
The Music Library and University Libraries of the University of Colorado at Boulder are pleased to host the 1998 Mountain Plains MLA Chapter Conference. The Music Library staff and I are very pleased to host the meeting at the site of the first Chapter conference for the second year of our twentieth anniversary celebration. Please mark your calendars carefully, since the meeting will be held later than usual this year, May 29-30.

For those arriving on Thursday May 28th, the festivities will begin with a dinner and musicale hosted by Suzanne Moulton-Gertig at her home in Arvada, Colorado. Suzanne is planning an opening reception to remember, so be sure to attend.

The conference hotel will be the Broker Inn in Boulder. Nestled against the backdrop of the Boulder Flatirons, the Broker is located one block from Highway 36 and is very close to the CU campus. The Broker’s Victorian rooms are furnished with brass beds and leather recliners. The Broker will be the site for Friday’s papers, as well as the Friday evening banquet. The banquet will feature the Broker Restaurant’s finest buffet.

Saturday morning we’ll go to campus for papers at the Norlin Library. We’ll tour the Music Library and College of Music, and other campus buildings if time permits. Plans for the Business Meeting, Saturday excursion, and the closing dinner are still in the works, but rest assured we’ll do our best to show you some of the area’s finest.

For those planning to fly into the new Denver International Airport, a number of shuttles provide transportation to the Broker. If you plan to drive, Boulder is located about 25 miles northwest of Denver. If you’re coming from the North or South, take I-25 to Highway 7 West. If you’re coming from the East or West, take I-70 to Highway 36 North.

Keep an eye out for more information on the Boulder meeting as the plans become finalized, but mark your calendars now for spring in Boulder!

Laurie Sampsel, Local Arrangements Committee
Greetings to one and all! Sorry I was not able to be with you at the Chapter meeting in Albuquerque this year to see you all and to partake of the first of the festivities surrounding our 20 Something anniversary years. From some of the reports I have received, Jim Wright and his most able crew served up a memorable time. While I cannot hold any fond memories of this visit to Albuquerque except vicariously through all of you, my memories do go...

continuation of our 20 Something... celebration. Laurie Sampsel and her staff have begun the process of hotel and events planning, a Program Committee is in the process of being formed with Cheryl Taranto kindly accepting the duties as Chair. I am sure there will be many fond memories coming out of Boulder this year as well and I hope you all look forward to our May meeting.

On a personal note, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Board for so ably carrying on the Chapter’s work while I have been out of commission for most of this past year. It is so gratifying to work with such a wonderful group of people. I would like to single out Bob Follet for doing double duty this year not only as Vice Chair, but as Chair in my absence. Thank you, thank you all.

Another note of thanks needs to go to one of our newest members, Cardell, at the University of Kansas for continuing to monitor our Listserv since Susan Hitchens and Margaret Wilson have gone on to different endeavors outside of the KU Music Library.

Thank you.

And let me thank all of you for your concern, thoughts, prayers, and well wishes expressed to me while my life has taken so many twists and turns this past year. It certainly has been a bumpy ride and I still haven’t reached that straight stretch of backtop yet.

Thank you.

Mark your calendars now for our Boulder Bash. I truly hope to see you all there.

Gary W. Mayhood
Mountain-Plains Chapter Chair

"It is so gratifying to work with such a wonderful group of people."

MPMLA
The Mountain-Plains Chapter encompasses Alberta, Canada, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. It is one of twelve regional chapters of the Music Library Association

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Submission will be accepted via e-mail, disk, or paper copy (double spaced). E-mail is preferred.

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Mountain-Plains Chapter, 
MLA Annual Conference—May 16-17, 1997

The exciting southwest atmosphere of Albuquerque, New Mexico, greeted members of MLA's Mountain-Plains Chapter as they gathered May 15-17, 1997 for the first year of a two-year celebration marking the chapter's twentieth anniversary. Thursday arrivals were treated to an evening of authentic southwestern cuisine, great music and conversation at the lovely home of Jim and Carla Wright. Chapter members Suzanne Moulton-Gertig and Bob Follett filled the evening air with the soothing sounds of harp and viola. Laurie Sampsel next joined Suzanne for delightful flute and harp duets, and Susan Hitchens taught a few brave souls a Bulgarian folkdance out on the patio. Unfortunately, the large Wright dog, Yoshi, wanted to join the fun—but fun, for him, meant jumping and barking at the dancers' legs, which terminated the dance rather effectively. The Wright ramada and outdoor fireplace attracted those who were after quiet conversation as the sun set.

