2007

If Rumors Were Horses

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Digitization Projects and Metadata

by Sheila Bair (Metadata Cataloger, University Libraries, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5353; Phone: 269-387-5160) <bair@wmich.edu>

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For centuries, librarians have described and organized physical containers of information — scrolls, papyri, cuneiform tablets, manuscripts, non-print media, and, of course, the printed book. Monastic librarians arranged volumes simply by size — big books on the bottom shelf and small ones above — or even by color. Later, numeric and alphabetic schemata married the hefty tome to the slender pamphlet. Content dictated juxtaposition on any given shelf, which thereby became, visually, that bar code of varicolored spines that modern library patrons take for granted.

But what happens when content escapes its container? One imagines more pages than can be bound, more books than can be shelved. More broadly, one imagines what librarians face as knowledge explodes and presents greater and greater challenges to those charged with storing or retrieving it. Now more than ever, librarians must think outside the old, linear, analog, bricks-and-mortar box. This is where we encounter metadata, which makes possible the finding, linking, and sharing of information on a granular level regardless of its format.

Notice that one says “metadata makes,” “metadata is.” The word “data,” like the word “agenda,” may have begun life as a plural, but already it sounds strange — indeed, pedantic — to say, “the data are.” So: what is metadata? The Greek prefix tells the story: it means beyond, about, sometimes behind — as in metaphysics, metabolism, metempsychosis, and so on.

Beyond data, then. Data about data. Indeed:

Data Behind Data

Metadata is the data that, working quietly behind information, makes it accessible and coherent, thereby enabling people and systems to do smarter things. We are not, then, talking about randomly accumulated data, nor do we mean structured information in any ordinary sense. Ordered according to one of several standard schemes, metadata is, as Priscilla...

If Rumors Were Horses

First up, Mike F. (for the fabulous) Markwith <mmarkwith@wtcox.com> has taken a new position! Effective Feb. 1, Mike became Director of Academic Sales at WT Cox Subscriptions, a North Carolina-based subscription service. WT Cox specializes in providing print and electronic subscriptions along with e-resource management services for academic, special, public, government, corporate and K-12 libraries. Mike will serve as a key component to help enrich the offerings currently provided by WT Cox Subscriptions and will provide a support base on the West Coast. As we all know, Mike has a vast degree of knowledge and industry experience. Formerly he was head of library acquisitions and serials at Binghamton University (State University of New York) Library. Markwith went on to serve in sales and management positions for Blackwell Books, Faxon, Swets Subscription Service, Swets Blackwell and most recently as President of TDNet Inc. Mike has published many papers on library/vendor relations. He is a member of NASIG, ALA, and SLA and remains on the editorial board of Serials Librarian. He also served 12 years on the Board of Visitors for the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

In my usual nosy (I prefer to call it journalistic) fashion, I wrote Mike (above) and...
Letters to the Editor

From Your (home remedy) Editor:

Charleston is hot one day (70s, approaching 80) and cold the next (20s and 30s). This is particularly challenging for those of us who want to stay well, especially when everyone around us is sick. So, in an attempt to ward off the germs, I have been trying all kinds of home remedies — hot tea with lemon and honey, Vicks Vapor-rub, Cold-eeze, you know the drill.

And, in between the home remedies, we have been working on this fantastic issue of ATG which is guest edited by Sheila Bair and Pam Rebarcar Cowart of Michigan State University. It’s all about digitization projects and metadata and what we need to know and we have six articles filled with need-to-know information. The interviews are with Bob Nardini who has left YBP for Coutts and JoAnne Sparks who is the Director of Library Services at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. We are lucky to have an OpEd in this issue by the entertainingly awesome Mary Ann Liebert and it’s about Open Access. And the passionately opinionated and provocative Matthew Bruccoli has given us his paper from the 2006 Charleston Conference, The End of Books and the Death of Libraries. Whew! Kristen Martin has done a special report about the challenges of cataloging eBooks and, Biz of Acq gives a perspective on library conferences. We have a new Papa who is remembering — Richard Abel begins his “Tale of a Band of Booksellers,” i.e., the beginning of the Richard Abel Company. Not to mention selected 2006 Charleston Conference reports. And, of course, that is far from all of what’s in this issue!

But, I feel a chill coming on and I have to make myself a cup of hot tea. In the meantime, I’m hoping the groundhog comes out and stays out. I’m ready for spring!

Happy rest of winter. And see you in Baltimore.

Cheers, Yr. Ed. 🍂

Dear Editor:

To Mark Herring:

I had just read and enjoyed your Against the Grain item on YouTube (see ATG, v.18#6, p.70) and thought “great, now he can explain the whole ‘Second Life’ phenomenon...www.secondlife.com.” Today I received an alert about your Fools Gold release... congratulations!

Sincerely,
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Rumors

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asked him to tell me more about himself and his family since it had been a few years since we had spoken. He has moved to California and remarried in July. As it says above, he will manage the western sales territory and help the company with academic sales nationally. His girls are doing great. Anne graduated from UNC-Wilmington last year (#1 in her class, biology) and took the year off; Michelle is a junior at Randolph Macon (VA) and swimming for them. And Mike’s older girls have given him four wonderful grandchildren. Anyway, Mike says he will be in Charleston in November so we can learn even more. Congrats, Mike! You aren’t getting older, you’re getting better!

Have you noticed that “I. User” seems to have dropped off the radar? Well, it’s because R2 Consulting is expanding! Partners Rick Lugg <rick@r2consulting.com> and Ruth Fischer <ruth@r2consulting.org>, who began R2 in 2000, have just welcomed two new associates. Hester Campbell, formerly YBP Library Services Director of Customer Service and Product Manager for GOBI, will assist R2 on workflow redesign projects. And Matt Barnes comes to R2 from Blackwell Book Services, where he has been Vice President of Sales & Marketing. Matt knows all about activity-based costing, financial models, and a whole toolbox of Web/Library 2.0 tools. R2 plans to use this infusion of new talent to increase its capacity for workflow and organizational redesign projects, and to develop new services: implementation, training, and project management; succession planning and placement; a database of vendor capabilities; and market analysis for publishers and other information providers. So — here’s hoping — they will have time to write more columns for ATG!

Got a wonderful note from the fabulous Sandra K. Money <Sandy@SKPAssociates.com>. Same email address, different last name, same fabulous person. Anyway, Sandy says that John has gotten a Green Card, plus they have been busy updating ships’ libraries and enjoying friends in Miami, the UK, and everywhere else since they know absolutely everybody! Sandy said she attended her BIG high school reunion and met many friends she hadn’t seen in ages. Sandy and John have been spending time with four grandkids (of hers) and nine of John’s! Gosh! Sounds exhausting. She sends all of us joy, good health and happiness for 2007. Hear, hear!

And guess what? In Seattle (what an awesome city) I encountered WANDA (Jane) Maddox <jane.maddox@blackwell.com> at the Blackwell’s Book Services booth. Jane is now reping for BBS along with her husband Lorne and, you know what, she doesn’t look a single year older since she was in Charleston in 1984. I swear! Let’s ask her what her secret is.

Talk about staying young! The fantastic Karalyn Kavanaugh has moved to Kentucky continued on page 8

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
to be with family. She is still working with EBSCO but she has changed territories. Her territory of South Carolina has been turned over to Merrill Smith. I am so excited because I remember Merrill from way back in — was it — Yankee Book Peddler — days?

And speaking of Merrill Smith, it was during her visit to Charleston a few weeks ago that we learned of the tragic death of Toni Bosworth, the behind-the-scenes accounting person at EBSCO. I had talked to Toni just a few days before and she was her usual happy, bubbly self. I can’t believe that I can’t pick up the telephone and ask for her help. May she rest in peace and love. Please see our obit in this issue, p. 16.

And back at YBP, the very awesome Ann-Marie Breaux has been promoted to Vice President, Academic Service Integration. And there have been other great people with promotions. Keep reading. Steve Sutton has been promoted to Vice President, Customized Library Sales. In recognition of their special approval plan strength and long experience with collection management, Francoise Crowell, Steve Hyndman, Suzanne Kapusta, and Jenny Hudson have been promoted to Senior Collection Development Manager. Frances Lewis has been promoted to Library Support Center Supervisor and will handle supervisory duties along with her own client base. In recognition of the growing importance of Technical Services to the company, Jim Shetter has been promoted to Vice President, Library Technical Services. Nat Bruning has been promoted to Vice President, Operations and Publisher Relations. Josh Winant, CMS Manager, will extend his role to include a more active one in developing YBP’s internal eContent processes. Lauralce Shiere has been promoted to Customer Service Supervisor. Steve Walsh has been promoted to Director, Systems Development, overseeing all the day-to-day YBP software development, including GOBI.

Just ran in to Ann-Marie and Steve and Ginny Gilbert in Charleston the other day. (B&T was having a sales meeting at the Embassy Suites in North Charleston.) Ginny’s foot is on the mend and she says that she and Nancy Gibbs will definitely be in Charleston in November.

This just out on lillian at courtesy of Tony Ferguson (whose Back Talk is missing in this issue, sob!) < Ferguson@hkuce.hku.hk >. Effective February 15, 2007, the leadership at NetLibrary is changing. Rick Schieterman, Vice President of Finance and CFO, will assume management responsibility for NetLibrary from Rick Rosy who will work closely to assure key transition issues will go forward smoothly. According to Jay Joyce, President and Chief Executive Officer, OCLC, this leadership change is not an indication of any shift in business strategy related to NetLibrary. “It is our intention to continue to develop a strong content offering and we have no plans for additional staff changes.”

Cornell has issued new guidelines on eReserves. See http://www.library.cornell.edu/services/reserveguidelines.html.

Jezz! Excuse me. Amid all the Rumors last month, I forgot to mention that Rittenhouse Book Distributors, Inc, and Doody Enterprises have created a partnership to provide Doody Core Title and Doody Review information to Rittenhouse’s R2 Library clients. The R2 Library is one of the platforms providing aggregated health sciences electronic books to libraries. Beginning in fall 2006, all R2 Library clients will be able to access DCT and Doody Review Information when making collection development decisions. The DCT and Review Information is compiled and written by subject area experts and is designed specifically to support the collection development process and will be complementary on the R2 Library platform. For more information visit www.rittenhouse.com/ www.doody.com/ www.rittenhouse.com

Jett McGee of the Medical University of South Carolina Library in Charleston, SC, will become director of the Dahlgren Medical Library at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Jett is splitting his time between Charleston and DC with a final date in Charleston of March 30. Congratulations, Jett!

And, speaking of MUSC, my daughter Ileana and aunt Irene and I went to see Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Maude Montgomery (adapted for the stage by Julian Wiles) at the Dock Street Theater in Charleston a few weeks ago. What a wonderful story! So... what does it have to do with MUSC, you are asking? Hmm... you have no patience whatsoever. Well, the charming Tom Basler, the Director of the MUSC library and Professor and Chairman, Department of Library Science and Informatics was at the play because his lovely wife Sammie played the mother Marilla and was awesome. What a talented woman! And I understand from Bob Neville, my wonderful boss, (I am not kidding!) that Sammie has been in many productions in Mt. Pleasant as well. Gosh!

And, I am sure you all know that Anne of GG is set on Prince Edward Island in Canada. I have always wanted to go there but never have. Anyway, we have a Canadian guest editor for the April issue of ATG. Ta da! Tony Horava < horava@uottawa.ca > (Collections and Information Resources Coordinator / Coordinateur des Collections et Ressources d’Information, University of Ottawa / L’Universite d’Ottawa). The issue is on eBooks. Have you renewed your subscription?

And speaking of Ottawa, I think I already told you all that I was there in June 2006 for the Canadian Library Association Preconference on Collections which was run expertly by the awesome Andrew Waller < waller@ ucalgary.ca >. The preconference was excellent and so was the city. I loved it and hope to return. Very walkable and has some fantastic architecture!

Ran into so many people in Seattle — it too was a very walkable city and it wasn’t raining very much at all. Really. But, you know, I have met some of the most incredible people on airplane trips to ALA. Let’s see, there was Craig Flansburg’s < cflansburg@eiu.edu > lovely wife Ronnie who I believe is a school teacher (correct me if I’m wrong, please Craig). I first met Craig when he was a sales rep at Faxon a few years ago, then he went on to TDNet, I believe, and when I saw him in Charleston in November he was working for the Southern Economist Intelligence Unit. Evelyn Fazio < efazio@emailink.net > was another person I met on the airplane, I believe to Dallas because she had on a fantastic black cowgirl hat. At the time she was at ME Sharpe (see our interview, ATG September 2000, v. 12/4, p.48). Evelyn went on to Baker & Taylor (remember ED’?). Now she is a literary agent! Anyway, to continue, on this trip to Seattle, I met the most fantastic woman, Ann Hamilton <ahamilton@georgiasouthern.edu >, the Associate Director at the Zach S. Henderson Library and a member of ALA Council to boot. Anyway, as with the others, I was sad when the plane ride was over because Ann is a walking encyclopedia on mystery writers, among other things! And — she has agreed to do a preconference to the 2007 Charleston Conference! I just got her abstract. She’s calling it “Crime on the Coast.” Stay tuned!

