Greetings to all our Mountain Plains Chapter Music Librarians!

Time really flies! It is hard to believe that the two years since I rotated in as chair of the chapter have passed so quickly. It has been an honor to be of service to the MPMLA membership, and I look forward to participating with the board as past chair in the coming two years. I feel like I finally just know what I am doing, and it is almost time to step aside and hand the gavel (fork) over to Anita.

It was great to have the opportunity to visit with all who were able to attend MLA in San Diego. In my opinion, it was a very informative and interesting conference. It was gratifying to see the names of so many of our chapter members on the program: George Gibbs, Cheryl Taranto, Anita Breckbill, Stephen Mantz, and Suzanne Moulton-Gertig all represented our chapter well. It was wonderful to see Laurie Sampsel receive a well-deserved award, “the *Vincent H. Duckles Award* for the best book-length bibliography or other research tool in music,” to cheer Cheryl Taranto on in her new position as member-at-large on the national board, and to hear that Steve Luttmann is the new chair of MOUG.

Now it is time to prepare for the chapter meeting in Manhattan, Kansas approaching very quickly, May 21-22. I look forward to all the fabulous papers that I know you will present, and to the opportunity to share library wit and wisdom with you!

Myrna Layton

**MPMLA ANNUAL MEETING – Manhattan, KS May 21–22, 2010**

Here’s a preview of the some of the papers that have been received in alpha. order:

**Tom Bell, Kansas State Univ.:**
"Lonely Is An Eyesore:" The Innovation and legacy of 4AD Records founder, Ivo Watts-Russell."

**Anita Breckbill, Univ. of Nebraska – Lincoln:**
“Music Published by Subscription in 1820s France.”

**Bruce Gbur, Kansas State Univ.:**
"Creating a Niche as an Independent Music Publisher: The Prairie Dawg and the Mongoose."

**Annie Erickson, Brigham Young Univ.:**
“Toward an Understanding of Music Materials”

**Myrna Layton, Brigham Young Univ.:**
“Takarazuka: What is It, and Do I Need It in My Music Library?”

**Nora Lewis, Kansas State Univ.:**
“From Learning about Music to Experiential Understanding: The Music History I Early Music Festival at K-State.”

**Steven Nordstrom, Brigham Young Univ.:**
“Cooperative Collection Development.”

**Steve Luttmann, Univ. of Northern CO:**
“Another path to Nirvana? Deconstruction of the work concept and progress toward stasis in Arthur Russell’s *Instrumentals.*”

(cont., page 2)
MPMLA Annual Meeting Papers, cont.

Suzanne Moulton-Gertig, Univ. of Denver: “Vorschlag/Acciaccatura? Music Librarian as Source Authority: Library Sources for Historical Performance Practice Questions.”

Cheryl Taranto, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas: "Minstrelsy, Stephen Foster, Italian Opera, and the American West: Travelling Opera Troupes and Their Repertory."

IN MEMORIAM

In January, I got a call from MLA President Ruthann McTyre, who asked me if I would say something about our dear friend and MPMLA member Gary Mayhood at the MLA Business Meeting in San Diego last month. For those of you who couldn’t go to San Diego, or didn’t make it to the Business Meeting, I’ve duplicated the text used below. – Suzanne

Gary Mayhood

The Mountain Plains chapter of MLA lost a good member and friend this year. Gary Mayhood, who was an Associate Professor in the Branson Library at New Mexico State University, died at 61 in Las Cruces NM on Sunday, January 3, 2010. Gary had retired from NMSU on July 1, 2008, after seventeen years of service due to health issues. Outside of his music interests, Gary ran the listserv for New Mexico state documents librarians and lent his cataloging experience to state documents for many years. Gary also worked at Drew University and the University of Kansas before joining the NMSU Library faculty where his primary responsibilities were music, serials, and state documents cataloging. Gary was the frequent recipient of grants from the Southwest and Border Cultures Institute (SBCI) to enhance the Library’s music collections.

