



THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

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Summer 2008

Dear Friends,

This past spring we have enjoyed a number of delightful events and, I am happy to say, many of you have been able to participate. Our visit to the showroom of Clinton Howell, a distinguished dealer in eighteenth-century antiques, was a treat. Mr. Howell is a font of information and anecdote. He has graciously given us his **tips for cleaning antique furniture**, which you will find in this newsletter. Maureen Cassidy-Geiger took us on a wonderful tour of the Arnhold collection of Meissen porcelain at the Frick Collection. Wendell Garrett's entertaining lecture on the characteristics that define Georgian grace was accompanied by slides of art and objects from the period. Michael Kathrens used slides to illustrate his lecture on the great houses of New York, including pictures of vanished mansions from a vanished era. By the time you read this we will have had a tour and light lunch at Gracie Mansion and Calder Loth, Tim



Macfarlane, and John Lee will have delivered their lecture on the classical ruin Menokin. The American Friends of the Georgian Group is one of several organizations interested in British-American relations that sponsored a reception on June 11 to celebrate the 82nd birthday of Queen Elizabeth.

AFGG members spent an exceptional weekend at Winterthur and other historic houses in the area. Our thanks to Tom Savage for arranging the tour, which is described in this newsletter. We are planning another trip in the fall together with the Georgian Group. AFGG members are invited to join the Georgian Group to **visit eighteenth-century houses of Newport** at the end of September. In October we will have our

annual visit to England. This year we will visit the **stately houses of Gloucestershire** and stay at historic Lower Slaughter Manor. There is still time to sign up for this very lovely trip.

Also coming up are a number of other lively events we hope you will enjoy. In July we plan an exclusive tour of the exhibit at the Bard Graduate Center of the **work of Thomas Hope**, a major figure in British Regency design. The fall will bring lectures on the materials and techniques used to build **Drayton Hall** and other houses by **Matthew Webster** at the Collectors Club and on **historic preservation in New York State** by **Winthrop Aldrich** at the Harvard Club. We will visit **Chesney's** fascinating display of **antique fireplaces**, hear a talk on **George IV** by **Giles Waterfield**, and be guided by **Oliver Bradbury** to **the Lost Mansions of Mayfair**. Be sure to save the date, December 8, for the **annual general meeting**, which is always a delightful event.

Next year the American Friends will offer a very special trip to **the Palladian Villas of the Veneto** in April. Be sure to **mark your calendars now for April 21 to 28**. Details will follow.

The AFGG web site, www.americangeorgians.org, lists all our events and has links to the Georgian Group and other sites of interest to our members. Membership information is also available at the web site. If you have questions, our e-mail address is office@americangeorgians.org. If you have friends who share your interest in preserving Georgian art and architecture we hope you will encourage them to join us.

Best wishes,

John Kinnear
President