

NEGASS  
New England Gilbert & Sullivan Society  
P.O. Box 367, Arlington, MA 02476-0004

Vol. XXIV No. 1  
*A lump of sugar ---*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22:  
SORCERER PICNIC MEETING**  
\*\*\*RENEWAL ISSUE\*\*\*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, AT 3 PM: EAT, DRINK AND BE GAY!** Join us on Sunday, August 22 at 3:00 PM [yes, *the date and time have changed from those announced last month!* - mlc], for a **SPONTANEOUS SORCERER PICNIC**. We've all been invited to the home of the gracious **Ilana Gerard** of 20 Marshall Street in Wrentham, MA, who has raised the torch passed on by **Mr. Alfred Shepherd** and **Mrs. Mary Howe DeWolf Shepherd**, our long-time hosts, for our annual picnic-and-sing-through.

Bring your own entree, but bring along something to share as well - anything from a rollicking bun to a gay Sally Lunn would do. As we will begin the meeting at 3:00 with a sing-through of **THE SORCERER**, we plan to eat around 5 PM, leaving people ample time to drive home before sundown.

Program Chair **Rebecca Consentino** will be casting the lead roles in **SORCERER**, so make your wish and contact her! She can be reached at 617-731-3998 or rac@bu.edu. Please indicate your vocal range, any past roles you've had and groups you've been involved in. In order to be fair, casting will be done primarily on a first-come, first-serve basis; roles that she receives many requests for may be split by act, so if you like the first act better than the second, let her know! Roles are as follows:

- Sir Marmaduke Pointdextre, an Elderly Baronet**..... Bass-baritone
- Alexis, of the Grenadier Guards—His Son**..... Tenor
- Dr. Daly, Vicar of Ploverleigh**..... Lyric Baritone
- John Wellington Wells, of J. W. Wells & Co., Family Sorcerers**..... Patter Baritone
- The Notary**..... Bass
- Lady Sangazure, a Lady of Ancient Lineage**..... Contralto
- Aline, Her Daughter—betrothed to Alexis**... Soprano
- Mrs. Partlet, a Pew-Opener**..... Mezzo-soprano

**Constance, her Daughter**..... Soprano  
If you'd like to sing with the chorus or come to watch, just show up! And be sure to bring along any extra scores you may have, in order to share with others.

We do not plan to have a spontaneous orchestra, although instrumentalists are more than welcome! We do, however, need a pianist and a conductor. Please contact Rebecca if you are interested in this -- **REBECCA CONSENTINO**

**HOW TO GET THERE:** 1a) From far west or far south, take Route 495 to Exit 15 (Wrentham, Route 1A North).

2a) Turn right and follow 1A North for approximately 4.5 miles to the traffic light at Route 115. (The Horse and Carriage restaurant will be on your left.)

3a) Turn left onto Route 115 and continue 0.8 miles to a blinking yellow light marking the intersection with Marshall Street. Turn left onto Marshall Street (It's a T intersection; that is, your only options are to go straight or turn left.) There will be several numbered houses on the right, a sign for a 'blind driveway' which will be #12, followed by a short stretch of woods. The next driveway on the right is 20 Marshall Street. It is an all-white cape cod house with a circular driveway. Welcome!

1b) From the east, take Route 128 to Interstate 95 South. Take 95 to Exit 9 Route 1, Wrentham). Exit onto Route 1 Southbound (your only choice). Turn right at the first traffic light, which is at the next intersection (Old Post Road). (You will pass the Sharon Inn and Bickford's Restaurant on your right. If you reach Dominic's Restaurant, you have gone too far.)



while Eric joined **Melissa Hirshson** in *Kind Captain, I've important information (PINAFORE)*. Finally, **Bill Mahoney** arrived to wave copies of songs from *The Hot Mikado*, which Nancy and Eric brought to life. Somehow, the list of planned fantasies was done, but longings did not end - Carl led the assembled multitude in a chorus from *PATIENCE*, singing the Duke's *Your maiden hearts, ah, do not steel*, after which Katherine, Tony, Marion and Eric led the crowd in *When the foeman bares his steel (PIRATES)*... In truth, I could say more, but, behold, I have said enough. We gathered, ate wonderful refreshments, and went home to enjoy a long, hot summer. -- **RUTH ROWBOTTOM**



And now, M'Luds, to the business of the day  
(by all means!):

**It's time to renew your membership!**

The Board's decision several years ago to create extra categories of membership is still in effect - please bear in mind that the majority of our members are still "Yeomen," but that those who wish to contribute more to NEGASS have the opportunity to do so, in the following increments:

