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The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society February 1989 Newsletter

Next Meeting: February 13th, 1989, the second Monday of the month, at 7:30 pm at Enid Hallock's: 4001 Cherrywood; 477-0858. Agenda: Full steam ahead on plans for **H.M.S. Pinafore**. Come to hear what's going on and get ready to work!!! Munchies welcome. If you haven't paid your dues yet IT'S TIME!

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!** If a dues notice appears in your Newsletter, this means you!

H.M.S. Pinafore

We set sail on Thursday, April 13. Calling all hands to join in the fun of working behind the scenes. We need lots of help. Now is the time to get involved! Can you sew, hammer and saw, paint, gather props? What are your talents? Call to volunteer: Jacki Chapman, 478-0645; Bob Kusnetz, 836-1853.

Hyde Park Theatre, 43rd and Guadalupe
April 13 through May 14, 1989

Last Meeting: Fourteen members met at Enid's house on Monday, January 16th. They were Jacki Chapman, Reba Gillman, Sheila and Doug Glenn (with Topher, a very well behaved young guest), Bob Greenwood, Enid Hallock, Carla Hammock, Bill Hatcher, Bob Kusnetz, Allen Lawshae, Joan Pearsall, Rosemary Russell-Vines, Judy Scott and Katharine Shields. Sissy Lawshae was present to play the piano. Thank you Sissy! (And forgive me for mis-spelling your name in previous Newsletters.)

As we gathered we found a Production meeting in full swing with Bob Kusnetz, Jacki Chapman, Enid Hallock and Allen Lawshae. The regular Society meeting was called to order just before 8 pm. The first order of business was presentation of the slate of officers. Enid read the slate; Bob asked for nominations from the floor, but there were none. It was therefore moved and seconded that the slate be accepted as proposed. The ensuing vote was unanimous. Reba noted that this was the first time in several years that we have had a full slate of officers; Bob thanked the nominees for their willingness to serve.

Slate of officers unanimously elected:

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

Bob Kusnetz
Allen Lawshae
Reba Gillman
Judy Scott
Jacki Chapman
Bill Hatcher
Michael Drousche

Bob reported on the Production meeting. We are looking for volunteers for crews and committees. Many positions are still open. After discussion we agreed to run Opening Night Gala for each performance on the opening weekend. This seemed a good solution to the small space available for celebration. After

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the Sunday matinée we will serve High Tea; Rosemary, Joan and Enid will consult about the menu. The evening Galas will feature champagne. We will be getting out an advance mailing to invite people to the Galas, and also to stimulate advance ticket purchase. Last year's use of mailing lists really paid off. The problem will be keeping up attendance during the middle weekends of the run. We need to emphasize that the small house has only 90 seats, and urge people to get their ticket orders in.

Auditions will be on Saturday and Sunday, February 4th and 5th; place to be announced. Director Jacki Chapman stated that there can be only 14 to 18 people cast; no room for more. Bob will order the scores; we will give them to the cast. Bob will talk to Bruce Douglas at Sound Warehouse to see if they can stock recordings of *Pinafore*.



A British tar is a soaring soul
H.M.S. *Pinafore*

Bob reminded us that this year we don't have Jess Walters as a built-in draw. We need to work on all the angles, such as developing the high school audience, and sending a few performers to downtown restaurants and the Highland Mall Food Court for brief performances. Carla remarked that H.M.S. *Pinafore* is a well-loved opera and should attract a good audience. Joan asked if we had been in touch with the English Speaking Union. Bob asked Bill Hatcher to look into this, and also the Poetry Society. Both groups would be interested in our production.

Jacki urged us all to get the word out, both for auditions and performances. Talk up the aspect of back stage and preparatory work. One of her goals is to make the G & S Society as strong a name in town as some of the theaters. She thinks it is especially important to reach the high school teachers in Drama, Music and Choir. They can educate children to enjoy G & S when they bring groups of students to performances.

Carla reported that we had a full program for the Amster Soirée, with a good selection of music from *Pinafore*. We then adjourned for rehearsal and refreshments.

News of Members: Goodbye to Ed Pinney, who has moved to Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Regards from Jim and Dorothy Kellogg; they're very busy at work in Washington, D.C.

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

Patron: Judy Scott

Members: Jacki Chapman
Donna Delvy
Frank Delvy
Drs. Bruce & Peggy Kruger
Judith McCown
Louise Richardson
Rosemary Russell-Vines
Robbis Storm

Reba

Reba Gillman, Secretary

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