

WINTER 2020

The Innkeeper

FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER

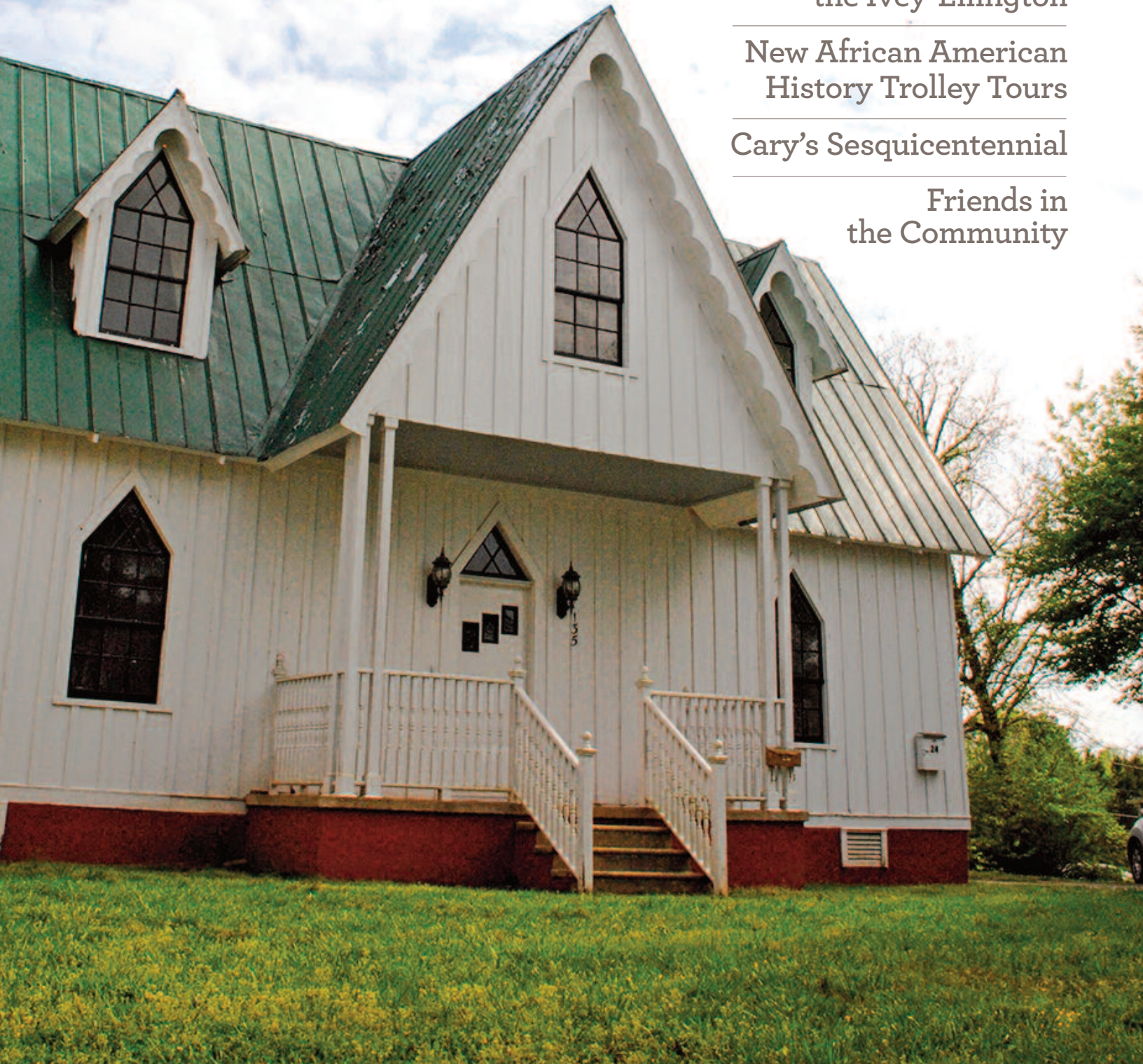


Advocating for
the Ivey-Ellington

New African American
History Trolley Tours

Cary's Sesquicentennial

Friends in
the Community





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
JOHN LOYACK

New Decade, New Accomplishments, New Challenges

Dear Members and Friends,

Happy New Year to all, and allow me to wish you well at the beginning of a new decade. All indications point to 2020 being an exciting year, and one exciting milestone we will celebrate this year is the 35th anniversary of the Friends of the Page-Walker. As always, there will be a long list of activities in and around the Page-Walker this year, and I invite you to visit our website to learn more about our work and to keep up on upcoming events. If you're active on social media, please connect with us (see p. 23 to find out how).

Before we leap ahead into the new year, however, I would like to highlight some of the exciting things that happened here in Cary last year.

In May, the Town of Cary reached an agreement with the Sri Venkateswara Temple of North Carolina to take ownership of the Nancy Jones House, the first step toward preserving and rehabilitating the community's oldest remaining home. The Nancy Jones House was built around 1803 and is said to have hosted President James K. Polk. The Friends of the Page-Walker look forward to working with Town Staff as this town treasure is moved to a new location this year.



