

The Innkeeper



FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER

WINTER 2023

Ed Yerha
Honored

PLUS

Friends Receive Albert Ray
Newsome Award

Jerry Miller on LazyDaze

Hlstory Hikes





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

KERRY MEAD

Looking Back on an Amazing Year

With the continued return to in-person events, 2022 brought Friends' Members and Cary residents the opportunity to gather in person at the Page-Walker for a variety of events. As you read through this newsletter, you will see what a fun year we have had, and also learn about the history of some of Cary's treasures.

Festivals & Celebrations

- We held Herbfest in May, our first since 2019. Save the date for this year's event – Sunday, May 7.
- The Page-Walker's Victorian Christmas took place in December, with carolers and horse-drawn carriage rides.
- The festive and fun annual Friends' potluck holiday celebration returned in December. Members of the Friends are invited to join us — another good reason to become a Member!

Awards and Commemoration

- We celebrated with our beloved board member and former Council Member, Ed Yerha, when the Town named a park after him.
Board members won the Albert Ray Newsome Award for their work, in conjunction with members of the Cary First Christian Church, in preserving and celebrating the church's cemetery.

History Shared with You

- Michael Rubes led the first "Hike with Mike" at Umstead State Park, hopefully becoming an annual event.
- Peggy Van Scoyoc interviewed Jerry Miller, beloved artist and founder of Cary Lazy Daze.
- Our Trolley Tours continued, and traveled to new locations this year.

And more fun activities are planned for 2023! Join us at an upcoming in-person event, or follow us on Instagram or Facebook as we delve into Cary's history. And stay tuned for more details!

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. If you have articles, suggestions or ideas to share, please send them to Brent at brent@posmoroda.com.



Let's Visit Ed Yerha Park!

Sign Dedication Makes New Name Official

On July 28, 2022 the Cary Town Council voted to rename White Oak Park as **Ed Yerha** park to honor Ed Yerha's long-time service to Cary, including 10 years on the Town Council and more than 10 years of volunteer service before joining Town Council. On November 6, the Town held a dedication for the sign for Ed Yerha Park that included a ceremony, remarks from several officials, gourd decorating and light refreshments.

Ed and his wife Carolyn arrived at the park with great fanfare, being escorted by a Town of Cary fire engine with its lights and siren operating. The dozens of attendees, including nearly all Town Council members and many members of the Friends, greeted them with sustained applause.

Several of Ed's long-time colleagues, including Town Manager Sean Steagall, Town Attorney Lisa Glover and Mayor Harold Weinbrecht offered remarks, followed by an address by Ed. He expressed his thanks for this recognition, his appreciation of the many relationships he has built during his service to the town, and related his and Carolyn's journey that resulted in making Cary their home.

The Friends offer our sincere congratulations to Ed Yerha for this wonderful honor and our sincere thanks for all he's done to make Cary such a wonderful place to live, especially his passionate advocacy for Cary's history and historic preservation.

Ed joins several other folks, including Friends members **Anne Kratzer, Kay Struffolino** and **Marla Dorrel**, along with Town Councilman Jack Smith, who have parks or other Town facilities named for them and were present at the sign dedication event. (photo above)

During the event, Ed and Mayor Weinbrecht both mentioned that a white oak tree has been planted at Ed Yerha Park in honor of Friend and 2020 Hometown Spirit Award winner **Brent Miller**. Brent is pleased and honored that this tree is in a place named for his friend Ed Yerha.

information compiled from Town of Cary and event attendees



Friends Receive Albert Ray Newsome Award for Excellence in Local History

“Miss Sallie” Jones Also Honored

The Friends were honored to receive the Albert Ray Newsome award from the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies for their work with Cary First Christian Church to produce a walking tour brochure of the church's historic African American Cemetery. The award was presented at the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association Annual Achievement & Book Awards Ceremony in the Archives & History/State Library Building in Raleigh. Each year, the Federation receives applications for the award from historical societies around the state. The Friends are proud to have been selected to receive the award for 2022.

You can visit the historic Cary First Christian Church Cemetery at 300 W. Cornwall Rd. in Cary and read about its significance [here](#).

Above: Friends **Barbara Wetmore**, **Marilyn Carney** (also a member of Cary First Christian Church), **Carla Michaels**, and Cary First Christian Church member Barbara Engram were present to receive the Albert Ray Newsome Award.

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The remarkable Sallie Jones

The cemetery brochure, along with the preservation of the cemetery itself, would not have been possible without the outstanding efforts and contributions of Sallie Jones. Sallie, a descendant of historic Cary African American families, including the Arringtons and the Blakes, made it her personal project to preserve the Cary First Christian Church Cemetery to save it from being lost. She hired archeologists to survey the cemetery and produce a map of marked and unmarked graves, and she enlisted the help of the community to clean up and restore the cemetery, which had fallen into disrepair through overgrowth of vegetation and some vandalism. Desiring to honor those unknown persons buried in unmarked graves, Sallie worked with NC experts to identify some of the unknown names, spending many hours going through archived records. In a critical step, she registered the cemetery with the state, protecting it from ever being sold. Sallie Jones, today at age 98, was a key contributor to the development of the walking tour brochure through her knowledge and remarkable memory of the people buried at the cemetery.

