

Washington Irving Society Meeting
Thursday, May 22, 2025
5:30-6:15 p.m.
Boston, Massachusetts
Westin-Copley Hotel
St. George C.

ALA CHICAGO 2026

Let's aim for a regular panel, round table, and business meeting. Here are some ideas:

- Podcasting Washington Irving Round Table
- Ichabod Crane and Friends: Washington Irving's Ridiculous Pedagogues
- Pedagogy and Washington Irving
- Washington Irving and Mary Shelley
- Teaching a Single Author Class on Irving (Tracy Hoffman taught a class in Fall 2022 and will again in Fall 2025, Andrew Burstein Spring 2023)

OTHER UPDATES

- Zero participation at ALA 2024 in Chicago; officers could not attend
- How do we want to handle ALA Chicago in the future if officers cannot attend?
- One panel at ALA 2023 in Boston: Elizabeth Bradley (Historic Hudson Valley), Curtis Armstrong (independent), and David Brandt (Vanderbilt), chaired by Tracy Hoffman
- One regular panel and one Baylor round table at ALA Chicago 2022 (no participation in 2020 or 2021 due to Covid)
- April 2023, 2024, 2025 festivities in Irving, Texas, continued
- Tracy hopes to pull together a city of Irving trivia team (half of the questions are about Washington Irving and half are about the city) from her Washington Irving class in the fall.
- Washington Irving birthday cake at Baylor continued in April 2023, 2024, 2025
- *Rip Van Winkle's Republic*, edited by Andrew Burstein (2022)
- *Washington Irving's Critique of American Culture: Sketching a Vision of World Citizenship* (2021) by J. Woodrow McCree
- *The Dutch World of Washington Irving* (2025) by Elisabeth Paling Funk
- Other recent or forthcoming Irving scholarship??

501C3 STATUS, REPORT

- After getting 501C3 status in 2021, we filed with the IRS in Spring 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025, using Chuck Ham, an accountant in Texas. The filing must be done by an electronic provider, so our officers were unable to complete this task. Tracy Hoffman continues to submit a Franchise Tax form, required by all non-profits in Texas. Kirsten and Tracy both have access to the Chase bank account. After filing taxes with Chuck Ham, Tracy handed over a brief 2023 financial report to Kirsten. She has the 2024 report to hand over to Kirsten next she sees her.
- The IRS challenged our 2023 filing by sending numerous letters that we were one day late, requiring a \$20ish fee. The accountant at first advised us not to pay, but in the end, we decided it best to pay the fee, even though the IRS was wrong. Instead of spending endless hours on the phone with the IRS, our accountant opted to give us a free tax filing for 2024, as we paid the \$20ish fee plus all the mailing back and forth. Again, Kirsten Stine and Tracy Hoffman have the exact amounts on paper, and it was also filed with our 501C3 taxes in late April.

OUR ADDRESSES

X @irvingsociety1

- What should be done with our Twitter/X account? It is doing nothing because of the political implications. We have a similar situation if we jump to other politically charged platforms. Thoughts?

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Washington-Irving-Society/84793387818>

WordPress washingtonirvingsociety.org

Instagram [washingtonirvingsociety](#), WIS

Email address washingtonirvingsociety@gmail.com

CURRENT OFFICERS

Current officers: Kirsten Stine (treasurer), Sean Keck (vice-president), Tracy Hoffman (president), and John Anderson (Facebook coordinator)

NEW OFFICERS?

- Do we want to elect new officers in 2025? Tracy is willing to step into another role if someone else would like to be president.
- Is anyone interested in serving as an officer in another capacity? TikTok?
- We need an email coordinator. Perhaps a secretary could work on such a job? If you're an expert at social media, your help is also very much welcomed. We have an email account, but responding to all the peculiar requests is more than Tracy can handle. At one point, she shared the email password with Kirsten and Sean, but now Google wants to verify identity with a phone or other email account. A listserv might be a better option. Is anyone familiar with a good platform for a listserv? Perhaps an occasional Zoom call or Google Doc conversation?

OTHER CONFERENCES

- Panel at another conference?
- If you would be interested in putting together a panel on behalf of the Washington Irving Society for a conference other than ALA, please let us know.

DUES, DONATIONS

If we begin taking dues for membership, what would you like in exchange for your dues? (journal, ALA reception, t-shirt, scholarship, awards, website maintenance, digitizing archives, etc.) How much should we charge?

Now that we have 501C3 status, we could set up membership. We could also request donations.

FUTURE ENDEAVORS

- WIS Award: Let's have at least one award. What might we call this? We could give it away at next year's ALA. Woody McCree, deserves some kudos as he served the Washington Irving Society well at ALA 2022. He gave a paper, served as a chair for the round table, and even published a book in 2021. Andrew Burstein also put out a book in 2022, and he attempted to host a 2020 conference in New York. Might the prize be lifetime membership?
- Journal? Baylor now houses the Twain journal, so it's feasible, but Tracy cannot do this alone.
- Conference? Oklahoma 2026 is a possibility as John Anderson will be performing there, and Andrew Burstein once taught at University of Tulsa.
- Other business?