

# The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society

## October 1990 Newsletter

### Next Meeting

**None in October:** Plan on a meeting in November, probably November 12th, the second Monday. More information later.

### FUND RAISER

Instead of a meeting this month you are cordially invited to the Very Special Champagne Buffet Musicale at the Top of the Marc, 618 West 6th Street, on Sunday, October 14th at 6 pm. Robert Mellin has been hard at work planning this exciting event. A bulk mailing went out last week, but apparently not everyone has received it. See insert.

The program includes Bill Girard singing "The Elements" based on the Major General's song from *Pirates*, and Len Gillman singing "The Nightmare Song" from *Iolanthe*, as well as many other delightful excerpts sung by Frank Delvy, Neal Gibson, Russell Gregory, Enid Hallock, Leonard Johnson, Douglas Schram, Judy Scott, Katharine Shields, Bart Sprayberry, Jess Walters and many more. Len and Bill will accompany each other.

This event is specially designed to attract interested non-members, and to bring in LOTS of money. But it is a bargain to our regular paid-up members: \$15.00 admission per person. Or if your membership needs renewing here is your opportunity to give the Society some money and yourself a treat. Since this is rather short notice you may call in your reservation to Bob Mellin at 345-5950, and pay at the door. Act now and join the party!

### THANKS!!!

Bob Mellin has worked hard on every aspect of this fund raiser, from wording the invitation to lining up the program. Donna Delvy contributed the expert layout, and Susie Jacobson made the address labels. Using her new CompuAdd computer she typed out 2250 names and addresses, a heroic task consuming hundreds of hours. Thanks to Susie, we have a brand new, up-to-date mailing list.

Thanks also to envelope stuffers and label affixers Pearl Amster, Bob Bobo, Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Susie Jacobson, Bob Kusnetz, Allen Lawshae, Bob Mellin, and Justin Price.

### SPOTLIGHT ON RUDDIGORE!!

**Grand Opening** Friday October 26th at 8 pm, at Reagan High School Theatre, 7104 Berkman Drive, for two weekends only. Other performances:

Saturday, October 27th	8 pm
Sunday, October 28th	2:30 pm
Friday, November 2nd	8 pm
Saturday, November 3rd	8 pm
Sunday, November 4th	2:30 pm

**Directions:** From I 35 drive east on Rte 290. Take the Berkman Drive exit, driving North. You will see the high school buildings on the left, the theater is the three-story one. Turn left before the buildings, then right into the parking lot which is to the west of the theater. Enter from the parking lot.

Rehearsals are in full swing, and we expect to put on a great show. Director David Ketchum and Musical Director Bill Girard are working well together and there are a number of returning favorites in the cast.



For she's only a darned Mounseer,  
D'ye see?

*Ruddigore* was written as a satire on old fashioned English melodrama. The first act bubbles along in typical G&S style; the second act turns up ghosts, dastardly deeds, and operatic music. It contains some gems, including "I once was a very abandoned person", "It really doesn't matter", and the touching "There Grew A Little Flower".

The theater seats 512, which means that in 6 performances we could have a total audience of over 3,000 people. It also means that we have to spread the word and get the crowds coming immediately ... there will be no third or fourth weekend to build our fame.

### Membership

Look for the familiar red "DUES" on your label. That will tell you it's time to renew. The year rolls around fast, and you may be surprised to find your membership is already expiring. Please take this opportunity to renew, and Be Generous!

## OTHER NEWS

Member Janita Robbins has left town. Her new address:  
8225 Clemson Drive  
Tyler, Texas 75703 214-581-8493

Congratulations to member Diana Sethre. She was nominated for the ACOT B. Iden Payne Awards for her costumes for *The Merchant of Venice*. Diana is also an actress, and is very active in the local theater community.

Thanks to member Janette Jones an announcement of our production of *Ruddigore* appears in the October issue of The Texas Monthly (page 26).

## MORE THANKS

Skipped in last month's Newsletter: Thanks to Jo Frances Leecraft for donating a cake to the *Patience* Gala. Thanks also to Beverly Toback who brought food to the Gala and stayed to the end to help clean up.

And special thanks to Patrons Carey and Louise Thompson who wrote a warm note and sent generous additional financial support.

*Reba*

Reba Gillman, Secretary

• *Ruddigore* •

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd  
(Robin Oakapple)  
Richard Dauntless  
Sir Despard Murgatroyd  
Old Adam Goodheart  
Rose Maybud  
Mad Margaret  
Dame Hannah  
Sir Roderic Murgatroyd  
(a ghost)

Richard Witek  
Bart Sprayberry  
Frank Delvy  
Will Rice  
Carla Hammock  
Janette Jones  
Enid Hallock  
Allen Lawshae

Chorus of Gay Blades, Ancestors, Professional Bridesmaids,  
and Villagers  
(including Bob Bobo and Robert Mellin)

Co-producer  
Director & Set Designer  
Music Director  
Ass't to Music Director  
Costumes

Susan Adams-Johnson  
David Ketchum  
Dr. Bill Girard  
Debbie Williams  
Jacki Chapman

Reminder: Sir Ruthven is pronounced Rivven. He appears at first disguised as Robin Oakapple, a young farmer.

The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society  
Reba Gillman, Secretary  
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