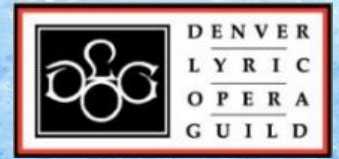


The Lyric Letter

**VOLUME 18, ISSUE 4. DECEMBER, 2018**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Denver Lyric Opera Guild is extremely blessed to have a pool of young, talented singers from up and down the Front Range—from Colorado State University at Fort Collins, the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, the Eklund Opera Group at the University of Colorado Boulder, Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver, Metropolitan State University in Denver, and Opera Theatre of the Rockies in Colorado Springs.

The Guild supports each of these entities with scholarships and grants, and they, in turn, are required by the Guild to provide entertainment at our Opera on Tuesday functions.

An excellent example of what the Eklund Opera Group can provide was experienced earlier this month at the Wellshire Event Center. Many of us who were there expressed our opinions that it was one of the best programs in many years!

The next Opera on Tuesday will be held at the Denver Country Club (hosted by Jim and Jenene Stookesberry) on Tuesday, January 8th, and will feature the Lamont School of Music. This group of very talented singers never ceases to please, so mark your calendar now. The deadline for Lynn Harrington to receive your check or online reservation is January 3rd. Please bring a guest or two and plan to be royally entertained!

We have an exciting few months ahead of us, with the Arias and Love Songs/Cork Pull on February 1st, the Vintage Treasures Sale in March, during the Finals of the annual Competition for Colorado Singers, followed by our amazing Awards Luncheon in April. You will be reading more about these events later in this newsletter, as well as information coming your way after the first of the year.

**BILL MACLAY, PRESIDENT****Best wishes for the Holiday Season!**

OPERA ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

**Eklund Opera, University of Colorado provided a delightful performance, including songs for the season.**

COMING SOON!



Arias & Love Songs

DLOG's annual fundraising event to kick off our 2019 Competition for Colorado Singers is quickly approaching. Be sure to save Friday, February 1, 2019 for a cocktail party / light opera event to raise funds for the Guild and our Competition. Cost is \$75 per person. You'll receive an invitation with all the details in the mail early in January, if not before.

Opera Colorado has graciously offered to host us at their beautiful new Opera Center, located at 4121 S. Navajo St. in Englewood. Located near the intersection of Santa Fe Drive and Oxford, the Center is in the Oxford Station Apartment Complex. We will have complementary valet parking, heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer. Best of all, Opera Colorado's Artists in Residence (formerly called Young Artists) will entertain us with arias and love songs for your favorite valentine.

Cork Pull

A "cork pull" will be part of the fundraiser. This involves buying a chance to win a bottle of wine. (Our members have been busily asking for donated bottles of wine from their favorite liquor store, or from friends and family.) If you would like to donate a bottle or two, bring them to Opera on Tuesday, and Mary Jo Weiker and Leah Hamilton will gladly collect them. It promises to be a fun party!

by Becky Gantner and Marie Belew Wheatley, co-chairs

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

We have many fun functions coming up in 2019: Opera on Tuesdays, Arias and Love Songs, Preliminary Competition, Vintage Treasures, the Final Competition and the Judges Reception. These are all perfect opportunities to introduce friends and family to DLOG and the joy of supporting young opera singers in their career pursuits. We would love to grow our organization and share wonderful singing with many guests and potential members. Help us out - Bring Your Friends!

by Marleen Diamond, Membership V.P.

Denver Lyric Opera Guild Presents ***Arias & Love Songs***



February 1, 2019

6:00 - 9:00 pm

DenverLyricOperaGuild.org

Invitations will be mailed by January 1

COMING SOON: PREMIERE DLOG EVENT!

Vintage Treasures Sale and Preview Party

The Vintage Treasures Sale, scheduled for Saturday, March 30, 2019 (same day as the Competition Finals) is shaping up to be a fabulous NEW event for the Guild. Many of our members are well aware of this event, as they have collected and/or donated quite a number of wonderful treasures for the sale.



"See you at the Vintage Treasure Sale!"



