SEMLA
Southeast Chapter of the Music Library Association
Membership Application Form

Name: 
E-Mail Address: 
Institutional Affiliation: 

Preferred Mailing Address:
Street Address: 
City, State, Zip: 

Work Phone: 
Fax: 

Are you currently a member of the national Music Library Association? Yes No 

Membership categories:
Personal $5.00 
Student $2.00 
Institutional $5.00 

Please make your check payable to SEMLA and mail it along with this form to: 

Lynne Jaffe 
801 Bahia Drive 
St. Augustine, FL 32086 

1998 SEMLA/TMLA Chapter Meeting
a Big Success

The Southeast (SEMLA) and Texas (TMLA) chapters held a joint meeting in Houston, Texas, on 15-17 October 1998. Gathering at Rice University and the University of Houston, SEMLA librarians were introduced to music activities that Texas members currently enjoy.

Rice University was the setting for the opening reception and the first day of papers. The morning and early afternoon sessions were held in the Kyle Morrow Room in the Fondren Library. After a welcome from Assistant University Librarian for Public Services Sara Lowman, the proceedings began with a talk by record auctioneer Kurt Nauck on the history and varieties of early sound recordings. Using rare specimens of early cylinder and disc records, Nauck gave an entertaining outline of the recording industry and its technology from the construction of the first phonograph in 1877 through the commercial introduction of the microgroove LP in 1948. In careful and detailed fashion he showed the successes and failures the industry experienced while developing what had been a children’s toy to a viable means of recording and playing back sound and music. The past experiments in making records with different materials (tinfoil, wax, ambersola, shellac) at varying rates of playback speed render ironic the present controversy of CD versus DVD media. Chief among the recording firms in Nauck’s narrative were Edison, Victor, and Columbia, and in the later portions he explained how Victor and Columbia came to be industry giants. By the way, Nauck’s illustrated record auction catalogs are worth writing for and bidding from: Vintage Nauck’s Records, 6323 Inway Drive, Spring TX, 77389-3643. 

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SEMBA

Chapter Officers
Chair, Lois Kuyper-Rushing
Louisiana State University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Neil Hughes
University of Georgia
Secretary/Treasurer, Lynne Jaffe
Jacksonville Public Library
Member-at-Large, 1997/1999
Edward Komara
University of Mississippi
Member-at-Large, 1998/2000
Anna Neal
University of Memphis
Archivist, Robert Curtis
Tulane University
Newsletter Editor, Jennifer Ottervik
University of South Carolina

Committees
Nominating Committee, Edward Komara, Chair; Sarah Dorsey, Mayo Taylor
Website Committee, Karen Jung, Chair; Lois Kuyper-Rushing (ex officio), Neil Hughes, Sarah Dorsey

A Note from the Editor...

It’s hard to believe it has already been one year since I began editing Breve Notes. Each issue has presented new and unique challenges for me. Most of the changes regarding Breve Notes have been in the actual physical format. Now it is time to begin working on content. I will continue the series of articles about different libraries and collections in the Southeast. I would like to see a series of technical reports and/or surveys relating to member libraries in order to inform our peers about individual situations in hopes that this information might lead to change or reform in other institutions. Although I have several ideas for a series of articles which I believe will be helpful and informative to SEMBA members, I want and need your help identifying other items which may be of interest to us all. If you have ideas, suggestions, or comments, please pass them on to me. It is only through your input that Breve Notes attains its maximum potential.

One matter of business I’d like to raise is the consideration of posting an electronic version of Breve Notes on the SEMBA web page. At the Houston business meeting, the group decided that a text version of Breve Notes should be posted on SEMBA-L as well as the SEMBA web page. If you have objections or concerns about this, please contact me, so we may reconsider, if necessary. Regardless, the directory will not be posted to either SEMBA-L or the website.

Let me close by relaying to you what a privilege it is for me to serve SEMBA as the editor of its newsletter. In this small way, I can contribute to our chapter’s continued greatness.

Hoping to see you all in LA,

Jennifer Ottervik
Music Library
School of Music

SEMBA members Laura Dankner, Lois Kuyper-Rushing, and Edward Komara say “good-bye” after a great meeting.
Greetings and Happy New Year to all in the Southeast Music Library Association. 1998 was a great year, with our interim meeting in Boston and a fabulous interim meeting in Houston, Texas, where we met jointly with the Texas Music Library Association. Be sure to read all about that meeting on the cover of this issue of *Breve Notes*. This year promises to be equally wonderful as we visit Los Angeles in March for the national meeting and as we travel to Murfreesboro, TN for our chapter meeting. 

