

FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL



The Innkeeper

December 2010

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.

From the President

By Ed Yerha

2010 has been a wonderful year for the Friends. Two new events made their debuts: the First Annual [Herbfest](#) and the inaugural [Antiques Appraisal Fair](#). Both were successful beyond expectations and will become regular elements of the Friends' future programming. The [Concert Series](#) and [Historic Preservation Programs](#) were entertaining, educational and extremely well-attended. The renovation of the [White Plains Cemetery](#) was completed (watch for the re-dedication soon). We received donations of valuable historic artifacts and documents and, thanks in large part to grants from the Town, made significant progress in cataloging and preserving our collections. Never before have we received more frequent and positive publicity in the press and even on TV. The year also saw the Town's adoption of the [Historic Resources Master Plan](#), the first of its kind in North Carolina. Several Friends served on the Plan's advisory committee.

A sincere **Thank You** to all members who worked hard to accomplish so much this year, to everyone who supported us by participating in our activities and to the Town of Cary and its superlative Staff, without whom none of this would have been possible.

As the year draws to a close, we welcome two new Board members, **Jennifer Jones** and **Candice Page O'Beirne** (a

descendent of Cary's founding father). We also extend best wishes to **Dr. Ilene Cummings** who recently relocated to the West Coast and left our Board.

As we look forward to 2011, we wish you a wonderful and blessed holiday season.

Struffolino Honored

From the Town of Cary

Long-time Cary resident, Town of Cary Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board member and 2006 Town of Cary Cultural Arts Volunteer of the Year winner **Kay Struffolino** is the recipient of the Town of Cary's annual [Hometown Spirit Award](#), which is designed to recognize community-minded citizens who enhance the quality of life in Cary by preserving, promoting and carrying out positive small-town community values and traits. Struffolino received a plaque, and the Town will recognize her on a plaque inside Town Hall.

"This is a humbling experience. I am grateful for all the opportunities available to become involved in this community that I love," said Struffolino at the November 18 Town Council meeting.

The Friends congratulate Kay, who volunteers in our garden and brightens many of our events. **Congratulations Kay!**



Winter Concerts *By Lisa Englert, Trish Kirkpatrick and Kris Carmichael*

The first two 2010 – 2011 winter concerts have been hits! *CaryCitizen* described the November concert by [Little Windows](#) this way: “Mark Weems and Julee Glaub of [Little Windows](#) performed at the Page-Walker Cultural Arts Center Nov 21. The duo perform a blend of traditional Irish and Appalachian songs. They tour together nationally and abroad with a focus on the art of the pure voice and traditional songs. Instrumentation includes guitar, fiddle, banjo, flute, piano and bodhran.” (complete article at <http://www.carycitizen.com/2010/11/23/little-windows-light-up-page-walker/>).

Only three shows remain in the 2010 – 2011 [Winter Concert Series](#). All performances are held on **Sundays at 4:00 p.m.** at The Page-Walker Arts & History Center in the Heart of Cary. Concert patrons are encouraged to **purchase tickets as early as possible to ensure a seat** at each of the remaining events. **Tickets may be purchased at <http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org> or at the door for \$15, subject to availability.** The remaining concerts in this winter’s series are:

Sunday, December 19: Mountain Aires: Mountain Aires is a group of young acoustic musicians from Wake County. Their award-winning style reflects a mature sense of creativity, beauty and excitement. The group blends traditional acoustic music, including bluegrass, Celtic, folk, old-time and holiday tunes.

Sunday, January 16: Brian Reagin (*Carole J. Wright Memorial Concert*): Brian Reagin, noted violinist and Concertmaster of the NC Symphony, returns as a Winter Concert crowd favorite. Reagin captivated audiences with his brilliant performances in past years. This year he will treat concert-goers to a classical repertoire on his Lorenzo and Tomasso Carcassi violin made in Florence, Italy in 1763.

Sunday, February 20: Cary Players’ Love Bits & Bites 2011 – The Sixth Sense: A favorite Cary Players holiday tradition, this sixth-annual production of the PG-13 Valentine’s Day show *Love Bits & Bites* is an all-new collection of

scenes, one-act plays and songs that celebrate the charm, magic and mystery of love (sometimes bitter, sometimes sweet, often funny). Two acts on each of two floors of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center are performed; the audience changes floors at intermission (after enjoying complimentary chocolate confections and coffee)!

