

My dear Cassandra

Highlights of the January Meeting

Several guests were welcomed to our meeting; could it be the result of Isobel Temple's efforts to publicize the Society through posters displayed in all the public libraries? Thanks, Isobel! And thanks also to those who have offered to put posters up in other likely spots.

Elizabeth Marshall asked for readers for the March meeting, and gave a sneak peek of the program for the June 10 Gala. There was a financial report from Treasurer Sue Sulic, and Linda Payne spoke about the fun and excitement of attending a JASNA AGM and Conference; many were encouraged to think about going to the October AGM in Tucson. Linda was thanked for her work as Regional Coordinator for the last two years and presented with a gift, and we all enjoyed the coffee and cookies courtesy of June Grant and Elvee Fenning.

A slide show and talk by Diana Patterson from the English department of Mount Royal College followed. Diana had many interesting slides showing Bath in the time of Jane Austen, and members were able to see maps, houses, the baths, churches and gardens. It was fascinating to relate these geographical details to the settings of Northanger Abbey and Persuasion.

Randie Lind

Program for our March 18th meeting.

The program for the March meeting will be readings from the novel "His Cunning or Hers.....?" by June Menzies, one of the founding members of JASNA-Edmonton. June wrote this short epistolary novel as the free publication given to those who attended the 1993 JASNA AGM in Lake Louise. Since the work studied at that AGM was "Persuasion", June looked at the period of the Elliots' stay in Bath from the perspectives of William Elliot and Penelope Clay. She gives an imagined version of what was really going on between them during that time, proposes an explanation for their sudden departure from Bath together and offers two possible endings to their story. We hope to have time to debate the credibility of her proposals and to choose the ending you find the most probable!

.....and for the June Workshop:

Join us on June 10, 2006, again this year at the Cardel Theatre, for "A Saturday in Surrey with Emma". We will spend from 10 am to 3:30 pm studying in particular the Strawberry Picking at Donwell Abbey and the Box Hill Excursion in "Emma". Sheila Dechant, JASNA-Edmonton member born and raised in England, will present information on the Surrey area. Shannon Campbell, who has already instructed us on the roses in "Mansfield Park", will do the same for the fruits and vegetables that were likely

grown on Mr. Knightley's farm and passed our to lucky residents of Highbury. We will have our own Box Hill "cold collation", look at Emma and Harriet Smith's penchants for collections of sentimental mementos, listen to readings of scenes from the novel and hear and discuss an explanation of what was really going on between characters from a paper prepared by Professor John Rogers of Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania for the 1999 AGM in Colorado Springs. The cost of the Workshop will be \$30 and includes lunch and two coffee breaks. Tickets will be on sale at the March meeting or after that by contacting Elizabeth Marshall at 217-4372 or elizabeth.marshall@shaw.ca. Elizabeth Marshall

Music, Music, Music

Announcing a new CD of Regency dance music!

From the era of Jane Austen's novels and Jefferson's years at Monticello. The Lexington (Kentucky) Vintage Dance Society is proud to present "Lady Caroline's Regency Romp: Dance Music of the Early 19th Century," a CD of English, French, and American dance music from the first quarter of the 19th century. It includes:

3 waltzes, 4 country dances, 5 mazurkas, and 14 quadrilles -- 26 tracks and 78 minutes of music in all! The music is played by five musicians on piano, violin, cello, flute, oboe, and clarinet.

Much of this music is unavailable elsewhere.

The printed insert contains 18 pages of text about the era, music, dances, musical structure, basic steps, and sources. It also includes suggested choreographies for some tunes. For the title of each track and to listen to sound clips, please go to our website, www.lexingtonvintagedance.org and click on "Regency Music CD".

Ordering information is also on our website.

Remember! Remember! Remember! Remember!

Please renew your membership in our local chapter of JASNA for 2006 if you have not already done so!

Persuasions On-Line

Many of the papers given at the last JASNA AGM are available to read on-line at www.jasna.org. Check this web-site from time to time for all sorts of new information from JASNA.

Whether you liked it or not.....

On January 31, PRIDE AND PREJUDICE was nominated for four Academy Awards

- Actress in a leading role: Keira Knightly
- Art Direction: Sarah Greenwood(Art Direction); Katie Spencer (Set Decoration)
- Costume Design; Jacqueline Durran
- Original Score: Daio Marianelli