Join us for JASNA Southwest's 40th anniversary and our annual Jane Austen birthday celebration on Saturday, December 7, at the University of Southern California's beautiful Town & Gown ballroom. JASNA SW's very first meeting, on December 14, 1979, was held at USC, so it's fitting that we'll gather here again to commemorate our fourth decade.

Our topic will be "What's Next for Jane Austen?" and we'll be joined by two dynamic and
popular Austen scholars, Janine Barchas and Devoney Looser. We have some special surprises in store as well. You won't want to miss it! We'll start the day with continental breakfast and white elephant sale at 8:30 a.m., with the program to commence at 9:30 a.m.

The official registration email will be in your inboxes by early next week. Be on the lookout!

Janine Barchas
Janine Barchas joined the University of Texas at Austin in 2002 after teaching at the University of Auckland in New Zealand for five years. She is the Luann and Larry Temple Centennial Professor in English Literature at UT Austin. She combines book history with literary criticism in both her research and teaching. She has twice been a fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies and has received the Alpha of Texas Award for Distinction in Teaching from the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

Devoney Looser
Devoney Looser (pronounced DEV-oh-née LOE-sir) is the author of The Making of Jane Austen. She is Foundation Professor of English at Arizona State University and author or editor of seven other books on literature by women. Her recent writing has appeared in The Atlantic, The New York Times, Salon, The TLS and Entertainment Weekly, and she's had the pleasure of talking about Austen on CNN twice.

Read more about their impressive backgrounds and many Austen-related publications on the JASNA Southwest website.

Barchas and Looser will each give a talk on their brand-new books -- Barchas' The Lost Books of Jane Austen (which investigates the history of publishing Austen titles, particularly the cheapest and most neglected reprintings) and Looser's The Daily Jane Austen (a curated selection of Austen quotes). After lunch, they'll join each other and moderator Lynda Hall for an Actors Studio-style chat about their recent collaboration on a special issue of the journal Texas Studies in Literature and Language with the theme "What's Next for Jane Austen?" They'll discuss this venture and share insights on the future of Austen scholarship and appreciation. And they'll sign copies of their books and the new journal at the end of the day.

JASNA Southwest will be the official launch event for the journal issue! We'll have copies available for purchase.

We'll have copies of their new books for sale, too, but you can also bring your own (both are now available on Amazon and various bookstores and online sources) to avoid disappointment in case we sell out. Both authors will happily sign copies of their other Austen titles, such as Barchas' Matters of Fact in Jane Austen (2012) and Looser's The Making of Jane Austen (2017).

Book Signings, Regency Photo Booth, White Elephant Sale

In addition to the book signings, we'll have a white elephant sale just in time for the year-end holidays. Do you have Austen or Regency-era books you'd like to donate? Bring them that morning! We appreciate your donations. They help lower the cost of our events.

We'll also have a Regency Photo Booth at the event, where you can pose with your friends and with one or more Austen heroes from several filmed adaptations. Wear Regency attire or a bonnet, if you're so inclined!
40th Anniversary Celebration

If you have photographs or other items we could scan/borrow for our 40th anniversary display and slideshow, please contact our archivist Nancy Gallagher.

Board Election and Bylaws Update

At the December meeting, we will be electing JASNA Southwest board members for 2020-2021 and voting on modifications to our bylaws. The nominating committee, headed by Nancy Gallagher, has put forward the following slate of candidates:

President and Regional Coordinator: Susie Wampler
Meeting Registrar/Assistant Treasurer: Claire Bellanti
Treasurer/Assistant Meeting Registrar: Priscilla Diamond
Secretary: Viki Barie
Meeting Concierges: Carol Krause and Jane Boltz
Venue Coordinators: Glenda Pinney and Teri Barela
Newsletter Editors: Susie Wampler and Karen Rueda
Membership Manager: Carol Krause
Media Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator: Teresa Chien
Festival of Books Manager: Emily Bergman
Festival of Books Assistant: Carla Washburn
Archivist/Book Sales Manager: Nancy Gallagher
Parliamentarian: Jan Fahey
Young Filmmakers Contest Coordinator: Erika Kotite
Webmaster: Susie Wampler
Reading/Film/Game Group Coordinator/Past Regional Coordinator: Cheryl Cole

In terms of the bylaws modifications, the board has recommended a few minor changes to board roles and responsibilities that better reflect current needs and operations. For instance, in the past, we have elected two program planners. However, as our events have evolved and expanded over the past couple of years, we found it more effective to designate a single point person for each event and split up that responsibility from one event to the next.

Nancy Gallagher is point person for the December 7, 2019, meeting. For 2020, Claire Bellanti is spearheading the February 29, 2020, meeting. Jane Boltz is point person for the May 2, 2020, event at the Mission Inn. Jan Fahey is overseeing our December 5, 2020, event on Regency Fashion and Dancing. We are also working on plans for the September 2020 meeting and anticipate announcing that soon.

We also have added the new role of reading group coordinator, to be filled by former Regional Coordinator Cheryl Cole, who oversaw the creation of several new groups during her tenure. JASNA Southwest has the largest number of such groups in all of JASNA and we will now have a dedicated point person to support those groups and new additions. Please review the bylaws changes on our website prior to the Dec. 7 meeting.
The board also encourages any JASNA Southwest member interested in serving on a standing or short-term committee to contact Susie Wampler. Whether you can serve just an hour or two a year, or on a more regular basis, and no matter what your particular area of focus, we probably have a role perfect for you! Look for more information on committees in an upcoming newsletter.

Finally, we wish to thank Lynda Hall for her years of service as a dedicated board member. She is stepping down in December from her official duties on the board but will serve as head of our new Academic Advisory Committee.

