

Muse & Musings

"The company of clever, well-informed people, who have a great deal of conversation"

February 12th Zoom Meeting

"Brunch at Chawton: A Jane Austen Musicale."

February's meeting featured a recorded plenary session from the Chicago 2021 AGM "Jane Austen and the Arts." This presentation was a performance at the closing brunch by Stephen Alltop and Josefien Stoppelenburg of musical selections mentioned in Jane Austen's writing. Maestro Alltop, music director and conductor of the Champaign Urbana Symphony Orchestra at the University of Illinois, was joined by his wife Dutch-born Ms. Stoppelenburg, famed for her sparkling vocal agility and her passionate and insightful musical interpretations. The performance concluded with a rousing (and hilarious) rendition of "The Battle of Prague."

JASNA-Vancouver is 40 and fabulous!



The cake served at the April Jane Austen Day meeting

Looking Back at JASNA-Vancouver

Eileen's Archive: Newsletter #99, August 2007

In May 1981, Joan Austen-Leigh decided that there should be a Jane Austen Society in Vancouver. She borrowed her daughter's apartment and hosted a supper party. Eight of us were there. Keiko Parker and I were already members of JASNA and on the mailing list; the others Joan knew as writers living in Vancouver who might be interested in Jane Austen's work.

We had a very pleasant time talking about the novels. At the end of the evening, Joan more or less said: "Now I've



Spring 2022 meeting dates

At St. Philip's: Mark your calendar!

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| May 14 th | Two special speakers: Alison Dacia Brown with Q&A on the Victoria AGM; Elaine Bander live via zoom from Montreal, topic TBA |
| June 11 th | Books & Berries: Bring your old books for our annual fund-raiser and your book reviews to share with the group |

Full Covid protocols will be in place, according to Public Health Orders at the time.

Please see the program of events on our website for more up-to-date information (thanks to webmaster Jennifer Cothran):

[JASNA-Vancouver program](#)

got you together to form a Jane Austen Society – the rest is up to you." We left, expressing our hopes of getting together again soon. Then we all sat back and waited for someone else to do something.

Eventually, I realized that I wanted a Jane Austen Society in Vancouver, and if nobody else was going to arrange it, then I would have to do it myself. In October 1981, Ron and I went to the annual conference, held that year in San Francisco. I saw no-one else from Vancouver, but Joan Austen-Leigh gave a fascinating talk about the Austen family. The pleasure of meeting other people interested in Jane Austen and eager to talk about her, made me determined to have a Jane Austen group in Vancouver.

I wrote to Joan for the list of names she had invited, and made out invitations for a Jane Austen Birthday party in December. In the end, only two could come, and I cancelled the party. The next March I tried again, with a supper party at my home – nine of us altogether, including Joan, her husband Denis and her daughter Freydis Welland. Others were Keiko Parker, Mary Coleman, Kathleen Carter and Flora Farnden – some of you will

remember these members. It was another pleasant evening, and we had lots of ideas for meetings in the Fall.

The first years we were not thinking of regular monthly meetings, but rather of special events, such as our first annual dinner, at Brock House Restaurant in November 1982, twelve of us there, non-stop conversation, and an informal talk by Joan Austen-Leigh; and lunch at the Beach House in Stanley Park. It is obvious how much help and encouragement we got from Joan Austen-Leigh, who was always willing to do all she could.

In the next few years, we got more ambitious – reserved meeting rooms at various public libraries, and had guest speakers from the libraries or from UBC. By this time, the Vancouver group was well established thanks in large part to the generosity of local scholars who willingly donated their time and effort to give us learned and interesting talks.

I think we can sincerely quote Jane Austen: “There was not an oath or a murmur from beginning to end!” And we are looking forward to many more such years.

– Eileen Sutherland, 2007

JASNA-Vancouver

A personal memoir by Joan Reynolds

Having only joined JASNA-Vancouver in 1996, I feel less than qualified to review the last 40 years of JASNA-Vancouver. I certainly wasn’t one of the originals present at the first meeting in March of 1982, held at the home of Eileen Sutherland and her husband Ron. (Wine was served!) But Keiko Parker was there, and like Ron, is still a current member, as is Jean Brown, another inaugural attendee. Nor was I there for the very first annual dinner in the following November at Brock House restaurant, 12 attending. These were the early years when Joan Austen-Leigh was a constant encouragement, and often attended Vancouver meetings, but it was Eileen who kept the momentum going. The following year she started the JASNA-Vancouver newsletter, hand-typed, cut and pasted, photocopied and mailed out to the individual members. Eileen has recorded her own recollections of those early days of our group in both Newsletters #68 and #99.