One of my very favorite people in the world is Jim Morrison (NAPC) (not that Jim Mor- rison of ProQuest isn’t equally favored!). But the first Jim has two brand new grandkids (twins, a boy and a girl, just born). How cute, cute, cute!

This issue is guest-edited by two very capable librarians Pam Rebarcak Cowart < pam. rebarcak@wmich.edu > and Sheila Bair. It’s all about metadata. They have done a fantastic job! I have learned a lot and am looking forward to re-reading some of the papers. A group of us were discussing metadata yesterday. Thanks to Pam and Sheila and all their wonderful authors!

And some eBook news. cris ferguson < cris.ferguson@furman.edu > is planning on updating her famous eBook rollout for the June issue of ATG. cris represented ATG at the ERIL (Electronic Resources in Libraries) Conference in Atlanta in February and we are looking forward to her report!

And speaking of Cris, she is expecting in September. How exciting!

Returning to ebooks. erebra a provider of eContent services and technology, has part- nered with Blackwell Publishing, Yale University Press, and Columbia University Press to distribute several thousand eBooks across a broad range of academic subjects through the ebra library platform to libraries worldwide, under a variety of pricing and access models. See www.erebrary.com/corp/newsReleases.jsp

More about ebra. As you know, ebra has recently reorganized sales territories. Sales continued on page 10
Library practitioners completing 240 contact hours of training in competency areas and with 2000 hours of library experiences will be awarded Western Council certification. To ensure the quality of courses for applicants, Western Council will require that applicants select from courses offered by Western Council Approved Providers. Institutions and individuals can become Approved Providers by completing an application and submitting a fee based on the type of institution. Upon certification, Approved Providers will be entitled to use an official certification logo as an indication of their status and will be listed in the directory maintained by Western Council.

certificate.westernco.org/

A very interesting discussion has taken and is taking place on liblicense about Wikipedia. People either love it or hate it. There seems to be no in between! Visit the liblicense archive for specifics. www.library.yale.edu/~license/ListArchives/

Well, the Open Access dialog continues. Discussions of the concept of open access to scholarly information are increasingly marked by highly charged rhetoric and an unfortunate polarization of opinion. The Association of American University Presses (AAUP) has just released a statement outlining the association’s perspective on what has become known as open access, and hopes to help steer the debate towards productive solutions that will best serve the entire scholarly community. The AAUP is a membership organization representing 112 not-for-profit scholarly publishers in the United States and an additional 15 international scholarly publishers. These publishers are affiliated with research universities, scholarly societies, foundations, museums, and other research institutions. The mission of AAUP members is to serve an effective and creative system of scholarly communications and advance the knowledge of all peoples through their publications. See the complete statement at: aaupnet.org/aboutup/issues/oa/openaccess.html

You may recall that a year ago a Gainesville, FL, copy shop (not affiliated with the University of Florida) was accused by six major publishers of copyright infringement — specifically, the shop was alleged for a second time to have made illegal copies of published materials and sold them to UoF students. The publishers have just announced that the copy shop owner has agreed to an out-of-court settlement of the case by paying back royalties and damages. This was a significant case of text copyright violation, selling copyrighted materials without authorization. This is the second copyright infringement lawsuit filed against Roberts, the copy shop owner. In May 2003, he settled a suit that had been brought against him by Elsevier, Inc., John Wiley & Sons, Inc. and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in October 2002. The most recent suit against Roberts was filed in February 2006 in U.S. District Court, by Elsevier, Inc., Pearson Education, Inc., John Wiley & Sons, Inc. SAGE Publications, Inc., Harvard Business School

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Publishing and Blackwell Publishing, Inc. The publishers alleged that Custom Copies, which also did business as Orange and Blue Textbooks, routinely duplicated and distributed copyrighted materials in the form of print coursepacks (compilations of book excerpts and articles from magazines and scholarly journals) without obtaining copyright permission from the publishers. William Strong, an attorney at Kotin, Crabtree & Strong, L.P., a Boston law firm that represented the publishers, said: “Illegal copying compromises the work of publishers, writers, and researchers, and the law in this area is very clear.”

We told you to watch these pages for news about the gathers-no-moss Chris Beckett and the scholarly Simon Inger! Well, here’s the scoop on Chris! Atypon Systems, Inc. has appointed Chris Vice President of Sales & Marketing. Chris joined Atypon on February 1, 2007, and is responsible for overseeing sales, marketing, and customer development.

Martin Marlow, who has driven Atypon’s sales & marketing growth over the last twelve months, will now be free to focus on other areas of corporate development. He will also continue to lead the Atypon international office in Oxfordshire, United Kingdom. Chris has over 25 years of senior executive experience in product development and sales and marketing. He was a cofounder of Scholarly Information Strategies, a consultancy that specialized in assisting publishers, libraries, and infomediaries to develop and deliver electronic products and services. He has also worked for Blackwell Information Services, CatchWord, and Ingenta and is a regular speaker at industry conferences; and a qualified librarian. The charming Georgios Papadopoulos is CEO of Atypon and my favorite Audrey Melkin, audrey@atypoon.com is director of business development. What a great group!

www.atypoon.com

And what about the quickly awesome Simon Inger? simon@sic.ox14.com? Well, Simon Inger Consulting provides consultancy services to publishers, libraries, service providers, and intermediaries in the scholarly publishing arena. Simon is also planning on organizing a preconference to the Charleston Conference. He says what people really liked about last year’s preconference was learning about the limitations that technology puts on workable library licenses which cannot work for many libraries and library technical infrastructures that publishers don’t trust. There are examples on both sides! Simon says he will present with his colleague Tracy Gardiner, now a freelancing publisher marketing consultant. I’ve signed up already! And Simon says he is booking his flights now. Have you booked yours?

www.sic.ox14.com

And while we’re in the British space, news of the dapper John Cox <john.e.cox@binternet.net> who has just returned from an excellent holiday in Malaysia where he tanned like the bronzed Adonis that we always dreamed of. Okay, I didn’t make that up, but you’ll have to find it on Google! See p.77.