In December, Cary Town Council unanimously passed a resolution to recognize the historic importance of the Ivey-Ellington House and acknowledge their desire that it play a role in the future of downtown Cary. Sadly, this historic landmark will need to be moved, but Town staff are working with the Cary Historic Preservation Commission, the Friends of the Page Walker Hotel, and the State Historic Preservation Office to identify a suitable location for the relocation of the House in a manner that preserves its National Register designation.

As you can see, there was a good bit of excitement in the world of historic preservation last year, and we expect more changes to come this year. One thing

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EDUCATION **The mission of the Friends of the Page-Walker 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.**
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CULTURAL ARTS

by Marla Dorrel

The Ivey-Ellington House, located at 135 W. Chatham Street, is one of only four Cary properties individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This distinction is granted to properties that have a unique historic and architectural character and are deemed worthy of preservation for their significance to the cultural heritage of the nation. Built in the early 1870s, the Ivey-Ellington is a rare surviving example of a Gothic Revival-style home in Wake County. During the 1890s the front yard was said to have served as a campsite for people driving cattle from Chatham County to Raleigh.

Over the years, the Friends of the Page-Walker have advocated for the preservation of the Ivey-Ellington House via written communications, meetings with key Town staff, and speaking before the Town Council. In November 2011, the Town of Cary recognized the importance of preserving this property and acquired it, an important step toward securing its future.



Friends Advocate for

IVEY-ELLINGTON

Our Downtown Gem vs. New Development

A new development plan, approved by the Cary Town Council in December 2019, provides for relocating the Ivey-Ellington pursuant to a relocation contract to be negotiated between the Town and the developer. Although details on the relocation contract were not included in the development agreement, the Friends successfully worked with Town staff to draft a resolution stating the Town's commitment to preserving the Ivey-Ellington and its National Register status; the resolution was unanimously approved by the Town Council on December 12, 2019.

The Friends of the Page-Walker will continue to communicate the importance of preserving the Ivey-Ellington and its National Register status to the Cary Town Council and the Town staff.

To learn more and share your thoughts, [click here](#).

Sources: The Historic Architecture of Wake County, Kelly A. Lally, Historic Preservation Master Plan, Town of Cary

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

BRENT MILLER

A WIN FOR PRESERVATION



As noted elsewhere in this edition of *The Innkeeper*, the Friends are delighted that the Town of Cary has purchased the Nancy Jones (pictured left) house, the oldest remaining residence in Cary. Town Staff is currently seeking a new location, ideally in the Chapel Hill Road corridor, to relocate the house. Its future use has not yet been determined. Long-time resident of the house, Kent Henly, shared several photos of the interior and exterior of the home when he lived there (see right).

We are also pleased that the Town has entered into an agreement with the developer of the site of the Ivey-Ellington house, so that this important historic resource can also be preserved.

Cary's rapid development often affects historic properties. One recent proposal on the Wake-Chatham County line is for a housing development on the site of the historic Bartley & Martha Yates farm, a rare example of a largely intact farmstead. The developer has agreed to preserve the farmhouse. Members of the Friends have advocated for also preserving some of the farm outbuildings, especially the tobacco barn and packhouse.

SESQUICENTENNIAL

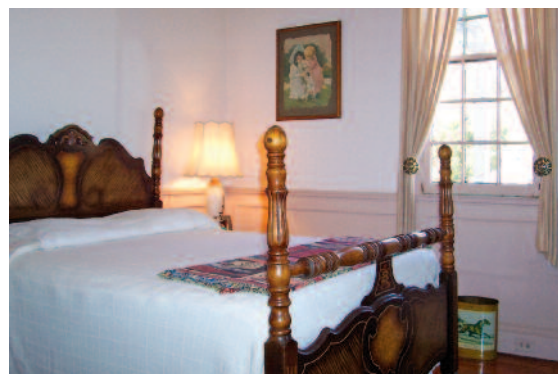
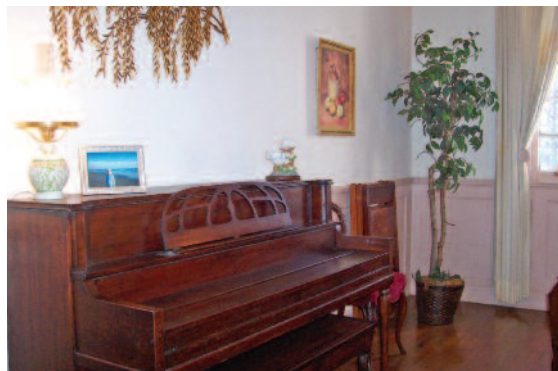
Did you know that Cary is about to celebrate our 150th birthday? In just over a year's time, we will celebrate the town's incorporation on April 3, 1871 — so our official 150th birthday is April 3, 2021 (that's easy to remember because it's 4/3/21!). But the birthday bash will be a year-long celebration, including many special events as well as interleaving the "Cary150" theme in many regular community events.

