

The Insurance Library Association of Boston Saval Insurance Education Center

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Newsletter

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Adopt-a Book Program

You may recall that in the Winter, 2009 issue of the Insurance Library Association of Boston newsletter, we included a picture of Librarian Sarah Hart, who instituted the Adopt-a-Book program and regularly posts updates regarding it on the Association's website (www.insurancelibrary.org). Now it's time to introduce you to *Meagan Stefanow*, who has assumed prime responsibility for overseeing the restoration of those books and materials fortunate enough to be chosen by an adopter.



In this picture, Meg is contemplating one volume that is graced with the kind of paper and attention to detail all too rare in the modern publishing climate.

Perhaps it will be the next to receive featured status on the website.

A little (recent) history...

In 2003, the family of Trustee Stephen J. Paris donated a substantial sum of money to the library to commemorate a family event and to honor Steve by facilitating the repair and restoration of historical items in the Library's collection. They left the choice of materials to be restored to the Librarians. The first items to receive the benefit of their largesse were a fragile fire mark from Royal Insurance and an even more fragile advertising poster from Merchants Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut. If the date of publication was included on the latter artifact when it first appeared, the section which included it was lost over time. However, it is largely intact, and we can infer that it was published some years ago, given that it proudly trumpets capital of \$200,000!

...carrying forward

Our most sincere thanks go to those Association members and supporters who have funded the restoration of other materials. Among them are:

Nancy Bender of the Nancy Z. Bender Insurance Agency: *A Catalogue of The Insurance Library Association of Boston: To Which is Added a Sketch of the History and*

Work of the Association, Together
With Other Information 1899

Adopters, continued

**Donald Malecki of Malecki
Deimling Nielander & Associates :**
Wilhelm Benecke's System des See-
Assekuranz und Bodmerei Wesens, 2
volumes, and Tiffany's Special
Agents and Adjusters Assistant and
Digest of Depreciations Fact Sheet

**Savings Bank Life Insurance
Company of Massachusetts:** Elizur
Wright Actuarial Tables (2 copies)

**Pauline Thomas of Effective Risk
Management:** The Average Clause:
Hints on the Settlement of Claims for
Losses

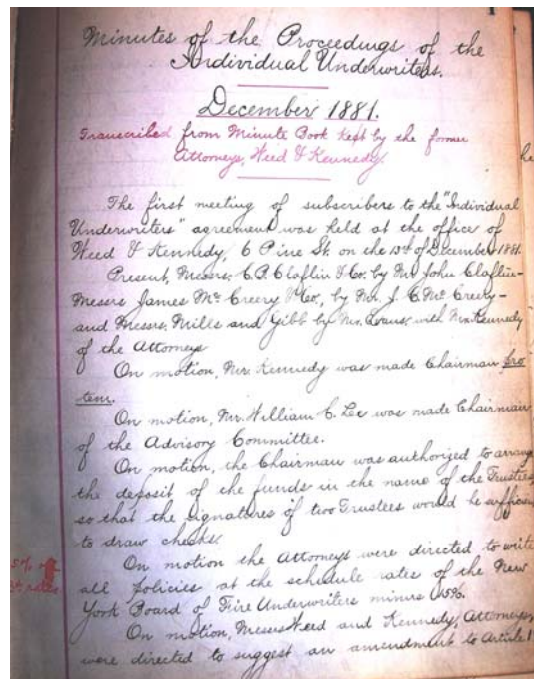


*Here's the previously mentioned Merchants
Insurance Company advertising poster*

We are also most grateful to companies and individuals who have donated historical materials to the collection—some will need refurbishing, and some won't. **Bernie Torri** of Aon Benfield delivered several items of memorabilia regarding the 1970 commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Hawaiian Mission, featuring the

participation of his father, who in his executive position represented the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company. Bernie also donated a colorful poster in which the Automobile Department of the Boston Insurance Company claimed to have “Issued the first policy: fire, theft, property damage, collision”, along with some handsome fire marks and, last but not least, a portfolio of materials dated 1956 to be used by agents selling the homeowners insurance products of the North America Companies, who are often credited with writing the first such package policies.

And what a treasure trove was to be discovered in a collection of volumes donated by **Lexington Insurance Company**, featuring as it does early minute books kept for subscribers' meetings of “Individual Underwriters”, who participated in forming “an office where firms, corporations and individuals may severally become Underwriters upon policies of fire insurance”: earliest date, 1881 (six years before the Insurance Library of Boston was founded).



Annual Fund

July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009

So far in the current fiscal year (dates above) we have been extremely gratified by and thankful for the support received in response to our appeal for donations to bolster our operating budget. Thus far, 2008-2009 donations are on track to match the final total for the 2007-2008 year. If you don't yet appear on this list, we hope you will consider adding yourself or your firm to it!

