

# GILBERT & SULLIVAN

SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2006 NEWSLETTER

## *An Evening of Musical Merriment*

with **Russell Gregory and Friends**

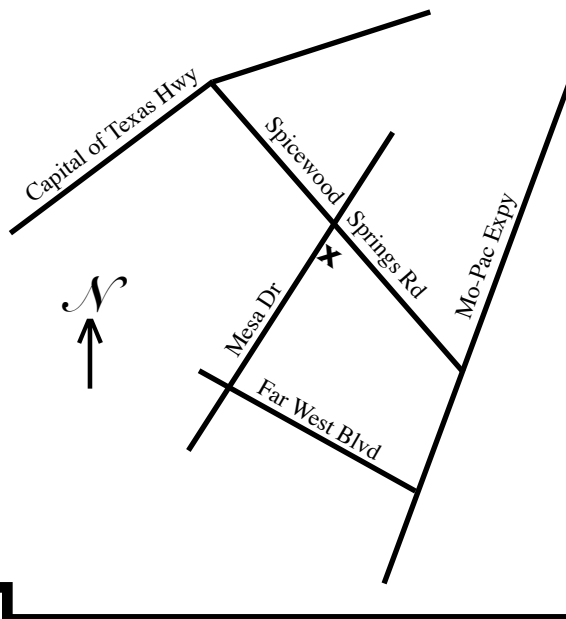
Saturday, March 4, 2006, 8:00 PM  
First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa

A Benefit Concert for The Gilbert and Sullivan Society's  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*

The concert will include Dallas Piano Duo **Jerry and Paula Stephens** with Introduction and Comments by G&S's Artistic Director **Ralph MacPhail, Jr.** Russell will sing songs from G&S and Flanders & Swann.

Tickets may be ordered by calling **1-800-494-8497**  
or may be purchased at the door.

Admission \$20



### Note

As you may observe, this is a joint February/March Newsletter. The recent rise in postage has caused us to consider the economy of occasionally combining two issues of the Newsletter. This seems especially worthwhile when there are no urgent reports or messages for one of the months.

## From Your President

Dear Friends:

We had a very pleasant annual meeting a few weeks ago. Thank you Randall for having us in your wonderful home. It was kind of fun listening to the stories of those who were trying to find his home for the first time. It was a convenient conversational opener to ask people if they had any trouble getting there. The map in the newsletter was 100% accurate, but it's still not that easy at night. I don't think anybody gave up and went back home, because we had a nice turnout.

The singing was fun, and Ann did a great job leading us. She has such enthusiasm. She'd make a good teacher — oh wait, she is a teacher. That must be why she knew how to whip us into shape. For the singing and the business meeting we sat in a large circle. Some sat on the floor, some on chairs, and some on couches. In retrospect, I think the circular seating really helped make the evening fun. As they say in the theater, "it worked." The other ingredient that made the evening special was the talented and fascinating people gathered to enjoy beautiful and humorous music and lyrics. That is the ingredient that endures. "Of that there is no manner of doubt, no possible, probable shadow of doubt, no possible doubt whatever!" (*Gondoliers*)

Best regards, *Bill Hatcher*

## Addendum:

A week later the new Board of Directors met to get acquainted and elect officers. **Bill Hatcher** agreed to stay on as President, **Allan Longacre** consented to serve as Vice President, and **Dave Wiekowski** and **Nancy McQueen** will continue as Treasurer and Secretary. We were very happy to feel the energy and enthusiasm of the new Directors, **Nancy Jay**, **Cecily Johnson**, and **June Julian**, and the dedication and commitment of the continuing directors. We look forward to a great year.

*Reba Gillman*

## CELEBRATION

**The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin is  
30 years old!**

**Ann Coltman**, who was a member in the first years of the Society and is now on our Board of Directors, is teeming with ideas for a grand festival. She is pursuing early members, some of whom left Austin long ago, with the hope of getting some of them to come back to Austin for a party. Current thinking is to plan a Bang-Up Event for the fall. Ann is thinking of so many ways to celebrate that she needs time to organize.

