The annual conference of the Southeast Chapter of the Music Library Association met October 21-23 at Middle Tennessee State University. Conference attendees enjoyed the hospitality of Mayo Taylor, Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, and the rest of the staff of the Center for Popular Music. We also appreciated the excellent job of hosting by Don Craig, Dean, and the rest of the University Library staff during the opening reception and display in Special Collections, as well as of Peter Carlin, the Music Librarian, who hosted a library open house.

We heard many very interesting papers Friday, mainly on American Music topics. Harry Eskew of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary told of his search for information on Andrew W. Johnson, who wrote three shape-note tunebooks and lived in middle Tennessee. His paper was illustrated with a singing demonstration by the Harpeth Valley Singers. Lewis Oswalt from Mississippi College discussed R. M. McIntosh and his influence on 19th-century hymn collections. Keeping with this theme, Charles Wolfe of MTSU, took us on a trip through the “swamp” of Southern shape-note songbooks in the 20th century. It was fascinating to hear about lines of influence from the 19th-century figures and the spawning of traveling gospel singers from publishing houses.

continued on page 3
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Membership dues should be sent to:
Lyne Jaffe
801 Bahia Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32086
(w) 904-630-2403 (fax) 904-630-2431
ljaffe@coj.net

Send submissions for Breve Notes to:
Jennifer Ottervik
Music Library, School of Music,
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208
(w) 803-777-5425 (fax) 803-777-6508
ottervikj@gwm.sc.edu

SEMLA

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University of Georgia

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Check out SEMLA's website
http://www.selu.edu/orgs/SEMLA

New merchandise available at the MLA shop table in Louisville

Bumper Stickers (featuring the winning slogan from the bumper sticker contest)

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$3.25

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(MLA logo)
2 for $5

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$8.00

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(w) 904-630-2403 (fax) 904-630-2431
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Our American Music papers continued with a paper by David Jellema of the MTSU Center for Popular Music, who pointed out difficulties in early blues notation and performance, particularly in the music of W. C. Handy. Bruce Nemerov, also of the MTSU Center for Popular Music, told of his search for Sister O. M. Terrell and how he was able to use stylistic traits in her music as clues to suggest religious sects that she may have belonged to and eventually locate her. Finally Robert Gordon, author of books on the blues, spoke about the unique social and economic tensions in Memphis and how those affected the music that came from Memphis in the middle part of the century. The day’s last paper was presented by Joan Staples and Sarah Dorsey about the cello collections in their University of North Carolina--Greensboro Library. Their paper highlighted étude books of four composers, and they played cello duets from those books.

Friday’s banquet included a lecture recital that was a special treat. Sandy Conaster shared slides and results of her research on the Tennessee Music Box, a dulcimer-like instrument unique to Middle Tennessee. David Schnaufer and Stephen Seifert then played dulcimer and music box music.

Saturday provided an opportunity for three of our membership to discuss projects in their libraries. Tony Miller at Atlanta-Fulton Public Library showed how to convert a bibliography produced in Word Perfect into a web page by using the HTML editor “Arachnophilia.” Laurel Whisler of Furman University discussed her LP weeding project and fielded a discussion of various issues related to keeping LPs and accepting them as gifts. Jennifer Ottervik of the University of South Carolina presented examples of their special collections finding aids and databases on the web. Following these presentations was the SEMLA business meeting, during which outgoing SEMLA chair, Lois Kuyper-Rushing, handed the gavel over to Neil Hughes of the University of Georgia.

A few of the attenders opted to tour Fisk University, one of the nation’s oldest and most prestigious historically black universities. We were treated to a quite extensive display in their library’s Special Collections unit, where we learned more about Fisk and African-American culture. Their Mass Gospel Singers were rehearsing in the Chapel while we viewed the architecture. It was a delight to hear part of their rehearsal, and many of us were quite impressed. We also visited Jubilee Hall, which was built with money raised during tours of the Jubilee Singers. This first permanent structure on the campus is now used as a dormitory, and we visited a meeting room that has a portrait of the original Jubilee Singers. Finally, we toured the Van Vechten Gallery, which houses the Alfred Stieglitz collection of paintings by Georgia O’Keefe and others and the Aaron Douglas Gallery of African and African-American art.

