OLAC NEWSLETTER
Volume 17, Number 4
December, 1997

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EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW

EXPERIMENTAL ILLUSTRATION

FROM THE EDITOR
Kay G. Johnson
This issue of the *OLAC Newsletter* features a special three part "Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Cataloging... Please Ask!" column from Nancy Olson discussing the vagaries of DVDs, enhanced CDs and video series. If you'd like to pick Nancy's brain in person, you might be interested in taking her cataloging workshops (see p. 15).

OLAC needs volunteers immediately! Please see p. 7-8 if you're interested in becoming a CAPC member or the MOUG liason. Speaking of MOUG, the MOUG Conference is coming up in February. See p. 13-14 for details. The OLAC Research Grant, OCLC Institute Seminar on Knowledge Access Management, and a position advertisement for a Music/Special Materials Cataloger at the University of Akron also have time deadlines.

THE OLAC NEWSLETTER HAS BECOME ILLUSTRATED, sort-of. Before you jump to change that 300 Physical Description field, you might want to take a look at the illustration of Sue Neumeister after Nancy Olson's column. At present, any attempt at including illustrations is experimental on my part. If a photograph can be photocopied clearly, it can be included in the Newsletter. Unfortunately, our late night OLAC meetings aren't conducive to taking light-colored photographs. The cream-colored OLAC pages only serve to make the pictures look darker.

The OLAC Web page doesn't suffer from the same limitations as does the Newsletter. As Sue mentions in the "From the President" column, announcements are added to the Web page before they appear in the Newsletter.

I'll see you next year in New Orleans.

** DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE: FEBRUARY 1, 1998 **

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Sue Neumeister

Greetings from balmy Buffalo, NY (at least it was on Halloween)! Here are a few highlights since last quarter. For being a "slow" time (between ALA conferences with no OLAC Conference) there is much to say.

**Positions Filled:**

I would first like to welcome Robert O. Ellett, Jr. as OLAC's new OCLC Users Council Contact Person. Robert is from Armed Forces Staff College and has been an OLAC member since 1992. The Council's 1997/98 theme is "Integrate, Innovate, Internationalize, and Inform: Affirming OCLC Membership Values While Implementing New Strategic Directions." The first meeting was October 5-7, 1997. We look forward to Robert's reports throughout the year.
I am also pleased to announce that Vicki Toy Smith has been appointed CC:DA Audience Observer. Vicki is currently Catalog Librarian at the University of Nevada, Reno and has been the OLAC Newsletter Book Review Editor for the past 3 years. She will be summarizing the CC:DA discussions and recommendations at OLAC Membership meetings at ALA and through written reports published in the OLAC Newsletter.

Volunteers Needed:
We are continuing to look for a MOUG liaison. Please see the announcement on p. 8. We are also looking for volunteers to be on the Cataloging Policy Committee. We are seeking three candidates to serve two year appointments on CAPC (1998/2000). Please see p. 7 for a full description. Nominations are still being accepted for Vice President/President elect of OLAC and for OLAC Secretary. The deadline for submissions is December 31, but nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the OLAC Membership meeting at ALA Midwinter. For a full description of duties, please see p. 19 of the September Newsletter.

Web Page Update:
I am pleased to announce that, by the time you read this, the OLAC Newsletters (all 17 volumes) will be on the OLAC Web page: http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/cts/olac/newsletters/. Thanks to the valiant efforts of Brenda Battleson (SUNY Buffalo), you can now perform a keyword search of all issues. Also check out the Web page under "What's New". Included are links to important decisions and "postings" between issues that are found on discussion lists. Most of the handouts from the 1996 OLAC Conference are now on the Web. We tried to make them as legible as possible, and it may take a few minutes to load. Be patient! Efforts are being made to make them PDF files for faster loading. The handouts along with the reports can be found at http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/cts/olac/conferences/1996.html.

