September 2006

Letters to the Editor

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From Your (travelin’ kicking and screaming) Editor:

I have to confess that I am not a seasoned traveler. I like to be where I am going without going through the agony of traveling to get there. The only travel I enjoy is train travel (like our wonderful Lyman Newlin used to love). Still, I traveled this summer. Even so, this issue is ready to go traveling. Our crack ATG team has managed to put together this wonderful issue.

Margaret Landesman is our guest editor and her focus is on the future of library collections. Included are articles by Daniel Lee, Johann van Reenen, Dr. Michael Stoller, Kate Holvoet, Amy Brunvand, Stephen Rhind-Tutt, Colin Allen and Cecile Jagodzinski, and Amanda Maple. Rick Anderson also writes in with a “Crazy Idea.” See our Op Ed on p.50.

Lynn Cunningham and Kathryn Wayne tell us all about the introduction of Artstore at UC Berkeley. We have interviews with Patrick Kindregan, Tom Sanville, and Michael Mabe. Memories of food and thoughts about library service quality is Tony Ferguson’s topic for Back Talk this month. Plus there is much more!

Well, it’s late and I have to go travel to work. Happy fall and see you in Charleston in November! Yr. Ed.

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@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:

I received the issues of Against the Grain. Thank you for your kind words and for remembering Vicky. Please give my thanks to Vicky’s colleagues both for their kind words and for their kindness to Vicky personally and professionally.

Best wishes for the continued success of ATG and the Charleston Conference.

Francis “Fritz” Speck
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AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES
VOLUME 18 & 19 — 2006-2008

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Toni Nix <justwritelowcountry.com>; Phone: 843-835-8604; Fax: 843-835-5892.

Rumors from page 1

Licensing Services <ngm@mit.edu> in this new position. Congratulations, Ellen!

Speaking of awesome, Betty Oktay has retired from Vassar College Libraries as of June 30, 2006! Last time we talked, Betty was busy with annual report (both narrative and statistical) and sorting and cleaning, etc. I understand there is a new organization underway and Betty says that took some or her time as well. Betty says she’ll be keeping her <oktay@vassar.edu> email which is great as far as we’re concerned. Betty’s and husband Seygin’s real “relaxation” began when they headed off to Martha’s Vineyard for a few days, July 2-5. Betty’s address is 2307 Mulberry Court, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

Remembering time we spent with Betty and Seygin when son Raymond was at West Point. Seygin is quite an airplane pilot and took us all around the area in his private plane. Oh, the memories.

Horrible news. The wonderfully kind Miriam Gilbert has just lost her husband, David Black. David died suddenly several weeks ago from a pulmonary embolism. The family has set up an education fund for their son, Ben Black. Here is the information: Benjamin Black Education Trust; Checks may be made out to “Benjamin Black Education Trust” on the memo line, “Acct. #205811.” And may be mailed directly to: Elevations Credit Union, PO Box 9004, Boulder, CO 80301-9004. Miriam’s direct email is <mgilbert2@aol.com>. Her snail mail address is Miriam Gilbert, 3121 Seventh Street, Boulder, CO 80304. This information comes to us from the awesome Dodie Owaes <djowaes@ix.netcom.com> Information Services Consulting.

More sad news. I learned from the astute Nancy Gibbs <nancy.gibbs@duke.edu> about the death of our acquisitions colleague Barbara Nelson, Head of Acquisitions at Auburn University Libraries. As you might recall, Barbara made a gallant effort to come to Charleston last year and could be seen sitting in the balcony with her mask on as she was still in an early remission cycle at that time. She attended several Charleston’s over the course of her time in Acquisitions and will be missed by all of us. We are including the message Bonnie Mackwen sent out to all Auburn Library staff upon learning of Barbara’s death, this issue, p.8. May she rest in peace.

Be sure and read all the great book reviews in this issue of ATG, pp.66. Hasn’t Deb Vaughn done a great job of pulling this diverse group of reviewers together? The review of EAT CAKE which itself was written anonymously is by an anonymous source. Seems appropriate.

And, once more, we have failed to print Jill Cooper’s delightful short story that won our fiction contest. I promise (I hope) that it will be in the November (Charleston Conference) issue of ATG!