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The Landmark Association invites you to its Annual Picnic

At “Forest Home,”
The Peyton Cooke House
Home of Colonel Robert
& Cora Jane Spiller
1056 Oakland Road
Oakland Kentucky
Sunday, September 8, 2013
$5.00 per person

Home Tour 4:30 p.m.
Dinner 5:00
Program begins at 5:30

Calendar

Oct. 28   Fall Ramble to Lexington – Titanic exhibit, Mary Todd Lincoln Home tour and
8 a.m. -  Hunt-Morgan Home tour, lunch downtown
6 p.m.    Expect flier announcement on Oct. 1, seating limited so register early

Nov. 14   “Architectural Follies and Roadside Vernacular in Kentucky“
7:00 p.m. Lecture by Cristina Carbone, University of Louisville
           Houchens Center

Dec. 7    Christmas Tour of Homes
Picnic Site Features Two Homes

"Forest Home," the Peyton Cooke House and current home of Calvin Robert and Gina Jane (Montgomery) Suller. (From Irene Moss Sumpter's An Album of Early Warren County Landmarks, 1976)

In his will, probated 1858, Peyton Cooke mentions one son Peyton W. Cooke; three daughters, but only one by name, Catherine McKinney and one granddaughter Mary C. Archison. However, the Bible records of Ludlow L. Cooke lists the following children of Peyton Cooke by his first wife: Armistead Mason, Maria Lacy, Elizabeth Alicia and Peyton Weston Cooke. By his second wife Catherine Jones Cooke he had: William Francis, Mary Catherine, Francis Henry, Victoria Alexander and Desdamona Esther (called "Lonnie") Cooke. It was this youngest child who married in 1858 W.C. Wilsford. After his death she married secondly, Samuel Jordan.

Peyton Cooke was from an aristocratic Virginia family, being the son of Giles and Alicia Cooke, of Fairfax County, who lived adjacent to "Ravensworth" the Fitzhugh manorial estate. He was born 1791 and died 1858.

One of Peyton Cooke's brothers, John Cooke, married Anna Payne and were the parents of Elizabeth Cooke who became the great grandmother of Mrs. Jane Hines Morningstar—and Ludlow Cooke who became the grandfather of Samuel C. Cooke. Mrs. Anna Payne Cooke was a cousin of George Payne and ancestor of Ward C. Sumpter.

Two of Peyton Cooke's brothers John and Giles Cooke Jr., and a sister Elizabeth.

The George Bratton House

"Forest Home," the Bratton Family home in Warren County from Virginia and settled in the area that later became Mt. Olive, about six miles north of Bowling Green. Brothers Adam and George began buying land before 1814. They had sisters Jane Bratton who married Aaron Lewis in 1810 and Nancy who never married, there may have been others. George Bratton was born in 1786 and in 1823 he married Elizabeth Ann Thomson of Butler County. Apparently, not long after that he built this house. It is a large double house and one of the very few left in the county that has not been weatherboarded. They had a family of seven children all raised in this house. Margaret Jane, William Thomson, Mary Elizabeth, Alexander Chapman, Sarah Rebecca, John R.B. and Nancy Bratton. Elizabeth Ann Bratton received the house as part of her husband's estate. She lived there until her death in 1872. She was buried at Mt. Olive beside her husband. After the death of Elizabeth Bratton the property passed to the youngest daughter, Nancy D. who married Milton Omer White. Nancy lived her entire life in this house, passing away in 1903.

The house, which Mt. Olive Church was built in 1845 and burned in a kiln in George Bratton's field adjoining the church. Until 1951 the property was in the possession of Bonnie White Baird, great granddaughter of George Bratton, when it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Ross Roberts the parents of the present owners. (The log house was originally located at the intersection of Kentucky 526 (Mt. Olivet Road) and Kentucky 1320 Mt. Olivet-Girkin Road near the Mt. Olivet Cumberland Presbyterian Church.)

