

GLENSHEEN GLEANINGS

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 1

SPRING 1990

A NEW DECADE BRINGS MANY ACTIVITIES TO GLENSHEEN

1990 brings a new decade and many special programs or events to Glensheen. March featured two unique "Dinners With Staff" programs. One was scheduled for March 4th and one was scheduled for March 9th. Mike Lane, the Director of Glensheen, was the host for the first dinner. His program featured a tour of the third floor and attic. On the 9th of March, Dan McClelland, Curator of Historic Grounds, served as host for his program entitled "Landscape, Past and Present." The gourmet dinners were prepared by The Exchange and included a raspberry glazed Cornish game hen as the main course. These programs were open to the first 19 individuals who registered for them. Because the "Dinners With Staff" have been so popular, three more have been scheduled. Both the tour of the third floor and attic program with Mike Lane, and "Landscape, Past and Present" with Dan McClelland will be repeated. A new topic, "The Construction Years" will be added with Mike Lane acting as host. For more information as to dates and costs, please call the Glensheen office at 724-8864. This is one activity where reservations are required.

Spring Volunteer Training begins in April. On April 3, 10, 17, 25 and May 2, at 7:00 p.m., training sessions for new volunteers and current volunteers who want to brush up on their skills should attend. These background, informational lectures and job specific skill training sessions provide the necessary knowledge and skills to enable individuals to serve in the various volunteer opportunities available at Glensheen.

The Annual Spring Lecture Series has been scheduled for the dates of April 23, May 1, and May 8, 1990. Specific topics or an overall theme are still being developed at print time. Topics under consideration are quilts and special techniques of quilting; Oriental rugs; and/or art glass. Any of these topics could serve as the central theme for the series. The other lectures would then revolve around that chosen topic. Once the series has been finalized, volunteers will receive a brochure detailing the events.

Volunteer Update is slated for April 30, 1990. All volunteers, current and new, should attend one or the other of the two identical sessions. A day time and an evening time have been scheduled to make it easier for you to attend. Many topics will be explored and important new information will be divulged at that time.



Our "Mad Hatter" Teas were so successful last year that they will be repeated again in 1990. May 23rd and May 30th are the chosen dates. Reservations are required and seating is limited to 50 persons on each date. Cost per person is \$12.00. Katharine Ritz, music instructor at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, will sing a variety of songs from the 1900-1920's. She will be accompanied on the piano by Julie Ciarleo, coordinator of outreach programs for the Department of Music, the University of Minnesota, Duluth. During the program, Katharine Ritz will don an assortment of period hats to create the appropriate atmosphere for each tune. The program will be followed by a special tea, catered by The Exchange. A guided house tour will precede each musical program and tea.

The Concert By The Lake Series has been one of Glensheen's most successful programs. This is the seventh year of FREE concerts on the Carriage House lawn. Bring a picnic basket and your friends for an enjoyable evening at Glensheen. The concerts start at 6:30 p.m. There will be six concerts, weather permitting. The dates are: July 11, 18, 25, and August 1, 8, and 15. These are all Wednesday nights, so be sure to mark your

calendars. The Duluth Musicians Association will provide the musical sounds. The concerts this year are being supported in part by a grant from Minnesota Power.

The Third Annual Old Time Croquet Tournament will be held on the Bowling Green at Glensheen. There will be a practice session on July 11th at 5:00 p.m. Here, potential contestants can learn the basics of croquet play and can sign up to participate in the tournament. Elimination rounds will be on July 18th and 25th with the finals being held on August 1st. All play will begin at 5:00 p.m. Remember, croquet is the type of game that everyone can play successfully. This is your chance to win a trophy. The tournament is open to amateur players from 12 years old to ninety and beyond. A one time grounds fee will be charged to all entrants. Spectators may watch free of charge.



June 30, 1990, will be "Go Fly A Kite Day" at Glensheen. Scheduled to occur from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., participants in this activity will learn how to make a simple, no fail kite. Then, if the weather permits, you can fly your creation at Glensheen. A \$3.00 grounds and materials fee will be charged to all participants.

Guided tours of the Third floor and Attic are given daily (by reservation only) on all weekdays, including Wednesdays. Tours are led by the Director of Glensheen or other staff members. All monies earned from these special tours go into the preservation fund.

As you can see, there is an activity planned for everyone's enjoyment. Decide to make this the year to participate. You'll be glad you did!

