



Vol. XXIV No. 8
That is the style of thing precisely!

**SUNDAY, May 21 at 1:30 PM
A G&S MASTERCLASS**

୧୩ **MAY 21 MEETING: G&S MASTER CLASS, LED BY EILEEN ST. DAVID, WITH ACCOMPANIMENT BY ERIC SCHWARTZ.** On Sunday, May 21 at **1:30 PM** (please note the unusual hour!) at the **Park Avenue Congregational Church** in Arlington, MA (the scene of our former triumphs in the **Last Minute Light Opera PIRATES**), we'll gather to take part in a Gilbert & Sullivan Master Class. A small band of NEGASSers will sally forth, singly, to sing for our enjoyment and to learn from Eileen's expertise. The rest of us will sit and listen, learn and enjoy!

Singers include **Mary Helan Turner, Kris Maples, Fred Hughes, Amy Allen, Katherine Bryant,** and (as alternates in case of illness) **Art Dunlap** and *mlc*.

Eileen is an expert in all aspects of G&S performance, and Eric is an excellent and experienced accompanist. Come to enjoy the music, and to learn from these masters!



HOW TO GET THERE: PARK AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (PACC), 50 Paul Revere Road, Arlington, MA The church is located at the corner of Park Avenue and Paul Revere Road, on Park Avenue one block south of Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington. To get there you can either drive or take the #77 Arlington Heights bus along

Massachusetts Avenue to Park Avenue, at the far west end of town, and then travel one block south. Or you can take Route 2 to the Park Avenue-Arlington exit, and drive north along Park Avenue until Massachusetts Avenue is in sight. Free parking is available on both Park Avenue and Paul Revere Road. Or visit <http://www.leedscarroll.com/LRO/PerfDirections.shtml> for a handy MapQuest-based directions form.

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MARCH MEETING: LMLO PIRATES This year's performance of **PIRATES** for the **Last Minute Light Opera Company** was unusual in several respects. Aply produced as always by **Patricia Brewer**, assisted by **Don Smith**, the first thing to note was the record attendance for a LMLO



meeting - due no doubt to publicity published in the **Globe** Calendar. [Actually, *We suspect that orchestra members brought their own friends, and the fact that there was to be an orchestra at all enticed many reticent NEGASSers out of hiding as well!* - *mlc*] Also of note was a striking program leaflet by **Amazing Signs & Designs**. But the turnout by instrumentalists for what orchestra manager **Victor Godin** called "an A+ orchestra" was phenomenal - players were still arriving after the beginning of the overture - which was played twice, capably conducted

by **Jerry Weene**. Pianists **Juliet Cunningham** (Act I) and **Eric Schwartz**, (Act II) assisted. Patricia had to remind the players that the singers were unrehearsed, and some weak (not really), and asked the orchestra to avoid drowning them out.

For unrehearsed performers, all the cast acquitted themselves well. **Tony Parkes** as the Major General, who wins the costume award with full-dress uniform in Act I and bathrobe and nightcap in Act II, won a cheer for his patter singing. **Eric Schwartz** and **Peter Ambler** as the Pirate King, (not as one individual, but in alternate acts) did vocal battle with Young Frederick and the Major General. **Lee Patterson** and **Juliet Cunningham** shared the role of Frederick. **Marion Leeds Carroll** got a big round of applause for Mabel's pyrotechnics. **Ruth Roper** as the Piratical maid of all work got the action off to a fine start with her tale of woe. **Nancy Burstein** as Edith, **Rebecca Burstein** as Kate and **Janice Dallas** as Isabel choreographed the General's daughters nicely in their numbers. **Patricia Brewer** as Samuel plied the pirates with sherry (er - tonic) and furnished them with weapons, and **Bob Russell** [*whose fine bass voice was a pleasant surprise to Us!* - mlc] as the Sergeant led the police in and out of hiding.

