

# Douglas County Law Library

## E-Mail Newsletter



Vol. 6, No. 10; October 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 9th.

### New Service from Lexis

Lexis has made available free limited searching of case law on-line through their LexisONE Community website. Users can search by keyword and citation for case law

from the previous ten years of all State and Federal Courts and for the United States Supreme Court from 1781 to the present. Registration is not required to use the free search. To access the search page, go to:

<http://law.lexisnexis.com/webcenters/lexisone/>

### Update on Criminal Forms Manual

Since being spotlighted in last month's Newsletter, access to the electronic version of *The Complete Manual of Criminal Forms* has been expanded and improved. It is now available through a desktop icon on all five public workstations in the Library.



To use the manual, go to the desktop of any of the three desktop or two laptop Library workstations and double-click the "Complete Manual of Criminal Forms" icon. A Word document will open that includes a link to the table of contents. Follow the instructions in the document for opening the table of contents and accessing the forms.

### Drunk Driving Defense Forms

Access to the electronic version of forms from *Drunk Driving Defense, 6th ed.* has been expanded. The forms are now avail-



able through a desktop icon on all five public workstations in the Library. To access the forms, go to the desktop of any of the three desktop or two laptop Library workstations and double-click the "Drunk Driving Defense, 6th, Forms" icon. A Word document will open that includes links to the forms. Follow the instructions in the document for opening the forms.

### **Current Art Gallery Exhibition**

The October exhibits in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are artwork by Bill Bowerman.

The exhibits will run through the end of October. Some pieces are for sale and may be purchased directly from the artist. Contact information for Mr. Bowerman is available in the Library.

The November 2009 Law Library and Division IV exhibitions will be artwork by Robin Loomas. More information on the exhibit will be in the November 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 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:

Child Law Practice: Helping Lawyers Help Kids, v. 28:7 (Sept. 2009).

Child Support Guidelines: Interpretation and Application, 2009 Supplement.

Criminal Procedure, 5th, by Israel, LaFave, King, and Kerr.

Kansas Code of Civil Procedure Annotated, 4th, 2003, v. 1-v. 3, 2009-2010 Pocket Parts.

Kansas Family Law, v. 1 and v. 2, 2009 Supplements.

Search and Seizure Bulletin, v. 46:9 (Sept. 2009)

### **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.

September's entry was:

- Scanning from the Law Library's printer/copier/scanner is free for all Library users.

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

October 1857 - Samuel N. Wood presides over the first court session held in Lawrence, Kansas.

An article in the October 31, 1857, issue of the *Herald of Freedom* newspaper reported that what was believed to be the first trial ever held in Lawrence, Kansas, was then in session. S. N. Wood, Justice of the Peace for Lecompton Township, was hearing the preliminary examination of some horse thieves. Samuel Newitt Wood was born in

Ohio in 1825 into a family of Quakers, and grew up being a strong opponent of slavery. During a political campaign in 1852, he was challenged to a public discussion of slavery by a well know lawyer. Wood accepted the challenge, but the lawyer declined to participate, refusing to discuss such weighty issues with a farmer. Soon after, Wood entered a law office to study the law, and was admitted to the local bar in early 1854. Within a week of the May 30, 1854, signing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the law that opened up the territory of Kansas to settlement and made it possible that the territory could be brought into the Union as a state that allowed slavery, he and his family left Ohio to come to Kansas to ensure that it would not be a slave state. He settled on a claim approximately four miles west of Lawrence, the headquarters of the Free-State movement in the territory. Wood began working on the Underground Railroad, and is reputed to have assisted the first fugitive slave to escape through Lawrence. In so doing, Wood was in violation of the terms of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, and would have been prosecuted under Federal law had he been caught. When fellow Free-State supporter Jacob Branson was arrested by Samuel Jones, the pro-slavery sheriff of Douglas County, on what were seen as trumped-up charges, Wood joined with other supporters to free Branson from the Sheriff. In the early morning of November 27, 1855, the rescuers confronted a group of men holding Branson. Wood identified himself as Branson's attorney, and told Branson to come over and join his rescuers. One of the Sheriff's men threatened to shoot, and Wood responded, "Come on, let them shoot if they want to. If you shoot, not a man of you will leave alive." Although several attempts were made to arrest him for his participation in the Branson rescue, he was free to sit as Justice of the Peace for the trial of the horse thieves in 1857. In 1858, he was a delegate to the Leavenworth Constitutional Conven-

tion that wrote an unsuccessful Free-State constitution. Wood sponsored an amendment to the section on voter enfranchisement in which he wanted the word "male" to be removed everywhere it occurred in the section. Had this passed and the constitution been adopted, women would have had full voting rights in the new state. He left Douglas County in 1859, and eventually settled in Morris County, Kansas. He joined the Union Army during the Civil War, and after the war was elected to the Kansas Legislature. In 1888, he was involved in a dispute over whether Hugoton or Woodsdale would become the county seat of Stevens County, Kansas. The dispute erupted into open warfare. In 1891, while answering a summons to appear in court, Wood was gunned down in the Methodist Church in Hugoton by an embittered opponent.

From: Herald of Freedom, v. 3, no. 12, October 31, 1857, [p. 2](#); [Biographical sketch of Samuel Newitt Wood](#), on [usaciti-sonline.com](#); [Journal, Leavenworth Constitutional Convention](#), on [territorialkansasonline.org](#); [A History of Lawrence from the earliest settlement to the close of the rebellion](#), by Richard Cordley, E. F. Caldwell, Lawrence, Kansas, 1895; [Samuel N. Wood](#), on [KansasBogusLegislature.org](#); and, [More Oklahoma Renegades](#), by Ken Butler, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, Louisiana, 2007, [pp. 48-59](#), on Google Books.

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 operations 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.

### Notices:

**Black Jack Battlefield**  
Follow in the footsteps of "Old John Brown..." & NATURE PARK

presents...  
**Breakfast on the Prairie**  
at the Black Jack Battlefield  
**Sunday, October 18, 2009**  
*Begins at 8 a.m. - lasts until food is gone*

☘ ☘ ☘

*The cool crisp air of an autumn morn. Birds singing.  
Bright orange, yellow, and red leaves on the trees against  
a blue sky making for a picture perfect morning.*

**Our Menu:**  
Sausage, biscuits & gravy, bakery items,  
hot coffee and juice

Take a guided tour of the Battlefield  
Adults \$5 ~ Children \$3

Black Jack Oak & Sugar Maple saplings  
& other items will be available for purchase

Sponsors: Cosentino's Gardner Price Chopper & Voigts Farms

Located 3 miles east of Baldwin City, Kansas,  
1/4 mile south of Highway 56 on E 2000 Road,  
#61 E 2000 Road • Wellsville, KS 66092  
info@blackjackbattlefield.org • 785-883-2106

[www.blackjackbattlefield.org](http://www.blackjackbattlefield.org)

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