

JASNA Indianapolis, Indiana Region Newsletter

Spring 2012

Volume 1, Issue 1

“How Rich Was Mr. Darcy?”



Dr. Sheryl Craig

The Indianapolis Region, in coordination with the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, staged a special event at the beautiful new central library location in downtown Indianapolis on Sunday, April 15th. Dr. Sheryl Craig, from Central Missouri University, is an Austen scholar who is a frequent speaker at Austen-related events throughout the United

States, Canada, and the British Isles. She was the 2008 International Scholar for JASNA, and will be traveling to Scotland this summer for a presentation. She will be presenting on a similar topic in October at the 2012 AGM in Brooklyn, NY.

Dr. Craig's lecture was entitled, "Above Vulgar Money: Economy in Jane Austen." The presentation was so successful that the question/answer session following went on at great length. There was much discussed for the fascinated audience to think about when they re-read each of Austen's novels.

Several of the attendees

traveled to the far north side where a reception following the lecture was held at the home of RC Sue Landaw and her husband, Dr. David Landaw. There, the discussion of all things Austen continued over wine, cheese, and other refreshments including the world's most delicious cookies contributed by member Jo Mader.

It was a great event, and we owe a great debt of gratitude to Dr. Craig for her willingness to travel so far, to speak for no fee, and to allow so many of us to pick her brain about Austen.

The event was funded by a generous grant from JASNA.



Sue Landaw, Suzanne Skoogund, Dr. Sheryl Craig



Omar Martin, Jo Mader, Dr. Sheryl Craig, Dr. Debbie Corpus

Sex and Love in Austen Makes for a Hot Topic

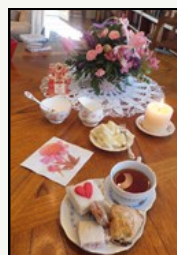
On Sunday, February, 12th, the Indianapolis Region met at the home of Sue Landaw, one week after she fell off a kitchen stool and broke her ankle (see picture below). The



weather cooperated and everyone was able to drive to the meeting without the worry of snow or ice.

Mary Miller led the discussion — the first of three related to the theme of the 2012 AGM, "Sex, Money, and Power in Jane Austen." It was a wonderful discussion on sex — and love — in Austen. Mary did a great job with well-prepared questions and conversation starters,

and left us looking forward to the April event featuring Dr. Sheryl Craig's lecture, "Above Vulgar Money: Economy in Jane Austen," and to the August event featuring discussion leader Amanda Yaggi on power in Austen.



We enjoyed tea, scones, teacakes,

finger sandwiches, and fruit throughout the afternoon and got acquainted with some first-time attendees. Thanks to all who made this a special meeting.



Mary Miller leads a lively discussion.



From the RC

Happy Spring, everyone—whenever that is. We have had

trouble figuring out when spring is this year. Late February? March? Hard freezes in April? We did get to enjoy flowering trees, daffodils, tulips, fabulous lilacs before the recent cold snap. I’m wondering what my perennials will look like when the warm weather actually settles in.

In the spring of 1801 (just before the Austens’ moved to Bath), there was a notice in the *Reading Mercury* of an upcoming sale of “Valuable effects at Steventon Parsonage.” Wouldn’t you love to have gone to that to grab an artifact or two? Some letters of Jane Austen written in springtime reveal snippets of her life in that season—walking the crescent in Bath in 1805 and in London’s Kensington Gardens in 1811; experiencing loss—Mrs. Lloyd in 1805 (after which Martha

Lloyd moved in with Jane, Cassandra, and Mrs. Austen), Eliza de Feuillide, her cousin and sister-in-law, in 1813; her own declining health in 1817. She writes to her brother Charles, “I live upstairs however for the present and am coddled.” She wrote her will on April 27 of 1817. In 1811, she was in London where she saw Moliere’s *Tartuffe* at the Lyceum Theatre and shopped for silk stockings and “Bugle Trimming” (whatever that is).

