

JASNA Dayton Newsletter

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February 2019

JASNA Dayton Twelfth Night Ball - Third Time's a charm! March 9, 2019

By Cindy Manship

Greetings to you Janites and ball lovers everywhere! Our twice postponed ball has a new date, March 9th, (and there was much rejoicing!).

Even though Twelfth night has come and gone, we still to plan to have our usual activities on the new day. There will be card playing, great food and of course...dancing!! (Not to mention punch and cake!) Our silent auction awaits your bids. We will have three baskets full of goodies to bid on and other great items too. There are still a few tickets to be had so if you've waited to purchase, wait no longer! Since this Ball of ours is falling close to Mardi Gras, we've decided to add a little something for fun - a Masked Ball! So bring a mask and fool your friends. (We will provide masks for those who would prefer not to bring their own). Here's your chance to let your creative side shine! (There might be a prize for the best mask.)



Cost: \$45 JASNA & CECD members, \$55 for non-members. Capacity is limited! RSVP by March 4th at EventBrite.com (search Twelfth Night Ball) or mail a check payable to JASNA Dayton. If vegetarian or under 21, please note with RSVP. Mail along with contact information (phone and email) to:

Mary Ann Gasior
2727 Old Whipp Court
Centerville, OH 45440

We hope to see you there! Reserve soon – remaining tickets are selling quickly! Questions and inquiries should be directed to Tori Manship (torim08@aol.com) or Mary Ann Gasior (gasiormaryann@yahoo.com). For more information please visit: <http://www.jasnadayton.org/12th-night-ball/> and keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates!

April 13th at 2 pm – Join us to hear “Plans of Economy in Persuasion” presented by Linda Zionkowski at the Mercantile Library in Cincinnati

By Angela Crovetti

CORRECTION: The last newsletter listed the date of this event as April 23rd in the article – the correct date is Saturday, April 13th. Apologies for any issues the error may have caused!

Were you unable to attend the last AGM and therefore missed Linda’s excellent talk? Were you there, and just loved it? Either way, join us for this rare opportunity to hear an excellent, well received AGM talk at the local level! Members who attend are requested to bring a ‘tea lunch’ (finger foods) food item to share – or if you prefer, a jug of iced tea. This event is FREE to both JASNA Dayton and Mercantile Library members – so join us for a nosh and to hear what Kansas City AGM attendees raved about! Guests may attend as well for \$10 each.



Linda Zionkowski is a Professor of English at Ohio University, and most recently author of *Women and Gift Exchange in Eighteenth-Century Fiction: Richardson, Burney, Austen*. Along with Miriam Hart, she has published several essays on the role of domestic music in Austen's life, culture, and novels.

Check in and pot luck starts at 2 p.m., with the lecture starting afterward. Please RSVP with your intention to attend, whether you are bringing any guests, and what potluck item you will bring, to Angela Crovetti at angela.crovetti@gmail.com or call 513-520-8031. Guests are welcome at \$10 each, payable at the door by cash or check made payable to JASNA Dayton.

The Mercantile Library is in an historic building in downtown Cincinnati. It resides on the 11th floor at 414 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202, and has quite a history, which we will learn more about too! For parking and directions, see <https://mercantilelibrary.com/visit/>. Note that meter spots must be paid on Saturdays in the city of Cincinnati.

Cincinnati-Dayton Reading Group Continues to delve in to Northanger Abbey

By Wilson Palmer

Judy McCoy was a generous hostess for the Reading Group on a snowy February 10, 2019, even though she recently had eye surgery and was not supposed to be too active or lift anything remotely heavy. Nine were present for the discussion lead by Kay Berg. Kay shared some of the ideas she found in "Female Quixotism Refashioned: *Northanger Abbey*, the Engaged Reader, and the Woman Writer", by Dr. Jodi Wyatt, (Xavier University) which is an article in *The*

Eighteenth Century, Vol. 56, Issue 2: 2015, from the U. of PA Press. Anti-novel prejudice was so common in Jane Austen's time that she not only wrote her famous "defense of the novel" in chapter 5 of *Northanger Abbey*, but showed how mentor-less Catherine Morland still had novel reading to expand her horizons and understandings. Austen's defense was to support not only the readers of novels, but also the writers of them, many of whom were women. It is a mis-reading of *Northanger Abbey* to see the plot as a "curing" of Catherine from enjoying novels. Kay also shared a tidbit from a 1798 essay "On Reading Novels" in *The Monthly Visitor and Pocket Companion* which, although still part of the harangue against novel reading, admitted that it was a safer pastime for women than cards (gambling), scandal (gossip), and the toilette (vanity).