“First impressions”

I can certainly remember my first meeting at St. Philip’s Fireside Room in 1996, having learned about JASNA-Vancouver from Marg Savery (now Young), a friend of my own good pal and work colleague, Ros Hansen. It was a bit intimidating, not only were most of those present very well-known to each other, but they thoroughly knew their Jane Austen! The level of knowledge was that of academics. I felt woefully ignorant and rather embarrassed – most of my knowledge was from having studied

only one novel (*Pride and Prejudice* decades before as a teenager at school in England) and having watched three BBC adaptations of the same novel – in 1958, 1980, and the “wet shirt version” earlier that year. I had none of the in-depth knowledge of the things so easily discussed by everyone: the nuances of the novels, the intricate details of Jane Austen’s life, her illness, her family, the village of Chawton – nor of Sandy Lerner, the former Cisco Systems founder and millionaire benefactor who had rescued Chawton House from dereliction and established it as a library and centre for the study of early women writers.

I had so much to learn but was a keen student. I was particularly in thrall when at one of my first meetings I was introduced to Joan Austen-Leigh, a many times great niece of Jane Austen, living in Victoria and one of the founders of JASNA. I was speechless – and those who know me well can attest this is quite unusual! On special occasions she used to bring Jane Austen’s folding writing desk for us to see. This treasured item now resides in the British Library in London behind glass – but we were lucky enough to see it up close in our own “backyard” thanks to Joan.

Eileen and Ron were more than gracious in making me feel welcome, and I gradually got to know everyone over the succeeding months. One of my first introductions was to the elegant and impeccably dressed Nora Morrow – who came in early and got busy in the kitchen, making sure all the necessary food and beverage items were laid out, and everything cleaned up afterwards. I also remember Jean Oriente and Bev Gropen, key creators of varied programs in the early days.



The writing desk was donated to the British Library by Joan Austen-Leigh’s family

One thing that is a little different from today – the group had a significant male representation – Ron Sutherland, of course, and also Virgil Oriente, Murray Wannamaker, Keiko’s husband John Parker, and writer/scholar Rene Goldman to name just some. Now, admittedly some of these were the spousal half of other members but they were not just present as passive onlookers. They were all

actively instrumental in the programming, each initiating and presenting a wide range of topics to the membership on a regular basis. Another interesting feature was the families represented by two generations, such as the Sutherlands, Orientes and Morleys.

“The meeting was generally felt to be a pleasant one, being composed in a good proportion of those who would talk and those who would listen”

Never, never let anyone dare tell you how ridiculous it is that a group would meet nine times a year just to discuss Jane Austen – “What on earth do you talk about?? She only wrote *six* novels.” If only they knew.



The topics are wide ranging: the architecture of Bath, Georgian gardens, the medical profession, and many of these presented by our own members including talks on the Navy, the postal service in Jane Austen’s time, food, lacemaking. All of these give context and new insights to the novels. One of my early recollections is a meeting where members with fluency in another language read the opening paragraph from *Pride and Prejudice* in translation: we heard French, Italian, Swedish, Norwegian, Hebrew, Japanese, and Spanish among others. I was impressed not only by the range of linguistic abilities of our group but also how the essence and rhythm of Jane Austen’s words were present even though we didn’t know what the individual words meant. It was fascinating.

In addition to our members themselves being key drivers of meeting content, we have also had many academics and specialists who have shared their knowledge and research with us. Certain speakers return on a regular basis due to their popularity, perhaps the most favourite being clothing historian Ivan Sayers who delights us with his stories and vast knowledge of the history of “Regency Raiment” and he always brings along precious examples of authentic Regency clothing from his extensive collection.

We have also had some off-site meetings including one at Christchurch Cathedral, a full tour combined with a discussion of the religious aspect of Jane Austen’s life, works and upbringing as the daughter of a vicar. Phyllis and Lindsay Bottomer have in the last couple of years, when Covid restrictions were eased a little, hosted all fresco meetings at their home where their beautiful garden was on display. Lindsay also gave a lecture on a beach near their home on fossils and rock formations. We can always rely on our members to think up interesting ideas.

