

## Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc.

520 North 15th Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

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Membership is for one year.

## BE a Friend of Oakdale Cemetery!

Please mail your tax-deductible contribution to:

**Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc.**  
520 North Fifteenth Street ❖ Wilmington, NC 28401

Questions? Call us at 910-762-5682

TITLE / FIRST NAME(S) / LAST NAME  
STREET ADDRESS / CITY / STATE / ZIP  
PHONE / EMAIL

Membership is for one year. ❖ Many volunteer opportunities!

Please contact me about volunteering!

Friends of Oakdale Cemetery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, founded to support the Cemetery. The mission of the Friends is to assist the Oakdale Cemetery Company in preserving and promoting the historical character of Oakdale. The Friends, achieve the mission by raising funds and seeking contributed services; by preparing educational and research materials emphasizing the historical, architectural and cultural importance of Oakdale Cemetery; and by providing tour guide services so that the cemetery is available for educational use by the public.

# Inscriptions

VOLUME 5, NO. 2

FALL 2009



## Gossip, Graves & Grapes

**Oakdale Cemetery**  
Sunday, October 18, 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Newspaper people who've met their final deadlines rest under moss-draped boughs at historic Oakdale Cemetery. The journalists and publishers range from the famous to the infamous to the familiar. On Sunday, October 18, a few of Wilmington's surviving writers will tell the stories of their colorful predecessors as visitors sip wine, learn a bit, and maybe even laugh!

The journalists to be remembered include Major William Bernard, Thomas Clawson, David Brinkley, David and Catherine Fulton, and brothers-in-law Paul Jennewein and Joe Nesbitt.



The Gossip, Graves and Grapes walking tour is offered from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., with small groups starting out at 15-minute intervals. Comfortable shoes are recommended. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled tour so you can enjoy some wine and light hors d'oeuvres before your tour begins. Refreshments will also be offered in mid-tour.

Tickets will be sold for specific times and must be reserved at the Oakdale Cemetery Office, 910-762-5682. The price is \$25 per person, or \$20 for members of Friends of Oakdale. (Cash or check only). Space is limited to 100 people. Guests should park outside the cemetery gate at the end of Fifteenth Street.

We hope you'll come join us for a little afternoon grave gossip! ❖

## Horse Drawn Wagon Rides

Sunday, November 15, 2009, 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Ed Lewis along with NIP and TUCK will be at Oakdale for an afternoon of horse drawn wagon rides.

For the past three years Mr. Lewis, owner of Bay Blossom Farm in Montague, N.C., has brought his 2 black Percheron horses and 16 passenger red wagon to Oakdale. On this afternoon visitors can view and hear the history with interesting commentaries about the cemetery.



NIP and TUCK, the strong and proud horses are of the Percheron breed. They are 10 year old geldings, stand about 17 1/2 hands high, and weigh in at a combined weight of over 4,000 pounds. These noble horses owe their ancestry to the breeding between the Forest horses native to northern Europe and the Arabians brought to Europe by the Moors. These two brothers were purchased by Mr. Lewis in 2000 to do work on his farm such as breaking land, mow and bale hay, and of course pull wagons.

Mr. Lewis and his wife, Patricia, settled on their beautiful Bay Blossom Farm in 1998. He taught and coached in New Hanover schools for ten years then worked in railroad construction/maintenance for 25 years. He was the first baseball coach at Laney High School in 1976. Some may remember that this was also the same time that a young student by the name of Michael Jordan played baseball at Laney. Mr. Lewis also coached Legion baseball in Brunswick County. Today Ed and Pat enjoy their country life on the farm with family and especially grandchildren.

Continued on page 3

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 January 1, 2009 and July 31, 2009)

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*.

### INDIVIDUAL

\$30

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Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Woodbury  
Mr. and Mrs. David Zumbro

### A REMINDER

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

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\$100-\$249

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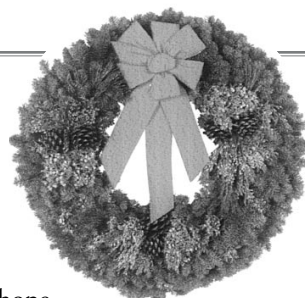
\$1,000-\$2,499

Andrews Mortuary Mrs. Carl B. Brown Jr.

