

• Last Meeting And Musicale •

On Monday January 8, 1996 39 people gathered for our reprise of *Gondoliers*. Members present were Pearl Amster, Byron Arnason, Chris Buggé, Frank Delvy, LaDelle Fuller, Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Janette Jones, Edward Kluth, Bob Kusnetz, Diana McAlpin, Robert Mellin, Lucy Shoe Meritt, Bee Harris Polomé with Charles Kraus who joined on the spot, Bob Sharron, Larry Shepley, Dan Smith, Virginia Storey, Charles Thomas, Bob Wall, Jess & Emma Walters, Libby Weed, and Theresa Wilson. Guests were Amy Baker Stinson, Marilyn Babcock, Mary Alice Carnes, Anna Derdeyn, George & Joyce John, Moise Levy, Garrett Maddux, Michael McKelvey, Klaus W. Schmidt, Ray Redwood, Carrie Skinner, Jamie Walker, and Jacob Williams. Allen Lawshae and Kay Novak came in at the end of the evening, after Allen's appearance in a play at Frontera Fest at Hyde Park Theater. Michael McKelvey started the program singing "Rising early in the morning" from *Gondoliers*, with everyone joining in on the chorus.

Next the video tape of our 1995 production of *Gondoliers* was shown. Credits flashed on the screen as the orchestra played the overture. The curtain rose on the colorful contadine singing. We could have spent the evening watching the production. But there were other things planned so the tape was turned off just after Antonio's opening song. Our new Executive Director Robert Mellin, acting as MC for the evening, told us we could purchase the tape for \$20, and passed around a sign-up sheet for orders.

Robert then announced that the March monthly Musicale would take place on Thursday February 29th at 7:30 pm at Pearl's to celebrate Frederic's Birthday, costumes invited. Diana McAlpin put in a plug for the costume rental company she is working for: All Seasons Costumes & Tuxedos.

Then on with the music, all from *Gondoliers*. Frank Delvy and Janette Jones sang "To help unhappy commoners." Amy Baker, who got married and is now Amy Stinson, sang "Kind Sir, you cannot have the heart," followed by Garrett Maddux singing "Take a pair of sparkling eyes." Next came the quintet, "Try we life-long" with the priceless lines "Hop and skip to Fancy's fiddle, Hands across and down the middle - Life's perhaps the only riddle That we shrink from giving up." The singers were Mary Alice Carnes, Janette Jones, Garret Maddux, Frank Delvy, and Michael McKelvey. This was followed by Mary Alice Carnes and Garrett Maddux singing "O rapture, when alone together," "Ah, well-beloved," and the haunting "There was a time." Amy and Janette, as Gianetta and Tessa, then joined to sing "Farewell, my love; on board you must be

getting;" with the ensuing instructions to their new husbands, Marco and Giuseppe. Garrett and Michael joined in for the quartet "O my darling, O my pet, In yonder isle beyond the sea, We'll not forget we've married ye." Everyone then finished the act with a lusty rendering of the chorus, "Then away they go to an island fair."

Jacob Williams, a Junior at LBJ High School, who played the Duke last summer in a high school camp production in Louisiana, then sang "From the sunny Spanish shore" with Mary Alice, Janette, and Garrett rounding out the quartet "And if ever, ever, ever They get back to Spain, They will never, never, never Cross the sea again." Jacob then sang the rapid fire "In enterprise of martial kind", with the same three singers as back-up. Jacob is a talented young man, and we're sure to hear more of him.

Robert then invited Anna Derdeyn to come forward to bring the opera to a close. As Inez, Anna declaimed the decisive words, "The Royal Prince was by the King entrusted To my fond care, ere I grew old and crusted;" and we were off with everyone singing the choruses through to the end. It was such a rousing finish that Robert declared nothing else was needed, and with the familiar "Now to the banquet we press" (*Sorcerer*) we adjourned to the refreshments.

However, that was not the end. The pull of this music is so strong that some lingered to sing two omitted favorites. With Lord High Pianist Bob Wall still at the piano, Janette sang "On the day that I was wedded", explaining how she tamed her husband the Duke. Loel Graber then sang Don Alhambra's homily "There lived a King, as I've been told," with several men singing the parts of Marco and Giuseppe.

With sorrow I report the death on January 12th of **Roman Smoluchowski**, at the age of 85. He was Professor Emeritus of Physics at UT. He and his wife Louise were loyal supporters of our productions.

• Wish List •

Call 472-4772

Laser Printer - 17 pages per minute
TV
VCR
Touch Tone Telephone

Pick Up Truck or Van

Many Thanks to our member Mrs. Saad, who has donated a Micro-wave oven.

• Auditions for *The Pirates of Penzance* • UT Music Building, Room, Room 2.106 •

• Sat Mch 2 12 noon - 4 pm • Sun Mch 3 1:30 - 4:30 pm •

Call 472-4772 for information.

• Meetings of the G&S Executive Board •

Digest

1) Tuesday, January 23, 1996 at 7 pm in the O. Henry Room, Austin History Center. We officially appointed Robert Mellin Executive Director, and Director-at-Large. We renewed the term of office of the five members of our Advisory Committee for two more years. We changed the usual meeting time of the Executive Board to the second Monday of each month. The place has not been established, since the O. Henry Room is not available at that time.

2) Monday, February 12, 1996 at 7 pm in the Society office. We have opened a savings account at BankOne, using some of the Society funds. We voted to reappoint Jeffrey Fischer a Director-at-Large. The next Board meeting will take place on Monday, March 11, 1996 at a place to be announced.

