Conference Survey Aids Planning

Jean Geil
University of Illinois

At the request of the MLA Board, the Development Committee explored member reactions to several alternative practices and arrangements relating to annual conferences. A total of 260 questionnaires were returned, 95% from regular members of MLA. Seven forms were returned from students, and four from retired members. That the results reflect opinions of active members is indicated by the fact that 55% had attended the 1984 meeting in Austin, almost a third had attended all four previous annual meetings, and two-thirds had attended at least two conferences.

As to the best time of year for meetings, 52% favored continuing the practice of scheduling conferences between January 1 and April 1. Many respondents commented that the uncertainties of winter travel would be eliminated if conferences were planned for late spring. Flexible scheduling was considered an appropriate option by 65%, but many individuals noted that if two conferences were to be scheduled during the same fiscal year it might be difficult to obtain institutional support and to defer expenses for attending both meetings.

As to conference programming, 43% favored emphasizing informal panel discussions and invited presentations over formal papers selected in response to a call for papers. Twenty-two percent voted for the latter, but many individuals who had voted either way commented that a combination—some of each type of presentation—would be the best approach of all. Holding simultaneous sessions was preferred by a considerable majority. Short conferences were also preferred, with (Continued on page 5)

Bowling Green Receives NEH Grant

The Bowling Green State University Sound Archives in the Jerome Library has received a $100,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to catalog part of the archives’ collection of popular L.P.s. The cataloging will be input into the OCLC database and published in LC’s Music, Books on Music and Sound Recordings.

The grant monies will fund a year’s work in the archives. Two catalogers, a technical assistant, and a graduate assistant will work with Project Manager and Music Librarian Linda Fidler and Archivist William Schurk on cataloging popular L.P.s issued between 1950 and 1970. The items selected for cataloging will be those for which no information is currently available; the catalogers will create data records for every song and every performer on each disc selected.

Part of the grant monies will be used to monitor requests for Archive materials from around the country.

Nominees Sought For 1985 Slate

The Nominating Committee is accepting suggestions for nominees to run as candidates for positions on MLA’s Board of Directors. The positions for which candidates are sought are Vice-President/President-Elect—President—Past-President, Recording Secretary, and three Members-at-Large.

Suggestions may be sent by July 20 to committee chair Jean Geil (1403 S. Busey Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801) or any other member of the committee: Susan Sonnet Bower (University of California, Santa Barbara); Dale Hudson (Florida State University); and Melva Peterson (City College, CUNY).

The Nominating Committee will submit the slate of candidates to the Board at its fall meeting.

Public Library Concerns

The Public Library Committee asks that its constituents suggest topics of common interest for discussion at the 1986 MLA conference. Convey your ideas and concerns to Norma Jean Lamb, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203
The President Reports

Summary of Activities of the Board of Directors in 1984

The Board met three times during the year: at the national meeting in Austin, February 18–23; June 2–3 in Evanston, Illinois; and in conjunction with the Midwest Chapter meeting, October 13–14 in Cincinnati. The main issues during the year concerned financial matters: priorities among expenditures, fund-raising prospects, use of development funds, and fiscal accounting.

Among committee activities to which the Board turned its attention were the reactivation and reorganization of the Administration Committee. The ad hoc Committee on the MLA Archives was discharged and a new Joint Committee with the University of Maryland established. Also discharged was the Constitution Revision Committee. Nancy Bren, appointed Newsletter editor, joined the Publications Committee and an ad hoc Committee on MLA Publications was appointed to reexamine the goals, format, and content of MLA’s publications program.

The Joint Subcommittee on Establishing a U.S. RILM Office was discharged and shortly thereafter a U.S. RILM office opened at Cornell University. The office is subsidized by the American Musical Society; the U.S. Branch of the International Association of Music Libraries, Archives, and Documentation Centers; Cornell; and MLA. MLA’s share, $3,250, was appropriated by the Board using income from the Richard S. Hill Fund. The Board monitored a project in progress under a grant to MLA from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a feasibility study for a nineteenth-century American music bibliography, for which D.W. Krummel is project director.

So as to extend MLA’s tax-exempt status to chapters, the Board began to gather the documents required to obtain a letter of exemption for them from the IRS. The Board approved sections IV–VI of a revised MLA Handbook, updating information for committee and chapter chairs. Defeated were proposals to limit committee membership to four years, the allowable tenure of committee chairs, and to maintain a discretionary fund for subsidy of national meetings.

