

Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc.

520 North 15th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

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Inscriptions is published periodically.
Ann Hutteman and Tee Woodbury, *Editors*

Inscriptions

VOLUME 7, NO. 1

SPRING 2011



Unusual Epitaph

On the afternoon of October 20, 1937, the circus act, the Four Aces were performing death-defying aerial feats high above Wilmington's Legion Stadium. They were practicing their act for the Coastal Fair to be held that night. One of the group of aerialists, Donald Hartman, was aloft executing a handstand on the right side of the high rigging. A sudden wind began to sway the slender rod that supported him and sent him hurling rapidly to the ground. Immediately, he was rushed to James Walker Memorial Hospital where an examination revealed that he had broken his neck, an arm, a leg,



a foot and all of his ribs. Because of these catastrophic injuries, he died at 4:20p.m., ten minutes after reaching the hospital.

It was near the end of the circus' season. Hartman had planned to return to his home in Portland,

Oregon. Just prior to the fatal performance, a fellow showman said, "He planned to terminate his aerial work and stick to balancing acts on the ground. He was one of the best equilibrists alive."

Since Hartman had no living relatives, he was buried in Oakdale's Special Plot #3 in the Public Ground. His epitaph testifies to his goal in life—"Died Pleasing the Public." ❖

Order Your Easter Lilies NOW

ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY
APRIL 8, 2011

Friends of Oakdale Cemetery are offering for sale full, fresh, Easter Lilies for graves of loved ones.

\$35 for non-members
\$33 for members of Friends of Oakdale Cemetery.

These lilies are **beautiful, substantial two-stemmed** plants with foil and a bow.

(NOT THE SINGLE-STEMS THE DISCOUNT STORES SELL.)



Easter is April 24.

The lilies will be placed at the graves starting the week of April 20th and will be removed when they wane.

Please provide the name of the person(s) buried on the lot:

NAME OF DECEASED: _____ NAME OF DECEASED: _____

NAME OF DECEASED: _____ NAME OF DECEASED: _____

Please provide your name, address, phone number in case we need to contact you for further information.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ E-MAIL _____

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO:

Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc.

520 North Fifteenth St.
Wilmington, NC 28401

(910) 762-5682

❖ *Inscriptions*

2011 Calendar of Events

Friends of Oakdale Board Meetings

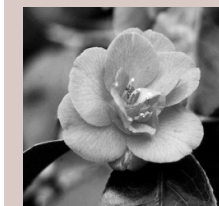
Second Tuesday of every month, 12:00 noon, Kenneth Sprunt Building, Oakdale Cemetery, unless otherwise noted

Annual Meeting of the Friends of Oakdale Cemetery

Tuesday, March 8, 2011, 12:00 noon, Kenneth Sprunt Building, Oakdale Cemetery

Camellia Tour

Saturday, March 5, 2011, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.; Bill Wilcox and Ed Powers, long time members of the Tidewater Camellia Club and certified judges of the American Camellia Society will lead the tour. \$8 non-members; FREE for members.



Bird Watching Tour

Saturday, April 2, 2011, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Dr. James Parnell, noted Ornithologist and retired UNC-W biology professor will be the tour guide. \$8 non-members; FREE for members

Funerary Art Tour

Saturday, April 16, 2011, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Architectural historian, Janet Seapker will be the guide for a tour focusing on the history of Oakdale Cemetery and the meaning of symbols used in Victorian funerary art. \$8 non-members; FREE for members.

Floral and Funerary Art Tour

Sunday, April 24, 2011, 2:30 to 4:00 p.m., Janet Seapker will lead a walking tour, again concentrating on funerary art. This is Easter Sunday afternoon and there will be Easter lilies on many of the graves. \$8 non-members; FREE for members.

Horse-drawn Wagon Rides

Sunday, May 22, 2011, Narrated tours every 30 minutes beginning at 3:00 p.m. Last tour starts at 5:30 p.m. Adults, \$10; children 12 and younger, \$8. Members: adults, \$8; children 12 and younger, \$6.