Laurel Whisler
Music Librarian
Maxwell Music Library
Furman University
From the Chair . . .
Neil Hughes
University of Georgia

I am rarely at a loss for words. I have even been accused of making “prolix” the central term in my family coat-of-arms—but the back does one write a “From the Chair” column? My predecessors all did such an outstanding job of it . . . surely they attended a continuing education class somewhere that covered the topic? But no: they did just what I’m doing here—looking back over several years worth of “From the Chair” columns in Breve Notes and flattering sincerely through imitation. Here goes muthin’ . . .

First of all, many thank-yous. Thanks above all to you, the SEMLA membership, who voted me into this office and who make this organization a vital, fun group of colleagues whom I am not only honored but delighted to serve. It was wonderful to see so many of you in Murfreesboro in October. And of course, a thousand thanks (followed by an-)

Thanks and a heartfelt slap on the back to outgoing Board member and Member-at-Large Ed Komara for his terrific work as our co-program chair for the joint meeting with the Texas Chapter in Houston in 1998 and his tireless bullying of pulpits work as our nominating committee chair for the successful election in 1999 (more on the results of same momentarily). That hard copy of our journal is now a real pleasure to have and to hold. I hope I will not be the one responsible for any delays to any issue, and I charge you, Jennifer, with “riding herd” on your current Chair to make sure that we meet all your deadlines with reasonable dispatch! All other contributors, take heed.

More & more & more thanks, this time to our “Best of Chapters” Nominating Committee, chaired by Lois Kuyper-Rushing. The other members were Pauline Bayne and Ed Komara. They forwarded names to MLA’s Best of Chapters (BoC) committee for consideration and we are, at this writing, awaiting word of whether or not a SEMLA session will be invited to reappear before a national audience in Louisville. Not an easy task, and we are grateful to you for doing it. I plan to announce the names of those stellar SEMLAites selected for forwarding to the MLA BoC Committee at our interim meeting at the annual MLA conference in Louisville.

I have a few more thank-yous, but first of all a hearty welcome to newly-elected Member-at-Large Margaret Kaus (University of North Florida). I know Margaret’s fine work as a cataloger, as a contributing member of the Music OCLC Users Group (including the NACO-Music project), and as a member of MLA’s Bibliographic Control Committee, Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging, and I saw her in action when she and Lynne Jaffe served as local arrangements divas for our SEMLA meeting in Jacksonville a few years back. So I know Margaret will be an asset to the Board and to SEMLA, and I look forward eagerly to the program that she and an-as-yet-to-be-named (at this writing, in early December ’99) program committee will soon be pulling together for our meeting in New Orleans next fall. While mentioning Margaret, I must also thank her worthy . . .

10. Acknowledgements
The Chair thanked Mayo Taylor and the members of her Local Arrangements Committee: Connie Craig, Shirley Wall, and Paul Wells, for the wonderful job they did with the arrangements. Thanks went to the Program Committee: Anna Neil, chair, and Mayo Taylor, for putting together an interesting and varied program. “Thank you” also went to Marty Rubin for the meeting reception, W. T. Cox Subscriptions for the banquet entertainment, and to Middle Tennessee State University and the Center for Popular Music for kindly hosting this meeting.

The Chair thanked the other chapter officers for their hard work: Neil Hughes, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Lynne Jaffe, Secretary/Treasurer, Ed Komara and Anna Neil, Members-at-Large.

11. Elections
Announcing Nominating Committee chair, Ed Komara thanked the members of his committee, Sarah Dorsey and Mayo Taylor, for their efforts in putting together this year’s slate of candidates for the offices of Secretary/Treasurer and Member-at-Large. Thanks were expressed to all who ran. The slate was announced:

Running for Secretary/Treasurer: Lynne Jaffe
Running for Member-at-Large: Paul Gahn and Margaret Kaus

Results of the election:
Secretary/Treasurer: Lynne Jaffe
Member-at-Large: Margaret Kaus

12. Other
Neil Hughes thanked Lois Kuyper-Rushing for her service as Chair of SEMLA.

Members of the MLA Marketing Subcommittee presented a commercial on available MLA merchandise.