Director's Corner

The University of Minnesota is considering selling some of Glensheen's property. The areas being considered are: (1) the open field east of the parking lot; (2) the strip of land between London Road and the railroad tracks from 32nd Avenue East to the vacated 35th Avenue East; and (3) the land along 32nd Avenue East above the railroad tracks. These sections are considered "excess" by the University.

Glensheen has plans for these three sections that would integrate them into an expanded interpretive program. The land above the railroad tracks was pasture in the northwest section and orchard in the southeast section. Dan McClelland is working with Bob Olen, Minnesota Extension Service, to reactivate the orchard. Dan has located and identified several original trees. Bob Olen is interested in introducing some new varieties. The end result would be a combination of historical and applied research dealing with fruit trees.

The strip of land between London Road and the railroad tracks will also be used for applied research. The area opposite the parking lot entrance was used at one time by Bob Wyness for composting. This was before the University took control in 1979. In 1991, no more yard waste will be allowed in landfills, as per state law. Glensheen generates a large volume of yard waste in the summer. In order to dispose of this yard waste, Bob Olen will use this section to develop composting models. The end result will be the easy disposal of Glensheen's yard waste (as opposed to carting the waste to the University farm), the development of composting models for the estate's numerous gardens.

The University of Minnesota's Landscape Arboretum is interested in providing plant stock for a demonstration garden to be developed in the area east of the parking lot. This material would be the kind for northern Minnesota's climate and soil.

Glensheen believes that all the property is integral to site interpretation. The plans mentioned above are slated to be initiated this spring. However, even though there are plans for these three areas, that does not mean that they cannot still be sold. At this writing, the issue of land sale has yet to be resolved.

Since the last issue of Gleanings, some staff changes have occurred. Laura Davis has been hired as the new Volunteer Coordinator and has been adapting well to her job. Kathleen (Sam) Plourd will be leaving the staff to work at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County in Los Angeles, California.



DAYS GONE BY

by Betty Ketchum

It was cold and overcast when I arrived at Glensheen early on a Monday. I entered the laundry room which already shone with care, spotted Fran Kartes, and then met Laura Davis. Through the end window, they had watched my approach. It was my first trip back since Geva Lou and I had touched base last July and after my surprise surgery in August. I wasn't quite certain how I'd feel with Geva Lou gone.

Laura and I went back to the volunteer office which looked the same. The coffee pot was on and the familiar red and white peppermints awaited the docents. We began amenities. How did she get here? Well, her Superior neighbor was looking for work and had called the UMD hot line. She knew also that Laura was looking and heard the job of volunteer coordinator had been posted for Glensheen. Laura followed through, was interviewed, hired, and arrived September 28 for two days of working with Geva Lou.

October 1 she began on her own, and each month following has brought new learning experiences. Glensheen at Christmas was a delight as always. Then in January the mansion was closed for its yearly "thorough cleaning", when Fran and her elves do curtains, spreads and chandeliers, but that is another matter. This gave Laura an ideal chance to call docents she had not met and to explore the job further. February is nearly over and soon it will be April, when volunteer training for new docents gets underway. There are brush-up sessions for all docents as certain changes in presentation may occur. It is for the coordinator, an ever-changing and challenging experience.

Back to her beginning, Laura was one of a family of four girls and one boy in Montello, Wisconsin, 50 miles north of Madison. She called it a small, cozy community of 1200 and a nice place to grow up. Childhood memories include her mother's love of gardening and among other things she grew peanuts. It surprised me to learn they grew underground. Laura has always found new

growth fascinating. Following high school, Laura attended the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where, in 1971, she graduated as an Art Major.

It was here she met John Davis, a Science Major. They were married in Montello, and in 1972 they went to Australia to teach school. Their first post was at Mount Druitt, 25 miles west of Sydney. The second year they taught in Mackay, a town of 25,000 right off the Great Barrier Reef and 1300 miles north of Sydney. When at Mount Druitt they often drove to Sydney, riding the subway, enjoying the beauty of the city, the sights and the people. And on their return to America, they had one last fling there. The famous Sydney Opera House was just finished and they had the good fortune to attend "The Three-Penny Opera!"

Back in the States they moved to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where her husband taught for 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years at Wayland Academy, a boarding school for boys and girls, junior high through high school. They were 9 months in Iron River, Michigan, and 4 years in Stevens Point, then off to Las Cruces, New Mexico for another 2 years. There Laura missed the change of seasons, but found it a unique experience. Herself a Catholic, she "never saw such religious people as were in New Mexico."