Summer Walking Tour Series

Third Saturday of each month, May - October, 10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. Historical Walking Tours of North Carolina's oldest rural Cemetery given by various local historians, each giving their own personal twist to Oakdale's history. Admission is \$8 per person, FREE to all Friends of Oakdale members. Tours are cancelled in the event of inclement weather.

A NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF OAKDALE CEMETERY, INC.
520 NORTH 15TH STREET, WILMINGTON, NC 28401 ❖ 910-762-5682
EMAIL: FRIENDS@OAKDALECEMETERY.ORG ❖ WWW.OAKDALECEMETERY.ORG

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

(Recorded between August 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010)

If you joined during this time and we failed to list your name, please phone the office and we will correct the listing in the next issue of *Inscriptions*.

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\$1,000–\$2,499

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Mrs. Carl B. Brown, Jr.

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A REMINDER

To all the Friends of Oakdale, when receiving this periodic publication news and events of the Friends, this is not a reminder of your membership status. The Membership Committee sends out a specific letter. These letters are mailed to you annually when the time arrives according to the month you had renewed last or joined.

VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!

If you would like to become more involved with the Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc., we have lots of opportunities for you.

- TOUR GUIDES
- RESEARCH
- NEWSLETTER
- LANDSCAPING/
GARDENING
- FUND RAISING
- DISTRIBUTION
OF EDUCATIONAL
MATERIAL

Please call the Oakdale Cemetery office for more information.
910-762-5682

FAMILY

\$40–\$99

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Bieber
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\$30

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Mrs. Marguerite Bellois
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Mrs. Elma Porter Bowden
Ms. Christine D. Cox
Mr. and Mrs. William S. DeRosset
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Mrs. Mildred H. Pittman
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Mrs. Rachel P. Turner
Mr. Robert C. Wallen
Mrs. Dorothy Weathersbee
Ms. Feriba Weltin
Mrs. Frances D. Woodbury
Ms. Julia S. Worth
Mrs. Josephine H. Yocum

STUDENT

\$15

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Farmer
Miss Dorothea M. Fuller
Master Robert Henry Ziegler

Friends of Oakdale Project

The Friends of Oakdale have furnished funds for two new signs at the entrance of the cemetery. The old office sign has been replaced and a new holder has been put in to hold maps, cemetery newsletters and other handouts concerning information about the cemetery and upcoming events. Ben Cothren, an Eagle Scout candidate and Wilmington Troup #234 helped to install the new signage. ❖



Oakdale in the Snow



With the recent frigid temperatures, Oakdale Cemetery has been blanketed with wintery precipitation. Very few local residents see this peaceful scene in the cemetery because they are hesitant to venture out in this kind of weather. ❖

For our Handicapped Friends

For any of the tours, a golf cart is available for those who have mobility challenges. The capacity of the vehicle is only 5 persons; therefore, registration is necessary to reserve a space on the cart by calling the Oakdale Cemetery office, 762-5682.

www.OakdaleCemetery.org

Don't forget to check our website periodically for information about upcoming events sponsored by the Friends.

“Monday@ the Mansion” Series

The Bellamy Museum of History and Design Arts
503 Market Street, Wilmington, NC
Monday, April 18, 2011, 10:30 a.m.

Janet Seapker, architectural historian and retired Director of the Cape Fear Museum will present a lecture:
The History and Development of Rural Cemeteries During the 19th Century

\$10.00 – Coffee and donuts will be provided.
Call (910) 251-3700, Extension 104 for registration.

Seating is limited to first 60 registrants.

As noted in the calendar, Ms. Seapker will conduct two tours on April 16, 2011 and April 24, 2011 of Oakdale which will concentrate on funerary art. There will be a charge of \$8 for non-members and FREE for Friends of Oakdale members for the tour.

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides

The popular wagon rides will be held on Sunday May 22, 2011. Once again, our old friends, NIP and TUCK, the black Percheron horses, will pull the wagon around our historic cemetery. An accompanying tour guide will give an interesting commentary. The tours begin every 30 minutes beginning at 3:00 p.m. The last tour leaves the gate at 5:30 p.m. Adults, \$10; children 12 and younger, \$8. Members: adults \$8 and children 12 and younger, \$6. ❖



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK STANLEY