First, some upcoming events. Our next scheduled meeting:

“BEGINNINGS”
Northanger Abbey: Dramatic Readings and Discussion & JASNA: A Brief History, with Lorraine Hanaway and Mildred Darrow
June 22, 2-4 p.m.
Hauke Conference Room, Hauke Family Campus Center (375 Maple Street), Champlain College, Burlington

We’re looking for members who would like to take part in the dramatizations; each of the three readings have three or four ‘characters’ (including narrator) and are fairly short (they run from one to five pages; first come, first choice of part). The meeting will open with a roundtable discussion of JASNA’s beginnings. Lorraine Hanaway, a founding member, later (1984-88) served as president. Mildred Darrow joined JASNA in its earliest years. The meeting will end with our NORTHANGER ABBEY QUIZ. Copies were available at the March 30th meeting; if you didn’t take one, a copy is attached below (and can also be found online, see blog below). This meeting will be very informal. Light refreshments, and lots of time to meet, greet and talk. Free and open to the public.

Lorraine Hanaway divides her time between Wayne, PA and Lyman, NH. At one point she organized a New Hampshire Regional Chapter of JASNA; and it is the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter that is organizing next year’s AGM (held in Philadelphia). We are very lucky indeed to have Lorraine join us! On Thursday, May 8th Deb and I went to Wake Robin to meet with Mildred Darrow. We three spent a delightful hour-plus together. Mildred shared thoughts on her first Austen novel: in high school, she was given a reading list and from that picked Emma. She hated it! But then somehow Mildred found Pride and Prejudice, and was hooked once and for all. When JASNA began to seek members, Mildred saw a newspaper story and said ‘That’s for me!’ And with that brief story, we whet your appetite for joining us on June 22nd….

The three chapters dramatized are:
Chapter 10: Marriage versus Dancing  www.pemberley.com/janeinfo/namrgdnc.html
Chapter 14: The Walk to Beechen Cliff  www.pemberley.com/janeinfo/beechclf.html

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Champlain College. They have been extraordinary in allowing us the use of rooms at the Hauke Center free of charge. Especially in these early days, we are in need of such kind contributors. The site means a longer drive for some of our members, including Lorraine Hanaway, but we are hoping that Mildred Darrow of Shelburne, our oldest member, will be able to join us.

Are any members available to help provide food and/or drink for this meeting? It would make it easy on Lynne Hefferon (who will not be able to attend, but is still willing to coordinate refreshments) if a few of us could do as we did for the February tea: make or bring something.
Deb and I attended a lovely gathering for an author reading at the South Burlington Library and they had pound cake and tea - it was more than enough, so refreshments need not be elaborate.

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JASNA-Vermont member Mary Beth Bertolini has agreed to speak on a topic relating to PERSUASION for our meeting in March 2009. Mary Beth teaches at Middlebury College and she invites members to check out her class websites. She is a JASNA life-member. Links:

Blog: http://mt.middlebury.edu/middblogs/mbertoli/Slices2/

The Mystique of Pride and Prejudice 2008: https://segue.middlebury.edu/sites/wrpr1813a-w08

Jane Austen & Film First-Year Seminar05: https://segue.middlebury.edu/sites/fyse1144a-f05 and http://mt.middlebury.edu/middblogs/mbertoli/JaneAusten&Film/

JA & Film First-Year Seminar06: http://mt.middlebury.edu/middblogs/mbertoli/jafilm6/ and https://segue.middlebury.edu/sites/wrpr0202a-s06

Jane Austen and the Royal Navy 05: https://segue.middlebury.edu/sites/wrpr1216a-w05

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Recent mail contained some great news: Chapters receive monthly an updated list of members and on our latest list JASNA-Vermont had three new members! Those of you in attendance at the March 30th meeting will recall that the Chapter gifted Dr. Robyn Warhol-Down, our inaugural guest speaker, with a year’s membership. So welcome, Robyn! We also welcome Eleanor Hanrahan of Arlington and Janice Haskell of Burlington! JASNA-Vermont now has twenty members! Being a new chapter, we are all just getting to know each other, so never feel shy about volunteering, adding your opinions or ideas. We actively seek such things from each of you!

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Which brings us to our Chapter’s new Blog. Deb has done a terrific job setting up a web presence for us; you will find it at http://janeausteninvermont.wordpress.com. We have sections on Austen events in Vermont and around the region; books and other Austen-links; Austen-related merchandise; and the weblog. Deb and I ask for your help. Have you reviews of JASNA meetings you’d like to share? Have you books - recommendations, reviews, questions - you’d like us to highlight. Have you thoughts on Austen-related places or news? Have you merchandise you can recommend, or do you produce something yourself that you’d like to sell? You can comment on any of the blogs; if you’d like something posted, just mail Deb or myself and you’ll be a “guest” blogger! We need your input - and want your comments, suggestions, and ideas.

We would like to introduce posts that from time to time Spotlight JASNA-Vermont members;
if you would be willing to participate, send us information about yourself that you would like to see online (picture optional).