ALA Midwinter:
Room assignments are not as yet scheduled for the Midwinter Conference in New Orleans; however, we will continue with the new sequence started by my predecessor Richard Harwood, with CAPC on Friday 8-10 p.m., Board meeting on Saturday, 2-4(ish) p.m., and the Membership meeting on Sunday, 8-10 p.m. A listing of all ALA Midwinter AV related meetings with times and room assignments will be posted on AUTOCAT and Emedia when available. Check your schedules under "UNO" for the venues. I hope to see you there!

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OLAC '98 CONFERENCE
AV MATERIALS:
FROM THE LIBRARY'S ORPHAN CHILD
TO CINDERELLA

The dates for the 1998 OLAC Conference are November 4-7, 1998 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel Charlotte (room rates are $95/night, single or double). Featured speakers are Lynne C. Howarth, Dean, Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto, and Deb Tracy-Proulx, Cataloger,
Yahoo! Corporation. A Web page has been created by Ruth Roazen for the Conference at: http://152.20.25.1/ruthr/olac/olac98info.html

One other confirmed workshop convener is Joe Cox, FIS Library, University of Toronto, who will cover cataloging Internet resources, and one interested but not yet confirmed convener is Heidi Lee Hoerman, College of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, who'll cover subject analysis of nonbook materials.

Many thanks go to Kevin Furniss (Winthrop University), Chair of the 1998 OLAC Conference and his Local Arrangements Committee who include Pat Ballard (Winthrop University), Jan Mayo (East Carolina University), Ruth Roazen (University of North Carolina, Wilmington), and Ginny Matthews (University of South Carolina). They will be meeting on December 13 and are currently checking on a place to hold OLAC's Thursday night reception, possibly the Museum of the New South, the Mint Museum of Art, or Discovery Place (Science and Technology Museum).

Plans are proceeding for a great conference. Make plans early to attend!

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**TREASURER'S REPORT**

*July 1, 1997 - September 30, 1997*

*First Quarter Fiscal Year 1998*

**Richard Baumgarten**

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**OPENING BALANCE --June 30, 1997**

Menill Lynch WMCA Account 20,352.69

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OLAC Award 96.98
Labels 50.74
Account Fees

Annual Fee 80.00
Other Fees 9.68

TOTAL (3598.50)

CLOSING BALANCE -- September 30, 1997 17,451.00

OLAC APPOINTEES

OLAC/CC:DA AUDIENCE OBSERVER, 1997-1999
VICKI TOY SMITH
Getchell Library/322
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV 89557
E-mail: vicki@unr.edu

OLAC LIAISON TO ALCTS AV, 1997-1999
BRAD EDEN
North Harris Montgomery Community College District
250 N. Sam Houston Parkway East
Houston, TX 77060
E-mail: beden@nhmccd.cc.tx.us

OLAC LIAISON TO AMIA, 1997-1999
MARTHA YEE
UCLA Film and Television Archive
1015 N. Cahuenga
Hollywood, CA 90038
E-mail: efs4cmb@mvs.oac.ucla.edu

OLAC LIAISON TO MARBI, 1997-1999
JOHN ATTIG
University Libraries
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-1755
E-mail: jca@psulias.psu.edu

OLAC LIAISON TO MOUG, 1997-1999
Open. (See Call for Volunteers on p. 8)

OCLC USERS COUNCIL CONTACT PERSON
CALLS FOR VOLUNTEERS  
(this page and the next)  

CATALOGING POLICY COMMITTEE

The Executive Board of OLAC is looking for volunteers to fill upcoming openings on the OLAC Cataloging Policy Committee. Three positions will be opening in July 1998.

CAPC represents the "concerns of audiovisual catalogers in matters relating to the formation, interpretation, and implementation of national and international cataloging standards and related matters." Members serve a two-year term, interns serve a one-year term and are non-voting participants.