All in all, a most enjoyable way to spend a Sunday afternoon. **-PETER CAMERON**

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**APRIL MEETING:
SUDBURY**

RETROSPECTIVE The **Sudbury Savovard's** retrospective performance of **RUDDIGORE** drew a rather small attendance and only three of the leads, but we enjoyed a sing-through of much of the music, conducted [*with admirable skill and taste* - mlc] by **Stephen Malioneck**, and accompanied by [*the deservedly renowned*] **Eric Schwartz**. The three leads were **Laura Schall Gouillart** as [*the predictably excellent*] Dame Hannah, **Mary Bulger** as [*a rich-voiced*] Zorah, and **Dana Merrill** as Richard Dauntless [*an excellent singer and actor - and cute, too!*], assisted by some of the original choristers and the assembled audience.



We began with *Fair is Rose* (Zorah and chorus) and *Sir Rupert Murgetroyd* (Hannah and chorus). Then we skipped to the bridesmaids' welcome of Richard from the briny sea, who paralyzed the parleyvoo and did a

Tentative Meeting Schedule, 1999-2000	
6/18	Election Meeting plus Fantasy performances
8/?	Picnic meeting, details TBA

~ NEXT BRAY COPY DEADLINE: May 28, 2000 ~

Next Bray Stuffing: Sunday, June 4, 2000 at 3:00 PM. Call Us at (781) 646-9115 evenings and weekends, or send email to Marion@leedscarroll.com, for directions to Our snug and easy-to-get-to home. —mlc

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Welcome, Welcome, Welcome We New Members **Leslie B. Fuller, Richard B. Gerrish, Kelsey Lea Peterson** and **Jon Saul**. Leslie, who's from Reading, MA, describes herself as a fine Singer, Musician and Enthusiastic Audience - and also a Contra Dancer! (Might she be acquainted with NEGASSer **Tony Parkes**, who's a contra dance caller?!) Richard appears to be connected with a printing company in his native Wilmington, NC. Kelsey, who lives in Andover, MA, says, "I'm mainly an enthusiastic audience member, but also sing & play flute." All We know about Jon is that he lives in Wayland, MA, which suggests that he may have heard of us through the **Sudbury Savoyards**. We'd love to know more -- **Tell Us, Tell Us All About It!**

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shortened hornpipe accompanied by the ladies. Richard wooed **Marion Leeds Carroll**, who stepped in as Rose, in *The battle's roar is over*, after which *If well his suit has sped* led to *In sailing o'r life's ocean wide*, with **Edwin Fell** as Robin, and **Mary** as Rose. Then the women's and men's choruses introduced Sir Despard's *Oh, why am I moody and sad*, sung by **Eric** at the piano. We then sang through the Finale of Act 1, with **Ed** back as Robin, **Marion** as Rose, **Mary** as Margaret, and **Don Smith** as Adam.

Robin and Adam [**Ed and Don**] opened Act 2, and then Richard and Rose [*Us again!*] sang *Happily coupled are we*. We then skipped to the chorus of ghosts, *Painted Emblems...* plus the cut section, *By the curse upon our race...* which was re-introduced for this production. Then **Stephen** sang Roderic's recitative and solo, *When the night wind howls*.

Hannah and Roderic [*still Stephen*] sang their touching ballad, *There grew a little flower*, and we concluded with the version of the finale beginning

When a man has been a naughty baronet. Not a bad shortened version of the opera. Right? Right!

-- PETER CAMERON

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୧ ୨ **NEGASS BOARD RECRUITMENT: CONGRATULATE ME, GENTLEMEN! (or - Modified Rapture!)** We've had several responses to the plea for volunteers published in the last **Bray**. Long-time board member **Janice Dallas** has offered to take on the post of **Membership Chair**, with some technical help from her husband, Ron. So has newcomer **Jennifer Morris**, who has already become a database expert in the course of her career as the Director of Sales & Marketing for a firm based in Marleborough, MA. Jennifer and her son, **Alex Gundy**, joined NEGASS just about a year ago, and Jen told Us in person a few weeks ago that she'd like to "give back something," in exchange for the wonderful programs and information NEGASS has provided over the past year. **So - we actually have competition for an office, for the first time in Our memory!** We suspect that negotiations will take place behind the scenes, so that by the time NEGASSers gather for the election meeting in June, an approved slate will be offered up to the membership, as usual.