Gary came to librarianship after a career as an Anglican priest. He was a good advocate for librarianship. One of my colleagues at the University of Denver worked for Gary as a non professional staff member for several years. When she announced her intention to go to library school and asked his opinion, Gary replied, “Well Esther, there’s a lot of busy work associated with librarianship, but the rewards in helping people and making a difference make it all worthwhile.”

Most of you wouldn’t know Gary, for he rarely came to national MLA meetings. He was, however, an active member of MPMLA when his health allowed him to fly to our meetings, or to host them, himself. Twice Gary hosted us at Las Cruces, in 1994 and 2002. Our MPMLA Colleague Irene Halliday, remembers, “One of my favorite MPMLA gatherings was in Las Cruces. Gary was so hospitable, very well-organized, and provided wonderful local entertainment with Ballet Folklorico, plus a well-planned excursion to White Sands National Monument.”

Gary had an active interest in all things having to do with the ship Titanic. In preparing for one of his two papers he gave at MPMLA on the Titanic and music, I found Gary’s 1999 guestbook entry in the site ENCYCLOPEDIA TITANICA where he says, “Hello! I find your site quite amazing. I am a music librarian here in New Mexico and I have been searching for information on the music used on board the Titanic, the musicians, and music written about the Titanic for a paper I am planning to give this May at our local chapter of the Music Library Association. Your information on the band members has been a help to me. Thank you!”
Gary Mayhood, cont.

Gary had a great sense of humor; in 1998 at our Boulder meeting, knowing that the hotel’s swimming pool was open, Gary showed up with a toy inflatable Titanic, replete with its own inflatable iceberg. Testing it first in his room bathtub with a few of us present, he deemed it pool worthy. Later, out at the pool, despite the intended lure of the iceberg and all our help, we howled with laughter as the Titanic insisted on tracked straight toward Carolyn Dow at the other end of the pool!

There are so many stories of how Gary made us laugh and enriched our lives. It was a shock when we received a message from his colleague, Sherry Ward, at NMSU who said,

“Gary passed away this afternoon here in Las Cruces after suffering a massive heart attack and cardiac arrest 2 weeks ago. As you may know, Gary was a kidney transplant survivor for 13 years but his last battle with his heart was one he could not win. He thought so much of the MPMLA group and thoroughly enjoyed your gatherings so I thought you would want to know about his passing.”

We of MPMLA have shared amongst ourselves a number of stories and remembrances. In closing, we share one that echoes very much what we have said to one another. It comes from Mark Rustman, who amongst other things says, “I'll also remember Gary's delightful personality and his great love of people, life, music, and the Episcopal Church. My hope is that he is now enjoying the Music of the Spheres, hearing sounds even more beautiful than those he heard on Earth.”

Our Gary: always ready with a toast!

Please Note: Photos of Gary courtesy of Laurie Eagleson, MPMLA Archivist and Website creator

MPMLA Member News

George Gibbs, University of Kansas:

“Suzanne: For a change I actually have some news for the newsletter:

For several years we have known that we would need to vacate the space occupied by the KU Sound Archive to allow for expansion by the Theatre Department. Now we know that we must be out of that space by June 1. Starting the last week of March, we have begun to move the collection. The part of the collection that has records in the Online Catalog is in the process of being added to the Libraries’ storage collection. The rest of the collection is being moved to a locked cage in the basement of Anschutz Library but will still be serviced from the Music Library.

As of the end of February, I have entered the university’s phased retirement program. It’s like the witness protection program, except one doesn’t have to hide out. I have cut back to ¾ time for up to 5 years. I will still be Head of the Music and Dance Library and will continue to be the Libraries’ subject specialist/liaison for Film and Theatre. Currently, I am not working Mondays and the last 2 hours of Friday afternoon. My boss asked if taking the time off felt like I was playing hooky. Yes, at the moment it’s so new that I haven’t yet gotten into the new routine and mindset.”

