



~ NEGASS NEWS ~

NEGASS Board of Directors Election

NEGASS held its Annual Board of Directors Election on May 20, 2012 at Springstep, 98 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford, MA. **Tom Dawkins** was re-elected Vice President and **Martha Birnbaum** was re-elected Secretary. NEGASS welcomes **Dave Leigh** who was elected Program Chair, and three new Members-at-large: **Kaori Emery, Jenna Lourenco, and Angela Jajko**. Congratulations to all new and returning Board members.

After the election, Tom Dawkins led us from the piano as we engaged in "singing choruses in public".

***The Words or the Music?* NEGASS Artistic Outreach**

On May 25th, NEGASS sponsored a school outreach performance at the Carlisle Public Schools to over 100 third and fourth graders. Our education committee wrote a program entitle *The Words or the Music?* designed to explore the question of whether the words or the music were more important to the enjoyment of Gilbert & Sullivan's works.

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With three actors portraying Sullivan, Gilbert and the producer D'Oyly Carte, the scene was set. Music from *Pirates of Penzance* was performed to present each point of view and all agreed that the audience would have the final say by voting at the end of the performance. W. S. Gilbert (played by **Jim Miller**) pointed out that the lyrics are sometimes essential to the story, and illustrated his point with Ruth's song "When Frederick Was A Little Lad", performed by **Susan Craft**.

Mr. Gilbert then explained what a patter song is and asked the Major General (**Tom Frates**) to sing "I am the Very Model of a Modern Major General", one of G & S's most famous examples of the genre. Students were amazed by how fast Tom could sing that they began to cheer 'words! words! words!'



The Words or the Music? in Carlisle, MA

In response, Sir Arthur Sullivan (played by **Jim Eggleston**) requested that Mabel sing "Poor Wandering One" to illustrate that with some melodies 'you hardly need any words at all.' Mabel



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Rebecca Hains, president (pres AT negass DOT org); Thomas Dawkins, vice president (vicepres AT negass DOT org); Tom Weber, treasurer (treas AT negass DOT org); Dave Leigh, program chair (progchair AT negass DOT org); Martha Birnbaum, secretary (sec AT negass DOT org); Kaori Emery, member-at-large (kaori AT kaoriemery DOT com); Nancy Burstein, member-at-large (impresaria AT comcast DOT net); Susan Craft, member-at-large (susan.craft1 AT gmail DOT com); Vance Koven, member-at-large (vrkoven AT gmail DOT com); Angela Jajko (angelajajko AT hotmail DOT com); Jenna Lourenco (jenna AT jennalourenco DOT com)

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Janice Dallas, membership (memb AT negass DOT org) & librarian

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SUBSCRIPTIONS Standard membership in NEGASS pays for a printed copy of each issue of the Bray, plus a password to the current issue of the online PDF version. NEGASS membership dues are \$20, \$30, \$50 and \$100. To join, please contact membership chair Janice Dallas, 63 Everett St. Arlington, MA, 02474-6921 or mail memb AT negass DOT org.

Members receive the Bray via US mail or as a PDF email attachment. To receive the Bray via email, please send a request to memb AT negass.org. All editions except the current edition are available online. The current edition is available online to NEGASS members only.

ARCHIVES Past issues of *The Trumpet Bray* can be read or downloaded from <http://www.negass DOT org /bray>

BETWEEN-BRAY ANNOUNCEMENTS Available to NEGASS members through online member profile.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL: 15th of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November, 2011.

(sung by **Connie Benn**) captivated the young audience with her brilliant coloratura. Clearly the music is most important! '

Richard D'Oyly Carte (**Alan Rohwer**) suggested that yet another song might illustrate that the combination of both music AND words are what make Gilbert and Sullivan's works so beloved. **Tom Frates** literally switched hats (thank you, **Janice Dallas**!) and became the Pirate King. A class that had learned the responses was invited up to the stage -- all donning pirate bandanas -- and after some piratical 'Arghs!' they joined in the choruses of "O Better Far to Live and Die." The audience was delighted with the song and thrilled to see their classmates on stage. The combination of Words AND Music was the clear winner.



Afterward, feedback from the principal and teachers was gracious and positive. They shared that their students were appreciative and loved the performance. Also, we learned that some of the students in attendance have seen performances by the Sudbury Savoyards and

the Savoyard Light Opera Company. Our performers were pleasantly surprised at the attentiveness of the audience, and how enthusiastically the students responded to the performance.

Our education committee will be taking the summer to evaluate the experience and see how we might approach expanding what we have to offer for next year. The goal of our outreach is in keeping with the primary purpose of NEGASS -- to increase the awareness and enjoyment of Gilbert & Sullivan's works.

A hearty thank you to our performers for generously giving of their time and talents: Jim Eggleston, Alan Rohwer, Jim Miller, Connie Benn and Tom Frates.
- **Susan Craft and Nancy Burstein, NEGASS Education Committee**

New NEGASS Member

NEGASS welcomes new members Angela Jajko of Newton, Tom Daughters of Concord, and Scott Lloyd of Providence, RI. Scott has been a G & S fan since hearing a child's recording containing selections from *The Mikado* and *H.M.S. Pinafore*. He has been collecting 1950's G & S recording and has 78 rpm recordings from the 20's. Scott would like to lend his baritone to local G & S productions and recently did so for a performance of *The Pirates of Penzance* in Peabody.

