

## THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

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

Summer 2013

Dear Friends,

According to Brady's *Clavis Calendaria*, published in 1813, during the dog days of summer, "the Sea boiled, the Wine turned sour, Dogs grew mad, and all other creatures became languid; causing to man...burning fevers, hysterics, and phrensies." Fear not! Fall is almost here and the American Friends of the Georgian Group will enjoy restorative events and refreshing entertainment.

Our annual autumn reception will be on the roof of the Arsenal in September. This year we honor the **Prince's Regeneration Trust** for their excellent work in architectural preservation. Also in September, we plan a tour of the very lovely **Hamilton Grange**, the country house of Alexander Hamilton. In October, **Evan Thompson**, executive director of the **Preservation Society of Charleston**, will give a talk on **classical revival houses** of South Carolina from the early twentieth century. Specialist in **European Furniture and Decorative Arts** at **Christie's**, **William Strafford**, will discuss the treasures collected by the English travelers on the **Grand Tour** in eighteenth-century Europe. His lecture in November is sponsored together with the Colonial Dames of America.

AFGG members are eagerly looking forward to the exciting tour of **England's Ancestral Homes in Shropshire**, October 14–18. The group will be staying at **Weston Park**, where they will enjoy the country-house-party atmosphere that has made the hotel so popular. A few places remain for this trip.

Be sure to put December 4 on your calendar for the **AFGG annual meeting.** We are fortunate to return to the delightful **George Baker House,** on the Upper East Side, for our yearly gathering of good friends and good cheer. Invitations will be mailed separately later in the fall.

Tell your friends about us! During 2013 we are having a campaign to increase our membership and we would love to have your friends become our friends too. New members joining now will enjoy full membership privileges through 2014. See the last page for more information.



Moat Brae House

Best wishes,



John Kinnear President



The Prince's Regeneration Trust
cocktail reception
Guest of Honor, J. W. Kaempfer
Wednesday, September 18, 2013, 6:00
The Arsenal, Central Park
Fifth Avenue at 64th Street

The Prince's Regeneration Trust, which is one of the twenty charities known, collectively, as the Prince's Charities, and of which HRH Prince Charles is president, will be honored at our annual cocktail reception. The Regener-

ation Trust provides advice and support to community groups, local authorities, developers, and individuals on preserving historic buildings in England. Deputy chairman of their board, J. W. Kaempfer, will be our guest of honor at this reception saluting the fine work of the organization. Mr. Kaempfer is chairman of McArthurGlen and will be joining us from London.

\$45 per person for AFGG members, \$55 for non-members, \$20 for American Young Georgians.

## Hamilton Grange private guided tour

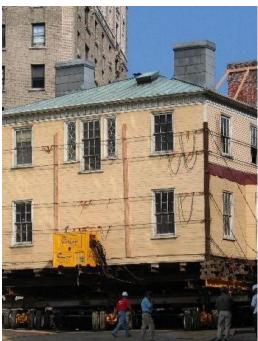
Thursday, September 26, 2013, 1:00 414 West 141st Street, between Convent and St. Nicholas avenues

The Hamilton Grange, designed by John McComb, Jr., and completed in 1802, was designed as a country estate in upper Manhattan. The home of Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the treasury, the house originally sat on 32 acres; it was named the Grange after Hamilton's ancestral home in Scotland. Hamilton lived there for only two years before he was shot and killed by Aaron Burr.

The Grange was bought by the Episcopal church in 1889 and moved a few blocks away to what became Convent Avenue. In the 1960s the house became the property of the National Park Service. The Convent Avenue location had become congested and Congress required that the house be moved to a location in which it could be restored to its original character. Now in St. Nicholas Park, the Grange has regained its freestanding country-house quality and features lost in the original move have been restored. Our tour will be led by author John Foreman, who writes the House section for the New York Social Diarry website.

Directions to Hamilton Grange by public transportation are available at the MTA web site; please note there is no parking on 141st Street between Convent and St. Nicholas avenues.

\$45 per person for AFGG members, \$55 for non-members, \$20 for American Young Georgians.





South Carolina Classic lecture and reception Evan Thompson Wednesday, October 16, 2013, 6:00 The Colonial Dames of America 417 East 61st Street

In the 1910s and '20s wealthy northern industrialists acquired neglected South Carolina rice plantations and converted them into hunting preserves. They constructed country houses in the classical revival style, often on the footprint of burned or demolished antebellum plantation houses. Evan Thompson, executive director of the Preservation Society of Charleston, will talk about these landmark structures and the stories behind them. Many of these stories

have roots in New York. Evan Thompson is well known in the preservation field; he was executive director of Historic Beaufort Foundation from 2004 to 2010, and was the inaugural recipient of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's American Express Aspire Award in 2011. He participated in the 2013 Attingham Summer School.

The Colonial Dames of America join the AFGG in presenting this lecture, which will be followed by a reception. \$45 per person for AFGG members, \$55 for non-members, \$20 for American Young Georgians.

Bonnie Doone

## Souvenirs of the Grand Tour: Collecting as a Classical Education *lecture and reception*

William Strafford Thursday, November 14, 2013, 6:00 The Colonial Dames of America 417 East 61st Street

When wealthy young men (usually) of eighteenth-century England travelled through Europe to acquaint themselves with their classical roots, they collected troves of antiquities and commissioned new works by eminent painters and sculptors. Their ancestral houses became veritable museums of the art of classical Europe. William Strafford, senior international specialist in European furniture and decorative arts at Christie's, will focus his talk on this tradition and how it enriched the collections of England's most cultured and sophisticated families.

The Colonial Dames of America join the AFGG in sponsoring this lecture, which will be followed by a reception.

\$45 per person for AFGG members, \$55 for non-members, \$20 for American Young Georgians



#### DON'T FORGET THE 2013 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN!!!

Our 2013 membership campaign, led by Beverly Bell, our new membership Chairperson, is vitally important to our future. We have found that word of mouth is the primary way people hear about the American Friends of the Georgian Group, so if you have a friend who shares your interest in the Georgian era, please have them contact Beverly at office@americangeorgians.org or call 212/991-9191 and she can assist them in becoming a member and sharing in our upcoming events. Renewal notices for members will be mailed in the fall, but new members joining now will get full benefits through 2014!

Hamilton Grange in early drawing



CALL A FRIEND! CALL TWO FRIENDS! JOIN NOW AND GET FULL BENEFITS THROUGH 2014!!

Annual Meeting
SAVE THE DATE!!!



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013 George Baker House

Plan to join us for this festive event Invitations will be mailed separately

#### THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

The AFGG newsletter is available by regular mail, e-mail, or both. By subscribing to the e-mail edition you will see the newsletter in color and you can have as many copies as you need. Let us know how you prefer to receive your newsletter by checking the choices below that apply to you.

- \_\_\_ I would like to get the newsletter by mail
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# AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP RESERVATION FORM, Summer 2013

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NAME		
TELEPHONE	E-MAIL	
	contact us at 212/991-9191 or at office@americang	georgians.org
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