

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

20 West 44th St. #508, New York, NY 10036 • (212) 991-9191 • office@americangeorgians.org

December 2008

Dear Friends,

Season's greetings to you all! The American Friends of the Georgian Group have had a fabulous fall, with lively speakers, fascinating mantle pieces, and reports on many aspects of restoration and revival of Georgian architecture. Matthew Webster told us about a number of eighteenth-century houses, such as Drayton Hall and Kenmore, and the construction methods used at the time. We were joined by several members of the Harvard Club for a lecture there by Winthrop Aldrich on preservation efforts in New York State. The techniques of reproducing Georgian-era mantles and fireplaces were demonstrated when we visited Chesney's wonderful showroom. Giles Waterfield gave us a glimpse of the private life of George IV and Oliver Bradbury gave a very interesting talk on the Lost Houses of Mayfair at the Union Club. This very special lecture was **sponsored by AFGG board member David Michael Wood**, and we thank him heartily for his generosity. If you or your company would like to sponsor an AFGG event in 2009, please call us at 212/991-9191 or e-mail us at office@americangeorgians.org.



AFGG members visited the stately homes of Gloucestershire in October and had a excellent time. The tour offered an unusually diverse group of houses, with genuinely welcoming hosts and convivial visits to private homes. The hotel in the Cotswold town of Lower Slaughter was particularly charming. Our annual trips to England are one of the wonderful benefits of membership in the American Friends of the Georgian Group and are enjoyed by all the members who take part.

In 2009 we hope to bring you another program of lectures, trips, site visits, and other events that will encourage you to continue supporting the preservation of Georgian architecture and objects. We are happy to again invite members to a special tour of the **Winter Antiques Show** and luncheon at the historic Park Avenue Armory. This exclusive view of the show is becoming a popular AFGG tradition. Also in January we will hear a **lecture by Curt DiCamillo on *le goût Rothschild*** and the legacy of the Rothschilds, Spencers, Bedfords, and other eighteenth-century taste makers. Other events in the spring that we are planning include an exclusive tour of the new American wing at the Metropolitan Museum with our friend Mike Kelley, a lecture by Catherine Leitch about her new book *Discovering American History in England*, a talk about the eighteenth-century gardening craze in Britain by the author of *The Brother Gardeners*, Andrea Wulf, and a walking tour of Georgian-style houses in Brooklyn with Francis Morrone.

The spring will also feature our very exciting trip to the Veneto, April 21–28, to celebrate the architecture of Andrea Palladio. Friends from the Georgian Group in England will join us for this wonderful trip.

We hope to bring in many **new members** in 2009 and another AFGG board member, **Michael Ambler, and his wife, Marsha**, have invited each of our members to a **cocktail reception** at their house in February. The idea is to bring a friend who is not yet an AFGG member with you and your friend will be able to join the AFGG at a reduced rate. Board members will be there to greet your friends and answer questions about the group and our activities and special speakers will also be present to talk about the importance of preserving Georgian architecture. We hope you will come and bring all your friends to this delightful evening.

Merry Christmas and happy new year to all.

John Kinnear
President

Winter Antiques Show
*exclusive preview tour,
special exhibit, and luncheon*

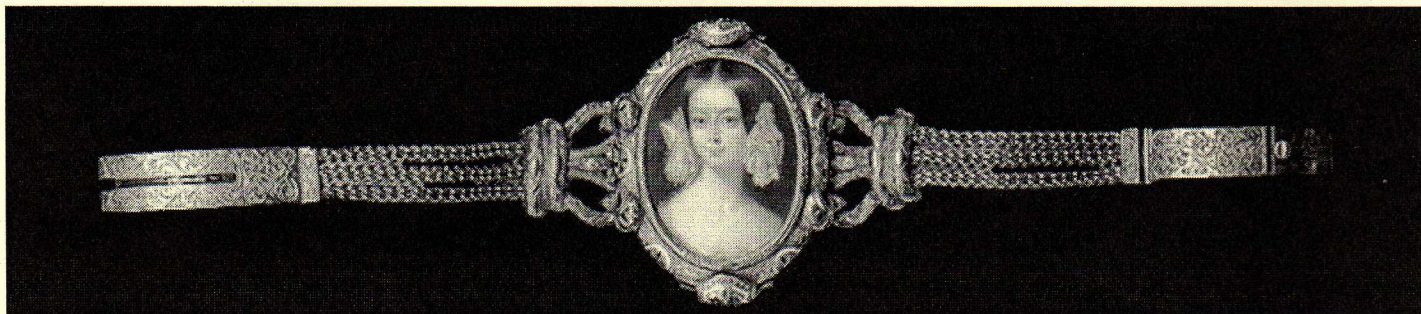
Friday, January 23, 2009, 11:00 a.m.
Seventh Regiment Armory
Park Avenue at 67th Street

Once again we are pleased to invite our members to the Winter Antiques Show. We will have an exclusive tour conducted by one of the show's expert exhibitors. This is the most prestigious antiques show in America, and you will have the opportunity to view some very special pieces. Our tour will be followed by luncheon in the beautiful and historic Louis Comfort Tiffany room, a designated landmark. After lunch we will be free to visit the rest of the show on our own.

