

Meet & Greet with R.L. Gladden, Jr. August 2016



Although R.L. Gladden, Jr. stays busy managing [Chesapeake Systems](#), a Hanover-based heating, cooling, plumbing and industrial solutions business, he has made time to prioritize The First Tee of Howard County since 2010. For seven consecutive years, Gladden's business has been the title sponsor of The First Tee's Annual Golf Tournament. He also volunteers on the organization's board of directors, helping guide key decisions and engage new members of the community with our mission.

A native of Salisbury, Maryland, Gladden has lived in Howard County with his wife, Karen, since 1984, and currently resides in Glenelg. He counts golfing and being on the water as his favorite hobbies, citing Augusta National as the course he would most like the opportunity to play.

Watching the coaches work with kids has been the most meaningful part of his experience with The First Tee. The excitement of "seeing them really start to 'get it' and connect the values with life" inspires Gladden to want to help grow the program so that all children can have the opportunity to benefit from The First Tee. 🏌️