Greetings everyone! It's hard to believe that it's already May and that the relative calm of summer is only weeks away. I'm looking forward to a few picnics and concerts in the park, a whirlwind couple of days in Chicago for ALA, and a wonderful week "up at the lake." As they say in the song, bring on those "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer!!"

I'm pleased to announce that we have awarded a Librarian Exchange grant to Joe Hafner (Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library) and Don Widmer (Vandercook College of Music). They will be visiting each other's libraries and sharing their experiences using the Horizon system in a consortial environment. Congratulations to Joe and to Don! I encourage all Chapter members to think about possible proposals for next year. We can get rusty and stale in our day-to-day activities and this program provides a great opportunity to get outside of the walls of our libraries and to develop new skills or refresh the old ones.

Lynn Gullickson and I continue to pursue another Chapter program, the Library School Outreach Project. It has been a challenge to schedule visits, but we are pleased with the enthusiastic response from the library schools we have contacted. We have applied for a second Chapter Grant from the national organization to support this program in its second cycle of library school visits. If you have questions about this project, please contact Lynn or me.

Steve has included in this issue several announcements about important chapter activities. Please note the statement of proposed changes to the Chapter Bylaws. These changes will be voted upon at our fall meeting. If you have questions about the proposed changes please contact me or Beth Christensen, Chair of the Bylaws Committee. Please also note the announcement of the campaign to raise funds to support scholarships for students to attend chapter meetings. At our meeting in Louisville, the Executive Committee agreed that establishing a scholarship fund to honor chapter retirees would be a fine way to recognize the many contributions of our senior members while supporting and developing our future members. We are hopeful that we can raise enough money in the next few weeks to offer a scholarship to the Madison meeting. Last but not least, please mark your calendars for our fall meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, September 28-30. The Program and Local Arrangements Committees will be gearing up over the summer to get ready for the meeting. The program and newsletter deadlines have been set earlier than usual to accommodate the shift in our usual schedule. I'm looking forward to an interesting and enjoyable few days. I hope to see you all there!
2000 Chapter Meeting, Madison, Wisconsin

The University of Wisconsin-Madison cordially invites all Midwest Chapter Members of the Music Library Association to the annual meeting, 28-30 September 2000.

Madison, Wisconsin's capital, is situated on three lakes and holds the distinction of being the only American city built on an isthmus. The city is stunningly beautiful with its Capitol building crowning the downtown area and lake views in every direction. The University of Wisconsin-Madison is the largest campus in the University of Wisconsin system with many world renowned academic programs.

Our conference site is the University's Pyle Center, overlooking the shores of Lake Mendota and a short walk from restaurants, museums, shops, bar, theaters, and other entertainment on lively State Street. The Monona Terrace Center, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, is nearby. We'll do our best to provide lovely fall weather, compelling programs, great entertainment, and local color. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Geri Laudati
Director, Mills Music Library

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Chapter Meetings

Madison, Wisconsin
September 28-30, 2000

Bloomington, Indiana
October 18-20, 2001

Because of the earlier than usual time for the upcoming Chapter meeting in Madison, the September issue of the Midwest Note-Book will arrive in your mailboxes in early August. As usual it will be loaded with program and registration information. This should give you ample time to make your plans and reservations amidst those waning dog days of summer.

Also, those of you who will be sending information or articles for the "fall" newsletter should be aware that the deadline date for submissions is July 15.

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The Midwest Chapter of the Music Library Association is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization.
Honoring Midwest Music Librarians

The following articles on Joan Falconer and Nathan Eakin inaugurate a brief series honoring recent retirees from the Midwest Chapter. The series will continue in the next issue of the Midwest Note-Book.

