



UPCOMING MEETINGS

NEGASS AND LONGWOOD OPERA SING IDA

NEGASS and LONGWOOD OPERA will collaborate on our third annual summer sing-through and potluck supper on Sunday, August 26, beginning at 2:00 at the Christ Episcopal Church in Needham, MA. We will perform the complete show of PRINCESS IDA, including the dialogue.

Roles for Princess Ida are still available. Reserve yours by emailing the Program Chair, April Grant, at aprilcath@yahoo.com or calling her at (413) 584-7725. Members of either Longwood Opera or NEGASS get first consideration. As the Bray went to press, here were the cast roles and the list of available roles.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Princess Ida...REBECCA HAINS | Hilarion...[available] |
| Blanche...ANGELIKE THEOHARRIS | Florian...[available] |
| Psyche...JULIET CUNNINGHAM | Arac...TYLER HAINS |
| Melissa...LESLIE S. KITTEL | Scynthus...[available] |
| Hildebrand...[available] | Ada...APRIL GRANT |
| Cyril...BRAD AMIDON | |
| Gama...TONY PARKES | |
| Guron...[available] | |
| Sacharissa...[available] | |
| Chloe...[available] | |

As at any a potluck, this year's event does need food brought by its attendees. May we suggest food that can

be eaten elegantly, or at least neatly? Think picnic fare. Casseroles, salads, sandwich makings, mini-quiches, deviled eggs and the ham and the strawberry jam to put on interesting breads. Do you remember who brought the cucumber and watercress sandwiches last year? Please, please do so again! Bring plastic-ware implements or serving dishes - pieces that you won't mind losing, because such things happen at such events. NEGASS will be providing some back-up entrees for the potluck, just to assure that all will be fed, but we will be relying on you to bring enough for more than you alone. Bring a score, if you have one. A limited number of loaner scores will be available.

HOW TO GET THERE: Christ Episcopal Church
1132 Highland Avenue Needham, MA



From the North:
Rt. 128 (I-95):
Take Exit 19B
(Highland Avenue) towards Needham. The church is 1.1 miles from the exit, on the left hand side and opposite the Public Library. If

you reach Rosemary Street you have gone too far. There is a large parking lot that you can use across the street, next to the library. There are a few handicapped parking spots next to the church itself.

From Boston: Take the Mass Pike or Route 9 west to Rt. 128 (I-95) South, and then follow it to Exit 19B as described above.

From the West: Take the Mass Pike or Route 9 east to T. 128 (I-95) south and follow as above.

From the South: Take Rt. 128 (I-95) north to Exit 19B and follow as above.

Public Transportation

MBTA Bus #59, which runs between Watertown Square and Needham junction, stops directly in front of Christ Episcopal Church.. On Sundays, it leaves Watertown Square at 1:05 and 2:35. It leaves Newton Highlands at 12.35 and 2:05. The MBTA Green Line stops at the Newton Highlands subway stop, From there you can meet MBTA Bus #59 (see above).

It's always worth checking with a board member if you would like a ride (see masthead for contacts).

☪☪☪☪ □ ELECTION / FANTASY DAY ☪☪☪☪

On June 3rd, with the Union Jack flying smartly outside to mark the event, a stalwart seven of us gathered together for our annual Elections/Fantasy Day meeting. We watched a DVD of the first act of Sudbury Savoyards' 2007 production of IOLANTHE while waiting for everyone to arrive.

The first event of the day was the annual election. The following persons were elected unanimously:

- J Donald Smith - President
- Richard Freedman - Treasurer
- April Grant - Program Chair
- Art Dunlap - Member-at-Large
- Carol Mahoney - Member-at-Large
- Rebecca Hains - Member-at-Large

These people join the following Continuing Officers in their leadership roles:

- Tony Parkes - Vice-President
- Marion Leeds Carroll - Secretary
- Janice Dallas - Member-at-Large
- Stephanie Mann - Member-at-Large

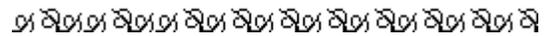
When you next see any of these people please congratulate them and thank them for taking on their

respective responsibilities. NEGASS is in good hands for another year! Warren Colson would be pleased! After a break for refreshments, brought by Carol Mahoney, we proceeded on to the Fantasy part of the meeting. Eric Schwartz was on hand to accompany us.