TOWN OF CARY Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources www.townofcary.org

The Friends of Page-Walker 2010-11 Concert Series

Intimate Performances in the Page-Walker’s Main Gallery
119 Ambassador Loop in downtown Cary

October 17, 2010
Classical Interlude – Solo, Duet and Ensemble
Berk Dyer – NC Symphony Double Bass player
McHenry Horns – Cary father and son French Horn players
Raleigh Civic Symphony and Chamber Orchestra (the orchestras at NC State) Ensemble players

November 21, 2010
Little Windows
Traditional Irish and Appalachian songs and tunes

December 19, 2010
Mountain Aires
Unique blend of music including bluegrass, Celtic, folk, old-time and holiday tunes

January 16, 2011
Carole J. Wright Memorial Concert
Brian Reagin
NC Symphony Concertmaster and Violinist

February 20, 2011
Cary Players: Love Bits and Bites
An original theatrical experience

Each of these Sunday afternoon concerts begins at 4 p.m.
Season Tickets \$75* / or \$15 per performance. Space is limited!
(*Season ticket purchase comes with one additional free ticket to any performance)
PURCHASE TICKETS ON-LINE AT www.friendsofpagewalker.com
For more information, call (919) 460-4963.








Cary's First Antiques Appraisal Fair

Now *That* Was a Big Event!

Compiled from several sources

The previous *Innkeeper* promised Cary residents a **Big, BIG Event** in the form of Cary's first **Antiques Appraisal Fair**, sponsored by the Friends and the Town of Cary, and thanks to the hundreds of people who brought items to be appraised by **Wes Cowan** and his associates, it was a big event indeed.

As *The Cary News* reported: "...about 400 people ... registered to attend Cary's first antiques appraisal fair last weekend at the Page-Walker History & Arts Center in downtown Cary. Attendees paid small fees to have up to three items examined by Cowan and his staff from Cincinnati-based Cowan's Antiques. ... The biggest items of the day, however, might have been a pair of Chinese vases, which could sell for \$9,000 to \$12,000. Or a Civil War diary, which could be worth between \$4,000 to \$6,000." (full article at <http://www.carynews.com/2010/09/29/20783/hundreds-bring-antiques-to-fair.html>).



(Seated, Front to back) Appraiser Diane Wachs, Cary News reporter Sadia Latifi, Appraisers Wes Cowan and Graydon Sikes (Photo by Brent Miller)

More Cary News background on **Wes Cowan**:
<http://www.carynews.com/2010/09/18/20533/history-detective-examines-americas.html>



*(Left) Graydon Sikes of Cowan's Antiques appraises a mirror (Photo by Laurie Miller)
 (Right) It's a media event! Friends President Ed Yerha interviewed by local TV (Photo by Brent Miller)*



The evening before the Antiques Appraisal Fair, dozens of people attended Wes Cowan's talk, [Discovering the Past through Objects: Adventures of a Real-Life History Detective](#).



(Left) Wes Cowan (of Antiques Road Show and History Detectives) addresses the audience of his talk, "Discovering the Past through Objects: Adventures of a Real-Life History Detective"; (Right) Wes Cowan appraises an antique table while Graydon Sikes (background) appraises fine art (Photos by Kris Carmichael)

The Friends extend a sincere **Thank You** to **Wes Cowan, Graydon Sikes** and **Diane Wachs** from Cowan's Antiques for coming from Cincinnati to appraise items from the Cary area; and to **Joy Mellon, Phizzy King** and **Lisa Englert** of the Friends Board of Directors and **Kris Carmichael**, Page-Walker Arts & History Supervisor, **and everyone from the Town of Cary** for Herculean efforts to plan and execute this first-of-a-kind event in Cary.

If you missed the Antiques Appraisal Fair this year, or if you have more items stashed in the attic that you couldn't bring this year, don't worry – the Friends hope to have a second Antiques Appraisal Fair in 2011, so stay tuned!

Save the Date for these Friends Events

For more information about any event, contact the Page-Walker Arts & History Center at (919) 460-4963, visit our online events calendar at http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org/concerts_and_programs or email info@friendsofpagewalker.org

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM – **Tuesday, January 25, 7:30 PM**

Cary's Historic Preservation Master Plan

Join **Anna Reading**, Town of Cary Senior Planner, for a discussion of Cary's recently adopted *Historic Preservation Master Plan* – the only one of its kind in North Carolina. Learn what the plan says, what it doesn't say and how you can participate.

Tuesday, January 25, 2010 at 7:30 PM at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center in Cary. Free and open to the public.

WINTER CONCERT SERIES

Sunday, December 19, 4:00 PM: Mountain Aires

Sunday, January 16, 4:00 PM: Brian Reagin

Sunday, February 20, 4:00 PM: Love Bits & Bites

Details on page 2 of this newsletter.

GARDEN PLANTING DAY – **Saturday, April 16, 9:00 AM - NOON**

Bring your clippers, trowels and energy!