– George
Carolyn Dow, Polley Music Library (Lincoln City Libraries, Lincoln, Nebraska):

“Instead of attending the MLA conference in San Diego, I visited beautiful Seward, Nebraska to attend the Virtual Public Libraries Association conference. Also in March, I was appointed chair of the Citations (awards) Committee for the Nebraska Library Association to fill a vacancy -- just in time for all the committee's work to start. And, as Vice Chair/Chair Elect of the NLA Special & Institutional Section, I'm rounding up programs for the fall NLA conference – with proposals due in a few days.

In my personal life (skating judge), I attended a fabulous judges school at the 2010 US Figure Skating Championships, and I'll be attending judges schools in Oakland in April. In my life as a musician, I get to play oboe, piccolo and flute in the next orchestra concert, changing instruments every piece as the music requires. (I transposed the English horn part for oboe so I wouldn't have to deal with yet another instrument on stage and in practice – and another set of reeds). As a skater, etc., I'm President Elect of the local figure skating club, and I choreographed a bit for the club ice show. (I won't be skating in the show because I'll be in Oakland at the judges school). Also coming up for me are the program notes for the orchestra concert, the script for the ice show, book talks, blogging if I can ever get the time, and of course my paid daily play time as a music librarian.

Janet Bradford had foot surgery which is keeping her pretty close to home, since she isn't supposed to put any weight on her foot.

Stephen Luttmann, Univ. of N. Colorado:

“I became chair of the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) at the end of its annual meeting in San Diego this past March. His first duties include attending the OCLC Global Council meeting in Columbus in late April, and disseminating/publicizing the draft of MOUG’s enhancement recommendations for WorldCat Local (avail. at MOUG’s Public Services page, http://www.musicoclcusers.org/reftools.html). Take a look at it, folks—right now WorldCat Local is, to put it euphemistically, a sorely deficient music-related discovery tool, and come January 2013 it will be the only public interface to WorldCat! While in Columbus, Steve may also have the dubious honor of being reelected chair of his university’s faculty senate. As of right now he has no opponents . . .”

Cheryl Taranto, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas:

“Budget is in the air! Just as with many of you, we are dealing with budget issues at UNLV. Some of you may remember Lamont Downs. Lamont left the Music Library last year and I have not been able to fill his position. Student employees are filling in and covering hours in fine fashion. Aside from the loss of a position and a decreased collections budget, the Music Library is still afloat and doing very well. We have started some digitization projects in collaboration with Special Collections on some of the entertainment and popular music materials, as well as an archiving project with programs, publicity materials, and recordings of UNLV student recitals and ensemble concerts. More to come on these projects.

Come spend your dollars in Vegas (on the strip, of course) to help support higher education!”

– Cheryl, the Good Girl of the Desert

Cont., page 5
Suzanne Moulton-Gertig, Univ. of Denver:

“In 2009, I became the editor of The Ostracon: The Journal of the Egyptian Studies Society. This is my first experience with a non-music publication and, needless to say, my knowledge of Egyptology is eclipsed greatly by that of music! I’ve met and talked with a number of Egyptologists around the world in this last year, soliciting articles or communicating with them about their submissions. It has been an interesting and, at times, an exciting experience (especially during the final edit and actual printing and publication phase). Now Vol. 20 (2009) of The Ostracon is finished, and I am now knee deep in Vol. 21 due out in October. Wow! I just got an invitation to work with the Denver Art Museum on aspects of music in Ancient Egypt for the upcoming Tutankhamen exhibit there. Surprise!”

– Suzanne, the Badgirl of the Rockies

Swelling Our Ranks!

MPMLA Welcomes New Member: Bracken Klar, Tulsa City-County Library.

