

**Music Library Association
Annual Business Meeting
Boston, Massachusetts; 14 February 1998**

I. **Call to order.** President Diane Parr Walker call the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes of the meeting of 1 February, 1997 were approved as submitted.

III. **Treasurer's report.**

James Cassaro, Treasurer, reported on fiscal year 1996/97, which began on 1 July 1996 and ended on 30 June 1997. Total operating budget income was \$296,849.91, while total operating budget expenditures were \$314,464.07, for a deficit of \$17,614.16. This was larger than the deficit of \$14,557.23 in fiscal year 1994/95. The largest deficit in the past decade was in fiscal year 1991/92, in the amount of \$24,706.68. Last year's deficit seriously compromises the Association's Operating Budget Reserve, which is now at an all time low of \$15,598.85. An overall gain in assets, however, amounted to \$65,142.12, due to the Association's investment accounts, the majority of which are now being managed by the Fidelity Charitable Advisory Service.

Through generous donations from the membership, Supplemental income totaled \$13,623.31 last year. The value of the awards account at year's end was \$110,460.82, an increase of \$55,749.44 from July 1, 1996. Moving into a professional money management program for most of the General Endowment Fund has maximized the Association's dividend and capital gain income.

For fiscal year 1997/98, the Board again approved a balanced budget, with no planned surplus. At mid-year the budget is performing adequately. Budget outcome is difficult to predict, however, there is every hope that this year's budget will come out in the black, perhaps with a modest surplus.

For his final annual report as Treasurer, before leaving office in September 1998, Cassaro reviewed some important financial accomplishments that have taken place during his tenure as Treasurer. These include: streamlining of the operating budget to identify additional money to fund committee projects; the diversification of investment accounts and the movement toward professional money management; the hammering out of a sound investment policy that provides maximum flexibility for the membership to indicate how their donations are to be invested; Plan 2001; and the contract with Scarecrow Press to publish and market MLA's monographic series publications. These goals were not accomplished alone. The list of people involved is a long one; only by working together do we make this Association the vibrant, vital and inviting organization that it is. In closing, Cassaro thanked the membership for entrusting him with this important position in MLA.

Cassaro was warmly applauded for his final report as Treasurer.

IV. **Executive Secretary's report.** Bonna Boettcher, Executive Secretary, reported on the following areas.

A. **Election.**

881 ballots were mailed, and 421 returned, for a return rate of 47.8%. Twelve ballots were postmarked after the 12 December deadline. Patricia Falk of Bowling Green State University was thanked for once again serving as election teller.

B. **Publications.**

1. **Fiscal year 1996/97.**

The fiscal year bottom line, billings of \$16,620.14, was a definite improvement over the 1995/96 amount of \$9,830.20. This increase was due primarily to the timing of *Cataloging Musical Moving Image Materials*, edited by Lowell Ashley, and the FAMS/Pro Musica essay and index, prepared by Paula Elliot. Although the former was added to the inventory before the end of fiscal year 1995/96, billings for the approval shipment were not processed until after 1 July 1996. Approval billings for the latter were processed during June 1997.

The Index and Bibliography series realized sales of 270 volumes, with the bulk -- 225 volumes -- coming from Paula Elliot's volume. Total billings for 1996/97 were \$6,099.98.

356 volumes were sold from the Technical Reports series, with Ashley's work leading at 286 volumes. Total billings for this series were \$7,289.86.

Among other publications, the top seller was Karen Little's *Notes* index, accounting for 94 volumes and \$2,316.00 in billings. Small numbers of other titles were sold, including 8 copies of *Music Librarianship in America*. MCB subscriptions for January were at 708.

2. **Fiscal year 1997/98.**

From 1 July 1997 through 31 January 1998 no new titles were published. A total of 152 units have been sold, resulting in billings of \$2,513.70. The top sellers during this period were again the Elliot, with sales of 32 copies, bringing total billings for that volume to \$5,805.00; and the Ashley, with sales of 39 copies. Total billings for the Ashley volume as of 31 January were \$7,002.80.

The 6th edition of the *Directory of Library School Offerings in Music Librarianship* is still available from Boettcher, \$5.00 pre-paid.

The 1997 Membership Handbook was shipped early in June, with delays resulting from problems with advertising copy. The 1998 Handbook may be shipped earlier. Boettcher reminded members that the official membership database is kept at the business office in Canton, Mass. Although she tries to forward to the business office changes announced via MLA-L, members should notify the business office of these changes as well.

