

IVY HILL CEMETERY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Dedicated to the preservation of monuments, promotion of history, and protection of flora and fauna of Ivy Hill Cemetery

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NEWSLETTER

Summer 2013

EHS TOUR ADDED! VAULT RESTORED! MEMORABLE FLAG DAY!



Living History Event

The weather was ideal on April 20, the day of our first Living History Tour. Sunny and cool, perfect for introducing people to the delights of a stroll in Ivy Hill, a Victorian garden cemetery with acres of flowering trees, bushes, and soft grass, interspersed with lovely statuary and other monuments to admire and read.

Simonne Jeanne Michenon (1917-1971) was the first “living resident” that visitors encountered. Tara Knox, as Simonne Jeanne Michenon, elegantly evoked this woman who was in the French Resistance during World War II, and then worked to keep the peace in the decades following.

The next resident encountered was Benjamin Franklin Stringfellow, (1840-1913), ably portrayed by Nathan Ritter who modestly recounted his time as a scout for JEB Stuart, where he eluded capture by his many creative disguises. He later attended Alexandria Seminary and became an ordained minister. In the Spanish American War, he served as a chaplain.

Our third living resident was Ellen Coolidge Burke (1901- 1975), as interpreted by Gabrielle Jawer. Miss Ellen told how it was not surprising she took such an interest in improving the Alexandria Library System. After all, her ancestor,

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FROM THE SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Wonderfully talented people, people who appreciate veterans, as well as generous people who care about preserving this cemetery; young and old together amazed us. You will not believe all that has been accomplished in a few short months.

Those of you have been following us on Facebook, see Ivy Hill Cemetery have seen the gradual transformation of the vault from junk filled storage area to a restoration closer to its original appearance. Constructed inside similar to

BY LUCY GODDIN

antebellum ammunition magazines, the deterioration had affected its Romanesque Revival sandstone façade. Masonry restoration efforts have now reinforced the original stones. In 1856 cemeteries needed receiving vaults,

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PATRICK "POPS" HENRY CALLAWAY

As you will discover in this article, Patrick Callaway accomplished many things during his full life, but locally he is known for his career at Episcopal High School. The article below can also be found as part of our Episcopal High School tour, prepared by Winston Miller (EHS 2013) during her May internship with IHCHPS.

Patrick Henry Callaway was born on February 15, 1895 and attended the University of Virginia where he was the baseball team's star pitcher.

Having been recruited by multiple major league baseball teams, Callaway became an essential component of sports at Episcopal High School when he joined the faculty in 1916. During the next 70 years, he held different positions: math teacher, baseball coach, and dean of students. Throughout his career, he encouraged students in every facet of life on the Holy Hill.

Understanding the duty to his nation, Callaway left the High School for two years and enlisted in the US Ambulance Service during World War I. He was awarded "the French Croix de Guerre for heroism under fire in the Argonne battlefields of France" for his service and afterward returned to EHS (newspaper).



Patrick "Pops" Henry Callaway
(1895-1995)
Section T Lot:231 Site: 11

FEATURE PROFILE

Being revered "as a man with enough patience to teach geometry to a tree" (newspaper), Callaway's dedication to the education of Episcopal's students was clear.

Callaway's presence on the campus extends past his seventy year tenure with the dedication of the Patrick Henry Callaway Chapel in 1990 which serves as an integral aspect of the EHS spiritual life today.

He also led by example in sports by coaching the baseball team for 15 years with "an impressive 112-67 record that included three undefeated seasons" which led to his induction into the EHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993.

He saw the graduation of countless students, sometimes teaching up to three generations of a family. Callaway reminded young boys to uphold tradition and family honor at Episcopal, especially when it came to discipline, as he was often heard saying, "I didn't let you grandfather get away with it, I didn't let your father get away with it, and I'm not going to let you get away with it!"

Throughout his many years at Episcopal High School, Callaway taught eight students who won Pulitzer prizes, three students who became Secretaries of the Army, and many others who became government officials and leaders. After years of dedication to the school, Callaway was laid to rest in Ivy Hill Cemetery at the age of 100.