The blog is where we will be posting items relevant to the next meeting. If you have no computer access, please let us know and we can mail materials. Deb has found some interesting articles in past *Persuasions* on both *Northanger Abbey* and JASNA’s early history. *Northanger Abbey* links include:

An *NA* blog  http://austensgothicparody.blogspot.com/
On a Reading of *NA*:  www.jimandellen.org/austen/na.show.html and a Calendar for events in *NA*:  www.jimandellen.org/austen/na.calendar.html

From *Persuasions: Online*
‘Of course you can trust me!’  www.jasna.org/persuasions/on-line/vol20no1/rogers.html
Reading by the Book  www.jasna.org/persuasions/on-line/vol20no1/benedict.html
Willy-Nilly and other Tales  www.jasna.org/persuasions/on-line/vol20no1/gilbert.html
The Invention of Civility  www.jasna.org/persuasions/on-line/vol20no1/wiesenfarth.html
Irony and Political Education  www.jasna.org/persuasions/on-line/vol21no1/schaub.html


The three dramatic readings are all online; they are found at Pemberley (we may shorten the lengthier reading from chapter 14), and we will whip them into ‘script’ form for those volunteering to ‘act’ on the 22nd.

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Another thought: Have we members who would be interested in forming a **book group** that would meet semi-monthly in between the events…. to discuss Austen, and others of her time that we might like to read…. 

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**POLLS:** The blog has a section where we poll visitors to **name your favorite Austen work**: a novel, the Juvenilia; *Letters*. Please take a moment to respond. Last time we looked, *P&P* was ahead.

Also, there is still time to take part in THE JANE AUSTEN SURVEY 2008 which Arizona member Jeanne Kiefer is conducting. She will present her findings at the 2008 AGM (Chicago). The only thing she asks of respondents is to have read the six novels. Deadline is June 30th. Deb and I have paper copies if you would like to participate but would rather not do it or cannot do it online.

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Has your community a local paper that lists community events? Kelly actively seeks to broaden the communities (be it large newspapers or small ‘freebees’) which our advertising reaches.

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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). We do have campus and parking maps available for the asking.
Northanger Abbey Quiz

1. What is Mr. Morland’s first name? _____________________________________________
2. How many siblings does Catherine have? ______________________________________
3. What was Catherine’s favorite game as a child? ______________________________
4. The fable Catherine finally learned to recite was written by __________________
5. How much money does Mr. Morland give Catherine for her expenses in Bath? ______
6. Where in Bath do the Allens take lodgings? __________ The Tilneys? ___________
7. What was the original length of Catherine’s stay in Bath to be? _________________
8. Where in Bath does Catherine meet Henry Tilney? _____________________________
9. Who introduces them? __________________________________________________________
10. How is Catherine dressed on that occasion? ________________________________
11. Which breeds of dogs does Henry keep? ______________________________________
12. Who is to inherit the Allens’ estate? ___________________________________________
13. On what day of the week does Catherine meet Isabella Thorpe? _________________
And where? __________________________________________________________________
14. How old is Isabella? __________ & how many sisters does she have? ______
15. What is Mr. Thorpe’s profession? ___________________________________________
16. Who trims Catherine’s hat with green ribbons? ________________________________
17. Who will wear purple even though she looks hideous in it? _____________________
18. Who wore a puce-coloured sarsanet? _________________________________________
19. Who is responsible for General Tilney’s belief that Catherine is an heiress? ___________
____________________________________________________________________________
20. How long was James to have waited for his living and thus to marry Isabella and
how large was the living? _____________________________________________________
21. What is the dinner hour at Northanger Abbey? _________________________________
22. Name Captain Tilney’s regiment. _____________________________________________
23. When does General Tilney give his consent for Henry to marry Catherine?
______________ and 24. When does the marriage take place? _______________

Who is being described?

1. “...she was often inattentive and occasionally stupid.” __________________________
2. “...she thought her friend never looked more lovely than in uttering the grand idea.”
____________________________________________________________________________
3. “...she had neither beauty, genius, accomplishment, nor manner.” _____________
4. “...when she promised a thing, she was so scrupulous in performing it!” _________
5. “Where she felt attachment, she had been able to create it.” _____________________
6. “...as his intimacy with an acquaintance grew, so regularly grew their fortune.” __________
7. “...no one more entitled, by unpretending merit, or better prepared by habitual
suffering, to receive and enjoy felicity.” ________________________________
Who is the speaker?

1. “…my wishes are so moderate, that the smallest income in nature would be enough for me.”
2. “I cannot speak well enough to be unintelligible.”
3. “Let me only have the girl I like, say I, with a comfortable house over my head, and what care I for all the rest.”
4. “I have just learned to love a hyacinth.”
5. “No man is offended by another man’s admiration of the woman he loves…”
6. “This has been a strange acquaintance…soon made and soon ended.”
7. “There are some charming little vistas around Richmond.”

The Horrid Novels: list the titles of the eight “horrid” novels which Isabella plans to read with Catherine (and the author if you can!)

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 

And finally, in 100 words or less, write a concluding sentence for the gothic tale which Henry invents for Catherine on the drive to Northanger Abbey:

Your Name: ____________________________ (bring this to the June 22 gathering…)

Have fun!!

(Quiz adapted from the Savannah AGM in 1985; and Elaine Bander’s quiz from the 1998 Quebec AGM.)