The Board accepted the resignation of treasurer Harold Diamond after three outstanding years and appointed Karen Griffith in his place. The treasurer’s quarterly financial reports show us to be in sound condition. Budget and fiscal controls are becoming more regularized and budget projections more accurate. We will be phasing in an accrual method of accounting that will enhance our ability to plan long-range and to attract gifts and bequests. The Board decided that development activities should increase and that programs supporting music scholarship should be given highest priority. Academic Services, Inc., of Canton, Mass., the subscription agency with which MLA recently contracted, has proven to be trustworthy, accountable, and efficient. All administrative costs to the Association now amount to approximately 25% of expenses, in contrast to 40% in past years.

Geraldine Ostrove
MLA President

Correction
A production error affected the substance of a sentence in “The National Plan for Retrospective Conversion in Music” in the March–April issue of the Newsletter (number 60). The beginning of the paragraph under “Priorities” should read: “In general, the highest priority should be given to the conversion of records for printed music, recorded music, and music in microform, including serial publications. Next in order of importance are books and serials about music.” The editor regrets this error and any confusion it may have caused.

MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Geraldine Ostrove
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Members-at-Large, 1985–1987
Dee Baily, Brooklyn College; Peggy Daub, University of Michigan; A. Ralph Papakhian, Indiana University

MLA Newsletter
Nancy Bren, Editor

The Newsletter is published four times a year: September–October, November–December, March–April, and May–June, by the Music Library Association, P.O. Box 487, Canton, MA 02021, and is issued to its members free.

The purpose of the Newsletter is to keep the membership of the Association abreast of the events, ideas, and trends related to music librarianship. All pertinent communications and short articles are welcome.

Please type and double-space contributions and include your name and institutional affiliation. Address correspondence to the Editor, MLA Newsletter, Music Library, Baird Hall, State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260. The deadline for submitting copy to the editor for the September–October issue is August 23, 1985.

ISSN 0580-289X
Information Exchange

The 1985 Tax Regulations

Steven Smolian
Smolian Sound Studios
Potomac, Maryland

This is my own analysis of the new I.R.S. guidelines to the tax regulations for calendar 1985. I am neither an accountant nor a lawyer, but an appraiser of sound recordings and other communications memorabilia trying to navigate through changing regulations and to alert music librarians with similar interests to those alterations which affect the operation of their libraries and may influence the donors on whom they depend.

**Donor Benefits**

The donation of capital gain property:

These gifts qualify for a deduction at full appraised value provided the donated property is employed in the normal course of those activities for which the institution has received its tax-exempt status.

In the event this material is put to any other purpose within two years of the date of receipt by the donee, the institution is responsible for filing such information with the I.R.S., indicating which part of a gift is used as described above and which is used in other ways. The value of the portion of the gift which is in the “other ways” category is reduced 40%, and the donor is responsible for paying whatever additional tax liability is created through this revision. The best solution seems to be to hold all gift materials aside for a two-year period. The new (and not yet issued) I.R.S. form concerning donations requires signatures from the donor, the appraiser and from the donee as well. This last is to authenticate the date the gift was received.

It is not necessary that gifts up to the value of $5,000 be appraised, but those of this figure or greater must now be evaluated by an outside appraiser. This includes gifts to the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution. A donor who makes a number of gifts of similar material to the same or different institutions in the course of a calendar year and which add up to $5,000 or more is responsible for having a professional appraisal for each of those gifts. Donations are frequently made over the course of a year, and a donor who sends a library a pile of 78’s in March may not even know then that he will be giving a different institution a big LP collection in December.

What this seems to require is that each institution hold intact any gifts made in the course of the year. Though the donee has no legal responsibility to do so, perhaps it should notify each donor of the value of each gift at the end of each year, with a note about this new “group” twist and notice that if he does not take further action by a given date, it will be assumed his gift does not fall into this category and his material will move the rest of the way through the processing chain.

