

GUILD ORGANIZATION FOR 2012

At the annual meeting on September 25, Guild members elected the following to the board, class of 2013:

Walter Ashley	Don Fenner
Fran Bliven	Abby Kreh Gibson
Mary Brodzinsky	Richard Johnson
Don Drake	Richard Redmond
Sue Drake	Carol Steigelman

At the meeting Guild members reviewed activities of the year just past with reports from officers and committee chairs and also looked ahead to events in the coming year. Richard Blanton, newly appointed Company Manager, summarized aspects of his position and described planning for the 2012 Festival.

The Guild board met on Wednesday, October 26, and elected the following officers for the coming year:

President: Thomas Simpson
 Vice President: Corinne Plummer
 Treasurer: Donald Fenner
 Secretary: Karin de Waal

HOLIDAY PARTY

It's that time of year again. Get ready for the Guild's annual holiday party in which we wish the greetings of the season to Glimmerglass Festival staff. We'll gather at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, December 20, in the Woodcock Administration Building. Please phone Chris McNaughton (607-547-2380) for details and to let her know what goodies you will bring.

REPORTING VOLUNTEER HOURS

Guild members are asked to assemble their record volunteer hours for the calendar year 2011 and turn them in no later than December 31. Please include time spent in committee or board meetings, food preparation and serving, shopping, telephoning, emailing, and other activities in which service is rendered to the company. Please include all travel time related to these activities.

Ushering is not included here, as it is reported elsewhere. Also not included is attendance at Festival events for which volunteer service is not rendered. Total volunteer hours are reported to the company and included in a variety of reports and need to be as inclusive as possible. Also, one free opera ticket is earned per 16 hours of service, with a maximum of four tickets.

Hours should be sent to Martha Duke, 1638 Lawton Ave., Macon, GA 31201 or emailed to marthajo31201@yahoo.com. Call Martha with questions at 478-808-6957.

MARTHA DUKE

STAFF NEWS

We welcome the following new staff to The Glimmerglass Festival:

- Richard Blanton, Company Manager. Guild members had the opportunity to greet him when he spoke at the recent membership meeting.
- Russell Gilbert, Production Coordinator
- Carolyne Hall, Assistant to Francesca Zambello
- Jake Anderson, Development Associate
- Merritt Schifano, Group Sales and Box Office Assistant
- Kerryanne Kennedy, whom many of us knew in her position as House Manager, has recently joined the audience services staff at Syracuse Opera.

GLIMMERGLASS FESTIVAL 2012, JULY 7 - AUGUST 27

Verdi's *Aida* • Meredith Willson's *The Music Man* • Lully's *Armide*
 Kurt Weill and Maxwell Anderson's *Lost in the Stars*

GLIMMERGLASS OPERA GUILD

P.O. Box 191, Cooperstown, NY 13326

www.glimmerglass.org

Officers and Board

President..... Thomas Simpson
 Vice President Corinne Plummer
 Secretary Karin de Waal
 Treasurer Donald Fenner

Committee Chairs

Communications Susan Newman
 Education Mary Brodzinsky
 Fund-Raising Susan Huxtable
 Grounds (ad hoc)..... Jean Lyon
 Hospitality Christine McNaughton
 Membership Rita Emanuel
 Volunteer Services Martha Duke

Board Members (at large)

Ernest Adams	Abby Kreh Gibson
Walter Ashley	Cynthia Goertemoeller
Frances Bliven	William Goertemoeller
Ed Brodzinsky	Richard Johnson
Donald Drake	Mary Kuhn
Susan Drake	Richard Redmond
Mary Ellen Fenner	Carol Steigelman

OVI Representative:

Walter Briggs

Company Trustee Representatives

Felicia H. Blum	John Irvin
Henry S.F. Cooper, Jr.	Robert B. Schlather

Company Representative: Brittany Lesavoy

News & Notes is the bimonthly newsletter of the Glimmerglass Opera Guild.

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Member of

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It is with pleasure that I extend greetings to you as your new president.

On behalf of all Guild members, I want to thank Ed Brodzinsky for his excellent leadership these last two years. During his tenure the Guild's wide-ranging support of the Festival grew significantly drawing praise from both the Glimmerglass Festival Board and the Artistic & General Director. Happily, Ed will not be leaving the Board but will remain a very active member.

