Against the Grain

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Letters to the Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain

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Dear Editor:

I want to thank you again for the wonderful, wonderful Conference we had in Charleston. This was my first time. I am certain, that I don't want it to be the last for I enjoyed it sooooooooo much!

On my way back home, I read the Conference issue of ATG. I have to tell you that in my life I have never ever been absorbed by rumors this much! Thank you for spreading them.

Thank you, thank you!

Xin Li
(Yale University Library)
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Dear Editor:

I thoroughly enjoyed the last issue [September, 1995] of ATG, especially the interview with John Cox, the President of Carfax Publishing. Your homepage is great; however, I personally prefer to read hardcopy. ATG is a wonderful publication and offers a great forum for publishers, librarians, and subscription agents to exchange ideas and learn about each other's goals and perspectives. The Technology Column is terrific and certainly needed. There is so much to learn about the Internet and mountains of information everywhere! It's overwhelming at times. Thanks for publishing ATG — a necessary tool for everyone who reads it.

Nancy Seitz
(Journal Fulfillment Manager,
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Dear Editor:

One of the speakers in Charleston (either Laura Gasaway [UNC Law School] or Lisa Freeman [U. of Minnesota Press]) said that we need to increase the general level of education about copyright issues. Then she quipped that instead of the 'Three R's, kids would soon need to learn the 'Two C's in school: Condoms and Copyright. I have good news!

Today, only eight days after the Charleston Conference came to an end, my nine-year-old daughter, after uttering a "bon mot" that particularly pleased her, exclaimed, "Copyright! I shot her a glance (I was driving) and said, "WHAT?" She answered, "Don't you know what copyright is? It's when nobody can copy exactly what you did!" Attempting to appear vaguely knowledgeable, I said, "Yeah, I know what it is. I've just never heard you use it before." "Oh," she said, "we do it all the time in school. And we put the C in the little circle on our drawings, like "copyright 1995...""

So there you have it. Clearly Charleston was a call to action! To celebrate the incredible speed with which copyright education has penetrated even to the grade school level, I am enclosing for you one pog (this probably needs a tiny 'TM', but my printer can't do it superscript ...) or rather, one "mill cap" or anyway, one of those small flat round things that nine-year-olds sometimes play with, this one emblazoned with a picture of the state of South Carolina.

Best regards,

Celia Wagner
(Blockwell North America)
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Dear Editor:

What a fine piece by Tom Leonhardt in the November issue! In his "Letter from Oklahoma" he quotes an elegant paragraph by Lawrence Clark Powell that should speak to all of us. It is as pertinent today as when written and might be just the therapy needed to cure the CyberFlu.

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