1990

If Rumors Were Horses

Katina Strauch

*Against the Grain*

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Against the Grain

If Rumors Were Horses

We understand that Albion has been bought by Charles Negaro who operates a small chain of quality trade bookstores in Connecticut including Atticus Books (across from Yale University) and the Wesleyan College Bookstore (Middletown, CT). Jim Murphy will continue to run Albion but the company will no longer supply books to libraries. This information courtesy of Barry Fast (Scholarly Book Center).

We hear tell that Ed Lockman (The Faxon Fulfillment Center) is living in newly married bliss.

Carol Eyler is now Head of Technical Services at Mercer College Library in Macon, Georgia.

On November 29 and 30 in the Dallas Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, AMIGOS will sponsor a special workshop “The Reality of Collection Evaluation: Facts, Myths and Practices” with featured speakers George Soete (University of California, San Diego), Bonnie MacEwan (University of Missouri-Columbia) and Mary Bushing (Montana State University).

According to the Wall Street Journal for October 9, 1990, continued on page 8
Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions or Technical Services

**Purpose:** To foster advances in acquisitions or technical services in an academic or research library by providing librarians a fellowship for research, travel, or writing in those fields. Research projects in collection development or the compilation of bibliographies will not be supported by this fellowship.

**Donor:** The Institute for Scientific Information funds the fellowship, which consists of a $1,000 cash award and a citation, in memory of one of their senior vice-presidents who had a distinguished career in library and information science and who held high-level posts in each of the three national libraries of the U. S. - National Library of Agriculture, National Library of Medicine, and the Library of Congress.

**Criteria:** The proposals will be judged with an emphasis on the following:
1. Potential significance of the project to acquisitions or technical services work.
2. Originality and creativity.
3. Clarity and completeness of the proposal.
4. Evidence of an interest in scholarship, such as a previous publication record.

**Submission procedures:** Brief proposals (five pages or less, double-spaced) should be sent to the ACRL office and include the following: Description of research, travel or writing project, schedule of project, estimate of expenses. (Examples: professional travel, computer time, photocopying, typing), and current curriculum vita. Recipients of the fellowship will be asked to submit a brief report of the results of their research.

**Deadline:** December 1, 1990.


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Rumors continued from page 1

Robert Maxwell is selling MCC Italia ("the holding company for Panini International, a specialist children's publisher") for £60 million ($117.4 million).

Ree Sherer has been named Vice President and General Manager of EBSCO Subscription Services for the Birmingham, Alabama, office. Prior to his promotion, Ree was Vice President and General Manager of Publisher Services.

We have received word that Academic Book Center has been selected as the primary vendor to acquire and process books for the opening day collection for the California State University Campus, San Marcos. Marion T. Reid is the Director of Libraries. Some libraries have all the luck (or money), don't they!

Matt Nauman, based in Lake Oswego, Oregon, is the new Marketing Manager of Blackwell North America, Inc. Allan Graham, also in Lake Oswego, is the Marketing Manager for B/NA's Technical Services Division. Kim Anderson has replaced Allan Graham as the B/NA representative in the Mountain Plains region.

Marcie Kingsley is now at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Donald Riggs is the new Director of Libraries at the University of Michigan.

Bonnie Hill is Head of Collection Development at Tufts University.

Barbara Woodford is the new SW/Mountain Plains marketing manager for Yankee Book Peddler and will live in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Barbara used to be head of collection development at Colorado College and attended the Charleston Conference last year.

Sage Publications has moved to more spacious facilities. New address: Sage Publications, Inc., 2455 Teller Road, Newbury Park, California 91320. Phone and fax continued on page 30
Letters to the Editor
continued from page 2

but there's no excuse for doing business with unidentified box holders.

From Nat Bodian,
Publisher's Marketing Consultant

Dear Katina:

In my article on changes in book publishing in the ATG June issue, I'd lamented about the "Decrease in Publishers Publishing Books About Publishing."

