Greetings from your Mountain-Plains Chapter Music Library Association. Now that the fall activities are well underway, I know you have thought about your music librarian colleagues in the Mountain Plains Chapter. Well, wonder no more. Read on.

This Opus 19 Conventional Title is coming to you courtesy of our new editors, Janet Bischoff and Irene Halliday of Brigham Young University, and chapter members who contributed news items. Please continue to respond to Janet and Irene with items of interest to the entire chapter. We all need the broadened perspective from others' problems and successes. We're surely tired enough on our own!

If you were among the eighteen fortunate participants of the 1990 Annual Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, this past May, and if the heat of the summer and the jolt of fall schedules hasn't numbed your senses totally—you can recall the beautiful city of Lincoln, the splendid accommodations at the Cornhusker, the delicious Greek luncheon catered from Papa John's, and the professionally stimulating program. For these positive experiences I speak for our membership in thanking our host and Past Chair, Carolyn Dow, of the Polley Music Library, who chaired both program and local arrangement committees. She and Deanna Wehrs pose provided the gracious atmosphere at the Bennett Martin Public Library. Sincere thank-yous also go to Susan Meister of the University of Nebraska, who arranged for our meeting room and provided a tour of the University of Nebraska Music Library, and to those chapter members who presented papers, served as panel members, and fulfilled their elected and appointed duties, thus making this annual conference possible.

As you read the minutes of our Lincoln meeting, prepared by Annette Voth, you will be informed of current special projects, the possibility of guest lecturers at future meetings, and an official chapter meeting projected during the coming MLA national meeting at Indianapolis, February 13-16, 1991. If any of these ideas trigger thoughts of any new projects or program possibilities or a desire to work in your chapter, please pick up your phone and call me at (316) 262-0611 ext. 258, or pick up your fax machine and send a message to me at the Wichita Public Library's fax number, 2622252. I'll get back to you as soon as possible, in fact, I'll even be faster if I could have the fax number for each of your libraries. So please fax me your fax. See you in Indianapolis!

Carol Neighbor
Mountain-Plains Chapter Chair
Chapter Officers—1990-1991

Chair: Carol Neighbor (Wichita Public Library, 223 S. Main St., Wichita, KS 67202) (316) 262-0611 x258.
Secretary/Treasurer: Annette Voth (Arizona St. Univ. Music Library, Tempe, AZ 85287) (602) 965-3513.
Member-at-Large: Janet Bischoff (Brigham Young Univ., 6380 HBLL, Provo, UT 84602) (801) 378-7653.
Chapter Archivist: Laurie Eagleson (Univ. of Arizona, Main Library, Tucson, AZ 85730) (602) 621-6452.
Past Chair: Carolyn Dow (Polley Music Library, 14th & N St., Lincoln, NE 68508) (402) 435-2146 x219.

The “New Look”

Have you noticed our “new look”? We’re experimenting with different logos and headers for the newsletter. Our library’s Graphic Department came up with the ideas on the front cover and below. Could these also be adapted to serve as letterheads for chapter mailings? Logos for T-shirts?

We’d be pleased to receive ideas from any of you which we will print in the next CT issue. During our May meeting in Albuquerque, we would like to present several possibilities for a chapter vote—and maybe even a small reward for the selected entry. Get those creative juices flowing!
Mountain-Plains Chapter—Music Library Association 1990 Annual Conference Report

The Mountain-Plains Chapter of the Music Library Association met in Lincoln, Nebraska, May 25 and 26, 1990, for its annual conference. The meeting locations were divided between the Bennett Martin Public Library and the University of Nebraska Music Library. Patricia Peterson, Assistant Director of Bennett Martin Library, welcomed the group.

Carolyn Smith (Kansas State University) presented the first paper of the morning, “Panorama of American Music.” The Panorama was a series of concerts at KSU of American music, conceived as an event to follow the tricentennial (Bach, Handel, Scarlatti) celebration of 1985. Carolyn described the acquisition of the important Jerry Wexler collection of sound recordings of popular music, and the program of 386 which was a precursor of the Panorama series. She spoke of the following Panoramas (Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, Gunther Schuller, Tyler White and John Edward Hasse, and William Kraft) and stressed the cooperation between the library and the music department in preparation for these events.

