

For Immediate Release
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ASCLA program addresses the impact of the prison library

"Bored, Angry and Disenfranchised: Meeting the Needs of the Institutionalized," is the title of a program on Sunday, June 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans.

The program is hosted by the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) Libraries Serving Special Populations Section (LSSPS) Library Service to Prisoners Forum (LSPF).

Ron Wikberg and Wilbert Rideau, authors of the critically-acclaimed "Life Sentences," will discuss the prison experience and needs for adult males in a maximum security institution and the impact of the prison library.

Wikberg, an ex-Louisiana State Penitentiary/Angola inmate, is former co-editor of "The Angolite." Rideau, an inmate serving a life sentence at the Louisiana State Penitentiary, served as editor of "The Angolite" and is co-author of "Life Sentences: Rage and Survival Behind Bars" (Times Books, 1992).

A short video of prison inmates from around the country responding to their use of the institutional library will be shown. Two papers, "Legal Information Needs of Women Inmates" and "A Day in the Life of the Prison Legal Librarian," will be presented.

ASCLA is a division of the American Library Association.