Sallie was honored this past fall with a prestigious Anthemion Award from Capital Area Preservation, which recognizes outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in historic preservation in Wake County. She was also honored with a Historic Preservation Recognition Award by the Yates Mill and Asbury Station chapters of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, both in Cary. Congratulations to Miss Sallie for these richly deserved awards that reflect all she has done to help preserve the stories and history of African American life in Cary.



Sallie Jones receiving a Capital Area Preservation (CAP) Anthemion Award presented by CAP President Gary Roth, Cary Town Councilman Don Frantz, and NC Congresswoman Deborah Ross.



Yates Mill NSDAR Regent Julie Stangler, Asbury Station NSDAR member Barbara Wetmore and Regent Carla Michaels, and NSDAR District VI Director Robin Pendergraft with Sallie Jones (center).

The Company Mill Trail at Umstead Park

As part of the Friends' focus on community outreach, Friends board member **Mike Rubes** led a group of interested hikers along the Company Mill Trail in Umstead Park on December 10, 2022. Hikers learned the history of the Company Mill as narrated by Mike while making their way through the woods where members of the Page family operated a grist mill in the 1800s.

Around 1810, Lewis Page sold a few acres of land along Crabtree Creek to his 20-year-old son, Anderson. Anderson proceeded to build a grist mill on the creek a few miles north of what would one day become Cary. The mill was built with hand-hewn lumber and pegs. Called the Page Mill, it stood as a working mill until the 1920s before being mostly washed away by flooding in the 1930s.

Anderson's son, Frank Page, would go on to found the town of Cary in 1871. Anderson ran the mill himself until around 1847 when he sold his interests in the mill to his brother, Williamson, and two other men. They renamed it The Company Mill.



View of the Company Mill from the northern bank of Crabtree Creek

For generations, the mill stood as a focal point for the Cedar Forks community. There were two other grist mills in what would eventually become Umstead State Park, but the Company Mill was the largest. At its peak around the turn of the century, more than 40 families lived around the mill and used it for grinding their homegrown corn and wheat, both for personal and business use.

It was said that the mill produced the finest quality flour of any mill in the area. Commercially, mule-drawn wagons brought sacks of corn and wheat to the mill to be ground. Two roads led to the Mill, one from the north and one from the south. By

the 1920s, some folks were even driving their trucks to the Mill to have grain ground. Remnants of the southern road are still visible when viewed from the north bank of the mill site. There was a wooden footbridge that crossed Crabtree creek just downstream from the mill, but it was not rebuilt when it washed away in the 1920s.

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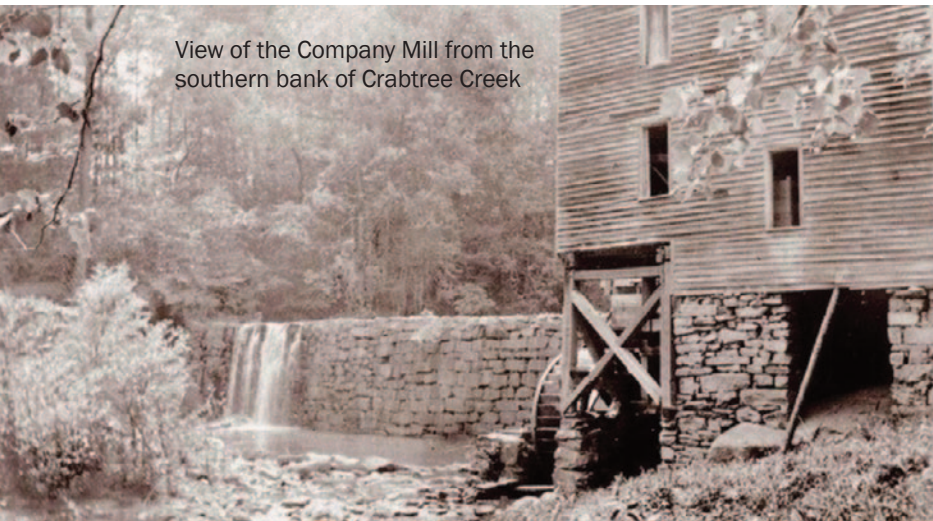
The Grissom Family was the last one to operate the mill, well into the 1920s. Their homesite was just uphill on the north bank of Crabtree Creek. Joe Grissom has told the story of how it was a steep walk down and back to the mill to get freshly ground corn, but how he liked doing it in the winter. The freshly ground corn was warm, so he would tuck the bag of corn flour under his shirt and it would keep him warm on the walk back home.



Crabtree Creek was much higher back when the mill was operating. The dam wall was more than 15 feet high and created a sizeable mill pond. The pond was used as a local swimming hole and boating pond in the summer.

The mill itself not only served the surrounding community as a mill, but was also often the center of social activities. There are plenty of accounts of dances and other types of events being held at the Company Mill.

