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From Your (pasta-loving) Editor

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From Your (pasta-loving) Editor:

Recently went to the **Fiesole Retreat** which every four years is in Italy. I have a confession to make. I love pasta. And there is no pasta anywhere that tastes as good as the pasta in Italy. I went on a diet so that I could eat all the pasta I wanted for five days. And that's exactly what I did! And while I was dieting, I had plenty of time to work on this issue of **ATG** which is edited by the energetic **Forrest Link** with the theme **The Grass Really is Sometimes Greener**. **Forrest** enlisted contributions from librarians who had become vendors, and vendors who had become librarians, and every which way. It was truly fascinating to read all about the experiences of **Corey Seaman**, **Valerie Tucci**, **Kate Kosturski**, **Laura Harris**, **Amira Aaron**, and **Scott Smith**. And many of these authors have also provided a people profile so we can learn even more

about them. Our interviews in this issue are with **Leslie Straus**, **Max Phua**, and **Dr. Mehdi Khosrow-Pour**, with accompanying publisher profiles for **SkyRiver Technology Solutions** and **IGI Global**.

Leila Salisbury writes a university press column from a different perspective, we have a report on the **Association of Subscription Agents (ASA)** annual conference from **Anthony Watkinson**, and more reports from the **31st Annual Charleston Conference** written by conference attendees that **Ramune Kubilius** has compiled. There is another installment of the **Richard Abel** story, a discussion of the Internet vis-à-vis libraries,

tales of a boy and a tribal drum, and there's even something about dance. **Bob Nardini** tells of visiting his old library school, **Jesse Holden** talks about professional ethics, and **Tinker Massey** has been thinking, "What Are We About?" **Greg Tananbaum** went to the Paris of the plains for the **SPARC** meeting, while **Tom Leonhardt** was busy reading for **Foreward Magazine**, and **Dennis Brunning** has much to say about **Britannica**. And, of course, there is much, much more, so keep reading!

Meanwhile, back at **ATG** headquarters, it's supper time. I need to diet to get over the pasta but maybe tomorrow!

See y'all soon! **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:

I really think I cannot participate as a conference director anymore. My time before retirement is getting shorter and my to-do list is getting longer. Much as I have loved being involved in the **Charleston Conference**, it is time to say farewell.

As I mentioned when I saw you at Midwinter, **Norton** died in December. This has thrown my life head over heels and my mind has been mushy ever since, although it seems to be improving, and I have an incredible number of things to pay attention to.

My last day will be Feb. 29, although I will maintain my email address and will have access to my office for awhile. It has been a wonderful experience knowing and working with all the conference directors and attending the conferences since the 1980s.

I wish you all the best.

Heather Miller

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Rumors

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much we would like to have him return to speak. **Michael** got a standing ovation way back when! So—I wrote **Michael** and am still hoping to persuade him to come to Charleston. He has left Fresno and settled in Chicago and is enjoying life with his grandchildren, he tells me, but I have not given up!

Speaking of that review, **Rob Christopher** from **ALA** (the publisher of **Broken Pieces**) asked for a PDF of the review!

Just back from the **Fourteenth Fiesole Retreat** which was held in Fiesole, Italy, where many of our colleagues were present. **Dr. Hazel Woodward** was there looking younger than ever! She announced her retirement from **Cranfield University** at the end of March but she will be working with the where-does-she-get-all-her-energy **Helen Henderson** with **Information Power**. New email is <hazel@informationpower.co.uk>.

At the Retreat the theatrical **Bill Hannay**—the lawyer, remember him?—gave quite a paper on the theft of print historical documents, rare books and manuscripts and the legal rights and remedies. Of course he sang a song which built on "These boots are made for walking..." but he used books instead of boots. Hilarious and cutting edge as always. Papers should be up shortly. The **Fiesole Retreat** Website is located at <http://www.casalini.it/retreat/>.

Speaking of which, **Irina** and **Fred Lynden** and the charming Director General **Anton V. Likhomanov** from the **National Library of Russia** were also at the Retreat and were very interested in **Bill's** talk.

BTW, did you know that the astute **John Baudassi (ProQuest)** has family in northern Italy? Had no idea. Moving back to the U.S.,

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<u>2012 Events</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Ad Reservation</u>	<u>Camera-Ready</u>
ALA Annual	June 2012	04/05/12	04/26/12
Reference Publishing	September 2012	06/22/12	07/13/12
Charleston Conference	November 2012	08/22/12	09/12/12
ALA Midwinter	Dec. 2012/Jan. 2013	11/09/12	11/30/12

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