Lois Kuypers-Rushing (Kansas State University) presented “Thematic Indexes and Reference Works from 20 Years of the Music Cataloging Bulletins.” Her project was to compile a list of the thematic indexes and reference works used by Library of Congress catalogers in formulating uniform titles. From 17 years of MCB, she ended up with 24 pages of 228 citations. Lois described the methods she used in compiling and organizing the list, and the subsequent demand for it.

Arllys McDonald (Arizona State University) spoke on the development of specialized online indexes in the Music Library at ASU. The Popular Song Index was developed to provide bibliographic access to the many anthologies and collections which are not indexed in standard reference tools. The Library is currently developing an index of ASU performance tapes. Arlys described the process of developing the indexes as separate data bases in the online catalog (CARL) and she provided handouts which showed search techniques and access methods.

Carol Neighbor’s (Wichita Public Library) topic was entitled “Filing Rules and the Music Catalog at Wichita Public.” Carol first established that “A public library is not an academic library,” a profundity which established the tone of her talk. She distributed copies of the rules which are taken from ALA Filing Rules, but adapted for local practice. She answered questions about the rules.

Shelley McGehee (Arizona State University) utilized the time made available by a change in the program to report on the progress she has made on the Chapter project on special music collections in Mountain-Plains. Hypercard is being used to store data collected. Shelley brought print examples of the entries, and asked for feedback, proof reading, correction of subject headings, and additional information. In response to the question of whether to have the data available in print form or diskette, the consensus was to keep on paper. Too few people have access to Macs.

The afternoon session, held at the University of Nebraska, began with a tour of the Music Library conducted by Susan Messerli. Members were particularly impressed and delighted by a special exhibit of materials relating to Ruth Ettings, singer and film star.

The first paper of the afternoon was read by Karl Kroeger (University of Colorado). His topic was “The Musical Quarterly and American Music.” After an overview of the publishing history and editorship of the journal, the paper focused on its commitment to publishing research on American music. Karl presented a detailed examination of the occurrences of articles on American music under each editor, accompanied by several tables showing numbers, percentages, and subject breakdowns.

Norman Savig (University of Northern Colorado) spoke on a project he has developed for the cross-referencing of uniform titles in a local database. The project grew out of his long interest in the concept of uniform titles, and the difficulty users experience with them. After tracing the history of this concept, he offered examples from his database.

Carol Neighbor (Wichita Public Library) chaired a panel which provided some of the lighter moments in the conference program. The panel topic, “The Performer/Music Librarian or the Art of Schedule Juggling” was discussed by Shelley McGehee (Arizona State University, organist-church musician), Suzanne Moulton (University of Denver, harpist), Lois Kuypers-Rushing (Kansas State University, oboist) and the moderator (double bassist, singer, plus). Issues examined included the amount of time spent on other career, considerations of professional standards, and impact on library careers and our effectiveness as librarians. A general poll of the conference attendees showed that the majority of those present engage in some level of musical performance in their communities.

Annette Voith (Arizona State University) reported on the progress of her two-part project on Louise Lincoln Kerr, a Phoenix patroness of the arts, musician and composer. The first part of the project involved the processing of a collection of over 100 manuscripts of musical compositions. The second part is the pursuit of biographical information, primarily thorough oral history techniques. Annette outlined (continued on next page)
the methods she is using, and gave a sketch of Kerr's life.

Carolyn Dow (Bennett Martin Library) gave an account of the strategic planning exercises held by the Lincoln City Libraries, "Fitting the Music Library into the Institution's Strategic Plan."

Dorman Smith (University of Arizona) gave a personal, and sometimes humorous, account of "How to/How Not to Run a National Conference." Starting with a rare Tucson snowstorm on Monday, to the almost complete disappearance of conference attendees due to the temptations of a 90 degree Friday afternoon, Dorman managed to survive, with some help from his Mountain-Plains friends, the rigors of the occasion.

Business meeting, 26 May 1990

The meeting was called to order by Chair Carolyn Dow at 1:02 p.m. with 18 members present. Carolyn reported that the 1st floor staff of the Lincoln City Libraries wished to thank Mountain-Plains members for being so "well-behaved."

