



Volume 6 Number 1 March 2015

Glendale Heritage Preservation Newsletter

"Preserving the Past for the Future"

From the President's Desk

By Nancy Macenko

"Welcome to Volunteersville!" That's how Dr. Tom Todd described Glendale when he was mayor of the village in 2001. Well, not much has changed since then -- especially at Glendale Heritage Preservation. Our all-volunteer engine is revving up for the year ahead.

It all starts with our famous GHP Annual Pancake Breakfast on March 21 -- the first day of Spring! It's the 24th consecutive year when we are reminded that this pancake breakfast is never just a meal. It's a time to reconnect with friends and neighbors, to learn more about all the great organizations in the village and to take a chance or two on some great prizes. You can also join the GHP silent auction and bid on wonderful pieces by local artists, gift certificates from area businesses and unique gift baskets put together by some of Glendale's biggest hearts. Like everything we do, the Pancake Breakfast is run entirely by volunteers. Best of all, the proceeds go to support the work of Glendale Heritage Preservation.

Then in April, GHP is proud to present a multimedia exhibit commemorating the 150th year of Christ Church Glendale. The displays will celebrate the Church's sacred spaces, its people and its sounds. Toward summer, we'll switch gears and bring in a completely new exhibit to mark the 100th anniversary of The Glendale Garden Club, which is believed to be the oldest garden club in Cincinnati. Once more, the exhibits will be the result of volunteers, with support from local businesses and neighbors.

GHP is also going digital in a big way. We're putting the final touches to our new website and continuing to digitize as much archival material as possible so you will be able to have on-line access to important historical information about your house, your family or the village. That brings up a question.

The next time you're straightening the attic, or moving around old files, would you consider sharing some of the contents with GHP? We are always on the lookout for historical family papers and photos, or property documents that we can place in our archives. If you would prefer not to donate the materials directly, we would be happy to scan them and return the originals to you. Just give us a call to make the arrangements.

Don't forget to stop by the depot to see our refurbished museum and our newly stocked gift shop. You can't miss us. We're on the square in downtown Volunteersville.

Pancakes all you can eat!

While Glendale Heritage Preservation Pancake Breakfast Chairman Kevin Malloy tracks the cake trajectory, Master Pancake Flipper Steve Varmuza gets in a little practice before the annual gathering on March 21. Other veteran flippers and servers will be on hand at Historic Town Hall, ready to serve the finest cakes and sausages to an expected 1,000 guests from 7:30 am to noon. Tickets are \$5 for adults and kids under 6 eat free. All of the proceeds go to support the work of Glendale Heritage Preservation.



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Newsletter

Bob Galbraith

GHP Museum Hours
Thursday & Saturday
11 am - 3 pm

Twenty Four years of Pancakes & Smiles

By Kevin Malloy

Ask any Glendale resident and they'll tell you: nothing beats the winter "blahs" and gets the spirit moving like the annual GHP Pancake Breakfast. This year GHP will be firing up the griddles on the first day of spring, Saturday March 21st 2015, making it twenty-four consecutive years of putting smiles on peoples' faces with a hearty breakfast and a great get-together. This cherished tradition got its start thanks to the late Stan Greuninger, who was one of the most energetic and dedicated persons ever to serve this Village. His goal always was to bring people together: to talk, to eat, to celebrate all that's happening and to be a part of the lifeblood of Glendale. A devoted man of the people, Stan knew that face-to-face enjoyment of neighbors and sharing of common feelings over a meal was among life's greatest pleasures.

GHP continues to bring people together, and we're proud to boast that the GHP Pancake Breakfast ranks as #1 on the list of Glendale social events year-in and year-out. But pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit and fresh-brewed coffee are only the "set-up" for the bigger event: getting back in touch with your neighbors after a long winter's absence. The coming-together of friends reminds us all that it's the act of being real-live neighbors that makes this Village the special place that we so love. We know that such a place doesn't just happen by itself: it takes a spirited group of neighbors that finds and builds on the energy of those around them. It also, occasionally, takes some mighty fine pancakes just to ignite the soul.