Executive Board

President	Libby Weed	837-5441
Executive V.P.	Paula Tyler	459-4639
Production V.P.	Chris Buggé	834-7766 (w)
Publicity V.P.	Edward O. Kluth	476-6209
Secretary	Reba Gillman	327-2277
Treasurer	Bill Hatcher	892-3722
Hist. & Parl.	Larry Shepley	327-1511
Dir. at large	Robert Mellin	345-5950
Dir. at large	Jeffrey Fischer	345-0363

• Robert Mellin •

Most of us know Robert as the hard-working producer of our recent shows. He has been active in our Society since 1988. He served as President of the Society for four years, during which he was the producer of our *Mikado*, *Iolanthe*, *Pinafore*, and *Gondoliers*, as well as our yearly fund raiser All-Star Revues. Robert first heard of G&S when he was seven years old. An older brother came home from school rehearsals of *The Mikado* singing "Mi-ya Sa-ma," and Robert was hooked.

In the '60's Robert was an involved member and performer in the Gilbert & Sullivan Guild of Miami in Florida, serving as their President for several years. He played Dick Deadeye in *Pinafore*, and also performed in their productions of *Pirates*, *Trial by Jury*, and *Mikado*.

Robert has travelled far and wide, and has experienced various forms of theater in 59 countries. In Copenhagen in 1970, he attended a fine D'Oyly Carte production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*. In London in 1982 or 83, he saw the Joseph Papp production of *Pirates*. (He wished he had gone to see *Cats* instead.)

Locally Robert has performed in our productions of *The Sorcerer*, and *Ruddigore*, as well as non-G&S productions of *Little Mary Sunshine*, *Easy Does the Stars*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Amadeus*.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE . . . WE RELY ON YOUR SUPPORT!

Now is the time to renew or upgrade your membership.

If you're not a member, here's your opportunity to contribute. We need you!

If you like Gilbert and Sullivan, and want to support our efforts ...

... you can do so by becoming a member of our society for a mere ten dollars.

Members receive a monthly newsletter with information about G&S, our activities and our members.

Our monthly informal G&S musicales are open to the public at no charge.

• Your tax-deductible contribution in any of the other categories are welcome and will help us mount our yearly productions and pay our monthly expenses •

☐ Savoyard \$1,000

☐ Pooh-Bah \$500 - \$999

☐ Major General \$250 - \$499

☐ Grand Duke \$100 - \$249

☐ Lord High Patron \$50 - \$99

☐ Patron \$25 - \$49

☐ Member \$10

☐ I prefer to keep my identity anonymous

☐ I do not wish to receive the Newsletter

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____ Zip code _____

Make checks payable to Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin and mail with this form to:
2026 Guadalupe Street, #309
Austin TX 78705

• **News of Members** •
Mostly Wedding Bells

- Susan Weed, member and daughter of President Libby Weed, will marry Captain Patrick Womack on May 24th. Patrick is in the Eighth Engineering Battalion of the US Army. He will be moving to Missouri in March, and Susan will join him there after the wedding.
- Matthew Kaplan, member and grandson of Pearl Amster, will marry Alexa Maurer on March 19th.
- Patty Leonard, member, is also planning a wedding but details were not available at press time.

Warmest best wishes to them all!!!

- Harold Gilbert has moved into town. His new address:
 Somerset Town Homes, Apt. 711
 6800 Austin Center Blv'd (78731)
 Phone number not known as yet.

* * * * *

Megan Marsee, our Office Manager, is a student at UT. We are pleased to report that she has been nominated for a Presidential Scholarship. Good Luck, Megan!

* * * * *

Needed: A volunteer Photographer to take pictures at our various functions.

Needed: Volunteers to help in the office: People who can work a few hours now and then, on twenty-four hours notice.

Gondoliers Video Tape
Now on Sale

For some years now we have been videotaping our various productions, mainly in order to have a copy for our archives. The videos have not usually been of a very high quality, because of the many difficulties associated with taping a live stage presentation. However with our March 1995 production of *The Gondoliers* things were different because of the expertise, technology, time and care devoted to the project. We now have a product that we are proud to show and offer for sale. Prominently displayed during the playing of the overture at the beginning of the tape, are the names of all the sponsors, Society members, and everyone who worked on the show.

You can own a beautiful videotape of this very popular production for the low price of \$20. Simply call our office (472-4772) to order a tape, and come by the office to pick it up when it is ready. If you prefer to receive the tape by mail, send a check for \$25 (includes postage and handling) payable to the G&S Society at

2026 Guadalupe, Suite 309
 Austin, TX 78705

Allow about two weeks depending on availability.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

It's Leap Year
Come to Frederic's Birthday Party
 7:30 pm, Thursday, February 29, 1996 at Pearl's

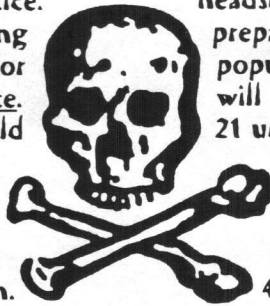
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Can you sing
better than
YOUR PARROT?

That big green bird perched on your shoulder can sing a winning tune. But you could too with a little practice.

If you possess a strong voice, then try out for The Pirates of Penzance. Auditions will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 2 & 3 at the UT Music Building East, Chorus Room 2.106 (Sat. 12-4, Sun.



1:30-4:30 p.m.) Bring sheet music from a Broadway show or opera, and resume and headshot if available. Be prepared to dance. This popular musical comedy will be performed June 21 until July 7, 1996. For more information, please call the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin at 472-4772 or 345-5950.

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