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Charleston Conference Future Dates

Editor

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WHY WORK? GET PAID TO INTERVIEW
by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

James Ambras’ matchmaker Notchup links companies eager enough for employees that they will pay them to come interview. Notchup takes 35% of the interview fee. Its target demographic are folks happy in their $80,000-to-$200,000 jobs. Executive recruiters are looking for clients with much higher demands.

The interview fee? $450 to $1,000.

LITERARY LIBATION
by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

The Jack Rose cocktail was named for “Bald Jack Rose” Rosenweig, a bagman for a crooked cop in N.Y. In 1912, Herman Rosenthal, a bookie who was being squeezed, went to the New York World’s editor Herbert Bayard Swope and exposed the racket. This got him gummed down in the restaurant of the Hotel Metropole off Times Square as he enjoyed a steak and a cold Horse’s Neck (ginger ale with a twist of lemon).

The gunsels’ car was rented by Jack Rose. He rolled over on them plus the cop, sending them all to the chair at Sing Sing.

Jake Barnes enjoys a Jack Rose in the bar of a Paris hotel in Hemingway’s 1926 novel The Sun Also Rises.

Oh yes. Applejack (apple brandy), lemon or lime juice and grenadine shaken with ice and strained into a stemmed glass. Lemon twist.

STRUGGLING UP FROM THE CULTURAL BOTTOM
by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

It’s a national trend — people go to libraries in ever greater numbers for books! There is no death of reading, and a report from the National Endowment for the Arts bears it out.

The biggest bump up in readership came in the 18-to-24-year-old group who are laying down their

Endowment for the Arts for books! There is no death of reading, and a report from the


cultural bottom and are ready to be smart again.

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

MORE BIG BUCKS FROM THE WEB
by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Ethan Stock was taken by a girlfriend to a ball in Oakland, CA where 350 dancers were dressed in Victorian formal wear. He was shocked that he did not know such a thing existed.

With a programmer, he created Zvents which “scours the unstructured soup” of the Web looking for events. These run the gamut from museum openings to two-for-one drinks.

Rather than try to draw people to his Website, he has partnered with old media — 250 newspapers, MTV, MSN and AT&T.

LANDMARK TRIALS
by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Famed Harvard Law liberal Alan Dershowitz lists his five favorite books on big trials. (1) Leonard Dinnerstein, The Leo Frank Case — the famous 1913 Atlanta murder trial and lynching; (2) Edward Larson, Summer for the Gods — setting the record straight on the Scopes trial which everyone knows only through the Hollywood propaganda of “Inherit the Wind”; (3) Ronald Radosh and Joyce Milton, The Rosenberg File — shattering the long-time claim of their innocence; (4) Deborah Lipstadt, History on Trial — the libel suit brought by Holocaust denier David Irving; (5) Stuart Taylor and KC Johnson, Until Proven Innocent — the Duke Lacrosse case.

OH, HENRY!
by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Retired U.S. bond trader Arthur Schwarz has had a three-decade obsession with collecting Tudor books, manuscripts and letters. For the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII’s accession to the throne, Schwarz is opening a show on March 4 at the Grolier Club, a society for bibliophiles in mid-town Manhattan. It will move for a three-month run at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington late in 2010.

Not as easy as it sounds, this has been six years in the making and required $120,000 and documents contributed to the show from the Morgan Library and Harvard’s Houghton Library.

DUSTING OFF HAZLITT
by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Duncan Wu has published William Hazlitt with Oxford University Press, 557 pages, $45.

Hazlitt (1779-1830) was the great English essayist of his age, knowing every British writer of stature and making enemies of most of them. Shelley: “Egotism, petulance, licentiousness, levity of principle is a bad thing in any one, and most of all, in a philosophical reformer.”

Future Dates for Charleston Conferences

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