Platinum Donors (\$5,000 and over)

Arbella Insurance Group

Gold Donors (\$2500-\$4999)

Aon Risk Services of Massachusetts

Central Mutual Insurance Company

Massachusetts RIMS

Norfolk & Dedham Group

OneBeacon Insurance

William Gallagher Associates

Silver Donors (\$1000-\$2499)

Andover Companies

ARI Risk Management Consultants

Atlantic Charter Insurance Company

John A. Bogardus

Commerce Insurance

Dennis F. Murphy Insurance Agency

Eastern Bank and Eastern Insurance Group

H.R. Hatch Insurance Agency, Inc.

Hub International New England

LeClairRyan

Liberty Mutual

Malecki, Deimling, Nielander & Associates

Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriting Association

Massachusetts Society of Licensed Insurance Advisers

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky & Popeo

Nancy Z. Bender Insurance Agency

Narragansett Bay Insurance Company

Quincy Mutual Fire Insurance Company

Stephen J. Paris

ProMutual Group

Safety Insurance Company

USI Insurance Services

Bronze Donors (\$500-\$999)

A.I.M. Mutual Insurance Companies

Allied World Insurance

Aspen Insurance Services

B.R. Alexander & Company, Inc.

Charles F. Murphy, Inc.

Chubb & Son

Cleary Insurance, Inc.

John B. Conners

Corporate Risk Advisors-Managers, Inc.

Deland, Gibson Insurance Associates, Inc.

Effective Risk Management

Bronze Donors (continued)

Gemini Insurance Agency

Guy Carpenter & Company

Hingham Mutual Fire Insurance Company

Knapp Schenck & Company Insurance Agency

Lexa International

Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agents

Massachusetts Insurance Federation, Inc.

NorthStar Insurance Services

Risk Management Foundation of the Harvard

Medical Institutions, Inc.

Risk Strategies Company

Spring Consulting Group

T.R. Michaels Claim Consulting LLC

Thomas E. Sears, Inc.

Vermont Mutual Insurance Group

Friends of the Library (any amount)

Aloisi & Aloisi

American Insurance Management

Paul F. Amoruso

Automobile Insurers Bureau of Massachusetts

Benson Young & Downs Insurance Agency, Inc.

Berman Adjusters, Inc.

Burgin Platner Hurley Insurance Agency LLC

Burl Daniel Associates

Consolidated Risk Management

Fred R. Coryell

Creative Risk Concepts International

CWCcapital LLC

Ronald Demerjian

Dwight Rudd & Company

E.W. Siver Insurance Consultants

Eastern States Insurance Agency, Inc.

Barbara and Richard Forsley

Francis J. LaRovere and Messenger Insurance Agencies

Gilbert & Renton LLC

Hoffmann & Company

I.A.G.-Insurance Archaeology Group

John A. Pierce Insurance Agency, Inc.

Edward S. Katersky

John F. Keaveney

Koundakjian & Company, PC

librx

Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriting Association

Matson Driscoll & Damico, LLP

Friends of the Library (continued)

McSweeney & Ricci Insurance Agency
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Property Insurance Plans Service Office, Inc.
Provider Insurance Group, Inc.
Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster
Regent Consultants Corp.

Risk International Services, Inc.
Risk Resources
Robert Coleman Insurance Services, Inc.
Robertson-Ryan & Associates, Inc.
Leonard Ryer
Richard E. Schmidt
J. Deane Somerville
Soucy Insurance Agency
Tarpey Insurance Group, Inc.
Barbara Thornton
Bernard A. Torri, Jr.
TLJ Partners, Inc.
Willis HRH Inc.

**Questions From This Quarter (and
What We Found for Answers)**

Q: Are many claims typically made alleging malpractice against physician assistants (I am one)? How does the rate of such claims compare with the rate of claims against physicians?

A: Using the first 17 years of data available from the National Practitioner Data Bank (1991-2007), the writer of a doctoral dissertation (a summary of which is available through the Physician Assistant Experts Network, LLC) summarized "...the cost of malpractice payments in 2008 dollars exceeded \$74 billion dollars from 1991-2007 for PAs, APNs [Advanced Practice Nurses] and physicians alone...of this \$74 billion, only \$245 million were PA malpractice payments...there was one malpractice payment for every 32.5 PAs while there was one for every 2.7 physicians". We left it to the inquirer to check the original source of the data (the NPDA) if she felt it advisable since, as we all know, data is subject to varying interpretations.

Q: I am looking for information available for research into the Boston Protective Department. Is any of this information available in your library?

A: Our collection includes the annual reports of the Protective Department for many years beginning in 1875. Anyone is welcome to come in and access this collection.

Q: I overheard discussion of a Massachusetts company or association referred to as the "PCI": I believe it has something to do with community development. Can you tell me what it is?

A: In 1999, as a response to state legislation, thirteen Massachusetts-based property/casualty insurance companies established the Property and Casualty Initiative, LLC (PCI) as a state wide community loan fund. Complete information about the PCI can be found on their website at <http://pcifund.com>.

Q: Can you provide a state-by-state survey of the discoverability of liability insurance available to defendants?

A: We provided an article published in a 2006 issue of *The Journal of Insurance Regulation* of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners that stated 13 states have explicit pertinent laws (some mandating discoverability, some not). We also sent a summary of case law in all states.