

The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society

January 1989 Newsletter

Next Meeting: January 16th, 1989, the third Monday of the month, at 7:30 pm at Enid Hallock's: 4001 Cherrywood; 477-0858. **Agenda:** 1) Election of Officers. See slate below. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, but anyone nominated must have agreed to serve. Dues must be paid up if you plan to vote. 2) Work on the Amster Soirée. Bring your music. 3) Report on plans 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!

Slate of officers 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

Note about Dues: 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 well begun, so please pay up!

Amster Soirée

On Sunday, January 29th, 1989 at 7 pm, at the home of Pearl Amster, 2304 Hartford Road.
Members are welcome. A \$2 contribution is requested
for the benefit of the Austin Civic Orchestra (Bill Girard, conductor; Pearl Amster, Board Member)
In addition to the G & S program, Leonard Gillman will play the piano
with flutist Jane Durbin, and violinist, Lucia Woodruff.

Last Meeting: Eight members met at Enid's house on Monday, December 12th. They were Pearl Amster, Jacki Chapman, Michael Drousche, Reba Gillman, Enid Hallock, Bob Kusnetz, Allen Lawshae, and Joan Pearsall. Cissy Lawshae was present to play the piano, and Keith Larson came in late, just in time to join us for refreshments and perform some financial transactions. Thank you Keith!

President Bob called for corrections to the minutes. Reba apologized for a typographical error: the word "which" instead of "while" on page 2. Also she had not changed the heading to read "December Newsletter" and had to make the correction in red ink to all 92 copies! (Punishment enough.)

Enid read us the slate of officers (printed above). Bob asked for nominations from the floor, but there were none. We will vote at our January meeting. Nominations will be accepted then. Nominees and voters must all have paid their current dues. Enid suggested that out-going officers serve on a committee with newly elected officers to ease the transition, and help the new officers. This procedure is followed by many organizations. Some questions were raised about our dues-paying schedule. It was agreed that we would discuss this with the new Treasurer at our January meeting.

Carla Hammock is to direct our program for the Amster Soirée; she could not attend the meeting because she was rehearsing in the chorus for the Austin Lyric Opera production of *Die Fledermaus*, to be performed Friday and Saturday, January 13 and 14, 1989. (Other members in the chorus are Joe Haggard and Katharine Shields.) Enid reported that she had been working with Carla on the Soirée, and would be calling people to line them up for the program. They plan to include lots of music from *Pinafore* to publicize our next production.



Sir Joseph Porter: When I was a lad
H.M.S. *Pinafore*

Progress report on *Pinafore*: We will open on Thursday, April 13th. This will allow a review to appear in the Saturday paper. We will plan a Gala for some other performance - a Friday or Saturday night later in the run. It was agreed that we would run Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, at 8 pm, and Sundays at 2:30 pm. Strike will be after the matinee on Sunday, May 14th. We will move into the theater on April 9th, at the latest.

Bob reviewed the financial arrangements, and read us the contract he proposed to have Ken Johnson sign. We discussed ticket prices and authorized Bob to come to an agreement with Ken. We strongly urged that ticket prices be set at \$8.00 for Friday and Saturday nights, \$7.00 for Sunday afternoons, and \$6.00 for Thursday nights, with no discounts.

Next we discussed directors. Bob reported that he had talked extensively with Jacki Chapman, and had also talked with a reference who gave a glowing report on Jacki's work. Bob thought Jacki's enthusiasm and energy would bring a lot to the show. He therefore proposed her name as director. This was seconded and discussed, and accepted unanimously.

Music director was the next topic. We ran through the list of often-suggested names, and Bob promised to approach some of them before the next meeting. Bob reported that Bill Hatcher has been working on publicity and has plans to get material to the local publications well in time for their deadlines. Auditions will be at the beginning of February ... we need to spread the word! Jacki will look into lining up rehearsal space. She said she felt comfortable doing the choreography herself. We hope that Susan Norwood will be available to be our costumer; she will let us know soon. Allen reported that he had seen the part of *Hebe* enlarged in a production of *Pinafore* in Boulder last summer. He promised to try to get the part for us to look at.

Bob may receive an offer to have the G & S Society perform in Conroe, Texas. It would involve staying overnight. Enid has schedules for the Dallas Lyric Opera, and the Ohio Light Opera, and will be glad to supply information. This season the Dallas Lyric Opera will perform *The Barber of Seville*, *The Gondoliers*, and *Candide*. Bob expressed his official thanks to Enid for lending him her Scotch Mohair shawl to help keep him warm at the meeting. We then adjourned for refreshments and sociability, to the background of Cissy working with a few singers as we munched.

News of Friends and Members:

Ken Johnson's production, *Luv*, by Murray Schisgal, opened December 15th at Hyde Park Theatre. It will run through January. Support our friends - Go see it! *Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well*, and *Living in Paris* will follow and run through February and March.

Bill Girard's production of *The Doctor's House* by Bizet, will be performed at the Opera Lab Theatre on February 23rd and 25th, and March 2nd and 4th. This one act opera was composed by Bizet when he was 16 years old. Bill has orchestrated the original piano score, and translated the opera as well. Marilyn Pierce will be in the cast.

Don't miss the Austin Lyric Opera production of **Die Fledermaus** at 8 pm at the Bass Concert Hall at UT, on Friday and Saturday, January 13th and 14th. For information call 472-5927.

We have received a happy note from Judy Thweatt Borek , who married David Borek in October and moved to a small town near Seattle. She sends love and greetings to all. Her address:

447 Main Ave S #22
North Bend, WA 98045

Dues: Thanks to the members who keep them trickling in:

Lord High Patron:	Bob Kusnetz
Patrons:	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jones Sharon Kite Dale Lipsett and Linda Creel
Members:	Michael Drousche Carole Graber Loel Graber Joe Haggard Louise and Roman Smoluchowski (who wish to move to the mailing list) Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Wyllys

Note: I have continued sending the Newsletter to many people who have not paid their dues this year, in the hope that "a check is in the mail". This will be the last Newsletter for most of you. See your dues notice. If any of you prefer not to receive the Newsletter ... essentially wish to move to the mailing list ... please let me know. We warmly appreciate all levels of involvement, from audience to running the lights. Your interest keeps us alive!

Happy New Year and see some of you at the meeting!

Reba

Reba Gillman, Secretary