SECOND ANNUAL HERBFEST

Saturday, May 7 on the Page-Walker grounds

More details in future newsletter.

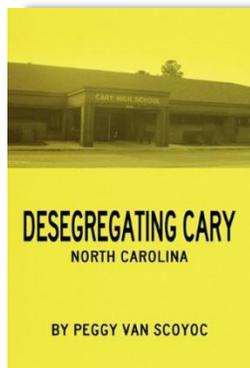


Desegregating Cary

Panel Discussion, Book Signing

By Peggy Van Scoyoc

Peggy Van Scoyoc's latest book, *Desegregating Cary*, is a compilation of oral history interviews conducted with local people who witnessed or were personally involved in the Civil Rights Movement and the process of desegregating the schools in Cary.



Peggy held a [panel discussion](#) Oct. 25 at the Page-Walker about her book. Five panelists, each of whom played a crucial role in desegregating Cary schools, participated: **Charlie Adams**, son of **Henry Adams**, a member of the Wake County and Cary school boards who led the team that developed the Cary High School desegregation plan; **Gwen Matthews** and **Lucille Evans Cotton**, two of the first six black students to attend Cary High School in 1963; **Deborah Matthews Wright**, one of the first four black students to attend Swift Creek Elementary School in 1965; and **Carolyn Farrar Rogers**, one of the first three black teachers to be hired by Cary Elementary School in 1969.

Excerpts from the book were read, taken from the five panelists' own oral history interviews. Each panelist spoke, telling the enraptured audience about their experiences. This powerful, emotional event exemplified how this small, rural community was able to overcome bitter divisions and find some common ground and tolerance during very turbulent times.

For more information about this event, see the *CaryCitizen* coverage at <http://www.carycitizen.com/2010/10/28/history-desegregating-cary/>.

Cary History Books

Peggy Van Scoyoc's latest book about the oral history of Cary, *Desegregating Cary*, complements her previous tome, *Just a Horse-Stopping Place*.

Don't forget the classic book of Cary History, *Around and About Cary*, by **Tom Byrd** and **Jerry Miller**.

All three books can be purchased at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center, and their sales benefit the Friends.

Cary's Memory Days

By Peggy Van Scoyoc

The old Cary High School building is being "re-purposed" to create the [Cary Community Arts Center](#), scheduled to open in spring 2011 [*more details in article on next page*]. Town employees are planning many events throughout the Spring to commemorate this greatly anticipated new venue. To prepare for many of these events, stories are needed about what it was like to be a student and a teacher at the old Cary Elementary and High School before it closed in 2002. So the Town held two [Memory Days](#), inviting the public to come and have their stories recorded.

The first Memory Day was held at Cary First Christian Church October 16. Eighteen people came and shared their memories. The second Memory Day was held at the Cary Senior Center October 30. Many people offered many more wonderful stories, mostly about being teachers at the school throughout the years. Both events contributed welcome information about that building and what occurred within it. All of these stories have been captured for posterity and some of them will be incorporated into the Spring events that will herald the opening of our new Cary Community Arts Center.



What's Happening at the End of Academy Street?

By Lyman Collins

Many of you might be wondering what is happening at the south end of Academy Street as a transformation is taking place.

Of course, this is one of Cary's most historic sites, where the first Cary Academy was built by **Frank Page** in the 1870s, and it has continued as a place of education ever since. The current building was the last incarnation of Cary High School before it moved to its current Walnut Street location. The building then served as Cary Elementary School until 2002, when the current school opened behind the historic building.

This handsome brick colonial revival building was completed in 1939 as a Works Progress Administration project. At its formal dedication in 1940, **Governor Clyde Hoey** called the facility "... a beacon of hope and inspiration to other communities of the state." We hope that legacy will live on as the building becomes Cary's newest arts center.

Much of the original façade is being restored and revitalized. The new windows reflect the original nine-over-nine pattern and columns will soon be in place that will conform to both the proportions and the ionic order that stood on the porch for decades.



*"The Facility at the End of the Street" renovation
(Photo by Brent Miller)*

New features include ramps to make the building accessible to all. These new features have been pulled away from the foundation to keep as much daylight as possible shining through the full windows on the lower level. This enabled the architects to expand the original porch and incorporate more monumental steps.

The biggest change, however, isn't evident from Academy Street. While restoring the auditorium to its original purpose as a place for performing arts, the architects included a full theatrical stage with a **flytower** over the stage. This structure



Flytower frame in April 2010 (Photo by Brent Miller)

allows for sets, lighting, acoustical panels and other elements of a full-function performance space to be included in the design. The flytower also provides a balance to the mass of the building as you approach from Walnut Street. A significant public art component is included in this massive space: glass panels will adorn the north and south facades to create visual interest and recall theatrical and local symbols. To the west, a 5,000-square-foot addition provides a large, multipurpose room and loading dock on the main level with dressing rooms and other theatrical support space on the lower level.

