From Your (playing the yiayia) Editor

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From Your (playing the yiayia) Editor:

Greek lesson — the word for grandmother is Yiayia. And this Yiayia is heading off for the christening of her very first grandchild, a little boy named Trifon Raymond Walser. Trifon was my daughter-in-law’s great grandfather’s name and is also the Christian god of wine, I learned recently from a niece who knows all these things.

And back at the ATG ranch, we are working away on the February issue. Sorry for the delay in getting this issue out but, hey, it’s well worth the wait. Margaret Landesman has put together some really cool articles about public library initiatives by John Ober, Samantha Larsen Hastings, Anne Carr-Wiggin and Louise Reimer, Marie Paiva, Lisa German, Sue Medina, Barbara G. Preece, and Sally Patrick. We also have some special reports on diverse subjects like academic libraries after print, implementing eBook collections, using rare books, and Wikis in the workplace from Allen McKiel, Cynthia Cleto, Gene Waddell, Keith Engwall, and Steve McKinzie. We have a fascinating interview with Dr. Eric Emerson about one of the few private libraries in the world, The Charleston Library Society. You should be sure and visit the next time you are in Charleston! What else? Sandy Thatcher gives us Part II of How to Establish a Research Agenda for Scholarly Communication. Dr. Matthew Bruccoli commemorates the DLB at Thirty. Todd Carpenter talks about institutional identification. Cris Ferguson takes on Zotero, and I could go on and on. Oh! And we have the return of two of our old (not in the aging sense) columnists – Philip Hallman who returns to the Media Minder column and Jared Seay to You Gotta Go to School for That. Welcome!

I have to say adio sus (Greek for goodbye to y’all) for a few days as I head off to San Antonio for the christening. But first I have to order some children’s books for Trifon. You can’t start reading too early!

Love to all. V. Ed.

Letters to the Editor:

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear Editor:

Just a brief note to let you now how much I appreciate, as a retiree, receiving Against the Grain. It brings back such wonderful memories of the years I attended the Charleston Conference. I believe the first one was in the late 1980’s, and there could not have been more than 75 in attendance. It sure has grown over the years! I certainly looked forward to coming back every year, to catch up with what was happening in other libraries. This was such a stimulating group and, even though it really grew in size, there was still ample opportunity to learn from, and exchange information with, colleagues. I always made it clear to my former “fellow librarians” at Cornell that this was the conference to attend no matter what your particular specialty was within the library profession.

One of those days I really want to get back to Charleston, one of my favorite cities. Warmest regards, Phil Dankert <pdankert@twcny.rr.com>

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Appalachian State University (Boone, NC), Departmental teams are being renamed and a reshuffling of library faculty and staff is in the works. Of particular interest to ATG readers, John Abbott is the Coordinator of the Collection Management Services Team. In Bibliographic Services (the old Technical Services) — Georgie Donovan is now Lead Acquisitions Librarian and Acquisitions will include ILL borrowing & document delivery. Paul Orkiszewski, formerly Coordinator of Acquisitions & Cataloging, is returning from a six-month stint at the University of Sydney’s Music Conservatory to become Coordinator of the Bib Services Team. Eleanor Cook, formerly Serials Coordinator, is joining a newly formed team “Web Services” as Intellectual Property & Copyright Librarian. Kevin Clarke, heading up Web Services, is Digital Initiatives Librarian. Marilia Antunez, a new hire from Michigan State, is Allied Health & Science Librarian. Susan Golden has retired. Ken Johnson is Coordinator of the Learning & Research Services Team, Allan Scherlin is Social Sciences Librarian. Whew! That’s a lot to assimilate!

Was recently in Atlanta where the Institute of Museum and Library Services Connecting to Collections Preserving America’s Diverse Heritage was held January 31 and February 1, 2008 at the High Museum of Art and Woodruff Arts Center. Lonnie Bunch, Director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture, was a standing-ovation keynote speaker. Lonnie spoke about museums and libraries and how they preserved the soul of the country. Sven Haakanson, Executive Director of the Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak, Alaska and recent recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, Loretta Parham, Director of the Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center, and Susana Leval, Director Emeritus of El Museo del Barrio, provided an overview of the rich collections held by diverse institutions. Other experts included nationally recognized photograph conservator Debra Hess Norris of the University of Delaware/Winterthur and Alan Lewis, who has advised both the Library of Congress and the National Archives on preservation of audio-visual materials. And this was just one of several such seminars planned throughout 2008 and 2009 by IMLS. Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action is a multi-year, multi-faceted national initiative to raise public awareness and inspire action. The initiative is grounded in the results of A Public Trust at Risk: The Heritage Health Index Report on the State of America’s Collections. The Webcast of Preserving America’s Diverse Heritage is available at http://www.tvworldwide.com/events/heritage_preservation/080131. www.imls.gov/collections/ http://www.imls.gov/collections/ Tour/atlanta.htm

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