

# Community Newsletter

Historic Glyndon, Inc., Spring 2024 • <http://historicglyndon.org>

## Greetings!

Spring is now upon us, and the first blossoms are beckoning all of us out of hibernation and into our yards and gardens. This is a great time of year to pause and reflect upon all of the little things that bring us joy, both as individuals and as a community.

One of the things that I most enjoy about living in Glyndon is those opportunities for us to come together as a community, like the annual *Holiday Open House*. I'm grateful to all of those who braved the cold, wet weather to gather together and ring in the holiday season. It's a joy that we have been able to coordinate this event with the Glyndon Community Association's festivities in Glyndon Station Park to create a whole day of holiday cheer in 21071!

From longstanding traditions to new opportunities, the HGI Board hosted our first *Glyndon Mingle* at the Glyndon Grill on March 6. This was a great opportunity to kick off the Spring thaw, get to know some of our newest Glyndon residents, and support

our local businesses. Many thanks to the staff at Glyndon Grill for their generosity and hospitality!

As we look toward spring and summer, your HGI Board is busy preparing for our annual May Preservation event and finding other ways to celebrate the rich history that Glyndon has to offer. These events are only possible through the support of our membership. So, be sure to show your love for Glyndon and renew your membership today.

I look forward to seeing old friends and getting to know the newest Glyndon residents this season. ■

Ted McCadden  
HGI President 2024



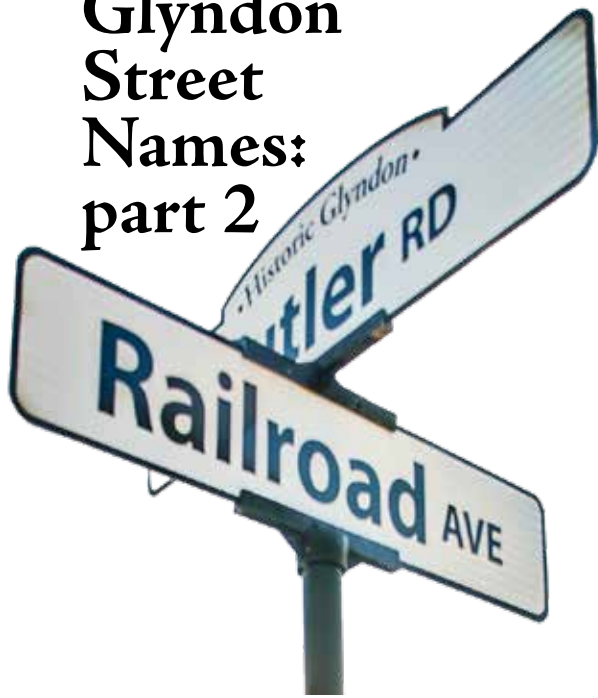
Ted McCadden accepts the gavel from Past President Diane Flayhart

## Holiday Open House

HGI's 39th annual Holiday Open House was held at the home of Polly and CJ Papp-Grebb on Sunday, December 10. Despite terrible weather, the Glyndon community showed up! Neighbors gathered inside by the warm fire to enjoy good food and good company, while listening to beautiful holiday songs courtesy of the Glyndon carolers. Special thanks to David Hughes and Vernene Lenz for sharing their musical talents, and to all the neighbors who braved the weather for this important annual HGI event! ■



# Glyndon Street Names: part 2



**H**GI's Fall 2023 newsletter included Part 1 of an article about the origin of Glyndon's street names, covering **Butler Road** and **Central, Waugh, Railroad, Chatsworth, Glyndon, Belle View, Albright, and Pennington Avenues**. Here is Part 2.

