2001 Annual Meeting at Syracuse University

The annual fall meeting of the New York State/Ontario Chapter was held on Friday and Saturday, October 12-13, 2001 at Bird Library on the campus of Syracuse University. Carole Vidali, the local arrangements person, did a splendid job in putting together a wonderful program that I am sure everyone enjoyed. Besides many other activities, attendees were treated to a tour of the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive by its curator, Susan Stinson. Founded in 1963, this is the third largest audio archive in the country with nearly a third of a million recordings in a dizzying array of formats. Belfer is not only a repository for artifacts (including a piece of tinfoil purported to be the first recording made by Thomas Edison), but equally important also includes the studio space and equipment on which to play them back, including two Archeophones, the most advanced system developed for the playback of cylinders of all kinds. Belfer also has a recording studio for live performances that is heavily used by Syracuse students.

Carolyn Davis and Kenneth Lavender of the Special Collections Department gave attendees the opportunity to see some of the musical treasures housed by the Library. Included were Margarita philosophica by Gregorius Reisch, Strassburg, 1515; Athanasii Kircheri . . . Musurgia universalis, sive, ars magna consoni et dissoni in X libros digesta by Athanasius Kirchner, Rome, 1650; a medieval psalter folio; manuscript of American composer, Ernst Bacon; manuscript of Franz Waxman’s film score The Bride of Frankenstein; and a Lincoln Campaign Songster, 1864. Besides the two composers above, the library also owns manuscripts of Franz Liszt, Charles Gounod, Bernard Rogers, Leo Sowerby, Carlisle Floyd, Miklos Rozsa, and others.

(More on the meeting inside)
Message from the Chair

It was wonderful to see so many of you once again at the NYSO Annual Meeting at Syracuse in October. Many thanks to Carole Vidali and her staff for providing a wonderful program, as well as extending their truly welcoming hospitality. The sessions were excellent, and as always, the opportunity to have a chance to interact with valued colleagues and friends was especially important.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Gerry Szymanski for his excellent work as Chair last year, and Linda Blair for her work as Past Chair. Both have also been wonderful in giving me advice and information as well, and I am very thankful. A thank you also goes to Ann Churukian, who has given several years of hard work as Secretary/Treasurer. Dale Vargason, Newsletter Editor, and Kevin Michki, NYSO Webmaster continue hard at work, and Rick McRae continues with managing the NYSO-L listserv. In October, David Peter Coppen from Eastman assumed the position of Secretary/Treasurer and Edward Komara from SUNY Potsdam assumed the position of Vice-Chair/Chair Elect. My thanks to each of you for your willingness to serve, and I am appreciative of your presence in your positions in the chapter.

(Continued on page 3)

Fall Meeting Session Summaries

The Society for New Music (Neva Pilgrim, Society for New Music)

Filling in admirably at the last moment, Society for New Music officer Neva Pilgrim spoke about the unique connection between libraries and composers, and highlighted the special relationship between the Society and Syracuse University. One of the longest running organizations dedicated to commissioning and fostering contemporary music, the Society for New Music has been the starting gate for many successful composers. Each year it sponsors many concerts (including second hearings), recordings, and competitions, such as the Brian Israel Prize. The Society places its unique scores and program materials into an archive at the Special Collections department in Bird Library. Neva lauded the efforts of music librarians to protect and preserve not only older materials, but also the music of today.

The Making of a CD: From Idea to Studio to Market (David Rezak, Music Industry program, Syracuse University School of Music and founder/owner DMR Booking Agency).

David Rezak, a self-employed music booking agent who also teaches and advises students in the Music Industry program at Syracuse University, gave an interesting look into the music market. He talked in-depth about the program offered at SU, which allows students to gain experience in the complete process of issuing recordings, from idea, and design to production, promotion, distribution, manufacturing and marketing. Since 1996, students have been involved with SU's first student run recording company, SUR, which puts out at least one CD each academic year. Students also gain hands-on experience through required internships with booking agencies, record labels, and radio stations. Because they cannot market off campus, recordings are available in the University bookstore, and online. Graduates of the program are well prepared for the highly successful and fairly stable music booking industry.

David also spoke about internet marketing, including Napstar. He felt that MP3 files on the web were not a real problem because consumers want to own the actual packaged item. He points out that record sales were up, even though MP3 files were downloaded, and the promotional benefits far outweigh the damage on the internet.