Following Friday morning registration and continental breakfast at the conference hotel, the Doubletree, local arrangements chair Jim Wright welcomed members and introduced them to Jorge Perez-Gomez, conductor of the University of New Mexico Philharmonic. Mr. Perez-Gomez announced a CD series of music by Latin American composers available for purchase at $12.00 each, Silvestre Revueltas (1899-1940) is the first composer to be recorded.

True to former years, the papers of chapter presenters varied in subject and were interesting to all. Cheryl Taranto (University of Nevada-Las Vegas) explored the entrepreneurial activities of 1860's Virginia City, Nevada entertainment booker Thomas Maguire, who not only arranged for local popular venues, but also for an amazing variety of operatic and other musical and theatrical offerings. In her presentation, "Library Security: The People Concerns," Carolyn Dow (Lincoln Public Library) discussed the establishment of her library's Personnel Safety Committee, and their activities to ensure the personal safety of library staff. Felicia Piscitelli (Texas A & M) examined the almost total disappearance of the sung Nicene Creed with the advent of the Second Vatican Council and possible reasons for its demise in her paper. "Whatever happened to the sung Creeds?" Dorman Smith's (University of Cincinnati) presentation. "Working Effectively with Library Administration," stressed that working well with administration has the dual benefit of not only aiding the individual, but helping the programs and patrons as well.

A long lunch break was combined with a guided tour of the remodeled University of New Mexico Center for the Arts and Fine Arts Library as well as the historic Zimmerman Library, followed by an interesting walking tour of varied art pieces on campus. After so much exercise in the warm May sunshine, MPMLEers were ready to return to the hotel and afternoon paper session.

Victor Cardell (University of Kansas) addressed the process of "Planning for a New Music Library," which involved examining extant designs of three large music libraries prior to the development of the design for the University of Kansas.

"The Wright ramada and outdoor fireplace attracted those who were after quiet conversation as the sun set."

On Saturday morning, Suzanne Moulton-Gertig's (University of Denver) paper, "Henriette Renie: Defying a Stereotype," explored the life and compositional style of this early twentieth-century harpist and composer, debunking the popular myth of the stereotyped insipid female harp composer. In "New Technologies for Internet Delivery," Ed Cahall (Northern Arizona University), using Real Audio, compared the old way of receiving, downloading and playing back audio files or live transmissions to "streaming," or playing and storing it as it comes in. Jim Wright (University of New Mexico) presented the final paper of the meeting, "The Tibetan/Navajo Connection," examining the uncanny similarities in music, cultural rituals and art between American Navajo Indians and Tibetans.

Tucked up against the mountain side in a small town north of Albuquerque, The Cafe de las Placitas' patio was the perfect venue for the chapter luncheon/business meeting. Satisfyingly filled and with business accomplished, chapter members were treated to a "field trip" to Rancho de las Golondrinas near Santa Fe. A living history outdoor museum of a restored, authentic Spanish colonial settlement, the Rancho is complete with homes, cultivated fields, an operating water-powered mill, a blacksmith shop, churches, a.

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Albuquerque Business Meeting

The sunny patio of the Cafe de las Placitas proved to be a picturesque setting for the MPMLA luncheon and annual business meeting. Called to order at 1:00 pm by chapter vice-chair Bob Follet, members received convaelscing President Gary Mayhood’s proxy greetings via Bob. A card was circulated collecting personal wishes for Gary’s speedy recovery.

Various members relayed greetings from absent comrades MaryAnn Stoddard, Jim Smith, and Karl and Marie Kroeger. Follet also made the chapter aware of a last-minute operation that kept registrant Carol Neighbor home in Wichita and announced that a card for Carol would be circulated at the Rancho de las Golondrinas museum later that afternoon.

The annual financial report was presented by Irene Halliday, Secretary/Treasurer. Attention of the membership then turned to the final year of MPMLA’s two-year twentieth anniversary celebration. Laurie Sampsel offered an official invitation to Boulder, Colorado, site of the first chapter meeting twenty years ago. She announced that Suzanne Moulton-Gertig had volunteered to assist with local arrangements and discussed possible university support to help with expenses, travel options from Denver International Airport to Boulder by shuttle or bus, and the need for a date change to avoid campus conflicts. Vice-chair Follet led a discussion of the proposed weekend change. The later dates of May 28-30 were approved for next year only.

