Kansas City, Here We Come!

67th Annual Chapter Meeting is October 23-25

If you haven’t made your travel plans to come to the Midwest Chapter meeting, 23-25 October in Kansas City, MO, “Now’s the Time” (to quote Kansas City’s native son Charlie Parker). Our hosts are Laura Gayle Green and Wendy Sistrunk of the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

CONFERENCE HOTEL

Our conference hotel is the Hampton Inn and Suites (http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/), conveniently located on the western edge of the Country Club Plaza, where you’ll find many dining, entertainment and shopping options (http://www.countryclubplaza.com/). To make reservations, call 816-448-4600 by September 18 to get the conference rate of $129/night (not including the 15.25% taxes). What do you get for this rate? Free parking, free wireless internet, free hot breakfast each morning, and free afternoon snacks. (Note: If you’re planning on arriving a day early or staying a day late in beautiful Kansas City, e-mail Laura Gayle Green directly for a different contact name and phone for making your reservation.)

GETTING THERE

If you’re planning on flying, visit http://www.flykci.com/. You can find information about which airlines serve Kansas City (MCI) and ground transportation options. (Go directly to ground transportation at http://www.flykci.com/Direction/()). The airport is about 25 miles from the hotel.

One option is to catch a shuttle from the airport and to make reservations for your return (http://www.flykci.com/direction/shuttle/ has more information on shuttles). SuperShuttle stops at all the major hotels (http://www.supershuttle.com/); it is $18 one way. (The hotel is called the Hampton Inn—Plaza Summit on their site.) Of course you can rent a car if you plan to explore more of KC than just the Plaza area, which is easily navigated on foot.

THE PROGRAM

And the program? Sam Rushay of the Truman Museum and Library will do a presentation on oral history and its importance as well as be an “active reviewer” of our own Jack Knapp interviewing legendary Richard LeSueur, recently retired from the Ann Arbor District Library (but not retired from musical life!). Dr. Rushay has conducted oral histories with Nixon administration staff and has some great stories of his experiences.

Wendy Sistrunk has organized a session on metadata, cataloging, and more—it will be a fabulous opportunity for public services to hear more about what’s happening in the tech side of the library realm. Ruthann McTyre and Laura Gayle Green will close the meeting with “What I Did on My Summer Non-Vacation.” To see the rest, check out the preliminary program on page 4.

REGISTRATION

Regular registration is $85, the same as last year. Registration for students and retirees is $30. Late registration (after October 6) is $95. Register online at: http://www.areditions.com/midwest/2008midwestFORM.html.

As always, there will be lots of good food, good times, and great discussions with colleagues at the Midwest Chapter’s annual meeting. Join us!

We look forward to seeing you in Kansas City!

Check for registration information, program updates, things to do and see in Kansas City, and recommended restaurants on our blog at: http://www.lauragayle.com/mlamw2008/
From the Chair

I couldn’t help but think of the song “Back in the Saddle Again” when Ruthann announced she’d be stepping down as Midwest chapter chair at our meeting during MLA in Newport. We’ll be electing a vice-chair/chair-elect this fall, and you’ll have me riding out Ruthann’s term. I thank you in advance for your support!

Yes, this issue of Midwest Note-Book is late, no fault of Greg Fitzgerald! Your Chair-Again has found herself caught up in the minutia of building construction and renovation in ways she never imagined. A high-density storage building is being built adjacent to the library building with the big dig beginning close to Beethoven’s birthday, 2008. Approximately 80% of our library collections will be placed there and served by an automated storage and retrieval system (aka “The Robot”).

In the summer pre-construction phase, the UMKC Music/Media Library was affected first, and I dealt with issues such as fire exit walls, moving items around, having offices built, moving offices, and additional circulation stations to deal with circulation for the entire library collection, not just Music/Media items. The door by the Music/Media Desk will become the entrance/exit for the entire library in January 2009, so life is becoming more interesting and complex rather than less. You’ll hear more about this at the chapter meeting. I would whine more, but when I started writing this column in the summer, floods came to Iowa, and I realized I had little to whine about compared to Ruthann and the folks there!