Even though **Butler Road** was covered in Part 1 of this article, there is a section of it that bears some special mention. The steep hill, leading from the Woman's Club (Glyndon's original schoolhouse) and Glyndon Park, located at the top, to the bottom, where the road turns left toward **Butler**, has always been known locally as **Dark Hollow Hill**. Prior to the 1940s, the hill presented problems due to its steepness and severe turns. Hence about 12 feet were chopped off the top, and lands were swapped around to straighten it. To put this in perspective, the next time you walk or drive by the Woman's Club, note the tall brick staircase in front; before the '40s, the front door was level with the ground.

Nearby **Prospect Avenue**, off **Waugh Avenue**, is most likely named for the adjacent colonial land patent "Prospect." The 1,000 acres were patented in 1707 by **Jonathan White**.

The properties along **Worthington Hill Drive** are part of a 16-lot development established by **Elizabeth and Donald Christliff** in 1949 called "Worthington Hill." It was named for the **Worthington Valley**, which it overlooks from its high vantage point. In fact, the deeds of lots on the north side of **Worthington Hill Drive** contain a covenant that dictates a foliage height control line so as not to obstruct the easterly view of **Worthington Valley**.

Initially settled in the mid-1700s, the Valley is noted for its agriculture and horse breeding and racing. It got its name from an old Maryland family, the **Worthingtons**, whose first ancestor to immigrate to the American Colonies was **Captain John Worthington** in 1664. His descendants, brothers **Samuel and William Worthington**, bought land in the Valley in 1740. Interestingly, a 1950 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Glyndon gives this street the name **Morningside Drive**.

**Fiske Avenue** runs along the back of the cottages that comprise **Glyndon Park**. The Park was originally established by the Prohibition Camp Meeting Association of Baltimore City in 1887. Camp meetings were held every summer to promote prohibition, a movement that gained momentum in this country after the Civil War. Its followers believed that alcoholic beverage endangered mental and physical health and that total abstinence was required. **Clinton B. Fisk**, for whom the street is named (note the difference in spellings), was the presidential candidate for the Prohibition Party in the 1888 presidential election. **Fisk University**, a historically black university in Nashville, is named in his honor after he endowed it with a substantial contribution. In addition, he helped establish the first free public schools in the southern United States for both white and black children.

**Bowers Lane**, off of **Fiske**, dips down into a hollow. It is named for the **Bowers** family. **John and Bessie Mae Bowers** bought about eight acres of land there in the early part of the 1900s. The house they lived in (4 Bowers) had belonged earlier to **S. Nelson and Mary Baublitz**, relatives of **John Bowers**.

**Glen Morris Road**, which is an extremely short stretch of road between the **Glyndon Volunteer Fire Department** and the **Glyndon Square shopping center**, is relatively new. When the shopping center opened in 1986, it occupied what had been the extensive front yard of the house at 4900 **Butler Road**, originally built for **Samuel P. Townsend**. **Townsend** was a key player in developing the early village of **Glyndon**. The stuccoed posts and iron gates that welcome folks into the shopping center are the original entrance to the **Townsend** estate. Due to the shopping center's new presence, 4900 **Butler** needed a new access road, which was named **Glen Morris Road**. The name refers to the very small community that grew up north of there in the mid-1800s, located where **Reisterstown Lumber** is today.

**Wabash Avenue** is the road off **Butler** that runs parallel to the train tracks, beside where the school bus depot is located today. The origin of the name is un-



known. For many years, it provided access to the Dyer property and to the rail yard for loading livestock onto train cars.

Nearby **Sacred Heart Lane** takes its name from the Catholic Church that was established there in 1873. The land originally belonged to Patrick and Maria Dyer, part of an 86-acre tract. Prior to the 1870s, there was no Catholic church between Westminster and Pikesville. Local legend says that one day a priest from Philadelphia walked into Mrs. Dyer's store and announced he would build a church. Mrs. Dyer supposedly took off her apron and declared, "I know where you can put it." Maria and her husband conveyed nine acres to the Archbishop, three of which they donated. The smaller church building on the property is the original 1874 church structure.

