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From Your (juggling her duties) Editor

Katina Strauch

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The last few months of the summer have been interesting. Several months ago, our printer in Wilmington, NC, was sold to another printing company. So we have been having “fun” working out the kinks in the new printing process. And then there’s the Charleston Conference and all the registrations which have been coming in fast and furious, with the usual questions and issues. And then there’s my regular job. But it all keeps me busy and out of trouble.

This issue — the Charleston Conference Issue — is guest edited by Kristen DeVoe, a newly graduated librarian who is going places! We have seven articles on collection assessment in the digital age which will get us all thinking. We have interviews with Chris Warnock and Zoltán Papp and lots of profiles from our fabulous authors.

Remember, ATG’s Fiction Page Contest? Well, we have our first winner, Jill Coupe. Congratulations Jill! Be sure to read our special insert, “Old Friends, New Eyes.”

John and Audrey Fenner talk about the many reasons why employers and managers need to identify values of library staff, while Greg Tannanaumt focuses on the world of course management systems. Ramune Kubilius has reported on MLA and SLA in this issue’s “And They Were There,” and let’s not forget Tom and Debbie’s reviews. And, of course, that’s not all, there is more!

Now it’s fall and it’s almost time for the Charleston Conference. Here’s hoping that we have weather as good as we did last year! Cheers! 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:

Thanks for the opportunity for mentoring new Charleston Library Conference attendees. We find we are learning a lot in the process of answering questions and look forward to meeting the new folks in November. We hope they keep the questions coming!

Susan Campbell, York College of Pennsylvania
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and Pam Cenzer, University of Florida
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Charleston Conference Mentors

AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES
VOLUME 18 & 19 — 2006-2008

2006 Events  Issue  Ad Reservation  Camera-Ready
ALA Midwinter  Dec. 06/Jan. 07  11/22/06  12/06/06

2006 Events  Issue  Ad Reservation  Camera-Ready
Annual Report, ACRL  February 2007  12/20/06  01/10/07
MLA, SLA, Book Expo  April 2007  02/21/07  03/07/07
ALA Annual  June 2007  05/25/07  05/09/07
Reference Publishing  September 2007  07/25/07  08/08/07
Charleston Conference  November 2007  09/19/07  10/03/07
ALA Midwinter  Dec. 07/Jan. 08  11/21/07  12/05/07

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Rumors
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school year) started high school last year so Arlene didn’t go to any conferences. They went to Los Angeles and Joshua Tree around Thanksgiving last year so they missed Charleston. Anyway, Steve is coming with Arlene this year and they are staying in a lovely carriage house near the Conference. And after the conference, they are going canoeing on the Edisto and staying in the treehouse nights before the Conference. So they are going to be in Charleston for over a week. Golly! Wish I could be a tourist in Charleston!

Was sorry to learn that after many successful years of operation, time and circumstances led The Pierian Press, Inc. to discontinue production of their three databases, Consumers Index, FactSearch, and Media Review Digest. Pierian Press extends their thanks to the many subscribers and users of their databases over the years. Current subscribers to the Pierian Press databases on FirstSearch will be contacted regarding subscription refunds. OCLC will continue to offer the databases via its search access through June 30, 2007.

And, speaking of Pierian Press, they published one of my nursing research books many years ago (1992). Library Research Guide to Nursing, with Becky Linton and Claudia Cohen. The times, how they fly by!

Several dozen Brill titles were included as part of Tim Bucknall’s Carolina Consortium Springer title-sharing deal that runs until the end of 2007. But the Brill titles are leaving the Springer platform. Ellen Endres of Brill sends word that the deal through Springer will continue until the end of 2007. But 2008 will require a separate deal. Brill is developing pricing as we speak and there will be new URLs for the Brill titles soon.

Donguei Cao <caod@cofc.edu> sends us a small cultural lesson. Every year, the 15th day of the 8th month in the Chinese Lunar Calendar is the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival. One is supposed to go out and appreciate the full moon. Interestingly, for the next continuous five years (including this year), the fullest moon will fall on the next day (that is, the 16th day of the 8th month in the Chinese Lunar Calendar). Families are supposed to get together (and eat moon cakes while appreciating the full moon). Also, on this day, Chinese will miss all the family members that are far away from home. (Mid-Autumn Festival is also celebrated as a harvest festival in Chinese tradition. Fruits, vegetables, grains are abundant during that time.)

Tracey Armstrong has been named Chief Operating Officer of Copyright Clearance Center (CCC). Armstrong joined CCC in 1989 and most recently served as Executive Vice President. As COO, she will oversee all of company’s business units, including CCC’s corporate and academic licensing groups, international business operations, information technology, finance, marketing and rightsholder relations. “Tracey Armstrong has been central to CCC’s growth over the past 17 years,” said CCC President and CEO Joseph S. Alas in making the announcement. Armstrong lives in Beverly, MA, with her husband and three children. Among her other community and business activities, Armstrong is chairwoman of the Board of Trustees of Harborsight House, Inc., a low-income assisted living facility in Beverly. www.copyright.com

The British Library launched its Manifesto on the contentious issue of Intellectual Property continued on page 8