GREETINGS, REMINDERS, AND THANKS!

Opus 2 finds me sending greetings and thanks to all who attended our very successful Albuquerque meeting. The Chapter is off and running, and now is an appropriate time to re-kindle our own enthusiasm and maintain the steady pace established in the previous years. We can best accomplish this by communicating that enthusiasm to those colleagues who have not yet crept out of the woodwork. Our membership list, included in this issue of CONVENTIONAL TITLE, will help you identify these shadowy figures and our application blank, a standard feature of this esteemed publication, may be folded, stapled, spindled, mutilated, and thrust into their hot little hands! (Oh, and lest I forget, those avid readers who have not yet PAID THEIR DUES may also feel free to send off an application blank.)

Elsewhere in this issue, Jim Wright reports on our membership campaign. If you have any ideas, names to suggest, or would simply like to volunteer your services, please get in touch with Jim.

WICHITA will be the site of our 1980 MEETING, with Arlene Root acting as Program Chairperson. Early May has become a tradition at this point, so please make us a priority on your calendars (and your pocketbooks - with gas going the way it isn't, we may be forced to become a "mail-order association." Perhaps our dues will finance regional buses or black-market gas coupons.) Regardless of our mode of transportation, Arlene will have a stimulating two days planned for us. Personally, I need these brief sojourns in order to refresh and renew myself on a professional basis. The sharing of ideas, problems, and stories has become an annual event that I would not consider missing. I sincerely hope that all of you will subscribe to that thought and continue your fine support. Thank you.

Arne Jon Arneson
Chairperson
SECOND ANNUAL MEETING IN ALBUQUERQUE

The Mountain-Plains Chapter of the Music Library Association held its second annual meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico on May 3-4. Program Chairperson Charlemaud Curtis (University of New Mexico) planned sessions which both introduced us to the musical traditions of New Mexico and brought us up-to-date on the latest developments in music librarianship.

At Thursday's opening session, James Wright (Chapter Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson Elect and UNM's Fine Arts Librarian) presented an overview of the contents of UNM's Archive of Southwestern Music. He demonstrated the tremendous variety of the collection by playing taped selections of Indian, cowboy, and Hispanic music. Charlemaud Curtis, the cataloger of the Archive, spoke on the origins of the collection and the system of cataloging she uses. On Thursday afternoon, we heard Michael R. Wolfe (Audio Technician, UNM) speak on new trends in sound recording. Later, Scott Wilkinson and William Wood discussed copyright from the composer's point of view. Wrapping up the afternoon's activities, Hester Miller conducted a tour of the new Albuquerque Public Library.

Friday morning, panelists Arne Arneson (Chapter Chairperson and Music Librarian, University of Colorado at Boulder), Susan Patrick (Music History professor, UNM), and Douglass R. George (Art History professor, UNM) presented their philosophies on the teaching and application of bibliographic and reference tools, launching an interesting discussion among themselves and the audience.

Later Friday morning, Arne Arneson and James Wright conducted a short business meeting at which the challenge of promoting Chapter membership and convention (cont. on p.3)
attendance was discussed. The Mountain-Plains Chapter covers 13 states, or approximately one-third of the total area of the continental United States, but the population of the area amounts to about eight percent of the total population of the United States. Improved communication over such a vast, sparsely populated region is thought to be the most logical approach to augmenting our membership. Mr. Wright appointed a membership committee which will begin making telephone contacts with potential members in the near future. In addition, our most effective mode of communication, the Chapter newsletter, which circulates to all libraries in the region as well as to members and other interested parties, was discussed and suggestions were made for articles and columns which might improve communication. Mr. Arneson announced that sites for future meetings include Norman, Oklahoma and Reno, Nevada. Our next meeting in the spring of 1980 will be held in Wichita, Kansas. Arlene Root (Wichita Public Library) was appointed Program Chairperson.

A look at UNM’s music cataloging operation concluded the formal sessions. The music cataloging team under the leadership of Virginia Dudley conducted brief training sessions in searching at the OCLC terminals and then made themselves available for questions from the floor. From the cataloging area in Zimmerman Library, we proceeded to the Fine Arts Center for a tour of the Library and the concert halls.

Fortunately, we had a chance to sample a little of Albuquerque's cultural life in our very few spare moments. Guitarist Gector Garcia played background music for our banquet on Thursday evening. Later that evening, Musica Antigua de Albuquerque and organist Wesley Selby performed music from the Court of Ferdinand and Isabella in UNM's Alumni Memorial Chapel. The grand finale was provided by the Albuquerque Opera Theater's production of Verdi's Otello at Popejoy Hall in the Fine Arts Center. The entire meeting was well-planned and very productive. In fact, the only complaint we can come up with is that no time was provided for afternoon naps during which we could begin to recover from the action-packed days.

