

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA NEWS:

In January, St. Petersburg Opera will welcome Carlisle Floyd and his magnificent *Susannah*. Performances are on January 31, February 2 and 4. Based on the story of Susannah and the Elders, this opera is the most frequently performed American opera. *Susannah*, starring Susan Hellman and Todd Donovan, is fully staged at the Palladium Theater, 253 Fifth Ave., N., St. Petersburg. Call 727-823-2040 or visit our website at www.stpeteopera.org for tickets.

DINNER WITH A LEGEND: Meet world famous composer Carlisle Floyd, who wrote *Susannah* while he was teaching at Florida State University. Thursday, Jan. 30 at 6:00 p.m. at Opera Central, 2145 First Ave. S., St. Petersburg. Includes gourmet dinner and wine pairings plus entertainment.

SILENT AUCTION: Please bring your cash, check and items for the silent auction, which will continue again in February. Thanks to all of you who donated items in January and to those who participated. If your item doesn't sell, please be sure to take it home. There is no storage at the Country Club or at members' homes. You may bring it back again the next month. The silent auctions will continue until further notice. Video tapes from the George Laurent collection will be on sale again in February for \$2.00, or whatever donation you want to give to POL. The four boxes left will be brought to every luncheon until they are gone.

Pinellas Opera League

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*Dedicated To Promoting a Greater Interest
In Opera and Musical Theater*

President: Christina Alexander

Vice President: Marcia Lork

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Corresponding Secretary: Alyse Siegrist

LIVE FROM THE MET— There is no HD broadcast in January. The next one will be February 8, at 12:55 p.m. and will be Dvorak's *Rusalka*. The LIVE IN HD broadcasts are at the AMC Woodlands Square in Oldsmar, Pinellas Park Regal Theaters, and Regal Citrus Park.

Thanks to Diane Wood, in charge of Marketing at Opera Tampa, and POL member, for bringing over the singers from the Apprentice program at Opera Tampa who sang arias and songs. The singers who participated were Robyn Rocklein, Tim Wilt, along with the pianist Stephen Penn.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have 3 positions open on the board: Ways and Means, Publications, and Education.

Compiled by Richard Davidson
Designed and printed by Nancy Preis



The Aria

The Monthly Newsletter
of
Pinellas Opera League

FEBRUARY, 2014

Luncheon Meeting:

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Social time begins at 11:00 a.m., business meeting at 11:30 a.m., program at 11:45 a.m., and lunch is served at 12:30 p.m.

Dunedin Country Club, 1050 Palm Boulevard, Dunedin, FL 34698

Menu: Salad, Corned Beef with Cabbage and Potatoes, Scalloped Apples, Apple Pie With Sharp Cheddar Cheese

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS MUST be made by Sunday, February 2, and cancellations by Monday, February 3. Contact Nancy @727-738-4007. Cost \$20.00 cash or check only made out to Pinellas Opera League, payable at the door. Please come after 10:30 a.m.

**REMEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN
OUR 50/50 AT THE DOOR.**

Thanks to Dita Charlton, our photographer, for taking pictures at the December luncheon. If you would like to purchase a copy of any of the photos, please contact Dita at 813-368-6828 or by email dita@deeglamour

PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY LUNCHEON: Klassika

This popera or classical crossover group is comprised of Chris Romeo, tenor, Jolanda Nel, soprano, and Clint Shepherd, tenor.



LUNCHEON SPONSORS: If you sponsor our luncheon, you get to sit at the performers' table and chat with the artists. Please contact Nancy Jewitt at 727-738-4007. Sponsorship money is used to help pay for the performers' meals. We want to thank Middy Larson for sponsoring 2 luncheons for singers in December, Judy Macleod and Vi Fernandez also sponsored one lunch each for the singers.

DUES WERE DUE IN OCTOBER!
PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES to Ursula Wignall at the luncheon or mail to 2407 Flint Lock Dr., Clearwater, FL 33765-1726. Phone 727-796-7260. Dues for one year is \$25.00; family/couple \$40.00. The membership form is on our website-www.pinellasoperaleague.com. Welcome new member Peggy McDonald.

ADVENTURES IN OPERA AND MUSIC:
Lectures and performances have been put on hold for six months.

NEW VENUE: OPERA ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON: February 9, 2014 at the Safety Harbor Public Library, 101 2nd Street N, Safety Harbor, FL 34695; Meeting Room A. Telephone (727) 724-1525. *This is diagonally across the street from the Safety Harbor Spa.* There is parking in back of the library. Note that this is the **SECOND** Sunday of the month. The featured DVD is *Les Contes d' Hoffman* by Jacques Offenbach. Running time 127 minutes. The library door opens at 1:00 p.m. and the video begins at 1:30 p.m. There is **NO FEE** at this venue.

OPERA TAMPA: Once again, Opera Tampa will be offering the Florida Opera Festival package with special prices for a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. It will include tickets to the two operas, Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, on Sunday, Feb, 9, 2014, and Bizet's *Carmen*, Sunday March 16, 2014, and "*L'amour toujours*", a popera concert, Sunday Feb, 23, 2014. The total price for the package is \$145.00, with single tickets at \$65.00. The package includes price level B seats, service fees and roundtrip transportation via luxury motor coach to the Straz Center in Tampa. Reservation deadline is Jan. 20, 2014. Bus pickup at Clearwater Mall (US 19 and Gulf to Bay in the Lowe's garden center parking lot) at 12:30 p.m. Send checks made payable to Pinellas Opera League to Wayne Green 1340 Bayshore Blvd. #407, Dunedin FL 34698. For *Porgy and Bess*, please contact Wayne Green for tickets at a special price. There will be no bus with this ticket. You must find your own transportation.

RUTH ECKERD HALL: Pre-opera lectures will no longer be given the night of the opera due to the reorganization going on at Ruth Eckerd Hall. However, the Pinellas Opera League will again continue selling group tickets to the musical programs at Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Capitol Theater in downtown Clearwater.

January 25, Saturday, 8:00 p.m. will be "A Tribute To Pavarotti." A two hour program featuring a full orchestra and international soloists performing some of the most beloved arias and Italian folk songs associated with Pavarotti. Ticket price \$40.00. For tickets and information contact Wayne Green at 1340 Bayshore Blvd. #407 Dunedin, FL. 34698. Phone 727-470-9537.

Upcoming events, also on group sale ticket prices, include the "Irish Tenors" Monday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m. tickets \$40.00 (this performance is at the Capitol Theater.) At Ruth Eckerd Hall: "Ten Tenors", Sunday, April 6, at 2:00 p.m. tickets \$40.00, and "Wizard Of Oz" by Andrew Lloyd Webber, Tues. April 15, Wed. April 16, Thurs. April 17, Fri. April 18, Sat. April 19, tickets \$45.00 all programs begin at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices do not include dinner; if you want to make a dinner reservation, please do so on your own.

VALENTINES FUNDRAISER CRUISE. Pinellas Opera League will be holding a Valentine's fundraiser cruise on February 15, 2014 on the Starlite Dining Yacht out of Clearwater Beach. Boarding at 11:30 a.m., leaving at 12:00 p.m. The cruise includes a narrative of the harbor while drifting along the shore line. Reservations: Wayne Green, 727-470-9537. Tickets are \$45.00