



## Sudbury Savoyards Sandwich Board

Winter 2013 - Vol 18, Number 2

You may be aware that the Savoyards' Big Show process starts about sixteen months before you get to see the show. You saw *The Gondoliers* announcement over a year ago, and directors were chosen and plans made through the summer. You saw the audition announcement in October, and casting soon followed. Music rehearsals began in November, and now, just after the start of the New Year, full blocking rehearsals *finally* get under way. Tech work on sets, costumes, lights, and all has been in preparation since early fall, and continues right up to opening. And as of this writing, the show hits the stage in less than a month! Phew.... We *will* be ready for you, so we hope you'll be able to make the time to join us for our Big Show, a Summer

Show, and the rest of 2013's Savoyard activity.

Our directorial staff this year are all Savoyard veterans. **Music Director Katherine Engel Meifert** takes up the baton again, aided by **Assistant Music Director Kathryn Denney**. **Stage Director Ed Knights** last directed *Utopia, Ltd.* for us, in 2009. Dance is a big part of Ed's directorial style, and he is assisted this time by **Choreographer Alison Smith-Vaniz**. Ed offers a few of his observations and plans for the show here:

# The Gondoliers

The Sudbury Savoyards are delighted to be performing *The Gondoliers* once again. The story line is familiar: infants switched at birth (but nobody knows which ones), things not always what they seem, with

humble gondolieri ascending (almost) to the monarchy. W.S. Gilbert's wry wit comes alive in the performances of our outstanding cast, especially those parts poking fun at royalty and at the concept of actual people becoming corporations (a result of the "Stock Company Act"). Arthur Sullivan's beautiful melodies bring Gilbert's libretto to life. These are performed with full orchestra under the outstanding and experienced baton of Music Director Kate Meifert. There will be some surprising twists to the many moments of farce Gilbert and Sullivan audiences have come to expect. I've had fun using choreography, costumes, lights, props, and set pieces to highlight the farce. There will be surprises throughout, including dancers never before seen on stage (nor likely ever to be seen again!).

So, a new face on an old friend. Bring the family. You'll all leave wanting more.

[And remember, you can follow the Sudbury Savoyards on Facebook, at [www.facebook.com/sudburysavoyards](http://www.facebook.com/sudburysavoyards), where we're regularly updating our progress towards showtime, including some glimpses of what you'll see on stage. And, as always, you can visit our archives on our website at [www.sudburysavoyards.org](http://www.sudburysavoyards.org).]

### Our performers...

Our cast is, as usual, strong and deep. **Dennis O'Brien** reprises his role as the Duke of Plaza-Toro from our 2001 production, with **Donna DeWitt** as his Duchess, **Catkin Hader** as their daughter, Casilda, and **Bill Kuhlman** as their attendant, Luiz. **Mike Lague** steps up as the Grand Inquisitor, Don Alhambra del Bolero. Our titular Gondoliers (the Palmieri brothers) are **Tom Ostrowski** as Marco and **Tom Frates** as Guiseppe, with **Shalia Sakona** and **Angela Jajko** as their would-be/maybe-are wives (who won't be queen), Gianetta and Tessa. Marco and Guiseppe's posse of senior Gondolieri are **Ed Fell**, **Iain Kilty**, **Tony Parkes**, and **Jon Saul** as Annibale, Antonio, Giorgio, and Francesco, respectively. The featured contadine are **Carolyn Schwartz**, **Johanna Shriver**, and **Alison Smith-Vaniz** as Vittoria, Fiametta, and Giulia, respectively. Rounding out the cast is **Pam Policastri** as Inez, the wet-nurse who Knows All and reveals the identity of the real King of Barataria.

Our 37-voice chorus is as strong as ever, with **David Baldwin**, **Sara Ballard**, **Marylin Carr**, **Herschel Clopper**, **Phyllis Clopper**, **Janice Dallas**, **Tim Daughters**, **Randy Divinski**, **Meryl Eisenstein**, **Susan Elberger**, **Ann Ferentz**, **Sue Flint**, **Randy Glidden**, **John Gorgone**, **Jane Graham**, **Andrew Herrick**, **Fred Hughes**, **Bill Johnson**, **Dave Kay**, **Scott Lutz**, **Laurel Martin**, **Linnea Martin**, **Neil McCormick**, **Alexandra McPeek**, **Larry Millner**, **Rich Olsen**, **Mei-Lin Po**, **Tom Porcher**, **Karen Powers**, **Nancy Powers**, **James Ravan**, **Susan Schultz**, **Ellen Simmons**, **Katrina Skidmore**, **Stacey Teman**, **Peter Welsh**, and **Marla Zucker**.

