

The Innkeeper 30



SPRING 2015

Celebrating 30 years of 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.

AWARD-WINNING Friends



From left: Cary Mayor Harold Weinbrecht with Bob Myers; Saskia Leary and Pat Fish; Brent Miller; the Mayor with Kris Carmichael.

Friends honored by the Town

By Kris Carmichael

On February 23, the yellow brick road led to the Town of Cary's Wizard of Oz themed annual Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Volunteer Recognition Banquet; hundreds of citizens who provide thousands of hours of outstanding service were honored. Mayor Harold Weinbrecht most regally welcomed guests to the Herb Young Community Center, where he reminded the audience that Cary has the unmistakably, extraordinarily, positively, absolutely, undeniably and reliably most generous volunteers.

Two of our own took home awards:

- **Saskia Leary** received the Cultural Arts Award which is presented to an individual who lends leadership and support to the Town's arts programs, including literacy, performance and visual arts
- **Pat Fish** picked up the Events Volunteer Award which is given to an individual who has provided support to one or more of the many special events

Saskia's nomination noted her involvement in the Friends and the Town's Cultural Arts committee, where she applies her people skills and photography and art talents for the benefit of the community.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BOB MYERS

The **Innkeeper**
SPRING 2015

What an incredible time it has been since our last newsletter! The Antiques Appraisal Fair with Ken Farmer sold out and feedback from attendees was extremely positive. We hope to bring the event back in 2016. We just wrapped up our Winter Concert Series with a sold-out performance by NC Symphony Concertmaster Brian Reagin.

Spring is fast approaching and we will usher it in with our 6th annual Herbfest event on May 2, and our volunteers bring the Page Educational Garden back to life and spruce up the historic Nathaniel Jones cemetery.

We'll also be busy with ongoing programs: Preservation Series, Oral History, historic artifact acquisitions and a renewed effort to expand the Cary Heritage Museum. Don't miss the free summer Starlight Concerts that we co-sponsor with the Town of Cary.

None of this happens without the tireless efforts of our board, members and volunteers — let us know if you're interested in helping with activities. We can't accomplish what we do without your financial support. If you're not a member, please consider joining. Also, consider the tax benefits of a contribution to our endowment as part of your estate plan.

Unbelievably, this year we celebrate our 30th year as an organization. We are indebted to our founder Anne Kratzer and the many people who have served our mission over the years. With your help, we will continue to serve the citizens of Cary for many years to come.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING. PLEASE JOIN US!

The Publick will kindly take notice that the
Friends of the Page-Walker
shall meet assembled on the
3rd day of June of the year Anno Domini
Two Thousand and Fifteen,
at six and Thirty o'clock in the evening,
in the Parlour of the Grande Hotel
of the Page Family in Cary, North Carolina,
located in particular on the way known as Ambassador Loop,
next to the Iron Horse tracks near the centre of towne.

The business to be transacted shall include the election of a board of directors and officers of the corporation, and such other legitimate business as may be laid before the body assembled by the President, who shall preside at the meeting.

No drinking or dancing shall be permitted at the meeting.

Yes, our annual general membership meeting is June 3, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center and all members and prospective members are invited and encouraged to attend.

We hope to see you there!

continued from cover

Pat's nomination told of her significant volunteerism in many capacities for many years and especially noted her leadership for Friends special events including Herbfest and the Antiques Appraisal Fair.

Congratulations Pat and Saskia!

NC Society of Historians Honors Friends, Town, Youth

By Brent Miller

The Friends of the Page-Walker are very proud that we and our partners received several awards from the North Carolina Society of Historians at their 2014 annual awards presentation. The Friends and our partners received:

The Malcolm Fowler Society Award, presented to President **Bob Myers** on behalf of the Friends, recognizing our organization as an outstanding historical society in North Carolina. The Friends were one of three winners from 19 entries.

The Evelina D. Miller Museum Award, presented to Page-Walker Supervisor **Kris Carmichael**, recognizing the Cary Heritage Museum as an outstanding history museum – one of two winners from 18 entries.

