

GILBERT & SULLIVAN

SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

MAY 2004 NEWSLETTER

Next Musicale

Special Event — Special Time and Place



You are invited to indulge in an evening of Victorian elegance at the **Caswell House**

8:00 PM, Thursday June 3, 2004
1404 West Avenue at 15th Street

Performances by cast members from *The Gondoliers*, plus Kristin Burritt, Arthur DiBianca, Holton Johnson, Eva Laskaris, Cindy Sadler, and Derek Smootz; featuring music from *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, *Iolanthe*, and *The Gondoliers*.

Please bring desserts

For this unusual event, we are inviting members of the media to meet our members and cast. It would be helpful if you could let us know if you plan to come. Please call Chuck Antonie at **733-1006**.

Message from Your President

Dear Friends:

I take pleasure in writing this, my first President's message, because I have the opportunity to tell of major and exciting plans that are underway.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, our next Musicale will be a little different and a little grander than usual. It will be held at the Caswell House on June 3 and will be a kick-off of the publicity for the upcoming production of *The Gondoliers*. It will feature beautiful music from previous shows and then a little bit of a teaser from some of the cast of *The Gondoliers*.

Meanwhile, rehearsals are well underway for *Gondoliers*, and it will be a delightful production. We are fortunate once again to have a superb cast and excellent Directors. Please firm up your plans to see *The Gondoliers* and place your ticket order. I look forward to seeing you at the Caswell House and at *The Gondoliers*.

Sincerely, Bill Hatcher

Order your tickets now for

The Gondoliers

June 19 – July 3, 2004

Convenient on-line or telephone ordering

Please see inside for detailed schedules, prices, and ordering information

Congratulations!

Nominations for the 2004 Austin Critics Table Awards include two for our 2003 production of *The Pirates of Penzance*:

Best Musical Production

Best Actress in a Musical:

Claire Vangelisti

The awards ceremony will be at 7:00 PM, June 7 at Cap City Comedy Club.

Frederic's Birthday and Gala Fundraiser

Report from *Reba Gillman*

On Sunday, February 29, at 4 PM a modest crowd gathered in the sanctuary of Genesis Presbyterian Church for a delightful program planned and directed by Holton Harrison Johnson. Maimy Fong was the capable pianist, and Chris Buggé demonstrated a new talent as Master of Ceremonies — of course, anything Chris says in that lovely English accent is enchanting.

The program was divided into two acts with a nice mix in each half of favorite selections from the G&S operas, with emphasis on our upcoming *Gondoliers*. Performers were favorites Kristin Burritt, Frank Delvy, Arthur DiBianca, Kristina Horacek, Holton, Janette Jones, Eric Peabody, Claire Vangelisti, Christine Walsh, and Oliver Worthington. Actually Oliver is new to our ranks, but he has since been cast in *The Gondoliers* and will soon become another "old favorite."

As the music ended, we all moved as in a heavenly trance to an adjacent building (well known as a rehearsal space to cast members of our last production, *The Pirates of Penzance*). There a bountiful spread awaited us, with comfortable seating at tables, and lovely decorations, all planned and set up by Kristin, Libby Weed, and Paula Tyler. The combination of a lovely musical program and a delicious spread in a relaxing atmosphere ensured that our celebration of Frederic's Birthday was a fabulous bash.

We are particularly indebted to Dan Smith and Janette Jones for the opportunity to hold our celebration at Genesis Presbyterian Church.



List and learn, ye dainty roses,
Roses white and roses red.
Why we bind you into posies
Ere your morning bloom has fled.

Newsletter Note

by *Reba Gillman*

Due to a variety of circumstances, some quite beyond our control, our Newsletter has become a very moveable feast. We hope that our flexibility in scheduling the so-called May 3rd Musicales did not inconvenience any of you. As you will read elsewhere it has become a Special Event in a Special Place, on June 3, and we hope you will all enjoy it.

The Gondoliers

R.L. Davis Auditorium, Texas School for the Deaf
1102 S. Congress Ave.

Admission: \$25 for adults, \$5 for young persons 17 & under.
Half price (\$12.50 adults, \$2.50 young persons) for preview.
Special \$20 price for adults for children's matinee.

Specific show dates & times:

8:00 Friday June 18 - half-price preview
8:00 Saturday June 19 - opening night with complimentary gala buffet
3:00 Sunday June 20

8:00 Thursday June 24

8:00 Friday June 25

8:00 Saturday June 26

3:00 Sunday June 27 - sign language interpreting provided

8:00 Thursday July 1

8:00 Friday July 2

2:00 Saturday July 3 - special early children's matinee

8:00 Saturday July 3

To order tickets please contact

<http://www.boxofficetickets.com/gilbertsullivan>

or call **1-800-494-TIXS**. Note: our website has this information plus much more:

www.gilbertsullivan.org

The running time for *Gondoliers* is about 2-1/2 hr., including intermission, thunderous applause, etc.

All seats are unreserved, since the auditorium is quite large, with excellent seats in all locations.