In addition, **Peter Cameron** has offered to become NEGASS's **Secretary**. And **Linda Silverstein** wrote in an e-mail:

I am responding to your plea for help in the recent NEGASS newsletter. I am a longtime member (20 years +), although I think I've been to 3 meetings in that time. I am willing to help out with **Company Promoter** responsibilities. I can do writing, editing, and desktop publishing and can set up ads, info sheets, etc. I may not be able to attend a lot of meetings, but if I can help out with printed material, let me know. - **LINDA SILVERSTEIN**

Hooray for Janice, Jen, Peter and Linda! - **BUT** -

WE ARE LEFT WITH ONE SERIOUS GAP: PROGRAM CHAIR. All this really requires is a phone (and, ideally, e-mail access), a calendar, and a brain, and a willingness to use them! [We are disqualified - aside from brain deficit, We have been seriously phone-phobic all Our life.] The PC's main duties include scheduling and booking spaces, contacting and luring program presenters, and coordinating with the rest of the Board, particularly with the Company Promoter and the Bray Editor. (Creative ideas about new programs are nice, but

there are plenty of people with ideas. What we need is someone to implement them!) These are not unpleasant duties for an outgoing person. In fact **Patricia Brewer**, who was our very successful PC for several years, described the job as "throwing a party for friends every month or so, at NEGASS's expense." Is there no extrovert out there who'd like to help NEGASS hold frequent parties?

Of course, competition for the other positions is still acceptable - anyone want to give Janice, Jen, Peter or Linda a run for his or her money? -- *mlc*

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SLOC BOARD ELECTIONS AND PIRATES PLANS In January, **Savoyard Light Opera Co.** elected a new board consisting of **Zoe Daniel** (President), **Larry Millner** (Vice President), **Ruth Owen** (Secretary), **Scott Henderson** (Treasurer), **Philip Drew** (Archivist), **Brian Harris**, **Frank Minosh**, and **Susan Schmidt**. SLOC has a Production Stage Manager, **Tina Zolla**, for their fall **PIRATES**, and is looking for people to join **Laura Gouillart** on their production team. Anyone with some producing experience, and available time and interest is urged to contact the Board via e-mail (sloc@tiac.net) or by calling 978-371-SLOC.

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୧ ୨ **REISSUE OF LP ON CD SavoyNet** provides information on all sorts of G&S topics. **Janice Dallas** gleaned this note: I'm pleased to announce the availability of my second venture into the realm of early electric recordings on 78s. The 1931 D'Oyly Carte recording of **RUDDIGORE** is offered on a single CD at \$19.00US postpaid to anywhere.

...This is unquestionably my best transfer to date, and very possibly the best transfer of this particular work available anywhere... This exceptional result has far less to do with technical skill or magical filters (philtres?) as with a splendid set of records loaned to me by [NEGASSer] **Frank Behrens** of Keene, NH. Frank was kind (and trusting) enough to ship his records some 3000 miles to enable this project to be completed.

Further information may be had by email [78s2CD@Home.com], or from my web site [http://members.home.net/78s2cd/].

