

MINITEX

Reference NOTES

A Program of the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office (HESO) at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

June 2003

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Information Bits

**Branch Out 2003,
August 13-14,
Gustavus Adolphus College,
St. Peter, MN**

Designed by and for library paraprofessionals and support staff, the 10th Branch Out conference's theme is "Grounded and Growing." Program topics of particular interest to reference staff include MORE (Minnesota Opportunities for Reference Excellence), effective Internet use, best government documents, serving a diverse population, and genealogy research. Registration deadline is July 25 (early registration discount available through July 13). Visit <http://www.branchoutmn.org/index.html> for the conference program, registration form, testimonials from Branch Out participants, and other details.

Question of the Month: 1877 Sheet Music

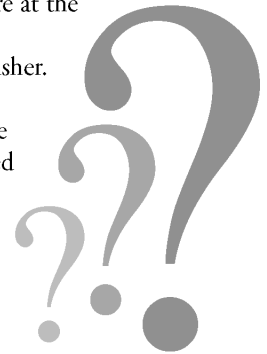
By Carla Pfahl

This month's question came to us from a public library. A patron needed the sheet music and words to the song "Good Night and Good Morning" by Alfred Plumpton, published in 1877 by G.D. Russell.

I started my search with our resources of first resort, the catalogs here at the University of Minnesota Libraries and Minneapolis Public Library. I tried searching for the title of the song, the songwriter and the publisher. Unfortunately, nothing turned up. I then looked to WorldCat, the lifesaver of obscure records. I found one reference to a song by Lizzie DeArmond dated 1922. However, I didn't think this was it. I wanted to dig a little deeper.

I knew that the key to finding the answer was going to be the date, 1877. This was an old song. What's more, it most likely was out of copyright and in public domain. For this clue, I used the resources I acquired from my first position as Interim Music Librarian at the University of Minnesota. I started with the Public Domain Information Project site, <http://www.pdinfo.com/source.htm>, a website with an extensive listing of songs that are now in the public domain. Unfortunately, it wasn't listed here. I then started going through my list of bookmarks for digitized sheet music library projects on the web (Duke University's Digital Scriptorium, Mississippi State University, Johns Hopkins University, and ParlorSongs.com—just to name a few) and low and behold, I found it. The song was waiting for me to find it at the Library of Congress' Music for the Nation: American Sheet Music, 1820-1860, 1870-1885. I was able to provide the patron with a direct link to the title where she was able to click on the image to download all five pages of that particular song. She was then able to print off a useable reproduction of the song with words for her personal use.

"Music for the Nation: American Sheet Music contains more than 62,500 pieces of historical sheet music registered for copyright: more than 15,000 registered during the years 1820-1860 and more than 47,000 registered during the years 1870-1885. Included are popular songs, operatic arias, piano music, sacred and secular choral music, solo instrumental music, method books and instructional materials, and music for band and orchestra. The collection documents the attitudes and tastes of a bygone era with music of many varieties and sources, all of it published in the United States." For more information about this project and to browse this vast collection, please visit them at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/musshhtml/musshhome.html>.



Web Site Hit!

By Beth Staats

Music Publishers' Association

<<http://www.mpa.org>>

With all the digitization of music and increasing awareness of copyright responsibility, this month we are highlighting the Music Publishers' Association (MPA) Copyright Resource Center. It offers a Copyright Search Center that provides a step-by-step guide to researching a piece of music, a copyright holder, or a publisher. The Search Center also provides forms for obtaining permission from publishers to arrange a piece of music or make copies from out-of-print music. One such form available at this site is for reporting copyright violations. The Music Publisher's Association of the United States was founded in 1895 and is located in New York, NY.

As librarians, making sense of the ins and outs of music copyright can be confusing, to say the least. MPA FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions) can help. Questions are listed relating to music copyright, out-of-print works, and more. MPA serves as a forum for publishers to deal with the music industry's many and vital issues. MPA is very involved in supporting and advancing copyright law, combating copyright infringement, as well as exploring the need for further reform. An important role played by MPA is that of fostering relations between the publishing industry, schools, composers, music dealers, and performers.

Here are a few questions that the MPA answers at <<http://www.mpa.org/faq.html>>:

- How do I get permission to make photocopies of "out-of-print" works or arrangements of copyrighted works?
- How do I find the publisher of a work?
- How can I tell if a work is still protected by copyright?
- Do I need permission to make an arrangement or transcription?
- How do I get my piece published?
- May I make copies of existing recordings for my students to take home to practice?
- May I extract one or two pieces out of a collection and use photocopies of those pieces instead of purchasing the entire collection?