Robert Curtis announced that Lois Kuyper-Rushing is on the upcoming MLA ballot.

Lois Kuyper-Rushing thanked the members of SEMLA for their camaraderie and appreciation. She then passed the toy hammer to Neil Hughes.

Meeting Adjourned
Respectfully submitted,
Lynne C. Jaffe, Secretary/Treasurer
MINUTES
Southeast Chapter, Music Library Association
Murfreesboro, Tennessee
October 23, 1999
Lois Kuyper-Rushing, Chair, presiding
(32 people present)

1. Minutes
The minutes of the March 18, 1999 meeting in Los Angeles, California were approved as written.

2. Treasurer’s report

Balance as of 1/31/99
$3,583.48

Due ‘99-00
$382.00

Contributions
$110.00

Meeting registrations (October 1999)
$1,495.00

Donation from Marty Rubin for meeting
$125.00

Total Income
$5,695.48

Expenses

Breve Notes supplies
$159.87

Deposit on Dominican Conf. Ct.
$100.00

Meeting Expenses
$250.87

Balance as of October 18, 1999
$5,435.61

3. 2000 Meeting

Jeanette Cook Thompson, on behalf of her Local Arrangements Co-chair, Laurie Phillips Gibson, invited everyone to the meeting in New Orleans, Oct. 26-28 at Loyola University.

4. Future SEMLA meeting sites

2001 - Greensboro, NC at the University of North Carolina–Greensboro
2002 - invitations were received from both the University of Georgia and Furman University

5. Web Committee

6. Best of Chapters

1 or 2 nominees from each chapter will present at this MLA session. A committee from SEMLA will be announced on SEMLA-L to accept nominations from previous chapter presentations.

7. Chapter Brochure

The chapter brochure for outreach to library schools and libraries in the area was turned down for a chapter grant. The Chapter may proceed with a brochure from our own funds.

opponent in the election, Paul Gahn, for running for office. While you didn’t make it out of the frying pan (the ballot) into the fire (the Board) this time, Paul, we all know you were nominated for good cause, and SEMLA may well come a’ courtin’ again one day—don’t get too relaxed.

Beaucoup thanks the second time today to Mayo Taylor, who wore another hat for the annual meeting as chair of our Local Arrangements group, and all the other folks (Center for Popular Music Director Paul Wells and stalwart assistants Connie Craig and Shirley Wall, among others) at Middle Tennessee State University for the fabulous annual meeting in October. Some of us who have done local arrangements in the past know what you went through, even for a relatively small group like SEMLA, and we know it ain’t easy. You made it look easy. I think they call that art. We will not soon forget it.

Thanks too to Marty Rubin of AudioVisual Baff, Inc., for underwriting the opening reception in the stunning MTSU Library atrium—Marty recently announced his retirement, and we will miss his presence at our meetings even more than we will miss his generous assistance with keeping our motivation level and our spirits high! (Marty assured me we will see him in Louisville, “just out of habit,” so we haven’t seen the last of him.)

SEMLA has several things on its platter in the near future: planning for the Y2K New Orleans SEMLA program needs to get underway (and indeed should already be underway as you read this); we need to come up with a viable proposal for a chapter grant; we need to investigate other ways of making our proposed publicity and recruitment brochure (which alas, didn’t quite fly as a grant proposal) a reality; and we need to talk about the possibility of hosting a national MLA meeting in the chapter region again sometime after 2002 (Las Vegas). (Former Chair Roberta Chodacki last wrote about the latter topic in her “From the Chair” column in April 1997, right after the national New Orleans meeting. The MLA Board allows no grass to grow under its feet, which is partly why it’s a successful organization.) That’s just the short-to-do list. I’m working on the complete list in my spare time—you will hear more of this in Louisville. Be thinking about that national MLA meeting a lot, though. We have a bit of a problem in the South-east in that while we have many active music librarians and many fine collections, we are somewhat far-flung and only a handful of us work in or near large enough cities to offer the required (or perhaps I should say, expected) amenities. We had Atlanta in ’95 and New Orleans in ’97. But required or even expected amenities are found increasingly often in smaller college towns and in areas like North Carolina’s Research Triangle (hint, hint). Anyway, before the NC librarians send a bit squall my way, let’s talk.