Since I joined there have been new features added to the meetings. One has been the introduction of the “Austen Extract” to kick off each meeting. This is an idea brought back by Aileen Hollifield from attending a JASA meeting in Australia and takes us back to the source of our interest, Jane’s words. Then in February 2007, Phyllis introduced the “Bountiful Basket” draw – a way to welcome new visitors to our meetings as well as acknowledge the members who brought them; the winner of the annual draw receives a basket of Austen-related “swag.”

We started to add technology, first a sound system to make sure everyone could hear the speaker clearly; then a projector to hook up to speakers’ computers, and now we have a very sophisticated set-up that allows our speakers to be live-streamed and recorded so those far away or no longer able to attend in person can still enjoy our meetings.

We have over the years canvassed members to find out how they discovered us. By far the most frequent answer is “brought along by a friend/a friend told me” with the internet being the second most common reason, (a quick Google of “Jane Austen Clubs in Vancouver” finds us.) Of course, when a major event such as an AGM occurs, we get more exposure – radio interviews and newspaper articles with the resulting bump in membership.

“...one very superior party...”

Jane Austen Day, our annual special celebration of all things Austen, were initially smaller affairs held at Brock House, and as they became larger were held in venues such as UBC’s Golf Club. They are now held at St. Philip’s as these offsite venues became prohibitively expensive, but we do have fully dressed tables, a catered lunch by The Banqueting Table, wine and two speakers, and often an added entertainment such as music or quizzes. Many of these meetings have been an opportunity for the JASNA President to join us: over the years we have hosted Joan Ray, Marsha Huff, Iris Lutz, Claire Bellanti and most recently Liz Cooper (via Zoom).

Then there were the two very labour-intensive AGMs in Vancouver: 1986 on *The Watsons* and 2007 on *Emma*. Lots of intricate long-term planning was necessary and the combined efforts of all the members. Both were cited

as some of the most memorable of all AGMs. The 1986 AGM was summarized in Newsletters #16, #62 and #68; the 2007 AGM in Newsletter #101. A further innovation needed in preparation for the 2007 AGM was the launch of our website by Laureen McMahon. This new communication tool was a breakthrough at a time when very few Regions had one. Laureen managed the huge task of creating its content from its inception until earlier this year, when she stepped down to hand over the reins to Jennifer Cothran.



Box Hill picnic at VPL in 2017

We have taken our group to other venues for special events. We hosted a “Box Hill picnic” in the summer of 2017, a free public event in conjunction with the Vancouver Public Library. The location was in a large windowless lecture room rather than the grassy north downs of Surrey, but Aileen’s husband John and other family members went to work, and created a very large and effective mural from large swathes of coloured paper representing the famous view from the real Box Hill. There were displays of books, Regency costumes, short lectures on open carriages, Regency picnic food, dramatic readings, country dances and packed lunches eaten on picnic blankets.

Another occasion took us to Mount Pleasant Library to host a free public talk from Professor Emma Clery, travelling from the UK to promote her book *Jane Austen, the Banker’s Sister* about Jane’s brother Henry. The talk was followed by a very convivial group tea at a nearby tea-room.

“I shall always look back on our theatricals with exquisite pleasure”

There was always lots of drama at St Philip’s Fireside Room – of the thespian kind: Joan Bryans leading a team of young actors in “Jane Austen’s Sailors,” or Irene Howard, and other members delivering a dramatic reading of “The Mysteries of Udolpho.” One December, groups of members were given barely 20 minutes to rehearse selected scenes from *Pride and Prejudice*. Both

the full creative and acting talents of everyone came to the fore, encouraged by a box of props including bonnets, top hats, fans etc. One group, keen to give everyone a chance to participate when there were insufficient speaking parts to go around, incorporated their “spares” into a Greek chorus – their admiring and loud “oohs” and “ahhs” were uttered in unison every time the name “Mr. Darcy” was mentioned! I also remember the tiny, quietly spoken Ruth Nesbit taking the part of Lady Catherine de Bourgh – she surprised us all by reading her part in a loud, booming voice, giving Lady Catherine the necessary authority and gravitas. Ruth obviously had hidden talents.

