For those of you registered for our Winter Meeting, "Taking Jane Austen to School," we look forward to seeing you tomorrow!

**Schedule**

Coffee and Emporium

Business meeting and election of officers

Regulus Allen of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on *From Hampshire to Hollywood: On Teaching Jane Austen* (presentation and
Lunch buffet

Claremont School of Theology graduate student Beth Parker on *WWJD: Who Would Jane Date?* (presentation and Q&A)

The Battle of Prague

Don't forget to bring any items you wish to donate for our White Elephant Sale.

**Board Nominees**

President and Regional Coordinator: Susie Wampler
Event Planner: Glenda Pinney
Festival of Books Manager: Emily Bergman
Book Sales Manager/Archivist: Nancy Gallagher
Meeting Promotion/Membership Assistant: Brittany Gash
Membership/Membership Concierge: Carol Krause
Press Liaison: Erika Kotite
Program Planners: Jan Fahey and Lynda Hall
Secretary: Jaye Scholl Bohlen
Treasurer/Membership Concierge: Sonya Samuels
Assistant Treasurer: Priscilla Diamond
Parliamentarian: Terry Ryan
Past Regional Coordinator: Cheryl Cole
Board Members: Jane Boltz, Nancy Ramsey and Annmarie Thomas
Board Advisors: Claire Bellanti, Diana Birchall and Carla Washburn
Ensemble Theatre Company is presenting Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley, created by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon, directed by Andrew Barnicle. The production runs through December 17.

Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley follows the Pride and Prejudice characters as they gather at Pemberley in the early 19th century. Mary Bennet has grown tired of her role as the innocent sister in the face of her siblings' whirlwind romances. An unexpected holiday guest sparks her hopes for romance.

The cast includes Erin Barnes (Jane), Paul Culos (Arthur), Donnla Hughes (Mary), Samantha Eggers (Anne), Caroline Innerbichler (Lydia), Matthew Koenig (Bingley), Christian Pedersen (Darcy) and Paige Lindsay White (Lizzy).

Find out more at the Ensemble Theatre Company website.

2018 JASNA Essay Writing Contest

JASNA conducts an annual student Essay Contest to foster the study and appreciation of Jane Austen's work. Several hundred students compete for scholarship awards each year.

The contest is open to students worldwide in three divisions:
High School: students and home-schooled students enrolled at the high school level during the contest year
College/University: students enrolled in at least six credit hours of course work at a junior college, college or university during the contest year
Graduate School: students enrolled during the contest year in at least three credit hours of graduate course work at a college or university leading to an advanced degree

Membership in JASNA is not required to enter the contest.

Jane Austen's *Persuasion* was first published in 1818 and, to commemorate its 200th anniversary, JASNA invites essays that address the following:

The trio of faith, hope and charity all feature in Jane Austen's novel *Persuasion*. Discuss how possessing or lacking these qualities affects a character's behavior and drives the plot. You may focus on one quality or examine the interplay of two or all three. You may include more than one character in your discussion.

Deadline for submissions is May 20, 2018.

JASNA awards scholarships to winners in each of the three divisions:

First place: $1,000 scholarship and free registration and two nights' lodging for JASNA's Annual General Meeting (transportation is not included)

Second place: $500 scholarship

Third place: $250 scholarship

Winners and their mentors each receive a one-year JASNA membership. In addition, each winner receives a set of Norton critical editions of Jane Austen's novels. The winning essays are published on the JASNA website.

Visit the [JASNA Essay Contest](#) submissions website for more information.

**Jane Austen Unscripted Returns to Broad Stage**

Jane Austen Unscripted returns to the Broad Stage in Santa Monica from Dec. 15-17. The company, who recently performed at our Annual General Meeting in Huntington Beach, takes audience suggestions and then "deftly creates a world of love-struck girls, brooding noblemen and charming cads, and, although hearts are sure to be broken, true love will win out in the end."

For more information, visit the [Broad Stage](#) website.

**Reading Groups**
Saturday, December 9
**Long Beach Reading Group**
Jane Austen Tea and Birthday Celebration
Location: Pamela's Tea Shop, Garden Grove
Bring something to read out loud.
For more information, contact Shenwood Smith, 714-330-7856.

Saturday, December 9
**Westside/405 Reading Group**
The Scarlett Pimpernel by Baroness Emmuska Orczy
Holiday tea
For more information, contact Karen Berk, 310-477-6753.

Saturday, December 9, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
**Ventura County Reading Group**
Jane Austen Birthday Celebration
Location: Marie Callendar’s, Victoria Avenue, Ventura (library room)
We will be voting on next year’s reading list.
For more information, contact Priscilla Diamond.

Sunday, December 17, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
**West Los Angeles Reading Group**
Delta Wedding by Eudora Welty
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may contact Clara Browda, 310-278-8759.

Saturday, December 30, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
**San Gabriel Valley Reading Group**
Among the Janeites: A journey through the world of Jane Austen Fandom by Deborah Yaffe
Location: MSAG, 900 Harrison Ave., Pomona CA 91767
Potluck
For more information, contact Kelly Duir, 909-967-6630.

Sunday, January 7
**Pasadena Area Reading Group**
Sanditon by Jane Austen
The Price of Butcher's Meat by Reginald Hill
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may contact Susan Ridgeway, 626-357-1397.

Sunday, January 7, 2-4 p.m.
**South Bay Reading Group**
North and South by Elizabeth Gaskell
For more information, contact Jeanine Holguin, 805-444-8999.

Saturday, January 13
**Long Beach Reading Group**
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
For more information, contact Shenwood Smith, 714-330-7856.

Sunday, January 21, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
**Orange County Reading Group**
Persuasion by Jane Austen
Location: 20 Pergola, Irvine CA 92612
For more information, contact Viki Barie, 714-309-6702.

Sunday, January 21, 1-4 p.m.
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
Jane Austen and Crime by Susannah Fullerton
Annual Jane Austen Birthday Tea
For more information, contact Cheryl Cole, 310-422-5475.

Sunday, January 21, 5 p.m.
**Santa Monica Reading Group**
The Making of Jane Austen by Devoney Looser
San Diego Region
Although San Diego is a separate JASNA region, many JASNA Southwest members are interested in
San Diego JASNA events and vice versa.
Upcoming event:
Saturday, December 2, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Jane Austen Birthday Tea
Location: Aubrey Rose Tea House, La Mesa
Cost: $37 (members) (includes tax and gratuity; $42+$3 for gluten free (non-members)
For information on, or to RSVP for, upcoming San Diego JASNA meetings, visit www.jasnasd.org.

Reminder about the JASNA Member Portal
JASNA has created accounts on the JASNA Member Portal for every member
of the national society.

If you have not yet set up your Member Portal login name and password – or if
you have forgotten them and the email address associated with your account –
please contact membership@jasna.org for help. (Please do not create a new one on the Member Portal login page.)

Why It's Important

1) JASNA no longer uses Constant Contact to maintain the JASNA email list. You must now update your email address and email list preferences in the Member Portal in order to receive the monthly JASNA Update e-bulletin and other email announcements. Mailing addresses must be updated through the Member Portal as well.

2) Links and instructions for downloading digital versions of JASNA's publications (Persuasions and – soon – JASNA News) are only available in the Member Portal.

3) You can check your membership status, view details of past transactions, renew annual memberships and make donations online from within the Member Portal.