

BIP 2
n

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

May 1996 Newsletter

Reba Gillman, Editor

• Next Meeting -Our Monthly Musicale •

• Monday May 6, 1996 at 7:30 pm at Pearl Amster's, 2304 Hartford Road, 472-7028. Please bring munchies.

• The program will highlight Susan Lubin, one of the excellent auditioners for the part of Mabel. There will be other choice bits, plus the usual audience participation.

• Monday June 3 will be the last Musicale of the season. Mark your calendars!

• Friday June 21 will be the opening night Gala Fund Raiser performance of *The Pirates of Penzance*. Order your tickets NOW.

A Special Appeal from President Libby Weed

Our production of *The Pirates of Penzance*, opening June 21, will be our grandest to date, with an outstanding cast, wonderful period costumes, and a magnificent set. Not surprisingly, this will also be our costliest production.

We have heard from many of you how much you appreciate the high quality productions you have come to expect from the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin. We believe that our audiences deserve such productions, and we think that the operas themselves call for no less.

Therefore we are making a rare request that you consider making a specific contribution to offset the cost of our production of *Pirates*. Of course, your contribution will be completely tax-deductible, and you will be acknowledged in a higher membership category. Your donation will also benefit special groups of children who will be guests at our show and will help us in our plan to bring small Gilbert & Sullivan concert groups into targeted schools for education and entertainment.

Please send your contributions to our office as soon as possible. And don't forget to make your reservation early for our opening night show, followed by our traditional champagne buffet party with the cast.

***** Libby Weed *****

The Pirates of Penzance

June 21 - July 7, 1996

Temple Family Theater

Helm Fine Arts Center at St. Stephens School

- For Members • reserve the best seats now •
Children 16 and under are half price at all shows.

Send your check, payable to The Box Office
1110 Barton Springs Road
Austin TX 78704

or for telephone orders
Call 499-8497 and use your credit card.
Please have Acct #, and expiration date ready.

For the opening night show and Gala
Friday June 21

Tickets are \$25 for the show and party afterward
or \$14 or \$10 for the show only

For all other shows
Saturday June 22 through Sunday July 7
see the seating chart on back of Flyer insert.

♪♪ Many Thanks ♪♪

to

Barbra Horak, manager of Kinko's at 6th and Brazos

Charles Clark, at UT, for many kindnesses

Texas French Bread

Gilbert & Sullivan Society Office • Phone: 472-4772

Megan Marsee • Office Hours: Mon, Wed, 9 - 11:50 am; Tues, Thurs, Fri, 1 - 5 pm
Newman Hall, Room 309, 2026 Guadalupe St., Austin TX 78705

***The Pirates of Penzance
or The Slave of Duty***

Cast List

Major-General Stanley	Frank Delvy
The Pirate King	Russell Gregory
Samuel	Sam Johnson
Frederic	David Beussman
Cover	Dan Girardot
Sergeant of Police	Bob Nelson
Mabel	Amy Baker Stinson
Cover	Cynthia Hill
Edith	Kathryn Findlen
Isabel	Marcie Ray
Ruth	Janette Jones
Cover	Kelley Barnes

Major-General Stanley's Wards:

Siobhan Barbee, Kelley Barnes, Anderson Dear
Lilas Edwards, Mandy Henderson, Cynthia Hill, April Hines
Kimberly McKinlay, Beverly Smith, Elaine Williams

Pirates and Police:

Scott Boland, Russell Cochran, Art Di Bianca
Stephen Driver, Ty Gavin, Dan Girardot
J. Draven Gonzalez, David Kahn, Greg Nelsen
Richard Rodriguez, Dan Smith, Jason Sparks
Stephen White, Juan Zalles

Tim Campbell, our Stage Director, is a doctoral student in Opera Stage Direction, and lead tenor at UT.

Jeffrey M. Jones, our Music Director, is a doctoral student in Choral Conducting at UT, and also a tenor. He played the part of Luiz last year in our *Gondoliers*, and was the Music Director for our 1994 production of *Pinafore*, for which he was nominated for an ACOT B. Iden Payne Award as Best Music Director. He is Music Director for the Capitol City Men's Chorus.

