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The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society March 1987 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Will be held Monday, March 2nd, at 7:30 pm, at Enid Hallock's, 4001 Cherrywood. For information call Enid at 477-0858; or Reba at 327-2277. Come prepared to work on our April production plans (scenes from Gilbert & Sullivan). Please bring munchies. Note that this is the first Monday in March!

Auditions ... Auditions ... Auditions ... Auditions ... Auditions ... Auditions ... Auditions

**On Saturday and Sunday, March 7th & 8th
From 1 to 5 pm**

At the Capitol City Annex, 401 Lavaca Street (Northeast corner of 4th & Lavaca)

Last Meeting: On February 9th eleven members gathered at Enid Hallock's to work on plans for our April production. Director will be Louise Richardson, and Musical Director will be Bill Girard. Bill was not able to be at this meeting, but called later in the evening and held a conference call with President Bob Kusnetz and Director Louise.

Reports on rehearsal and performance space: Bob has not yet been able to talk to Kenny Dudley, the Director of the Austin State Hospital, about the possibility of using their Canteen Conference Room for rehearsals. When he does, he wants to propose that in return for use of the space we would 1) get their piano tuned, and 2) do one free performance for patients and staff (perhaps after the regularly scheduled run). Members approved. Louise said she would investigate the possibility of using Pearce Junior High for rehearsals, as part of their Community School program. Other rehearsal space suggestions: Covenant Presbyterian Church - Allen Lawshae will check this; Unitarian Church - Gail White will check; people are to report the results to Louise.

For performance space, Bob has no further information about the possibilities at Trinity Studios, but will keep trying. He has talked with Ken Johnson about the Hyde Park Theatre. Ken is reviving his show, **Give My Regards To Broadway**, and hopes to run it well into April. When the space becomes available Ken proposes a reasonable rental, and also has costumes we might be able to use. April 25th would probably be the first date open there for our show. We all agreed that Hyde Park Theatre would be a good location, and Bob promised to pursue the matter with Ken. Bob also reported that Bill Girard is very enthusiastic about the possibility of using the Utopia Theater at UT. Bill will go ahead with the plan to set up a student organization and then try to sign up for use of Utopia. However, it may be booked until May or June.

Another interesting development is the possibility of doing a benefit performance at Lanier High School. Bob has been talking with the principal about their efforts to bring to this country the family of their Vietnamese custodian. On Bob's recent vacation trip to the Orient he took the necessary papers along, and brought back a progress report, which was shown on the TV news. It was agreed that we would like to do such a performance, but that the decision would be up to Bill Girard. In his call, later, Bill agreed to do a pre-view show as such a benefit.

Bob asked for volunteers to be in charge of Publicity. As there were none, he then asked Carolyn Roseboom if she would do the job. She agreed, but said she needed help. The first task is to get audition

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notices into **Time Out**, and the ACOT March Newsletter. We should also plan to get actual performances into the ACOT April Newsletter.

We need to find out if Strait Music Co. would tune the State Hospital piano free, for publicity in our program. Enid suggested that Bill Girard was the person to look into this. He also might have other tuning suggestions. Keith Larson will stop in at the State Hospital to check out the Canteen Conference Room facilities, and the condition of the piano.

Louise talked about her ideas for the framework of the show. She would like to use a wide variety of people and scenes, depending on who auditions. She is thinking of doing well known songs, and a few lesser known gems. Of course, this will be decided with Bill, as Musical Director. Her idea is to keep costuming very simple, perhaps the women in long dresses and the men in Tuxedos or "go-to-meeting" suits. She would use only a few props, but make them count. She and Bill have set up their first meeting for Saturday, February 14th.

Sheila Glenn suggested that we offer an honorary title to Dr. Blair Protzman, who is a true friend to opera and singers. He has treated ailing singers and enabled them to perform, even though ill. He has made wonderful tapes of several of the operas produced at Capitol City Playhouse. It was agreed that Lord High Gilbert and Sullivan Physician, might have a good ring. Sheila also asked if our policy permitted us to invite a singer to perform without an audition. (Jess Walters, for instance.) We agreed that it was a good idea, but that the final decision would be up to Bill Girard, as Musical Director.

We then adjourned for sociability and delicious refreshments. Thanks to all who brought them, and to Enid for her always warm hospitality.

Money: Thanks to:

Members
Patron
Lord High Patron

Carolyn Roseboom and Gail White.
Marvin Rasmussen
Bob Kusnetz

Come to the meeting!!!!

Reba

Reba Gillman, Secretary

The Law is the true embodiment
Of everything that's excellent.
It has no kind of fault or flaw,
And I, my Lords, embody the Law.
The constitutional guardian I
Of pretty young Wards in Chancery,
All very agreeable girls -- and none
Are over the age of twenty-one.
A pleasant occupation for
A rather susceptible Chancellor!



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