



The Innkeeper

Winter 2006-2007

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

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

President's Message

By Bob Myers

The holiday season is a time of reflection, and as I think back on the many activities of the past year, I'm amazed and proud of the accomplishments of this group of people, who dedicate their time and passion to the mission of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel. It's wonderful to witness how individuals with such varied interests and skills combine to form such an effective organization.

This year saw the great success of our inaugural "**Big Event**". Through the efforts of **Michael Longmire** and his team, and thanks to some beautiful weather, the grand re-opening of the Page-Walker back yard was an event to remember. **Julia Morrison** is chairing the 2007 event committee. Equally special was the resurrection of the educational gardens. Thanks to **Anne Kratzer** and her volunteers for creating this oasis by the smoke house (see p. 11).

Our **historic preservation committee** (p. 3) has been busy as well. Under **Andy Jalbert**'s chairmanship, the popularity of the preservation speaker series (p. 2) is growing. Several programs were presented this year and several more are planned for 2007. The group has also made real progress working with the Town to save the Waldo House (p. 10). **Peggy Van Scoyoc** continues to add to our oral history treasure. We hope to enhance this project through the purchase of digital audio equipment that will yield higher quality and more easily transcribed recordings.

Through the efforts of the Friends, we are able to sustain ongoing activities. The summer and winter concert series, the decoration of the Page-Walker and our presence at Lazy Daze and Spring Daze happen only because of the dedication of many people. **Ed Yerha** is chairing a committee to evaluate and enhance the information and merchandise that we provide at various events. I look forward to the results of his committee's efforts in the coming year.

A focus item in the coming year will be membership. We appreciate all of our existing members and are working to improve our communications with you, our members, and we are working to improve our marketing and increase opportunities to attract new members. We have formed an endowment committee to investigate additional fundraising and membership alternatives. **Please renew your membership today (see page 2).**

I'm excited about the outlook for the Friends in 2007. Great things are happening! I'd like to wish everyone a joyous and safe holiday. See you next year!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

The 2nd Annual "Big Event" Garden
Grand Opening and Lawn Party
Saturday, May 5th 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Barbecue Dinner and
Music by the "Friendly Fiddlers"

Come join the Friends for a tour of the
hotel, food and fun

Tickets available after the New Year

Time to Start or Renew Your Membership!

☞ **This Means You!** ☞

The Friends can accomplish our mission of preserving the Page Walker Arts & History Center and other Cary historic sites, history archival and education and promoting cultural arts only through the participation of members.

We thank you for your continued support and ask you to **please, at this time, begin or renew your membership. If you haven't renewed your membership in 2006, please do so today.**

A membership form (for new memberships and renewals) appears on page 13. Please complete and return it today!

The Friends thank these (new and renewed) Community Partner, Sustaining and Silver Sustaining Members:

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Harris, Paul Wasylkevych, Brent & Laurie Miller, Bob & Lisa Myers, Ed & Carolyn Yerha, Mercedes Auger & Hal Bowman, Anne & Jerry Kratzer, Cindi Baker, Michael Longmire, Peggy Van Scoyoc, Winnie Ferguson, Pat Fish

Get With the Program!

By Marla Dorrel

Over the past year, the historic preservation committee introduced its program series with programs entitled, "Who Can We Turn To?", "What Have We Got to Lose?" and "We Bought It - Now What?" In 2007, we'll continue to inform, educate and entertain with the following intriguing topics:

Tues., January 23

What Have the Neighbors Done?

Lessons from Neighboring Communities – Developing Successful Advocacy Groups and Local Historic Preservation Ordinances

Tues., March 27

Can I Preserve My Pocketbook, Too?

Creative Financing Approaches, Grant Opportunities and Tax Benefits for Historic Preservation

Tues., May 22

What Have We Got to Lose? An Update

An Annual Report to our Community on the Status of Cary Area Historic Structures

Programs begin at 7:30 at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Light refreshments and socializing follow each program, which typically last just over one hour. Programs are free and open to the public. To find out more, contact Friends president Bob Myers (contact information at the end of this newsletter).

The series goal is to develop an active, knowledgeable and effective corps of historic preservation advocates focused on saving historic treasures in and around Cary; and engage, involve and encourage those who own historic properties to preserve them for our future. The series is supported by Town of Cary Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources.