Andrea Ariel, our Choreographer, is the Artistic Director of Ariel Dance Theatre. Her work has been presented throughout Texas, and in California, Illinois, and New Mexico. She was the Choreographer of our production of *Gondoliers* last year.

Michael J. Smith, our Set Designer, was Technical Director at St. Stephens, while he taught Biology there. He has since designed sets and lighting, and served as Technical Director in several Austin theaters.

Member of the Executive Board **Chris Buggé** is serving as the dialect coach for *Pirates*.

• Last Meeting and Musicale •

As recorded by Larry Shepley, and edited by Reba Gillman.

On **Monday April 1, 1996** at 7:30 pm 31 people signed in at Pearl's. Present were members Pearl Amster, Byron Arnason, Chris & Jean Buggé with baby Domenic, "Deacon" Crain, Loel Graber, Chuck Kraus, Bob Kusnetz, Allen Lawshae, Robert Mellin, Kay Novak, Maurie Ommerman, Bee Harris Palomé, Larry Shepley, Dan Smith, Lydia Storey, Lord High Pianist Bob Wall, Jess & Emma Walters, Libby Weed, and Theresa Wilson, and new members Marilyn Babcock and Joyce & George John. Guests were Tim Campbell, Moise Levy, Eldon Little, Barbara Mjas, Bob Nelson, Susan Peisl, and Amy Baker Stinson.

Bob Nelson broke the ice with "Old Man River" which is not, as Bob Kusnetz suggested, from *Ruddigore and Bess* - it's from the G&S musical *Showboat*. As usual **Bob Wall** played the piano (and did it very well).

President **Libby Weed** reported that the Board is very active this year, and introduced the few of us who were there! She particularly complimented **Reba Gillman** for her nomination for Five Who Care [someone else actually won]. Several items under consideration by the Board include ticket structure and publicity. Libby also thanked those who have called to give input, and encouraged more such calls.

Robert Mellin announced that our past president **Bob Kusnetz** is going to be our first Life Member - make that Lord High Life Member - in honor of his donation of \$2,500, which will be matched by his employer IBM, for a total of \$5,000. Robert then gave an update on the casting for *Pirates*. 75 to 80 people came out for the auditions, and the show could have been cast twice over because so many very good people had to be turned down. With a few parts still open we have possibly the best cast we've ever had, and Robert anticipated a wonderful production. [See cast list in preceding column.]

Robert then introduced our stage director, also a tenor, **Tim Campbell**, who is a doctoral candidate at UT Austin, and who recently directed the fine production of *Baroque and Loving It*. **Tim** then sang "Stranger in Paradise" (*Kismet*) and offered to do a couple of other songs (which he did later, so popular was he!). **Bob Kusnetz**, who had never sung with an accompanist before, sang "My name is John Wellington Wells" (*Sorcerer*). He is getting married, will be out of town for a couple of months, and then will move to Minneapolis - so this is probably his last meeting.

Loel Graber sang "When Britain really ruled the waves" (*Iolanthe*). **Tim Campbell** sang "Thine is My Heart Alone" ("Dein ist Mein Ganzes Herz") from *Land of Smiles* by Lehar. **Dan Smith** sang "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face" from *My Fair Lady*. (Cont.p 3)

Help us make our Opening Night Gala Fund Raiser a Big Success!

For only \$7 extra you get delicious food and a great party, meet the cast and support the Society.

Reserve your tickets now. Call The Box Office at 499-8497. Do it now!!!

(Cont. from p 2) **Amy Baker Stinson**, recognizing that most of the songs so far were non G&S, sang a recital song, "One Perfect Rose" with **Eldon Little** at the piano. The music is by Seymour Barab, and the words are the famous poem by Dorothy Parker. Amy also sang "The sun whose rays are all ablaze" (*Mikado*), with **Bob Wall** again playing the piano.

Robert Mellin mentioned that **Jess Walters** recently sang in the UT voice faculty program "An Evening of Opera and Song", where he stole the show. **Jess** remarked that he'll never give it back. **Bob Nelson**, our Sergeant, sang "When a felon's not engaged in his employment" from *Pirates*. **Tim Campbell** returned with "Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat" (*Guys and Dolls*). **Chris Buggé** introduced his son (number three, born November 6) **Domenic**.

