Causes Won, Lost, and Forgotten, by Gary W. Gallagher (274 pages, April 2008), examines the Civil War as portrayed in recent films and art in the light of four interpretive traditions devised by participants in the conflict: the Southern Lost Cause, preservation of the Union, emancipation of the slaves, and reconciliation of the two opposing sides. Films strongly influence the public perception of historical events, and Gallagher was exasperated to find that the strongest motivation for Northern soldiers, the preservation of the Union, was rarely represented in Civil War cinema. In films showing the Confederacy, the Lost Cause theme prevailed (think Gone with the Wind) until 1989’s Glory, when emancipation and reconciliation replaced it. Gallagher also looks at the remarkable popularity of such Civil War artists as Mort Künstler, Don Troiani, and Dale Gallon that allow the Lost Cause theme to flourish. $28.00. University of North Carolina. 978-0-8078-3206-6.


The Craft of Research, by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams (317 pages, 3rd ed., April 2008), goes to the heart of the research process to help students and other scholars formulate a significant topic, locate and evaluate sources, draft a report using cogent arguments, and revise it to ensure that readers do not lose interest. This edition offers enhanced sections on online research and warrants (cause-and-effect or if-then statements). $17.00. University of Chicago. 978-0-226-06566-3.

Another writer’s guide addresses an unusual audience, but one that certainly exists on many campuses. Communicating with Intelligence, by James S. Major (420 pages, May 2008), provides tips for students taking intelligence, national security, or homeland security courses. Both written papers and verbal briefings are covered. Although the context is military and political, the advice and exercises will be useful for other disciplines. $45.00. Scarecrow. 978-0-8108-6119-0.

Dinner with a Cannibal: The Complete History of Mankind’s Oldest Taboo, by Carole A. Travis-Henikoff (333 pages, March 2008), takes an informal yet informed look at the ingestion of human flesh from Neanderthals to modern cases of survival, ritual, medicinal, funerary, combative, infanticidal, and benign cannibalism. Written partially as a popular answer to William Arens’s The Man-Eating Myth (Oxford, 1979), which argued that the practice was more cultural libel than reality, Travis-Henikoff’s lively and sometimes amusing anthropophagic romp shows that starvation and cultural patterns are often strong

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enough to counter moral taboos. $24.95. Santa Monica Press. 978-1-59580-030-5.

A Mythic Obsession: The World of Dr. Evermor, by Tom Kupsh (198 pages, May 2008), describes the fantastic metal sculptures of Wisconsin outsider artist Tom Every (b. 1938), who operates in the persona of the mythical 19th-century scientist Dr. Evermor. Every ran a salvage and wrecking company in the 1970s when he began helping out Alex Jordan with his House on the Rock attraction in Spring Green. But in 1982, Every had an epiphany and began to build his own creation, the 300-ton Forevertron, on borrowed land near Baraboo. The second largest scrap-metal sculpture in the world (the largest is in North Dakota), the Forevertron—crafted in the style of “steam-punk” before the word was invented—is the centerpiece of Dr. Evermor’s Sculpture Park, which now sports many whimsical satellite artworks. Kupsh, who knew Every during his House on the Rock days, documents this elaborate visionary environment with many photographs and insights from its creator. $26.95. Chicago Review. 978-1-55652-760-9.

Streamlining Library Services: What We Do, How Much Time It Takes, What It Costs, and How We Can Do It Better, by Richard M. Dougherty (268 pages, February 2008), thoroughly updates the author’s Scientific Management of Library Operations (Scarecrow, 1982). This edition looks at operational efficiency and effectiveness as a way to address specific library needs, enhance existing services, and launch new activities. Dougherty offers tools and procedures for collecting data for work flow evaluations, time tracking studies, and cost analyses. A final chapter focuses on how employees and patrons are likely to react to organizational change and offers suggestions on how to manage resistance. $45.00. Scarecrow. 978-0-8108-5198-6.


Web 2.0 for Librarians and Information Professionals, by Elyssa Kroski (209 pages, February 2008), is a nicely organized compendium of online social tools with specific examples of how they are used by public, academic, and school libraries. Each chapter covers a different type of technology (from wikis and blogs to answers technology, virtual worlds, and mashups) and offers a set of best practices on how to make the most of it. Numerous screen shots and charts aid make this much more than just a list of resources. $75.00. Neal-Schuman. 978-1-55570-614-2.