

February 1999

## Letters to the Editor

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# From your (flu-bitten) Editor:

Well, I came back from ALA Midwinter with an unearthly case of the flu. And I had been a good trooper and taken the flu shot! Grump! So much for modern science.

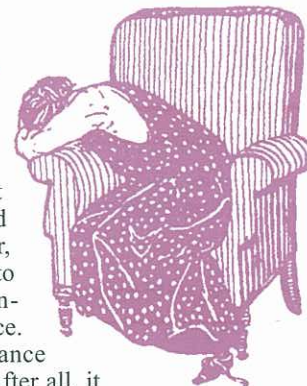
Meanwhile, modern librarianship continues on apace! This issue of *ATG* is the annual report issue. While we were all napping during the holidays, there were some people laboring over the year that was—1998. Besides having the annual report survey results from **Barry** and **Judy Lee**, we have feature articles from a law librarian

regarding mergers and acquisitions (**Linda Defendeifer**), a book vendor (**Dan Halloran**), a subscription agent (**Dan Tonkery**), a publisher (**Karen Hunter**), a scholarly society (**Katharine Duff**), a Russian society (**Edwin Shelock**), and a British consultant (**Martin White**). And there is more. I found the articles on **Metadata** by **Ed Summers**, on **ILS vendors** and their efforts to develop better acquisitions systems by **Shelley Neville**, on **Consortia: What Do They Really Hold for the Future?** by **John Secor** particularly enlightening. And this definitely isn't all!

Meanwhile, back to modern science.

Though it has failed me this year, I am going to give it another chance. Second chance at no flu. After all, it is getting warmer here in Charleston and spring is in the air!

Yr. Ed. 



## Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <strauchk@cofc.edu>, 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>>

cal community college—2 courses in the 2 year library technician programme. I'm doing acquisitions with the first year class, and serials with the second year. I sing the praises of **NASIG** and **Charleston**, now *ATG*!

Cheers from north of the border,

**Roni Fenwick**

(Coordinator of Processing (External), Acquisitions & Serials Services, Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S., Canada B0P 1X0)

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*Editor's Note:* Oops. Yes, *ATG* has

been published six times a year for the past three years! Thanks. And, just think, you are getting another extra issue than you bargained for! Hooray! — *KS*

### Dear Editor:

I read your issue of *Against the Grain* (Dec 98/Jan 99) on the train home from the ALA MidWinter meeting and was very impressed with the enormous amount of information contained in it. And sheepishly remembered I did not yet ask for a subscription, so I did so promptly upon my return.

Hope all is going well.

Best,

**Sandy Lewman**

(ISI) <SLewman@isinet.com>

### Dear Editor:

Subject: frequency of *ATG* is five times per year?

I attended (1st time) the Charleston Conference in November and was very impressed. Now I've received v. 10, no. 6 of *ATG* and notice inside the cover it's published 6 times per year. Great! But at the bottom of your homepage, it mentions 5 issues per year. Just a small point, but ...

As an aside, I teach part time at the lo-

## Against the Grain — Deadlines 1999 — Volume 11

Event	Issue	Ad Reservation	Camera-Ready
SLA, MLA	April 99	2/4/99	2/25/99
ALA Annual	June 99	4/7/99	4/28/99
Reference Books	Sept. 99	6/23/99	7/21/99
Charleston Conference	Nov. 99	8/25/99	9/15/99
ALA Midwinter	Dec. 99/Jan. 2000	10/27/99	11/17/99

### History's Most Infamous Biblioclast

The term biblioclast means mutilator of books. History's most famous biblioclast was the British rare book collector John Bagford (1650-1716). He amassed 64 large volumes containing the mounted title pages he had torn out of 25,000 books. His collection is in the British Museum classified as the Bagford Fragments.

— excerpted from Nat Bodian's  
The Joy of Publishing

<<http://www.against-the-grain.com>>