Springtime will be upon us before we know it, and the memories of snow and ice will be in the rear-view mirror. On Saturday the 21st of March, Town Hall will be lit up and sparkling with the energy of Glendale at its finest. Make sure to be there and celebrate with those whom you know well and those whom you need to know a little better.



Christ Church Celebrates 150 Years

By Nancy Macenko & Peg Shardelow

Deep Roots and Growing Faith

The entry in the diary of Mr. John D. Jones is dated Sunday, July 9, 1865 and it read, simply:

Ma, George, Frank, Walter, Lone, Annie, George, Jimmie, Ingraham and myself attended Episcopal Service at Glendale. Rev. J. B. Pradt from Madison, Wisconsin, officiated. It being the first time Episcopal Services ever held there.

A month later, at the Glendale home of Samuel Fosdick, Christ Church Glendale was officially organized with the first election of a vestry.

Glendale Heritage Preservation, in partnership with Christ Church Glendale, is pleased to present an exhibit commemorating those early days and the 150 years of the parish since then. The exhibit will open to the public on April 18 and feature multimedia displays designed to tell the story of the parish in three parts: The sacred spaces, the people, and the sounds of Christ Church Glendale.



**Christ Church
Glendale**

Deep Roots, Growing Faith

The exhibit will be in the Glendale Heritage Preservation museum through May 30. The museum is located in the former CH&D railroad depot, 44 Village Sq., and is open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 11 am to 3 pm. As always, admission is free.



Christ Church School 1923

GHP Plaques

By Bob Galbraith

Have you ever wondered if your house would qualify for a GHP bronze plaque? There are two types of plaque available. The older plaque series is for houses built during the Victorian era that is prior to 1901. The second plaque series is the Centennial Plaque that is for any house that is at least 100 years old. You don't have to live in the Historic District to qualify for either plaque and there is no consequence to having a plaque on your house except greater pride in ownership. You don't know how old your house is? Well fear not. The volunteers in GHP can figure that out. All you have to do is start the process by filling out an application and paying the \$50.00 research fee. That money is to cover the cost of parking and copying at the Hamilton County Recorder's office in downtown Cincinnati.

Once the application is in, the house is assigned to a volunteer who will conduct basically a title search for your house going back to the Symmes Purchase of 1788. They will start with the Hamilton County Auditor online records to determine if the property is in the Crawford and Clark Subdivision or Springfield Township and get the lot description. They can trace recent purchase history back to the mid 1980s using the online records of the Auditor and Recorder's offices. For earlier transactions they will have to consult the printed indexes located in the archives area of the GHP Museum in the former CH&D railroad depot in the Village Square. With any luck they will be able to trace the transfer of the property back to the Symmes purchase. Unfortunately, the trail is usually not that simple. Some early records are missing and sometimes there are errors in the records and sometimes, it is confusing to trace the records when subdivisions are created as the indexes are based on subdivisions. However, at least a partial list of the property transfers in the form of Book, Page and Series numbers can be put together before a trip to the Recorder's office.

The Hamilton County Recorder has a remarkably complete record of deeds on microfiche going back to the earliest days of settlement in Hamilton County. In recent years they have also upgraded the film readers which make

the process of finding and printing the actual deeds for all the property transfers relatively easy. Working from the present to the past the researcher finds each deed and makes a copy of each. Sometimes the trail goes cold because a deed may not always reference the previous property transfer. Sometimes there is a gap in the indexes in part because the Hamilton County Court House burned down four times. When these obstacles pop up, the researcher must work from the Symmes purchase forward until a complete record of the deeds have been compiled. Sometimes it is a challenge to read the handwritten deeds from the 1800s and sometimes they are examples of beautiful handwriting.

