Notes from the Chair

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Buffalo on Saturday, Oct. 19th, for the Fall Chapter Meeting. Jim Coover and Company have planned a very interesting day of activities focusing on access to materials in ethnomusicology, and on iconography and the music library. For some of us, including me, this will be the first opportunity to see their "still new" facilities. If you have not received information about the meeting, please call SUNY Buffalo staffers at 716-636-2935.

The Fall of the year once again brings not only crisp nights and beautiful foliage, but also Chapter elections. The Nominating Committee, composed of Sue Grimm, Sally Skyrm, and David Ossenkop, has compiled a fine slate of candidates. Ballots are being sent to all members who have paid their dues. If you have not received your ballot, you may still pay your dues and vote at the October meeting.

I would like to extend the heartfelt thanks of the Chapter to John Whitepost, who has decided to retire from his post as Newsletter editor after this issue. He has had to work long and hard for each issue to overcome the complexities of our two (sometimes at odds) national mail systems, and to bring us a well-presented and timely newsletter. Thanks, John.
Partly as an effort to eliminate some of the mail problems, the new editors of the Newsletter will be from each country. Betsy Gamble of Cornell University and Suzanne Meyers Sawa of the University of Toronto have agreed to co-edit the Newsletter beginning with the Spring issue. Please contact them if you have suggestions or contributions.

As my term(s) of office(s) end, I would like to thank all of you who have helped and supported me through a rather rocky couple of years with the Chapter. Special thanks to Sue Grimm for her very willing and able support this year as Secretary/Treasurer. And thanks to the Buffalo folks for preparing the Fall meeting in its entirety. It is my hope that the newly elected officers will be able to work together through one whole term of office and that many more of you will again become active in activities and business affairs of the Chapter.

Donald T. Green
Sibley Music Library

Minutes - Spring Meeting 1985

The Spring meeting of the Chapter was held at the Eastman School of Music (University of Rochester) on May 18th. Jan Engberg (Associate Director, ESM) and Mary Wallace Davidson (Sibley Music Library) welcomed 23 participants to the 20th anniversary meeting of the chapter. Then Dr. Ruth T. Watanabe (ESM), one of the Chapter's founders, described the events which led to the Chapter's formation. (Yes, the first meeting really was held in a Dallas café!) Some topics of concern to our founders were: the responsibilities of the music librarian to the patrons; the feasibility of borrowing between libraries (the now familiar ILL system); and the sharing of ideas and resources between music librarians to lessen each other's burdens. Dr. Watanabe then gave a brief history of the Chapter's activities.
The morning session was a lecture/demonstration of the GEAC Library Automation System at the University of Rochester, presented by three members of Sibley Music Library's Catalog Department. Donald Green discussed some of the general aspects of the GEAC system, explaining many of its pros and cons for music libraries. Ann McCollough then described some of the specifics involved in the implementation of GEAC from her experience as library representative on an implementation committee. Joan Swanekamp concluded by discussing problems particular to Sibley Music Library during (and after!) implementation. All three emphasized the importance of the music librarian's involvement at the very beginning of plans for automation, to insure that the needs of the library will be met. After a question and answer period with the speakers, participants were invited into the Catalog Department for hands-on experimenting with the online catalogue.

Following lunch, the business meeting was conducted by chairman Donald Green. Mary Wallace Davidson relayed news from the MLA Board of Directors concerning several important topics now under discussion. These topics include: the decline in membership, and some possible explanations; the need to encourage those considering music librarianship; financial support for the education and research of music librarians; and the importance of supporting and/or undertaking bibliographic projects that benefit a wider variety of people. Lenore Coral then gave an update on RILM's US office at Cornell, and requested that those interested in writing abstracts contact her. Donald Green announced that the newsletters of other chapters which are sent to us will be displayed at the following meeting, but no longer kept. The proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws were then brought up; these will be voted upon at the fall meeting. A question was raised concerning the feasibility of holding only one meeting a year. A motion was made to change the wording of Article V, part A, to "The Chapter shall hold at least one meeting each year...", and was seconded; discussion followed. A voice vote taken on that motion showed a majority of those present to be in favour of it; this will also be dealt with at the next meeting. Lenore Coral announced that Article VIII, considered to be ambiguous,
will be re-worked and presented at the fall meeting. James Coover graciously offered to host the fall meeting at SUNY Buffalo, the date to be determined, and Donald Green closed the business meeting.

The afternoon session was a discussion and demonstration of compact disc systems. Guest speakers were Steven Smolian of Smolian Sound Studios, Potomac, MD and James Gala of Gala Sound, Rochester, N.Y. Mr. Smolian discussed the technical background of how compact disc systems operate, while Mr. Gala discussed types of systems and brand names. Mr. Gala concluded by demonstrating some of the equipment he sells. Both answered questions about compact disc systems in different music library situations.

