

THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

JANUARY 2000 NEWSLETTER

Forward to the Past

Larry Shepley, Executive V.P.

On Sunday, December 5, 1999, our Society held its annual Gala Fundraiser and Champagne Buffet. Conceived and directed by **Frank Delvy**, he entitled it "Forward to the Past." Of course Frank had a cast of G&S stars, who recreated their roles from our productions of the past decade, but he had even more: Frank found pictures of the performers in their original costumes, and his slide show (ably managed by **Doug DeLay**) was a hit. The Gala featured:

"Now to the banquet we press" (*The Sorcerer*)
[sung by the Cast]
"There is beauty in the bellow of the blast" (*The Mikado*)
[Janette Jones & Frank Delvy]
"Prithee, pretty maiden" (*Patience*)
[Cynthia Hill & James Hampton]
"When the night wind howls" (*Ruddygore*)
[Allen Lawshae & Men]
"Cheerily carols the lark" (*Ruddygore*)
[Janette Jones]
"There grew a little flower" (*Ruddygore*)
[Enid Hallock & Allen Lawshae]
"The sun, whose rays are all ablaze" (*The Mikado*)
[Amy Baker Stinson]
"A wandering minstrel, I" (*The Mikado*)
[Dan Girardot & Men]
"Three little maids from school are we" (*The Mikado*)
[Amy Baker Stinson, Cynthia Hill, Stacey Amorous]
"O, rapture, when alone together" (*The Gondoliers*)
[Mary Alice Carnes & Dan Girardot]
"There was a time" (*The Gondoliers*)
[Mary Alice Carnes & Dan Girardot]
"'Tis done, I am a bride!" (*The Yeomen of the Guard*)
[Cynthia Hill]
"When I, good friends, was called to the bar"
(*Trial by Jury*) [Jess Walters & Cast]
"Love, unrequited, robs me of my rest" (*Iolanthe*)
[Frank Delvy]
"Were you not to Ko-Ko plighted" (*The Mikado*)
[Amy Baker Stinson & Dan Girardot]
"Long years ago—fourteen, maybe" (*Patience*)
[Cynthia Hill & Stacey Amorous]
"When I go out of door" (*Patience*)
[Frank Delvy & James Hampton]
"Oh, false one, you have deceived me!" (*The Pirates of Penzance*)
[Janette Jones & Dan Girardot]
"Oh, better far to live and die" (*The Pirates of Penzance*)
[Russell Gregory & Men]
"Things are seldom what they seem" (*H.M.S. Pinafore*)
[Janette Jones & Frank Delvy]

• Next Meeting • Our monthly Musicale • • Annual Meeting • Start the New Millennium Right!

• Monday January 3, 2000 • at 7:30 pm
• At Paula Tyler's •
• 4400 Balcones Drive • 459-4639 •
Please bring munchies

A short Business Meeting, will include Election of Officers. Nominating committee will present the following slate:

President	Larry Shepley
Executive Vice President	Libby Weed
Production Vice President	Sue Ricket Caldwell
Publicity Vice President	Lucian Chimene
Secretary	Reba Gillman
Treasurer	Dave Wieckowski
Historian/Parliamentarian	Leland L. Smith

Nominating Committee: Bill Hatcher, Chair; with Bob Wall and Terri Wilson. Nominations may be made from the floor. You must be a paid-up member to vote or run for office. (Of course, you can join or renew your membership at the meeting.)

There will be a short but interesting musical program. In the absence of Lord High Pianist Bob Wall, the piano will be ably played by Leslie Salas, who has performed for us at several Musicales.

"Kind Captain, I've important information" (*H.M.S. Pinafore*)
[Allen Lawshae & Frank Delvy]
"When you had left our pirate fold" (*The Pirates of Penzance*)
[Janette Jones, Dan Girardot, & Russell Gregory]
"Hail, Poetry" (*The Pirates of Penzance*)
[Russell Gregory & Cast]

Our Lord High Pianist, Bob Wall, was the Musical Director and Pianist. Art DiBianca turned pages and helped back stage. Special thanks go to Donna Delvy, Robert Mellin, Benard Laves, Chip Howe, Larry Shepley, Reba Gillman, Robert Whyburn and his group at St. Stephen's, Texas French Bread for bread, and Reuben's for help with the champagne.