"JUST A HORSE-STOPPING PLACE"

The Friends congratulate board secretary **Peggy Van Scoyoc** for completing her years-long quest to publish the oral history of Cary in book form. Her book, *Just a Horse-Stopping Place*, has just been published. See "Gift of Knowledge" on page 8 for more details.

KUDOS TO PEGGY!



Historic Preservation

By *Andy Jalbert*

Many events continue to emphasize the importance of historic preservation in Cary.

The **Historic Preservation Committee** is excited to announce that we have had a request from another homeowner in the Town Center Historic District to add a bronze historic plaque to their home. This brings us to more than one dozen structures in the Town Center with National Register of Historic Places plaques. The committee continues to work on expanding the plaque program to include other homes in the Town Center Historic District as well as the Carpenter and Green Level Historic Districts.

The committee's most recent program in our Speaker's Forum program series, "**We Bought It, Now What?**" on October 24th was a huge success. The Friends of the Page-Walker would like to extend a sincere thank you to **Sheila and Carroll Ogle** for their participation in the program; their insights were invaluable. The 2007 Speaker's Forum program series will kick off on January 23rd with "**What Have the Neighbors Done?**" discussing historic preservation ordinances in surrounding communities and how they were developed and implemented. The March 27th program, "**Can I Preserve My Pocketbook, Too?**" will address the financial aspects of historic preservation, such as financing approaches, tax benefits, and grant opportunities. In May, the third program in the spring series will be an updated "**What Have We Got To Lose?**" presentation outlining historic properties of significance in and around Cary and discussing their importance to the culture of Cary. See "**Get with the Program!**" on page 2 for additional details.

Work to save the Waldo House continues with the Friends helping to prepare the house for a possible move from its current site to a temporary site. On Saturday November 18th and

Saturday December 2nd, Friends of the Page-Walker spent many hours cleaning out the Waldo house and assessing the house to identify other tasks to be accomplished in preparation for its possible move. A special thanks to all who have given their time to help. The Town of Cary has received bids from contractors to relocate the Waldo house for future use in a park. The Town is currently reviewing the bids. See "**Friends Make Progress on Waldo House**" on page 10 for more details, including photos.

The historic preservation committee meets at the Page-Walker on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in the preservation of Cary's historic structures, please stop in!

Kudos to...

The Friends want to thank and recognize several of our members who make great things happen with their hard work:

- **Pat Fish**, our treasurer, who not only keeps financial records but for years has ensured that there are refreshments available at all concerts and other special events
- **Marla Dorrel and Carroll and Sheila Ogle** for their wonderful preservation program, "We Bought It – Now What?"
- **Bob Myers** for his vision and execution in expanding the Friends' reach with new committee development
- **Andy Jalbert** for stepping up to chair the historic preservation committee
- **Ed Yerha** for stepping up to chair the merchandise and exhibit table committee
- **Paul Wasylkevych** for stepping up to chair the Cultural arts committee
- **Cindi Baker and Rick Knapp** for unflagging educational programs with the youth of Cary



**Kudos to
Pat, Marla, Carroll, Sheila, Bob, Andy, Ed,
Paul, Cindi & Rick!**



A Look Back

“Beyond the Bake Sale...”

1986-1988

Anne Kratzer continues her series of the history of the Friends of the Page-Walker

When we left off this past summer – in 1985 – the Friends, after more than two decades, had secured the Page-Walker Hotel, incorporated and begun fundraising efforts to restore the hotel, including a bake sale. That year also marked the very first edition of The Innkeeper...

December 1985 capped an exciting year with the formation of the *Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel*, the purchase of the Page-Walker by the Town and subsequent lease to Preservation NC and transfer to the Friends, and the reception for unveiling the official site sign. Architect Norma Burns had been hired. Placing a tarp on the roof, installing a fence, demolishing the rotting front porch and boarding the windows had stabilized the Hotel. Pigeons were still a problem, however, and no matter how many fake owls and snakes were placed on the roof, the Hotel was the southeastern attraction for the winged creatures. Because of this “infestation”, Dave Fischetti, Board member and engineer for the project, affectionately called the Hotel the “Plaque-Walker.”

