

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

September 1, 2008

Volume 12 Number 2

What's New in the Library?

- Labor Day Hours: The Library's Circulation Desk will only be open from 2 pm to 6 pm on Monday, September 1. Although card access for the weekend remains the same (9 am to midnight on both Saturday and Sunday), card access is limited to 2 pm to midnight on Labor Day itself.
- The ASL Library has purchased access to AudioCaseFiles, a new service that provides downloadable MP3 files of court opinions, plus some streaming trial video. Registration is free; go to <http://www.audiocasefiles.com> and follow the link to register. At Step 1, select "a member," at Step 2, select "school," and in Step 3, pick Appalachian School of Law. Then fill in the personal information – with your ASL e-mail address – and you'll be able to listen to many of the court cases printed in your casebooks.
- If legal research has wrapped you in knots, untangle yourself by going to one of the Library's "Get REAL!" (Research and Electronic Assisted Learning) classes! During September, we will offer a Library tour, plus classes on finding secondary sources and taking quality research notes. These classes will be held on Wednesdays, from 4:30 to 5:00 pm. If you're interested, just show up at the Reference Desk.
- The Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) has announced five additional titles to the deluxe electronic package that we already subscribe to. These new databases include the Alternative Investment Law Report, State Attorneys General News, Web Watch ("documents on today's hottest topics"), Workplace Immigration Report, and the World Climate Change Report. Access these and the other BNA titles through our web site (only on campus) at <http://www.asl.edu/library/databases.php>

	LexisNexis	Westlaw	
	Heather Cawthron (3L) hcawthron09@asl.edu	Nate Colburn (3L) ncolburn219@aol.com	Sam Hughart (3L) dhughart09@asl.edu
Monday	8:00 am – 10:30 am; 12 noon – 1:00 pm	9:00 am – 10:00 am; 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	9:00 am – 10:00 am; 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Tuesday	10:30 am – 1:00 pm	10:30 am – 12 noon; 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	12 noon – 1:00 pm
Wednesday	10:30 am – 2:30 pm	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thursday	<i>no scheduled hours</i>	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	<i>no scheduled hours</i>
Friday	<i>no scheduled hours</i>	<i>no scheduled hours</i>	10:45 am – 12:45 pm

** please note that hours may be subject to change

Other News

- CALI – the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction – has created too many tutorials (over 700) to fit on a CD, so this year they've expanded to a DVD! However, those lessons are always being updated, so check for the most recent versions online. If you need the authorization code, it's **[not in online version!]** (which is case-sensitive). Stop by Chris' office if you have questions.
- Your phone may not ring as much after October 1, when new regulations from the Federal Trade Commission go into effect. The FTC has updated the Telemarketing Sales Rule to limit prerecorded sales calls to those you approve of in writing. The rules will also require businesses and non-profits to provide an easy way to get your number on the organization's do-not-call list, although that does not have to be implemented until December 2008. Sadly, the new rules completely ignore prerecorded political calls. The FTC's press release and copy of the new regulations (which had not been printed in the *Federal Register* as of press time) can be found at the FTC's web site at <http://ftc.gov/opa/2008/08/tsr.shtm>
- Although we usually save Supreme Court news for October (when the High Court begins a new term), we found two interesting items over the summer. In late June 2008, just as the Court was finishing its session, it handed down a 5-4 decision in *Kennedy v. Louisiana*, 128 S. Ct. 2641, stating the US Constitution prohibits the imposition of the death penalty for a defendant convicted of raping a child. Part of the Court's reasoning relied on a statistic that only six states – but not the federal government – imposed the death penalty for that crime. Almost immediately after the decision was released, a military law blogger noticed that Congress actually had made child rape a death penalty offense for members of the military in 2006. Amazingly, none of the briefs filed in this case ever mentioned that particular legal provision; the US Justice Department did not file a brief in the case, partially because no one in that office found that law either. Louisiana has now filed a petition for rehearing in the case.
- The second Supreme Court item deals with a famous personality being named as a clerk. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (who, although retired, still deals with Court matters) has selected Isaac Lidsky, a Harvard graduate as her law clerk this year. Lidsky, who suffers from a degenerative eye disease, is likely the first blind clerk to work for the Supremes. But Lidsky's true claim to fame (along with founding the non-profit Hope for Vision, which hopes to find a cure for blindness by 2020) is that he was Barton "Weasel" Wyzell on the TV show *Saved by the Bell: The New Class* in 1993.

The [ASL Library News](#) (ISSN 1535-539X) is published monthly during the academic year by the Appalachian School of Law Library, Grundy VA 24614. Uncredited stories are written by Chris King, Public Services Librarian. If you would like to respond to any story in this newsletter, please contact Chris or leave a message in the upstairs suggestion box.