

# *JASNA Dayton Newsletter*

[www.jasnadayton.org](http://www.jasnadayton.org)

March, 2020

## *It's Election Time for JASNA Dayton!*

*By Carrie Bebris*

The Nominating Committee has unanimously approved the 2020 Slate of Candidates, which will be voted on either at our next gathering (whenever that might be) or online (if the quarantine is protracted). Please watch your email for more information

The elected slate below will take office for two year terms commencing on September 1<sup>st</sup>. To read up on our bylaws, check out the link below:

<http://www.jasnadayton.org/by-laws/>

Note: the offices of Newsletter Editor, Publicity Coordinator, Webmaster, and Fundraising Coordinator are not listed because they are RC-appointed, not elected, positions.

### **2020 Slate of Candidates for JASNA-Dayton Board**

Regional Coordinator: Lynn Slowden

Program Co-Coordinators: Mary Ann Gasior, Cindy Manship

Treasurer: Judy McCoy

Membership Coordinator: Debra Bentley

Secretary: Eilanna Price

Librarian: Eilanna Price

Reading Group Coordinator: Wilson Palmer

**Lynn Slowden** (running for Regional Coordinator) is a guest service professional, currently working in Development at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. She has been a living historian for over 30 years, interpreting the Great Lakes Fur Trade, The Revolutionary War, Federal and Jacksonian eras. She joined JASNA-Louisville in 2015 to volunteer for the Jane Austen Festival and joined JASNA National the following year. She has served as the Dayton region's Publicity Coordinator and Chairman of the Fifth Annual Twelfth Night Ball in 2020.

**Mary Ann Gasior** (running with Cindy Manship for Programs Coordinator) joined JASNA Dayton around 2010 and has served on the Program Committee since 2013. She attended the Louisville, Washington, DC, and Williamsburg AGMs and enjoys organizing several activities for our members and guests each year. She writes, “I look forward to working with Cindy Manship to continue serving the Dayton Region.”

**Cindy Manship** (running with MaryAnn Gasior for Programs Coordinator) has been a member since around 2009. She writes, “I have been a member of the Program Committee for a number of years. I play hostess to the 12th night Ball every year. I enjoy bringing quality programs to our members and I hope to continue this trend as I move into a leadership role with MaryAnn Gasior.”

**Judy McCoy** (running for Treasurer) has served as JASNA Dayton Treasurer since September 2013 and has been active in the Region’s Reading Group for over 10 years, occasionally serving as hostess. Currently retired, she is a volunteer mentoring mom.

**Debra Bentley** (running for Membership Coordinator) is the current Membership Coordinator. A Life Member of JASNA, she joined in 1988. She previously served as Dayton Region RC and Newsletter Editor. She also served on JASNA’s National Publications Committee and previously wrote the Personals column for JASNA News.

**Eilanna Price** (running for Secretary and Librarian) has been a lifetime JASNA member since 2011 and active with the Dayton Region. She has been Secretary the last 2 years as well as hosting the library in her home. Eilanna is retired from WPAFB, has two grown children, and enjoys learning about the regency period.

**Wilson Palmer** (running for Reading Group Coordinator) is currently Reading Group Coordinator. Even if you have never attended Reading Group you have seen his emails. ‘Nuff said.

## ***Short-Term Volunteers Sought***

*By Lisa Tyler*

Please consider volunteering to serve on a small committee that will conduct an audit of the finances of the Dayton and Southwest Ohio Region. No experience is necessary, and the work should take a couple afternoons at most.

Wilson Palmer, who proposed the audit, will lead the committee, which will have three tasks: matching the treasurer’s report against the bank account statements, verifying the Region’s income, and checking for a matching invoice for every expense reported.

As Wilson observed in his proposal that the Region conduct regular audits of its finances, “It is almost always true in our volunteer activities that our treasurers can be trusted. The purpose of

an annual audit is to get comfortable doing a series of exercises showing how everything adds up. Then, if at some future date something is amiss, you have confidence in your tools to find and resolve the problems.”