The first order of business was approval of the minutes of the 1989 meeting. Karl Kroeger moved, seconded by Arlys McDonald, that the minutes be approved as printed in Conventional Title.

Secretary/Treasurer Annette Voth reported a treasury balance of $1143.06 as of 25 May 1990. Expenditures to cover the CU Boulder account for CT, conference expenses, and various reimbursements, in the amount of $340, brought the balance to $803.06. Conference registration and membership dues were not yet figured. A full financial report will be made in July. Annette also reported that membership dues had gotten badly out of hand. She promised an individualized report to chapter members on their dues status.

The Nominations Committee (Sue Weiland, Shelley Gotz, and Carol Neighbor) reported that the count of ballots by the auditing group (Suzanne Moulton, Charles King, and Carol Neighbor) had been completed. Shelley McGeehe (ASU) will be Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Annette Voth (ASU) will continue as Secretary/Treasurer, and Janet Bischoff (Brigham Young) is the new Member-at-Large.

Chair Dow reported that the financial year for the Music Library Association and all its chapters must now run from July 1st through June 30th to meet the requirements of tax exempt status. Dorman Smith moved, seconded by Shelley McGeehe, that this change be adopted. The motion carried by a vote of 16 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention. A Mountain-Plains by-law revision may be necessary to accommodate this change. Chapter officers will look into this.

Dorman offered an address of thanks, and a gift from the chapter to Charles King for his years of service as editor of Conventional Title. Carol asked that any members interested in taking on the editorship of the newsletter to please let her know. The MP/MLA Board had passed on issues effecting the newsletter. There will be two issues a year, of eight pages length; Karl will continue the printing and mailing at CU Boulder; the mailing will be reduced to active members, other chapters, with some extra for officers to distribute as desirable; mailing will be first class.

Jim Wright, volunteered Albuquerque as the site of next year's conference, with a promise of the long awaited but elusive premier of Karl's commissioned work, to be performed at an altitude of 11,000 feet in the Sandia Mountains. (At this point the chapter archivist registered a complaint about not having the original manuscript). Karl moved, seconded by Suzanne, that Jim's invitation be accepted. Unanimous approval followed.

There followed the inevitable discussion of dates and days. A suggestion was made to move the meeting up one week in order to avoid the Memorial Day week-end. Shelly G. moved, 2nded by Charles, that the meeting be held one week earlier, and to retain Friday/Saturday. Carol wished to know of any particular hardships. The motion carried by a vote of 15 yes, 2 no, and 1 abstention.

There was general discussion of making an official meeting of the now traditional chapter dinner at national MLA meetings. The problem of how to notify members was met with suggestions of sending postcards prior to the meeting, checking bulletin board, or other means of notification. Dorman moved that the dinner be held on the Wednesday evening of the national meeting, that it be convened by the Chair, and that members be notified by mail in advance. Additionally, the dinner meeting should not be restricted to members, but should be open to all music librarians of the region. The motion was 2nded by Arlys, and passed unanimously.

Sue W. raised the question of the rather healthy financial situation of the chapter and what might be done with the excess. Charles suggested that some funds might be used to bring guest lecturers to the chapter meetings. Carol will appoint a program chair for next year, and suggest this be pursued.

Shelley McG. moved to add the name of the chapter archivist (Laurie Eagleson) to the list of officers in Conventional Title. Arlys 2nded the motion, Dorman called the question, and the motion passed unanimously. Laurie is still looking for op. 3, 1980 of CT.

Carol offered thanks to the local arrangements committee (Carolyn Dow, Chair, Susan Hitchens and Susan Messerli) for a most pleasant and successful meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m. with the passing of the gavel, as it were, to Carol Neighbor.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Voth, Secretary/Treasurer
## Mountain-Plains Chapter
### Music Library Association

## Financial Report
### 1989-1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous checking balance</th>
<th>$1338.06</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Cash receipts

| Memberships | $330.00 |
| Conference registration | $600.00 |

\[+\$930.00\]

### Cash disbursements

#### Annual conference
- Papa John's: $190.00 (lunch)
- Carolyn Dow: $37.77 (refreshments)
- Dorman Smith: $15.55 (gift)

\[\$243.32\]

#### Newsletter
- Karl Kroeger: $50.00 (reimbursement)
- CU Boulder account: $100.00
- $150.00

#### Postage
- $5.00

#### MLA Reception, Tucson
- $200.00

\[-$598.32\]

### Checking balance as of June 30, 1990
- $1669.74

### TOTAL ASSETS
- $1669.74

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Annette Voth
Secretary/Treasurer
Chapter Happenings

Someone New At U. of U.