—**JAMES LOCKWOOD**

୧ ୨ **MARTYN GREEN-ERA RECORDINGS RE-RELEASED** And another **SavoyNet** gleaned by **Janice Dallas**: **Chris Webster** of **Sounds on CD** is

We attended a **qwerty** in Connecticut last weekend, at the home of NEGASSers **Bobbie Herman** and **Paul Cohen**, at which We were privileged to take part in sing-throughs of 8 G&S operas in the company of over 50 SavoyNet members from 11 states and three countries – the US, Canada and Great Britain. Local NEGASS members **Ron** and **Janice Dallas**, **Mary Finn**, **Shel** and **Alice Hochman**, **Irv Hodgkin**, **Dave** and **Ruth Jedlinsky**, **Lee Patterson** and **Don Smith**, to name only a few, were in attendance, covering the Massachusetts area in reflected glory, but We were also delighted to see and hear Connecticut performers for whom we've seen reviews over the past couple of years – and to learn that those reviews were not mere puffs! We will not name names, for fear of insulting folks we've left out – but when we next hear that a performance in Connecticut is of “professional quality” – Well, We did doubt, but We will doubt no longer! And We're not even mentioning the plethora of talent from other areas!

It was a delightful weekend, among delightful and talented people – We hope We will be able to take part in future **qwertys!** -- *mlc*

NEWS FLASH!!! A web site has just been created, containing pictures and descriptions of the weekend! Visit http://www.btinternet.com/~richards.gands/qwerty_conn2000/ if you're curious. – *mlc*

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We'd like to remind folks: To subscribe to **SavoyNet**, the G&S mailing list, send the message “Subscribe SavoyNet (your full name)” to the address listserv@bridgewater.edu - and you'll be sent all the information you need.

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~ INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL NEWS ~

Seventh International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival

Buxton, England. July 29 - August 20, 2000.

For more information about the Festival visit the **Buxton Festival Site** at:

<http://www.gs-festivals.freemove.co.uk/buxton99/>

(Site authored by **SavoyNetters Bob** and **Jackie Richards** – whom We met at the recent **qwerty** and found quite delightful!)

*The SavoyNet production planned for the next International G&S Festival in Buxton, England, will be **YEOMEN**, and will take place on*

Monday, August 7, 2000. Join SavoyNet to ask for more details! – or visit <http://www.btinternet.com/~richards.gands/yeomen2000/>

☞☞ **TOPSY-TURVY VIDEO:** Dame Rumour whispers that the expected US video release date for **Topsy-Turvy** is June 13.

☞☞ **DID ANYONE CATCH PATIENCE** at **Boston College** last weekend? Or **PIRATES** as performed by the **Gordon College** Dept. of Music in Wenham? Why didn't they tell Us?! Please tell everyone you know that people who perform G&S can get free publicity for both auditions and performances, and possibly even a review, if they let Us know in time for inclusion in this newsletter!

-- *mlc*

☞☞ **DID ANYONE CATCH** the **ActorSingers** of Nashua, NH in their production of **PIRATES**, which is going on as We prepare this **Bray?** We met the Pirate King, **Laurie Weisbrot**, at the **qwerty** last weekend, and found him to be not only a charming person, but also an excellent singing actor – his King ought to be splendid! -- *mlc*

 **CALENDAR** 

☞☞ **The G&S Society of Hancock County, ME**, plans an Annual Meeting on **May 7** – call **Dottie Schaller** at (207) 422-3006 for directions and info.

And – too much happiness! – they'll hold a **Pick-up Light Opera** (analogous to our **Last Minute Light Opera**) **MIKADO** on **6/18**, followed by a pot-luck dinner and G&S sing-along. Call **Nick Burnett** at (207) 244-0421 or **Lee Patterson** at (207) 244-4044 to request a role, or for more information.

And – they'll hold a reprise of their winter show, **SORCERER**, on 7/13-16 – for tix & info call the **Grand Auditorium** of Ellsworth, ME box office at (207) 667-9500.

And -- **PIRATES** will be their 2/01 show, for which **Dede Johnson** and **Fred Goldrich** will return as Artistic and Music directors. Visit their new web site at <http://ellsworthme.org/gsshc/> for more info!

