Presidential Message

It’s not easy being an optimist these days, with two catastrophic hurricanes in the last few weeks, the promise of even higher fuel costs, and plenty of other discouraging news. All of which make the halcyon days of Reno seem more of a distant memory than they ought to. For those of us who made the trip, that was a weekend of mild weather, friends old and new, the usual fine assortment of papers (congratulations to Brian Doherty for his excellent yeoman work on a certain fin-de-siecle American Francophile!), worthy new additions to the chapter, especially in the form of the two winners of our travel grants (Amy Hunsaker and Steve Nordstrom, both of whom gave exciting presentations to boot), a fish restaurant to rival those in Vancouver (In Reno? In Reno!), and flawless behind-the-scenes organization. Take another bow, Rick!

I promised at the end of the meeting to canvass some of the members who had not attended to make sure their absence wasn’t caused by something we could fix, and I’m happy to report that in most cases, folks who missed regretted having done so—a family emergency here, a research project there, and the occasional scheduling conflict. So listen up, folks! The Badgirl is hosting in Denver next May, so you know the meeting will be well planned and fun besides. Mark your calendars. Start saving your pennies for those inevitably higher air fares, or start making car pool plans. Think about paper topics. And don’t forget the upcoming MLA annual meeting in a certain little river town where I grew up. Cheryl and I will make sure that our chapter meeting there will be long on color and flavor, keeping business to the essentials.

Time for me to get back to work! Aren’t these fall semester killers?
Steve
Chapter Chair

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

Bob Follet

Bob sends greetings from Baltimore. He has a faculty appointment in addition to his library appointment, so he is busy teaching and managing the library. The Friedheim Library will host the fall meeting of the Atlantic Chapter of MLA. Bob hopes to see our chapter members at MLA in Memphis.

Brigham Young University

Myrna Layton attended the International Viola Congress in Reyjavik, Iceland, where she made a presentation on the Nordic Collection, a subset of the library’s Primrose International Viola Archive. Myrna will complete her MLS from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee in December.

David Day flew to Warsaw, Poland, for IAMM, and to Dublin, Ireland, for the World Harp Congress. While in Europe, he acquired for the BYU library about 2500 books, scores and recordings from Belgium’s Royal College of Music.

Janet Bradford toured England and Wales as a member of the Utah Baroque Ensemble. As part of the schedule, the group performed in St. Paul’s Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

Irene Halliday joined her nine children and their families for a week-long reunion at Aspen Grove high in the mountains east of Provo.

Colorado College

The Sealy Library of Music and Art added new compact shelving units, giving much appreciated expanded space.

Daryll Stevens is in her last semester of library school and feels she may survive. Congratulations!

El Camino College

Don Brown is the Music Librarian at El Camino College, a large community college in Torrance, CA. He has been involved in the national MLA since 1982, and is probably the only full-time community college music librarian in the nation.

The library’s performance-oriented collection consists of about 25,000 music scores and thousands of sound recordings, along with thousands of reference books. It also contains a collection of thousands of miniature study scores.

The library is also responsible for acquisition, cataloging, and maintenance of the choral and orchestral/band libraries housed in separate locations. The choral
library consists of at least 180,000 items.

Don has been at El Camino 13 years. He finds the community college environment interesting and rewarding.

Jean Jensen

Neil and I are moving this month from Logan, UT, near the Utah/Idaho border to St. George, UT, on the Utah/Arizona border. From Logan, UT, near the Utah/Idaho border. A big climatic change.

I have served as the sole librarian for the Utah Festival Opera Company in Logan for six years and feel sad to leave that work. I'll also miss the complimentary opera tickets each season!

Jenny Williams

Jenny and Clem took their RV from Tempe to the Reno MPMLA conference in May and then continued to the California coast. They attended two RV rallies in June and July in Oregon. Between rallies they took time to fly to Florida to attend a wedding. They arrived back home in Tempe September 23. Interspersed with the travel, Jenny worked on cataloging projects for ASU under contract with Fern Lieb. Quite a summer!

