From Your Editor & Guest Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net

Follow this and additional works at: http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
Strauch, Katina (1998) "From Your Editor & Guest Editor," Against the Grain: Vol. 10: Iss. 4, Article 4.
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.2943

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.
From the guest editor:

If there is an overall theme in this Reference issue, it is the high quality of reference publishing in recent years. This is especially true in terms of content. In all three of their interviews, Irv Rockwood, Tom Romig and Eileen Sutter comment on their personal concern for quality and point with pride to the high caliber reference works they have some role in producing, marketing, and reviewing. James Williams and I also found content quality to be at a premium in our review of the Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy.

Along with this sense of quality one other theme also emerges: the impact of electronic reference works. Fran Wilkinson’s article “To Web or Not To Web” highlights the differing viewpoints of a number of librarians and publishers on the state of the Web in providing quality reference products. The Web is still a work in progress.

All in all, this issue reaffirms that it is an exciting time in the world of reference publishing. In many cases, quality verges on exceptional while there is enough uncertainty to keep even the most vigilant prognosticator on his or her toes.

Tom Gilson
Guest Editor,
The Reference Publishing Issue<gilson@cofc.edu

From your (relaxing) editor:

Summer is wonderful. Relaxing gives you time to think, to ponder, and to gain perspective on your world. I hope that all of you had time to do a little bit of just that. Trouble with doing it is — vacation runs out and then you have to get down to real work!

Anyway, I came home to the September issue of Against the Grain which Tom Gilson had been working away on! I am impressed and I am sure that all of you will be as well. First, we have fabulous interviews with Eileen Sutter and Tom Romig and Irv Rockwood. Then, we have tons of reviews from Tom (Gilson) himself, James Williams, Mary Cross, Marita Kunkel, mutindu ndunda, Norm Desmarais and Denis Keyes.

And that’s not all so let’s not waste time. Hope you all had a happy summer break! Happy fall!

Yr. Ed.

---

Against the Grain — Deadlines 1998 — Volume 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Camera-Ready Copy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charleston Conference</td>
<td>November 98</td>
<td>9/16/98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALA Midwinter</td>
<td>December 98/January 99</td>
<td>11/18/98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Rumors from page 1

Well. Guess what? Claire-Lise Benaud and Sever Bordeianu’s Outsourcing Library Operations in Academic Libraries (Libraries Unlimited) is out! And we will have a review in Nov. I have a copy! Do you?

The well-qualified John Abbott will be the new coordinator of Collection Development at Appalachian State University. Congratulations, John!

Recently Janet Flowers and yours truly did two separate surveys regarding credit card usage in acquisitions and collection development departments. The number of responses we got were overwhelming (I got 72 responses in a little over 24 hours thanks to Eleanor Cook’s ACQNET!) Anyway, this is clearly a “hot” topic which will be covered at the Charleston Conference as well as in the upcoming November issue of ATG. Stay tuned!

Grove’s Dictionaries is taking some new directions. The distinguished reference publisher, which is the North American office of Macmillan Reference (UK) and is a member of the Von Holtzbrinck Publishing Group, will offer its first electronic reference product — Grove’s Dictionary of Art Online this year on the Web and on CD-ROM. The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians as well as Encyclopedia of the Life Sciences will both be out in electronic and print form in 2001. Grove’s Dictionaries are also planning entry into the science publishing field with the Encyclopedia of Life Sciences (above), the Dictionary of Physics (four volumes, more than 100 contributors) and the Encyclopedia of Astronomy and Astrophysics (four volumes, copublished with the Institute of Physics). As of June 1, Grove’s Dictionaries’ customer service and fulfillment operation moved to VHPS — the Von Holtzbrinck Publishing Group’s

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