For gifts under $5,000 where the items are of substantial individual value, I feel an appraisal is still prudent. Obviously, when a group of piano music is figured at $1.00 per so-many-pages, calling in a professional is a needless expense. Judgement is required to decide if a bunch of LP’s are of marginal value or, properly appraised, may add up to something significant. I’m always glad to discuss such questions concerning records by telephone, preferably with an experienced librarian rather than a wishfully-thinking but inexperienced potential donor.

Appraisal inspections of small lots should be accumulated until late in the year so the appraiser can inspect the year’s donation harvest at one time and the costs—travel, lodging, etc.—be shared among the donors. Gifts can be acknowledged by the accepting institution up to December 31 and the appraiser’s inspection delayed until April 14, but the appraisers can get mighty busy that time of year and delay may push the gift into the following year, thereby bringing into play whatever further guideline changes become effective for that later year.

The donor must indicate restrictions placed upon the gift, including any which limit the right to use (either level or time) or to dispose of, or to earmark for a particular use, or to keep intact, or reserving any income rights or, as I read the instructions, any other caveat which would be more restrictive than if it were purchased on the open market.

A surprise is a sentence which allows the U.S. law to apply to gifts made to properly exempt Canadian charities. I expect each such charity will have to pass I.R.S. muster, and that later events will make clear what this means. I guess, but have to specific knowledge, that there is a reciprocal agreement.

**Responsibility of the Appraiser**

If the appraiser falsely or fraudulently overstates the value, he may be subject to a civil penalty and have his appraisal disregarded. In addition, the donor may be responsible for a penalty of 30% of the additional tax if the value is overstated by the appraiser by more than 150% of what the IRS (I presume) determines to be the correct amount. In extreme cases, the donor can probably sue the appraiser. The appraiser’s statement requires a note that earlier appraisals have not been refused by the IRS and that his fee is based on time expended and not on a percentage of the appraised value.

**Qualified Appraiser**

The appraiser has to be qualified to appraise the type of property being valued.

**Not Qualified:**

The operative idea is that any person whose relationship to the donor would cause a reasonable person to question the appraiser’s independence may not perform the appraisal. Included is anyone who was party to the transaction by which the donor

*Continued on page 8*
STANDING COMMITTEES

Development: Karen Nagy (Northwestern University), Chair; Dee Baily, Jean Geil, Christine Hoffman, ex officio, Linda Solow Blotner, ex officio.

Education: Jeffrey Rebach (Middlebury College), Chair; Dee Baily, Laura Dankner, John Shepard, Annie F. Thompson.

Finance: Richard E. Jones (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee), Fiscal Officer, MLA Board; Linda Solow Blotner, Mary Wallace Davidson, Karen Griffith, Geraldine Ostrove, ex officio, A. Ralph Papakhanian.

Nominating—For the December 1985 ballot: Jean Geil (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Chair; Susan Sonnet Bower, Dale Hudson, Melva Peterson.

Program—1985 meeting (Milwaukee, Wisconsin, February 11-15): Program Committee: Gordon Rowley (Northern Illinois University, Chair), Kathleen Haefiger, Judith Kaufman, Edwin Quist, Ida Reed.

Local Arrangements Committee: Barbara Strauss (University of Wisconsin, Madison), Chair; Arne Arneson, Paul Gunther, Linda Hartig, Nashota House, Ellen Johnson, Richard E. Jones, Stephen Sundell.

Publications: Michael Ochs (Harvard University), Chair; Linda Solow Blotner, Karen Griffith, Christine Hoffman, and editors of the following publications:

*Index Series*: Donald Thompson (Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico); *Music Cataloging Bulletin*: Marguerite Iskenderian (Brooklyn College);

*Newsletter*: Nancy Bren (State University of New York, Buffalo); *Notes*: Susan T. Sommer (New York Public Library);

*Technical Reports*: Michael Fling (Indiana University).

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Administration: Lenore Coral (Cornell University), Chair.

Subcommittees:
- Automation: Lenore Coral, Chair; Keiko Cho, Jeffrey Rebach;
- Automated Reference Services Liaison: Gail Sonnenmann.
- Music Library Facilities: James Cassaro (Cornell University), Chair; Joyce Clinkscales, Carolyn Johnson, Jerry McBride;
- Audio-Visual Committee Liaison: Ellen Johnson.
- Personnel: Susan Sonnet Bower (University of California, Santa Barbara), Chair; Laura Dankner, Carolyn Rabson, Carol Tatian, Sabrina Weiss.
- Statistics: Dorothy Bogner (University of Connecticut), Chair; Patricia Brennan, William McClellan, Nyal Williams.