We started out with "Mikado" scores. [Bass] Tony Parkes chose to sing [the tenor song] "A Wand'ring Minstrel, I". [Soprano] Marion Leeds Carroll followed with [the contralto song] "Alone, and Yet Alive". Janice Dallas then sang "The Sun Whose Rays are All Ablaze". We all joined in on the madrigal "Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day". The "kissing" song - "Were You Not to KoKo Plighted"- had Art Dunlap and Janice puckering up. Eric Schwartz ended our "Mikado" medley with "Young Man Despair".

Then the group moved on to an eclectic mix of pieces, starting with Marion singing "Happy Young Heart" from "Sorcerer". Art chose two songs from "Gondoliers" - "I Stole the Prince" and "There Lived a King". Marion's "Minerva! Oh Hear Me" from "Princess Ida" was enthralling. We ended with Janice singing "Sad is That Woman's Lot". Some of us stayed around to talk of upcoming shows for a while, after which we resumed our everyday lives.

April Grant



☪☪☪☪ EDITING THE TRUMPET BRAY ☪☪☪☪

April Grant has proven herself to be a person of several capacities and she has served them all well. For the past two years she has served NEGASS both the Editor of the Bray and as the Program Chair. Earlier this spring, however, she announced to the membership that she wished to be relieved of one of those capacities . . . that being the editorship of this storied newsletter. The Trumpet Bray has marched forth from the offices of NEGASS now for over 30 years . . . initially under the editorship of its founder, Warren Colson. Next, it was by the able Marion Leeds Carroll, and later by the late Skyler Wrench. Finally, for the past two years, April had supervised its assembly. But time marches on and so does the Bray. I asked if I could become the Editor and was warmly welcomed to the post.

Beth Fowler and I have been members of NEGASS for over fifteen years. The Bray is one of our few regular pieces of mail that has been awarded its own pin and a secure corner on the kitchen corkboard. For me, its most valuable feature is its listing of upcoming G&S events.

COMPANIFICATION ISSUES

From the President's Desk

As we begin another year of NEGASS activities, you will find that we have had to make several changes in our procedures. For the first time since I joined NEGASS in 1994, we find it necessary to change the membership dues structure. While NEGASS is NOT in any financial trouble - yet - the change is brought about by two unrelenting factors: the recent increase in mailing costs (and the promise of at least biennial ones in the future) and the loss of members who are happy to read the Trumpet Bray on-line without the necessity of paying dues. We can't do anything about the Post Office but can now accommodate members who want web access to The Trumpet Bray without wanting paper copies. We have created a new membership category - Sprites of Earth and Air - for \$10 which will provide for web access without paper. After this issue of the Bray, web access to the current issue will be password-protected with the password provided with the membership card. Older issues of the Bray will become openly available as the Calendar in them becomes outdated. Information on the NEGASS meetings will be openly available, as always.

If some members have concerns about the new dues structure, there are always other opportunities for you to GET INVOLVED with NEGASS, including becoming officers. We look forward to seeing you during the year - at NEGASS Meetings and at other G&S events.

J. Donald Smith, President

Password Protection for On-Line Bray New Membership Categories

Starting with the next issue, NEGASSers who haven't renewed their memberships will be unable to view the on-line copy of the newest issue of The Trumpet Bray. (The issue will become available to all when it is replaced by the following issue.) Members who are current will receive a password with their membership card, and will have full access to all on-line Brays.

This means that, until you renew your membership, you will not be privy to the most recent on-line Calendar of Local G&S Events.

Please note our new membership categories. These were updated to reflect the postage increases of recent years:

\$10: Sprites of Earth and Air (*These members receive on-line Bray privileges only*)

\$20 - Yeomen

\$30 - Peers & Peris

\$50 - Bucks & Blades

\$100 - Flowers of Progress

Remember, there is still a *Please You, Do Not Hurt Us* category for students and others for whom even \$10/year is a struggle. Please contact Membership Chair Janice Dallas <Janice@dallas-family.com > to explore the details of this offer.