At the southern end of Central Avenue, Glyndon merges with what was once the community of St. George's. Even though it's considered to be Reisterstown, it is included in Glyndon's listing on the National Register of Historic Places. St. George's was founded by Baltimore lawyer George M. Gill about the same time that Dr. Leas was developing

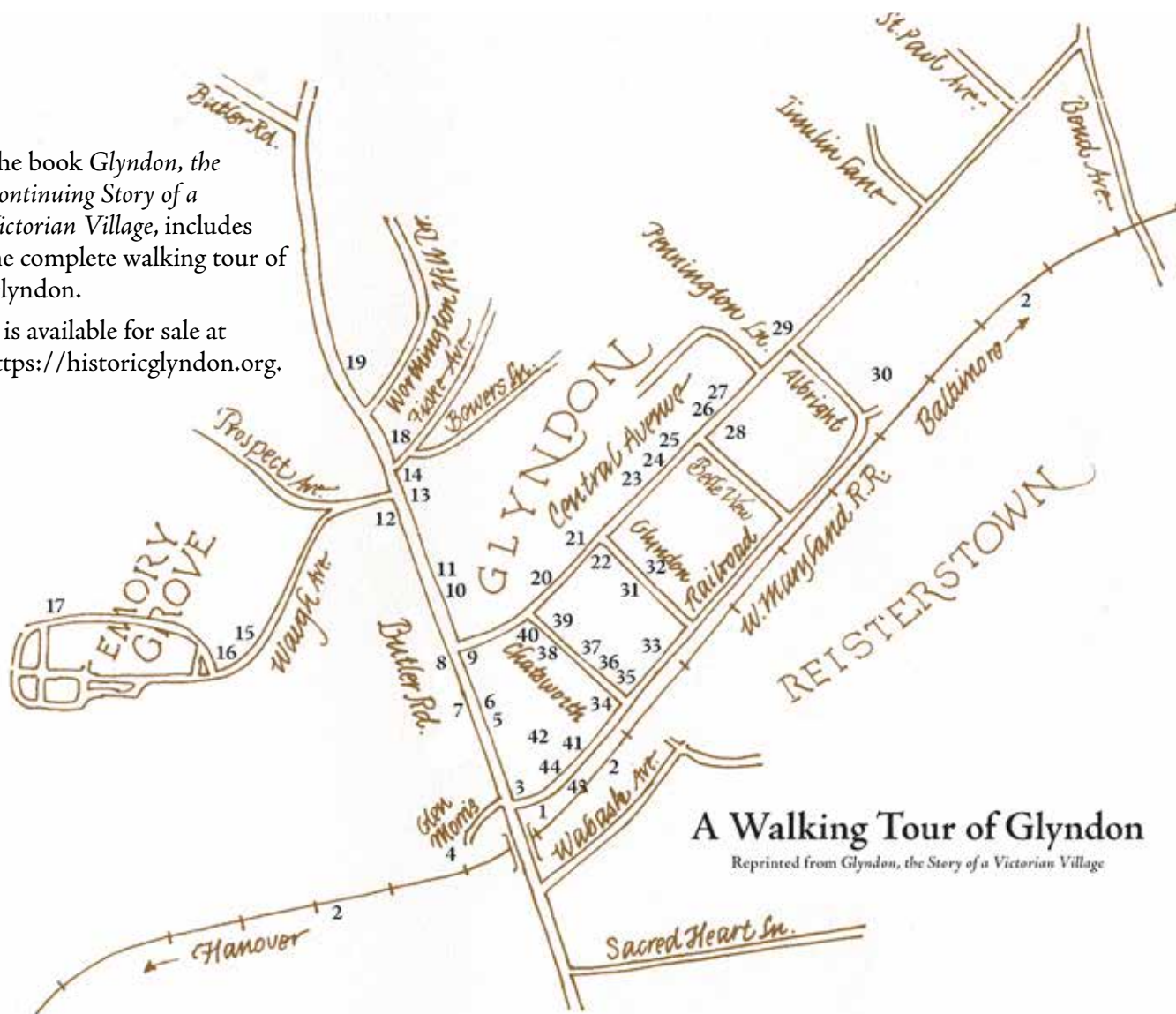
Glyndon. However, St. George's never grew to meet Gill's expectations and only a few properties were developed. **Bond Avenue** was the main street in St. George's, where it crosses the Western Maryland Railroad. It starts in neighboring Reisterstown at Main Street, passes through the area's historical Black community, and winds its way to St. George's. The name comes from the Bond family of Reisterstown, who, in the mid-1800s, owned the corner property where Bond intersects Main Street.