☞☞ **Auditions** for the **Valley Light Opera** of Amherst, MA's production of **IOLANTHE** will be held 5/13-14 at the First Congregational Church in Amherst. Performances are set for **November, 2000**. For more info, contact producer **Cami Elbow** at (413) 549-0024, e-mail her at celbow@external.umass.edu, or visit their web site at <http://www.vlo.org/>

☞☞ **NYGASS** will hold its next meeting on Fri. **May 19**. Their final meeting of the season will take place Sat. 6/24. Since their old home, CAMI Hall, is being renovated, they've had to move around a bit - as of April, they have relocated (again!) to the Friends Meeting House near Union Square in Manhattan. The address is on Rutherford Place (it's between 2nd & 3rd Avenue, near 15th St.) Doors open at 7:30; the meeting starts at 8:00, and the Inner Brotherhood go out for coffee afterwards.

☞☞ **Savoyard Light Opera Co. (SLOC)** will hold lead and ensemble auditions for their fall production, **PIRATES**, on **May 15 and 16**, with call-backs planned for **May 18**, at the Carlisle Congregational Church, 147 School Street, Carlisle, MA. **Please Note: Lead** auditions are by appointment only, and a solo in English, ideally from **PIRATES**, is required. **Ensemble** auditions will be held on the 15th and 16th promptly at 7:00 PM - it is requested that you arrive a few minutes early to sign up. No solo is required for ensemble auditioners; singers will audition in small groups, and both music and accompaniment will be provided.

Tentative production dates are **November 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, and 19, 2000**. This production will feature **Donna DeWitt** (immortalized in her previous incarnation as soprano **Donna Parry**) in her debut as Stage Director: Music Director will be the familiar and well-respected **Philip Lauriat**. For more info visit <http://www.tiac.net/users/sloc/>. Or call (978) 371 SLOC, or send e-mail to emiller54@msn.com to make your leads audition appointment.

☞☞ **The Ridgewood, NJ G&S Soc** travels around a lot, it seems - their upcoming **YEOMEN** will be presented 5/7, 13, 21, and 6/10-11-13 at various times and places in NJ and CT. Visit their web site at www.dancaster.com/RidgewoodGandS, or send e-mail to webmaster@dancaster.com for more info. (Unfortunately, there does not seem to be a phone number, or even a mailing address, connected with this organization.)

☞☞ **The Washington Savoyards, Ltd.** have sent out a very intriguing ad for their production of **UTOPIA**, which is planned for **May 4-7, 2000**, at the Duke Ellington Theatre in Georgetown. The text reads, in part: **Washington, D.C. or Utopia Limited? The Island of Utopia or Inside the Beltway?** What happens when --

- * Malcontent bureaucrats fight change?
- * Children are sent across the sea to become civilized and then come home?

- * A scandalous newspaper (not unlike the **National Enquirer**) reveals plot on the Hill, rather, in the palace?
- * The ruler is pursuing a woman who works in his office?

For more info on the production, call 202-965-7678 or visit their website, at www.savoyards.org

☞☞ **Troupers Light Opera Company** will perform **GONDOLIERS** **May 13, 19 and 20 at 8:00PM and May 14 at 2:30 PM** in New Canaan High School, New Canaan, CT.



Order tickets by phone: (203) 975-9283. For further info call **Bobbie Herman** at (203) 255-1577.

☞☞ If you're planning to be in Illinois in June, call (847) 869-6300 for tickets to **Light Opera Works'** production of **GONDOLIERS, June 3-11**.

☞☞ **D'OYLY CARTE in Connecticut.** The box office opens May 9 for tickets to see **D'Oyly Carte's** only planned American production for this year: **PINAFORE** at the Shubert Theater in New Haven, Connecticut, presented by the **International Festival of Arts and Ideas**. Prices are \$25, \$38 and \$48. Performances will be held at **8 PM on 6/16 and 17, at 2PM on 6/ 17 and 18, and at 7 PM on 6/18** For more info, phone 888-ART-IDEA.