I'd mentioned in my article "In distant years, R.R. Bowker called itself 'The Publisher's Publisher.' Today, Bowker has abandoned that roll."

My reference to books for the publishing industry dealt with small, single-author, limited-appeal references and monographs written by people in the industry for people in the industry.

In the September issue of ATG you published a response from Peter Simon, Vice President for Database Publishing at Bowker. The publishing industry books Simon mentioned in his response were Books in Print, and Literary Marketplace. It points up Bowker's current publishing focus—database and subscription publications that can be updated and reissued annually or periodically, mainly to subscribers.


Peter Simon's response in ATG seems to reinforce my earlier lament. People active in the book industry today have virtually no opportunity for publication should they write about their work or experience. Publishers like Bowker, who claim to serve the industry, are declining such works at this time with turn down phrases such as "...does not fit into our present publishing program."

The quote in the preceding paragraph is not made up. It is a Bowker publisher's response to a 1990 proposal for a new publishing industry guide that in earlier years Bowker would have snapped up in a minute.

My comments in my June ATG article still stand, Peter Simon's letter to the contrary.

Rumors
continued from page 8
remain the same.

Acquisitions 91 (sponsored by Genaway and Associates in Canfield, Ohio) will take place in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on April 10 and 11, 1991.

And we understand that SISAC has agreed to move forward in the development of electronic data interchange (EDI) standards for journal orders, order acknowledgements, claims, cancellations, and invoices. Both EBSCO and Faxon are members of the International Working Party on Magnetic Media Transfer, a group of international journal publishers and subscription agents working toward the transmission of messages containing dispatch information. Sandra Paul, Managing Agent for SISAC's parent organization (and regular contributor to Against the Grain), the Book Industry Study Group, is coordinating the efforts across Subcommittees and with BISAC. The study Group joined ASCII 12 last year. Paul has acknowledged the growing use of X12 formats for national and international EDI. "Although SISAC's library constituency has traditionally used data communications formats based on ANSI/NISO Z39.2, enthusiastic support as we've had in BISAC's work, I expect it will take a full year to finalize the ASCII 12 formats for serial transactions." If you want to contribute your two cents here, contact BISAC, 160 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010 (phone: (212)929-1393, FAX (212)989-7542.

The Commission on Preservation and Access and the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) have begun a collaborative project to design and conduct a preservation management seminar for library staff who have part-time preservation responsibility. To be led by SOLINET staff and be held for one week hopefully during the summer of 1991, the new seminar will help library staff members develop the management skills and implement the activities that contribute to successful preservation. Continued on page 43
Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of Against the Grain!

Well, one subscription year has passed for Against the Grain, and we haven't given up yet! It's time to renew subscriptions for 1991. There will still be at least five issues a year (February, April, June, September, November) and the subscription price is still $25 a year (suggested). Please enter your subscription now!! Thanks.

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20 / Midwest
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7 / Readmore
19 / Springer-Verlag

Rumors
continued from page 30

preservation programs. Attendance will be open to librarians throughout the nation, but registrants will be selected on an application basis. As well, the Commission will award one scholarship to a qualified attendee. Further information will be available from SOLINET (400 Colony Square, Plaza Level; Atlanta, GA 30361-6301) beginning in January 1991.

And we have received word that Nat Bodian's Encyclopedia of Mailing List Terminology and Techniques after going out of print is now being republished (after being updated) as NTC Dictionary of Direct Mail and Mailing List Terminology and Techniques by NTC Business Books, 4255 West Touhy Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL 60646 (phone: 800-323-4900). Look it over! ☛

DEADLINES

Here are Against the Grain deadlines for 1991!! PLEASE stop everything and send something in. Don't worry about footnotes! Just tell us what you are thinking about!

- February 1991 -- deadline: December 15, 1990
- June 1991 -- deadline: April 15, 1990
- September 1991 -- deadline: July 15, 1990

Remember if you have something important, we may be able to make room for it regardless of the deadline! And everything you think is important is important! This means YOU. Against the Grain needs you!