Brigham Young University
Myrna Layton represented BYU at the International Viola Congress in Adelaide, Australia in June. Her husband had emergency open-heart surgery August 31.

Irene Halliday plans to retire September 1, 2008. She is concentrating this year on reducing the cataloging backlog. She recently welcomed her first great-grandchild. Congratulations!

And congratulations to Daron and Janet Bradford who have a new grandson born September 21 in Denver.

Don Roberts
Don attended IAML in Sydney and enjoyed visiting with many international friends. While In Australia, Don and Sally pursued two of their main interests by riding the transcontinental trains and birding at Perth, Sydney, Darwin, and the Great Barrier Reef.

Back home in Santa Fe, Don serves on the Boards of the Desert Chorale and Santa Fe New Music, serves as co-chair of the Music Director Search Committee for the Chorale and Vice President of SFNM.

Jenny Williams
Jenny enjoyed traveling during the summer to Wyoming, South Dakota Black Hills, Colorado, and northern Arizona. She is no longer doing any part-time cataloging, which she did for awhile after her official retirement from Arizona State University.

Todd O'Connor
Todd is no longer working in a library. He moved from Bismarck to Wisconsin to become a full-time church music director. He still maintains his membership in MLA and MWMLA.

University of Colorado
Marcelyn Davis is no longer working in the music library. She started phased retirement and moved to the central cataloging department where it is easier to work half-time. We will miss you, Marcy!

Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln
Anita Breckbill reports that this year only, a serials budget crisis has resulted in a large percentage of the University Libraries’ monographic budget being deflected to pay for serials. As a result, the discretionary funds for the music librarian are half of what they were last year.

The music library staff is busy cataloging backlog materials, such as scores in the Rokahr Family Archive, CD and score gifts, and is making a dent in the large collection of classical LPs that were received some years ago from a radio station.

Univ. of Northern Colorado
Steve Luttmann reports that the Music Library’s new building is now ten years old and was recently named for Howard M. Skinner, who was conductor of the Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra for nearly three decades, and who served the University as professor, dean, and interim president. The music library’s collection will reach 100,000 items sometime early in 2008.

Utah Valley State College
Lori Stevens left the college library and is now working at the Orem City Public Library. We will miss you, too, Lori!
Splendid weather and the dazzling sites of Las Vegas greeted MPMLA members for their annual meeting on May 18-19, 2007. Cheryl Taranto, chair of MPMLA plus local arranger, welcomed attendees, including special guests Bonna Boettcher, MLA past president, and new member, Tammy Ravas (University of Montana). Our venue for the meeting was the Amargosa Room in the Lied Library at UNLV.

Myrna Layton (Brigham Young University) started Friday’s morning session with Playback Singers: Bollywood Style, Hollywood Style. She showed the similarities and differences of these two filmmaking entities by paralleling the lives of Lata Mangeshka, Bollywood singer/actress, with Marni Nixon, ghost singer for many Hollywood hits (My Fair Lady, West Side Story). In his presentation, The Most Sensational Twentieth-Century Opera You’ve Never Heard, or Even Heard of, and Why, Steve Luttmann (University of Northern Colorado) gave an enlightening look at Max Brand’s Machinist Hopkins which premiered in 1929. Anita Breckbill and Carole Goebes (University of Nebraska) concluded the morning’s session by telling us about their adventures, minus Carole’s suitcase, while gathering information for their article which will appear in the upcoming issue of Notes (see 63:4, June 2007). Their presentation was entitled: Music Circulating Libraries in France: Borrowing in the Nineteenth Century and Researching in the Twenty-First.

After a leisurely lunch, Janet Bradford (Brigham Young University) suggested items required for a core Mormon Music collection in her paper Songs of the Heart: Collecting Sacred and Popular Mormon Music. The final session Friday afternoon was Hot Topics, moderated by Steve Luttmann and patterned after the recent trend in MLA’s national meetings. A lovely discussion ensued covering a broad range of subjects: commiserating over low budgets, acquisition tips, exercising care with approval programs, determining which streaming services are best for your library, finding monies for digitizing projects, use of LPs, disabling “rip & burn” options on new computers, encouraging grant writing/endowment campaigns, dealing with backlogs, teaching freshman, online tutorials, library hours, and comparing vacation/sick and work week requirements. Time was allowed for each attendee to present his/her institution’s current projects and/or challenges.