Wiley-Blackwell and the International Communication Association (ICA) have announced that journal article abstracts for ICA’s four journals will be available online in French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, as well as English, beginning with the first issues of 2007. The ICA’s journals are the first in the field of communication to offer this service to its readers. The ICA is a multinational organization that serves over 4,000 members and has been promoting and supporting the scholarly study of communications for over 50 years. Offering translated abstracts aligns with the associations’ appreciation of the wide professional and geographical distribution of its membership. Wiley-Blackwell will launch the ICA translation initiative with the January issue of Human Communication Research at www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/hcere.

www.icaahdq.org
www.blackwellpublishing.com
www.wiley.com

OCLC has launched the WorldCat Registry, a comprehensive directory for libraries and consortia and the services they provide. The Registry will help institutions manage and share data that define their organizations — such as institution type, location, URLs for electronic services, circulation statistics and population served — through a single, authoritative Web platform. visit.oclc.org

This is from OCLC abstracts Tuesday, February 27 — What is the most popular search engine in the U.K.? In Europe? In the world? According to representatives from major rankings and traffic analysis services, who shared their latest research during “The Search Landscape” session at The Search Engine Strategies conference February 13-15 in London, the answers to these questions are Google, Google and Google. The latest stats: 256 million people visited a search engine in December 2006 — 81 percent of the global Internet population. The search audience has grown by 10 percent over the last year, while the total Internet audience grew 8 percent. The search audience has grown most dramatically in France (27 percent) and Spain (21 percent), ahead of the U.S. (8 percent). However, the U.S. is still the biggest market by far. Based on click-through activity from August 1, 2006, to January 20, 2007, Google had a 71.6 percent share of the global search engine market, an 80.2 percent share of the U.K. search engine market, and a 78.4 percent share of the French search engine market. Yahoo! had an 11.1 percent share of the global search engine market, a 5.5 percent share of the U.K. search engine market, and a 3.8 percent share of the French search engine market. The average searcher views 93 search pages a month across 27 minutes, which represents 3.4 percent of total time spent on the Internet.

http://visit.oclc.org/Community

And I don’t think I’ve ever told you this. But, do you know how first introduced me to Google back in 1995? Chuck doesn’t ‘miss-a-trick’ Hamaker <chahamake@email.uncc.edu>!

I was sitting at my desk when Chuck called. “There’s a new search engine,” he said. “Type in your name and see what comes up.” Wow! It was a new type of interface, an expanding of the Internet. You read it here!

Speaking of Google — Springer Science+Business Media says that more than 29,000 Springer titles are now live in Google Book Search, allowing users to discover and purchase these titles from local booksellers, online retailers and Springer itself. Springer also reported increasing interest in its older titles. The publisher attributes this growth, in part, to its involvement with the Google Book Search program. “At first we were afraid about putting excerpts of our books on Book Search. We thought people might read and then leave,” said Paul Manning, Vice President, Book Sales at Springer. “Instead, Google has proven to be a powerful marketing tool. Last year, for example, Springer experienced increased sales of our backlist, after we started making our titles available through Google.” Springer titles have been viewed as many as one million times in a one-month period through the Google program. Springer’s engineering and computer science books have done particularly well, representing 14 percent and 15 percent, respectively, of the clicks on Google’s buy this book link. Springer titles published before 1997 account for 20 percent of all the clicks on “buy this book” itself.

Google Book Search. In addition, 26 percent of users who click on “buy this book” select the link to Springer’s own Website, driving additional traffic to the publisher’s own online platform.

www.springer.com

Special Libraries Association (SLA) and the Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) have formed a strategic alliance offering SLA members a new professional development course. The Certified Content Rights Manager (CCRM) course and certification was developed and is taught entirely for information and content professionals.

The CCRM course is presented by Adam Ayer from LicenseLogic LLC, a content rights management training organization. The course is appropriate for all professionals who purchase and manage copyrighted content and are responsible for ensuring it is used appropriately at all levels throughout their organizations. SLA members are the perfect audience for the Certified Content Rights Manager course. www.sla.org/ www.sita.net

You know what? Richard Werking <rwerking@usna.edu> recently sent me a fascinating short story from Fantasy and Science Fiction written by a LIBRARIAN from California, of course. I remember reading this story when I was in college and being vaguely haunted by it. It’s about all the world’s knowledge being well organized and kept just so but at some point the person who knew how to get to all the world’s knowledge was gone. Gulp! Oddly prescient for us now. Richard will be presenting a paper at the 2007 Charleston Conference in November. The short story will hopefully also be published soon.

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lished on our Website in November, if not our printed magazine. Another reason to renew your subscription!

Speaking of the past, be sure and read the passionate column by Matthew J. Bruccoli <bruccoli@gwm.sc.edu>, “The End of Books and the Death of Libraries.” I am so sorry that I had to cut Matthew off at the 2006 Charleston Conference (those of you who remember the first few Charleston Conferences know that I would have let him go over in those years). Anyway, Dr. Bruccoli raises truly important points that all librarians and publishers need to ponder. Will we have reliable, untampered information in the electronic world? Is this possible? Will information be edited to conform to the group zeitgeist? What will happen to history? See this issue, p. 70.

Speaking of history, we have the first installment of a history of the Richard Abel Company — for those of you who are new, the Richard Abel Company started the first ever Approval Plan fifty years ago — in this issue, p. 74. It is written by none other than Richard Abel <rabel@easystreet.com> himself. We are so honored. And we are calling it Remembering Papa Abel. I think that Lyman Newlin will be pleased!

In a deal with Brill, Walter de Gruyter has with immediate effect bought the entire Mathematics list consisting of six journals and approximately 150 individual book titles. All publications appear under the imprint of VSP and will be added to de Gruyter’s existing list of Mathematics titles, which also includes the prestigious Journal für die reine und angewandte Mathematik (“CRELLE’S JOURNAL”). For more than 250 years, the independent scientific publishing house Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co. KG, Berlin & New York, has published titles ranging from the humanities, medicine, and biosciences to law. De Gruyter publishes more than 500 new titles every year, half of them in English, approximately 92 journals, and a variety of digital products. In 2006, Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co. KG acquired K. G. Saur and Max Niemeyer, creating one of the largest publishing houses in Continental Europe. www.degruyter.com www.bril.nl

I tell you. The above Rumor brings back memories. First, I remember Eckert Scheffler, managing director of deGruyter who we interviewed twice in ATG. See November 1996, v.8/5, p.34 and April 2005, v.17/2, p.80. I wonder what he’s up to now? And, Herman Pabbrua we now CEO of Brill. Gosh! I remember way back, when. I asked Herman to speak at a Faxon Institute. Richard Rowe was President, Ron Akie worked at Faxon and Becky Lenzini was starting CARL UnCover. And not much later, Herman sent me the fabulous Dutch flowers that I had no idea how to care for. See candid she wrote ATG April 93 v.5/3. Maybe we should start putting people’s chronology — or is it genealogy — with their names as well as their email addresses?

