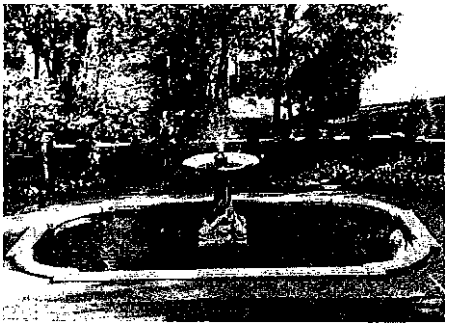
GLENSHEEN GLEANINGS

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 2 FALL 1990

NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND AT GLENSHEEN

Just when you think that there's nothing new to do at Glensheen, two new opportunities for service to Glensheen have been created. Beginning in the summer of 1990, our first group of Grounds and Gardens Tour Docents were trained to provide tours for the visiting public and we also started having Glensheen Book Inventory Registrars compiling worksheets on the books located in the Congdon Library and throughout the mansion. Both jobs fill needs that were previously unmet.



Gardens and Grounds Tours are now being offered by trained volunteer guides every day of the week, including Wednesdays. Reservations must be made 24 hours in advance of the tour date chosen. Tours normally begin at 12:00 p.m., but evening tours can be made available by special request. Historic aspects of the estate that are no longer visible (such as the four greenhouses, the Congdon yacht, and the recreational trail system) are brought to life through the use of enlarged photographs. (Eventually, these black and white photographs will be permanently mounted outdoors for the public's added enjoyment of the site.) On the tour, visitors will learn about the many types of flowers and plants that make Glensheen a horticultural showcase. Participants on these outdoor tours will also be able to learn about garden design, architecture, and English country estate planning at the turn of the century. A new class of volunteers will be trained in the spring of 1991 to assist the current group of trained guides. The 1990 "pioneer" guides for this new program are Lydia Jean Walters, Fran M. Lamberson, Carol Oleson, Marlene R. Welton, Jean Farleigh, Richarda Wakefield, Edith Pederson, Lucille Hammel, Joyce Blodgett, Marian Syrjamaki-Kuchta, Paul Matineau, and Katharine Coventry. To make visitors to the site more aware of this new guided opportunity, Glensheen plans to update the brochure to list this special Grounds and Gardens Tour availability.

One problem that we, as curators of the Glensheen Collection, have is that we know how many volumes we own, but we don't know all of the incidental knowledge that the mammoth amounts of books, magazines, and reading materials could tell us about the Congdons. This effort at registering all the books, etc., is being done to let us know specifically what titles and types of books were of interest to the Congdons, who purchased what books, what books were given to whom, etc. We know that the Congdons must have been avid readers, as witnessed by the numbers of books visible at Glensheen. In 1921, Clara Congdon spent $100.00 on newspaper and periodical subscriptions. One can well imagine how much was spent on books. Eventually the worksheets which will be compiled by volunteers will be put on computer so that we can access all types of information quickly. An example of the type of information that we will learn from the worksheets is if there are any personal notations found in any of the books. We will also be able to discover topics of interest of various family members as evidenced by their selection of books.

Many volunters are needed to complete this work. One can work on these worksheets any day that staff is present at Glensheen (including Wednesdays). Staff will provide initial training and will explain the worksheet to individual volunteers. Two qualities or skills that volunteers will need is reasonably legible handwriting and the ability to count. It would be wonderful if we could complete this book registration inventory before 1990 is ended! Volunteers who have begun this effort in registering books are Marion W. Ario, Anita Soland, Holly Palvere, Ev Frazier and Mary Raymond. A grateful thank you is extended to all our volunteers who have helped in the past and continue to help in the future. We couldn't be a success without you!

SUMMER PICNIC AND VOLUNTEER AWARDS

by Laura Davis

The volunteer recognition picnic was held on August 31st on the Glensheen grounds. Approximately 240 volunteers and their guests attended a near perfect evening that included superb weather, excellent food and special awards.

A very talented group of young people called the Accordion Ambassadors entertained for an hour. The group, under the direction of Brian Wiita, performed many numbers including accordions and brass instruments along with several vocalists.