Audio-Visual: Leslie Greer (University of Oregon), Chair; Joan Flinton, Richard Le Sueur, Vernon McCart, Donna Mendro, Robert Richard, Gordon Theil, Philip Youngholm, James B. Wright.

Awards: Garrett Bowles (University of California, San Diego), Chair; Joseph Boonin, Diane Parr Walker.

Bibliographic Control: Richard Smiraglia (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Chair; Larry Dixson.

Descriptive Cataloging: Joan Swanekamp (Eastman School of Music), Chair; Richard Hunter, Marguerite Iskenderian, Christine Olson, Robert Piggott, Mark E. Smith.

MARC Formats: Richard Griscom (Northwestern University), Chair; Linda Barnhart, Victor Cardell, Larry Dixson, Glenn Patton, Richard Kopolowski, Erlene Rickerson.

Subject Access: James Bradford Young (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Chair; E. Ann McCollough, Harry Price.

Liaisons and Representatives:
- Coordinator, Contributing Libraries to the National Union Catalog, Music, Books on Music, and Sound Recordings: Dena Epstein (University of Chicago), American Library Association (ALA). Resources and Technical Services Division (RTSD), Cataloging and Classification Section (CCS), Representative to Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA); Joan Swanekamp (Eastman School of Music).
- ALA, RTSD/Reference and Adult Services Division (RASD)/Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), Representative to the Representation of Machine Form of Bibliographic Information Committee (MARBI): Richard Griscom (Northwestern University), INTERNET Representative: Joan Swanekamp (Eastman School of Music).

Working Groups:
- Machine-Readable Representations of Music: Carolyn Rabson (Oberlin College), Chair; Jerry McBride, Eric Western, National Union Catalog: Sherry Vellucci (Westminster Choir College), Chair; Dena Epstein, Stephen Tombs. *Thesaurus Project*: Mark McKnight (Loyola University), Chair; Linda Solow Blotner, Karen Famera, Richard Griscom.

Legislation: Bruce Wilson (University of Maryland), Chair; David Farneth, Edwin Quist, Carolyn Rabson, Neil Ratliff.

Microforms: Frank Gramenz (Boston University), Chair; Siegurn Folter, Robert Palian, Martin Silver.

Preservation: Barbara Strauss (University of Wisconsin, Madison), Chair; Gerald Gibson, Rosalinda Hack, Danny Hatcher, Christine Hoffman, Geraldine Laubdari.

Public Libraries: Norma Jean Lamb (Buffalo and Erie County Public Library), Chair; Bonnie Jo Dopp, Carolyn Dow, Margaret Ericson, Richard Schwepel.

Reference and Public Service: Dorman Smith (University of Arizona), Chair; Bonnie Jo Dopp, John Druesedow, Linda Fidler, Diane Parr Walker, Elizabeth Walker.

Subcommittees:
- Bibliographic Instruction: Linda Fidler (Bowling Green State University), Chair; Beth Christiansen, Richard Duris, Donna Ridley-Smith. *Guidelines for Reference Books and Bibliographies in Music*: Diane Parr Walker (University of Virginia), Chair; Joseph Boonin, George Hill, Deane Root.
- Information Sharing: Geraldine Laubdari (East Carolina University), Chair; Dena Epstein, Norma Jean Lamb. *On-Line Reference Services*: John Druesedow (Oberlin College), Chair; Dean Corwin, David Ossenkop, Dorman Smith, Helene Stern.
- Universal Availability of Publications and Music: Bonnie Jo Dopp (Martin Luther King Library), Chair.

Resource Sharing and Collection Development: David Fenske (Indiana University), Chair; Nina Davis-Mills, Peggy Daub, Frank Gramenz, Joan Kunnelman, Gordon Rowley, Marian Taylor.

