Our success depends on the Town's continued support. Thanks to **Lyman Collins, Kris Carmichael, Rob Garner, Carolyn Lewis, Kevin O'Shea, Jeff Privette** and the **Public Works staff**.

We love welcoming new gardening enthusiasts, so if you'd like to join us, please contact me at [annekratz@aol.com](mailto:annekratz@aol.com).





*These photos illustrate the steadfastness of the hollyhock plant that withstood all that Mother Nature threw her way, and the efforts of many volunteers to conquer the infestation of the hyacinth bean area. We have flowers and pods on the hyacinth bean plants! Also a few of our garden volunteers at work!*

## Photos Needed!

If you have any photos of old Cary that you are willing to share with the Friends, please let us know. We will scan them (you can keep the originals) for our collection, and they might be selected for inclusion in the future photographic history book. To share your photos or get more information, contact us at [info@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:info@friendsofpagewalker.org)



# Historic Preservation Heats Up in Cary

## Many Successes, Several Challenges

By Brent Miller

It is an exciting time for historic preservation in Cary. Last year, the Town Council approved the Cary *Historic Preservation Master Plan* ([http://www.townofcary.org/Departments/Planning\\_Department/Projects\\_Plans/historicpreservation/Historic\\_Preservation\\_Master\\_Plan.htm](http://www.townofcary.org/Departments/Planning_Department/Projects_Plans/historicpreservation/Historic_Preservation_Master_Plan.htm)), the first of its kind in North Carolina. This plan provides a plan for historic preservation policies and activities for the next 10 years. One of the first steps in executing that plan is to compile a current, accurate, updated inventory of historic properties in Cary's planning jurisdiction. The Town of Cary has hired a consultant who already has this inventory project underway, and the Friends are pleased and honored that our Historic Preservation Committee was designated by the Town as the advisory committee for this project.

We have seen a lot of activity involving historic properties around Cary recently. Downtown Cary has been especially active, led by the grand opening of the **CARY ARTS CENTER**. The Friends are delighted that the old Cary Elementary/Cary High School structure has been preserved and renovated for this public use as a performing and cultural arts center (see related story about this project winning the Anthemion award, p. 4). The Friends were privileged to take part in the grand opening ceremony by contributing a laminated card that shows the Page-Walker Hotel in its "before" and "after" states, along with information about the Friends' current activities, to the new cornerstone (that now serves as a time capsule for future generations) and by presenting a program, "A History of This Place", that chronicled the buildings and people that contributed to the

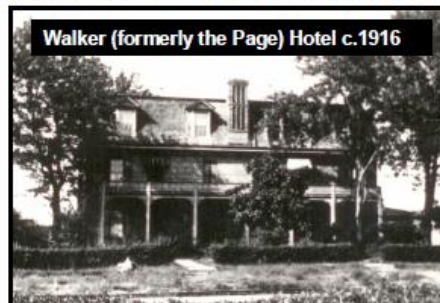
history of this site as a leading center for education. Thanks to **Kris Carmichael** for compiling much of the information for that presentation and to **Mercedes Auger, Peggy Van Scoyoc and Carolyn Yerha** for serving as living examples of historic eras by dressing in costumes from various periods.

Left: copy of the Friends' contribution to the Cary Arts Center 2011

### PAGE-WALKER ARTS & HISTORY CENTER & FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL



Page-Walker Arts & History Center c. 2008



Walker (formerly the Page) Hotel c.1916

The Page-Walker stands as a reminder of Cary's early development as a railroad town. It was built by Cary's founder and first mayor, Allison Francis "Frank" Page, to serve as a hotel for passengers on the North Carolina Railroad (Southern) and the Chatham Railroad (Seaboard). The Hotel's sophisticated Second Empire style architecture was a rarity in small town North Carolina as it was commonly reserved for prestigious homes and public structures. It is constructed of handmade red brick and is embellished by Italianate wood detailing. Because of its historic significance and architectural style, the Hotel is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Pages sold the Hotel and property in 1884 to Jacob R. and Helen Yates Walker. Meals and rooms were available to travelers until 1916. According a niece of the Walkers, Helen J. Bourke, "Uncle Jake would sleep with all of his clothes on except his pants and with his head to the foot of the bed so he could talk to guests through a window. When people arrived at night, they would call Uncle Jake, and he would get up, put on his pants, and rent them a room." Trains would make a "lunch stop" so passengers could enjoy the Hotel's much admired meals. Between 1916 and 1980 the Hotel changed ownership several times and was used as a boarding house and as private residence.

