

GASTON ALIVE

MAGAZINE

HOME | GARDEN | STYLE | FUN | FOOD | HAPPENINGS

Two Sisters' Legacy Of Love

p10

Old Timey Strawberry Cake

p12



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

In a world filled with Kardashians and Kanye Wests, evidently it has gone out of vogue to be self-effacing, frugal, and charitable. In this issue we hope to introduce you to two sisters, Carrie E. and Lena V. Glenn, who led simple lives, but whose impact on the Gaston County community is great, and growing. See page 10 for more.

This is a beautiful time of year in the Carolinas-be sure to check out your local farmers markets. They all open early to mid- May, so be sure to stop by for local produce, honey, crafts, cooking demonstrations, and more.

As always, please support your local small businesses that give our community so much vitality and flavor.

Happy spring!

David



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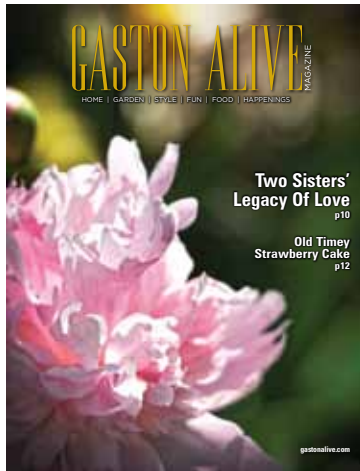


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on the cover



The May cover was shot on location at Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden by Rick Haithcox. Pictured is a Sarah Bernhardt peony. Thanks to Jim Hoffman of Daniel Stowe for production assistance. Cover graphic design by David James.

our staff

PUBLISHER

DAVID HAMRICK

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

RICK HAITHCOX

SALES

DAVID HAMRICK

DESIGN

DAVID JAMES

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

DAVID HAMRICK

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- ❖ We removed the twin window in the kitchen eating area raised the header height and made a cased opening with the new custom transom above the opening
- ❖ We removed the existing two doors that led out onto covered porch from the living room raised the header heights and made cased openings and installed the custom transoms above
- ❖ We framed all the new walls and installed the new custom windows
- ❖ We installed the cedar shakes on the exterior
- ❖ Last, the ceramic tile is made to look like hardwood flooring and has heated flooring under the tile.



Detached Dream Garage



BEFORE



BEFORE



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— MaryLynne C.



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THE GLENN SISTERS KEEP GIVING THROUGH THEIR FOUNDATION

By David Hamrick

“WHERE NEEDED MOST, TO DO THE MOST GOOD...”

In a world where news is made daily about celebrities' crass behavior and over indulgence, and talking heads in the media seem to say whatever inflammatory rhetoric will get them the most press, it is refreshing and heartening to learn about a family, and two sisters in particular, who lived their lives differently.



Carrie Glenn 1884-1977



Lena Glenn 1886-1984

Carrie and Lena Glenn were born in the late 1800's on a farm on Highway 321 South in Gaston County. Children of William Davis Glenn and Sarah Torrence Glenn, they were two of ten children, five boys and five girls. Interestingly, none of the girls ever married.

All ten children went to college (one died while at Catawba College) and became teachers, professors, librarians, cotton executives, and a medical doctor. From a letter written in 1973, Carrie Glenn wrote:

“Our father was for many years an elder in the Presbyterian Church until his death in 1911. He had a large family, and we were brought up to work and save and spend only what was necessary, for one never know what his future needs might be. He never accumulated much money, but spent most of what he had trying to educate his children. He said that if he left them money or property, somebody could take it from them, or they could run through it themselves and have nothing; but if he gave them an education, nobody could take that and with the education they should be able to take care of themselves...”

And take care of themselves they did; all of the children were self-sufficient. Carrie was a graduate of the Normal (now UNCG) and received an M.A. from Peabody College in Nashville. She was a teacher in Gastonia City Schools and a supervisor and teacher in Gaston County Schools. Lena graduated from the Normal and Carnegie Library School in Atlanta, and was a librarian at the Gaston County Public Library.

After retiring the sisters lived in the family home at 407 South Chester Street in Gastonia, where they lived for over 55 years. They worked, attended church, visited with relatives, and tended their yard and extensive vegetable and flower gardens. Lena particularly was known for growing beautiful bearded iris. The sisters never married and lived simply and frugally, relying on the trust department of The Citizens National Bank in Gastonia to invest their savings.

In 1961, well into retirement, they moved to The Presbyterian Home of High Point where they lived out their days. It was at the Presbyterian Home when they were in their 80's that the sisters resolved to leave their life savings to a foundation in their names. Around the same time, they also gave the lead gift that created The Glenn Sisters Society to benefit residents in need through The Presbyterian Home of High Point Foundation.

