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From Your (riveted) Editor

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Something to Think About — The Cultural Standard

Column Editor: Mary E. (Tinker) Massey (Retired) <eileen4tinker@yahoo.com>

It seems that our days fly by in a mixture of advancements, discouragement, challenges, and changes. Now that I am retired, I have the privilege of visiting many different types of libraries and talking with the stewards of knowledge. You have no idea how important you are to the quality of our culture and the well-being of its actuators. Sometimes we come to work looking for those special answers for individuals, not knowing if it will make a difference at all. In academic libraries, it is easier to understand our impact on the success of students and faculty, and some general public. Special Libraries are devoted to the advancement of knowledge in specific subject areas for researchers. School Libraries help those beginning to understand the world and its functions at the base levels. I am particularly curious about Public Libraries. When we dashed into the new millennium, I am particularly curious about Public Libraries. When we dashed into the new millennium, I

...the freedom to use this material comes with the responsibility for the general public to be mindful of keeping the information in good condition for others to use as well. I think it is important for us to be a positive influence on the general public and to present ourselves as that cultural standard in their lives. Since we have lost the actuality of others being our examples, perhaps we can strive to maintain our presence in the world as the Example for them. Perhaps this is something we should think about every day?

From Your (riveted) Editor:

I rarely have time to read only for pleasure, especially fiction. This doesn’t mean that I don’t read; it’s just that I seem to always be reading library-related things. You know what I mean. BUT recently, I have been captivated by a series of novels about Winston Churchill and World War II. Look, my ex-husband was a historian (French history), my father was a historian (French history), my boss was a historian, why did I want to read even more history? Go figure! This series of books by Michael Dobbs, however, is excellent. I had to tear myself away from them to work on this great issue of ATG!

Speaking of which, this issue is excellent and I became instantly ensconced learning more about trends in health sciences and biomedical libraries, ably guest edited by Ramune Kubilins. Papers are by Maria Collins, Martha Fishel, and John Doyle, Patricia Hammond, Sally Gore, Stephanie Kerna, Heather Stecklein and Nathalie Wheaton and Leslie Czehowski and Nancy Tannery and talk about assembling orchestras, mobile access, eBooks, and much more! Our Op Ed this issue is by David Mash who conducted a small, unscientific survey of reading habits in airports. We don’t have a back talk this time since Tony Ferguson was at a Birthday Day Party for his Mom but Greg Tananbaum has taken his place discussing the excellent discussion at the 31st Charleston Conference by Anne Kenney and Kevin Guthrie. And even more is in this issue — how serials departments are changing, Octavio Paz, Occupy Wall Street, the future of the book conference in Tallahassee, the death of cable and much more.

Oops! Excuse me! I think it’s the UPS guy hopefully with my Atlas of WWII Battles that I just ordered for my birthday present!

Happy New Year and many good thoughts and love y’all’s way! Love, Yr. Ed.

AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES

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