By the turn of the century, folks were coming from as far away as Durham to swim and boat in the mill pond, have picnics on the shores and attend other social events. The mill was three stories tall, with the bottom story containing the mechanical parts of the mill, while the middle story was an open room where the dances and parties were held.



View of the Company Mill from the southern bank of Crabtree Creek

Even after the mill closed in the 1920s, people would continue to come to the mill site to enjoy the millpond for picnics and boating. By the mid-1930s, it was common to see more than 100 cars parked along the road there on a Sunday afternoon. That lasted until the great flood broke the dam wall and destroyed the mill. It was about this same time that the Resettlement Administration (RA) was buying up land from farmers facing ruin, and there was a mass exodus of people

moving out of Cedar Fork Township. The RA purchased much of the land that later would make up Umstead Park, enlisted the help of the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and went about creating Crabtree Creek State Park, which would eventually be renamed for William B. Umstead.

Friends' Holiday Potluck

The Friends enjoyed their first holiday potluck meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic in the lovely main gallery of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Good fellowship, good food, and good music were appreciated by all.



Erik Dyke and the UU Ukes added some lively cheer to the Friends' holiday potluck meeting with their upbeat renditions of holiday tunes on their ukuleles.

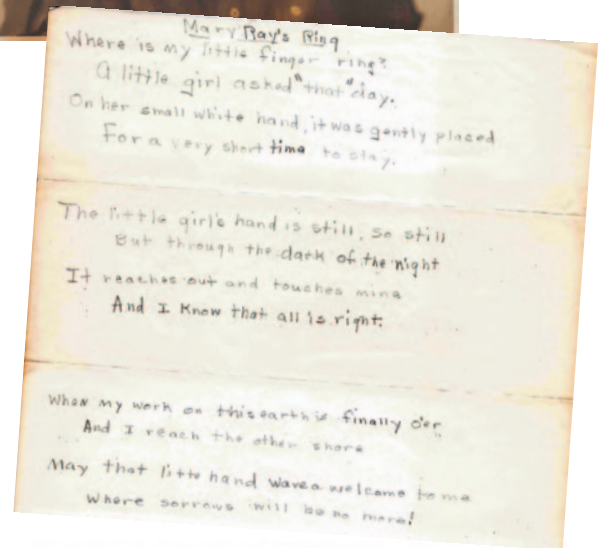


Friends Transfer Historic Assets to Town

In August, the Friends received a donated uniform belonging to Harold B. Burt, who directed the Cary High School Band and Orchestra from 1950 to 1960. Amazingly, a different and unrelated visitor loaned us about three hours of Cary High School Band footage that is being converted from Super 8 to digital so it can be made available for viewing.

In October, the Friends received a very generous donation from Leslie Yarborough Lowe (great-granddaughter of Dr. Frank Yarborough). She donated a number of books owned by Dr. Yarborough that give us insight into his medical knowledge. Leslie also donated Dr. Yarborough's medical bag with some of his implements still inside. Additionally, she donated many items about his daughter, Mary Ray, who tragically died at age 11 in 1937 (pictured). Some items include her poetry, pastel drawings, letters to Santa, and the veil her mother, Mary Warren Yarborough, wore to her funeral.

During the Friends' board meeting in November, we discussed ownership of all the furniture and other historical items that have been donated to the Friends over many years. Many of the furniture items need repair and restoration, and all items need to be properly stored. Without a budget to cover these expenses, it was proposed to transfer everything within the Friends' ownership to the Town of Cary. Following that meeting, Town staff approved assuming the collection. During the January 2023 board meeting, a motion was made and unanimously approved by the Friends' board to complete that transfer. Thus ends the Friends' archives and acquisitions committee.





Herbfest

FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER

Although winter is still upon us, the Friends are busy looking ahead and planning our yearly tribute to Spring – our 12th annual Herbfest on Sunday, May 7, from 12-4 pm. The grounds of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center will be filled with white tents housing vendors selling herbs, native plants and perennials, along with craft artisans selling items related to gardening and nature. We also feature guests who share important and interesting educational information about gardening.

Butterflies have been ordered for our signature Butterfly Release at 2:30PM. For our young guests, a fun craft activity will be available, as well as face-painting. And our very popular Young Friends bake sale will take place.

Guests can visit our beautiful Anne B. Kratzer Educational Herb Garden and our Pollinator Garden, and everyone is invited to tour the historic Page-Walker Arts & History Center, where a walking tour brochure of this treasured, interesting building is available to guide you.

Please invite your family and friends to join us on May 7. Vendor applications are available on our [website](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org).



The background of the entire page is an abstract, artistic composition. It features a dense network of thin, overlapping lines in various colors, including shades of brown, orange, purple, and white. These lines create a sense of movement and depth. Scattered throughout the composition are several black musical notes and stems, some of which are larger and more prominent than others. The overall effect is that of a complex, layered musical score or a digital art piece related to music.

PERFORMANCES AT THE PAGE
JENNIFER HOCKEN AND TRISH KIRKPATRICK

Friends, Town Partner for Entertainment

The Town of Cary and Friends of Page-Walker announce the return of winter concert series favorites, along with a new storytelling event in 2023. Refreshments are served at all shows. Tickets for all shows are \$20 and available at The Cary Theater box office and online through [eTix](#).