When 1986 rang in, we were in a unique situation. The destiny of the Page-Walker, then valued at \$4000, was in our hands and we were faced with numerous challenges and decisions. All of us were volunteers, many holding full-time jobs, and the preservation process was a new venture for most of us. Our first challenge was the design phase. The overriding philosophy was to save as much of the original structure as possible while providing a place for active uses – arts, history and community celebrations and gatherings. We had been advised that the Hotel was not a good candidate for a “house restoration”, as the interior had been

substantially changed over the years, owing to its use as a boarding house and private residence. No original furniture was left in the building and the structure had sustained heavy damage. It was extremely important to the Friends that the exterior be restored to its original state, and that the interior was faithful to the 1868 structure, yet functional for future use.

Norma Burns had experience in historic renovations and engaged us in the design process. Some of the discussion points were:

- Rather than place a “box” on the back of the building, the addition would complement, not copy, the historic structure. The original brick of the exterior of the historic structure at the connection of the addition would be visible from the interior of the addition. The addition would be visually “set-back” from the historic structure, and the major access would be from the east.
- The east entry area would be wrapped with a porch so that the addition, on both the east and west sides, would have a “veranda” feeling.
- The enclosed first floor west staircase would be removed to create a larger performance/gallery space. The staircase formed a wall dividing the Walker’s sitting room from the dining room. At first, it was thought that columns would be needed to support the second and third floors because of the stair removal. However, Dave Fischetti designed a method of inserting steel beams throughout the building to provide an open and gracious gallery space. Dave insists that the Page-Walker is now the safest place to be in a storm! The other original staircases remain.

“ ... it was in the fall of 1986 that one of those memorable, life-changing moments occurred.”



The NC Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, gave tremendous support throughout the design phase. Paul Fomberg and Paul Stephenson provided assistance in paint research, mortar analysis (every brick needed repointing) and design recommendations to protect the historic integrity of the structure. The design phase took most of 1986.

At the same time, the second daunting challenge was to identify sources for the estimated \$350,000 needed for the restoration and renovation as well as to raise awareness of the importance of the project. We couldn't begin the first phase of the project, demolition, until we had the funds in hand to cover the costs. We quickly became aware that the cost of the project would be at least 20% higher than anticipated because we were forced, through lack of funds, to phase the project. That meant for every phase of the renovation – demolition, exterior restoration, addition, subsequent basement, first floor and later, second and third floors – we needed to call for separate bids over years.

“Anne, I think we’re beyond the bake sale”

We also needed to increase community awareness and support for the Page-Walker. Fund-raisers became an effective way not only to raise the needed funds but also to communicate our message. The fundraising effort had three major prongs during most of 1986: public relations, grant writing and “events.” Van Carpenter of *Real to Real* volunteered his time to write and produce a tape/slide show that was taken to civic organizations, primarily by Kirk and Linda Fuller. Grants were submitted to organizations such as Z. Smith Reynolds, the Hillsdale, Mary Duke Biddle and Kresge foundations and United Way. And thanks to our Board members, notably Pati Schetzina and Barbara Brown, numerous

fund-raisers were held, at least one every other month. During 1986, we held the first annual *Fabulous Flea*, a huge flea market that took place at South Hills Mall, thanks to the support of owner David Martin. A *Gay Nineties Ice Cream Social*, replete with banjo players, art show, Cary High School Jazz Band, antique car show and Victorian fashion show drew more than 700 people to the grounds of the bunting-draped Page-Walker. Needless to say, because of the overwhelming response to the event, we were running to stores to buy every gallon of ice cream! Our Lazy Daze location, on Academy Street in front of the Cary Baptist Church, was transformed into another Victorian Ice Cream Parlor. Other businesses and non-profit organizations held events for the renovation. Bunkey's Car Wash gave a day's profits to the effort, and the Wake County Weavers' Guild raffled a shawl for the Hotel. We co-sponsored a Christmas Home Tour with the Cary Women's Club and an evening event at Charlie Brown's Dinner Theater with the Cary Women's Club. Each fund-raiser contributed, at the most, \$2500. The responses to our grant writing efforts were slow or disappointing.

So it was in the fall of 1986 that one of those memorable, life-changing moments occurred. Barbara Brown, board member, invited my husband and me to her home for afternoon dessert. Her husband, Thack, worked for the former Burroughs-Wellcome and was very involved in arts activities in the county. Over a delicious fruit tart, Thack looked at me and said, “Anne, I think we’re beyond the bake sale.” He realized that there was no way that we could raise the needed funds, and still live to tell about it, through only fund-raisers. He encouraged us to hire outside consultants who could conduct a feasibility study and create a road map for a capital campaign. It was the best advice we could have received at that time, and that afternoon at the Brown's home goes down as one of the major turning points of the endeavor. Thack was familiar with effective arts consultants, and after an interview process, we



hired Dr. Michael Marsicano, executive director of the Durham Arts Council and an associate, Mark Rountree.

