

UGA AMICUS BRIEFS

MARCH 2000

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA LAW LIBRARY

Ray Phillips to Retire

Joyce Moss



For the past five years the Law Library has been fortunate to have Professor Ray Phillips as the Chairman of the Law Library Committee. His active support of the Law Library has provided a vital avenue of communication between the law school community and the library staff.

Professor Phillips describes himself as an “irascible old man.” Others describe him as distinguished. In many ways, he’s a traditional professor, complete with pipe, suede elbows on his tweed jacket (or the occasional sweater vest), and an impressive curriculum vitae. But what sets him apart is the twinkle of mischief in his sparkling brown eyes.

As of May 31, 2000, we must say farewell to this beloved figure. Professor Phillips and wife Pat are heading for Columbia, Missouri, where they will “retire.” In the case of this energetic couple, retirement will mean only that they are working at something different.

Professor Phillips’ earliest memories are from Flat Rock, North Carolina, his home town. There as a young boy he could be seen playing hide and seek in an old abandoned house. In the summer, he and his friends would dive for rocks in a lake near the old house. He can remember his disappointment when the house was purchased and restored. The new tenant was Carl Sandburg.

After his graduation from Flat Rock High School, he attended the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill). One of the treasures he found at UNC was Pat Jones, his future wife. They met in a Political Science class. Professor Phillips swears he was sitting on the front row and Pat was sitting in the back. They were married in August, 1954.

He received a scholarship from Vanderbilt University Law School and spent his first year in Nashville. After seeing one of Vandy’s graduates washing windows in a local restaurant, he decided there would be more opportunities in Atlanta, and he transferred to Emory.

In 1957 he began his legal career in West Palm Beach, where he accepted a job for the phenomenal salary of \$300 per month and the promise of a “substantial raise” once he passed the Florida Bar. The substantial raise was

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\$25.00 per month, so he decided to return to Georgia! He practiced law for several years with the firm of Powell, Goldstein, Frazier and Murphy, then in 1961 became a bankruptcy court judge. In his three years on the bench he handled some 6000 cases.

At this point in his life an old mentor called him from North Dakota and asked if he would be interested in teaching. So the family moved again and he became “Professor Phillips,” his favorite occupational role. He continued his teaching career at Yale, Florida State University, and Texas Tech. Before coming to the University of Georgia in 1973, he served on the Bankruptcy Commission of the United States in Washington, D.C.

Professor Phillips’ family is his number one priority. He and Pat have two daughters, Bonnie and Lee. They also have two grandchildren: Luke, who is three years old, and the lovely Rachel, who is two. Both grandchildren are looking forward to spending more time with their Papa and Nene. The Phillips’ new home in Columbia, Missouri (which they hope to find over spring break) will be located midway between the daughters.

Professor Phillips has a long and impressive list of professional accomplishments, upon which we have touched only lightly. Those will be profiled in an upcoming issue of *Columns*. For now we simply wanted to remember the warm and human side of this fine gentleman. We at the University of Georgia Law Library are proud and fortunate to have had the opportunity to share his wealth of knowledge and experience, and, most especially, his friendship.

Donate Through The Hunger Site!



“Every 3.6 seconds someone dies of hunger; 3/4 of the deaths are children under 5.”

So begins the text on the website known as The Hunger Site. Since its inception in June, 1999, The Hunger Site has donated millions of servings of rice, wheat and other staples — some 200 metric tons each week — to the United Nations World Food Programme in an effort to feed the hungry all over the world.

And the program works in a uniquely American way: it is paid for by the advertisers on the website! Sponsors receive a small advertisement on the website itself, as well as a direct link to the sponsor’s own webpage, in return for donating a cup of grain for each person who clicks onto the site each day.

For computer users, the charity is not only free — it's easy! Just go to the webpage, www.thehungersite.com, and click on the button at the center of the page marked "Donate Free Food." It takes about ten seconds; that's your total responsibility. Each user (or computer terminal) can only give food once each day, but you can donate *every day* of the year. And a good way to remember is to bookmark the site so you can click on as soon as you turn on your computer each day. (Your editor does it each morning before going to the online *New York Times*.)

Coming Soon! -- LIBRARY FINE AMNESTY -- Coming Soon!
Watch for details in the next issue of Amicus Briefs

BALSA Honors Chester Davenport

To celebrate Black History Month, the Black Law Student Association (BALSA) has devoted an exhibit in the Library's display window to Chester Davenport, the first African-American graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law.

Born here in Athens, Mr. Davenport was a cum laude graduate of Morehouse College, taking a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963. For the next three years he was a student here at the law school before earning his J.D. degree in 1966. After a stint in the Tax Division of the Department of Justice, he went to work as a legislative assistant to Senator Alan Cranston of California. Davenport played a significant role in the election campaign of President Jimmy Carter and in 1977 was appointed to the post of Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs in the Department of Transportation.

