



The Sudbury Savoyards Sandwich Board

Spring/Summer 2012 - Vol 17, Number 3

Over the years, the Savoyards have added a variety of summer programs to our yearly slate, sometimes shelving one in deference to another. This summer we reprise one that has been missing for a few years and institute yet another new effort. We have summer details below, as well as a brief summary of our winter show and 2011-2012 donations, our newly comprised Board of Trustees, and our plans for our 2013 big show. Welcome aboard!

Ruddigore 2012

Ruddigore has a reputation as the technical heavyweight of the G&S canon, with its reliance on the visual tricks of animating portraits. The focus on the portraits can draw the designers into a spiral of complexity of sets, costumes, and lighting that can distract from the play itself. The Savoyards stepped back a bit this year and started more minimally. The result: A seven foot tall wedding cake that could be dressed as a seaside village, a wedding bower, or an infamous portrait gallery. The production resulted in a post-show donation to the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the Savoyards' designated charity, of \$4000, bringing the production year's total contribution to \$11,500 in relief of world hunger. Thank you, all!

Summer Shows 2012 - Opera Comique arrives and Savoy Club returns!

In 1996, the Savoyards expanded our yearly performance schedule to include a Summer Show, a usually-comic, non-musical piece intended to provide our members an additional outlet for their creativity and to serve as summer entertainment for our community. That worked well enough that we stretched again in in the summers of 2001 and 2002 with a vaudeville-style program originally called "Stupid Savoyard Tricks," later formalized to "The Savoy Club." This year we take the effort international!

First things first.... At 8:00pm on **Friday, July 27** and **Saturday, July 28**, in Hawes Hall at the Sudbury United Methodist Church, the Sudbury Savoyards present "The Savoy Club," a cabaret-style revue of folk songs, barbershop, classical instrumental music, comedy, a quiz show(!), and more, with the program being slightly different each night. Anchoring the two evenings will be performances of the F.C. Burnand and Arthur Sullivan one-act comic operetta *Cox and Box*. Written in 1866, five years before the Gilbert and Sullivan collaboration began with *Thespis*, *Cox and Box* was long used by the D'Oyly Carte company as a curtain raiser for some of the shorter G&S works. The Sudbury Savoyards have presented *Cox and Box* in that capacity once, in 1983, in a double bill with *HMS Pinafore*. This performance will be directed by the legendary Savoyard directorial team of **Kathy Lague** (Stage) and **Steve Malione** (Music). **David C. Larrick**,



founding impresario of both the Sudbury Savoyards Summer Show and the Savoy Club, returns to emcee this year's offering.

Taking it international.... At 3:00pm on **Sunday, August 19**, in the air-conditioned sanctuary of the Sudbury United Methodist Church, the Sudbury Savoyards host and will perform with the UK-based **Opera Comique** (www.operacomique.org.uk) in concert presentations of *HMS Pinafore* and *The Pirates of Penzance*. A reception in honor of our visitors will be held in Hawes Hall following the performance. Active since 1976, Opera Comique performs Gilbert and Sullivan for charitable purposes, much as the Sudbury Savoyards do. The group has an active performance schedule throughout the year, including many "sing-ins" around the UK. Sudbury is the first stop on the company's 10-day visit to New England, which features several performances in Mystic, Connecticut.



Admission is \$10 at the door for each summer event.

Savoy Club - July 27&28
Opera Comique - August 19

watch the web: www.sudburysavoyards.org & [facebook.com/sudburysavoyards](https://www.facebook.com/sudburysavoyards)

Board Elections

The Savoyards operate under the direction of a seven member Board of Trustees. Each Trustee is elected to a two-year term, and is eligible to be re-elected to a single, second consecutive term. Three Trustees are elected in odd-numbered years, and four in even-numbered years. Elections are held as part of the Annual Membership Meeting, typically during the closing weekend of the annual Gilbert and Sullivan production. Leaving the Board this year at the conclusion of their terms were **Brad Amidon** and **Kathryn Denney**. Newly elected Trustees are **Randy Divinski, Susan Schultz, and Peter Welsh**. Continuing Trustees are **Ann Ferentz, Kate Meifert, Bill Fisher, and Dennis O'Brien**. Dennis remains the Chairman, Ann takes on the Secretary's role, Randy becomes the Treasurer, and Peter serves as Church Liaison. Board meetings are held monthly on a schedule set by the sitting Board and are open to all Savoyards. Minutes of Board meetings are posted on the Savoyard website.

Gondoliers 2013

The Board of Trustees has selected *The Gondoliers, or The King of Barataria*, as the Savoyards' 2013 Gilbert and Sullivan mainstage production. **Susan Elberger** has been named Producer, and the directors will be **Ed Knights** (Stage), **Katherine Engel Meifert** (Music), and **Jim Ravan** (Technical). Most other senior staff and design positions remain to be filled. People interested in helping in any way can make their interests known or direct questions to the Board via email or phone message. Watch the website and our fall newsletter for dates of the 2-Ring (late October/early November) and auditions (mid-November).

Savoyards on Facebook

The Savoyards are getting easier to follow by becoming active on Facebook. There have been a few Savoyard/Facebook experiments during the past few years, but we are consolidating those efforts into the official Sudbury Savoyards Facebook page at [facebook.com/sudburysavoyards](https://www.facebook.com/sudburysavoyards). Importantly, you do not need to be a member of Facebook to view the page and photo albums. We would love to post your show photos, including backstage, tech, rehearsal, and orchestra shots. Send jpgs to Deede Bergeron at Deeberg@aol.com. Include show title and year, and include any information about actors, directors, show lore, or other memories that you'd like to share.



Our web presence at www.sudburysavoyards.org remains active for announcements, plans, subscriptions, contacts, and archival material. Keep checking that out, too!

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