### Exclusive offer for our newsletter subscribers!

**Present this coupon at the *Gondoliers* box office and receive \$2 off each of up to four tickets for your party in any ticket category.**

**(Original newsletters only, no photocopies, please; not good for Preview performance.)**

## Open Ticketing Continues, by friend, phone, mail, email, or on the Web

The Sudbury Savoyards are pleased to present Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers* at **8:00pm** on **Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, and Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup>**, with matinee performances at **2:00pm** on **Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. In addition, there will be a preview performance at a reduced price at 8:00pm on Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. All performances will be presented in the Rogers-Kirschner Auditorium at the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, 390 Lincoln Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts.

'Open Ticketing' means that tickets good for any performance are \$24 for adult general admission, \$18 for seniors and students, and \$12 for children under 12; the Thursday night (February 21<sup>st</sup>) Preview Performance tickets are \$15 for all adult age groups, and \$12 for children under 12. All tickets are for general admission seating. Lincoln-Sudbury High School is handicapped-accessible and all parking is free.

Order your tickets by phone at **978-443-8811**, by email to **Tickets@SudburySavoyards.org**, or postal mail (make checks payable to the Sudbury Savoyards) to **Gondoliers Tickets, 279 Captain Eames Circle, Ashland, MA 01721-3916**. With all orders, include your name and address, a phone number for callback, the number of tickets for each category (adult, senior/student, child), and whether you are ordering specifically for the Thursday Preview Performance. The Savoyards again offer web-based ticket purchasing. Go to [www.sudburysavoyards.org](http://www.sudburysavoyards.org) and click on the "Tickets" link. You will be offered menus to order tickets by category and number. Payment for tickets is through the PayPal web purchasing system, as used for eBay and other web commerce. Tickets are priced as above, but a \$3 per order (regardless of number of tickets purchased) surcharge will be added to cover web processing costs. Prepaid orders (web orders and postal mail orders with checks) received before February 14<sup>th</sup> will be mailed back to you; later orders, orders without payment, or orders you request not be sent will be held at the door. You can also purchase tickets from any participating Savoyard.

**This year we are again offering a special deal for subscribers to this newsletter! Present the coupon on the previous page at the box office at the show and receive a discount of \$2 per ticket for each ticket in your party of up to four people!** You must present and surrender the coupon from your mailed copy of the newsletter, and the discount applies only to our regular performances for tickets purchased at the door, and does not apply to our preview discount night.

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Sudbury Savoyards will be held at the Sudbury United Methodist Church on March 2<sup>nd</sup> between the matinee and evening performances of *The Gondoliers*. The principal activities of the Annual Meeting are recognition of the participants of the current production and election of Trustees for the coming year.

While the Annual Membership Meeting is the once-a-year convening of all available Savoyards, the Board of Trustees operates year-round, coordinating the various activities and maintaining governance of the Company. The Board meets monthly, and meetings are generally open to any Savoyard. Minutes of Board meetings are available by subscription, and are archived on the Savoyard web site. If you would like to follow the Board's activities, go to [www.sudburysavoyards.org](http://www.sudburysavoyards.org) and click on "Board Meeting Minutes" on the home page and indicate your interest in receiving the minutes.

### A Summer Show in 2013: *The Fantasticks*

The Savoyards are planning a Summer Show for late July this year. For only the second time, our Summer Show will be a musical: *The Fantasticks*, best known as the longest running musical in Broadway history. **Jim Ravan**, past Big Show Music Director, Stage Manager, and Technical Director, will direct. Watch the website and Facebook for updates about opportunities to participate and attend.

### 2014: *The Pirates of Penzance*

The Board of Trustees of the Sudbury Savoyards has selected *The Pirate of Penzance* as the Company's winter 2014 production. *Pirates* was last produced by the Savoyards in 2004. Directors and senior staff will be recruited in coming months, and interested candidates are encouraged to contact the Board by telephone or email at their earliest convenience.

Sudbury Savoyards  
Sudbury United Methodist Church  
251 Old Sudbury Road  
Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776

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