DON'T MISS OUR UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our historic preservation program series continues to draw standing room only crowds. On February 25, we will present "Educating Cary", a history of Cary High School. Did you know that classes at Cary High School began before the Town of Cary was incorporated on April 3, 1871?

On May 26, we will present our annual inventory list of Cary's historic properties, "What Have We Got to Lose?". See what was lost or saved this past year and learn about the historic and architectural significance of the properties and as well as stories about former owners and their place in Cary's history.

All programs are at 7:30 p.m. at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center and are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served following the program. To learn more about their activities, [click here](#)



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY KENT HENLY

Closing Exercises of Carey High School.

The following communication from Carey, under date of 25th inst., gives an interesting account of a most pleasant affair in connection with the High School at that place:

Editors News: I had the pleasure last evening of attending the closing exercises of Carey High School, Wake county, N. C. I know you have the education of our young people at heart, and for this reason claim a portion of one column of your very valuable paper. I do not know it will be amiss to say Carey, N. C., is better located than any town in the State for a school of high grade. It is in eight miles of the Capital of the State, has the advantages of two railroads, the North Carolina and Augusta Air-Line, and beyond this no more pure or moral atmosphere is inhaled in this or any other State. The Principal, Rev. Jesse Page, is a man of very rare attainments, is a perfect pattern of a North Carolina gentleman, native born and a pure, unadulterated Christian, and a citizen of Wake. He is assisted by Miss Riddick—a more accomplished and praiseworthy lady is not in the confines of the State.

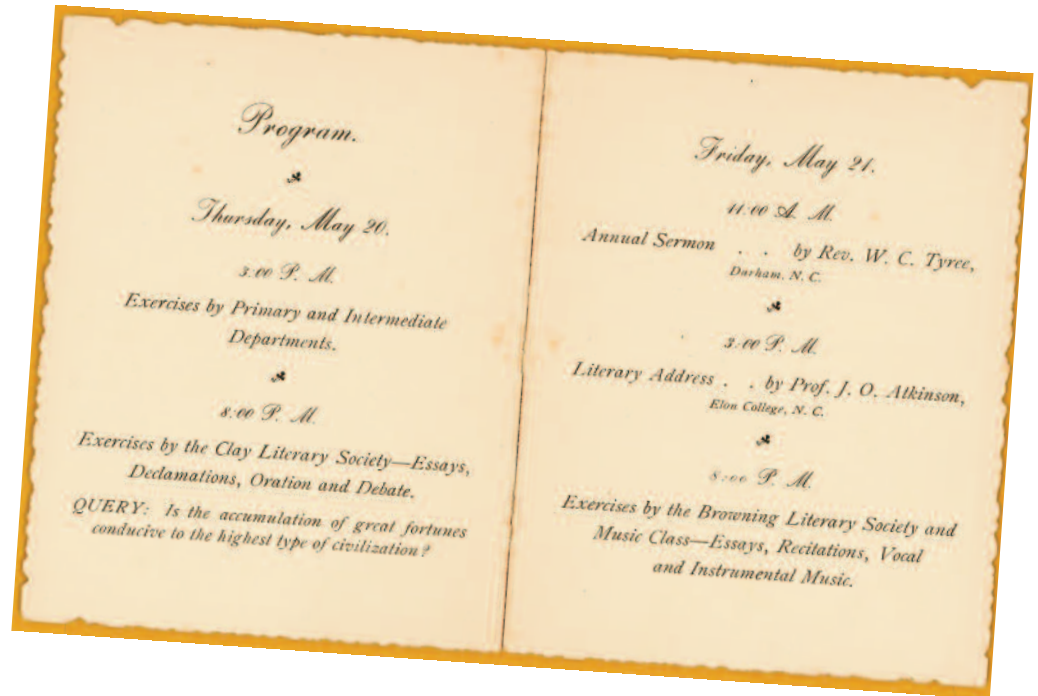
Now, to the closing exercises. This was the last day of the session, and the Principal concluded to have declamation, music, &c., in the way of a concert.

The exercises was opened by prayer from Rev. R. H. Bobbitt, who invoked the throne of grace in behalf of the Carey School. It would make this article too long to enumerate all the different exercises that were gone through, and for that reason we will say the audience was welcomed by Miss Lou Page, eight years of age, who was followed by Miss Alice Guess, about the same age. Sixteen year old girls, in many places, cannot surpass them. This was followed by music, waltzes, polkas, etc., etc.,—Christmas bells, Come where my love lies dreaming, Mazeppa waltz, moonlight and starlight spring flowers, polka, etc., etc., too numerous to mention. The declamation on the part of the boys was from J. R. Page, Carey; Masters Pleasants and Guess, Carey; J. B. Jordan, Carey; Alex. Long, Salisbury, N. C., and others. One very pleasant part of the concert was from Ham C. Long, of Salisbury, whose lot it was to speak of vacation and the manner and mode of treatment the young ladies would receive during vacation, tied to the strings of their mothers, etc. He was replied to by Miss Yates on the part of the young ladies, who acted her part nobly.

