Wichita, Kansas—Site for 1995 Mountain-Plains Chapter Annual Conference

Every May, Wichita celebrates the River Festival, encompassing 10 days of activity. For any who wish to arrive early, the festival kicks off with a parade on the first Friday night followed by the River Run; 2 mile and 5 kilometer events are on Saturday. An art and book fair and community band festival also occur that Saturday. Events during the week usually include the Old Town block party, with stages for entertainment of various kinds, and vendors selling food items; Cajun food fest, with a plate of cajun food available for a nominal cost; and an ice cream social featuring free ice cream. The finale of the festival will take place during our conference, on the second Saturday, beginning in the afternoon with the antique bathtub races down the river. The evening features a pops concert with the Wichita Symphony. The grand finale includes fireworks, synchronized with music, watched by thousands lining the riverbanks. The conference hotel, the Ramada at Broadview, is on the east bank of the river, right in the center of River Festival action.

The Local Arrangements Committee hopes to show you further charms of Wichita, in addition to the River Festival. We are planning a guided tour of some highlights of the city, as seen from one of the public transit system’s trolleys. To honor Wichita’s “cowtown” heritage, our Friday evening banquet will be held at Old Cowtown, a reconstruction of 1870’s Wichita featuring some original buildings relocated to the site. The Empire House, where we will be dining, offers a cash bar, buffet dinner, and melodrama, with hero-cheering and villain-booing encouraged.

Wichita weather in May, like spring weather in many other parts of the U.S., is extremely variable. The average high temperature for May is 76.1, the average low is 52.8, and the average precipitation is 4". In our experience, we have survived the River Run over the years dressed in long sleeves and jackets, shorts and t-shirts, in hot, cold, sun and rain! Wind is also a significant factor in Wichita weather. We will post weather updates closer to conference time.

(continued on page 4)
Hello everyone! I’m pleased to be greeting all my Mountain-Plains colleagues, and hope that everyone had a relaxing summer. I remember I joined MPMLA in 1987 as a somewhat reluctant transfer from the Southeast chapter of MLA. I certainly had no idea what I was getting into. Everyone was so enthusiastic and welcomed me into a mad and exciting circle of colleagues that is truly the envy of many MLA chapters. I’ve made wonderful friends in MPMLA, and am now very proud to be serving as your Chair. Our Past-Chairs have set a high standard, and I hope I can fulfill your confidence in me.

It’s been several months since our last meeting in May, but it’s still very fresh in my memory as one of our best ever. This seems to be the case for every Chapter meeting I’ve attended. I can’t thank Gary Mayhood enough, and all the folks who worked on the Local Arrangements Committee. In addition to orchestrating several events in several locations, coordinating two excellent field trips, arranging a wonderful banquet replete with marvelous entertainment, and organizing pre- and post-conference dinners, Gary blazed new trails by acquiring external funding to subsidize our travel to and from the airport, White Sands National Monument and the Mescalero Apache Reservation, to host a very pleasant reception in the NMSU Library, and to buy us a free margaritas at our early-arrival get-together. I’d also like to thank the Program Committee, consisting of Bob Follet, Renee McBride, and chaired by Suzanne Moulton-Gertig, for putting together an excellent program for this meeting. I know we all had a great time.

We held an election for new officers in 1994: Gary Mayhood was elected Vice-Chair/Chair Elect; Bill Sgrazzutti, Member-at-Large; and Irene Halliday, Secretary/Treasurer. Many thanks to outgoing officers Shelly Wolff (Member-at-Large) and Annette Voth (Secretary/Treasurer) for their distinguished service on the MPMLA Board. I’m also grateful to Shelley McGehee for the excellent example she set as Chair of our Chapter for 1992-1994, and am very pleased that she continues on the Board as Past-Chair.

Since our Chapter dinner in Kansas City was so successful, I hope members planning to attend the annual MLA conference in Atlanta will reserve the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 9, 1995, for us to get together again. An announcement will be sent out as soon as plans have been made for what has become a regular MLA event for Mountain-Plainers.

Before most of us will see each other again, one of our long-time members will have retired. I know all Mountain-Plainers will join me in wishing Arlys McDonald (Arizona State University) the very best and happiest retirement. Arlys tells me she won’t be a stranger, because she plans to move to Wichita after retiring in February, and will definitely be attending our 1995 meeting there.

