

BREVE NOTES



Newsletter
Southeast Chapter
Music Library Association

No. 53

April 1998

2 SEMLA MEMBERS ELECTED TO MLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Recording Secretary
Roberta Chodacki
East Carolina University



and



Member-at-Large, 1998/2000
Robert Curtis
Tulane University

SEMLA MEMBER AWARDED 1998 KEVIN FREEMAN TRAVEL GRANT

During the MLA business meeting, Jeff Whitson (University of South Carolina) was named a recipient of the 1998 Kevin Freeman Travel Grant which allowed him to travel to the Boston conference.



SEMLA Web Editor Found!

SEMLA now has a Web Editor in the person of Karen Jung. She has extensive knowledge of HTML, PERL, CGI-scripting and creating and scanning graphics for web pages. She has maintained the Southeastern Louisiana University Library web site for two and a half years (<http://www.selu.edu/Library> – check it out – note the capital “L”) and she is looking forward to working on a couple of plans we on the Web Committee (Neil Hughes, Lois Kuyper-Rushing and moi – and now chaired by Karen Jung) have been hatching. One is finishing a

project that Rebecca started before she moved. The Directory of Music Collections in the Southeast United States is almost ready to be posted, I believe. Karen will be working



on making up a form so we can update the directory once it is “out there.” Also, we will be posting the program from Columbia as well as linking to the appropriate papers presented. [I will be contacting those of you who gave those papers again soon – beware!] There is also movement afoot for us to put the SEMLA Handbook on the web site not to mention our upcoming meeting in Texas. Karen will be quite busy!

So, welcome to our new Web Editor and if you have ideas or suggestions of things we should do with the SEMLA page, feel free to contact anyone on the Web Committee. Congratulations to Karen and thanks to all who applied!

Sarah Dorsey
Chair, Web Editor Search Committee
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Contents...

Administrative Structure of SEMLA.....	2
From the Chair.....	3
Ad Hoc Chapter Committee Report.....	5
Member News.....	6
Directory of Members.....	7

OFFICERS SOUGHT

Dear SEMLA members in good standing,

As your humble Nominating Committee Chair, I would like to invite you to apply for the fun and glamorous positions now available in SEMLA. We have both the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect position and Member-at-Large. First of all, as someone who has had the honor of holding the latter position, I want to tell you I have not only had good things to put into my tenure report, learned things and met people, but I have also had FUN. I know we all feel over-worked and under-paid, but the fact is that if this is true then you deserve to have FUN while you work.

Seriously, y'all consider these positions and if you are interested (or if anyone you know might be!) contact anyone on the Nominating Committee (me, Tim Cherubini and Margaret Kaus) and we will supply you with the pertinent parts of the SEMLA Handbook so you have more of an idea what the jobs are all about. Also, feel free to contact any of the previous office holders for more first-hand information.

Sarah Dorsey
Chair, Nominating Committee
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

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Website Committee, Karen Jung, Chair; Lois Kuyper-Rushing (ex officio), Neil Hughes, Sarah Dorsey

SEMLA-L

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Dancing at the MLA Banquet, Boston, February 1998

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From the Chair...



**Lois Kuyper-Rushing
Louisiana State
University**

As I write this column in early March, my state of Louisiana may be one of the few states in the SEMLA region which can boast that “Spring is bustin’ out all over” (I know, it is really “JUNE is bustin’ out ...”). By the time you read this, though, I imagine that most of you will be singing “Younger Than Springtime” under the “April Sky”!

We had a rousing SEMLA meeting on Thursday evening, February 12, in Boston during the national MLA conference. Paul Orkiszewski from Rice University and Chair of the Texas Chapter of MLA came to the meeting with an update concerning our upcoming meeting in Houston. The meeting is scheduled for October 15-17, 1998, and the meeting will be split between the Rice University campus and the University of Houston campus. He and Steve Luttmann will host the event. They have reserved a block of rooms for us in a local hotel and will provide us with restaurant information. Rice University will be providing us with shuttles, thanks to the Rice University Library director, as well as an opening reception on Thursday evening, and Christine Clark of Front Music is sponsoring the banquet.

Ed Komara, who is SEMLA’s Program Chair for 1998, will work with Paul on the program. Ed was unable to attend MLA this year, but sent word that anyone interested in presenting a paper in Houston should contact him.

The membership took a straw vote on the meeting location for fall, 1999, and unanimously accepted the invitation from Paul Wells and Mayo Taylor, Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The SEMLA Board confirmed this with a unanimous favorable vote, and the official acceptance has been sent. We look forward to traveling to Tennessee in 1999!

On Friday during the MLA conference, MLA’s

Ad Hoc Chapter Committee held an Open Forum to discuss chapter activity and involvement. At our chapter meeting we discussed the importance of having regional meetings at the national conference. The comments from the SEMLA membership supported our practice of meeting at the national conference, and those of us who attended the Open Forum urged the Committee to encourage scheduling an official time for all chapters to meet during the national meeting.

Several announcements were made at our meeting. Sarah Dorsey, Nominations Committee Chair, announced that the nominating committee includes Margaret Kaus and Tim Cherubini. She asked that nominations for candidates for the offices of Chair-Elect and Member-at-Large be sent to her. Then Sarah, wearing her hat as Chair of the Search Committee for the new Web Editor for the SEMLA WWW page, announced that she would accept nominations from interested people, and would be happy to answer any questions. By the time you receive this issue of *Breve Notes*, the decision will have been announced on SEMLA-L. Please welcome our new Web Editor, Karen Jung!