☞☞ **Exsultet!**, a chamber chorus in residence at **Holy Trinity United Methodist Church**, 16 Sylvan Street in Danvers [MA], is planning a summer sing of **MIKADO** on Wednesday, **6/28**, at 7:30 PM. They'll sing through the complete work, accompanied by piano, including the dialogue. For more info, contact **Richard A. A. Larraga** at (781) 329-1741 or R2AL@exsultet.org, or visit www.exsultet.org. Requests for lead roles will be accepted until June 1, although NEGASSer **Tony Parkes** tells Us he has already won the role of KoKo.

☞☞ [**Janice Dallas** gleaned this news from **SavoyNet**] **Bruce I. Miller** and **Helga J. Perry** will be reading a paper at the **11th International Conference on Nineteenth-Century Music** at Royal Holloway, University of London on Thursday, **29 June 2000**, during the evening session entitled "The Victorian Era."

The title is: "The Reward of Merit? An Examination of the Suppressed *De Belville* Song in Gilbert and Sullivan's **IOLANTHE**"

The official abstract will be posted here [*i.e.*, on **SavoyNet** - We'll try to get a copy for the Bray! - mlc]

when it is released by the conference organizers. We can say for now that there will be significant new information disclosed in this paper.

For further details of the conference as announced on 1/20/00, concerning local arrangements (booking, etc. at reasonable rates), contact **Dr. Katharine Ellis** at k.ellis@rhbc.ac.uk. -- **BRUCE MILLER**

☞☞ A new and as yet **un-named G&S company**, located in **Brooklyn Heights, NYC**, is planning **IOLANTHE** June 23-25. The audition notice (sent to **SavoyNet** in March by **Nick Titakis** and gleaned for Us by **Janice Dallas**), states: "Our cast thus far is outstanding, featuring young singers of enormous potential with notable opera credits, seasoned Savoyards, and some G&S first-timers. The production will be directed by one of the few Americans who has performed the entire G&S repertoire with professional theater companies, including those of the late Dorothy Raedler and Martyn Green." **(We hear they are planning to use Raedler's blocking, which was based on Gilbert's prompt books, and are still looking for one each of chorus mezzo, tenor and bass.)** For more information, e-mail kathnick@erols.com or call (212) 553-4035 daytime, or (718) 434-0994 evening.

☞☞ **The Sudbury Savoyards** plan Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman's **You Can't Take It With You** [yes, *We know it isn't...*], directed **Michael J. J. Cashman**. Performances will be **7/7-8, 14-15 and 21-22 at 8pm, and 7/16 at 2:30pm**. For more info call 978-443-8811, or visit their website at www.sudburysavoyards.org.

☞☞ **The College Light Opera Co. (CLOC)** 32nd season will include two G&S works: **PIRATES June 27-July 1** and **UTOPIA July 25-29**. Performances Tuesday-Saturday at 8:30 PM and Thursday at 2:30 PM at the newly-renovated Highfield Theatre in Falmouth, MA. Inquiries prior to June 1 can go to **Ursula R. Haslun**, 162 S. Cedar St., Oberlin, OH 44074.

☞☞ We're looking forward to **THE MILLENNIUM SINGOUT**, to be held in **Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 18-20, 2000** – to sign up, contact **Ori Siegel** <oris@interlog.com> or **Herschel Rosen** <torontosingout@home.com> or write to: **G & S T2K Singout**, 22 Royal Street, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada L1H 2T6.

☞☞ **The Light Opera Company of Salisbury, CT** will present its third production, **IOLANTHE** on 9/ 2 and 3, Labor Day Weekend, 2000. For further information, contact Sharon at dba.keene@snet.net or

860-435-4956. This year's performances will be a benefit for **Habitat for Humanity**.

THE CONNECTICUT G&S SOCIETY plans **RUDDIGORE** at the Middletown, CT High School on **11/17-19/2000**. Directors: **John Dreslin**, music and **Robert Cumming**, stage. We just missed auditions – but for performance info, call (800) 866-1606.

THE NEW ENGLAND GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY

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