

# GILBERT & SULLIVAN

SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

SEPTEMBER 2004 NEWSLETTER

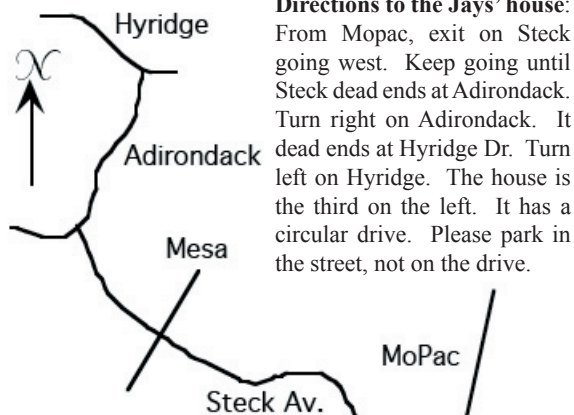
## September Musicale

**Monday September 13, 2004, 7:30 pm**

At Benny & Nancy Jay's House  
4305 Hyridge Drive  
343-8408

Please bring munchies!

Come and hear some of your favorite singers. With Gloria Kim at the piano, Cindy Hill, Eva Laskaris, June Julian, Holton Johnson, Jim Hunter, Arthur DiBianca, and Brad Merrill will entertain us with excerpts from Gilbert & Sullivan — with a slight emphasis on *The Mikado* — and a few other songs. Thanks to Libby Weed, who planned the program.



**Directions to the Jays' house:**  
From Mopac, exit on Steck going west. Keep going until Steck dead ends at Adirondack. Turn right on Adirondack. It dead ends at Hyridge Dr. Turn left on Hyridge. The house is the third on the left. It has a circular drive. Please park in the street, not on the drive.

Start the season right with good music, good company, and good food!

## From Your President

Dear Friends:

I am looking forward to the Fall for a number of reasons. In particular I am looking forward to seeing you all at the upcoming musicale. This is when we will renew the social aspect of our Society. I saw a great many of you at *The Gondoliers* and at the Caswell House before that, but there is something special about the atmosphere when we meet in a member's home. Many thanks to Nancy and Benny Jay for hosting us again. Let's renew acquaintances after the recently passed summer break. Let us sing and sup, press to the banquet and hail poetry. After all, what is life without some poetry in it?

Fond regards,

*Bill Hatcher, President*

## Support the Arts in Austin

Most arts organizations in Austin are hurting financially; many are in urgent need, including your G&S Society. We urge you to Support the Arts. All arts contribute to the quality of life: painting, music, drama, and that ultimate in arts experience, Musical Theater — how could we do without Gilbert & Sullivan?

One of the most important local groups is the umbrella organization, Austin Circle of Theaters (ACOT). The G&S Society, as part of the theater community of Austin, is a member of ACOT and benefits in many ways. Alas, this year we did not garner any nominations for our show for their B. Iden Payne Awards, but we have in the past, and last year we won two awards for our *Pirates*. This year we also took advantage of the ACOT sponsorship of group advertisements in the *Statesman*, which included announcements on Austin 360, available to thousands of people, including visitors in hotels in Austin. A new ACOT project is bi-monthly publication of a classy brochure "Let's Go Austin," Austin's live entertainment guide, which will be distributed to Austin hotels, and all ACOT members. Our announcements can be included (if we get them in early enough!).

Membership in ACOT is \$120 for an organization, \$36 for an individual, \$26 for students and seniors. Call ACOT at 247-2531, or leave a message at the Society office, 472-4772.

And don't forget to keep up your support for the G&S Society! Now is the time for us all to work for the life of Austin's superlative arts community!

## Gondoliers Survey

During the run of *The Gondoliers*, we conducted a survey, and thanks to all who participated. Ten of you, drawn at random, will receive a prize — you will be notified by mail, e-mail, or telephone. We will send a thank-you letter to all others, for we appreciate and welcome your comments!

Photos from *The Gondoliers* 2004  
by Steve Schwartzman

Look for others in forthcoming  
Newsletters



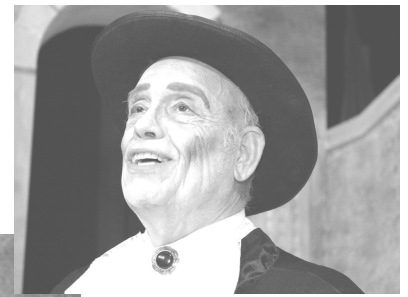
**Garrett T. Maddox** (Marco)  
**Claire Vangelisti** (Gianetta)  
**Kristina Horacek** (Tessa)  
**Holton Johnson** (Giuseppe)



**Rebecca Stidolph**  
(Duchess of Plaza-Toro)



**Oliver Worthington**  
(Duke of Plaza-Toro)



**Russell Gregory**  
(The Grand Inquisitor)

## *The Gondoliers* • Report by Reba Gillman

I personally attended all but two performances of *The Gondoliers* in June-July 2004, and loved every minute. The music went around in my head day and night — it was a delightful total immersion. I enjoyed greeting members and old friends as they put in their appearance at the show. Officially I was selling videos, T-shirts, libretti, etc., but business was slow — “It’s the economy, stupid?”

Performing at the School for the Deaf was a mixed experience, with varied reactions: Great to be in central Austin; hard to maneuver around the campus. Chris Buggé’s golf cart was a great help ferrying people to the door from their cars. And all enjoyed President Bill’s nightly welcome from the stage. He bounded on like the youthful biker that he is (see page 3).