Construction continues apace with an anticipated opening in spring 2011. Look for preview information about the inside of this historic landmark in the next *Innkeeper*.



Preserving White Plains Cemetery...Part 3

By Anne Kratzer

On December 4, volunteers did a great job clearing the autumn remains from the White Plains (Nathaniel Jones) cemetery. The job was done in record time, just a little under an hour, even though there was a lot to do! The team was lucky to finish before the snow arrived. Thanks to **Heather Morell and the Spruce volunteer group** from the Town, the team was able to finish in half the time it would have taken just the Friends volunteers. The Friends are very grateful for this great support and partnership. Thanks also to Heather and the Town for supplying the leaf bags.

Our next scheduled clean-up event is **Saturday, March 5 at 10 am**. Volunteers will be welcomed. On the docket is spreading mulch on the path, cleaning the marble stones, clearing branches and pulling weeds. If the interpretative sign is installed (we hope so!), we'll celebrate at a dedication.

Spruce is a volunteer-based program designed to connect citizens to beautification, litter reduction, and environmental service projects in our community. The Spruce Program has been awarded the 2010 Outstanding Litter Prevention Program Award, a regional recognition presented by the Carolina Recycling Association. This award celebrates the efforts of Spruce volunteers who cleaned litter, spread mulch, planted flowers and trees, reduced waste, and kept our community a beautiful place to live and work.

Kudos and Thanks to the White Plains Cemetery Maintenance Team:

Nancy Hemphill, Elaine & John Loyack, Cathy Richmond, Rick Knapp, Barb Wetmore, Pat Fish, Kris Carmichael, Lisa Englert, Marilyn Butler, Jerod and Anne Kratzer and Spruce volunteers Heather Morell, Augusta Dell'Omo, Maggie Kneifel and Amy Kneifel

who meet four times a year to "spruce up" the cemetery and support the Town work crews

Local Property Receives Prestigious Award

By Brent Miller, with information from the Friends and Capital Area Preservation

The Esther Ivey House at 302 S. Academy Street received the high honor of the **Anthemion Award** from **Capital Area Preservation**. The renovated house is now the home of the **Lana Addison Bridal** shop, and the parties responsible for updating the property shared the award for commercial rehabilitation and adaptive reuse – **Joyce South Academy LLC, Upton & Company, iS design p.a., West Key Consulting Corporation** and **Withers & Ravenel**. The Friends appreciate this outstanding historic preservation effort and congratulate the Anthemion Award winners.

The Ivey House joins the Page-Walker Hotel, long-time Friend and former Town Council member **Marla Dorrel** and **Keith & Gaia Bliss** (for the Hobby-Bliss House) as Cary Anthemion Award winners. See more information about the award at <http://www.cappresinc.org/anthemion.php>.



"I think Ms. Esther would have been pleased with the purple door."
(Photo by Brent Miller)



A Showstopper: The Page Educational Gardens!

By Anne Kratzer



*Before the freeze:
Winter Tarragon in
Page Educational
Gardens*

The gardens continue to attract herb enthusiasts, passionate gardeners, butterfly lovers and those who just want to enjoy the sights and fragrances that surround them as they relax on the garden bench. Despite a challenging growing season, owing to extremely hot temperatures and lack of rain, garden volunteers kept the plants thriving. We are indebted to volunteers **Kay Struffolino** (liaison to the Public Works staff), **Lynn McKenzie, Pati Schetzina, Lois Nixon, Mercedes Auger, Cheryl McLean, Paul and Lynn Wasylkevych, Jerod Kratzer, Lea and Louis Hovis, Pat Fish, Barbara Wetmore, Bev Samuelson, Jimi Lagattuta and Renata Thompson**. Thanks also to **Kris Carmichael** who is always looking out for the gardens' interests, and the **Public Works Staff** for invaluable support, and special gratitude to **Jeff Privette** who braved the rue!

Our "Putting the Garden to Bed" Party was held over two days, Nov. 6 & 7, because of rainy weather. Thanks to **Kay Struffolino, Marla Dorrel, Lynn McKenzie, Pati Schetzina, Lois Nixon, Cheryl McLean, Kris Carmichael** and **Jerod Kratzer** for joining me on one or both days. We also thank **Paul and Lynn Wasylkevych, Kay Struffolino, Lois Nixon,** and **Pat Fish** for helping to maintain the gardens over the winter months.

