

THE TRUMPET BRAY

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

Vol. XXXI No. 7
June/July 2007

~Congratulate me, gentlemen, I've found a Volunteer!~

Elections/Fantasy Day
Sunday, June 3, 2:00 p.m.
Home of Janice and Ron Dallas, Arlington, MA

🎺🎺🎺 JUNE 3RD MEETING, DALLAS HOME

OUR ANNUAL ELECTION will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 3rd. President **Don Smith** reminds us: "It is that time of year when NEGASS looks to its future by electing its officers who will lead the organization. Positions up for election this year are: President, Treasurer, Program Chair and 3 Members-at-large. The Program Chair is a one-year term; the others are for two years.

In accordance with the NEGASS by-laws, the President appoints a Nominating Committee to put forward a recommended slate. Marion Leeds Carroll has agreed to chair the Committee this year. Anyone interested in serving in some capacity should contact her to express interest. While one or more of the present incumbents are likely to wish to continue, there are certainly some vacancies to be filled and the Nominating Committee would cheerfully like to have to make decisions rather than trying to solicit candidates."

--Don Smith

As of press time (May 18), we have had one expression of interest in a member-at-large position. This is a good start, and we need other people to do the same. Please don't be shy! NEGASS cannot continue to exist unless new people spend a little time as officers, helping the club to run smoothly.

Incentives you may not have considered:

- A sense of power whenever you make a decision for NEGASS which you alone can make.
- Occasional free tickets to comic operas.
- The right to brag about the experience in your future resumes.
- The chance to hang out with all the other officers, who are great people and the salt of the earth.

--April Grant



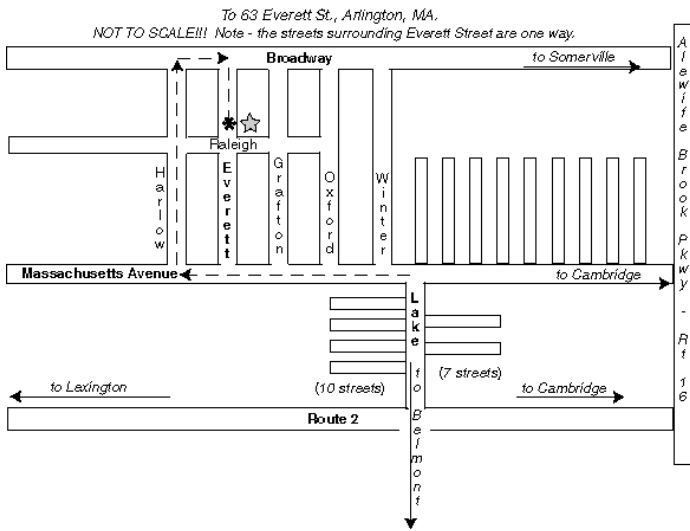
FANTASIES: The meeting is also Fantasy Day, so bring your scores. We'll sing through a few finales together, and people can sing any G&S they please, but, most of all, everyone's encouraged to perform pieces that they would never do otherwise. If you've always wanted to try a character who's a different age, body type, sex, or persona than your own, this is your big chance. Are there any teenaged Lady Blanches or female Pirate Kings out

there? Last year's all-female "When the night wind howls" set the tone for the proceedings.

WHAT TO BRING: Music for any songs you'd like to sing. Feel free to bring snacks or drinks. For more information, contact the Program Chair (413-584-7725 or aprilcath@yahoo.com).

HOW TO GET THERE: We are at #63 Everett St., Arlington (on the left, 2 house before Raleigh Street). On-street parking is available. It is a bit around the block, but the streets in this area are mainly one-way. There's a link to a map at:

<http://www.dallas-family.com/DallasDirections.html>.
Call us at 781-643-2537 if you get lost.



UPCOMING PRINCESS IDA SING

NEGASS AND LONGWOOD OPERA will collaborate on our third annual summer sing-through and potluck supper, following last year's excellent *GONDOLIERS*. Mark your calendars! The sing will begin at 2:00 p.m. on August 26, at the Christ Episcopal Church, Needham, MA. We will perform the whole show, including all the dialogue.

Roles are now available in *PRINCESS IDA*. Please e-mail the Program Chair at aprilcath@yahoo.com or phone (413)584-7725 to request a role. Let me know which role(s) you would like and whether you belong to Longwood, NEGASS, or both. People who are members of both groups will get first consideration. Otherwise, I'll just give out the roles in the order in which requests reach me, and try to divide the casting equally between the two groups. I look forward to hearing from you.