Laurie Eagleson was presented as chair of the celebration committee for the Boulder conference; she will select additional members to serve with her.

David Day announced his plan to apply to host the national MLA conference in Salt Lake City in 2002 following the Olympics. Mountain-Plains members were enthusiastic about the proposal, and Day’s request for chapter assistance with local arrangements. David extended an additional invitation to the chapter to come to Salt Lake City in 2001 for the MPMLA conference in order to become more familiar with the area, a suggestion that met with ready approval.

Possible conference sites for 1999 (University of Nevada-Las Vegas) and 2000 (University of Kansas or Arizona State University) were briefly mentioned. Conference issues completed, several items of business were then discussed, beginning with the need for a new Chapter Cataloger, since Carol Van Eenam has left the chapter due to health problems. Janet Bradford’s nomination of Paul Gahn received a positive voice vote by the membership. Paul graciously accepted.

Outstanding commissioned compositions and where funds are being held [various “sock drawers”] were next on the agenda. Myron Patterson’s work for recorders has been completed but not yet catalogued. Photocopies of Carolyn Dow’s completed madrigal were distributed to the group; she will send a title page to Paul Gahn for cataloging. Carol Neighbor’s work is still being composed.

An MPMLA home page was proposed and approved at last year’s meeting. Chapter members who are interested in working on this project should e-mail Bob. He will appoint a chair and committee.

Follet reminded the group that next year is an election year and invited members to consider running for vice-chair, member-at-large or secretary/treasurer. Dorman Smith initiated a group-wide small change collection to bribe Irene Halliday to run again. A generous $7.30 secured the promise that her name would be on the ballot. Bob heads the nominating committee and will be contacting members to serve with him.

Laurie Sampsel, newsletter editor, announced next year’s end of her 3-year term. Laurie would like to wait until after the arrival of her baby during the fall to decide if she wants to continue as editor.

The meeting closed at about 2:00 pm with profuse thanks and applause given Jim Wright and his local arrangements committee for an exciting and memorable Albuquerque conference!

Annual Conference, 1997

(continued)

Irene Halliday & Suzanne Moulton-Gertig

school, etc., all “inhabited” by costumed villagers portraying life in early New Mexico. Mountain-Plainers thoroughly enjoyed strolling around the 200 acres, in spite of skies that threatened (and delivered) light rain. The museum store became the gathering place for fond farewells as members took leave of each other, even while anticipating a second twentieth anniversary celebration next year in Boulder, Colorado, site of the first official chapter meeting.

Those who were able to stay Saturday evening stopped for dinner on the patio of El Pinto Restaurante on the return trip to Albuquerque.

The restaurant’s large, beautifully decorated patio was a welcome respite for the weary MLAers. As the sun set, people shared stories of recent trips and library news. Even after the delicious meal was served, the friendly conversation continued. The atmosphere was completed by a strolling trio of musicians. Sad goodbyes were exchanged as people returned to the hotel.

Memories of America’s southwest and another fruitful MPMLA conference will linger to enlighten and rejuvenate Mountain-Pliners as they return to the “real world” of libraries.

Irene Halliday, Secretary/Treasurer
I am currently working on a revision of the bibliography and complete works list for "Ned Rorem" for the new edition of "Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians" with the generous assistance of colleagues Shelly Wolff at Wichita State University and Annette Voth and Linda Elasser at Arizona State University. I do miss my access to OCLC and some of the indices I had been used to using!

After joining the Denver University Library Faculty in 1983, and Annette Voth and Linda Elsasser at Arizona State University, Marie Kroeger retired this past May. Marie is now an Emeritus Faculty member. Marie and Karl will be leaving for a trip to England toward the end of September.

The Denver University Music Library welcomed Stacey Nagle to its appointed staff as a Library Assistant in 11. Stacey is a 1996 graduate of the University of Colorado at Boulder where she earned two BA degrees, one in music and the other in chemistry.

Carolyn Dow has been nominated for Recording Secretary of the MLA.