Stock will tell, and the master effort of the occasion was from Frank Haywood, Raleigh. His theme was, No excellence without labor. The reputation (and deservedly high it is) of the Badgers, Haywoods and Joyners, did not suffer in the hands of this lad of only eleven summers. His manner was graceful, and to sum it all in a nutshell, he will make his mark yet. Everything went off pleasantly, every patron of the school delighted with the very decided improvement of their children.

Were I to close without saying the Misses Page, Bobbitt, Jones, Guess, and others made most elegant music, I would not be doing justice to them. Carey is above all places in North Carolina, the place to educate your boys and girls—free from vice and temptation, healthy and of easy access.

Yours,
BOSTON.



Graduation in 19th Century Cary

by Carla Michaels

Ed. Note: Researcher and historian extraordinaire Carla Michaels offers “Treasures from the Vault” on a recurring basis as a way to share interesting historical artifacts with the community. Carla has been digitizing a large collection of artifacts from Cary High School; in this edition, she shares some of those.

Cary High School (also known as Cary Academy in its earliest days) has been in existence for 150 years; the first semester began in January 1870. With graduation exercises approaching, here are some images of early closing exercises and commencements associated with Cary High School. The earliest record of closing exercises is noted in the accompanying newspaper article that outlines the festivities at the close of the semester in December 1874, under the leadership of Rev. Jesse Page. Music and dance performances and a declamation exercise rounded out the events of the evening.

The first mention of graduation exercises is from a newspaper article dated June 1881. Rev Solomon Pool served as principal during this time. The lengthy article recounts the many activities that took place over two days, May 26 and 27, 1881. Gold and silver medals and gold pens were given as prizes for the lucky and talented contest winners.

From the Cary High School archives, another accompanying photo shows the earliest example of a graduation invitation in the collection. Printed on thick cardstock and

continued next page

[PERFORMING ARTS]
Winter Concerts
Feature Favorite Artists

by Trish Kirkpatrick



PHOTO BY CHARLENE JONES

The Winter Concert Series has become a tradition in Cary. The Main Gallery of the Page-Walker has been described as having acoustics that “are the finest in the Triangle for chamber music”. In combination with the outstanding musicians who perform in the series, an afternoon concert is a very special experience. We are pleased to have a wonderful concert series in early 2020.

In January, “Symphony Spotlight with Erik Dyke and Friends” offered an extraordinary program. Erik is a double bassist with the North Carolina Symphony since 1978. Concertgoers enjoyed a wonderful afternoon performance that spotlighted the exceptional talents not only of Erik but also a classical singer, classical pianist, jazz pianist, euphonium player, violinist, harpist, vibraphone, pedal steel guitar and even Erik’s Fabulous Ukulele Band. It was quite an exceptional performance which the audience thoroughly enjoyed.

On February 23, the Page-Walker will present the Carole J. Wright Memorial Concert (named for long-time supporter of the concert series and benefactor to The Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel). Brian



Reagin, North Carolina Symphony Concertmaster and First Violin with the North Carolina Symphony will return as a favorite to the Friends Winter Concert Series. Brian captivates audiences with his brilliant performances and treats concertgoers to classical and popular repertoire on his Lorenzo and Tomasso Carcassi violin made in Florence, Italy in 1763. It’s a unique experience to be able to share an afternoon with Brian, combining his virtuoso musical talents performed in a room with exceptional acoustics. This concert sells out every year!

Because both Brian Reagin and Erik Dyke (with all of his talented friends) have become so popular with our Winter Concert Series audience, you can certainly expect return invitations to these talented musicians for the 2021 series.

Performances are held on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. at The Page-Walker Arts & History Center. At the time of publication, Brian Reagin is sold out. Please check our [website](#) for future performance dates.

Mark your calendar!

Herbfest

FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER

Join us Saturday, May 2

by Pat Fish

The Friends will be hosting our 11th annual event on Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the grounds of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Applications, which are available on our [website](#), have been sent to prospective vendors. We welcome vendors who sell herbs, native plants, perennials and garden-related gifts and crafts in addition to vendors who can share information or have demonstrations related to nature topics. Our signature butterfly release and Young Friends' bake sale will be featured once again, and a craft activity will be available for kids. Guests can tour the Anne Kratzer Educational Herb Gardens, the Pollinator Garden, and the Historic Page-Walker. We are excited to announce that free trolley rides will be available at the festival – board the Trolley and enjoy a fun ride around Downtown Cary. Herbfest is a free event and will be held rain or shine.





The Garden Quiets in Winter

by Marla Dorrel, Garden Committee Chair

After false starts and weather delays led to re-scheduling, a group of eight volunteer gardeners assembled on Sunday afternoon, November 17, to put the Anne B. Kratzer Educational Gardens to bed for the winter. Nature cooperated and gave us a beautiful blue sky and warmer temps – we were lucky!

