

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


Vol. XXIV No. 4
Young and old and shy and bold

**SUNDAY, December 5:
 G&S Christmas Carol**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WATERTOWN, MA: GAYDEN WREN'S A G&S CHRISTMAS CAROL. Our December 5 meeting will feature another sing-through of this version of Charles Dickens' classic Christmas story, set to Sullivan's music. NEGASS sang through this last year - and a few years ago as well - with such success that it was decided to repeat the experience. However, since the text and its setting are unfamiliar to many, it was decided this year that, for the first time, the show would be **rehearsed**. Call **Us (mlc)** at (781) 646-9115 or e-mail mlcarroll@mailandnews.com if you want a role - so that We can send you your music and start planning a rehearsal or two.

Please note: As of this issue of the *Bray*, two roles have been cast: The Balladeer (**Peter Cameron**), and The Ghost of Christmas Past (**Katherine Bryant**).

Dramatis Personae

Role	Music:
Balladeer	Titwillow
Narrator	Speaking role
Ebenezer Scrooge	1. Pooh-Bah line in <i>Big Black Block</i> trio
	2. KoKo line in <i>The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring</i>
	3. <i>I am a Pirate King</i>
Scrooge (continued)	4. Robin in ghost recit.
	5. <i>I know a Youth</i> (Robin's line)

HOW TO GET THERE: First Parish Church is located near Watertown Square, the intersection of Mt. Auburn, Galen, Arsenal and Main St. (Rt. 20) in Watertown. From the Square take Main St. one block west to Church St. (at the traffic light), then travel north one block on Church. You'll find the church on a hill overlooking a parking lot. **Public transportation** is also available: Take the #71 bus from Harvard Square to Watertown Square. The church is within easy walking distance.



Bob Cratchit

- 6. *I stole the prince*
- 7. *My eyes are fully open*

**Tiny Tim Cratchit
 Fred Scrooge**

- 1. Pish-Tush line in *BBB* trio
- 2. *My eyes are fully open*
- KoKo line in *BBB* trio
- I am the Captain of the Pinafore*

**Mr. Kindheart and
 Mr. Goodman**



Old Fezziwig

- 1. Nanki-Poo's line in *The flowers that bloom in the spring*
- 2. (K) *My eyes are fully open*
- 3. (G) *He is an Englishman*
- Eat, drink & be gay*
- For the merriest*

- fellows are we*
- Jacob Marley's Ghost** Pastiche of Roderick's recit and Major-General's song
- Ghost of Samuel** One Samuel line
- Ghost of Christmas Past** 1. *3 little maids*
2 *I am the Monarch of the sea*
- Ghost of Christmas Present** 3 *little maids*
I know a Youth (Rose's line)
- Ghost of Christmas Future** 3 *little maids*

Chorus of Ghosts, Chorus of Party Guests, Scrooge's Relatives, etc. These sing the chorus parts to various listed numbers, and some members also have some lines of dialog.

Last year's production featured **Amy Allen, Rebecca Consentino** and **Jenna Wilkinson** as the three ghosts, **Sarah Consentino** as Tiny Tim, **Todd Allen Long** as the balladeer, **Dick Freedman** as the ghost of Jacob Marley, and **Lee Patterson** as Scrooge. Do you want to perform the same role you did last year? - perform a new one? - or sing in this for the first time? Be in touch - *mlc*



NOVEMBER MEETING: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 at 2:00 PM: MITG&SP IOLANTHE. A fair-sized group of NEGASSers visited the **MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players** for their matinee performance of **IOLANTHE**, to cheer on their friends and to enjoy what was there to be enjoyed. And there were quite a number of things to be enjoyed: a strong cast, headed by NEGASSer **Katherine Bryant** as a first-rate Fairy Queen and including a number of old favorites and promising newcomers. **Mary Tsien** was a spicy and charming Phyllis; **Cemocan Yesil** overcame his native lack of English to portray a rich-voiced and intense Strephon; Tolloller and Mountarat (**David Daly** and **Neal Addicott**) were a well-matched set and played well opposite Celia and Leila (**Kate Cunningham** and **Erica Schultz**); **Ryan Caveney** was a strong and subtle Private Willis and **Dawn Perlner** a passionate Iolanthe... and I really wish I could see **Jonathan Weinstein** sing the Lord Chancellor's Nightmare Song once more without help

from illustrative fairies - I'm sure he would have been excellent.