Anyone interested in volunteering or learning more about the audit, please contact Wilson Palmer at [wilson3cp@gmail.com](mailto:wilson3cp@gmail.com) or Lisa Tyler, the Regional Coordinator, at [rc@jasnadayton.org](mailto:rc@jasnadayton.org)

## ***Dayton/Cincinnati Reading Group Continues Persuasion Discussion***

*By Wilson Palmer*

On February 9, 2020, nineteen of us were graciously welcomed into Kay Berg's home for the Dayton/Cincinnati Reading Group. A lovely time was had by all except for the resident cats who longed to join the conversation but were prevented from doing so by some inconveniently closed doors. We mostly talked about the third quarter of *Persuasion* and had delicious tea and treats to make the afternoon complete. Joining us were two new attendees along with two who were new to us during the last session in November. An influx of youth to revive our spirits, almost like the second bloom of Anne Elliot! A number of us were pleased with the annotated versions' footnote about how Camden Place, Sir Walter's Bath address, looked very well but was not solid underneath. Just like him! Construction to expand the residences had to be halted due to land slippage. Did Jane Austen know about this and select this site on purpose? To this we cannot know the answer, but some said that as good as her skills are, they see even a higher level of writing in this book. For example, Nurse Rook, a very minor character, is only briefly presented but her character seems fully rounded and complex. Also, compare Mary Musgrove to Lydia Bennet and notice how the latter has fewer facets to her character.



*Reading Group members participate in the lively discussion at Kay Berg's home*

Interesting controversies arose about how someone who was constantly in action, serving and solving domestic troubles, could be as powerless as Anne. One person said she had feminine power - the kind that works in the background, making the right choices while those in authority drift. Another said Anne, as the middle child, is the peacemaker and that is her power. Another interesting idea we debated is whether Lady Russell does not encourage any further romance for Anne, except to Mr. Elliot, to keep her as her permanent companion. We differed on why Jane made Lady Dalrymple an Irish viscountess. Since Sir Walter is a mock gentleman, is Lady Dalrymple mock nobility whom Sir Walter fawns over?



Martha Caprarotta & Judy DaPolito enjoy the nosh!

One would think after all the times I have read this book and viewed the movies, I would notice things better. But I was surprised to learn from my knowledgeable friends, that when Sir Walter is berating Anne for visiting a widow between thirty and forty with no surname of dignity, Mrs. Clay leaves the room not because it was impolite for her to view a family squabble but because Sir Walter's words applied also to her. It seems obvious now that I reread that section. Another detail that was pointed out to me is how, after all this time, and with Captain Wentworth's naval prowess and riches, Lady Russell's thoughts about him contain the word "contempt." Why contempt? Is it guilt over ruining Anne's happiness with advice that could now be considered faulty? Or does she really believe that even now Wentworth is still too lowly to deserve Anne? These are the happy conjectures that make Reading Group so enjoyable to me and, I am hopeful, to the others that attend.

## ***Chawton in Columbus Jane Austen Reading Group Meeting February 23, 2020***

*By Sandi Brennan*

We began our first meeting of 2020 at Friendship Village of Dublin in the Riverside Meeting Room at 1:00 P.M. There were eight of us in attendance. Some of our regulars were unable to attend due to transportation problems. They were missed but hopefully their woes will be past them when we meet again. Please watch your email and check our website for updates once the quarantine is lifted. Because members have been encouraged to “look for Jane” in current media, we shared instances where Ms. Austen and her influence on modern celebrities was uncovered. *The New York Times* is a treasure trove of such references.



Sherry Rose-Bond with a Map of English Beaches

*Sanditon* was our theme of the day. As *Sanditon* was to be an



Chawton in Columbus Reading Group Attendees

up and coming beach resort, we looked at the kinds of beaches available to the English population of Ms. Austen's day; many were of the rocky variety, not the sand type we are used to in the US.

We compared *Sanditon* as Jane's unfinished book and the series that just ended on PBS. The cliffhanger at the end of the series left many members hoping for *Sanditon: Season 2*. We also discussed how the unfinished book compared to other Austen completed works.

When we gather together again, we will look at Jane Austen's "History of England" and an introduction to *Emma*, which we will discuss in depth during our 2020-21 season of Chawton in Columbus.

To RSVP to any of the Chawton in Columbus group events or for questions, contact Sandi Brennan at [sbrennannedd@aol.com](mailto:sbrennannedd@aol.com).