A word about Wichita: Shelly Wolff and Carol Neighbor have already put in a lot of hard work planning local arrangements for our next meeting. We are hoping for not one, but two (count ‘em: two) world premieres to be performed during this meeting: Myron Patterson’s long

(continued on page 4)
Shakuhachi Goes to Hollywood," was secular uses. A handout included shakuhachi is a Japanese instrument, instrument includes both religious and origins in China. The history of the ing charts. After the historical back­ team, Janet and Daron Bradford (Brigham Young University). The made usually of bamboo, with ancient ground, the Bradfords turned to the use of the shakuhachi in a variety of film mscores. They play familiar be used by dance instructors as well as for self-instruction. In addition to descriptions and instructions for various dances, the manuals were also to be used as guides to social etiquette, proper manners, and dress. These manuals are not readily available, and little research has been done yet, but there seems to be an increase in interest in historical performances. Monique Durham (University of New Mexico) continued her presenta­tions on the music of Mexico with "Anna Pavlova and the Mexican Hat Dance." After a history and descrip­tion of the "jarabe tapatio," including a recorded example, Monique re­counted the arrival in 1919 of Anna Pavlova in Vera Cruz, from where she was accompanied by troops to Mexico City. Pavlova's repertoire was primar­ily standard ballet, but she decided to include Mexican dances as well. All Mexican dance is done on the flat of the foot, which Pavlova was unable to learn. Instead she danced "en pointe" on the brim of the hat, which became very popular.

The afternoon session, held in the Library of New Mexico State University, began with a demonstration by Rick AmRhein (University of Nevada-Las Vegas), "Music and the Internet." After a brief background of the Internet, Rick demonstrated various magical things such as Veronica, Marvel, bookmark technique, and telnet ordering. He was most generous with his advice to those of us with lower-tech capabilities.

Robert Follet (University of Arizona) spoke on his personal experiences with "Music in a Restructured Society: The Arizona Experience." The emphasis of the new library dean was on "restruc­turing" rather than "reorganization." Bob described steps taken to move from a traditional hierarchical organi­zation to a user-centered non-hierar­chical team structure. He explained the new organization chart in detail, and described the affect on the Music Library.

Tours of the new NMSU Library and Music Building followed a reception in the Library. The conference banquet was held at Cattle Baron's Steak and Seafood Restaurant, featuring an exhilarating performance by the Ballet Folklorico de la Tierra del Encanto.

The Saturday morning sessions began with Jean Jensen's (Utah State University) "Git Along, Little Dogies': Songs and Songmakers of the American West." The paper focused on the cowboy songs sung on the great plains beginning in the early 1870's. The texts of these songs began to appear in newspapers in the 1890's; by the early 1900's the mass media had brought wide exposure. Jean traced the career of John White and his research into the origins and history of these songs, including a radio show, recordings and (continued on next page)
Annual Conference Report (continued from previous page)

writings. The MPMLA audience was treated to some live performance by the speaker/singer.

Suzanne Moulton-Gertig (University of Denver) presented "Tracking a Forgotten Composer: Archival Holdings and Unusual Friends who Help." The forgotten composer in this case was E.N. von Reznicek, an Austrian composer and conductor. Suzanne outlined her experiences and the contacts made in her pursuit of Reznicek materials, including a very exciting trip to Berlin and a visit to the Hochschule Music Library. The talk concluded with a recounting of her successful quest for Reznicek's grave, confirmed by several photographs.

A Mountain-Plains meeting would not be complete without hearing from Marc Faw (University of Oklahoma, Emeritus) on some aspect of the subject of opera. In this case it was "Warner Bros. Goes to the Opera." After brief introductory remarks on the history of the animated cartoon, and the introduction of classical music in these cartoons, Chapter members settled down to, you guessed it, watch their Saturday morning cartoon videos! There is little question in anyone's mind that future Saturday mornings of Mountain-Plains meetings will be spent with the "Rabbit of Seville," "Long-Haired Hare," and "What's Opera, Doc?"

The grand finale of the meeting was a field trip to White Sands National Monument, with a guided nature walk through magnificent sand dunes.

Business Meeting, May 21

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m. by Chair McGehee. The first order of business was to thank the local arrangement committee (Gary Mayhood, chair, with Bonnie Wetzel, Anne Morgan, Genevieve Cole, Sherry Ward, Barbara Delzell, Carol Withers, Cindy Watkins, Darla Brizzee, and Jeanette Smith), and the program committee (Bob Follet, Renee McBride and Suzanne Moulton-Gertig, chair).

Old business

**Rick AmRhein reported on the status of the MPMLA special collections project. The data has been transferred to a new file, and another mailing will be done for updates and revisions.

Charles King reported that there was no activity on the task force to investigate national funding for chapter activities.

New business

**A survey was made of the number of Chapter members signed on to MPMLA-L. Concern was expressed that not everyone had access to the listserv, and there was general discussion of listserv philosophy for the Chapter.

