



# 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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**Jane Austen in  
the News!**

## 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The Huntington acquired the Leigh Family Papers-- unpublished letters and manuscripts from Jane Austen's mother's family--in January 2015.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](#).



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.



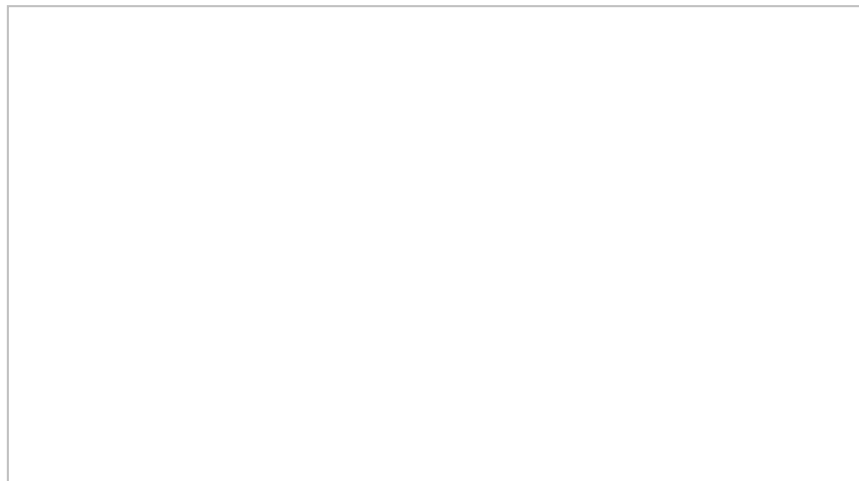
Chloë Sevigny and Kate Beckinsale star in director/writer Whit Stillman's upcoming film adaptation of *Lady Susan*, to be titled *Love and Friendship*

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.

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

and expected for  
release in 2016.

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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.**

## **Save the Date: JASNA-SW Winter Meeting**

December 5

Location TBD

Theme: Reading in the Time of Jane Austen



*The Circulating Library in Scarborough circa 1818*

More information coming soon!

## Jane Austen Society of North America Annual General Meeting



JASNA 2015 AGM ~ LOUISVILLE, KY

[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](#) or call her at 562-496-4452.

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](#) or call her at 310-422-5475.

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](#) or call her at 949-487-7028.

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

MSAG Meeting Room, Claremont

**San Gabriel Valley Reading Group**

*Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen

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

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](#) 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](#) or call her at 310-422-5475.*

Sunday, August 23

**Santa Monica Reading Group**

*Vanessa and Her Sister* by Priya Parmar

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

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!

