

JASNA DAYTON

www.jasnadayton.org

November 2013

Celebrate Jane's Birthday Dec. 14 with Katie LePage and Austen's Villains

Our December meeting will feature JASNA Dayton member Katie LePage speaking on an intriguing topic—"The Ones We Love to Hate: Austen Characters Most Likely to Appear on a Dartboard." Katie says, "I've always been interested in the characters who are the edgy ones--the ones who make you cringe a bit, the ones you actively dislike or mistrust or grow to dislike or mistrust. They create the conflicts that make the story go forward and keep our interest. I also thought that talking about the "baddies" would make a lively discussion."



LOCATION: The meeting room at Jay's Seafood Restaurant, 225 East Sixth Street, Dayton 45402. Use the door under the green awning marked "Jay's Kitchen Door." Jay's is in the Oregon District, east of the Convention Center. For more information, see Jay's website www.jays.com.

SCHEDULE:

11:30	Arrival and socializing, with cash bar
12:00	Luncheon
1:15	Short business meeting and toasts to Jane
1:30	Program



LUNCHEON MENU:

Bread and house salad with choice of ranch or Dijon vinaigrette

Choice of 3 entrees:

Grilled Salmon with choice of vegetable or potato
Stuffed Chicken with Linguine and tomato basil sauce
Vegetarian Pasta with a tomato basil sauce

Soda, Tea or Coffee

A selection of desserts (additional \$5, paid directly to Jay's)

COST: \$25 for members, \$28 for non-members.

RSVP by December 11 with a check made out to **JASNA Dayton**. Mail your check, entree selection, and contact information to:

Mary Ann Gasior
2727 Old Whipp Court
Centerville, OH 45440

For questions contact Mary Ann at 937-434-5992 or gasiormaryann@yahoo.com.

Katie LePage Is Speaker for December Meeting

Katie LePage majored in English at Bowling Green State University. She married Peter, an English professor at the University of Cincinnati, after graduation, and until their children were born, she taught junior high English and did university administrative work. Her post-child rearing career has included work as a high school librarian, office worker, and many years as a children's bookseller and story time person. She has been retired for five years. "In many ways," she says, "I have lived a storybook life--home, family, work--and books have been central to each part."



During their retirement Katie and Peter have been travelling at least once a year to England, visiting their favorite bookstores, bed and breakfasts, and enjoying the countryside. They are also regular attendees at our JASNA Dayton meetings and reading group sessions. In the past few years, Peter has given two programs for JASNA Dayton: one on Austen heroines (March, 2007 at Churchill's Tea Room in Cincinnati) and one on Austen heroes (March, 2011 at Edith Mae's Tea Room in Xenia). It will be interesting to hear what Katie has to say about Austen's anti-heroes and heroines.

Registration Complete for March 30 Meeting

The March meeting will be a theater outing to *Pride and Prejudice* adapted for the stage by Joseph Hanreddy and J. R. Sullivan performed by Cincinnati's Playhouse in the Park. Since tickets had to be purchased early, registration is already complete. The performance will be at 2:00 on Sunday, March 30, at the Marx Theater in Cincinnati.

JASNA Dayton Executive Committee

Regional Coordinator, Reading Group Coordinator	Jean Long	937-287-6919	jtrnlong@aol.com
Secretary	Mariah Busher		
Treasurer	Judy McCoy		
Program Coordinator	Carrie Bebris		
Membership Coordinator	Deb Bentley	937-429-5123	extraone@woh.rr.com
Newsletter Editor	Meredith Stoehr	937-434-7567	stoeha@yahoo.com
Librarian	Toni Tumbusch	513-752-5115	victoriantoni@netzero.net
Webmaster	Tom Tumbusch		

Membership Renewal Period ends December 1

The renewal period for the JASNA Dayton 2013-14 year ends December 1 this year. That means you need to send in your membership check before the December 14 meeting in order to qualify for the member rate. Membership Coordinator Deb Bentley will be sending out a last reminder to those who have not yet renewed—so heed that e-mail. Benefits of membership include, besides membership rates at meetings, hard copy of the newsletter if desired; meeting reminders; and use of the Region library.

Remember that members of JASNA Dayton are also required to join the national organization. For details, see JASNA's website, www.jasna.org.

Fundraising Idea Committee Being Formed

In its last meeting, our JASNA Dayton Executive Committee decided to form a committee to explore fundraising ideas. We would like to be able to sell some consumable product that needs to be replaced fairly often, like the Wisconsin Region's Austen calendars. Toni Tumbusch has offered to join this committee as its first member, and she has already come up with several good possibilities—pocket calendars, candles, Elizabeth and Darcy pillow cases. If you are interested in working with Toni to develop ideas and explore how they might be implemented, please contact her at victoriantoni@netzero.net or 513-752-5115.