## Report from Ivoryton

Larry Shepley • Former President

This past July I spent a week in Connecticut, at the Incarnation Center in Ivoryton (named for the ivory trade and home to some former piano key factories.) The Center is an Episcopalian-run camp (I am not Episcopalian, I should say) with adequate accommodations. I stayed in neighboring Essex, where the Griswold Inn provides the luxury to which I have become accustomed (including their famous sausages). I was there for an Elderhostel program, run by Rafe MacPhail and Deb Lyon.

Rafe, who will direct our *Mikado* next summer, knows more about Gilbert and Sullivan than anyone has a right to know. His wit and intelligent manner made the program a delight. We studied *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Mikado* (the title of the program was “PiraMikaFore”). Deb was the music director and a first-rate pianist. She led us in an evening program of excerpts from these operas; it was remarkably enjoyable in spite of me being in the chorus.

Connecticut, at least that part of it, is beautiful during the summer: Woods, good food, friendly people, and yes, the strains of G&S wafting through the trees. Rafe and Deb present two Elderhostel programs each summer. Next year the programs will include “PiraMikaFore” and one devoted to *The Yeoman of the Guard*. I recommend them (see [www.elderhostel.org](http://www.elderhostel.org)).

We had a contest to choose the best parody based on “Tit-Willow” from *The Mikado*. My entry is at the right.

## How to Succeed at Physics Without Really Trying

‘Neath a tree by a river where a tom-tit was at  
Singing willow, tit-willow, tit-willow,  
With his laptop a disconsolate physicist sat  
Sighing Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!  
He sought masses and forces and charges and all,  
But for quantum results he was left in a stall;  
In vain for ideas to his idol he’d call  
Help me Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!

His computer he slapped as he sat then and there,  
Cursing Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!  
And a shriek from its hard drive rang out through the air.  
Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!  
With a burp and a gurgle the laptop then died,  
His equations were lost and his papers were fried,  
Not even tenure could help save his hide;  
Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!

Now I’ll admit freely that I couldn’t be  
An Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!  
For Albert did not need computers you see:  
Smart Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!  
I coddle and wheedle and hope and then pray  
That my work will be published without a delay,  
Because I was nice to my laptop today;  
Goodbye Einstein! Oh Einstein! Oh Einstein!

Due to blatant favoritism, I didn’t win: The group favored another entry (I must confess that I voted for another one, too).

## News of Members

**Andrew Hallock** has enjoyed spending the summer in England, singing with the Dallas based St. Mark's Schola Choir, and then attending two early music workshops. On September 9<sup>th</sup> he will audition at The Hague in the Netherlands. If he passes that test he will be admitted to the Royal Academy at The Hague and will stay there for two years to complete their Early Music Degree. Andrew has found his niche, and we wish him the best!

Meanwhile, in the U.S., our enterprising president **Bill Hatcher** participated in RAGBRAI, which stands for Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa, sponsored by the Des Moines Register. Bill biked 500 miles in seven days of riding across Iowa from the western border at the Missouri River to the eastern border at the Mississippi River, tenting all the way and enjoying the welcome from the people of small town Iowa. This was something he has wanted to do for many years. His motto these days is "I'm not getting any younger," and now seemed the time to do it. Bravo, Bill!

And here in Austin, **Eva Laskaris** competed in the Triathlon on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations!

## Contributors to *Gondoliers* 2004

Underwriters: **Chris Buggé • Larry Shepley • Michael & Libby Weed.** Contributors: **Chuck Antonie • Norma & Floyd Brandt • Barbary Phillips in memoriam Lucile Convers • Ann Rogers in memoriam Lucile Convers • John, Christie, & Lori Fisher • Russell Gregory • Cindy Hager • William P. & Naomi Haight • James A. Hitt • Benard Laves • Norman & Emilia Martin • George & Nancy McQueen • Joan Pearsall • B.M. Phillips • Priority Copy • Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts • D.A. Rutishauser • Jean and Ed Smootz • Patricia Spurr • Cleve H. Tandy Foundation • Michael & Libby Weed • Dr. Claire Ellen Weinstein • Westminster Manor.** We wish to thank especially the following individuals for their continuing support: **Byron Arnason, Marion DeFord, Russell Gregory, Andrew, Enid, & Gary Hallock, Kristine M. Olson, Allen Lawshae, Barbara Lee, Katharine Shields, Patricia Spurr, Rose Taylor, Steve & Louise Weinberg.**



*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.



## 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

**WILLIAM TRUTNA**

Congratulations! We value your membership! Please see our web site for a list of what's available, choose your prize, and we'll mail it to you: [www.gilbertsullivan.org](http://www.gilbertsullivan.org)

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

What company do you work for? \_\_\_\_\_

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](http://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
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	Brad Merrell	257-1742
	Randall McIntyre	422-3565
	Paula Tyler	459-4639

**Newsletter Editor  
Layout**

Reba Gillman  
Larry Shepley

Our web site: [www.gilbertsullivan.org](http://www.gilbertsullivan.org)  
E-mail: [info@gilbertsullivan.org](mailto:info@gilbertsullivan.org)

## Upcoming Events:

**Musical** — Monday, September 13, 2004, 7:30 pm  
— 4305 Hyridge Drive — See page 1

**Patience** — Concert version — late October or early  
November — Westminster Manor

**Business Meeting** — Monday, January 10, 2005

**Fundraiser & Revue** — February 2005

**Gala Preview of *The Mikado*** — May 2005

Note: **Next Board Meeting** — Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Look forward to a bangup production of

## *The Mikado*

in June 2005, directed by Rafe MacPhail and  
Jeffery Jones-Ragona.

Our major production in 2006 will probably be

## *Ruddigore*



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