The University of Utah’s Marriott Library and the Mountain-Plains Chapter of MLA have something new in common—Carol Van Eenam! Hired this summer (August 13) as the Music/Audio-Visual Cataloger, Carol is responsible for all music materials as well as non-music filmstrips, cassette tapes, microfilms, microfich etc.

Originally from the “Show-me” state (Missouri), Carol graduated from a St. Louis high school and went on to Hope College with a composite major in Music, French and German. Five years later, with her bachelor’s degree tucked safely away, Carol headed north to a state surrounded by four of the Great Lakes in pursuit of an MLS at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

A search for that important first job following library school graduation took Carol from Michigan’s brisk northern woods to the warm, moist forests of the south and the position of Assistant Cataloger at Troy State University, Alabama. She cataloged music materials, as well as assisting in several other areas, gaining valuable experience. In an ongoing search for a position more suited to her particular background and interests, Carol came across the U. of U. opening and decided to head west.

Soon after her arrival in Utah, Carol, a cellist, joined the Salt Lake Symphony. She has plans to pursue a second masters degree in music beginning sometime next year. An avid interest in language studies has led her into French, German, Arabic and Dutch, with Italian and Russian on the agenda for future study. Carol enjoys cats; two kittens share her apartment in Holladay, a delightful tree-filled suburb of Salt Lake City, especially well-suited to the walking Carol also enjoys.

Welcome to the Mountain-Plains Chapter, Carol. We look forward to meeting you personally in Albuquerque next May!

New Phonographic Archives at BYU

The largest, and one of the smallest, records ever produced, as well as thousands of recordings of events in cultural and political history, now belong to Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. The Harold B. Lee Library has received, by purchase and gift, two great archives of phonographic recordings, the Archive of Pioneer Sound Reproduction and the Suzette Farmer Memorial Collection of Franz Schubert Sound Recordings.

The Pioneer Collection contains acoustical, non-electric recordings dating from 1887 to 1926. Recording history is a major theme of the collection, which contains several cylinder recordings that were used with Thomas Edison’s early phonograph. In addition to these early cylinders, the collection contains over 3,000 single-faced acoustical discs dating from 1900-1925. These discs, invented by German-born Emile Berliner, a rival of Edison, helped to usher in the age of home entertainment.

The cultural and political history of the United States is well represented in the Pioneer Collection, since it contains sound representations of all of the great events of history since 1910. A recording of Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany, and one of President Coolidge’s welcoming address to Charles Lindbergh after his flight to Paris are examples of important historical recordings.

One of the rarest pieces in the collection is a recording of Rudolph Valentino, the star of silent films in the 1920’s. The only other known copy is owned by the British Broadcasting Corp.

The Suzette Farmer Memorial Collection of Franz Schubert Sound Recordings is probably the largest, most diversified single collection in the world. It is a nearly comprehensive collection of the commercially recorded output for this important composer, and includes more than 150 different versions of the Unfinished Symphony alone.

“While the others (the Pioneer Collection) are representative artifacts, the Schubert collection is truly monumental,” said Music Librarian David Day, who is also Curator of Special Collections in Music at the Lee Library.

Indian Flutes Find A Permanent Home

The Thurlow Lieurance Collection of American Indian Flutes, which had been on loan to the Wichita State University School of Music, was formally donated to the Endowment Association of the University this spring. The donation was marked by a dedication of the new display case for the flutes, located in the music library in Duerksen Hall. The display was arranged by Joy Lewis of the Wichita Art Museum. A book about the flutes and an accompanying cassette tape, both by Betty Hensley of Wichita, are available for consultation by contacting the music library.
MLA Mentoring Program

During the 1990 MLA meeting in Tucson, discussion arose as to how useful it might be to implement an informal and voluntary MLA mentoring program for first-time attendees at MLA meetings. In addition to the current First-Time Attendees Orientation and Reception, such a program might further help a new MLA member feel "at home" in the organization and in the profession, and might help MLA by involving new members with new ideas early on in their careers.