The Willie Parker Peace History Book Award for the publication *Cary: Through the Years*, produced by the Friends in partnership with the Town of Cary (written, designed and edited by **Kris Carmichael**, **Peggy Van Scoyoc**, **Leesa Brinkley**,

Brent Miller and **Ashley McNamara**). This was one of 21 winners in this category from 72 entries.

The Paul Green Multimedia Award was presented to Carl Colglazier (pictured right), for his documentary film *Cary*. Carl produced this video as his Eagle Scout project for the Friends of the Page-Walker. It was one of 23 winners from 60 entries.



The Joe M. McLaurin Newsletter Award for *The Innkeeper* – our newsletter that you are reading! Produced by **Brent Miller** and **Leesa Brinkley**, our newsletter was one of five winners from 28 entries.

The Friends express appreciation to the NC Society of Historians for their recognition of historians and history resources in our state and we thank all of the Town Staff and volunteers who make it possible to pursue our mission of historic preservation, history education and cultural arts promotion.

We were honored to have **Cary Mayor Harold Weinbrecht** attend our February board meeting to add the Town's recognition for these achievements. The Mayor thanked and congratulated the Friends and presented certificates from the Town to award recipients.



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
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.

It's easy 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.

CARY'S TREASURE

A Tribute to Jean Ladd

By Peggy Van Scoyoc, with information from Anne Kratzer

Jean and Dick Ladd were early and constant supporters of the Page-Walker restoration and goals, and long-time friends of the Friends. Mrs. Ladd's passing on January 3 was a loss for our community.

CaryCitizen published a wonderful profile of Jean Hobby Ladd, who lived her entire life in Cary. She was interviewed as part of the Friends' oral history project on September 20, 2013. Following are excerpts of what she told us about her life in Cary:

My mother's name was Elizabeth Jones. Wiley D. Jones was her father. She grew up in the Wiley Jones house on the corner of Academy Street and Dry Avenue. We lived just around the corner on Dry Avenue, so I was in and out of my grandparents' house all the time. We'd sit in the only rooms with heat, the kitchen and the sitting room.

I went all the way through Cary Elementary and High School, where the Cary Art Center is now, in grades one through twelve. Since we lived so close, I could walk home for lunch.

The center of activity in Cary was around the school and the churches. We had a Baptist church and a Methodist church in town, and a drugstore on the corner. We had one doctor and then finally two.

My dad, Glen Hobby, never finished school. Dad had a grocery store right on Chatham Street, just west of the drugstore. Daddy kept a running ledger, hand written, of who owed what, a loaf of bread - 5¢, butter - 10¢. He would carry that over until the end of the month. Daddy started out with that, and then he opened a hardware store that he called Hobby's Supply. He eventually evolved into some appliances. He built the existing store on the corner of Chatham and Academy, which is now Kitchen

and Bath.

When Dick and I married in 1960, Dick went to work for Daddy in the hardware and appliances. I worked in the stores too.

After we were married, Dick joined the Cary Jaycees, and I was a Jaycette. He was on the town council, he ran for that in the 1960s. Then we built a home over near Greenwood Forest, way out of town. In 1963, Dick and I had a calling to get another Baptist church in Cary. So along with a few

other couples, we chartered Greenwood Forest Baptist Church.

In 1964, Dick began efforts to establish the Cary Rotary Club, the first Rotary in Cary. In the late eighties, Dick thought we really needed a YMCA in Cary. He convinced a developer to give some land here to build a Y and they started a drive to fund a building. Then in the nineties, Dick got a group together of about ten couples from MacGregor Downs to establish Cary Visual Art.

Over the years, we've both been active in the Cary Chamber. Dick served as the president, served on the board, and he's been honored as businessman of the year and citizen of the year.

We've seen a lot of changes in Cary. We've been blessed to be able to take part in some of them. What a

wonderful place to raise our children and be close to our grandchildren. So it's just been wonderful. We love our community.

