Letters to the Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net
Hmmm. So many people expect it to be warm year-round in Charleston. Come again. It gets cold down here! Okay, cold for us. Temperatures have been as low as 19 degrees Fahrenheit. And that’s cold in most anybody’s book, right? Plus we have had non-stop rain for the six weeks just after the Charleston Conference ended. Whew!

This issue is a stellar one. Bob Nardini has put together papers on the topic of Library Publishing and University Press Publishing: Then and Now. Authors include Patrick Alexander, Lisa Bayer, Maria Bonn, Gary Dunham and Carolyn Walters, Isaac Gilman, Kevin S. Hawkins, John Hussey, Paul Royster, and Charles Watkinson. The Op Ed is by Matthew Goddard on a surprising new trend.

Our interviews are with Audrey Powers, Peter Shepherd and Stanley Wilder. I am sad to report that Tony Ferguson is retiring from Back Talk with this issue. ;( But he has written a doozy of a Back Talk about Library School and the union card in his latest column.

Erin Gallagher has a special report on Polling during the 2014 Charleston Conference, in Elizabeth Lightfoot’s Luminaries column Robert Boissy, Valerie Boulos, Jill Emery, and Celeste Feather comment on Open Access. Glenda Alvin talks about frienemies, Mark Herrig about the cost of a college education, Bruce Strauch on writers in Hollywood, and Bob Kief tells us about monograph shared print in the corn belt. And, of course, there is lots more I haven’t mentioned here, so get comfortable in your favorite chair and read on.

Well, the sun is out and the temperature is 43 so we are going outside to take a walk around all the puddles.

Happy New Year, y’all. Love, Yr. Ed.

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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 enjoyed the Charleston Conference. It’s my favorite conference to attend, and I’m already looking forward to next year.

Debra Hargett, MLIS
Ethel K. Smith Library, Wingate University
<dhargett@wingate.edu>

Dear Editor:

It was a wonderful conference as always, and we thank you and your colleagues for all your work and for having the good fortune to be located in such a pleasant place. I hope you all have had a chance to rest up after the very hectic few days of all those visiting librarians and vendors and that you enjoy a peaceful and happy Thanksgiving just around the corner.

Best regards,
Robert Robbins, Representative
AMALIVRE (formerly Aux Amateurs de Livres/Librarie Touzet Internationale, 34 Orr Road, Jericho, VT 05465)
<robbins@together.net>

Against the Grain Deadlines

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Moving right along, Holtzbrinck Publishing Group and BC Partners have announced an agreement to merge the majority of Macmillan Science and Education with Springer Science+Business Media (owned by funds advised by BCP) in its entirety with the majority of Holtzbrinck-owned Macmillan Science and Education (MSE), namely Nature Publishing Group, Palgrave Macmillan and the global businesses of Macmillan Education. The joint venture will create a leading publish-