

Jane Austen Society of North America
Indianapolis Region

SAVE THE DATE!
Mark Your Calendars: Jane Austen Birthday Tea
December 14, Columbia Club

Join our Facebook Group-- "jasna—indiana"

"Like" JASNA's Facebook fan page-- <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jane-Austen-Society-of-North-America/285332054855712>

Check out our web page-- <http://sites.google.com/site/jasnairsite>

JASNA DUES RENEWAL-- In a nutshell, the JASNA membership year begins September 1 and ends August 31. Members joining between July 1 and August 31 receive the summer issue of *JASNA News* and are otherwise enrolled for the following year. Members who do not renew their JASNA membership by October 31 will be lapsed. Membership and renewal may be done online (jasna.org). PayPal is an option available for payment, also.

Indianapolis Region—We now have 44 JASNA members! Well done!

FROM THE RC

I have just returned from the 2013 AGM where the historical twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul made a wonderfully friendly and inviting setting, even providing ideal weather, a nearby open market, a fabulous Elvis impersonator, local Caribou coffee and Nut Goodie bars, and my very favorite—Brits Pub, which served the best fish and chips ever!

There, in this terrific setting, Fran Willis, Sondra Bowers, and I experienced the 200th anniversary celebration of the publication of *Pride and Prejudice*. Fran represented Indiana beautifully in the style show, and her Regency apparel (a different outfit each day) was truly spectacular, and the style and workmanship were remarked on by many of the attendees from all over the US and Canada, as well as countries from all over the world. We owe to her charming husband a huge thank you for watching our emporium table at "Meryton Market" so that the three of us could attend plenary and breakout sessions. We took in around \$700 in sales of lavender sachets, tattoos, and aprons.

The speakers were fabulous--thought-provoking, outstanding and insightful—and gave us much to think about as we continue to re-read the novel. John Mullan was

a hit with his “Speechless in Pride and Prejudice” presentation during which he discussed humorously those characters who never speak directly. (Do you know which two characters never utter a word?) Janine Barchas told us about names of actual people and places alluded to by Jane Austen, and the wonderful Joan Ray surprised us with her topic, “Do Elizabeth and Darcy Really Improve upon Acquaintance?” One of the most unusual presentations was from JASNA secretary James Nagle, a Seattle attorney and retired career Army officer, who used Downtown Abbey as well as Pride and Prejudice to discuss “The Law of Inheritance in Jane Austen’s Time.” It does not sound as though it would be light-hearted topic, but we were highly amused, to put it mildly.

On a more serious note, we, as a growing region, have some pressing business to attend to in the near future. As a board member of JASNA (I was re-elected to a second term and am one of three at-large board members from the US and Canada), and as a regional coordinator, I attended two long, but as always very informative meetings. As in past AGMs, I leave feeling the responsibility to strengthen our own region and bring it up to JASNA standards and expectations. This will necessitate electing or appointing officers with specific duties and assignments, as well as enforcing membership policies, mainly requiring that those interested in participating in activities of our region join JASNA and maintain that membership in order to continue to attend events. Effective immediately we are going to do away with region dues of \$10 a year and will instead encourage voluntary donations. Our revenue will continue to be enhanced by our fund-raising activities and occasional charges to offset costs for special events.

“JASNA Region members must be members of JASNA.” This is a direct quote from the JASNA handbook, but our region has previously allowed those non-members who may be interested in joining JASNA to attend one or two meetings before requiring membership. However, most people do not realize the advantages of membership in JASNA which are...

- A subscription to the society's newsletter, JASNA News, published three times a year, which contains book reviews, news from JASNA regions, feature articles, and more
- A copy of Persuasions, JASNA's annual journal and a preeminent source for Austen studies, contains essays from the Annual General Meeting as well as articles written by members on Jane Austen, her family, her art, or her times. (Persuasions: Online is available to the public on JASNA's web site. It is updated periodically and contains unique articles not found in the printed journal.)
- The opportunity to join in the activities of one or more of JASNA's regional groups in the United States and Canada
- An invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM), a three--- - day, Austen--- - themed conference held each fall in a different North American city, featuring speakers, entertainment, banquet, and Regency ball
- Participation in members--- - only tours to England, organized and led by professionals with special access to Austen sites.

