

The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society

April 1992 Newsletter

• Next Meeting •

• **Monday, April 6th:** at Pearl Amster's, 2304 Hartford Road, 472-7028. Please bring munchies. Agenda:

1) Elect a new Treasurer. Loel Graber is the nominee. Goodbye to Amy Young, who served a brief but energetic stint as Treasurer. See farther on for information.

2) Meet the new Directors for *The Mikado*. Come and say Hello to some of our artistic staff, and hear what they have to say. A rare and informal opportunity to ask questions and socialize with these creative talents before they become totally engrossed in their disciplines. (Best not to bother them once they get started on the job. It might be as dangerous as trying to take food from a hungry dog.)

• Mikado Update from your President •

I have very good news! The first phase of our production of *The Mikado* is coming along beautifully, thank you! We have acquired the services of three very talented and enthusiastic directors.

Stage Director is Chris Jennings. He recently directed the well-received *Street Theater* at the Capitol City Playhouse and is a lover of Gilbert and Sullivan. Wesley Grove is Musical Director. He is working on his Master's degree at UT, specializing in Voice and Conducting. The Choreographer is Bud Coleman, who is Stage Director for *Into The Woods* currently playing at Saint Edward's University. He was a member of The Ballet Tocadoero in New York.

We are engaged in the process of recruiting the very best designers for the other artistic specialties necessary to make our *Mikado* the best show in Austin. Announcements of the production have already been sent to the media by Susie Jacobson, as have been audition notices. The Zachary Scott Kleberg stage will be the location for auditions on the evenings of April 12th and 13th. Inserts advertising *The Mikado* are in all the programs at the Zachary Scott and Capitol City theaters. The logo for this production has been designed by our new member, Howard Hayden of Houston, and will be used for all advertising.

Yes, everything is rolling along perfectly. I promise the show will be a hit. But the time to sell the show is not after it opens. The time to sell it is NOW. By selling, I

mean promotion and publicity and raising money to pay for it. This is our most expensive show ever, and excellent audience attendance alone won't cover it. We are working on corporate underwriting, but ultimately it will be up to you, friends of Gilbert and Sullivan, on whom we must depend. You will be receiving a letter stating just how you can help. Please be responsive and let's make the Gilbert and Sullivan Society the cultural force in Austin that it deserves to be. Feel free to call me about anything, at 345-5950.

— God bless you, and anticipate a grand *Mikado*.

Robert Mellin

• News of Members •

Amy Young, the Treasurer we elected in January, has worked hard for us in the short time since then. She got our books into shape, brought new energy and ideas to the Executive Committee, and organized the food for Frederic's Birthday Party. Just when we were congratulating ourselves on having tapped in to a wonderful new resource, Amy came to us with the news that she had been offered the opportunity to transfer to London on her job with Landmark/Zycor. Well! Exciting for her, and we wish her well; but oh! we will miss you, Amy!

Do we detect a trend here? Become Treasurer for the G&S Society and travel abroad? After all, Carla Hammock, our last Treasurer, is now living in Paris.

News from Carla Hammock recounts the joys of home-hunting in a foreign land. She and David were on the verge of signing a contract on an apartment near the Sorbonne and other delights of the Latin Quarter. We hope to hear from her when they've moved in and have a real address.

Congratulations to our member and faithful supporter, Dr. William H. "Deacon" Crain, who is the subject of an informative article in the March 5th West Austin News. He had just been awarded the Zachary Scott Theatre Center's annual "Papa Noel" honor in recognition of his significant contributions to ZSTC, as well as his "interest and support for Austin's theater and arts institutions."

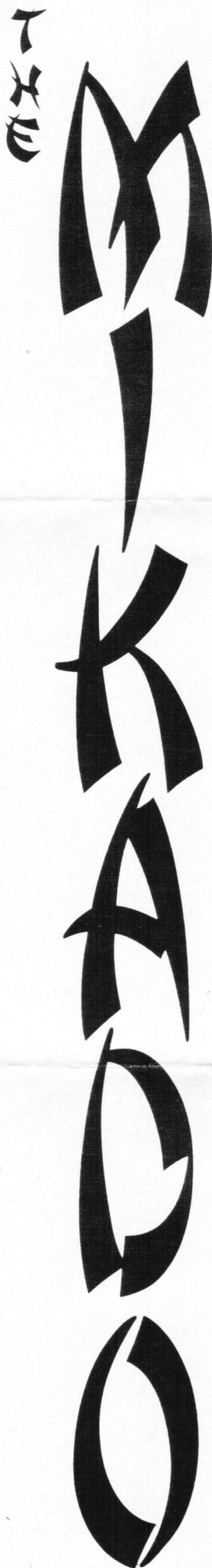
We call "the Deacon" Poo-Bah in honor of the high level of his contribution to our Society. And we're in good company. Almost every program in Austin carries his name as donor and supporter. He turns up at the opera, the dance, the theater, UT, community, fancy and ambitious, and small and earnest. He is truly the "Papa Noel" of the arts in Austin, and we thank him from the bottom of our hearts!

