The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society January 1988 Newsletter

Next Meeting: On January 11th, 1988, the <u>second Monday</u> of the month, at 7:30 pm at Enid Hallock's: 4001 Cherrywood; 477-0858. Please bring munchies.

This will be our Annual Meeting, complete with financial report for the year, and Election of Officers. Please come, Pay Your Dues (now \$10.00) and VOTE. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, but the nominee must have agreed to serve if elected. The slate of officers suggested at the last meeting:

President
Executive Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Vice President for Production
Vice President for Publicity
Historian

Bob Kusnetz
Allen Lawshae
Reba Gillman
Keith Larson
(no candidate)
(no candidate)

Rosemary Russell-Vines

If this slate looks familiar that's because it is, right down to the old favorite "no candidate". We desperately need to fill those empty slots. If you have any bright ideas (including nominating yourself), please call me: Reba, at 327-2277, or Bob Kusnetz, at 836-1853.

Please Pay Your Dues Now!!! Bring them to the meeting, or mail them to Keith Larson, Treasurer, or to me.

- Auditions . For Trial By Jury and Scenes on Saturday, January 9th and Thursday, January 14th, 7 9 pm; at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Southeast corner of Mopac and #2222. For information, or if you can't come at that time, call Bob Kusnetz at home: 836-1853.
- ~~ Auditions . Auditions . Auditions . Auditions . Auditions . Auditions . ~~
- Last Meeting: Eleven members gathered on Monday, December 7th at the home of Enid Hallock; actually one was a new/old member: Welcome back Janita Robbins. See below for her address. After introductions all around, President Bob Kusnetz announced that the major item on our agenda was the projected production of Trial By Jury. We expect to use some scenes from other Gilbert and Sullivan operas to round out the evening. Selection of specific material will depend on available talent, and will be decided by the Director and Musical Director.

There has been no further news from Live Oak Theatre, but Bob has firmed things up satisfactorily with Phil Hohle of Concordia Lutheran College. Bob will need to discuss a few more arrangements with Mr. Hohle, and then sign a contract for our use of the space. We will expect to open a Preview to the public on Thursday, February 25, 1988. Regular performances will follow on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 26, 27 and 28, and March 4, 5 and 6. Most performances will be at 8 pm, but we might decide to perform on Sundays in the afternoon. Bob strongly advised planning for an opening night Gala. All agreed with him.

Jess Walters has volunteered his services as Director; and Bill Girard will be the Musical Director. Allen Lawshae will serve as Assistant to the Director. Katharine Shields was unable to be present (rehearsing in the chorus for the Austin Lyric Opera production of Verdi's The Masked Ball), but had given Reba the information about her efforts to locate a director. Once Jess expressed interest in the job, Katherine did no further calling. However, she had already talked with Bil Pfuderer, who was very much interested in working with us. Katherine had not been able to reach Bil on the phone again, but planned to write a letter telling him that even though we have a director for this production we will be in touch with him for future shows.

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Other personnel: Bob Kusnetz volunteered to be Stage Manager, and Sheila Glenn, Assistant Stage Manager. Doug Glenn will help with Lights. Enid will do Props. We still need people to be in charge of Set, Lights, Costumes, Running the House, Publicity, and Organizing the Gala.

Bob stated that a Production Meeting would be held soon, involving Jess Walters, Bill Girard, Allen Lawshae and Bob, and anyone else who's interested. All members need to start talking about the production and spreading the word, especially to choirs and similar interested groups.

The second important item of business for the evening was to choose a nominating committee to prepare a slate for our Annual Meeting in January. After discussion, when no Chair could be found for the committee, Bob simply asked how the present officers felt about running for re-election. Since all were willing to continue we proposed the slate, printed above. Nominations are still open, however, so please let us know if you want to serve, or have a good candidate in mind.

We then adjourned for refreshments and sociability. Thank you, Enid, for your warm and abundant hospitality. Our volunteer pianist, Bob Wall, was unable to join us, so we did without the singing this time.

News of Members: Fifteen members, dates and spouses, thoroughly enjoyed Man of La Mancha last Saturday night. Frank Delvy was great in the title role. Michael Drousche, Melissa Groves, and David Riggs, also added their special talents to the show. You can still see it, through Sunday, January 17th, at the Hyde Park Theatre. Call 452-6688 for reservations.

Jim and Dorothy Kellogg have a new address: 2608 Fordham Road Alexandria, VA 22302

Janita Robbins is a new member:

3414 Rosefinch Trail
Austin, TX 78746

327-1607

Oh, philosophers may sing

Of the troubles of a King,

But of pleasures there are many and of worries there are none;

And the culminating pleasure

That we treasure beyond measure

Is the gratifying feeling that our duty has been done!

THE GONDOLIERS

Reba Gillman, Secretary