**St. Paul Avenue**, part of St. George's, is a one-block stretch of road off Central Avenue. In the late 1800s and well into the 1900s, it was the home of a number of Black families, many of whose members worked for white families in Glyndon and at the Emory Grove camp grounds. Today, two of the original houses are extant. One of them, #14, served as the parish house for St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal Church on the Reisterstown end of Bond Avenue. The origin of the name St. Paul is unknown. ■

Ann B. O'Neill  
March 19, 2024

The book *Glyndon, the Continuing Story of a Victorian Village*, includes the complete walking tour of Glyndon.

It is available for sale at <https://historicglyndon.org>.



## Historic Homes of Glyndon 200 Central Avenue



**T**he frame dwelling at 200 Central Avenue in Glyndon was built for Mrs. Mary E. Bayne around 1887, possibly by her husband, who was a carpenter. Although the deed to the house reflects that Mrs. Bayne was married to Charles H. Bayne, she was the sole owner of the house and property. In the deed from Dr. Charles A. Leas, as was similarly stated in others of Dr. Leas' deeds, a requirement for the purchase of the lot was to:

*...not sell any spirituous or intoxicating liquors upon these premises except for Medicinal uses: that no slaughter house, soap factory, glue factory, bone mill or lime kiln shall ever be built, constructed or carried on upon these premises. Nor will she or they ever make any worm fence, upon or around these premises. Nor is any privy well ever to be dug in the ground upon the lot of ground hereby conveyed. That she or they will never build or cause to be built any stable within one hundred and fifty feet of Central Avenue, or within fifty feet of Glyndon Avenue, and furthermore, she and they covenants to enclose the said lot with a good substantial fence (other than a worm fence and except the part allotted for \_ purposes) and plant trees in front and side of said lot along the avenues, and make a board walk at least three feet wide, on Central and Glyndon Avenues, by the first of May 1888. The worm fence rails now on the lot are the property of Dr. Leas. (sic)*

In 1897, Mrs. Bayne was granted a divorce from her husband for abandonment and for failing to support her and their six children. Just prior to this, the couple defaulted on their mortgage for the Glyndon house and the house was sold at auction in 1897 for \$1,200.

The property, a double lot, was passed through a couple of owners before it was bought by Alice D. Hart of Reisterstown in 1913. Although Alice was married at the time, her husband, James E. Hart, a salesman, was not listed on the deed. It looks as though this was an investment purchase for the Harts because they had been living in Reisterstown next door to Hannah

More Academy since 1898 and continued to do so at the time of this purchase. The Harts owned another rental property in Glyndon (at 2 Central Avenue) from 1909 into 1926.