We especially thank  for sponsoring our buffet.

Everybody had a good time! And ate a lot!

CLG/10

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

• Libby Weed, President

What a pleasure it has been to serve as President of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin for the past few years! Your board of directors is made up of a wonderful group of people who really believe in what this Society is doing and are dedicated to its mission. I have enjoyed working with them throughout my tenure on the board.

As you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, the nominating committee has prepared a slate of officers to be presented at our January meeting at Paula Tyler's home. In Larry Shepley, you will have an outstanding President. He is extremely knowledgeable about the works of Gilbert and Sullivan and is full of ideas to make our Society even stronger. Having been on the board for several years, he knows what is needed to oversee our activities and works well with other board members. I believe all those on the slate will serve you well, if you decide to elect them.

To me, one of the most exciting developments during my service on the board has been the resurgence of emphasis on volunteering and involvement by many members. As we have reminded you, the members of the Society did *everything* in its early days—selected an opera, directed and cast it from their membership, sang and acted, made costumes and sets. We have become a more professional company over the past years, hiring directors, costumers, and set designers and upgrading our productions to a level of true excellence. That is a great thing, and it has created some truly remarkable productions. And yet we find that there is still a great deal to do that our membership can do better than anyone else can.

Yvonne DeLay agreed to be our first volunteer coordinator, and she made a brilliant start in this effort. Several of you got to work under her leadership immediately. Now, to our dismay, Yvonne and Doug have had to make the decision to move to Houston. Happily, Mary Roche has agreed to take over Yvonne's role.

Please be prepared to respond to Mary's call for volunteers. While there are some tasks that require one sort of expertise or another, there are also some that any cheerful and helpful person can do—put address labels on envelopes, fold newsletters, etc. You can help!

Thank you for all the kindness and cooperation you have shown me during my term as president. I have formed many new friendships that I am sure will be lasting. You are a superb group of people, sharing an interest in a most remarkable pair of geniuses and knowing well how to enjoy the fruits of their collaboration. On to the future!

News of Members

Goodbye to Doug and Yvonne DeLay, who have up and left us. Houston will be their new home. We will sorely miss Doug's common-sense and good cheer and Yvonne's enthusiasm for Volunteers and the English language (as properly spoken in Britain). But Yvonne will be back next spring to work on dialect with the cast of *H.M.S. Pinafore*, so maybe not all is lost.

Volunteers

New member **Mary Roche** will now serve as the Volunteer Coordinator, replacing Yvonne DeLay. Since Mary actually lives in Spain and makes frequent visits home, **Nancy McQueen** has agreed to serve as her helper and backup. Call Mary at 443-7966, and Nancy at 258-2149. The volunteers have been busy making phone calls to delinquent members, and helping with mail-outs. We hope to find more and more ways to involve volunteers. If you would like to sign up to help out please call Mary or Nancy.

Meanwhile, many thanks to the original volunteer crew: Byron Arnason, Donna Delvy, Edgar Ellis, Bill Hatcher, Nancy McQueen, Mary Roche, Eve Schwartzman, David Tampke, and Terri Wilson.

Audit

Allan Longacre has been working on an audit of our Society. His report has been received by the Board and is being considered.

Apologies

We apologize for omitting some members' names from the Playbill for our recent Gala. Our computer apparently chose to have a Y2K glitch a few weeks in advance.

• CHASKI •

Will Perform on Sunday January 9, 2000
at Central Market Café • 6:30 to 9 PM
Central Market • 4001 N. Lamar Blvd.

Chaski is a small group that performs Latin American music on a variety of authentic instruments. One of the players is the flutist Adrienne Inglis, who played for us with Len Gillman in April 1998. **It's fun to enjoy this music in a family atmosphere, with food and drink available.**

Have a look at our Web Site

Thanks to Bill Hatcher
for providing and maintaining this site
members.aol.com/mahitabel/gassa

Topsy-Turvy

A new movie is coming to Austin. Just when is still up in the air, but it should be here in mid-January or the start of February. Not only has it received great reviews, it has garnered the Best Picture of the Year Award of the New York Film Critics Circle. **Topsy-Turvy** it is, and it is the story of, yes, Gilbert & Sullivan and *The Mikado*.

