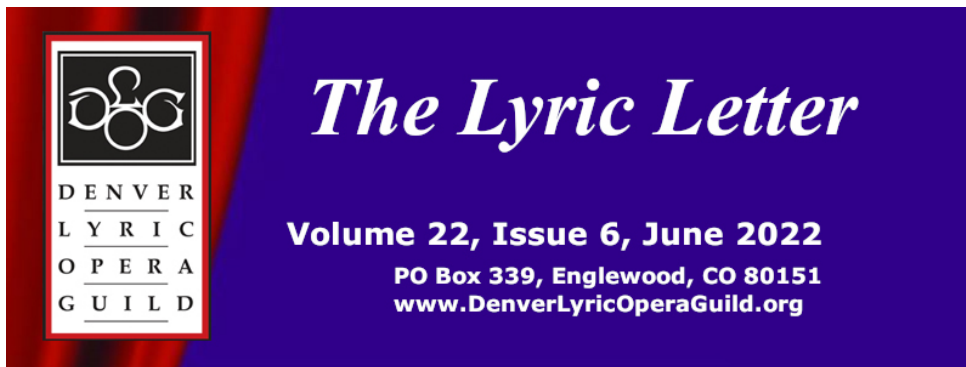


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Notes from the President

The board of directors of DLOG had its first board meeting on June 6 at the Englewood Library and a work session on Jun 8 as noted in another article within the newsletter. It was a good time for board members to talk about the future and ways we can refocus on the educational goals and support for the art of singing in Colorado.

The Summer Party Committee (Becky Gartner, Lisa Curtis, Marleen Diamond and Gayle Landis) have done an excellent job of putting together a special evening of songs and entertainment organized by Jeremy Reger, assistant professor at CU, Boulder. The committee is focusing on expanding and retention of members as part of the Summer Party agenda. As is the custom of DLOG events, food and entertainment will be first class. I invite you to mark your calendars and even better [MAKE A RESERVATION](#), bring guests and enjoy the evening of good food and wine with some really fun songs from the gold rush days of Colorado.

You will not be disappointed unless you miss this wonderful annual event!

Dennis Jackson - President 2022-2023
Denver Lyric Opera Guild

Our Mission

The encouragement and support of young singers, and the continuing educations of members in the appreciation and knowledge of opera.

Please Join Us for the DLOG

2022 Summer Party!

Be a Guest!
Song by Song you'll be impressed!
Come along and raise a glass
Join a group that raises cash!
Course by course, one by one
Songsters sing until they're done!
Sakes alive, and we'll be blessed
If you will Please,
Be a Guest!

“Silver Circuit”

DLOG Summer Party
Sunday, August 7, 2022
Columbine Country Club
5:00 pm ~ 8:00 pm

Members may bring guests at no cost!
Watch your (e)-Mail for more Details!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

or

Send a check and names of attendees to:
Becky Gantner
2082 Montane Dr. East
Golden, CO 80401

Work session for Denver Opera League June 8, at Columbine Country Club



The newly elected DLOG Board had a productive work session starting with a light dinner arranged by Gayle Landis at the Columbine Country Club on June 8. We had topics of discussion ranging from Opera Luncheons on Tuesday, the Competition, fund raising, education of our members on opera and how we can get our message and mission out to the public.

It was a focused work session with lots of ideas exchanged. Realizing the Opera on Tuesday has great programs provided by the opera departments of our universities and local opera companies, we talked about how we can fulfill our mission of enhancing the education of our members and expanding our membership.

Our competition is one of the better organized and funded in the United States, so the focus was how do we enlighten Colorado citizens to its value and existence. The singers in the competition show growth via the masterclass and the critiques of their work by the judges. DLOG is not connected to an opera company like other opera guilds around the country as the Competition is our mission. So, how do we brand our image and special mission to people in the greater Denver area so we have better attendance and appreciation of the hard work done by the committees as well as the singers.

As with all self studies, the work of the board will now focus on implementing those ideas brought to the work session.

Your board welcomes your suggestions for improving the luncheons, membership ideas and how we can improve our goals of education and support of the "art of singing".

Members are always welcome to attend board meetings and those meetings will be published so you may attend.

Dennis Jackson

Honoring Anne Kotch on her 100th Birthday!



Anne Kotch turns 100 years old on June 27! Anne and her late husband Alex joined DLOG over 30 years ago, when “we met in members’ homes,” per Anne. Although Alex served on the board of directors, Anne supports our mission with her generous annual donations.

Anne grew up in Yogyakarta, South Java in the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia.) She lived through the Japanese occupation during WWII. While full-blooded Dutch were placed in internment camps, Anne was descended from Dutch and Indonesian ancestors some 200 years before. She heard her grandmother state this to the Japanese and Anne followed in her footsteps and both escaped internments.

