FROM THE CHAIR

Being the Chapter Chair from a non-music based library is a bit of a strange experience, one that has its advantages and disadvantages. Among the disadvantages are the obvious things: the lack of day-to-day contact with music people and infrequent communications through the various organizations that music librarians join. The advantages, however, outweigh the disadvantages many times over.

I have been involved with the Western New York Library Resources Council Preservation Committee for the past two years. This committee has made me aware of the need for disaster preparedness for all kinds of libraries. We submitted a grant proposal to New York State for two disaster trailers which will be stocked with emergency supplies and will be on 24-hour call to serve any Western New York library in need of assistance. Preservation, with special emphasis on disaster preparedness for music libraries, is a topic I would like to pursue at our fall meeting in Toronto.

Another organization of which I have become aware this past year is OLAC (Online Audio-Visual Catalogers). This organization acts as a users group of librarians who specialize in or catalog AV materials. Music librarians have a lot to offer those of us who deal with AV materials only rarely in the way of information on sound recordings and scores; AV catalogers, in return, can offer assistance with video materials or computer software. This organization will hold its national biennial meeting in Rochester, NY, October 17-20, 1990. For further information, contact Sheila Smyth at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY.

The groups that I have mentioned are by no means meant to replace, but to supplement the activities of our local chapter members. The exchange of information with larger numbers of persons will only help in our daily activities to provide better service to our clientele.

In regards to our upcoming fall meeting, I would appreciate hearing any ideas that you may have for topics of discussion or possible presentations. Also, I would welcome any volunteers to serve as committee members for nominations of officers or to help in planning the annual meeting. My e-mail address is KPERONE@CANISIUS. I hope to hear from you soon!

Karen Perone
CHAPTER NEWS

1989 NY/ONT MLA BUSINESS MEETING

Chair Alison Hall opened the brief meeting by thanking Mary Wallace Davidson and the Eastman School for hosting the meeting. Suzanne Meyers Sawa reported that before newsletter expenses, the organization had $479.35. She also announced plans to pare down the mailing list to those who had paid dues within the last two years. Alison congratulated David Ossenkop, who has been elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect for the 1989/90 year. Kathleen McMorrow accepted the invitation to host the 1990 meeting at the University of Toronto. Alison welcomed the new chair, Karen Perone, and Suzanne thanked Alison for her year well done. Ideas for the 1990 meeting were discussed, including a panel on preservation. Jim Cassaro asked that we do more to include public libraries.

Suzanne Meyers Sawa

AMS/MLA CHAPTER MEETING HELD
23-24 SEPTEMBER 1989

The New York State/St. Lawrence Chapter of the American Musicological Society and the New York State/Ontario Chapter of the Music Library Association held a joint meeting on 23-24 September 1989 at the Eastman School of Music.

Four sessions took place, two of them presented by the Music Library Association and two by the American Musicological Society. The first, "Bibliographic Instruction and the Music Library," was chaired by James P. Cassaro, of Cornell University. Participants were Michael J. Rogan, of the Boston Public Library, whose topic was "Planning for On-Line Bibliographic Instruction in a Public Library"; and James Cassaro, who spoke on "Bibliographic Instruction in an On-Line Environment." The second session, chaired by Charles Lindahl, of the Sibley Music Library, was on "Regional Library Resources." Mary Ann Parker, from the University of Toronto, reported on "The Libretto Project at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto," followed by brief reports of collections of libretto collections in other area libraries. Suzanne Stover, of Eastman, then gave "A Brief Report on the Eastman Audio Archives," which included information on making some of the older performances and lectures available on more modern materials. Susan Stinson, of Syracuse University, was delayed in arriving but spoke briefly on "Significant Historical Sound Recordings in the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archives, Syracuse University."

The third session, hosted by Mark Radice, of Ithaca College, included three papers: Patrick Macey, of Eastman, spoke on "Josquin's Misericordias Domini and Louis IX"; Bryan Martin, from the University of Toronto, spoke on "Carmina in Moto: Towards a Modal Interpretation of Orlando di Lasso's Prophetiae Sibyllarum"; and Don M. Randel, of Cornell University, treated the group to "Crossing Over with Rubén Blades." [A more detailed report of Session 3 follows this overview.—Ed.] The fourth session, held Sunday morning, was chaired by Marilynn J. Smiley, from SUNY at Oswego. Virginia Newes, of Eastman, spoke on "Turning Fortune's Wheel: Musical and Textual Design in Machaut's Canonic Songs"; Julia Moore, of Syracuse University, examined many of the court records in her talk "Nowhere Did the
Aristocracy Come Tumbling Down: Misconceptions Concerning Economics and Music in Vienna, 1780-1830; Philip Carli, of Eastman, spoke on "Michael William Balfe's The Daughter of St. Mark (1844): An English 'Grand Opera Seria'"; and Wilfried Grühn, from the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg, BRD, ended the session with "Post-Modernism--the End of the Avant Garde?"