The Harts must have been a family of some means. Before moving to Reisterstown, they had lived in the tony neighborhood of Bolton Hill in Baltimore. Unfortunately, their Reisterstown home was destroyed by fire in 1935 and the newspaper account mentions that they were able to save several valued art works, including two portraits by the famous American painter Rembrandt Peale. By this time, both senior Harts had died and their two unmarried daughters moved to the house at 200 Central Avenue. Florence H. Hart was a music teacher, having graduated from the Peabody Conservatory of Music with a degree and teaching certificate. She served many years as a piano teacher on the Peabody faculty and later at Hannah More Academy. She also taught piano to a number of youngsters in her Glyndon neighborhood, including Nan Taylor Kaestner. Florence's younger sister, Janet C. Hart, a graduate of Goucher College, was a math teacher at Hannah More. Both women had attended Hannah More throughout their early schooling. They lived their remaining years in the house at 200 Central. After Janet's death in 1984, the property was sold the next January to the Glennon family for \$80,000. ■

Ann B. O'Neill



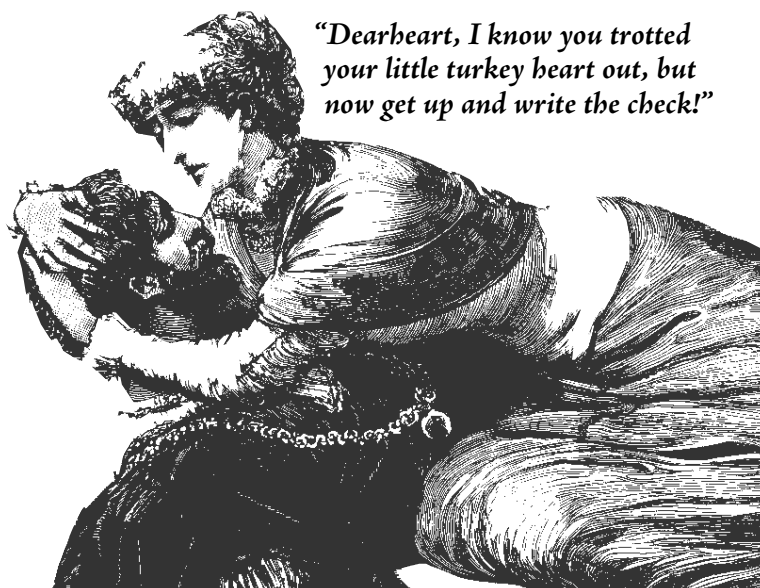
## Beautifying Railroad Avenue

Last spring, a group of neighbors gathered to plant trees and bushes along the grassy berm between Railroad Avenue and the train tracks. A donation specifically designated for the beautification of Railroad Avenue funded the project. The trees and bushes planted were thoughtfully selected to ensure they would be a good height for the site as well as native to this part of Maryland. While most of the shrubs are growing beautifully, the trees did not do well and will be replaced this spring. If you have not had a chance to see these new additions to the community, we encourage you to stroll down Railroad Avenue while enjoying the beautiful spring weather. ■



## Turkey Trot a Great Success

2023 marked Glyndon's first annual Turkey Trot! Hosted by the Glyndon Community Association, the event kicked off Thanksgiving morning at Glyndon Station Park. It was a gorgeous morning for a run, which was a huge success, with more than 120 runners (and walkers and strollers) participating. Special thanks to the Baltimore County police officers who helped with the event. Mark your calendars for this year's Turkey Trot, which will begin on Thanksgiving morning at 8 am. ■



*"Dearheart, I know you trotted your little turkey heart out, but now get up and write the check!"*

## Membership Dues Reminder

YES, I would like to support the cause with my HGI membership!

Membership dues are \$20.00 per person or \$30.00 per business per year. Visit our website at <https://historicglyndon.org/> to pay online or download a membership form. Make checks payable to HGI and send along with this form to:

Historic Glyndon Inc.  
PO Box 3641  
Glyndon, MD 21071

Name(s):

Address:

Telephone:

Primary Email:

# Remembering Eleanor Taylor

Eleanor H. Taylor, a former *News American* reporter and Glyndon community activist, died on December 11, 2023, in the same Glyndon home where she was born on November 23, 1922. She was 101.



“Eleanor was a very accomplished woman and full of energy,” said Charlie Wells, a neighbor, who worked on many community projects with Mrs. Taylor. “She was always involved with something, brought people together, and was a very significant fixture in this town, and everyone knew her. She was the Energizer Bunny and was always going and going.”