Erik Dyke & Friends **Sunday, February 19 at 4 pm**

Erik Dyke, double bassist with the North Carolina Symphony, and musical friends return as they play a wonderful selection of classical music sure to be a warm and cozy experience on a winter afternoon.

Bill Leslie: Celtic Carolina **Sunday, March 12 at 4 pm**

Original music and storytelling from Celtic composer and winner of The North Carolina Award for Performing arts, Bill Leslie.

Roadhouse Storytellers **Saturday, April 1 at 7 pm**

Join the Roadhouse Storytellers as they bring local storytellers for an evening of stories in the intimate space of the Page-Walker.

Jerry Miller Shares Lazy Daze Memories

On November 16, 2022, **Peggy Van Scoyoc** interviewed Jerry Miller at the Page-Walker so he could tell us about how he started Lazy Daze in 1977. Southern National Bank had just opened a branch in Cary, and its board decided to sponsor an event to help the town while also benefiting the bank. Jerry Miller was on the board, and was asked for his thoughts. As a renowned artist, Jerry had been attending festivals all over North Carolina to sell his art, so he proposed that Cary hold one of its own. The idea took hold. Jerry then went around to other festivals and invited artists to come to the first Cary festival. They were reluctant because it was new and unknown, but finally he managed to sign up 100 artists to begin. On Saturday, August 24, 1977, the very first Lazy Daze arts and crafts festival was held, and was a huge hit. Word spread, and after that, artists were begging to be accepted into Cary's festival. It continued to grow every year thereafter.



People always ask, why is Lazy Daze held on the hottest day of the summer each year? The simple answer is, no other events were scheduled for that weekend because of the heat, so Cary booked it, and now continues to hold that traditional weekend each year. By the 1990s, the number of artists had grown to more than 450, and 50,000 people came from all over to attend. Then entertainment was added with a stage, and that was very popular. For fun, a contest began for folks to hunt for “Little Jerry” dolls as they enjoyed the festival. A few vendors were given a doll to display in their booth, and visitors searched for them. Later, the Jerry Miller Artists Board was established to judge the artists, and ribbons were presented to those voted by category to be the “best in show.” Jerry himself presents the ribbons.

Lazy Daze has grown as Cary itself has grown. It is now considered to be one of the best artist festivals on the East Coast.

Far more than \$1 million has been raised over the years; those proceeds have been distributed to non-profit Cary organizations who apply for a grant. And it is still going strong. The interview with Jerry can be viewed [here](#).



*For more than 20 years, Cary 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 and our speakers bureau are available [here](#).*

Keeping Up With the Joneses

DOCUMENTS SHED LIGHT ON THE PAST

Several unrelated Jones families have deep roots in Cary history, which makes keeping up with the Joneses interesting and challenging. Fortunately, members of the Henry Jones family preserved personal family letters, documents and memorabilia to help Cary researchers separate the Joneses and tell their stories accurately. Two groups of documents have recently come to light.

One is a group of digital copies of letters given to the Town of Cary by descendants of the Henry Jones family for non-commercial research and use. Henry's house is more familiarly known as the Nancy Jones House on Chapel Hill Road, owned by the Town of Cary, which has recently been moved and is undergoing restoration. This digital collection of these personal family letters spans the years 1836 to 1878 and gives insight into life in our area, as well as details of the family members and the times they lived through. One such detail is shared in an article about Hillcrest Cemetery in this issue. Other details will be featured in future Innkeeper newsletters.

The other is a large group of documents, letters and a sketch of a floral family tree in the Rufus Henry Jones Papers, 177 – 1919 at the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Duke University. In researching the Jones family during the COVID-19 pandemic, I became aware of the collection, which according to the finding aid, contained a substantial amount of information that could shine a light on Cary and Jones family history.

This past fall, **Barbara Wetmore** and I, both board members of the Friends, declared our own "Rufus Jones Day" and traveled to Duke to look at these documents for ourselves. The Rubenstein Library is equipped with state-of-the-art digitization equipment, so once Barb and I had perused the collection, realized the treasure trove that it was (and after lunch in front of Duke Chapel), we set about digitizing the entire collection for later analysis.