Please mark your 2011 calendars for these upcoming events:

Planting day for the gardens is **Saturday, April 16 from 9 am – Noon.**

Bring your clippers, trowels and energy!

On **May 7, 2011**, the Friends of the Page-Walker host the second annual **Herbfest**.

Look for more details in The Innkeeper. It was a wonderful success this past spring!

We certainly appreciate our partnership with the Town, especially **Lyman Collins, Kris Carmichael, Kevin O'Shea, the Town of Cary's Public Works staff, Carolyn Lewis and Rob Garner** as we all enjoy the rewards of each growing season.

We love welcoming new gardening enthusiasts, so if you'd like to join us, please contact me at (919) 467-8887 or annekratz@aol.com.



(Right) Before the freeze: White Yarrow in Page Educational Gardens

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



There's No Place Like "Hotel" for the Holidays

By Brent Miller, with information from the Town of Cary

As part of the Town of Cary's [Heart of the Holidays](#) events, the Page-Walker Arts & History Center held an open house and old-fashioned Victorian Christmas experience from 4:00 – 6:00 PM on Saturday, December 4. Activities included Victorian carolers, information about Victorian and Cary Christmas traditions [see next page], music by the **Joy Recorder Ensemble** and **Applause! Youth Theater** and free horse-drawn carriage rides.

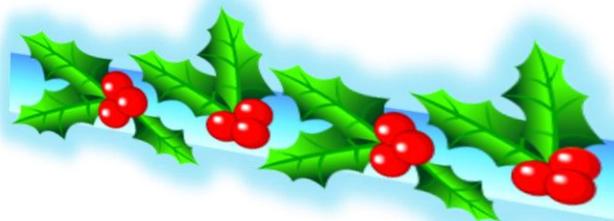


(Left) Horse-drawn carriage rides; (Above) Joy Recorder Ensemble performs (Photos by Laurie Miller)

Another holiday event at the Page-Walker was the annual [Friends holiday party](#), held Dec. 1. The event consisted of a potluck dinner with outstanding entertainment by a delegation from the [Historical Enrichment Society of North Carolina](#). This troupe will be performing in the upcoming **12th Night Madrigal dinner on January 8, 2011, 7:00 PM** at the Herb Young Community Center. For tickets or more information, visit <http://historicalenrichmentsociety.org/historicalMadrigal.html> or call (919) 755-8004.



Historical Enrichment Society dazzles the audience at Friends holiday party (Photo by Brent Miller)



Victorian Christmas Traditions

Many of the Christmas traditions enjoyed today can be traced back to the Victorian era, which ranged from 1837 to 1901, the reign of Queen Victoria of England. (The Page Walker was built in 1868 at the height of the Victorian Era) It was a time of growth, technological innovation and social change, which spawned a host of new holiday customs.

Christmas Trees

Based on medieval European customs, the modern Christmas tree tradition originated in Germany. German and English settlers brought the tradition to North America. The earliest mention of a Christmas tree in America is from a diary dated 20 December 1820 of Matthew Zhan, from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Queen Victoria's German husband, Prince Albert, introduced the Christmas tree custom to the England; and in 1848, the *Illustrated London News* printed a full-page illustration of Victoria and Albert's Christmas tree and its popularity spread rapidly.

Christmas Cards

The practice of sending commercially printed Christmas cards began in England. It was an adaptation of the tradition of children writing greetings to their parents. Advances in printing technology lead to affordable colorful cards, which enjoyed huge success and spread from England to America and the rest of the world.

Caroling

Caroling began in England during the Victorian era. Some popular Christmas carols were *Oh Come All Ye Faithful*, *Silent Night*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, *Away in a Manger*, *We Three Kings* and *Jingle Bells*.

Santa Claus

The American version of Santa Claus is based on the Dutch *Sint Nikolaas* or *Saint Nicholas*. Dutch settlers in New York brought this fun and lively tradition to America. *St Nicholas* merged with the British character *Father Christmas* to create the character known today as Santa Claus. The tradition of Santa Claus filling socks or stockings with presents on the night of December 24th was made popular in Victorian times.

Christmas Past in Cary

Recollections from the early 20th century

Excerpted from Just a Horse-Stopping Place by Peggy Van Scoyoc

Margaret Travis

At church at Christmastime, they went out in the woods, got a cedar tree, and the ladies decorated the cedar tree in the corner of the auditorium. The church gave money together for all the children. They would buy paper sacks ...the ladies would put an apple and an orange, some sticks of candy, some nuts and some raisins in every single bag under the Christmas tree. We were too poor to have fruit all year long. Our orange at Christmas was a real treat. Then we would have a Christmas program. We gave Christmas plays on the stage at that church, about the manger and the baby Jesus. The choir would sing.