Candidates should have three years of current experience cataloging AV materials or equivalent experience. Additionally, candidates should interact regularly with online cataloging systems or have demonstrable knowledge of such systems. Most CAPC business is conducted during ALA Midwinter meetings and Annual conferences. Candidates for appointment to CAPC must be willing to commit time and funds as necessary to attend these meetings.

Appointments are made by the President of OLAC, following the consultation and review of applications by the current Executive Board. New members and interns will be appointed at the January Executive Board meeting and notified immediately by the President of OLAC. Newly appointed members and interns will receive all CAPC mailings from that point forward. Although the terms for new CAPC members and interns do not begin until immediately after the ALA Annual Conference, they should expect to attend the ALA Annual CAPC meeting and may volunteer for, or be assigned to, projects for the following six-month period.

Interns report directly to the CAPC Chair and may be assigned special duties or projects by the Chair. Interns who have served for one year may reapply for a second one-year term, but may serve no more than two consecutive one-year terms as an intern. Members whose CAPC terms are expiring may reapply for membership.

If you are a member of OLAC and are interested in serving on CAPC, submit a recent resume and a cover letter which addresses your qualifications by January 5, 1998 to:

Diane Boehr, CAPC Chair,  
Costabile Associates  
4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 1050  
Bethesda, MD 20814
MOUG LIASON

OLAC is looking for a new Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) liaison. If you are a member of both OLAC and MOUG and would be interested in filling the position described below, please write or send an e-mail message to Sue Neumeister.

Liaisons serve two-year terms which expire at the end of annual ALA conferences in odd-numbered years, i.e. 1997, 1999. Terms may be renewed. Liaisons are appointed by the OLAC President in consultation with the Executive Board. In the case of two-way liaisons, such as MOUG, the person appointed by OLAC should be a member of both OLAC and the other organizational unit and be mutually acceptable to both groups.

Liaisons report to the OLAC membership on the activities of their respective groups via brief presentations at the OLAC Membership meetings and reports in the OLAC Newsletter. Presentations are made at those membership meetings which are held during the ALA Midwinter Meetings and Annual Conferences. For liaisons whose groups do not meet at ALA, liaison reports will summarize either past discussions and decisions, or future meeting plans, as appropriate. Reports are submitted to the OLAC Newsletter's Conference Reports Editor summarizing matters relevant to OLAC areas of interest. The OLAC Executive Board will consult and appoint the new MOUG liaison hopefully before the MOUG Conference in Boston.

Please respond by January 5, 1998 to:

Sue Neumeister
OLAC President
State University of New York at Buffalo
Central Technical Services
Lockwood Library Building
Buffalo, NY 14260-2200

(Or)

e-mail to: neumeist@acsu.buffalo.edu

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OLAC continues to accept applications for its 1998 research grant. This grant is awarded annually by the OLAC Executive Board to encourage research in the field of audiovisual cataloging.

AWARD DESCRIPTION

- Amount -- up to $2,000
- Period of Grant -- July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999
- Grant recipients are expected to present the OLAC Executive Board with an interim report, within one year of the date of receipt of the grant.

TIMELINE

- Deadline for proposal submission to Chair, MARCH 1, 1998
- Award recipient notified, MAY 1, 1998
- Award recipient notifies Chair of acceptance, MAY 15, 1998
- Award announced during the OLAC Membership meeting at the 1998 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

ELIGIBILITY

- Current personal member of OLAC

GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS

Three copies of the grant application must be submitted to the Chair of the OLAC Grant Committee, postmarked no later than MARCH 1, 1998. The application must include:

1. Cover page; Title of proposal; Name, affiliation, address of applicant, phone numbers; Date of submission; Abstract of the project proposal
2. Proposal; Thesis; Summary of the research problem, including justification of the project and/or a review of the literature; Description of proposal research
3. Project Outline
4. Project Budget; Materials; Staff
5. Vita

FORM OF FINAL REPORT

- Statement of the problem
- Review of the literature
1998 OLAC RESEARCH GRANT
APPLICATION FORM

(Please photocopy this page and type or print clearly)

Principal investigator:

(Last), (First) (M.I.)

