

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

November 1994 Newsletter

Reba Gillman, Editor

• Next Meeting -- Our Monthly Musicale •

• On Monday, November 7th, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. at Paulist Hall, St. Austin's, 2026 Guadalupe Street. Please come and bring munchies. If possible bring a suitable serving dish and any serving utensil required (e.g. a fork, knife, or spoon).

• Please note the change in place. See map on page 4.



➔ Order your tickets now for the ➔ Third Annual One Time Only Very Special Gilbert & Sullivan Holiday Season All Star Revue and Champagne Buffet Fund Raiser

At Capitol City Playhouse
Freddy Carnes • Stage Director
Bob Wall • Music Director

Sunday December 4th 1994
\$25 per person
Champagne Buffet Serving from 6 to 7:15
Show at 7:30 pm

Reserve now for the best seats and have
tickets mailed to you.

Send checks payable to G&S Society of Austin to
our office: 2026 Guadalupe, #221, Austin, TX 78705
and enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope.

or

Call Box Office 499-TIXS
for Credit card orders • there will be a surcharge
For information call 472-4772.



• Message from your President •

Even though our *Gondoliers* does not open until March 17th of next year, for your President (and producer) the most important phase of the production process is now. Directors, designers, technicians, craftsmen, and performers are being carefully selected in this time frame. Of course, too, now is the crucial time to secure the corporate funding needed for the show. Which reminds me, if you work for a big company, please contact me immediately. These companies tend to more readily support non-profit organizations to which their employees belong. They often also match the dollar amounts their employees donate. Just recently, we received a matching amount from a company with which member Mary Metz is affiliated in Houston. Any amount over the basic yearly membership dues of \$10 is considered a donation (and possibly tax deductible). So let me or your company know about your planned donation, regardless of the amount.

The yearly Gilbert & Sullivan All Star Revue on Sunday December 4th at Cap City, directed by Freddy Carnes, will be somewhat different this year. And in addition to some of our regular favorite performers there will be some surprise artists, including one of Austin's most important theatrical personalities. No, I am not playing coy. But I want the casting to be completed before announcing names. Very soon, you will receive a special mailout giving all the details of the event. For you, faithful patron, who simply cannot wait to order your tickets, and want to reserve the very best seats, read the special box on this page.

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

• Open Auditions for *The Gondoliers* •

Will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13, 1994, from 1 to 5:30 pm in the UT Music Building, Room 2.118

Bring sheet music from an opera or Broadway show and if available a résumé. Be prepared to do some simple dance steps. Call-backs on Monday, November 14th at 6:30 pm.

The Gondoliers will be performed with orchestra in the new 410-seat Temple Theater at the Helm Fine Arts Center at St. Stephen's School on March 17th, 18th, 19th and March 26th, 27th and 28th.

Stage Director Matt Buchanan
Music Director Richard Short

• For more information call the G&S office, 472-4772 •
• or Robert Mellin at 345-5950 •

Gilbert & Sullivan Society Office • Phone: 472-4772

Claudia Olson • Hours: Mon, Tue, 1 - 5; Wed, Thu, Fri, 9 - 1
Newman Hall, Room 221, 2026 Guadalupe St., Austin TX 78705

11/94/1 6/110

• Last Gathering and Musicale •
Monday October 10, 1994
Written by Enid Hallock (Thank You!)

Music opened the meeting with a stirring "introtit" ... a rendition of "My name is John Wellington Wells" from *The Sorcerer*, sung by our enthusiastic program leader, Allen Lawshae, accompanied most ably by Lord High Pianist Bob Wall.

Our innovative and hard working president then introduced the new at-large board members: Libby Weed and Loel Graber, and three members of the Advisory Super Board: Jess Walters, W.H. "Deacon" Crain, and Enid Hallock. The remainder of those present (27 in all) included members and guests: Pearl Amster, Wren & Joy Andersen, Byron & Sophia Arnason, Marion DeFord, Maxine Hairston, Enid's grandson Robert W. Hallock, Ray Howard, Matthew Kaplan, Allen Lawshae with guest Kay Novak, Julia Lawshae, Diana McAlpin, Robert Mellin, Barbara (Bee) Harris Polomé, Janita Robbins, Emma Walters, Susan Weed, LHP Bob Wall, special guest Richard Short, and our Society employee Claudia Olson.

