

Ipswich Public Library

25 North Main Street, Ipswich, Massachusetts 01938

the Newsletter

Heard & Treadwell Portraits Returned

Restoration

On Friday afternoon, January 3, 2003 our benefactors returned to the Ipswich Public Library after an absence of over six months. The portraits of Augustine Heard and Daniel Treadwell, which normally hang in the Gaunt Reference room, were removed to Boston for restoration and cleaning in May 2002. Mr. Peter Tysver of Oliver Brothers (Fairfield St., Boston) worked on these portraits together with the Abigail Lord Rogers portrait, which has hung in the Rogers Room in the same location over the fireplace since 1941. Each of these paintings needed extensive work. All three were covered with grime and dirt and discolored varnish. The Heard painting was torn in three places. The Treadwell painting showed flaking paint and scratches. The Lord portrait suffered 2 punctures, scratches and a tear. While work progressed on these paintings the elaborate gilt frames of the Heard and Treadwell portraits were cleaned and repaired by Mr. Yani Makridis (Ipswich St., Boston). The restoration of both paintings and frames was authorized by the Trustees of the Ipswich Public Library.

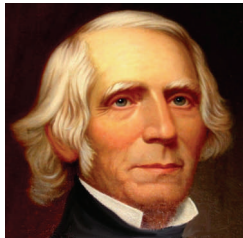
Artists

The *Portrait of Augustine Heard* was commissioned in 1881 from Newburyport-born portrait painter Thomas Bayley Lawson (1807-1888). He was paid \$150 for this work. The *Portrait of Daniel Treadwell* was received from the estate of Professor Treadwell. It was painted by an unknown artist. The *Portrait of Abigail Lord Rogers* was painted

by noted Massachusetts's portrait painter Edwin Billings (1824-1893).

Daniel Treadwell & Augustine Heard

The idea of a library for the public in the town of Ipswich occurred to both Treadwell and Heard at about the same time in the middle of the 19th century. The founding of the library depended upon the public spirit and resources of both gentlemen.

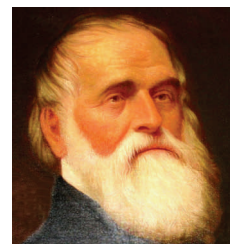


Daniel Treadwell

Treadwell was born in Ipswich in 1792. His parents died when he was a boy and he was largely self-educated. He was mechanically minded and did a lot of what might be called tinkering, except that his tinkering resulted in a number of useful inventions—an improved machine for making rope, a machine for making screws, an improved cannon, the development of one of the first power printing presses. He was also interested in steam engines and railroads. In 1834 he was appointed the ‘Rumford Professor and Lecturer on the Application of the Sciences to the Useful Arts’ at Harvard University. As a young man he visited the libraries available to him for self-directed study. Treadwell obviously believed in the value of reading and learning for success. In his will he left money to the town of Ipswich “....for the purpose of founding a

library...”

Augustine Heard was born in Ipswich in 1785. His father was a merchant and privateer who owned a large fleet. Heard was educated and Phillips Academy in Exeter. At the age of 20 he decided upon a life at sea and shipped out as the business manager (supercargo) of a ship owned by Ebenezer Francis of Boston. Heard enjoyed great success as a ship’s master and supercargo. Eventually he founded his own trading company in Canton—Heard & Company. In 1865 Heard began his project to provide a public library to the citizens of Ipswich by beginning construction of the present library building. With great energy he selected the architect, supervised the construction, appointed the librarian, selected the Board of Trustees and approved the purchase of the first 3,000 volumes of his new library. Unfortunately he died several months before the library finally opened in March of 1869. With the completion of the Heard library, Daniel Treadwell consulted the Trustees of the new institution and then wrote a codicil to his will which added his original bequest to the Heard Endowment. He also gave the library a collection of books and the recently restored portrait.



Augustine Heard

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Free BookPage Magazine Available

Through the generosity of the Friends of the Ipswich Public Library we will receive each month 50 copies of *BookPage: America's Book Review* to distribute to the public. This free publication features short reviews of current books in areas such as Fiction, Biographies, Health, Investing, Cooking, and Culture. *BookPage* also features reviews of children's books and a full page of book reviews for Teens. We hope you will pick up a copy of *BookPage* when you next visit the library!