The Gondoliers Company

Executive Producer: Natalie George

Stage Director: Christi Moore

Music Director: Jeffrey Jones-Ragona

Choreographer: Nancy Bain

Set Designer: Leilah Stewart

Lighting Designer: Stephen Pruitt

Costume Designer: Sarah Lankenau

The Duke of Plaza-Toro (*a Grandee of Spain*)

Luiz (*his Attendant*)

Don Alhambra del Bolero (*the Grand Inquisitor*)

Marco Palmieri

Giuseppe Palmieri

Antonio

Francesco

Giorgio

Annibale

The Duchess of Plaza-Toro

Casilda (*her Daughter*)

Gianetta

Tessa

Fiametta

Vittoria

Giulia

Inez (*the King's Foster-mother*)

Venetian
Gondoliers

Contadine

Oliver Worthington

Ashley Robinson

Russell Gregory

Garrett Maddox

Holton Harrison Johnson

Trey Deason

Sean Arnold

Adolph Wettegrove

Kert Peterson

Rebecca Stidolph

Jeanette Franz

Claire Vangelisti

Kristina Horacek

Jennifer Sublett

Patricia Combs

Rema Garrison

Melody Long

Chorus of Gondoliers and Contadine, Etc.

Nancy Arnold • Stephanie Blackwood • Jack Byrom • Eshe Cole

Andy Fleming • Amy Kelley • Brad Madison • Jay Martin

Randall McIntyre • Emma McNairy • Amanda Shelton

Member of the Month

All dues-paying members are eligible to be our "member of the month" (who is randomly selected). The member of the month is entitled to contact our office and order one free piece of merchandise: a video, CD, Society History, T-shirt, or mug. This month's Member of the Month is

JIM COCHRAN

Congratulations! We value your membership! Please see our web site

www.gilbertsullivan.org

for a list of what's available, choose your prize, and we'll mail it to you.

Contributors to *Gondoliers* 2004

Underwriters: **Chris Buggé • Larry Shepley • Michael & Libby Weed**

Contributors: **Norma & Floyd Brandt • Ann Rogers in memoriam Lucile Convers • John, Christie, & Lori Fisher • William P. & Naomi Haight • Benard Laves • Norman & Emilia Martin • George & Nancy McQueen • Joan Pearsall • B.M. Phillips • Priority Copy • D.A. Rutishauser • Jean and Ed Smootz • Patricia Spurr • Michael & Libby Weed • Dr. Claire Ellen Weinstein • Westminster Manor**



The Gondoliers is funded in part by the City of Austin under the auspices of the Austin Arts Commission and supported by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.



News of Members

Emma Walters is now living in Barton Hills Assisted Living at 1606 Nash Avenue, Austin 78704, in room 23; phone: 383-0779. She would appreciate calls and visits, but cannot always reach her phone to answer it.

The activities director is always on the lookout for entertainment for his residents; this might be an opportunity for a modest performance by some of our members. (For information call Reba at 327-2277.)

Bee Polomé continues to put up a valiant fight against pervasive cancer. She has responded energetically to every suggested treatment and hopes for the best. Meanwhile, she and her new husband, Milt Weiss, have been enjoying travel to many interesting places. We are happy to see them often at our G&S events.

Len Gillman has come through major heart surgery with flying colors. [Quadruple Bypass, and repair to aortic valve.] After three weeks at Seton Hospital and two weeks at St. David's Rehab Center, he came home for two more weeks of supervised exercise. He walks (slowly, it is true), navigates the stairs, and goes out for the mail and the paper. He has enjoyed several social outings, and will probably attend our June 3rd Special Musicales.

Our Supporters

We wish to thank especially the following individuals for their continuing support:

Byron Arnason	Allen Lawshae
Marion DeFord	Barbara Lee
Russell Gregory	Katharine Shields
Andrew, Enid, & Gary	Patricia Spurr
Hallock	Rose Taylor
Kristine M. Olson	Steve & Louise Weinberg

Though they love with love exceeding,
They must seem to be unheeding —
Go ye then and do their pleading,
Roses white and roses red!



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
P.O. Box 684542
Austin, Texas 78768-4542 Phone: 472-4772 (472-GSSA)

Name (as you want it to appear) _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

E-mail address _____

Does your company match donations? _____ Company _____

Please check a membership category. Membership benefits include our Newsletter and 10% discount on tickets.

- ☐ Individual: \$20 or more
☐ Family/Group: \$30 or more
☐ Donation only (no membership)
☐ I'm interested in volunteering.

Please consider becoming a member at one of the following **Donor Levels**: **Patron** (\$50-\$99), **Grand Duke or Duchess** (\$100-\$249); **Major-General** (\$250-\$499); **Pooh-Bah** (\$500-\$999); **Pirate King** (\$1000-\$2499); **Savoyard** (\$2500 & up). Donor members receive additional benefits. Please call our office or visit our website (www.gilbertsullivan.org) for further information.

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

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

**Annual Grand Productions • Pirates in School
Musicales • Musical Scholarships
Monthly Newsletters • Holiday Season Shows**

G&S Office: **4604 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78756**

Mail Address: **P.O. Box 684542, Austin, TX 78768-4542**

Phone: (512) 472-4772 [472-GSSA]

The Society holds non-profit status under 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. We are pleased to receive funding from the City of Austin under the auspices of the Austin Arts Commission and to be supported by a grant from the Texas commission on the Arts.



Board of Directors

President	Bill Hatcher	892-3722
Executive Vice-President	Chris Buggé	834-7766
Secretary	Libby Weed	837-5441
Treasurer	Dave Wieckowski	477-5566
Historian	Kristin Burritt	528-8352
Directors	Reba Gillman	327-2277
	Brad Merrell	257-1742
	Randall McIntyre	422-3565
	Paula Tyler	459-4639

Newsletter Editor

Reba Gillman

Layout

Larry Shepley

Our web site: www.gilbertsullivan.org

E-mail: info@gilbertsullivan.org

Coming Attractions:

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Caswell House

**8:00 PM, Thursday June 3, 2004
1404 West Avenue at 15th Street**

Next Board Meeting (may change)

**7:00 PM, Monday June 7, 2004
at Paula Tyler's**

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