



Jane Austen Society of North America, Southwest Region

## December 2017 Newsletter



# JASNA Southwest Winter Meeting "Taking Jane Austen to School" Saturday, December 2

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/Meeting Concierge: Carol Krause

Press Liaison: Erika Kotite

Program Planners: Jan Fahey and Lynda Hall

Secretary: Jaye Scholl Bohlen

Treasurer/Meeting Concierge: Sonya Samuels

Assistant Treasurer: Priscilla Diamond

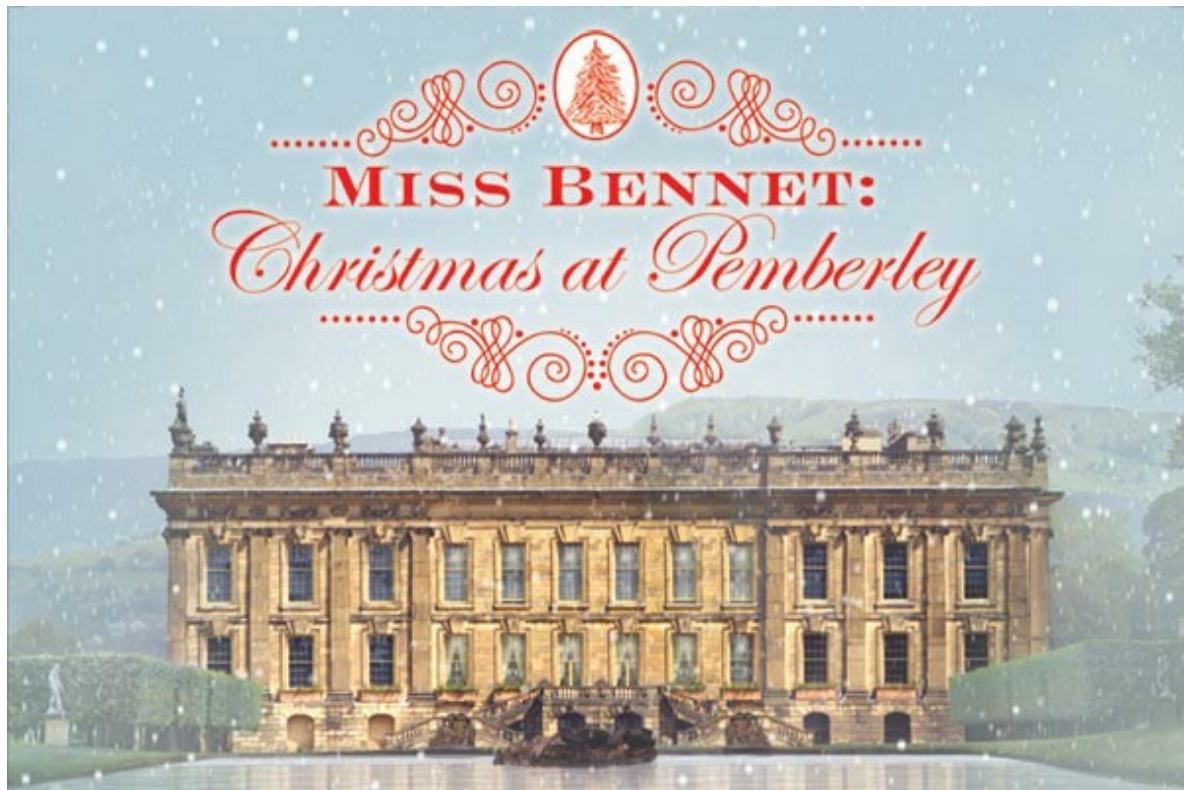
Parliamentarian: Terry Ryan

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), Donnlá 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](http://www.ensembletheatrecompany.com) 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 [Sherwood 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 16, 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 [Sherwood 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

Location: home of Diana Birchall  
For more information, contact [Diana Birchall](#), 310-394-2196.

### 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](http://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](mailto: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.

Visit our website!



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