And on to the present. — James R. Gray, Chief Executive Officer of Coutts Information Services and MyiLibrary, which were acquired by Ingram in December 2006, was named President and Chief Executive Officer of Ingram Digital Ventures. Mr. Gray succeeds Michael F. Lovett, who will become Chief Operating Officer for Ingram Digital, according to Jack R. Ingram, Vice Chairman of Ingram Industries. Mr. Ingram noted that as CEO of Ingram Digital, Mr. Gray will oversee all of Ingram’s digital distribution businesses, including MyiLibrary and Vital Source Technologies, Inc. Ingram Digital will continue to be headquartered in LaVerne, Tennessee. Mr. Ingram explained that the Ingram group of companies now offers publishers and other content owners “a comprehensive suite of physical and digital services” and delivers content to “all major channels” in the industry.

The Ingram companies are Ingram Book Group, Lighting Source Inc., Ingram Digital Ventures, MyiLibrary and Vital Source Technologies Inc. Ingram Industries Inc., based in Nashville, Tennessee, is one of America’s largest privately held companies. It consists of diversified businesses in distribution, marine transportation, aggregate supply, and digital fulfillment services. Ingram Industries Inc. includes four operating divisions: Ingram Marine Group, Ingram Book Group, Lighting Source Inc. and Ingram Digital Ventures. www.ingrambook.com/

Now some more great news from the present! “Gentle Johnny” from the “Everywhere I Look” CD has just been selected for airplay by Celtica Radio Ltd. Celtica Radio is located in the Brigend area of South Wales in the UK. “Gentle Johnny” is Jack Montgomery’s <jack.montgomery@wkvu.edu> arrangement of an old traditional English tune and was presented as a duet with the very talented singer Susan Morris from Bowling Green. This is the second of Jack’s recordings that Celtica radio has accepted. The first was “She Moved Through the Fair” which is a non-traditional arrangement of an old Scottish tune that features the excellent bazouki work of Jack’s musical partner in “Shadowdancer,” Graham Hudspeth. Way cool, if you ask me! Congratulations, Jack!

Speaking of Jack (above), we hope that he and Lesley will be able to attend the 2007 Charleston Conference. It just wasn’t the same place without Jack and Lesley!

The H.W. Wilson Company announced the death of former Vice President James Humphry III on January 11, 2007. Mr. Humphry served as Vice President from 1968 until his retirement in 1982, helping to see H.W. Wilson through major changes in the library reference industry, including the company’s entry into electronic publishing. He also served on the H.W. Wilson Board of Directors from 1965 until his recent passing, and was chairman for several years of the American Library Association Reference Services Division Committee on Wilson Indexes. Mr. Humphry was widely regarded as one of the country’s leading library administrators. Before joining H.W. Wilson, he served for a decade as Chief Librarian of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; planner of its acclaimed Thomas J. Watson Library. Mr. Humphry was also Chief of the Map Division at New York Public Library. www.hwwilson.com

And guess who I ran in to in Seattle. Looking dapper as always, none other than the smiling Kenneth Soehner, the Chief Librarian at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Ken was in Charleston last year but we didn’t get to talk much. He is doing well and traveling between Paris (his wife’s home) and New York. A glamorous life.

Nature Publishing Group (NPG) has launched Nature Network a new online networking Website for scientists worldwide. This Web 2.0 toolkit will help scientists everywhere to meet like-minded researchers, hold online discussions, showcase their work via personal homepages, share information with groups (open or private) and tag content. Participation is free to all, requiring little more than nature registration. User-driven upgrades will roll out regularly from now on.

network.nature.com www.nature.com www.nature.com/press_releases/Nature_Network_launches.pdf

The Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) has released its finalists list for the 22nd Annual Codie Awards. Computing Reviews was selected as a finalist for Best Online Science or Technology Service, and is competing for the award in this category with four others. Computing Reviews is the leading online review service for books and articles across all areas of computer science. Centered on a community of over 1,000 reviewers. It is a collaboration between Reviews.com and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), www.reviews.com. www.acm.org.

Haight Cross Communications has issued a statement regarding a lawsuit filed by investors in Series B Senior Preferred Stock. To see the full statement go to www.haightscross.com.

Knovel Corporation, is pleased to announce that David Shaffer will join Knovel as Chairman of its Board of Directors. David retired as COO of Thomson Corporation December 31, 2006. In his role as EVP, Mr. Shaffer, served on the Corporation’s management executive committee and reported directly to Thomson president and CEO, Dick Harrington. Mr. Shaffer also served on the Thomson Corporation board of directors for nine years. Prior to Thomson, Mr. Shaffer was chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Jostens Learning Corporation. He has had an extensive executive career with Thomas Cook Travel Inc., Maxwell Communications Corporation plc, Macmillan Inc., and McGraw-Hill. Mr. Shaffer is also a member of the Advisory Board at Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University.

Just now got learned that I totally messed up Heather Miller’s <hmill@umnal.albany.

continued on page 16
We have several interviews in this issue of ATG. The first is by Pam Cenzer <pam.cenzer@gmail.com> who interviewed the grand Bob Nardini <bnardini@couttsinfo.com>, once of YBP, now at Coutts. Did you read his Issues in Vendor/Library Relations in the Dec/Jan issue of ATG (p.75). Well, be that way! But be sure and read this interview, this issue, p.47.

And another interview with the how-to-describe-her JoAnne Sparks <sparksj@mskcc.org> from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Library. JoAnne is doing some innovative things. Read this issue, p.48.

Was reading the evaluations from the 2006 Charleston Conference several nights ago. First, I want to know why so many of you asked us to put the evaluations online and then didn’t send your evaluations in! Boo hiss!!!! There were some especially popular sessions, one by Mary Ann Liebert “Mary Ann Liebert” <mliebert@liebertpub.com> who was recently stranded in San Diego, (not a bad thing, if you ask me). Anyway, in her spare time, Mary Ann has written the OpEd in this issue. See p.44.

May She Rest in Peace —

Sent by Ree Sherer (EBSCO) <sherer@ebSCO.com>

Toni Bosworth, 44, passed away unexpectedly on February 14, 2007. She was a dedicated employee of 12 years for EBSCO Information Services in Birmingham, Alabama where she served as the Accounts Receivable Manager.

Those that knew Toni and worked closely with her also know that she loved animals of all kinds, but especially her horse, dogs, and cats. She had also been known to take-in abandoned animals that needed personal care. Toni had a very kind heart and she will be greatly missed both professionally and personally.

