



~ NEGASS EVENTS ~

NEGASS/Longwood Opera LMLO *The Pirates of Penzance*, Sunday, June 8, 2014, 2:30 pm, Christ Episcopal Church, 1132 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA

If you can't get enough of *Pirates*, then this is your year! NEGASS is proud to announce a Last Minute Light Opera production of *The Pirates of Penzance* in collaboration with Longwood Opera on Sunday, June 8th at 2:30 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church, 1132 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA. Admission is free and the audience is the chorus, so grab your scores and come sing along!

Our Longwood Opera/NEGASS production has an AMAZING cast:

The Major General: Phil Lauriat
 Samuel: Ken McPherson
 Frederic: Joshua Collier
 The Sergeants of Police: Thaddeus Bell AND Mike Lague
 Mabel: Jennifer Sgroe
 Edith: Stephanie Mann
 Kate: Linda Barbieri
 Isabel: Evelyn Griffin
 Ruth: Angela Jajko
 AND
 The Pirate Ki- QUEEN: Katherine Engel Meifert

Our noble covers: Tony Parkes, Walt Howe, Jon Saul, Juliet Cunningham, Sara Michale Smith, and Giliana Gils Norkunas.

Conducted by the wonderful Danica A. Buckley with the incomparable James Hay at the piano, this show is a MUST SEE.

NEGASS Annual Meeting, Elections and Fantasy Day, Sunday, June 22, 2014

NEGASS will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, June 22, at a lovely private home in a nearby village. We welcome all NEGASS members and hope to see you there. Please contact [progchair AT negass DOT org](mailto:progchair@negass.org) for details.

The candidates for election to the Board of Directors:
 Vice President and Program Chairman - **Angela Jajko** (incumbent in both positions)
 Secretary - **Martha Birnbaum** (incumbent)
 Members-at-large - **Kaori Emery** and **Carolyn Schwartz** (incumbents); **Elaine Crane**, **Tom Frates**
Elaine is General Director of Greater Worcester Opera; **Tom** is a former NEGASS Treasurer, currently on the board of SLOC and active in several theatrical organizations.

After elections, indulge your dreams by singing any role from a G & S opera as we celebrate Fantasy Day.

IN THIS ISSUE

NEGASS Events.....	1
NEGASS News	2
Recent Productions	4
G & S News.....	4
Calendar.....	5



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GENERAL NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS AND REVIEWS may be sent to editor AT negass DOT org .

MEMBERSHIP NEGASS membership dues are \$20. Please join NEGASS online at www.negass.org, or contact sec AT negass DOT org.

THE TRUMPET BRAY Members receive the Bray as a PDF email attachment. To receive a paper copy of the Bray via US mail, please send a request to editor AT negass DOT org. All editions including the current one are available at www.negass.org.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL: 15th of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

NEGASS/NELO Summer Concert Series, Hamilton Wenham Community House, 284 Bay Road, Hamilton, MA, Wednesday evenings, July, 2014

NEGASS is collaborating with New England Light Opera to produce its hugely popular annual July summer concert series at the beautiful and air conditioned Hamilton Wenham Community House, located at 284 Bay Road in Hamilton, MA. Each week

features a different theme and includes a roster of 8-12 singers drawn from our talented NEGASS membership and NELO's roster of professional singers.

Shows are on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm:

July 9 *Here's a Howdy-Do!* songs and scenes from the beloved shows of Gilbert & Sullivan

July 16 *Broadway Lights*, songs and scenes from the great musical theater shows

July 23 *Songs from the Gilded Stage*, scenes and arias from the greatest operas and operettas

July 30 *Cabaret Nights*, an intimate evening of jazz standards and torch songs

Advance tickets: \$25 adults/\$20 NEGASS adults/\$15 seniors & students. Per show tickets: \$12 adults/\$10 NEGASS members & seniors/\$5 kids and students. Contact progchair AT negass DOT org.

NEGASS/Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra, January 17 & 18, 2015, Barnstable Performing Arts Center, 744 West Main Street, Hyannis MA

Members of NEGASS will be appearing with the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra on January 17th and 18th, 2015, in CCSO's "Passports" concerts in a celebration of the music of England. Featured soloists **Rebecca Hains, Tom Frates, and Angela Jajko** will be joined by a group of our incredibly talented NEGASS members performing some of the best-beloved pieces in the G&S repertoire. Mark your calendars- and come hear NEGASS singing with one of the finest symphonies in New England!

❧ NEGASS NEWS ❧

NEW for The Trumpet Bray - QUIZ!