Spring is a busy time, but a happy time. Are you finding time to read? If so, what? The plethora of Austen-related publications continues to roll off the presses, and I, for one, cannot keep up—with the buying or the reading. So...we need to share our reading experiences. Hence, this call for you to write a brief—very brief—blurb to be included on our upcoming revamped website (thanks to Joan Walker at IU) or in our newly revamped newsletter (thanks to Sara Appel at PU).

This and That

Would you like to be a part of our Facebook group so that you can see postings, comments, and/or offer your own insights about all things Austen? If so, just “friend me” on Facebook and ask to become part of the JASNA — Indiana group. We have had some interesting exchanges already, and it’s a great way to see what other are discovering. Send me those book blurbs anytime. I will put them on the web-

site; you can put them on the Facebook group. I know some of you are reading sequels, spin-offs, and nonfiction related to JA. If you have read an Austen-related book recently and would like to pen a very brief review, or if you come across Austen or Regency Period related news items or trivia, I would love to include it/them. Don’t be shy! Send to jslandaw@gmail.com or share on the Facebook group.

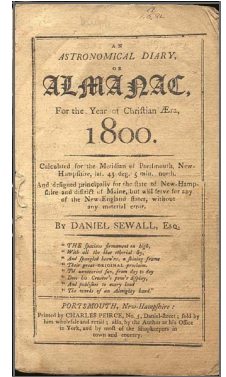
Further on in this newsletter, look for information about a possible Austen manuscript newly discovered, discussion of her portraits and several other tidbits, as well as an update on our fund-raising efforts for the New York AGM in October.

~Sue Landaw,
Indianapolis RC

“I LIVE UPSTAIRS
HOWEVER FOR THE
PRESENT AND AM
CODDLED.”
~ JANE AUSTEN

Upcoming Events for 2012 and 2013

The program committee has come up with some exciting events for the next two years. Because the theme of the



2012 AGM is “Sex, Money, and Power in Jane Austen,” we have focused three of our meetings on those three topics, beginning in February, when Mary Miller led a discussion of love and sex in the works of Austen. This was followed in April with Dr. Sheryl Craig of the national organization coming to town to give her talk on “Vulgar Economy.” In June, we will meet at the home of Mary Earle and have a hands on workshop in Regency crafts, including bonnet-making. In August, IU scholar Miranda Yaggi will discuss the power struggle in Austen and we will have our wild and crazy annual live auction at the home of Sondra Bowers.

2013 will be an exciting year because we will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of the publication of *Pride and Prejudice*, and will be discussing that favorite novel. We will visit a lavender farm and have a picnic at Mallow Run Winery, have a wonderful Regency fashion show and tea to celebrate the 238th birthday of Jane Austen.



Keeping Up with Austen News via Kerry

Are any of you receiving Kerry's clippings? She is a member of the New York Region and has been active in JASNA for many years. I remember meeting her for the first time in the workout room at the hotel at the Colorado Springs AGM in 1999. She sends out Austen related news clippings. I don't know how she finds out about all these newsy tidbits, but it is really interesting and very informative. Below is just a sampling of some of her finds and notifications. Her email address is kspen-nic@ix.netcom.com.

A Man, A Woman, Just Friends? By William Deresiewicz (NYT)

<http://ricochet.com/main-feed/The-Jane-Austen-Guide-to-Happily-Ever-After>

<http://www.punditandpundette.com/2012/04/jane-austen-guide-to-happily-ever-after.html>

<http://news.morningstar.com/all/acquire-news/>

[ff80808136774491013678ef94325d50/jane-austen-the-case-for-good-old-fashioned-love.aspx](http://www.cisionwire.com/regnery-publishing/r/jane-austen--the-case-for-good-old-fashioned-love.c9242984)

[http://www.cisionwire.com/regnery-publishing/r/jane-austen--the-case-for-good-old-fashioned-love.c9242984](http://www.janeaugen.co.uk/new-jane-austen-portrait/)

[http://www.janeaugen.co.uk/new-jane-austen-portrait/](http://www.sheboyganpress.com/article/20120407/SHE04/204070325/Jane-Austen-expert-speaker-Mead-Library-Friends-annual-meeting?odyssey=mod%)

