From your (answering-machine-challenged) editor:

My name is Strauch. It was Monday, September 30. 11 AM in Charleston, SC, a Southern city. It was a usual Monday. Everything was going wrong. I went to my answering machine. It said I had 12 messages. Then is when I made some kind of mistake. I pressed some sort of button and suddenly there were NO MORE MESSAGES. Frantic, I pulled out the instruction book. No way to retrieve wiped messages! Horrors! There you have it. I didn’t know that you called! That’s why I didn’t return your phone call!

Okay, I confessed. Instead of all the snafus, we still managed to put this issue together because of all the fabulous contributors. There are many, many great articles to read. There’s Peter Boyce (“It’s time to become discriminating consumers,” see p.86), Alison Grant (“Outsourcing, Down Under,” p.22), Sever Bordeianu and Claire-Lise Benard (“Outsourcing: An Overview”, p.1), Anna Wyatt (“Building an estate planning collection,” p.54), Cindy Cline (“Doody’s review service,” p.90), and more and more. AND, don’t you answer your phone (yet), READ this issue first!

And see you soon! At the 1997 Charleston Conference! Yr. Ed.

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**Against the Grain — Deadlines 1997 & 1998**

**Volume 9 & Volume 10**

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**Letters to the Editor**

*Send letters to <strauchk@cofc.edu>, phone or fax 803-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, 209 Richardson Ave., 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>.*

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**Dear Editor:**

Congrats on the September issue of Against the Grain -- one of many I have admired over the past couple of years.

Your efforts certainly rank among the top in the country -- the world -- a great help to humble teachers as well as working librarians.

Hurrah for you.

Cheers,

Bill Katz (SUNY Albany)

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**Dear Editor:**

We thoroughly enjoy your publication. Keep up the good work.

Jesse D. Jacoby (Community of Science, Baltimore, MD)

<jdf@chablis.cos.com>

<http://cos.gdb.org>

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**Dear Editor:**

Loved the last issue! ATG is the one title I still make time to read. The interviews are always so informative, and I love the mix of news, gossip, and hard information (copyright, ejournals, etc.)

Ellen Finnie Duranceau (MIT Libraries)

<efinnie@MIT.EDU>

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**Dear Editor:**

The September issue of ATG was especially good -- I enjoyed it enormously. Thank you.

Phil May (Mumford Library Books)

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<http://www.against-the-grain.com>