Ann is also hoping to update our very popular *A History of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin, Texas, Inc. 1976-2001* by Leland L. Smith.

If YOU have ideas or information please call or email Ann at 394-0852 or [annbev@freenet.de](mailto:annbev@freenet.de).

## Annual Meeting and Musicale

Reba Gillman

On Monday, January 9, 2006, 20 brave and faithful souls gathered in the beautiful home of Randall McIntyre out in the hilly Westlake area. We more than achieved our quorum of 15 members (as amended last year) and were able to conduct our business.

At about 7:40 PM retiring President Bill Hatcher called the meeting to order. Allan Longacre, chair of the nominating committee, presented the slate of 12 nominees for the Board of Directors: continuing directors, Byron Arnason, Ann Coltman, Reba Gillman, Bill Hatcher, Allan Longacre, Nancy McQueen, Larry Shepley, Jean Smootz, Dave Wieckowski, and new nominees Nancy Jay, Cecily Johnson, and June Julian. Bill noted that the Board of Directors recommended that there be 12 directors on the Board for the year 2006. He asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. Allan then moved that we elect the slate as presented. Chris Buggé seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Bill thanked the retiring board members Brad Merrell and Randall McIntyre for their service to the Society. The business completed, we moved on to introductions and announcements.

Bill asked Vivian Mansell to introduce herself. She told us that she had joined some months before, and that she had lived in the same house in Austin for 35 years. She said she first came to G&S gatherings as a friend of Bee Polomé. Bill announced that in the January 4<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Austin Chronicle*, Barry Pineo had named the Society production of *The Mikado* fifth in his list of the top 10 most memorable theatrical offerings that he chanced to see in 2005.

Dave presented a financial report for the year 2005. The Society came out well ahead in the production of *Mikado*, which Dave said was very good for a non-profit organization. A Financial Report for the year 2005 is available to any member who asks for it. (Call and leave a message at the office: 472-4772.)

Allan told us about *An Evening of Musical Merriment* planned as a fund raiser for Saturday, March 4 at 8 PM. Russell Gregory will sing songs from Gilbert & Sullivan and Flanders and Swann, with interludes on the piano (four hands) by his friends Jerry and Paula Stephens of Dallas. Rafe MacPhail will be in Austin for the *Pinafore* auditions and will provide some of his always interesting and light-hearted commentary. This will take place at the First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa. Proceeds will benefit our production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

Bill then turned the meeting over to Ann Coltman with Lynda Oswalt at the keyboard (which she provided) for the musical part of the evening. We all sang along with enthusiasm through some rather difficult ensembles, which we repeated several times each. First Ann handed out music from *Ruddigore*, "I know a youth," a duet between Robin and Rose, which we all sang tentatively at first, feeling our way in unfamiliar music. Next, also from *Ruddigore*, came "Welcome, gentry," for chorus of men (originally called "Bucks and Blades") and girls. After that we undertook more familiar music, the rousing "When

the foeman bares his steel" from *The Pirates of Penzance*, and "With catlike tread," which introduces "Come, friends, who plough the sea," which most of us have heard as "Hail, hail, the gang's all here!" To finish up in traditional style, we sang "Hail Poetry" with Arthur DiBianca providing the Pirate King's lead in. This was accomplished even though Lynda had already turned off and packed up her keyboard. We finished off *a capella* with "Now to the banquet we press," which really needs a good piano introduction and accompaniment. Nothing daunted, we happily repaired to the refreshment table to enjoy the tasty munchies and good conversation. All enjoyed Randall's interesting home, and we thank him very much for inviting us in.

For the record those present were: Chris Buggé, Ann Coltman, Arthur DiBianca, Reba Gillman, Enid Hallock with grandson Robert, Bill Hatcher, Nancy Jay, Cecily Johnson, June Julian, Allan & Barbara Longacre, Vivian Mansell, Randall McIntyre and his guest Jennifer, Larry Shepley, Leland L. Smith, Jean Smootz, Dave Wieckowski, and Terri Wilson.