Among other activities at the Houston meeting, we introduced new officers and said farewell to those going off the Board. Outgoing officers include Past Chair Roberta Chodacki and Member-at-Large Sarah Dorsey. My heartfelt thanks go to Roberta and Sarah for their years of hard work and service to the chapter. We welcome Neil Hughes as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and Anna Neal as Member-at-Large. One of Sarah’s last duties as member-at-large was to serve as chair of the nominating committee. Thanks to her and her committee, Tim Cherubini, and Margaret Kaus, for the marvelous slate of officers they proposed.

There are numerous people to thank for the success of the meeting. First, we thank the Texas chapter for hosting us, and especially their chair, Paul Orkiszewski. Paul was the host for the meeting, and he and Ed Komara were co-program chairs. We thank them both. The program was held at Rice University (Thursday evening through Friday) and at the University of Houston (Saturday morning). We thank the officials at each of these schools, including Dr. Charles Henry, University Librarian at Rice, and Dr. Tomatz, Dean of the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston. We also wish to offer words of appreciation to Steve Luttmann and Laura Snyder, both of the University of Houston Music Library, for planning our Saturday morning activities. Our sincere thanks go to Christine Clark and Theodore Front Music Literature, Inc. for the wonderful Friday night banquet, and again, to Paul Orkiszewski for hosting the banquet at his home on Friday evening.

While I’m expressing gratitude, I’d like to include two more people. First, to Jennifer Ottervik who is doing a wonderful job with *Breve Notes*. She has given it such a professional look, and I am thrilled! Similar good things have been done for our chapter website, and we have Karen Jung to thank. She has taken an already great site and reorganized it to make it easy to use and even more pleasing to the eye. Remember, that site can be found at: [http://www.selu.edu/orgs/SEMLA](http://www.selu.edu/orgs/SEMLA).

Our interim meeting, which will be held during the MLA meeting in Los Angeles, is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Thursday evening. Isn’t it wonderful having an officially sanctioned and scheduled meeting time for the chapters to meet? Thanks for your support on this issue last year when we had the Ad Hoc Chapter Committee Open Forum! A VERY preliminary Agenda follows:

1. Approve the minutes from the Houston business meeting
2. Report on the 1999 chapter meeting in Murfreesboro, TN
4. Chapter grant possibilities
5. Other old or new business

Please send any additional agenda items to me. My address, phone and e-mail are listed below.

Sincerely,

Lois Kuyper-Rushing
Head, Music Resources
LSU Libraries
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
ph: (225) 388-4622
fax: (225) 388-6825
notlkr@lsu.edu
1998 SEMLA/TMLA Chapter Meeting Summary

The other presentation that morning was given by Steve Smolian of Smolian Sound, Frederick, Maryland, on the disaster preparedness and conservation of sound recordings and tapes. The water disaster at the Boston Public Library and the resulting destruction of part of its record collection had lately occurred and thus was in the minds of meeting attendees. It came as no surprise then, that Smolian advised recordings to be kept above ground level, and he warned that water—even air moisture—is the main hazard. For shelving procedures he preferred metal shelves over wood, vinyl records and shellac discs kept in separate groups, and arranging by label and serial number. If and when disaster should strike, have battery-operated pumps and paper inventories ready for use: the pumps will enable drying, and the inventories will indicate the highest-priority items for saving and care.

The first talk of the afternoon was given by critic Ira Black about the Houston Symphony and the Houston Grand Opera. The Houston Symphony was founded in 1913, and over its 85 years has been led by such illustrious conductors as Leopold Stokowski, John Barbirolli, and Christopher Eschenbach.

