

Dayton Region JASNA

www.jasnadayton.org

August 2012

“Underpinnings & Fine Beginnings” Sunday, September 16 at Jay’s

Well known local Revolutionary War period reenactor Ann Armstrong will be our first featured speaker of the 2012-13 season. She will talk about the history of undergarments (“lingerie, underpinnings, foundation garments, or just plain underwear”) for ladies and gentlemen. Her talk will be illustrated using both authentic pieces and reproductions, and she will demonstrate how our ancestors got dressed in Austen’s day.

A graduate of the University of Dayton in commercial design, Ann is a lifelong collector of antiques and antique clothing, as well as a member of various historical organizations. As a reenactor she has served with the First American Revolutionary War regiment. Retired from the Sinclair Community College marketing department, she also had worked for the City of Springfield information office, and WBLY radio.



BUSINESS MEETING: A brief business meeting will be held before Ann’s talk to elect a new Regional Coordinator for our group. Our longtime RC, Gary Mitchner, has stepped down, and the Executive Committee has chosen Jean Long to succeed him. In accordance with JASNA bylaws, the members present at the September 16 meeting will be asked to vote to confirm Jean in her new office. Articles on both Gary and Jean, as well as on Deb Bentley, our new Membership Chair, can be found in this issue.

LOCATION Jay’s Seafood Restaurant, 225 East Sixth Street, Dayton. Jay’s is in the Oregon District, east of the Convention Center. For more information, see Jay’s website www.jays.com.

SCHEDULE: 12:30	Arrival and socializing, with cash bar
1:00	Luncheon
2:00	Short business meeting (RC election and thank you to Gary)
2:15	Program

LUNCHEON MENU:

Choice of 3 entrees:

Grilled 6 oz salmon served with choice of roasted red skin potatoes or mixed vegetables

Italian-style chicken breast stuffed with mozzarella and basil, baked and served over herbed pasta and marinara

Portabella Ratatouille--Portabella mushroom stuffed with a seasoned and simmered mixture of eggplant, peppers, onions, tomatoes and fresh squash. Baked in a casserole and topped with mozzarella cheese.

Garden salad and Choice of soda, iced tea, or coffee

Dessert may be ordered off the dessert menu (additional \$5, paid directly to Jay's)

COST: \$25 for members, \$27 for non-members.

RSVP by September 7 with a check made out to **Dayton Region JASNA**. Mail your check and entree selection to:

Meredith Stoehr
86 Carmel Court
Centerville, OH 45458.

For questions contact Meredith at 937-434-7567 or stoeha@yahoo.com.

Guests are welcome, as this is a spacious venue.

Jay's Seafood Restaurant

Jay's Seafood Restaurant in the Oregon District is one of Dayton's best and most popular restaurants, particularly known for its seafood and its key lime pie (that's why we're offering the option to order dessert). Jay's also offers an interesting ambiance. It is housed in the old Dayton Corn and Grist Mill, which was built in the 1850's along the Miami-Erie Canal. The splendid bar is from the Pony House Restaurant, a popular Dayton meeting place for 85 years, between 1882 and 1967. Buffalo Bill Cody is said to have ridden his horse right up to that bar, which was carved from 5400 pounds of Honduran mahogany.

Jay's was the site of the first JASNA Dayton meeting I ever attended—an Austen Birthday Party 18 years ago, with harp music and a talk on *Mansfield Park*. This should be another such elegant and interesting occasion.

JASNA Dayton Officers

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

Thanks to Cynthia and Tori for March 17 Movie Day

Our March meeting, a comparison of scenes from three recent *Emma* movies, proved to be a great success. Twenty JASNA Dayton members enjoyed comparing how our friends from Highbury behaved in the different versions of their story, and how the screenwriters chose to include or discard elements of the original novel. Did a scene faithfully depict the original? Was it valid in its own terms if it didn't?



Cynthia and Victoria Manship

It was a lot of work to put together the excerpts from the 3 DVDs, to find the starting and end points and to bring the right one up at the right time. We thank Cindy and Tori Manship again for taking on this project and for doing such an excellent job of presenting the material and leading the discussion on it.

Gary Mitchner Retires as JASNA Dayton RC

Gary Mitchner has served thirteen years as our Regional Coordinator. That is about half as long as JASNA Dayton has been in existence. (We celebrated our 25th anniversary with a Gala in May, 2010). Over the years Gary has attended many AGMs, including the one at Winchester, at which he gave a presentation. He sponsored a Gala at Sinclair Community College, and has done much to publicize our group, including the event at Books & Co. pictured here.

Gary is an Emeritus Professor of English at Sinclair and former chair of the department, as well as having been appointed Sinclair's Poet Laureate. As a poet he regularly gives readings and

conducts poetry workshops. His works have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *The New Republic*, *Shenandoah*, *Cincinnati Review*, and *Western Humanities Review*, among many other publications.



