

# GILBERT & SULLIVAN

SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

FEBRUARY 2005 NEWSLETTER

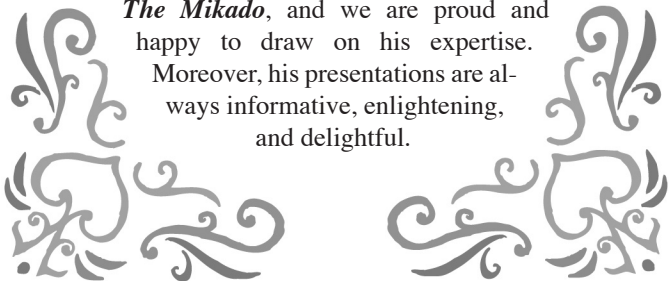


## *The Mikado: Red, Hot, and Swing!*

7:30 pm Monday February 28, 2005  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin  
4700 Grover Ave.

Please bring munchies

Rafe is the world's leading authority on *The Mikado*, and we are proud and happy to draw on his expertise. Moreover, his presentations are always informative, enlightening, and delightful.



## AUDITIONS

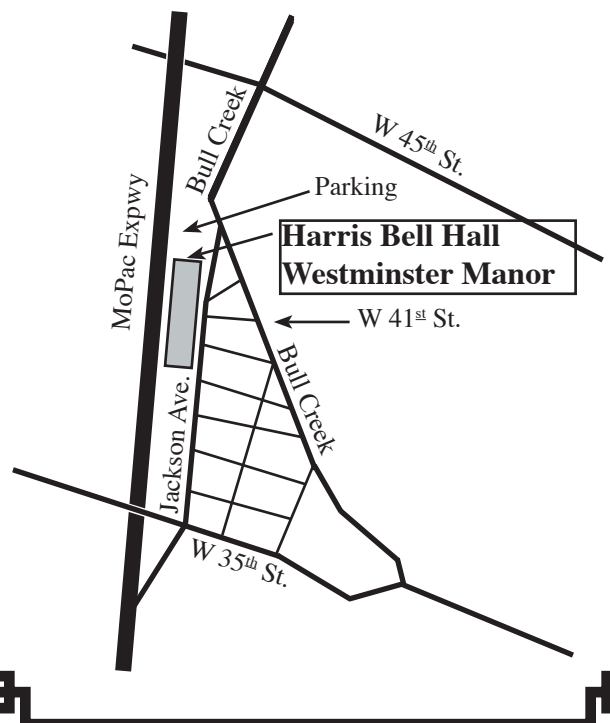
for *The Mikado*

to be presented June 16-July 3, 2005

Auditions will be held by Rafe MacPhail, Stage Director & Choreographer, and Jeffrey Jones-Ragona, Music Director, on Saturday February 26 and Sunday February 27 in Harris-Bell Hall at Westminster Manor, 4100 Jackson Ave.

For an appointment and information, please call Chuck Antonie at 733-1006 after February 1. It will be a wonderful experience to perform in this production whether as a principal or in the chorus. Come be a part of what will certainly prove to be a fine cast and an outstanding show.

Characters include; The Mikado; Nanki-Poo, *his Son*; Ko-Ko, *Lord High Executioner*; Pooh-Bah, *Lord High Everything Else*; Pish-Tush & Go-To, *Noble Lords*; Yum-Yum; Pitti-Sing, & Peep-Bo, *Three Sisters*; Katisha, *an Elderly Lady*; and Chorus of School-girls, Nobles, etc.



## Annual Meeting and Musicale

Reba Gillman

On Monday January 10, 2005, at 7:30 at Paula Tyler's house, 23 paid up members gathered for the Society's Annual Meeting. As we entered we heard the strains of Bach's French Suite in G Major, beautifully played by Gloria Kim, Lord High Pianist for the evening. President Bill Hatcher welcomed us and introduced the one new face: Lisa Harris, who joined recently and was attending her first Musicale. Bill showed us a bright orange Ukrainian wool scarf bearing the name of Viktor Yuschenko, who recently won the presidential election in Ukraine. Prominently featured was the word "Tak!" (Leland Smith told us that means "Yes" or "So"). Bill bought it on e-bay for his brother, who works in the field of Russian matters. This encouraged Lucian Chimene to tell us about his recent trip to Alaska, where when he heard the strains of *The Mikado* coming from a souvenir shop in Skagway he was so moved that he bought a souvenir – a mug inscribed "Official Skagway Brothel Inspector."

Turning to the business at hand, Bill announced the slate of 11 nominees for Directors, as presented by the nominating committee: Reba Gillman, chair, Enid Hallock, Larry Shepley, and Jean Smootz. Continuing another year as Directors were Bill Hatcher, Reba Gillman, Randall McIntyre, Brad Merrell, and Dave Wieckowski. New Directors nominated were Byron Arnason, Ann Coltman, Allan Longacre, Nancy McQueen, Larry Shepley, and Jean Smootz. As the nominees rose Reba spoke a few words of introduction about each, pointing out that Ann, Allan, Larry, and Jean had all served on the board in the past. Ann was one of the original members of The Society in 1976 and was an early President. Bill asked if there were any nominations from the floor, but none were made. Reba moved that this slate be elected, and Libby Weed seconded the motion, which was then approved unanimously. Bill expressed thanks to Kristin Burritt, Chris Buggé, Paula Tyler, and Libby Weed, who are leaving the board at this time.