Anne Kratzer has arranged to have a memorial brick placed in the Page-Walker courtyard, to be inscribed - Jean Hobby Ladd... Cary's treasure.



UPCOMING EVENT

Preserving America's Memories

FILM, TV AND SOUND AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Monday, March 23

7:30 pm, The Cary Theater, Downtown Cary

FREE

The Packard Campus Audio Visual Conservation Center is a state-of-the-art facility where the Library of Congress acquires, preserves and provides access to the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of films, television programs, radio broadcasts, and sound recordings. Paul R. Klamer, Video Lab Supervisor, will share behind the scenes information on how these unique American cultural treasures are preserved and restored.

For more information, visit www.friendsofpagewalker.org
or call (919) 460-4963.



Paul R. Klamer is the Video Lab Supervisor – National Audio/Visual Conservation Center – Packard Campus in Culpeper, Virginia. From 1993 - 2004 he was the Senior Systems Engineer at Warner Bros Motion Picture Imaging. He represented the studio on several committees – one of which was DCI, the Digital Cinema Initiative which fundamentally changed the way we watch movies for the first time in a century.

Klamer was also technical lead on the digital restoration of *Singin' In the Rain*, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, *Gone with the Wind*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Meet Me in St. Louis* and *The Searchers*.

Klamer is the inventor on twenty patents covering digital restoration, data compression, theater systems and projection. He was chief engineer at Paramount Pictures where he supervised maintenance and construction of 14 edit bays, equipment rentals, five screening rooms, video duplication and production of the television shows, *Dr. Phil* and *The Doctors*.

30
FRIENDS OF THE
PAGE-WALKER HOTEL

TOWN of CARY
PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL RESOURCES

Community Preservation Activities Expand

For thirty years, the Friends have made historic preservation a cornerstone of our message and mission. A growing number of people are engaged in historic preservation in our community and we are seeing great progress with preservation in Cary.

Last year, the Town of Cary established an official Historic Preservation Commission; that body has met monthly since October 2014. Chaired by Friends past president Brent Miller, the commission consists of seven highly



The Richard House

qualified members, including Friends current president Bob Myers and board member Charles McDarris. The commission has already adopted its rules of procedure, goals for 2015 and preservation standards. A survey of historic resources in and around Cary has been completed, and the new commission will recommend historic landmarks

and local historic districts and hear applications for changes to existing historic landmarks. This mission previously was performed on Cary's behalf by the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission, but with the Town Council's



The Baucom House

stated recognition of the value of preservation, Cary now has its own commission to advise the Council. The Friends are particularly grateful to our Town Council liaisons Ed Yerha and Don Frantz for emphasizing the community benefits of historic preservation. The commission meets the second Wednesday of each month and like all Town boards and commissions,

meetings are open to the public. [Click here](#) for more information.

We have recently seen several successful preservation

efforts based on voluntary actions by developers and landowners in collaboration with preservationists and the Town of Cary. Structures committed to be preserved, even in the midst of new development, include:

- the Richard House on Chapel Hill Road
- the Sears House on Green Hope School Road
- the Baucom House on High House Road
- the Yates-Carpenter House on White Oak Church Road

Several other historic structures are undergoing change, including:

- The Waldo House (c.1873), originally located on Waldo Street and moved a few years ago to a temporary site on East Park Street, has been relocated to the Mayton Inn property, which will be its new permanent site where it will function as a bridal suite at the inn.
- The Luther Barbee House (c.1915) on Davis Drive will be lost as new development occurs on the property.
- The Franklin House (c.1820) on Holly Springs Road will be relocated by Jeff Hastings to his farm south of Apex. The historic barn on the same property will be preserved as part of the new development that will take place there.