Inspired by the Pierian Spring

By Jean E. Nehm

By 1935, Bowling Green already had ten active women's literary clubs (beginning with the Ladies Literary Club founded in 1880, followed by the Bowling Club, Current Topic Club, Current Events Club, XX Club, Twelve Century Club, Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, Angina Club, Lanth's Club, and the Mothers Club). Each club had fifteen to twenty members, with a total number of about 184 participating women. Mrs. R. H. Holdworth and Mrs. John B. Dodson felt that in a city of approximately 13,000 (Coron's), there was an opportunity and a need for more study clubs. So on the evening of May 22, 1935, they invited Mrs. Ralph Boyd, Mrs. Guy Formay, Mrs. W. L. Hall, Mrs. W. J. Heiskell, Mrs. Bonnie Hayden, Mrs. S. E. Carroll, Mrs. Judson Griffin, and Mrs. Carlo Sted to meet with them in Mrs. Dodson's home for the purpose of founding a new club, which they temporarily named the Monday Night Study Club. The ladies elected officers and agreed to begin their work on the second Monday evening in September.

When that date arrived, the Monday Night Study Club was officially rechristened the Pierian Literary Club, a reference to Alexander Pope's lines from Essay on Criticism (1711): "A little learning is a dangerous thing: Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian Spring: There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain, And drinking largely sobers us again." The Pierian Spring was a mythological fountain in Macaronia that was sacred to the Muses. It was believed that anyone drinking from the spring would gain knowledge and inspiration. The club's goal of drinking deeply from the Pierian Spring was communicated in Article II of its constitution which stated that their objective "shall be growth and development of mind, together with fluency of speech, as a result of investigation and free discussion of religious, educational, political, and other topics.

According to the constitution, the Program Committee "shall suggest the year's program topics to the club for selection; outline the work for the year; name the leaders, dates and places of meetings; plan future years of study; they chose the theme of Kentucky authors, some of whom we still recognize and others who have faded from familiarity; Mary J. Holmes, John Fox, Jr., Alice Hegan Rice, Eliza Calvert Hall, Elizabeth Maddox Roberts, and James Lane Allen. Their second theme was Kentucky Shakerism, for which the ladies chose individual topics such as the state's history, geography, Native Americans, superstitions, feuds, transportation, camp meetings, and the Shakers. Subsequent themes varied widely over the years: foreign countries, American literature, book reviews, Bible characters, world leaders, contemporary literature, famous families, Eastern Picnic Specifics

Landmark furnishes chicken, drinks and paper goods at the picnic. Please bring with you a covered dish containing salad, vegetable, or dessert. This is also a great opportunity for you to bring a guest and make them aware of the Landmark Association and its mission.

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believes that 10 years have elapsed since the Pierian Club of Bowling Green came into existence. . . . You asked what the club meant to me during our stay in Bowling Green. Probably more than anything else, it meant friendship—and also enlightenment. We used to have such fun getting together for the purpose of learning more about some subject in which we all were interested . . . May Pierian mean as much to each of you as it has meant to me! Lovingly always, Gladys Marie Sprigal, P.S. I hope you have received the candy which must represent me in your Xmas.

Hostesses seemed to delight in preparing lovely tabletops for special occasions, and secretaries found equal pleasure in designing and carrying out beautiful gift packages of handkerchiefs and cigarettes for each other. In each case, however, the nucleus of the package was an atmosphere of friendship and fellowship. The Gundersons’ two young daughters “Karen and Sonja added much to its delights by singing a Christmas song in Norwegian.”

Refusals consisted of “about six different kinds of Norwegian bread and pastries. . . . but the table’s centerpiece was the biggest cause of the ‘ohs and ahs.’” It was a gingerbread house which Mrs. Gunderson used for the occasion of a Husband’s Night dinner at the home of Mrs. Wilfred H. Duncan on Chestnut Street: “Dinner was served from the dining room table, which was covered with an imported Italian cutwork cloth and centered by an arrangement of spring flowers and lighted tapers. Favors for the women were small hand-mirrors and, for the men, novelty key chains.” A final example is from the club’s silver anniversary, celebrated at Mrs. John Dodson’s home in May 1940. “Spring flowers in a crystal bowl centered the lace-covered dining table, and lighted pink roses in crystal candelabra on either side. A birthday cake, trimmed with pink rosesbuds holding twenty-five candles, was served by Mrs. Judson Griffin. Mrs. Selby Smith was at the punch bowl.”