Allan & Barbara Longacre

### News of Members and Friends

Our Artistic Director **Ralph MacPhail, Jr.** has a new title: Grampa. Congratulations to him and **Alice** who are the proud grandparents of **Peter Alexander MacPhail**, born on December 30, 2005 to **Alexander and Karin MacPhail**.

Lord High Pianist **Gloria Kim** spent 6 weeks last summer in Salzburg as rehearsal pianist for the Austrian American Mozart Academy, which was founded by Professor William Lewis (at UT), Tenor from the Metropolitan Opera. It is a six week program in which a full opera and a smaller opera are prepared and performed with costumes, and even an orchestra. It is an opportunity for both singers and instrumentalists to work with others outside of their school, and away from the U.S. Gloria had an intense rehearsal and performance schedule, but she did get a chance to do some traveling. She also played some recitals with Professor Lewis outside of Salzburg. She will go again this coming summer, but probably not for the entire six weeks. She was particularly interested in the European organs, which are not like the ones she was used to at UT.

Onetime constant G&S performer **Frank Delvy** is kept very busy at his acting job with the city of Austin water conservation program. He plays to hundreds of children in the AISD. But he is now beginning to return to performances for grownups. You can see him on February 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 1 PM in Agatha Christie's *Ten Little Indians* playing the part of Dr. Armstrong. This is at Austin Playhouse, Penn Field, 3601 South Congress Ave., which is just north of Ben White Blvd.; phone 334-9866.

### 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 receive a CD of our 2005 *Mikado*. The Member of the Month for this month is:

**Hector Vera**

Congratulations! Please call our office (472-4772) to let us know where we should send your CD.

### Contributors to *The Mikado* 2005

Underwriters: Chris Buggé • Lawrence Shepley • Jean & Ed Smootz • Michael & Libby Weed. Contributors: Anonymous • Richard & Jennifer Arndt • Ken & Emily Ashworth • Mr. & Mrs. John C. Besperka • Larry & Becky Brenner • Chris Buggé • John Dailey • Marion DeFord • Betty B. Evans • Charlotte & William Flynn • Len & Reba Gillman • Loel Graber • Russell Gregory • William P. & Naomi Haight • Bruce & Enid Hallock • Betty R. Hatcher • James A. Hitt • Karen & Bob King • Edward Kluth • George & Nancy McQueen • James S. Moore • Mr. & Mrs. James Plugge • Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts • Charles & Diane Radin • James Robinson • Dorothy A. Rutishauser • Lawrence Shepley • Mrs. D.J. Sibley • Jean & Ed Smootz • Earl R. Hunt & Susan C. Spruance • Still Water Foundation, Inc. • Cleve H. Tandy Foundation • Jean Tolman • Paula Tyler • Bill & Mary Weaver • Michael & Libby Weed • Westminster Manor • Eve & John Williams • John & Betty Wood.



This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.



### Contributors to *H.M.S. Pinafore* 2006

Richard & Jennifer Arndt • Ken & Emily Ashworth • Marilyn Babcock • Jim & Eleanor Cochran • Peter & Felicity Coltman • Marion DeFord • Loel Graber • James A. Hitt • Brent & Una Jacob • Edward Kluth • Elaine Martens • Norman & Emilia Martin • P. S. Neff • James Plugge • Bee Harris Polomé & Milt Weiss • Eugene & Betty Ripperger • Dorothy Rutishauser • Jane Dunn Sibley • Jean & Ed Smootz • Becky Stewart • Bernadette Tasher • The Voloch Family • Libby & Michael Weed • John Wood



This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.



### Thank You IBM

Stephanie Blackwood, who has appeared in several of our productions, provided the essential contact which allowed us to receive from IBM a very generous donation of a computer with monitor and a laser printer. This equipment was sorely needed, and we are immensely grateful to IBM for this gift.

### Thank You

We gratefully wish to acknowledge the following donors: In honor of Bee Polomé: Peter & Felicity Coltman, Marilyn Babcock, Jean & Ed Smootz, Libby & Michael Weed. In honor of Bruce Hallock: Libby & Michael Weed. Please accept our most sincere thanks!