The Waldo House



The Luther Barbee House

continued next page

- The Barnabus Jones House (c.1850) on Penny Road will become the centerpiece of the future Jack Smith Park on the site of the former Bartley Farm. Several outbuildings surround the farmhouse, including a possible former slave dwelling.
- The Herb Young House (c.1940) on Old Apex Road (moved there from West Park Street), long-time home of one of Cary's leading citizens and volunteers (and namesake of the Herb Young Community Center on Town Hall campus), is the site of future development.
- The Keisler House (c.1927) on Kildaire Farm Road

(moved from its original site further north on Kildaire Farm Road), the original farm manager's home for the Kildaire Farm Dairy, will be lost to a new development on the site.

The Friends preservation committee continues our preservation program series, now in its 9th season. In

January, Town Staff and the Chandler family (original owners of the original Cary Theater, now restored as a public facility) presented **The Cary - Full Circle**. Coming up on March 23 is **Preserving America's Memories - Film, TV, and Sound at the Library of Congress** (to be held at The Cary). On April 28 we will present **Civil War 150th Commemoration: The End of the War in North Carolina**. One program note:

although it has been a community favorite, we will not present **What Have We Got to Lose?** this year because our program schedule is so full. "WHWGTL" will return in the future, though.

We are proud that our work in historic preservation was recognized by the NC Society of Historians (see page 1) and we are pleased to see the increased awareness and activity of so many people working together to preserve our community's heritage.



The Keisler House



The Franklin House



HISTORY EDUCATION AT THE

Page-Walker

Tiger Cubs Prowl the Page-Walker

As part of the mission of educating citizens on the history of the Page-Walker and the Cary community, we have welcomed several Tiger Cub Scout dens. Tiger Cubs (1st grade) come in small groups for a tour of the Page-Walker and a look at the Cary Heritage Museum. They are fascinated to learn about Cary being built around the train station, and they all get a kick out of Dr. Templeton and his medical bag! Visiting the Page-Walker helps the Tiger Cubs complete their "Where I Live" achievement. We hope to see more Tiger Cubs prowling around soon!

Gearing Up for Summer Camps at the Page-Walker

Do you have children or grandchildren who are looking for something fun to do this summer? Then look no further than the Town of Cary Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department. Registration for summer is now open. The Page-Walker is hosting 14 different types of camps this summer, including Civil War Experience, Bluegrass Camp, Cary Youth Video Project, Traditional Games and more! Spaces fill quickly, so call the Page-Walker at (919) 460-4963 or visit [EZ Reg online](http://www.townofcary.org) at www.townofcary.org to register today!

Herb**fest**

FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER



**butterfly
release
11:30 & 2:30**

saturday, may 2

9 am to 3 pm

Page-Walker Arts & History Center

119 Ambassador Loop, Downtown Cary

Buy herbs and plants, visit our craft booths, stroll the beautiful grounds of the Page-Walker, and tour the Page Educational Garden. Wake County Extension Master Gardener volunteers available to answer questions. Food, silent auction and kids activities, too.

www.friendsofpagewalker.org



TOWN of CARY
PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL RESOURCES

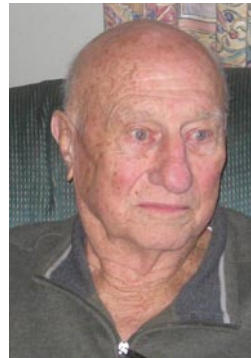
free!
Held rain
or shine.



Oral HISTORY

By Peggy Van Scoyoc

I conducted the 80th interview of our oral history program on February 5, 2015 with **Mr. Lynn Banks** (pictured left), who has spent his entire life in or near Cary. Both of his grandfathers had farms along Ten Ten Road where they grew cotton. He told us many stories about growing up in Cary, including some great ones about Mr. Dry, Cary's high school principal and his assistant principal, Mr. Whittington. He also told us a great story about how he and his friends got caught by the local policeman, Mr. Midgette, while they were helping themselves to watermelons from a neighbor's patch. His interview adds much color to our knowledge of Cary's past.



