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## Letters to the Editor

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## From your (whewing) Editor:

There are two things for me to "whew" about! First, with this issue, we have finished volume number 13 of *ATG*. Whew! The second thing to "whew" about is that the **21st Charleston Conference** is over and everything went smoothly. We all had a good time and learned a lot! Whew! So, now it's time for us to have a great holiday and sit down and read, okay? What's in this issue of *ATG*?

Well, when **Miriam Gilbert** and I talked about her guest editing an issue of

*ATG* over a year ago, who would have believed what would have happened with the bankruptcy of **netLibrary**. **Miriam** is no longer with them, but she has still worked her hardest to bring in some excellent papers about eBooks. And, you might imagine that several of the papers had to be reworked in light of the changes at netLibrary! After an introduction by **Miriam**, we have papers by **Kelly Franklin** of Wiley, **Nancy Gibbs** of Duke, **Mary-Alice Lynch** of Nylink, **Mark Bide** and **Kim Richardson** of Rightscom, **Sherry Thompson** of Majors, and **Rick Lugg** and **Ruth Fischer** of R2 Consulting. **Michael Young** of SUNY-Albany has written us an excellent **Charleston Conference** report.

There's other great stuff, too!

Besides the regular bam-zowie columns, we have a study of acquisitions positions in libraries by **Rob Withers**, "The Collection Development Role of the Library Liaison: A View from Both Sides of the Fence" by **Jack Montgomery**, and "In Search of Fund Allocations" by **Norman Desmarais**.

Whew! That's a mouthful. Happy reading and celebrating. This is my favorite time of year. I hope it's y'all's too! Happy New Year! See you in New Orleans!

Yr. Ed.

### Rumors

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sleeping. The incredible (and very shy) **Michele** <michele@casalini.it> and **Susanna Casalini** have a son, born September 11, 2001. His name is **Pier Niccolo Casalini**. The dynasty continues!

And we have another birth to report! The fabulous **Karin Carchedi Rush** (**Ovid/SilverPlatter**) has a baby girl, **Juliana Hope Rush**. Congratulations!

And, speaking of children, these women were talking **grandchildren** at the **Charleston Conference**, and I was jealous (but don't tell my kids, please). **Mary McLaren** <mclaren@uky.edu>, **Elsie Pritchard** <e.pritch@morehead-st.edu>, **Susan Zappen** <szappen@skidmore.edu> and **Betty Oktay** <oktay@vassar.edu>.

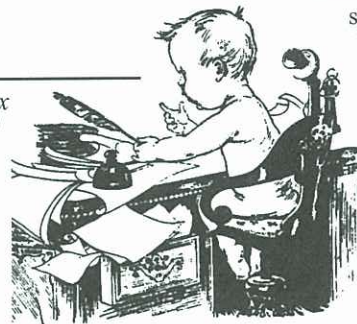
Talked to the wonderful **Ivo Miletich** (**Chicago State University**) at the **Charleston Conference**. Do you know that he has been coming to the Conference since it started?

Was just reading in **Whitstone Communications, Inc, Who's Buying Whom** (October 19, 2001) (Okay, I'm a little behind in my reading.) that the total number of acquisitions dropped 40% from last year to this year. Later, (November 26) what to my wondering eyes should appear but ... an acquisition! **ProQuest Company's** (NYSE: PQE) **Information and Learning** unit has acquired **SoftLine Information**, the Stamford, Connecticut-based producer of online databases for libraries and educational institutions. **SoftLine**, founded in 1991, offers more than 500 newspapers and magazines from ethnic, minority, native, gender, alternative, and independent press. Prior to **SoftLine's** introduction of its databases, most titles were not available in electronic formats. The titles are organized into five specialized databases covering ethnic, cultural, and

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## Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <strauchk@earthlink.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:

I just discovered your excellent Website and publication today. We are preparing our budget for 2002, and I wondered if you could send a sample issue for our review? It looks like something we'd like to add to our collection of professional journals, but I need to see a copy to recommend it. If this is possible, please send it to my attention at the address above. Thank you for your assistance.

**Catherine Whitney**

(Reference Librarian, *Andrews & Kurth, Mayor, Day, Caldwell & Keeton*)  
<cwhitney@akllp.com>

*Editor's note: ATG sample issues are available to anyone who asks! This is a reminder! AND, we also have back issues at \$10/issue if you need one! — KS*

### Dear Editor:

Lately I have had conversations with some vendors who were at the **Charleston Conference**. The topic of conversation always turns to "were you at that session" or "did you hear..." I think they find the conference as exhilarating as I do! More and more, the publishers and vendors realize that if you want to know what will be happening in libraries as well as what is happening, you go to the **Charleston Conference**. I've known that for years!

**Susan H. Zappen**

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## AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES

### VOLUME 14 — 2002/2003

Event	Issue	Ad Reservation	Camera-Ready
Annual Report, ACRL, ARLIS	Feb. 2002	12/12/01	01/09/02
SLA, MLA	April 2002	02/06/02	02/27/02
ALA Annual, AALL	June 2002	03/27/02	04/17/02
Reference Publishing	Sept. 2002	07/10/02	07/31/02
Charleston Conference	Nov. 2002	08/21/02	09/11/02
ALA Midwinter	Dec. 02/Jan. 03	11/13/02	12/04/02