Fried chicken, ham, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, marinated vegetables, fresh fruit, rolls, two types of cake, coffee and lemonade made up the menu served by Flo Mattson and her staff. Flo does all the catering at Glensheen be it for weddings, birthday parties, dinners or picnics.

Volunteers contributed nearly 8,000 hours in 1989 and Michael Lane, Director of Glensheen, and Dick Durst, Dean of the School of Fine Arts at UMD, thanked the volunteers for the many hours of service they provided during the past year.

Director's Corner

This column gives me an opportunity to bring you up to date on things past, present, and future. So, let me begin.

The Glensheen Advisory Committee has been reactivated and has been meeting since last spring. The Committee includes Cliff Alexander, Kirk Johnson, Theresa Neil, Maureen O'Brien, Roy Hoover, Nancy Claypool, Maripat Higgins, and Gay Lynne Leibertz (chair). The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Director about courses of action to take concerning different matters. This group represents the University, the community, and the volunteers, and provides a broad base of input.

Most of you are aware by now that Laura Davis has resigned as Volunteer Coordinator. Laura did an outstanding job and will be missed. Pat Browman has been hired to temporarily fill the Coordinator vacancy.

Next spring there will be some work done on the main house to control water seepage. Inspec, Inc., has examined the roofs of the mansion and has concluded that the main roof is structurally sound and not leaking. However, they do recommend replacement of the Breakfast Room roof and the Kitchen Porch roof.

Inspec believes that the gutters are the major source of water seepage in the mansion. They have discovered gouges, seam separations, and deterioration in all gutters. They will recommend corrective measures. Once the seepage has been eliminated, then the interior walls and ceilings can be treated. In the meantime, no work will be done on the interiors except to stabilize.

Another area being investigated is the terrace/subway. The waterproof membrane that was installed in 1983 is failing. Inspec has looked at this problem and will be providing me with information about the extent of the failure and recommended solutions. Work on this area will also be done next spring.

Finally, I want to thank the volunteers for their generous contribution of time and talent this summer. The staff appreciates your contribution towards Glensheen's continued success.

AWARDS (continued)

Special awards were presented to several volunteers for the 1989 season. This year sweatshirts with a beautiful embroidered Glensheen logo were presented to individuals having the most hours in four categories. In the docent category Tom Donahue had the most hours. Cathy Lund led the museum shop workers with her work in the shop and shop storeroom. The day captain category found 2 volunteers who had accumulated the same amount of time. These were Ev Davis and Marie Walczak. The last of the four categories was that of room docent. Another tie presented Amy Von and Mel Johnson with sweatshirts.

Glensheen mugs were also presented to the following people who had 100 or more hours in 1989.

1. Elaine Anderson
2. Tom Donahue
3. Neva Eylar
4. Ev Frazier
5. Suzie Hedman
6. Maripat Higgens
7. Marlene Johnson
8. Lois Krantz
9. Corrine Lauterbach
10. Cathy Lund
11. Vivian Schuldt
12. Ivy Scofield
13. Delores Vogel

Five volunteers came very close to the 100 hour mark and were also thanked for their may hours of contribution. Those five were:

1. Harry Davis
2. Edith Clemetson
3. Diane Kroll
4. Margaret Larson
5. Helen Youngstrand

Laura and the entire Glensheen staff are extremely grateful to all volunteers regardless of the total number they were able to put in. We especially want to thank the many dedicated volunteers who have been here since the first days of tours at Glensheen. Your continued support of Glensheen and the volunteer program is irreplaceable.

DAYS GONE BY

by Betty Ketchum

Late August at Glensheen — red geraniums in large wooden tubs grace the entrance to the Museum Shop, with a single tub at the far left. A neat touch, and new this year — Dan's idea.

Once you have your ticket and access to the estate, you should know that life outside the mansion doesn't just happen. Rather it reflects the industry and imagination of Dan McClelland, curator of historic grounds, and his loyal crew. I talked with three of them, Tim Koivisto, Mary Tennis and Phil Hammer on the second floor of the carriage house. I had the advantage, I saw the gardens, they saw me.