(Session summaries continued on page 4)
Message from the Chair
(continued from page 2)

I enjoyed the conference sessions at MLA in Las Vegas in February, and it was great to see a number of you once again. I found my Chapter Chairs Breakfast meeting very useful and was pleased to discover that the size of a chapter had nothing to do with the vitality and quality of programs and events - we can be proud that we have so many active and capable people in our own chapter here. We had a chapter meeting during MLA, and most of the discussion centered on the next annual meeting, to be held at SUNY Potsdam. Speaking of the annual meeting, Edward Komara and I have been at work with the plans, and here are the details of the meeting thus far:

New York/State Ontario Chapter of Music Library Association
2002 Annual Meeting

-Location: Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam
-Dates: October 18 and 19, 2002
-Times: We expect to start the meeting in the early afternoon on Friday, and end by mid-day on Saturday
-Dinner: A dinner on-campus is being planned for Friday evening
-Concert: We expect to have a concert available for those that are interested on Friday evening, although the concert schedule is not out yet
-Sessions Composer Robert Washburn, who also has done a great deal of work in world music, will give a presentation for one of the sessions, probably on African music, and his instrument collection from Africa will also be available for view

Sessions related to the history of the Crane School will also be included, probably a lecture by Jane Subramanian, and historical survey of performances given by Gary Gayo, Recording Engineer for the Crane School of Music

A call for other session proposals will be going out – see elsewhere in this newsletter
-Lodging: Recommendations for housing choices will be given, and will include local motels of varying price range, as well as the on-campus conference dorm rooms, at significantly lower cost

Should you have any questions regarding the annual meeting, please feel free to contact Edward Komara at (315) 267-3227 or komaraem@potsdam.edu, or Jane Subramanian at (315) 267-3326 or subramjm@potsdam.edu

Hope to see many of you at the Annual Meeting!

All my best,

Jane Subramanian
Digitizing Music Recordings: Projects, Prospects and Issues for the Library Community (Panel Discussion)

Lenore Coral (Cox Library of Music and Dance, Cornell University), Rick McRae (Music Library, SUNY at Buffalo), and Gerry Szymanski (Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music) led a roundtable discussion into the implementation of electronic reserves and streamed audio at their respective libraries. The panel described such diverse elements as how costs were planned, how staff was trained, and how e-reserves were linked (or not linked) to library catalogs. Lenore talked about how audio streaming is only available to students in the new music library itself; Rick brought handouts that demonstrated how electronic items are linked to the Bison catalog; and Gerry demonstrated online how Eastman adds electronic materials to their Voyager catalog system. The panel then took questions from an enthusiastic and inquisitive group.

Ernst Bacon: An Exploration of his Life and Archive (G. Dale Vargason, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music).

Before Dale’s talk, he introduced Ellen Bacon, Ernst Bacon’s widow, who spoke briefly about her late husband. She also displayed many photographs and artwork of Mr. Bacon. Soprano Helen Boatwright, who premiered and recorded many of Bacon’s songs, was also in attendance and briefly reminisced about working with the composer.

After giving a brief biography of the life of 20th century composer and pianist Ernst Bacon, Dale proceeded with an in-depth look at Bacon’s time at Syracuse University and the large archive housed in Special Collections at the library. Bacon came to SU in 1945 to assume the position as Director of the School of Music. From his unpublished autobiography, letters, newspaper clippings, and other materials, Dale showed Bacon’s difficult beginnings as Director and his struggles with the bureaucracy of university politics that eventually led to his accepting the position of composer-in-residence and professor of piano two years after his arrival. In his new position, Bacon wrote and premiered numerous works until his retirement in 1963, after which he was named Professor Emeritus and continued to compose until his death in 1990.

Dale went on to describe the immense archive of Bacon’s works, which includes well over one thousand manuscripts, numerous published scores, hundreds of published articles and reviews by the composer, many writing about him, photos by and of Bacon, awards presented to him, and several original paintings by Bacon. In highlighting some of the treasures in the archive, Dale talked about some of Bacon’s manuscripts and letters from photographer Ansel Adams as well as leading composers of Bacon’s generation. To conclude his talk, Dale played recordings of two of Bacon’s songs set to texts of Emily Dickinson and the beginning of the orchestral work Remembering Ansel Adams.
Franz Waxman and “The Bride of Frankenstein:” Beautiful Terror in Sound (Gerry Szymanski, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music)

To wrap things up, Outgoing-Chair Gerry Szymanski presented a program on his recent research into the Franz Waxman Archives at Bird Library at Syracuse University, using photographs, audio clips and video selections in a power point presentation. He gave a brief overview of Waxman’s long and award-winning career, then featured an in-depth study of the music composed for the film “The Bride of Frankenstein” (Universal Pictures: 1935). He outlined the history of the film, the composition of the score, and described the manuscript collection from “The Bride” found in the archive. Gerry focused on the “Creation of the Female Monster” sequence during the final moments of the film, demonstrating Waxman’s use of *leitmotifs* for three of the main characters, and how the themes are transformed to dramatic effect.

