

## 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. We'll have a special event where you can meet the composer and the stars in addition to our three performances. *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](http://www.stpeteopera.org) for tickets.

## EVENINGS WITH THE MAESTRO:

"In New Hope Valley: Preview to *Susannah*," January 16 at 6:00 p.m. at the Music Gallery, 5990 Ulmerton Road, Clearwater. Tickets are \$15 for seniors (\$20 general admission)

**SILENT AUCTION:** Please bring your cash, check and items for the silent auction, which will continue again in January. Thanks to all of you who donated items in December 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.

Compiled by Richard Davidson  
Designed and printed by Nancy Preis

## Pinellas Opera League

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

*Christina Alexander, M.A., President*

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Voting for officers took place at the December luncheon. The nominating committee, chair Patti Baldwin, Nancy Jewitt and Kay Slade, presented the slate, and beginning this month, the following officers will serve for the next two years.

President: Christina Alexander

Vice President: Marcia Lork

Treasurer: Dot Naegele

Recording Secretary: Sarah Roberts

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.

**IN MEMORIAM**— Diana Kiefer, a long time member, died November 27<sup>th</sup>. Diana taught music in Detroit schools and at the Kamehameha school in Honolulu. Diana participated with us in many of our programs and will be greatly missed.



## The Aria

The Monthly Newsletter  
of  
Pinellas Opera League

JANUARY, 2014

## Luncheon Meeting:

**Wednesday, January 8, 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:** Creamed Broccoli Soup, Pecan Crusted Chicken, Peas and Onions, Roasted Red Potatoes, Strawberry Shortcake

**LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS MUST** be made by Sunday, January 5, and cancellations by Monday, January 6. 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.

**PROGRAM FOR JANUARY LUNCHEON:** Diane Wood from Opera Tampa will be bringing over singers from the apprentice program who will be singing opera arias for us.

**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.

**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](http://www.pinellasoperaleague.com)

**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. see insert with entire package in the newsletter envelope and your newsletter email.

**DONATIONS-** Thanks to Joan and Harry McCreary for donating their raffle winnings and to Middy Larson for donating \$25.00 to the Mary Jo Bell Education Fund

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

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

**NEW VENUE: OPERA ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON** will continue on January 5, 2014 at the Safety Harbor Public Library, 101 2nd Street N, Safety Harbor, FL 34695; Meeting Room A. Telephone (727) 724-1525. Note that this is the **FIRST** Sunday of the month. The featured DVD is Johann Strauss Jr.'s *Die Fledermaus*. This is diagonally across the street from the Safety Harbor Spa. 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 NEWS:** 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 another program "*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 seating at price level B, service fees and roundtrip transportation via luxury motor coach to the Straz Center in Tampa. Diane Wood has put the package together at special prices for us. Reservation deadline is Jan. 8, 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, or pay at the luncheon.

**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.

Video tapes from the George Laurent collection will be on sale again in January 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.