A wine and cheese reception with music provided by the student woodwind trio "Triage" brought this anniversary meeting to a close. Many thanks to acting Programme Co-ordinator Donald Green for a very interesting programme!

Susan J. Grimm
Secretary/Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

Balance 1/85 $396.80
Deposits:
Dues and registration, Spring meeting $74.00
Disbursements:
Postage, meeting costs, bank fees $152.89
Balance 9/85 $317.91

 debido a un oversight on my part, the Vote on changes to the Constitution will not take place until the Spring 1986 meeting. Thanks to Nancy Bren Nuzzo and Lenore Coral for preparing the changes.

Don Green
Notices from MLA

The Education Committee of the Music Library Association has made available a 32-page Directory of Library School Offerings in Music Librarianship, compiled from the responses to a questionnaire sent to all library schools on the ALA's list "Graduate Library School Programs Accredited by the ALA," October 1983. To obtain this publication send a cheque or money order for $1.50 payable to the Music Library Association to:

John Shepard  
Music Division/PARC  
111 Amsterdam Ave.  
New York, NY 10023

The Music Library Association is now accepting applications for the first Walter Gerboth Award, this year $200, in memory of the esteemed professor of music and former music librarian who died in 1984. Eligible are members of the Association who are music librarians in the first five years of their professional career, seeking assistance for a research project in progress. It is desirable but not required that the research be destined for publication.

An application should be accompanied by two letters of support, one for the person and one for the project, and should include a vita as well as names of further references who might be consulted. It should describe the project, and its significance, and show the total budget, specifying the amount requested from the Association, sources of other funds if any, and the purpose of the funds requested. No funds will be awarded for capital purchases. Applications should be submitted by January 1, 1986, to Gerboth Award, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music, 26 Gibbs St., Rochester, NY 14604. Contact: M.W. Davidson  
Sibley Music Library  
Eastman School of Music  
26 Gibbs St.  
Rochester, NY 14604  716-275-3046
CD Survey Results

Here are the results of the informal compact disc survey that was in the last issue of the Newsletter. A total of nine institutional responses were received, four of which indicated that they did not currently collect, nor did they plan to collect in the near future, compact discs.

Of the five that provided some measure of positive response at the time, collection size for CD's ranged from one to approximately 150. Traditional discographic finding aids and vendors' suppliers were being utilized with the addition of the specialized journals devoted to digital technology. The numbers of players owned by institutions ranged from "under consideration" to "4" to "projected 6 to 8". Magnavox Model 2040 was owned by one institution and under consideration by another, and Technics SL-P7, Sony (model unknown), Philips CD104, Studer (Revox) B225, and Yamaha CD2 were all owned by one. All five institutions had, or were planning for, facilities for public use of the equipment with headphones. Two institutions provided machines to be used with speakers, although one mentioned that this was for departmental and lecture use generally outside of the library.

In general, the machines were bolted to the listening stations. One institution reported engraving identification numbers into them. The discs themselves were being "security treated" at one institution and were shelved behind the circulation desk. One institution remarked that disc storage was a problem since they required "special shelving". Another library solved that problem by placing the small number of discs they owned into an all purpose "media cabinet" that also contained cassettes, kits, films, filmstrips, etc.

If you would like to talk to colleagues who are currently using CD's, try contacting Jim Cassaro at Cornell University, William Guthrie and Jane A. Pearce Baldwin at the University of Western Ontario, or Nancy Bren Nuzzo at SUNY Buffalo. If your library is now using CD's and you would like to share your experiences with others in the chapter, please drop a note to either of the two new Newsletter co-editors.

Don Cruz
DUES ARE DUE!

Members who have not yet paid their 1985/86 dues should do so now. This covers membership for the period from September 1985 through August 1986. Please return the form below to:

Susan Grimm
Secretary/Treasurer, NYS/O MLA
PO Box 552
Canton, NY 13617

Reminder - please remit cheques for dues and registration fees in American funds. The bank charges a dollar to cash each personal cheque drawn on a Canadian bank; our Canadian members should send money orders to prevent our already low dues from being gobbled up by the exchange rate and bank fees. Thank you.

1985/86
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
NEW YORK STATE/ONTARIO MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Name______________________________________________________________

Mailing address____________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Institution_________________________________________________________

Please check here if your address has changed since our last mailing.
Dues are US$4.00, payable to the New York State/Ontario Music Library Association. This small fee 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. We can no longer afford to send newsletters to those who do not pay dues.