ROLES IN PRINCESS IDA:

- King Hildebrand**, baritone
- Hilarion**, tenor
- Cyril**, tenor
- Florian**, baritone
- King Gama**, baritone
- Arac**, bass
- Guron**, bass
- Scynthius**, bass
- Princess Ida**, soprano
- Lady Psyche**, soprano
- Lady Blanche**, contralto
- Melissa**, mezzo-soprano
- Sacharissa**, mezzo-soprano (sings with chorus and small solo)
- Chloe**, sings with chorus
- Ada**, sings with chorus

WHAT TO BRING: Food, preferably that which can be eaten elegantly, or at least neatly. We will not have an oven or dishwasher, so think picnic fare. Casseroles, salads (greens, pasta, fruit, coleslaw, etc.), sandwich makings/interesting breads and things to put on them, mini-quiches, devilled eggs--in short, the eggs and the ham, the strawberry jam, the rollicking bun and the gay Sally Lunn! I'm also hoping for a second batch of those



wonderful cucumber and watercress sandwiches that were such a hit last year.

Note from MLC: Serving dishes and/or implements, unless very

memorable, are likely to get lost, so bring plastic or paper ware and expect that it will be replaced, if need be, by something from the church kitchen.

HOW TO GET THERE:

Christ Episcopal Church, 1132 Highland Ave., Needham, MA.

From the North:

Rt. 128 (I-95): Take Exit 19b, Highland Avenue, towards Needham. The church is about 1.1 mile from the exit, on the left, opposite the Public Library and just before Rosemary Street. Its large parking lot is across the street from it, next to the library. There are also some

handicapped parking spots next to the church--the driveway is just before the church.

From Boston:

Take Mass Pike or Route Nine west to Route 128 (I-95) south, then follow as above

From the West: Take Mass Pike or Route Nine east to Route 128 (I-95) south, then follow as above

From the South: Take Route 128 (I-95) north to exit 19b (Highland Avenue), then follow as above

Public Transportation:

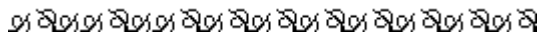
--MBTA Green Line stops at the Newton Highlands subway stop, where it meets the MBTA Bus #59--see next paragraph

--MBTA Bus #59, Watertown Square to Needham Junction, stops directly in front of Christ Episcopal Church. Pertinent times: on Sunday it leaves Watertown Square at 1:05 and 2:35; leaves Newton Highlands 12:35 and 2:05.

http://www.mbta.com/traveling_t/schedules_buses.asp

--The MBTA Needham commuter rail line doesn't run on Sundays, dash it!

--mlc and tsw



STILL FREE TO GOOD HOME



Jason Eisenstein writes:

"We have some duplicate/extra G&S LPs and we are looking to find them a good home. Do you know of anyone in NEGASS who would be interested in any of the following:

Yeomen of the Guard--1950

The Gondoliers--1950 (2 sets)

The Mikado--1957 (2 sets)

Princess Ida--1954-5

Trial by Jury--1963."

[Please contact jason@eisenstein.tv if interested. --Ye Ed.]

