Letters to the Editor

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It's spring in Charleston. The azaleas and dogwood and wisteria are blooming. Truly a magical time to be alive. And it's time to do some spring cleaning like our mothers used to do, put up the woolens, do some gardening, etc. So, in between being domestic and spring-y, we have been working away on this issue of *ATG*. And it's a great one. Mary Page is our guest editor for this issue, titled "Electronic Resources Rocked My World. What's Changed and How We Manage." Ain't it the truth? Some very enlightening articles from several different perspectives — public services (Abigail Bordeux), cataloging (Julia Everett Alligood), electronic resources (Anna Creech), staffing (Mary Grenci) and publishers (Adam Chesler). Steven Rhind-Tutt has done his usual controversial "Op Ed" regarding free resources. We have the *ATG* annual survey report, "Back Talk" (repositories) by Tony Ferguson, interviews with Eileen Fenton (Portico), and Vicky Reich (LOCKSS). Greg Tananbaum has more on LOCKSS and Portico as well in his "I Hear the Train A Comin'" on p. 84. There's lots to think about in this issue, see Rick Anderson's article "Thinking About the Value of Staff Time" and Mary Massey has us thinking about "Where Are the Shelves?"

Mark Herring answers the question "What Do Academic Library Deans Do?" while Bob Nardini tells us about the 100 chefs that Google employs. And Ned Kraft has a "Glossary of Terms" that you won't want to miss. Plus there's more!

Well, I just noticed that the caterpillars are trying to eat my azaleas and I have to go talk them out of it! That just won't do.

Happy spring to y'all!

Cheers, Your Ed.

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**Letters to the Editor**

Send letters to <ksitrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3336, 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](http://www.against-the-grain.com).

Dear Editor:

In reference to your "From the Reference Desk" column, I'd like to send the following:

Dear Tom,

Just wanted to let you know that I am a fan of your *ATG* column and appreciate your reviews. Especially like your inclusion of opinion about appropriateness of titles for public libraries.

Victoria West
Reference Collection Development Librarian
Charleston County Public Library
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**Rumors**

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transition, challenges to copyright, the need to articulate publisher value-added to broader constituencies than in the past. In all these areas STM must make a real difference for its members and for the wider publishing community. I look forward to working with the STM Board, its staff and members to strengthen our ability to respond and proactively to make the case for publishers and publishing." From 1999 until the present, Mabe has been Director of Academic Relations for Elsevier where he was international academic affairs spokesperson responsible for Elsevier's relations and strategy with the international research community, science funding bodies and governmental agencies. Mabe was also responsible for the direction of research and relationship programs, and a member of Elsevier's copyright committee. Prior to that position, Mabe was Publishing Director of Elsevier's global materials science program. Mabe also worked at Pergamon Press, Ltd as both Editorial Director and Senior Publishing Editor in Materials Science and Editorial Manager in the Scientific Enyclopedia Department. Mabe has also held senior positions at the British Standards Institution and Oxford University Press. Mabe graduated as Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Chemistry and as Master of Arts from St Catherine's College, Oxford University. Mabe also serves as a Director of the Management Committee for the Center for Publishing Studies, University College, London. Mabe is also a Visiting Professor in Information Science at City University and the University of Tennessee. Whew! What great news from one of our Charleston Conference Favorites. Jerry Cowbig, as well! Congratulations, Michael! [www.stm-associ.org](http://www.stm-associ.org)

Just found out that in April (that's now!) Jim Vickery <jim.vickery@bl.uk> took early retirement after over thirty years at the British Library, served mostly in collection development and acquisitions roles. Jim was Secretary to both the [UK] National Acquisitions Group and the IFLA Section on Acquisition and Collection Development during the 1980s and 1990s, and a key aim during his career was to involve all elements of the library supply business in building library collections. Jim says he has fond memories of his visits to Charleston. And so do we! Jim says he is looking forward to pursuing interests outside librarianship when he retires.

Speaking of retirements, guess who I heard from not long ago? Linda and Chet Plitezk <plitezke@yahoo.com>. Linda was at the Library of Congress for many years. It's been four years since they moved in to the retirement life. Linda says they have a totally new outlook on life. They are going to the opera, symphony, theater, taking long...