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From the Director's Desk

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This issue of the Newsletter is the second to be devoted to research at the Archive, an exciting place to be these days. One Friday afternoon this past winter, while treasurer-executive board member David Lawton and stage director, Leland Kimball, were studying materials for a performance of *Aida* to take place in Wilmington, Delaware, this coming December, advisory board member Roger Parker was examining materials for *Nabucco*, which he is editing for the new edition. In a free moment Professor Parker was also following a clue to a previously unknown Verdi insert aria for *Oberto* which had been referred to in a contemporary Milanese periodical. The results of that exciting search also cleared up a mystery about an additional cabaletta for *Ernani*, the opera scheduled to be published next in the new edition, the *Works of Giuseppe Verdi*. For details, read the first contribution to this issue. The next two articles were written by members of the Summer Seminar for College Teachers sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities last year and the second such program to be held at the Archive. It is particularly gratifying to provide opportunities for younger college faculty to pursue research on Verdi and especially appropriate to do so under the auspices of the Endowment, in the past one of the major sources of funding for the Archive.

I am pleased to report that the Archive has recently proved useful for advisory board member Eve Queler who conducted *Nabucco* with the Opera Orchestra of New York last spring and Professor Lawton who conducted *Traviata* for the Delaware Opera last winter. Researchers writing for the Cambridge Opera Handbook series have used the Archive as well. These include advisory board members James Hepokoski (for *Otello*), David Rosen (for *Traviata*) and yours truly (for *Trovatore*). This past year materials were provided for several graduate Verdi seminars taught by members of the advisory board, Professor Harry Powers at Princeton, and Professor John Nadas at the University of North Carolina. Additional materials and information were provided for the editors of the new edition, as well as for other authors, students, and opera companies.

I should like to thank long time Institute member Nancy Ford as well as an Institute friend from Italy, Ingegniere Elvio Farello for providing gifts of scores to the Archive, and to Institute member C.M. Sidlo of Framingham, Massachusetts and his employer, General Telephone and Electronics, for participating in a matching gift program benefiting the Institute.

In closing, I should like to share with you some ideas that are developing for the tenth anniversary of the Institute in the Spring of 1986. We hope to celebrate with an International Symposium or Congress devoted to Verdi, including events at several East Coast locations. You will recall that the first Verdi congress we sponsored was in Kentucky and the second in California. Institute members will be kept informed of all developments, and opportunities will be made available for them to attend all functions.

Martin Chusid