



# JASNA Rochester

## Newsletter

### February 2010

Jane Austen Society of North America, Rochester Chapter  
<http://jasnaroc.wordpress.com>

Please visit our new website!

<http://jasnaroc.wordpress.com>

Click through the page links at the top to read “about” JASNA, to see information on Spring 2010 events, and to get information on English Country Dance in Rochester, including the May 2010 Jane Austen Ball. There’s a YouTube video on the bottom of the ECD page that lets you see five minutes of the first Rochester JA Ball in 2007.

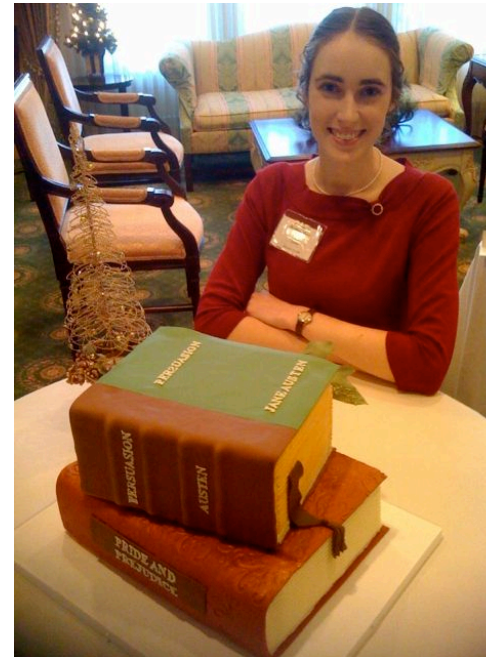
### Spring 2010 Meetings and Events

ALL meetings and events are on Saturdays.

- February 20, 2010: 1:00 p.m. at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Pittsford, NY. A group reading of the Gill & Hannan play, *The Trial of William Walter Elliot*.
- March 20, 2010: 1:00 p.m. CHANGE of venue. We were unable to find a local library with an open space on March 20, so we are meeting in our *usual meeting place*, the Community Room of the Pittsford Barnes and Noble for a discussion of Jane Austen’s social context. **Lisa Brown** will deliver a talk on the “Quarter Days,” four traditional religious festival days in the year in Britain when rents were due and servants were hired.
- April 17, 2010: 11:00 a.m. (**SPECIAL EVENT!** NOTE EARLY TIME) at the Rochester Public Library, downtown on South Avenue. In the Rundel Auditorium (on the third floor of the old building). **JASNA Traveling Lecturer Professor Peter Graham** will speak on “Jane Austen and the Labor of Leisure.” This event will include a luncheon at the library’s restaurant Simply Crepes. The charge for this talk and luncheon is \$25. It has been partially funded by a generous “Traveling Lecturers” grant from JASNA.
- May 15, 2010: 1:00 p.m. at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Pittsford, NY. A discussion of Jane Austen and Music.

## Report on the Birthday Luncheon

On December 12, 2009, Amy Green returned to Rochester from her new home in Virginia, where she pursues her doctorate in History at The College of William and Mary. Her talk on the politics of dance in England and the United States in the 18<sup>th</sup>-century provided a wonderful context for understanding the social implications of the public gatherings described by Jane Austen. Here Amy sits behind the December 2009 Birthday Luncheon cake, which is shaped as two volumes of Jane Austen's novels. Thanks to JASNA member Sharon Buzard for the invitation to have our luncheon at the Chatterbox Club, and for arranging for the exquisite, original cake.



## Jane Austen on PBS' Masterpiece Classic



This season (spring 2010) PBS is broadcasting new versions of films of *Emma*, *Northanger Abbey*, and *Persuasion*. While no film will ever capture every detail of a novel, this season's offerings are attentive to Austen's satirical, humorous style, present beautiful Regency costumes and great houses, and are bringing Jane Austen to life for a new generation. You can watch video clips and even whole episodes (for a limited time) at the PBS website, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece>.

## We Are a Welcoming Group

The Rochester Chapter of the Jane Austen Society of North America meets monthly on the third Saturday of the month (except for the Birthday Luncheon in December) from September through May. The current Regional Coordinator is Celia Easton, who can be reached by email at [easton@geneseo.edu](mailto:easton@geneseo.edu).

Our regular monthly meetings attract 20-30 participants. Some are members of JASNA and some come to meetings to hear about a particular topic or to find out more about Jane Austen. Although you will find some great Austen experts at JASNA meetings, no level of familiarity is required—just an interest in Jane Austen, literature, and history.

You'll find our meetings are often "in a round"—with a variety of chairs set in a circle to promote discussion. If you prefer to sit back and listen, no one will press you to contribute, but all ideas are welcome.

If you are not a member of the Jane Austen Society of North America, we hope you'll consider joining (see page 4) and supporting the JASNA's mission: the continuing "study and appreciation of Jane Austen's work, life, and genius."



### Brighton Library Jane Austen Week

If you live close to the Brighton Library on Elmwood Avenue, keep checking their website for postings on the March calendar—there's another Jane Austen week promised, but details are forthcoming. Local English Country Dancers have been invited to dance at the library on Saturday, March 27 at 11:00 a.m., demonstrating dances of the Jane Austen era—some of which have been made popular by recent films. <http://www.brightonlibrary.org/>

### Zombies and Sea Monsters

Are you outraged, thrilled, or simply confused by the recent "take-offs" on Jane Austen novels? If you've read *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, *Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters*, or *Mansfield Park and Mummies*, won't you write a review for our local newsletter? All contributions are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Regular participants with the Rochester Chapter of JASNA are urged to make a \$5/year contribution to the chapter to support newsletter production, publicity, and activities. Please bring Rochester contributions to a meeting or mail to Rollie Abkowitz, 1198 Gatestone Circle, Webster, NY 14580

If you wish to join the Jane Austen Society of North America—and receive national newsletter and the excellent annual journal, *Persuasions* (a full book of essays on Austen), print out membership information from <http://www.jasna.org> or send in the following to **Bobbie Gay 7230 N. San Blas Drive Tucson AZ 85704**. You must be a member of JASNA to attend Annual General Meetings.

Type of membership	U.S.A.
Student annual (full-time)	US\$18
Individual annual	US\$30
Family annual**	US\$45
Sustaining annual***	US\$60
Individual life	US\$350
Convert to Family life****	US\$150
Family life**	US\$500

For further questions on membership, please call 1-800-836-3911 or email the US/International Membership Secretary, Bobbie Gay, <mailto:hettyb@comcast.net> or the Canadian Membership Secretary, Nancy Stokes, [members-canada@jasna.org](mailto:members-canada@jasna.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Second Name (if family membership) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership category:  Individual  Student  Family  Sustaining  Life  Convert to Family Life  Family Life

Please check all that apply:  New member  Renewal  Address change  Contribution  This is a gift; please send the member a gift card from \_\_\_\_\_

Dues (refer to chart above) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I also wish to make a contribution\* to:

JASNA or JASNA/Canada (circle one) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Jane Austen-related Churches \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Jane Austen’s House \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* JASNA is a section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. US and International members contributing to JASNA or the Austen sites listed above will receive a US charitable contribution tax receipt. For Canadian tax purposes, contributions are deductible only if designated for JASNA/Canada; a tax receipt will be issued for those donations.