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The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society
December **November 1988 Newsletter**

Next Meeting: December 12th, 1988, the second Monday of the month, at 7:30 pm at Enid Hallock's: 4001 Cherrywood; 477-0858. Agenda: 1) Nomination of Officers, to be elected at our January Meeting. Come with ideas for candidates; tell us about someone who would like to work; nominate yourself. Note: anyone you plan to nominate must have agreed to serve. 2) Planning for the Amster Soirée. Bring suggestions for the program (or call Carla Hammock - 258-2481) The Soirée will take place at 7 pm, Sunday, January 29th, 1989. 3) Planning for our spring production of **Pinafore** at the Hyde Park Theatre. Please come, and bring munchies and ideas. If you haven't paid your dues yet IT'S TIME!

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Note: Our fiscal year starts January 1st, but our membership year begins in September. Some of you joined us originally in February, March or April, but a new membership year is upon us, so **Dues are Due!**

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Nominations: Nominations will be accepted from the floor, and a slate of officers will be proposed by Enid Hallock, Chair of the Nominations Committee:

President	Bob Kusnetz
Executive Vice President	Allen Lawshae
Secretary	Reba Gillman
Treasurer	Judy Scott
Vice President for Production	Jacki Chapman
Vice President for Publicity	Bill Hatcher
Historian	Michael Drousche

Last Meeting: Eleven members met at Enid's house on Monday, November 21st. They were Jacki Chapman, Michael Drousche, Reba Gillman, Bob Greenwood, Enid Hallock, Carla Hammock, Bill Hatcher, Bob Kusnetz, Allen Lawshae, Joan Pearsall and Judy Scott. Cissy Lawshae was present to play the piano for try-outs for the Amster Soirée. Thank you, Cissy!

President Bob called for corrections to the minutes. Reba apologized for omitting two items. 1) Bill Girard is officially the Assistant Conductor for the Austin Lyric Opera. 2) Len Gillman will be playing the piano with the Austin Chamber Ensemble on Tuesday, December 6th, at 8 pm at the First Unitarian Church., 4700 Grover Avenue. He will perform the Trio Pathétique by Glinka, with Martha MacDonald, Clarinet, and Jim Justus, Bassoon.

The next order of business was our Spring production. Bob reported on his negotiations with Ken Johnson. We could open **H.M.S. Pinafore** at Hyde Park Theatre on Friday, April 14th, and run as long as we want. The only conflict would be the opening of **Rigoletto** on May 19th at Capitol City Playhouse. We could run 5 weekends before then. We discussed performing Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, with the possibility of also playing Thursdays. Ken Johnson manages the concessions, so we would not be involved in that at all. April 14th and 15th might be poor nights, because Income Tax returns are due on the 15th. It was agreed that a Gala Opening was an excellent idea, and should be part of our plan.

Director and Musical Director are two important posts to be filled. Bill Girard has told Bob he cannot take on the job this spring. The oral exams for his doctorate in Music are coming up, he is the Musical Director for the production of **Rigoletto**, and also will have worked on the Austin Lyric Opera's January

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production of **Die Fledermaus**. Noel Alford, Barbara Irvine, and Ed Lundergan were mentioned as possibilities for Musical Director. Possibilities for Director include Bil Pfuderer (probably tied up with the summer musical), Ken Johnson, and our own Jacki Chapman.

It was agreed that it is very important to publicize the auditions for **Pinafore**, and to get a lot of good people to try out. The strength of our production will depend on strong casting and good directors. Also we know that it is to our advantage to work with a regular director, like Bill Girard, and to perform regularly in one theater. We need that consistency.

Two theater spaces to add to our list of possibilities for the future:

- 1) The Acting Studio, Burnet Road at Koenig Lane
Call Dede Clark at 452-5989 (work) or 477-9898 (home)
- 2) The First Unitarian Church, 4700 Grover
Call Pete Aikenhead at 445-1051

We then turned our attention to plans for the Amster Soirée. Cissy Lawshae will be the pianist, and Carla Hammock has agreed to direct us. We will firm up the program at our next meeting. People who cannot attend should let Carla know if they would like to perform.

Nominations: A committee was formed, with Enid as Chair, and Judy Scott assisting, to prepare a slate of officers to be presented at the next meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor, but any nominee must have agreed to serve if elected.

Allen Lawshae reported that he had turned down an opportunity for us to perform at the Couple Class Christmas Party at the First United Methodist Church on December 8th. He felt that it would have been impossible to get a program together on such short notice at this very busy time of year. We then adjourned to conversation and good food, which people took turns trying out music with Cissy.

News of Members: Jennifer and Dick Arndt have a sweet new baby boy, Peter Samuel, born on Wednesday, November 30th. He was 22" long, and weighed 8lbs 12 1/2 oz.

Dues keep coming. Thanks to:

Patron: Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Tull

Members: Bill Hatcher (plus donation)
Robert Mellin

See you at the meeting. And Happy Holidays!

Reba Gellman, Secretary



For he is an Englishman! H.M.S. Pinafore

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