Marion Leeds Carroll, Secretary and Webmistress

RECENT PRODUCTIONS

"The Gilbert and Sullivan Radio Hour - *Cox & Box* and *Happy Arcadia*"

In March, 2007 The New England Light Opera Company presented a double bill of Sullivan's *Cox & Box* and Gilbert's *Happy Arcadia* over two weekends in various locations around the Boston, Massachusetts area. The production was presented as if it were an 'old time' live radio broadcast from the 1940s. Thus, the stage was set as a radio studio with 'microphones,' chairs for the performers to use when they were not 'on', a piano and an area for a 'sound effects' man to provide appropriate accompanying noises. The cast were in 1940s dress, sang off book, but used scripts for dialogue. Further verisimilitude was provided by 1940s-sounding recordings of the Andrews Sisters played before the performance, during intermission and afterwards. Eric Schwartz provided the superb piano accompaniment for the performances.

Jim Jordan as Radio Announcer provided the kind of commentary (along with commercials) which one might have heard during a real period broadcast. The commentary carried through most of the overture to *Cox and Box*. Since the music was provided by a piano, not orchestra, the overlap was not as objectionable as it would be in a theatrical setting. Jordan also doubled as the 'sound effects' man in providing the sounds of slamming doors, frying bacon or chop and the other assorted background which would normally be present. *Cox and Box* was presented almost complete, lacking only the Gambling Duet "Sixes" and associated dialogue, but all of the other songs were presented with

the full complement of verses. Daniel Kamelic as Cox, Gregory Zavracky as Box, and Brad Fugate as Bouncer were superb performers as well as singers and would grace any professional Gilbert and Sullivan Company.

The original music for *Happy Arcadia* by Frederic Clay having been lost, the reconstruction by Jonathan Strong incorporating Sullivan's music was used. Musical numbers from some of the more well-known works like *The Zoo*, *Cox and Box*, *The Contrabandista*, *The Beauty Stone*, *Haddon Hall*, *The Emerald Isle* and *The Rose of Persia*, were complemented with music from *King Arthur*, *Victoria and Merrie England*, *The Foresters* and *The Miller and His Man*. This was the same setting previously performed by Charles Berney's "Royal Victorian Opera Company." Kamelic (as Lycidias), Zavracky (as Strephon) and Fugate (as Colin) were joined by Teresa Blume as Chloe and Marya Danihel as Daphne. Jordan played the speaking role of Astrologos (a Bogie) as a Jimmy Durante impersonation. All of the performers managed clean enough enunciation in singing and dialogue so the story line could be followed by someone not familiar with the plot.

The problem with *Happy Arcadia* is that although it is the fifth of Gilbert's six works for German Reed's Gallery of Illustration, it is, in my opinion, the least satisfactory in terms of development than its predecessors. The plot is a satire on the genre of arcadian or pastoral plays where everything is supposed to be ideal. Here we have four inhabitants who are not happy and wish they could somehow be someone else. They acquire four magic items each of which allows the wearer one wish, which they use to wish they were someone else, Gilbert's first of the "lozenge plot," which would be brought to fulfillment in *The Mountebanks*. Here, having switched identities, the characters sing one song, indulge in a short dialogue, then switch magic items and wish themselves back to the way they were, but there is no real development of the changed identities. While the identity switch was fairly obvious to the audience, in a real radio broadcast it would have needed something more to convey what was happening.

The realization of the music provides a way for *Happy Arcadia* to have an existence on stage and I certainly didn't hear anyone complaining that the "Gilbert and Sullivan Radio Hour" ran for nearly two hours. Nonetheless *Happy Arcadia* remains a curiosity which, at least in its present form, doesn't hold up with Gilbert's other works from the same period.

J. Donald Smith

NEWS OF NEGASSERS

As this issue of the BRAY goes to press the International G&S Festival in Buxton, England is in full swing, running from July 28 through August 19. Two of our members, J. Donald Smith and Rebecca Hains, are in attendance and we hope to have some exciting reviews to offer in our October issue. Check www.gs-festival.co.uk for details.