The Hofbrauhaus restaurant, conveniently located directly next door to the conference AmeriSuites hotel, offered wonderful German cuisine for dinner.

Saturday morning’s session began with Anita Breckbill’s presentation, Music Libraries in London: Visits and Impressions, 2006. Her husband was awarded a fellowship at the British Library Sound Archives so Anita took advantage of this opportunity to delve into the Royal College of Music, the Royal Academy of Music, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the Barbican Public Library. Laurie Sampsel and Marcelyn D’Avis (University of Colorado, Boulder) capped off the session with Folk Songs are Made to Be Sung: Digitizing the Ben Gray Lumpkin Collection at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Laurie demonstrated website navigation (while Marcy gave us an overview of the cataloging dilemmas).

A delicious lunch followed in the Music Library, Beam Music Center. Cheryl conducted a short tour and answered questions before the Business Meeting. Thus ended another successful MPMLA meeting.
MPMLA Business Meeting
May 19, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 pm by MPMLA Chapter Chair, Cheryl Taranto. Minutes of the 2006 annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, were read and approved (Janet Bradford was asked to determine if 2006 financial figures include or exclude the travel grant account).

Chair's report (Cheryl Taranto):

Cheryl explained the Educational Outreach program being implemented by the MLA Education Committee. Our input on involving regional chapters in music library training is requested in the areas of cataloging, reference, and collection development. Members discussed the geographic challenges our chapter presents and expressed our need for financial support from MLA. Concerns were also voiced on duplication of educational efforts as many libraries pay for the BCR workshops. Unique musical training could possibly be requested through state library organizations but the requester would need to pay. Another option would be to have the cataloging training at Indiana expand from one session to two if needed.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report (Janet Bradford):

Sixteen attended this year's meeting (one more than last year!) The 2006-07 financial report follows:

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New Business:

Future meetings: Lori Stevens has changed positions, so the Utah Valley State College offer was withdrawn. BYU members agreed to host in 2008 unless Myron Patterson (University of Utah) follows through on having the meeting in Salt Lake City. Tammy Ravas (University of Montana) will look into hosting in Missoula in 2009.

Election results: Because Brian Doherty has moved to a new position at Arizona State, MPMLA held a special election to fill the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect position he vacated. Forty ballots were sent out, 32 votes returned. Myrna Layton (Brigham Young University) was elected and Cheryl thanked both nominees, Myrna and Margaret Kaus (Kansas State University). The MPMLA Board will appoint a new Member-at-Large to replace Myrna if needed in the coming year.

Best of Chapter:

After voting, this year's winners for Best of Chapter are Steven Luttmann's The Most Sensational Twentieth-Century Opera You've Never Heard, or Even Heard Of, and Why and Anita Breckbill/Carole Goebes' presentation Music Circulating Libraries in France: Borrowing in the Nineteenth Century and Researching in the Twenty-First. Both will be forwarded to the MLA Best of Chapter committee.

Other items of business:

Please send all news to Jean Jensen for The Conventional Title.

Members thanked Cheryl for the great venues, an interesting program, and the impressive locale of this conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 pm.

---Respectfully submitted by Janet Bradford, Secretary/Treasurer
Announcement from Newsletter Editor

Would someone else volunteer to be the newsletter editor? This will be my last issue. I appreciate those who responded to my requests for news, but not enough library representatives send sufficient news to warrant a newsletter. Reports and notices can be sent through the chapter’s list serve.

I have enjoyed associating with you at annual meetings through the years. We had out-standing meetings held all around the region. Irene Halliday and Janet Bradford convinced me to join MPMLA when I met them through the Utah Library Association.

The first MPMLA meeting I attended was in Calgary in the early 1990s. Other meetings in Wichita, Lincoln, Albuquerque, Las Vegas, Provo, Logan, Las Cruces, Reno, Denver, Boulder, Greeley, Tempe (or was it Tucson?) and elsewhere were delightful and interesting.

Fun! Good memories! Thank you all.

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