The world did not come to an end on August 23. However, when the final curtain fell on the 2011 season that day, many Guild members probably wondered why life suddenly seemed so troublingly quiet. Members logged thousands of hours in preparation for the season, and then, rather abruptly, with the final chord from the orchestra, it was over.

Fortunately, that "what do we do now" feeling was short-lived. Only two months have passed since Carmen drew her final breath, and already Guild members are looking forward to 2012. Meetings are being held, and committees are even now announcing plans for expanded activity in the upcoming season. A very real sense of excitement is emerging as 2012 begins to take shape.

All members who have not taken the opportunity to become involved in various Guild activities are certainly urged to do so; not only to support the enterprise we all treasure (why else would we be members?) but also for the friendships made and the very positive sense of purpose that comes with being an active member. No amount of time is too little.

The Guild offers a widening range of activities in support of the company whose success is so vital to the arts in our area. If you would like to take a more active part or if you have suggestions for ways in which the Guild might increase its support of Glimmerglass, please contact me by mail at the Festival offices or by e-mail at tlullsimpson@msn.com. I will be happy to hear from you.

It is an honor to serve as your president. Thank you.

THOMAS SIMPSON

NEW MEMBER

We welcome this new member to the Glimmerglass Opera Guild:

Patricia Kavanagh

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

As a Guild member, are you receiving e-mail notices of current happenings in the Guild? If not, Mary Margaret Kuhn may not have your e-mail address.

Please send your e-mail address to her at:
glimmerglassoperaguild@gmail.com.

GLIMMERGLASS GOES TO THE WORLD

In her introductory remarks at the September ground breaking for the rehearsal hall, Glimmerglass board chair Elizabeth Eveillard used a beautiful image: The world comes to Glimmerglass. Glimmerglass goes to the world. Here she pointed out how the audiences coming to Glimmerglass represent all parts of our nation and many foreign countries. Similarly, Glimmerglass goes to the world. We are aware of Glimmerglass artists performing on operatic stages in this nation as well as overseas venues.

Glimmerglass goes to the world in another way. Its productions are also presented on opera stages throughout the world. Other audiences can enjoy what we first experienced here in the Alice Busch Opera Theater.

Renting an opera

Check the Glimmerglass web site under the heading, Production Rentals. There you will find 36 opera productions listed, with scenery and costumes ready to go. They range from *The Abduction from the Seraglio* through *La Traviata*.

Additionally, for the adventuresome company there is available the protean set conceived and designed in 2008 by John Conklin, “an evocation of the Globe Theater, a space for which Shakespeare wrote and a stage upon which he most certainly acted.” As demonstrated in the Festival that year, this setting was most adaptable, for productions ranging from Handel to a Broadway musical.

A company may choose to rent just the costumes or the sets. In some cases, it may be a complete package, including the director. At times some of the same artists may also appear in the production. Rental charges happily augment the company’s annual income.

Operas shared

During Paul Kellogg’s years at Glimmerglass and as general director of New York City Opera, the two companies shared many productions, with Glimmerglass audiences getting a preview of what was in store for New York City. Possibly the most beloved production of that era was the 1997 Mark Lamos/Michael Yeagan *Madama Butterfly*. It graced the NYCO stage for many years and traveled with that company for performances in Japan. Additionally, it was staged in Cincinnati.

Well-traveled productions also include *Paul Bunyan* from 1995, which appeared at NYCO, Florida Grand Opera, and Omaha; the 2001 *L’Etoile*, which appeared twice at NYCO as well as at Cincinnati, Austin, Montreal, and a forthcoming trip to Norway.

The 2001 *Le Nozze di Figaro* had productions at Florida Grand Opera, Yale, Madison, Pittsburgh, and a forthcoming trip to Portland, Oregon. Portland also recently used the 2007 *Glass Orphée*, and a Virginia trip is planned for it. Vancouver has benefited from the 2009 *La Traviata*, and NYCO plans a production of it in 2012. Other cities include San Francisco for *The Mother of Us All* (1998) and Washington for *Don Pasquale* (1996).