Wyett: "NA is more than a burlesque of the Gothic. Female quixotism not only signals female readers' susceptibility to print, but also the way in which such engaged reading could manifest personal transformation in surprising and often unconventional ways, thus shifting emphasis from the didactic 'cure' of a delusional woman, to the capacities of the human imagination and the fantasy of a world where various kinds of verbal and intellectual interplay can both feed a woman's mind and put food on the table--at once the most sublime and quotidian of concerns for the professional woman writer."

During the discussion, Deb Bentley, shared how Isabella Thorpe and Catherine Morland were two sides of the same coin. Catherine's mind was often in the fantasy world but her speech was always direct and true. Isabella's mind was completely worldly and her speech was always fantasy. Also, when Isabella realizes Catherine is not at all interested in marrying John Thorpe, she declares she will stand by her friend more than her brother, which may be an implied request for Catherine to stand by her when she dumps James Morland.

There was some lively discussion about Catherine's and Henry's discussion in Volume II, chapter 4 (continuous 19). It is a delightful exchange about the motives of Captain Tilney and Isabella. How much do manners, family loyalty and the fact that a single man is speaking to a single lady constrain the communication Catherine seeks? I was delighted to learn a little more about the rules of manners as taught to both Catherine and myself by Henry. But, I also wondered if there was a way he could have conveyed more information without breaking the rules. A number of times in NA these constraints, it seems to me, prevented Catherine from learning as much as she wanted or needed about the actions and motives of others. So, as Kay Berg presented, it really was up to Catherine, by herself, and by novel reading (and by her mistakes), to learn more about the real world.

Northanger Abbey is a short book so we plan to finish it in a single year. If you want to join us, don't wait too long, as we only have one session left. All meetings are 2:30-4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

March 10, 2019: We will be discussing *Northanger Abbey* Volume II, Chapters 9-16 (if you have a version with continuous chapters: ch. 24-31) at Eilanna Price's house. Discussion leader Marilyn Rueth.

If you are interested in leading a discussion or hosting a meeting, please contact Wilson Palmer (wilson3cp@gmail.com)

Long-time JASNA Dayton member and Co-Founder is a Published Author!

By Martha Caprarotta



The Author's Sister, Monica Wyrick, left, who illustrated the book, with the author.

JASNA Dayton Region member and co-founder Martha Caprarotta (pen name Martha Dunsky) shares exciting news about her book *Fire and Forgiveness: A Nun's Truce with General Sherman*, published February 19 by the University of South Carolina Press. The City of Columbia, SC, and Richland School District One purchased 2,000 copies to distribute to students through their "Together We Can Read" program.

The middle-grade historical fiction tells the true story of young girls who fled a convent school during the Civil War burning of Columbia, SC. The book's message is the importance of peacemaking. Martha launches her book in Columbia February 21 – 23 with

book signings at Mast General Store and the South Carolina State Museum, and author visits at two schools. At St. Peter's Catholic school, the "descendant" of the convent school destroyed during Columbia's burning, Martha reads part of her book to students in the adjacent cemetery, where the convent school girls hid over night during their ordeal.

Here in Ohio, Martha will sign copies of her book at the Ohioana Book Festival in downtown Columbus, on April 27. The day-long event showcasing Ohio authors will be held at Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library for the first time. If you can't make that event, you can join Martha on May 13 at the "Second Monday Authors" program at Woodbourne Library in Centerville. Keep track of Martha's upcoming events on her author's web site at marthadunsky.com, on her "Martha Dunsky" Facebook and Instagram accounts, and her Twitter account @DunskyMartha.

JASNA Dayton Represented at Ohioana Book Festival April 27 in Columbus

By Lynn Slowden

JASNA Dayton will once again partner with the Ohioana Book Festival in 2019. Since its inception in 2007, the Festival has given readers the opportunity to connect with their favorite Ohio writers. Held each spring, the Festival welcomes roughly 100 authors and more than 3,000 visitors every year. One of this year's featured authors is our own Martha (Dunsky) Caprarotta!