Pierian Club Handicapped Children’s School, books and magazines to the library after it was destroyed by fire, gifts of socks and underwear to the Girls Club, and books for special education students at Jones Joggers School. Current member Joan Copps noted that rather than giving gifts to each other, members prefer to use their club treasury to help other club members.


For several years after the war, they turned their attention to helping residents at the County Farm, also known as the Poor Farm. The concept of a farm for housing and taking care of the indigent arose in the earliest days of Warren County. The County Farm, which no longer exists, was located near Woodburn, Kentucky. In the 1940s, the thirteen men and four women residents worked in fields of corn, wheat, tobacco, alfalfa, potatoes, and sugar cane; they also raised chickens, hogs, and cows (Ipswich). Living conditions were stark, and the entire facility relied primarily on contributions. How pleased the residents must have been to receive the Pierian Club’s gifts. According to the January 1947 minutes, “Mrs. Hol reported that residents of the County Farm remembered the club’s Christmas gifts of last year and were looking forward to our coming again this year. She told of the long stockings filled and each with a pretty card plus the fruit baskets that she and Mrs. Braun took the expense.”

Pierian generosily, as noted in many secretaries’ minutes over the years, extended to an impressive array of community needs: the Warren County TB Hospital, the Red Cross, the Infantile Paralysis Fund, the Foster-Parenthood Association, the Lion’s Club Handicapped Children’s School, books and magazines to the library, and the Club’s gifts to the Girls Club, and books for special education students at Jones Joggers School. Current member Joan Copps noted that rather than giving gifts to each other, members prefer to use their club treasury to help others. Peggy Pack adds that it especially fits the library’s book club to donate books to schoolchildren.

Among the Pierian club’s minutes archived in the Special Collections Library at Western Kentucky University is a small, colorfull notebook with an interesting story to tell. Inside is a complete set of the club’s yearbooks from 1938 through 1996. These annual booklets from the 1930s through 1965 were printed at a print shop on 10th Street owned by Selby E. Smith, the husband of charter member Bonnie Smith. When Bonnie died, Mr. Smith offered the yearbook to Lura Adams, who continued to save them and add to the collection until her death. Laura, in turn, had instructed her daughter Marian to take care of them and keep them safe. When donating the yearbooks to the library,
Marion wrote a note saying, “All these remind us of how much my mother’s membership in the Pierian Literary Club meant to her and how she treasured the friendship of its members.”

Inevitable changes have occurred in the Pierian Club since its founding in 1935. The traditions of a Guest Night, a Husband’s dinner, and a summer picnic have been abandoned. So, too, have the fines for nonattendance, tardiness, or addressing a member by her married name. Yet current members have fond memories of the past even as they look forward. Several of them remember special attributes of very early members, such as Helen Griffin’s sparkling wit as well as Frances Hulchester Link’s loving personality, wackish skill in storytelling, and pride in the club. When Cora Dodson, one of the first women who envisioned the Pierian Club, died in 1967, Lura Adams wrote in the club journal:

“This very avenue in St. Pork also addresses a former Pierian. Helen May Caron’s Mention of the Pierian Meetings. This very avenue in St. Pork also addresses a former Pierian. Helen May Caron’s Mention of the Pierian Meetings. Clear, a Monarch ranked over the rest. Milkweeds are on what it feeds, only this—no other weeds. Nothing else will suit its needs. It’s a butterfly, orange-grooved, and its body is the Viceroy. Of lesser rank is the Viceroy. That mimics it as a protective play.”

He noted: “It could be implied from the rhyme that the Viceroy is less noble than the Monarch, but that is in name only. I would like to think that we Kentuckians recognize things for their worth irrespective of what it’s called. A rose by any other name would be as sweet.”

When Scheibner mentions that the Viceroy mimics the Monarch “as a protective play,” he reveals something quite unusual about the “orange-dressed” insect. It coloration actually apes the Monarch as a survival strategy, as birds avoid eating the latter due to their unsavory taste. The American Museum of Natural History in New York tried to disprove this myth by conducting tests in which blackbirds were offered only abdomenals (sans any hint of the wings of the Monarch). Viceroy, monarch, and queen butterflies, which are known to be bitter tasting, with several species that have reputations for being tasty. Birds that tasted a viceroy abdomen commonly showed distress by shaking their heads and becoming agitated. When they did eat them, they generally did so only hesitantly. Only 41 percent of the viceroy abdomenals were completely eaten, compared with 98 percent of the abdomenals from the tasty species. The birds rejected 35 percent of the viceroy abdomenals after a single pick. Monarchs tossed as poorly. Pace ultimately concluded: “The Viceroy is a survivor in agreeable harmony with humans.” The later part of her conclusion was based on the fact that the Viceroy caterpillar did not feed on so important crops or flowers.”

