Aspects of folk and popular music will be the focus of the program for the fall meeting of the NYS/ONT MLA chapter, to be held October 24 at the State University College at Geneseo, New York. All events will take place in Room 356A of Brodie Fine Arts Building. (Please refer to schedule and map in this issue. Parking will be in lots "B" or "L").

After coffee and words of welcome, Joan Swanekamp will open the meeting with a presentation entitled "Popular music discography: state of the art." Joan is Co-Head of Technical Processing, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music, and instructor of music cataloging at SUNY/Geneseo. Her book, Diamonds & Rust: A Bibliography and Discography on Joan Baez was published last year by Pierian Press. She is presently at work on a similar project for Janis Joplin.

After a business meeting and lunch break, Bill Knowlton will recount some of his experiences as a collector of country and bluegrass music. Bill has an extensive collection of 78 rpm recordings, and his weekly radio program "Bluegrass Ramble" is well known to public radio listeners in central New York from WCNY-FM, Syracuse.

Jim Kimball, ethnomusicologist in the music department of SUNY/Geneseo, will be joined by members of the Geneseo String Band for the final event of the day, a lecture-demonstration of 19th century American minstrel music. Sheet music, song books, recordings, and other sources will be examined, and live performances promise to put us in the mood for the reception which follows.

Geneseo is situated on Routes 20A, NY 39, and NY 63, about 25 miles south of Exit 46 of the New York State Thruway, and a few miles west of Exit 8 of Interstate 390. From the east slope of the Genesee Valley, it commands a view of a scenic region noted for its rich farmland, thoroughbred horses, hunting, and dairying. Members of the Wadsworth family came to the area from New England around 1790, and their descendants still own several estates nearby. While Geneseo's growth has been termed "substantial rather than spectacular," an atmosphere of old family affluence still lingers. If you arrive early, a look around will prove worthwhile. Main Street still preserves much of its 19th century character, with a court house designed by Claude Bragdon in 1898 at its head. The Wadsworth Public Library (1867) at Center Street is significant. Lunch at the Big Tree Inn (1833) is very highly recommended, set in the former private residence of Geneseo's first banker. Average cost is around $5 or $6 for hearty soups and sandwiches, and it is a short walk from the meeting site.
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 Swanekamp: "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
Daluiuso (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.
Spring 1981 Meeting Report

The New York State/Ontario Chapter of the Music Library Association held its spring meeting on May 16, 1981 in Toronto, Ontario with the University of Toronto hosting the meeting. Program Chairperson Don Seibert (Syracuse University), in coordination with Kathleen McMorrow and Beverly Oziewicz of the University of Toronto, planned a very informative day. Beverly Oziewicz (Bibliographic Processing, University of Toronto) delivered the first talk entitled "RILM Abstracts online: searching the DIALOG database." The second presentation of the morning, "Computer applications at the University of Toronto Library" (UTLAS) was given by Michael McCahill (Special Projects Librarian, University of Toronto). Both talks were supplemented by online demonstrations. Following lunch, Andrew Hughes (Faculty of Music, University of Toronto) delivered an entertaining talk entitled "Computer-aided research into the late medieval rhymed Office."

A number of important topics were discussed at the business meeting conducted by Chairperson Victor Cardell (Cornell University). The first item on the agenda was the proposal for a Publication Committee to handle the newsletter and a directory. Helen Bartlett (Eastman School of Music) will chair the committee and Elizabeth Gamble (SUNY Geneseo) will coordinate the directory. The Nominations Committee is still in need of volunteers. The Secretary/Treasurer reported the account balance at $116.52 after expenses for the Spring Meeting. Dues were discussed and the majority voted to raise dues to $4.00 annually. The fall meeting, which will be held at SUNY Geneseo, was the final item on the agenda.

The closing event was a reception held in the Edward Johnson Library, Faculty of Music with Egyptian qānūn music supplied by George Sawa (University of Toronto).

Joan Swanekamp
Secretary/Treasurer

MLA/Pennsylvania Meeting

John Fleming, Program Chairman of the Pennsylvania Chapter/MLA, has extended an open invitation to attend that Chapter's Annual Meeting on October 2-3 at Edinboro State College. The program will include a presentation by Ruth Watanabe titled "Unexpected Encounters with Introduction to Music Research," a panel discussion on collection development, and a tour of the Tellers Organ Company in Erie. If there are any questions, please call Richard Claypool at (215) 691-6992.