Announcing Auditions!!!

For our June production of *The Mikado*; at Zachary Scott Theater, Kleberg Stage
Sunday, April 12, 6 - 10 pm; Monday, April 13, 7:30 - 10:30 pm; Questions? Call 345-5950

4/12/92
6/10

A 29-cent US postage stamp. The top half of the stamp features a stylized American flag with horizontal stripes. The bottom half features a black and white illustration of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial, showing the faces of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln. The number '29' is printed in a large, bold font on the left, and 'USA' is printed in a smaller font on the right, both in a serif typeface.



It's Coming!

The Big One!

Everybody's favorite Gilbert & Sullivan Show...

THE MIKADO

As members of the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Austin, we want to make this production of the MIKADO first rate in every way.

Producing a first rate show requires a first rate effort. So let's pull together to create a production worthy of this delightful musical satire. This letter is your invitation to participate to the best of your ability -- be it through donations of time, talent, money, or property. Simply put, we need help. So if you can supply it in any form, please use the enclosed questionnaire to let us know. Feel free to check as many items as you want! Return the questionnaire to:

Enid Hallock
1120 Clayton Lane
Austin, Texas 78723

(Enid will be calling to follow up on this questionnaire, so if you hurry and send it back right away, you'll save her some effort.)

Basic Information:

- Auditions: Kleberg Stage @ Zachary Scott Theater Center; April 12 from 6-10 p.m. and April 13 from 7:30-10:30 p.m.
- Opening night (June 11) will be a gala performance with a champagne reception. Tickets: \$20.
- Tickets for the run of the show are \$14-\$12.
- The show runs Wednesdays through Sundays, June 11 through July 5th, 1992.

Evening performances -- 8:00 p.m.

Sunday matinee -- 3:00 p.m.

Make your reservations early!

Zachary Scott Theater Center Box Office: 476-0541

Director: Chris Jennings

Music: Wesley Groves

Choreographer: Bud Coleman

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin:

Robert Mellin, President	345-5950
Bob Kusnetz, Vice-President	836-1853 or 838-4919
Reba Gillman, Secretary	327-2277
Loel Graber, Treasurer	836-2273 or 838-8425
or Enid Hallock	453-4431 or 459-6650

Sincerely, *Robert Mellin, President*

SIGN UP TODAY!
Become One of the Mikado's Minions!

Name: _____ Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

To make this a first rate show, we need to raise about \$10,000 by opening night.

\$ _____ Be an **Underwriter**. Sponsor the whole show or one or more performances.
Associate your name or that of your business with this delightful performance and spread goodwill among friends, clients, and customers.

\$ _____ Be an **Angel**. Just send money. It's that easy!

_____ Be an **Agent**. Purchase blocks of tickets for friends, clients, customers. Convince groups to which you belong to come together and take advantage of group discount rates.

_____ Be a **Supporter**. Attend the show. Make your reservations early by calling Zachary Scott Theater Center Box Office at 476-0541.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Administration:

- | | |
|--|--|
| _____ solicit funds | _____ sell advertising for the program |
| _____ coordinate information for the program | _____ work on publicity |
| _____ help the president | _____ run errands |
| _____ pass out flyers to choirs and other groups | _____ coordinate volunteers |
| _____ loan pick-up truck for errands | _____ sell advance reservations for groups |
| _____ help with mail-outs | _____ drive on errands |
| _____ recruit other volunteers | _____ bring food to the cast |

Production:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| _____ AUDITION to act and sing
<small>(Kleberg Stage @ Zach Scott; April 12, 6-10 p.m. & April 13, 7:30-10:30)</small> | _____ help president |
| _____ build sets | _____ be stage manager or assistant |
| _____ gather props | _____ paint sets |
| _____ do costumes | _____ hang lights |
| _____ coordinate the gala | _____ sew costumes |
| _____ do make-up | _____ help with the gala |
| | _____ teach make up |

Run-of-the-Show: (June 11--July 5)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ run lights | _____ usher |
| _____ act as dresser | _____ run props |
| _____ clean up | _____ help with make-up |
| _____ run the house | _____ handle hospitality |
| _____ attend often and bring friends! | |

Return this form promptly to:

Enid Hallock
1120 Clayton Lane
Austin, Texas 78723

Thank you!

4/12/83