

GILBERT & SULLIVAN

SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2004 NEWSLETTER

Patience

or, *Bunthorne's Bride*
(Concert Version, adapted by Brad Merrell)

Producer/Director: **Brad Merrell** Music Director: **Mel Witcher**
Piano: **Gloria Kim**

Colonel Calverley
Major Murgatroyd
Lieut. The Duke of Dunstable } (*Officers of*
Reginald Bunthorne (*a Fleshly Poet*) } *Dragoon*
Archibald Grosvenor (*an Idyllic Poet*) } *Guards*)
Mr. Bunthorne's Solicitor
The Lady Angela
The Lady Saphir } (*Rapturous*
The Lady Ella } *Maidens*)
The Lady Jane
Patience (*a Dairy Maid*)

Randall McIntyre
Trey Deason
Brad Merrell
Arthur DiBianca
Derek Smootz
To be Announced
Kristina Horacek
Amanda Hatfield
Chelsea Manasseri
Mandy Summers
Meredith Groeschel

Chorus of Rapturous Maidens and
Officers of Dragoon Guards

Laura Merrell • Nicole Riedesel
Laura Witcher • Michael Middleton

Monday • November 8 • 7:00

Friday • November 12 • 7:00

Westminster Manor

4100 Jackson Ave.

Free to Residents of Westminster Manor
\$5.00 General Admission

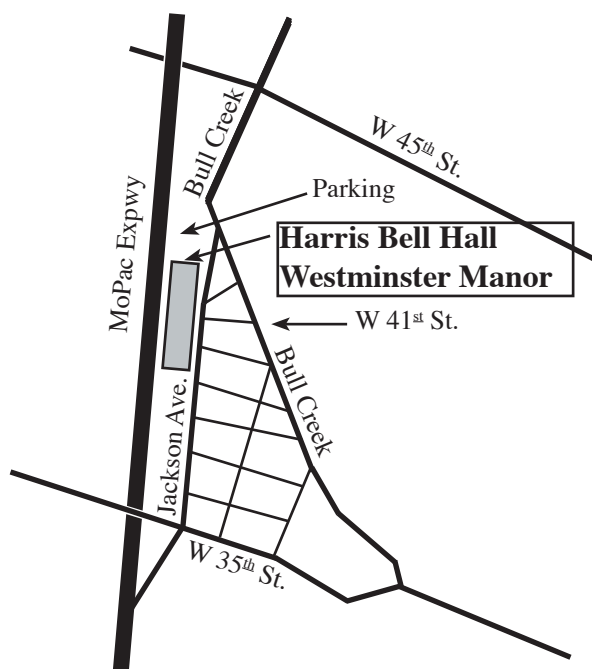
Letter from Your President

Dear Friends:

Who will make the memories? Your Society feels strongly about the musical education of our young people. And most particularly I think we can agree that the music and lyrics of Gilbert & Sullivan are an ideal form to advance their appreciation. There are such lovely arias and such intricate trios. There are such humorous situations and silly plays on words. It really is great stuff and is perfect for our young people.

But what I'm getting at here is that we need to revitalize our program of performing in schools. What I'm asking for is a volunteer to coordinate the program. It would involve coordinating our singers and the host schools. There is a great degree of flexibility because it doesn't have to be done just exactly as it was in the past. The goal is so worthy that I expect my note here in the newsletter will strike a chord. Will you please ring my bell (I mean phone)? Will you call me and we can talk? My home phone number is 892-3722. Will you make the memories?

Very sincerely yours, *Bill Hatcher*



Directions to Harris Bell Hall of Westminster Manor

Going south on MoPac, exit at 45th St. east. Turn right on Bull Creek, and bear right on Jackson. Parking is at the north end of Westminster Manor. Enter the Health Care Center (HCC), and take the elevator to the third floor.

Going north on MoPac, exit at 35th St. east. Keep straight on Jackson. Parking is at the north end of Westminster Manor. Enter the Health Care Center (HCC), and take the elevator to the third floor.

If you park on adjacent streets and enter the front entrance of Westminster Manor, the receptionist will give you directions to Harris Bell Hall.

Many thanks to **Benny and Nancy Jay**, who have generously opened their home for *Patience* rehearsals. Many thanks to **Barbara Lee** and **Westminster Manor** for their hospitality.

Musicale to Open the Season

Reba Gillman

On Monday September 13th we gathered at the beautiful home of Benny and Nancy Jay to open this year's season. President Bill Hatcher welcomed us, and thanked the Jays for their hospitality. Bill urged us to attend the concert version of *Patience*, coming up in November. He thanked Libby Weed for planning the program and turned matters over to her.

Libby took the stage with her usual interesting remarks and introductions. First, she asked that members identify their guests. Allan Longacre introduced his new relations Dick and Ethel Harvey, who now live half the year in Austin and half in Israel. Their son married the Longacres' daughter. Byron Arneson, whose enthusiasm for our Society and Gilbert and Sullivan causes him to bring many friends to our events, introduced Pat Hobbes. Vivian Mansell told us that she had enjoyed attending our last two events and was now becoming a member. Reba introduced her daughter Miki Gillman, visiting from California, and noted that over the years Miki had followed her mom's performances in Gilbert and Sullivan, and also appeared many years ago in Indiana as an under-age bridesmaid in *Trial by Jury*.