Polley Music Library, Lincoln, Nebraska

Both Carolyn Dow and Linda Helfman had recent experiences with the broadcast media. Two interviews with Linda about the Music of Old Nebraska digitization project were heard on the Nebraska Public Radio Network. Carolyn participated in a television interview, speaking on Willa Cather's lifelong love of opera.

Linda was elected Vice Chair/Chair Elect of the state library association's Special & Institutional Section.

University of Denver

Suzanne Moulton-Gertig traveled to Dublin, Ireland in July for the ninth World Harp Congress where she gave an invited lecture about Peggy Glanville-Hicks' Concertino Antico for String Quartet and Harp.

Suzanne is now a full professor at DU, the first faculty member to achieve such a distinction! Congratulations!

Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln

Anita Brockbill is preparing for a sabbatical during the spring of 2006. She will be living in London and working in the British Library with a side trip to archives in France. Wonderful!

The Music Library obtained new listening furniture in September. Also, a librarian's office is being carved out of the staff area—a facilities change that has been high priority for the past 15 years!

University of Nevada, Reno

The university broke ground for a new library building.

Rick Anderson will speak at two conferences in England next year. In February he will give the opening address at the annual meeting of the Association of Subscription Agents in London, and in April he will speak at the annual meeting of the United Kingdom Serials Group in Warwick. Sounds delightful!

Rick has seven entries in the new Routledge Encyclopedia of the Blues, scheduled for publication this fall.

University of New Mexico

The Fine Arts Library earlier this year added a new staff member, Clark McLean. He is a Systems Analyst and has been with the University Libraries for seventeen years, primarily in Government Information.

Barbara Lukes reports that a new library was supposed to be built in 2005, but is still on the drawing table.

University of New Mexico, Los Alamos

The UNM-Los Alamos Library is back to business as usual after a challenging summer with environmental control issues. A water main broke underneath the adjacent building during finals week in May and flooded the basement below the library. While this did not affect the library in terms of water damage, the humidity caused a significant mold scare which meant procuring environmental control equipment for dehumidification.

Mold was detected inside one of the walls, which meant the drywall was torn out and replaced. So far, the collection has not exhibited any mold damage.

Voters of New Mexico approved a bond for library acquisitions for all libraries in the state. Our library has about $22,000 of extra acquisitions money over the next two years.

Univ. of Northern Colorado

Steve Luttman is teaching Introduction to Doctoral Research in the School of Music, teaching a senior class in German Drama for the Foreign Language Department, running the Music Library, and is exercising his way out of a nasty bout of carpal tunnel syndrome.

He received a positive book review from the house newsletter of the Hindemith-Institut in Frankfurt.

University of Utah

The Marriott Library welcomed a new director effective September 1, Joyce Ogburn from the University of Washington.

Hiromi traveled to Yamagata, Japan, in July, where he grew up. The city has a park with a reconstructed castle, and four major museums, including an art museum with an outstanding collection of works by French impressionists. Yamagata is the Sister City of Boulder, Colorado.

Utah Valley State College

The library is in the programming stages for a new building. Lori Stevens hopes it will be completed in time to host MPMLA in 2008.

The staff is trying a new call number system for music CDs, by genre, author, title, much like LC except this uses words instead of numbers. Lori will report to MPMLA how good the system proves to be.
President Stephen Luttmann brought the business meeting to order. The minutes of the 2004 annual meeting in Tempe, Arizona, were approved with changes.

Old Business

Membership—Steve reported on his efforts to increase chapter membership. Attendance at this conference seems down, due to extenuating circumstances. Steve will make diplomatic, friendly inquiries to see if we can address reasons why meeting attendance is down. Janet Bradford reported on the states survey to music libraries in an effort to increase membership. Some states have been covered, others will be in the future. Daryl Stevens reported we have about 40 members, not all of whom are current in paid dues.