## ***JASNA Dayton Fifth Annual Twelfth Night Ball & Tea A Rousing Success***

*By Cindy Manship (in the style of Mrs. Bennet)*

Greetings to all of our Lords and Ladies. This is Mrs. Bennet, your hostess for our recent Twelfth night Ball. I had such a lovely time at our Ball this year! The weather was lovely, unlike last year when Mrs. Jennings was forced to cancel not once but twice! Well, I must stay on topic as Mr. Bennet often says. Speaking of Mr. Bennet, he couldn't make the Ball this year because of illness and he missed such lovely lace on so many ballgowns. O dear, there I go again!



*Ball attendees enjoy the dancing*



*Card games were enjoyed by attendees who chose not to dance or needed a break!*

We had several new people attend, which was wonderful, though I would like to see more unattached gentlemen attend. I myself joined in the dance this year! I am afraid I am a little out of practice since Mr. Bennet does not like to dance. Thanks to our wonderful caller, Mr. Tom Tumbusch and his

lovely Lady, Mrs Toni Tumbusch, I kept in step as best I could. The food this year was excellent. I so enjoy our lovely repast after dancing and playing cards. Alas, I lost a bit in the card room as my usual partner, Mrs. Mary Ann Gasior, played against me! Once again Mr. Fred and Mrs. Marilyn Rueth kept us playing well into the night. Speaking of the card room, I so wanted my unattached daughter, Mary, to play on the pianoforte to show off her talent, but alas, it was not in working order. It is so hard to get good help these days! Luckily, the staff at the Ball were very attentive and gave all such good service. I hope those of you who attended had the chance to check out our silent auction items. We had some lovely items and a simply beautiful bonnet that I just couldn't resist! Miss Cam Mauzy does such lovely artistry.

My thanks to all who worked so hard to make my Ball a success!

### ***Save the Roof at Jane Austen's House: Sponsor a Tile***

*By Deb Bentley*

You are invited to play a part in the restoration of Jane Austen's roof by sponsoring a roof tile for a donation of £15 (\$20USD). Each tile sponsored will help to enable the renovation of the roof at the historic Jane Austen's House Museum. (Charity Registration No: 1156458.)



The roof was last refurbished in 1948, before the House was opened to the public. After 70 years and over a million visitors, it is now in need of major restoration.

The restoration will require specialist contractors to install approximately 30,000 reclaimed, handmade clay roof tiles. They will also ensure the work does not disturb the rare bats that share the site with the Museum, which will add to the difficulty and cost of the project.

Be a part of the history of Jane Austen's House Museum!

All proceeds raised through this campaign will go towards the renovation of the roof at Jane Austen's House, as part of the Jane's Fund appeal. Your sponsorship will be recorded in the Roof Donations Register, which will be held in perpetuity in the archive at the Museum.

For complete information and instructions on how to donate, please see the Jane Austen's House Museum "Sponsor a Roof Tile" link: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/roof-tiles>

## ***Coronavirus and the JASNA AGM (from the AGM Update Center)***

*By Linda Slothouber, VP of Conferences*

Every year, we strongly advise JASNA members not to make any nonrefundable travel arrangements for the AGM until their registrations have been confirmed. This year, as we all watch the news about coronavirus and take steps to stop its spread, the need to remain flexible is even more important.

While the JASNA AGM is many months away, none of us know what the full impact of coronavirus will be. The members of the Ohio North Coast Region continue to make plans to host a wonderful AGM, and we all hope that nothing will prevent us gathering in Cleveland in the fall. However, it is much too early to determine whether or how our conference will be affected.

We have decided, at this point, to move AGM registration to the latter part of June. This delay will allow more time for both planners and attendees to learn more from the WHO, CDC, and other authorities about what conditions are likely to be in the fall. When we know more, we will share information on [jasna.org](http://jasna.org).

In the meantime, if you are spending more time at home, why not enjoy the energetic (and often implausible) travels of Eliza Cecil, Mr. Clifford, Laura and Edward Lindsay (AKA Talbot), Elizabeth Johnson, and all the other characters in Austen's juvenile writings?

