

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

December 1992 Newsletter

12

• Next Event •

- Sunday, December 6th, at 7:30 pm, at Capitol City Playhouse: A Very Special Gilbert & Sullivan Holiday Review. Come one - come all! \$20 per person. See Flyer for information.

• The Annual Business Meeting •

- Monday, January 11, 1993 at 7:30 pm. Place to be announced. Agenda:
 - 1) Financial Report
 - 2) Election of Officers
 - 3) Some Music; part prepared performance, and part sing-a-long. Further information in January Newsletter.
 - 4) Refreshments. Please bring munchies.

• The nominating committee is still hard at work getting together a slate of officers. Enid Hallock, Chair, and members Loel Graber and Katharine Shields have been very creative in their approach; Enid has spent hours calling members, searching for willing workers and suggestions. At the January 11th meeting the committee will present their complete slate (which will be printed in the January Newsletter before the meeting). Nominations will be accepted from the floor, and voting will follow. The present, incomplete slate is:

President	Robert Mellin
Executive Vice President	Bob Kusnetz
V.P. for Production	Patrick Bennett
V.P. for Publicity	Donna Delvy
Secretary	Reba Gillman
Treasurer	to be announced
Historian	Anne Collins Smith

• News of Members •

- Executive V.P. Bob Kusnetz has passed his flying tests and now has a valid Pilot's License. He offers small plane flights over Austin to adventurous G&S fans. He is off on a prolonged vacation, and won't be back until January.
- Frank Delvy will be appearing in the revival of *Noises Off* at Capitol City Playhouse, opening soon for the holiday season. Allen Lawshae will be repeating his roles in *A Christmas Carol* at the Paramount, December 10 through 20. Wren Andersen also appears in this production.

• Thoughts from the President •

By now all our members should know about our December 6th very special Gilbert & Sullivan Holiday Review at Capitol City Playhouse. Being involved in the process of putting this event together, I can guarantee a totally enjoyable Gilbert & Sullivan experience creatively designed and staged for this one-time-only event by Freddy Carnes, of Children of Light Players, and a lover of Gilbert and Sullivan. Our own Bob Wall is musical director, and has been conducting musical rehearsals at his house, using his 8-foot Steinway piano. And how lucky we are to have excellent vocalists to contribute their talent and time to our Fund Raiser. Each one is a star soloist. Therefore I do hope that all our society members do support this Fund Raiser by attending. Yes, it costs \$20 per person, but you will see a rare special production followed by some champagne and a delicious buffet. And you can still be home by 10 pm!

The purpose of this Fund Raiser is to support our spring production of *Iolanthe*. Specifically, we're trying to be able to afford rental of the original D'Oyly Carte sets for the opera, which are now owned by the Houston Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

In 1993 our monthly Gilbert & Sullivan "nights" will be largely evenings of entertainment, sprinkled with some enjoyable and informative Gilbert & Sullivan discussion. Your desires and ideas about these evenings are welcome, as is your input on every aspect of what happens with our Society. Do not hesitate to call me, even with criticisms and complaints. My number is 345-5950. See you on December 6th!

***** Robert Mellin *****

• More News of Members •

- Formerish member Telisa Harwell is involved in the coming production of *Godspell* at the Vortex; watch the papers for information.
- Finally a letter from Amy Lynne Young giving her address:

22 Farington Acres, Vale Road
Weybridge, Surrey
KT 13 9 NH
ENGLAND

Be Good Members

Let us know your interests and desires. Come sing with us at "meetings". Give me your news and announcements. Call Reba at 327-2277 or Robert Mellin at 345-5950. And please Pay Your Dues promptly!

6110

~~~~~

Amy writes "It's been exciting, tiring, exotic and wonderful since I got here. After my first two weeks here I was off to Milan, and since then I've been training people in Scotland, the Netherlands, Germany, London, and I spent a month and a half doing continuous classes in the Middle East...Oman and Qatar... I'm off to Holland on Sunday for a couple of weeks training there, then I might make it home to Oregon for Christmas. Then back to Oman for the end of January, first of February.

I've also been approached about taking over as Training Manager - my boss has been promoted! ... I have not had a chance to sing (I'm not in one place long enough to finish more than 1 verse of anything!) but I bought a bike, and ride 3 miles to work, so I am getting in shape. Finally!

I like the new format for meetings where you do more singing - I'm sorry to be missing out! But give everyone a big hug for me - I do miss you!"