Rebecca Hains' new CD is now available. Entitled *The Gilbert & Sullivan Soprano Arias*, you can hear a few sample tracks at her MySpace music page: www.myspace.com/rebeccahains. Rebecca's new web site for the CD is at rebecca.hains.net. Rebecca and Tyler Hains produced the album together, with the help of a professional accompanist, studio, and artist. They have received some great reviews - but we invite a NEGASS member to send us one as well! The CD is available for \$14 by sending a check to Tyler Hains and sent to 9 Beckett St, Peabody, MA 01960. Domestic first class shipping & handling is \$2.50. Priority mail S&H is \$5. Or you can use PayPal to send money to tyler1@hains.net. More info is available cdinfo1@hains.net.



SHREDS AND PATCHES

I found out through a costumer's list that New Zealand's 1995 "Mikado" is available on YouTube. I thoroughly enjoyed the way it was updated. Think of the Mikado as a rock star! See it at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQuhtvTLQf8>

Janice Dallas

☪☪☪ NEGASS SPONSORS *☪☪☪*

Here, forthwith , is the list of 2006-2007

*Extraordinary
Memberships!*

We thank the following persons most politely
for their continued support over the past year!

Daughters of the Plough

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Mary Aborn-Hyatt | Martha Birnbaum |
| Robert Breau | Nancy & Philip Burstein |
| Ms. Judith Chasin | John E. Dreslin |
| Thomas Drucker | Wm. Randolph Franklin |
| Barry E. Garden | Rebecca & Tyler Hains |
| Alan Harwood | Sheldon & Alice Hochman |
| Charlee Hutton | Dr. & Mrs. Ernest J. Kahn |
| Isabel A. Leonard | Dr. & Mrs. Daniel Miller |
| Mr. Erwin H. Miller | Tony Parkes |
| Lee Patterson | Ruth S. Roper |
| Mr. David Stieber | Jonathan Strong |
| Tom Weber | Dr. & Mrs. Charles Wilder |
| Carl Weggel | Stephen Zykofsky |

Bucks and Blades

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Mike Bromberg | Janice E. Dallas |
| Dean S. Edmonds Jr | Robert & Ursula Haslun |
| John & Irene Howard | Frederick Hughes |
| Jim Parmentier | Beth Fowler |
| Ed Simches | J. Donald Smith |
| Fred Ward | Constance Wilson |

Flowers of Progress

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Nancy Burdine | Arthur & Jean Koykka |
| Miles Cary Leahey | |

Honorary Members

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Eleanor Babikian | Harry Benford |
| Van Pelt Brower | Ruth E. Colson |
| Juliet Cunningham | Jim Ellis |
| Alexander Nicoll Gerli | Mr. & Mrs. Alan Hopfenberg |
| Walt Howe | Mr. Larry C. Littlefield |
| Richard N. Sewell | William C. Venman |
| Jeff Weisenfreund | Mr. Peter Zavon |

THANK YOU

THANK YOU THANK YOU!!!!



☪☪☪ NEW MEMBERS *☪☪☪*

☪☪ Angeliki Theoharis

Angeliki Theoharis is a professional singer and voice teacher. She is the Artistic Director of Mass Theatrica, a small Boston area repertory theatre company, which performs plays, musical theatre, opera and operetta.

Ms. Theoharis has performed several of the Gilbert and Sullivan contralto roles and welcomes the opportunity to share ideas and learn more about their works. She looks forward to meeting you all!

☪☪ Vance R. Koven

In his own words, Vance is "A singer (shaky baritone best relegated to pattering, where pitch is a secondary factor), lawyer, composer, poetaster (looking forward to the next doggerel-and-pony show), and virtuoso applauder (with either hand)." My exposure to G&S goes far back (reading Henry Morgan's satire of Mikado in Mad Magazine as a child) and was deepened by participating with all three of my children in productions of the now sadly defunct Community Music Center of Boston G&S Workshop. I'm not one to hop on a plane at a moment's notice to see Princess Ida in Peoria, but I wouldn't mind writing some G&S doggerel for highly specialized purposes that might not translate too well for general audiences."