Tentative Meeting Schedule, 1999-2000	
November/December, 1999	
12/5	A G&S Xmas Carol
1/23	G&S Cartoons at 3 PM in MIT Rm. 3-133
Sat. 2/26	Sudbury's RUDDIGORE opens - unofficial meeting/ group attendance
3/26	LMLO: PIRATES
4/9	Sudbury Retrospective
5/21	A G&S Masterclass, led by Eileen St. David
6/18	Election Meeting plus Fantasy performances

~ NEXT BRAY COPY DEADLINE: January 2, 2000~

Next Bray Stuffing: January 9, 2000 at 3:00 PM. Call Us at (781) 646-9115 evenings and weekends, or send email to **Our new address:** MLCarroll@MailandNews.com, for directions to Our snug and easy-to-get-to home.—*mlc*

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The fairy costumes, designed by Kate Cunningham, were unusual and, for the most part, attractive, and the peer's costumes, rented from the **Sudbury Savoyards**, where grand. The student orchestra was kept together very well by NEGASS's old friend **David Larrick**, formerly active with Sudbury. The sets... well, student groups do the best they can with student designers, and if a student designer chooses to pass a course rather than complete a set design, the company does the best it can with Christmas lights, gobos and ingenuity.

This was not the most polished production MITG&SP has ever mounted, but there were still a fair share of plums to be enjoyed, and the delight of the young folks exploring G&S was worth a few rough edges.

-- **DAME RUMOUR**

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For he's gone and married Yum-Yum: Former NEGASS President **Dick Freedman**, back from his honeymoon, is happy to announce plans for a **New Year's Day Open House**. If all goes according to plan, he and his bride **Ilana** are about to close on a house at 6 Biagiotti Way, Billerica, and move in in the first half of December. They invite one and all to enjoy New Year's Day with them, from 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon on. There will be music in the living room (two pianos), food and drink in the dining room, football in the basement, and fine conversation all around.

Biagiotti Way does not appear on all maps; some of them might list it as Dutile School Road. Take Route 3 to Billerica, and get off at Treble Cove Road, heading east. (That's a left turn at the end of the exit ramp, if you were heading north on Route 3.) The

based on the **Kalmus** parts, and I would like to find a production to "beta-test" it under performance conditions. For more information, email me directly, or check my website. -- **DAVID LARRICK**

dcl@ties.org
http://www.ultranet.com/~larrick/

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ROSE OF PERSIA WEB OPERA MIDI FILES:
Janice Dallas gleaned this message from **SavoyNet**: This is just to let everyone know that I have finally completed MIDI files of the piano-vocal score of **The Rose of Persia**. **Jim Farron** has posted them on the **G&S Archive** site... as a web opera, so you can follow along with the complete libretto while listening to the music. It ain't the **BBC** recording, but I hope some of you will drop by.

The address is:
<http://diamond.idbsu.edu/gas/rose/webopera/operhome.html>

As I am assuming that some of you out there do actually enjoy these things, I am continuing on with a new project - the complete piano-vocal score of **The Mountebanks**... For those of you who think that the only reason to pay attention to **The Mountebanks** is Gilbert's libretto, you are in for a surprise - Cellier's score is very enjoyable indeed, and (considering how long he spent in Sullivan's shadow) very different (at least to my ear) from Sullivan in style.

I suspect Cellier was very concerned about following Sullivan as Gilbert's first new composer in years, and may have known he had not long to live. The combination may well have inspired him; the score is certainly finer than that for **After All**, which you can also listen to in MIDI format at the archive. Of course I have never heard a note of **Dorothy** so I can't compare that to **Mountebanks**.

-- **RONALD I. ORENSTEIN**

[We visited the site, and played a piece with which We're familiar: 'Neath my lattice, the infamous soprano aria which, in its original version, contained a high note that was so demanding that the originator of the part reportedly withdrew from the production in exhaustion, after which the song was transposed down! We can't say the musical impression given by the electronic-keyboard-without-voice rendition was exactly performance quality - but at least it gives an idea of the pitches, rhythms and harmonies - and the accompanying libretto and illustrations are very useful.]

-- **mlc**

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NEWPORT CLASSIC of Newport, RI announces a forthcoming release in 2/2000 of the "**First complete performance on CD of [IDA]**, including all the spoken dialogue; recorded this past summer at the

Ohio State Opera summer festival production." Is this really the first *complete* CD? Does anyone know the quality of this performing group? A note included states "Review copies are available" - anyone want to call **Allegro Corporation** (their distributor) at 1-800-288-2007, get a copy, and write Us a review?!