Mrs. Taylor, daughter of Robert Joseph Healy, an accountant, and Ida Fairbank Healy, a homemaker, was born at 222 Central Ave. in Glyndon. Her family had moved to Glyndon in 1917. The family home they purchased is occupied today by Eleanor’s daughter and son-in-law, Marti B. and Mark Clements and their family.

As a child, Mrs. Taylor attended the two-room Glyndon schoolhouse until Baltimore County schools were consolidated. She was a 1939 graduate of Franklin High School, where she was editor of the yearbook. Mrs. Taylor attended the former Western Maryland College, now McDaniel College, in Westminster, where she majored in English and music. At her senior piano recital, she played selections from Bach, Beethoven, and Shostakovich.

After earning her degree in 1943, she began her career on the city desk of the old *News American* newspaper. “A trailblazer in a male-dominated newsroom, she covered breaking news and interviewed prominent figures in a variety of fields,” according to a biographical sketch from her family. “President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Duke of Windsor, and Cary Grant were just a few of the one-on-one interviews she conducted. Pictures of her with celebrities line the den of her Worthington Hill Drive home.”

While on the staff of the *News American*, she met and fell in love with George B. Taylor, a sportswriter, who she married in 1946. Old house enthusiasts, the couple purchased The Elms, a large Georgian home built in 1760 that was being razed to make way for the Liberty Reservoir. The home had once been owned by the son of Francis Scott Key, writer of “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

Although the home suffered from severe neglect, the Taylors appreciated the value of its old bricks, woodwork and architectural details, and with the guidance of an architect who had worked on the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg, had the house painstakingly dismantled and accurately reconstructed in 1958 on



a piece of property in Glyndon. It still remains in the family and is occupied by her daughter and son-in-law Nan and Bob Kaestner and their family.

The preservation of her own home led Mrs. Taylor to actively campaign for the maintenance of the Victorian-era flavor found in Glyndon. She and others launched an awareness campaign that resulted in its designation in 1981 as Baltimore County's first historic district. She worked tirelessly in this endeavor to help preserve the architectural significance of Glyndon for future generations. In 2010 she received the John McGrain Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by the Baltimore County Historical Trust, in recognition of "dedication to preservation in Baltimore County."

After retiring from the *News American* in the 1970s, Eleanor continued working in journalism as a columnist for *The Community Times* newspapers. She served as president of Historic Glyndon, Inc. and was a member of the Baltimore County Historic Trust. During the late 1960s, she was a founding board member of The Ballet School of Glyndon, and taught ESOL at Franklin High School.

When Glyndon marked its 125th anniversary in 1996, she worked with CSX and the Maryland Midland Railroad to operate special trains from the old Western Maryland Railway Glyndon station to Westminster, as part of the celebration. She was thrilled when over 500 passengers rode the trains during the celebration weekend! She also helped in planning

the 150th anniversary in 2021, and had been present for every opening of the Glyndon Pool since it first opened in 1931. She loved Glyndon's annual July 4th parade and continued the family tradition of having a party that day at the old house on Central Avenue.

"Eleanor was well-experienced and an advocate for traditional values and traditions and I always liked that," said Clark L. "Lee" Wroe, a 4th-generation family friend and neighbor. "She was community-oriented, believed in the historic value of our village. She was very strong on that and always just was a supporter of noble causes."