- Limoges demitasse cups/saucers
- assorted tea cups
- vintage jewelry
- Brooches
- designer handbags
- fine linens
- vintage dolls and toys
- white kid Parisian gloves
- Waterford champagne flutes
- exquisite Japanese teapot with matching cups and saucers
- mid-century vases and tabletop accessories
- sets of silver flatware
- designer handbags

At each of our DLOG events, we always have a table to "show off" some of the items that will be for sale, and inevitably, someone sees something that they really, really want, and are ready to buy it on the spot. Not so fast! Even the committee members have to wait. BUT you don't have to wait until the sale is open to the public.

DLOG members and guests are invited to preview and get first shot at the treasures during the Preview Party on Friday, March 29, 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church. Cost for the Preview Party is \$25 per person, and will include light refreshments and adult beverages. Come early, buy early, then be free to enjoy the Competition Finals on Saturday.

This wonderful Vintage Treasures Sale will be promoted on Estatesales.net, Craigslist.com and Academy for Lifelong Learning in addition to the email list for the Calvary Baptist Church community. This way we hope to expose new people to the Competition and to the Guild.



We're still seeking donated treasures, so please go through your jewelry box, china cabinet, and closets looking for items to donate. We are happy to help you pack up and transport what you donate...AND everything doesn't have to be vintage...just something that someone will treasure. If you have questions about whether an item is suitable for the sale, just call and ask us.

Joanne Fisher 303-781-4390

Marie Belew Wheatley 303-986-7116

REMEMBERING
MYRNA JEAN DENHOLM
(1930-2017)

We three little girls learned early that music is part of life, bringing family together and adding depth to every experience. The upright piano was always in our midst. Piano lessons from ages 4-14 also meant endless lesson practices and wrong notes ringing in the house for a couple decades. Much more *beautiful* music, however was enjoyed by our parents over the Hi-Fi, radio, frequent ballroom dances and professional performances. A custom cabinet was built for the numerous opera albums!

As young kids, after our Dad died at a young age, we joined the sing-along around that same upright with all our out-of-town aunts and uncles. That would forever serve us as a symbol of the deep family bond that comes with music. It was their most automatic choice to heal our immense shared pain. The music brought out laughter with the tears.

We wonder how opera became a passion of our parents, a young couple, both from rural farm families in South Dakota, with little or no city exposure to cultural arts. Music brought them together; smiling Myrna playing excellent piano at college gatherings and handsome Robert noticing her talent and setting up a blind date through a friend. Did he hear opera while serving as a WWII Marine in the Pacific overseas, or in Chicago at graduate school? Perhaps, but as newlyweds in Denver in the early 1950's, the love was there. Friendships and LP's abounded around the love for opera music and performances. We little girls all knew how much our Dad loved Roberta Peters!

As a 38-year-old widow, Myrna raised three kids and had full-time nursing career. Maybe it was a deeply personal link to her husband that led her to continue her commitment to opera. What a commitment it was! Nothing stopped her. By plane, train & automobile she got there, attending remarkable performances all over the world: New York City, Chicago, London, Paris and the Sydney Opera house, to name a few. She drove carpools to DCPA, and ventured often to Central City. Later, in her 80's, when driving was tougher, she took the Light Rail --- by herself, with courage and dedication.

A Saturday morning mother-daughter consult by phone was tough with KVOD Opera playing loudly in the background! Over many years, hosting opera competitors in her home, volunteering at the holiday show homes, and attending events and meetings was her way of giving back to DLOG for the fulfillment, lifelong friendships and beautiful music she received. Playing cards and finding Liverpool buddies was a new sweet highlight of her retirement community life in her mid-80's.

Myrna was petite but her example of living life large is her legacy. We learned even more by her example than her words. Music was always there for her; and now, it is always there for us through her. Her joyous memorial service, with an opera soloist singing *La Boheme's Donde Lieta* and a piano solo of *Edelweiss* gives us the visual image of her blowing

a kiss of musical notes and flower petals of joy. Now we share that joy to the world via our monetary gift to the DLOG young talent competition. Thank you DLOG. Please feel us blowing you a kiss for all the joy, comfort and support you have given our family.

Myrna took piano lessons as a small child in the 1930's and continued playing until the very end. The family upright continues to be enjoyed by relatives with little children learning piano. She died unexpectedly in her sleep at age 87, after a 4-day celebration weekend of movies, meals, & a midnight card game with her three girls.

We have a large collection of piano sheet music and vintage Etude music magazines from the 1940's to share if anyone is interested to obtain! Contact dianne@dleas.com

**Written by Dianne Denholm, eldest of 3 daughters;
also Bonnie & Jeannie**

Myrna's wishes for
remembrance have been
honored with this DLOG
\$1,000 Memorial Award
and a bronze brick paver
which can be viewed in
the Denver Botanic
Gardens Rose garden.