Many Kentuckians purchase license plates that sport a colorful butterfly, but few can probably identify the fluttering beauty as one of the Commonwealth’s state symbols, the Viceroy (Limenitis archippus) butterfly. And even fewer would know that two Warren County women led the effort to obtain that designation from the Kentucky General Assembly.

In 1987 State Garden Club of Kentucky (GCK) president and Warren County resident, Jo Jean Scott, asked a fellow Warren Countian, Lillian Pace, to serve as the organization’s “Chairman of Conservation and Preservation of Butterflies” knowing that the fluttering creatures held “a special place in Pace’s heart.” Within a year, Scott asked Pace for a nomination of a butterfly for the state insect to present for approval at GCK’s October board meeting. Scott even suggested the Black Swallowtail, “black with lovely blue patches on each wing.”

By December 1988, after contacting several state offices about the matter, Pace and Scott—with the help of Ulfian Pace and John Meadows, an artist, professor at WKU—identified the Viceroy as the best candidate. Scheibner championed the Viceroy saying: “It occurs more commonly throughout the state than does the Monarch, so it has the same aesthetic appeal. The caterpillar stage feeds on the leaves of willows and poplars, but not to the extent that it is considered a pest insect. We might object to some insects because they are pests of plants we value, or if they feed on weed plants[,] we have to tolerate some weeds for the sake of the insect. We humans can live happily with the Viceroy and its required foods, so we are less apt to do things to endanger the Viceroy. The Viceroy is a survivor in agreeable harmony with humans.”

The quotation by Alexander Pope about the Pierian Spring has been included in every yearbook since 1935. According to Elizabeth Stone, the verse “suggests going more deeply into a topic to satisfy a thirst for learning.” Agreeing with other members, she enjoys reading and teaching, yet the club is far more meaningful than merely the scholarly quest. Having been in the club for four decades, she has valued meeting people of all walks of life, cherishing their deep friendships. For her, being a Pierian “is a matter of the heart.”

The mythological Pierian Spring continues to flow and to provide inspiration well into the 21st century. Mrs. Dodson, Mrs. Holdsworth, and the other charter members of the Pierian Literary Club launched their club in order to drink deeply of knowledge. Clearly, that goal has been attained, along with the lovely addition of the personal enrichment so eloquently described by Pierians past and present.

Works Cited

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Pace’s interest in butterflies never waned; she continued to serve as the GCK’s state butterfly chairman for another decade. She was pleased when the image of a Viceroy was selected to appear on Kentucky license plates in 2002, and she would have been delighted to know that the sales of these plates supported the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund. ▲

Pacesetter

Lillian Iona Tyne was born on 25 August 1925 in Russellville, Kentucky, the youngest of seven children of Oscar Franklin Tyne and Euvo Hightower Tyne. She attended the public schools in Russellville, graduating from Russellville High School and later from Western Kentucky University. Lillian married Dr. Robert N. Pace, a dentist, and they lived on a large wooded lot on Nashville Road in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Mrs. Pace was active in a number of civic, religious, and philanthropic organizations. Her chief hobby was gardening, thus she was a member of the Ruth Robold Garden Club as well as other state and national garden clubs, where she always assumed leadership roles. She served on the board of directors for Friends of Lost River, Mammoth Cave National Park Association, the Friends of the Warren County Public Library. She served for nine years on Bowling Green Beautification Commission. Lillian also enjoyed handwork, reading, and singing and was an active member of Bowling Green’s First Christian Church as well as the Landmark Association.