On February 11, 2015, I conducted the 81st interview with **Mr. Joe Grissom** (pictured right), who was born in Umstead Park. Mr. Grissom's great-grandfather and his father both ran the Old Company Mill in Umstead Park from about 1915 to 1939. His father also managed the Boy Scout camp, Camp Craggy, for a number of years. In 1937, the federal government bought the land in the park from the 40-50 farming families who lived there, tore down all the buildings and houses, established a park and conserved the land. Mr. Grissom told us so much about the history of the park and many of the families who had lived there for decades. A few of those farms went back to land grants given by King George III. Mr. Grissom also told us some great stories about going to Cary High School, the school bus and many of the people living in Cary through the years.

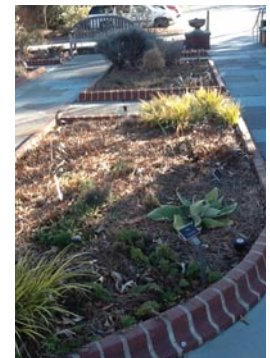


PAGE EDUCATIONAL

Gardens *by Kay Struffolino*

The Page Educational Herb Garden is enjoying a bit of rest during the winter months! But it won't be long before the committee swings into action with two important dates coming up: April 11 is our projected planting day and on

May 2 the annual Herbfest will be held on the Page-Walker grounds, including the Herb Garden. Once the gardens are planted, committee members take two-week shifts of maintenance duty throughout the growing season, which includes weeding, pruning, looking for problems such as ant infestations and other chores commonly associated with gardening. We also enjoy chatting with the frequent visitors who stop by on their walks to and from town hall offices and we're happy to schedule an appointment with groups or individuals who would like to learn more about the herbs and how they once were used. There is also a brochure container next to the fig tree and folks are invited to take a brochure, which is packed with helpful and interesting details about many herbs.



calendar

*All events are at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center unless specified otherwise.
All events are free and open to the public unless specified otherwise. [Click here](#) for
additional details about events.*

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPEAKER SERIES

Preserving America's Memories: Film, TV and Sound at the Library of Congress

Monday, March 23 at 7:30 pm
The Cary Theater

Paul Klamer, Video Lab Supervisor, Packard Campus Audio Visual Conservation Center, will share behind the scenes information on how films, tv programs, radio broadcasts, and sound recordings are preserved and restored. See page 5 for details.

Page Educational Garden Planting Day

Saturday, April 11 at 9 am
Rain Date: Sunday, April 12 at 1 pm

Springtime Walking Tours of Downtown Cary

age 15 & up

Fees: \$5 (Resident) \$8 (Non-resident)

82969 Saturday, April 18 from 10 am to Noon

82970 Saturday, May 30 from 10 am to Noon

Discover our community's past and learn about the future as you stroll through the heart of Cary. Learn about the people and places from days gone by. Guided walking tours begin at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Private tours for groups of five or more also available by appointment. Sign-up online at [EZ-REG online](#) or by calling (919) 460-4963.

Town of Cary Spring Daze

Saturday, April 25 from 9 am to 5 pm
Bond Park

Visit the Friends booth on Cultural Arts Row to learn more about us and play a game to win a prize! [Click here](#) for additional information about the festival.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPEAKER SERIES

Civil War 150th Commemoration: The End of the War in North Carolina

Tuesday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Local Civil War authority and Executive Director of the City of Raleigh Museum, Ernest Dollar will present on the end of the Civil War in the Triangle area. He will follow the Union and Confederate armies as they move through Raleigh and Cary and on to Bennett Place and the final surrender in April 1865.

Friends of Page-Walker Herbfest

Saturday, May 2 from 9 am to 3 pm (rain or shine)

Stroll the grounds and tour the Page Educational Garden. Visit booths selling herbs, crafts and garden products. Fun for all ages! Returning this year will be the popular butterfly releases. See page 8 for details.

Town of Cary Summer Starlight Concert Series

Join us for a lively series of free concerts that take place in the beautiful gardens of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center at 7 pm. Bring your friends, a picnic and enjoy music by starlight. [Click here](#) for additional information.