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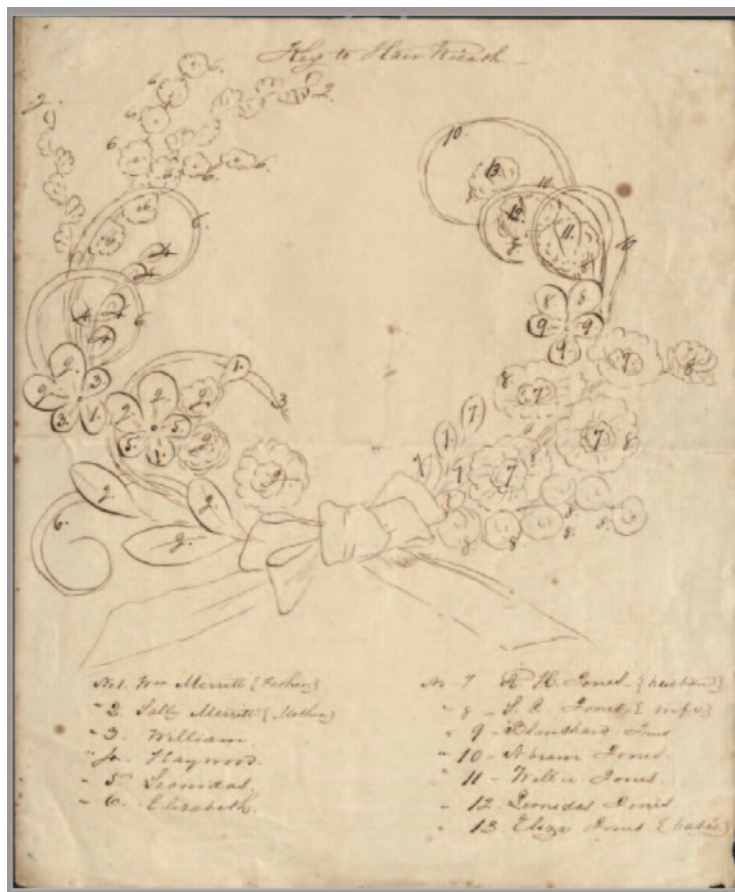
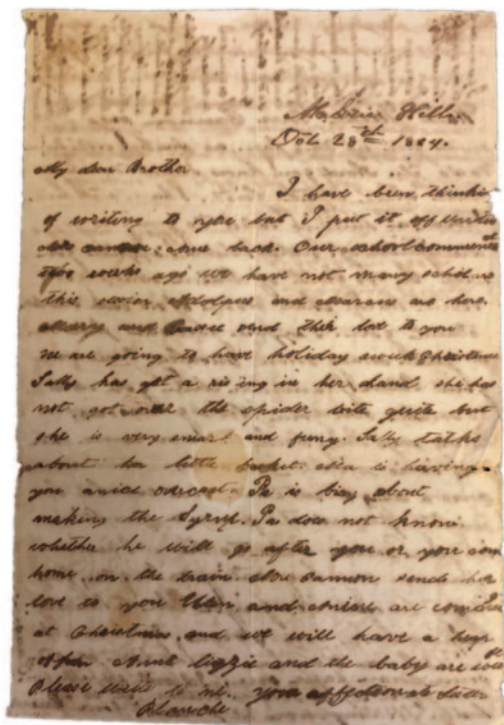




The most poignant image in the collection was a sketch a “hair wreath”, which served as a guide to a family tree. Jewelry and decorative items made of human hair were common keepsakes in the 1800s. Here is a Victorian example.

The elaborate sketch of the hair wreath, shown below, includes members of the family of Sarah Merritt Jones (# 8 – S C Jones), the wife of Rufus Jones. Her father and mother are included in the wreath (#1 and 2), as well as her siblings (#3-6); husband, Rufus Jones (#7) and some of their children (#9-12). Based on the children’s names, it is not clear when this wreath would have been made. Some of these children lived to adulthood, while others died in infancy. Some children’s names are not noted on the wreath. Another research opportunity! Locating and photographing the original, if it exists, would be an amazing find.

As the letters are transcribed (for searchability) and analyzed, interesting items will be featured in future Innkeeper newsletters. Cary’s history is rich and deep. Discoveries continue to reveal fresh information that adds to our understanding of our town and its social and material culture. Stay tuned!



SHOW YOUR CARY PRIDE!

Get your own iconic Cary photos

Visit the Friends' [online store](#) to purchase some special Cary photography.

Once purchased, you'll get information and links to photo finishing partners who can produce and deliver various kinds of prints, greeting cards, puzzles, blankets and holiday ornaments.





Trolley Travels to New Destinations

In addition to several private group general history and African American history tours in the late summer, the Town of Cary and the Friends ended the season with a new cemetery tour in October. Passengers boarded the trolley at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center and rode first to the Cary First Christian Church Cemetery on Cornwall Road.

There they got off the trolley and met guides **Jimmy Gibbs** and **Carla Michaels**, who led them down the main corridor of the cemetery, sharing information about the cemetery, the unique grave markers, and the stories of the people buried there. From there, passengers reboarded the trolley and rode to Hillcrest Cemetery where they were met by guides **Mike Rubes** and **Barb Wetmore**, who shared information about the grave sites and stories of some of the significant people buried there.

Passengers enjoyed these new tours to cemeteries that many didn't even know existed, where they learned about the contributions of Cary's early families and citizens to the development of our town.

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Farewell to a beloved driver



Our beloved trolley driver **John Lytvinenko** retired in October after five years of carrying passengers and guides through the streets of Cary's history. John was the inspiration and brains behind our trolley tours. After retiring from IBM in 2018, he began spending some of his newfound free time driving trolleys for Historic Raleigh Trolley Tours. Wanting to share his love for trolleys and Cary, John presented a proposal to the Friends to make use of the Raleigh Trolley – available for rent through Wake County – to offer historic tours of Cary to interested citizens and visitors. The rest is . . . history! John and our volunteer guides from the Friends have presented Cary's history to hundreds of passengers in the past five years. Riders have come away 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.