While today the Glenn Foundation is a nonprofit corporation, it was established on August 30, 1971 as an indentured trust with a gift of \$25,000. The sisters were afraid that they might outlive their income if they contributed more than that while they were alive. They had faith in those initially selected to administer their "committee," as the trust indenture stipulated that a leader from the First Presbyterian Church of Gastonia should always sit on the governing board. After their deaths, the Foundation acquired Carrie and Lena's combined estates of close to three million dollars. To leave such sizable estates was shocking to those who knew them but it was a remarkable testament to the sisters' discipline and sacrifice.

Shortly after the Foundation was established, Carrie and Lena wrote a letter to one of the trustees explaining that their sole purpose in creating the Foundation was to try to have any money they might leave to "go where it is needed most and will do the most good". Outside of the founding document, this is the only guidance the sisters ever gave. From its modest beginnings in 1971, the Foundation has granted almost \$7.7 million dollars.

The Glenn sisters lived lives that were, simple, frugal, and charitable. It is remarkable how two seemingly unremarkable sisters could have such a lasting impact, and do so much good, even now, thirty some years after their deaths.

Both sisters are buried with other family members at Oakland Cemetery on Franklin Boulevard in Gastonia.

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TOP 20 RECIPIENTS BY GRANT DOLLARS AWARDED OCTOBER 17, 1972 – DECEMBER 31, 2011

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Gaston Literacy Council	\$187,250.00
Hospice of Gaston County d.b.a. Gaston Hospice	\$178,500.00
Gaston County Department of Social Services	\$139,010.00
Gastonia Cornerstone Christian Center	\$122,500.00
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Gaston	\$118,000.00
First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia	\$113,408.08
Gaston County Schools	\$108,896.00
Gaston-Lincoln Regional Library	\$100,500.00
With Friends, Inc.	\$98,000.00
Gaston County Education Foundation	\$88,000.00
Gaston Arts Council/United Arts Council of Gaston County	\$84,650.00
Gaston County Health Department	\$77,540.00
Gaston Boys and Girls Club	\$74,719.00
Holy Angels, Inc.	\$69,896.00
Charlotte Symphony Orchestra Society	\$68,000.00
Habitat for Humanity of Gaston County	\$67,406.00



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STRAWBERRY TRIPLE LAYER CAKE

This is one of my all time favorite cakes- and it uses fresh strawberries. No time like the present-fresh strawberries are plentiful at Lineberger's Maple Springs Farm in Dallas and elsewhere.

This cake does use a bought cake mix, but the addition of fresh strawberries in the batter as well as the frosting makes it plenty moist and adds lots of color and strawberry flavor. It's very strawberry-enjoy!

Instructions:

1. **Make the Cake:** Preheat the Oven to 350 degrees. Spray 3- 9 inch cake pans with nonstick cooking spray. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl, mix all cake ingredients with an electric mixer on low until just combined. Scrape the side of the bowl, and increase mixer to medium and beat for 3 minutes.
3. Pour cake batter into prepared pans and bake until a tooth pick inserted into the center of the cakes comes out clean, about 23 minutes.
4. Cool cake in pans on rack for about 10 minutes. Remove from pans and cool completely. If using the following recipe for Strawberry Buttercream refrigerate cakes until completely chilled.
5. Meanwhile **Make Frosting:** In a large bowl, beat the butter at medium until it's pale yellow and fluffy. Add powdered sugar and strawberries and beat at low until well combined and creamy. Set in the fridge for about 5-10 minutes to firm it up slightly (You just don't want it to be runny).
6. Spread one of the layers of cake with frosting then refrigerate. Frost the second layer and refrigerate until the frosting on both layers has firmed up a bit. Assemble all the layers and frost the top and sides. Refrigerate!

INGREDIENTS:

Cake Ingredients:

- 1 Box (15.25 oz) White Cake Mix
- 1- 3 Ounce Box Strawberry Jello
- 4 Large Eggs
- 1/2 Cup Sugar
- 1/2 Cup Flour
- 1/2 Cup Fresh Strawberries, Finely Chopped
- 1 Cup Vegetable Oil
- 1/2 Cup Milk

Strawberry Buttercream Frosting:

- 1 Cup Unsalted Butter, Softened
- 2 (16 Ounce) Packages Powdered Sugar
- 1 Cup Fresh Strawberries, Finely Chopped

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Joseph Roop,
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From Founder & Chief Investment Officer JoePat Roop:

It's official! **Belmont Capital Advisors** has won "**Best Investment Firm**" in the **2017 Best of Gaston Awards**. It was an honor just to be nominated, but we are especially excited to take the award back to our new home at 123 North Main St.

In addition to winning Best Investment Firm, we were also finalists in the Best Financial Advisor/Planner (JoePat Roop) and Best Insurance Agent (Cory Shuford) categories.

We'd like to thank everyone who voted, as well as the community of Belmont and clients throughout the Greater Charlotte Area for their continued support.

At Belmont Capital Advisors, we view clients as members of our extended family, so it's nice to know they feel the same way about us.

Thanks again, from everyone at Belmont Capital Advisors.

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