Updated versions of the red (Music Library Association) and green (Music Librarianship) brochures were completed and shipped to her early in August. Gerry Ostrove deserves many thanks for shepherding the revisions to

completion. Since the New Orleans meeting, Boettcher has filled 26 requests for brochures, distributing 231 red brochures, 201 green, and 1 purple (giving). She encouraged members to contact her if they need brochures to distribute.

3. **Membership.**

Based on the 31 January 1998 report, membership continues its slow decline. Individual memberships, including students and retired members, are down 3.5% from January 1997. The retired membership category continues to increase, this year by 4.5%. Institutional memberships have decreased by 3.7%, a decrease partially offset by a slight increase in the number of institutions only subscribing to *Notes*. Total membership, including individual and institutional, is at 1,743, compared to 1,806 last year.

Individual subscriberships have also decreased by 2.3%, although institutional subscriberships have increased by 1.2%. Total subscriberships are at 664, compared to 657 last year, a 1% increase.

Overall, the combined memberships and subscriberships have decreased by 2.2%.

The Corporate program continues to be successful. This year there are 8 corporate patrons: Chadwyck-Healey, Educational Music Service, Garland Publishing, Harmonie Park Press, J.W. Pepper, Otto Harrassowitz, Oxford University Press, and Theodore Front. Two new corporate members have been added, bringing the total to 6. They are: A-R Editions, Broude Brothers, Gary Thal Music, Hal Leonard, Lyricord Discs, and Schirmer Books.

4. **Contributions.**

Since the end of the New Orleans meeting, and through 31 December 1997, MLA received 155 contributions, totaling \$16,040.77. Although the number of contributors was slightly lower than in 1996, the total amount contributed was nearly twice as high in 1997. Three contributions were at the patron level, there are 8 sustaining members, 23 contributions were unrestricted, 20 were to the Duckles Fund (including one in honor of Ida Reed and three in honor of retiring members of the Pacific Northwest Chapter), 16 were to the Epstein Fund, 21 to the Freeman Fund, 20 to the Gerboth Fund, and 44 to the General Endowment, including 14 in honor of Jane Gottlieb.

Boettcher was warmly applauded for her report.

V. **President's report.**

A. **Appointments.**

Walker announced that Bonna Boettcher has been reappointed to serve for another year as Executive Secretary. Jim Cassaro will complete his final year as Treasurer in September 1998. Laura Gayle Green was announced as the next Treasurer, beginning with the fall Board meeting. Walker thanked the search committee: Gordon Theil, Sherry Vellucci, and Jerry McBride, Chair.

Don Roberts has been appointed as the next Assistant Convention Manager, effective July 1, 1998. Walker thanked the search committee: Robert Curtis, Steve Fry, and Deborah Pierce, Chair.

The other special officers, Susan Dearborn (Advertising manager), Elisabeth Rebman (Placement officer), and Leslie Bennett (Publicity officer) were all re-appointed for another year.

Several changes in committee personnel were announced. Walker highlighted the recent creation of the Organizational Liaison Committee, which was established as part of Plan 2001. Many have already volunteered to work with this committee as informal liaisons.

B. **Roundtables.**

Walker reminded the membership that four roundtables will be up for renewal this year: Jazz and Popular Music, Social Responsibilities, Video, and Women in Music. Renewals require six letters of support to be sent to the President by May 15.

C. **Publications.**

A new agreement has been reached with Scarecrow Press for co-publication of the Index and Bibliography and Technical Reports series. Scarecrow will take care of production and marketing, allowing the editors to concentrate on content. Scarecrow will also be able to reach a much broader market, in line with the goals of Plan 2001.

D. **Copyright.**

At its September meeting, the Board endorsed the National Humanities Alliance Basic Principles for Managing Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment, and recommended that MLA join the Digital Future Coalition. Both of these activities should bring heightened visibility to MLA.

VI. **Other Reports.**

A. **Notes Editor.**

Richard Griscom reported that after careful consideration, the index to CD reviews was dropped from *Notes* as of the January 1998 issue.

Several staff changes were noted. Jack Knapp and Paula Hickner are stepping down as assistant editors; Mark McKnight and Amanda Maple will be the new assistant editors. David Hunter is completing his tenure as book review editor; that position will be filled by Eunice Schroeder. Nathan Eakin will be replacing Mimi Tashiro as obituary index editor. James Cassaro is stepping down as video review editor. The future of that column is currently uncertain. Karen Little will be replacing Suzanne Eggleston as review editor for new periodicals.