-- **mlc**

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UNCHARACTERISTIC GROVELS: Last month We published a review of the **Mike Leigh** film **Topsy-Turvy**, with the fame of whose exploits all the G&S world is a-ringing - and printed the reviewer's name as "**Frances Yasprika**." We beg to offer an unqualified apology! We have known Frances for a mere five-and-twenty years, or thereabouts, and We have never misspelled her first name - a fact of which we are justly proud - but we have often frequently misspelled her last name. Frances, who is an active member of **SavoyNet** and also currently the corresponding secretary of the **NYG&S Society**, where she has held many other official and unofficial offices over the years, is the last scion of a branch of her family which spells its name "**Yasprika**." Herewith accept an abject grovel!
-- **mlc**



Wish I'd been in time for the performance... We are mortified to realize that We failed to publish notice in last month's **Bray** of the **world premiere of a staged performance of Bruce Miller and Helga Perry's discovery, Reflect, my child**, the lost song for Captain Corcoran and Josephine from Act I of **PINAFORE**. [and, of course, *We're frustrated in Our dream of singing the staged premiere Ourselves!*]. The duet was used in the **Connecticut G&S Society's** production, Nov 12-14 in Middletown, CT, and the duet was sung by **Jerry Palmer** and **Kathleen Thompson**. Staging was by **Bob Cumming**; music direction was by **John Dreslin**. Did anyone see it? **Tell Us, Tell Us all about it!**

-- **mlc**

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SORCERER INCANTATION SCENE FLIES AGAIN! The 11/19 issue of **The Boston Globe** contains a note about the **Boston Academy of Music** double-bill of **TRIAL** and **SORCERER** which will be mounted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of Thanksgiving-Day weekend. Seems that **Richard Conrad**, BAM's guiding spirit, decided to use the Incantation Scene from Act II of **SORCERER**, and asked **Kyle Hoepner** to compose music for the libretto, since Sullivan's original music is lost.

According to the Globe, "Hoepner used a church anthem by Sullivan, "O Love the Lord," as a starting point, constructing and deconstructing it, and composing his own Sullivanesque recitative and music in order to create a convincing dramatic continuity. Conrad believes this will be the first performance ever of this scene." [Actually, it won't be the first: **David Larrick** of the **Sudbury Savoyards** composed music for that piece, at Our request, in 1991, and it was performed at Sudbury in March of 1992. But what was worth doing once is, We're sure, worth doing again - and Maestro Hoepner's method is certainly ingenious! - *mlc*]



The Actorsingers of Nashua, NH seek a director, music director and choreographer for their Spring production, **PIRATES**. Auditions: February 6th and 7th, with call-backs on February 9th. Performances: May 5, 6 and 7, 2000 at the Edmund Keefe Auditorium in Nashua. Please contact the Actorsingers by November 30th to allow time for scheduling interviews. [NB: This is special dispensation for NEGASSers - the original deadline was to be Nov 20, which would have been too early for Bray readers!]

The Actorsingers are an amateur community theater group specializing in musicals. They stage two major productions, one each, in the spring and fall of each year, and children's productions or other smaller shows at other times. The group began 45 years ago with **MIKADO**, and concentrated on G&S until the early 60's, when they switched to Broadway musicals - so NEGASSers ought to encourage this return to the Savoyard fold.

Mail an application to Actorsingers, Att: Corresponding Secretary, PO Box 91, Nashua, NH 03061-0091, fax it to 603-484-3083 or e-mail it as an attachment (MS Word or Works only, please) to whalerdan@earthlink.net. For more info, visit <http://www.actorsingers.org/> Or call 603-882-0029.

MITG&SP is interviewing *now* (11/14-12/3) for directors, producers, etc. for their spring show, **IDA**. Call MITG&SP at (617) 253-0190, contact them via e-mail at savoyards-request@mit.edu, or visit <http://www.mit.edu/activities/gsp/home.html> for more info.

BAM will present a **TRIAL/SORCERER** double-bill over the Thanksgiving Day weekend at the Emerson Majestic Theater in Boston - see article above!