PORTRAITS, continued

Rogers Room

In 1939 the bequest of Miss Elizabeth R. Lathrop of Salem to the Ipswich Public Library was announced. The bequest called for the construction of a children's wing to the library. Miss Lathrop stipulated that the room was to be a memorial to her maternal grandfather, Daniel August Rogers. The portrait over the mantel is of Miss

Lathrop's great grandmother, Abigail Lord Rogers.

Please reacquaint yourself with the library's benefactors and enjoy the newly restored portraits. A brochure describing all the art works in the Ipswich Public Library is available at the Main Desk.

ARCHIVES GRANT

Ipswich Public Library has received a grant of \$5,500.00 to process six new collections for our Archives. These collections contain a variety of documents from The Ipswich Garden Club, the Cable Hospital Auxiliary, the Ipswich League of Women Voters, and the Ipswich Parish Players, as well as the papers of Daniel Treadwell, a founder of the Ipswich Public Library, and numerous old photographs of Ipswich.

To help us process these materials properly, we have hired Cynthia G. Swank and Peter J. Parker of Inlook Group, a consulting firm from Portsmouth, New Hampshire which specializes in archival management. The consultants are processing The Ipswich Garden Club collection completely, while advising the Library staff on how to process the remaining collections. All the collections will be described in our online catalog. In conjunction with this undertaking, Ipswich Public Library will mount several exhibits in 2003 with items from the various collections. This project is being funded through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners with funds from LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act), a Federal source of library funding.

New Museum Passes

The Library now offers passes to two popular museums in the North Shore:

- **Cape Ann Historical Museum**
Located in Gloucester, the Cape Ann Historical Museum exhibits the nation's largest collection of paintings and drawings by Fitz Hugh Lane (1804-1865)—a famous maritime painter. The museum pass admits a family of four.
- **Wenham Museum**
Known for its antique train and doll collections, the pass to the Wenham Museum admits four.

Both passes are made available to the library patrons through the generosity of the Friends of the Ipswich Public Library. To reserve a museum pass, call the Library at 978-356-6648.

New CD-ROM Games in the Children's Room

The Children's Room has recently expanded its CD-ROM collection and moved it to a larger display area for more convenient browsing. A few years ago the Children's Room borrowed about a dozen CD-ROM games to circulate on a trial basis for three months. They were quite popular and so we decided to start our own collection. The circulation of these CD-ROMs has been very successful. One CD-ROM has circulated 70 times in three years. We have just added 25 new titles to our collection. We have games for the very young up through middle school age. The games are all creative, fun and educational. Some of our new titles are:

Thomas and Friends: Building the New Line
Arthur's Computer Adventure
Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel
Madeline: Thinking Games Deluxe
The Magic School Bus explores the Solar System



English Help For Immigrants

A volunteer program has been instituted recently at the Ipswich Public Library to help immigrants improve their English. The first phase was a six-week training program provided free of charge by a State-funded organization called SABES (System for Adult Basic Education Support). Twenty-three people, mostly Ipswich residents, completed the training program, which was held during August and September in the Collins Room of the Library.

The second phase has involved matching each tutor with an applicant. Each pair meets once a week, usually in the Library, at a time that is good for them both. Forty eight people from 20 countries have applied to be tutored in English as of January 8, 2003. Sixteen of the applicants are from Brazil, and many of the others are from eastern European countries such as Greece, Poland, and Romania.

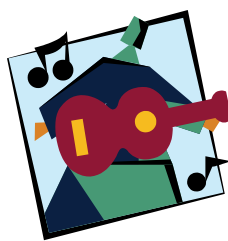
Many of the learners in this program have some fluency in English and just want to polish their skills. Approximately 17 of the applicants, however, have very little ability to speak English, and

we are planning to offer classes for them with more formal instruction. Two local ESL teachers, Judi Bittinger and JoEllen Smith, have agreed to teach these classes, beginning in late January or early February. Each teacher will have 8 or 9 students in her class, which will meet one evening a week for 10 weeks. Generous gifts from Ipswich Shellfish Company and Ipswich Co-Operative bank will allow us to give each teacher a stipend for her professional services.

Reference Librarian Paula Grillo, the coordinator of the tutoring program, has been pleased by the response she has received from the Ipswich community in undertaking this worthwhile project.