First in the hot seat, Tim Koivisto, who has been around 8 years and has done just about everything involved in grounds-keeping. "I started with Bob Wyness and by now pretty much know the ins and outs and ups and downs of this place." If anything breaks or gets out of kilter, they call Tim. He can fix anything so it is still the original. Take the time a visitor yanked out a drawer of that specially-built table in the middle of the kitchen, then couldn't get it back. It took Tim to do it and, as he explained, you can't drill holes in a piece over 80 years old assembled without a nail. With patience and savvy he restored it.

He pointed to the leaded-glass window where we were sitting, got up, flexed the sash cord — "this one is still good, but I've changed a lot of sash cords in the big house. The cleaning crew has to be able to lift the windows and leaded glass ones are extremely heavy. If they don't slide easily they are impossible to clean." Elaborating further on sash replacement, he explained with workman's pride that everything on the estate had been so well built. "I've found a lot of interesting items stuffed in the wall openings, old newspapers and once a whiskey label, probably stashed when hearing a boss approaching.

While still on the tack of having done "some really weird jobs", he praised Mr. Congdon for his tremendous foresight in building a reservoir for watering the grounds. Since 1908, this 60,000-gal. tank still takes care of 95 percent of Glensheen's watering needs. This water is also used for the fountain.

Tim grew up on a farm in Twig. When his dad went in the service Tim was 14, and as the eldest, became the "man of the family". The farm was self-sustaining, with cows, pigs, chickens and vegetables. He knew about motors, ran tractors and recalled with pleasure his mother's canning and meals of plenty. He first worked on campus at UMD before he tired of the broom and groundswork there.

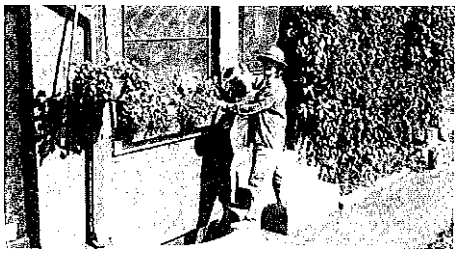
He learned of the job at Glensheen and Bob Wyness trained him in all aspects of gardening. "Since Dan has been here, we've done more restoration of the gardens. This isn't really like a job, it's more like taking care of your own back yard. You can see each day what you do and that's a real satisfaction." He thinks even the summer students who come here now are more caring. I asked about visitors who might damage bushes, swipe flowers or veggies, and he laughed, "when I see them I yell and I can yell louder than anyone on the place." He has a problem with the one who because he buys a ticket feels he can do anything he wants.

Tim mows lawns, trims hedges, spends a lot of time on the tennis court (weeds it, blows sand off it, waters it to keep the clay elastic) and adds ruefully, "then it is only used once a year for the Solon Cup (tennis tournament). We plant and harvest all vegetables and this year are starting a new compost." The screens come off at the end of summer and the storm windows are washed and attached. Come winter the summer motorized equipment is converted to snowblowing. Parking lots have to be cleared for visitors, the roads and all entrances to buildings shoveled, ice-buildups taken care of, repairs made, etc. "In short, just doing my job, that's what I get paid for."

I listened with real interest and respect. Tim is dark-haired, bearded, brown-eyed, and has a wonderful smile. He wore a red cap, a T-shirt with "Arizona — Yes, But It's A Dry Heat" across his chest and clean jeans, one knee out, the other leg well frayed. He spoke briefly about his wife and two boys, 5 and 3, his 10-year old daughter by a previous marriage, and his love for cooking. Tim's dad was Finnish, his mother Italian (which explains his Latin coloring) and a great cook. He too can cook anything, but draws the line at "green pasta".

Finally I asked him, "Tim, how would you like to have grown up at Glensheen?" He grinned, "As one of the family, I would have loved it, with gardeners and others doing the work — a rich man's life."

Mary Tennis next joined me. She has worked here four seasons, always in the gardens. She came from southern Minnesota, between Albert Lea and Austin. Soon to graduate from UMD in music and women's studies, she has a veritable passion for gardening. Actually her family owns a large dairy farm, and she learned early the joys of vegetable gardening working with her mother.



"I've a quiet nature," she told me. Explaining her choice of UMD, she said "I like the wilderness which you can get to so quickly from here." She lived in the woods outside of Duluth for several years. I started to ask something, forgot and confessed and she answered with "You're supposed to lose things like that (a thought) and hang on to the important ones." Having first enjoyed Tim, I now found myself having quite a morning.

