

# Douglas County Law Library E-Mail Newsletter



Vol. 6, No. 4; April 2009

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### Meeting and Event Announcements

The Defense Bar meets the second Friday of the month. This month the meeting will be on the 10th.

### Board of Trustees Election Update

Ballots were sent out by postal mail on March 30th to attorneys eligible\* to vote in the election to fill the five attorney member positions on the Douglas County Law Library Board of Trustees. Completed ballots must be received back in the Law Library no

later than 5:00 PM on April 13, 2009. Ballots should be completed and returned following the election rules that are included with the ballot mailing. They should be returned by postal mail or placed into the Ballot Box in the Law Library. Ballots received after the voting deadline will be void.

The candidates on the ballot are:

Michael J. Allen  
Julia Butler  
Juanita Carlson  
Elbridge Griffy IV  
Joyce W. Haile Selassie  
Jody Meyer  
Carolyn Simpson  
Kenzie Singleton  
Craig A. Stancliffe  
Amanda S. Vogelsberg  
Charles E. Whitman  
Stephanie J. Wilson

The five successful candidates will take office on May 1, 2009.

Results of the election will be reported in next month's Newsletter.

\*An attorney whose principal office, i.e.: main practice, is in Douglas County, or, if the practice is in another state, resides in Douglas County, and, unless employed solely as a public defender by the State Board of Indigents' Defense Services, the attorney must have paid the current year's annual Douglas County Law Library Registration Fee of \$10.00.

### **Legal Essay Contest**

The second annual Douglas County Legal Essay Contest, co-sponsored by the Law Library and the Douglas County Bar Association, continues until April 6th, the deadline for submission. The contest is open to all high school seniors in the County who intend to further their formal education after graduation.

The topic for the 2009 contest is "The Significance of Separation of Church and State in our Government." Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three essays as determined by a panel of judges.

The 1st place essay will receive a \$1,500.00 award; the 2nd place essay a \$1000.00 award, and the 3rd place essay a \$500.00 award.

The first place winner will be invited to attend the Law Day luncheon on May 1st. In addition, his/her name will be inscribed on a plaque in the Library and a copy of his/her essay will be added to the Library's collection.

For the complete set of rules and submission instructions, go to the Legal Essay Contest Rules and Submission Instructions page on the Law Library's website located at <http://www.douglascolawlibrary.org/essaycontest.html>. Questions on the contest should be directed to Judge Michael J. Malone at (785) 832-5124 or [division4@douglas-county.com](mailto:division4@douglas-county.com), or to the Law Library.

Names of the winners will be published in next month's Newsletter.

### **Current Art Gallery Exhibition**

The April exhibits in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are photography by Thomas Ingles.

The exhibit will run through the end of April. All pieces are for sale and may be purchased directly from the artist. Contact information for Mr. Ingles is available in the Library.

The May 2009 Law Library exhibition is open for scheduling. More information on the exhibit will be in the May E-Mail Newsletter.

For more information on past, current, and future Art Gallery exhibitions, or for more information on the Art Gallery, please consult the Art Gallery page on the Law Library's website.

If you would like to exhibit your art in our gallery, or know of local artists who would like to show their original art here, contact Bill Pendleton, the Library's Art Gallery Exhibitions Coordinator at 843-3536 ext. 19 or [billpen@pendletonandsutton.com](mailto:billpen@pendletonandsutton.com), or the Law Library at 838-2477 or by e-mail at [info@douglascolawlibrary.org](mailto:info@douglascolawlibrary.org).

### **New Acquisitions**

Newly acquired material added to the Law Library's holdings:

AALL Spectrum, v.13:5 (Mar. 2009).

Advance sheets of the Kansas Supreme Court and the Kansas Court of Appeals, v.287:3/v.40:4 (Mar. 2009).

Child Law Practice: Helping Lawyers Help Kids, v. 28:1 (Mar. 2009).

Child Support Guidelines: Interpretation and Application, Includes 2008 Supplement, by Laura W. Morgan.

Internet guide for the legal researcher newsletter, v. 4:1 and v. 4:2 (Jan./Feb. and Mar./Apr. 2009).

Juvenile Justice Update, v. 15:1 (Feb./Mar. 2009).

Kansas Ethics Handbook, Second ed., edited by J. Nick Badgerow, Charles R. Hay, and Jack Scott McInteer.

Kansas Legal Research, by Joseph A. Custer and Christopher L. Steadham.

Kansas Reports, v.281.

Pattern Instructions for Kansas - Criminal, 3d., 2008 Supplement.

Search and Seizure Bulletin, v. 46:3 (Mar. 2009).

Winning Alternatives to the Billable Hour: Strategies that Work, 3rd ed., by Mark A. Robertson and James A. Calloway.

### **Did You Know?**

Every month, a bit of Law Library trivia is posted in the Law Library and on the Law Library's website. The previous month's "Did You Know" tidbit is then published here in the Newsletter. The hope is for this to improve communication between the Law Library and its users.

March's entry was:

- The Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery will mark its fifth anniversary on April 30, 2009.