The musical portion of the evening continued with Matt Kaplan doing his plaintive rendition of "Time was when Love and I were well acquainted" ("I was a fair young curate then") from *Sorcerer*.

In addition to the new board members President Mellin announced and introduced the new musical director for the up-coming *Gondoliers* production, Richard Short (see information elsewhere). Auditions for *Gondoliers* will be the weekend of November 12-13th, in a place to be announced.

Robert Mellin reminded us of the December 4th One-Time-Only-Third-Annual-Fund-Raiser-Gala at Capitol City Playhouse. A Sunday evening buffet at 6 pm, program at 7:30 pm and short reception with cast, following the show. Freddy Carnes is in charge and already working on it.

Bob Wall presented the Society with another lovely book which he discovered, purchased and donated to the Society: "Gilbert and Sullivan's London" by Andrew Goodman, 1987. Many thanks to Bob.

Back to the music of the evening with Julia Lawshae singing her "swan song" for us as she is leaving to attend the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York

City. She sang "Sad is that woman's lot" from *Patience*, followed by a duet with Allen, the always amusing "So go to him and say to him," also from *Patience*. Allen continued from *Patience* with a splendid interpretation of "Am I alone and unobserved?" Iolanthe's "My lord, a suppliant at your feet, I kneel" beautifully sung by Julia, was followed by the almost too appropriate "Ah leave me not to pine alone" from *Pirates*, duet with Allen.

Matt Kaplan gave us a sad "Tit Willow" from *The Mikado*, followed by Julia with a rendition of "Oh, foolish fay" from *Iolanthe*. Matt came back with "He is an Englishman!" from *Pinafore* followed by the Glee, sung by Matt, Allen, and Loel. Then Loel gave us a stirring version of "There lived a king" from *Gondoliers*. At this point Matt Buchanan (stage director for our soon to be produced *Gondoliers*) arrived and gave us a reprise of "He is an Englishman" followed by the Finale of Act II of *Pinafore*, rendered in full by the assembled throng. Then our rousing and standing version of "Hail Poetry" from *Pirates* was followed by "Now to the banquet we press" from *Sorcerer*. We adjourned to Pearl's dining room for chatting and delightful refreshments.

• News of Members •

• Secretary Reba Gillman enjoyed a week's visit to her daughter in California. In her absence Enid Hallock did yeowoman work, and recorded the events of the October 10th Musicale for this Newsletter. Many Thanks!

• Patrick Bennett has bought a business. He has seven employees working for him with two locations in Austin. He is full of ideas for development, and business is great. He spends most of his time at the downtown site. Drop in on him and talk *fitness*.



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Austin, Texas 78703
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The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin Dues Structure

Member - \$10.00	Patron - \$25.00	Lord High Patron - \$50.00	Grand Duke - \$100.00
Major General - \$250.00	Pooh Bah - \$500.00	Savoyard - \$1,000.00	

• Meetings of the G&S Executive Committee •

I'm sorry I've fallen so far behind in my reports. The last meeting reported in our Newsletters (June 1994) took place on April 26th. Since then the committee has held monthly meetings, and much has resulted from their decisions. You know about the actions: they include moving into our very first Office, and hiring the capable Claudia Olson to do everything under the sun (on a part-time basis, of course!).

We awarded our very first scholarship: to Julia Lawshae to continue her musical and dramatic studies in New York, and bestowed it at our September 12th Musicale. And we obtained a non-profit bulk mailing permit.

We authorized President Robert to attend a July Seminar on the legal and accounting aspects of running a non-profit organization; and an August Conference on "Cultural Connections". We joined 102 other non-profit organizations in an exhibition for CHARITech '94, held in the Convention Center on September 21, 1994.

