



JASNA  
JANE AUSTEN SOCIETY  
OF NORTH AMERICA

Austen font and illustration by Pia Frauss

*The Vermont Chapter of JASNA  
presents*

**Prof. Mary Ellen Bertolini**  
(Middlebury College)

## **“The Grace to Deserve: Weighing Merit in Jane Austen’s *Persuasion*”**

Following Waterloo, rich naval officers vied with impoverished aristocrats for position and importance. Against this political drama, Jane Austen unfolds her story of 27-year-old Anne Elliot, who pines for Frederick Wentworth, the Naval Captain she rejected eight years before. Wentworth’s final words in the novel, “I must learn to brook being happier than I deserve” are no coincidence, for the idea of deserving, of earning one’s blessings, is at the very core of *Persuasion*, Austen’s last completed novel.

**Sunday, 1 March 2009 2 – 4 pm**

**Champlain College Burlington, Vermont  
Hauke Family Campus Center, 375 Maple Street**

**~ free and open to the public ~**

*for more information:* **JaneAustenInVermont.wordpress.com**  
**(802) 864-0517; jasna-vt@hotmail.com**

*Next Event:*

**7 June 2009:** Hope Greenberg, “Jane Austen & Fashion” (Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier)