From Your Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net

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Letters to the Editor

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From Your (pasta-loving) Editor:

Don’t you love it? While I was in Italy eating pasta, there were people working away on this print April issue of ATG! And it’s a great one. The energetic and committed Bob Nardini has put together a unique series of articles on the business of bookselling and buying. His introductory article — looking through the lens of his encyclopedia article many years ago and how the industry has not — changed is too weak a word — is Morphed a better word? The industry is definitely changing its image...

Articles included are by Rick Lugg (being in the middle), Stephanie Church (strengthening the library story), Carol Joyner Cramer (alternatives to DDA), Alan Jarvis (next for academic publishing?), and Adam Sandler (eulogy for a bookworm).

We have interviews with Rosann Bazirjian and N V Sathyanarayana and David Parker has interviewed Laura Brown of JSTOR, while Myer Kutz had a fascinating conversation with renowned attorney Jon Baumgarten.

There are several book reviews and reports — Collecting to the Core is about advanced astronomy texts and thanks always to Anne Doherty for her editing of this continuing column. I can’t believe how amazing Regina Gong is getting so many great book reviews, and Tom Gilson is no slouch either.

Don Hawkins does his usual thorough reporting on the 2016 NFAIS Annual Conference, Ramune Kubilius brings us her reporters from the 2015 Charleston Conference, and Leah Hinds gives us a few glimpses of Charleston 2016.

Back Talk is about the speedy delivery of books through Amazon, etc. (Is speed the best factor when buying a book regardless of format?) Leila Salisbury is wandering the stacks in her From a University Press column. (I heard this quote recently, “You can’t walk the stacks in a virtual library — all you can search digitally is the metadata.”) Michael Arthur surveys the importance of efficient access and enhanced technical services operations, Jerry Spiller fills us in on a new scholarly journal launched by the Museum of Science Fiction, and Michael Grunenberg asks “when is a trade show not a trade show?” Stacey Marien and Alayne Mundt get technical about the chaos of media ordering while Vicki Sipe and Lynda Aldana care about shelf-ready workflow.

It’s time to down tools. What to have for supper? Pasta? Love, Yr. Ed. 🍝

Rumors from page 1

I don’t think that I told y’all that the soft-spoken steel magnolia, Rosann Bazirjian is retiring. Good news is that she is moving to Myrtle Beach, just up the street from Charleston! Plus she is leaving Beth Bernhardt to continue her marvelous work with the Charleston Conferences! We have an interview with Rosann in this issue, p.40.

The highlight of my March/April was completing staff evaluations which were supposed to be “paperless” until we had to print everything for the files! Go figure!

So, you will understand why I was delighted to attend the 18th Fiesole Collection Development Retreat in breathtaking Tuscany. The weather was perfect despite dire predictions to the contrary. The pasta and wine were ooh-lala and so was the scenery. Tuscany is this side of paradise. The Casalini’s as always were perfectly flawless hosts and the programs and discussions were stimulating. Sessions tackled “The E-Book Elephant” in Scholarly Publishing with an emphasis on new models and new strategies and much much more. Slides from the meeting are now available at the official Fiesole Retreat Repository.

John White’s twins, Norah and Zoey, with their brother Nate.