

# Important Information

**Registration:** The first step in your final registration process is the return of the enclosed **NAME BADGE FORM**. When you arrive in Asheville, check in at your place of lodging, then proceed to the Arts & Crafts Conference Registration Desk in the Sammons Wing at the G.P.I. There you will receive your conference catalog and name badge --- **provided you returned your Name Badge Form**.

**Driving Directions:** Regardless of which direction you approach Asheville, you will see signs for I-240, which forms a horseshoe around north Asheville. Get on **I-240, then take Exit 5-B**, which is also the exit for Charlotte Street. If you are staying at the nine-story Renaissance Hotel, you will see it from the exit ramp just a few blocks away in downtown Asheville. If you are staying at the G.P.I., turn north on Charlotte Street, away from downtown. Drive approximately seven blocks until you see the sign for Macon Avenue, directly across from the E. W. Grove Park. Turn right on Macon Avenue and it will lead you to the main entrance of the G.P.I., where the staff will advise you on available parking.

For your G.P.S. device, the address of the **Grove Park Inn** is **290 Macon Avenue, Asheville, NC**. **The Renaissance Hotel** is **31 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801**.

**Dining Reservations:** Over the years we have learned that the most effective way to handle lunch and dinner at the conference in the few hours we have between events is with buffets (see enclosed agenda). Complete dining information will be included in the conference catalog, but advance reservations for Friday night and Saturday night buffets are advised. No reservations are accepted for lunch. You can make dinner reservations by calling **1-800-438-5800, ext. 1010**. The dining schedule for the G.P.I. weekend is enclosed.

**Dress:** For conference events and regular dining at the Blue Ridge Dining Room, the Carolina Cafe and the Spa Cafe, 'business casual' suffices. The Inn's upscale restaurant, Horizons, requests (not requires) a jacket, but no tie, for men. Workshop participants working with stains, finishes or paint should dress appropriately.

**Weather:** Experience has proven the weather in Asheville in late February can range from balmy skies to snow and ice. Winter here in February presents a 50% chance of rain, a 40% chance of sunshine, and a 10% chance of snow or ice. Daytime highs often hover around sixty degrees, with nighttime lows in the forties - give or take ten degrees. Rest assured, the colder it gets outside, the bigger the fire will grow in the fireplace in the Great Hall. Note: Keep an eye on the Weather Channel the week before the conference.

**Parking:** As our numbers increase, the available G.P.I. parking spaces decrease. The G.P.I. offers valet parking at the front door at a charge of \$10 per day for non-guests and \$20 per day for guest overnight parking. There is no charge for self-parking in the designated outside lots. However, there is now a small charge for indoor self-parking in both the Sammons Wing (where the seminars are held) and the Vanderbilt Wing (where the shows are held). \$3 for the first 2 hours plus \$2 for each additional hour or \$10 for overnight parking.

**Room Assignments:** As you may have heard, the 510-room Grove Park Inn sells out for each February conference. The original 142 rooms in the Main Inn were all reserved last January by those of you who called the G.P.I. more than a year in advance. If you missed out on a G.P.I. room this year, the Inn begins taking room reservations for the February 22-24, 2013 Arts & Crafts Conference at **8:00 am (EST) on Jan. 1, 2011**.

*(Please See Other Side.)*

**Room Assignments (cont.)** As has been done in the past, requests for specific rooms, views and floors at the Grove Park Inn have been filled in the order in which each reservation was made. If a room, view or floor which you requested had already been assigned to someone at the time you made your reservation, we gave you the nearest available room. I check this myself to insure the rooms are assigned in the order in which everyone made their reservation. Neither the reservation department nor the front desk staff were involved with the Main Inn room assignments, nor do they have the authority to make any changes now or at check-in. Please don't ask them (or me) to move anyone out of their room to accommodate your request. I cannot do that *for you* any more than I would do that *to you*.

**Reservations for 2013:** Rooms at the G.P.I. for February 22nd-24th, 2013 can be reserved after 8:00am on January 1, 2012 by calling (800) 438-5800. Room reservations at the G.P.I. will automatically include your conference registration fee of \$150 per person. Only those persons NOT staying at the G.P.I. will need to pay their conference fee through Bruce Johnson at (828) 628-1915 or on line at **Arts-CraftsConference.com**. As always, room requests at the G.P.I. will be filled in the order in which the reservation is recorded in the G.P.I. reservation system. Beginning on April 1, information on the 2013 Conference will be at **Arts-CraftsConference.com**.

**Children and Baby-Sitters:** Young children should not be brought to the Seminars, Small Group Discussions, or to the Shows. The Antiques Show and Contemporary Craftsfirms Show are so crowded that strollers will not be permitted. For information on baby-sitting services, please call the Grove Park Inn at (800) 438-0050, ext. 7005. The G.P.I. also offers Children's Recreation Programs on Friday and Saturday for children ages 3 to 12. Advanced reservations are needed. For more information call the G.P.I. at (800) 438-0050, ext. 1046.

**Shuttle Bus** - The G.P.I. will run a free shuttle bus between the Renaissance Hotel and the G.P.I. If you are staying at the Renaissance Hotel, we recommend that you leave your car there and be dropped off at the front door of the G.P.I. More information will be waiting for you when you check-in at the Renaissance Hotel.

**Smoking Policy:** The Grove Park Inn is smoke-free, except for the outdoor terraces.

**Items for Sale:** For security reasons, participants are not allowed to bring items for sale into the Antiques Show. You can have an item in your car or room, but since both the G.P.I. and the Antiques Show will be filled with antiques (and security guards), walking around the show with an item without a sales receipt would cause problems. Instead, we recommend that you have high-quality photographs, which you can show to anyone you wish, then make special arrangements for them to see the item far, far away from the Antiques Show.

**Airport Transportation:** The Asheville Airport is approximately 25 miles from the Grove Park Inn, the Renaissance Hotel and the nearby bed and breakfast inns. Taxi cabs and rental cars are available at the airport. Rental cars are not necessary unless you plan to do some sight-seeing in the area during your stay. **Reservations for the Accents on Asheville shuttle bus from the airport to the Renaissance Hotel and G.P.I. are recommended. A form is enclosed.**

**Spa** - For information and reservations at the Grove Park Inn's award-winning spa, please call 1-800-438-5800. To see photographs and learn more about the spa and the hotel, go to **www.GroveParkInn.com**