The BISG and Chain-Based Super Bookstores

by Nat Bodian (Publisher's Marketing Consultant)

The rapidly-expanding growth of chain-based super bookstores is doing little if anything to increase reading and book purchases if a recently-published study by the Book Industry Study Group is any criterion. In its just-published report Book Industry Trends 1994, the BISG reports that in 1993 combined adult and juvenile trade book sales reached nearly $5 billion.

While this figure reflected a growth of 7.2% over 1992 sales, the report indicated this growth in trade revenue was largely attributable to a 6.3% increase in the average unit price of books. The report also shows that the actual number of books sold in 1993 increased a meager .3%. What this minute growth suggests is that the sales accumulated by the new super bookstores has been accomplished at the expense of the retail outlets.


The 1995 (15th) Charleston Conference

Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition:
Still Crazy After All These Words
November 2-4, 1995
Charleston, SC

CALL FOR PAPERS/IDEAS/SPEAKERS/ETC.

1995 will be a big year for the Charleston Conference because it is 15 years old! Help us to make it the very best Conference ever. The 1995 Charleston Conference will deal with issues regarding acquisitions, collection development and technical services, scholarly publishing and selection of print, electronic and other materials, vending of materials, standards, and issues which impact the world of publishing, vending and acquiring and accessing materials in the library environment.

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, or would like to make sure that we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The Charleston Conference prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We'll probably like it...

The Planning Committee for the 1995 Conference includes Barbara Dean (Fairfax County Public Library) bdean@leo.vsla.edu, Heather Miller (SUNY-Albany) HM766@albany.vms.bitnet, Cerise Oberman (SUNY-Plattsburgh), Katina Strauch (College of Charleston) and Judy Webster (University of Tennessee Library). The Preconference Coordinator is Julie Nilson (Indiana University) 812-855-1666, nilson@indiana.edu.

Send ideas by June 30, 1995 to Judy Webster, Head, Acquisitions and Processing Team; University of Tennessee Library; 1015 Volunteer Blvd.; Knoxville, TN 37996-1000. Phone (615) 974-4431; FAX (615) 974-2708; Internet: Webster@UTKLIB.LIB.UTK.EDU.

Profiles Encouraged:

Rosann Bazirjian

Born: September 5, 1952 in The Bronx, New York
Education: I have a B.A. in History from Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York (graduated Phi Beta Kappa); an M.S. in Library Service from Columbia University; and an MSSE in Social Science from Syracuse University.

Experience: From 1990 to 1991, I was Head of Acquisitions at Syracuse University. In 1991, the Acquisitions and Cataloging Departments merged, and I became the head of that new department which is called Bibliographic Services. From 1985-1990, I was Head of Acquisitions and Collection Development at the University of West Florida, and from 1980-1984 I was the Acquisitions Librarian at Syracuse University.

First Job: Filing proof slips for 5 hours/day as an undergraduate in college! Now, who even remembers what proof slips were?

Family: My husband of 10 years, Patrick; my seven year old son Terence; and a 17-year old cat named Billy.

Last Book Read: John Saul, The Homing.

Pet Peeve: People who do not return phone calls or respond to e-mail!!!

Favorite Pastimes: Curling up with a good suspense novel; reading to my son; mowing the lawn (whenever it's visible in Syracuse).

Fondest memories: Birth of my son; walking along the beaches of Pensacola, Florida and Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Proudest Accomplishment: Success of my career in librarianship.