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From Your Editor

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Dear Editor:

As you may know, my colleague, James Gerard, and I have been attending the Charleston Conference and reading *Against the Grain* for many years now. We find the conference and the journal extremely invaluable and feel both form a very integral part of the communication network within our industry.

Barbara J. Church
(Ashgate Publishing Company)
<bcchurch@ashgate.com>

P.S. I was unable to attend the Charleston Conference last year as I was in Frankfurt for the Book Fair. I hope to attend this year’s show. Please be sure that my name is on the mailing list. Thanks!

Dear Editor:

You do one of the profession’s very best journals. Keep up the great work!

Best regards,

Allen Venner
(retired) <ieverner@worldnet.att.net>

Dear Editor:

Got the April issue of *ATG* in the mail yesterday. Thanks for the kind words, and for accepting the article, even as long as it was. I’m happy to report I got some nice compliments on it from other former Ditto machine operators. [see v.13 no.2, p.46, 48].

David R. Fritsch
(Vice President, Sales. TNDNet, Inc.)
<davifr@tdnet.teldan.com>

RosettaBooks, which has legal gurus arguing over what defines a book really and whether or not authors signed away their eBook rights when they signed their original contracts, RosettaBooks is trying to sell digital versions of Random House titles by the likes of William Styron, Robert Parker, and Kurt Vonnegut. The question is: do authors own the digital rights to their books? The article, “E-Book Copyright Battle Heads to Court” by Gwendolyn Mariano is available at http://www.zdnet.co.uk/news/2001/8/11/21259.html.

Tony Ferguson passed his dissertation defense with flying colors. He can now be reached at University of Hong Kong Libraries, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong. E-mail: <ferguson@hkusl.hku.hk>. Phone: 852-2859-2200. Fax: 852-2858-9420.

Always on the job, Tony still had time to write his Back Talk (this issue, p.94) about the controversial book *Double Fold* by Nicholson Baker. And here’s an ARL Website with reviews and responses to Mr. Baker: http://www.arl.org/preserv/baker.html

Well, Tom Leonhardt (International University Bremen) <tw@iu-bremen.de> writes that he started work May 2 and is now working on job descriptions and RFIs for vendors—monographs, serials, and automation. Everything has to be in place by early August since classes begin for the first time on September 3. So, he won’t be sleeping for the next few months. Here’s his contact information: Director, Information Resource Center and University Librarian, International University Bremen, Campus Ring 1, D-28759 Bremen. Postal Address: PO. Box 750 561, D-28725 Bremen, Germany. Phone: +49-421-200-4610. Fax: +49-421-200-49 4610. Email: <tw@iu-bremen.de>. Alles Gute!

At a recent meeting, representatives of consortia of libraries from around the world expressed concern at the news of yet another information industry merger which is further concentrating control of access publicly-used information into a few commercial hands. The acquisition discussed at the meeting of the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) was the purchase of SilverPlatter Information by Wolters Kluwer, a multi-national publishing con-