Besides the sessions, many other events added to the meeting. There were tours of the new Sibley Music Library, which many of the participants had not yet seen. The graduate musicology students at Eastman put on a very elegant tea, for which they had done a great deal of work, including baking the bread to make the sandwiches. Saturday evening Paul O'Dette gave a recital of lute music, much of which is found in the rare book collection at Sibley. And Robert Freeman, Director of the Eastman School, hosted a reception after the concert. The meeting, which followed a tradition of several joint meetings, was well attended and was a great success.

Louise Goldberg
(Reprinted from the November 1989 Sibley Muse)

AMS/MLA CHAPTER MEETING:
Session III

The third session was chaired by Mark Radice, of Ithaca College. The first paper, "Josquin's Misericordias Domini and Louis XI", was presented by Patrick Macey, of the Eastman School of Music. Several significant factors indicate an association of this relatively early work of Josquin's with Louis XI of France: the recently recovered evidence of his extended sojourn in Provence at the chapel of Good King Rene (during the reign of Louis XI), and the uniqueness of the text, of which the beginning and closing (in first person singular) were also Louis's last words, lead the scholar to believe that this motet may have been composed for Louis XI.

Bryan Martin, University of Toronto, presented the second paper, "Carmine in modo: Towards a Modal Interpretation of Orlando di Lasso's Prophetiae Sibyllarum". This work contains an abundance of chromaticism, which is uncharacteristic of the modal writing of the time. To determine the significance of the chromaticism, the author made an extensive study of the cadential techniques and interval species of the work, and found these factors to fall within the modal structure. This lead to the conclusion that the work is an example of modal writing and that the chromaticism is used as embellishment.

The final paper of the session was presented by Don Randel, of Cornell University: "Crossing Over with Ruben Blades". Blades, a native of Puerto Rico, crosses between the Puerto Rican and American cultures through his music, which is a modernization of the traditional Latin sound (e.g., El Gran Combo) through altered instrumentation and a proselike narrative in the lyrics. While these changes appeal to a modern taste, many of the traditional elements, rooted in the Afro-Latin dance and culture, are retained. In a sense, his audience, native Puerto Ricans like himself in the process of bridging two cultures, is crossing over with him; in his own process of crossing over, he is gaining a new audience--American listeners who enjoy his music.

Marilyn Plain
CALL FOR PAPERS

[This announcement appeared in MLA-L, posted by Ralph Papakhian after he had culled it from the HUMANIST bulletin board. It is included here for the perusal of any chapter members who do not have access to the world of electronic networking.—Ed.]

For an interdisciplinary conference to be held April 19-20, 1991, at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, the Society for Critical Exchange seeks papers exploring the idea of intellectual property in relation both to the institutions and practices which gave rise to it and to those institutions and practices it has helped to produce or perpetuate.

Some broad areas of relevance include liberal individualism; authorship (in the television, motion picture, and music industries, as well as in traditional arts and literature); copyright; reading, writing, and publishing practices; trademark, concepts of authenticity and forgery; censorship; and the structure of academic disciplines.

Literary, economic, legal, philosophical, political, psychological, and feminist perspectives are all welcome. A selection of the conference proceedings will be published. Direct papers, proposals, abstracts, and inquiries to the conference organizers:

Professor Martha Woodmansee
Department of English
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, OH 44106 or

Professor Peter A. Jaszi
Washington College of Law
American University
Washington, DC 20016
ATTENTION MEMBERS OF MLA CHAPTERS

If you are a member of your regional chapter, but do not belong to the national Music Library Association, consider the benefits of national membership:

* personal subscription to Notes, the quarterly journal of the Association, which includes book and music reviews, indexes to audio equipment reviews, record and CD reviews, articles on music bibliography and music history, current publication lists, and advertising for new publications and services in music
* subscription to the MLA Newsletter
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Membership in the Music Library Association is $50.00 US annually, $25.00 US for retired and student members. Use the form on the next page to join, and do it today!

1989/1990 MEMBERSHIP FORM--MLA NEW YORK STATE/ONTARIO CHAPTER

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Faculty of Music Library
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80 Queen’s Park Crescent
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The bank charges $2.50 CAN to change each Canadian check. Please send dues in US funds.

NEWS OF CHAPTER MEMBERS

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New position:

Publications, professional activities, affiliation news (events, gifts, new buildings, etc.), other items of interest:

Send to Jane Nowakowski, Sibley Music Library, 27 Gibbs Street, Rochester, NY 14604 USA.
MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Application for membership

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