(At home in their dining room by the fireplace) At Christmastime, my daddy would say, "Now come over here. Let's talk to Santy Claus. You can tell him what you want." My father would kneel down on his hands and knees. We would get beside my daddy. He said "Look up the chimney and talk to Santy Claus." We really thought it went up the chimney to Santy Claus. He was real to me. We hung up the stockings that we wore. My brother would always hang up mine because his was short and mine was long...

Elva Templeton (daughter of Doctor James Templeton)

(At Christmas) we had a huge holly tree (at the Methodist church) It must have been seven or eight feet tall and was covered in berries, and in (Sunday school) class small children got a little gift bag of confections. We had a big barrel full of bags and the older people would get one of those. Of course, the children had a program. We looked forward to that. We didn't get anything on Christmas much; candy and an orange, and maybe one or two toys is all, all the toys we had during the year.



Happy Holidays from the Friends of the Page-Walker!



Preserving Cary History

By Brent Miller

Several dozen people attended our [October preservation program](#), *More Mysteries & Secrets: Exploring Cary-Area Cemeteries*, in which we presented the rich history of the White Plains cemetery and the Cary First Christian Church cemetery.

The White Plains cemetery contains the oldest known graves in Cary, including the grave of **Nathaniel Jones** of White Plains, who owned vast tracts of land that have become parts of Raleigh and eastern Cary. The Friends, in partnership with the Town of Cary, have recently worked to restore this important piece of Cary's history (see the article on p. 7 of this newsletter, along with earlier installments in previous editions of *The Innkeeper*, available at www.friendsofpagewalker.org).



*Cary First
Christian
Church
Cemetery
(Photos by Brent
Miller)*

See *Cary News* coverage of this event at <http://www.carynews.com/2010/10/31/21954/grave-tale-has-a-cul-de-sac-plot.html> for additional information.

On **Tuesday January 25 at 7:30 PM**, we are delighted to welcome Town of Cary Senior Planner **Anna Readling**, who will present an overview of the Town of Cary's recently adopted [Historic Preservation Master Plan](#). This is the first municipal standalone historic preservation master plan in North Carolina. We hope you will join us to learn about how this plan affects Cary and involves you.

The Historic Preservation committee welcomes our newest member, **Marilyn Butler**, whose energy has already been tapped for historic preservation activities, including our recent [Memory Days](#) sessions [see article on p. 5].

Our committee continues to monitor the Waldo House restoration and the ongoing renovation of Old Cary High School [see article on p. 6] – in March 2011, we plan to hold a panel discussion to share the “insiders’ view” of that facility’s restoration. And of course, in May we will present our sixth annual *What Have We Got to Lose?* program.



White Plains Cemetery (Photo by Kevin Steed)

The Cary First Christian Church cemetery, located near Glenaire but owned by the Church now located on Evans Road, dates to the 19th century and is an important part of the history of Cary's African American community. The Friends recognized Ms. **Sallie Jones**, who has worked for decades to care for this place that includes many of her relatives and to identify those who rest here.



Walter Hines Page Honored

Cary's Favorite Son Inducted to NC Literary Hall of Fame

By Anne Kratzer



Editor's Note: On October 17, 2010, Walter Hines Page, son of Cary founder Allison Francis (Frank) and Catherine (Kate) Page, was inducted into the NC Literary Hall of Fame. Anne & Jerod Kratzer represented the Friends at the ceremony and Anne filed this report.

Walter Hines Page was one of 5 inductees to the NC Literary Hall of Fame in 2010. The event was held at the Weymouth Center, which features the Boyd house, built in the 1890s and much larger than the Page-Walker with 21 rooms. **James Boyd**, a steel and railroad magnate, purchased 1200 acres and built this home. Four hundred acres surround the present-day Boyd home, forming the Weymouth Center. James's son worked for Doubleday Page and Company (the publisher co-founded by **Walter Hines Page**) in New York in 1916. James (the younger) went on to become a writer, and the Boyd home was a welcome retreat for many writers: Thomas Wolfe, F. Scott Fitzgerald, William Faulkner and many others.

The two-hour event was held on a perfect fall day under a tent on the grounds. The writers inducted at the same ceremony as Walter Hines Page were **W.J. Cash** (1900-1941), **Allan Gurganus**, **Robert Morgan** and **Samm-Art Williams**. A special individual was selected to provide the background and credits of each writer, and the three writers who are still living also spoke. Allan Gurganus had the audience in stitches! It was pointed out many times that North Carolina has more recognized writers than any other state. Allan said that it was because every North Carolinian has a story – all one has to do is listen. For more information about this event, see the N&O story at <http://www.newsobserver.com/2010/10/17/742268/honoring-the-mind-of-wj-cash.html#storylink=misearch>.