Pamela G. Massey
Secretary/Treasurer

MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

As in any organization, the success of the Mountain-Plains Chapter of the Music Library Association depends upon an active, participating membership. The first and second annual conferences have been very successful. Membership is growing, but the chapter needs to have as many people as possible providing their opinions, expertise, and talents to provide an even more worthwhile and stimulating organization. The membership committee is being formed with one representative from each state. These people will be responsible for contacting all possible members in their area. If you are interested in helping the Chapter grow, please contact your colleagues and encourage them to become active members. The growth of the Chapter depends on you.

Jim Wright, Membership Chairperson;
Chapter Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson Elect
On June 8, 1979, the balance in the Chapter's account at State National Bank in Boulder was $349.11. This resulted from cash receipts of $1059.50 and expenditures of $710.39. (See details below.)

The financial picture for our Chapter is considerably brighter than it was one month ago. We enrolled nine new members at our meeting in May, bringing the total to 25, or four more than our total at this time last year. Thanks to the good planning of the program committee in Albuquerque, the Annual Convention may have generated a healthy bank account. (One of the larger bills is still outstanding, however.) The expected profit from the convention plus the income from memberships puts us in a position where we can comfortably meet normal or unexpected expenses and we can begin to accomplish our goal of funding special Chapter projects. In order to repeat the pattern set in our successful second year, we should continue to promote membership in the Chapter and encourage the support of institutions in the region.

**Financial Statement**

**Cash receipts**

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<td>Memberships (21 in 1978)</td>
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<tr>
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**Cash disbursements**

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Respectfully submitted,

Pamela G. Massey
Secretary/Treasurer
June 8, 1979
Pam Massey attended the annual meeting of the Music OCLC Users Group in Columbus, Ohio, on March 26 and 27. The meeting was a no-frills affair primarily designed to instruct music catalogers in the technical aspects of music cataloging on OCLC terminals and to acquaint them with representatives of OCLC.

The morning session on the first day, a Workshop for Leaders of Music Tagging Workshops, presented the latest developments in the score and sound recording formats. The afternoon session consisted of a panel offering papers on Authority Work in Music Libraries ("The tradition of authority work at the Library of Congress," C. Sumner Spalding, Library of Congress, ret.; "AACR2 and the music authority file," Katherine Creelman Skrobela, Middlebury College; "The automation of authority work," Ann Akstrom, OCLC). An Open Forum invited questions from the floor addressed to OCLC staff members Sharon Walbridge, Richard Greene, and Helen Hughes. A workshop on Tagging of Sound Recordings concluded the meeting.

At the business meeting one of the purposes of the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) became apparent. Because of its size (303 members) and the diversity of its membership (26 states sent representatives to this meeting), the officers feel that MOUG can advocate the needs of music catalogers to such organizations as the Library of Congress, the Music Library Association, and OCLC. MOUG is currently taking part in the development of a National Level Bibliographic Standard for music and is encouraging the Library of Congress to input its music cataloging on MARC tapes as soon as possible. Though not presently affiliated with the Music Library Association, MOUG is exploring the possibility of incorporating with MLA in the near future, primarily so that it will have representation on MLA's Automation Committee and Cataloging Council. In addition, MOUG has developed a tagging workbook for beginners soon to be published by NELINET.

While the intensity of the program allowed for little sightseeing or socializing, two notable diversions were planned for us. First, at the banquet, Fred Kilgour, the founder and Executive Director of OCLC spoke on the beginnings of OCLC. Second, we were bussed a short distance to OCLC for a tour of its facilities.

In spite of harrowing plane flights and unpleasant weather, this carefully planned meeting was an unqualified success. All who attended benefited from the substantial information presented at each session.

SONG INDEX PROJECT INITIATED IN CHAPTER

Questions involving song titles continue to be some of the most frequently encountered reference queries in library music/fine arts departments. In order to serve the patrons of libraries in our region better, the Mountain-Plains Chapter is now embarking on a project which would give the area location of indexed song collections. Although the initial survey will show only those indexed in DeCharms and Breed, Leigh, Sears, and Havlice, later projects could encompass "homemade" song indexes of music libraries and departments in our area. A questionnaire will be sent to member libraries in the region sometime in the near future. Anyone desiring further information may contact:

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MOUNTAIN-PLAINS CHAPTER, MLA

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