This year’s chapter meeting is here in Kansas City. Wendy Sistrunk and I look forward to hosting you and showing off our town. We have an exciting program and we hope you’ll also enjoy a little extra time to explore the sights and sounds of Kansas City. We’ll have late-breaking details about the meeting on the conference blog: http://www.lauragayle.com/mlamw2008/

I hope you’ve had a restful summer! I look forward to seeing you in Kansas City!

—Laura Gayle Green, University of Missouri-Kansas City
News & Notes

RUTHANN McTYRE IS MLA PRESIDENT-ELECT; LAURA GAYLE GREEN RETURNS AS CHAIR

The Midwest Chapter has lost its chair, but to a good cause! Ruthann McTyre has been elected vice-president/president-elect of MLA, and has resigned her post in the Midwest Chapter.

“Due to my election to the president-elect post...I must step down from the chapter chair post in order to avoid any potential conflict of interest,” Ruthann wrote to the chapter's Executive Committee.

“I will, of course, continue to be a member of the chapter, attend meetings, and stay involved in whatever way serves the chapter best.”

In accordance with charter bylaws, past chair Laura Gayle Green became chief executive officer of the chapter immediately upon Ruthann's resignation. She has also accepted the Executive Committee's appointment to serve the remainder of Ruthann's term.

The chapter will elect a new chair-elect in the fall of 2008. That person will succeed Laura Gayle as chair at the conclusion of the 2009 chapter meeting.

Ruthann Boles McTyre is head of the Rita Benton Music Library at the University of Iowa. Previously she was head of the Crouch Music and Fine Arts Library at Baylor University. She holds the M.L.S. from the University of North Texas and the M.M. and B.M. from Southern Methodist University.

In MLA, Ruthann has been a member-at-large of the Board of Directors. She chaired the Development Committee and the Reference and Public Service Committee. She was program chair for the 2000 MLA meeting in Louisville. She has also served on the Nominating Committee, the Education Committee, and the Ad Hoc Committee for Chapter Evaluation (Plan 2001). She has been moderator for the annual meeting open forums “Ask MLA” and “Hot Topics.” In the Midwest Chapter, Ruthann has served on several committees, and chaired local arrangements for the 2003 annual meeting. In 2006 she was elected chair-elect of the chapter and served as program chair for the 2007 meeting in that role. She became chapter chair at the conclusion of that meeting.

The chapter wishes Ruthann every success in her new role in MLA! Don’t be a stranger!

RALPH PAPAKHIAN RECEIVES MLA CITATION

The MLA Citation has been awarded to Ralph Papakhian, head of Technical Services at Indiana University's Cook Music Library and longtime Midwest Chapter member. The award recognizes career-long distinguished service to music librarianship.

“A fearless advocate for the profession of music librarianship and the people who embrace it, he has played a central role in many of the transformations of the world of the music cataloger over the past three decades, providing a source of knowledge and inspiration...and mentoring a generation of highly respected music catalogers,” began a summary of Ralph’s achievements at the award presentation at the MLA national meeting in Newport. “As co-creator of MLA-L, he has enhanced communication among colleagues, encouraged intelligent discourse, posed gently provocative questions, and provided a regular, calm voice of reason. In his leadership of MLA, his advocacy for excellence in music cataloging, selfless education of students, and unwavering sense of justice has been an inspiration to us all.”

Ralph served on the MLA Board of Directors as a member-at-large and as Executive Secretary. In 1992, he received MLA's Special Achievement Award for his role in creating the MLA-L discussion list, and in 2002 the Richard S. Hill publication award for “Cataloging” in ‘Music Librarianship at the Turn of the Century,’ in Notes, Vol. 56, no. 3, (2000). He received the Distinguished Service Award from the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) in 2005.

Congratulations, Ralph, and best wishes from your Midwest Chapter colleagues!

BOB ACKER RETIRES AT DEPAUL

Robert Acker retired as Reference/Instruction Librarian and Music Bibliographer at DePaul University in June. Bob plans to remain active in MLA and will continue to chair local arrangements for the 2009 MLA meeting in Chicago.