## ***Ohioana Book Festival Postponed***

*By Morgan Peters, Program Coordinator, submitted by Carrie Bebris*

Dear Ohioana Book Festival Partner,

We have made the difficult decision to postpone the 2020 Ohioana Book Festival to help slow the spread of COVID-19. We are working on rescheduling as soon as possible, and are aiming for early to late summer for our new festival date. As this situation progresses, we will keep you in the loop with new information as it develops.

We appreciate all of your work on the festival so far. The event would not be possible without all of you, and we look forward to having your participation later in the year. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Best,

Morgan Peters, Program Coordinator

## **Emma Movie Review**

*By Tori Manship*

*Emma* was delectable eye candy. Everything from the costumes, the lighting, even the food, was a feast for the eyes.

My friend Jacob and I went to see the film together, and we agreed we were both blown away by the cinematography. Every time the characters transition between beautiful Georgian interiors to the outdoors, the natural light was just so breathtaking, the audience was transported.

Speaking of eye candy, certainly there was a knowing homage to the infamous “wet shirt” scene in the Colin Firth version of *P&P* when we see Mr. Knightly prepare for his day in the beginning of the film, and it was... a bit of a surprise.

Throughout the film I could almost feel the director and writer’s glee at the idea that they would be able to surprise even seasoned Janeites, like Jacob and myself, who know the material so well.

And I was frequently taken off guard in a way I don’t often experience with Jane Austen film adaptations. Make sure to pay extra attention to servants’ faces throughout the movie; this is highlighted in a way I’ve never noticed before.

As I try to not to give away any major spoilers, I will say there was one scene where I practically began to panic that the film was now completely out of order and was skipping ahead in the strangest way, only to find out I had been teased once again by creative writing.

I think where the film is weakest is that very little time is spent on Frank Churchill and Jane Fairfax; in fact, they’re barely characters. As a result it’s hard to understand why Churchill is an antagonist and why everyone seems so upset with him when everything is revealed to Emma. This also undermines Mrs. Elton's character, who, still wonderfully obnoxious in a general way, really doesn’t get to impose on anyone, especially Jane Fairfax, which helps make her character so repugnant. Mr. Elton, however, was admirable, if a little more cringey, angry and bizarre than in other versions.

The tradeoff for the short screen time of other characters is a very romantic and electric connection between Mr. Knightly and Emma. I was worried that Emma might lack warmth, but I thought her character thawed beautifully as the seasons progressed in the story. Mr. Knightly was wonderful, everything I could have hoped for, and still refreshingly a little unsure of himself.

Mr. Woodhouse was an unusual interpretation in the form of a very spry Bill Nighy. I honestly wasn’t sure how I felt about this change in my expectations. But he was, I admit, hilarious. And perhaps more than any other adaptation, this version made it easier to see how Emma and Mr. Woodhouse could possibly be related.



Again no major spoilers, but at the end of the movie Mr. Woodhouse, knowingly I'm sure, does something downright mischievous, that implies that perhaps Emma has inherited her match making tendencies quite honestly, from her father...

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Haven't seen the film yet, and now theaters are shut down? An opportunity to watch currently released movies, including *Emma*, exists! For about the cost of two movie theater tickets, you can make your own popcorn & go here to watch:

[https://www.focusfeatures.com/emma/?utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=c681d64926-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_03\\_19\\_06\\_15&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_1233e3da13-c681d64926-100511981&mc\\_cid=c681d64926&mc\\_eid=87734a86d0](https://www.focusfeatures.com/emma/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_campaign=c681d64926-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_19_06_15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1233e3da13-c681d64926-100511981&mc_cid=c681d64926&mc_eid=87734a86d0)

### JASNA Dayton Executive Committee

#### Elected Positions

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

#### Appointed Positions

<b>Assistant Program Coordinator</b>	Angela Crovetti	<a href="mailto:angela.crovetti@gmail.com">angela.crovetti@gmail.com</a>
<b>Publicity Coordinator</b>	Lynn Slowden	<a href="mailto:Lmslowden@aol.com">Lmslowden@aol.com</a>
<b>Fundraising Coordinator</b>	Camilla Mauzy	<a href="mailto:c.mauzy@hotmail.com">c.mauzy@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Angela Crovetti	<a href="mailto:angela.crovetti@gmail.com">angela.crovetti@gmail.com</a>
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