Before I close, I have two pleas for things that SEMLA desperately needs right now: A semi-official chapter photographer. I offered to do the job on an interim basis, but I really didn’t do very well in Murfreesboro—certainly not well enough to do credit to that fine meeting. (None of my shots of the opening reception turned out . . . not one!) All you need is a little point-and-shoot camera with a flash and the dedication to keep it with you at all times during SEMLA gatherings, in particular our annual meetings, interim meetings at MLA, and occasions like MLA banquets when groups of SEMLA folks tend to sit together and get silly. If you own a digital camera, your vita will zoom right to the top of what I just know will be a huge pile of vitae from a long list of applicants! Your handicraft will be used in the hard copy and online versions of Breve Notes and some may be permanently archived if it’s used on the Website. There is no remuneration involved, though the Board will reimburse you for film used exclusively for SEMLA business if you keep and submit the receipts. But you will have our eternal gratitude! Please send me your name if you’re interested; my e-mail address is nhughes@libris.libs.uga.edu

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Southeast United States . . . Please take a minute to check out the entry for your institution at the SEMLA Website version of continued on next page

No. 58 January 2000
No. 58 January 2000
After over twenty years of planning and bursting at the seams (we were in seven buildings all over campus), the UNC-Greensboro School of Music finally moved into the new state-of-the-art building last year (and millennium!). Those of you who saw the basement location of our old Music Library (I called it “The Happy Dungeon”) will be glad to know that there is no part of our new library that “dungeon” can really describe. There are windows everywhere! Big ones—as you can see in the photograph at www.uncg.edu/mus by clicking on “About the New School of Music Building.” ALL of the windows on the first floor are library windows!

The library includes around 10,000 square feet of public space. Our collection is still going through an inventory and once that is done, we’ll get our entry updated in the SEMLA Directory. (promise, Neil and Karen?)

I will never say that I enjoyed the process of moving our collection from five different locations (in three different buildings) to a unified spot here, but I certainly learned a lot. We are hoping to host a SEMLA meeting here to show off our lovely new facility in 2001. I’m sure we’ll talk about that in Louisville.

The performance areas are beautiful spaces—the organ recital hall seats 130 and has an impressive thirty-five-floor-and-one-half organ (see link from above page about the building). The recital hall seats 350 and has really cool spaceship lights for acoustics and lighting and it sounds great! The connecting atrium area gives a refreshing feeling of being outside while you are inside.

But back to the library, which has twenty-four computer stations, over forty study spaces and sixteen listening stations with various configurations. Our new group listening rooms have yet to open for various reasons, so we still have more to look forward to.

We were lucky enough to get eleven serigraph prints by Miles Davis, trumpet player and artist. UNCG now has the Miles Davis Program in Jazz, so the family gave them to us. It is amazing how much they enhance the space and how well they fit—like they were meant to be here. There are always challenges when you move into a new building, but they are already fading into the past, and our lovely new facility in 2001. I’m sure we’ll talk about that in Louisville.

Neil Hughes
SEMLA Chair

Chairs' Report...

The Directory at: http://www.selu.edu/orgs/SEMLA/sedirectory.html and see that everything there pertaining to your place of employment is accurate and complete. Corrected information that you provide will mean that the Web version of the Directory will stay current and may be used for any future print editions that we produce. Send your corrections to Web Editor Karen Jung at: kjung@selu.edu. So as you can see, we have much work to do. I’ll do a lot of it (because you elected me to do so), but even the entire Board can’t do it all by itself. We need your input, and we will occasionally ask you for your assistance. Remember—the applause of your colleagues is freely given, often at the slightest provocation, and it feels really good to be the recipient of it! Helping out in any way you can almost inevitably elicits such applause. Write an article for Breve Notes! Run for office when asked! Present a paper at the annual meeting! Give SEMLA cash, real estate, or objetos d’art! (You think I’m joking, don’t you? You would be in error, albeit for the first time in your life.)