### **This Month In Legal History**

April 6, 1856 - The bones of a Border Ruffian are found.

On Sunday, April 6, 1856, the bones of a man were found in the woods along the Wakarusa River four miles south of Lawrence, Kansas Territory. They were discovered on land for which a man named John Morehead held a claim. The discovery of the bones was reported in an article in the April 12, 1856, edition of the *Herald of Freedom* newspaper. The article speculated on a link between the discovery and events that had take place the previous Fall. In late November and early December 1855, a large group of pro-slavery men, know to the locals as Border Ruffians, had been camped near Morehead's land in the Wakarusa Bottoms during the so-called Wakarusa War. The "War" was a time of heightened tensions during the Bleeding Kansas era in which at least 1,500 well-armed pro-slavery men had laid siege to Lawrence, the headquarters of the Free State movement in the Territory. The citizens of the town were also well armed, many with Sharp's Rifles, and had erected a number of defensive fortifications. They also had a cannon that had been smuggled into town from Kansas City. The siege continued for about a week with neither side initiating any fighting. It was eventually lifted when a peace treaty was signed by the leaders of both sides. Most of the besieging pro-slavery men packed up and went back to Missouri, from whence they had come. With these events fresh in the minds of its readers, the article in the newspaper of April 12th began by reporting on the circumstances surrounding the discovery of the bones. It noted that the bones had not been without flesh for long, the estimate being two to three months at the most. A belt and an empty knife sheath had also been found near the remains. A week or so prior to the discovery of the bones, a large bowie knife had been found in the vicinity. The knife

was shiny bright on one side and somewhat rusted on the other, indicating it had not been out in the weather for long. When the bowie knife was tried in the sheath, it was found to fit, indicating it probably had belonged to the deceased. The article went on to describe the pro-slavery men who had been besieging Lawrence the previous December as "...drunken, quarrelsome, and riotous...." The article ended with a speculation on the identity and fate of the man whose bones had been found the Sunday before. That, "...doubtless, in some of their nocturnal reveling, [they] fell to killing oneanother [sic].... As there is no Free State man missing, there can be no doubt the murdered man was a Border Ruffian--murdered by his own fellows, and by them thrown in the bushes for the wolves and vultures to devour." It will probably never be know if the author of the newspaper article was correct, but the logic and reasoning behind it seems to be on the right track. More than one killing during the Bleeding Kansas era went unreported, and there is every likelihood that unknown gravesites from that time are still out there in the lands of eastern Kansas and western Missouri.

From: Herald of Freedom, v. 2, no. 10, April 12, 1856, p. 2; and, Wakarusa War, in Kansas: a Cyclopedia of State History, Volume II. Standard Publishing Company, Chicago, 1912. Transcribed in July 2002 by Carolyn Ward on the Blue Skyways website.

Each month, an event from "This Month In Legal History," the history of law and jurisprudence of Douglas County that occurred during that month, is included in the Newsletter. The current entry is also posted for the month on the Law Library's website. Entries from past months are archived on the website. Submissions from readers are welcome and encouraged.

### **Law Library Volunteer Opportunities**

The Law Library Volunteer Program provides a capable and dependable volunteer work force to assist with the day-to-day op-

erations of the Law Library and with its special projects. This work force supplements the paid Library staff and allows the Library to provide the best possible service to attorneys, local judges, and the public.

The Volunteer Program is instrumental in linking a valuable community resource - the citizens - with a valuable community institution - the Douglas County Law Library - for the benefit, growth, and enrichment of both.

If you or someone you know might be interested in volunteering for one of them, or if you would like more information on our program and/or the positions we have open, please contact the Library or visit the "Volunteers" page on the Law Library's website.

### **Feedback**

This Newsletter is intended to be useful to its readers. As in any enterprise, feedback on how the Newsletter is fulfilling this goal is crucial to our achieving it. If our articles are helpful, let us know. If they are not, let us know. If you have suggestions on how to improve the Newsletter, please let us know. Thank you.

### **Submitting Articles for Newsletter**

The Editor encourages readers to submit articles for publication and/or make suggestions on material to be included in future issues of the Newsletter.

### **To Subscribe**

Contact the Law Library by mail, e-mail, or telephone and request a free subscription to the Newsletter. It will be sent to you as a PDF attachment to an e-mail. The Library's mailing address is: Douglas County Law Library, Judicial and Law Enforcement Center, 111 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Lawrence,

Kansas, 66044. The Library's e-mail address is: [info@douglascolawlibrary.org](mailto:info@douglascolawlibrary.org). The Law Library's telephone number is: 785-838-2477.

### **Classified Ads**

Free classified ads may be placed in the Newsletter by contacting the Law Library. The Editor reserves the right to refuse anything deemed inappropriate and to add restrictions as the need arises.

**Free:**

Giveaway to a new lawyer. A complete set of Am Jur 2nds, but out of date. I also have some Kansas reporters. You box and you haul. If interested, e-mail Juanita Carlson at [jcarlson@1040nh.com](mailto:jcarlson@1040nh.com).

#### **Douglas County Law Library E-Mail Newsletter**

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