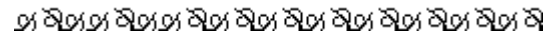
~~~~~ **RECENT MEETINGS** ~~~~~

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. NEGASS members gathered at the Jamaica Plain home of Liz Lewis for a reading of two Gilbert plays. The first play, *Rosencrantz And Guildenstern*, is a parody on *Hamlet*, on Victorian

| <b>Meeting Schedule, 2007</b> |                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 3                        | Election/Fantasy Day                                                                        |
| August 26                     | Longwood Opera/NEGASS hold <i>PRINCESS IDA</i> sing (3 <sup>rd</sup> annual collaboration!) |
| October (date TBA)            | Fall meeting                                                                                |
| December (date TBA)           | Holiday sing-in and party                                                                   |

**NEXT BRAY COPY DEADLINE: August 5, 2007**

**Next Bray Stuffing:** Sunday, **August 12**, 3:00 pm, at the home of **Janice and Ron Dallas**, 63 Everett Street, Arlington, MA., 02474-6921. E-mail or phone for directions: (781) 643-2537, [membership@negass.org](mailto:membership@negass.org)



REVIEWS ARE WELCOMED! Not being a bird, I can't be in two places at once. I never got to see MITG&SP's recent production of *PRINCESS IDA*. Will some kind soul send in a review? The Trumpet Bray thrives on YOUR WRITING! Send reviews, scathing letters, flattery, invective, and G&S-centric art you wish to have published in these pages, to [editor@negass.org](mailto:editor@negass.org).

treatments of Shakespeare, and on Gilbert's own directorial styles.

In this spoof, Claudius is haunted by the guilty secret that he wrote a five-act tragedy in his youth. The tragedy is later rediscovered and performed for laughs by Hamlet and a company of players. Hilarity ensues, as well as a chance for Gilbert to send himself up: Hamlet instructs the players, "Let there be no

huge red noses, nor extravagant monstrous wigs, nor coarse men garbed as women, in this comi-tragedy; for such things are as much as to say, 'I am a comick fellow--I pray you laugh at me, and hold what I say to be cleverly ridiculous.'" A host of fine performances included Juliet Cunningham as a chipper Ophelia, Andrew Smith as Hamlet, and Jim Parmentier as Claudius.



A *Colossal Idea*, a door-slamming comedy, was a longer play but had a much more rapid pace due to the breathless dialogue. ("Where are you going to and how long are you going to stay with us?" "Well, I've been to Feejee and I'm going to Birmingham and I'm quite well, and I'm off to-morrow."). Janice Dallas made an excellent Mrs. Yellowboy, and Marion Leeds Carroll was full of humor as Mr. Wellington Yellowboy.

Following a break during which snacks were consumed and our host provided a wide variety of teas, we gathered around the keyboard and sang selections from *The Pirates Of Penzance* and *Trial By Jury*, in which solos were taken by Nancy Burstein, Liz Lewis, April Grant, Juliet, Andrew, Marion and Jim, with a special appearance from Mariana Lewis as Jury Member O'Neill. Several rousing choruses were sung, perhaps the finest being "When the foeman bares his steel".

### —LACE & DIMITY

#### ☺☺ New Officers for Sudbury Savoyard Board

New officers were elected at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sudbury Savoyards' Board of Trustees. They are:

President: Ellen Simmons  
 Secretary: Jon Saul  
 Treasurer: John Gorgone  
 Theater Liason: Ed Fell  
 Church Liason: June McKnight  
 Trustee: Andrea Roessler  
 Trustee: Patrick Kinney  
 Trustee: Paul Sliney

Past President, Laurel Martin, will now join the staff as a "Second Trombone".



Other Staff  
 Members are:

Database  
 Managers: Kirsten  
 and Brendon  
 Chetwynd  
 Task List Chief:  
 Kathy Lague  
 Newsletter Editor:  
 Tom Powers  
 Archivist: Andrea  
 Roessler  
 Costume Rentals: Janice Dallas



Lighting Rentals: Mike Bromberg

--Janice Dallas

### ☺☺ THE GILBERTIAN EXAM ☺☺

(Examination-paper from an early 1900s book on G&S. Author unknown.)

1. Write a brief essay on Gilbert's use of "chops" or "mutton-chops", with reference to at least two operas and three Bab Ballads.
2. Draw up a table to show when Frederic was born. Do you consider that Gilbert forgot that 1900 would not be a leap-year? And if so, why do you think so?
3. Collect anecdotes from the Bab Ballads about colonial bishops, and quote from an opera a description of their diocesan atmosphere.
4. Which chorus had at least one grandparent living? On the authority of what statement?
5. Quote from two operas two references to oil at different temperatures, and two stage-directions for the display of indifference.
6. Who was rather dressy for her age, and what was her age?
7. Describe in Gilbert's words two A's, three B's, two C's, D's, E's, and F's, and one G. How does the last of these differ from someone in another opera, who was seen doing what with whom on the what of the what?
8. Identify (a) a man all poesy and buzzem; (b) a quiet venerable duck; (c) Popsy; (d) the man who had the run of the royal rum; (e) the man who drove a Putney bus. (Give full name and creed in the last case.)
9. Who, and in which opera, married his nurse? What was his Christian name, and how do you know it?
10. The following phrases occur each in two different operas. Give references or quote context to identify them: (a) Matrimonified; (b) Monday Pops; (c) shrivel into raisins; (d) despite his best endeavour; (e) each a little bit afraid is; (f) miminy-piminy; (g) ladies' seminary. (In the last instance give all words rhyming to "seminary" in both cases.)

11. Explain, with reference: (a) Basingstoke; (b) Burglaree; (c) a descendant by purchase; (d) that's so like a band; (e) Mr. Wilkinson; (f) Warren; (g) Stephen Trusty; (h) Gideon Crawle; (i) the dancing catalogue of crime.