Now living up North 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ years, they love skiing and the proximity of Spirit Mountain. She skates at a nearby rink with her youngest son, 7 and enjoys watching other mothers pushing their small-fry around the ice. The whole family, there are two other sons, one 16 and a stepson 21 — all are winter sports enthusiasts. Laura is slim, soft-spoken and friendly. She grows on you. When first we talked I indicated she was a lady of rare courage, adding "I wouldn't have touched this job if I were 40 years younger, had all of my stomach and the legs of a filly." After all, Geva Lou had been the first coordinator at Glensheen, the one who had provided volunteers for a constantly growing attendance, more than a million and a quarter when she retired.

Laura assured me she has had tremendous support from volunteers and staff. And before Geva Lou left she gave her invaluable advice. "Whenever the job gets harried, and it will, think of it as a puzzle that can be solved. Keep a positive approach, don't try to manipulate your docents, but by shifting the pieces a bit, you'll find an answer every time."

When in Stevens Point, Laura was director of volunteers at the River Pines Nursing Home. It was a 238-bed facility for geriatrics and developmentally disabled young people. A diverse program was essential, and sometimes volunteers who found it difficult to work with the patients were helpful in other ways — such as doing mending at home. When time permits, Laura still volunteers at Fairlawn and with International

Students at UWS and with Hospice, Duluth at St. Luke's.

Guests at Glensheen still go through in groups of 20. I wondered had she had problems with the occasional one who can't restrain himself from touching. That reminded her of a smaller group of young people in the Billiard Room at Christmas. A young man headed straight for the moose head, rang the bells and stroked the antlers before the room docent could intervene. The other visitors seemed embarrassed.

She is liking the challenge of reaching out for docents, giving her exposure to people in different settings. "I find them friendly and willing. You can't sit and wait. I like people and I'm enjoying the job. Glensheen is such a special place."

At the end of each day there is an added plus — besides the family she goes home to "Brandy", a lovable mutt and a nice family dog. As I said, Laura grows on you!



WORDS FROM THE SHOP

by Susan Pearson

With cold winter days still upon us here in the Northland, we in the Museum Shop have many varied books for you to enjoy, while you stay warm indoors. We have books that help you make that quilt, crochet those lace edgings, or try blackwork embroidery. For your young scholars, they can read *Little Women*, *Treasure Island*, *Robin Hood*, or *Anne of Green Gables*.

When spring does come, you can learn how to make pressed flower pictures, arrange flowers like a pro, mix your own potpourri, and cultivate hardy herbs. For history buffs, we can return you to bygone days with letters from the past, furnishings and clothing from olden times, home remedies for what ails you, and songs from the past to brighten your spirits. If renovation is your hobby, we can furnish you with books on furniture styles, millwork, stained glass, masonry, and plumbing.

The shop has many unique books for birthdays, anniversaries, and graduation gifts. Distinctive titles abound for those special people. Remember to stop in when you are at Glensheen or when you need a spur of the moment gift. We're right here, close at hand, with plenty of free parking — and don't forget your discount, too!

GLENSHEEN BIDS GOOD-BYE TO ANOTHER STAFF MEMBER

After eight years, Kathleen A. (Sam) Plourd will be working her last day at Glensheen on March 9, 1990. She is leaving Glensheen to become Collections Manager for the History Division of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County in Los Angeles, California. This History Division is one of three divisions. It is joined by comparable divisions of Life Science and Earth Science. Together these parts form the third largest museum of its kind in the United States. The museum employs 70 employees with 20 of those being in the History Division. This museum is a generalist museum that has never really developed or defined its collection policy. It has collected bits of everything from dinosaurs, Indian artifacts, to gems, etc. Sam will be helping to develop and form a collections policy for this museum. Currently, the Natural History Museum is redesigning and installing two new multi-million dollar exhibits. One will deal with native American cultures and the other is to be a major exhibit on birds of the world. The museum has approximately 1.4 million visitors a year.

