

Douglas County Law Library

E-Mail Newsletter



Vol. 4, No. 9; September 2007

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Meeting and Event Announcements

Solo Firm Group Lunch. The next Solo Firm Group meeting will be held on Friday, September 21st at noon in the upstairs meeting room at Free State Brewery. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Reinhold at 842-3222 or Jamie Harwood at 842-1581. The Solo Firm Group meets the third Friday of every month.

Judge Hugh Means American Inn of Court

by Judge Peggy Kittel

The American Inns of Court Foundation (<http://www.innsofcourt.org>) was established to foster excellence in professionalism, ethics, and civility in the practice of law and now comprises nearly 400 local Inns of Court around the country. This unique organization of lawyers, judges, law professors, and law students is committed to creating more effective advocates and counselors by allowing less experienced attorneys to work side-by-side with the most experienced judges and attorneys in their community. The Judge Hugh Means Inn of Court provides a collegial atmosphere that encourages networking between all members, mentoring, skills development, and the exchange of concepts, ideas and techniques by which to improve the professionalism and ethics of our local bench and bar.

The Judge Hugh Means Inn meets six times each year for dinner and a program, beginning September 20th and ending in April. There are six "pupilage teams," with each team reflecting a cross-section of the membership. Each month a different team presents the program on whatever legal issue

that team selects. Team members meet informally outside of monthly Inn meetings to plan their program.

Annual dues are by category from date of first bar admission, and are as follows:

Masters (more than 10 years; judges; law professors) - \$235

Barristers (6-10 years) - \$205

Associates (0-5 years) - \$150

Pupils (2L or 3L) - \$80.

Annual dues include affiliation with the national Inns of Court, the monthly dinner, and any CLE hours resulting from programs.

Please consider applying, and joining other lawyers, judges, and law professors in making our profession a better one. Letters of interest should be submitted to membership chair, Joan Hawkins, 3300 Mesa Way, Suite C, Lawrence, Kansas 66049, or by email to Joan at lawsolutions@sunflower.com.

Applications for membership may be picked up at the Douglas County Law Library or from the Pro Tem Division. We request applications be submitted by September 14, 2007.

Current Art Gallery Exhibitions

The September exhibits in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are artwork by Mary Anne King.

The exhibits will run through the end of September. All of the pieces are for sale and may be purchased directly from the artist. Contact information for Ms. King is available in the Library.

The October 2007 Law Library and Division IV exhibitions will be artwork by Jill Tichenor. More information on the exhibits will be in the October 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, or the Law Library at 838-2477 or by e-mail at info@douglascolawlibrary.org.

New Acquisitions

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

Advance sheets of the Kansas Supreme Court and the Kansas Court of Appeals, v.284:1/37:5 (July 2007).

Complete Manual of Criminal Forms, 3d, 2007 CD-ROM ed.

Criminal Evidentiary Foundations, 2nd edition, by Edward J. Imwinkelreid and Daniel D. Blinka.

Criminal Procedure, 4th, 2007 Pocket Part.

Law Library Journal, v. 99:3 (Summer 2007).

Manual of Procedure for Incorporating by Reference the Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities, 2007 ed.

Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities, 35th ed. (2007).

Did You Know?

Every other week, 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" tidbits are then published here in the Newsletter. The hope is for this to improve communication between the Law Library and its users.

August's entries were:

- The Law Library will soon be improving access to on-line resources by purchasing two laptop computers for use in the Library.
- If you have suggestions for improving the services and resources of the Law Library, you may put them in the suggestion box on the table inside the Library entrance, e-mail the Library at info@douglascolawlibrary.org, or telephone at (785) 838-2477.

This Month In Legal History

Each month, an event from the history of law and jurisprudence of Douglas County that occurred during that month will be included in the Newsletter. Entries will also be posted on the Law Library's website for the month. Submissions from readers are welcome and encouraged.

This month's entry:

September 15, 1855 - John Speer's "Defy."

The first Kansas Territorial Legislature, known as the Bogus Legislature, passed numerous laws to promote slavery in the Territory. One of these laws provided that any person who wrote, printed, or published "any denial of the right of persons to hold slaves in this Territory," would be subject to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than two years. The law was to take effect on

September, 15, 1855. John Speer, editor of the *Kansas Tribune*, a Free-State newspaper in Lawrence, Kansas, was enraged by this obvious violation of freedom of the press guaranteed in the First Amendment to the Constitution. He determined to assert his rights against this "gag law." On September 15, 1855, the effective date of the law, Speer published a full page article in the *Kansas Tribune* that became known as "John Speer's Defy." The article, titled "The Day of Our Enslavement!!," attacked the Legislature and purposely violated the law by quoting word-for-word the very language that the law banned. He had printed, in large type, "Now we do assert and we declare, despite all the bolts and bars of the iniquitous Legislature of Kansas that persons have not the right to hold slaves in this territory. And we will emblazon it upon our banner in letters so large and language so plain that the infatuated invaders who elected the Kansas legislature, as well as that corrupt and ignorant legislature itself, may understand it..." Speer was indicted for violation of the statute, but he was never brought to trial. The unconstitutionality of the "gag law" troubled many Kansans, and despite it being pro-slavery, the 1857 Territorial Legislature reconsidered and then repealed the offending statute.

From: Kansas History Online -

<http://www.kansashistoryonline.org/ksh/ArticlePage.asp?artid=109#Print>;

KansasBogusLegislature.org -

<http://kansaboguslegislature.org/legis/slavery.html>;

and, Kansas: a Cyclopedia of State History, Volume II. Standard Publishing Company, Chicago, 1912. -

<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/archives/1912/n/newspapers.html>.

Law Library Volunteer Opportunities

The Library is looking for individuals to fill the following volunteer positions:

E-Mail Newsletter Editor.

Film Series Commentators

Patron Education and Training Assistant.

Publicity and Marketing Assistant.

Recycling Assistant

Reference Assistant.

Volunteer Coordinator.

Work Station Maintenance Assistant.

The Library also has opportunities for volunteers to create positions around their own interests and skills.

For more information and/or for position descriptions, contact the Library or visit the "Volunteers" page on the Law Library's website.

The Law Library Volunteer Program provides a capable and dependable voluntary work force to assist with the day-to-day operations of the Law Library and its special projects. This work force supplements the paid Library staff and allows the Library to provide the best possible service to local judges, attorneys, 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 11th Street, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044. The Library's e-mail address is: 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.

For Rent:

Historic brick duplex. Great location, restored, 2 bedrooms. 1809 Massachusetts. \$700.00/mo. References required. Available immediately. 842-1133. M-F.

Professional office space. Near the courthouse. Pleasant atmosphere. \$250.00/mo. 842-1133. M-F.

Luxurious 3-bedroom apartment.
Baldwin, KS. \$675.00/mo. References re-
quired. Available immediately. 842-1133.
M-F.

Prime office space. Up to 2,500 square ft.
in downtown Baldwin City. 842-1133. M-F.

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