COMPETITION

It's hard to believe that the Holiday Season is already upon us! That means shopping, baking, and all the many other holiday activities that keep us all so very busy. But most importantly, it means sharing special times with friends and family. For DLOG members and many young Colorado opera singers it also means that the Denver Lyric Opera Guild 2019 Competition for Colorado Singers is just around the corner.

We are very excited about this year's Competition and the fun and fabulous events that accompany it. As always, we will have the Competition itself, the Master Class, the Judges' Reception and our April Opera on Tuesday celebrating the Competition winners. Details on all of these events will be available on the Guild's website and will also be available on fliers. Remember to mark your calendars! After all, supporting these young singers is what DLOG is all about!

by Karen Bruggenthies

Competition Timeline

ARIAS AND LOVE SONGS

*Friday, February 1, 2019, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm at
Opera Colorado's new facility in Englewood.*

Come be serenaded by Opera Colorado's young artists. A night of food, wine, good fellowship, some surprises and beautiful love songs, all to benefit the Guild and young Colorado Opera singers. What could be better?

MASTER CLASS

*Saturday, February 16, 2019
9:00 am - 4:30 pm at Calvary Baptist Church*

Cherity Koepke, head of the Resident Artists program of Opera Colorado, will conduct a fun and informative Master Class for 13 of this year's Competition candidates. Come for all or part of this interesting event. We all appreciate beautiful operatic performances. This class will help you understand some of the hard work and technique that goes into creating those performances. If you have never been to a Master Class, I would highly recommend giving it a try. I guarantee you will not be disappointed! Free and open to the public.

COMPETITION PRELIMINARIES

*Saturday, March 16, 2019
9:00 am - 5:00 pm at Calvary Baptist Church*

Come see around 40 of Colorado's best young opera singers compete for cash prizes (and bragging rights). You can't beat it—a full day of beautiful singing absolutely free and the Competition is open to the public! Come and go as you please.

**(Vintage Treasures Preview Sale
& Cocktail Party, 3/29/19)**

(Vintage Treasures Sale, 3/30/19)

COMPETITION FINALS

*Saturday, March 30, 2019
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm at Calvary Baptist Church*

See the top fifteen young singers perform in front of world class judges. All fifteen finalists receive cash prizes and all will receive invaluable feedback from our panel of judges. These are the best young opera singers in Colorado and many past finalists have gone on to have wonderful careers in opera. This event is free and open to the public. We'd love to have you come and bring a guest as there is no better opportunity for people to see and appreciate what DLOG is all about than our Competition Finals.

JUDGES' RECEPTION

*Saturday, March 30, 2019
Following Finals at Wellshire Inn*

Come meet this year's judges and Competition winners in an informal setting. Hear their candid (and often amusing) answers to your questions. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and wine are included in the entry fee (\$35.00), and enjoy a full cash bar.

APRIL OPERA ON TUESDAY (AWARDS LUNCHEON)

*Tuesday, April 9, 2019
11:00 am - 1:00 pm at Pinehurst Country Club*

Come meet our top ten Competition winners, hear them sing and see them receive their well-deserved awards all while enjoying a delicious lunch.

Opera on Tuesday

NOVEMBER 6 AT LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB



Maradith Wilkins, Mary Sharon Wells, Karen Saliman, Trish Panze



Charity Koepke with the pianist and singers
from the Opera Colorado Young Artists.

DECEMBER 4 AT WELLSHIRE EVENT CENTER



Barbara Berryman
Marie Belew Wheatley
Becky Gantner

CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR!!

COME JOIN US FOR

OPERA ON TUESDAY

JANUARY 8, 2019

11:00 am Program / 12:00 pm lunch

DENVER COUNTRY CLUB

***1700 E. 1st Ave
Denver, CO 80218***

**Featuring: Lamont School of Music
University of Denver**

Reservations: \$40.00

**Please indicate any dietary restrictions
on check or Paypal**

Deadline: Thursday, January 3, 2019

***Reserve online through Paypal on the DLOG
website: denverlyricoperaguild.org
or***

Send check payable to DLOG to:

**Lynn Harrington
9997 Raleigh Street
Westminster, CO 80031
303-464-0659**

DCC: "No cell phone use please"

LIVERPOOL CARD GROUP

With our sizeable membership, we know there are more people out there who like to play cards.