In honor of Lincoln City Libraries' 120th "birthday" in July 1997, the Polley Music Library put up a special display of 19th century American sheet music. As of September 1997, the Polley Music Library, itself, has been providing public music library service for 15 years.

Charles King retired at the end of June 1997 from the Music Library at the University of Arizona after thirty years of service. At this time, a search for his replacement is nearing completion and will be announced soon.

Three new staff members have joined the staff to fill vacancies during the past year. Marcy D'Avis is the new Music Librarian, Shirley Myers is the new Library Technician II for public services, and Lynnette Westerlund is the new LTII for technical services.

Recent purchases include the Catalog of Printed Music Plus, International Index to Music Periodicals, and Billboard/Phonolog CD-ROMs. We purchased the "Man and Music" video collection and have begun to receive the "Music of the (continued on next page)
University of Colorado at Boulder (continued)

Earth" CDs. Major score purchases include the facsimiles of Beethoven's Symphonie Nr 3, Wagner’s Tristan und Isolde, and El Codex Musical de las Huelgas. Important gifts include a gift of nearly 2,000 vocal scores from a local opera buff.

Library Projects
We have completed our retrospective conversion project. Thanks to the hard work of our temporary retro team, almost 28,000 records have been added to our online catalog. About 5,000 scores and recordings requiring original cataloging remain, but staff and patrons alike really appreciate having the bulk of the Library's scores and recordings represented with online records.

University of Kansas
Ellen Johnson & Vic Cardell, reporters

Staff Activities
Ellen Johnson traveled to Colorado in August with her daughter and granddaughter to attend a Wiebe family reunion. Attended by nearly one hundred relatives, the reunion was fascinating, especially the harrowing stories of migrations. Back at home, Johnson keeps busy by attending the weekly meetings of the University of Kansas Retirees Club. She also recently wrote an article about a rare book in the University of Kansas Library for the May issue of the Kansas quarterly, Kanhistique.

Library Projects
Vic Cardell reports that the final design for the new music library at the University of Kansas is being prepared for construction bid submittal. According to the current timeline, construction should be completed in the early part of 2000. Original plans had been to open in fall semester 1999. The project is part of a 45,000-square-foot addition to Murphy Hall which will include offices, music and instrument storage, practice rooms, and three rehearsal halls. The new music library will be immediately adjacent to the new lab for the Kansas Center for Music Technology in the Department of Music and Dance.

University of New Mexico
Barbara Lukes, reporter

Staff Activities
Jim Wright has retired after twenty-six years as director of the Fine Arts Library, however he is still working part-time as a bibliographer for the fine arts. The acting director is Dave Baldwin.

Library Projects
The Fine Arts Library has just expanded their web site. The new site, at http://www.unm.edu/~falref includes sound clips of music from the American Southwest and includes more graphics than the old site.

University of Northern Colorado
Norman Savig, reporter

Library Projects
At the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, there is exciting news concerning the Music Library. Since 1968, when the Music Library first opened its doors in a large classroom in Frasier Hall, there have been four moves to various locations. The end of moving is finally here! After several years of planning, a new 18,000 square foot Music Library has been constructed at a cost of approximately 3.3 million dollars. The move into the new facility took place during the last week of September, with the doors opening on October first. There will be a dedication ceremony on October 15, 1997.

University of Utah, Fine Arts Library
Myron Patterson, reporter

Staff Activities
Myron Patterson spent three weeks in England in June and attended a music conference in Oxford for part of that time. The Canterbury Singers, a sixteen voice chamber choir which Myron founded and directs, made a successful concert tour to Vancouver, Canada in July.

Library Projects
The Fine Arts Department of the Marriott Library has received a substantial gift to create a new Center for Research in the visual and Performing Arts in the Marriott Library. Plans are currently being developed for this exciting project. Additionally, an endowment has been set up, as a result of a gift from the same donor, for collection development in the arts.

Wichita State University
Shelly Wolff, reporter

Staff Activities
Shelly Wolff is looking forward to teaching three sessions of a new, "Introduction to the University” course designed for freshmen this fall. In May, Wolff presented a paper titled, “Evaluating the Approval Plan: A Case Study,” at the Mountain-Plains Library Association meeting in Oklahoma. The paper was based on her evaluation of the art approval plan and collection at Wichita State. She is currently working with Phil Howze, Head of Reference at Wichita, on a project studying how librarians spend their time at the reference desk.