The Harvard-Radcliffe G&S Society plans

PINAFORE, produced by **Aziza Johnson** and **Anne Thompson**, directed by **Marisa Echeverria**, with music direction by **John Driscoll**. Performance dates will be Dec. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11 at 8 PM; and Dec. 4, 5 and 11 at 2 PM. Opening night is, as traditional, Black Tie; closing night is Hack Night, and the 2 PM performance on 12/4 will be a Children's Matinee, featuring milk and cookies after the show. For more info, contact **Lane Shadgett** at shadgett@fas.harvard.edu, or phone 617-496-4747 - or visit the HRG&SS Web page: <http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~hrgps/>

NYGASS will hold its next meeting on Friday, 12/17. All NYGASS meetings are at **CAMI Hall**, 165 W. 57th St., NYC (although We hear that the hall is about to be renovated, which will mean that NYGASS will need to find a temporary new home). Doors open at 7:30; the meeting starts at 8:00, and the Inner Brotherhood go out for coffee afterwards.

Gayden Wren's work in NY: Sunday 12/12/99, 3:00 p.m. Shelter Rock Public Library, 165 Seeringtown Rd, Albertson, LI, NY. A quintet from **Light Opera Gilbert & Sullivan Co.** of Long Island, accompanied by the excellent **Andi Stryker-Rodda** [whom We met at the NYG&SS **PINAFORE** in Sept, which she accompanied beautifully!- *mlc*] will present **Very Truly Yours, Gilbert & Sullivan**, a chronicle of G&S's collaboration scripted from their correspondence and contemporary newspapers by **Gayden Wren**. Free admission, no reservations. For directions contact **Shelter Rock Library**, 516-248-7363

LAST NIGHT is what **Lexington, MA** is calling **New Year's Eve, 1999**, and they're celebrating, in part, with two one-hour-version performances of **MIKADO** put on by **Juliet Cunningham** and her **Janus Opera**, with accompaniment by **Bill** and **Carol Burdine** and their **Concord Musicians**, using a reduced orchestration by **Eric Schwartz**. Performances will be at 7:30 and 9:30 at Hancock Church, the stone church on the Green on Massachusetts Ave. in Lexington Center. Get a **Last Night Lexington button** ahead of time for \$10 (children under 6 admitted free) in Lexington at Wales Copy Shop, The Crafty Yankee, or Carlson Realty - or wait until that evening and go to the Lexington Town Hall, Visitor's Center or High School (all easy to find in the center of town), which should have buttons available until 9:00 that evening. (The



buttons will, of course, admit you to other activities as well.)

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 further info, contact Producer **Ron Maskell** at (416) 512-1718.

UTOPIA IN MICHIGAN: UMGASS's production this fall will be **UTOPIA**. Performances will be December 2nd - 5th, 1999 at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. **Ezra Peisach** tells Us: If you have never seen their web site (<http://www.umich.edu/~umgass>) - it is worth looking at the stained glass window of each show they have done.

The **G&S Society of Hancock County** (Maine) plans **SORCERER** for the first 2 weekends in February with stage direction by the excellent **Dede Johnson**, and a new music director, **Fredric Goldrich**, joining the talented crew.

THE SUDBURY (MA) SAVOYARDS have already cast their winter **RUDDIGORE**: If We heard a right, **Zoe Daniels** is Rose, **Todd Allen Long** is Richard, **Amy Allen** is Margaret, **Peter Stark** is Despard, **Tony Parks** is Old Adam, and **Laura Gouillart** is Hannah - what a wonderful cast! **Kathy Lague** is Stage Director and **Steve Malioneck** is Music Director. Although you are too late to audition for a lead role, you are still very welcome to join the chorus, for which no auditions are needed. Performances will be February 25-27 and March 2-4, 2000 For more info call 978-443-8811, or check out their web site at <http://www.sudburysavoyards.org>.



Fiddlehead Theatre of Norwood, MA, having enjoyed their summer G&S concert led by **Todd Allen Long**, is seeking a stage director for their spring show, **PIRATES**. Auditions will be the first week of February; performances will be 4/7-9 and 14-16. If you'd like to direct or audition, call **Meg Fofonoff** at (781) 762-4060, or e-mail Todd (toddlong@erols.com).

Troupers Light Opera Company will perform **GONDOLIERS** May 13, 14, 19 and 20, 2000 in New Canaan High School, New Canaan, CT. For further info call **Jane Bernd** at 203-254-8140.

*Does anyone know when the **Simsbury (CT) G&S Society** will be performing their spring **MIKADO**?*

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> or **Herschel Rosen** <torontosingout@home.com> or write to: **G & S T2K Singout**, 22 Royal Street, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada L1H 2T6.

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

Visit the **New NEGASS Web Site** at
<http://www.negass.org>

The Trumpet Bray can be read on line at
http://www.negass.org/bray/html/Trumpet_Bray.html