Congratulations and best wishes, Bob!
67th Annual Chapter Meeting
Kansas City, Missouri, October 23-25, 2008

Preliminary Program

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23
1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Registration
1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Committee Meetings
   1:00 - 3:00: TAPS, Membership, Cataloging
   3:00 - 5:00: Public Services, Publications
6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Opening Reception
   Chuck Haddix, Tales from Tom’s Town, and general rabble-rousing

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24
8:30 a.m. Registration
9:00 a.m. Welcome
9:15 a.m. Oral History: We are History!
   Sam Rushay, Harry S. Truman Museum and Library
   Richard LeSueur and Jack Knapp: Oral History in Action
11:00 a.m. What Can Usability Really Tell Us?
   Kirstin Dougan, Univesity of Illinois
11:45 a.m. Luncheon
1:15 p.m. Providing Access to Sheet Music Collections
   The Sheet Music Consortium and Metadata Standards
   Jenn Riley, Metadata Librarian, Indiana University Digital Library Program
   Sheet Music Metadata Harvesting: One Library’s Experience in a Consortium
   Kathleen Schweitzerberger, Principal Catalog Librarian, University of Missouri-KC
   Bibliographic Access to Music Sheet Covers
   Garth L. Tardy, Library Specialist II, University of Missouri-Kansas City
2:30 p.m. Free Time! Suggested options:
   Marr Sound Archives, UMKC  Chuck Haddix and Kelley Martin are available to provide tours. Directions and details available on the conference blog and at registration.
   Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art
   Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25
8:00 a.m. Executive Committee
9:00 a.m. Business Meeting
10:15 a.m. What I Did on My Summer Non-Vacation, or
   I Must Have Missed the Day They Taught This in Library School
   Laura Gayle Green, University of Missouri-Kansas City
   A River Runs Through It...and around it and under it and over it...
   Ruthann McTyre, University of Iowa
12:00 or 12:30 Adjournment

ALL EVENTS WILL BE HELD AT HAMPTON INN AND SUITES-COUNTRY CLUB PLAZA
FOR UPDATES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION GO TO THE CONFERENCE BLOG:
HTTP://WWW.LAURAGAYLE.COM/MLAMW2008/
REGISTER AT: HTTP://WWW.AREDITIONS.COM/MIDWEST/2008MIDWESTFORM.HTML
TAPS Tour in KC

Visiting Marr Sound Archives

The TAPS (Technology, Archives, Preservation and Sound) Committee is pleased to announce that Chuck Haddix, director of the Marr Sound Archives at UMKC, will conduct a tour of the archives during our committee meeting on Thursday afternoon, October 23.

The “Marr-chives,” as UMKC students affectionately refer to it, is the internationally known audio unit of the Department of Special Collections, and is a “leader in the field of audio preservation.” Reflecting the American experience through recorded sound, the Archives holds a comprehensive collection of jazz, blues, country, opera, classical, and popular music, in addition to historic voice and vintage radio programs. Formats include LPs, 78s, 45s, cylinders, transcription discs, instantaneous-cut discs, and open-reel tapes. According to Chuck, there are some “really cool things” going on in the Archives right now. I believe him—this is sure to be a treat!

The Archives, which shares the basement floor with the Music/Media collection, is located within the UMKC Miller Nichols Library at 5100 Rockhill Road—a relatively short distance from the Hampton Inn. The tour will be free; transportation arrangements (free) from the hotel will be announced soon. After the one-hour tour is complete, the TAPS committee will stay on the UMKC campus to hold its business meeting, which will feature cookies. We enthusiastically invite all Midwest Chapter members to attend, and encourage you to become involved with TAPS. Please join us!

—Misti Shaw, DePauw University TAPS Chair

MWMLA in Newport

EOP, Chicago 2009 are topics

The Midwest Chapter held a meeting on Thursday evening of the MLA annual meeting in Chicago. Chapter chair Ruthann McTyre welcomed more than fifty chapter members and guests, many of whom were first-time attendees.

