



PRESS RELEASE

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FREDERIC'S BIRTHDAY

Friday, February 29th – LEAP DAY!

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society Celebrates the Birthday of Frederic –
The Paradoxical Hero from the Lighthearted Musical Comedy Classic, *The Pirates Of Penzance*

AUSTIN, TX – On Leap Day this year, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society (GSSA) will do its part to “Keep Austin Weird” in a hilariously entertaining evening of merriment for Frederic, the hapless reformed pirate from *The Pirates of Penzance*, whose birthday – in a paradoxical twist of fate - is Leap Day.

This birthday bash and fundraising gala allows Austinites the unique opportunity to hear many of their favorite Gilbert & Sullivan and other Broadway characters as they gather from far and wide to celebrate with Frederic and explore some of the traditions and superstitions surrounding Leap Day.

The evening will feature a delightful mix of entertainment, including a magic show by GSSA Artistic Director Ralph MacPhail, Jr., and live musical performances. Musical selections will be sung by GSSA performers past and present, including Holton Johnson as the dashing Frederic, Frank Delvy, Janette Jones, Russell Gregory, Glay Marie Posch, Rose Taylor, GSSA Music Director Jeffrey Jones-Ragona and many more. Revelers will also enjoy a lavish dessert buffet, silent auction, and balloon raffle.

WHO: The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin
WHAT: Frederic's Birthday Party
WHEN: 7:30pm, Friday, February 29th
WHERE: Chateau Bellevue / The Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio Street, Austin, Texas
TICKETS: \$25 in advance / \$30 at the door
Purchase online at www.gilbertsullivan.org, or call 1-800-494-TIXS
Seating is limited; purchase your tickets today!

Proceeds benefit the summer 2008 production of *The Pirates of Penzance* as well as support school and community outreach productions.

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin was founded in 1976 with the purpose of preserving and presenting the works of Gilbert & Sullivan. Known for its highly acclaimed annual grand productions from the G&S repertoire, the Society is also dedicated to spreading and teaching the joys of G&S through school and community presentations. The Society is supported in part by grants from the City of Austin's Cultural Arts Division and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