The dates and place were set for our production of *Gondoliers*, and Robert supervised the application to the City of Austin Arts Commission for a grant for the production. Plans were also made for the December 4th Fund Raiser, to take place at Capitol City Playhouse with Freddy Carnes as Stage Director, and Bob Wall as Musical Director.

We approved the addition of two at-large members of the Executive Committee: Libby Weed and Loel Graber.

The Executive Committee meets regularly on the fourth Tuesday of each month, usually at the O. Henry Room at the Austin History Center at 6:30 pm. Date, place and time are subject to change under special circumstances. All members are welcome to attend; please call President Robert at 345-5950 to confirm the time and place of the meeting you wish to attend.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 22nd at 6:30 pm at the Austin History Center.

Officers for 1994

President	Robert Mellin	345-5950
Executive V.P.	Allen Lawshae	459-4858
Production V.P.	Patrick Bennett	442-0528
Publicity V.P.	Bill Hatcher	892-3722
Secretary	Reba Gillman	327-2277
Treasurer	Diana McAlpin	467-8080x216
Hist. & Parl.	Position open	
Member at large	Libby Weed	837-5441
Member at large	Loel Graber	836-2273

• Good News •

The Austin City Council has approved funding to our Society in the amount of \$1,121 to support our production of *The Gondoliers*.

• Music Director for *Gondoliers* •

Richard Short comes from Lafayette, Louisiana, where he received his Bachelors Degree in Music Education in 1991. He expects to complete his Masters of Music in Orchestral Conducting at UT this December, 1994. He has conducted the UT University Orchestra for a year and a half, and has been guest conductor for several other groups, including the Louisiana State University Symphony Orchestra. He also played percussion with the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra for three years, and with the Ohio Light Opera for four summers.

• Looking Ahead •

• **Scott Ferrell**, Tenor, who played "Rafe" in our production of *Pinafore*, will give his DMA Recital on Friday December 9th, 1994 at 8 pm at UT's Jessen Auditorium in the old music building. Admission is free.

• **Mark your calendar:** the January Gilbert & Sullivan **Annual Meeting and Musicale** will take place on the second Monday, January 9th, 1995. There will be no Musicale in December • Plan to attend the Fund Raiser on December 4th instead.