There was the group reading of Kipling’s “The Janeites” adapted by Elspeth Flood from the original short story. This involved 13 members who did not have the chance to rehearse together beforehand, but each familiarized their parts at home, and delivered brilliantly on the day. This meeting coincided with the 100th anniversary of the start of WWI. Phyllis Ferguson Bottomer suggested people bring mementos of their relatives’ War experiences, and Sheila Calvert brought along the diary of her mother, who as a very young woman volunteered as a nurse at the front in France during World War I. It contained her poignant daily entries of her nursing experiences as she tended to the many seriously wounded young men.



Left: The Janeites; right: Kim Hicks, one-woman show.

One other memorable theatrical event was in October of 2000. Kim Hicks, a UK actress brought her one-woman performance “Courtship” to St. Philip’s: this was a series of beautifully read excerpts from Austen’s novels on the subject of love, beginning with a short extract from “Frederic and Elfrida.” Kim Hicks’s performance was both tender and hilarious. (See Newsletter #72 for the full report.)

Even a pandemic lockdown doesn’t preclude theatricals. Just this last summer, Meghan Hanet led a small group of members, dubbed the “Pemberley Players” in a dramatic reading of key scenes from *Pride and Prejudice*, via Zoom – another way to enjoy Jane Austen’s work when in-person meetings were not allowed. I hope the Pemberley Players continue.

When we weren’t producing dramatic productions in-house, there were a number of group trips to local

theatres, including in recent years *Pride and Prejudice* at the Stanley, and *Persuasion* at the Metro, the latter produced by Joan Bryans, who has produced a number of Austen-related plays for both the Metro Theatre and the Jericho Arts Centre. She has also graciously spoken to our group giving insights into the challenges of placing Austen's novels on the stage. Once she invited the actor playing Mr. Knightley in one of her productions to join us. A very handsome young man arrived wearing full Regency costume complete with top hat, despite his having had to travel to St. Philip's by bus.

"...every meal a scene of ease and good-humour"

Part of the joy of our gatherings in the past has been the food, the splendid potluck lunches, especially those for the December Birthday meeting when the fare is extra special: a big baked ham with all the trimmings, and special side dishes and a table groaning with desserts. As well there is always the buffet of seasonal berries in June for our annual Books and Berries event.



Potluck lunch; Linda's trifle at Books & Berries 2019.

Certain people have excelled with their culinary specialties: my favourites include Phyllis's corn bread, Linda's English trifles and Michelle's authentic syllabub – and in early years the delicious caraway cookies provided by Murray Wannamaker ("Murray's Morsels"). I had hoped to get the recipe, but sadly never did. And with every meal, a serving of wine is given, just as Ron had instigated at those early meetings at his and Eileen's home. More recently, for a variety of reasons, we no longer have wine at meetings, but I hope we bring back the custom, at least for special meetings.

"the most illustrious personages"

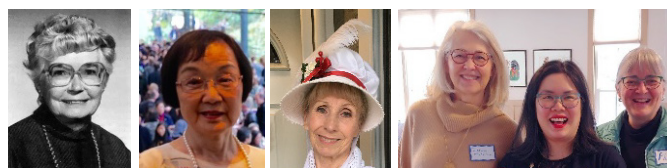
There are so many individuals who make JASNA-Vancouver a success. A quick nod to our Regional Coordinators who have represented and managed us from the outset: the late Eileen Sutherland who started it all, her successor Keiko Parker, followed by a brief stint by "yours truly," then Phyllis Bottomer, Michelle Siu and now our new RC, Janice Mallison.

Eileen was also our Newsletter editor (110 issues) followed by Sandy Lundy and Susan Olsen (20 issues) and now ably continued by Elspeth Flood as "Muse and Musings." Over the years we have changed from

receiving Eileen's typed meeting notices every month via Canada Post, to getting notices via email, along with information posted on our website and Facebook. The registration desk used to be manned by Ron as I recall, but now Carole Wylie and Lorraine Meltzer work in tandem to make sure everyone receives a warm welcome as they sign in and hand over their "pewter."

There have been many librarians over the years, Diane Kerr, Rachele Oriente were early volunteers and now we have Cathleen Boyle, and she would be happy to have an assistant if anyone is interested. Our Treasurers, among them Ruth Piddington, Catherine Warner, Vivienne McLellan, Jennifer Bettiol and now Elaine Wong have over the 40 years kept us in good financial order so that we have avoided having to undergo a "severe retrenchment."