Gary with Angela at a 2007 Meeting He Organized at Books & Co.

Besides JASNA Dayton, Gary volunteers for the Dayton Peace Museum, the Dayton Art Institute, the Miami Valley Hospital, Human Race Theatre, and Friendship Force. He is a docent at the Dayton Art Institute, where he gives tours in verse, and has sponsored several JASNA Dayton meetings there. At the Miami Valley Hospital he works in the Vascular and Heart Lab. He reads plays for the Human Race Theatre and reads fiction and non-fiction for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. He is on the board of the Friendship Force Dayton Club and has traveled with them and been exchange director to Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, England, Scotland, Russia, Estonia, and Germany, as well as taking part in many exchanges within the United States. Gary also travels regularly with the Dayton Chamber of Commerce, including trips to China, India, and Cuba.

Another of Gary's talents, which our group has often enjoyed, is his ability to put on an exemplary tea. We appreciate Gary's many years of service to our group, and we look forward to his continued participation in our activities.

Jean Long To Be New JASNA Dayton RC

Jean Long has been a serious Jane Austen fan since she was 14. Laid up with a torn ligament in her heel, she asked her mother whether there was ANYTHING in the house she hadn't read yet, and her mother replied, "Yes, there's that book your aunt sent you at Christmas—*Pride and Prejudice*." That was the start of Jean's lifelong love for Austen. Every year she re-reads all of Austen's novels, and she has collected an extensive library of Austen-related works in her home.

Jean has a long history with JASNA Dayton. She joined in the early 80's in response to a notice posted in the Oakwood Library that the group was being formed. For the past seven years she lead the very popular Reading Groups here in Dayton, an offshoot of the 16 year series she has led at her summer home in Bay View, Michigan. Fortunately, she will continue as Reading Group leader during her tenure as RC.



Jean is familiar with JASNA, too, having served on the National Board for six years. She revived and then chaired the National Essay Contest and chaired the Jane Austen Churches Committee. In 2003, she was part of the New York City group that planned and ran the AGM in Winchester. She served as the liaison between Winchester Cathedral and the conference, a job that included putting together the reception before the Jane Austen Evensong and feting the guest of honor, Princess Alexandra. Jean also helped to plan the Evensong service itself, which she describes as a challenging and moving experience, and great fun.

Jean's other great interests have included gardening and the Boy Scouts. A lifelong gardener and certified Master Gardener, Jean directed the Bay View Memorial Garden Committee for 11 years and chaired in for seven, and has volunteered at Cox Arboretum. She has taught classes in pruning and other gardening subjects and given talks to gardening clubs. Jean became involved in the Scouts when he son was a member, and came to serve 12 years on the Council Board, in addition to taking part in many camping activities and the national Jamborees.

Debra Bentley is New Membership Chair

Deb Bentley is replacing Meredith Stoehr as Membership Chair. Meredith (that is I) remains as Newsletter Chair. Deb is a long-time fan of Jane Austen. She read her first Austen novel, *Emma*, while in high school. She loved it (*Emma* is still her favorite of Austen's novels) and so of course she read the rest. She has re-read them all, but lately has been playing the unabridged audio books on her iPod while she works in her studio. She also sometimes watches the videos, any but the Greer Garson one. That one is not faithful to the novel, she says. She also enjoys *Clueless* and Carrie Bebris' novels.



Deb Bentley with Quilt on Exhibit in Zanesville

Deb has been a member of JASNA, and of JASNA Dayton since 1985, when she read an article about our group in the *Dayton Daily News*. During the two years she lived in Virginia (1994-1996), she joined the District of Columbia Region. While in Virginia, she edited a column in *JASNA News*, called "JASNA Personals." Back in Dayton, she became the Dayton Region Newsletter Editor for several years. She also served as the Dayton Regional Coordinator from about 1997-1999. She has been lucky enough to attend three JASNA AGMs: Ottawa, Canada, 1991; Lake Louise, Canada, 1993; and Richmond, VA, 1996.

After 30 years as a logistician, she retired from Wright-Patterson AFB in 2008, from the position of Director of Logistics, 303rd Reconnaissance Wing, Aeronautical Systems Center. She is now a fiber artist, making art quilts and other fiber art for exhibit. She has had quilts in several national and international shows, including Creative Statements: Ohio Art Quilts, Zanesville Museum of Art, Zanesville, OH, (2012); Sacred Threads, International, Herndon, VA (2011); and Aullwood Audubon Center Annual International Show, Dayton, OH, (2009-2012).

Deb's other hobbies include silversmithing, gardening, hiking and biking. She is a Master Gardener in Greene County and an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist.