The progress of the national association’s Educational Outreach Program was one of the primary agenda items. A pre-conference workshop providing training to trainers was very successful. MLA intends to work with state library associations and consortia to jointly sponsor EOP workshops, and it is hoped that MLA chapters will include workshops at their annual meetings.

There are exciting opportunities for involvement in this program and those interested should contact a member of MLA’s Education Committee.

Bob Acker (DePaul University) outlined some of the local arrangements for the 2009 annual MLA meeting in Chicago. The conference hotel is the Marriott on N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago’s Magnificent Mile of shopping, dining, and entertainment. An architectural tour and visits to area libraries are among the activities being planned, along with the traditional pre-conference organ crawl.

While a large contingent of Chicago-area music librarians is working on local arrangements, there will no doubt be opportunities for others in the Midwest Chapter to assist close to and during the time of the meeting. Bob will keep us posted.

In other business, Ruthann announced that she would be resigning her post as chapter chair upon her election as vice-president of the national association. As past chair, Laura Gayle Green will act as chair until such time as the Executive Committee appoints someone to fill the vacancy. (See related story, page 3.)

In other Newport news, three Midwest Chapter members were honored with Kevin Freeman grants to attend the conference. They were Laurie Lake (Interlochen Center for the Arts), Anne Shelley (University of Iowa), and David Winjum (Northwestern University). Congratulations, all!

—Greg Fitzgerald
Election 2008

Chapter to Choose a Chair-Elect

Just in case Obama vs. McCain is not enough election drama for you, the Midwest Chapter has more! It is time to choose our next chapter chair. The lucky winner will serve as chair-elect for one year, chair for two, and past chair for one year.

Ballots have been mailed to members in good standing. If you did not receive one, contact Keith Cochran, secretary-treasurer, at the address on page 2 of this issue. The deadline for receipt of ballots is October 10. Voting will not take place at the meeting.

The Nominating Committee—Bob Delvin, Patty Falk, and Ruthann McTyre, chair—is pleased to present the following candidates.

PAULA HICKNER

Paula Hickner has been Music Librarian at the Lucille C. Little Fine Arts Library at the University of Kentucky for thirteen years. She was formerly music cataloger at UK; the University of Hartford’s Hartt School of Music; and a grant cataloger at Indiana University’s music library. Paula is a visiting instructor at UK’s School of Library and Information Science, where she has been teaching an introductory cataloging course since 1997. She has also been a contract cataloger for the Fayette County Public Schools, Lexington, Kentucky.

Paula received the M.M. in Musicology and the M.L.S from Indiana University and the B.M.E from the University of Central Arkansas.

Paula is currently MLA’s Convention Manager and an ex officio member of MLA’s Program and Local Arrangements committees. She is a new member of the Midwest Chapter’s Membership Committee and has been the contributing columnist for Notes’ “Prices of Music Monographs and Scores” column for four years. In the past she has served as Assistant Editor for Notes, and as committee member, moderator, discussion leader, and presenter at meetings for MLA, MLA-MW, MOUG, and the Kentucky SOLINET Users Group.

SHERIDAN STORMES

Sheridan (“Sheri”) Stormes holds a B.M. and M.M. in vocal performance from Butler University and an M.S in Library Science from Indiana University. She has been a librarian for 32 years at Butler, where she first became interested in librarianship as an undergraduate student assistant working in the Jordan College of Fine Arts library.

Sheri has served at Butler in various capacities, including Associate Music & Fine Arts Librarian, Acting Head of Reference, Associate Director for Public Services, Acting Director of Libraries, and Associate Dean of Libraries. When the position of Music & Fine Arts Librarian re-opened 1997, Sheri’s request to return to what she loves doing most was granted! She has focused on building strong collections and a fully-integrated program of information literacy for the Jordan College of Fine Arts. Since 1988, Sheri has also served as an adjunct instructor, teaching English, Italian, Latin, French, and German diction, an honors undergraduate course in music research techniques, and has team-taught the graduate music research course.

