



The Newsletter of Troupers Light Opera Company.
www.trouperlightopera.org/

Trouper *Trumpet*

January, 2004

“Loudly let the trumpet bray” – *Iolanthe*

Mark Your Calendar



Rehearsals begin: Monday, Jan. 5. To learn more about rehearsal times and places, go to our website.

Brochure Mailing Party: Saturday, Jan. 24th. Place to be announced.

Show dates: March 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 2004. The show will be at **New Canaan High School** this year.

Dues Are Due

If you haven't yet paid your dues, now's the time. Dues are \$35 a person or \$45 a family. Send your check to **Guy Stretton** at 62 North Ridge Road, Old Greenwich 06870 or give him a check to him at rehearsal.

New Troupers don't need to pay dues, but, of course, a contrition is always welcome.

Gladden, Stretton Made Life Members

At the annual meeting, two long-time Troupers, **Diana Gladden** and **Guy Stretton** were honored with Life Membership.

Guy Stretton first joined the chorus of Troupers for *Pinafore* and *Trial by Jury* in 1987, after hearing about it from **Lucky Heath**. **Guy** and **Barbara** had attended Troupers' performances for the previous 10 years. **Guy** coordinated refreshments in 1988, tickets in 1989, became a board member in 1988 and has been on the board ever since. He was Vice President in 1989 and became Treasurer in 1996, a position he still holds. In addition, he negotiates the venue, helps with sets, tickets, costumes, and myriad other behind-the-scenes tasks.

Moving to Greenwich in the fall of 1964 after a year in India, **Diana Gladden** attended Troupers' performance of *Ruddigore* in 1965, paid her first Trouper dues in the fall of 1965 and joined the chorus of *The Mikado* in 1966. Before long she was involved in set building and stage crew and soon was appointed to the board. In 1974 she became the Technical Director, which encompassed set construction and stage crew for *Utopia Limited*.

In the fall of 1975, she moved to Branford, but continued to perform with Troupers until 1978, when the commute, coupled with her job, made it difficult to keep up with her many duties for Troupers. "In that final year, we did *Pinafore*, and **Carl Mezzof** was the Captain," she recalls.

For the next 21 years, she continued to pay dues solely to receive the *Trumpet* because she always had it in mind that she would return when she stopped travelling. She met **Connie Dean** on a train when **Connie** and **Ken** had just arrived from England and told her about Troupers. **Connie** and **Ken** went on to become stalwarts of Troupers for many, many years. The *Trumpet* finally paid off in 2001, when she and **Richard Huie** had the opportunity to join the chorus of *Pirates*. "You might say opportunity 'burst the bonds of art,' and here we are," she says. She still maintains that Troupers is a family. "It certainly has been mine."

Troupers in the Spotlight

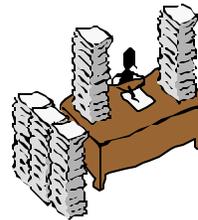
Carl Serbell tells us that the snowed-out December concert of the American Chamber Orchestra has been rescheduled for Friday, January 9 at 8 PM at the Playhouse on the Green, 177 State Street, Bridgeport. In addition to **Carl**, who will be playing a trumpet solo, featured members of the Troupers orchestra include: **Kate Altman**, Concert Master, **Lori Marden**, **Polly Jimenez**, **Anne Seymour**, **Peter Schuerch**, **Nancy Struve**, **Peter Schuerch**, **Peggy Hartman**, **Jean Bradley**, **Pamela Pollak**, **Jane Whitmore**, **Tony Marra**, and **Ray Weber**.

The concert will be conducted by **Chris Hisey**, who was our musical director last year. The program will be a mixture of high baroque and Mozart chamber music, including *Duo Sonata for Trumpets* by Jacchini, the *Viola Concerto in G Major* of Telemann (featuring Fiona Winning), and *Octet For Winds*, the 'Dissonant' *String Quartet* and the *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* all by Mozart. Tickets are \$20. Call 203-345-4800 ext. 150 for further information and directions.

Market Street Needs You More than Ever!

Within a few weeks, set building will be starting, but nothing can happen until Market Street is cleared out and things moved to the new space **Bill Simons** and his hard-working helpers have prepared in the back of the warehouse facility. If you can spare a few hours on a Saturday, call **Bill** at 203-324-7742 to make sure when he will be there. Directions to Market Street are on our web site.

Brochure Mailing Scheduled



On Saturday, January 24, the mailing of our *Mikado* brochure will take place. All hands welcome. Our mailing list consists of approximately 1800 names. Brochures need to be labeled, sorted by Zip Code, and prepared for mailing. Listen for the announcement at rehearsal or call **Barbara Stretton** at 203-637-5845 for further information.

Trouper Trumpet

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