VISIT IHCHPS.ORG AND SEE EHS TOUR UNDER OUR SELF GUIDED TOURS

First on the tour is Dr. Blackford. And although you were not present in 1914, once you read this tour, you will be able to see his dramatic funeral in your mind's eye. "All the students of Episcopal High School solemnly marching from there to Ivy Hill Cemetery and then, each walking by Blackford's grave to place a flower upon his coffin." (p.126)

Written by our talented intern, Winston Miller (EHS 2013), this tour contains many interesting stories. They served EHS in times of peace, and their country in war.

Don't miss this tour! Go to Self Guided Tours on the home page. You'll find the link to the Episcopal High School tour opposite this page of distinctive grey tombstones.

CARDINAL

Cardinals may not be rare, but you would be surprised at what you do not know about them.

They are talented. Did you realize that this accomplished songbird can sing a dozen different melodies? Unlike other songbirds, both male and female of this species vocalize.

They are very social. Cardinals not only mix with other cardinals in a flock, but cardinals are found socializing with flocks of other species.

Cardinals are monogamous. During mating season, the males feed their monogamous partners while females incubate clutches of eggs.

Cardinals are omnivores. Besides sunflower seeds, cardinals eat insects, grain, fruit and sap.

But why are these birds so beloved? Perhaps it is the male cardinal's richly red feathers. Seeing a cardinal always lifts your spirits. No wonder cardinals are Virginia's state bird. They have earned that honor from Virginia as well as from six other states.

CARDINALIS CARDINALIS



King Cardinal

Photo credit: [thelearnedfoot](http://thelearnedfoot.com) / Foter.com / CC BY-NC-ND

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animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/

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BY LUCY GODDIN

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built into the side of the hill to maintain a 51 degree temperature for loved ones not yet buried. Embalming was not done in those days, nor had refrigeration been invented.

Discovering the magnificent iron entrance gates that greeted visitors in Ivy Hill's earlier carriage days, led to us having them restored by Flaherty Iron Works. Encircling the vault's earthen exterior, these magnificent iron gates serve to highlight and protect this treasured vault.

Inspiring us first were the wonderful volunteers who portrayed notable Ivy Hill residents, for our living history event. Those who were able to attend, as well as those who read about it, were delightfully entertained from the stories told.

We were thanked by *so* many for the opportunity to place flags to honor veterans, that it inspired us to plan a cookout. So for next year's flag placing event, we will be able to thank *them*.

We hope to share next year's event with all interested Ivy Hill families who come to honor all of our veterans.

FLAG PLANTING IN HONOR OF MEMORIAL DAY

Threatening weather did not deter *our* Flag Day volunteers who came out on that dreary weather day, Saturday, May 20th. Attendance was up with many new faces. Flags planted on each veteran's grave seem to bring out the sun by time we finished.

"The highlight of today," said Lucy Goddin, IHCHPS President, "was that these volunteers were so appreciative of the chance to show respect for our veterans for Memorial Day." These were the most gracious volunteers Ivy Hill ever had to help plant flags.

Living History Day

Thomas Jefferson, was known for his own library. In time, she was promoted to Director of Alexandria's Library system. During her leadership, the library extended its outreach by introducing the bookmobile and expanding the number of branches. Visitors on the tour remarked that Ms. Burke was a pioneer for women who followed.

Next on the tour of "living residents" was Lucy Randolph Mason (1882-1959), as interpreted by Madeline Burke. Ms. Burke, with her clothes and manner, truly evoked Miss Lucy as a lady of genteel appearance who had the confidence and tenacity to be a successful advocate for social justice in her day. She collaborated with Eleanor



Roosevelt to contribute to the cause of the labor rights movement.

Not far from Miss Lucy's location was Anne S. Frobel (1816-1907) in Section M. Emma Nelson, interpreting Miss Anne, spoke of the challenges she and her sister faced in trying to survive the loss of both crops and farm animals from their land which was under occupation during the War Between the States.

Our next notable resident to come alive, was Robert French Roberts (1814-1884). Mr. Roberts, ably interpreted by John O. Goddin, was a man of vision and knowledge. He explained how, by his directorship, the Alexandria Water Company started to pump water from Cameron Run to Shooter's Hill, using

gravity to deliver it to the houses below, enabling the city to flourish.

Our final stop in the Living History Tour was Sarah Tracy Herbert, who died in 1897 and resides in Section G of Ivy Hill. Allie Lambson portrayed Miss Sarah with both a soft Southern accent and much charm. Her stories told of all the hard work, persuasiveness, and even intrigue it took to save Mount Vernon from destruction during the occupation of Northern Virginia.