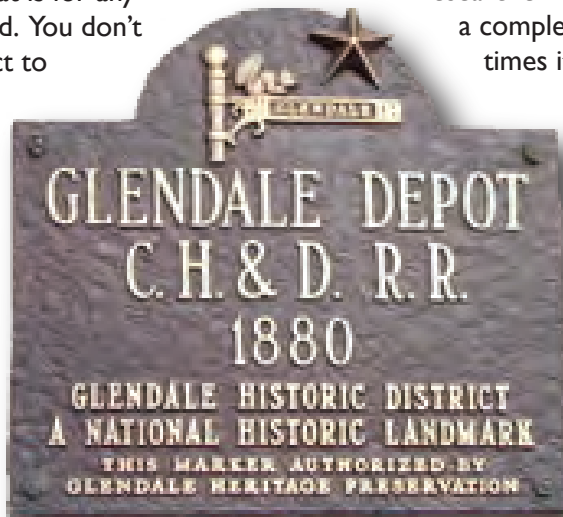
Once the deeds are gathered the write up begins with a listing of the seller and buyer, a description of the property, the book and page numbers for the deed, the date of the transfer, and the amount of the sale. In addition any interesting circumstances affecting the transaction or other interesting details found in the deeds are recorded. These include additions to or divisions of the property boundary, circumstances of the sale such as a death or bankruptcy or other things that show up in the deed. Sometimes even

though they thought a complete record was gathered gaps are revealed during the writup and a second trip to the recorder's office is required. Sometimes transactions are done to settle an estate and the will of the deceased needs to be gathered from the Probate Court online or with a trip downtown.

The dollar amount of the transfer is the best clue as to when a house was built on the property. Typically though, the stated amount in the deed is for "one dollar and other valuable considerations" which is not helpful at all. In some cases the record of mortgages is useful in determining when a house was built. In other cases subsequent divisions of the property show where the first house was built. In any event this final challenge can be one of the most interesting aspects of the research. Once it is determined when the house was built the name is assigned from the owner at the time of construction. The current owner gets a copy of the documentation.

This may sound like a difficult procedure however over the years a number of people have taken it on and found it to be both challenging and rewarding. In recent years Doreen Gove, Carol Beard, Ralph Hoop, Joanne Goode, Bob Galbraith and most recently Joe Dubinski have taken on the role of researcher. If you would like to try your hand at this contact GHP and let us know you are interested in doing house research.

Oh by the way. If your house does qualify for either plaque, there is a charge of \$250 for a bronze plaque. The rest of the cost is subsidized by GHP and GHP will install the plaque for you.





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WHAT IS A GHP WELCOME BAG?

By Peg Shardelow

The GHP Welcome Bag it is a colored shopping bag that contains:

- A complimentary one year membership to GHP...
- A walking tour guide of Village homes...
- A squirrel cookie cutter...
- Two yummy "Bluebird cookies" (Thanks Jenny)
- And our very special sesquicentennial coffee table book.

WHO RECEIVES A WELCOME BAG?

New village homeowners.
In December bags were delivered to:
St. Edmonds,
Carruthers Pond,
Jefferson Avenue,
James Place and
Woodbine Avenue.
In 2014 over 35
bags were received
by new residents.



BLACK SQUIRREL GIFT SHOP

GLENDALE 'RETRO SWEATSHIRTS' Sweatshirt
Sizes ADULT SM/MED/LG/XL/2XL
GLENDALE 'RETRO' T-SHIRTS -- Sizes ADULT
SM/MED/LG/XL/2XL

ALSO, OTHER
GLENDALE
MERCHANDISE
WILL BE AVAIL-
ABLE AT THE
PANCAKE
BREAKFAST.....



NEW: GLENDALE
DEPOT POTTERY
will arrive in
mid-March:

TALL (14 OZ) BELLY MUG (Heritage Blue) to
match soup bowls

GERMAN TANKARD (18 OZ) (Fieldstream)

"SHOW YOUR GLENDALE PRIDE"