

12

## The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society

### December 1986 Newsletter

**Next Meeting:** Will be held Monday, December 8th, at 7:30 pm, at Allen Lawshae's: 5804 Fairlane. Map enclosed. For information call Allen at 453-7637; or Reba at 327-2277. Come and bring your music. We will sing more of the wooing and wedding music we didn't get to last month. That includes choice bits from **Gondoliers, Mikado, Iolanthe, The Sorcerer, and Pirates**. And as usual, bring munchies, please.

Business, promptly at 7:30, will include nominations for new officers, and plans for some kind of production (see below).

**Last Meeting:** 12 members gathered at Enid Hallock's on Monday, November 10th. President Bob Kusnetz ran a shorter-than-usual business meeting on two major items:

1) Bob has been working on ideas for a concert form of production in early 1987. He has in mind a series of excerpts similar to our **An Evening With Gilbert & Sullivan**. If we can get the script from John McNeill, who wrote it, we might revive that show. Otherwise he suggests grouping excerpts around a theme, such as a Valentine's Day program in February, using some of the love and wedding music we've been finding. Other possibilities might be a Cold Weather theme, Unrequited Love, Political themes, or Gilbert and Sullivan Villains.

Production costs would have to be kept to a minimum. Costumes and props would be mostly our own. He's looking for volunteers for Director and Music Director, but reports that Barbara Irvine might be interested in being the Music Director for a low fee. If you want to work on this, or know someone who could, please give Bob a call. Publicity would be the largest expense, with space rental next.

He reported on the space available at Trinity Studios (on Trinity between 6th and 7th Streets). Upstairs the old Chameleons Coffee House has been remodeled and seats about 90 people. The informal downstairs space accommodates from 60 to 80 people, depending on arrangement. The upstairs space is booked pretty solidly through the next season, but the downstairs space is fairly available. We could book a 3 or 4 day weekend, and return another month with another show.

In discussion Ed Pinney suggested that we prepare **Trial By Jury** for an informal production to be performed here and there around town, perhaps including the Trinity Studios. Bob explained that the advantage of excerpts is that they can be rehearsed individually, and dropped or added. Also we can perform isolated scenes free as publicity, in a school or church. Ed also suggested that we inquire about using a nice facility at the State Hospital (41st Street and Guadalupe). He thought we would be able to use it at no charge if we gave a donation to the Hospital's Volunteer group.

2) The second order of business was to select a nominating committee to present a slate of officers to the January annual meeting. Sharon Kite volunteered to chair the committee, and Rosemary Russell-Vines will work with Sharon. Please call either with your suggestions, or to volunteer your services.

I reported on a meeting with Elota Patton, the Executive Director of Zachary Scott Theatre Center. This season is completely set, but we could apply to do a co-production in the 1987-88 season. At Elota's suggestion I also wrote a letter to the ZSTC play-reading committee asking that they consider a G&S opera on their regular production schedule in 1987-88. I have not received a reply.

Bob has a new position at IBM, and a new office number. Please note: 823-2714. He will be very busy in the next month or so, and does not know how his schedule will eventually work out. He will be taking a vacation in January, and will not be arriving back in town in time for our regular Society meeting on the second Monday. Bob suggests that we hold that meeting either on Tuesday, January 13th, or on the third Monday, January 19th. We will decide in December. If you have a preference please let us know.

12/86-1

We then sang lustily through several choruses from **Ruddigore**, with special emphasis on Hail the Bridegroom, Hail the Bride, to honor Carole and Loel Graber. Next Carole and Loel sang the duet, Things are seldom what they seem, from **Pinafore**. We finished off with the rousing finale from **Pinafore**, and retired to Enid's cozy kitchen to eat cake and drink champagne in a toast to happy marriage. Many thanks to Bob Wall for his expert and enthusiastic accompaniments!

(Last month's picture: Robin sings to Rose Maybud in **Ruddigore**.)

**News of Members:** Jim Kellogg sends love and regards. Dorothy Allen was to open as Anna in **The King and I** in Washington on Friday November 14th. Jim had just tried out for Jack Point in **The Yeomen of the Guard**. They are planning to be married in Saint David's Episcopal Church in Austin on February 28th.

**New Addresses:** Arthur Keller  
5905 Paseo del Toro, Austin 78731  
467-8323

Carolyn Roseboom  
1702 Bissel, Austin 78745  
442-7968

Katharine Shields  
1933 Smith Grade  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

(408)423-4578



**Money Received:** Dues are coming in, Thank You! But if you haven't paid up yet, Now Is The Time! Bring the money to the meeting, or mail it in. See the enclosed Dues Notice. If you didn't get one you're paid up. Many Thanks to:

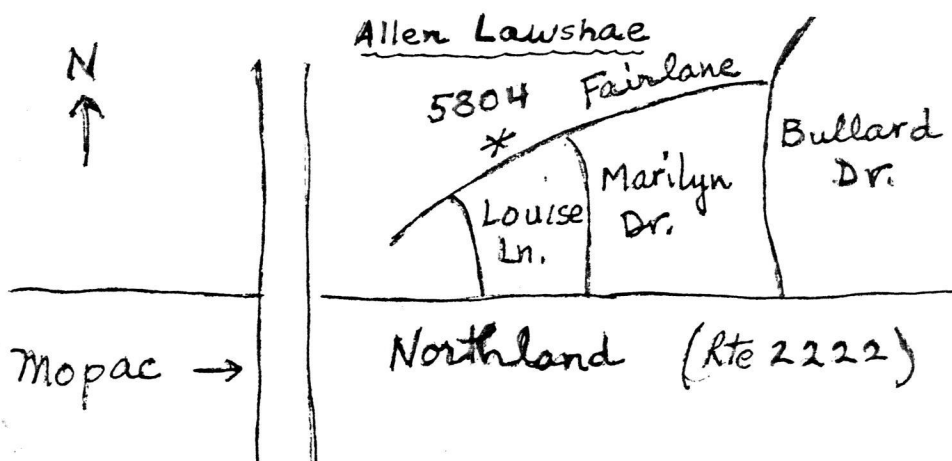
**Patrons:** Loel Graber  
Katharine Shields

**Donors** (who included extra money with their membership dues):

Mary Lu Barras  
Bill Hatcher  
Arthur Keller  
Sharon Kite  
Linnea Smith  
Liz Opal

**Members:** Carole Graber  
Allen Lawshae  
Rosemary Russell-Vines  
Larry Shepley  
Claire Weinstein

Braid the raven hair—  
Weave the supple tress—  
Deck the maiden fair,  
In her loveliness—  
Paint the pretty face—  
Dye the coral lip—  
Emphasize the grace  
Of her ladyship!  
Art and nature, thus allied,  
Go to make a pretty bride.



Hope to see you on  
December 8<sup>th</sup> -

If not -

Happy Holidays!

Reba Gillman,  
Secretary -

12/862