

JASNA-Vermont News

February 2008

It is official! On 22 January 2008 Deb Barnum and I received notification from Iris Lutz (VP for Regions) that Vermont's application for a chapter *had been accepted*. Deb and I act as co-Regional Coordinators; Marcia Merrill, treasurer; Carol Madden, Recording Secretary. We have *seventeen* members!

And now for some 2008 JASNA-Vermont activities (all dates are Sundays):

February 24, 2:00 p.m.

270 South Willard St., Burlington

Deb has kindly offered her house (and tea cups!) for an informal gathering of members. Bring something 'desserty' and 'a favorite Austen passage' to share with the group.

Chapter plans and future meetings will be discussed. Please RSVP Deb (bygone.books@verizon.net or 802-864-0517) by February 21.

March 30, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Hauke Conference Room, Hauke Family Campus Center (375 Maple Street), Champlain College, Burlington

Our first major meeting will feature **Prof. Robyn Warhol-Down (UVM, Department of English) speaking on " 'I Quit Such Odious Subjects': Jane Austen's Narrative Refusals"**. Robyn's research into 'the ways authors like Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte and Henry James have of talking about what they won't talk about in their novels' is the topic of her forthcoming book, *Better Left Unsaid: What Doesn't Happen in Nineteenth Century British Novels*. This event is open to the public, and we will be requesting RSVPs by March 19th to JASNA-VT@hotmail.com or (802) 864-0517. Light refreshments will be served.

June 22 TBA

We've many ideas -- a reading borrowed from JASNA's Script Bank, followed by a discussion; a short talk about the AGMs; some history of JASNA. Light refreshments.

September 14 or 21 TBA

Deb is contacting John Turner of Montpelier to see if he would be available to speak. More information forthcoming.

November TBA

Members gather following the AGM. This year's Annual General Meeting, **Austen's Legacy: Life, Love & Laughter**, will be held in Chicago, October 2-5. (JASNA will be sending out programs soon - or look online at JASNA.org for the latest information; Deb for one is planning to attend.) This meeting would allow members unable to attend to hear about and discuss the AGM's activities, panels, business meeting, etc etc.

December 7 or 14 TBA

Hauke Family Campus Center, Champlain College, Burlington

(entrance fee, payable at the door)

A JASNA tradition is to celebrate Jane Austen's birthday (16 December 1775) with a tea.

Our 2007 plans were upset by Mother Nature... so for 2008 we hope to do something especially festive: **A High Tea with the Colchester English Country Dance group.**

The dancers will discuss English country dancing and give demonstrations: *Be prepared to participate!*

For 2009:

Our hope is to have at least four activities a year -- March, June, September, December; a combination of formal gatherings (public invited) with guest speaker(s), as well as get-togethers among JASNA members. Ideas are always welcome, as are new members and those with an interest in our activities. If you know of people who might like to be on our mailing list for events, please contact Deb or Kelly with information (we need their email and mailing addresses). ***Members are our best ambassadors, and our most valuable resource.*** Help get the word out about public events; encourage that neighbor, teacher, friend, spouse who has an Austen-interest; plan a fundraiser; volunteer your time. As Regional Coordinators, Deb and I are here to help *you*, but we cannot do it alone.

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Directions to the Hauke Family Campus Center, Champlain College: The Campus Center is located at 375 Maple Street; entrance either via stairs that lead up to the building, or through the courtyard. Campus parking is available on the weekends (*not* in vendor or reserved spaces). See attached campus and parking maps.