Friday, May 8 – Polka Plus Band

Friday, May 22 – Barrowburn

Friday, June 26 – Bluegrass with PineCone

Friday, July 24 – Moment's Notice

Friday, August 28 – Jamrock

Friday, September 25 – Craicdown

National Train Day

Saturday, May 9 from 10 am to 2 pm (rain or shine)

Cary Train Depot & Page-Walker Arts & History Center

Visit the depot filled with family-friendly activities, displays, vendors and giveaways. Then tour the 1868 Page-Walker Arts & History Center and learn about its history as a 19th century railroad hotel and see model train displays.

Annual Member Meeting

Wednesday, June 3 at 6:30 pm



ANTIQUES APPRAISAL Fair



Antiques Appraisal Fair a Big Success

Compiled from Friends and Town of Cary sources

The Friends of the Page-Walker hosted 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* – on Saturday, November 8. The event was a sellout with Ken and his team completing over 400 appraisals! Although we are not aware of anyone discovering fabulous wealth in their antiques, several rare and valuable items were appraised, and everyone learned more about their special treasures.



Preceding the appraisal fair on Friday evening, Ken Farmer presented “Tales from the Road and New Discoveries”, sharing interesting adventures he has encountered working with *Antiques Road Show* and other appraisal fairs. Attendees socialized with a wine, cheese and dessert reception following Ken’s talk.





Friends Holiday Party is a Hit

by Barbara Wetmore

Many thanks to the Cary Youth Chorale (above) for their holiday performance at the Friends' December meeting in the main gallery of the Page-Walker. The Cary Youth Chorale is an all-female choir made up of girls in grades 6 through 12, and the most experienced and accomplished choir in the Cary community youth choir organization. Directed by Roberta Thomason and accompanied by Megan Yohman, the Chorale sang a beautiful collection of holiday songs, which filled the halls of the Page-Walker and the hearts of the Friends with seasonal spirit.

The Cary Youth Chorale was begun in 2009 and has already experienced tremendous growth. They perform frequently throughout the greater Cary area.

New Steering Committee Seeks Teen Volunteers

Are you aged 14 to 18 and have an interest in local history or the arts? The Friends of the Page-Walker are gathering passionate teens for possible participation in a new steering committee. This committee would be part of a new initiative to help plan educational and fun events for teens at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Please e-mail teens@friendsofpagewalker.org with some information about yourself if this sounds like something that you would like to be a part of!

Friends Wrap Up Winter Concert Series

By Trish Kirkpatrick

The Friends of the Page-Walker have just sponsored the final concert of the 2014-2015 Winter Concert Series. People who attended the performances in this season's series enjoyed spending a Sunday afternoon with Bill Leslie, Raleigh Boychoir, Tony Williamson and Brian Reagin.



Frank Pittman with Brian Reagin, Tony Williamson and Bill Leslie.

A Fun & Festive Holiday Season at the PW

Once again the holiday elves gathered to deck the halls at the Page-Walker. Thank you to all the wonderful Friends and volunteers who gathered to trim the tree, hang the garland, wrap the presents and decorate the mantals, windows and staircase! Thanks also to all the Friends who volunteered during the Holiday Open House 2014! What a fun afternoon was had by all who visited!



[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 organization of the Town of Cary. Many of our board members have served for several years (two are life members), and others joined us recently.

We continue our series in which we'll feature some of 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 to learn more or volunteer.

