Letters to the Editor

Katina Strauch

Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net
Can you believe it’s 2006? This winter has been especially bittersweet. My parents are quite old and fading fast. Several of our best library friends, Lyman Newlin and Deana Astle, most especially, have passed on to the hereafter. We just completed the 25th Charleston Conference with the delightful Memory Book that Cris Ferguson, Glenda Alvin, Ramune Kubilius, and Jack Montgomery put together. The pictures of many of our friends through the years are included. In fact, if you’d like a copy of the Memory Book on CD-ROM, let me know and I will send you a copy.

Anyway, always focusing on the future, we have all been working away diligently on this issue of ATG which is about replacing print with electronic copies of journals. Cris Ferguson and Ajaye Bloomstone have put together seven papers from Xiaoli Li and Carolyn Kopper, Claire T. Dyger, Maha Kumaran and Dawn Bassett, Rick Anderson, Kristen DeVoe, Tina Felek and Shawn Herman, and James A. Buczynski. Mark Herring talks about Giving Thanks in his Little Red Herrings column which doubles as our Op Ed for this issue.

Our first interview this issue is with Gary Rautenstrauch and Philip Blackwell and is followed by Richard Abel’s interview with Alice and Klaus Peters. We have many, many profiles including one from Barbara Blummer our Biz of Acq author for this issue. Tom Gilson (whose article arrived ahead of deadline) and Debbie Vaughn (who has just started a new job) have both provided the reviews that we will look forward to and Sever Bordeian has edited Reports of Meetings from Ramune Kubilius on the Special Library Association 2005 Annual Conference and Joyce Tenney on the 14th Annual North Carolina Serials Conference.

Peter Givler has a new column entitled From the University Presses and his first focus is on “Books for Understanding.” And speaking of new columns check out Richard Abel’s “Occasional Rambles in the World of the Book” which also premiers in this issue. Tinker Massey has the second installment of her new column “Something to Think About” and so does Anne Langley. see Case Study Two: The Case of the Temperamental Bibliographer.

And let’s not forget Peter Shepherd our new column editor for International Date-line who brings his second installment as well – eBook: The New Serial? – which was also the intriguing title of a very timely and well-attended seminar organized by the United Kingdom Serials Group. And there’s much, much more!

Plus, it’s time for the big New Year’s dinner and I am supposed to be cooking the ham. Gotta go. Happy New Year and all the best to all of y’all for 2006! Yr. Ed. 🍽

Rumors from page 1

who do research in the areas of behavioral, psychological, and cognitive sciences, the Federation focuses its efforts on legislative advocacy, education, and the communication of information to scientists. “SAGE chose to support the Federation because, as a scholarly publisher, we hold similar values,” said Blaise Simqu, SAGE President and CEO. “In particular, SAGE wants to assist in countering recent changes in government funding of research which have limited the support for investigation in the behavioral, psychological, and cognitive sciences.” www.sagepublications.com www.shefederationonline.org

Robert Frizzell, chair of the Missouri Bibliographic Information User System executive committee, has announced that George Rickerson has submitted his resignation from the position of MOBIUS executive director. Rickerson will transition to the position of associate vice president for administrative applications within the University of Missouri. Rickerson has led MOBIUS, a state-wide consortia of academic libraries, since its beginnings in 1998. Under his leadership, MOBIUS has grown to 60 Missouri colleges and universities and two public libraries as cooperating partners. Originally funded by the state of Missouri and member institutions, MOBIUS is now completely funded by member institutions after state budget cuts last year. The largest single project for which MOBIUS is responsible, the Common Library Platform, creates a virtual collection and a single user interface that allows faculty and students to request library materials using any computer with Internet access. Requested materials are delivered within one or two days of being requested by the MOBIUS delivery system. The MOBIUS executive committee has named a search committee and will be getting that process underway immediately, Frizzell said. Rickerson’s resignation is effective March 31, but he has agreed to remain in the position until a replacement has been hired.

continued on page 10

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Send letters to <kstrouch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear Editor:

Susan Campbell <scampbel@yep.edq> and I had a great time as Mentors to new people coming to the Charleston Conference this past year. We hope that people will continue to contact us with questions, ideas, suggestions, and whatever they want to talk about. We are looking forward to November 8-11, 2006!

Sincerely,

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2006 Events Issue Ad Reservation Camera-Ready
Annual Report, PLA February 2006 01/04/06 01/18/06
MLA, SLA, Book Expo April 2006 02/22/06 03/08/06
ALA Annual June 2006 04/26/06 05/10/06
Reference Publishing September 2006 07/26/06 08/09/06
Charleston Conference November 2006 09/20/06 10/04/06
ALA Midwinter Dec. 06/Jan. 07 11/22/06 12/06/06

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