## Wreaths and Poinsettias

Friends of Oakdale will once again be selling Christmas wreaths and poinsettias to be placed on loved ones graves. We hope to have a new source for wreaths this year which promises to supply even lovelier ones than before.

Watch for postcards in early November with ordering details.



## 2009 Summer Tours

Chuck Truby, past board member, and Eric Kozen provided monthly historical walking tours of the cemetery throughout the summer months. These two hour tours were packed full of facts and intriguing stories while meandering through North Carolina's oldest rural cemetery.

The last tour of our Summer Series will be Saturday, September 26 at 10:00 AM. The admission is \$8.00 (checks and cash only), free for members of Friends of Oakdale. Participants should park outside the cemetery gates at the end of Fifteenth Street. Should there be inclement weather, the tour will be cancelled. If you have not experienced this delightful, informative stroll though Oakdale, don't miss this opportunity!

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer tour guide, please contact Eric Kozen (910-762-5682). ❖



Eric Kozen, Superintendent (pictured here) entertaining one of the crowds for the summer series of tours for Oakdale Cemetery.

## Oakdale Cemetery Has a Winner!

Congratulations to Janet Seapker for her winning submission to *Waterhouse Symbolism* in the contest for identifying the most unusual Jewish gravestone throughout the United States. Janet writes that this is "Arthur Bluethenthal's marker." He was the first Wilmingtonian to die during World War I (1918). A member of the Lafayette Flying Corps (not the Lafayette Espadrille), Arthur was buried in Belgium where he was shot down; then his parents had him exhumed and brought to Wilmington for internment in Oakdale. On his grave marker is a bronze plaque with the logo of the Lafayette Flying Corps,



a profile of an Indian (native American), which, at the intersection of his headdress straps, has a Swastika on it. Of course, that was two decades BEFORE the introduction of that as a Nazi symbol. But there it is, in Hebrew Cemetery, a section of Oakdale. The airfield in Wilmington, "Arthur Bluethenthal Field," is named for him."

Of note, the Swastika or fylfot cross was recognized long before the Nazi Regime. It originally conveyed good fortune and decorated ancient pottery, jewelry and coins. In the Aryan Tribes, it conveyed power because the arms of the swastika resembled the sticks that tribal members rubbed together to produce fire. ❖



## Friends' Board Member Profiles

### CARLTON WARD ALLEGOOD

Carlton has a great appreciation for the treasure that is our Oakdale Cemetery, and has for years urged out of town visitors as well as locals to tour Oakdale in order to gain a deeper sense of the history of Wilmington, in such a unique and beautiful setting. Carlton was born in Wilmington and attended local public schools. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was employed in the field of risk management and insurance with the Aetna Casualty and Surety Company in California and South Carolina, and as Executive Director of the Wilmington-New Hanover County Insurance Advisory Committee. He is a longtime member of the Wilmington Civitan Club. He is married to Connie, and they are members of First Baptist Church. Carlton welcomes the opportunity to join Friends of Oakdale Cemetery and to work in the support of its events and purposes. ❖

### JERRY C. WOODELL

I was born in Whiteville, NC but moved to Wilmington as a very young child. I have lived in Wilmington most of my life leaving only for two short periods. I am a graduate of Wilmington College and UNC Chapel Hill Law School. I have practiced law in Wilmington for almost 36 years as a partner in the law firm of Marshall Williams & Gorham LLP. My wife, Gloria, and I have one child and two grandchildren who live in Charlotte, NC. My grandchildren love to explore Oakdale and have done so more than once. Gloria and I both look forward to working with Friends of Oakdale. ❖

## Horse Drawn Wagon Rides

Continued from front page

They both enjoy travel and church mission work in places like Nicaragua and Nigeria.

So save the date: November 15th for a ride with NIP and TUCK in Oakdale. Rides begin at 3:00 PM, last tour at 5:30 PM; cost for non-member adults is \$10.00; children 12 years and younger, \$8.00. Members pay \$8.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 years and younger. ❖