The consultants prepared a case study that summarized the plans for the Page-Walker and related costs, and then, during the spring of 1987, interviewed 25 business and community leaders to determine the feasibility of the project. I remember telling Michael and Mark that we didn't want to hear that the project wasn't feasible, just how we could make it work. In the meantime, our fundraisers continued and we hosted a reception for Mayor Harold Ritter and the Town Council (Koka Booth, Tom Brooks, Bill Garmon, Bob Godbold, Bob Hinshaw and Chuck Montgomery), introducing them to Norma Burns and sharing our progress. We understood the importance of keeping the Council connected to our effort, and unknown to us at the time, witnessed the invaluable results of this connection.

“...we didn't want to hear that the project wasn't feasible, just how we could make it work”.

We received the consultant's report in the summer. Their first three recommendations were affirming. All who were interviewed supported the proposed uses (arts, history and community celebrations), and felt that the effort should be a private/public partnership of the Friends and Town of Cary. A recommendation was presented to expand the board of directors to include experienced and influential representatives from the business community and elected officials. We subsequently had an extremely effective board that could have been labeled the “Who's Who of Cary/Wake County.” It was the fourth component of the report that knocked us off our chairs! The proposed cost of the project would not be \$350,000, but \$744,000 with an additional \$96,000 for first-year

operating costs. It was also determined that the Friends had the resources to raise only half that amount, not including the monies that had already been spent on stabilization and design phase. So, as we had in the beginning of the project, we made our way to the Town Council on our knees and asked if the Town could match each dollar that we raised from the community. Mayor Koka Booth and the Council approved the request, and the capital campaign was launched in December 1987, under the able co-chairmanship of Daphne Ashworth and Regina McLaurin, assisted by every member of the board. We had another mountain to climb, but at least we had a plan!

Will we ever have a groundbreaking?
Find out in the next issue of *The Innkeeper*!

(Although many individuals were involved in the formation of the Friends, this article is dedicated to the first official Board of Directors (1986): Jim Allen, Mark Berube, Ann Burns, Barbara Brown, Dave Fischetti, Helen Haft Goldstein, Dave Grant, Sharon Hendricks, Myrick Howard, Irene Kittinger, Anne Kratzer, Sheila Lattner, Chuck Montgomery, Dick Paton, Harold Ritter, Judy Rysdon, Pati Schetzina, Becky Yates and Joe Zaytoun.)



In the next issue of *The Innkeeper*: Will we ever have a groundbreaking?



Cultural Arts

By Paul Wasylkevych

In my role as the Friends of the Page Walker representative to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, I have been privileged to continue the good work that Bob Myers started. The **Cultural Arts Committee** has set the following goals for 2006-07, most of which are currently being met by the dynamic member of the committee in partnership with outstanding Town staff.

Priority Setting

- Review various cultural arts programs and provide staff with observations, recommendations and evaluations
- Work with staff to develop facility use policies for future cultural facilities

Public Input

- Provide input on various cultural arts programs, making suggestions for new performers, new program ideas and so on
- Provide representation to the Festival Committee and the Koka Booth Amphitheatre Advisory Committee
- Seek ways to solicit direct public input at various events/activities

Public Awareness

- Review information on the Town's Web site and provide input for improving ease of use
- Seek ways to encourage implementation of a broader events calendar on the Town Web site
- Investigate possibilities for a central information kiosk, perhaps in conjunction with a centralized box office (could be part of new facilities planning)
- Seek new ways to use BUD TV to promote events/programs

Participation

- Investigate mechanisms to expand public participation in various programs/events
- Research other groups that might be looking for new service areas (school groups, Scouts and so on)

- Gain greater understanding of current participation levels and capacity for growth
- Track committee volunteer hours

Performance Measures

- Work with staff to develop new, meaningful performance measures. Possible areas include: demographic factors, diversity/variety (includes age, activity groupings, cultural backgrounds, price and so on), capacity, rate of involvement, impact on community, volunteers

In 2007, we will begin the important work of helping to transform old Cary Elementary into a cultural arts center. We look forward to the challenges ahead and anticipate doing great work in the community we love.