The Trumpet Bray has gone digital, so our fully registered and paid members will now receive it by email upon publication. But definitely open those emails, because your Bray will now arrive with a G&S quiz! Be the first person to post the correct answer in the comments on our Facebook page Bray Quiz post (<https://www.facebook.com/newenglandgilbertsullivan society negass>), and win the prize of the quarter, which may be anything from show tickets to a DVD, tailored to the location and preferences of the winner.

Tony Parkes was our very first winner in April, and chose as his prize the 1994 D'Oyly Carte CD set of "Patience". Congratulations, Tony!

NEGASS School Outreach Expands to More Towns



Our first School Outreach program of *The Pirates of Penzance* at a Lawrence public school was such a

success that our troupe has been engaged by four more organizations!

We perform at public schools in Revere and Cambridge in June, at the Townsend Public Library in July, and at Buckingham, Brown and Nichols School in Cambridge in August.

Through our School Outreach Program, well over 1,000 school children will be introduced to *The Pirates of Penzance* with these scheduled performances! Revere school principal Jamie Flynn said "Everyone LOVED the performances! Thank you so much! "

The NEGASS School Outreach Program is now seeking volunteers for a few specific projects. Please contact [education AT negass DOT org](mailto:education@negass.org) if you can help with grant writing, set design, or networking

NEGASS T-Shirts - Get Yours Now



NEGASS is pleased to introduce our first set of official t-shirts! Thanks to Mike Lague for the suggestion of the favorite Gilbert & Sullivan phrase "Modified rapture" and to

Tom Frates for our favorite review of 2013: "Actually fun!" These T-shirts are a limited run of designs by our very own **Kaori Emery** and will be available for a short time for \$25 each. See the NEGASS Facebook page for sizes and prices, and contact [progchair AT negass DOT org](mailto:progchair@negass.org) to reserve yours today."

NEGASS Sing-Out Saturday, May 31, a Splendid Day

NEGASS 4-Operetta Sing-Out on Saturday was a resounding success. The day started with *H.M.S. Pinafore*. After lunch we romped our way through *Princess Ida* followed by *Patience*. The evening's grand finale was a wild and uproariously funny *Pirates of*

Penzance with full orchestra conducted by Kate Meifert.

Here are some pictures of our performances -



Recent Productions

***Patience*, Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Saturday, April 3, 2014, Agassiz Theater, Radcliffe Yard, Cambridge, MA**

As expected, the performance we attended (with spouse and 3 grandchildren) was of high caliber. Solid orchestra, adept, well prepared and balanced chorus, and strong principals. Setting the time and place at a 1960s California beach did not detract from the enjoyment of the performance although the change of time and venue made some of the lyrics and dialogue appear misplaced.

Patience (**Claudia Oh**) and *Bunthorne* (**Joey Goodnight**) displayed both excellent vocal and acting skills and established a warm rapport with the audience. The Colonel (**Ben Morris**) also was a consummate Gilbert and Sullivan performer. And the Ladies (**Katie Norchi, Allegra Caldera & Alice Newkirk**) together with the Marines (**Raymond Ng, Jack Weyen, Hunter York, Matt McCalla, Steve Klosterman**) and Maidens (**Lorena Benitez, Christina Bianco, Joule Voelz**) were uniformly professional. Music Director **Jacob Moscona-Skolnik** kept the performance moving. Together the cast presented another satisfying performance by HRG&SP.

It is amazing how the cast pulls together a professional performance in a relatively short time despite academic demands and clearly does so joyfully. Our first visit to the Agassiz was in 1976 (*Yeoman of the Guard*) and we have been returning ever since, first with our children and now grandchildren.
-Erwin Miller

***Trial by Jury*, Spectrum Singers, Saturday, May 17, 2014, 1st Church, Cambridge, MA**

It was 2 for the price of 1 at The Spectrum Singers concert on May 17 at the First Church in Harvard Square. This was The Spectrum Singers' first foray into the world of G & S and they scored a rousing success with excerpts from *The Mikado* followed by a costumed concert version of *Trial by Jury*.

Maestro **John Ehrlich**, Music Director, led an excellent 24-piece orchestra, the brass and percussion sections lending clarion fervor to the successive *Mikado* numbers. **Steven Ledbetter**, esteemed music critic and editor of a new *Mikado* score used in this performance, narrated the story as the singers and chorus gave us the musical numbers.

Lonnie Powell's sweet and resonant tenor lent poignancy to "A Wand'ring Minstrel." **John Bradshaw** was a timid but feisty Lord High Executioner. **Tricia Kennedy, Jennifer Angel,** and **Kathy Tighe** blended well as the "Three Little Maids from School." **Hannah Ford's** lovely soprano melted the audience with "Braid the Raven Hair." Just as warm, well-modulated and well-received was **Tricia Kennedy's** "The Sun Whose Rays." Lending humor and sparkle were **Karen Coffman, Ian Fox, Maki Koto Carman** and **Douglas Latham**.