Griscom announced some highlights of upcoming issues and encouraged the submission of research articles, bibliographies, and thought-provoking essays. He is considering a series of articles focusing on various collections. The issue size has been reduced considerably by the cessation of the index to CD reviews. This provides the opportunity to consider new ideas. Suggestions are welcome.

Griscom thanked all who have contributed articles or served as anonymous reviewers, and all *Notes* staff members for their hard work this past year.

Griscom was warmly applauded for his work on this important publication.

B. Convention Manager.

Susan Hitchens reported that the Boston meeting broke several records. There were 605 registrants, including exhibitors, guest speakers, etc. This broke the previous record set at the Tucson meeting. The exhibits included 67 companies and 84 tables, also a record. Included in these numbers were all of the MLA Corporate Patrons, most of the Corporate Members, and 3 exchange exhibitors.

Future meetings were announced as follows: March 3-6, 1999, Hotel Regal Biltmore, Los Angeles; February 22-27, 2000, Louisville Hyatt Regency; February 21-25, 2001, New York City, pending hotel negotiations.

Hitchens thanked the Local Arrangements co-chairs Michael Rogan and Millard Irion, and their committee; Dorman Smith for his assistance with the exhibits; Lennie Bertrand for technology and exhibit work; and the Park Plaza Hotel staff, especially Michelle Anderson.

Hitchens was warmly applauded for her work.

C. Development Committee.

Laura Dankner, chair, acknowledged the members of the committee, especially the hard work of two retiring members: Gerry Ostrove and John Tanno. Joe Boonin and Jane Gottlieb were thanked for their continuing work on recruitment of corporate members. A total of \$5,265 was raised during the meeting, in sales and donations. The Boston meeting T-shirts have sold out, but some other merchandise is still available for purchase. Dankner thanked the Marketing Subcommittee, chaired by Sarah Dorsey, for their hard work. She also reminded the membership that donations may be given at any time; membership upgrades to the Sustaining level (\$140) are also encouraged.

D. Plan 2001 Implementation Task Force.

Jane Gottlieb reported on behalf of David Farneth, chair. The Plan 2001 bookmarks in the registration packets are reminders of what the plan is. There is also a report in every issue of the *Newsletter*, with its own special logo. Several new committees have been established to carry out the plan. Especially visible at this meeting were the open forum on chapters sponsored by the Ad Hoc Chapter Committee, and the first meeting of the Organizational Liaison Committee. The Implementation Task Force welcomes ideas and suggestions.

E. Legislation Committee.

Lenore Coral, chair, reported that MLA recently became a member of the Digital Future Coalition, which is particularly concerned with seeking balanced legislation on copyright. Information sheets were available at the registration table describing current issues of special concern. Coral encouraged the membership to write to their legislators, urge others to write, and let her know via e-mail that they have written. This activity is very important for input and visibility of MLA. Coral thanked Bonnie Jo Dopp for attending weekly meetings of the DFC.

F. US RILM Office.

Lenore Coral thanked MLA for its continued support. Beginning in 1998 there will be monthly submissions so that citations and abstracts will be available more quickly electronically. New abstractors are always welcome.

G. NISO Representative.

Lenore Coral recently reviewed a proposal to add a large number of music symbols to Unicode. The proposal was accepted. She was also invited to attend the TC 46 25th anniversary meeting, where a revision of the ISO document on statistics was considered. An international standard work code is also in progress.

H. IAML-US.

Lenore Coral encouraged new members to join IAML. Upcoming meetings are planned in Spain, New Zealand, Edinburgh, France, and Berkeley, California, the latter in 2002.

I. US RISM Office.

John Howard reported that the US RISM project, funded by NEH, will be wrapped up by June 30, 1998. Ca. 42,000 items were cataloged during the past 16 years. Howard acknowledged the work of a number of people on the project over the years, and the funding support of NEH, the Mary Flagler Cary Foundation, MLA, and AMS.

J. Joint Archives Committee.

Jane Penner, chair, reminded the membership that officers and committee chairs should send materials to the archives when they complete their work. Transmittal forms are available from her or Bonnie Jo Dopp, archivist.