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**Call for Proposals for 2002 Conference Presentations**

The next New York/Ontario Chapter meeting will be held at SUNY Potsdam on October 18-19, 2002. We have some sessions already planned, but would be glad to include chapter members who may have presentations they would like to do. If you would like to submit a proposal for a presentation, please make a copy of the form below and return it by June 1st. We would hope to include everyone who is interested, but if the number of proposals exceeds the time period of the conference, the strength of the information given, as well as expected range of the topic relevancy for those attending, may be important considerations.

Name

Institution

Phone email

Title of presentation

Abstract of content

Please return this form to:

Edward Komara
Crane Music Library
SUNY Potsdam
Potsdam, NY 13676

or submit electronically to: komaraem@potsdam.edu
Business Meeting, October 13, 2001
Syracuse, NY

17 people present

Gerry Szymanski, Chair, opened the meeting by introducing the current officers: Jane Subramanian, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, who becomes Chair at the end of this meeting, and Ann Churbukian, Secretary/Treasurer.

Treasurer’s report: The latest financial report is available in the most recent newsletter. Ann Churbukian reported that she had also done a rough comparative report for the past five years. She found that income averaged about $300.00 per year, mainly from dues. Expenses for newsletters averaged about $70.00 per newsletter. Other expenses included a one-time payment to subsidize the 1999 Chapter meeting in Buffalo, and expenses for the travel grants that we began to offer in 2000. In general, if the Chapter wants to break even each year, members should plan to spend not more than about $150.00, not counting newsletter expenses.

Election: Gerry Szymanski announced the candidates for the two open positions. Edward Komara was nominated for the position of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and David Peter Coppen was nominated for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Since ballots had not been mailed, the membership moved to conduct the elections on the spot. Each candidate was elected unanimously.

Chapter Listserv: Gerry asked how many people are subscribed to the Listserv. Almost everyone present is subscribed. Gerry encouraged those who have not subscribed to do so.

Old business: There was no old business.

New business: Jane Subramanian and Edward Komara offered to host the next Chapter meeting at Potsdam. This offer was enthusiastically accepted.

Lenore Coral urged everyone to attend IAML next August in Berkeley.

Gerry Szymanski thanked Carole Vidali for her work in organizing this years meeting. Carole thanked the presenters and the attendees.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Churbukian, Secretary/Treasurer

A note from the Secretary/Treasurer

After eight years’ dedicated service, Ann Churbukian stepped down from the Secretary/Treasurer’s post in October, 2001. At the chapter’s annual meeting in Syracuse that month, I was elected to succeed her. My gratitude goes out to Ann for her guidance and good counsel as I’ve assumed my new responsibilities.

The solicitation mailing for dues for the 2001-02 academic year is happening belatedly — this month. I have sent an envelope to everyone member listed in the records, and would ask that you return the form to me with complete contact information even if you have already paid dues for the 2001-02 year. In so doing you will be assisting me in maintaining a fully up-to-date membership roster.

Thank you for your co-operation. Please contact me with any membership-related questions or concerns.

Cordially,
David Peter Coppen, Secretary/Treasurer
FINANCIAL REPORT
Jan 1, 2001-June 30, 2001

Balance in U.S. HSBC bank account on July 1, 2001 $1,389.08
Balance in Canadian bank account July 1, 2001 unavailable

Total cash available July 1, 2001 $1,389.08

INCOME*
Membership $ 110.00

EXPENSES
Office Supplies and postage $ 13.94
Newsletter printing (Sept. 2001) $ 33.60
Newsletter postage (Sept. 2001) $ 33.87

Total Expenses $ 81.41

Balance in U.S. HSBC bank account Dec. 31, 2001 $1,470.07

N.B. All figures in U.S. Dollars

*Due to the belated (April, 2001) mailing of dues statements, income derived from membership dues was significantly lower than it would normally have been for the latter half of the calendar year.

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News from Around the Chapter
Submitted to the Editor by Chapter Members

Sibley Music Library of the Eastman School of Music. On Wednesday, May 8—the day before her annual Eastman School of Music concert—the Sibley Music Library will open an exhibit celebrating Marian McPartland and her continuing gifts to the world of jazz. From her personal collection Marian has graciously loaned us numerous photographs, posters, awards, journals and clippings. Some of these materials also celebrate her late husband, Jimmy McPartland, one of the great swing cornet players. Now in her early eighties, Marian continues to play actively and to produce her NPR series “Marian McPartland’s Piano Jazz.” The exhibit will remain in place through mid-September so that new students can enjoy it in the early fall. We certainly invite members of the New York State-Ontario Chapter to view the exhibit if your travels bring you to Rochester.