How it happens

When a rental is arranged, Glimmerglass sends a scenery supervisor and customer supervisor to the site to help put the show together. Abby Rodd, Director of Production, is often involved in this operation.

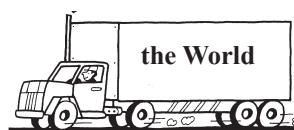
Abby remarks: “It is different in every venue. For me the most valuable part of the rentals is that I get to go see how folks work in other places. I usually pick up a few good ideas everywhere I go. But, you have to be really on the ball because there is always a very limited amount of time and a bunch of union stagehands staring at you and waiting for the next step. The first couple of hours is like being on trial. Then they start to see that I know what I am doing and they will get home faster if they listen to me.”

Versatility

Sets have also proved to be versatile. Consider John Conklin’s 2007 set for Gluck’s *Orphée et Eurydice*. Boston Lyric Opera used it for its recent *Idomeneo*. The most versatile set, however, is Donald Eastman’s 2005 *Death in Venice*, which went to Boston Lyric Opera and served as the basis for Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*. Not only that, it returned to Glimmerglass and in 2010 became the foundation structure for the four operas: *Tosca*, *The Tender Land*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and *Tolomeo*.

With the storage building in Warren, Glimmerglass now has good facilities for costume and set storage. Soon the rehearsal hall will be built next to it and provide an ancillary campus for the Glimmerglass Festival.

RICHARD JOHNSON



Glimmerglass

OPERA GUILD

News & Notes

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Cooperstown, NY 13326
www.glimmerglass.org

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FIRST NIGHT FUND 2012

No sooner had the 2011 Festival closed than two sponsors for the Guild's First Night Fund stepped forward to sponsor opening night cast parties for the 2012 Festival.

Continuing her support for the Fund in its two initial years, Mary Dunkle will again organize a small group of contributors and sponsor the cast party for *Lost in the Stars*. Corinne Plummer, whose introduction to opera was *Aida* at the Met more than 40 years ago, will sponsor with her husband Lyn Edinger the cast party for *Aida*'s opening at Glimmerglass. Interested sponsors for *Armide* and *The Music Man* should contact the First Night Fund administrator Bob Schlather (607-547-5253).

REPORT FROM TRUSTEES MEETING

On September 16 and 17 the Glimmerglass Board of Trustees held a two-day special meeting as a way of letting board members become more familiar with the physical property of the company as well as hearing first-hand about how the staff works year-round in running Glimmerglass.

Board members and their spouses toured the opera house as well as a number of buildings used to house seasonal staff and interns. We were brought up to date on various on-going projects such as the new sprinkler system which is about to be installed in the opera house. A very informative round table discussion by the various members of the staff presented insights into the current workings of the staff.

The weekend culminated with the groundbreaking for Glimmerglass' long-planned rehearsal hall, adjacent to the warehouse facility on Route 20 in the Town of Warren. Plans call for construction of the rehearsal hall to start in the spring of 2012 and be ready for use in the 2013 season.

ED BRODZINSKY

2012 SEASON BOOK LIST

Here is a recommended reading list from Francesca Zambello to assist you in getting ready for 2012:

Aida

Egypt on the Brink: From Nasser to Mubarak, by Tarek Osman. Rev. ed., New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011.

Armide

The Liberation of Jerusalem, by Torquato Tasso. With an introduction and notes by Mark Davie. Translated by Max Wickert. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Understanding Islam and the Muslims: Expanded to Include The Muslim Family and Islam and World Peace, by T.J. Winter and John A. Williams. Louisville, KY: Fors Vitae, 2002.

Lost in the Stars

Cry, the Beloved Country, by Alan Paton. [Numerous editions available.]

Kurt Weill: A Handbook, by David Drew. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987.

The Music Man

And There I Stood with My Piccolo, by Meredith Willson. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009.

FUND-RAISING

The Fund-Raising Committee, Susan J. Huxtable, Carol Steigelman, Nancy Irvin, Corinne Plummer, Tom Simpson, Nancy Tarr, Jennifer Brickley, Robert Schlather, and Dominick Reisen would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's success. Now on to 2012!

SUSAN J. HUXTABLE