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From Your (juggling) Editor

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We all have to keep a lot of balls in the air, don’t we? I just got back from a quick trip to Wilmington, NC where my 93-year-old father-in-law is in a rehabilitation facility. He fell down and broke his right hip about two weeks ago setting up bingo tables! This amazing man was in great shape, never using a walker or a cane, but now he is trying to adapt to being in bed all the time and having a lot of pain.

Meanwhile back at ATG world headquarters here in Charleston, our crack team of editors — the amazing Beth Bernhardt and Nathan Norris — have put together a great issue with the theme of The Google Effect. You will note that this is the first part of a two-part series! We have articles (and in most cases profiles) in this issue from Aline Soules, Carol H. Jewell, Julie Arendt, Bonnie Klein, and Ramirose Attebury, Julie George, Cindy Judd, Brad Marcum and Nicole Montgomery. Our Op Ed is from David Lindley and asks “What is a book?” Our Back Talk pages in this issue are filled with Greg Tannenbaum’s I Hear the Train A’Comin’ where Greg talks about the Rise of China and scholarly communication. (Tony decided he needed a day off?)

There is lots more in this issue — Todd Carpenter talks about NISO’s Thought Leaders, Mary Massey talks about the little things we try to collect, Mark Herring talks about IRs, Christine Fischer talks about moving fully to electronic journals, John Cox talks about emerging trends in textbooks, Anne Langley talks about the search committee, and I could go on and on but I will let you see for yourself!

Just heard from my sis-in-law and she says that granddad is doing much better! Whew! Sometimes we just have to put up with the extra ball from the sky!

Happy Spring!

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:

This is just a brief note to let you know how much I appreciate, as a student of Library and Information Science, my attendance at the 27th Annual Charleston Conference. The conference was most valuable to me in my professional growth and development. I enjoyed the “skit” and the “lively lunches” in particular. It was my first time attending the conference and coming from a developing country in the Caribbean, I gained a wealth of knowledge and exposure.

It was said that the Charleston Conference is considered a breeding ground for new visions, and this has proven, for me, to be a highly stimulating experience of new and fresh ideas! I now have more knowledge of the cutting-edge trends “in the business” and am now more equipped with new knowledge and confidence in my new role as a Serials Technical Services staff at the University of the West Indies Library. On completing my course of study at the Department of Library and Information Studies and with the knowledge and vigor gained at the conference I am now able to contribute more effectively to the development of the Unit, the Library and the University of the West Indies on the whole. I have benefited immensely from other professionals and have gained new insights into the world of library work. I have also met some wonderful people and hopefully some lasting friends!

Thank you,

Elizabeth Cooke, Clerical Assistant Technical Services Unit, Main Library University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, St. Andrew, Jamaica <elizabeth.meghoo@uwimona.edu.jm>