Mailing address:
City, State, Zip:
Daytime telephone:
Place of employment:
Position title:
Project title:
Brief description of proposed project:

Member of Online Audiovisual Catalogers since: 19___

Co-investigator(s):

Proposal must follow OLAC's Guidelines for Proposals and include this completed application form.

Proposals must be received by the Chair of the Research Grant Committee by MARCH 1, 1998.

Send the application form and proposal to:

Mary Konkel,
Chair OLAC Research Grant Committee
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Barbara Vaughan, Column Editor

OCLC INSTITUTE SEMINAR

The OCLC Institute is pleased to announce three additional sessions of the seminar, "Knowledge Access Management: Tools and Concepts for Next-Generation Catalogers," to be held on the OCLC campus, Dublin, Ohio, on the following dates:

- February 16-18 (Monday-Wednesday)
- March 6-8 (Friday-Sunday)
- March 16-18 (Monday-Wednesday)

Earlier sessions of this seminar closed out quickly. To reserve a seat, register early. Registration closes January 5, 1998.

For more information and to register online: http://www.oclc.org/institute/seminar2.htm

Or contact Erik Jul, Associate Director, OCLC Institute, directly at jul@oclc.org, (614) 764-4364, or FAX (614) 718-7132.

CODING OF ELECTRONIC SERIAL RECORDS

Originally posted to CONSERLST and SERIALST

Dear Colleagues,

As many of you know, at its June meeting, MARBI approved the redefinition of code "m" in Leader/06 which means that, if implemented, most serials would be cataloged primarily as textual material. I know that many of you are anxious to begin using the update to the USMARC format.
However, there are serious difficulties with its implementation for OCLC. I recently met with Liz Bishoff and others from OCLC to discuss their plans. She explained that the problems with record conversion, indexing, duplicate detection and resolution are currently being investigated. The primary problem is not the redefinition of code "m" but the decision that physical carrier should be indicated by mandatory use of field 007. OCLC is preparing guidelines for their users that will explain the impact on the OCLC database if records are created according to the new definition. They plan to issue these guidelines in the near future. Once the guidelines are issued and the full ramifications are understood, CONSER can consider whether to implement the new definition or to wait. However, I urge all CONSER and other serials catalogers NOT to implement the new definition at this time.

Liz and I also discussed working together on a proposal to MARBI that would review again possible solutions for indicating the physical character of the item. She will ask that technical experts at OCLC discuss the matter with others and make a proposal and I will work with my colleagues here in the Network Development and MARC Standards Office and with CONSER to determine how we can be supportive of their proposal.

Thank you all for your support on this issue.

Jean Hirons
CONSER Coordinator
Library of Congress

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**MCJOURNAL WEB VERSION**

Beginning with v. 5, # 2, *MCJournal: The Journal of Academic Media Librarianship* will only be available on the MC Journal Web page at [http://wings.buffalo.edu/publications/mcjml/](http://wings.buffalo.edu/publications/mcjml/)

Subscribers will still be sent information via the mcjml mailing list about the contents of each issue. However, e-mail retrieval of articles and reviews from this issue forward will no longer be available. The advent of improved Web browsers, combined with the time-consuming task of creating two sets of files make Web availability the best option at this time.

Vol. 5, #2 was due out in mid to late October. There are even more audiovisual software distributors participating in the MCJournal Review program, and plans are underway to produce a searchable database of reviews for the Web page.