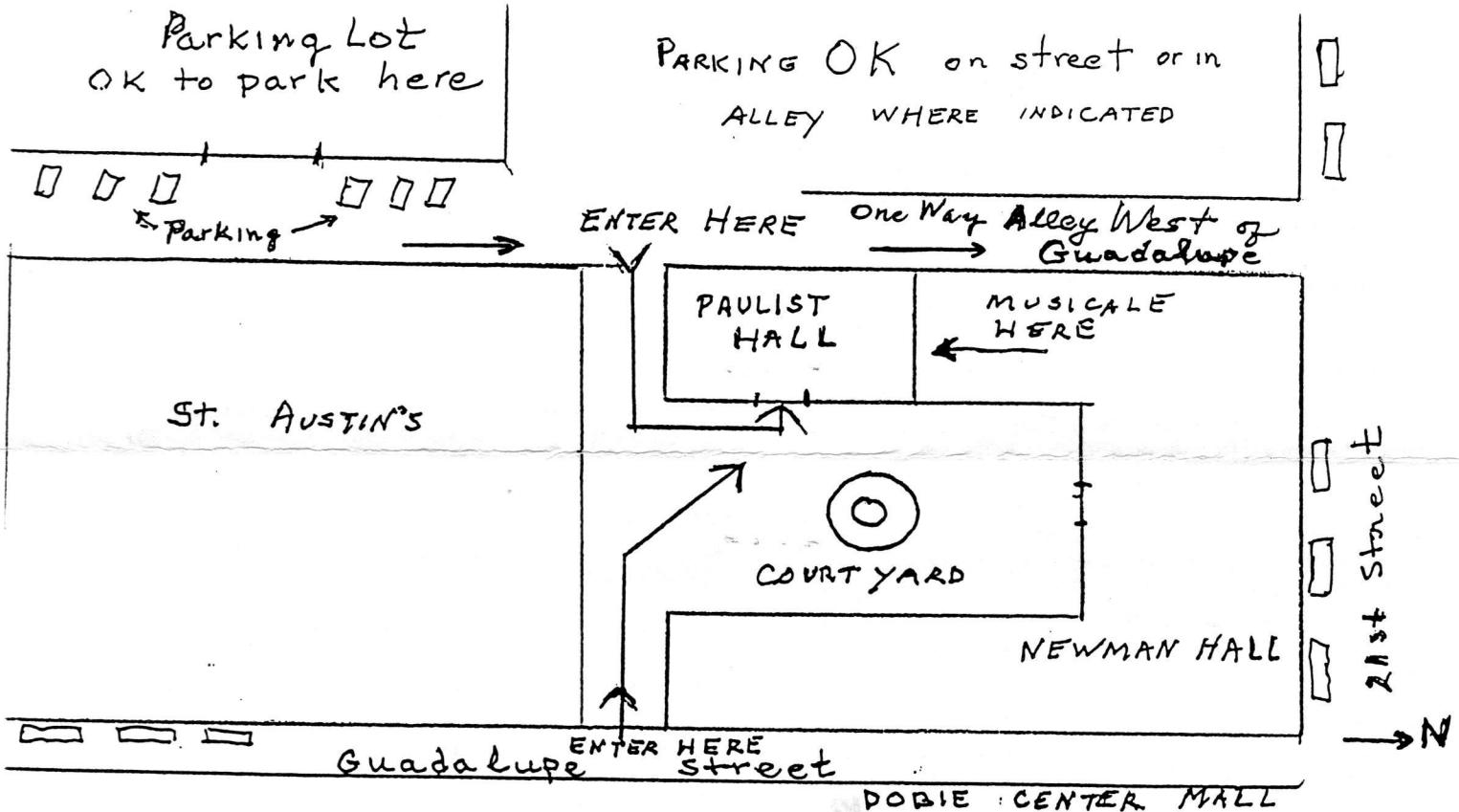
• Bulk mail-out of the Newsletter will bring some changes. 1) This issue is the first such mail-out; how long will the delivery take? We don't know, but we hope it will be timely. 2) We will follow a new procedure for Dues collection. No more Dues inserts, no more red stamps on your label. But please, when you receive the separate billing for your membership, respond promptly. And do keep us up-to-date on address changes. Bulk mail is not forwarded. 3) The return address on the Newsletter will be that of our new office on Guadalupe Street. But communications should still be mailed to me:

Reba Gillman
1606 The High Road
Austin, TX 78746

Phone: 327-2277

Armstrong Moving & Storage • an agent for United Van Lines •
is the official mover for The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

11/94-2



Enclosed in this Newsletter

Copy of a flyer made by GSD&M

Take it or a copy to your choir • Post it at your Grocery store • or other highly visible places

• Wanted •

- 1) A member who would work as our CPA.
- 2) A member who would work as our legal advisor.

Call Robert Mellin at 345-5950

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin
2026 Guadalupe Street, Suite 221
Austin TX 78705

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AUSTIN, TEXAS

- ☐ I can sing.
- ☐ I can dance.
- ☐ I look good in a powdered wig.



If you answered 'yes' to at least two of the above, then join us in The Gondoliers. The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Austin will hold

open auditions for all roles on November 12 and 13 from 1:00 to 5:30 pm in the UT Music Building, Room 2.118.

Don't be shy. Bring sheet music from an opera or Broadway show and a resume, if available.

And be prepared to do some simple dance steps.

Callbacks will be Monday, November 14, at 6:30 pm.

For more information, call 472-4772 or 345-5950.

Gilbert & Sullivan Casting Call: Nov. 12-13, 1994