Sheri has served on the Membership, Nominating and Public Services Committees of the Midwest Chapter and most recently has been Outreach Coordinator for the Membership Committee. Since 1998, she has been active in national MLA activities, serving as a member and currently as chair of the Personnel Subcommittee (now the Career Development and Services Committee) and as a member of the Development, Nominating, and Program Committees. Sheri has also been a moderator, presenter, and plenary session coordinator for MLA.

Sheri co-authored (with Gordon Theil) a chapter, “Job Hunt Rhetoric: The Conversation behind the Successful Search,” in Careers in Music Librarianship II: Traditions and Transitions, and is currently assisting with updating the solo song portion of A Basic Music Library. She is a past chapter president and past National Associate Regent of Pi Kappa Lambda, and an active performer and vocal adjudicator in the Indianapolis area.
The Midwest Chapter: A Student’s Perspective

Anne Shelley
University of Iowa

As a near-graduate of library school, I am proud to say I have attended two annual conferences of the Midwest Chapter of MLA. Both explored an array of issues relevant to music librarians, yet in reflection, I perceive each meeting as a completely different experience.

My first was in Milwaukee, where I was greeted with warmth and welcome by the fifty or so veteran members in attendance. This positive reception reinforced my desire to become more familiar with a profession about which I was curious, as well as its representative association and potential future colleagues. The sessions made me think and the attendees made me laugh. It did not take long for me to become connected to the Midwest Chapter and to music librarianship. Just a year later in Cincinnati, it was a meaningful role change for me to be welcoming new attendees.

The focus on hot-button issues gave relevance to each session and led to lively discussions between attendees and presenters. Though variations of many of the topics had been discussed in my library classes, to hear about them from various professional perspectives was a practical and thought-provoking experience. As a student in a program that has no focus on music librarianship, it can be difficult to decide what area is most interesting, useful, or applicable to my interests. It is a strange place in which to be—knowledgeable enough to talk the talk (MARC fields not included), but not yet experienced enough to always walk the walk.

In my classes, the world of librarianship is presented one issue at a time, and I am expected to synthesize everything in order to become a useful member of the profession. As I left both Milwaukee and Cincinnati, I realized that, in some ways, I could have just attended a conference of any type of academic librarianship: there were sessions about emerging technologies, copyright, management practices, fundraising, currency, and research. While each of these topics did not explore music librarianship specifically, the discussions around them were naturally music-centric. I came away with the important realization that a health sciences librarian is probably dealing with the same questions and issues, only using a different vocabulary and applying new ideas to her domain.

The Midwest Chapter conferences provided me opportunities I would not otherwise have had. I met cordial, professionally engaged individuals, whose manner I described to a friend as, “emotional because they’re musicians, but they know how to organize their emotions because they’re librarians.” Each presentation introduced me to a new idea or issue, or provided a deeper perspective on an issue.

One could argue that in this day and age, weblogs, listservs, and networking sites facilitate correspondence to such a degree that live meetings are not as necessary as they once were. But even with these very useful technologies, to remain fully informed on issues and initiatives seems to require an assembly beyond what Web 2.0 can offer. The camaraderie fostered by physical gatherings creates a holistic experience that encourages attendees to further invest in their chosen profession.

I am soon to make the transition from student to professional, a point in my life I anticipate to be wholly un-magical, un-instant, and uneasy. I will not become a superhero music librarian overnight. I will not know everything I need to know just because I have a new piece of paper to hang on my wall. But I will welcome the challenges, and I know I can rely on what I have learned from the people involved in the Midwest Chapter. And, when I am ready, I will try my best to return the favor.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to attend these conferences, and in the interest of the evolution of music librarianship as well as my own professional growth, I have every intention of maintaining and cultivating my relationship with the Music Library Association.

Since writing this piece for Midwest Note-Book, Anne Shelley has earned the M.A. in Library and Information Science at the University of Iowa. She is currently Digital Projects Librarian for the University of Iowa Libraries.

“I was greeted with warmth and welcome...the sessions made me think and the attendees made me laugh...It did not take long for me to become connected to the Midwest Chapter and to music librarianship.”