September Meeting a Remarkable Success



Victoria Hinshaw Displays Jane Austen Brooch

Our September 15 meeting, featuring speaker Victoria Hinshaw, was truly memorable for the quality of the talk, the food, the venue--and for sheer size. Thanks to Sharon Short's *Dayton Daily* column about the meeting, over 20 non-members, in addition to our own members' guests, were able to enjoy the meeting and become acquainted with our group. Total attendance was 72.

Victoria Hinshaw struck the perfect balance between informing and entertaining her audience. Starting with a clear account of the role abbeys played in Medieval England, she proceeded to the Dissolution under Henry VIII, and the rise of great houses, many built on abbey ruins. In discussing Downton Abbey's Highclere Castle she reminded us of the career of its most prominent resident, George Herbert, Fifth Earl of Carnarvon, sponsor of the archaeological expedition that uncovered King Tut's tomb and victim of his mummy's curse. Vicki proved to be a delightful guest, and those who want to keep up with her interests in British architecture, art, and history may consult her blogs, www.victoriahinshaw.com, and www.onelondonone.blogspot.com,



Peter and Katie LePage Enjoy the Talk

Mike and Rose of Basically British outdid themselves on the tea, providing a handsome and delicious selection of sandwiches, savories, and desserts appropriate to Austen's time (more dried fruit, less—much less—chocolate). We thank Rosie and Mike for their efforts and the many ladies at Normandy United Methodist Church who helped to coordinate the event, and most of all, the national JASNA organization for the \$500 grant to our Region that paid for Vicki's transportation and other travel expenses.



Mary Ann Gasior, Carrie Bebris, Speaker Victoria Hinshaw and Tea

Heartbreak for Marianne at Reading Group

Sixteen people attended the first Reading Group meeting of the year, an excellent turnout. The tea and other refreshments were delicious, and we had, as usual, a long and lively discussion. This session dealt with Marianne's painfully drawn-out discovery that Mr. Willoughby has thrown her over for a lady with £50,000. Three more sessions remain to bring her, and her long suffering sister, to a happy ending.

Our meeting schedule, with chapters of *Sense and Sensibility* to be covered in each session, is as follows:

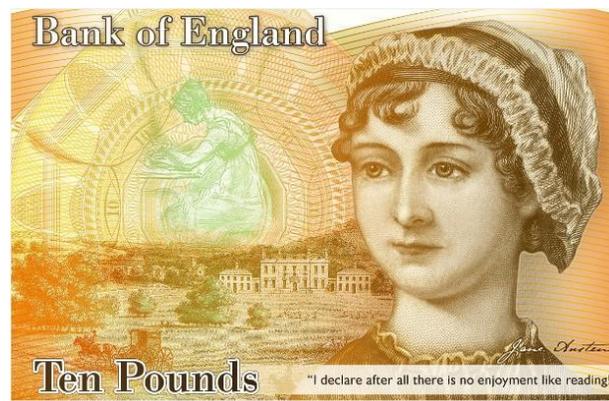
Jan. 12	Vol. II, Chapters 11-14; Vol. III, Chapters 1-2 (Continuous 33-38)
Feb. 9	Vol. III Chapters 3-8 (Continuous 39-44)
Apr. 13	Vol. II Chapters 9-14 (Continuous 45-50)

Reading Groups are held on Sunday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30 at Jean's home, **927 Far Hills** (Route 48), **Oakwood, 45419**. The back of her condominium faces Far Hills. To enter, turn onto Park Avenue (left if you're going north on Far Hills, right if you're going south), and turn left almost immediately, just before the municipal building. (The street says "City cars only.") You'll be on an alley that leads to the parking lot of Bob and Jean's building. A sidewalk runs between 2 sections of the complex. If you are facing Far Hills, Jean's condominium is on the right. If you have questions, call Jean at 927-298-0436 or e-mail jtrnlong@aol.com.

Jean Long to Teach *Sense and Sensibility* Seminar at UD

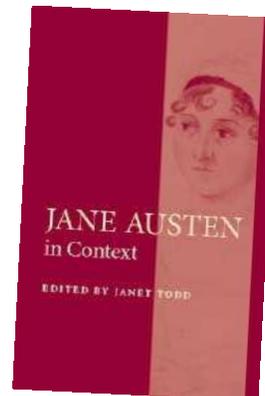
Jean will be teaching a seminar on *Sense and Sensibility* at UD's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The course is formatted just like our own Reading Groups, with discussion based on passages chosen by the class participants. The class will meet on six Mondays, January 13 through February 24, from 3-5 on the River Campus (former NCR World Headquarters). Congratulations and best wishes to Jean on this new endeavor.