Allen Lawshae led off with "Although our dark career Sometimes involves the crime of stealing ... For what, we ask, is life Without a touch of Poetry in it?" and everyone joined in singing "Hail Poetry" (*Pirates*). Everyone then sang "Now to the banquet we press" (*Sorcerer*) and then pressed on to the banquet.

* * * * *

Note from Secretary **Reba Gillman**: **Andrea Ariel**, our Choreographer, came to this gathering after attending a conflicting rehearsal. Busy **Jeffrey Jones** was unable to be present, due to a rehearsal of his Capitol City Men's Chorus. Many thanks to **Larry Shepley** who took these notes while I was gallowing around Tucson, AZ.

• Honorary Advisory Board Continues •

The G&S Executive Board voted in January 1996 to extend for two more years the term of office of the Honorary Advisory Board: **Richard Anderson**, "Deacon" **Crain**, **Enid Hallock**, **Bob Kuznetz**, and **Jess Walters**.

Note new address for **Bob Kuznetz**:
2530 Inglewood Ave South
Saint Louis Park, MN 55416

♪ ♪ Recitals Coming Up ♪ ♪
Admission is free.

Amy Baker Stinson, our Mabel, will give her Senior Recital on Friday May 3rd at 5:30 pm at Bates Recital Hall.

Jeffrey Jones, our Music Director, will give his first doctoral recital on May 3rd at 8 pm in Bates Recital Hall, conducting the UT Chamber Singers. The program includes a charming work by Sir Arthur Sullivan.

* * * * *

Bulk Mail is highly variable in the delivery time required. This Newsletter is delayed. Please call the office and tell us when you get it!!! [If it is too late, we're very sorry.] ← ←



NOTICE: Date on mailing label indicates when your membership expires.

If you are receiving the Newsletter on an introductory basis the date on the label indicates the last free Newsletter. We welcome contributions, upgrades, and dues from ALL our readers.



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 •

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Savoyard \$1,000 | <input type="radio"/> Pooh-Bah \$500 - \$999 | <input type="radio"/> Major General \$250 - \$499 |
| <input type="radio"/> Grand Duke \$100 - \$249 | <input type="radio"/> Lord High Patron \$50 - \$99 | <input type="radio"/> Patron \$25 - \$49 |
| <input type="radio"/> Member \$10 | <input type="radio"/> I prefer to keep my identity anonymous | <input type="radio"/> 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

Gondoliers Video Tape

Now Accepting Orders

But due to technical difficulties the tape is not available at this time. When the video tape becomes available we will notify those who have placed orders.

• Meeting of the Executive Board •

Monday April 8, 1996 at 7 pm in the Society office. We continue to work on plans for various aspects of our big production *The Pirates of Penzance*, including ways of raising money, getting volunteers for set building and costume sewing, and soliciting donations from Central Market, Whole Foods, Texas French Bread, etc, for the opening night Gala. Jeffrey Fischer has resigned as a Director-at-large. Next Board Meeting: Monday May 13, 1996, 7 pm, Society Office.

• Wish List •

Call 472-4772

Laser Printer - 17 pages per minute

TV

VCR

Touch Tone Telephone

Pick Up Truck or Van

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 short notice.

Volunteers Needed: to help build scenery to help sew costumes

Society Members and Friends are urged to Reserve Now for our Opening Night Gala

Thanks to our Members

Lord High Life Member: Bob Kusnetz

Pooh Bah: "Deacon" Crain, Reba Gillman, Mr. & Mrs. Willard M Hanzlik, Steven & Louise Weinberg (They just keep sending us contributions and it does add up!)