Reading Group Schedule for 2012-13

For the next two years our Reading Group will be discussing *Sense and Sensibility*. With all we have learned of Austen's themes during the past few years, this early work promises to be of particular interest.

Nov 11, 2012	Introduction and Volume I, Chapters 1-4
Jan 13, 2013	Volume I, Chapters 5-10
Feb 10, 2013	Volume I, Chapters 11-16
Apr 14, 2013	Volume I, Chapters 17-22

Unless otherwise specified, Reading Groups are held on Sunday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the home of our leader, Jean Long, **927 Far Hills** (Route 48) in Oakwood. The back of her condominium faces Far Hills, so 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. For questions, call Jean at 927-287-6919 or e-mail jtrnlong@aol.com.

Reading Group History

While writing the article on Jean Long, I looked through the old newsletters to find out when the Reading Group began. As long as I have that information to hand, I thought I might as well put it here for the record. The first Reading Group meeting was on March 27, 2005, with four members attending besides Jean. We began with *Pride and Prejudice*, and, as I remember, Colin Firth's Mr. Darcy was too fresh in our minds for us to proceed in as orderly a way as we do now. Since *Pride and Prejudice* we have taken up:

2006-2007	Jane Austen's Letters
2007-2008	Mansfield Park
2008-2009	Northanger Abbey
2009-2010	Persuasion
2010-2012	Emma

Fair at New Boston, September 1 and 2

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

George Rogers Clark Park, Springfield, Ohio

Many of our members are already faithful attendees of the Fair at New Boston. Many others will remember recent speakers whom we can expect to see there: Kristopher Shultz (September 2010) of the George Rogers Clark Heritage Association, who talked about upcoming War of 1812 commemorations; and Tim and Kathleen Nealeigh (February 2010), who demonstrated how “Beautiful Lace” is made. The Fair features merchants, artisans, entertainers, and food vendors, all juried to assure that their activities and dress conform to the time period represented by the Fair—traditionally 1790-1810. Enjoy the Fair and learn how Jane Austen’s contemporaries in Ohio were living!

A Tasting with Friends September 13 at Benham’s Grove in Centerville

In her current newsletter, Carrie Bebris mentions an upcoming appearance that sounds both delightful and accessible for those of us in the Dayton area:

“A Tasting With Friends: Featuring Ohio Wines, Books & Brew”

Thursday, September 13, 6:00 – 9:00

Benham’s Grove, (116 N Main Street, Centerville)

This fundraiser for the Washington-Centerville Public Library offers wine and beer tasting along with hors d’oeuvres and dessert, and a chance to meet dozens of Ohio authors and illustrators, to see their publications, and to purchase signed copies. The ticket price is \$35, and tickets may be purchased at www.wclibrary.info/atastingwithfriends or at either branch of the library.

A Celebration of Jane Austen September 23 at Oakwood’s Wright Library

On Sunday afternoon, September 23, 2:00-3:30 Carrie will be participating in the Oakwood Library’s Celebration of Jane Austen. This program is designed for teens in grades 7-12 as well as adults and features a variety of activities, including a Jane Austen craft and trivia game, a tea with light refreshments, and a talk by Carrie about her most recent novel, *The Deception at Lyme (Or, The Peril of Persuasion)*, which is newly released in trade paperback. Reservations will be accepted starting Friday, September 14.

Writing Like Jane

Carrie's July newsletter includes a reference to an interview she did for the blog www.jungleredwriters.com. In the July 17 interview Hallie Ephron, whom Carrie met at the Antioch Writers' Workshop, asked what references Carrie uses to keep her style appropriate to the Regency period. Carrie referred her to a site we might find amusing: writelikeausten.com. You type in a word and it tells you whether that word ever appeared in Austen's works, and if so how many times

Hallie checked out the reference by going to the site and typing in "Jungle." Back came the information that Austen never used "jungle." In place of "jungle" in recommended park (appears 158 times in Austen's novels), wood (26 times), woods (20), wilderness (10), forest (8), timber (7), mess (3), litter (3), scramble (2), bush (2), knot (1), chase (1), jumble (1), or hanger (1).



Basically British is Closing

I have just learned that Basically British is closing their tea room at the end of this month. Their gift shop will remain open through September. So this is the time to say farewell to a delightfully British institution here in Dayton--to have a last luncheon there or to purchase one of their excellent teas or some other souvenir. We remember the proprietors, Terry and Vicki, from the meeting we held at Basically British two years ago, and we wish them every success in their new endeavors.

Check Out Our Website

Remember to check our website (www.jasnadayton.org) for late-breaking news about our group and for pictures from past meetings. If you subscribe to the paper version of the newsletter, it is still worthwhile to look at online copy, where the photographs appear in color. For this issue it is particularly worthwhile to see the color photo of Deb's quilt. It is spectacular!

Thanks again to Tom Tumbusch for the great job he is doing as our webmaster.