Next, Bill read the amendments proposed by the board: (1) Change the present quorum for all meetings of the Society membership to 15; (2) Change the quorum for all meetings of the board of directors to 4 if there are 7 or 8 directors, and to 5 if there are 9 to 12 directors. After a brief discussion, Allan Longacre moved approval, and Larry Shepley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Dave Wieckowski then gave the treasurer's annual report, which sadly shows the Society ending the year with a loss. However, Dave assured us that the Society also has some invested funds and is not destitute. Any member who wants a copy of this report may call the office and ask for one. Dave said he was confident that this year's production of *The Mikado* would be more financially rewarding. It is one of "the big three" – in fact, it is perhaps the most popular piece of musical theater of all time. The team of Rafe MacPhail as Stage Director and Jeffrey Jones-Ragona as Music Director guarantees a wonderful production; and Dave, Bill Hatcher, and Larry Shepley have worked hard on building a trim and firm budget.

Bill announced the February 28<sup>th</sup> Musicale, which will be a presentation by Rafe MacPhail of "*The Mikado*: Red, Hot, and Swing!" at the Unitarian Universalist Church. He also announced that auditions for *Mikado* will be held on February 26 and 27 at Harris Bell Hall, Westminster Manor. Look for more information in the Newsletter.

Our business done, we moved on to our musical fun with Gloria Kim at the piano. Many thanks to Brad Merrell, who planned the program but was at home sick. Libby Weed came to our rescue and now took over, handing out copies of music that she had made at the last minute. With Allen Lawshae as the Mikado, and Libby and Paula as Katisha, and the entire audience as chorus, we launched into a vigorous rendition of "Miya Sama" from *The Mikado*. Libby announced that we would sing each piece twice, once for practice and once for "take." Next we sang "With catlike tread" from *Pirates of Penzance*, with Loel Graber as Samuel, and heavy foot falls punctuating the music. After the second rendition of that we moved on to a long section from *H.M.S. Pinafore*, coming right after the Captain has said "Damme!" and including the well-loved "For he is an Englishman!" Allen Lawshae sang Sir Joseph, Bill Hatcher sang Captain Corcoran, and Ann Coltman played Hebe. Chris Buggé then took over as the Pirate King, leading us into "Hail Poetry" for which we all rose as usual. Finally we sang "Now to the banquet we press," from *The Sorcerer*, only once, but at a very rapid clip. Friendly conversation and delicious refreshments followed, as is our custom. However, Paula had provided a smoked turkey, and with the accompanying goodies it made a special spread. Many thanks to our generous hostess, and all who brought "munchies!"

For the record those present were: Chris Buggé, Sue Rickett Caldwell, Lucian Chimene, Ann Coltman, Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Lisa Harris, Bill Hatcher, Allen and JoAnn Lawshae, Allan and Barbara Longacre, Nancy McQueen, Steve and Eve Schwartzman, Larry Shepley, Andrée Sjoborg, Leland Smith, Jean Smootz, Paula Tyler, Libby Weed, Dave Wieckowski, and Theresa Wilson.

### 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: for example a video, CD, Society History, or T-shirt. The Member of the Month for February is:

#### Patricia Cross Neff

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)

### G&S Videos, DVDs, CDs & Memorabilia

Call our office or write us to order our delightful merchandise: T-shirts, librettos, DVDs, CDs, and videos; all at reasonable prices. Phone 472-4772.

From our archives:

Photos from our 1998 production of *The Mikado*



Amy Baker Stinson as Yum-Yum and Dan Girardot as Nanki-Poo.  
(Photo by Margaret Thomas)



Ko-Ko (Ezra Johnson) sings of the sad plight of a Tom Tit to Katisha (Janette Jones), who is much affected. (Photo by Margaret Thomas)

## 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.



## Notice

Due to the exigencies of publishing, this Newsletter will go to press before the scheduled first meeting of the new Board of Directors on January 17. Larry Shepley, our invaluable layout artist, will leave town for family reasons on January 15 for a couple of weeks. Therefore this newsletter cannot contain information about the election of new officers even though it may be delivered to our readers well after the event. Information about the election of Society officers will be published in the March Newsletter.

## 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

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

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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

Byron Arnason	801-583-8281
Ann Coltman	394-0852
Reba Gillman	327-2277
Bill Hatcher	892-3722
Allan Longacre	301-5611
Randall McIntyre	422-3565
Nancy McQueen	258-2149
Brad Merrell	257-1742
Larry Shepley	327-1511
Jean Smootz	259-2373
Dave Wieckowski	477-5566

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)

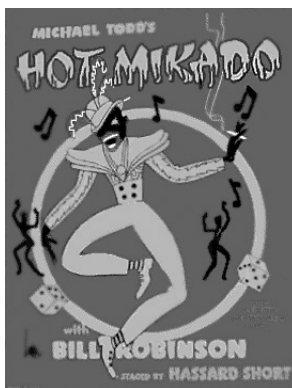
## Upcoming Events

Our major production this coming year will be

## The Mikado

June 16 - July 3, 2005, directed by Rafe MacPhail and Jeffrey Jones-Ragona.

**Auditions** will be February 26-27, 2005. Come, be a part of the most popular piece of musical theater ever written! After February 1, you may call **Chuck Antonie** at 733-1006 for information and an audition appointment.



## Special Musicales:

Ralph MacPhail, Jr.

*The Mikado:*

**Red, Hot, and Swing!**

7:30 Mon. Feb. 28, 2005

First Unitarian Universalist

Church of Austin

4700 Grover Ave.



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Austin TX 78768-4542

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