Students Learn About Cary at Page-Walker

By Rick Knapp

Third-grade students from **Green Hope Elementary School** are learning about the history of their town. All six third-grade classes – 147 people in all! – enjoyed a program at their school by a Page-Walker staff member, followed by a visit to the Page-Walker itself.

In December, Page-Walker education associate **Rick Knapp** went to the northwest Cary school for a day and taught each class the basics of Cary's heritage and development. He used portions of the *Cary-On!* curriculum developed by board member and nationally recognized teacher **Cindi Baker** and others a few years ago.

After Rick visited the school, all the classes came (two at a time) for a three-hour field trip and educational program at the Page-Walker. When the students arrived, they viewed the video *Cary-Osity* produced by eighth-grade Cary students as part of *Cary-On!*

Then each student, as part of a small group, took part in three other activities from *Cary-On!* These were a visit to the Cary Heritage Museum at the Page-Walker, a



presentation about the architecture of historic Cary and a study of early medical tools and procedures based on the tool chest of Cary's early physician, Dr. James M. Templeton (1855-1932). Page-Walker supervisor **Sara Maultsby**, cultural arts program specialist **Darrell Stover** and Rick orchestrated these activities.

After lunch and watching the trains go by, it was back on the bus and back to school.

Rick is available to present programs about Cary's history and growth to any school in western Wake County. Interested teachers may contact him at the Page-Walker (contact information appears at the end of this newsletter).

Gift of Knowledge

By Carol Aupperle

Looking for the perfect gift for that hard-to-buy-for colleague or the neighbor you know will invite you over for a bit of holiday cheer?

The Friends of the Page-Walker offers perfect solutions for impending holiday season gift conundrums.

Wrap up a few copies of *Around and About Cary*, the classic book about Cary's history from Tom Byrd and Jerry Miller, and you'll be ready for any last-minute invitation. What could be better than this excellent volume that explains how our town came to be?

Perhaps you're afraid the recipient already owns a copy of this marvelous book. Then, consider a brand-new jewel: Peggy Van Scoyoc's wonderful oral history compendium, *Just A Horse-Stopping Place*. Peggy's engaging volume features a variety of first-person narrators every reader will enjoy.

Copies of *Around and About Cary* (\$30) and *Just a Horse-Stopping Place* (\$20) are available at the Page-Walker Arts and History Center. Best of all, the Friends receive a portion of the sales from both of these books.

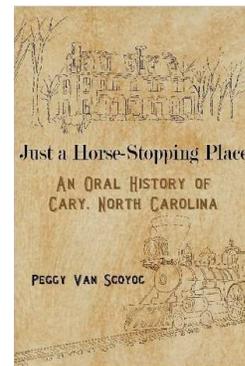
The Friends also offer other merchandise, including t-shirts, sweat shirts, Christmas tree ornaments and many other unique

collectibles. When you stop by to pick up copies of these wonderful historical books, please inquire about other merchandise not on display (contact information for the Friends appears at the end of this newsletter).

Recipients will welcome these thoughtful gifts, and your purchases will support the Friends' mission. Stop by and fill your gift bag with these unique treasures.

Additional Information about Peggy Van Scoyoc's New Book

Check out this new book about the history of Cary! Written by Friends board member **Peggy Van Scoyoc**, it is called *Just a Horse-Stopping Place: An Oral History of Cary, North Carolina*. In this book, 37 narrators tell their rich life stories about growing up, making a living and embracing their small town as it was evolving. Proceeds from the sale of each book will be used to preserve the history of Cary.



The book can be purchased at the Page-Walker and Ashworth's Drug Store or online at <http://www.lulu.com/content/329445> or by mail (include a check made out to **Passing Time Press** for \$23.84, which includes \$19.95 purchase price, tax, shipping and handling). Mail your check to:

Passing Time Press
1251 NW Maynard Road, Suite 107
Cary, NC 27513

Please include your name and shipping address (no post office boxes, please). Allow 3 weeks for delivery. Then enjoy a great read.



Building Community Through History

By *Darrell D. Stover*
Cultural Arts Program Specialist
Page-Walker Arts and History Center

Join us for an excursion into the community-building benefits and significant necessity for capturing history via community efforts that incorporate film/video, interviews, photographs and documents. This full-day event will examine and encourage such efforts in Triangle communities, and especially here in Cary, as a means of establishing more community historians. Presenters will include **Peggy Van Scoyoc**, oral historian and author of *Just a Horse-Stopping Place – An Oral History of Cary, NC*, and filmmaker/cultural historian **Charles “Wsir” Johnson** with his film *Blue Suede Shoes in the Hood*.

