

The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society

March 1990 Newsletter

Next Meeting

First Monday: Monday, March 5th, at 7:30 pm at Enid Hallock's: 4001 Cherrywood, 477-0858. Bring yourself and some goodies to munch on.

Last Meeting

On February 12th fifteen members gathered at Enid's house: Susan Adams-Johnson, Bob Bobo, Michael Drousche, Leonard Gillman, Bill Girard, Loel Graber, Bob Greenwood, Enid Hallock, Carla Hammock, Jan Jones, Bob Kusnetz, Allen Lawshae, Robert Mellin, Joan Pearsall, and new member Al Rellstab. President Bob K. called the meeting to order and asked for a volunteer to take the minutes in the absence of Reba Gillman, Secretary. Allen Lawshae, Executive Vice President, volunteered.

Leonard Gillman announced that Reba had undergone surgery for a herniated disc earlier in the day. A get well card was passed for signatures. Leonard passed out copies of the treasurer's report and it was reviewed without comment. Leonard chided the members for the talking which took place at the Amster Soirée during the piano and violin performance preceding the G & S Society performance. Leonard concluded by raising questions about a report that Don Toner had expressed interest in becoming Artistic Director of the G & S Society. Bob Kusnetz responded to this with an expression of support for Jacki Chapman, the Society's V.P. for Production, and concluded by affirming that the Society will select its own directors.

• I. Election of Officers: The slate of officers previously nominated and announced in the February 1990 Newsletter was presented. This included:

President	Bob Kusnetz
Executive V.P.	Allen Lawshae
V.P. for Production	Jacki Chapman
V.P. for Publicity	Bill Hatcher
Secretary	Reba Gillman
Treasurer	Carla Hammock
Historian	Michael Drousche

The floor was opened for nominations. There being none, Allen Lawshae moved that the slate be elected by acclamation. Jan Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

• II. Report: Bob Kusnetz reported on the Called Officers Meeting of 2/5/90. At this meeting a decision was made to prepare a grant application for submission to the Austin City Arts Commission. Jacki Chapman will coordinate the preparation of the application. She solicited input and assistance from the membership. Jan Jones, Allen Lawshae and Bob Kusnetz volunteered to assist in the project.

• III Report: Robert Mellin reported on His Investigation of the possibility of the Society's doing a show this spring. He indicated that a theater space is available, a number of Society members are interested in doing the show, and he can find the money to finance the production. Robert moved that we do a proper, full blown spring production, that is, a titled G & S operetta. Jan Jones seconded the motion. A lengthy discussion followed, and the motion was defeated by a vote of 4 for, and 8 against.

Robert moved that we do a sampler this spring. The motion was seconded by Susan Adams-Johnson. After a brief discussion the motion was defeated by a vote of 3 for, and 6 against.



The Gondoliers

Next Meeting: Will be on Monday, March 5th.

Dues: Last Call if yours are due. Look for an insert in this newsletter. Also look on your label for DUES in red ink.

• **IV Report, Plans for the Future:** Bob Kusnetz reported on his meeting with Don Toner at Live Oak Theater. Don is interested in joining forces with the Society. He and Bob discussed a working relationship and goals. Don offered the Society a place in Live Oak's spring 1991 schedule for a major production of *Pirates of Penzance*. He indicated that the production could be in May or June, utilizing Society personnel for key technical positions, or the Society might elect to do a co-production of the show in April or May. The latter would be a regular part of the Live Oak season and could be included in the theater's subscription series. Don indicated that this would entail greater artistic control by the theater, with Live Oak personnel serving in key technical positions and Don exercising oversight in his capacity as Artistic Director of Live Oak Theater. Both Bob and Don feel that Society technical and artistic personnel can profit from this arrangement as a learning experience, and that Society personnel can assume greater responsibility in subsequent joint productions.

Bob suggested in light of the Society's expressed interest to do 2 shows a year, that the Society produce one of the lesser known G & S operettas in the fall of 1990 at a theater other than Live Oak. Bob feels that a repetition of this pattern for several years could strengthen the Society to a point of our being able to have our own theater.

A lengthy discussion followed, concluded by a motion by Allen Lawshae that Bob approach Don Toner with a proposal that the Society do *Pirates of Penzance* with Live Oak Theater as a co-production in the spring of 1991, in the theater's regular season. Carla Hammock seconded the motion and it carried by a vote of 12 for, and 1 against.

Carla Hammock then moved that the Society do a show in the fall of 1990. Jan Jones seconded the motion and it carried by a vote of 11 for, and 1 against.

Four shows were discussed as possibilities for the fall production. A straw vote was held with members voting for the 2 shows they favored. The results were:

<i>Ruddigore</i>	10
<i>Patience</i>	8
<i>Iolanthe</i>	7
<i>Mikado</i>	2

After soliciting volunteers, Bob Kusnetz appointed Michael Drousche, Chairman, Jan Jones, and Susan Adams-Johnson to shop for theater space for the fall 1990 production, and to report to the next meeting.

Earlier in the meeting Jan Jones had proposed and then withdrawn a motion to the effect that the Society prepare a sampler for presentation in the public schools this spring. Bob Bobo reintroduced the idea at this point. Bob Kusnetz appointed a committee of interested members to include himself, Susan Adams-Johnson, Carla Hammock, Jan Jones, and Bob Bobo, Chairman. This committee will report to the next meeting.

Bob Kusnetz indicated that he would introduce proposals for the future of the Society at the next meeting. This was scheduled for March 5, 1990 at 7:30 pm at Enid Hallock's house. The meeting was adjourned.

«««««« News of Members and Friends ««««««

Member Sheila Glenn has been cast in the chorus of *Tosca*, to be performed in May at Capitol City Playhouse, Jess Walters directing. The part of Scarpio will be sung by our friend Doug Schram, who played Sir Marmaduke in *The Sorcerer*. Reminder: go hear Doug's recital on March 3rd, at 7:30 pm at the University Christian Church, 2007 University Avenue. Free!

• **Note from your Secretary:** Thanks to Allen Lawshae's minutes it has been a pleasure to write this Newsletter. See y'all at the next meeting! *Reba*

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