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**MOUG TO MEET IN BOSTON**

*February 10-11, 1998*
The Executive Board of the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) met in Louisville, KY in late September and hammered out the details of the program for the Boston meeting, which once again will be held in conjunction with the Music Library Association's meeting (the latter Feb. 11-15). It will be MOUG's twentieth anniversary celebration, and the Board has spared no expense this year to present a special opening reception on Tuesday night and to have a couple of special guest speakers, both of whom are well known to OLAC members. The hotel reservation number and preliminary program follow:

Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington Street
Boston, MA 02116-3912
Reservations: 1-800-225-2008
Direct line: (617) 426-2000

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
8:30-10:30
20th Anniversary reception

9:00

Welcome & Opening Remarks
H. Stephen Wright,
MOUG Chair-Elect (Northern Illinois University)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
9:00-10:30
Plenary Session I

- Musical Works on OCLC, or, What if OCLC Were Actually to Become a Catalog?
  Martha Yee (University of California-Los Angeles Film & TV Archive)

11:00-Noon
MOUG Business Meeting

Noon-1:30

Lunch (on your own)

1:30-3:00

Breakout Sessions (concurrent)

- Correct AACR2r Transcription of Contents into Bibliographic Records for Music Materials.
  Deta Davis (Library of Congress) Ms. Davis's session is a co-presentation of MOUG and the Music Library Association, Bibliographic Control Committee, Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging.
Music Cooperative Cataloging in WorldCat: An Historical View.
Ruth Inman (Kennedy-King College)

A Comparison of FirstSearch WorldCat Functionality With MLPS Automation Requirements for Music Information.
Holly Borne, moderator (Butler University); Robert Acker (DePaul University); Alan Green (Ohio State University); Cheryl Taranto (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)

It's Not Just for Catalogers: Searching WorldCat, The OCLC Online Union Catalog for Acquisitions, Collection Development, and Reference.
Mark Scharff (Washington University-St. Louis)

3:30-5:00
Plenary Session II

The Best of Times, The Worst of Times: Celebrating the Past and Toasting the Future
Sheila Intner (Simmons College)

The usual "Enhance Working Breakfast" and NACO-Music Project working sessions will also be included, and of course lunch & other breaks which have been omitted here for brevity's sake.

Registration forms should be available now on the MOUG Web site:

http://www.musicoclcusers.org/

... or from Continuing Education Coordinator Neil Hughes at

nhughes@libris.libs.uga.edu

Neil Hughes
Cataloging Department
University of Georgia Libraries
Athens, GA 30602-1641
ph. (706) 542-1554
fax (706) 542-4144

Early registration is due January 9, and the hotel registration cutoff date is January 19. Early registration fees are $50 for MOUG members, $60 for nonmembers, and $25 for students. Late or walk-in registration will be $70. I look forward to seeing many OLAC members in Beantown!
WORKSHOPS BY NANCY B. OLSON
Cataloging Audiovisual Materials and Other Special Materials

San Jose State University

July 6-11, 1998 (6 days)
For more information:
Blanche Woolls, Director
Library and Information Science
San Jose State University
San Jose CA 95192-0029
bwoolls@wahoo.sjsu.edu

University of Pittsburgh

July 27-31, 1998 (5 days)
For more information:
Mary K. Biagini, Associate Dean
School of Library and Information Science
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh PA 15260
joyce@lis.pitt.edu

For information about costs, housing, credits, etc., contact the email addresses given with each announcement.

For information about what is included in the workshop, contact Nancy B. Olson
nbolson@msus1.msus.edu

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POSITION AVAILABLE:
MUSIC/SPECIAL MATERIALS CATALOGER

The University of Akron University Libraries invite applications for the twelve month, tenure-track position of Assistant Professor of Bibliography reporting to the Head of the Cataloging Department. Responsibilities for this position will include: original and complex copy cataloging of scores, sound recordings, music monographs, and special music collections in English and foreign languages. We are also seeking experience in cataloging special materials including: audio and video recordings, CD-ROMs, interactive multimedia, computer software, other electronic resources, or archival materials in other subject areas. This person will contribute to the formulation of cataloging policies and procedures, and will assist in the training of paraprofessional staff for the cataloging of music and special materials. The successful candidate will be required to meet university faculty tenure requirements of research and service.

