

# Inform Quarterly

*A Newsletter from the Illinois State Library's Reference Section*

Jesse White • Secretary of State & State Librarian

## From the Reference Desk

Three new faces can be found in the Reference area of the State Library. Jane Knipmeyer, Laura Large and Dee Ann Powless joined the Reference staff at the beginning of the year. Laura and Dee Ann came from the Cataloging Section and Jane came from Acquisitions. Collectively, they have more than 90 years of experience with the State Library and are ready to assist you with any questions or information requests you may have.

### To request materials or find answers to your questions, please contact:

Reference phone • 217-782-7596  
Reference fax • 217-524-0041  
Map Collection • 217-782-5823  
Patent & Trademark Division • 217-782-5659

Ask the State Library  
[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

Access the State Library database at  
<http://library.ilcso.illinois.edu/isl>

Illinois State Library hours:  
Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

*We look forward to hearing from you!*

## SAGE Deep Backfile — back issues of more than 300 journals

The State Library has obtained permanent access to SAGE Deep Backfile through its affiliation with CARLI — the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois. The Backfile is a collection of electronic back issues of more than 300 journals published by SAGE Publications in the fields of business, the humanities, social sciences, science, technology and medicine. The resource includes full content of 301 journals, 357,000 issues and more than 4 million articles. Coverage begins with volume 1, issue 1, of each publication and runs through the last issue of 1998. Through this consortial offer, the State Library was able to purchase these backfiles at a lower cost than through individual purchase.

### SAGE Deep Backfile features:

- Perpetual access to 301 journals.
- Access provided via SAGE Journals Online, powered by HighWire Press.
- Journal backfile articles posted in PDF format with XML-based headers, abstracts and references.
- Enhanced search features, including Quick Search, Advanced Search and Browse by Topic.
- Searchable PDFs.
- SAGE Journal e-mail alerts for tables of contents notifications and announcements, and keyword, author and citation alerts.

The complete list of journal titles in the Sage Deep Backfile is available at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what\\_we\\_have/pdfs/sagebackfilepubs.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_have/pdfs/sagebackfilepubs.pdf).

## New look for ISL Gateway Page

The State Library's Reference Gateway Page has undergone a slight change. With upgrades to WebFeat, through which patrons can search several electronic resources simultaneously, the OneSearch feature on the Gateway page is now larger and includes the ability to limit quick searches by category.

As a result of changes to the OneSearch box, the dropdown menu of electronic journal collections is now a link to the electronic journal collections on the left-side panel. All the information is still there; only the look and location for some of the items have changed.

*Serving Illinois state employees • Spring 2008*



## Current interest titles

- **American Creation: Triumphs and Tragedies at the Founding of the Republic**, by Joseph J. Ellis. **973.3 ELLI**
- **Boom! Voices of the Sixties: Personal Reflections on the 60s and Today**, by Tom Brokaw. **973.92 BROK**
- **Bound Man: Why We Are Excited About Obama and Why He Can't Win**, by Shelby Steele. **328.73092 STEE**
- **Dead Certain: The Presidency of George W. Bush**, by Robert Draper. **973.931092 DRAP**
- **Economic Facts and Fallacies**, by Thomas Sowell. **330 SOWE4**
- **Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Street**, by Sudhir Venkatesh. **364.1 VENK**
- **The Great Awakening: Reviving Faith & Politics in a Post-Religious Right America**, by Jim Wallis. **269.0973 WALL**
- **An Inconvenient Book: Real Solutions to the World's Biggest Problems**, by Glenn Beck and Kevin Balfe. **973.92 INCO**
- **The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court**, by Jeffrey Toobin. **347.73 TOOB**
- **Real Change: From the World that Fails to the World that Works**, by Newt Gingrich with Vince Haley and Rick Tyler. **320.60973 GING**

## On the Web

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

### Your Guide to Money in U.S. Politics

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, the 2008 presidential candidates raised and spent more money in 2007 than in seven of the last eight presidential elections. The Center reports that based on their year-end campaign finance filings, the candidates are on pace to break 2004's fundraising records even before the major political parties officially nominate their candidates for November's general election.

Often named one of the best political sites on the Internet, OpenSecrets.org allows users to track federal campaign contributions by industry, individual donors and interest groups. Financial disclosures of members of Congress and the president also are available. In addition, the Get Local ZIP Code lookup feature allows you to identify where the political contributions are coming from in your area and to which political candidates they are going.

The Center for Responsive Politics is a non-partisan, non-profit research organization that tracks money's effect on elections and public policy. It conducts computer-based research for the news media, academics, activists and the general public. The Center's work is aimed at creating a more educated voter, an involved citizenry and a more responsive government.

## At Your Service

Following are a few examples of the research conducted by Reference staff to assist patrons in obtaining the information they need.

- A. An Illinois state agency requested a copy of the Federal Bankruptcy Act of 1898 and the Amending Act of 1934. The Reference staff and state employee examined the United States Statutes At Large, 1788-present, to locate the two Acts.
- B. A law researcher from Arizona contacted the Reference staff regarding the laws about prizefighting in Illinois between 1894 and 1915. The State Library has nearly every version of the Illinois Revised Statutes, 1818-1992, and the Illinois Compiled Statutes, 1992-2006. Research revealed that an 1869 law made prizefighting illegal in Illinois and was not repealed until 1939. A 1925 law made prizefighting legal as long as it was sanctioned by the Illinois Athletic Commission.
- C. A patron researching the French Period of the Mississippi River Valley was looking for an obscure reference to an 1881 history of New Orleans by Waring and Cable. Research revealed a historical sketch of New Orleans titled Report on the Social Statistics of Cities, Part II, The Southern and Western States, written by prominent Louisiana author George Washington Cable, in Volume 19 of the 1880 census. Alexander Waring compiled the volume.

The State Library has every statistical census volume issued by the U.S. government as part of its federal document depository collection. Because these volumes are among the State Library's most heavily used federal document sources, the library also has any number of these volumes in contemporary reprint editions.

## Now on Display

### State Library atrium second-floor bridge

#### April — Stress Awareness Month

Health care professionals and health promotion experts across the country are joining forces to increase public awareness about the dangers of stress, successful coping strategies and harmful misconceptions about stress that are prevalent in our stressed out society.

#### May — National Physical Fitness and Sports Month

Sponsored by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, National Physical Fitness and Sports Month challenges Americans to get moving for health.

#### June — Gardening

Gardeners know and research confirms that nurturing plants is good for us: attitudes toward health and nutrition improve, kids perform better in school and community spirit grows. Join the celebration to make America a greener, healthier, more livable place.