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Charleston Conference 2013-Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

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2013 Charleston Conference — 33rd Annual Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

Call For Papers, Ideas, Conference Themes, Panels, Debates, Diatribes, Speakers, Poster Sessions, Preconferences, etc. ...

2013 Theme — Too Much Is Not Enough

Wednesday, November 6, 2013 — Preconferences and Vendor Showcase
Thursday-Saturday, November 7-9, 2013 — Main Conference
Francis Marion Hotel, Courtyard Marriott Historic District, Charleston, SC
Addlestone Library, and School of Science and Mathematics Building, College of Charleston

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, coordinating a lively lunch, or would like to make sure we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The **Charleston Conference** prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility, and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We'll probably love it...

The Conference Directors for the **2013 Charleston Conference** include — **Beth Bernhardt**, Principal Director (UNC-Greensboro) <beth_bernhardt@uncg.edu>, **Glenda Alvin** <galvin@Tnstate.edu>, **Adam Chesler** <adam.chesler@cox.net>, **Cris Ferguson** (Furman University) <cris.ferguson@furman.edu>, **Rachel Fleming** (Western Carolina) <rflaming@email.wcu.edu>, **Joyce Dixon-Fyle** (DePauw University Libraries) <joyfyle@depauw.edu>, **Chuck Hamaker** <cahamake@email.uncc.edu>, **Tony Horava** (University of Ottawa) <thorava@uottawa.ca>, **Albert Joy** (University of Vermont) <albert.joy@uvm.edu>, **Ramune Kubilius** (Northwestern Health Sciences Library) <r-kubilius@northwestern.edu>, **Erin Lockett** (Readex) <elockett@newsbank.com>, **Corrie Marsh** <cmarsh12@gmail.com>, **Jack Montgomery** (Western Kentucky University) <jack.montgomery@wku.edu>, **Audrey Powers** (UFS Tampa Library) <apowers@lib.usf.edu>, **Anthony Watkinson** (Consultant) <anthony.watkinson@btopenworld.com>, **Katina Strauch** (College of Charleston) <kstrauch@comcast.net>, or www.katina.info/conference.

Send ideas by **July 31, 2013**, to any of the Conference Directors listed above.

Or to: **Katina Strauch**, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409 • 843-723-3536 (voice) • 843-805-7918 (fax) 843-509-2848 (cell) • <kstrauch@comcast.net> • <http://www.katina.info/conference> 🐼



Pelikan's Antidisambiguation — Catching Up...

Column Editor: **Michael P. Pelikan** (Penn State) <mpp10@psu.edu>

A new year has begun, and with it, my return to *Against The Grain*, following an absence beginning in October. This issue's column began as "catching up..." — observations collected over the period that didn't make it into columns not produced during my absence. It has coalesced, however, into less of a laundry list and more of just a few pointed comments.

My absence was the result of fusion surgery to repair three vertebrae in my lumbar spine. The doctors did a marvelous job, horsing things into alignment, restoring correct spacing, and liberating nerves that had been mashed in the maelstrom of colliding forces. Recovery, while a long, tedious process, has been far better than the conditions that prevailed beforehand!

Nevertheless, I underwent a sustained, strictly-enforced period of extreme rest and absolute caution — an extended period during which the governing rule was "No BLT" — that is, no bending, lifting, or twisting.

So, for several months I observed the world, in all honesty, from an



even more bemused point of view than I normally do.

During this period I pulled out several reading projects that had been sitting in the "if I ever manage to get the time" category for seemingly forever. For one, I re-read **Churchill's** history of the Second World War. I had read it once before, and that was in my twenties. I got a lot more out of it this time.

An aside: the impact of encountering **Churchill's** writing once again was enormous! The man could use the language! Modern form seems laughably crude in comparison, especially after a period of immersion in **Churchill's** information-dense, nuanced, meaty prose! And most astonishing of all: **Churchill**, it seems, managed to write his monumental works on his own. That he could do this and keep up with his email, his tweets, his blog, and his texting is astonishing! (uh.....)

I also listened to music, watched some great movies, old and new, and revisited some favorite 1960s television. Basically, I consumed the output of others, in several media, and tried to keep from going mad from inactivity.

This, of course, provided the opportunity (read: excuse) to get my hands onto a new "best buddy," in this case, a Kindle Fire HD; the 7-inch model. Yes, I parachuted myself right into **Ama-**

zon's ecosystem and handed myself over saying, "Alright, you guys can watch me reading and listening and watching — just keep the content coming and so easy to get at!" After these many weeks of heavy use the conclusion is inescapable: for the consumption of the works of others, and those works in several media, this is a near-perfect purpose-built solution.

One certainly wouldn't want to write *Moby Dick* on a Kindle Fire HD, but reading on it is a pleasure. And **Amazon** makes sure there are no obstacles to getting more content. Imagine that. They seem to have some idea what they're doing. I wonder where they get the money to develop all this great stuff.

Then, long about six weeks post-op, it became time to start thinking about a gradual, very cautious, very tentative return to activity. As I began to reach outward again, I quickly discovered that even my very light laptop was still far too much to handle. Just the act of lifting it from a bedside table provided an immediate lesson in the limits of comfortable leverage. So that brought up the matter of finding a more content-creation-oriented device than the 7-inch **Amazon** tablet.

After some casting about for a "business-suited" tablet, I took the suggestion of a co-worker and checked out the new **Google** Nexus 10.

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