AGM Highlights

The California delegation was the largest of all states attending JASNA’s 2019 Annual General Meeting, and JASNA Southwest was the single best-represented region at this year’s conference, held in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. Here are just a few photo highlights.

One of Southwest board member Jane Boltz’s several Regency ensembles of the week, this one includes a sash made from old AGM totebags.

Former JASNA Southwest Regional Coordinators Cheryl Cole and Diana Birchall at the Life Members reception on Friday evening.

Longtime friends and steadfast Janeites, Carolyn Howard and Southwest board member Lynda Hall the evening of the Regency ball.

Clara Browda and Jackie Rankin of the West Los Angeles Reading Group at the historic King’s Arms Tavern on Sunday evening.

Members of the cast of *Northanger Abbey: The Musical* (Emma Cross as Eleanor Tilney, Samantha McCarty as Isabella Thorpe and Emily Doherty as

Southwest member Amber Lotspeich with JASNA President Liz Philosophos Cooper at the Saturday evening banquet.
Save the Date: February 29, 2020
'Law in the Regency Era'

Our first JASNA Southwest meeting of 2020 will be at the UCLA Faculty Center exploring the topic "Law in the Regency Era." Our speakers at this half-day event will be lawyer and frequent JASNA AGM speaker James Nagle on "Inheritance in Jane Austen's Time" and historian Walter Nelson on "Crime and Punishment in the Regency Era."

James Nagle
James Nagle is a member of the Puget Sound Region and a former secretary of JASNA. A semi-retired lawyer, he maintains an abiding interest in all things Regency and has spoken at numerous Annual General Meetings on Austen's life and times.

Walter Nelson
Walter Nelson is an historical consultant who has appeared numerous times on the History Channel and A&E. He has participated in hundreds of living history programs in the U.S. and U.K., and is a librarian and web designer for the RAND Corporation.
It's the final call for entries to our 2019 Young Filmmakers Contest for high school, undergraduate and graduate students. The program is designed to encourage study, interpretation of and appreciation for Jane Austen in younger generations.

Films must be five minutes or less and should be adapted from, or inspired by, Jane Austen's writing or life.

Entry deadline has been extended to November 18, 2019. Our website has Young Filmmakers Contest entry forms and more information.

The University of California, Irvine's Claire Trevor School of the Arts is hosting Reading Frankenstein, an intermedia performance about a 21st century artificial life scientist named Mary Shelley, who discovers that one of her experiments is running amok in her laboratory at the same time as the novel Frankenstein is haunting her imagination.
Admission is free, but reservations are required. Performances are at 8 p.m. on November 2, 7, 8 and 9, with a matinee at 2 p.m. on Nov. 9.

Co-created by Annie Loui, Antoinette LaFarge and Jim Fallon
Directed by Annie Loui
Visual Direction by Antoinette LaFarge

**Long Beach Playhouse**
*Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*
5021 E. Anaheim Street, Long Beach
November 2-November 30, 2019

**Santa Barbara City College**
*Sense and Sensibility*
Jurkowitz Theater, 900 City Drive, Santa Barbara
November 13-23, 2019

**The Broad Stage**
Improv Theater's Jane Austen Unscripted
1310 11th Street, Santa Monica
December 21 only (performances at 4 and 8 p.m.)

**The New Vic Theater**
*Jane Austen's Emma* (the musical)
33 West Victoria, Santa Barbara
February 6-23, 2020

**L.A. Theatre Works**
*Frankenstein* staged reading
James Bridges Theater/UCLA
February 28-March 1, 2020

---

**Reading/Game Groups**

**Sunday, November 3**
**Pasadena Area Reading Group**
*Belle: The Slave Daughter and the Lord Chief Justice* by Paula Byrne
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may contact Susan Ridgeway for more information.

**Saturday, November 9, 2:30 p.m.**
**Film Group**
*Northanger Abbey* (2007) with Felicity Jones and JJ Feild
For more information, contact Teresa Chien.

**Saturday, November 9, 12:30 p.m.**
**Long Beach Reading Group**
*Cecilia* by Fanny Burney
For more information, contact Sherwood Smith.

**Sunday, November 10, 2-4 p.m.**
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
*Everybody's Jane* by Juliette Wells
For more information, contact Cheryl Cole.

**Sunday, November 10, 5 p.m.**
**Santa Monica Reading Group**
*Hester* by Ian McIntyre
For more information, contact Kathi Stafford.

**Saturday, November 16, 10 a.m.**
North Orange County Reading Group
*Holidays With Jane: Thankful Hearts*
Location: Panera Bread, 1028 S. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
For more information, contact Melissa Buell or visit the group's Facebook page.

Saturday, November 16, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Ventura County Reading Group
*Jane Austen's England* by Roy and Lesley Adkins
For more information, contact Phyllis Michaels.
Location: E.P. Foster Library, 651 E. Main Street, Ventura

Sunday, November 17, 12:30-3:00 p.m.

Orange County Reading Group
*The Invention of Nature: Alexander Van Humboldt's New World* by Andrea Wulf
For more information, contact Maryann Pelensky.

Sunday, November 17

South Bay Reading Group
*Jane Austen: A Life* by Claire Tomalin
For more information, contact Jeanine Holguin.

Wednesday, November 20

Janeites Reading Trollope Group
*The Last Chronicle of Barset* by Anthony Trollope
For more information, contact Lora Walker.

Sunday, December 15, 1:30 p.m.

West Los Angeles Reading Group
*Three Men in a Boat* by Jerome K. Jerome
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may contact Clara Browda for more information.

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. For information on, or to RSVP for, upcoming San Diego JASNA meetings, visit JASNA San Diego's Facebook page.