As accounting issues arise for our customers in the Southeast, please contact your customer service representative and she will work closely with the rest of the Birmingham office to resolve any issues that are of concern. Thank you for your understanding as we mourn our loss and plan for the future.

Have you weighed in on Karen Christensen’s <karen@berkshire-publishing.com> Libraries You Love Calendar? The woman is amazing! While she was guest editing the Dec/Jan issue of ATG, she was learning to do mosaics. And she sent me a cool mosaic container with Against the Grain appliqued across it. I am keeping it under lock and key (with my bobble-head doll).

The Hamilton Spectator has an article by Rob Faulkner called “Forget the Card Catalog. McMaster’s new librarian is talking blog, wiki, and gaming. He’s even giving the university an alternative life on a popular online world. www.hamiltonspectator.com/nasaapp.cs/contentserver/

I’ve been told that Charles Germain married Angela Keyhan, bought a house in Annapolis, Maryland, a boat, and a business (catering for corporations and corporate entities). Sounds pretty spectacular!

And thinking of Charles, I hear from Doug Wright that PCG (Charles’ brainchild) is getting ready to celebrate its tenth anniversary. Doug has been there 11 years! <doug.wright@ingenta.com>

Xref has added two new sales positions. Sara Borzick has been appointed Director of Sales, US Western Region and Anne Kail will manage Xref’s London-based sales. www.xref.com

Frank Daly <fdaly@hwwilson.com> has been appointed Director of Marketing at H.W. Wilson. Mr. Daly will work with the fabulous VP Sales and Marketing, Deborah Loeding to develop, implement, and monitor marketing and sales programs for Wilson databases and print products. Mr. Daly has more than 25 years of experience in the information industry. Topics that he has spoken on include trends, metadata, and eContent. Mr. Daly’s former positions include Director of Public Library and School Marketing and Vice President, Business Development for Baker & Taylor. He has also served as Executive Director of BISG and is currently on the Advisory Board of Clarion University’s School of Library Science. Mr. Daly holds an MBA in marketing from Fordham University and a BBA in marketing from the University of Massachusetts.

It’s cold in Charleston and we don’t like it one bit! So today I was looking on the groundhog site for predictions of spring. And guess what? The groundhog tells us that spring is coming early this year. Hooray! www.groundhog.org/prediction/

Patricia Adams has been promoted to the newly-created position of Director of Sales for Blackwell Book Services. Pat has been with Blackwell for 10 years, most recently as the Eastern District Sales Manager. Prior to joining Blackwell as a Regional Sales Manager, she held the position of Acquisitions and Serials Librarian at Union College in Schenectady, New York. Ms. Adams received her MLS from the University at Albany’s School of Information Science and Policy.

Just learned as we were going to press that the new CEO of Blackwell Book Services is Andrew Hutchings.

Was talking to the energetically awesome Margaret Landesman <margaret.landesman@library.utah.edu> a while ago. She tells me she’s going to move to a half time appointment. She says she has worked at the U. of Utah for 40 years and she’s ready to do something different. BUT, Margaret is still editing the June issue of ATG, right, Margaret?! It is going to be about innovations especially in public libraries.

Well, we (husband Bruce and I) are not going to be able to attend the 9th Fiesole Retreat in Hong Kong April 12-14. I am so upset because, besides visiting a different part of the world, I was going to get to see the splendid Dr. Tony Ferguson in his element! Bruce has to have a hip replacement in June. Ouch! But, you know what, I now know lots of people who have hip replacements. One I discovered recently was Bruce Heterich at JSTOR. I wonder if it’s a Bruce thing?

ALA ballots are supposed to be out March 15. And look for the perfect Michael LaCroix (Director, Creighton University Library) <lacroix@creighton.edu>.

Julie Gammon <jgammon@uakron.edu> and Pam Cenzer <pam.cenzer@gmail.com> recently did a “marketing to libraries” panel at the Southern University Press Conference in Gainesville. The awesome Julie — who is continued on page 26
5. Overall has the order of the original owner been maintained? If so, does it add context that should be preserved and incorporated into the metadata scheme? How will the order (or lack thereof) impact workflow?
6. Does the place of an item in the overall order of a collection carry any significance that should not be lost?
7. Are there existing or potential groupings or other patterns that might lend themselves to the inheritance of metadata for one or more large groups of items?
8. Is the subject matter heterogeneous or homogeneous? If it’s homogeneous what community of practice can be identified for the purpose of researching existing metadata standards? If it’s heterogeneous what are the interoperability issues?
9. Are the formats represented heterogeneous or homogeneous? If they are homogeneous what community of practice can be identified for the purpose of researching existing metadata standards? If they are heterogeneous what are the interoperability issues?
10. What attributes and other details can be identified to aide discovery or that need to be documented?
11. Are there attributes that share common values across all items in the collection that can be added as constant data or as part of a batch process?
12. Are there attributes where values would vary? Of those, which could make use of existing controlled lists of values and which might require a customized list?
13. Does the collection contain duplicates that could share the same metadata or alternately be passed over in the digitizing process?
14. Are the items identified located on site? in one place? and what impact might that have on workflow? Will metadata creators have access to the originals or will the cataloging need to be done from the digital surrogates?
15. Does the condition of the collection require special handling or need to be documented in the metadata? Is the digitization being done as part of a preservation strategy which will require additional metadata?
16. Who are the current primary users of the collection? Are there other potential primary users? What community of practice is most closely aligned with the users identified? Other than users (students and faculty) are there other stakeholders (e.g. collection administrators, subject specialists) that need to be taken into consideration when documenting the collection or creating access points? 

**Rumors from page 16**

I just got Bryan M. Carson’s new book, _The Law of Libraries and Archives_ (Scarecrow, 2007). Wow and Gosh! There are 12 marketing director at the University of Akron Press as well as Head of Acquisitions at the

Data Dictionaries


or (as a final alternative) the removal of the image from the collection.

Our CMS, CONTENTdm, does possess some internal methods to restrict access on a collection-level or item-level basis; however, it does not allow for multiple levels of access to a single collection. Complying with these copyright provisions was not optional, it simply must occur. If we could not find a way to stretch the container, the collection would have to be divided into multiple smaller collections.

Fortunately, after much head scratching, we developed an architecture that would allow a unified CONTENTdm collection to offer materials to a variety of user types while still protecting image copyright. The solution presented itself when our research determined that the sharing of thumbnail images within an Internet search engine is perfectly legal (see Kelly v. Arriba Soft, a.k.a. Ditto.com).