**Janet Bradford and Irene Halliday were thanked for their excellent work on the newsletter, Conventional Title, and a call was extended for any ideas or input for future issues.

**Wichita, Kansas, has been accepted as the location for the 1995 meeting, which will be held May 19-20. Shelly Wolff reported on preliminary program plans, and Carol Neighbor expanded on various additional ideas.

**The Board will entertain proposals for the 1996 meetings. Suggestions of Tucson and Flagstaff were forwarded.

**Susan Hitchens presented the results of the elections for new officers, noting that of the 45 ballots mailed, 30 were returned and counted. Chair-Elect: Gary Mayhood—Member-at-Large: Bill Sgrazzutti—Secretary/Treasurer: Irene Halliday.

The meeting was then turned over to incoming Chair Susan Hitchens, who addressed the group briefly and adjourned the meeting at 12:25.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Voth, Secretary/Treasurer

1995 Wichita Conference (continued from front page)

Wichita is accessible by car, via I-35, the Kansas Turnpike (I-135), and US-54. It is about 3.5 hours drive from both Kansas City and Oklahoma City. Wichita is also accessible via the Wichita Mid-Continent airport, on the west side of town, averaging 49 flights per day and served by America West, American, Delta, Northwest, TWA, United, and USAir. The Ramada at Broadview offers a shuttle service between the airport and hotel.

We look forward to greeting you in May, and showing you all Wichita has to offer.

Carol Neighbor & Shelly Wolff
Local Arrangements

From the Chapter Chair (continued from page 2)

awaited composition for recorders, and Carolyn Dow's newly commissioned madrigal. I'm very pleased to announce that Rick AmRhein has agreed to serve as Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting: Bob Follet and Stefanie Moritz have also agreed to serve. I hope everyone is making plans to attend, because it sounds to me like MPMLA's tradition of holding highly successful, fascinating and entertaining meetings will continue.

Susan Hayes Hitchens
Mountain-Plains Chapter Chair
Chapter Happenings

Brigham Young University
Janet Bradford, reporter

Staff Activities
Remodelling of the catalog department caused a frustrating summer for the BYU Music Team! Janet Bradford and Irene Halliday are now happily settled in their new offices but Laura Ayling and Sherry Wadham are awaiting new cubicle walls and the necessary computer lines—maybe by Christmas? And on a more personal note: Sherry’s daughter is recently engaged, so she is busy with wedding plans for January 6th. Irene broke her foot and has been slowed down (but only slightly) by a walking cast. Daron and Janet are happy to announce a new arrival to the Bradford home next May.

David Day had a busy summer. He was in charge of the Gina Bachauer symposium (6-10 June), coordinating use of the Bachauer Archive for several papers presented by BYU students while he prepared two video presentations for the event. He then spent a month in Belgium microfilming ballet manuscripts at the Archives de la Ville in Brussels. In Ottawa at the IAML conference he presented a paper on the problems of ballet music bibliography. Then, at the invitation of the Conseil de Musique in Brussels, he returned again to Belgium to work on a bibliography of research for the Theatre de la Monnaie in preparation for that theater’s 300-year anniversary. Whew!

Major New Acquisitions
BYU recently became the host for the archive of the World Harp Congress, a nice complement to our existing Pratt Harp Collection. We also acquired a large collection of theater almanacs in French, German and Italian, covering the 18th and 19th centuries.

Library Projects
Music monographs are now completely reconverted and reclassed! Several sections of the scores are also complete, including operas, symphonies and all “MiniScore” formats.

Use of the new Music Recordings Archive (MRA) has begun. Sorting of the LP’s by label is almost complete; these recordings will not receive MARC cataloging but a program is being designed for inventory and indexing. Harp and viola recordings are also being added.

Phoenix Public Library
Stefanie Moritz, reporter

Library Projects
The Phoenix Public Library celebrated the month of September as “Classical Music Month.” A display window outside the library entrance called users’ attention to the month through colorful posters of Kathleen Battle, Pierre Boulez and Anne-Sophie Mutter (courtesy of a local Tower Records store). Also in the window were posters and schedules for local (continued on next page)

MLA Mountain-Plains Chapter
Financial Report
1993-1994

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Respectfully submitted,
Annette Voth
Secretary/Treasurer

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Phoenix Public Library (continued)

performing arts groups, books about classical music, and representative compact discs from the library's collection. On September 15th, the Arts and Humanities unit hosted a "Classical Music Month" potluck lunch for library staff who dined to the strains of Schumann and Brahms. Several elected to take the "Name the Composer" quiz challenge, which asked them to identify line drawings of six composers. Also during September, the library conducted a survey of music collection users. The two-page form asked users how often they used recordings, books and scores; how often they found what they wanted; what types of recordings they checked out; what they liked and disliked most about the collection; and what services they would like to see in the new Music Library, to be opened in April of 1995.