We also wish to thank especially the following individuals for their continuing support: Byron Arnason • Marion DeFord • Russell Gregory • Andrew, Chris, & Gary Hallock • Kristine M. Olson • Allen Lawshae • Barbara Lee • Randall McIntyre • Rosemary Russell-Vines • Cynthia Ryan & Valerie Ryan in memory of James C. Ryan • Katharine Shields • Patricia Spurr • Rose Taylor • Steve & Louise Weinberg.

### The Mikado 2005 on DVD and CD

Thanks to Nancy Jay, we have high quality recordings of our 2005 production of *The Mikado*. The two-disc DVD is available for \$20, and the two-disc CD (audio only) is available for \$10. Please include a \$2.00 shipping fee per item ordered. These recordings may be ordered through our website

[www.gilbertsullivan.org](http://www.gilbertsullivan.org)

or by calling our office at 472-4772. Please also ask about our many other recordings, tee-shirts, and other memorabilia celebrating our 30 years of bringing G&S to Central Texas.

### Randall's/Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Program

Please register your Randall's Remarkable Card —Randall's will donate 1% of your bill to us (and up to two other charitable groups, if you wish). To register, visit the customer service counter and use our name and number:

**Gilbert and Sullivan Society 10090**

This is an easy and cost-free (to you!) way to help us out.

## 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 with your check, payable to "GSSA":

**The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin**  
P.O. Box 684542  
Austin, Texas 78768-4542 Phone: 472-4772 (472-GSSA)

Name & Address (if different from label):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your company match donations? \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to volunteer. I'm interested in: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check a membership category.

- Individual (\$20-\$29)
- Family/Group (\$30-\$49)
- Patron (\$50-\$99)
- Grand Duke or Duchess (\$100-\$249)
- Major General (\$250-\$499)
- Pooh-Bah (\$500-\$999)
- Pirate King (\$1000-\$2499)
- Savoyard (\$2500 & up)

Members receive various benefits, including our newsletter, 10% ticket discount, and listing in programs (please call our office for further information). If you would prefer NOT to be listed in our programs, please check here:

## The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

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

**Annual Grand Productions • G&S in School  
Musicales • Musical Scholarships  
Monthly Newsletters • Holiday Season Shows**

G&S Office: **6901 N. Lamar Blvd. #139, Austin, TX 78752**

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	<b>Bill Hatcher</b>	892-3722
Executive VP	<b>Allan Longacre</b>	301-5611
Secretary	<b>Nancy McQueen</b>	258-2149
Treasurer	<b>Dave Wieckowski</b>	542-0446
Historian	<b>Ann Coltman</b>	394-0852
Newsletter Editor	<b>Reba Gillman</b>	327-2277
Layout	<b>Larry Shepley</b>	327-1511
Web Master	<b>Cecily Johnson</b>	331-4607
	<b>Byron Arnason</b>	801-558-8041
	<b>Nancy Jay</b>	343-8408
	<b>June Julian</b>	301-7316
	<b>Jean Smootz</b>	259-2373

Our web site: [www.gilbertsullivan.org](http://www.gilbertsullivan.org)

E-mail: [info@gilbertsullivan.org](mailto:info@gilbertsullivan.org)

### Coming

#### *An Evening of Musical Merriment with Russell Gregory and Friends*

Saturday, March 4, 2006, 8:00 PM  
First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa

A Benefit Concert for The Gilbert and Sullivan Society's  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*

The concert will include Dallas Piano Duo **Jerry and  
Paula Stephens** with Introduction and Comments by  
G&S's Artistic Director **Ralph MacPhail, Jr.**

Look for more information on page 1.

### Coming

#### *H.M.S. Pinafore*

will be our production in 2006  
in celebration of our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays  
June 15 – July 2, 2006

#### AUDITIONS

for *H.M.S. Pinafore* will be held on Saturday and Sunday,  
March 4 and 5, 2006. For further information visit our website.  
For audition appointments, call

**Chuck Antonie at 733-1006**

Come, be a part of one of the greatest shows ever written!

*The*  
**Gilbert  
SULLIVAN** Society  
OF AUSTIN

PO Box 684542  
Austin TX 78768-4542

Return Service Requested

Are you the Member of the Month?  
See inside!

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