Thus, we could load the metadata into CONTENTdm alongside a thumbnail-sized image. The CONTENTdm record would then link out to the larger JPEG images which would reside on a separate file server, and access would be approved or refused based on login using the server controls. So, regardless of copyright, all users may access the metadata record and the thumbnail image; however, only certain types of users can follow the link to the full size image.

**Workflow And Personnel**

The workflow of the collection (See Diagram — Appendix C) is fairly straightforward once you understand the reasoning behind the parts.

The Metadata Team works to extract data from the group-level MARC files, embellish it, and then export the flat result to a tab-delimited flat file for bulk loading into the CMS. Likewise, the Digitization Team scans the original slide and archives the TIFF version. Automatic scripting takes over from there to produce thumbnail and medium resolution JPG derivatives. Finally, the local call number acts as a data point that allows for the reunion of metadata record to the correct scanned image during the upload process.

The ability to have metadata production proceeding simultaneously, and independently of image digitization has been crucial to the success of this project. Compartmentalizing the work has allowed us to create our digital collections with very few new personnel. Student employees handle most of the scanning, and existing personnel from various departments (Cataloging and Metadata, Physical Processing, Archives & Special Collections, and Library Information Technology Services) have been drawn in according to need, specialty, and ability to complete portions of the workflow.

Additionally, the ability to automate many tasks within the process has allowed us to move forward with surprising speed. We are eighteen months into the project and our current collection is nearing 40,000 records — an average of five hundred records per week.

**Conclusion**

We at Ball State University Libraries invite you to view our Architecture Image Collection, and any of the other collections residing in our Digital Media Repository (http://libx.bsu.edu). Each collection has brought with it a unique set of challenges and obstacles to be overcome.

When creating a digital collection, sometimes, you can bend the object. On other occasions, you can stretch the container. Most often, however, you will find you need to do a little bit of both.

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**Rumors**

(chapters choc-a-block full of important legal information. It’s on my bedside table to read. Check it out!)


Speaking of reading, have been fascinated by the recent book, *The Man Time Forgot, A Tale of Genius, Betrayal, and the Creation of Time magazine* by Isaiah Wilner (HarperCollins, 2006). It’s all about Briton Hadden, the man who with Henry R. Luce, began *Time* magazine when they were students at Yale. Hadden died at the age of 31.

And this news from the alert Chuck Haker <cahamake@email.uncc.edu> — From Times online (15 February 2007) and an
plate was designed, based on qualified Dublin Core. Catalogers would capture basic information such as fanzine title, number, date, and extent. Except for the default short LCSH string “Science fiction — Periodicals,” no attempt would be made to provide controlled subject access. This decision was based not only on the need for expediency due to the collection’s size, but also on the narrow subject range of the materials and the lack of subject expertise among the metadata catalogers, as well as the inclusion of keyword searchable text from the table of contents pages. One exception was made for major science fiction authors, who would receive subject access in the form of authorized LC headings; this would allow for easier collocation when performing federated searching of other databases such as the Libraries’ OPAC.

The Collection Strikes Back

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the new departmen encountered a variety of problems while executing this plan to simultaneously break in a new material format, a new metadata schema, and a new digital asset management system. While it all looked good on paper, the reality provided many opportunities to develop problem-solving skills and flexibility, two essential components of any digitization project.

- **Materials:** The Horvat fanzines, spanning the 1940s through the 1990s, range in format from primitive, pre-mimeograph newsletters to offset-printed, magazine-like publications with full-color covers and ISSN. The lack of standardization in the materials caused no small amount of consternation on the part of metadata catalogers. Some fanzines had no table of contents, some had no cover, some had neither. Issue enumeration was similarly inconsistent, with the labels “volume,” “number,” and “issue” occasionally used interchangeably; for titles with longer press runs, the numbering was subject to starting over without notice, resulting in non-unique identifiers. Title changes abounded, with fanzines like Algol Starship, then later just Starship, such difficulties, which may sound all too familiar to serials librarians, were more aggravated with the fanzines due to their amateur publication status. In the interest of moving the project forward, catalogers were urged to adopt a pragmatic approach — to do the best they could at creating consistent records without trying to get them perfect. Unlike traditional cataloging for the library OPAC, accuracy wasn’t as important since possible discrepancies in the data could be checked by the user looking at the page images online.

The OCR treatment of table of contents pages was similarly problematic, often requiring extensive editing due to the low-quality printing of the type, darkened pages brittle with age, and unusual layouts and fonts. For some titles, catalogers found it more efficient to just type the data from scratch, rather than attempting to edit the scanned text.

- **Metadata:** two major adjustments were made to the original workflow plans for METS record creation. First, the application of authorized subject headings for prominent writers was postponed; attempts to do so caused a significant slow-down in the process, especially since catalogers lacked sufficient subject expertise to quickly recognize important names. Library staff decided it would be more effective and efficient to work toward providing this subject access as a separate step in the process, possibly performed by the English departments’ graduate student assistants.

XML editing of the METS files also proved challenging, since the records had to be created outside of and then uploaded to the digital asset management system. To solve this problem, DLS staff worked with the Libraries’ Web team to create a Web-based form that hit much of the METS record from view of the cataloger, displaying only the values that required changing, which greatly simplified the data entry process.

- **Digital asset management system:** adjusting to the DigiTool workflow was probably the most difficult part of the project. CONTENTdm puts much more control in the hands of digital librarians; setting up collections and changing their metadata fields is a fairly trivial process. Using DigiTool, on the other hand, requires much more assistance on the part of systems librarians and programmers. Furthermore, while CONTENTdm is a well-developed, widely-adopted system, DigiTool definitely had some bugs that needed to be worked out.

As one of the first institutions to implement the program’s most recent release, the University of Iowa spent quite a bit of time working with developers at ExLlibris about certain issues with the software. Some were easily fixed; for example, DigiTool’s metadata editing module allowed editing of the descriptive metadata section of the METS file, but wouldn’t save records if they had more than one Creator field present. DLS staff explained that unlike the MARC records used in ExLlibris’ automated library system product, digital library metadata records weren’t limited to only one main entry creator field, so the developers immediately fixed the problem. Other less trivial difficulties, such as the inability to upload METS records in batches, are still being worked on. Such inconveniences were balanced by the company’s responsiveness and commitment to standards, which supported the Libraries’ long-term goals for the fanzine project.