In 1985, after several years of deterioration, the Town of Cary purchased the Hotel and related three acres of land and leased the Hotel and one acre to the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina. The lease, later changed to an agreement, was assigned to the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel, a non-profit community organization. The Friends, under the leadership of Anne Kratzer, raised funds and oversaw the restoration of the building for use as an arts and history center for the Town of Cary. To achieve maximum public enjoyment of the historic structure, a new wing was designed to house additional support facilities and provide easier access.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the Town of Cary, the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel, state and county governments, corporations, businesses, foundations and private individuals, the Page-Walker Hotel lives on to remind the community of its rich heritage and to bring Cary citizens new experiences in arts and history.



In other events downtown, the Friends are delighted that the Town of Cary has acquired the **JONES-FOY HOUSE** (also known as the James Jones or Wiley Jones house), one of the most historically significant properties in Cary, and the old **CARY THEATER**. Both properties are intended to be preserved; detailed plans are still being worked out. In addition, the Town has two other important historic structures downtown under contract. On the other hand, the Friends recently learned that two contributing structures in the Town Center Historic District, on West Park Street, are undergoing significant renovations. Although the structures are preserved, major alterations to their exteriors are likely to negate their historic structural significance and their “contributing structure” status in the historic district. Should this come to pass, it would add to losses of structures downtown in the past few years, given the prior demolition of the Lovie Jones house on Academy Street and the unnamed house at 212 S. Harrison Avenue.

Beyond downtown, in the **CARPENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT**, the Friends are delighted that the Town of Cary has stabilized and weatherized the structures at the A.M. Howard Farm, a contributing property purchased by the Town in 2008. In the **GREEN LEVEL HISTORIC DISTRICT**, Mr. **Bill Mills** was successful in his request to change the land use designation on his property, a contributing property known as the Alious H. & Daisey Mills Farm & Store in the National Register of Historic Places, from commercial to residential use. Mr. Mills indicated that he sought this change to preserve the residential nature of his property for generations to come. The associated rezoning of the property was approved by Cary’s Planning & Zoning Board and awaits a vote by Town Council.

Our **PRESERVATION PROGRAM SERIES** continues to gain momentum. In October, we presented “**More Mysteries and Secrets**” to a standing-room-only crowd. This program highlights some very interesting aspects of four small family cemeteries in Cary. Equally interesting programs are planned for the first half of 2012: “**Who is That Guy? The Story Behind the Cary Mural**” will be presented **January 24, 2012** by local artist, **Val Fox**, who will share her personal story of her work of art entitled “Cary-Then and Now” – that’s the mural in downtown Cary that we know you have seen, and we expect you have questions about. “**Where Did I Come From? A Genealogy Primer**” will consist of a panel discussion on the experiences, lessons, and challenges of genealogical research on **March 27**. And of course, our annual “**What Have We Got to Lose?**” annual survey of historic properties, newly updated for 2012, will occur on **May 22**. All of these programs are **at 7:30 p.m. at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center and are free and open to the public.**

*All Preservation Speaker Series Programs are free & open to the public*



## Here's How to Get Your Perks!

Being 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 2011 - 2012, 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, [www.friendsofthewalker.org](http://www.friendsofthewalker.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 17. Please print, complete and return it today!