Upcoming AGMs

2014—Montreal “Mansfield Park—Contexts, Conventions, Controversies”

2015—Louisville “Living in Jane Austen’s World”

2016—Washington, D.C. “Emma at 200: No One But Herself”

2017—Los Angeles “tba”



Sue Landaw at the Emporium table at the Minneapolis AGM



Fran Willis on the runway at the AGM style show.

FILM SCREENING

Several in the area attended a special screening of *Austenland* on September 9 at Keystone Arts Theatre. Most were merely curious and—having read the dreadful reviews--were not expecting an Oscar-worthy film. What a pleasant surprise we had when this film turned out to be quite entertaining and quirky. The general reaction was that it is refreshing to laugh at ourselves and our obsession with all things Austen and was a morning well spent.

AUGUST MEETING

Sue Landaw concluded our 200th anniversary review of *Pride and Prejudice* with a discussion on the continued popularity of the novel. We had a new visitor in attendance— Kenesha Smith who is a young teacher from Jamaica. Our annual live auction conducted by Jo Mader raised over \$350.



Jo conducting the live auction at Mystic Bay clubhouse

This and That

Consider becoming more involved in JASNA—IR! Needed: Publicity Chair, Website manager, Newsletter publisher, Program Committee Chair, and more. Interested? Contact Sue Landaw, jslandaw@gmail.com.

Send me those book blurbs anytime. I will put them on the website; 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.

The Web Site (a project looking for a leader)

It continues to be a work in progress, but it is, at last and at least, a start. I need to establish a new domain name, work on making it an online community or at least a link to one, and expanding the information on some of the links—mainly Regency Period and Biography. Here is a list of the links thus far: AGMs, Announcements, Austen Reading List, Biography, Book Reviews, Fund Raising, Games and Puzzles, Images, Membership, Regency Period, Tea Rooms, Trivia, Upcoming Events). If you forget the web address, it can be retrieved if you use "JASNA Indianapolis Region" as your search term on your web browser.

2014

Feb. 16—Talk by Butler U professor on Regency drama, specifically Lovers’
Vows from Mansfield Park--Butler University, 2 pm

April 27—Discussion of Mansfield Park—controversies, conventions, context—
Landaw home, 2 pm

June 21—Garden, landscaping tour, lecture at IMA, time tba

July—Louisville Festival

August 17—Fund-raising auction; talk by Jo Mader on British navy, specifically
William Price and Austen brothers--Bowers home, 2 pm

September 13--Saturday—Crafts workshop, specifically quilting—Irvington Library,
2 pm

October 10—12—AGM Montreal—“Contexts, Conventions, Controversies in
Mansfield Park”

December (date and venue tba)—Birthday Tea with vocal concert by Lisa Whitaker,
2 pm

2015

Feb 15—Letters of Jane Austen (Deidre leFaye edition recommended)—Landaw
home, 2 pm

April 19—Jo Mader presentation on Historical background of Regency Period and
formal tea--Skooglund home, 2 pm

June 13--Saturday—Special event on Regency health and medicine—Indiana
Medical History Museum, time tba

July—Louisville Festival or Crafts workshop

August 16—fund-raising auction and Georgette Heyer book discussion. Bowers
Home, 2 pm

September 12--Saturday—Crafts workshop—Glendale Library, 2 pm

December (date and venue tba)—Birthday Tea with harpist and speaker on Regency composers,
2 pm

If anyone ever asks....

***There are about 4500 members of JASNA in Canada and the US and there are 69 regions.**

***The membership year runs from Sept 1 to Aug 31, same as the JASNA fiscal year.**

***Members who attend region meetings should be members of JASNA**

***The bi-centenary of the publication of Mansfield Park will be the theme of the 2014 year**

Local region officers

Landaw, Sue	251-8284	Regional Coordinator	jlandaw@gmail.com
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Bowers, Sondra	844-5644	Treasurer	scbowers@sbcglobal.net