The Phoenix Public Library and the Friends of the Library have commissioned a new work titled Five Images by Tucson composer Dan Asia. The work is a five-move­ment suite for flute and bassoon; it will receive its pre­miere at two library concerts on November 6th and 20th. The chiefly-contemporary music concerts will mark the de­but of the "Contempo Concert Series" at Phoenix Public Library. It is hoped that the series will be ongoing, showcasing the talent of local performing arts groups and also increasing public awareness of the Library's music collection. Admission to the concerts is free; if you're going to be in the Phoenix area in November you are certainly invited to attend! Call Stefanie Moritz at (602) 262-4732 for more information.

University of Arizona

Bob Follet, reporter

Staff Activities

As an additional step in the restructuring of the University of Arizona Library, we have gone through a library­wide moving fiesta. Large numbers of people have recently found themselves moved from one floor to another, etc. For music, the only change, and a positive one, has been to move the cataloging of music materials to the Music Library. Therefore, Laurie Eagleson now resides in the Music Library (which is within the Fine Arts Complex). Members of the Music Library Staff can be reached at the following numbers (all Area Code 602):

Bob Follet 621-7010
Charles King 621-8049
Laurie Eagleson 621-3777

Music Library circulation desk 621-7009

University of Kansas

Susan Hitchens, reporter

Staff Activities

Susan Hitchens (Music Librarian) was Local Arrange­ments Chair for the 1994 conference of the Music Library Association, held in Kansas City in early March. She received many positive comments and outright lavish compliments from conference attenders during and after the conference, and is very grateful to the other members of the Committee, and to the members of MPMLA for their great assistance with conference registration.

Susan Hitchens was promoted to Librarian III, effective July 1, 1994.

Major New Acquisitions

The Music Library received a grant from the KU Friends of the Libraries to purchase The JVC Video Library of World Music and Dance.

The estate of the composer and conductor Leonard Bernstein, in celebration of his 75th birthday, presented a complete set of all printed scores of Bernstein's music to the KU Music Library. In addition to receiving new copies of all scores currently published by Boosey & Hawkes and Jalni Publications, the Music Library will also receive all scores that are published in the future.

Library Projects

The Music Library's shelves, last reported to be filled to 97% of capacity, are looking less crowded these days, as staff completed another transfer of materials to the Anschutz Science Library's open stacks. In addition to the 4,000 books already shelved in the Science Library, all remaining Music Library books classed in Dewey and at least half of the scores classed in Dewey are now shelved there as well, for a grand total of approximately 8,000 music books and scores shelved in the Science Library. This was followed by the 4th shift of the entire music collection in 8 years.

Staff are already looking for more ways to gain additional space in the Music Library, and are preparing for a major renovation of the upper level. Although the main part of this floor is not suitable for loadbearing, stacks can be installed along the north and east walls. These shelves will be installed between fall and spring semesters, and most of the existing study carrels on this floor will be removed, to be replaced by study tables. All long-playing sound recordings will be moved to these new stacks and the public access record players will be installed on some of the study tables. Once this is accomplished, the music score collections on the lower level will be shifted once again, gaining perhaps an additional two year's growth space for the entire collections. Since a new music library facility is not anticipated to be available for occupation until at least 2000, it is most likely that at least one additional transfer, probably to storage, of Music Library materials will occur before the end of this century.
Ellen Johnson, reporter (Librarian emeritus)

The book Ellen Johnson has been working on for several years was published this summer by Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut. Entitled *Leslie Bassett: A Bibliography*, it's 171 pages include some actual examples of Bassett's scores, a new feature, approved for the first time, in Ellen's book. Professor Bassett, a living composer, presently has one hundred and three compositions in print for a wide variety of mediums, such as band, chamber ensembles, solo instruments, vocal, organ, piano, etc. He is also a university teacher and appears at numerous symposia, etc. He sends word that he is planning to retire.

Ellen has just returned from a delightful cruise of Russia, August 5-22, which began in Moscow. She sailed up the Volga, through the Golden Ring and lake country, ending in St. Petersburg. Ellen reports that the area is beautiful, the people are well-dressed and friendly, the cities and towns are extremely clean, and she saw much building and renovation. Says Ellen, "I recommend this cruise to everyone!"