John was a fun, enthusiastic, safe and skilled driver who brought a unique level of entertainment to the tours. We will miss him. Thank you John! We wish you well in your retirement.

During the Friends holiday pot luck meeting in December, Friends trolley guides Carla Michaels, Barb Wetmore, and Mike Rubes presented John Lytvinenko with a mounted trolley bell to thank him for his years of service. You can see from his outfit how much fun he was as a driver!

Future of trolley tours

We hope to continue our historic trolley tours in 2023. Visit www.friendsofpagewalker.org/trolley-tour to learn more about our trolley tour offerings. If you'd like to be notified when tickets go on sale for 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.

Lamenting the Loss of a Friend

Former Mayor Harold Ritter Helped Save the Page-Walker

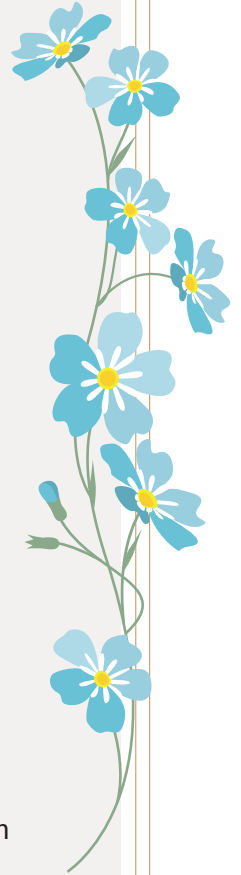
We lost a special friend in Harold Ritter on New Year's Eve, 2022. Harold Ritter was the Mayor of Cary in the mid 1980s at the time when a group of citizens from the Preservation Committee of the Cary Historical Society began its quest to save the rapidly deteriorating circa-1870 Walker Hotel. Its owner, Mr. Bob Strother, had moved out in 1980 and for five years the Hotel deteriorated rapidly. Before moving, however, Mr. Strother had wisely completed the application process to place the Hotel on the National Register of Historic Places.



Myrick Howard of Preservation North Carolina (PNC), who had been working with the Cary Historical Society to find a solution to save the historic structure, presented a plan that the group took to Mayor Ritter. The plan was that the Town would purchase the Hotel (valued at \$4000 because of its poor condition) and the surround three acres for \$235,000 and then lease the Hotel and one acre to PNC, which would in turn, lease it to the newly incorporated Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel (the name, "Page" was inserted to acknowledge that Allison Francis Page, the town's founder, had built the Hotel and was its first owner). The Hotel was to be restored as an arts and history center for the community.

Thankfully, under Harold Ritter's leadership, the Town Council agreed to the proposal, and the Hotel and land were purchased from Mr. Strother on June 13, 1985. A few months later, the plan was officially finalized, and in December, 1991, thanks to the Friends, the Town, and support from the entire community and beyond, the Page-Walker Arts & History Center was open to the public.

We mourn Mayor Harold Ritter's passing and thank him for opening the door to the Hotel, for it has been a source of enjoyment and education in arts and history for the past 32 years.



Winter Roller Coaster

As I write this, it's mid-January and the overnight freezing temperatures have finally risen into the 40s. It's a crisp, cold day in Cary. But that was not the case on November 12, when our merry band of volunteer gardeners gathered to put the Anne B. Kratzer Educational Gardens to bed for the winter. The weather had been so very balmy that many of the plants were still showing off. We made quick work, trimming, deadheading, and spreading a blanket of pine straw. And who was in the merry band that day? Our thanks to **Whitley Austin, Marla Dorrel, Pat Fish, Michelle Graham, Molly Grundner, Angela Kahoe, Anne Kratzer, Kriti Peechu, Judi Rourke, Liz Ryan, Michelle Smith, Ayako Stone, and Barb Wetmore.** What a fantastic crew!

Since then, the weather has taken us on a roller coaster ride, rising to the 70s, dropping to freezing and below, then rising again. Looking at our garden, you will understand when I say that it has found the ride a bit rough. We are fortunate, though, that high school sophomore Kriti Peechu has volunteered to take care of winter maintenance, from mid-November to mid-April, as she works toward her 100 hours of volunteering to earn the President's Volunteer Service Award. Thank you, Kriti, for your commitment to volunteering; we're delighted to assist you in meeting your admirable goal!

We still have weeks of winter remaining, but one thing we can be sure of: Springtime will come. And when it does, bits of green will start to appear. And as those tiny, green leaves soak up the springtime sun, they will begin to grow, promising that our beloved gardens will again be lush and beautiful. And there's another thing we can be sure of: Our merry band of volunteer gardeners will be there, pruners and trowels in hand, to welcome spring and all the joys it will bring. Happy gardening, everyone!