If I missed anyone in my thank-yous above, I apologize profusely, and please don’t hesitate to point it out, even if you’re the offended party—I’ll be only too happy to try to make up for it in my next column! I look forward eagerly to seeing everybody in Louisville at MLA.

Sarah Dorsev
Music Librarian

New Members

Cindy Badilla-Melendez has recently joined the staff of the new Music Library at UNC-Greensboro in the position of Assistant Music Librarian. Cindy is from Costa Rica, where she was the Librarian of the National Symphony, Head of the String Department at the Castella Conservatory and Cello Teacher at the Youth Symphony Program. She comes to UNCG from the University of Minnesota where she was a resident librarian with several responsibilities including the creation of web pages, cataloging of rare books and special collections, cataloging of music, creation of exhibits, music reference, and collection development. Prior to this, Ms. Badilla-Melendez was selected for the Junior Fellows Program at the Library of Congress where she worked in the Music Division. Subsequently, she was hired to continue working in the Music Division processing special collections. Ms. Badilla-Melendez obtained her Master of Library & Information Science from The Catholic University of America where she did extensive research on Latin American Music. She also holds a Bachelor’s degree in cello performance from the University of Costa Rica.

Friends We’ll Miss . . .

HATTIESBURG - Dr. Norbert Carnovale, recently retired Professor of Music at the University of Southern Mississippi, died unexpectedly Thursday (January 6, 2000) at his residence in Hattiesburg.

Dr. Carnovale joined the faculty of the University of Southern Mississippi in the fall of 1962. Carnovale came to USM as an accomplished performer in both the classical and jazz idioms. He started playing jazz in high school, where he and his brother played the first jazz concert ever heard in a Mississippi high school—at St. Stanislaus in Bay, St. Louis. After high school, he went on to earn the Bachelor of Music in trumpet performance from Louisiana State University where, in his words, “Jazz was outlawed in their music school at that time.” He also earned the M.M. Ed. from Columbia University Teachers College and the Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Iowa.

In 1975, shortly after he finished his D.M.A., Carnovale was appointed chair of the Department of Music at USM. At this time, music was split into two departments: Music and Music Education. In 1976, when the two departments were combined, he chaired both until 1980. During his tenure as chair, the stature of the Department of Music was enhanced significantly: he hired the first full-time guitar, saxophone, and tuba teachers; he organized a New Music Festival; and he guided the development and implementation of the D.M.A. degree.

After leaving the chair, Carnovale was in charge of the music industry program, teaching several of its courses, and he regularly taught the bibliography course required of all doctoral students. As teacher of that class, he worked with every D.M.A. candidate completing the degree he implemented.

In recent years, Dr. Carnovale was active professionally turning his attention to research, writing, and guest speaking. He wrote ten biographies of both Gunther Schuller and George Gershwin. His latest book, titled George Gershwin: A Bio-Bibliography, is in publication now and will be available in February. Last year he was invited to Washington, D.C., to attend a conference celebrating the centennial of Gershwin’s birth and the opening of the George and Ira Gershwin Room at the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress. Dr. Carnovale was recently selected to act as advisor for a twelve-volume jazz series being published by Greenwood Press.

Dr. Carnovale recently said that the most satisfying faction of his 37 years in academia was working with the students and watching their careers unfold. He was preceded in death by his 37 years in academia was working with the students and watching their careers unfold. He was preceded in death by his wife, Leborah Alfonso Carnovale, and is survived by Jo Ezell, his companion of 20 years, his three children, Phylanne Prince of Fairfax, Virginia, Noranne Carnovale of LaGrange, Georgia, and Norman Carnovale of Memphis, Tennessee, two grand-children, and devoted, loving friends.

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