Saturday, March 24
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Page-Walker Arts & History Center

For further information call (919) 460-4963.

A Page-Walker Moment *Walter Hines Page the Agrarian*

By *Dean Teitelbaum*



Walter Hines Page

By 1900, Walter Hines Page had lived in northern cities for 20 years, but had not reconciled himself to urban life. Living in New York city, he had, if anything, become more and more hostile to immigrants from southern and eastern Europe, whom he doubted could be absorbed into the American fabric.

His desire for agricultural reform and his support for the conservation of natural resources were partially based on antipathy to urban life. As he stated in his magazine, *World's Work*:

“The United States is, and always will be mainly an agricultural country. The combined influences of the idle rich, badly led labor unions, cheap tabloid journalism, and corrupt politicians is ... making a large part of city dwellers hopelessly degenerate”. [Americans must] “grasp anew the old truth that the normal life is the life of the soil ... whereas American cities ought to be chiefly market places for American farmers ... “

SPOTLIGHT ON WALTER HINES PAGE

Shared by Lyman Collins on Nov. 14:

I thought you all might like to know that Walter Hines Page was quoted this weekend on a National Public Radio story about Herbert Hoover and his efforts for war relief in Belgium during the First World War. Although I don't remember the precise quote, he was commenting on Hoover's talents and abilities and marveling that such a small man from California was having such a large impact. It was nice to hear our favorite son continuing to make news.



Friends Make Progress on Waldo House

By Bob Myers

In our last newsletter, the Waldo House outlook was murky. There were problems with the Town's initial plan to temporarily move the house to Dixon Avenue. Only one contractor bid on the job, well above the amount budgeted for the move. Another contractor felt that the 133-year-old structure would not survive the move.

Since then, **Capital Area Preservation** was consulted and a suitable temporary site for the building at nearby Park Street was identified. A new bid was obtained that is close to the original amount earmarked for the project. There is renewed hope that the building will be saved.

Because the site on Park Street is in a residential area, the Town wants to restore the exterior of the building so that it is not an eyesore to its new neighbors while the house awaits its permanent location in the planned new park in the Town Center. To secure the funding for the restoration work, the project plan was presented to Town Council and approved on Dec. 14. The Friends ask you to voice your appreciation for the project approval to Council.

In preparation for the presentation to Council and the subsequent move, a small group of Friends have been cleaning up the long-vacant home. On two Saturdays, two 30-cubic-yard waste bins were nearly completely filled with newspapers, magazines, clothes and other trash, including a few large appliances.



*Before (above) and After (below):
One of the several rooms in the Waldo House
cleaned out by Friends volunteers*



*Friends volunteers Pat Fish and Brent Miller
finish cleaning the Waldo House kitchen, which
had been ankle-deep in trash*



The Waldo House was built in 1873 for Dr. S. P. Waldo and his family. Waldo was the third doctor in the Town of Cary and the grandfather of Mayor H. Waldo Rood. He lived in the house until his death in 1891, but the house remained in the family and was last used by his granddaughter, Helen Rood. The one-story bungalow is one of only two board-and-batten Gothic revival buildings in Wake County. The other is the Ivey-Ellington-Waddell house just a few blocks away on West Chatham Street.

The house is now owned by the First Methodist church, which plans to build a parking lot on the site and has offered the building to the Town of Cary. The recently adopted Town Center Cultural District Plan recommends saving the building for use as an interpretive center in the future Town Center Park. The Friends fully support this plan and are assisting in every way we can to make it happen, as evidenced by the recent cleanup of the house, which saved Cary taxpayers an estimated \$1,500.

All Tucked In

By Anne Kratzer

Under a Carolina blue sky accompanied by unseasonably warm temperatures, the **Page Educational Garden** volunteers celebrated the end of a successful growing season with a "Put the Garden to Bed" party on Nov. 11, 2006. While enjoying delicious home-baked treats and fellowship, the volunteers worked enthusiastically for three hours – dividing the herbs, collecting seeds for next year, transplanting, pruning, removing the annuals and spreading pine bark mulch. We also discussed ideas for next year to improve growing conditions for the plants and to extend the educational value of the gardens. It was an enjoyable morning!