JANE ON THE MONEY



Exciting Acquisition for the JASNA Dayton Library

Region Librarian Toni Tumbusch announces that she has acquired all but 2 volumes of the Cambridge edition of Austen's works, by far the most requested item in last year's survey. A review in the *London Review of Books* (April 30, 2009) called the set a "... production on the most monumental scale, involving nine beautiful but heavy volumes and something like a dozen editors, with a powerful editorial board and a team of learned commentators." Jean Long owns a set, to which she refers regularly in preparing for our Reading Group meetings.



At full price hardcover volumes of the Cambridge edition cost over \$100 apiece, but by combing the web for bargains, Toni has so far been able to find affordable copies of all but *Emma* and *Mansfield Park*. Besides the Cambridge volumes for each of Jane's other major works, our library now contains Austen's *Juvenilia* and *Later Manuscripts* and *Jane Austen in Context*, a volume of essays that delves into every aspect of life in Austen's time.

Add Local Author Sharon Short to Your Reading List



The extraordinary attendance at our September meeting was due to Sharon Short's *Dayton Daily* column about the meeting. Expected to top out at a little over 40, in the three days after her article appeared registration mushroomed to 72. This caused me to rethink whether newspapers have really lost all their influence to the web, and it also made me look more closely at Sharon Short. Besides writing her columns on local literary events for the Sunday *Dayton Daily*, Sharon is a successful mystery author. Her sleuth, Josie Toadfern, runs a laundromat in the small southern Ohio town of Paradise (the inhabitants are called "Paradisites")

and writes a column on stain removal for the local paper.

There are six Toadfern mysteries (Sharon has declared the series complete), and now I have read them all. They are lively, funny, and engaging, and useful, too. As I was reading one the other evening while sipping a glass of wine, I spilled a good deal of the wine on my rug. The very next day, continuing on in the book, I came across the very thing I should have done: sprinkle the wine with salt and then vacuum it up. If only I had read faster!

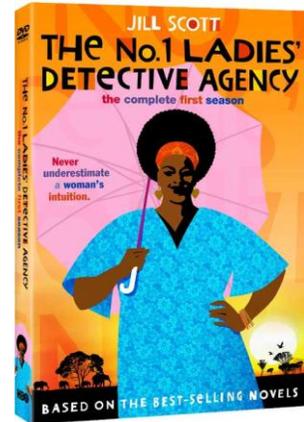
Sharon's latest book, not a mystery, is *One Square Inch of Alaska*.



Alexander McCall Smith to Reinterpret Emma



Alexander McCall Smith, best known for his delightful No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency books, which is set in Botswana, has been invited to write the *Emma* volume in Harper's series of Austen novels "reimagined" for our time. McCall Smith, an Emeritus Professor of Medical Law at the University of Edinburgh, is a prolific author of stories for both children and adults. He is a fine stylist, witty and humane. He calls the invitation to rewrite *Emma* "like being asked to eat a box of delicious chocolates".



The first volume in the Harper project, Joanna Trollope's *Sense and Sensibility*, has just come out to good reviews.

Wright State *Pride and Prejudice* Conference a Delight

The many JASNA Dayton members who attended the October 10-12 *Pride and Prejudice* celebration at Wright State have been enthusiastic in their praise of the event. They found the talks stimulating and the whole event excellently well organized.

Many JASNA Dayton members took part in the program, starting with Crystal Lake, the organizer for the event. Tom and Toni Tumbusch called the ball and found it—with its beautiful setting in Memorial Hall and the first rate live band—to be one of the finest they have ever conducted. Carrie Bebris spoke at the tea; Laura Vorachek addressed a plenary session on "The Piano in the World of Jane Austen;" Lisa Tyler and her husband James (we will call him an honorary member) both gave papers, Lisa's on "Postcolonial Austen," with reference to the movie *Bride and Prejudice* and Jim's on "Failures of the Father," focusing on Mr. Bennet. New Region member Toni Guthrie also spoke, her topic being "Women Who Like to Read: Jane Austen and Elizabeth Bennet's Views of Education."



The *Pride and Prejudice* symposium was the very first major event for Wright State's CELIA program (Collaborative Education, Leadership and Innovation in the Arts). We should be on the lookout for their future projects (see <http://www.wright.edu/celia/events/>).