*These Community Partner, Sustaining and Silver Sustaining Members are Enjoying Their Perks:*

Peggy Van Scoyoc, Brent Miller,  
Ed Yerha, Rosanna Adams,  
Hal Bowman & Mercedes Auger,  
Pat Fish, Timothy LaCroix,  
Nelson & Barbara Wetmore

*See preceding article for information about how you can join the Friends!*

## Kudos to...

*(Compiled from several sources)*

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



### THANKS AND KUDOS TO

**Anne Kratzer** for shepherding the restoration of the White Plains Cemetery, culminating in Remembrance Day Oct 22 (see story p. 1)

**Brittany Wuester** for her excellent work as our archivist/intern

The **Town of Cary** for their remarkable support and partnership

**Kris Carmichael** for...well, for *everything!*

**Bob Myers** for producing and submitting the Anthemion Award nomination for the Cary Arts Center

**Remembrance Day volunteers**  
(see names on p. 3)

**Cary Arts Center Dedication Day volunteers** (see names on p. 11)

**Marla Dorrel** and **Pat Fish** for producing the annual "Mysteries and Secrets" programs about local cemeteries

**Lisa Englert** for publicity and public relations, the likes of which the Friends never experienced before!

**Lyman Collins** for always ensuring that the Friends are informed and engaged



# White Plains Cemetery: The Final Piece is in Place!

By Anne Kratzer



Tom Byrd with Nathaniel Jones's pre-restoration leaning obelisk, ca. 1970s. Photo courtesy Tom Byrd.

After 35 years of effort and determination to rescue and restore one of Cary's oldest historic sites, the 18<sup>th</sup>-century White Plains Cemetery, the final piece is in place. This past summer, an interpretative sign that shares information about Nathaniel Jones and his family and the importance of the site

was installed at the cemetery. Visitors now can appreciate the strength and character of Cary's first settlers. Credit for the attractive and informative sign goes to **Pam Simons** and **Kris Carmichael** of Cary's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources department, with research and materials from the Friends and state archives. The text and accompanying illustrations are placed in a frame and support system similar to those used throughout Cary to designate its special sites. We also thank **Paul Kuhn** and **Doug McRainey** for arranging the installation of the sign so that it complements its environment. We also are so appreciative of the continued guidance and support of **Lyman Collins**, Director of Cary's Cultural Resources Division.



New interpretive sign at White Plains Cemetery. Photo by Laurie Miller

To celebrate the impressive Nathaniel Jones of White Plains and the completion of the restoration of White Plains Cemetery, the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel, Maynard Oaks residents and the Town of Cary hosted a special celebration, *Remembrance Day at the White Plains Cemetery*, on Saturday, October 22 (see story p. 1).

We had two very successful maintenance days on June 4 and September 3. Thanks so much to our wonderful neighborhood, Friends and SPRUCE volunteers: **Kris Carmichael, Pat Fish, Jerod Kratzer, Kay Hawkins, Marilyn Butler, Augusta Dell'Omo, Lisa Englert, Pam Christie, Barb Wetmore, Carla McKinney, and Elaine, John, Olivia & Charlie Loyack.** We've picked up fallen branches, pruned, planted additional periwinkle and generally spruced up the site. We thank **Kevin Steed** and **Larry Dempsey** for directing the Public Works crew to plant ornamental understory trees around the cemetery, spreading enriched mulch over the area to encourage growth of the periwinkle and continuing to support our maintenance efforts. Thanks also to **Sarah Justice**, coordinator of the SPRUCE program, for organizing two Boy Scout troops to plant additional periwinkle supplied by the Town. Our next clean-up day is **Saturday, Dec. 3 at 9:30.** Do join us! The cemetery is located next to 102 Tolliver Court in Cary.



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Friends

By Lisa Englert

The Friends have joined the growing popularity of social networking sites and we are pleased to remind you of our presence on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.

We invite you to join our fan and group pages at Facebook and LinkedIn (to connect with other fans, participate in discussions and exchange information) and follow us on Twitter. You can quickly and efficiently receive updates about important initiatives we're following, our upcoming programs and events, ticket information and so on.