As always, MPMLA remains assiduous in its quest to gather new members for the chapter. We are pleased to welcome Bracken Klar most recently. I asked Bracken to tell us a little about himself. Bracken says:

“I won the Kevin Freeman travel grant to attend the MLA Annual Conference in San Diego. I graduate from the University of Oklahoma at Tulsa in December with my MLIS. I live in Tulsa, OK and I work at the Tulsa City-County Library's Central location in the Media Center.

Before I got into grad school, and again once I am out, I booked small and independent label bands from all over the world to play shows in Tulsa; Caribou, the Constantines (on the Subpop label) and Junior Boys from Canada, Lucy & the Popsonics from Brazil and the Monotonix from Israel, as well loads of bands from America spanning genres from blues and country to post-rock and indie.”

– Bracken bklar@tulsalibrary.org

MPMLA Group Picture following the Business Lunch in Missoula, MT, May 9, 2009.
Mountain-Plains (MPMLA) members ventured to Missoula, Montana for their annual spring meeting, May 7-9, 2009. This was a first-time setting for the chapter and thanks go to Tammy Ravas and her colleagues at the University of Montana Libraries for the invitation and for being such wonderful hosts. Those arriving Thursday evening enjoyed a Tex-Mex dinner at the El Cazador, a short stroll from the conference hotel.

Friday morning members met in the Mansfield Library for registration. Following breakfast goodies, Bonnie Allen, Dean of the University Library, welcomed those in attendance.

Carolyn Dow (Lincoln Public Libraries) started the conference with a presentation titled Adventures with 2.0: The Music Library Blog. She shared her experiences as a first-time blogger—see her posts at http://polleymusiclebraryscadenza.blogspot.com/. Next, Laurie Sampsell (University of Colorado, Boulder) gave an update on her dissertation research with Samuel Babcock’s “Middlesex Harmony,” Second Edition: A Thomas and Andrews Composite? Thomas Bell (Kansas State University) followed with his popular music perspective “Fire Came from My Mouth is Pushing Me Around”: Why Kristin Hersh Matters More Than Ever. Tammy Ravas (University of Montana) then gave attendees a tour of the library, highlighting music collections, and members were given a generous lunch break to explore campus, some even opting to hike up the trail of big “M” hill.

The Friday afternoon session got underway with the paper, Carnegie Music Set: An Introduction, Steve Mantz’s (University of Colorado, Boulder) study of anthologies issued and distributed by the Carnegie Corporation for teaching music appreciation in the 1920s and 30s. Tammy Ravas and Samantha Hines (University of Montana) followed with timely copyright tips and reminders in their presentation Day-to-Day Copyright Challenges and Solutions in Music Libraries and Collections: A Moderated Panel Discussion. Then Margaret Kraus (Kansas State University) gave some real-time catalog maintenance demonstrations with It’s Not Magic, It’s MarcEdit!: How to Edit Large Batches of MARC Records Easily. The final presentation of the day, Next Generation Catalogs: To Boldly Go Where No Music Catalog Has Ever Gone Before, was a look at three systems recently implemented in institutions in the chapter: Primo by Steven Nordstrom (Brigham Young University); Encore by Anita Breckbill (University of Nebraska, Lincoln); and WorldCat Local by Stephen Luttmann (University of Northern Colorado).

Members listened to a short carillon concert on campus before departing for a bit of R & R at the hotel. They later gathered at Higgins Alley for a dinner of Italian cuisine.

Saturday morning, Suzanne Moulton-Gertig (University of Denver) presented Music of Ancient Egypt: A Re-Evaluation in the 21st Century. George Gibbs (University of Kansas) followed with The “Miniature Piano Concerto” in British and American Films from the 1940s to the 1960s. Steven Nordstrom (Brigham Young University) ended this session with Research Resources for Scholarly Literature in Music: Comparing Répertoire International de Littérature Musicale, Google Scholar, Ex Libris’ Primo, and Select Print Subject-Specific Bibliographies by describing a study to determine student research strategies and to compare and contrast findings between available databases. A Business Lunch at the conference hotel boardroom concluded this year’s meeting.