Mercedes Auger

- Born in Colorado, reared in Beaufort, SC, lived in Cary since 1986
- Volunteered with the Friends off and on since 1990. Mercedes loves the Page-Walker's beauty and its significance in Cary and notes that it's been wonderful to view and be a part of its growth through the years.
- Graduated Meredith College
- Married to Hal Bowman; two adult children and two grandsons
- Hobbies include travel, international officiating of ice yacht racing and playing with her grandsons
- Something you might not know about Mercedes – she loves to fish and do formation flying with her husband in the airplane called “Russian Yak”



J. Michael Edwards

- Born in Jones clinic in Apex NC
- Grew up on a tobacco farm on what is now Davis Drive. At that time we were associated with Morrisville and Apex, but in the last 20 years much of this area in western Wake County has become Cary.
- Attended the old Green Hope School for grades 1 to 8, graduated from Apex High School in 1967; Attended NC State for 2 years before going to Santa Monica, California and graduating from the University of California at Northridge in 1972 with a BA degree in Earth Science.
- While in California, attended the Gemological Institute

of America and received a Graduate Gemologist degree in 1970.

- Edwards family has lived in this area since 1835; Mills family (on Michael's mother's side) has been in the Green Level area since 1765. While working on the farm as a boy, Michael developed an interest in Indian arrowheads and gems/minerals. After graduating from college, Michael worked for a brief time with a diamond importer in Beverly Hills, California, which led to his owning a fine jewelry store in Atlanta and ultimately led to his partial ownership of J M Edwards Jewelry on Kildaire Farm Road in Cary.
- More recently Michael has been a full time commercial real estate agent and owner of Edward Commercial Real Estate on Weston Parkway, which leases and manages seven office buildings in Wake County.
- Two children who were born in Atlanta: Carl, 31, manages the J M Edwards Jewelry store; Caroline, 32, is an attorney with Stam and Danchi in Apex and has a 2-year-old son with a daughter on the way in May.
- Engaged for the past three years to Erin Downey; they decided to keep it simple and stay engaged for the duration.
- Hobbies are gem/mineral collecting, Duke sports, playing the guitar (Michael has a collection of seven), visiting Bald Head Island and fishing.



Michael says, “From the early days on the tobacco farm to modern day Cary it has been quite an adventure. I don't think you could find a better place than Cary live in and to raise a family in.”

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

Heart of Cary Association (HoCA) holds a meeting the first Thursday morning of each month at the Matthews House beginning at 7:30 a.m. with light refreshments and socializing; the meeting occurs from 8:00 until 9:00, featuring a guest speaker and lots of updates and information about the downtown area. And there's lots of activity in downtown Cary! *The Cary News* is opening a new office on the second level of The Cary, a new restaurant is opening on the east side of the theater, a pub on the west side and a foundation for the Mayton Inn on Academy Street, with construction in full force.

All businesses in this area are encouraged to join HoCA and become involved in creating this vibrant component of our community. Upcoming activities include:

- Art Loop the last Friday of each month
- Streetscapes project (upgrading and redefining Academy Street between the Cary Arts Center and Chatham Street)
- Outdoor concerts
- Herbfest – May 2
- National Train Day – May 9
- Wheels on Academy – May 16

and much, much more...check the HoCA website www.heartofcary.org/events

Cary Chamber of Commerce

The Cary Chamber of Commerce building is about to undergo some inside and outside upgrades that will take several months to complete. The facility, built in 1995, is in need of these upgrades as well as repairs. A fundraiser to help with this project that has begun; contacts for more information about this project are on the Chamber website www.carychamber.com [please make this a link if you can].

Other notes of interest:

- Cary's Wake County Board of Education representative Bill Fletcher holds school issue chats one day each month, with no registration required
- A Day of Service involving the entire community will be held March 24. There are a number of ways citizens can become involved; see the Chamber's website
- The annual MiniCity visit will be to Greenville, SC May 6 to 8. Details of these events and dozens more activities can be found at the Chamber website www.carychamber.com



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.