After WWII ended, Sukarno started his Indonesian uprising. Anne’s husband at the time was head of the police force on Borneo and had put two rebels in jail. Once they got out, they came to Anne’s town, Balikpapan, with the intent of killing Anne and her young daughter. Her servant prevented them from killing Anne, and the next morning her neighbor – who was a manager for KLM in Balikpapan arranged for Anne and her daughter to fly to her mother in Jakarta. Unfortunately, the rebels later killed her chauffeur.

Anne’s husband got to Jakarta to arrange for Anne and their daughter’s departure by small ship to the Netherlands. The ship traveled through the Indian Ocean, Suez Canal, Mediterranean Sea, around Gibraltar to the Atlantic, Bay of Biscay, North Sea and to Rotterdam where her father met them. She and her daughter settled in the Hague with her father. Anne’s husband later joined them, but they were divorced in 1951.

She worked as a secretary and met American Alex Kotch on a blind date on a Friday the 13th later in 1951. Alex was working on a Fulbright Scholarship in Delft. There was an immediate connection and in 3 weeks, Alex asked her to marry him. Anne replied that she needed more time. But she was smitten, and Anne and Alex were married in March 1952.

The newlyweds honeymooned throughout Europe. In Antwerp, Alex introduced Anne to Opéra comique, a genre of French opera that contains spoken dialogue and arias. They saw operas in Paris, Barcelona, Majorca, Nice, Geneva, then ended with a Wagner opera in Strasburg before returning to the Netherlands.

Soon, the family moved to Wilmington, Delaware where Alex worked for DuPont. Although Alex was born into a large family of a Russian-born coal miner in Pennsylvania, he graduated from college at 16 years and received his PhD in Chemistry at age 23. During their time there, Anne had three more children, 2 boys and a girl.

She was not fond of Wilmington, so was happy to move outside Washington D.C. after Alex secured a job with The National Science Foundation where he reviewed and arranged grants to university chemistry departments. Anne adored the mid-Atlantic coast for the 8 years they were there, including visits to the Washington National Opera.

Then Alex was named Associate Chairman of the Chemistry Department at the University of Wisconsin in Madison which they called home for 10 years. They attended the Madison Opera and Anne helped build the set for their production of *The Ballad of Baby Doe*.

When Alex was asked to help initiate the Solar Energy Research Institute in Golden, the family came to Colorado. It was a great opportunity but after 5 years, Alex left due to questionable management practices at the top, including laying off hundreds of tenured staff.

He secured a position at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks and became the volunteer manager for the North Dakota-Manitoba District Met auditions. But after 10 cold years, they returned to Golden where Alex retired.

Alex immediately joined DLOG and Anne became involved later. They attended events, going on DLOG national opera tours, and enjoying the camaraderie of other members. Alex passed away 10 years ago of Parkinson's Disease, but Anne continues to attend opera, the Met auditions and DLOG events as she is able. She says, "I am still enjoying this organization and its members." Her favorite opera is Verdi's *Don Carlos* followed by *La fanciulla del West (The Girl of the West)* by Puccini. Anne lives in her own home in Applewood with the support of her youngest daughter Jennifer.

Although Anne will be 100, she looks much younger and remembers everything about her life! We honor her generous philanthropy to DLOG over the years and wish her a very Happy Birthday!

If you wish to send a card to Anne, her address is 3030 Eldridge St., Golden, 80401.

Lisa Curtis

Membership Renewals Reminder

We are happy that so many have returned their membership renewals. If you haven't yet, please send in your membership renewals soon or [renew online at the DLOG website](#).

For questions, please contact: Marleen Diamond at marleendiamond@gmail.com

Marleen Diamond

Opera Around Town



BOULDEROPERA

An Opera Cabaret: *Le French Affaire*
June 25th - 3pm, Larimer Square, Denver

Boulder Opera Company presents a concert of French romantic opera with a cabaret theme.

Inspired by the drama of love and passion, the program *Le French Affaire* is a special arrangement of arias, duets, and trios from the French Romantic period.

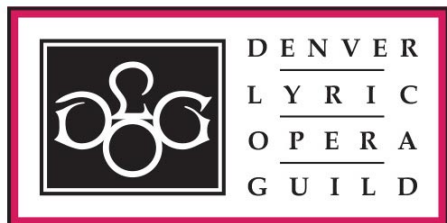
For more info visit: <https://www.boulderoperacompany.com/upcoming-concerts>



The Light in the Piazza

July 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, Central City

Central City is kicking off their 90th anniversary season with the breathtaking Tony-Award winning musical, *The Light in the Piazza*. **Opening night dinner and performance in Central City on Saturday, July 2nd: [Tickets Here](#)**



DENVER LYRIC OPERA
GUILD

P.O. Box 339
Englewood, CO 80151



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