An impressive booklet was printed for the occasion, and 12 pages, a fascinating account, were devoted to the significance of Walter Hines Page. The article mentions that Page's early days were spent in "what is present-day Cary." Page was introduced by his great grandson, **Shippen Page**, a lawyer from Cambridge, Massachusetts. He did an outstanding job and was kind enough to send me his speech, excerpted below. Shippen Page's comments make us very proud to have such an impressive "favorite son."

Excerpts from remarks by **Shippen Page** (pictured, right), Walter Hines Page's great-grandson, on the occasion of Walter Hines Page's inductions into the NC Literary Hall of Fame

Walter (Hines) Page was a product of the Old South and a pioneer in the New South. He was a man before his time and quintessentially a man of his time. He was restless, ambitious, and idealistic. ... We gather together to honor Walter Page into the North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame. He would have been proud and he would have been quizzical. North Carolina in his day wasn't exactly either literary or welcoming. ... Allison Francis Page, "Big Frank" as he was called, ... was Walter's father. Big Frank never went to college, and, after sending Walter, never sent another child to college. In his *Confessions of a Publisher*, [Walter] pleaded for the great universities to teach journalism, to teach able students how to write. He wrote all the time. ... he was a crusader, an agent of change, a man whose writings and whose championship of other writers could bring about significant change. ... His thousands of articles and speeches gave voice to noble aspirations of the common man. ... Page's work as Ambassador in London so weakened him that he died in 1918 at age 63. In his life, he never held back ... America, he firmly believed, was the land of opportunity, where the common man could achieve greatness with opportunity, hard work and imagination. However far he travelled, his heart was always here in North Carolina.



Time to Start or Renew Your Membership!

 **This Means You!** 

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 2010 - 2011, please do so today.**

We have migrated our membership management to our web site. You will receive an e-mail 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 16. Please print, complete and return it today!

Kudos to...

(compiled from several sources)

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



Thanks and Kudos to

Joy Mellon who, as Friends Marketing Chair, spent a full year planning the Antiques Appraisal Fair before moving out of state just before the event. **We miss you, Joy!**

Phizzy King for taking over as Marketing Chair after Joy's move and, on a moment's notice, doing a fantastic job coordinating the Antiques Appraisal Fair

Others who ensured the success of the Antiques Appraisal Fair including Marketing committee members **Renata Thompson, Peggy Van Scoyoc** and **Ed Yerha**; event volunteers **Ken and Terry Dickson** (who came from New Jersey!), **Brent Miller, Pam Christie, Olene Ogles, Marilyn Butler** and **Kris Carmichael; Natalie Winters**, who **joined Kris** to promote the event; and **Pat Fish**, who made all arrangements for Wes Cowan & team and reconciled finances afterward. **It took a village!**

The elves who decorated the Page-Walker for the holiday season: **Sharon Hendricks, Bob Myers, Barbara Wetmore, Kris Carmichael, Keith Bliss & family, Kristen Chung, Phizzy King, Pam Christie, Candice O'Beirne, Pat Fish, Anne Kratzer.**

Kay Struffolino for donating the beautiful poinsettias that adorn the six fireplaces in the Page-Walker for the holidays

White Plains Cemetery volunteers (see names on p. 7)

Page Educational Garden volunteers (see names on p. 8)

Pat Fish and **Marla Dorrel** for a stunning presentation about local cemeteries (see details on p. 11)

Lisa Englert for transforming and modernizing the Friends publicity and PR

Kris Carmichael for too many things to mention, including protecting historic artifacts
The **Town of Cary**, a decades-long partner of the Friends, for notifications in mailings, posters, brochures and program guides



History Education

By Rick Knapp & Kris Carmichael

Town staff continues to partner with the Friends to enable educational opportunities for local students. Please share the "poster" below with an educator!

Attention Western Wake Parents, Students and Educators!

Try the Cary-On! Experience at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center.

FREE tours for elementary and middle school students include scavenger hunt tour of the Cary Heritage Museum, a guided tour of the historic Page-Walker Hotel, fun with hands-on wooden folk toys, map study, and discussion of the growth of Cary.

To schedule your school tour call Rob at (919) 462-3963!

21st Century Friends

By Lisa Englert

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

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

Here's how to connect with us:

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

Facebook 

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

LinkedIn 

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

Twitter 

<http://twitter.com/PageWalkerHotel>

Please share these pages with anyone you know who's interested in learning more about the Friends and wants to connect with us.



