

# The Austin Gilbert & Sullivan Society

## October 1992 Newsletter

### • Next Meeting •

• Monday, October 12th, the second Monday, at 7:30 pm. At Pearl Amster's: 2304 Hartford Road, 472-7028. Come for fun, and renewal at the Gilbert & Sullivan fount. We will sing through *Iolanthe*, and gather afterward for conversation and refreshments in Pearl's pleasant dining room. Please bring munchies. AND scores if you have any!

### • G&S Society Needs List •

1) We still need Storage Space.

2) **Volunteers:** we need willing workers to serve on the Board of Directors. If you love G&S, and can devote an hour or two a week to work on running the Society please let us hear from you.

Note: we especially need help with writing grant applications.

Call Robert Mellin at 345-5950 to volunteer!

### • News of Members •

• Our new member Wren Andersen, plays the part of the youngest daughter in *Fiddler on the Roof* at Live Oak Theater, through October 18th; call 472-5143.

• Frank Delvy will be appearing in Bobby Bridger's space-fantasy musical *Aldebaran and the Falling Star* October 15-18 at Parkside Community School, 1701 Toomey Road (near the new Zachary Scott Theatre). He plays the roles of Captain Quince of the starship Na-he, and Falling Star. For information call 472-2559.

• Frank Delvy was honored by a nomination for the ACOT B.Iden Payne Awards for Lead Actor in a Musical (for *Damn Yankees*). Attending the celebrations were G&S members: Frank, Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Enid Hallock, Allen Lawshae and Robert Mellin.

• Congratulations to Executive V.P. Robert Kusnetz. He is now the President of his synagogue, Beth El.

• President Robert Mellin continues to appear in a silent role in *Amadeus*, the current hit at Capitol City Playhouse. October 10th is the last performance of this excellent production. Call 472-2966 for reservations.

### • Message from your President •

I was gratified by the large turnout we had for our monthly meeting in September. Actually, it wasn't really a meeting. It was a party with lots of good music, food and even champagne. Now, I can't promise champagne at all our gatherings (this last one was special to celebrate the success of our *Mikado* run). But I promise our monthly get-togethers will be strong on music, maybe a little talk here and there about Gilbert & Sullivan, and socializing afterwards with snacks (each person is urged to bring something to share). Business will be conducted at board meetings, and any interested member is invited to attend and provide input. Call me at 345-5950, for the next board meeting date.

In response to the appeal in last month's Newsletter for someone to help me with correspondence, Michelle Perris graciously volunteered. She is already hard at work! We are still looking for someone with a garage-size area to store the things the Society has collected these past 15 years or so.

And do you have any suggestions about a word to use instead of meeting for our monthly get-togethers? I hope to see some new faces at this coming ... ? ...

\*\*\*\*\* Robert Mellin \*\*\*\*\*

### • Executive Committee Meeting •

President Robert Mellin, Treasurer Loel Graber, and Secretary Reba Gillman met on September 29th. Robert reported that our production of *The Mikado* did very well. Surprisingly we took in enough at the box office to pay expenses. This is almost unheard of.

Other matters discussed were:

1) The December 6th Event at Capitol City Playhouse. We still do not have a director for this.

2) Our spring show at Dougherty Arts Center will open on April 23rd for a 4-week run (Thursdays through Sundays). We are looking for stage and music directors. We need to be writing grant proposals. Help from any knowledgeable or willing person would be most welcome.

3) We need to be finding willing workers to take on Society offices and other work. Enid Hallock will serve as Chair of the Search and Nominating Committee. Other members will be Loel Graber and Katharine Shields. [Call Enid at 453-4431 to express your interest!]

4) The November meeting will take place on Monday, November . It has been suggested that we sing through *The Mikado* [Comments and opinions from Members?]

### Attention All Members

Help keep our members informed. Make the Newsletter more interesting.

Let me know your news. Pass on Gilbert & Sullivan tid-bits and lore. Call me at 327-2277, or write me a note.

• Last Meeting and Party •

On Monday, September 14th, we had a grand party. 26 adults and 2 children had a wonderful time singing, eating and drinking, and chatting. Pearl Amster provided delicious food (Allen Lawshae brought some of his homebaked bread, also), and Champagne from the Gala flowed freely.

Those present were: members Pearl, Wren Andersen, Frank Delvy, Harold Gilbert sporting a handsome cane (recent hip operation, you know), Reba Gillman, Sheila Glenn with son Topher, Loel Graber, Bob Greenwood, Enid Hallock, Bill Hatcher, Bob Kusnetz, Allen Lawshae, Robert Mellin, Joan Pearsall, Janita Robbins (and Thanks So Much for the generous dues check to help with *The Mikado*!), Katharine Shields, Anne Collins Smith with son Emrys, Bob Wall, Emma and Jess Walters, and Deborah Zallen; and guests Margaret Barton, Maggie Bavousett, Gary Hallock, Kristina Havenhill, and Eve Michaud.

After welcoming and introducing everyone, President Robert announced two coming events: 1) A one-night performance of excerpts on Sunday, December 6th, at Capitol City Playhouse (space donated by Michel Jaroschy); 2) A full-scale production opening April 23, 1993 at Dougherty Arts Center, and running four long weekends. The show will probably be *Iolanthe*.

Allen Lawshae then took over. He explained that he intended to use the Sunday O. Henry's Birthday program in a participatory way today. The singers were to remain wherever they were seated, and everyone else was to join in. There followed a rousing rendition of two choruses from *Pirates: Hail Poetry* and *When the foeman bears his steel*, with Bob Wall at the piano.

Frank Delvy sang *I am a Pirate King!*, and Kristina Havenhill sang *The sun whose rays are all ablaze* from *Mikado*. Allen, Frank, and Loel gave a spirited performance of *I am so proud*, and we ended with everyone singing *Tit Willow*, both these also from *Mikado*. Then off we went to feast.

Note: The performance Allen had presided over the day before at O. Henry's Birthday Party was truly delightful. The singers were Margaret Barton, Sue Rickett Caldwell, Enid Hallock, Kristina Havenhill, Janita Robbins, Harold Gilbert, Gary Hallock, Bill Hatcher and Allen Lawshae; Bob Wall played the piano with his usual cheery verve. They opened the program with *Hail Poetry*, and closed it with *When the foeman bears his steel*, complete with solos from Allen, Bill, Harold, Kristina and Enid. In between some talented children read two poems and performed a play adapted from an O. Henry story.

## Iolanthe

Come sing and eat and chat!

Bring yourselves, your scores, your munchies

Monday, October 12th at 7:30 pm

to

Pearl Amster's, 2304 Hartford Road

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin  
Reba Gillman, Secretary  
1606 The High Road  
Austin, TX 78746