At the national MLA meeting in February David Peter Coppen gave a presentation at the Archives round table on the continuing partnership between the music publisher Carl Fischer, LLC and the Eastman School of Music. He also chaired the session of the Composers and Performers Roundtable, and closed the session with a performance of Ned Rorem’s Seconde sonate pour piano. In part owing to involvement with the Eastman School’s harp community, David submitted a short feature "A User-Friendly Guide to Writing Program Notes" to
the *World Harp Congress Review*, published in that journal's fall 2001 issue, vol. VII, no. 5. Outside of the library, he is active musically as pianist in an Alfred University-based trio which made its performing debut in a March, 2002 recital; at the end of April he will solo in Grieg's *Piano Concerto* with the Alfred University student symphony orchestra.

**Linda Blair** recently finished her four-year term as chair of the national MLA Personnel Subcommittee.

**Jim Farrington** attended the inaugural meeting of the National Recordings Preservation Board as MLA's representative. Established (PL106-474) and funded by Congress, the NRPB will be working toward identifying the most significant sound recordings ever made by establishing the National Recording Registry, and investigating those issues surrounding the preservation of recordings and recommending to the Librarian of Congress how to implement a comprehensive national sound recording preservation program. The Board comprises representatives from diverse associations and societies, including ARSC, RIAA, ASCAP, BMI, SEM, AMS, and others. Jim also attended the joint ARSC-IASA meeting in London last fall, at which he was elected President-elect of ARSC.

**G. Dale Vargason** was invited by the Rochester Bibliophile Society to give a talk, which resulted in a paper he gave at the March meeting this year entitled “From Incunabula to Sibelius: A Brief History of Music Printing and Publishing.” Dale is now an honorary member of the society for the next year. He also attended the annual Society for American Music Conference held in Lexington, KY in March.

The editor wishes to thank **Gerry Szymanski** for always taking so many wonderful photographs of our chapter meetings and posting them on the web for all to view. A big thank you also goes out to **Kevin Michki**, who has done a fine job with our chapter homepage. For those of you who have not visited the site, please go to: http://www.fredonia.edu/nyso/ and have a look. While there please be sure to sign up on the chapter listserv.

**Buffalo and Erie County Library.** Last fall **Raya Then** completed *Pan-American Exposition: a Bird's-eye View of Sights and Sounds*, a 36 page book with CD written to honor the Centennial of the Pan American Exposition held in Buffalo in 1901.

**SUNY Buffalo.** **Nancy Nuzzo** continues to be active at the national level, running for President this past fall and continuing her role as chair of the Publications Committee. With others, she held a meeting at the national conference in February concerning the recent issues in the printing of the member’s directory. **Rick McRae** will be on sabbatical from June until November of this year, completing his research on Klezmer music, which will result in a publication. He will be looking at the impact of Germany’s reunification on the revival of this music.

**John Bewley** has also been very active. He was on the national MLA’s Resource Sharing and Collection Development Committee, which is looking at creating an updated version of *RAMH (Resources of American Music History*, D. Krummel et al., 1981). John also recently published his article “Online Access to the Cataloging of the American Organ Archives” in *The Tracker*, Journal of the Organ Historical Society, v. 46, no. 1, 2002. Please join me in welcoming **Karen Ridler** to the staff at SUNY Buffalo. Karen, Instructional Support Associate, is in charge of serials and catalog maintenance.

**Cornell University.** **Lenore Coral** continues to be active in IAML; she is currently on a committee involved with organizing the annual conference in Berkeley, California, August 4-9, 2002. Those wishing to attend the meeting and get the early rate are urged to have your forms postmarked by May 10th.

**If you have news to report for the Fall newsletter please send it to the editor.**
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- Send an e-mail message to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU
- In the body of the message, type: SUB NYSO-L JANE DOE
- You will receive notification that you have been added to the list.

Questions about NYSO-L may be addressed to:

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Orlando Lasso, a 6. XXXIII. Bass.

Anto e quel. Dal vivo fonte de la tus bontate,ch’ogni gente arrichisce in ogni etate,

& ogni corpo & ogni mente pasce, quanto in terra tranno morre e rinasce oma et scende d’alta caritate, cosa non è ch’ignud’o