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As I reported last year, most of the energy of the US Branch is directed towards our outreach program. Marjorie Hassen of the University of Pennsylvania has continued to mail lists of available materials twice annually to prospective recipient libraries and the results have been gratifying. Contributions have been coming into the Neil Ratliff Fund so we now have some monies to assist libraries in mailing this material. We are also discussing other ways that this fund could be used.

Our 1997 annual meeting took place in New Orleans and our 1998 meeting has just concluded in Boston in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Music Library Association. We are continuing to plan for the IAML meeting in the Bay Area of California in August, 2002.

Judy Tsou has succeeded Garrett Bowles as a member-at-large on our Board of Directors. This summer Phil Schreuer will succeed Robert Follet as treasurer of our Branch. Bob has been treasurer for six years. We thank him for a job well done.

I cannot close without noting the death of Barry S. Brook, founder of RILM and RIdIM and Honorary member of IAML who died in November, 1997. We will all miss Barry's visionary ideas and his strong belief in democratic principles as we wend our way to the many marvellous locations where IAML meets.

Lenore Coral

President, U.S. Branch