NEWSLETTER of the Music Library Association, New York State/Ontario Chapter is issued semi-annually. Please send inquiries and news items for publication to: Helen Bartlett, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY 14604.
MLA Current Awareness Subcommittee

The Current Awareness Subcommittee of the MLA Reference and Public Services Interest Group was organized in 1980. The purpose of the Subcommittee is to disseminate up-to-date bibliographic and library information such as news about new reference tools (in related fields as well as music), sources of new bibliographic and discographies, locations of composers’ archives, new acquisition sources, innovative in-house practices, new periodicals, new commercial services, helpful articles in non-music professional journals and sources for answers to difficult or unusual reference questions.

The first bulletin is planned for the end of September and will be distributed through the MLA chapters (copies will be available at the Western New York/Ontario chapter meeting on October 24). Future bulletins may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Chapter Secretary/Treasurer. To request copies or contribute information for subsequent issues, contact either the Subcommittee chairperson Norma Jean Lamb, Music Division, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203, or Diane Parr Walker, Music Library, Baird Hall, State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260.

Diane Parr Walker

Chapter Directory

The Chapter is currently considering the publication of two directories. One is simply a directory of member libraries, containing entries in the form:

Institution name:  
Library name:  
Address:  
Personnel:* name, title, phone number, preferred mailing address if different than institution address  
Holdings: recordings, scores, periodicals, books, instruments  
Facilities: listening, reproduction  
Strengths: special collections

*MLA chapter members

The other directory under consideration is a more extensive directory of music collections in New York State which are open to the public or to researchers in music. The entries would include the same information as the membership directory, plus an indication of the person in charge of permission to use the collections, access policies, hours of availability, etc. The first step in producing such a directory will be to identify institutions and individuals who have such music collections. In the immediate future I will be attempting to compile a working list of names and addresses, looking over samples of directories produced by other organizations, and trying to determine just how extensive such a project would be. More information concerning the planned scope of this directory, some beginnings of the working list, and sample directories will be available at the fall meeting. Any suggestions, comments, sample directories, additions to the list, etc., will be gratefully accepted.

Elizabeth Gamble
Secretary/Treasurer Report 9/81

Balance 12/1/80 $199.55
Deposits
  Dues 16.00
  Registration fees 30.31
Disbursements
  May meeting expenses 30.00
  Other 8.17
Balance 9/14/81 $207.69

New York State/Ontario MLA Officers 1980/81
Chairman: Victor Cardell
Secretary Treasurer: Joan Swanekamp
Program Coordinator: Don Seibert

New York State/Ontario MLA Committees 1981
Nominating: Kathleen McMorrow, Don Seibert, Joan Swanekamp, Victor Cardell
Publications: Helen Bartlett, Elizabeth Gamble, Ross Wood

Closing Note
All members are invited to send in their ideas for the Newsletter as well as for other Chapter publications, projects and programs.

See you in Geneseo!

Helen Bartlett
Ross Wood
Sibley Music Library
Eastman School of Music
ELECTION OF OFFICERS
1981/82

Chairperson
☐ Diane Parr Walker
   Assistant Music Librarian, SUNY/Buffalo

☐ John Whitepost
   Music Bibliographer, University of Toronto

Secretary-Treasurer
☐ Carolyn Johnson
   Assistant Music/Audio Librarian, Ithaca College

☐ Ann McCollough
   Cataloger, Eastman School of Music

Program Coordinator
☐ Rayna Baker
   Music Librarian, Hartwick College

☐ David Ossenkop
   Assistant Music Librarian, SUNY/Potsdam

DUES MUST BE PAID FOR VOTES TO BE VALID.
Please complete the following forms and ballot by the October 24 meeting in Geneseo. Ballots will be counted at that time. As a reminder, the increase in annual dues from $2.00 to $4.00 reflects the vote of the members present at the May 1981 meeting in Toronto. Membership entitles you to vote at business meetings or on official ballots, to serve as a Chapter officer or committee member and to receive all publications of the Chapter.

Membership Form

NAME ___________________________ MAILING ADDRESS _________________________

INSTITUTION _______________________

For 1981/82 dues, make $4.00 check payable to:

New York State / Ontario Music Library Association

Send to:

Joan Swanekamp
Sibley Music Library
Eastman School of Music
26 Gibbs St.
Rochester, NY 14604

NOTE: Dues may also be paid at the October 24 meeting in Geneseo.

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Registration Form

Please return by October 19, 1981.

NAME ___________________________ MAILING ADDRESS _________________________

INSTITUTION _______________________

Registration for fall meeting: $2.00

I plan to attend the luncheon: Yes ___ No ___

Make checks payable to:

New York State / Ontario Music Library Association

Send to:

Joan Swanekamp
Sibley Music Library
Eastman School of Music
26 Gibbs St.
Rochester, NY 14604

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