Subcommittees:
- Collection Assessment: Joan Kunnelman (University of California, Los Angeles), Chair; Peggy Daub, Marian Taylor.
- Collection Development: Nina Davis-Mills (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Chair; Frank Gramenz, Gordon Rowley. Special Group on Resource Sharing and Cooperative Agreements: Gordon Rowley (Northern Illinois University) and Marian Taylor (University of California, Santa Cruz).
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

ROUND TABLES

Coordinators:
- Archives: David Farneth (Kurt Weil Foundation).
- Bibliography: D.W. Krummel (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign).
- Conservatories: Sherry Vellucci (Westminster Choir College).
- Jazz and Popular Music: Monica Burdix (California State University, Northridge).
- Organ Music: Frederick Kent (Free Library of Philadelphia).
- Small Academic Libraries: Gene Leonard (North Carolina Central University) and Tim Gmeiner (Belmont College).

SPECIAL OFFICERS

Convention Manager: Richard E. Jones (University of Milwaukee).
Placement: Ida Reed (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill).
Publicity: Christine Hoffman (Manhattan School of Music).

CHAIRS OF THE REGIONAL CHAPTERS

Chesapeake: Joan Stahl (Enoch Pratt Free Library).
Greater New York: Kathleen Haefliger (Columbia University).
Midwest: John Druesedow (Oberlin College).
Mountain Plains: Dorman Smith (University of Arizona).
New York State/Ontario: Donald Green (Eastman School of Music).
Northern California: Ann Basart (University of California, Berkeley).
Pacific Northwest: Eldo Neufeld (University of British Columbia).
Pennsylvania: Calvin Elliker (Indiana University of Pennsylvania).
Southeast: Alan Gregory (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill).
Southern California: Valencia Williams (California State University, Long Beach).
Texas: Robert Follet (North Texas State University).

REPRESENTATIVES TO AND JOINT COMMITTEES

American Library Association: Brenda Chasen Goldman (Tufts University), MLA Representative; see also Bibliographic Control Committee.
American Musicological Society, Joint Committee on RISM:
George Buelow (Indiana University), Chair; David Fenske and Susan T. Sommer, MLA Representatives; Jeremy Noble and Eugene Wolf, AMS Representatives.
Archives, Joint Committee with the University of Maryland:
Gail Sonnenmann (George Mason University), Chair; Elizabeth Auman, Benedict Ludden, Geraldine Ostrove, MLA Representatives; Bruce Wilson (University of Maryland), Curator.
Council of International Library and Information Associations:
Jean Bowen and Christine Hoffmann, MLA Representatives; Bruce Wilson, MLA Representative to Ad Hoc Committee on Copyright (Neil Ratliff, Alternate).
Music Publishers Association, Joint Committee:
Neil Ratliff (University of Maryland), Coordinator of MLA Representatives; Jean Bowen, Nina Davis-Mills, Kathleen Haefliger, Geraldine Ostrove, MLA Representatives.
U.S. RILM Office Governing Board: Thor Wood, IAML-US Representative, Chair; Edmund A. Bowles, MLA Representative; Leeman Perkins, AMS Representative.

Survey (Continued from page 1)

four days being considered optimal by 51%.

In respect to housing arrangements, respondents considered as most important those factors which tended to keep costs down (moderate housing rates, proximity to inexpensive restaurants, proximity to campus and public transportation), as well as basic comfort in accommodations. Of lesser importance were considerations of the ready availability of alcoholic beverages and proximity to fine restaurants, shops, and entertainment. Two-thirds were prepared to take advantage of dormitory facilities in lieu of more expensive hotel accommodations.

A study of responses from individuals who had attended only one or none of the past four meetings failed to produce results differing substantially from those of respondents generally. From numerous comments appended to questionnaire forms, however, keeping costs down is of prime significance to a great many MLA members, regardless of the frequency with which they attend meetings.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in this study. Questionnaire results have been distributed to the MLA board. Any member who wishes to receive a copy of the questionnaire form annotated with numbers and percentages of responses may contact Jean Geil, 1403 S. Busey Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801.
Committee Updates

Education

MLA’s Education Committee met in Louisville to discuss several projects relating to the continuing education needs of music librarians. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee for more information: Jeffrey Rehbach, chair, Middlebury College; Dee Baily, Brooklyn College; Laura Dankner, Loyola University; John Shepard, New York Public Library/Lincoln Center; Annie F. Thompson, University of Puerto Rico.

Survey of Library Schools with Courses Related to Music Librarianship. Annie Thompson and Ruth Tucker have updated this directory, which contains library schools, contacts, descriptive information, and listings of courses that touch on music librarianship. The survey currently contains information accurate as of September 1984. Copies of the survey may be obtained by contacting John Shepard, Music Division/PARC, 111 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10023.