From Cornell to Whitewater Rafting: Joan Falconer Retires

By Lynne Weber

Joan Falconer retired March 31 from her position as Music Librarian at the Rita Benton Music Library, University of Iowa. Jody's long and interesting career was preceded by a remarkable education -- a Bachelor's degree (Phi Beta Kappa) from Cornell, Masters and Doctorate degrees in Musicology from Columbia, and a MALS from the University of Chicago. At Columbia, she worked with Donald Grout and Paul Henry Lang, and as a part of the Master's program spent a year in Italy as a Fulbright scholar researching the work of Carissimi. It was a chance remark of William Austin at Cornell, however, that directed Jody to the emerging field of music librarianship. Employment included two years as a music cataloger at Columbia, work with special collections at the University of Chicago, and positions at New York Public Library (Music Division and Music Circulation), Connecticut College, SUNY-Albany, Appalachian State and, finally, the University of Iowa.

Jody has seen the role of the music librarian develop, and she reflects upon the contrast between the emerging years of music librarianship and the present heavy reliance upon technology. Still, she says, the library operation depends upon the competence of the librarian, underscoring the importance of a good education. There is no doubt that her greatest joy is the generation of music librarians who got their start as students on her staff. The illustrious (her word) careers launched include (but are not limited to) those of Mark Scharff, Bonna Boettcher, Lew Bowling, Elaine Bradshaw, and Renee McBride. The development and strength of MLA is another point of pride.

What does she foresee for libraries twenty years in the future? More technology, of course, but also printed materials and the knowledgeable librarian. What does Jody foresee for herself in the years to come? Presently, she is whitewater rafting in the western United States. Undoubtedly, she will garden, travel, drive a car (but, for heavens sake, a new one), sing in the choir and share her house with one or two cats. She promises not to forget the MLA and MLAMW, but will choose her meetings selectively (New York, no; Las Vegas, yes). Although she will go online, I suspect we will not often have the benefit of her comments on MLA-L. Jody, for years of sharing your wisdom, experience, honesty, kindness, generosity, wit, and joy of living, we thank you.

Postscript:
I obtained this information on a commuter plane, following the MLA conference in Louisville last February. The interview concluded while we were still in flight, so I asked if Jody had any more to tell. Well, she said, would you like to hear about my mother? I am glad I said "yes". Jody's mother, born in France, graduated Wellesley, was the first woman to serve on the local school board, became owner/manager of a Bed and Breakfast at age 80 (she still is involved in this endeavor), and was selected "Mother of the Year" for the state of New York in 1959. Several years ago, around the age of 90, she won a national essay contest by divulging the secrets of her long life. Another wonder woman...
Swiftly Fly the Years: Nathan Eakin Retires

By Brad Short

On June 30, the end of an era will occur in the Gaylord Music Library. Nathan Eakin will retire after working thirty-eight years as a music librarian on the Washington University campus.

Nathan (B.Mus '61) attended the Music Department when it was entirely contained in Blewett. He was an organ student of Howard Kelsey and Rudolf Kremer. The music library was located in the space now occupied by the administrative offices on the first floor. After his graduation, Nathan began what would become his long association with the Gaylord Music Library, the Music Department and the Washington University Libraries. His responsibilities ranged through every possible area within Gaylord; first in circulation, then as the circulation and shelving supervisor, then with serials, continuations, binding and processing. In 1969, Nathan's title was Head of Reader Services of Gaylord Music Library. Later in the 1970s, the title became Library Associate for Reference and Serials. It changed again in the 1990s to Library Associate for Reference and Special Collections.

Nathan's impact on the "public face" of Gaylord has been profound. For thirty-eight years the first face anyone saw when walking into Gaylord was Nathan's. As a circulation assistant his desk was in the circulation area. When he became the circulation supervisor his desk was just inside the workroom yet still plainly visible to all. When he moved into reference his desk moved with him and there he became a permanent fixture out in the midst of the Gaylord Reading Room. From this vantage point, Nathan tirelessly served the music community as a reference librarian of the first order!

In recent years, Nathan has become known in music library circles as the editor of the Gaylord Music Library Necrology. The necrology began in 1984 at the suggestion of the then cataloger, Thelda Bertram. Citations were taken from current periodicals, as now, and were filed in a separate card catalog. In 1990, the file shifted to a word processing file. Then again in the mid-1990s, Nathan and colleague Paul Hahn transformed the necrology file into a web site and loaded it as part of the Gaylord Music Library homepage. Musicians and music librarians from all over the world who seek death dates for recently deceased musicians regularly use the site. This then led to Nathan's appointment as the "Necrology Index" Editor for Notes in 1999.

