

R

The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society October! September 1986 Newsletter

FLASH! G&S October 20th meeting
Cancelled. ACOT Annual Business
Meeting takes place same date at
7:00 pm at Live Oak Theatre.

Cancelled

Next Meeting: Will be held Monday, October 20th, at 7:30 pm, at Enid Hallock's, 4001 Cherrywood. For directions call Enid at 477-0858; or Reba at 327-2277. Please bring munchies.

Note: This meeting will be on the third Monday of the month. We will concentrate on business. If you are interested in helping shape the future for the Society please come and bring your ideas. We need you!

Mark Your Calendars: We're planning fun and music on Monday, November 10th at Enid's. Start thinking now of G&S songs about love and marriage. This will be a Celebration in honor of the weddings past and future among our members. (See below.) "If we're weak enough to tarry ere we marry, you and I" (*Iolanthe*). We'll have a pianist, duets and singalongs. Come as a character. "Brightly dawns our wedding day" (*Mikado*). "Hail the Bridegroom, hail the Bride! Let the nuptial knot be tied" (*Ruddigore*).

Last Meeting: On Monday, September 8th, nine members gathered at Enid's to start off the new season. Welcome to new members, Ed Pinney and Richard Bell (see addresses on page 2). President Bob Kusnetz reported on his several visits to Dallas during the summer. He saw two Gilbert & Sullivan productions there, and talked with people involved in each. Bob joined the Dallas Gilbert & Sullivan Society, and put them on our mailing list. They don't have regular meetings but put on one show a year. This year they will produce *The Sorcerer*. Bob found them to be a delightful group of people, and hopes to arrange a weekend meeting here or there to bring the Austin and Dallas G&S Societies together.

Bob reminded us of our continuing problems: 1) financial; and 2) new talent for production assistance. Steps taken so far: 1) Bob has several plans for raising money, including getting set up officially to receive matching grants from IBM and similar businesses. 2) Reba has written the article the Austin Circle of Theatres requested, and expects that it will be printed in the ACOT Newsletter in the near future. It might serve to bring into the fold some of those talented people who love G&S but haven't done anything about it recently. As Katharine Shields said some time ago: "The G&S Society has plenty of Indians. What we need is some Chiefs."

Bob has been conducting a one-man membership drive, talking about our Society to everyone he encounters. He recommends that we all do likewise. We really do need those Indians, too! He has also been talking to the Sam Bass Theatre, a small community theater in Round Rock near I 35. They have never done any G&S, but are interested. Like most local theaters, their schedule is set for this season, so we're talking about 1987-88.

The ACOT B. Iden Payne Awards will be announced at a celebration on Monday, September 29th at 8 pm, at La Mansion. In the meantime, the Society received a ballot, which Bob asked that members discuss and fill in at the end of the meeting. He noted that friends nominated included Barbara Irvine for musical direction for *Baby*, Michelle Ney for costumes for *Private Lives*, and Frank Delvy for his role in *Cole*. Reba then introduced a new friend, Bob Wall, who had come to play the piano for our singing. Bob was nominated for his musical direction in *Cole*. (In his spare time Bob serves as Professor of Linguistics at UT.)

Bob Wall proceeded to sight read his way through a variety of Gilbert & Sullivan pieces; we enjoyed his musicianship and enthusiasm, and hope to see him often again at our meetings. We took a refreshment break in Enid's hospitable kitchen, and sang on into the night.

(Question: Did you recognize last month's John Wellington Wells, from *The Sorcerer*?)

10/86-1



Sad News: Gus Amster died on August 28th. He and Pearl have been an inseparable team supporting the musical life of Austin. He will be sadly missed. I sent a card to Pearl for the Society.

Glad News: Members Loel Graber and Carole Smith stopped tarrying and got married in June. We decided to dedicate our November meeting to celebrating this happy event. Since the meeting we have learned that Jim Kellogg and Dorothy Allen have also decided to tie the knot. They are planning a February wedding in Austin. So we add this to the causes for festivity. And another wedding is coming up: Frank Delvy and Donna will celebrate their "fourth anniversary" by making it legal. Congratulations and Best Wishes to all!

News of Members: Jennifer Arndt gave a delightful voice recital in Bates Recital Hall on Friday, October 3rd. I thoroughly enjoyed the varied program. Jennifer will appear as Madame Silverpeal in Mozart's The Impresario, a November production by the UT Opera Department. Dates later.

Enid Hallock will appear at the Capitol City Playhouse as the Mother in Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel. Jess Walters directs the production, which will open on December 3rd and run for 19 performances. More about this later.

Carole Smith is now Carole Graber and lives at 12227 Forsythe Dr, Austin 78759 - the same address and phone number as Loel's on your present list.

Welcome to New Members: Please add these names and addresses to your list -



Page Allen
1430 Frontier Drive, #150
Austin, TX 78741 385-6266

Richard Bell
8539 Capital of Texas Highway North #2077
Austin, TX 78759 343-9640 (h); 471-3515 (w)

Ed Pinney
P.O. Box 49680
Austin, TX 78765 346-4732 (h); 452-0381 Ext 4204 (w)

ACOT - B.Iden Payne Awards: Enid and I went to the "Bippies" Celebration. It was fun to see the theatrical community of Austin out in their best bibs and tuckers, having a good time. Barbara Irvine won the Award for best musical direction for Baby.

DUES: Time to pay again! to cover the 1986-87 Season. Still the best bargain in town - \$5.00 just covers the cost of your ten issues of the Newsletter. Anything extra is welcome; or be a Patron for \$25.00 or a Lord High Patron for \$50.00. Come to the meeting with your money, or put it in the mail - see the dues notice in this Newsletter. If you've already paid there won't be one, and Many Thanks for being prompt!

Already Paid Up: Members, Mary Lu Barras, Robert Greenwood and Sari Moyer.
Patron, Enid Hallock
Lord High Patrons, Ben and Lucy Shoe Meritt
Len and Reba Gillman

Note: I will always be glad to take your money; or you can send it to Liz Opal, Treasurer
4900 Timberline
Austin, TX 78746

See you!

Reba Gillman
Secretary

10/86-2