~~~~~

• Last Gathering and Sing Through •

On Monday, November 2nd, at Pearl Amster's eleven members gathered: Pearl, Sue Ricket Caldwell, Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Enid Hallock, Bill Hatcher, Robert Mellin, Lucy Shoe Meritt, Bob Wall, and Becky Cowgill and Nell Trimble attending their first meeting.

President Robert Mellin remarked that Frank Delvy and Allen Lawshae were not able to attend because of rehearsals. We have received our *Mikado* grant money from the city of Austin Arts Commission. We are working on an application for city funds for our production of *Iolanthe*. We are still looking for much needed storage space - any volunteers?

We went around the room as each person introduced him/herself and then got down to business singing highlights from the first act of *The Mikado* with Bob Wall at the piano. We especially enjoyed Becky Cowgill singing the part of Katisha in the finale. Becky moved here recently from California, where she played the part of Pitti Sing in a Marin County production of *Mikado*. We then adjourned to the dining room for delicious refreshments and lively conversation. Many thanks to Pearl for her generous hospitality.

~~~~~

#### •G&S Society Board Meeting •

On November 10, 1992 four of us met at Robert Mellin's house: President Robert, Executive V.P. Bob Kusnetz, Secretary Reba, and Treasurer Loel Graber. Plans in the works: 1) Supply additional detail for grant application for *Iolanthe* to the Austin Arts Commission. 2) Complete grant application to Texas Commission of the Arts by December 1.

3) Gilbert & Sullivan Holiday Season All Star Revue on December 6th at Capitol City Playhouse. Freddy Carnes will direct; Bob Wall is musical director. This is a fund raiser for our production of *Iolanthe*.

4) *Iolanthe* will open April 29, 1993 at the Dougherty Arts Center. It will play Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, and Sunday matinees for four weeks.

We discussed plans for meetings for 1993. We need a person to be in charge of planning these [Volunteers, call Robert at 345-5950].

~~~~~

"Modified Rapture"

Comedy in W.S. Gilbert's
Savoy Operas

By Alan Fishler

Victorian Literature and Culture Series

New from the University Press of Virginia
160 pages, 6 x 9, cloth
ISBN 0-8139-1334-9, \$25.00

Reba will order 10 copies which will qualify us to receive a 40% discount, reducing the cost to \$15.00 per copy. We have several orders already from members; if you would like to join the list please call Reba at 327-2277, after November 30th (I will be out of town for Thanksgiving).

~~~~~

#### Happy Holidays

Reba Gillman, Secretary

~~~~~

A Great Big Thank You

for the work done to send out the Flyer announcing the December 6th Very Special Gilbert & Sullivan Holiday Review to Susie Jacobson who ran a big batch of mailing labels (what would we do without you, Susie?) and to label-stickers Judy Scott, Robert Mellin, Reba Gillman and Donna Delvy



Gilbert & Sullivan

Holiday Season

All-Star Revue and Fund Raiser

Champagne Buffet

At Capitol City Playhouse
Sunday, December 6, 1992 at 7:30 pm

One Night Only

Stage Director, Freddy Carnes; Music Director, Bob Wall

Featuring

Freddy Carnes
Mary Alice Carnes
Frank Delvy
Kristina Havenhill
Heather Kafka
Evan J. Kelley

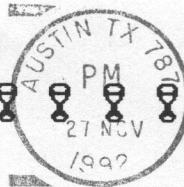
Lauren Powers
Steve Ruzicka
Scott Schroeder
Judy Scott
Leah Tsamous
Martin Vasquez

Jess Walters

\$20 per person; Call Capitol City Playhouse at 472-2966 for reservations

Proceeds will help fund the G&S Society spring production of

Iolanthe



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