ATTIC TREASURE

A few weeks ago custodian John Willman climbed up in to the library attic to investigate a roof leak. What he discovered confirmed information we had read about the original decoration of the library. John found a very dirty and damaged stained and painted glass panel set into a faux wood grained frame. The panel displayed the bright colors of mid-Victorian decorative glass—yellow, red and green with sections painted to give the effect of shadows. It appears that several similar panels decorated the ceiling of the upstairs conference room. The panels would have been set into the area now surrounded with heavy decorative moldings. We hope to display this relic of 1869 in the library after restoration. (If you are interested in seeing original stained glass still in place in a library designed by Calvin Ryder, architect of the Ipswich Public Library, take a drive out to the Thayer Library in Lancaster, Massachusetts).



Family Concert in April

The Ipswich Public Library has received a grant from the Ipswich Cultural Council to hold a **Family Concert** in April 2003. Folk singers Roger Tincknell and David Bates will entertain at the Performing Arts Center at Ipswich High School. Tickets for the concert will be available at the library in March.



Bradstreet Books Needed

We would like to add the following titles to our collection of books on Ipswich poetess Anne Bradstreet. These books are out of print. If you have a copy you are willing to donate to the library for the Ipswich Room Collection, please contact Library Director Victor Dyer.

Stanford, Anne
*Anne Bradstreet: The
Worldly Puritan*
New York:
B. Franklin,
1975

Campbell, Helen
*Anne Bradstreet
and Her Time*
Boston:
D. Lothrop Co.
1891





Here's what you can do with your **PM** (Personal Identification Number) and your Library Card Number:

- Renew items online
- Request items online
- Review your record

Use an *ipac* computer at the Library or use your home computer (with an Internet connection) to access the *ipac* catalog by going to:

www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library

Click on *catalog*, and then click on *ipac online*.

It's easy, fun, and time saving! Just ask the Library Staff if you need help getting started.

How do I get my **PM**?

Any Library Staff member will be happy to assist you in getting your **PM**!

Improvements in Ipswich Archives Room

A new HVAC system has been installed in the Ipswich Room. This sophisticated system was engineered by Mr. Scott Fitch of Landmark Facilities Group of Bridgeport, CT and installed by Richard Perkins of Cool Temp, Inc. of Gloucester. The Ipswich Rotary Club and the Board of Trustees of the Ipswich Public Library underwrote this project.

The new system maintains a con-

stant temperature and humidity level in the Archives to protect and preserve the valuable historical materials housed there. The system controls heating, cooling, humidification and dehumidification. The historical manuscripts, books, photographs and other archival materials housed in the Archives Room are now protected in an environmentally appropriate space.

New shelving has been installed in

the first bay of the Archives and a motion detection system has also been installed in this area. This 'secured bay' will house manuscript collections and other fragile materials, which require the assistance of staff for use by researchers. The motion detection system will alert the Desk Staff if users enter this area unattended. We have also provided a printer for the Archives PC for the convenience of researchers.



Borrowing Books from Afar



Since the inauguration of the online catalog, which includes holdings from thirty-one area libraries, we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of items requested from other libraries by Ipswich patrons. In fact, the increase from FY01 to FY02 was 245%. Users now have the ability to order books and other materials online through the catalog section of the library website, and more and more patrons are doing just that. The library's website is at www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library. Be sure to have your PIN (see side-bar, this page) and Library Card number ready to request items on-line.

New Interlibrary Loan Policies

Due to recent state budget cuts, the Ipswich Public Library has implemented the new interlibrary loan policies recommended by the Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System. Please note that the new interlibrary loan policies **do not affect** the network transfer activities such as those items requested from the online catalog within MVLC. The following interlibrary loan policies took effect on November 1, 2002:

- interlibrary loan requests are limited to 5 items per day per person
- any interlibrary loan fee exceeding \$15.00 will be charged to the patrons requesting such item; the library patron will be informed in advance to determine whether or not he/she is willing to cover the cost. Otherwise, the request will not be filled
- feature film requests in video and DVD formats are not eligible for interlibrary loan
- new, high-demand titles such as best sellers will be borrowed only from libraries in the MVLC and NOBLE consortiums
- popular music recordings as well as non-feature film, in any format, will be borrowed only from the Massachusetts automated library networks

Interlibrary loan items are those library materials **not found** within the Merrimack Valley Consortium (MVLC). North of Boston Library Exchange (NOBLE) libraries include Beverly, Danvers, Gloucester, etc. To request items outside MVLC, an **Item Request Form** is required. This **green** form is available at the Main Desk. If you have a question concerning interlibrary loan service, please call the library at 978-356-6648.