“The camaraderie fostered by physical gatherings creates a holistic experience that encourages attendees to further invest in their chosen profession.”
MIDWEST CHAPTER OF THE MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Terms expire in October of the year indicated.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Laura Gayle Green (University of Missouri-Kansas City), 2008
Secretary-Treasurer: Keith Cochran (Indiana University), 2009
Newsletter Editor: Greg Fitzgerald (Western Michigan University), 2008
Webmaster: Rebecca Littman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), 2008

STANDING COMMITTEES

Bylaws
(One-year terms; members may be reappointed)
Beth Christensen (St. Olaf College), Chair, 2008
Grace Fitzgerald (University of Iowa), 2008
Ruthann McTyre (University of Iowa), ex officio, 2008

Membership
(Three-year terms; members may be reappointed; Chair serves year as Chair-Elect, two years as Chair, one year as Past Chair)
Mary Huismann (University of Minnesota), 2008, Chair
Keith Cochran (Indiana University), 2008
Michael J. Duffy (Northern Illinois University), 2010
Polly Hickner (University of Kentucky), 2010
Laurie Lake (Indiana University), 2009
Richard LeSueur, 2010
Sheridan Stormes (Butler University), 2008
Lynne Weber (Minnesota State University, Mankato), 2008
Don Widmer (VanderCook College of Music), 2009

Program
(One-year terms; members may be reappointed)
Laura Gayle Green (University of Missouri-Kansas City), Chair
Wendy Sistrunk (University of Missouri-Kansas City)

Publications
(Three-year terms; members may be reappointed; Chair serves one year as Chair-Elect, two years as Chair, one year as Past Chair)
Lynne Weber (Minnesota State University, Mankato), 2009, Chair
Therese Dickman (Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville), 2008
Don Widmer (VanderCook College of Music), 2009

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Cataloging
(Three-year terms; members may be reappointed; Chair serves one year as Chair-Elect, two years as Chair, one year as Past Chair)
Mark Scharff (Washington University), 2009, Chair
Sue Stancu (Indiana University), 2010, Chair-Elect
Richard Burbank (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), 2009
Patty Falk (Bowling Green State University), 2008
Grace Fitzgerald (University of Iowa), 2009
Jill Garbs (Southern Illinois University Edwardsville), 2008
Jeff Gibbens, 2008
Mary Huismann (University of Minnesota), 2008
David (Jack) Knapp (Oberlin College), 2010
Deborah Morris (Roosevelt University), 2009
Ralph Papakhian (Indiana University), 2009
Amy Pennington (Saint Louis University), 2009
Kerr Scannell (University of Kentucky), 2009
Jessica Schomberg (Minnesota State University, Mankato), 2009
Wendy Sistrunk (University of Missouri-Kansas City), 2010
Barry Zaslow (Miami University), 2008

Public Services
(Three-year terms; members may be reappointed; Chair serves one year as Chair-Elect, two years as Chair, and one year as Past Chair)
Robert Delvin (Illinois Wesleyan University), 2008, Chair
Jana Borchardt (Evangel University), 2008
Emma Dederick (Indiana University), 2008
Therese Dickman (Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville), 2008
Kathleen Haefliger (Chicago State University), 2008
Christine Kubiak (Illinois State University), 2008
Rebecca Littman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), 2008
Brad Short (Washington University), 2008
Sheridan Stormes (Butler University), 2008
Don Widmer (VanderCook College of Music), 2008
Carla Williams (Indiana University), 2008

Technology, Archives, Preservation, and Sound (TAPS)
(Three-year terms; members may be reappointed; Chair serves one year as Chair-Elect, two years as Chair, one year as Past Chair)
Misti Shaw (DePauw University), 2009, Chair
Susannah Cleveland (Bowling Green State University), 2009
Emma Dederick (Indiana University), 2010
Jeff Gibbens, 2010
Kathleen Haefliger (Chicago State University), 2010
Lisa Hooper (Indiana University), 2010
Andrew Leach (Center for Black Music Research), 2008
Deborah Morris (Roosevelt University), 2008
Suzanne Mudge (Indiana University), 2008
Mark Puente (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), 2010
Don Widmer (VanderCook College of Music), 2009