REQUIRED: MLS from an ALA-accredited program; a minimum of 2 years professional cataloging experience, including the cataloging of music materials in a
vanety of formats; broad knowledge of music and music literature; working knowledge of cataloging principles and procedures including AACR2, LC subject headings and classification, and USMARC formats; working knowledge of standard bibliographic and other reference tools for music and nonbook materials; cataloging experience in an integrated library automation system; working knowledge of at least 1 modern European language; effective verbal, written and group communication skills; the ability to work effectively with culturally diverse faculty, staff, and patrons.

PREFERRED: advanced coursework or baccalaureate degree in music strongly preferred; experience cataloging special materials in a variety of formats; cataloging experience in an academic or special library; cataloging experience using OCLC and the Innovative Interfaces online library system; working knowledge of German, Italian, or Portuguese languages; evidence of research and scholarly or professional development.

SALARY and BENEFITS: $30,000 minimum, 22 days of vacation, tuition assistance; and a standard benefits package.

The University of Akron is the third-largest state-assisted university in Ohio. UA's 10 academic colleges offer 24,000 students more than 300 undergraduate and master's degree programs and options, 17 doctoral degree programs, and 4 law degree programs. Located in a metropolitan area of 500,000 people only 30 miles south of Cleveland, The University of Akron has the advantages of city life but combines them with the area's exceptional natural resources.

Consideration of candidates will begin February 1, 1998 and continue until position is filled. Send cover letter and resume, including names, addresses, telephone numbers, telefax numbers, and e-mail addresses of 3 references to: Delmus E. Williams, Dean, University Libraries, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio 44325-1701.

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT AV CATALOGING ... PLEASE ASK!
By Nancy B. Olson

This issue's column features three topics: digital video discs, enhanced CDs and video series.

Digital Video Discs

Terry Smith of the University of Oregon emailed me some questions about DVD discs that she was asked when giving an AV tagging workshop. In examining a DVD disc while thinking through her questions, I decided to write something about the new type of media and its features and how to catalog it (and I emailed Terry that I agreed with all the answers she had already given).
A DVD disc looks like a CD-ROM or a music CD. They are all the same size (4 3/4 in. in diameter) and are all shiny optical discs with label information on one side. However, the DVD discs cannot be played in a music CD player, a videodisc player, or a CD-ROM drive. They need their own DVD player connected to a TV. DVD stands for digital video disc/disk or digital versatile disc/disk. There is no standardization in the literature or advertising either on the wording or spelling of the full phrase, but DVD is a registered trademark with the letters "DVD" over an elongated oval containing the word "video." The digital technology allows up to 133 minutes of video and sound to be stored on one side of a DVD disc. The picture and sound quality are supposed to be much superior to that of a VCR.

Cataloging Considerations:

I suggest the following approach to cataloging any DVD. At present this technology is being used for movies and copies of titles previously available on videocassette. Descriptive information would be the same as for the videocassette with the following exceptions:

```
300 1 videodisc ( ___ min.) : $b sd., col. ; $c 4 3/4 in.
538 DVD player required; has Dolby surround sound.
```

An additional difference might be in languages found on the item because the large storage capacity of this technology permits a number of sound tracks to be included. The disc I have (Jumanji) carries the information:
Languages: English, Spanish, French
Subtitles: Spanish, Korean

These languages would be listed in a note and coded in MARC field 041. The Jumanji package also carries the symbol for closed-captioning, so both note and subject heading would be needed for that aspect.