The Houston Grand Opera was established in 1955, and throughout its history it has staged important productions of operas by Ralph Vaughan Williams, George Gershwin, Scott Joplin, and Carlisle Floyd. The effusive nature of Black’s remarks were balanced by David Hunter’s sober, historical account of Lady Margaret Brown, “a female so-called opponent of Handel.” Lady Brown was the subject of three published verse attacks by supporters of Handel between 1739 and 1746. Hunter uses this controversy to pose questions of gender double-standards in British criticism, namely, why men were permitted to oppose artistic trends but women were not. Afterwards, Steve Smolian returned briefly to comment on the dropping of Handel. “Lady Brown was the subject of three published verse attacks by supporters of Handel between 1739 and 1746. Hunter uses this controversy to pose questions of gender double-standards in British criticism, namely, why men were permitted to oppose artistic trends but women were not. Afterwards, Steve Smolian returned briefly to comment on the dropping of Handel. “

The third session was given in the newly constructed Moores School of Music building at the University of Houston. Rose Lange presented Asian Indian music as practiced in Houston by recent émigré’s. She described two different types, devotional music, and dramatic music in which dance conveys the narrative. One interesting fact is that in Houston taped music is often used, since most of if not all musicians are of such low social and economic caste in India that they cannot afford to come to the U.S. Laura Snyder followed with a paper on collecting shaped-note music, drawing from her previous experience at the Sibley Library of the Eastman School of Music. “Shaped-note” takes its name from the distinctive note-heads to signify certain scale-steps, and the repertory notated in this manner was sacred music in 18th- and 19th-century America. Snyder also described collecting and processing aspects, including printing, purchasing, cataloging, preservation, and performance.

The SEMLA business meeting concluded the event for SEMLA members. Officers elected were Anna Neal, Member-at-Large; and Neil Hughes, Vice-Chair-Chair-Elect. Planning and coordination of the local arrangements and program for this successful joint chapter meeting was well executed by Paul Orkiszewski of Rice University; to him all credit for the memorable three-day event is due. Additional help in the University of Houston portion of the program was given by Stephen Luttmann and Laura Snyder. SEMLA members staying in Houston through the rest of the weekend took the time to see and enjoy the rest the city, not least its art museums including the Museum of Fine Art, and the Menil Collection with its Rothko Chapel.

Edward Komara
1998 Program Co-Chair
University of Mississippi

Member News

Yale Fineman joined the staff of the Music Library at the end of November as User Services Librarian. Formerly a librarian in the Music and Art Division of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Yale will devote a good portion of his time to the transformation of our web pages, so keep tuned to our website: www.lib.duke.edu/music/index.htm. Also, Yale is a guitarist with a deep interest in Hispanic life and culture. He looks forward to meeting members of SEMLA in the near future.

Lois Schultz has helped to assemble, index, and unveil one of the most recent contributions to Duke’s Digital Scriptorium, a project sponsored by The Library of Congress and the Ameritech Corporation making available digital images of 3,042 pieces (in their entirety!) of historic American sheet music dating from 1850 to 1920. Lois’s work on this project represents the culmination of her long-standing interest in and involvement with sheet music. Among these pieces is Duke’s entire collection of Confederate sheet music, one of the most extensive such collections in the country. Look for the material at: scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/sheetmusic/

The University of South Carolina Music Library has recently acquired three important special collections. The Edwin E. Gordon Archive has been established and named for the famous music educator who is currently Distinguished Professor-in-Residence at USC. Dr. Gordon and his wife, Carol, have donated more than 2,000 items representing more than forty years of research and work. The collection includes dissertations supervised by Gordon, all of his publications, letters, video and audio tapes of various seminars and workshops, and miscellaneous memorabilia. The contents of the archive have been indexed and are available via the archive website: http://www.sc.edu/library/music/gordon.html. The other two collections acquired contain original manuscripts by Henry Cowell and Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, respectively. The latter collection also contains many letters, Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s diary, and his unpublished autobiography. The contents of both collections will soon be available on the USC Music Library web page (http://www.sc.edu/library/music/music.html) as a project to mount our special collections on the web via a searchable database nears completion.

Jeff Whitson (University of South Carolina) and his wife, Stephanie, are the proud parents of not one, but two baby boys! Alexander Michael and Zachary Jonathan were born one minute apart on September 21.

New Members

Rosario Barrios, Loyola University

Change of Address or Change in Membership?

Send corrections and updates to:
Lyne Jaffe, 801 Bahia Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32086
(w) 904-630-2403 (fax) 904-630-2431
ljaffe@coj.net
and it is extremely difficult to plan a conference long distance. Neil Hughes suggested the Raleigh-Durham area, but pointed out that transportation is difficult to that area. Overall agreement from those attending is that there is not enough interest (from local librarians) or feasibility for a conference in the Carolinas; and there are not enough MLA members in any one area of Florida to host a conference. MLA prefers to work with a local group of MLA members and that does not seem possible in Florida. Consensus was that we would not put forward any suggestion from SEMLA to the MLA Board.

