



NEWSLETTER

PIKES PEAK REGION | JANE AUSTEN SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

Upcoming Event

Tana Reber will conduct a workshop on Regency bonnet decorating on Sunday, March 18, 2018 at 2:00pm at Becky Posusta's home in Manitou Springs. Please join us for this exciting event!

- Please purchase a straw bonnet (undecorated) like the one pictured above, right in advance of this event. These bonnets can be purchased at Michael's stores in the Colorado Springs area for \$4.00. Tana advises that you choose the straw, 14" brim version.
- There is a small fee for this event to reimburse Tana for the decorating materials. Please bring \$10.00 with you to the event (cash or check made out to Tana Reber).
- Tea and snacks will be served!
- RSVP:
pikespeakjasna@gmail.com



Real Places to Visit: *Northanger Abbey* & *Persuasion* (Part 2)

Bath is a most beautiful city. Its Georgian streets with their signature Bath stone buildings were laid out and designed by John Wood, the Elder and his son in the eighteenth century. It became a popular and fashionable city for the likes of Beau Nash. Jane Austen, who lived in Bath 1800-1805, set two novels in Bath. There is so much to see and do in Bath; it is the quintessential Regency city.



Catherine Moreland and Isabella Thorpe "escape" the Pump room and the leering eyes of two young gentlemen, but overtake (accidentally?) them in their haste to view the new book list.

Busy Milsom Street in Bath is, perhaps, visually different today than it was in the 18th century thanks to the automobiles which dominate the photo, but it is no more bustling and busy than it was in Jane's day. It is here that Anne Elliot runs into Admiral Croft, "a friend" indeed!



Jane Austen and her family lived at #4 Sydney Place in Bath for three years from 1801-1804. It is just across from Sydney Gardens. Jane wrote to her sister Cassandra in 1801 as they contemplated taking the house:

It would be very pleasant to be near Sidney dens-we might go into the Labrinth every day...

This Month in History

March 31, 1776 "Remember the Ladies" by Pat Sullivan



On this day in 1776, when Jane Austen was only a few months old, future first lady Abigail Adams wrote to her husband urging him to "remember the ladies" when drafting a new "code of laws" for the fledgling nation.

While John Adams participated in the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Abigail remained at their home in Braintree, Massachusetts, managing their daily affairs in his absence. At the same time that Adams was preparing to publish his "Thoughts on Government" essay, which outlined proposed political philosophy and structures for the new nation, Abigail pondered if and how the rights of women would be addressed in an American constitution.

A prolific letter writer, Abigail never hesitated to debate her husband on political matters. She begged Adams to draft laws that were "more generous and favorable" to women than his predecessors had. She half-jokingly claimed that "all men would be tyrants if they could" and pointed out the glaring hypocrisy of male Patriots fighting against British tyranny if they should disregard the rights of half the population when drafting a constitution. Abigail warned "if particular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice, or Representation."

Adams responded to his wife's letter, by teasing her in return and declaring that men were not really the "masters" of women but were "subject to the despotism of the petticoat." However, like their predecessors, Adams and his contemporaries failed to make codifying women's rights a priority. It was not until 1919 that Congress amended the Constitution to grant women the right to vote. www.history.com

Contributions & Member News Needed

We encourage you to contribute your original stories, fun facts, interesting historical information, etc. to the PPR JASNA Newsletter.

We are also looking for news about our members to include in this monthly publication.

Have you traveled recently?
Have you received an honor or award?

Are you celebrating an important event: the birth of a child, grandchild; a marriage or anniversary, a birthday, etc.?

Send your news and stories to
Becky Posusta @
pikespeakjasna@gmail.com
for next month's issue!

A Year in Jane Austen's Life: 1788

- Jane Austen was 12 years old in 1788 and living in the comfort of a large literary and animated family in Steventon, Hampshire
- In January, in a tradition started by her older brothers in 1782, the family participated in amateur theatricals during the term break. This year they performed *The Chances*, a play by Jacobean playwright John Fletcher, *Tom Thumb* by Henry Fielding, and *High Life Below Stairs* by James Townley.
- In July, Henry Austen, Jane's favorite brother, began at St. John's College, Oxford.
- Also, that summer, Jane and her sister Cassandra accompanied their parents on a visit to Kent and London.
- In November, the Regency Crisis began. It was triggered by George III's illness which saw him intermittently mad.
- In December, Frank Austen completed his training at the Royal Naval Academy and embarked on an illustrious career in the navy with a cruise to the East Indies. He would be knighted in 1815 and would attain the highest rank in the navy, Admiral of the Fleet at the age of 89 in 1863.
- In 1788, Charlotte Smith's popular novel *Emmeline* was published.