Pre-conference Workshops. Keep your eyes open for upcoming workshops on Ethnomusicology: World and Folk Musics in the Library, on Archives, and on Management Skills. We’ll have more information in future issues of the Newsletter.

Summer Institutes. The Committee is considering development of a two-week summer institute for beginning music librarians focusing on practical aspects of the profession. We are exploring the idea with music and library school faculty this spring. If you have an interest in this type of activity, thoughts about what might be included, or suggestions for institutions willing to host the institute, please contact Laura Dankner (Music Library, Loyola University, 6363 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118) or Jeffrey Rehbach (Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753) as soon as possible.

The Education Committee welcomes ideas about areas in which MLA can provide its members and others who are interested in music and music librarianship opportunities for continuing education. Please feel free to let us know your needs and ideas.

Jeffrey Rehbach
Middlebury College

Public Libraries

The Public Library Committee sponsored a program during the Louisville conference which dealt with two specific responsibilities: local history collecting, and community outreach.

Committee chair Norma Jean Lamb of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library outlined the types of materials which document and preserve a city’s musical history: composers’ manuscripts, programs, news clippings, photographs and publicity materials, recordings and videotapes, and organizations’ publications and papers. She also stressed the need to keep up-to-date files on organizational officers, names of choir directors and teachers, instrument repairers, collectors of various musical media, performers of unusual instruments, etc.

The activities of a specific library were detailed in a paper prepared by Richard Schwengel and Rosalinda Hack of the Chicago Public Library. Emphasizing that local history source material is as important as any published reference book, Mr. Schwengel and Ms. Hack described the value of maintaining a current events bulletin board, of collecting local magazines, and of visiting local stores to uncover area musicians’ work. They also recommended sponsoring recitals by local performers and taping the programs, exhibiting collected scores, and becoming the official repository of the local composers’ society. Two very specific local music projects of the Chicago Public Library are the Chicago Blues Archive and the Dance Video Archive. Grant money provided the impetus for both collections, but continued funding is requiring further grant procurement—a time-consuming and uncertain activity.

Just as the library documents its city’s musical life, so should it contribute to that life. Free public programs offer such outreach, about which Margaret Ericson of the Enoch Pratt Free Library spoke. Mrs. Ericson described the benefits of programming, which are derived not only by the public but ultimately by the library, through the publicity and good will generated by successful programs. She stressed, however, that to be successful in this effort one must know the potential audience, identify unmet needs and interests, procure funding, and carefully work out and follow through on the many arrangements which must be made. She also discussed grant procurement through state arts and humanities councils, NEA and NEH, local foundations, and corporations.

Another aspect of public relations and outside funding was covered by Ida Reed (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, formerly of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh). Mrs. Reed detailed the development of Carnegie Library’s Friends of the Music Department, a group which has been the source or procurer of library materials and equipment, funds, and labor. Drawn from various parts of the musical community, the Directors of the Friends group are mandated to spread the word about the Music Department and its ability to aid local musicians and organizations. They also run fund-raisers and write grant proposals for specific needs of the Music Department.

All the activities described at the meeting demanded time and attention, but can help to provide strengthened collections as well as badly needed public advocacy for the library.

Norma Jean Lamb
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
Round Tables

Jazz & Popular Music

Some of the concerns and interests expressed in Louisville during a meeting of the Jazz and Popular Music Round Table include: LC subject headings; standards/methodology in collection development and preservation; definition of jazz/pop music (What do others think and do?); reference tools, periodicals, etc., used for current or group identification; exhibitors of jazz and pop music material at MLA annual meetings; scholarship in the field; contact people; and many other issues. Recognizing that in these days of fiscal constraints many of those interested in this Round Table will not be able to attend the annual MLA meetings, the coordinator urges all interested individuals to contact her by mail or phone: Monica J. Burdex, Reference Department, Oviatt Library, California State University, Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330; (818) 885-3285. A list of persons who attended the Louisville meeting or wrote expressing their interest will be circulated among the group.

