

2018

Bet You Missed It-Press Clippings – in the news – Carefully Selected by Your Crack Staff of news Sleuths

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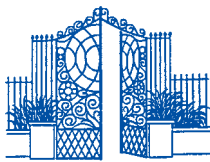
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at **Timberline Lodge** and his work contributed significantly to advances in library acquisitions and the development of our community of practice. He was a masterful storyteller and a convivial and attentive host at the Institutes. He will be missed by family, friends, and colleagues. The **Acquisitions Institute** will continue into the future and the Planning Committee is developing a remembrance for **Scott** at this year's institute. We hope that friends and colleagues will share their memories of **Scott** on our website at <http://acquisitionsinstitute.org/2018/03/29/remembering-scott-alan-smith/>.

Innovative Interfaces kicked off **IUG 2018, the 26th Innovative Users Group (IUG) Conference** held in Orlando, FL. For four days, 650 library professionals from ten countries around the world will gather to participate in more than 100 sessions presented by colleagues and **Innovative** staff. **Mark Strang**, **IUG** chair and manager, Library Information Technology Services for University Libraries, **Bowling Green State University** will begin the conference with opening remarks. **R. David Lankes**, director of the **University of South Carolina's** School of Library and Information Science, will deliver the **keynote**

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Bet You Missed It

Press Clippings — In the News — Carefully Selected by Your Crack Staff of News Sleuths

Column Editor: **Bruce Strauch** (The Citadel, Emeritus) <bruce.strauch@gmail.com>

Editor's Note: Hey, are y'all reading this? If you know of an article that should be called to **Against the Grain's** attention ... send an email to <kstrauch@comcast.net>. We're listening! — **KS**

URBANE JAY MCINERNEY ON A FAMOUS WINE BOOK

by **Bruce Strauch** (The Citadel, Emeritus)

Small, independent publisher **North Point Press** didn't last long, but it championed literary cult writers **James Salter**, **Beryl Markham**, and **Evan S. Connell**. And thirty years ago, it published wine importer **Kermit Lynch's** *Adventures on the Wine Route*. Still wildly popular with wine lovers, it is now published by **Farrar, Straus and Giroux**.

Lynch was a Berkeley hippy writing for the *Berkeley Barb* when he took an interest in wine and opened a small shop. French imports were limited to the *Grandes Marques* from Bordeaux when **Lynch** set out on a travelogue adventure through little celebrated regions.

He discovered unknown wines like Hermitage and Côte Rôtie and railed against homogenization of taste by corporate winemakers. Urging the French to respect their traditions, he calls Bordeaux "a land of façades."

He owns a house in the Bandol and continues to update his Baedeker. Piedmont: "In truffle season there is no more delicious place. Look for old bottles of Barolo — the quality is quite high."

See — **Jay McInerney**, "Kermit's Leap," *Town & Country*, March, 2018, p. 86.

AESTHETICS OF BOOK SHELVING

by **Bruce Strauch** (The Citadel, Emeritus)

Book spines in or out? Who knew there was a clash of opinions? Some decorators like spines in as they have multiple colors and don't match the rest of the room's décor. Plus you can create a sculptural effect by putting some vertical, some horizontal.

It does present a practical problem in selecting a book. And those who like to peruse books in other people's homes draw a big blank.

Duke professor **Henry Petroski** says there is no right way. And he's written a book on the subject.

Before the 16th century, there were no printed titles on spines. And Medieval chained libraries had the pages out so the chains wouldn't tangle — as one can see on *Game of Thrones*.

If you're picky about design, you can go to *BooksbytheFoot.com* and buy fifty feet of a color.

Which in fact was the custom in wealthy home libraries of the Gilded Age.

See — **Khadeeja Safdar**, "The Great Bookshelf Debate," *The Wall Street Journal*, Jan. 29, 2018, p.A1.



LONDON'S MOST BOOKISH QUARTER

by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel, Emeritus)

A tour of the sights in Bloomsbury, London leads to **Persephone Books**, founded in 1998, specializing in “lost” or out-of-print books, primarily by female interwar writers. 59 Lamb’s Conduit St., persephonebooks.co.uk.

See — **Kate Maxwell**, “Bloomsbury, Revisited,” *The Wall Street Journal*, Dec. 30-31, 2017, p. D5.

LET'S READ ABOUT GARDENS IN FICTION

by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel, Emeritus)

Charlotte Brontë, *Villette* (1853); (2) **Giles Waterfield**, *The Long Afternoon* (2000); (3) **L.P. Hartley**, *The Go-Between* (1953); (4) **Giorgio Bassani**, *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis* (1962) (a celebrated movie in the '70s. Wealthy Italian Jews isolated from the world by both fascists and middle-class Jews who resent their land ownership); (5) **Elizabeth Bowen**, *Look At All Those Roses* (1941).

See — **Lucy Hughes-Hallett**, “Five Best,” *The Wall Street Journal*, Jan. 6-7, 2018, p.C10. (**Hughes-Hallett** is the author of the novel *Peculiar Ground*.)

