

JANE AUSTEN SOCIETY OF THE PUGET SOUND

The Puget Sound Chapter of the Jane Austen Society is this region's branch of the Jane Austen Society of North American (JASNA). Nationally, we are a group of about 4,000 women and men who enjoy the study, celebration and appreciation of the works, life and times of Jane Austen. Our local group meets six times a year (every other month), and 30 to 40 individuals attend the meetings. We are an eclectic, inclusive, and friendly group of people from all backgrounds and with a variety of educations, professions and interests. For more information on line, please visit our website at www.austenps.com.

Our meetings are open to members and guests. Each gathering begins with a very short business meeting and is followed by a program presented by a member or a guest speaker. Examples of the many topics and subjects included in our programs:

- Regency dress, fashion and social life.
- The postal service, military, law and politics of Austen's time.
- Regency food
- Regency music and dance, including performances and dance lessons.
- The history of porcelain and chocolate, with an emphasis on the Regency Era.
- The literature that influenced Austen, the books published during her life and the current books and films influenced by Austen.

After the presentation, we enjoy tea and refreshments provided by volunteers. Our meetings take place in members' homes and at local library meeting rooms. We traditionally have the meetings the second Sunday of the month (but NOT always), from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Our 2009 Program is as follows:

- February 8: A Comparison of Jane's Books and the Movies.
- April 12: Clothing in the Regency Period.
- June 14: The World of Fine Books About Austen and Others.
- August 9: Lynn Hogan presents "Symbolism in Jane Austen."
- October 18: Rituals of Tea Service.
- December 13: Annual Birthday Tea for Jane Austen & Holiday Party.

Membership and Dues:

Membership to this organization is open to anyone of high school age or older interested in the life, times and works of Jane Austen. Dues for the local chapter are a mere \$12.00 per year. In addition, all local chapter members are required to be members of JASNA. Members of JASNA receive the annual journal **Persuasions**, which is a softbound book containing essays written by JASNA members around the world, the tri-annual newsletter reporting on events and related Austen information, and an invitation to attend the annual conference. Our local newsletter is a great collection of articles, book and film reviews, notices of new Austen web sites, and general Austen info all provided by local members. It is sent six times a year just prior to the next meeting.