Thank you to all who helped that day: veteran gardeners Whitley Austin, Anne Kratzer, John Loyack, Barb Wetmore, Liz Ryan and Marla Dorrel. We were thrilled to welcome two new volunteers to our team: Michele Graham and Ayako Stone. We're happy to report that we've also added four more volunteers who will be joining us this spring: Timothy Beaver, Judy Erickson, Miwako Madsen and Anne Pelham. Welcome to all!

The winter garden is much quieter, but still deserves attention from our nature-loving volunteers. Lois Nixon stepped up for December maintenance. She also made sure the smokehouse was attired for the holidays with a hand-crafted, festive swag of natural materials. Speaking of the smokehouse, we were happy that Paul Wasylkevych found time to give it a good cleaning, top to bottom – no more cobwebs, and he did a fantastic job of organizing and hanging the many plant supports we've accumulated. Now it will be easier to find them when spring rolls around again.

All of our winter maintenance slots were easily filled; Kay Struffolino and Whitley Austin minded the gardens in January, while Pat Fish will volunteer in February; Anne Kratzer and Liz Ryan will cover gardening duties in March. Before we know it, spring will arrive, beckoning all of us to prepare the gardens for the 2020 growing season and our 11th annual Herbfest!

As Valentine's Day is at hand, we extend a heartfelt thanks to all of our hard-working, caring volunteers who assure that, every season, the gardens enrich our spirits with their beauty and the lessons they impart. Happy Gardening!





Friends

IN THE COMMUNITY

Ghost Tours, Paint the Page,
Lazy Daze and more – a recap of
fall & winter Friends events!



FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

by Pat Fish

Lookin' Back at Lazy Daze

The Town of Cary hosted their annual Lazy Daze festival on Saturday & Sunday, August 24 and 25, 2019 on Town Hall campus. Our volunteers had the perfect perch for the festivities – sitting on the front porch of the Page-Walker, greeting festival guests. We had books for sale and information about future events and activities hosted by the Friends. Our membership cards were also available for guests to fill out if they were interested in joining or volunteering for our organization.

We were pleased to have several guests complete the cards. We were also pleased to have the Town of Cary Historic Preservation Commission collaborate with us and share space on the front porch. It was gratifying, as always, to have this opportunity to introduce so many people to the work of the Friends and the Commission and to invite them into the Page-Walker where they can learn so much about Cary's history.

Very special thanks to Kris Carmichael and her terrific Page-Walker staff and all of the volunteers who worked on the front porch and inside the Page-Walker during the festival.

Visit us at Spring Daze at Bond Park on Saturday, April 25 at Cultural Arts Row. See you soon!



Charlene Jones wears it well

Charlene Jones, a member of the Friends, often wears period costumes at Friends events. At *Lazy Daze*, she was wearing an authentic late 1800s dress, which needed a lot of repair to be ready in time for the event.

Charlene writes: The dress was purchased from an online vintage clothing seller. The mother-of-pearl and French lace fan is from the late 1800s, and the purse is from Paris from around 1850. The seller of the dress had seriously misrepresented its condition, and I spent every day the week before *Lazy Daze* repairing, restoring and reconstructing the dress – not to mention finding vintage material and lace that was period authentic and matched the dress. I had not done any sewing in years, but became very involved again with this dress. So much of it required careful and delicate hand sewing.

I washed the dress in Oxy-Clean, baking soda and Dawn/detergent VERY carefully to bring it back to its “white” state from a yellowy color. The fabric had to be handled so carefully because it was so fragile – in some places it had just pulled apart, and that took a fair bit of repairing. But it turned out well in the end, and is in much better condition now. I enjoyed wearing it at *Lazy Daze*!





FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

Ghosts in Downtown Cary?

Friends Support Annual Halloween Ghost Walk

On October 26, participants in Cary's Ghost Walks got to hear some eerie legends and tales of yesteryear, sending chills up spines with ghosts and apparitions from the past presented by Cary Players! Look for next's years tour to join in on the spooky fun!

PHOTOS BY CHARLENE JONES AND NELSON WETMORE



FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

by Barbara Wetmore

Young talent fills the main gallery at Paint the Page

Fourteen talented young artists from six local high schools and middle schools captured the spirit of the Page-Walker with their inspired artwork. \$350 raised by the Young Friends of the Page-Walker was distributed to six award recipients during a reception for friends and family held in the main gallery. Thanks go to local artist and instructor Wade Carmichael, who judged the works of our talented teens, and to all the Page-Walker staff and volunteers who made the 2019 Paint the Page event happen!

CONGRATULATIONS TO BEST IN SHOW

Monica Jin, Apex High School



Congratulations to our Honorable Mentions: Megan Mersch, Cary High School; Isabel Baggett, Enloe High School; Shannon Persaud, Enloe High School; Katelyn Crespo, Enloe High School; Carolyn Brewer, Apex High School.



