The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society February 1992 Newsletter

• Next Meeting •

• Monday, February 3rd: at Pearl Amster's, 2304 Hartford Road, 472-7028: 7:30 pm, sharp. Please bring refreshments. There will be a short business meeting and then musical preparation for the Next Big Event: Frederic's Birthday Party (see below).

- Frederic's Birthday comes but once every four years. 1992 is Leap Year, and Leap Day falls on Saturday, February 29th. We're having a Bash for Frederic, from 5 to 7 pm, and even after Y'all come!
- Volunteer Pot-luck; Fun and Games; Mingle with the Austin G&S Crowd; Sing-Along with Bob Wall at the piano. (Read the *Pirates* libretto to bone up for the games) Come Help Celebrate! Don't Miss This Rare Event!
- At Pearl Amster's, 2304 Hartford Road, 472-7028. Save the date ... Saturday, February 29th. More in the next Newsletter.

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News of Members

- Welcome back to new President <u>Robert Mellin</u>. He enjoyed his stay in South America, but got laryngitis just in time to come home without a voice (and thereby hangs a tale).
- Welcome back also to our peripatetic pianist member, Professor <u>Bob Wall</u>. He spent two months in California, and five in Denmark on a Fulbright. This was professionally valuable but he missed the musical contacts he's accustomed to. Now he's busy getting back into the swim, and trying to sell his magnificent old house on Highland Avenue. (Anyone looking for a great house?)
- And temporary goodbye to ex-President <u>Karen Collier</u>. She is teaching a course on Technical Documentation this semester at ACC on Monday nights, and won't be able to come to our meetings. She plans to remain active on the Production Committee, however, so she'll still be working for us.

• Last Meeting •

Twelve members gathered at the home of Sue Ricket Caldwell on Monday, January 6th. They were: Sue, Karen Collier, Michael Drousche, Harold Gilbert, Reba Gillman, Doug and Sheila Glenn, Loel Graber, Bill Hatcher, Susie Jacobson, Bob Kusnetz, and Amy Lynne Young. 3-year-old Topher Glenn came too, but spent most of his time in another room playing with Sue's boys. He's an old hand at G&S meetings — he came to his first when he was 3 weeks old.

• The Slate of officers was read. There were no nominations from the floor, and the slate was accepted without dissent:

President	Robert Mellin
Executive Vice President	Bob Kusnetz
V.P. for Production	open
V.P. for Publicity	Susie Jacobson
Secretary	Reba Gillman
Treasurer	Amy Young
Historian	Anne Collins Smith

Karen thanked the outgoing Board members for their hard work, and Bob K. and Reba for having the energy to continue as officers.

• The Mikado: Karen reported that the Production Committee would be meeting soon. In the meantime Karen had learned that we might be able to rent Mikado costumes from the community theater in Raleigh, NC that Karen and David had worked with a few years ago. The rate would be favorable, and would save money on our costume budget; it would include wigs, fans and everything. They were very good costumes, well made with volunteer labor.

Bob K. reported that he had received the suggestion of Jim Fritzler for director. Harold Gilbert told us that Paul Galvan was definitely interested in being music director. He directs the Unitarian Church choir, and is also assistant to Maurice Beachy of the Choral Union.

Bob K. reminded us of the idea of soliciting Show Sponsors, which had worked well for *Pinafore*. A letter was sent out asking for financial support to meet the problems of cash flow. Donors were given 3 options:

- Lend us money which would be returned after the show closed.
- 2) Send us money designating part as a donation and setting the amount to be returned later.
 - 3) Donate the total amount given.

Any material concerning Gilbert and Sullivan or the Society members would be welcome additions to the Newsletter Call Reba at 327-2277, or drop a note to: 1606 The High Road, Austin 78746



Michael Drousche suggested that we need a person to be in charge of Fund Raising year-round.

- Fun Raiser: Bob K. suggested that in honor of Leap Year we move our March meeting back to Saturday, February 29th and hold a social event to celebrate Frederic's Birthday. He volunteered to be in charge of the event, and Amy Young offered to help. Additional workers will be needed. (Volunteers, anyone? Call Bob at 836-1853.)
- Miscellaneous Information: Reba received a call from the Fort Worth Opera, urging us to consider getting up a group to attend their production of *Pinafore*, January 10 19. There was to be a matinee on Sunday, January 19; tickets for groups of 10 or more were priced at \$23 and \$24 each.

Also Reba received a letter from Dennis Jackson, Director of the Lyric Theatre Program at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He will be on sabbatical leave next year and is interested in the possibility of directing a production in Austin. Unfortunately it is doubtful that we could afford to hire him.

 Meeting adjourned for refreshments and sociability. Many thanks to Sue, who has graciously hosted our meetings since October.

• Report on the Amster Soirée •

On Sunday evening, January 12th, an enthusiastic audience gathered at Pearl's for our fund-raising "extra" Soirée. It went off delightfully and I was so proud.

Janette Jones did a fine job of pulling it all together (she's a real "theater person", all right!). Our new pianist, Ann Cogdell, accompanied skillfully and musically, following the little lapses and never batting an eye.

Afterward audience and performers mingled and enjoyed the delicious desserts assembled in the dining room. This kind of event really brings our group together. It's work, but it's worth it! Many thanks to all the performers, and especially to Janette for working so hard to organize the program, and Pearl for having us, and Ann Cogdell for filling the great need — playing the piano!

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A Belated Happy New Year!!!

Reba Gillman, Secretary



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

The AUSTIN GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY PRESENTS

A SMATTERING OF CHOICE SELECTIONS

Sunday, January 12, 1992 at 7:00PM

Hostess: Pearl Amster Orchestra: Ann Cogdell Narrator: Bob Kusnetz

Narration: Ann Collins Smith Page Turner: Sue Ricket Caldwell

SIX OR SEVEN WHEN SONGS

When All Night Long A Chap Remains

Harold Gilbert

Iolanthe

When Alone Together and There Was A Time

Katharine Shields & Jim Robinson

The Gondoliers

When Frederic Was a Little Lad

Enid Hallock

The Pirates of Penzance

When Britain Really Ruled the Waves

Loel Graber & Chorus

Iolanthe

When I Was a Lad

Michael Drousche & Chorus

HMS Pinafore

When a Felon's Not Engaged In His Employment

Harold Gilbert & Chorus

The Pirates of Penzance

A QUARTET OF DUETS

So Go To Him And Say To Him

Loel Graber & Amy Young

Patience

Long Years Ago

Jacki Chapman & Norma Garza

Patience

If We're Weak Enough To Tarry

Deborah Zallen & John Harrison

Iolanthe

There Is Beauty In the Bellow Of the Blast

Enid Hallock & Harold Gilbert

The Mikado

A TRIO OF SOLOS

Orpheus With His Lute

Sheila Glenn

Shakespeare & Sullivan

The Sun Whose Rays Are All Ablaze

Jacki Chapman

The Mikado

Poor Wandering One!

Juona Chapman

The Pirates of Penzance

Carla Hammock & Chorus

A SINGLE TRIO

I Am So Proud

The Mikado

Michael Drousche, Loel Graber & Harold Gilbert

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