Program

Place: State University College at Geneseo, N.Y.
      Brodie Fine Arts Building, Room 356A (2nd floor)

Date: October 24, 1981

Events:

10:30 - 11:30 Coffee and registration
Words of welcome from James Willey, Music
Department Chairman

11:30 - 12:15 Joan Swankamp: "Popular music discography:
state of the art:

12:15 - 12:30 Business meeting

12:30 - 2:00 Lunch at the Big Tree Inn

2:00 - 3:00 Bill Knowlton: "Collecting old-time country and
blue-grass music:

3:00 - 4:00 Jim Kimball: "The 19th century minstrel stage:
traditions and sources:

4:00 - 5:00 Reception

The upcoming meeting in Geneseo will mark the 33rd since the charter
meeting of May 1, 1965. If history intrigues you, read on to learn more about
the Chapter's inception.

Chapter's First Chapter

One late afternoon in 1965, four music librarians sat casually talking in
a Dallas coffee shop. It was this unlikely setting that inspired the idea of
a Western New York Chapter of the Music Library Association. The four coffee
drinkers had gathered in Texas for an MLA national meeting and included Ruth
Watanabe (Eastman), Metod Milac (Syracuse), and Harold Samuel and Florence
Daluiso (then of Cornell and the University of Buffalo, respectively).
According to Ruth Watanabe, the notion began as "a lark," emerging out of a
curiosity about each other's holdings and activities. The founding group
organized the charter meeting held at Cornell on May 1, 1965, which centered
around discussion of a questionnaire on standard library procedures. (Sample
questions: What classification system do you use? How and to whom are your
orders submitted?) Subsequent meetings at Syracuse, Buffalo, and Toronto
continued to deal with very basic matters and, Dr. Watanabe adds, featured
"lots of gossip." Nevertheless, the gatherings stimulated a healthy spirit
and productive exchange of ideas among area librarians that continues to this
day.

More on the history of the Western New York/Ontario MLA Chapter will be
featured in future issues of this newsletter.