Jane Austen Society of North America
Southwest
July 2015 Newsletter

A first edition of the first volume of Jane Austen's Emma
at The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Photo by Lance Hayashida/Caltech.

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Getting to Know Jane Austen

Caltech students visiting The Huntington were able to view The
The Huntington acquired the Leigh Family Papers--unpublished letters and manuscripts from Jane Austen's mother's family--in January 2015. They have been fully digitized and may be viewed at the Huntington Digital Library.

Caltech undergraduates studying the novels of Jane Austen had a rare and compelling opportunity to gain a better understanding of the historical context in which she wrote during a visit to neighboring institute The Huntington in Pasadena in May. Their English professor, Kevin Gilmartin--recipient of the 2015 Richard Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching at Caltech--has collaborated for a decade with Alan Jutzi, the Huntington's Avery Chief Curator of Rare Books. Read the full story on their partnership and what the students saw during their visit. The article was originally published on Verso, The Huntington's blog on June 16. Photos and coverage courtesy The Huntington.

Save the Date:
**JASNA-SW Fall Meeting**

**September 26**
Chapman University
Orange, CA

2015 marks the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo and the Duchess of Richmond's Ball held in Brussels on the eve of the battle. During the ball, Wellington received the unwelcome news that

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Chloë Sevigny and Kate Beckinsale star in director/writer Whit Stillman's upcoming film adaptation of *Lady Susan*, to be titled *Love and Friendship*. Mirror of the Graces or The English Lady's Costume by a Lady of Distinction, 1813, part of The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens holdings. Photo by Kate Lain.

On July 19, celebrate the 20th anniversary of the release of *Clueless*, a modern adaptation of Jane Austen's *Emma*. Check out *Vanity Fair*'s definitive oral history of the '90s classic.
Napoleon and his forces were much closer than expected and warfare was imminent. "Napoleon has humbugged me, by God; he has gained twenty-four hours' march on me," Wellington said. All night, his officers gradually withdrew from the ball to prepare to fight, many of them would not be seen alive again. This dramatic change from civilized merriment to brutal battle has caught the imaginations of authors ever since, making the ball one of the most famous in history.

At our Fall Meeting, Peter Graham will give us an illustrated lecture on the ball and its literary representations, most famously in Byron's *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* and Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*. Fritz Bronner from the War Horse and Militaria Heritage Foundation will share his experience as part of the bicentennial re-enactments in Waterloo in June 2015.

Plan now to join us at Chapman University in Orange for a stirring reminder that "upon a night so sweet, such awful more could rise."

**Registration opens in August.**

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**Save the Date:**

**JASNA-SW Winter Meeting**

December 5
Location TBD
Theme: Reading in the Time of Jane Austen
More information coming soon!

Jane Austen Society of North America
Annual General Meeting

Registration is now open! Register early, as space is limited. Early registration discount available until July 20.

Remember, you must be a JASNA member in good standing (not just a JASNA-SW member) to attend. But joining is easy. You can even complete/renew your membership through the online registration page.

Reading Groups
Upcoming Meetings/Info
Saturday, July 11, 1:30 p.m.

**Long Beach Reading Group**

*The Vicar of Wakefield* by Oliver Goldsmith

For more information, email [Gerda Kilgore](mailto:GerdaKilgore) or call her at 562-496-4452.

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Sunday, July 19, 2-4 p.m.

**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**

*Delta Wedding* by Eudora Welty

Host: Brittany Gash

Discussion leader: Wendy Weiss

For more information, email [Cheryl Cole](mailto:CherylCole) or call her at 310-422-5475.

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Sunday, July 19, 12:30 p.m.

**Orange County Reading Group**

*Jane Austen's First Love* by Syrie James

Discussion leader: Phil Healy

For more information, email [Annmarie Thomas](mailto:AnnmarieThomas) or call her at 949-487-7028.

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Saturday, July 25, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

**San Gabriel Valley Reading Group**

*Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen

For more information, email [Kelly Duir](mailto:KellyDuir) or call her at 909-967-6630.

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Sunday, August 16, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

**West Los Angeles Reading Group**

*Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen

Discussion leader: Dr. Charles Lynn Batten

This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may email [Clara Browda](mailto:ClaraBrowda) or call her at 310-278-8759 for more information on upcoming meetings.

*A second Westside Reading Group is in the process of being formed. If you are interested in becoming a charter member, email JASNA-SW President [Cheryl Cole](mailto:CherylCole) or call her at 310-422-5475.*

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Sunday, August 23

**Santa Monica Reading Group**

*Vanessa and Her Sister* by Priya Parmar

For more information, email [Diana Birchall](mailto:DianaBirchall) or call her at 310-394-2196.

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Sunday, September 20, 12:30 p.m.

**Orange County Reading Group**
Jane Austen's Juvenilia: Miscellaneous Scraps
For more information, email Annmarie Thomas or call her at 949-487-7028.

Sunday, September 20, 2-4 p.m.
San Fernando Valley Reading Group
The Real Jane Austen: A Life in Small Things by Paula Byrne
Host: Carla Washburn
Discussion leader: Ellen Lowe
For more information, email Cheryl Cole or call her at 310-422-5475.

Sunday, November 8, 2-4 p.m.
San Fernando Valley Reading Group
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See
Host: Terry Ryan
Discussion leader: Brittany Gash
For more information, email Cheryl Cole or call her at 310-422-5475.

Sunday, November 15, 12:30 p.m.
Orange County Reading Group
The Castle of Otranto by Horace Walpole
For more information, email Annmarie Thomas or call her at 949-487-7028.

Sunday, January 17, 12:30 p.m.
Orange County Reading Group
Emma by Jane Austen
For more information, email Annmarie Thomas or call her at 949-487-7028.

Additional Reading Groups
Pasadena Area Reading Group
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may email Susan Ridgeway or call her at 626-357-1397 for information on upcoming meetings.
The San Gabriel Valley Reading Group is accepting members. Email Kelly Duir or call her at 909-967-6630.

Riverside County Reading Group
Meetings are held at the Temecula Public Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula, in Community Room B. For more information, email Rebecca Weersing or call her at 951-595-7046.
South Bay Reading Group
A new group is in the process of being formed. If you are interested, email JASNA-SW President Cheryl Cole or call her at 310-422-5475.

Ventura Reading Group
The group usually meets on the third Saturday of every month at 11:30 a.m. in the E.P. Foster Library, 651 E. Main Street, Ventura, California 93001, 805-648-2715.

San Diego Reading Group
Although San Diego is a separate JASNA region, many JASNA-Southwest members are interested in San Diego JASNA events and vice versa. For information on upcoming San Diego JASNA meetings, email Jeanne Talbot or call her at 808-342-0666.

Join us on Facebook
Are you on Facebook? So is JASNA-SW! Stay connected in between our meetings and e-newsletter updates, share your Austen-related stories, favorites, travel, and more with fellow Janeites!