Janet Bradford, Secretary/Treasurer, MPMLA
MPMLA Business Meeting  
May 7, 2009

MPMLA Chapter Chair, Myrna Layton, called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. She thanked Tammy Ravas for hosting the meeting and providing great local arrangements. Kudos were also given to Cheryl Taranto for organizing the program. Minutes of the 2008 annual meeting at Brigham Young University were read and approved with one typo correction.

**Secretary/Treasurer’s Report** (Janet Bradford):
This year’s meeting attendance is 20. The chapter’s financial account is stable with a projected end of conference balance of $4,995.75 *(see accompanying end-of-year report).*

**Chair’s Report/Old Business** (Myrna Layton):
Members discussed again the possibility of doing music education workshops at state or regional library association meetings. Since most of us do not even attend, as programming is not pertinent, we will continue to promote MLA and our chapter in other ways.

**New Business:**
*2009 meeting:* Thomas Bell (Kansas State University) volunteered to host next year’s meeting in Manhattan pending approval from local authorities.

*Newsletter:* Suzanne Moulton-Gertig, editor of *The Conventional Title,* asked that everyone send her news and keep her updated with current/correct e-mail addresses.

**Best of Chapter:**
Votes were tallied for the MPMLA papers that will be forwarded to this year’s MLA's Best of Chapter Committee. The two winners are “*Fire Came from My Mouth is Pushing Me Around*”: Why Kristin Hersh Matters More Than Ever by Thomas Bell (Kansas State University) and Research Resources for Scholarly Literature in Music: Comparing Répertoire International de Littérature Musicale, Google Scholar, Ex Libris’ Primo, and Select Print Subject-Specific Bibliographies by Steven Nordstrom (Brigham Young University). As usual, voting was very close as all presentations were interesting and informative.

**Other Items of Business:**
MLA will be held in San Diego next March.
Members discussed why we meet in May and if another time might be a possibility.
The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

_Respectfully submitted by Janet Bradford, MPMLA Secretary/Treasurer*

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**STOP! SEE BELOW:**

REGISTRATION FORM FOR MPMLMA MANHATTAN MEETING, next page

NOTE **DEADLINE** FOR REGISTRATION FORM ARRIVAL IN PROVO!!!!!
MLA Mountain/Plains Chapter Annual Meeting  
Manhattan, KS  
May 21-22, 2010  
Registration Form

Name______________________________________________________________

Library Affiliation_________________________________________________

Mailing address: Street______________________________________________

City______________ State_____ Zip code__________

Email_________________________________________

Registration Fee $20.00 $__________

Thursday evening dinner at Cocobolos for early arrivers? See menu: http://www.cocobolos.com/  
Yes ____ No ______

Dinner on Friday Evening at Little Apple Brewing Company See menu: http://www.littleapplebrewery.com/  
_____ I WILL attend _____ I will NOT attend

(Note: Plan to bring cash for Thurs. night, Friday noon, and Friday night, as they are not covered by Registration).

Saturday Business Lunch (included in registration)  
Box lunches from the fabulous Bluestem Bistro, include Sandwich, Cookie, Chips, Pickle and Salad.  
Choose a sandwich:  
Chicken Salad____  Roast Beef/Cheddar____  Veggie____

Add on (for your guests) for the Saturday Business Lunch only $12.00 $__________

Sat, Business Lunch options:  
Choose one:  
Chicken Salad____  Roast Beef/Cheddar____  Veggie____

Dietary needs: (Please list any dietary needs below)

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Membership dues for 2010/2011 $10.00 $__________

TOTAL ENCLOSED $__________

Please make checks payable to MLA Mountain/Plains Chapter

_____ Payment enclosed _____ Will pay upon arrival

Please complete and submit this form so that it arrives no later than April 30, 2010 to

Janet Bradford  
BYU Music/Dance Library  
4329 HBLL  
Provo UT 84602  
janet_bradford@byu.edu