12. Give eight pairs of forced rhymes for one opera. Where is the only metrical error in any opera? Quote the two best examples from the whole works of common phrase introduced rhythmically.

## CALENDAR

### Director Sought for Sudbury's YEOMEN

The Board of Trustees of The Sudbury Savoyards is interviewing candidates for Stage Director and Music Director for their Winter 2008 production of "The Yeomen of the Guard". Resumes and references may be e-mailed in advance to. Interviews will be held by appointment on Sunday, June 3 and Tuesday, June 5 at the Sudbury United Methodist Church, 251 Old Sudbury Road, Route 27, in Sudbury, MA. Performances will take place at the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School theatre in Sudbury the last weekend in February and the first weekend in March, 2008. Rehearsals will begin mid-November.



The Sudbury Savoyards, founded in 1961 and sponsored by the Sudbury United Methodist Church, is an all-volunteer organization with all of its proceeds being donated to the relief of world hunger. For more information about the organization, please visit our website: [www.sudburysavoyards.org](http://www.sudburysavoyards.org) or call 978-443-8811 and leave a message. To schedule an appointment for an interview, please call **Andrea Roessler**, Trustee, at 508-628-9772 or email: [AJR-ASID@juno.org](mailto:AJR-ASID@juno.org).

### HRG&SP presents MIKADO

"The Harvard-Radcliff Gilbert and Sullivan Players' fall 2007 production will be The Mikado in December at the Agassiz Theatre. Dates not yet published. Anyone who wants to become involved can contact **Charles Miller** at [hgrsp@hcs.harvard.edu](mailto:hgrsp@hcs.harvard.edu)  
--**Connie Wilson**

☺☺ **Inquiring minds want to know:** "Can The Mikado be done in less than 10 minutes?" The answer is, apparently, "Not yet". In the podcast below it took 10.33 minutes. To listen, just go to your computer and type in the following website:

<http://dctheatrereviews.com/review/2007/04/09/the-condensed-mikado/>

The Condensed Mikado is being performed at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H Street, Washington, DC. Tickets are \$20. Showtimes are Wednesday thru Sunday at 7:30 pm, with matinees on Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30 PM. Tickets are also available online at <http://www.savoyards.org/buytickets2007.htm> or by calling 202-399-7993.

--**Jim Parmentier**

### HMS Pinafore in Hingham, MA

First Parish Old Ship Church in Hingham, MA, will present a concert production of "HMS Pinafore", on Sunday, June 10, at 4:00 p.m. Professional soloists, small orchestra, audience sings the choruses. Choral scores available to borrow at the performance. For further information, contact the music director: **Joan Nahigian**, (781) 383-2240 or [pinklink@comcast.net](mailto:pinklink@comcast.net)

☺☺ **The College Light Opera Company** of Falmouth, MA will present "Patience" from June 26-30, and "Pirates" from July 24-28. Box office opens June 11-- (508)-548-0668. Visit their website at [www.collegelightopera.com](http://www.collegelightopera.com) to see the complete season's offerings. Season Brochures will be available in May.

### G&S Down Under

The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Western Australia has their website up and running at [www.gilbertandsullivanwa.org.au](http://www.gilbertandsullivanwa.org.au). They invite you to have a look and welcome any feedback.

### More G&S Goodies From NELO

New England Light Opera will present "Gilbert and Sullivan Night" on July 18, as part of its summer concert series. Call (978)887-2045 or [www.newenglandlightopera.org](http://www.newenglandlightopera.org). Summer performances are at the Christ Episcopal Church, 1132 Highland Ave., Needham, MA.

### International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival will be held in Buxton, England from July 28--

August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Highlights include:  
 Carl Rosa Opera with "Yeomen" on July 28 and 29, and  
 "Iolanthe" on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.  
 G&S Opera Company with "Patience" on August 3 and 4  
 and "Mikado" on August 10 and 11.

Affiliated societies that are also performing: Capetown,  
 South Africa (Gondoliers--  
 August 12) and Victoria,  
 Australia (Patience--August 14)  
 Visit [www.gs-festival.co.uk](http://www.gs-festival.co.uk) for  
 further details.



☺☺ **Toronto's G&S Society  
 holds 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
 Extravaganza**

Toronto's Gilbert and Sullivan  
 Society is celebrating their 60th  
 Birthday on June 9 & 10, 2007.

On Saturday they plan a Songfest Matinee, followed by a  
 reception, dinner and a concert at the National Ballet  
 School. A dazzling cast presents selections from favourite  
 operettas and  
 beyond, with sing-alongs, starring Canada's premier lyric  
 tenor: Mark DuBois. On Sunday, there will be a church  
 service with Sullivan's sacred music, followed by a  
 luncheon. Call 416-922-4415 or 905-773-5535 for details.

☺☺ **Summer for Ohio Light Opera**

Ohio Light Opera will be rotating "Pirates" with "Princess  
 Ida" among other shows. Go to [www.ohiolightopera.org](http://www.ohiolightopera.org)  
 for more information.

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



## THE NEW ENGLAND GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY

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NEGASS membership dues are \$15 and up. Please send  
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Visit the NEGASS Web Site at  
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 at <http://www.negass.org/Pages/EMail.html>

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

### New in the Fall of 2007:

The current issue of **The Trumpet Bray On-Line** will be  
 available only for NEGASS members, who will receive a  
 password in response to membership payment.

Basic NEGASS membership is only \$15. If this is a  
 hardship, please contact Membership Chair Janice Dallas  
 to arrange a lower rate.