AH, THE BRITISH UPPER CRUST. SETTLE IN FOR THE READ.

by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel, Emeritus)

Mary S. Lovell, *The Riviera Set* (2017) (Yes, the old “sunny place for shady people” featuring the ones who passed through the Château de l’Horizon.); (2) Ed. by **Miles Jebb**, *The Diaries of Cynthia Gladwyn* (1995) (wife of diplomat Gladwyn Jebb); (3) Ed. by **Michael Block**, *Wallis and Edward: Letters 1931-1937* (1986) (“[S]ometimes excruciating” intimate letters of David and Wallis as preserved by her French lawyer **Suzanne Blum**.); (4) **Robert Harris**, *Selling Hitler* (1986) (The **Hitler** diary hoax that made a fool of historian **Hugh Trevor-Roper**.); (5) Ed. by **Duff Hart-Davis**, *King’s Counsellor: The Diaries of Sir Alan Lascelles* (2006) (Yes, you saw him in “The Crown” desperately striving to retain tradition. Who knew he kept waspish diaries?)

See — **Andrew Morton**, “Five Best,” *The Wall Street Journal*, March 24-25, 2018, p.C10.

BRIT MYSTERY CLASSICS

by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel, Emeritus)

No one does it better. Settle in for the read.

Josephine Tey, *Miss Pym Disposes* (1946) (Set in an elite girls’ physical education college.); (2) **Margery Allingham**, *The Fashion in Shrouds* (1938) (High-born detective **Albert Campion**’s sister in the couture biz.); (3) **Dorothy L. Sayers**, *Have His Carcase* (1932) (Book 2 in the trilogy of Lord Peter Wimsey courting Harriet Vane.); (4) **Agatha Christie**, *The Hollow* (1946) (Hercule Poirot); (5) **P. D. James**, *Devices and Desires* (1989) (Serial killer who whistles hymns. The church is a theme that runs through her books.).

See — **Laura Thompson**, “Five Best,” *The Wall Street Journal*, March 21-Apr. 1, 2018, p.C10. (**Thompson** has a new book, *Agatha Christie: A Mysterious Life*.)

FAMOUS COMICS

by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel, Emeritus)

Michael Tisserand, *Krazy: George Herriman, a Life in Black and White* (2016) (African-American artist launched by **William Randolph Hearst**. Oddly high-brow, attracting attention from lit crits, his language compared to **Joyce**.); (2) **Brian Walker**, *The Comics: The Complete Collection* (2011) (Son of **Mort Walker**, creator of “Hi and Lois” and “Beetle Bailey.”); (3) **David Michaelis**, *Schulz and Peanuts* (2007) (The highly personal comic by a man often melancholy.); (4) **Scott McCloud**, *Understanding Comics* (1993) (The theory of comics written and drawn as a comic strip.); (5) **Lucien Musset**, *The Bayeux Tapestry* (2002) (Yes, it’s the Bayeux Tapestry. But it relates **Hastings** as in a comic strip. **Hal Foster** of “Prince Valiant” cited it as a forerunner of the comics of today.)

See — **Cullen Murphy**, “Five Best,” *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 10-11, 2018, p.C10. (**Murphy** is the author of *Cartoon County: My Father and His Friends in the Golden Age of Make-Believe*. It’s about his youth in Greenwich, Connecticut when every comic artist in America lived there. Truly fascinating. No faxes, so they had to travel to NYC to show their work to *The New Yorker* et al. And **Murphy** drew “Prince Valiant” for 25 years.)

DOLL WARS

by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel, Emeritus)

Ruth Handler and her husband founded **Mattel** in 1945. While traveling Europe with her children **Barbie** and **Ken** (YES! Those were their names), **Ruth** spotted a racy German doll **Lilli**. With **Lilli** as a model, in 1959 she created “Barbie, Teen Age Fashion Model.”

The doll was actually designed by **Jack Ryan**, “world’s greatest swinger.” **Ryan** was married five times. **Zsa Zsa Gabor** divorced him saying she was unable to bear the fur-lined sex dungeon in his Bel-Air mansion.

Lilli sued **Mattel**; **Mattel** settled. **Ryan** sued **Mattel**; **Mattel** settled. **Ryan** had a stroke and then shot himself in the head.

By the 1990s, **Mattel** was making a billion dollars annually from Barbie. Then came **MGA**’s Bratz dolls and their sales rapidly hit a billion a year as Barbie plummeted.

See the current “Cases of Note” for the *Mattel v. MGA* litigation.

The New Yorker has an exhaustive article on Barbie, intellectual property law and the sociology of how Barbie, icon of post-war decades came to be derided as pornography and harmful to girls.

Alex Kozinski, the presiding judge in *Mattel v. MGA* strongly believed few things are actually original. Everyone builds on someone else’s work. Which is to say he didn’t think so many works should be tied up in copyright protection because it stifles competition.

In 2004 **Kozinski** was rated No. 1 male Superhottie of the federal judiciary by legal-gossip blog Underneath Their Robes. He had a website with porn on it, most notably some nude women on all fours painted as cows.

The *Washington Post* reported allegations of sexual harassment by at least fifteen women. **Kozinski** resigned from the bench.

See — **Jill Lepore**, “Valley of the Dolls,” *The New Yorker*, Jan. 22, 2018, p.64.

Future Dates for Charleston Conferences

2018 Conference

Preconferences Nov. 5-6 — Vendor Showcase Nov. 6 — Main Conference Nov. 7-10

2019 Conference

Preconferences Nov. 4-5 — Vendor Showcase Nov. 5 — Main Conference Nov. 6-9

2020 Conference

Preconferences Nov. 2-3 — Vendor Showcase Nov. 3 — Main Conference Nov. 4-7