Since the late 1980's Davenport has served as the managing director of Georgetown Partners, an investment firm based in Bethesda, Maryland. Georgetown's initial activity was the acquisition of the company that came to be known as Envirotest Systems Corporation, the industry leader in automobile emissions testing. Envirotest was sold in 1998 for some \$580 million. More recently, Davenport has been in the news as chairman of Davenport Cellular Communications LLC, a telecommunications company formed by Georgetown Partners and GTE to operate GTE's wireless properties.



Emergency Library Closings

Sally Curtis AsKew

Twice in the last few weeks we have had either to not open the library or to close the library early due to adverse weather conditions. Decisions not to open the library or to close early are not made lightly. The main consideration is the safety of the staff and patrons.

If the entire university is shut down, the Law Library will be closed also. When UGA closes down, announcements are made on the UGA web page, local radio stations and sometimes on the Atlanta television stations. However, most of those announcements are made on weekdays and not on weekends or at night. Therefore, we have developed our own recorded message on the Main Law Library telephone number (706-542-1922). We try to update the message on the Main Library number as the situation develops or changes. On the weekend of January 28-30, the campus voice mail system malfunctioned, and we were not able to update the message for several hours. Normally, just listen to the message for opening and closing information. Please don't call the alternate number just to ask if the library is open or closed.

A New Reference Service for the Library



Responding to popular demand and a bit of arm-twisting, your editor has agreed to offer to the Law School community a new reference service: *Plant ID*. That's right – if you bring in a sprig or a flower from your garden, I'll try to identify it for you.

A word of warning, though: Even your editor -- no mean plant geek he -- may not be able to identify your tree or shrub (or weed) without actually seeing it. "It has little flowers, whitish, and green leaves" is *not* enough!

Spring Sibley Lecture

This spring's Sibley Lecture will be delivered on Thursday, March 16 at 3:30 p.m. The speaker will be Professor Samuel Issacharoff of Columbia University.

A graduate of SUNY Binghamton and Yale Law School, Professor Issacharoff teaches Civil Procedure, Employment Law, Constitutional Law and Voting Rights and Redistricting. The topic of his lecture – which is becoming more timely every day – is "The Role of Political Parties in Partisan Competition," in which he discusses the controversy in California over the ballot initiative that opened political primaries to all voters on election day.

Law Listservs and Your Arches Account

JoEllen Childers, UGA Law Computing Services

I recommend subscribing to the law school listservs from your Arches account. Anyone wishing to read Arches mail from any other account may simply forward *from* Arches *to* Yahoo (or Hotmail, or whatever).

Arches forwarding may be readily turned on or off. Here's how:

- (1) Telnet into your arches account. (First time you telnet into Arches you will get an intro info screen; just follow the instructions to quit. You may need to start again to get to the main menu.)
- (2) From the main menu, press the 4 key (labeled "account mgt.").
- (3) Press the 4 key again (labeled "mail forwarding"). The instructions there are brief and self-explanatory. *All* computers on campus have telnet. Telnet is widely, widely available with most internet connections.

Any of our help desk workers can provide more information on forwarding.

Students using Arches maintain a more stable connection to the listservs but I remain willing to accept your request for subscribing from a different account. Please use the account from which you want to be subscribed to e-mail me at joellen@arches.uga.edu.

The Sword and the Shield

Visitors to the library sometimes wonder why we have South Seas artifacts on the walls of the Annex. The question has come up again recently, and the answer comes with an interesting story!

There is a carved shield from the Sepik River people of Papua, New Guinea; a ceremonial shark's-tooth sword from the Solomon Islands; and a large tapa cloth from the island kingdom of Tonga. All of these were donated by Law School alumnus B. Carmichael Sumner (class of 1988). Sumner collected these items during an eighteen-month voyage on the sailing ship *Yankee* in 1957-58, during which the teenaged Sumner was employed as a mate.

The trip was featured in "New Guinea to Bali in *Yankee*," the title article in the December 1959 issue of *National Geographic*. A chronicle of the voyage and of the adventures of the young crew, the article even includes photographs by Sumner.

Library Hours



Regular Hours:

Monday - Friday
Saturday - Sunday

7:30 a.m. - Midnight
8:00 a.m. - Midnight

Spring Semester:

through Thursday, March 2

Regular Hours

Spring Break:

Friday, March 3
Saturday, March 4
Sunday, March 5
Monday-Friday, March 6-10
Saturday, March 11
Sunday, March 12

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. - Midnight
8:00 a.m. - Midnight

March 13 - April 20

Regular Hours

April 21 - May 14

Regular Opening Hours
Closing Hours: 1:00 a.m.

May 15

7:30 - 5:00 p.m.

This newsletter is a publication of the University of Georgia School of Law Library. Read it on the Web at <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/newsletter/index.html>. Please send all comments and contributions to:

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