The 2019 Book Festival will be held Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at a new location, Columbus Metropolitan Public Library's Main Library, 96 S. Grant Avenue, Columbus, OH 43215. This is a FREE event open to the public, no registration required. It's a fun-filled day with panel discussions, activities for children and young adults, book fair, food trucks, costumed characters and more.

JASNA has a small table which we staff throughout the day, talking about our favorite author and our organization. The Program Committee organizes the table and additional volunteers are welcome. The only requirement is a willingness to talk to the public. Contact Tori Manship to get on the schedule – email torim08@aol.com. Several of us are appearing in Regency dress; you could too! If you are not able to join us, please “like” our posts on Facebook and Instagram and share with your friends. For any other questions, please contact me, lmslowden@aol.com.

Columbus Reading Group Continues with Northanger Abbey

By Sandi Brennan

The Jane Austen Reading Group, *Chawton in Columbus*, met on the afternoon of Sunday, February 17, at the Panera in Hilliard. There were ten of us in attendance who braved the sleet and freezing rain. Thank heavens none of us had to travel there in a curricle! We began with our usual practice of finding and sharing Jane in the modern day. One of our members found a quiz about who said what from which book. Answers were multiple choice, but the group chose to forgo the choices, because some of us felt we knew Jane inside and out. (About that, some of us were mistaken...)

Our assignment for this meeting was to read the second ten chapters of *Northanger Abbey*. Our discussion was guided by questions Sherry Rose-Bond had developed beforehand. All relate to different character pairings. Here is an example of discussion questions used:

- Why did Catherine want to become friends with Eleanor Tilney?
- Why were John Thorpe and James Morland friends?

- Why did Mrs. Allen spend so much time with Mrs. Thorpe?
- Why was Isabella anxious to become engaged to James Morland?

These questions caused lively discussions and some friendly disagreements.

We plan to meet in the spring, May 19, once again at Panera in Hilliard. At that time, we will discuss the final chapters of *Northanger Abbey*. At some point in the summer, we will meet and watch a DVD of *Northanger Abbey*. Date and venue will be determined later.

Of Note...

Submitted by JASNA Dayton RC, Lisa Tyler

The **Jane Austen Summer Program** is delighted to announce its seventh annual symposium, "***Pride and Prejudice and Its Afterlives***"! The events will take place **June 20-23, 2019** at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Carrboro, NC and at various locations on the University of North Carolina campus in Chapel Hill, NC. Participants will have the opportunity to hear expert speakers and participate in discussion groups on Austen's beloved novel and its many afterlives in fiction, film, and digital media. They also will partake in an English tea, dance at a Regency-style ball, attend Austen-inspired theatricals, and visit special exhibits and workshops tailored to the conference. The Jane Austen Summer Program is designed to appeal to established scholars, K-12 teachers, graduate students, undergraduate students, and Austen fans—anyone with a passion for all things Austen is welcome and encouraged to attend!

For more program information, to see comments and photos from previous programs, or to register, please visit the program's website janeaustensummer.org or follow the program at facebook.com/janeaustensummer or via twitter, @JASPhonline. You may also contact us at janeaustensummer@unc.edu.

Dates to Remember

March 9, 2019 – Annual 12th Night Ball & Masquerade at Patterson Homestead

March 10, 2019 – Dayton-Cincy Reading Group - *Northanger Abbey* Volume II, Chapters 9-16 (if you have a version with continuous chapters: Ch. 24-31)

April 13, 2019 – Linda Zionkowski lecture at the Mercantile Library, Cincinnati

April 27, 2019 – Ohioana Book Festival, Columbus, Ohio

May 19, 2019 – Columbus Reading Group, 2:00-5:00 PM, Hilliard Panera.

JASNA Dayton Executive Committee

Elected Positions

Regional Coordinator	Lisa Tyler	rc@jasnadayton.org
Program Coordinator	Tori Manship	torim08@aol.com
Reading Group Coordinator	Wilson Palmer	wilson3cp@gmail.com
Treasurer	Judy McCoy	mccoyjm@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Eilanna Price	eilannaesp@yahoo.com
Membership Coordinator	Deb Bentley	937-429-5123 extraone@woh.rr.com
Librarian and Historian	Eilanna Price	937-829-0492

Appointed Positions

Assistant Program Coordinator	Angela Crovetti	angela.crovetti@gmail.com
Publicity Coordinator	Lynn Slowden	Lmslowden@aol.com
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