Sam Plourd goes to California with a strong background in collections management. She is currently the Curator of Collections at Glensheen. A graduate of Spalding University (Kentucky) with a B.S. in Art, she received her Master of Arts in American Studies from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. She has been involved with graphic arts and design for most of her professional career and has worked for such forms as *Personally Yours* (Connecticut) and *New England Typographic Service* (Connecticut). A museum curator with the Museum of Connecticut for eight years, Ms. Plourd was responsible for, among other things, conservation of the collection and was assigned to do historical research as it related to the collections and exhibition programs. Since 1982, Ms. Plourd has been involved with all aspects of collections management at Glensheen. She has also helped to produce four Glensheen publications and has been in charge of security.



VOLUNTEERS REACH THE "HEIGHTS" AT GLENSHEEN

by Laura Davis

The Glensheen volunteers have accumulated nearly 8,000 donated hours in 1989. What a fantastic amount of time and energy so freely given by our great volunteer force. Many of you, I am learning, have been here since the day Glensheen opened. Others have been here a shorter time but none the less enthusiastic. There is a love and dedication to Glensheen like none other I have seen in working with volunteers. I am truly impressed and I hope you continue with the same spirit.

I have been so pleased with the wonderful support the volunteers have given me during these first 5 months of my new job. Can 5 months have really passed? It seems that every month is so different but I am learning more each day. This is truly a huge job and I want to thank you for your help, advice, and most of all patience.

Volunteer training will be coming up starting on April 3rd. I would appreciate it if you could pass the word along. We are always in need of new volunteers so please think about friends, family or fellow workers who might enjoy volunteering at Glensheen. Remember, word of mouth is often the best way to advertise something good! Any veteran volunteers are welcomed and encouraged to attend any and all of the training sessions for brush up purposes. Please also remember the Volunteer Update which has been set for April 30 in the morning and again in the evening. We plan to run Update again in June but please try to make the April date if at all possible. We have lots planned for that day and we remind you that Update is mandatory. It is really essential that as Glensheen volunteers you keep yourselves informed about any new information that we have to give out. I know that many of you value the Update information and even incorporate it into your tour when you have the need to fill some extra time or in answering questions. We now plan to record all information given out at Update so that there will be a permanent record of this information. This will be especially helpful to new volunteers. I think there will be other changes as the year progresses but they will be for the betterment of the program.

Several of you have asked me about the number of visitors to Glensheen that we have had to this point. I checked and found out that 1,226,987 folks have come to see our beautiful estate.

Another bit of information that I thought you might enjoy knowing about is that we

VOLUNTEER "HEIGHTS" continued

have decided that the tour of third floor and the attic will be available to volunteers this spring. We thought we might do this as part of Update but it will make it too lengthy. Another major concern is that we can only take 10 people up at a time because of fire code regulations. Therefore, you need to call me at 724-3041 and make a reservation if you want to see the upper areas of the house. I know that you frequently get questions about the areas so if you have not seen them please try to do so this spring.

We have set the week of April 16th as the time when tours of the third floor will be given. Tours will be given by reservation only. There will be two time options. You may register to take a tour at 12:00 p.m. or at 7:00 p.m. on all of the dates (Monday through Friday) except April 17th. On that date, because of the scheduled volunteer training session, only the 12:00 p.m. tour will be given. So, come and join Carol Chamberlain on a "lofty" tour of Glensheen.



EXPLORING POTTED PALMS AND VICTORIAN GARDENS

Carol Chamberlain, Curator of Education, recently attended a symposium sponsored by the Victorian Society in America entitled "Beyond The Potted Palm: Victorian Gardens Indoors And Out." On the surface, one might think that since Glensheen was built during the Edwardian period (1901-1910) a period which followed the Victorian period (1837-1901), there might not be any relevant information which could be obtained that would be useful at Glensheen. What one needs to remember is that history is a continuum. People are affected by what happened before as well as by what is currently happening. The Congdons (Chester and Clara) would have grown up during Queen Victoria's reign. Many of the customs and dictates of style that the Congdons would have been most familiar with would have been those that were common during Victoria's reign.

Victorians had a passion for flowers and nature. Growing, collecting, and showing plants became an integral part of fashionable society. Victorians were the first true indoor gardeners. They built conservatories and greenhouses so that they would be able to control both temperature and climate to enable them to grow plants year-round. Flowers became so important that they were personified with human virtues and vices. They were used to convey messages of love or rejection; as memorials to the dead; or as status symbols. One's wealth could be shown through the use and cultivation of exotic plants and flowers. You can imagine how impressive it would have been to serve bananas and oranges to one's guests during the winter months at a time when supermarkets and air transported food were still a thing of the future. The Congdons had four greenhouses (palm, rose, carnation, and general). They used flowers and growing plants as decorative objects throughout their home. In fact, Chester Congdon became known for always wearing a red carnation in his lapel.