Major New Acquisitions
Wichita State received a gift of over 750 CDs, which included mostly vocal music. A recent donation allowed the purchase of substantial parts of the Liszt, Lasso, and Sweelinck collected works editions.

Library Projects
Wichita State University has completed its retrospective conversion project of scores and has begun retro of sound recordings based upon use. Any recording that circulates is converted after it is returned.
An Informal Introduction to MPMLA-L

The first day of autumn is just another reminder of the change of seasons that is about to occur. What changes were taking place last year or even two years ago among subscribers to MPMLA-L, the mail distribution list for the Mountain-Plains chapter of the Music Library Association? In September and October of 1995, Susan Hitchens and Dorman Smith were "paclang madly" for their move to Michigan, Vincel Jenkins proposed marriage to Stefanie Moritz "at 10,000 feet," Felicia Piscitelli talked about her "rip-snorting good time" at the Texas/MLA chapter meeting in San Antonio, and Laurie Sampsel was twisting arms to get copy for the October issue of Conventional Title. Just one year ago, Stefanie Moritz and Rick AmRhein got new jobs, our chair Gary Mayhood got a new kidney, and Laurie Sampsel was twisting arms to get articles for the newsletter.

Would you like to take a trip down memory lane in the good old MPMLA-L archives? If you are interested in reading the e-mail messages of a very lively chapter whose members care greatly for each other personally and professionally, follow the steps in "How to Get the Most Out of MPMLA-L" below.

You will feel so inspired after your nostalgic jaunt that you will want to check out other MLA chapter listservers. To find their addresses, check out the MLA Clearinghouse at

http://www.music.indiana.edu/tech_s/mla/index.htm

in the Regional Chapters section near the end of the Administrative Structure.

Still excited? Then take a giant leap and subscribe to the hot tamale MLA-L, the mother of them all, by e-mailing to

listserv@listserv.indiana.edu

and type in the body of the message

subscribe mla-1 <your name>

As of September 23, 1997, 50 members were subscribed to MPMLA-L. Will you make that 51?

_Vic Cardell, University of Kansas_

How to Get the Most Out of MPMLA-L

To subscribe to MPMLA-L:
Send an email to
listserv@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu
(or listserv@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu)

and in the body of the message type
subscribe mpmla-1 <your name>

You will immediately receive a page of instructions from your listserv owner in the hills of northeast Kansas.

Events Calendar

January 9-14, 1998
ALA Conference
New Orleans, Louisiana
New Orleans Marriott

February 10-11, 1998
MOUG Conference
Boston, Massachusetts
Park Plaza Hotel

February 9-15, 1998
MLA Boston
Boston, Massachusetts
Park Plaza Hotel

May 28-30, 1998
MP-MLA Conference
Boulder, Colorado
Brocke Inn

To receive a short but sweet inventory of available archive files for MPMLA-L:
Send an email to
listserv@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu
(or listserv@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu)

and in the body of the message type
index mpmla-1

The list will include file names for all MPMLA-L correspondence since January 17, 1995. For example, the file for July 6 to August 7 1995 is named log9507.

To snoop around the archives:
Send an email to
listserv@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu
(or listserv@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu)

and in the body of the message type
get mpmla-1 <file name>

For example: get mpmla-1 log9507.
Call for Nominations

Nominations are being accepted for the MPMLA offices of Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Treasurer, and Member at Large. Please contact Bob Follet at Arizona State University, 602-965-4270 or by email at bob.follet@asu.edu, to make a nomination.

Call for Papers

Contact Cheryl Taranto, Chair of the Program Committee if you are thinking about giving a paper at the Boulder meeting. Cheryl can be reached at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas at 702 895-4623 or by email at tarantoc@nevada.edu.

Coda

A friend who went to see Verdi when he was staying in a villa at Moncalieri found him in a room which, Verdi said, was his drawing-room, dining-room, and bedroom combined, adding, "I have two other large rooms—but they are full of things that I have hired for the season." Verdi threw open the doors and showed him a collection of several dozen piano-organs.

"When I arrived here," he said, "all these organs were playing airs from Rigoletto, Trovatore, and my other operas from morning till night.

"I was so annoyed that I hired the whole lot for the season. It has cost me about a thousand francs, but at all events I am left in peace."

--from The Book of Musical Anecdotes by Norman Lebrecht

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