- \$15 **Yeomen** (basic membership)
- 25 **Daughters of the Plough**
- 50 **Bucks and Blades**
- 100 **Flowers of Progress**

(On the other hand, if even the \$15 basic membership is a problem, please talk to Membership Chair **Bill Mahoney**)

Part of the deal was that We would print a yearly list of Members Extraordinary - those who chose a category higher than Yeomen for the previous year. So here's the list of 1998-99 Extraordinary Memberships (*Bow, bow, ye Lower Middle Classes*):

*Daughters of the Plough*

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Frank Behrens            | Earnest V. Loewenstein     |
| Lisa Berglund            | Bob Manninen               |
| Nancy & Philip Burstein  | David Marshall             |
| Maureen Carey            | Wallace Mason              |
| Judith Chasin            | Neil McCormick             |
| Allen & Janet Cohen      | Daniel & Rena Miller       |
| CLOC                     | Lee Patterson              |
| (Robert & Ursula Haslun) |                            |
| R. E. Coleson            | Lonnie Powell              |
| Charles Coolong          | Ruth Roper                 |
| Philip Drew              | Mr. & Mrs. Robert Russell  |
| Barry Garden             | Larry Seiler               |
| Stephen Grover           | Marcy & Marc Shepherd      |
| Dale Hall                | Rose Marie Short           |
| Carl F. Hampe            | Barry Singer               |
| Brian Harris             | David Stieber              |
| Melissa Hirshson         | Jonathan Strong            |
| Sheldon & Alice Hochman  | Victor Troll & Nell Wright |
| Fred Hughes              | Tom Weber                  |

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Charlee Hutton       | Carl Weggel               |
| Alessandra Kingsford | Dr. & Mrs. Charles Wilder |
| Theodore Koban       | Phyllis Wilner            |
| Jim Krainin          | Edward Wiseman            |
| Kathy Lague          | Jane Young                |
| Susan Lindquist      | Stephen Zykofsky          |

*Bucks and Blades*

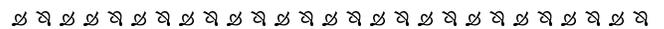
- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Dean S. Edmonds, Jr. | Miles Cary Leahey            |
| Richard Freedman     | Larry Littlefield            |
| Nathan Handspicker   | Stephen Malionek             |
| John N. Howard       | Jim Parmentier & Beth Fowler |
| Arthur & Jean Koykka | J. Donald Smith              |
| Wayne Ward           |                              |

*Flowers of Progress*

- |                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Robert L. Bishop         | Bill, Nancy & Carol Burdine |
| Walt Howe & Hope Tillman |                             |

(How shall I express the all-absorbing gratitude - )

Whatever category suits you - please send the enclosed Renewal Form to **NEGASS, PO Box 367, Arlington, MA 02476-0004 c/o Membership Chair Bill Mahoney**, with what dispatch ye may! --- *mlc*



**BUT, DAMME, YOU DON'T GO!** Thank you all for your enthusiastic response to our recent meeting-attendance survey. We received a large number of responses - with interesting results. The people who claimed to be *most* interested in attending meetings are less likely to have attended a meeting in the recent past than those who claim to be only *somewhat* interested in attending. The people who have attended the fewest meetings recently were the ones who urged that we hold the most meetings per year. Some people wish meetings were held on mid-week evenings, while others find even Sunday afternoons too late during the winter for a safe drive home. As The Board expected, many people are members only in order to receive this rag, and never plan to attend meetings at all. However, we will continue to plan meetings, to which all will continue to be invited!

**Spontaneous orchestra.** One fascinating meeting idea has arisen, at the request of French Horn player **Victor Godin**: G&S is not only for singers, and the original orchestration was not piano solo! If enough instrumentalists are available and interested, and if a conductor can be found to hold the show together—and if orchestra parts can be borrowed for the nonce - NEGASS's next **Last Minute Light Opera** will include a **Last Minute Orchestra** as well. (Instrumentalists are welcome to join the singers for the picnic meeting **SORCERER**, of course, but nothing formal





*told that Greene's characterization was that of a man with heart disease, who became obviously more ill as the show progressed, and actually died of his ailment as the curtain fell! - - can anyone who actually saw him help Us out? - mlc]*


 CALENDAR

**Silent AUDITIONS:** As noted on page 1 of this rag - our picnic meeting on Aug 22 involves a sing-through of *SORCERER*. Get in touch with **Rebecca Consentino** - see Our Masthead for info - if you want to take part!