When she was at UMD and first saw the posting for the job at Glensheen, Dan had just started and Bob Wyness still was here. Bob said they'd never hired a woman gardener in the past. Bob didn't like to see her get on the little tractor, but when she proved she could handle it, he no longer protested. "Bob was a very important person to me in nuturing my passion for gardening. And Dan has an artist's eye and has helped develop my skills in this area. I am grateful to both of them."

Mary tends the gardens in front of the house where the fountain flows, as well as those in and around the experimental gardens. At the beginning of the season Dan does most of the designing, but each year Mary has had more input in the plans. She also helps with the planting. As he turns to other concerns, she mainly watches over the flower gardens. And this year she has been doing floral arrangements for the house. The bouquets have been effective, I was told by one of the staff. She has used whatever was most timely, such as peonies, rose-colored plumes of astible, blue delphinium and white phlox.

The formal beds above the vegetables are planted first - dusty miller (a silver leaf), black-eyed Susans, day lilies and daisies. Purple and lilac spikes of lythrum and yellow achelias line the rear wall above the vegetable garden. Red salvia frames the top wall of the old rose garden which now holds four annual beds of petunias, begonias, ageratum, pansies and lobelia, all healthy and well cared for. Strolling in these gardens is a privilege.

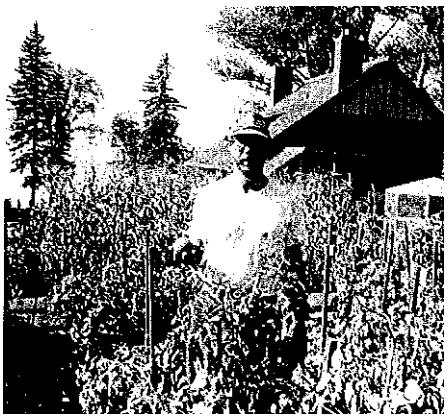
We walked to the front garden where delphinium borders are the mainstay against the walls at each end. The beds are splendid with showings of begonias, colorful bellflowers, clematis, tiger lilies, lavender hosta (which hangs like bleeding heart), dahlias, snapdragons, alyssum, soft-green silver mound, red impatiens and pink, lacy spikes of astilbe. Nothing looks crowded, but exactly right as in English formal gardens.

Two alcoves are planted with white impatiens and colorful begonias. But Dan's favorite, the west one, held a curve of larger, more exotic begonias between white impatiens and smaller white begonias. From there we watched quietly as a hummingbird touched a blossom and moved on. Mary told me that gardens provide opportunity for change and improvement each year.

Once Mary worked at the Lester Park Greenhouse, but got a little claustrophobic, preferring the great outdoors. I guessed her to be 23. She said I was dead wrong, and we went on to discuss traveling. She has made several trips around the United States - California, Arizona, Colorado, Arkansas, Texas, the Smokies and she has hiked in National Parks, again reflecting her great love for the wilderness. Mary finds gardening a perfectly logical pursuit — "yours is a solitary time as you're working."

Under her 4-yr.-old straw hat, which she bought in a sporting goods store, you discover Mary's pretty, wholesome face and dimpled chin. She thought the hat was probably for fishing but served her nicely. Did she fish? No, once as a child she caught one and then was sorry. Mary belongs to a singing group of four, performing at political events and the Women's Coffee House. She helped organize the first Take Back the Night March in Duluth, and she taught self-defense courses for women at the YWCA and in community schools. She is also an alto with the Duluth-Superior Symphony Chorus. I wondered at a music major carrying on with gardening. She said, "I don't feel disconnected. There are many similarities between the two."

Sizing her up once again in the old straw hat, the roomy light blouse, dark pants and white work shoes, I decided she had a handle on the best of two worlds. She enjoys both her work and her leisure.



I returned the following day to talk with **Phil** Hammer, who has been around Glensheen for 10 years. Also a student at UMD in biology and chemistry, Phil is a Duluth native. He went to school with Jerry Kartes, Fran's son, and knew about Glensheen as a boy, when on occasion he visited Jerry who lived in the carriage house.

