

National American Glass Club 2012 Seminar

The National Early American Glass Club is pleased to announce that the 2012 Seminar will be held May 16-19 in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The event will be based in Harrisonburg and include tours of Historic properties, a private collection, visits to area antiques malls, and a day of lectures. It will also coincide with the spring glass auction conducted by Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates in Mt. Crawford.

Wednesday, May 16 will be spent in the historic city of Staunton (founded in 1747), known for its significant architecture packed into five National Historic Districts. Staunton's compact downtown features over one hundred unique shops, art galleries and restaurants. Special NAGC tours will include Trinity Episcopal Church and its twelve Tiffany windows and a studio glass blowing demonstration.

On Thursday, May 17 the group will tour Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Monroe's Ash Lawn-Highland, as well as a tour and lunch at the circa 1784 Michie Tavern. The day will culminate with a reception at the Sites House, the circa 1790 stone home of Beverley and Jeffrey Evans, and a tour of their personal collection of early American glass and Shenandoah Valley decorative arts. The reception is being sponsored by Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates.

Lecture sessions will be held on Friday, May 18 at the Jeffrey Evans auction gallery near Mt. Crawford. The presentations will focus on the material culture of 19th century American glass – exploring its initial production and consumption as well as subsequent collection patterns. Presenters will include Jane Spillman discussing "Glass in the American Home", Jeffrey S. Evans on "The History of Glass Collecting in America", Dean Six on "Trade Catalogues and the Commerce of American Glass", and Art Reed on "Glass Making in 19th Century America". In addition Jeff Evans will conduct a gallery walk and offer insights into the following day's auction.

The Seminar will conclude on Saturday, May 19 with the Evans Catalogued Auction of 18th and 19th Century Glass and Lighting featuring an important New England collection; or attendees can explore the area on their own.

Additional local attractions (within an hour or less) include the American Shakespeare Center, the Museum of American Frontier Culture, the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library, Birthplace and Museum, the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, the Virginia Museum of the Civil War including the 300-acre New Market Battlefield State Historical Park, other area Civil War sites, local vineyards and farmer's markets, and Shenandoah National Park including the scenic Skyline Drive. Other near-by attractions (within two hours) include the newly renovated and expanded Virginia Museum of Fine Arts which highlights a world class collection of Tiffany glass and Faberge eggs, many other Richmond area attractions, James Madison's Montpelier, and the museums and monuments of Washington, DC. In addition Colonial Williamsburg and Jamestown are less than three hours away and the Chrysler Museum of Art with their soon to open state-of-the-art Glass Studio is less than a four-hour trip.

REGISTRATION: The registration fee for the entire seminar is \$225 per person. The fee includes May 16 and 17 tour tickets, May 17 opening reception, May 16-18 bus transportation from the hotel, and May 18 lectures, refreshments and lunch. Final details and the registration form will be mailed to members in January. Information will also be posted on the NAGC website.

HOTEL: Reservations should be made (prior to 4/24/2012) directly with the Courtyard Marriott Harrisonburg which is located at 1890 Evelyn Byrd Ave., Harrisonburg, VA; telephone 540-432-3031. A block of rooms has been set aside for the NAGC Seminar at the special rate of \$79 per night (plus taxes) which includes a Continental breakfast. Remember to mention the "National American Glass Club" when you make your reservation. All bus transportation will be provided from the hotel on May 16-18.