A Little Holiday Swag

Thank you to Friends members **Lois Nixon** and **Barb Wetmore** who each year decorate the Smokehouse door in the Anne B. Kratzer Educational Gardens and the gate of the historic White Plains Cemetery. Lois and Barb use greenery and berries they find on the Page-Walker grounds to make the lovely swags.



The White Plains Cemetery got a double dose of attention this past fall. On October 10, the Asbury Station chapter of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, based in Cary, conducted a day of service and prayer at the cemetery to honor Nathaniel Jones, the only Revolutionary War patriot buried in a marked grave in Cary. The Daughters raked leaves, cleaned grave markers and signs and placed a patriotic wreath on Nathaniel's grave before saying a prayer to honor him.



Two months later, on December 11, volunteers from the Friends and the Cary Teen Council cleared a huge amount of leaves that had made their way down from the large poplars surrounding the cemetery. We are grateful to all these wonderful volunteers who care for this historic treasure.

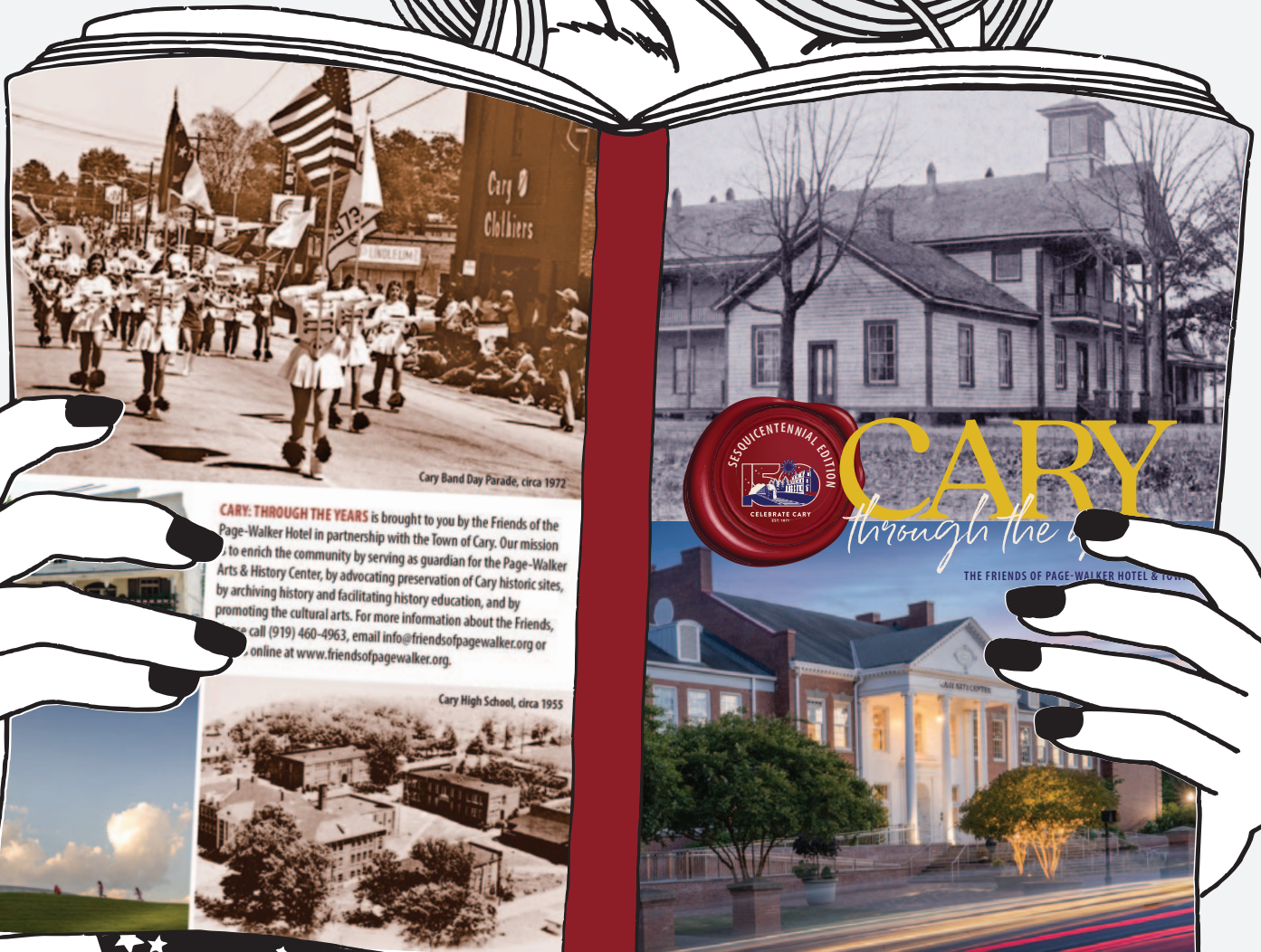
The Friends and community volunteers are proud to partner with the Town of Cary Public Works department to care for this historic property. You can visit the White Plains Cemetery on Tolliver Court in the Maynard Oaks subdivision in Cary.



Cary Through the Years Update Now Available!