In response to MLA’s Plan 2001 and its directive concerning the importance of chapter outreach and continuing education activities at the chapter level, the MLA Education Committee has appointed its member Allie Goudy as Liaison to the Chapters. Her job will be to facilitate educational initiatives at the regional level. If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions concerning continuing education within the SEMLA region, please send them to her, or to me.

Don’t you just love the new look of *Breve Notes*? Thanks so very much to Jennifer Ottervik for the many hours she spends putting these beautiful issues together. It was wonderful to see SEMLA members in Boston, and we missed those of you who couldn’t make it. Please keep in touch, contact me if there are questions or suggestions concerning SEMLA. And now it is time to get out our fakebooks and learn the words to “Hello Texas” from the movie *Urban Cowboy*!

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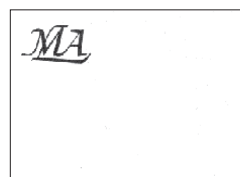
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MLA Plan 2001

Chapter Membership: What it Means to Us

The Activities of the Ad Hoc MLA Chapter Committee

The Music Library Association and its Chapters have grown in many ways over the years. From the first chapter's formation in 1938 to 1998, the distinctive characteristics of this growth and vitality can be attributed to a genuine concern for our memberships' needs; a commitment to quality; creative, excellent programs; continuous sharing, and a focus on opportunities for professional growth in a variety of settings.

Recent Committee activities--

The Ad Hoc Chapter Committee met twice in Boston and also sponsored an Open Forum on Friday morning. Approximately fifty participants gathered to discuss items related to the Committee's charge (to "Review the structure, purpose, and vitality of the Association's chapters"), share information about chapters' activities, and make comments and recommendations for the future of MLA's Chapters. One of the documents used as a point of departure for the discussion was the *Survey of Chapter Chairs* conducted this past fall (see *MLA Newsletter*, no. 111, November-December, 1997). The compiled responses to the *Survey* will be distributed to the MLA Board in an upcoming Committee report. A brief summary of the *Survey* and an account of the *Open Forum* is scheduled to appear in the March-April issue (no. 112) of the *MLA Newsletter*. An outline of the session follows:

Boston Open Forum Discussion

Moderator Ruthann McTyre began the lively session by providing a historical overview of the MLA chapters, a summary of the Committee's activities, and a statement reminding the participants that all the MLA Plan 2001 initiatives relate to chapters. Ruthann expertly guided the discussion by dividing it into topical areas for consideration:

I. Chapter Programs and Outreach Activities, II. Current Chapter Projects, III. Strengths and Benefits of Chapter Membership, IV. Chapter



Weaknesses and Concerns, and V. Wrap-Up Questions.

Many comments shared at the Forum mirrored those collected through the Survey, while others provided thoughtful insights and provocative challenges to the participants. Two final comments brought the discussion full circle by prompting participants to consider carefully again the purpose of chapters: (1) How does all this discussion factor into the people we serve? We should not lose sight of the bottom line by getting tangled in organizational issues. What's good for MLA should be what helps us help those we serve. Just as the MLA membership and chapters are diverse, dynamic, and organic structures, so are ways to accomplish this goal. (2) What can chapters do for MLA? The Northern California Chapter's Kevin Freeman Travel Grant is an example of a chapter initiative that grew into a national MLA program. Initiatives at the chapter level can vitalize MLA just as the Association can assist in vitalizing chapters.

If you didn't attend the Open Forum, you can still participate in this discussion!

The Committee encourages and appreciates your suggestions as we work to compile our final report due to the MLA Board at the Los Angeles meeting in 1999. Send comments anytime throughout the year to Committee members Roberta Chodacki (Chair, email: chodackir@mail.ecu.edu), Ruthann McTyre (ruthann_mctyre@baylor.edu), Peter Munstedt (pmunsted@mit.edu), Judy Tsou (jtsou@library.berkeley.edu), Leslie Troutman (troutman@uiuc.edu); and ex officio members Lynne Jaffe (ljaffe@coj.net), Paula Matthews (pmatthew@abacus.bates.edu), Bonna Boettcher (bboettc@bgnet.bgsu.edu), and Diane Parr Walker (dpw@virginia.edu).

Roberta Chodacki
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Member News

Congratulations to **Leslie Kamtman** (North Carolina School of the Arts) and her husband, Michael, on the birth of their baby boy! Weighing in at 6 lbs., 11 oz., Jeremiah Bernard Kamtman arrived on Thursday, April 9. Mom, Dad, and son are reportedly doing well.

New Members

Sarah Adams is the music cataloger for the University of South Carolina as well as an aspiring mezzo-soprano. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Lynchburg College, VA. After receiving a Master of Music in vocal performance from USC this May, she plans to pursue a Master of Library Science degree and continue singing and teaching voice lessons.

Looking Forward to the 1998 SEMLA/TEMLA meeting

I would like to invite everyone to the joint SEMLA/TMLA annual meeting, to be held October 15-17. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Harvey Suites Hotel near Rice University (713-528-7744). All rooms, single/double/triple/quad, will have a flat rate of \$79/night. Meeting transportation using Rice shuttle buses and a Thursday night reception will be provided courtesy of the Fondren Library and Dr. Chuck Henry, University Librarian. Houston is an exciting city with a little something for everyone - excellent arts facilities, museums, fine dining, night life, shopping, and the buzz and bustle of a large cosmopolitan city. A meeting web site is forthcoming, but in the meantime please contact Paul Orkiszewski, Chapter Chair, for information or questions.

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**Change of Address?
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Boston Common, February, 1998
Photo courtesy of Rebecca Littman

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