February 2007

ATG Deadlines

Editor

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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-eze, you know the drill.

And, in between the home remedies, we have been working on this fantastic issue of 

Against the Grain

which is guest edited by Sheila Bair and Pam Rebarcar Cowart of Michigan State University. It’s all about digitization projects and metadada 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 OpenEd 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! Kristin 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.

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:

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,

Brian McLaughlin

Syracuse University Library, Acquisitions Services
222 Waverly Ave., Syracuse, NY 13244-2010
Tel: 315-443-3729; Fax: 315-443-9401
<bemclaugh@syr.edu> 🎉

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Toni Nix <justwrite@lowcountry.com>; Phone: 843-835-8604; Fax: 843-835-5892 or Edna Laughrey <elaughrey@aol.com>; Phone: 734-429-1029; Fax: 734-429-1711
Address: 291 Tower Drive, Saline, MI 48176. 🎉

Rumors

from page 1

asked him to tell me more about himself and his family since it had been a few years since they 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 repping 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...