In April 2020, the Friends formed a committee to update a timeline booklet called Cary Through the Years, first published in 2013. The updated edition honors the 150th sesquicentennial anniversary of Cary for 2021, adds many new milestones that have occurred in the past 8 years and refreshes other content.

Click [here](#) to purchase this and other Cary history books.



A BIG THANK YOU!

Barb Wetmore, Carla Michaels, Marilyn Carney, Barbara Engram, Leesa Brinkley and all of the Friends and members of Cary First Christian Church whose work on the Cary First Christian Church Cemetery walking tour brochure led to receiving the Albert Ray Newsome Award from the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies (as reported in this issue).

Kris Carmichael and **Matthew Champagne** for their important work in protecting and interpreting the Cary artifacts that are donated to the Page-Walker.

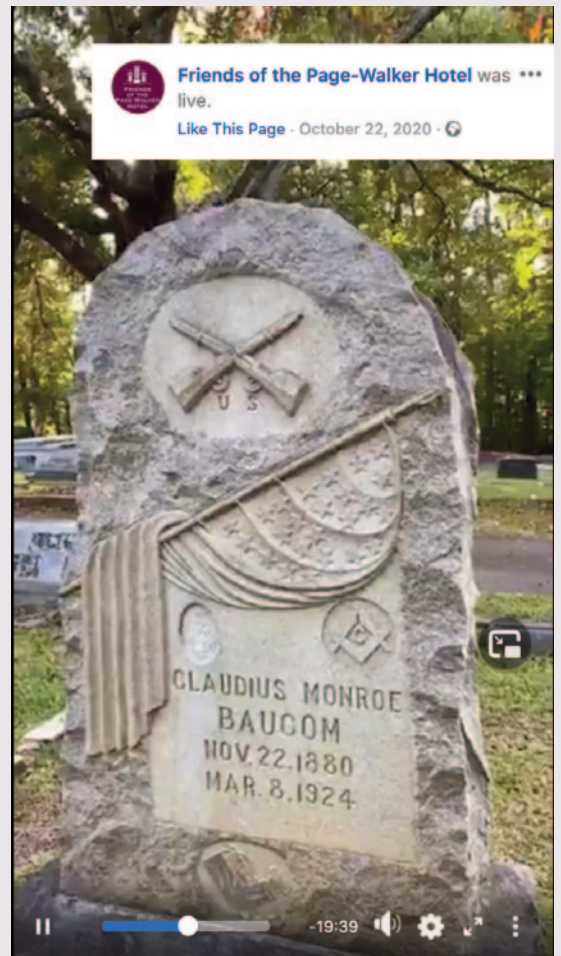
Ed Yerha, for his decades of service to the Town of Cary as a volunteer and Town Council member; and for his years of service to the Friends as a member of the board of directors and past President.

Pat Fish for decades of serving as the Friends treasurer and making Herbfest happen every year.


Barb Wetmore for leading the White Plains Cemetery committee; and **Marla Dorrel** for leading the Anne B. Kratzer Educational Gardens committee. Their teams keep both of the community jewels shining!

John Lytvinenko, Barb Wetmore, the Town of Cary and all the volunteer tour guides who have made the Friends Trolley Tours a rousing success.

All of the Friends who contribute content to this newsletter, with special thanks to **Carla Michaels** and **Barb Wetmore**, who consistently contribute a large portion of that content in the form of interesting articles and wonderful images; and to **Leesa Brinkley**, who donates her considerable talent to make this newsletter shine. And to **Brent Miller** for his fantastic project management and editorial skills!



 www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel

 www.instagram.com/friendsofpagewalker/

 www.youtube.com/user/CaryHistory

 www.linkedin.com/in/friends-of-the-page-walker-5488a0161/



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.

Thank you for your continued support, and please begin or renew your membership. If you haven't renewed for 2021, please do so today. And please ask a friend to join!

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 [website](#). 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 at the end of this newsletter. Please print, complete and return it today!



**FRIENDS OF THE
PAGE-WALKER HOTEL**

CONTACT THE FRIENDS

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(919) 460-4963 program information
email: info@friendsofpagewalker.org
www.friendsofpagewalker.org

President Kerry Mead

BOARD MEMBERS

Your Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel board members are these volunteers: **Lisa Banks, Courtney Bonvillain, Marilyn Carney, Michael Edwards, Pat Fish** (treasurer, lifetime member), **Kirk Fuller, Jimmy Gibbs, Andy Kirk, Trish Kirkpatrick, Anne Kratzer** (lifetime member), **Katherine Loflin, John Loyack** (immediate past president), **Kerry Mead** (president), **Carla Jordan Michaels, Brent Miller, Bob Myers, Cathy Richmond, Judi Rourke, Michael Rubes** (secretary), **Arwa Sattar** (Teen Council Representative), **Kay Struffolino, Peggy Van Scoyoc** (vice president), **Barbara Wetmore** and **Ed Yerha**.

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**.

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.



www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel



www.instagram.com/friendsofpagewalker/



www.youtube.com/user/CaryHistory



www.linkedin.com/in/friends-of-the-page-walker-5488a0161/

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. More information can be found [here](#).

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