Space for this event is limited and it is open to AFGG members only.

Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us by January 15.

\$125 per person. Members only.



**Exceptional Collectors: the Rothschilds, Spencers,
and Bedfords, and Their Legacy**
lecture and reception

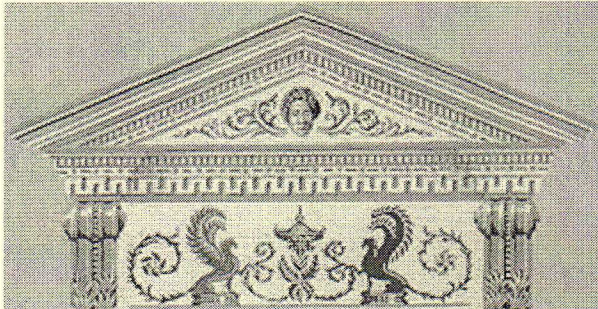
Curt DiCamillo

Thursday, January 29, 2009, 6:00

The Collectors Club

22 East 35th Street

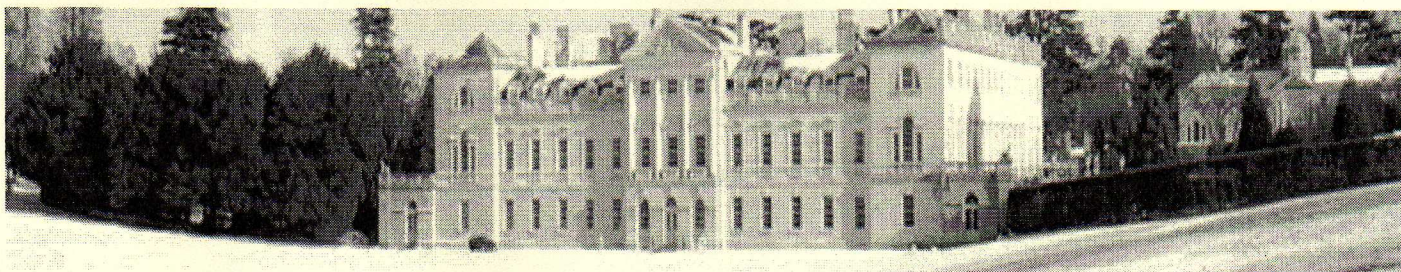
Famous for *le goût Rothschild*, a suffocatingly glamorous style of living, whose decorative elements include neo-Renaissance palaces, extravagant use of velvet and gilding, and masterworks of art, the Rothschilds have bequeathed a lasting legacy to the worlds of art and design. Curt DiCamillo is executive director of the National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA. He has written and lectured extensively in the United States and abroad about historic British houses and is creator of the award-winning database www.DiCamilloCompanion.com, that is attempting to document every British and Irish country house ever built. His talk will focus on the Rothschild family's seven country houses, and on the influence of other eighteenth-century families, such as the Spencers and the Bedfords, whose grand houses remain treasures of art and architecture.



The lecture will be followed by a reception.

Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us
by January 22.

\$45 per person.



Woburn Abbey

Reception for New Members
Cocktail reception at the home of
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ambler
 Thursday, February 26, 2009, 6:00
 655 Park Avenue

Bring your friends to meet the members of the American Friends of the Georgian Group board at the lovely apartment of Marsha and Michael Ambler. This is a delightful way to introduce your friends to Georgian architecture and give them the opportunity to join the AFGG at a reduced rate and help support our preservation efforts. AFGG president John Kinnear, past president Ralph Harvard, and advisory board member Wendell Garrett will be on hand to discuss the history of the group and the importance of preserving Georgian architecture for future generations. We hope to see you and all your friends at this very special party.

Please reserve on the form enclosed and return it to us by February 15.

\$25 per person.

American Friends of the Georgian Group

OFFICERS AND BOARD FOR 2009

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**AMERICAN FRIENDS
OF THE
GEORGIAN GROUP
RESERVATION FORM
WINTER 2009**



Winter Antiques Show

tour and luncheon, Friday, January 23, 11:00

Seventh Regiment Armory, Park Avenue at 67th Street

Please reserve _____ places at \$125 per person

enclosed \$ _____

Reserve by January 15 Members only

Exceptional Collectors

lecture and reception, Thursday, January 29, 6:00

The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York City

Please reserve _____ places at \$45 per person

enclosed \$ _____

Reserve by January 22

Cocktail Reception for New Members

Thursday, February 26, 6:00

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ambler

655 Park Avenue, New York City

Please reserve _____ places at \$25 per person

enclosed \$ _____

Reserve by February 15

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please make your check payable to **The American Friends of the Georgian Group** and mail it to us at 20 West 44th Street, #508, New York, N.Y. 10036

NAME _____

TELEPHONE _____

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contact us at 212/991-9191 or at office@americangeorgians.org