



NASIG Newsletter

Vol. 27, no. 3

September 2012

eISSN 1542-3417

President's Corner

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It's 4:30 on the Friday afternoon that this column is due. Those of you who know me know that if you want something from me, you must give me a deadline...otherwise your request will go into the ever growing inbox (which has grown mightily in the last year...no need for fertilizer here). As I write my last *Corner*, I wish to thank the membership for trusting me to hold the reins for a year and I especially wish to thank my colleagues on the Board and on various committees for their patience in working with me. I've always rebelled against list-making and at times the consequences of this choice are painfully obvious...as I regularly tell my grandsons: choices and consequences. Unfortunately, this column will not be as entertaining as Katy's column last year ("*We are all the eggman. We are all the walrus. Goo goo g'joob.*"), but like Katy, I would also like to express my appreciation to all the volunteers who make this organization work. At the UKSG meeting last month (more on that in a minute), several UKSG board members were *gobsmacked* (well, several of them didn't say that...only one actually used the word *gobsmacked*, but several expressed a similar sentiment) that we are a completely volunteer organization. It still amazes me that we're able to organize and run a national conference, develop and sponsor continuing education events, provide mentoring for newly minted librarians (and those not-yet-minted), provide a forum for those in the serials and scholarly publishing community and serve as a professional 'voice' for that community...and doing it all with a group of dedicated volunteers. I thank all of you who have renewed your memberships and have

volunteered in the past and will do so in the future. I would also like to acknowledge the contributions made by our commercial community (both at an organizational and individual level). We would not be able to do the work of the organization without your sponsorships and for that we are most appreciative.

By The Bonnie Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond...

Well, not exactly. More like 30 minutes away from the *bonnie, bonnie banks*. The annual UKSG meeting was held last month at the Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre in Glasgow, Scotland (a building reminiscent of a gigantic metal armadillo). This was my second time attending this conference and I must say that UKSG is still doing something right...this year marked their most well-attended conference with over 800 attendees. Thoughtful plenaries, interesting workshops, and opportunities to network with my UK and European colleagues made for a personally and professionally satisfying experience. I highly recommend reviewing the conference blog <<http://uksglive.blogspot.co.uk/>> if you want to know the latest in what's going on with scholarly publishing and communication in the UK. On a personal note, now that I've seen an official *Parading of the Haggis* (Google it), my life is one step closer to completion!

One Month to Go...

...before the conference in Nashville. In the December issue of the newsletter, I provided some details about

the conference. Instead of paraphrasing what I've already written, let me provide you with:

Steve's Top 10 Reasons to Attend NASIG in Nashville

- #10 – No drunken Cubs fans
- #9 – Free parking and a free airport shuttle
- #8 – Meet with vendor colleagues and see the latest in products, services, publications and technologies at the Vendor Expo
- #7 – It costs the same as it did back in 2004, making it a bargain of a conference
- #6 – “Meat And Three” (or for you vegetarians....”Three”)
- #5 – To network with my community, to learn from my peers and to verify my job is really not that bad (and if it

is...I can start networking with potential future employers!)

#4 – Elvis Presley's "Solid Gold" Cadillac

#3 – There IS such a thing as a free lunch!!

#2 -- Indecision 2012...too many good programs and only one of me (*Hmmm...I wonder if I can talk my co-worker into going to the ERM session so I can go to the Web-scale Discovery overview*)

...And the #1 reason to attend NASIG in Nashville:

To see your President completely embarrass himself at Open Mic night!

See y'all in Nashville!