Mrs. Taylor was a longtime member of Glyndon United Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday school for 65 years, sang in its choir, and wrote yearly Christmas programs. She was an avid tennis player who enjoyed the sport on her family's clay court. For nearly 60 years, she was a familiar figure in the stands at Franklin High School where she cheered her daughters, and later her grandchildren, in their games of lacrosse, field hockey, soccer, and golf tournaments. Her husband of 48 years, who died in 1994, had been golf editor at *The Evening Sun* for a decade until retiring in 1989. Mrs. Taylor is survived by two daughters, Martha Taylor Clements and Nan Taylor Kaestner; sons-in-law Mark Clements and Bob Kaestner; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Eleanor was a real "Glyndon Girl" who will be missed and remembered. ■

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## Glyndon Pool Opens May 25

Excited for summer? The 2024 season for the Glyndon Swim Club ("the Glyndon Pool") begins Saturday, May 25. Pool memberships are available at different price points in the following categories: Family, Individual, Individual Senior, and Nanny.

According to Per Karlsen of the pool's board, "We are happy to be a part of your summer plans. Glyndon Swim Club is committed to the health and well-being of our patrons, employees, and the community. Come see the improvements to the grounds we are making for your safety and enjoyment. We look forward to a warm, fun, and safe summer, and seeing all of you!" Visit <https://glyndonpool.com> for information and to purchase a membership. ■



## HGI Mission Statement

The mission of HGI is to preserve and protect Glyndon's cultural, social, economic, and architectural history, as well as to conduct educational and beautification projects which enrich Glyndon's historical heritage.

## HGI Board 2024

President ..... Ted McCadden  
1st VP ..... Jayme Provencher  
2nd VP ..... Richard Stanley  
Treasurer ..... Christy Garman  
Secretary ..... Pamela Becker  
Immediate  
Past President Diane Flayhart

## Board Members - Terms Ending January 2025

Karen Cervino Jen Meltzer  
Missy Fanshaw Michelle  
Kriebel  
Kathy Maxwell

## Board Members - Terms Ending January 2026

Nicole Crumpler Nan Kaestner  
Kate Plaut Patty Szparaga



## Glyndon Mingle and HGI Membership

On Wednesday, March 6, Glyndonites gathered at the Glyndon Grill for a "Glyndon Mingle." The turnout was fabulous, with over 50 neighbors in attendance. Conversation, food, and beverage were enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Glyndon Grill and Black Eyed Susan for donating refreshments for the event.

The "Glyndon Mingle" was an opportunity to catch up with friends, meet new neighbors, and pay HGI membership dues. If you missed the event (we know we missed you!) and you would like to pay your 2024 dues, there's still time!



Pay online or download a membership form at <https://historicglyndon.org>

Here are some of the many things your dues help to support:

- ♦ Community newsletter
- ♦ May Preservation program
- ♦ Guest speakers
- ♦ Street signs and historic markers Maintenance
- ♦ Grant funding for repairs on Glyndon's historic businesses and landmarks
- ♦ Glyndon history books
- ♦ Annual Holiday Open House
- ♦ House Tours and Special Events (most recently our 150th celebration!)
- ♦ Insurance for special events
- ♦ Voting rights on HGI issues
- ♦ Historic House plaques ■



## Local History Trivia Night

Do you know where the Glyndon Volunteer Fire Company used to be located? Or the name of the famous financier who grew up in Glyndon?

Join us Thursday, May 16, for a fun, interactive, and educational Trivia Night about Glyndon and Maryland history. Teams will be randomly selected at the event so we can all interact with both familiar faces and new neighbors. Learn interesting facts about your community and share what you know!

Don't know much about local history? You won't be alone, so please come anyway! Enjoy some refreshments and have fun with neighbors while learning a bit more

about your town and state. Glyndon's favorite historian, Ann O'Neill, will share historic tidbits throughout the evening. Bring your thirst for knowledge and your competitive spirit! Yes, there will be prizes.

**When:** Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.  
(rain date May 23)

**Where:** Missy and Tom Fanshaw's Backyard,  
13 Glyndon Avenue

**BYOB:** Light refreshments will be provided, but please feel free to bring a beverage of your choice.

**RSVP:** Requested but not required! Let us know by email at [hello@historicglyndon.org](mailto:hello@historicglyndon.org) if you will attend. ■