The Jumanji package has other information as well. It says "NTSC" and "Deluxe widescreen presentation" and "Presented in the original theatrical aspect ratio, approx. 1.85:1" It includes symbols/trademarks for closed-captioning, color, PG (for the parental guidance rating, Dolby digital, Dolby surround, surround sound, and two other symbols that I don't recognize. One of these is a number 1 on what appears to be a globe with latitude and longitude lines; the whole enclosed in a square with rounded corners. The other is an oval enclosing what appears to be a film reel superimposed over longitudinal lines and an equator; there is a trademark symbol on this one. I'd appreciate help identifying these.

More information on this topic in the next newsletter.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

**Enhanced CDs**
Enhanced CDs are sound recordings with one or more tracks that are computer files. The manufacturers call these "enhanced CDs" and usually include warning information such as "Do not play track one on CD player." The computer track may work on an IBM PC or a Macintosh, or on any or all of several other configurations. Indication the CD includes a computer track might be clearly printed on the container, hidden in some fine print, or it might be stated on a slip of paper inserted in the container.

There was some discussion on Autocat during 1996 about these, but a recent email reminded me of this problem. I have not seen any come across my desk, but we aren't buying much of anything so that may be why I haven't been faced with any needing cataloging.

However, if you have one of these to catalog, I'd suggest cataloging it as a sound recording if most of the CD is music. You should add MARC fields 006 and 007 for the computer track(s) thus permitting searching by either sound recording or computer formats. You would need MARC field 538 for the system requirements note for the computer portion, and a note saying it is an enhanced CD. I'd want that "enhanced" information in a searchable field -- in my system that would include MARC fields 505, 520, and/or 590. It could be given in the opening statement of a summary note. You would want to place a prominent warning label on the container when processing such material for circulation -- some correspondents have indicated playing the computer track on a sound system could damage the system.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

**Video Series**

During October there was a flurry of messages on Autocat about the treatment of video series. Some libraries prefer videos cataloged individually and entered under series title, others prefer entry under the individual titles, and some want one bibliographic record with the series treated as a set. There was much discussion pro and con for each type of treatment, along with discussion about what MARC codes and tags should be used in each case. This confusion actually goes back many (at least 30) years to the tradition among film people to think of the series title as the "real" title, with episode titles being of lesser importance.

Excerpt from Library of Congress Rule Interpretation for AACR2 1.6 (series area) as printed in Cataloging Service Bulletin no. 77 (summer 1997) p. 16-17:


For television series, theatrical serials, newreels, and educational and technical series that are intended to be viewed consecutively, the title proper consists of the series and the episode, part, individual, or segment titles rather than just the episode, part, individual, or segment title with the series title recorded in the series area. When the episode or part
title is preceded by a number or alphabetic designation, the designation is recorded before the episode or part title.

245 00 Mary Tyler Moore. $p Chuckles bites the dust
245 04 The march of time. $n Vol. 14, no. 18, $p Watchdogs
of the mail
245 00 Introduction to mathematics. $n No. 1, $p
Numeration system

Educational and technical series that are not necessarily intended to be viewed consecutively and very broad, "umbrella-like" television series that gather together large numbers of quite disparate programs for promotional purposes are recorded in the series area.

245 04 The last place on earth. $n Episode three, $p
Gentlemen & player
4xx Masterpiece theater

(end of CSB excerpt)

Points to keep in mind:

1. The episode title and/or numeric designation might not appear anywhere in the title or credits frames, or on the container. As one Autocat user pointed out, it may appear in TV Guide, but not necessarily on the item as purchased. The Library of Congress does have this information for the items it adds to its archival collection.

2. The Library of Congress no longer catalogs film or video materials to provide bibliographic records for us; this program, through which they cataloged, from data sheets, items they did not own, ceased in the late 1980s. Their film/ video cataloging is done by and for their Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division for their own archival collections.

3. While we are supposed to follow LCRIs in our cataloging (and I am speaking as an OCLC participant), there are times when an LCRI is designed for LC practice, based on their own needs, and may not or should not apply to our local or network needs.

