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From Your (playing the yiayia) Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net

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Greek lesson — the word for grandmother is Yiayia. And this Yiayia is heading off for the christening of her very first grandchild, a little boy named Trifon Raymond Walse. Trifon was my daughter-in-law’s great grandfather’s name and is also the Christian god of wine, I learned recently from a niece who knows all these things.

And back at the ATG ranch, we are working away on the February issue. Sorry for the delay in getting this issue out but, hey, it’s well worth the wait. Margaret Landesman has put together some really cool articles about public library initiatives by John Ober, Samantha Larsen Hastings, Anne Carr-Wiggin and Louise Reimer, Marie Paiva, Lisa German, Sue Medina, Barbara G. Preece, and Sally Patrick. We also have some special reports on diverse subjects like academic libraries after print, implementing eBook collections, using rare books, and Wikis in the workplace from Allen McKiel, Cynthia Cleto, Gene Waddell, Keith Engwall and Steve McKinzie. We have a fascinating interview with Dr. Eric Emerson about one of the few private libraries in the world, The Charleston Library Society. You should be sure and visit the next time you are in Charleston!

What else? Sandy Thatcher gives us Part II of How to Establish a Research Agenda for Scholarly Communication. Dr. Matthew Brococoli commemorates the DLB at Thirty. Todd Carpenter talks about institutional identification. Cris Ferguson takes on Zotero, and I could go on and on. Oh! And we have the return of two of our old (not in the aging sense) columnists – Philip Hallman who returns to the Media Minder column and Jared Seay to You Gotta Go to School for That. Welcome!

I have to say adiós (Greek for goodbye to y’all) for a few days as I head off to San Antonio for the christening. But first I have to order some children’s books for Trifon. You can’t start reading too early!

Love to all. Yr. Ed.

Dear Editor:

Just a brief note to let you know how much I appreciate, as a retiree, receiving Against the Grain. It brings back such wonderful memories of the years I attended the Charleston Conference. I believe the first one was in the late 1980’s, and there could not have been more than 75 in attendance. It sure has grown over the years! I certainly looked forward to coming back every year, to catch up with what was happening in other libraries. This was such a stimulating group and, even though it really grew in size, there was still ample opportunity to learn from, and exchange information with, colleagues. I always made it clear to my former “fellow librarians” at Cornell that this was the conference to attend no matter what your particular speciality was within the library profession.

One of these days I really want to get back to Charleston, one of my favorite cities. Warmest regards, Phil Dankert <pdankert@twcnry.rr.com>