Liverpool is the game for you! It is a Rummy game that takes five minutes or less to learn. We play Liverpool for camaraderie and to have fun, but most importantly to raise money for one of the competition grants. We need to have a fairly large group but have lost many members due to poor health, declining eyesight, and passing away. So we need to rebuild our members in the card group. Please consider joining the Liverpool Card Group so we can continue to give our grant each year.

Here are the details: We meet once a month on the 4th Tuesday at 11:30 am --- eat lunch at a restaurant, paying for our own lunch ---- pay \$10,00 each time (tax deductible as a donation) which goes directly into the Liverpool Card Group Grant -- and pay 50 cents each time into a "pot" to pay the day's game winner.

Call Deanna Leino at (303) 424-2641 (leave a message if she is not home) to let her know you are interested.

Hope many of you can join us!

by Deanna Leino



Liverpool group: Jenene Stookesbury, Linda Young, Deanna Leino, our favorite waiter at Citron where we often dine, Phyllis Wicklund and Marleen Diamond.

NOTES ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

*We have five new members
to welcome!*

ROBERT DOTY303-949-8169

1636 S. Holland Ct.
Lakewood, CO 80232
rdoty@frie.com

VIRGINIA PFEIFER303-377-7780

800 N. Pearl St. #503
Denver, CO 80203
ginny82640@gmail.com

REBECCA MCALISTER.....303-697-6153

6065 Meadowbrook Dr.
Morrison, CO 80465
gardengoddess2002@comcast.net

PENELOPE GRAHAM720-236-9035

13999 E. Chenango Dr.
Aurora, CO 80015
penny1224@gmail.com

ANNE CAMPBELL303-880-1012

1421 S. Josephine St., Denver, CO 80210
ameelia2002@yahoo.com



Left to right: Robert Doty, Virginia Pfeifer, Kathleen Meyer, Rebecca McAlister.

Corrections to the Roster

Email for Phyllis Batty:
rogbat3@comcast.net

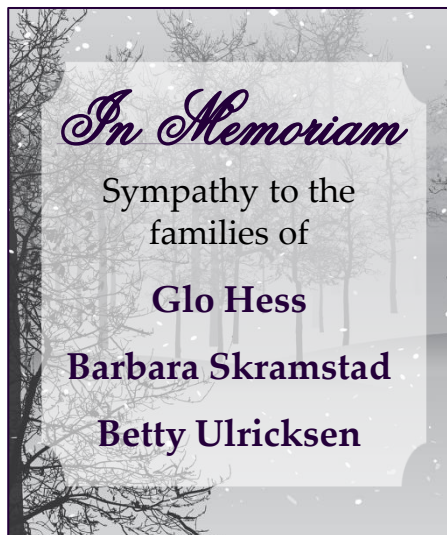
Address for Carol Koclanes:
2800 S. University Blvd.

Phone Number for Dominic Donato:
303-284-7577

New Address

Virginia Freedberg
2020 S. Monroe St. #816
Denver, CO 80210

GLO HESS was a member of DLOG for many, many years. She served on numerous committees throughout those years, was treasurer for several two-year terms, was parliamentarian several times, and served as president elect in 2001-2002 and then president in 2002-2003. She was an avid card player and spearheaded the Liverpool Card Group for years. Her niece described Glo as a strong, independent woman with a seasoned singing voice. She was simple, straight-forward, a reference guide, and passionate about issues. We will miss her a lot. Per her request there was no memorial service; she is buried in the family plot in Sarasota, Wyoming. Donations may be made to the Glo Hess Memorial Fund at DLOG.



BARBARA SKRAMSTAD (along with Mary Grimm) took over the Liverpool Card Group and kept it going until health problems became an issue. Barbara also held the office of VP of Membership and newsletter editor and also served on many committees throughout the years. Her memorial service was October 15.

BETTY ULRICKSEN was a devoted member of DLOG for many years. She served on a number of committees and was part of the bridge group when it existed. Her service was October 19.

**We will miss all of these wonderful ladies.
Donations may be made to DLOG in their memory.**

by Deanna Leino

Designed and formatted by Deborah Natelson



DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD
P.O. Box 339
Englewood, CO 80151