Major General: Marion DeFord, William Gammon III, John & Eve Williams

Grand Duke: Richard Anderson/Armstrong Moving & Storage, Sue Rickett Caldwell, Austen Furse, Ronald & Louise Geil, James Alfred Hitt, Ed Kluth, William & Esther McCormick, Lucy Shoe Meritt, Mrs. Fred Neff, Jim Robinson, Eileen Sullivan, Carey & Louise Thompson, Dean & Darlyean Yarian

Lord High Patron: John & Alison Bencivenga, Dr. Robert Bernstein, Bill & Virginia Binger, Russell Cochran, Mary Ann Courter, M. Patton Echols, Al & Celeste Evans, Bill & Charlotte Flynn, William & Rosemary Garner, Kenneth Gentle, Doug, Sheila & Topher Glenn, Loel Graber, Russell Gregory, Kate Hendricks, Dudley Houghton, Dan Jacobson, Dr. George John, Steve Laden, George & Nancy McQueen, James S. Moore, Eva Pickerel, Marjorie Saad, Robert & Catherine Tull, James & Gloria Waelchli, Donald Wertz, and In Memory of Jerry Strickland

And Many Thanks to Benard Laves of Benold's Jewelers, for a donation to print the *Pirates* libretto as a convenience to our audiences and a fund-raiser for G&S.

➡➡ Patrons and Members will be listed next month.

The
Gilbert
SULLIVAN Society
OF AUSTIN
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 2054
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Come to our Monthly Musicales
7:30 pm, Monday, May, 1996 at Pearl's

2026 Guadalupe Street, Suite 309 • Austin, Texas 78705

RESERVE NOW!

FOR THE BEST SEATS
FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST, 8:00 P.M.

OPENING NIGHT

PERFORMANCE OF

The Pirates of Penzance

followed by the traditional

Lavish Gala Champagne Buffet

and Party with the Cast

CATERED BY AUSTIN'S FINEST PURVEYORS OF FOOD
SERVED ON THE BEAUTIFUL, SPACIOUS PATIO
AT THE HELM FINE ARTS CENTER

COST FOR THE SHOW AND PARTY IS STILL ONLY \$25 (HALF PRICE FOR 16 & UNDER). ONLY \$7 MORE THAN THE PRICE OF AN ORCHESTRA SEAT! MANY OF US TRULY ENJOY THIS OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT WITH OUR G & S SUPPORTERS AND CAST. AND REMEMBER, THIS EVENT IS A FUNDRAISER!

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL 'THE BOX OFFICE' AT 499-TIXS (8497) OR SEND A CHECK TO 'THE BOX OFFICE' AT 1110 BARTON SPRINGS RD. AUSTIN, TX 78704 (PLEASE STATE THE PRODUCTION NAME & DATE ON CHECK). THERE IS NO SERVICE CHARGE OR CREDIT CARD FEE.

REGULAR PRICES FOR PERFORMANCES ARE \$18, \$14, & \$10 (AGAIN, HALF PRICE FOR CHILDREN), DEPENDING ON SEAT LOCATION. OTHER PERFORMANCE DATES: JUNE 22 - JULY 7. FRIDAY & SATURDAY EVENINGS AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAYS AT 3:00 P.M. THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL MATINEES ON SAT., JUNE 29 AND SAT., JULY 6 AT 3:00 P.M.

THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY OF AUSTIN - THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

NAME _____ PHONE (DAY) _____ (NIGHT) _____
ADDRESS _____

I WISH TO ORDER:

___ TICKET(S) FOR THE OPENING NIGHT GALA AND SHOW (\$25 ADULTS, \$12.50 CHILD) \$ _____
___ TICKET(S) FOR *THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE* ON (DATE & TIME) _____ \$ _____
(REMEMBER: \$18 \$14 \$10 OR CHILD PRICE)