### Here's how to connect with us:

On the web: <http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org>



Facebook  
<http://www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel>



LinkedIn  
<http://www.linkedin.com/groupRegistration?gid=2766239>



Twitter  
<http://twitter.com/PageWalkerHotel>

## 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 the newsletter.

We welcome your contributions to *The Innkeeper*. If you have articles, suggestions or ideas to share, please send them to Brent ([brent@posmoroda.com](mailto:brent@posmoroda.com)).

## Board Members

Your **FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL BOARD MEMBERS** are these volunteers: Mercedes Auger (Co-Secretary), Keith Bliss, Leesa Brinkley, Marilyn Butler, Pam Christie, Augusta Dell'Omo, Michael Edwards, Lisa Englert, Pat Fish (Treasurer), Don Frantz (Cary Town Council liaison), Kirk Fuller, Jennifer Jones, Phizzy King, Trish Kirkpatrick, Anne Kratzer (Life Member), Brent Miller (Vice President), Bob Myers, Candice Page O'Beirne, Olene Ogles, Aaron Reza (Teen Council liaison), Cathy Richmond (Secretary), John Shaw, Renate Thompson, Peggy Van Scoyoc (Past President) and Ed Yerha (president).

The board is also fortunate to have the participation of Town of Cary staff members Lyman Collins, Rick Knapp, Kris Carmichael and Rob Garner.

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 near the end of this issue.

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

*The mission of the Friends of the Page Walker Hotel is to enrich the community by serving 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.*



## Calendar of Events

**See articles in this newsletter for details about most events**

### NOVEMBER

SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	19	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Nov. 20, 4 PM Concert: Classical Interlude (p. 4)

Nov. 27, Last day of Watercolor Society of NC Exhibition (p. 4)

*All events at the Page-Walker unless otherwise noted*

### DECEMBER

SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Dec. 3, 4-6 PM Page-Walker Open House (p. 8)

Dec. 3, 9:30 AM White Plains work day (p. 14)

Dec. 7, 6:30 PM Members Holiday Party

Dec. 18, 4 PM Concert: King's Tavern Madrigal (p. 4)

### Upcoming 2012 Events

January 15 Concert: Brazilian Soul (p.4)

January 24 7:30 PM Preservation Program: Who Is That Guy? The Story Behind the Mural (p 12)

February 12 Concert: Brian Reagin (p.4)

March 27 7:30 PM Preservation Program: Where Did I Come From? A Genealogy Primer (p. 12)

May 4 Herbfest Preview Event: Terry & Joe Graedon Reception 7:00 PM (p. 5)

May 5 Herbfest 9 AM – 3 PM (p. 5)

May 22 7:30 PM Preservation Program: What Have We Got to Lose? Historic Properties (p. 12)





# Begin or Renew Your Membership *Today!*

To join the Friends, or renew your existing membership, visit <http://www.friendsofthewalker.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)

Name/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

I wish to order (\_\_\_) (*Quantity*) of Bricks at \$50 per brick. Enclosed is the total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please make checks payable to the **Friends of the Page-Walker** and mail along with this form to:

**Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel**  
**PO Box 4234**  
**Cary, North Carolina 27519**

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:

-----  
-----

Brick 2:

-----  
-----

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 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## Contact the Friends

**By mail:**

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

**By telephone:**

*Information about the Friends:*  
President Ed Yerha: (919) 303-5705  
*Information about programs:* (919) 460-4963

**By email:**

[info@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:info@friendsofpagewalker.org)

**On the web:**

<http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org>

**Visit the Page-Walker Hotel:**

Address: 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: 10:00AM – 9:30PM

Friday: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

Saturday: 10:00AM – 1:00PM

Friday Evening - Sunday: by reservation

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

## FRIENDSOFPAGEWALKER.ORG

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 now you can also connect with us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.**

On the web: <http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org>



<http://www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel>



<http://twitter.com/PageWalkerHotel>



<http://www.linkedin.com/groupRegistration?gid=2766239>

