

OPERA CLUB MEETING – October 25, 2018

Gerri Piscitelli, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed all. The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gerri announced that Roy Ullrich is suffering from Atrial Fibrillation and asked every one to keep him in their prayers. She also announced that Frank Ridge's wife, Lois, had passed away.

Gerri spoke of the simulcasts at The Rialto theater. The operas "Aida" and "Samson and Delilah" have been shown and have been repeated also. The next simulcast will be "Girl of The Golden West." She said the simulcasts are interesting because you see backstage where they are moving props around and they also have interviews with the performers during intermission. The Rialto is giving The Opera Club \$1 for each ticket sold.

As of this date, only 252 tickets have been sold for "The Enchanted Evening." It will be a wonderful experience with a pianist, a guitarist, a soprano and a baritone.

Gerry spoke of the Charity at Belks. On November 3, there will be a lot of 80% off sales.

Gerri announced that there should be no solicitations at our Club meetings.

Marty Taylor, Scholarship, said that Roy had printed labels for mailing to the contacts at 76 high schools in the tri-county area. She announced that Pearl Kosa and Maggie Dick have joined the scholarship committee. Marty said that the committee will make personal contacts with high school teachers to assist in helping students apply for scholarships.

Pauline Pan, The Enchanted Evening, said "The Enchanted Evening" is being performed at The Savannah Center due to the hard work of the committee. She asked members to bring friends and to spread the news. She said that the guitarist will play some Flamenco music as well as classical. The two singers will sing some songs that are not classical as well as classical.

Lou Sasmor, Membership and Barry Tucker. He reminded members that Barry Tucker will be presenting a program about his father, Richard Tucker, a renowned singer at the Metropolitan Opera. Richard Tucker passed away in 1975. He will perform this at our January Club Meeting. He announced that we have 209 paid members.

Shirley Agness, Holiday Party, announced that she had signed up several tables for the party and would be at the table outside the door to sign up more after the entertainment. She said that you could sign up 6 people at each table of 8 and that would leave 2 empty seats for those who do not have a whole table. She said that members may bring friends and they can bring whatever they wish to eat or drink. She said that Chris Bolin and his wife Gillian would be entertaining us at the party.

Jackie Ullrich, MAP, said that she feels very positive about the program for this year. She said that we have 23 students signed up and a waiting list. She said that the teachers in charge are very enthusiastic about this program.

Gerri Dempsey, said the Charity program at Belks would have some 80% off sales on Saturday, November 3. She said some people bought tickets and gave them as gifts. There will also be 50% to 70% off sales on November 4. Some members of the Opera Club will be at Belks on November 3 and 4 and will be able to talk about our club. Belks gave us an air fryer for our participation in this program. The air fryer will be one of the prizes for the 50/50 raffle.

Norm Schuster said the "Win A Singer" tickets will be sold for \$10 each or 3 for \$25.

Norm and Lou did the 50/50 raffle. The 1st prize given was a DVD of Russian Folk Song and Dance. The next prize was \$20. The third prize was a DVD of Romeo and Juliet. Then there was a \$30 cash prize, and finally, the air fryer given to the Club by Belks was raffled.

The Sharon is now doing a Cabaret Series. On December 12, Bill Doherty and Heather Ardt will be performing in this event.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley Agness, Secretary

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