Our various program chairs (most recently Pam Ottridge) and the various members of the Program Committee have tirelessly created meetings of quality and variety that inform and entertain us. One never ceases to be amazed at the range and variety of their ideas. Then there are our hardworking kitchen helpers led by Carol Sutherland, Isabel Wilson, Barbara Philips, and Jayne LeVierge who come in early and leave late. And a special nod to those members who diligently record meeting highlights on their phones so that we can build a wonderful archive of photographs of past activities and people. We have sadly lost some members along the way, but added new ones, including those of Iranian and Mexican heritage – showing that an appreciation of Jane Austen knows no borders.

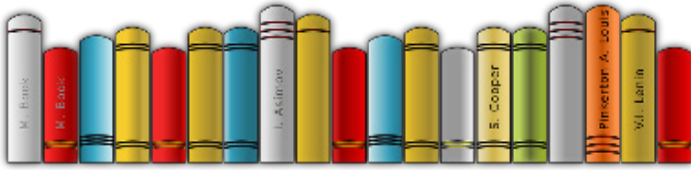


RCs past and present: Eileen, Keiko, Joan; and (in reverse chronological order) Janice, Michelle and Phyllis.

This is a very personal memoir of some of the people and events I recall over the years, especially the good friends I have made that have kept me renewing my membership for these 25 years or more. I expect I have made some errors in my recollections – so please do let our Editor know so she can set the record straight. Better still, why not submit some of your special recollections of JASNA Vancouver's past 40 years – the people, and events, the places that form a special place in your heart – to share with our readers. To close I will simply say "Happy 40th Birthday to us, and many more birthdays to come."

– Joan Reynolds

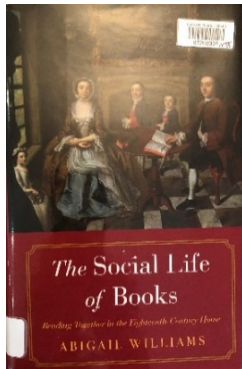




From our Librarian

The Social Life of Books: Reading Together in the Eighteenth Century Home by Abigail Williams

“The Bertram’s amateur performance of ‘Lovers Vows’ in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park* is probably the most famous example of the performance of drama at home in this period.” writes the author of *The Social Life of Books*.



She quotes the passage from the novel in which Sir Thomas Bertram expresses his disapproval of the rehearsal of the play, and then discusses the distinction made at this time between the reading and performance of drama by individuals.

This book, *The Social Life of Books* was first mentioned to me by Phyllis Ferguson and recently was recommended by Betty Schellenberg, one of our speakers at this year’s Jane Austen Day.

The book discusses the role of reading in eighteenth century England and the factors that influenced its importance. Among the factors were the cost and availability of books which gave rise to lending libraries, book clubs, group reading and the sharing of books. The importance of elocution in advancing the status of men and women, and the rise of the novel are also explored in this book.

There is a long discussion of Commonplace Books, in which individuals copied and indexed short texts or verses into a personal notebook or journal. Betty Schellenberg showed us many examples of these in her presentation.

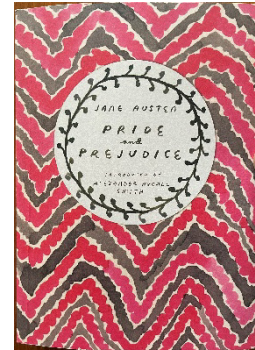
I found this a very interesting and well researched book, although it is much more detailed than I expected, and for this reason I did skim through parts of it. However I would recommend it to anyone interested in the role of books and reading in eighteenth century England.

Library Volunteers Needed for In-Person Meetings

We now are responsible for bringing out and putting back the library in the storage area and therefore could a few (strong) members stay afterwards to help with this.

– Cathleen Boyle, librarian

Alexander McCall Smith and a Seven-Year Lag



Just before Christmas, a fellow congregational member, Linda Davidson, told me that one of her Covid-shelter-at-home projects had been to read some classics she had missed thus far. She decided to start with works by Jane Austen, since she knew of my involvement with our society. With delight she reported how intrigued she was that the copy of *Pride and Prejudice* she borrowed mentioned me. I assured her that she was mistaken; that I had written a book about two of the families in *P&P* but had not been alive when the original was written. However, Linda said that she is a person who reads forewords and – my name was definitely there! Linda remembered that the foreword was by author and medical ethics professor, Alexander McCall Smith.