Travel grants—It was moved and seconded that these grants include remission of registration costs, above and beyond the award of these grants.

News from Chapter Heads meeting—Steve reported on items covered at this meeting. Jan Subramanian encouraged participation in the Best of Chapter paper submission. Steve Mantz wants more chapter news. Amy Dankowski, MLA web mistress, has been looking over chapter web sites, and reports that ours has a nice consistency.

New Business

Treasurer's reports—Daryl Stevens presented MPMLA's financial reports for the fiscal year 2003-2004 and for a portion of the fiscal year 2004-2005.

Future meetings—The 2006 meeting will be held in Denver, with Suzanne Moulton-Gertig as our host. The 2007 meeting will be held either in Orem, Utah, with Lori Stevens as host, or in Las Vegas with Cheryl Taranto as host. Location for 2007 is contingent upon Lori's wishes; her decision will probably determine the location for 2008, which may be either of the above. Laurie Eagleson, Webmistress, updates membership information on MPMLA's web page.

Travel grants—Grants were awarded this year to Steven Nordstrom and Amy Hansaker. Steve raised the point that we need to consider asking MLA for more support as these funds dwindle.

Best of Chapter—Attendees voted for MPMLA papers that will be forwarded to MLA's Best of Chapter committee. These papers will be considered for possible presentation at a future MLA meeting and publication in Notes. Steve Luttmann's paper, "The Beginnings of the Hindemith Trumpet Sonata: Two Tempos, Two Hindemiths," and Brian Doherty's paper, "The Odyssey of Homer Norris (1860-1920), an American Francophile" were the 2005 Best of Chapter winners.

Chapter Project—Janet Bradford described and demonstrated several BYU projects that we may want to adopt as chapter projects. IRMA (International Register of Music) is a database that gathers and describes special collection archives. David Day of BYU hopes we will be interested in adding institutional collections from the MPMLA region. In addition, BYU has a Performance Index that includes information on where and when a work has been performed. Janet asked that we indicate our interest in these, and refer questions to David Day. Janet also described a project that will gather school performances in a database format, to benefit students and faculty. Several schools have expressed interest in participation.

Election news—Cheryl Taranto and Rachel Crane will head the election committee. Offices to be filled include Secretary-Treasurer, Member-at-Large, Vice Chair, and Chair-Elect. The committee will post information to the MPMLA list.

Other news—Steve mentioned that Anita Bicik's and Carole Goebe's' paper on French lending libraries of the 19th Century led to a grant from the Society of England, as well as their university enabling them to extend their explorations on this topic.

Reno thanks—Tumultuous applause accompanied Steve's call to thank Rick and all those involved in the preparation of the Reno meeting. Steve closed the meeting and all wandered off to lunch and/or the airport.

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**Membership Dues**

The Mountain Plains Chapter membership year is July 1, through June 30. Annual dues are $10. If you have not yet paid, please do so. Make checks payable to MPMLA and send them to: Daryl Stevens, Secretary/Treasurer

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NEW MEMBERS
Clark McLean, University of New Mexico, holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from UNM, a Master of Music (Choral Conducting emphasis) from Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Wash., and did postgraduate work with Eric Ericson and the Royal Conservatory Choir of Stockholm. He served on the music faculty at UNM and taught in the Albuquerque Public Schools. This summer Clark attended the 7th World Symposium on Choral Music in Kyoto, Japan.

Todd O’Connor is originally from Milwaukee. He majored in music education at Wheaton College Conservatory of Music in Illinois in 1992. He received his MM and MLIS degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2003 and then served as a reference and cataloging librarian at the North Dakota State Library in Bismarck. Todd recently moved to Wisconsin to work full-time in music. He hopes to re-enter music librarianship as a profession.

Jean Jensen, Editor
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The Membership Directory included with this issue has been removed from the online version for reasons of security.