<http://www.sheboyganpress.com/article/20120407/SHE04/204070325/Jane-Austen-expert-speaker-Mead-Library-Friends-annual-meeting?odyssey=mod%>



[7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE%7Cp](http://www.tor.com/blogs/2012/04/sword-and-sensibility-conan-creator-robert-e-howards-lesser-known-collaboration)

<http://www.tor.com/blogs/2012/04/sword-and-sensibility-conan-creator-robert-e-howards-lesser-known-collaboration>

http://www.dnaindia.com/lifestyle/report_are-you-game-for-darcy_1671761

<http://www.star-gram.com/2012/03/27/3838810/production-of-emma-clued-into.html#tv>

<http://en.paperblog.com/jackie-herring-the-jane-austen-festival-in-bath-interview-170835/>

<http://lubbockonline.com/local-news/2012-03-31/lubbockites-step-back-time-english-country-dance>

"MY IDEA OF GOOD COMPANY IS THE COMPANY OF CLEVER, WELL-INFORMED PEOPLE WHO HAVE HAD A GREAT DEAL OF CONVERSATION; THAT IS WHAT I CALL GOOD COMPANY."

~JANE AUSTEN

Check out our website at:
<http://sites.google.com/site/jasnairsite/>



Fundraising Sweatshop



On March 25th, Mary Miller hosted our very first "sweatshop" where seven dedicated people worked in harmony (and from what I hear, hilarity) to produce 285 lavender sachets under the direction

of Jo Mader. We will be holding more sweatshops in the future in order to get our "goods" ready for shipment to NYC for sale at the AGM. Our items include the lavender sachets, beaded bookmarks, temporary tattoos, and possibly refrigerator magnets with some Austen text. A few of us are working on a prototype of a small calico print apron with Austen text or picture on the ruffled pocket. This variety of goods is going to be a test market. We will have to see what

will sell and what will not. It always depends on the crowd, on other competing regions, and, of course, the economy. It will be a learning experience,



Jo Mader directing the construction of sachets at the March 25th sweatshop



Barbara Parker-Davis and Maura Hutchinson get acquainted while Ann Alexander and Erin Webster concentrate.

Program for 2012 and 2013

The Program committee met on October 23rd and drafted a schedule of events for the next two years. Plans are being firmed up at this point for some events and may change somewhat, but here is what we have thus far.

2012

February 12

Love and Sex in Jane Austen's Life and Works
Home of Sue Landaw

April 15

Above Vulgar Money: Economy in Jane Austen
Visiting Lecturer Dr. Sheryl Craig
Central Library

June 24

Bonnet-making and Crafts
Home of Mary Earle

August 12

Politics and Power in the World and Works of Jane Austen
Auction
Home of Sondra Bowers

October 5-7

"Sex, Money, and Power in Jane Austen's Fiction"
AGM — Brooklyn, NY

December 8

Jane Austen Birthday Tea
Columbia Club

2013

February 10

Celebration of Tea
Auction
Venue TBD

April 14

Pride and Prejudice 200th Anniversary Celebration
Garfield Park

June 22

Lavender Farm
Mallow Run Winery Picnic and Wine Tasting

August 11

Fashion Show and Tea
Venue TBD

October 4-6

"Pride and Prejudice after 200 Years"
AGM — Minneapolis, MN

December 14

Jane Austen Birthday Tea
Columbia Club?

JASNA Membership

Our list of national JASNA members continues to grow. We are now at thirty-six; however some of these Indiana addresses are closer to the Chicago or Louisville chapters, but are on our list geographically. Hurray for Indiana! For those of you who have not joined JASNA (national organization), please consider it. The benefits are many. Besides issues of Persuasion, the membership entitles you to attend regional meetings anywhere. Also, according to national guidelines, one must belong to national to continue to attend regional meetings. Go to <http://www.jasna.org> for more information and an application.



Join our Facebook Group! JASNA — Indiana and keep up with Austen chat, news, and announcements.