CALL FOR REVIEWS

There were a number of traditional G&S performances around New England this summer, including *Patience*, by the College Light Opera Company, in Falmouth, MA, and *The Yeomen of the Guard*, by The Blue Hill Troupe, in Wilton, CT. In addition the First Parish Old Ship Church in Hingham, MA, presented a concert production of *HMS Pinafore* on June 10th, with professional soloists, a small orchestra, and the audience singing the choruses ... all for only \$15. We hope some kind souls who attended these or other summer performances will send in reviews for the Bray. Remember, if we don't get news and reviews, you get parodies and prose!

Speaking of parodies, there have been countless ones on the works of G&S. Charlie Register, webmaster of the Durham Savoyards recently posted one he found on a photocopy buried in an attic somewhere in North Carolina -- "If Gilbert & Sullivan wrote 'Dick Tracy'". You can see it as a link off this web page:

www.upperregister.com/savoyards/parody.html

Extra credit: Name the characters depicted here; they're all from the old Dick Tracy strip.

There are more than enough parodies on that one page to entertain us all for many hours (assuming that you like that sort of thing). We expect that our newest member, Vance Koven, will be pleased.

CALENDAR

September is a slow time for theater, especially for those companies with academic roots, so this mid-August CALENDAR section is a bit slim. We plan and promise a more expansive listing in the October issue.

☺☺ HARVARD-RADCLIFF MIKADO

The Harvard-Radcliff Gilbert and Sullivan Players fall 2007 production will be *The Mikado* in December at The Agassiz Theater. Dates are not yet published. Anyone who wants to become involved can contact Charles Miller at hrgsp@hcs.harvard.edu.

☺☺ SUDBURY to perform YEOMEN in 2008

The Sudbury Savoyards will perform *Yeomen of the Guard* in Feb-March, 2008, under the stage direction of Paula Moravek and the music direction of Tom Dawkins. Audition dates TBD, but usually are mid-to late-November. Interested performers should check the website at www.sudburysavoyards.org.



☺☺ BOSTONIANS' MIKADO

The Bostonians' *Art of Song* will present, as their traditional Saturday-after-Thanksgiving event, a fully staged production of *The Mikado* at Jordan Hall in Boston (Nov 24, 8:00 PM). Tickets are \$40, \$35 and \$30 (with an "earlybird" discount of \$5 before Sept 1. Seniors and students \$25, children 10 and under \$15. Call 617-242-4015 or go to www.thebostonians.org.

☺☺ BROWN UNIVERSITY to do YEOMEN

Brown University Gilbert and Sullivan (BUGS) will be doing *Yeoman of the Guard* in Providence this fall. Check the website <http://www.brown.edu/Students/BUGS/> for more current information ... but not until the students return in September.





THE NEW ENGLAND GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY

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NEGASS membership dues are \$15, 25, 50 and 100. Please contact **Janice Dallas**, 63 Everett St., Arlington, MA

New in the Fall of 2007:

Current issues of **The Trumpet Bray On-Line** will be available to NEGASS members only, through use of a password. An electronic-only membership of only \$10 is available to those who do not wish to receive a paper copy of this rag. (Basic NEGASS membership remains \$15).

To exercise this option, please contact Membership Chair Janice Dallas, at membership@negass.org

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

Past issues of **The Trumpet Bray** can always be read online at http://negass.org/Bray/Trumpet_Bray.html or be downloaded at <http://negass.org/bray/pdf/>. You can receive our special **Between-Bray E-Mails** by joining us and signing on to the NEGASS email list at <http://www.negass.org/Pages/EMail.html>

Visit the Gilbert and Sullivan Archive at
<http://diamond.boisestate.edu/gas/>

NOTE: To subscribe to **SavoyNet**, the G&S mailing list, send a plain text email to listserv@bridgewater.edu with nothing in the subject line and SUBSCRIBE SAVOYNET *Your Name* in the message body.