In the years on the job he has done all manner of groundswork. But this is the first year he has had exclusive care of the vegetable garden. Since it takes a lot of money to be a farmer, he is grateful for the opportunity Dan has given him in this special area. These gardens have been planted in cooperation with the St. Louis County extension agent, experimenting with vegetables which will grow well in this northern clime. This spring Phil had master gardener training in Cloquet.

We left the carriage house to get a closeup of Phil's pride and joy. It is an impressive sight, with flowers outlining the paths alongside the several vegetable beds. The pathways are of grass and require hand-moving, with two wheels in the air as the mower clips at the edges. Looking about the lush experimental garden, Phil tells you it is the place he most enjoys working. "I feel it has been a real opportunity for me." As you try to take it all in your eyes are caught by bright flashes of yellow and orange, salmon, pink, rose and deep red plants bordered by white begonias. It is a tidy garden, planted with consideration and shows the effort gone into it.

He claims weeds are no big deal here, especially in the beds where straw is scattered to keep melons and squash from resting on the ground and developing dark spots. Actually melons are hot weather plants, and because Glensheen hugs the lake and is cool, melons don't do too well here. We came to the tomatoes, my favorite, and I asked him which variety he preferred. He was quick to answer, "For a non-tomato-eater (except for ketchup and spaghetti sauce), I would recommend the Celebrity." I saw also upright rows of Del Oro, New Yorker and three new varities — Town Boy, Super Bush and First Lady. Several hung with fruit of varying sizes from green to nearly ripe.

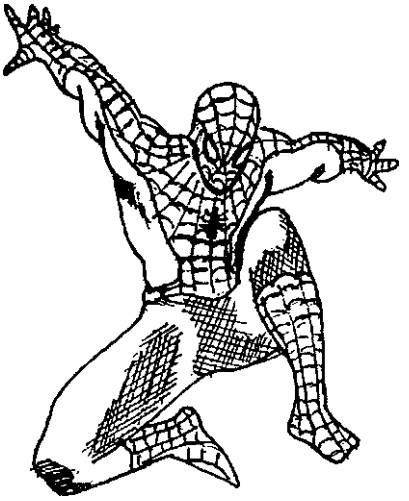
Phil said raspberries (he pointed to the healthy bushes in a lower bed) and corn are the two favorites most in demand. It is not uncommon for the visitor walking past to reach out for a berry or two. The corn is another matter. Birds usually tackle the top of the ear and then come the chipmunks. He showed me one ear that really got the business, the silk and the outer leaves had been rolled back and the corn had been nibbled clean for a couple of inches. The night before Phil carefully rolled the leaves back in place, but in the morning it was again wide open to the weather, and more corn gone. It was plain the chipmunk had come back. Just one thing even a Glensheen farmer has to put up with.

I noticed white butterflies hovering over the broccoli. Some of the flowers had turned yellow in spots and the leaves had holes in them, all the work of the "enemy", the white butterfly. In its caterpillar state, the leaves had been eaten, before turning into this pristine white beauty. Other beds held cauliflower, cabbage, green peppers. In what he called the "salad plot" I saw carrots, beets, Swiss chard and kohlrabi. Visitors often ask who eats the produce and who dispenses it. He may have been heading me off, because he said he is the keeper and decides where it goes.

Phil had told me earlier he was Swedish, Norwegian and German and that he's a pretty agreeable guy, or as he put it, "a combination of stubborn and flexible." Married? "No, I'm a free, eligible male, the most eligible bachelor on the Congdon estate." He has long had an interest in science, particularly biology and chemistry. At one point he attended Gustavus Adolphus for awhile, developed an interest in business but returned to UMD with his sights on science. Once a year he goes camping and fishing with friends on his annual 3 or 4 day trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. It is his only vacation, and since he was taking off that weekend, he had a lot of ground to cover at Glensheen before leaving. I felt I'd be doing him a favor if I took off. And I was more than complimented when he asked if I'd like a tomato. Would I!!!

Phil may describe himself as a city boy turned farmer or a cross between stubborn and flexible, somewhat shy, kind of a no-nonsense fellow, but if you kept at him he displayed a droll sense of humor, but more than that, a fine sensitivity that seems inherent to gardening. Phil made my second day pleasantly eventful.