The lectures attended and their topics were as follows:

"Splendor on the Grass" — An overview of the well upholstered garden: porches, fences, trellises, iron furniture, statuary and out buildings

"A. J. Downing and The Mingled Garden" — A case study of the mingled garden at Olana, a National Historic Site where the speaker used the actual restoration as reference to show the important elements and plantings of this type of Victorian garden

"Old Roses" — Victorians were so enamoured of this flower that the "cabbage rose" became a symbol for the excesses of the period. The speaker presented a history of the rose, cultivation, and where to purchase old style roses for home gardens.

"Plants and Plantings for Victorian Landscapes and Gardens" — Dealt with plant selection basics for the Victorian garden such as basic historical and horticultural language; selection of proper trees, shrub, and ornamental plantings for a Victorian style landscape

"Bringing the Garden Inside — Floral Decorations for the Victorian Home" — A practice session where the audience members learned how to create authentic Victorian styled arrangements using correct materials and proper styles

"The Victorian Parlor Garden" — Audience members learned how to recreate the lush atmosphere of a Victorian parlor garden

The day's final activity included a "Victorian" trolley ride to the Philadelphia Flower Show.



NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES CREATED AT GLENSHEEN

Several new opportunities for volunteers have recently been created at Glensheen. The first new job deals with the Glensheen collection. One type of item that is readily visible at Glensheen is the printed book. We have a tremendous amount of books previously owned by the Congdons available on site. Sam Plourd has been registering and accessioning artifacts in the Glensheen collection, but she would like some assistance for the registering of 3,000+ books at Glensheen. One to three individuals could be trained to handle this mammoth task. Your effort would greatly aid an on-going process and help with its completion.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

National Volunteer Week is April 22-28, 1990. In connection with National Volunteer Week the City Wide Volunteer Recognition Event will be held on Thursday, April 19, 1990 at 1:00. The event will be held at the Greysolon Plaza Ballroom with Earl Henton as Master of Ceremonies. All volunteers are welcome so please plan to pick up your invitation in the volunteer office at Glensheen after March 19th.

The second job is an outdoor job. Glensheen would like to begin offering Grounds Tours on a regular basis. To do this, we need a ready and willing corps of volunteers. Dan McClelland and Carol Chamberlain are working on collecting and compiling information about the grounds, deciding upon a tour route, determining training dates, etc. We want to be able to offer these tours in addition to our regular house tours and tours of the third floor. We plan to be able to offer these Grounds Tours in May when we begin our summer hours. No previous gardening knowledge or experience is necessary in order to become a Grounds Tour Docent.

Docent's Corner By Ev Davis

At their November meeting, Docent Council members elected new officers for 1990. They are as follows:

- Ev Davis President
- Dorothy Andre Vice President, Elect
- Joyce Fon Secretary
- Marian Ario Member-At-Large
- Dorothy Becker Member-At-Large

Congratulations to the new officers!

Docent Council is designed to serve as a liaison between the volunteers and Glensheen's administrative staff. The Council represents you, the volunteer. All volunteers are eligible to serve on Docent Council. Check with Laura Davis, Glensheen's Volunteer Coordinator, if you are interested in getting involved.

The final new way volunteers could help at Glensheen would be as office assistants to Kit Hautamaki. Individuals who are interested in this position would need to be able to answer the telephone and relay information about Glensheen to the public (such as hours of operation, costs of tours, types of tours available, etc.). It would be helpful if they could type simple form letters. They would also be asked to take group reservations and register them in the master book. Other duties could be developed, based on the skills of those volunteering.

If any of these positions interest you, please let Laura Davis, the Volunteer Coordinator, know. She can be reached by calling 724-3041. Many of these jobs could begin immediately. Beginning a new volunteer job is one easy way to cure cabin fever.



"BUT" IS NOT ALWAYS A CONJUNCTION

BUT at Glensheen is short for "bringing up tours". Docents are constantly asking, what does security tell the visitor as the visitors are being escorted to the Main House? The basic commentary which is given is printed below. As docents, you should become familiar with what is being said by security, so that you don't repeat the same information when the visitor is under your care.

Good _____ and welcome to Glensheen, my name is _____ and I will be your guide up to the house. Glensheen was built by Chester and Clara Congdon for their six children between the years 1905 and 1908. \$854,000 was spent on the four major buildings which include the gardener's residence, the Carriage House, the Boathouse and the Main House.

As we begin, the first building on your right is the gardener's residence. Perhaps more important than the building itself are the people who live inside, Bob Wyness and his wife. Bob retired as Glensheen's head gardener almost five years ago at the age of seventy. He came to Glensheen as a six year old in 1921 when his father George Wyness was hired as the Congdon's fourth gardener.

Originally, there were four greenhouses stepped up the hill on the north side of the gardener's house. They included a palm house where they grew palm trees, banana trees, orchids and other tropical plants. One greenhouse was for roses, one for carnations, and one for bedding plants, to get the vegetables and annuals started for spring planting.

As we pass the gardener's house, you will see a series of outdoor gardens. The first level was for the vegetable garden, followed by a smaller set of formal gardens, clay tennis courts, and a bowling green.

The second building, on your left, is the Carriage House. This building will be open to you to take a look at after your house tour. Please use the first door marked entrance. Inside the Carriage House, you will see areas for the horses and cows, a tack room, and at the end of the building some of the Congdon's carriages and sleighs are on display. (Summer — There is also a fifteen minute video at the far end of the building which runs continuously and gives an excellent history of Duluth and relates how the Congdon's fit into the broader historical picture.)

The "L" shaped wing at this end of the Carriage House was designed and built for the coachman and his family. Today, the space is used for our administrative offices.

Looking down the path towards Lake Superior, you will see the third building, the Boathouse. In the early years, the Congdon's owned a fifty-two foot yacht, the Hesperia, named after Clara Congdon's middle name. The yacht was purchased in 1911 and burned while it was being refueled in July of 1916. The yacht was not totally destroyed and was sold the following spring. Chester Congdon died in November of 1916 at the age of 63. Perhaps this is why the yacht was never replaced. Over the years, the boathouse has become land-locked and much of the "L" shaped pier has been eroded by the harsh waters of Lake Superior.

During the summer months, if the Congdon's were entertaining in the formal gardens and wanted music to accompany dancing on the terrace, they would hire a band or orchestra which would play from the roof of the boathouse. Japanese lanterns were hung along the paths leading down to the lake.

Are there any questions before we head up to the Main House? I will be collecting your tags in a few minutes as we go inside.

In Subway: This area is the Subway or Winter Garden and provided the family with one of two porches. During the summer months they would have had wicker furniture and plants from their greenhouses in this area. As you come in the door, to your right, you will see photographs of the rooms on the third floor as they looked around

1910. The third floor and attic are now open for tours. The tours are given daily on a reservation only basis. If you are interested in a tour check in the office after your house tour is finished. If after your house tour you would like to stop and take a closer look please feel free. As we move down the corridor the door on your right was the original entrance and exit into the basement from this area. It goes through the children's playroom which you will see on tour. So, it is possible that this area can also be thought of as an extension of the playroom, a great place for the kids to ride their bicycles and roller skate on rainy days.

At the end of the corridor: Before we go inside, I need to ask that if anyone is chewing gum or eating candy to please leave it in the waste paper basket to the right of the door as you come in. I will collect your tags as you come in the door.

(ASK THE GROUP TO STEP DOWN TOWARDS THE BOOKCASES, AROUND THE FIREPLACE AND TO HAVE A SEAT IN THE BLACK CHAIRS.)

(MAKE SURE THAT THERE IS AN ATTENDANT TO TAKE OVER AND GIVE RULES OR GIVE THEM YOURSELF.)

When the visitors are seated: Before we begin your house tour, we are going to show you a six-minute video. In this you will see a woman depicting or representing Clara Congdon writing a letter to her sister Mary in 1910. This will give you a good introduction to the family and their early life here at Glensheen.

Before I start the video, I need to go over the house rules. First, we ask that you are very careful not to touch anything in the house except for handrails and banisters between floors. We also ask that you don't take any photographs inside the Main House. You may take pictures outside and in the Carriage House. In addition, no eating, drinking, or smoking is allowed in the Main House.

Are there any questions?

Your tour guide will be with you in a few minutes.

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Glensheen
3300 London Road
Duluth, MN 55804