Nathan is a long-time member of the American Guild of Organists and currently serves the St. Louis chapter as historian. For nearly four decades, Nathan was a church organist playing at Epiphany Episcopal, Bellefontaine United Methodist and Normandy United Methodist churches. This year, the local AGO chapter will honor him as "Educator of the Year" at the St. Louis annual banquet on May 22.

Nathan's plans in retirement will keep him active in the things that he enjoys doing and should be of little surprise to any who know him. He recently purchased an electronic organ that now sits in the basement of his Maryland Heights home and is played regularly (I've personally had the privilege of a private concert!) He will continue editing both the Gaylord Necrology and the MLA Notes column. In addition, he talks about plans to do some writing about St. Louis AGO chapter. And then he keeps promising to help me sort through piles and piles of organ music gifts that Gaylord has received over the years.

Yes, I know that he will enjoy his retirement. That is, if he is not too busy!
Monday, 10 April 2000

Dear Colleagues:

The Executive Committee of the Midwest Chapter of the Music Library Association invites you to participate in honoring five Chapter members who have already or will be retiring this academic year:

Nathan Eakin, Washington University
Joan Falconer, University of Iowa
Jean Geil, University of Illinois - Urbana
William Hulsker, Wayne State University
Marty Rubin, Audio Visual Buff Company

If you would like to make a donation in honor of one or all of the retirees, please send a check with a note “retiree fund” to:

Mary Huismann
MWMLA Secretary/Treasurer
University of Wisconsin - Whitewater
Harold Andersen Library
Technical Processing
P.O. Box 900
Whitewater, WI 53190-0900

Donated funds will be used to provide student scholarships to attend the annual fall Chapter meeting. The preferred deadline to make contributions is Monday, 24 April, although you are welcome to make contributions at anytime throughout the year.

Thank you for your consideration of honoring our retiring colleagues in this way.

Sincerely,

Lynn Gullickson
MWMLA, Past Chair
Proposed Revisions to the MLA—Midwest Chapter Bylaws
To be voted upon at the 2000 Chapter Meeting

The MLA-Midwest Chapter Bylaws Committee will propose the following changes to the Bylaws, to be voted upon at the 2000 Chapter meeting. In accordance with the Bylaws, we are distributing these proposed changes to the membership at least one month in advance of the meeting. Please take the time to read them before voting at the business meeting in September. Thank you!

The MLA-Midwest Chapter Bylaws Committee:
Beth Christensen, Chair
Bonna Boettcher
Lynn Gullickson

Article IV. Officers

A. The officers of the Chapter shall be: 1) a Chapter Chair; 2) a Chair-Elect, or Past Chair; 3) a Secretary-Treasurer; 4) a Newsletter Editor; and 5) a Web Site Editor. The Newsletter and Web Site Editors shall be appointed officers of the Chapter, and may be an officer of the Chapter may also hold additional office within the Chapter.

D. Terms of Office.
3. The terms of office of the Newsletter and Web Site Editors shall be one year. Incumbents may be reappointed.

E. Duties.
5. The Web Site Editor shall keep the site current and accurate.

Article V. Executive Committee

A. The three elected officers of the Chapter, the Newsletter Editor, and the Web Site Editor, if different from the other three, shall constitute the Executive Committee. Only the three elected officers shall be voting members of the Executive Committee.

B. Duties. The Executive Committee shall:

2. Appoint or reappoint the Newsletter Editor and the Web Site Editor.

RATIONALE:

Changes in technology have created the necessity for a chapter web master, or web site editor. Although the Chapter has had a web site editor in place for several years, the position has not been formally recognized or defined. Creating the chapter office of Web Site Editor puts this position on a par with the Newsletter Editor. It assures that the site editor would be involved in executive committee discussions that may have an impact upon the site and allows that person to have an active and visible role in the leadership of the chapter.
Dues Reminder

The date on your mailing label indicates your last dues payment (i.e., dues paid for the current year will have a '99 after your name). Please check your label! Dues may be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer at the address below.

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Harold Andersen Library
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