



Richard Wagner Society of Florida

Newsletter for October 2009

Meeting: **Saturday October 24, at 2:00 p.m.**

Location: The home of Dr. Richard and Marita Rotella
515 161st Avenue, Redington Beach, FL. 33708

*Make your reservation by Friday, the 23rd (727) 391-2658. Invite a friend.
Bring your favorite appetizer. Refreshments will be provided.*

Program: **“What Time’s the Next Swan?”**
By: Karl Hesser

***An Introduction to Lohengrin: the opera and the myth behind the legend.
The source of the legend - Why a Swan? - Lohengrin’s impact on Wagner’s
subsequent career.***

Comparison of contemporary productions: Elsa as the key to the drama.

***The Swan, certainly the most regal and elegant of birds, has been a favorite
character in the myths and sagas of many diverse peoples, from India to
Ireland, from Greece to Finland. It features prominently in Wagner’s
Lohengrin, and also plays a role in Parsifal.***

Report

This is the first meeting after our summer break. In past years we have always begun in September and ended the following May. Due to the absence of our many members who spend their summer away from Florida and usually return in October we thought it best to start in October and end with June of the following year.

I hope your summer was great fun, and that you are ready for a new exciting season. If you would like to share some of your get-away experiences, let me know so that I can publish them in the newsletter.

This past July I visited my sister in Des Moines Iowa, where we saw the opera “Der Freischutz” It was an absolutely magnificent production for such a small company. It was also my sister’s very first opera and now she is already planning for next year’s opera season.



Meeting Dates

To accommodate our lovers of the Sunday football season, we will meet mostly on Saturdays. Dates for February through June of 2010 will be published at a later time.

October 24 th , Saturday:	Lohengrin, an introduction with audio-visual presentation
November 21 st , Saturday:	King Ludwig, his relations with Wagner, links with Tannhäuser
December 19 th , Saturday (tentative):	Holiday Party, luncheon with recital, suggested cost: \$ 25.00/cash bar, location: pending
January 16 th , 2010, Saturday:	Tannhäuser, brief intro followed by DVD film
February: date pending	Possible fund-raising event
March: date pending	Constantine Grame at piano with singers gives preview of upcoming production of Götterdämmerung
April: date pending:	full-stage performance of Die Götterdämmerung at the Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center, directed by Maestro Grame
May: date pending	a German language opera: either Die Entführung aus dem Serail By Mozart, or Der Rosenkavalier, by Strauss
June: date pending	Johannestag/with Meistersinger excerpts.

In order to expand our appreciation of the wonderful world of Wagner, we rely on your input for ideas on programming. We welcome your suggestions and participation.

We are fortunate in having attracted a growing number of Wagnerians from Sarasota and points south. We hope to hold some additional cultural events at our member Tom Borer's restaurant: Aristo : 1603 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota

Welcome back to our new season

Marital Wilhelmine Rotella, President

Richard Wagner Society of Florida, Inc. 515 161st Ave., Redington Beach, Florida 33708-1658 USA
A 501-C-3 not-for profit corporation: Phone: (727) 391-2658.
E-mail: rwagnersocietyflorida@hotmail.com Web side: www.wagnersocietyflorida.org