**Longwood Opera** plans a **G&S Night** on Tuesday, 8/10 at 7:30 PM at Christ Episcopal Church, 1132 Highland Ave., Needham, MA. (*We're in it, singing that duet from GRAND DUKE again!*) Tix are \$4 and \$6. Call (781) 455-0960 for more info.

*Yes, We know it's not...* MITG&SP is planning a world premier production of *Crichton*, a musical adaptation of J. M. Barrie's *The Admirable Crichton*. [**Lucius Junius Brutus**, who caught a dress rehearsal, tells Us "They have a salable commodity."] Performances will be in La Sala de Puerto Rico, on the second floor of the MIT Student Center, 8/6, 7, 13 & 14 at 8:00 PM; 8/7, 8 & 15 at 2 PM. For more info, contact MITG&SP via e-mail at savoyards-request@mit.edu, call (617) 253-0190, or visit <http://www.mit.edu/activities/gsp/home.html>.

**Savoyard Light Opera Co.** plans auditions for Gershwin's *Of Thee I Sing* [*Yes, We know it isn't...*] 8/31 and 9/1 & 7, 7:30-9:30 PM for November performances. For lead roles, call (978) 371-SLOC and leave your name, number and preferred date & time to schedule an audition, and then prepare two pieces in English. For chorus auditions, plan to arrive at the Carlisle, MA, Congregational Church (147 School St.) at 7 PM on one of those dates - no appointment or prepared music is needed.

**College Light Opera Co. (CLOC)**, which performs at the **Highland Theatre**, Off Depot Ave. in Falmouth, MA, plans *PINAFORE* August 17-21. Box office phone: (508) 548-0668. Or mail ticket orders to CLOC, P.O. Drawer 906, Falmouth, MA 02541. All tickets are \$20.

**NYGASS** (the New York society) will hold its next meeting on Saturday, 9/25, featuring a performance of *PINAFORE* [*We get to sing Josephine!*] which will include the newly-discovered song *Reflect, my child*. [*If you can't make it down to NYC for the performance, come to our NEGASS meeting on 9/26, where Bruce Miller, baritone Richard Knowlton, pianist Eric Schwartz, and representatives from Broude Brothers will provide a full introduction to the song.*] All NYGASS meetings are at **CAMI Hall**, 165 W. 57th St., NYC. Doors open at 7:30; the meeting starts at 8:00, and the Inner Brotherhood go out for coffee afterwards.

**Valley Light Opera** of Amherst, MA plans its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary production, *PIRATES*, for 9/5, 6, 7, 12 and 13 at the Amherst Regional High School auditorium. Call producers **Cami Elbow** (413-549-0024) or **Al Hudson** (413-256-6950) for more info - or visit VLO's web site, [www.vlo.org](http://www.vlo.org), provided by **BerkshireNet**.

**The Connecticut G&S Society** plans *PINAFORE*, 11/12 & 13 at 8 PM, 11/14 at 2:00 PM at the Middletown (CT) High School auditorium. Call 1-800-866-1606 in CT, or 1-860-873-2832 elsewhere, for more info.

If you're in Perth, Western Australia in late September, catch the

**G&S Soc. of WA's** production of *THE GRAND DUKE* - the first production ever in Perth!

The **Toronto-Ra** (newsletter of guess which Canadian city?) announces that the **Toronto G&S Society** will present *MIKADO* from 11/25 -12/4, returning to the stage after a several-year hiatus. For audition or other info, contact Producer **Ron Maskell** at (416) 512-1718.

**The G&S Society of Hancock County** (Maine) plans *SORCERER* for next season, with a new music director, **Fredric Goldrich**, joining the talented crew.

The **Actorsingers** of Nashua (NH) plan to present *PIRATES* next year.

We're looking forward to **THE MILLENNIUM SINGOUT**, to be held in **Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 18-20, 2000** - for details, contact **Ori Siegel** <oris@interlog.com>.

## THE NEW ENGLAND GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY

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*NEGASS membership dues are \$15 and up. Please send membership inquiries to Bill Mahoney C/O the above address.*

The **NEGASS Web Page** is located at  
<http://diamond.idbsu.edu/GaS/societies/negass.html>  
The Trumpet Bray can be read on line at  
[http://diamond.idbsu.edu/GaS/societies/Trumpet\\_Bray.html](http://diamond.idbsu.edu/GaS/societies/Trumpet_Bray.html)