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

Five G & S Sing-Alongs in July, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2012, 7:30 pm, Hyde Park Presbyterian Church, 1109 River St., Hyde Park, MA

Join us for rousing evenings of G&S sing-alongs on the five Mondays in July. Sing-alongs will take place at the Hyde Park Presbyterian Church, 1109 River St., Hyde Park, MA. The church is convenient to both the Hyde Park and Fairmount stops on the commuter rail, a short walk from bus #32, and one door away from stops on bus lines #24 and #33. There is parking on both River and nearby Webster Streets.

July 2 - Mikado
July 9 - Ruddigore
July 16 - Pinafore
July 23 - Pirates
July 30 - Gondoliers

The building will open at 7 PM, casting will be on the spot, and the sing-along will begin at 7:30. We have a limited number of scores, mostly chorus books. Admission is \$5, and light refreshments will be served. The building is air-conditioned, and handicapped accessible. For info before the day of the sing-along, please e-mail [jecunningham2 AT aol DOT com](mailto:jecunningham2@comcast.net). For info the day of, until 6:30 PM, please call 617-361-3828. For info onsite, please call 617-320-5918 after 6:30 PM.

The Savoy Club and Cox and Box, Sudbury Savoyards, July 27 & 28, 2012, 8 pm, Sudbury United Methodist Church, 251 Old Sudbury Rd., Sudbury, MA

The Sudbury Savoyards present *The Savoy Club* on the evenings of Friday, July 27 and Saturday, July 28 at 8 pm in Hawes Hall at the Sudbury United Methodist Church. *The Savoy Club* is cabaret-style entertainment for the whole family, including a rare

performance of *Cox and Box*. Visit [www.sudburysavoyards DOT org](http://www.sudburysavoyards.org) for more details.

HMS Pinafore and The Pirates of Penzance, Sudbury Savoyards, August 19, 2012, 3 pm, Sudbury United Methodist Church, 251 Old Sudbury Rd., Sudbury, MA

The Sudbury Savoyards and Opera Comique of Wales will present a concert version of *HMS Pinafore* and *The Pirates of Penzance* on Sunday, August 19th at 3pm at the Sudbury United Methodist Church. A reception will follow in Hawes Hall. Some familiar local faces will appear in a few of the leading roles and NEGASS members are invited to sign up for the chorus by emailing Dennis O'Brien at [lyraden AT comcast DOT net](mailto:lyraden@comcast.net) or by calling him at (617)792-5773. Visit [www.sudburysavoyards DOT org](http://www.sudburysavoyards.org) for more information.

G & S NEWS

The Pirates of Penzance: Producers & Directors Needed, MITG&SP

The MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players will interview people for the positions of producer, stage director, and music director for its Fall production of *The Pirates of Penzance*.

To schedule an interview or for additional information, please contact [gsp-ec AT mit.edu](mailto:gsp-ec@mit.edu) before June 4, 2012.

Performances will take place the first two weekends of December, with auditions in early September. Gilbert & Sullivan's most popular work, *Pirates* has captivated audiences around the world and been performed regularly since its debut in 1880. The Major-General's song remains a popular standard, and has been parodied in such diverse works as Tom Lehrer's "The Elements", the Animaniacs episode "HMS Yakko", and Mass Effect 2.





Upcoming Productions & Events - 2012

<i>Hot Mikado</i> Community House Theater	June 22, 23 (8 pm), 24 (3 pm) www.communityhouse.org 978-468-4818	Pingree School 537 Highland St South Hamilton, MA
<i>5 G & S Sing-alongs</i> Hyde Park	July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (7:30 pm) jecunningham2 AT aol DOT com 617-361-3828	Hyde Park Presbyterian Church 1109 River St. Hyde Park, MA
<i>H.M.S. Pinafore</i> Road Scholar (Elderhostel)	July 8 - 12 led by Rafe McPhail, Ivoryton Savoyards www.campwarwick.com/ElderHostel.htm	The Warwick Center 62 Warwick Center Road Warwick, NY 10990 845-986-1164
<i>The Savoy Club and Cox and Box</i> Sudbury Savoyards	July 27 & 28 (8 pm) www.sudburysavoyards.org	Sudbury United Methodist Church 251 Old Sudbury Rd. Sudbury, MA
<i>HMS Pinafore and The Pirates of Penzance</i> Sudbury Savoyards	August 19 (3 pm) www.sudburysavoyards.org	Sudbury United Methodist Church 251 Old Sudbury Rd. Sudbury, MA
<i>Trial by Jury & H.M.S. Pinafore</i> CTG&SS	September 14 & 15 (7:30 pm), 16 (2 pm) http://www.vlo.org 800-866-1606	Middletown High School Performing Arts Center 200 LaRosa Lane Middletown, CT
<i>Ruddigore</i> CTG&SS	October 28 (7:30 pm), 29 (2 pm, 7:30 pm) http://www.vlo.org 800-866-1606	Middletown High School Performing Arts Center 200 LaRosa Lane Middletown, CT
Auditions - 2012		
<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i> Methuen Young People's Theater	June 7 (6:30 pm), 9 (9 am) http://mmmh.org/web_documents/2011/tryout_notice.pdf	Methuen Memorial Music Hall 192 Broadway (Route 28) Methuen, Massachusetts