University of New Mexico
Jim Wright, reporter

Staff Activities

Jim Wright is teaching an honors seminar, "Season of Symphony," and continues to teach Music of the Southwest for the music department in spring and summer. He travelled to Eastern Kentucky University to give two lectures on September 26th: 1) Navajo—Hopi Land Dispute, and 2) Pueblo Indian Music.

New staff members hired during the past year, include Mike Swick, Randy Wallace and Michael Rivera. Monique Durham has transferred to the Center for Southwest Research (CSWR) at Zimmerman Library, where she will be the full-time archivist of the John Donald Robb Archive of Southwest Music. Yes, the archive is moving from the Fine Arts Library to the CSWR also. Direct any inquiries to Monique at the Center for Southwest Research, Zimmerman Library, University of New Mexico 87131-1466; telephone (505) 277-6451 or E-mail mdurham@unm.edu or cswref@unm.edu.

Interviewing is being done for two new people on the staff. One is a new position for Architecture reference and the other is to replace Gene Nuss who has just retired.

Library Projects

The Fine Arts Library has been painted with beautiful two-tone turquoise accents over creme walls and a dusty rose carpet installed. A new WOOD (Walnut) circulation counter and reference desk will complement the new walnut study tables which have burgundy and walnut chairs. With all this happening the administration will now find funds and space to build a new Fine Arts Library.

University of Utah
Myron Patterson, reporter

Staff Activities

Myron Patterson has been appointed Adjunct Associate Professor of Music in the Music Department at the University of Utah. Autumn Quarter he is teaching Music 565: History of Renaissance Music, and Music 601: Music Bibliography. Winter Quarter, he will teach Music 656: Graduate Seminar in Baroque Music.

Myron spent part of this past summer in Princeton, New Jersey studying choral techniques with Professor John Bertalot, Director of Music at Trinity Church, Princeton, Director of the Princeton Singers, and Professor of Music at Westminster Choir College.

Carol Van Eenam, reporter

Major New Acquisitions

Carol Van Eenam, music cataloger, is involved in an ongoing project, cataloging scores from the personal collection of Utah composer Ramiro Cortes.

Last fall and winter, Carol cataloged a set of 150+ ragtime and jazz LP's published by Stomp Off Records.

MPMLA-L

With its first anniversary still more than a month away, our Chapter discussion list, MPMLA-L, celebrates 50 subscribers! Would you like to join? It's easy! Just do one of the following:

1. At your system ready prompt, send an interactive mail message: TELL LISTSERV AT UKANVM SUBSCRIBE MPMLA-L (your full name)

2. Send a mail message to: LISTSERV AT UKANVM The text of your message should be: SUBSCRIBE MPMLA-L (your full name)

3. Send Susan a message (HITCHENS@UKANVM), with your E-mail address and full name and she will add you.

Should you need more information about the list, please contact Susan. It's an electronic world, isn't it? Thank you, Susan!
Wichita State University
Shelly Wolff, reporter

Staff Activities
Sheila Torres-Blank, who took over music cataloging after Sue Weiland left, accepted a position in Texas and left WSU in August. The library plans to fill this position. A job description was posted on MLA-L, and published in the MLA Joblist. If anyone is interested in the position, but has questions about it, contact Shelly Wolff.

Personal news: Shelly and her husband are expecting their first child in mid-February. Barring complications, she plans to work right up to the delivery; then, if possible, have one year unpaid leave.

Major New Acquisitions
Wichita State received a large gift of LP's and music books from a local attorney. Many of the books are jazz oriented and will enhance the collection. Processing of the LP's is just beginning, so Shelly does not yet have a good idea of the collection's focus.

Library Projects
Retro of music scores is continuing. Piano music, and vocal music up to sacred vocal (operas and opera vocal scores) is complete. Work on symphonies is well underway.

Mountain-Plains Chapter, MLA
Newsletter Editors
6380 HBLL
Brigham Young University
Provo UT 84602

Coda

"Happy little bluebird flies beyond ..."

Lorraine B. Lanius, Technical Services Unit Head at the Vermont Department of Libraries confesses: "I can’t hold back any longer ... I feel compelled to share a former cataloging challenge. Over 10 years ago, when I was employed at the Humanities Research Center/Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin, I cataloged a bird identification book which was part of the Dame Edith Sitwell’s (British poet) collection. Much to my dismay, when I opened the book I discovered a squashed bird (blue tit) taped to the blood stained end paper. Beside the bird was the note, "Look at what Fluffy brought in from the balcony" (or similar words). After consulting with the other staff members and howling with laughter, I finally decided to describe the bird in a local note, "Dead bird tipped in." I hope all of you who encounter dead birds and other items in your books will find this message helpful."