

## The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society

### January 1987 Newsletter

**Next Meeting:** Will be held Tuesday, January 13th, at 7:30 pm, at Enid Hallock's, 4001 Cherrywood. For information call Enid at 477-0858; or Reba at 327-2277. Come and bring your music and your munchies.

Please note - - this is the second Tuesday of the month. We postponed the meeting one day so President Bob Kusnetz could get back from his vacation.

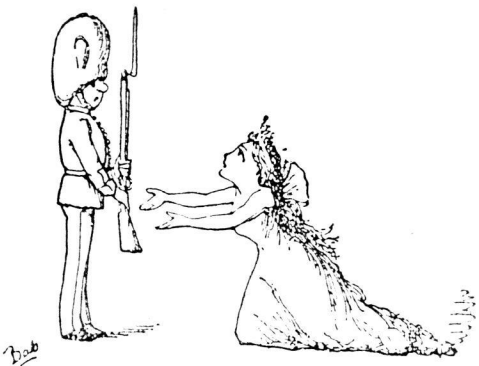
This will be the Annual Meeting. We will elect new officers, and work on our plans for an April production (see below). The nominating committee will present a slate of officers (if you have suggestions please call Sharon Kite, Chair, at 836-0908). Nominations will be accepted from the floor, but the nominee must have agreed to serve if elected. Please come on time, we have lots to do.

**Last Meeting:** We were delighted to welcome 3 new faces at Allen Lawshae's on Monday, December 8th., with 6 faithful members present. Our guests, Sheila Glenn, Scott Winnett, and Louise Richardson, are all experienced theater people, with lots of ideas to offer. President Bob told us that his new job is keeping him busy, and out of town a lot. This will continue until our next meeting in January, but he hopes to travel less after that. In the meantime, he thinks we should work toward an informal concert production in April, and asks that we all take over the related jobs that he won't have time to do before January 13th.

We discussed again the pros and cons of doing scenes from Gilbert and Sullivan, or a short opera like Trial By Jury. Most members agree that scenes of excerpts are more flexible and easier to rehearse. Bob wants to try one show in April, and several next season. We have two urgent reasons to do a show now:

- 1) We need to make some money;
- 2) We need to increase our visibility with the public.

Space: Trinity Studios is still a possibility, but we need to find out about other theaters. Scott will inquire about the Acting Studio (Burnet and Koenig Lane). Richard Bell will talk to Ed Pinney, and get more specific information about the facilities at the State Hospital. The possibility of using their rehearsal space freely is a definite attraction. The Utopia Theater on the UT campus (at 20th and San Jacinto) is a good space; we might be eligible to use it if we had 3 UT students on our Board. Louise will find out what the rules are, and when the space is available. We could plan to perform in more than one space, doing a show in different places on consecutive weekends.



Directors: We need to explore the possibilities for Musical Director. Bob will talk to Barbara Irvine, and find out whether she is still interested, and what her lowest price would be. Scott will talk with David Morrow, who has many talents. Rosemary Russell-Vines can talk to Noel Alford (Musical Director for our production of Patience). Enid Hallock will speak to Mary Ann Ybarra, and will inquire about Susan Ely's experience as Musical Director. I will talk to Bob Wall and find out whether he would be interested in taking on the musical direction. James Knapp, Musical Director at the University Christian Church, is a person to consider. There are many talented people in Austin, but they're all very busy, and most have to charge a fee to support themselves.

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Louise is interested in the dramatic direction. She has directed many shows, including several she wrote herself. She is at present writing a musical, and has directed several variety shows. Sheila volunteered her husband, Doug, who is good at lighting and sound. Sheila also offered to work with someone on publicity, but doesn't want to be in charge. Sheila would like to work on "Bios" for the program. Enid suggested a title for our show: "Gilbert & Sullivan Sampler". She likes the idea of using Gilbert and Sullivan as characters to tie the scenes together. By the next meeting we need to firm up a rehearsal pianist and musical director, space, date, and show.

In other business, we voted to pay our annual dues of \$30.00, to continue as an Organization member of the Austin Circle of Theatres.

We then adjourned for refreshments and sociability. Lacking an accompanist, we sang a capella, starting with the *Madrigal* from *The Mikado*. We sang *Strange Adventure* from *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *When a Merry Maiden Marries* from *The Gondoliers*, and finished off bravely with *Dance The Cachucha*. Many thanks to Sissy and Allen Lawshae for having us!

**News of Members:** Note new address for Joe Haggard

606 B Texas Ave, Austin 78751  
472-2515

**MONEY!!!** Dues are still due; please keep them coming! Many thanks to Jennifer Arndt and Joe Haggard, for contributing something extra with their dues.

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

**Happy New Year!!!**



Reba Gillman, Secretary

Did you recognize Yum Yum preparing for her wedding in last month's **Newsletter**? Not one of Gilbert's better efforts, I think.

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