Eric Lurio, in a review found at the Corona website: <http://corona.bc.ca/films>, says "The acting is great. ...This is a must for any G&S fan, or anybody else with a taste for pre-1980 music. ...Four out of four stars."

In a review in *The Palace Peeper* (the G&S Society of New York), Peter Parker says "From start to finish this was a delightful film The whole standard of the acting lifts this film above the ordinary."

We will keep you informed — we are trying to arrange a special showing for our members. *The Mikado* has a rich history, and this movie promises to tell it well.

NOW AVAILABLE

Patience CD of our show

Made in June 1999

\$12 each; add \$5 if you want it mailed.

This video is not the one we hoped to make, but it might be enjoyed by cast and friends.

Call The Society Office at 472-4772 to order, and to arrange to pick it up.

Many Thanks to the following corporate sponsors of our production of *Patience*

Amoco

Armstrong Moving & Storage

Austin American-Statesman

Bank of America

City of Austin

Fidelity Investments

William Gammon Insurance

IBM

Larry Peel, Builder & Developer

LCRA Employees' United Charities

Mollberg & Associates Piano Restoration

Motorola

Southwestern Bell

Time-Warner

United Airlines

Wilson & Goldrick Realtors



Many thanks to IBM for a generous donation.

New or renewal membership form

We encourage you to join our Society. If you are a member, please check your membership renewal date on the top of the mailing label. If expired or near expiration, your membership needs to be updated! To correct your address, renew your membership, or become a member, complete this form, and mail it to us at:

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin
2026 Guadalupe, #309
Austin, Texas 78705 Phone: 472-4772

Name (as you want it to appear) _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

What company do you work for? _____

Please check:

- ☐ Member: \$10-\$24
- ☐ Patron: \$25-\$49
- ☐ Lord High Patron: \$50-\$99
- ☐ Grand Duke: \$100-\$249
- ☐ Major General: \$250-\$499
- ☐ Pooh-Bah: \$500-\$999
- ☐ Savoyard: \$1,000 and over
- ☐ I'm interested in becoming a business sponsor. Please call me.
- ☐ I'm interested in volunteering.

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

Since 1976, we have been spreading the joys of
Gilbert & Sullivan through

Annual Grand Productions

School Outreach Concerts

Free Monthly Musicales

Musical Scholarships

Monthly Newsletters

Holiday Season Shows

G&S Office:

M,W,F 2:30-6 pm; Tues 12:30-6 pm; Thu. 3:30-6 pm.
2026 Guadalupe Street, Suite 309 • Austin, Texas 78705
(512)472-4772 • E-mail: gilbsulv@altavista.com

Executive Board

President	Libby Weed	837-5441
Executive Vice-President	Larry Shepley	327-1511
Production Vice-President	Benard Laves	452-8940
Publicity Vice-President	Robert Mellin	345-5950
Secretary	Reba Gillman	327-2277
Treasurer	Dave Wieckowski	477-5566
Historian & Parliamentarian	Leland Smith	327-6813
Director at Large	Paula Tyler	459-4639
Director at Large	Arthur DiBianca	707-2809
Director at Large	Doug DeLay	794-5839
Consultant	Allan Longacre	301-5611

Arts Intern

Newsletter Editor

Layout

Brian Cassidy

Reba Gillman

Larry Shepley

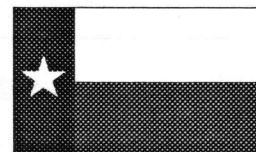
Our web site: members.aol.com/mahitabel/gassa

Our next production • June 29 – July 8, 2000
One of the greatest — and funniest — operas ever staged!



H.M.S. Pinafore

or, The Lass that Loved a Sailor



Directed and Choreographed by Ralph MacPhail, Jr.
Music Director and Conductor: Jeffrey Jones-Ragona
Helm Fine Arts Center, St. Stephen's School

THE
GILBERT
&
SULLIVAN

SOCIETY OF AUSTIN
2026 GUADALUPE ST, #309
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78705

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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