Gardening and nature study were passions for Pace. She planted a variety of flowers and trees in her expansive lawn, but each passion was tempered by the other. "We don’t do formal landscaping," she once noted. "We don’t cut our trees or move our rocks. We just landscape around them." In her yard, you were likely to find small weed patches in the corners, because as she said: "The butterflies need a place to rest and birds need somewhere to get off by themselves. You don’t see butterflies much in manicured yards."

Mrs. Pace died on 9 October 2010 and was interred beside her husband in Bowling Green’s Fairview Cemetery. Her children donated her papers to the Special Collections Library at WKU, making this information available for a larger audience. ▲

In Praise of Fresh Air (Excerpt)

By Dwight Young

I’m about 10 years old, and I’m just waking up on a hot day—summer days are almost always hot in West Texas—but right now it’s cool. I know this because there’s an open window right beside my bed, and there’s a breeze blowing on my face, fresh and insistent, freighted with the smell of fresh-cut grass and the sound of cicadas, the sort of breeze I might have been tempted to describe as heavenly if that particular adjective had been part of my 10-year-old vocabulary.

Of all the mind pictures I’ve accumulated over the years, why has this one—a memory of a non-event, really—remained so vivid and stayed with me for so long? I think it’s because the breeze through that open window created an all-too-rare near-perfect moment.

Now I ask you: Has an air-conditioner ever done that for you? I didn’t think so.

Let your windows do the work they were meant to do. Fling up the sash. Push out the casement. Crank open the louvers. It’s an easy, no-cost, green thing to do—saves energy, doesn’t consume dwindling resources, you know the drill—and what’s more, it can offer some very nice sensory benefits as well.

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Nellie Meadows attractive painting was also printed on to notecards.

"Well, I must endure the presence of a few caterpillars if I wish to become acquainted with the butterflies."

- Antoine de Saint-Exupery,
The Little Prince

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Rambling

Each year the Landmark Association takes a Spring and a Fall Ramble to visit another city and its historic sites and landscapes. These photos are from our Spring Ramble to Columbia, Tennessee. We visited Rattle & Snap, an antebellum plantation home, the Anthoraum, and President Polk’s home. A delicious lunch interlude kept us nourished. This year the Association will visit Lexington, where we’ll tour the Titanic Exhibit, the Mary Todd Lincoln House, and the Hunt-Morgan House. Space on the rambles is limited, so be sure and register as soon as the flier announcement is mailed.

Congratulations to Our 2013 Landmark Association Award Winners

Landmark President Jason Hildabrand presided over the Association’s annual meeting held on Thursday, 31 May 2013, at the Faculty House at Western Kentucky University. The awards given were:

- Heritage Award
  - Dan Murphy
- Jane Morningstar Award of Merit
  - Ogden Building (ca 1870)
    - 446 East Main Avenue
    - Hillard Lyons
- Jean Thomson Historic Home Award
  - Potter Castle (ca 1880)
    - 1310 College Street
    - Steve and Patty Morgenthaler
- General House Awards
  - 1346 Chestnut Street
    - Warren and Amy Guyer
  - 1107 Nutwood Street
    - Teresa Hagerman
  - 1417 State Street
    - Robert and Pamela Garrison
- Cultural Landscape Award
  - Watt-Flora Cemetery
- Lamplighter Award
  - Sheila Flener

President Hildabrand also announced the following recipients of the 2013 Grants:

- 423 Park Row
  - Christopher Kelly Taleghani
- 1303 State Street
  - Darian and Elaine Walker
- 415 Park Row
  - Mary Dale Raymonds
- 1437 Euclid Avenue
  - Mike and Shariola Siemens
- 1149 State Street
  - Jane Morris
- 1310 College Street
  - Steve and Patty Morgenthaler
Perhaps you could pass this newsletter along to someone you think would be interested in supporting Landmark's efforts in historic preservation advocacy.

I (we) want to support the Historic Preservation efforts in Bowling Green and Warren County.

Name ________________________________
Mailing Address ______________________________________________
City __________________ State ___________ Zip ___________
Telephone _______________ E-mail ____________________

Levels of Membership

[ ] Foundation $25  [ ] Ionic Order $100  [ ] Entablature $500
[ ] Doric Order $50  [ ] Corinthian Order $250  [ ] Cornice $1,000

Checks should be payable to: Landmark Association
P.O. Box 1812
Bowling Green, KY 42102-1812