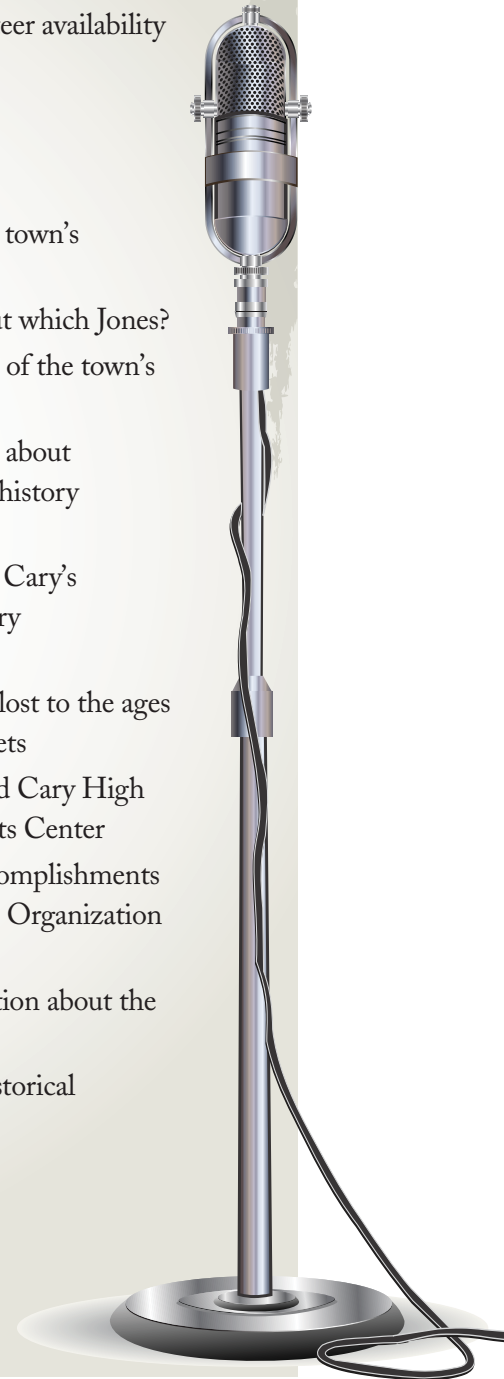
Presentations can range from 20 minutes to an hour and can be tailored to fit the interests of your group. Although we always attempt to meet the needs of your group, volunteer availability may affect scheduling.

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 or (919) 460-4963.





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 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 18. Please print, complete and return it today!

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

Hal Bowman &
Mercedes Auger
Leesa Brinkley
Jim Bustrack
Pat Fish
Carla Michaels
Timothy LaCroix

Jack Leavell
Brent Miller
Bob Myers
Kay Struffolino
Wil Trower
Peggy Van Scoyoc
Ed Yerha

Kudos to...

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

Charles McDarris for his significant efforts toward raising awareness and gathering supporters to convince the state legislature to reinstate historic preservation tax credits, and his contributions to Cary's Historic Preservation Commission.

Ed Yerha for his efforts in preserving Cary's historic structures through his solid leadership on the Town Council, and his work as liaison to Cary's Historic Preservation Commission.

Lyman Collins for many years of demonstrating true partnership between the Town of Cary and the Friends of the Page-Walker. As Cultural Arts Supervisor, Lyman is a terrific resource for the Friends and an asset to the town.

Trish Kirkpatrick for organizing a positively fantastic Winter Concert Series. Every concert this season sold out and under Trish's leadership, the concert series has become a community tradition.

Pat Fish for tireless volunteering in every capacity, including countless hours planning our Antiques Appraisal Fair, leading the events committee and preparing several grant applications.

Peggy Van Scoyoc and **Wil Trower** for pursuing a DAR grant to restore important historical artifacts.

All of the volunteers who made our Barnes & Noble gift wrapping and the Page-Walker holiday open house very successful events.

Wil Trower for outstanding public relations work on behalf of the Friends.



'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
www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel
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.

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

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 Welsch (Teen Council liaison)

Barbara Wetmore

Ed Yerha (Cary Town Council liaison)

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.

Begin or Renew Your *Membership* Today!

To join the Friends, or renew your existing membership, visit 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)

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.

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:

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

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE **E-MAIL ADDRESS**