Along with the Copyright Search Center, the MPA site has direct links to many important and pertinent sources of information on music copyright. They offer a link to the Copyright Clearance Center, the "Copyright and Fair Use" site of Stanford University, the Copyright Society of America, the MPA Document Library, and something extremely helpful to librarians, a link to "A Guide to Copyright for Music Librarians." This guide is sponsored by the Legislation Committee <http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/mla/About%20Us/Legislative%20Committee.asp> of the Music Library Association <<http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/>>, and it contains information on current legislation and news, fair use and copyright guidelines, and resources for music librarians.

Another link in the MPA's electronic information is Music Information Resources, which includes an extensive list of resources on the World Wide Web. It provides a brief yet robust alphabetical list of music and copyright resources available on the Internet. This list will take you to such popular sites as Billboard.com (<<http://www.billboard.com>>) and Broadcast Music Incorporated (BMI) (<<http://bmi.com/home.asp>>) or to sites like the Harry Fox Agency (<<http://nmpa.org/hfa.html>>). The Harry Fox site makes it easy to obtain a license. To get copyright permission, you can simply select from the type of musical use you wish, including performing in public, making a recording, using in a commercial, using in a movie or film festival, and so on. There is also a link for royalty rate information that takes you to statutory royalty rates. Finally, one more resource available at this site is the MPA Directory of Music Publishers. To download the latest print version in rich-text format, you can click within the site. You can also access a copy of the list in plain text format. Both files are "zipped" and will need to be "unzipped" before using. This directory also offers a list of music publishers, which can be accessed alphabetically. The web now offers so much information about music copyright, ownership rights, royalty fees, public domain titles, and more, that things can be very unclear. The MPA site seems to be the most organized, accurate, and authoritative place we could find relating to music and copyright information.

The concepts of fair use and even copyright can still be a gray area for some, but by using the MPA's Copyright Resource Center you're bound for a bit more clarity.



Welcome, Carla Pfahl

We are pleased to welcome Carla Pfahl to the staff of MINITEX Reference Services. Carla joined our staff on May 19. Formerly, she held two positions in the University of Minnesota Libraries; most recently, she was a Reference Librarian responsible for managing the Libraries' email reference service, creating Wilson Library's reference web pages for news sources, developing curriculum and guides, and providing training for librarians and students. Carla is noted for her e-reference experience in InfoPoint where she used and provided training on LSSI Virtual Chat software. Prior to this, she was the Interim Head of the Music Library where she developed reference expertise in all areas of music. She wrote an approved grant for Digital Audio E-Reserves music instruction library project.

Music buffs may also recognize Carla from her work as House Manager and Webmaster for the Cedar Cultural Center in Minneapolis.

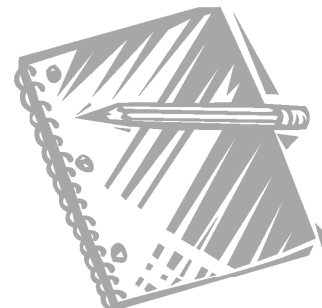


Welcome!

Outcomes Study

MINITEX has contracted with Mark Scipioni, Senior Management Consultant, of the Management Analysis Division, Minnesota Department of Administration, to identify and implement measures of end-user outcomes for MINITEX Reference Services, Document Delivery, and Delivery services. This study is now underway in two phases. Phase One will provide a package of information to explain current services, trends and expected future services, the recommended measures of end-user benefits, and the processes and tools for implementing the measures. Phase Two will depend upon availability of funding and will consist of further details for implementation, assistance with the initial implementation, and refinement of tools and practices as needed following a trial period.

As part of Phase One, some of you were contacted via phone by consultants Mark Scipioni and Roxanne Peterson to discuss how to measure outcomes related to the Reference Services program. In May, others were asked to participate in a pilot test of evaluation questionnaires for two aspects of MINITEX Reference Services, reference referral and ELM training. The questionnaires asked about customer satisfaction and outcomes from the viewpoints of libraries and end users of library services. Responses to these pilot questionnaires will be used to improve how we gather and use ongoing feedback from libraries and end users of Reference Services.



Mark Scipioni produced the LSTA Evaluation Report for Minnesota LDS, 1998-2001, published in April 2002. The report is available on the IT-LDS web site. In conducting this study, he was able to better understand what IMLS (the LSTA funding agency) was trying to achieve with their request for more outcome-related evaluation for LSTA grants. We believe this experience will assist him in the MINITEX study.

Contact MINITEX
Reference Services
to get more ELM brochures, etc.
Give them out to students
before they leave for summer break;
remind them they can use
the ELM resources
throughout the summer!

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Reference Intake Form <http://www.minitex.lib.umn.edu/reference/refdb/index.asp>

The Institute of Museum and Library Services, a Federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership and a lifetime of learning, and Library Development & Services, the Minnesota state library agency, supports MINITEX ReferenceServices under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

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