**A New Hope**

With the UI’s Science Fiction Fanzine Digital Collection up and running, library staff have been taking steps to build on its success. Special Collections librarians are investigating grant funding to organize a science fiction fanzine symposium that could eventually lead to the establishment of a related library consortium, while DLS staff are looking into mainstreaming the project’s workflow, shifting metadata cataloging duties from the department’s student assistants to paraprofessional staff in the Libraries’ technical services department. But the most valuable takeaways from this experience may not be just a new collection and a wider repertoire of metadata standards. Perhaps more importantly, staff members learned that building an innovative digital collection — taking on new challenges, addressing user needs, and refusing to be limited by technology — doesn’t have to be science fiction.

**References**


The Encyclopedia of Slave Resistance and Rebellion (2007, 0313332711, $199.95) is the most recent reference title in the Greenwood Milestones in African American History series. It is a worthy addition to the series that treats an outgrowth of slavery deserving of more emphasis and study.

Editor Junius P. Rodriguez and his contributors fulfill an important purpose with the articles in this encyclopedia. By placing the focus on slave resistance and rebellion, they refute “the notion that individuals who were turned into chattel property...lost there essential human nature to resist their subjugation.” And not only that, as one examines this work, it becomes obvious that the enslaved did so with “all means that were possible.” The articles discussing numerous forms of resistance attest to this. Entries cover individual method of resistance ranging from arson to sabotage, and from running away to self mutilation. There are also articles on specific rebellions and uprisings, as well as on their leaders and the other personalities involved.

Arguably, the dominant focus is on the African American experience however, there are also articles on ancient Greco-Roman slave resistance, as well as entries that discuss resistance in the other places ranging from Caribbean, Mexico, and Central and South America to Africa and Asia. In addition, a number of entries discuss the portrayal of slavery and slave resistance in literature, film and television programs. The articles are informed by recent scholarship but easily accessible to the non-academic. Other features that increase the usefulness of this resource are a collected bibliography, and a section of 65 primary source documents.

Greenwood’s Encyclopedia of Slave Resistance and Rebellion does a significant service by bringing to the forefront an aspect of slavery that deserves broader attention. In this regard it will give an added dimension to collections that already have works like Macmillan’s Encyclopedia of World Slavery (1998, 0-02-864607-X, $195) and ABC-CLIO’s Historical Encyclopedia of World Slavery (1997, 0-87436-885-5, $95) also edited by Junius P Rodriguez. Although intended for a scholarly audience, this work is equally appropriate for larger public libraries.

Below is a guest review by Adrian Tinsley, Reference Librarian, College of Charleston.


We live and work in an urban, multicultural world, which encompasses a wide diversity of culture, ethnicity and history. Urban phenomena has been a prevalent subject studied by historians and researchers for years, and now numerous academic institutions have adopted and incorporated Urban studies into the curriculum. The Encyclopedia of American Urban History will be a valuable resource for libraries supporting such programs of study.

Editor, David Goldfield along with a host of other diverse and well-known contributors, has created a two-volume set providing thorough definitions highlighting the cultural, social, economic, political and environmental issues and concerns affecting urban communities. This resource is arranged alphabetically with a list of over 500 entries accompanied by 11 thematic subject headings, and includes a 35-page index and a four-page introduction. The overall content offers a multidisciplinary blend of urban places, peoples and events. Articles range in length from three-paragraphs to three pages, covering major figures, significant areas and landmarks in urban history. Each entry is followed by selective future readings and references.

Encyclopedia of American Urban History provides comprehensive exposure coupled with in-depth treatments covering the various facets of urban history. This work provides a scholarly view of the vibrant past and present of American urbanization. These two volumes published by SAGE will prove to be a key resource for all academic library collections, as well as public libraries located in urban settings.

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Rumors from page 40

Ebert Kiley (Head of e-Strategy, Wellcome Library, Wellcome Trust); Richard Smith (Member of the board of Public Library of Science, former Editor of the British Medical Journal (BMJ) and Chief Executive of the BMJ Publishing Group).

www.biomedcentral.com/info/about/oacoliquum/

Last minute news from liblicense and DLF-Dispatches — Germany’s Springer Science & Business Media is for sale and looking to float on the stock market with a valuation expected to top two billion euros (1.3 billion pounds), The Mail on Sunday reported, without citing sources. “The media firm’s private equity owners Cinven and Candover have appointed investment banks Goldman Sachs, ABN AMRO and UBS to prepare the company for a stock market valuation,” the newspaper said. http://business.scotsman.com/latest.cfm?id=300352007

Well, gotta run! Have a good visit to Baltimore next month! Yr. Ed. 

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From the Reference Desk from page 51

Cultural, and Economic History is a valuable resource. Because of the importance and diversity of the topics covered, it could easily find a home in high school, undergraduate and public libraries.

Michael Newton’s Ku Klux Klan: History, Organization, Language, Influence and Activities of America’s Most Notorious Secret Society (2007, 0786427876, $95) is the result of a life-long interest on the part of its author. (He has written three other books on the Klan including Garland’s Ku Klux Klan: An Encyclopedia [1991 0824020383, $79]). This book, his most recent and comprehensive effort, is published by McFarland. It is a single volume reference that is thoroughly researched and highly detailed exposing the Klan and its history from a variety of angles.

The author utilizes an interesting organizational structure. He does not employ a traditional alphabetic, encyclopedia approach. He divides his work into section or chapter titles. In some cases these titles hint at the contents and require the reader to examine the section to get the full sense of what is covered. The contents of section headings like “A Brief History of the Ku Klux Klan” and “Who’s Who in the Invisible Empire” are obvious, but ones entitled “Reign of Terror” or “Mapping the Empire” invite the reader to check them out more thoroughly. Fortunately, the time looking at these individual sections is well spent. For instance the section “Reign of Terror” discusses the various methods of intimidation and terror employed by the Klan, as well as specific events and individual victims. “Mapping the Empire” provides state by state, as well as international evidence of Klan activity and influence. In addition, sections like “Klanspeak and the Klan Creed,” team with an appendix that reprints selected Klan documents, to offer revealing insights into the language and meaning of the Klan’s racist, nativist and hate filled philosophy. Other full sections are given over to covering splinter factions and front groups, as well as affiliated groups and individual supporters thus attesting to the Klan’s broader influence. There are also sections that discuss law enforcement’s efforts to police the Klan and the media coverage afforded the Klan by various news outlets.

While individual sections do not have bibliographies, there is a fairly extensive general bibliography at the end of the book, as well as an adequate index. In addition, another appendix lists a thorough chronology of Klan related events and activities from 1864 to 2005.

The Ku Klux Klan... provides a tremendous amount of information from diverse perspectives while advancing a distinct and revealing picture that is both fascinating and abhorrent. Given the continuing interest in the Ku Klux Klan, this book will draw appreciative audiences in academic, as well as public libraries and is suitable for both reference and circulating collections.