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Anstin Gilbert & Sullivan Society
November 1984 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING: 7 pm, Monday, December 3rd in the auditorium at ACC - Rio Grande Campus. Use the main entrance on the west side of Rio Grande, between 12th and 13th Streets. Go up the stairs and straight ahead to the auditorium. This will be a short meeting before a 7:30 pm rehearsal, so please be prompt. 7 pm!!!

LAST MEETING: On Monday, November 5th, eleven members and the two directors gathered at Enid Hallock's. Bob Kusnetz presided, and brought us up to date on "As The Funding Turns". The latest information, received that day, is that our ~~Ruddigarr~~ budget has been cut by \$195, after all. The cast for ~~Ruddigarr~~ was announced. See up-dated attachment.

There were some complaints that auditioners were not informed that they were accepted in the cast. Dorothy Allen suggested that we adopt a policy that someone from the Society should call each auditioner with final results. Loel Graber, Executive Vice President, volunteered to call all people who tried out this time, who did not get parts. Bob remarked that it is not too early to start getting out publicity for the show. Jim Kellogg said that an excellent way to get our name before the public is for individuals from the Society to volunteer to answer telephones during the KLRU fund drive. (Date for next drive was not known.)

Bob reported that he had seen the MOBIL-PBS version of ~~Ruddigarr~~ on his recent trip to England. He did not like the production, and is sure ours will be much better.

Bob appointed Dorothy Allen chair of the Nominating Committee. He also asked that our Annual Meeting be held in February, instead of January, and that elections thus be postponed one month. Everyone agreed that since in early January we would be heavily involved in preparations for the January 11th opening of ~~Ruddigarr~~, we should postpone elections to February.

Bob then turned the meeting over to Gail White, who is in charge of organizing the program for the Amster Soirée on Sunday, November 25th. Linnea Smith is to be the pianist. Gail asked for volunteers. After discussion of various possibilities, the meeting adjourned for refreshments and sociability.

AMSTER SOIRÉE: Since I was out of town for the Thanksgiving holiday, the following information comes to me from others. Any corrections or omissions will be rectified in the next Newsletter, with apologies in advance.

The program was a great success. Thanks go to Gail for her organization, to Linnea Smith for a wonderful job at the piano, and to Bob for connective dialog and announcements. Members performing were: Dorothy Allen, Susan Boswell, Loel Graber, Enid Hallock, Naomi Hirsch, Jim Kellogg, Katharine Shields, Carole Smith and Gail White. In addition, we were pleased to be joined by the newest cast member, tenor Joe Dowell, singing in a duet and trio from ~~Ruddigarr~~.

Operas represented were, of course, ~~Ruddigarr~~, with other excerpts from ~~Rox and Cox~~, ~~The Grand Duke~~, ~~Jolanthe~~, ~~The Mikado~~, ~~Patience~~, ~~The Pirates of Penzance~~, and ~~Princess Ida~~. Again we give thanks to Pearl and Gus Amster, who host these wonderful musical evenings year after year.

UPDATE ON ~~Ruddigarr~~: After many lets and hindrances we are finally rehearsing vigorously, and working hard on our production. However, Director Jim Weisman, and Music Director Ellen Legett resigned, and have been replaced by Bob Kusnetz, Director, and Barbara Irvine, Music Director. Bob was the Director of the Studio Theatre Program at Duke University some years ago, and served as Assistant Director for our production of

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Ruddigore cont.

The Gandaliers. Barbara Irvine most recently served as Music Director for **Rox and Cox** at the Hyde Park Showplace.

There was a bad week in which Bob made innumerable telephone calls and worked like a beaver to solve our problems. Conversations with Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Jim Kellogg and Dorothy Allen helped him push forward energetically. We were delighted to be able to get Barbara as Music Director at this late date. She was our original first choice, but had not wanted to start rehearsals as early as we had planned. By now that objection doesn't apply. Barbara was able to start work with us immediately, and we have been delighted by her efficient, effective rehearsing. We are confirming her reputation as a well-organized, hard-working, and knowledgeable musician.

We are doing well lining up a choreographer, and designers for sets, lights and costumes. Final information should be available at our meeting on December 3rd. The cast, given below, still lacks a few singers, but those names will be announced soon.

Cast for **Ruddigore**

Robin Oakapple (Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd)	Jim Kellogg
Richard Dauntless (his foster brother)	Joe Dowell
Sir Despard Murgatroyd	Loel Graber
Old Adam Goodheart (Robin's faithful servant)...	
Rose Maybud	Katharine Shields
Mad Margaret	Dorothy Allen
Dame Hannah (Rose's Aunt)	Martha Pearson
Zorah (a professional bridesmaid)	Carole Smith
Ruth (another bridesmaid; chorus)	Reba Gillman
Other bridesmaids (chorus)	Mary Lu Barras
	Carolyn Roseboom
Sir Roderic Murgatroyd (a Ghost)	
Men's Chorus (Blades and Ghosts)	John Fant
	Mark Girling
	John Goorley
	Andy Mozisek

Note: This is the uptodate cast list, even though it is not "attached", as stated earlier. 2nd Note: Ruthven is pronounced Rivven.

FLASH: If you like opera you shouldn't miss the new opera movie, **Bizet's Carmen**, now playing at the Village Cinema IV. Francesco Rosi is the director, Lorin Maazel conducts, Placido Domingo is Don Jose, and a wonderful young American singer, Julia Migenes-Johnson, is the excellent Carmen. It is sung in French, with subtitles. The film was shot in Spain and evokes a fantastic sense of old Seville, and the mountains near the border.

Hope to see you Monday,

Reba

Reba Gillman
Secretary

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