VII. Remembrances.

Suki Sommer offered remembrances of Barry Brook.

VIII. Awards.

A. Publications.

The **Vincent H. Duckles Award** for best book-length bibliography or other research tool in music: Michael Twyman, *Early lithographed music: a study based on the H. Baron Collection*. London: Farrand Press, 1996.

The **Richard S. Hill Award** for the best article on music librarianship or article of a music-bibliographic nature: Ira Brilliant and Patricia Elliott, "A ten-year review of the Beethoven auction market (1985-1995)," in *The Beethoven journal*, vol. 11, no. 1, pp. 26-31.

The **Eva Judd O'Meara Award** for best review published in *Notes* in 1996: Sanford Levinson and J. M. Balkin, for their review of Richard Taruskin's *Text and act: essays on music in performance* (New York: Oxford University Press,

1995) which appeared in Notes, vol. 53, no. 2, pp. 419-423.

President Walker thanked the Publications Awards Committee: Michael Fling, Wayne Shoaf, and Jean Morrow, chair.

B. Dena Epstein Award.

Dr. Edward L. Widmer was granted the Epstein award to support his research for a book on the white suppression of African drumming in Colonial America and its ramifications into the twentieth century. President Walker thanked the Epstein Award Committee: George Boziwick, Therese Dickman, Vic Cardell, chair, and Dena Epstein, honorary member; and Dena and Morton Epstein for their generous support of this award.

C. Kevin Freeman Travel Grants.

Recipients were: Jennifer Veronica Dahmus, Jeff Whitson, and Alicia Snee. Walker thanked the Committee: Judy Tsou (Chair), Don Roberts, and Mimi Tashiro. She also thanked the Northern and Southern California chapters and all others who supported the funding of this grant.

D. Walter Gerboth Award.

Recipients were Kristina Shanton, to support her research on J. Bodewalt Lampe, and Deborah Herman-Morgan and Philip Ponella, for their research on the role of information technology in the public services offered by academic music libraries in the United States. President Walker thanked the Committee: Mary Wallace Davidson, Don Krummel, and David Lasocki, Chair.

E. Special Achievement Award.

The Special Achievement Award was awarded to Sherry Vellucci, in recognition of her path-breaking work on bibliographic relationships in music catalogs and their implications for system design in catalogs of the future.

F. MLA Citation.

The MLA Citation was awarded to Mary Wallace Davidson, "librarian, teacher, scholar, mentor, and past President, for her outstanding record of leadership and for her many tireless efforts on behalf of MLA. As a vigilant spokeswoman for music libraries on issues of copyright and intellectual property and as a guiding light in the formulation of the organization's Plan 2001, she deserves our utmost gratitude and admiration."

IX. Election Results.

President Walker introduced the newly elected Board members: Vice President/President-Elect, Paula Matthews; Recording Secretary, Roberta Chodacki; Members-at-Large: Robert Curtis, Bonnie Jo Dopp, and Ned Quist. She thanked all members who stood for election, and the Nominating Committee: Charles Coldwell, Patricia Fiskens, Bonnie Hall, Don Roberts, and Mark McKnight, Chair. She also thanked the outgoing Board members for their service: Calvin Elliker, Marjorie Hassen, and Mimi Tashiro, Members-at-Large; Laura Snyder, Recording Secretary; and Jane Gottlieb, Past President.

X. Announcements.

A. 1999 Meeting.

Kathy Glennan and Renee McBride, co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee for the Los Angeles meeting, cordially invited everyone to attend the 1999 meeting.

B. 1998 Program.

Laura Gayle Green, Program Committee chair for the 1998 meeting, thanked Michael Rogan and Millard Irion (Local Arrangements co-chairs), Linda Barnhart and Deborah Pierce (Plenary Session chairs), and David Gilbert (web site creator), for their assistance in making this a successful meeting. She also presented some useful tools to Phil Vandermeer.

C. 1999 Program.

Phil Vandermeer, Program Committee chair for the 1999 meeting, listed some expected highlights of next year's meeting, and announced that scheduling forms will be out soon. Suggestions for next year's program are welcome.

D. Acknowledgments.

President Walker thanked Laura Gayle Green and the Program Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee and co-chairs Michael Rogan and Millard Irion, Michelle Anderson and the hotel staff, the Education Committee, and the many exhibitors.

XI. New Business.

There was no new business.

XII. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura M. Snyder
Recording Secretary