All three had told me they had been uneasy about an interview, never had done one before. You could have fooled me. I enjoyed each of them and was flattered and floored when Phil sent me off with three tomatoes. One final thought, all three have great respect for Dan, who they say "works harder than anybody else," Glensheen weaves a kind of magic, or as Tim put it, "It isn't really like a job, it's like working in your own back yard."



Look who's been hanging around at Glensheen. Spiderman came to visit on October 10, 1990. Carol Chamberlain gave a tour of the house to Spiderman alias Peter Parker. He loved *the third floor and attic!*

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS AT GLENSHEEN

One way to get into the spirit of the upcoming holidays is to attend a Holiday Brunch at Glensheen. Beginning November 23rd, the Congdon manor house will be festively decorated for the season. The staff looks forward to welcoming all visitors to what, for many, has now become a holiday tradition. Due to the demand, the number of brunches has been increased to ten. They will be offered on November 27 and 29, as well as on December 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, and 20. The successful brunch format includes a self-guided tour of the decorated mansion, a delicious brunch (prepared by The Exchange), and musical entertainment performed by selected musical groups from the area. Reservations are required for the brunch and can be made by calling Glensheen at 218-724-8864. This year the cost to attend will be $12.50.

Christmas at Glensheen take on major proportions with the entire staff and volunteers working together to create this seasonal transformation. The overall theme for 1990 is "Christmas Fantasia". In keeping with this theme, different types of fans will be used throughout the home. Fans played an integral role in the Victorian lifestyle. They were used to decorate, cool, and transmit one's feelings. In the hands of a skillful lady, a fan could speak volumes without a word ever being uttered. At Glensheen, we will be using fans to help set a holiday mood. The decorations used at Glensheen all follow turn-of-the-century traditions. Many of these decorations and ornaments are handmade. Each year new ideas are incorporated in the decorative scheme so that different aspects and features may be highlighted, making each holiday season unique. This way, visitors to Glensheen will always be able to see something new.

In 1990, volunteers will be assisting in the decorating of Glensheen more than they have in recent years. We are delighted that two extremely talented volunteers, Joan Hinds and Jean Becker, will be in charge of the decorations being used in the Library. In keeping with this year's fantasy theme, they will be featuring handmade ornaments following Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite". Visitors will get to see sugar plum fairies, nutcrackers, soldiers, and all the marvelous characters found in this famous musical story. Joan and Jean will also be helping to decorate a yet to be chosen room where we will feature four ethnic Father Christmases. An old English, Scandinavian, Russian, and German version of what was to develop, in modern times, into the beloved figure of Santa Claus have been recreated by these talented ladies.

In lieu of having the Fifth Annual Glensheen Gingerbread House Contest, Glensheen has decided to create a gingerbread village of its own. Mary Broman and Ginny Berger will be creating a turn-of-the-century Victorian styled village out of gingerbread for Glensheen and the public. These ladies have been consistent winners in the gingerbread contests of the past sponsored by Glensheen and have shown considerable talent and creativity. Some of their previous gingerbread structures have been their interpretations of "The Night Before Christmas", "Hansel and Gretel", and their 1989 rendition of the Glensheen manor house in gingerbread.

This edible village will have all the components that any village should have such as a mill, skaters on the mill pond, a mercantile, a moving train, etc. To date, the sponsors of houses and features in the village are Minnesota Power; The Moline Company, a division of Pillsbury; Hepzibah's and The Blue Heron Trading Company. These interested companies have all joined forces with Glensheen to present this fragrant present to visitors at Glensheen during the month of December. (Glensheen will be decorated for the holidays from November 23rd through the entire month of December. However, the gingerbread village will not be on display until Saturday, December 1st).

Spread Some Love Around . . .

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program provides an opportunity for older adults, 60 years of age or older, to contribute their time, experience, knowledge and interests to others in their community. RSVP has over 70 Volunteer Stations where RSVP volunteers serve. Glensheen is one such station.