The semi-staged and fully costumed *Trial by Jury* gave us spirited solos supported by the richness and resonance of the chorus. The male choristers were the gentlemen of the jury, and the ladies were the bridesmaids of Angelina, the lady who was left at the altar by her caddish fiancé, Edwin. **Laura Serafino Harbert**, clad in her wedding gown, sang of being jilted with lilting distress. Edwin, **Thomas A. Best**, in a stylish beige leisure suit, was a cavalier but appealing cad.

As Counsel for the Plaintiff, a bewigged **Steven Ledbetter** bravely defended his client, who had caught the eye of the judge. **John Schumacher** was all bluster and hubris as that Learned Judge lusting after the defendant. **Michael Pritchard's** booming bass tried to keep order in the courtroom, and **Douglas N. Latham** represented the good gentlemen of the jury.
-Martha Birnbaum

G & S News

***Princess Ida*, a read-through, Sunday, June 22, 1 pm, The Democracy Center, 45 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge, MA**

Admiral Kittypants Presents will host a staged reading of "Princess Ida" on June 22 at 1pm at the Democracy Center in Harvard Square.

All singers are welcome to attend. We are looking for vocalists of any gender to fill these roles: Melissa, Ada, Chloe, Princess Hilarion, King Hildebrand, Arac. No auditions - an email with a resume are all that's needed. Open roles will be assigned "first-come, first-served."

Those interested in attending/singing/performing should email intent to Kitty at blognetheatregeek@gmail.com.

Upcoming NEGASS Events

<i>Pirates of Penzance</i> NEGASS/Longwood Opera joint event	Sunday, June 8, 2014 (2:30 pm) Last-Minute-Light Opera see page 1 for details	Christ Episcopal Church 1132 Highland Avenue Needham, MA
<i>Pirates of Penzance</i> NEGASS School Outreach	June 9, 2014 Adaptation of <i>Pirates</i> for elementary schools -- see page 3 for details	Cambridge Public Schools contact education AT negass DOT org to book for your school
<i>Pirates of Penzance</i> NEGASS School Outreach	July & August, 2014 Adaptation of <i>Pirates</i> for elementary schools -- see page 3 for details	Townsend Public Library and BBN-Cambridge contact education AT negass DOT org to book for your school
<i>NEGASS Annual Meeting</i> NEGASS members	June 22, 2014 Elections to the NEGASS Board of Directors Fantasy Day	A lovely Victorian home in Lexington, MA contact progchair AT negass DOT org for details
<i>G & S Nights</i> NEGASS/NELO Joint Program	July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2014 (7:30 pm) Summer Concert Series www.newenglandlightopera.org -- see page 2 for details	Hamilton Wenham Community House 284 Bay Road Hamilton, MA
<i>G & S - The Music of England</i> NEGASS/CCSO	January 17 & 18, 2015 Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra with NEGASS soloists & chorus www.capesymphony.org	Barnstable Performing Arts Center 744 West Main St. Hyannis, MA
Upcoming Events		
<i>Princess Ida</i> Admiral Kitty pants	June 22, 2014 (1 pm) a reading of the opera blognetheatregeek@gmail.com	Democracy Center 45 Mount Auburn St. Cambridge, MA
<i>The Mikado</i> Opera Providence	August 8, 9, 10, 13, 2014 www.operaprovidence.org/calendar.htm#mikado	Aug. 8-10: Columbus Theatre 270 Broadway Providence, RI Aug. 13: Blithewold Mansion 101 Bristol Ferry Road Bristol, RI
<i>H.M.S. Pinafore</i> College Light Opera	August 12 - 16, 2014 www.collegelightoperacompany.com/the-2014-season.html	Highfield Theater 58 Highfield Dr. Falmouth, MA
<i>The Sorcerer</i> The Theater at Monmouth	September 18 - 28, 2014 www.theateratmonmouth.org	Cumston Hall Main St. Monmouth, ME
<i>The Gondoliers</i> Connecticut G & S Society	October 4 & 5, 2014 www.ctgands.org	Valley Regional High School 256 Kelsey Hill Rd. Deep River, CT
<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i> Valley Light Opera	November 7 - 16, 2014 (2 & 8 pm) info@vlo.org	Valley Light Opera Amherst, MA
Auditions		
<i>The Gondoliers</i> Connecticut G & S Society	June 17, 2014 (7 pm) & 22 (6 pm) www.ctgands.org/auditions-2	Congregation Adath Israel 8 Broad St., Middletown, CT