One solution is to look at Darcy through the lens of our contemporary understanding of human psychology. The novelist Sebastian Faulks has suggested that Darcy’s problem is that he is depressed; Phyllis Bottomer, a speech and language therapist who has made a clinical study of Austen characters, diagnoses Mr Darcy – along with quite a number of other characters in the novel – as suffering from autism. Of course the condition was unknown by that name at the time, but she argues that Jane Austen would have come across such people and observed the difficulty they had in communicating. This analysis has its merits: Mr Darcy is a very difficult character whose shyness and poor social skills do indeed seem to attain pathological levels.

She added that there were multiple copies of that particular edition (2014) in our local Capilano Library. That I knew! I had stood near them often over the years as they were on the shelves of Book Club sets. However, since I own about half a dozen editions of this fascinating novel, I had never stopped to look at this new one. Naturally, on my next library visit, I did stop – and Linda was right! And guess what both of my children received for Christmas!

– Phyllis Ferguson Bottomer

Member Profile

Lona Manning, newsletter co-editor

Lona Manning has recently volunteered to help marshal content as co-editor of *Muse & Musings*. Here is her member profile:

1. Tell us a bit about who you are and your life to-date.

I live in Kelowna with my husband, where for most of my working life I was an administrator for non-profit agencies. In my late 50s I got my ESL teaching certificate and went to China for four years. Since coming back, I've taught ESL and children's literature to the children of immigrants (mostly via Zoom since Covid). My husband



and I have two grown sons.

I have a blog called "Clutching My Pearls" lonamanning.ca. The earlier entries are about my time in China but lately I've been blogging about Austen and the times she lived in.

2. When did you join JASNA? How did you find out about JASNA

I only joined JASNA two years ago. I knew about it but since I don't live in Vancouver I didn't think of joining.

3. How did you first get started with Jane Austen?

I truly cannot fix on the hour or the words, but I do remember that when I first tried *Pride and Prejudice* as a teenager, it was over my head. I came back to Austen in my 20s and have read and re-read her novels many times. I found that I returned to *Mansfield Park* the most. I had a strange experience in China—a variation on *Mansfield Park* started writing itself in my head. I tried to ignore it, because I was busy with my teaching job, but eventually I gave in and started writing it down. The book turned into a trilogy.

4. What do you like about JASNA?

Being with people who know their Austen, and the thoughtful and informative speakers. I was honoured to have an article about Admiral Croft chosen for publication in last year's *Persuasions* online journal: <https://jasna.org/publications-2/persuasions-online/vol-42-no-1/manning/>

5. Has JASNA given you any special memories? New friends? Inspiration to new experiences?

I have very much enjoyed meeting kindred spirits. I appreciate all the efforts the volunteers in your chapter have made to keep the feeling of community going through the Covid pandemic.

— Lona Manning

RC's Corner

Janice Mallison



Our intrepid Regional Coordinator celebrated her new position in JASNA-Vancouver by moving house, so she is excused from her column for this issue.

Call for volunteer Treasurer

Our treasurer Elaine Wong has held the position for more than six years. The position of Treasurer is volunteer and not voted on, therefore it has no term limits. But during the coming year we will look for a successor.

Call for Victoria AGM volunteers



We're less than **six months** out from the AGM in Victoria. Volunteers are needed in many areas, including but not limited to: introducing breakout speakers, attending tours as a local representative, proofreading, helping at registration desk, filling a seat in the Emporium, technology expertise, and many others. To volunteer, please email Alison Dacia Brown, Coordinator of the JASNA 2022 AGM jasnavictoria2022agm@gmail.com detailing your volunteer capability, time commitment, and home phone or cell phone contact info.

If you have ideas for a future meeting, have a topic or speaker you would like to see at our meeting, please email me or approach me or any member of the Program Committee.

