

Come Early For The 2020 ACGA Pre-Convention Tour



We are four months away from our 2020 ACGA National Convention in Rockwall, Texas, and things could not be going better! We have seven outstanding speakers and eight, possibly nine, dealers, a couple of which you haven't seen since Corning!

This article deals with our **Tuesday, July 14** pre-convention tour where we will be making two stops. The cost for the full day tour will be \$55 which includes \$30 for admissions. We are trying a new approach by using 17 person vans instead of a charter bus.

The first stop is a visit to the **George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum** on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas. This museum features a compelling exhibition that uses artifacts, documents, audio visual, and interactive components to capture the key decisions and events of the Presidency of George W. Bush. The exhibition exams the September 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center and the response of the President and the Country in the aftermath. You will see a precise replica of the Oval Office, beams from the World Trade Center twisted from the events of 9/11, and the White House Rose Garden. The Presidential Library is technically not so much a library but a collection of artifacts and treasures given to the people of the United States during the Bush administration. This will be a two hour self-guided audio tour through the Museum. You can learn more at the website bushcenter.org.

We will next break for lunch (at your expense) at Café 43 located on the premises of the Museum.

Our second and final stop will be five miles down the road at **the Ross Perot Nature and Science Museum**. There are five floors that house eleven permanent exhibit halls where adults and children can exercise their brains through hands-on activities, interactive kiosks, and educational games. Carol and I were specifically impressed with the "T. Boone Pickens Life Then and Now Hall" where you see life-size towering dinosaurs greeting you as you enter the hall! We were amazed at how many bones were discovered in the North Texas area! There's even an eight foot turtle suspended from the ceiling that was found in the City of Rockwall!

Your eyes will be amazed in the "Gems and Minerals Hall" where you will see a 5-foot giant geode and discover the beauty hidden inside an ordinary looking rock. You will see a dazzling array of gems and minerals found deep inside the earth with hands on displays.

The "Being Human Hall" will transport you through your DNA and the human journey as you explore the traits and abilities that are essential to being human. The eight other halls allow visitors to experience hands-on exhibits and interactive displays that better explain the world around us. We will plan on staying around an hour and a half at the Perot Museum. Please feel free to learn more at the website at perotmuseum.org.

We feel these are two outstanding attractions in the DFW Metroplex, and we look forward to showing you some of our City. We hope this gives you the necessary information to decide whether to join us on this pre-convention tour on Tuesday, July 14. You will be able to sign up for both the convention and the tour via the cutglass.org link through Eventbee.com or via the mass mailing in April. Hotel reservations can be made now at

The HiltonLink is <http://group.hilton.com/fAmericanCutGlass>

The telephone number to call is 1-866-235-1108 and ask for the group rate with the group code of **ACG**.

Tom and Carol McWhirter, Convention Chairs
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