In May, Placement Officer Paul Matthews proposed to the MLA Board that a Mentoring Program be implemented for the 1991 MLA meeting in Indianapolis, and during its meeting in June, the Board approved this proposal. The program will be implemented by the Placement Office, Paul Matthews (Placement Officer) and Patricia Fiskan (Acting Placement Officer), with the help of Don Roberts (Vice-President/President-Elect, MLA).

The Placement Office is currently seeking the names of persons who either are interested in becoming mentors for the 1991 MLA meeting in Indianapolis, or who will be first-time attendees of that meeting and would like to connect with a mentor. We will be keeping a file of all persons who express an interest in the program, and will randomly "match" people before the annual meeting. We also plan to seek evaluation of the program from participants.

The intent of the program is to be simple and informal. Some of the ways a mentor might assist a new MLA member are:

1. To be a friendly and supportive contact shortly before, throughout, and perhaps after a national MLA meeting.
2. To answer questions about the structure of MLA (including officers, committees, roundtables, etc.), the purposes of the conference, and how those purposes are carried out in the various forums.
3. To attend some of the sessions together (a plenary session, a committee meeting, and the business meeting, for example).
4. To visit the exhibits together at some point, establishing contact with and being introduced to vendors and exhibitors.
5. To attend a social event together (such as a reception, concert, or meal).

If participation in this program appeals to you, please contact the Placement Office and/or send in the following brief form:

I am interested in participating in the MLA Mentoring Program as a
(check one) mentor new MLA member.

Name:_________________________________________ Phone:________________________

Address:__________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Institutional Affiliation:____________________________________

Comments:______________________________________________

Send to: Patricia Fiskan, Acting Placement Officer, Paddock Music Library, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755. Telephone: (603) 646-3120. Fax: (603) 646-1219.
E-mail: fisken@mac.dartmouth.EDU
Coda

Have you ever had a skirmish, or maybe even a full-fledged battle with your eyelids during a workshop session? At some time in our careers, most of us will have the ominous opportunity of serving on a program-planning committee. Timely topics that will pique the interest of attendees may not flow freely. The following is a list of creative discussion ideas, guaranteed to inject a bit of life into your workshop! (Albuquerque program committee—read on!)

Self-improvement Workshops
- Overcoming Peace of Mind
- You and Your Birthmark
- Creative Suffering
- The Primal Shrug
- Ego Gratification Through Violence
- Holding Your Child’s Attention Through Fear and Guilt
- Whine Your Way to Alienation
- Dealing With Post-Self-Realization Depression
- How to Overcome Self-Doubt Through Pretension and Ostentation

Business/Career Workshops
- Money Can Make You Rich
- Talking Good: How You Can Improve Your Speech and Get a Better Job
- No-Fault Embezzlement: Is It For You?
- I Made $100 in Real Estate
- Excruciating Pain As A Tool in Employee Discipline
- Career Opportunities in Iran
- Filler Phrases for Thesis Writers
- Ten Easy Ways to Shaft Your Co-Worker And Not Get Caught

Home Economics Workshops
- How to Convert Your Family Room into a Garage
- Burglar Proof Your Home With Concrete

- 101 Other Uses For Your Vacuum Cleaner
- How To Cultivate Viruses in Your Refrigerator
- Basic Kitchen Taxidermy
- How To Convert Your Wheelchair Into A Dune Buggy
- Doing The Laundry in Your Hot Tub

Health and Fitness Workshops
- The Joys of Hypochondria
- Creative Tooth Decay
- Biofeedback and How To Stop It
- Suicide and Your Health
- Skate Your Way to Regularity
- Advanced Techniques of Self Abuse
- Optional Body Functions
- Tap-Dance Your Way to Social Ridicule

Craft Workshops
- Self-Actualization Through Macrame
- Northern Mexico Guide To Bad Taste
- Cuticle Crafts
- Gifts for the Senile
- Better Graffiti Through Calligraphy

Miscellaneous Workshops
- Determining Your Astronomical Sign
- Small Talk For the Mute

Mountain-Plains Chapter, MLA
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