

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- Starting to wonder what you'll be doing this summer? If you don't have a job lined up yet, be sure to sign up for the one of the Library's special classes on "Finding a Job with Westlaw and LEXIS." These hour-long classes will be offered several times throughout February and March. Class size will be limited, so sign up early! Sign-up sheets will be available at the Circulation Desk.
- Some of you know what you'll be doing this summer: studying for the bar exam. A new addition to the Library's bar examination collection is the "Thirty-Third Compilation of Bar Examination Questions and Answers: Fall 2000." This book provides the bar questions and sample answers from Alaska, Connecticut, and Michigan. Connecticut actually provides six "benchmark" answers per question to indicate the differences between, say, "much above average" and "above average." This book is on Reserve (KF 388 .16). Don't forget about the Library's other bar examination resources, listed in Library Research Guide #30, which is available in the rack across the hallway from the Circulation Desk, or on our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/library/pubs.htm>
Also be sure to check out a varied collection of Internet links compiled by Professor Blackwell at <http://www.asl.edu/academics/barexam.htm>
- If you've stood at the Circulation Desk and looked into the Reserve Area, you've probably noticed that we have a number of "rare books" shelved on the far wall. Inside one of those books was an "Examination on Domestic Relations" from the University of Virginia, dated June 1, 1912. Students were given five hours to answer ten questions; the only instruction was the cryptic "Reasons in all Cases." A sample question:
 2. Having seduced a girl under promise of marriage, A is compelled, at the point of a gun, to marry her. He deserts her immediately after the ceremony, and wants your advice concerning a divorce. Explain the legal situation.

Other News

- Last year, several Grundy Senior High students began an oral history project about the town and people of Grundy, and the results have been printed in a book entitled Sitting on the Courthouse Steps (edited by Appalachian author and former Grundy resident Lee Smith). The book is a collection of pictures and stories from long-time residents, with special emphasis on the two major floods (1957 and 1977) and the heyday of Grundy in the 1940s and 50s, when you couldn't find places to park along Main Street and Walnut Street! Our copy of this book is on Reserve (F 234 .G825 S65 2000).
- The Commonwealth of Kentucky has created a web site to provide information about every inmate in the state prison system. The Kentucky Offender Online Lookup (KOOL), provided by the Kentucky Department of Corrections, includes photographs, information about the crime (or, in many cases, crimes), and their date of scheduled release or parole hearing. The site is updated three times daily, and "is not meant for entertainment purposes." The search capabilities of KOOL are pretty impressive: you can search by first and last name, aliases, particular institution, age, race, and gender. The site is:
<http://www.cor.state.ky.us/~KOOL/>
- Another informative government web site claims to be your "one-stop" governmental portal for federal information. The FirstGov web site attempts to consolidate several thousand independent government web sites -- estimated to contain over twenty-seven million web pages -- into one. The site offers a general search form, as well as "interesting topics" which allow you to search for a particular subject -- for example, "children with disabilities." Check it out at:
<http://www.firstgov.gov/>
- The Virginia State Bar has proposed changing its collection of dues from new members. Under the new plan, persons admitted in the fall would have to pay half of the \$250 annual dues. Current rules do not require new admittees to pay dues in the fiscal year that they are admitted. For the text of this rule, read the January 2001 Virginia Lawyer Register (on Reserve) or go to the Virginia State Bar's web site at
http://www.vsb.org/publications/valawyer/jan01/rule_change.pdf
The rule will be discussed at the meeting of the Virginia State Bar Council on February 23 and 24 in Richmond.