— Janice Mallison

JASNA Vancouver Contacts

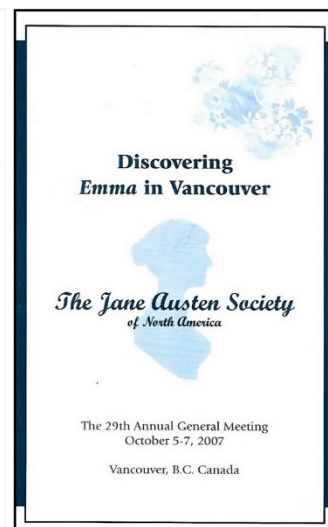
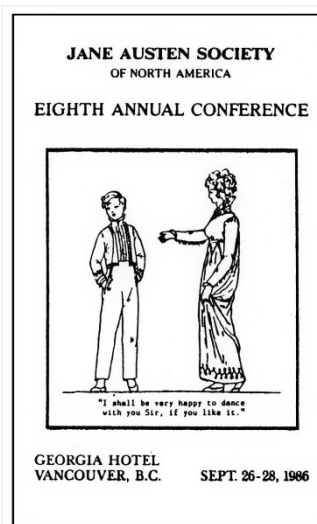
Regional Coordinator: Janice Mallison
 jasnavaancouverrc@gmail.com
 Co-RC: **vacant – looking for a volunteer**
 Treasurer: Elaine Wong
 treasurer.jasnavaancouver@gmail.com
 Program Committee chair: **looking for a volunteer** to take over
vacant – looking for a volunteer
 Newsletter Editors: Elspeth Flood & Lona Manning

Website coordinator: Jennifer Cothran
 Facebook Administrator: Joan Reynolds
 Library: Cathleen Boyle & **volunteer needed**
 Austen Extracts: Aileen Hollifield
 Bountiful Basket: Phyllis Ferguson Bottomer



To contact any of these volunteers, email our Regional Co-ordinator at jasnavancouverrc@gmail.com.

Gallery of Memories



The Ball at the Hotel Vancouver during the Vancouver AGM in 2007; logos of the 1986 and 2007 Vancouver AGMs



***Left:** Eileen, our founder, Laureen our original webmaster, and Pam, former Program Chair, 2009; **centre:** Norah presented with a gift by Phyllis as she retires from service in St Philips kitchen, December 2010; **right:** Keiko and Joan, both former Regional Coordinators, dressed in their finery at the 2017 JASNA AGM at Huntington Beach.*

Gallery of Memories continues



Left: Chris Delinger (Mr. Knightley) and “Emma” Director Joan Bryans promote their production at the Metro Theatre, April 2012; **Centre:** Box Hill mural designed and executed by John Hollifield and family members livens up a featureless VPL function room; **right:** Ivan Sayers brings some of his collected fashion pieces to show us.



Left: Potluck lunch at a regular meeting; **centre:** outreach at Cap College, November 2017 (“Sense and Sensibility”); **right:** Take a seat, sit back and enjoy – Jane Austen Day 2019.



Left: Ron, our long-serving sommelier, (now retired); **centre:** Jennifer, past Treasurer, welcomes our guests, Jane Austen Day 2009; **right:** Elaine, our current Treasurer, seen in 2019 (and now looking for someone to take over after many years of keeping our finances straight).

More Memories



Left: Rae driving a hard bargain with Helen at our annual book sale; **centre:** Display for outreach event at St Helens, a series on writers, 2015; **right:** Phyllis and Lindsay as Mr. and Mrs Gardiner in December 2015 ("Behind the Scenes", an Austen vignette written by Shannon Winslow – the Gardiners' speculate on Darcy and Lizzie after the visit to Pemberley).



Left: JASNA President Claire Bellanti, second speaker for JA Day 2016, seen here with member Cathy; **centre left:** Jane Austen Day 2018 – celebrating spring with Persuasion and Performance; **centre right:** Ron and JASNA Canada President Elaine Bander, Jane Austen Day 2018; **right** Books and Berries – a fine combination – Jayne making sure Elspeth has enough syllabub, June 2017.



This Newsletter, the publication of the Vancouver Region of the Jane Austen Society of North America, is distributed to members by email and posted on our website. Members who so request may receive a hard copy either at a meeting or in the mail. All submissions and book reviews on the subject of Jane Austen, her life, her works and her times, are welcome.

Email: elspeth.n.flood@gmail.com Or mail: Elspeth Flood
#501 – 1520 Harwood Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1X9

JASNA Vancouver website: www.jasnavancouver.ca