Small Academic Libraries

The Small Academic Libraries Round Table met on the final day of the Louisville conference. Tim Gmeiner (Belmont College), co-chair of the Round Table, moderated the first session which addressed collection development in small libraries. Charles Slater (European-American Retail Music) discussed the mechanics of establishing approval plans. Such plans are possible for the smaller library and need not be prohibitively expensive. Individual plans may be developed as long as this is done with care and room is left for flexibility on both sides.

Joseph Boonin (Jerona Music) continued the session with a talk entitled “Retrospective Ordering of Printed Music: Marksman or Shotgun Approach?” Again, the importance of personal contact between the librarian and the publisher’s agent was emphasized. Systematic filling of gaps in a library collection is possible when these gaps are identified and advantage is taken of the agent’s expertise.

The emphasis of the second session was on cataloging. Siegrun Folter (Lehman College, CUNY) spoke to the importance of catalogers being informed about all aspects of automated systems installed in or being planned for their libraries. Joan Falconer (University of Iowa) discussed in-house cataloging practices that are often necessary to meet certain needs of an individual library. What the patron expects to find in the catalog may not always conform to the “rules” and the cataloger in a small library needs to take that into consideration. Both sessions concluded with lively discussion periods.

Gene Leonard
North Carolina Central University

NEWS from the Chapters

Greater New York

The Greater New York Chapter met on Saturday morning, March 30, 1985, at the Americana Collection in the Music Research Division of The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center. The theme of the program was “American Music Resources in New York: The Americana Collection at NYPL and the American Music Center.”

Richard H. Jackson, head of the Americana Collection, provided a brief history and description of the collection, which was founded about 1940 with John Tasker Howard as the first curator. It contains books about all phases of music in and of the United States, published scores by U.S. composers, instrumental and vocal sheet music (from the eighteenth century to the present), broadsides, song and dance music folios, approximately 8,000 music manuscripts, and letters and papers. The collection maintains a unique, ongoing relationship with the “music business” in the New York City area, including performers, producers, TV shows, magazines, and music publishers.

After a coffee break (during which members could view Americana exhibits), Nancy S. Clarke, executive director of the American Music Center, described the history, objectives, and activities of her organization. AMC, founded in 1940, is a national service organization that advocates the creation, performance, and recognition of contemporary American music. In addition to maintaining a library, the center publishes a quarterly newsletter that contains articles of interest to the new music community, distributes monthly announcements of opportunities for composers and new music performers, and provides recent recordings of American music for radio stations overseas. It is currently coordinating the first annual American Music Week, November 4-10, 1985, which will focus attention nationally on music written by living American composers.

Eero Richmond, head librarian of AMC, discussed the collections and services of the center’s library, which contains 22,000 scores (both published and unpublished) and 4,000 recordings, along with extensive information files on contemporary American composers, performers, festivals, and so on. Scores circulate throughout the world, free of charge. Although many scholars and researchers use the AMC library, its primary purpose is to encourage the performance of American music. Materials are automatically transferred to the Americana Collection after a composer has been deceased for twenty-five years.

William C. Rorick
Queens College (CUNY)
New Faces/New Jobs

Stephanie R. Cimino, Cataloguer/Research Assistant, The Pierpont Morgan Library.
Nina Davis-Millis, Music Librarian, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Christine Hoffman, Director of the Library, Manhattan School of Music.
David Lasocki, Music Librarian for Public Service, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
Geraldine Ostrove, Head, Reader Services and Performing Arts Reading Room, Music Division, Library of Congress.
Karen Griffith, Personnel Librarian, Case Western Reserve University.
Sharon Rienerth, Coordinator, Monographic and AV Cataloging Unit, Winthrop College.
Wayne Shoaf, Assistant Archivist, Arnold Schoenberg Institute, University of Southern California.
Laura M. Snyder, Music and Reference Librarian, St. Olaf College.
Anna Marie Sylvester, Cataloger, University of Missouri-Kansas City Libraries.
H. Stephen Wright, Music Librarian, Northern Illinois University.

Calendar

August 9–15: Black American Music Symposium, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
August 18–24: International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, General Conference, Chicago.

The Business Office of MLA requests that members notify them promptly of changes of address, to save members and the Association forwarding charges from the Post Office. Keep in mind that labels for NOTES and the Newsletter are produced several weeks prior to the actual mailing date. As soon as you know your new address, please inform the Business Office (address below) before you move. Thank you!