Libby explained that the program was in two parts. For Act I the singers chose a song from their repertory — the attraction here is that they can sing music they don't usually have the opportunity to sing. Act II concentrated on G&S. Libby introduced our fine pianist, Gloria Kim, to open the program. Gloria is a candidate for a graduate degree in Music at UT. She has studied with organist Frank Speller and pianist Gregory Allen. She also worked with Daniele Martin, the U.T. Professor of Piano who died tragically in April 2004. "Glorious Gloria" as Dani Martin had dubbed her, played a Chopin Nocturne and dedicated her performance to her grandparents and to Professor Martin. There followed a delightful evening with some of our favorite performers. We ended up as usual all joining in to sing "Hail Poetry," with Brad Merrell singing the Pirate King's lead in; "Now to the banquet we press" was then the signal to adjourn to the Jay's glamorous kitchen to partake of the good cheer and friendly conversation.



Rebecca Stidolph, Oliver Worthington, Russell Gregory, Ash Robinson, and Jeanette Franz — The Duke and his family, with the Grand Inquisitor at *The Gondoliers* 2004 — Photo by Steve Schwartzman

In the audience were: Byron Arneson with guest Pat Hobbes, Dan & Robbi Boone, Chris Buggé, Lucy Cantu, Lucian Chimene, Harold Gilbert, Len & Reba Gillman with daughter Miki Gillman, Loel Graber, Bill & Nan Hatcher, Benny & Nancy Jay, Matthew Julian, Allen & JoAnn Lawshae, Allan & Barbara Longacre with guests Dick & Ethel Harvey, Vivian Mansell, Katharine Mason, Laura Merrell, Bee Polomé & Milt Weiss, Steve & Eve Schwartzman, Bob Sharron, Becky Stewart, Paula Tyler, Libby Weed, Dave Wieckowski, and Theresa Wilson & Antonio Fuentes.

Musicale Program

September 13, 2004

Nocturne in D-flat Major, Opus 27 no. 2 by Chopin	Gloria
"Ideale" by Francesco Tosti	Holton
"Amor" by William Bolcom	Cindy
"Un'aura amorosa" from <i>Così fan Tutte</i> by Mozart	Brad
"Doll's Aria" from <i>Tales of Hoffmann</i> by Offenbach	Meredith
"Un bel di" from <i>Madama Butterfly</i> by Puccini	June

Intermission

"My name is John Wellington Wells"	Art
<i>The Sorcerer</i>	

"Whom thou hast chained"	Holton
"Gently, gently"	Art, Brad, Holton

Princess Ida

"Love is a plaintive song"	Cindy
"I hear the soft note"	Art, Brad, Cindy, Holton, June, Meredith

Patience

"Were you not to Ko-Ko plighted"	June and Holton
"Here's a how-de-do"	Art, June, Holton
"Three little maids"	Cindy, June, and Meredith

The Mikado

"Hail, Poetry!"	The Company, led by Brad as Pirate King
<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	

"Now to the banquet we press"	The Company
<i>The Sorcerer</i>	

Singers: Art DiBianca, Meredith Groeschel, Cynthia Hill, Holton Johnson, June Julian, Brad Merrell

Pianist: Gloria Kim

The Future

These are hard times for all of us, but especially the non-profit arts organizations (like our G&S Society). The Board of The G&S Society of Austin is seriously considering plans for the future of The Society and ways to raise money to continue our annual productions. We welcome ideas — if you have any call President Bill Hatcher at 892-3722, or e-mail him at <mahitabel@aol.com>.

Great News

Our big sister organization, the **Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Houston**, took their production of *The Mikado* to the Buxton International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in England this summer. This was their third year to take a production to Buxton. They have placed second in several categories before, but this year they were first in five categories out of 17, and won first prize: Grand Champion, 11th International G&S Festival, Buxton, England. Former D'Oyly Carte member Alistair Donkin was the Stage Director and played the part of Ko-Ko. Dr. Cliff Evans in his second year as Conductor and Music Director, won in the category of best conductor. Our bosom swells with pride!

News of Members

Andrew Hallock passed his audition at The Royal Academy at The Hague, and is pursuing the two-year program there. He lives in a garage apartment that he pays for by doing yard work and maintenance. He bought a bicycle which serves as his transportation. He'll be in fine physical condition when he gets his degree from this prestigious school!!!

Allen Lawshae will be performing in *Oklahoma* at the Palace Theater in Georgetown, opening Friday October 15 and closing Sunday matinée on November 7. Allen plays the part of Andrew Carnes, husband of Ado Annie. His solo opens the second act. For tickets and information go to the internet site <thegeorgetownpalace.org>.

Frequent Flyer Miles

In order to fly director **Rafe MacPhail** here for auditions and rehearsals for *The Mikado*, we would welcome donations from our members — the easy way to do it is to give us your extra frequent flyer miles. We also need to fly Rafe's wife Alice here and back once.

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. The Members of the Month for October and November are:

October: **Sigrid Levi-Baum**

November: **Robert & Anna Miller**

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

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) 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 Cultural Arts Division and 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
Layout**

Reba Gillman
Larry Shepley

Our web site: www.gilbertsullivan.org
E-mail: info@gilbertsullivan.org

Looking Ahead

Annual Business Meeting

Monday January 10, 2005, 7:30 pm

Fundraiser and Revue

February, 2005

Gala Preview of *The Mikado*

May, 2004

The Mikado

Grand Production
June, 2005

Patience

Concert Version

Monday, November 8, 7:00 pm

Friday, November 12, 7:00 pm

Westminster Manor
See page 1



But for iron the magnet felt no whim...,
For he'd set his love on a Silver Churn!



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