Monica Jin





FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

by Anne Kratzer

Page-Walker Holiday Cheer

The Page-Walker was decked out in holiday attire, thanks to the Friends volunteer efforts, just in time for the Town's annual holiday open house. This year, an angel was added to the holiday decorations thanks to the generosity of volunteer Jane Litton. Jane donated the angel, which used to adorn her family's Christmas tree when she was growing up in Blacksburg, VA. Jane remarks, "I am delighted that she has found such a wonderful, historic home." The Page-Walker Herb Garden also got a holiday decoration, thanks to Lois Nixon who made the beautiful spray to adorn the smokehouse door. The holiday decor was enjoyed by all!



Historic Trolley Tours Continue to Sell Out

Friends Develop New Tour of Cary's African American History

by Barbara Wetmore

The Friends continue to partner with the Town of Cary to serve as guides on historic trolley tours. And the Town continues to offer new experiences for citizens aboard the trolley, including a holiday lights tour and sing along that occurred in December! The Town is looking for community input on potential uses for the trolley, so if you have any ideas, please send them to jennifer.hocken@townofcary.org.

As for the Friends, we conducted several public and private group history tours this past fall and are pleased to be offering a new tour tracing Cary's African American history, which will see its inaugural run during Black History Month in February. If you missed this sold-out tour, don't worry; we will offer it again regularly throughout the year.

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about the Friends' historic public and private trolley tour offerings. If you'd like to get on our email list to be notified when tickets go on sale for the public tours, send an email to info@friendsofpagewalker.org. If you're interested in booking a private group tour, send an email to carytrolley@gmail.com.

General history tours and African American history tours last about an hour. Riders come away from all history tours with an awareness of how Cary developed through the years, the role that its geographic location played in its founding, and the influence of the people who settled and were raised here throughout various eras.



Cary Colored School, ca early 1900s



White Plains Cemetery

CARY HISTORIC LANDMARK



Blannie Harrington Shares 100 Years of Cary History

*Ed. Note: For more than 20 years, Cary's oral historian Peggy Van Scoyoc has been compiling oral histories of prominent people in Cary's history. This collection is part of the Southern Oral History Program at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Some oral history selections are included in Peggy's books, *Just A Horse-Stopping Place* and *Desegregating Cary*. More information about the Friends' oral history program is on our [website](#).*

All is Calm, All is Bright at White Plains Cemetery

by Barbara Wetmore

The weather caused us to postpone our winter cleanup of the historic White Plains Cemetery, but a dedicated small group of volunteers came out just days before Christmas to remove countless bags of leaves and leave the cemetery tidied up and well adorned for the holidays. Friends and neighborhood volunteers are proud to partner with the



Town of Cary Public Works department to care for this very historic site, the resting place of Nathaniel Jones and family, owners of 10,000-plus acres in the 1700s, comprising what is now most of eastern Cary. You can visit the cemetery on Tolliver Ct. in the Maynard Oaks subdivision in Cary.

On November 19, 2019, Peggy Van Scoyoc interviewed Blannie Franklin Harrington. Ms. Harrington was born in 1918 in the Farm Life School house on Walnut Street in Cary. She and her family lived in several other houses in downtown Cary, including a large two-story house behind the Baptist Church, and another house with an outside privy that had been located where the new Cary regional library stands today.



She attended and graduated out of the eleventh grade from Cary High School on Academy Street. She remembered many of her teachers, including Principal Marcus Baxter Dry, and several classmates from her school days. She also talked about her church, and many of the stores that existed in downtown Cary when she was young.

At 101 years old, she asked if Peggy knew of any person still alive who had lived in downtown Cary in her youth. But chances are very high that none are still living.

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

by Kay Struffolino

Cary Chamber of Commerce events include the 2020 Mini-City tour of Charleston and Mount Pleasant, March 31 - April 2, to gather ideas applicable to Cary; and the annual car raffle and silent auction on February 26. With continued demand for physical maps, the Chamber is in the process of producing a new Cary map to be released soon.

The Heart of Cary Association has undergone a reorganization and started 2020 with a membership drive to focus on informing, engaging and supporting merchants, organizations and residents of downtown Cary as the area moves forward.

Cary Teen Colleen Quinlivan honored

by John Loyack

The Friends recently honored Cary High School Junior, Colleen Quinlivan with the 2018-2019 U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award. This is the third time that the Friends of The Page-Walker Hotel, as a certifying organization, has awarded this award.

Colleen was recognized with the Gold Award in recognition of her significant volunteer hours associated with activities sponsored by the Friends. Over the year, Colleen gave more than 100 hours of her time maintaining historic sites around the Town of Cary, volunteering at various events, and creating a collection of framed photographs of the Page-Walker Hotel.



Youth volunteers like Colleen help bring the Friends' programs to life. Awarding Colleen with the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Gold Award allows us to recognize her leadership and dedication to the environmental stewardship and educational programs offered by the Friends.

Volunteers interested in working with the Friends of The Page-Walker Hotel on this award should contact us at info@friendsofpagewalker.org.



FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL

CONTACT THE FRIENDS

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

Information about the Friends

President John Loyack 919-703-5359

Plan a Visit

The Page-Walker Arts & History Center 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.

[MEET THE FRIENDS BOARD]

Our board of directors serves as the governing body of the Friends of the Page-Walker, a non-profit corporation and award-winning 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.

Meet Mina Bayraktar



Mina Berra Bayraktar is our Teen Council representative on the board. She is a sophomore at Green Level High School and was born in Lansing, Michigan in 2004. When she was 4, her family moved back to their home country, Turkey, and lived in Ankara, the capital city; then Istanbul, an ancient gateway city between Europe and Asia, for about 10 years. Two years ago Mina and her family moved back to the U.S. to fulfill their dreams.

Mina is interested in almost all kinds of sports; in Istanbul, she practiced archery for 2 years and now is on her high school volleyball team. She is also very passionate about women's involvement in STEM fields, and with her sister, she founded Pink STREAM, an organization to motivate, educate, and inspire girls into STEM fields. Pink STREAM organizes events, attends science festivals and uses social media to reach out to as many young women as possible.

After moving to Cary, Mina's mother encouraged her to be an active member of the community, so she volunteered with the Cary Teen Council. After a

year of service, she became the committee representative for the Friends, joining the board in September. Mina has learned a lot as a member of the Friends board, had so much fun in the magnificent hotel, met amazing people who welcomed her as warmly as possible and supported her throughout this journey. Mina is very proud to be a member of this group of people who do their best to preserve the historic values of the Town of Cary.

Fun Fact: Mina can say the longest Turkish tongue-twister and the longest Turkish word, "muvaffakiyetsizle tiricile tiriveremeyebileceklirimizdenmi sinizcesine".

Meet Judi Rourke



Judi Rourke was born into a military family at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. By the time she was 15, she had lived in ten different places on the Eastern Seaboard. Judi's Dad retired from the Army when she was 16, so she was fortunate enough to spend all three years of high school in Charlotte.

After graduating from UNC-Chapel Hill, Judi tried her hand at sales with Disney in Orlando; printing and sales at Alphagraphics; managing a Bath and Body Works shop at Crabtree; Editor-in-Chief for a small telecom publisher; and then found her niche doing web development work at SAS.

Over the years, Judi has been fortunate to be able to indulge her love of adventure, including whitewater rafting in Tennessee and Virginia, scuba diving in

Bonaire and the Cayman Islands, and even the chance to play in a SAS international soccer tournament in London. Nowadays, life's adventures have been renovating a house in downtown Cary, working at SAS, and volunteering for projects like the Salvation Army Angel Tree, the American Cancer Society's Real Men Wear Pink campaign, and of course the Friends of Page-Walker board.

Fun fact: Judi and Michael Rubes (profiled next) were married at the Page-Walker. Read the article about their wedding, "A Page-Walker Moment: A Match Made in Heaven...and at the Page-Walker!" in the Summer 2019 edition of [The Innkeeper](#).

Meet Michael Rubes



Michael Rubes was born in Raleigh and grew up mostly in Cary. He attended Northwoods Elementary and then Kingswood, when it was a sixth-grade center. His family moved to the Scottish Hills part of Cary in 1980, which was districted for Apex Schools, so he attended Apex Middle School and then Apex High School where he graduated in 1986. Michael attended North Carolina State University and then graduate school at Florida State University.

Michael's first job out of school was working as a research meteorologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Boulder, Colorado. After a few years of that, he changed careers and took a job at SAS Institute here in Cary. He has been back in Cary since 1996. Michael has two sons, 19 and 22 years old. The older one works here in Cary while the younger one is a student at UNC Greensboro.

Michael has a unique connection to the Page-Walker: his great-grandfather was Rufus Coburn, who owned the Page-Walker from 1929 - 1941. He also has fairly deep roots in Cary, as Rufus's wife, Michael's great-grandmother, was Rosina Dowell, daughter of Rev. George Dowell, the namesake of Dowell Street in downtown Cary. Also, Rosina Dowell's mother was Tranquilla Yates, who grew up on a farm just north of downtown Cary (as a side note, that makes Michael and Friends board member Carla Jordan Michaels 4th cousins!) Tranquilla's father was Alvis Yates, one of the sons of Eli Yates, who settled in what would become the northern section of Cary today.

The last few years have found Michael much more involved with the town of Cary, serving on the Friends board and renovating and adding on to their house just west of the old Cary High School on Academy Street.

Fun fact: Michael is a woodturner. Part of the recent addition to their house on Heater Drive was a woodshop for him. He has been turning bowls and other items on the lathe for almost 20 years.

BOARD MEMBERS

Your Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel board members are these volunteers: Lisa Banks, Mina Bayraktar (Teen Council representative), Bryan Craddock, Michael Edwards, Pat Fish (treasurer, life member), Kirk Fuller, Jimmy Gibbs, Andy Kirk, Trish Kirkpatrick, Anne Kratzer (life member), John Loyack (president), Kerry Mead (secretary), Carla Michaels, Brent Miller, Bob Myers, Cathy Richmond, Judi Rourke, Michael Rubes, Kay Struffolino, Pat Sweeney, Peggy Van Scoyoc (vice president), Barbara Wetmore and Ed Yerha (Cary Town Council liaison).

