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Letters to the Editor

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From Your (cleaning up) Editor:

It's not quite spring yet but, I want to rush it up since we have had such a horrible winter. So, I have been cleaning up. Everyone around me is amazed. My office at work is clean (for me). My study at home where I work on *ATG* is clean (ditto). I am even cleaning out my clothes closets and omitting stuff that I can't wear anymore. Hmmm ...

This issue of *ATG* is on the **Retention of Print** and is guest-edited by **Rosann Bazirjian**. We have papers by **Tom Peters**, **John McDonald**, **Mark Rowse**, **Don Jaeger**, and **Robert Alan** and **Nan Butkovich**. There are interviews with independent publisher **David Dekker**, as well as **Rick Lugg** and **Ruth Fischer's** interview with **Sara Randall**, and **Harry Samuels** on **Open URL Linking**, and **Bruce Strauch's** interview with the **Copyright Clearance Center** about the **Copy Shop Lawsuits**. There are **People Profiles** for two of this issue's authors, **Nancy Butkovich** and **Angi Faiks** as well as profiles for **Roger Press** and **Joe Lee** who both have an interview which will appear in the June issue of *ATG*. Our **Publisher Profile** this month features **Marcel Dekker, Inc.** And of course,

we have the usual wonderful columns by our *ATG* regulars like **Tom Gilson's From the Reference Desk** and **Book Reviews** from **Debbie Vaughn** and **Heather Miller**, a **Devil's Advocate** by **Robert Molyneux**, **Desperately Seeking Copyright** by **Edward Collieran** and even more on contracts and copyrights in our **Legal Issues Section** by **Bruce Strauch**, **Bryan Carson** and **Laura Gasaway**. And last but not least, be sure to read **Ned Kraft's Adventures in Librarianship** way back on p.93; it's sure to be an crowd pleaser.

Gotta get back to the cleaning. My husband just stacked a load of mail on my computer table. In the meanwhile, happy reading and stay safe.

— Yr. Ed. 



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 was recently reading **Mark Herring's** "The Future of the Book" issue of *ATG* (v.14#6, December/January 2003) and that made me think of a couple of great authors who had this to say (below) about reading and books.

Marcel Proust, "Remembrance of Things Past," Vol. III, writes: "... reading teaches us to take a more exalted view of the value of life, a value at the time we did not know how to appreciate and of whose magnitude we have only become aware through the book." and **Henry Thoreau**, "Walden," in a chapter on "Reading," writes: "To read well, that is, to read true books in a true spirit, is a noble exercise, and one that will task the reader more than any exercise which

the customs of the day esteem. It requires a training such as the athletes underwent, the steady intention almost of the whole life to this object. Books must be read as deliberately and reservedly as they are written."

I can happily report that every time my wife **Linda** and I visit our local library, and every time we stop by a nearby **Borders Bookstore** we see these places filled with a broad spectrum of kids and adults, who are avidly perusing books of all kinds. I'd like to believe that **Henry** and **Marcel** would be delighted to see scenes such as this!

All the best,

John Long

(Consultant)

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AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES VOLUME 15 — 2002-2004

<u>Event</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Ad Reservation</u>	<u>Camera-Ready</u>
ALA Annual, AALL	June 2003	04/09/03	04/30/03
Reference Publishing	September 2003	07/09/03	07/30/03
Charleston Conference	November 2003	09/17/03	10/08/03
ALA Midwinter	Dec. 03/Jan. 04	10/29/03	11/19/03

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And, you know, I remember meeting **Norman Ross** in the company of another old timer, **Fred Lynden** <Frederick_Lynden@Brown.edu>! And, coincidentally, Fred and his lovely wife **Irina**, are planning that interview with **Vladimir Zaitsev** that I told you about in February, p.14! Fred says we should have the interview for the June issue! Pretty copacetic!

The awesome **Lynn Silipigni Connaway**, Ph.D., Division Vice President, Research and Library Systems, **netLibrary**, is currently working with **OCLC Research (OR)**. She is sharing her time between the two **OCLC** Divisions. Before joining **netLibrary**, Lynn was the director of the **Library and Information Services Program** at the **University of Denver**. She was also on the faculty of the **School of Library and Information Science** at the **University of Missouri-Columbia**. Lynn is continuing to work with **netLibrary** and its participating libraries to collect and analyze **eBook usage data** to better understand how **eBook** content is being used. She is also working with colleagues in **OR** on a **comparative collection assessment project** that includes an **ILL usage data study** and a **WorldCat holdings collection assessment project**. The **ILL borrowing patterns** of selected **ARL** libraries will be identified. These **ILL statistics** will be compared against the **netLibrary** collection. The **collection assessment project** will include analyzing and comparing aggregate holdings data for **ARLs**, **academic non-ARLs**, and **public libraries**. Titles and their intellectual levels, subjects (using the **conspectus**), and publishers will be identified for each type of library. These projects will provide information to **OCLC** member libraries to aid collection development and resource allocation decision-making.

And, speaking of **eBooks**, **Elsevier** is launching an **eBook** program with **netLibrary**. Through the new alliance, **netLibrary** will create electronic versions of more than 300 **Elsevier** titles during 2003 and

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