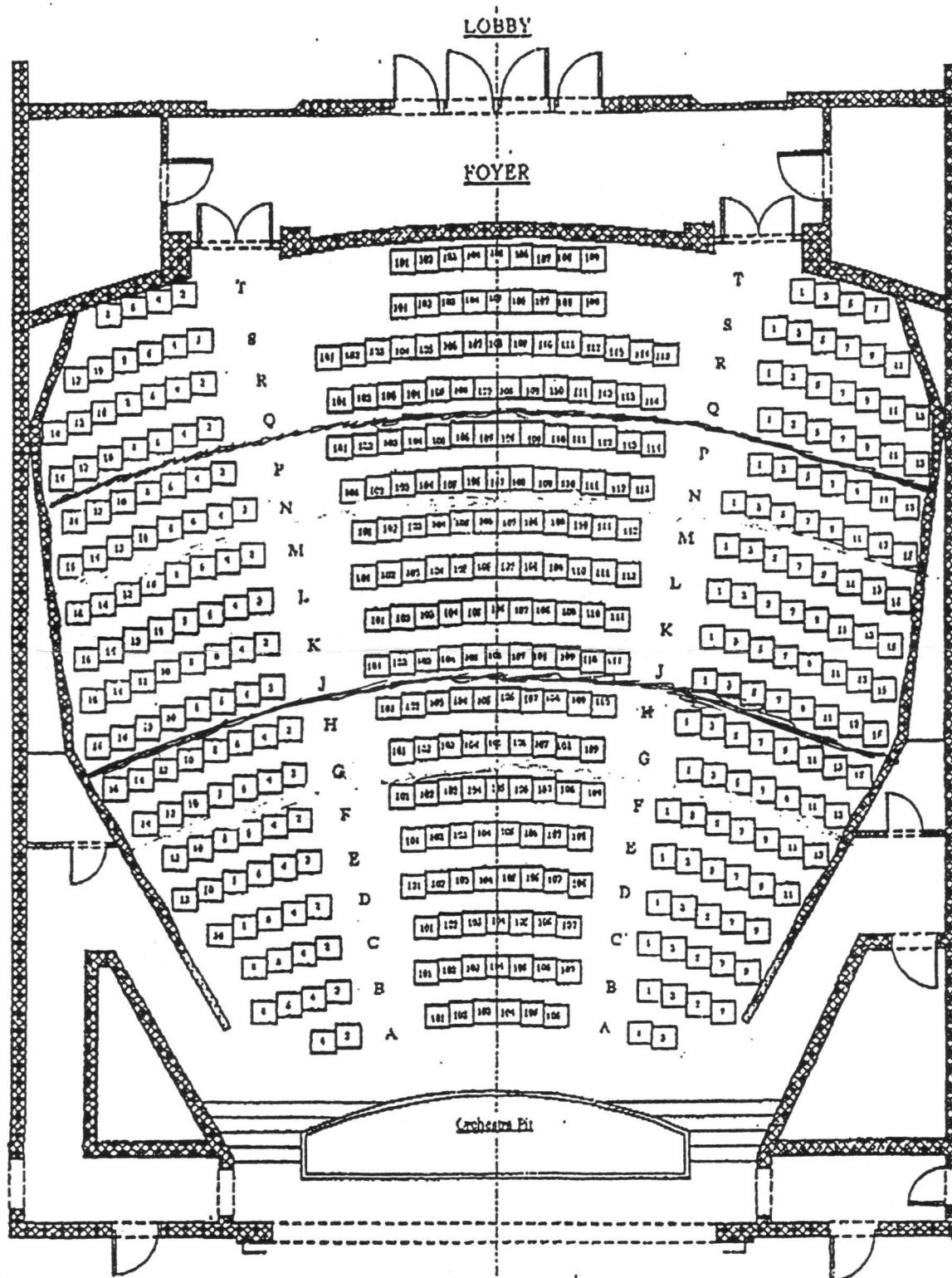
TOTAL ENCLOSED:\$ _____

___ CHECK PAYABLE TO 'THE BOX OFFICE' IS ENCLOSED

___ VISA ___ MASTERCARD AMOUNT AUTHORIZED: \$ _____ CARD NO. _____ EXP. DATE _____
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: _____

5/96

TEMPLE FAMILY THEATRE



Use this floor plan to order your seats. There are 3 Prices:

- \$18 Rows A through H
- \$14 Rows J through P
- \$10 Rows Q through T

STAGE

For the opening night show and Gala (6/21/96), Prices:

- \$25 Rows A through H, Show and Party
- \$14 Rows J through P, Show only
- \$10 Rows Q through T, Show only

409 seats

Seats K101, K11, H2, and H1 are handicapped accessible

All children 16 and under are half price.
Some seats on the far sides have limited views.