The board is also fortunate to have the participation of Town of Cary staff members Robbie Stone, William Lewis, Kris Carmichael, Jennifer Hocken and Matthew Champagne; and alternate Town Council liaison Jack Smith.

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 in this issue.

Community Partners

The Friends are pleased to collaborate with our partner organizations, the Cary Chamber of Commerce and Heart of Cary Association. You can find out more about these organizations and the local events they sponsor, respectively at www.carychamber.com and www.heartofcary.org.



Speakers Bureau On Tour

Free Presentations to Community Groups

On September 4, 2019, Peggy Van Scoyoc presented a program to the Cary Newcomers Club about the history of the Page-Walker Hotel. This was a new topic for Peggy, and it was well received by the large audience.

On October 14, Peggy spoke to the Cary Central Rotary Club about both of her books, *Just a Horse-Stopping Place*, and *Desegregating Cary*. Both books were compiled from oral history interviews with longtime Cary residents.

Please contact us at info@friendsofpagewalker.org if you would like to have someone speak to your community group about Cary's history.

Popular Topics

- **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. Includes our new video presentation!
- **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
- **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

Do you need a speaker for monthly meetings, luncheon programs or special gatherings? Presentations can range from 20 minutes to an hour and can be tailored to fit the interests of your group. Please contact us at info@friendsofpagewalker.org if you would like to have someone speak to your community group about Cary’s history.

A HUGE THANK YOU

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

Peggy Van Scoyoc for her extraordinary work in collecting and publishing Cary's history via her oral histories and for speaking at events around Cary about our history.

All of our Holiday Decorating Committee volunteers, including **Judi Rourke** for serving as chair, and to **Lois Nixon**, for making the stunning wreath to decorate the historic smokehouse.

All of the the garden volunteers, including **Marla Dorrel** for her excellence in chairing.

Charlene Jones for providing a touch of the 1800s at the Friends' events with her vintage costumes, which she makes and assembles.

Board President **John Loyack** for chairing the prestigious President's Volunteer Service Award program.

Many folks who stepped up to ensure preservation of the Ivey-Ellington house – **John Loyack** and **Marla Dorrel** for working with town staff to develop a set of guidelines for the future of the house and speaking at public hearings; and **Trish Kirkpatrick** for her leadership in organizing the Friends' Ivey-Ellington Committee, and to the members of that committee: **John Loyack, Trish Kirkpatrick, Anne Kratzer, Paulette Sweeney, Michael Rubes, Bob Myers** and **Marla Dorrel**.

Barb Wetmore, who literally got the trolley program moving and recently wrote the script for the new African American trolley tour, chaired the "Paint the Page" event, and leads volunteers in helping the Town maintain White Plains Cemetery.

John Lytvinenko, who initiated the idea for a Cary trolley and has served as the trolley driver for dozens of excursions.

Wade Carmichael, who designed the monarch butterfly costumes used at Herbfest and served as a judge for Paint the Page.

Brent Miller and **Leesa Brinkley**, for editing and designing *The Innkeeper*, our award winning newsletter.

Carla Michaels, researcher extraordinaire. Carla adds depth to everything we touch!

Kris Carmichael for making dreams come true at the Page-Walker.

Trish Kirkpatrick, Andy Kirk, Kerry Mead, Marla Dorrel, Judi Rourke, Charlene Jones, Barb Wetmore, Charlene Jones and **Anna Michaels** for increasing the visibility of the Friends online, and sharing volunteer opportunities.

Anne Kratzer for her many years of seeking out people to recognize in this section while shunning recognition for herself.

The Innkeeper

The Innkeeper is the newsletter of the Friends of the Page-Walker. 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*. The following contributed photos for this issue: **Carla Michaels, Nelson Wetmore, Barbara Wetmore, Marla Dorrel, Michael Rubes, Charlene Jones, Kris Carmichael, Town of Cary**. If you have articles, suggestions or ideas to share, please send them to Brent at brent@posmoroda.com.

LET'S BE *Friends!*

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.



www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel



www.twitter.com/FriendsofPW



www.youtube.com/caryhistory

Please begin or renew your membership. If you haven't renewed for 2019, please do so **today**. Thank you for your continued support!

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.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 21. Please print, complete and return it today!

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

Barbara Wetmore

John Loyack

Brent Miller

Judi Rourke & Michael

Rubes

Bob Myers

Anne Kratzer

Pat Fish

Ralph Ashworth

Chip Wooten

Peggy Van Scoyoc

Jim Bustrack

Leesa Brinkley

Hal Bowman &

Mercedes Auger

Lisa Dove

Jack Leavell

J. Michael Edwards

Marla Dorrel

Kay Struffolino

Ed Yerha

Carla Michaels

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
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. 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
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