About *The Innkeeper*

The Innkeeper is the newsletter of the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel. First published in 1985, and restarted in 2003 after a hiatus, the newsletter offers member and community outreach communication. *The Innkeeper* is a team effort of the Friends; **Brent Miller** edits the newsletter.

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

Board Members

Your [Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel board members](#) are these volunteers: Mercedes Auger, Keith Bliss, Marilyn Butler, Pam Christie, Kristen Chung (Teen Council liaison), Michael Edwards, Lisa Englert, Pat Fish (treasurer), Don Frantz (Cary Town Council liaison), Jillian Goldberg, Jennifer Jones, Phizzy King, Trish Kirkpatrick, Anne Kratzer (life member), Brent Miller (vice president), Candice Page O'Beirne, Olene Ogles, Sanjana Prabhu (Teen Council liaison), Cathy Richmond (secretary), John Shaw, Renata Thompson, Peggy Van Scoyoc (past president), Natalie Winters and Ed Yerha (president).

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

If you are interested in serving on the Friends board in the future (or if you have served in the past and would like to contribute again), please contact any board member or see the "Contact the Friends" information near the end of this issue.

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

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

Calendar of Events

See articles in this newsletter for details about most events

2010

- **December 19, 4:00 PM:** Winter Concert *Mountain Aires*
- **December 20, 9:00 AM – 11:00 PM:** Friends gift wrap, Barnes & Noble, Walnut Street

2011

- **January 5, 7:00 PM:** Board Meeting
- **January 16, 4:00 PM:** Winter Concert *Brian Reagin*
- **January 25, 7:30 PM:** Historic preservation program *Town of Cary Historic Preservation Master Plan*
- **February 2, 7:00 PM:** Board Meeting
- **February 20, 4:00 PM:** Winter Concert *Love Bits & Bites 2011 – The Sixth Sense*
- **March 2, 7:00 PM:** Board Meeting
- **April 16, 9:00 AM – Noon:** Garden Planting
- **May 7, All Day:** Second Annual Herbfest



Begin or Renew Your Membership *Today!*

To join the Friends, or renew your existing membership, visit <http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org/> or fill out the form below and bring it to the Page-Walker or mail it with your contribution to:

Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel

Box 4234

Cary, NC 27519

All members receive a complimentary copy of *The Innkeeper* newsletter and discounts for many Town-sponsored Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources department programs held at the Page-Walker Hotel. Non-business donations of \$100 or more and business donations of \$500 or more will be recognized in the newsletter.

Individual, family, and civic group memberships:

- Individual \$30
- Family \$50
- Community Partner \$100
- Sustaining Member \$150 (Includes your choice of *Around and About Cary* or *Just a Horse-Stopping Place* book)
- Silver Sustaining Member \$250 or more (Includes 2 winter concert series season tickets)

My employer, _____ has a matching gift program

Business memberships:

- Business Member \$250 (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)
- Business Partner \$500 or more (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)

Name/Organization _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone _____ e-mail address _____



Commemorative Brick Order Form

Be A Part Of History And Make Your Mark

You have the opportunity to leave your mark on history by having your name inscribed on a brick that will be placed in the courtyard or walkway at the Page Walker Arts and History Center. You may also choose to honor a family member, friend or a business. Not only will you be making a mark on history, you will also contribute to the future of your community by playing an important role in the preservation of the Page-Walker Arts and History Center.

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

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

I do not wish to have a brick inscribed but enclose \$_____ to help in your effort.

Please print the name or message to be inscribed with a limit of **2 lines and 15 spaces per line.**

Brick 1:

Brick 2:

Please call Pat Fish at 919-467-5696 if you have any questions. Please note that brick orders are placed when a cumulative total of 10 brick orders have been received.

Your name _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact the Friends

By mail:

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

By telephone:

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

By email:

info@friendsofpagewalker.org

On the web:

<http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org>

Visit the Page-Walker Hotel:

Address: 119 Ambassador Loop

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

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Thursday: 10:00AM – 9:30PM

Friday: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

Saturday: 10:00AM – 1:00PM

Friday Evening - Sunday: by reservation

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

FRIENDSOFPAGEWALKER.ORG

Please visit the updated Friends' Web site. It's a great way to learn about the history and mission of the organization and to find out about and register for upcoming events. If you aren't receiving email notifications from us, register on the site and join the hundreds who already do.

It's also an easy way to become a member! You can join the Friends, make a donation and purchase tickets, all online using your favorite credit card. We greatly appreciate the support of our loyal membership. We couldn't continue to provide the variety of services that we do without you!

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

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



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



<http://twitter.com/PageWalkerHotel>



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

