

Inform Quarterly

A Newsletter from the Illinois State Library's Reference Section

Jesse White • Secretary of State & State Librarian

From the Reference Desk

This issue of *Inform Quarterly* is the first to be sent to all current Illinois State Library cardholders. The goal of the newsletter is to inform state employees and officials about the myriad services available at the State Library. The Reference staff can help with accessing federal and state publications, historic information or current research materials. Additionally, the library's Map Department houses the second-largest, state-owned map collection in the country, and the Patent and Trademark Office offers research assistance.

The Reference staff encourages you to tell your coworkers about *Inform Quarterly*, which contains valuable, updated resource information that may be helpful on the job. We welcome your input on the State Library's services. Does the library have the resources you need for your work? Is there an area of expertise that needs additional coverage? We look forward to hearing from you!

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

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!

Remote access to research databases for ISL cardholders

Many of the State Library's licensed electronic research databases are accessible anywhere the Internet is available. While anyone can access these resources in the State Library, remote access is restricted to current Illinois state employees with a valid State Library card.

Remote access is available through the State Library's Gateway to Electronic Resources at www.cyberdriveillinois.com. Users must enter their last name and the 14-digit library ID number on the back of their library card. More than 30 research databases are remotely available, many of which offer full-text and document delivery via e-mail. Users can determine which databases are accessible remotely by using the Subject Category pages on the Gateway and the A-Z Index to Databases. Due to licensing restrictions of some vendors, several research databases are not accessible outside the library.

For troubleshooting or general questions about the Gateway Page and accessing databases remotely, please contact the Reference Desk. If you are interested in remote access but do not have a State Library card, please call the Circulation Desk at 217-782-7573. A library card application is available at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Illinois Blue Book now online

The 2007-2008 *Illinois Blue Book*, the state's official manual, is now available online at www.cyberdriveillinois.com (click Publications, then State Government). A link to the *Blue Book* also is available on the State Library's Gateway to Electronic Resources site.

The *Illinois Blue Book* is published biennially by the Secretary of State's office and is a useful reference and educational tool. This edition features the Seven Wonders of Illinois, chosen by Illinois residents in an online statewide contest sponsored by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Tourism. The book also includes biographical information on Illinois' constitutional officers and members of the General Assembly as well as an updated chronology section and a feature on past governors of Illinois.

Hard copies of the 2007-2008 *Illinois Blue Book* may be requested online or by calling the office's Communications Department at 217-785-8234.

Serving Illinois state employees • Summer 2008



Current interest titles

- **Free Lunch: How the Wealthiest Americans Enrich Themselves at Government Expense (and stick you with the bill)**, by David Cay Johnston. 338.973 JOHN2
- **Heroic Conservatism: Why Republicans Need to Embrace America's Ideals (and why they deserve to fail if they don't)**, by Michael J. Gerson. 320.520973 GERS
- **In the Ring: the Trials of a Washington Lawyer**, by Robert S. Bennett. 340.092 BENN
- **Memo to the President Elect: How We Can Restore America's Reputation and Leadership**, by Madeleine Albright with Bill Woodward. 327.73 ALBR
- **Party Faithful: How and Why Democrats Are Closing the God Gap**, by Amy Sullivan. 324.2736 SULL
- **Predictably Irrational: the Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions**, by Dan Ariely. 330.01 ARIE
- **Trillion Dollar Meltdown: Easy Money, High Rollers, and the Great Credit Crash**, by Charles R. Morris. 332 MORR2
- **Women & Money: Owning the Power to Control Your Destiny**, by Suze Orman. 332.0240082 ORMA

On the Web

www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/ccdb07.html 2007 County and City Data Book, 14th edition

The County and City Data Book is the most comprehensive resource on counties and cities in the United States. The book contains data for all U.S. states, counties and cities with populations of 25,000 or more, and additional data for cities with populations of 100,000 or more. Also included is a complete set of state maps showing all counties, cities with populations of 25,000 or more and metropolitan areas.

Files contain a collection of data from the U.S. Census Bureau and other federal statistical bureaus, governmental administrative and regulatory agencies, and private research entities. Information covers the following topical areas: age, agriculture, births, business establishments, climate, construction, crime, deaths, earnings, education, elections, employment, finance, government, health, households, housing, income, labor force, manufacturers, population, poverty, race and Hispanic origin, social services and water usage.

INFORM Service

The State Library's INFORM Service, not to be confused with the *Inform Quarterly* newsletter, is a current awareness service for state employees and officials. Subscribers receive copies of tables of contents from selected journals and request copies of articles to be sent to them, within copyright guidelines. For more information, please call the Reference Desk at 217-782-7596 or e-mail infoline@ilsos.net.

Reference reaches out

Over the past few months, Reference Section staff members have been meeting with state agencies to promote the State Library's services and resources available to state officials and employees. Presentations include demonstrations on how to access resources through the State Library's Gateway Page and the library's online catalog.

The Reference staff would like the opportunity to share with you what the library has to offer and to learn more about your specific information needs. To schedule a presentation for your office, please contact Blaine Redemer at 217-782-5430, bredemer@ilsos.net.

Now on Display

State Library atrium second-floor bridge

July — Battle Of Gettysburg Anniversary

The Battle of Gettysburg was a turning point in the Civil War, the Union victory that ended Gen. Robert E. Lee's second and most ambitious invasion of the North. It was the war's bloodiest battle with 51,000 casualties, fought over the first three days of July 1863. The Union victory resulted in Lee's retreat to Virginia and an end to the hopes for independence of the Confederacy.

August — 1908 Springfield Race Riot

The Springfield Race Riot of 1908 was sparked by the transfer of two African-American prisoners out of the city jail by the county sheriff. This enraged many white citizens, who responded by burning black-owned homes and businesses and killing black citizens. By the end of the riot, there were at least seven deaths and \$200,000 in property damage. The riot led to the formation of the NAACP.

September — National Civics Awareness Month

American citizenship carries certain privileges and responsibilities. National Civics Awareness Month promotes awareness of these rights, duties and obligations. Some are voluntary, such as voting, volunteering and military service; others are compulsory, including jury duty, paying taxes and obeying the law. Citizens are an integral part of a democracy, and informed participation ensures its maintenance and persistence.