4. It is permitted to have duplicate records in OCLC for a series treated as a set and for the items cataloged individually. It is not permitted to have duplicate records because of differing policy about main entry; edit what you find to fit your local policy/practice.

5. It may not be appropriate to attempt to treat all series the same. (See my examples below).

The decision whether to catalog a group of videos, whether set or series, on one bibliographic record or on individual bibliographic records, should be a local one. If I think I can adequately describe the contents of the entire group on one bibliographic record, and can provide adequate subject and other access points within that one record, then I use that
technique. If, however, each item needs its own summary, credits and cast information, and subject headings and added entries, then I will want to use individual bibliographic records.

Examples, with my suggestions:

1. **Mystery of the Senses.** 5-part series produced for the TV series, *Nova.* Titles of parts: Hearing, Smell, Taste, Touch, Vision. Because there are only 5 parts, and all on one main topic, one could create one bibliographic record with a contents note, and a few subject headings. Credits are the same for all programs. If desired, a brief description could be added to each title in MARC field 505, each within brackets, tagged as subfield g.

2. 3. 245 00 Mystery of the senses $h [videorecording]

4. 490 1 Nova

5. 505 00 $t Hearing -- $t Smell -- $t Taste -- $t Touch -- $t Vision.

6. 830 0 Nova (Television program)


While these programs are designed to be used in sequence, they can be used independently in any order. Each video needs a fairly detailed summary and a number of subject headings and other access points to provide the information patrons need. However, the titles do not always make sense by themselves. For that reason, I'd begin the 245 in each case with the title of the series. This does follow the first part of the LCRI, but only because I felt the episode titles could not stand by themselves.

245 04 The Civil War. $n Episode 7, $p Most hallowed ground, 1864 $h [videorecording]

246 30 Most hallowed ground

246 30 Most hallowed ground, 1864

245 04 The Civil War. $n Episode 9, $p The better angels of our nature, 1865 $h [videorecording]

246 30 Better angels of our nature

246 30 Better angels of our nature, 1865

But I would use,

245 04 The trouble with Tribbles $h [videorecording]

490 1 Star trek ; $v episode 42

830 0 Star trek (Television program) ;$v episode 42
The American Experience. Continuing series of historical documentaries. Catalog states "... as varied as its title suggests, cutting across regional, ethnic, and political boundaries in a variety of documentary formats." Some titles are Murder of the Century [shooting death of architect Stanford White by Harry Thaw in a struggle over Thaw's wife, Evelyn Nesbitt]; Edison's Miracle of Light [Edison's plan to produce an electric light for consumer use]; Chicago 1968 [the 1968 Democratic Convention riots]; The Orphan Trains [more than 150,000 New York children sent to farming communities between 1854 and 1929]; ... For these, I'd use the episode title as the main entry, and the series title in MARC field 4xx. This does follow the second part of the LCRI.

| 9.  | 245 04 | The orphan trains $h [videorecording] |
| 10. | 490 1 | American experience |
| 11. | 830 0 | American experience (Television program) |

I've never worried too much about whether the entry is under series title or under episode title because, in our online catalog, a search by series title retrieves all items within that series whether the series appears in MARC field 245 $a, 4xx, 730, or 830. A search on episode title will find the episode regardless of where it appears: MARC field 245 $a, 245 $p, 246, 505 $t, or 740. I'm not sure our patrons care (or are even aware) of the position of the information in the bibliographic record.

However, for those who do care, and for those whose online catalogs permit or require consistent entry for displays, one might choose to follow the LCRI in all cases.

And one more point to keep in mind: If you are asked to catalog an off-air videorecording, be sure your institution has legal permission to make the copy. If the item is not legal, do not catalog it.

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**EXPERIMENTAL ILLUSTRATION**

Sue Neumeister After Receiving the 1997 OLAC Award
OLAC Members Meeting, San Francisco, June 29, 1997

Halftoned from the original color photograph by Mary Konkel
Last modified: December 1997