Neil Hughes brought up the question of how we are recruiting people in the music library profession, especially catalogers. He is concerned both with recruiting people, and about the problem that we are unsure about the availability of jobs in the future. He wanted to know if there is anything we can do as a chapter about these problems. There was some discussion on the topic, including the need to encourage administrators that people with music specialties are necessary where there is a substantial music program and collection. Laura Dankner suggested the need to have more chapter-level programs focusing on the actual concerns of music librarians. There are more and more generalists who do a little bit of music. We need to make sure that those people have the support they need, either at the chapter level or the national level, from MLA. There was no firm conclusion to the discussion.

8. 1999 Meeting
Mayo Taylor invites everyone to Murfreesboro next year for the SEMLA meeting. The dates are Oct. 20-22. Middle Tennessee State is 35 miles south of Nashville. The weather should be excellent there at that time of year. She is also working to try to get other music library people from the Nashville area to attend.

9. Future Meetings
Suggestions were solicited for the 2000 meeting site. The New Orleans crowd put forth an offer. Loyola University’s new library will be opening this spring, and they would love to have people visit. Other suggestions were Greensboro, where they are also moving into a new facility, and there was a strong ground swell of support for a meeting in Key West.

10. Election Results
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Neil Hughes
Member-at-Large: Anna Neal

Thanks were expressed to all who ran for office.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Phillips Gibson
with Lynne C. Jaffe, Secretary/Treasurer

It’s Time for Another “Lost Sheep” Column

Now that SEMLA maintains separate dues and newsletter files for mailing addresses, we have come across a number of members who have allowed their memberships to lapse. The following people have not renewed their chapter memberships as of Jan. 8, 1999. If you know where any of them are or if your name appears on the list, we would like to hear from you. We would like to know if either they have moved out of the area (has their position been filled or cut) or, if they are still working with music materials in the chapter, why have they allowed their memberships to lapse? We appreciate all comments. Thank you.

Please send responses to:
Lynne Jaffe, SEMLA Secretary/Treasurer, 801 Bahia Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32086
(904) 630-2403 fax: (904) 630-2431 email: ljaffe@coj.net

Becker, Alan
Brock, Jennifer
Clark, Dan
Doherty, Brian
Eanes, James Edward
Eckert, David
Foote, Susan
Frost, Guy
Graham, Amy
Gray, Nancy
Guthrie, Tara
Haefliger, Kathleen
Hedger, Joyce
Helm, Troy
Jacobson, Lynnea
Klein, Jeffrey
Laude, Maria
Melville, Martha
Pope, Earla Jean
Ramage, Pat
Rudd, Andrea
Scales, Diann
Schultz, Lois
Smither, Howard
Walden, Glenn
Williams, James, III
The Chair first thanked the Website committee, the search committee and Karen Jung, the new webmaster. The search committee and Karen now constitute the Website Development Committee.

3. First-time Chapter Meeting Attendees
The Chair recognized and welcomed all of the first-time attendees: Paul Gahn from the University of Alabama, Eric Peterson from Hardin Conservatory (and newly hired at the University of Miami), and David Hursh from East Carolina University.

4. Treasurer’s Report
Laurie Gibson, substituting for Secretary/Treasurer Lynne Jaffe, read the treasurer’s report:

**Income**
- $2,385.41 Balance from NC account
- $37.00 Dues ‘98-’99
- $396.00 Dues ‘98-’99
- $215.00 Contributions
- $150.00 Donation for Oct. 1998 meeting reception from Marty Rubin
- $212.00 Meeting registrations
- $3,495.41 Total Income

**Expenses**
- $12.75 Check printing
- $20.48 Office supplies
- $42.93 Total Expenses

Balance as of October 11, 1998: $3,452.48

It was noted that our expenses for this meeting were nil because it was a joint meeting. This meeting was extremely successful.

Other joint meetings have been less successful.

5. Chair’s Report
The Chair first thanked the Website committee, the search committee and Karen Jung, the new webmaster. The search committee and Karen now constitute the Website Development Committee.