Over the winter, our graphic designer, **Amy Sawyer**, will put the final touches on the informational signage and new brochure. We hope that all are in place by May. We thank the **Lazy Daze Arts and Crafts Festival**

Committee for funding the interpretative signs and plants for our first season after the Town renovation.

We hope to have new, permanent plant labels by next spring. **Kay Struffolino** is researching companies that manufacture the plastic signs and stakes present in arboretums, and **Julia Morrison** and **John Duncan** have volunteered to engrave the signs. The plants may be resting but the garden volunteers are not!

Thanks to all of the volunteers who maintained the garden all summer, and to our Nov. 11 crew: **Lois Nixon, Paul and Lynn Wasykewych, Lynn McKenzie, Pati Schetzina, Kay Struffolino and Anne and Jerod Kratzer.**

If you'd like to join our e-mail list for spring planting, summer maintenance and/or garden wrap-up, contact me at 467-8887 or annekratz@aol.com. Do take time to enjoy our treasure on the north lawn of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center!

About *The Innkeeper*

The Innkeeper is the newsletter of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel. First published in 1985, and back from hiatus, the newsletter offers membership and community outreach communication.

The Innkeeper is a team effort of the Friends; Brent Miller edits the newsletter.

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

Electronic Newsletter

If you're not already receiving your copy of *The Innkeeper* electronically, you can elect to do so. This offers convenience for you and helps the Friends reduce postage costs. Just contact Brent Miller (brent@posmoroda.com). You will receive future issues via e-mail.



Board Members

Your **Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel board members** are these volunteers: Mary Adcock, Lee Alcorn, Mercedes Auger, Carol Aupperle, Cindi Baker, John Duncan, Winnie Ferguson, Pat Fish (treasurer), Andy Jalbert, Charles Johnson, Anne Kratzer (life member), Mike Longmire (past president), Joy Mellon, Brent Miller (vice president), Julia Morrison (immediate past president), Bob Myers (president), Olene Ogles, Roy Perry, Cathy Richmond, Julie Robison, Dean Teitelbaum, Renata Thompson, Peggy Van Scoyoc (secretary), Paul Wasylkevych and Ed Yerha.

The board is also fortunate to have the participation of Town of Cary staff members Lyman Collins, Rick Knapp, Sara Maulsby and Darrell Stover.

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 get in touch with us as described in the "Contact the Friends" article later in this issue.

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

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

Calendar of Events

- **January 3, 2007, 7:00 p.m.:** Board Meeting
- **January 23, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.:** "What Have the Neighbors Done?" **Program Series** (see details on *page 2* in this newsletter)
- **February 7, 7:00 p.m.:** Board Meeting
- **March 7, 7:00 p.m.:** Board Meeting
- **March 24, 10:00 – 4:00 p.m.:** "Building Community Through History" (see details on *page 9* in this newsletter)
- **March 27, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.:** "Can I Preserve my Pocketbook, Too?" (see details on *page 2* in this newsletter)
- **May 22, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.:** "What Have We Got to Lose?: An Update" (see details on *page 2* in this newsletter)
- **May 5, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.:** **Annual Garden Re-Opening and Lawn Party** (more information on *page 1* of this newsletter)



Begin or Renew Your Membership *Today!*

To join the Friends, or renew your existing membership, fill out the form below and mail or bring 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, including events 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 (Winter concert series ticket discount)
- Family \$50 (Winter concert series ticket discount)
- Community Partner \$100 (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)
- Sustaining Member \$101 - \$249 (Includes *Around and About Cary* book, winter concert series ticket discount)
- Silver Sustaining Member \$250 or more (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)

My employer, _____ has a matching gift program

Business memberships:

- Business Member \$250 - \$499 (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 _____



Contact the Friends

By mail:

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

By telephone:

Information about the Friends:

President Bob Myers: (919) 467-6308

Information about Page-Walker programs: (919) 460-4963

By e-mail:

President Bob Myers:
robmyers@us.ibm.com

On the Web:

<http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org>

Visit the Page-Walker Hotel:

Address: 119 Ambassador Loop

Directions: Located on Ambassador Loop on Town Hall Campus. The campus is off North Academy Street, between Chapel Hill Road and Chatham Street in downtown Cary.

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Wednesday: 10:00AM – 9:30PM

Thursday: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

Friday: 10:00AM - 1:00PM

Friday Evening - Sunday: by reservation

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



FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL