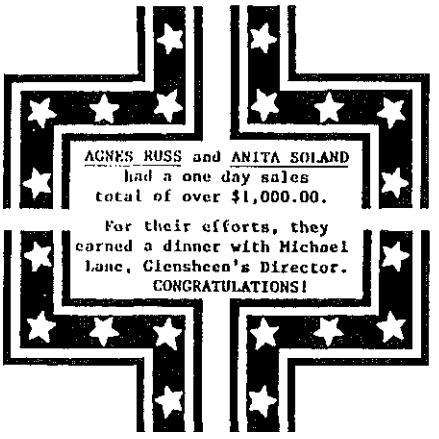
RSVP sponsored by the
St. Louis County Social Service Department
726-2156

MUSEUM SHOP HOLIDAY CHECK LIST

Tiffany's can sell you jewels for $100,000 and less. F.A.O. Schwartz can fill your toy orders for $5,000 and less. Dayton's has many suggestions for $500.00 and less. The Glass Block still carries items for $100.00 and less. "BUT", only your Glensheen Museum Shop can offer you so many unique holiday gifts for $4.00 and less. Here, we name just a few:

Glensheen pencils—$.30
Wooden thimbles—$.50
Wooden tops—$.50
Wooden racing cars—$.99
Mini wooden rolling pins—$.99
Blank note books—$1.00
Small stained glass coloring books—$1.00
Beeswax in a variety of shapes—$1.50
Small model cars—$1.50
Peter Rabbit storybooks—$1.50
"Early Days In Duluth"—$2.00
"Rose Recipes From Olden Times"—$2.95
Fully jointed stuffed bears—$3.00
Maple leaf magnets—$3.00
Matchbox holders—$4.00
Money clips—$4.00

And, don't forget, we have many additional book titles under $4.00. Plus, a wide variety of titles can be had for $14.95 and less. A 10% discount is normally yours, too. Between now and December 31st, present this coupon and receive one Glensheen Christmas poster (regularly costing $4.75) for only $2.00 plus tax. Be sure to shop with us this year! Remember, you get free parking, extra discounts during the Docent Holiday Preview (20% on everything with 25% for Glensheen Publications), and great people to help you with your shopping needs.



KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING

Fire holds an important place in man's life. Serving as a source for heat, light, and protection, fire quickly became integral to man's way of life. From earliest times, the mythologies of most peoples contained some reference to how fire was obtained or given to man. Aristotle, a Greek philosopher, believed fire to be one of the four essential elements of life. To this he added water, air, and earth. An account from Ancient Persia maintains that fire was discovered during a hero's fight with a dragon. According to this tale, one of the stones used by the warrior as a weapon missed the dragon and struck a rock. Light shone forth and humans were able to see fire for the first time. This is just one of many stories or myths which recount the obtaining of this precious and significant gift. The reference to fire in so many cultures validates the belief that fire was a valuable gift.

Because fire can be difficult to produce upon command, it became a custom in many of these early cultures to keep a public fire which was never allowed to die. The ancient Egyptians, Persians, Greeks, and Romans kept such fires burning. The Temple of Vesta in Rome was a perfect example showing how important fire was to the Romans. Vestal virgins devoted their lives to making sure that the holy fire never was allowed to die. Vesta soon became the goddess of the hearth. Each home had a shrine in her honor. It was from this association that women became associated with the hearth.

Over the years, technology modified and changed these open hearth fires into being set in a more controlled and contained area. These areas eventually became known as fireplaces. When built inside a house or home, these spaces were usually built at floor level and had reflective walls of stone, brick, or metal. They connected with a chimney flue designed to remove the smoke from the room. Early medieval feudal houses in Europe contained great halls with large, central hearths openings in the roof above to vent the smoke. Later hearths were built against a wall of a room. This wall, behind the hearth or floor of the fireplace, was protected by a fireproof shield called a fireback. Modern domestic fireplaces usually serve aesthetic purposes rather than trying to provide a main source of heat. But with the oil crisis, modern man may soon revert back to this source of warmth.

Glensheen, with its fifteen fireplaces, fits this modern picture of fireplace usage where the fireplace serves more as a focal point to the room's decor and only secondarily as a heating source.

Plan to take a trip through Glensheen and concentrate on really looking at our beautiful and unique fireplaces. As a special treat pay particular attention to the andirons and notice their individual beauty.

GLENSHEEN GLEANINGS
Glensheen
3300 London Road
Duluth, MN 55804

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT No. 67
Duluth, Minnesota