

Eastern Regional Meeting Report

by Dan Jensen

Approximately 80 early American pattern glass collectors met on Thursday, September 22 through Sunday, September 26, 2010, in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley to study and buy glass. The meeting in Harrisonburg, Virginia, was hosted by the EAPGS Eastern Region and Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates. Members of the planning committee included Beverley Evans, Jim and Ann Walters, and Dan and Carolyn Jensen. Events included a tour of the spectacular Evans' home and glass collection, a day of seminars, and a two-day auction of EAPG.

Registration began on Wednesday evening under the watchful eyes of Mary Ann Brown and Jim and Ann Walters. Mary Ann's hand-lettered name tags have become a distinctive and much admired feature of both regional and national EAGPS meetings. Program materials were presented to registered guests in a cloth tote bag, compliments of Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates, and included information about local sites and restaurants.

Following registration, members browsed the glass sales tables at the Harrisonburg Courtyard Marriott. Thanks to Jim and Ann Walters for so ably managing the sales room during the meeting. Eight dealer-members displayed an array of EAPG in the Shenandoah Room where collectors gathered to buy glass, chat with other members, and renew friendships. The hotel kitchen provided a complimentary light supper buffet on Wednesday evening and a complimentary breakfast on each morning of the meeting.

On Thursday evening, the group was invited to the restored 18th century home of Jeff and Beverley Evans for a buffet supper and a tour of their collection of 19th century flint glass displayed with their early furnishings of the Shenandoah Valley. The Evans collection of colored flint glass rivals that of the major glass museums. The elaborate buffet was donated to the event by Randy Bailey and Richard Thompson whose generosity is sincerely much appreciated and whose culinary skills are much admired.



The Walter's team that managed the "ins and outs" of the sales room.



Bill and Jo Reidenbach sample the tasty finger food during a tour of the flint glass display at the Evan's home.



Left to right: Vetriss Lamb, Kathy Piersma and Patricia Tollens discuss the pattern details of a ruby stained mug.

Following breakfast on Friday, the group gathered at Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates new auction house, in nearby Mt. Crawford, for a day of seminar presentations. Jeff Evans led off the seminar with a presentation on "Early Flint and EAPG." He used photographs of glass from his collection to show the ingenuity of early glass makers in the use of molds. Iron glass molds were expensive, and glass makers learned to use the same mold to make a variety of objects.

Lunch was served under a tent, by the Ladies of Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church, supervised by Francis Bailey giving guests a



Jeffrey Evans leads the discussion about Early Flint and EAPG.



Earl and JoAnne Autenreith share their publishing experience.



Gallery Walk, and a look at the glass in the catalogue stockroom.



Will McGuffin shares some of his trade secrets about photography.

chance to enjoy a splendid late summer day and spend some time examining glass to be sold at auction on the following two days.

After lunch, Will McGuffin discussed and illustrated techniques for “Photographing Your Glass,” then conducted a tour of the photographic studio he operates for Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates. Earl and JoAnne Autenreith followed with an engaging presentation on the Co-Operative Flint Glass Co. They used representative pieces from their extensive collection of Co-Operative Flint to show the wide variety of wares produced over the long

history of the company and described their experiences in producing their recently published book, *The Co-Operative Flint Glass Co. of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania: 1879-1934*. In the next session, Dean Six presented a photographic essay on “The Collections of the West Virginia Museum of American Glass.” He described the philosophy and operations of the museum and the wide range of glass represented in its collection. The day of seminar sessions concluded with Jeff Evans conducting a “Gallery Walk” of the glass to be sold during the next two days. Most guests remained for an exciting two-day auction of EAGP.

Special thanks are owed to Jeff and Beverley Evans for their support of the meeting and to the staff of their organization for the many kindnesses during the event. The Eastern Region hopes to return to Harrisonburg for a repeat of the meeting in conjunction with Evans’ next EAPG Auction, scheduled for September 24, 2011. In addition, the Eastern Region is planning events in conjunction with the Eastern National Antiques Show in Carlisle PA scheduled for November 19-22, 2010, and for late April or early May of 2011. Check the EAGPS website for details.